



**Child
and Family
Services Reviews**



FY 2007 - 2010
Round 2 Findings
52 States Reviewed



Round 2: 52 CFSTRs FYs 2007-2010
Included in this analysis:

- 52 States**
- 3,363 Cases Reviewed**
- 2,079 Foster Care Cases**
- 1,284 In-Home Services Cases**

CFSR

- **Statewide Assessment**
 - Data Profile
- **Onsite Review**
 - Case review of 65 cases
 - Stakeholder interviews
 - Assessment of outcomes and systemic factors
- **Program Improvement Plan**

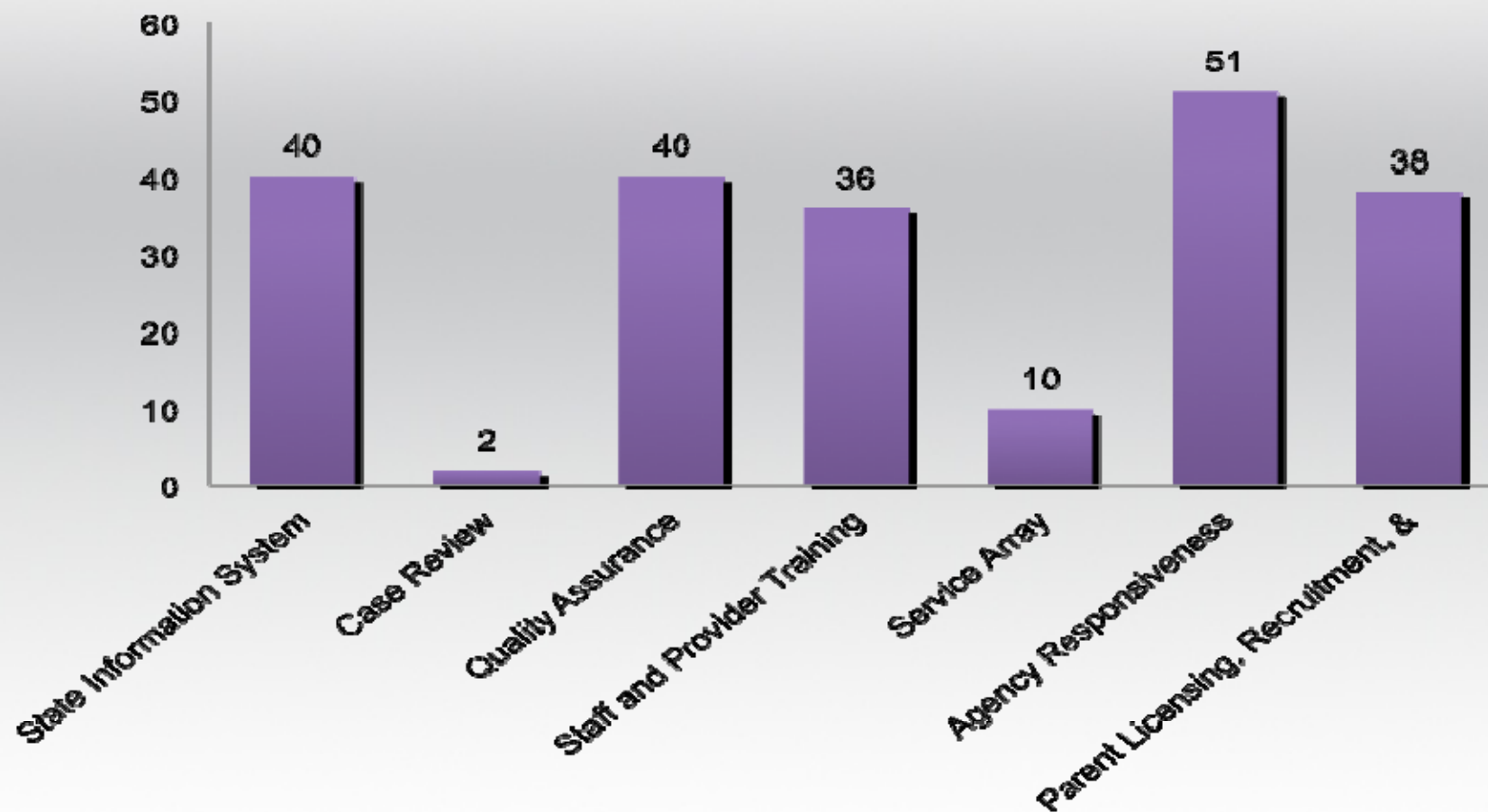
Systemic Factors

- **Statewide Information System**
- **Case Review System**
- **Quality Assurance System**
- **Staff and Provider Training**
- **Service Array and Resource Development**
- **Agency Responsiveness to the Community**
- **Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment, and Retention**

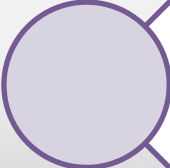
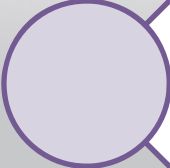
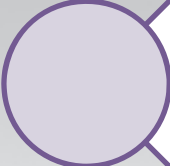
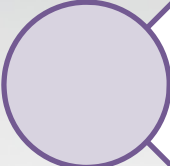
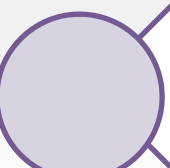
Systemic Factors

