



NEW HAMPSHIRE
DHHS
DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Division for Children, Youth and Families

February 27, 2023

Joseph E. Ribsam, Jr.

Division Director

Mission

We partner with families & communities to provide resources and supports that lead to the safety and healthy development of children, youth, and the communities in which they live.

Child Protective Services:

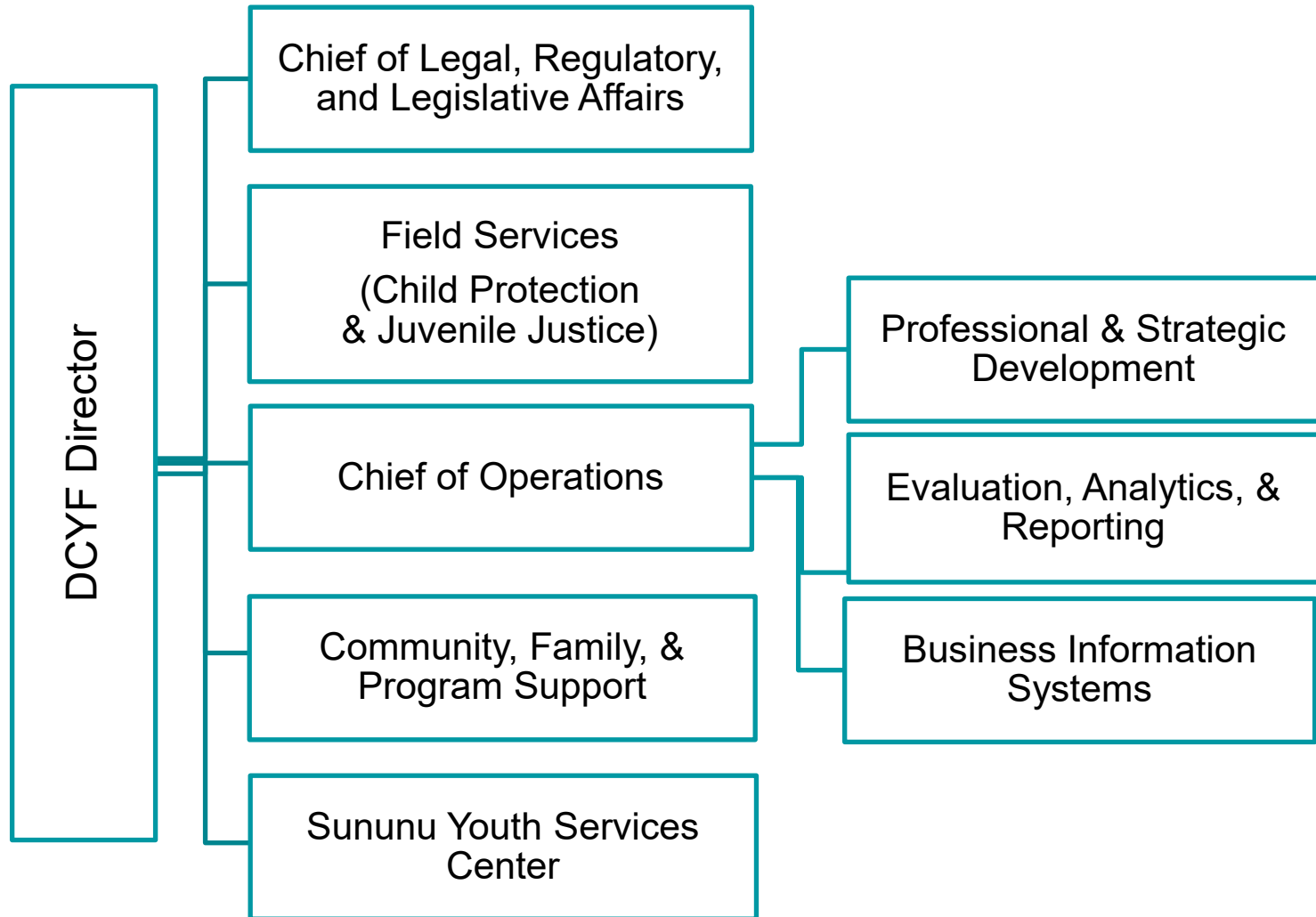
Investigate and assess allegations of child abuse and neglect. Provide for the safety, permanency, and well-being of child victims or children at risk of maltreatment.

Juvenile Justice Services:

Support children and youth to remediate challenges with delinquency to promote child, family, and community safety. Support children and youth identified as Children in Need of Services.

Sununu Youth Services Center:

Provide a safe and secure environment for detained and committed youth that receive crisis intervention, mental health, and treatment services in a secure setting. Ensure safety and well being of committed and detained youth and the overall safety of the community.



KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

•Providing Earlier Supports that Support Children and Strengthen Families:

- Community Navigator at Child Protection Intake publically procured and in contract negotiation
- Community Based Voluntary Services now statewide and served 1,424 children last fiscal year
- Juvenile Justice Assessment process (SB94 2021) implemented statewide, completed over 1,000 assessments in first year, deflecting youth from court system to Children’s System of Care and other community supports
- Kinship Navigation Programs now statewide serving ~375 new families each year (partnership with DES & DPHS)

•Higher Quality Supports when Formal System Involvement is Required:

- Federal Family First Preventative Services Act - Prevention Plan approved October 2022
- Evidence Based Multisystemic Therapy procured and implemented
- Evidence Based YV Intercept procured and implemented
- Evidence Based Healthy Families America procured in partnership with DPHS and in early implementation
- Partnership with Children’s Behavioral Health on Fast Forward, TRECC, Residential Redesign & CAT Assessments implemented
- Kinship Care expansion approved in statute, related procurement in contract negotiation
- Juvenile Justice Rules of Probation updated to provide individualization based on CANS assessment
- SYSC new Director Hired & Clinical Program restructured with licensed clinicians and fully staffed – six different group sessions and individual counseling each week.

•Additional Support for Transition Aged Youth:

- HOPE Program – voluntary foster care to 21 – served 121 youth since inception (April 2020) ~60 at any given time
- Housing options could include foster homes, group homes, independent living programs, apartments, on-campus housing, or other shared living arrangements as appropriate based on youth’s needs and readiness
- YV Life Set providing an evidence based support for transition aged youth to ~130 youth per year
- Expanded partnerships with housing authorities for housing vouchers for young adults exiting or who have exited care (113 FYI & 134 FUP housing vouchers)

KEY CHALLENGES

DCYF Workforce:

- Hiring and retaining child protection and SYSC staff remains a significant challenge
- Recent data shows increasing demand for CPS intake, assessments, and family service cases
- Retention of pay enhancements approved during the last biennium combined the contemplated salary increase through collective bargaining should yield improvement
- DCYF Prioritized Needs identified: 1) creation of a child protection “impact team” to help mitigate the cascading impact of turnover seen over the past few years, and 2) creation of twelve additional “case-aide” positions that can help relieve some responsibilities of front line CPSWs.

