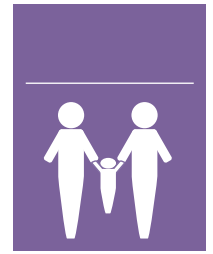


ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Jess Dannhauser, Commissioner



WHAT WE DO

The Administration for Children's Services (ACS) is responsible for protecting the safety and promoting the well-being of New York City's children and strengthening their families by providing child welfare, juvenile justice, and child care services. In child welfare, ACS contracts with nonprofit organizations to support and stabilize families at risk of a crisis through prevention services and with foster care agencies for children unable to remain safely at home. In a typical year, the Agency's Division of Child Protection conducts more than 40,000 investigations of suspected child abuse or neglect. In youth and family justice, ACS manages and funds services including detention and alternatives to detention, as well as Close to Home placement, intensive community-based preventive alternatives for youth, and support services for families. In the Division of Child and Family Well-Being, ACS issues child care vouchers for children eligible for subsidized child care and promotes a two-generation approach to child and family wellbeing, family stability and equity through public education campaigns and a place-based approach including Family Enrichment Centers and the Community Partnership Program.

FOCUS ON EQUITY

ACS seeks to establish equitable child welfare and juvenile justice systems in which one's race, gender, sexual orientation, or other identities do not predict how they fare within them. African American/Black and Latinx families are overrepresented at key points along child welfare and juvenile justice pathways. ACS has implemented several strategies to address racial disproportionality within these systems. The Agency's Collaborative Assessment, Response, Engagement & Support (CARES) approach diverts some families from a traditional investigation and connects them with resources. ACS is educating mandated reporters, certain professionals who are specially equipped and required to report child abuse or mistreatment to understand when such a report is necessary, and when it may be better to seek supportive services for a family.

ACS provides child care vouchers to families engaged in the child welfare system as well as eligible families earning less than 85 percent of State Median Income. Child care vouchers help families cover all or most of the cost of child care. ACS is part of the Blueprint for Child Care & Early Childhood Education in New York City. Since the Blueprint's release, ACS has sharply increased the number of low-income children enrolled in care with the support of an ACS-issued voucher. This work is enhancing equitable access to child care for families with the greatest need.

ACS is expanding Family Enrichment Centers (FECs). FECs are warm, inviting spaces built with and for community members to strengthen family protective factors. There were 12 FECs open in Fiscal 2024 with eight additional sites expected to open in Fiscal 2025. ACS recently released recommended contract awards for the next nine FECs. FECs are located in the priority neighborhoods identified by the Taskforce on Racial Inclusion & Equity.

Parents and youth have valuable expertise about how to improve ACS' work. After piloting the Parents Empowering Parents initiative in Fiscal 2020, ACS began funding and supporting the program for up to 150 parent advocates across the foster care system in July 2023. At the close of Fiscal 2024, 70 parent advocates have been hired across the foster care system. ACS also contracts with partner organizations to provide parent advocates at initial child safety conferences and prevention services, and to provide parent advocate services for families of youth in detention and Close to Home facilities.

ACS utilizes restorative justice interventions in secure juvenile detention settings and in Close to Home facilities to help address conflict in a manner that allows for collectively repairing harm and facilitating and supporting re-entry into the community. ACS has also continued to expand its continuum of juvenile justice prevention strategies that allow young people to remain safely in the community in lieu of placement in an out-of-home setting. Adding to existing strategies such as the Family Assessment Program and the Juvenile Justice Initiative, in July 2023, ACS awarded Alternative to Detention (ATD) contracts to three community-based providers to ensure these services are available in every borough.

In addition, to remedy some of the challenges unique to foster care and other system-involved youth, ACS expanded the Fair Futures program, which has coaches and mentors who work to enhance education, employment, housing, and permanency outcomes for youth between the ages of 11 to 26 in or formerly involved with foster care and for justice-involved youth. To meet the needs of LGBTQ+ youth in foster care, ACS continues to strengthen staff training and foster parent recruitment and training, based on findings from an assessment of youth experiences. ACS is also updating its policies and pursuing research that informs this critical work.

OUR SERVICES AND GOALS

SERVICE 1 Protect children from child abuse.

- Goal 1a Respond quickly to every allegation of abuse and neglect and perform thorough assessments of safety and risk.
- Goal 1b Reduce the risk of child maltreatment occurring in at-risk families through the provision of high-quality prevention services.
- Goal 1c Provide safe and stable foster care placements for children who cannot remain safely at home.
- Goal 1d Encourage and support family-based foster care.
- Goal 1e Reduce time to reunification, kinship guardianship and/or adoption and maintain strong family connections for children.

SERVICE 2 Ensure access to safe early child care and education services in all communities.

- Goal 2a Provide access to affordable child care.
- Goal 2b Respond quickly to every allegation of abuse and neglect and perform thorough assessments of safety and risk at child care centers.

SERVICE 3 Provide custody and care of youth in secure and safe detention and placement facilities while providing casework services.

- Goal 3a Assure that detention facilities are safe and secure.
- Goal 3b Provide youth in detention and placement with appropriate health and mental health services.
- Goal 3c Provide services to prevent youth from returning to the juvenile justice system.

