

The administration's top priority is to ensure that the children of Washington State are protected from abuse and neglect.

The Washington State Department of Social and Health Services Children's Administration (CA) works to provide quality services to vulnerable children and families and works to maintain accountability to those using CA services, those funding CA services, and to the community at large.

The administration's top priority is that the children of Washington State are protected from abuse and neglect. Additionally, the administration strives to provide stable and permanent homes for vulnerable children and to partner with families and communities to promote the well-being of children and the families of which they are a part.

This report, the ninth annual Children's Administration Performance Report, documents the administration's efforts to ensure child safety, permanency and child and family well-being. This document contains all information contained in the Children's Services Annual Quality Assurance Report which features performance outcome data in compliance with RCW 43.20.870 and RCW 74.13.031(5). A number of additional performance outcome measures and ancillary information is also provided in an effort report the administration's progress with reference to the administration's four priority goal areas:

- 1. Safety**
- 2. Permanency**
- 3. Well-Being**
- 4. Supporting Client Outcomes**

The administration has created and continues to refine a series of performance measures designed to assess key areas of service delivery and the impact CA interventions are having on children's quality of life. The administration must continually examine policies and practices so that our work ultimately results in improved lives for children and families.

Data in this report reflects the period from July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2005, except where specifically noted.

The data is drawn from two primary sources: The Case and Management Information System (CAMIS) is a fully automated system which stores data regarding referrals, placement, case activity, contracts, licensing, and other case-specific information. In addition there are a few remaining measures that are important to the administration but for which CAMIS does not have tracking capacity. For those outcomes, the administration relies upon regional hand counts.

The administration continually explores ways to improve the collection and analysis of data in an effort to ensure the integrity of the data reported toward the ultimate goal of improving practice.

Children’s Administration Activities

The Children’s Administration impacts the lives of more than three percent of the state’s population annually. It is estimated that nearly 200,000 individuals benefit either from direct or ancillary services provided by the administration. In Fiscal Year 2005, the administration provided services to nearly 19,000 children who were placed in out-of-home care with approximately 9,000 children in out-of-home care at any given time. At any point in time, 3,500 children who have been removed from their parents are cared for by other relatives.

Annually, the administration receives referrals of alleged abuse or neglect regarding one out of every 35 children in the state of Washington. Chances are you or someone you know has been impacted directly or indirectly by child abuse and neglect.

In Fiscal Year 2005, the administration made diligent efforts to improve service delivery, accountability and stewardship of state resources.

Fiscal year 2005 Children’s Administration Service Delivery Activities*



* All numbers with the exception of exits from out-of-home care are rounded to the nearest 100.

** Other exits include: reached age of majority, transfer of custody, no exit reason, or deceased.

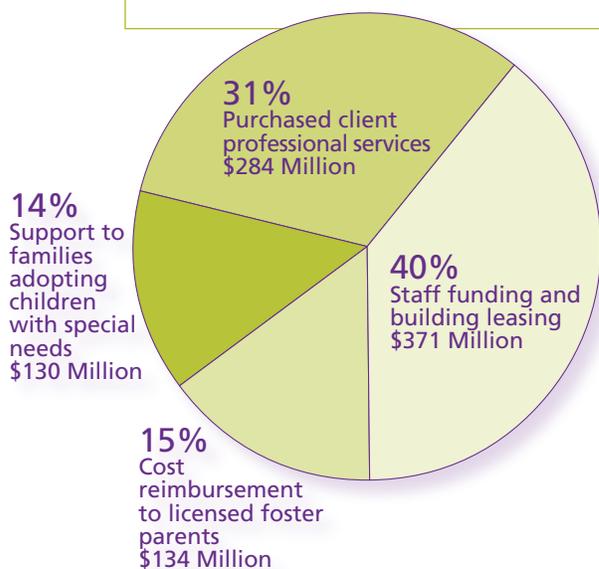
Comprehensive Service Delivery

The administration strives to provide culturally competent, community-based services to children and families in the communities where they live.

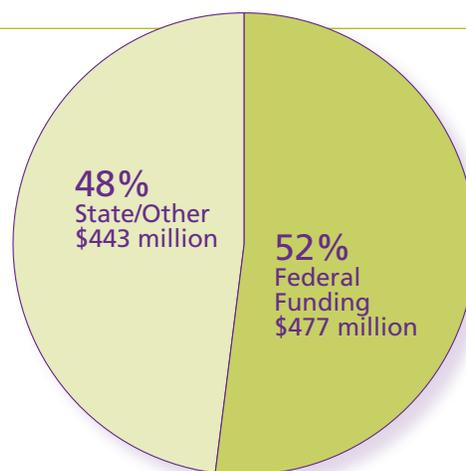
The state is divided into six geographic regions. Each region has a number of field offices based upon population; there are a total of 44 field offices statewide. The administration utilizes both paid personnel and contracted service providers throughout the state in an effort to provide the greatest array of community-based services.

The 2003-2005 biennium budget provides \$920* million for services to vulnerable children and their families. About 60 percent of those funds or \$548 million is used to purchase services including: services provided by nearly 6,000 foster families or other state licensed facilities, purchased professional services, and financial support to families who have adopted nearly 11,000 children with special needs to assist with their care.

