

Children's Protective Services: Comprehensive Report

(FY2019 Appropriation Act - Public Act 207 of 2018)

March 1, 2019

Sec. 514. The department shall make a comprehensive report concerning children's protective services (CPS) to the legislature, including the senate and house policy offices and the state budget director, by March 1 of the current fiscal year, that shall include all of the following:

(a) Statistical information including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(i) The total number of reports of child abuse or child neglect investigated under the child protection law, 1975 PA 238, MCL 722.621 to 722.638, and the number of cases classified under category I or category II and the number of cases classified under category III, category IV, or category V.151

(ii) Characteristics of perpetrators of child abuse or child neglect and the child victims, such as age, relationship, race, and ethnicity and whether the perpetrator exposed the child victim to drug activity, including the manufacture of illicit drugs, that exposed the child victim to substance abuse, a drug house, or methamphetamine.

(iii) The mandatory reporter category in which the individual who made the report fits, or other categorization if the individual is not within a group required to report under the child protection law, 1975 PA 238, MCL 722.621 to 722.638.

(iv) The number of cases that resulted in the separation of the child from the parent or guardian and the period of time of that separation, up to and including termination of parental rights.

(v) For the reported complaints of child abuse or child neglect by teachers, school administrators, and school counselors, the number of cases classified under category I or category II and the number of cases classified under category III, category IV, or category V.

(vi) For the reported complaints of child abuse or child neglect by teachers, school administrators, and school counselors, the number of cases that resulted in separation of the child from the parent or guardian and the period of time of that separation, up to and including termination of parental rights.

(b) New policies related to children's protective services including, but not limited to, major policy changes and court decisions affecting the children's protective services system during the immediately preceding 12-month period.

(c) Statistical information regarding families that were classified in category III, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(i) The total number of cases classified in category III.

(ii) The number of cases in category III referred to voluntary community services and closed with no additional monitoring.

(iii) The number of cases in category III referred to voluntary community services and monitored for up to 90 days.

(iv) The number of cases in category III for which the department entered more than 1 determination that there was evidence of child abuse or child neglect.

(v) The number of cases in category III that the department reclassified from category III to category II.

(vi) The number of cases in category III that the department reclassified from category III to category I.

(vii) The number of cases in category III that the department reclassified from category III to category I that resulted in a removal.

(d) The department policy, or changes to the department policy, regarding children who have been exposed to the production or manufacture of methamphetamines.



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Sec. 514 (a) (i): Total reports investigated/dispositioned by CPS under the Child Protection Law, 1975 PA 238, MCL 722.621 to 722.638 and the number of cases classified under category I, category II, category III, category IV, and category V.

There were 96,084 total reports of abuse or neglect assigned for investigation in Fiscal Year (FY) 2018. There were 4,039 cases which were assigned and linked (cases which were added and “linked” in MiSACWIS to active investigations) in FY 2018. There were 95,465 total cases disposed in FY 2018.

Disposed Cases and Classifications	
Category I (preponderance finding with court involvement)	4,432
Category II (preponderance finding with future risk of abuse/neglect which is high or intensive)	6,819
Category III (preponderance finding with future risk of abuse/neglect which is low or moderate)	14,403
Category IV (no preponderance finding)	68,741
Category V (no evidence of abuse/neglect)	1,070
Other	0
Total	95,465

** Disparity in case disposition totals and investigation totals are the result of case report carry-overs from the previous fiscal year.*

Sec. 514 (a) (ii): Characteristics of perpetrators of abuse or neglect and the child victims.