HOW WE PERFORMED IN FISCAL 2024

SERVICE 1 Protect children from child abuse.

Goal 1a

Respond quickly to every allegation of abuse and neglect and perform thorough assessments of safety and risk.

The number of investigations conducted in response to reports made to the State Central Register of suspected child abuse and/or neglect declined eight percent from 43,782 in Fiscal 2023 to 40,485 in Fiscal 2024. This decrease can largely be attributed to the 35 percent increase in cases diverted to Collaborative Assessment Response, Engagement, and Support (CARES), from 8,587 to 11,605. CARES is a State-authorized child protection response that begins with a safety assessment. The approach includes partnering with the family to identify potential supports and assistance. The percentage of new child protection cases that are CARES increased six percentage points, from 16.4 percent to 22.3 percent of all cases opened during this period. Meanwhile, the City and the State have both launched initiatives to provide information and resources to mandated reporters and improve timely access to supportive services for families to reduce the number of unnecessary calls to the State Central Register. The percent of investigations that were substantiated rose from 28.4 percent in Fiscal 2023 to 30.0 percent in Fiscal 2024. This increase can be attributed to the diversion of many cases that would normally result in unsubstantiated determinations to the CARES track, thus circumventing the need for an investigation and yielding a higher substantiation rate for cases that go through an investigation.

The percent of abuse and/or neglect reports that were documented in the system of record as responded to within 24 hours of receipt from the State Central Registry declined from 93.5 percent in Fiscal 2023 to 91.9 percent in Fiscal 2024. ACS quality assurance and data analysis have shown this decline is primarily a function of incorrect data entry. Supervisors are emphasizing training to improve this, especially with the large number of new child protection staff. The percent of investigations completed within 60 days rose from 93 percent to 96 percent, driven by improvements in timely and complete assessments and service delivery, allowing more cases to be fully resolved within required timeframes. The average child protection specialist caseload declined from 9.7 during Fiscal 2023 to 8.1 cases in Fiscal 2024. This decrease can be attributed to the more frequent hiring of Child Protection Specialists and an increase in availability of case-assignable staff.

Performance Indicators	Actual					Target		Trend	
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25	5-Year	Desired Direction
★ New State Central Register consolidated investigations	46,403	42,783	45,068	43,782	40,485	*	*	Neutral	*
New CARES cases	2,294	3,042	5,545	8,587	11,605	*	*	Up	Up
New child protection cases that are CARES (%)	4.7%	6.6%	11.0%	16.4%	22.3%	*	*	Up	Up
Investigations completed in 60 days (%)	93%	97%	94%	93%	96%	*	*	Neutral	Up
★ Abuse and/or neglect reports responded to within 24 hours of receipt from the State Central Register (%)	95.5%	95.7%	95.3%	93.5%	91.9%	100.0%	100.0%	Neutral	Up
Investigations that are substantiated (%)	36.4%	35.2%	31.8%	28.4%	30.0%	*	*	Down	*
Children in complete investigations with repeat investigations within a year (%)	25.2%	23.5%	25.4%	25.3%	25.1%	*	*	Neutral	Down
★ Children in substantiated investigations with repeat substantiated investigations within a year (%)	17.2%	14.9%	15.2%	13.5%	13.4%	14.0%	14.0%	Down	Down
★ Average child protective specialist caseload	7.5	6.3	8.4	9.7	8.1	12.0	12.0	Up	Down
★ Critical Indicator	● Equity Indicator	"NA" Not Available		↕ Directional Target	* None				

Goal 1b Reduce the risk of child maltreatment occurring in at-risk families through the provision of high-quality prevention services.

The number of families beginning child welfare prevention services rose five percent from 6,659 in Fiscal 2023 to 7,021 in Fiscal 2024. The daily average number of children receiving child welfare prevention services rose four percent from 16,149 to 16,773. ACS continues to work closely with prevention services providers to increase access to prevention services for families referred by community sources. This includes opening new pathways to prevention services for families that are referred by the New York City Public Schools, Health & Hospitals, the Department of Homeless Services, social service organizations and others. Prevention services providers are focusing on increasing availability of services so that more families benefit from free, supportive and therapeutic services that can prevent family crises, reduce the likelihood of child abuse and neglect and decrease the number of child protection cases. Additionally, ACS created a dedicated Prevention Support Line for community partners and for families that is accessible via phone or through the “Connect” mailbox to learn about prevention services and seek supportive services. The percent of respondents to the Prevention Services Family Experience survey who said prevention services stayed steady at 93 percent in Fiscal 2024.

