

Lucas County Children Services

lucaskids.net

Annual Report 2021



Robin Reese, Executive Director



Message from the Executive Director

In 2021, Lucas County Children Services (LCCS) maintained its leadership role among child protection agencies across the state. LCCS staff members participated on committees at the state and national levels, and we volunteered for several pilot projects that provided us with the opportunity to influence changes in child protection practice.

The year also brought unprecedented challenges for child protection. The COVID-19 pandemic isolated children and families, interrupted school, and made the responsibility of protecting children from abuse and neglect more complex.

Nonetheless, our dedicated caseworkers soldiered on, donning personal protective equipment (PPE), and making or exceeding the number of required home visits. We became more innovative and helped families hold “virtual visits” with their children, when necessary, and opened an offsite visit center to provide families with more space to minimize COVID-19 transmission. We accomplished this, and more, even as the share of new cases opening with children in custody increased 12%, meaning that for the first time in recent years the majority of new cases involved children in custody. The total number of children entering agency or relative custody jumped 22%.

Substance abuse remained the most common reason for case openings, and mental health became a larger issue in 2021, increasing six percentage points to be cited in about a third of case openings.

We also increased our work to address disproportionality. Black children have been overrepresented at each point within the child welfare system, and reports involving Black children have been more likely to be screened in than those involving children who are White, Hispanic, or multiracial. Addressing this injustice, along with the effects of escalating gun violence on children, will be major points of focus as we move into the new year.

Once again, I thank the LCCS Board of Trustees for their continuing leadership and support.



Acknowledgements

The Quality Assurance Department would like to thank the LCCS Board of Trustees, the Executive Director, and the Directors for the opportunity to present this report.

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The 2021 Annual Report was prepared by the LCCS Quality Assurance Department, under the direction of the Director of Support Services. Quality Assurance received input and assistance from the Assessments, Family Services, Placement, Community Development, Fiscal, and Information Services departments.

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Agency Fact Sheet

13,580
children served

72%

of children receiving services remain in their **own home** or a kinship home



5,286
families served

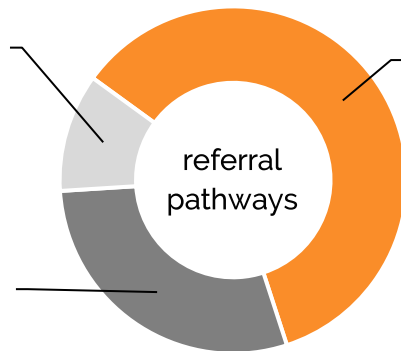
4,857 CA/N referrals
6,375 children on referrals
1,828 substantiated child victims

family in need of services

11%

traditional response
60%

alternative response
29%



440 new cases opened

618 average cases open

551 cases closed

654 kids entering custody

789 average kids in custody

406 exits from custody

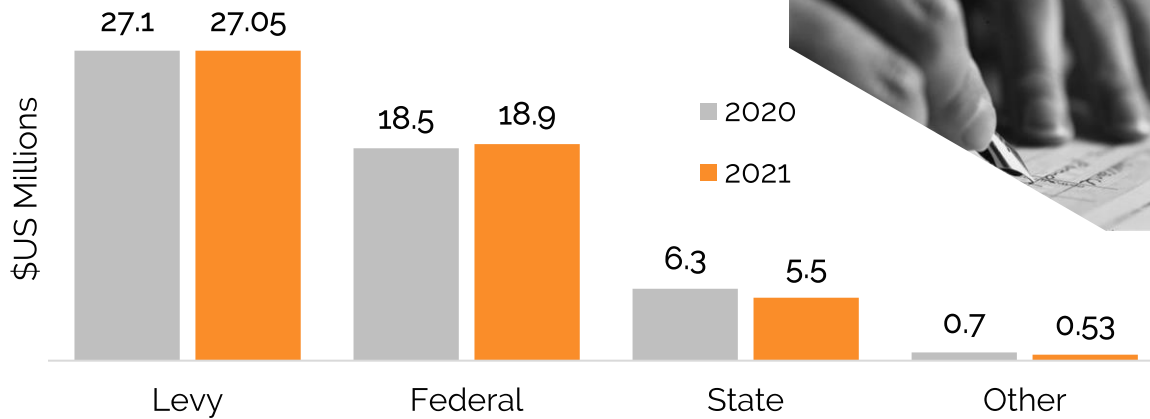
89 permanent custodies received

83 adoptions finalized

Financial Summary



Revenue Sources



Revenue from the state was down 12% since 2020 due to a reduction in funding for best practices and foster parent recruitment. Other revenue sources remained roughly stable.

Agency Expenses (\$US Millions)

Expense	2020	2021	Trend*
Salaries and Benefits	\$27.83	\$28.83	+4%
Placement Costs	\$11.11	\$11.93	+7%
Child Welfare Contracts	\$0.33	\$0.54	+64%
Daycare	\$1.42	\$1.62	+14%
Other Client Costs	\$1.25	\$1.93	+54%
Intergovernmental Contracts	\$2.33	\$2.28	-2%
Other Contracts	\$0.21	\$0.28	+33%
Other Operating Costs	\$2.80	\$3.17	+13%
Total	\$47.28	\$50.58	+7%

*(+) denotes increased expense, (-) denotes decrease

The agency substantially increased its spending on child welfare contracts in 2021, with the aim of furthering strategic collaborations to advance a system of prevention in the county. Partnerships of note included the Bridge to Independence program through Lucas Metropolitan Housing and the Ohio START program in cooperation with TASC of Northwest Ohio.

