



Senate Bill 2012

House Appropriations Committee | HR Section
Representative Nelson, Chairman

Children and Family Services, Cory Pedersen, Director

March 8, 2023



Health & Human Services

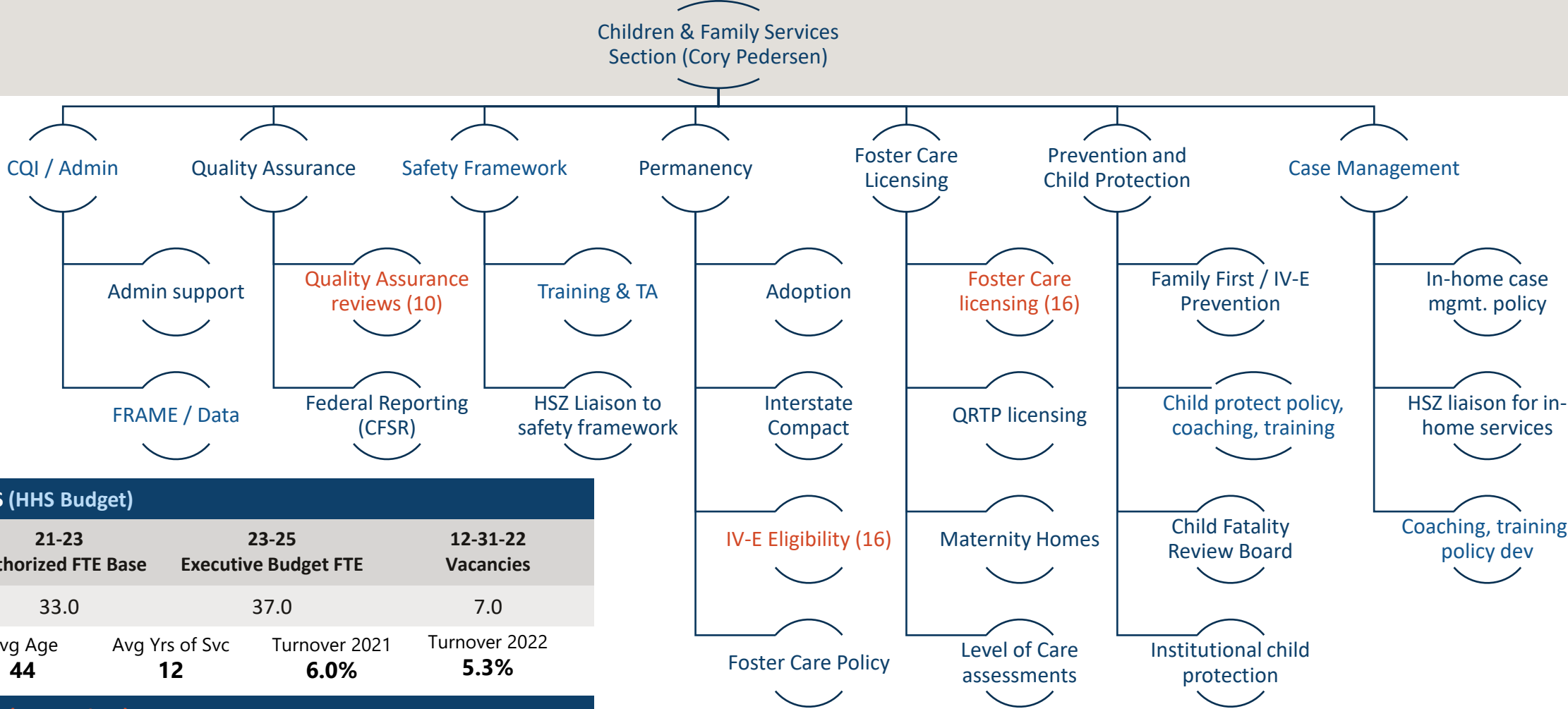
CFS Program Purpose and ND Century Code Reference(s)

Facilitate delivery of services that support child safety, child permanency, and well-being, which together are designed to prevent and reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect and support family reunification and stability whenever possible.

Chapter	Chapter Name
50-25.1	Child Abuse and Neglect
50-11	Foster Care
14-15	Adoption for Children



Children & Family Services: Staffing and Team Structure



CFS (HHS Budget)		
21-23 Authorized FTE Base	23-25 Executive Budget FTE	12-31-22 Vacancies
33.0	37.0	7.0

Avg Age	Avg Yrs of Svc	Turnover 2021	Turnover 2022
44	12	6.0%	5.3%

CFS (HSZ Budget)		
21-23 Authorized FTE Base	23-25 Executive Budget FTE	12-31-22 Vacancies
42.0	42.0	2.0

Children and Family Services

What we do

Safety

- Child protective services
- Child fatality review panel
- State Child protection team
- Parent Resource Centers
- Alliance for Children's Justice

Permanency

- Foster Care
- Adoption
- Guardianships
- Interstate compacts for the placement of children
- Unaccompanied minor services
- Independent living services
- Licensing for Foster homes, QRTPs and LCPAs

Well-being

- Family preservation services
- Intensive In-home therapy
- Nurturing Parent programs
- Healthy Families
- Parent aides
- In-home case management
- Respite care
- Family centered engagement
- Children in Need of Services

Children and Family Services Section

In ND child welfare services are delivered by local, state, tribal and private providers using both federal and state funds

Dept of Human Services

Human Service Centers

- Crisis teams
- Intensive In-home services (therapy & treatment, skills training, behavior mod)
- Targeted case management

Children & Family Services

- Training and coaching of field staff
- Oversee quality service delivery
- Administration of policy
- License foster homes
- IV-E and Adoption Eligibility

Private Human Service Providers

- Safe shelter for crisis
- Human trafficking supports and safe beds
- Unaccompanied minor services
- Foster homes, including therapeutic
- Targeted case management

