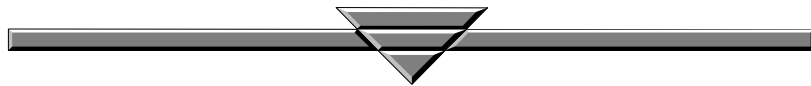


**MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT
OF
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**



**2010
CHILD MALTREATMENT
STATISTICS**

**Angelo McClain, Ph.D., LICSW
Commissioner**

November 2012

**MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT
OF
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

**2010
CHILD MALTREATMENT
STATISTICS**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Section</u>		<u>Page</u>
I.	Child Counts from Reports, Investigations, and Initial Assessments: 1983-2010	1
	A. Statewide Trends	1
	B. Screening, Investigation, and Initial Assessment	4
	1. Screening	4
	2. Investigation	5
	3. Initial Assessment	6
	C. Type of Maltreatment Supported	7
II.	Child Counts from Reports, Investigations, and Initial Assessments: 2010	14
	A. Report Disposition: DCF Regions and Statewide	14
	B. Investigation and Initial Assessment Disposition: DCF Regions and Statewide	16
	C. Recidivism: Children with Supported Allegations	18
	D. Geographic Distribution of Child Maltreatment	19
	1. Reporting and Victimization Rates	19
	2. Associated Demographic/Socioeconomic Factors	20
	E. Type of Child Maltreatment Reported and Investigated	23
	1. Report and Investigation Disposition	23
	2. Report Source	23
	3. Age, Race, Hispanic Origin, and Marital Status of Biological Mothers of Reported Children	25
	F. Type of Child Maltreatment Supported	26
	1. Distribution of Victimized Children: DCF Regions and Statewide	26
	2. Age, Gender, and Race of Victimized Children	27
	3. Age, Gender, and Relationship of Perpetrator	31
	4. DCF Area Offices: 2009-2010 Changes in Victimizations	32
	5. Investigation Outcomes	34
	G. Child Maltreatment and the DCF Caseload	34
III.	Appendix	36

LIST OF FIGURES AND TABLES

<u>Fig./Table</u>	<u>Page</u>
Figure 1	Child Counts from Reports and Investigations (1983-2010).....1
Table 1A	Child Counts from Reports and Investigations (1983-2010).....3
Table 1B	Child Counts from Reports, Investigations, and Initial Assessments (2010).....3
Figure 2	Children with Supported Allegations by Type of Maltreatment (1983-2010).....7
Figure 3A	Child Counts by Age Group from Investigations of Supported Sexual Abuse (1990-2010).....9
Figure 3B	Proportions of Children by Age Group from Investigations of Supported Sexual Abuse (1990-2010).....9
Figure 4A	Child Counts from Reports and Supported Investigations of Neglect (1989-2010).....11
Figure 4B	Child Counts from Reports and Supported Investigations of Physical Abuse (1989-2010)11
Table 4C	Child Counts from Reports and Supported Investigations of Sexual Abuse (1983-2010)11
Figure 5	Age of Children with Supported Allegations of Sexual Abuse (1990-2010).....13
Table 2	Counts of Children in Reports by DCF Region and Screening Decision (2010).....14
Figure 6	Monthly Counts of Children Reported (2010).....15
Figure 7	Children Reported by Source of Report (2010)15
Table 3A	Counts of Children in Investigations by DCF Region and Investigation Decision (2010).....16
Table 3B	Counts of Children in Initial Assessments by DCF Region and Initial Assessment Decision (2010)17

FIGURES AND TABLES (continued)

<u>Fig./Table</u>	<u>Page</u>
Figure 8	Child Counts from Reports, Screened-in Reports, Investigations, and Supported Investigations (2010)17
Table 4	Victimized Children by Type of Maltreatment and DCF Service Region (2010)26
Figure 9	Age of Children with Supported Allegations by Type of Maltreatment (2010)27
Figure 10	Age and Sex of Children with Supported Allegations of Neglect (2010)27
Figure 11	Age and Sex of Children with Supported Allegations of Physical Abuse (2010).....28
Figure 12	Age and Sex of Children with Supported Allegations of Sexual Abuse (2010).....28