Performance Indicators	Actual					Target		Trend	
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25	5-Year	Desired Direction
★ Families entering child welfare preventive services	7,699	8,317	6,818	6,659	7,021	9,000	8,000	Down	Up
Average number of children receiving child welfare preventive services daily	22,860	18,330	18,291	16,149	16,773	*	*	Down	Up
Children who received child welfare preventive services during the year (annual total)	41,176	32,945	34,243	30,655	30,459	*	*	Down	Up
Respondents to the Prevention Services Family Experience Survey who said prevention services are helping them achieve their goals (%)	92%	NA	90%	93%	93%	*	*	NA	Up

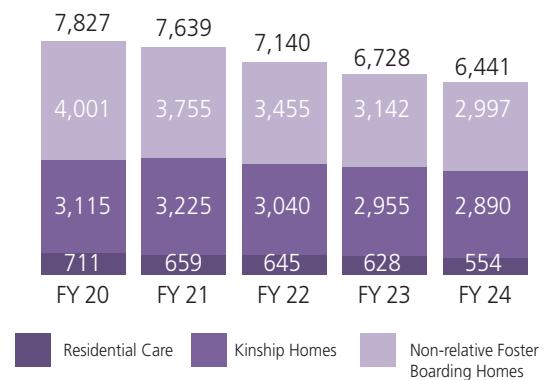
★ Critical Indicator ● Equity Indicator “NA” Not Available ↑↓ Directional Target * None

Goal 1c Provide safe and stable foster care placements for children who cannot remain safely at home.

The number of children entering foster care rose eight percent from 2,848 in Fiscal 2023 to 3,075 in Fiscal 2024. This growth was driven by an increase in the number of teens entering care under destitute minor petitions, partly attributable to an increase in migrant youth in New York City with no family connections in the area. However, consistent with recent trends, the total number of children in foster care continued to decrease, with a four percent decline in the average number of children in care from 6,728 to 6,441. This is the result of a higher number of reunifications and a growing percentage of children discharged within one year of placement.

Out of the 6,441 average number of children in foster care, 2,890, or 45 percent, were living with relatives in kinship homes in Fiscal 2024. ACS and foster care providers continue to focus on identifying relatives and friends to care for foster children, reducing the trauma of separation whenever possible. ACS continues to have more than 90 percent of foster children and youth in family-based rather than congregate placements. The average number of children in congregate, residential care declined 12 percent from 628 in Fiscal 2023 to 554 in Fiscal 2024 and comprised nine percent of all children in care.

Children in Foster Care



The percent of children placed in their community of origin rose from 29.8 percent in Fiscal 2023 to 32.6 percent in Fiscal 2024 and the percent placed in their borough of origin increased from 52.9 percent to 53.7 percent. These increases are driven by enhanced foster parent recruitment leading to the growing number of prospective and certified foster homes throughout the five boroughs and the use of strategies such as a new placement module and coordination with foster care agencies to facilitate the matching process.

The number of children who moved from one foster care placement to another decreased to 1.2 per 1,000 care days in Fiscal 2024 from 1.3 per 1,000 care days in Fiscal 2023. This decrease can be attributed to the greater stability children experience in kinship family foster care. Additionally, foster care providers continue to participate in training offered through the ACS Workforce Institute designed to strengthen child and youth engagement and support skills. The ACS Workforce Institute provides ongoing professional skills development of direct service staff and supervisors at ACS and its many partner agencies across the child welfare and juvenile justice sectors.

The percentage of children discharged to families who re-entered care within a year declined from 8.5 percent to 8.1 percent during this period. ACS continues to work with foster care providers to leverage supportive services, such as prevention services, before and during trial and final discharge to reduce the likelihood of re-entry.

Children’s safety is ACS’ top priority. The rate of children maltreated in family foster care remained at 3.2 per 100,000 care days during Fiscal 2023 and Fiscal 2024, maintaining the downward trend seen over the last few years. Foster parents continue to receive trauma-informed training and access to therapeutic resources and services that support children who have experienced trauma and may have more complex needs.

The percent of youth in foster care who reported they feel very supported or somewhat supported by their foster parents or residential facility staff rose from 91 percent in Fiscal 2023 to 93 percent in Fiscal 2024. ACS is committed to connecting young people to caring adults and mentors who can provide them with guidance and support to achieve their educational and career goals. The number of youth receiving Fair Futures services increased five percent from 3,932 to 4,115 over the last year. In Fiscal 2024, strategic efforts were made by ACS and the foster care agencies to grow the Fair Futures program by hiring more Fair Futures coaches, communicating with all eligible youth in foster care about this program and engaging more young people to ensure that they are connected to the Fair Future supports and resources. Lastly, ACS remains committed to supporting the academic goals of youth in foster care pursuing two or four years post-secondary degrees. The number of youth enrolled in College Choice increased 19 percent from 342 in Fiscal 2023 to 408 in Fiscal 2024.

