



**Child  
and Family  
Services Reviews**

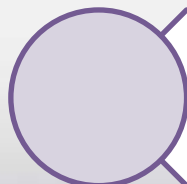
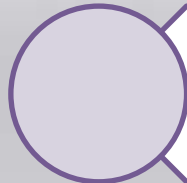
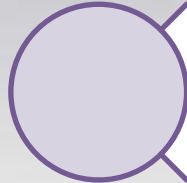
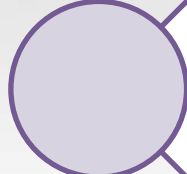
# **FY 2007 - 2010**

## **Round 2 Findings**

### **52 States Reviewed**

## Round 2: 52 CFSRs FYs 2007-2010

### Included in this analysis:

-  **52 States**
-  **3,363 Cases Reviewed**
-  **2,079 Foster Care Cases**
-  **1,284 In-Home Services Cases**

# CFSR

- **Statewide Assessment**
  - Data Profile
- **Onsite Review**
  - Case review of 65 cases
  - Stakeholder interviews
  - Assessment of outcomes and systemic factors
- **Program Improvement Plan**

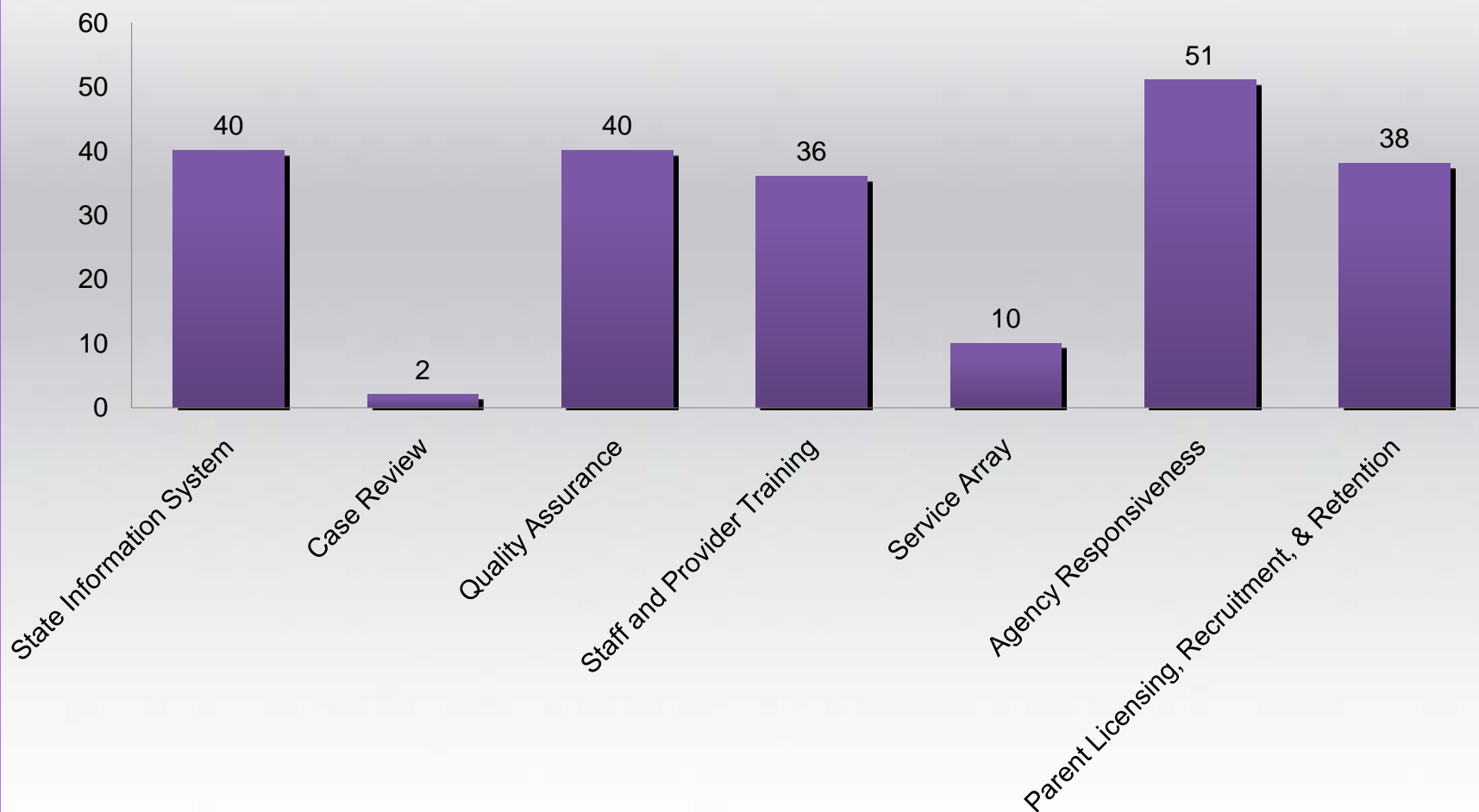
# Systemic Factors

- **Statewide Information System**
- **Case Review System**
- **Quality Assurance System**
- **Staff and Provider Training**
- **Service Array and Resource Development**
- **Agency Responsiveness to the Community**
- **Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment, and Retention**

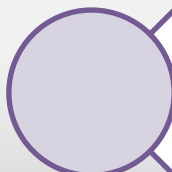
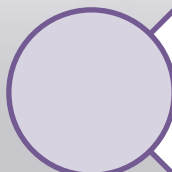
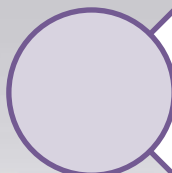
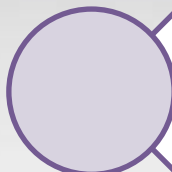
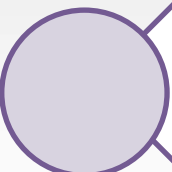
# Systemic Factors