Tribal Social Services

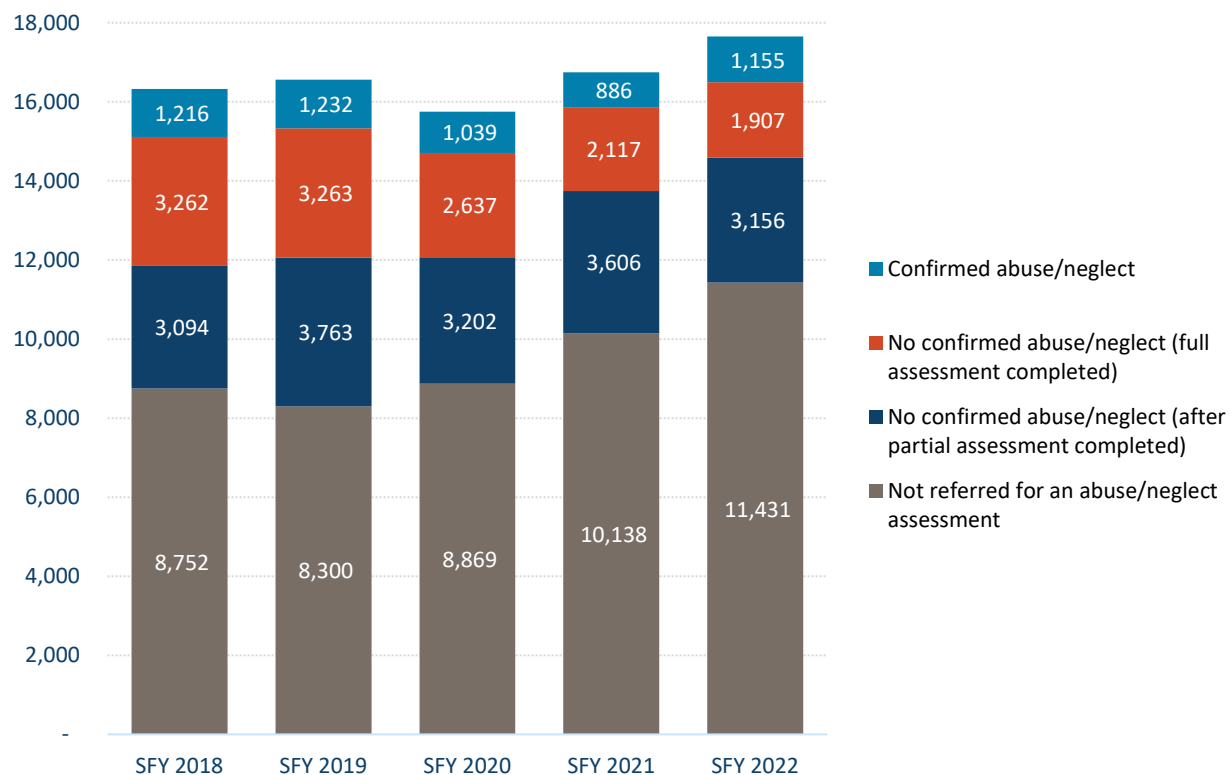
- FRAME entry and foster eligibility determinations
- Joint practice model and ICWA training
- Native American Training Institute supports (training, billing, IEP (IWCA Family Preservation))
- FMAP service contracting
- IV-E agreements boost access to funding

Human Service Zones

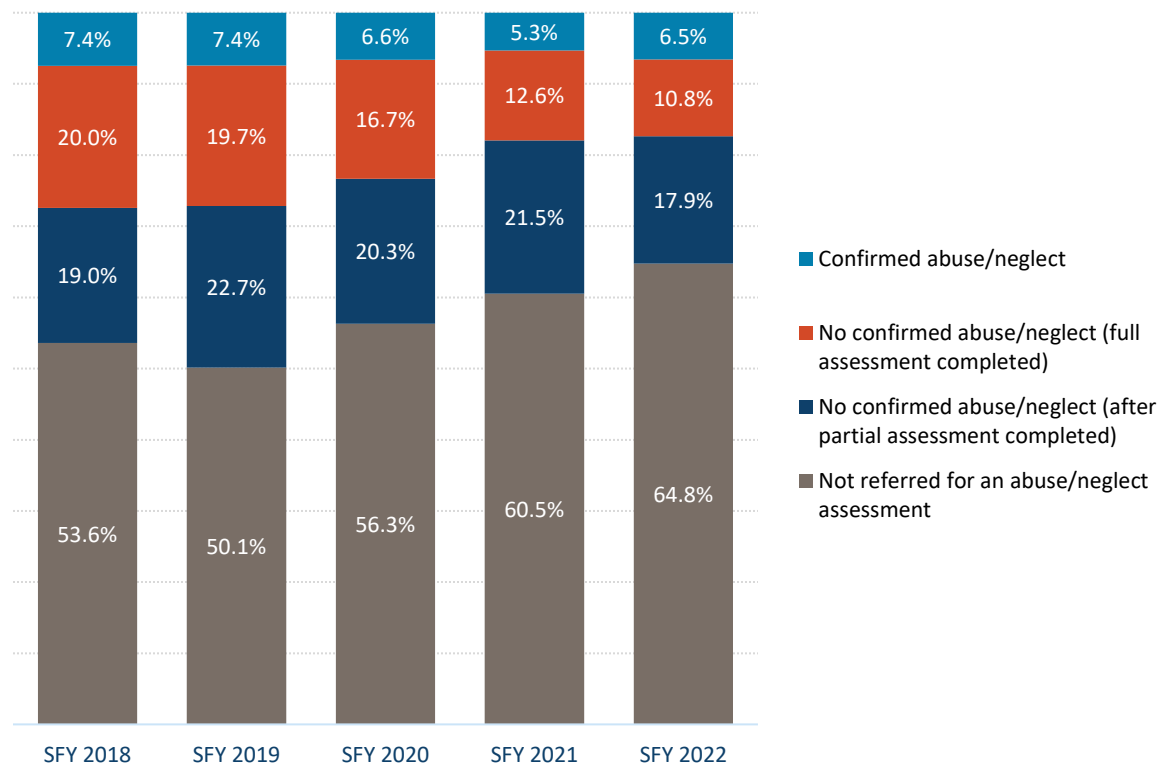
- Assess present and impending danger
- Safety planning
- Case management
- Assess and build parent capacities
- Provide safe supports for children and families
- In home supports
- Parent aides
- License foster homes
- Intake for child abuse and neglect reports
- CHINS (Children in Need of Services)

ND sees approximately 1,000 – 1,200 confirmed cases of child abuse or neglect each year

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Approximately 7% of reports of suspected child abuse/neglect are ultimately confirmed

