

Child Welfare Caseload Trends

QUARTERLY
REPORT

APRIL
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**Creating Indicators and Improving Outcomes:
Analytic Assistance for Child Welfare, Work First,
Food and Nutrition Services in North Carolina**

UNC-CH SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
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Child Welfare Caseload Trends

(Quarterly Report: April 2023)

Main Points

- This report demonstrates the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on child welfare caseloads, which have not yet recovered to pre-pandemic levels by late 2022.
- Before the pandemic, the number of children assessed for maltreatment per month averaged 12,000 per month compared to the current average of just below 11,000 per month. However, mid to late 2022 assessment numbers should be viewed with some caution due to delays in data entry.
- As of late 2022, downward trends were present in substantiations, foster care entries, and exits from care.

This report explores changes and trends in the child welfare caseload in North Carolina. This report covers the time period of the Covid-19 pandemic, which we define as beginning on March 16, 2020 when the governor ordered the statewide closure of North Carolina public schools. This analysis is based on data extracted from state child welfare databases in March 2023. These extracts are used to construct and maintain a longitudinal file that tracks the experiences of children and youth who have been involved with the child welfare system in North Carolina. The analysis explores changes in the number of children reported as victims of maltreatment, the number of those reports which are substantiated, and the number of children entering and exiting foster care. Long-term trends are also discussed.

Figure One illustrates the changes in the number of children assessed for maltreatment¹ over time (specific monthly numbers can be found in Appendix A, Table One). As the figure indicates, while numbers fluctuate monthly, the number of children assessed monthly

¹ The number of children tracked in Figures One through Four of this report do not provide a unique count of children per year. There are a few instances in which a child may be counted more than once in the analyses for this report. For example, a child may have more than one report investigated within a calendar year. Also, there are some instances where two separate investigations about an individual child are concluded within the same calendar month. However, instances where there are separate allegations of maltreatment for an individual child with the same case decision date are collapsed into a single report. Also, state policies require that when a report of maltreatment is received, all children living in the home must be assessed as a possible victim of maltreatment. As a result, the number of children reported as victims of maltreatment could fluctuate based upon the sizes of families involved, even as the number of reports remains steady.

remained above 12,000 in 2016-2017 until a decline to about 12,000 in 2018 which is illustrated by the twelve-month average trend line. The twelve-month average went above 12,000 again by the end of 2019. At the beginning of 2020, the number per month was similar to previous years until a decline in March 2020 and a precipitous drop to 8,065 in April 2020 which is apparently due to the pandemic. The number of children assessed per month increased to 12,067 in October 2020. The number declined significantly again through the end of 2020 with a twelve-month average of about 10,600. In 2021, the average increased to just under 11,000 then declined slightly to about 10,900 by October 2022. Mid to late 2022 numbers should be treated with some caution as we have observed longer delays in data entry for child protective services assessments in the past twelve months. We anticipate that the number of assessments during this period will increase as data are updated over time.

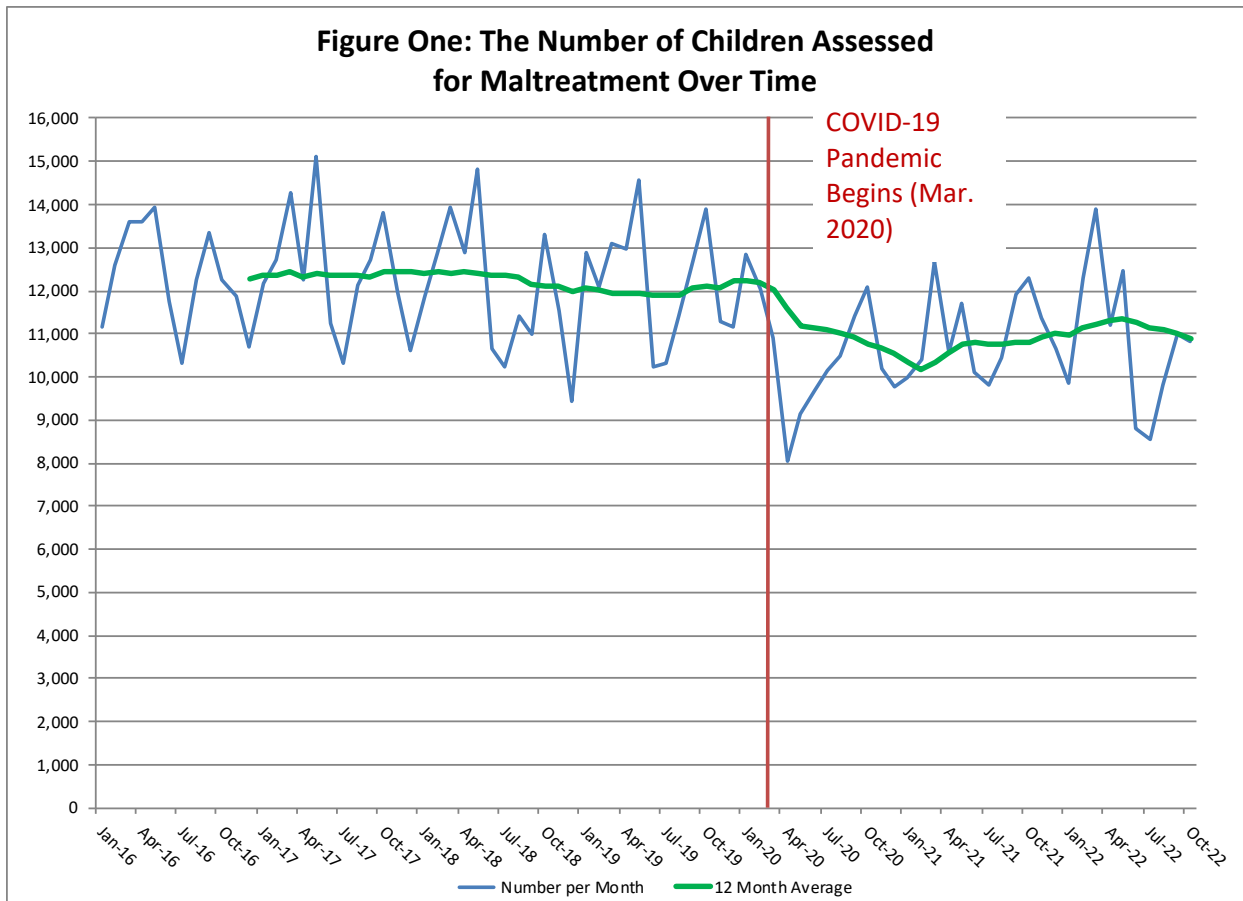


Figure Two shows the pattern of the number of children assessed each month by year from January through December for 2018 to 2021 and January through May for 2022. This figure is helpful in showing seasonal variation and offers an even more stark view of the pandemic's effect. Much of the usual seasonal variation appears tied to the school calendar. As the figure

indicates, the number of children assessed generally peaks in March or May, then falls in June and July reflecting declining reports from educational personnel during summer months. The number of children increases in August as school starts and then rises through October. The number of children assessed then declines through December reflecting periods of holidays and school breaks. The pattern for 2020 was far different from previous years with the severe declines in March and April 2020 before a slow increase through October 2020 then declining through December 2020 and ending the year well below pre-pandemic levels. While the pattern for 2021 and early 2022 is more like earlier years than 2020, the number of children assessed remains lower overall. As noted earlier, given data entry delays, numbers for mid to late 2022 must be viewed with caution as they are likely to increase as the data are updated over time.