Number of States in Substantial Conformity

## Systemic Factor Substantial Conformity

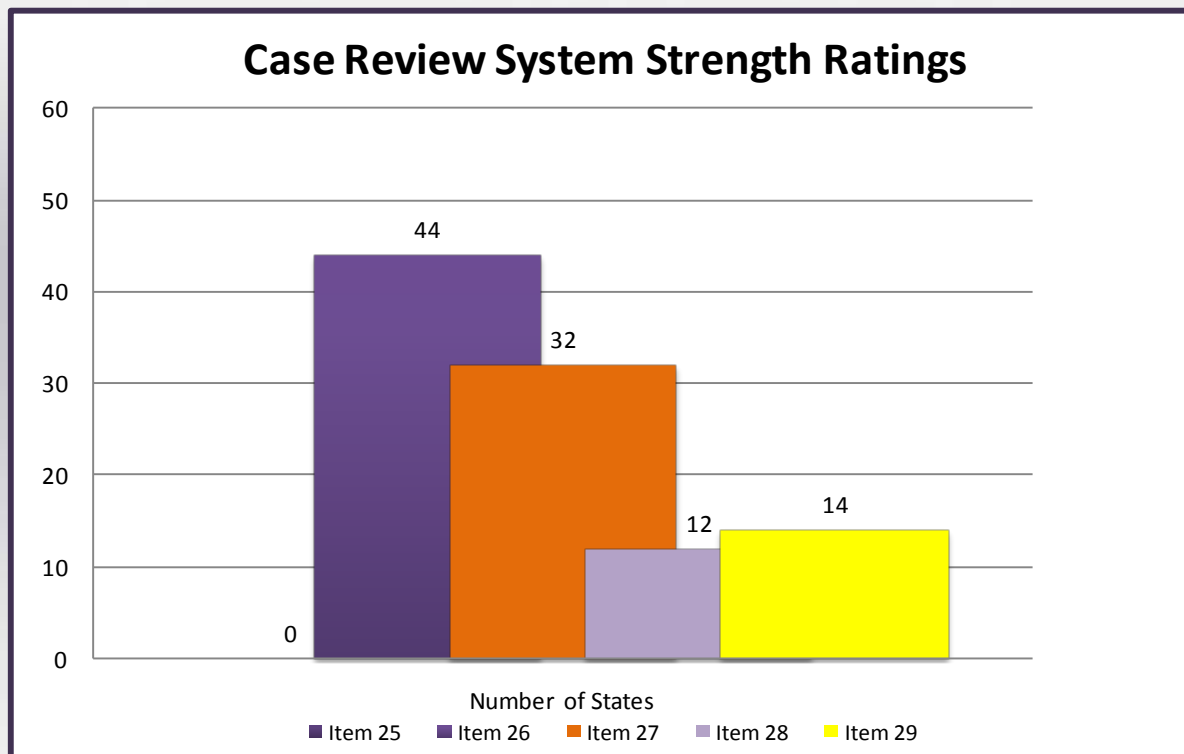


# Systemic Factor: Case Review System

-  **Item 25:** Written case plan
-  **Item 26:** Periodic reviews
-  **Item 27:** Permanency hearings
-  **Item 28:** Termination of parental rights
-  **Item 29:** Notice of hearings and reviews to caregivers

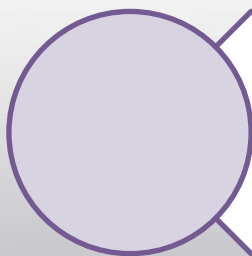
# Systemic Factor: Case Review System

## Number of States Rated Strength for Each Item

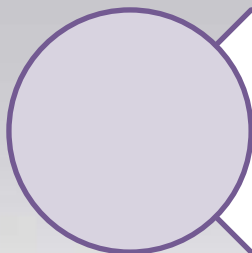




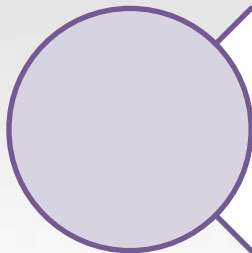
# Systemic Factor: Service Array and Resource Development



