

Evaluation of Washington's Solution Based Casework practice model

INTERIM REPORT

Part IV: Baseline parent survey analysis by state, region, and service context

Partners for Our Children is committed to improving the lives of Washington state foster children through rigorous research, analysis and evidence-based innovation. The organization, founded in 2007, is a collaborative effort of the University of Washington School of Social Work, Washington State Department of Social and Health Services and private funders.

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Contents

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	1
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
Key Findings from the Baseline Parent Survey: Statewide and Regional Analysis	2
Parent and Child Demographic Characteristics.	2
Poverty Indicators	2
Parent Engagement	2
Parent Risk Factors.....	3
Parent Services.....	4
Key Findings from the Baseline Parent Survey by Service Context (Children In-Home or in Out-Of-Home Care)	4
Child and Parent Demographic Characteristics.	4
Poverty Indicators	4
Parent Engagement	4
Parents’ Risk Factors.	5
Parent Services.....	5
Next Steps	5
CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION	6
Components of the Implementation Strategy	6
Implementation Team.....	6
Solution Based Casework Coaches.....	6
Solution-Focused Management.	7
Solution-Based Curriculum.	7
CHAPTER 2. STUDY DESIGN AND METHODS	8
Overall Design	8
Parent Survey Design	8
Hypothesized Change Processes	8
Figure 2.1: Hypothesized Change Model	8

Sampling Procedure	9
Response Rate	9
Figure 2.2: Response Rate Flow Chart	10
Structure of the Baseline Parent Survey Report	10
CHAPTER 3. PARENT AND CHILD DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS	10
Parents' Demographic Characteristics: Statewide	10
Figure 3.1: Household Income—Statewide	10
Figure 3.2: Employment Status—Statewide	10
Figure 3.3: Parents' Race/Ethnicity by Region	11
Parents' Demographic Characteristics: Regional	11
Table 3.1: Parent Demographic Characteristics by Region	11
Parents' Current Living Situation: Statewide and Regional	11
Table 3.2: Current Living Situation by Region	11
Household Composition: Statewide and Regional	11
Table 3.3: Household Composition by Region	12
Children's Characteristics: Statewide and Regional	12
Children's Special Needs: Statewide and Regional	12
Figure 3.4: Types of Children's Special Needs—Statewide	12
Table 3.4: Children's Special Needs by Region	12
Table 3.5: Parents with Children with Special Needs by Region	12
Summary	12
CHAPTER 4. POVERTY INDICATORS	13
Sources of Assistance: Statewide and Regional	13
Figure 4.1: Sources of Assistance—Statewide	13
Figure 4.2: Top Four Sources of Assistance by Region	13
Figure 4.3: Income Sources—Statewide	14
Financial Hardships: Statewide and Regional	14

Figure 4.4: Lack of Money in Past 12 Months—Statewide and Regional . . .	14
Figure 4.5: Financial Hardships in Past 12 Months—Statewide	14
Summary	14
CHAPTER 5. PARENT ENGAGEMENT	14
Yatchmenoff Engagement Scales: Statewide	15
Figure 5.1: Yatchmenoff Buy-In Sub-Scale—Statewide	15
Table 5.1: Yatchmenoff Sub-Scales by Region	15
Yatchmenoff Engagement Scales: Regional	15
Figure 5.2: Yatchmenoff Engagement Sub-Scales by Region	16
Solution Based Casework-Related Engagement Scales: Statewide and Regional	16
Table 5.2: SBC-Related Engagement Scales by Region	16
Figure 5.3: SBC-Related Engagement Scales by Region.	17
Parents’ Contact with Worker: Statewide and Regional	17
Table 5.3: Amount of Contact with Social Worker by Region.	17
Table 5.4: Rating of Contact Amount with Social Worker by Region	17
Summary	17
CHAPTER 6. RISK FACTORS FOR CHILD MALTREATMENT	18
Domestic Violence: Statewide and Regional	18
Figure 6.1: Domestic Violence—Statewide and Regional	18
Trauma History (Sexual Abuse as a Minor): Statewide and Regional	18
Figure 6.2: Sexual Abuse as a Minor—Statewide and Regional	19
Mental Health Disorders: Statewide	19
Figure 6.3: Mental Health Disorders—Statewide	19
Substance Abuse or Dependence: Statewide	19
Figure 6.4: Alcohol and Drug Abuse/Dependence—Statewide	19
Parental Stress Scale: Statewide and Regional	19

Figure 6.5: Parental Stress Sub-Scales—Statewide	20
Table 6.1: Parental Stress Scale and Sub-Scales by Region.	20
Summary	20
Figure 6.6: Overall Risk for Child Matreatment by Region.	20
CHAPTER 7. CHILD AND PARENT SERVICES	20
Services for Children: Statewide	20
Figure 7.1: Services Received for Children—Statewide	21
Figure 7.2: Unmet Needs Among Parents Not Receiving Children’s Services—Statewide	21
Parent Services for Basic Needs: Statewide and Regional	21
Figure 7.3: Services Received for Parents’ Basic Needs—Statewide	21
Figure 7.4: Parents’ Unmet Need for Basic Needs Services—Statewide.	21
Table 7.1: Services Received for Parents’ Basic Needs by Region	21
Table 7.2: Parents’ Unmet Need for Basic Needs Services by Region.	22
Parent Services for Physical and Emotional Health: Statewide and Regional	22
Figure 7.5: Services Received for Parents’ Physical and Emotional Health—Statewide	22
Figure 7.6: Parents’ Unmet Needs for Physical and Emotional Health Services—Statewide.	22
Table 7.3: Services Received for Parents’ Physical and Emotional Health by Region	23
Table 7.4: Parents’ Unmet Needs for Physical and Emotional Health Services by Region.	23
Summary	23
CHAPTER 8. PARENT AND CHILD DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS BY SERVICE CONTEXT	23
Parent Demographics Characteristics	23
Table 8.1: Parent Demographic Characteristics by Service Context	24
Parents’ Current Living Situation	24
Figure 8.1: Living Situation by Service Context	24

Household Composition	24
Table 8.2: Household Composition by Service Context	24
Children’s Characteristics and Special Needs	24
Table 8.3: Parents with a Child with Special Needs by Service Context	25
Summary	25
CHAPTER 9. POVERTY INDICATORS BY SERVICE CONTEXT	25
Sources of Financial Assistance	25
Figure 9.1: Sources of Financial Assistance by Service Context	25
Financial Hardships	25
Figure 9.2: Lack of Money in Past 12 Months by Service Context	25
Figure 9.3: Financial Hardships in the Past 12 Months by Service Context ..	26
Summary	26
CHAPTER 10. PARENT ENGAGEMENT BY SERVICE CONTEXT	26
Yatchmenoff Engagement Sub-Scales	26
Figure 10.1: Yatchmenoff Engagement Sub-Scales by Service Context	26
Solution Based Casework-Related Engagement Scales ..	26
Figure 10.2: Worker Attributes Scale by Service Context	27
Figure 10.3: Engagement Scale by Service Context	27
Figure 10.4: Family Strengths Scale by Service Context	27
Parents’ Contact with Worker	27
Table 10.1: Amount of Contact with Social Worker by Service Context	27
Table 10.2: Rating of Contact Amount with Social Worker by Service Context	28
Summary	28
CHAPTER 11. RISK FACTORS FOR CHILD MALTREATMENT BY SERVICE CONTEXT	28
Domestic Violence	28
Figure 11.1: Domestic Violence by Service Context	28

Trauma History (Sexual Abuse as a Minor)	28
Figure 11.2: Sexual Abuse by Service Context	28
Mental Health Disorders	29
Figure 11.3: Mental Health Disorders by Service Context	29
Substance Abuse	29
Figure 11.4: Alcohol and Drug Abuse/Dependence by Service Context	29
Parental Stress Scale	29
Figure 11.5: Parental Stress Sub-Scales by Service Context	29
Figure 11.6: Risk Factors for Child Maltreatment by Service Context	30
Summary	30
CHAPTER 12. PARENT SERVICES BY SERVICE CONTEXT	30
Services for Children	30
Figure 12.1: Services Received for Children by Service Context	30
Figure 12.2: Unmet Need Among Parents Not Receiving a Children Services by	30
Service Context	30
Parent Services for Basic Needs	30
Figure 12.3: Services Received for Parents' Basic Needs by Service Context	30
Figure 12.4: Parents' Unmet Need for Basic Needs Services by Service Context	31
Parent Services for Physical and Emotional Health	31
Figure 12.5: Services Received for Parents' Physical and Emotional Health by Service Context	31
Figure 12.6: Parents' Unmet Need for Physical and Emotional Health by Service Context	31
Summary	31

APPENDIX	32
Table A3.1: Current Living Situation by Region	32
Table A3.2: Age of Children by Region	32
Table A4.1: Financial Assistance Sources by Region	32
Table A4.2: Poverty Indicators by Region	32
Table A5.1: Yatchmenoff Buy-In Sub-Scale by Region	33
Table A5.2: Yatchmenoff Mistrust Sub-Scale by Region	33
Table A5.3: Yatchmenoff Receptivity Sub-Scale by Region	33
Table A5.4: Yatchmenoff Working Relationship Sub-Scale by Region	33
Table A5.5: SBC-Related Worker Attributes Scale by Region	33
Table A5.6: SBC-Related Engagement Scale by Region	34
Table A5.7: SBC-Related Family Strengths Scale by Region	34
Table A6.1: Domestic Violence by Region	34
Table A6.2: Sexual Abuse by Region	34
Table A6.3: Mental Health Disorders by Region	34
Table A6.4: Alcohol and Drug Abuse/Dependence by Region	34
Table A6.5: Summary of Risk Factors for Child Maltreatment by Region ...	34
Table A6.6: Parental Stress Scale by Region	35
Table A7.1: Services for Children Received by Region	35
Table A7.2: Children’s Unmet Service Needs by Region	35
Table A8.1: Demographic Characteristics by Service Context	35
Table A8.2: Age of Children by Service Context	36
Table A9.1: Poverty Indicators by Service Context	36
Table A10.1: Yatchmenoff Engagement Sub-Scales by Service Context	36
Table A10.2: SBC-Related Worker Attributes Scale by Service Context	36
Table A10.3: SBC-Related Engagement Scale by Service Context	36
Table A10.4: SBC-Related Family Strengths Scale by Service Context	37
Table A11.1: Domestic Violence by Service Context	37
Table A11.2: Sexual Abuse as a Minor by Service Context	37
Table A11.3: Mental Health Disorders by Service Context	37
Table A11.4: Alcohol and Drug Abuse/Dependence by Service Context	37
Table A11.5: Summary of Risk Factors for Child Maltreatment by Service Context	37
Table A11.6: Parental Stress Scale by Service Context	37
Table A12.1: Services Received for Children by Service Context	38

Table A12.2: Children’s Unmet Service Needs by Service Context	38
Table A12.3: Services Received for Parent’s Basic Needs by Service Context	38
Table A12.4: Parents’ Umet Needs for Basic Needs Services by Service Context	38
Table A12.5: Services Received for Parents’ Physical and Emotional Health by Service Context	38
Table A12.6: Parents’ Unmet Needs for Physical and Emotional Health Services by Service Context	38
REFERENCES	39

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Children's Administration (CA) has undertaken the system-wide implementation of a new casework practice model called Solution Based Casework (SBC). By implementing SBC, CA hopes to substantially shift the way child welfare is practiced in Washington and thereby improve outcomes for the children and families it serves.

To determine the degree to which implementing SBC succeeds in improving child and family outcomes, CA requested that Partners for Our Children (POC) conduct an ongoing implementation study and impact evaluation. In the initial phase of the study, POC interviewed key informants involved in designing and directing implementation of SBC, conducted focus groups with social workers and supervisors participating in SBC training, and observed SBC training activities supporting implementation. POC also surveyed over 1,000 social workers and supervisors to obtain baseline assessments on relevant aspects of their work.

In addition to the social worker survey, the first phase of the practice model study included interviews of a cohort of parents. A pre- and post-test design is being used to assess changes in parent reported interactions with CA workers, utilization of services, and child and family outcomes. Thus parents interviewed in the first phase will serve as a baseline against which to measure changes in practice and outcomes. For the pre-test, a statewide sample of parents with a newly opened CA case (in the past 60 to 180 days) was interviewed face-to-face between July and December 2008. A different cohort of parents will be interviewed after implementation of the SBC practice model.

In later phases, the evaluation will make use of CA's administrative records to assess child maltreatment, the

kinds and quantity of services provided, and child and family outcomes including children's entry to out-of-home care, children's length of stay in out-of-home care, children's reunification with their families, and the post-reunification re-entry of children to out-of-home care.

Key Findings from the Baseline Parent Survey: Statewide and Regional Analysis

Eight hundred and nine parents were interviewed for an overall response rate of 82 percent. Regional response rates were as follows: Region 1: 84 percent; Region 2: 89 percent; Region 3: 78 percent; Region 4: 82 percent; Region 5: 80 percent, and Region 6: 80 percent. Regional participation (as a percent of 809 participants) was distributed as follows: Region 1: 18 percent; Region 2: 13 percent; Region 3: 21 percent; Region 4: 19 percent; Region 5: 12 percent, and Region 6: 18 percent.

The first section of Partners for Our Children baseline parent survey report contains a statewide and regional analysis of parent responses to questions about: parent and child demographic characteristics; poverty indicators; worker-initiated parent engagement strategies; parental risk factors for child maltreatment; and child and parent service use and need.

Parent and Child Demographic Characteristics.

Parents in the study were predominately single (41%), unemployed (67%) women, with an annual income of less than \$20,000 (69%). Seventy-two percent lived in their own home or apartment; others were staying with friends or family, living in a hotel/motel, in residential treatment, or homeless. Almost two-thirds of the parents were Caucasian, 19 percent were mixed race, and the remainder was mostly split between African American, Native American, and Latino.

The typical household was composed of less than two adults (1.6 adults, including the parent) and two children. Respondents had an average of three children biological or adopted children. The 2,382 children averaged just less than nine years of age.

One-third of the children of the parents surveyed had one or more special need. The most commonly reported special need among these children was a mental health disability (59%). Half of the parents in the sample were parenting at least one child with a special need.

With a few notable exceptions, the parents' demographic characteristics did not vary greatly by region. Parents in Region 5 were at least two years younger than each other

region, and significantly younger than parents in Region 4. Region 1 had significantly fewer children living in the household than Region 2.

The largest demographic difference was the racial distribution by region. Seventy percent of the parents in Regions 1, 3, and 6 were Caucasian, compared to less than 50 percent in the other regions. In Region 2, 15 percent of the parents were Native American, twice the percent of each other region, and 20 percent were Latino, a significantly higher percent than each other region. In Region 4, 18 percent of parents were African American, significantly more than each other region except Region 5, where 12 percent of parents were African American.

Children's characteristics did not vary regionally, with the exceptions that Region 5 children were significantly younger than each other region (6.5 years) and significantly fewer children in Region 2 had a physical disability than children in Region 3.

Poverty Indicators. The data indicate that many parents in the sample were struggling to meet their most basic needs. Eighty-one percent of parents were receiving assistance from at least one public program or from friends and families. Nonetheless, 73 percent of parents were either unable to pay an important bill, buy needed clothing, or pay their rent/mortgage in the past 12 months. Additionally, 73 percent of the parents experienced at least one additional, major financial hardship such as going to a food pantry, moving in with friends or family, or being homeless.

Parents in Region 1 were significantly less likely to have sufficient funds to pay an important bill than parents in Region 4. Additionally, parents in Region 1 were significantly less likely to have sufficient funds to pay the rent or mortgage than parents in Regions 2 and 4. With these few exceptions aside, there were no regional differences in the poverty indicators.

Parent Engagement. A series of questions was used to measure parents' level engagement with their child welfare social workers. The questions (from the Yatchmenoff Engagement scale) are divided into four sub-scales: Buy-In, Mistrust, Receptivity, and Working Relationship. Items in the sub-scales asked parents about their investment in—and expected benefit from—working with child welfare, their level of trust, their openness to receiving help, and their working relationship with their worker. Statewide, parents expressed stronger agreement with the two sub-scales measuring their buy-in or investment

in child welfare services and their receptivity towards receiving help than they did with the two sub-scales measuring their level of trust and their sense of a positive working relationship with their social worker.

In addition, three scales were developed by the authors to measure parents' perception of worker attitudes and strategies specific to SBC such as empathy, respect for culture, use of engagement approaches (e.g., inclusion and collaboration), and attention to family strengths. Statewide analysis of two of these scales indicated that parents had a slightly positive attitude towards their social worker and believed that they were working collaboratively with their worker. On the other hand, responses to the third scale indicated that parents slightly disagreed that their worker used a family strengths approach.

While average scores for both the Yatchmenoff sub-scales and the SBC-related engagement scales tended to be just on either side of a score of 3, or the midpoint, the distribution of parent responses ranged widely.

The Yatchmenoff Engagement sub-scales and the SBC-related engagement scales detected some regional differences. Parents in Regions 2 and 6 indicated the strongest levels of agreement with the engagement measures (i.e., the most positive attitude towards CPS), while parents in Regions 1 and 5 reported the lowest levels of agreement. The differences between Region 2 and Region 5 were the most consistently significant, while differences between the other regions were for the most part, minimal.

Parents were also asked about their contact with their social worker. They reported seeing their worker on a consistent basis, with 60 percent indicating that they saw their worker more than once a month. A little less than half of parents believed they had too little contact with their worker, while 42 percent reported that they had about the right amount of contact. There were no regional differences.

Parent Risk Factors. Parents were asked about five risk factors that have been associated with child maltreatment: domestic violence, childhood trauma (i.e., sexual abuse), mental health issues, substance abuse/dependence, and parental stress.

Domestic Violence. Parents were asked about the prevalence and nature of domestic violence in their relationship with their current or most recent partner. Three questions querying verbal threats, aggressive physical contact, and physical hurt or injury were asked to tap escalating stages of violence between parent and partner. Statewide,

35 percent of parents indicated that they had experienced domestic violence from or towards their current or most recent partner.

Childhood Trauma: Sexual Abuse as a Minor. Parents were asked if, before the age of 18, they were touched inappropriately or sexually maltreated/molested by an adult or older child. Over one-half (52%) of parents said they had been touched by an adult or older child in a sexual way once or more than once. Thirty-five percent said they had been forced to touch an adult or older child in a sexual way, and one in three (31%) indicated they had been forced to have sex once or more than once. Statewide, 55 percent of parents reported that at least one of these three types of sexual abuse had happened to them as a minor. There was no difference in sexual abuse across regions.

Mental Health Disorders. Statewide, 56 percent of the parents met criteria for one or more (current or past) mental health disorder. The most common diagnosis was major depressive disorder/episode (45% statewide). Accounting for all mood disorders (i.e., depression, manic or hypomanic episode, or bipolar I or II, past or current), over one-half of the parents met diagnostic criteria for at least one of these disorders. Anxiety disorders (panic disorder, social phobia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, posttraumatic stress disorder) were detected in over 29 percent of the sample. There were no significant differences in the incidence of mental health disorders among parents across the six regions.

Substance Abuse/Dependence. Statewide, 29 percent of the parents reported alcohol or drug use or dependence. Prevalence of alcohol or drug abuse or dependence did not vary by region.

Parental Stress Scale. Overall, as the Parental Stress Scale indicated, respondents did not feel stressed in their role as parents. Rather they felt highly rewarded and satisfied and in control. Parents in Regions 2 and 4 tended to experience more stress than parents in the other regions, but the differences were not statistically significant.

Summary of Risk Factors for Child Maltreatment. A measurement of overall risk combines the four risks of domestic violence, sexual abuse, substance abuse/dependence, or mental health conditions. Statewide, 87 percent of the parents reported that they experienced at least one of these four risk factors. Although there were no significant regional differences, 91 percent of Region 6 parents reported at least one of the four risks, compared to 79 percent of the parents in Region 5.

Parent Services. Parents were asked about child-focused services as well as their need for services for concrete needs and for their physical and emotional health.

The most frequently identified child-related services were related to education. Conversely, among those parents not receiving a particular service, the most frequently identified needs were for help finding community activities (e.g., recreation) and respite care, followed by school/education-related needs. There were no regional differences in receipt of, or need for, children's services.

When parents were asked about services for concrete needs, statewide comparison of service receipt and service need for basic services shows high unmet need for clothing, transportation, food, and housing, even though a high percent of parents were already receiving transportation and housing services.

Finally, the only significant regional difference for needed services related to physical and emotional health pertained to family counseling. Parents in Region 2 indicated a greater need for this service than did parents in Region 3.

Key Findings from the Baseline Parent Survey by Service Context (Children In-Home or in Out-Of-Home Care)

The second section of the parent baseline survey report analyzes the same survey questions as the first section by service context, defined as whether or not the case was considered *in-home* (i.e., all children were residing at home and the parent was receiving services), or *out-of-home* (i.e., at least one child was in placement).¹ Service context response rates were 83 percent for families whose children were in-home and 81 percent for families whose children were placed out-of-home.

Child and Parent Demographic Characteristics. On average, parents reported low incomes, educational attainment, and rates of employment. These three demographic characteristics were significantly lower still for parents whose children were in out-of-home placement, compared to parents with children in-home. Parents with children in out-of-home placement also reported significantly less stable living situations than parents with children in-home (i.e., parents with children out-of-home were less likely to be living in a house or apartment, and

more likely to be staying with friends/family, living in a hotel/motel, in residential treatment, or homeless).

Statewide, children averaged just less than nine years of age, with children in out-of-home care being significantly younger than children in-home (8.4 vs. 9.2 years). Parents had an average of three biological or adopted children; parents with children out-of-home had significantly more biological/adopted children than parents with children residing in-home (3.1 vs. 2.8 children). Not surprisingly, there were significantly fewer children in households with children out-of-home than in households with children in-home (1.4 vs. 2.5 children).

Parents with at least one child placed in out-of-home care were more likely to report having a child with a physical disability than those whose children were in-home.

Poverty Indicators. Overall, parents of children in out-of-home care experienced deeper levels of poverty than those whose children were in-home. Eighty-one percent of the parents were receiving financial assistance from at least one source (e.g., food stamps, cash from friends or family). Although a relatively low percent of parents received General Assistance (GA), responses indicated that significantly more parents with children in out-of-home care were receiving GA than parents with children in-home.

Seventy-three percent of all parents, regardless of regional location, were unable either unable to pay an important bill, buy needed clothing, or pay their rent/mortgage in the past 12 months. Measures of additional financial hardship indicated that significantly more parents with children out-of-home had to move in with friends or family, had been homeless, or were evicted, than parents with children in-home. With the exception of being able to afford food for the family, a greater percent of parents with children out-of-home experienced each of seven major financial hardships than did parents with children in-home.

