

CHILD WELFARE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD OF

APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017



ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES

[LAWS 2015, CHAPTER 257]

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SAFETY

CHILD WELFARE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Arizona Revised Statute § 8-526 requires the Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS) to compile information and produce a semi-annual report for the periods ending on March 31st and September 30th of each year regarding Child Welfare Services. This report is for the semi-annual reporting period beginning on April 1, 2017 and ending September 30, 2017.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS) is pleased to publish this semi-annual report for April 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017 in compliance with A.R.S. § 8-526. This report is intended to provide its readers an opportunity to review the impact of the Department's process improvements in relation to key performance indicators.

In May 2014, the Department of Child Safety was created as a permanent, stand-alone agency with the express mission of safeguarding Arizona's abused and neglected children. The data contained within this semi-annual report assists with identifying where continued focus is needed by the Department, stakeholders, policy makers, and advocacy groups. By working collaboratively to address the needs of children and to prevent child abuse, additional targeted resources and strategies that are put in place to improve outcomes for children will be implemented in a timelier manner.

Pursuant to Laws 2014, 2nd Special Session, Chapter 1, Section 160 the Department in collaboration with the Director of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC), the Director of the Governor's Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) were to make recommendations to the Governor, President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives on consolidating child welfare reports by September 1, 2016. This report was developed after multiple meetings with stakeholders. Additional recommendations will be provided to the JLBC in December 2017 to consolidate elements of this report with other Department reports. The Department continues to conduct stakeholder meetings to inform not only consolidation efforts but the identification of outcome metrics to better inform policy and practice decision-making by DCS and stakeholders.

The Department discussed with stakeholders changing part of the narrative structure of this report to eliminate redundancy and streamline the presentation of data. Stakeholders agreed that the removal of narrative that simply reiterated data in charts and tables was acceptable as long as the narrative did not provide an analysis of the data or impact the executive summary. Therefore, this report will differ from prior versions and future reports may be structured differently depending on the outcome of future DCS and stakeholder recommendations that will be reviewed by the JLBC.

Child Abuse Hotline and Investigations

The statewide Child Abuse Hotline received 24,257 concerns that met the statutory criteria for a report. Of these, 353 were within the jurisdiction of military or tribal governments and were referred to those jurisdictions. The total number of reports represents a 2.9 percent increase over the prior reporting period, but a two percent decrease over the same reporting period last year.

In addition to responding to all reports received in this reporting period, the Department closed 23,591 reports this reporting period which is a six percent increase over the prior reporting period. The Department continues its effort to reduce the total number of open reports. During this reporting

period, DCS achieved a four percent decrease in total open reports from 6,610 in March 2017 to 6,349 in September 2017. The Department continues to recognize this accomplishment as this contributes to reductions in caseloads for investigators and allows them to spend more time engaging with families to complete thorough assessments.

Of the reports subject to substantiation during this reporting period, the preliminary number of reports that were substantiated is 497 (2.1 percent). An additional 3,238 were proposed for substantiation by child welfare specialists and are currently awaiting the results of the appeals process. Over time, the number of substantiated and proposed substantiated reports associated with this time period will increase as investigation findings are entered into Children's Information Library and Data Source (CHILDS).

The DCS Strategic Plan for FY 2016, identified several goals with deliverables for the Hotline, investigations, ongoing, and foster home capacity and availability. Strategic Objectives for FY 2017 included slowing the rate of out-of-home population growth, maintaining fiscal responsibility and continuing work to improve employee retention. For FY 2018, Strategic Plan objectives are to improve timeliness to permanency, increase the placement of children in family like settings, continue to improve employee retention, develop and implement the Agency's IT infrastructure and develop implementation strategies for behavioral health services. To date, the Department has initiated and/or completed several deliverables, including, but not limited to:

Investigations

- Reduced the total number of inactive cases from 4,790 in September 2016 to 212 in September 2017, a 96 percent reduction.
- Initiated the renovation and update of Arizona's safety assessment model, the SAFE model developed by Action for Child Protection with attention to practice knowledge and application.
- Revised policies and forms related to SAFE AZ model.
- Safety Practice Experts (SPEs) participate in site-based teams to support implementation.
- SPEs participated in a two day advanced training to enhance coaching skills.
- Developed and implemented SAFE AZ model training for over 1,700 field staff including Specialists, Supervisors, and Program Managers.
- Additional training for SAFE AZ has been provided to contracted parent aide providers, judges, attorneys representing parents and children, court personnel, and the Attorney General's Office.
- Training for other providers is currently under development.
- Created and implemented a dashboard to track overall investigation case management.
- Created and implemented a dashboard to monitor all overdue reports.
- Created and implemented a dashboard to monitor case planning status.
- Increased the use of Safety Planning Team Decision Making (TDM) meetings to improve outcomes for children and families by keeping children in their homes with supportive services and support. Additionally, TDMs continue to be used for considered changes in the case plan goal for children in out-of-home care; and for children preparing for reunification; and for youth approaching the age of majority;

- Continued the implementation of timely case transfers from investigation to ongoing units in several offices throughout the state;
- Initiated the development of Guided Pathways – Services for Safe Children to better engage families in services when the Family Functioning Assessment determines the children in the family are safe. This practice is intended to help connect families with the most appropriate level of services to prevent future reports or involvement with the Department.

Services

- Sustained the Building Resilient Families (BRF) program to deliver in-home prevention services in Maricopa County for low risk families who have been the subject of a DCS investigation.
- Continued planning for expansion of the BRF program statewide.
- Continued to monitor and reduce wait list for parent aide services;
- Continued use of a Service Referral Matrix to refine the referral and approval process statewide;
- Continued faith-based prevention services with Care Portal in Pima and Maricopa Counties.
- Continued utilization of In-Home prevention services.
- Expansion of Substance Exposed Newborn Safe Environment (SENSE) program. The SENSE program has been implemented in Yuma, Maricopa, Yavapai, Pima, and Pinal Counties. Plans remain to expand the program statewide.
- Continued the Safe Sleep prevention program as well as the Baby Box Program to reduce the number of infant deaths related to unsafe sleep environments.

Continuous Quality Improvement

- Implementation of the Systemic Critical Incident Review Process which reviews all critical incident cases received by DCS in order to identify and analyze systemic issues and generate recommendations for improvements.
- Continued to receive training and technical assistance from Collaborative Safety on implementing Safety Science principles in the DCS culture and supporting the Systemic Critical Incident Review process.
- Sustained use of supervision guides for investigation and ongoing cases;
- Partnering with Action for Child Protection on latest enhancements of their nationally recognized safety assessment model;
- Continued the roll-out phases for Guardian Mobile solutions; part of the process to replace the old statewide automated child welfare information system (CHILDS) with a more robust system. The initial mobile solution roll-out has taken place, and further enhancements continue to be planned and implemented.

Employee Retention

- Established a position in Human Resources to focus on retention initiatives.
- In FY 2017, the Department implemented a new salary schedule for the DCS Specialist job series. Instead of providing the initial salary increase at 12 months, the increase now occurs after 22 weeks with Specialists able to reach maximum salary after one year and 22 weeks

compared to the prior schedule of reaching maximum salary at 24 months from the date of hire.

- The Predictive Index (PI) will continue to be used as a recruitment tool to hire best fit candidates.
- PI will begin to be used by supervisor to determine their staff members' individual supervision needs to improve job performance.
- DCS management system tools are being used to improve the selection and interview process for DCS Specialists.
- Working on the development of a leadership training program for supervisors to positively impact management and supervision of DCS Specialists.
- A new exit survey tool will be implemented to determine why DCS Specialists are leaving. Data will be analyzed and used to implement retention activities.
- Interview panel questions are being revised and will be piloted.

Children in Out-of-Home Care

The Department remains committed to working with the community to keep children safe and prevent the need for children to be removed from their homes. The Department's effort to achieve a strategic plan goal of slowing the out-of-home (OOH) population rate is evidenced by a safe, sustained decrease of children in OOH care. The number of children in out-of-home care decreased from 16,899 in March 2017 to 15,840 in September 2017, representing a 6.3 percent decrease. Additionally, the department continued to experience more children exiting than entering OOH care. Several initiatives referenced above are helping to contribute to this reduction including a reduction in the number of cases in the backlog, efficient case transfers, utilization of in-home prevention services and focused attention on improved family assessment during investigations. During this reporting period, 4,331 children were removed compared to 5,236 removals the prior reporting period. This represents a 17.3 percent reduction in the number of children entering out-of-home placement. During the same reporting period last year, 5,669 were removed which represents a 23.6 percent decrease of children entering out-of-home care.

The Department continues to make efforts to place children who have been removed from their home in the most family-like setting possible. As of September 30, 2017, 12,512 children – or 79 percent of all children in out-of-home care – were placed with kinship or licensed foster parents. An additional 33 children were placed with their parents on a trial home visit and 494 youth were residing in independent living settings.

As part of the strategic plan, the Department is striving to increase the placement of children in a family-like setting and fully meet the needs of children in care. Of all children in out-of-home care on the last day of the reporting period, 6,868 (43.4 percent) were placed with kin. Additionally, the total number of children that remained in shelter care for more than 21 days significantly reduced from 875 last reporting period to 673 this period which is a 23 percent decrease. DCS is engaging in various breakthrough activities to increase capacity for children to reside in family settings. These activities include geo-mapping, foster home recruitment efforts, improving HRSS provider relations, reducing congregate care and standardizing the placement process. The Department also went through some internal restructuring to provide an increase in dedicated focus to further the efforts of

recruitment, retention, and placement in family settings. Also during this reporting period, DCS has been working to accomplish the following:

- Identify ways to provide the best support to Kinship and Foster parents;
- Identify a foster parent recruitment campaign to address children's needs;
- Recruitment and placement of children in adoptive homes;
- Continued to address barriers to licensing by analyzing denials of Life Safety Inspections and implemented improvements to safely reduce the frequency of denials;
- Established the Statewide Placement Coordination Administration to standardized and streamline the placement process across the state.
- Successfully increased the use of Placement Coordinators to identify available kinship placements upon removal;
- Continued the use of software tools, e.g. Lexis Nexis, to find potential kinship placements; and
- Continued work by the Fostering Sustainable Connection program's use of Family Engagement Specialists to work with youth to identify relatives or other individuals with a significant relationship to the youth and explore possible permanency options;

The state requires monthly face-to-face visitation with children in foster care. The Department has made concerted efforts to improve these contacts by tracking this in monthly Regional scorecards and weekly accountability calls with field managers and supervisors to monitor progress and identify problem solving opportunities in meeting this expectation. As a result, the Department has shown a significant improvement by achieving 95.8 percent of the children in foster care receiving their visitation during the last month of the reporting period. This demonstrates the Department's continued commitment to children in foster care. There is a strong correlation between caseworker visits with children and positive outcomes for these children, such as achieving permanency and other indicators of child well-being. The Department continues to make efforts to sustain our rate of visitation.

Permanency for Children

A total of 2,823 children exited DCS custody to reunify with their parents or primary caretakers or to live with other relatives this reporting period compared to 3,415 during the same reporting period last year, which is a 17.3 percent decrease. This reduction compares to the decrease in OOH care over the same reporting period last year of 11.9 percent.

Arizona is a national leader in the number of finalized adoptions. The Department remains committed to work toward achieving permanency for children placed in out-of-home care. This is demonstrated by the total number of children achieving permanency through adoption when it is in the best interest of the child(ren). This reporting period there were 2,110 adoptions compared to 2,195 in the previous reporting period; a decrease of 3.9 percent.

The Department implemented several integrated initiatives to improve foster parent support, placement processes, supports to foster care providers and partnerships with paid placements. This involves emphasizing improvements in forecasting of specific, quantifiable needs by placement type including geographical needs. The placement process improvements involve documenting

standardized decision-making process for placements and the collection/dissemination of available placements including improved communication on placement options with providers. The Department is also developing a process and infrastructure to provide kinship and foster care providers with improved training, improved supports and connectivity to services. This includes replacement for PS-MAPP training with trauma informed care components. Finally, DCS is working to support a collaborative approach with HRSS providers to supporting and supervising foster homes.

Efforts to increase the number of licensed foster parents who are able to meet the needs of children requiring out-of-home placement continue to be made. There were 1,071 new homes licensed the last reporting period and 850 new homes this period. Additionally, the overall total number of licensed foster homes decreased by 2.4 percent compared to the previous reporting period. There were 5000 licensed foster homes during the previous reporting period and 4,881 licensed foster homes this reporting period. Various plans are in development to provide support for existing foster parents and recruit new foster parents. It is notable that each month, the majority of foster home closures are due to finalization of adoption or guardianship. For example, in August 2017 83 out of 191 licenses close due to adoption or guardianship.

The Department has been utilizing Targeted Permanency Staffings (TPS) to assist in identifying barriers to achieving permanency for children in out-of-home care. Once a case has been selected to participate in a TPS, a meeting is held and various aspects of the case are discussed. The team identifies barriers that may be alleviated to assist in achieving permanency. Follow-up tasks are assigned to alleviate the barriers and assist the cases in moving forward.

Strategic Goals to Address Challenges

The Department's Strategic Plan represents the leadership's commitment to refocus attention and resources on the safety, permanency, and well-being of children in Arizona. Below are the five strategic priorities that address several of the most pressing challenges faced by the Department:

1. Improve objective decision-making in Investigations and Ongoing.
2. Develop and retain a highly effective workforce that engages with child welfare partners to serve children and families.
3. Reduce length of stay for children in out-of-home care.
4. Provide a quality experience for children while in out-of-home care.
5. Reduce recurrence of maltreatment by providing quality service.

In addition, strategic objectives were identified for FY 2018, which are aimed at being responsive to immediate needs while continuing to work towards building systems to ensure sustainability and success over the long term:

1. Improve timeliness to permanency.
2. Increase the placement of children in a family like setting.
3. Improve employee retention.
4. Develop and implement the agency IT infrastructure.
5. Develop implementation strategy for Behavioral Health services.

Each strategic objective has an executive sponsor and consists of initiatives and key actions that have been identified as moving the Department towards successful completion. Additionally, each strategic initiative has an assigned team lead and a project manager to guide the efforts and track timely delivery. Monthly reporting is required and allows the management team to address unforeseen barriers as well as make any necessary modifications to project plans as needed.

As of September 2017, the Department filled 1,333 (95 percent) of its 1,406 budgeted positions for Child Safety Specialists, including staff at the Hotline and in training. The Department previously restructured the Child Safety Specialist, Case Aide and support staff pay structure to help employee retention. In addition, the Department has been working with Arizona State University and Northern Arizona University to improve accountability and completion of the Title IV-E stipend program.

One of the Department's most significant efforts during this reporting period has been to resolve the long-standing issue of the 'backlog' or 'inactive' cases, which are those cases that had no case notes or service authorizations for 60 days or more. Prior to 2015, efforts to reduce or eliminate the backlog did not involve a methodical, focused approach. Current efforts ensure that an inactive case receives careful review and meaningful case management activities that address the safety, well-being and permanency needs of the children and families involved in the case. The Department utilized '*select assistance work teams*' who were assigned to specific field offices to review cases, identify actions required to complete overdue investigations, complete field response activities and complete final quality assurance reviews.

Regional action plans to address the backlog of inactive cases include continuing off-line time for case managers to complete actions on open cases while not being assigned new cases and identifying additional resources at the Regional level to support investigation and clinical reviews. Regional leadership established accountability for workload completion through data reporting which is monitored weekly and monthly.

As a means of expanding capacity to complete investigations the Department, with grant support from Casey Family Programs, partnered with a qualified local service provider in Maricopa County to support field offices with response activities. Additionally, the Arizona Legislature dedicated funds in SFY 2017 to help provided for private contractors to assist the Department in reducing the backlog. Finally, Model Field Offices were established that adhere to a standard process to transfer cases from investigations to ongoing. This has been expanded to several other offices throughout the state. The case transfer occurs quickly after a child's removal so investigators are no longer case managing dependency cases and are free to focus on investigations. As a result of these exhaustive efforts, the Department has reduced the backlog of inactive cases from a peak of 16,104 in January 2015 to 212 at the end of September 2017. This represents a 99 percent sustainable decrease in the backlog. The Arizona Legislature established a requirement for DCS to reduce the backlog to no more than 1,000 cases by June 30, 2017. The Department was well below that benchmark in early March 2017 and has maintained the inactive cases under that benchmark.

The Department continues to assess processes and program controls to identify ways to address these challenges. Solutions have included partnering with community and stakeholders to ensure that the safety and well-being of children is always paramount. The Department continues to work in

partnership with the federal government to meet the federal Child and Family Service Review (CFSR) standards to improve outcomes for the children and families it serves.

Semi-Annual Comparisons

	Apr 2013 through Sep 2013	Oct 2013 through Mar 2014	Apr 2014 through Sep 2014	Oct 2014 through Mar 2015	Apr 2015 through Sep 2015	Oct 2015 through Mar 2016	Apr 2016 through Sep 2016	Oct 2016 through Mar 2017	Apr 2017 through Sep 2017
Number of Reports Received	22,032	22,956	25,076	25,508	26,455	24,537	24,787	23,579	24,257
Number of Reports Substantiated ¹	2,704	3,190	3,456	3,535	3,836	3,199	3,042	3,022	497
Substantiation Rate	12%	14%	14%	14%	15%	13%	13%	13%	2.1%
Number of Reports Investigated & Closed	11,212	11,392	12,038	13,045	15,076	18,771	22,065	22,678	23,591
Number of Reports Responded to	20,122	22,162	24,435	25,182	26,022	24,193	24,403	23,226	23,904
Number of new removals	5,702	5,701	6,461	5,935	6,819	6,141	5,669	5,236	4,331
Number of new removals with Voluntary under 18	118	90	189	131	154	107	109	102	152
Number of Children in Out-of-Home Care on the Last Day of Reporting Period	15,037	15,751	16,990	17,592	18,657	18,906	17,984	16,899	15,840
Number of Children in Shelter for More than 21 Days	824	802	868	900	878	974	1,054	875	673
Number and Percentage of Children Receiving Visitation In the Last Month of Reporting Period	12,997 (86.4%)	13,818 (87.7%)	14,846 (87.4%)	15,323 (87.1%)	15,746 (84.4%)	16,985 (89.8%)	16,947 (94.2%)	16,169 (95.7%)	15,180 (95.8%)
Number and Percentage of Children not Receiving Visitation	2,040 (13.6%)	1,933 (12.3%)	2,144 (12.6%)	2,269 (12.9%)	2,911 (15.6%)	1,921 (10.2%)	1,037 (5.8%)	730 (4.3%)	660 (4.2%)
Number and Percentage of Parents Receiving Visitation	1,157 (52.4%)	1,344 (53.8%)	1,315 (52.0%)	1,372 (55.7%)	1,576 (50.9%)	2,570 (50.0%)	2,563 (48.6%)	2,905 (55.2%)	2,705 (56.5%)
Number of Licensed Foster Homes ²	3,900	4,329	4,397	4,497	4,551	4,681	4,596	5,000	4,881
Number of Foster Home Spaces Available to DCS	8,573	9,049	9,061	9,079	9,114	10,337	10,786	11,405	11,092
Number of New Foster Homes	717	1,050	756	821	774	882	985	1,071	853
Number of Foster Homes Closed	715	787	822	785	767	871	994	963	1,059
Number and Percentage of Foster Homes Receiving Visitation In the Last Qtr. Of Reporting Period ⁴	3,491 (89.5%)	3,689 (85.2%)	3,949 (89.8%)	3,881 (86.3%)	3,925 (86.2%)	4,258 (91.0%)	4,365 (95.0%)	4,969 (99.4%)	4,250 (93.4%)
Number and Percentage of Foster Homes not Receiving Visitation ⁴	409 (10.5%)	640 (14.8%)	448 (10.2%)	616 (13.7%)	626 (13.8%)	423 (9.0%)	231 (5.0%)	31 (0.6%)	302 (6.6%)
Number of Children Leaving DCS Custody	4,805	4,786	5,042	5,063	5,555	5,668	6,377	6,153	5,874
Number of Children With a Case Plan Goal of Adoption	3,311	3,417	3,377	3,449	3,878	4,224	4,623	4,790	4,677
Number of Children With a Finalized Adoption	1,215	1,518	1,552	1,629	1,576	1,727	1,936	2,195	2,110

¹ Since the appeals process delays the substantiation of reports, revisions to the substantiation rate for the prior reporting period will occur with every semi-annual report produced.

² The number of available foster homes includes homes reported by the Department's Home Recruitment, Study and Supervision contractors along with foster homes utilized for appropriate children in coordination with the Division of Developmental Disabilities.

³ The report run date was December 09, 2017.

⁴ Data is provided by HRSS provider agencies.

Reports of Child Abuse & Neglect

Child abuse and neglect are defined in A.R.S. §8-201 and A.R.S. §13-3623(A). These definitions provide the major categories in this report.

Between April 1, 2017 and September 30, 2017, there were 24,257 incoming communications to the Child Abuse Hotline that met the criteria for a report of abuse or neglect. Of these, 353 were within the jurisdiction of military or tribal governments and were referred to those jurisdictions. Compared to one year ago, there has been a 2.9 percent increase in reports received by the Child Abuse Hotline meeting the criteria of a report of abuse or neglect.

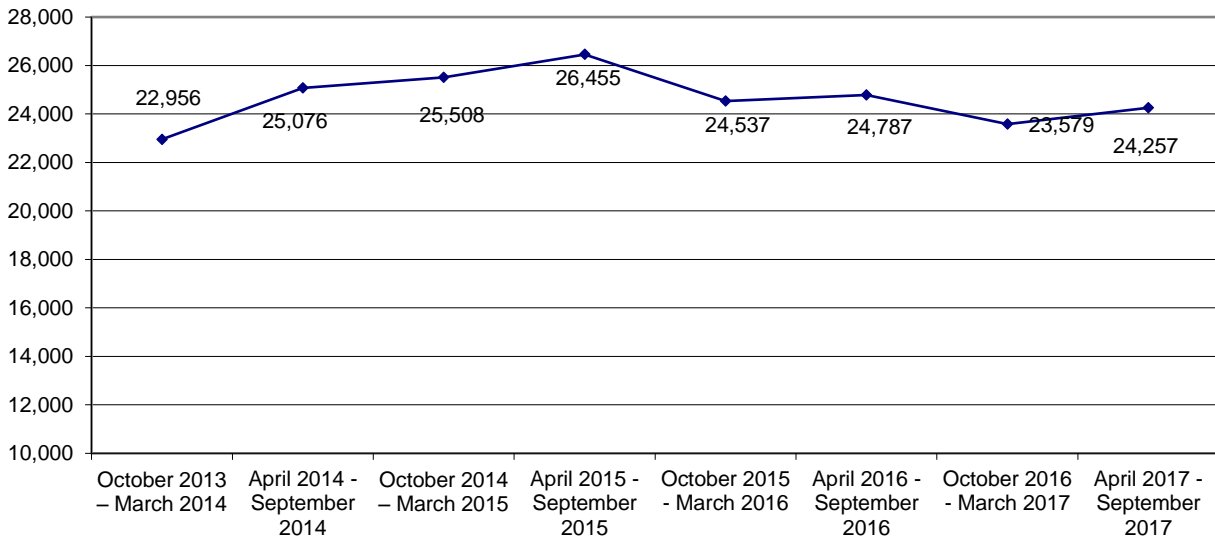
Table 1 shows the number of reports received by the Department by category of maltreatment for the current and past reporting periods. The Department continues to examine current Child Abuse Hotline policies and procedures to improve objectivity within screening tools and improve inter-rater reliability.

