

# Child Welfare Caseload Trends



**OCTOBER  
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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 • CHAPEL HILL, NC • OCTOBER 2023**

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## October 2023

### Main Points

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- This report demonstrates that child welfare caseloads have not returned to pre-Covid-19 pandemic levels by early to late 2023.
- Before the pandemic, the number of children assessed for maltreatment per month averaged 12,000 per month compared to the 2022 average of about 11,000 per month.
- Early 2023 showed an increase in assessments and substantiations, however, more data are needed to discern upward trends.
- Foster care entries and exits were trending downward in 2022 but held steady through August 2023.

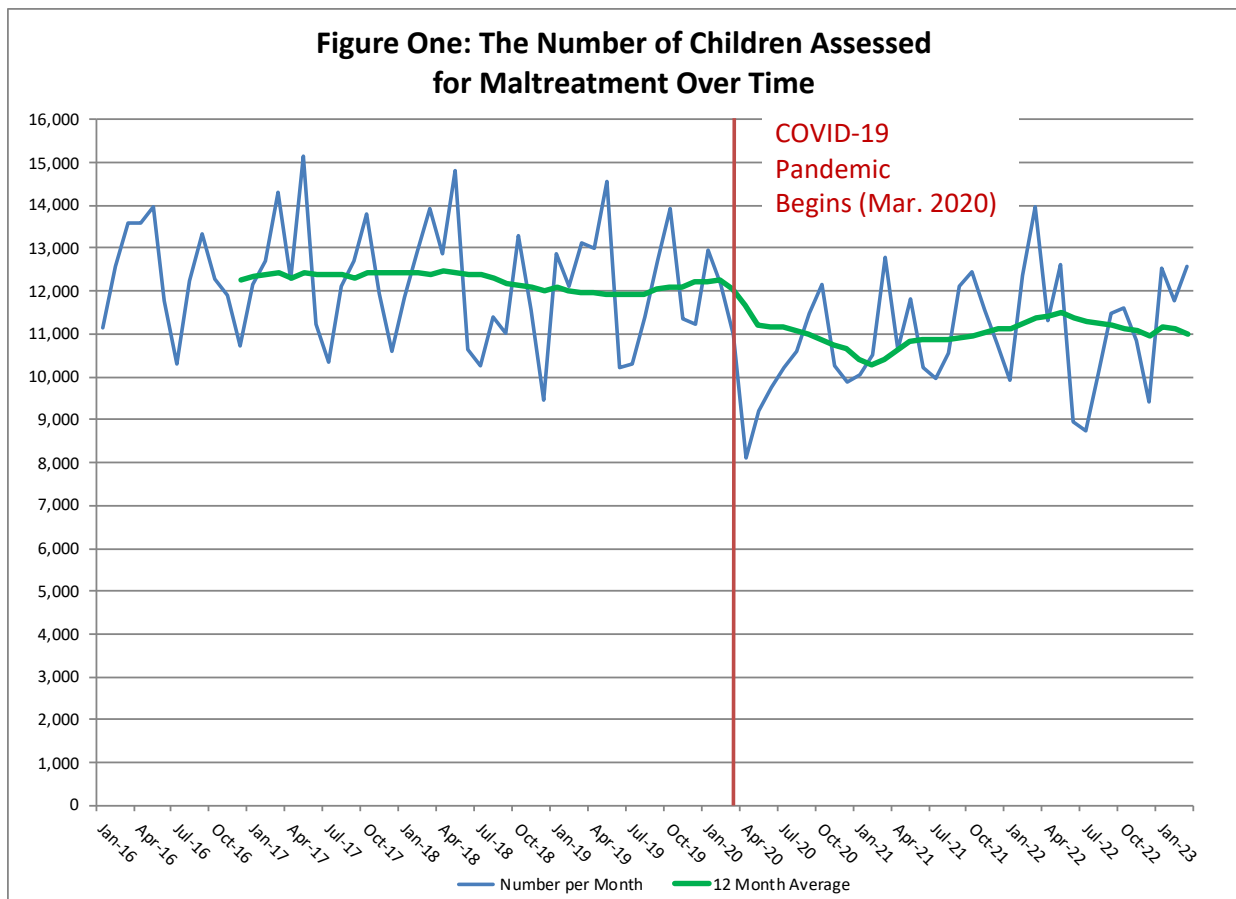
This report explores changes and trends in the child welfare caseload in North Carolina and is produced on a quarterly or semiannual basis depending on availability of updated data. This report covers the time period of the Covid-19 pandemic, which we define as beginning on March 16, 2020 when the governor ordered the statewide closure of North Carolina public schools. This analysis is based on data extracted from state child welfare databases in September 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 maltreatment<sup>1</sup> over time (specific monthly numbers can be found in Appendix A, Table One). As the figure

