





## Letter from the Associate Commissioner:

I am pleased to present a copy of *Child Maltreatment* . This thirteenth annual publication of







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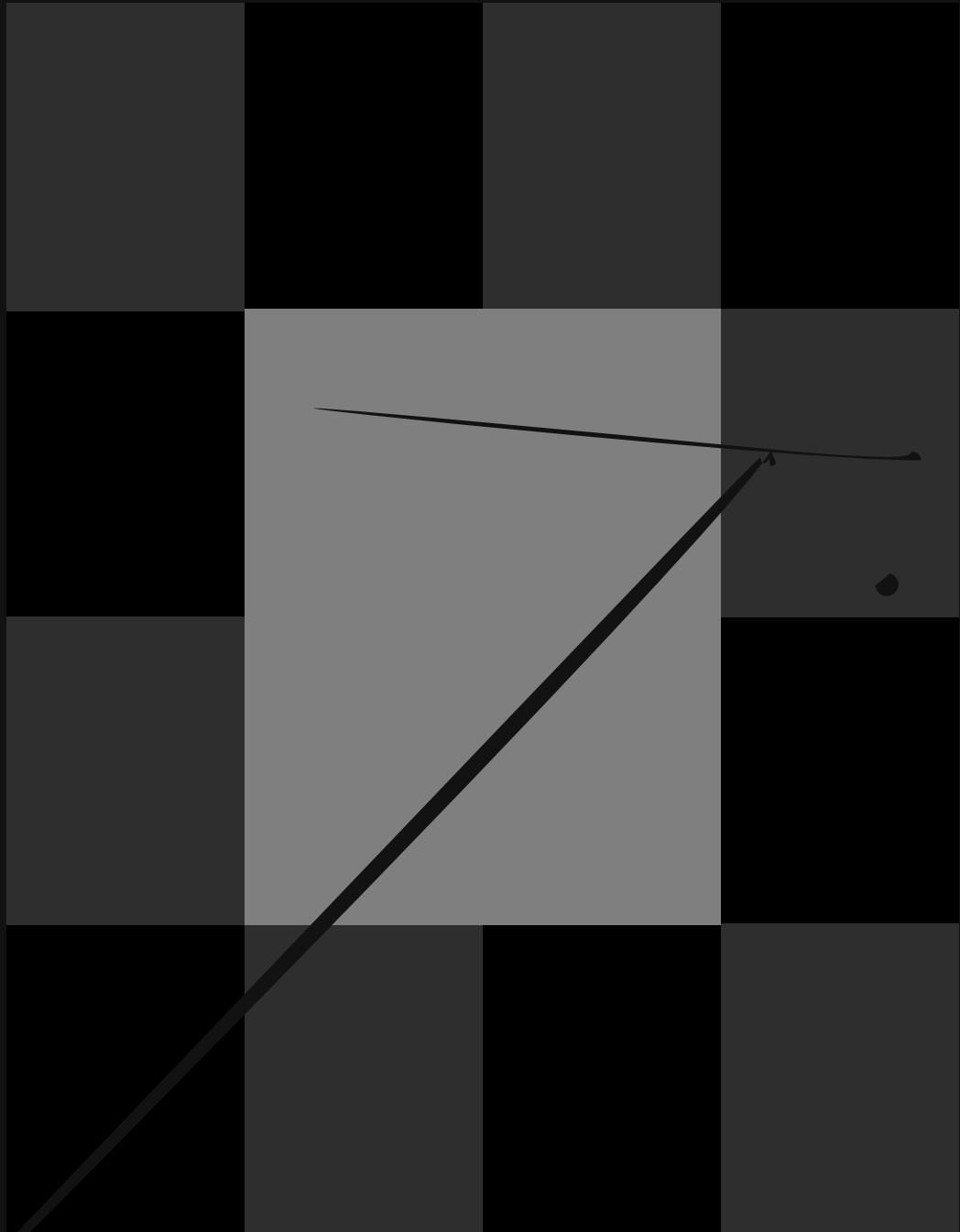
**: Perpetrators**

Characteristics of Perpetrators

Su









For calendar year 2002, an estimated 1,800,000 referrals alleging child abuse or neglect were accepted by State and local child protective services (CPS) agencies for investigation or assessment. The referrals included more than 3 million children, and of those, approximately 896,000 children were determined to be victims of child abuse or neglect by the CPS agencies.