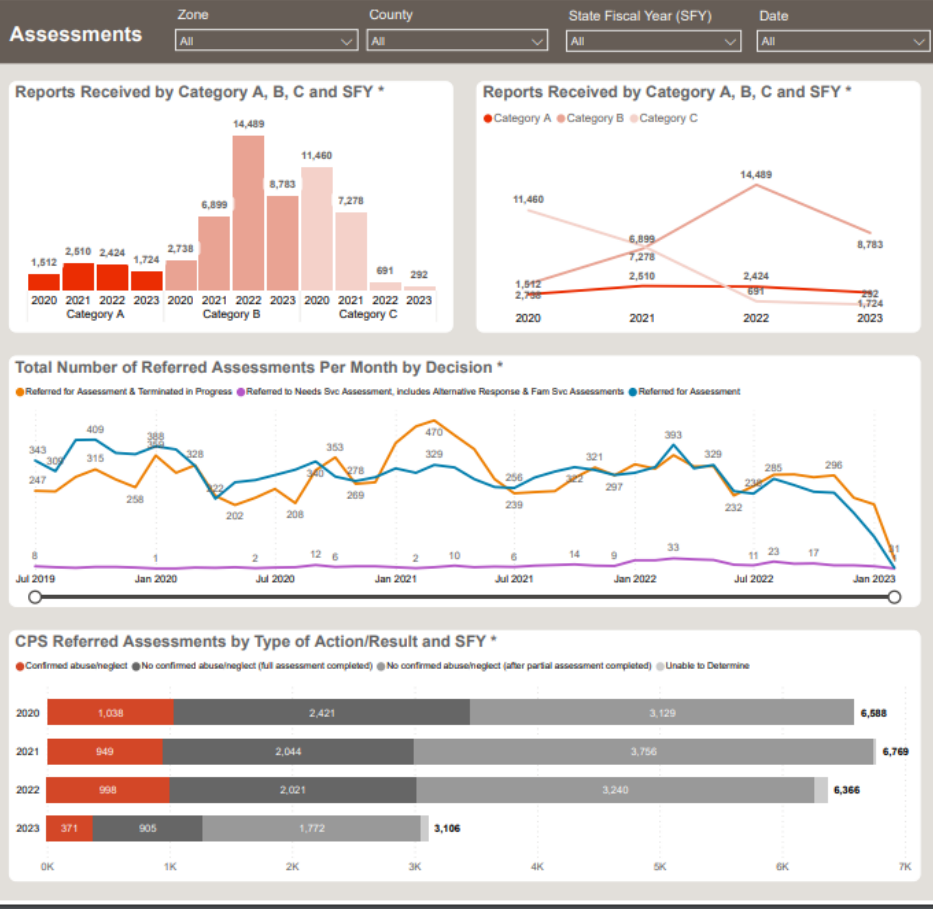


About CFS Audit Findings

- State Audit
 - Child Safety – Failure to timely contact suspected victim of child abuse and neglect
- Federal
 - Child and Family Service Review
 - PIP Program Improvement Plan
 - Safety , Permanency, Well Being
 - Child Protection Timely Response
 - Permanency Goals reached timely for a child
 - Face to Face monthly contact



Sharing data re timeliness and key practice metrics will help HSZ and HHS staff work together to improve services



Newly established internal facing dashboard to provide insight to Human Service Zone and HHS staff related to delivery of child protection and permanency services across the state.

Included in 2023-25 Exec Budget Request & Engrossed SB 2012

Child Safety Response Team and Kinship Caregiving Supports

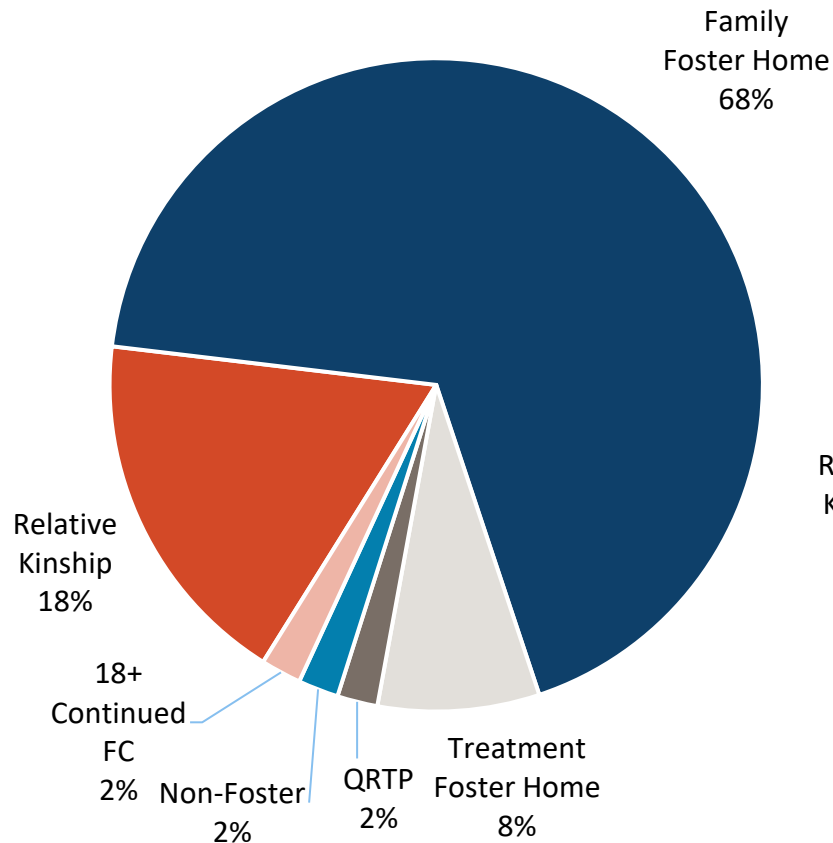
- Child Safety Response Team to support Zones with temporary barriers to achieving timeliness goals for face to face visits and work with families (4 FTE)
- Support for Kin Caregivers via maintenance payments that are comparable to payments available to foster parents (150 families, 6 months max)

Total	General	Federal
\$2 million	\$1.5 million	\$500,000

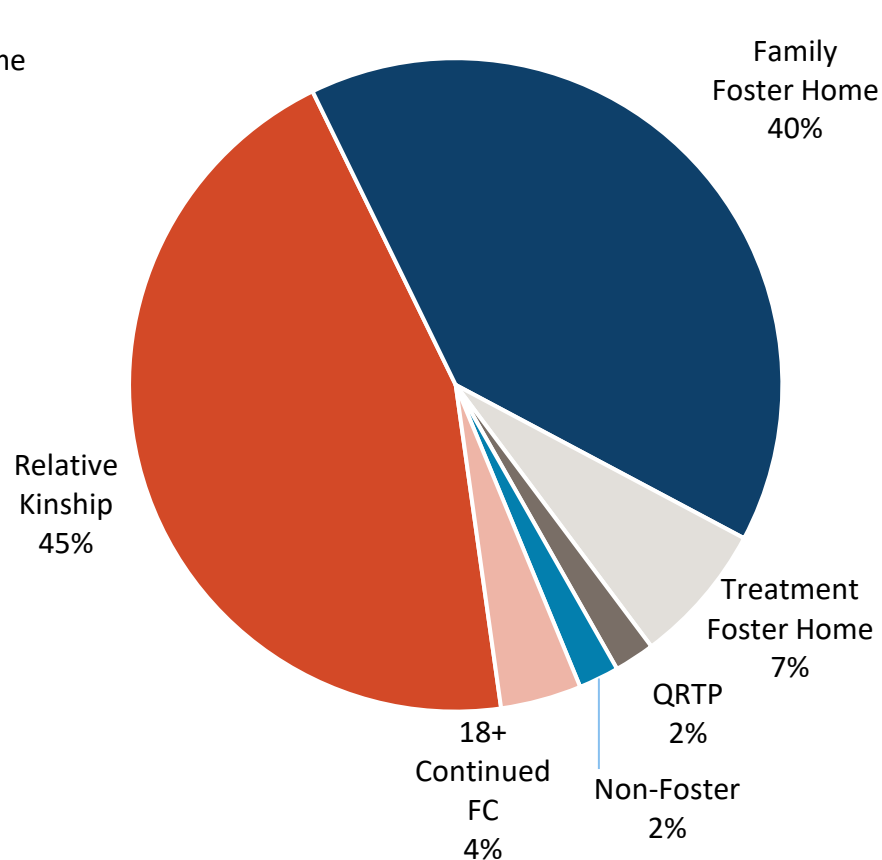


Increasing the prevalence of Relative / Kinship Care in North Dakota should support more positive outcomes for kids