FY 2018 Victims of Abuse/Neglect by Race and Gender (age 3 and under)							
	White	Black	American Indian	Asian	Native Hawaiian	Unable to determine/ Declined	Grand Total
Female	3,801	2,776	102	27	10	202	6,918
Male	4,185	3,044	109	31	14	203	7,586
Unable to Determine	6	4	0	0	0	1	11
Grand Total	7,992	5,824	211	58	24	406	14,515

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FY 2018 Victims of Abuse/Neglect by Race and Gender (age 4 and above)							
	White	Black	American Indian	Asian	Native Hawaiian	Unable to determine	Grand Total
Female	7,813	3,613	195	70	22	33	11,746
Male	7,383	3,755	207	67	21	37	11,470
Unable to Determine	3	3	0	0	0	1	7
Grand Total	15,199	7,371	402	137	43	71	23,223

Victim Relationship to Perpetrator	Total
Adoptive Sibling	26
Adoptive Child	424
Biological Sibling	467
Biological Child	42,959
Child (guardianship)	203
Cousin	81
Foster Child	83
Foster Sibling	4
Grandchild	842
Half Sibling	64
Niece/Nephew	439
Not Related	6,149
Other Relative	204
Putative Child	54
Step Grandchild	48
Step Child	1,602
Step Sibling	16
Unknown	377
Total	54,042

Perpetrator Relationship to Victim	Total
Adoptive Parent	443
Adoptive Sibling	24
Aunt/Uncle	459
Biological Parent	42,532
Biological Sibling	392
Cousin	89
Foster Parent	72
Foster Sibling	3
Grandparent	911
Guardian	164
Half Sibling	70
Legal Guardian	22
Not Related	6,352
Other Relative	476
Putative Parent	109
Step Parent	1,606
Step Sibling	24
Unknown	274
Total	54,022

* A single perpetrator can have multiple relationships if the individual is a perpetrator to multiple victims.

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Perpetrator by Age	Total
10-20	1,515
21-30	12,732
31-40	10,829
41-50	3,999
51-60	1,244
61-70	325
71-80	75
81-90	10
91+	8
Other	40
Total	30,777

Perpetrator by Race	Total
White	20,130
African American	9,615
American Indian	555
Asian	180
Native Hawaiian	41
Unable to Determine	256
Total	30,777

Children Victims Exposed to Drug Activity

An enhancement is needed in MiSACWIS (Michigan's State Automated Child Welfare Information System) as this is not currently captured within the system. A request to make a design change to MiSACWIS has been made and will be prioritized.

Sec. 514 (a) (iii): The mandatory reporter category in which the individual who made the report fits, or other categorization if the individual is not within a group required to report under the child protection law, 1975 PA 238, MCL 722.621 to 722.638.

70.1% of all assigned investigations during FY 2018 were reported by mandated reporters. The remaining 29.9% were reported by non-mandated reporters.

69.9% of total complaints made during FY 2018 were reported by mandated reporters. The remaining 30.1% were reported by non-mandated reporters.

**Disparity between the total number of disposed cases for FY 2018 and the total number of reporters is due to multiple factors, including: a referral made during the FY may not have been disposed of during the FY, along with multiple reporters can call in the same complaint, which would be assigned as one investigation with multiple complaint sources.*

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Mandated Reporter Category (Cases Assigned for Investigation)	
Audiologist	3
Case Management Staff	0
Childcare Provider	625
Clergy	139
Coroner/Medical Examiner	5
Court Personnel	1,085
Counselor/Therapist	0
Dentist/Registered Dental Hygienist	108
DMH Facility Personnel	141
DMH Facility Social Worker	316
Domestic Violence Provider	77
FIS/ES Worker/Supervisor	718
Friend of the Court	171
Hosp/Clinic Personnel	601
Hosp/Clinic Physician/Physician's Assistant	1,399
Hosp/Clinic Social Worker	9,997
Law Enforcement Personnel	15,796
Licensed Therapist	3,465
Marriage/Family Therapist	454
MDHHS Facility Personnel	160
MDHHS Facility Social Worker	119
Nurse (Not School)	3,017
Other	0
Other Public Social Agency Personnel	1,134
Other Public Social Worker	1,433
Other School Personnel	2,766
Other Social Worker	1,473
Paramedic/EMT	146
Private Agency Social Worker	1,426
Private Physician/Physician Assistant	162
Private Social Agency Personnel	665
Psychologist	485
School Administrator	2,683
School Counselor	5,765
School Nurse	302
Social Services Specialist/Manager (CPS, CFC, etc.)	3,887
Teacher	6,643
Total	67,366

