



FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION MANAGEMENT REPORT 2022

House Concurrent Resolution 74
(R.S. 2003)

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INTRODUCTION

At the direction of House Concurrent Resolution 74 passed by the 2003 Legislature, the Department of Children and Family Services publishes the annual Foster Care and Adoption Management Report. This report details activities in the areas of foster care and adoption in State Fiscal Year 2022 and compares the results to a five-year running average. Data are provided at the state and regional level and by age group, where appropriate and available. This information is provided to the Governor, each Louisiana state legislator, and to the major daily newspapers and network television stations in the following cities: New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Alexandria, Shreveport and Monroe.

The data used in this report are extracted from the Tracking, Information and Payment System of the department. Data are derived based on the date the event occurred to allow for consistency with historical review. As a result, these numbers may vary from numbers reported into the Louisiana Performance Accountability System (LaPAS) and other data reported by the Department.

1a. Number of Children in State Custody as of Year End¹

NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN DCFS CUSTODY ON JUNE 30, 2022						
Region		Infants Age 0 - 1	Young Children Ages 2 - 4	Older Children Ages 5 - 9	Pre-Teens/ Teens Ages 10 – 17	Totals
01	Greater New Orleans	43	34	33	73	183
02	Baton Rouge	89	52	92	123	356
03	Covington	141	104	135	197	577
04	Thibodaux	99	106	103	144	452
05	Lafayette	143	127	134	148	552
06	Lake Charles	61	63	76	98	298
07	Alexandria	76	65	88	126	355
08	Shreveport	79	70	83	94	326
09	Monroe	84	95	81	109	369
99	Location Unknown	3	1	1	2	7
STATE TOTALS		818	717	826	1,114	3,475

1b. Number of Children in State Custody as of Year End Previous Year

NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN DCFS CUSTODY ON JUNE 30, 2021						
REGION		INFANTS AGES 0-1	YOUNG CHILDREN AGES 2-4	OLDER CHILDREN AGES 5-9	PRE- TEENS/ TEENS AGES 10-17	TOTALS
01	Greater New Orleans	44	34	47	70	195
02	Baton Rouge	56	52	49	75	232
03	Covington	136	105	127	208	576
04	Thibodaux	88	106	93	143	430
05	Lafayette	112	110	94	148	464
06	Lake Charles	56	80	74	87	297
07	Alexandria	68	86	94	123	371
08	Shreveport	75	64	79	111	329
09	Monroe	85	88	93	117	383
99	Location Unknown	1	0	0	2	3
STATE TOTALS		721	725	750	1,084	3,280

¹ Category "Location Unknown" may refer to cases where children are voluntarily placed in care by their parents or cases where the Court of jurisdiction for the case has not yet been entered.

1c. Five Year Average of Number of Children in State Custody as of Year End²

AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN DCFS CUSTODY ON LAST DAY OF SFY BY AGE GROUP SFY 2018 - 2022						
Region		Infants Age 0 - 1	Young Children Ages 2 - 4	Older Children Ages 5 - 9	Pre-Teens/ Teens Ages 10 – 17	Average of All Ages
01	Greater New Orleans	46	43	41	76	207
02	Baton Rouge	57	51	62	94	264
03	Covington	141	149	173	244	707
04	Thibodaux	96	118	125	164	503
05	Lafayette	105	117	120	160	503
06	Lake Charles	69	83	85	116	354
07	Alexandria	77	92	95	132	396
08	Shreveport	86	93	108	118	405
09	Monroe	89	100	110	143	442
99	Location Unknown	1	0	2	3	6
STATE AVERAGE		769	870	922	1,250	3,787

For Tables 1a, 1b, and 1c, the child's age is calculated as of the last day of the SFY. The Region location is determined by the parish location of the removal court.

² The presentation of the report suggests that there is a higher number of Pre-Teen/Teens entering custody. However, it should be noted that 8 ages are represented in that category (10-17).

2a. Number of Children Taken into State Custody

NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENTERING DCFS CUSTODY IN SFY 2022						
Region		Infants Age 0 - 1	Young Children Ages 2 - 4	Older Children Ages 5 - 9	Pre-Teens/ Teens Ages 10 – 17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	80	45	63	143	331
02	Baton Rouge	80	37	71	76	264
03	Covington	101	68	73	129	371
04	Thibodaux	92	47	59	68	266
05	Lafayette	163	87	112	135	497
06	Lake Charles	58	39	37	46	180
07	Alexandria	72	40	47	82	241
08	Shreveport	108	76	74	106	364
09	Monroe	74	56	47	56	233
99	Location Unknown	9	3	1	3	16
STATE TOTALS		837	498	584	844	2,763

2b. Number of Children Taken into State Custody Previous Year

NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENTERING DCFS CUSTODY IN SFY 2021						
Region		Infants Age 0 - 1	Young Children Ages 2 - 4	Older Children Ages 5 - 9	Pre-Teens/ Teens Ages 10 – 17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	64	55	74	135	328
02	Baton Rouge	54	30	31	50	165
03	Covington	132	63	65	107	367
04	Thibodaux	69	47	48	68	232
05	Lafayette	98	70	65	100	333
06	Lake Charles	36	26	22	29	113
07	Alexandria	63	36	68	63	230
08	Shreveport	87	55	77	86	305
09	Monroe	71	37	45	34	187
99	Location Unknown	1	0	2	5	8
STATE TOTALS		675	419	497	677	2,268

2c. Five Year Average of Number of Children Taken into State Custody

AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENTERING DCFS CUSTODY DURING SFY BY AGE GROUP SFY 2018 - 2022						
Region		Infants Age 0 - 1	Young Children Ages 2 - 4	Older Children Ages 5 - 9	Pre-Teens/ Teens Ages 10 – 17	Average of All Ages
01	Greater New Orleans	81	52	62	127	323
02	Baton Rouge	62	34	47	69	211
03	Covington	127	87	107	157	479
04	Thibodaux	87	58	74	88	307
05	Lafayette	117	79	90	122	408
06	Lake Charles	61	40	41	50	193
07	Alexandria	73	51	62	78	264
08	Shreveport	113	88	115	118	433
09	Monroe	76	49	55	56	237
99	Location Unknown	5	1	3	5	15
STATE TOTALS		804	539	655	871	2,869

For Tables 2a, 2b and 2c, child's age is calculated as of the date of entry into DCFS custody. Region location is determined by the parish location of the removal court.