FY22



Towards a Future State



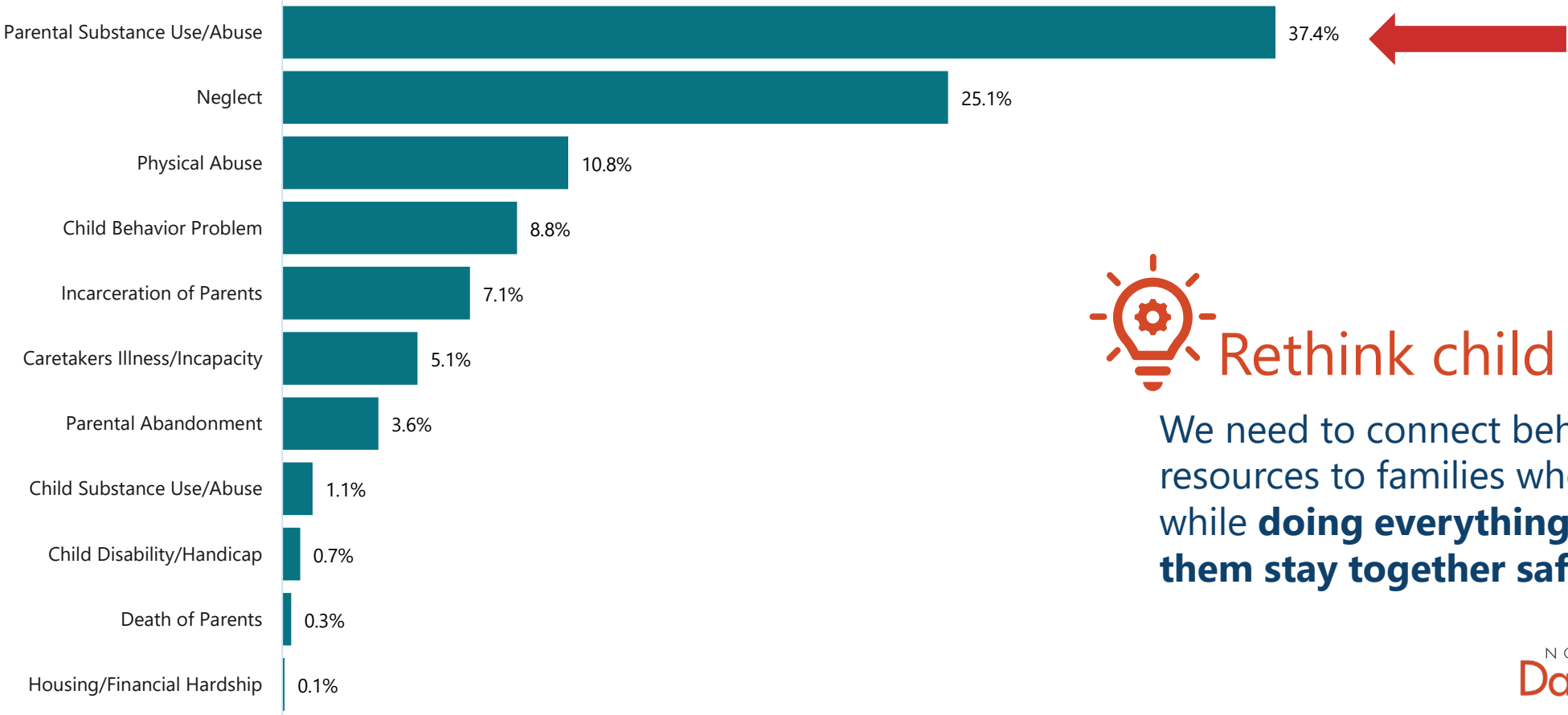
Rethink child welfare

Finding ways for kids to be cared for by relatives or other adults with whom they have existing, significant relationships creates better outcomes

Substance abuse and unaddressed mental health needs are major de-stabilizing forces in families

