

APPENDIX- FOSTER PARENT SURVEY DATA

Appendix to Braam Monitoring Report #4 (October 4, 2007):
Benchmark Report for the 2007 Survey of Foster Parents and Caregivers in Washington
State

Benchmark Report For the 2007 Survey of Foster Parents and Caregivers In Washington State

SESRC REPORT 07-054

BRAM #0468
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Prepared for

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2007 Survey Reports

This is one of four separate documents that present aspects of the 2007 Survey of foster parents and relative caregivers in Washington State. Below is a brief description of the contents of each report:

- **Benchmark Report 07-054**

This report presents an introduction to the purpose of the survey, provides an overview of the survey methods, and describes the calculation of eight specific Braam Panel benchmarks. The report presents the benchmark results for all licensed and unlicensed caregivers and for the six DSHS regions.

- **Appendix to the Benchmark Report**

The appendix to the benchmark report includes the detailed data tables and survey results that were used in the calculation of the eight specific benchmarks.

- **SESRC Data Report 07-048**

This report is a compilation of the survey methods and survey results and includes a copy of the telephone interview questionnaire, the letter mailed to foster parents and relative caregivers, and other survey materials. This report includes the final sample disposition, and the results for every question in the survey for licensed and unlicensed caregivers.

- **Appendix to the SESRC Data Report 07-048**

The appendix to the survey data report includes a frequency tabulation of all survey questions for all survey respondents. There are also separate sections for frequency tabulations of all survey questions for licensed caregivers, and for unlicensed caregivers.

Profile

Title:	Benchmark Report for the 2007 Survey of Foster Parents and Relative Caregivers in Washington State
Abstract:	<p>This report presents the results of the benchmark calculations for the 2007 survey of foster parents and relative caregivers in Washington State. SESRC was contracted to design and conduct an independent, statistically valid, anonymous telephone survey of foster parents and relative caregivers in Washington State that is conducted annually for the Braam Panel. The main purpose of the survey is to obtain information that is helpful to all areas of the Braam Settlement. In developing the survey design, questionnaire, and procedures, the SESRC consulted with the Braam Oversight Panel, the Washington State Foster Parent's Association, the Children's Administration (CA) Youth Advisory Group, and the foster parent liaison staff in CA. SESRC conducted a focus group of foster parents and relative caregivers in each of the six DSHS regions to evaluate an initial draft of the questionnaire. The telephone survey began on April 2, 2007 and continued through July 22, 2007, with a random sample of 3,800 foster parents and relative caregivers throughout Washington State. A total of 1234 interviews were conducted from this sample.</p>
Method:	<p>The survey methods included mailing a letter to a random sample of 3,800 foster parents and relative caregivers prior to the start of the telephone calling. Telephone interviews were then attempted with as many people as could be reached during the survey period. SESRC made use of a computer assisted telephone interview (CATI) system, and a call scheduler to ensure that up to 10 call attempts were made to reach each respondent. The telephone interview averaged 36 minutes in length.</p>
Results:	<p>The SESRC completed a total of 1234 interviews over the 16-week calling period. The cooperation rate for the telephone interview was 80%. The overall response rate was 60%; with a sample error of $\pm 2.8\%$.</p>
Timeframe:	June 2006 through August 2007
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SESRC Acronym:	BRAM
SESRC Number:	0468
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SURVEY DESIGN

Study Background and Survey Objectives

The SESRC designed and conducted an independent, statistically valid, anonymous telephone survey of foster parents and relative caregivers in Washington State. This is the first year for this survey which is to be conducted annually for the Braam Oversight Panel. This survey was conducted in 2007 and asked foster parents about their experiences during calendar year 2006.

The main purpose of the survey is to obtain information that is helpful to all areas of the Braam Settlement Agreement related to caregivers' work with foster children and associated outcomes and action steps. * The foster parent survey addresses all areas of the Braam Settlement Agreement: placement stability, mental health, foster parent training and information, unsafe and inappropriate placements, sibling separation, and services to adolescents. Several types of questions are included in the survey:

- Monitoring- Certain questions in the foster parent survey are being used by the Braam Oversight Panel to monitor Children's Administration's progress toward eight of the outcomes specified in the Braam Implementation Plan.* These specific questions are used to calculate benchmark data as described in the document entitled "Benchmark Report for the 2007 Survey of Foster Parents and Caregivers in Washington State" and the accompanying appendix.

- Informational- Numerous items within the foster parent survey are related to the goals of the Braam Settlement Agreement, but will not be used by the Braam Panel to monitor compliance with the agreement. In these areas, these data will be used by Children's Administration, providers, and stakeholders to better understand the experiences of foster parents and inform practice improvement. Data on all questions in the foster parent survey are provided in the document entitled "2007 Survey of Foster Parents and Caregivers in Washington State."

- Demographic and background information- The foster parent survey includes a number of demographic and background questions.

In developing the survey design, questionnaire, and procedures, the SESRC consulted with the Braam Oversight Panel, the Foster Parent Association of Washington State (FPAWS), the Children's Administration (CA) including the foster parent liaison staff in CA, and the Braam Survey Advisory Group. The survey questionnaire was extensively reviewed by foster parents, Braam Panel members, Children's Administration staff, and Braam plaintiffs' attorneys, to ensure that it would provide adequate measures of specific Braam Panel benchmarks over time.

* The Braam Settlement Agreement is available online at

<http://www.wsipp.wa.gov/braampanel/SettlementAgreement.pdf>

** The Braam Implementation Plan is available online at

<http://www.wsipp.wa.gov/braampanel/reports.asp>

Population and Sample

The population for this survey is all foster parents and relative caregivers who have cared for a child or children placed in state custody in Washington State. The sampling frame for this survey is the list of all foster parents and relative caregivers maintained by the State of Washington in March 2007.

