

BRAAM PERFORMANCE REPORT: FY05 – FY07

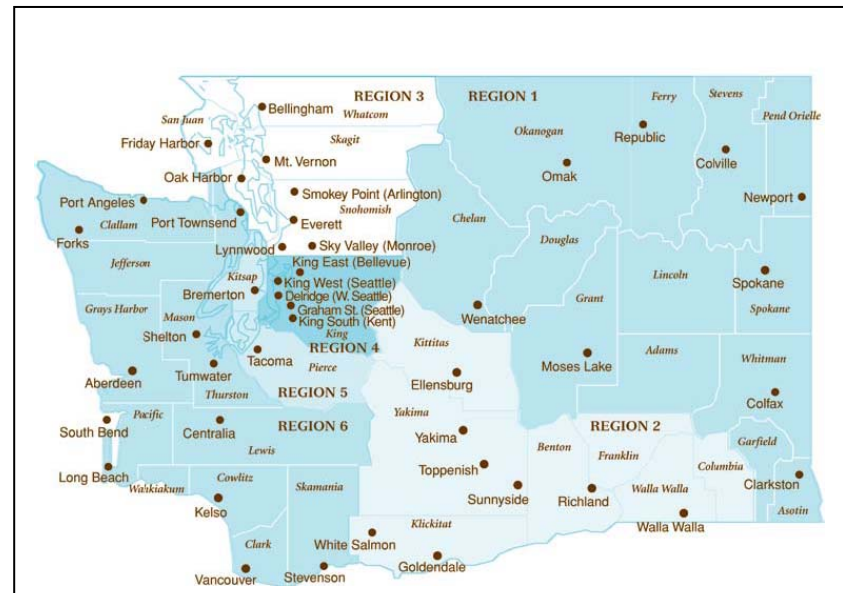
This report presents information about Braam Benchmark performance required by the Braam Implementation Plan. Data presented in this report were developed by the Decision Support Unit, Finance and Operations Support Division, Children's Administration (CA), Department of Social and Health Services. The Case and Management Information System (CAMIS) was the source for performance data, unless otherwise noted. Every care has been taken to ensure that these data are accurate and complete.

Three performance reports have been produced in FY07 for the Braam Panel. State-wide performance on all benchmark measures with data are summarized in this report. Performance data are summarized by fiscal year and CA Region in the *Braam Regional Performance Report*, along with a presentation of additional descriptive information requested by the Braam Panel. The *Braam Race and Ethnicity Report* provides cross tabulations on all performance measures by both region and race/ethnicity.

The construction of measures to evaluate changes in the Administration's performance over time has been accomplished through collaborative work between the Decision Support Unit (DSU) and representatives of the Braam Panel. While the Children's Administration has been evaluating its own performance for many years, these benchmarks required the development of many new measures to support the unique interests of the Braam Panel.

Caution should be exercised when using data from this report to describe current CA children, resources or services. These measures were constructed to a) be sensitive to changes in CA performance over time, and b) incorporate specific Braam Panel rules about data inclusion. Therefore, they may not be consistent with other descriptions of CA client characteristics, resources or service patterns. The annual CA Performance Report and the quarterly Vulnerable Children and Adults GMAP presentations provide additional views of CA performance and resources.

The rapid development of the Braam measures along with the challenges inherent in working with CAMIS administrative data brings with it the potential for unintended errors or omissions in the selection or categorization of data. The Children's Administration reserves the right to correct any errors or omissions found in this report.



STABILITY

Area/Goal/Outcome/Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
				Fiscal Year Actual	FY05	FY06	FY07
A.1.1.1	9	The ratio of foster home beds to children needing foster care - Baseline (BSLN) FY05	The total bed capacity ¹ of licensed foster homes (month end average during FY) divided by the average monthly census of children in licensed family foster homes.		2.31 13566/5869	2.27 13334/5878	2.22 13440/6042

This ratio includes all children/youth living in licensed family foster homes, including youth in guardianships. Changes in these ratios over time reflect the interaction of three variables: the number of children who need licensed foster care, the number of licensed foster homes, and the licensed capacity of these homes.

