



# **Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report**

Annual Report for Calendar Year 2017  
to the Governor and Legislature  
s. 48.47(8), Wis. Stats.

This report is available on the Internet at  
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Please email the DCF Child Welfare Research and Analytics Section at:  
DCFCWRA@wisconsin.gov with any questions regarding this report.

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## Letter from the Administrator

The purpose of Wisconsin's child welfare system is to keep children safe and support families to provide safe, permanent, and nurturing homes for their children. The system does this by safely maintaining children and youth in their own home, family, tribe and community, whenever possible.

When it is not possible to keep children safely in their home, the system engages with the courts and others to provide a safe, stable, and temporary home that nurtures and supports the child's development. The system aims to transition children in out-of-home care safely and quickly back with their family, whenever possible, or to another permanent home.

The system strives to engage with children, youth, and families to expand healthy connections to supports in their community and tribes, and bolster resiliency in families to help them thrive.

To achieve these objectives, we are committed to key values and principles, including trust, respect, engagement, accountability, trauma-informed practices, culturally responsible practices, workforce support, and family-centered approaches.

The child welfare system has a comprehensive set of standards as well as guidance for case practice. We hold ourselves accountable to the highest standards of practice, and seek to self-correct, innovate and enhance our ability to achieve positive outcomes through continuous quality improvement efforts.

We believe that it is important to utilize data to manage and evaluate the performance and outcomes of the child welfare system and to make sound policy and program decisions that will improve the quality of services to children and families. This report provides a rich source of data to be used by our stakeholders and the Department to deepen our understanding of the outcomes and trends in Wisconsin's child welfare system.

Thank you for your interest in Wisconsin's child welfare system. It is our hope that the information in this report will inform efforts to prevent abuse and neglect and better protect children who have been maltreated or are in unsafe homes. We appreciate your continued support as we strive to keep children safe and help families thrive.



Fredi-Ellen Bove

Division of Safety and Permanence Administrator  
Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

## Executive Summary

In calendar year 2017, county Child Protective Services (CPS) agencies and the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services (DMCPS) received a total of 79,193 referrals from reporters alleging maltreatment of children. Educational Personnel, Legal / Law Enforcement, and Social Service Worker accounted for the largest sources of CPS referrals. A total of 27,041 of these CPS referrals, or 34.1 percent, were screened-in by CPS agencies for further assessment. These screened-in referrals could involve multiple children within each referral and together they accounted for 25,834 CPS initial assessments of families. At the child level, there were 42,502 CPS maltreatment reports involving 35,752 alleged child victims across 22,130 cases and 48,225 allegations of maltreatment. Some children were involved in more than one report and/or were affected by multiple allegations of maltreatment.

### Allegations and Findings

Neglect was the most common type of maltreatment allegation during calendar year 2017, followed by Physical Abuse, Sexual Abuse, and Emotional Abuse. Of the 42,502 CPS maltreatment reports, 5,632 were substantiated allegations of maltreatment, representing 13.6 percent of the total. The maltreatment allegation type accounting for the most substantiated findings during calendar year 2017 was neglect.

### Child Victims

There were 5,049 unique child victims of maltreatment in 2017. A child is a victim if he/she had at least one substantiated maltreatment finding at the conclusion of a CPS Initial Assessment. This represents 3.9 children per 1,000 children in Wisconsin. Females were more likely to be victims than males due to higher rates of sexual abuse. In calendar year 2017, 30 children died from substantiated maltreatment.

### Maltreaters

Roughly equal numbers of males and females were maltreaters in 2017. However, males accounted for the majority of maltreaters in sexual and physical abuse cases, while females accounted for the majority of maltreaters in neglect cases. Primary caregivers accounted for 90.3 percent of the substantiated maltreatment.

### CPS Services

Of the families involved in CPS initial assessments during calendar year 2017, 15.5 percent of families received services from the CPS agency and 13.9 percent were referred by the CPS agency to a community resource. During 2017, 3,647 children were removed from their family home and placed in an out-of-home placement during the CPS initial assessment in order to ensure child safety.

### Data Source

Data for this report are from the Child Welfare Data Warehouse (dWISACWIS). The data in dWISACWIS are sourced from the electronic Wisconsin Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (eWiSACWIS). CPS agencies use eWiSACWIS to manage their cases. The body of the report provides statewide composite data; county-specific detail is in the appendices.

## Introduction

Child protective services (CPS) is a key component of the child welfare system. CPS intervention is warranted whenever there is a report that a child may be unsafe, abused or neglected, or at risk of maltreatment. The CPS system identifies and addresses family conditions that make children unsafe or place them at risk for maltreatment. Services provided by CPS agencies include receiving reports of alleged child maltreatment, assessing these reports as needed, implementing plans to keep children safe, and coordinating services for children and families where maltreatment has occurred or children are assessed to be unsafe.

The Wisconsin Child Welfare Model for Practice, developed by the Department of Children and Families and the county human services agencies in collaboration with stakeholders, is the compass that directs our work and guides decision-making. As articulated in the Model for Practice, the purpose of Wisconsin's child welfare system is to keep children safe and support families to provide safe, permanent, and nurturing homes for their children. The system aims to meet this purpose by safely maintaining children and youth in their own home, family, tribe and community, whenever possible.

When it is not possible to keep children safely in their home, the system engages with the courts and others to provide a safe, stable, and temporary home that nurtures and supports the children's development. The system aims to transition children in out-of-home care safely and quickly back to their family, whenever possible, or to another permanent home.

The system strives to engage with children, youth, and families to expand healthy connections to supports in their community and tribes and bolster resiliency in families to help them thrive. To achieve these objectives, we are committed to key values and principles, including trust, respect, engagement, accountability, trauma-informed practices, culturally responsible practices, workforce support, and family-centered approaches.

This Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report reflects data collected during calendar year 2017 regarding reports of child maltreatment in Wisconsin. This report has been compiled by the Department of Children and Families to assist state policymakers, service providers, and the public in understanding and effectively responding to child maltreatment.

## Structure of Child Protective Services in Wisconsin

CPS agencies are responsible for identifying and addressing conditions affecting child safety in the home for families who come to the attention of these agencies. In Wisconsin, this critical social responsibility is met through a state-supervised, county-administered system, with the exception of Milwaukee County, where the state administers the CPS program. Alleged child maltreatment is reported to 71 county social or human services departments, the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services (DMCPS) in Milwaukee County, or to local law enforcement agencies. Alleged child maltreatment involving tribal children is also reported to county CPS agencies and the DMCPS or to local law enforcement; CPS agencies and the DMCPS are required to notify the tribe of the referral within 24 hours of its receipt. Please refer to Appendix M for a website link that directs the individual to a complete list of contact information for these county departments.

## Child Abuse and Neglect Definitions

State laws define child abuse and neglect. These definitions provide the basis for persons to report suspected child maltreatment and guide county agencies in their response. Throughout this report, the terms 'child maltreatment' and 'child abuse and/or neglect' have the same meaning and can be used interchangeably. Refer to Appendix A for a list of Wisconsin's child maltreatment related statutes. State laws and policies concerning child maltreatment pertain to children 17 years of age and younger, unless otherwise specified. Child maltreatment is generally divided into four basic types: neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse and emotional abuse.

## Neglect

Neglect is defined in the statutes as "failure, refusal or inability on the part of a caregiver, for reasons other than poverty, to provide necessary care, food, clothing, medical or dental care or shelter so as to seriously endanger the physical health of the child." [Ref. s. 48.02(12g), Wis. Stats.]

### Physical abuse

Physical abuse is defined as “physical injury inflicted on a child by other than accidental means.” [Ref. s. 48.02(1)(a), Wis. Stats.] “Physical injury includes but is not limited to lacerations, fractured bones, burns, internal injuries, severe or frequent bruising or great bodily harm, as defined in s. 939.22(14).” [Ref. s. 48.02(14g), Wis. Stats.]

### Sexual abuse

Sexual abuse is defined by cross-referencing several crimes in the Wisconsin Criminal Code section of the statutes (see Appendix A). In summary, sexual abuse includes but is not limited to the following:

- sexual intercourse or sexual contact with a child 15 years of age or less;
- sexual intercourse or sexual contact with a 16- or 17-year old child without his or her consent;
- inducement of a child to engage in sexually explicit conduct in order to videotape, photograph, etc., that child or videotaping, photographing, etc., a child for such purposes, or producing, distributing, selling or otherwise profiting from such a videotape, photograph, etc.;
- encouragement by or permission of a person responsible for a child's welfare for a child to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of videotaping, photographing, etc.;
- causing a child to view or listen to sexual activity;
- exposing genitals to a child; or
- trafficking a child for the purpose of a commercial sex act.

### Emotional abuse

Emotional abuse is defined as “emotional damage for which the child’s parent, guardian or legal custodian has neglected, refused or been unable for reasons other than poverty to obtain the necessary treatment or to take steps to ameliorate the symptoms.” [Ref. s. 48.02(1)(gm), Wis. Stats.]

The definitions of neglect and emotional abuse involve failure on the part of parents or other persons responsible for a child to provide necessary care for a child. The definitions of physical abuse and sexual abuse include harm to a child by any person. Therefore, physical or sexual abuse of a child can include assaults by a parent, strangers, persons unrelated to a child’s family, or peers.

In many of these cases, in addition to the CPS assessment, law enforcement is involved and criminal prosecution of the person who harmed the child may occur. However, in most child abuse and neglect cases, the parties involved are family members and solutions involve CPS interventions with the family. In some of these cases, court intervention is required to assure safety for the child and to provide services for the family.

### Unborn child abuse

Unborn child abuse is defined as “serious physical harm inflicted on the unborn child, and the risk of serious physical harm to the child when born, caused by the habitual lack of self-control of the expectant mother of the unborn child in the use of alcohol beverages, controlled substances or controlled substance analogs, exhibited to a severe degree.” [Ref. s. 48.02(1)(am), Wis. Stats.]

Due to the unique nature of this maltreatment type, unborn child abuse data is excluded from the body of this report and presented separately in Appendix B.

### Overview of the Child Protective Services Process

CPS agencies follow numerous state and federal policies, and practice standards as they strive to keep children safe from harm. The CPS process can be divided into three parts: CPS Access, CPS initial assessment, and CPS ongoing services. The section of this report titled the 'Child Protective Services Process' provides further detail about CPS Access and CPS Initial Assessment. The section of this report entitled 'Services to Families' addresses CPS Ongoing Services. Appendix C shows an overview of the CPS process in Wisconsin, with a flowchart illustrating the different paths a child maltreatment report may take.

During CPS access, the agency receives information about suspected child maltreatment from community sources referred to as "reporters". Based on this information, the agency determines if the report constitutes an allegation of child maltreatment or threatened harm as defined by Wisconsin Statutes. If an allegation rises to this level the report is screened in for further assessment, and if it does not, the report is screened out. At this stage, screened-out CPS reports are no longer part of the CPS process. However, the CPS agency may refer the family to community services or offer to provide voluntary agency services to address family concerns not related to child safety.

All screened-in CPS reports move on to the next stage of the CPS process, CPS Initial Assessment. Based on all the information gathered as part of the CPS access process, the CPS agency designates a response time, ranging from a same-day response to within five days, by which an initial face-to-face contact with the child/family must occur.

The primary purpose of the CPS initial assessment is to assure the child's safety and determine whether the child and family are in need of services to keep the child safe. The CPS initial assessment generally involves interviews with the child, family, and other individuals closely involved with the family. Based on information gathered through the CPS initial assessment, the agency determines whether one or more types of abuse or neglect have occurred. The CPS agency must make a finding for all allegations unless critical information sources are unavailable for interview.

In addition, the information is used to make decisions about child safety. If a child is unsafe, the CPS agency must develop a plan to address child safety and open the case for ongoing CPS services. Depending on the situation, the family involved may voluntarily participate in CPS services or be court-ordered to participate. If the safety decision is that the child or children present in the home are safe, the case may be closed. The CPS agency may still offer/refer the family to other community services or voluntary services within the agency to address other concerns not related to child safety.

### Alternative Response

While all Wisconsin CPS cases require a comprehensive assessment in order to assure that children are safe and protected, not all cases need a maltreatment and maltreater determination for the family to receive services. In fact, these determinations may interfere with service provision by creating an atmosphere that feels adversarial for families. Reports assigned to receive an "alternative response" are CPS cases and receive the same prompt and active attention as a "traditional response" case. Alternative response cases differ in their approach, in that they determine if the family needs to be referred for services, rather than determine if maltreatment occurred. These are not low priority cases; rather they can be served more effectively with a supportive, collaborative approach.

For reports that have been screened in for a CPS response, initial assignment to a "traditional response" or "alternative response" depends on an array of factors (e.g., presence of imminent danger, level of risk, the number of previous reports, the source of the report, and/or presenting case characteristics such as type of alleged maltreatment and age of the alleged victim). Assignment to the traditional or alternative approach can change based on new information that alters safety threats or levels of risk.

To develop the most appropriate, most effective, and least intrusive response to reports of child abuse or neglect, the legislature authorized a pilot of an "alternative response" approach to child protective services in a limited number of counties. Wisconsin's "alternative response" pilot program was launched in July of 2010 and was fully operating, or beginning operation in the following counties in 2017 : Barron, Brown, Calumet, Chippewa, Dodge, Douglas, Eau Claire, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Jefferson, La Crosse, Langlade, Manitowoc, Marathon, Menominee, Outagamie, Pierce, Racine, Sauk, Waupaca, Waushara, and Winnebago counties.

## Key Terms

This section provides a brief review of key CPS terms. Further contextual understanding of these terms can be gained by reading the narrative in each section of this report.

**Alleged Maltreater:** A person, in a screened-in referral, who is asserted to have committed one or more maltreatment acts against one or more children.

**Alleged Victim:** A child with one or more maltreatment allegations in a screened-in referral that have not yet been assessed.

**Child Victimization Rate:** The number of unique children who were victims of substantiated maltreatment out of a population of 1,000 children. The child victimization rate is calculated by dividing the total number of unique children who were victims of substantiated maltreatment by Wisconsin's total child population.

**CPS Agency:** The county social or human service department or the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services (DMCPS) responsible for addressing concerns related to child safety in the home for families who come to the attention of these agencies.

**CPS Report:** Each child identified in a screened-in referral as an alleged victim of maltreatment or threatened maltreatment is considered one CPS report. One CPS report can have multiple allegations involving the same child.

**Impacted Baby:** An infant or young child who suffers death or great bodily harm as a result of being thrown against a surface, hard or soft. (s. 253.15(1)(d) Wis. Stats.)

**Impending Danger:** A foreseeable state of danger in which family behaviors, attitudes, motives, emotions and/or situations pose a threat which may not be currently active, but can be anticipated to have severe effects on a child at any time in the near future and requires safety intervention.

**Initial Assessment:** A comprehensive assessment conducted in response to a report of alleged child maltreatment. A CPS Initial Assessment is completed in order to: assess and analyze present and impending danger threats to child safety; take action, when necessary to control threats to child safety; determine the need for CPS Ongoing Services (court-ordered or voluntary); determine whether maltreatment occurred; and assist families in identifying useful community resources. The term CPS Initial Assessment includes the CPS investigation process as defined in s. 48.981(3)(c), Wis. Stats.

**Initial Assessment Disposition:** The action taken by the CPS agency on the family's case (e.g. case opened for CPS services, case closed, etc.) as a result of a decision regarding child safety and the Initial Assessment finding.

**Initial Assessment Finding:** The overall maltreatment finding for the case, upon completion of the CPS Initial Assessment, of whether abuse was substantiated, unsubstantiated, or unable to locate sources of information and/or subjects of the report - unsubstantiated.

**Maltreater:** A person, who after the CPS Initial Assessment of a screened-in referral, has had at least one allegation of child maltreatment found to be substantiated by the CPS agency.

**Maltreatment Allegation:** An assertion of one type of child abuse or neglect involving one or more alleged maltreater(s) for a single alleged victim. For the purposes of this report, maltreatment allegations are one of four types: neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, or emotional abuse.

**Maltreatment Finding:** The CPS agency's determination of whether a maltreatment allegation has occurred or not (substantiated or unsubstantiated). If critical sources are unavailable for interview and it is impossible to make a finding, the maltreatment finding is, "not able to locate sources of information and/or subjects of the report – unsubstantiated."

**Present Danger Threats:** An immediate, significant and clearly observable family condition that is actively occurring or 'in process' of occurring at the point of contact with a family and will likely result in severe harm to a child.

**Reporter:** The person who contacts a CPS agency with information regarding alleged maltreatment of a child or children.

**Safety Assessment and Analysis:** Information gathered by the agency during the CPS Initial Assessment and throughout the life of the case pertaining to whether the conditions present in the home make the child/children living in the home safe or unsafe. The results of the safety assessment and a safety analysis of the family environment are used to inform the safety decision.

**Safety Decision:** The CPS agency's determination of whether a child is safe or unsafe based on the safety assessment and analysis. If the home is unsafe, the CPS agency implements a safety plan to assure the child is safe and protected. If the home is safe, the CPS agency may refer the family for voluntary CPS services or other community services, as needed.

**Screened-in Referral:** One or more allegations of child maltreatment in the referral (which may include one or more children in a family) that have been deemed as rising to the level of maltreatment or threat of maltreatment as defined by Wisconsin statutes and therefore must be assessed.

**Screened-out Referral:** All allegations in the referral are deemed as not rising to the level of maltreatment or threat of maltreatment as defined by Wisconsin statutes. No further assessment of the allegation is required. The family may be referred for voluntary CPS services or other appropriate community services.

**Shaken Baby Syndrome:** A severe form of brain injury that occurs when an infant or young child is shaken forcibly enough to cause the brain to rebound against his or her skull. (s.253.15 (1) (f), Wis.Stats.)

**Substantiation:** The information gathered during the CPS Initial Assessment provides a preponderance of evidence (that is, the proof shows that the fact sought to be proved is more probable than not) that the maltreatment allegation made in the CPS report or identified during a CPS Initial Assessment has occurred. In general, a known maltreater is substantiated for the maltreatment; however, an allegation can also be substantiated when the maltreater is unknown or not identified.

**Victim:** A child who had at least one of the maltreatment allegations found to be substantiated as a result of a CPS Initial Assessment.

## Child Protective Services Process

This section reviews the process counties undertake when they receive an allegation of child abuse and/or neglect. Please refer to Appendix C for a diagram of this process.

### Child Protective Services - Access

As shown in Table 1, during calendar year 2017, CPS agencies received a total of 79,193 referrals; 52,152 of these were screened-out and 27,041 were screened-in. All screened-in referrals were subsequently assessed by the CPS agency, and are the subject of the next section of this report, CPS initial assessment. Appendix E shows a breakdown of referrals and screening decisions by county for calendar year 2017. Appendix E also shows screening decisions made on non-CPS reports (service referrals) by county.

**Table 1**

**Total Wisconsin CPS Referrals and Screening Decisions  
2017**

Number of Referrals	Screened-out Referrals	Percent Screened-out	Screened-in Referrals	Percent Screened-in
79,193	52,152	65.9%	27,041	34.1%

A CPS report is created for each child who is identified in a screened-in referral as an alleged victim of child maltreatment or threatened maltreatment. The number of unique screened-in referrals (27,041) is smaller than the number of CPS maltreatment reports (42,502) because one referral may include information about multiple children and each child in the referral is counted as a unique CPS report. For example, a referral from a community reporter may allege maltreatment against three children in a family. For purposes of this report, the CPS agency received one referral through the reporter's phone contact with the CPS county agency; however, three CPS reports were created as there were three children who each had one or more maltreatment allegations. Please refer to Figure 2 for further explanation.

Table 2, below, shows the number of CPS maltreatment reports per 1,000 children in Wisconsin during calendar year 2017. Approximately 33.1 out of 1,000 Wisconsin children were involved in a report of alleged maltreatment in 2017. Appendix F lists the total number of CPS reports and CPS reports per 1,000 children by county during 2017.

**Table 2**

**CPS Maltreatment Reports per 1,000 Wisconsin Children \* ^  
2017**

Child Population (Ages 0-17)	Screened-in Referrals	Number of CPS Maltreatment Reports	CPS Reports per 1,000 Children
1,282,644	27,041	42,502	33.1

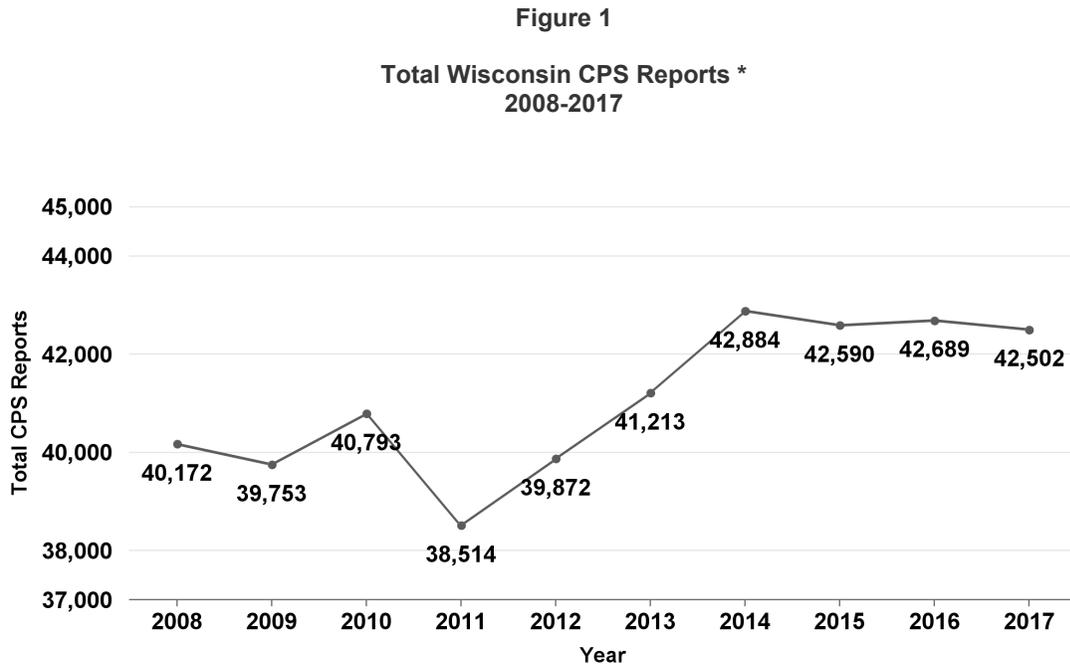
\* There are 35,752 unique children included in these 42,502 CPS maltreatment reports. The identification of CPS reports by child population is based on the total number of CPS reports.

^ Population Source: Office of Juvenile Justice 2017 Easy Access Population Profile

[https://ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/comparison\\_selection.asp?selState=55](https://ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/comparison_selection.asp?selState=55)

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Below, Figure 1 displays the total number of CPS maltreatment reports received by CPS agencies from 2008 through 2017. The number of CPS maltreatment reports has fluctuated between 38,514 and 42,884 reports over this time period. Overall there was a 5.8 percent increase in CPS maltreatment reports over the past ten years.



\* Historic data displayed in this chart may be slightly different, and generally larger, than previously published Child Abuse and Neglect Reports due to data updates. Updates may be due to the appeals process resulting in overturned decisions or a lag in data entry.

### Child Protective Services - Initial Assessment

The primary purpose of the CPS initial assessment is to assure the child's safety and determine whether the child and family are in need of any services to help keep the child safe. The CPS Initial Assessment process does not result in establishing legal culpability; instead, the case is referred to law enforcement and possibly the courts for that purpose. The CPS initial assessment must be conducted in accordance with the Child Protective Service Access and Initial Assessment Standards and these standards recognize that the CPS role must differ in cases of familial and non-familial maltreatment.

In cases of maltreatment involving primary caretakers, the CPS initial assessment includes an interview with and observation of the child, a visit to the family home, an interview with any siblings and an interview with the child's caregiver(s). Interviews may also be conducted with other persons that have contact with the child or family. Decisions that must be made during the CPS Initial Assessment include: whether the child is safe; whether maltreatment occurred; who the maltreater(s) was (if they can be identified), and whether the family is in need of services to assure child safety. Many elements enter into the decision-making process including: the child's ability to function and communicate; parent/caregiver protective capacities; physical evidence; overall family functioning; and the absence or presence of stressful family circumstances.

Upon completion of a CPS initial assessment, the agency must determine whether child maltreatment has occurred. Initial assessment findings for allegations where maltreatment has occurred are either "substantiated" or "unsubstantiated". Additionally, a third finding may be used: "not able to locate sources of information and/or subjects of the report – unsubstantiated". This finding is to be used only when the agency is unable to locate critical persons involved in the report, making it impossible to gather the information needed to make a determination.