The sample plan was designed to represent all six DSHS regions in proportion to their representation in all of Washington State. The sample includes both active and inactive caregivers, and those licensed through private agencies and those licensed through the state. The sample also includes those who are unlicensed relative caregivers and registered with the state. The sample is stratified by active and inactive status for foster parents and relative caregivers so that separate estimates can be calculated for each (see Table 1).

Braam Survey Advisory Group

A Braam Survey Advisory Group was formed in September 2006 to provide guidance and feedback in the design of survey materials, procedures, and more specifically to review questions for the telephone survey of foster parents and caregivers in Washington State. The Advisory group includes a foster parent or relative caregiver representative from each of the six Department of Social and Health Service (DSHS) regions, a youth representative from the CA Youth Advisory Group, the Executive Coordinator of the Braam Oversight Panel, a representative from the Children's Administration, the Director Ombudsman from the Washington Office of Family and Children's Ombudsman and the two SESRC Principal Investigators. Two of the foster parent representatives are members of the FPAWS and one of the foster parents is a private agency foster parent.

Table 1. Foster Parent and Relative Caregiver Sample Plan

Survey Populations by Region (3-26-07)							
Region	Foster Parents		Relative Caregivers	Active Total	Inactive Foster Parents	Combined Total	
	CA	Private					
1	856	135	988	1979	176	2155	
2	465	269	681	1415	111	1526	
3	655	349	1231	2235	161	2396	
4	619	424	1155	2198	227	2425	
5	445	641	860	1946	196	2142	
6	1038	287	945	2270	270	2540	
Total	4078	2105	5860	12043	1141	13184	

Proportional Sample by Region and Type							
Region	Foster Parents		Relative Caregivers	Active Total	Inactive Foster Parents	Combined Totals	
	CA	Private					
1	247	39	285	570	51	621	
2	134	78	196	408	32	440	
3	189	101	355	644	46	691	
4	178	122	333	634	65	699	
5	128	185	248	561	56	617	
6	299	83	272	654	78	732	
Total	1175	607	1689	3471	329	3800	

Final Number of Completed Telephone Interviews								
Region	Licensed Caregivers			Unlicensed & Inactive Caregivers			Combined Total	Max SE*
	CA	Private Agency	Relative Caregivers	Foster Parents	Relative Caregivers	Inactive		
1	125	14	5	7	70	3	224	6.3%
2	60	31	3	6	45	2	147	7.9%
3	69	45	1	5	82	4	206	6.7%
4	47	47	2	7	74	5	182	7.2%
5	55	78	1	5	57	5	201	6.7%
6	133	41	2	7	77	14	274	5.7%
Total	489	256	14	37	405	33	1234	2.7%
Max SE*	4.2%	5.9%	-	-	4.8%	-	2.7%	

*SE = Sample Error at 95% Confidence Level

SURVEY IMPLEMENTATION AND PROCEDURES

Human Subject Review

SESRC submitted the project design and questionnaire to the Institutional Review Board at Washington State University (WSU-IRB) for review of human subject procedures and compliance with federal regulations for human subject research. Approval was received on November 1, 2006 (IRB #9397).

Survey Procedures

Several procedures were implemented that helped to build a rapport with respondents and to ensure that respondents felt comfortable with the survey. Information about the survey was placed on the BRAAM website and the DSHS website just as the survey data collection period was getting underway. A letter was sent to 85 private foster parent agencies in the state. The letter informed the private agencies about the survey and its purpose.

The SESRC telephone interviewers were provided with a "Frequently Asked Questions" reference sheet to help answer questions that foster parents may have about the survey. An advance letter was sent to all foster parents in the sample approximately one week before the beginning of telephone interviews. The purpose of the advance letter was to let foster parents know that a SESRC interviewer would be calling and to inform them about the topic of the survey. The Spanish language version of the advance letter was printed on the reverse side in order to accommodate those respondents who primarily speak Spanish. A toll-free 800-telephone number that foster parents could call in to ask questions about the survey was maintained during the calling period.

A particular concern for this survey was to put in place safeguards to guarantee confidentiality of survey responses and anonymity in survey results. To ensure that survey respondents cannot be identified from their survey responses the SESRC follows federal guidelines for protection of human subjects and maintains the survey dataset in a secure location at SESRC. The survey dataset is not being released unless there is prior written approval from the Braam Oversight Panel.

Telephone Interviews. The calling on the full study commenced after the training on April 2, 2007 and calling was completed on July 22, 2007. The average number of call attempts across all cases was 10. The number of call attempts made to each sample respondent ranged from at least seven up to as high as 20 call attempts. Call attempts were made at different times of the day and on different days of the week in order to maximize the likelihood of reaching respondents. At least 3 evening call attempts were made and two daytime call attempts. At least one call attempt was made on the weekend. If an interviewer called at an inconvenient time for the respondent, the interviewer attempted to schedule a specific time to re-contact the household for an interview. If an answering machine was encountered, interviewers were instructed to leave a scripted answering machine message. If a message was left, the case was held for three days and then called on again. Only one AM message was left per case.

Almost 19,000 calls were made during the survey period to complete the 1234 interviews. The average length for a completed interview was 36 minutes. Interviewers made an average of eleven call attempts per hour during the calling period and one interview was completed approximately every one and a half hours on average.