**Item 35:** Array of services



**Item 36:** Service accessibility

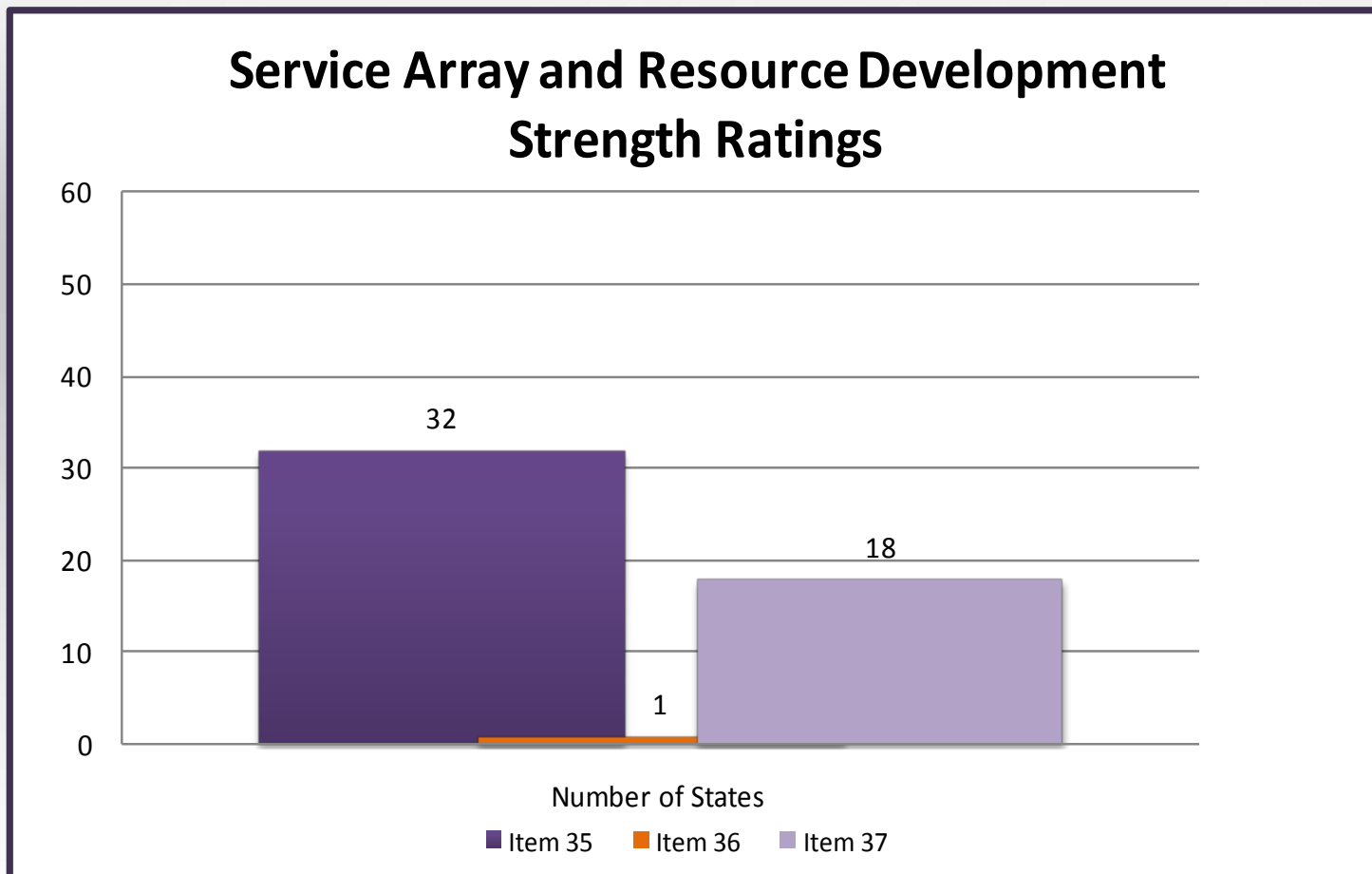


**Item 37:** Individualizing services

# Systemic Factor:

## Service Array and Resource Development

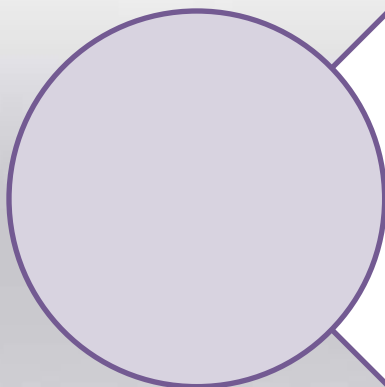
### Number of States Rated Strength for Each Item



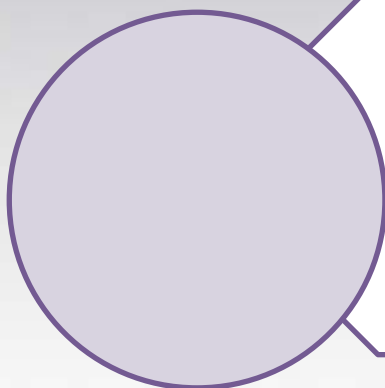
# Outcomes

- **Safety Outcome 1:** Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.
- **Safety Outcome 2:** Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.
- **Permanency Outcome 1:** Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.
- **Permanency Outcome 2:** The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.
- **Well-Being Outcome 1:** Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.
- **Well-Being Outcome 2:** Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.
- **Well-Being Outcome 3:** Children receive adequate services to meet their physical health needs.

## Correlations Between Case Characteristics and Ratings for Outcomes and Items



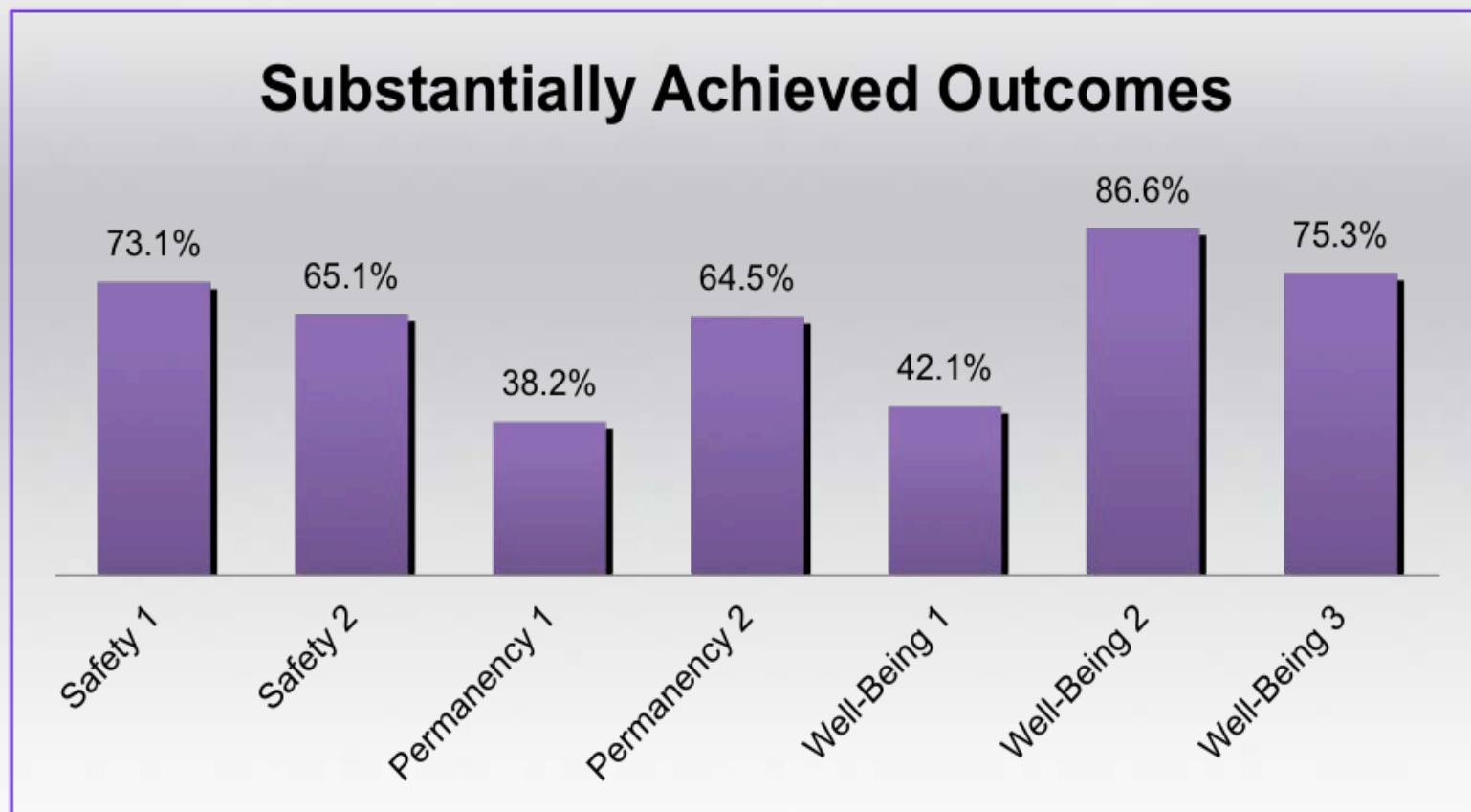
Foster care cases were more likely than in-home services cases to substantially achieve outcomes or be rated Strength for items.