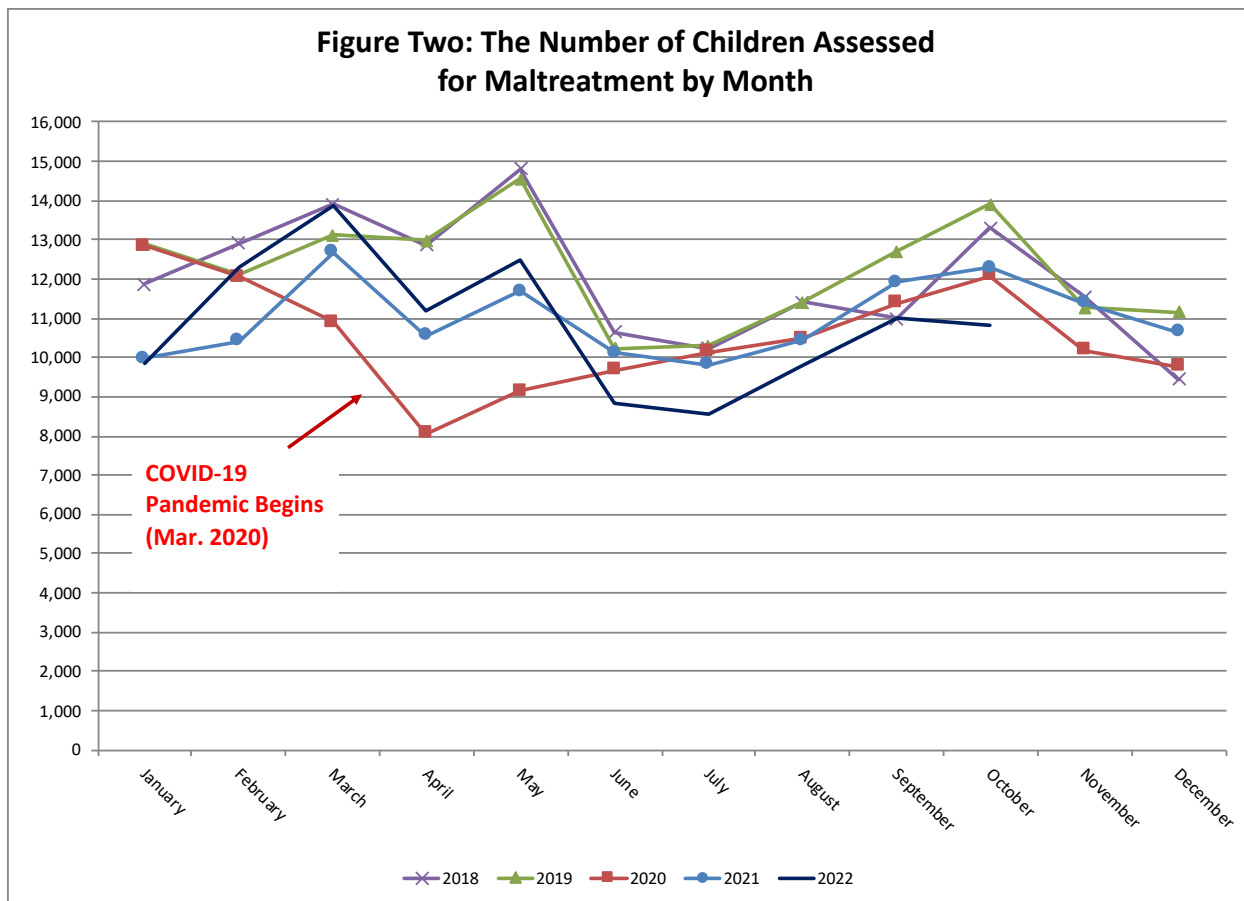


Figure Three illustrates the number of children whose maltreatment reports were substantiated. Specific monthly numbers can be found in Appendix A, Table Two. A report is considered substantiated if there is a finding of abuse, neglect, abuse and neglect, dependency, or services needed. These findings indicate that child protective services confirmed that a child was maltreated and/or that further services are needed to address

concerns. It does not include instances where the finding was services provided, child protective services no longer needed. Again, these reports are not based on a unique count of children per year. Given that they are related, much of the trends in the number of substantiations reflect those of the assessments, although they are not entirely dependent as substantiations are based on case decisions related to the allegations made in reports. The average number per month remained at about 2,000 until early 2018 when a decline to about 1,900 began and went through 2019. Like the number of assessments, the number of substantiations decreased at the onset of the pandemic, although the drop was not as severe, and was actually more pronounced in December 2018. Still the average of about 1,760 for 2020 is lower than the pre-pandemic level. The average for 2021 declined again to about 1,730 with the downward trend continuing into 2022. The numbers for 2022 are likely to increase as the data are updated over time.