Response Rates

Of the 3,800 telephone numbers that were included in the random sample 1,234 people participated in the survey for a cooperation rate of 80% and a response rate of 60%. The cooperation rate indicates the percent of people who are contacted for an interview that agree to participate in the survey. The response rate indicates the percent of people in the total sample, minus the ineligible respondents, that participate in the survey. The calculation of both measures is based on the suggested definitions and procedures defined by the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR). A total of 986 could never be completed because the numbers were disconnected and no other number could be identified. Only 305 people refused to participate in the survey, and 389 were counted ineligible because the respondent said they had not been foster parents or relative caregivers during 2006. Another 872 did not answer the phone or were not contactable because of an answering machine, and there were 14 additional non-interview cases because of language or because the respondent was deceased.

The cooperation rate and the response rate achieved in this study are higher than what is generally achieved in public opinion surveys. These high rates reflect what our telephone interviewers experienced in conducting the telephone interviews - that foster parents and relative caregivers were highly interested in the survey and in offering their views on the issues addressed in the survey. The high cooperation and response rate are also due to the efforts of the SESRC data collection supervisors and interviewers in contacting respondents at various times throughout the day and on various days throughout the week during the survey period to ensure that people who were not at home would still have an opportunity to participate in the survey.

This high response rate ensures that the survey results are truly representative of the population of all foster parents and relative caregivers in Washington State.

Sample Error

Sample error is a measure of the degree to which a randomly selected sample of respondents represents the population from which it is drawn, at a given level of confidence (usually 95%). The survey sample was designed to ensure that the maximum sample error for licensed caregivers and for unlicensed caregivers was no larger than plus or minus 5%, and for regional results was no larger than plus or minus 10% at a 95% confidence level. The survey achieved and exceeded these objectives. The maximum sample error for the entire survey of 1,234 respondents is no larger than plus or minus 2.7%. This means that we can have 95% confidence that sample results for all 1,234 respondents do not deviate from the population of all caregivers in the state by more than 2.7%.

Benchmark Measurement

Introduction

A number of specific questions in the foster parent survey are being used by the Braam Oversight Panel to monitor Children's Administration's progress toward the following eight outcomes specified in the Braam Implementation Plan:

Outcomes related to Foster Parent Training and Information (note: pursuant to the Braam Implementation Plan, these measures apply to licensed caregivers only):

- C 1.1.1 Percentage of licensed caregivers reporting adequate training for their role responsibilities (including but not limited to emotional, behavioral, medical, educational advocacy, birth parents and cultural competency).
- C 1.2.1 Percentage of licensed caregivers reporting adequate support for their role responsibilities, by region and for the state as a whole (including but not limited to crisis support, timely notification about case planning meetings, and cultural competency resources).
- C 1.3.1 Percentage of caregivers reporting adequate provision of information about the needs of children placed with them, by region and for the state as a whole (including but not limited to behavioral, medical and educational needs).

Outcomes related to Mental Health (applies to both licensed and unlicensed caregivers):

- B 4.1.1 Each child will receive behavioral health services from the same individual provider

Outcomes related to Unsafe and Inappropriate Placements (applies to both licensed and unlicensed caregivers):

- D 1.3.1 Percentage (and absolute number) of children (with a history of sexually aggressive or physically assaultive behavior with other children) where the protective measures in the Department's October 10, 2004 memo are met in each placement decision and fully documented.
- D 1.4.1 Percentage of medically fragile children connected to appropriate and ongoing medical care and placed with caregivers who receive consultation and training regarding their caretaking responsibilities for the medical condition.
- D 1.5.1 Percentage of children receiving a private and individual face-to-face visit from the caseworker for each full placement month.

Outcomes related to Sibling Separation (applies to both licensed and unlicensed caregivers):

- E 2.1.1 Percentage of children placed apart from their siblings who have two or more monthly visits or contacts (not including staffing meetings or court events) with some or all of their siblings.

This report describes which survey questions are included in each benchmark, and how the survey responses enter into the calculation of each benchmark. The benchmark measurement and calculation is done at the request of the Braam Panel and after discussion with all stakeholders in the Braam Settlement Agreement.

There are four guiding principles in the development of these benchmark measures:

- (1) that the measurement is done accurately;
- (2) that it is fair to all stakeholders;
- (3) that it be reliable;
- (4) that the calculation be easily understood and explainable to others.

Methodology

The procedure for obtaining a benchmark measurement has six basic steps:

- (1) Identify the relevant survey questions for each benchmark.
- (2) Code all responses to each question to be included in a benchmark, as being:
 - In compliance
 - Out of compliance
 - Not applicable
- (3) Obtain the frequency of each code for every question in the benchmark, and calculate averages for those questions to be combined.
- (4) Calculate the benchmark for each question according to the following formula:

$$\frac{\# \text{ In compliance}}{\# \text{ In compliance} + \# \text{ Out of compliance}}$$

- (5) Calculate the reliability and/or the margin of error.
- (6) Calculate the benchmark for subgroups and regions:
 - Active foster parents
 - Inactive foster parents
 - Relative caregivers
 - Six regions

Benchmarks

The following pages summarize the benchmark results, and also describe the calculation of each of the eight survey benchmarks and the questions included in each benchmark measurement. Detailed information about the questions included in the benchmark calculations is included in the appendix to this report.

