Period 27 Monitoring Report

of

The Accountability Agent and Monitoring and Technical Assistance Team

In the Case of

Kenny A. v. Kemp

State of Georgia

January 22, 2020

ACCOUNTABILITY AGENT AND MONITORING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TEAM

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I. INTRODUCTION

his Period 27 report is the fourth monitoring report in which the Accountability Agent and the Monitoring and Technical Assistance Team (MTAT) report on the new outcomes delineated in the Modified Consent Decree and Exit Plan (Modified Exit Plan) that was filed in Federal District Court in December 2016¹. In addition to this monitoring report, MTAT issued its First Brief on the Infrastructure Standards in March 2019² and will issue its Second Brief on the Infrastructure Standards in the beginning of 2020, in accordance with the Stipulated Order Amending the Modified Consent Decree and Exit Plan (Stipulated Order) filed with the Federal District Court in December 2017.

In this report, the MTAT's obligation is to report specifically on the measurable requirements articulated in Sections IV, V, and VI of the Modified Exit Plan that relate to activity in Metropolitan Atlanta from January 1 through June 30, 2019. In this report, in addition to discussing the Ongoing and Attained Outcomes Measures, MTAT also continues reviewing the use of congregate care, monitoring the use of hotels and other temporary placements for children in foster care, and reporting caseloads for case managers and supervisors. The next two sections of this report provide that information.

The MTAT approach to monitoring serves not only as an accountability mechanism for the Court, the Plaintiffs, and the public, but also as an opportunity to assist DFCS to establish a culture of data-driven decision-making and continuous quality improvement (CQI). The goal is to establish a strong CQI process that will remain in place after the state satisfies the terms of the Modified Exit Plan and is no longer under federal court oversight.

The MTAT consistently reports on the same Modified Exit Plan standards and outcome measures every six months using a combination of qualitative and quantitative data.³ In addition to this basic and consistent set of metrics to track progress over time as agreed upon in the Modified Exit Plan, the MTAT conducts a deep, quality-focused analysis on a handful of Infrastructure Standards at regular intervals. Data gathering for these can include; interviews

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¹ Modified Consent Decree and Exit Plan, *Kenny A. v. Nathan Deal*, Civil Action NO. 1:02-CV-1686-TWT. Go to: https://www.childrensrights.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/2016.11.09-745-Exhibit-A-Modified-Consent-Decree-and-Exit-Plan.pdf

² First Brief on the Infrastructure Standards. Go to: https://www.childrensrights.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/First-Brief-on-the-Infrastructure-Standards.pdf

³ Pursuant to the Modified Consent Decree, both the Ongoing Outcome Measures and Attained Outcome Measures have undergone substantial revision to reflect, when possible, the principles of best practices in measurement. Best practices principles include: 1) a clear statement of the analytic question with particular attention to identifying the risk population or the denominator associated with a particular inquiry; 2) use of entry cohorts and prospective measures to characterize systems dynamics and change in outcomes; 3) attention to the sources of variation in system outcomes (e.g. variation over time, among children, or in places); 4) understanding variation to track change accurately; 5) assessing expected change in the appropriate period of performance or window of time; 6) matching the analytic question to the appropriate source data; and 7) using well-understood and organized data resources that are designed to support asking and answering analytic questions.

with stakeholders, focus groups; surveys, observations of processes, targeted case reviews, and reviews of Child and Family Service Reviews (CFSRs) findings.

The intention is to enable Parties to better understand several key factors associated with each of the Infrastructure Standards: 1) the expectations for practice and the extent to which these processes are occurring; 2) the capacity within the system to meet these expectations; and 3) the extent to which these processes are occurring with sufficient consistency and quality. Moreover, this enables the MTAT to focus on emerging issues to mitigate a reactive approach to monitoring. Here is summary of each brief.

The first brief on the Infrastructure Standards was focused on the comprehensive practice model (Section I), investigations of possible maltreatment in care (Section II), and the case planning process (Section III). This brief was finalized on March 19, 2019.

The second brief on the Infrastructure Standards was focused on the comprehensive practice model (Section I), robust workforce development (Section VIII), quality placement and caregiving (Section IV), and health and education (Section V). This brief was distributed to Parties on October 4, 2019 and comments are being incorporated.

The third brief on the Infrastructure Standards will be on the comprehensive practice model (Section I), federal funding (Section IX) and the child welfare information and quality assurance systems (Section VI), and supervision of contract agencies (Section VII).

Leadership Changes

Changes in leadership continue at every level of DFCS. In the state office, Division Director Tom Rawlings has appointed Mary Havick, Deputy Division Director of Child Welfare and Lon Roberts as the Assistant Deputy Director for Child Welfare. Naima Simon was appointed as the new Data Unit Director. At the county level, Tinaddine Paul-Bazil was appointed as the Fulton County Director.

Regional Priorities

Regional Director Kristen Toliver has set forth several areas in which Region 14 will focus its efforts.

- 1. Continue to strengthen the workforce through strong hiring, training, coaching, and retention practices and strategies. The region is exploring new ways to ensure that new case managers understand the key elements of the job and that they are fully supported as they continue developing as strong social workers. Continuing to nurture and develop the skills of supervisors is just as important if not more, because supervisors have substantial impact on the experience of frontline case managers.
- 2. *Improve the permanency rate for children who enter care*. Although fewer children are entering care, fewer are also exiting care. A core belief is that foster care should be temporary. The counties are continuing to support placements with relatives and are developing more behaviorally specific case plans that delineate which goals are necessary

- to eliminate safety risk and allow children to return home. In addition, the region has been in discussion with the court system regarding effective use of protective orders.
- 3. Decrease the rate in which children re-enter foster care. The re-entry rates in the region have steadily remained high for the past several years. This further exacerbates the number of children in care, the high caseloads and the retention rate of case managers. Most importantly, re-entering foster care re-traumatizes the child and his/her family. The region is exploring strategies to improve the quality and frequency of discharge staffings, ensure that service providers continue caring for children and their families, and utilizing protective orders and trial visitations more often when safety is not a risk.

II. CASELOAD STANDARDS

To better understand the factors that most impact DFCS' ability to meet caseload expectations and ensure a stable and capable workforce to address the needs of children and families, the MTAT conducted a deeper analysis on the workforce for the Second Brief on the Infrastructure Standards. The Infrastructure Standards, negotiated and submitted to the court in December 2017, include commitments related to the hiring and onboarding process for new employees, improved coordination with the Department of Human Services' Office of Human Resources (OHR), case manager and supervisory training and support, as well as better management of caseloads for case managers and supervisors.

For the purpose of this report, this section is focused solely on the caseload standards and supervisory ratios included in the Modified Consent Decree and Exit Plan Section V.⁴

- ♦ No CPS case manager shall have more than 12 cases.
- ♦ No ongoing case manager shall have more than 17 cases.
- ♦ No placement case manager shall have more than 15 cases.
- No adoption case manager shall have more than 16 cases.
- No specialized case manager shall have more than 12 cases.
- ♦ No supervisor shall supervise more than five (5) case managers at any one time in Fulton or DeKalb counties.

Of the 177 CPS, family preservation, permanency, and specialized case managers who were active on June 30, 2019, 102 (58 percent) of them were meeting caseload expectations. Although not assigned caseloads per se, there were fifteen adoption case managers in Metropolitan Atlanta helping to promote permanency for children with the goal of adoption. On this same date, there were 22 children in foster care and another ten families receiving support or under investigation waiting to be assigned to a case manager by a supervisor.

On June 30, 2019, out of 50 supervisors overseeing Child Protective Services investigations, family preservation and permanency for children in foster care, 44 (88 percent) of them were assigned five or fewer case managers.

CPS Case Managers

For CPS case managers, 69 percent (41 of 59) were assigned 12 or fewer families to respond to or investigate reports of maltreatment on June 30, 2019.

⁴ Modified Consent Decree and Exit Plan Section V: Caseloads states that these "caseloads will exist in Fulton DFCS and DeKalb DFCS and will apply to all case managers, including deployed case managers, who carry caseloads that include any class member children. In the event that a case manager has a mixed caseload, the caseload shall be weighted to reflect the standards in this section."

Family Preservation Case Managers

Family preservation case managers have generally been assigned 17 or fewer families in order to provide services and help ensure child safety. The same was true on June 30, 2019. Ninety-five (95 percent) of these case managers met the standard.

Permanency Case Managers

For many years, permanency case managers were consistently meeting or exceeding a caseload expectation of 15 or fewer. However, this began to shift in 2015.⁵ Only half (49 percent) of permanency case managers were meeting caseload expectations on June 30, 2019.

Case Managers with Children Assigned to Them Who Have Been in Foster Care for 18 Months or Longer

Previously known as specialized case managers, case managers who are assigned to children who have been in foster care for 18 months or longer are to be assigned no more than 12 children at any given time. Many of these children require extra support to achieve permanency. Percentages of case managers meeting this expectation have been dropping in recent years. Thirty-eight percent (19 of 50) of these case managers were meeting caseload expectations on June 30, 2019.

Supervisors

On June 30, 2019, 68 percent (13 of 19) of Child Protective Services supervisors in Metropolitan Atlanta were assigned five or fewer case managers. All the 31 permanency supervisors were meeting expectations.

DeKalb County on June 30, 2019

Caseloads for 47 percent of the case managers in DeKalb County on June 30, 2019 were too high. It should be noted that all Family Preservation case managers were assigned caseloads that met agreed upon standards. See Appendix A, *Table 3 and Table 4* for more information.

Fulton County on June 30, 2019

On this same date, 37 percent of Fulton County case managers were exceeding caseload expectations, an improvement from December 31, 2018. See Appendix A, *Table 5 and Table 6* for more information.

The Region has held several hiring fairs and has developed a process to conduct continuous hiring. While the number of case managers entering the workforce has improved, retention remains a challenge. This directly impacts the Region's ability to meet caseload expectations. Regional and county leadership have been exploring ways to ensure that new hires have a realistic understanding of what the job entails. In addition, they are exploring teaming, additional coaching and ensuring that monthly staffings with supervisors are conducted in a way to meet the developmental needs of young professionals. MTAT recommends that once

⁵ See Period 24 Final Data Report Kenny A. v. Deal.

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strategies are determined, the Region should allow for full implementation with fidelity and measure the effectiveness of each strategy before moving on to new or additional strategies.

III. PLACEMENT STANDARDS

The quality placement and caregiving standards include specific DFCS commitments to ensure that every child in foster care will have a stable, nurturing placement in accordance with the principles outlined in the Modified Consent Decree and Exit Plan § III. These standards address the specific tasks that will be done so that family ties are maintained and nurtured; children are able to remain with parents and relatives as often as possible; and the screening, training, approval, and support process for all caregivers are operating well. The Second Brief on the Infrastructure Standards included an analysis of these standards.

This section of the report provides an update on agreed upon placement standards in the Modified Consent Decree and Exit Plan Section IV.

Discriminatory Placement Practices

Section IV.B.3 of the Modified Consent Decree and Exit Plan prohibits discriminatory placement practices.⁶ MTAT will be taking a closer look placement practices with contract agencies in the next brief.

Reimbursement Rates

For basic foster care services, the Exit Plan requires uniform reimbursement rates for DFCS and private provider foster homes. When the Exit Plan was approved, the following basic foster care maintenance payments were in effect: for each child age 0-5, \$15.27 per diem; for each child age 6-12, \$17.26 per diem; and for each child age 13 and older, \$19.65 per diem for DFCS foster homes. In July 2018, the foster care per diems for DFCS foster homes and private provider foster homes were equalized at \$25.27, \$27.26, and \$29.65 respectively.

MTAT will be taking a closer look at the rates for higher levels of care for children and youth in foster care as part of the next brief on the Infrastructure Standards, which will include the supervision of contract agencies and maximization of federal funding.⁷

The major findings regarding the placement standards during Period 27 are presented below.

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⁶ Specifically, this section states: "Race and/or ethnicity and/or religion shall not be the basis for a delay or denial in the placement of a child, either with regard to matching the child with a foster or adoptive family or with regard to placing a child in a group facility. DHS shall not contract with any program or private agency that gives preference in its placement practices by race, ethnicity, or religion..." Moreover, the Principles outlined in the Exit Plan include: "All children in need of child welfare services should receive full and equal access to the best available services, regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, disabilities, sexual orientation, or gender identity."

⁷ Modified Consent Decree and Exit Plan Section IV.A.2: DFCS shall ensure that all approved foster parents (regardless of whether they are supervised directly by DFCS or by private providers) receive the same reimbursement rate for a given level of service.

Modified Consent Decree and Exit Plan Section IV.A.3: DFCS directly supervises any approved foster homes that provide therapeutic services or operates any specialized group facilities, those approved foster parents or group facilities shall be paid at the same rate. All specialized group facilities shall be paid at the same rate for the same level of service.

Major Findings – Placement Standards

1. The state has eliminated the regular use of hotels, motels, or similar non-child welfare overnight commercial enterprises.