Substantiated cases refer only to cases in which CPS staff determine, based upon a preponderance of the evidence, that child maltreatment has occurred. A preponderance of evidence is a lower standard of evidence than that needed for proof in juvenile or criminal court procedures. The agency may also determine that maltreatment has occurred without identifying a particular person that has maltreated or will maltreat a child. Therefore, the agency has the authority to respond to children in need of protection or services even when a specific maltreater cannot be positively identified. In all cases, a substantiated maltreatment finding is not necessary for a family to be offered services.

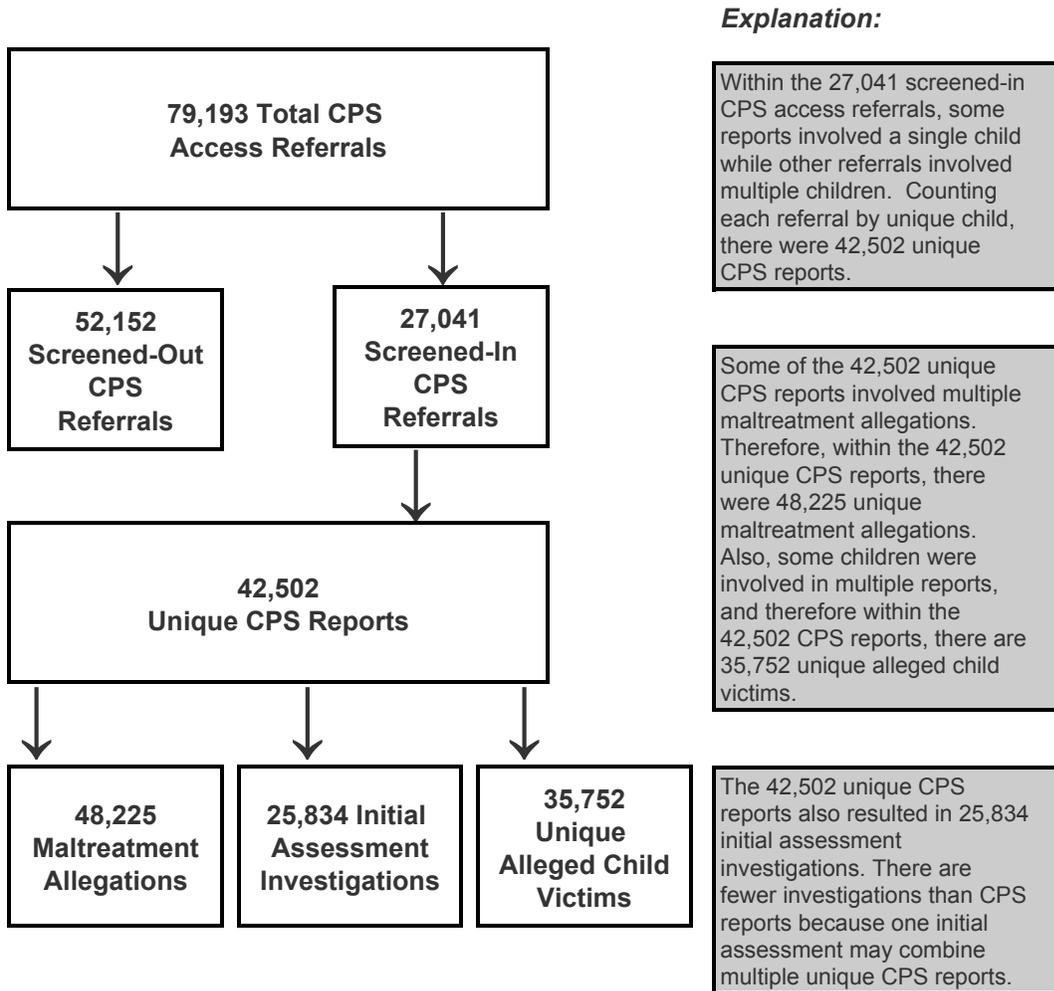
During the CPS initial assessment, the CPS agency must also assess whether the child or children in the home are in danger of child maltreatment. If the child or children are unsafe, regardless of whether there is a substantiation decision, the CPS agency must create a safety plan to control identified threats to child safety. The safety decision and services offered to the family as a result of the CPS Initial Assessment are the focus of the section of this report entitled "Services to Families".

Alternative response assessments do not result in a substantiation or unsubstantiation. Rather, these assessments result in findings of either "services needed" or "services not needed", depending on the result of the assessment. No data is presented on alternative response findings below because not all counties participate in these assessments, and there is not enough data to report.

Figure 2, below, provides a flowchart of how CPS access referrals are related to unique CPS reports, maltreatment allegations, child victims, and initial assessment allegations.

Figure 2

Flowchart of how CPS Access Referrals are Related to Initial Assessment Investigations 2017



As seen in Figure 2, the number of CPS initial assessments (25,834) is lower than the number of CPS maltreatment reports (42,502) because multiple maltreatment reports containing different maltreatment allegations for a child may be assessed during one CPS initial assessment. Also, there are more maltreatment allegations (48,225) than children listed in maltreatment reports (35,752) and CPS initial assessments (25,834) because maltreatment allegations are counted for each instance of maltreatment for an alleged victim. As children may have multiple allegations of maltreatment, and as one initial assessment may assess multiple allegations, these figures will always be lower than the total number of maltreatment allegations.

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Table 3, below, shows the statewide maltreatment substantiation rate for calendar year 2017 was 13.6 percent. The maltreatment substantiation rate is the proportion of maltreatment allegations that were found to be substantiated after the conclusion of the CPS initial assessment. The substantiation rate is calculated by dividing all substantiated maltreatment allegations for calendar year 2017 by the total number of traditional response maltreatment allegations. Appendix G shows the substantiation rate by county for 2017.

**Table 3**

**Wisconsin Maltreatment Substantiation Rate  
2017**

Number of CPS Maltreatment Reports	Number of Maltreatment Allegations *	Maltreatment Substantiation Count	Maltreatment Substantiation Rate
<b>42,502</b>	<b>41,374</b>	<b>5,632</b>	<b>13.6%</b>

\* The total number of maltreatment findings presented does not include the 6,851 maltreatment findings of services needed and services not needed associated with alternative response assessments.

Table 4, below, shows the child victimization rate for calendar year 2017. The child victimization rate is the number of unique children who were victims of substantiated maltreatment out of a population of 1,000 children. The child victimization rate is calculated by dividing the total number of unique children who were victims of substantiated maltreatment by Wisconsin's total child population. Please note that of these 5,049 substantiated child victims, 512 children were victims of two or more substantiated instances of maltreatment. Appendix H shows the child victimization rate for calendar year 2017 by county.

**Table 4**

**Wisconsin Unique Child Victimization Rate \*  
2017**

Child Population (Ages 0-17)	Number of Unique Child Victims	Child Victims per 1,000 Children
<b>1,282,644</b>	<b>5,049</b>	<b>3.9</b>

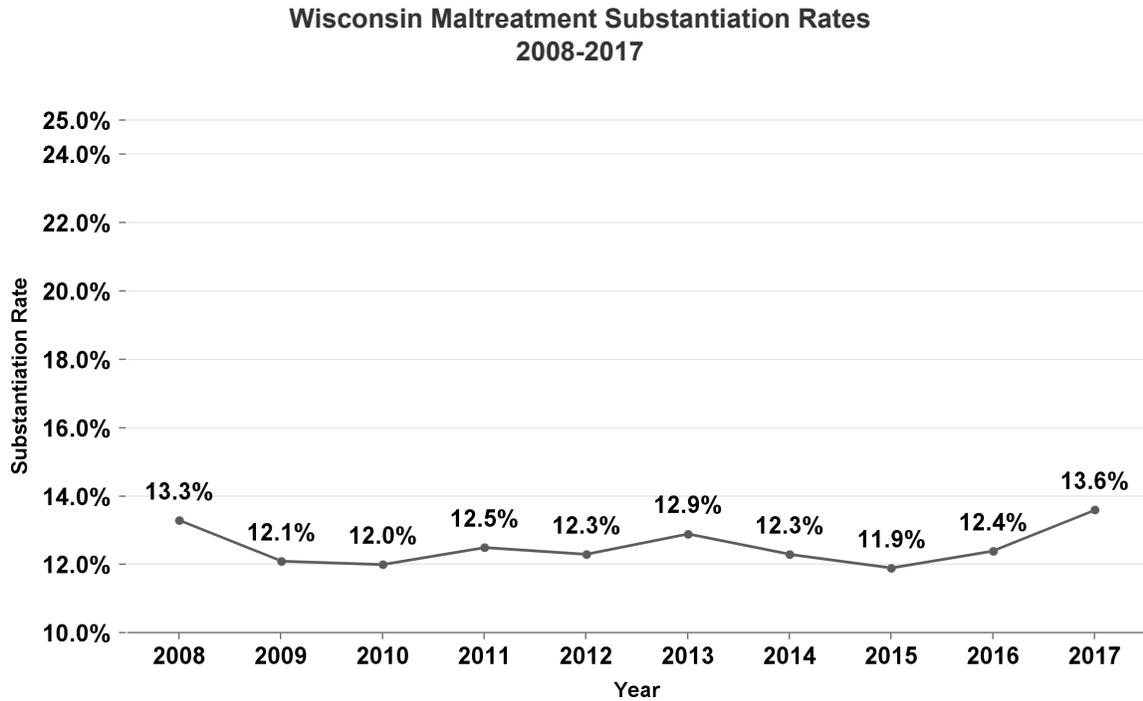
\* Population Source: Office of Juvenile Justice 2017 Easy Access Population Profile

[https://ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/comparison\\_selection.asp?selState=55](https://ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/comparison_selection.asp?selState=55)

## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

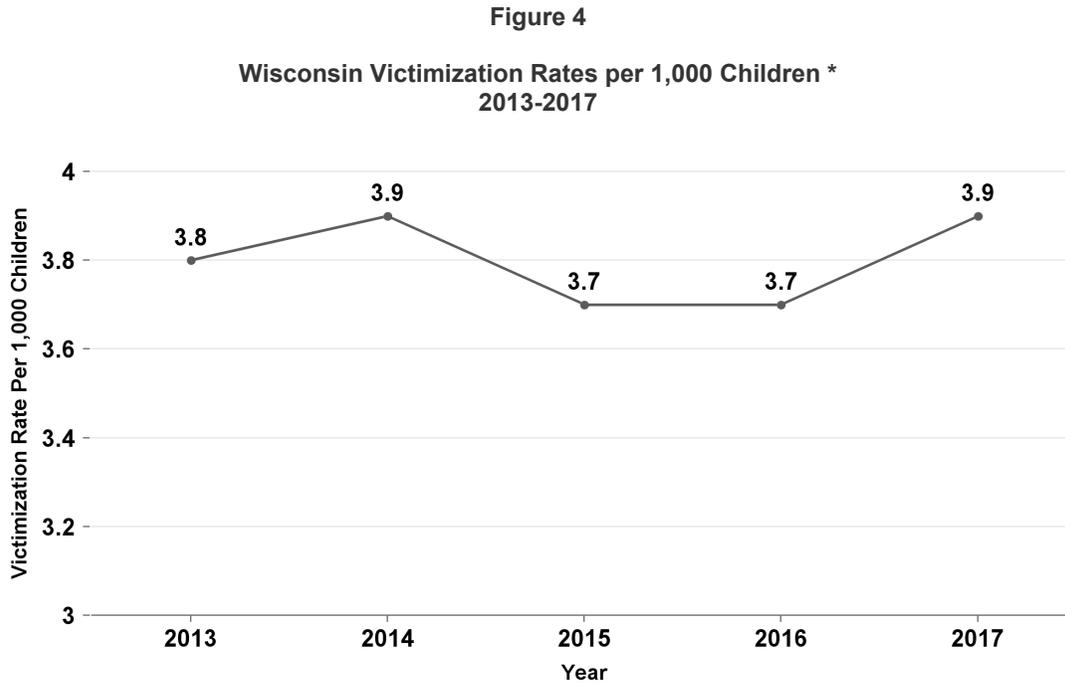
Figure 3, below, depicts the maltreatment substantiation rates in Wisconsin from 2008 through 2017. Here we see there was a 0.3 percentage point increase in substantiation rates over this time period. The substantiation rate has remained relatively steady over the last ten years.

Figure 3



## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

Below, Figure 4 displays the child victimization rate in Wisconsin over a five year period. As seen in Figure 4, the maltreatment rate has fluctuated during this time span between a low of 3.7 children maltreated per 1,000 children, and a high of 3.9 children maltreated per 1,000 children.



\* Historic data displayed in this chart may be slightly different, and generally larger, than previously published Child Abuse and Neglect Reports due to data updates. Updates may be due to the appeals process resulting in overturned decisions or a lag in data entry.

Table 5, below, examines maltreatment allegations by maltreatment type (neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse and emotional abuse) and maltreatment finding for 2017. For specific allegations of maltreatment, the maltreatment finding may be substantiated, unsubstantiated, or not able to locate sources of information and/or subjects of the report – unsubstantiated. Appendix I shows a county-by-county breakdown by maltreatment allegation type and finding.

**Table 5**  
**Total Maltreatment Allegations by Maltreatment Findings and Maltreatment Type \***  
**2017**

Maltreatment Type	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Not able to locate source	Total
Neglect	3,706	21,268	797	25,771
Physical Abuse	806	8,485	181	9,472
Sexual Abuse	1,082	4,067	166	5,315
Emotional Damage/Abuse	38	770	8	816
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,632</b>	<b>34,590</b>	<b>1,152</b>	<b>41,374</b>

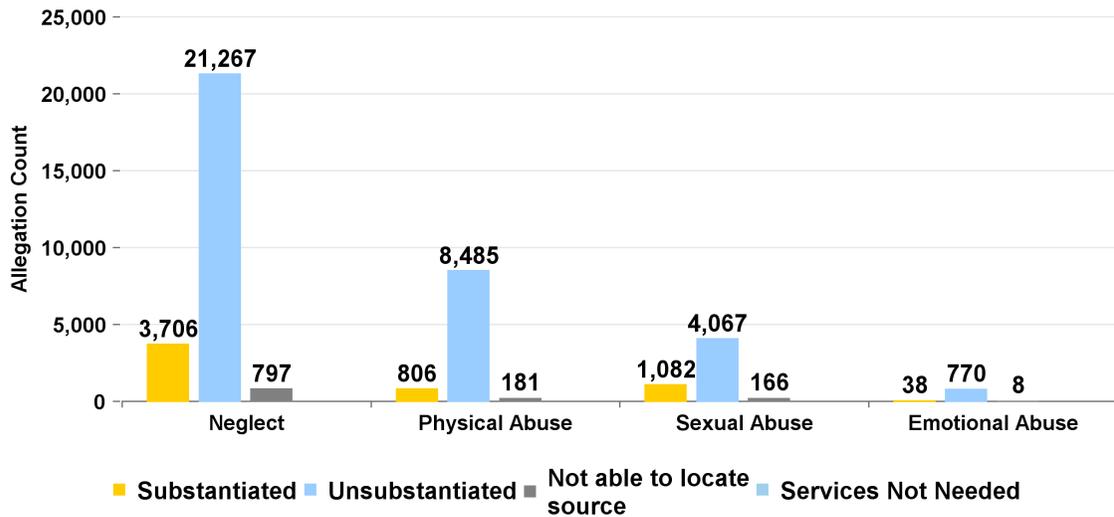
\* The total number of maltreatment findings presented above does not include the 6,851 maltreatment findings of 'services needed' and 'services not needed' associated with alternative response assessments.

## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

Figure 5, below, displays the maltreatment allegation findings from all CPS Initial Assessments by maltreatment type for calendar year 2017. The figure displays the maltreatment types with the most to least allegations from left to right. Thus, neglect is the most alleged type of maltreatment, followed by physical abuse, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse. The figure also shows that the maltreatment type with the most substantiations is neglect, followed by sexual abuse, physical abuse, and emotional abuse.

**Figure 5**

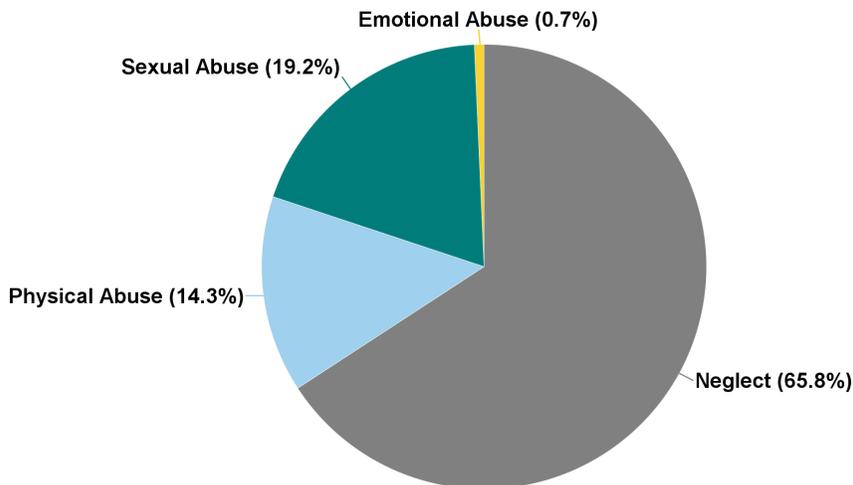
**Count of Maltreatment Allegations by Maltreatment Findings, and by Maltreatment Type 2017**



Below, Figure 6 shows percentages of substantiated maltreatment findings by type. More than half of substantiated allegations are neglect allegations. Sexual abuse and physical abuse make up 19.2 percent and 14.3 percent of substantiations, respectively. Emotional abuse accounts for less than one percent of all substantiations.

**Figure 6**

**Maltreatment Substantiations by Maltreatment Type 2017**



## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

Table 6, below, displays the percentage of maltreatment allegation substantiations by the type of maltreatment experienced. The figures on which these substantiation rates are based can be found in Table 5, which displays the total allegation and substantiation counts. To determine the substantiation rate by maltreatment type, the substantiation count for that type of maltreatment is divided by the total number of allegations for that maltreatment. For example, the physical abuse maltreatment substantiation percent was calculated by dividing the total number of substantiated physical abuse allegations (806) by the total number of physical abuse allegations (9,472). Appendix J shows the substantiation percent within maltreatment type by county for 2017.

**Table 6**

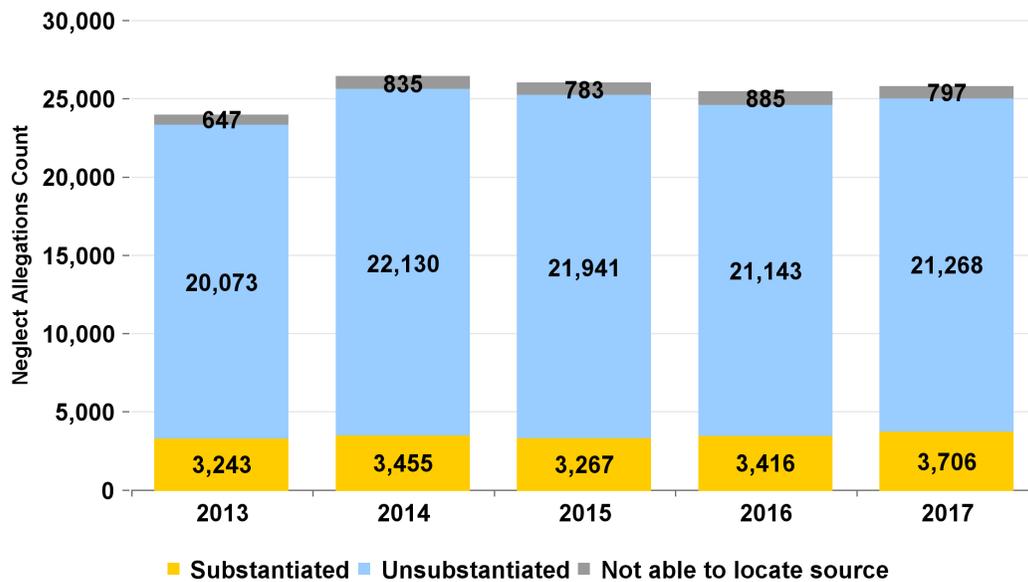
**Wisconsin Maltreatment Allegation Substantiation Rate by Maltreatment Type  
2017**

Neglect Substantiation Rate	Physical Abuse Substantiation Rate	Sexual Abuse Substantiation Rate	Emotional Abuse Substantiation Rate
14.4%	8.5%	20.4%	4.7%

Figures 7 through Figure 10, below, depict the maltreatment findings for each maltreatment type for 2013 through 2017. Overall, Figure 7 displays that neglect allegations increased 7.5 percent across this timespan, while neglect substantiations increased 14.3 percent. Changes in Wisconsin's data entry system and the addition of alternative response as an Initial Assessment disposition have impacted usage of neglect allegations and substantiations. Please refer to Appendix D for further information regarding data interpretation.

**Figure 7**

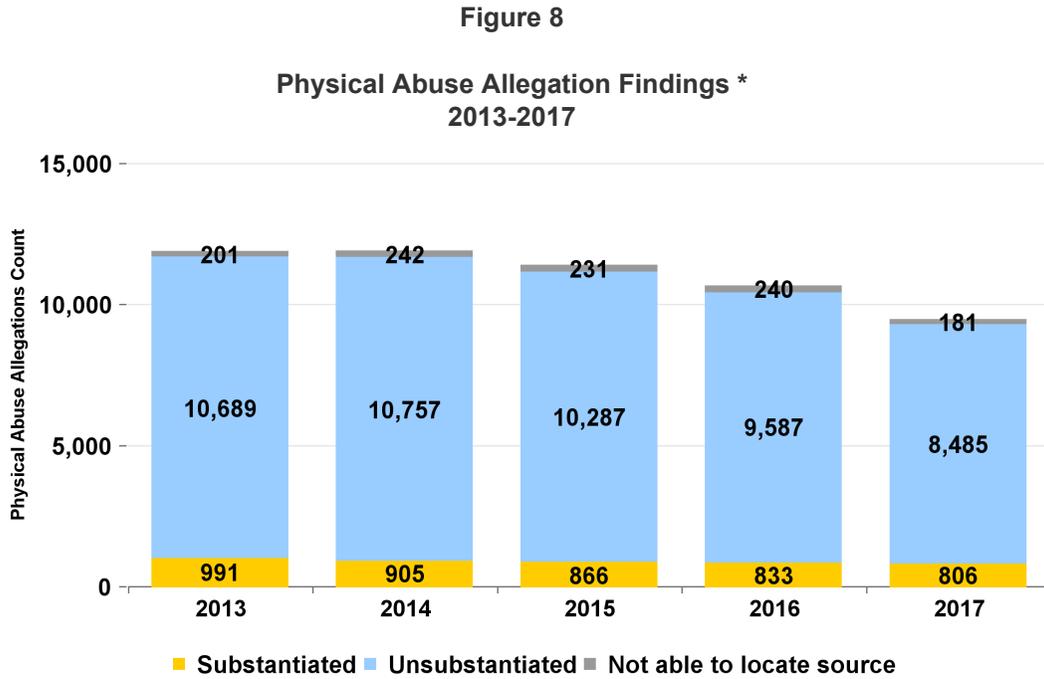
**Neglect Allegation Findings \*  
2013-2017**



\* Historical data displayed in this chart may be slightly different, and generally larger, than previously published Child Abuse and Neglect Reports due to data updates. Updates may be due to the appeals process resulting in overturned decisions or a lag in data entry.

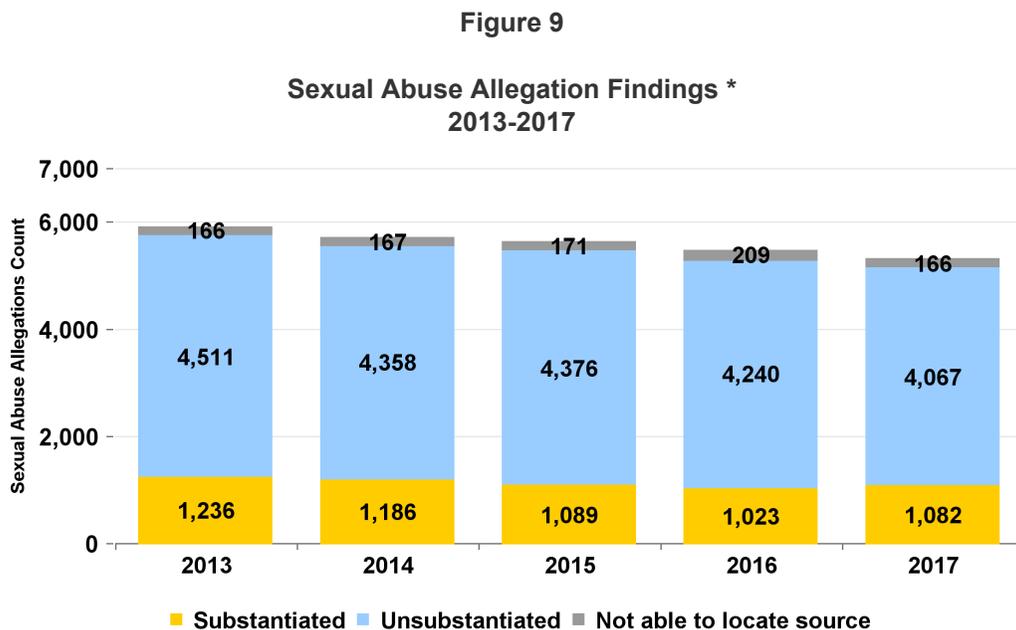
## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

Figure 8 shows the physical abuse allegation findings from 2013 through 2017. The number of physical abuse allegations decreased by 20.3 percent, while over the same time period the physical abuse substantiations have decreased by 18.7 percent.