**TABLE 1
REPORTS BY REPORTING PERIOD AND TYPE OF MALTREATMENT**

	Neglect	Physical Abuse	Sexual Abuse	Emotional Abuse	Total
October 2012 – March 2013	14,916 67.2%	6,263 28.3%	815 3.7%	167 0.8%	22,161 100.0%
April 2013 – September 2013	15,560 70.6%	5,607 25.5%	731 3.3%	134 0.6%	22,032 100.0%
October 2013 – March 2014	15,766 68.7%	6,248 27.2%	772 3.4%	170 0.7%	22,956 100.0%
April 2014 – September 2014	18,022 71.9%	6,074 24.2%	847 3.4%	133 0.5%	25,076 100.0%
October 2014 – March 2015	18,338 71.9%	6,254 24.5%	787 3.1%	129 0.5%	25,508 100.0%
April 2015 – September 2015	19,276 72.9%	6,086 23.0%	954 3.6%	139 0.5%	26,455 100.0%
October 2015 – March 2016	17,493 71.3%	6,089 24.8%	788 3.2%	167 0.7%	24,537 100.0%
April 2016 – September 2016	17,415 70.3%	6,206 25.0%	1,030 4.2%	136 0.5%	24,787 100.0%
October 2016 – March 2017	16,295 69.1%	6,221 26.4%	950 4.0%	113 0.5%	23,579 100.0%
April 2017 – September 2017	17,330 71.4%	5,767 23.8%	1,030 4.3%	130 0.5%	24,257 100.0%

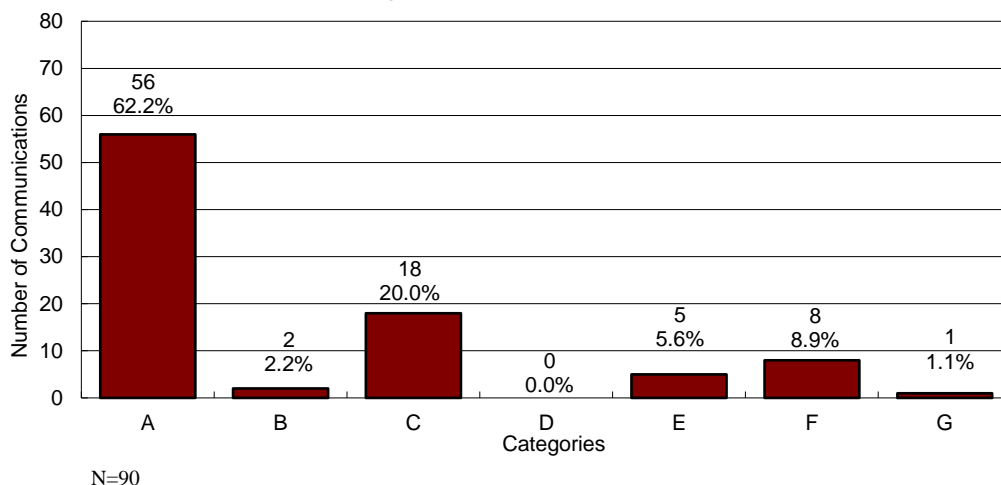
Chart 1 illustrates that the number of reports received by the Centralized Intake Hotline has increased by 678 reports over the prior reporting period.

CHART 1
REPORTS OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT BY REPORTING PERIOD



The Centralized Intake Hotline received a total of 78,740 calls offered during the reporting period. 2,580 were abandoned before the Specialist answered. 24,257 calls met the statutory requirements for abuse and neglect. A random sample was selected from 51,903 communications to represent the types of calls that do not get classified as reports of abuse and neglect. This random sample is contained in the chart below.

CHART 2
SAMPLE OF COMMUNICATIONS TO THE CENTRALIZED INTAKE HOTLINE THAT DO NOT MEET THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS OF A REPORT OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT



- A = Concern Only/No Allegation of Child Abuse or Neglect**
- B = Out of DCS Jurisdiction**
- C = Call Appropriate for Law Enforcement Jurisdiction³**
- D = Non-Caretaker Neglect/Child No Longer at Risk**
- E = Insufficient Information**
- F = Truancy/Custody Issues**
- G = Current Case Questions or Referrals**

The Department shall ensure accurate assessments and proper classification of communications containing concerns of abuse or neglect of a child which have been determined not to meet statutory criteria for a DCS report by performing weekly quality assurance reviews of these communications.

³ The category “Call Appropriate for Law Enforcement Jurisdiction” refers to a situation where the alleged perpetrator is not a parent or primary caretaker and the allegations, if true, would constitute a crime.

Chart 3 below provides information on the number of reports that met each of the Centralized Intake Hotline priority classifications in the current and past reporting periods. In Table 2 and Table 3, data on total reports by priority is shown by county for the current and previous reporting periods. The priority determinations are made by personnel at the Child Abuse Hotline after the review of multiple factors, however, below is a high level summary of each response time criteria.

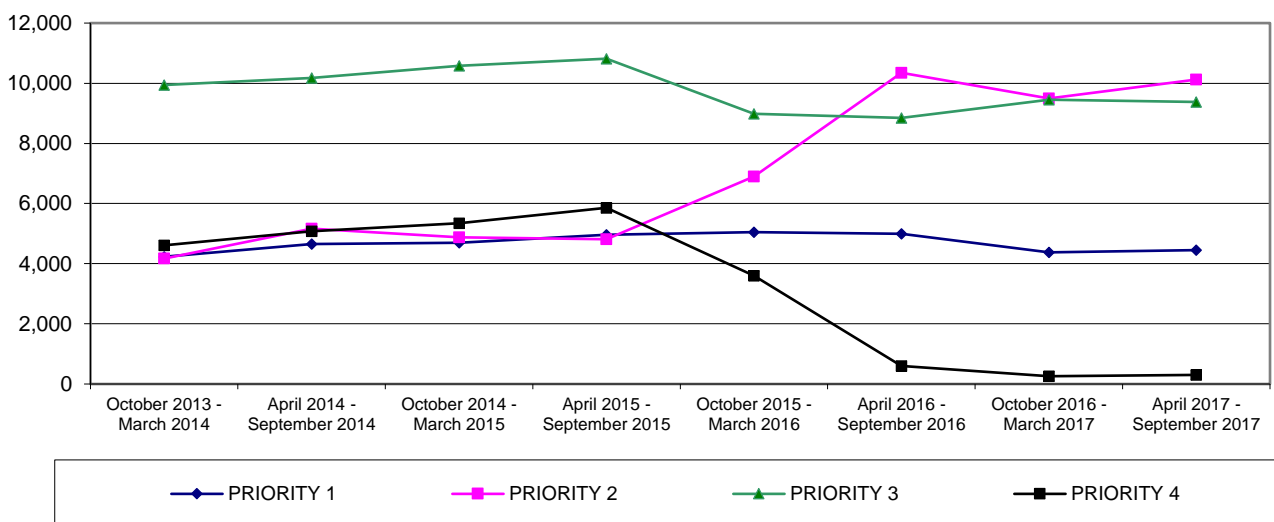
PRIORITY 1: Death of a child, near fatality, abuse or neglect that threatens to immediately cause, or has caused, serious harm or death, Serious physical injuries to a child (including but not limited to fractures, burns, multiple plane injuries, acceleration/deceleration injuries [shaken baby syndrome], injury to internal organs, etc.), child is alone and is not capable of caring for self or other children, evidence or disclosure of sexual abuse toward a child and the perpetrator has access to the child or the perpetrator is unknown, Substance Exposed Newborn (SEN) who is expected to be discharged from the hospital within 24 hours; ¹

PRIORITY 2: Abuse or neglect of a child age 0-3, Abuse or neglect of a vulnerable child, and the child or perpetrator has been the subject of a prior report (this includes the child as a victim in a prior report or the adult as a perpetrator in a prior report), All criminal conduct allegations not requiring a Priority 1 response;

PRIORITY 3: Abuse or neglect of a child that occurred within the last 12 months and does not require a Priority 1 or 2 response; and

PRIORITY 4: Private Dependency Petition, abuse or neglect that has occurred over one year ago and does not require a Priority 1, 2 or 3 response.

**CHART 3
NUMBER OF REPORTS RECEIVED BY PRIORITY**



As of February 1, 2016, the definition for each priority level changed. Data from this report and all future reports will use these new definitions.

TABLE 2
NUMBER OF REPORTS RECEIVED BY PRIORITY AND COUNTY FOR PERIOD OF
APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

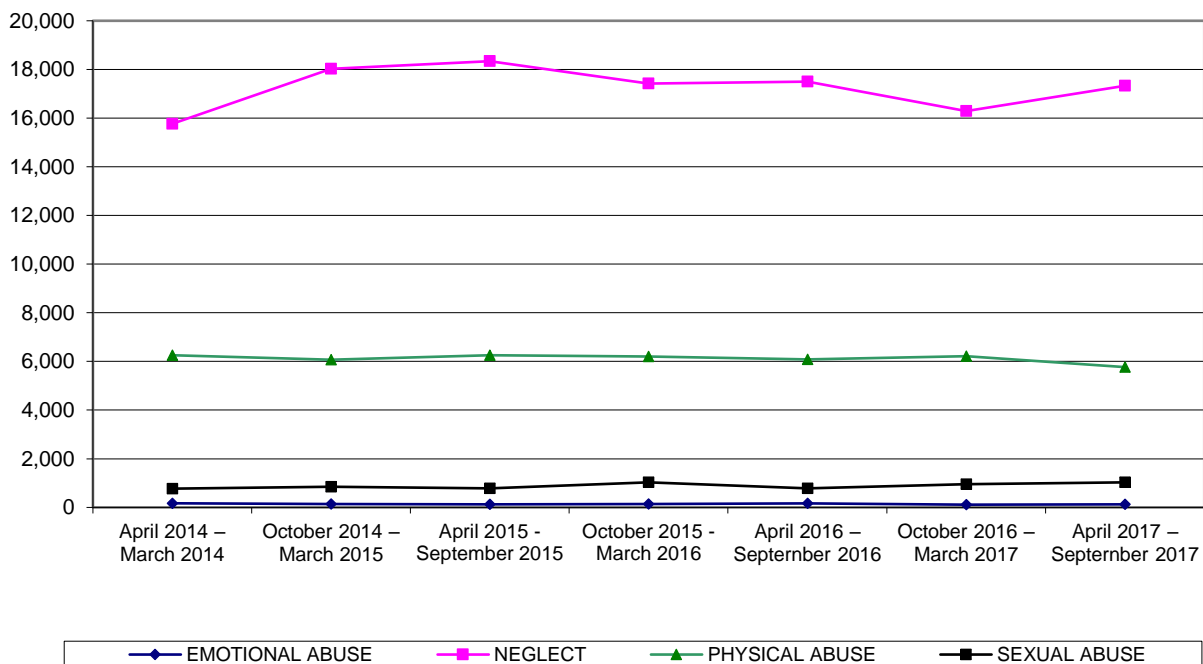
COUNTY	PRIORITY 1	PRIORITY 2	PRIORITY 3	PRIORITY 4	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	13	57	39	0	109	0.5%
COCHISE	77	159	205	2	443	1.8%
COCONINO	80	194	171	6	451	1.9%
GILA	49	113	71	2	235	0.9%
GRAHAM	42	72	61	1	176	0.7%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	15	28	20	0	63	0.3%
MARICOPA	2,731	5,759	5,382	209	14,081	58.1%
MOHAVE	162	371	282	0	815	3.4%
NAVAJO	75	169	134	1	379	1.6%
PIMA	627	1,941	1,869	43	4,480	18.5%
PINAL	333	691	638	29	1,691	6.8%
SANTA CRUZ	16	40	39	0	95	0.4%
YAVAPAI	104	313	285	7	709	2.9%
YUMA	133	216	178	3	530	2.2%
STATEWIDE	4,457	10,123	9,374	303	24,257	100%
% OF TOTAL	18.4%	41.7%	38.6%	1.3%	100%	

TABLE 3
NUMBER OF REPORTS RECEIVED BY PRIORITY AND COUNTY FOR PERIOD OF
OCTOBER 1, 2016 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

COUNTY	PRIORITY 1	PRIORITY 2	PRIORITY 3	PRIORITY 4	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	11	45	52	0	108	0.4%
COCHISE	78	172	180	2	432	1.8%
COCONINO	75	157	172	3	407	1.7%
GILA	48	92	64	2	206	0.9%
GRAHAM	34	73	86	1	194	0.8%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	14	28	24	0	66	0.3%
MARICOPA	2,623	5,324	5,487	168	13,602	57.8%
MOHAVE	155	273	263	5	696	2.9%
NAVAJO	85	143	126	1	355	1.5%
PIMA	675	1,930	1,847	45	4,497	19.1%
PINAL	308	695	632	26	1,661	7.0%
SANTA CRUZ	18	49	42	0	109	0.5%
YAVAPAI	127	285	285	6	703	3.0%
YUMA	126	228	189	0	543	2.3%
STATEWIDE	4,377	9,494	9,449	259	23,579	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	18.6%	40.3%	40.0%	1.1%	100.0%	

The following chart and tables provide the number of reports categorized by type of maltreatment. The total number of reports received by type of maltreatment is displayed in Chart 4. In Table 4 and Table 5 data on the total reports by type of maltreatment are shown by county for the current and previous reporting periods.

**CHART 4
NUMBER OF REPORTS RECEIVED BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT**



**TABLE 4
NUMBER OF REPORTS RECEIVED BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT AND COUNTY FOR PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**

COUNTY	EMOTIONAL ABUSE	NEGLECT	PHYSICAL ABUSE	SEXUAL ABUSE	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	81	24	4	109	0.4%
COCHISE	3	320	104	16	443	1.8%
COCONINO	4	340	94	13	451	1.9%
GILA	0	179	42	14	235	0.9%
GRAHAM	1	135	30	10	176	0.7%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	0	51	10	2	63	0.3%
MARICOPA	76	9,912	3,474	619	14,081	58.0%
MOHAVE	1	599	177	38	815	3.4%
NAVAJO	1	286	77	15	379	1.6%
PIMA	29	3,266	1,019	166	4,480	18.5%
PINAL	6	1,186	412	87	1,691	7%
SANTA CRUZ	2	62	29	2	95	0.4%
YAVAPAI	2	534	154	19	709	2.9%
YUMA	5	379	121	25	530	2.2%
STATEWIDE	130	17,330	5,767	1,030	24,257	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	0.5%	71.5%	23.8%	4.2%	100.0%	

TABLE 5
NUMBER OF REPORTS RECEIVED BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT AND COUNTY FOR PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2016 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

COUNTY	EMOTIONAL ABUSE	NEGLECT	PHYSICAL ABUSE	SEXUAL ABUSE	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	2	76	23	7	108	0.5%
COCHISE	1	305	108	18	432	1.8%
COCONINO	1	285	107	14	407	1.7%
GILA	2	157	36	11	206	0.9%
GRAHAM	0	149	36	9	194	0.8%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	0	46	16	4	66	0.3%
MARICOPA	61	9,184	3,818	539	13,602	57.6%
MOHAVE	3	513	161	19	696	3.0%
NAVAJO	2	268	74	11	355	1.5%
PIMA	24	3,214	1,114	145	4,497	19.1%
PINAL	13	1,139	412	97	1,661	7.0%
SANTA CRUZ	0	72	32	5	109	0.5%
YAVAPAI	2	507	153	41	703	3.0%
YUMA	2	380	131	30	543	2.3%
STATEWIDE	113	16,295	6,221	950	23,579	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	0.5%	69.1%	26.4%	4.0%	100.0%	

ASSIGNMENT OF INVESTIGATIONS

The following tables and charts in this section provide statewide and county level information for reports assigned to DCS (excluding those that fell within the jurisdiction of military or tribal governments). Of these, DCS completed 23,591 (97.3 percent) of their assigned investigations. Those not completed remain open when the investigation is still in process, when the specialist is waiting for the results of a law enforcement investigation and/or receipt of records that impact the investigation finding, or when the investigation has been completed but is awaiting supervisory review and approval.

CHART 5
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY PRIORITY AND REPORTING PERIOD

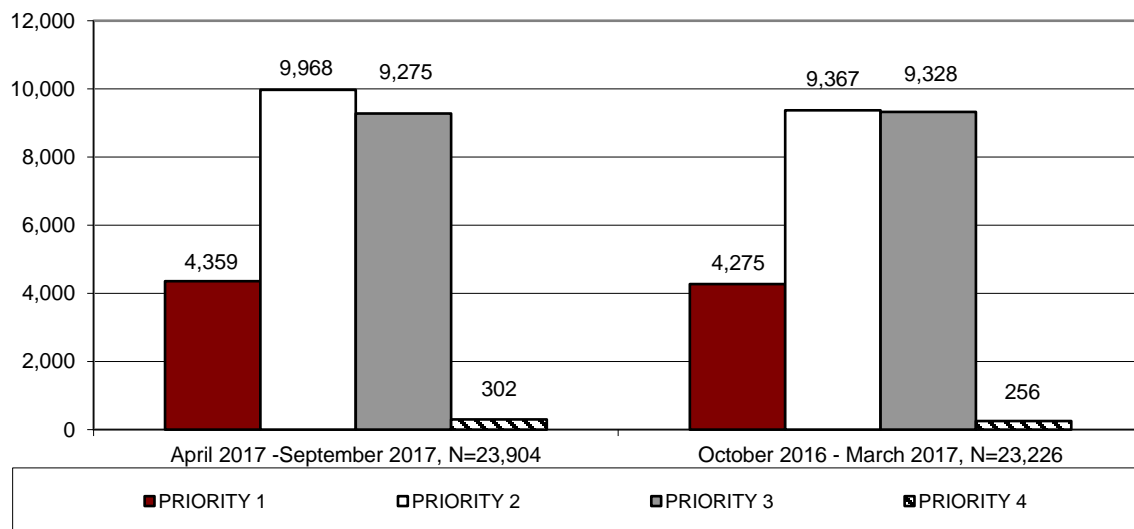


TABLE 6
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY PRIORITY AND COUNTY
FOR PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

COUNTY	PRIORITY 1	PRIORITY 2	PRIORITY 3	PRIORITY 4	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	6	41	30	0	77	0.3%
COCHISE	77	159	205	2	443	1.9%
COCONINO	69	169	149	6	393	1.6%
GILA	40	102	64	2	208	0.9%
GRAHAM	41	67	61	1	170	0.7%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	11	23	15	0	49	0.2%
MARICOPA	2,720	5,738	5,378	209	14,045	58.9%
MOHAVE	158	365	277	0	800	3.3%
NAVAJO	49	145	121	1	316	1.3%
PIMA	617	1,918	1,850	42	4,427	18.5%
PINAL	320	681	626	29	1,656	6.9%
SANTA CRUZ	16	40	39	0	95	0.4%
YAVAPAI	103	305	282	7	697	2.9%
YUMA	132	215	178	3	528	2.2%
STATEWIDE	4,359	9,968	9,275	302	23,904	100%
% OF TOTAL	18.2%	41.7%	38.8%	1.3%	100%	

TABLE 7
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY PRIORITY AND COUNTY
FOR PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2016 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

COUNTY	PRIORITY 1	PRIORITY 2	PRIORITY 3	PRIORITY 4	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	6	31	38	0	75	0.3%
COCHISE	78	172	180	2	432	1.9%
COCONINO	62	137	150	2	351	1.5%
GILA	42	86	58	2	188	0.8%
GRAHAM	29	70	79	1	179	0.8%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	11	24	17	0	52	0.2%
MARICOPA	2,609	5,313	5,478	168	13,568	58.4%
MOHAVE	146	267	263	4	680	2.9%
NAVAJO	60	119	106	1	286	1.2%
PIMA	667	1,909	1,831	44	4,451	19.2%
PINAL	297	681	618	26	1,622	7.0%
SANTA CRUZ	18	49	42	0	109	0.5%
YAVAPAI	127	282	280	6	695	3.0%
YUMA	123	227	188	0	538	2.3%
STATEWIDE	4,275	9,367	9,328	256	23,226	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	18.4%	40.3%	40.2%	1.1%	100.0%	

CHART 6
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT
AND REPORTING PERIOD

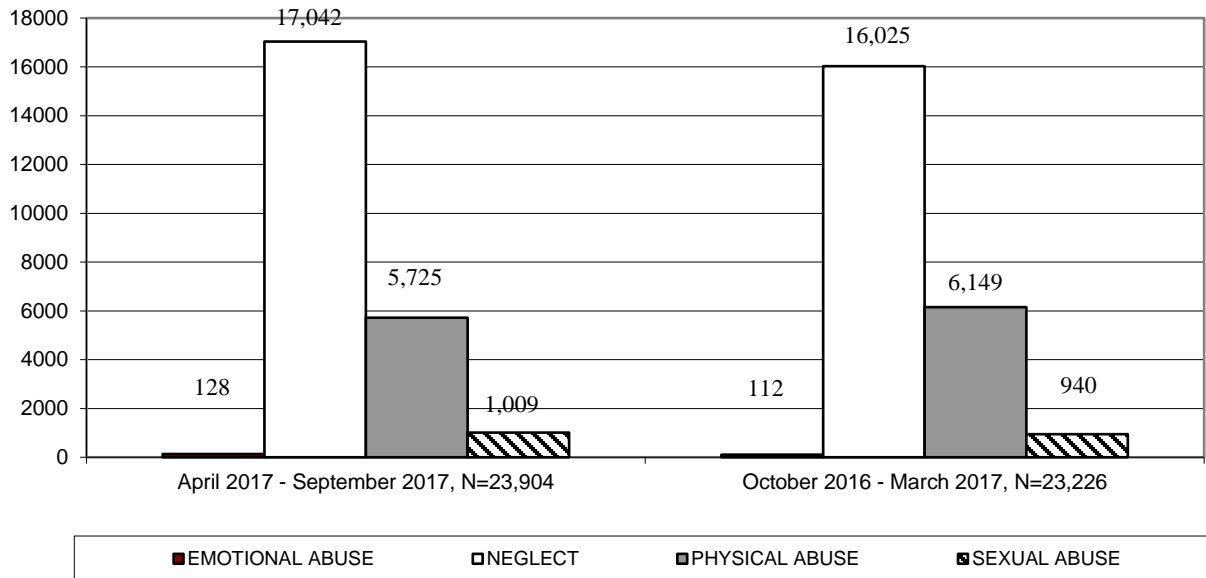


TABLE 8
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT
AND COUNTY FOR PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

COUNTY	EMOTIONAL ABUSE	NEGLECT	PHYSICAL ABUSE	SEXUAL ABUSE	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	56	19	2	77	0.3%
COCHISE	3	320	104	16	443	1.9%
COCONINO	4	292	88	9	393	1.6%
GILA	0	158	37	13	208	0.9%
GRAHAM	1	129	30	10	170	0.7%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	0	39	8	2	49	0.2%
MARICOPA	76	9,884	3,466	619	14,045	58.9%
MOHAVE	0	587	177	36	800	3.3%
NAVAJO	0	230	74	12	316	1.3%
PIMA	29	3,223	1,014	161	4,427	18.5%
PINAL	6	1,158	408	84	1,656	6.9%
SANTA CRUZ	2	62	29	2	95	0.4%
YAVAPAI	2	526	151	18	697	2.9%
YUMA	5	378	120	25	528	2.2%
STATEWIDE	128	17,042	5,725	1,009	23,904	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	0.5%	71.4%	23.9%	4.2%	100.0%	

