



Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth & Families



Picture Source: Family Service of Rhode Island www.familyserviceri.org

Annual Safety Analytic Report

**October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2018
(FFY16 – FFY18)**

Data Analytics and Evaluation
January 2019

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Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families (RI DCYF)
Safety Report
October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2018 (FFY16 - FFY18)

Introduction

The Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth & Families mission is to promote child safety, permanency and well-being. Promoting safety and reducing the probability of child maltreatment is first and foremost. Child maltreatment can have adverse lifelong impacts as evidenced by the Adverse Childhood Experience (See page 4). This report provides information on child maltreatment in RI that can be used in a collaboratively manner by agencies and organizations whose efforts are aimed at promoting safety among children and families throughout the State of RI.

National

Child maltreatment includes all types of abuse and neglect of a child under the age of 18 by a parent, caregiver, or another person in a custodial role (e.g., clergy, coach, teacher). There are four common types of maltreatment.

- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Neglect

In the United States in the year 2016:

- ✓ There were 676,000 victims of child abuse and neglect reported to child protective services (CPS) in 2016.
- ✓ The youngest children are the most vulnerable with about 24% of children in their first year of life experiencing victimization.
- ✓ CPS reports may underestimate the true occurrence of abuse and neglect. A non-CPS study estimated that 1 in 4 children experience some form of child abuse or neglect in their lifetimes.
- ✓ About 1,750 children died from abuse or neglect in 2016.
- ✓ The total lifetime cost of child abuse and neglect is estimated at \$124 billion each year.

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childmaltreatment/index.html>

Rhode Island

The rate of child maltreatment in RI in FFY18 was 16.3 per 1,000 children (children less than 18 years old). The majority of child maltreatment nationally and in RI is in the form of neglect. In FFY17 in RI approximately 54.2% of maltreatment was in the form of neglect. Approximately 80% of children in RI who were victims of maltreatment in FFY18 were age 11 and younger and children under the age of 1 had the highest prevalence. This report provides information on RI DCYF Child Protective Services (CPS) investigations, maltreatment, repeat maltreatment and maltreatment in foster care.

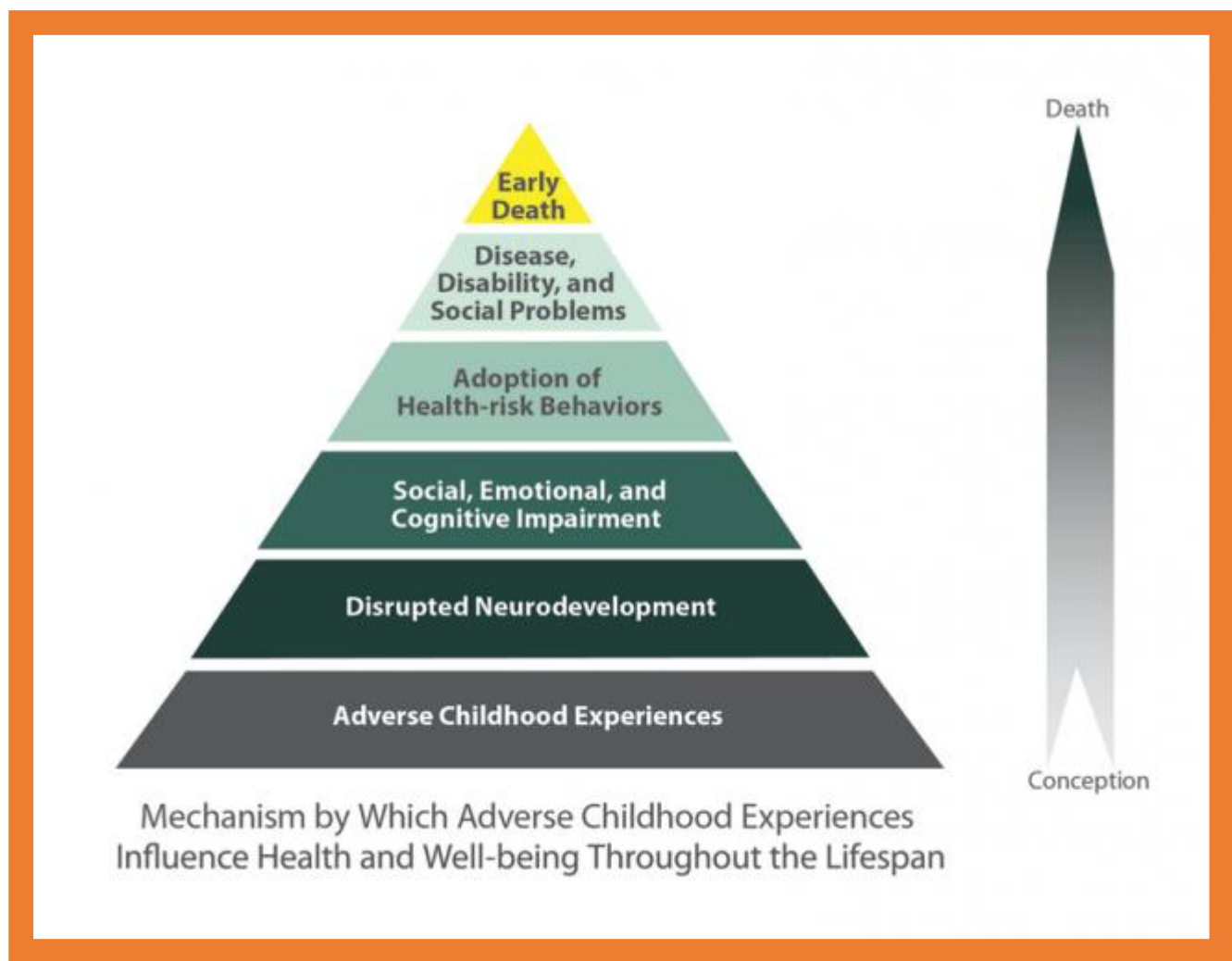
Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

Childhood experiences, both positive and negative, have a tremendous impact on future violence victimization and perpetration, and lifelong health and opportunity. As such, early experiences are an important public health issue. Much of the foundational research in this area has been referred to as Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs).

The CDC-Kaiser Permanente Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study is one of the largest investigations of childhood abuse and neglect and later-life health and well-being. The original ACE Study was conducted at Kaiser Permanente from 1995 to 1997 with two waves of data collection. Over 17,000 Health Maintenance Organization members from Southern California receiving physical exams completed confidential surveys regarding their childhood experiences and current health status and behaviors. The CDC continues ongoing surveillance of ACEs by assessing the medical status of the study participants via periodic updates of morbidity and mortality data.

The ACE Pyramid represents the conceptual framework for the ACE Study. The ACE Study has uncovered how ACEs are strongly related to development of risk factors for disease, and well-being throughout the life course. Adverse Childhood Experiences have been linked to:

- risky health behaviors,
- chronic health conditions
- low life potential, and
- early death

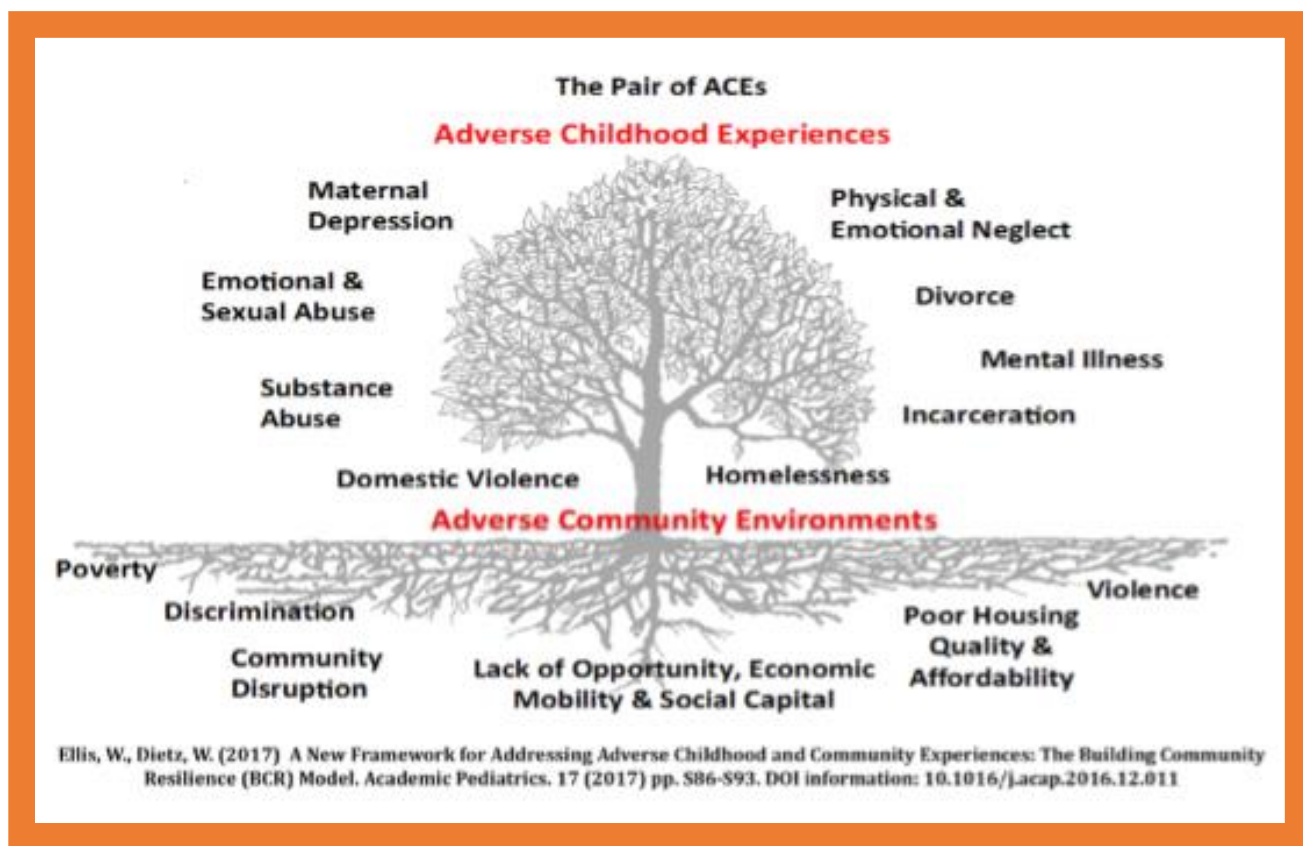


The Building Community Resilience Pair of ACEs

The pair of ACEs tree was illustrated to communicate the relationship between adversity within a family and adversity within a community. Adverse childhood experiences (the leaves) can increase a person's risk for chronic stress and adverse coping mechanisms, and result in lifelong chronic illness such as depression, heart disease, obesity and substance abuse. Physical or sexual violence, and abuse or neglect are often less obvious but can exist as chronic stressors.

The tree is planted in poor soil that is steeped in systemic inequities, robbing it of nutrients necessary to support a thriving community. Adverse community environments (the roots) such as a lack of affordable and safe housing, community violence, systemic discrimination, and limited access to social and economic mobility compound one another, creating a negative cycle of worsening soil that results in withering leaves.

By addressing ACEs as pairs, we are able to more readily engage diverse stakeholders in developing policy goals – policies that will support efforts to address adversities that are embedded in communities, but have their roots in systems.



https://publichealth.gwu.edu/sites/default/files/downloads/RedstoneCenter/Resource%20Description_Pair%20of%20ACEs%20Tree.pdf

Stats at a Quick Glance

Table 1. provides an overview of RI DCYF Child Protection Service (CPS) contact points with families. The overall aim is to leverage a surveillance system that can readily detect and respond to trends at the system level to better inform interventions aimed at promoting child safety and family well-being.

Percent and Rate of Indicated Maltreatment Trends

If the child and family present an elevated risk or safety concern, a CPS investigation is conducted that results in either an unfounded investigation or indicated investigation. Among families investigated, the percent of children indicated increased slightly over the three years (See Table 1). The rate of indicated child victims increased from FFY16 to FFY18. When a rate increases slightly while the percent decreasing slightly, it can result from a change in the population size as well as in the number of children investigated. The median age of indicated child victims across the 4 Federal Fiscal Years remained relatively consistent.

A goal in maintaining child safety is to mitigate the risk of a recurrence. The U.S. Children's Bureau measure defines repeat maltreatment as a child indicated within 12 months of a previous indicated maltreatment. In FFY17, 11.2% of children experienced a repeat maltreatment. The median age at the time of the initial maltreatment was 5 years old and the median length of time between the two indicated events was 141 days, just over 4.5 months.

The number of unique children with a report of maltreatment in foster care increased from FFY15 to FFY17. Throughout this report, foster care is the Federal definition, all children in an out-of-home placement.

Table 1. Stats at a Quick Glance, by Federal Fiscal Year(FFY).

	FFY15	FFY16	FFY17	FFY18
Section 1: Investigations (Maltreatment)				
Number of children investigated	8392	7521	7470	10821
Among children investigated, percent of children indicated	37.4%	39.2%	41.4%	33.8%
Median age at CPS report for indicated child victims (years)	6.0	6.0	5.0	6.0
Rate of indicated child victims (per 1,000 children under 18 years old in Rhode Island)	13.8	12.8	13.8	16.3
Section 2: Repeat Maltreatment*				
Percent of children who had repeat maltreatment within 12 months of the initial maltreatment	10.7%	9.7%	11.2%	--
Median age at initial maltreatment (years)	5.0	4.0	5.0	--
Median length of time between initial and repeat maltreatment (days)	116.0	158.0	141.0	--
Section 3: Maltreatment in Foster Care**				
Number of victimizations of maltreatment in foster care	71	63	80	--
Number of unique child victims of maltreatment in foster care	65	59	77	--
Median age at CPS report (years)	11.0	9.0	10.0	--

*Unadjusted for age. Children's Bureau adjust for age at initial victimization.

**At time of report, Children's Bureau method of bed days calculations had not yet been released – subject to be revised

Annual Safety Report

Section 1: Investigations (Maltreatment), FFY16-FFY18



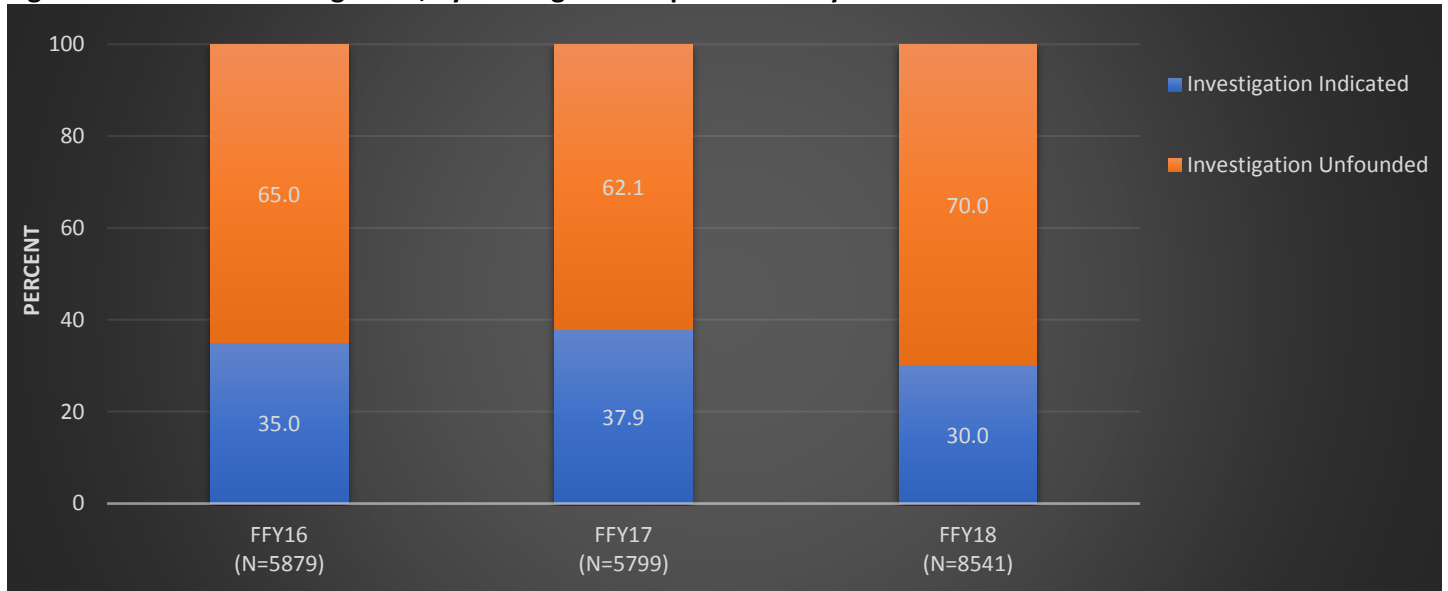
Picture source: Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence (www.fcadv.org)

Data Presented in Section 1:

The data presented in Section 1 reflect CPS (Child Protection Service) investigations completed during October 1, 2015 – September 30, 2018 (FFY16-FFY18), by federal fiscal year. The data is *presented by investigation disposition year*, meaning that FFY18 data may include investigations reported in previous years like FFY17 or FFY16 but were completed in FFY18. Children age 18 and older at the time of CPS report are excluded (consistent with Children's Bureau reporting).