Number of States in Substantial Conformity

Systemic Factor Substantial Conformity

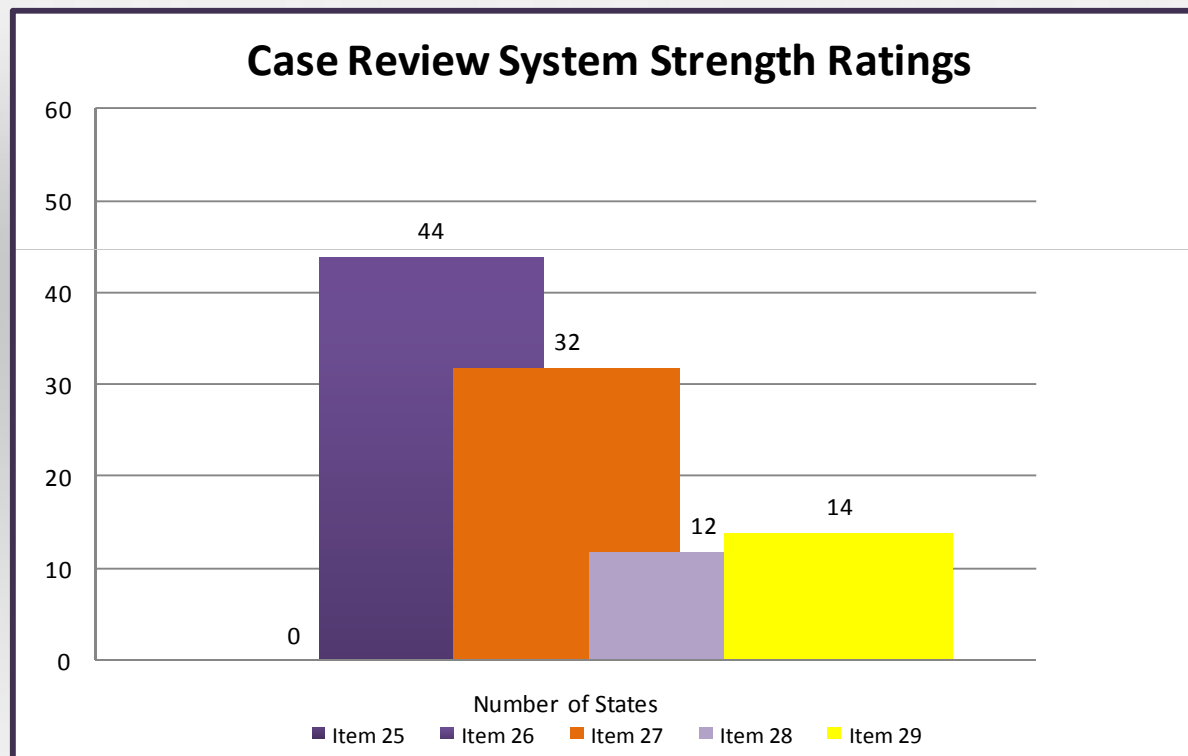


Systemic Factor: Case Review System

-  **Item 25:** Written case plan
-  **Item 26:** Periodic reviews
-  **Item 27:** Permanency hearings
-  **Item 28:** Termination of parental rights
-  **Item 29:** Notice of hearings and reviews to caregivers

Systemic Factor: Case Review System

Number of States Rated Strength for Each Item



Systemic Factor: Service Array and Resource Development

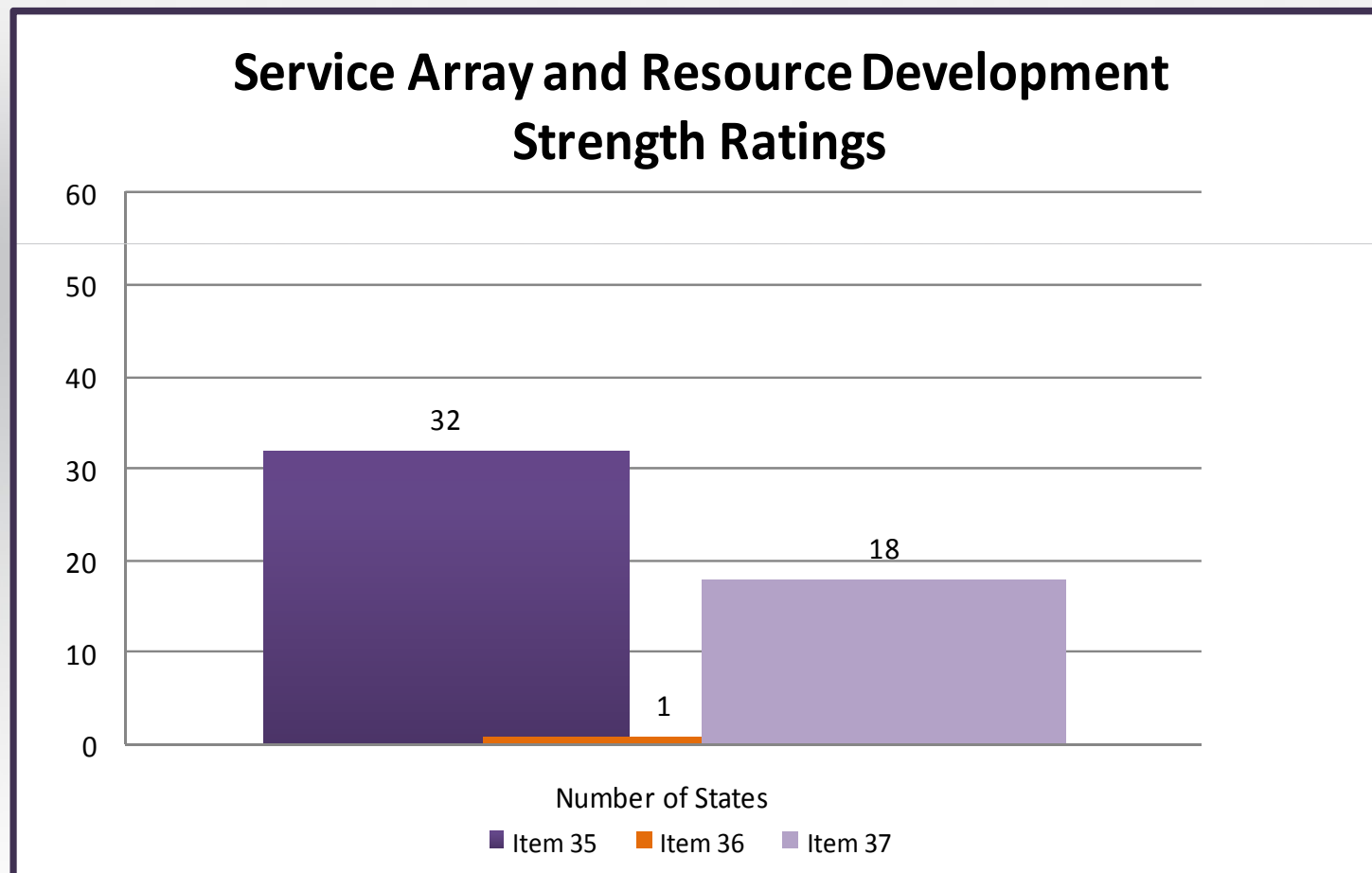
Item 35: Array of services

Item 36: Service accessibility

Item 37: Individualizing services

Systemic Factor: Service Array and Resource Development

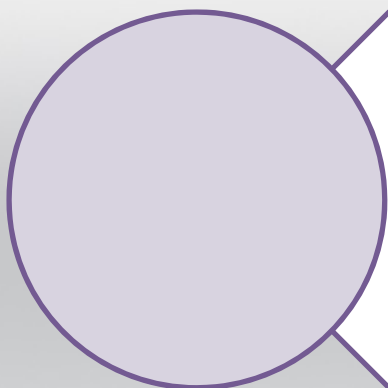
Number of States Rated Strength for Each Item