The number of children in out-of-home care has increased 16% since FY04 - 8,864 (FY04) to 10,268 (FY07) - with a sharp rise in the number of licensed foster home placements between FY06 and FY07 (7%). The supply of licensed foster homes grew by about 3% between FY06 and FY07 - 5,761 (Jul05) to 5,938 (Jun07). It is important to note that appropriations of CA staff are not automatically adjusted when caseloads grow.

Because this measure is based on the average monthly capacity of licensed homes during the fiscal year, it does not fully reflect the most recent progress that has been made due to the Regional Recruitment and Retention contracts.

Area/Goal/Outcome/Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
				Fiscal Year Actual	FY05	FY06	FY07
A.1.3.1	10	The one year retention rate for active foster homes - Baseline (BSLN) FY05	The proportion of homes still active in the fiscal year following the first year of licensed activity (with a license and a placement).		85% 848/1004	84% 866/999	87% 918/1068

One year retention rates reflect the proportion of licensed foster homes that continued to foster children after the first fiscal year in which the home provided care. Variations in rates may reflect differences in the proportion of homes that became licensed for a particular child (who may not have required ongoing foster care), homes that became licensed for foster child adoptions, caregivers that moved as well as homes that discontinued fostering for personal reasons.

Foster parents were recently surveyed by the Washington State University Social and Economic Sciences Research Center (SESRC) for the Children's Administration. Foster parents who had let their license expire were asked what the main reason was for letting the license expire. The main reasons given had to do with getting older, and having done foster parenting for a number of years, and/or adopting a child or children.

The Braam Panel has agreed to evaluate foster home retention using cohorts of newly licensed homes, but at the time of this report the Panel has not made a final decision about how retention outcomes will be used as a benchmark.

¹ Bed capacity of licensed foster homes represents the maximum licensed capacity of a home but may not accurately represent self-imposed limits on the number of children cared for at one time in a home

Area/Goal/Outcome/Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
A.1.4.1	11	A one-year baseline for the percentage of the children who have experienced more than 2 placements during their current out-of-home episode of care - Baseline (BSLN) FY05	The percent of placements with more than 2 placements (within 'grand' placement episodes), for children entering placement during a 5 year period.	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 29.8% 6986/23431	FY06 28.4% 6670/23493	FY07 26.5% 6274/23646

The percent of children with more than 2 placement events is based on out-of-placement entries during a moving 5 year period. FY07 statistics are based on placements beginning from FY02 – FY06. FY06 statistics are based on placements beginning from FY01 – FY05. FY05 statistics are based on placements beginning from FY00 – FY04.

Based on the Braam measure of placement instability, 73.5% of the children and youth who entered placement between FY02 – FY06 have experienced no more than 1 move (1-2 placement events) while 84.2% have experienced no more than 2 moves (1-3 placement events). Children who can be placed with relatives within the first month of out-of-home placement are significantly less likely to experience another move while in care. Children and youth with serious mental health or behavioral problems are at significantly greater risk for multiple moves during out-of-home placement².

MENTAL HEALTH

Area/Goal/Outcome/Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
B.1.2.1	20	Children in out-of-home care 30 days or longer with completed and documented Child Health and Education Track (CHET) screens within 30 days of entering care - Baseline (BSLN) FY05	The percent all of children placed during the fiscal year who required a Child Health and Education Tracking (CHET) screening, with a completed screening within 30 days of entering care. Source: Kidscreen database	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05³ 21.8% 999/4593	FY06 29.5% 1377/4668	FY07 47.0% 2301/4897

Performance on this measure cannot be compared across fiscal years (FY). FY07 rates reflect a change in the policy concerning when CHET screenings are considered complete. The CHET staffing, while still a requirement, is no longer required for the screening to be considered complete. A complete CHET screening is now one where the written screening report is done using all the information available to the screener within 30 days of placement, given that required efforts have been made, per policy.

² Based on a CA study of FY05 placements matched to RSN service records from FY04 through FY06

³ CHET screeners were frequently re-assigned to CPS responsibilities during FY05 to improve the timeliness of face-to-face visits with alleged victims in CPS reports. CHET screeners were brought back on-line for screenings in FY06.