Cases were more likely to be rated Strength for services to mothers than to fathers.

# Outcomes

Mean State Performance: Percentage of Cases “Substantially Achieved”



# Safety

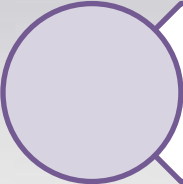
# Safety Outcomes 1 & 2



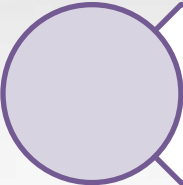
**Item 1:** Timeliness of initiating investigations of reports of maltreatment



**Item 2:** Repeat maltreatment



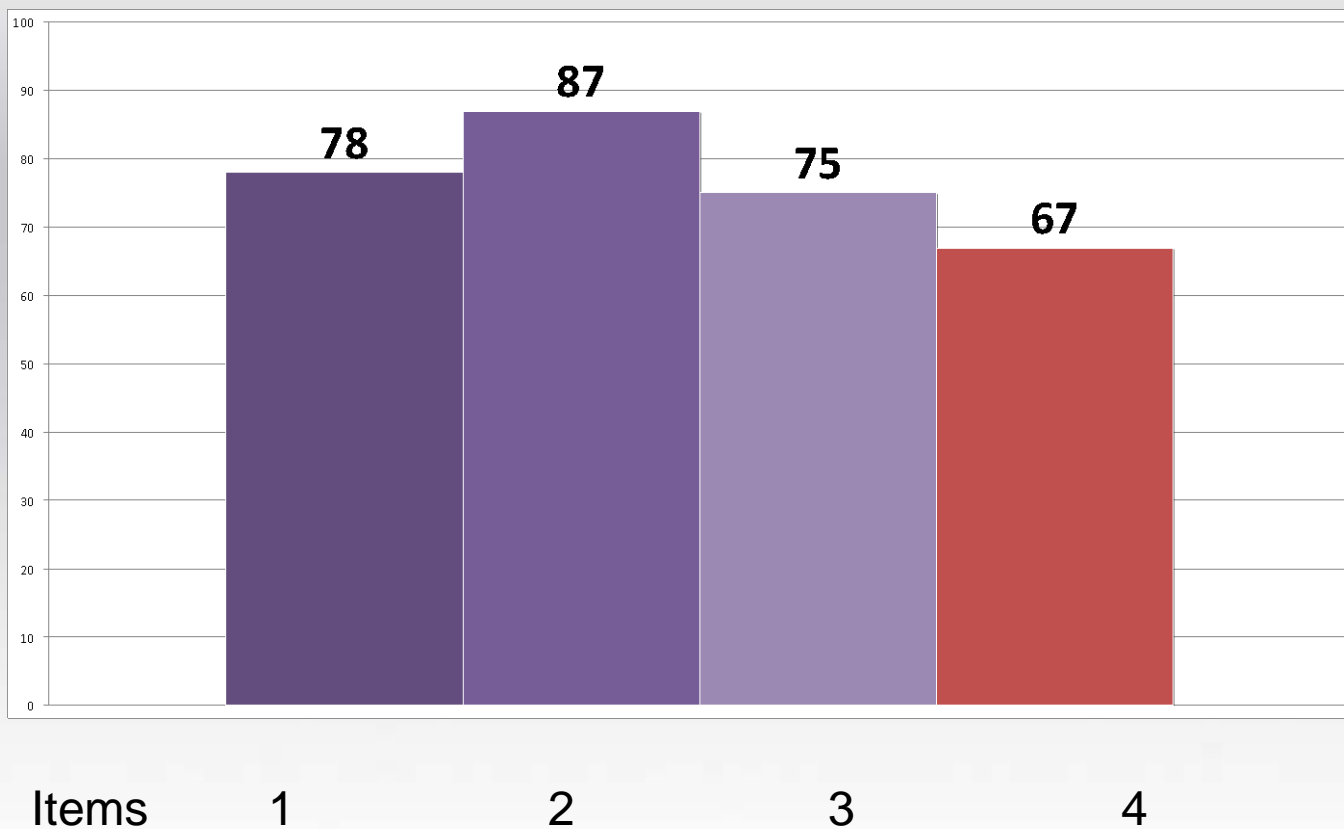
**Item 3:** Services to the family to protect child(ren) in the home and prevent removal or re-entry into foster care