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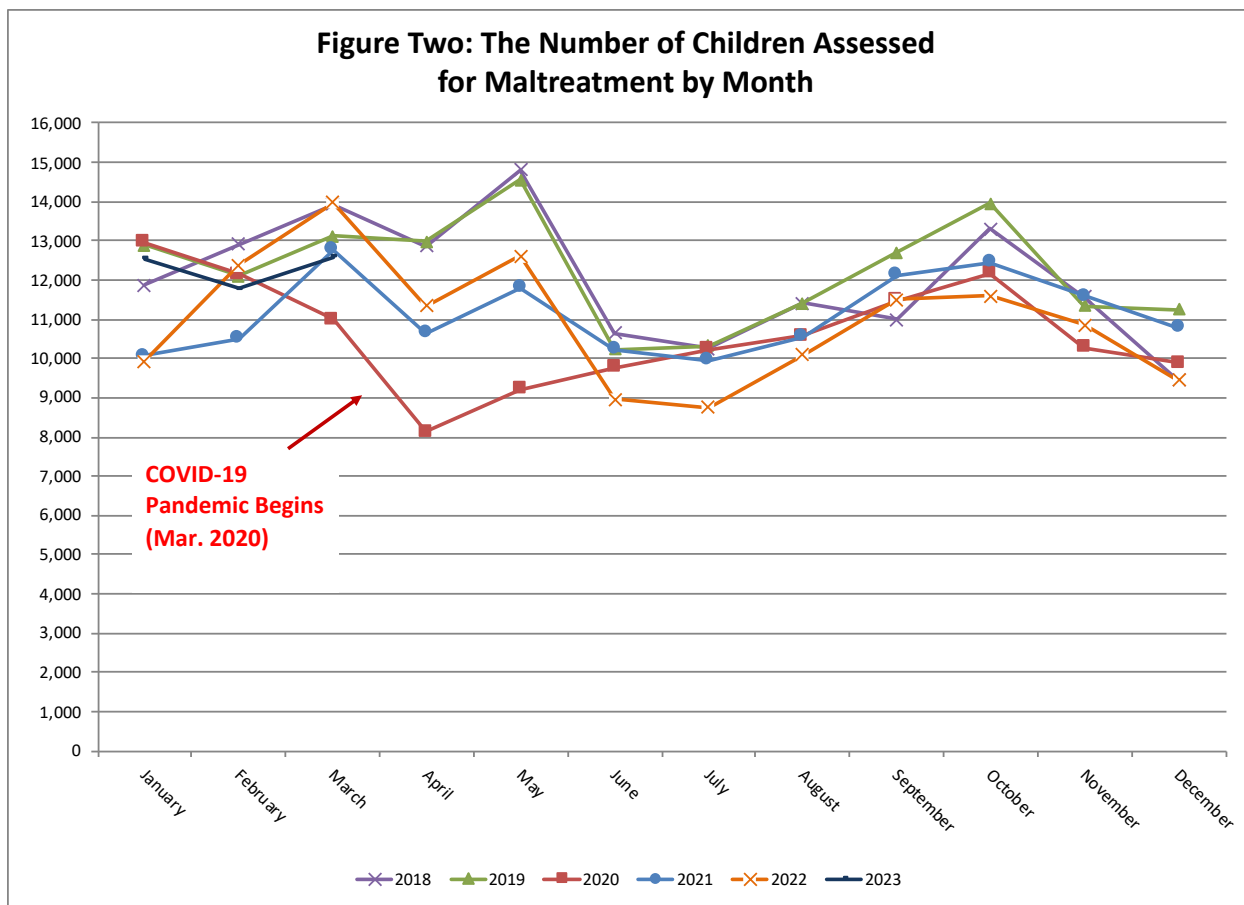
<sup>1</sup>The number of children tracked in Figures One through Four of this report do not provide a unique count of children per year. There are a few instances in which a child may be counted more than once in the analyses for this report. For example, a child may have more than one report investigated 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.

indicates, while numbers fluctuate monthly, the number of children assessed monthly 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 8,127 in April 2020 which is apparently due to the pandemic. The number of children assessed per month increased to 12,174 in October 2020. The number declined significantly again through the end of 2020 with a twelve-month average of about 10,650. In 2021, the average increased to just under 11,100 then declined slightly to about 10,950 by the end of 2022. There was a significant increase in early 2023 with an average of about 12,300. However, it remains to be seen whether this signifies an overall upward trend in the number of assessments.