Removal Reasons

Percent of children entering care for each removal reason: SFY2022

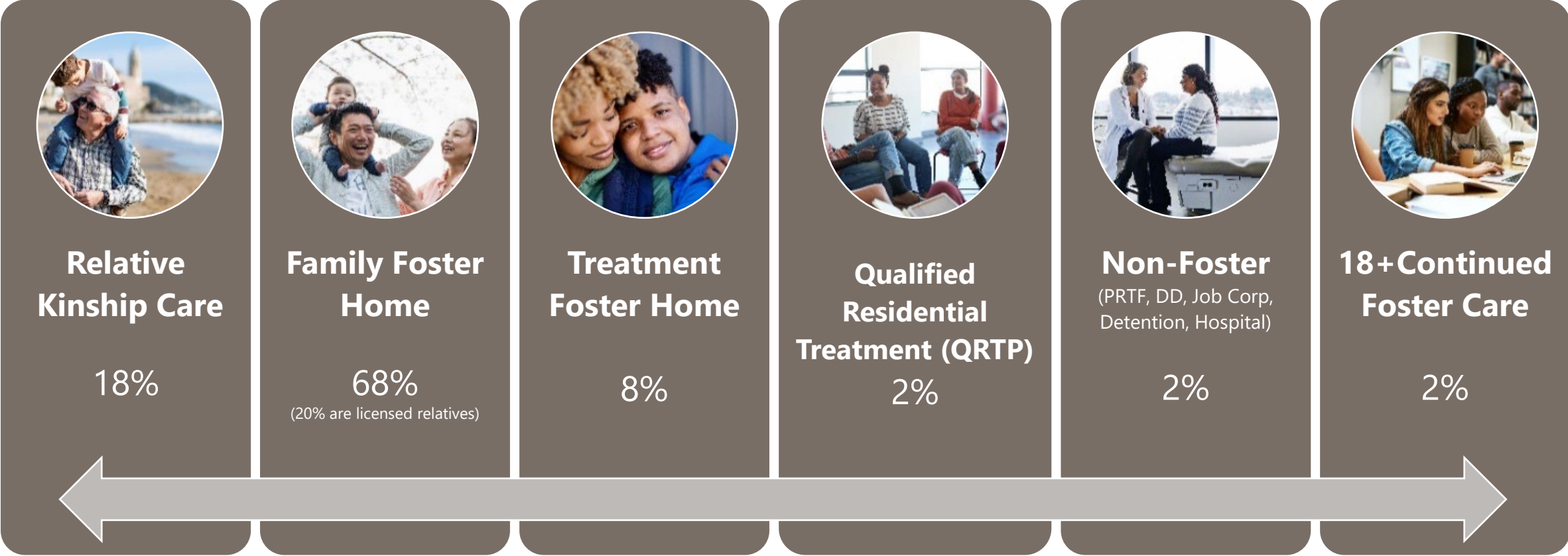


 **Rethink child welfare**

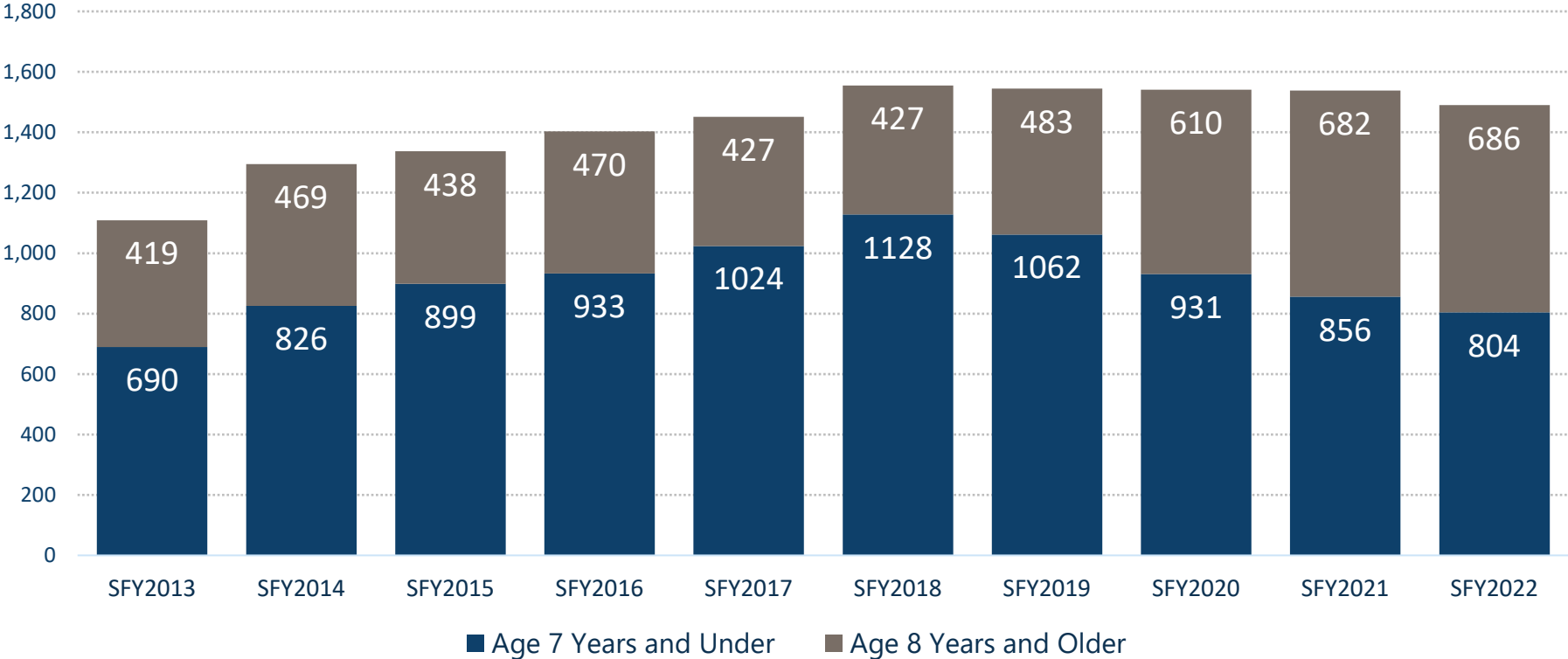
We need to connect behavioral health resources to families who are struggling while **doing everything we can to help them stay together safely.**

Family foster homes provide care for 68% of children affected by an out-of-home placement

North Dakota Child Welfare System Continuum of Care



In FY22 54% of the 1,490 children in foster care are younger than age 7



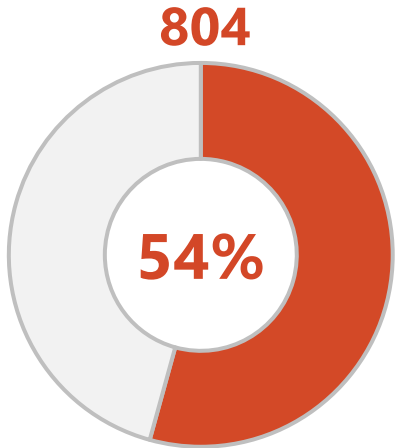
Point-in-Time Average of ND Foster Care census and those age 7 years and under, FFY 2013-2022

Rethink
child
welfare 

Early interventions with young families are key to reducing foster care placement for the youngest children.

Children & Family Services

Foster Care in North Dakota – 2022 Snapshot



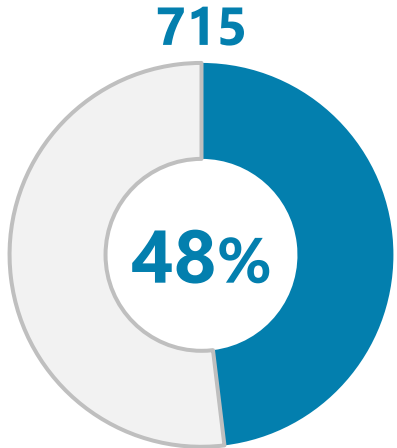
1 in 2 age 0-7

Half of the 1,490 children in foster care in North Dakota are age 7 or younger. (2022)

42%

Intense level of care

Of the **192** kids receiving treatment foster care in SFY2022, 81 (42%) were age 7 or younger.



5x more likely

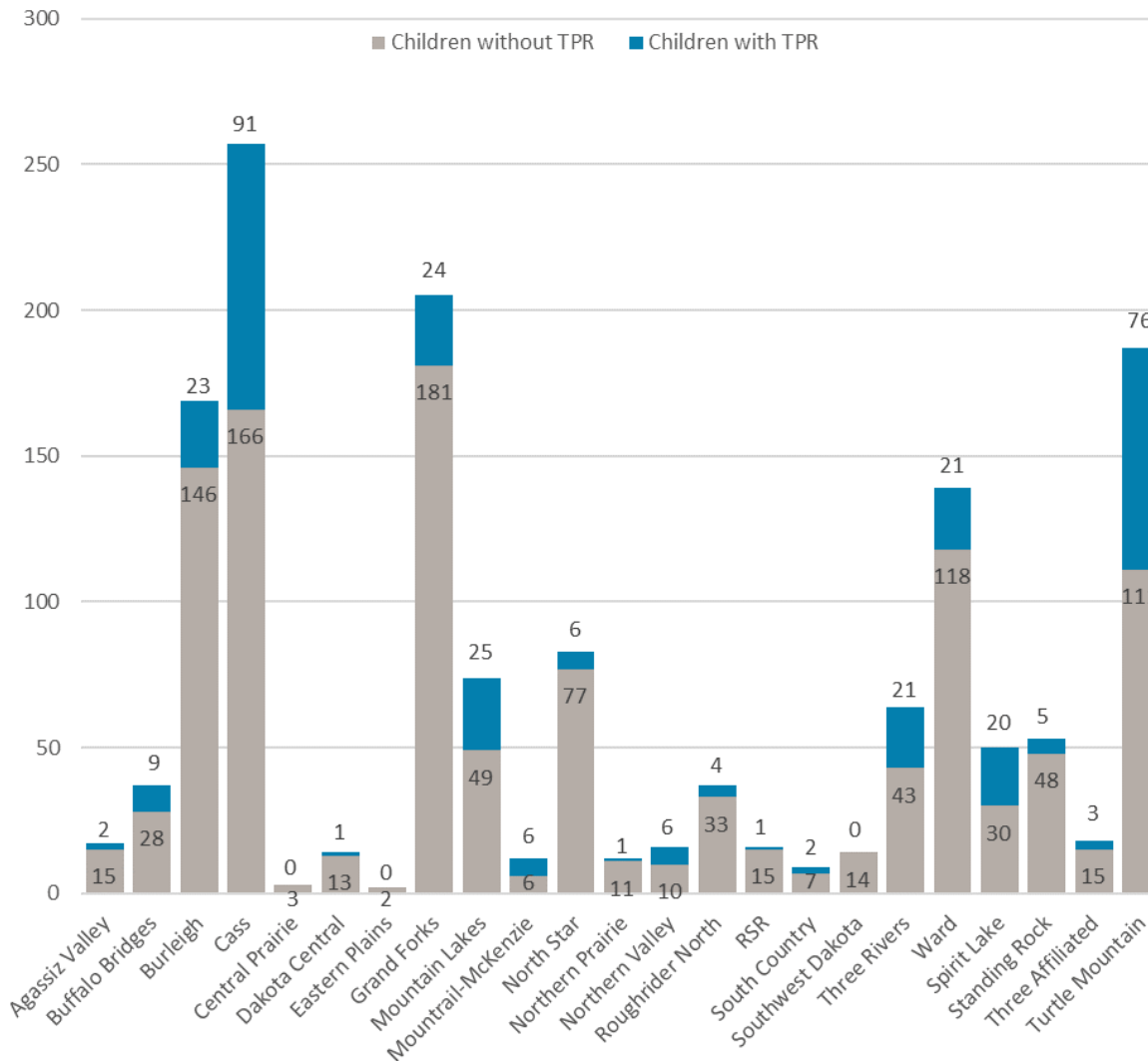
Native American children make up **48%** of the total number of children in foster care in ND (715 of 1,490). Native American children make up **9%** of kids under age 18 in ND.