\* Historical data displayed in this chart may be slightly different, and generally larger, than previously published Child Abuse and Neglect Reports due to data updates. Updates may be due to the appeals process resulting in overturned decisions or a lag in data entry.

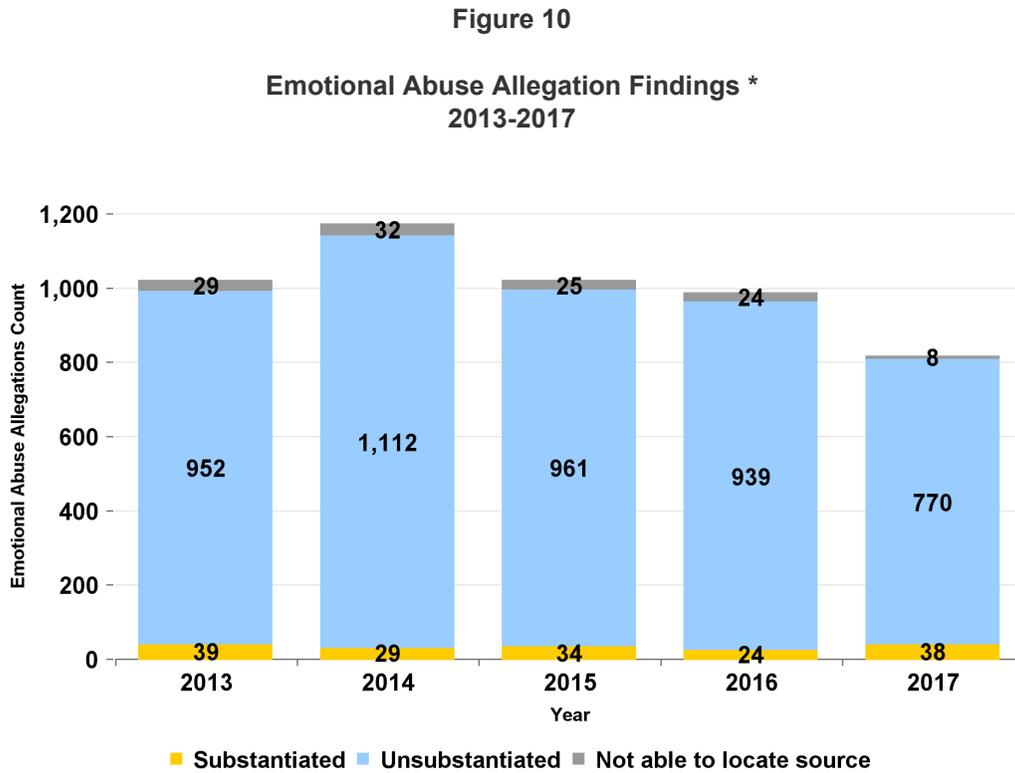
Figure 9 displays the sexual abuse allegation findings from 2013 through 2017. Over this timespan, sexual abuse allegations have decreased 10.1 percent while sexual abuse substantiations have decreased by 12.5 percent overall.



\* Historical data displayed in this chart may be slightly different, and generally larger, than previously published Child Abuse and Neglect Reports due to data updates. Updates may be due to the appeals process resulting in overturned decisions or a lag in data entry.

## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

Figure 10 displays the emotional abuse allegation findings from 2013 through 2017. Over this timespan, emotional abuse allegations have decreased 20 percent while emotional abuse substantiations have declined by 2.6 percent overall.



\* Historical data displayed in this chart may be slightly different, and generally larger, than previously published Child Abuse and Neglect Reports due to data updates. Updates may be due to the appeals process resulting in overturned decisions or a lag in data entry.

## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

### Reporters

Reporters are persons who contact CPS agencies with information regarding alleged maltreatment of a child. This section reflects data on the reporters (i.e., sources) who made the reports received by CPS agencies through both screened-in and screened-out referrals during calendar year 2017.

#### Reporter's Relationship to Alleged Child Victim

Certain individuals whose employment brings them into contact with children are required by, s. 48.981(2) Wis. Stats., to report any suspected child maltreatment seen in the course of their professional duties. These individuals are referred to as mandated reporters. However, anyone who suspects a child is being maltreated may make such a report. Persons making referrals in good faith are immune from criminal or civil liability. Wisconsin's CPS delivery system requires any concerned individual to report suspected child maltreatment directly to the local CPS agency or law enforcement. Any referral of alleged child maltreatment received by law enforcement officials must subsequently be referred to the local CPS agency. More information about reporting suspected child maltreatment is available at the following website:

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cps/reportabuse>

Table 7, below, displays the count of all screened-in and screened-out referrals by the type of reporter during calendar year 2017. The table lists the reporter types in descending order from the most frequent reporters to the least frequent reporters.

**Table 7**

**Screened In and Screened Out Referrals by Reporter's Relationship to the Alleged Child Victim \*  
2017**

<b>Reporter</b>	<b>Count of Referrals</b>	<b>Percent of Total Referrals</b>
Educational Personnel	15,675	19.8%
Legal / Law Enforcement	14,600	18.4%
Social Service Worker	10,341	13.1%
Parent of Child Victim	6,610	8.3%
Mental Health Professional	6,499	8.2%
Not Documented	5,162	6.5%
Other	4,741	6.0%
Relative	4,462	5.6%
Medical Personnel	4,417	5.6%
Anonymous	2,852	3.6%
Neighbor/Friend	2,160	2.7%
Child Care Provider	820	1.0%
Other Caregiver of Child Victim	584	0.7%
Child Victim	256	0.3%
Maltreater	14	0.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>79,193</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

\* For purposes of this report, reporters have been condensed into categories.

## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

Table 8, below, shows the types of maltreatment allegations that were screened in for a CPS initial assessment by reporter type. The number of allegations (48,225) exceeds the total number of screened-in referrals (27,041) because each referral may document more than one allegation of maltreatment per child, and each referral may also document multiple children. The reporters are listed in descending order, from the reporters who made the most maltreatment allegations to those who made the fewest maltreatment allegations.

**Table 8**

**Total Screened In Maltreatment Allegations by Reporter's Relationship to the Alleged Child Victim \*  
2017**

Mandated Reporter	Reporter Category	Maltreatment Allegation Type				
		Neglect	Physical Abuse	Sexual Abuse	Emotional Abuse	TOTAL
Yes	Legal / Law Enforcement	7,893	1,781	1,293	158	11,125
Yes	Educational Personnel	3,399	3,201	726	213	7,539
Yes	Social Service Worker	4,110	1,499	815	96	6,520
No	Relative	2,707	525	215	97	3,544
No	Parent of Child Victim	2,084	718	427	96	3,325
No	Not Documented	2,081	611	368	86	3,146
No	Other	2,020	612	312	52	2,996
Yes	Mental Health Professional	1,103	701	646	139	2,589
No	Anonymous	1,827	286	117	45	2,275
Yes	Medical Personnel	1,287	617	329	36	2,269
No	Neighbor/Friend	1,565	274	87	29	1,955
No	Other Caregiver of Child Victim	246	64	87	8	405
Yes	Child Care Provider	144	161	48	6	359
No	Child Victim	90	58	14	13	175
No	Maltreater	0	1	1	1	3
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30,556</b>	<b>11,109</b>	<b>5,485</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>48,225</b>

\* For purposes of this report, reporters have been condensed into categories.

## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

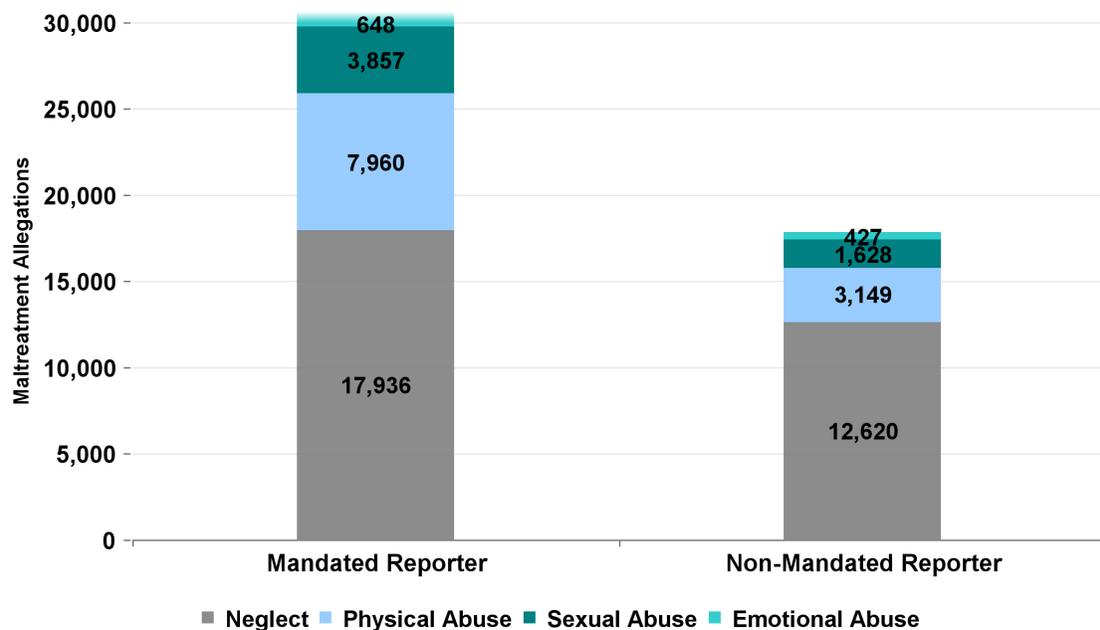
Figure 11, below, shows total screened in maltreatment allegations made by mandated versus non-mandated reporters by the maltreatment type alleged. Mandated reporters include legal/law enforcement personnel, educational personnel, social service workers, mental health workers, medical personnel, and child care providers. A full list of mandated reporters by professions is found in the following link, as well as in s. 48.981(2) Wis. Stats.

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cps/mandatedreporters>

Statewide, mandated reporters surpassed non-mandated reporters in the number of maltreatment allegations across each type of maltreatment. Mandated reporters made a total of 30,401 maltreatment allegations in 2017 as compared to the 17,824 maltreatment allegations made by non-mandated reporters.

Figure 11

Total Maltreatment Allegations by Maltreatment Type and by Mandated and Non-Mandated Reporters 2017



**Reporters Allegations and Subsequent Findings**

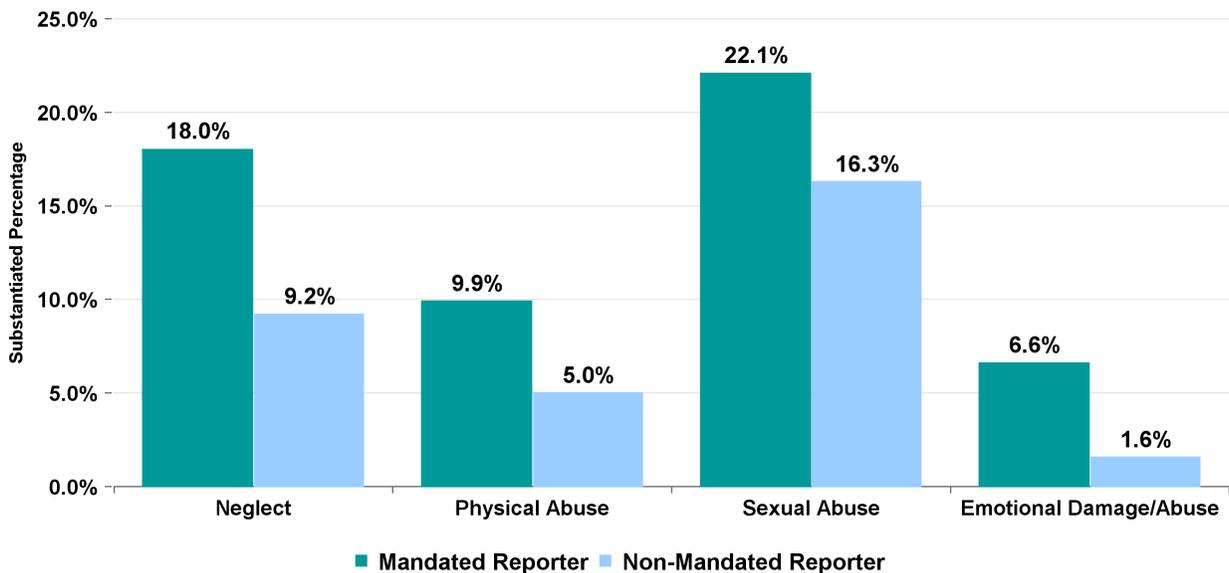
This section examines screened-in maltreatment allegations reporters made during calendar year 2017 that were found through CPS Initial Assessment to be substantiated instances of child maltreatment.

Figure 12, below, compares the percentage of substantiated maltreatment allegations by type, and by whether the referral was made by a mandated or non-mandated reporter. The total number of maltreatment allegations by type can be seen in Table 5.

In Wisconsin, across all categories of maltreatment, mandated reporters were found to have a higher percentage of allegation substantiations after CPS initial assessment than non-mandated reporters' maltreatment allegations. This higher percentage of substantiation is likely because mandated reporters are in general more educated on child maltreatment reporting protocol, and so they are less likely to report situations that do not meet the definition of child maltreatment than non-mandated reporters.

**Figure 12**

**Percentage of Substantiated Maltreatment Allegations by Type and by Mandated and Non-Mandated Reporters 2017**



\* The total number of maltreatment findings presented above does not include the 6,851 maltreatment findings of 'services needed' and 'services not needed' associated with alternative response assessments.

## Victims

A child is considered a maltreatment victim when the CPS agency identifies that at least one maltreatment allegation was found to be substantiated upon completion of the CPS Initial Assessment. Therefore, if a child is a victim of more than one maltreatment allegation in the same CPS initial assessment, he/she is counted as a victim once. Likewise, if the same child was involved in two or more CPS initial assessments (for example, one in January and one in October), in which he/she had at least one substantiated maltreatment allegation, the child is counted only once for the state rate but may factor into the abuse victimization rates of multiple counties. Based on this method, there were 5,049 victims of substantiated maltreatment in 2017.

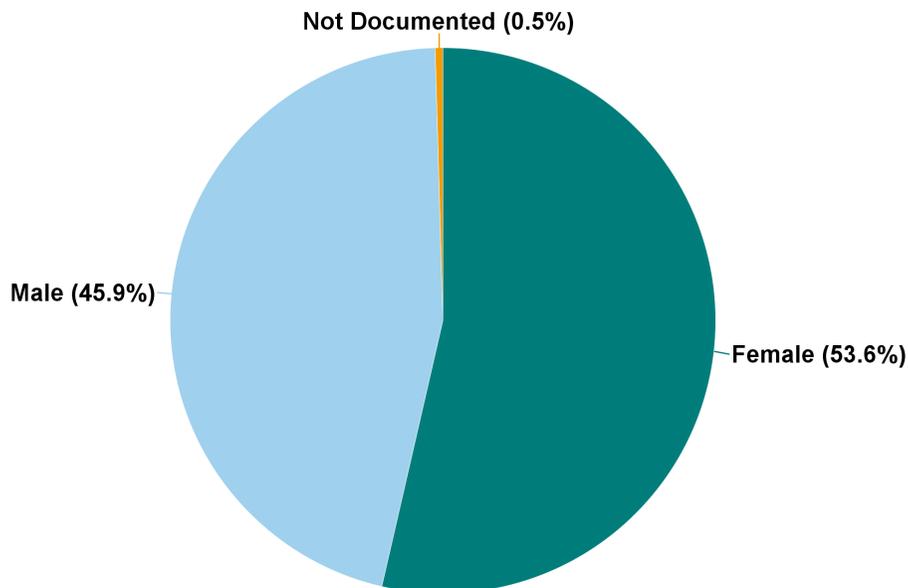
## Characteristics of Maltreated Children

### Gender

Figure 13, below, displays the calendar year 2017 victims by gender. In Wisconsin in 2017, more females were the victims of child maltreatment than were males, likely because they suffer higher rates of sexual abuse than males.

Figure 13

Gender of Unique Child Maltreatment Victims  
2017



## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

Table 9, below, displays the child victimization rate by gender for calendar year 2017. The victimization rate by gender is calculated by dividing the number of unique female and male victims in 2017 by the respective Wisconsin female and male child population (ages 0-17). In 2017, females comprised a disproportionate share of the victims given their number in the Wisconsin child population.

**Table 9**  
**Child Victimization Rate by Gender \***  
**2017**

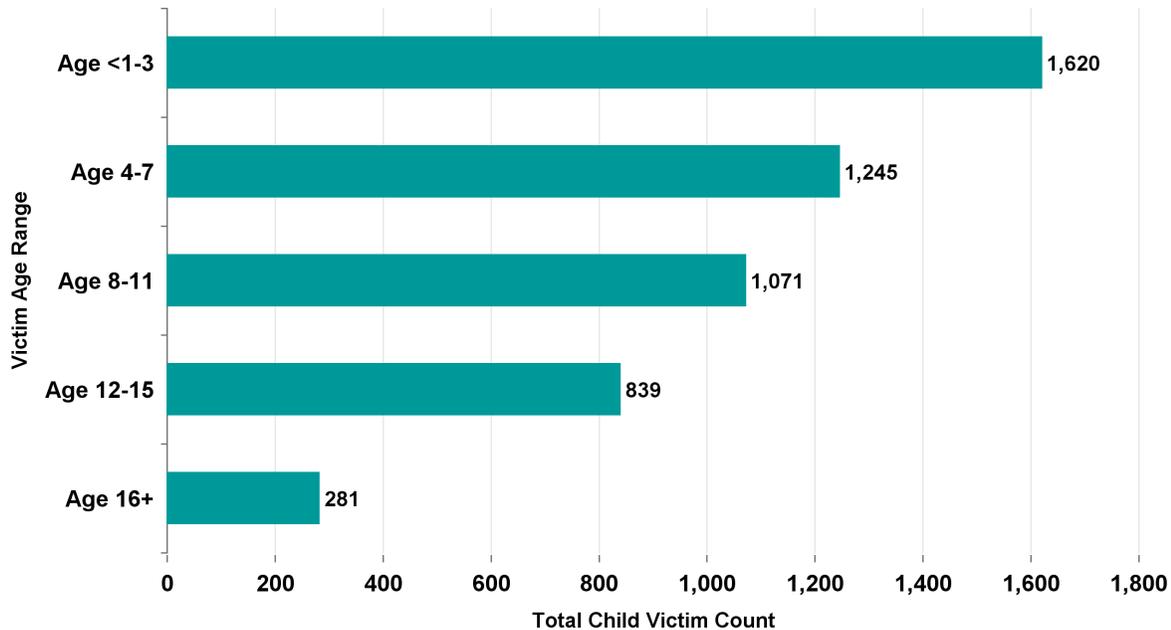
Gender	Child Population (0-17 Years Old)	Count of Victims	Child Victims per 1,000 Children
Female	626,397	2,706	4.3
Male	656,247	2,320	3.5
Not Documented	N/A	23	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,282,644</b>	<b>5,049</b>	<b>3.9</b>

\* Population source: Office of Juvenile Justice 2017 Easy Access Population Profile  
[https://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/comparison\\_selection.asp?selState=55](https://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/comparison_selection.asp?selState=55)

### Age

Figure 14, below, displays the count of victims by age range for calendar year 2017. In 2017, the <=3 age group accounted for the largest number of victims and 56.7 percent of victims were under the age of 8. These proportions have been stable over time.

**Figure 14**  
**Age Range of Unique Child Maltreatment Victims \***  
**2017**

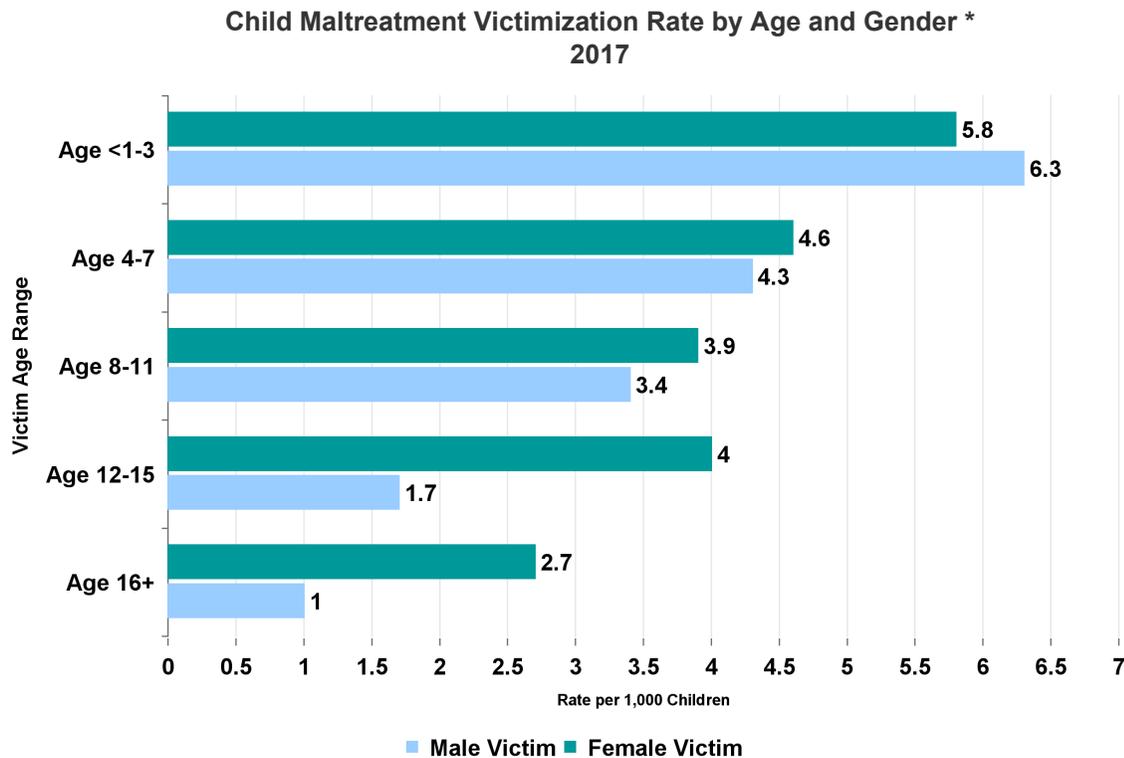


\* The total number of children included in this chart is slightly larger than the number of unique victims in Table 9 as some children were maltreated multiple times throughout the year, and belong in two age groups.

## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

Figure 15, below, displays the child maltreatment victimization rate by age and gender for calendar year 2017. This victimization rate is calculated by dividing the number of 2017 unique child victims of each gender and age group by the respective number of children in the state's population of the same gender and age group. In the younger age groups, males and females are victimized at similar rates. As children age, the victimization rate drops for both groups, but the female victimization rate remains higher than the male victimization rate for the older four age groups.

Figure 15



\* Population source: Office of Juvenile Justice 2017 Easy Access Population Profile

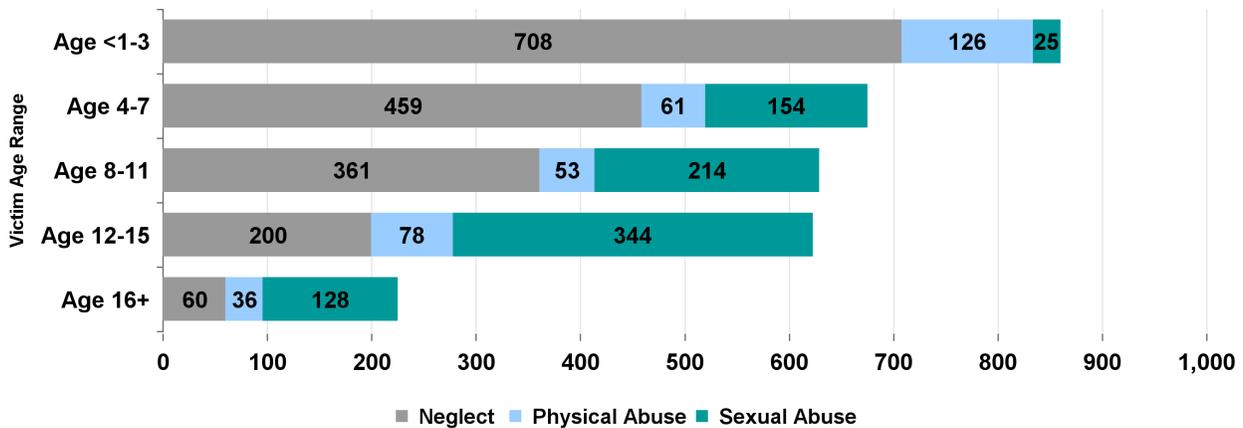
[https://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/comparison\\_selection.asp?selState=55](https://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/comparison_selection.asp?selState=55)

## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

To understand why there are gender differences in the victimization rates, please refer to Figure 16 and 17, below. Figure 16 displays the number of substantiated maltreatment allegations, by victim age range, for female victims. Figure 17 provides the same information for male victims. The 2,706 female victims with documented ages experienced 3,027 maltreatment substantiations, while the 2,318 male victims with documented ages experienced 2,578 maltreatment substantiations. In comparing figures 16 and 17, females experience greater instances of substantiated sexual abuse compared to their male counterparts. These figures also show that males experience greater instances of substantiated physical abuse compared to their female counterparts. Neglect declines with age for males and females.