Additional Support for Alternate Caregivers:

- Caregivers for our children are under increased financial stress resulting from major economic shifts in recent years and local/regional/national shortages of options for children in need of out-of-home care:
- DCYF Prioritized Need to increase foster care rates to align with USDA median cost of raising a child in New Hampshire
- Division of Behavioral Health Prioritized Need to enhance rates for youth residential care to allow for long term workforce stabilization
- Kinship Caregiver License – new regulations later in the year (awaiting federal regulatory update)
- SB172 authorizes the use of TANF Benefits to support “fictive kin” who obtain legal guardianship of children and youth outside of the formal foster care system

Additional Support for Children, Youth, and Families:

Recent and anticipated system changes have shifted demand on necessary programs and services to support children, youth, and families outside of the formal child protection and juvenile justice systems.

DCYF Prioritized Need for development of statewide Juvenile Diversion programing to accommodate increased needs being identified through the new Juvenile Justice Assessment process (SB94 2020)

Division of Economic Stability Prioritized need to increased support to Family Resource Centers which have not received state support for their operations despite being a critical and growing aspect of supporting families without formal DCYF system involvement

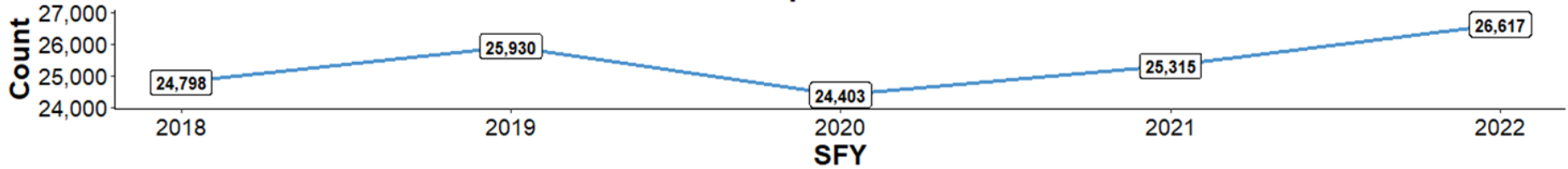
SB154, in partnership with UNH and Community College system, authorizes a significant expansion of the tuition waiver program for youth based on increased demand following implementation of the HOPE program

Bureau of Field Services

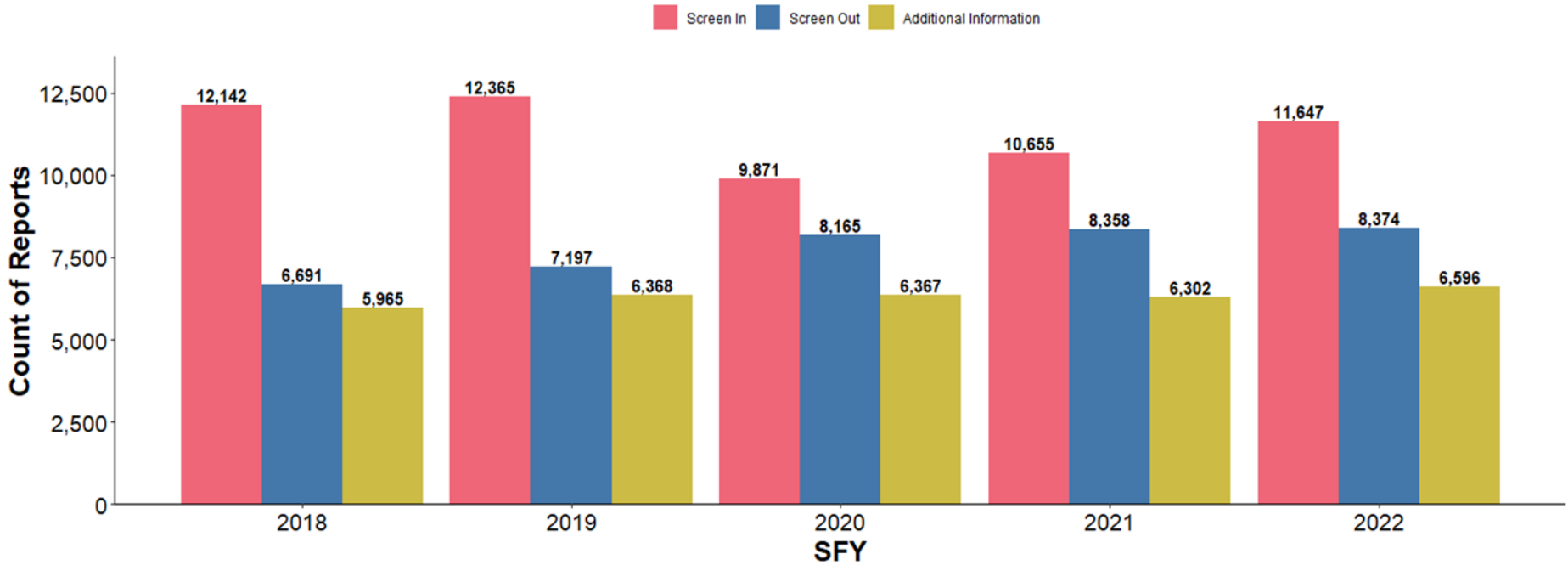
Responsible for all juvenile justice and child protection field operations exercised statewide through the DHHS District Offices, inclusive of assessments, ongoing cases, court, service matching, placement, etc.

Activity – Accounting Unit	Accounting Unit Title	FTE Authorized Positions SFY 2023	Budget Book Page #	Budget Briefing Book Page #
4210-1896	Emerg CYF Fund	0	875	n/a Under \$1M
4210-2957	Child Protection	469	877	6
4210-2965	Unemployment Compensation	0	882	n/a Under \$1M
4214-7905	Juvenile Field Services	107	893	31
4214-7906	OJJDP	1	894	n/a Under \$1M