Children who are orphaned as a result of TPR (termination of parental rights) comprise 23% of all children in ND's foster care system in FY22

23%

Parental Rights Terminated

Of the **1,490** kids in foster care in SFY2022, 347 (23%) have no legal connection to their biological parents due to Termination of Parental Rights (TPR).



Rethink child welfare

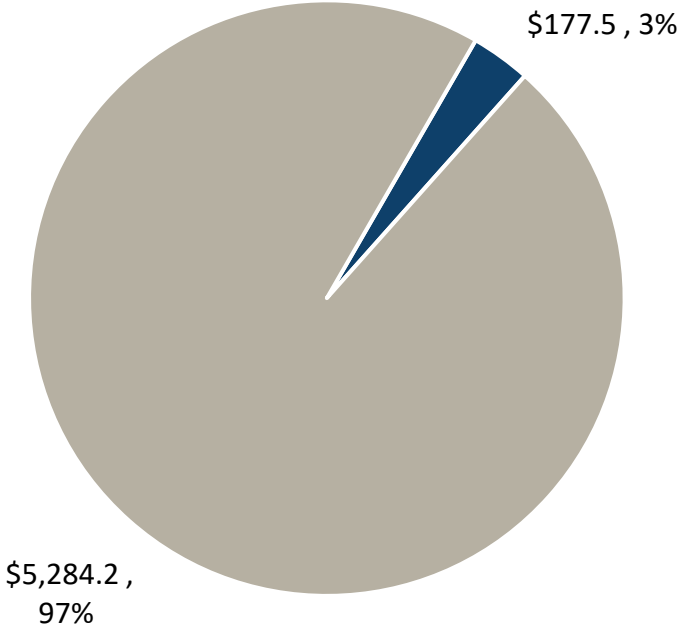
There are both positive and negative consequences associated with terminating parental rights – the balance is different for every child

Section budget compared to Engrossed SB 2012 (in millions)

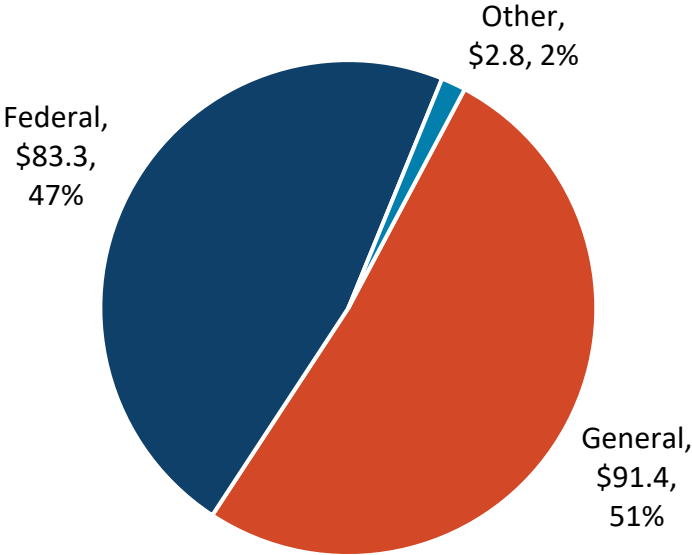
Children & Family Svc represents 3% of SB 2012, \$177.5 million

2023-2025 Engrossed SB 2012

■ CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES ■ OTHER SECTIONS



Children & Family Services Budget by Source



Children and Family Services: Comparison of 2023-2025 budgets and related funding

By major expense

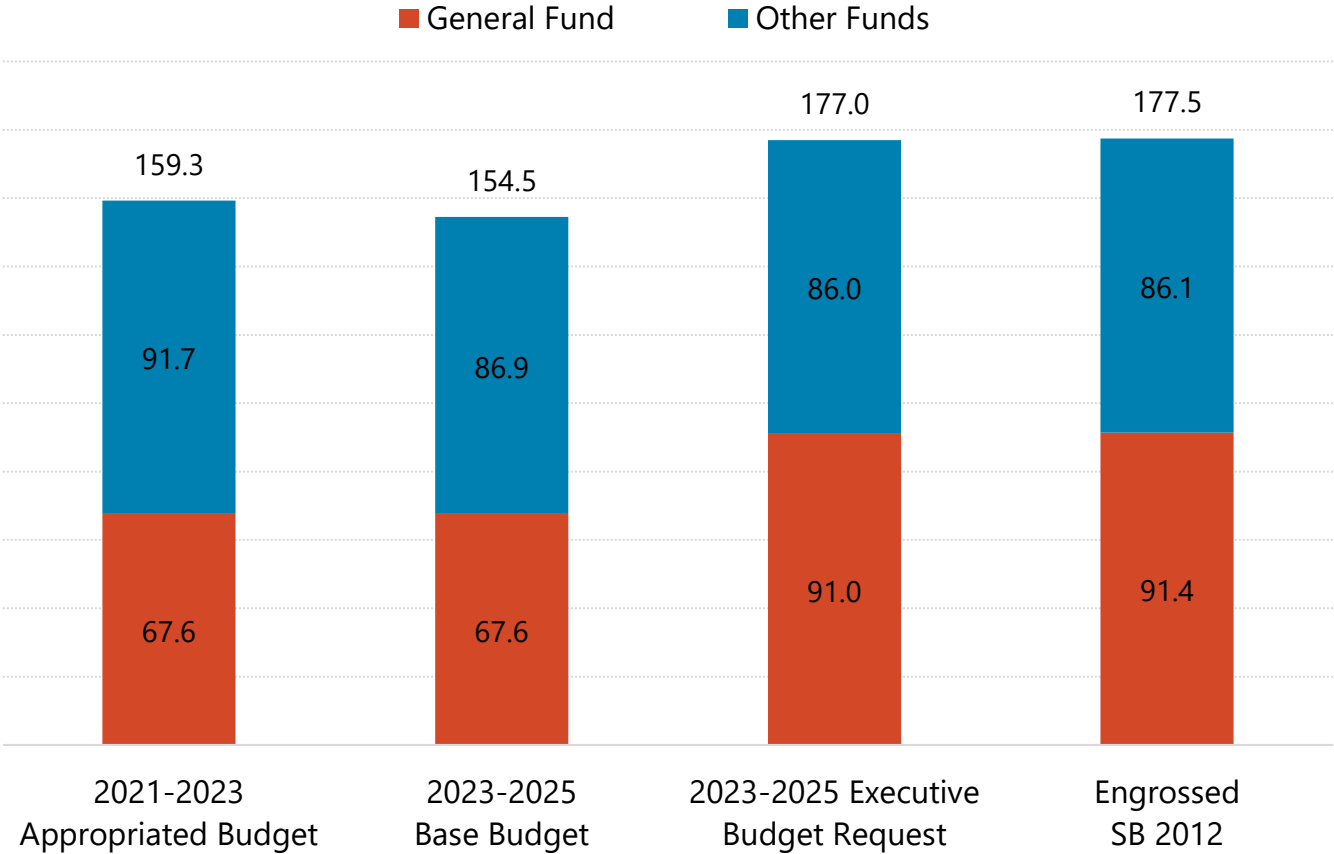
Description	2023 - 2025 Budget Base	Increase / (Decrease)	2023 - 2025 Executive Budget	Increase / (Decrease)	Engrossed SB 2012
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 6,798,097	\$ 2,196,557	\$ 8,994,654	\$ (1,127,324)	\$ 7,867,330
Operating	6,172,806	115,268	6,288,074	-	6,288,074
IT Services	1,814	(1,814)	-	-	-
Capital Asset Expense	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Assets	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	141,499,313	20,179,075	161,678,388	1,656,763	163,335,151
Total	\$ 154,472,030	\$ 22,489,086	\$ 176,961,116	\$ 529,439	\$ 177,490,555