The state continues to do a commendable job eliminating the regular use of hotels as a placement resource in Region 14. No child was placed in a hotel during Period 27. During the past three years, the state has been working to increase its array of foster care placements and to enhance diligent search efforts to locate and support relatives and fictive kin as temporary placements for children and youth. In addition, the partnership with the Multi-Agency Alliance for Children (MAAC) continues to provide emergency placements for youth in Fulton and DeKalb counties. At present there are 25 MAAC placements state-wide with 10 of them reserved for Region 14.

2. The state continues its efforts to limit the amount of time youth spend in a DFCS office, especially during overnight hours.

The Modified Consent Decree states, "no child shall spend more than 23 hours in a county DFCS office. Any child who spends time in a county DFCS office between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. shall be reported to the MTAT. The intent of this provision is to prevent the use of DFCS offices as an overnight placement for children, as children with urgent placement needs require a safe bed in a home-like environment."

During Period 27, there were no youth who had office stays of more than 23 hours in any of the DeKalb or Fulton County DFCS offices. Overall, there were 48 separate instances of office stays in the Region. Of the 48 instances, 34 involved children experiencing their first removal, 11 were disrupted placements, two involved children who re-entered care, and one labeled 'other was a child picked up after running away. There was one youth who spent 21 hours in an office, one spent just over 17 hours and another who spent 13 hours. Documentation regarding these instances of extended office stays indicated that the disruptive behavior of each youth and the lack of behavioral aides were contributing factors. When the Region was using hotels as temporary placements, many private providers employed behavior aides to stay overnight with each child. When the Region ended the use of hotels, behavior aides were no longer utilized on a regular and frequent basis. The lack of demand has directly impacted the supply.

3. The state continues to ensure young children are not placed in congregate care placements unless necessary for the child's welfare.

The Consent Decree has several restrictions related to the use of group care, including limiting the use of congregate care for young children. The reported information is for all children under the age of 12 in care between January 1 and June 30, 2019, not for a sample of the entire foster care population.

According to verified state reports, no children under the age of 12 entering foster care or already in care during the period were placed in group homes or child caring institutions except as allowed under the Modified Exit Plan. During Period 27, of youth in care or who entered foster

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⁸ There were 12 instances between January 1 and June 30, 2019 in DeKalb County. There were 36 instances in Fulton County between January 1 and June 30, 2019.

care in the period, 19 children and youth were placed in hospitals to meet their physical health needs and 9 children were hospitalized for mental health issues. All documentation and waivers were reviewed by the MTAT.

4. The overwhelming number of children are not remaining in temporary facilities longer than 30 days and the region continues to place fewer children in more than one temporary facility while in foster care.

The Modified Consent Decree states:

- a. No child shall be placed in a temporary facility or any other foster home or group facility beds used on any temporary basis, for more than 30 days; and
- b. Children shall not be placed in more than one temporary facility within one episode of foster care (meaning the period of time that a child is in foster care from the date of removal from the home until the child is discharged from DFCS custody, except that a runaway does not trigger a new episode of foster care).

During Period 27, out of the 1875 children who were in foster care at the beginning of the period or entered during the period, there were seven children placed in a temporary facility or any other foster home or group facility beds used on a temporary basis for more than 30 days (31-45 days).

In addition, for Period 27, only 4 of 384 (one percent) of children were placed in two or more temporary facilities within one episode of foster care. The state continues to reduce the number of children experiencing two or more temporary placements. They have reduced this percentage from 11.5 percent in CY2015, to one percent in the first 6 months of CY2019.

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⁹ There were three children in foster care in DeKalb County who spent more than 30 days in a temporary facility. There were four in foster care in Fulton County who spent more than 30 days in a temporary facility. Severe mental health challenges, the need for CSEC services or sexually aggressive behavior were noted in these cases.

IV. OUTCOME MEASURES

This section provides a listing of the performance for each county and the region on the outcomes required under the Modified Exit Plan, and major findings regarding these measures. It includes a status update on the measures, specifically whether the measure has been attained (or not) or at risk of being re-designated as an ongoing outcome measure.

As stated in Modified Consent Decree and Exit Plan Section IX.E.1.b., "an ongoing outcome measure can be automatically re-designated as an attained outcome measure in the next reporting period if in the previous three consecutive reporting periods (totaling18 months)...State Defendant's improved performance in the first period (as compared to performance in the previous period) and then met or exceeded the measure for the next two reporting periods. An attained outcome measure will be re-designated as an ongoing outcome measure only if both of the following conditions occur: (l) the Accountability Agent finds that the decline in performance is notable, meaning that it was caused by a deterioration in State Defendants' practice and process that is expected to impact the safety, permanency, or well-being of class members in subsequent periods, and (2) State Defendants do not meet the required threshold for that outcome measure in the next reporting period."

The state has met the threshold for three consecutive periods related to addressing identified medical needs for children in foster care (Outcome 21.a.).

There has been a decline in performance regarding permanency for children who recently entered foster care (Outcome 23). Annual performance on this measure will be reviewed after December 31, 2019 to determine whether this measure will be re-designated as an ongoing outcome measure. There has also been a decline in performance regarding caseworker continuity for the first time (Outcome 12) since the Modified Consent Decree and Exit Plan was filed.

Tables 1 and 2 below list each ongoing and attained outcome measure for Period 27, along with the most current observed performance.

Finally, this report contains two appendices. In Appendix A, there is a Measures Grid that identifies each measurable outcome, practice standard, or performance measure required in the under the Modified Consent Decree and Exit Plan, and then describes the method for producing that metric. Then there is a technical document, Detailed Outcome Measures for Period 27, that provides the numerator and denominator for each metric displayed in *Tables 1 and 2* below and includes additional explanation and/or data that support interpretation of the outcome metric under the Modified Consent Decree and Exit Plan.

Appendix B contains a glossary of common terms that are relevant to Georgia.

Table 1: Period 27 Ongoing Outcome Measures

Ongoing Outcome Measures	Period 26 Performance Region 14	Period 27 Performance DeKalb	Period 27 Performance Fulton	Period 27 Performance Region 14
Outcome 1: Commencement of CPS Investigations Concerning Foster Children: At least 95% of all investigations of reports of abuse or neglect of foster children shall be commenced, including timely face-to-face private contact with the alleged victim, in accordance with Section 2106 of the Social Services Manual, within 24 hours of receipt of the report.	96.2%	98.6%	92.3%	96.4%10
Outcome 3: Re-entry into Care: Of all children who enter foster care in a 12-month period who were discharged within 12 months from foster care to reunification (including aftercare), living with a relative, or guardianship no more than 8.3% shall have re-entered care within 12 months from the date of discharge. Children who were in foster care for less than eight days are not counted in this measure.	17.4%	19.7%	20%	19.8%11
Outcome 5: Search for Relatives: At least 95% of all foster children entering care shall have had a diligent search for parents and relatives undertaken and documented within 60 days of entering foster care.	97%	97%	100%	98%
Outcome 6: At least 43.6% of all children in foster care on the first day of a 12-month period who had been in foster care (in that episode) between 12 and 23 months shall be discharged from foster care to permanency within 12 months of the first day of the period. Permanency, for the purposes of this measure includes discharges from foster care to reunification with the child's parents or primary caregiver, living with a relative, guardianship, or adoption.	22.3%	16.9%	23.1%	22.8%12
Outcome 7: At least 30.3% of all children in foster care on the first day of a 12-month period who had been in foster care (in that episode) for 24 months or more shall be discharged to permanency within 12 months of the first day of the period. Permanency, for the purposes of this measure includes discharges from foster care to	31.27%	31.4%	30.1%	30.8% ¹³

¹⁰ Three victim children reviewed by the Kenny A review team were removed from the numerator and denominator in Outcome 1. In two instances, the victim child was not in the custody of Region 14, and in the other instance, the child was on runaway. In one case, which met the standard, the case manager was on a visit and observed concerning behavior, called in the report to hotline, and then conducted the initiation of the investigation to ensure safety.

¹¹ This is a six month look at an annual measure. Full analysis will be completed in Period 28.

¹² This is a six month look at an annual measure. Full analysis will be completed in Period 28.

¹³ This is a six month look at an annual measure. Full analysis will be completed in Period 28.

Ongoing Outcome Measures	Period 26 Performance	Period 27 Performance	Period 27 Performance	Period 27 Performance
	Region 14	DeKalb	Fulton	Region 14
reunification with the child's parents or primary caregiver, living with a relative, guardianship, or adoption.				
Outcome 8: Adoption/Guardianship Finalization: For all children whose parental rights are terminated or released during the reporting period (and any appeals completed), at least 80% will have their adoptions or guardianships finalized within 12 months of final termination or release of parental rights.	64%	79%	91%	81%
Outcome 14: Visitation (Parent-Child): At least 85% of the children with a goal of reunification shall have had appropriate visitation with their parents to progress toward reunification.	82.5%	83.8%	88.4%	85.8%
Outcome 16: Visitation (Between Siblings): Children who have one or more siblings in custody with whom they are not placed shall be provided a visit with their siblings at least one time each month, unless the visit is harmful to one or more of the siblings, the sibling is placed out of state in compliance with ICPC, or the distance between the children's placements is more than 50 miles and the child is placed with a relative. At least 90% of the total minimum number of required monthly sibling group visits shall have taken place during the reporting period. Visits among siblings in excess of the required one visit per month shall be excluded when calculating this percentage.	77.3%	85.4%	93.1%	88.9%
Outcome 17: Education: At least 56% of children discharged from foster care at age 18 or older shall have graduated from high school or earned a GED.	44 % ¹⁴	n/a	n/a	n/a
Outcome 18: Placements Not in Full Approval Status: At least 98% of all foster placements serving class member children shall be in full approval and/or licensure status. In computing this percentage, each placement shall be weighted by the approved and/or licensed capacity of that placement.	98%			98% ¹⁵
Outcome 21: Health and Educational Needs: Of children in care at a point in time at the end of the reporting period, according to the service needs documented in the child's most recent case plan:				
Outcome 21b: At least 92% shall not have any unaddressed dental needs	88%	93%	80%	88%
Outcome 21c: At least 92% shall not have any unaddressed mental health needs	87%	91%	88%	90%

This measure is reported on an annual basis. Next reporting will be in Period 28.
 The percentages are lower for children in foster care placed with relatives.

Ongoing Outcome Measures	Period 26 Performance	Period 27 Performance	Period 27 Performance	Period 27 Performance
	Region 14	DeKalb	Fulton	Region 14
Outcome 26: Visitation (Worker-Child): At least 96.25% of the total minimum number of monthly private, in-placement visits between case managers and children during the reporting period shall have taken place. Visits in excess of the required one private visit per month shall be excluded when calculating this percentage.	94.37%	94.91%	95.66%	95.23%

Table 2: Period 27 Attained Outcome Measures

Attained Outcome Measures	Period 26 Performance Region 14	Period 27 Performance DeKalb	Period 27 Performance Fulton	Period 27 Performance Region 14
Outcome 2: Completion of CPS Investigations Concerning Foster Children: At least 95% of all investigations of reported abuse or neglect of foster children shall be completed, in accordance with Section 2106 of the Social Services Manual, within 30 days of receipt of the report.	97.9%	100%	97.2%	98.9%16
Outcome 4: Maltreatment in Care: Of all children in foster care during the reporting period, the rate of victimization shall be no more than 8.50 victims per 100,000 days.	4.19	4.64	1.81	3.45
Outcome 9: Permanency Efforts (15/22): At least 95% of all foster children who reached the point of being in custody for 15 of the prior 22 months shall have had either (a) a petition for the termination of parental rights filed as to both parents or legal caregivers as applicable, or (b) documented compelling reasons in the child's case record why termination of parental rights should not be filed.	95%	94%	97%	95%
Outcome 10: Sibling Placement: At least 80% of all children who entered foster care during the reporting period along with one or more siblings shall be placed with all of their siblings, subject to the following exceptions: (a) doing so is harmful to one or more of the siblings, (b) one or more of the siblings has exceptional needs that can only be met in a specialized program or facility, (c) the size of the sibling group makes such placement impractical notwithstanding diligent efforts to	97.6%	100%	100%	100%

 $^{^{16}}$ Two investigations were removed from the numerator and denominator for Outcome 2. One of them was the only victim child was on runaway, and the other as the victim child was in the custody of another county.