Child Protection Total Reports To Intake



Breakdown By Report Type

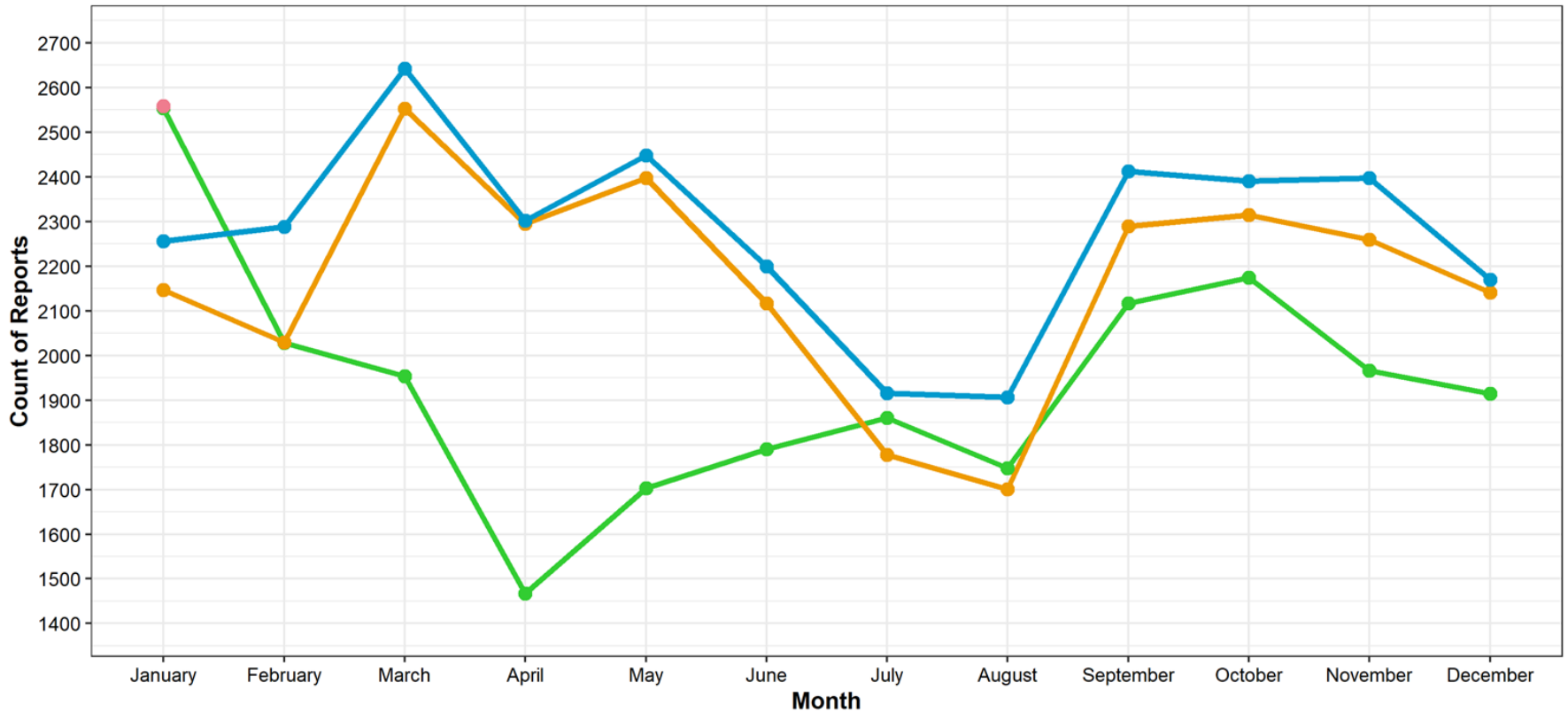


Data Extracted From Bridges SACWIS on 2/15/23

Child Protection

Child Protection: Reports To Central Intake
Comparing 2020 - 2023

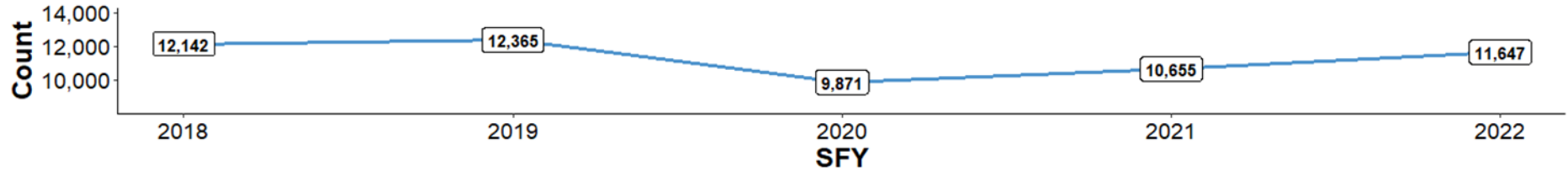
Year ● 2020 ● 2021 ● 2022 ● 2023



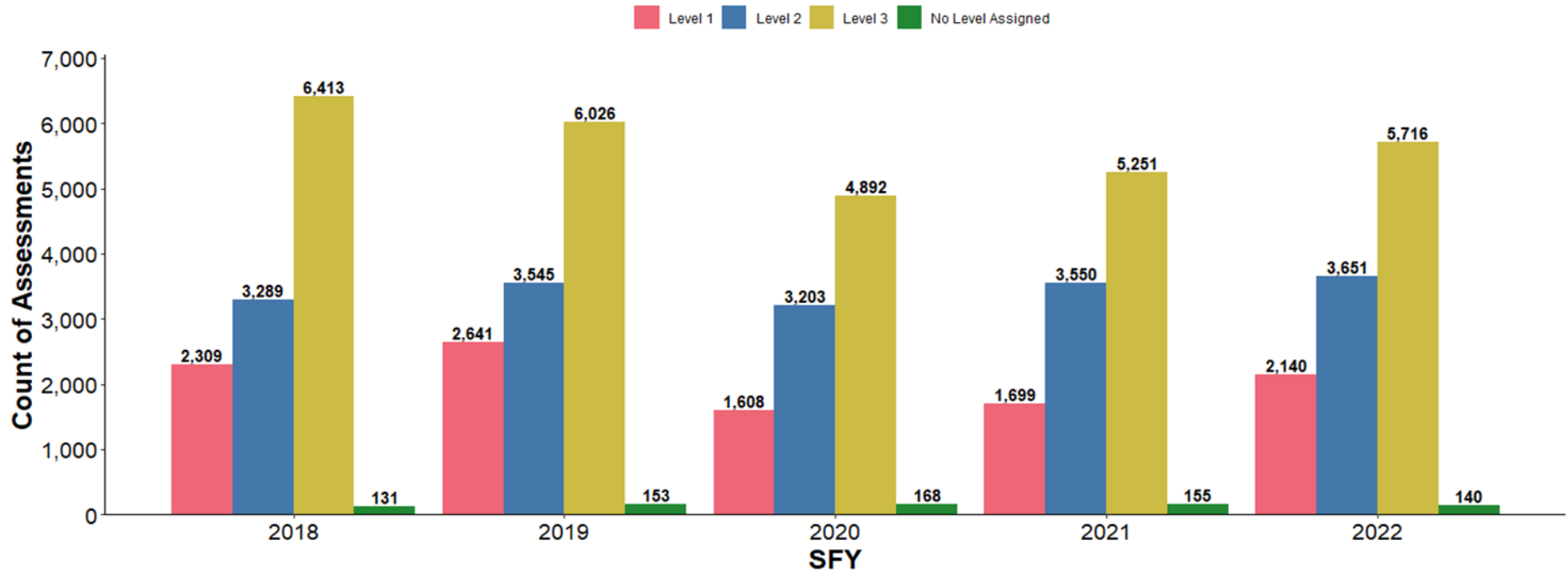
Extracted from Bridges (NH SACWIS) on 02/07/2023