Performance Indicators	Actual					Target		Trend	
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25	5-Year	Desired Direction
All children entering foster care	3,105	2,609	2,910	2,848	3,075	*	*	Neutral	*
★ Children placed in foster care in their community	29.9%	25.2%	27.2%	29.8%	32.6%	36.0%	36.0%	Up	Up
★ ● Average number of children in foster care	7,827	7,639	7,140	6,728	6,441	↓	↓	Down	Down
– Children in foster kinship homes	3,115	3,225	3,040	2,955	2,890	*	*	Neutral	*
– Children in nonrelative foster boarding homes	4,001	3,755	3,455	3,142	2,997	*	*	Down	Down
– Children in residential care	711	659	645	628	554	*	*	Down	Down
Total days all children spent in foster care	3,657,126	3,504,729	3,268,026	3,100,632	2,994,337	*	*	Down	Down
★ Moves in foster care per 1,000 care days	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.4	Neutral	Down
★ Children who re-enter foster care within a year of discharge to a family (%)	8.0%	7.4%	7.5%	8.5%	8.1%	6.0%	6.0%	Neutral	Down
School attendance rate — Children in foster care (%)	82.4%	78.7%	79.8%	82.5%	83.8%	*	*	Neutral	Up
Youth in foster care receiving Fair Futures services	NA	2,946	3,172	3,932	4,115	*	*	NA	Up
Youth in foster care enrolled in College Choice	NA	NA	NA	342	408	*	*	NA	Up
★ Children maltreated during family foster care placement per 100,000 care days	4.6	5.1	3.7	3.2	3.2	5.0	5.0	Down	Down
Youth in foster care who feel very supported or somewhat supported by their foster parents or residential facility staff (%)	90%	91%	89%	91%	93%	*	*	Neutral	Up
Children placed in foster care in their borough	52.3%	53.5%	52.7%	52.9%	53.7%	*	*	Neutral	Up
★ Critical Indicator	● Equity Indicator	“NA” Not Available			↑↓ Directional Target	* None			

Goal 1d Encourage and support family-based foster care.

The proportion of siblings who enter care at the same time and are placed together in the same foster home remained at almost 95 percent in Fiscal 2024. The percentage of children entering care who were placed with relatives in kinship care declined from 51.8 percent in Fiscal 2023 to 48.6 in Fiscal 2024. This reflects the growing number of foster care placements of young people who are newcomers to New York City and have no relatives in the area. The percent of youth entering care and initially placed with kin remains well above the average prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. Meanwhile, ACS and foster care providers identify kin homes after children enter care, so the percent of all foster children living in foster kinship homes continues to grow as a proportion of all children in foster care and is now at 45 percent. ACS continues to seek out and engage family members to care for young people when they must enter foster care. Additionally, ACS has strengthened the support and resources provided to kin families. When children are placed in non-kinship foster homes, foster care agencies continue to make efforts to identify and transition children to kinship placements.

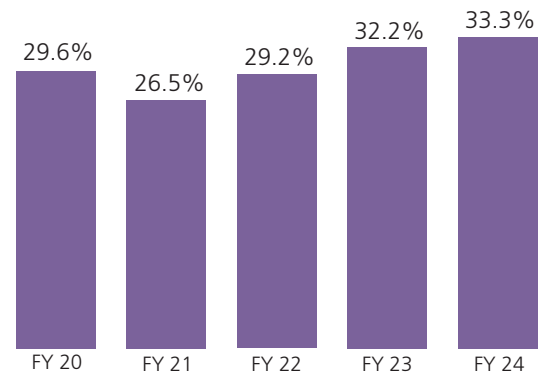
Performance Indicators	Actual					Target		Trend	
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25	5-Year	Desired Direction
Siblings placed simultaneously in the same foster home (%)	93.6%	95.4%	95.8%	94.9%	94.7%	*	*	Neutral	Up
★ Children entering foster care who are placed with relatives (%)	49.4%	50.9%	54.8%	51.8%	48.6%	54.0%	54.0%	Neutral	Up

★ Critical Indicator ● Equity Indicator "NA" Not Available ⬆️⬆️ Directional Target * None

Goal 1e Reduce time to reunification, kinship guardianship and/or adoption and maintain strong family connections for children.

Permanency rates increased slightly across all categories in Fiscal 2024, including for children discharged within one year of placement, children in care 12 to 23 months at the start of the fiscal year, and children in care 24 months or more at the start of the fiscal year. ACS and its foster care providers strive to reduce the length of time children are in foster care and work to connect families to services and supports so that children and parents can safely and quickly reunify. This includes connecting families to prevention services and providing discharge supports so that families have what they need to remain safe and stable together. From Fiscal 2023 to Fiscal 2024, reunifications of children in foster care rose four percent from 1,522 to 1,622. There were four percent fewer Kinship Guardian Assistance Program (KinGAP) discharges than in Fiscal 2023, a decrease from 354 in Fiscal 2023 to 339 in Fiscal 2024. As more children are placed with kin, relatives are serving as a support to the entire family so that children and their parents reunify. When reunification is not possible, KinGAP continues to be utilized as a permanency option to support children exiting foster care. The number of adoptions declined six percent from 562 in Fiscal 2023 to 529 in Fiscal 2024. The continued decrease in children in foster care, as well as the increase in reunifications and use of KinGAP as a permanency option for children and families, have all contributed to a decrease in adoption finalizations.