Attained Outcome Measures	Period 26 Performance Region 14	Period 27 Performance DeKalb	Period 27 Performance Fulton	Period 27 Performance Region 14
place the group together; or (d) the siblings are placed with relatives.				
Outcome 11: Multiple Placement Moves: The rate of placement moves in foster care shall be no more than 3.67 moves per 1,000 days in foster care.	2.97	2.41	3.15	2.73
Outcome 12: Caseworker Continuity: At least 90% of all children in custody at a point in time during the reporting period shall have had 2 or fewer DFCS placement case managers during the prior 12 months in custody. This measure shall not apply to cases that are transferred to an adoption case manager; case managers who have died, been terminated, promoted, or transferred to another county; or case managers who have covered a case during another case manager's sick or maternity leave	93.1%	87%	90%	88%
Outcome 13: Visitation (Worker-Child): At least 96.25% of the total minimum number of one in-placement visit per month and one additional private visit per month between case managers and children during the reporting period shall have taken place. Visits in excess of this required minimum of one in-placement and one private visit per month shall be excluded when calculating this percentage.	96.8%	96.29%	98.10%	97.1%
Outcome 15: Visitation (Worker-Caregiver): DFCS placement case managers shall visit each child's foster parent, group care setting, or other caregiver setting at least one time each month. At least 95% of the total minimum number of required monthly visits by placement case managers to caregivers during the reporting period shall have taken place. Visits to any caregiver with respect to the same child in excess of the required one visit per month shall be excluded when calculating this percentage	95.9%	95.5%	96.8%	96.1%
Outcome 19: Six-Month Case Plan Review: At least 95% of foster children in custody for six months or more shall have either had their six-month case plan review completed by the Juvenile Court within six months of their prior case plan review, or DFCS shall have submitted the child's six-month case plan to the Juvenile Court and filed a motion requesting a six-month case plan review within 45 days of the expiration of the six-month period following the last review.	94%	100%	100%	100%

Attained Outcome Measures	Period 26 Performance Region 14	Period 27 Performance DeKalb	Period 27 Performance Fulton	Period 27 Performance Region 14
Outcome 20: Permanency Hearing: At least 95% of foster children in custody for 12 or more months shall have either had a permanency hearing held by the Juvenile Court within 12 months of the time the child entered foster care or had his or her last permanency hearing, or DFCS shall have submitted the documents required by the Juvenile Court for and requested a permanency hearing within 45 days of the expiration of the 12-month period following the time the child entered foster care or had his or her last permanency hearing.	100%	100%	100%	100%
Outcome 21a: At least 92% shall not have any unaddressed medical needs	94%	93%	97%	94%
Outcome 21d: At least 92% shall not have any unaddressed education/development needs.	94%	86%	91%	88%
Outcome 22: Corporal Punishment: At least 98% of all foster homes will not have an incident of corporal punishment (any physical punishment of a child that inflicts pain) within the previous 12 months.	100%			99%
Outcome 23: Timely Discharge to Permanency: Of all children who enter foster care in a 12-month period, at least 40.5% shall be discharged to permanency within 12 months of entering foster care. Permanency, for the purposes of this measure, includes reunification with the child's parents or primary caregivers, living with a relative, guardianship, or adoption.	36.7%	41.7%	39.9%	40 .9% ¹⁷
Outcome 24: Adoption Disruptions: No more than 5% of adoptions finalized during the reporting period shall disrupt within the 12 months subsequent to the reporting period.	0%	0%	0%	0%
Outcome 25: Placement Within County: At least 90% of all children at a point in time during the reporting period shall be placed in the county from which they were removed or within a 50-mile radius of the home from which they were removed. This measure is subject to the following exceptions: (a) the child's needs are so exceptional that they cannot be met by a family or facility meeting these geographical restrictions, (b) the child is placed through the ICPC consistent with its terms, (c) the child is appropriately placed with relatives, or (d) the child is in an adoptive placement with a prospective	99%			97%

¹⁷ This is a six month look at an annual measure. Full analysis will be completed in Period 28.

Attained Outcome Measures	Period 26 Performance Region 14	Period 27 Performance DeKalb	Period 27 Performance Fulton	Period 27 Performance Region 14
adoptive family pursuant to an appropriate placement agreement, but before the entry of the adoption decree by the court.				
Outcome 27: Court Orders: At least 95% of foster children in custody at a point in time during the reporting period shall have all applicable language in court orders necessary to assess qualification for federal funding under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act.	96%	96%	98%	97%
Outcome 28: Capacity Limits: No more than 10% of all foster home placements serving class member children at any time during the reporting period shall exceed the following capacity limits: (a) no placement shall result in more than three foster children in a foster home, or a total of six children in the home, including the foster family's biological and/or adopted children, without the written approval of the County Director, and (b) no placement will result in more than three children under the age of three in a foster home. The only exception to these capacity limits shall be the placement of a sibling group in a foster home with no other children in the home.	.8%			0.2%
Other Consent Decree Requirements	000/	000/	070/	0.40/
4x4 Visitation.	26%	22%	27%	24%
(VI.G.1) Recurrence of Maltreatment.	1.8%	0.8%	2.65%	1.73%
(VI.G.2) Number of children who were victims of a second substantiated investigation within 12 months of FSS case.	3.8%	3.9%	3.7%	3.8%

Major Findings – Outcome Measures

1. The region continues to struggle with children and teenagers re-entering care.

The Modified Exit Plan requires that of all children who enter foster care in a 12-month period who were discharged within 12 months from foster care to reunification (including aftercare), living with a relative, or guardianship no more than **8.3 percent** shall have re-entered care within 12 months from the date of discharge. This is measure is based on the Round 3 CFSR methodology. Because that method requires observing children enter, stay at least eight days, exit to permanency within one year, and then re-enter from that exit within one year – it is necessary to refer to prior entry cohorts in order to generate the metric.

For reporting purposes this period, 19.8 percent of youth who entered care in Calendar Year 2017, exited by December 2018 and subsequently re-entered foster care within one year of exit. Of children and youth who entered foster care in 2017, 338 exited to permanency within one year of entry (no later than December 2018), 67 have re-entered foster care within one year so far (as of June 30, 2019). This number and percent could rise before December 31, 2019.

Since this is an annual measure, the only period to compare it to is Period 25, which had 13 percent of the children re-enter. The high re-entry rate results in increased caseloads for caseworkers, thus reducing the quality of services for children and families. The most devastating impact of a rising reentry rate is the re-traumatization of children and their families.

The region has begun to explore several strategies to address this issue. Among them are better quality discharge staffings, ensuring the continuation of needed services and service providers, and more frequent use of trial home visits with parents and relatives. During monthly practice workgroup meetings, the region will more clearly define these strategies and develop a methodology to track implementation and outcomes.

2. Visitation improved in all areas. However, both counties continue struggling to meet DFCS policy requiring four visits in the first four weeks of a new placement and engagement between parent and child and siblings.

Case managers continued visiting children as agreed upon 97 percent of the time and caregivers each month 96 percent of the time during the period. These measures remain in the attained category.

More children were visiting their parents and siblings during the period. Eighty-six percent of children were visiting regularly with their parents and close to 90 percent of eligible siblings were spending time together. Even so, performance in DeKalb County on these measures remained below the required threshold.

Required monthly private, in-placement visits between case managers and children (Outcome 26) just slightly increased to 95.23 percent from 94.4 percent in Period 26, just shy of the 96.25 percent requirement.

Performance remains below the agreed upon threshold for visits in the first four weeks of a new placement (Modified Consent Decree Section IV.5) Only 24 percent of the required four visits in the first four weeks of a new placement occurred during the period. This performance continues declining from a low of 37 percent in Period 25. There is now some dispute as to whether this is still a requirement in state policy. Beyond the required purposeful face-to-face contact within seven calendar days of an initial placement or subsequent change in placement, the policy manual is silent as to the additional three visits as outlined in the Modified Consent Decree. The parties should discuss whether there is a need to continue monitoring this practice.

3. Juvenile court processes continue meeting or exceeding the consent decree requirements.

In the Period 26 Report, MTAT reported that the region had fallen below the threshold requirement of 95 percent of children in foster care having six-month case reviews (Outcome 19). This is an attained measure that required additional monitoring during Period 27. The region rebounded to 100 percent, thus keeping this measure in the attained category. Both counties also continued exceeding the requirement for permanency hearings with 100 percent of children in care for 12 or more months having such hearings within the first 12 months (Outcome 20).

During Period 26, MTAT reported that only 93 percent of the court orders for children in custody at a point in time during the reporting period had all applicable language in court orders necessary to assess qualification for federal funding under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act. However, after the report was filed, DFCS brought several cases to the attention of MTAT that either had the required court order or that the order reviewed did not require the applicable language. Thus, the final performance for Period 26, should have been 96 percent.

During Period 27, the region continued working with the Special Assistant Attorneys General (SAAGS) and judges to ensure that court orders were completed with the required language, filed timely, and uploaded into SHINES. After the counties reviewed the records and worked with the courts, they were able to account for valid court orders in 97 percent of the cases reviewed. With the corrected performance from Period 26 this makes the fourth consecutive reporting period in which the region has met or surpassed the required 95 percent for Outcome 27. This measure is being moved to the attained category. However, due to the discrepancies in practice over the past several years, MTAT will continue monitoring this measure closely. This may include interviews and focus groups with court personnel, SAAGS and judges. In addition, MTAT will consider a targeted review outside of the normal case review time frame.

4. The counties continue increasing their efforts to initially search for and place children with relatives.

The Modified Consent Decree requires that diligent search efforts for parents and relatives must be undertaken and documented within 60 days of a child entering foster care (Outcome 5). The threshold standard for this measure is 95 percent. This is the second consecutive reporting period that the region has surpassed the requirement and the third consecutive reporting period of improvement. Of note, 31 out of the 59 children (52%) in the sample were initially placed with relatives and kin caregivers within the first 60 days in care. This is a significant increase from the 35 percent placed with relatives in the first 60 days during the previous period. The increased focus on placing children with relative and kin caregivers continues to be encouraging and is vital to increasing permanency outcomes. Also, of note, only 22 out of 60 (37%) biological fathers were interviewed about possible resources. More focus should be paid to this usually untapped resource. Not only should the state conduct diligent searches within the first 60 days, but DFCS policy requires continued search for relative and kin caregivers throughout the life of a child in foster care.

5. Meeting the needs of children in care; the counties did a commendable job meeting identified medical needs. However, both counties fell short in meeting identified, educational/developmental needs of children; both counties fell short in meeting identified mental health needs; and Fulton County fell well short of meeting identified dental needs.

The health and educational needs of children and youth in foster care were examined in the Second Brief on the Infrastructure Standards filed separately. For a more in-depth analysis, please refer to that publication.

Ninety-four percent of youth in Region 14 continue to have their identified medical needs met, exceeding the threshold requirement of 92 percent.

The required Exit Plan threshold for addressing educational and developmental needs of children in foster care is also 92 percent. This outcome has been re-designated as an attained outcome measure, however neither county met the threshold in Period 27. Of children in foster care in DeKalb County on June 30, 2019, 86 percent of them had identified educational and development needs in their most recent plan met. Similarly, of children in foster care in Fulton County on June 30, 2019, 91 percent of them had identified educational and development needs in their most recent plan met. MTAT will monitor this decline during Period 28 to determine is it should remain the attained category. In addition, the Region is working closely with MAAC to address the educational needs of youth in foster care and increase the rates of graduation / GED attainment.

Performance in addressing dental needs (88 percent) and mental health needs (90 percent) remains below the required thresholds. In previous periods, DeKalb has struggled in these areas. However, during Period 27, Fulton's performance declined, and DeKalb improved.

Recommendations were made as part of the Second Brief on the Infrastructure Standards related to these standards.

6. The state met the threshold for timelines to adoption and guardianship after parental rights have been terminated or released.

The Modified Consent Decree requires that for all children whose parental rights are terminated or released during the reporting period (and any appeals completed), at least 80 percent will have their adoptions or guardianships finalized within 12 months of final termination or release of parental rights.

As recent as Period 24, the state's performance on this measure was 43 percent. Since then, the state has been steadily improving, culminating in an improvement in the state's performance to 81 percent for Period 27. Dekalb's performance was just below the threshold with 45 out of 57 (79%) adoptions being finalized within 12 months of final TPR. For Fulton, 10 out of 11 (91%) adoptions were finalized within this timeframe.

APPENDIX A – METRICS UNDER THE MODIFIED EXIT PLAN

This Appendix contains two tables summarizing the metrics under the Modified Exit Plan, and the methods for generating each of them.

Table A-1 is a Measures Grid that identifies each measurable outcome, practice standard, or performance measure required under the Modified Ext Plan, and then describes the method for producing that metric.

Table A-2 is a technical document, Detailed Outcome Measures Period 27, that provides the numerator and denominator for each metric displayed in *Tables 1 and 2* below and includes additional explanation and/or data that support interpretation of the outcome metric under the Modified Consent Decree and Exit Plan. It also contains additional technical explanations, and/or historical data that provides context for reviewing and interpreting Period 27 performance data.

Tables A-3 through A-8 provide caseload data as reported from the state.