General Fund	\$ 67,590,033	\$ 23,425,640	\$ 91,015,673	\$ 336,084	\$ 91,351,757
Federal Funds	83,010,867	94,231	83,105,098	193,355	83,298,453
Other Funds	3,871,129	(1,030,784)	2,840,345	-	2,840,345
Total Funds	\$ 154,472,029	\$ 22,489,087	\$ 176,961,116	\$ 529,439	\$ 177,490,555

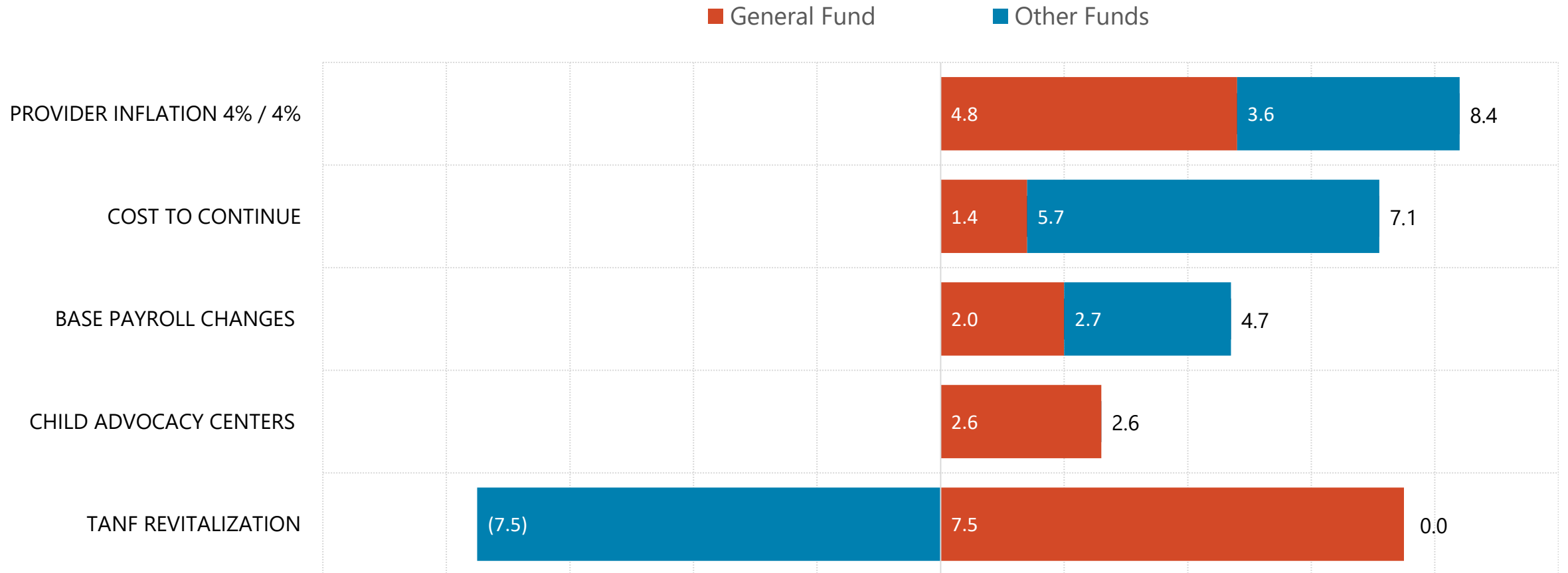
Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	33.00	4.00	37.00	(4.00)	33.00
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Comparison of total budget with funding (in millions)

INCREASE FROM BASE TO ENGROSSED
SB2012 RECOMMENDATION \$ 23.0 MILLION



Children & Family Services: Overview of Budget Changes (in millions)



Children & Family Services: Comparison of 2023-2025 budgets and related funding

By detailed expense

Description	2022 - 2025 Budget Base	Increase / (Decrease)	2023 - 2025 Executive Budget	Increase / (Decrease)	Engrossed SB 2012
511x Salaries - Regular	\$ 4,606,829	\$ 1,249,322	\$ 5,856,151	\$ (816,630)	\$ 5,039,521
512x Salaries - Other	-	-	-	-	\$ -
513x Salaries Temp	170,893	337,912	508,805	-	\$ 508,805
514x Salaries Overtime	18,516	(18,516)	-	-	\$ -
516x Salaries Benefits	2,001,858	627,840	2,629,698	(310,694)	\$ 2,319,004
Total Salaries & Benefits	\$ 6,798,097	\$ 2,196,557	\$ 8,994,654	\$ (1,127,324)	\$ 7,867,330
52x Travel	144,683	73,962	218,645	-	\$ 218,645
53x Supply	26,603	1,288	27,891	-	\$ 27,891
54x Postage & Printing	21,430	912	22,342	-	\$ 22,342
55x Equipment under \$5,000	150	(150)	-	-	\$ -
56x Utilities	-	-	-	-	\$ -
57x Insurance	10,000	14,000	24,000	-	\$ 24,000
58x Rent/Leases - Bldg/Equip	33,366	(750)	32,616	-	\$ 32,616
59x Repairs	800	(800)	-	-	\$ -
61x Professional Development	85,939	(9,089)	76,850	-	\$ 76,850
62x Fees - Operating & Professional	5,849,835	35,895	5,885,730	-	\$ 5,885,730
67x Expenses	-	-	-	-	\$ -
53x Supplies	-	-	-	-	\$ -
60x IT Expenses	1,814	(1,814)	-	-	\$ -
68x Land, Building, Other Capital	-	-	-	-	\$ -
69x Over	-	-	-	-	\$ -
69x Equipment Over \$5,000	-	-	-	-	\$ -
71x Grants, Benefits, & Claims	141,499,313	20,179,075	161,678,388	1,656,763	\$ 163,335,151
72x Transfers	-	-	-	-	\$ -
Total Operating	\$ 147,673,933	\$ 20,292,529	\$ 167,966,462	\$ 1,656,763	\$ 169,623,225
Total	\$ 154,472,029	\$ 22,489,087	\$ 176,961,116	\$ 529,439	\$ 177,490,555