Notes to the Benchmark Calculations

- Survey questions asked about experiences in the year 2006, and all benchmarks are based on survey results for 2006.
- Results are presented separately for licensed and unlicensed caregivers, since some benchmarks only apply to licensed caregivers, and others apply to all caregivers.
- While the total number of survey respondents is 1,234 some questions did not apply to some foster parents and relative caregivers. Thus, the total number of responses to any specific question will be less than 1,234, and in some cases much less.
- The data tables for the benchmark measures in this report only show the number of survey respondents that are “in” compliance with the benchmark and those that are “out” of compliance with the benchmark. The number of respondents for whom the benchmark did not apply, or that missed the question is not shown because this can be determined by subtracting the total in each data table from the total number of survey respondents (1,234).
- Most benchmarks have screening questions to make sure that they are applied only to the relevant caregivers. These screening questions and the survey data are described in the calculation of each benchmark measure.
- For benchmark C.1.2.1 there is one question (Q78) that will not be factored into the benchmark for the year 2006, because the related policy was not yet in place. In subsequent years, this question will be used in the benchmark.
- Benchmarks C.1.1.1, C.1.2.1, and C.1.3.1 apply only to licensed caregivers. Thus, for these benchmarks the % in compliance in the overall summary results (page 9) is limited to only licensed caregivers.

Overall Summary Results

Benchmark	% In Compliance
C.1.1.1 Percentage of <u>licensed caregivers</u> reporting adequate training for their role responsibilities (including but not limited to emotional, behavioral, medical, educational advocacy, birth parents and cultural competency).	88.6%
C.1.2.1 Percentage of <u>licensed caregivers</u> reporting adequate support for their role responsibilities, by region and for the state as a whole (including but not limited to crisis support, timely notification about case planning meetings, and cultural competency resources).	76.3%
C.1.3.1 Percentage of <u>licensed caregivers</u> reporting adequate provision of information about the needs of children placed with them, by region and for the state as a whole (including but not limited to behavioral, medical and educational needs).	72.8%
D.1.3.1 Percentage (and absolute number) of children (with a history of sexually aggressive or physically assaultive behavior with other children) where the protective measures in the Department's October 10, 2004 memo are met in each placement decision and fully documented (PAY and SAY).	44.7%
D.1.4.1 Percentage of medically fragile children connected to appropriate and ongoing medical care and placed with caregivers who receive consultation and training regarding their caretaking responsibilities for the medical condition.	74.9%
D.1.5.1 Percentage of children receiving a private and individual face-to-face visit from the caseworker for each full placement month.	37.9%
B.4.1.1 Each child will receive behavioral health services from the same individual provider.	75.4%
E.2.1.1 Percentage of children placed apart from their siblings who have two or more monthly visits or contacts (not including staffing meetings or court events) with some or all of their siblings.	48.4%

**Results for Licensed Caregivers
 And Unlicensed Caregivers**

Benchmark	% In Compliance	
	Licensed Caregivers	Unlicensed Caregivers
C.1.1.1 Percentage of licensed caregivers reporting adequate training for their role responsibilities (including but not limited to emotional, behavioral, medical, educational advocacy, birth parents and cultural competency).	88.6%	80.4%
C.1.2.1 Percentage of licensed caregivers reporting adequate support for their role responsibilities, by region and for the state as a whole (including but not limited to crisis support, timely notification about case planning meetings, and cultural competency resources).	76.3%	72.3%
C.1.3.1 Percentage of licensed caregivers reporting adequate provision of information about the needs of children placed with them, by region and for the state as a whole (including but not limited to behavioral, medical and educational needs).	72.8%	74.9%
D.1.3.1 Percentage (and absolute number) of children (with a history of sexually aggressive or physically assaultive behavior with other children) where the protective measures in the Department's October 10, 2004 memo are met in each placement decision and fully documented (PAY and SAY).	50.8%	12.3%
D.1.4.1 Percentage of medically fragile children connected to appropriate and ongoing medical care and placed with caregivers who receive consultation and training regarding their caretaking responsibilities for the medical condition.	77.9%	68.8%
D.1.5.1 Percentage of children receiving a private and individual face-to-face visit from the caseworker for each full placement month.	38.1%	37.6%
B.4.1.1 Each child will receive behavioral health services from the same individual provider.	74.4%	78.0%
E.2.1.1 Percentage of children placed apart from their siblings who have two or more monthly visits or contacts (not including staffing meetings or court events) with some or all of their siblings.	45.4%	54.8%

Results for All Caregivers by Region

Benchmark	% In Compliance by Region					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
C.1.1.1 Adequate training*	92.8%	90.0%	89.7%	87.0%	90.4%	83.0%
C.1.2.1 Adequate support*	74.5%	77.9%	75.2%	77.5%	74.6%	78.2%
C.1.3.1 Adequate information*	73.7%	76.1%	66.2%	81.5%	70.6%	72.1%
D.1.3.1 PAY and SAY	35.7%	47.7%	46.9%	26.7%	53.1%	50.6%
D.1.4.1 Medically fragile care	70.5%	84.4%	73.0%	79.7%	81.1%	68.0%
D.1.5.1 Monthly visits	41.2%	37.0%	38.3%	36.9%	36.9%	36.9%
B.4.1.1 Behavioral health services	80.0%	86.0%	71.2%	72.9%	81.7%	67.6%
E.2.1.1 Sibling visits	49.4%	54.9%	46.5%	38.5%	51.6%	50.0%

*Benchmarks C.1.1.1, C.1.2.1, and C.1.3.1 apply only to licensed caregivers. Thus, for these benchmarks the % in compliance is limited to only licensed caregivers.