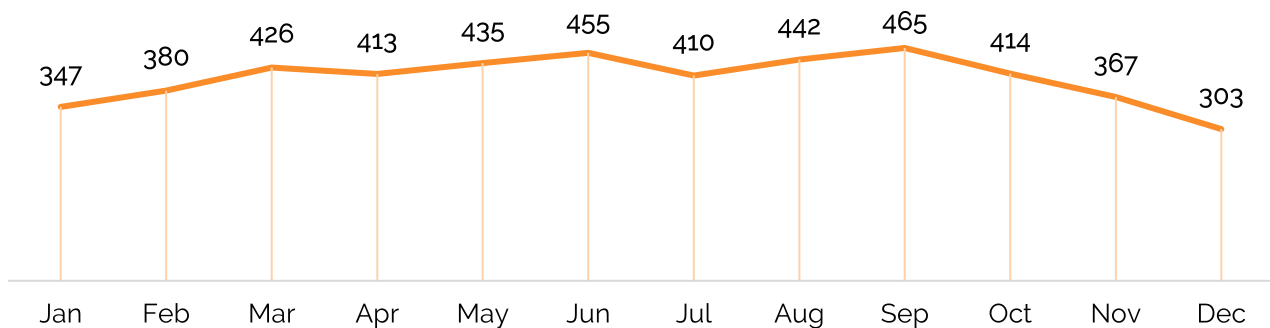
Referrals and Investigations

There were 5% more referrals for child abuse and neglect (CA/N) in 2021 than in 2020—a total of 4,857. Referrals for families in need of services (FINS) increased substantially versus the previous two years. While the number of alleged CA/N victims rebounded slightly from 2020, the number of substantiated victims continued to decrease. Note that children are only counted once as alleged victims, even if they were on multiple referrals during the year.

	2019	2020	2021	Trend
New CA/N Referrals	5132	4642	4857	+5%
New FINS Referrals	474	452	571	+26%
Alleged Victims	6572	6111	6375	+4%
Substantiated Victims	2463	1909	1828	-4%

Referrals Assigned by Month

Monthly referrals climbed steadily from 347 in January to a peak of 465 in September before dropping off again at the end of the year.



Referrals by Type

Type	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Traditional Response	73%	63%	60%	-3%
Alternative Response	19%	29%	29%	NC
Family in Need of Service	8%	9%	11%	+2%

Traditional response referrals decreased slightly from 2020, while FINS referrals gained a slightly larger share of the total accepted referrals.

Referrals by Abuse Type



The most commonly alleged abuse type on screened-in CA/N referrals was physical abuse, with 63% of referrals. The frequency of each abuse type remained roughly the same since 2020. These percentages sum to more than 100% because multiple abuse types can be listed on each referral. Thirty-eight percent of referrals alleged more than one type of abuse.

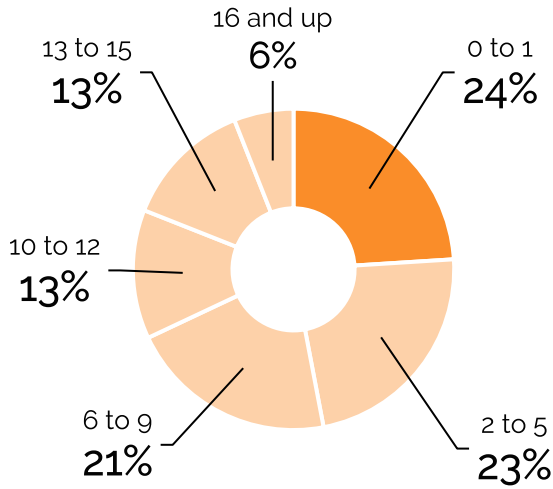
Referrals by ZIP Code*

ZIP Code	2019	2020	2021	Trend
43604	169.3	129.5	181.4	+29%
43620	88.4	92.9	123.0	+24%
43605	126.1	95.4	118.8	+20%
43610	115.4	82.4	115.8	+29%
43609	125.2	91.4	106.6	+14%
43608	129.0	108.6	105.2	-3%
43607	103.5	79.6	101.7	+22%
43612	90.3	73.1	71.1	-3%
43611	75.6	68.8	70.8	+3%
43606	59.0	43.6	58.0	+25%
43613	72.7	55.3	54.7	-1%
43615	57.1	47.7	50.0	+5%
43623	49.1	24.8	38.9	+36%
43614	47.3	38.0	32.8	-16%
43616	32.1	17.4	27.8	+37%
43528	35.4	28.2	25.9	-9%
43537	15.9	13.7	16.5	+17%
43560	16.1	13.5	15.4	+12%
Lucas County	66.1	61.4	64.1	+5%

The 43604 ZIP code (Downtown) had the highest rate of referrals per 1,000 children for each of the last three years. It also experienced 29% more referrals per child in 2021 than 2020, one of the largest increases in the county. The overall rate of children on referrals in Lucas County increased 5% from 2020.