Parent Engagement. Parents with children in-home were significantly more positive about their worker's use of engagement strategies than parents of children out-of-home. Specifically, parents with children in-home had more buy-in or investment in child welfare services, as well as more trust in and a better working relationship with, their social worker. Both groups of parents scored high on the Receptivity sub-scale, meaning they were receptive to child welfare involvement.

¹ The in-home and out-of-home classifications will be referred to as "service context" in this report

In addition, parents with children in-home were significantly more positive than parents with children in out-of-home care about their social worker's attitude and level of respect (Worker Attributes scale), worker use of SBC strategies such as inclusion and collaboration (Engagement scale), and their worker's focus on family strengths (Family Strengths scale). Note that for each of the seven parent engagement scales, parents ranged widely in their response.

In response to questions about contact with their social worker, parents with children in-home were more likely to report that they saw their social worker about the right amount or too much, while parents with children out-of-home were more likely to report that they saw their social worker too little.

Parents' Risk Factors.

Domestic Violence. Parents with children in out-of-home care reported a higher percent of domestic violence (38%) than parents with children in-home (31%) when three domestic violence questions were combined into one measurement.

Sexual Abuse. Fifty-five percent of parents indicated that, as a minor, they had been touched inappropriately or sexually molested by an adult/older child. There were no differences in sexual abuse history by service content.

Mental Health Disorders. Fifty-six percent of the parents met criteria for one or more (current or past) mental health disorder. There were no significant differences in the prevalence of mental health disorders among parents whether or not their children were in-home or placed out-of-home.

Substance Abuse and/or Dependence. Twenty-nine percent of the parents indicated either alcohol or drug abuse/dependence. Parents with children out-of-home were significantly more likely to have either drug or alcohol problems.

Parental Stress. Overall parents reported that they are not overly stressed in their parenting role. Statewide, parents averaged a score of 4 out of 5 on the overall Parental Stress scale, with five indicating they were not at all stressed. Parents with children in-home felt significantly more stressors and lack of control than parents with children in out-of-home placement.

Summary of Risk Factor for Child Maltreatment. Of the four risk factors examined, there was a significant difference between the two groups for two risks—domestic violence and alcohol or drug abuse/dependence—with

parents of children out-of-home significantly more likely to report these risk factors than parents with children in-home.

Parent Services. Among the child-focused services, educational services were reported as the most frequently received service by both parents of children in-home and children in out-of-home care. The only service for children that differed by service context was help finding community activities, with 24 percent of parents of children in-home receiving help finding activities, compared to 17 percent of parents with children in out-of-home care.

Among parents not receiving a particular service for children, parents of children in-home and in out-of-home placement both identified the need for help finding community activities and respite care most frequently. The only unmet child service need that varied by service context was respite care. Understandably, parents with children in-home were significantly more likely to need respite care (37%) than parents with children in placement out-of-home (29%).

There were no differences in the receipt of basic services by service context with the exception of transportation. Parents with children out-of-home were receiving significantly more transportation assistance than parents with children in-home. However, parents with children in placement indicated a high, and significantly greater, unmet need for seven of the nine basic services than parents with children in-home, in spite of the fact that parents with children out-of-home were already more likely to receive five of the nine services (i.e., housing, transportation, education, employment, and financial aid assistance).

A significantly greater percent of parents with children out-of-home than parents with children in-home were receiving seven of the nine services for parents' physical and emotional health (e.g., basic parenting assistance, mental health, and substance abuse services). The only services for parents' physical and emotional health that were not being received at a significantly higher rate by parents with children in out-of-home care were family counseling and medical services.

Next Steps

Children's Administration is to be commended for carefully monitoring and rigorously evaluating its implementation of the Solution Based Casework practice model. Partners for Our Children will continue to monitor the next phase of the implementation effort and will assess

its impact on the outcomes of children and families. A second cohort of parents will be interviewed starting in April 2010.

In later phases, the evaluation will make use of CA's administrative records to assess child maltreatment, the kinds and quantity of services provided, and child and family outcomes including children's entry to out-of-home care, children's length of stay in out-of-home care, children's reunification with their families, and the post-reunification re-entry of children to out-of-home care.

CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION²

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Children's Administration (CA) has undertaken the system-wide implementation of a new casework practice model—Solution Based Casework (SBC). The SBC model integrates family development and prevention theory with strengths-based social work practice as an approach to family assessment, case planning, and case management in the provision of child welfare services (Christensen, Todahl, and Barrett, 1999).

Based on this practice paradigm, the National Resource Center on Child Welfare Training and Evaluation (NRC-CWTE) at the Kent School of Social Work, University of Louisville, has developed a series of modules to train child welfare workers in the casework model and a set of practice skills with which to approach their work with families. Initial case review studies evaluating the implementation of SBC in Kentucky suggest that the model may effectively promote the worker-client relationship and goal achievement for complex child welfare cases (Antel, Barbee, Christensen, and Martin, 2008).

CA believes that implementation of SBC represents a substantial shift in the way child welfare is practiced in Washington. By implementing SBC, CA hopes to improve child welfare practice in the following ways.

- Promote family engagement and reduce adversarial casework.
- Find solutions rather than list problems.
- Promote collaborative relationships.
- Ensure the family culture is understood and respected.

² Substantial sections of the introduction were written by Sandra Lyons at POC.

- Ensure case planning is “family-owned” as well as “worker-owned”.
- Emphasize skill acquisition and not just service completion.

In turn, these changes in child welfare practice are expected to result in better outcomes for children and families served by the CA.

Implementing SBC statewide is an enormous undertaking and requires a substantial investment of state resources. The magnitude and import of this effort calls for careful monitoring and rigorous evaluation. Hence, CA requested that Partners for Our Children (POC) conduct an ongoing implementation study and impact evaluation to determine the degree to which implementing SBC results in improved outcomes for children and families.

Components of the Implementation Strategy

Implementation Team. The Practice Model Implementation Team is responsible for developing and overseeing the Solution Based Casework implementation plan, which includes organizational readiness, communication, training, quality assurance, and evaluation. The Implementation Team is comprised of CA's clinical director, implementation manager, practice and quality manager, SBC lead coach, administrative support, a Division of Licensing Resources representative, and consultants from Rhodes Consulting, Boeing, and Casey Family Programs. Boeing donated a consultant's time to advise CA on organizational readiness for the system-wide implementation of SBC and Casey Family Programs supported CA's SBC coach training.

The Implementation Team worked closely with POC to design the practice model evaluation and to develop training observation protocols, key informant and focus group interview guides, and worker and supervisor surveys.

Solution Based Casework Coaches. Twelve SBC coaches were hired to train and coach CA supervisors and workers in Solution Based Casework principles and skills. Most of the coaches were experienced child welfare workers but they had not had previous experience as SBC trainers. One exception was the lead coach who was recruited from another state that had implemented SBC.

All twelve coaches attended a five-day training in SBC provided by Dr. Dana Christensen at the Kent School of Social Work, University of Louisville. Coaches

also received Undoing Racism, Solution-Focused Management, and Motivational Interviewing training, and visited other states that have implemented SBC. Additionally, CA retained the services of Dr. Christensen for ongoing phone and in-person consultation for coaches. To hone their training skills, coaches were also observed by and received feedback from the lead coach.

SBC coaches were responsible for teaching the three-day Intensive SBC curriculum to supervisors and social workers and for providing post-training SBC coaching. Coaches worked in teams of three to cover the three-day SBC curriculum. Each coach provided post-training coaching in SBC skills to an assigned group of trainees.

Solution-Focused Management. In addition to the SBC training provided to workers and supervisors, CA's system-wide implementation plan includes Solution-Focused Management (SFM) training of all Executive Staff, Office Chiefs, Division Supervisors and Managers, Headquarters Program Managers, Deputy Regional Administrators, Area Administrators, Regional Business Managers, Regional Implementers, and Regional Program Managers. SFM shares many principles and practice techniques with SBC but is specifically designed for managers.

SFM offered a two-day introductory training and two-follow up workshops. Post-training, trainees were encouraged to form SFM peer consultation groups. The SFM two-day training began in early February and ended in late April 2008. The two workshops were offered between mid-April and late August 2008. SFM training was provided by Dr. Stephen Langer & Associates of Northwest Brief Therapy Training Center, Olympia, Washington.

Solution-Based Curriculum. CA adopted a SBC training curriculum designed by Dr. Dana Christensen and his colleagues at the Kent School of Social Work, University of Louisville, and, in consultation with Dr. Christensen, adapted it to be specific to CA's casework context. The adapted SBC curriculum is comprised of four units: foundational concepts, assessment, case planning, and practice and review. The foundational concepts unit introduces the theoretical frameworks underpinning SBC—family development, solution-focused interviewing, and relapse prevention—and presents the evidence supporting the practice model. The remaining units

elaborate on each of the three components of SBC's framework and introduce practice techniques which operationalize the practice principles.

The second unit, assessment, places the assessment process in the context of a family's stage of development in the family life cycle and focuses on helping the family identify the everyday life task it is trying to accomplish. Thus, attention is shifted away from simply listing family problems to seeking solutions for achieving family goals. This unit also introduces solution-focused interviewing skills to engage family members in the assessment process. Recognizing family routines, the difference between intentions and actions, threats of discouragement, and building consensus are emphasized as important components of a good assessment.

Unit three of the curriculum introduces case planning using SBC principles and practice skills. SBC practice shifts ownership of the case plan from the worker to co-ownership by the family and the worker. An SBC case plan would not be just a list of services the worker believes the family needs but would include the goals the family wants to achieve. Thus, the plan is goal rather than service oriented. When the focus is on achieving specific measurable goals, the worker is able to document and celebrate change made by the family. SBC case plans also include a family safety plan designed to help families identify triggering events and early warning signs and develop effective coping strategies to avoid relapse.

Lastly, over the course of the three-day training, many opportunities are provided for trainees to apply SBC practice skills through role playing and small group exercises. Case vignettes developed by the CA clinical director and SBC coaches in consultation with Dr. Christensen are used in training exercises. Some of the vignettes involve workers assessing a family and developing a case plan, while other scenarios involve a supervisor consulting with a social worker.

The SBC three-day intensive training was offered to supervisors in all six CA regions between February and late July 2008 and to workers in three pilot sites between April and late July 2008. Workers not trained at selected pilot sites were trained between April and October 2009.

CHAPTER 2. STUDY DESIGN AND METHODS

Overall Design³

The overall goal of the practice model evaluation is to assess SBC's impact on CA policies, organizational structures and procedures, supervisor and social worker attitudes and practices, the experiences of CA clients, and outcomes for children and families served by CA.

A core rationale underlying the SBC model is that a family-centered and strengths-based approach to case-work practice will enhance parent/caregiver⁴ engagement in child welfare services and thereby improve child and family outcomes. Thus, pre- and post-implementation measures are designed to assess changes in:

- worker attitudes, beliefs, and practices (e.g., greater faith in parents' willingness and ability to identify what needs to be done to improve the safety and well-being of their children; increased efforts by caseworkers to engage extended family members and other family supports in case planning),
- parental perceptions of the extent to which social workers assess for parent strengths, seek parental input, actively engage parents in the planning process, and respect parents' cultural and ethnic background,
- family understanding and ownership of case plan goals and access to parent identified services,
- outcomes for children and families including reduction in the length of time children spend in out-of-home care; reduction in re-referrals for and re-occurrence of child abuse and neglect; greater rates of reunification and reduction in re-entries of children after return home to their families.

In later phases, the evaluation will make use of CA's administrative records to assess child maltreatment, the kinds and quantity of services provided, and child and family outcomes including children's entry to out-of-home care, children's length of stay in out-of-home care, children's reunification with their families, and the post-reunification re-entry of children to out-of-home care.

³ Sandra Lyons authored segments of this section.

⁴ Parents and caregivers are used interchangeably to refer to survey respondents throughout this document.

Parent Survey Design

The goal of the parent survey is two fold: to allow detection of changes in child welfare related outcomes for families after implementation of SBC and to provide important information about the characteristics, needs, and experiences of child welfare involved families and children in Washington State.

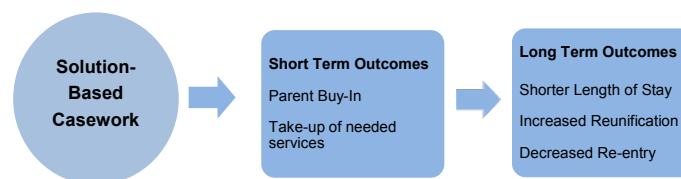
A pre- and post-test design is being used to assess changes in parent reported interactions with CA workers, utilization of services, and child and family outcomes. A statewide sample of parents with a newly opened case in the past 60 to 180 days was interviewed face-to-face between July and December 2008, prior to implementation of SBC. A different cohort of parents will be interviewed following the SBC implementation.

Hypothesized Change Processes

A core element of SBC is family-centered and strengths-based parent engagement. Thus, measures include pre- and post-implementation changes in parental perception of the extent to which social workers assess parent strengths, seek parental input, actively engage parents in case planning, and respect parents' cultural and ethnic background.

It is theorized that operationalization of SBC strategies will result in greater utilization of needed services. Enhanced engagement and greater access to parent identified services are expected to reduce length of involvement in child welfare, increase reunification, and reduce rates of re-entry to care. Recognizing that impact may vary by factors such as parental and child demographic characteristics and risk factors typically found at elevated rates among child welfare involved families (family violence, trauma, mental health, substance abuse, and parenting stress), these factors are also measured. The hypothesized change model is outlined in Figure 2.1 below.

Figure 2.1: Hypothesized Change Model



Sampling Procedure

The original sampling plan was to select a regionally stratified random sample of 1080 primary parents who had newly opened cases within the past 60 to 90 days. This sample size was determined to be large enough to detect differences in the outcomes of interest among the six regions of the state. However, the number of parents who met these criteria was not sufficient to generate a sample of 1080 parents. Therefore, the sampling frame was reconfigured to include all parents with newly opened case in the past 60 to 180 days. This resulted in 1179 parents, 539 parents receiving in-home services and another 640 parents whose children were placed in out-of-home care. The inclusion and exclusion criteria are specified below.

Inclusion criteria:

- parent/caregiver 18 years of age or older
- parent/caregiver with an open CA case (in-home services or child out-of-home)
- most recent entry to child welfare in the past 60-180 days.

Exclusion criteria:

- unable to verbally communicate in English
- parent/caregiver under the age of 18
- parent/caregiver incarcerated at the time of study recruitment
- parent/caregiver residing outside of Washington State.

CA's database (CAMIS) was used to select the sample in accordance with the sampling plan. If two parents were identified within a family, the primary caregiver was selected. If a primary caregiver was not indicated, the oldest female caregiver was selected. The identified parent received a letter from then CA Assistant Secretary, Cheryl Stephani that introduced the evaluation and provided a phone number for those with questions or concerns.

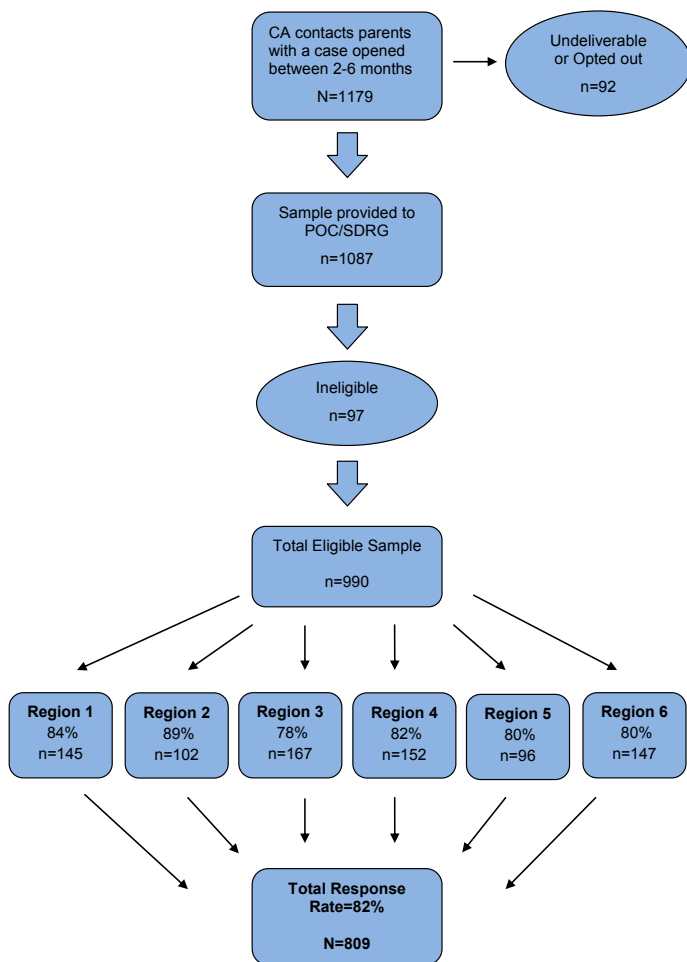
Following the general information letter, CA sent all primary parents in the sample an "opt out" letter that re-informed parents of the purpose of the study, assured confidentiality, and provided the opportunity to decline participation using a stamped envelope addressed to CA. After two weeks CA provided POC with the contact information for parents/caregivers who did not opt out or for whom the letters were not returned undeliverable.

POC subcontracted the interviews to the Social Development Research Group (SDRG). SDRG began by sending parents an advance letter that reassured them of confidentiality and described the in-person interviews. The letter also informed parents of a \$50 compensation for their interview participation time and effort and provided a toll free phone number for parents who wanted to ask additional questions or to schedule an interview. One week after the advance letter was mailed, SDRG interviewers started contacting participants by phone, or in-person for families without phones. All recruitment methods were reviewed and approved by the Washington State Institutional Review Board.

Response Rate

The initial sample of 1179 parents was reduced to 1087 parents once CA removed those cases in which the caregiver opted out or the opt out letter was undeliverable. The SDRG team then deemed 97 cases ineligible, mainly due to a parent's language barrier, incarceration, out-of-state residency, or because the parent was deceased. Among the remaining 990 eligible parents, 86 had used the toll free phone number to opt-in (79 of these completed interviews). Thirty-seven parents refused to participate and 144 parents were unable to be contacted, cancelled the interview, or did not appear for scheduled interviews. Thus, between July and December 2008, interviews were completed with 809 caregivers. The total response rate was 82 percent: 83 percent parents with children in-home (n=345) and 81 percent parents with children in out-of-home placement (n=464). Figure 2.2 provides a response rate flow chart.

Figure 2.2: Response Rate Flow Chart



Structure of the Baseline Parent Survey Report

This report contains baseline findings from the parent survey pre-test. It provides a statewide, regional, and service context analysis of parent and child demographic characteristics, worker initiated parent engagement strategies, parental risk factors, and child and parent service use and need. The post-implementation assessment will be conducted in 2010, nine months after CA social workers have been fully trained in SBC.

CHAPTER 3. PARENT AND CHILD DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

The survey sample is composed of 809 parents or caregivers and 2,382 children. This chapter provides a statewide and regional profile of the parents' demographic

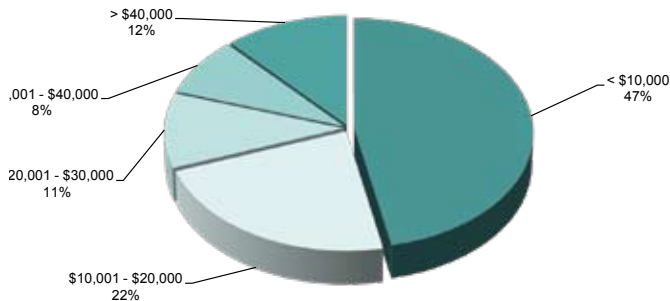
characteristics as well as a profile of the characteristics—including special needs—of the children.

Parents' Demographic Characteristics: Statewide

Ninety-two percent of the primary caregivers interviewed were female with an average age of 32 years, ranging from 18 to 82 years. Seventy percent of the parents had a high school degree or greater. Almost one-third (32%) of the parents reported they were married or in a committed relationship; 41 percent were single or never married.

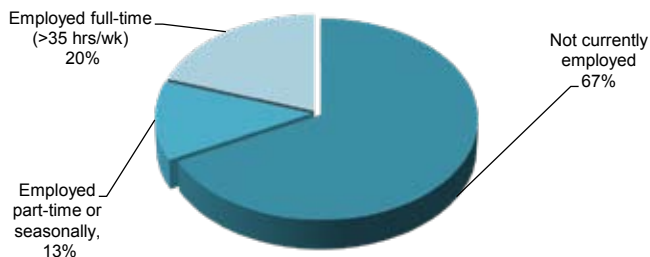
Nearly one-half (47%) of the parents reported a total gross household income of less than \$10,000 in 2007; 69 percent had a household income of less than \$20,000 (see Figure 3.1).

Figure 3.1: Household Income—Statewide



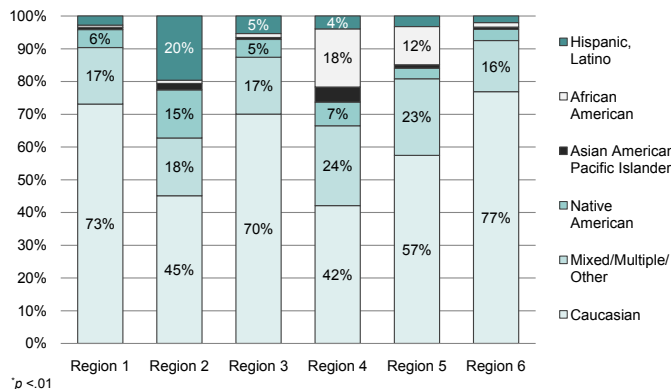
Not unexpectedly, given the high rates of poverty, statewide, two-thirds (67%) of the parents interviewed were unemployed (see Figure 3.2).

Figure 3.2: Employment Status—Statewide



Sixty-two percent of the respondents were Caucasian; 19 percent identified as mixed, other, or more than one race. The remainder was African American, Latino, or Native American. Of the six percent who were Native American, 82 percent were enrolled in a tribe. Less than 2 percent of the sample was Asian/Pacific Islander (see Figure 3.3 on next page)

Figure 3.3: Parents' Race/Ethnicity by Region*



*p < .01

Parents' Demographic Characteristics: Regional

As seen in Table 3.1 below, with the exceptions of age and race, there were few statistically significant regional differences in parents' demographic characteristics.

