

Annual Services & Progress Reports from Federal Fiscal Years 2021 – 2024

The attached chart collates the Annual Services & Progress Reports from Federal Fiscal Years 2021 – 2024 to, where possible, track trends in desired outcomes for Maine Child Protective Services. Although the social environment in which these statistics are measured continues to change, the quantitative metrics in the chart have been measured and assessed using the same criteria in each of the years displayed.

What is the Annual Services & Program Report?

The Annual Services & Progress Report (ASPR) is the annual update of progress against standard metrics developed in the 3rd round of the Child and Family Services Review (CSFR) which was completed for Maine in 2017. Details can be found on pages 5-7 of OPEGA's [Information Brief: Oversight of Maine's Child Protective Services](#) published in January 2022.

The metrics are organized into a group of desired **outcomes** as well as **systemic factors** that are thought to affect outcomes. Each of these areas includes **items** that are measured and assessed. For outcomes, specific items are scored based upon case reviews. Systemic factors are measured in narrative form.

Outcomes and associated Items include:

Safety Outcomes 1 and 2

Safety outcomes include: (A) children are first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect; and (B) children are safely maintained in their own homes whenever possible and appropriate.

- The most recent available data demonstrating the state's performance is included for each of the two safety outcomes. Data must include state performance on the two federal safety indicators, relevant case record review data, and key available data from the state information system (such as data on timeliness of investigation).
- A brief assessment of strengths and concerns regarding Safety Outcomes 1 and 2, including an analysis of the state's performance on the national standards for the safety indicators is developed based on this data and input from stakeholders, tribes, and courts.

Safety Outcome 1 is measured with Item 1 (See chart below).

Safety Outcome 2 is measured with Items 2 & 3).

Permanency Outcomes 1 and 2

Permanency outcomes include: (A) children have permanency and stability in their living situations; and (B) the continuity of family relationships is preserved for children.

- For each of the two permanency outcomes, include the most recent available data demonstrating the state's performance. Data must include state performance on the four federal permanency indicators, and relevant available case record review data.
- Based on these data and input from stakeholders, tribes, and courts, include a brief assessment of strengths and concerns regarding Permanency Outcomes 1 and 2, including an analysis of the state's performance on the national standards for the permanency indicators.

Permanency Outcome 1 is measured with Items 4 - 6.

Permanency Outcome 2 is measured with Items 7 - 11.

Well-Being Outcomes 1, 2, and 3

Well-being outcomes include: (A) families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs; (B) children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs; and (C) children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

- For each of the three well-being outcomes, include the most recent available data demonstrating the state's performance. Data must include relevant available case record review data, and relevant data from the state information system (such as information on caseworker visits with parents and children).
- Based on these data, and input from stakeholders, tribes, and courts, include a brief assessment of strengths and concerns regarding Well-Being Outcomes 1, 2, and 3.

Well-Being Outcome 1 is measured with Items 12 – 15.

Well-Being Outcome 2 is measured with Item 16.

Well-Being Outcome 3 is measured with Items 17 & 18

Systemic factors assessed in the CFSR:

- Statewide information system – (Item 19)
- Case review system – (Item 20 – 24)
- Quality assurance system – (Item 25)
- Staff and provider training – (Item 26 – 27)
- Foster and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment and retention – (Item 28)
- Service array and resource development – (Item 29 – 30)
- Agency responsiveness to the community – (Item 31 – 32)

State failing to prevent repeat cases of child abuse, review finds (Portland Press Herald, 10/15/2023)

<https://www.pressherald.com/2023/10/15/state-failing-to-prevent-repeat-cases-of-child-abuse/>

The newspaper article quoted statistics from the report that are referenced below:

In 26% of the cases reviewed it was apparent that, if safety concerns were present, the agency developed an appropriate safety plan and continued to monitor and update the plan as needed. It is noted that this is an improvement from the last Assessment of Performance review period. **(page 15 of [ASPR FFY '24](#)).**

The data reflects that Maine is experiencing challenges in preventing recurrence of maltreatment. The most recent ACF Data Profile (February 2023) reflects that Maine demonstrated a continued decline of performance in this measure. Maine's current recurrence of maltreatment rate is 19.6% statistically worse than the national performance standard (9.7% or below). It is noted that Maine's decline in this area has been observed since FY18-19 (15.4%), FY 19-20 (16.8%) and currently FY 20-21 (19.6%). **(pages 15-16 of [ASPR FFY '24](#).)**