**Figure 16**

**Substantiated Maltreatment Allegations, by Age, for Female Victims \* ^**  
2017

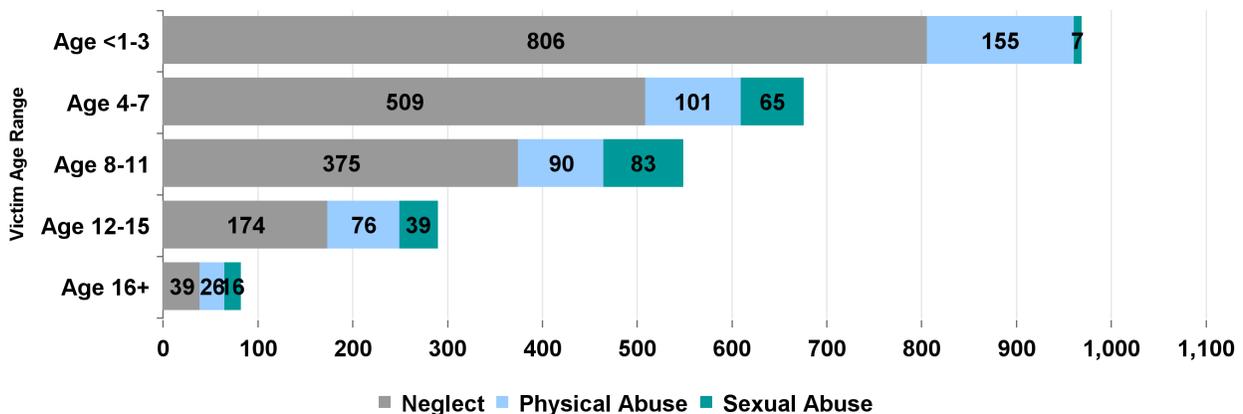


\* There were 20 instance(s) of substantiated emotional abuse allegations, made up of 2 instance(s) in <1-3 year olds, 0 instance(s) in 4-7 year olds, 3 instance(s) in 8-11 year olds, 11 instance(s) in 12-15 year olds, and 4 instance(s) in 16+ year olds.

^ Figure 16 does not include the 27 maltreatment substantiations with undocumented gender and/or age values.

**Figure 17**

**Substantiated Maltreatment Allegations, by Age, for Male Victim \* ^**  
2017



\* There were 17 instance(s) of substantiated emotional abuse allegations, made up of 3 instance(s) in <1-3 year olds, 3 instance(s) in 4-7 year olds, 5 instance(s) in 8-11 year olds, 4 instance(s) in 12-15 year olds, and 2 instance(s) in 16+ year olds.

^ Figure 17 does not include the 27 maltreatment substantiations with undocumented gender and/or age values.

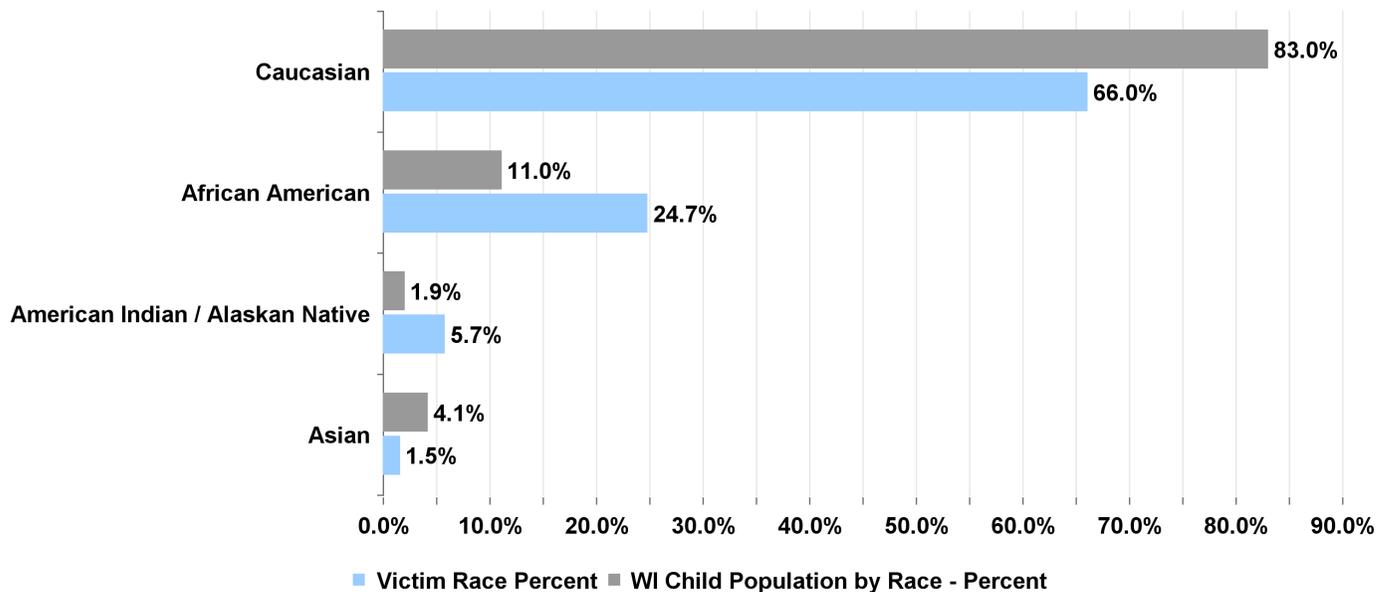
## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

### Race and Ethnicity

Figure 18, below, displays the percentage of unique victims by race for calendar year 2017, as compared to the race of the total Wisconsin child population. African American children and American Indian/Alaskan Native children are victims of child maltreatment at higher proportions than their comparative share of the general Wisconsin child population.

Figure 18

#### Victim and Wisconsin Child Population by Race Comparison \* ^ 2017



\* Population source: Office of Juvenile Justice 2017 Easy Access Population Profile

[https://www.ojdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/comparison\\_selection.asp?selState=55](https://www.ojdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/comparison_selection.asp?selState=55)

^ The 100 victims (2.0 percent) who are identified as 'unable to determine' or 'not documented' are not included in the chart above. Likewise the 2 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander victims are also not depicted above.

Of the 5,049 unique child maltreatment victims, 4,320 victims (85.6 percent) were identified as not Hispanic, 567 victims (11.2 percent) were identified as Hispanic, and for 162 victims (3.2 percent) the ethnicity was unknown or not documented. People of Hispanic ethnicity may be of any race.

**Abusive Head Trauma and Impacted Babies**

2005 Wisconsin Act 165 amended state statutes by creating provisions for the training of individuals who care for or supervise children under age 5 on shaken baby syndrome and impacted babies. Shaken Baby Syndrome is defined as “a severe form of brain injury that occurs when an infant or young child is shaken forcibly enough to cause the brain to rebound against his or her skull.” [Ref. s. 253.15(1)(f), Wis. Stats.] Impacted Baby is defined as, “an infant or young child who suffers death or great bodily harm as a result of being thrown against a surface, hard or soft.” [Ref. s. 253.15(1)(d), Wis. Stats.] The term “Abusive Head Trauma” encapsulates all descriptions of shaken baby syndrome, cranial cerebral trauma or injury, subdural hemorrhage/hematoma, retinal hemorrhage, traumatic brain injury, and blunt force head trauma.

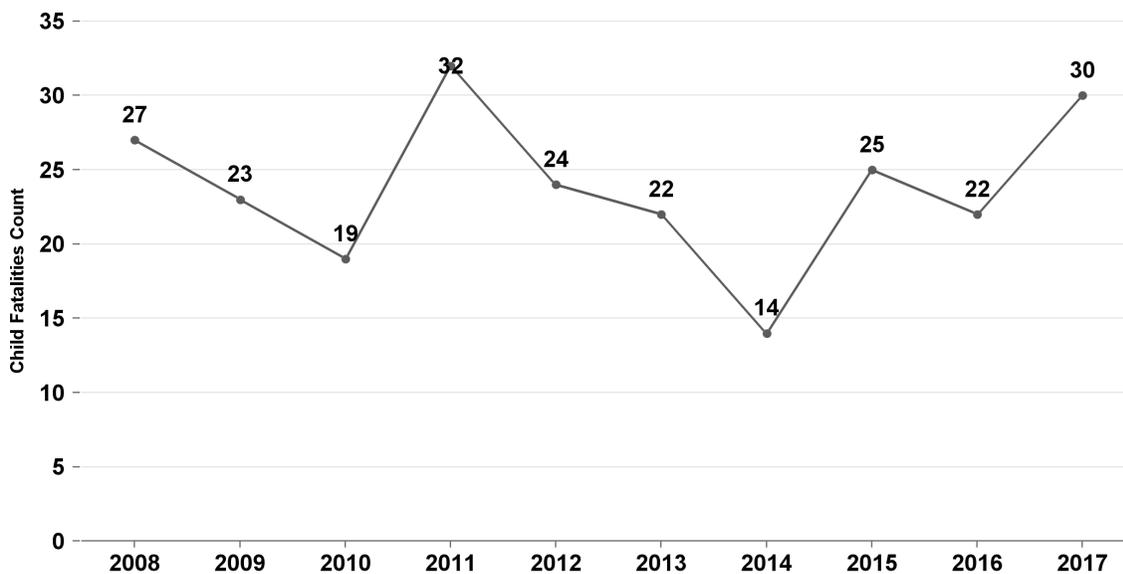
In 2017, there were 156 maltreatment allegations where one of the abusive head trauma and impacted baby related diagnoses was used to describe the maltreatment allegation for children ages 0 through 4 years. Of the 156 allegations made in 2017, 60 (38.5 percent) were found to be substantiated upon completion of the CPS Initial Assessment, representing 56 child victims. A total of 35 of the 60 substantiated allegations were for children under the age of one. Of these substantiated victims, 33 (58.9 percent) were male and 23 (41.1 percent) were female. The maltreater was the child’s biological parent in the majority of the substantiated allegations.

**Fatalities**

The death of a child is one of the most tragic consequences of child maltreatment. The role of Child Protective Services in the case of a child maltreatment death is to assure the safety of any other children present in the family and to assess the family’s need for services. Investigations of child deaths are generally handled by law enforcement agencies. For purposes of this report, the only child fatalities included are child deaths that were associated with a substantiated allegation of maltreatment. In 2017, county CPS agencies and the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services reported 30 substantiated cases of a child having died from maltreatment. Figure 19, below, shows the count of child fatalities substantiated due to maltreatment from 2008-2017.

**Figure 19**

**Count of Child Fatalities Substantiated as Maltreatment  
2008-2017**

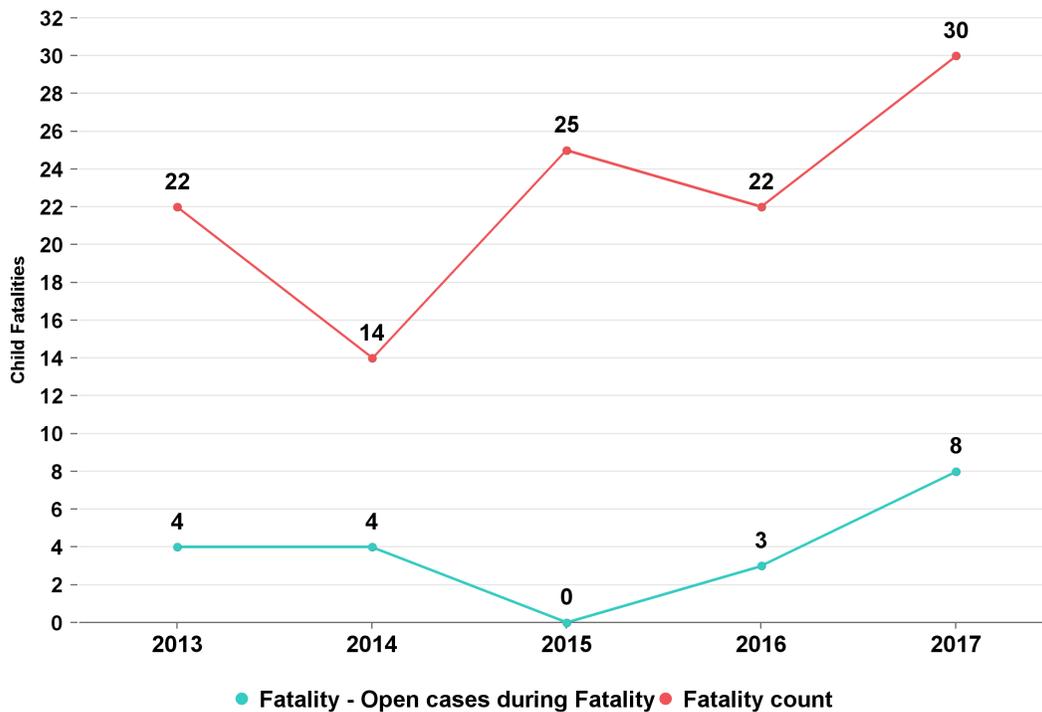


## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

Figure 20, below, shows the five year trend of total child fatalities and compares this number with the number of children who were receiving CPS services at the time of their death. The figure shows that eight children were in an open case at the time of their death.

Figure 20

### Child Fatalities Open for Investigation at Time of Fatality and Total Fatality Comparison 2013-2017



A review of the cases reported by CPS agencies of a child having died from maltreatment during the past five years (2013-2017) highlights trends among child maltreatment fatalities in Wisconsin. First, the majority of children who are victims of maltreatment which result in death are babies or very young children. Of the reported child maltreatment fatalities in 2017, 86.7 percent of the deaths were children age three or under and 43.3 percent of the deaths were children under age one.

The majority of maltreaters substantiated for the child's death in 2017 were the biological parents, unknown maltreaters, and relative primary care providers. The most frequent maltreater was the biological mother (39.5 percent), biological father (30.2 percent), unknown maltreater (11.6 percent), and relative primary care provider (7.0 percent). In cases where the biological mother, biological father, unknown maltreater or relative primary care providers were substantiated for the child's death, the maltreatment type was predominantly neglect of the child. The average age of the known substantiated maltreaters in 2017 was 30.6 years.

## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY 2017

Table 10, below, provides a summary of the 2017 child maltreatment fatalities, maltreater information, and maltreatment type by county. Of the 30 child maltreatment fatalities in 2017, nine were attributable to abusive head trauma or were impacted babies, which are noted in Table 10 and are further described following the table. Eight children were in an open child welfare case with a county CPS agency or the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services at the time of the child's death.

**Table 10**

**Profile of Child Fatalities due to Substantiated Abuse  
2017**

County	Maltreatment Type	Child Victim			Maltreater			
		Age at Death	Gender	Race / Ethnicity	Age at Death	Gender	Race/ Ethnicity	Relationship to Child
Barron*	Physical Abuse	<1	Female	White	31	Male	White	Biological Parent(s)
Brown	Neglect	1	Female	White	29	Female	White	Biological Parent(s)
	Physical Abuse				30	Male	White; Hispanic	Partner(s) / Friend(s) sharing dwelling
Brown~	Neglect	<1	Male	African American	25	Male	African American	Biological Parent(s)
					29	Female	African American	Biological Parent(s)
Burnett	Neglect	<1	Female	Native American / Alaskan Native	40	Male	Native American / Alaskan Native	Relative Primary Care Provider(s)
					38	Female	Native American / Alaskan Native	Relative Primary Care Provider(s)
Clark	Neglect	3	Male	White	31	Female	White	Biological Parent(s)
					31	Male	White	Biological Parent(s)
Forest~	Neglect	6	Female	Native American / Alaskan Native	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Kenosha	Neglect	1	Male	White	30	Female	White; Hispanic	Biological Parent(s)
Kenosha	Neglect	<1	Female	African American	29	Female	African American	Biological Parent(s)
Kenosha*	Physical Abuse	<1	Male	White	34	Male	Unknown	Biological Parent(s)
Milwaukee	Neglect	<1	Male	African American	42	Female	African American	Relative Non-Care Provider(s)
					47	Female	African American	Relative Primary Care Provider(s)
Milwaukee^ ~	Neglect	3	Male	African American	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Milwaukee^ ~	Neglect	2	Male	African American	39	Female	African American	Biological Parent(s)

### Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY 2017

County	Maltreatment Type	Child Victim			Maltreater			
		Age at Death	Gender	Race / Ethnicity	Age at Death	Gender	Race / Ethnicity	Relationship to Child
Milwaukee* ~	Physical Abuse	<1	Female	White; Hispanic	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
	Neglect				25	Male	White; Hispanic	Biological Parent(s)
					25	Female	White; Hispanic	Biological Parent(s)
Milwaukee ~	Neglect	<1	Male	White	26	Female	White	Biological Parent(s)
Milwaukee	Neglect	4	Male	African American	23	Female	African American	Biological Parent(s)
	Physical Abuse							
Milwaukee^	Neglect	<1	Male	African American	31	Female	African American	Biological Parent(s)
Milwaukee	Neglect	<1	Female	African American	26	Male	African American	Biological Parent(s)
Milwaukee	Neglect	14	Female	African American	37	Female	African American	Biological Parent(s)
Milwaukee*	Physical Abuse	1	Female	African American	29	Female	African American	Biological Parent(s)
Milwaukee	Neglect	1	Female	African American	22	Female	African American	Biological Parent(s)
	Physical Abuse				21	Male	African American	Partner(s) / Friend(s) sharing dwelling
Milwaukee*	Neglect	<1	Female	African American	37	Female	African American	Certified family home provider(s)
					Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Oneida*	Physical Abuse	1	Male	Asian	28	Female	White	Step parent(s)
	Neglect				40	Male	Asian	Biological Parent(s)
Outagamie	Neglect	13	Female	White	36	Female	White	Biological Parent(s)
Racine	Physical Abuse	3	Male	African American	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
	Neglect				23	Female	African American	Biological Parent(s)
					30	Male	African American	Biological Parent(s)
Racine*	Physical Abuse	<1	Male	White; Hispanic	30	Male	White; Hispanic	Biological Parent(s)
Rock*	Physical Abuse	<1	Male	African American	31	Male	African American	Biological Parent(s)
	Neglect				29	Female	White	Biological Parent(s)
Taylor	Neglect	<1	Male	White	31	Female	White	Biological Parent(s)
Wood~	Neglect	<1	Female	White	24	Male	White	Biological Parent(s)
Wood*	Physical Abuse	1	Male	White	32	Male	White	Biological Parent(s)
Wood~	Neglect	<1	Female	African American	22	Male	African American	Biological Parent(s)

## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY 2017

\* These maltreatment fatalities were the result of the maltreater causing the child to have abusive head trauma or to become an 'impacted baby'.

^ These maltreatment fatalities were the result of the child ingesting or being exposed to a chemical substance.

~These cases were open for child welfare services with the county CPS agency or the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services at the time of the child's death.

## Maltreaters

A person is considered a maltreater when the CPS agency, after completing the CPS initial assessment, identifies the person as having committed one or more types of child maltreatment. A person is counted as a maltreater once per CPS initial assessment no matter how many substantiated maltreatment types he/she has committed. Likewise, a maltreater is counted only once if he/she is involved in two or more separate CPS initial assessments in which he/she had at least one substantiated maltreatment finding during the calendar year (for example, one in January and one in October).

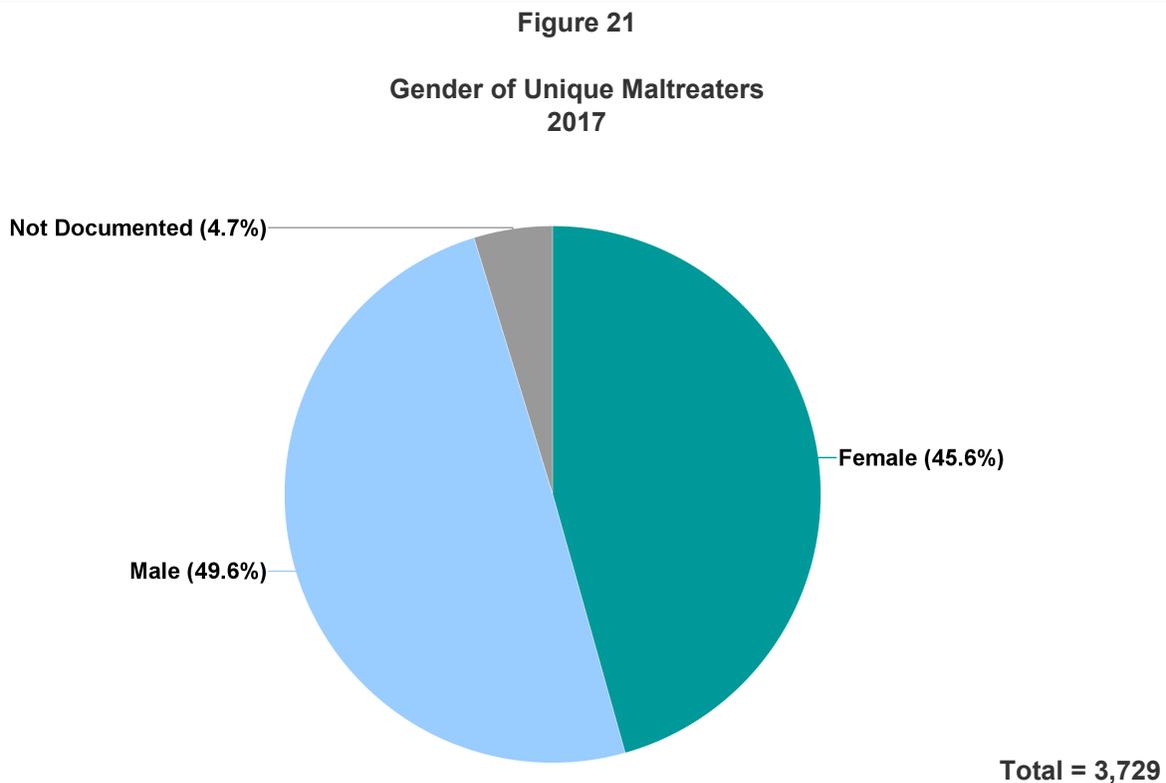
Based on this method, in calendar year 2017 there were 3,729 known unique maltreaters of substantiated child maltreatment. There are fewer unique maltreaters than unique victims (5,049) and unique instances of substantiated abuse (5,632) because some maltreaters were found to have maltreated more than one child and/or to have committed multiple instances of abuse or neglect. Note that within the 5,632 unique instances of substantiated abuse, 312 of those instances had an unknown maltreater who is not included within these figures.

With the exception of cases of alleged sex trafficking, CPS agencies do not routinely complete a CPS initial assessment in situations where the alleged maltreater is not a caregiver for the child or children. As these matters are generally referred to law enforcement, the characteristics of non-caregivers who maltreat children who do not have a CPS initial assessment completed are not represented in this report.

### Characteristics of Maltreaters

#### Gender

Figure 21, below, displays the frequency and proportion of maltreaters by their gender.