Results for Licensed Caregivers by Region

Benchmark	% In Compliance by Region					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
C.1.1.1 Adequate training	92.8%	90.0%	89.7%	87.0%	90.4%	83.0%
C.1.2.1 Adequate support	74.5%	77.9%	75.2%	77.5%	74.6%	78.2%
C.1.3.1 Adequate information	73.7%	76.1%	66.2%	81.5%	70.6%	72.1%
D.1.3.1 PAY and SAY	38.0%	53.8%	59.5%	36.4%	60.7%	53.9%
D.1.4.1 Medically fragile care	74.2%	80.6%	71.1%	88.6%	86.1%	72.5%
D.1.5.1 Monthly visits	37.8%	39.3%	41.1%	39.5%	36.7%	36.1%
B.4.1.1 Behavioral health services	79.2%	87.1%	69.0%	75.0%	81.1%	64.6%
E.2.1.1 Sibling visits	45.8%	46.7%	46.8%	36.8%	50.0%	45.1%

Results for Unlicensed Caregivers by Region

Benchmark	% In Compliance by Region					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
C.1.1.1 Adequate training	85.0%	92.3%	75.0%	73.3%	84.8%	78.0%
C.1.2.1 Adequate support	79.6%	75.5%	71.3%	65.1%	65.2%	76.4%
C.1.3.1 Adequate information	82.9%	82.8%	74.5%	69.7%	68.7%	72.2%
D.1.3.1 PAY and SAY	23.1%	0.0%	8.3%	0.0%	0.0%	27.3%
D.1.4.1 Medically fragile care	62.1%	100.0%	76.0%	66.7%	70.6%	58.3%
D.1.5.1 Monthly visits	47.8%	32.7%	34.6%	33.3%	37.3%	38.7%
B.4.1.1 Behavioral health services	81.8%	83.3%	75.0%	68.4%	83.3%	78.3%
E.2.1.1 Sibling visits	59.1%	66.7%	45.8%	40.7%	58.3%	62.1%

C.1.1.1 Percentage of licensed caregivers reporting adequate training for their role responsibilities (including but not limited to emotional, behavioral, medical, educational advocacy, birth parents and cultural competency).

This benchmark is measured by one question (Q27). This question asks foster parents to think about **all** of their training and comment on its adequacy. According to the Implementation Plan, this benchmark applies to all licensed caregivers including foster parents and relative caregivers.

Benchmark Results

Q27 *Overall, thinking about ALL of the training that you have had in the last three years, how adequately has it prepared you to care for the needs of foster children placed in your home? Would you say . . .*

Q27 How adequately has all the training in the last 3 years prepared you? * BQ27 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ27 Benchmark		
		In	Out	Total
Q27 How adequately has all the training in the last 3 years prepared you?	VERY ADEQUATELY	334	0	334
	SOMEWHAT ADEQUATELY	505	0	505
	SOMEWHAT INADEQUATELY	0	82	82
	OR VERY INADEQUATELY	0	47	47
Total		839	129	968

C.1.1.1 Benchmark Summary

Type	Region	In	Out	Total	% Compliance
Licensed Caregivers	1	128	10	138	92.8%
	2	81	9	90	90.0%
	3	104	12	116	89.7%
	4	80	12	92	87.0%
	5	123	13	136	90.4%
	6	142	29	171	83.0%
Total		658	85	743	88.6%
Unlicensed Caregivers	1	34	6	40	85.0%
	2	24	2	26	92.3%
	3	30	10	40	75.0%
	4	33	12	45	73.3%
	5	28	5	33	84.8%
	6	32	9	41	78.0%
Total		181	44	225	80.4%
Overall Combined		839	129	968	86.7%

C.1.2.1 Percentage of licensed caregivers reporting adequate support for their role responsibilities, by region and for the state as a whole (including but not limited to crisis support, timely notification about case planning meetings, and cultural competency resources).

This benchmark measure combines a total of seven questions: Q89, Q93, Q94, Q96, Q57, Q58, and Q78, but some questions are averaged so that equal weight is given to each of the four subsections of this benchmark: crisis support, cultural competency support, quality of help and support from the agency and social worker, and timely notification about case planning meetings. According to the Implementation Plan, this benchmark applies to licensed relative and non-relative caregivers. The results for Q78 are included in this report, but will not be factored into the benchmark for the year 2006, because the related policy was not yet in place. In subsequent years, this question will be used in the benchmark.

Benchmark Results

Q89 The last time you had a crisis or emergency related to your role as a foster parent, and asked the agency for help, did you get a timely response? * BQ89 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ89 Benchmark		
		In	Out	Total
Q89 The last time you had a crisis or emergency related to your role as a foster parent, and asked the agency for help, did you get a timely response?	YES, RIGHT AWAY	229	0	229
	YES, BUT IT TOOK AWHILE	100	0	100
	OR NO	0	88	88
Total		329	88	417

Q93 How supportive is the agency in helping you deal with cultural or ethnic issues? Would you say they are . . . * BQ93 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ93 Benchmark		
		In	Out	Total
Q93 How supportive is the agency in helping you deal with cultural or ethnic issues? Would you say they are . . .	VERY SUPPORTIVE	445	0	445
	SOMEWHAT SUPPORTIVE	249	0	249
	SOMEWHAT UNSUPPORTIVE	0	47	47
	OR VERY UNSUPPORTIVE	0	50	50
Total		694	97	791

Q94 Overall how satisfied are you with the quality of help and support provided by this child's social worker in 2006? * BQ94 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ94 Benchmark		
		In	Out	Total
Q94 Overall how satisfied are you with the quality of help and support provided by this child's social worker in 2006?	VERY SATISFIED	531	0	531
	SOMEWHAT SATISFIED	320	0	320
	SOMEWHAT DISSATISFIED	0	146	146
	OR VERY DISSATISFIED	0	130	130
Total		851	276	1127

Q96 Overall how satisfied are you with the quality of help and support provided by the agency in 2006? * BQ96 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ96 Benchmark		
		In	Out	Total
Q96 Overall how satisfied are you with the quality of help and support provided by the agency in 2006?	VERY SATISFIED	454	0	454
	SOMEWHAT SATISFIED	391	0	391
	SOMEWHAT DISSATISFIED	0	172	172
	OR VERY DISSATISFIED	0	118	118
Total		845	290	1135