Children eligible for CHET screening include all placements lasting at least 30 days with no exceptions for children unavailable due to running, children who changed legal custody, children who moved out-of-state, youth in Juvenile Rehabilitation and Detention, youth who aged out of care or children who had a valid assessment from another source.

CHET screening is performed by a limited number of specialized staff. The number and timeliness of CHET screens generally reflects the capacity to complete the screening process given the number of screeners and children required to be screened. The population reflected in this measure – placements requiring CHET screening - increased by 6.6% from FY05 to FY07, from 4,593 (FY05) to 4,897 (FY07) while the number of completed CHET screens increased by 13% (3,558 FY05 to 4,019 FY07). It is important to note that appropriations of CA staff are not automatically adjusted when caseloads grow.

66% of eligible children received CHET screenings within 45 days of placement, while 73% were screened within 60 days and 79% were screened within 90 days of placement⁴. Approximately 82% of all eligible children were screened in FY07, up from 77% in FY05⁵.

	Eligible Placements	CHET Completed in 30 Days	CHET Completed in 45 Days	CHET Completed in 60 Days	CHET Completed in 75 Days	CHET Completed in 90 Days	CHETS Completed
FY07	4897 (100%)	2301 (47%)	3210 (66%)	3568 (73%)	3743 (76%)	3881 (79%)	4019 (82%)

Area/Goal/ Outcome/ Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
				Fiscal Year Actual	FY05	FY06	FY07
B.1.2.2	21	Children in out-of-home care will have EPSDT exams completed within 30 days of entering care - Baseline (BSLN) FY05	The percent of children placed during each fiscal year, and in out-of-home care and CA custody for at least 30 days, with EPSDT completion dates within 30 days of entering care. Source: (FY06) HRSA claims and encounter records		35.6% 1758/4935	37.3% 1967/5267	na

Performance on this measure cannot be compared across fiscal years (FY). FY05 performance is based on EPSDT screening dates recorded in CAMIS. For FY06, performance is based on provider claims (billing) and encounter records submitted by providers. Provider claims and encounter records are considered the best source of documentation about EPSDT screening and will be used for all subsequent reports. Claims and encounter data are not available for FY05 and will not be available for FY07 until Spring of 2008.

81.7% of all youth in out-of-home placement for at least 30 days during FY06 had at least one recorded EPSDT screening procedure (before or after placement), based on the claims and encounter data. While only 37% of children placed during FY06 were screened within +-30 days of placement, another 17% were screened within +-60 days, for a cumulative total of 54%. 61% all children had screening procedures within +-90 days from the date of placement. Infants were 50% more likely than 2 to 4 year olds to be screened within 30 days of placement, almost 2 times more likely than 5-12 year olds, and over 3 times more likely than youth over the age of 12 years.

⁴ CHET results are incorporated into the initial Individual Service and Safety Plan (ISSP) which is to be sent to court within 90 days of placement.

⁵ Approximately 90% of eligible children are currently receiving CHET screens (6/07 – 8/07). The average completion time is now 31.7 days.

Area/Goal/ Outcome/ Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
B.3.1.1	26	Children entering out-of-home placement who are identified by the CHET screening as needing a comprehensive mental health assessment will receive one within 50 calendar days of entering care - Baseline (BSLN) FY05	The percent of children placed during each fiscal year who remained in care and CA custody for at least 30 days, who had borderline or clinical CBCL scores from their CHET screening, and who had mental health assessments within 50 days of placement. Source: HRSA RSN provider records (MHD-CIS)	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 22.4% 47/210	FY06 25.0% 54/216	FY07 18.6% 124/668

Performance on this measure cannot be compared across fiscal years (FY). Compliant performance for FY05 and FY06 was based on 45 days from placement and excluded children/youth without a Regional Support Network (RSN) intake record. Compliant performance for FY07 has been calculated based on the 50 day standard adopted by the Braam Panel, and includes all children/youth with a demonstrated mental health need (includes those without a subsequent RSN intake). The method for determining compliance was modified after the FY05-FY06 Performance report was published, based on feedback from the Braam Panel. This measure does not account for children and youth who receive a mental health service from a provider who is not contracted with a RSN. Medicaid fee for service provides up to 12 sessions with a Psychiatrist each calendar year (this is being expanded to 20 visits with a Mental Health Professional)

Performance on this measure requires timely actions by CA staff to pre-screen youth for mental health needs and to make referrals for mental health assessments, timely response to requests for assessments by RSN contracted mental health providers, and coordinated actions by Social Workers, caregivers (and older youth) to achieve participation in assessment appointments.