**Item 4:** Risk assessment and safety management

# Safety Items

Percentage of All Applicable Cases Rated as Strength on Safety Items





## Safety Outcome 2: Item 4 Risk and Safety Assessment

### Initial assessments:

- Risk: **89%** of applicable cases
- Safety: **85%** of applicable cases

### Ongoing assessments:

- Risk: **77%** of applicable cases
- Safety: **73%** of applicable cases

### Safety assessment prior to foster care case closure:


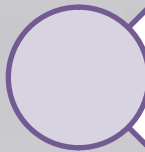



- **74%** of applicable cases

## Safety Outcome 2: Item 4

### Safety Concerns

**22%** of cases had unaddressed safety concerns.

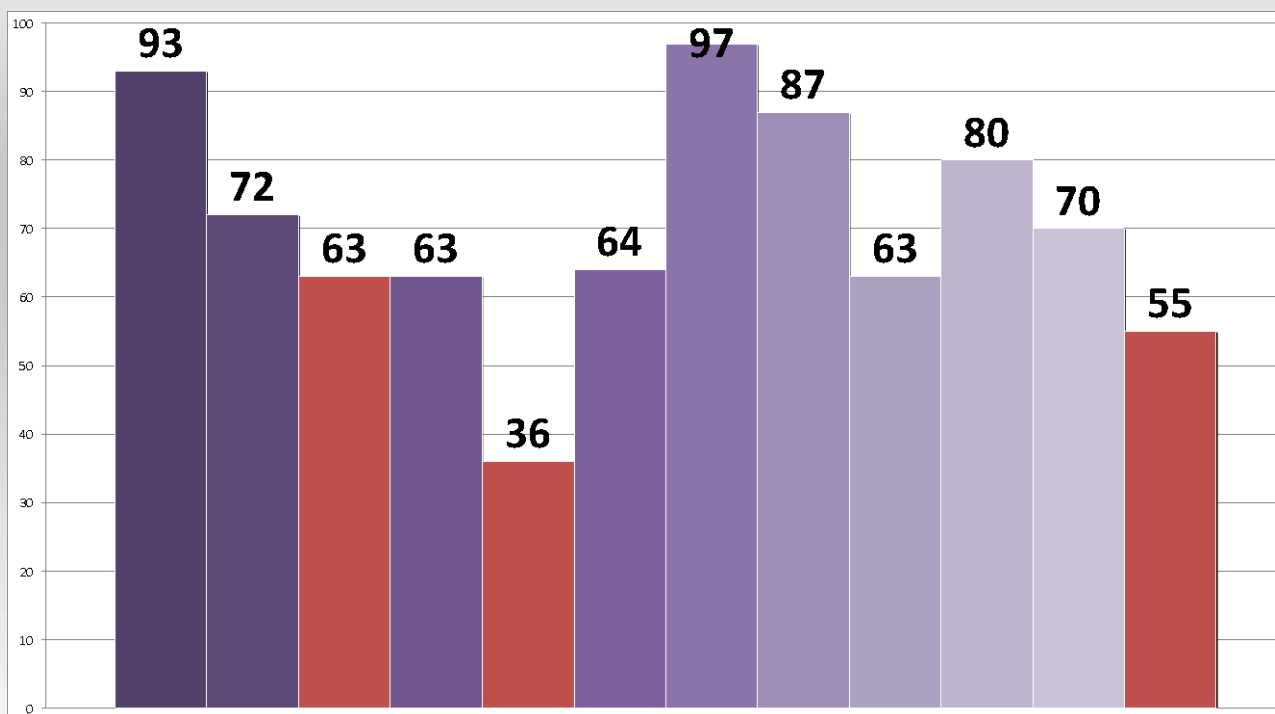
Safety concerns included:

-  Maltreatment allegations reported and inappropriately screened out
-  Maltreatment allegations never formally reported or formally investigated
-  Extensive delays in accepting an allegation for investigation or assessment
-  Maltreatment allegations not substantiated despite evidence that would support a substantiation
-  Cases closed prematurely

# Permanency

# Permanency Items

Percentage of All Applicable Cases Rated as Strength on Permanency Items



Items 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

# Permanency Outcome 1

**Item 5:** Foster care reentries

**Item 6:** Stability of foster care placement

**Item 7:** Permanency goal for child

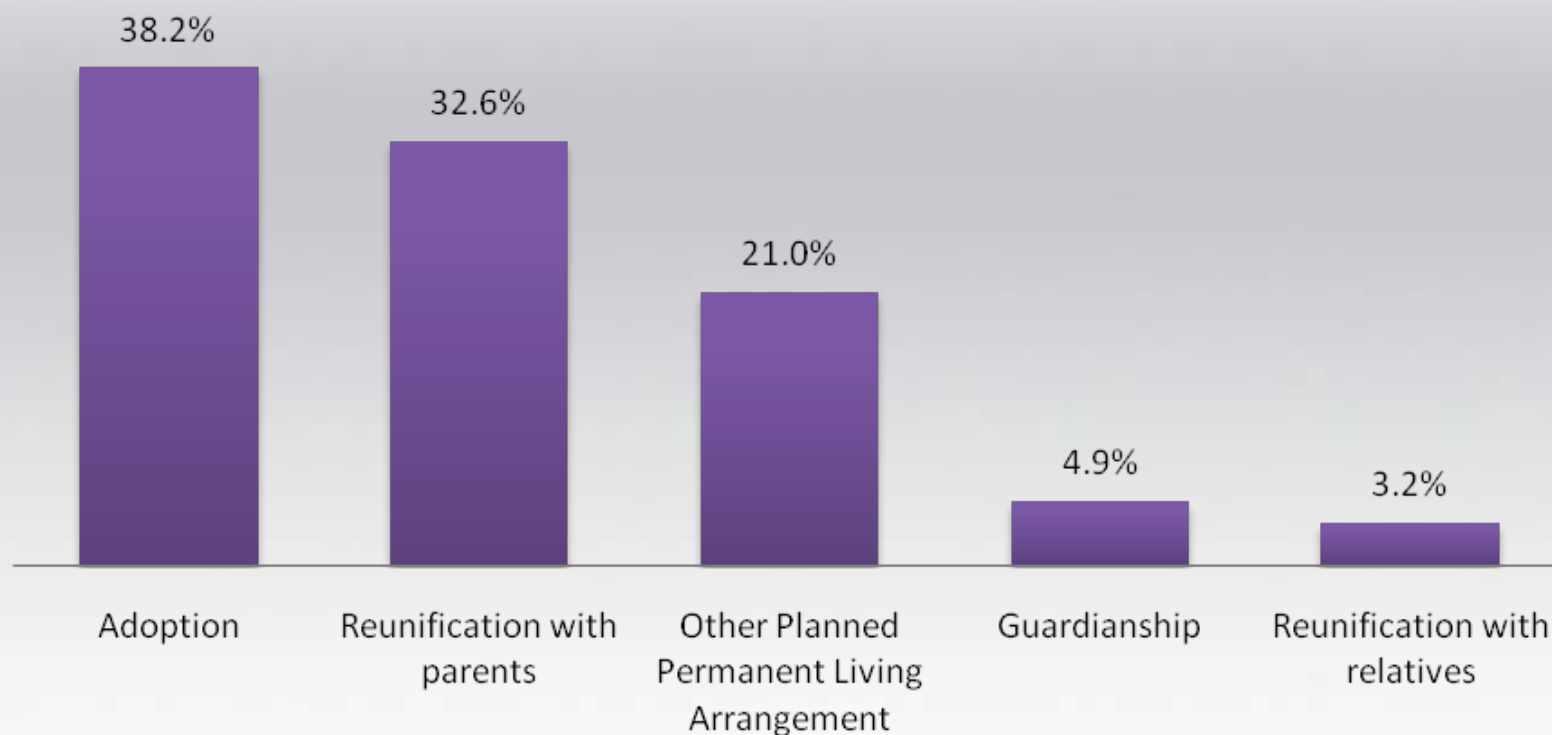
**Item 8:** Reunification, guardianship, or permanent placement with relatives