Section 1: INVESTIGATIONS (MALTREATMENT)

Figure 1. Percent of investigations, by investigation disposition and year.



While the total number of investigations increased from FFY16 to FFY18, the percent of indicated investigations decreased from 35.0% in FFY16 to 30.0% in FFY18.

Data notes:

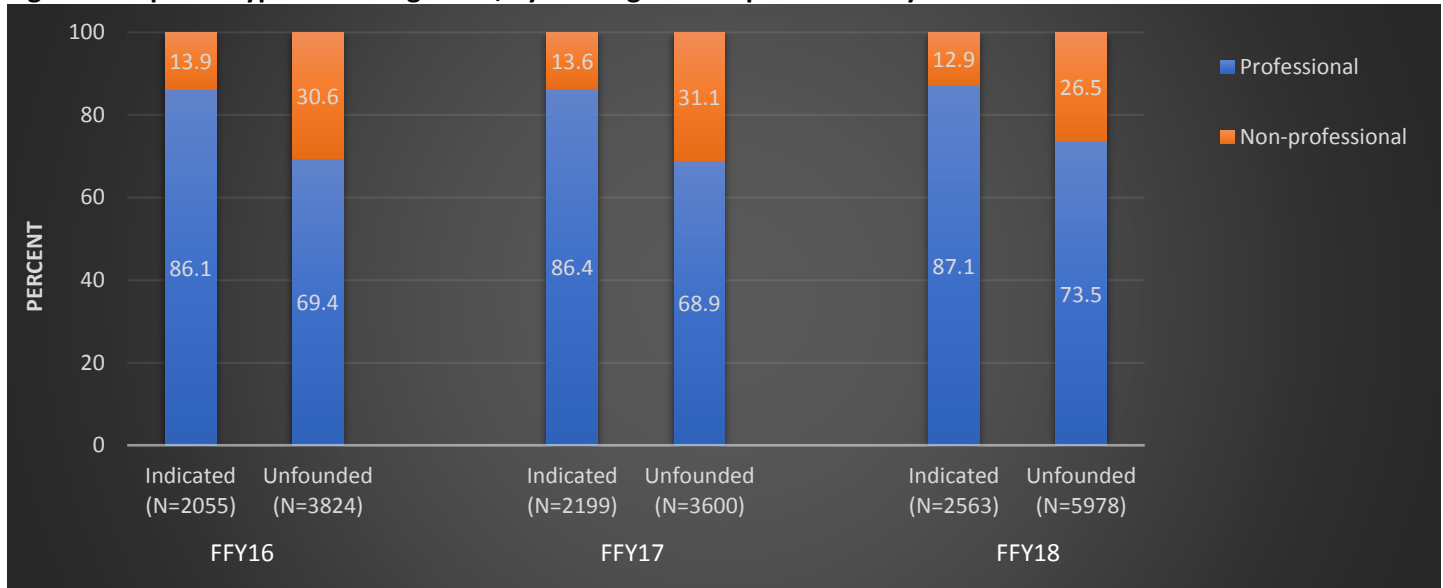
- Data unduplicated by investigation.
- Investigation level data reflect investigation level findings. A child may have indicated investigation even if all allegations are unfounded due to another child in the same investigation case being indicated.

Data source: RICHIST; data are current as of 10/1/2018.

REPORTER CALLS

INVESTIGATIONS (MALTREATMENT), continued

Figure 2. Reporter type of investigations, by investigation disposition and year.



Rhode Island is a mandatory reporting state wherein any person witnessing or having suspicion of child maltreatment are required to notify RI DCYF. Reporters can be classified into two subpopulations, reporters who are reporting in their professional role, “professional”, and reporters who are reporting not in a professional role, “non-professional”. Over the three years, professionals made a greater percentage of reporter calls associated with indicated investigations compared to unfounded investigations (See Figure 2).

Data notes:

- Data unduplicated by investigation and duplicated by child. Each investigation is counted once, but a child may be counted more than once if had multiple investigations.
- Professional includes reporter type of assistant principal, attendance officer, CPI, child advocate office, child care, child day care center, child day care home, clinic or hospital physician counselor, courts, DCYF attorney, DCYF probation/parole officer, DCYF social worker, DHS personnel, dental professional, Department of Corrections personnel, emergency services personnel, hospital social worker, medical examiner, mental health personnel, nurse (LPN), nurse (RPN), other child care provider, other DCYF staff, other law enforcement personnel, other medical personnel, other school personnel, other social services personnel, police, pre-school/nursery school, principal, private agency social worker, private physician, psychologist, school nurse, school social worker and teacher.
- Non-professional includes reporter type of babysitter, father/father substitute, friend/neighbor, institutional staff personnel, landlord, mother/mother substitute, not noted by report taker, other reporting source, relative or family, sibling and victim.

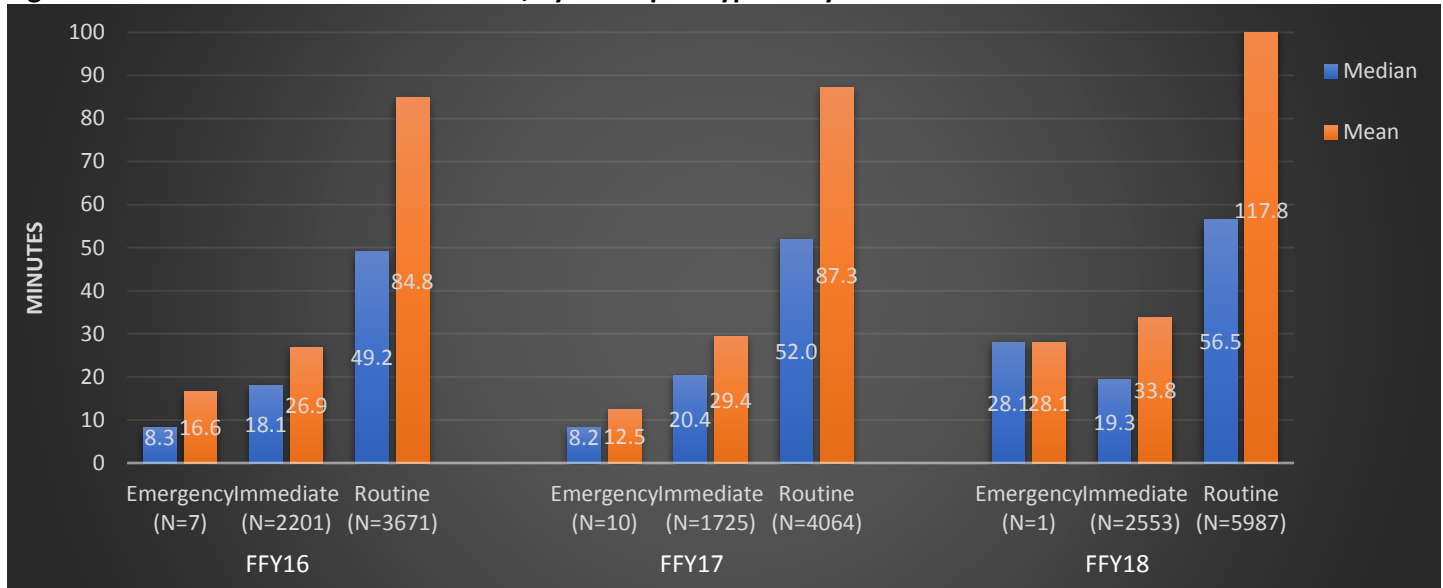
Data source: RICHIST; data are current as of 10/1/2018.

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Data Analytics and Evaluation Unit

CPS SCREEN-IN TIME

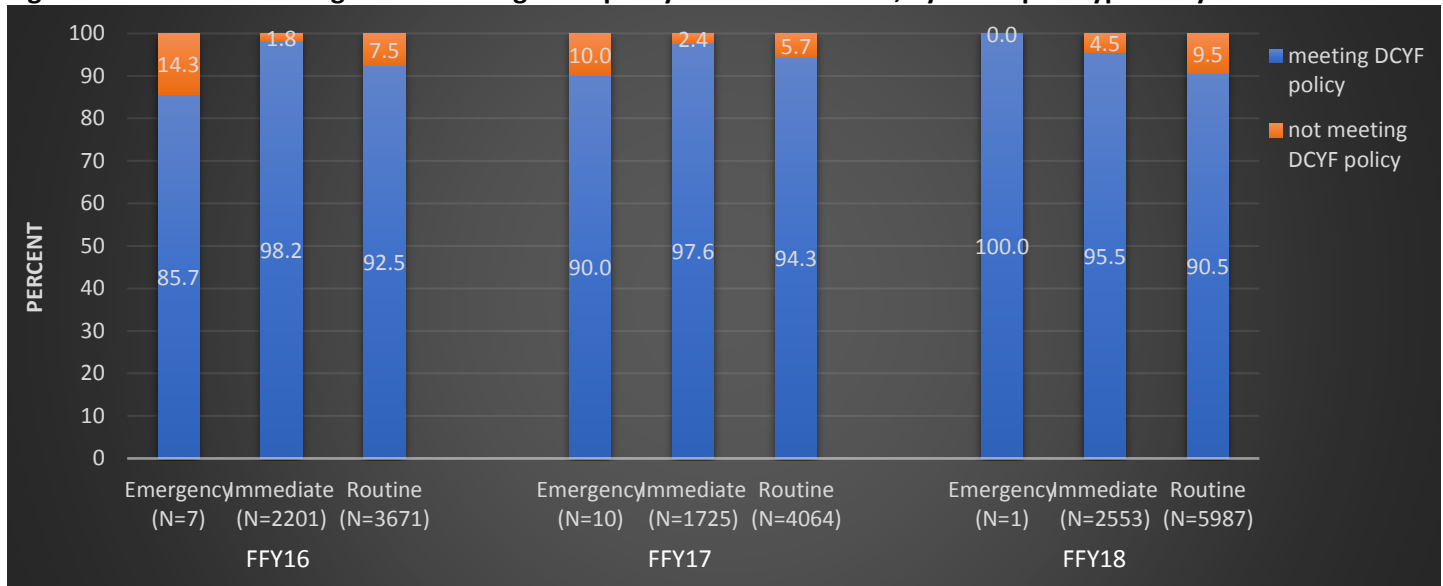
INVESTIGATIONS (MALTREATMENT), continued

Figure 3. Median and Mean screen-in time, by CPS report type and year.



CPS (Child Protection Service) screen-in time reflects the time between when the CPS report was created by the CPS call floor and the time the CPS supervisor reviews and forwards the report to the Child Protective Investigator (CPI). The current DCYF policy requires **emergency reports to be screened within 30 minutes, immediate reports in 120 minutes (2 hours) and routine reports in 240 minutes (4 hours)**. In both FFY17 and FFY18 the percent of investigations meeting the DCYF policy on screen-in time met or exceeded 90% (See Figure 4). Median, the middle most count, references the separation of upper-half, longer time to screen versus lower-half, shorter time to screen. Mean is used to determine outliers of times to screen.

Figure 4. Percent of investigations meeting DCYF policy on screen-in time, by CPS report type and year.



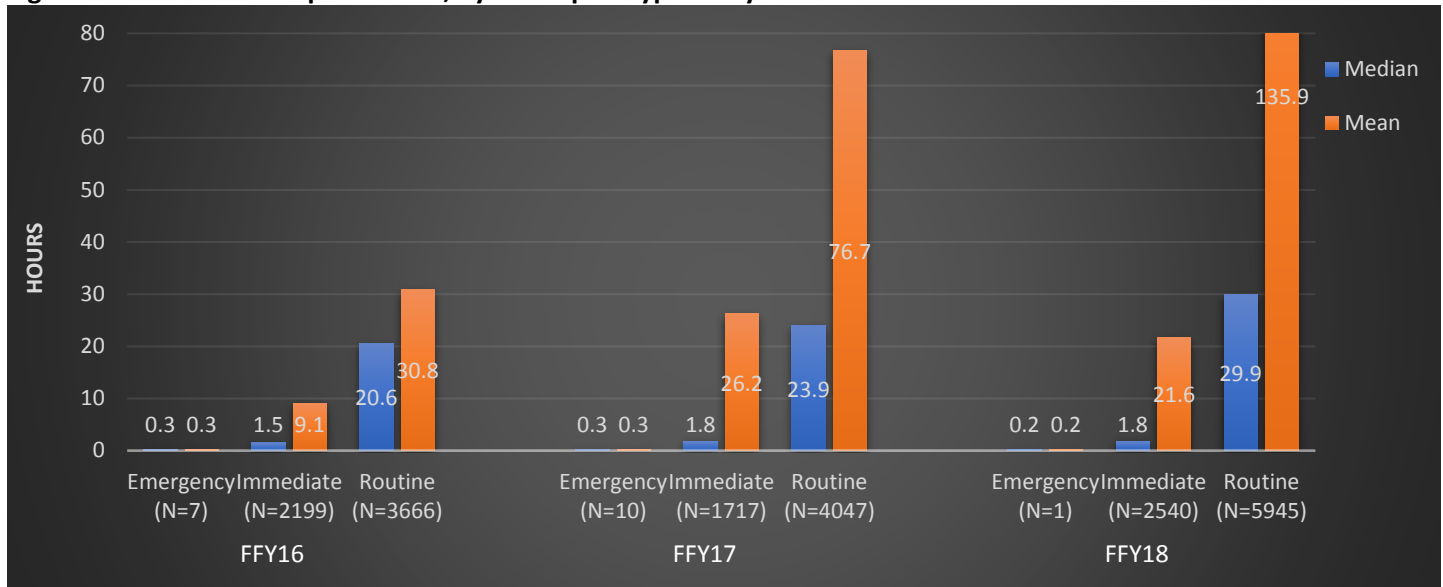
Data notes:

- Data unduplicated by investigation and duplicated by child. Each investigation is counted once, but a child may be counted more than once if had multiple investigations.

CPS RESPONSE TIME

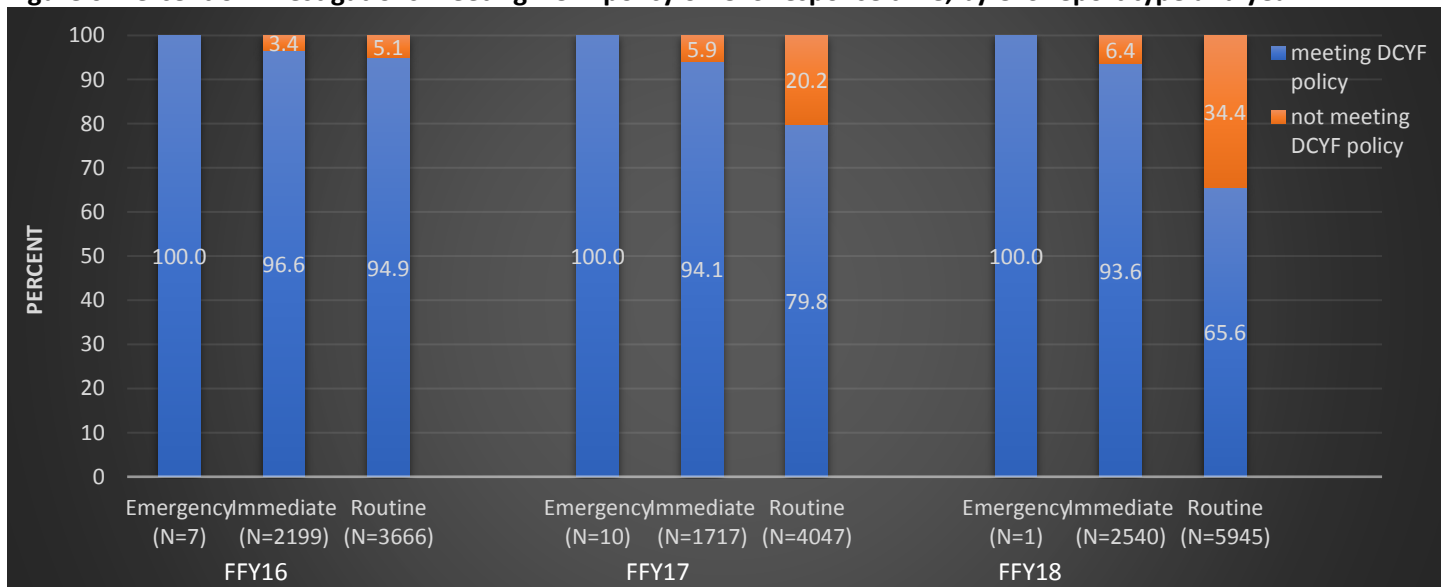
INVESTIGATIONS (MALTREATMENT), continued

Figure 5. Median CPS response time, by CPS report type and year.