### **What is the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS)?**

NCANDS is a federally sponsored effort that collects and analyzes annual data on child abuse and neglect submitted voluntarily by the States and the District of Columbia. The first report from NCANDS was based on data for 1990; the report on data for 2002 is the 13th annual report.

The 1988 amendments to the Child Abuse and Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) directed the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to establish a national data collection

An estimated 896,000 children were determined to be victims of child abuse or neglect for 2002.





Child fatalities are the most tragic consequence of maltreatment. For 2002, an estimated 1,400 children died due to child abuse or neglect.

More than 80 percent of perpetrators were parents. Other relatives accounted for 7 percent and unmarried partners of parents accounted for 3 percent of perpetrators. The remaining perpetrators include persons with other (camp counselor, school employee, etc.) or unknown relationships to the child victims (figure S-6).

### **What were the characteristics of perpetrators?**

Female perpetrators, mostly mothers, were typically younger than male perpetrators, mostly fathers. Women also comprised a larger percentage of all perpetrators than men, 58 percent compared to 42 percent (figure S-7).







Susan K. Chase, Florida  
Shirley Vassy, Georgia  
Carl Sciarini, Illinois  
Rebec

Jim White, Oregon  
Susan Stockwell, Pennsylvania  
Rebecca Connors, Rhode Island





Each week, child protective services (CPS) agencies in the United States receive more than , referrals alleging that children have been abused or neglected. Some of these referrals lie outside the responsibility of the CPS agency and may be referred to other agencies. Other referrals do not have sufficient information to enable followup. For these and other reasons, including the workload of the agency, approximately one-third of referrals are screened out and do not receive further attention from CPS. The remaining two-thirds of referrals are screened in as reports to CPS agencies because they meet the States' policies for conducting an investigation or assessment.

Once a report is accepted, the agency determines whether or not the child was maltreated or is at risk of maltreatment. The agency may initiate investigation of the alleged incident, or it may pursue alternative response, which has the .JTJ 18.2406 0 TD 0.0002 Tw [(goal of)-259.9(det)8.8(e)2.8(r)-7(mining whic)6.7

## Report Sources

Professionals submitted more than one-half ( . %) of the reports (figure - ). “Pr



