

Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) Overview



What is CFSR?

The Children's Bureau conducts the CFSRs, which are periodic reviews of state child welfare systems, to achieve three goals:

- Ensure conformity with federal child welfare requirements
- Determine what is actually happening to children and families as they are engaged in child welfare services
- Assist states in helping children and families achieve positive outcomes
- After a CFSR is completed, states develop a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) to address areas in their child welfare services that need improvement.





Georgia Review Highlights:

- Georgia has an ongoing quality assurance review process.
- Designed to accurately determine the quality of Georgia's Child Welfare casework based upon Round 3 CFSR criteria in the months prior to Round 4. Outcomes from these reviews help guide initiatives that can address deficits while also building upon strengths.
- Ensures that we embrace shared values related to quality. This includes viewing statewide outcomes as indicative of county or regional performance.
- Georgia's review process models the federal process and includes:
 - Comprehensive case reviews
 - Case-Specific Interviews (**1845** children, parents, case managers, supervisors, foster parents, service providers, & legal representatives included in 2021)
 - Stakeholder feedback to evaluate systemic factors (**909** surveys for 2021)



Child & Family
SERVICES REVIEWS

CFSR Overview

Safety, Permanency, and Well-Being

➤ *7 Outcomes*

➤ *18 Items*

Safety		Statewide December 2021	South District December 2021
Outcome S1: Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.		79%	67%
Item 1:	Timeliness of initiating investigations of reports of child maltreatment	79%	67%
Outcome S2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.		35%	32%
Item 2:	Services to family to protect children in home and prevent removal or re-entry into foster care	49%	43%
Item 3:	Risk assessment and safety management	39%	40%

Permanency		Statewide December 2021	South District December 2021
Outcome P1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.		22%	13%
Item 4:	Stability of foster care placement	82%	87%
Item 5:	Permanency goal for child	49%	33%
Item 6:	Achieving reunification, guardianship, adoption, or other planned permanent living arrangement	31%	33%
Outcome P2: The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children		51%	53%
Item 7:	Placement with siblings	84%	80%
Item 8:	Visiting with parents and siblings in foster care	47%	45%
Item 9:	Preserving connections	64%	60%
Item 10:	Relative placement	56%	53%
Item 11:	Relationship of child in care with parents	33%	11%

Item 5- Permanency Goal for the Child

Evaluates:

- Timely establishment of initial permanency goal (within 60 days), and any subsequent goals
- Appropriateness of the goal *based on the case circumstances*
- Documentation of the goal(s) in the case record (must be consistent)
- Timely filing for TPR

Review findings:

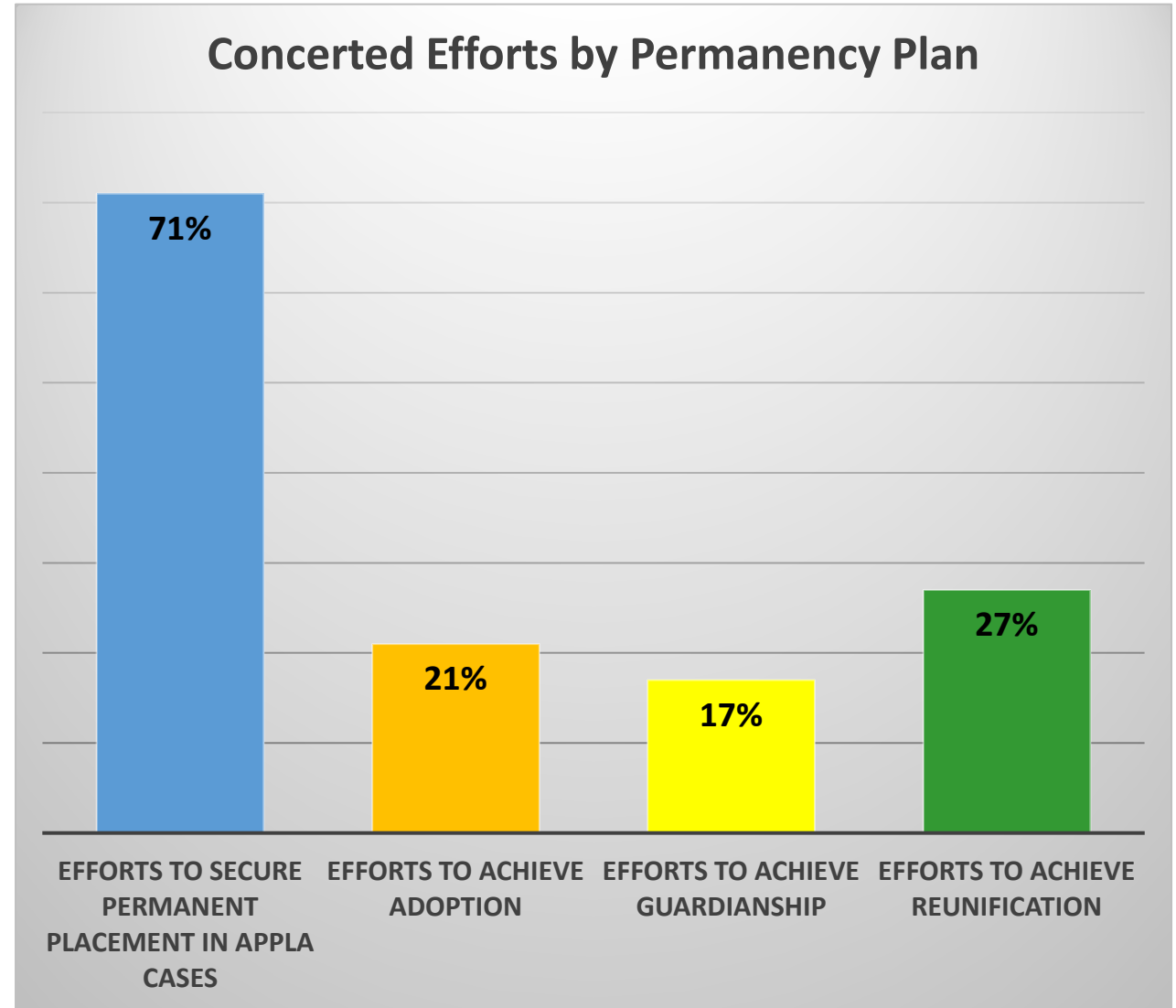
- In the majority of cases reviewed the permanency goal(s) were established timely for children in care based on the federal standard.
- Permanency goals were established timely in **71%** of the cases reviewed.
- Permanency goals were appropriate based on the circumstances of the case in **62%** of the cases reviewed. *This component of Item 5 was most often negatively impacted when reunification goals remained in place long after efforts to achieve this goal had been exhausted.
- TPR petitions were filed timely in only **42%** of the applicable cases reviewed.