CPS (Child Protection Service) response time reflects time between the supervisor acceptance of the report and the first attempted, phone or face to face contact with any person in the investigation case. The current DCYF policy requires ***emergency reports to be responded within 4 hours, immediate reports in 12 hours and routine reports in 48 hours.*** Adherence to emergency response time was redefined to ***within 2 hours*** and was implemented on July 1, 2018. Except for Routine response time in both FFY17 and FFY18, the percent of investigations meeting the DCYF policy on CPS response time exceeded 93% (See Figure 6). Median, the middle most count, references the separation of upper-half, longer time to response versus lower-half, shorter time to response. Mean is used to determine outliers of times to report response.

Figure 6. Percent of investigations meeting DCYF policy on CPS response time, by CPS report type and year.



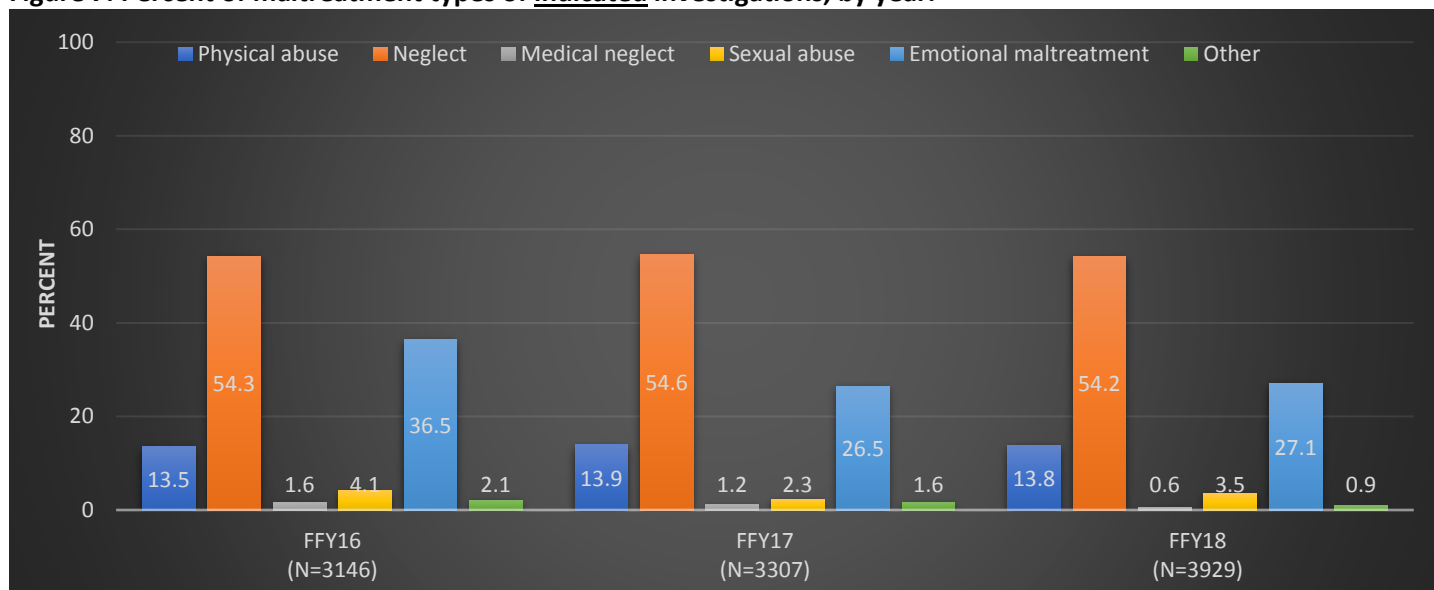
Data notes:

- Data unduplicated by investigation and duplicated by child. Each investigation is counted once, but a child may be counted more than once if had multiple investigations.
- Data missing (7 in FFY16, 25 in FFY17 and 55 in FFY18) response time are excluded.

WHAT TYPE OF MALTREATMENT OCCURS

INVESTIGATIONS (MALTREATMENT), continued

Figure 7. Percent of maltreatment types of indicated investigations, by year.



Maltreatment can range from neglect to medical neglect, emotional abuse, physical abuse, to sexual abuse. In a single investigation a child may be a victim of more than one type of indicated maltreatment. Over the three years, neglect continued to be the most frequent type of indicated maltreatment, remaining consistent across FFY16-FFY18. (See Figure 7). Emotional abuse was the second most frequent type, 36.5% in FFY16, 26.5% in FFY17, and 27.1% in FFY18. A large proportion of emotional abuse involves domestic violence. The percentages across all maltreatment types remained relatively constant over the three years presented. Congruently, of maltreatment -- as a multi-select variable, 12.1% of individual, indicated investigations had more than 1 type of maltreatment (see appendix Table 2).

Data notes:

- Data shown in investigation level. An investigation may be counted more than once if multiple children indicated in investigation.
- Only the indicated allegations are reflected.
- Percentage may add up to more than 100% because a child may be a victim of multiple maltreatment types.

Data source: RICHIST; data are current as of 10/1/2018.

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- NCANDS maltreatment categories may be different from RICHIST categories.
- NCANDS maltreatment type of “other” includes RICHIST allegation types of corporal punishment, inappropriate restraint, other institutional abuse and other institutional neglect under Institutional Abuse & Neglect.

INDICATED MALTREATMENT DISPROPORTIONALITY

INVESTIGATIONS (MALTREATMENT), continued

Figure 8. Percent of indicated child victims of maltreatment and population estimate of children under 18 years old in Rhode Island, by race, ethnicity and year.



Over the three years presented, children who are Black or African American, Multiracial or Hispanic are disproportionately represented with indicated maltreatment compared to RI 2017 population estimates from the U.S. 2017 Census estimates. Similarly, children age 0-9 are disproportionately represented with indicated maltreatment, 70.4% in FFY18 compared to comprising 53.2% of the RI population (See Figure 8 and 9).

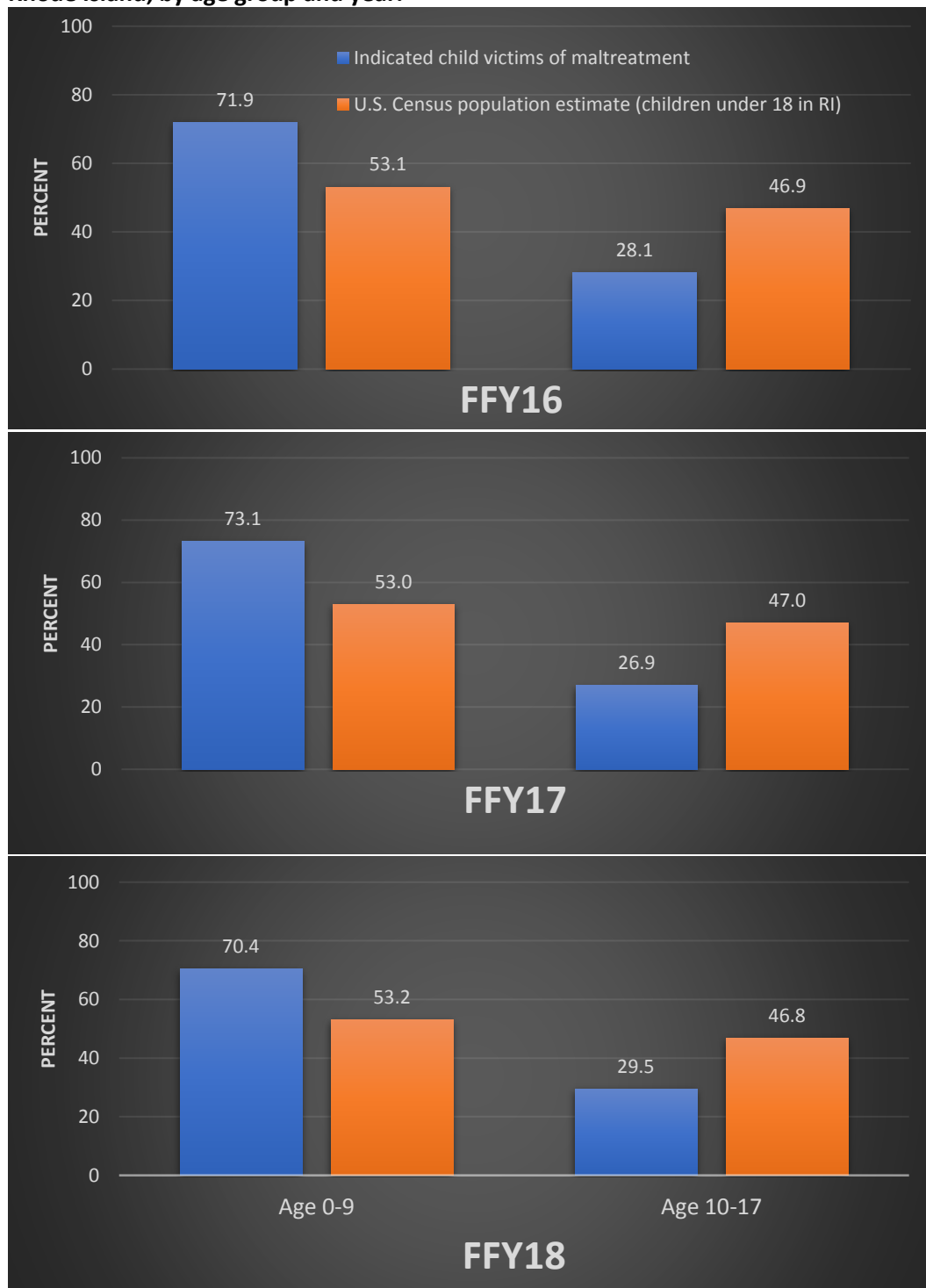
Data source: U.S. Census 2017, 2018 population estimate by sex, age, race and Hispanic for children under 18.

Data notes:

- Data unduplicated by child. If a child had multiple investigations in a fiscal year, perhaps one indicated and one unfounded, the child is counted once as indicated child victim.

- Children with unknown/missing race and unknown/missing ethnicity are not shown.

Figure 9. Percent of indicated child victims of maltreatment and population estimate of children under 18 years old in Rhode Island, by age group and year.



Data source: U.S. Census 2017, 2018 population estimate by sex, age, race and Hispanic for children under 18.

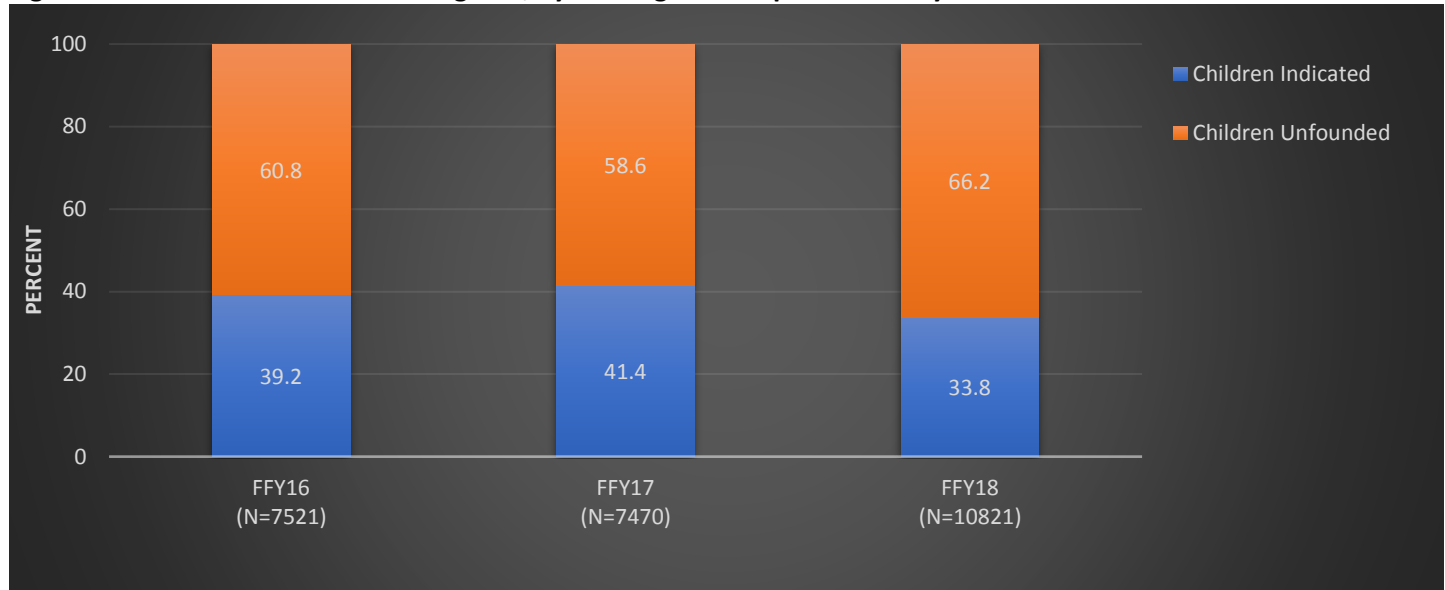
Data notes:

- Data unduplicated by child. If a child had multiple investigations in a fiscal year, perhaps one indicated and one unfounded, the child is counted once as indicated child victim.
- Children with unknown/missing race and unknown/missing ethnicity are not shown.

CHILDREN INVESTIGATED

INVESTIGATIONS (MALTREATMENT), continued

Figure 10. Percent of children investigated, by investigation disposition and year.



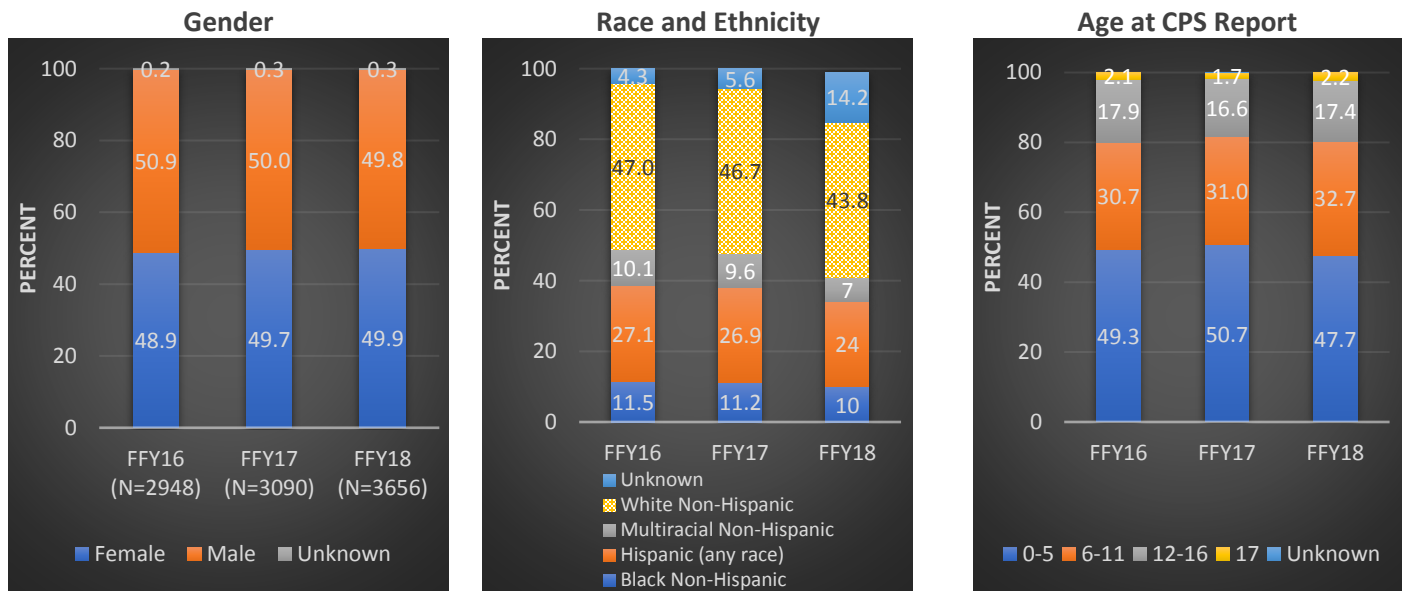
While the total number of children investigated increased from FFY16 to FFY18, the percent of children indicated decreased from 39.2% in FFY16 to 33.8% in FFY18.