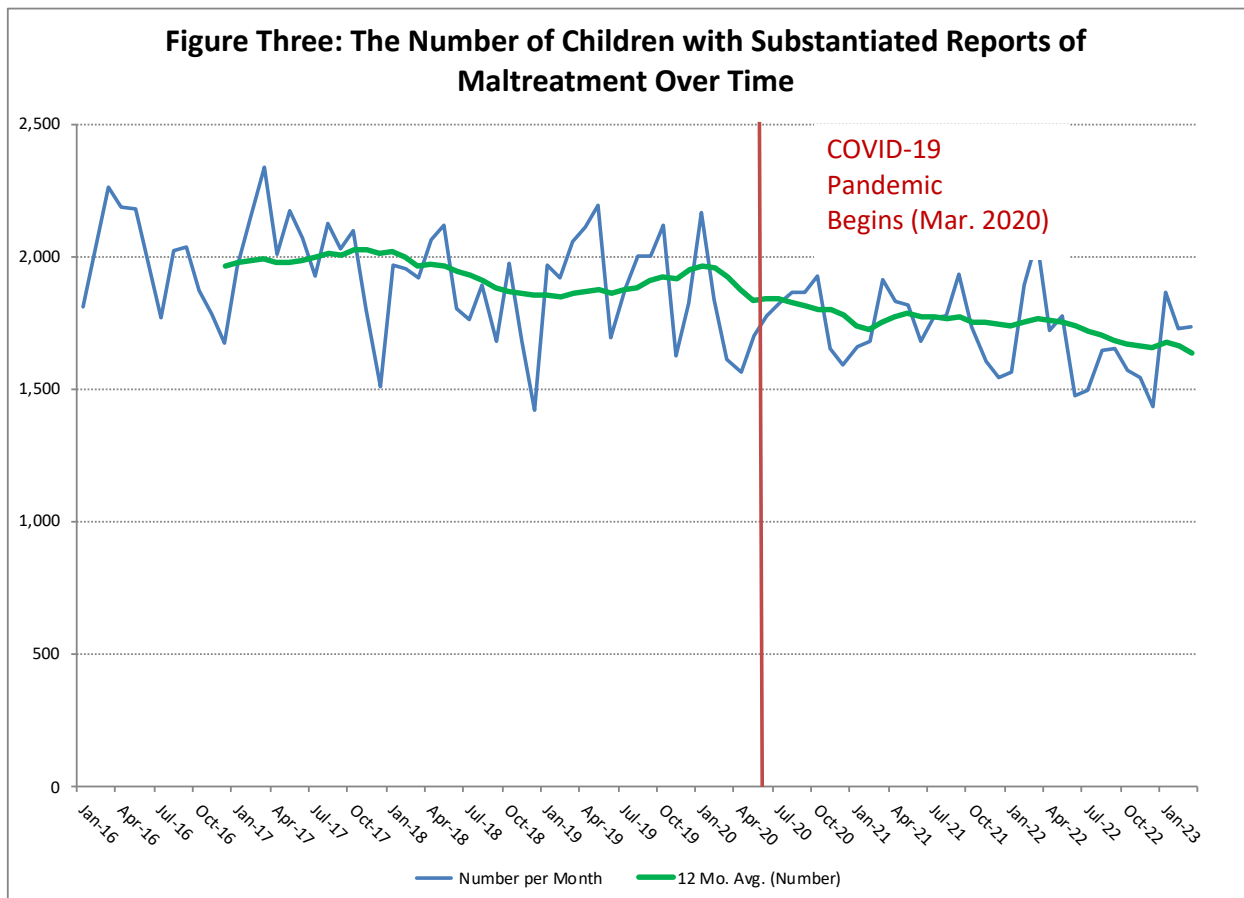
**Figure Two** shows the pattern of the number of children assessed each month by year from January through December for 2018 to 2022 and January through March for 2023. This figure is helpful in showing seasonal variation and offers an even more stark view of the pandemic's effect. Much of the usual 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. While the pattern for 2021 and 2022 is more like earlier years than 2020, the number of children assessed remains lower overall. June and July 2022 were particularly low in comparison to previous years. Early 2023 is showing a similar pattern to previous years and is somewhat higher than 2021 and 2022 thus far.



