



NEW MEXICO
LEGISLATIVE
FINANCE
COMMITTEE

Senate Memorial 5 Meeting Prevention and Intervention

Legislative Finance Committee
June 21, 2024



Agenda

- Key Child Welfare Data: Foster Care Demographics
- National Perspective: Evidence-Based Prevention
- Differential Response Implementation
- Task Force Discussion



Upcoming Meetings

Meeting	Focus Topic
May 24	Welcome and overview of systems
★ June 21	Prevention and early Intervention
July 25	Workforce
August 16	Access to services: resource families and children's behavioral health
September 27	Juvenile Justice
October 18	Compliance and oversight Develop preliminary recommendations
November 15	Final task force recommendations



Public Comment

[To sign up for public comment please click this link or scan the QR code below on your handheld device](#)



Foster Care: Key Data



Foster Care Demographics

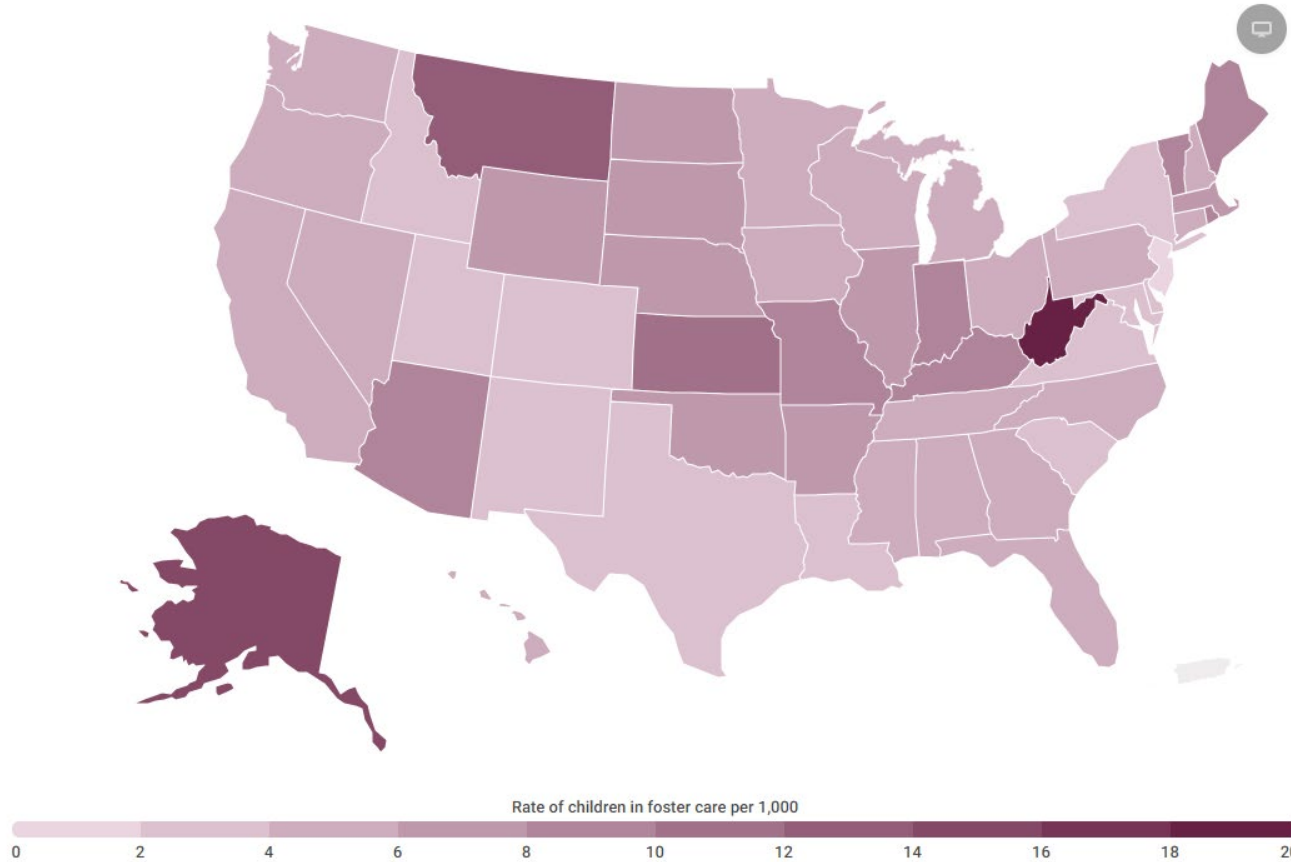
Race and Ethnicity of Foster Care v. New Mexico Child Population

