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Supporting Families of Young Children

During COVID 19

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Vision

To assist and empower NJ residents in being safe, healthy and connected.



Child Protective Services during COVID 19

- Guidance for families, staff and providers

<https://www.nj.gov/dcf/coronavirus.html>

- Caseworkers maintain safety & stay connected with families via teleconferencing
- COVID 19 Response Teams provide face-to-face home visits when needed
- Assistant Family Support Workers drop-off concrete resources in times of need

If you suspect child abuse or neglect

Call the State Central Registry (SCR), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

1-877-652-2873

or 1-800-835-5510 (TTY)

- <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/reporting/indicators>
- <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/news/publications/covid19.htm>

CPS Investigation and Assessment

COVID 19 Teams complete face-to-face home visits when there is:

- Very high or high risk for child maltreatment
- A safety concern for a child and someone is identified to provide supervision of the caregiver and child
- A child age 3 or younger
- Domestic violence in the home

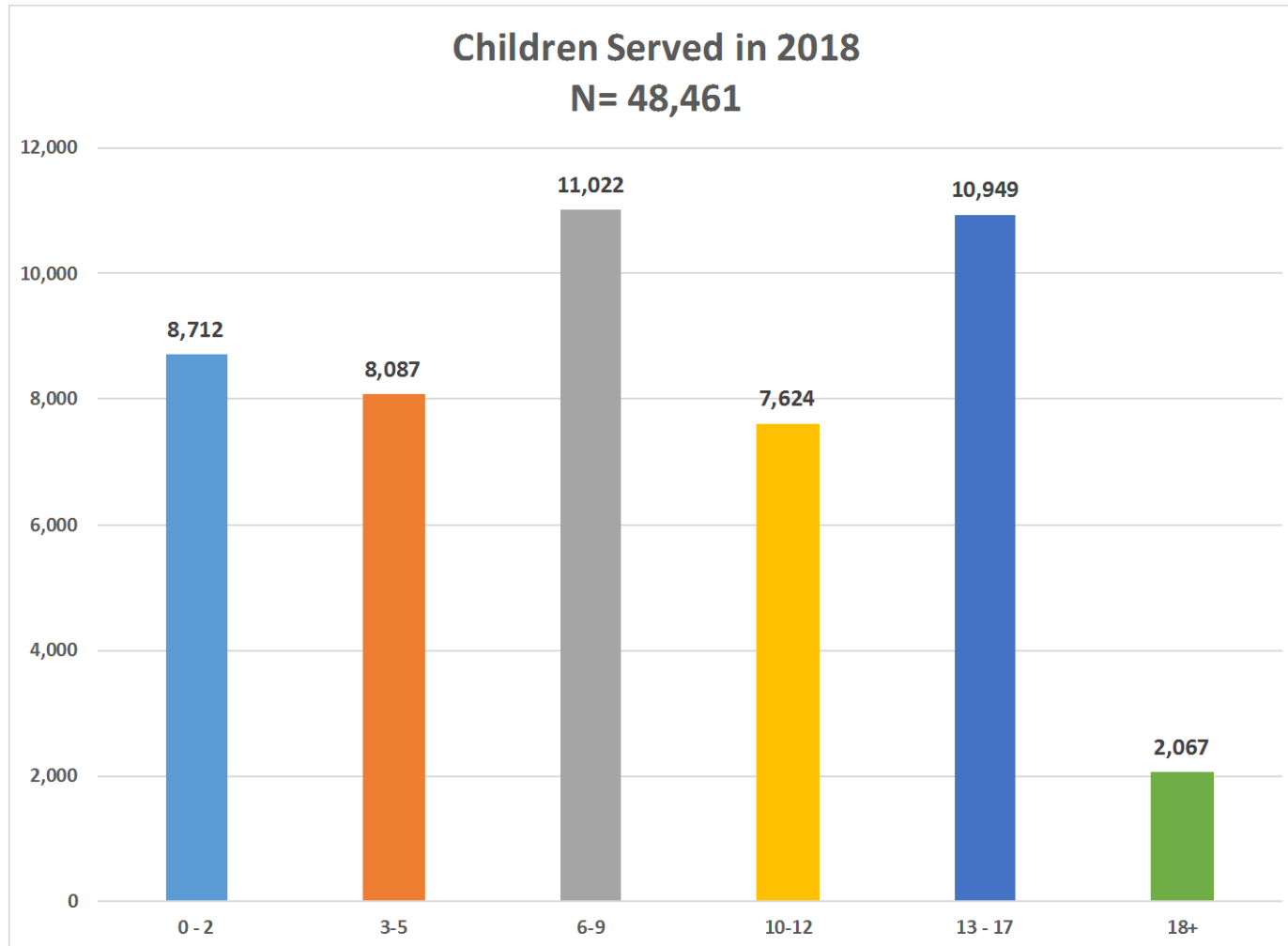
Service Linkages

Based on a comprehensive assessment of safety, risk and protective factors, families are linked with:

- Treatment and recovery support for substance use disorders
- Mental health and/or domestic violence services
- Healthcare, early intervention and/or medical daycare
- Home visitation or other parenting support services
- Social support such as parent support groups, and/or Family Success Center
- Social services to address housing, income supports, WIC, food assistance, and needed baby items such as a crib or car seat
- Other