Children discharged to permanency within a year of placement (%)



Performance Indicators	Actual					Target		Trend	
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25	5-Year	Desired Direction
★ Children discharged to permanency within a year of placement (%)	29.6%	26.5%	29.2%	32.2%	33.3%	35.0%	35.0%	Up	Up
★ Children in care 12–23 months discharged to permanency (%)	20.4%	23.0%	18.3%	23.0%	23.9%	27.0%	27.0%	Up	Up
★ Children in care 24 or more months discharged to permanency (%)	18.6%	19.9%	23.1%	23.3%	24.0%	27.0%	27.0%	Up	Up
Average number of children eligible for adoption	800	735	702	715	623	*	*	Down	*
Children adopted	404	344	469	562	529	*	*	Up	*
Kinship Guardianship Assistance discharges	267	414	396	354	339	*	*	Neutral	Up
Children returned to parents (reunifications)	1,834	1,702	1,770	1,562	1,622	*	*	Down	*

★ Critical Indicator ● Equity Indicator "NA" Not Available ⬆️⬆️ Directional Target * None

SERVICE 2 Ensure access to safe early child care and education services in all communities.

Goal 2a Provide access to affordable child care.

Child care voucher enrollment rose 25 percent from 56,978 in Fiscal 2023 to 71,039 in Fiscal 2024. This increase was driven by a 97 percent increase in usage of non-mandated, low-income vouchers, which rose from 16,236 to 31,948 between the two reporting periods. This is the result of several strategies ACS, the City, and the State have pursued to expand access to vouchers, including: 1) as of October 2022, opening up the child care application to families citywide, so that all low-income New York City families with children can apply for and, if found eligible, receive a voucher; 2) an increase in income eligibility for child care assistance from 300 percent of the federal poverty level to 85 percent of the State Median Income, allowing more families to meet eligibility for child care assistance, including vouchers; and 3) in March 2023, the launch of MyCity, an online platform for accessing services, which allows families to apply for child care assistance, including vouchers, for the first time online. Vouchers for families involved in child welfare services declined 14 percent from 18,846 to 16,288 from Fiscal 2023 to Fiscal 2024, and mandated voucher enrollment for families receiving public assistance rose four percent from 21,897 to 22,803 during the same period. Enrollment in center-based care increased 29 percent to 39,657, vouchers for family-based child care rose 19 percent to 28,386, and vouchers for informal (home-based) child care increased 31 percent to 2,996.

As a result of the City's successful campaign to raise public awareness of child care assistance programs, ACS received an unprecedented volume of applications in Fiscal 2024. On average in Fiscal 2024, 80 percent of applications had an eligibility determination within 30 days, a 12 percentage-point reduction from 92 percent at the end of Fiscal 2023. This is because in the first six months of Fiscal 2024, the flood of applications led to a sharp decrease in the share of applications with eligibility determinations made within 30 days. In response, ACS implemented several strategies to improve application processing time, and by June of 2024, 98 percent were determined within 30 days. The successful strategies included centralizing the case assignment process, improving efficiency and eliminating redundancies in the application review process, enhancing processing capacity through overtime work, and onboarding new permanent and temporary staff.

Performance Indicators	Actual					Target		Trend	
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25	5-Year	Desired Direction
Average child care voucher enrollment	64,324	50,266	47,535	56,978	71,039	*	*	Up	*
★ Average mandated children voucher enrollment	39,039	26,251	20,714	21,897	22,803	*	*	Down	*
★ Average center-based child care voucher enrollment	31,045	25,496	25,301	30,751	39,657	*	*	Up	*
★ Average family child care voucher enrollment	26,065	22,108	20,620	23,942	28,386	*	*	Up	*
★ Average informal (home-based) child care voucher enrollment	7,215	2,663	1,614	2,285	2,996	*	*	Down	*
Average number of children accessing child care services through use of a non-mandated low-income voucher	10,000	8,323	9,393	16,236	31,948	*	*	Up	Up
● Average number of children accessing child care through use of a child welfare voucher	15,286	15,692	17,428	18,846	16,288	*	*	Up	Up
Voucher applications with eligibility determinations within 30 days (%)	85%	74%	96%	92%	80%	*	*	Neutral	Up
Fiscal year spending per child – Center-based child care vouchers	\$8,997	\$9,869	\$10,104	\$11,892	\$12,106	*	*	Up	*
– Family child care vouchers	\$7,860	\$8,513	\$8,468	\$12,634	\$13,902	*	*	Up	*
– Legally exempt (informal child care) vouchers	\$4,362	\$5,495	\$5,497	\$7,023	\$7,985	*	*	Up	*

★ Critical Indicator ● Equity Indicator "NA" Not Available ↑↓ Directional Target * None

Goal 2b Respond quickly to every allegation of abuse and neglect and perform thorough assessments of safety and risk at child care centers.

The number of reports of suspected abuse and/or neglect for children in regulated child care programs rose eight percent from 506 during Fiscal 2023 to 545 during Fiscal 2024, driven in part by increased enrollment in these programs. The percent of investigations for children in child care that found a fair preponderance of evidence of abuse or neglect rose from 13.6 to 19.5 percent during this period.

Performance Indicators	Actual					Target		Trend	
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25	5-Year	Desired Direction
Abuse and/or neglect reports for children in child care	442	224	377	506	545	*	*	Up	*
Abuse and/or neglect reports for children in child care that are substantiated (%)	19.5%	20.1%	18.6%	13.6%	19.5%	*	*	Down	Down

★ Critical Indicator ● Equity Indicator "NA" Not Available ⬆️⬆️ Directional Target * None

SERVICE 3 Provide custody and care of youth in secure and safe detention and placement facilities while providing casework services.