TABLE 9
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT
AND COUNTY FOR PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2016 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

COUNTY	EMOTIONAL ABUSE	NEGLECT	PHYSICAL ABUSE	SEXUAL ABUSE	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	1	53	17	4	75	0.3%
COCHISE	1	305	108	18	432	1.9%
COCONINO	1	242	95	13	351	1.5%
GILA	2	139	36	11	188	0.8%
GRAHAM	0	137	34	8	179	0.8%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	0	38	11	3	52	0.2%
MARICOPA	61	9,158	3,812	537	13,568	58.4%
MOHAVE	3	497	161	19	680	2.9%
NAVAJO	2	210	63	11	286	1.2%
PIMA	24	3,185	1,097	145	4,451	19.2%
PINAL	13	1,111	403	95	1,622	7.0%
SANTA CRUZ	0	72	32	5	109	0.5%
YAVAPAI	2	501	151	41	695	3.0%
YUMA	2	377	129	30	538	2.3%
STATEWIDE	112	16,025	6,149	940	23,226	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	0.5%	69.0%	26.5%	4.0%	100.0%	

INVESTIGATIONS OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

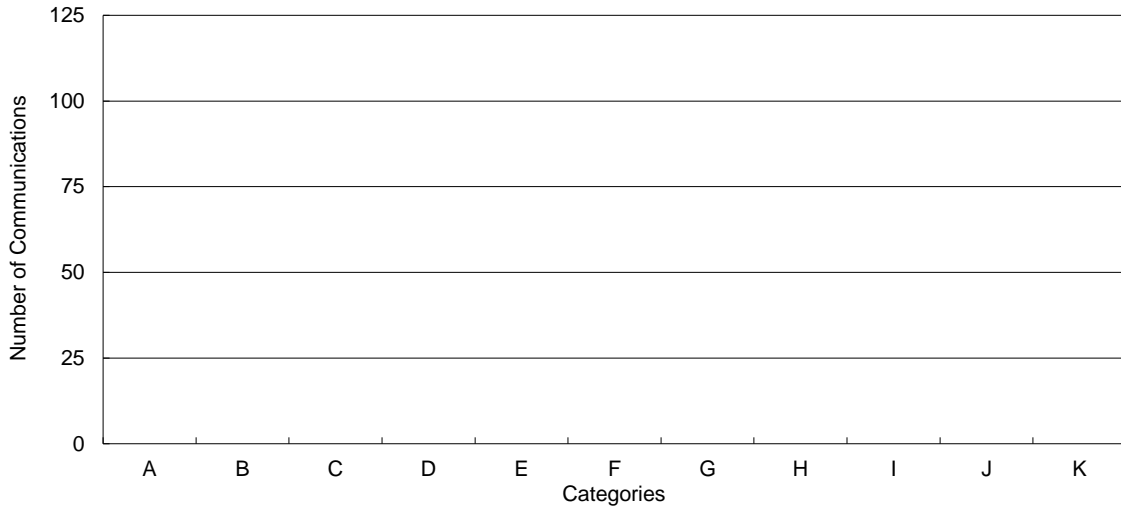
**TABLE 10
NUMBER OF REPORTS WITHOUT RESPONSE DATA BY PRIORITY AND COUNTY FOR
PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**

COUNTY	PRIORITY 1	PRIORITY 2	PRIORITY 3	PRIORITY 4	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
COCHISE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
COCONINO	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
GILA	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
GRAHAM	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
MARICOPA	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
MOHAVE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
NAVAJO	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
PIMA	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
PINAL	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
SANTA CRUZ	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
YAVAPAI	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
YUMA	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
STATEWIDE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
% OF TOTAL	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	

By statute, DCS is required to provide the “number of reports not responded to, by priority, by county and statewide. The report shall include a description of some of these cases as chosen by random sample.” This sample is to describe why the Department did not respond to a report regardless of whether the response was mitigated, timely or aggravated. As all reports were responded to during this period, there is no data to be displayed in Table 10 or Chart 7. Chart 7 would have displayed the reports in brief descriptive categories.

All reports were responded to during this reporting period. Therefore, no data will be displayed in Chart 7 below.

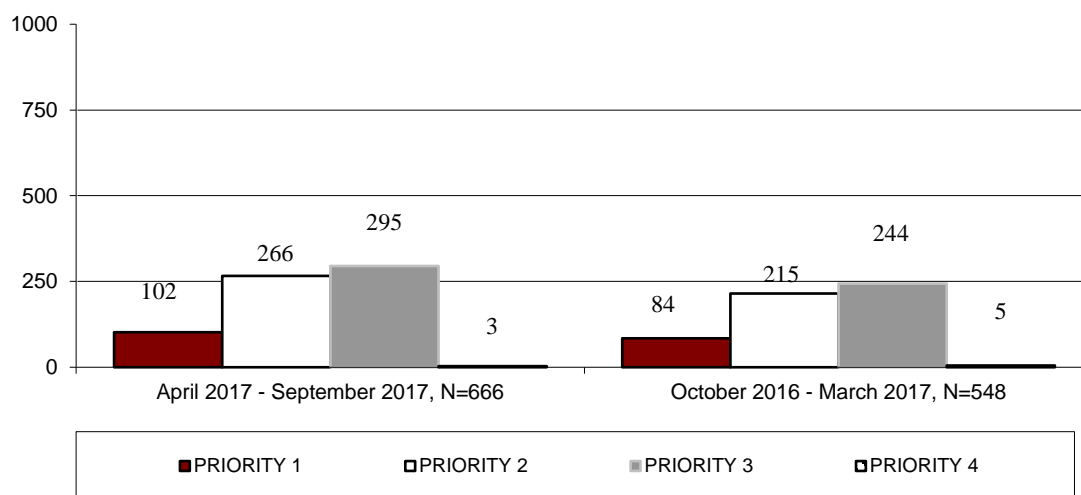
CHART 7
NUMBER OF REPORTS WITHOUT RESPONSE DATA BY CATEGORY FOR THE PERIOD
OF
APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017



N=0

- A = Adolescent, Past Abuse, No Current Injuries**
- B = Inadequate Housekeeping Standards**
- C = Inappropriate Vehicle Operation**
- D = No Specific Allegations**
- E = Past Abuse no current injuries**
- F = Adolescent, current minor injuries**
- G = Non-adolescent, current minor injuries**
- H = Poor parenting skills**
- I = Left with inappropriate caregiver**
- J = Law Enforcement Issue**
- K = Out of Control Teenager**

CHART 8
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY PRIORITY AND REPORTING PERIOD FOR REPORTS OPEN FOR INVESTIGATION



The Department has been working diligently to reduce the total number backlog cases and overdue investigations. This effort has led to a significant reduction in overall open reports as noted previously and thus has demonstrated a significant decrease in the number of reports assigned for investigation by priority for reports open for investigation compared to the prior reporting period.

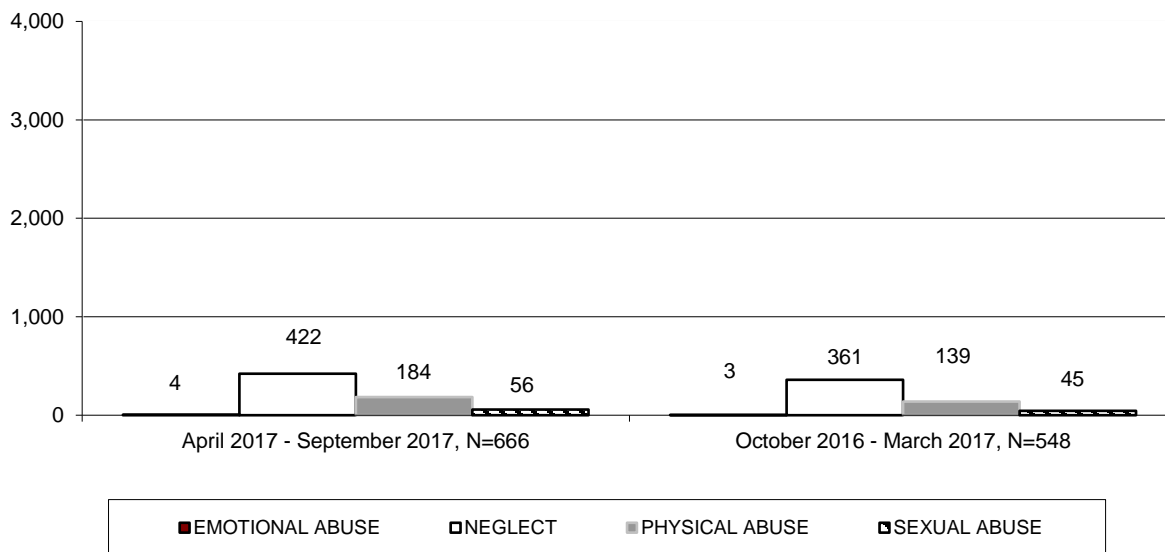
TABLE 11
NUMBER OF REPORTS BY PRIORITY AND COUNTY FOR REPORTS OPEN FOR INVESTIGATION FOR PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

COUNTY	PRIORITY 1	PRIORITY 2	PRIORITY 3	PRIORITY 4	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
COCHISE	2	5	16	0	23	3.5%
COCONINO	0	7	8	1	16	2.4%
GILA	0	3	2	0	5	0.8%
GRAHAM	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
MARICOPA	80	166	179	0	425	63.8%
MOHAVE	1	6	6	0	13	2.0%
NAVAJO	0	0	1	0	1	0.1%
PIMA	8	48	50	0	106	15.9%
PINAL	10	18	28	2	58	8.7%
SANTA CRUZ	0	5	2	0	7	1.0%
YAVAPAI	0	7	1	0	8	1.2%
YUMA	1	1	2	0	4	0.6%
STATEWIDE	102	266	295	3	666	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	15.3%	39.9%	44.3%	0.5%	100.0%	

TABLE 12
NUMBER OF REPORTS BY PRIORITY AND COUNTY FOR REPORTS OPEN FOR INVESTIGATION FOR PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2016 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

COUNTY	PRIORITY 1	PRIORITY 2	PRIORITY 3	PRIORITY 4	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
COCHISE	1	1	0	0	2	0.4%
COCONINO	3	3	8	0	14	2.6%
GILA	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
GRAHAM	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
MARICOPA	62	108	127	4	301	54.8%
MOHAVE	2	7	7	1	17	3.1%
NAVAJO	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
PIMA	4	45	50	0	99	18.1%
PINAL	10	47	49	0	106	19.3%
SANTA CRUZ	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
YAVAPAI	2	4	2	0	8	1.5%
YUMA	0	0	1	0	1	0.2%
STATEWIDE	84	215	244	5	548	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	15.3%	39.2%	44.6%	0.9%	100.0%	

CHART 9
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT FOR REPORTS OPEN FOR INVESTIGATION



The number of reports assigned for investigation for reports open for investigation will change each reporting period as investigations are completed and closed by next reporting period.

**TABLE 13
NUMBER OF REPORTS BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT AND COUNTY FOR REPORTS
OPEN FOR INVESTIGATION FOR PERIOD OF
APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**

COUNTY	EMOTIONAL ABUSE	NEGLECT	PHYSICAL ABUSE	SEXUAL ABUSE	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
COCHISE	0	15	8	0	23	3.5%
COCONINO	0	15	1	0	16	2.4%
GILA	0	4	1	0	5	0.8%
GRAHAM	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
MARICOPA	3	265	118	39	425	63.8%
MOHAVE	0	4	8	1	13	2.0%
NAVAJO	0	1	0	0	1	0.1%
PIMA	1	70	29	6	106	15.9%
PINAL	0	35	13	10	58	8.7%
SANTA CRUZ	0	3	4	0	7	1.0%
YAVAPAI	0	7	1	0	8	1.2%
YUMA	0	3	1	0	4	0.6%
STATEWIDE	4	422	184	56	666	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	0.6%	63.4%	27.6%	8.4%	100.0%	

**TABLE 14
NUMBER OF REPORTS BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT AND COUNTY FOR REPORTS
OPEN FOR INVESTIGATION FOR PERIOD OF
OCTOBER 1, 2016 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017**

COUNTY	EMOTIONAL ABUSE	NEGLECT	PHYSICAL ABUSE	SEXUAL ABUSE	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
COCHISE	0	1	0	1	2	0.4%
COCONINO	0	8	5	1	14	2.6%
GILA	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
GRAHAM	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
MARICOPA	2	189	86	24	301	54.8%
MOHAVE	0	13	4	0	17	3.1%
NAVAJO	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
PIMA	1	68	21	9	99	18.1%
PINAL	0	76	22	8	106	19.3%
SANTA CRUZ	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
YAVAPAI	0	6	0	2	8	1.5%
YUMA	0	0	1	0	1	0.2%
STATEWIDE	3	361	139	45	548	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	0.5%	65.9%	25.4%	8.2%	100.0%	

CHART 10
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION WHERE A REMOVAL OCCURRED

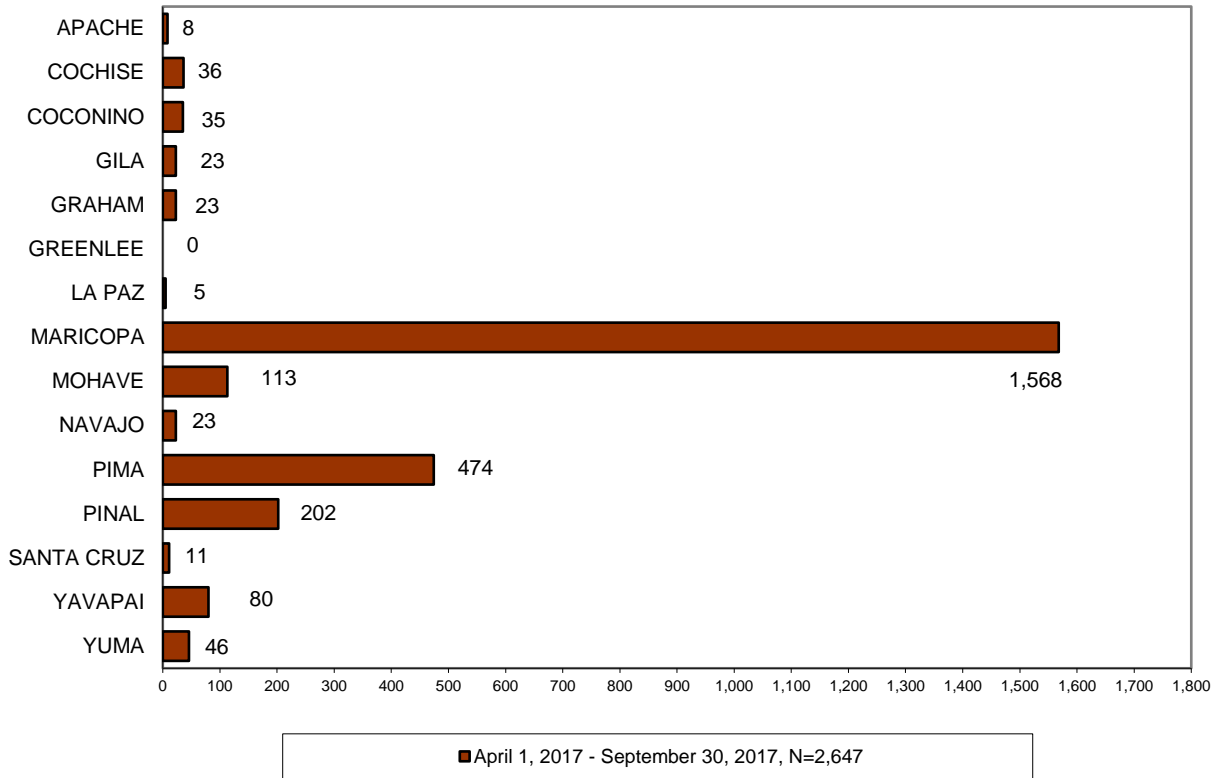


TABLE 15
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY COUNTY WHERE A
REMOVAL OCCURRED FOR THE PERIOD
APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

COUNTY	NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED	NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED WITH A REMOVAL	% OF REPORTS WHERE A CHILD REMOVED
APACHE	77	8	10.4%
COCHISE	443	36	8.1%
COCONINO	393	35	8.9%
GILA	208	23	11.1%
GRAHAM	170	23	13.5%
GREENLEE	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	49	5	10.2%
MARICOPA	14,045	1,568	11.2%
MOHAVE	800	113	14.1%
NAVAJO	316	23	7.3%
PIMA	4,427	474	10.7%
PINAL	1,656	202	12.2%
SANTA CRUZ	95	11	11.6%
YAVAPAI	697	80	11.5%
YUMA	528	46	8.7%
STATEWIDE	23,904	2,647	11.1%

TABLE 16
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY COUNTY WHERE A
REMOVAL OCCURRED FOR THE PERIOD
OCTOBER 1, 2016 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

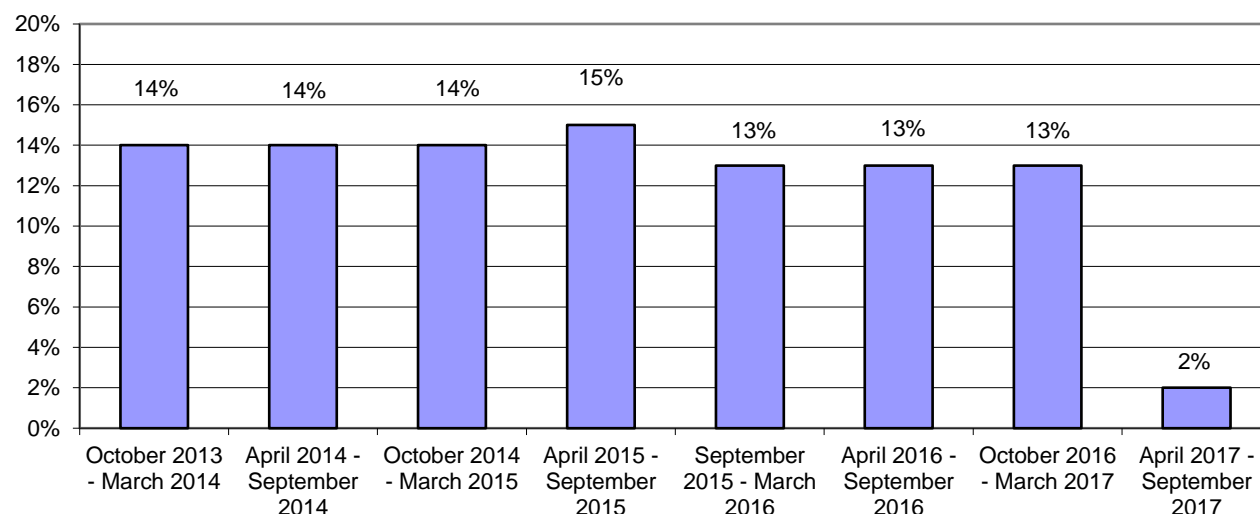
COUNTY	NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED	NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED WITH A REMOVAL	% OF REPORTS WHERE A CHILD WAS REMOVED
APACHE	75	5	6.7%
COCHISE	432	39	9.0%
COCONINO	351	38	10.8%
GILA	188	20	10.6%
GRAHAM	179	14	7.8%
GREENLEE	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	52	8	15.4%
MARICOPA	13,568	1,527	11.3%
MOHAVE	680	85	12.5%
NAVAJO	286	24	8.4%
PIMA	4,451	614	13.8%
PINAL	1,622	198	12.2%
SANTA CRUZ	109	10	9.2%
YAVAPAI	695	78	11.2%
YUMA	538	63	11.7%
STATEWIDE	23,226	2,723	11.7%

COMPLETED INVESTIGATIONS

A substantiated report occurs when the Department has determined that at least one of the allegations in the report of abuse and/or neglect is true. The number of reports that are considered substantiated are a subset of the total number of reports that were received, investigated, and closed during the reporting period.

The preliminary number of reports that are substantiated for the current reporting period is 497. For the prior reporting period, the number of reports that were assigned for investigation that resulted in substantiated findings was revised from 511 to 3,022. This number will change each reporting period as a result of subsequent decisions based on parents’ rights to due process as well as the completion of investigations and findings. As noted previously, the number of removals this reporting have decreased but the preliminary number of reports that are substantiated may also be a result of the high volume of cases still requiring review by the Protective Services Review Team and cases awaiting trial in Juvenile Court.