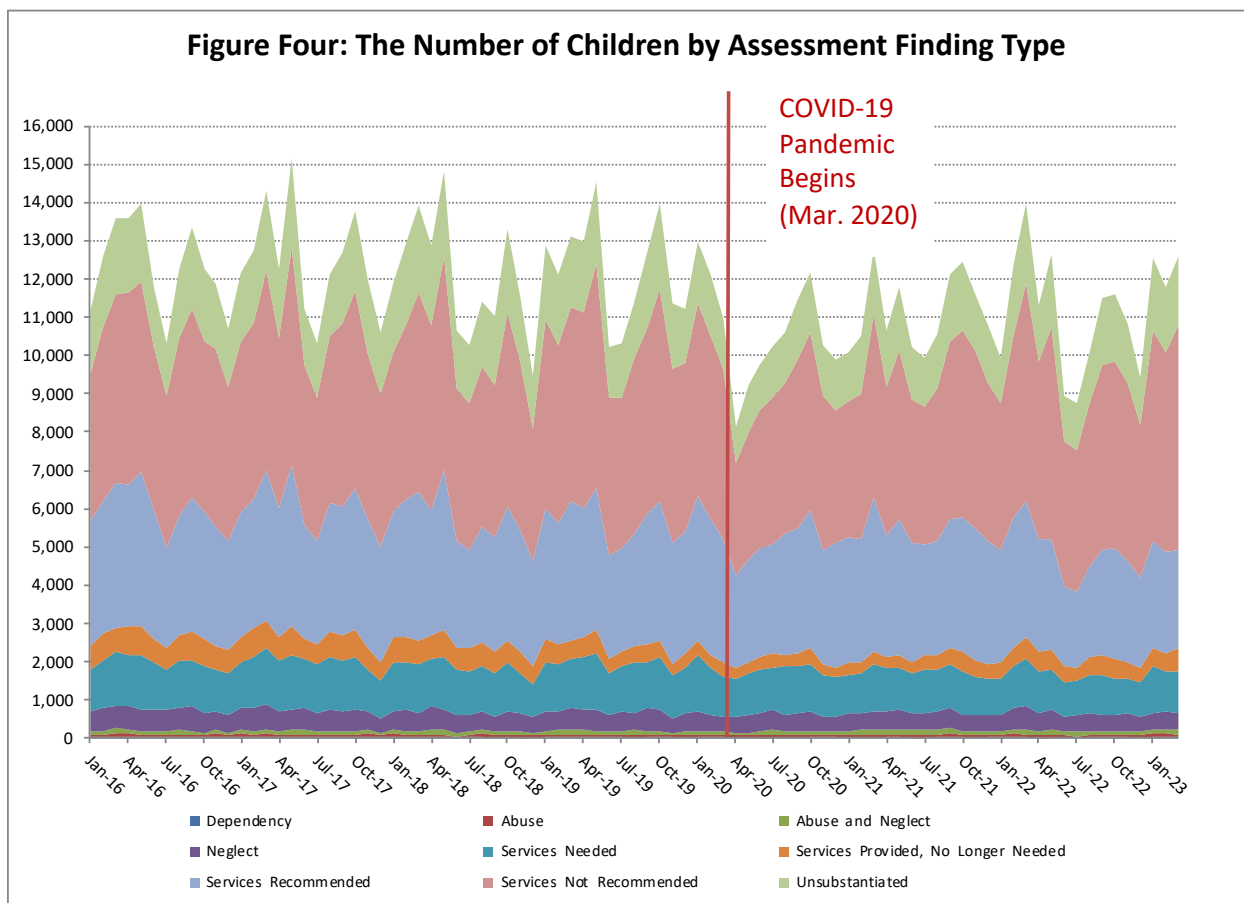
**Figure Three** illustrates the number of children whose maltreatment reports were substantiated. Specific monthly numbers can be found in Appendix A, Table Two. A report is considered substantiated if there is a finding of abuse, neglect, abuse and neglect, dependency, or services needed. These findings 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 began and ended the year at about 1,850 before rising again to 1,950 by the end of 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 1,780 for 2020 is lower than the pre-pandemic level. The average for 2021 declined again to about 1,750 with the downward trend continuing into 2022 with an average of around 1,650. Like assessments, there was a significant increase in early 2023 with an average of about 1,770. However, more data are needed to show an upward trend.