An analysis of the data from











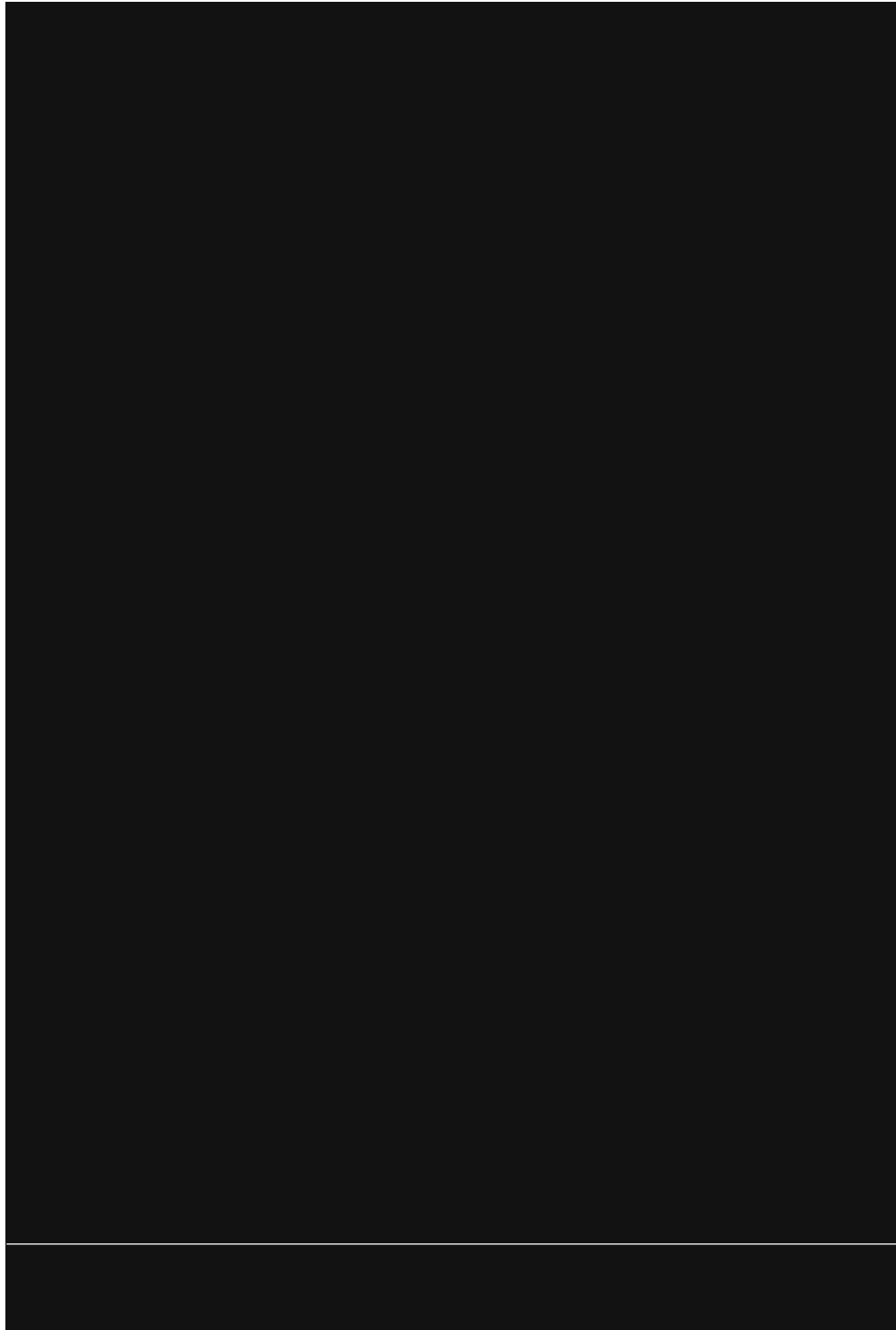
**Table 2–3 Distribution of the Source of Reports, 1998–2002**





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Table 2-5



*Data source: Child File and SDC.*



















- Children who had been removed from their home were 40 percent more likely to experience abuse and neglect again than children who were not placed.



## Supplementary Tables

















**Table 3–7 Maltreatment Victimization by Sex, 2002**



*Data Source: Child File and SDC.*


*Rates were based on the number of boy or girl victims divided by the boy or girl population, respectively.*