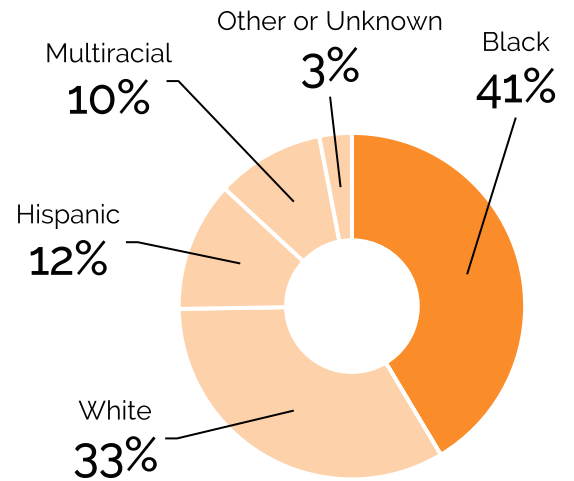
*per 1,000 children residing in the ZIP code

Alleged Child Victims by Age Group



Alleged child victims of abuse and neglect (ACVs) are most often younger than two years old, followed closely by children aged two to five. Older age groups make up smaller percentages of the county's ACVs.

Alleged Child Victims by Race



Black children are more likely to be alleged victims of child abuse and neglect than any other racial group. Adjusted for their share of the Lucas County child population, Black children are more than three times as likely as White children to be alleged victims. Racial groups other than Hispanic are specified here to be non-Hispanic—this is a change from previous reports.

Substantiation Rate by Type

Sexual abuse referrals are the most likely to be substantiated, at a rate of 47%. The substantiation rate of physical abuse referrals has decreased in recent years, from 49% in 2019 to 40% in 2021:

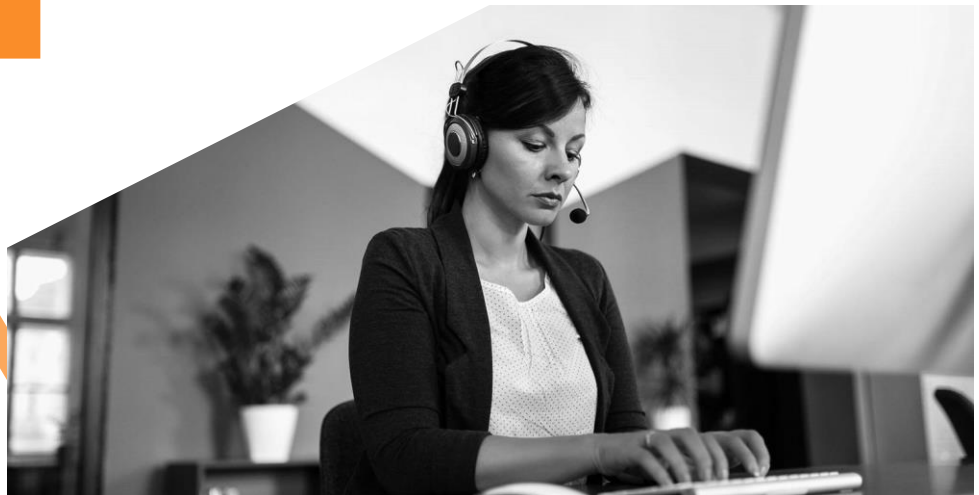
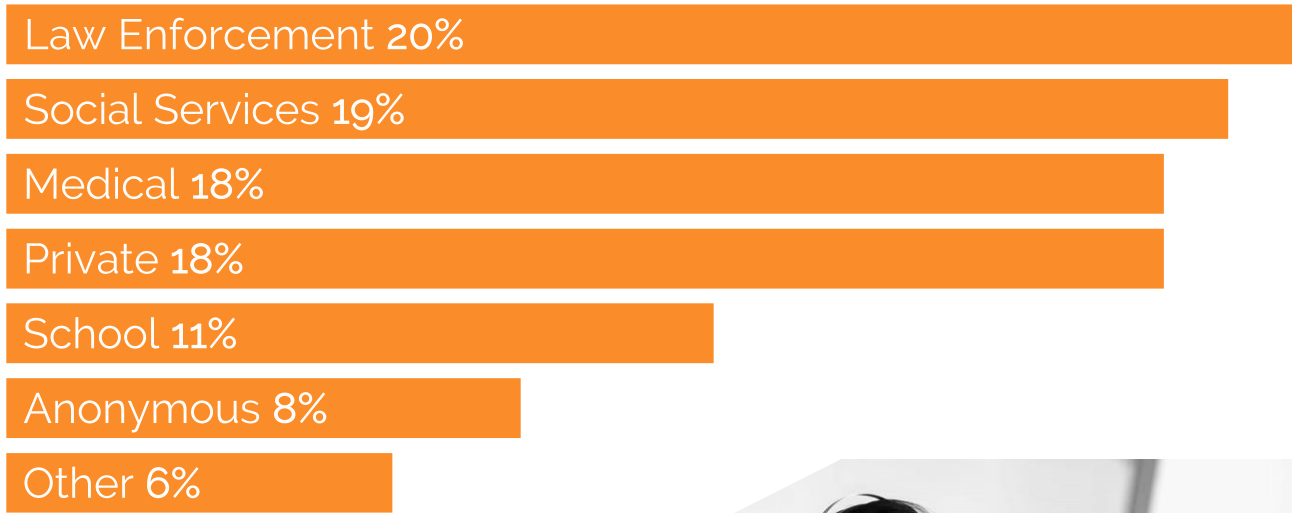
Type	2019	2020	2021	Trend
All Referrals	44%	41%	40%	-1%
Physical	49%	43%	40%	-3%
Neglect	30%	34%	34%	NC
Sexual	45%	45%	47%	+2%
Emotional	42%	40%	41%	+1%