Parents in Region 4 were older than those in Region 5, with an average reported difference of five years (35 years versus 30 years). In addition, regional differences existed for five of the race/ethnicity categories. Regions 1, 3, and 6 parents were predominately Caucasian (73%, 70%, and 77%, respectively), a higher percent than found in the other three regions. More parents in Region 4 and 5 were African American (18% and 12%, respectively), than in any other region. Fifteen percent of the respondents from Region 2 were Native American, a higher percentage than in Regions 1, 3, 5, and 6. Lastly, one-fifth of Region 2 parents were Hispanic or Latino, approximately four times higher than in each other region.

Table 3.1: Parent Demographic Characteristics by Region

	1 n=145 ^a	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809
	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
Age of Parent	<i>Mean</i> 32.2	<i>Mean</i> 32.5	<i>Mean</i> 32.2	<i>Mean</i> 35.7 ^b	<i>Mean</i> 30.0	<i>Mean</i> 32.0	<i>Mean</i> 32.4
< 29 years	48.97	46.08	46.71	34.87	56.25	46.58	45.92
30-39 years	29.66	35.29	33.53	31.58	30.21	31.51	31.93
40-49 years	13.10	10.78	13.77	25.00	11.46	15.07	15.35
> 50 years	8.28	7.84	5.99	8.55	2.08	6.85	6.81
Race/Ethnicity							
Caucasian	73.10	45.10 ^c	70.06	42.11 ^c	57.45 ^d	76.87	61.96
African American	0.69	0.98	1.20	17.76 ^e	11.70 ^f	1.36	5.45
Native American	5.52	14.71	5.39	7.24	3.19	3.40	6.32
Asian American, Pacific Islander ^g	0.69	1.96	0.60	4.61	1.06	0.68	1.61
Hispanic, Latino	2.76	19.61 ^h	5.39	3.95	3.19	2.04	5.58
Mixed/Multiple/Other	17.24	17.65	17.37	24.34	23.40	15.65	19.08
Tribal Enrollment	4.83	11.76	7.19	7.24	3.13	5.44	6.55
Marital Status							
Single/Never married	37.24	49.02	32.34	48.03	36.46	42.18	40.54
Separated/Divorced/Widowed	28.97	28.43	30.54	24.34	25.00	28.57	27.81
Married/Committed relationship	33.79	22.55	37.13	27.63	38.54	29.25	31.64

Table 3.1: Parent Demographic Characteristics by Region *cont*

Income								
< \$10,000	53.54	42.07	41.22	46.59	49.65	53.54	46.81	367
\$10,001 - \$20,000	28.28	23.17	20.27	23.86	18.18	28.28	22.58	177
\$20,001 - \$30,000	9.09	9.15	11.49	12.50	11.89	9.09	10.59	83
\$30,001 - \$40,000	4.04	12.20	8.78	9.09	6.99	4.04	8.29	65
> \$40,000	5.05	13.41	18.24	7.95	13.29	5.05	11.73	92
Education level								
Less than/Some high school	28.47	38.24	31.74	25.66	33.33	23.81	29.58	239
High school graduate/GED	27.08	26.47	28.14	27.63	25.00	30.61	27.72	224
Some college/Technical training	35.42	28.43	33.53	32.89	37.50	36.05	34.03	275
College degree	9.03	6.86	6.59	13.82	4.17	9.52	8.66	70

Parents' Current Living Situation: Statewide and Regional

Statewide, 72 percent lived in a house or an apartment, 13 percent were staying with friends or family, four percent were in a homeless shelter or otherwise without housing, and four percent were in residential treatment. There were no regional differences in living situation.

Table 3.2: Current Living Situation by Region

	1 n=145 ^a	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809
	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
Current Living Situation							
House/Apartment	68.97	75.49	71.86	74.83	66.67	75.51	72.40
Staying with friends/family	14.48	8.82	17.37	9.27	15.63	10.88	12.87
Hotel/Motel/Single residence occupancy/Other	6.90	6.86	5.99	5.96	12.50	4.76	6.81
Residential treatment	5.52	2.94	2.40	2.65	3.13	5.44	3.71
Homeless shelter/No housing	4.14	5.88	2.40	7.28	2.08	3.40	4.21

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data

Household Composition: Statewide and Regional

The respondent was the only adult in the household for more than one-quarter (28%) of parents in the sample. A second adult over 19 years of age lived in 40 percent of households, and more than two adults lived in almost one-third of the households (32%). There were no regional differences in the number of adults in households (see Table 3.3 next page).

Statewide, there were no children residing in 28 percent of households. Forty-four percent of households had one or two children under the age of 18 years and 29 percent had three or more children. Region 1 averaged significantly fewer children less than 18 years of age than Region 2.

Although there was an average of two children in the households, the parents had an average of three biological or adopted children. Nineteen percent of the parents had one biological or adopted child, 27 percent had two

children, 23 percent had three children, and 31 percent had four to eleven children (see Table A3.1 in the Appendix).

Table 3.3: Household Composition by Region

	1 n=145 ^a	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809
	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
Number of Additional Adults > 19 years in Household	Mean 1.3	Mean 1.6	Mean 1.5	Mean 1.9	Mean 1.7	Mean 1.4	Mean 1.6
None	25.00	29.41	29.94	31.58	17.71	30.14	27.88
One adult	48.61	35.29	40.12	36.84	39.58	38.36	40.02
Two adults	13.19	21.57	15.57	9.21	19.79	17.81	15.61
Three or more adults	13.19	13.73	14.37	22.37	22.92	13.70	16.48
Number of Children < 18 Years in Household	Mean 1.6 ^c	Mean 2.5	Mean 2.0	Mean 2.0	Mean 1.8	Mean 1.7	Mean 1.9
None	30.56	27.45	25.75	22.37	33.33	28.08	27.51
One child	24.31	14.71	25.75	21.05	18.75	20.55	21.44
Two children	20.83	18.63	25.15	20.39	19.79	26.71	22.30
Three children	15.97	10.78	12.57	18.42	9.38	11.64	13.51
Four or more children	8.33	28.43	10.78	17.76	18.75	13.01	15.24

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data
^bSig. diff. from Region 2 $p < .05$

Children’s Characteristics: Statewide and Regional

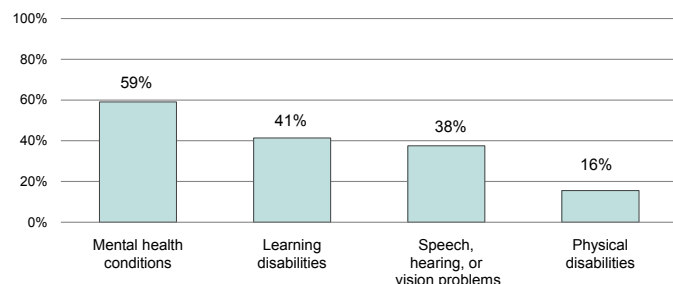
Children were evenly split between female (49%) and male (51%). The average age of the children was just under nine years, while the median age was eight years. Twenty-nine percent were three years of age or younger, 31 percent were between four and nine years of age, and 30 percent were over 10 year of age. Children in Region 5 were significantly younger (6.5 years of age) than the children in the other five regions (see Table A3.2 in the Appendix).

Children’s Special Needs: Statewide and Regional

Nearly one-third (32%) of the 2,382 children of the parents surveyed had one or more special need. A total of 1,132 special needs were identified among 737 children; 485 children had one special need and 252 had more than one special need.

As shown in Figure 3.4, 59 percent of the 737 children with one or more special need had a mental health condition; 41 percent had a learning disability.

Figure 3.4: Types of Children’s Special Needs (Among those with Needs)—Statewide



Analysis by region shows that Region 2 had significantly fewer children with physical disabilities than each other region; the difference between Regions 2 and 3 was significant (see Table 3.4 below).

Table 3.4: Children’s Special Needs by Region

	1 n=428	2 n=314	3 n=464	4 n=466	5 n=286	6 n=424	Statewide N=2,382 ^a
	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
No special needs	65.78	68.75	70.11	69.93	71.38	64.11	68.19
One or more special need	34.22	31.25	29.89	30.07	28.62	35.89	31.81
Among those with a need							
Mental health conditions	57.04	61.05	55.15	57.04	59.49	64.67	59.02
Learning disabilities	34.51	34.74	44.85	43.70	46.84	44.00	41.38
Speech, hearing, or vision problems	40.85	33.68	36.76	33.33	49.37	35.33	37.58
Physical disabilities	16.20	8.42 ^b	22.79	13.33	15.19	15.33	15.60

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data
^bSig. diff. from Region 3 $p < .05$

An examination of children’s special needs by household (Table 3.5) reveals that, of the 809 parents surveyed, 50 percent had one or more children with at least one special need. Sixty-six percent of the parents with a child with special need(s) had a child with a mental health condition. Approximately one-half of the parents had a child with a learning disability and 47 percent had a child with a speech, hearing, or vision problem. There were no significant differences in the distribution of the four disability types across regions.

Table 3.5: Parents with Children with Special Needs by Region

	1 n=145	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809
	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
No special needs	48.94	46.46	53.89	46.67	55.21	46.58	49.56
One or more special need	51.06	53.54	46.11	53.33	44.79	53.42	50.44
Among those with a need							
Mental health conditions	63.89	66.04	63.64	66.25	65.12	71.79	66.25
Learning disabilities	45.83	43.40	54.55	51.25	53.49	44.87	48.88
Speech, hearing, or vision problems	50.00	43.40	44.16	40.00	53.49	51.28	46.65
Physical disabilities	25.00	15.09	29.87	20.00	25.58	26.92	24.07

Summary

Parents in the study were predominately single (41%), unemployed (67%) women, with an annual income of less than \$20,000 (69%). Seventy-two percent lived in their own home or apartment; others were staying with friends or family, living in a hotel/motel, in residential treatment, or homeless. Almost two-thirds of the parents were Caucasian, 19 percent were mixed race, and the remainder was mostly split between African American, Native American, and Latino.

The typical household was composed of less than two adults (1.6 adults, including the parent) and two children.

Respondents had an average of three children biological or adopted children. The 2,382 children averaged just less than nine years of age.

One-third of the children of the parents surveyed had one or more special need. The most commonly reported special need among these children was a mental health disability (59%). Half of the parents in the sample were parenting at least one child with a special need.

With a few notable exceptions, the parents' demographic characteristics did not vary greatly across the regions. Parents in Region 5 were at least two years younger than each other region, and significantly younger than parents in Region 4. Region 1 had significantly fewer children living in the household than Region 2.

The largest demographic difference was the racial distribution by region. Seventy percent of the parents in Regions 1, 3, and 6 were Caucasian, compared to less than 50 percent in the other regions. In Region 2, 15 percent of the parents were Native American, twice the percent of each other region, and 20 percent were Latino, a significantly higher percent than each other region. In Region 4, 18 percent of parents were African American, significantly more than each other region except Region 5, where 12 percent of parents are African American.

Children's characteristics did not vary regionally, with the exceptions that Region 5 children were significantly younger than each other region (6.5 years) and significantly fewer children in Region 2 had a physical disability than children in Region 3.

CHAPTER 4. POVERTY INDICATORS

Given the low income and high rates of unemployment reported by the parents in the study, it is important to understand parents' financial situation in order to provide a context for the later chapter on parent needs. This chapter summarizes parents' sources of assistance as well as their financial hardships, statewide and by region.

Sources of Assistance: Statewide and Regional

Statewide, 81 percent of the parents were receiving assistance from at least one private or public source. In descending order these sources included: Food Stamps; cash from family, friends, or partner; Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF); Social Security

Disability; public housing; General Assistance (GA)⁵; and Unemployment Insurance (see Figure 4.1 below and Table A4.1 in Appendix).

Figure 4.1: Sources of Assistance—Statewide

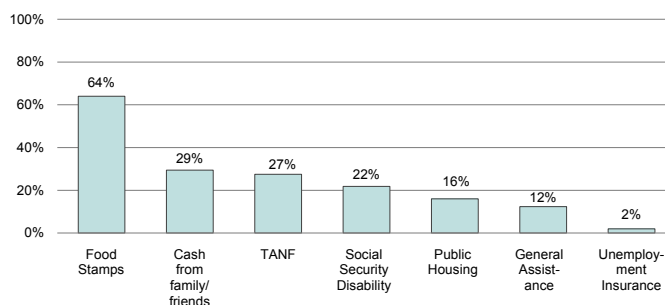
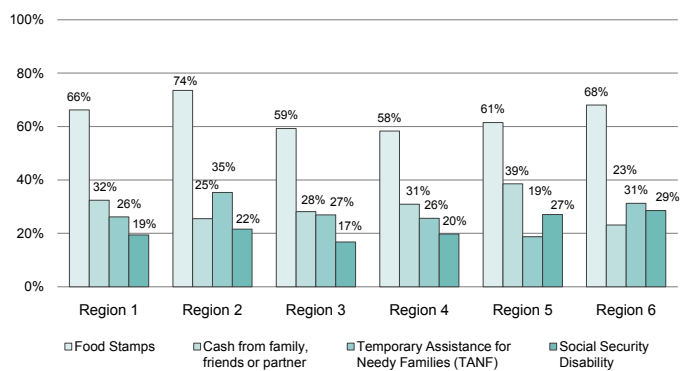


Figure 4.2 below shows the top four sources by region. While there are no statistically significant regional differences in sources of assistance, note that Region 2 parents received the greatest percent of food stamps assistance, Region 5 parents received more cash from family or friends than each other region, Region 2 parents were recipients of the largest percent of TANF, and Region 6 parents reported that they received a greater percent of Social Security Disability than each other region.

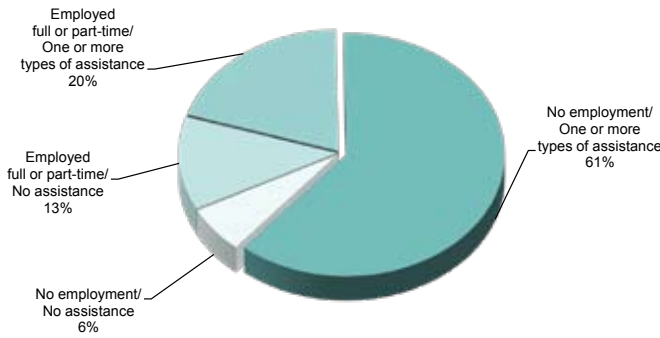
Figure 4.2: Top Four Sources of Assistance by Region



Sixty-one percent of parents interviewed indicated they were unemployed and receiving public and/or private assistance. Only 13 percent of parents were employed full or part-time and not receiving assistance, while six percent were unemployed and received no public or private assistance.

⁵ General Assistance programs provide benefits to low-income persons who are not eligible for federal assistance and are funded and administered entirely by the state, county, and/or locality in which the particular program operates.

Figure 4.3: Income Sources—Statewide

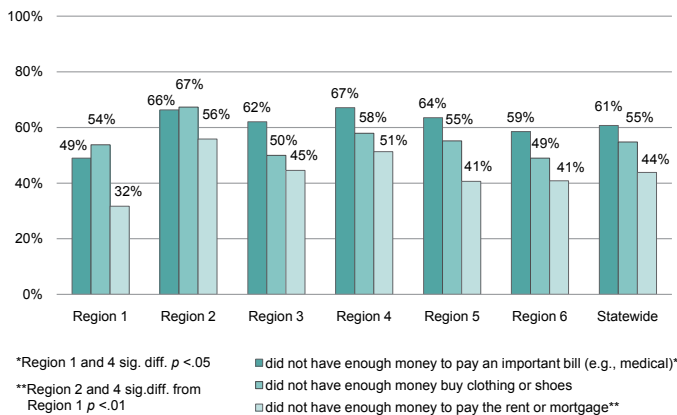


Financial Hardships: Statewide and Regional

Parents were asked if in the past 12 months they had lacked money for any one of three basic needs. Statewide, 61 percent of parents reported they had times when they could not pay an important bill (e.g., a utility or medical bill), 55 percent indicated they did not have enough money to purchase needed clothing, and 44 percent did not have sufficient funds to pay the rent or mortgage (see Table A4.2 in the Appendix). Seventy-three percent of parents had lacked money for at least one of these three basic needs.

There were two significant regional differences. As seen in Figure 4.4 below, parents in Region 1 were significantly less likely to have sufficient funds to pay an important bill than parents in Region 4. Additionally, parents in Region 1 were significantly less likely to have sufficient funds to pay the rent or mortgage than parents in Regions 2 and 4.

Figure 4.4: Lack of Money in Past 12 Months—Statewide and Regional

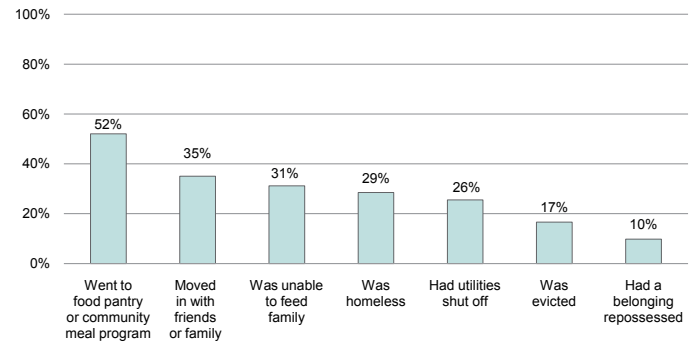


Parents were also asked about seven other major financial hardships they may have encountered in the last 12 months. Statewide, 73 percent of the parents experienced

at least one of these hardships. As Figure 4.5 indicates, 52 percent of the parents had been to a food pantry or community meal program, 35 percent had to move in with friends or family, 31 percent had not been able to feed their family, and 29 percent had been homeless.

There were no significant differences between regions.

Figure 4.5: Financial Hardships in Past 12 Months—Statewide



Summary

The data indicate that many parents in the sample were struggling to meet their most basic needs. Eighty-one percent of parents were receiving assistance from at least one public program or from friends and families. Nonetheless, 73 percent of parents were either unable to pay an important bill, buy needed clothing, or pay their rent/mortgage in the past 12 months. Additionally, 73 percent of the parents experienced at least one additional, major financial hardship such as going to a food pantry, moving in with friends or family, or being homeless.

Parents in Region 1 were significantly less likely to have sufficient funds to pay an important bill than parents in Region 4. Additionally, parents in Region 1 were significantly less likely to have sufficient funds to pay the rent or mortgage than parents in Regions 2 and 4. With these few exceptions aside, there were no regional differences in the poverty indicators.

CHAPTER 5. PARENT ENGAGEMENT

Parents were asked a series of questions to assess their level of engagement with the child welfare system and the extent to which they felt their social worker used various engagement strategies. Multiple dimensions of engagement were measured by a standardized instrument developed by Yatchmenoff (2005) as well as by three SBC-related engagement scales developed by Marcenko,

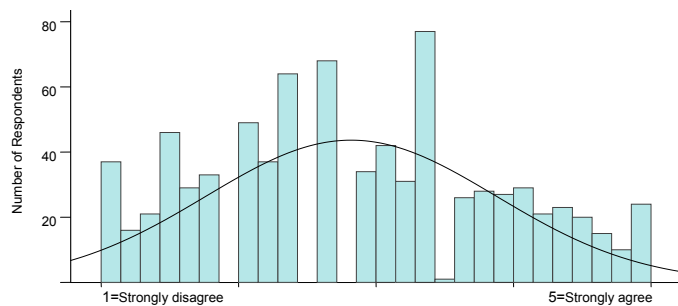
Evans-Campbell, and Kemp. These scales and the results are described in this chapter.

Yatchmenoff Engagement Scales: Statewide

The Yatchmenoff Engagement Scale was developed to measure non-voluntary clients’ experience of engagement within a child protective service context. This instrument is composed of four sub-scales: Buy-In, Mistrust, Receptivity, and Working Relationship (see Table 5.1 below and Tables A5.1 to A5.4 in the Appendix).

The Buy-In sub-scale measures parents’ investment in working with Child Protective Services (CPS) and their expected benefits from their investment. On average, parents across the state tended to slightly *agree* that child welfare was to be trusted. Note, as Figure 5.1 illustrates, that although parents’ average score was 3.1 for Buy-In (on a scale from 1 to 5), the standard deviation⁶ was 1.1. Thus, the average score was in the middle range, but parents’ responses varied from 1 to 5, a distribution pattern also found in the other three Yatchmenoff sub-scales.

Figure 5.1: Yatchmenoff Buy-In Sub-Scale—Statewide



The Mistrust sub-scale⁷ measures the degree to which parents trust CPS. On average, parents across the state slightly *disagreed* (2.8) that CPS was trustworthy, but the standard deviation was 1.2.

The Receptivity sub-scale measures parents’ openness to receiving help. Parents statewide reported moderate agreement (3.4) to questions about their willingness to receive help (standard deviation of 1.0).

⁶ The standard deviation is a measure of the spread of a set of values from the mean or average value.

⁷ The Mistrust sub-scale has been reverse coded so that a higher score means more trust.

The Working Relationship sub-scale measured parents’ assessment of their relationship with their social worker. On average, parents reported that they slightly *agreed* (3.1) that they had a positive working relationship with their social worker (standard deviation of 1.3).

Table 5.1: Yatchmenoff Sub-Scales by Region^a

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Statewide		
	n=145 ^b	n=102	n=167	n=152	n=96	n=147	N=809	Mean	SD
Buy-In Sub-Scale ^c	3.04	3.49 ^d	3.12	3.18	3.10	3.23	3.18	1.06	808
Mistrust Sub-Scale ^e	2.59	3.21 ^f	2.83	2.95	2.55	2.94	2.84	1.20	809
Receptivity Sub-Scale ^g	3.27	3.60	3.29	3.39	3.28	3.50	3.38	1.02	808
Working Relationship Sub-Scale ^c	2.89	3.33 ^h	3.11	3.07	2.75	3.13	3.05	1.28	807

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=not sure, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree

^bActual regional ns may vary due to missing data

^cCronbach’s alpha = .91

^dSig. diff. from Regions 1 and 3 $p < .05$

^eCronbach’s alpha = .86

^fSig. diff. from Regions 1 and 5 $p < .05$

^gCronbach’s alpha = .79

^hSig. diff. from Region 5 $p < .05$

Yatchmenoff Engagement Scales: Regional

When the Yatchmenoff sub-scales were examined by region, some patterns of regional difference emerged. In the six graphs in Figure 5.2 below, departure from the midpoint is visually displayed for each sub-scale by region. Scores below the midpoint indicate a less worker/client engagement and scores above the midpoint indicate greater engagement.