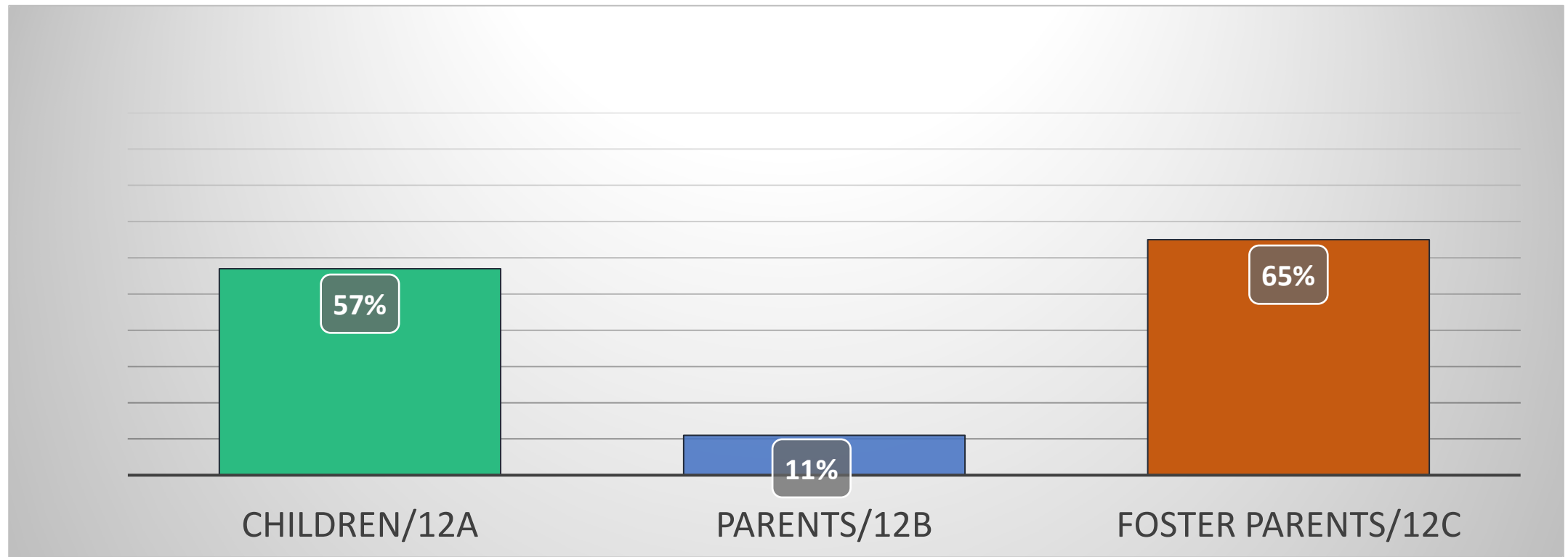
Issues most frequently identified as impacting achievement of permanency timely include:

- *Delays or failure to provide needed services to families to achieve permanency timely*
- *TPR petitions not filed timely resulting in adoption not being achieved within 24 months*
- *Having concurrent permanency plans with only one plan being worked*
- *Insufficient contacts with parents and/or service providers to facilitate and support progress on reunification cases.*

Concerted Efforts by Permanency Plan



Services to *Children, Parents, & Foster Parents*



Well-Being		Statewide December 2021	South District December 2021
Outcome WB1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.		16%	8%
Item 12:	Needs and services of child, parents, foster parents	17%	8%
Item 13:	Child and family involvement in case planning	44%	33%
Item 14:	Caseworker visits with child	56%	60%
Item 15:	Caseworker visits with parent(s)	19%	5%

Well-Being		Statewide December 2021	South District December 2021
Outcome WB2: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs		53%	40%
Item 16:	Educational needs of the child	53%	40%
Outcome WB3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs		31%	26%
Item 17:	Physical health of the child	54%	41%
Item 18:	Mental/Behavioral health of the child	22%	21%

Opportunities



- Contacts with *children* and *parents* that go beyond the “friendly visit’ and demonstrate engagement with the family through safety discussions, case planning, assessment of needs, and evaluation of behavioral change.
- Comprehensive assessment skills are critical in all program areas, as the results of those assessments (both formal and informal) drive decision making throughout the life of the case.
- Engagement with relevant collateral sources, such as ongoing treatment providers, law enforcement, probation officers, school and medical providers to gather quality information related to progress with services or additional needs.
- Timely implementation of services following the identification of needs (timely referrals and follow-up related to referrals)
- Continual assessment for more intensified services when parents continue to test positive for drugs/alcohol or there continue to be domestic violence or ongoing parenting concerns.

C3 Coordinator-Federal Plans Specialist



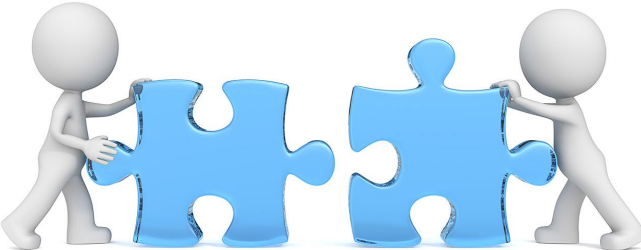
PUTTING
IT
TOGETHER

Outline

- What are the C's
- What's in the Plan
- What's in the Report



The three C's of State Strategic Planning



Plan for the Future – Review the Past - Improve Today



CFSP



CFSR

CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

APSR

PIP



CONTACT US



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