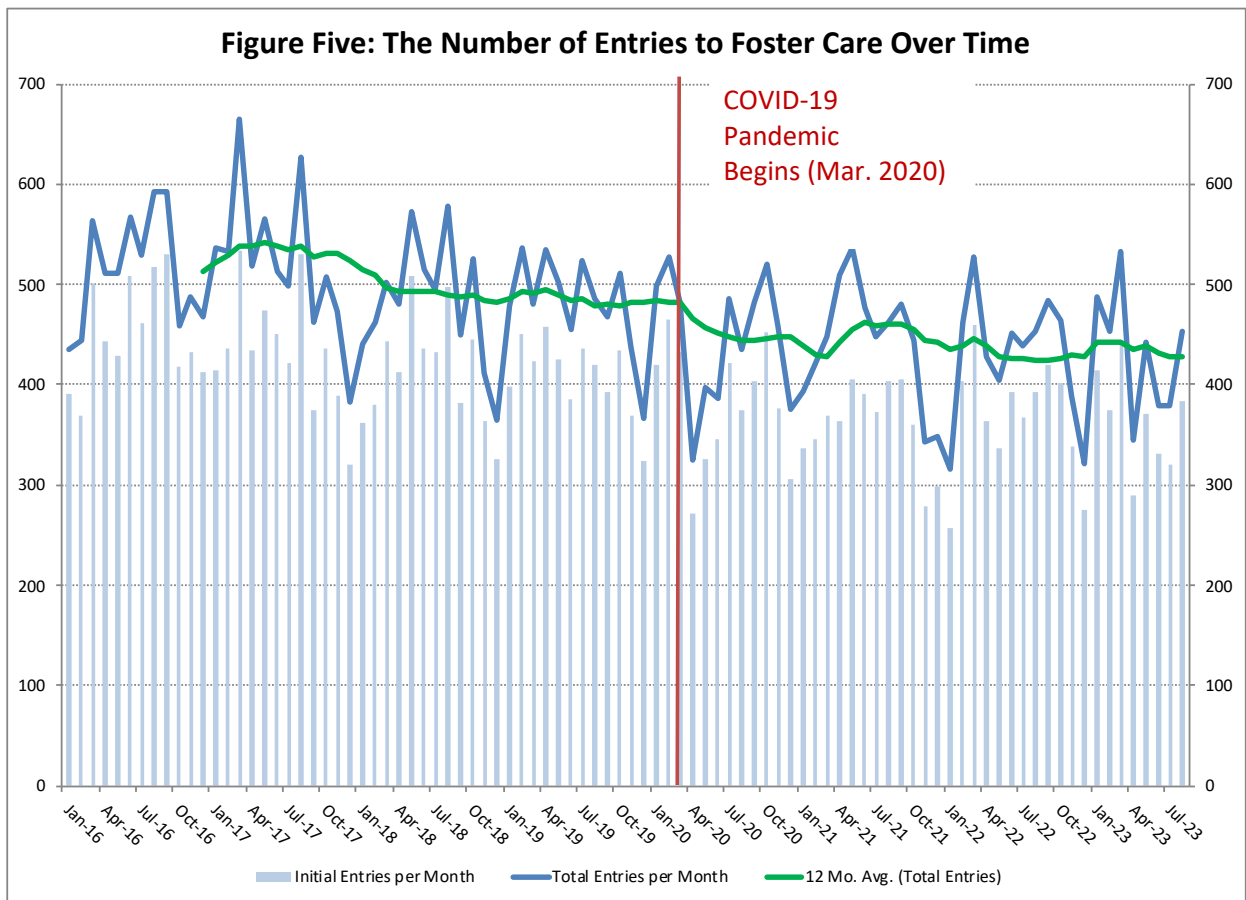
**Figure Four** illustrates the number of children by assessment finding type over time (see Appendix A, Table Three for specific monthly numbers). Unlike Figure Three, this figure

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 15% of findings while all others are about 88% (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 early 2023 showed a return to more typical rates of substantiated (14-15%) versus non-substantiated findings (85-86%).



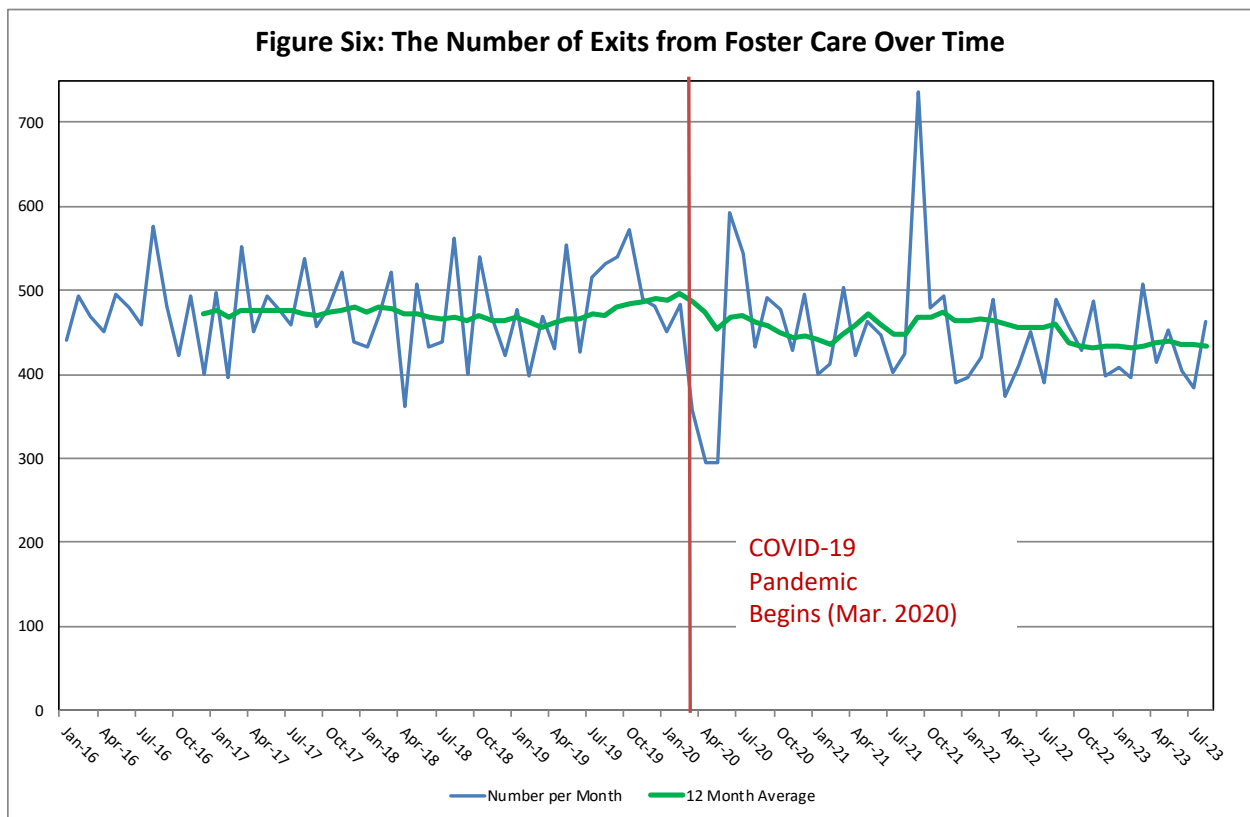
**Figure Five** reports the number of children entering foster care for the first time, the total entries (including re-entries into care), and the twelve-month average for total entries. Children enter foster care when child protective services determines that the risk of harm to a child is too great 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 81% 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 443 entries and 2022 with an average of 428. The average for 2023 through August remained at 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 465. A downward trend began in January 2022 with an average through the end of 2022 of about 433 and has continued at about that level with an average of 434 through August 2023.