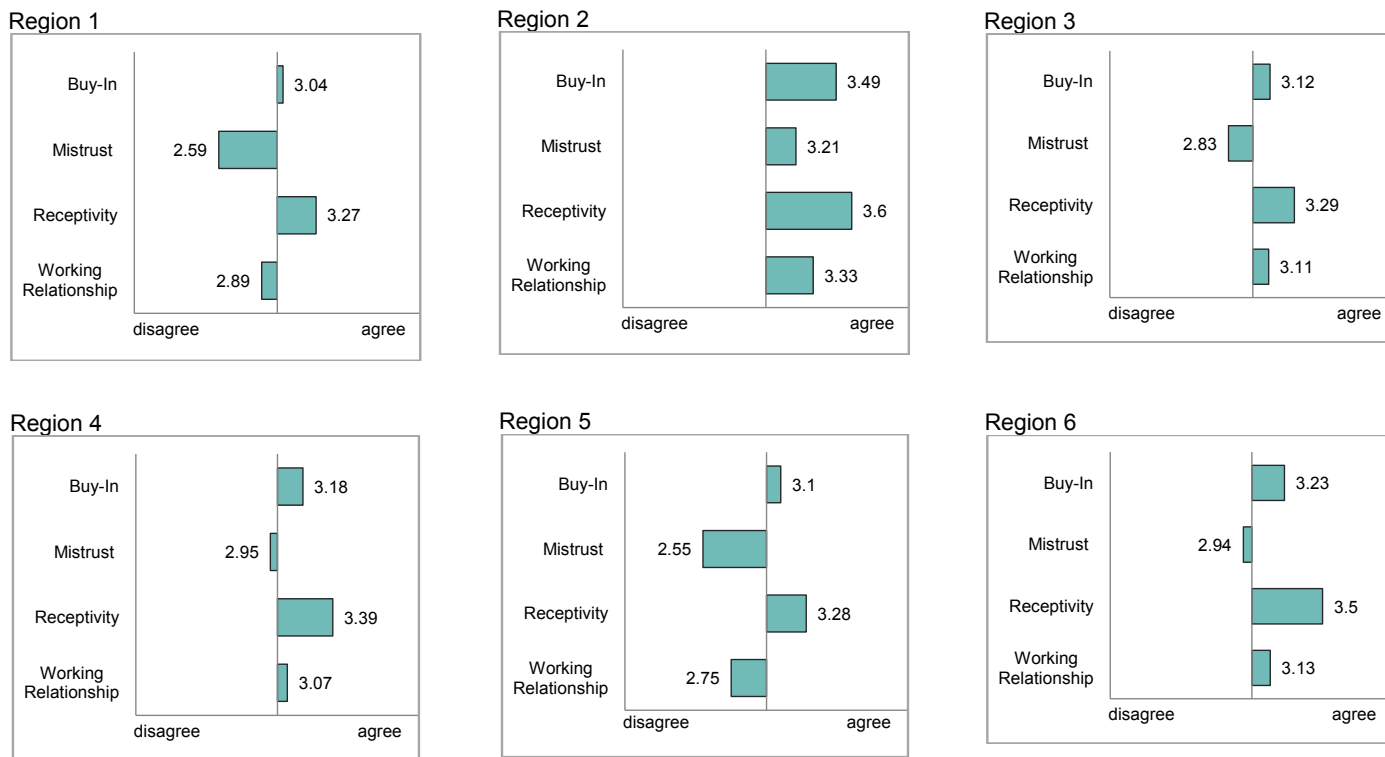
Parents in Region 2 reported more agreement with the Buy-In sub-scale than parents in Regions 1 and 3. Parents in Region 5 reported among the highest levels of agreement with items pertaining to their personal effort, but among the lowest levels of agreement with items relating to the expected positive impact child welfare would have on their children and their lives.

As seen in the Mistrust sub-scale in Figure 5.2, parents in Region 2 consistently expressed greater agreement with trust items than parents in Regions 1 and 5.

There were few significant differences between regions on the Receptivity sub-scale. Parents in Region 2 reported less agreement than parents in Regions 1 and 3 that the problem was the child welfare agency’s rather than their own.

Parents in Region 2 slightly *agreed* with statements about having a positive working relationship with their worker, while parents in Region 5 slightly *disagreed*. This overall difference was most likely driven by expressed stronger average agreement from Region 2 parents that there is mutual respect between parents and social workers.

Figure 5.2: Yatchmenoff Engagement Sub-Scales by Region



Solution Based Casework-Related Engagement Scales: Statewide and Regional

In addition to the four Yatchmenoff sub-scales, three additional scales were developed to measure engagement attitudes and strategies specific to Solution Based Casework (SBC). These scales include items related to worker attributes such as empathy, hopefulness, respect for parents’ culture, engagement styles (e.g., inclusion and collaboration), and whether they focus on family strengths (see Table 5.2 below and Tables A5.5 to A5.7 in the Appendix).

Worker Attributes Scale

The Worker Attributes Scale consists of five items designed to capture the degree to which parents feel the worker demonstrates empathy, communicates a hopeful attitude, and respects their culture. Parents in Region 2 more strongly *agreed* with positive statements and more often *disagreed* with negative statements about their worker than parents in other regions, although the regional differences were not significant.

Engagement Scale

This scale uses 11 items to assess workers’ use of SBC strategies such as inclusion and collaboration. Parents *agreed* more strongly with questions regarding a workers’ solicitation of parent thoughts or ideas, and *disagreed* slightly that their worker keeps them informed and helps them understand what they need to do to get child welfare out of their lives.

Family Strengths Scale

Parents were asked five questions about their workers’ attention to their strengths. Overall, parents slightly *disagreed* that workers used a strengths-based approach, although parents from Region 2 slightly *agreed*. Parents from Region 2 also expressed significantly higher levels of agreement that their worker emphasizes family strengths than parents in Regions 1 and 5.

Table 5.2: SBC-Related Engagement Scales by Region^a

	1 n=145 ^b	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809		
	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	SD	Total
Worker Attributes Scale ^c	2.94	3.34	3.15	3.12	2.87	3.15	3.10	1.12	809
Engagement Scale ^d	2.96	3.29 ^e	3.06	3.12	2.83	3.13	3.07	1.00	806
Family Strengths Scale ^f	2.73	3.18 ^g	2.92	2.82	2.59	2.94	2.87	1.10	808

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=not sure, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree
^bActual regional ns may vary due to missing data
^cCronbach’s alpha = .89
^dCronbach’s alpha = .90
^eSig. diff. from Region 5 p <.05
^fCronbach’s alpha = .85
^gSig. diff. from Regions 1 and 5 p <.05

Figure 5.3: SBC-Related Engagement Scales by Region



Responses to the SBC-related engagement scales are displayed visually in Figure 5.3 below. Scores above the mid-point indicate more positive views and those below the mid-point are more negative.

Parents’ Contact with Worker: Statewide and Regional

Parents were asked about the frequency and quality of their contact with their social worker.⁸ Sixty percent of the parents who were asked this question reported that they saw their social worker more than once a month and 22 percent reported that they saw their social worker about once a month. Only two percent of the parents reported that they never saw their social worker. There were no regional differences.

Table 5.3: Amount of Contact with Social Worker by Region

When your case was open, how often did you have contact (in person or by phone) with your social worker?	1 n=66	2 n=38	3 n=87	4 n=46	5 n=32	6 n=68	Statewide N=337
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
More than once a month	51.52	55.26	57.47	54.35	56.25	79.41	59.94
About once a month	28.79	28.95	22.99	19.57	18.75	14.71	22.26
Less than once a month	18.18	10.53	18.39	23.91	18.75	4.41	15.43
Never	1.52	5.26	1.15	2.17	6.25	1.47	2.37

⁸ Questions about contact were added to the survey after the start of the data collection; consequently, the number of respondents is smaller and not representative of the entire sample.

Nearly one-half (46%) of the parents who responded to the question reported that they had too little contact with their social worker and over two-fifths (43%) reported that they had the right amount of contact. There were no differences between regions in these patterns.

Table 5.4: Rating of Contact Amount with Social Worker by Region

How would you rate the amount of contact you have had with your social worker?	1 n=62	2 n=37	3 n=86	4 n=46	5 n=32	6 n=67	Statewide N=330
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Too little	50.00	51.35	44.19	45.65	50.00	41.79	46.36
About right	41.94	40.54	45.35	43.48	37.50	38.81	41.82
Too much	8.06	8.11	10.47	10.87	12.50	19.40	11.82

Summary

To measure their engagement with child welfare social workers, parents were asked a series of questions (using four Yatchmenoff Engagement sub-scales) about their attitude toward and perception of their worker and child protective services. Statewide, parents expressed stronger agreement with two sub-scales measuring their receptivity towards receiving help and their buy-in or investment in the child welfare services program than they did with two sub-scales measuring their level of trust and their sense of a positive working relationship with their social worker.

In addition, three scales were developed to measure parents’ perception of worker attitudes and strategies

specific to SBC such empathy, respect for culture, use of engagement approaches (e.g., inclusion and collaboration), and attention to family strengths. Analysis of two of these scales indicated that parents had a slightly positive attitude towards their social worker and believed that they were working collaboratively with their worker. On the other hand, responses to the third scale indicated that parents slightly *disagreed* that their worker used a family strengths approach.

While average scores for both the Yatchmenoff sub-scales and the SBC-related engagement scales tended to be just on either side of a score of 3 or *not sure*, the distribution of parent responses ranged widely from 1 to 5.

The Yatchmenoff Engagement sub-scales and the SBC-related engagement scales detected some regional differences. Parents in Regions 2 and 6 indicated the strongest levels of agreement with the engagement measures (i.e., the most positive attitude towards child welfare services), while parents in Regions 1 and 5 reported the lowest levels of agreement. The differences between Region 2 and Region 5 were the most consistently significant, while differences between the other regions were for the most part minimal.

Parents reported seeing their worker on a consistent basis, with 60 percent reporting that they saw their worker more than once a month. A little less than half of parents believed they had too little contact with their worker, while 42 percent reported that they had about the right amount of contact. There were no regional differences.

CHAPTER 6. RISK FACTORS FOR CHILD MALTREATMENT

Families involved with the child welfare system typically have one or more of five risk factors for child maltreatment: domestic violence, history of trauma (e.g., sexual abuse as a minor), substance abuse, mental health problems, and/or parental stress. Respondents were asked about all five risks. Their responses are assessed at a statewide and regional level in this chapter.

Domestic Violence: Statewide and Regional

Parents were asked about the prevalence and nature of domestic violence in their relationship with their current or most recent partner. Three questions querying verbal

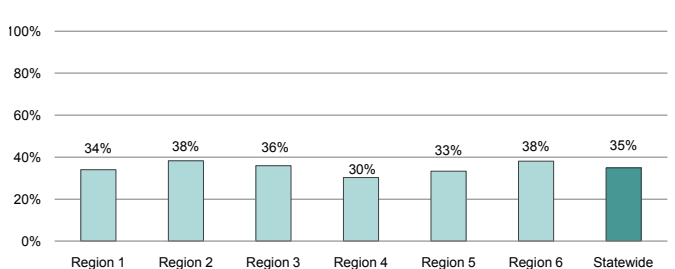
threats, aggressive physical contact, and physical hurt or injury tapped escalating stages of violence between parent and partner.

Statewide, 30 percent of parents indicated they had experienced threats or violence *from* their current or most recent partner. Seventeen percent of parents said they had never been aggressive in any of the three ways *towards* their partner.

Thirty-five percent of parents reported there had been at least one of the three levels of domestic violence *between* themselves and their current/most recent partner: 29 percent had made or received verbal threats; 29 percent had been physical aggressive or had experienced physical aggression; and 18 percent had physically injured their partner or had been physically injured by their partner (see Table A6.1 in the Appendix).

Figure 6.1 below shows the prevalence of domestic violence, statewide and regionally, among parents who reported at least one of the three types of domestic violence *between* themselves and their current/most recent partner. Parents in Region 2 and 6 reported the highest rates of domestic violence (38% each) and Region 4 parents reported the lowest rate (30%). However, neither this overall regional difference, nor the regional variations in the rates of the three individual levels or types of domestic violence, varied significantly.

Figure 6.1: Domestic Violence—Statewide and Regional

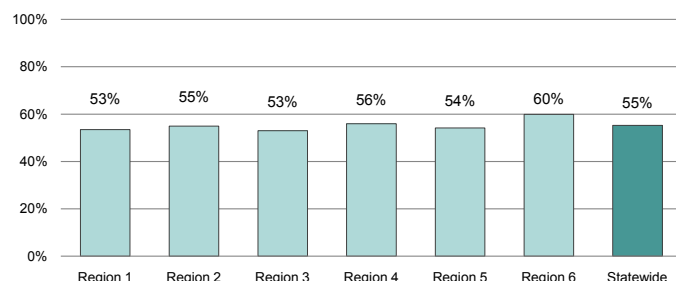


Trauma History (Sexual Abuse as a Minor): Statewide and Regional

Parents were asked if, as a minor, they had experienced any one of three forms of sexual abuse. Over one-half (52%) of parents said they had been touched by an adult or older child in a sexual way once or more than once. Thirty-five percent said they had been forced to touch an adult or older child in a sexual way, and one in three (31%) indicated they had been forced to have sex once or more than once. Statewide, 55 percent of parents reported that at least one of these three types of sexual abuse had happened to them as a minor.

The highest rate of any sexual abuse was found in Region 6 (60%) and the lowest rate was in Region 1 (53%). The regional variations are not statistically significant, however (see Figure 6.2 below and Table A6.2 in the Appendix).

Figure 6.2: Sexual Abuse as a Minor—Statewide and Regional



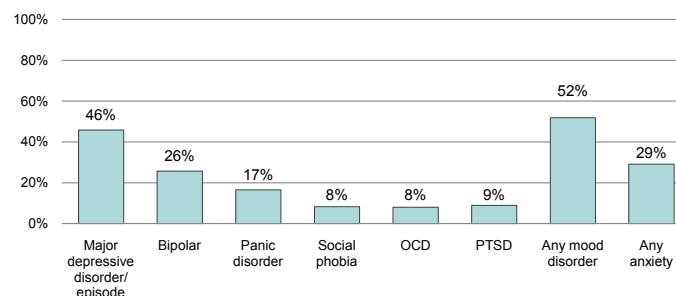
Mental Health Disorders: Statewide

Statewide, 56 percent of the parents met criteria for one or more (current or past) mental health disorder. The most common diagnosis was major depressive disorder/episode (46% statewide).

Accounting for all mood disorders (i.e., depression, manic or hypomanic episode, or bipolar I or II, past or current) over one-half of parents (52%) met diagnostic criteria for at least one of these disorders. Anxiety disorders (i.e., panic disorder, social phobia, obsessive-compulsive disorder, or posttraumatic stress disorder) were detected in 29 percent of the sample (see Figure 6.3 below and Table A6.3 in the Appendix).

There were no significant regional differences for the mental health disorders.

Figure 6.3: Mental Health Disorders—Statewide



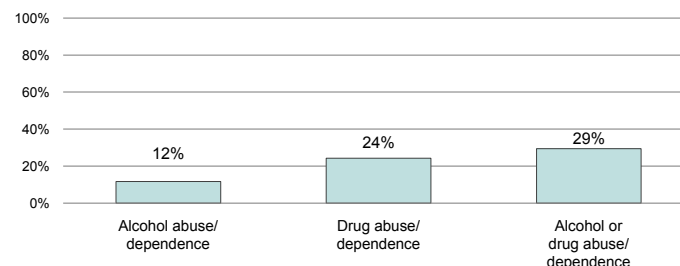
Substance Abuse or Dependence: Statewide

Statewide, 12 percent of parents reported alcohol abuse or dependence; twice the percentage of parents (24%) reported drug use or dependence. Twenty-nine percent

of the parents indicated either alcohol or drug abuse/dependence.

There were no regional differences in alcohol and drug abuse/dependence, although 34 percent of the parents in Region 3 reported alcohol or drug abuse/dependence in the past year, compared to 24 percent of parents in Region 4 (see Figure 6.4 below and Table A6.4 in the Appendix).

Figure 6.4: Alcohol and Drug Abuse/Dependence—Statewide



Parental Stress Scale: Statewide and Regional

The Parental Stress Scale is a self-report measure that has four sub-scales: Parental Rewards, Parental Stressors, Parental Lack of Control, and Parental Satisfaction. The scales range from one to five, with a score of five being *strongly agree*, indicating the least stress.

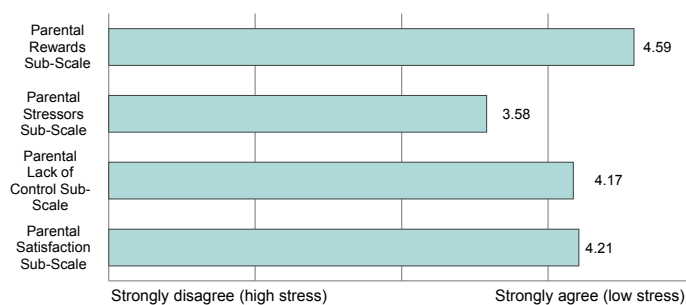
For the Parental Rewards sub-scale, statewide parents averaged a score of 4.6 out of 5, indicating they *agreed* that they were rewarded in their role as parents. The Parental Rewards sub-scale items were consistent across the six regions (see Figure 6.5 below and Table A6.6 in the Appendix).

Parents had an average score of 3.6 on the Parents Stressors sub-scale, indicating that they largely *agreed* that they were not experiencing stress. Parents in Regions 2 and 4 reported experiencing more stress about having children (e.g., lack of time, balancing multiple responsibilities, financial burdens) than parents in Region 3.

Parents reported an overall score of 4.2 on the Parental Lack of Control sub-scale, meaning they *agreed* that they felt in control. In general, parents in Regions 2 and 4 felt less personal control than parents in Region 3.

The Parental Satisfaction sub-scale score of 4.2 indicated that on the whole parents *agreed* they were satisfied with their children’s behavior and in their role as parents. The Parental Satisfaction sub-scale items were consistent across the six regions.

Figure 6.5: Parental Stress Sub-Scales—Statewide



For the overall Parental Stress Scale, which includes all the items in the four sub-scales, parents statewide averaged a score of 4 out of 5. Consistent with the sub-scales, the overall stress scale revealed that parents were not overly stressed in their role as a parent or with their children. Parents in Regions 2 and 4 reported they were more stressed than parents in Regions 3 and 5 (see Table 6.1 and Figure 6.6 below).

Table 6.1: Parental Stress Scale and Sub-Scales by Region^a

	1 n=145 ^b	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809	
	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	SD	Total
Parental Rewards ^c	4.61	4.50	4.61	4.55	4.62	4.60	4.59	807
Parental Stressors ^d	3.55	3.42	3.73 ^e	3.45	3.73	3.58	3.58	807
Parental Lack of Control ^f	4.17	4.00	4.38 ^g	4.00	4.25	4.18	4.17	806
Parental Satisfaction	4.25	4.06	4.31	4.14	4.30	4.17	4.21	808
Overall Parental Stress Scale ^h	4.03	3.90 ⁱ	4.13 ^j	3.94	4.11	4.02	4.03	805

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2= disagree, 3=undecided, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree
^bActual ns may vary due to missing data.
^cCronbach's alpha = .78
^dCronbach's alpha = .80
^eSig. diff. from Regions 2 and 4 $p < .05$
^fCronbach's alpha = .71
^gSig. diff. from Regions 2 and 4 $p < .01$
^hCronbach's alpha = .85
ⁱSig. diff. from Region 3 $p < .01$
^jSig. diff. from Region 4 $p < .05$

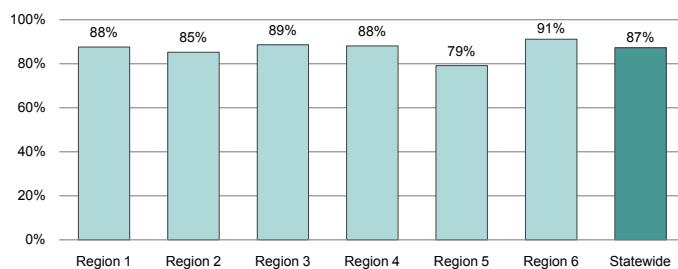
Summary

Statewide, 35 percent of parents indicated that they had experienced domestic violence, either from or directed towards their current or most recent partner. Fifty-five percent of parents indicated they had been sexually abused (ranging from touching to sex) as a minor. Fifty-six percent of the parents met criteria for one or more (current or past) mental health disorder. Twenty-nine percent of the parents indicated either alcohol or drug abuse/dependence. There were no regional differences on these four risk factors.

Overall, as the Parental Stress Scale indicated, respondents did not feel stressed in their role as parents. Rather they felt highly rewarded, satisfied, and in control. There were no significant regional differences on parental stress.

A measurement of overall risk combines the four risks of domestic violence, sexual abuse, substance abuse/dependence, or mental health conditions. Statewide, 87 percent of the parents reported that they experienced at least one of these four risk factors. Although there were no significant regional differences, 91 percent of Region 6 parents reported at least one of the four risks, compared to 79 percent of the parents in Region 5 (see Table A6.5 in the Appendix).

Figure 6.6: Overall Risk for Child Matreatment by Region



Overall risk includes domestic violence, sexual abuse, substance abuse, or mental health disorder.

CHAPTER 7. CHILD AND PARENT SERVICES

This chapter explores services received and services needed by children and parents. Services for parents were divided into two types: help running a household and taking care of the family (e.g., housing, food), and services needed for physical or emotional health and well-being (e.g., family counseling, parenting assistance). The responses are analyzed at a statewide and regional level below.

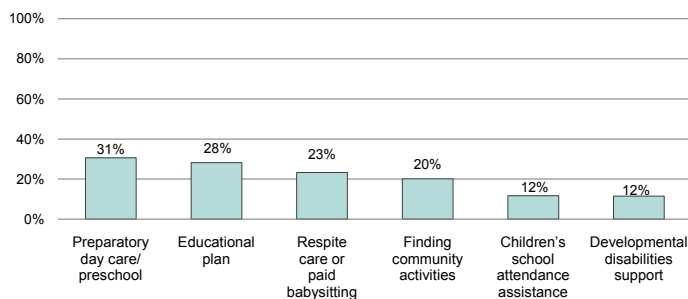
Services for Children: Statewide

Parents were asked, from a list of six child-related services, to indicate whether they were receiving the service, and if not, whether they needed it. In Figure 7.1 below the percent of parents receiving services is presented in descending order. Figure 7.2 presents the percent of parents who *need* the service in the same order as Figure 7.1. Note that because only those *not receiving* a service were asked about needing the service, the number of parents responding to questions about need is smaller (represented by the *n* below the service).