Foster parents were recently surveyed by the Washington State University Social and Economic Sciences Research Center (SESRC) for the Children's Administration. 86.2% of foster parent caregivers reported that mental health services were received in a timely manner (Q69) during FY06.

Approximately 50% of all youth placed and remaining in placement for at least 30 days, excluding children under the age of 5, have a CBCL test recorded in CAMIS⁶. More than 50% of all recorded CBCL tests for these youth indicated a need for a mental health assessment. Of all foster youth with a CBCL test and an indicated need for a mental health assessment, more than 75% receive a mental health assessment or service through a Regional Support Network (RSN) before or following placement⁷.

⁶ If a child already has a valid mental health assessment with a DSM IV diagnosis, the screener will not administer a CBCL. The screener will request a copy of the evaluation or assessment instead.

⁷ Based on a CA study of FY05 placements matched to RSN service records from FY04 through FY06

Area/Goal/Outcome/Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
B.3.1.2	26	Comprehensive mental health assessments for children already in placement will be provided within 30 days of a request for an assessment.- Baseline (BSLN) FY05	The percent of children in out-of-home placement during each fiscal year who received non-crisis mental health services within 30 days of a request for mental health assessment. Source: HRSA RSN provider records (MHD-CIS)	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 na	FY06 na	FY07 80.3% 317/395

Administrative data for this measure was not available until a change was made in RSN contracts that required the documentation of a request for service (a request for any service), due to earlier work with the Braam Panel. Data is now available beginning January 2007.

Area/Goal/Outcome/Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
B.3.1.5	27	Children in out-of-home care will be screened for mental health needs every 12 months- Baseline (BSLN) FY05	The percent of children in episodes open at least one year with one or more recorded EPSDT screening within the last 365 days. Source: HRSA claims and encounter records	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 2.4 ⁸ %	FY06 43.9% ⁹ 1559/3551	FY07 na

Performance on this measure cannot be compared across fiscal years (FY). FY05 and FY06 performance is based on EPSDT screening dates recorded in CAMIS. CHET screeners typically record the initial EPSDT screening date and the assigned Social Worker is responsible for recording all subsequent screening dates in CAMIS. FY05 performance reflects the finding that most children in placement only have the EPSDT date that was recorded by the CHET screener.

For FY06, performance is based on HRSA claims (billing) and encounter records submitted by providers. Provider claims and encounter records are considered the best source of documentation about EPSDT screening and will be used for subsequent reports. Claims and encounter data are not available for FY05 and will not be available for FY07 until Spring of 2008.

Other types of mental health screening activities are not captured by this measure (e.g. ongoing/periodic screening provided by a mental health provider - Medicaid fee for service provides up to 12 sessions with a Psychiatrist each calendar year)

⁸ Based on information recorded in CAMIS

⁹ Based on billing and encounter data matched to foster youth in care during FY06

Area/Goal/ Outcome/ Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
B.3.2.1	26	Children will receive recommended services from a qualified mental health and/or substance abuse service provider within 30 days of the completion of an assessment recommending services.- Baseline (BSLN) FY05	The percent of children in out-of-home placement during each fiscal year who received non-crisis mental health services within 30 days of a mental health assessment. Source: HRSA RSN provider records (MHD-CIS)	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 80.0% 761/951	FY06 77.3% 707/915	FY07 80.0% 1083/1354

Performance on this measure cannot be compared across fiscal years (FY). Performance reported for FY05 and FY06 was based on the number of children in out-of-home placement who had mental health assessments during the fiscal year and no prior record of mental health services, to exclude those children and youth who were being re-assessed.

Based on Braam Panel feedback, FY07 performance is based on all children in out-of-home placement during FY07 who had an assessment during the fiscal year.