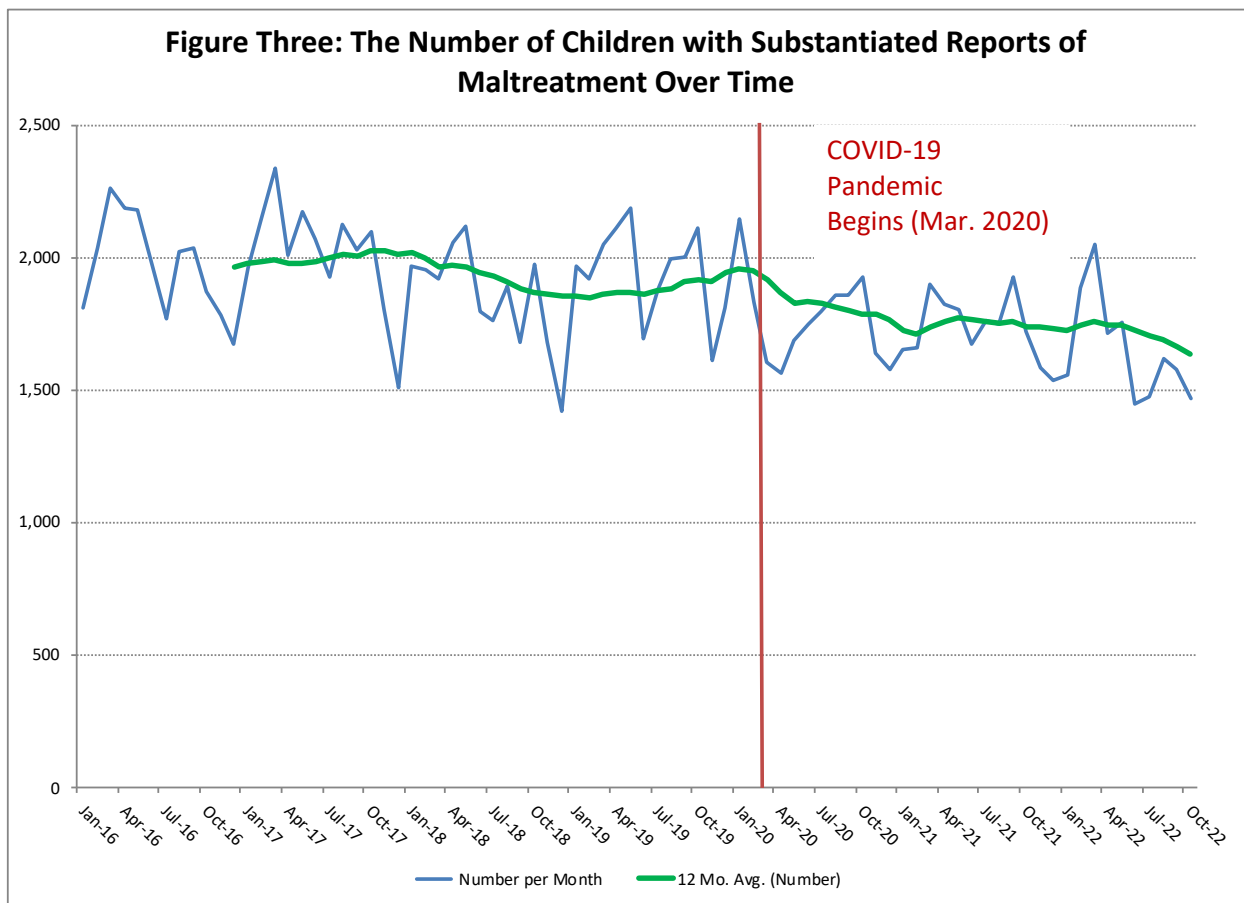


Figure Four illustrates the number of children by assessment finding type over time (see Appendix A, Table Three for specific monthly numbers). Unlike Figure Three, this figure includes all finding types and not just those that are “substantiated” (abuse, neglect, abuse

and neglect, dependency, and services needed). While the monthly numbers fluctuate, the percentage of substantiated reports consistently makes up about 16% of findings while all others are about 84% (services provided, services recommended, services not recommended, and unsubstantiated). This trend was noticeably different after the onset of the pandemic. While numbers decreased across finding types, the substantiated reports made up a higher percentage than usual at about 19% versus 81% for all other types in April 2020 indicating that substantiated reports did not decline at the same rate as non-substantiated finding types. Data from 2021 to late 2022 showed a return to more typical rates of substantiated (15-16%) versus non-substantiated findings (84-85%).

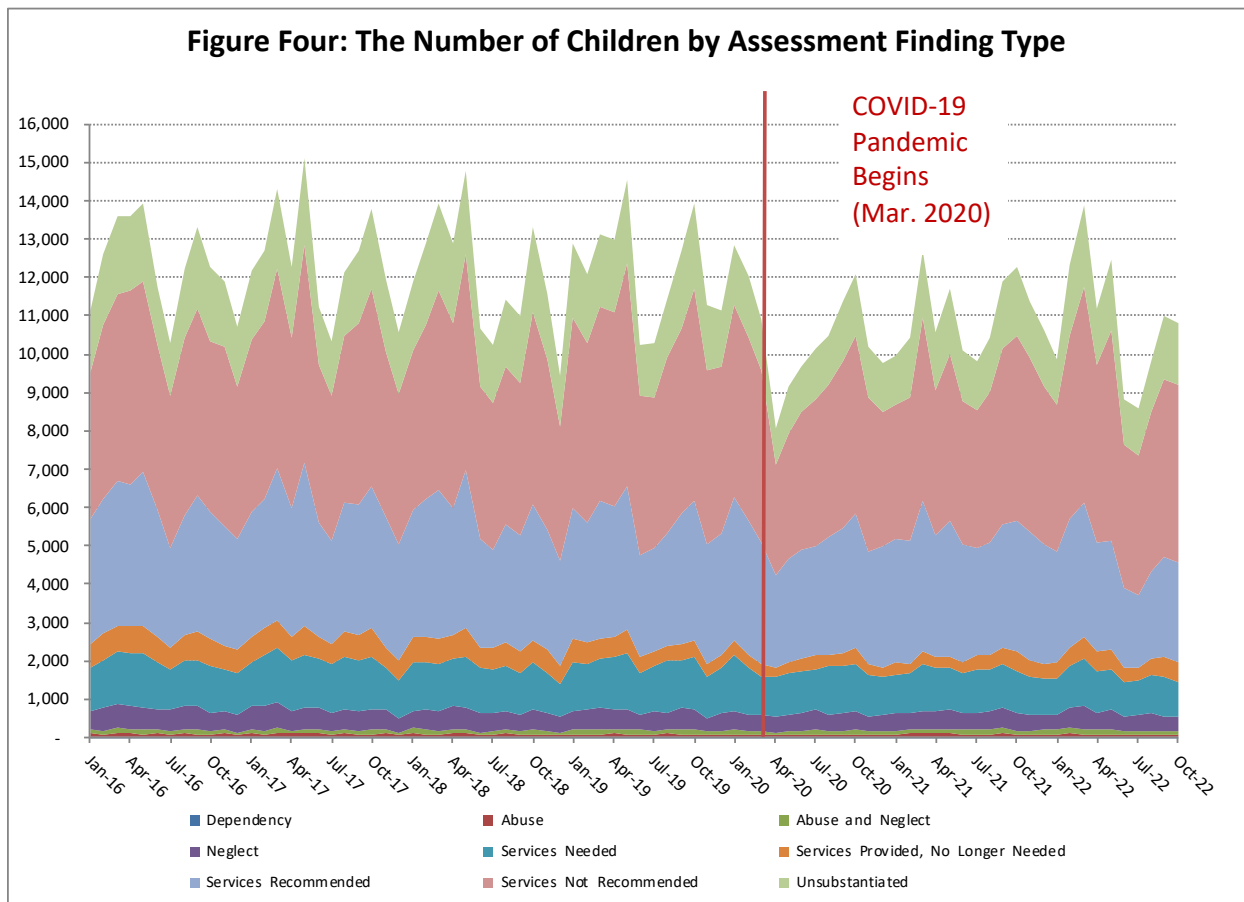


Figure Five reports the number of children entering foster care for the first time, the total entries (including re-entries into care), and the twelve-month average for total entries. Children enter foster care when child protective services determines that the risk of harm to a child is too great in order to safely remain in the home and obtain a court order to assume custody of the child. Specific monthly numbers can be found in Appendix A, Table Four. Over time, about 82% to 88% of children entering care each month are coming into care for the

first time. According to the figure, the twelve-month average shows that there were about 514 children entering care per month in 2016 which increased slightly to about 523 in 2017. The number decreased to about 483 in 2018 and slightly again to 482 in 2019. As we saw in other caseload figures, both the initial and total number of entries decreased significantly after the onset of the pandemic, in particular in April 2020 with a low for initial entries of 271 and 325 for total entries, which were lows not seen in the past twenty years. The number of entries began to rise again in May 2020, however, the average for 2020 at 448 was below the pre-pandemic level. The downward trend continued into 2021 with an average of 442 entries and through December 2022 with an average of 428.