**CHART 11
SUBSTANTIATION RATE BY REPORTING PERIOD**



Information on both proposed substantiations and finalized substantiations is provided in the charts and tables below:

CHART 12
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY PRIORITY AND REPORTING PERIOD THAT RESULTED IN PROPOSED SUBSTANTIATION

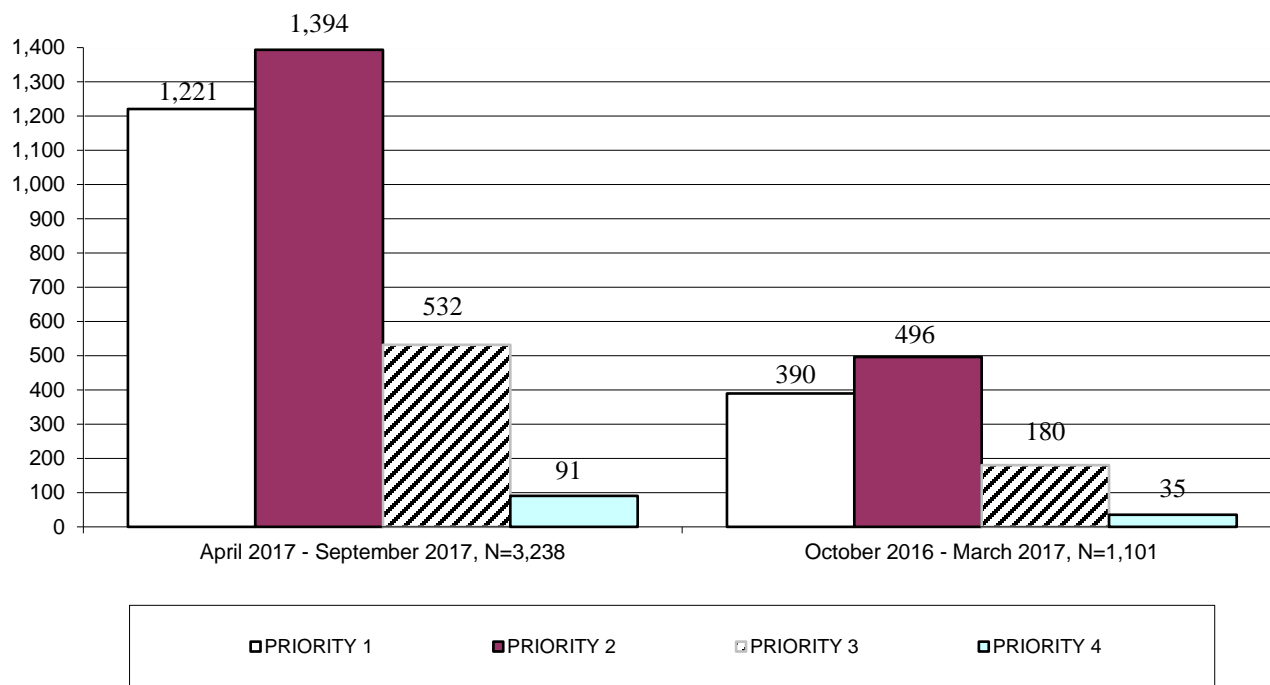


TABLE 17
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY PRIORITY AND COUNTY THAT RESULTED IN PROPOSED SUBSTANTIATION FOR PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

COUNTY	PRIORITY 1	PRIORITY 2	PRIORITY 3	PRIORITY 4	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	2	2	0	0	4	0.1%
COCHISE	15	23	9	0	47	1.5%
COCONINO	17	22	5	0	44	1.4%
GILA	17	14	5	0	36	1.1%
GRAHAM	14	8	4	0	26	0.8%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	2	6	2	0	10	0.3%
MARICOPA	830	836	311	75	2,052	63.4%
MOHAVE	53	55	18	0	126	3.9%
NAVAJO	12	15	5	0	32	0.9%
PIMA	120	256	112	3	491	15.2%
PINAL	67	93	39	12	211	6.5%
SANTA CRUZ	5	5	2	0	12	0.4%
YAVAPAI	26	44	17	1	88	2.7%
YUMA	41	15	3	0	59	1.8%
STATEWIDE	1,221	1,394	532	91	3,238	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	37.7%	43.1%	16.4%	2.8%	100.0%	

TABLE 18
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY PRIORITY AND COUNTY
THAT RESULTED IN PROPOSED SUBSTANTIATION FOR PERIOD OF
OCTOBER 1, 2016 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

COUNTY	PRIORITY 1	PRIORITY 2	PRIORITY 3	PRIORITY 4	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
COCHISE	2	6	4	0	12	1.1%
COCONINO	5	11	4	0	20	1.8%
GILA	3	4	1	0	8	0.7%
GRAHAM	0	3	0	0	3	0.3%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	3	1	1	0	5	0.5%
MARICOPA	259	272	114	25	670	61.0%
MOHAVE	13	16	4	0	33	2.9%
NAVAJO	1	2	1	0	4	0.3%
PIMA	52	92	25	2	171	15.5%
PINAL	33	65	19	7	124	11.3%
SANTA CRUZ	0	3	0	0	3	0.2%
YAVAPAI	6	12	3	1	22	2.0%
YUMA	13	9	4	0	26	2.4%
STATEWIDE	390	496	180	35	1,101	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	35.4%	45.1%	16.3%	3.2%	100.0%	

CHART 13
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT
THAT RESULTED IN PROPOSED SUBSTANTIATION

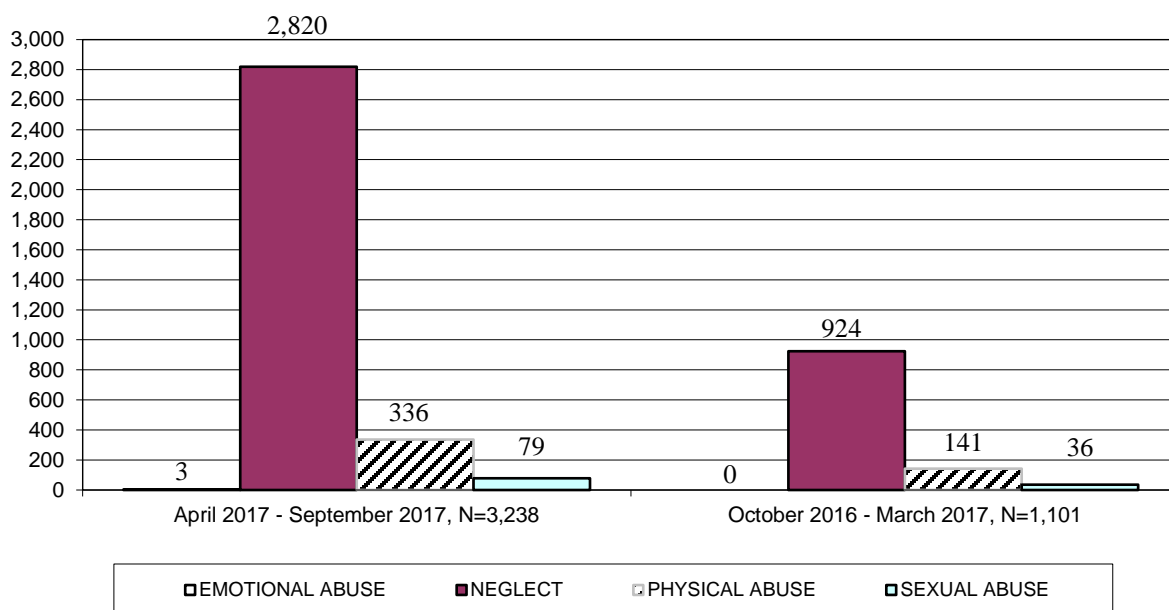


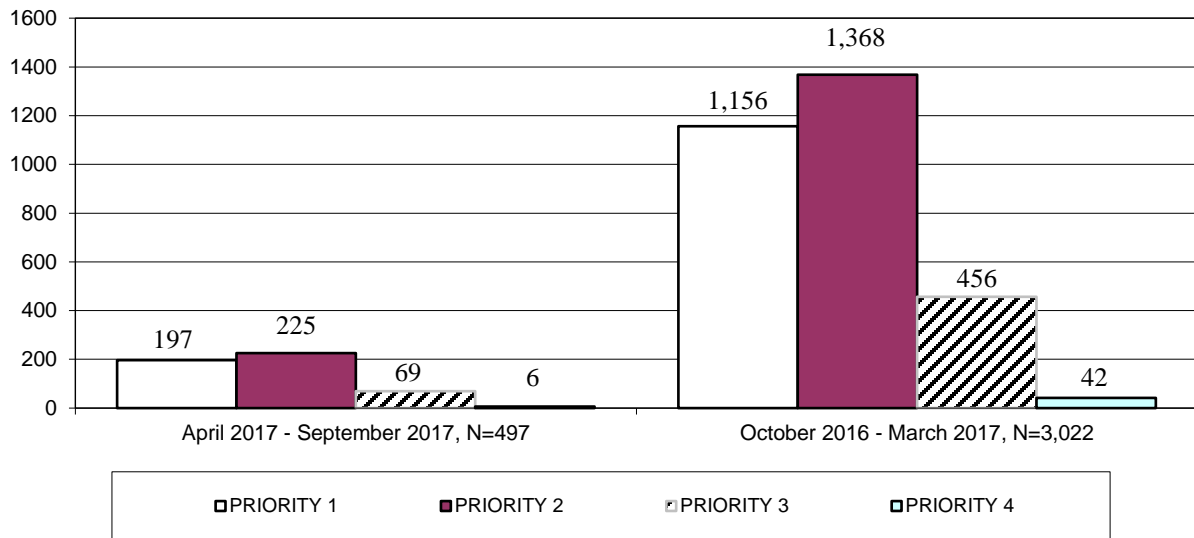
TABLE 19
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT
BY COUNTY THAT RESULTED IN PROPOSED SUBSTANTIATION FOR PERIOD OF
APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

COUNTY	EMOTIONAL ABUSE	NEGLECT	PHYSICAL ABUSE	SEXUAL ABUSE	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	4	0	0	4	0.1%
COCHISE	0	43	4	0	47	1.5%
COCONINO	0	37	6	1	44	1.4%
GILA	0	34	2	0	36	1.1%
GRAHAM	0	25	1	0	26	0.8%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	0	10	0	0	10	0.3%
MARICOPA	2	1,781	209	60	2,052	63.4%
MOHAVE	0	106	16	4	126	3.9%
NAVAJO	0	31	1	0	32	0.9%
PIMA	1	428	56	6	491	15.2%
PINAL	0	179	27	5	211	6.5%
SANTA CRUZ	0	11	0	1	12	0.4%
YAVAPAI	0	80	8	0	88	2.7%
YUMA	0	51	6	2	59	1.8%
STATEWIDE	3	2,820	336	79	3,238	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	0.1%	87.1%	10.4%	2.4%	100.0%	

TABLE 20
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT
BY COUNTY THAT RESULTED IN PROPOSED SUBSTANTIATION FOR PERIOD OF
OCTOBER 1, 2016 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

COUNTY	EMOTIONAL ABUSE	NEGLECT	PHYSICAL ABUSE	SEXUAL ABUSE	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
COCHISE	0	10	2	0	12	1.1%
COCONINO	0	20	0	0	20	1.8%
GILA	0	6	2	0	8	0.7%
GRAHAM	0	3	0	0	3	0.3%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	0	4	1	0	5	0.5%
MARICOPA	0	560	91	19	670	60.9%
MOHAVE	0	30	2	1	33	2.9%
NAVAJO	0	3	0	1	4	0.4%
PIMA	0	144	18	9	171	15.5%
PINAL	0	100	18	6	124	11.3%
SANTA CRUZ	0	3	0	0	3	0.3%
YAVAPAI	0	17	5	0	22	1.9%
YUMA	0	24	2	0	26	2.4%
STATEWIDE	0	924	141	36	1,101	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	0.0%	83.9%	12.8%	3.3%	100.0%	

CHART 14
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY PRIORITY AND
REPORTING PERIOD THAT RESULTED IN SUBSTANTIATION



**TABLE 21
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY PRIORITY AND COUNTY
THAT RESULTED IN SUBSTANTIATION FOR PERIOD OF
APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**

COUNTY	PRIORITY 1	PRIORITY 2	PRIORITY 3	PRIORITY 4	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
COCHISE	3	1	0	0	4	0.8%
COCONINO	3	1	0	0	4	0.8%
GILA	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
GRAHAM	1	0	0	0	1	0.2%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
MARICOPA	98	114	35	5	252	50.8%
MOHAVE	18	14	5	0	37	7.4%
NAVAJO	2	0	0	0	2	0.4%
PIMA	52	85	25	1	163	32.8%
PINAL	8	3	2	0	13	2.6%
SANTA CRUZ	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
YAVAPAI	5	3	2	0	10	2.0%
YUMA	7	4	0	0	11	2.2%
STATEWIDE	197	225	69	6	497	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	39.6%	45.3%	13.9%	1.2%	100.0%	

**TABLE 22
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY PRIORITY AND COUNTY
THAT RESULTED IN SUBSTANTIATION FOR PERIOD OF
OCTOBER 1, 2016 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017**

COUNTY	PRIORITY 1	PRIORITY 2	PRIORITY 3	PRIORITY 4	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	1	1	2	0	4	0.1%
COCHISE	22	25	11	0	58	1.9%
COCONINO	20	20	7	0	47	1.6%
GILA	11	14	5	0	30	1.0%
GRAHAM	8	9	3	0	20	0.7%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	1	6	2	0	9	0.3%
MARICOPA	723	707	270	35	1,735	57.4%
MOHAVE	58	57	17	0	132	4.4%
NAVAJO	18	8	4	0	30	1.0%
PIMA	182	404	102	5	693	22.9%
PINAL	39	43	14	1	97	3.2%
SANTA CRUZ	8	9	2	0	19	0.6%
YAVAPAI	39	42	10	1	92	3.0%
YUMA	26	23	7	0	56	1.9%
STATEWIDE	1,156	1,368	456	42	3,022	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	38.2%	45.4%	15.1%	1.3%	100.0%	

CHART 15
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT
THAT RESULTED IN SUBSTANTIATION

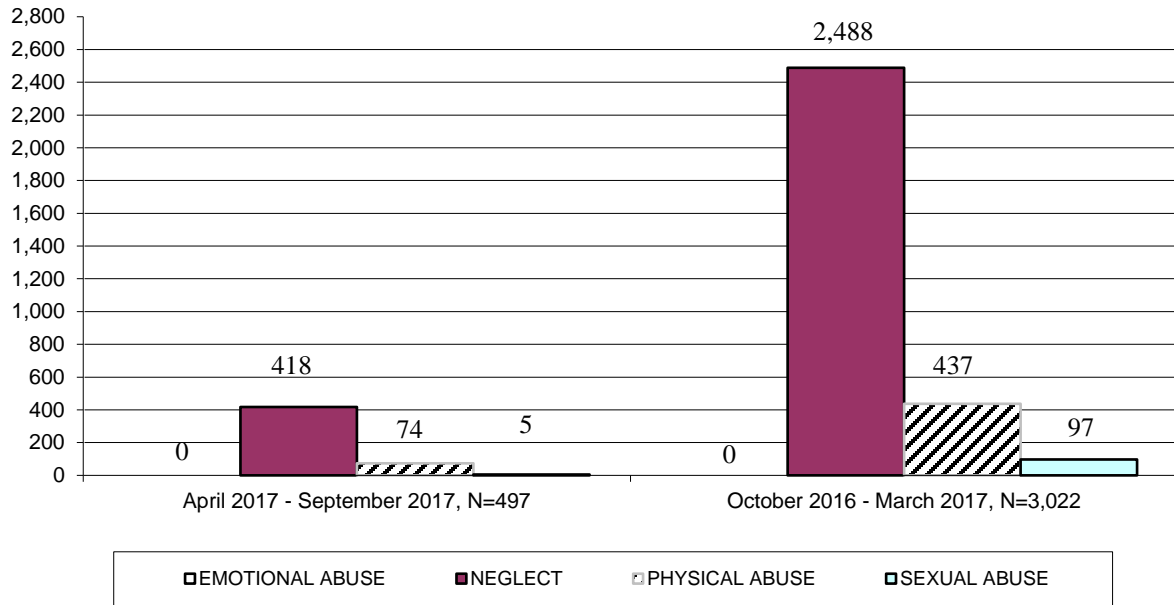


TABLE 23
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT
BY COUNTY THAT RESULTED IN SUBSTANTIATION FOR PERIOD OF
APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

COUNTY	EMOTIONAL ABUSE	NEGLECT	PHYSICAL ABUSE	SEXUAL ABUSE	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
COCHISE	0	3	1	0	4	0.8%
COCONINO	0	4	0	0	4	0.8%
GILA	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
GRAHAM	0	1	0	0	1	0.2%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
MARICOPA	0	210	40	2	252	50.8%
MOHAVE	0	34	2	1	37	7.4%
NAVAJO	0	2	0	0	2	0.4%
PIMA	0	137	24	2	163	32.8%
PINAL	0	10	3	0	13	2.6%
SANTA CRUZ	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
YAVAPAI	0	7	3	0	10	2.0%
YUMA	0	10	1	0	11	2.2%
STATEWIDE	0	418	74	5	497	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	0.0%	84.1%	14.9%	1.0%	100.0%	

TABLE 24
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT
BY COUNTY THAT RESULTED IN SUBSTANTIATION FOR PERIOD OF
OCTOBER 1, 2016 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

COUNTY	EMOTIONAL ABUSE	NEGLECT	PHYSICAL ABUSE	SEXUAL ABUSE	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	3	1	0	4	0.1%
COCHISE	0	45	11	2	58	1.9%
COCONINO	0	39	8	0	47	1.6%
GILA	0	24	5	1	30	1.0%
GRAHAM	0	17	2	1	20	0.7%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	0	6	3	0	9	0.3%
MARICOPA	0	1,425	252	58	1,735	57.4%
MOHAVE	0	108	20	4	132	4.4%
NAVAJO	0	25	3	2	30	1.0%
PIMA	0	581	96	16	693	22.9%
PINAL	0	79	12	6	97	3.2%
SANTA CRUZ	0	17	1	1	19	0.6%
YAVAPAI	0	78	13	1	92	3.0%
YUMA	0	41	10	5	56	1.9%
STATEWIDE	0	2,488	437	97	3,022	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	0.0%	82.3%	14.5%	3.2%	100.0%	

CHART 16
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY PRIORITY AND
REPORTING PERIOD THAT RESULTED IN UNSUBSTANTIATION

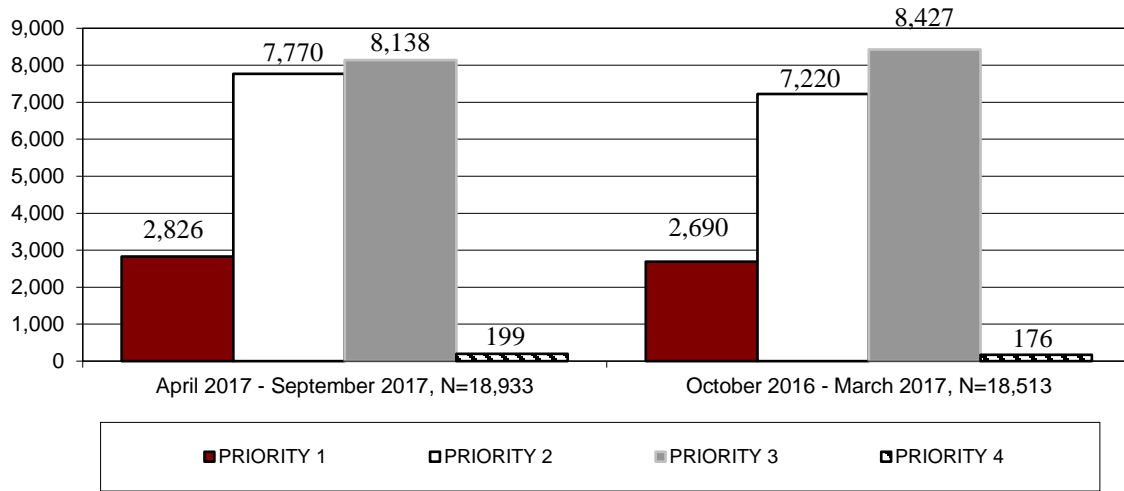


TABLE 25
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY PRIORITY AND COUNTY
THAT RESULTED IN UNSUBSTANTIATION FOR PERIOD OF
APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

COUNTY	PRIORITY 1	PRIORITY 2	PRIORITY 3	PRIORITY 4	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	4	37	27	0	68	0.4%
COCHISE	58	131	177	2	368	1.9%
COCONINO	47	128	131	5	311	1.6%
GILA	22	82	55	2	161	0.9%
GRAHAM	26	58	56	1	141	0.7%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	9	16	13	0	38	0.2%
MARICOPA	1,709	4,418	4,687	128	10,942	57.9%
MOHAVE	85	269	238	0	592	3.1%
NAVAJO	34	124	109	1	268	1.4%
PIMA	432	1,490	1,639	37	3,598	19.1%
PINAL	236	554	548	15	1,353	7.1%
SANTA CRUZ	11	32	35	0	78	0.4%
YAVAPAI	70	243	253	6	572	3.0%
YUMA	83	188	170	2	443	2.3%
STATEWIDE	2,826	7,770	8,138	199	18,933	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	14.9%	41.0%	43.0%	1.1%	100.0%	

TABLE 26
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY PRIORITY AND COUNTY
THAT RESULTED IN UNSUBSTANTIATION FOR PERIOD OF
OCTOBER 1, 2016 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

COUNTY	PRIORITY 1	PRIORITY 2	PRIORITY 3	PRIORITY 4	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	5	30	36	0	71	0.4%
COCHISE	52	141	164	2	359	1.9%
COCONINO	36	104	132	2	274	1.5%
GILA	28	66	51	2	147	0.8%
GRAHAM	20	54	74	1	149	0.8%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	7	17	14	0	38	0.2%
MARICOPA	1,608	4,138	4,923	105	10,774	58.2%
MOHAVE	69	187	228	4	488	2.6%
NAVAJO	40	106	101	1	248	1.3%
PIMA	429	1,387	1,658	37	3,511	19.0%
PINAL	218	542	572	18	1,350	7.3%
SANTA CRUZ	8	37	39	0	84	0.5%
YAVAPAI	86	218	261	4	569	3.1%
YUMA	84	193	174	0	451	2.4%
STATEWIDE	2,690	7,220	8,427	176	18,513	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	14.7%	39.7%	44.7%	0.9%	100.0%	

CHART 17
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT
THAT RESULTED IN UNSUBSTANTIATION BY REPORTING PERIOD

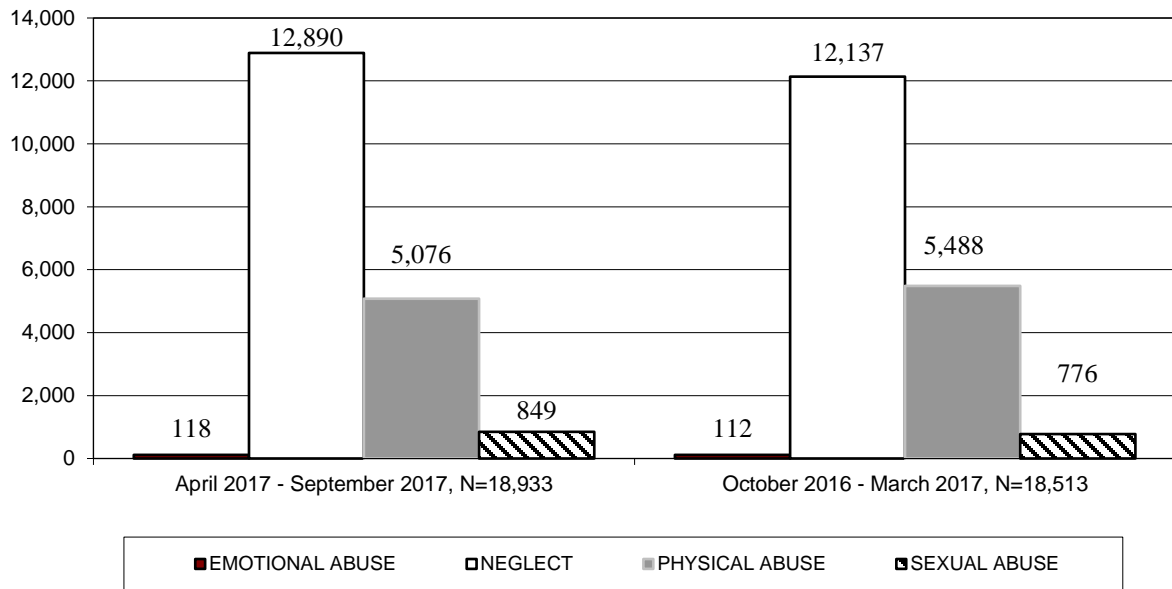


TABLE 27
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT
BY COUNTY THAT RESULTED IN UNSUBSTANTIATION FOR PERIOD OF
APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

COUNTY	EMOTIONAL ABUSE	NEGLECT	PHYSICAL ABUSE	SEXUAL ABUSE	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	48	18	2	68	0.4%
COCHISE	3	259	91	15	368	1.9%
COCONINO	4	222	77	8	311	1.6%
GILA	0	116	33	12	161	0.9%
GRAHAM	1	102	28	10	141	0.7%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	0	28	8	2	38	0.2%
MARICOPA	68	7,309	3,060	505	10,942	57.9%
MOHAVE	0	417	145	30	592	3.1%
NAVAJO	0	186	71	11	268	1.4%
PIMA	27	2,524	905	142	3,598	19.1%
PINAL	6	910	366	71	1,353	7.1%
SANTA CRUZ	2	48	27	1	78	0.4%
YAVAPAI	2	416	136	18	572	3.0%
YUMA	5	305	111	22	443	2.3%
STATEWIDE	118	12,890	5,076	849	18,933	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	0.6%	68.1%	26.8%	4.5%	100.0%	

TABLE 28
NUMBER OF REPORTS ASSIGNED FOR INVESTIGATION BY TYPE OF MALTREATMENT
BY COUNTY THAT RESULTED IN UNSUBSTANTIATION FOR PERIOD OF
OCTOBER 1, 2016 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

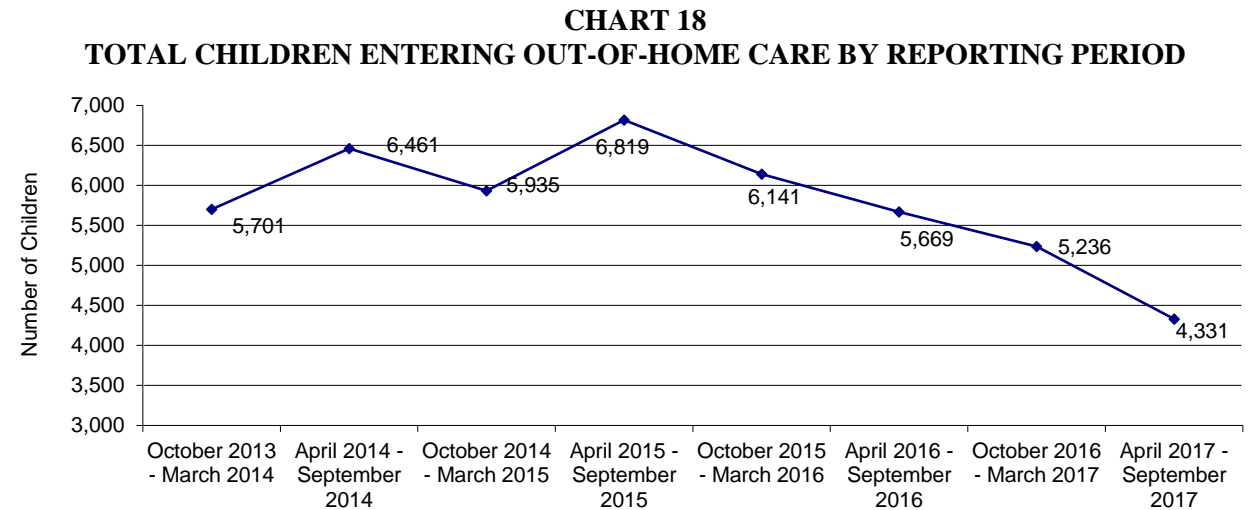
COUNTY	EMOTIONAL ABUSE	NEGLECT	PHYSICAL ABUSE	SEXUAL ABUSE	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	1	50	16	4	71	0.4%
COCHISE	1	249	94	15	359	1.9%
COCONINO	1	178	82	13	274	1.5%
GILA	2	107	28	10	147	0.8%
GRAHAM	0	111	32	6	149	0.8%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	0	28	7	3	38	0.2%
MARICOPA	61	6,856	3,416	441	10,774	58.2%
MOHAVE	3	335	137	13	488	2.6%
NAVAJO	2	178	60	8	248	1.3%
PIMA	24	2,394	974	119	3,511	19.0%
PINAL	13	896	364	77	1,350	7.3%
SANTA CRUZ	0	49	31	4	84	0.5%
YAVAPAI	2	398	131	38	569	3.1%
YUMA	2	308	116	25	451	2.4%
STATEWIDE	112	12,137	5,488	776	18,513	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	0.6%	65.6%	29.6%	4.2%	100.0%	

SAFE HAVEN INFANTS

Communications from providers indicate that there was one newborn infants delivered to Safe Haven providers during the October 2016 – March 2017 reporting period. This compares to one newborn infant being delivered to Safe Haven providers during the prior reporting period.