Q57 How often did the agency notify you about court hearings for this child, in a timely way, within 10 working days, prior to court hearings? * BQ57 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ57 Benchmark		
		In	Out	Total
Q57 How often did the agency notify you about court hearings for this child, in a timely way, within 10 working days, prior to court hearings?	ALWAYS	417	0	417
	MOST OF THE TIME	183	0	183
	ABOUT HALF THE TIME	0	87	87
	RARELY	0	104	104
	NEVER	0	109	109
Total		600	300	900

Q58 How often did the agency advise you that you would have an opportunity to be heard at these hearings? * BQ58 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ58 Benchmark		
		In	Out	Total
Q58 How often did the agency advise you that you would have an opportunity to be heard at these hearings?	ALWAYS	404	0	404
	MOST OF THE TIME	101	0	101
	ABOUT HALF THE TIME	0	56	56
	RARELY	0	104	104
	OR NEVER	0	226	226
Total		505	386	891

Q78 Did you receive timely notification at least 5 days prior, about shared case planning meetings? * BQ78 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ78 Benchmark		
		In	Out	Total
Q78 Did you receive timely notification at least 5 days prior, about shared case planning meetings?	ALWAYS	401	0	401
	MOST OF THE TIME	166	0	166
	ABOUT HALF THE TIME	0	73	73
	RARELY	0	106	106
	OR NEVER	0	316	316
Total		567	495	1062

C.1.2.1 Benchmark Calculation:

Question #	A In Compliance	B Out of Compliance	C Total
Q89	329	88	417
Q93	694	97	791
Q94	851	276	1127
Q96	845	290	1135
Average of Q57 & Q58 & Q78**	(600+505)/2 =552	(300+386)/2 =343	895
Totals	3271	1094	4365

**Q78 will not be factored into the benchmark for the year 2006, because the related policy was not yet in place. In subsequent years, this question will be used in the benchmark.

C.1.2.1 Benchmark Summary:

Type	Region	In	Out	Total	% Compliance
Licensed Caregivers	1	407	139	546	74.5%
	2	272	77	349	77.9%
	3	324	107	431	75.2%
	4	269	78	347	77.5%
	5	405	138	543	74.6%
	6	538	150	688	78.2%
Total		2215	689	2904	76.3%
Unlicensed Caregivers	1	203	52	255	79.6%
	2	142	46	188	75.5%
	3	211	85	296	71.3%
	4	164	88	252	65.1%
	5	135	72	207	65.2%
	6	201	62	263	76.4%
Total		1056	405	1461	72.3%
Overall Combined		3271	1094	4365	74.9%

C.1.3.1 Percentage of licensed caregivers reporting adequate provision of information about the needs of children placed with them, by region and for the state as a whole (including but not limited to behavioral, medical and educational needs).

This benchmark measure combines a total of six questions: Q59, Q61, Q64, Q60, Q57, Q62, and Q65, and all questions are given equal weight. Questions refer to information provided to the caregiver at the time of placement. For some foster parents this will have been earlier than the year we are assessing. Thus, these questions factor into the benchmarks only for cases where placement occurred during 2006 (or applicable period). According to the Implementation Plan, this benchmark applies to licensed relative and non-relative caregivers.

This benchmark is restricted to only those foster parents whose children were placed with them in 2006.

C.1.3.1 Benchmark Results

Q59 You were provided adequate information about this child's health needs in 2006? * BQ59 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ59 Benchmark		
		In	Out	Total
Q59 You were provided adequate information about this child's health needs in 2006?	Strongly Agree	281	0	281
	Somewhat Agree	104	0	104
	Somewhat Disagree	0	36	36
	Strongly Disagree	0	50	50
Total		385	86	471

Q61 You were provided adequate information about this child's education needs in 2006? * BQ61 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ61 Benchmark		
		In	Out	Total
Q61 You were provided adequate information about this child's education needs in 2006?	Strongly Agree	115	0	115
	Somewhat Agree	66	0	66
	Somewhat Disagree	0	25	25
	Strongly Disagree	0	40	40
Total		181	65	246

Q64 You were provided adequate information about this child's behavioral needs in 2006? * BQ64 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ64 Benchmark		Total
		In	Out	
Q64 You were provided adequate information about this child's behavioral needs in 2006?	Strongly Agree	249	0	249
	Somewhat Agree	99	0	99
	Somewhat Disagree	0	36	36
	Strongly Disagree	0	62	62
Total		348	98	446

Q60 Did you receive health information for this child within 30 days after this child was placed in your home? * BQ60 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ60 Benchmark		Total
		In	Out	
Q60 Did you receive health information for this child within 30 days after this child was placed in your home?	Yes	321	0	321
	No	0	139	139
Total		321	139	460

Q62 Did you receive information about this child's education history or needs within 30 days after this child was placed in your home? * BQ62 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ62 Benchmark		Total
		In	Out	
Q62 Did you receive information about this child's education history or needs within 30 days after this child was placed in your home?	Yes	167	0	167
	No	0	80	80
Total		167	80	247

**Q65 Did you receive information about this child's behavioral problems
 or substance abuse issues within 30 days after he or she was placed
 in your home? * BQ65 Benchmark Crosstabulation**

Count		BQ65 Benchmark		Total
		In	Out	
Q65 Did you receive information about this child's behavioral problems or substance abuse issues within 30 days after he or she was placed in your home?	Yes	292	0	292
	No	0	143	143
Total		292	143	435

C.1.3.1 Benchmark calculation:

Question #	A In Compliance	B Out of Compliance	C Total
Q59	385	86	471
Q61	181	65	246
Q64	348	98	446
Q60	321	139	460
Q62	167	80	247
Q65	292	143	435
Totals	1694	611	2305