Child Protection Total New Assessments



Breakdown By Priority Response

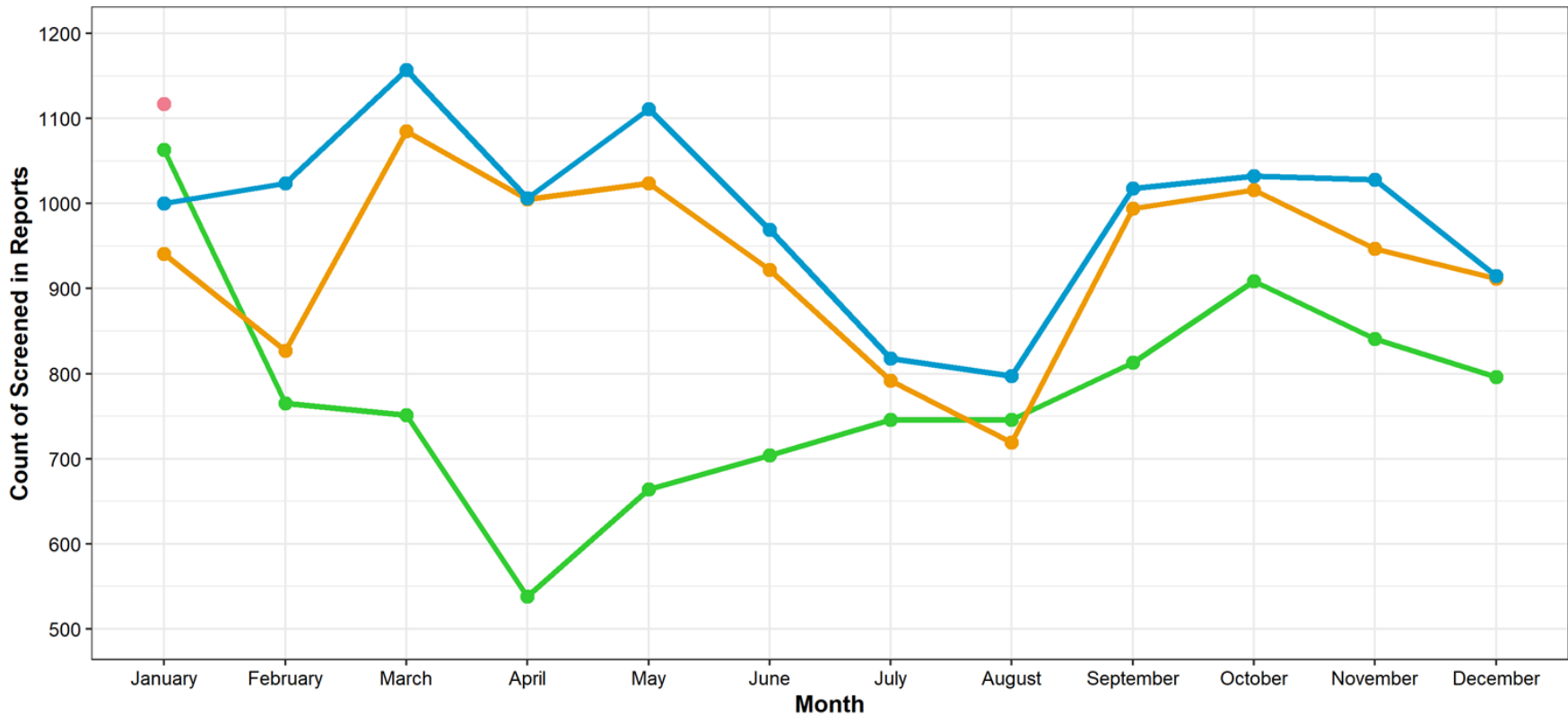


Data Extracted From Bridges SACWIS on 2/15/23

Child Protection

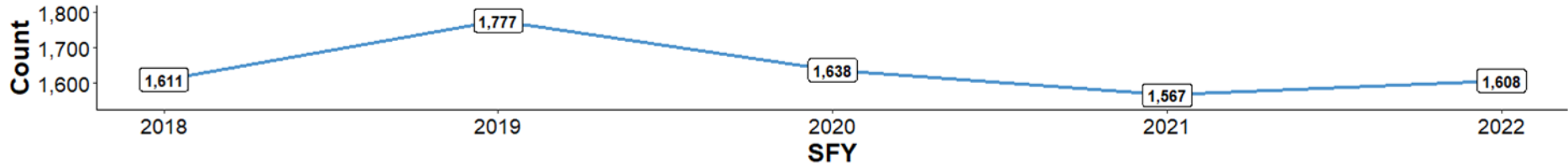
Child Protection: Screened In Referrals (accepted for further assessment)
Comparing 2020 - 2023