Table 3–8



**Table 3–9 Victims by Single-Year of Age, 2002**



















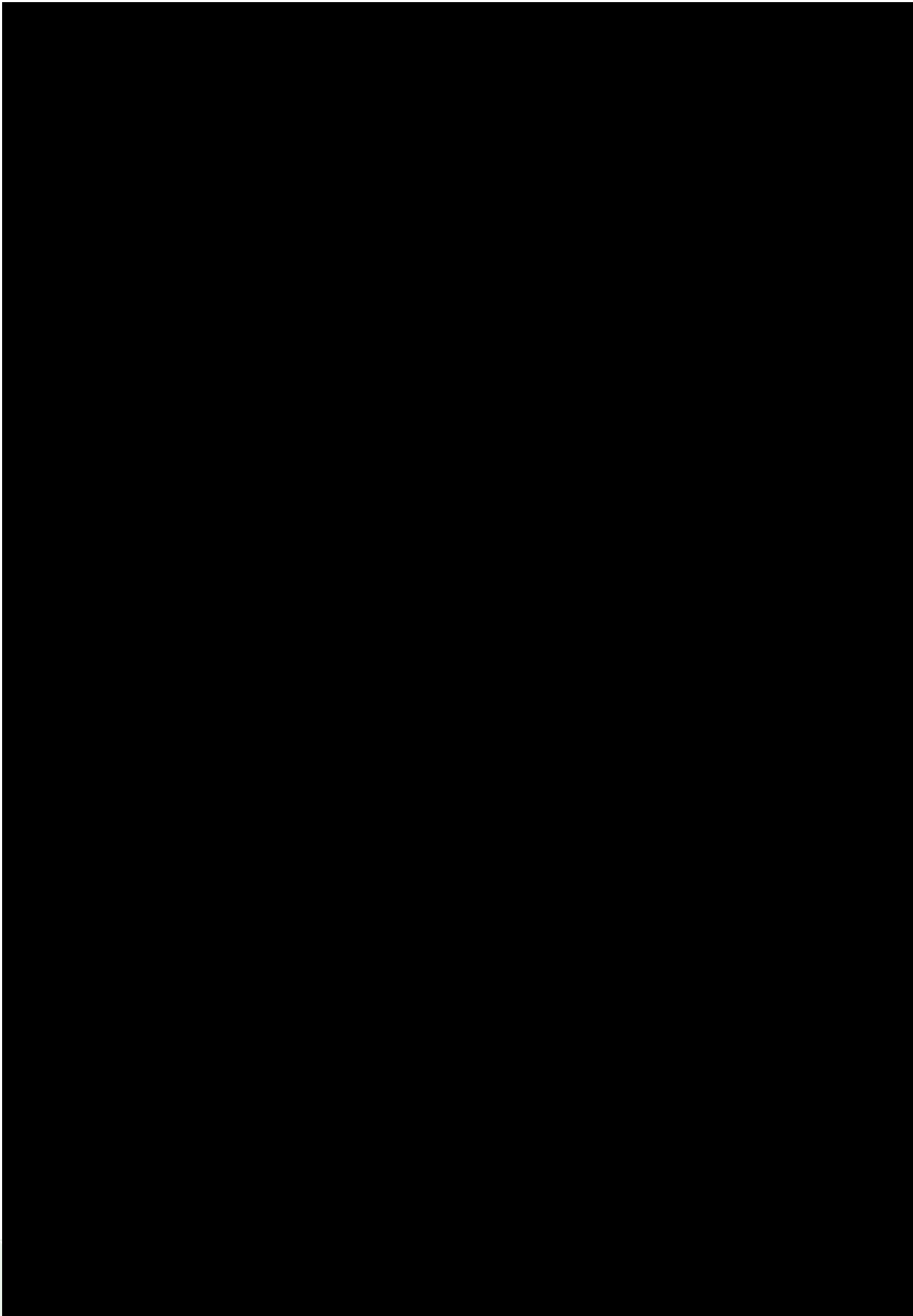




























**Table 5–1**

< 20	21,524	6.5	20,089	4.3	41,613	5.2
20-29	85,694	25.9	177,059	38.2	262,753	33.1
30-39	128,338	38.8	186,328	40.2	314,666	39.6
40-49	71,007	21.5	62,523	13.5	133,530	16.8
≥ 149	24,217	7.3	17,359	3.7	41,676	5.2

*Data source: Child File.*

*Percentages are based on 794,138 perpetrators, out of 831,234 perpetrator reports, in which the perpetrator's age and sex were provided. A perpetrator is counted for each child victim for each report.*

*Median age of men = 34*

*Median age of women = 31*

*Total median age = 32*













or assessment. In addition, .

