

Objective: Improve safety when returning children to their homes

Measured by: Children who are placed in out-of-home care due to abuse or neglect, returned home, and who must be placed again

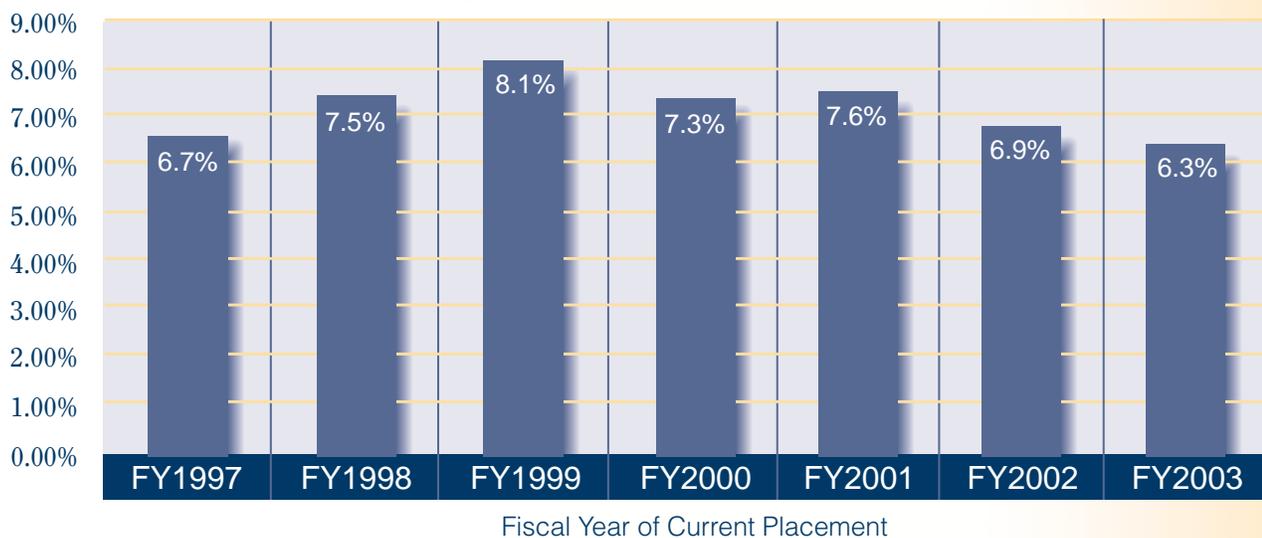
Families who have had a child removed from their home due to findings of abuse or neglect must have an adequate safety assessment, planning and support in place when and if that child is to be returned home.

The Children's Administration has worked diligently to address factors which may contribute to the re-abuse of children and subsequent re-placement into out-of-home care following their reunification with families.

In the past two fiscal year periods, the rate of CPS re-entry into out-of-home care has remained relatively stable; however, the administration continues to implement practices designed to reduce re-abuse and re-entry.

Currently the administration conducts a formal assessment to determine whether reunification is in the best interest of a specific child. All children returning home do so with a transition and safety plan in place. Children whom the administration believes are particularly vulnerable receive additional monitoring visits by a DCFS Social Worker or other qualified professional within the first 120 days following their return home.

Percent of Children in Placement for Reasons of Child Abuse with Prior Placement*



* Percent of children placed for abuse and neglect, returned home, and re-entered placement within 12 months of exiting their previous placement. Both placements must have lasted for more than three days in order to exclude 72-hour emergency placements due to temporary incapacitation of the parents.