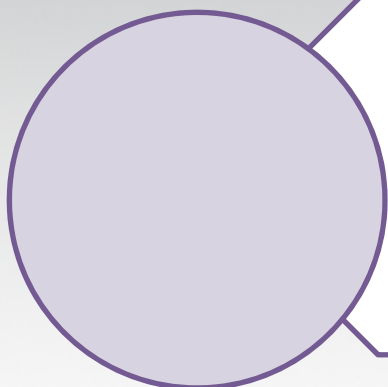
Outcomes

- **Safety Outcome 1:** Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.
- **Safety Outcome 2:** Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.
- **Permanency Outcome 1:** Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.
- **Permanency Outcome 2:** The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.
- **Well-Being Outcome 1:** Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.
- **Well-Being Outcome 2:** Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.
- **Well-Being Outcome 3:** Children receive adequate services to meet their physical health needs.

Correlations Between Case Characteristics and Ratings for Outcomes and Items



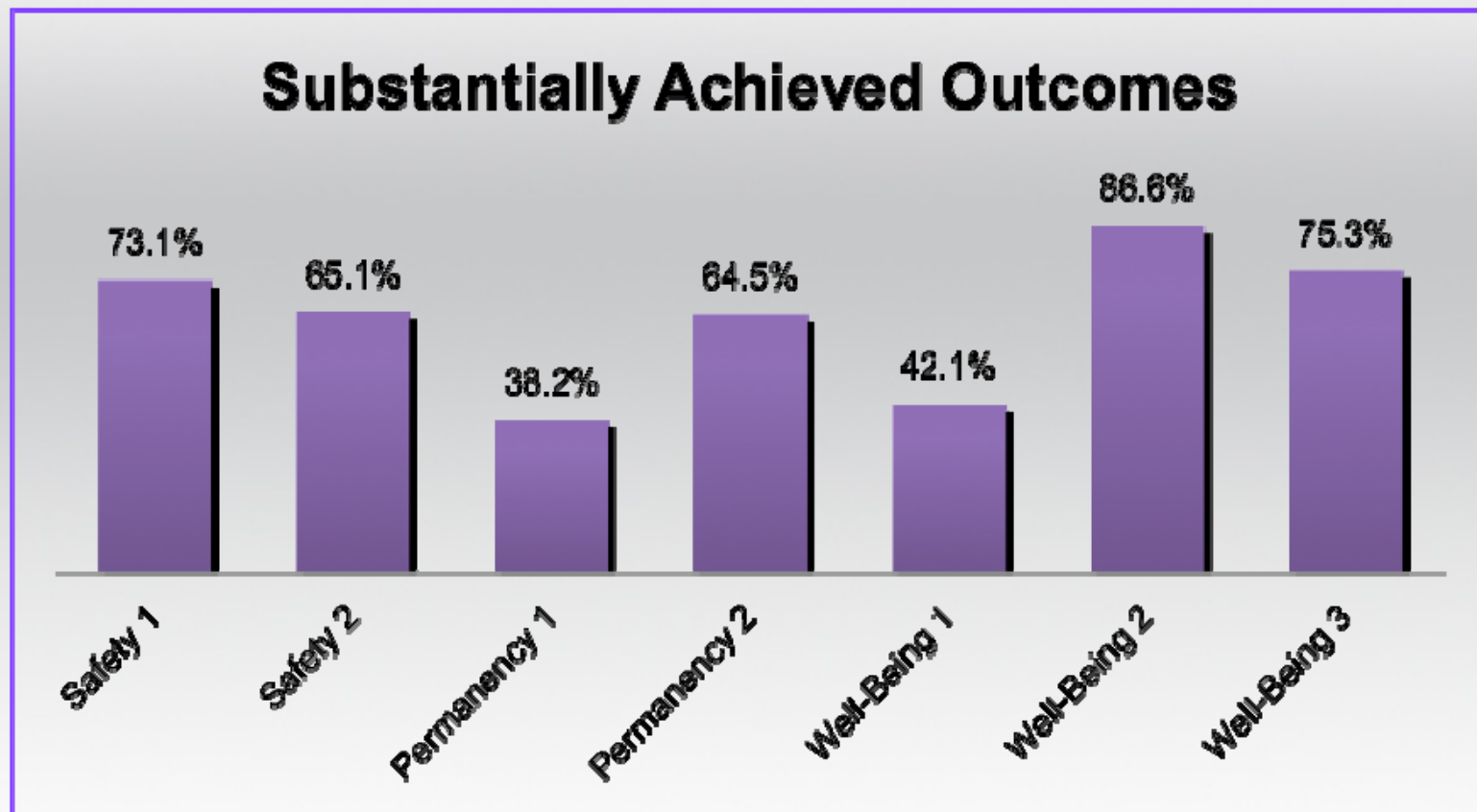
Foster care cases were more likely than in-home services cases to substantially achieve outcomes or be rated Strength for items.



Cases were more likely to be rated Strength for services to mothers than to fathers.

Outcomes

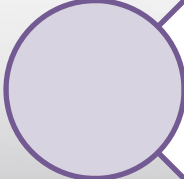
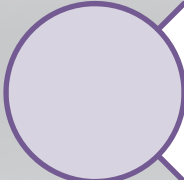
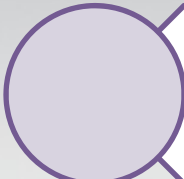
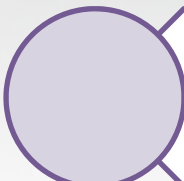
Mean State Performance: Percentage of Cases “Substantially Achieved”