**Item 9:** Adoption

**Item 10:** Other planned permanent living arrangement (OPPLA)

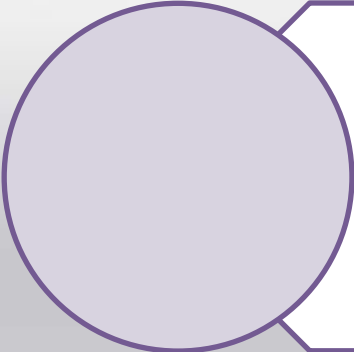
# Permanency Goals

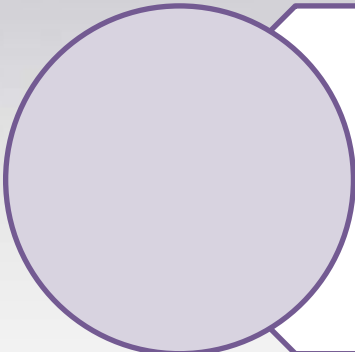
## Children with Permanency Goal



# Permanency Outcome 1

## Common Challenges

- 
- Item 6:** -Insufficient number of foster placements  
-Lack of appropriate training for foster parents  
-Limited resources to support foster parents

- 
- Item 7:** -Concurrent planning was not implemented consistently or effectively  
-Inappropriate goals were set  
-Goals were not set in a timely manner  
-TPR not filed in accordance with ASFA

# Permanency Outcome 1: Item 8

## Reunification, guardianship, permanent placement with relatives

### Strengths Themes

- Identifying and engaging all members of the family
- Individualizing and adjusting case plans
- Designing and adjusting visitation plans
- Communicating with families, providers, and courts
- Concurrent planning
- Using family team meetings
- Placing children in close proximity to their families
- Supporting foster caregivers as mentors with parents
- Providing services including but not limited to the following: family preservation, substance abuse treatment, individual and family therapy, housing, income support, employment assistance, and parenting education



# Permanency Outcome 1: Item 8

## Reunification, guardianship, permanent placement with relatives

### Challenges Themes

- Insufficient family needs assessment
- Insufficient case planning
- Lack of engagement of parents, particularly noncustodial parents
- Insufficient communication and engagement with families
- Lack of concurrent planning
- Lack of communication with courts and service providers
- Delays in guardianship home studies and finalization
- Delays in relative and noncustodial parent identification and engagement
- Delays in court hearings
- Services identified that were not provided included: residential treatment, transportation, housing, employment assistance, mental health treatment, and substance abuse treatment

# Permanency Outcome 1: Item 9

## Adoption

### Strengths Themes

- Completing forms and legal processes in a timely manner
- Filing TPR within ASFA timeframes
- Obtaining voluntary relinquishments in a timely manner
- Concurrent planning
- Preserving existing services for children post-adoption
- Identifying and engaging relatives early
- Using ICPC effectively
- Using recruitment resources such as AdoptUSKids

# Permanency Outcome 1: Item 9

## Adoption

### Challenges Themes

- Lack of engagement with families
- Non-compliance with ASFA timeframes for TPR
- Insufficient caseworker visitation with children
- Lack of planning for post-adoptive services
- Delays in setting the goal of adoption
- Delays in home studies, licensing, and finalization
- Delays in ICPC processes

# Permanency Outcome 1: Item 10

## OPPLA

### Strengths Themes

- Developing appropriate permanent placements
- Supporting the relationship of child with caregiver
- Engaging relatives and siblings
- Resolving financial concerns
- Addressing runaway or delinquency episodes
- Addressing mental and developmental health needs

# Permanency Outcome 1: Item 10

## OPPLA

### Challenges Themes

- Insufficient attention to behavioral concerns
- Overuse of temporary placements
- Insufficient provision of IL services
- Insufficient case planning for independence
- Lack of support for permanent placement options
- Lack of communication with placement providers

## Permanency Outcome 2

**Item 11:** Proximity of foster care placement

**Item 12:** Placement with siblings

**Item 13:** Visiting parents and siblings in foster care

**Item 14:** Preserving connections

**Item 15:** Relative placement

**Item 16:** Relationship of child in care with parents

# Permanency Outcome 2

## Noted Strengths

- Agency efforts to place children in close proximity to their homes
- Placing siblings together
- Preserving children's connections to relatives, schools, friends and their community
- Seeking out relative placements

## Permanency Outcome 2

### Item 13 Visitation with Parents and Siblings

- Stronger practice noted in the area of Sibling visitation – in 36% of States no concerted efforts were made to ensure sufficient visitation.
- No concerted efforts to ensure sufficient visitation with FATHERS  
82% of States
- No concerted efforts to ensure sufficient visitation with MOTHERS  
62% States



## Permanency Outcome 2; Item 16: Relationship of child in foster care with parents

The agency made diligent efforts to support or maintain the bond between children in foster care and their mothers and fathers with the following frequency:

**Mother**

**68% of  
applicable  
cases**

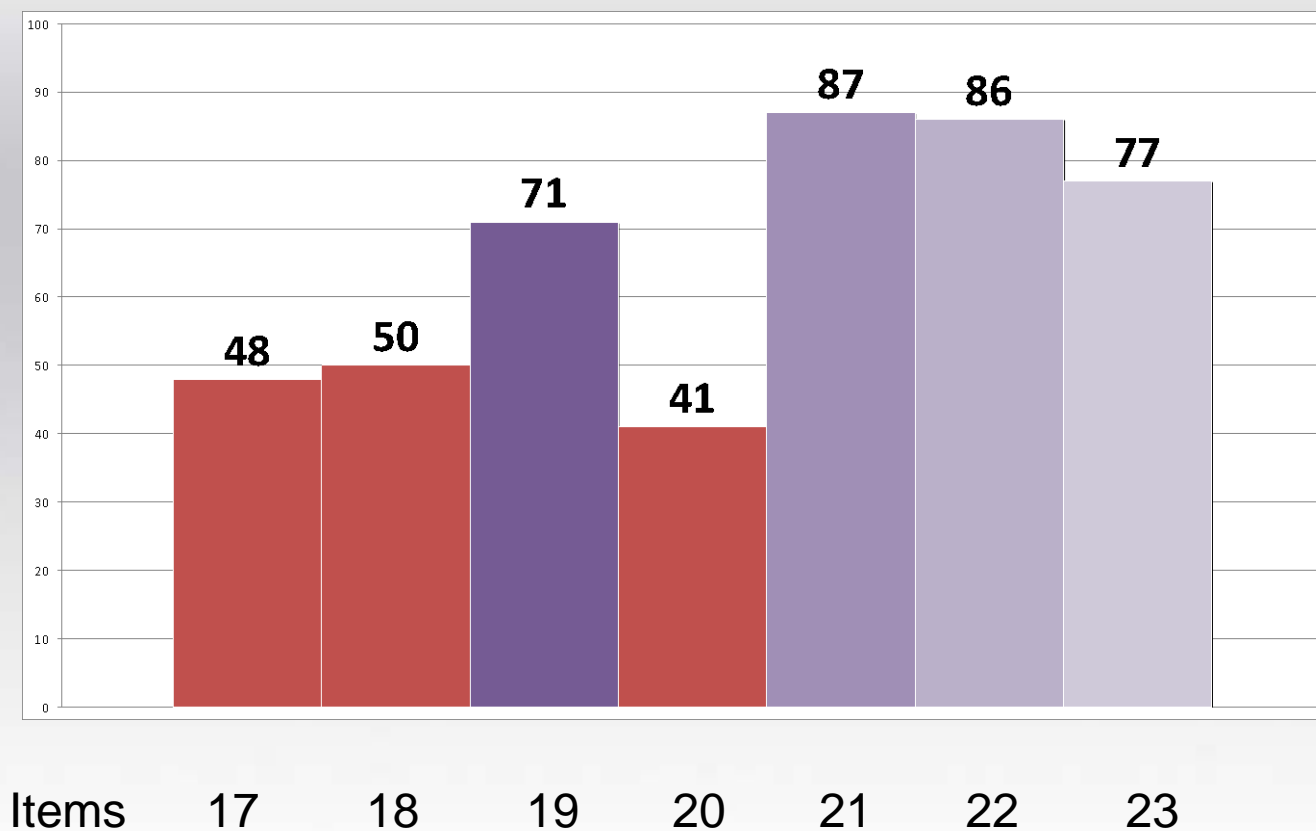
**Father**

**52% of  
applicable  
cases**

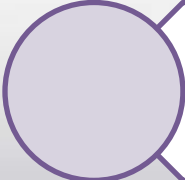
# Well-Being

# Well-Being Items

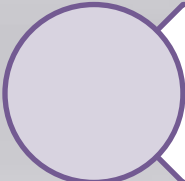
Percentage of All Applicable Cases Rated as Strength on Well-Being Items



# Well-Being Outcome 1



**Item 17:** Needs and services of child, parents, foster parents



**Item 18:** Child and family involvement in case planning



**Item 19:** Caseworker visits with child

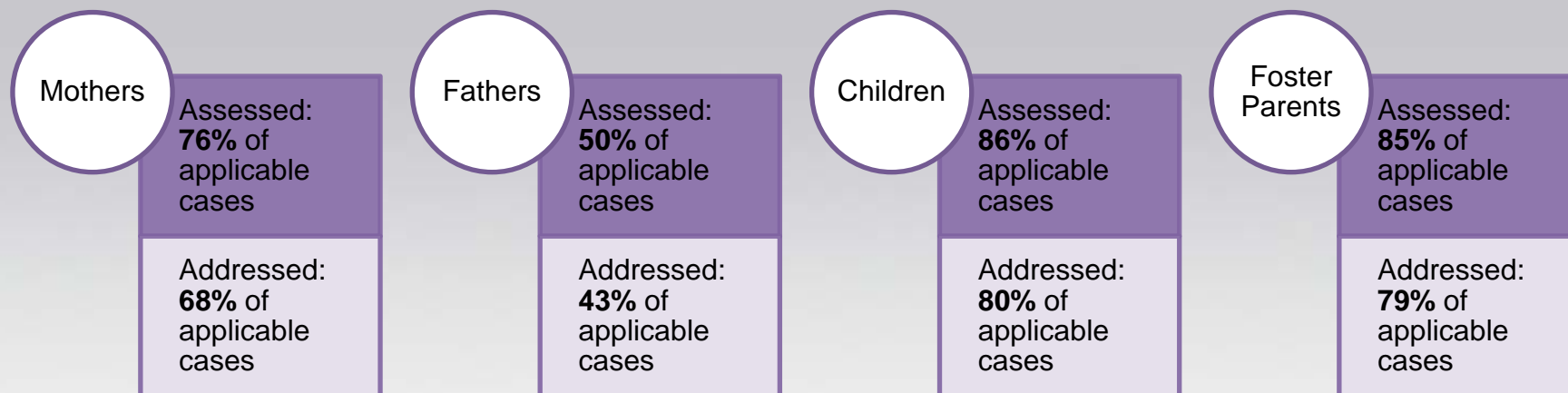


**Item 20:** Caseworker visits with parents

# Well-Being Outcome 1: Item 17

## Needs Assessed & Addressed

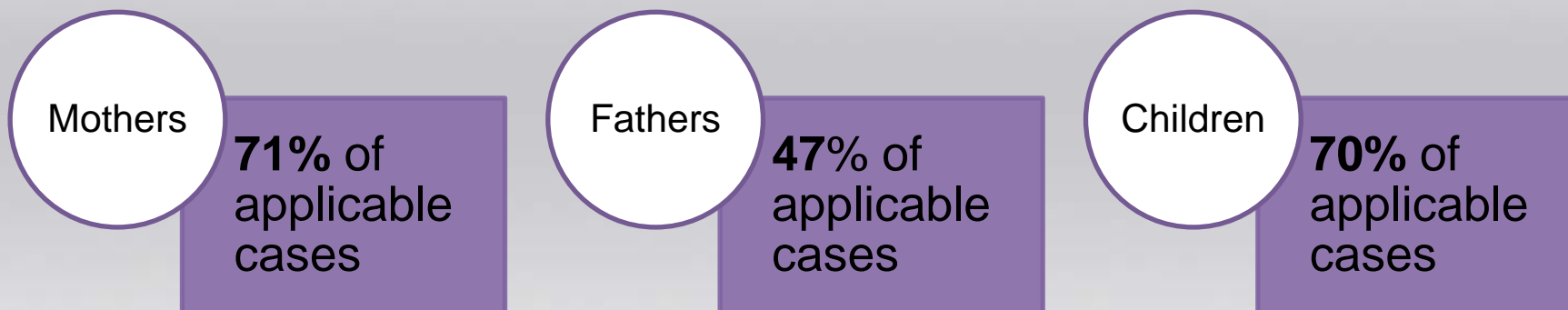
Child welfare agencies assessed and addressed identified needs for mothers, fathers, children, and foster parents in:



# Well-Being Outcome 1: Item 18

## Involvement in Case Planning

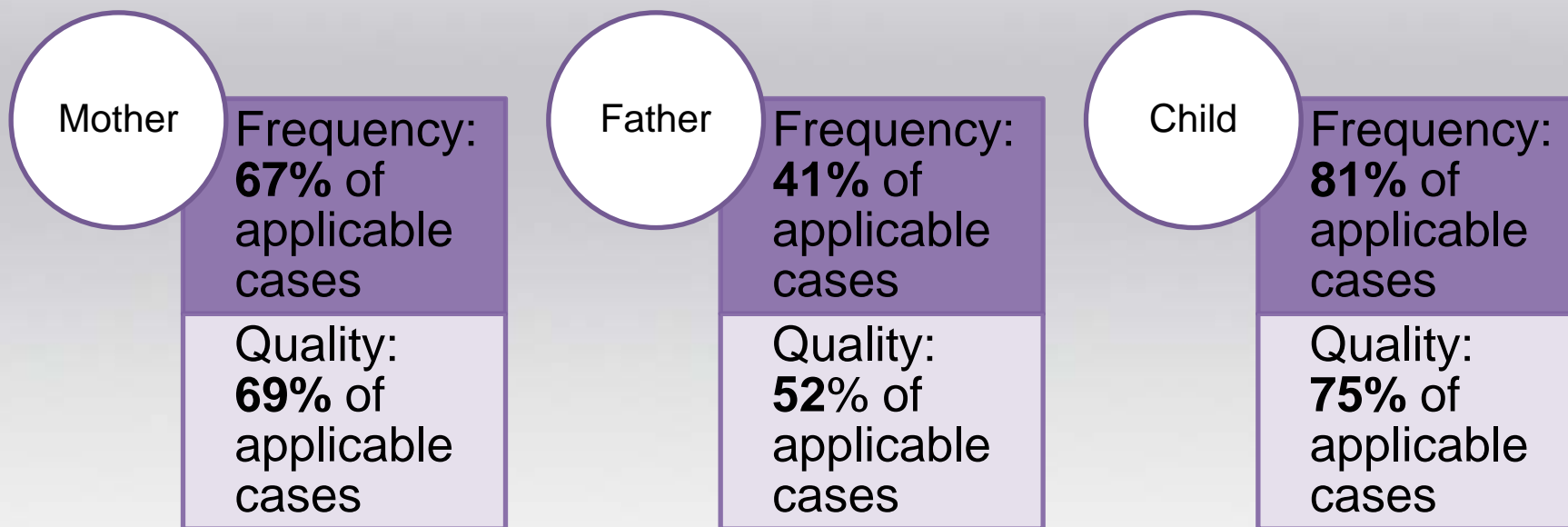
Child welfare agencies made concerted efforts to involve children and parents in case planning in:



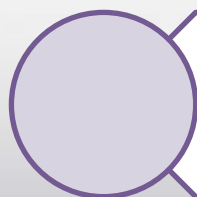
# Well-Being Outcome 1: Items 19 and 20

## Frequency and Quality of Visits

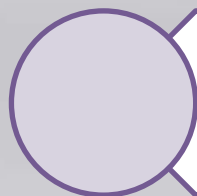
The frequency and quality of visits between the caseworker and the parents, and the caseworker and child, were sufficient in:



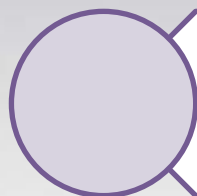
# Well-Being Outcomes 2 & 3



**Item 21:** Educational needs of the child



**Item 22:** Physical health of the child



**Item 23:** Mental/behavioral health of the child



## Well-Being Outcome 2: Item 21 Educational Needs of the Child

The educational needs of children were assessed  
and addressed in:

Assessed

**90%** of applicable cases

Addressed

**85%** of applicable cases

## Well-Being Outcome 3: Items 22 and 23

### Physical and Mental Health Needs of the Child

The physical and mental/behavioral health needs of the child were assessed and addressed in:

Physical Health  
Needs  
Assessed

**93%** of  
applicable  
cases

Physical Health  
Needs  
Addressed

**90%** of  
applicable  
cases

Mental/  
Behavioral  
Health Needs  
Assessed

**86%** of  
applicable  
cases

Mental/  
Behavioral  
Health Needs  
Addressed

**77%** of  
applicable  
cases

# Well-Being Outcomes 2 & 3

## Common Challenges



### Item 21:

-There were challenges maintaining or coordinating educational services for children in foster care due in part to school communication needs, delays in transferring EAPs, and delays in enrollment.



### Item 22:

-Dental services available in the community were insufficient to meet the need.



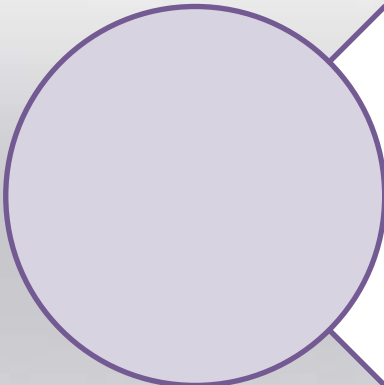
### Item 23:

-Mental/behavioral health services available in the community were insufficient to meet the need.

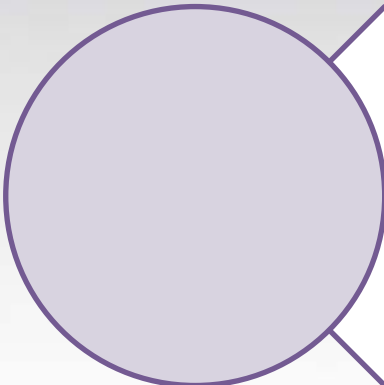
-Mental/behavioral health needs were assessed but were not addressed.

-There were delays in service assessments and/or delivery due to waiting lists.

## Relationships Between Performance on Outcomes and Item Ratings



Performance on **Permanency Outcome 1** was positively associated with Strength ratings for **items 14, 15, 17b, and 20**.



Performance on **Well-Being Outcome 1** was positively associated with Strength ratings for **all items** (except item 2). Strongest association was with **items 4, 13, and 16**.