

The CAMIS Replacement Project

The administration is working to replace CAMIS with a new Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS). The new SACWIS will provide comprehensive, integrated, automated case management tools to support social workers' case management practice, as well as tools to support practice improvements. The administration's reasons for moving from CAMIS to SACWIS include:

- Addressing critical deficiencies identified in the Braam foster care lawsuit settlement requirements and the failed federal audit.
- Addressing the risk of system failure if significant changes are made to CAMIS to meet the administration's changing needs.
- Achieving transparency by tying taxpayer dollars to service delivery outcomes.
- Holding headquarters and field staff accountable to a service budget.
- Targeting services with the greatest likelihood of achieving desired outcomes.

The CAMIS replacement project is currently in the Planning Phase, and has both state and federal approval and funding. At the end of Fiscal Year 2006, the administration was working toward completing and releasing a Request for Proposals for the project.

Protecting the children of Washington State from abuse and neglect is the Children's Administration's top priority.

The Washington State Department of Social and Health Services Children's Administration works to provide quality services to vulnerable children and families, and to maintain accountability to those who use and those who fund the administration's services, as well as to the community at large.

Protecting the children of Washington State from abuse and neglect is the administration's top priority. 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 their families.

This report, the tenth annual Children's Administration Performance Report, documents the administration's efforts towards child safety and 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). Additional performance outcome measures and information are provided to report progress on 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 the administration's interventions are having on children's quality of life. The administration continually examines policies and practices so that our work ultimately results in improved lives for children and families.

Data in this report is for Fiscal Year 2006 from July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006, except where specifically noted.

The data is primarily drawn from the Case and Management Information System (CAMIS), an automated system which stores data regarding referrals, placement, case activity, contracts, licensing, and other case-specific information. Additionally, the administration relies upon regional hand counts for a few remaining measures that are important but are not tracked in CAMIS.

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

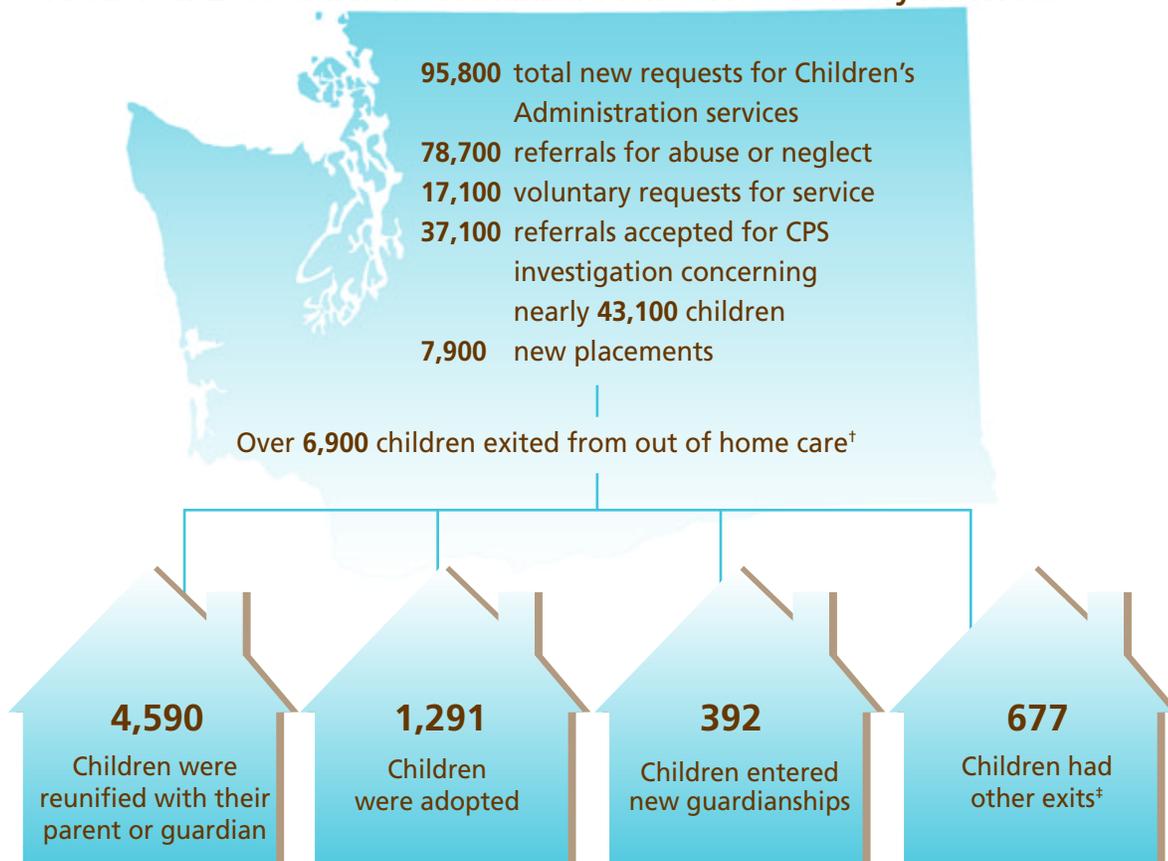
The Children’s Administration impacts the lives of more than three percent of the state’s population annually. Nearly 197,000 individuals benefit either from direct or ancillary services provided by the administration. In Fiscal Year 2006, the administration provided services to almost 19,100 children who were in out-of-home care for at least one day during the year.*