Year ● 2020 ● 2021 ● 2022 ● 2023

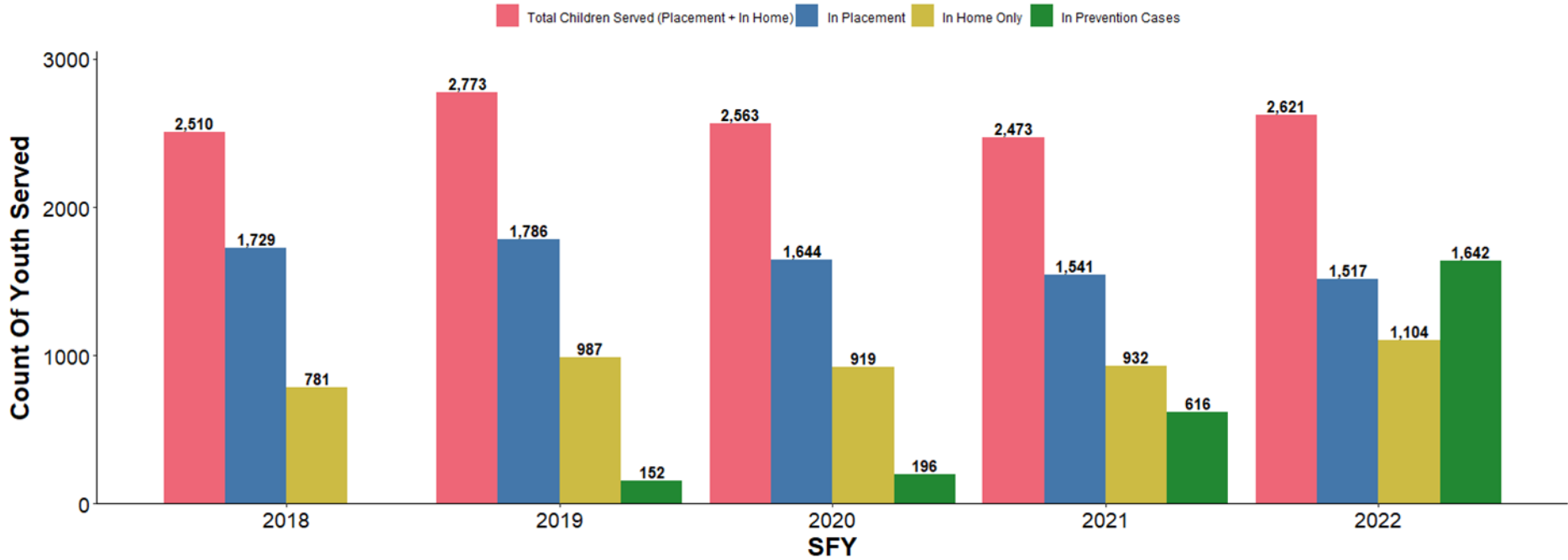


Extracted from Bridges (NH SACWIS) on 02/07/2023

Child Protection Total Family Services Cases Open Anytime In Period



Children Served Anytime In Period



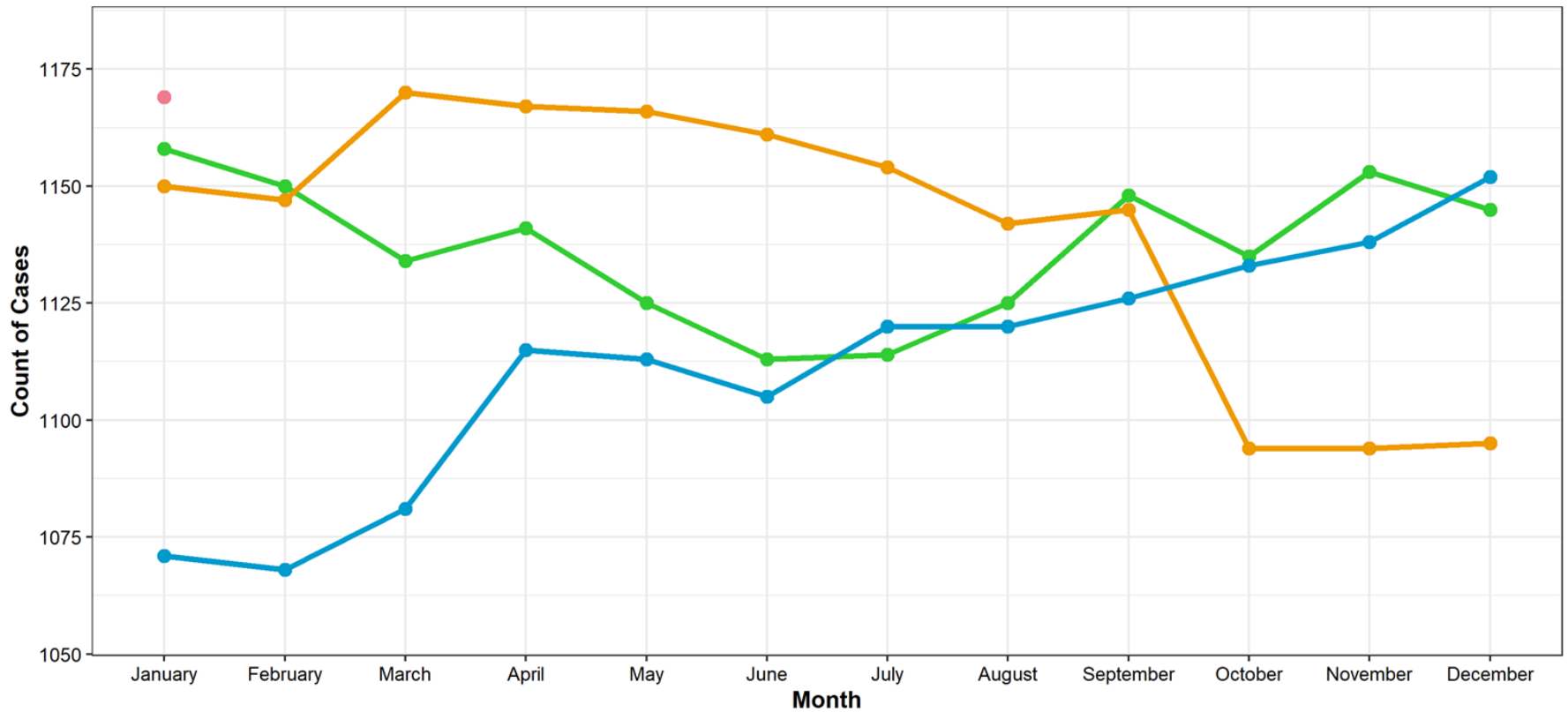
Data Extracted From Bridges SACWIS on 2/15/23

Child Protection

Child Protection: Case Counts

Comparing Active Cases on the First of the Month: 2020 - 2023

Year ● 2020 ● 2021 ● 2022 ● 2023



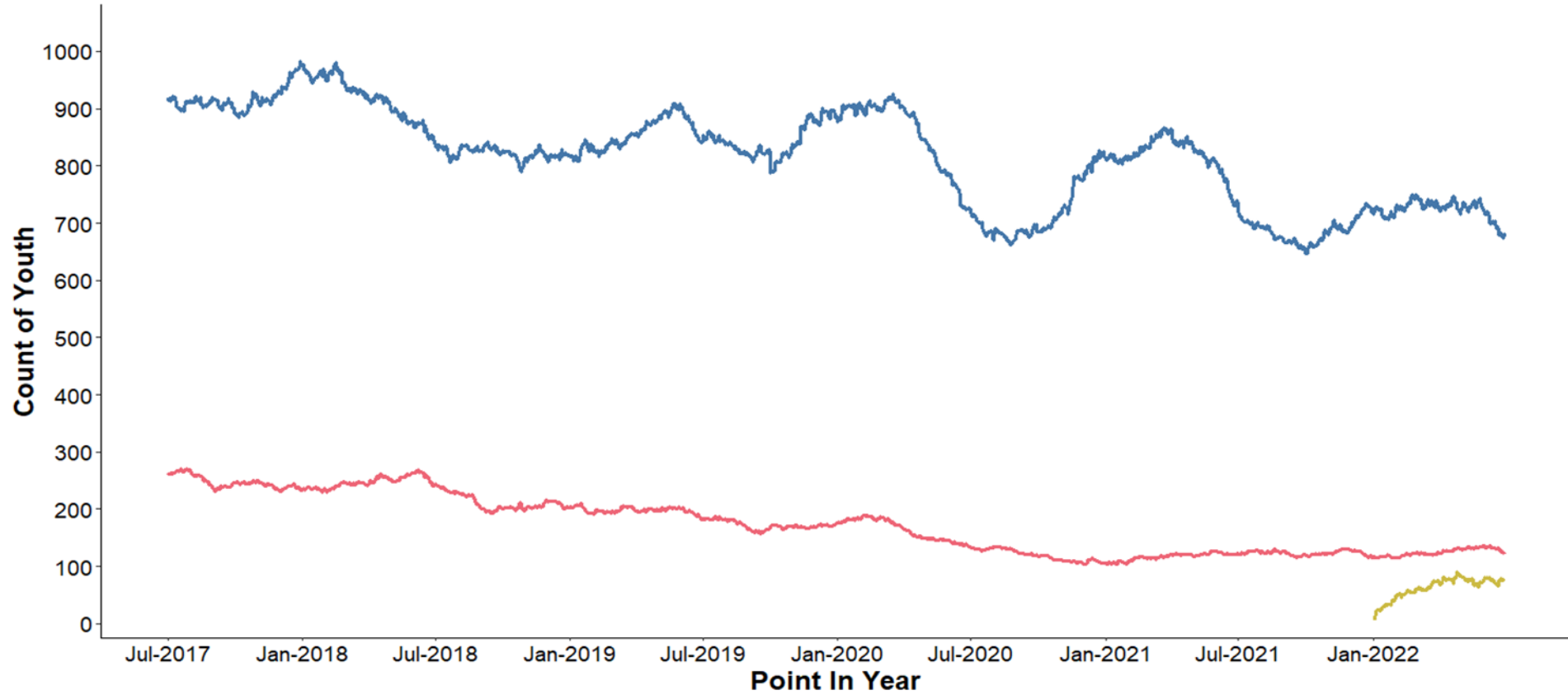
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Juvenile Justice