Table A-1: Measures Grid

Sec	Standard/Outcome	Notes	Measurement Method	Data Produced by
IV.B.1a	No child shall be placed in a temporary facility or any other foster home or group facility bed used on any temporary basis, for more than 30 days.	Jails, runaways, hospitals, PRTFs, respite care will not be considered temporary. Placement type "other resource" and placement category of hotels, receiving homes, office stays.	Number of in care at the start of the period and number of children deprived during the period: How many were placed in a temporary facility for more than 30 days during the period	State Data Unit & Kenny A. Team
IV.B.1b	Children shall not be placed in more than one temporary facility within one episode of foster care.	Jails, runaways, hospitals, PRTFs, respite care will not be considered temporary. Placement type "other resource" and placement category of hotels, receiving homes, office stays.	By calendar year cohorts (year of entry), how many enterers had more than one temporary placement episode EXCLUDING any temporary placement following a runaway episode. Follow cohorts over time.	State Data Unit & Kenny A. Team
IV.B.1c	No child shall spend more than 23 consecutive hours in county DFCS office. Any child who spends time in county DFCS office between 8pm-8am shall be reported to the MTAT.		Weekly documentation by county; reported to the MTAT	Kenny A teams
IV.B.1d	Hotel use for class members to end by June 30, 2017.	Number of distinct children; Number of distinct episodes; Number of nights	Region 14 tracks and reports weekly to the MTAT. All data originates from SHINES.	Kenny A Team with verification by State Data Unit
IV.B.2b	No child under six shall be placed in group care setting.	No Changes	Tracked with Congregate Care Report	State Data Unit
IV.B.2c	No child between ages of 6-12 shall be placed in group care setting.	No Changes	Tracked with Congregate Care Report State Data Unit	State Data Unit
IV.B.3	Race/Ethnicity /religion shall not be basis for delay or denial of placement. DFCS shall not contract with private provider that gives preference based on race/eth/religion			
IV.B.4	DFCS to ensure basic physical needs of food, clothing, and shelter are met. Clothing to be reviewed with every placement / placement change			Kenny A. case review team

Table A-1: Measures Grid

Sec	Standard/Outcome	Notes	Measurement Method	Data Produced by
IV.B.5	In placement visitation: 4 in 4 for new placements; monthly thereafter. There should be at least one in-placement visit and one private, face to face	Drop children in care for only1 weekmeasure 1 in placement visit for all in first week -measure 4 for all the placement for 4 weeks	Number of new placements with 1 visit in 1 wk; 4 in 4 wks.	State Data Unit supplies list; Kenny A team reviews performance
V.A	CPS caseloads – no more than 12 cases	No Change	Generated weekly as part of CAP reports after getting data from each county	State Data Unit & Kenny A. Team
V.B	Family Preservation and Family Support caseloads— no more than 17	No change Weights are applied to	Counts of Caseworkers, by program at end of period	
V.C	Placement caseloads – no more than 15	produce equivalence for		
V.D	Adoption caseloads – no more than 16	caseworkers with mixed	Counts of cases assigned to verified case	
V.E	Specialized caseloads - no more than 12	caseloads	managers	
V.F	Supervisor – no more than 5 CM			
VI.A.1 ¹⁸	At least 95% of all investigations of reports of abuse or neglect of foster children shall be commenced, including timely face-to-face private contact with the alleged victim, in accordance with Section 2106 of the Social Services Manual, within 24 hours of receipt of the report.	NOTE: There is a change here b/c old OM 1 and 3 have been combined. Those two outcomes used two different denominators (child/inv). New metric is at the child level	Denominator: Children in foster care who are alleged victims of maltreatment Numerator: Number of child- investigations that started within 24 hours of referral Numerator: Number of children w/ face to face w/in 24 hours	Kenny A case review team
VI.A.2	At least 95% of all investigations of reported abuse or neglect of foster children shall be completed, in accordance with Section 2106 of the Social Services Manual, within 30 days of receipt of the report.	No change Effective 7/1/2017 – the standard became 45 days	Denominator: Number of MIC investigations referred in the PUR Numerator: Number of MIC investigations completed within 30 (45) days of receipt	Kenny A case review team

 $^{^{\}rm 18}$ The current VI.A measures are the ongoing measures.

Table A-1: Measures Grid

Sec	Standard/Outcome	Notes	Measurement Method	Data Produced by
VI.A.3	Re-entry Into Care: Of all children who enter foster care in a 12-month period who were discharged within 12 months from foster care to reunification (including aftercare), living with a relative, or guardianship no more than 8.3% shall have re-entered care within 12 months from the date of discharge.	CFSR 3 measure Children in care for less than 8 days are dropped from outcome measure. SDU will report CY 2014- 2016. Reporting for period 23 will start with first half of year, and then be completed for	Denominator: CY entries, duration greater than 8 days that exited to permanency within one year of entry. Numerator: Those who reentered w/in year of exit date	State Data Unit
		Period 24.		
VI.A.4	Maltreatment in care: Of all children in foster care during the reporting period, the rate of victimization shall be no more than 8.50 victims per 100,000 days.	CFSR 3 measure All substantiated of maltreatment in care regardless of perpetrator, are included. Report at 6 and 12 months	Denominator: all days for every child in care for a least one day in the period. Numerator: every substantiated maltreatment episode in period	State Data Unit generates list for Kenny A case reviewers to review
VI.A.5	Search for Relatives: At least 95% of all foster children entering care shall have had a diligent search for parents and relatives undertaken and documented within 60 days of entering foster care.	No change	Denominator: children in placement sample who are in first 60 days of placement; Numerator: number of children in denominator whose files show clear evidence of diligent search	Kenny A case review team
VI.A.6	At least 43.6% of all children in foster care on the first day of a 12-month period who had been in foster care (in that episode) between 12 and 23 months shall be discharged from foster care to permanency within 12 months of the first day of the period. Permanency, for the purposes of this measure includes discharges from foster care to reunification with the child's parents or primary caregiver, living with a relative, guardianship, or adoption.	CFSR 3 measure Report at 6 and 12 months SDU will report CY 2014- 2016.	Denominator: All children in care on first day of CY who had been in care for 12-23 months Numerator: # who achieved permanency w/in calendar year	State Data Unit

Table A-1: Measures Grid

Sec	Standard/Outcome	Notes	Measurement Method	Data Produced by
VI.A.7	At least 30.3% of all children in foster care on the first day of a 12-month period who had been in foster care (in that episode) for 24 months or more shall be discharged to permanency within 12 months of the first day of the period. Permanency, for the purposes of this measure includes discharges from foster care to reunification with the child's parents or primary caregiver, living with a relative, guardianship, or adoption.	CFSR 3 measure Report at 6 and 12 months SDU will report CY 2014- 2016.	Denominator: All children in care on first day of CY who had been in care for 24 + months Numerator: # who achieved permanency w/in calendar year	State Data Unit
VI.A.8	Adoption/Guardianship Finalization: For all children whose parental rights are terminated or released during the reporting period (and any appeals completed), at least 80% will have their adoptions or guardianships finalized within 12 months of final termination or release of parental rights.	No change	Denominator: Children TPR'd during the most recent six month period for whom 12 months can be observed. Numerator: Those in the denominator who were adopted/reached guardianship during the period.	Kenny A team
VI.A.9	Permanency Efforts (15/22): At least 95% of all foster children who reached the point of being in custody for 15 of the prior 22 months shall have had either (a) a petition for the termination of parental rights filed as to both parents or legal caregivers as applicable, or (b) documented compelling reasons in the child's case record why termination of parental rights should not be filed.	No change	Denominator: Eligible children who have been in care 15-22 months in the period Numerator: Those who have had TPR filed OR a documented compelling reason not to	Kenny A Team
VI.A.10	Sibling placement: At least 80% of all children who entered foster care during the reporting period along with one or more siblings shall be placed with all of their siblings, subject to the following exceptions: (a) doing so is harmful to one or more of the siblings, (b) one or more of the siblings has exceptional needs that can only be met in a specialized program or facility, (c) the size of the	No change to method, add large sibling groups of 4 or more to exclusions	Denominator: children with siblings who were in care or who had exited by end of period Numerator: placed together on last day of period OR if they discharged, were together at discharge	Kenny A Team

Table A-1: Measures Grid

Sec	Standard/Outcome	Notes	Measurement Method	Data Produced by
	sibling group makes such placement impractical notwithstanding diligent efforts to place the group together; or (d) the siblings are placed with relative.			
VI.A.11	Multiple Placement Moves: The rate of placement moves in foster care shall be no more than 3.67 moves per 1,000 days in foster care.	ves in foster care shall be no more than 3.67 Adjusted standard to reflect served during the period.		State Data Unit
VI.A.12	Caseworker Continuity: At least 90% of all children in custody at a point in time during the reporting period shall have had two or fewer DFCS placement case managers during the prior 12 months in custody. This measure shall not apply to cases that are transferred to an adoption case manager; case managers who have died, been terminated, promoted, or transferred to another county; or case managers who have covered a case during another case manager's sick or maternity leave	No change to method, Promoted caseworkers are now excepted	Denominator: All children in care at end of the period Numerator: number of those with LE 2 case managers.	Kenny A Team
VI.A.13	Visitation (Worker-Child): At least 96.25% of the total minimum number of one in-placement visit per month and one additional private visit per month between case managers and children during the reporting period shall have taken place. Visits in excess of this required minimum of one in-placement and one private visit per month shall be excluded when calculating this percentage.	No change	Denominator: All visits required for children in care during the period Numerator: All of the visits that occurred during period	State Data Unit supplies list; Kenny A team reviews performance

Table A-1: Measures Grid

Sec	Standard/Outcome	Notes	Measurement Method	Data Produced by
VI.A.14	Visitation (Parent-Child): At least 85% of the children with a goal of reunification shall have had appropriate visitation with their parents to progress toward reunification	No change	Denominator: All visits required for children in care during the period Numerator: All of the visits that occurred during period	State Data Unit supplies list; Kenny A team reviews performance
Vi.A.15 Visitation (Worker-Caregiver): DFCS placement No change Denominator: All case managers shall visit each child's foster in care during the		Denominator: All visits required for children in care during the period Numerator: All of the visits that occurred during period	State Data Unit supplies list; Kenny A team reviews performance	
Vi.A.16	Visitation (Between Siblings): Children who have one or more siblings in custody with whom they are not placed shall be provided a visit with their siblings at least one time each month, unless the visit is harmful to one or more of the siblings, the sibling is placed out of state in compliance with ICPC, or the distance between the children's placements is more than 50 miles and the child is placed with a relative. At least 90% of the total minimum number of required monthly sibling group visits shall have taken place during the reporting period. Visits among siblings in excess of the required one visit per month shall be excluded when calculating this percentage.	No change	Denominator: All visits required for children in care during the period Numerator: All of the visits that occurred during period	State Data Unit supplies list; Kenny A team reviews performance
VI.A.17	Education: At least 56% of children discharged from foster care at age 18 or older shall have graduated from high school or earned a GED.	No change in method; Include in the numerator qualifying youth who have an IEP or 504 plan who	Denominator: youth 18+ who were discharged during the year Numerator: number who have graduated or who have GED	Kenny A Team

Table A-1: Measures Grid

Sec	Standard/Outcome	Notes	Measurement Method	Data Produced by
		achieved a special ed diploma prior to exit		
VI.A.18	Placements Not in Full Approval Status: At least 98% of all foster placements serving class member children shall be in full approval and/or licensure status. In computing this percentage,	No change in method Only include children who have been in unapproved home for 30 days	Denominator: placements with child at end of period Numerator: number of placements fully	State Data Unit provides list, Kenny A team reviews and develops measure
	each placement shall be weighted by the approved and/or licensed capacity of that placement.	Break out by relative, public, and private foster homes	approved	de l'eliope illodedic
VI.A.19	Six-Month Case Plan Review: At least 95% of foster children in custody for six months or more shall have either had their six-month case plan review completed by the Juvenile Court within six months of their prior case plan review, or DFCS shall have submitted the child's six-month case plan to the Juvenile Court and filed a motion requesting a six-month case plan review within 45 days of the expiration of the six-month period following the last review	No Change	Denominator: Numerator:	Kenny A Team, including case review team
VI.A.20	Permanency Hearing: At least 95% of foster children in custody for twelve or more months shall have either had a permanency hearing held by the Juvenile Court within 12 months of the time the child entered foster care or had his or her last permanency hearing, or DFCS shall have submitted the documents required by the Juvenile Court for and requested a permanency hearing within 45 days of the expiration of the 12-month period following the time the child entered foster care or had his or her last permanency hearing.	No Change	Denominator: Numerator:	Kenny A Team, including case review team

Table A-1: Measures Grid

Sec	Standard/Outcome	Notes	Measurement Method	Data Produced by	
VI.A.21	Health/Educational Needs. Of children in care at a point in time at end of reporting period, 92 percent shall have met each need documented in most recent plan: Medical, Dental, Mental Health, Educational.	No change in method Standard changed	Denominator: For each area, number of children from placement case review with identified need Numerator: Number of children in each denominator for whom there is evidence that need was addressed	Kenny A case review team	
VI.B. ¹⁹ 22	Corporal Punishment: At least 98% of all foster homes will not have an incident of corporal punishment (any physical punishment of a child that inflicts pain) within the previous 12 months.	No Change	Denominator: All foster homes in the sample Numerator: instances of Corporal Punishment	Kenny A case review team	
VI.B.23	Timely Discharge to Permanency: Of all children who enter foster care in a 12-month period, at least 40.5% shall be discharged to permanency within 12 months of entering foster care. Permanency, for the purposes of this measure, includes reunification with the child's parents or primary caregivers, living with a relative, guardianship, or adoption.	CFSR measure; SDU will report CY 2014- 2016. Reporting for period 23 will start with first half of year, and then be completed for Period 24. Note: numerator is denominator for the reentry measure.	Denominator: All children under 18 entering Region 14 during the CY period Numerator: Number of children in the denominator who exited to permanency w/in 12 months of entry		
VI.B.24	Adoption Disruptions: No more than 5% of adoptions finalized during the reporting period shall disrupt within the 12 months subsequent to the reporting period	Dissolution means that a child: 1) been adopted; 2) returned to foster care; and 3) has had a subsequent TPR or surrender from his or her adoptive parents within one year of the adoption finalization.	Denominator: Adoptions completed during the most recent six-month period for whom 12 months can be observed. Numerator: Dissolutions w/in one year	State Data Unit generates list for Kenny A team to review	

¹⁹ VI.B metrics are currently Attained Outcomes.