At any given time during Fiscal Year 2006, about 9,600 children were living in an out-of-home placement. Over 3,600 of those children were cared for by relatives, while 6,000 were placed with unrelated caregivers. An additional 2,900 children were cared for in guardianships supervised by the administration, and over 1,400 of those children were in a guardianship with their relatives.

Annually, the administration accepts referrals for investigation of alleged abuse or neglect regarding one out of every 34 children in Washington State. Chances are you or someone you know has been impacted directly or indirectly by child abuse and neglect.

In Fiscal Year 2006, the administration made diligent efforts to improve service delivery, accountability, and stewardship of state resources.

Fiscal Year 2006 Children’s Administration Service Delivery Activities**



*The number of children placed in out-of-home care consists of all children in an open out-of-home placement event, including children in guardianships and Tribal custody.

**Source: EMIS report and September 2006 CAMIS download. All numbers are rounded to the nearest 100, with the exception of exits from out-of-home care.

[†]Unduplicated number of children exiting from out-of-home care. Children may exit from out-of-home care more than once during a fiscal year, and previous Children’s Administration Performance Reports used duplicated counts.

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

Comprehensive Service Delivery

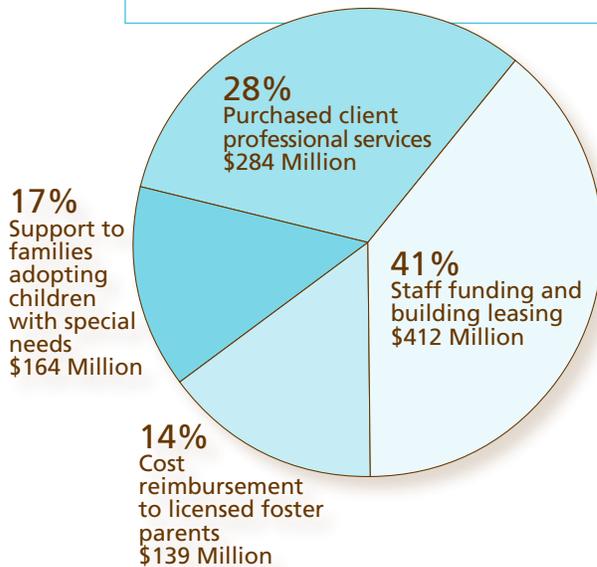
The administration strives to provide culturally competent, community-based services to children and families in the communities where they live.

The state is divided into six geographic regions. Each region has a number of field offices based upon community need, for a total of 44 field offices statewide.

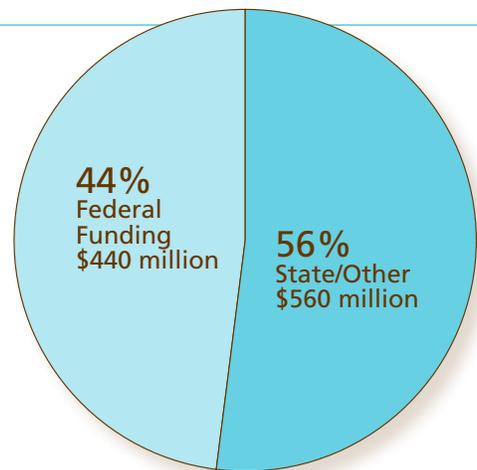
The administration uses both paid personnel and community-based, contracted service providers throughout the state in an effort to provide the greatest array of services.

The 2005-2007 biennial budget provides \$1 billion* for services to vulnerable children and their families. About 59 percent of those funds, or \$588 million, is used to provide maintenance payments to over 6,000 foster families and other state licensed facilities, purchase professional services, and provide financial support to families to assist with their care of nearly 10,000 adopted children with special needs.