Data notes:

- Data unduplicated by child. If a child had multiple investigations in a fiscal year, perhaps one indicated and one unfounded, the child is counted once as indicated child victim.

CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN INVESTIGATIONS (MALTREATMENT), continued

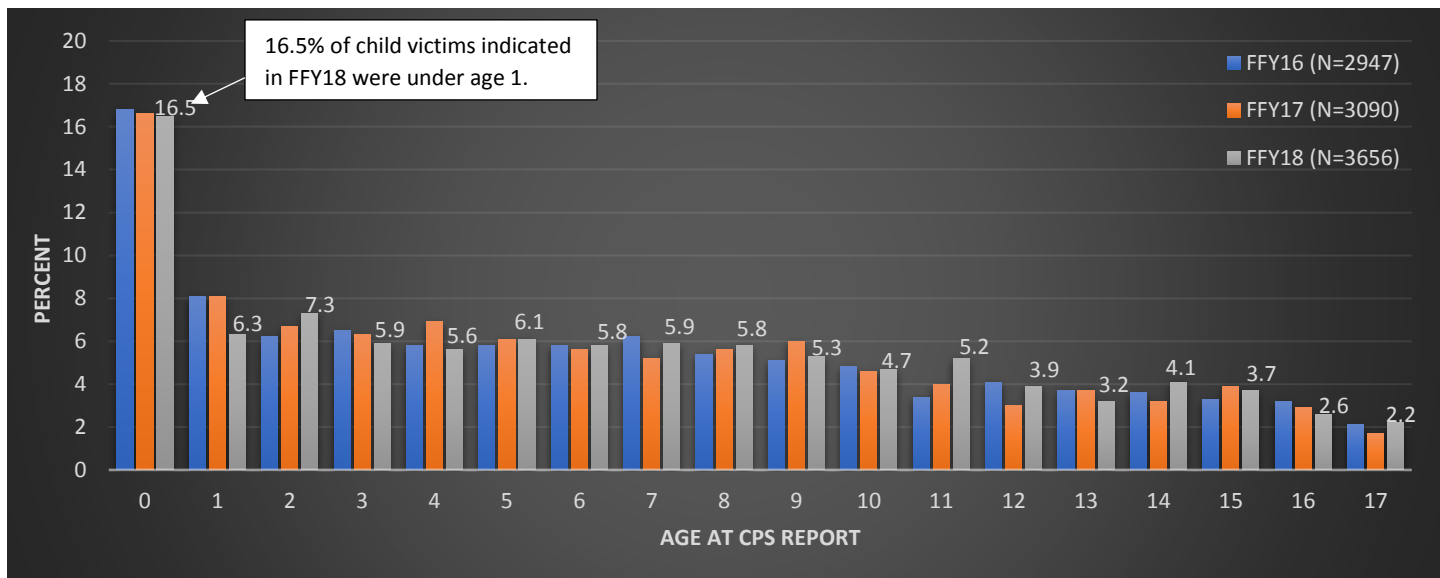
Figure 11. Demographics of indicated child victims of maltreatment, by year. (see Table 1 in appendix)



Total N for FFY16 = 2948; FFY17 = 3090; FFY18 = 3656

The data represent an unduplicated number of child victims. If a child was indicated more than once within the 12-month period, the child would be counted once. There was relatively no change in the percent of children with indicated maltreatment in gender, race and ethnicity, and age groups across the three years presented. Approximately 1 in 6 children age 17 and younger who are indicated for maltreatment are under the age of 1 years old (Figure 12).

Figure 12. Percent of indicated child victims of maltreatment, by age and year.



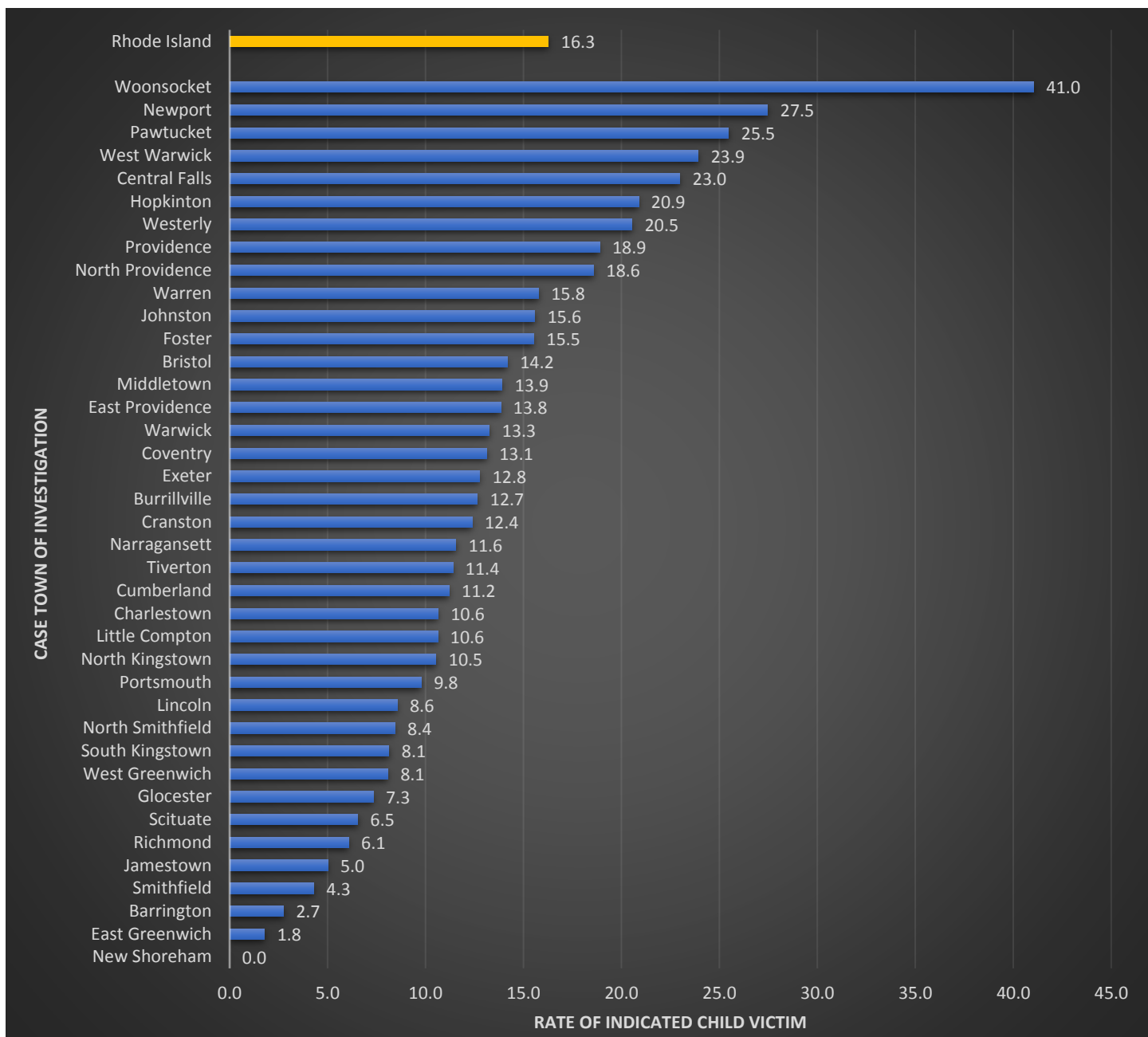
Data notes:

- Data unduplicated by child. If a child had multiple investigations in a fiscal year, perhaps one indicated and one unfounded, the child is counted once as indicated child victim.
- Children with unknown/missing age are not shown.

WHERE IN RHODE ISLAND INVESTIGATIONS (MALTREATMENT), continued

The rate of child maltreatment in RI in FFY18 was 16.3 per 1,000 children (children less than 18 years old). Approximately 9 cities were equal to or exceeded the RI rate of maltreatment.

Figure 13. Rate of indicated child victims per 1,000 children under 18-year-old in Rhode Island, by family city\town, FFY18. (excluding maltreatment in foster care) (see Table 2 in appendix)



Data source: U.S. Census 2016 population estimate for children under 18.

Data note:

- Data unduplicated by child. If a child had multiple investigations in a fiscal year, perhaps one indicated and one unfounded, the child is counted once as indicated child victim.
- Excluded child victims with unknown or out of state case address.
- Excluded child victims of maltreatment in foster care.

Annual Safety Report

Section 2: Repeat Maltreatment, FFY15-FFY17



Picture source: Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence (www.fcadv.org)

Data Presented in Section 2:

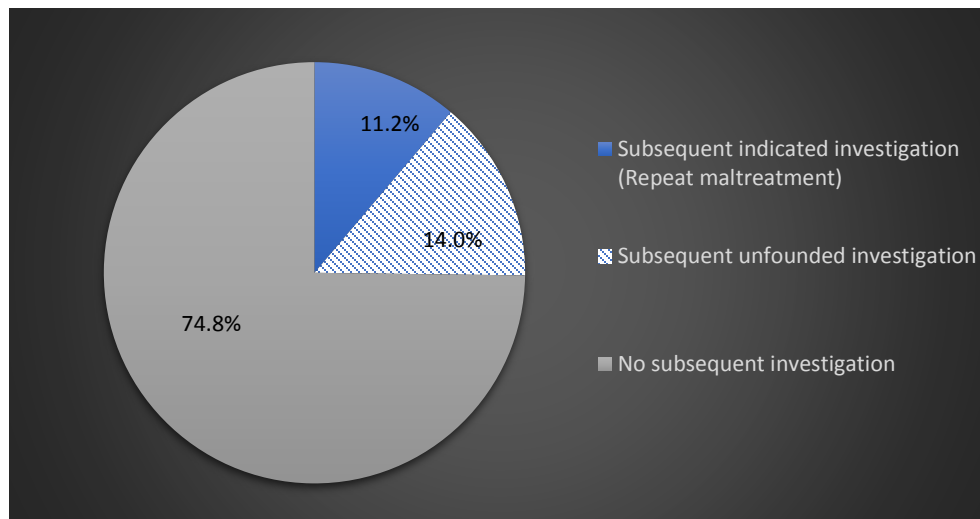
The data presented in Section 2 focus on children under 18 years of age who had indicated maltreatment between October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2017 (FFY15-FFY17) and had a subsequent indicated report within 12 months of their initial. A subsequent indicated report which occurred within 14 days of the initial indicated report is not counted as repeat maltreatment, rather it is seen as additional information on the investigation.

The total number of unique child victims presented in this section is slightly different from the number presented in previous section on maltreatment. Maltreatment section is presented by investigation disposition year whereas repeat maltreatment section is presented by investigation report year. There are 3,090 unique child victims who completed investigation in FFY17 as shown in Section 1. There are 3,332 unique child victims who were reported for investigation in FFY17 and completed investigation in either FFY17 or FFY18 as presented in this section. The exclusion criteria and timeframe used to calculate repeat maltreatment are consistent with Children's Bureau reporting.

Note: Though the total number of investigations has increased, the proportion of maltreatment has not increased.

Section 2: REPEAT MALTREATMENT

Figure 14. Among indicated child victims reported in FFY17, percent who had subsequent indicated investigation, or repeat maltreatment*, within 12 months of the initial report. (N=3332)



*Repeat maltreatment: report date of the first subsequent indicated investigation falls within 12 months of the initial indicated investigation reported in FFY17.

Table 2. Among indicated child victims, number and percent who had subsequent indicated investigation, or repeat maltreatment*, within 12 months of the initial report, by year.

	FFY15 (N=3158)		FFY16 (N=2896)		FFY17 (N=3332)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Repeat maltreatment (Subsequent indicated investigation)	339	10.7%	280	9.7%	372	11.2%
Subsequent unfounded investigation	367	11.6%	296	10.2%	468	14.0%
No subsequent investigation	2452	77.7%	2320	80.1%	2492	74.8%

*Repeat maltreatment: report date of the first subsequent indicated investigation falls within 12 months of the initial indicated investigation reported in a given year.

The number and the percent of children who experienced repeat maltreatment*, increased from 339 children (10.7%) in FFY15 to 373 children (11.2%) in FFY17.

Data notes:

- Data reflect observed percentage, unadjusted for age. Children's Bureau adjust for age at initial victimization.
- Data unduplicated by keeping the first indicated report in a fiscal year as the initial. If a child had multiple subsequent investigations within 12 months, the first indicated investigation is counted.
- Subsequent investigations reported within 12 months but have not yet completed as of the last day of next fiscal year are not reflected. (example: for the initial investigation reported in FFY16, only the subsequent investigation reported within 12 months and completed in FFY17 are counted as repeat maltreatment)
- Subsequent indicated investigations occurring within 14 days of the initial indicated investigation are not counted as repeat maltreatment.

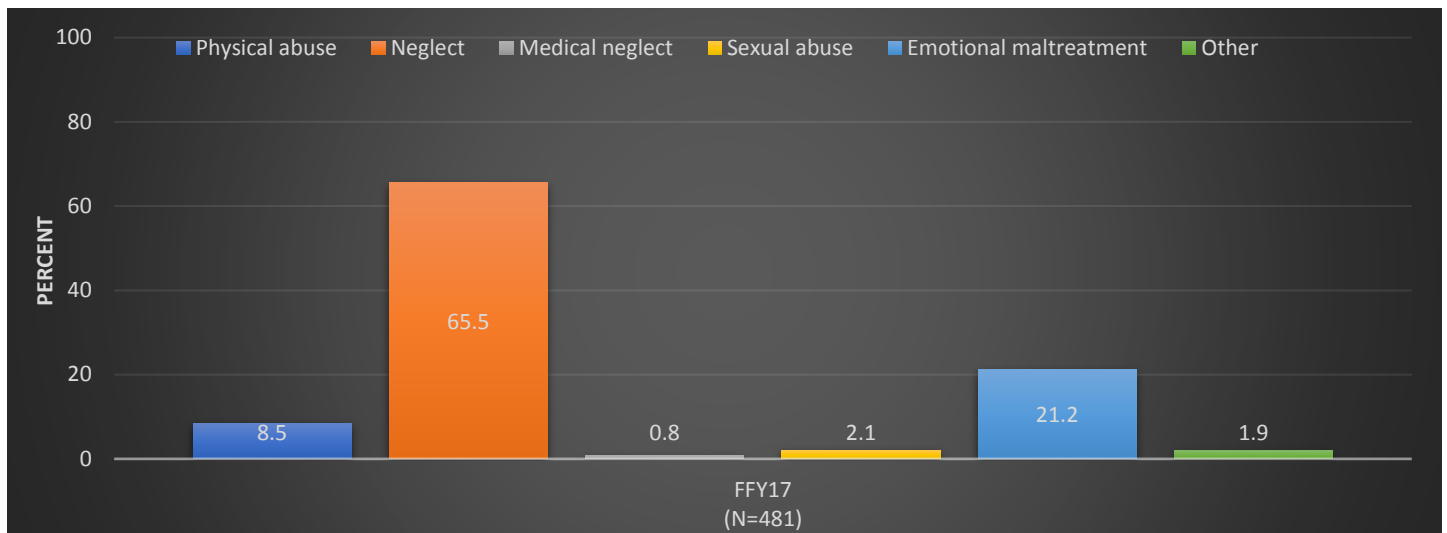
WHAT TYPE OF MALTREATMENT OCCURS

REPEAT MALTREATMENT, continued

Figure 15. Percent of repeat maltreatment types of indicated investigations, FFY17 (N=481)

Data source: RICHIIST; data are current as of 10/1/2018.
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RI Department of Children, Youth & Families
Data Analytics and Evaluation Unit



In a single investigation a child may be a victim of more than one type of indicated maltreatment. Similar to first indicated maltreatment, neglect continued to be the most frequent type of indicated maltreatment when repeat maltreatment occurred. In repeat maltreatment, emotional abuse continues to be the second most frequent type, 21.1%. A large proportion of emotional abuse involves domestic violence. The percentages across all repeat maltreatment types remained relatively constant compared initial maltreatment.