Non-Mandated Reporter Category (Cases Assigned for Investigation)	
Anonymous	4,621
Birth Match	412
Friend/Neighbor	6,081
Other	2,051
Parent/Sub In Home	2,199
Parent/Sub Out of Home	6,150
Relative	6,742
Sibling	215
Victim	230
Total	28,701

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Mandated Reporter Category (All Cases)	
Audiologist	4
Case Management Staff	1
Childcare Provider	1,314
Clergy	334
Coroner/Medical Examiner	13
Court Personnel	1,938
Counselor/Therapist	0
Dentist/Registered Dental Hygienist	151
DMH Facility Personnel	318
DMH Facility Social Worker	675
Domestic Violence Provider	137
FIS/ES Worker/Supervisor	1,388
Friend of the Court	384
Hosp/Clinic Personnel	1,128
Hosp/Clinic Physician/Physician's Assistant	2,622
Hosp/Clinic Social Worker	16,636
Law Enforcement Personnel	23,629
Licensed Therapist	7,722
Marriage/Family Therapist	1,015
MDHHS Facility Personnel	304
MDHHS Facility Social Worker	214
Nurse (Not School)	5,878
Other	95
Other Public Social Agency Personnel	2,436
Other Public Social Worker	3,067
Other School Personnel	4,898
Other Social Worker	3,164
Paramedic/EMT	235
Private Agency Social Worker	3,438
Private Physician/Physician Assistant	311
Private Social Agency Personnel	1,591
Psychologist	1,041
School Administrator	5,425
School Counselor	9,777
School Nurse	447
Social Services Specialist/Manager (CPS, CFC, etc.)	6,032
Teacher	11,955
Total	119,717

Non-Mandated Reporter Category (All Cases)	
Anonymous	8,003
Birth Match	1,061
Friend/Neighbor	9,893
Other	3,860
Parent/Sub In Home	4,664
Parent/Sub Out of Home	11,791
Relative	11,705
Sibling	325
Victim	369
Total	51,671

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Sec. 514 (a) (iv): Cases involving child separation from parent or legal guardian.

In FY 2018, 6,969 children were separated from a parent or legal guardian. The period of time of the separation of a child from the parent or guardian is not captured through the CPS program; however, the status of these separated children at the close of FY 2018 can be determined. Of the 6,969 children who were separated, 969 had their case closed after either returning home or to another planned living arrangement, 6,000 children had an active foster care case at the end of the fiscal year and 359 cases resulted in termination of parental rights of both parents.

Sec. 514 (a) (v): Disposition categories for complaints made by teachers, school administrators, and counselors.

For the reported assigned complaints of abuse or neglect by teachers, school administrators, and school counselors, 15,188 investigations occurred. Of the 15,188 cases, 259 were classified as category I cases, 773 were classified as category II cases, 1,282 were classified as category III cases, 12,738 were classified as category IV cases, and 135 were classified as category V cases. There was one case with an unknown status.

Sec. 514 (a) (vi): Cases involving child separation from parent or legal guardian specific to cases reported by teachers, school administrators, and counselors.

For the reported assigned complaints of abuse or neglect by teachers, school administrators and school counselors, 466 cases resulted in separation of the child from the parent or guardian and 25 cases resulted in termination of parental rights. The period of time of the separation of a child from the parent or guardian is not captured through the CPS program; however, the status of these separated children at the close of FY 2018 can be determined. Seventy-two (72) cases were closed during FY 2018 and 394 remained open at the end of the fiscal year.

Sec. 514 (b): New policies related to children's protective services including, but not limited to, major policy changes and court decisions affecting the children's protective services system during the immediately preceding 12-month period are listed below:

Coordination with Prosecuting Attorney and Law Enforcement: PSM 712-3

Part of this policy was made obsolete as LEIN information is now covered under SRM 700, titled Law Enforcement Information Network.

Intake – Minimal Priority Response Criteria: PSM 712-4

Policy was updated to clarify the definition of commencement.

CPS Intake – Special Cases: PSM 712-6

Policy was updated to provide clarification to the assignment of CPS-MIC cases and also to CPS-MIC investigations.