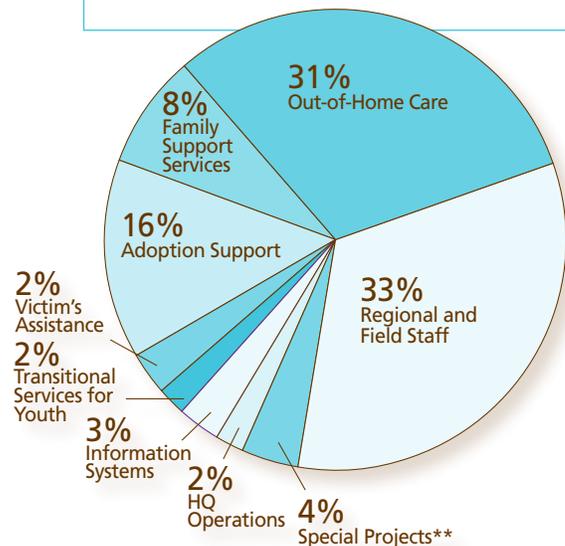
Fifty-nine percent of the Children's Administration budget funds services provided by non-employees



Forty-four percent of the budget comes from federal funds



Children's Administration funding provides a wide array of services



*Includes Fiscal Year 2006 supplemental budget 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, 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 affect every member of a community.

The population of children in out-of-home care is similar to the population of all children in Washington State in terms of gender and ethnicity, but is younger in terms of age.

There are significant differences between the racial distributions of children in out-of-home care and the general child population. African American children make up 4.2 percent of the general child population in Washington State, but 10.5 percent of children in out-of-home care. Native American children comprise 2.1 percent of the general child population, but 11.9 percent of children in out-of-home care.

Cultural Competence

The administration recognizes the significance of culturally competent practice and works to provide staffing that reflects the racial and ethnic identities of the children and families we serve.

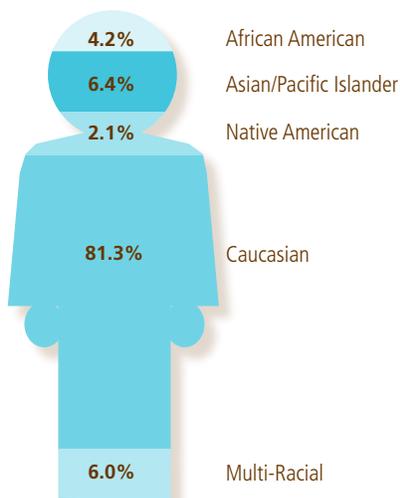
Children's Administration Social Workers by Race/Ethnicity*

- African American **8%**
- Asian **5%**
- Caucasian **75%**
- Native American **4%**
- Hispanic **8%**

*Data as of June 21, 2006, provided by the Department of Social and Health Services Office of Diversity Affairs.

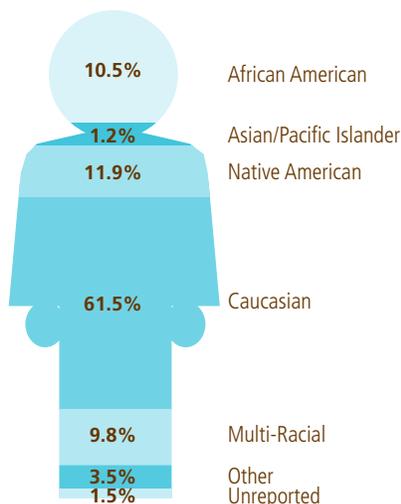
Race

General Child Population*



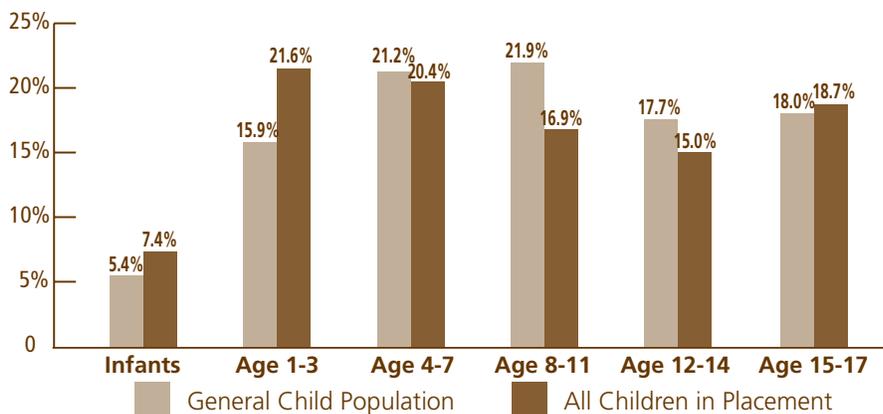
Race

All Children in Placement**



	General Child Population*	All Children in Placement**
Ethnicity		
Hispanic	13.9%	14.4%
Gender		
Male	51.3%	50.4%
Female	48.7%	49.6%

Age General Child Population* and All Children in Placement**



*The Washington State population of children ages 0 to 17 was estimated to be 1,850,300 (rounded to the nearest hundred) as of July 1, 2005. Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

**The population of children ages 0 to 17 in out-of-home care during Fiscal Year 2006 was 18,300 (rounded to the nearest hundred). An additional 800 young adults ages 18 to 21 remained in out-of-home care during Fiscal Year 2006 to pursue their educational goals or due to developmental disabilities. Source: September 2006 CAMIS download.