Appendix Tables

A1	Duplicated and Unduplicated Child Maltreatment Counts by Type of Maltreatment (2010)37
A2	Counts of All Reported Children by Report Source (2010).....38
A3	Child Counts from Reports, Investigations, and Initial Assessments of Neglect (1989-2010).....39
A4	Child Counts from Reports, Investigations, and Initial Assessments of Physical Abuse (1989-2010).....40
A5	Child Counts from Reports and Investigations of Sexual Abuse (1983-2010).....41
A6	Child Maltreatment Reporting Rate and Associated Demographic/ Socioeconomic Factors by Incorporated City/Town (2010)42
A7	Child Maltreatment Reporting Rate and Associated Demographic/ Socioeconomic Factors by Incorporated City/Town (2010)43

Appendix Tables (continued)

<u>Table</u>		<u>Page</u>
A8	Child Maltreatment Reporting and Victimization Rates by Incorporated City/Town (2010)	44
A9	Reported Children by Report Source, Screening Decision, and Type of Alleged Maltreatment (2010)	45
A10	Bio-Mother's Age, Race, Hispanic Origin, and Marital Status by Type of Alleged Maltreatment of Children Reported (2010)	46
A11	Age of Bio-Mothers in 2010 and at the Birth of Their Oldest Child by Type of Alleged Maltreatment of Children Reported (2010).....	47
A12	Race and Hispanic Origin of Victimized Children by Type of Supported Maltreatment (2010).....	48
A13	Perpetrator Characteristics by Type of Supported Maltreatment (2010).....	49
A14	Children with Supported Allegations: All Maltreatment and Neglect by DCF Area Office and Region (2010).....	50
A15	Children with Supported Allegations: All Maltreatment and Physical Abuse by DCF Area Office and Region (2010).....	51
A16	Children with Supported Allegations: All Maltreatment and Sexual Abuse by DCF Area Office and Region (2010).....	52

NOTES

Most of the statistics in this annual analysis are based on duplicate counts of children who were the subjects of reports and investigations. Duplicate counts allow the inclusion of all reports, investigations, and types of maltreatment for each child. Through the use of duplicate child counts, data are recorded for a child each time he/she is reported and investigated during the year. In reports and investigations where more than one type of maltreatment is alleged or supported for a child, he/she is counted in each of the maltreatment categories. Appendix Table A1 displays statewide duplicate counts of children as well as unduplicated counts of reports, investigations, and children.

The Department's "Differential Response" system guidelines for screening and investigating a report of child maltreatment are summarized in the chart on the following page. The principal types of maltreatment are neglect, physical abuse, and sexual abuse.