Referrals by Source

Source	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Law Enforcement	24%	24%	20%	-4%
Social Services	14%	19%	19%	NC
Medical	16%	16%	18%	+2%
Private	17%	18%	18%	NC
School	14%	8%	11%	+3%
Anonymous	11%	9%	8%	-1%
Other	5%	5%	6%	+1%

Law enforcement remained the largest source of CA/N referrals in 2021, followed closely by social services and private individuals. Though law enforcement's share of total referrals decreased by four percentage points, they still accounted for a fifth of the total reports. Referrals from schools and medical reporters saw slight increases since 2020, while other sources remained roughly stable.



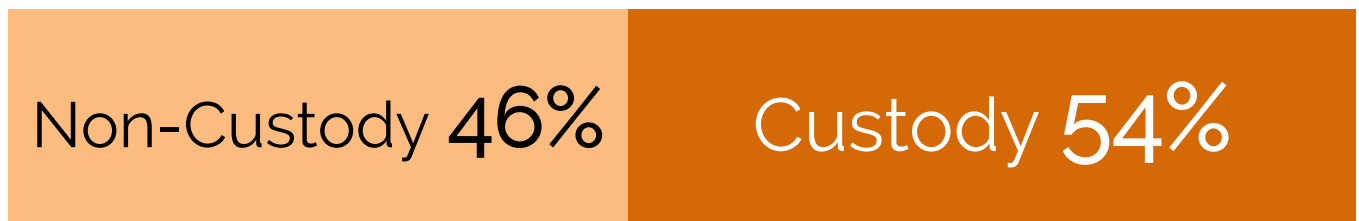
Ongoing Cases

Case Opening Summary

A total of 440 cases opened to the Family Services Department in 2021, a decrease of 2% since the prior year. Fifty-four percent of new cases opened with children in agency custody; this is a major increase since 2020 and it continues an upward trend in the percentage of cases with children in custody.

	2019	2020	2021	Trend
New Cases Opened	455	450	440	-2%
<i>New Custody Cases</i>	37%	42%	54%	+12%
<i>New Non-Custody Cases</i>	63%	58%	46%	-12%
Case Opening Rate	11%	11%	11%	NC
Cases Carried Over from the Prior Year	641	581	649	+12%

Custody Status of New Cases Opened



New Cases Opened by Family Race

When accounting for the race of all involved family members, we see that 35% of families on newly opened Family Services cases were White, while 32% were Black.

Black and mixed-race families continue to be overrepresented in their share of new cases opened. The racial makeup of families on cases stayed roughly stable, though the share of White families grew by 2%.

Family Race	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Black	31%	32%	32%	NC
White	36%	33%	35%	+2%
Two or More Races	19%	22%	21%	-1%
Hispanic	14%	12%	11%	-1%
Unknown	-	1%	<1%	NC

Average Cases Open

The number of Family Services cases open has decreased slightly in recent years, while the number of Independent Living cases saw an uptick in 2021. Many permanent custody cases were transferred from DFS to the adoptions unit this year, which was the likely reason for the decrease in DFS average caseloads.

Department	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Family Services	640	633	618	-2%
Independent Living	48	44	55	+25%
Adoptions	-	-	33	-
Total	688	677	706	+4%

Custody Status of Open Cases

Roughly half of children on open cases were in agency custody, while just under half were in relative custody or non-custody. These proportions remained the same since the previous year.

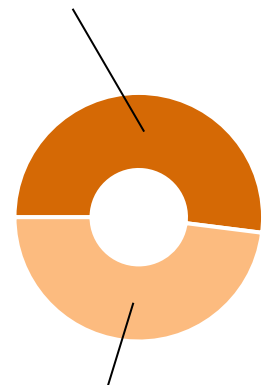
Average Children on Cases

The total number of children on cases increased 3% since 2020, while the average number of children per case decreased marginally.

	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Children on Cases	1509	1537	1583	+3%
Children per Case	2.21	2.27	2.24	-1%
<i>Family Services</i>	2.29	2.19	2.37	+8%
<i>Independent Living</i>	1.00	1.13	1.07	-5%
<i>Adoptions</i>	-	-	1.76	-

Agency Custody

52%



Non-Custody or
Relative Custody

48%

Cases Closed

	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Cases Closed	511	524	564	+8%
<i>Family Services</i>	494	508	551	+8%
<i>Independent Living</i>	17	16	13	-19%
Average Days Open				
<i>Family Services</i>	453	433	485	+12%
<i>Independent Living</i>	1255	1532	1573	+3%

Eight percent more family services cases were closed in 2021 than in 2020.