## Summary

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In summary, child welfare caseloads, including maltreatment reports, substantiations, non-substantiated findings, and entries and exits from foster care have not returned to pre-pandemic levels by early to late 2023. Before the pandemic, the number of children assessed for maltreatment per month averaged 12,000 per month compared to the 2022 average of about 11,000 per month. Early 2023 monthly assessments and substantiations increased, but more data are needed to discern upward trends. Foster care entries and exits from care per month were trending downward in 2022 but held steady by August 2023.

*This research is funded through a contract with the North Carolina Division of Social Services. The views expressed are those of the authors. Any errors due to the interpretation of the analysis of the data are the authors' alone.*

*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=](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	11,159	Feb-19	12,099
Feb-16	12,585	Mar-19	13,120
Mar-16	13,583	Apr-19	12,978
Apr-16	13,581	May-19	14,556
May-16	13,949	Jun-19	10,228
Jun-16	11,768	Jul-19	10,315
Jul-16	10,304	Aug-19	11,414
Aug-16	12,236	Sep-19	12,699
Sep-16	13,327	Oct-19	13,942
Oct-16	12,261	Nov-19	11,340
Nov-16	11,891	Dec-19	11,237
Dec-16	10,705	Jan-20	12,948
Jan-17	12,157	Feb-20	12,138
Feb-17	12,715	Mar-20	10,987
Mar-17	14,291	Apr-20	8,127
Apr-17	12,261	May-20	9,213
May-17	15,132	Jun-20	9,758
Jun-17	11,234	Jul-20	10,233
Jul-17	10,325	Aug-20	10,578
Aug-17	12,114	Sep-20	11,468
Sep-17	12,701	Oct-20	12,174
Oct-17	13,789	Nov-20	10,270
Nov-17	11,955	Dec-20	9,877
Dec-17	10,593	Jan-21	10,067
Jan-18	11,871	Feb-21	10,516
Feb-18	12,909	Mar-21	12,774
Mar-18	13,917	Apr-21	10,644
Apr-18	12,874	May-21	11,806
May-18	14,814	Jun-21	10,229
Jun-18	10,652	Jul-21	9,950
Jul-18	10,256	Aug-21	10,547
Aug-18	11,413	Sep-21	12,117
Sep-18	11,004	Oct-21	12,449
Oct-18	13,313	Nov-21	11,585
Nov-18	11,568	Dec-21	10,775
Dec-18	9,451	Jan-22	9,941
Jan-19	12,889	Feb-22	12,368

<b>Month</b>	<b>Number of Children Assessed</b>
Mar-22	13,982
Apr-22	11,332
May-22	12,621
Jun-22	8,951
Jul-22	8,748
Aug-22	10,099
Sep-22	11,494

<b>Month</b>	<b>Number of Children Assessed</b>
Oct-22	11,605
Nov-22	10,845
Dec-22	9,434
Jan-23	12,548
Feb-23	11,782
Mar-23	12,583