Table A-1: Measures Grid

Sec	Standard/Outcome	Notes	Measurement Method	Data Produced by
VI.B.25	Placement Within County: At least 90% of all children at a point in time during the reporting period shall be placed in the county from which they were removed or within a 50-mile radius of the home from which they were removed. This measure is subject to the following exceptions: (a) the child's needs are so exceptional that they cannot be met by a family or facility meeting these geographical restrictions, (b) the child is placed through the ICPC consistent with its terms, (c) the child is appropriately placed with relatives, or (d) the child is in an adoptive placement with a prospective adoptive family pursuant to an appropriate placement agreement, but before the entry of the adoption decree by the court.	Changed to rely on SHINES data and to cover full class.	Denominator: All children in placement on the last day of the period Numerator: Children in the denominator who were either placed in home court, or who were placed within 50 miles of removal	State Data Unit provides list, Kenny A team reviews and develops measure
VI.B.26	Visitation (Worker-Child): At least 96.25% of the total minimum number of monthly private, inplacement visits between case managers and children during the reporting period shall have taken place. Visits in excess of the required one private visit per month shall be excluded when calculating this percentage.	No change	Denominator: All visits required for children in care during the period Numerator: All of the visits that occurred during period	State Data Unit supplies list; Kenny A team reviews performance
VI.B.27	Court Orders: At least 95% of foster children in custody at a point in time during the reporting period shall have all applicable language in court orders necessary to assess qualification for federal funding under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act.	No Change	Denominator: Case review sample Numerator: All children in denominator who have document court order language	Case review
VI.B.28	Capacity Limits: No more than 10% of all foster home placements serving class member children at any time during the reporting period shall exceed the following capacity limits: (a) no placement shall result in more than 3 foster children in a foster home, or a total of 6 children in	No Change This only includes approved foster homes.	Denominator: Foster homes with one or more children in their home on the last day of the period. Numerator: Number of foster homes that exceed the capacity limit.	State Data Unit provides list, Kenny A team reviews and develops measure

Table A-1: Measures Grid

Sec	Standard/Outcome	Notes	Measurement Method	Data Produced by
	the home, including the foster family's biological and/or adopted children, without the written approval of the County Director, and (b) no placement will result in more than 3 children under the age of 3 in a foster home. The only exception to these capacity limits shall be the			
VII.G.1	placement of a sibling group in a foster home. Of children in each county during prior two reporting periods who experienced substantiated maltreatment, the number who were victims of a second substantiated maltreatment report during the following 12 months.	Use earliest report and first subsequent report following.	Denominator: Number of children who had substantiated report during the prior year Numerator: Number of children in the denominator who were subjects of a substantiated report within 12months of the first report	State Data Unit
VII.G.2	Of cases that were referred to FSS, the number and percent for which there was a subsequent substantiated referral w/in 11-365 days of the FSS referral.	FSS can mean any alternative to opening a CPS case or removal.	Denominator: Number of children referred to FSS in a prior 12 month period Numerator: Number of those who had substantiated report w/in 11-365 days of the referral	State Data Unit

Table A-2: Detailed Outcome Measures for Period 27 STILL BEING FINALIZED

	Outcome	Numerator	Denominator	Metric
VI.A.1	At least 95% of all investigations of reports of abuse or neglect of foster children shall be commenced, including timely face-to-face private contact with the alleged victim, in accordance with Section 2106 of the Social Services Manual, within 24 hours of receipt of the report.	DeKalb: Fulton: SIU: Perimeter: Total:	DeKalb: Fulton: SIU: Perimeter: Total:	DeKalb: Fulton: SIU: Perimeter: Total:
VI.A.2	At least 95% of all investigations of reported abuse or neglect of foster children shall be completed, in accordance with Section 2106 of the Social Services Manual, within 30 days of receipt of the report.	DeKalb: Fulton: SIU: Perimeter: Total:	DeKalb: Fulton: SIU: Perimeter: Total:	DeKalb: Fulton: SIU: Perimeter: Total:
VI.A.3	Re-entry Into Care: Of all children who enter foster care in a 12-month period who were discharged within 12 months from foster care to reunification (including aftercare), living with a relative, or guardianship no more than 8.3% shall have re-entered care within 12 months from the date of discharge. This is new measure which relies on the CFSR 3 Reentry methodology. Because permanency within 1 year, and then reenter from that exit within one year – it is figures above represent entries to Region 14 from CY 2017. Of them 338 exited care within one year of exit so far. This could increase because one full year sin of this metric, as well as what is currently observable for the more recent entry of data – not enough time has elapsed to fully observe the performance.	necessary to refer to prior entry of to permanency within one year once exit has not yet been observe	cohorts in order to generate th of entry (by 12/2018) and of th d. The State Unit Generated I	e metric. The em, 67 reentered historical versions

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	Outcome			Numerator	Denom	inator	Metric	
		Entry Year	Perm Exit w/in 1 Year	Reentry w/in 6 Mos.	Reentry win 1 Year	6 Mos.	12 Mos.	
	These data were generated	2014	627	76	109	12%	17%	
	by the State Data Unit Oct 2018. For this reason, the	2015	562	68	95	12%	17%	
	2015 data are the most recent complete cohort and	2016	384	47	67	12%	17%	
	are used for this measure.	2017	335	44	65	13%	19%	
		2018	228	19	25	8%	11%	
	Maltreatment in care: Of all o			DeKalb: 7	DeKalb: 1507	76	DeKalb: 4.64	
	the rate of victimization shall be no more than 8.50 victims per 100,000 days.			Fulton: 2	Fulton: 110220)	Fulton: 1.81	
VI.A.4			Total: 9 Total: 260996			Total: 3.45		
	This a new measure which relies on the CFSR 3 methodology. That methodology controls for "exposure time" for the risk of maltreatment by calculating the number of days that children with a least one day of care in the period experienced. It also counts any substantiated investigation associated with a child in cregardless of who was the perpetrator of the maltreatment.							
	Search for Relatives: At least 95% of all foster children entering care shall have had a diligent search for parents and relatives undertaken and documented within 60 days of entering foster care.			DeKalb: 31	DeKalb: 32		DeKalb: 97%	
				Fulton: 28	Fulton: 28	Fulton: 28		
VI.A.5				Total: 59	Total: 60	Total: 60		
	60 cases were reviewed (32 fr relatives, 10 had evidence of c		Fulton). Of the 60, 18 we	re given credit because l	anguage was in the cour	t order, and 3	31 were placed with	
	Permanency: At least 43.6% of 12-month period who had been		•	DeKalb: 38	DeKalb: 225		DeKalb: 16.9%	
VI.A.6	23 months shall be discharged months of the first day of the p	from foster care to perm	nanency within 12	Fulton: 48	Fulton: 153		Fulton: 23.1%	
	measure includes discharges to parents or primary caregiver, li	rom foster care to reunifi	ication with the child's	Total: 86	Total: 378		Total: 22.8%	

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Outcome				Numerator	Denomina	tor	Metric
children in care in Reg report on performance	gion 14 on the periods e up until Nov 2019, w splays the proportion o	s beginning in Janu hen we received to of children exit to p	uary, and then provide he data. To understand	e, typically we would partial the full metric the following I that performance relative of a 12-month period for a	period. However, for to recent years, the S	Period 27, we State Data Unit	are able to prepared
In Care between	12-23 Months	In Care 1/1	Qualifying Children	Exits in 6 Mos.	Exits in 12 Mos.	% 6 Mos.	% 12 Mo
		2017	264		81		30.7%
	DeKalb County	2018	225		38		16.9%
		2019	175		55		31.4%
Data prepared by		2017	196		58		29.6%
State Data Unit	Fulton County	2018	153		48		23.1%
September 2018.		2019	169		64		37.9%
		2017	460		139		30.2%
	Region 14	2018	378		86		22.8%
	_	2019	344		119		34.6%

VI.A.7	period who had been in discharged to permane for the purposes of this	'						DeKalb: 111 DeKalb: 354 Fulton: 74 Fulton: 246 Total: 185 Total: 600		DeKalb Fulton: Total: 3		
	children in care in Regi report on performance historical data that disp	This measure relies on the CFSR 3 methodology. Because this is 12-month measure, typically we would partial performance on permanency for the group of children in care in Region 14 on the periods beginning in January, and then provide the full metric the following period. However, for Period 27, we are able to report on performance up until Nov 2019, when we received the data. To understand that performance relative to recent years, the State Data Unit prepared historical data that displays the proportion of children exit to permanency by the end of a 12-month period for a similar group of children in care on the first day of prior two calendar year. See the table below for those data.										
	In Care 24 + Months		In Care 1/1	Qualifying Children	Exits in	6 Mos.	Exits	in 12 Mos.	% 6 Mc	OS.	% 12 Mos.	
	Data prepared by	DeKalb County	2017	276				63			22.8%	
	State Data Dec 2019	-	2018	354				111			31.4%	
		<u> </u>	2019	402				154			38.3	
		Fulton County	2017	201				49			24.4%	
		-	2018	246				74			30.1%	
			2019	224				83			37.1%	
		Region 14	2017	477				112			23.5%	
		<u> </u>	2018	600				185			30.8%	
		-	2019	626				237			37.9%	
VI.A.8	Adoption/Guardianship Finalization: For all children whose parental rights are terminated or released during the reporting period (and any appeals completed), at least 80% will have their adoptions or guardianships finalized within 12 months of final termination or release of parental rights.					DeKalb: Fulton: 1 Total: 55	0	DeKalb: 57 Fulton: 11 Total: 68		DeKalb Fulton: Total: 8	91%	

VI.A.9	Permanency Efforts (15/22): At least 95% of all foster children who reached the point of being in custody for 15 of the prior 22 months shall have had either (a) a petition for the termination of parental rights filed as to both parents or legal caregivers as applicable, or (b) documented compelling reasons in the child's case record why termination of parental rights should not be filed.	DeKalb: 438 Fulton: 363 Total: 801	DeKalb: 468 Fulton: 374 Total: 842	DeKalb: 94% Fulton: 97% Total: 95%
VI.A.10	Sibling placement: At least 80% of all children who entered foster care during the reporting period along with one or more siblings shall be placed with all of their siblings, subject to the following exceptions: (a) doing so is harmful to one or more of the siblings, (b) one or more of the siblings has exceptional needs that can only be met in a specialized program or facility, (c) the size of the sibling group makes such placement impractical notwithstanding diligent efforts to place the group together; or (d) the siblings are placed with relative.	DeKalb: 37 Fulton: 45 Total: 82	DeKalb: 37 Fulton: 45 Total: 82	DeKalb: 100% Fulton: 100% Total: 100%
VI.A.11	Multiple Placement Moves: The rate of placement moves in foster care shall be no more than 3.67 moves per 1,000 days in foster care.	DeKalb: 368 Fulton: 328 Total: 696	DeKalb: 148978 Fulton: 109781 Total: 258759	DeKalb: 2.41 Fulton: 3.15 Total: 2.73

This is a new measure which relies on the CFSR 3 methodology. It requires observing the total number of moves children with a least one day of care a 12-month period, and dividing that figure by all of the days children with any days in care used in the same 12-month period. This measure includes both children in care on the first day of the 12-month period as well has children entering care during the 12-month period. To characterize baseline performance and in order to observe change over time, the State Data Unit generated historical analysis of this metric, preparing both six month and 12-month rates of movement. That analysis showed that six month rates notably overstate movement rates relative to full 12-month period. To control for overstated movement rate embedded in the six month estimate, the State Data Unit, in consultation with MTAT has developed a method to generate an annualized 12-month rate when reporting on the Jan-Jun period. That method relies on actual six month data that is then annualized to reflect 12-month performance by applying growth estimates to both the numerator and denominator based on observed change from six to 12 months in the most recent calendar years. Those figures, along with the prior year rates, are displayed below

	Moves per 1,000 Days			Moves in Period			Days in Period		
Calendar Year	DeKalb	Fulton	Total	DeKalb	Fulto n	Total	DeKalb	Fulton	Total
2015	4.60	8.31	6.14	1,310	1,68 6	2,996	284,869	203,005	487,874