- Children who were abused or maltreated by their father were



Table 6–2 Preventive Services by Funding Source, 2002

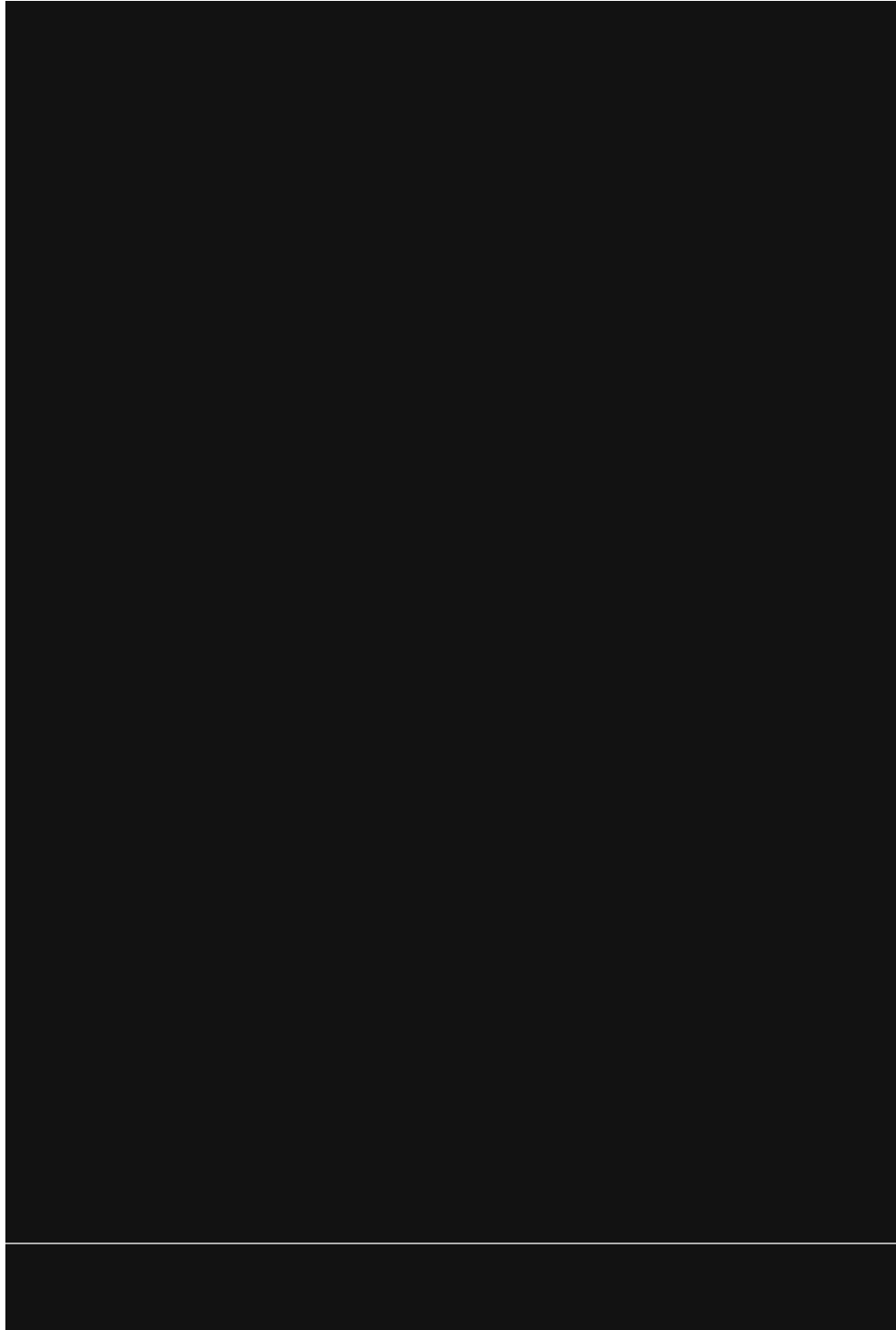




Table 6–3

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Trends in tms/Cs4 24792 I f q 1 i 0 792II-Being of America's Children and Y

## Studies of the Child Welfare System

### **National Study of Child Protective Services Systems and Reform Efforts**

The *National Study of Child Protective Services Systems and Reform Efforts* was sponsored by the Children's Bureau and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. The Na

The next report will focus on a subset of more than 100 children who were in foster care for one year or more. The data for this report is from the 2001-02 period.



### **Development of Uniform Definitions for Child Maltreatment Surveillance**

In April , the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Division of Violence Prevention, brought together experts from Federal, non-Federal, and State agencies to discuss uniform definitions for public health surveillance of child maltreatment at the

For further information about *Fostering Results*, contact:



For further information regarding *The Compendium of National Statistical Data Collections That Inform Juvenile Justice*, contact:

Carl McCurley, Ph.D.