Statewide, two educational services—preparatory day care and educational plan preparation—were the most commonly received services for children (31% and 28%, respectively). This was followed by respite care (23%),

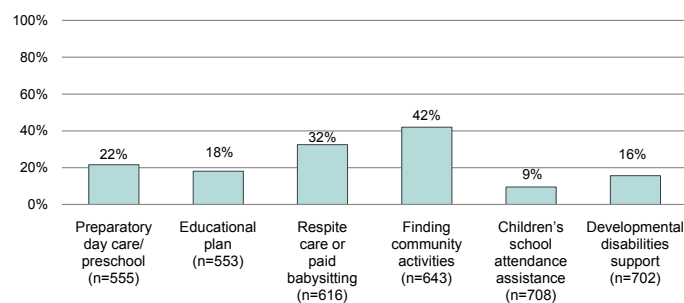
help finding community activities, help with school attendance, and developmental disabilities services.

Figure 7.1: Services Received for Children—Statewide



Statewide, among those parents who were not receiving the child-focused service, the most frequently cited unmet need was for community activities (42%), followed by a need for respite care (32%). There were no regional differences in either the receipt of, or need for, children's services (see Tables A7.1 and A7.2 in the Appendix).

Figure 7.2: Unmet Needs Among Parents Not Receiving Children's Services—Statewide



Parent Services for Basic Needs: Statewide and Regional

Parents were asked, from a list of nine services related to their basic needs, whether they were receiving each service. Statewide, parents most often were receiving food assistance (47%) and help with transportation (36%), as shown below.

Figure 7.3: Services Received for Parents' Basic Needs—Statewide

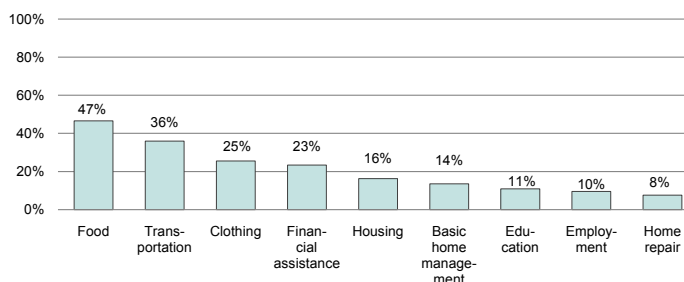
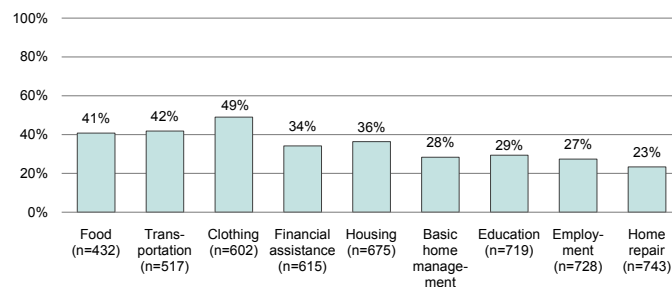


Figure 7.4 shows, in the same order as Figure 7.3, the percent of parents who were not receiving a particular service. There was strong unmet need for basic, concrete needs such as clothing (49%), transportation (42%), food (41%), and housing (36%). Of note is the fact that a high percentage of parents needed food and transportation, even though many parents were already receiving these services.

Figure 7.4: Parents' Unmet Need for Basic Needs Services (Among Those Not Receiving the Service)—Statewide



Examination of receipt of basic services by region revealed that parents in Region 2 received significantly more food assistance (62%) than parents in Regions 3 and 5 (43% and 41%, respectively). The need for food assistance in Regions 3 and 5 was not significantly higher than it was in Region 2, however. Additionally, a significantly smaller percent of parents in Region 5 were receiving assistance with basic home management (3%) than parent in Regions 1 and 3 (both 17%).

Table 7.1: Services Received for Parents' Basic Needs by Region

Services received	1	2	3	4	5	6	Statewide
	n=145 ^a	n=102	n=167	n=152	n=96	n=147	N=809
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Food	43.45	61.76 ^b	43.11	44.74	40.63	48.98	46.60
Transportation	44.83	31.37	30.54	31.58	37.50	40.14	35.97
Clothing	24.83	26.47	20.36	32.89	19.79	27.21	25.46
Applying for financial assistance	24.14	30.39	20.36	23.68	20.83	22.60	23.39
Housing	18.62	17.65	16.27	14.47	10.53	18.37	16.23
Basic home management	16.55	16.67	17.37	11.92	3.16 ^c	12.24	13.51
Obtaining education or getting a GED	12.41	11.76	7.19	9.27	10.42	14.97	10.89
Finding or keeping a job	14.48	8.82	7.27	6.58	9.38	10.88	9.54
Home repair or maintenance	9.03	7.84	4.85	10.53	3.13	8.84	7.57

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data

^bSig. diff. from Regions 3 and 5 $p < .05$

^cSig. diff from Regions 1 and 3 $p < .05$

The only needed concrete basic service for which there was a significant difference in need across regions was home repair or maintenance where 35 percent of parents in Region 2 reported a need compared to 17 percent in Region 3. Only a small percent of parents in these two regions reported that they were receiving assistance with

home repair or maintenance (8 percent in Region 2 and 5 percent in Region 5) (see Tables 7.1 and 7.2 below).

Table 7.2: Parents' Unmet Need for Basic Needs Services by Region

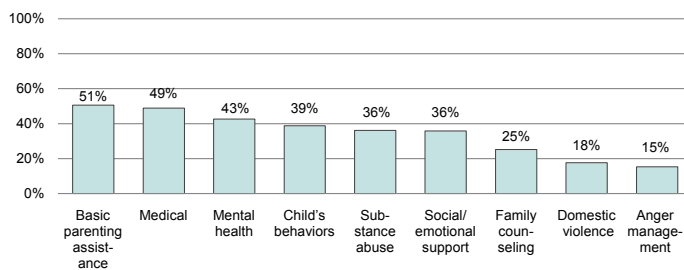
Needed services among parents not receiving the service	1	2	3	4	5	6	Statewide	Total
	n=145 ^a	n=102	n=167	n=152	n=96	n=147	N=809	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Clothing	49.54	62.67	47.73	50.00	41.56	44.86	49.00	602
Transportation	41.77	41.43	37.93	46.15	41.67	42.05	41.78	517
Food	46.34	38.46	41.05	47.62	33.33	33.33	40.74	432
Housing	36.44	41.67	34.53	34.11	45.88	30.00	36.30	675
Applying for financial assistance	33.64	26.76	36.36	35.96	36.00	33.63	34.15	615
Obtaining education or getting a GED	27.78	34.44	30.32	24.09	34.88	28.00	29.35	719
Basic home management	27.27	35.29	27.54	30.08	22.83	27.34	28.26	697
Finding or keeping a job	30.65	32.61	22.88	26.06	34.48	22.31	27.34	728
Home repair or maintenance	23.26	35.11 ^b	16.56	19.85	21.51	27.61	23.28	743

^aActual ns vary due to nonuse of specific service or missing data
^bSig. diff. from Region 3 p<.05

Parent Services for Physical and Emotional Health: Statewide and Regional

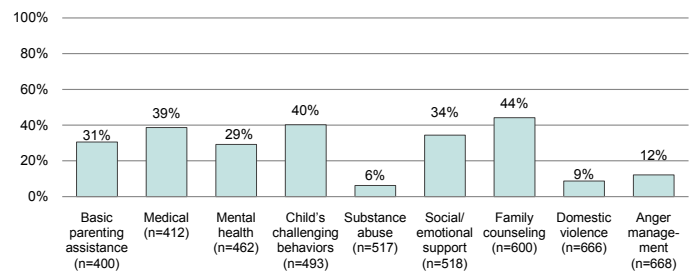
Parents were also asked about their receipt of, and need for, nine different types of services related to their physical and emotional health. Many of the 809 parent interviewed were already receiving several of the services. For instance, approximately one-half were receiving basic parenting assistance and medical services, 43 percent were receiving mental health services, and 39 percent were receiving assistance with their child's challenging behaviors.

Figure 7.5: Services Received for Parents' Physical and Emotional Health—Statewide



In spite of the high percentages of parents receiving these services, as Figure 7.6 below shows (in the same order as Figure 7.5), 31 percent of the parents needed basic parenting assistance, 39 percent needed medical services, and 29 percent needed mental health services. Strong unmet need was also reported for help with children's behavior (40%) and family counseling (44%).

Figure 7.6: Parents' Unmet Needs for Physical and Emotional Health Services (Among Those Not Receiving the Service)—Statewide



Three needs, however, appear to be being met to a greater extent. Thirty-six percent of all parents reported they were receiving substance abuse services, 18 percent were receiving domestic violence services, and 15 percent were receiving anger management services. Among those not receiving the service, the additional need for these three services was relatively low: only six percent of the parents not receiving substance abuse services still needed the service; nine percent stated a need for domestic violence service; and 12 percent indicated a need for anger management services.

Examination of services received for physical and emotional needs by region revealed that parents in Region 1 received significantly more basic parenting assistance (61%) than parents in Regions 4 and 6 (41% and 43%, respectively). Additionally, the data show that significantly fewer parents in Region 4 received anger management services (7%) than parents in Regions 1 and 6 (24% and 22%, respectively). There were no significant differences in the need for basic parenting assistance or anger management service across the regions, however.

The only significant regional differences for services related to physical and emotional needs were for family counseling. Fifty-eight percent of parents not receiving family counseling in Region 2 indicated a need for this service, compared to 37 percent of the parents in Region 3. This shows a high need for family counseling given that 27 percent of Region 2 parents and 19 percent of the Region 3 parents were already receiving this service (see Tables 7.3 and 7.4 on the next page).

Table 7.3: Services Received for Parents' Physical and Emotional Health by Region

Services being received	1	2	3	4	5	6	Statewide
	n=145 ^a	n=102	n=167	n=152	n=96	n=147	N=809
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Basic parenting assistance	60.69 ^b	57.84	47.90	41.45	58.33	42.86	50.56
Medical services	48.61	56.86	43.11	49.34	48.96	49.66	48.89
Mental health services	48.97	39.22	39.52	41.45	38.54	46.26	42.65
Help with child's challenging behaviors	44.14	47.06	35.93	34.87	37.50	35.62	38.74
Substance abuse services	37.93	44.12	35.93	28.29	36.46	36.73	36.09
Social or emotional support	33.10	44.12	34.13	38.16	30.21	36.05	35.85
Family counseling	30.34	27.45	19.28	30.92	15.79	25.17	25.15
Domestic violence services	15.86	19.61	20.36	10.53	18.75	21.77	17.68
Anger management services	23.61	10.78	13.86	6.62 ^c	12.05	22.45	15.26

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data

^bSig. diff. from Regions 4 and 6 $p < .05$

^cSig. diff. from Regions 1 and 6 $p < .05$

Table 7.4: Parents' Unmet Needs for Physical and Emotional Health Services by Region

Needed services among parents not receiving the service	1	2	3	4	5	6	Statewide	Total
	n=145 ^a	n=102	n=167	n=152	n=96	n=147	N=809	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Family counseling	50.00	58.11 ^b	36.84	46.15	36.71	41.82	44.17	600
Help with child's challenging behaviors	35.00	53.70	38.32	42.42	36.67	38.71	40.16	493
Medical services	39.73	52.27	35.79	37.66	36.73	35.14	38.59	412
Social or emotional support	37.11	41.07	30.00	35.11	32.84	32.98	34.36	518
Basic parenting assistance	24.56	41.86	27.59	26.97	42.50	29.76	30.50	400
Mental health services	27.78	29.03	27.72	32.58	30.51	27.85	29.22	462
Anger management services	11.93	12.09	9.09	15.00	16.67	9.73	12.13	668
Domestic violence services	6.56	8.54	6.77	11.76	7.69	10.43	8.71	666
Substance abuse services	4.44	5.26	8.41	8.26	6.56	3.23	6.19	517

^aActual ns vary due to nonuse of specific service or missing data

^bSig. diff. from Region 3 $p < .05$

Summary

When asked about the child-related services they were receiving, the most frequently identified services were related to education. Conversely, among those parents not receiving a particular service, the most frequently identified unmet needs were for help finding community activities (e.g., recreation) and respite care, followed by school/education-related needs. There were no regional differences in receipt of, or need for, children's services.

When parents were asked about services for concrete needs, statewide comparison of service receipt and service need for basic services shows high unmet need for clothing, transportation, food, and housing, even though a high percent of parents were already receiving transportation and housing services.

Regarding emotional and physical health needs, parents most frequently reported they needed family counseling and help with their children's behavior problems.

Examination of receipt of basic services by region revealed that parents in Region 2 received significantly more food assistance (62%) than parents in Regions 3 and 5 (43% and 41%, respectively). The only needed concrete service for which there was a significant difference across regions was home repair or maintenance.

Finally, the only significant regional difference for unmet needs related to physical and emotional health was that parents in Region 2 had a greater need for family counseling than parents in Region 3.

CHAPTER 8. PARENT AND CHILD DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS BY SERVICE CONTEXT

Of the 809 parents or caregivers interviewed, 345 had all children in-home and 464 had at least one child in out-of-home care. Chapters 8 through 12 examine whether or not parent and child demographic characteristics, poverty indicators, level of engagement, risk factors, and service delivery vary depending upon service context (i.e., in-home or out-of-home care). This chapter begins with an analysis of the relationship between parents' demographic characteristics by service context.

Parent Demographics Characteristics

There were no statistically significant differences between the in-home and out-of-home groups for parents' age, race, or tribal enrollment. However, parents with children in out-of-home placement were more likely to be single, and to have lower incomes, less educational attainment, and greater unemployment rates, than parents whose children were residing in-home (see Table 8.1 on the next page for details).

Table 8.1: Parent Demographic Characteristics by Service Context

	In-Home n=345 ^a	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809	
	%	%	%	N
Age of Parent	<i>Mean=33.2</i>	<i>Mean=31.9</i>	<i>Mean=32.4</i>	
< 29 years of age	43.60	47.63	45.92	371
30-39 years of age	30.81	32.76	31.93	258
40-49 years of age	18.60	12.93	15.35	124
> 50 years of age	6.98	6.68	6.81	55
Race/Ethnicity				
Caucasian	61.81	62.07	61.96	500
African American	5.54	5.39	5.45	44
Native American	5.54	6.90	6.32	51
Asian American/Pacific Islander	2.33	1.08	1.61	13
Hispanic, Latino	6.12	5.17	5.58	45
Mixed/Multiple/Other	18.66	19.40	19.08	154
Tribal Enrollment	4.64	7.97	6.55	53
Marital Status^b				
Single/Never married	34.49	45.04	40.54	328
Separated/Divorced/Widowed	28.70	27.16	27.81	225
Married/Committed relationship	36.81	27.80	31.64	256
Income^b				
< \$10,000	35.50	55.38	46.81	367
\$10,001 - \$20,000	23.08	22.20	22.58	177
\$20,001 - \$30,000	12.43	9.19	10.59	83
\$30,001 - \$40,000	10.95	6.28	8.29	65
> \$40,000	18.05	6.95	11.73	92
Education^c				
Less than/Some high school	24.06	33.69	29.58	239
High school graduate or GED	28.99	26.78	27.72	224
Some college/Technical training	35.94	32.61	34.03	275
College degree	11.01	6.91	8.66	70
Employment Status^c				
Not currently employed	62.61	71.12	67.49	546
Part-time or seasonally	14.78	11.21	12.73	103
Full-time (> 35 hrs/wk)	22.61	17.67	19.78	160

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data.

^bp < .01

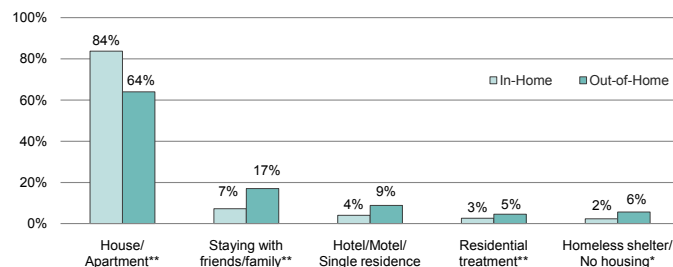
^cp < .05

Parents' Current Living Situation

Figure 8.1 below shows parents' current living situation by whether children were living in-home or out-of-home. Parents with children in-home reported significantly more stable living situations than parents with children in out-of-home care. For example, 84 percent of parents with children in-home lived in a house or apartment, compared with 64 percent of parents with children in out-of-home care.

Conversely, parents with children in out-of-home care more frequently utilized alternative living arrangements. For instance, 17 percent of parents with children living out-of-home were staying with friends/family, compared with seven percent of parents with children in-home. Additionally, significantly more parents with children in out-of-home care were in residential treatment, living in a hotel/motel, or homeless, than parents with children in-home.

Figure 8.1: Living Situation by Service Context



*p < .05, **p < .01

Household Composition

Households with children in-home averaged 1.4 adults, compared to 1.7 adults in household with children in out-of-home placement. Households with children in-home averaged 2.5 children, whereas significantly fewer children (1.4) were residing in households with children in out-of-home care. This is not unexpected, however, since 45 percent of the parents with children in out-of-home placement had no children in the household (see Table 8.2 below).

Parents with children out-of-home had an average of 3.1 biological or adopted children, which is significantly more than the 2.8 children for parents whose children were residing in-home (see Table A8.1 in the Appendix).

Table 8.2: Household Composition by Service Context

	In-Home n=345 ^a	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809	
	%	%	%	N
Number Adults > 19 years in Household	<i>Mean=1.4</i>	<i>Mean=1.7</i>	<i>Mean=1.6</i>	
None	31.01	25.54	27.88	225
One adult	41.45	38.96	40.02	323
Two adults	15.36	15.80	15.61	126
Three or more adults	12.17	19.70	16.48	133
Number Children < 18 years in Household	<i>Mean=2.5^b</i>	<i>Mean=1.4</i>	<i>Mean=1.9</i>	
None	3.77	45.24	27.51	222
One child	25.51	18.40	21.44	173
Two children	29.86	16.67	22.30	180
Three children	20.00	8.66	13.51	109
Four or more children	20.87	11.04	15.24	123

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data

^bp < .01

Children's Characteristics and Special Needs

Children's average age was just under nine; children in out-of-home placement were significantly younger than children in-home (8.4 years compared to 9.2 years old) (see Table A8.2 in Appendix).

Chapter 3 showed that nearly one-third (32%) of the children of the parents surveyed had one or more special

need. Fifty percent of parents had one or more children with special need(s). Of these parents, 29 percent with children in out-of-home care had a child with a physical disability, which is significantly more than the 19 percent of parents with children in-home who had a child with a physical disability.

Table 8.3: Parents with a Child with Special Needs by Service Context

	In-Home n=345	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809	
	%	%	%	N
No special needs	46.49	51.86	49.56	396
One or more special need	53.51	48.14	50.44	403
<i>Among those with special needs</i>				
Mental health conditions	66.67	65.91	66.25	267
Learning disabilities	45.90	51.36	48.88	197
Speech, hearing, or vision problems	44.81	48.18	46.65	188
Physical disabilities ^a	18.58	28.64	24.07	97

^ap < .05

Summary

Parent income, educational attainment, and employment rates were significantly lower for parents whose children were in out-of-home placement, compared to parents with children in-home. Parents with children in out-of-home placement also reported significantly less stable living situations than parents with children in-home (i.e., parents with children out-of-home were less likely to be living in a house or apartment, and more likely to be staying with friends/family, living in a hotel/motel, in residential treatment, or homeless).

Statewide, children averaged just less than nine years of age, with children in out-of-home care being significantly younger than children in-home (8.4 vs. 9.2 years). Parents had an average of three biological or adopted children; parents with children out-of-home had significantly more biological/adopted children than parents with children residing in-home (3.1 vs. 2.8 children). Not surprisingly, there were significantly fewer children in households with children out-of-home than in households with children in-home (1.4 vs. 2.5 children).

Parents with at least one child placed in out-of-home care were more likely to report having a child with a physical disability than those whose children were in-home.

CHAPTER 9. POVERTY INDICATORS BY SERVICE CONTEXT

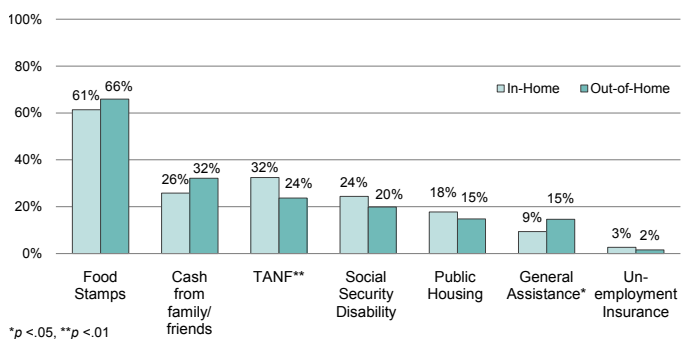
The majority of parents surveyed are low income and unemployed, leading to the need for financial assistance

and substantial financial hardship. This chapter explores whether parents' financial circumstances are different for parents with children in-home compared to parents with children in out-of-home care.

Sources of Financial Assistance

As seen in Chapter 4, statewide, 81 percent of the parents were receiving assistance from at least one source. A significantly greater percent of parents with children in-home were receiving TANF than parents with children in out-of-home care⁹. Conversely, more parents with out-of-home children were receiving GA than parents with children in-home (see Table A9.1 in the Appendix).

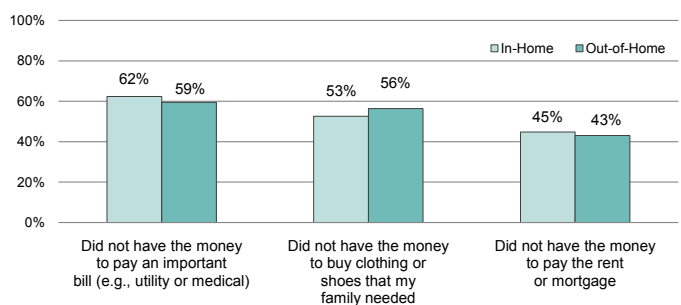
Figure 9.1: Sources of Financial Assistance by Service Context



Financial Hardships

Seventy-three percent of parents were unable to pay an important bill, buy needed clothing, or pay their rent/mortgage in the past 12 months. As Figure 9.2 below shows, there were no differences between the in-home and out-of-home groups for any of these three major financial hardship variables.

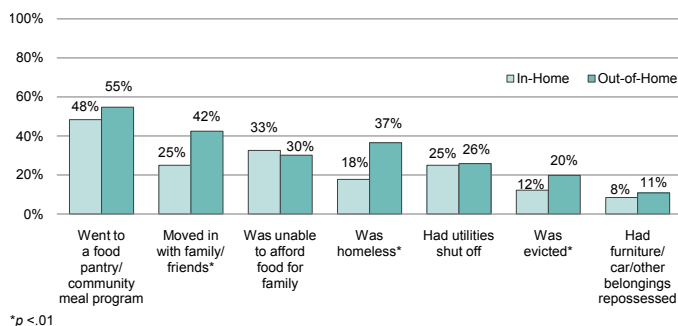
Figure 9.2: Lack of Money in Past 12 Months by Service Context



⁹ TANF is provided for family households; therefore it is logical that parents with children in-home would have higher rates of TANF receipt.