	Children in Foster Care FFY22 (N=1,800)	Children Entering Foster Care FFY22 (N=945)	Child Victims FFY22 (N=5,817)	NM Child Population FFY22 (N=459,513)
American Indian/ Alaska Native	6%	8%	9%	10%
Asian	0%	0%	0%	1%
Black or African American	4%	3%	2%	2%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0%	0%	0%	0%
Hispanic (of any race)	64%	61%	57%	62%
White	21%	20%	17%	23%
Unknown	2%	4%	12%	0%
Two or More Races	3%	3%	2%	3%

Sources: 2022 NM AFCARS Report and 2022 ACF Child Maltreatment Report



National Rates of Foster Care

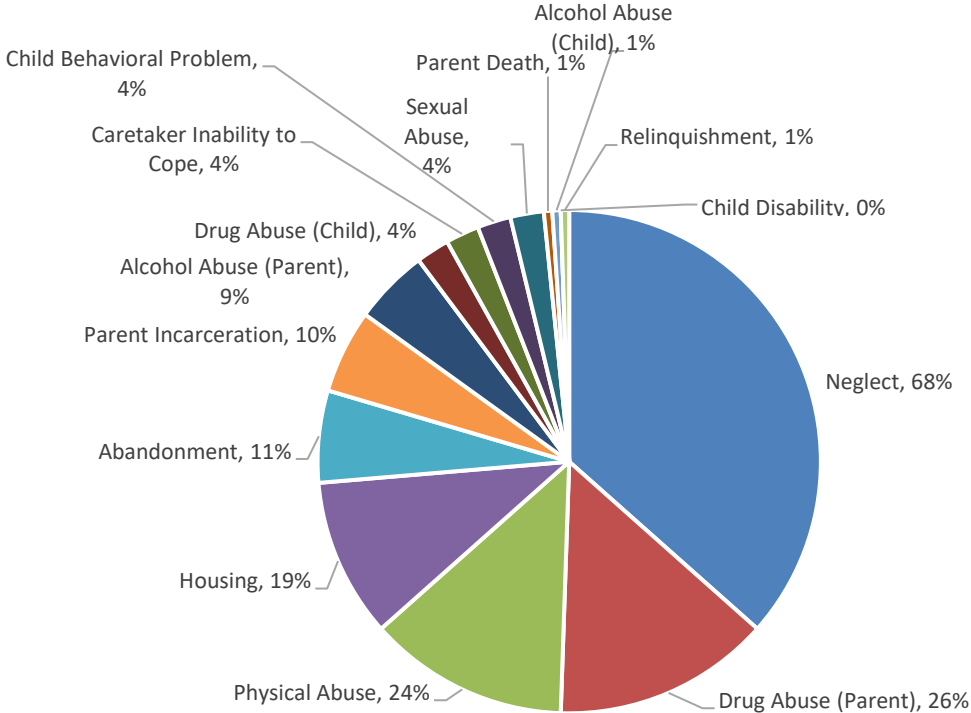


Note: Uses 2022 data
Source: Casey Family Programs



Circumstances Associated with Removal

Cirumstances Associated with Child's Removal FFY22
N=927



Source: FFY22 NM AFCARS Report



Child Maltreatment Prevention Framework

Example Programs

Primary
Serves the General Population
State Agency: ECECD, PED, DOH, HCA

Income support,
Childcare, Family
Connects Home visiting

Secondary
Serves Families with More Risk Factors
State Agency: ECECD, CYFD, PED, HCA

Nurse Family
Partnership, McKinney-
Vento, CARA

Tertiary
Serves Families Where Maltreatment
Already Occurred
State Agency: CYFD

In-home services, infant
mental health teams,
differential response



Title IV-E : Families First Prevention Services Act

FFSA of 2018 (Families First) allows states and tribes with approved prevention plans to claim federal reimbursement for certain prevention services for eligible populations.