CHILDREN ENTERING OUT-OF-HOME CARE

During the current reporting period, 4,331 children entered care, which represents a 17.3 percent decrease in children entering care over the prior reporting period and a 23.6 percent decrease over the same reporting period last year. The number of children exiting care is now outpacing the number of children entering care (see Table 35 for children exiting care).



CHILDREN ENTERING OUT-OF-HOME CARE – VOLUNTARY SERVICES

Voluntary foster care may be provided when the parents or legal guardians of a child have requested such assistance and have signed a legally binding written agreement for the temporary placement of the child in foster care while risk factors are addressed to enable the child to live safely at home. A.R.S. § 8-806 authorizes the Department to provide voluntary foster care placement for children for a period not to exceed 90 days and no more than twice within 24 consecutive months unless a dependency petition is pending.

**TABLE 29
NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENTERING OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY COUNTY WHO ARE
VOLUNTARY PLACEMENTS FOR CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN FOR THE
PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**

COUNTY	NUMBER OF CHILDREN REMOVED	% OF TOTAL REMOVALS	NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENTERING OUT-OF-HOME CARE UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN WHO ARE VOLUNTARY PLACEMENTS	% OF CHILDREN ENTERING OUT-OF-HOME CARE WHO ARE VOLUNTARY PLACEMENTS
APACHE	6	0.1%	0	0.0%
COCHISE	73	1.7%	0	0.0%
COCONINO	37	0.9%	0	0.0%
GILA	33	0.7%	0	0.0%
GRAHAM	34	0.8%	0	0.0%
GREENLEE	0	0%	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	15	0.3%	0	0.0%
MARICOPA	2,498	57.7%	15	0.6%
MOHAVE	149	3.4%	0	0.0%
NAVAJO	24	0.6%	0	0.0%
PIMA	952	22%	19	2.0%
PINAL	269	6.2%	1	0.4%
SANTA CRUZ	10	0.2%	0	0.0%
YAVAPAI	137	3.2%	0	0.0%
YUMA	94	2.2%	2	2.1%
STATEWIDE	4,331	100%	37	0.9%

**TABLE 30
 NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENTERING OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY COUNTY WHO ARE
 VOLUNTARY PLACEMENTS FOR CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN FOR THE
 PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2016 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017**

COUNTY	NUMBER OF CHILDREN REMOVED	% OF TOTAL REMOVALS	NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENTERING OUT-OF-HOME CARE UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN WHO ARE VOLUNTARY PLACEMENTS	% OF CHILDREN ENTERING OUT-OF-HOME CARE WHO ARE VOLUNTARY PLACEMENTS
APACHE	6	0.1%	1	16.7%
COCHISE	84	1.6%	0	0.0%
COCONINO	57	1.1%	1	1.8%
GILA	32	0.6%	0	0.0%
GRAHAM	37	0.7%	0	0.0%
GREENLEE	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	20	0.4%	0	0.0%
MARICOPA	2,969	56.7%	44	1.5%
MOHAVE	179	3.4%	1	0.6%
NAVAJO	40	0.8%	2	5.0%
PIMA	1,179	22.5%	46	3.9%
PINAL	341	6.5%	2	0.6%
SANTA CRUZ	22	0.4%	0	0.0%
YAVAPAI	150	2.9%	1	0.7%
YUMA	120	2.3%	4	3.3%
STATEWIDE	5,236	100.0%	102	1.9%

NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENTERING OUT-OF-HOME CARE

The total number of children entering out-of-home care (of which voluntary placements are a subset) in the current reporting period was 4,331, which represents a decrease of 17.3 percent in the total number of children entering out-of-home care from the prior reporting period. Chart 19 displays the number of removed children, and then further differentiates new removals by providing the number with a prior removal in the past 12 months and the past 12 to 24 months.

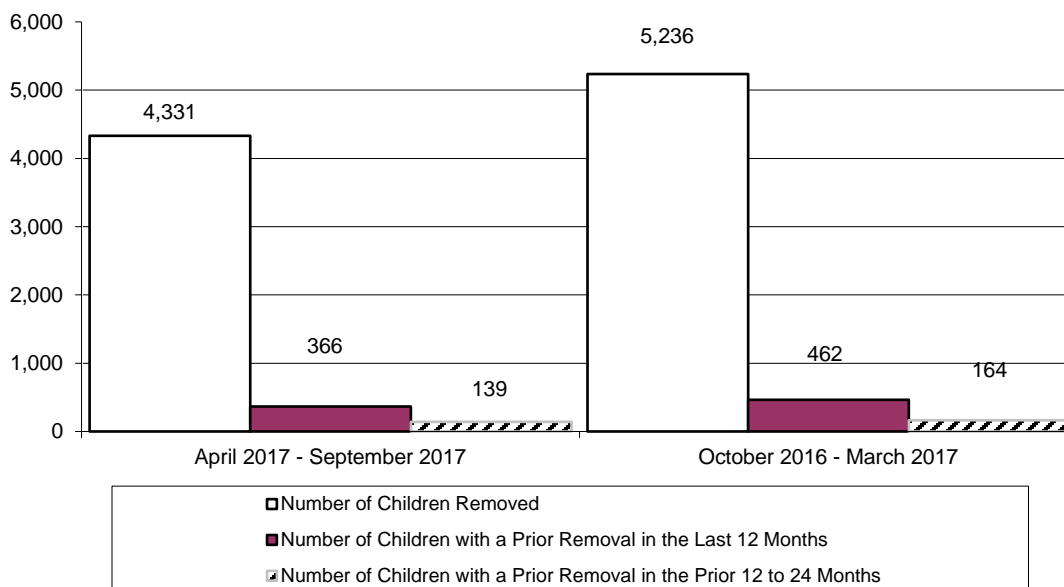
**TABLE 31
NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENTERING OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY COUNTY FOR THE
PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**

COUNTY	NUMBER OF CHILDREN REMOVED	% OF TOTAL REMOVALS	NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A PRIOR REMOVAL IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS	% OF CHILDREN WITH A PRIOR REMOVAL IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS	NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A REMOVAL IN THE PRIOR 12 TO 24 MONTHS	% OF CHILDREN WITH A REMOVAL IN THE PRIOR 12 TO 24 MONTHS
APACHE	6	0.1%	0	0.0%	1	16.7%
COCHISE	73	1.7%	2	2.7%	4	5.5%
COCONINO	37	0.9%	2	5.4%	3	8.1%
GILA	33	0.8%	0	0.0%	1	3.0%
GRAHAM	34	0.8%	2	5.9%	0	0.0%
GREENLEE	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	15	0.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
MARICOPA	2,498	57.8%	216	8.6%	82	3.3%
MOHAVE	149	3.4%	10	6.7%	2	1.3%
NAVAJO	24	0.6%	3	12.5%	0	0.0%
PIMA	952	22.0%	94	9.8%	35	3.7%
PINAL	269	6.2%	20	7.4%	4	1.5%
SANTA CRUZ	10	0.2%	2	20.0%	0	0.0%
YAVAPAI	137	3.2%	10	7.2%	2	1.5%
YUMA	94	2.2%	5	5.3%	5	5.3%
STATEWIDE	4,331	100%	366	8.5%	139	3.2%

TABLE 32
NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENTERING OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2016 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017

COUNTY	NUMBER OF CHILDREN REMOVED	% OF TOTAL REMOVALS	NUMBER CHILDREN WITH PRIOR REMOVAL IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS	% OF CHILDREN WITH A PRIOR REMOVAL IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS	NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A REMOVAL IN THE PRIOR 12 TO 24 MONTHS	% OF CHILDREN WITH A REMOVAL IN THE PRIOR 12 TO 24 MONTHS
APACHE	6	0.1%	0	0.0%	1	16.7%
COCHISE	84	1.6%	3	3.6%	3	3.6%
COCONINO	57	1.1%	4	7.0%	3	5.3%
GILA	32	0.6%	0	0.0%	1	3.1%
GRAHAM	37	0.7%	2	5.4%	0	0.0%
GREENLEE	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	20	0.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
MARICOPA	2,969	56.7%	270	9.1%	93	3.1%
MOHAVE	179	3.4%	11	6.1%	7	3.9%
NAVAJO	40	0.8%	3	7.5%	0	0.0%
PIMA	1,179	22.5%	127	10.8%	39	3.3%
PINAL	341	6.5%	23	6.7%	7	2.1%
SANTA CRUZ	22	0.4%	2	9.1%	0	0.0%
YAVAPAI	150	2.9%	11	7.3%	3	2.0%
YUMA	120	2.3%	6	5.0%	7	5.8%
STATEWIDE	5,236	100.0%	462	8.8%	164	3.1%

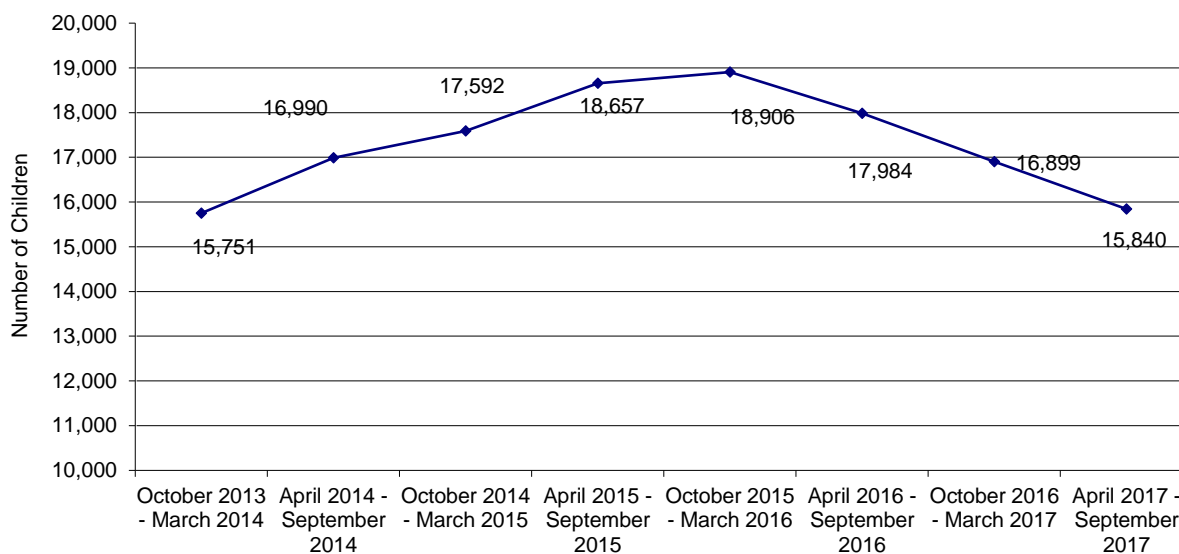
CHART 19
NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENTERING OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY REPORTING PERIOD



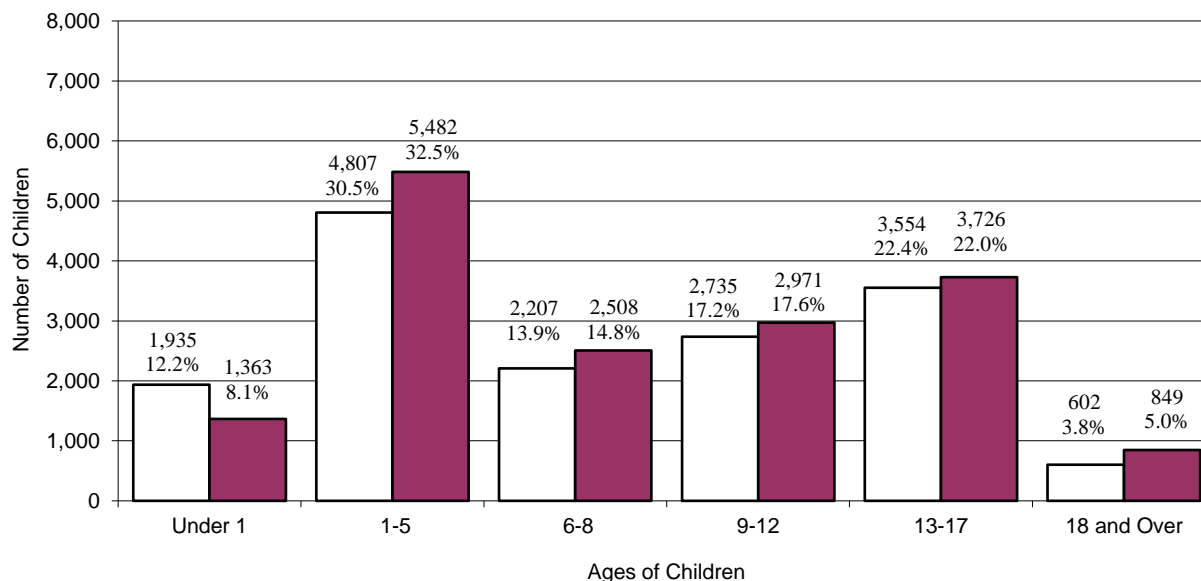
CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE

Chart 20 below shows the number of children in out-of-home care on the last day of the current and past reporting periods 12,512 (79.2 percent) children were placed in family settings either with relatives or in foster homes.

**CHART 20
NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE ON THE LAST DAY OF THE REPORTING PERIOD BY REPORTING PERIOD**



**CHART 21
THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY AGE**



September 30, 2017, N=15,840
 March 31, 2017, N=16,899

CHART 22
THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY ETHNICITY

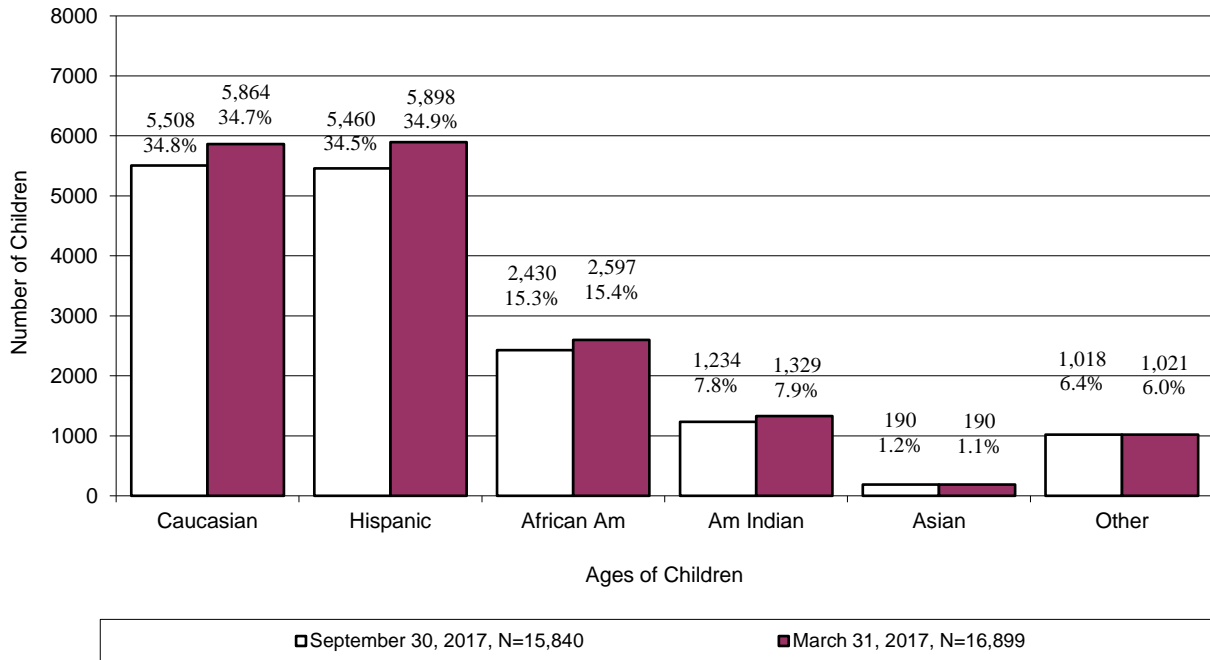


CHART 23
THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY CASE PLAN GOAL

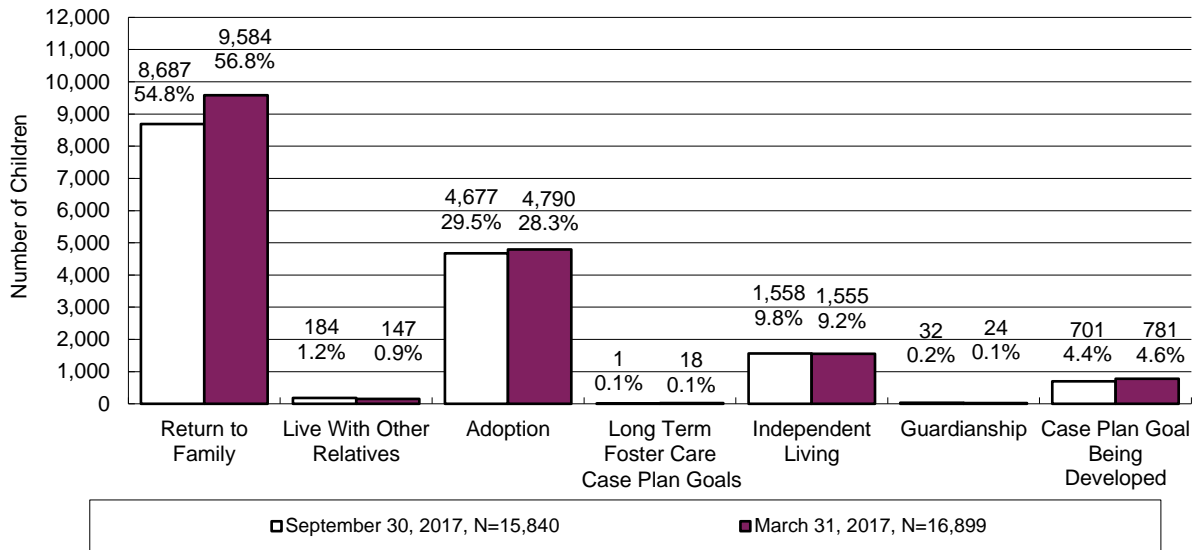
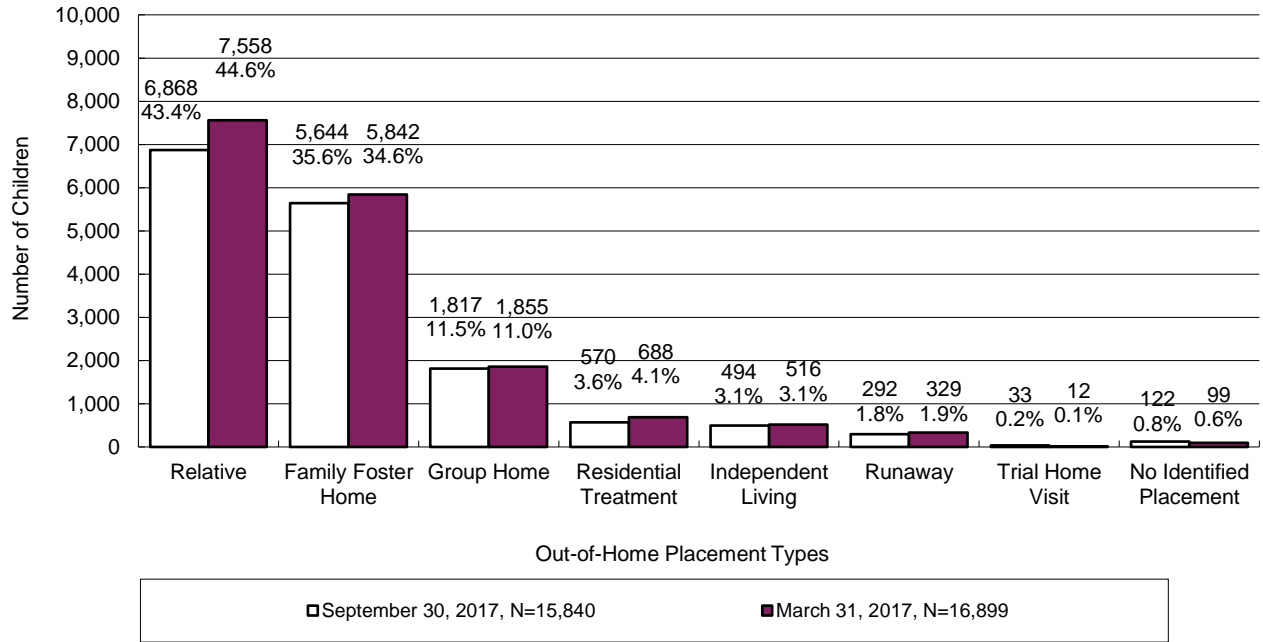


CHART 24
THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY PLACEMENT TYPE⁴



⁴ When children do not have a placement identified in the CHILDS database, this is most often attributable to a lag in data entry or data errors. This data is updated on an ongoing basis through a continuous quality assurance process.