Safety

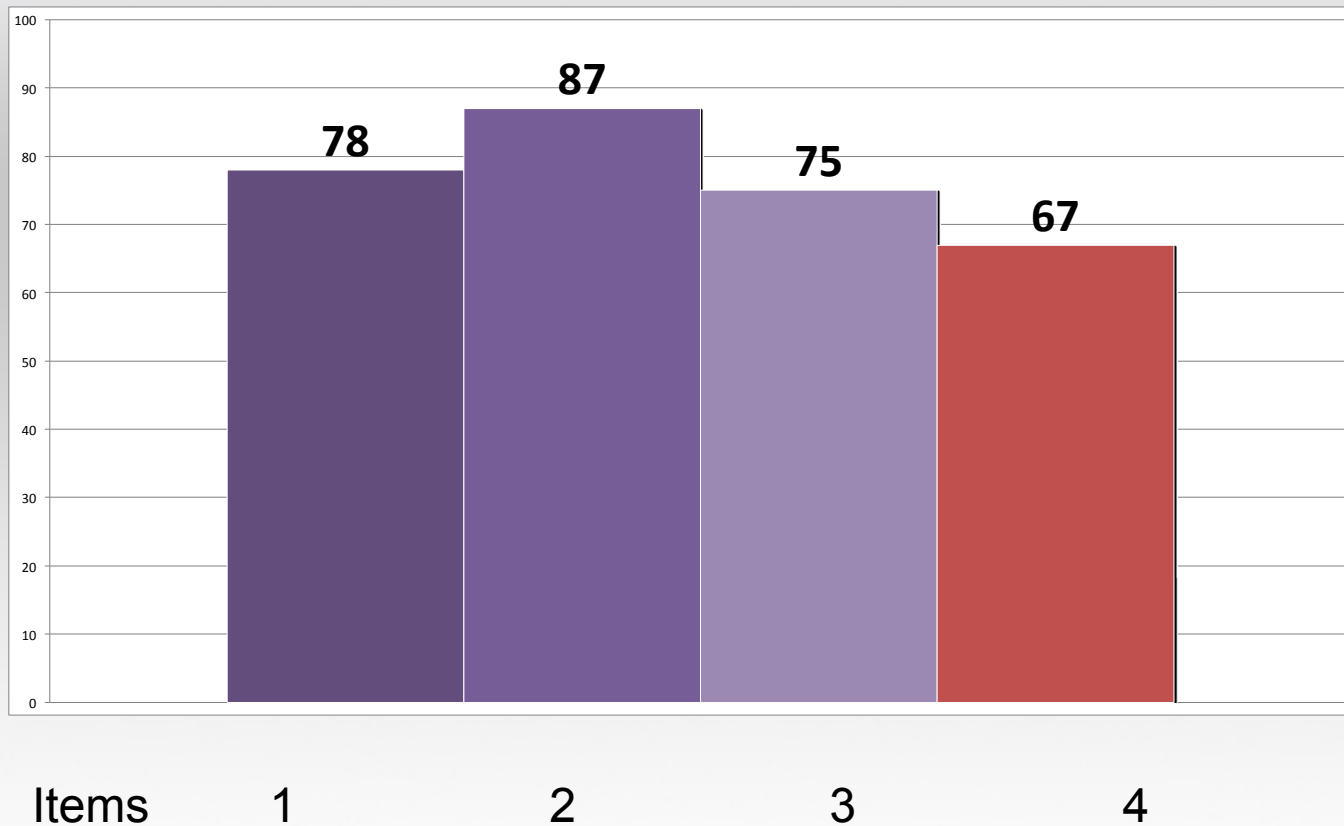
Safety Outcomes 1 & 2

-  **Item 1:** Timeliness of initiating investigations of reports of maltreatment
-  **Item 2:** Repeat maltreatment
-  **Item 3:** Services to the family to protect child(ren) in the home and prevent removal or re-entry into foster care
-  **Item 4:** Risk assessment and safety management



Safety Items

Percentage of All Applicable Cases Rated as Strength on Safety Items



Safety Outcome 2: Item 4 Risk and Safety Assessment

Initial assessments:

- Risk: **89%** of applicable cases
- Safety: **85%** of applicable cases

Ongoing assessments:

- Risk: **77%** of applicable cases
- Safety: **73%** of applicable cases

Safety assessment prior to foster care case closure:

- **74%** of applicable cases

Safety Outcome 2: Item 4

Safety Concerns

22% of cases had unaddressed safety concerns.

Safety concerns included:

- Maltreatment allegations reported and inappropriately screened out
- Maltreatment allegations never formally reported or formally investigated
- Extensive delays in accepting an allegation for investigation or assessment
- Maltreatment allegations not substantiated despite evidence that would support a substantiation
- Cases closed prematurely