**TABLE TWO: The Number of Children Substantiated (including Services Needed)**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Number of Children with a Substantiated Report</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Number of Children with a Substantiated Report</b>
Jan-16	1,808	Apr-19	2,112
Feb-16	2,032	May-19	2,192
Mar-16	2,260	Jun-19	1,695
Apr-16	2,185	Jul-19	1,879
May-16	2,180	Aug-19	2,000
Jun-16	1,971	Sep-19	1,998
Jul-16	1,769	Oct-19	2,120
Aug-16	2,019	Nov-19	1,625
Sep-16	2,034	Dec-19	1,824
Oct-16	1,872	Jan-20	2,164
Nov-16	1,781	Feb-20	1,840
Dec-16	1,672	Mar-20	1,613
Jan-17	1,958	Apr-20	1,565
Feb-17	2,139	May-20	1,697
Mar-17	2,339	Jun-20	1,772
Apr-17	2,011	Jul-20	1,824
May-17	2,169	Aug-20	1,865
Jun-17	2,072	Sep-20	1,864
Jul-17	1,925	Oct-20	1,927
Aug-17	2,122	Nov-20	1,651
Sep-17	2,026	Dec-20	1,592
Oct-17	2,097	Jan-21	1,661
Nov-17	1,806	Feb-21	1,679
Dec-17	1,510	Mar-21	1,912
Jan-18	1,969	Apr-21	1,829
Feb-18	1,956	May-21	1,817
Mar-18	1,921	Jun-21	1,681
Apr-18	2,061	Jul-21	1,766
May-18	2,116	Aug-21	1,774
Jun-18	1,801	Sep-21	1,935
Jul-18	1,763	Oct-21	1,732
Aug-18	1,889	Nov-21	1,605
Sep-18	1,681	Dec-21	1,546
Oct-18	1,975	Jan-22	1,564
Nov-18	1,681	Feb-22	1,893
Dec-18	1,419	Mar-22	2,061
Jan-19	1,970	Apr-22	1,723
Feb-19	1,920	May-22	1,776
Mar-19	2,053	Jun-22	1,472

<b>Month</b>	<b>Number of Children with a Substantiated Report</b>
Jul-22	1,495
Aug-22	1,648
Sep-22	1,651
Oct-22	1,570
Nov-22	1,544
Dec-22	1,434

<b>Month</b>	<b>Number of Children with a Substantiated Report</b>
Jan-23	1,861
Feb-23	1,730
Mar-23	1,737

**TABLE THREE: The Number of Children by Assessment Finding Type<sup>2</sup>**

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	3,270	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	4,047	4,953	2,045
Jun-16	37	66	96	527	1,245	646	3,339	4,280	1,532
Jul-16	20	68	78	564	1,039	592	2,582	3,986	1,375
Aug-16	17	85	104	611	1,202	664	3,129	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	2,855	4,005	1,542
Jan-17	35	76	112	588	1,147	669	3,262	4,475	1,793
Feb-17	19	66	94	633	1,327	726	3,355	4,638	1,857
Mar-17	33	81	126	671	1,428	715	3,966	5,208	2,063
Apr-17	29	77	78	507	1,320	620	3,379	4,433	1,818
May-17	26	73	110	560	1,400	759	4,238	5,669	2,297
Jun-17	24	77	118	559	1,294	543	2,986	4,139	1,494
Jul-17	24	62	103	442	1,294	504	2,706	3,771	1,419
Aug-17	26	75	97	540	1,384	646	3,362	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	3,387	4,311	1,900
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	80	103	560	1,199	675	3,606	4,543	2,129
Mar-18	20	74	86	491	1,250	649	3,867	5,226	2,254
Apr-18	14	89	101	623	1,234	609	3,297	4,824	2,083
May-18	18	86	132	534	1,346	735	4,154	5,592	2,217
Jun-18	15	36	89	486	1,175	551	2,812	3,988	1,500
Jul-18	17	67	93	441	1,145	574	2,564	3,829	1,526
Aug-18	17	96	96	487	1,193	598	3,063	4,140	1,723
Sep-18	8	71	95	400	1,107	575	3,007	3,966	1,775
Oct-18	23	62	106	525	1,259	575	3,521	5,046	2,196
Nov-18	10	58	100	487	1,026	603	3,145	4,422	1,717
Dec-18	9	55	76	403	876	463	2,728	3,494	1,347