CFS utilizes both Contracts and Fee-based arrangements to support ND's child welfare infrastructure

Prevention/Preservation

Fee for service (rate schedule)

- IV-E Evidence Based Services (various enrolled providers)
- Certified Shelter Care (various enrolled providers)

Contracted service

- Family Centered Engagement (Village Family Services) - \$785,400
- Nurturing Parenting programs (NDSU Regional Parent/Family Resource Ctrs) - \$280,500
- Family Resource Centers (NDSU Regional Parent/Family Resource Ctrs) - \$467,924
- Home Visiting MOE (Uspire ND) - \$612,000



CFS utilizes both Contracts and Fee-based arrangements to support ND's child welfare infrastructure

Child Protection/Safety

Contracted service

- Forensic interview supports (Children Advocacy Centers) - \$3,200,000
(Senate Engrossed SB 2012 increased by an additional \$900,000)
- Tribal Preservation Services grants to tribal nations - \$600,000
- Respite for child welfare families (Nexus PATH) - \$400,000
- Foster parent recruitment and retention (UND) - \$435,540

Permanency

Fee for Service (rate schedule)

- Subsidized Adoption / AASK (Catholic Charities and Village Family Services)
- Incentive based QRTP after-care services (Dakota Boys/Girls Ranch Fargo & Minot, Home on the Range) - \$2,040,000



CFS utilizes both Contracts and Fee-based arrangements to support ND's child welfare infrastructure

Tribal Nation Collaboration

- IV-E Agreements
- FMAP funding contracts (\$1,315,003)

Training

Contracted service

- Child Welfare Certification / stipends (UND Training Center) - \$2,226,991
- Tribal liaison / Culture-specific child welfare training (Native American Training Institute) - \$1,138,344
- Mandated Reporter training / Children's Justice Alliance (Prevent Child Abuse ND) - \$296,018



Children and Family Services Grants on a Walkthrough

Description	2021-2023 Legislatively Approved Budget	Funding Shift One-Time Funding	Cost to Continue	FMAP	Total Changes	To Governor	Provider Inflation (4/3)	TANF Revitalization	Executive Changes	To Chamber 1	Provider Inflation (4/4)	Chamber 1 Adjustment s	To Chamber 2
FOSTER CARE-IV-E	31,751,003		(2,946,291)		(2,946,291)	28,804,713		-	-	28,804,713		-	28,804,713
FOSTER CARE-REGULAR	28,610,391		4,338,181		4,338,181	32,948,572		-	-	32,948,572		-	32,948,572
FOSTER CARE-SERVICES- RCCF	1,661,647		5		5	1,661,652		-	-	1,661,652		-	1,661,652
FOSTER CARE-THERAPEUTIC	4,520,955		(244,472)		(244,472)	4,276,483		-	-	4,276,483		-	4,276,483
SUBSIDIZED GUARDIANSHIP	1,426,015		(38,721)		(38,721)	1,387,293		-	-	1,387,293		-	1,387,293
FOSTER CARE-SERVICES-IMD	346,815		(6)		(6)	346,809		-	-	346,809		-	346,809
SUBSIDIZED ADOPTION-FM	38,875,147		5,649,172		5,649,172	44,524,319		-	-	44,524,319		-	44,524,319
SUBSIDIZED ADOPTION-REG	5,801,446		319,790		319,790	6,121,236		-	-	6,121,236		-	6,121,236
PROVIDER INFLATION	-		-		-	-	7,855,450	-	7,855,450	7,855,450	581,762	581,762	8,437,212
Total	112,993,419	-	7,077,658	-	7,077,658	120,071,077	7,855,450	-	7,855,450	127,926,527	581,762	581,762	128,508,289
General Fund	42,895,466		4,756,382	(18,029)	4,738,352	47,633,819	4,430,167	7,496,368	11,926,535	59,560,354	343,159	343,159	59,903,513

Children & Family Services

Comparison of 2023-2025 funding by source

Description	2022 - 2025 Budget Base	Increase / (Decrease)	2023 - 2025 Executive Budget	Increase / (Decrease)	Engrossed SB 2012
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Federal Funds	83,010,867	94,231	83,105,098	193,355	83,298,453
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Total Funds	\$ 154,472,029	\$ 22,489,087	\$ 176,961,116	\$ 529,439	\$ 177,490,555

SB 2012 Section 24

EXEMPTION – CFS Transition Program

SENATE BILL NO. 2012
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES' BUDGET
CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES SECTION

SECTION 24 (Governor's Recommendation). EXEMPTION. The amount appropriated for the purpose of children and family services transition program in chapter 549 of the 2021 Special Session Laws is not subject to the provisions of section 54-44.1-11. Any unexpected funds from this appropriation are available for the children and family services transition program during the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.



Children & Family Services: COVID funding (HHS/ACF)

HB 1394 (67th Legislative Assembly)

- Promoting Safe & Stable Families Program (\$90,342)
- Chafee Foster Care / Successful Transition to Adulthood (\$1,146,203)
- Chafee Education and Training vouchers (\$160,756)
- Child Welfare Services State Grant (\$76,858)

HB 1395 (67th Legislative Assembly)

- Child Abuse State Grants (\$284,363)
- Community based child abuse prevention (\$592,780)

Enhanced FMAP – IV-E Foster Care / Adoption

- \$6,089,517



CFS-Related Policy Bills with Budget Impact

- HB 1091 – Kinship
 - Fiscal note referenced \$960,000 *(equivalent was included in EBR)*
- HB1375 & SB 2230 Adoption Funding - \$512,000

Total	General	Federal
\$512,000	\$512,000	\$0



Continued progress includes an enhanced focus on prevention and right services at the right time



Evidence-based Prevention Services

Provide opportunity for families to access services to keep families together



Certified Shelter Care/Foster Homes

Use safe housing for children as a prevention strategy to keep children close to home and in home communities



Enhanced Case Management Team

Build a team to work with Human Service Zones to provide service to children with the most complex needs



Child Protection Team

Build a deployment team to support child protection work in Zones with highest needs



Safely keep children with family

Continue to redesign how child protective and wellbeing services are delivered to improve lives of families and children in North Dakota

CFS: What's on the horizon?

- Safe Children and Healthy Families
- Improve timely response
- Engagement of stakeholders to improve practice
- Safely Reduce Foster Care
 - IV-E Prevention services
 - Kinship program





Contact information

Cory Pedersen

Director, Children & Family Services

ctpedersen@nd.gov

www.hhs.nd.gov