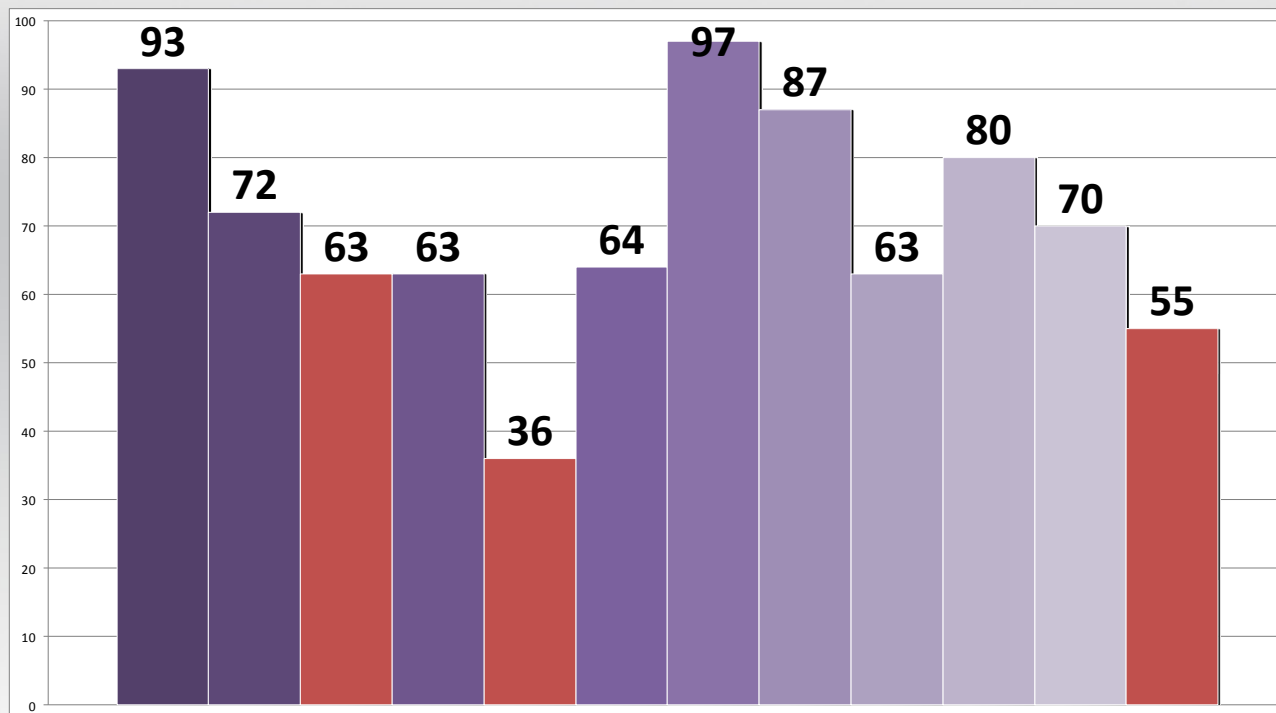


Permanency



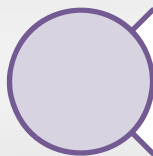
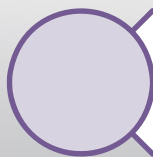
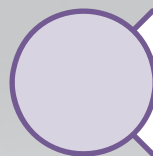

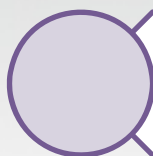
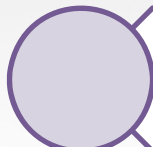
Permanency Items

Percentage of All Applicable Cases Rated as Strength on Permanency Items

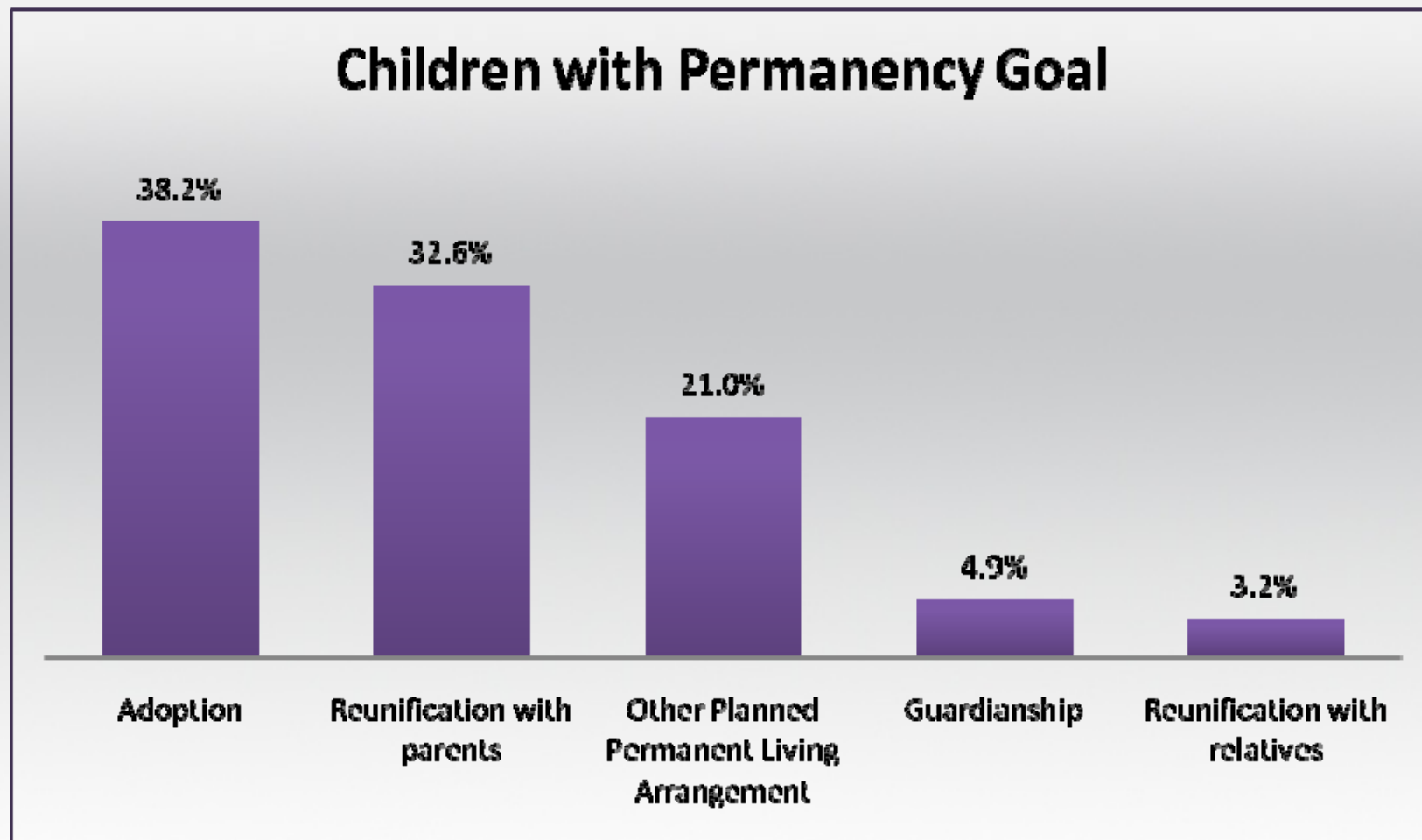


Items 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

Permanency Outcome 1

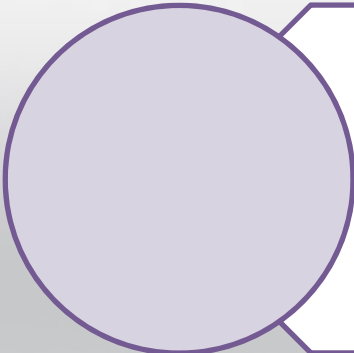
-  **Item 5:** Foster care reentries
-  **Item 6:** Stability of foster care placement
-  **Item 7:** Permanency goal for child
-  **Item 8:** Reunification, guardianship, or permanent placement with relatives
-  **Item 9:** Adoption
-  **Item 10:** Other planned permanent living arrangement (OPPLA)

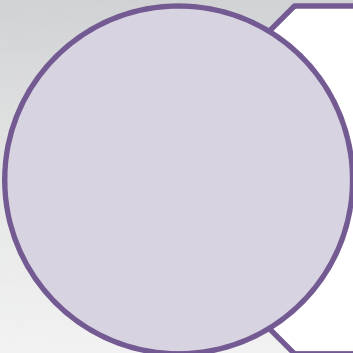
Permanency Goals



Permanency Outcome 1

Common Challenges

- 
- Item 6:**
- Insufficient number of foster placements
 - Lack of appropriate training for foster parents
 - Limited resources to support foster parents