3a. Number of Children Leaving State Custody

NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXITING DCFS CUSTODY IN SFY 2022						
Region		Infants Age 0 - 1	Young Children Ages 2 - 4	Older Children Ages 5 - 9	Pre-Teens/ Teens Ages 10 – 17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	56	60	79	146	341
02	Baton Rouge	27	46	27	42	142
03	Covington	41	93	77	162	373
04	Thibodaux	35	65	59	84	243
05	Lafayette	75	89	92	152	408
06	Lake Charles	19	69	38	52	178
07	Alexandria	33	69	64	90	256
08	Shreveport	71	85	77	134	367
09	Monroe	32	67	71	76	246
99	Location Unknown	6	3	0	1	10
STATE TOTALS		395	646	584	939	2,564

3b. Number of Children Leaving State Custody Previous Year

NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXITING DCFS CUSTODY IN SFY 2021						
Region		Infants Age 0 - 1	Young Children Ages 2 - 4	Older Children Ages 5 - 9	Pre-Teens/ Teens Ages 10 – 17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	45	68	79	147	339
02	Baton Rouge	20	31	43	71	165
03	Covington	57	127	104	188	476
04	Thibodaux	31	72	84	110	297
05	Lafayette	39	74	80	107	300
06	Lake Charles	11	56	50	66	183
07	Alexandria	33	69	67	85	254
08	Shreveport	66	83	110	116	375
09	Monroe	41	61	72	101	275
99	Location Unknown	1	1	2	4	8
STATE TOTALS		344	642	691	995	2,672

3c. Five Year Average of Number of Children Leaving State Custody

AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXITING DCFS CUSTODY DURING SFY BY AGE GROUP SFY 2018 - 2022						
Region		Infants Age 0 - 1	Young Children Ages 2 - 4	Older Children Ages 5 - 9	Pre-Teens/ Teens Ages 10 – 17	Average of All Ages
01	Greater New Orleans	61	62	71	135	329
02	Baton Rouge	33	40	45	76	194
03	Covington	61	129	141	196	527
04	Thibodaux	35	81	94	115	325
05	Lafayette	60	99	106	148	412
06	Lake Charles	24	69	57	76	226
07	Alexandria	35	67	68	95	265
08	Shreveport	76	113	135	147	471
09	Monroe	37	76	76	95	284
99	Location Unknown	4	2	3	5	14
STATE AVERAGE		426	738	796	1,087	3,047

For Tables 3a, 3b and 3c, child's age is calculated as of the date of exit from DCFS custody. Region location is determined by the parish location of the removal court.

4a. Number of Children Adopted Out of State Custody

NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXITING DCFS CUSTODY TO A FINALIZED ADOPTION IN SFY 2022						
Region		Infants Age 0 - 1	Young Children Ages 2 - 4	Older Children Ages 5 - 9	Pre-Teens/ Teens Ages 10 – 17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	10	11	15	5	41
02	Baton Rouge	5	16	6	3	30
03	Covington	18	56	34	24	132
04	Thibodaux	6	39	24	12	81
05	Lafayette	20	34	29	24	107
06	Lake Charles	9	45	13	7	74
07	Alexandria	14	34	21	14	83
08	Shreveport	11	18	5	10	44
09	Monroe	12	24	13	9	58
99	Location Unknown	0	1	0	0	1
STATE TOTALS		105	278	160	108	651

4b. Number of Children Adopted Out of State Custody Previous Year

NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXITING DCFS CUSTODY TO A FINALIZED ADOPTION IN SFY 2021						
Region		Infants Age 0 - 1	Young Children Ages 2 - 4	Older Children Ages 5 - 9	Pre-Teens/ Teens Ages 10 – 17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	6	26	22	7	61
02	Baton Rouge	2	7	7	5	21
03	Covington	24	83	41	34	182
04	Thibodaux	4	31	39	25	99
05	Lafayette	9	27	28	18	82
06	Lake Charles	4	38	25	15	82
07	Alexandria	5	22	6	7	40
08	Shreveport	14	20	16	11	61
09	Monroe	17	28	18	11	74
99	Location Unknown	0	1	0	0	1
STATE TOTALS		85	283	202	133	703

4c. Five Year Average of Number of Children Adopted Out of State Custody

AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXITING DCFS CUSTODY TO A FINALIZED ADOPTION BY REGION BY AGE GROUP FOR SFY 2018 - 2022						
Region		Infants Age 0 - 1	Young Children Ages 2 - 4	Older Children Ages 5 - 9	Pre-Teens/ Teens Ages 10 – 17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	10	18	16	6	50
02	Baton Rouge	4	13	9	5	32
03	Covington	22	72	53	30	177
04	Thibodaux	5	39	35	24	103
05	Lafayette	12	38	30	24	104
06	Lake Charles	10	37	22	14	83
07	Alexandria	10	25	17	15	67
08	Shreveport	12	25	17	11	65
09	Monroe	15	40	25	17	97
99	Location Unknown	0	1	0	0	1
STATE AVERAGES		100	307	224	147	779

For Tables 4a, 4b and 4c, child's age is calculated as of the date of exit from DCFS Custody. Region location is determined by the parish location of the removal court.

5a. Number of Children Reunited with Birth Family Out of State Custody

NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXITING DCFS CUSTODY TO REUNIFICATION WITH FAMILY IN SFY 2022						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre- Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	22	30	35	66	153
02	Baton Rouge	14	14	12	17	57
03	Covington	15	20	32	60	127
04	Thibodaux	21	20	30	32	103
05	Lafayette	35	31	37	69	172
06	Lake Charles	4	20	22	21	67
07	Alexandria	13	32	29	46	120
08	Shreveport	28	39	38	57	162
09	Monroe	13	26	26	24	89
99	Location Unknown	6	2	0	1	9
STATE TOTALS		171	234	261	393	1,059

5b. Number of Children Reunited with Birth Family Out of State Custody Previous Year

NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXITING DCFS CUSTODY TO REUNIFICATION WITH FAMILY IN SFY 2021						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre- Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	22	28	32	79	161
02	Baton Rouge	7	15	26	39	87
03	Covington	20	26	42	68	156
04	Thibodaux	22	28	29	35	114
05	Lafayette	20	35	35	47	137
06	Lake Charles	6	14	21	23	64
07	Alexandria	21	32	33	41	127
08	Shreveport	22	31	46	34	133
09	Monroe	14	21	34	38	107
99	Location Unknown	1	0	0	1	2
STATE TOTALS		155	230	298	405	1,088

5c. Five Year Average Number of Children Reunited with Birth Family Out of State Custody

AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXITING DCFS CUSTODY TO REUNIFICATION WITH FAMILY BY REGION BY AGE GROUP FOR SFY 2018-2022						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	28	30	37	69	163
02	Baton Rouge	18	18	25	39	99
03	Covington	29	35	59	77	201
04	Thibodaux	23	33	49	46	150
05	Lafayette	33	45	53	59	189
06	Lake Charles	11	27	28	27	93
07	Alexandria	20	33	34	46	133
08	Shreveport	33	54	61	58	207
09	Monroe	16	26	36	36	115
99	Location Unknown	3	1	2	3	9
STATE AVERAGES		213	302	385	460	1,359

For Tables 5a, 5b and 5c, child's age is calculated as of the date of exit from DCFS custody. Region location is determined by the parish location of the removal court.