- Data notes:
- Data shown in investigation level. An investigation may be counted more than once if multiple children indicated in investigation.
 - Only the indicated allegations are reflected.
 - Percentage may add up to more than 100% because a child may be a victim of multiple maltreatment types.
 - NCANDS maltreatment categories may be different from RICHIST categories.
 - NCANDS maltreatment type of “other” includes RICHIST allegation types of corporal punishment, inappropriate restraint, other institutional abuse and other institutional neglect under Institutional Abuse & Neglect.

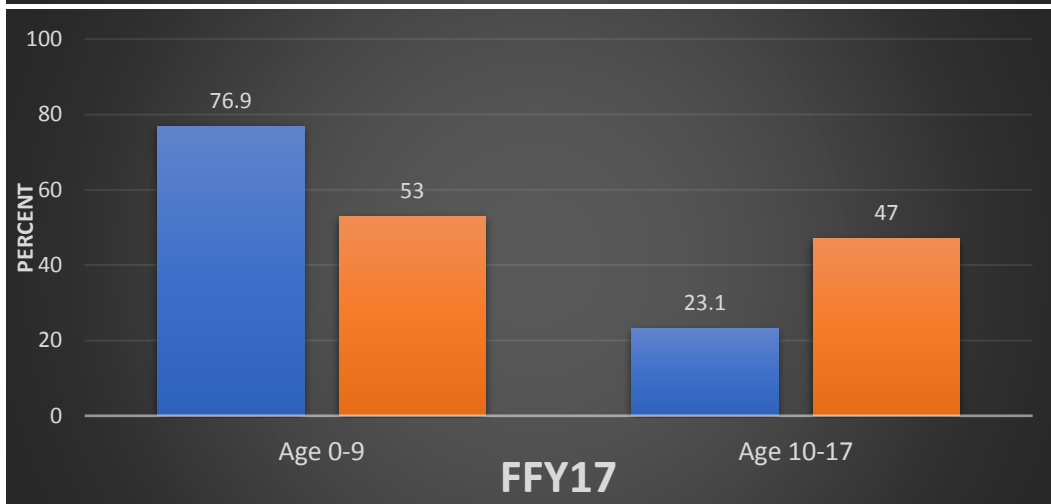
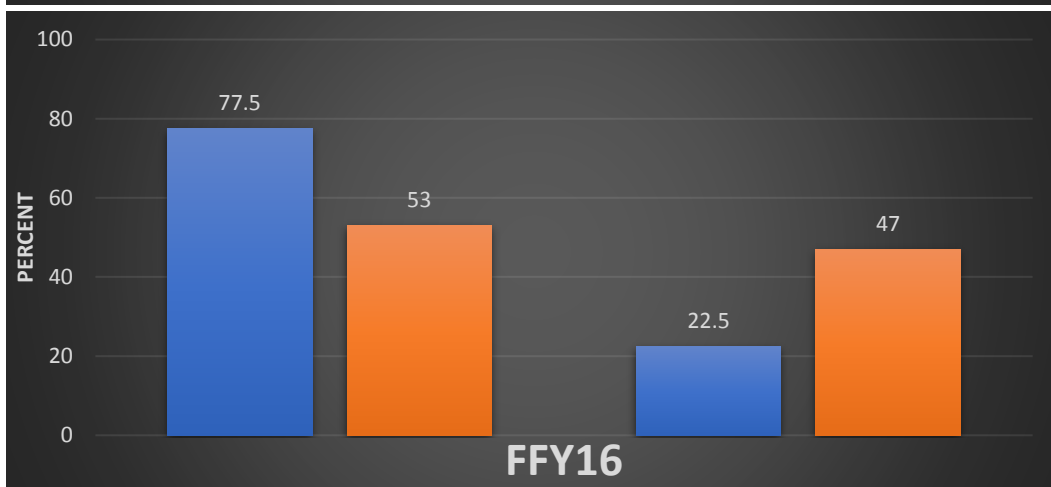
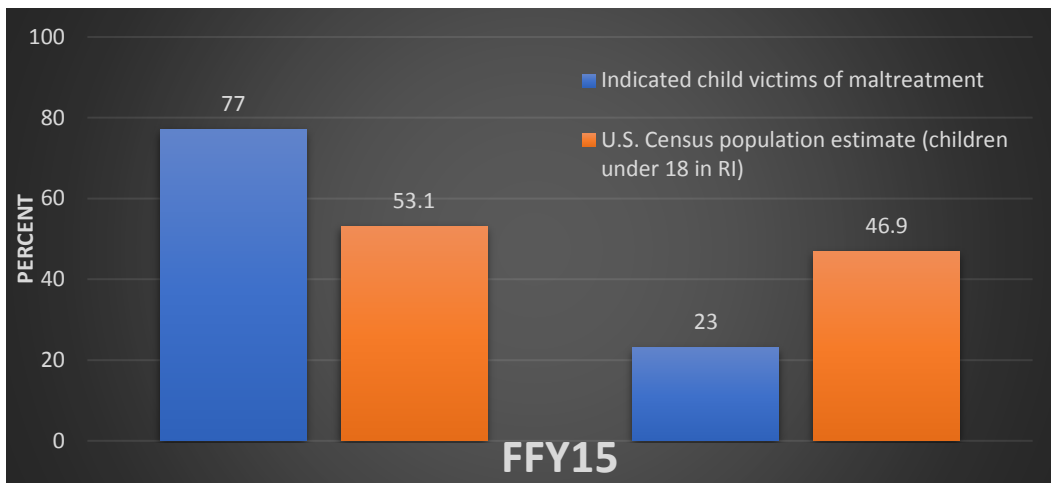
REPEAT MALTREATMENT DISPROPORTIONALITY
 REPEAT MALTREATMENT, continued

Figure 16. Percent of child victims of repeat maltreatment and population estimate of children under 18 years old in Rhode Island, by race, ethnicity and year.



Figure 16 and 17 compares U.S. Census estimates of children in RI to the proportion of children indicated with repeat maltreatment in FFY16 and FFY17. The data involving repeat maltreatment reveal a different picture than was observed with indicated maltreatment. There is less disproportionality observed among Black or African American children indicated for repeat maltreatment compared to the disproportionality observed in indicated maltreatment. Children identified as Multiracial were disproportionately represented with repeat maltreatment compared to the proportion of children in RI who are Multiracial in both years presented.

Figure 17. Percent of child victims of repeat maltreatment and population estimate of children under 18 years old in Rhode Island, by age group and year.



Data source: U.S. Census 2016, 2017 population estimate by sex, age, race and Hispanic for children under 18.

Data notes:

- Data unduplicated by keeping the first indicated report in a fiscal year as the initial. If a child had multiple subsequent investigations within 12 months, the first indicated investigation is counted.
- Children with unknown/missing race and unknown/missing ethnicity are not shown.

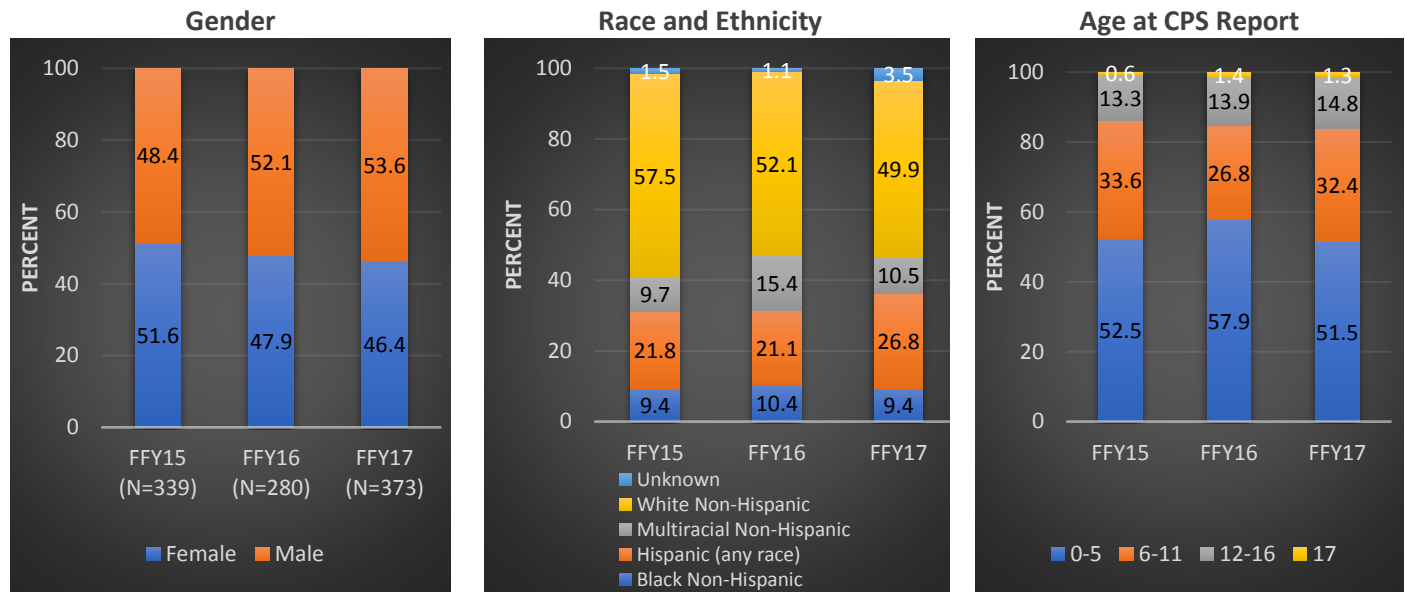
CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN

Data source: RICHIST; data are current as of 10/1/2018.
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REPEAT MALTREATMENT, continued

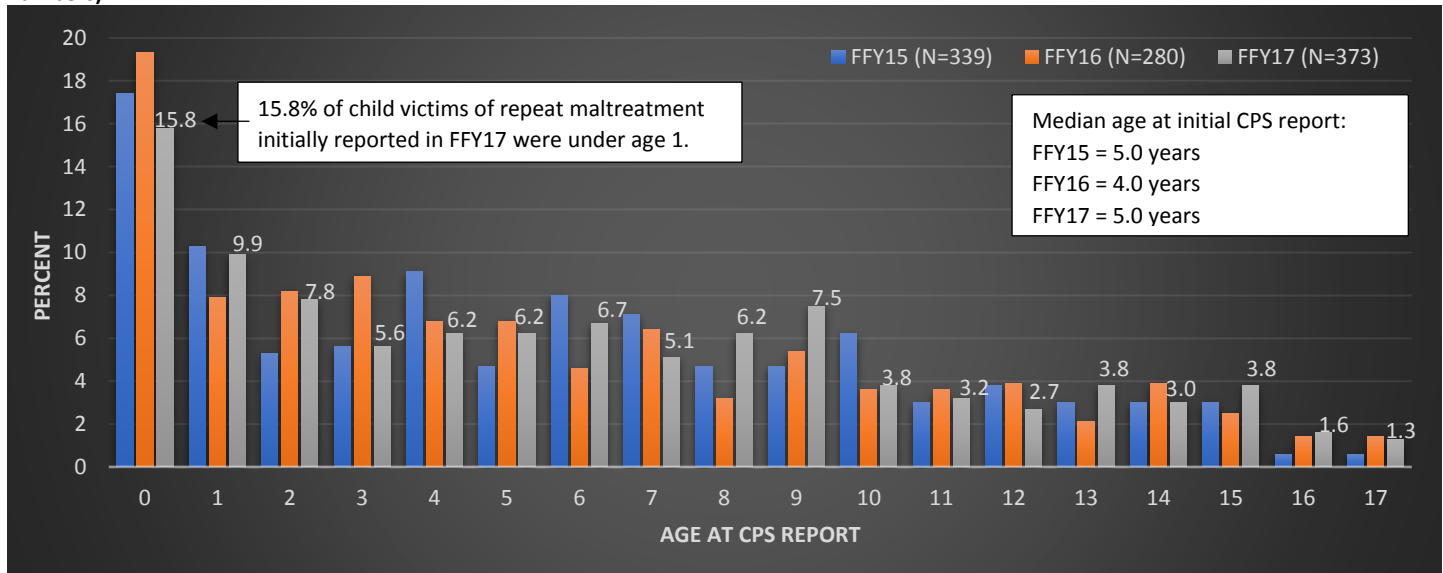
Figure 18. Demographics of child victims of repeat maltreatment, by year.



Total N for FFY15 = 339; FFY16 = 280; FFY17 = 373

There is relatively equal distribution of repeat maltreatment between females and males and repeat maltreatment is more prevalent among young children. Among children victims of repeat maltreatment, children between the ages of 0-11 were most frequently victimized. In FFY16 85% of the victims were age 0-11 and in FFY17, 84% of the victims were age 0-11 (See Figure 18). Among children of repeat maltreatment, Hispanic increased from FFY16 to FFY17. It is important to note this sample size is small and small changes in the number of victims can translate into larger percentage changes. *Among child victims of repeat maltreatment age 17 years and younger, approximately 1 in 6 were under the age of 1 year old (See Figure 19).*

Figure 19. Percent of child victims of repeat maltreatment, by age and year. (caution in interpreting percentages due to small numbers)



Data notes:

- Data unduplicated by keeping the first indicated report in a fiscal year as the initial. If a child had multiple subsequent investigations within 12 months, the first indicated investigation is counted.

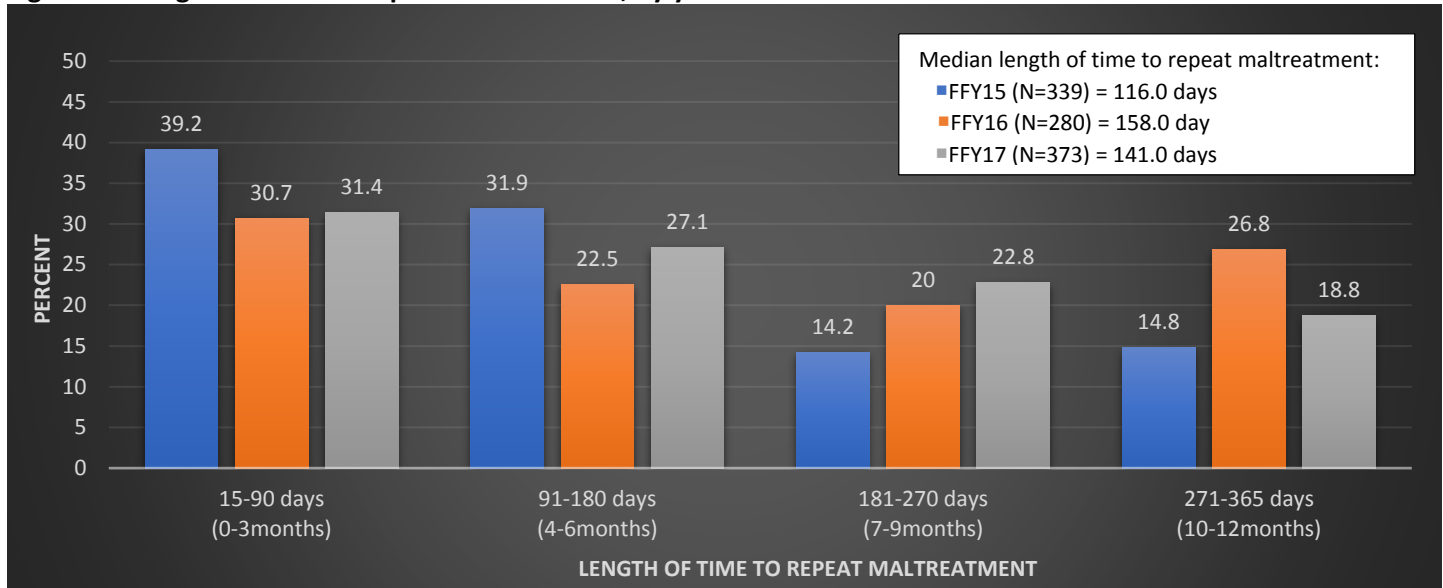
Data source: RICLIST; data are current as of 10/1/2018.
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LENGTH OF TIME TO REPEAT MALTREATMENT

REPEAT MALTREATMENT, continued

Figure 20. Length of time* to repeat maltreatment, by year.



The median length of time to repeat maltreatment decreased from 158 days in FFY16 to 141 days in FFY17. In FFY17, about 59% of children who experienced a repeat maltreatment did so within 6 months of the initial indicated maltreatment. In FFY16, about 53% of children did so within 6 months.