Research Associate

National Center for Juvenile Justice

Fifth Avenue







In ,

Alabama	■	■		■	■	■	
Alaska	■	■	■		■	■	
Arizona	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Arkansas	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
California	■	■	■				
Colorado	■	■	■	■	■	■	





**ADOPTIVE PARENT:** A person with the legal relation of parent to a child not related by birth, with the same mutual rights

**CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT ACT [42 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.] (CAPTA):** Federal legislation amended and reauthorized in

**FAMILY PRESERVATION SERVICES:**

**LEGAL, LAW ENFORCEMENT, OR CRIMINAL JUSTICE PERSONNEL:** People employed by a local, State, tribal, or Federal justice agency including law enforcement, courts, distri

**PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES PROGRAM:** Program that provides grants to the States under Section , title IV-B, subpart

STATEAICY:

Child-level data are collected through an automated file composed of child-specific records. States that submitted child-level data used the Child File, which is a revision of the Detailed Child























State law mandates the appointment of a Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) in every court case in which abuse or neglect is alleged. However, a

## California

*Glenn Jue*

Manager

CMS Support Branch

California Department of Social Services

P Street, Mail Station -

Sacramento, CA

- -

- -

### Data File(s) Submitted

Child File, Agency File

### Level of Evidence Required

Credible

### Reports

The data are from the Child Welfare Services/ Case Management System (CWS/CMS), the State version of the Federal Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS).

The number of CPS workers was estimated based on the average of the Emergency Response FTEs per month, including supervisors, for a year. The actual number of FTEs who performed Emergency Response is not reported to the State.

### FEvilities

The number of child FEvilities in is an estimate based up 612 -792vilities in



grant to fund a High Risk Newborn Program, but  
the reports are family based, not child based.

The Community-Based Family Resource and

(e)byb .9(eCFHe Q&4(Tw)00)-Tw 2 0 13.



## Services

Pr

## Services

The State maintains data on services through counts of cases, not children. Thus, estimates

Medical personnel reporters include mental





## Services

The number of recipients of preventive services was an estimate of the number of families who received such services as Continuing CPS, Intensive Family Services, or Families Now. Each family could have received any number of additional support services (e.g., addiction counseling, day-care, or crisis intervention). The data collection

of assigned reports that were pending was , .  
The number of reports in which a preponderance  
of evidence was not found was , . The source  
for these counts was the local office intake system

## Mississippi

*Robin E. Wilson, LSW*

Program Manager

Division of Family and Children's Services

Mississippi Department of Human Services

North State Street

P.O. Box

Jackson, MS

-

## Nebraska

### **Fatalities**

Data on child fatalities were obtained from the Attorney General's Office.

### **Services**

Child count estimates were derived by multiplying the number of families by the national average number of children for Child Abuse and

outcomes because information about whether children did or did not receive services, or were removed as the result of a referral, is recorded only for investigations of abuse or ne[0.6 abolect and

Legislation, effective in , requires that for all

Ohio

Contacts by CASAs were not documented in the Oklahoma SACWIS system. All county court systems in the State appointed their advocates.



## Rhode Island

*Rebecca Connors*

RICHIST Program Manager

Rhode Island Department of

Children, Youth and Families

Friendship Street

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## Utah

*Navina Forsythe*

Data Unit Supervisor

Division of Child and Family Services

Utah Department of Human Services



## General

During \_\_\_\_\_, the State implemented a Central Intake Unit, which was dissolved mid-\_\_\_\_\_.

Fo

## Services

The numbers of children and families receiving preventive services through the Child Abuse and Ne



Please take a few minutes and let us know what you think of *Child Maltreatment 2002*.  
Your responses will help us to meet your needs more effectively in the future.

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PLACE  
POSTAGE  
HERE

Mr. John Gaudiosi  
Mathematical Statistician  
Children's Bureau  
Switzer Building

Washington, D