6a. Number of Children Leaving Foster Care Due to Age

NUMBER OF YOUTH EXITING FOSTER CARE DUE TO AGE IN SFY 2022		
REGION		NUMBER OF YOUTH
01	Greater New Orleans	18
02	Baton Rouge	7
03	Covington	40
04	Thibodaux	22
05	Lafayette	13
06	Lake Charles	9
07	Alexandria	11
08	Shreveport	7
09	Monroe	13
99	Location Unknown	0
STATE TOTAL		140

6b. Number of Children Leaving Foster Care Due to Age Previous Year

NUMBER OF YOUTH EXITING FOSTER CARE DUE TO AGE IN SFY 2021		
REGION		NUMBER OF YOUTH
01	Greater New Orleans	14
02	Baton Rouge	12
03	Covington	30
04	Thibodaux	19
05	Lafayette	15
06	Lake Charles	22
07	Alexandria	13
08	Shreveport	12
09	Monroe	15
99	Location Unknown	0
STATE TOTAL		152

6c. Five Year Average Number of Children Leaving Foster Care Due to Age

AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN EXITING FOSTER CARE DUE TO AGE FOR SFY 2018 - 2022		
REGION		AVERAGE NUMBER OF YOUTH
01	Greater New Orleans	13
02	Baton Rouge	13
03	Covington	30
04	Thibodaux	18
05	Lafayette	17
06	Lake Charles	17
07	Alexandria	12
08	Shreveport	14
09	Monroe	18
99	Location Unknown	0
STATE AVERAGE		153

For Tables 6a, 6b and 6c, child's age is calculated as of the date of exit from DCFS custody when the child reaches the age of 18 while in foster care. Region location is determined by the parish location of the removal court. Youth exiting foster care on their 18th birthday may be entering the Extended Foster Care program, exiting to independence, attending JobCorp, attending a college or university, returning to their birth family, or linking to a permanent connection.

7a. Number of Cases in Which Parental Rights Were Terminated³

NUMBER OF CHILDREN FOR WHOM PARENTAL RIGHTS WERE TERMINATED DURING SFY 2022						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre- Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	13	10	13	9	45
02	Baton Rouge	4	8	4	2	18
03	Covington	49	37	33	20	139
04	Thibodaux	15	39	16	17	87
05	Lafayette	33	30	25	23	111
06	Lake Charles	21	29	13	4	67
07	Alexandria	15	24	21	8	68
08	Shreveport	13	11	8	7	39
09	Monroe	16	19	11	6	52
99	Location Unknown	0	0	1	1	2
STATE TOTALS		179	207	145	97	628

7b. Number of Cases in Which Parental Rights Were Terminated Previous Year

NUMBER OF CHILDREN FOR WHOM PARENTAL RIGHTS WERE TERMINATED DURING SFY 2021						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre- Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	14	13	15	5	47
02	Baton Rouge	6	6	7	2	21
03	Covington	41	38	20	28	127
04	Thibodaux	2	23	33	20	78
05	Lafayette	16	23	22	21	82
06	Lake Charles	13	25	11	14	63
07	Alexandria	14	27	16	15	72
08	Shreveport	17	9	7	15	48
09	Monroe	12	26	13	13	64
99	Location Unknown	1	1	0	0	2
STATE TOTALS		136	191	144	133	604

³ This variable is measured by the number of children made available for adoption through any combination of surrenders, terminations of parental rights, and/or death of all parents. A determination was made based on case information that the child was legally available for adoption. While this normally involved a mother and father, there are a significant number of cases with multiple fathers (legal, biological and putative).

7c. Five Year Average of Number of Children in Which Parental Rights Were Terminated

AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN FOR WHOM PARENTAL RIGHTS WERE TERMINATED DURING SFY FOR SFY 2018 - 2022						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	17	15	13	9	54
02	Baton Rouge	8	10	7	4	29
03	Covington	48	54	42	26	170
04	Thibodaux	16	34	32	22	104
05	Lafayette	23	30	26	23	101
06	Lake Charles	23	27	21	15	87
07	Alexandria	14	24	18	13	69
08	Shreveport	19	18	16	12	66
09	Monroe	23	33	24	17	97
99	Location Unknown	0	0	0	0	1
STATE TOTALS		191	245	201	142	779

For Tables 7a, 7b and 7c, child's age is calculated as of the date the child was freed for adoption. Region location is determined by the parish location of the removal court.

8a. Number of Cases in Which Termination of Rights Was by Court Action⁴

NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A COURT ORDERED TPR IN SFY 2022						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	10	7	12	2	31
02	Baton Rouge	3	7	3	1	14
03	Covington	30	27	15	15	87
04	Thibodaux	13	32	12	13	70
05	Lafayette	28	25	20	12	85
06	Lake Charles	14	25	13	6	58
07	Alexandria	9	21	16	4	50
08	Shreveport	9	8	4	3	24
09	Monroe	13	16	8	2	39
99	Location Unknown	0	0	0	0	0
STATE TOTALS		129	168	103	58	458

⁴ This variable measures the number of unduplicated children in which parental rights of at least two parents are terminated by court action.

8b. Number of Cases in Which Termination of Rights Was by Court Action Previous Year

NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A COURT ORDERED TPR IN SFY 2021						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	16	14	16	3	49
02	Baton Rouge	3	2	5	0	10
03	Covington	33	28	20	20	101
04	Thibodaux	1	24	22	11	58
05	Lafayette	14	24	18	9	65
06	Lake Charles	14	22	11	9	56
07	Alexandria	11	18	8	8	45
08	Shreveport	11	4	3	3	21
09	Monroe	10	24	14	6	54
99	Location Unknown	1	1	0	0	2
STATE TOTALS		114	161	117	69	461

8c. Five Year Average of Number of Cases in Which Termination of Rights Was by Court Action

AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A COURT ORDERED TPR FOR SFY 2018 - 2022						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	13	12	11	5	41
02	Baton Rouge	5	7	5	2	19
03	Covington	32	39	30	17	119
04	Thibodaux	12	27	22	14	75
05	Lafayette	21	25	22	17	85
06	Lake Charles	21	25	19	13	78
07	Alexandria	11	21	15	9	56
08	Shreveport	17	16	13	7	53
09	Monroe	19	28	21	13	81
99	Location Unknown	0	0	0	0	1
STATE AVERAGES		152	200	160	96	607

For Tables 8a, 8b and 8c, child's age is calculated as of the date the child was freed for adoption. Region location is determined by the parish location of the removal court.