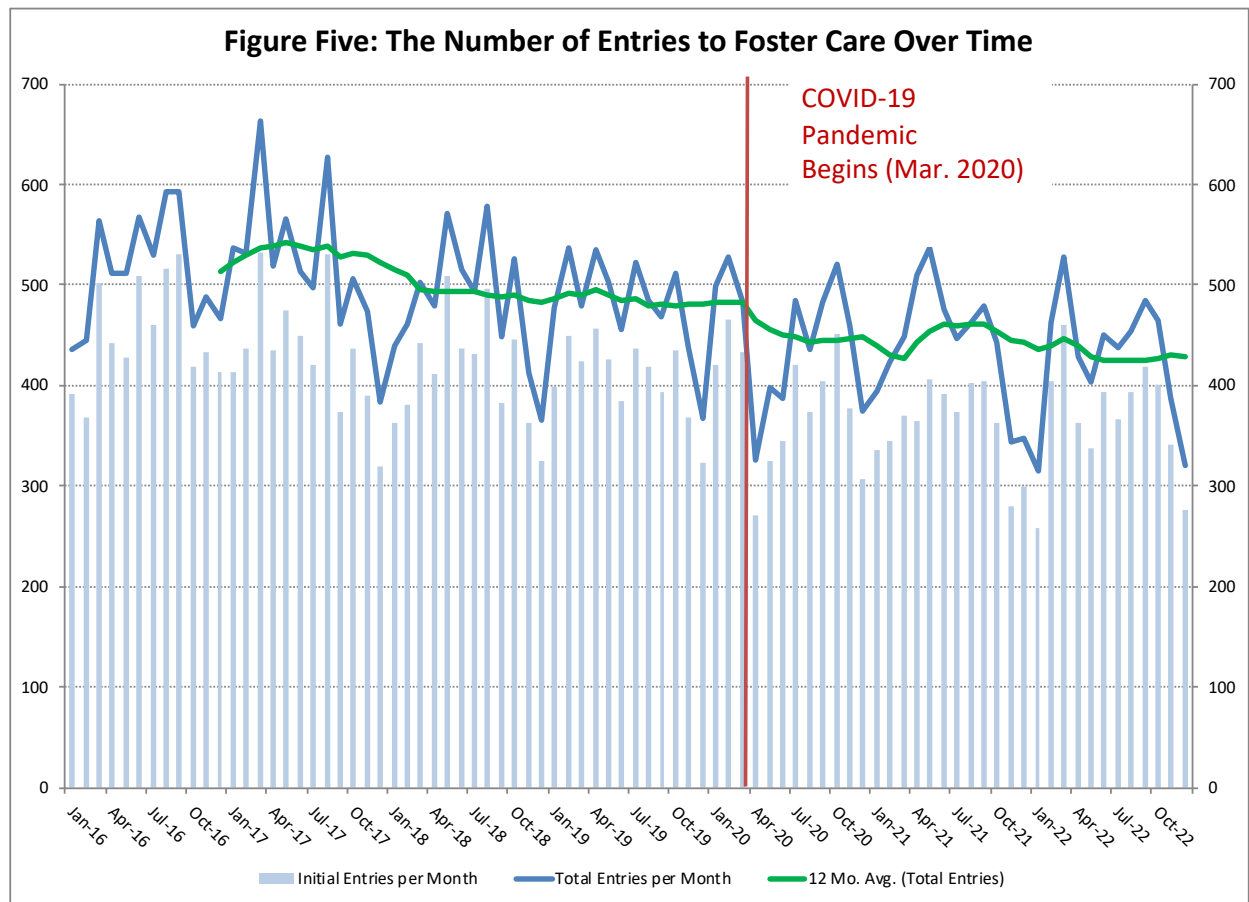
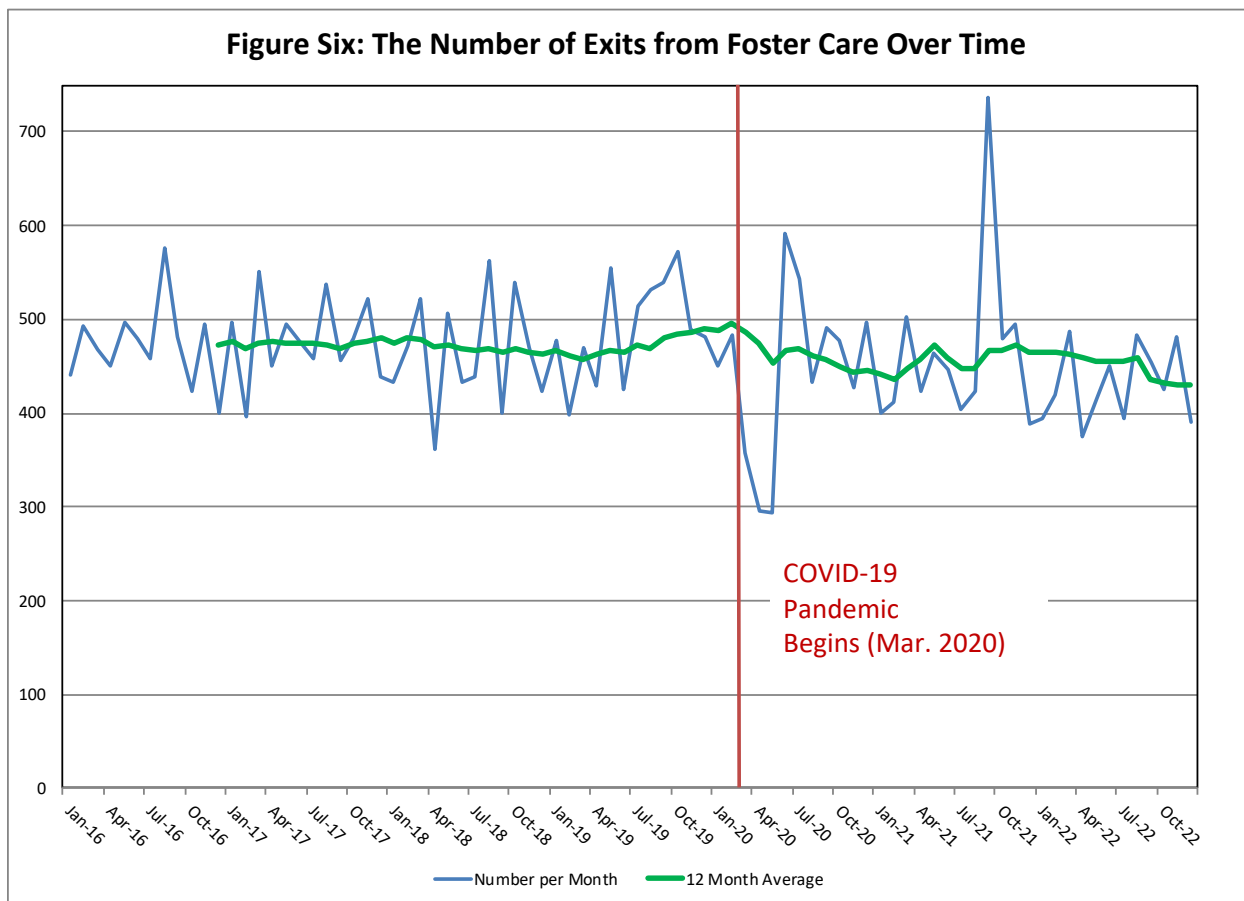