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CPS Investigation – General Instructions and Checklist: PSM 713-1

Policy was amended to include instructions on contacting non-custodial parents. Guidance regarding not maintaining recordings of interviews at Child Assessment Centers was also added.

Medical Examination and Assessment: PSM 713-4

Policy was updated to include for whom a medical examination must be requested for. This change also removed siblings of the alleged victim in certain situations. Policy was updated to provide additional information regarding medically fragile children. In addition, guidance and direction was added regarding engaging with parents to obtain a medical examination.

Completion of Field Investigation: PSM 713-9

Policy was updated to include additional types of allowances for investigation extension requests. Policy was also clarified regarding face to face contacts regarding overdue cases, as well as submission of investigation.

Child Abuse and Neglect Central Registry: PSM 713-13

To reflect legal clarification, licensed foster parents, owners, operators, volunteers, or employees of licensed or registered child care organizations must be listed on Central Registry in any case in which there is a preponderance of evidence of child abuse and/or neglect, when the victim is not their own child.

Family Court: Petitions, Hearings, and Court Orders: PSM 715-3

Policy was updated to indicate CPS supervisors must review and approve petitions filed for removal of children. Policy was updated to address new legislation clarified by In RE Gach. Clarifying directions were added regarding parents securing a Power of Attorney. Policy was added to guide field staff regarding mediation proceedings.

CPS Coordination with Foster Care: PSM 715-4

Timeframes regarding case responsibility were updated. Previously, cases would be maintained by foster care if the children were returned home within the first twenty-one days. This was changed to seven days.

Complaints Involving Substances: PSM 716-7

Clear direction for worker safety was added to reinforce the importance of workers obtaining law enforcement assistance on cases involving potentially dangerous substances. Direction on assignments were added regarding infants born and testing positive for substances. Direction regarding when verification of medication is needed and how to complete this task was added.

Policy was updated to indicate children testing positive for substance upon birth was no longer child abuse or neglect, in and of itself. Workers must demonstrate parental incapacity or other negative impacts to the child.

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Sec. 514 (c): The information required under section 8d(5) of the Child Protection Law, 1975 PA 238, MCL 722.628d, pertains to information regarding families that were classified in category III.

Category III cases are typically identified as having two distinct sub-classifications which require referring to voluntary community service and close, or referring to voluntary community service and reassessing risk within for 90 days. In FY 2018 there were no cases that had an unknown/other option selected. In FY 2018, there were 18,686 identified victims in all category III cases. There were 4,514 victims which were identified as having more than one confirmed maltreatment.

Category III Options	Total
90-day monitoring	3,746
Open/Close	10,668
Other	0
Grand Total	14,414

Category Escalations	Total
III to II	120
III to I	53
II to I	164
Grand Total	337

**An enhancement was recently created in MiSACWIS (Michigan's State Automated Child Welfare Information System) to allow category III case escalations to be completed in the system. This enhancement was released on 12/27/2017 and is partial FY data. Prior to the release, this information was unable to be captured in MiSACWIS.*

For the 337 cases which were escalated during FY 2018, 53 cases were escalated from category III to category I and 19 children were removed. Of the 164 cases escalated from category II to category I, 83 children were removed.

Sec. 514 (d): CPS Policy regarding methamphetamine exposure.

The department did not make any changes to CPS policy regarding children who have been exposed to the production or manufacturing of methamphetamine during FY 2018. MDHHS policy requires all complaints regarding children who have been exposed to the production or manufacture of methamphetamines be assigned for investigation. The Michigan Child Protection Law (CPL) (MCL 722.623 and 722.628) requires MDHHS to refer to the prosecutor and law enforcement within 24 hours of receipt of all complaints

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with allegations that indicate potential violations of the public health code involving methamphetamine (MCL 333.7401c). The CPL, Section 17, requires MDHHS to file a petition for court jurisdiction within 24 hours of determining a preponderance of evidence exists that a child has been exposed to or had contact with methamphetamine. The department must also obtain a medical examination of all child victims and any other children residing in the household when a child has been exposed to or had contact with methamphetamine.