Seventy-three percent of the parents also experienced at least one additional major financial hardship in the previous 12 months. Significant differences were found between the in-home and out-of-home groups for three of these financial hardship items. As Figure 9.3 below indicates, compared to parents with children in-home, significantly more parents with children out-of-home needed to move in with friends or family, had been homeless, or were evicted. With the exception of being able to afford food for the family, more parents with children out-of-home experienced each hardship than parents with children in-home.

Figure 9.3: Financial Hardships in the Past 12 Months by Service Context



Summary

Overall, parents of children in out-of-home care experienced deeper levels of poverty than those whose children were in-home. Eighty-one percent of the parents were receiving financial assistance from at least one source (e.g., food stamps, cash from friends or family). Measures of additional financial hardship indicated that significantly more parents with children out-of-home experienced housing instability than parents with children in-home.

CHAPTER 10. PARENT ENGAGEMENT BY SERVICE CONTEXT

This chapter analyzes the relationship between seven scales that measure the parent-worker engagement by whether children were in-home or in out-of-home care.

Yatchmenoff Engagement Sub-Scales

Three of the four Yatchmenoff Engagement sub-scales¹⁰ indicated that parents with children in-home felt signifi-

¹⁰ See Chapter 5 for introductory information about the Yatchmenoff sub-scales.

cantly more positive about their engagement with child welfare services than parents with children out-of-home.

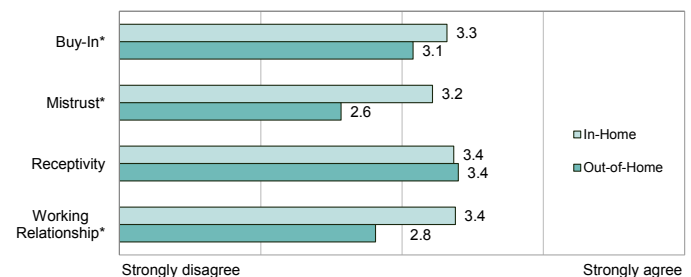
On the Buy-In sub-scale, parents with children in-home were significantly more likely to believe that “CPS is helping my family get stronger” and “Things will get better for my children because CPS is involved”. All parents, however, equally *agreed* that they were not just going through the motions, but that they were really involved with child welfare services.

Overall differences between parents with children in-home and parents with children out-of-home were greatest on the Mistrust sub-scale; parents with children out-of-home were significantly more likely to mistrust their worker.¹¹

Differences between parents with children in-home and parents with children out-of-home were also significant for the Working Relationship sub-scale; parents with children out-of-home were more likely to have a slightly problematic working relationship with their social worker.

There were no differences between service context groups for the Receptivity sub-scale (see Figure 10.1 below and Table A10.1 in the Appendix).

Figure 10.1: Yatchmenoff Engagement Sub-Scales by Service Context



Solution Based Casework-Related Engagement Scales

The three SBC-related Engagement scales revealed many differences between parents with children in-home and parents with children in out-of-home placement.

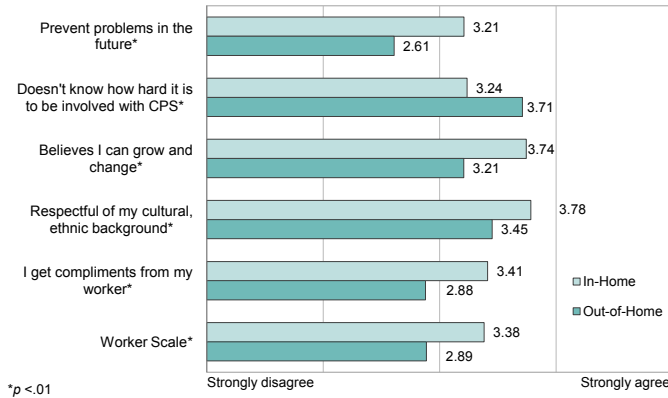
Worker Attributes Scale

The Worker Attributes Scale consists of five items designed to capture the degree to which the social worker demonstrates empathy, communicates a hopeful attitude

¹¹ The Mistrust sub-scale has been reverse coded so that a higher score means more trust.

to parents, and respects the parent’s culture. As seen below, parents with children in-home were significantly more positive about their interaction with their worker on each of these dimensions than parents with children out-of-home (also see Table A10.2 in the Appendix).

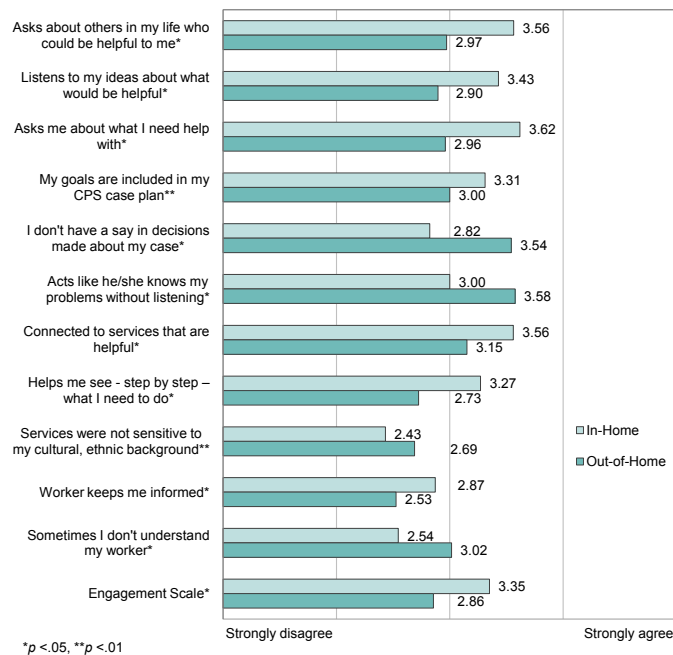
Figure 10.2: Worker Attributes Scale by Service Context



Engagement Scale

The Engagement scale uses 11 items to measure SBC strategies such as inclusion and collaboration. The difference in parents’ level of engagement is clear in the Figure below. Parents with children in-home endorsed each of the 11 engagement strategies to a significantly greater extent than parents with children out-of-home (also see Table A10.3 in the Appendix).

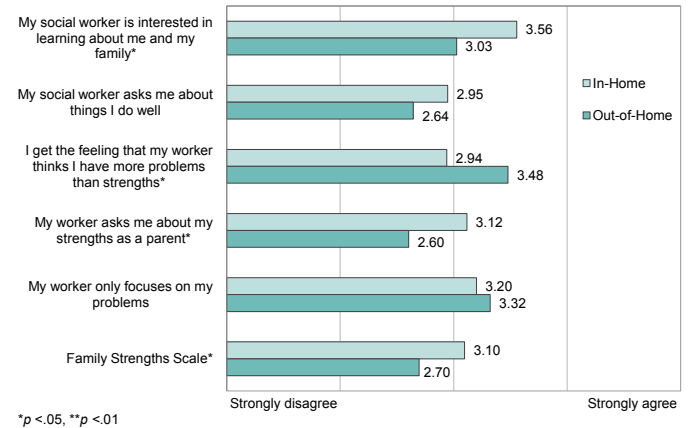
Figure 10.3: Engagement Scale by Service Context



Family Strengths Scale

Parents were asked five questions about their workers’ attention to the parents’ strengths. Overall, parents expressed slight disagreement that workers used a strengths-based approach. Parents with children in-home felt more strongly that their worker focused on family strengths than parents with children out-of-home (see Table A10.4 in the Appendix).

Figure 10.4: Family Strengths Scale by Service Context



Parents’ Contact with Worker

Sixty percent of the parents who were asked this question¹² reported that they saw their social worker more than once a month. There were no significant differences in contact with the social worker for parents with children in-home versus out-of-home placements.

Table 10.1: Amount of Contact with Social Worker by Service Context

When your case was open how often did you have contact (in person or on the phone) with your social worker?	In-Home n=126	Out-of-Home n=211	Statewide N=337
	%	%	%
More than once a month	60.32	59.72	59.94
About once a month	23.81	21.33	22.26
Less than once a month	14.29	16.11	15.43
Never	1.59	2.84	2.37

Almost one-half (48%) of parents with children in-home reported that they had about the right amount of contact with their social worker, with a little more than a third (35%) reporting that they had too little contact. In contrast, these percentages were reversed for parents with children in out-of-home placements. Although more than one-third (38%) of the parents with children out-of-home reported that they had about the right amount of contact,

¹² Questions about contact were added to the survey after the start of the data collection so responses may reflect a systematic bias.

more than half (53%) of this group of reported that they had too little contact. These differences were statistically significant.

Table 10.2: Rating of Contact Amount with Social Worker by Service Context^a

How would you rate the amount of contact you have had with your social worker?	In-Home n=124 %	Out-of-Home n=206 %	Statewide N=330 %
Too little	35.48	52.91	46.36
About right	47.58	38.35	41.82
Too much	16.94	8.74	11.82

^ap < .01

Summary

Parents with children in-home were significantly more positive about their worker’s use of engagement strategies than parents of children out-of-home. Specifically, parents with children in-home had more buy-in or investment in child welfare services, as well as, more trust in and a better working relationship with, their social worker. Both groups of parents scored high on the Receptivity sub-scale, meaning they were receptive to child welfare involvement.

In addition, parents with children in-home were significantly more positive than parents with children in out-of-home care about their social worker’s attitude and level of respect (Worker Attribute scale), worker use of SBC strategies such as inclusion and collaboration (Engagement scale), and their worker’s focus on family strengths (Family Strengths Scale). Note that for each of the seven parent engagement scales, parents ranged widely in their response.

In response to how questions about contact with their social worker, parents with children in-home were more likely to report that they saw their social worker about the right amount or too much, while parents with children out-of-home were more likely to report that they saw their social worker too little.

CHAPTER 11. RISK FACTORS FOR CHILD MALTREATMENT BY SERVICE CONTEXT

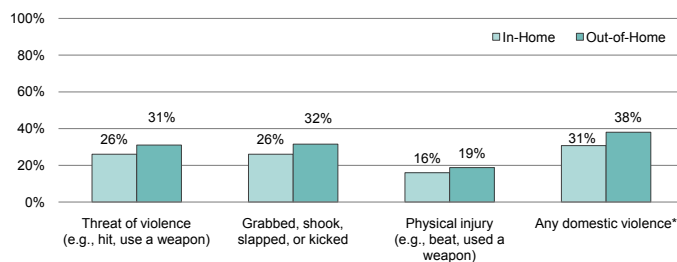
Five factors that put parents at risk for child maltreatment are analyzed in this chapter. Differences between parents with children in-home and parents with children in out-of-home care are considered for the following risks factors: domestic violence, sexual abuse, substance abuse, mental health problems, and parental stress.

Domestic Violence

Statewide, 35 percent of parents reported there had been domestic violence *between* themselves and their current/most recent partner. Thirty-eight percent of parents with children out-of-home had experienced at least one type¹³ of domestic violence, significantly more than parents with children in-home (31%).

While the difference in the rates of individual levels of domestic violence between parents with children in-home and parents with children out-of-home were not significant, for each of the three levels parents with children in out-of-home care reported a higher rate of domestic violence (see Figure 11.1 below and Table A11.1 in the Appendix).

Figure 11.1: Domestic Violence by Service Context

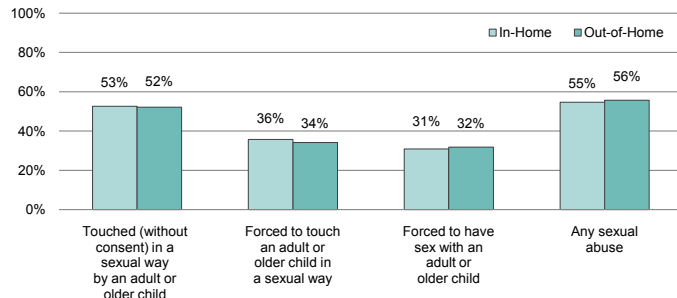


^ap < .05

Trauma History (Sexual Abuse as a Minor)

Fifty-five percent of parents reported that they were sexual abused as minor.¹⁴ There were no differences between the parents with children in-home and parents with children out-of-home for any of the three levels of sexual abuse (Table 11.2 below and Table A11.2 in the Appendix).

Figure 11.2: Sexual Abuse by Service Context



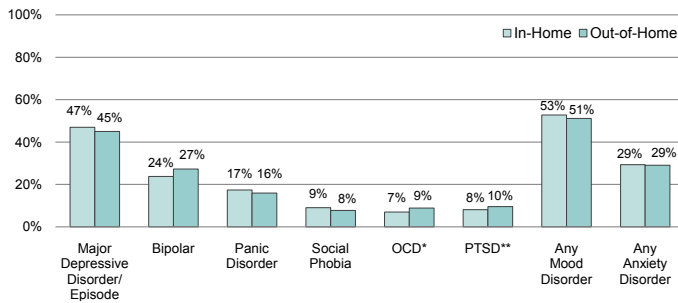
¹³ See Chapter 6 for introductory information regarding the survey questions about domestic violence.

¹⁴ See Chapter 6 for introductory information on the sexual abuse questions.

Mental Health Disorders

Statewide, 56 percent of parents met criteria for one or more (current or past) mental health disorder. As Figure 11.3 shows, there were no significant differences in the prevalence of mental health disorders among parents whether or not their children were in-home or placed out-of-home (see Table A11.3 in Appendix).

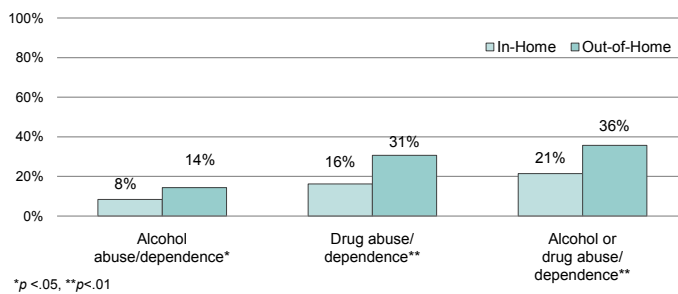
Figure 11.3: Mental Health Disorders by Service Context



Substance Abuse

Statewide, 29 percent of the parents reported alcohol or drug abuse or dependence. When parents were compared across service context, the percent of parents with children out-of-home with alcohol and drug problems was nearly twice that of the parent with children in-home (see Figure 11.4 below and Table A11.4 in the Appendix).

Figure 11.4: Alcohol and Drug Abuse/Dependence by Service Context



Parental Stress Scale¹⁵

The Parental Stress Scale had four sub-scales. Scores on four of the six items in the Parental Stressor sub-scale indicated that parents with children in-home had

¹⁵ See the introductory discussion of the Parental Stress Scale in Chapter 7 of this report. For the Parental Stress Scale, a high score means less stress.

significantly more stress related to the amount of time and money required to be a parent than those with children in out-of-home care.

On the Parental Lack of Control sub-scale, parents with children in-home felt significantly less control than parents with children out-of-home. Neither group of parents, however, felt a strong lack of control.

The Parental Satisfaction sub-scale indicated that on the whole parents were satisfied with their children's behavior and the Parental Rewards sub-scale revealed that respondents felt highly rewarded in the role as parent. There were no significant differences between parents with children in-home and parents with children in out-of-home care on either the Satisfaction or Rewards sub-scale.

For the overall Parental Stress Scale, which includes all the items in the four sub-scales, parents with children in-home and parents with children in out-of-home care, averaged a score of 4 out of 5, indicating that to some extent the rewards and satisfactions of parenting balance out the stresses (see Table A11.6 in the Appendix).

Figure 11.5: Parental Stress Sub-Scales by Service Context¹

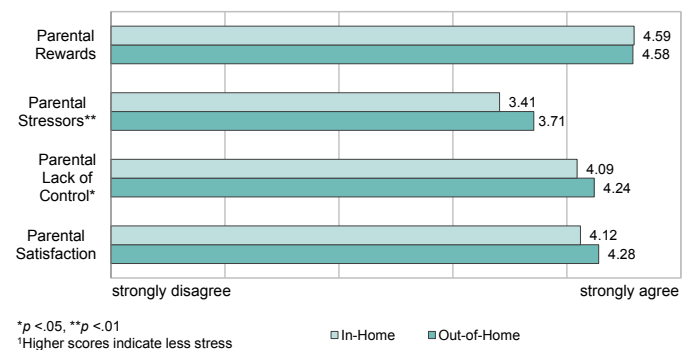
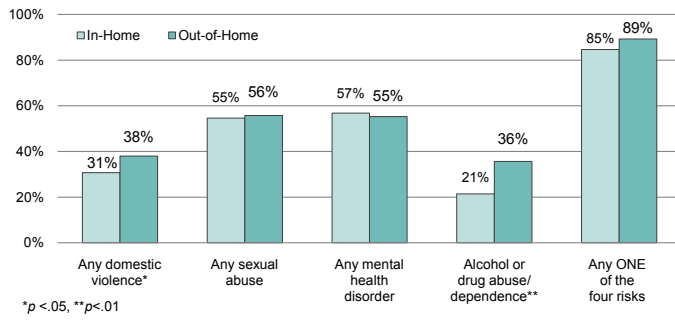


Figure 11.6 presents a comparative graph for the risk factors queried by in-home and out-of-home status. Of the four risk factors examined, there was a significant difference between the two groups on domestic violence and substance abuse/dependence, with parents of children out-of-home significantly more likely to report these risk factors than parents with children in-home (see Table A11.5 in the Appendix).

Figure 11.6: Risk Factors for Child Maltreatment by Service Context



Summary

There were significant differences by service context for two of the four risk factors. Parents with children in out-of-home care reported a higher rate of overall domestic violence and substance abuse than parents with children out-of-home. There were no differences between the two groups on sexual abuse as a minor and mental health.

Finally, there were sub-scale differences on the Parental Stress Scale. Parents with children in-home reported more parenting stress and felt less control than parents with children out-of-home.

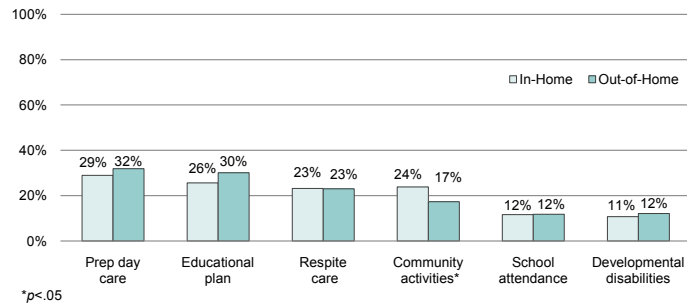
CHAPTER 12. PARENT SERVICES BY SERVICE CONTEXT

Chapter 7 indicated that while children and parents are receiving many services, many more are still in need of essential services. This chapter provides an analysis of the relationship between the children’s and parents’ needs and service context. That is, do the rates of services received and/or needed vary depending upon whether the parent has children in-home or in out-of-home care?

Services for Children

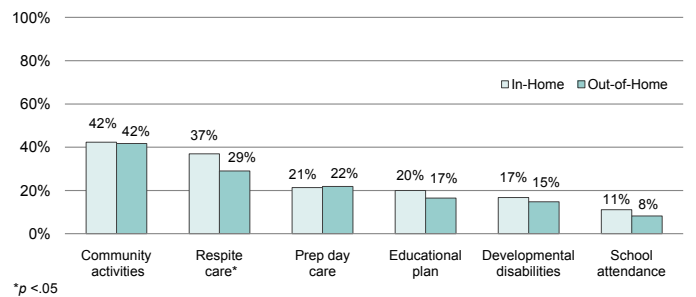
Parents with children in-home and parents with children out-of-home indicated that two educational services—preparatory day care and educational plan preparation—were the most commonly received services for their children (31% and 28%, respectively). Only help finding community activities significantly differed by service context, with parents of children out-of-home less likely to receive this service than those with children in-home (see Figure 12.1 top right and Table A12.1 in the Appendix).

Figure 12.1: Services Received for Children by Service Context



Among parents who were not receiving a given service for their children, the most frequently cited unmet need was for help finding community activities (42%). The only difference by service context was that parents with children in-home reported a greater need for respite care than those with children out-of-home (see Figure 12.2 below and see Table A12.2 in the Appendix for the number of parents who were not receiving a children’s service and therefore were asked about needing the service).

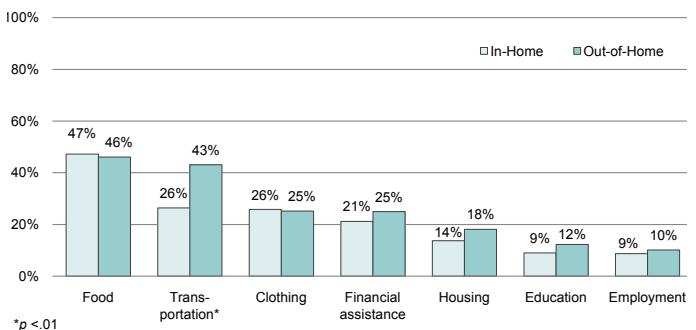
Figure 12.2: Unmet Need Among Parents Not Receiving a Children Services by Service Context



Parent Services for Basic Needs

Parents with children in-home more frequently received transportation assistance than parents with children out-of-home. Otherwise, there were no significant differences in services received by service context (see Figure 12.3 and Table A12.3 in the Appendix).

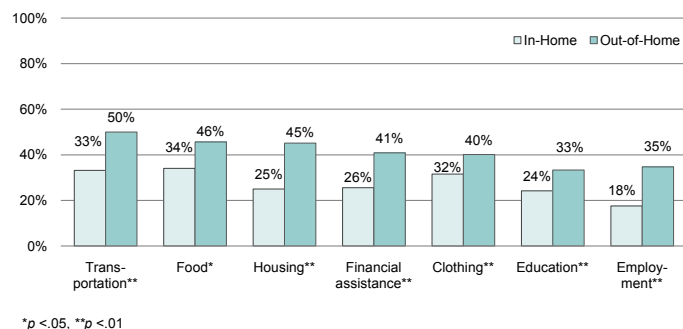
Figure 12.3: Services Received for Parents’ Basic Needs by Service Context



Statewide, there was high unmet need for basic, concrete needs such as clothing (49%), transportation (42%), food (41%), and housing (36%). When examining whether or not a basic service was needed by service context, significant differences emerged between the in-home and out-of-home groups for seven out of nine essential services.