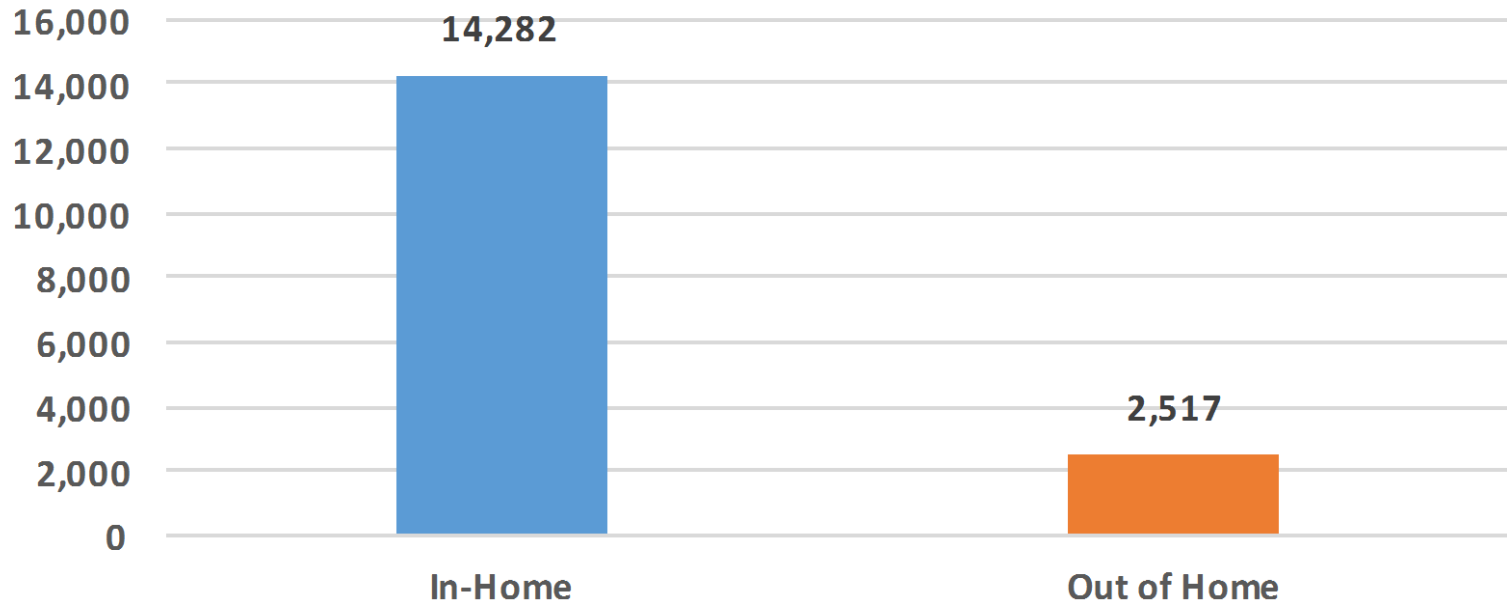
https://www.nj.gov/dcf/news/COVID19-provider-guidance_03242020.pdf

Over 16,000 children under the age of 5 were served by CP&P in 2018



Most families of young children were served in their own homes

Children Birth-5 Served In-Home vs. Out of Home
N=16,799



Plans of Safe Care

- Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 (CARA) (PL 114-198) helps states address the effects of substance use disorders on infants, children and families and requires that the plan of safe care address needs of both the infant and the family/caregiver
- In NJ, a multi-disciplinary team helps to ensure that families are linked to a comprehensive array of resources and services to increase protective factors

- Plan of Safe Care Training Video

<https://www.nj.gov/dcf/families/health/poscvideotraining.html>

- Plan of Safe Care Brochure

<https://www.nj.gov/dcf/about/divisions/dcsc/Plans-of-Safe-Care-Brochure.pdf>

Statewide Prevention Programs

DCF supports prevention programs in all 21 counties including Evidenced-Based Home Visiting and Family Success Centers.

- Central Intake - Single point of entry to help link families, pregnancy to age five, and providers with resource information and referrals.

[www.state.nj.us/dcf/families/early/visitation/Central Intake Sites - DOH DCF.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/dcf/families/early/visitation/Central%20Intake%20Sites%20-%20DOH%20DCF.pdf)

- DCF Family and Community Partnerships Community Program Directory

<https://www.nj.gov/dcf/families/dfcp/DFCPDirectory.pdf>

Children's System of Care: Mobile Response and Stabilization Services

- Available 24/7 for families of children and youth experiencing emotional or behavioral crisis.

1-877-652-7624

Educational Resources

- Safe sleep

<https://www.nj.gov/dcf/families/safety/sleep>

- What to do when the baby cries

<https://www.nj.gov/dcf/families/safety/cries>

- Car seat safety

<https://www.nj.gov/oag/hts/downloads/hts-car-childseat-safety-eng.pdf>

- Safe storage of medication

<https://www.upandaway.org>

Reducing child maltreatment

Social distancing does not mean social isolation.

- Webinar: Addressing Child Abuse Amidst COVID-19, A Conversation with NJDCF and Prevent Child Abuse NJ
<https://acnj.org/stay-safe-healthy-and-connected-preventing-child-abuse>
- DCF and ACNJ have compiled digital resources for providers and families stay connected. For more information on the #WeCan campaign, visit
[facebook.com/NewJerseyDCF](https://www.facebook.com/NewJerseyDCF)