Juvenile Justice: Youth Involvement: SFY 2018-2022

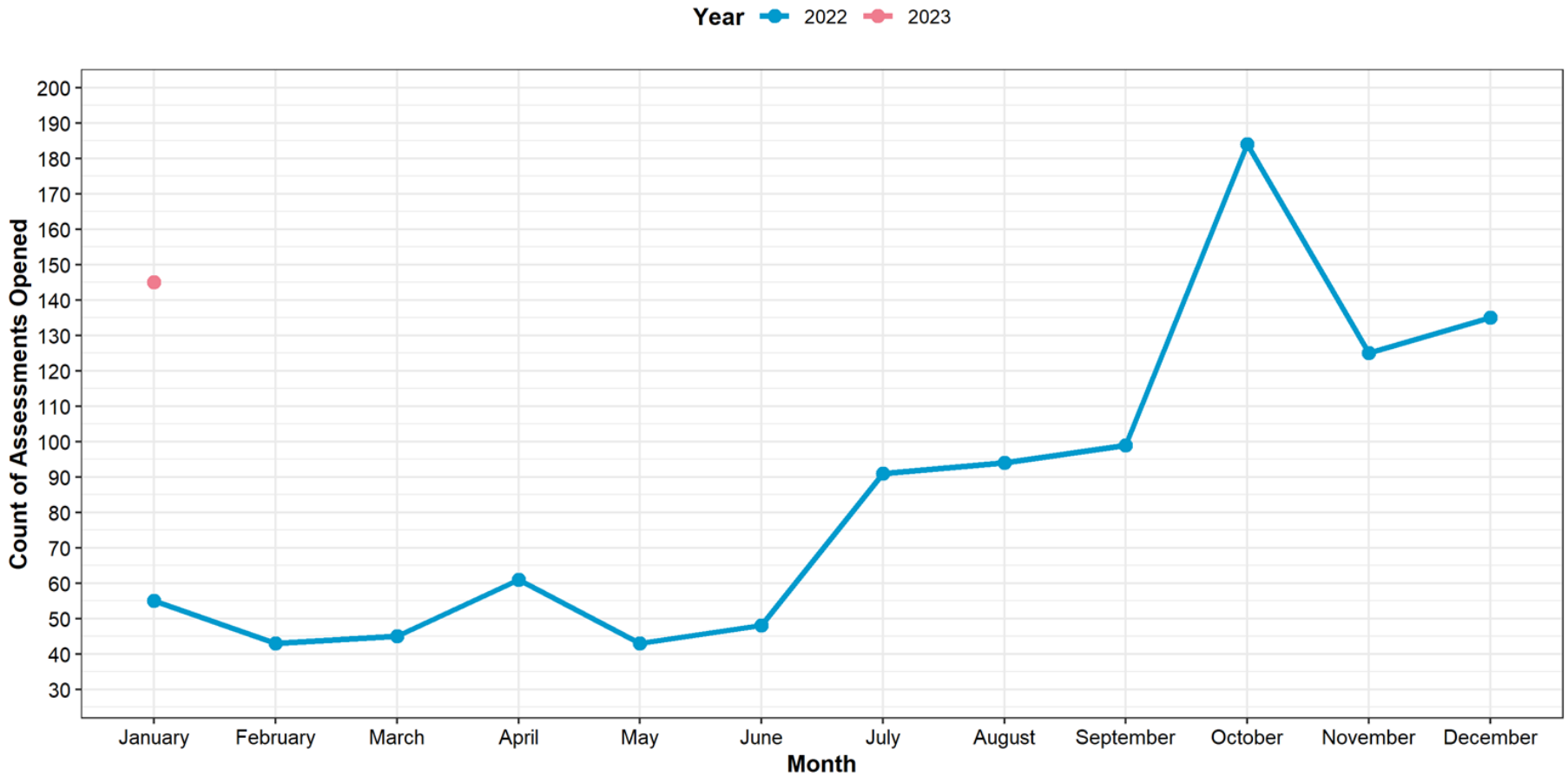
— In Home — Placement — JJ Assessment



Data Extracted From Bridges SACWIS on 2/15/23

Juvenile Justice

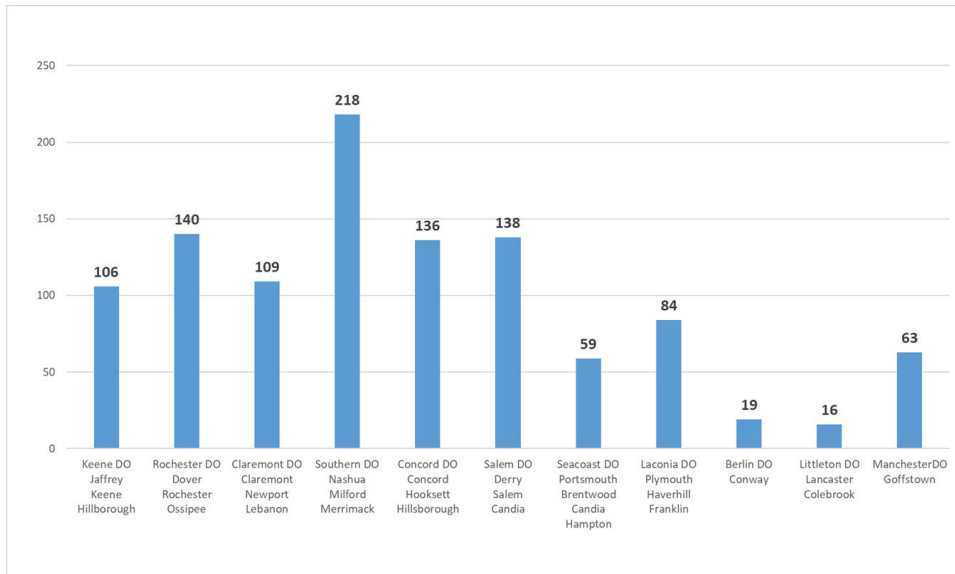
Juvenile Justices: Trends In JJ Assessments
Comparing 2022 - 2023



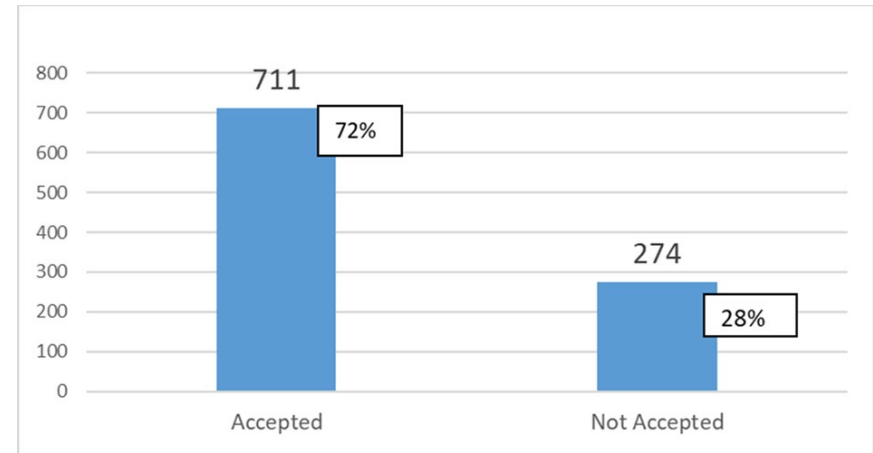
Extracted from Bridges (NH SACWIS) on 02/07/2023