For example, 50 percent of parents with children out-of-home needed help with transportation, compared to 33 percent of parents with children in-home. Additionally, the out-of-home group reported a significantly greater need for assistance obtaining food, housing, financial aid, clothing, education, and employment than the in-home group (see Figure 12.4 below and Table A12.4 in Appendix for the number of parents who were not receiving a basic need service and therefore were asked about needing the service).

Figure 12.4: Parents' Unmet Need for Basic Needs Services (Among Those Not Receiving the Service) by Service Context

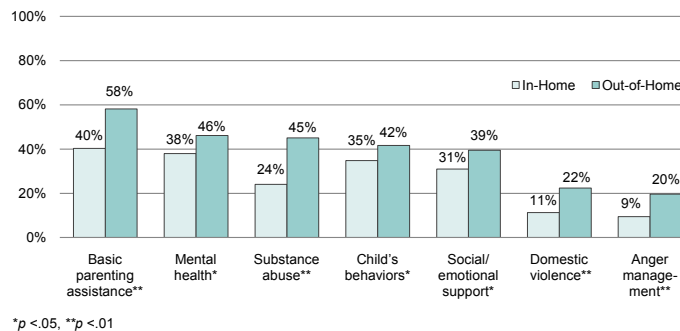


Parent Services for Physical and Emotional Health

There was a significant difference in the receipt of services related to physical and emotional needs between parents with children in-home and out-of-home on seven out of nine items.

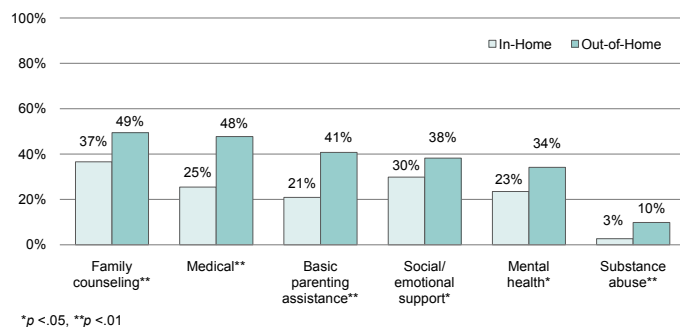
Compared with the in-home group, parents with children in out-of-home placement were significantly more likely to receive: basic parenting assistance; help with challenging child behaviors; mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence, anger management, and social/emotional support services. There were no significant differences in the receipt of family counseling and medical services by service context (see Figure 12.5 below and Table A12.5 in the Appendix).

Figure 12.5: Services Received for Parents' Physical and Emotional Health by Service Context



In addition to receiving more services for physical and emotional well-being, parents of children in out-of-home placement needed more services. Parents of children in out-of-home placement reported that they needed significantly more family counseling, social/emotional support services, and mental health services. Most notably, nearly twice as many parents with children out-of-home reported an unmet need for medical services (25% vs. 48%), basic parenting assistance (21% vs. 41%), and substance abuse services (3% vs. 10%). See Figure 12.6 below and Table A12.6 in the Appendix for the number of parents who were not receiving a physical or emotional health service and therefore were asked about needing the service.

Figure 12.6: Parents' Unmet Need for Physical and Emotional Health (Among Those Not Receiving the Service) by Service Context



Summary

Among the child-focused services, educational services were reported as the most frequently received service by both parents of children in-home and children in out-of-home care. The only service for children that differed by service context was help finding community activities, with 24 percent of parents of children in-home receiving help finding activities, compared to 17 percent of parents with children in out-of-home care.

Among parents not receiving a particular service for children, both groups of parents identified the need for help finding community activities and respite care most frequently. The only unmet child service need that varied by service context was respite care. Understandably, parents with children in-home were significantly more likely to need respite care (37%) than parents with children in placement out-of-home (29%).

There were no differences in the receipt of basic services by service context with the exception of transportation. Parents with children out-of-home were receiving significantly more transportation assistance than parents with children in-home. However, parents with children in placement indicated a high, and significantly greater, unmet need for seven out of nine basic services than parents with children in-home, in spite of the fact that parents with children out-of-home were already more likely to receive five out of nine services (i.e., housing, transportation, education, help finding aid, and employment).

A significantly greater percent of parents with children out-of-home than parents with children in-home were receiving seven of the nine services for parents' physical and emotional health (e.g., basic parenting assistance, mental health and substance abuse services). The only services for parents' physical and emotional health that were not being received at a significantly higher rate by parents with children in out-of-home care were family counseling and medical services.

APPENDIX

Table A3.1: Current Living Situation by Region

	1 n=145 ^a	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809
	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
Number of Biological or Adopted Children	Mean 3.0	Mean 3.1	Mean 2.8	Mean 3.1	Mean 3.0	Mean 2.9	Mean 3.0
One child	21.38	18.63	17.96	17.11	18.75	19.73	18.91 153
Two children	22.07	26.47	29.34	26.32	26.04	30.61	26.95 218
Three children	26.90	22.55	23.35	23.03	25.00	19.05	23.24 188
Four children	20.00	22.55	26.35	24.34	20.83	25.17	23.49 190
Five to eleven children	9.66	9.80	2.99	9.21	9.38	5.44	7.42 60

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data

Table A3.2: Age of Children by Region

	1 n=428	2 n=314	3 n=464	4 n=466	5 n=286	6 n=424	Statewide N=2382
	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
Age of Children	Mean 9.0	Mean 8.9	Mean 8.9	Mean 9.5	Mean 6.5 ^a	Mean 9.4	Mean 8.8
0-3 years	27.38	23.96	27.81	27.61	40.21	30.42	29.16 687
4-6 years	14.29	18.53	17.44	15.65	17.83	16.51	16.55 390
7-9 years	15.00	15.34	15.89	11.09	14.69	12.97	14.05 331
10-12 years	14.29	15.65	11.04	14.35	11.19	11.08	12.90 304
13-15 years	12.38	10.22	11.26	11.74	8.39	9.67	10.78 254
> 16 years	16.67	16.29	16.56	19.57	7.69	19.34	16.55 390

^aSig. diff. from Regions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 $p < .05$

Table A4.1. Financial Assistance Sources by Region

	1 n=145 ^a	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809
	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
Food Stamps	66.21	73.53	59.28	58.28	61.46	68.03	63.99 517
Cash from family, friends or partner	32.41	25.49	28.14	30.92	38.54	23.13	29.42 238
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	26.21	35.29	26.95	25.66	18.75	31.29	27.44 222
Social Security Disability	19.44	21.57	16.77	19.74	27.08	28.57	21.78 176
Public Housing	16.55	12.00	16.77	21.71	12.50	13.70	16.00 129
General Assistance	10.93	9.27	10.35	12.17	3.48	11.53	12.34 99
Unemployment Insurance	1.38	0.00	2.40	1.32	4.17	2.74	1.98 16

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data

Table A4.2: Poverty Indicators by Region

	1 n=145 ^a	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809
	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
In the past 12 months have there been times when you have not had the money to....							
pay an important bill (e.g., medical)?	48.97 ^b	66.34	62.05	67.11	63.54	58.50	60.72 490
buy clothing/ shoes your family needed?	53.79	67.33	50.00	57.89	55.21	48.98	54.77 442
pay the rent or mortgage?	31.72 ^c	55.88	44.58	51.32	40.63	40.82	43.81 354
During the past 12 months have you ...							
gone to a food pantry or community meal program?	54.48	58.82	49.10	48.03	51.04	53.06	52.04 421
had to move in with family/friends	38.62	35.29	32.93	28.95	35.42	39.73	35.02 283
not been able to buy enough your family food	27.59	39.22	27.11	36.84	28.13	29.93	31.19 252
been homeless?	31.72	30.69	29.34	28.95	23.96	25.34	28.50 230
had your utilities shut off?	17.93	34.31	23.49	28.95	27.08	24.49	25.50 206
been evicted?	13.79	23.53	16.77	12.50	13.54	20.55	16.58 134
had your car or other belongings repossessed?	8.28	14.71	12.57	6.62	7.29	9.52	9.78 79

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data

^bSig. diff. from Region 4 $p < .05$

^cSig. diff. from Regions 2 and 4 $p < .01$

Table A5.1: Yatchmenoff Buy-In Sub-Scale by Region^a

	1 n=145 ^b	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809		
	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	SD	Total
I believe my family will get the help we really need from CPS	2.70	3.17	2.82	2.86	2.73	2.87	2.85	1.35	807
I really want to make use of the service (help) CPS is providing me	3.81	4.02	3.77	3.85	4.00	3.82	3.86	1.11	803
Working with CPS has given me more hope about how my life is going to go in the future	2.82	3.23	2.76	2.79	2.79	2.96	2.88	1.36	808
I'm not just going through the motions. I'm really involved in working with CPS	3.85	4.04	3.94	3.83	3.94	3.80	3.89	1.15	805
I think things will get better for my children because CPS is involved	2.56	3.07	2.64	2.81	2.45 ^c	3.01	2.75	1.39	808
What CPS wants me to do is the same as what I want	2.72	3.54 ^d	2.97	3.14	3.02	3.07	3.05	1.37	808
CPS is helping my family get stronger	2.88	3.43 ^e	2.92	3.00	2.78	3.08	3.00	1.39	805
Yatchmenoff: Buy-In Sub-Scale^f	3.04	3.49 ^d	3.12	3.18	3.10	3.23	3.18	1.06	808

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=not sure, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree
^bActual regional *ns* may vary due to missing data
^cSig. diff. from Regions 5 and 6 *p* < .05
^dSig. diff. from Regions 1 and 3 *p* < .05
^eSig. diff. from Region 1 and 5 *p* < .05
^fCronbach's alpha = .86

Table A5.2: Yatchmenoff Mistrust Sub-Scale by Region^a

	1 n=145 ^b	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809		
	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	SD	Total
Anything I say they're going to turn it around to make me look bad	3.46	2.80 ^c	3.22	3.13	3.54	3.10	3.21	1.36	809
I feel like I can trust CPS to be fair and to see my side	2.31	3.00 ^d	2.50	2.68	2.25	2.69	2.57	1.36	808
CPS is not out to get me	2.91	3.44 ^e	3.22	3.29	2.94	3.23	3.17	1.35	806
Yatchmenoff: Mistrust Sub-Scale^f	2.59	3.21 ^e	2.83	2.95	2.55	2.94	2.84	1.20	809

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=not sure, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree
^bActual regional *ns* may vary due to missing data
^cSig. diff. from Regions 1 and 5 *p* < .05
^dSig. diff. from Regions 1, 3 and 5 *p* < .05
^eSig. diff. from Region 1 *p* < .05
^fCronbach's alpha = .86

Table A5.3: Yatchmenoff Receptivity Sub-Scale by Region^a

	1 n=145 ^b	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809		
	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	SD	Total
I realize I need some help to make sure my kids have what they need	3.77	3.93	3.68	3.83	3.86	3.86	3.81	1.22	807
I was fine before CPS got involved. The problem is theirs, not mine	2.81	2.33 ^c	2.79	2.76	2.97	2.61	2.72	1.31	804
There's a good reason why CPS is involved in my family	2.93	3.26	3.01	3.21	2.96	3.21	3.10	1.38	808
There were definitely some problems in my family that CPS saw	3.17	3.52	3.28	3.30	3.27	3.56	3.34	1.30	808
Yatchmenoff: Receptivity Sub-Scale^d	3.27	3.60	3.29	3.39	3.28	3.50	3.38	1.02	808

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=not sure, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree
^bActual regional *ns* may vary due to missing data
^cSig. diff. from Regions 1, 3 and 5 *p* < .05
^dCronbach's alpha = .79

Table A5.4: Yatchmenoff Working Relationship Sub-Scale by Region^a

	1 n=145 ^b	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809		
	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	SD	Total
It's hard for me to work with my assigned worker	3.06	2.66	2.81	2.92	3.22	2.85	2.91	1.48	805
I think my worker and I respect each other	3.01	3.56 ^c	3.24	3.31	2.81	3.18	3.19	1.43	808
My worker and I agree about what's best for my children	2.90	3.38	3.08	3.01	2.94	3.16	3.07	1.44	805
My worker doesn't understand where I'm coming from at all	3.28	2.95	3.05	3.11	3.46	2.99	3.13	1.42	808
Yatchmenoff: Working Relationship Sub-Scale^d	2.89	3.33 ^e	3.11	3.07	2.75	3.13	3.05	1.28	807

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=not sure, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree
^bActual regional *ns* may vary due to missing data
^cSig. diff. from Regions 1 and 5 *p* < .05
^dCronbach's alpha = .91
^eSig. diff. from Region 5 *p* < .05

Table A5.5: SBC-Related Worker Attributes Scale by Region^a

	1 n=145 ^b	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809		
	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	SD	Total
My worker is helping me plan so I can prevent problems in the future	2.69	3.03	2.84	2.86	2.63	3.11	2.86	1.42	807
I don't think my worker knows how hard it is to be involved with CPS	3.78	3.27	3.44	3.44	3.81	3.37	3.51	1.41	804
My worker believes I can grow and change	3.29	3.74 ^c	3.46	3.53	3.18	3.41	3.44	1.26	804
My worker is respectful of my cultural, ethnic background	3.55	3.84 ^d	3.71	3.56	3.59	3.36	3.59	1.18	803
I get compliments from my worker when I do something well	2.92	3.40 ^e	3.20	3.08	2.78	3.22	3.11	1.45	804
Worker Attributes Scale^f	2.94	3.34	3.15	3.12	2.87	3.15	3.10	1.12	809

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=not sure, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree
^bActual regional *ns* may vary due to missing data
^cSig. diff. from Region 5 *p* < .05
^dSig. diff. from Region 6 *p* < .05
^eCronbach's alpha = .89

Table A5.6: SBC-Related Engagement Scale by Region^a

	1 n=145 ^b	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809		
	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	SD	Total
My worker asks me about others in my life who could be helpful to me	3.14	3.65 ^c	3.17	3.17	2.94	3.31	3.22	1.41	808
My worker listens to my ideas about what would be helpful for me and my family	2.90	3.41 ^c	3.17	3.24	2.76	3.21	3.12	1.47	808
My worker asks what I need help with	3.12	3.47	3.26	3.38	2.83 ^d	3.30	3.24	1.41	807
My goals are included in my CPS case plan	3.05	3.33	3.13	3.07	3.03	3.21	3.13	1.35	802
I don't have a say in decisions made about my case	3.46	2.99	3.27	2.99	3.54	3.20	3.24	1.47	809
My worker acts like he/she already knows what my problems were without listening to my side of things	3.62	3.04 ^d	3.34	3.22	3.62	3.18	3.33	1.47	806
I was connected to services that are helpful to me and my family	3.40	3.48	3.25	3.43	3.09	3.28	3.33	1.39	807
My worker helps me see – step by step – what I need to do to get CPS out of my life	2.85	3.11	2.99	2.97	2.71	3.07	2.96	1.48	805
The services I was referred to were not sensitive to my cultural, ethnic background	2.44	2.55	2.52	2.65	2.63	2.70	2.58	1.16	797
My worker keeps me informed about my case	2.42	2.86	2.65	2.73	2.33	2.98 ^c	2.67	1.48	806
Sometimes my worker says things I don't understand	2.94	2.55	2.85	2.81	2.82	2.83	2.81	1.30	808
Engagement Scale^f	2.96	3.29^c	3.06	3.12	2.83	3.13	3.07	1.00	806

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=not sure, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree
^bActual regional ns may vary due to missing data
^cSig. diff. from Region 5 $p < .05$
^dSig. diff. from Regions 2 and 4 $p < .05$
^eSig. diff. from Region 1 $p < .05$
^fCronbach's alpha = .90

Table A5.7: SBC-Related Family Strengths Scale by Region^a

	1 n=145 ^b	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide Total N=809		
	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	Mean	SD	Total
My social worker is interested in learning about me and my family	3.00	3.58 ^c	3.29	3.31	2.94	3.37	3.25	1.42	809
My social worker asks me about things I do well	2.59	3.14 ^c	2.86	2.80	2.41	2.81	2.77	1.35	808
I get the feeling that my worker thinks I have more problems than strengths	3.34	2.99	3.13	3.30	3.55	3.21	3.25	1.41	807
My worker asks me about my strengths as a parent	2.71	3.20 ^d	2.81	2.78	2.51	2.94	2.82	1.44	806
My worker only focuses on my problems	3.33	3.00	3.22	3.47	3.35	3.19	3.27	1.38	807
Family Strengths Scale^e	2.73	3.18^c	2.92	2.82	2.59	2.94	2.87	1.10	808

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=not sure, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree
^bActual regional ns may vary due to missing data
^cSig. diff. from Regions 1 and 5 $p < .05$
^dSig. diff. from Region 5 $p < .05$
^eCronbach's alpha = .85

Table A6.1: Domestic Violence by Region

	1 n=145 ^a	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
Threat of violent (e.g., hit, use a weapon)	25.17	30.39	30.12	26.32	30.21	31.97	28.91	233
Grabbed, shook, slapped or kicked	27.78	37.25	28.14	25.66	22.92	34.01	29.21	236
Physically injury (e.g., beat, choked, burned, or used a weapon)	13.89	25.49	16.17	16.45	12.50	21.77	17.57	142

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data.

Table A6.2: Sexual Abuse by Region

	1 n=145 ^a	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
Touched (without consent) in a sexual way by an adult or older child once or more than once	49.31	51.96	50.30	52.63	51.04	58.50	52.36	422
Forced to touch an adult or older child in a sexual way once or more than once	32.64	29.41	34.34	34.87	39.58	38.10	34.82	281
Forced to have sex with an adult or older child (within or outside the family) once or more than once	25.87	28.71	29.52	33.55	37.50	34.69	31.43	253

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data.

Table A6.3: Mental Health Disorders by Region

	1 n=145 ^a	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809 ^b	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
Any Depression	45.52	51.96	46.11	44.08	41.67	46.34	45.86	360
Bipolar	26.90	22.55	24.55	26.97	26.04	26.83	25.73	202
Panic Disorder	21.38	11.76	18.56	15.79	16.67	13.01	16.56	130
Social Phobia ^c	6.90	6.86	5.99	11.84	14.58	4.88	8.28	65
Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder	8.28	5.88	5.99	10.53	10.42	7.32	8.03	63
Posttraumatic Stress Disorder	9.66	6.86	5.99	11.18	13.54	7.32	8.92	70
Any Mood Disorder	52.41	52.94	51.50	51.32	47.92	54.47	51.85	407
Any Anxiety ^d	31.72	28.43	31.14	26.97	35.42	21.95	29.17	229

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data.

^bThere were 24 parents who were not administered the MINI (Mini - International Neuropsychiatric Interview). Those who were not given the MINI did not differ from those who did in most demographic and other risk factors. However, a higher percentage of Caucasian parents did not respond to the MINI.
^cThere were significant overall differences, $p < .05$, but there were no between region differences.

Table A6.4: Alcohol and Drug Abuse/Dependence by Region

	1 n=145 ^a	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809 ^b	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
Alcohol abuse/dependence	11.72	14.71	14.37	7.89	9.38	12.20	11.72	92
Drug abuse/dependence	22.76	27.45	25.75	19.74	25.00	26.83	24.33	191
Alcohol or drug abuse/dependence	27.59	33.33	34.13	23.68	27.08	30.89	29.43	231

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data.

^bThere were 24 parents who were not administered the MINI (Mini - International Neuropsychiatric Interview). Those who were not given the MINI did not differ from those who did in most demographic and other risk factors. However, a higher percentage of Caucasian parents did not respond to the MINI.
^cThere were significant overall differences, $p < .05$, but there were no between region differences.

Table A6.5: Summary of Risk Factors for Child Maltreatment by Region

	1 n=145 ^a	2 n=102	3 n=167	4 n=152	5 n=96	6 n=147	Statewide N=809	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	N
Domestic violence	34.03	38.24	35.93	30.26	33.33	38.10	34.90	282
Sexual abuse	53.47	54.90	53.01	55.92	54.17	59.86	55.27	446
Mental health disorder ^b	57.24	55.88	57.49	55.26	51.04	56.91	55.92	439
Alcohol or drug/abuse or dependence ^c	27.59	33.33	34.13	23.68	27.08	30.89	29.43	231
Any Risk (of the four above)	87.59	85.29	88.62	88.16	79.17	91.16	87.27	706

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data.

^bThere were 24 parents who were not administered the MINI. Those who were not given the MINI did not differ from those who did in most demographic and other risk factors. However, a higher percentage of Caucasian parents did not respond to the MINI.

Table A6.6: Parental Stress Scale by Region^a

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Statewide			
	n=145 ^b	n=102	n=167	n=152	n=96	n=147	N=809	Mean	SD	Total
I am happy in my role as a parent	4.38	4.30	4.48	4.43	4.41	4.46	4.42	0.91		807
Having children gives me a more certain and optimistic view for the future	4.29	4.24	4.31	4.14	4.28	4.29	4.26	0.85		806
I find my children enjoyable	4.75	4.63	4.71	4.66	4.73	4.74	4.71	0.54		808
I feel close to my children	4.67	4.50	4.65	4.63	4.76	4.60	4.63	0.73		808
I enjoy spending time with my children	4.82	4.69	4.81	4.76	4.84	4.78	4.79	0.48		808
My children are an important source of affection for me	4.74	4.68	4.72	4.70	4.69	4.73	4.71	0.62		805
Parental Rewards Sub-Scale^c	4.61	4.50	4.61	4.55	4.62	4.60	4.59	0.49		807
Caring for my children sometimes takes more time and energy than I have ^d	3.27	3.32	3.15	3.51	3.21	3.25	3.29	1.35		806
The major source of stress in my life is my children ^d	2.05	2.16	1.87	2.24	1.92	2.03	2.04	1.20		808
Having children leaves little time and flexibility in my life ^d	2.56	2.78	2.51	2.80	2.58	2.66	2.64	1.26		806
Having children has been a financial burden ^d	2.36	2.40	2.17	2.30	2.03	2.28	2.26	1.17		807

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2= disagree, 3=undecided, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree
^bActual ns may vary due to missing data.
^cCronbach's alpha = .78
^dThese items have been reverse coded
^eSig. diff. from Region 5 $p < .05$
^fSig. diff. from Region 3 $p < .01$
^gSig. diff. from Region 4 $p < .05$
^hCronbach's alpha = .80
ⁱSig. diff. from Regions 2 and 4 $p < .05$
^jCronbach's alpha = .71
^kSig. diff. from Regions 2 and 4 $p < .01$
^lCronbach's alpha = .85
^mParental Stress Scale includes all items in this table.