*Length of time: number of days between the report date of first indicated maltreatment in FFY16 and the report date of first subsequent indicated maltreatment within 12 months of the initial.

Data notes:

- Data unduplicated by keeping the first indicated report in a fiscal year as the initial. If a child had multiple subsequent investigations within 12 months, the first indicated investigation is counted.
- Subsequent investigations reported within 12 months but have not yet completed as of the last day of next fiscal year are not reflected. (example: for the initial investigation reported in FFY17, only the subsequent investigation reported within 12 months and completed in FFY18 are counted as repeat maltreatment)

Annual Safety Report

Section 3: Maltreatment in Foster Care (Out-of-Home Placements), FFY15-FFY17



Picture source: Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence (www.fcadv.org)

Data Presented in Section 3:

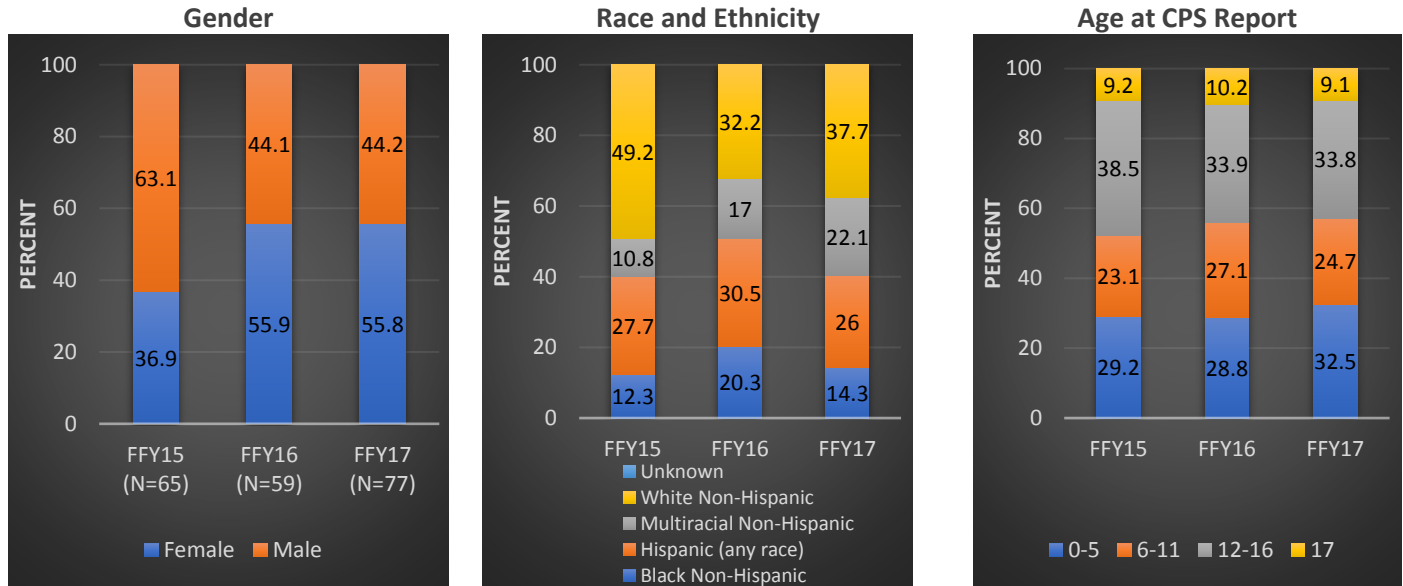
The focus in Section 3 is the occurrence of indicated maltreatment of child victims in foster care in between October 1, 2014 and September 30, 2016 (FFY15-FFY17). NCANDS and AFCARS data are used to indicate child victims of maltreatment in foster care, and RICHIST data extract is used as a supplement to provide details on maltreatment and child victims. Data is presented by investigation report year. For example, FFY17 data includes child victims reported in FFY17 and reached disposition in FFY17 or FFY18. Child victims of maltreatment in foster care who were reported in FFY17 but did not complete investigation by the end of FFY18 are not reflected. The definition of foster care is consistent with the federal definition, any out of home placement including foster homes and congregate care. To stay consistent with the Children's Bureau Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) Round 3, the following rules are applied in the analysis: Maltreatment reported within 7 days of removal from home are not counted as maltreatment in foster care. Children age 18 and older at the time of CPS report are excluded. A CPS report within 1 day of the previous report is excluded.

The method in which the Children's Bureau report on maltreatment in foster care changed within the last few of years which impacts both the number of children identified as maltreated in foster care as well as presenting the data as a rate per bed days. In previous methods, the Children's Bureau classified maltreatment in foster care by the perpetrator rather than using a foster care (Federal Definition, all out-of-home placements) status. For example, the perpetrator needed to be a foster care provider to be considered maltreatment in foster care. Presently, the Children's Bureau classifies a child maltreated in foster care who had a report of maltreatment 8 days or after a removal and can include any perpetrators. The purpose for providing this explanation is two-fold. First, the data presented in this report applies the updated Children's Bureau of placement in foster care 8 days or greater subsequent to a report of maltreatment and includes any perpetrator. Secondly, this modified classification may be related to changes in maltreatment in foster care numbers. This report does not include the rate per bed days as the Children's Bureau is currently finalizing the methodology, although will present this additional information in future reports.

Section 3: MALTREATMENT IN FOSTER CARE

Figure 21. Demographics of indicated child victims of maltreatment in foster care, by year.

Total N for FFY15 = 65; FFY16 = 59; FFY17 = 77



Data notes:

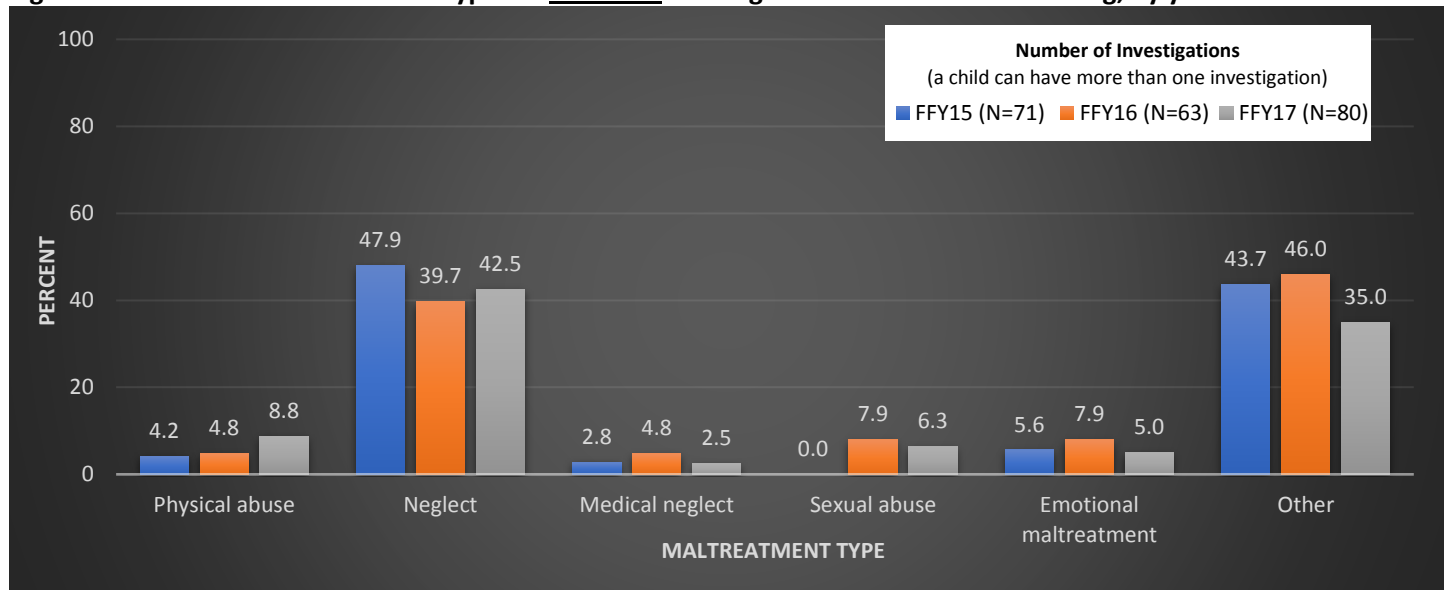
- Data unduplicated by child. A child victim of maltreatment in foster care counted once.

By gender, the percent of child victims remained relatively consistent across FFY16 and FFY17. Among child victims, White Non-Hispanic and Multiracial Non-Hispanic racial groups increased from FFY16 to FFY17, whereas Hispanic (any race) and Black Non-Hispanic decreased. Among child victims, the percent of children age 6-11 decreased from FFY16 to FFY17 while the percent of children age 12-16 remained approximately the same during the same time period.

MALTREATMENT IN FOSTER CARE BY MALTREATMENT TYPE

MALTREATMENT IN FOSTER CARE, continued

Figure 22. Percent of maltreatment types of indicated investigations in a foster care setting, by year.



Over the three years presented, the most frequent type of indicated maltreatment in foster care was “neglect” and “other”. In FFY15, 43.7% of maltreatment in foster care was “other” followed by 47.9% “neglect”. In FFY16, 39.7% of maltreatment in foster care was “neglect” followed by 46% “other” whereas in FFY17, 35.0% of maltreatment in foster care was “other” followed by 42.5% “neglect”.

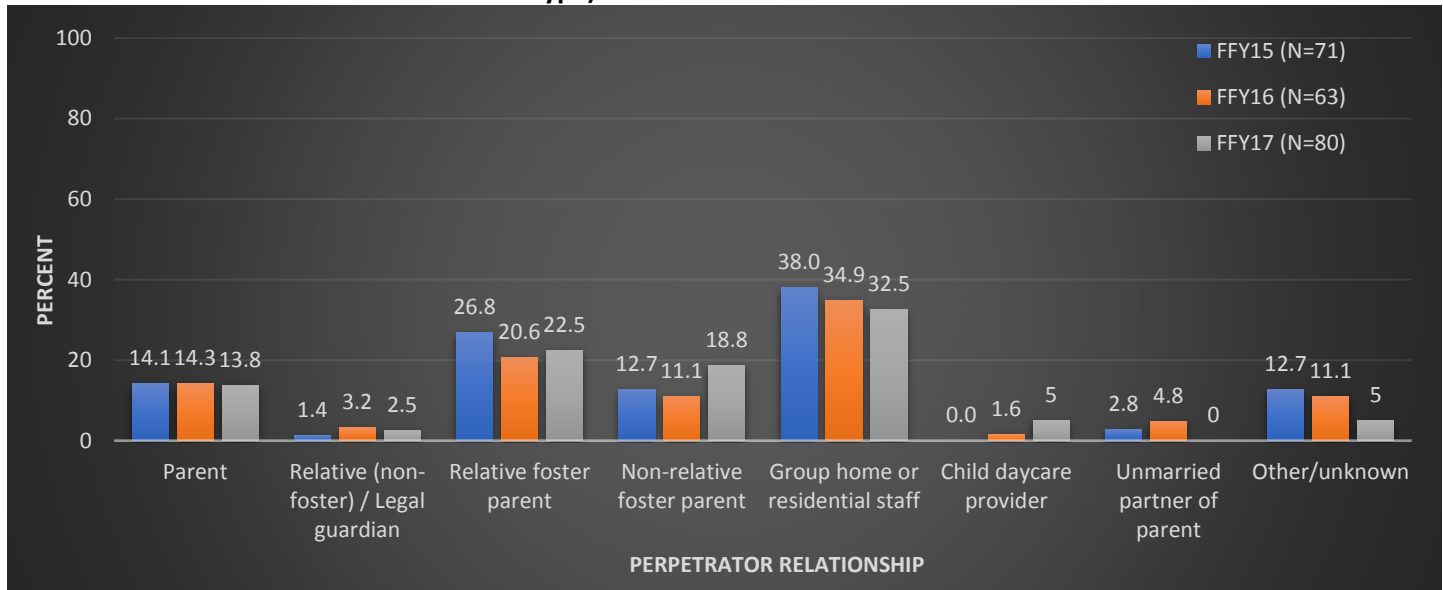
Data notes:

- Data shown in investigation level. An investigation may be counted more than once if multiple children indicated in investigation.
- Only the indicated allegations are reflected.
- Percentage may add up to more than 100% because a child may be a victim of multiple maltreatment types.
- NCANDS maltreatment categories may be different from RICHIST categories.
- NCANDS maltreatment type of “other” includes RICHIST allegation types of corporal punishment, inappropriate restraint, other institutional abuse and other institutional neglect under Institutional Abuse & Neglect.

MALTREATMENT IN FOSTER CARE BY PERPETRATOR RELATIONSHIPS

MALTREATMENT IN FOSTER CARE, continued

Figure 23. Percent of perpetrator relationship of indicated maltreatment in foster care, by year. (a child may be indicated for more than one maltreatment type)



Across FFY15 to FFY17, the most prevalent perpetrator relationship is group home\residential staff, 38.0%, 34.9% and 30.6% respectively, followed by relative foster parent, 26.8%, 20.6% and 21.2% respectively. It is important to note factors that may influence these percentages that are unrelated to the perpetrator relationship. For example, young age is associated with increased risk for child maltreatment. There are more young children in foster family settings compared to congregate care settings. Another is the proportion of children in the placement setting. There are more children in foster families compared to children in congregate care.

Data notes:

- Data shown in investigation level. An investigation may be counted more than once if multiple children indicated in investigation.
- Percentage may add up to more than 100% because a child may have had multiple allegations and/or multiple perpetrators for each allegation.
- Other/unknown includes NCANDS perpetrator relationship of other professionals, friends or neighbors, other and unknown or missing.

Data source: RICHIST; data are current as of 10/1/2018.

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- Only the perpetrator relationship to indicated allegations in foster care are reflected.

WHERE IN FOSTER CARE

MALTREATMENT IN FOSTER CARE, continued

Figure 24. Among children with a CPS maltreatment report indicated, the percent of indicated maltreatment in foster care (out-of-home placement), across placement types, by year.

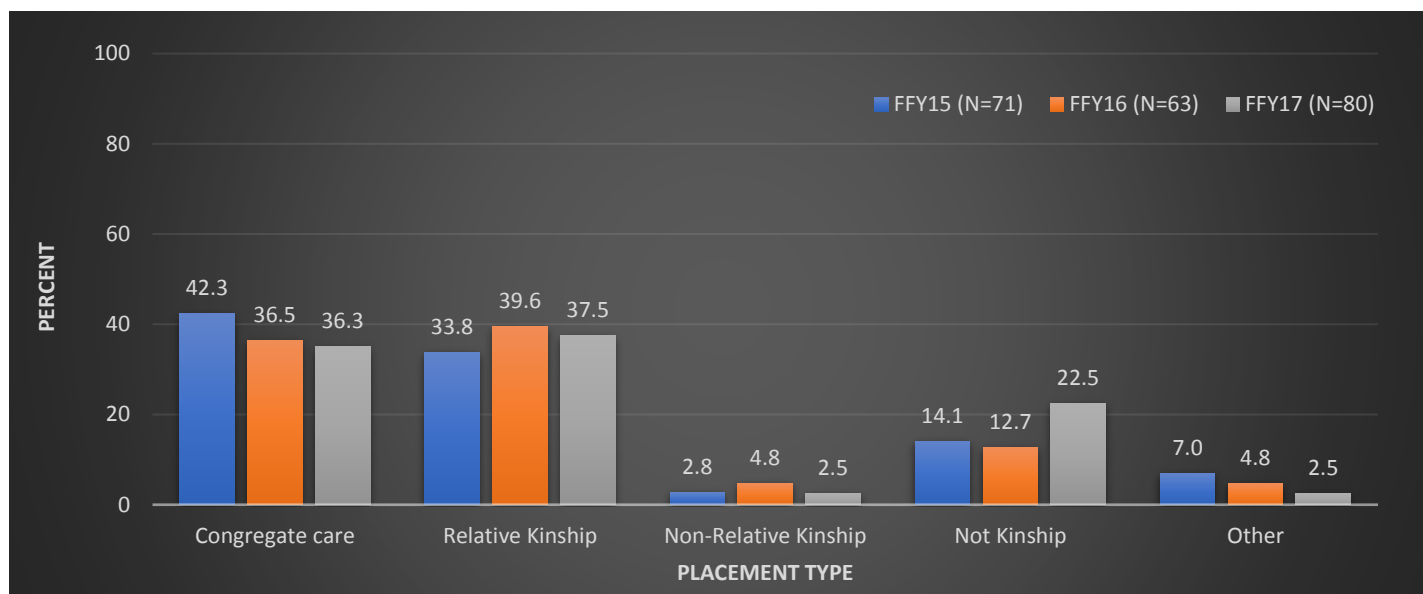


Figure 23 presents the distribution of maltreatment victimization in foster care across placement types to better understand the distribution and design tailored interventions to mitigate the risk of maltreatment in foster care. For both congregate care and relative kinship, the percent of maltreatment decreased from FFY16 to FFY17. It is important to note there are more children placed in foster family settings compared to congregate care. Percent of children in foster family settings has increased across this time period, for example in FFY17 67.4% of children were in out of home settings with foster families. Among children with foster families, approximately 46.0% are in relative kinship foster families.