9a. Number of Cases in Which DCFS Sought Termination of Rights by Court Action⁵

NUMBER OF TPR PETITIONS FILED SFY 2022		
REGION		TOTAL
01	Greater New Orleans	32
02	Baton Rouge	35
03	Covington	87
04	Thibodaux	52
05	Lafayette	63
06	Lake Charles	49
07	Alexandria	55
08	Shreveport	19
09	Monroe	37
STATE TOTALS		429

9b. Number of Cases in Which DCFS Sought Termination of Rights by Court Action Previous Year

NUMBER OF TPR PETITIONS FILED SFY 2021		
REGION		TOTAL
01	Greater New Orleans	24
02	Baton Rouge	45
03	Covington	86
04	Thibodaux	22
05	Lafayette	74
06	Lake Charles	49
07	Alexandria	45
08	Shreveport	44
09	Monroe	27
STATE TOTALS		416

⁵ This measure is not captured in the TIPS computer system. The measure is derived from a manual count by the Bureau of General Counsel of the number of petitions filed seeking termination of parental rights. The number of petitions filed is not a count of children or families

9c. Five Year Average of Number of Cases in Which DCFS Sought Termination of Rights by Court Action

AVERAGE NUMBER OF TPR PETITIONS FILED FOR SFY 2018 - 2022		
REGION		5-YEAR AVERAGE
01	Greater New Orleans	31
02	Baton Rouge	41
03	Covington	89
04	Thibodaux	39
05	Lafayette	63
06	Lake Charles	67
07	Alexandria	51
08	Shreveport	40
09	Monroe	51
STATE AVERAGE		472

10. Number of Cases in Which the Child has been in State Custody for Longer than Seventeen Months Where DCFS has not Sought Termination of Rights by Court Action

Data is not available for this measure. The Child Welfare data system does not capture information on the decision to not seek Termination of Rights. The system can be used to determine the number of children who have been in care longer that seventeen months and who do not have a completed Termination of Rights but there are no data elements that provide the ability to distinguish between cases in which court action is in progress, court action was sought and denied, or court action was not sought at all.

11. Number of Cases in Which Adoption is Not a Part of the Plan for the Child

NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE ON JUNE 30, 2022 BY GOAL						
Region		Adoption	Alternative Permanent Living Arrangement	Guardianship	Return to Home of Birth Family	Total All Goals
01	Greater New Orleans	52	4	0	127	183
02	Baton Rouge	37	6	2	311	356
03	Covington	158	11	14	394	577
04	Thibodaux	143	9	0	300	452
05	Lafayette	170	9	0	373	552
06	Lake Charles	118	7	4	169	298
07	Alexandria	114	10	5	226	355
08	Shreveport	37	3	3	283	326
09	Monroe	98	9	1	261	369
99	Location Unknown	1	1	0	5	7
STATE TOTALS		928	69	29	2,449	3,475

The Child Welfare data system captures one Goal and the field is replaced when the Goal changes without maintaining a history of Goals for the child. In addition, most children in Foster Care have a concurrent goal. The concurrent goal is not captured in the data system. Therefore, data on whether adoption is or was a goal during a point in time in the history of the case is not available. The table above illustrates the children in Foster Care on June 30, 2022 and the goal as it is currently or was at the time of case closure, if the case closed between June 30, 2022 and date of extraction, August 2, 2022.

12a. Number of Children Available for Adoption and Waiting Placement

NUMBER OF CHILDREN AVAILABLE FOR PLACEMENT AND NOT IN AN ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT ON JUNE 30, 2022						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	1	5	3	6	15
02	Baton Rouge	0	2	1	3	6
03	Covington	18	8	15	17	58
04	Thibodaux	1	9	7	34	51
05	Lafayette	3	10	10	29	52
06	Lake Charles	3	5	6	24	38
07	Alexandria	2	5	8	13	28
08	Shreveport	3	1	5	10	19
09	Monroe	2	6	4	21	33
99	Missing	0	0	1	0	1
STATE TOTALS		33	51	60	157	301

12b. Number of Children Available for Adoption and Waiting Placement Previous Year

NUMBER OF CHILDREN AVAILABLE FOR PLACEMENT AND NOT IN AN ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT ON JUNE 30, 2021						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	0	2	6	9	17
02	Baton Rouge	1	2	2	5	10
03	Covington	5	5	6	18	34
04	Thibodaux	1	5	13	31	50
05	Lafayette	3	2	5	32	42
06	Lake Charles	3	8	6	22	39
07	Alexandria	1	3	3	24	31
08	Shreveport	1	1	3	12	17
09	Monroe	1	6	4	31	42
99	Missing	1	0	0	0	1
STATE TOTALS		17	34	48	184	283

12c. Five Year Average of Number of Children Available for Adoption and Waiting Placement

AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION AND NOT IN AN ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT BY REGION BY AGE GROUP ON LAST DAY OF SFY 2018 - 2022						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	2	3	3	11	19
02	Baton Rouge	2	2	4	9	17
03	Covington	12	15	15	23	64
04	Thibodaux	3	11	15	32	61
05	Lafayette	2	6	11	33	52
06	Lake Charles	4	8	9	27	48
07	Alexandria	1	3	5	20	29
08	Shreveport	3	6	6	10	25
09	Monroe	5	10	11	29	55
99	Location Unknown	0	0	0	0	0
STATE AVERAGE		33	65	78	193	369

For Tables 12a, 12b and 12c, child's age is calculated as of the last day of the SFY (June 30th). Some children included in the above calculations may have an identified adoptive family but an adoption agreement has not been completed. A placement is not considered an adoptive placement for reporting purposes until an agreement to adopt has been finalized. Region location is determined by the parish location of the removal court.

13a. Average Number of Months in State Custody for All Children Who Left Custody during the Year

AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN MONTHS FOR CHILDREN EXITING FOSTER CARE DURING SFY 2022						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	4.25	7.68	8.25	6.47	6.73
02	Baton Rouge	8.33	17.22	13.93	14.17	14.00
03	Covington	11.56	19.96	20.75	20.81	19.57
04	Thibodaux	6.91	25.23	23.36	18.89	19.95
05	Lafayette	8.59	14.78	14.29	15.71	13.88
06	Lake Charles	10.95	24.71	24.95	22.54	22.66
07	Alexandria	12.06	20.30	15.73	19.58	17.84
08	Shreveport	7.13	11.11	10.90	13.41	11.13
09	Monroe	11.75	21.58	22.96	26.14	22.11
99	Location Unknown	0.67	7.33	0.00	9.00	3.50
STATE AVERAGES		8.39	17.93	16.68	16.63	15.70

13b. Average Number of Months in State Custody for All Children Who Left Custody during the Year - Previous Year

AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN MONTHS FOR CHILDREN EXITING FOSTER CARE DURING SFY 2021						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	4.47	13.59	10.92	8.73	9.65
02	Baton Rouge	8.55	15.35	15.93	17.38	15.55
03	Covington	12.25	21.89	21.68	20.40	20.10
04	Thibodaux	7.19	17.11	21.14	24.58	19.98
05	Lafayette	8.92	17.51	19.44	18.94	17.42
06	Lake Charles	12.82	23.70	27.38	36.45	28.65
07	Alexandria	7.09	21.14	16.21	20.51	17.80
08	Shreveport	9.02	16.06	14.16	17.40	14.68
09	Monroe	12.07	24.08	25.79	24.75	22.99
99	Location Unknown	0.00	26.00	0.00	1.50	4.00
STATE AVERAGES		9.03	19.19	18.82	19.86	18.03

13c. Five Year Average of the Number of Months in State Custody for All Children Who Left Custody during the Year (SFY 2018-2022)

AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN MONTHS FOR CHILDREN EXITING FOSTER CARE SFY 2018-2022						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre- Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	3.93	9.92	8.71	8.28	7.88
02	Baton Rouge	6.48	16.10	14.87	16.20	14.25
03	Covington	10.73	19.36	18.20	18.92	17.88
04	Thibodaux	6.87	20.01	19.24	21.58	18.96
05	Lafayette	7.57	16.36	16.47	17.58	15.55
06	Lake Charles	11.22	20.66	20.87	26.71	21.71
07	Alexandria	9.79	18.73	16.52	19.18	17.11
08	Shreveport	7.38	12.97	11.15	13.90	11.85
09	Monroe	12.16	22.34	22.67	25.36	22.11
99	Location Unknown	1.40	6.93	6.00	8.42	5.90
STATE AVERAGES		8.05	17.39	16.27	17.89	15.97

For Tables 13a, 13b and 13c, child's age is calculated as of the date of exit from Foster Care. Region location is determined by the parish location of the removal court.