Juvenile Justice - Assessment Data Year 1

REFERRALS BY DISTRICT OFFICE & BY COURT

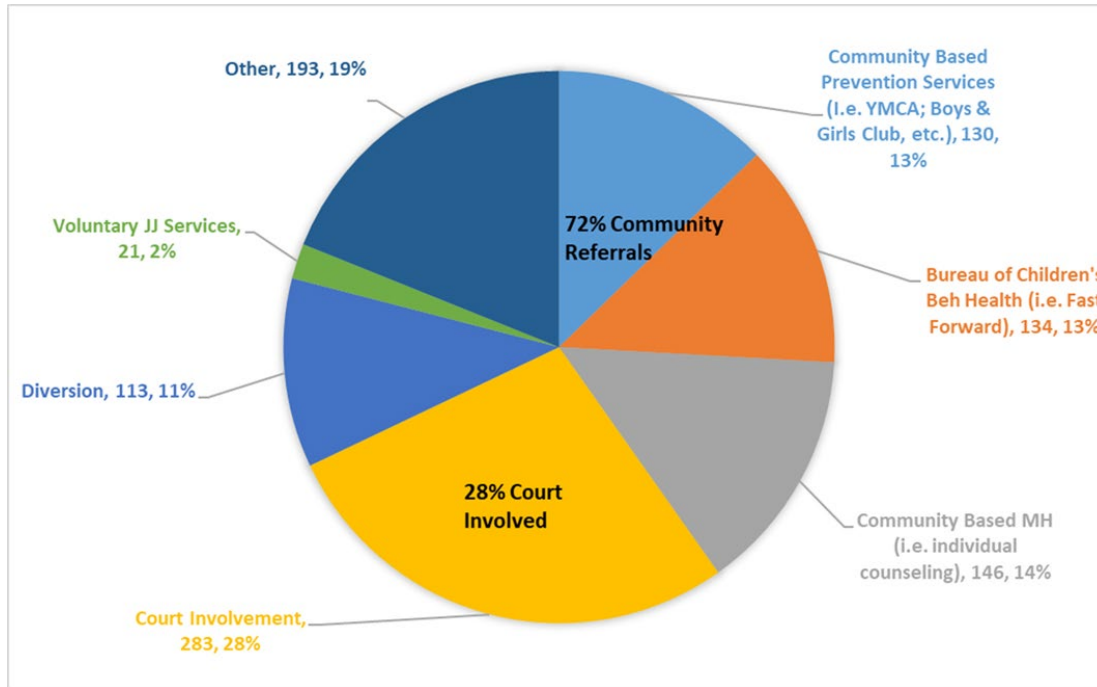


WAS THE REFERRAL ACCEPTED BY THE FAMILY?

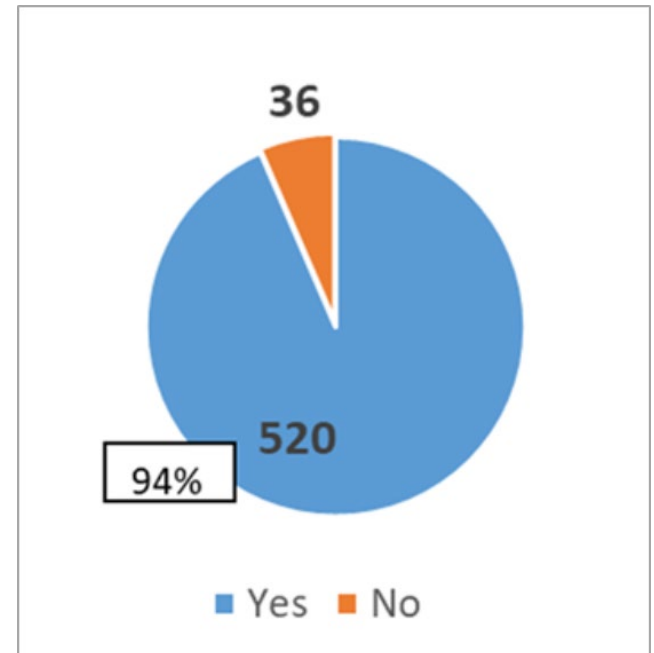


Juvenile Justice - Assessment Data, Year 1

RECOMMENDED INTERVENTIONS FOLLOWING CANS ASSESSMENT



IS LAW ENFORCEMENT AGREEING WITH ASSESSMENT REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS?