Cases Opened by ZIP Code

ZIP Code	2019	2020	2021	Trend
43605	14%	17%	15%	-2%
43609	10%	8%	11%	+3%
43604	8%	9%	8%	-1%
43612	10%	7%	8%	+1%
43607	5%	6%	7%	+1%
43608	7%	6%	7%	+1%
43613	6%	6%	6%	NC
43615	6%	5%	5%	NC
43606	3%	2%	4%	+2%
43611	5%	6%	4%	-2%
43614	5%	6%	4%	-2%
43620	2%	2%	3%	+1%
All Other ZIPs	<3%	<3%	<3%	N/A

More than half of cases opened came from six ZIP codes within the city of Toledo. The 43605 ZIP code (East Toledo neighborhood) sees the most case openings in Lucas County at 15% of cases, followed by 43609 (Southside, 11%), 43604 (Downtown, 8%), and 43612 (West Toledo, 8%).

Reasons for Case Opening

Reason	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Substance Abuse	57%	56%	51%	-5%
Domestic Violence	35%	34%	29%	-5%
Mental Health	32%	27%	33%	+6%
Parenting/Neglect	21%	23%	24%	+1%
Physical Abuse	10%	6%	10%	+4%
Child Behavior	5%	5%	7%	+2%
Housing	6%	4%	3%	-1%
Sexual Abuse	2%	2%	4%	+2%
Dependency	3%	3%	3%	NC

Substance abuse remains a cause listed in a majority of case openings, though it had a decreased share in 2021 compared to recent years. Mental health of parents became a larger issue in 2021, cited in a third of case openings.



Substances Being Used

Substance	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Heroin/Opioids	43%	48%	37%	-11%
Marijuana	42%	41%	45%	+4%
Cocaine/Crack	41%	33%	37%	+4%
Alcohol	33%	31%	31%	NC
Other	12%	11%	15%	+4%

Among new cases with substance abuse concerns, the most common drug of abuse was marijuana. In 2021, heroin and other opioids were much less common than in previous years. The most common substances within the "Other" category include benzodiazepines, methamphetamine, and MDMA.

Custody Figures

Custody Entry Summary

Many more children entered agency or relative custody in 2021 than in recent years, increasing by 22% since 2020 for a total of 654 children. The proportion of those who entered agency custody increased, while those entering relative custody decreased. There was an increase of four percentage points in the share of children initially placed with kin:

	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Children Entering Initial Custody	501	538	654	+22%
Agency Custody	92%	91%	94%	+3%
Relative Custody	8%	9%	6%	-3%
Entering Relative Placement	55%	53%	57%	+4%

Placement and Custody of Children Entering Custody

Most of the children entering LCCS custody are placed with kin. When including those children who enter relative custody, fifty-seven percent of children removed from their home are placed in the care of a relative or kin.

Agency Custody and Relative Placement

51%

Agency Custody and Non-Relative Placement

43%

Relative Custody

6%



Custody Status of Children Receiving Services

	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Agency Custody	42%	41%	43%	+2%
Relative Custody	7%	7%	7%	NC
Non-custody or Protective Supervision	51%	52%	50%	-2%



Children receiving agency services remained in either non-custody or protective supervision arrangements about half of the time. The proportion of children in each custody type has remained roughly the same over the past several years.

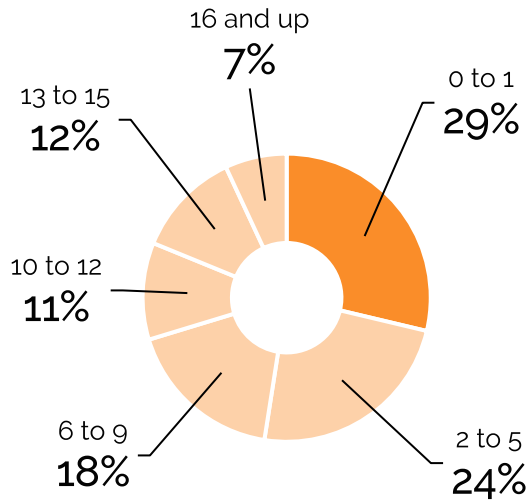
Children in Custody

There were 8% more children in custody on average during 2021 than there were in 2020. The distribution of children between agency and relative custody has remained relatively stable over the past three years:

	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Average Children in Custody	758	731	789	+8%
Agency Custody	86%	86%	87%	+1%
Relative Custody	14%	14%	13%	-1%

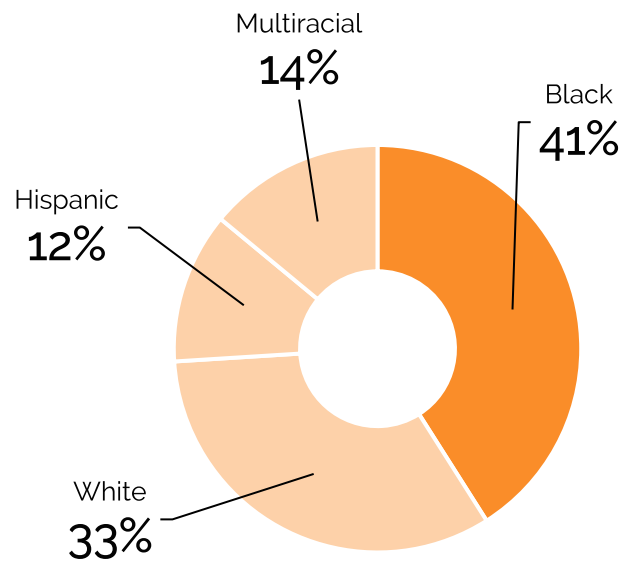
Age of Children in Custody

More than a quarter of children in LCCS custody were age one or under in 2021, and more than half of them were younger than six.