Data notes:

- Data shown in investigation level. An investigation may be counted more than once if multiple children indicated in investigation.
- Congregate care includes placement type of group homes, assessment and stabilization center, medical hospital, psychiatric hospital, residential facility and substance abuse facility.

Data source: RICHIST; data are current as of 10/1/2018.

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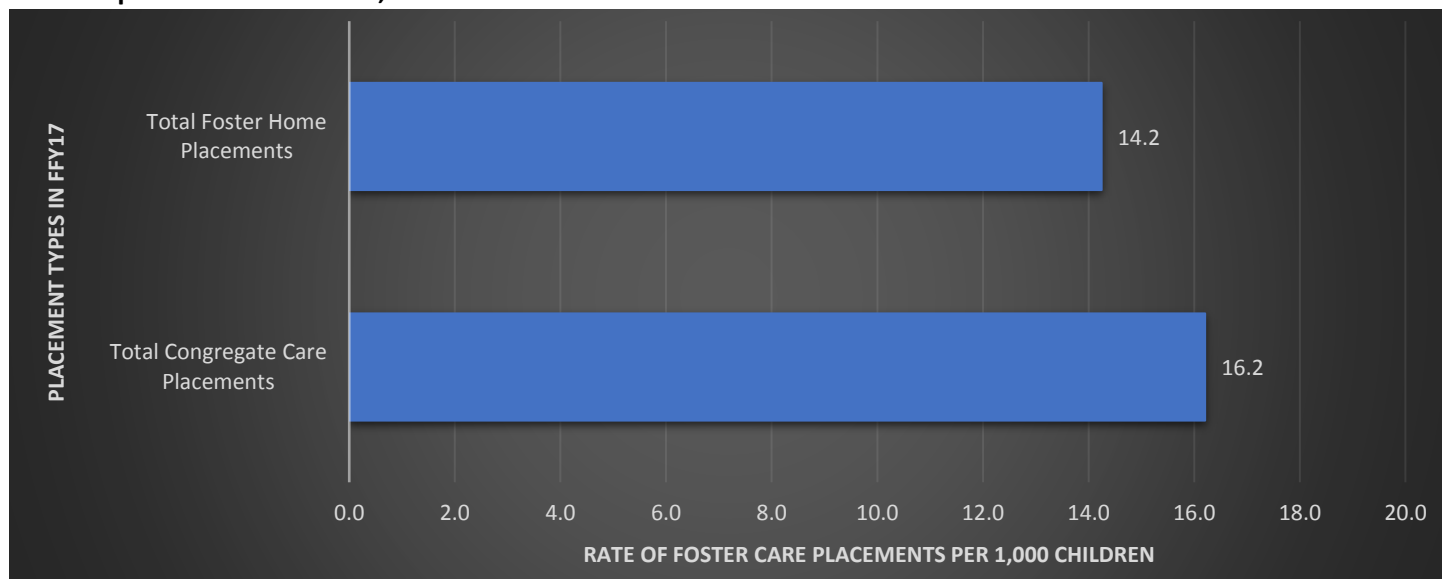
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- Other includes placement type of absent from care, independent living and RITS.

MALTREATMENT IN FOSTER CARE PLACEMENT TYPES

MALTREATMENT IN FOSTER CARE, continued

Figure 25. Rate of children indicated maltreatment per 1,000 children by placement types in foster homes, by all out of home placement at RI DCYF, FFY17



Data notes:

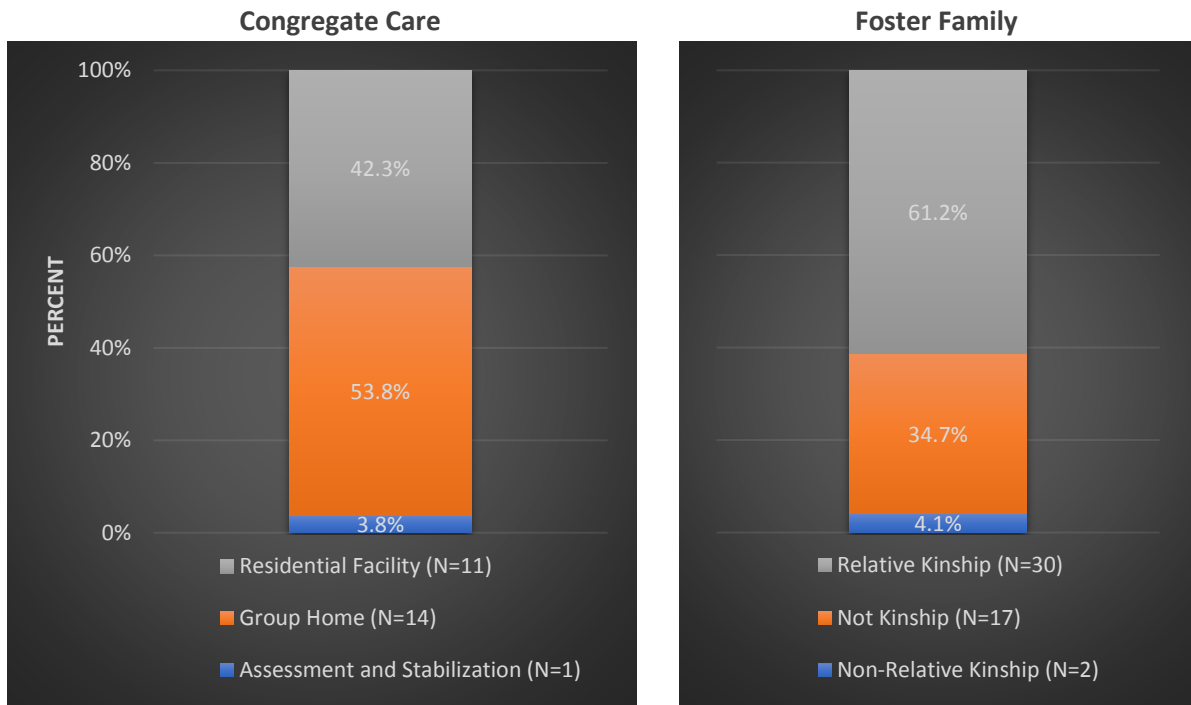
- Data unduplicated at the child level

- See to appendix figures 1 and 2 for rates of congregate care and foster family settings of children indicated maltreatment per 1,000 children in out of home placement types

MALTREATMENT IN FOSTER CARE PLACEMENT TYPES

MALTREATMENT IN FOSTER CARE, continued

Figure 26. Percent of children with indicated maltreatment in foster care, placement types within congregate care and foster family settings at DCYF FFY17



In FFY17, the below are counts in the defined out of home placement type and indicated for maltreatment in foster care:

Congregate Care:

- 11 children were in a Residential Facility
- 14 children were in a Group Home
- 1 child was in Assessment and Stabilization

Foster Family:

- 30 children were in a Relative Kinship foster home
- 17 children were in a Non-Kinship foster home
- 2 children were in a Non-Relative Kinship foster home

High percentages of children indicated with maltreatment may be a function of greater numbers of children in relative kinship and group home placements in comparison to other out of home placement types.

Data notes:

- Data unduplicated at the child level

- See to appendix figures 1 and 2 for rates of congregate care and foster family settings of children indicated maltreatment per 1,000 children in out of home placement types

CHILD MALTREATMENT CHARACTERISTICS IN FOSTER CARE PLACEMENT TYPES

MALTREATMENT IN FOSTER CARE, continued

Figure 27. Percent of maltreatment types of indicated maltreatment in foster care, foster family versus congregate care FFY17

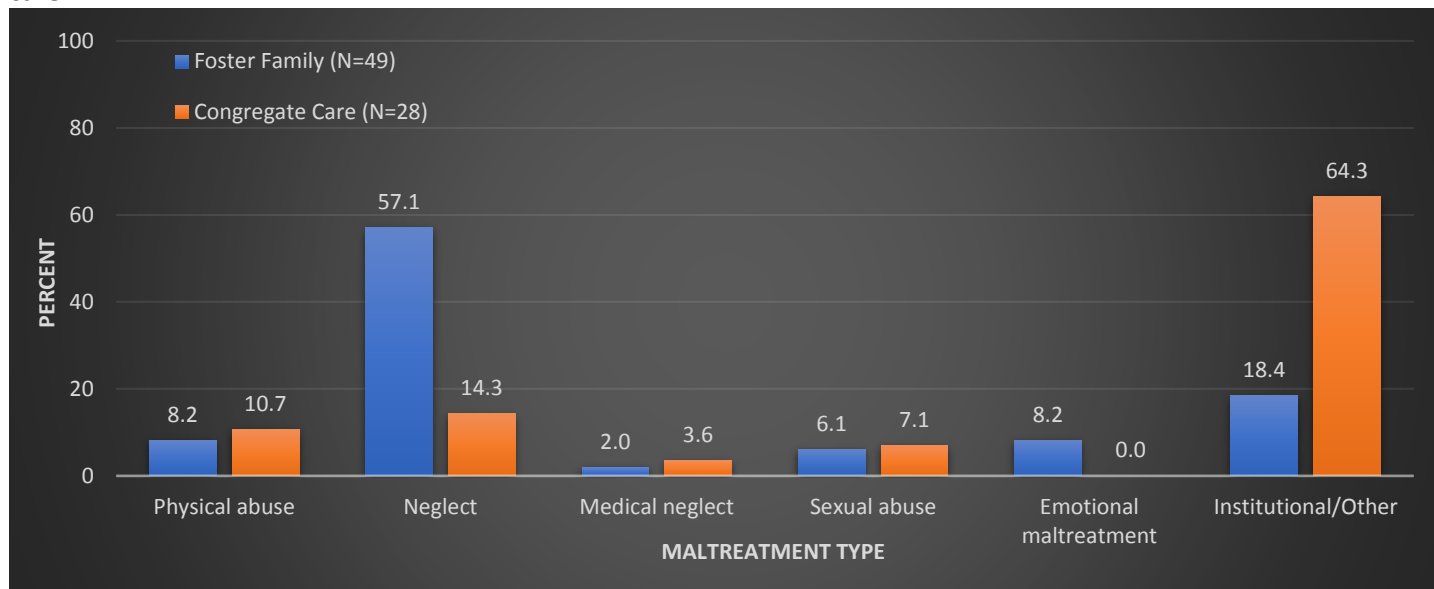
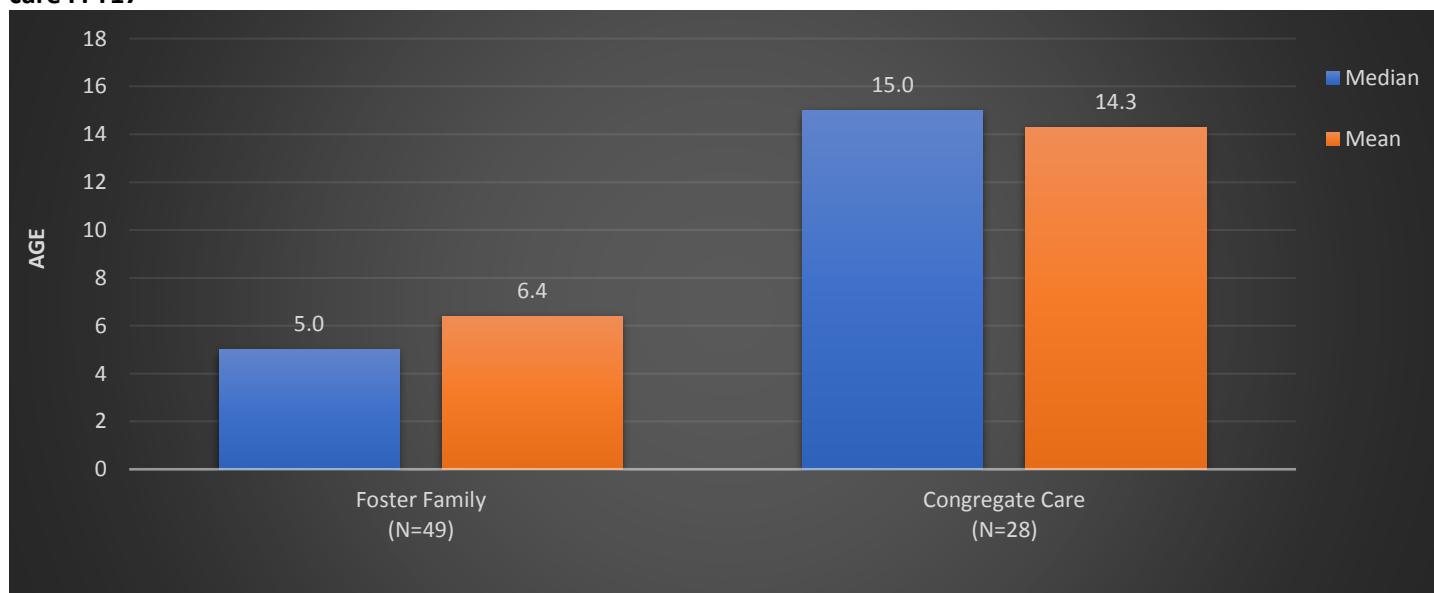


Figure 28. Median and Mean age of children with an indicated maltreatment in foster care, family versus congregate care FFY17



Data notes:

- Data unduplicated at the child level

-Missing: N=1 for Foster Family, N=2 for Congregate Care

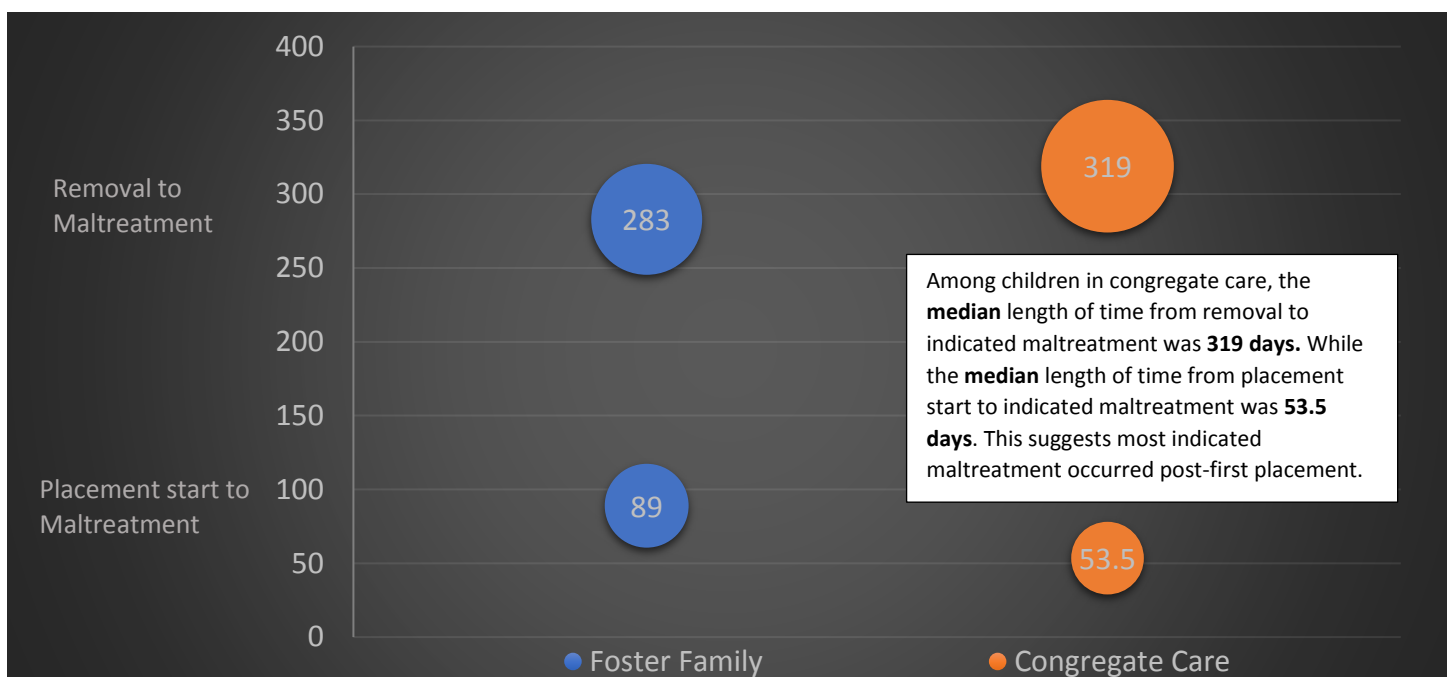
- NCANDS maltreatment type of "other" includes RICHIST allegation types of corporal punishment, inappropriate restraint, other institutional abuse and other institutional neglect under Institutional Abuse & Neglect.