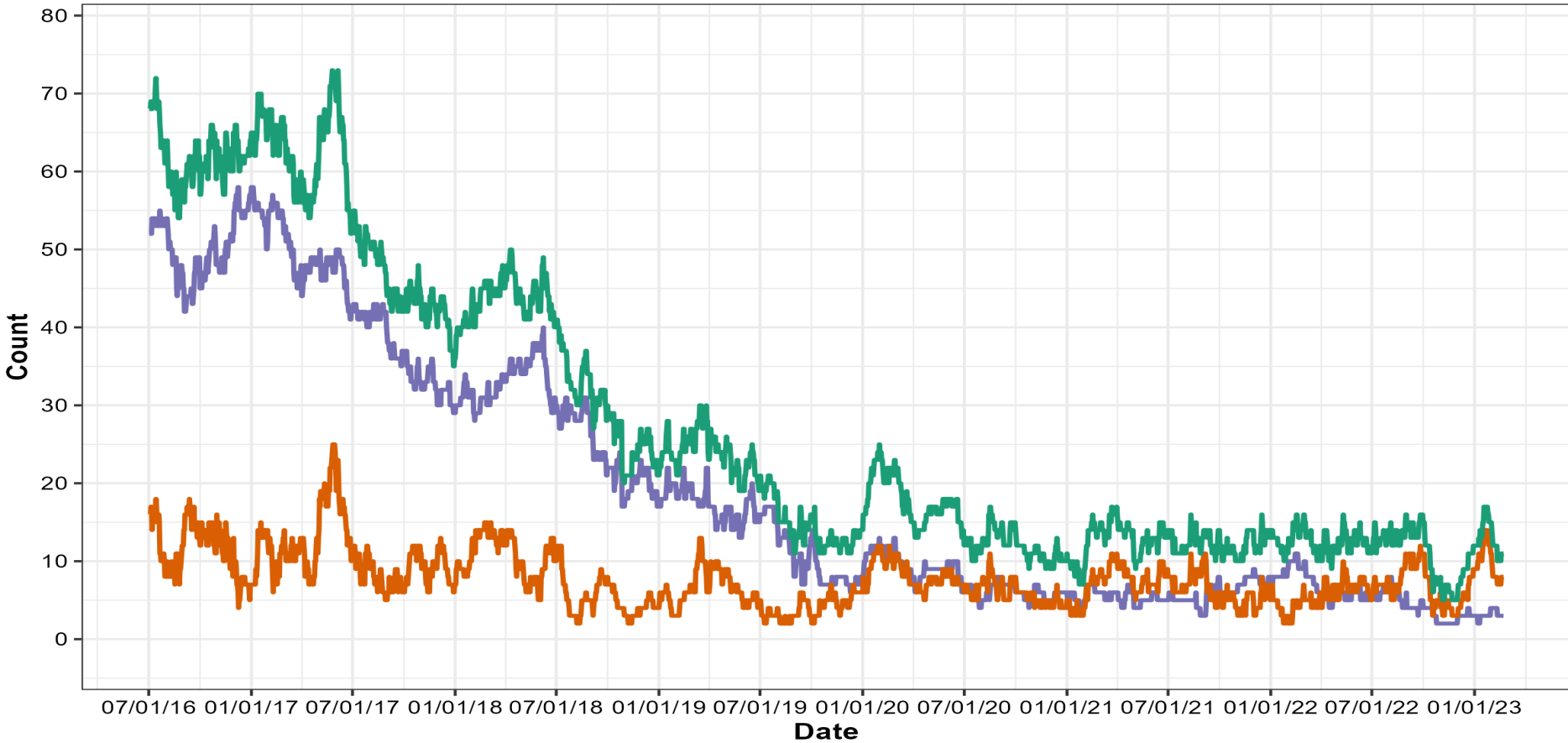
Sununu Youth Services Center

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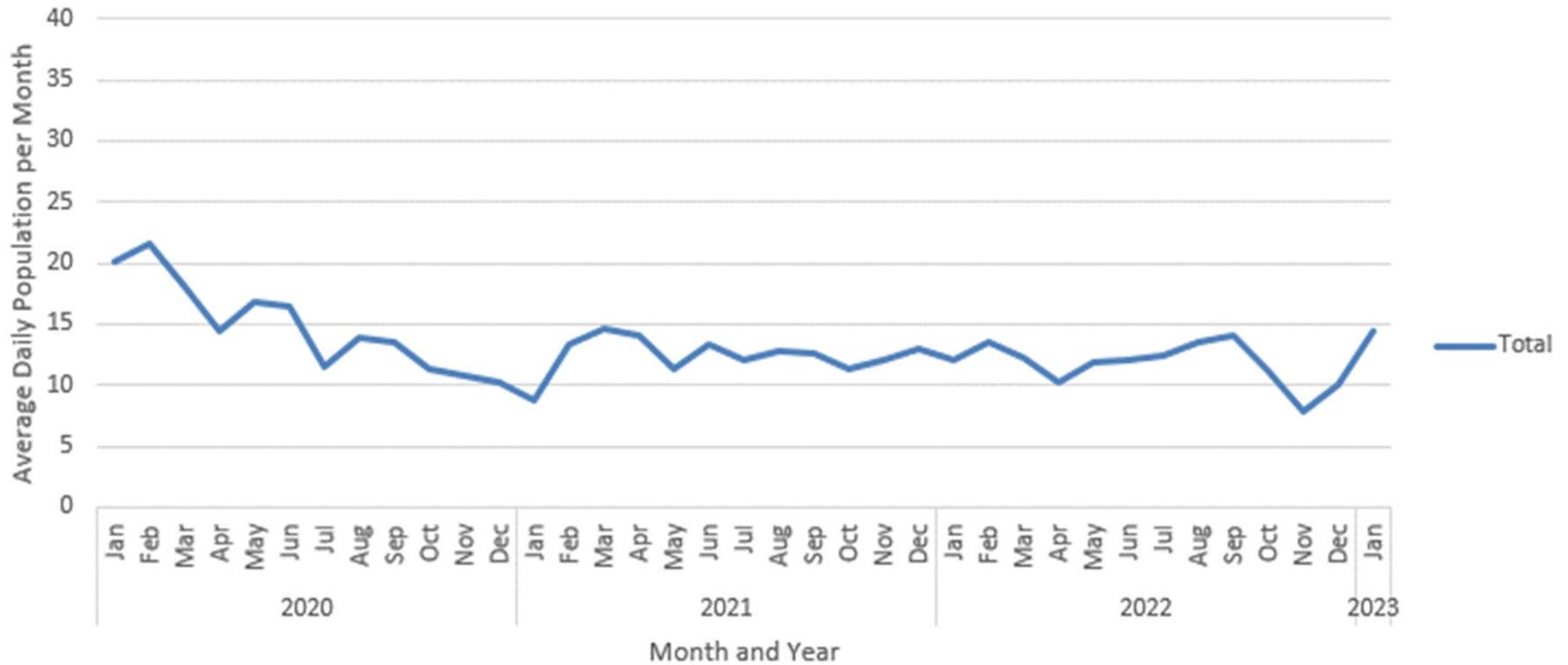
Activity – Accounting Unit	Accounting Unit Title	FTE Authorized Positions SFY23	Budget Book Page #	Budget Briefing Book Page #
4215-6643	SYSC HB 2 91:327 (2021)	137	896 (HB 2)	34

SYSC Daily Population
07/01/16 - 02/22/23

— Committed — Detained — Total



Total SYSC Population



Office of the Director

Includes: DCYF Chief of Operations; Legal, Regulatory, and Legislative Affairs (general counsel, legislative liaison, policy development, and central registry); Business Information Systems (Legacy case management system “Bridges” maintenance, new case management system “Granite Families” development, other division specific IT support functions).

Activity – Accounting Unit	Accounting Unit Title	FTE Authorized Positions SFY23	Budget Book Page #	Budget Briefing Book Page #
4210-2956	Director's Office	27	876	1

Bureau of Community, Family, & Program Support

Responsible for community-based service development and contract oversight and management of foster care, permanency (adoption, guardianship, reunification), adolescent, foster care health, and human trafficking programs.

Activity – Accounting Unit	Accounting Unit Title	FTE Authorized Positions SFY 23	Budget Book Page #	Budget Briefing Book Page #
4210-2958	Child - Family Services	0	878	12
4210-2959	Domestic Violence Programs	0	879	20
4210-2961	Foster Care Health Program	19	881	28
4210-2967	Child Welfare Service IV-B	0	883	n/a Under \$1M
4210-2968	Title IV-B Subpart I	0	883	n/a Under \$1M
4210-2969	Child Abuse Prevention - CAPTA	0	884	n/a Under \$1M

Bureau of Community, Family, & Program Support

Continued from prior page:

Activity – Accounting Unit	Accounting Unit Title	FTE Authorized Positions SFY23	Budget Book Page #	Budget Briefing Book Page #
4210-2970	Teen Independent Living	1	884	29
4210-2971	Adolescent After Care Service	0	885	n/a Under \$1M
4210-2972	Adolescent Purchased Service	0	886	n/a Under \$1M
4210-2973	Promoting Safe-Stable Families	0	886	n/a Under \$1M
4210-2974	Adoption Services	0	887	n/a Under \$1M

Bureau of Strategic and Professional Development

Responsible for: professional development of all DCYF staff, foster parents, and other stakeholders; development, monitoring, and implementation support of biannual DCYF strategic priorities; parent partner program, and management of the Special Investigations Unit and the Risk, Safety, Consultation team.

Activity – Accounting Unit	Accounting Unit Title	FTE Authorized Positions SFY23	Budget Book Page #	Budget Briefing Book Page #
4210-3220	Bureau of Strategic and Professional Development	10	888	22

Bureau of Evaluation, Analytics, and Reporting

Responsible for: data tracking, analytics, and reporting; continuous quality improvement activities (case practice reviews); formal quality assurance activities (critical case specific reviews and SYSC incident reviews); and federal reporting activities.

Activity – Accounting Unit	Accounting Unit Title	FTE Authorized Positions SFY23	Budget Book Page #	Budget Briefing Book Page #
4210-3221	Bureau of Evaluation, Analytics and Reporting	8	888	26