Goal 3a Assure that detention facilities are safe and secure.

There was a 12 percent increase in admissions to juvenile detention from 1,775 in Fiscal 2023 to 1,981 in 2024. This increase reflects an increase in arrests, including those related to gun violence. There was a five percent increase in the average length of stay in detention during the same period, from 39 to 41 days, reflecting the severity of cases pending against the youth. The increases in admissions and length of stay led to a 20 percent rise in the average daily population in juvenile detention to 279 in Fiscal 2024 from 233 in Fiscal 2023.

Despite the increase in the youth in detention population, assaults and altercations with injury in detention continued to decline in Fiscal 2024. The rate of youth-on-youth assault and altercation with injury per 100 average daily population fell 24 percent from 0.21 in Fiscal 2023 to 0.16 in Fiscal 2024. The youth-on-staff assault with injury rate per 100 average daily population declined 20 percent from 0.15 to 0.12.

The abscond rate per 100 daily population in non-secure detention, while still low, rose from 0.09 in Fiscal 2023 to 0.21 in Fiscal 2024. Recently, the population of non-secure detention has increased, with a corresponding rise in older youth. ACS is working collaboratively with its provider partner agencies to expand training opportunities for de-escalation and situational awareness, as well as to increase investment in the safety and security of the community and the young people in non-secure detention. ACS expects these additional investments to begin improving outcomes as providers are able to increase staffing levels to better manage the additional number of youth and transportation runs to court required due to the higher population.

The rate of cases in detention where a fair preponderance of evidence of abuse and/or neglect was found decreased significantly from 0.07 to 0.04 per 100 average daily population from Fiscal 2023 to Fiscal 2024. ACS has expedited training and support for its behavior management system (STRIVE+) and enhanced training with coaching techniques focusing on effective methods of de-escalating and engaging youth. ACS also worked with community providers, such as violence interrupters, and with oversight agencies to explore additional improvement strategies.

The weapon recovery rate per 100 daily population in detention decreased from 0.46 in Fiscal 2023 to 0.40 in Fiscal 2024. The illegal substance/prescription or over-the-counter medication recovery rate rose from 0.36 to 0.38. These results are due to enhanced investigation and search processes as well as significant increases in search frequency. ACS continues to work closely with its State oversight agencies on the development and deployment of practices to identify and remove contraband from secure detention facilities. ACS is also continuing to work closely with the City's Department of Investigation on enhancing measures to locate contraband.

The number of young people entering Close to Home increased 72 percent from 82 in Fiscal 2023 to 141 in Fiscal 2024. The average number of young people in Close to Home placement rose 54 percent from 50.2 in Fiscal 2023 to 77.5 during Fiscal 2024. Releases from Close to Home residential care to aftercare increased eight percent from 63 to 68 reflecting an increase in staff determination of youth aftercare readiness which is based on a variety of factors including youth behavior in placement, severity of the charge, and successful participation in community-based activities. In the same reporting period, the average number of youth in aftercare dropped two percent from 28.4 to 27.8. Between the Fiscal 2023 and Fiscal 2024, discharges from Close to Home rose 25 percent from 56 to 70, driven by a large number of youth placed with dockets ending during the period.

In Fiscal 2024 the rate of youth-on-youth assaults and altercations with injury per 100 care days in Close to Home rose from 0.10 in Fiscal 2023 to 0.16 in Fiscal 2024, and youth-on-staff assaults with injury per 100 care days rose from 0.11 to 0.12. All critical incidents are routinely debriefed with ACS staff, youth, and providers to identify any gaps in practice or policy and to identify any additional supports or safety planning needs of youth. The absent without consent (AWOC) rate declined from 0.21 to 0.20 from Fiscal 2023 to Fiscal 2024. Collaboration between ACS and the Close to Home provider agencies remains a high priority with an emphasis on ensuring the safety and security of youth and staff. To further promote safety and security, additional resources and reduced staff to youth ratios have been implemented in the new contracts that started at the beginning of Fiscal 2025.