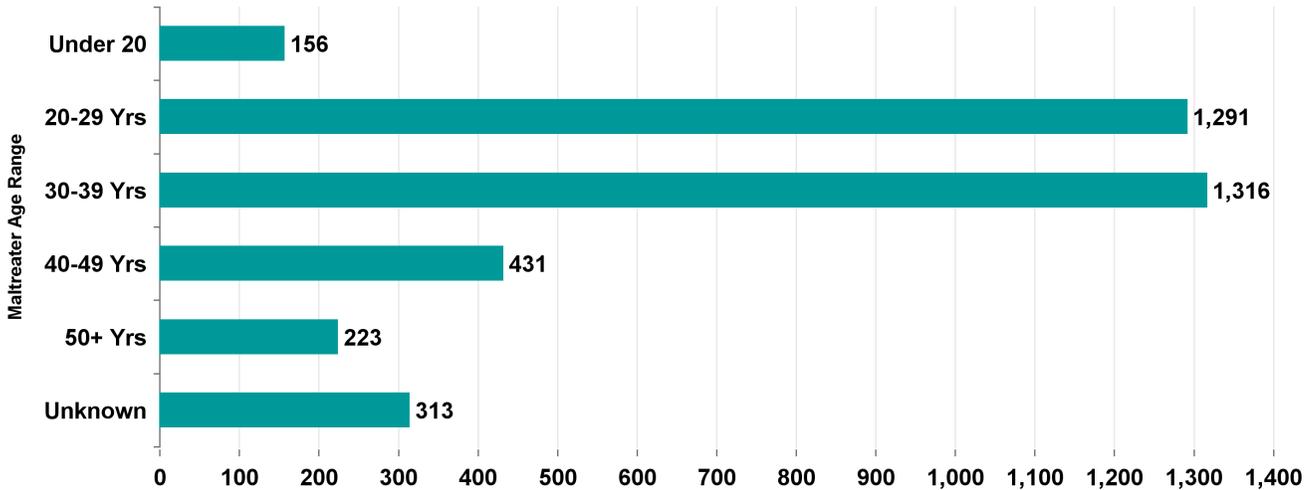
## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

### Age

Figure 22, below, shows the count and percentage of maltreaters by their age range for calendar year 2017. As the majority of maltreaters are parents, the most common child-rearing age groups account for the largest number of maltreaters.

**Figure 22**

**Age Range of Unique Maltreaters  
2017**

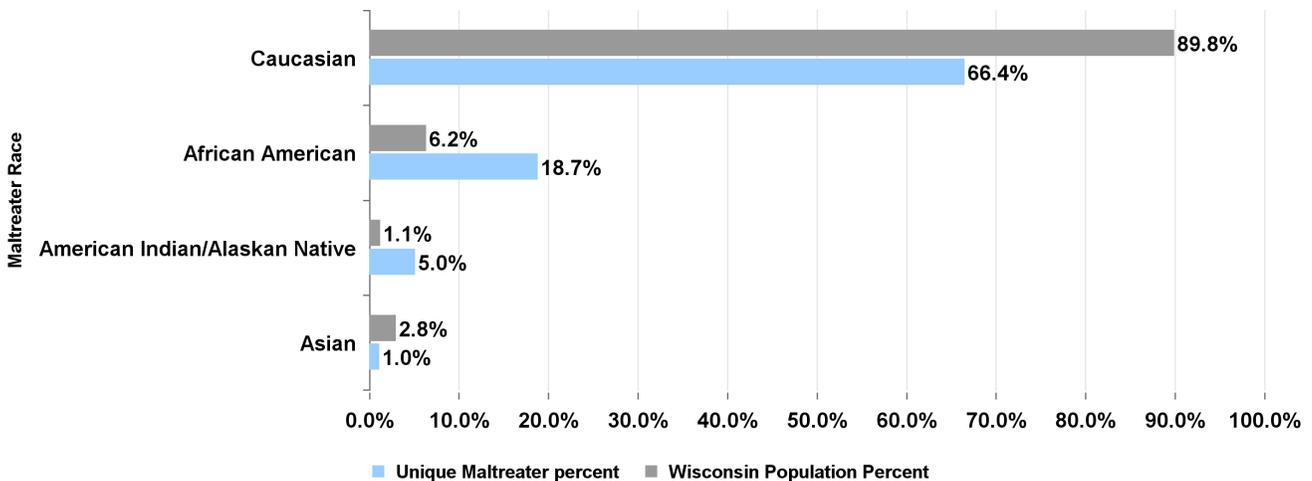


### Race and Ethnicity

Figure 23, below, compares the 2017 percentage of maltreaters by race with the Wisconsin adult population. Persons who identified as African American and American Indian / Alaskan Native comprise a larger share of identified maltreaters than their proportional share of Wisconsin's general adult population.

**Figure 23**

**Maltreater and Wisconsin Adult Population by Race Comparison \* ^  
2017**



\* Population source of WI adult population: Office of Juvenile Justice 2017 Easy Access Population Profile  
[https://www.ojdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezappop/asp/comparison\\_selection.asp?selState=55](https://www.ojdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezappop/asp/comparison_selection.asp?selState=55)

^ The maltreaters who were identified as 'unable to determine', 'not documented', or 'Native Hawaiian / Other Pacific Islander' are not depicted in the chart.

## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

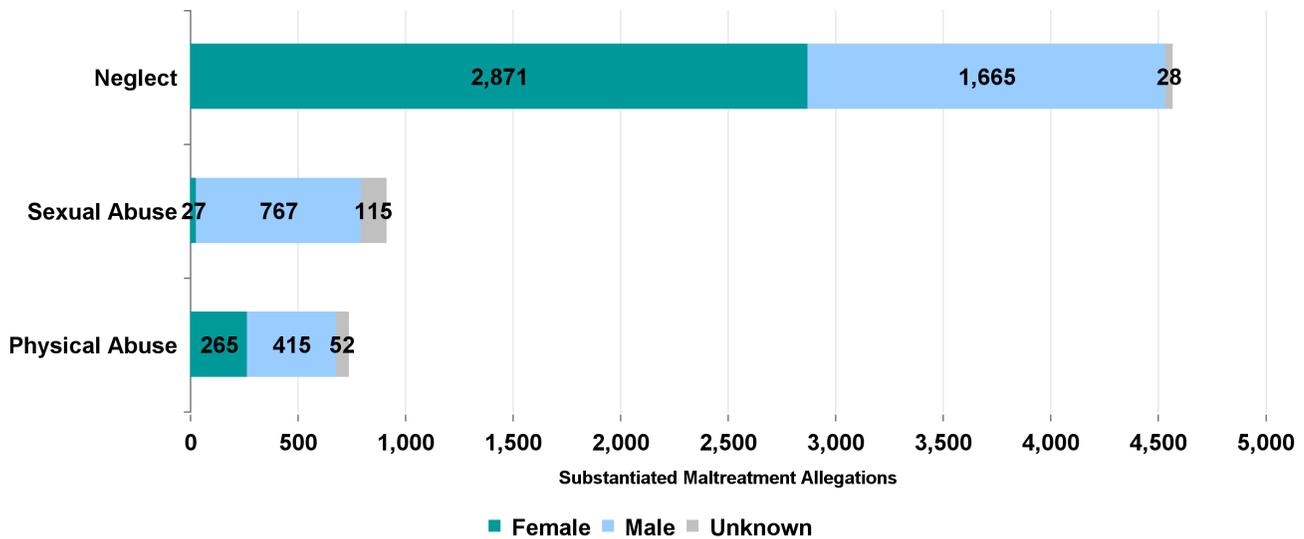
Of the 3,729 unique maltreaters, 2,767 (74.2 percent) were identified as not Hispanic, 294 (7.9 percent) were identified as Hispanic, and 668 (17.9 percent) maltreaters had an unknown or not documented ethnicity. People of Hispanic ethnicity may be of any race.

### Substantiated Allegations

The 3,729 unique known maltreaters were involved in 6,254 unique maltreatment allegations. Figure 24, below, depicts the 6,254 maltreatment allegation findings by maltreater gender during calendar year 2017. If a maltreater had more than one substantiated allegation finding during the year he/she will be depicted more than once in this graph. Males are sexual perpetrators at substantially greater rates than females. The majority of female perpetrators' maltreatment was related to neglect.

**Figure 24**

**Substantiated Maltreatment Allegations by Abuse Type and Maltreater Gender \*  
2017**



	Physical Abuse	Sexual Abuse	Neglect
Female	265	27	2,871
Male	415	767	1,665
Unknown	52	115	28

\* Of the 49 total substantiated allegations of emotional abuse, males accounted for 17 maltreaters, females accounted for 32 maltreaters, and 0 maltreaters had an undocumented gender.

## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

### Relationship to Victim

This section outlines the relationship of maltreaters to the child victims they were found to have maltreated. Table 11, below, shows all substantiated maltreatment allegations by maltreatment type and the person designated as the maltreater. The first category, primary caregivers, is comprised of maltreaters who live in the home, regularly or intermittently, with the child victim. In 2017, primary adult caregivers in the home (i.e. parents, step-parents, partners of parents, and foster parents) were the maltreaters in 90.3 percent of the substantiated maltreatment allegations. The second category, secondary caregivers, is comprised of adults who have temporary caregiving responsibility for the child victim but do not live in the child's home. The third category, non-caregivers, are individuals who interact with the child but do not have caregiving responsibility. The last category depicts those allegations where the maltreater is unknown or not verified where, for example, the CPS agency may have a preponderance of evidence that a child was maltreated but not enough information to verify a specific maltreater.

**Table 11**

**Substantiated Allegations by Maltreater Relationship to Child Victim \*  
2017**

Maltreater Relationship	Neglect	Physical	Sexual	Emotional	Total	Percentage
<b>Primary Caregivers</b>						
Parent	3,867	473	136	47	4,523	72%
Partner/Friend of parent sharing dwelling	323	95	148	0	566	9%
Step Parent(s)	102	32	72	2	208	3.3%
Sibling/Step-sibling	18	9	160	0	187	3%
Relative in Home	100	23	25	1	149	2.4%
Non-Relative Guardian(s)	16	1	2	0	19	0.3%
Foster Parent	3	6	4	0	13	0.2%
Others Sharing Foster Home	0	0	6	0	6	0.1%
Indian Custodian(s)	0	1	0	0	1	0%
<b>Primary Caregivers Total:</b>	<b>4,429</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>5,672</b>	<b>90.3%</b>
<b>Secondary Caregivers</b>						
Relative Not in Home	18	7	109	0	134	2.1%
Other Child Care Provider	55	17	34	0	106	1.7%
Relative Care Provider(s)	33	7	20	0	60	1%
Licensed/Certified Child Care Provider	3	4	1	0	8	0.1%
Residential Facility Staff	0	4	3	0	7	0.1%
Teacher/Other school employee(s)	0	1	6	0	7	0.1%
Youth Org. Staff or Volunteer Leader(s)	0	0	4	0	4	0.1%
<b>Secondary Caregivers Total:</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>5.2%</b>
<b>Non-Caregivers</b>						
Other Non-Caregiver	9	3	95	0	107	1.7%
Family Friend(s)	17	6	13	0	36	0.6%
Stranger(s)	0	2	24	0	26	0.4%
Peer Maltreater(s)	1	1	23	0	25	0.4%
Neighbor(s)	0	0	1	0	1	0%
<b>Non-Caregivers Total:</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>3.1%</b>
<b>Unknown</b>						

## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

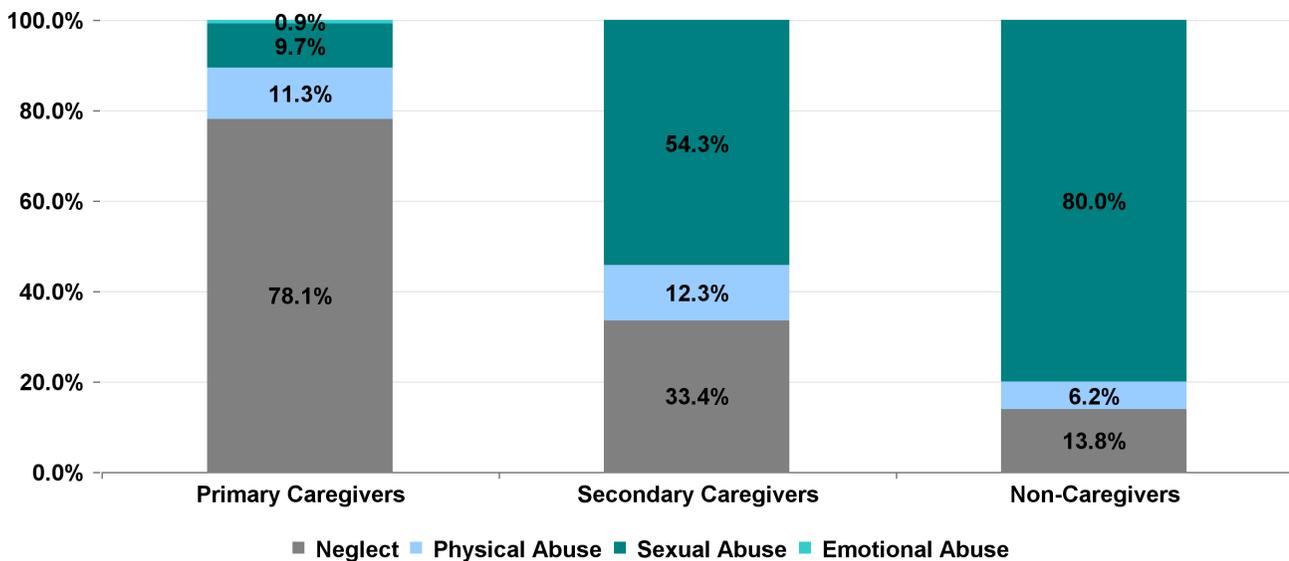
Maltreater Relationship	Neglect	Physical	Sexual	Emotional	Total	Percentage
Unknown	16	46	29	0	91	1.4%
N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0%
<b>Unknown Total:</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>State Total</b>	<b>4,581</b>	<b>738</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>6,284</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* The total maltreaters counted by relationship type here are a slightly larger number than unique maltreaters as some maltreaters have multiple relationships to their victim(s).

Figure 25, below, shows the percentage of substantiated maltreatment allegations, by maltreatment type and by the three maltreater categories (primary, secondary, and non-caregiver). For the 5,672 substantiated maltreatment allegations by primary caregivers, the largest share of their total substantiated maltreatment allegations is neglect at 78.1 percent. However, the 326 secondary caregivers and 195 non-caregivers had sexual abuse as the largest share of their total substantiated maltreatment allegations at 54.3 percent and 80 percent, respectively.

**Figure 25**

**Percentage of Maltreatment Substantiations, by Maltreatment Type, and by Maltreater Category \***  
2017



\* The 91 instances of maltreatment by an unknown maltreater was not included in these figures.

## Services to Families

The role of CPS differs in cases of familial and non-familial maltreatment, and therefore the services the CPS agency offers a family likewise differs. In all cases, a substantiated maltreatment finding is not required for a family to be offered services. In cases of maltreatment involving primary caregivers, the decision to provide services to the family is based on the safety assessment and analysis and resulting safety decision. The safety decision is the CPS agency's determination, based on the information gathered during the CPS initial assessment, as to whether the conditions present make the child/children unsafe in the family home. A designation of safe or unsafe is required for all children who reside within the household. If at least one child is designated as unsafe, then the initial assessment safety decision finding for the home is unsafe. In calendar year 2017, primary caregiver CPS initial assessments comprised 92.9 percent of the 25,834 CPS initial assessments completed by agencies that year.

The role of CPS in cases of maltreatment by secondary and non-caregivers is to collaborate with and support the primary caregivers in providing protection and services for the child, when necessary. A safety assessment and analysis is not required in secondary CPS initial assessments and non-caregiver investigations because the child's safety within the home is not the focus of the case. CPS agencies completed 1,836 secondary CPS initial assessments and non-caregiver investigations (7.1 percent of all assessments) during calendar year 2017.

### Safety Decisions and Services

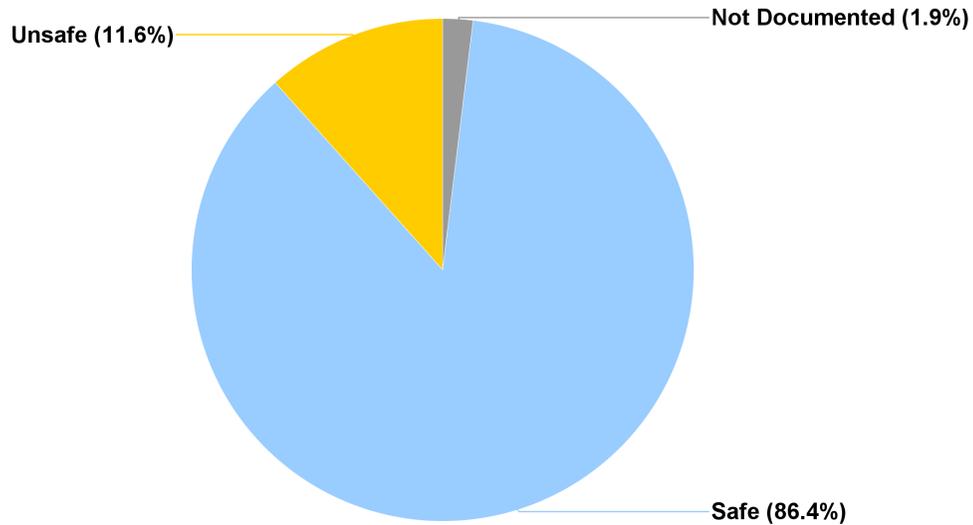
Figure 26 shows the safety decisions for completed safety assessments in primary caregiver CPS initial assessments. In calendar year 2017, the majority (86.4 percent) of primary caregiver CPS initial assessments resulted in a decision that one or more children in the Initial Assessment were safe. There were 2,789 primary caregiver CPS initial assessments (11.6 percent) which resulted in a decision that children were unsafe. Another 465 primary caregiver initial assessments were not documented as safe or unsafe. Appendix L shows safety assessment results in primary caregiver CPS initial assessments by county.

If a child is determined to be safe, the CPS agency is not required to offer or refer the family for services. The CPS agency may still inform the family about voluntary services or available community resources to help meet family needs or support family functioning.

If a child is determined to be unsafe, the CPS agency is required to implement a safety or protective plan to assure the child is safe and protected. The CPS Safety Intervention Standards provide CPS workers with a structured analysis and decision-making framework to assess what specific, observable factors are making the child unsafe. These factors are known as safety threats. The identified safety threats and the analysis of these safety threats form the basis for safety planning. Safety planning ensures that safety threats are controlled to keep the child safe while the CPS agency works with the family to develop a plan to change those conditions or behaviors negatively affecting child safety. The goal is to eliminate safety threats in the family or to ensure the family has the resources necessary to control safety threats on its own.

Figure 26

**Safety Assessment Results in Primary Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments \*  
2017**



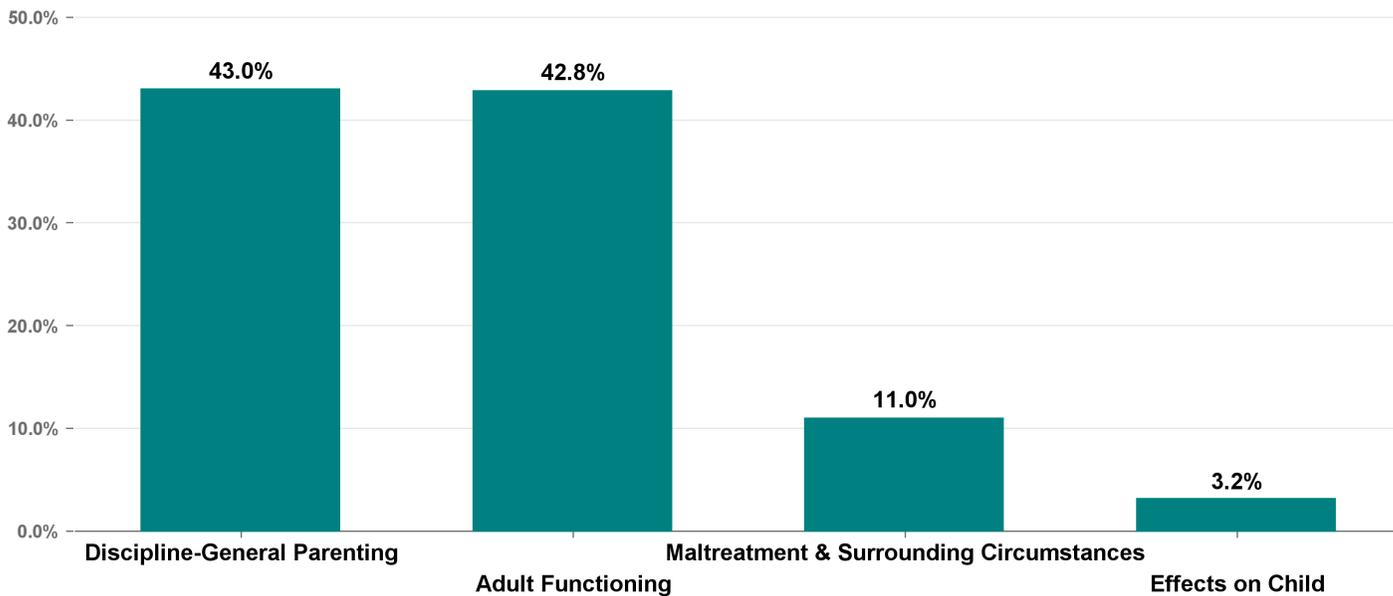
\* The figures above reflect the safety findings attached to the Initial Assessment disposition, whereas previous Child Abuse and Neglect Reports also provided the safety findings attached to the stand alone safety assessment if there was no safety finding on the I.A. These figures are therefore similar but not directly comparable to Child Abuse and Neglect Reports published in 2014 and earlier.

While there are several distinct safety threats that can be identified as part of a CPS initial assessment process, for analytical purposes these threats may be grouped into four categories based on the nature of the concern. First, there are safety threats that relate to the act of maltreatment itself and the surrounding circumstances, such as premeditation, lack of remorse by the maltreater, or a hazardous living environment. Second, there are situations where the maltreatment has caused serious effects to the child such as emotional issues, lack of behavior control, and/or severe physical injury. Third, there are safety threats caused by deficiencies in adult functioning such as out-of-control behavior and/or violent tendencies. Finally, there are safety threats characterized by issues involving discipline and parenting practices such as blaming the child for the adult's problems, a lack of knowledge, resources, and/or motivation necessary to provide basic care for the child, and/or ability to provide necessary supervision of a child.

In the 2,789 primary caregiver CPS initial assessments which resulted in a decision that children were unsafe, 8,302 safety threats involving 4,711 unique children were identified. There are more safety threats than CPS Initial Assessments as each initial assessment can identify multiple safety threats. Of the 2,789 unsafe primary caregiver CPS initial assessments, 56.8 percent of CPS initial assessments had one safety threat identified, 28.5 percent had two identified, 10.4 percent had three identified, 2.8 percent had four or more identified, and 1.5 percent had five or more safety threats identified. Figure 27 shows the frequency of identified safety threats by the groupings described above.

Figure 27

Frequencies of Safety Threats by Category  
2017



Safety-related services are provided in the family home whenever possible to maintain and support the family unit. Services provided to ensure child safety are intended to immediately control any conditions or behaviors that place a child in danger. Some of these safety-related services may include parenting assistance, supervision/observation, child care/respice, mental and physical health services, and/or resources to help meet basic needs. In addition to services offered as part of the safety plan, the family may also be offered additional services to meet family needs and/or support family functioning. The use of in-home safety services for families reduces the need for more intrusive interventions such as removal of the child from the family home and may be used in response to children and families involved in both substantiated and unsubstantiated cases.

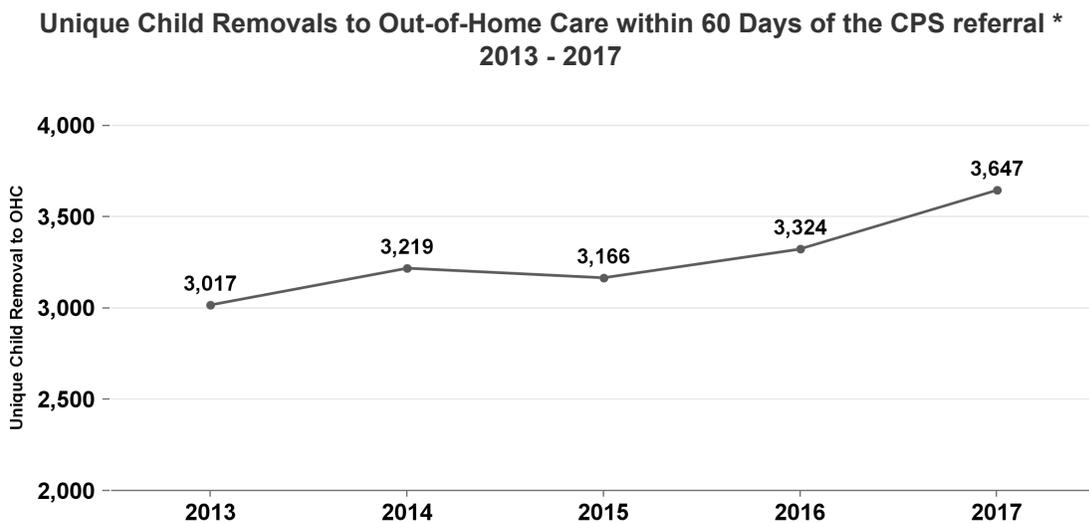
## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

### CPS Removals of Children to an Out-of-Home Placement

If the conditions in the home pose immediate danger to a child and in-home services are insufficient to assure the safety of the child, the child may be removed from the family home and placed temporarily in out-of-home care. A substantiated maltreatment finding is not required or necessary for a child to be placed in out-of-home care when the child is unsafe. An out-of-home placement may be with a relative, a foster home, group home, shelter, or residential child-caring facility.