Table A6.6: Parental Stress Scale by Region^a (Cont.)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Statewide			
	n=145 ^b	n=102	n=167	n=152	n=96	n=147	N=809	Mean	SD	Total
It is difficult to balance responsibilities because of my children ^d	2.53	2.65 ^e	2.25	2.46	2.11	2.45	2.41	1.14		807
Having children has meant having too few choices and too little control over my life ^d	1.91	2.17 ^f	1.65 ^g	1.99	1.79	1.83	1.87	0.94		805
Parental Stressors Sub-Scale^h	2.45	2.58	2.27 ⁱ	2.55	2.27	2.42	2.42	0.83		807
If I had it to do over again, I might decide not to have children ^d	1.57	1.57	1.44 ^g	1.78	1.60	1.52	1.58	0.94		805
I feel overwhelmed by the responsibility of being a parent ^d	2.00	2.27	1.77 ^k	2.20	1.85	2.12	2.03	1.11		806
Having children has meant having too few choices and too little control over my life ^d	1.91	2.17 ^f	1.65 ^g	1.99	1.79	1.83	1.87	0.94		805
Parental Lack of Control Sub-Scale^l	1.83	2.00	1.62 ^k	2.00	1.75	1.82	1.83	0.80		806
I am satisfied as a parent	4.19	4.07	4.38	4.20	4.26	4.11	4.21	0.99		807
I find my children enjoyable	4.75	4.63	4.71	4.66	4.73	4.74	4.71	0.54		808
The behavior of my children is often embarrassing or stressful to me ^d	2.20	2.52	2.16	2.43	2.10	2.34	2.29	1.28		806
Parental Satisfaction Sub-Scale	4.25	4.06	4.31	4.14	4.30	4.17	4.21	0.69		808

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2= disagree, 3=undecided, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree
^bActual ns may vary due to missing data.
^cCronbach's alpha = .78
^dThese items have been reverse coded
^eSig. diff. from Region 5 $p < .05$
^fSig. diff. from Region 3 $p < .01$
^gSig. diff. from Region 4 $p < .05$
^hCronbach's alpha = .80
ⁱSig. diff. from Regions 2 and 4 $p < .05$
^jCronbach's alpha = .71
^kSig. diff. from Regions 2 and 4 $p < .01$
^lCronbach's alpha = .85
^mParental Stress Scale includes all items in this table.

Table A6.6: Parental Stress Scale by Region^a (Cont.)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Statewide			
	n=145 ^b	n=102	n=167	n=152	n=96	n=147	N=809	Mean	SD	Total
There is little or nothing I wouldn't do for my children if it was necessary	4.84	4.74	4.86	4.87	4.88	4.88	4.85	0.41		807
I sometimes worry whether I am doing enough for my children ^d	3.69	3.87	3.54	3.73	3.67	3.79	3.70	1.19		807
Parental Stress Scale^{l,m}	4.03	3.90 ^f	4.13 ^g	3.94	4.11	4.02	4.03	0.53		805

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2= disagree, 3=undecided, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree
^bActual ns may vary due to missing data.
^cCronbach's alpha = .78
^dThese items have been reverse coded
^eSig. diff. from Region 5 $p < .05$
^fSig. diff. from Region 3 $p < .01$
^gSig. diff. from Region 4 $p < .05$
^hCronbach's alpha = .80
ⁱSig. diff. from Regions 2 and 4 $p < .05$
^jCronbach's alpha = .71
^kSig. diff. from Regions 2 and 4 $p < .01$
^lCronbach's alpha = .85
^mParental Stress Scale includes all items in this table.

Table A7.1: Services for Children Received by Region

Services being received	1	2	3	4	5	6	Statewide
	n=145 ^a	n=102	n=167	n=152	n=96	n=147	N=809
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Preparatory day care/ preschool	30.07	32.67	30.54	31.13	28.72	30.61	30.64
Educational plan	27.34	29.79	25.90	29.17	33.70	26.06	28.19
Respite care or paid babysitting	26.57	29.41	20.36	19.21	25.53	21.77	23.26
Finding community activities	21.53	18.81	20.48	23.03	16.84	18.37	20.12
Children's school attendance assistance	13.19	13.73	12.57	13.91	8.42	7.59	11.69
Developmental disabilities support	12.50	11.76	13.17	8.55	12.63	11.03	11.55

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data

Table A7.2: Children's Unmet Service Needs by Region

Needed services among parents not receiving the service	1	2	3	4	5	6	Statewide
	n=145 ^a	n=102	n=167	n=152	n=96	n=147	N=809
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Finding community activities	38.05	43.90	44.70	40.17	51.90	36.67	41.99
Respite care or paid babysitting	37.14	33.33	25.76	40.16	27.14	30.43	32.47
Preparatory day care/ preschool	16.00	23.88	21.55	19.23	29.85	22.77	21.62
Educational plan	13.00	22.73	21.31	22.55	13.56	14.42	18.08
Developmental disabilities support	14.29	22.09	11.11	16.79	18.07	15.08	15.67
Children's school attendance assistance	4.80	12.50	10.96	12.31	5.81	9.77	9.46

^aActual ns vary due to nonuse of specific service or missing data

Table A8.1: Demographic Characteristics by Service Context

Number of Biological or Adopted Children in Household	In-Home	Out-of-Home	Statewide
	n=345 ^a	n=464	N=809
	%	%	%
	Mean=2.8 ^b	Mean=3.1	Mean=3.0
One child	20.00	18.10	18.91
Two children	28.99	25.43	26.95
Three children	24.06	22.63	23.24
Four children	21.45	25.00	23.49
Five to eleven children	5.51	8.84	7.42

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data.
^b $p < .05$

Table A8.2: Age of Children by Service Context

	In-Home n=970	Out-of-Home n=1412	Statewide N=2382
	%	%	%
Age of Children	Mean=9.2 ^a	Mean=8.4	Mean=8.8
0-3 years	24.90	32.13	29.16
4-6 years	16.94	16.28	16.55
7-9 years	15.19	13.26	14.05
10-12 years	14.77	11.60	12.90
13-15 years	11.67	10.16	10.78
> 16 years	16.53	16.57	16.55

^ap < .01

Table A9.1: Poverty Indicators by Service Context

	In-Home n=345 ^{a,b}	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809	N
	%	%	%	
Source of Assistance				
Food Stamps	61.34	65.95	63.99	517
Cash from family, friends or partner	25.80	32.11	29.42	238
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ^c	32.46	23.71	27.44	222
Social Security Disability	24.35	19.87	21.78	176
Public Housing	17.73	14.72	16.00	129
General Assistance (GA) ^d	9.33	14.60	12.34	99
Unemployment Insurance	2.61	1.52	1.98	16
During the past 12 months have there been times when you have not had the money to....				
pay an important bill (e.g., utility or medical)?	62.39	59.48	60.72	490
buy clothing/shoes that your family needed?	52.62	56.37	54.77	442
pay the rent or mortgage?	44.77	43.10	43.81	354
During the past 12 months have you ...				
gone to a food pantry/community meal program?	48.41	54.74	52.04	421
had to move in with family or friends ^e	25.00	42.46	35.02	283
been unable to buy enough food for your family?	32.56	30.17	31.19	252
been homeless? ^f	17.73	36.50	28.50	230
had your utilities shut off?	25.00	25.86	25.50	206
been evicted? ^{g,h}	12.21	19.83	16.58	134
had your car or other belongings repossessed?	8.43	10.78	9.78	79

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data.

^bItem responses are not mutually exclusive.

^cp < .01

^dp < .01

^ep < .01

Table A10.1: Yatchmenoff Engagement Scales by Service Context (cont.)^a

	In-Home n=345 ^b	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809	Mean	SD	Total
It's hard for me to work with my assigned worker ^c	2.54	3.18	2.91	1.48	805	
I think my worker and I respect each other ^a	3.49	2.97	3.19	1.43	808	
My worker and I agree about what's best for my children ^a	3.38	2.84	3.07	1.44	805	
My worker doesn't understand where I'm coming from at all ^c	2.80	3.37	3.13	1.42	808	
Yatchmenoff: Working Relationship Sub-Scale ^{c, d}	3.38	2.81	3.05	1.28	807	

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=not sure, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree

^bActual ns may vary due to missing data.

^cp < .01

^dCronbach's alpha = .91

^eCronbach's alpha = .86

^fCronbach's alpha = .79

^gCronbach's alpha = .91

Table A10.2: SBC-Related Worker Attributes Scale by Service Context^a

	In-Home n=345 ^b	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809	Mean	SD	Total
My worker is helping me plan so I can prevent problems in the future ^c	3.21	2.61	2.86	1.42	807	
I don't think my worker knows how hard it is to be involved with CPS ^c	3.24	3.71	3.51	1.41	804	
My worker believes I can grow and change ^a	3.74	3.21	3.44	1.26	804	
My worker is respectful of my cultural, ethnic background ^c	3.78	3.45	3.59	1.18	803	
I get compliments from my worker when I do something well ^a	3.41	2.88	3.11	1.45	804	
Worker Attributes Scale ^{c, d}	3.38	2.89	3.10	1.12	809	

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=not sure, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree

^bActual ns may vary due to missing data

^cp < .01

^dCronbach's alpha = .89

Table A10.1: Yatchmenoff Engagement Sub-Scales by Service Context^a

	In-Home n=345 ^b	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809	Mean	SD	Total
I believe my family will get the help we really need from CPS	2.93	2.78	2.85	1.35	807	
I really want to make use of the service (help) CPS is providing me	3.87	3.85	3.86	1.11	803	
Working with CPS has given me more hope about how my life is going to go in the future ^c	3.06	2.74	2.88	1.36	808	
I'm not just going through the motions. I'm really involved in working with CPS	3.89	3.89	3.89	1.15	805	
I think things will get better for my children because CPS is involved ^c	2.95	2.61	2.75	1.39	808	
What CPS wants me to do is the same as what I want ^a	3.30	2.87	3.05	1.37	808	
CPS is helping my family get stronger ^c	3.25	2.82	3.00	1.39	805	
Yatchmenoff: Buy-In Sub-Scale ^{c, d}	3.32	3.08	3.18	1.06	808	
Anything I say they're going to turn it around to make me look bad ^c	2.80	3.51	3.21	1.36	809	
I feel like I can trust CPS to be fair and to see my side of things ^c	2.90	2.33	2.57	1.36	808	
CPS is not out to get me ^c	3.55	2.89	3.17	1.35	806	
Yatchmenoff: Mistrust Sub-Scale ^{c, e}	3.22	2.57	2.84	1.20	809	
I realize I need some help to make sure my kids have what they need	3.71	3.89	3.81	1.22	807	
I was fine before CPS got involved. The problem is theirs, not mine	2.71	2.72	2.72	1.31	804	
There's a good reason why CPS is involved in my family	3.12	3.08	3.1	1.38	808	
There were definitely some problems in my family that CPS saw	3.35	3.34	3.34	1.30	808	
Yatchmenoff: Receptivity Sub-Scale ^f	3.37	3.40	3.38	1.02	808	

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=not sure, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree

^bActual ns may vary due to missing data.

^cp < .01

^dCronbach's alpha = .91

^eCronbach's alpha = .86

^fCronbach's alpha = .79

^gCronbach's alpha = .91

Table A10.3: SBC-Related Engagement Scale by Service Context^a

	In-Home n=345 ^b	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809	Mean	SD	Total
My worker asks me about others in my life who could be helpful to me ^c	3.56	2.97	3.22	1.41	808	
My worker listens to my ideas about what would be helpful for me and my family ^c	3.43	2.90	3.12	1.47	808	
My worker asks me about what I need help with ^c	3.62	2.96	3.24	1.41	807	
My goals are included in my CPS case plan ^d	3.31	3.00	3.13	1.35	802	
I don't have a say in decisions made about my case ^c	2.82	3.54	3.24	1.47	809	
My worker acts like he or she already knows what my problems were without listening to my side of things ^c	3.00	3.58	3.33	1.47	806	
I was connected to services that are helpful to me and my family ^c	3.56	3.15	3.33	1.39	807	
My worker helps me see – step by step – what I need to do to get CPS out of my life ^c	3.27	2.73	2.96	1.48	805	
The services I was referred to were not sensitive to my cultural, ethnic background ^d	2.43	2.69	2.58	1.16	797	
My worker keeps me informed about what is happening with my case ^c	2.87	2.53	2.67	1.48	806	
Sometimes my worker says things I don't understand ^c	2.54	3.02	2.81	1.30	808	
Engagement Scale ^{c, e}	3.35	2.86	3.07	1.00	806	

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=not sure, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree

^bActual ns may vary due to missing data

^cp < .01

^dp < .05

^eCronbach's alpha = .90

Table A10.4: SBC-Related Family Strengths Scale by Service Context^a

	In-Home n=345 ^b	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809		Total
	Mean	Mean	Mean	SD	
My social worker is interested in learning about me and my family ^c	3.56	3.03	3.25	1.42	809
My social worker asks me about things I do well	2.95	2.64	2.77	1.35	808
I get the feeling that my worker thinks I have more problems than strengths ^c	2.94	3.48	3.25	1.41	807
My worker asks me about my strengths as a parent ^c	3.12	2.60	2.82	1.44	806
My worker only focuses on my problems	3.20	3.32	3.27	1.38	807
<i>Family Strengths Scale^{c,d}</i>	3.10	2.70	2.87	1.10	808

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2=disagree, 3=not sure, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree
^bActual ns may vary due to missing data^cCronbach's alpha = .85
^cp < .01
^dCronbach's alpha = .90

Table A11.1: Domestic Violence by Service Context

	In-Home n=345 ^a	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809	
	%	%	%	N
Threat of violent (e.g., hit, use a weapon)	26.09	31.02	28.91	233
Grabbed, shook, slapped or kicked	26.09	31.53	29.21	236
Physically injury (e.g., beat, choked, burned, or used a weapon)	15.94	18.79	17.57	142

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data

Table A11.2: Sexual Abuse as a Minor by Service Context

	In-Home n=345 ^a	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809	
	%	%	%	N
Touched (without consent) in a sexual way by an adult or older child once or more than once	52.62	52.16	52.36	422
Forced to touch an adult or older child in a sexual way once or more than once	35.76	34.13	34.82	281
Forced to have sex with an adult or older child (within or outside the family) once or more than once	30.90	31.82	31.43	253

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data

Table A11.3: Mental Health Disorders by Service Context

	In-Home n=345 ^a	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809	
	%	%	%	N
Any Depression	46.96	45.00	45.86	360
Bipolar	23.77	27.27	25.73	202
Panic Disorder	17.39	15.91	16.56	130
Social Phobia	8.99	7.73	8.28	65
Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder	6.96	8.86	8.03	63
Posttraumatic Stress Disorder	8.12	9.55	8.92	70
Any Mood Disorder	52.75	51.14	51.85	407
Any Anxiety	29.28	29.09	29.17	229

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data

Table A11.4: Alcohol and Drug Abuse/Dependence by Service Context

	In-Home n=345 ^a	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809	
	%	%	%	N
Alcohol abuse/dependence	8.41	14.32	11.72	92
Drug abuse/dependence	16.23	30.68	24.33	191
Alcohol or drug abuse/dependence	21.45	35.68	29.43	231

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data

Table A11.5: Summary of Risk Factors for Child Maltreatment by Service Context

	In-Home n=345 ^a	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809	
	%	%	%	N
Domestic violence ^b	30.72	38.01	34.90	282
Sexual abuse as a minor	54.65	55.72	55.27	446
Mental health disorders	56.81	55.23	55.92	439
Alcohol or drug/abuse or dependence ^c	21.45	35.68	29.43	231
Any Risk (of the four above)	84.64	89.22	87.27	706

^aActual ns may vary due to missing data
^bp < .05
^cp < .01

Table A11.6: Parental Stress Scale by Service Context^a

	In-Home n=345 ^b	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809		Total
	Mean	Mean	Mean	SD	
I am happy in my role as a parent ^c	4.53	4.33	4.42	0.91	807
Having children gives me a more certain and optimistic view for the future	4.26	4.26	4.26	0.85	806
I find my children enjoyable ^c	4.63	4.76	4.71	0.54	808
I feel close to my children	4.68	4.60	4.63	0.73	808
I enjoy spending time with my children	4.76	4.80	4.79	0.48	808
My children are an important source of affection	4.71	4.72	4.71	0.62	805
<i>Parental Rewards Sub-Scale^d</i>	4.59	4.58	4.59	0.49	807
Caring for my children sometimes takes more time and energy than I have ^e	2.46	2.91	2.71	1.35	806
The major source of stress in my life is my children ^c	3.76	4.11	3.96	1.20	808
Having children leaves little time/flexibility in my life ^c	3.10	3.55	3.36	1.26	806
Having children has been a financial burden ^a	3.60	3.84	3.74	1.17	807
It is difficult to balance different responsibilities because of my children	3.48	3.67	3.59	1.14	807
Having children has meant having too few choices and too little control over my life	4.08	4.16	4.13	0.94	805
<i>Parental Stressors Sub-Scale^{e,f}</i>	3.41	3.71	3.58	0.83	807
If I had it to do over again, I might decide not to have children	4.39	4.45	4.42	0.94	805
I feel overwhelmed by the responsibility of being a parent ^c	3.80	4.10	3.97	1.11	806
Having children has meant having too few choices and too little control over my life	4.08	4.16	4.13	0.94	805
<i>Parental Lack of Control Sub-Scale^{a,g}</i>	4.09	4.24	4.17	0.80	806
I am satisfied as a parent	4.28	4.16	4.21	0.99	807
I find my children enjoyable ^c	4.63	4.76	4.71	0.54	808
The behavior of my children is often embarrassing or stressful to me ^e	2.55	2.09	2.29	1.28	806
<i>Parental Satisfaction Sub-Scale</i>	4.12	4.28	4.21	0.69	808

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2= disagree, 3=undecided, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree
^bActual ns may vary due to missing data
^cp < .01
^dCronbach's alpha = .78
^ep < .05
^fCronbach's alpha = .80
^gCronbach's alpha = .71
^hCronbach's alpha = .85
ⁱParental Stress Scale includes all items in the four sub-scales

Table A11.6: Parental Stress Scale by Service Context (cont.)^a

	In-Home n=345 ^b	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809		Total
	Mean	Mean	Mean	SD	
There is little or nothing I wouldn't do for my children if it was necessary	4.86	4.84	4.85	0.41	807
I sometimes worry whether I am doing enough for my children	2.27	2.32	2.30	1.19	807
<i>Parental Stress Scale^{c,h,i}</i>	3.95	4.08	4.03	0.53	805

^aScale: 1=strongly disagree, 2= disagree, 3=undecided, 4=agree, 5=strongly agree
^bActual ns may vary due to missing data
^cp < .01
^dCronbach's alpha = .78
^ep < .05
^fCronbach's alpha = .80
^gCronbach's alpha = .71
^hCronbach's alpha = .85
ⁱParental Stress Scale includes all items in the four sub-scales

Table A12.1: Services Received for Children by Service Context

Services being received	In-Home n=345 ^a	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809
	%	%	%
Preparatory day care/preschool	28.99	31.88	30.64
Educational plan	25.66	30.14	28.19
Respite care or paid babysitting	23.19	23.06	23.11
Finding community activities ^b	23.84	17.35	20.12
Children's school attendance assistance	11.59	11.76	11.69
Developmental disabilities support	10.76	12.15	11.55

^aActual *ns* may vary due to missing data
^b*p* <.05

Table A12.2: Children's Unmet Service Needs by Service Context

Needed services among parents not receiving the service	In-Home	Out-of-Home	Statewide	N
	%	%	%	
Finding community activities	42.37	41.73	41.99	643
Respite care or paid babysitting ^a	36.98	29.06	32.47	616
Preparatory day care/preschool	21.31	21.86	21.62	555
Educational plan	20.00	16.50	18.08	553
Developmental disabilities support	16.78	14.82	15.67	702
Children's school attendance assistance	11.15	8.19	9.46	708

^a*p* <.05

Table A12.3: Services Received for Parent's Basic Needs by Service Context

Services being received	In-Home n=345 ^a	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809
	%	%	%
Food	47.25	46.12	46.60
Transportation ^b	26.38	43.10	35.97
Clothing	25.80	25.22	25.46
Applying for financial assistance	21.22	25.00	23.39
Housing	13.70	18.10	16.23
Basic home management	14.58	12.72	13.51
Obtaining education or getting a GED	8.99	12.31	10.89
Finding or keeping a job	8.72	10.15	9.54
Home repair or maintenance	9.01	6.49	7.57

^aActual *ns* may vary due to missing data
^b*p* <.01

Table A12.4: Parents' Unmet Needs for Basic Needs Services by Service Context

Needed services among parents not receiving the service	In-Home	Out-of-Home	Statewide	N
	%	%	%	
Clothing ^a	31.59	40.17	49.00	602
Transportation ^a	33.20	50.00	41.78	517
Food ^b	34.07	45.60	40.74	432
Housing ^a	25.00	45.12	36.30	675
Applying for financial assistance ^a	25.56	40.87	34.15	615
Obtaining education or getting a GED ^a	24.20	33.33	29.35	719
Basic home management	26.03	29.88	28.26	697
Finding or keeping a job ^a	17.57	34.70	27.34	728
Home repair or maintenance	22.51	23.84	23.28	743

^a*p* <.01
^b*p* <.05

Table A12.5: Services Received for Parents' Physical and Emotional Health by Service Context

Services being received	In-Home n=345 ^a	Out-of-Home n=464	Statewide N=809
	%	%	%
Basic parenting assistance ^b	40.29	58.19	50.56
Medical services	50.72	47.52	48.89
Mental health services ^c	37.97	46.12	42.65
Help with child's challenging behaviors ^c	34.78	41.68	38.74
Substance abuse services ^b	24.06	45.04	36.09
Social or emotional support ^c	31.01	39.44	35.85
Family counseling	28.20	22.89	25.15
Domestic violence services ^b	11.30	22.41	17.68
Anger management services ^b	9.44	19.60	15.26

^aActual *ns* may vary due to missing data
^b*p* <.01
^c*p* <.01

Table A12.6: Parents' Unmet Needs for Physical and Emotional Health Services by Service Context

Needed services among parents not receiving the service	In-Home	Out-of-Home	Statewide	N
	%	%	%	
Family counseling ^b	36.59	49.44	44.17	600
Help with child's challenging behaviors	40.63	39.78	40.16	493
Medical services ^b	25.44	47.74	38.59	412
Social or emotional support ^a	29.83	38.21	34.36	518
Basic parenting assistance ^b	20.87	40.72	30.50	400
Mental health services ^a	23.47	34.14	29.22	462
Anger management services	11.15	12.95	12.13	668
Domestic violence services ^b	8.50	8.89	8.71	666
Substance abuse services ^b	2.67	9.80	6.19	517

^a*p* <.05
^b*p* <.01

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