Race of Children in Custody

Black children are overrepresented in LCCS custody; while they make up about 22% of the Lucas County child population, they account for 41% of children in custody.



Permanent Custodies and Exits from Custody

There were fewer children entering permanent custody in 2021 than in 2020, though more children entered a planned permanent living arrangement (PPLA). While reunifications and emancipations decreased this year, more children went into custody of a non-removal parent or a relative, and more children were adopted.

	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Permanent Custody Entries	86	99	89	-10%
PPLA Entries	12	13	21	+62%
Custodies Terminated	480	402	406	+1%
<i>Reunifications</i>	150	138	110	-20%
<i>Custodies to Non-Removal Parent</i>	62	39	48	+23%
<i>Legal Custody to Relatives</i>	149	121	144	+19%
<i>Adoptions</i>	84	77	83	+8%
<i>Emancipations</i>	33	23	21	-9%
<i>Other</i>	2	4	0	-100%



Placement Details

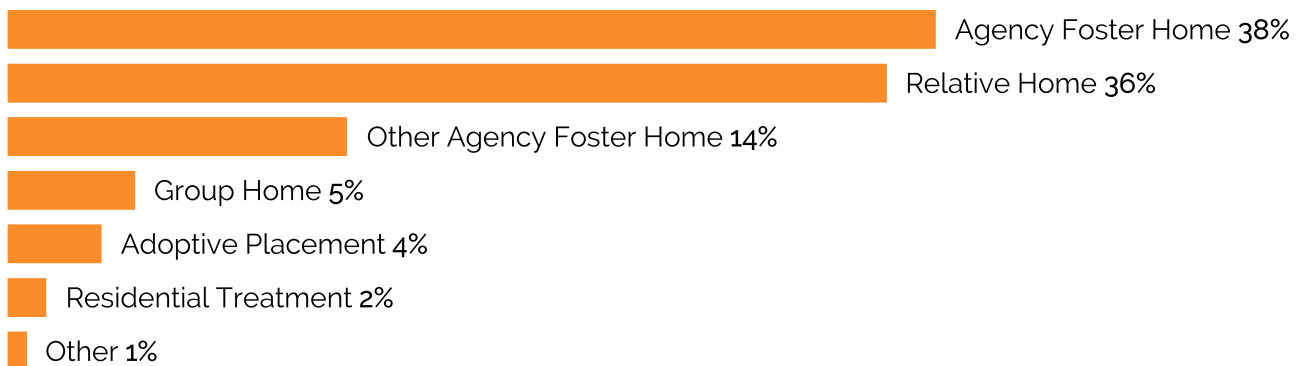
Placement of Children Receiving Agency Services

Half of children who received agency services remained in their own home in 2021. Additionally, more than one fifth were placed in the home of a relative or kinship caregiver, meaning that just over a quarter of children receiving services entered the foster care system. Since 2020, the proportion of children in agency foster homes shrank, while the share of children in kinship homes grew.

Placement	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Own Home	50%	52%	50%	-2%
Relative/Kinship Home	19%	19%	22%	+3%
Agency Foster Home	22%	20%	17%	-3%
Adoptive Home	2%	2%	2%	NC
Other Agency Foster Home	5%	4%	6%	+2%
Group Home	2%	2%	2%	NC
Residential Treatment	1%	1%	1%	NC
Other	<1%	<1%	<1%	NC
Total	1511	1533	1582	+3%

Placement of Children in Agency Custody

For children in agency custody, the most common placement setting was an LCCS-approved foster home, followed closely by kinship homes. Since 2020, the percentage of children in agency foster homes decreased by eleven points, while the share placed in a kinship home increased by five percentage points:



Independent Living Outcomes

Twenty-one youth emancipated from LCCS custody in 2021, a 9% decrease from 2020. Of those youth, 76% had a high school diploma, a G.E.D., or were still attending school at the time they emancipated. Fifty-two percent had completed high school or had a G.E.D. Forty-three percent of emancipating youth were employed at the time they emancipated. Eighty-three percent had stable housing when they emancipated and 95% had a support system identified.



	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Total youth	32	23	21	-9%
Percent of youth who...				
...earned a H.S. diploma, GED, or were still attending school	63%	70%	76%	+6%
...earned a H.S. diploma or GED	44%	30%	52%	+22%
...were still attending school	19%	39%	24%	-15%
...were enrolled in college (of those who had graduated or obtained a GED)	57%	43%	19%	-24%
...were employed	66%	39%	43%	+4%
...were employed (among those not in school or college)	50%	18%	14%	-4%
...were in stable housing*	92%	85%	83%	-2%
...had unknown whereabouts at time of emancipation	25%	14%	10%	-4%
...were incarcerated	3%	0%	5%	+5%
...had a support system	91%	70%	95%	+25%
...had a referral or case opened to Bridges	41%	35%	29%	-6%
...received post-emancipation services	28%	57%	43%	-14%

*Types of stable housing include adult group home, family home or own home. AWOL or incarcerated youth are not included in this measure.