14a. New Foster Homes Opened⁶

NUMBER OF NEW FOSTER HOMES CERTIFIED BY DCFS IN SFY 2022		
REGION		NEW HOMES
01	Greater New Orleans	59
02	Baton Rouge	46
03	Covington	124
04	Thibodaux	37
05	Lafayette	129
06	Lake Charles	78
07	Alexandria	69
08	Shreveport	79
09	Monroe	86
99	Location Unknown	2
STATE TOTAL		709

14b. New Foster Homes Opened Previous Year

NUMBER OF NEW FOSTER HOMES CERTIFIED BY DCFS IN SFY 2021		
REGION		NEW HOMES
01	Greater New Orleans	47
02	Baton Rouge	44
03	Covington	97
04	Thibodaux	58
05	Lafayette	92
06	Lake Charles	34
07	Alexandria	48
08	Shreveport	55
09	Monroe	75
99	Location Unknown	0
STATE TOTAL		550

⁶ The number of new certified foster homes is not reflective of the interest in becoming a foster parent. However, having fewer Home Development staff to perform recruitment and certification activities results in the lower number of newly certified homes.

14c. Five Year Average of New Foster Homes Opened

AVERAGE ANNUAL NUMBER OF NEW FOSTER HOMES CERTIFIED BY DCFS SFY 2018-2022		
REGION		5 YR AVG
01	Greater New Orleans	63
02	Baton Rouge	55
03	Covington	138
04	Thibodaux	76
05	Lafayette	112
06	Lake Charles	60
07	Alexandria	77
08	Shreveport	70
09	Monroe	83
99	Location Unknown	1
STATE AVERAGE		735

Foster Homes are included in the annual count of new foster homes if they have an initial certification completed during the SFY. Families that leave the program and return within 2 years are not required to complete all initial certification criteria and are not included in this measure.

15a. Foster Care Homes Housing More Than Four Children in State Custody⁷

NUMBER OF CHILDREN PLACED IN FOSTER HOMES WITH 5 OR MORE FOSTER CHILDREN AND NUMBER HOMES WITH 5 OR MORE FOSTER CHILDREN ON JUNE 30, 2022							
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total	Number of Homes
01	Greater New Orleans	0	0	0	5	5	1
02	Baton Rouge	6	2	11	14	33	6
03	Covington	2	6	10	15	33	6
04	Thibodaux	1	2	1	2	6	1
05	Lafayette	2	5	9	6	22	4
06	Lake Charles	0	1	4	0	5	1
07	Alexandria	3	3	4	8	18	4
08	Shreveport	0	0	0	0	0	0
09	Monroe	2	7	9	10	28	5
99	Location Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0
STATE TOTALS		16	26	48	60	150	28

15b. Foster Care Homes Housing More Than Four Children in State Custody Previous Year

NUMBER OF CHILDREN PLACED IN FOSTER HOMES WITH 5 OR MORE FOSTER CHILDREN AND NUMBER HOMES WITH 5 OR MORE FOSTER CHILDREN ON JUNE 30, 2021							
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total	Number of Homes
01	Greater New Orleans	0	0	0	0	0	0
02	Baton Rouge	0	0	1	9	10	2
03	Covington	3	3	3	2	11	2
04	Thibodaux	0	0	1	0	1	0
05	Lafayette	1	3	4	8	16	3
06	Lake Charles	0	0	0	1	1	0
07	Alexandria	0	2	1	2	5	1
08	Shreveport	0	1	5	0	6	1
09	Monroe	1	4	7	9	21	4
99	Location Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0
STATE TOTALS		5	13	22	31	71	13

⁷ Policy allows for foster families to care for up to 5 children in their home at a given time.

15c. Five Year Average of Foster Care Homes Housing More Than Four Children in State Custody

AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN PLACED IN FOSTER HOMES WITH MORE THAN 4 CHILDREN AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOMES WITH MORE THAN 4 FOSTER CHILDREN ON JUNE 30TH SFY 2018-2022							
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total	Number of Homes
01	Greater New Orleans	0	0	0	1	1	0
02	Baton Rouge	2	2	6	9	18	3
03	Covington	2	6	12	9	29	5
04	Thibodaux	1	2	5	4	11	2
05	Lafayette	2	4	6	8	22	4
06	Lake Charles	0	0	1	0	1	0
07	Alexandria	1	2	5	9	19	3
08	Shreveport	1	4	7	7	22	5
09	Monroe	2	4	6	8	19	3
99	Location Unknown	0	0	0	1	1	0
STATE AVERAGES		12	24	48	56	143	25

For Tables 15a, 15b and 15c, child's age as well as the number of children placed in a foster home is calculated as of June 30th of each year. Region location for children is determined by the parish location of the removal court. Region location for foster homes is based on the region of the Home Development Unit managing them.

16a. Number of Children Housed in Hospitals or Institutions⁸

NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN CONGREGATE CARE SETTINGS ON JUNE 30, 2022						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	0	0	0	14	14
02	Baton Rouge	1	0	1	12	14
03	Covington	0	1	1	24	26
04	Thibodaux	1	0	1	16	18
05	Lafayette	1	2	1	13	17
06	Lake Charles	0	0	0	6	6
07	Alexandria	0	0	0	12	12
08	Shreveport	2	0	1	9	12
09	Monroe	0	0	0	10	10
99	Location Unknown	0	0	0	0	0
STATE TOTALS		5	3	5	116	129

⁸ Louisiana has one of the lowest percentages of youth placed in a congregate care setting.