During 2017, 3,647 unique children were placed in out-of-home care during the first 60 days after the screened-in CPS referral. This 60-day timeframe is considered as caseworkers are held to the standard of completing the CPS initial assessment within this timeframe. As some children were placed into out-of-home care multiple times in 2017, there were 3,932 instances of children being removed from their home and placed into out-of-home care during the first 60 days after the screened-in CPS referral. Figure 28, below, shows child removals to out-of-home care during the first 60 days over the last 5 years.

**Figure 28**



\* Historical data displayed in this chart may be slightly different, and generally larger, than previously published Child Abuse and Neglect Reports due to data updates. Updates may be due to the appeals process resulting in overturned decisions or a lag of data entry.

Children who were placed in an out-of-home placement as a result of unborn child abuse are not included in the figures above and are presented separately in Appendix B.

Table 12, below, displays the gender, count, and average age of children removed during a CPS initial assessment in 2017. Of the 3,647 children removed from their family home and placed in out-of-home care in order to address safety threats identified during the CPS initial assessment, 50.2 percent were female and 49.8 percent were male.

**Table 12**

**Count and Average Age of Unique Children Removed to Out-of-Home Care within 60 Days of the CPS Report 2017**

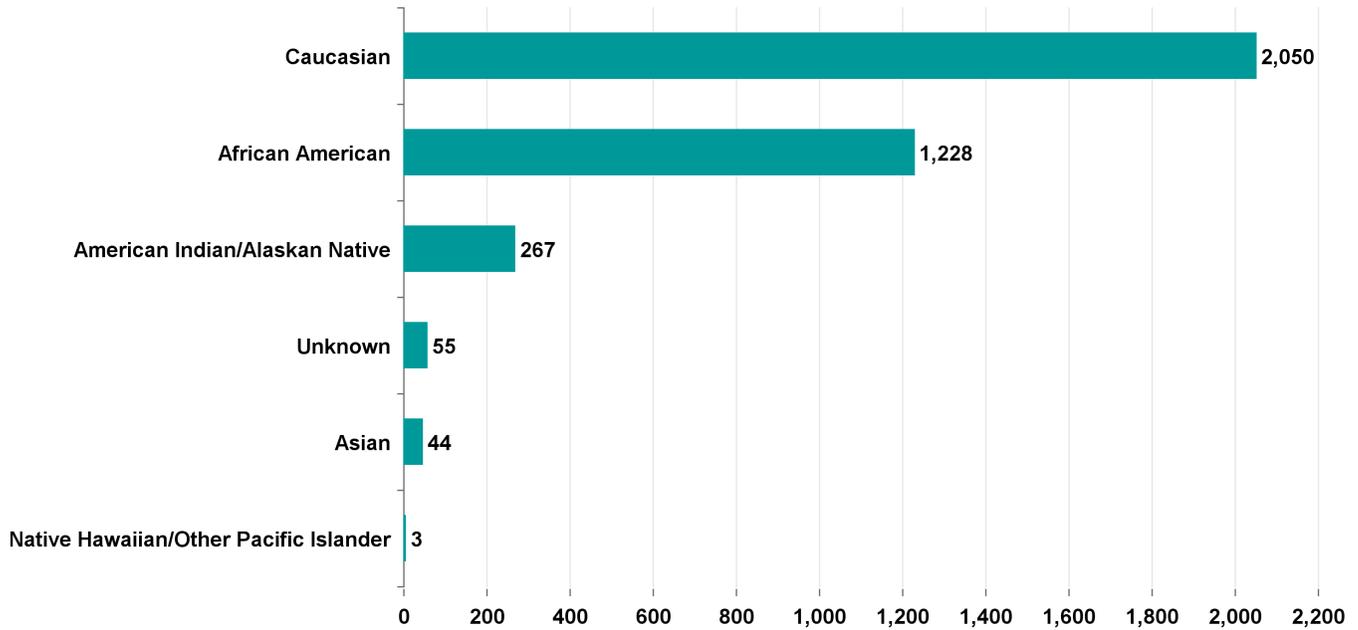
Gender	Count of Children Removed	Percentage	Average Age
Male	1,818	49.8%	4.9
Female	1,829	50.2%	5.7
<b>Total:</b>	<b>3,647</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>5.3</b>

## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

Figure 29 below, displays the primary race of the unique children who were placed in out-of-home care during the first 60 days after the screened in CPS referral. Of these children removed to out-of-home care, 329, or 9 percent, were identified as Hispanic, and 3,227 children, or 88.5 percent, were identified as not Hispanic. A total of 91 of these children, or 2.4 percent, had an undocumented or unknown Hispanic ethnicity.

Figure 29

### Race of Unique Children Removed to Out-of-Home Care within 60 Days of the CPS Referral 2017



**Initial Assessment Disposition**

The initial assessment disposition is the action the CPS agency took upon completion of the CPS initial assessment. Figure 30, below, shows the count of initial assessment dispositions in the 23,998 primary caregiver CPS Initial Assessments for calendar year 2017. In some cases the case is closed as continued CPS intervention is not needed. Other closed cases are referred to appropriate community resources. Cases that are opened may be referred to services that are not under the purview of the CPS agency, as seen in those labeled as Case Opened – Non-CPS Services. In other cases, the case is opened and the family is provided services through the CPS agency as seen in those labeled as Case Opened – Ongoing CPS Services: ‘Petition’ and ‘Voluntary’. Finally, in some cases the family already had a CPS case open and services will continue for this family after this CPS initial assessment as seen in those labeled Case Already Open – Ongoing Services.

**Figure 30**

**Initial Assessment Dispositions in Primary Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments 2017**

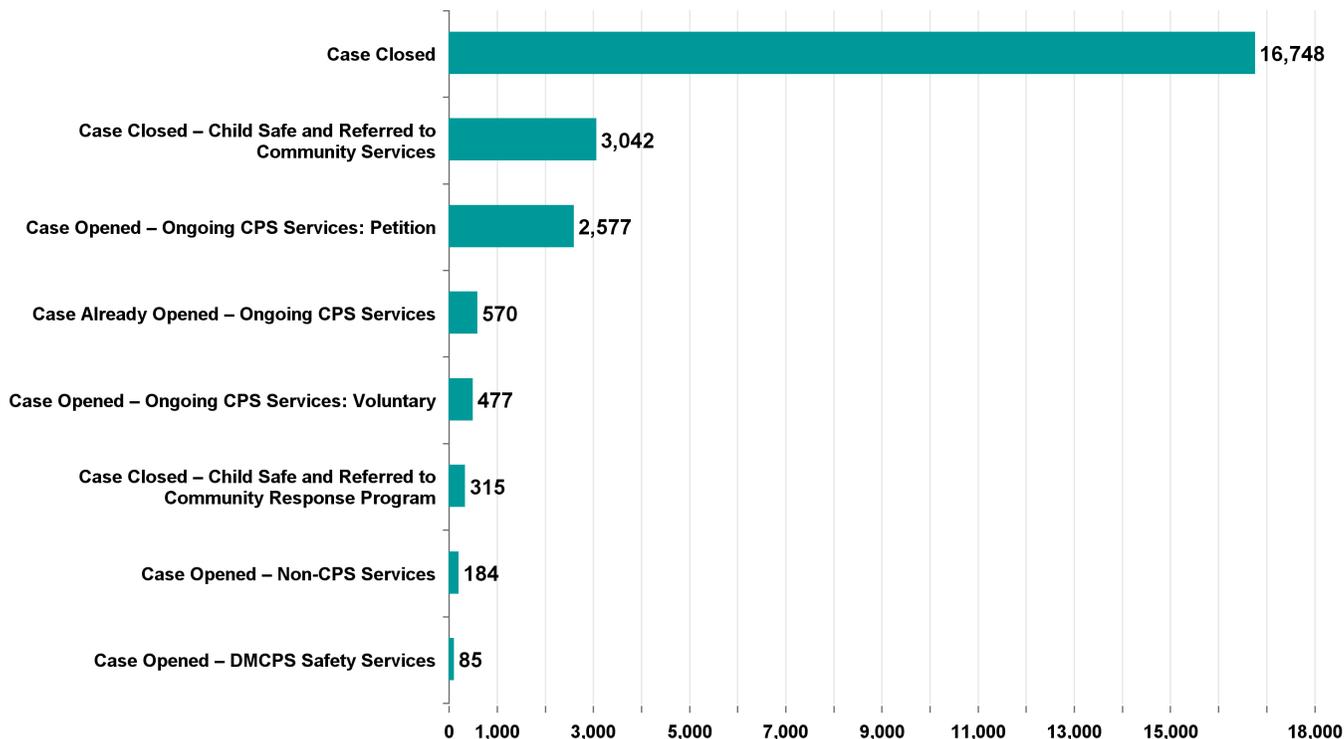
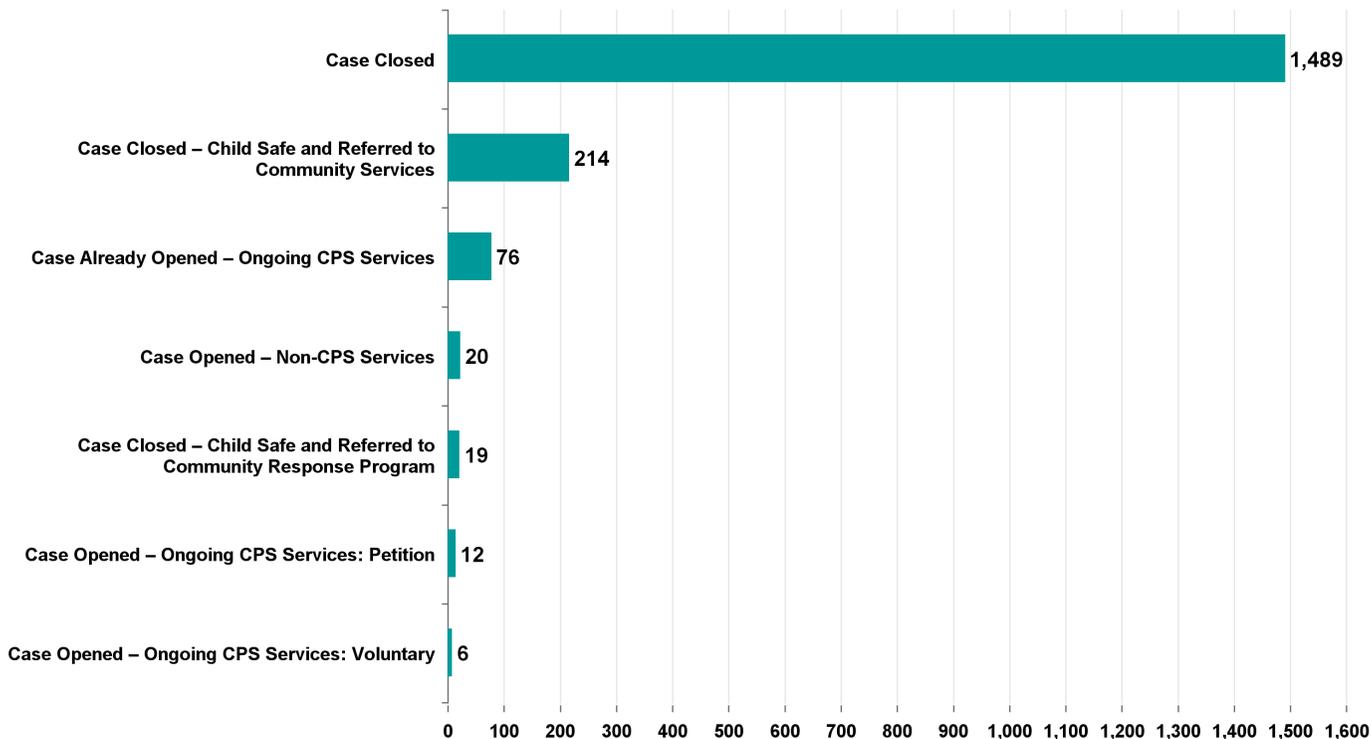


Figure 31, below, shows the 1,836 secondary CPS initial assessments and non-caregiver investigations by Initial Assessment disposition conducted in 2017.

Figure 31

Initial Assessment Dispositions in Secondary and Non-Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments 2017



## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

Table 13, below, shows the frequency and percentage of initial assessment dispositions according to the safety decision for primary caregiver CPS initial assessments. In the majority (94.3 percent) of cases where the safety decision is safe, the case was closed. Conversely, in the majority (94 percent) of cases where the safety decision was unsafe, the case was either opened for some type of services or was already opened for ongoing CPS services. A safety assessment and analysis is not required in secondary CPS initial assessments and non-caregiver investigations because the child's safety within the family home is not the focus of the case.

**Table 13**

### Safety Decision by Initial Assessment Disposition for Primary Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments 2017

Initial Assessment Disposition	Safe		Unsafe		No Safety Decision		Total	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
Case Closed	16,417	68.4%	123	0.5%	208	0.4%	16,748	69.8%
Case Closed – Child Safe and Referred to Community Services	2,842	11.8%	43	0.2%	157	0.3%	3,042	12.7%
Case Opened – Ongoing CPS Services: Petition	413	1.7%	2,110	8.8%	54	0.1%	2,577	10.7%
Case Already Opened – Ongoing CPS Services	313	1.3%	237	1.0%	20	0.0%	570	2.4%
Case Closed – Child Safe and Referred to Community Response Program	297	1.2%	2	0.0%	16	0.0%	315	1.3%
Case Opened – Ongoing CPS Services: Voluntary	286	1.2%	186	0.8%	5	0.0%	477	2.0%
Case Opened – Non-CPS Services	170	0.7%	9	0.0%	5	0.0%	184	0.8%
Case Opened – DMCPS Safety Services	6	0.0%	79	0.3%	0	0.0%	85	0.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,744</b>	<b>86.4%</b>	<b>2,789</b>	<b>11.6%</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>23,998</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## Federal Performance Standards

As part of the Child and Family Services Review process, the US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has established casework performance indicators related to child safety and national performance standards. Casework performance indicators are assessed through case reviews and monitored by states as part of their quality improvement efforts. These indicators include timeliness for initiating CPS initial assessments and agency response to identifying, understanding and responding to child safety threats.

For the third round of state reviews, DHHS has modified the national performance standard definitions. The national performance standards measure state performance on the absence of maltreatment of children in out-of-home care (absence of maltreatment in out-of-home care rate) and the absence of incidents of repeat maltreatment (Absence of Maltreatment Recurrence Rate).

The absence of maltreatment in out-of-home care rate is calculated by identifying all children in out-of-home care who experienced a substantiated allegation during a 12-month time period and comparing that number to the number of days these children were in out-of-home care. The rate is derived from this comparison and is multiplied by 100,000 to determine the victimization rate per 100,000 days in care. The federal government's standard is to have less than 8.5 victimizations per 100,000 days in care.

The absence of maltreatment recurrence rate is calculated by identifying all children who were victims of maltreatment in a 12-month time period and looking forward 12-months from each maltreatment instance to determine if these children experienced subsequent substantiated maltreatment. The Federal government's standard is to have less than 9.1 percent of children experience a subsequent substantiation within 12 months.

As can be seen in Table 14 and Table 15, below, Wisconsin has surpassed both standards in the past five years.

**Table 14**

**Wisconsin's Performance on Federal Standards Third Round:  
Absence of Maltreatment in Out-of-Home Care  
CY 2013 – CY 2017**

Measure	Standard	CY 2013	CY 2014	CY 2015	CY 2016	CY 2017
Of all children in out-of-home care during a 12-month time period, how many substantiated allegations occurred during this time in care?	Less than 8.5 victimizations per 100,000 days in care.	3.0	2.4	3.0	3.1	3.8

**Table 15**

**Wisconsin's Performance on Federal Standards Third Round:  
Absence of Maltreatment Recurrence  
CY 2013 – CY 2017**

Measure	Standard	CY 2012 – CY 2013	CY 2013 – CY 2014	CY 2014 – CY 2015	CY 2015 – CY 2016	CY 2016 – CY 2017
Of all children who were victims of a substantiated maltreatment report, what percent were victims of another substantiated report within a 12-month period?	Less than 9.1% of children experience a subsequent substantiation within 12 months.	4.8%	5.4%	4.5%	4.8%	3.8%

## Adoptions

The Public Adoption Program is the adoption of children from the public child welfare system who are unable to return to their birth family. These children often have special care needs and may qualify for Adoption Assistance subsidies.

Within calendar year 2017, the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families facilitated the adoption of 717 children from public child welfare system, of which 623 children qualified for an Adoption Assistance subsidy. The cost of Adoption Assistance payments for children adopted from the public child welfare system in calendar year 2017 was \$3,699,500.

'Post-adoption placements' and 'Post-guardianship placements' are situations where children who have been adopted or achieved guardianship enter out-of-home care (OHC). Within calendar year 2017, a total of 114 children entered out-of-home under the placement and care responsibility of a county department or the Department of Children and Families under Ch. 48 or Ch. 938 of Wisconsin Statutes, after finalization of an adoption. A total of 27 children have documentation on the length of time between adoption finalization and when they entered out-of-home care. These 27 children entered out-of-home care an average of 78.7 months following the adoption finalization. The age group of these children at the time of their adoption prior to post-adoption OHC placement is shown in Table 16, below.

Within calendar year 2017, a total of 142 children entered out-of-home care under the placement and care responsibility of a county department or the Department of Children and Families under Ch. 48 or Ch. 938 of Wisconsin Statutes, after the establishment of a guardianship. A total of 66 children have documentation on the length of time between guardianship finalization and when they entered out-of-home care. These children entered out-of-home care an average of 26.2 months after the guardianship was established. The age group of these children at the time of their guardianship prior to post-guardianship OHC placement is shown in Table 16, below.

**Table 16**

**Unique Child Age at the Time of Adoption or Guardianship, Prior to Post-Adoption or Guardianship Placement**

**CY 2017**

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Count of Unique Children in OHC After Adoption</b>	<b>Count of Unique Children in OHC After Guardianship</b>
Less than two years old	12	20
Two to five years old	30	24
Six to twelve years old	29	31
Thirteen years or older	3	23
Unable to determine	40	44
<b>Total</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>142</b>

## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

The age of children who have experienced placement post-adoption averaged 14 years old at the time they entered out-of-home care. The age of children who have experienced placement post-guardianship averaged 12 years old at the time they entered out-of-home care. Table 17, below displays these children by age group.

**Table 17**

### Unique Child Age at the Time the Child Entered Out-of-Home Care After Adoption or Guardianship Finalization

CY 2017

Age Group	Count of Unique Children in OHC After Adoption	Count of Unique Children in OHC After Guardianship
Age < 1 - 3 years	2	7
Age 4 - 7 years	2	15
Age 8 - 11 years	11	25
Age 12 - 15 years	57	63
Age 16+ years	42	32
Unable to determine	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>142</b>

Table 18 and Table 19 display the type of previous adoption and type of guardianship that occurred for these children prior to their adoption or guardianship finalization. There are various types of adoptions and guardianships in Wisconsin. In order to adopt or assume guardianship in this state, families must meet certain requirements based on the type of adoption or guardianship they are completing.

**Table 18**

### Type of Previous Adoption for Children in Finalized Adoptions

CY 2017

Type of Previous Adoption	Count of Unique Children in OHC After Adoption
Domestic	13
Domestic - Safe Haven	1
International	6
Public Adoption	41
Relative	14
Stepparent	9
Tribal / Customary Adoption	2
Unable to Determine	28
<b>Total:</b>	<b>114</b>

Table 19

Type of Previous Guardianship for Children in Finalized Guardianships

CY 2017

Type of Previous Guardianship	Count of Unique Children in OHC After Guardianship
Family Court - CH. 54 Guardianship	42
Guardianship under s. 48.977	35
Out of State Guardianship	12
Public Child Welfare - Ch. 54 Guardianship	11
Unable to Determine	42
<b>Total:</b>	<b>142</b>

## Recommendations for Additional Legislation and Other Actions

Wisconsin statutes, s. 48.47(8)(a), direct the Department to include in this report recommendations for legislative consideration on issues related to child abuse and neglect. The Department recommends legislative consideration of the following, which would fulfill the statutory purpose of this annual report to strengthen outcomes for children and families involved in or at risk of involvement in the child welfare system:

- In the last six years, Wisconsin has experienced a significant increase in child welfare cases; the number of children in out-of-home care has increased steadily from 6,255 in December 2012 to 8,038 in June 2018. The increase has been especially sharp in non-Milwaukee counties where the out-of-home care caseload grew from 3,977 in December 2012 to 5,514 in June 2018, for an increase of 41%. Since 2012, state funding to non-Milwaukee counties to support child welfare services, which is provided through the Children and Family Allocation (CFA), increased at a rate lower than the increase in out-of-home caseloads. Due to the sharp rise in caseload, workload on child welfare workers has increased significantly. To help meet the increased workload and needs of the county-based child welfare systems, the DCF has requested in its September 2019-21 Department budget request a \$5 million annual increase in the CFA funding. As part of its budget request, the DCF is proposing to contract for a workload study to help inform the distribution of CFA funding. The DCF recommends favorable legislative consideration of the Department's budget proposal to increase the Children and Family Allocation funding which is used to support county-based child welfare services.

Appendix A

Child Maltreatment Related Statutes

The following are excerpts from the Wisconsin Statutes that create the basis for persons to report suspected child maltreatment and for child protective services agencies to respond. The excerpts are from the 2015-2016 Wisconsin Statutes. Included in the excerpts are sections from Chapter 48, known as the Children's Code, and sections from criminal statutes that are cross-referenced in the Children's Code.

- s. 48.01, Wis. Stats., Title and legislative purpose
- s. 48.02, Wis. Stats., Definitions. This includes definitions of child maltreatment.
  - s. 48.13, Wis. Stats., Jurisdiction over children alleged to be in need of protection or services. This describes the basis on which the local child protective services agencies (county social/human services departments and the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services) may petition the court to intervene with a family.
  - s. 48.981, Wis. Stats., Abused or neglected children and abused unborn children. This section describes the reporting requirements of alleged child maltreatment and describes the child protective services agencies' duties and responsibilities.
  - s. 939.22, Wis. Stats., Words and phrases defined. This section defines terms that are used in describing certain crimes, some of which are cross-referenced in s. 48.02, Wis. Stats., in order to define child maltreatment.
  - s. 940.225, Wis. Stats., Sexual assault. This defines the crime of sexual assault and is cross-referenced under s. 48.02(1)(b), Wis. Stats.
  - s. 944.30, Wis. Stats., Prostitution. This defines the crime of prostitution and is cross-referenced under s. 48.02(1)(d), Wis. Stats.
  - s. 948.02, Wis. Stats., Sexual assault of a child. This is the first in a series of crimes from chapter 948, known as Crimes Against Children, that are cross-referenced under s. 48.02(1)(b), Wis. Stats., in order to define child sexual abuse. The following sections are also cross-referenced under s. 48.02(1), Wis. Stats.:
    - o s. 948.025, Wis. Stats., Engaging in repeated acts of sexual assault of the same child.
    - o s. 948.05, Wis. Stats., Sexual exploitation of a child.
    - o s. 948.051, Wis. Stats., Trafficking of a child.
    - o s. 948.055, Wis. Stats., Causing a child to view or listen to sexual activity.
    - o s. 948.085, Wis. Stats., Sexual assault of a child placed in substitute care.
    - o s. 948.10, Wis. Stats., Exposing genitals, pubic area, or intimate parts.