Eligible Populations:

1. A child who is “**a candidate for foster care**” but can remain safely at home with receipt of evidence-based services or programs (identified in FFSA clearinghouse)
2. A child in foster care who is **pregnant or parenting**

To date, 46 states and tribal governments have submitted plans.

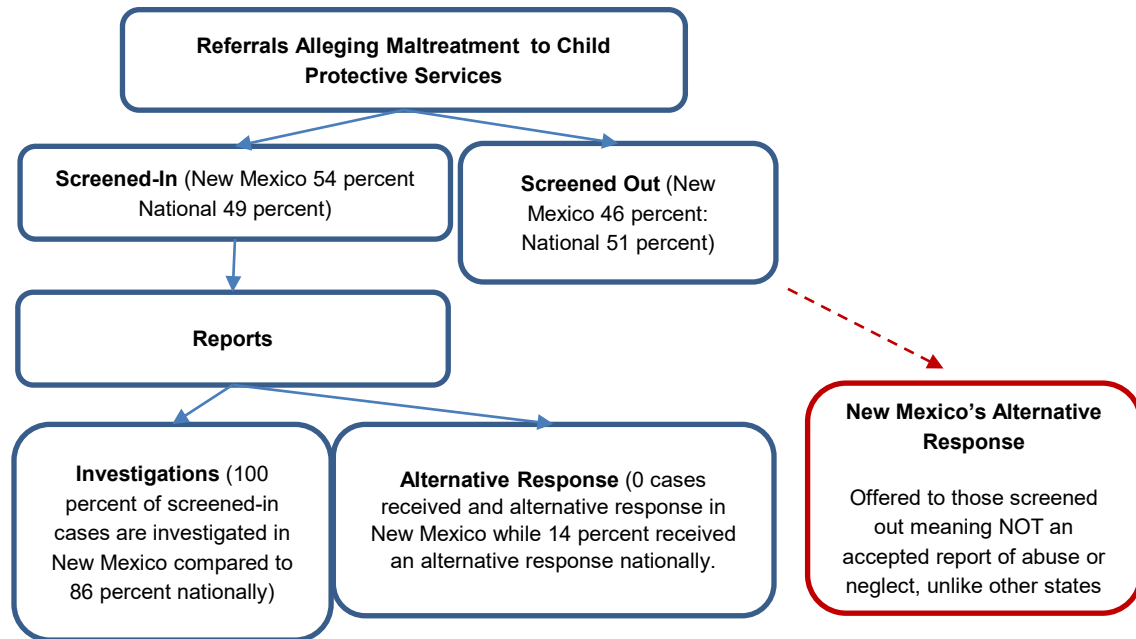
New Mexico is one of 5 submitted plans not yet approved.



Alternative Response/Differential Response

- A response to referrals to Child Protective Services that is an alternative to a traditional investigation.
- If child safety is not an imminent concern, the Alternative Response conducts a family assessment.
- New Mexico enacted a multi-level response system in statute in 2019 but has not yet implemented the statute

Use of Alternative Response as Intended Can Reduce Protective Services Worker Caseloads and Improve Outcomes



Clare Anderson, Chapin Hall



Amy Hahn and
Lisa Merkel-Holguin
Kempe Center, University of
Colorado



Task Force Discussion

1. What are the key needs and gaps in New Mexico's system?
2. What potential recommendations related to prevention and early intervention might the task force make?

<https://bit.ly/4cyQGvT>



Wrap-Up and Close



Public Comment

[To sign up for public comment please click this link or scan the QR code below on your handheld device](#)



Thank you

Legislative Finance Committee
325 Don Gaspar Ave STE 101, Santa Fe, NM 87501
(505) 986-4550

More LFC Budget and Policy Documents can be found at:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Entity/LFC/Default>