Figure Six shows the number of children exiting foster care each month as well as the twelve-month average (see Appendix A, Table Five for specific monthly numbers). Most children leave foster care when permanency is achieved, such as reunification with parents, custody or guardianship with a relative/caretaker, or adoption. They may also leave through emancipation or aging out of care at 18 or other less common reasons (for example, death, running away, or court revoking placement authority). As Figure Six indicates, the number of children exiting foster care fluctuates considerably from month to month. The annual average

for 2016 was about 472 children which increased somewhat to about 480 in 2017. The average then declined to 464 in 2018 before increasing again to 491 in 2019. Figure Six shows that, at the onset of the pandemic, exits began declining in March 2020 to 357 and then dropped significantly to 296 in April 2020 and 294 in May 2020, which were lows not seen in the past twenty years. Exits went back up sharply to 592 in June 2020 and remained high at 544 in July 2020. The average for 2020 was 445 which was below the pre-pandemic level. The average for 2021 was continuing at this level until an unusually high number of exits of 736 in September 2021. These exits were related to the ending of a federal pandemic program that temporarily suspended age, education, and employment requirements for youth to remain in care beyond age 18. Given these types of exits, the average for 2021 increased to about 464. A downward trend began in January 2022 with an average through the end of 2022 of about 431.



Summary

In summary, the pandemic had an unparalleled, widespread, and sustained impact on child welfare by decreasing maltreatment reports, substantiations, non-substantiated findings, entries and exits from foster care, which have yet to recover to pre-pandemic levels by the end of 2022. Before the pandemic, the number of children assessed for maltreatment per month averaged 12,000 per month compared to the current average of just below 11,000 per month. However, mid to late 2022 assessment numbers should be viewed with some caution due to delays in data entry. These numbers are likely to increase as data are updated over time. As of the end of 2022, downward trends were present in substantiations and foster care entries. Exits from care per month were unusually high in September 2021 due to the ending of a temporary extension of care for some youth over age 18 during the pandemic. However, by the end of 2022, a downward trend was also present in exits from care.

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Additional information on the child welfare program at the state or county level is available through the Management Assistance for Child Welfare, Work First, and Food and Nutrition Services web site, <http://ssw.unc.edu/ma/>.

A PDF version of this report can be found at http://sasweb.unc.edu/cgi-bin/broker?_service=default&_program=dgweb.help.sas&county=North%20Carolina&label=&entry=1&help=papers_cw&entry=1&anchor=

This report was designed by Rea Aarnio of the UNC-CH School of Social Work.

Appendix A

TABLE ONE: The Number of Children Assessed for Maltreatment

| Month | Number of Children Assessed | Month | Number of Children Assessed |
|--------|-----------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|
| Jan-16 | 11,156 | Feb-19 | 12,094 |
| Feb-16 | 12,585 | Mar-19 | 13,109 |
| Mar-16 | 13,583 | Apr-19 | 12,977 |
| Apr-16 | 13,581 | May-19 | 14,550 |
| May-16 | 13,943 | Jun-19 | 10,224 |
| Jun-16 | 11,762 | Jul-19 | 10,309 |
| Jul-16 | 10,300 | Aug-19 | 11,409 |
| Aug-16 | 12,235 | Sep-19 | 12,696 |
| Sep-16 | 13,327 | Oct-19 | 13,905 |
| Oct-16 | 12,261 | Nov-19 | 11,271 |
| Nov-16 | 11,891 | Dec-19 | 11,145 |
| Dec-16 | 10,703 | Jan-20 | 12,849 |
| Jan-17 | 12,155 | Feb-20 | 12,053 |
| Feb-17 | 12,713 | Mar-20 | 10,896 |
| Mar-17 | 14,288 | Apr-20 | 8,065 |
| Apr-17 | 12,257 | May-20 | 9,149 |
| May-17 | 15,122 | Jun-20 | 9,676 |
| Jun-17 | 11,230 | Jul-20 | 10,139 |
| Jul-17 | 10,323 | Aug-20 | 10,486 |
| Aug-17 | 12,113 | Sep-20 | 11,394 |
| Sep-17 | 12,701 | Oct-20 | 12,076 |
| Oct-17 | 13,789 | Nov-20 | 10,174 |
| Nov-17 | 11,945 | Dec-20 | 9,774 |
| Dec-17 | 10,593 | Jan-21 | 9,968 |
| Jan-18 | 11,871 | Feb-21 | 10,414 |
| Feb-18 | 12,902 | Mar-21 | 12,677 |
| Mar-18 | 13,915 | Apr-21 | 10,557 |
| Apr-18 | 12,868 | May-21 | 11,696 |
| May-18 | 14,799 | Jun-21 | 10,114 |
| Jun-18 | 10,653 | Jul-21 | 9,813 |
| Jul-18 | 10,235 | Aug-21 | 10,448 |
| Aug-18 | 11,411 | Sep-21 | 11,906 |
| Sep-18 | 10,999 | Oct-21 | 12,282 |
| Oct-18 | 13,305 | Nov-21 | 11,382 |
| Nov-18 | 11,555 | Dec-21 | 10,636 |
| Dec-18 | 9,450 | Jan-22 | 9,866 |
| Jan-19 | 12,882 | Feb-22 | 12,301 |

| Month | Number of Children Assessed |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Mar-22 | 13,873 |
| Apr-22 | 11,204 |
| May-22 | 12,470 |
| Jun-22 | 8,823 |
| Jul-22 | 8,567 |
| Aug-22 | 9,819 |
| Sep-22 | 10,988 |
| Oct-22 | 10,809 |

| Month | Number of Children Assessed |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
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TABLE TWO: The Number of Children Substantiated (including Services Needed)