16b. Number of Children Housed in Hospitals or Institutions Previous Year

NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN CONGREGATE CARE SETTINGS ON JUNE 30, 2021						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	0	0	0	13	13
02	Baton Rouge	0	0	0	5	5
03	Covington	0	0	0	34	34
04	Thibodaux	2	0	0	28	30
05	Lafayette	1	0	0	25	26
06	Lake Charles	0	1	0	12	13
07	Alexandria	0	0	0	18	18
08	Shreveport	0	0	2	8	10
09	Monroe	0	0	0	12	12
99	Location Unknown	0	0	0	2	2
STATE TOTALS		3	1	2	157	163

16c. Five Year Average of Number of Children Housed in Hospitals or Institutions

AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN PLACED IN CONGREGATE CARE SETTINGS ON JUNE 30TH OF SFY 2018-2022						
Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Average All Ages
01	Greater New Orleans	1	0	0	18	19
02	Baton Rouge	0	0	0	9	10
03	Covington	0	0	1	35	36
04	Thibodaux	1	0	0	30	32
05	Lafayette	1	0	0	23	25
06	Lake Charles	0	1	0	18	19
07	Alexandria	1	0	0	20	21
08	Shreveport	0	1	1	10	12
09	Monroe	0	0	2	15	17
99	Location Unknown	0	0	0	1	1
STATE AVERAGES		5	2	5	178	191

For Tables 16a, 16b and 16c, child's age is calculated as of June 30th of each year. Region location for children is determined by the parish location of the removal court. Placement setting is based on June 30th of each year. Congregate Care Settings include Residential Treatment Facilities, Group Homes, Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities, Psychiatric Hospitals, Medical Hospitals, Supervised Independent Living Facilities, Detention Centers, Emergency Shelter Facilities, Job Corp, Youth Challenge programs, and Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities. Some congregate care placements are short term and may represent a temporary absence from the child's foster home.

17a. New Foster and Adoptive Homes Opened⁹

NUMBER OF NEW FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE HOMES CERTIFIED BY DCFS IN SFY 2022			
REGION		FOSTER HOMES	ADOPTIVE HOMES
01	Greater New Orleans	59	18
02	Baton Rouge	46	38
03	Covington	124	99
04	Thibodaux	37	31
05	Lafayette	129	115
06	Lake Charles	78	68
07	Alexandria	69	50
08	Shreveport	79	4
09	Monroe	86	72
99	Location Unknown	2	0
STATE TOTAL		709	495

17b. New Foster and Adoptive Homes Opened Previous Year

NUMBER OF NEW FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE HOMES CERTIFIED BY DCFS IN SFY 2021			
REGION		FOSTER HOMES	ADOPTIVE HOMES
01	Greater New Orleans	47	20
02	Baton Rouge	44	27
03	Covington	97	86
04	Thibodaux	58	54
05	Lafayette	92	76
06	Lake Charles	34	30
07	Alexandria	48	36
08	Shreveport	55	3
09	Monroe	75	54
99	Location Unknown	0	0
STATE TOTAL		550	386

⁹ Most foster homes are dually certified as adoptive homes. Dually certified homes are counted in both Foster and Adoptive Homes measures.

17c. Five Year Average of New Foster and Adoptive Homes Opened

AVERAGE ANNUAL NUMBER OF NEW FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE HOMES CERTIFIED BY DCFS SFY 2018-2022			
REGION		FOSTER HOMES	ADOPTIVE HOMES
01	Greater New Orleans	63	35
02	Baton Rouge	55	48
03	Covington	138	121
04	Thibodaux	76	71
05	Lafayette	112	96
06	Lake Charles	60	56
07	Alexandria	77	49
08	Shreveport	70	18
09	Monroe	83	69
99	Location Unknown	1	0
STATE AVERAGES		735	562

18. **Average Number of Cases Assigned to Each Foster Care Case Manager¹⁰**

Average Number of Cases Assigned to Foster Care Workers				
Region		Foster Care Staff	Foster Care Cases	Average Caseload
01	Greater New Orleans	11	198	18.00
02	Baton Rouge	18	378	21.00
03	Covington	41	579	14.12
04	Thibodaux	28	423	15.11
05	Lafayette	36	546	15.17
06	Lake Charles	15	261	17.40
07	Alexandria	27	353	13.07
08	Shreveport	23	355	15.43
09	Monroe	28	382	13.64
99	Location Unknown	0	0	0.00
State Totals/Average		227	3,475	15.31

Table 18 reflects the number of children in foster care on June 30, 2022. Location is organized by worker region.

Average caseload numbers do not accurately reflect caseload amounts. For the first six months, new workers have a lower caseload than veteran workers, which lowers the average. Because of this caseload averages throw out workers carrying less than 8 cases to better reflect the average of a full caseload. The caseload standard for workers that have completed basic training is 10; however, the caseload range can extend up to 25 cases.

¹⁰ The Council on Accreditation Foster Care caseload standard recommends no more than 15 children in foster care or kinship care, and no more than 8 children in treatment foster care.

19. Average Number of Cases Assigned to Each Adoption Case Manager¹¹

Average Number of Cases Assigned to Adoption Workers				
Region		Adoption Staff	Adoption Cases	Average Caseload
01	Greater New Orleans	4	44	11.00
02	Baton Rouge	3	30	10.00
03	Covington	7	86	12.29
04	Thibodaux	4	64	16.00
05	Lafayette	6	75	12.50
06	Lake Charles	3	44	14.67
07	Alexandria	4	35	8.75
08	Shreveport	3	29	9.67
09	Monroe	4	52	13.00
99	Location Unknown	0	0	0
State Totals/Average		38	459	12.08

Table 19 reflects the number of children in foster care and available for adoption on June 30, 2022. Location is organized by worker region. For the first six months, new workers have a lower caseload than veteran workers, which lowers the average. Because of this caseload averages throw out workers carrying less than 5 cases to better reflect the average of a full caseload.

¹¹ The Council on Accreditation Adoption caseload standard recommends caseloads that should not exceed 15 children.

20a. Number of Children Entering Foster Care by Reason for Entering Foster Care¹²

NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENTERING FOSTER CARE BY PRIMARY ENTRY REASON FOR SFY 2022 ¹³							
Region		Primary Foster Care Entry Reason	Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	Neglect	76	41	57	119	293
		Physical Abuse	4	4	5	13	26
		Sexual Abuse	0	0	1	11	12
		Greater New Orleans Region Totals	80	45	63	143	331
02	Baton Rouge	Emotional Maltreatment	0	0	0	1	1
		Neglect	71	32	58	53	214
		Physical Abuse	9	4	10	14	37
		Sexual Abuse	0	1	3	8	12
Baton Rouge Region Totals			80	37	71	76	264
03	Covington	FINS	0	0	0	1	1
		Neglect	96	67	68	123	354
		Physical Abuse	4	1	4	3	12
		Safe Haven Relinquishment	1	0	0	0	1
		Sexual Abuse	0	0	1	2	3
Covington Region Totals			101	68	73	129	371
04	Thibodaux	Neglect	93	45	53	57	248
		Physical Abuse	0	1	1	4	6
		Sexual Abuse	0	1	5	7	13
Thibodaux Region Totals			93	47	59	68	267
05	Lafayette	Emotional Maltreatment	0	0	1	2	3
		Neglect	158	85	107	120	470
		Physical Abuse	5	2	4	11	22
		Sexual Abuse	0	0	0	2	2
Lafayette Region Totals			163	87	112	135	497
06	Lake Charles	Neglect	56	34	35	39	164
		Physical Abuse	2	5	2	1	10
		Sexual Abuse	0	0	0	6	6
Lake Charles Region Totals			58	39	37	46	180
07	Alexandria	Neglect	70	38	45	77	230
		Physical Abuse	2	0	2	2	6
		Sexual Abuse	0	2	0	3	5
Alexandria Region Totals			72	40	47	82	241
08	Shreveport	Neglect	101	74	59	84	318
		Physical Abuse	6	2	9	11	28
		Safe Haven Relinquishment	1	0	0	0	1
		Sexual Abuse	0	0	6	11	17
Shreveport Region Totals			108	76	74	106	364

¹² These charts provide the primary reason a child enters foster care. Some children experience multiple foster care entries in the reporting period. Each foster care entry and the primary reason for the entry are counted. Entry Reasons have been combined into the major child abuse and Neglect categories.