Overview of Services

Caseload Averages

While there were some measures of caseload volume that decreased from 2020 to 2021, most services staff saw increases in volume. Assessments staff experienced growth in overall caseloads as well as new investigations assigned. Independent living and permanency support, too, had larger caseloads in 2021. Foster care workers and health services staff had decreases in average volume in 2021.



Measure	Units	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Assessments—New Referrals	Referrals	13	11	12	+9%
Assessments—All Referrals	Referrals	15	13	14	+8%
Family Services	Cases	14	14	14	NC
Family Foster Care	Foster Homes	22	21	18	-14%
Treatment Foster Care	Foster Homes	9	9	8	-11%
Independent Living (worker of record)	Children	14	14	15	+7%
Post Emancipation	Individuals	12	12	12	NC
Community Advocate	Cases	10	11	12	+9%
Permanency Support	Cases	8	10	11	+10%
Health Services (full time)	Children	169	197	174	-12%
Case Review	Conferences	42	40	42	+5%

Children and Families Served

LCCS served more children and more families in 2021 than in 2020, coming into contact with more than thirteen thousand children during the year:

	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Children Served	13654	13114	13580	+4%
Families Served	5410	5139	5286	+3%

Foster and Adoptive Homes

	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Total Licensed Foster Homes	248	236	210	-11%
New Foster Homes Licensed	36	27	33	+22%
New Adoptive Homes Approved	29	29	35	+21%

More foster and adoptive homes were approved in 2021 than 2020, though foster home closures meant that the total number of homes decreased 11% this year.



Disproportionality

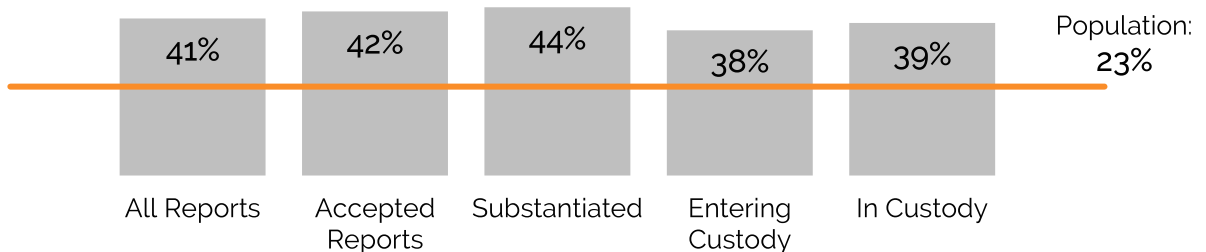
In our Strategic Plan, LCCS has the goal of reducing the number of Black children in our system to be reflective of the overall county population by 2023. At the entrance to the system, however, Black children are overrepresented. Referrals involving Black children make up 41% of the total CA/N reports and 42% of those that were screened in, while only 23% of the county's children are Black. Reports involving Black children are also more likely to be screened in, as shown below:

Accepted Reports by Race



Black or African American at Various Points (Percent of Children)

In fact, Black children are overrepresented at every point within the LCCS system; they are far more likely to be involved with our agency than would be expected based on their share of the population.



The data reflects disproportionality and disparity at various intervals throughout our system and supports the need to identify race equity strategies and interventions. Understanding external and internal factors that contribute to disproportionality is key to creating equitable decision-making processes and allows a broader and more comprehensive approach toward improved outcomes. Using an equity framework for risk assessments and an acknowledgment of how social determinants impact the families that we serve are important steps we will be taking toward addressing racial inequities.

Contract Services

Contract Allocation and Spending

LCCS had a total of 10 community service contracts during 2021, one fewer than in 2020. These contracts provided a range of services to support child abuse and neglect assessments, the achievement of case plan goals, and the improvement of children's educational performance and overall wellbeing.



A total of \$734,000 was allocated to these contracts, an increase of 23% over the amount allocated in 2020. Out of the designated budget, \$554,201.50 was spent, or 76% of the allocated amount.

In 2021, the agency spent a slightly smaller percentage of the allocated contract services budget than in 2020, though the overall allocation and spending were greater. Several contracts saw large increases in spending since 2020, including the Centralized Drug Testing Unit, TASC Peer Mentoring, and the Youth Advocate Program.

Contract Provider	2020 Spent*	2020 %	2021 Allocation	2021 Spent	2021 %
Brothers United	-	-	\$49,500.00	\$3,879.90	8%
Centralized Drug Testing Unit	\$46,433.75	66%	\$85,000.00	\$80,352.09	95%
Family & Child Abuse Prevention Center	\$150,000.00	100%	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	100%
Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center: Dr. Randall Schlievert	\$36,000.00	100%	\$36,000.00	\$36,000.00	100%
Providence EFP Network	\$42,896.50	87%	\$49,500.00	\$44,541.00	90%
Sylvan Learning Center	\$42,630.00	86%	\$49,500.00	\$36,470.00	74%
TASC Peer Mentoring	\$4,032.11	5%	\$49,500.00	\$29,498.15	60%
The Padua Center	\$0.00	0%	\$15,000.00	\$780.00	5%
Youth Advocate Program	\$7,108.15	9%	\$150,000.00	\$72,680.36	48%
Zepf Runaway Shelter	\$50,000.00	100%	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	100%
Total Contract Amounts*	\$459,700.51*	77%	\$734,000.00	\$554,201.50	76%

*2020 total spent includes two contracts that were omitted because they were not renewed in 2021.