**TABLE 33
THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY PLACEMENT TYPE AND AGE**

	RELATIVE	FAMILY FOSTER	GROUP HOME	RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT ⁵	INDEPENDENT LIVING	RUNAWAY / ABSCONDED ⁶	TRIAL HOME VISIT	NO IDENTIFIED PLACEMENT	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
UNDER	572	646	3	4	0	6	2	4	1,237	7.8%
1	671	629	1	1	0	2	0	7	1,311	8.3%
2	587	500	7	2	0	1	1	4	1,102	7.0%
3	553	430	9	4	0	3	1	5	1,005	6.3%
4	463	415	11	2	0	3	3	3	900	5.7%
5	424	367	19	3	0	2	0	4	819	5.2%
6	404	308	19	3	0	1	3	4	742	4.7%
7	385	293	39	6	0	1	2	4	730	4.6%
8	354	294	60	7	0	0	0	4	719	4.5%
9	388	266	90	6	0	3	1	3	757	4.8%
10	367	250	85	8	0	2	2	9	723	4.6%
11	310	238	123	13	0	3	0	4	691	4.4%
12	285	199	129	29	0	2	4	4	652	4.1%
13	235	136	153	29	0	12	1	6	572	3.6%
14	240	160	160	61	0	21	1	5	648	4.1%
15	230	136	224	89	0	39	3	11	732	4.6%
16	210	147	231	106	0	68	3	11	776	4.9%
17	155	137	300	139	5	121	5	17	879	5.5%
18 AND OLDER	38	90	154	58	489	2	1	13	845	5.3%
TOTAL	6,871	5,641	1,817	570	494	292	33	122	15,840	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	43.4%	35.6%	11.5%	3.6%	3.1%	1.8%	0.2%	0.8%	100.0%	

⁵ This category includes shelter, detention, and hospital placement types.

⁶ This category includes children whose parents absconded with the child(ren) during this reporting period.

CHART 25
NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN IN SHELTER OR RECEIVING HOMES FOR MORE THAN 21 CONSECUTIVE DAYS BY AGE OF CHILD⁷

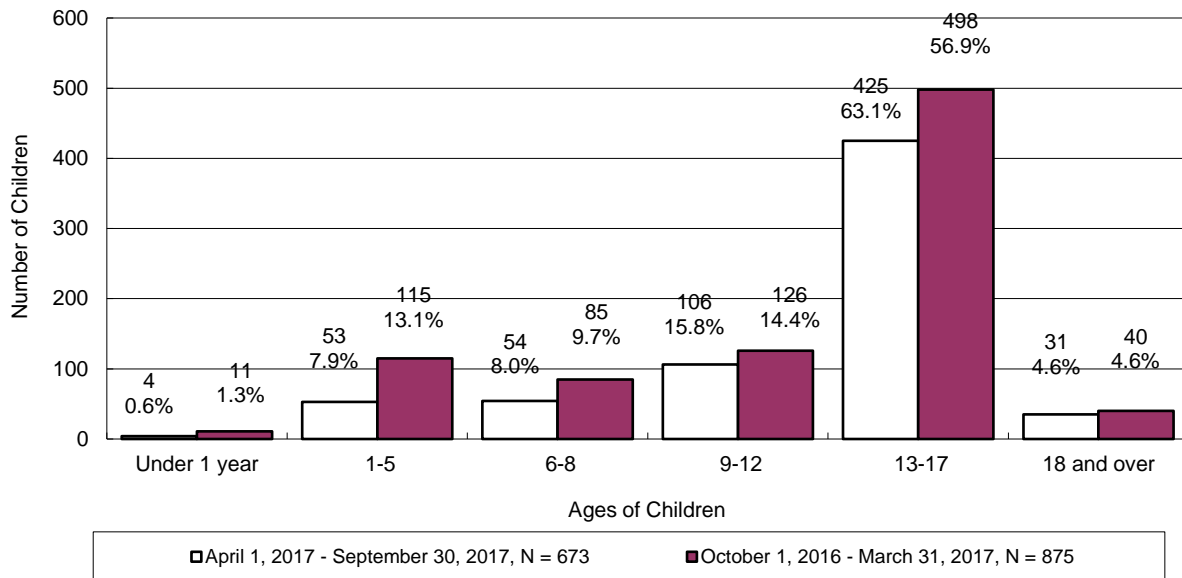
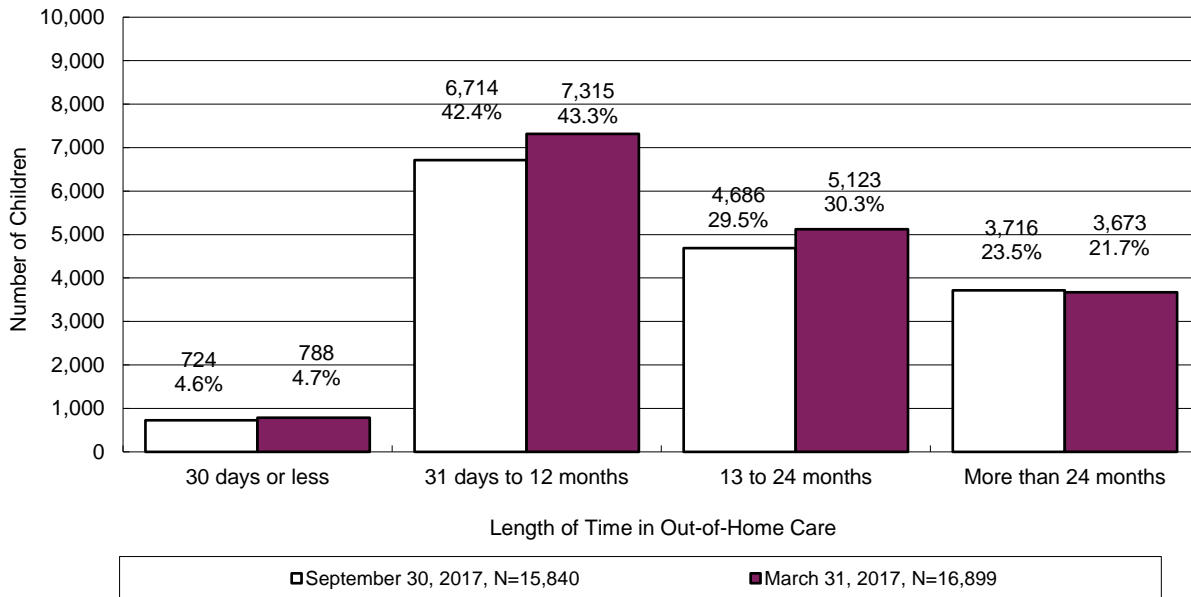


CHART 26
THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY LENGTH OF TIME IN CARE



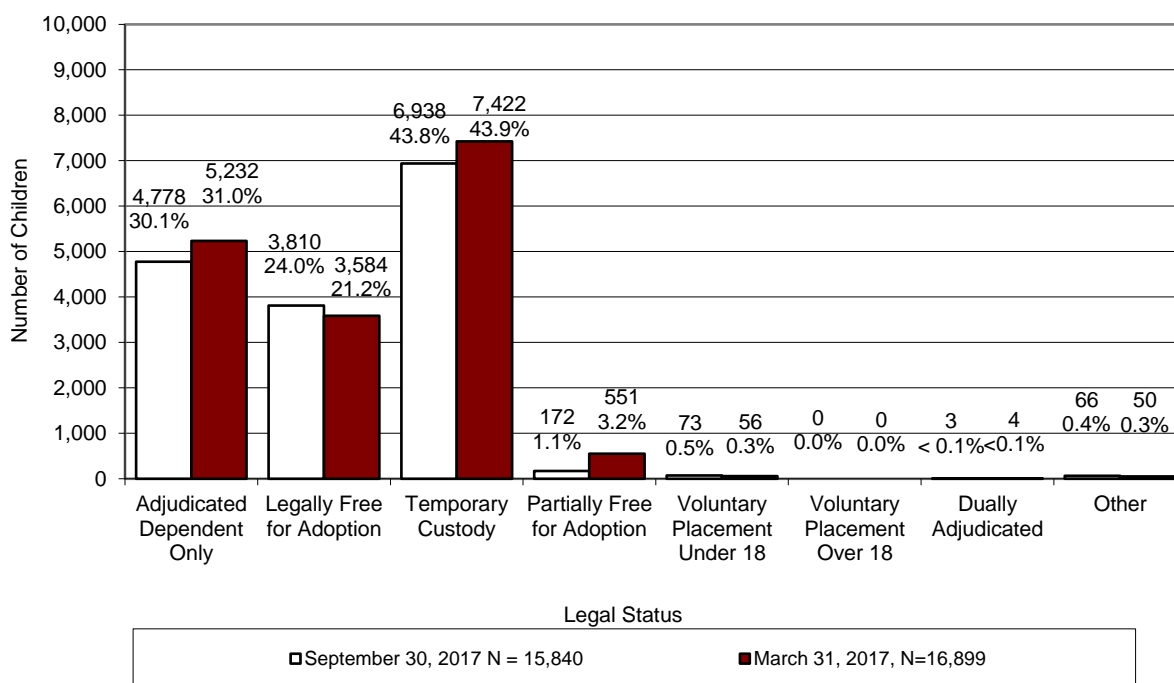
⁷ The chart displays children who spent more than 21 days in a shelter during the period. This number differs from the other out-of-home charts as they display children in out-of-home care on the last day of the reporting period.

**TABLE 34
PLACEMENT INFORMATION FOR CHILDREN IN
OUT-OF-HOME CARE ON September 30, 2017**

	Placements
Average	2.6
Median	2.0
Range Minimum	1
Range Maximum	59 ⁸

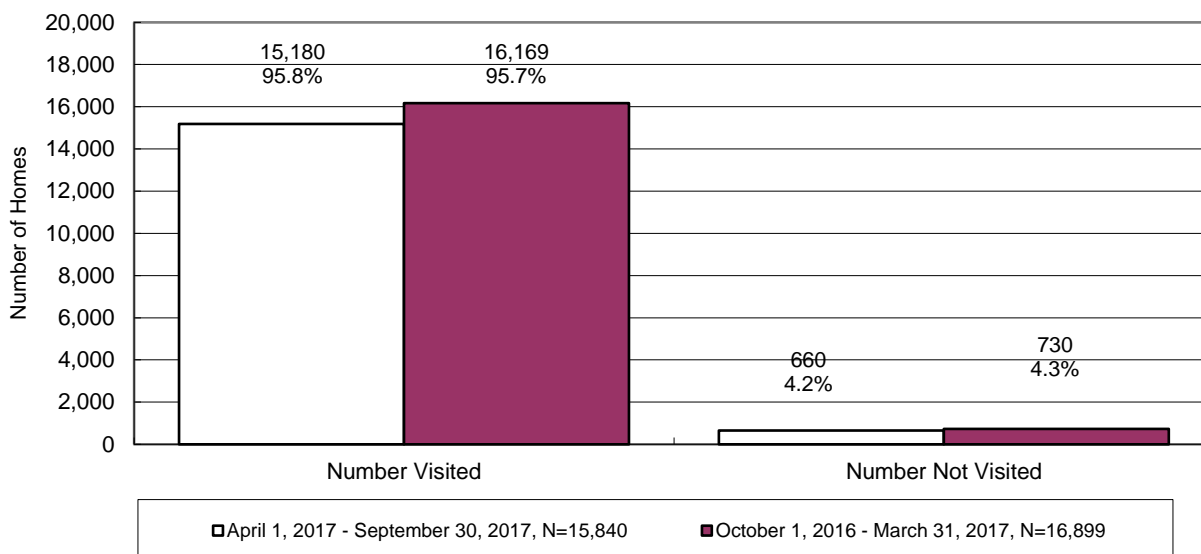
Chart 27 demonstrates that the vast majority of children in out-of-home care fall into one of three legal statuses – adjudicated dependent, legally free for adoption, and children in the Department’s temporary custody.

**CHART 27
CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY LEGAL STATUS**



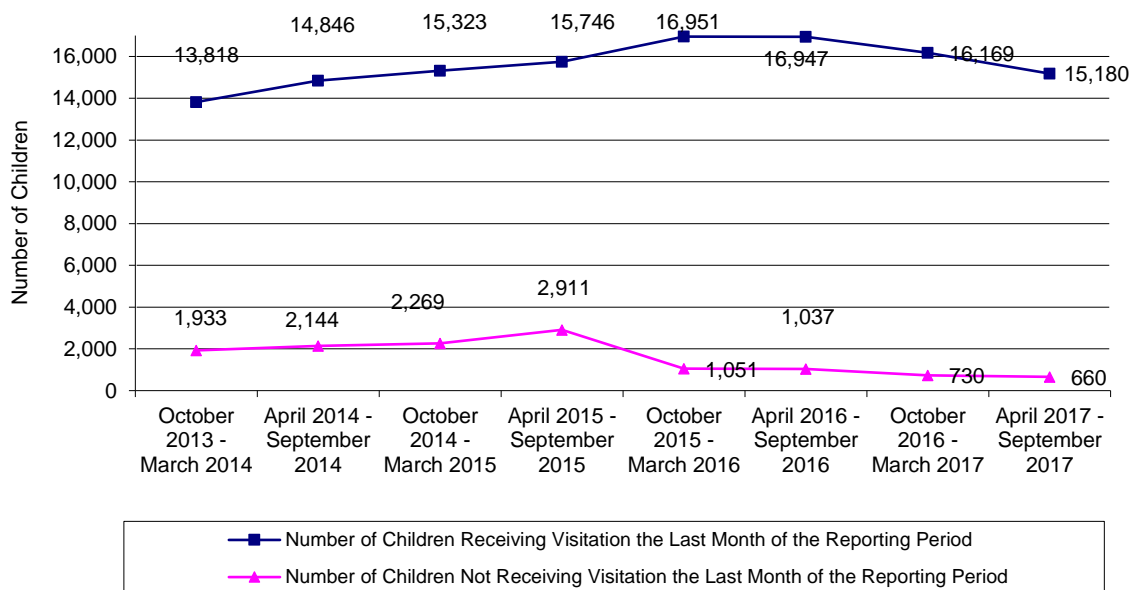
⁸ Some children are so impacted by the severity of the abuse they have suffered that they become unable to form meaningful relationships or to respond to services. These children tend to go through multiple placements with numerous individuals and agencies.

CHART 28
THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED THE REQUIRED VISITATION



Department policy requires specialists to have face-to-face contact with all parents at least once a month, including any alleged parents and parents residing outside of the child’s home where the case plan goal is family reunification. During the current reporting period, there were 4,792 parents who had a child with the case plan goal of reunification. Of those parents requiring visitation, 2,705 (56.5 percent) received the required visitation. This number does not reflect attempted visitation where contact with the parent(s) did not take place.

CHART 29
NUMBER OF CHILDREN RECEIVING AND NOT RECEIVING VISITATION BY REPORTING PERIOD



FOSTER HOME LICENSING, CLOSURES, & VISITATION

As of September 30, 2017 there were 4,881⁹ foster homes licensed for a total capacity of 11,092 spaces. Of these spaces, 3,069 are reported by contractors to be unavailable for placements. Reasons for this include, but are not limited to, beds held for respite, readiness assessment by the contractor, specific high needs of a child currently placed in the home, foster parents' need for temporary reprieve from placements and investigations or corrective action plans.

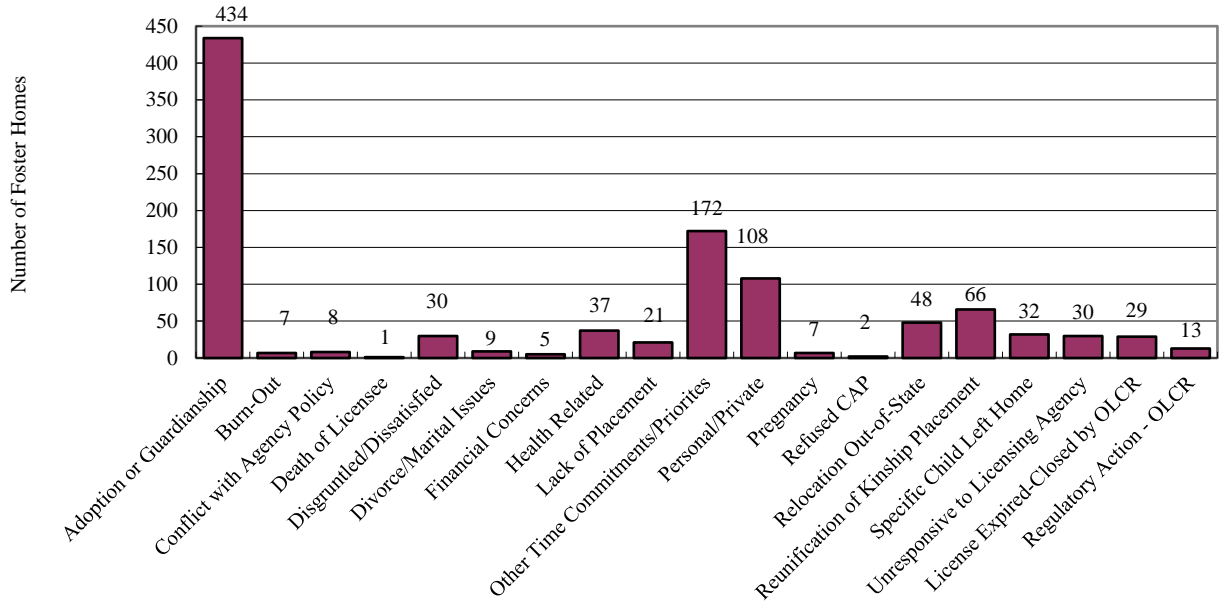
As mentioned previously, the Department has been working to improve processes to identify bed capacity and availability. The Bed Management Unit examined 'bed hold' definitions, restricted beds and bed status. Additionally, this unit is working to gain a better understanding of the needs of the Department when addressing the consistency and accuracy of how we collect information on the usable contracted beds.

Licensed foster homes include family foster homes, professional family foster homes (HCTC homes), respite foster homes, receiving foster homes, and developmentally disabled homes with DCS children placed in them. Foster home licenses specify the age range, gender and maximum number of children that can be placed in a home. Foster parents, in consultation with the licensing worker, decide the type of physical, behavioral, and psychological needs of children they can effectively parent based upon their own skill level, experiences, and desires.

During the current reporting period, 850 new homes were licensed to provide foster care and 1,059 homes left the system. This compares to 1,071 new homes being licensed and 963 homes leaving the system during the prior reporting period. The following chart gives the reasons for foster home closures for the current reporting period.

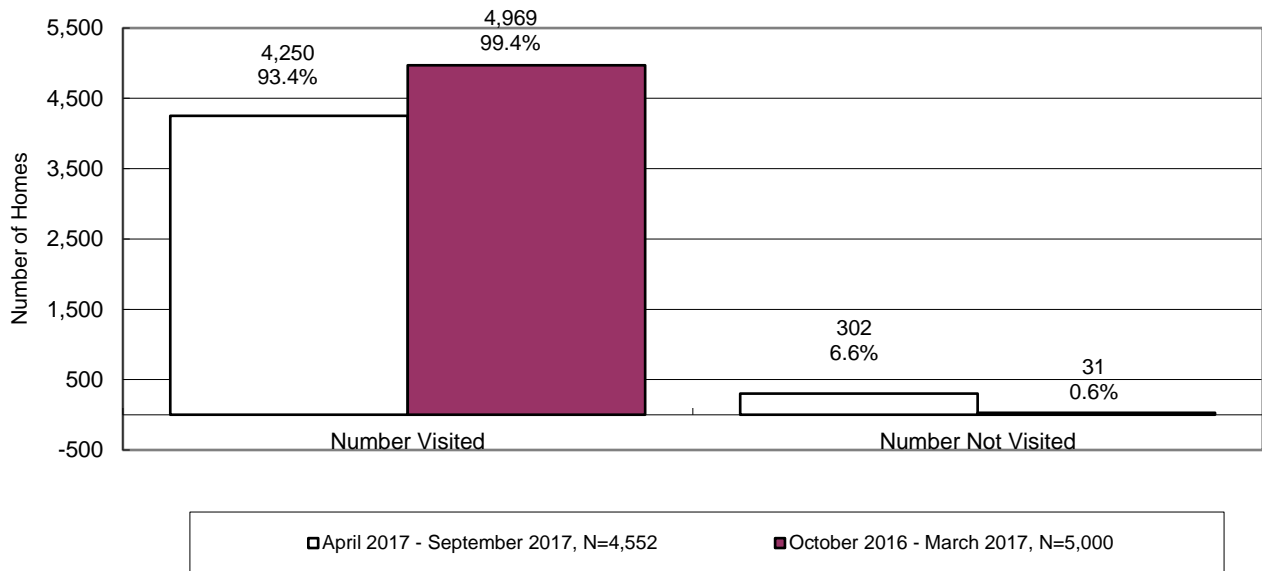
⁹ The number of homes cited in this report differs from the number cited by the Office of Licensing, Certification & Regulation (OLCR) due to the fact that the DCS utilizes both foster homes managed through HRSS contracts as well as homes that are licensed for developmental disabilities, licensed by the tribes, etc.

CHART 30
REASON FOR FOSTER HOME CLOSURE FOR THE PERIOD OF
OCTOBER 1, 2016 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2017



N=1,059

CHART 31
THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF FOSTER HOMES WHO RECEIVED THE
REQUIRED VISITATION*



*Required visitations to foster homes, for license monitoring purposes, are performed by licensing agency specialist.

CHILDREN EXITING OUT-OF-HOME CARE

Table 35 shows the history of the number of children who left the custody of the Department.