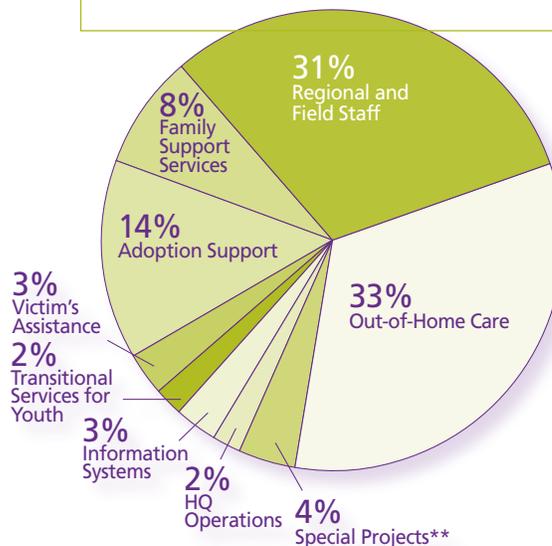
Sixty percent of the Children's Administration budget funds services provided by non-employees



Fifty-two percent of the budget comes from federal funds



Children's Administration funding provides a wide array of services



* Includes FY2004 and FY2005 supplemental budgets and unanticipated receipts.
 ** Special projects include: Independent Living Services (ILS); Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) and National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect (NCCAN) grants; Office of Children's Administration Research (OCAR); Staff Development; Training Academy; Quality Improvement; Indian Child Welfare, and other federal, state, and private foundation grant-funded programs

Child Demographics

Child abuse and neglect are not problems of any particular gender, age, racial, ethnic or socio-economic group. They are evident in every segment of society and either directly or indirectly impact every member of a community. Boys and girls are placed in out-of-home care in the same proportions as they appear in the general population. Children are also seen in out-of-home care in age breakouts similar to their distribution in the general population. However, there are differences in the ratio of children in out-of-home placement and the general population with reference to race and ethnicity. African American children make up 3.9 percent of the general population in Washington State but 11 percent of children in out-of-home care. Native American children represent 2.1 percent of the Washington population but 8.3 percent of children in out-of-home care.

The Children's Administration is attempting to address the disproportionality of those minority groups through community partnerships, staff training, mentoring and services designed to meet the needs of African American and Native American children in out-of-home care.

Did you know?

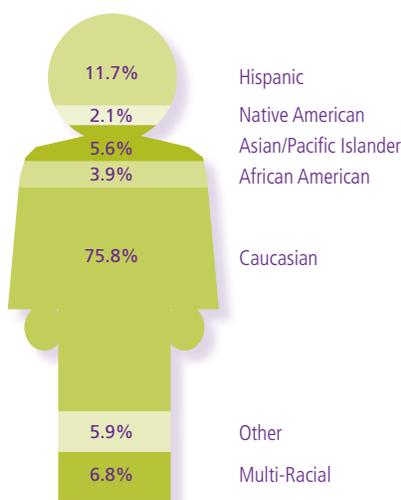
The administration recognizes the significance of culturally competent practice and is working to provide staffing according to the racial and ethnic identities of the children and families we serve.

Children's Administration
Social Workers by Race/
Ethnicity*

- African American **8%**
- Native American **5%**
- Asian **5%**
- Hispanic **7%**
- Caucasian **75%**

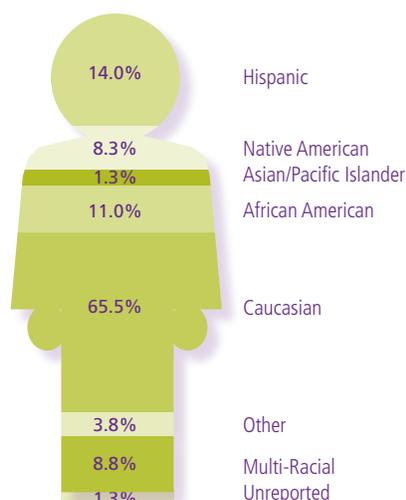
Race/Ethnicity

General Child Population (Age 0-17)



Race/Ethnicity

All Children in Placement (Age 0-17)

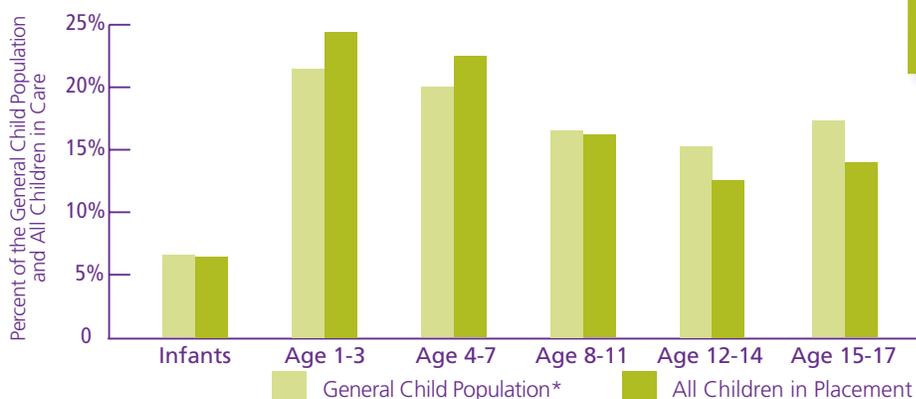


Gender

General Child Population
and All Children in Placement



Age General Child Population and All Children in Placement (Age 0-17)



*Data as of June 30, 2005, provided by the Department of Social and Health Services Office of Diversity Affairs