Area/Goal/ Outcome/ Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
B.4.1.1	34	Each child will receive behavioral health services from the same individual provider - Baseline (BSLN) FY06	The percent of foster parents reporting that children received behavioral health services from the same individual provider. Source: Foster Parent Survey ¹⁰	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 na	FY06 75.4% 316/419	FY07 na

Performance for this measure is from the Foster Parent Survey, conducted for the first time in 2007 by the Washington State University Social and Economic Sciences Research Center (SESRC) for the Children's Administration. Survey Q71. "During 2006, did the same clinician or team of clinicians provide services to this child/your foster child or did this child/your foster child experience a change in clinicians or treatment teams?" This benchmark has a screen question (Q66). Only foster parents who answered "yes" that during 2006 they were involved in dealing with this child's mental health issues are included in the calculation of this benchmark.

¹⁰ The maximum sample error for this survey is plus or minus 2.7%. This means that we can have 95% confidence that sample results for all 1,234 respondents do not deviate from the population of all caregivers in the state by more than 2.7%.

FOSTER PARENT TRAINING AND INFORMATION

Area/Goal/ Outcome/ Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
				Fiscal Year Actual	FY05	FY06	FY07
C.1.1.1	35	The percent of licensed relative and non-relative caregivers reporting adequate training for their role responsibilities - Baseline (BSLN) FY06	The percent of licensed caregivers reporting adequate training for their role responsibilities (including but not limited to emotional, behavioral, medical, educational advocacy, birth parents and cultural competency). Source: Foster Parent Survey		na	88.6% 839/968	na

Performance for this measure is from the Foster Parent Survey, conducted for the first time in 2007 by the Washington State University Social and Economic Sciences Research Center (SESRC) for the Children's Administration. Survey Q27. "Overall, thinking about ALL of the training that you have had in the last three years, how adequately has it prepared you to care for the needs of foster children placed in your home? Would you say . . .". This benchmark is measured by one question (Q27). This question asks foster parents to think about all of their training and comment on its adequacy. According to the Implementation Plan, this benchmark applies to all licensed caregivers including foster parents and relative caregivers.

Area/Goal/ Outcome/ Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
				Fiscal Year Actual	FY05	FY06	FY07
C.1.2.1	36	The percent of licensed relative and non-relative caregivers reporting adequate support for their role responsibilities - Baseline (BSLN) FY06	The percent of licensed caregivers reporting adequate support for their role responsibilities, by region and for the state as a whole (including but not limited to crisis support, timely notification about case planning meetings, and cultural competency resources). Source: Foster Parent Survey		na	76.3% 3271/4365	na

Performance for this measure is from the Foster Parent Survey, conducted for the first time in 2007 by the Washington State University Social and Economic Sciences Research Center (SESRC) for the Children's Administration. This benchmark measure combines a total of seven questions: Q89, Q93, Q94, Q96, Q57, Q58, and Q78, but some questions are averaged so that equal weight is given to each of the four subsections of this benchmark: crisis support, cultural competency support, quality of help and support from the agency and social worker, and timely notification about case planning meetings. According to the Implementation Plan, this benchmark applies to licensed relative and non-relative caregivers. The results for Q78 are not be factored into the benchmark for the year 2006, because the related policy was not yet in place. In subsequent years, this question will be used in the benchmark.

Area/Goal/ Outcome/ Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
C.1.3.1	36	The percent of licensed relative and non-relative caregivers reporting adequate provision of information about the needs of children placed with them - Baseline (BSLN) FY06	The percent of licensed caregivers reporting adequate provision of information about the needs of children placed with them, by region and for the state as a whole (including but not limited to behavioral, medical and educational needs). Source: Foster Parent Survey	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 na	FY06 72.8% 1694/2305	FY07 na

Performance for this measure is from the Foster Parent Survey, conducted for the first time in 2007 by the Washington State University Social and Economic Sciences Research Center (SESRC) for the Children's Administration. This benchmark measure combines a total of six questions: Q59, Q61, Q64, Q60, Q57, Q62, and Q65, and all questions are given equal weight. Questions refer to information provided to the caregiver at the time of placement. For some foster parents this will have been earlier than the year we are assessing. Thus, these questions factor into the benchmarks only for cases where placement occurred during 2006 (or applicable period). According to the Implementation Plan, this benchmark applies to licensed relative and non-relative caregivers. This benchmark is restricted to only those foster parents whose children were placed with them in 2006.