¹³ Neglect reflects the highest number of entries as this allegation includes the most factors involved in a report.

09	Monroe	Neglect	61	47	41	50	199
		Physical Abuse	13	9	6	6	34
Monroe Region Totals			74	56	47	56	233
99	Location Unknown	Neglect	9	3	1	3	16
Location Unknown Totals			9	3	1	3	16
	Statewide	Emotional Maltreatment	0	0	1	3	4
		FINS	0	0	0	1	1
		Neglect	791	466	524	725	2,506
		Physical Abuse	45	28	43	65	181
		Safe Haven Relinquishment	2	0	0	0	2
		Sexual Abuse	0	4	16	50	70
State Totals			838	498	584	844	2,764

20b. Number of Children Entering Foster Care by Reason for Entering Foster Care Previous Year

NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENTERING FOSTER CARE BY PRIMARY ENTRY REASON FOR SFY 2021							
Region		Primary Foster Care Entry Reason	Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/Teen Age 10-17	Total
01	Greater New Orleans	Neglect	63	54	69	126	312
		Physical Abuse	1	1	5	6	13
		Sexual Abuse	0	0	0	3	3
Greater New Orleans Region Totals			64	55	74	135	328
02	Baton Rouge	Neglect	51	28	27	41	147
		Physical Abuse	3	2	4	4	13
		Sexual Abuse	0	0	0	4	4
		Surrender by Parent	0	0	0	1	1
Baton Rouge Region Totals			54	30	31	50	165
03	Covington	FINS	2	0	1	2	5
		Neglect	125	59	61	93	338
		Physical Abuse	4	4	2	9	19
		Safe Haven Relinquishment	1	0	0	0	1
		Sexual Abuse	0	0	1	3	4
Covington Region Totals			132	63	65	107	367
04	Thibodaux	FINS	0	0	0	1	1
		Neglect	67	45	40	57	209
		Physical Abuse	2	1	2	1	6
		Sexual Abuse	0	1	6	9	16
Thibodaux Region Totals			69	47	48	68	232
05	Lafayette	Neglect	92	67	62	84	305
		Physical Abuse	4	1	0	3	8
		Safe Haven Relinquishment	1	0	0	0	1
		Sexual Abuse	0	1	3	13	17
		Voluntary Placement	1	1	0	0	2
Lafayette Region Totals			98	70	65	100	333

06	Lake Charles	Neglect	34	25	22	28	109
		Physical Abuse	2	1	0	0	3
		Sexual Abuse	0	0	0	1	1
Lake Charles Region Totals			36	26	22	29	113
07	Alexandria	Neglect	62	35	66	57	220
		Physical Abuse	1	0	1	2	4
		Sexual Abuse	0	1	1	4	6
Alexandria Region Totals			63	36	68	63	230
08	Shreveport	Neglect	80	50	71	72	273
		Physical Abuse	4	5	4	7	20
		Safe Haven Relinquishment	3	0	0	0	3
		Sexual Abuse	0	0	2	7	9
Shreveport Region Totals			87	55	77	86	305
09	Monroe	Neglect	64	37	45	32	178
		Physical Abuse	7	0	0	1	8
		Sexual Abuse	0	0	0	1	1
Monroe Region Totals			83	57	71	37	45
99	Location Unknown	Neglect	0	0	2	5	7
		Voluntary Placement	1	0	0	0	1
Location Unknown Totals			1	0	2	5	8
	Statewide	FINS	2	0	1	3	6
		Neglect	638	400	465	595	2,098
		Physical Abuse	28	15	18	33	94
		Safe Haven Relinquishment	5	0	0	0	5
		Sexual Abuse	0	3	13	45	61
		Surrender by Parent	0	0	0	1	1
		Voluntary Placement	2	1	0	0	3
State Totals			675	419	497	677	2,268

20c. Five Year Average of Number of Children Entering Foster Care by Reason for Entering Foster Care

AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENTERING FOSTER CARE BY PRIMARY ENTRY REASON FOR SFY 2018-2022							
	Region		Infants Age 0-1	Young Children Age 2-4	Older Children Age 5-9	Pre-Teen/ Teen Age 10-17	Average All Ages
01	Greater New Orleans	Emotional Maltreatment	0	0	0	1	1
		Neglect	77	49	58	113	297
		Physical Abuse	4	3	4	9	20
		Safe Haven Relinquishment	0	0	0	0	0
		Sexual Abuse	0	0	1	4	5
		Greater New Orleans Region Totals		81	53	63	126
02	Baton Rouge	Emotional Maltreatment	0	0	0	0	0
		FINS	0	0	0	2	2
		Neglect	55	30	39	52	176
		Physical Abuse	6	3	6	8	23
		Safe Haven Relinquishment	1	0	0	0	1
		Sexual Abuse	0	0	1	5	7
		Surrender by Parent	0	0	0	0	1
		Voluntary Placement/Adoption	0	0	0	0	0
	Baton Rouge Region Totals		62	33	46	69	210
03	Covington	FINS	0	0	1	2	3
		Neglect	121	83	94	140	437
		Physical Abuse	5	4	10	8	26
		Safe Haven Relinquishment	1	0	0	0	1
		Sexual Abuse	0	0	3	7	11
		Voluntary Placement/Adoption	0	0	0	0	0
	Covington Region Totals		127	87	107	157	478
04	Thibodaux	FINS	0	0	0	0	0
		Neglect	84	54	68	78	283
		Physical Abuse	3	3	3	5	14
		Sexual Abuse	0	1	3	5	9
		Surrendered by Parent	0	0	0	0	0
	Thibodaux Region Totals		87	57	74	89	307
05	Lafayette	Emotional Maltreatment	0	0	0	1	1
		Neglect	111	76	85	109	382
		Physical Abuse	4	1	2	6	14
		Safe Haven Relinquishment	1	0	0	0	1
		Sexual Abuse	0	1	1	5	8
		Surrendered by Parent	0	0	0	0	0
		Voluntary Placement	0	0	0	0	1
	Voluntary Placement/Adoption	0	0	0	0	1	