| Month | Number of Children with a Substantiated Report | Month | Number of Children with a Substantiated Report |
|--------------|---|--------------|---|
| Jan-16 | 1,808 | Apr-19 | 2,112 |
| Feb-16 | 2,032 | May-19 | 2,186 |
| Mar-16 | 2,260 | Jun-19 | 1,695 |
| Apr-16 | 2,185 | Jul-19 | 1,876 |
| May-16 | 2,180 | Aug-19 | 1,997 |
| Jun-16 | 1,971 | Sep-19 | 1,998 |
| Jul-16 | 1,769 | Oct-19 | 2,110 |
| Aug-16 | 2,019 | Nov-19 | 1,608 |
| Sep-16 | 2,034 | Dec-19 | 1,807 |
| Oct-16 | 1,872 | Jan-20 | 2,148 |
| Nov-16 | 1,781 | Feb-20 | 1,827 |
| Dec-16 | 1,672 | Mar-20 | 1,601 |
| Jan-17 | 1,958 | Apr-20 | 1,562 |
| Feb-17 | 2,139 | May-20 | 1,685 |
| Mar-17 | 2,339 | Jun-20 | 1,746 |
| Apr-17 | 2,011 | Jul-20 | 1,795 |
| May-17 | 2,169 | Aug-20 | 1,854 |
| Jun-17 | 2,072 | Sep-20 | 1,856 |
| Jul-17 | 1,925 | Oct-20 | 1,923 |
| Aug-17 | 2,122 | Nov-20 | 1,637 |
| Sep-17 | 2,026 | Dec-20 | 1,575 |
| Oct-17 | 2,097 | Jan-21 | 1,653 |
| Nov-17 | 1,806 | Feb-21 | 1,659 |
| Dec-17 | 1,510 | Mar-21 | 1,901 |
| Jan-18 | 1,969 | Apr-21 | 1,821 |
| Feb-18 | 1,952 | May-21 | 1,802 |
| Mar-18 | 1,921 | Jun-21 | 1,673 |
| Apr-18 | 2,059 | Jul-21 | 1,761 |
| May-18 | 2,114 | Aug-21 | 1,751 |
| Jun-18 | 1,799 | Sep-21 | 1,928 |
| Jul-18 | 1,762 | Oct-21 | 1,721 |
| Aug-18 | 1,889 | Nov-21 | 1,587 |
| Sep-18 | 1,681 | Dec-21 | 1,534 |
| Oct-18 | 1,975 | Jan-22 | 1,557 |
| Nov-18 | 1,679 | Feb-22 | 1,884 |
| Dec-18 | 1,419 | Mar-22 | 2,046 |
| Jan-19 | 1,970 | Apr-22 | 1,711 |
| Feb-19 | 1,920 | May-22 | 1,756 |
| Mar-19 | 2,052 | Jun-22 | 1,450 |

| Month | Number of Children with a Substantiated Report |
|--------------|---|
| Jul-22 | 1,476 |
| Aug-22 | 1,615 |
| Sep-22 | 1,578 |
| Oct-22 | 1,464 |

| Month | Number of Children with a Substantiated Report |
|--------------|---|
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TABLE THREE: The Number of Children by Assessment Finding Type²

| Month | Dependency | Abuse | Abuse and Neglect | Neglect | Services Needed | Services Provided, No Longer Needed | Services Recommended | Services Not Recommended | Un-substantiated |
|--------|------------|-------|-------------------|---------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Jan-16 | 32 | 73 | 95 | 496 | 1,112 | 611 | 3,267 | 3,825 | 1,645 |
| Feb-16 | 29 | 63 | 98 | 597 | 1,245 | 683 | 3,491 | 4,545 | 1,834 |
| Mar-16 | 32 | 87 | 137 | 604 | 1,400 | 638 | 3,794 | 4,886 | 2,005 |
| Apr-16 | 21 | 86 | 114 | 607 | 1,357 | 722 | 3,696 | 5,031 | 1,947 |
| May-16 | 30 | 63 | 102 | 572 | 1,413 | 724 | 4,041 | 4,953 | 2,045 |
| Jun-16 | 37 | 66 | 96 | 527 | 1,245 | 646 | 3,333 | 4,280 | 1,532 |
| Jul-16 | 20 | 68 | 78 | 564 | 1,039 | 592 | 2,578 | 3,986 | 1,375 |
| Aug-16 | 17 | 85 | 104 | 611 | 1,202 | 664 | 3,128 | 4,625 | 1,799 |
| Sep-16 | 25 | 50 | 126 | 628 | 1,205 | 751 | 3,518 | 4,891 | 2,133 |
| Oct-16 | 17 | 54 | 73 | 495 | 1,233 | 718 | 3,320 | 4,445 | 1,906 |
| Nov-16 | 26 | 82 | 94 | 488 | 1,091 | 620 | 3,131 | 4,640 | 1,719 |
| Dec-16 | 14 | 52 | 60 | 468 | 1,078 | 631 | 2,854 | 4,004 | 1,542 |
| Jan-17 | 35 | 76 | 112 | 588 | 1,147 | 669 | 3,260 | 4,475 | 1,793 |
| Feb-17 | 19 | 66 | 94 | 633 | 1,327 | 726 | 3,353 | 4,638 | 1,857 |
| Mar-17 | 33 | 81 | 126 | 671 | 1,428 | 715 | 3,963 | 5,208 | 2,063 |
| Apr-17 | 29 | 77 | 78 | 507 | 1,320 | 620 | 3,375 | 4,433 | 1,818 |
| May-17 | 26 | 73 | 110 | 560 | 1,400 | 759 | 4,228 | 5,669 | 2,297 |
| Jun-17 | 24 | 77 | 118 | 559 | 1,294 | 543 | 2,982 | 4,139 | 1,494 |
| Jul-17 | 24 | 62 | 103 | 442 | 1,294 | 504 | 2,704 | 3,771 | 1,419 |
| Aug-17 | 26 | 75 | 97 | 540 | 1,384 | 646 | 3,361 | 4,360 | 1,624 |
| Sep-17 | 16 | 76 | 97 | 512 | 1,325 | 659 | 3,389 | 4,745 | 1,882 |
| Oct-17 | 18 | 71 | 103 | 532 | 1,373 | 745 | 3,698 | 5,162 | 2,087 |
| Nov-17 | 14 | 93 | 111 | 493 | 1,095 | 551 | 3,380 | 4,311 | 1,897 |
| Dec-17 | 21 | 40 | 74 | 374 | 1,001 | 488 | 3,025 | 3,944 | 1,626 |
| Jan-18 | 21 | 93 | 127 | 463 | 1,265 | 661 | 3,286 | 4,181 | 1,774 |
| Feb-18 | 14 | 79 | 103 | 557 | 1,199 | 675 | 3,606 | 4,543 | 2,126 |
| Mar-18 | 20 | 74 | 86 | 491 | 1,250 | 649 | 3,867 | 5,224 | 2,254 |
| Apr-18 | 14 | 89 | 101 | 623 | 1,232 | 608 | 3,297 | 4,822 | 2,082 |
| May-18 | 18 | 86 | 132 | 534 | 1,344 | 735 | 4,145 | 5,590 | 2,215 |
| Jun-18 | 15 | 36 | 88 | 485 | 1,175 | 551 | 2,817 | 3,986 | 1,500 |
| Jul-18 | 17 | 67 | 93 | 441 | 1,144 | 571 | 2,547 | 3,829 | 1,526 |
| Aug-18 | 17 | 96 | 96 | 487 | 1,193 | 598 | 3,063 | 4,138 | 1,723 |
| Sep-18 | 8 | 71 | 95 | 400 | 1,107 | 575 | 3,006 | 3,962 | 1,775 |
| Oct-18 | 23 | 62 | 106 | 525 | 1,259 | 575 | 3,519 | 5,044 | 2,192 |
| Nov-18 | 10 | 58 | 100 | 485 | 1,026 | 603 | 3,140 | 4,419 | 1,714 |
| Dec-18 | 9 | 55 | 76 | 403 | 876 | 463 | 2,727 | 3,494 | 1,347 |