Area/Goal/ Outcome/ Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
C.2.1.1	38	A one-year baseline for Fiscal Year 2005 for the percentage of foster parents completing 36 hours of in-service training for each three-year period - Baseline (BSLN) FY06	The percent of family foster homes with primary caregivers who completed the required number of in-service training hours prior to license renewal on or after March 2005 ¹¹ .	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 na	FY06 33.2% 157/473	FY07 31.9% 114/357

Compliance on this benchmark is based on renewals of foster home licenses during each fiscal year where the required number of in-service training hours have been documented for the primary caregiver on the license. Homes with renewed licenses that were exempt from the in-service training requirement because their renewal date fell within 6 months of the policy implementation date are excluded from this analysis.

The Administration's current data on trainings completed by licensed foster parents is not considered complete and accurate. Significant gaps exist in the process of collecting training information from foster parents. Data coding irregularities make the precise identification of in-service training hours difficult.

76% of licensed foster parents recently interviewed by the Washington State University Social and Economic Sciences Research Center reported more than 8 hours of training during FY 2006 (Q28), while 72% reported more than 24 hours of training during the last three years (Q29).

¹¹ All renewals within the first 6 months of the new training policy were exempt from the in-service training requirement and were excluded from this evaluation of performance

UNSAFE OR INAPPROPRIATE PLACEMENTS

Area/Goal/ Outcome/ Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
D.1.1.1	45	The percentage (and absolute number) of children placed in prohibited settings- Baseline (BSLN) FY05	The number of youth with stays in adult or mixed age mental health facilities during the fiscal year, based on Mental Health Division reports. Source: MHD Report	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 13	FY06 7	FY07 0

Area/Goal/ Outcome/ Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
D.1.2.1	46	The percentage (and absolute number) of children who have overnight stays at DSHS offices or in apartments or hotels - Baseline (BSLN) FY07	The number of youth with stays in hotels, motels, apartments or offices, based on documentation in Administrative Incident Reporting System (AIRS). Source: AIRS report	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 na	FY06 na	FY07 3

Three 13 year old youth, 2 with an overnight stay in a hotel with a CA staff person, one with an emergency stay in a hospital emergency room triage bed while the Mental Health Professional located a bed for her. No youth had an overnight stay in an office. All placements were reviewed and approved by management and had safeguards in place in compliance with CA policy.

Area/Goal/ Outcome/ Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
D.1.3.1	46	The percentage (and absolute number) of children (with a history of sexually aggressive or physically assaultive behavior with other children) where the protective measures in the Department's October 10, 2004 memo are met in each placement decision and fully documented. - Baseline (BSLN) FY06	The percent of children (with a history of sexually aggressive or physically assaultive behavior with other children) where the protective measures in the Department's October 10, 2004 memo are met in each placement decision and fully documented (PAY and SAY). Source: Foster Parent Survey	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 na	FY06 44.7% 160/358	FY07 na

Performance for this measure is from the Foster Parent Survey, conducted for the first time in 2007 by the Washington State University Social and Economic Sciences Research Center (SESRC) for the Children's Administration. This benchmark combines questions about physically aggressive youth (PAY) and sexually aggressive youth (SAY). For PAY, Q110 is a screen question. Only foster parents who answer "yes" that they provided foster care for a child identified by the agency as having a history of being physically assaultive in 2006 are included in the calculation of this benchmark. Answers to Q109, Q111, Q112 must all be YES to be considered in compliance. For SAY, Q115 is a screen question. Only foster parents who answer "yes" that they provided foster care for a child identified by the agency as having a history of being sexually aggressive in 2006 are included in the calculation of this benchmark. Answers to Q114, Q116, Q117 must all be YES to be considered in compliance.

Compliance for caregivers of SAY youth alone was 53%. 126 foster parents reported caring for a child identified as sexually aggressive during FY 2006 (Q115) while 287 reported having received specialized training to care for SAY (Q114). 72% of responding caregivers reported that the Department's SAY safety plan was helpful (Q118).

Compliance for caregivers of PAY alone was 40%. 232 foster parents reported caring for a child identified as physically aggressive during FY 2006 (Q110) while 284 reported having received specialized training to care for PAY (Q109). 67% (150/223) of responding caregivers reported that the Department's PAY safety plan was helpful (Q113). Because 'physically aggressive' is not well-defined (unlike SAY), foster parent survey findings related to the care of physically aggressive youth may be ambiguous.