	Lafayette Region Totals		117	78	90	122	407
06	Lake Charles	Neglect	60	37	39	44	180
		Physical Abuse	2	3	2	2	9
		Sexual Abuse	0	0	1	3	4
		Surrender by Parent	0	0	0	0	0
		Voluntary Placement/Adoption	0	0	0	0	0
	Lake Charles Region Totals		62	40	41	50	193
07	Alexandria	Neglect	70	49	58	70	248
		Physical Abuse	3	1	3	4	10
		Safe Haven Relinquishment	0	0	0	0	0
		Sexual Abuse	0	1	1	3	5
		Voluntary Placement	0	0	0	0	0
	Alexandria Region Totals		74	51	62	77	264
08	Shreveport	Emotional Maltreatment	1	0	0	1	1
		FINS	0	0	0	0	1
		Neglect	100	75	94	94	362
		Physical Abuse	11	11	16	15	52
		Safe Haven Relinquishment	1	0	0	0	1
		Sexual Abuse	1	2	6	8	17
		Surrender by Parent	0	0	0	0	0
	Shreveport Region Totals		113	88	116	118	434
09	Monroe	Neglect	66	42	49	49	206
		Physical Abuse	10	7	6	6	29
		Sexual Abuse	0	0	0	1	2
	Monroe Region Totals		76	49	55	56	237
99	Location Unknown	Neglect	5	3	2	5	15
		Physical Abuse	0	0	0	0	1
		Sexual Abuse	0	0	0	0	1
		Voluntary Placement	1	0	0	0	1
	Location Unknown Totals		6	3	3	6	18
	Statewide	Emotional Maltreatment	1	0	0	2	3
		FINS	1	0	1	6	7
		Neglect	750	496	586	754	2,586
		Physical Abuse	46	36	52	64	198
		Safe Haven Relinquishment	4	0	0	0	4
		Sexual Abuse	2	7	17	43	68
		Surrender by Parent	0	0	0	1	2
		Voluntary Placement	1	0	0	1	2
		Voluntary Placement/Adoption	0	0	1	0	1
	State Totals		804	540	657	870	2,871

For Tables 20a, 20b and 20c, child's age is calculated as of date of entry into Foster Care. Region is determined by the parish location of the removal court. Primary Foster Care entry reasons for court ordered entries reflect the action or inaction on the part of the parent that contributed to an unsafe environment for the child. There are four categories of abuse/Neglect associated with court ordered placement into DCFS custody. These are Emotional Maltreatment, Neglect, Physical Abuse and Sexual Abuse. Several types of abuse or Neglect fall under each of these categories. Some children enter DCFS custody by a voluntary plan made by the parent. Voluntary Foster Care entry may occur when a parent experiences a crisis, such as parental hospitalization when no one else is available to the parent to care for the child. A child may also enter DCFS custody by voluntary placement when the parent intends to surrender the child for adoption or the parents complete a surrender of the child for adoption. For Table 20c, counts and totals are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Activities to Recruit New Foster and Adoptive Homes

- DCFS Management Team and Staff develop partnerships with faith-based and private community partners statewide to assist with recruiting prospective foster/adoptive families.
- Utilization of and agency collaboration with AdoptUSKids (a service of the Children’s Bureau and the Adoption Exchange Association) and America’s Kids Belong (AKB) “I Belong Project” to: photo-list and video children who are without an identified adoptive family; recruit families nationwide that express interest in becoming a certified foster/adoptive parent; and introduce certified adoptive families from other states to Louisiana’s children who are awaiting a permanent family.
- Utilization of DCFS Facebook, DCFS intranet, television, radio appearances/interviews, in local media markets throughout the state to recruit and promote foster/adoptive parenting.
- Display and distribution of recruitment materials to the general public at conferences, public forums, community events, etc.
- Involvement of staff and foster/adoptive parents in speaking at community meetings and church events to increase public awareness of the need for foster/adoptive families.
- Develop and implement regional recruitment plans annually to address overall agency placement needs at the local level.
- Conduct an Annual Statewide Centralized Adoption Exchange as well as quarterly Regional Adoption Exchange meetings involving DCFS adoption and home development staff and community members. Information is shared regarding foster children awaiting adoptive placement, especially older youth and special needs children, with resource families willing to adopt our children with challenging behaviors. These exchange meetings also provide a forum for ideas and innovation in the areas of general, targeted and child specific recruitment.
- Utilization of a statewide Heart Gallery through a partnership with Healing Place Church (Empower 225) and local churches. This promotes the use of professional photos, videos and strength-based profiles of children awaiting an adoptive family.
- Pre-Service training for foster parents includes an adoption session that prepares foster parents on the journey through adoption and Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI), a therapeutic model that trains caregivers to provide effective support and treatment for at-risk children.

Activities to Improve the Rate of Placement in Adoptive Homes

- Ongoing public/private agency and faith-based partnerships to enhance and provide ongoing support for recruitment of foster/adoptive families for DCFS children available for adoption.
- Provide interested certified adoptive families with information on available pre- and post- adoption services.
- Ongoing cooperative effort and involvement with Louisiana Supreme Court's Court Improvement Project. This effort is aimed at identifying and overcoming barriers within the court system that may hinder the achievement of child permanency in a timely manner, to include the permanency option of foster care adoption.
- Use of purchase of service agreements with private child placing agencies within Louisiana and in other states in an effort to overcome geographic barriers and to expedite adoptive placements, services, and adoption finalizations across geographical boundaries.
- Plan, coordinate and host Louisiana's adoption reception at the Governor's mansion to publicly honor and acknowledge those families who have adopted a foster child or children during the previous federal fiscal year. The celebration is held annually in November and in conjunction with many regionally based recruitment activities in recognition of National Adoption Awareness Month. Salient among these is the release to local media statewide of the Governor's proclamation declaring November as Adoption Awareness Month in Louisiana and local coverage of smaller regional events held statewide in celebration and promotion of foster care adoption.
- Maintain DCFS website, which includes adoption related links and features, on a rotating basis, foster children available for adoption and in need of permanent placement.
- DCFS's partnership with National Adoption Association (NAA) offers national network supports for families throughout foster care to the adoption process. Specifically focuses on serving teenagers, large sibling groups and children with special needs.
- Louisiana, in partnership with AdoptUSKids is developing a statewide Speaker's Bureau. The goal is to raise public awareness and assist prospective foster parents to move from inquiry to action. The bureau will consist of foster/adoptive parents speaking to various media outlets when needed to promote and recruit for foster/adoptive parents. Our target population will be older youth and medically fragile children
- Utilization of the Wendy's Wonderful Kids Child Specific Recruitment Model. DCFS was awarded a grant through the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption for 8 recruiters. The model's child specific approach is to assist with recruitment for older youth, children with special needs and large sibling groups without identified adoptive resources. A ninth Recruiter was awarded to Louisiana to assist with Child Specific recruitment efforts for youth enrolled in the Extended Foster Care Program, ages 18-21.

- Through a contract with Louisiana Methodist Children’s Home, DCFS receives assistance with completing child specific relative home studies, statewide.
- The National Adoption Competency Mental Health Training Initiative (“**NTI**”) established by the Children’s Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, US Department of Health and Human Services; to enhance the adoption competency skills of child welfare professionals. Louisiana plans to launch this training in the fall of 2019, focusing on all adoption staff, subsidy/petition workers, adoption supervisors and managers.