The complete Wisconsin statutes can be viewed at the Wisconsin State Legislature website:

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/prefaces/toc>

## Appendix B

### Unborn Child Abuse

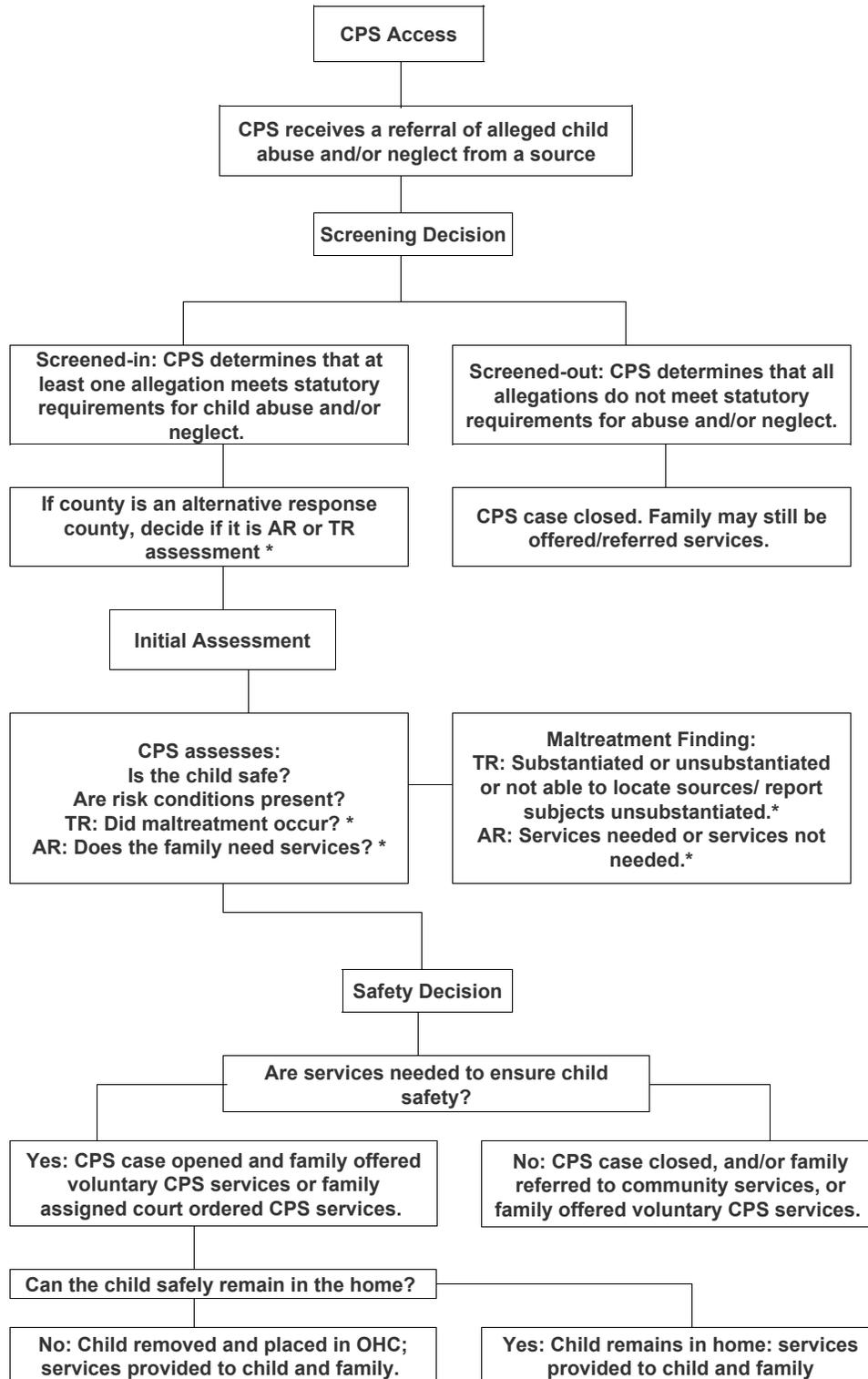
Unborn child abuse is defined as “serious physical harm inflicted on the unborn child, and the risk of serious physical harm to the child when born, caused by the habitual lack of self-control of the expectant mother of the unborn child in the use of alcohol beverages, controlled substances or controlled substance analogs, exhibited to a severe degree.” [Ref. s. 48.02(1)(am), Wis. Stats.] The maltreatment allegation of unborn child abuse is excluded from maltreatment allegation counts in the body of this report and presented here separately. Please note that as of November 2015, unborn child abuse will only have maltreatment determinations of "services needed", or "services not needed", rather than substantiating the abuse.

The maltreatment allegation of unborn child abuse is excluded from maltreatment allegation counts in the body of this report and presented here separately.

- In calendar year 2017, CPS agencies screened-in 389 allegations of unborn child abuse for further assessment.
- The most common reporters of screened-in unborn child abuse allegations were social service workers (25.7 percent), legal/law enforcement workers (15.2 percent), and medical professionals (11.8 percent).
- A total of 95 of the 389 screened-in allegations (24.4 percent) of unborn child abuse had a finding of "services needed" at the conclusion of the Initial Assessment. Additionally, 33 children were placed in out-of-home care within 60 days of an allegation of unborn child abuse.

Appendix C

An Overview of the CPS Process



\*Assessment Types:  
TR stands for Traditional Response  
AR stands for Alternative Response

# Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

## Appendix D

### Data Collection and Interpretation

#### Data Collection Process

Data for this report is from the Child Welfare Data Warehouse (dWISACWIS). The data in dWISACWIS is sourced from the electronic Wisconsin Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (eWiSACWIS). eWiSACWIS allows caseworkers, supervisors and administrators to support management and documentation of child welfare practice responsibilities for CPS Access, Initial Assessment, Ongoing Services case management, court process, out-of-home placements, and more. The quality of the data in this report is dependent upon the accuracy and timeliness of data recorded by the local agencies.

#### Evolution of data collection

The following provides historical background of how system and/or policy changes affected child welfare data collection over the past several years. CPS agencies began using eWiSACWIS in 2001 and statewide rollout of the system was completed in 2004. As a result, child welfare data collected prior to 2005 includes data from both eWiSACWIS and the CFS-40 forms, which counties completed at the conclusion of CPS initial assessments. Counties manually entered the data into a child maltreatment database.

In 2005 and 2006, the eWiSACWIS system required entry of a new allegation for every maltreater alleged for each child. Therefore, if neglect was alleged for one child by both parents it counted as two neglect allegations. The legacy CFS-40 data system counted allegations once per maltreatment type per child (regardless of the number of maltreaters).

Effective October 1, 2006, 2005 Wisconsin Act 232 eliminated the requirement that CPS agencies complete a CPS initial assessment in situations where the alleged maltreater is not a caregiver for the children. While an Initial Assessment is no longer required in these situations the instance may still be referred to law enforcement and the family may be offered services. Due to this law change, there was a significant decline in the number of non-caregiver CPS Initial Assessments completed beginning in 2007. As non-caregivers, such as peers, family friends, or strangers, tend to comprise a significant proportion of sexual abuse cases, the number of sexual abuse substantiations statewide declined after 2006.

Changes in child welfare policy and practice have also impacted the use of the 'abuse likely to occur' finding in calendar year 2007. At the beginning of calendar year 2007, the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare (renamed the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services in 2015) discontinued use of the 'abuse likely to occur' allegation type. With the release of the new statewide Access and Initial Assessment Standards in September 2007, the 'abuse likely to occur' allegation was removed as a maltreatment type for the entire state. The 'abuse likely to occur' allegation type was discontinued because it lacked a definition that would allow consistent usage and make it clearly distinguishable from the other maltreatment types. It was found that the 'abuse likely to occur' allegation could be more appropriately categorized under one of the other maltreatment types to represent the risk of maltreatment, in most cases neglect. The 2008 data is the first calendar year with no 'abuse likely to occur' data.

In September 2007, the eWiSACWIS system was modified to allow allegations to be counted once per maltreatment type per child while also separately maintaining data on maltreaters. The impact of these data entry practices are most readily seen in the neglect maltreatment type as these situations more often involve maltreatment by multiple individuals.

In November 2015, policy changes revised the maltreatment determination options for unborn child abuse to be 'services needed', or 'services not needed', rather than substantiating or unsubstantiating the allegation.

Data Collection and Interpretation

**Data Interpretation**

As with previous publications, data for this edition of the Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report includes some cases in which the alleged maltreatment occurred in a previous year but was reported and assessed in this year.

Counts of CPS reports, initial assessments, allegations, and other figures are displayed in the appendices, by county. As some reports and initial assessments transfer county ownership, the 2017 Child Abuse and Neglect Report is reporting these figures by the supervisor who approved the CPS report or initial assessment.

# Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

## Appendix E

### Total CPS Referrals and Screening Decisions by County 2017

County	Total CPS Referrals	Screen-out CPS Referrals	Screen-out Percent	Screen-in CPS Referrals	Percent Screened-in	Screen-in Service Referrals	Screen-out Service Referrals
Adams	658	471	71.6%	187	28.4%	260	79
Ashland	261	135	51.7%	126	48.3%	124	59
Barron	731	439	60.1%	292	39.9%	166	194
Bayfield	135	77	57.0%	58	43.0%	117	77
Brown	4,783	3,370	70.5%	1,413	29.5%	400	119
Buffalo	195	134	68.7%	61	31.3%	45	30
Burnett	436	287	65.8%	149	34.2%	97	58
Calumet	428	324	75.7%	104	24.3%	128	30
Chippewa	862	679	78.8%	183	21.2%	331	130
Clark	378	277	73.3%	101	26.7%	30	18
Columbia	890	576	64.7%	314	35.3%	457	189
Crawford	163	89	54.6%	74	45.4%	127	30
Dane	5,934	4,497	75.8%	1,437	24.2%	1,207	258
Dodge	874	603	69.0%	271	31.0%	161	5
Door	328	194	59.1%	134	40.9%	116	24
Douglas	1,009	657	65.1%	352	34.9%	431	49
Dunn	651	505	77.6%	146	22.4%	210	15
Eau Claire	1,522	1,092	71.7%	430	28.3%	196	51
Florence	74	49	66.2%	25	33.8%	23	8
Fond Du Lac	1,519	988	65.0%	531	35.0%	465	213
Forest	122	54	44.3%	68	55.7%	49	24
Grant	703	492	70.0%	211	30.0%	337	52
Green	583	341	58.5%	242	41.5%	93	18
Green Lake	260	173	66.5%	87	33.5%	171	14
Iowa	276	176	63.8%	100	36.2%	116	7
Iron	71	33	46.5%	38	53.5%	30	4
Jackson	449	366	81.5%	83	18.5%	103	35
Jefferson	895	637	71.2%	258	28.8%	342	21
Juneau	535	394	73.6%	141	26.4%	102	39
Kenosha	2,549	1,819	71.4%	730	28.6%	614	277
Kewaunee	135	122	90.4%	13	9.6%	22	40
La Crosse	1,311	892	68.0%	419	32.0%	494	188
Lafayette	234	158	67.5%	76	32.5%	46	2

# Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

## Appendix E

### Total CPS Referrals and Screening Decisions by County 2017

County	Total CPS Referrals	Screen-out CPS Referrals	Screen-out Percent	Screen-in CPS Referrals	Percent Screened-in	Screen-in Service Referrals	Screen-out Service Referrals
Langlade	499	287	57.5%	212	42.5%	116	40
Lincoln	534	369	69.1%	165	30.9%	84	1
Manitowoc	1,008	602	59.7%	406	40.3%	340	139
Marathon	1,596	936	58.6%	660	41.4%	621	14
Marinette	475	373	78.5%	102	21.5%	193	278
Marquette	283	221	78.1%	62	21.9%	111	18
Menominee	205	125	61.0%	80	39.0%	118	38
Milwaukee	16,036	8,648	53.9%	7,388	46.1%	1,405	94
Monroe	675	329	48.7%	346	51.3%	247	30
Oconto	614	433	70.5%	181	29.5%	224	33
Oneida	243	118	48.6%	125	51.4%	423	94
Outagamie	2,955	2,209	74.8%	746	25.2%	156	251
Ozaukee	400	241	60.3%	159	39.8%	183	117
Pepin	93	61	65.6%	32	34.4%	34	7
Pierce	428	302	70.6%	126	29.4%	150	55
Polk	781	474	60.7%	307	39.3%	87	16
Portage	891	613	68.8%	278	31.2%	181	21
Price	153	99	64.7%	54	35.3%	147	1
Racine	2,829	1,922	67.9%	907	32.1%	979	86
Richland	177	127	71.8%	50	28.2%	68	48
Rock	3,678	2,569	69.8%	1,109	30.2%	682	403
Rusk	234	164	70.1%	70	29.9%	113	58
Saint Croix	1,184	736	62.2%	448	37.8%	355	16
Sauk	649	361	55.6%	288	44.4%	342	352
Sawyer	406	318	78.3%	88	21.7%	125	93
Shawano	670	478	71.3%	192	28.7%	364	9
Sheboygan	1,054	595	56.5%	459	43.5%	739	49
Taylor	213	117	54.9%	96	45.1%	58	1
Trempealeau	496	300	60.5%	196	39.5%	138	34
Vernon	245	127	51.8%	118	48.2%	198	8
Vilas	223	125	56.1%	98	43.9%	173	222
Walworth	1,237	867	70.1%	370	29.9%	455	8
Washburn	184	121	65.8%	63	34.2%	80	75

Appendix E

Total CPS Referrals and Screening Decisions by County  
2017

County	Total CPS Referrals	Screen-out CPS Referrals	Screen-out Percent	Screen-in CPS Referrals	Percent Screened-in	Screen-in Service Referrals	Screen-out Service Referrals
Washington	810	623	76.9%	187	23.1%	306	108
Waukesha	1,736	1,274	73.4%	462	26.6%	922	262
Waupaca	678	499	73.6%	179	26.4%	235	5
Waushara	463	343	74.1%	120	25.9%	160	8
Winnebago	2,726	2,015	73.9%	711	26.1%	1,396	322
Wood	1,478	931	63.0%	547	37.0%	75	28
<b>State Total</b>	<b>79,193</b>	<b>52,152</b>	<b>65.9%</b>	<b>27,041</b>	<b>34.1%</b>	<b>20,393</b>	<b>5,799</b>

# Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

## Appendix F

### CPS Reports per 1,000 Children by County \* 2017

County	2017 Child Population (Ages 0-17)	Total CPS Reports	CPS Reports per 1,000 Population
Adams	2,868	295	102.9
Ashland	3,403	203	59.7
Barron	9,797	475	48.5
Bayfield	2,607	84	32.2
Brown	62,930	2,233	35.5
Buffalo	2,752	108	39.2
Burnett	2,734	275	100.6
Calumet	12,146	156	12.8
Chippewa	14,260	323	22.7
Clark	10,191	142	13.9
Columbia	12,385	460	37.1
Crawford	3,315	113	34.1
Dane	110,838	2,082	18.8
Dodge	17,737	377	21.3
Door	4,530	221	48.8
Douglas	8,660	520	60.0
Dunn	8,849	267	30.2
Eau Claire	21,146	680	32.2
Florence	655	41	62.6
Fond Du Lac	22,170	913	41.2
Forest	1,787	126	70.5
Grant	10,695	323	30.2
Green	8,233	375	45.5
Green Lake	4,209	117	27.8
Iowa	5,495	139	25.3
Iron	862	56	65.0
Jackson	4,549	140	30.8
Jefferson	18,099	360	19.9
Juneau	5,366	261	48.6
Kenosha	39,039	1,173	30.0
Kewaunee	4,439	18	4.1
La Crosse	23,563	612	26.0
Lafayette	4,132	116	28.1

# Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

## Appendix F

### CPS Reports per 1,000 Children by County \* 2017

County	2017 Child Population (Ages 0-17)	Total CPS Reports	CPS Reports per 1,000 Population
Langlade	3,796	388	102.2
Lincoln	5,184	224	43.2
Manitowoc	16,411	672	40.9
Marathon	31,123	1,039	33.4
Marinette	7,737	165	21.3
Marquette	2,981	79	26.5
Menominee	1,578	148	93.8
Milwaukee	228,621	11,695	51.2
Monroe	11,593	533	46.0
Oconto	7,650	283	37.0
Oneida	6,058	185	30.5
Outagamie	44,166	1,172	26.5
Ozaukee	18,924	232	12.3
Pepin	1,524	47	30.8
Pierce	8,736	182	20.8
Polk	9,237	499	54.0
Portage	13,625	403	29.6
Price	2,436	80	32.8
Racine	45,713	1,576	34.5
Richland	3,833	71	18.5
Rock	37,933	1,845	48.6
Rusk	2,937	111	37.8
Saint Croix	22,348	686	30.7
Sauk	14,570	461	31.6
Sawyer	3,254	140	43.0
Shawano	8,799	279	31.7
Sheboygan	25,882	708	27.4
Taylor	4,853	143	29.5
Trempealeau	7,284	296	40.6
Vernon	8,024	186	23.2
Vilas	3,686	167	45.3
Walworth	21,777	543	24.9
Washburn	2,992	96	32.1
Washington	30,025	265	8.8

# Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

## Appendix F

### CPS Reports per 1,000 Children by County \* 2017

County	2017 Child Population (Ages 0-17)	Total CPS Reports	CPS Reports per 1,000 Population
Waukesha	87,072	674	7.7
Waupaca	10,461	278	26.6
Waushara	4,509	214	47.5
Winnebago	35,088	1,063	30.3
Wood	15,783	890	56.4
<b>State Total</b>	<b>1,282,644</b>	<b>42,502</b>	<b>33.1</b>

\* Population Source: Office of Juvenile Justice 2017 Easy Access Population Profile

[https://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/comparison\\_selection.asp?selState=55](https://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/comparison_selection.asp?selState=55)

# Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

## Appendix G

### County Maltreatment Substantiation Rates 2017

County	Number of CPS Initial Assessments	Total CPS Reports	Traditional Response Maltreatment Allegations	Maltreatment Substantiation Count	Maltreatment Substantiation Rate
Adams	166	295	361	53	14.7%
Ashland	116	203	211	32	15.2%
Barron	281	475	243	59	24.3%
Bayfield	58	84	92	17	18.5%
Brown	1,369	2,233	1,445	218	15.1%
Buffalo	59	108	134	14	10.4%
Burnett	138	275	297	87	29.3%
Calumet	99	156	91	11	12.1%
Chippewa	176	323	266	85	32.0%
Clark	100	142	172	40	23.3%
Columbia	305	460	518	19	3.7%
Crawford	74	113	124	27	21.8%
Dane	1,387	2,082	2,399	345	14.4%
Dodge	265	377	224	45	20.1%
Door	119	221	244	14	5.7%
Douglas	303	520	384	80	20.8%
Dunn	144	267	271	67	24.7%
Eau Claire	417	680	479	110	23.0%
Florence	25	41	50	20	40.0%
Fond Du Lac	512	913	648	157	24.2%
Forest	62	126	150	21	14.0%
Grant	205	323	377	70	18.6%
Green	228	375	415	36	8.7%
Green Lake	85	117	65	19	29.2%
Iowa	97	139	168	28	16.7%
Iron	35	56	61	10	16.4%
Jackson	79	140	145	31	21.4%
Jefferson	258	360	143	54	37.8%
Juneau	137	261	315	57	18.1%
Kenosha	708	1,173	1,327	229	17.3%
Kewaunee	13	18	18	0	
La Crosse	405	612	363	64	17.6%
Lafayette	75	116	125	32	25.6%

# Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

## Appendix G

### County Maltreatment Substantiation Rates 2017

County	Number of CPS Initial Assessments	Total CPS Reports	Traditional Response Maltreatment Allegations	Maltreatment Substantiation Count	Maltreatment Substantiation Rate
Langlade	195	388	274	82	29.9%
Lincoln	160	224	242	50	20.7%
Manitowoc	400	672	249	62	24.9%
Marathon	648	1,039	535	210	39.3%
Marinette	102	165	180	66	36.7%
Marquette	57	79	89	11	12.4%
Menominee	80	148	159	17	10.7%
Milwaukee	6,958	11,695	13,515	806	6.0%
Monroe	326	533	571	99	17.3%
Oconto	174	283	332	36	10.8%
Oneida	122	185	212	72	34.0%
Outagamie	719	1,172	757	103	13.6%
Ozaukee	154	232	263	41	15.6%
Pepin	32	47	59	5	8.5%
Pierce	121	182	149	58	38.9%
Polk	302	499	542	76	14.0%
Portage	260	403	438	71	16.2%
Price	48	80	95	7	7.4%
Racine	861	1,576	1,404	361	25.7%
Richland	48	71	86	16	18.6%
Rock	1,087	1,845	2,124	295	13.9%
Rusk	68	111	115	17	14.8%
Saint Croix	424	686	776	77	9.9%
Sauk	275	461	229	53	23.1%
Sawyer	86	140	144	7	4.9%
Shawano	184	279	318	18	5.7%
Sheboygan	429	708	820	96	11.7%
Taylor	92	143	166	47	28.3%
Trempealeau	189	296	320	45	14.1%
Vernon	108	186	211	13	6.2%
Vilas	97	167	180	33	18.3%
Walworth	349	543	612	119	19.4%
Washburn	62	96	106	28	26.4%

**Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017**

**Appendix G**

**County Maltreatment Substantiation Rates  
2017**

<b>County</b>	<b>Number of CPS Initial Assessments</b>	<b>Total CPS Reports</b>	<b>Traditional Response Maltreatment Allegations</b>	<b>Maltreatment Substantiation Count</b>	<b>Maltreatment Substantiation Rate</b>
Washington	187	265	309	47	15.2%
Waukesha	454	674	745	141	18.9%
Waupaca	176	278	131	30	22.9%
Waushara	116	214	97	8	8.2%
Winnebago	678	1,063	496	83	16.7%
Wood	521	890	999	75	7.5%
<b>State Total</b>	<b>25,834</b>	<b>42,502</b>	<b>41,374</b>	<b>5,632</b>	<b>13.6%</b>

# Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

## Appendix H

### Child Victimization Rate by County \* ^ 2017

County	2017 Child Population (Ages 0-17)	Number of Child Victims	Child Victims per 1,000 Population
Adams	2,868	51	17.8
Ashland	3,403	31	9.1
Barron	9,797	55	5.6
Bayfield	2,607	13	5.0
Brown	62,930	208	3.3
Buffalo	2,752	13	4.7
Burnett	2,734	59	21.6
Calumet	12,146	8	0.7
Chippewa	14,260	82	5.8
Clark	10,191	37	3.6
Columbia	12,385	18	1.5
Crawford	3,315	26	7.8
Dane	110,838	300	2.7
Dodge	17,737	38	2.1
Door	4,530	14	3.1
Douglas	8,660	73	8.4
Dunn	8,849	66	7.5
Eau Claire	21,146	106	5.0
Florence	655	15	22.9
Fond Du Lac	22,170	150	6.8
Forest	1,787	20	11.2
Grant	10,695	64	6.0
Green	8,233	29	3.5
Green Lake	4,209	17	4.0
Iowa	5,495	23	4.2
Iron	862	8	9.3
Jackson	4,549	31	6.8
Jefferson	18,099	53	2.9
Juneau	5,366	39	7.3
Kenosha	39,039	212	5.4
Kewaunee	4,439	0	0.0
La Crosse	23,563	61	2.6
Lafayette	4,132	32	7.7

# Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

## Appendix H

### Child Victimization Rate by County \* ^ 2017

County	2017 Child Population (Ages 0-17)	Number of Child Victims	Child Victims per 1,000 Population
Langlade	3,796	69	18.2
Lincoln	5,184	43	8.3
Manitowoc	16,411	58	3.5
Marathon	31,123	177	5.7
Marinette	7,737	61	7.9
Marquette	2,981	10	3.4
Menominee	1,578	17	10.8
Milwaukee	228,621	720	3.1
Monroe	11,593	77	6.6
Oconto	7,650	33	4.3
Oneida	6,058	61	10.1
Outagamie	44,166	86	1.9
Ozaukee	18,924	34	1.8
Pepin	1,524	5	3.3
Pierce	8,736	50	5.7
Polk	9,237	67	7.3
Portage	13,625	67	4.9
Price	2,436	7	2.9
Racine	45,713	330	7.2
Richland	3,833	15	3.9
Rock	37,933	264	7.0
Rusk	2,937	14	4.8
Saint Croix	22,348	76	3.4
Sauk	14,570	49	3.4
Sawyer	3,254	5	1.5
Shawano	8,799	17	1.9
Sheboygan	25,882	85	3.3
Taylor	4,853	40	8.2
Trempealeau	7,284	41	5.6
Vernon	8,024	10	1.2
Vilas	3,686	27	7.3
Walworth	21,777	109	5.0
Washburn	2,992	25	8.4
Washington	30,025	45	1.5

# Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

## Appendix H

### Child Victimization Rate by County \* ^ 2017

County	2017 Child Population (Ages 0-17)	Number of Child Victims	Child Victims per 1,000 Population
Waukesha	87,072	134	1.5
Waupaca	10,461	26	2.5
Waushara	4,509	8	1.8
Winnebago	35,088	78	2.2
Wood	15,783	69	4.4
<b>State Total</b>	<b>1,282,644</b>	<b>5,061</b>	<b>3.9</b>

\* The 'Number of Child Victims' column represents the counts of children victimized in a specific county. This figure is larger than the 5,049 unique maltreated children listed in the report as children may be victimized in more than one county.