Area/Goal/ Outcome/ Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
D.1.4.1	47	The percentage of children who are medically fragile connected to appropriate and ongoing medical care and placed with caregivers who receive consultation and training regarding their caretaking responsibilities for the medical condition - Baseline (BSLN) FY06	The percent of caregivers reporting that medically fragile children were connected to appropriate and ongoing medical care and placed with caregivers who receive consultation and training regarding their caretaking responsibilities for the medical condition. Source: Foster Parent Survey	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 na	FY06 74.9% 292/390	FY07 na

Performance for this measure is from the Foster Parent Survey, conducted for the first time in 2007 by the Washington State University Social and Economic Sciences Research Center (SESRC) for the Children's Administration. This benchmark has two screen questions (Q33 and Q38). Only foster parents who answer "yes" that they were caring for a child identified by the agency as "medically fragile" (Q33) are included in the calculation for this benchmark measure. Q38 is a second screen question. Foster parents who answer "no" or "not sure" that they needed medical care for this child in 2006, are considered "in compliance" if Q35 is "yes." Foster parents who answer "yes" to Q38, must also answer "yes" to Q39 to be considered in compliance.

215 caregivers reporting caring for a child identified as medically fragile during FY 2006 (Q33). 79.5% of these caregivers reported having adequate training (not needing additional training) to help care for a medically fragile child (Q36). 84% of these caregivers reporting needing medical care for a medically fragile child during the year (Q36). 93.3% of the caregivers with a medically fragile child who needed medical care reported being connected to appropriate and ongoing medical care (Q39).

Area/Goal/ Outcome/ Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
D.1.5.1	48	The percentage of children receiving a private and individual face-to-face visit from the caseworker for each full placement month – Baseline (BSLN) FY06	The percent of caregivers reporting that children received a private and individual face-to-face visit from the caseworker for each full placement month. Source: Foster Parent Survey	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 na	FY06 37.9% 420/1107	FY07 na

Performance for this measure is from the Foster Parent Survey, conducted for the first time in 2007 by the Washington State University Social and Economic Sciences Research Center (SESRC) for the Children's Administration. This benchmark only has one question (Q53): "In 2006, about how often did this child's social worker have a private and individual face-to-face visit with this child (either at home or outside of the home)? Would you say . . .".

Survey results differ from measures of Social Worker visits based on administrative data, which show about 90% of youth in out-of-home care being visited at least every 90 days. One source of this discrepancy appears to be the survey sample, which included inactive foster parents who had not cared for a child since FY05, as well as caregivers of youth in guardianships, for whom Social Worker visits are not required.

As additional Social Work staff are hired, the Children's Administration is prioritizing monthly visits for children and youth in placement. Monthly Social Worker visits for legally dependent children who are receiving services in their own home has been required since December 2005, and about 79% of these youth are receiving visits. Monthly Social Worker visits for children under the age of 6 years who are in placement with an unlicensed relative have been required since April 2007, and about 73% of these children are being visited.

SIBLING SEPARATION

Area/Goal/ Outcome/ Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
E.1.1.1	55	The percentage of children in the class placed <u>with any siblings</u> , for children placed in regular licensed relative and non-relative foster care- Baseline (BSLN) FY05	The proportion of children placed in regular foster care during each fiscal year who were placed <u>with some other removed siblings</u> .	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 82.1% 1753/2136	FY06 80.1% 1752/2187	FY07 79.3% 1928/2431
		Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
		The percentage of children in the class placed <u>with all siblings</u> , for children placed in regular licensed relative and non-relative foster care- Baseline (BSLN) FY05	The proportion of children placed in regular foster care during each fiscal year who were placed <u>with all other removed siblings</u> .	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 59.6% 1273/2136	FY06 58.9% 1288/2187	FY07 58.3% 1418/2431

This measure looks at the first regular foster care placement for children who were removed with other siblings within 7 days of each other and all placed into a foster home (licensed or unlicensed). Sibling groups are more likely to remain together when placed with relatives compared to placements with unrelated licensed caregivers. Children captured in this measure include those who cannot be placed together due to behavioral concerns or other special needs, and those who have been removed with half or step-siblings (mixed families where children might be separated to accommodate placement with relatives).