²The count of children is not unique as some may have multiple reports assessed at the same time.

| Month | Dependency | Abuse | Abuse and Neglect | Neglect | Services Needed | Services Provided, No Longer Needed | Services Recommended | Services Not Recommended | Un-substantiated |
|--------|------------|-------|-------------------|---------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Jan-19 | 20 | 60 | 113 | 510 | 1,267 | 608 | 3,398 | 4,957 | 1,949 |
| Feb-19 | 21 | 59 | 155 | 476 | 1,209 | 544 | 3,156 | 4,661 | 1,813 |
| Mar-19 | 21 | 57 | 130 | 562 | 1,282 | 507 | 3,616 | 5,069 | 1,865 |
| Apr-19 | 26 | 71 | 111 | 526 | 1,378 | 537 | 3,362 | 5,092 | 1,874 |
| May-19 | 12 | 82 | 105 | 548 | 1,439 | 625 | 3,716 | 5,862 | 2,161 |
| Jun-19 | 20 | 68 | 107 | 391 | 1,109 | 390 | 2,687 | 4,135 | 1,317 |
| Jul-19 | 14 | 65 | 88 | 511 | 1,198 | 373 | 2,685 | 3,954 | 1,421 |
| Aug-19 | 11 | 85 | 108 | 434 | 1,359 | 410 | 2,928 | 4,587 | 1,487 |
| Sep-19 | 23 | 64 | 112 | 588 | 1,211 | 437 | 3,419 | 4,828 | 2,014 |
| Oct-19 | 15 | 55 | 128 | 549 | 1,363 | 419 | 3,630 | 5,558 | 2,188 |
| Nov-19 | 20 | 55 | 77 | 355 | 1,101 | 297 | 3,142 | 4,545 | 1,679 |
| Dec-19 | 11 | 63 | 88 | 495 | 1,150 | 359 | 3,159 | 4,357 | 1,463 |
| Jan-20 | 17 | 73 | 110 | 504 | 1,444 | 364 | 3,771 | 4,977 | 1,589 |
| Feb-20 | 19 | 59 | 87 | 447 | 1,215 | 302 | 3,506 | 4,776 | 1,642 |
| Mar-20 | 16 | 53 | 96 | 407 | 1,029 | 320 | 3,181 | 4,454 | 1,340 |
| Apr-20 | 11 | 54 | 70 | 400 | 1,027 | 244 | 2,416 | 2,915 | 928 |
| May-20 | 17 | 65 | 66 | 447 | 1,090 | 273 | 2,696 | 3,264 | 1,231 |
| Jun-20 | 6 | 64 | 94 | 460 | 1,122 | 329 | 2,809 | 3,602 | 1,190 |
| Jul-20 | 11 | 68 | 154 | 479 | 1,083 | 367 | 2,811 | 3,826 | 1,340 |
| Aug-20 | 18 | 53 | 92 | 444 | 1,247 | 294 | 3,101 | 3,926 | 1,311 |
| Sep-20 | 11 | 54 | 125 | 437 | 1,229 | 362 | 3,242 | 4,355 | 1,579 |
| Oct-20 | 20 | 60 | 118 | 487 | 1,238 | 427 | 3,513 | 4,623 | 1,590 |
| Nov-20 | 18 | 60 | 91 | 393 | 1,075 | 300 | 2,905 | 4,032 | 1,300 |
| Dec-20 | 22 | 70 | 90 | 388 | 1,005 | 254 | 3,177 | 3,473 | 1,295 |
| Jan-21 | 8 | 64 | 92 | 466 | 1,023 | 303 | 3,225 | 3,500 | 1,287 |
| Feb-21 | 17 | 81 | 112 | 421 | 1,028 | 278 | 3,193 | 3,761 | 1,523 |
| Mar-21 | 11 | 85 | 113 | 467 | 1,225 | 352 | 3,938 | 4,771 | 1,715 |
| Apr-21 | 16 | 89 | 117 | 454 | 1,145 | 305 | 3,124 | 3,820 | 1,487 |
| May-21 | 17 | 84 | 117 | 509 | 1,075 | 322 | 3,540 | 4,349 | 1,683 |
| Jun-21 | 10 | 71 | 129 | 422 | 1,041 | 311 | 3,049 | 3,717 | 1,364 |
| Jul-21 | 9 | 74 | 124 | 445 | 1,109 | 373 | 2,823 | 3,584 | 1,272 |
| Aug-21 | 17 | 63 | 123 | 488 | 1,060 | 382 | 2,971 | 3,922 | 1,422 |
| Sep-21 | 25 | 87 | 139 | 522 | 1,155 | 426 | 3,218 | 4,584 | 1,750 |
| Oct-21 | 17 | 55 | 108 | 442 | 1,099 | 511 | 3,417 | 4,842 | 1,791 |
| Nov-21 | 9 | 72 | 91 | 422 | 993 | 409 | 3,354 | 4,570 | 1,462 |
| Dec-21 | 12 | 66 | 116 | 407 | 933 | 373 | 3,150 | 4,078 | 1,501 |
| Jan-22 | 16 | 75 | 101 | 412 | 953 | 389 | 2,915 | 3,824 | 1,181 |
| Feb-22 | 25 | 98 | 122 | 550 | 1,089 | 444 | 3,372 | 4,766 | 1,835 |
| Mar-22 | 17 | 64 | 129 | 642 | 1,194 | 575 | 3,521 | 5,629 | 2,102 |
| Apr-22 | 11 | 78 | 111 | 446 | 1,065 | 546 | 2,838 | 4,636 | 1,473 |

| Month | Dependency | Abuse | Abuse and Neglect | Neglect | Services Needed | Services Provided, No Longer Needed | Services Recommended | Services Not Recommended | Un-substantiated |
|--------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| May-22 | 10 | 64 | 132 | 511 | 1,039 | 532 | 2,847 | 5,483 | 1,852 |
| Jun-22 | 14 | 53 | 83 | 409 | 891 | 381 | 2,087 | 3,714 | 1,191 |
| Jul-22 | 5 | 45 | 106 | 438 | 882 | 352 | 1,907 | 3,629 | 1,203 |
| Aug-22 | 14 | 67 | 101 | 435 | 998 | 439 | 2,291 | 4,137 | 1,337 |
| Sep-22 | 17 | 67 | 70 | 382 | 1,042 | 534 | 2,572 | 4,633 | 1,671 |
| Oct-22 | 17 | 43 | 93 | 398 | 913 | 481 | 2,609 | 4,634 | 1,621 |