Clients Served by Contract Providers

A total of 163 individuals were served by contract providers in 2021. This was a decrease of 2% from 2020.

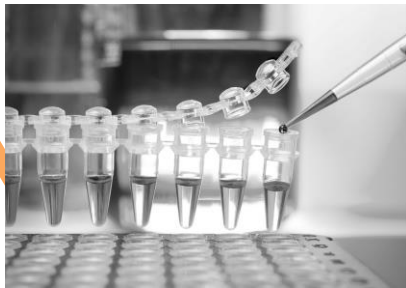
Contract Provider	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Brothers United	-	-	8	-
Providence Center EFP Network	91	116	102	-12%
Sylvan Learning Center	32	37	27	-27%
The Padua Center	4	0	1	-
Youth Advocate Program	-	10	25	+150%
Total*	135	167	163	-2%

*2019 and 2020 total served include contracts that were omitted because they were not renewed in 2021. Note: contract providers not included in this table do not bill on a per-client-served basis.

The Providence Center and Sylvan Learning Center saw declines in the number of clients served, while the Youth Advocate Program saw a substantial increase.

Centralized Drug Testing - Drug Screens Completed

	2019	2020	2021	Trend
Total screens requested	4,545	3,193	5,536	+73%
Not completed/No show	45%	46%	47%	+1%
Screens completed	54%	54%	53%	-1%



There were many more drug screens requested in 2021 than in either 2019 or 2020. The large difference since 2020 can be partially attributed to the pandemic-related hiatus of drug screen services in the second quarter of 2020 (from March 21st to June 30th). However, the loss of that quarter does not explain all of the difference in volume—screens still increased when accounting for the closure.

Of the completed drug screens in 2021, 63% were positive, a decrease of two percentage points since 2020. The most common drug detected was marijuana (58% of positive tests), followed by opioids at 39% of positive screens. The percentage positive for marijuana increased by six points since 2020, while those positive for opioids decreased by three percentage points.

Definitions

Alternative Response - Child Protection practice that allows for more than one method of initial response to reports of child abuse and neglect. Also known as "dual track," "multiple track," or "differential response." Alternative Response is usually applied in low-and moderate-risk cases and involves an assessment of the family's strengths and needs and offering of services to the family, without the assignment of a formal determination or substantiation of child abuse or neglect.

Emancipation - Legal status granted by the court that terminates LCCS custody of a child in foster care, typically when the child reaches the age of majority.

Emotional Maltreatment - Chronic attitude or acts that result in significant, verifiable psychological damage or impairment to the social development of a child.

Foster Care - Placement of a child in a family-like setting certified by ODJFS. Foster parents are licensed and must participate in the agency's training and orientation program, undergo medical, financial, and criminal background checks, and obtain fire and other inspections of their home.

Legal Custody - Legal status which vests in the custodian the right to have physical care and control of the child and to determine where and with whom he/she shall live, and the right and duty to protect, train and discipline him/her and to provide the child with food, shelter, education and medical care, all subject to any residual parental rights, privileges and responsibilities.

Permanent Custody (PC) - Legal status which vests in a public child protective agency all parental rights, duties and obligations, including the right to consent to adoption, and divests the natural or adoptive parent of any and all parental rights, privileges, and obligations, including all residual rights and obligations.

Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (PPLA) - An order of a juvenile court pursuant to which the court gives legal custody of a child to a Public Children Services Agency without the termination of parental rights and permits the agency to make an appropriate placement of the child.

Protective Supervision - Disposition pursuant to which the court permits an abused, neglected, dependent, unruly or delinquent child to remain in the custody of his/her parent, guardian, or custodian and stay in his/her home, subject to any conditions and limitations upon the child, his parent, guardian, or custodian, or any other person that the court prescribes.

Referral - An allegation of child abuse or neglect meeting established criteria for assessment made, either orally or in writing, to a public child protective agency from any person in the community with first or second-hand knowledge.

Relative Custody - Refers to cases in which a relative holds temporary custody of the child(ren) placed in the relative's home by the agency.

Residential Treatment Setting - A facility authorized to provide either secure or non-secure care for children whose mental, physical, or emotional needs cannot be met in some other less-restrictive placement setting.

Substantiated CA/N - CA/N is typically substantiated through an admission by the person(s) responsible, an adjudication of child abuse and/or neglect, other forms of confirmation deemed valid by the agency, or a professional judgment made by agency staff that child abuse or neglect has occurred.

Temporary Custody (TC) - The pre-dispositional legal status of a child placed in temporary custody of a public children services agency, a private child-placing agency, either parent, a relative residing within or outside the state, or a probation officer for placement in a certified family foster home or in any other home approved by the court.