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	2016	3.10	4.99	3.89	966	1,10 5	2,071	311,486	221,347	532,833
	2017 Actual	2.22	3.87	2.93	699	909	1,608	313,649	234,777	548,426
	2018- Annualized	2.41	3.53	2.91						
VI.A.12	the reporting period sha the prior 12 months in c to an adoption case ma	Caseworker Continuity: At least 90% of all children in custody at a point in time during the reporting period shall have had 2 or fewer DFCS placement case managers during the prior 12 months in custody. This measure shall not apply to cases that are transferred to an adoption case manager; case managers who have died, been terminated, promoted, or transferred to another county; or case managers who have covered a case					701 538	DeKalb: 803 Fulton: 600	DeKalb:	00%
	during another case ma	•		igers who hav	e covered a case	Total: 1	239	Total: 1403	Total: 88	3%
VI.A.13	,	Visitation (Worker-Child): At least 96.25% of the total minimum number of one in- placement visit per month and one additional private visit per month between case					9284	DeKalb: 9642	DeKalb:	96.29%
	managers and children excess of this required	during the reportin	g period shall h	ave taken pla	ce. Visits in	Fulton:	7272	Fulton: 7413	Fulton: 9	98.1%
	shall be excluded when		•	one private v	isit per month	Total: 1	6556	Total: 17055	Total: 97	7.1%
VI.A.14	Visitation (Parent-Chil have had appropriate vi					DeKalb:	: 1656	DeKalb: 1977	DeKalb:	83.8%
	nave nad appropriate vi	isitation with their p	arents to progr	ess loward rei	unincation	Fulton:1392 Fulton: 1575		Fulton: 8	Fulton: 88.4%	
						Total: 3	048	Total: 3552	Total: 8	35.85
VI.A.15	foster parent, group car	Visitation (Worker-Caregiver): DFCS placement case managers shall visit each child's foster parent, group care setting, or other caregiver setting at least one time each month.					: 4673	DeKalb: 4891	DeKalb:	95.5%
	At least 95% of the total managers to caregivers		•	•	•	Fulton:	3614	Fulton: 3732	Fulton: 9	96.8%
	caregiver with respect to	caregiver with respect to the same child in excess of the required one visit per month shall be excluded when calculating this percentage				Total: 8	287	Total: 8623	Total: 96	3.2%
VI.A.16	Visitation (Between Si	• /		•	•	DeKalb:	: 562	DeKalb: 658	DeKalb:	85.4%
	whom they are not placed shall be provided a visit with their siblings at least one time each month, unless the visit is harmful to one or more of the siblings, the sibling is placed					Fulton:	510	Fulton: 548	Fulton:	93.15

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	out of state in compliance with ICPC, or the distance between the children's placements is more than 50 miles and the child is placed with a relative. At least 90% of the total minimum number of required monthly sibling group visits shall have taken place during the reporting period. Visits among siblings in excess of the required one visit per month shall be excluded when calculating this percentage.	Total: 1072	Total: 1206	Total: 88.9%
VI.A.17	Education : At least 56% of children discharged from foster care at age 18 or older shall have graduated from high school or earned a GED.	DeKalb: Fulton: Total:	DeKalb: Fulton: Total:	DeKalb: Fulton: Total:
	This metric is generated annually in the report covering the period that ends December 31	of each year.		
VI.A.18	Placements Not in Full Approval Status: At least 98% of all foster placements serving class member children shall be in full approval and/or licensure status. In computing this percentage, each placement shall be weighted by the approved and/or licensed capacity of that placement.	Total: 2770	Total: 2826	Total: 98%
VI.A.19	Six-Month Case Plan Review : At least 95% of foster children in custody for six months or more shall have either had their six-month case plan review completed by the Juvenile Court within six months of their prior case plan review, or DFCS shall have submitted the child's six-month case plan to the Juvenile Court and filed a motion requesting a sixmonth case plan review within 45 days of the expiration of the six-month period following the last review.	DeKalb:39 Fulton: 30 Total: 69	DeKalb: 39 Fulton: 30 Total: 69	DeKalb: 100% Fulton: 100% Total: 100%
VI.A.20	Permanency Hearing: At least 95% of foster children in custody for twelve or more months shall have either had a permanency hearing held by the Juvenile Court within 12 months of the time the child entered foster care or had his or her last permanency hearing, or DFCS shall have submitted the documents required by the Juvenile Court for and requested a permanency hearing within 45 days of the expiration of the 12-month period following the time the child entered foster care or had his or her last permanency hearing.	DeKalb: 34 Fulton: 23 Total: 57	DeKalb: 34 Fulton: 23 Total: 57	DeKalb: 100% Fulton: 100% Total: 100%
VI.A.21	Health/Educational Needs. Of children in care at a point in time at end of reporting period, 92 percent shall have met each need documented in most recent plan: Medical, Dental, Mental Health, Educational.	See Below		

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		Medical Needs	DeKalb: 39	DeKalb: 42	DeKalb: 93%
			Fulton: 29	Fulton: 30	Fulton: 97%
			Total: 68	Total: 72	Total: 94%
		Dental Needs	DeKalb: 39	DeKalb: 42	DeKalb: 93%
			Fulton: 24	Fulton: 30	Fulton: 80%
			Total: 63	Total: 72	Total: 88%
		Mental Health Needs	DeKalb: 30	DeKalb: 33	DeKalb: 91%
			Fulton: 22	Fulton: 25	Fulton: 88%
			Total:	Total:	Total:
		Education/Developmental	DeKalb: 37	DeKalb: 43	DeKalb: 86%
		Needs	Fulton: 29	Fulton: 32	Fulton: 91%
			Total: 66	Total: 75	Total: 88%
VI.B. ²⁰ 22	Corporal Punishment: At least 98% of all foster homes will not have an incident of corporal punishment (any physical punishment of a child that inflicts pain) within the previous 12 months .			Total: 82%	Total: 99%
VI.B.23	Timely Discharge to Permanency : Of all children who enter foster care in a 12-month period, at least 40.5% shall be discharged to permanency within 12 months of entering foster care. Permanency, for the purposes of this measure, includes reunification with the child's parents or primary caregivers, living with a relative, guardianship, or adoption.		DeKalb: 163 Fulton: 116 Total: 279	DeKalb: 422 Fulton: 330 Total: 752	DeKalb: 38.6% Fulton: 35.2% Total: 37.1%

 $^{^{\}rm 20}$ VI.B metrics are currently Attained Outcomes.

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Kenny A. v. Deal

This is a new measure which relies on the CFSR 3 methodology. Spells lasting less than 8 days are dropped so that the numerator can function as the denominator for the reentry metric. This is both a 12 month measure AND a longitudinal measure; so it takes some time to both observe entries in the most recent 12 and also to report on positive permanency that occurred within 12 months of entry. For that reason – we report the most recent cohort that is fully observable and additionally, we provide performance to date on the most recently observed entry group. Additionally, the State Data Unit prepared historical data that displays the historical data depicting permanency for enters within one year of their entry. See the table below for those data. The highlighted cells contained censored data – that is the full performance is not observable until 12/31/2019.

			Admission Year	Entries	Perm w/in 12	Perm to Date	% 12 Mos	. % to Date
	Data developed by the State Data Unit,	DeKalb County	2017	421	174	265/416	41.3%	63.7%
	reports on		2018	422	176	227	41.7%	53.8%
	permanency achieved for the most		2019	390	82	82	21.0%	21.0%
	recent three exit cohorts. Stays lasting	Fulton County	2017	390	156	257/386	40%	66.6%
	less than 8 days are dropped in these		2018	328	131	171	39.9%	52.1%
	results.		2019	336	108	108	32.1%	32.1%
		Region 14	2017	811	330	522/802	40.7%	65.1%
			2018	750	307	398	40.9%	53.1%
			2019	726	190	190	26.2%	26.2%
VI.B.24	•	No more than 5% of adoptions finalized	•	porting	DeKalb: 0	DeKalb: 56		DeKalb: 0%
	period shall disrupt within the 12 months subsequent to the reporting period				Fulton: 0	Fulton: 37	F	Fulton: 0%
					Total: 0	Total: 93	1	otal: 0%

Placement Within County: At least 90% of all children at a point in time during the reporting period shall be placed in the county from which they were removed or within a 50-mile radius of the home from which they were removed. This measure is subject to the following exceptions: (a) the child's needs are so exceptional that they cannot be met by a family or facility meeting these geographical restrictions, (b) the child is placed through the ICPC consistent with its terms, (c) the child is appropriately placed with relatives, or (d) the child is in an adoptive placement with a prospective adoptive family pursuant to an appropriate placement agreement, but before the entry of the adoption decree by the court.	Total: 1365	Total: 1403	Total: 97%	
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As noted above, the methodology for this metric changed. Rather than being evaluated through case review, the Data Unit generated a metric using the entire class of children in placement on the last day of the period. To generate the final metric – they considered who in placement on 6/30/2018 was placed in the w/in 50 miles of their removal address, was placed within the same county as their removal county, or qualified for an exception as stipulated in the agreement. The numerator was adjusted upward to reflected both those that met the standard AND those who were exceptions. The reciprocal of the numerator is the measure. See below for the adjustments.

VI.B.25

	Placed	Denominator	Numerator	%
Total in Placement on 6/30/2018	1403	1403	1365	97%
		% of those placed		
Placed in Same County	523	37%	523	
Placed in Different County	880	63%		
Different county & exception placement	97	7%	97	
Different county	783	56%		
Diff county & placed w/in 50 miles	745	53%	815	
Diff county & place greater than 50 miles	38	3%		
Diff county, > than 50 miles & exempt	0	0%		

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	Diff county, > than 50 miles & NOT exempt	38	3%			
/I.B.26	Visitation (Worker-Child): At least 96.25% of the total minimum numb	•	DeKalb: 4601	DeKalb: 4848	DeKalb: 94.91%	
	private, in-placement visits between case managers and children durin period shall have taken place. Visits in excess of the required one private.		Fulton: 3572	Fulton:3734	Fulton: 95.66%	
	shall be excluded when calculating this percentage.	•	Total: 8173	Total: 8582	Total: 95.23%	
I.B.27	Court Orders: At least 95% of foster children in custody at a point in the reporting period shall have all applicable language in court orders necest qualification for federal funding under Title IV-E of the Social Security	essary to assess	DeKalb: 48	DeKalb: 50	DeKalb: 96%	
			Fulton: 41	Fulton:42	Fulton: 98%	
			Total: 89	Total: 92	Total: 97%	
VI.B.28	Capacity Limits: No more than 10% of all foster home placements seemember children at any time during the reporting period shall exceed to capacity limits: (a) no placement shall result in more than 3 foster child home, or a total of 6 children in the home, including the foster family's adopted children, without the written approval of the County Director, a placement will result in more than 3 children under the age of 3 in a fost only exception to these capacity limits shall be the placement of a siblification.	he following Iren in a foster biological and/or and (b) no ster home. The	Total: 1	Total: 444	Total: 0.2%	
VII.G.1	Recurrence of substantiated investigations: Of children in each co two reporting periods who experienced substantiated maltreatment, the	• •	DeKalb: 4	DeKalb: 489	DeKalb: 0.8%	
	were victims of a second substantiated maltreatment report during the months.	following 12	Fulton: 13	Fulton: 477	Fulton: 2.7%	
	(For period 25 – partial data are provided)					
	This measure has been revised to be prospective, and is essentially the cannot be observed until 12 months following the last base substantiat performance to date for 2016 and 2017 substantiated reports. The 201 information for both the 2017 reports and those that are referred in the	ar. We report here	the 2015 recurrence ra	te, but provide the		

		Region/County	Report Year	Earliest Subx Report	Recurrence in 12 Mos.	% Recurrence			
	Data provided by State Data	DeKalb County	2016	564	21	3.7%			
	Unit in early November 2018. Because of reporting lag time,		2017	531	13	2.5%			
	both the 2017 and the 2018 figures should be considered		2018	489	4	0.8%			
	censored and incomplete.	Fulton County	2016	796	46	5.8%			
			2017	453	13	2.9%			
			2018	477	13	2.7%			
		Region 14	2016	1,360	67	4.9			
			2017	984	26	2.6%			
			2018	966	17	1.7%			
	Substantiated investigation following			DeKalb: 42	DeKalb:1,901	DeKalb: 2.2%			
	the number and percent for which there 365 days of the FSS referral. For Perio		eterrai w/in 11-	Fulton: 97	Fulton: 3,361	Fulton: 2.9%			
				Total: 5,262	Total: 139	Total: 2.6%			
V/II C 2	This is prospective measure which looks to see what number and percent of cases referred to RSS have a re-referral in the subsequent year. Like other longitudinal measures, it takes time to observe the original referral and then look forward for future substantiations. For this reason we report on FSS cases from 2016 for whom the full period following referral to FSS could be observed, and report partial data for the subsequent two calendar years.								
VII.G.2		Region/County	Report Year	Earliest FSS Report	Sub Report in 12 Mos.	% Sub in 12 Mos.			
	Data provided by State Data Unit in ear	DeKalb County	2016	1,901	42	2.2%			
	August 2018.	7	2017	2,325	89	3.8%			
			2018	2234	91	3.9%			
		Fulton County	2016	3,361	97	2.9%			

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		2017	3,999	142	3.6%
		2018	3850	149	3.7%
	Region 14	2016	5,262	139	2.6%
		2017	6084	240	3.8%
		2018	3,113	33	1.1%
4 X 4 Visitation			DeKalb:	DeKalb:	DeKalb:
			Fulton:	Fulton:	Fulton:
			Total:	Total:	Total:

VI.A.7	period who had been in foster care (in that episode) for 24 months or more shall be discharged to permanency within 12 months of the first day of the period. Permanency, for the purposes of this measure includes discharges from foster care to reunification DeKalb: 122 Fulton: 59 DeKalb: 402 Fulton: 222								Fulton: Total: 2 ance on vever, for	permanency for r Period 25, we	
	prepared historical data first day of prior two ca	a that displays the p lendar year. See the	roportion of chi table below fo	ildren exit to permanen or those data.	cy by the e	end of a 1	2-month _i	period for a si	milar group o	f childre	n in care on the
	In Care 24 +		In Care 1/1	Qualifying Children	Exits in		Exits	in 12 Mos.	% 6 M		% 12 Mos.
	Data prepared by	DeKalb County	2016	173	2			51 14			29%
	State Data Unit Sept		2017	275	2			60 10			22%
	2018		2018	360	4	7			13%		
		Fulton County	2016	136	2		35 43		15%		26%
			2017	196	1	7			9%		22%
			2018	241	2	8			12%		
		Region 14	2016	309	4	5		86	15%		28%
			2017	471	4	4		103	9%		22%
			2018	601	7				12%	1	
VI.A.8	Adoption/Guardiansh terminated or released 80% will have their add termination or release of Any exclusions to be no	during the reporting options or guardians of parental rights.	period (and ar	ny appeals completed),	, at least	DeKalb: Fulton: Total: 5	10	DeKalb: 57 Fulton: 11 Total: 68		DeKall Fulton Total:	: 91%
VI.A.9	being in custody for 15 of the prior 22 months shall have had either (a) a petition for the termination of parental rights filed as to both parents or legal caregivers as applicable, or (b) documented compelling reasons in the child's case record why termination of parental Total: 801 DeKalb: 438 Fulton: 374 Fulton: 374 Total: 842 Total: 95%									: 97%	
VI.A.10	rights should not be filed. Sibling placement: At least 80% of all children who entered foster care during the reporting period along with one or more siblings shall be placed with all of their siblings, subject to the following exceptions: (a) doing so is harmful to one or more of the siblings, (b) one or more of the siblings has exceptional needs that can only be met in a specialized program or facility, (c) the size of										

	the sibling group makes such placement impractical notwithstanding diligent efforts to place the group together; or (d) the siblings are placed with relative.										
VI.A.11	Multiple Placement Mo more than 3.67 moves p	oves: The rate of p	lacement move		e shall be no	DeKalb Fulton: Total: 6	328				2.41 15 73
	This is a new measure of month period, and divided care on the first day of the observe change over ting analysis showed that six the six month estimate, Jan-Jun period. That mean numerator and denominate displayed below	ing that figure by a he 12-month perio ne, the State Data x month rates nota the State Data Un ethod relies on act	ll of the days che d as well has che Unit generated bly overstate me t, in consultation al six month da	ildren with any nildren entering historical anal ovement rates n with MTAT h ata that is then	y days in care used g care during the 1. ysis of this metric, relative to full 12-r has developed a me annualized to refle	I in the sa 2-month p preparing nonth per ethod to g ect 12-mo	me 12-me period. To both six i iod. To co enerate a nth perfoi	onth period. This me characterize basel month and 12-mone ontrol for overstated in annualized 12-member by applying	easure inc line perforn th rates of I movemer onth rate v I growth es	cludes bo mance a moveme nt rate en when rep stimates	oth children in nd in order to ent. That mbedded in oorting on the to both the
	are displayed below	Moves i	n Period			Days in P	Period				
	Calendar Year	DeKalb	es per 1,000 Da Fulton	Total	DeKalb	Fulto	Total	DeKalb	Fulto		Total
	2015	4.60	8.31	6.14	1,310	1,68 6	2,996	284,869	203,0	005	487,874
	2016	3.10	4.99	3.89	966	1,10 5	2,071	311,486	221,3	347	532,833
	2017 Actual	2.22	3.87	2.93	699						548,426
	2018- Annualized	2.41	3.53	2.91							
VI.A.12	Caseworker Continuity: At least 90% of all children in custody at a point in time during the reporting period shall have had 2 or fewer DFCS placement case managers during the prior 12 months in custody. This measure shall not apply to cases that are transferred to an adoption case manager; case managers who have died, been terminated, promoted, or transferred to another county; or case managers who have covered a case during another case manager's sick or maternity leave.						: 701 538 1239	DeKalb: 803 Fulton: 600 Total: 1403	F	DeKalb: 8 ulton: 90 otal: 889)%
VI.A.13	during another case manager's sick or maternity leave. Visitation (Worker-Child): At least 96.25% of the total minimum number of one inplacement visit per month and one additional private visit per month between case managers and children during the reporting period shall have taken place. Visits in excess of this required minimum of one in-placement and one private visit per month shall be excluded when calculating this percentage.						: 9284 7272 6556	DeKalb: 9642 Fulton: 7413 Total: 17055	F	eKalb: 9 Julton: 98 Jotal: 97.	3.1%

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VI.A.14	Visitation (Parent-Child): At least 85% of the children with a goal of reunification shall have had appropriate visitation with their parents to progress toward reunification	DeKalb: 1656 Fulton:1392 Total: 3048	DeKalb: 1977 Fulton: 1575 Total: 3552	DeKalb: 83.8% Fulton: 88.4% Total: 85.85
Vi.A.15	Visitation (Worker-Caregiver): DFCS placement case managers shall visit each child's foster parent, group care setting, or other caregiver setting at least one time each month. At least 95% of the total minimum number of required monthly visits by placement case managers to caregivers during the reporting period shall have taken place. Visits to any caregiver with respect to the same child in excess of the required one visit per month shall be excluded when calculating this percentage	DeKalb: 4673 Fulton: 3614 Total: 8287	DeKalb: 4891 Fulton: 3732 Total: 8623	DeKalb: 95.5% Fulton: 96.8% Total: 96.2%
Vi.A.16	Visitation (Between Siblings): Children who have one or more siblings in custody with whom they are not placed shall be provided a visit with their siblings at least one time each month, unless the visit is harmful to one or more of the siblings, the sibling is placed out of state in compliance with ICPC, or the distance between the children's placements is more than 50 miles and the child is placed with a relative. At least 90% of the total minimum number of required monthly sibling group visits shall have taken place during the reporting period. Visits among siblings in excess of the required one visit per month shall be excluded when calculating this percentage.	DeKalb: 562 Fulton: 510 Total: 1072	DeKalb: 658 Fulton: 548 Total: 1206	DeKalb: 85.4% Fulton: 93.15 Total: 88.9%
VI.A.17	Education : At least 56% of children discharged from foster care at age 18 or older shall have graduated from high school or earned a GED.	DeKalb: Fulton: Total:	DeKalb: Fulton: Total:	DeKalb: Fulton: Total:
	This metric is generated annually in the report covering the period that ends December 31	of each year.		
VI.A.18	Placements Not in Full Approval Status: At least 98% of all foster placements serving class member children shall be in full approval and/or licensure status. In computing this percentage, each placement shall be weighted by the approved and/or licensed capacity of that placement.	Total: 2770	Total: 2826	Total: 98%
VI.A.19	Six-Month Case Plan Review : At least 95% of foster children in custody for six months or more shall have either had their six-month case plan review completed by the Juvenile Court within six months of their prior case plan review, or DFCS shall have submitted the child's six-month case plan to the Juvenile Court and filed a motion requesting a six-month case plan review within 45 days of the expiration of the six-month period following the last review.	DeKalb:39 Fulton: 30 Total: 69	DeKalb: 39 Fulton: 30 Total: 69	DeKalb: 100% Fulton: 100% Total: 100%
VI.A.20	Permanency Hearing : At least 95% of foster children in custody for twelve or more months shall have either had a permanency hearing held by the Juvenile Court within 12 months of the time the child entered foster care or had his or her last permanency hearing, or DFCS shall have submitted the documents required by the Juvenile Court for and requested a permanency hearing within 45 days of the expiration of the 12-month period following the time the child entered foster care or had his or her last permanency hearing.	DeKalb: 34 Fulton: 23 Total: 57	DeKalb: 34 Fulton: 23 Total: 57	DeKalb: 100% Fulton: 100% Total: 100%

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VI.A.21	Health/Educational Needs. Of children in care at a point period, 92 percent shall have met each need documented Dental, Mental Health, Educational.		See Below		
		Medical Needs	DeKalb: 39	DeKalb: 42	DeKalb: 93%
			Fulton: 29	Fulton: 30	Fulton: 97%
			Total: 68	Total: 72	Total: 94%
		Dental Needs	DeKalb: 39	DeKalb: 42	DeKalb: 93%
			Fulton: 24	Fulton: 30	Fulton: 80%
			Total: 63	Total: 72	Total: 88%
		Mental Health Needs	DeKalb: 30	DeKalb: 33	DeKalb: 91%
			Fulton: 22	Fulton: 25	Fulton: 88%
			Total:	Total:	Total:
		Education/Developmental	DeKalb: 37	DeKalb: 43	DeKalb: 86%
		Needs	Fulton: 29	Fulton: 32	Fulton: 91%
			Total: 66	Total: 75	Total: 88%
VI.B. ²¹ 22	Corporal Punishment: At least 98% of all foster homes v	will not have an incident of	DeKalb:		
	corporal punishment (any physical punishment of a child to	Fulton:			
	previous 12 months	Total:	DeKalb:	DeKalb:	
	During David OC thans were 4 and of allowed a surround		Fulton:	Fulton:	
	During Period 26, there were 1 case of alleged corporal p which was screened in for a CPS investigation, however t			Total:	Total:
VI.B.23	Timely Discharge to Permanency: Of all children who e period, at least 40.5% shall be discharged to permanency foster care. Permanency, for the purposes of this measure child's parents or primary caregivers, living with a relative	within 12 months of entering e, includes reunification with the	DeKalb: 163 Fulton: 116 Total: 279	DeKalb: 422 Fulton: 330 Total: 752	DeKalb: 38.6% Fulton: 35.2% Total: 37.1%
	This is a new measure which relies on the CFSR 3 methodenominator for the reentry metric. This both a 12 month 12 and also to report on positive permanency that occurre additionally, we provide performance to date on the most the historical data depicting permanency for enters within data – that is the full performance is not observable until 1	measure AND a longitudinal meased within 12 months of entry. For the recently observed entry group. As one year of their entry. See the tax	sure; so it take son that reason – we re dditionally, the Stat able below for thos	ne time to both observe en eport the most cohort that i e Data Unit prepared histo e data. The highlighted ce	ntries in the most recent is fully observable and prical data that displays

²¹ VI.B metrics are currently Attained Outcomes.

			Admission Year	Entries	Perm w/in 12	Perm to Date	% 12 Mos	. % to Date	
	Data developed by	DeKalb County	2016	493	179	253	36.3%	51.3%	
	the State Data Unit,		2017	415	153	191	36.9%	46.0%	
	reports on permanency		2018	423	117	117	27.7%	27.7%	
	achieved for the most	Fulton County	2016	365	146	222	40.0%	60.8%	
	recent three exit		2017	387	141	178	36.4%	46.0%	
	cohorts. Stays lasting		2018	329	95	95	28.9%	28.9%	
	less than 8 days are dropped in these	Region 14	2016	858	325	475	37.9%	55.4%	
	results.		2017	802	294	369	36.7%	46.0%	
			2018	752	212	212	28.2%	28.2%	
VI.B.24		: No more than 5% of adoptions finalized in the 12 months subsequent to the repo	to the reporting period Fulton: 0 Fulton: 37 Fulton					DeKalb: 0% Fulton: 0% Fotal: 0%	
VI.B.25	50-mile radius of the hot the following exceptions by a family or facility me through the ICPC consi relatives, or (d) the child pursuant to an appropri decree by the court. As noted above, the me class of children in place 50 miles of their removes	e placed in the county from which they were removed. This one from which they were removed. This is: (a) the child's needs are so exceptional eeting these geographical restrictions, (b) stent with its terms, (c) the child is approximate an adoptive placement with a prostate placement agreement, but before the ethodology for this metric changed. Rath the ement on the last day of the period. To go all address, was placed within the same of the dupward to reflected both those that measurements.	s measure is sall that they can be the child is oppriately place spective adope entry of the entry of the er than being generate the incounty as the standard	subject to innot be met placed ed with tive family adoption evaluated thrifinal metric – the fir removal could AND those with the second of the second second expression of the second second expression of the second expres	hey considered whenty, or qualified for who were exception	o in placement of an exception as s. The reciproca	n 6/30/2018 stipulated ir I of the nume	was placed in the w/in the agreement. The erator is the measure.	
				Placed	Denominator	Numerat	tor	%	
		Total in Placement on 6/30.	/2018	1403	1403 % of those	1365		97%	
					% of those placed				
		Placed in Same C	ounty	523	37%	523			
		Placed in Different C		880	63%				
		Different county & exception place	ement	97	7%	97			