LENGTH OF TIME TO MALTREATMENT BY FOSTER CARE PLACEMENT TYPES

MALTREATMENT IN FOSTER CARE, continued

Figure 29. Median length of time (LOT) in days from removal to indicated maltreatment and from placement* start date to indicated maltreatment, foster family versus congregate care FFY17

The focus of this subsection is to: evaluate the differences in length of time to indicated maltreatment in comparing two out of home placement types (i.e., foster families versus congregate care). Removal to maltreatment and placement to maltreatment times were calculated. Maltreatment was defined by CPS report date of an indicated investigation. Placement was defined by where the maltreatment occurred.



Median number of placements from removal to maltreatment was **2 placements**.

Data notes:

- Data unduplicated at the child level

- Use of incident date versus report date as the definition of maltreatment date was evaluated – decision to define maltreatment by report date

*Placement where maltreatment occurred

MALTREATMENT IN RELATIVE KINSHIP FOSTER HOME SETTING

MALTREATMENT IN FOSTER CARE, continued

Table 3. Count and percentage of children indicated maltreatment (FFY17-FFY18), by total relative kinship foster home types and report year in FFY17-FFY18 (N=54)

	Children in Licensed Relative Kinship Foster Home		Children in Pending License Relative Kinship Foster Home	
	FFY17 (N=1627) N (%)	FFY18 (N=1877) N (%)	FFY17 (N=619) N (%)	FFY18 (N=696) N (%)
Indicated Maltreatment	28 (1.7%)	25 (1.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.14%)

Qualitative Review Findings:

As part of the Department's efforts to better understand both breadth and depth of factors associated with maltreatment in foster care, the Department supplemented the quantitative analysis with a qualitative review of case records where children were indicated for maltreatment. A uniform case record review instrument was developed and two experienced case reviewers were trained on the instrument.

The qualitative review generated opportunities where the Department could focus efforts as part of an overall strategy to mitigate factors associated with maltreatment in foster care.

The main themes emerging from the qualitative case review are:

- Supervision by staff – Although no neglect occurred, staffing gaps where the staff – youth ratio, or short periods of time where there was a gap in staff supervision – was found.
- Restraint use – Staff did not consistently apply de-escalation techniques that may reduce the incident where an inappropriate restraint was used
- CPS allegations do not match the reported maltreatment type. Maltreatment was not classified as Institutional abuse and neglect when that was the maltreatment type

Recommendations based on the qualitative case record reviews and quantitative analysis:

The following recommendations will be executed July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

1. Reinstate monthly reviews of all cases with maltreatment in foster care to ensure CPS allegations match the reported maltreatment type and identify any immediate follow up needed in the case.
2. Review operating procedures related to investigations of foster homes and congregate care settings and identify areas needing clarification and added details.
3. Train/re-train institutional investigators, CPS administrators, and congregate provider agencies about effective crisis intervention techniques and congregate care staffing and supervision requirements.
4. Review content of kinship foster family training curriculum to enhance content about definitions of maltreatment, discipline, and crisis de-escalation.

Data notes:

- Data duplicated count of children and foster home placements
- Data presented is a count and percent **not** a rate as usually reported by the Children's Bureau
- Caution should be used to interpret results based on small number of children in pending license relative kinship foster homes

APPENDIX

Table 1. Demographics of indicated child victims of maltreatment, by year.

	FFY16 (N=2948)		FFY17 (N=3090)		FFY18 (N=3656)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Gender						
Female	1442	48.9%	1537	49.7%	1826	49.9%
Male	1501	50.9%	1545	50.0%	1820	49.8%
Unknown/Missing	5	0.2%	8	0.3%	10	0.3%
Race and Ethnicity						
Black Non-Hispanic	340	11.5%	347	11.2%	365	10.0%
Hispanic (any race)	800	27.1%	832	26.9%	876	24.0%
Multiracial/other Non-Hispanic	298	10.1%	295	9.6%	291	8.0%
White Non-Hispanic	1384	47.0%	1442	46.7%	1604	43.8%
Unknown/Missing	126	4.3%	174	5.6%	520	14.2%
Age at CPS report						
0-5 years	1454	49.3%	1566	50.7%	1745	47.7%
6-11 years	905	30.7%	957	31.0%	1194	32.7%
12-16 years	527	17.9%	514	16.6%	636	17.4%
17 years	61	2.1%	51	1.7%	80	2.2%
Unknown/Missing	1	0.0%	2	0.1%	1	0.0%
Median age at CPS report (years)	6.0		5.0		6.0	

Data notes:

- Data unduplicated by child. If a child had multiple investigations in a fiscal year, perhaps one indicated and one unfounded, the child is counted once as indicated child victim.

APPENDIX

Table 2. Maltreatment types as a multi-select variable (cross first selected maltreatment type by additional selected maltreatment type of an individual indicated investigation), FFY17-FFY18.

First Selected Maltreatment Type with an additional selected maltreatment	Additional Selected Maltreatment Type (N=978)	
	N	%
Neglect (N=602)		
Medical Neglect	27	4.5%
Sexual Abuse	52	8.6%
Emotional Maltreatment	520	86.4%
Physical Abuse (N=365)		
Neglect	294	80.6%
Medical Neglect	2	0.6%
Sexual Abuse	12	3.3%
Emotional Maltreatment	53	14.5%
Sexual Abuse (N=10)		
Emotional Maltreatment	7	70.0%

Data notes:

- "Other" as an additionally selected maltreatment type excluded due to low count (N=11)

APPENDIX

Table 3. Number and Percent of Allegations of indicated child victims of maltreatment, by year.

	FFY17 (N=3683)		FFY18 (N=4399)	
	N	%	N	%
Physical Abuse (N=1368)	637	17.3%	731	16.6%
Excessive/Inappropriate Discipline	226	35.5%	293	40.1%
Drug/Alcohol Abuse	204	32.0%	221	30.2%
Cut, Bruise, Welt	160	25.1%	183	25.0%
Tying/Close Confinement	8	1.3%	9	1.2%
Human Bite	8	1.3%	2	0.3%
Bone Fracture	7	1.1%	1	1.5%
Other Abuse	6	0.9%	3	0.4%
Malnutrition/Starvation	4	0.6%	0	0.0%
Subdural Hematoma	3	0.5%	2	0.3%
Burn/Scalding	2	0.3%	1	0.1%
Brain Damage/Skull Fracture	1	0.2%	2	0.3%
Sprain/Dislocation	1	0.2%	1	0.1%
Internal Injury	1	0.2%	1	0.1%
Abandonment	1	0.2%	0	0.0%
Death	1	0.2%	0	0.0%
Neglect (N=4345)	1980	53.8%	2365	53.8%
Lack of Supervision/Caretaker	1116	56.4%	1426	60.3%
Other Neglect	513	25.9%	523	22.1%
Lack of Supervision/No Caretaker	168	8.5%	197	8.3%
Inadequate Shelter	63	3.2%	102	4.3%
Cut, Bruise, Welt	31	1.6%	34	1.4%
Educational Neglect	17	0.9%	31	1.3%
Drug/Alcohol Abuse	14	0.7%	12	0.5%
Burn/Scalding	3	0.2%	6	0.3%
Inadequate Food	6	0.3%	2	0.1%
Tying/Close Confinement	3	0.2%	3	0.1%
Death	4	0.2%	1	0.0%
Bone Fracture	2	0.1%	2	0.1%
Emotional Neglect	1	0.1%	4	0.2%
Brain Damage/Skull Fracture	2	0.1%	1	0.0%
Excessive/Inappropriate Discipline	1	0.1%	3	0.1%
Subdural Hematoma	1	0.1%	2	0.1%
Human Bite	1	0.1%	0	0.0%
Internal Injury	1	0.1%	0	0.0%
Other Abuse	1	0.1%	0	0.0%
Poisoning/Noxious Substances	0	0.0%	1	0.0%
Sprain/Dislocation	0	0.0%	1	0.0%
Wound	0	0.0%	1	0.0%
Medical Neglect (N=60)	38	1.0%	22	0.5%
	37	97.4%	22	100.0%
Sexual Abuse (N=279)	98	2.7%	181	4.1%
Sexual Molestation	55	56.1%	108	59.7%
Sexual Intercourse	40	40.8%	60	33.2%
Sexual Exploitation	2	2.0%	12	6.6%
Sexually Transmitted Disease	0	0.0%	1	0.6%
Emotional Maltreatment (N=1940)	877	23.8%	1063	24.2%

Domestic Violence	852	97.2%	1055	99.3%
Emotional Abuse	1	0.1%	0	0.0%
Other (N=90)	53	1.4%	37	0.8%
Other Institutional Neglect	32	60.4%	23	62.2%
Inappropriate Restraint	7	13.2%	7	18.9%
Corporal Punishment	6	11.3%	3	8.1%
Other Institutional Abuse	6	11.3%	3	8.1%

Data notes:

- Data duplicated by child - if a child had multiple allegations indicated for a single investigation OR an investigation had multiple children
- Missing N=88

APPENDIX

Table 4. Number and Percent of Allegations of indicated child victims of repeat maltreatment, FFY17.

	FFY17 (N=481)	
	N	%
Physical Abuse	41	8.5%
Excessive/Inappropriate Discipline	17	41.5%
Cut, Bruise, Welt	15	36.7%
Drug/Alcohol Abuse	3	7.3%
Bone Fracture	3	7.3%
Malnutrition/Starvation	2	4.9%
Burn/Scalding	1	2.4%
Neglect	315	65.5%
Lack of Supervision/Caretaker	179	56.8%
Other Neglect	65	20.6%
Lack of Supervision/No Caretaker	36	11.4%
Inadequate Shelter	16	5.1%
Cut, Bruise, Welt	6	1.9%
Burn/Scalding	3	1.0%
Educational Neglect	2	0.6%
Inadequate Food	2	0.6%
Tying/Close Confinement	2	0.6%
Emotional Neglect	1	0.3%
Subdural Hematoma	1	0.3%
Brain Damage/Skull Fracture	1	0.3%
Death	1	0.3%
Medical Neglect	4	0.8%
	4	100.0%
Sexual Abuse	10	2.1%
Sexual Molestation	6	60.0%
Sexual Intercourse	3	30.0%
Sexual Exploitation	1	10.0%
Emotional Maltreatment	102	21.2%
Domestic Violence	101	99.0%
Emotional Abuse	1	1.0%
Other	9	1.9%
Other Institutional Neglect	7	77.9%
Inappropriate Restraint	1	11.1%
Corporal Punishment	1	11.1%

Data notes:

- Data duplicated by child - if a child had multiple allegations indicated for a single investigation OR an investigation had multiple children

APPENDIX

Table 5. Rate of indicated child victims per 1,000 children under 18-year-old in Rhode Island, by family city\town and year.

FFY16				FFY17				FFY18			
Rank	Case Town	Number of indicated child victims	Rate of indicated child victims (per 1,000 children under 18 in RI)	Rank	Case Town	Number of indicated child victims	Rate of indicated child victims (per 1,000 children under 18 in RI)	Rank	Case Town	Number of indicated child victims	Rate of indicated child victims (per 1,000 children under 18 in RI)
	Rhode Island	2748	12.8		Rhode Island	2931	13.6		Rhode Island	3457	16.3
1	Woonsocket	300	33.2	1	Woonsocket	327	36.2	1	Woonsocket	371	41.0
2	Central Falls	150	26.4	2	Newport	101	27.5	2	Newport	98	27.5
3	Warren	46	24.0	3	Central Falls	144	25.3	3	Pawtucket	412	25.5
4	West Warwick	123	22.0	4	West Warwick	136	24.3	4	West Warwick	131	23.9
5	Pawtucket	363	21.9	5	Pawtucket	352	21.3	5	Central Falls	134	23.0
6	Newport	67	18.2	6	Westerly	81	18.4	6	Hopkinton	32	20.9
7	Tiverton	44	15.3	7	Providence	700	17.3	7	Westerly	87	20.5
8	Providence	599	14.8	8	Hopkinton	23	16.8	8	Providence	765	18.9
9	North Providence	75	13.8	9	Bristol	52	14.9	9	North Providence	100	18.6
10	Foster	10	12.8	10	Tiverton	37	12.8	10	Warren	30	15.8
11	Westerly	54	12.3	11	North Providence	67	12.3	11	Johnston	82	15.6
12	Johnston	63	11.8	12	East Providence	114	11.8	12	Foster	12	15.5
13	Hopkinton	16	11.7	13	Warren	22	11.5	13	Bristol	47	14.2
14	Coventry	73	10.8	14	Coventry	69	10.2	14	Middletown	51	13.9
15	East Providence	104	10.7	15	Narragansett	21	10.1	15	East Providence	127	13.8
16	Middletown	38	10.2	16	North Kingstown	61	10.0	16	Warwick	195	13.3
17	Bristol	32	9.1	17	Exeter	12	9.8	17	Coventry	89	13.1
18	Cumberland	65	8.9	18	Johnston	48	9.0	18	Exeter	15	12.8
19	East Greenwich	28	8.5	19	Foster	7	8.9	19	Burrillville	43	12.7
20	New Shoreham	1	8.1	20	Cranston	139	8.7	20	Cranston	195	12.4
20	Scituate	16	8.1	21	North Smithfield	18	8.5	21	Narragansett	23	11.6
22	Lincoln	38	7.8	22	Middletown	31	8.3	22	Tiverton	32	11.4
23	Narragansett	16	7.7	23	South Kingstown	40	8.2	23	Cumberland	79	11.2
24	Cranston	117	7.4	24	New Shoreham	1	8.1	24	Charlestown	15	10.6
25	Richmond	13	7.3	25	Cumberland	58	7.9	24	Little Compton	6	10.6
26	South Kingstown	34	7.0	26	Burrillville	25	7.4	26	North Kingstown	62	10.5
27	North Smithfield	15	7.1	27	Warwick	111	7.3	27	Portsmouth	35	9.8
28	Burrillville	23	6.8	28	Lincoln	34	7.0	28	Lincoln	42	8.6

FFY16				FFY17				FFY18			
Rank	Case Town	Number of indicated child victims	Rate of indicated child victims (per 1,000 children under 18 in RI)	Rank	Case Town	Number of indicated child victims	Rate of indicated child victims (per 1,000 children under 18 in RI)	Rank	Case Town	Number of indicated child victims	Rate of indicated child victims (per 1,000 children under 18 in RI)
28	Portsmouth	25	6.8	29	East Greenwich	21	6.4	29	North Smithfield	19	8.4
30	North Kingstown	40	6.6	30	Jamestown	6	6.3	30	South Kingstown	39	8.1
30	Warwick	101	6.6	31	Glocester	11	5.9	30	West Greenwich	13	8.1
32	Jamestown	6	6.3	32	Richmond	10	5.6	32	Glocester	14	7.3
33	West Greenwich	9	5.6	33	Charlestown	7	4.7	33	Scituate	13	6.5
34	Charlestown	8	5.4	34	Portsmouth	16	4.3	34	Richmond	10	6.1
34	Glocester	10	5.4	35	Scituate	6	3.0	35	Jamestown	5	5.0
36	Exeter	5	4.1	36	Smithfield	9	2.5	36	Smithfield	15	4.3
37	Little Compton	2	3.6	37	Barrington	10	2.3	37	Barrington	12	2.7
38	Smithfield	12	3.4	38	West Greenwich	3	1.9	38	East Greenwich	6	1.8
39	Barrington	7	1.6	39	Little Compton	1	1.8	39	New Shoreham	0	0.0

Data source: U.S. Census 2016 population estimate for children under 18.

Data note:

- Data unduplicated by child. If a child had multiple investigations in a fiscal year, perhaps one indicated and one unfounded, the child is counted once as indicated child victim.
- Excluded child victims with unknown or out of state case address.
- Excluded child victims of maltreatment in foster care.