Performance Indicators	Actual					Target		Trend	
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25	5-Year	Desired Direction
★ Total admissions to detention	1,442	987	1,319	1,775	1,981	↓	↓	Up	Down
★ Average daily population in detention (total)	128.7	118.9	170.0	233.0	278.9	↓	↓	Up	Down
Average Daily Population – In secure detention	100.9	100.5	142.6	198.3	237.3	*	*	Up	Down
– In non-secure detention	27.8	18.4	27.4	34.7	41.7	*	*	Up	Down
★ Combined average length of stay in secure and non-secure detention (days)	29	38	38	39	41	↓	↓	Up	Down
★ Escapes from secure detention	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Neutral	Down
★ Abscond rate in non-secure detention (average per 100 total ADP in non-secure) (%)	0.10	0.10	0.09	0.09	0.21	0.05	0.05	Up	Down
★ Youth-on-youth assaults and altercations with injury rate in detention (per 100 total ADP)	0.35	0.34	0.29	0.21	0.16	0.35	0.35	Down	Down
★ Youth-on-staff assaults and altercations with injury rate in detention (per 100 total ADP)	0.30	0.27	0.21	0.15	0.12	0.15	0.15	Down	Down
★ Weapon recovery rate in detention (average per 100 total ADP)	0.22	0.25	0.33	0.46	0.40	↓	↓	Up	Down
★ Illegal substance/prescription or OTC medication recovery rate in detention (average per 100 total ADP)	0.07	0.14	0.25	0.36	0.38	↓	↓	Up	Down
★ Child abuse/neglect allegations for youth in detention that are substantiated, rate (average per 100 total ADP)	0.13	0.10	0.13	0.07	0.04	↓	↓	Down	Down
★ Average daily cost per juvenile in detention (\$)	\$2,064	\$2,084	\$1,576	\$1,231	\$1,137	*	*	Down	*
● Admissions to Close to Home placement	110	71	72	82	141	*	*	Up	Down
★ Average number of children in Close to Home placement	87	65	47	50	78	↓	↓	Down	Down
★ Average number of children in Close to Home aftercare	41	21	18	28	28	*	*	Down	*
Absent without consent rate, Close to Home placement (%)	0.27	0.22	0.24	0.21	0.20	0.25	0.25	Down	Down
Discharges from Close to Home placement (dispositional order complete)	83	77	63	56	70	*	*	Down	*
Releases from Close to Home placement to aftercare	80	48	46	63	68	*	*	Neutral	*
Youth-on-staff assault with injury rate for Close to Home placement	0.09	0.07	0.10	0.11	0.12	0.05	0.05	Up	Down
Youth-on-youth assault with injury rate in Close to Home placement	0.11	0.07	0.09	0.10	0.16	0.09	0.09	Up	Down

★ Critical Indicator ● Equity Indicator "NA" Not Available ↑↓ Directional Target * None

Goal 3b Provide youth in detention and placement with appropriate health and mental health services.

All youth in detention receive a screening by the medical team for acute mental health needs within one hour of their admission so that youth who present the highest needs are identified and referred to mental health services. Youth who remain in detention for longer than 72 hours receive an additional comprehensive mental health intake that includes screening for commercial and sexual exploitation, post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and problematic substance use as well as a psychosocial assessment. The ability to complete the comprehensive intake is influenced by several factors,

including the youth’s adjustment to the detention environment, immediate court appearances following admission, rapid release from detention and transfer between the secure detention facilities. If a youth refuses the mental health intake, the mental health staff will continue to make efforts to engage the youth. The percent of youth who received a general mental health screening or services while in detention rose from 76.1 percent during Fiscal 2023 to 81.6 percent during Fiscal 2024. Screening compliance is affected by a combination of factors including youth taken from detention to court and released from court the next day, a modest increase in youth refusals, expedited transfers between facilities, and immediate transfers to a medical facility due to psychiatric reasons or medical comorbidities.

Performance Indicators	Actual					Target		Trend	
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25	5-Year	Desired Direction
★ Youth who received mental health screening or services while in detention (%)	71.0%	78.0%	86.6%	76.1%	81.6%	↑	↑	Up	Up
★ Residents seen within 24 hours of sick call report (%)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	Neutral	Up
★ General health care cost per youth per day in detention (\$)	\$152	\$236	\$171	\$87	\$73	*	*	Down	*
Youth with health screening within 24 hours of admission to detention (%)	100%	99%	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%	Neutral	Up
★ Critical Indicator ● Equity Indicator "NA" Not Available ↑↓ Directional Target * None									

Goal 3c Provide services to prevent youth from returning to the juvenile justice system.

The number of youth in the Family Assessment Program increased 19 percent from 279 in Fiscal 2023 to 331 in Fiscal 2024 driven by ongoing stakeholder and community engagement. The number of youth in the Juvenile Justice Initiative (JJI) program rose 14 percent from 33 to 38 in the same period.

Performance Indicators	Actual					Target		Trend	
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25	5-Year	Desired Direction
● Youth admitted to detention with previous admission(s) to detention (%)	58.0%	49.0%	42.0%	41.0%	43.0%	*	*	Down	*
Youth in the Family Assessment program	357	191	236	279	331	*	*	Neutral	Up
Youth in the Juvenile Justice initiative	31	26	31	33	38	*	*	Up	Up
★ Critical Indicator ● Equity Indicator "NA" Not Available ↑↓ Directional Target * None									

AGENCY-WIDE MANAGEMENT

Performance Indicators	Actual					Target		Trend	
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25	5-Year	Desired Direction
Workplace injuries reported	444	380	467	384	403	*	*	Neutral	Down
★ Critical Indicator ● Equity Indicator "NA" Not Available ↑↓ Directional Target * None									