		Different county	783	56%		
		Diff county & placed w/in 50 miles	745	53%	815	
	Diff co	ounty & place greater than 50 miles	38	3%		
	Dir	f county, > than 50 miles & exempt	0	0%		
	Diff cou	nty, > than 50 miles & NOT exempt	38	3%		
VI.B.26	private, in-placement visits between period shall have taken place. Vis shall be excluded when calculating		the reporting e visit per month	DeKalb: 4601 Fulton: 3572 Total: 8173	DeKalb: 4848 Fulton:3734 Total: 8582	DeKalb: 94.91% Fulton: 95.66% Total: 95.23%
VI.B.27	reporting period shall have all app qualification for federal funding un	ster children in custody at a point in tim licable language in court orders necess der Title IV-E of the Social Security Ac	sary to assess t.			
VI.B.28	member children at any time durin capacity limits: (a) no placement shome, or a total of 6 children in the adopted children, without the writt placement will result in more than only exception to these capacity lifester	0% of all foster home placements serving the reporting period shall exceed the shall result in more than 3 foster childres home, including the foster family's bid en approval of the County Director, and 3 children under the age of 3 in a foster mits shall be the placement of a sibling	ofollowing on in a foster cological and/or of (b) no or home. The ogroup in a	Total: 1	Total: 444	Total: 0.2%
VII.G.1	two reporting periods who experies were victims of a second substant months. (For period 25 – partial data are parties measure has been revised to	be prospective, and is essentially the	number who Illowing 12 Federal CFSR rec			
	performance to date for 2016 and	hs following the last base substantiated 2017 substantiated reports. The 2016 orts and those that are referred in the fi	are nearly comple	te; we will report or		
		Region/County	Report Year	Earliest Subx Report	Recurrence in 12 Mos.	% Recurrence
	Data provided by State Data	DeKalb County	2016	564	21	3.7%
	Unit in early November 2018.	ŕ	2017	531	13	2.5%
	Because of reporting lag time,		2018	489	4	0.8%
	both the 2017 and the 2018	Fulton County	2016	796	46	5.8%
	figures should be considered	·	2017	453	13	2.9%
	censored and incomplete.		2018	477	13	2.7%

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		Region 14	2016	1,360	67	4.9
			2017	984	26	2.6%
			2018	966	17	1.7%
	Substantiated investigation following FSS of		DeKalb: 42	DeKalb:1,901	DeKalb: 2.2%	
	the number and percent for which there was a		Fulton: 97	Fulton: 3,361	Fulton: 2.9%	
	365 days of the FSS referral. For Period 25 – p	artial data are provided.		Total: 5,262	Total: 139	Total: 2.6%
	This is prospective measure which looks to see longitudinal measures, it takes time to observe 2016 for whom the full period following referral	the original referral and the	n look forward fo	or future substantia	tions. For this reason we re	eport on FSS cases from
		Region/County	Report Year	Earliest FSS	Sub Report in 12 Mos.	% Sub in 12 Mos.
				Report	·	
VII.G.2		DeKalb County	2016	1,901	42	2.2%
			2017	2,325	89	3.8%
	Data provided by State Data Unit in early		2018	2234	91	3.9%
	August 2018.	Fulton County	2016	3,361	97	2.9%
	Augusi 2010.		2017	3,999	142	3.6%
			2018	3850	149	3.7%
		Region 14	2016	5,262	139	2.6%
			2017	6084	240	3.8%
			2018	3,113	33	1.1%
	4 X 4 Visitation			DeKalb:	DeKalb:	DeKalb:
				Fulton:	Fulton:	Fulton:
				Total:	Total:	Total:

Table A-3: Case Managers Meeting Caseload Standards in DeKalb County on June 30, 2019

	Caseload			Actual Performance					
Case Manager Function	Cap: Number of cases (families and	Number of Active, On-Staff on 6/30/19 Number of Active, On-leave Staff on 6/30/19		Meeting Caps on Assigned Caseload		Not Meeting Cap on Assigned Caseload		Cases to be Assigned by Supervisors	
	children)			Number	%	Number	%	Number	
CPS Investigations	12 families	32	0	23	72%	9	28%	3	
	17	-	-	-				-	
Family Preservation	families	8	0	9	100%	0	100%	2	
Permanency Case Manager	15 children	22	0	9	41%	13	59%	1	
Specialized Case Manager	12 children	31	0	9	29%	22	71%	6	
Adoption Case Manager ²²	16 children								
Total		93		49	53%	44	47%	12	

Table A-4: DeKalb County Supervisory Ratios on June 30, 2019

Program/Service Area	Number of Units	Meeting 1 to 5 Ratio		Not Meeting 1 to 5 Ratio	
	Total	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Child Protective Services (Investigations and Family Preservation)	10	7	70%	3	30%
Permanency Case Managers (Regular and Specialized) (includes Adoptions)	16	16	100%	0	0%

²² All adoptions caseloads are included in the specialized and permanency totals. There were 12 adoptions case managers in DeKalb on this date.

Table A-5: Case Managers Meeting Caseload Standards in Fulton County on June 30, 2019

	Casaland			Actual Performance					
Case Manager Function	Caseload Cap: Number of cases (families and	Number of Active Staff on	Number of Active, On- leave Staff on 6/30/19	Meeting Caps on Assigned Caseload		Not Meeting Cap on Assigned Caseload		Cases to be Assigned by Supervisors	
	children)	6/30/19		Number	%	Number	%	Number	
	12								
CPS Investigations	families	27		18	67%	9	31%	5	
Family Preservation	17 families	11		10	91%	1	100%	0	
Permanency Case Manager	15 children	27		15	56%	12	44%	2	
Specialized Case Manager	12 children	19		10	53%	9	47%	13	
Adoption Case Manager ²³	16 children								
Total		84		53	63%	31	37%	20	

Table A-6: Fulton County Supervisory Ratios on June 30, 2019

Program/Service Area	Number of Units	Meeting Ra	•	Not Meeting 1 to 5 Ratio		
1 Togram/octvice Aica	Total	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Child Protective Services (Investigations and Family Preservation)	9	6	67%	3	33%	
Permanency Case Managers (Regular and Specialized) (includes Adoptions)	15	15	100%	0	0%	

²³ All adoptions caseloads are included in the specialized and permanency totals. There were five adoptions case managers in Fulton on this date.

Table A-7: Region 14 Caseload Managers Meeting Caseload Standards on June 30, 2019

	Caseload			Actual Performance					
Case Manager Function	Cap: Number of cases (families and children)	Number of Active Staff on 6/30/19	Number of Active, On- leave Staff on 6/30/19	Meeting Ca	leeting Caps on		Meeting Caps on Not Meeting Cap on Assigned Assigned		Cases to be Assigned by Supervisors
	,			Number	%	Number	%	Number	
CPS Investigations	12 families	59		41	69%	18	31%	8	
Family Preservation	families	19		18	95%	1	5%	2	
Permanency Case Manager	15 children	49		24	49%	25	51%	3	
Specialized Case Manager	12 children	50		19	38%	31	62%	19	
Adoption Case Manager ²⁴	16 children								
Total	12 children	177		102	58%	75	42%	32	

²⁴ All adoptions caseloads are included in the specialized and permanency totals. There were 15 adoption case managers in the Region on this date.

Table A-8: Region 14 Supervisory Ratios on June 30, 2019

Program/Service Area	Number of Units	Meeting 1 to 5 Ratio		Not Meeting 1 to 5 Ratio	
	Total	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Child Protective Services (Investigations and Family Preservation)	19	13	68%	6	32%
Permanency Case Managers (Regular and Specialized) (includes Adoptions)	31	31	100%	0	100%

APPENDIX B - GLOSSARY

Adoptive Placement means the interval during which a child is placed with a prospective adoptive family following the signing of the appropriate adoptive placement agreement form, but before the entry of the adoption decree by the court.

Child or Children or Class Member Children or Class Members mean a child or children who have been, are or will be alleged or adjudicated deprived who (1) are or will be in the custody of the State Defendants; and (2) have or will have an open case in Fulton County DFCS or DeKalb County DFCS.

Child Caring Institution (CCI) is any child-welfare facility which provides full-time room, board and watchful oversight (RBWO) to six or more children up to 18 years of age. Some CCIs are approved to care for youth up to age 21. The CCI must be approved through the Office of Provider Management (OPM) to serve children in DFCS custody.

Child Placing Agency (CPA) is agency that places children in foster and adoptive homes for individualized care, supervision and oversight. Child placing agencies are responsible for assessing the placement regarding the appropriateness of the room, board and watchful oversight that the prospective foster and adoptive families will provide. The CPA's employees and their foster and adoptive parents work as a team to provide a stabilizing and nurturing environment that promotes safety, permanency and well-being.

Corporal Punishment means any physical punishment on a child that inflicts pain.

CPA Foster Home is a foster home approved by a Child Placing Agency for the temporary placement of children in foster care.

DeKalb DFCS means DeKalb County Department of Family and Children Services.

DFCS when used alone means the Georgia Division of Family and Children Services.

DFCS Foster Home is a non-relative foster homes approved by DFCS for the temporary placement of children in foster care.

DFCS or CPA Adoptive Home is an adoptive home approved for the foster care placement of a child for whom the established goal is adoption. Adoptive homes must meet the regular standards of care required for approved family foster homes and any conditions specified in that approval.

DFCS Relative Foster Home is a relative foster home approved by DFCS for the temporary placement of minor relatives. It is DFCS' preference that all relatives are approved as foster parents and receive a foster care per diem. The goal of relatives becoming foster parents is to ensure that the child has services to address his/her needs.

DHHS means the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

DHR means Georgia Department of Human Resources.

Discipline or Other Serious Foster Care Violation means and includes those acts or situations by the caregiver that pose an immediate or potential risk to the safety or well-being of the child in care. These may include, but are not limited to, inappropriate disciplinary measures (both physical/corporal and emotional), violations of supervision or other safety requirements that pose serious risk factors to the child.

EPSDT means the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment Program for individuals under 21 years of age contained in Title XIX of the Social Security Act, as amended.

Fictive Kin means a person who is known to a child as a relative, but is not, in fact, related by blood.

Foster Parent means volunteers who are trained and certified by DFCS or Child Placing Agencies to provide for the temporary care of children placed in the custody of DFCS. Foster parents work as a part of a team to assure that a child's physical, emotional, medical and psychological needs are met while they are in foster care. Although, it is not the goal to replace the child's parents, foster parents are asked to assume the responsibility of parenting the children placed in their home.

Foster Relative means biological kin who are trained and certified by DFCS to provide for the care of relative children placed in the custody of DFCS. Foster relatives work as a part of a team to assure that a child's physical, emotional, medical and psychological needs are met while they are in foster care. Although, it is not the goal to replace the child's parents, foster relatives are asked to assume the responsibility of parenting the children placed in their home.

Fulton DFCS means the Fulton County Department of Family and Children Services.

Georgia Health Check Program means Georgia Medicaid's well-child or preventive health care program adopted pursuant to EPSDT, and shall contain such components as they exist in the Georgia Health Check Program as of February 1, 2005.

Governor means the Governor of the State of Georgia.

Legal Guardianship means the appointment of an individual as a legal guardian for a child as authorized by either the probate court under O.C.G.A. Title 29 or the juvenile court under O.C.G.A. Chapter15-11-2(36).

One Episode of Foster Care means the period of time that a child is in foster care from the date of removal from the home until the child is discharged from DFCS custody, except that a runaway does not trigger a new episode of foster care.

Permanent Legal Custody means custody granted in accordance with an order of the superior court or the juvenile court, which places a child in the custody of an individual or individuals until the child reaches 18 years of age.

Permanent Placement with Relatives means placing a child with a relative who is willing to assume long-term responsibility for the child, but has reasons for not adopting the child or obtaining guardianship or permanent legal custody, and it is in the child's best interests to remain in the home of the relative rather than be considered for adoption, permanent legal custody, or guardianship by another person. In such circumstances, there shall be in place an agreement for long-term care signed by DFCS and the relative committing to the permanency and stability of this placement unless it is necessary to disrupt the long-term placement.

Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) is a temporary non-hospital facility with a provider agreement with a State Medicaid Agency to provide intensive therapeutic intervention to a child to ensure safety and stability. PRTFs offer intensive behavioral health services to children in Georgia.

Relatives are persons who are related by blood, marriage or adoption including the spouse of any of those persons even if the marriage was terminated by death or divorce.

Relative Placement refers to placement in the home of a relative or fictive kin who do not receive a foster care per diem for the care of the child. The relative placement may be a non-paid placement or the relative may receive TANF or an Enhanced Relative Rate (ERR) Subsidy. Fictive kin are not eligible for TANF or an Enhanced Relative Rate (ERR) Subsidy. Fictive kin must become foster parents to receive financial assistance.

Placement with relatives or fictive kin may occur very quickly if there is a satisfactory CPS history check, safety and home assessment check, and a Georgia Crime Information Center (GCIC) check through the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) on all household members 18 years of age or older. A Relative or Non-Relative Care Assessment must be completed no later than 30 calendar days after the placement of a child.

State DFCS means the Division of Family and Children Services of the Georgia Department of Human Resources.

Suspected Abuse or Neglect means being based on reasonable cause to believe that a child may have been abused or neglected.

Suspected Corporal Punishment means being based on reasonable cause to believe that corporal punishment may have been used on a child.