- 
- Item 7:**
- Concurrent planning was not implemented consistently or effectively
 - Inappropriate goals were set
 - Goals were not set in a timely manner
 - TPR not filed in accordance with ASFA



Permanency Outcome 1: Item 8

Reunification, guardianship, permanent placement with relatives

Strengths Themes

- Identifying and engaging all members of the family
- Individualizing and adjusting case plans
- Designing and adjusting visitation plans
- Communicating with families, providers, and courts
- Concurrent planning
- Using family team meetings
- Placing children in close proximity to their families
- Supporting foster caregivers as mentors with parents
- Providing services including but not limited to the following: family preservation, substance abuse treatment, individual and family therapy, housing, income support, employment assistance, and parenting education



Permanency Outcome 1: Item 8

Reunification, guardianship, permanent placement with relatives

Challenges Themes

- Insufficient family needs assessment
- Insufficient case planning
- Lack of engagement of parents, particularly noncustodial parents
- Insufficient communication and engagement with families
- Lack of concurrent planning
- Lack of communication with courts and service providers
- Delays in guardianship home studies and finalization
- Delays in relative and noncustodial parent identification and engagement
- Delays in court hearings
- Services identified that were not provided included: residential treatment, transportation, housing, employment assistance, mental health treatment, and substance abuse treatment



Permanency Outcome 1: Item 9 Adoption Strengths Themes

- Completing forms and legal processes in a timely manner
- Filing TPR within ASFA timeframes
- Obtaining voluntary relinquishments in a timely manner
- Concurrent planning
- Preserving existing services for children post-adoption
- Identifying and engaging relatives early
- Using ICPC effectively
- Using recruitment resources such as AdoptUSKids



Permanency Outcome 1: Item 9 Adoption Challenges Themes

- Lack of engagement with families
- Non-compliance with ASFA timeframes for TPR
- Insufficient caseworker visitation with children
- Lack of planning for post-adoptive services
- Delays in setting the goal of adoption
- Delays in home studies, licensing, and finalization
- Delays in ICPC processes



Permanency Outcome 1: Item 10

OPPLA

Strengths Themes

- Developing appropriate permanent placements
- Supporting the relationship of child with caregiver
- Engaging relatives and siblings
- Resolving financial concerns
- Addressing runaway or delinquency episodes
- Addressing mental and developmental health needs




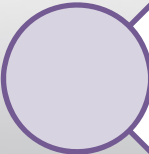
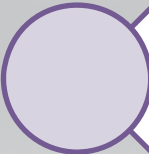

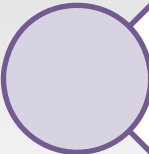
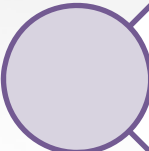
Permanency Outcome 1: Item 10

OPPLA

Challenges Themes

- Insufficient attention to behavioral concerns
- Overuse of temporary placements
- Insufficient provision of IL services
- Insufficient case planning for independence
- Lack of support for permanent placement options
- Lack of communication with placement providers

Permanency Outcome 2

-  **Item 11:** Proximity of foster care placement
-  **Item 12:** Placement with siblings
-  **Item 13:** Visiting parents and siblings in foster care
-  **Item 14:** Preserving connections
-  **Item 15:** Relative placement
-  **Item 16:** Relationship of child in care with parents



Permanency Outcome 2

Noted Strengths

- Agency efforts to place children in close proximity to their homes
- Placing siblings together
- Preserving children's connections to relatives, schools, friends and their community
- Seeking out relative placements

Permanency Outcome 2

Item 13 Visitation with Parents and Siblings

- Stronger practice noted in the area of Sibling visitation – in 36% of States no concerted efforts were made to ensure sufficient visitation.
- No concerted efforts to ensure sufficient visitation with FATHERS
82% of States
- No concerted efforts to ensure sufficient visitation with MOTHERS
62% States

Permanency Outcome 2; Item 16: Relationship of child in foster care with parents

The agency made diligent efforts to support or maintain the bond between children in foster care and their mothers and fathers with the following frequency:

Mother

68% of
applicable
cases

Father

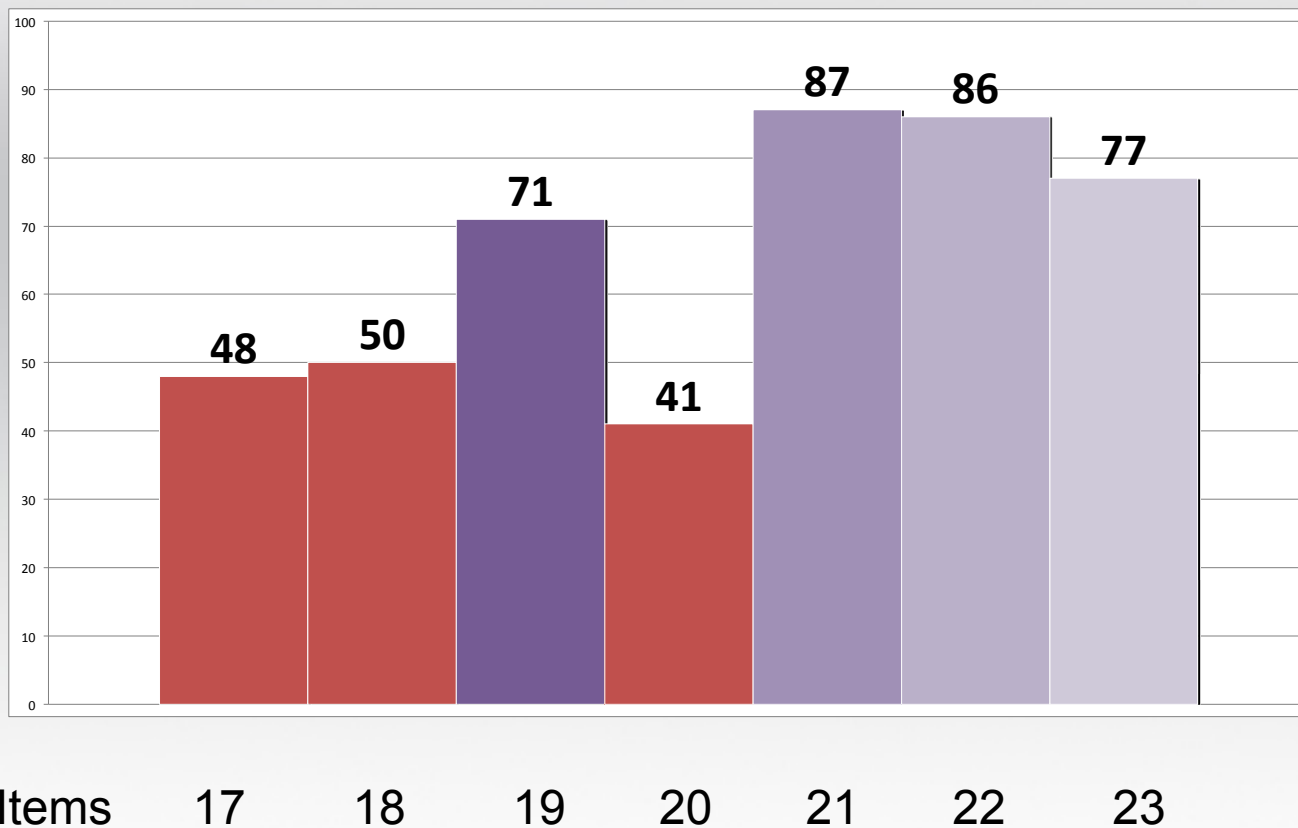
52% of
applicable
cases



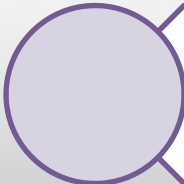
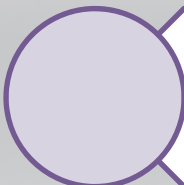
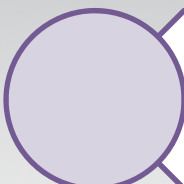
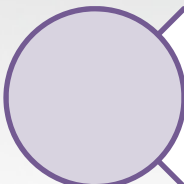
Well-Being

Well-Being Items

Percentage of All Applicable Cases Rated as Strength on Well-Being Items

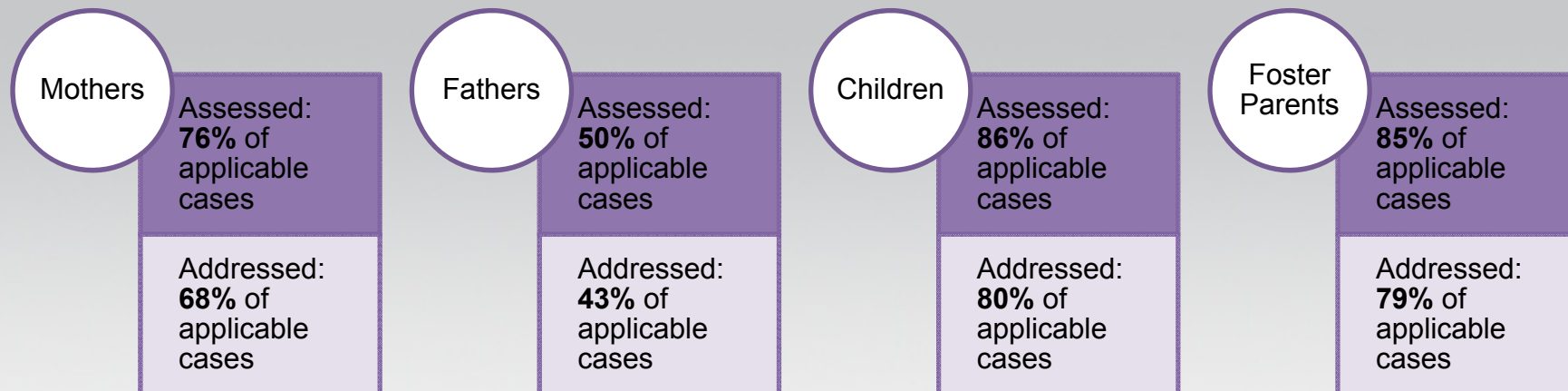


Well-Being Outcome 1

-  **Item 17:** Needs and services of child, parents, foster parents
-  **Item 18:** Child and family involvement in case planning
-  **Item 19:** Caseworker visits with child
-  **Item 20:** Caseworker visits with parents

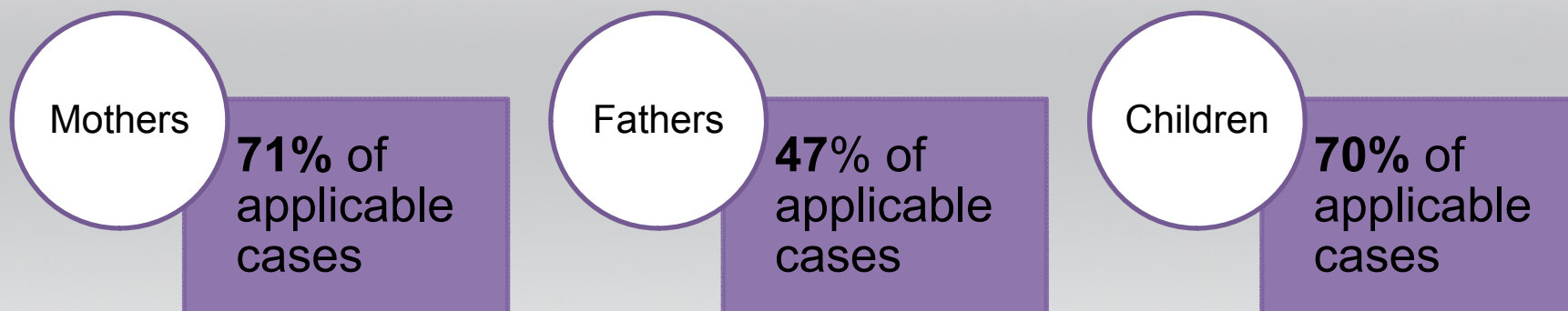
Well-Being Outcome 1: Item 17 Needs Assessed & Addressed

Child welfare agencies assessed and addressed identified needs for mothers, fathers, children, and foster parents in:



Well-Being Outcome 1: Item 18 Involvement in Case Planning

Child welfare agencies made concerted efforts to involve children and parents in case planning in:



Well-Being Outcome 1: Items 19 and 20 Frequency and Quality of Visits

The frequency and quality of visits between the caseworker and the parents, and the caseworker and child, were sufficient in:

Mother

Frequency:
67% of
applicable
cases

Quality:
69% of
applicable
cases

Father

Frequency:
41% of
applicable
cases

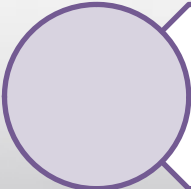
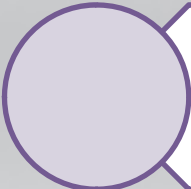
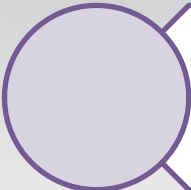
Quality:
52% of
applicable
cases

Child

Frequency:
81% of
applicable
cases

Quality:
75% of
applicable
cases

Well-Being Outcomes 2 & 3

-  **Item 21:** Educational needs of the child
-  **Item 22:** Physical health of the child
-  **Item 23:** Mental/behavioral health of the child

Well-Being Outcome 2: Item 21 Educational Needs of the Child

The educational needs of children were assessed
and addressed in:

Assessed

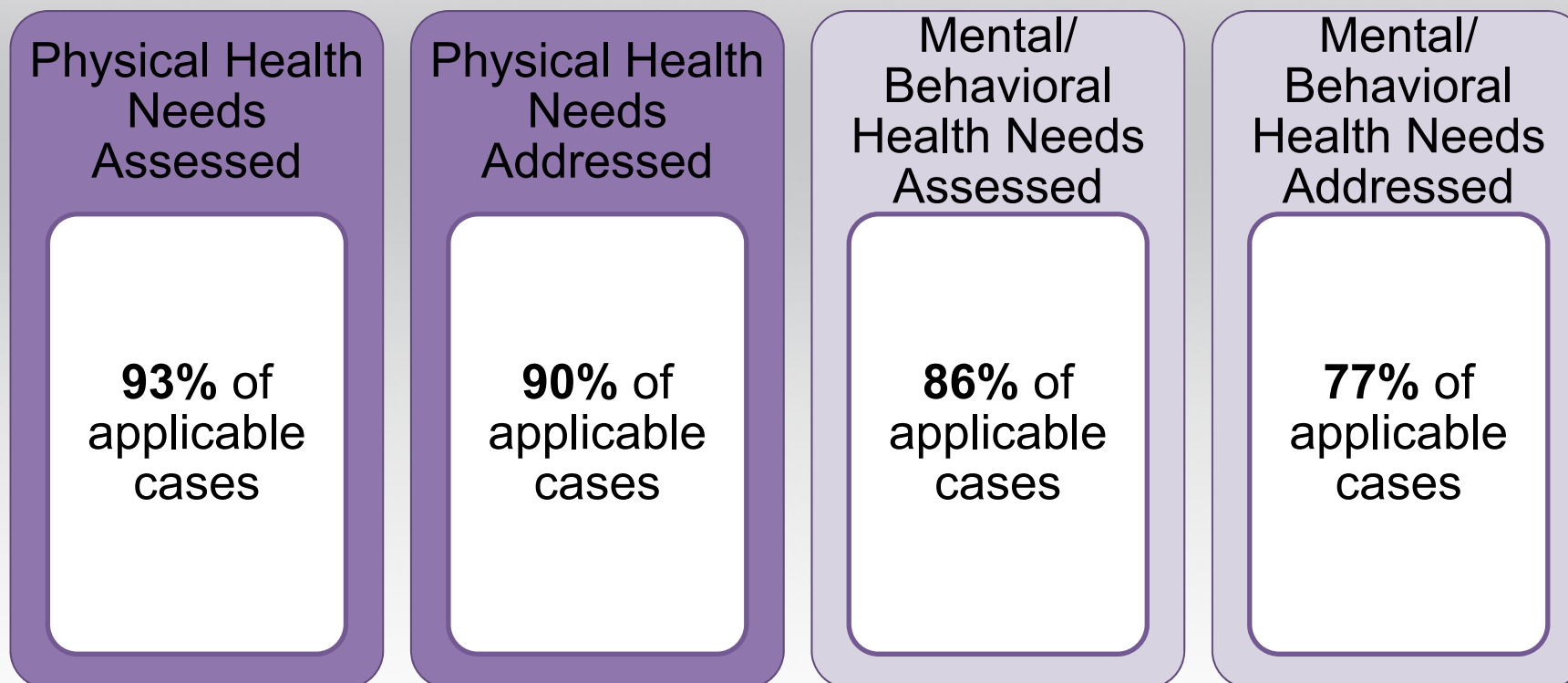
90% of applicable cases

Addressed

85% of applicable cases

Well-Being Outcome 3: Items 22 and 23 Physical and Mental Health Needs of the Child

The physical and mental/behavioral health needs of the child were assessed and addressed in:



Well-Being Outcomes 2 & 3

Common Challenges



Item 21:

-There were challenges maintaining or coordinating educational services for children in foster care due in part to school communication needs, delays in transferring EAPs, and delays in enrollment.



Item 22:

-Dental services available in the community were insufficient to meet the need.



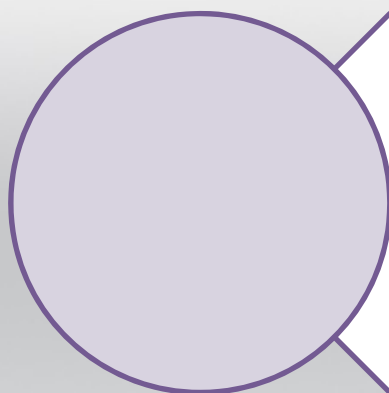
Item 23:

-Mental/behavioral health services available in the community were insufficient to meet the need.

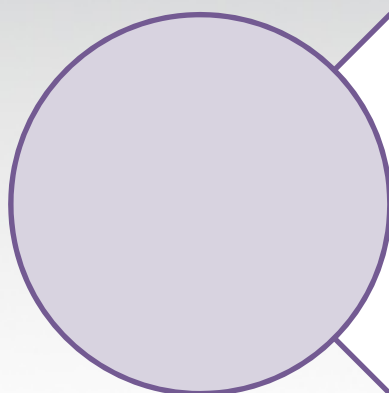
-Mental/behavioral health needs were assessed but were not addressed.

-There were delays in service assessments and/or delivery due to waiting lists.

Relationships Between Performance on Outcomes and Item Ratings



Performance on **Permanency Outcome 1** was positively associated with Strength ratings for **items 14, 15, 17b, and 20.**



Performance on **Well-Being Outcome 1** was positively associated with Strength ratings for **all items** (except item 2). Strongest association was with **items 4, 13, and 16.**

Round 2

Program Improvement Plan Status

- 8 States have completed round 2 PIPs
- 42 States are currently in implementation or monitoring
- 2 States are pending PIP approval