C.1.3.1 Benchmark Summary

Type	Region	In	Out	Total	% Compliance
Licensed Caregivers	1	250	89	339	73.7%
	2	140	44	184	76.1%
	3	139	71	210	66.2%
	4	123	28	151	81.5%
	5	194	81	275	70.6%
	6	269	104	373	72.1%
Total		1115	417	1532	72.8%
Unlicensed Caregivers	1	107	22	129	82.9%
	2	82	17	99	82.8%
	3	123	42	165	74.5%
	4	92	40	132	69.7%
	5	79	36	115	68.7%
	6	96	37	133	72.2%
Total		579	194	773	74.9%
Overall Combined		1694	611	2305	73.5%

D.1.3.1 Percentage (and absolute number) of children (with a history of sexually aggressive or physically assaultive behavior with other children) where the protective measures in the Department’s October 10, 2004 memo are met in each placement decision and fully documented (PAY and SAY).

This benchmark combines questions about physically aggressive youth (PAY) and sexually aggressive youth (SAY).

For PAY, Q110 is a screen question. Only foster parents who answer “yes” that they provided foster care for a child identified by the agency as having a history of being physically assaultive in 2006 are included in the calculation of this benchmark. Answers to Q109, Q111, Q112 must all be YES to be considered in compliance

For SAY, Q115 is a screen question. Only foster parents who answer “yes” that they provided foster care for a child identified by the agency as having a history of being sexually aggressive in 2006 are included in the calculation of this benchmark. Answers to Q114, Q116, Q117 must all be YES to be considered in compliance

D.1.3.1 Benchmark Results:

Q112 Was the safety and supervision plan regarding this physically assaultive child discussed with you? *
Q111 Was a written safety and supervision plan provided to you regarding this physically assaultive child? *
Q109 Have you received specialized training to care for physically assaultive children? Crosstabulation

Count						
Q109 Have you received specialized training to care for physically assaultive children?		Q112 Was the safety and supervision plan regarding this physically assaultive child discussed with you?	Q111 Was a written safety and supervision plan provided to you regarding this physically assaultive child?			Total
			Don't know	Yes	No	
Yes		Don't know	1	0	0	1
		Yes	1	93	10	104
		No	1	3	25	29
		Total	3	96	35	134
No		Don't know	0	1	0	1
		Yes	1	37	14	52
		No	1	4	38	43
		Total	2	42	52	96

Q117 Was the safety and supervision plan regarding this sexually aggressive child discussed with you?
*** Q116 Was a written safety and supervision plan provided to you regarding this sexually aggressive child? * Q114 Have you received specialized training to care for sexually aggressive children?**
Crosstabulation

Count					
Q114 Have you received specialized training to care for sexually aggressive children?	Q117 Was the safety and supervision plan regarding this sexually aggressive child discussed with you?	Q116 Was a written safety and supervision plan provided to you regarding this sexually aggressive child?			Total
		Don't know	Yes	No	
Don't know	Yes		1		1
	Total		1		1
Yes	Yes		67	3	70
	No		2	17	19
	Total		69	20	89
No	Yes	1	13	6	20
	No	0	1	15	16
	Total	1	14	21	36

D.1.3.1 Benchmark Calculation:

Question #	A In Compliance	B Out of Compliance	C Total
Q109, Q111, Q112 = YES	93	139	232
Q114, Q116, Q117 = YES	67	59	126
Totals	160	198	358

D.1.3.1 Benchmark Summary:

Type	Region	In	Out	Total	% Compliance
Licensed Caregivers	1	27	44	71	38.0%
	2	21	18	39	53.8%
	3	22	15	37	59.5%
	4	8	14	22	36.4%
	5	34	22	56	60.7%
	6	41	35	76	53.9%
Total		153	148	301	50.8%
Unlicensed Caregivers	1	3	10	13	23.1%
	2	0	5	5	0.0%
	3	1	11	12	8.3%
	4	0	8	8	0.0%
	5	0	8	8	0.0%
	6	3	8	11	27.3%
Total		7	50	57	12.3%
Overall Combined		160	198	358	44.7%

D.1.4.1 Percentage of medically fragile children connected to appropriate and ongoing medical care and placed with caregivers who receive consultation and training regarding their caretaking responsibilities for the medical condition.

This benchmark has two screen questions (Q33 and Q38). Only foster parents who answer "yes" that they were caring for a child identified by the agency as "medically fragile" (Q33) are included in the calculation for this benchmark measure. Q38 is a second screen question. Foster parents who answer "no" or "not sure" that they needed medical care for this child in 2006, are considered "in compliance" if Q35 is "yes." Foster parents who answer "yes" to Q38, must also answer "yes" to Q39 to be considered in compliance.

D.1.4.1 Benchmark Results

Q35 Did you receive preparation and consultation to adequately care for this medically fragile child? * BQ35 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ35 Benchmark		Total
		In	Out	
Q35 Did you receive preparation and consultation to adequately care for this medically fragile child?	Yes	126	0	126
	No	0	86	86
Total		126	86	212

Q39 In 2006 were you connected to ongoing and appropriate medical care for this child? * BQ39 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ39 Benchmark		Total
		In	Out	
Q39 In 2006 were you connected to ongoing and appropriate medical care for this child?	Yes	166	0	166
	No	0	12	12
Total		166	12	178

D.1.4.1 Benchmark Calculation:

Question #	A In Compliance	B Out of Compliance	C Total
Q35	126	86	212
Q39	166	12	178
Totals	292	98	390

D.1.4.1 Benchmark Summary:

Type	Region	In	Out	Total	% Compliance
Licensed Caregivers	1	49	17	66	74.2%
	2	29	7	36	80.6%
	3	27	11	38	71.1%
	4	31	4	35	88.6%
	5	31	5	36	86.1%
	6	37	14	51	72.5%
Total		204	58	262	77.9%
Unlicensed Caregivers	1	18	11	29	62.1%
	2	9	0	9	100.0%
	3	19	6	25	76.0%
	4	16	8	24	66.7%
	5	12	5	17	70.6%
	6	14	10	24	58.3%
Total		88	40	128	68.8%
Overall Combined		292	98	390	74.9%

D.1.5.1 Percentage of children receiving a private and individual face-to-face visit from the caseworker for each full placement month.