<sup>2</sup>The 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	3,405	4,957	1,949
Feb-19	21	59	155	476	1,209	544	3,159	4,661	1,815
Mar-19	21	57	131	562	1,282	507	3,621	5,069	1,870
Apr-19	26	71	111	526	1,378	537	3,363	5,092	1,874
May-19	12	82	107	552	1,439	625	3,716	5,862	2,161
Jun-19	20	68	107	391	1,109	390	2,691	4,135	1,317
Jul-19	14	66	88	513	1,198	373	2,689	3,954	1,420
Aug-19	11	85	109	436	1,359	410	2,930	4,587	1,487
Sep-19	23	64	112	588	1,211	437	3,422	4,828	2,014
Oct-19	15	55	130	549	1,371	428	3,640	5,563	2,191
Nov-19	20	55	77	355	1,118	312	3,159	4,565	1,679
Dec-19	11	63	88	495	1,167	386	3,185	4,377	1,465
Jan-20	17	73	110	504	1,460	398	3,797	5,000	1,589
Feb-20	19	59	88	448	1,226	333	3,531	4,792	1,642
Mar-20	16	54	96	407	1,040	357	3,212	4,464	1,341
Apr-20	11	54	71	402	1,027	265	2,438	2,927	932
May-20	17	65	67	448	1,100	284	2,709	3,287	1,236
Jun-20	6	66	99	472	1,129	346	2,833	3,617	1,190
Jul-20	11	71	159	484	1,099	384	2,840	3,845	1,340
Aug-20	18	53	94	449	1,251	308	3,150	3,943	1,312
Sep-20	11	54	128	441	1,230	366	3,274	4,385	1,579
Oct-20	20	61	119	489	1,238	433	3,583	4,641	1,590
Nov-20	18	60	97	401	1,075	300	2,977	4,038	1,304
Dec-20	22	70	91	390	1,019	257	3,258	3,475	1,295
Jan-21	8	64	92	469	1,028	315	3,276	3,529	1,286
Feb-21	17	81	112	421	1,048	301	3,233	3,778	1,525
Mar-21	11	86	113	471	1,231	357	4,002	4,790	1,713
Apr-21	16	89	117	454	1,153	309	3,174	3,845	1,487
May-21	17	86	120	508	1,086	332	3,590	4,380	1,687
Jun-21	10	71	129	424	1,047	312	3,118	3,754	1,364
Jul-21	9	74	125	446	1,112	389	2,909	3,611	1,275
Aug-21	17	63	124	495	1,075	392	3,010	3,945	1,426
Sep-21	25	87	138	525	1,160	437	3,335	4,654	1,756
Oct-21	17	55	108	445	1,107	537	3,489	4,889	1,802
Nov-21	9	72	96	423	1,005	430	3,426	4,659	1,465
Dec-21	12	66	117	407	944	382	3,207	4,135	1,505
Jan-22	16	75	102	414	957	395	2,948	3,851	1,183
Feb-22	25	99	124	553	1,092	446	3,406	4,781	1,842
Mar-22	17	64	133	648	1,199	577	3,580	5,650	2,114
Apr-22	11	78	112	453	1,069	546	2,909	4,667	1,487

Month	Dependency	Abuse	Abuse and Neglect	Neglect	Services Needed	Services Provided, No Longer Needed	Services Recommended	Services Not Recommended	Un-substantiated
May-22	10	65	134	524	1,043	532	2,914	5,530	1,869
Jun-22	14	53	91	414	900	388	2,129	3,753	1,209
Jul-22	5	47	105	454	884	360	1,967	3,694	1,232
Aug-22	14	68	103	453	1,010	452	2,399	4,239	1,361
Sep-22	24	76	78	421	1,052	537	2,738	4,838	1,730
Oct-22	19	46	102	452	951	490	2,884	4,907	1,754
Nov-22	19	52	96	471	906	420	2,684	4,613	1,584
Dec-22	9	65	87	373	900	413	2,378	3,939	1,270
Jan-23	46	64	93	430	1,228	505	2,785	5,507	1,890
Feb-23	29	88	99	466	1,048	482	2,675	5,201	1,694
Mar-23	21	80	117	449	1,070	623	2,548	5,891	1,784

**TABLE FOUR: The Number of Children Entering Foster Care**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Initial Entries</b>	<b>Total Entries</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Initial Entries</b>	<b>Total Entries</b>
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	361	444
Jul-18	432	494	Nov-21	279	343
Aug-18	497	578	Dec-21	299	348
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	404
Feb-19	450	536	Jun-22	393	451
Mar-19	424	480	Jul-22	367	438
Apr-19	457	535	Aug-22	393	454

Month	Initial Entries	Total Entries
Sep-22	419	484
Oct-22	401	465
Nov-22	338	388
Dec-22	276	321
Jan-23	414	487
Feb-23	374	454

Month	Initial Entries	Total Entries
Mar-23	442	532
Apr-23	290	345
May-23	371	443
Jun-23	331	379
Jul-23	321	379
Aug-23	384	454

**TABLE FIVE: The Number of Children Exiting Foster Care**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Number of Children Existing Foster Care</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Number of Children Existing Foster Care</b>
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	428
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	446
Mar-18	522	Jul-21	403
Apr-18	362	Aug-21	425
May-18	507	Sep-21	736
Jun-18	433	Oct-21	479
Jul-18	438	Nov-21	494
Aug-18	562	Dec-21	391
Sep-18	401	Jan-22	396
Oct-18	540	Feb-22	421
Nov-18	469	Mar-22	489
Dec-18	423	Apr-22	374
Jan-19	478	May-22	411
Feb-19	398	Jun-22	451
Mar-19	469	Jul-22	391
Apr-19	430	Aug-22	490

<b>Month</b>	<b>Number of Children Existing Foster Care</b>
Sep-22	458
Oct-22	429
Nov-22	487
Dec-22	398
Jan-23	408
Feb-23	397

<b>Month</b>	<b>Number of Children Existing Foster Care</b>
Mar-23	507
Apr-23	414
May-23	453
Jun-23	405
Jul-23	384
Aug-23	462