**TABLE 35
CHILDREN EXITING OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY PERIOD**

REPORTING PERIOD	NUMBER OF CHILDREN DISCHARGED	% CHANGE OVER PRIOR PERIOD
APRIL 2013 – SEPTEMBER 2013	4,805	+2.9%
OCTOBER 2013 – MARCH 2014	4,786	-0.4%
APRIL 2014 – SEPTEMBER 2014	5,042	+5.3%
OCTOBER 2014 – MARCH 2015	5,063	+0.4%
APRIL 2015 – SEPTEMBER 2015	5,555	+9.7%
OCTOBER 2015 – MARCH 2016	5,668	+2.0%
APRIL 2016 – SEPTEMBER 2016	6,377	+12.5%
OCTOBER 2016 – MARCH 2017	6,153	-3.5%
APRIL 2017 – SEPTEMBER 2017	5,874	-4.5%

**CHART 32
CHILDREN ENTERING AND EXITING OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY REPORTING PERIOD**

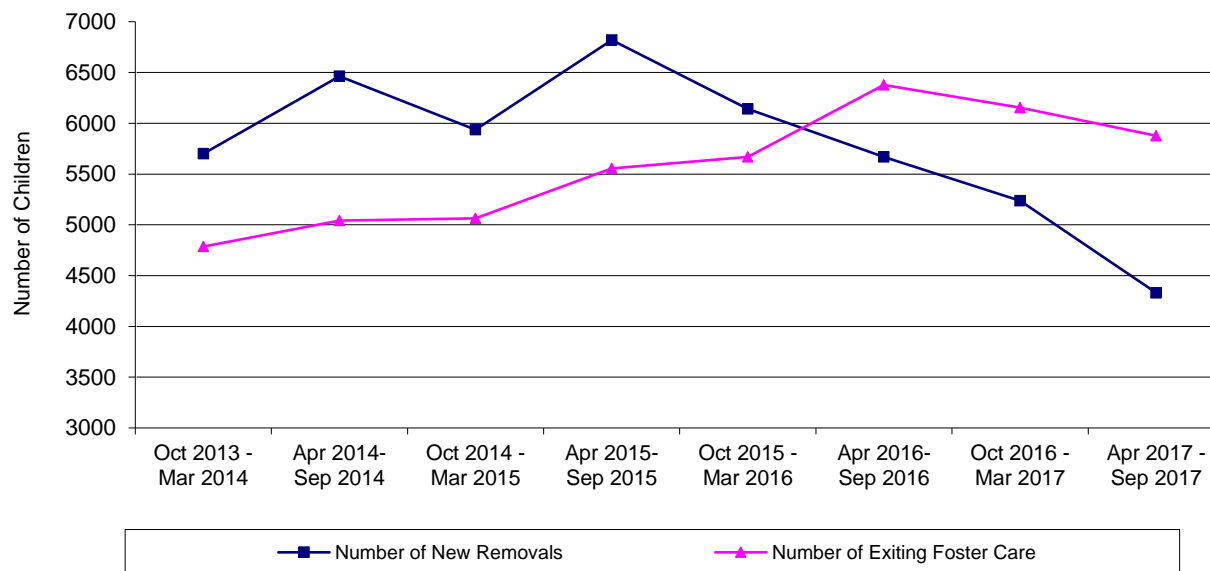


TABLE 36
TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXITING DCS CUSTODY FOR THE END OF THE
REPORTING PERIOD ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	283	4.8%
Ages 1 to 5	2,095	35.7%
Ages 6 to 8	923	15.7%
Ages 9 to 12	1,034	17.6%
Ages 13 to 17	1,059	18.0%
18 and Over	480	8.2%
Total	5,874	100.0%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
Caucasian	2,016	34.3%
Hispanic	2,093	35.7%
African American	907	15.4%
American Indian	435	7.4%
Asian	70	1.2%
Other	353	6.0%
Total	5,874	100.0%
By Number of Placements	Number	Percentage
One	2,872	49.0%
Two	1,369	23.3%
Three	725	12.3%
Four	360	6.1%
Five	195	3.3%
More than Five	353	6.0%
Total	5,874	100.0%
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 Days	656	11.2%
31 Days to 12 Months	1,566	26.6%
13 to 24 Months	1,998	34.0%
More than 24 Months	1,654	28.2%
Total	5,874	100.0%

	Average	Median
By Age	8.62	7.83
By Number of Placements	2.28	2.00
By Months of Time in Care	18.38	16.31

TABLE 37
NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN EXITING DCS CUSTODY
FOR REASON OF “REUNIFICATION WITH PARENTS OR PRIMARY CARETAKER” FOR
THE REPORTING PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	201	7.2%
Ages 1 to 5	942	33.7%
Ages 6 to 8	511	18.3%
Ages 9 to 12	534	19.1%
Ages 13 to 17	604	21.6%
18 and Over	4	0.1%
Total	2,796	100.0%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
Caucasian	932	33.3%
Hispanic	1,012	36.3%
African American	480	17.1%
American Indian	155	5.5%
Asian	39	1.4%
Other	178	6.4%
Total	2,796	100.0%
By Number of Placements	Number	Percentage
One	1,536	55.0%
Two	714	25.5%
Three	289	10.3%
Four	132	4.7%
Five	55	2.0%
More than Five	70	2.5%
Total	2,796	100.0%
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 Days	574	20.5%
31 Days to 12 Months	1,230	44.0%
13 to 24 Months	737	26.4%
More than 24 Months	255	9.1%
Total	2,796	100.0%

	Average	Median
By Age	8.02	7.58
By Number of Placements	1.86	1.00
By Months of Time in Care	10.43	8.65

**TABLE 38
NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN EXITING DCS CUSTODY
FOR REASON OF “LIVING WITH OTHER RELATIVES” FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD
ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	1	3.7%
Ages 1 to 5	4	14.8%
Ages 6 to 8	4	14.8%
Ages 9 to 12	5	18.5%
Ages 13 to 17	13	48.2%
18 and Over	0	0.0%
Total	27	100.0%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
Caucasian	2	7.4%
Hispanic	13	48.2%
African American	5	18.5%
American Indian	4	14.8%
Asian	1	3.7%
Other	2	7.4%
Total	27	100.0%
By Number of Placements	Number	Percentage
One	23	85.2%
Two	4	14.8%
Three	0	0.0%
Four	0	0.0%
Five	0	0.0%
More than Five	0	0.0%
Total	27	100.0%
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 Days	11	40.7%
31 Days to 12 Months	12	44.5%
13 to 24 Months	4	14.8%
More than 24 Months	0	0.0%
Total	27	100.0%

	Average	Median
By Age	11.10	12.75
By Number of Placements	1.14	1.00
By Months of Time in Care	5.86	3.61

**TABLE 39
NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN EXITING DCS
CUSTODY FOR REASON OF “ADOPTION” FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD
ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	62	2.9%
Ages 1 to 5	1,062	50.3%
Ages 6 to 8	358	17.0%
Ages 9 to 12	396	18.9%
Ages 13 to 17	231	10.9%
18 and Over	1	0.0%
Total	2,110	100.0%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
Caucasian	783	37.1%
Hispanic	734	34.7%
African American	286	13.6%
American Indian	162	7.7%
Asian	19	0.9%
Other	126	6.0%
Total	2,110	100.0%
By Number of Placements	Number	Percentage
One	941	44.6%
Two	518	24.5%
Three	323	15.3%
Four	149	7.1%
Five	84	4.0%
More than Five	95	4.5%
Total	2,110	100.0%
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 Days	0	0.0%
31 Days to 12 Months	117	5.5%
13 to 24 Months	964	45.7%
More than 24 Months	1,029	48.8%
Total	2,110	100.0%

	Average	Median
By Age	6.53	5.53
By Number of Placements	2.20	2.00
By Months of Time in Care	25.59	23.84

**TABLE 40
NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN EXITING DCS CUSTODY
FOR REASON OF “GUARDIANSHIP” FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD
ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	5	1.4%
Ages 1 to 5	57	16.0%
Ages 6 to 8	43	12.1%
Ages 9 to 12	93	26.1%
Ages 13 to 17	158	44.4%
18 and Over	0	0.0%
Total	356	100.0%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
Caucasian	119	33.4%
Hispanic	137	38.5%
African American	27	7.6%
American Indian	54	15.2%
Asian	3	.8%
Other	16	4.5%
Total	356	100.0%
By Number of Placements	Number	Percentage
One	224	62.9%
Two	57	16.0%
Three	37	10.4%
Four	16	4.5%
Five	11	3.1%
More than Five	11	3.1%
Total	356	100.0%
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 Days	27	7.6%
31 Days to 12 Months	90	25.3%
13 to 24 Months	175	49.1%
More than 24 Months	64	18.0%
Total	356	100.0%

	Average	Median
By Age	11.29	12.24
By Number of Placements	1.81	1.00
By Months of Time in Care	16.45	16.00

**TABLE 41
NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN EXITING DCS CUSTODY
FOR REASONS OF “REACHING AGE OF MAJORITY” FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD
ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	0	0.0%
Ages 1 to 5	0	0.0%
Ages 6 to 8	0	0.0%
Ages 9 to 12	0	0.0%
Ages 13 to 17	5	1.1%
18 and Over	471	98.9%
Total	476	100.0%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
Caucasian	158	33.2%
Hispanic	164	34.4%
African American	92	19.3%
American Indian	37	7.8%
Asian	6	1.3%
Other	19	4.0%
Total	476	100.0%
By Number of Placements	Number	Percentage
One	76	16.0%
Two	61	12.8%
Three	69	14.5%
Four	59	12.4%
Five	43	9.0%
More than Five	168	35.3%
Total	476	100.0%
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 Days	4	0.8%
31 Days to 12 Months	80	16.8%
13 to 24 Months	101	21.2%
More than 24 Months	291	61.2%
Total	476	100.0%

	Average	Median
By Age	18.97	18.35
By Number of Placements	5.56	4.00
By Months of Time in Care	37.02	31.41

**TABLE 42
NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN EXITING DCS CUSTODY
FOR REASON OF “TRANSFER TO ANOTHER AGENCY” FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD
ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	11	15.7%
Ages 1 to 5	28	40.0%
Ages 6 to 8	6	8.6%
Ages 9 to 12	6	8.6%
Ages 13 to 17	19	27.1%
18 and Over	0	0.0%
Total	70	100.0%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
Caucasian	10	14.3%
Hispanic	16	22.9%
African American	12	17.1%
American Indian	21	30.0%
Asian	0	0.0%
Other	11	15.7%
Total	70	100.0%
By Number of Placements	Number	Percentage
One	51	72.9%
Two	12	17.1%
Three	3	4.3%
Four	2	2.9%
Five	1	1.4%
More than Five	1	1.4%
Total	70	100.0%
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 Days	30	42.9%
31 Days to 12 Months	27	38.6%
13 to 24 Months	8	11.4%
More than 24 Months	5	7.1%
Total	70	100.0%

	Average	Median
By Age	7.32	5.23
By Number of Placements	1.48	1.00
By Months of Time in Care	5.99	1.57

**TABLE 43
NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN EXITING DCS CUSTODY
FOR REASON OF “RUNAWAY” FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD
ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	0	0.0%
Ages 1 to 5	0	0.0%
Ages 6 to 8	0	0.0%
Ages 9 to 12	0	0.0%
Ages 13 to 17	28	93.3%
18 and Over	2	6.7%
Total	30	100.0%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
Caucasian	10	33.3%
Hispanic	14	46.8%
African American	4	13.3%
American Indian	1	3.3%
Asian	0	0.0%
Other	1	3.3%
Total	30	100.0%
By Number of Placements	Number	Percentage
One	15	50.0%
Two	3	10.0%
Three	4	13.3%
Four	2	6.7%
Five	1	3.3%
More than Five	5	16.7%
Total	30	100.0%
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 Days	8	26.7%
31 Days to 12 Months	8	26.7%
13 to 24 Months	8	26.7%
More than 24 Months	6	19.9%
Total	30	100.0%

	Average	Median
By Age	16.69	16.96
By Number of Placements	2.96	1.00
By Months of Time in Care	16.33	11.33

**TABLE 44
NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN EXITING DCS CUSTODY
FOR REASON OF “DEATH OF CHILD” FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD ENDING
SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	3	37.5%
Ages 1 to 5	2	25.0%
Ages 6 to 8	1	12.5%
Ages 9 to 12	0	0.0%
Ages 13 to 17	2	25.0%
18 and Over	0	0.0%
Total	8	100.0%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
Caucasian	1	12.5%
Hispanic	3	37.5%
African American	1	12.5%
American Indian	1	12.5%
Asian	1	12.5%
Other	1	12.5%
Total	8	100.0%
By Number of Placements	Number	Percentage
One	5	62.5%
Two	0	0.0%
Three	0	0.0%
Four	0	0.0%
Five	0	0.0%
More than Five	3	37.5%
Total	8	100.0%
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 Days	2	25.0%
31 Days to 12 Months	2	25.0%
13 to 24 Months	0	0.0%
More than 24 Months	4	50.0%
Total	8	25.0%

*18 and over are not included as they are not in the legal custody of the Department.

	Average	Median
By Age	5.4	2.5
By Number of Placements	4.13	1.00
By Months of Time in Care	23.61	14.00

**TABLE 45
CHILDREN EXITING CARE FOR REASON OF DEATH BY CAUSE OF DEATH,
PLACEMENT TYPE AT TIME OF DEATH, AND COUNTY**

COUNTY	CAUSE OF DEATH	TYPE OF PLACEMENT AT TIME OF DEATH
MARICOPA	PENDING MEDICAL EXAMINER REPORT	UNLICENSED NON-RELATIVE
MARICOPA	PENDING MEDICAL EXAMINER REPORT	GROUP HOME
MARICOPA	AUTO ACCIDENT	LICENSED FOSTER HOME
MARICOPA	ENVIRONMENTAL HEAT EXPOSURE	UNLICENSED NON-RELATIVE
MARICOPA	CARDIAC ARREST	FAMILY FOSTER CARE
MARICOPA	PENDING MEDICAL EXAMINER REPORT	LICENSED FOSTER HOME
MARICOPA	PENDING MEDICAL EXAMINER REPORT	HOSPITAL
PIMA	COMPLICATIONS FROM GASTRIC RUPTURE	LICENSED FOSTER HOME

*18 and over are not included as they are not in the legal custody of the Department.

*Three children listed in Table 45 exited care for reason of death in the prior reporting period but due to data lag in CHILDS were not identified in the prior report. Therefore, they are included in this report.

**TABLE 46
NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN AN OPEN OR ACTIVE CHILD SAFETY SERVICES CASE WHO
DIED AS A RESULT OF ABUSE AS CATEGORIZED BY THE CUSTODIAL RELATIONSHIP
AND COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**

COUNTY	BIOLOGICAL PARENT(S)	OTHER FAMILY MEMBER	ADOPTIVE PARENT(S)	FOSTER CARE PARENT(S)	OTHER OUT-OF-HOME CARE PROVIDER	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
COCHISE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
COCONINO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
GILA	1	0	0	0	0	1	14.3%
GRAHAM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
MARICOPA	3	0	0	0	0	3	42.8%
MOHAVE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
NAVAJO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
PIMA	0	0	0	1	0	1	14.3%
PINAL	0	1	0	0	0	1	14.3%
SANTA CRUZ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
YAVAPAI	1	0	0	0	0	1	14.3%
YUMA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
STATEWIDE	5	1	0	1	0	7	100%
% OF TOTAL	71.4%	14.3%	0.0%	14.30%	0.0%	100.0%	

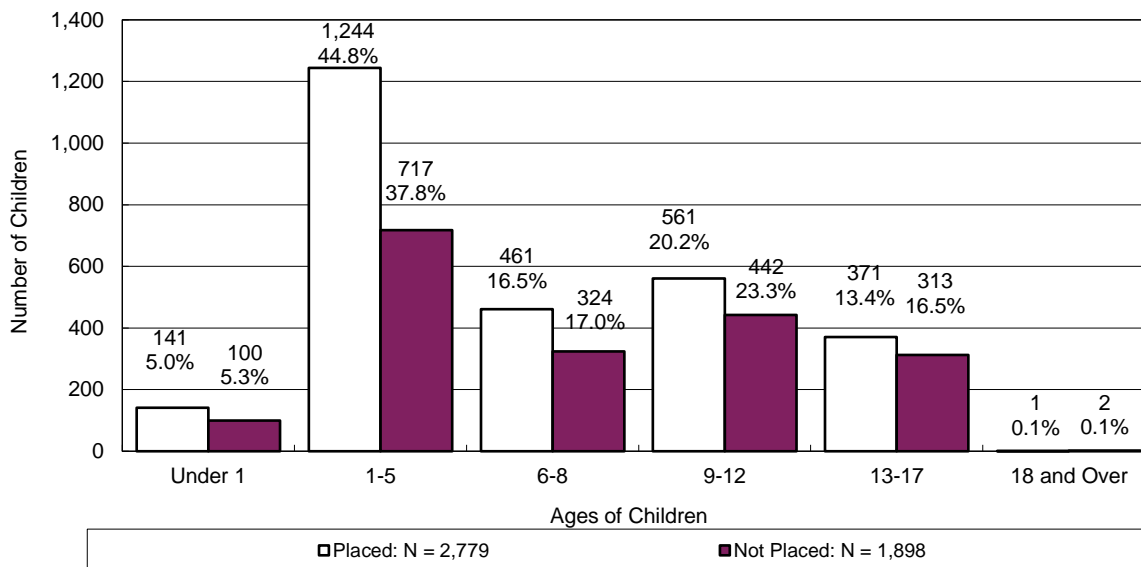
The number of child maltreatment deaths presented in the Semi-Annual Report is not comparable to child maltreatment deaths reported on the website by the Arizona Department of Child Safety (ADCS).

- DCS posts information in accordance with A.R.S. § 8-807 on child fatalities due to abuse or neglect by the child’s parent, custodian or caregiver at: <https://dcs.az.gov/news/child-fatalities-near-fatalities-information-releases>.
- This information is posted when the information comes to DCS’s attention and a final determination of the fatality due to abuse or neglect has been made by either a substantiated finding or specific criminal charges filed against a parent, guardian or caregiver for causing the fatality.
- The information that comes to DCS’s attention and the determination of the fatality due to abuse or neglect may occur sometime after the actual incident for a number of reasons including a determination by a medical professional, a medical examiner, or a criminal child abuse arrest and charge of the perpetrator.

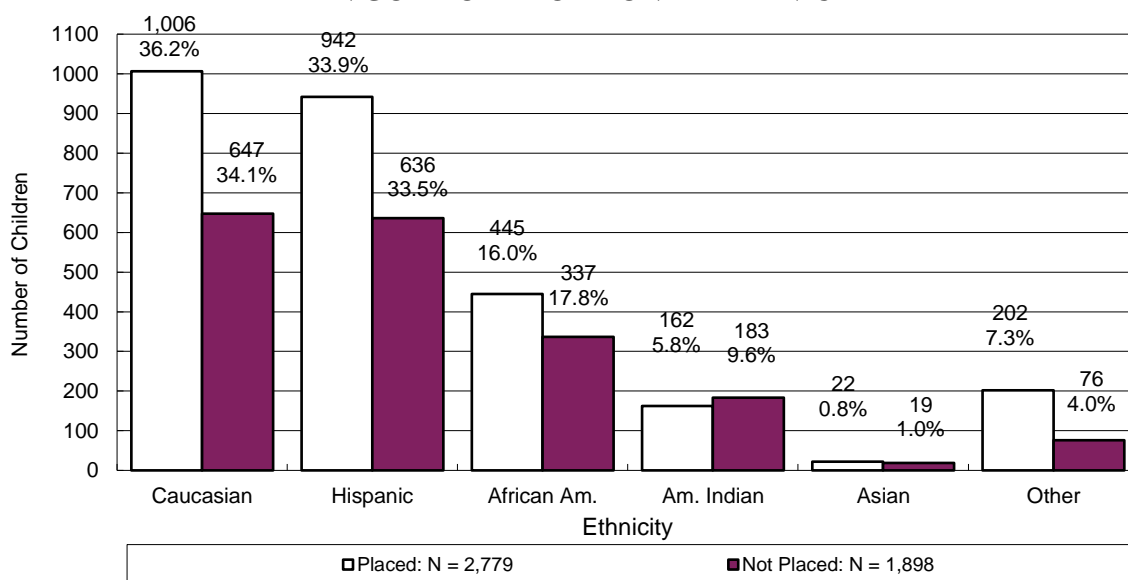
CHILDREN WITH CASE PLAN GOALS OF ADOPTION

Of the 15,840 children in out-of-home care on September 30, 2017, there were 4,677 or 29.5 percent who had a case plan goal of adoption. The age and ethnicity of the children with a case plan goal of adoption are displayed in Chart 36 and Chart 37.

**CHART 33
THE PLACEMENT AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION BY AGE**



**CHART 34
THE PLACEMENT AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION BY ETHNICITY**



**TABLE 47
NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A PETITION FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS
BY COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 2017 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2017**

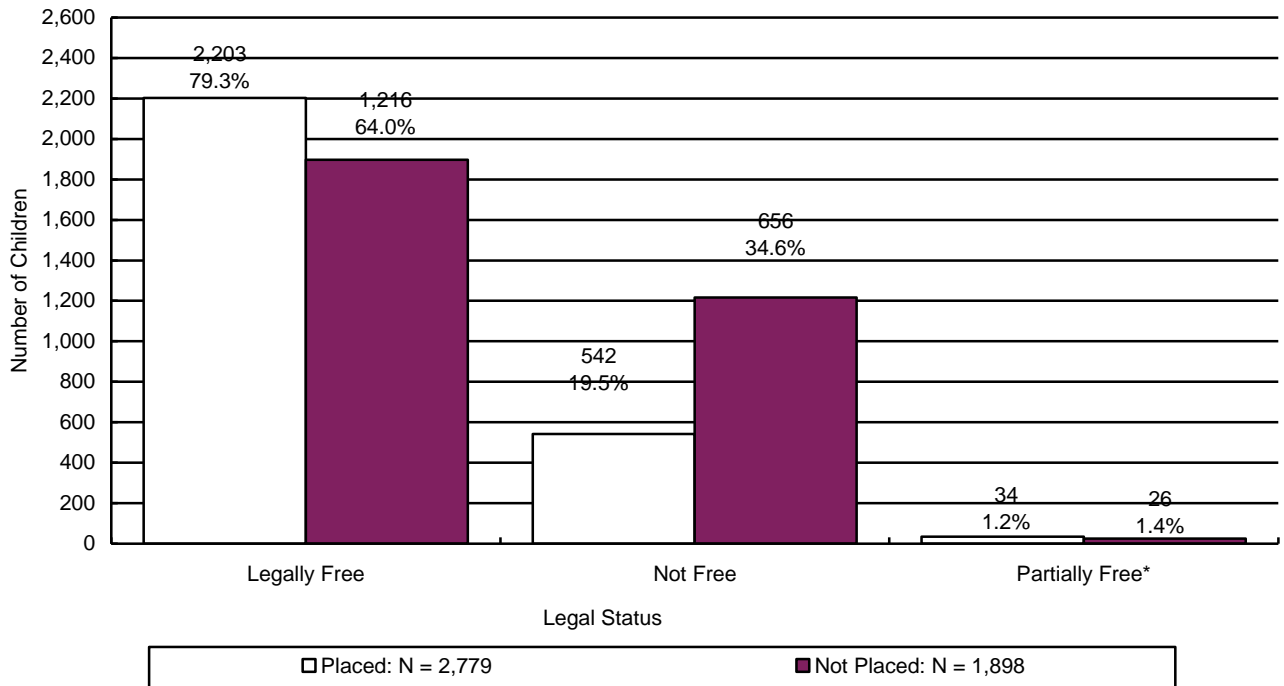
COUNTY	TERMINATION OF RIGHTS GRANTED	TERMINATION OF RIGHTS DENIED	TERMINATION OF RIGHTS GRANTED IN PART/DENIED IN PART	TERMINATION OF RIGHTS WITHDRAWN	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	19	0	0	0	19	0.6%
COCHISE	93	0	0	0	93	3.0%
COCONINO	52	0	0	0	52	1.7%
GILA	40	0	0	0	40	1.3%
GRAHAM	14	0	0	0	14	0.5%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
LA PAZ	20	0	0	0	20	0.6%
MARICOPA	1,556	1	0	0	1,557	50.2%
MOHAVE	197	0	0	0	197	6.4%
NAVAJO	35	0	0	0	35	1.1%
PIMA	701	1	0	0	702	22.7%
PINAL	165	0	0	0	165	5.3%
SANTA CRUZ	15	0	0	0	15	0.5%
YAVAPAI	96	0	0	0	96	3.1%
YUMA	92	0	0	0	92	3.0%
STATEWIDE	3,095	2	0	0	3,097	100.0%
% OF TOTAL	99.9%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	

The average length of time that a child with a case plan goal of “adoption” has spent in out-of-home care is 2 years and 105 days. Information on the number of placements in terms of the average, median, and range for children with a case plan goal of adoption is shown below in Table 48.