^ Population Source: Office of Juvenile Justice 2017 Easy Access Population Profile

[https://ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/comparison\\_selection.asp?selState=55](https://ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/ezapop/asp/comparison_selection.asp?selState=55)

Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

Appendix I

Total Maltreatment Allegations by Maltreatment Type and Maltreatment Finding, by County \* ^ ~ 2017

County	Total CPS Reports	Neglect				Physical Abuse				Sexual Abuse				Emotional Abuse			
		Sub.	Unsub.	Not Able to Locate	Total	Sub.	Unsub.	Not Able to Locate	Total	Sub.	Unsub.	Not Able to Locate	Total	Sub.	Unsub.	Not Able to Locate	Total
Adams	295	38	178	0	216	2	80	0	82	13	42	0	55	0	8	0	8
Ashland	203	23	81	2	106	7	76	0	83	2	18	0	20	0	2	0	2
Barron	475	51	101	0	152	2	24	0	26	6	57	0	63	0	2	0	2
Bayfield	84	10	43	0	53	6	22	0	28	1	8	1	10	0	1	0	1
Brown	2,233	141	721	25	887	26	268	2	296	51	190	2	243	0	19	0	19
Buffalo	108	10	74	1	85	2	22	0	24	2	10	1	13	0	12	0	12
Burnett	275	81	156	4	241	3	34	0	37	3	14	2	19	0	0	0	0
Calumet	156	6	17	0	23	3	45	0	48	2	18	0	20	0	0	0	0
Chippewa	323	67	83	1	151	5	54	0	59	12	34	0	46	1	9	0	10
Clark	142	21	70	1	92	11	37	0	48	7	14	0	21	1	10	0	11
Columbia	460	8	283	3	294	6	108	1	115	5	65	0	70	0	39	0	39
Crawford	113	9	57	0	66	4	27	0	31	14	9	0	23	0	4	0	4
Dane	2,082	216	1,118	39	1,373	41	546	12	599	87	296	20	403	1	23	0	24
Dodge	377	26	87	1	114	8	42	0	50	11	40	0	51	0	9	0	9
Door	221	10	122	0	132	1	76	1	78	3	12	0	15	0	19	0	19
Douglas	520	59	193	4	256	8	56	1	65	13	44	1	58	0	5	0	5
Dunn	267	56	102	5	163	5	54	0	59	5	40	1	46	1	2	0	3
Eau Claire	680	70	205	4	279	5	84	2	91	35	68	1	104	0	5	0	5
Florence	41	19	17	3	39	1	6	0	7	0	3	0	3	0	1	0	1
Fond Du Lac	913	126	276	44	446	4	73	12	89	23	67	4	94	4	15	0	19
Forest	126	12	65	6	83	4	34	0	38	5	13	0	18	0	11	0	11
Grant	323	54	146	7	207	11	104	7	122	5	29	4	38	0	10	0	10

Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

Appendix I

Total Maltreatment Allegations by Maltreatment Type and Maltreatment Finding, by County \* ^ ~ 2017

County	Total CPS Reports	Neglect				Physical Abuse				Sexual Abuse				Emotional Abuse			
		Sub.	Unsub.	Not Able to Locate	Total	Sub.	Unsub.	Not Able to Locate	Total	Sub.	Unsub.	Not Able to Locate	Total	Sub.	Unsub.	Not Able to Locate	Total
Green	375	26	238	1	265	7	93	0	100	3	37	0	40	0	10	0	10
Green Lake	117	11	11	0	22	3	13	0	16	5	22	0	27	0	0	0	0
Iowa	139	14	64	0	78	4	50	0	54	7	12	0	19	3	14	0	17
Iron	56	9	30	0	39	0	11	0	11	1	4	0	5	0	6	0	6
Jackson	140	24	67	4	95	3	32	0	35	4	8	0	12	0	3	0	3
Jefferson	360	32	33	2	67	6	20	2	28	16	18	10	44	0	4	0	4
Juneau	261	30	159	13	202	8	54	0	62	17	26	2	45	2	4	0	6
Kenosha	1,173	155	678	17	850	54	303	6	363	20	92	1	113	0	1	0	1
Kewaunee	18	0	11	0	11	0	5	0	5	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
La Crosse	612	37	153	10	200	4	68	0	72	23	58	2	83	0	8	0	8
Lafayette	116	22	51	0	73	6	29	1	36	4	11	0	15	0	1	0	1
Langlade	388	72	150	7	229	7	21	0	28	3	14	0	17	0	0	0	0
Lincoln	224	38	87	14	139	8	52	2	62	4	35	0	39	0	2	0	2
Manitowoc	672	46	100	1	147	9	33	0	42	6	51	0	57	1	2	0	3
Marathon	1,039	136	166	3	305	21	73	1	95	49	80	1	130	4	1	0	5
Marinette	165	53	70	1	124	7	29	1	37	5	10	0	15	1	3	0	4
Marquette	79	3	38	1	42	6	19	0	25	2	17	0	19	0	3	0	3
Menominee	148	9	96	11	116	6	20	2	28	2	8	2	12	0	3	0	3
Milwaukee	11,695	406	8,224	239	8,869	210	3,030	59	3,299	190	977	40	1,207	0	137	3	140
Monroe	533	78	267	9	354	12	133	4	149	8	45	3	56	1	11	0	12
Oconto	283	23	167	2	192	11	66	0	77	2	50	0	52	0	10	1	11
Oneida	185	53	90	3	146	10	27	1	38	6	16	0	22	3	3	0	6

Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

Appendix I

Total Maltreatment Allegations by Maltreatment Type and Maltreatment Finding, by County \* ^ ~ 2017

County	Total CPS Reports	Neglect				Physical Abuse				Sexual Abuse				Emotional Abuse			
		Sub.	Unsub.	Not Able to Locate	Total	Sub.	Unsub.	Not Able to Locate	Total	Sub.	Unsub.	Not Able to Locate	Total	Sub.	Unsub.	Not Able to Locate	Total
Outagamie	1,172	47	293	66	406	10	155	14	179	45	89	19	153	1	16	2	19
Ozaukee	232	35	109	6	150	3	64	0	67	3	31	0	34	0	12	0	12
Pepin	47	5	21	0	26	0	16	1	17	0	10	0	10	0	6	0	6
Pierce	182	38	32	3	73	3	32	0	35	17	23	0	40	0	1	0	1
Polk	499	57	299	22	378	5	74	2	81	13	57	2	72	1	10	0	11
Portage	403	58	238	6	302	3	90	0	93	10	29	1	40	0	3	0	3
Price	80	4	53	2	59	2	23	0	25	1	1	0	2	0	9	0	9
Racine	1,576	253	502	68	823	53	229	32	314	54	179	21	254	1	12	0	13
Richland	71	10	33	0	43	3	20	0	23	3	12	0	15	0	5	0	5
Rock	1,845	222	1,218	15	1,455	25	341	0	366	45	216	0	261	3	39	0	42
Rusk	111	11	61	1	73	4	17	0	21	2	18	0	20	0	1	0	1
Saint Croix	686	42	497	10	549	9	122	2	133	26	51	0	77	0	16	1	17
Sauk	461	34	64	19	117	4	41	4	49	15	35	7	57	0	6	0	6
Sawyer	140	6	71	10	87	1	31	1	33	0	15	2	17	0	7	0	7
Shawano	279	8	172	0	180	7	72	2	81	3	39	0	42	0	15	0	15
Sheboygan	708	69	425	7	501	17	143	1	161	7	69	3	79	3	76	0	79
Taylor	143	36	74	0	110	3	28	0	31	5	16	0	21	3	1	0	4
Trempealeau	296	35	174	7	216	2	55	1	58	8	19	0	27	0	19	0	19
Vernon	186	4	105	9	118	4	45	0	49	3	17	0	20	2	22	0	24
Vilas	167	29	102	4	135	2	22	0	24	1	12	0	13	1	6	1	8
Walworth	543	75	221	5	301	21	190	1	212	23	66	1	90	0	9	0	9
Washburn	96	17	47	1	65	3	16	0	19	8	13	1	22	0	0	0	0

# Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

## Appendix I

### Total Maltreatment Allegations by Maltreatment Type and Maltreatment Finding, by County \* ^ ~ 2017

County	Total CPS Reports	Neglect				Physical Abuse				Sexual Abuse				Emotional Abuse			
		Sub.	Unsub.	Not Able to Locate	Total	Sub.	Unsub.	Not Able to Locate	Total	Sub.	Unsub.	Not Able to Locate	Total	Sub.	Unsub.	Not Able to Locate	Total
Washington	265	24	146	2	172	9	77	0	86	14	35	0	49	0	2	0	2
Waukesha	674	82	351	15	448	18	144	0	162	41	71	4	116	0	19	0	19
Waupaca	278	24	57	3	84	2	23	0	25	4	15	0	19	0	3	0	3
Waushara	214	6	50	0	56	0	22	0	22	2	15	0	17	0	2	0	2
Winnebago	1,063	40	143	3	186	15	130	1	146	28	125	5	158	0	6	0	6
Wood	890	45	565	25	635	11	210	2	223	19	105	2	126	0	15	0	15
<b>State Total</b>	<b>42,502</b>	<b>3,706</b>	<b>21,268</b>	<b>797</b>	<b>25,771</b>	<b>806</b>	<b>8,485</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>9,472</b>	<b>1,082</b>	<b>4,067</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>5,315</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>816</b>

\* The sum of the totals of each type of allegation may exceed the total number of reports because there may be more than one allegation per report.

^ Alternative response assessment determinations were not included in these counts.

~ 'Sub.' represents substantiated maltreatment and 'Unsub.' represents unsubstantiated maltreatment. 'Not able to locate' counts are instances where a determination was incomplete as critical sources were unavailable for interview and it was impossible to make a finding.

# Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

## Appendix J

### County Maltreatment Allegation Substantiation Rate by Maltreatment Type \* 2017

County	Neglect Substantiation Percent	Physical Abuse Substantiation Percent	Sexual Abuse Substantiation Percent	Emotional Abuse Substantiation Percent	Total County Substantiation Percent
Adams	17.6%	2.4%	23.6%	0.0%	14.7%
Ashland	21.7%	8.4%	10.0%	0.0%	15.2%
Barron	33.6%	7.7%	9.5%	0.0%	24.3%
Bayfield	18.9%	21.4%	10.0%	0.0%	18.5%
Brown	15.9%	8.8%	21.0%	0.0%	15.1%
Buffalo	11.8%	8.3%	15.4%	0.0%	10.4%
Burnett	33.6%	8.1%	15.8%	0.0%	29.3%
Calumet	26.1%	6.3%	10.0%	0.0%	12.1%
Chippewa	44.4%	8.5%	26.1%	10.0%	32.0%
Clark	22.8%	22.9%	33.3%	9.1%	23.3%
Columbia	2.7%	5.2%	7.1%	0.0%	3.7%
Crawford	13.6%	12.9%	60.9%	0.0%	21.8%
Dane	15.7%	6.8%	21.6%	4.2%	14.4%
Dodge	22.8%	16.0%	21.6%	0.0%	20.1%
Door	7.6%	1.3%	20.0%	0.0%	5.7%
Douglas	23.0%	12.3%	22.4%	0.0%	20.8%
Dunn	34.4%	8.5%	10.9%	33.3%	24.7%
Eau Claire	25.1%	5.5%	33.7%	0.0%	23.0%
Florence	48.7%	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	40.0%
Fond Du Lac	28.3%	4.5%	24.5%	21.1%	24.2%
Forest	14.5%	10.5%	27.8%	0.0%	14.0%
Grant	26.1%	9.0%	13.2%	0.0%	18.6%
Green	9.8%	7.0%	7.5%	0.0%	8.7%
Green Lake	50.0%	18.8%	18.5%	0.0%	29.2%
Iowa	17.9%	7.4%	36.8%	17.6%	16.7%
Iron	23.1%	0.0%	20.0%	0.0%	16.4%
Jackson	25.3%	8.6%	33.3%	0.0%	21.4%
Jefferson	47.8%	21.4%	36.4%	0.0%	37.8%
Juneau	14.9%	12.9%	37.8%	33.3%	18.1%
Kenosha	18.2%	14.9%	17.7%	0.0%	17.3%
Kewaunee	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
La Crosse	18.5%	5.6%	27.7%	0.0%	17.6%

# Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

## Appendix J

### County Maltreatment Allegation Substantiation Rate by Maltreatment Type \* 2017

County	Neglect Substantiation Percent	Physical Abuse Substantiation Percent	Sexual Abuse Substantiation Percent	Emotional Abuse Substantiation Percent	Total County Substantiation Percent
Lafayette	30.1%	16.7%	26.7%	0.0%	25.6%
Langlade	31.4%	25.0%	17.6%	0.0%	29.9%
Lincoln	27.3%	12.9%	10.3%	0.0%	20.7%
Manitowoc	31.3%	21.4%	10.5%	33.3%	24.9%
Marathon	44.6%	22.1%	37.7%	80.0%	39.3%
Marinette	42.7%	18.9%	33.3%	25.0%	36.7%
Marquette	7.1%	24.0%	10.5%	0.0%	12.4%
Menominee	7.8%	21.4%	16.7%	0.0%	10.7%
Milwaukee	4.6%	6.4%	15.7%	0.0%	6.0%
Monroe	22.0%	8.1%	14.3%	8.3%	17.3%
Oconto	12.0%	14.3%	3.8%	0.0%	10.8%
Oneida	36.3%	26.3%	27.3%	50.0%	34.0%
Outagamie	11.6%	5.6%	29.4%	5.3%	13.6%
Ozaukee	23.3%	4.5%	8.8%	0.0%	15.6%
Pepin	19.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.5%
Pierce	52.1%	8.6%	42.5%	0.0%	38.9%
Polk	15.1%	6.2%	18.1%	9.1%	14.0%
Portage	19.2%	3.2%	25.0%	0.0%	16.2%
Price	6.8%	8.0%	50.0%	0.0%	7.4%
Racine	30.7%	16.9%	21.3%	7.7%	25.7%
Richland	23.3%	13.0%	20.0%	0.0%	18.6%
Rock	15.3%	6.8%	17.2%	7.1%	13.9%
Rusk	15.1%	19.0%	10.0%	0.0%	14.8%
Saint Croix	7.7%	6.8%	33.8%	0.0%	9.9%
Sauk	29.1%	8.2%	26.3%	0.0%	23.1%
Sawyer	6.9%	3.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.9%
Shawano	4.4%	8.6%	7.1%	0.0%	5.7%
Sheboygan	13.8%	10.6%	8.9%	3.8%	11.7%
Taylor	32.7%	9.7%	23.8%	75.0%	28.3%
Trempealeau	16.2%	3.4%	29.6%	0.0%	14.1%
Vernon	3.4%	8.2%	15.0%	8.3%	6.2%
Vilas	21.5%	8.3%	7.7%	12.5%	18.3%
Walworth	24.9%	9.9%	25.6%	0.0%	19.4%

# Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

## Appendix J

### County Maltreatment Allegation Substantiation Rate by Maltreatment Type \* 2017

County	Neglect Substantiation Percent	Physical Abuse Substantiation Percent	Sexual Abuse Substantiation Percent	Emotional Abuse Substantiation Percent	Total County Substantiation Percent
Washburn	26.2%	15.8%	36.4%	0.0%	26.4%
Washington	14.0%	10.5%	28.6%	0.0%	15.2%
Waukesha	18.3%	11.1%	35.3%	0.0%	18.9%
Waupaca	28.6%	8.0%	21.1%	0.0%	22.9%
Waushara	10.7%	0.0%	11.8%	0.0%	8.2%
Winnebago	21.5%	10.3%	17.7%	0.0%	16.7%
Wood	7.1%	4.9%	15.1%	0.0%	7.5%
<b>State Total</b>	<b>14.4%</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>20.4%</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>13.6%</b>

\* Please refer to Appendix I for the count of substantiated maltreatment allegations as compared to total traditional response maltreatment allegations.

**Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017**

**Appendix K**

**Count and Percentage of CPS Initial Assessments by Maltreater Relationship, by County \*  
2017**

<b>County</b>	<b>Total CPS Initial Assessments</b>	<b>Primary Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments</b>	<b>Primary Caregiver CPS Initial Assessment Percent</b>	<b>Secondary and Non-Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments</b>	<b>Secondary and Non-Caregiver CPS Initial Assessment Percent</b>
Adams	166	157	94.6%	9	5.4%
Ashland	116	105	90.5%	11	9.5%
Barron	281	264	94.0%	17	6.0%
Bayfield	58	50	86.2%	8	13.8%
Brown	1,369	1,298	94.8%	71	5.2%
Buffalo	59	56	94.9%	3	5.1%
Burnett	138	130	94.2%	8	5.8%
Calumet	99	85	85.9%	14	14.1%
Chippewa	176	168	95.5%	8	4.5%
Clark	100	94	94.0%	6	6.0%
Columbia	305	286	93.8%	19	6.2%
Crawford	74	62	83.8%	12	16.2%
Dane	1,387	1,263	91.1%	124	8.9%
Dodge	265	256	96.6%	9	3.4%
Door	119	116	97.5%	3	2.5%
Douglas	303	293	96.7%	10	3.3%
Dunn	144	130	90.3%	14	9.7%
Eau Claire	417	382	91.6%	35	8.4%
Florence	25	24	96.0%	1	4.0%
Fond Du Lac	512	497	97.1%	15	2.9%
Forest	62	59	95.2%	3	4.8%
Grant	205	195	95.1%	10	4.9%
Green	228	217	95.2%	11	4.8%
Green Lake	85	67	78.8%	18	21.2%
Iowa	97	91	93.8%	6	6.2%
Iron	35	29	82.9%	6	17.1%
Jackson	79	74	93.7%	5	6.3%
Jefferson	258	233	90.3%	25	9.7%
Juneau	137	132	96.4%	5	3.6%
Kenosha	708	667	94.2%	41	5.8%
Kewaunee	13	13	100.0%	0	0.0%
La Crosse	405	386	95.3%	19	4.7%
Lafayette	75	69	92.0%	6	8.0%
Langlade	195	185	94.9%	10	5.1%

**Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017**

**Appendix K**

**Count and Percentage of CPS Initial Assessments by Maltreater Relationship, by County \*  
2017**

<b>County</b>	<b>Total CPS Initial Assessments</b>	<b>Primary Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments</b>	<b>Primary Caregiver CPS Initial Assessment Percent</b>	<b>Secondary and Non-Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments</b>	<b>Secondary and Non-Caregiver CPS Initial Assessment Percent</b>
Lincoln	160	155	96.9%	5	3.1%
Manitowoc	400	382	95.5%	18	4.5%
Marathon	648	587	90.6%	61	9.4%
Marinette	102	95	93.1%	7	6.9%
Marquette	57	51	89.5%	6	10.5%
Menominee	80	75	93.8%	5	6.3%
Milwaukee	6,958	6,381	91.7%	577	8.3%
Monroe	326	312	95.7%	14	4.3%
Oconto	174	165	94.8%	9	5.2%
Oneida	122	120	98.4%	2	1.6%
Outagamie	719	665	92.5%	54	7.5%
Ozaukee	154	145	94.2%	9	5.8%
Pepin	32	28	87.5%	4	12.5%
Pierce	121	108	89.3%	13	10.7%
Polk	302	265	87.7%	37	12.3%
Portage	260	250	96.2%	10	3.8%
Price	48	46	95.8%	2	4.2%
Racine	861	800	92.9%	61	7.1%
Richland	48	42	87.5%	6	12.5%
Rock	1,087	1,034	95.1%	53	4.9%
Rusk	68	62	91.2%	6	8.8%
Saint Croix	424	400	94.3%	24	5.7%
Sauk	275	264	96.0%	11	4.0%
Sawyer	86	80	93.0%	6	7.0%
Shawano	184	168	91.3%	16	8.7%
Sheboygan	429	404	94.2%	25	5.8%
Taylor	92	84	91.3%	8	8.7%
Trempealeau	189	184	97.4%	5	2.6%
Vernon	108	99	91.7%	9	8.3%
Vilas	97	94	96.9%	3	3.1%
Walworth	349	304	87.1%	45	12.9%
Washburn	62	54	87.1%	8	12.9%
Washington	187	178	95.2%	9	4.8%
Waukesha	454	416	91.6%	38	8.4%

**Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017**

**Appendix K**

**Count and Percentage of CPS Initial Assessments by Maltreater Relationship, by County \*  
2017**

<b>County</b>	<b>Total CPS Initial Assessments</b>	<b>Primary Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments</b>	<b>Primary Caregiver CPS Initial Assessment Percent</b>	<b>Secondary and Non-Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments</b>	<b>Secondary and Non-Caregiver CPS Initial Assessment Percent</b>
Waupaca	176	172	97.7%	4	2.3%
Waushara	116	110	94.8%	6	5.2%
Winnebago	678	609	89.8%	69	10.2%
Wood	521	492	94.4%	29	5.6%
<b>State Total</b>	<b>25,834</b>	<b>23,998</b>	<b>92.9%</b>	<b>1,836</b>	<b>7.1%</b>

\* 'Primary Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments (IA)' includes the following types of IAs: IA Primary, IA Narrative and IA Primary – Alternative Response (AR).

**Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017**

**Appendix L**

**Safety Assessment Results in Primary Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments, by County \*  
2017**

<b>County</b>	<b>Primary Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments</b>	<b>Number of 'Safe' Safety Decisions</b>	<b>Number of 'Unsafe' Safety Decisions</b>	<b>Percent of Safety Decisions found to be 'Unsafe'</b>
Adams	157	149	8	5.1%
Ashland	105	97	8	7.6%
Barron	264	216	48	18.2%
Bayfield	50	40	10	20.0%
Brown	1,298	1,180	118	9.1%
Buffalo	56	50	6	10.7%
Burnett	130	107	23	17.7%
Calumet	85	74	11	12.9%
Chippewa	168	127	41	24.4%
Clark	94	82	12	12.8%
Columbia	286	267	19	6.6%
Crawford	62	58	4	6.5%
Dane	1,263	1,177	86	6.8%
Dodge	256	222	34	13.3%
Door	116	102	14	12.1%
Douglas	293	248	45	15.4%
Dunn	130	89	41	31.5%
Eau Claire	382	336	46	12.0%
Florence	24	19	5	20.8%
Fond Du Lac	497	420	77	15.5%
Forest	59	49	10	16.9%
Grant	195	188	7	3.6%
Green	217	197	20	9.2%
Green Lake	67	56	11	16.4%
Iowa	91	88	3	3.3%
Iron	29	25	4	13.8%
Jackson	74	59	15	20.3%
Jefferson	233	206	27	11.6%
Juneau	132	96	36	27.3%
Kenosha*	667	245	21	3.1%
Kewaunee	13	9	4	30.8%
La Crosse	386	323	63	16.3%
Lafayette	69	63	6	8.7%
Langlade	185	152	33	17.8%

**Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017**

**Appendix L**

**Safety Assessment Results in Primary Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments, by County \*  
2017**

<b>County</b>	<b>Primary Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments</b>	<b>Number of 'Safe' Safety Decisions</b>	<b>Number of 'Unsafe' Safety Decisions</b>	<b>Percent of Safety Decisions found to be 'Unsafe'</b>
Lincoln	155	134	21	13.5%
Manitowoc	382	321	61	16.0%
Marathon	587	509	78	13.3%
Marinette	95	70	25	26.3%
Marquette	51	48	3	5.9%
Menominee	75	70	5	6.7%
Milwaukee*	6,381	5,704	677	10.6%
Monroe	312	274	38	12.2%
Oconto	165	142	23	13.9%
Oneida	120	95	25	20.8%
Outagamie	665	582	83	12.5%
Ozaukee	145	128	17	11.7%
Pepin	28	26	2	7.1%
Pierce	108	96	12	11.1%
Polk	265	225	40	15.1%
Portage	250	212	38	15.2%
Price	46	37	9	19.6%
Racine*	800	686	113	14.1%
Richland	42	26	16	38.1%
Rock	1,034	927	107	10.3%
Rusk	62	52	10	16.1%
Saint Croix	400	355	45	11.3%
Sauk	264	244	20	7.6%
Sawyer	80	76	4	5.0%
Shawano	168	153	15	8.9%
Sheboygan	404	343	61	15.1%
Taylor	84	66	18	21.4%
Trempealeau	184	160	24	13.0%
Vernon	99	80	19	19.2%
Vilas	94	83	11	11.7%
Walworth	304	269	35	11.5%
Washburn	54	45	9	16.7%
Washington	178	135	43	24.2%
Waukesha*	416	309	44	10.6%
Waupaca	172	156	16	9.3%

# Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

## Appendix L

### Safety Assessment Results in Primary Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments, by County \* 2017

County	Primary Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments	Number of 'Safe' Safety Decisions	Number of 'Unsafe' Safety Decisions	Percent of Safety Decisions found to be 'Unsafe'
Waushara	110	101	9	8.2%
Winnebago	609	541	68	11.2%
Wood	492	458	34	6.9%
<b>State Total</b>	<b>23,998</b>	<b>20,744</b>	<b>2,789</b>	<b>11.6%</b>

\* There were 465 blank primary caregiver CPS Initial Assessment safety decisions, from the four counties noted above. 'Primary Caregiver CPS Initial Assessments (IA)' includes the following types: IA Primary, IA Narrative and IA Primary – Alternative Response (AR).

## Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Report for CY2017

### Appendix M - Where to Report Child Maltreatment

To report a case of child abuse or neglect, please contact the county or tribe where the child or child's family lives. If the agency is not known, contact the closest county. The following website lists the county departments of health and human services or social services that receive and assess child maltreatment reports. Such reports may also be made to law enforcement agencies.

Please also refer to <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/reportabuse>