Annual Service & Progress Reports FFY 2021 – 2024 (with page numbers of State responses in 2024 ASPR)	FFY '21 4/1/19- 3/31/20	FFY '22 4/1/20- 3/31/21	FFY '23 4/1/21- 3/31/22	FFY '24 4/1/22- 3/31/23	Avg of Prior 3 Years ¹ (‘21 – ‘23)	Page No. of Item Description & State Response ASPR FFY '24
Percent of Cases Rated as Strength						
Desired Outcomes						
A. Safety						
1 Timeliness of initiating investigations of reports of child maltreatment	70%	75%	65%	78%	70.0%	11
2 Services to family to protect children in the home and prevent removal or re-entry into foster care	35%	27%	36%	51%	32.6%	12
3 Risk and safety assessment and management	35%	29%	25%	35%	31.0%	14
4 Stability of Placement	65%	84%	80%	75%	76.3%	16
5 Permanency goal for child	43%	53%	50%	55%	48.7%	18
6 Achieving Reunification, PG, ADO, OPPLA	26%	28%	15%	25%	23.0%	19
7 Placement with siblings	95%	83%	93%	94%	90.3%	20
8 Visiting with parents and siblings in foster care	56%	44%	47%	46%	49.0%	21
9 Preserving connections	73%	46%	42%	58%	53.7%	23
10 Relative Placement	79%	65%	63%	69%	69.0%	24
11 Relationship of child in care with parents	60%	47%	47%	60%	51.3%	25
12 Needs and services of child, parents, and foster parents	28%	17%	12%	21%	19.0%	27
12A Needs Assessment of Children	52%	41%	32%	45%	41.7%	28
12B Needs Assessment of Parent(s)	22%	17%	10%	20%	16.3%	28
12C Needs Assessment of Foster Parents	55%	54%	55%	64%	54.7%	28
13 Child and family involvement in case planning	28%	21%	14%	24%	21.0%	30
14 Caseworker visit with child	48%	35%	28%	38%	37.0%	31
15 Caseworker visit with parent(s)	19%	14%	10%	16%	14.3%	34
16 Educational needs of child assessed and addressed	63%	43%	53%	66%	53.0%	36
17 Physical health needs of child assessed and addressed	64%	35%	39%	42%	46.0%	37
18 Mental/behavioral health needs of child assessed and addressed	41%	15%	14%	25%	23.3%	39
Systemic Factors (qualitative metrics)						
19: Statewide Information System						40
B. Case Review System						
20: Written Case Plan						42

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21: Periodic Reviews						45
22: Permanency Hearings						47
23: Termination of Parental Rights						48
24: Notice of Hearings and Reviews to Caregivers						49
C. Quality Assurance System						
25: Quality Assurance System						51
D. Staff and Provider Training						
26: Initial Staff Training						57
27: Ongoing Staff Training						77
28: Foster and Adoptive Parent Training						89
E. Service Array and Resource Development						
29: Array of Services						97
30: Individualizing Services						100
F. Agency Responsiveness to the Community						
31: State Engagement and Consultation with Stakeholders Pursuant to 2020-2024 CFSP and ASPR						102
32: Coordination of 2020-2024 CFSP Services with Other Federal Programs						115
G. Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment, and Retention						
33: Standards Applied Equally						117
34: Requirements for Criminal Background Checks						121
35: Diligent Recruitment of Foster and Adoptive Homes						123
36: State Use of Cross-Jurisdictional Resources for Permanent Placements						127
Notes:						
¹ Straight average of scores of prior 3 years (FFY '21 – FFY '23), not accounting for sample size differences.						
Sources: Annual Services & Progress Reports 2021 – 2024						
FFY '21 https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/sites/maine.gov.dhhs/files/inline-files/State%20of%20Maine%20FFY%202021%20APSR_FINAL_0.docx						
FFY '22 https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/sites/maine.gov.dhhs/files/inline-files/Maine%20FFY%202022%20APSR%20Final.docx						
FFY '23 https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/sites/maine.gov.dhhs/files/inline-files/Maine%20FFY%202023%20APSR%20%28final%209.2.2022%29.docx						
FFY '24 https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/sites/maine.gov.dhhs/files/inline-files/Maine%20Annual%20Services%20and%20Programs%20FFY%202024.pdf						
Prepared by OPEGA: 10/20/2023.						