**TABLE 48
PLACEMENT INFORMATION FOR CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION**

	Placements
Average	2.88
Median	2
Range Minimum	1
Range Maximum	42

CHART 35
THE PLACEMENT AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION BY LEGAL STATUS



*Partially free refers to a situation where only one of the parent’s rights has been severed.

CHART 36
THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION BY LENGTH OF TIME FROM CHANGE OF CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION TO ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT

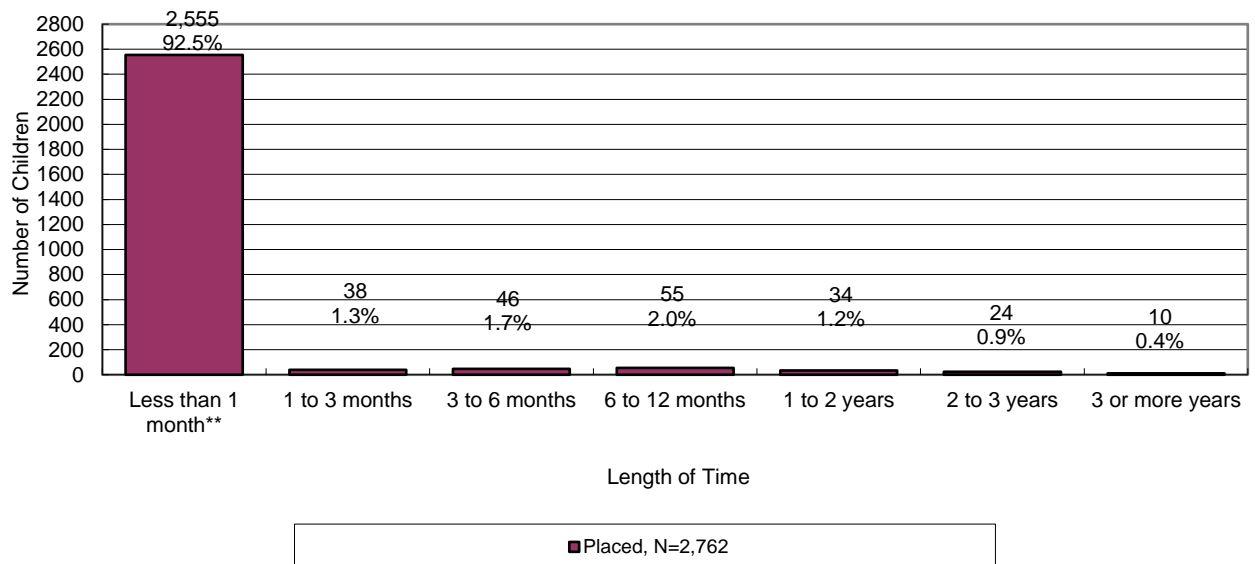


CHART 37
THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION WHO WERE IN AN ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT BY THE MARITAL STATUS OF THE ADOPTIVE PARENT

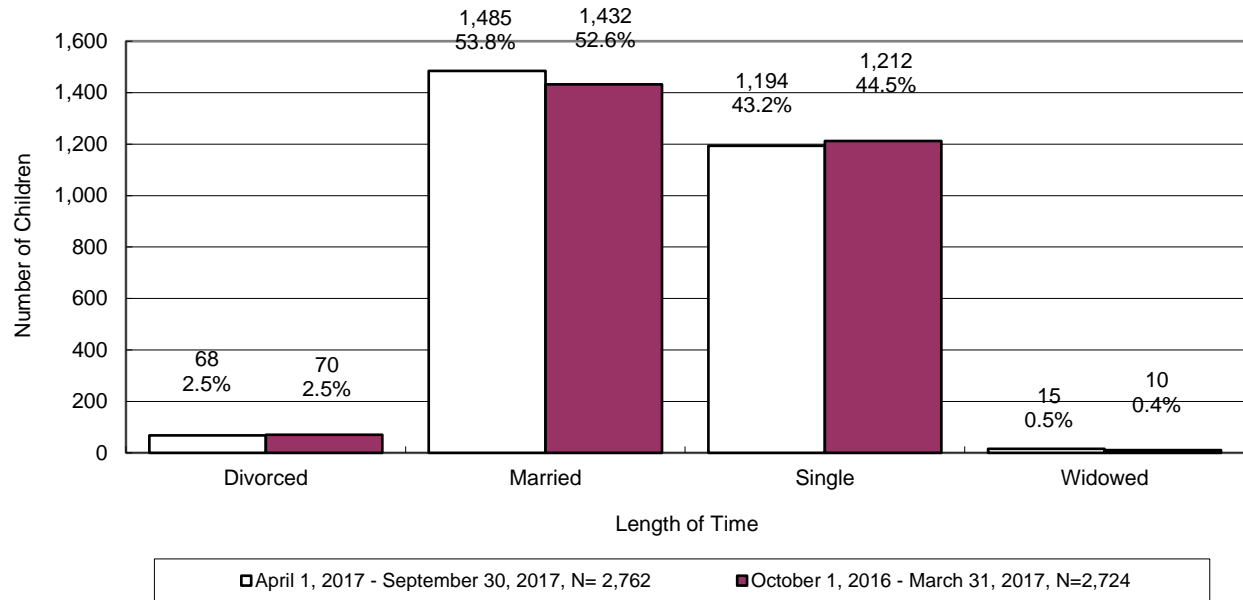
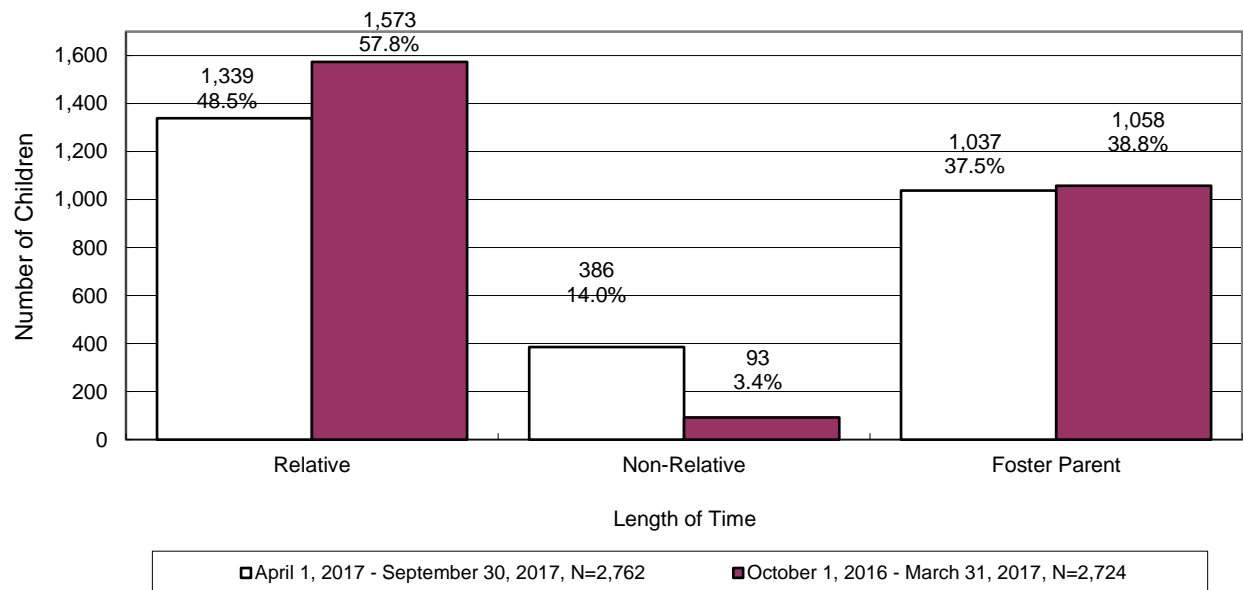


CHART 38
THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION WHO WERE IN AN ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT BY THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE ADOPTIVE PARENT



DISRUPTIONS

TABLE 49
THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION WHO WERE IN AN ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT AND DISRUPTED BY AGE AND ETHNICITY

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	0	0.0%
Ages 1 – 5	1	11.1%
Ages 6 – 8	3	33.3%
Ages 9 – 12	3	33.3%
Ages 13 – 17	2	22.3%
18 and Over	0	0.0%
Total	9	100.0%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
Caucasian	4	44.5%
Hispanic	1	11.1%
African American	3	33.3%
American Indian	1	11.1%
Asian	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%
Total	9	100.0%

CHART 39
THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION WHO WERE IN AN ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT AND DISRUPTED BY THE MARITAL STATUS OF THE ADOPTIVE PARENT

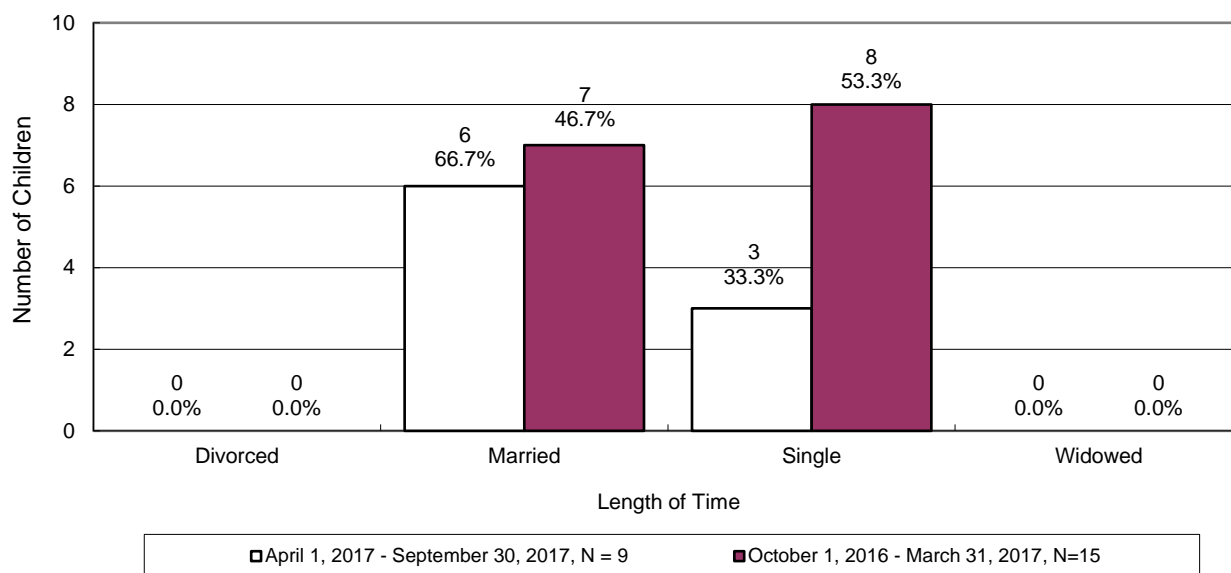
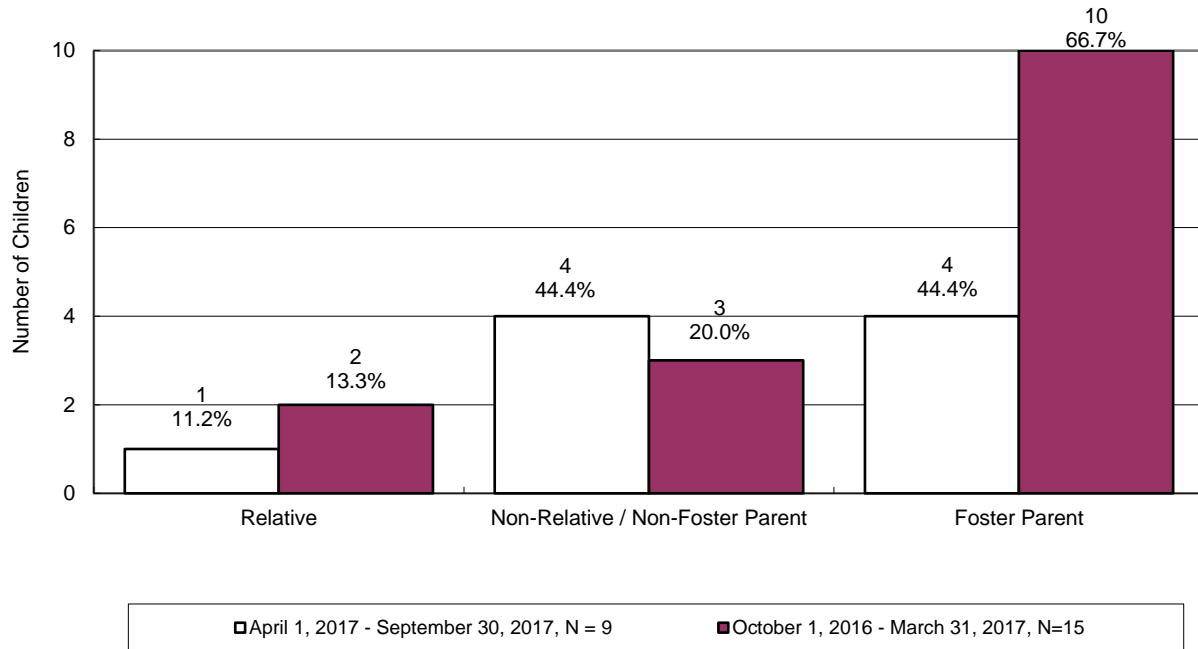


CHART 40
THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION WHO WERE IN AN ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT AND DISRUPTED BY THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE ADOPTIVE PARENT



ADOPTIVE SERVICES

CHART 41
THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A FINALIZED ADOPTION

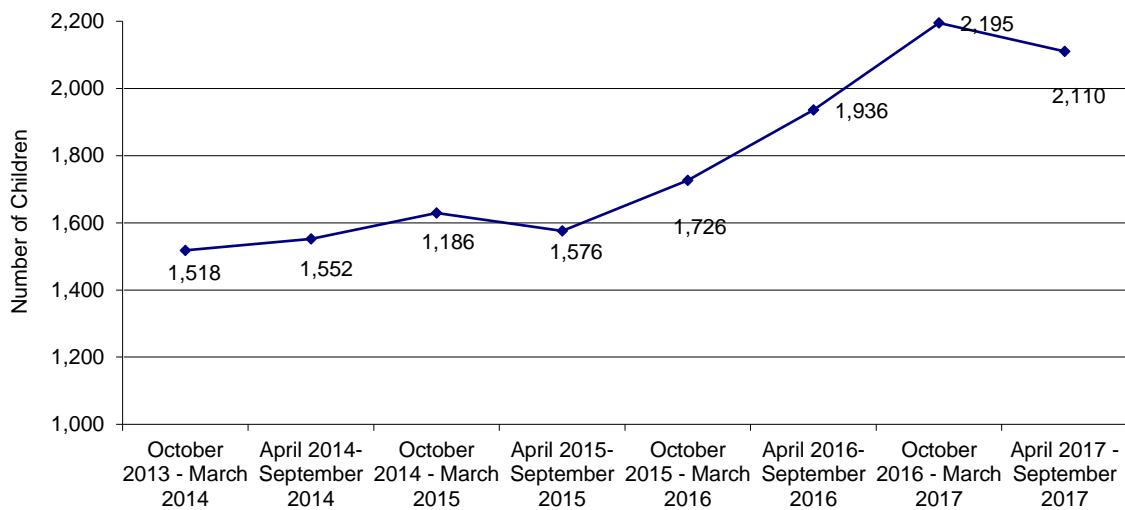


CHART 42
THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WITH A FINALIZED ADOPTION BY AVERAGE LENGTH OF TIME IN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT BEFORE ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT

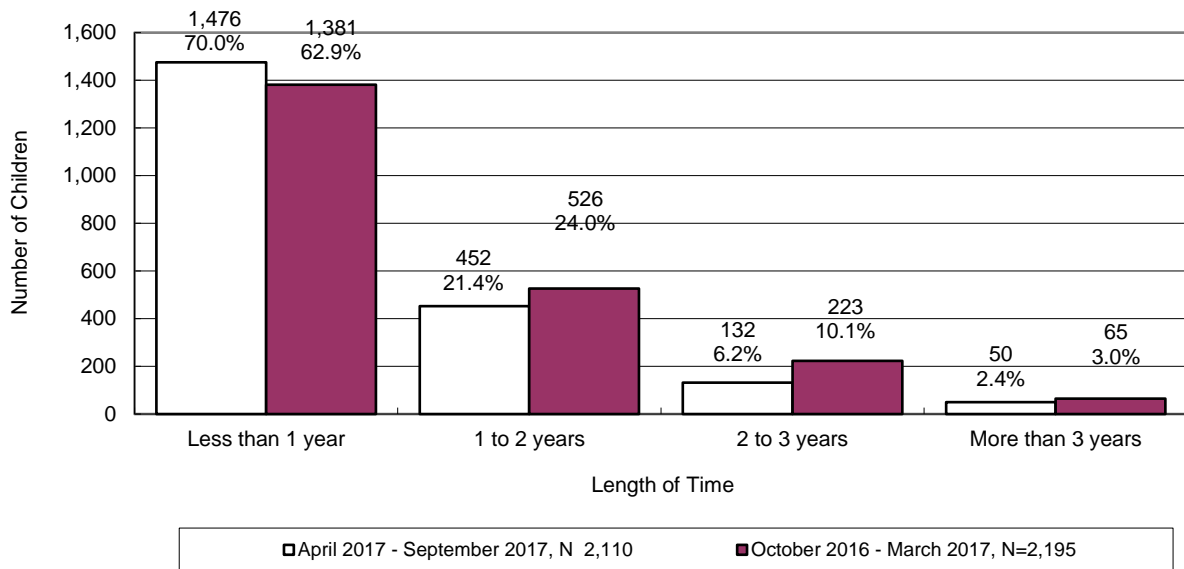


CHART 43
THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WITH A FINALIZED ADOPTION BY AVERAGE LENGTH OF TIME IN ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT BEFORE THE FINAL ORDER OF ADOPTION

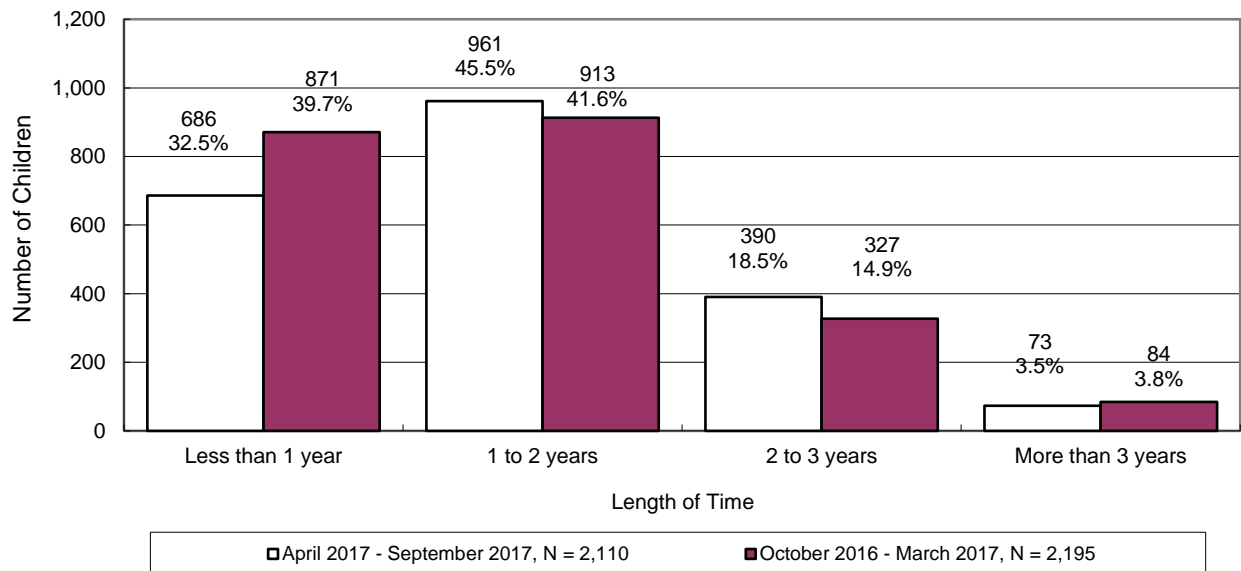


CHART 44
THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A FINALIZED ADOPTION BY THE MARITAL STATUS OF THE ADOPTIVE PARENT

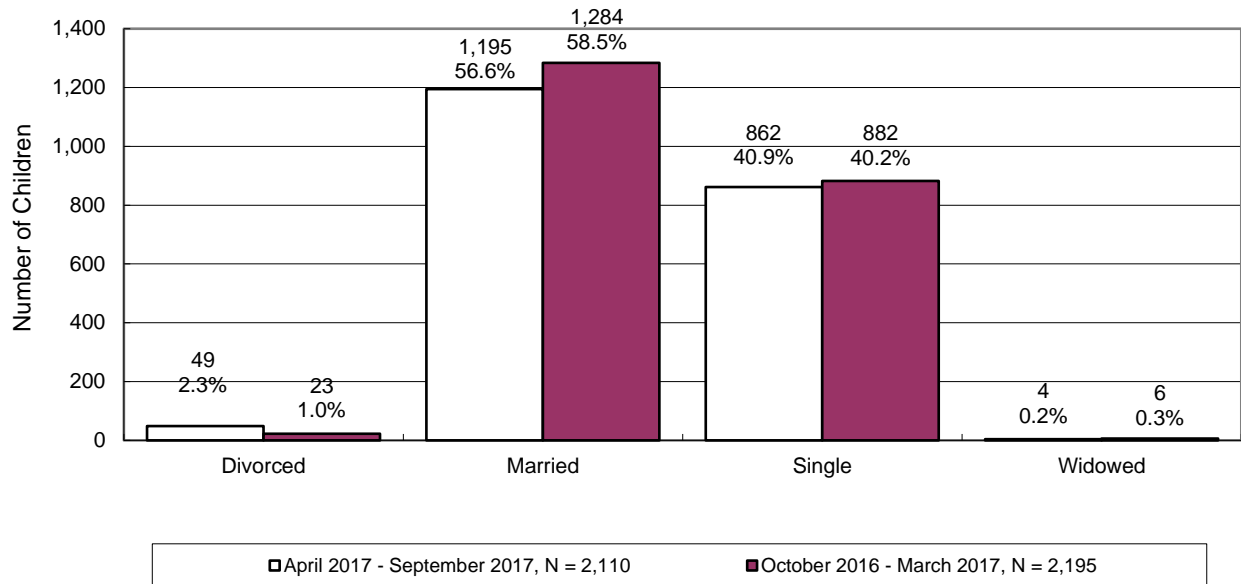


CHART 45
THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A FINALIZED ADOPTION BY THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE ADOPTIVE PARENT TO THE CHILD