Children who are removed with only one other sibling have a 74% chance of being placed together with unrelated caregivers and a 90% chance if placed with relatives. Sibling groups of more than 2 have about a 27% chance of all being together with unrelated caregivers and a 62% chance of all being placed together with a relative.

Performance changes between FY05 and FY07 appear to be confined to sibling groups who are placed initially into unrelated foster homes. The proportion of siblings placed into unrelated foster homes with some or all other siblings fell from 76% to 71%, while the percent of siblings placed with relatives who remained with some or all other removed siblings has remained steady at about 90%.

The demand for licensed foster homes increased faster than the supply during the last fiscal year, reducing the availability of licensed foster homes with multiple vacant beds that can accommodate sibling groups.

Area/Goal/ Outcome/ Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
E.2.1.1	57	The percentage of children placed apart from their siblings who have two or more monthly visits or contacts (not including staffing meetings or court events) with some or all of their siblings - Baseline (BSLN) FY06	The percent of caregivers reporting that children placed apart from their siblings had two or more monthly visits or contacts (not including staffing meetings or court events) with some or all of their siblings. Source: Foster Parent Survey	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 na	FY06 48.4% 208/430	FY07 na

Performance for this measure is from the Foster Parent Survey, conducted for the first time in 2007 by the Washington State University Social and Economic Sciences Research Center (SESRC) for the Children's Administration. This benchmark has three screen questions (Q125, Q126 and Q127). Only foster parents who indicate that the child has a sister or brother ("yes" to Q125), that was not placed in the foster parent's home in 2006 ("no" to Q126), and for whom contact was approved by DCFS ("yes" to Q127) are included in the calculation of this benchmark. Survey Q128: "In a typical month in 2006, how often did this child have visits and other forms of contact with their siblings? Would you say ...".

This measure includes children of all ages (Approximately 18% of children in out-of-home care are under the age of 1, and 27% are under the age of 3).

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Area/Goal/ Outcome/ Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
F.3.1.1	72	The percentage of children who ran from out-of-home care placements during the year - Baseline (BSLN) FY05	The proportion of children in a placement episode open during the fiscal year with at least one runaway event beginning during each fiscal year.	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 4.0% 633/15984	FY06 4.1% 666/16420	FY07 4.1% 702/16936
		Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
		The percentage of children who ran from out-of-home care placements during their current episode in out-of-home care - Baseline (BSLN) FY05	The proportion of children in an open placement episode on the last day of the fiscal year with at least one runaway event during their current episode.	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 6.4% 597/9317	FY06 6.5% 642/9802	FY07 6.6% 679/10242

The number of youth included in this measure – youth in a placement open during the fiscal year - increased by 6% between FY05 and FY07.

Area/Goal/Outcome/Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
F.3.2.1	72	The percentage of children who run from out-of-home care placements two or more times during their current episode in out-of-home care - Baseline (BSLN) FY05	The percent of children in an open placement episode on the last day of each Fiscal Year with at least two runaway events in their current episode.	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 3.8% 354/9317	FY06 3.9% 387/9802	FY07 4.1% 425/10242

The number of youth included in this measure – youth in open placement at the end of the FY - increased by 10% between FY05 and FY07.

Area/Goal/Outcome/Benchmark	Implementation Plan Page #	Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
F.3.3.1	73	The average number of days (mean) for children who run from out-of-home care placements during their current episode in out-of-home care - Baseline (BSLN) FY05	The average days in a running event for all children in an open placement episode on the last day of each fiscal year and with at least one runaway event in their current episode.	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 126	FY06 126	FY07 123
		Benchmark Description	Measure Description	Performance			
		The average number of days (median) for children who run from out-of-home care placements during their current episode in out-of-home care - Baseline (BSLN) FY05	The median days in a running event for all children in an open placement episode on the last day of each fiscal year and with at least one runaway event in their current episode.	Fiscal Year Actual	FY05 43	FY06 42	FY07 39

The number of youth included in this measure – youth with a run during their current placement episode - increased by 14% between FY05 and FY07.