Q53. *In 2006, about how often did this child's social worker <SW INITIALS> have a private and individual face-to-face visit with this child (either at home or outside of the home)? Would you say . . .*

This benchmark only has one question (Q53).

D.1.5.1 Benchmark Results:

Q53 How often did this child's social worker have a private and individual face-to-face visit with this child either at home or outside of the home? * BQ53 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ53 Benchmark		
		In	Out	Total
Q53 How often did this child's social worker have a private and individual face-to-face visit with this child either at home or outside of the home?	SEVERAL TIMES A MONTH	165	0	165
	ABOUT ONCE A MONTH	255	0	255
	ABOUT EVERY OTHER MONTH	0	128	128
	ABOUT EVERY THREE MONTHS	0	211	211
	ABOUT EVERY SIX MONTHS	0	67	67
	ONCE IN THE WHOLE YEAR	0	92	92
	OR NEVER IN 2006	0	189	189
Total		420	687	1107

D.1.5.1 Benchmark Summary:

Type	Region	In	Out	Total	% Compliance
Licensed Caregivers	1	51	84	135	37.8%
	2	35	54	89	39.3%
	3	44	63	107	41.1%
	4	34	52	86	39.5%
	5	47	81	128	36.7%
	6	60	106	166	36.1%
Total		271	440	711	38.1%
Unlicensed Caregivers	1	33	36	69	47.8%
	2	16	33	49	32.7%
	3	28	53	81	34.6%
	4	21	42	63	33.3%
	5	22	37	59	37.3%
	6	29	46	75	38.7%
Total		149	247	396	37.6%
Overall Combined		420	687	1107	37.9%

B.4.1.1 Each child will receive behavioral health services from the same individual provider.

Q71. *During 2006, did the same clinician or team of clinicians provide services to this child/your foster child or did this child/your foster child experience a change in clinicians or treatment teams?*

This benchmark has a screen question (Q66). Only foster parents who answer “yes” that during 2006 they were involved in dealing with this child’s mental health issues are included in the calculation of this benchmark.

B.4.1.1 Benchmark Results:

Q71 Did the same clinician or team of clinicians provide services to this child or did this child experience a change? * BQ71 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ71 Benchmark		
		In	Out	Total
Q71 Did the same clinician or team of clinicians provide services to this child or did this child experience a change?	The same clinician/treatment team -- Skip to Q73	316	0	316
	Different clinicians/treatment teams	0	103	103
Total		316	103	419

B.4.1.1 Benchmark Summary:

Type	Region	In	Out	Total	% Compliance
Licensed Caregivers	1	42	11	53	79.2%
	2	27	4	31	87.1%
	3	29	13	42	69.0%
	4	30	10	40	75.0%
	5	43	10	53	81.1%
	6	53	29	82	64.6%
Total		224	77	301	74.4%
Unlicensed Caregivers	1	18	4	22	81.8%
	2	10	2	12	83.3%
	3	18	6	24	75.0%
	4	13	6	19	68.4%
	5	15	3	18	83.3%
	6	18	5	23	78.3%
Total		92	26	118	78.0%
Overall Combined		316	103	419	75.4%

E.2.1.1 Percentage of children placed apart from their siblings who have two or more monthly visits or contacts (not including staffing meetings or court events) with some or all of their siblings.

Q128. In a typical month in 2006, how often did this child have visits and other forms of contact with their siblings? Would you say . . .

This benchmark has three screen questions (Q125, Q126 and Q127). Only foster parents who indicate that the child has a sister or brother ("yes" to Q125), that was not placed in the foster parent's home in 2006 ("no" to Q126), and for whom contact was approved by DCFS ("yes" to Q127) are included in the calculation of this benchmark.

E.2.1.1 Benchmark Results:

Q128 In a typical month in 2006, how often did this child have visits and other forms of contact with their siblings? * BQ128 Benchmark Crosstabulation

Count		BQ128 Benchmark		Total
		In	Out	
Q128 In a typical month in 2006, how often did this child have visits and other forms of contact with their siblings?	NOT AT ALL	0	42	42
	LESS THAN ONCE A MONTH	0	116	116
	ONCE A MONTH	0	64	64
	TWICE A MONTH	36	0	36
	THREE TIMES A MONTH	21	0	21
	FOUR TIMES A MONTH	61	0	61
	OR MORE THAN 4 TIMES A MONTH	90	0	90
Total		208	222	430

E.2.1.1 Benchmark Summary:

Type	Region	In	Out	Total	% Compliance
Licensed Caregivers	1	27	32	59	45.8%
	2	14	16	30	46.7%
	3	22	25	47	46.8%
	4	14	24	38	36.8%
	5	25	25	50	50.0%
	6	32	39	71	45.1%
Total		134	161	295	45.4%
Unlicensed Caregivers	1	13	9	22	59.1%
	2	14	7	21	66.7%
	3	11	13	24	45.8%
	4	11	16	27	40.7%
	5	7	5	12	58.3%
	6	18	11	29	62.1%
Total		74	61	135	54.8%
Overall Combined		208	222	430	48.4%



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