AGENCY CUSTOMER SERVICE

Performance Indicators	Actual					Target		Trend	
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25	5-Year	Desired Direction
Customer Experience									
Completed requests for interpretation	111,137	110,307	118,857	121,076	145,801	*	*	Up	*
Letters responded to in 14 days (%)	NA	94.4%	43.8%	97.0%	97.3%	*	*	NA	Up
E-mails responded to in 14 days (%)	84.4%	86.5%	79.1%	87.1%	92.4%	*	*	Neutral	Up
★ Critical Indicator ● Equity Indicator "NA" Not Available ↑↓ Directional Target * None									

AGENCY RESOURCES

Resource Indicators	Actual ¹					Plan ²		5yr Trend
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY24	FY25	
Expenditures (\$000,000) ³	\$2,646.4	\$2,534.1	\$2,646.8	\$2,988.3	\$3,460.8	\$3,244.2	\$2,787.3	Up
Revenues (\$000,000)	\$8.0	\$2.4	\$6.0	\$5.5	\$3.8	\$3.4	\$3.4	Down
Personnel	7,059	6,863	6,341	6,222	6,483	7,113	7,062	Down
Overtime paid (\$000,000)	\$39.4	\$24.9	\$39.8	\$53.9	\$40.8	\$39.2	\$39.2	Up
Capital commitments (\$000,000)	\$30.8	\$9.7	\$15.7	\$10.0	\$35.9	\$149.9	\$121.4	Up
Human services contract budget (\$000,000)	\$1,407.5	\$1,328.3	\$1,403.3	\$1,667.5	\$2,047.3	\$1,806.6	\$1,432.8	Up

¹Actual financial amounts for the current fiscal year are not yet final. Final fiscal year actuals, from the Comptroller's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, will be reported in the next PMMR. Refer to the "Indicator Definitions" at nyc.gov/mmr for details. ²Authorized Budget Level ³Expenditures include all funds "NA" - Not Available
* None

SPENDING AND BUDGET INFORMATION

Where possible, the relationship between an agency's goals and its expenditures and planned resources, by budgetary unit of appropriation (UA), is shown in the 'Applicable MMR Goals' column. Each relationship is not necessarily exhaustive or exclusive. Any one goal may be connected to multiple UAs, and any UA may be connected to multiple goals.

Unit of Appropriation	Expenditures FY23 ¹ (\$000,000)	Modified Budget FY24 ² (\$000,000)	Applicable MMR Goals ³
Personal Services - Total	\$579.4	\$570.2	
001 - Child Welfare	\$387.3	\$390.2	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 2a
003 - Head Start/Day Care	\$11.9	\$16.8	2a
005 - Administration	\$103.8	\$84.8	All
007 - Juvenile Justice	\$73.2	\$76.1	3a, 3b, 3c
009 - Adoption Subsidy	\$3.1	\$2.3	1e
Other Than Personal Services - Total	\$2,408.9	\$2,890.7	
002 - Other Than Personal Services	\$118.7	\$125.9	All
004 - Head Start/Day Care	\$718.8	\$1,000.7	2a
006 - Child Welfare	\$1,162.7	\$1,241.5	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e
008 - Juvenile Justice	\$145.9	\$174.3	3a, 3b, 3c
010 - Adoption Subsidy	\$251.8	\$253.3	1e
011 - Juvenile Justice - OCFS Payments	\$11.0	\$15.7	3a
012 - Committee on Special Education ⁴	NA	\$79.3	2a
Agency Total	\$2,988.3	\$3,460.8	

¹Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2023. Includes all funds. ²City of New York Adopted Budget for Fiscal 2024, as of June 2024. Includes all funds. ³Refer to agency goals listed at front of chapter. ⁴This UA originated in Fiscal 2024. "NA" Not Available * None

NOTEWORTHY CHANGES, ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

- Previously published Fiscal 2020–2023 values for ‘Abuse and/or neglect reports responded to within 24 hours of receipt from the State Central Registry (%)’ were revised as a result of a new tracking system that more accurately captures these statistics.
 - Fiscal 2020 was revised from 98.5 to 95.5
 - Fiscal 2021 was revised from 98.8 to 95.7
 - Fiscal 2022 was revised from 98.6 to 95.3
 - Fiscal 2023 was revised from 97.8 to 93.5
 - Fiscal 2024 four-month actual (June to October) was revised from 97.5 to 91.7
- The previously published Fiscal 2025 target for ‘Families entering child welfare preventive services’ was revised from 9,000 to 8,000 since the 9,000 target included almost 1,000 transfers from one prevention program to another.
- Fiscal 2020–2023 figures for ‘Children maltreated during family foster care placement per 100,000 care days’ were revised upon discovery of an error in the reporting code.
 - Fiscal 2020 was revised from 7.3 to 4.6
 - Fiscal 2021 was revised from 7.0 to 5.1
 - Fiscal 2022 was revised from 5.5 to 3.7
 - Fiscal 2023 was revised from 5.1 to 3.2
 - Fiscal 2024 four-month actual value (June to October) was revised from 2.3 to 2.1
- ‘Children in Close to Home placement’ was renamed to ‘Average number of children in Close to Home placement.’

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For additional information go to:

- The Social Indicators and Equity Report, EquityNYC:
<http://equity.nyc.gov/>

For more information on the agency, please visit: www.nyc.gov/acs.