TABLE FOUR: The Number of Children Entering Foster Care

| Month | Initial Entries | Total Entries | Month | Initial Entries | Total Entries |
|--------------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Jan-16 | 391 | 435 | May-19 | 426 | 502 |
| Feb-16 | 369 | 445 | Jun-19 | 385 | 455 |
| Mar-16 | 502 | 564 | Jul-19 | 436 | 523 |
| Apr-16 | 443 | 511 | Aug-19 | 419 | 485 |
| May-16 | 428 | 511 | Sep-19 | 393 | 468 |
| Jun-16 | 509 | 567 | Oct-19 | 435 | 512 |
| Jul-16 | 461 | 530 | Nov-19 | 369 | 437 |
| Aug-16 | 517 | 593 | Dec-19 | 324 | 367 |
| Sep-16 | 531 | 592 | Jan-20 | 420 | 499 |
| Oct-16 | 418 | 459 | Feb-20 | 465 | 528 |
| Nov-16 | 433 | 488 | Mar-20 | 433 | 482 |
| Dec-16 | 413 | 467 | Apr-20 | 271 | 325 |
| Jan-17 | 414 | 536 | May-20 | 325 | 398 |
| Feb-17 | 437 | 532 | Jun-20 | 345 | 387 |
| Mar-17 | 533 | 664 | Jul-20 | 421 | 485 |
| Apr-17 | 435 | 519 | Aug-20 | 374 | 435 |
| May-17 | 475 | 565 | Sep-20 | 404 | 483 |
| Jun-17 | 450 | 513 | Oct-20 | 452 | 520 |
| Jul-17 | 421 | 498 | Nov-20 | 377 | 459 |
| Aug-17 | 531 | 627 | Dec-20 | 306 | 375 |
| Sep-17 | 374 | 462 | Jan-21 | 336 | 394 |
| Oct-17 | 437 | 507 | Feb-21 | 345 | 423 |
| Nov-17 | 390 | 473 | Mar-21 | 370 | 448 |
| Dec-17 | 320 | 383 | Apr-21 | 364 | 509 |
| Jan-18 | 362 | 440 | May-21 | 406 | 536 |
| Feb-18 | 380 | 462 | Jun-21 | 391 | 476 |
| Mar-18 | 443 | 503 | Jul-21 | 373 | 447 |
| Apr-18 | 412 | 480 | Aug-21 | 403 | 463 |
| May-18 | 509 | 572 | Sep-21 | 405 | 480 |
| Jun-18 | 436 | 515 | Oct-21 | 362 | 443 |
| Jul-18 | 432 | 494 | Nov-21 | 279 | 343 |
| Aug-18 | 497 | 578 | Dec-21 | 299 | 347 |
| Sep-18 | 382 | 449 | Jan-22 | 258 | 315 |
| Oct-18 | 446 | 526 | Feb-22 | 404 | 463 |
| Nov-18 | 363 | 412 | Mar-22 | 460 | 528 |
| Dec-18 | 325 | 365 | Apr-22 | 363 | 428 |
| Jan-19 | 399 | 478 | May-22 | 337 | 403 |
| Feb-19 | 450 | 536 | Jun-22 | 393 | 451 |
| Mar-19 | 424 | 480 | Jul-22 | 367 | 438 |
| Apr-19 | 457 | 535 | Aug-22 | 394 | 454 |

| Month | Initial Entries | Total Entries |
|--------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Sep-22 | 419 | 484 |
| Oct-22 | 401 | 465 |
| Nov-22 | 342 | 388 |
| Dec-22 | 276 | 321 |

| Month | Initial Entries | Total Entries |
|--------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

TABLE FIVE: The Number of Children Exiting Foster Care

| Month | Number of Children Existing Foster Care | Month | Number of Children Existing Foster Care |
|--------------|--|--------------|--|
| Jan-16 | 440 | May-19 | 554 |
| Feb-16 | 493 | Jun-19 | 426 |
| Mar-16 | 468 | Jul-19 | 515 |
| Apr-16 | 450 | Aug-19 | 532 |
| May-16 | 496 | Sep-19 | 539 |
| Jun-16 | 480 | Oct-19 | 573 |
| Jul-16 | 458 | Nov-19 | 490 |
| Aug-16 | 577 | Dec-19 | 482 |
| Sep-16 | 481 | Jan-20 | 451 |
| Oct-16 | 423 | Feb-20 | 483 |
| Nov-16 | 494 | Mar-20 | 357 |
| Dec-16 | 401 | Apr-20 | 296 |
| Jan-17 | 497 | May-20 | 294 |
| Feb-17 | 397 | Jun-20 | 592 |
| Mar-17 | 551 | Jul-20 | 544 |
| Apr-17 | 451 | Aug-20 | 432 |
| May-17 | 494 | Sep-20 | 491 |
| Jun-17 | 477 | Oct-20 | 478 |
| Jul-17 | 458 | Nov-20 | 427 |
| Aug-17 | 537 | Dec-20 | 496 |
| Sep-17 | 456 | Jan-21 | 400 |
| Oct-17 | 480 | Feb-21 | 412 |
| Nov-17 | 522 | Mar-21 | 503 |
| Dec-17 | 439 | Apr-21 | 423 |
| Jan-18 | 433 | May-21 | 463 |
| Feb-18 | 472 | Jun-21 | 447 |
| Mar-18 | 522 | Jul-21 | 403 |
| Apr-18 | 362 | Aug-21 | 424 |
| May-18 | 507 | Sep-21 | 736 |
| Jun-18 | 433 | Oct-21 | 479 |
| Jul-18 | 438 | Nov-21 | 495 |
| Aug-18 | 562 | Dec-21 | 388 |
| Sep-18 | 401 | Jan-22 | 395 |
| Oct-18 | 540 | Feb-22 | 420 |
| Nov-18 | 469 | Mar-22 | 488 |
| Dec-18 | 423 | Apr-22 | 374 |
| Jan-19 | 478 | May-22 | 415 |
| Feb-19 | 399 | Jun-22 | 451 |
| Mar-19 | 469 | Jul-22 | 394 |
| Apr-19 | 430 | Aug-22 | 483 |

| Month | Number of Children Existing Foster Care |
|--------------|--|
| Sep-22 | 454 |
| Oct-22 | 426 |
| Nov-22 | 481 |
| Dec-22 | 390 |

| Month | Number of Children Existing Foster Care |
|--------------|--|
| | |
| | |
| | |