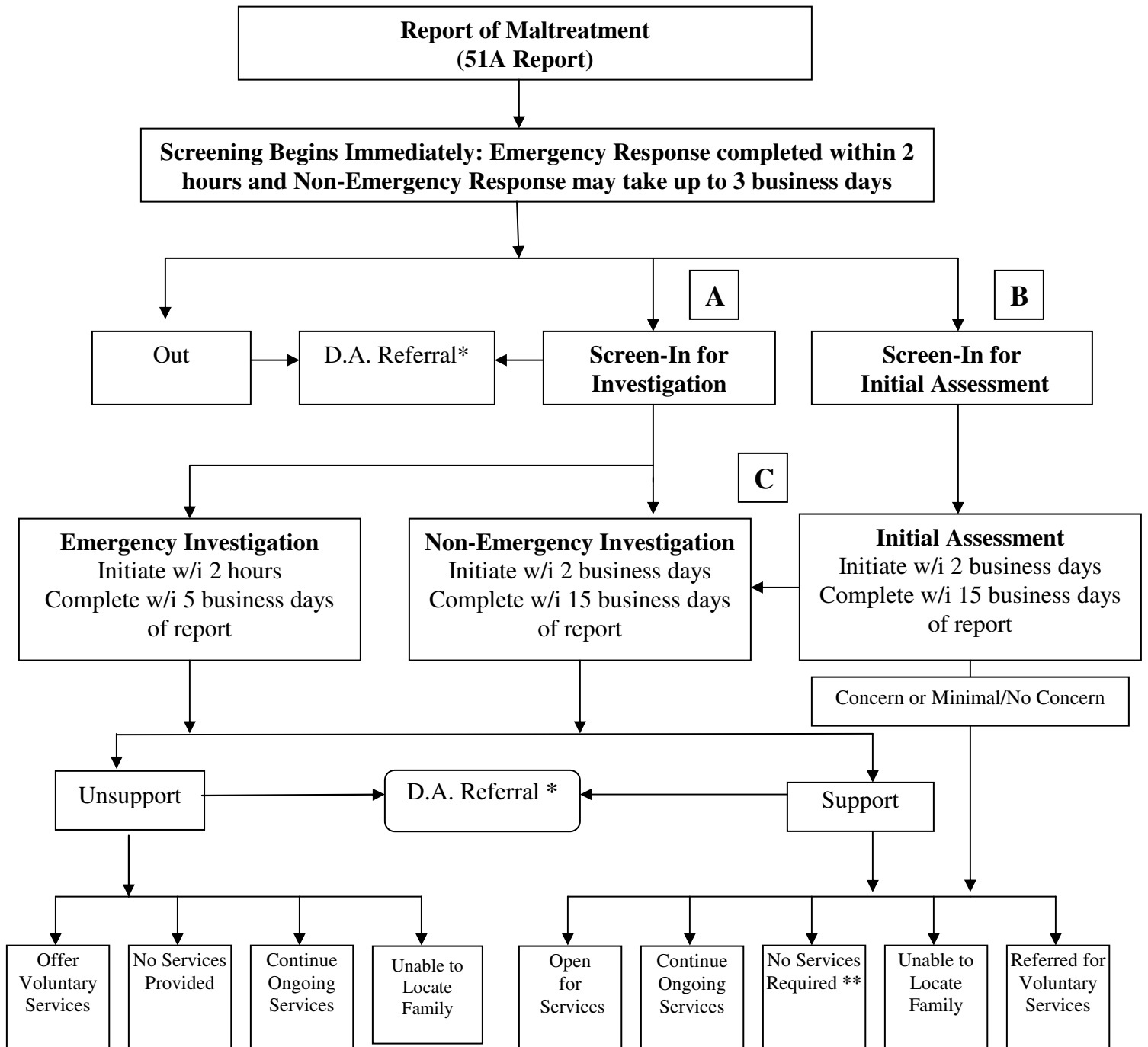
Neglect: Failure by a caretaker,¹ either deliberately or through negligence or inability, to take those actions necessary to provide a child with minimally adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical care, supervision, emotional stability and growth, or other essential care; provided, however, that such inability is not due solely to inadequate economic resources or solely to the existence of a handicapping condition. This definition is not dependent upon location (i.e., neglect can occur while the child is at an out-of-home or in-home setting).

Physical Abuse: The non-accidental commission of any act by a caretaker upon a child under age eighteen which causes, or creates a substantial risk of physical injury. This definition is not dependent upon location. Physical Injury is defined as death;² or fracture of a bone, a subdural hematoma, burns, impairment of any organ, and any other such non-trivial injury; or soft tissue swelling or skin bruising depending upon such factors as the child's age, circumstances under which the injury occurred, and the number and location of bruises. Not every injury, tissue swelling and/or bruise is proof of physical abuse. When, where, how, and why the injury occurred must be considered in making the clinical decision as to whether the injury resulted from abuse.

Sexual Abuse: Sexual abuse occurs when an adult caretaker has any sexual contact with a child. Sexual exploitation and molestation are also considered abuse.

¹ A child's parent, stepparent, guardian, any household member and any other person entrusted with the responsibility for a child's health or welfare, whether in the child's home, a relative's home, a school setting, a day-care setting (including baby-sitting), a foster home, a group-care facility, or any other comparable setting. "Caretaker" includes (but is not limited to) school teachers, baby-sitters, school bus drivers, camp counselors, etc. The "caretaker" definition is meant to be construed broadly and inclusively to encompass any person who is, at the time in question, entrusted with a degree of responsibility for the child. This specifically includes a caretaker who is a child (for example, a baby-sitter under age 18 years).

² An analysis of child deaths from abuse and neglect can be found in a separate DCF annual report, "Analysis of Child Fatalities & Near Fatalities." (See DCF website www.mass.gov/DCF)



* Mandatory referrals must be made to the District Attorneys (and local law enforcement authorities) within 5 business days of the supported decision (sexual abuse, severe physical abuse, or death). Mandatory referrals are also made when a maltreatment report is either screened-out or unsupported because the alleged perpetrator did not meet the definitions of caretaker, but the allegation did match one of the maltreatment types. Discretionary referrals are made to the DAs in the following situations: DCF may immediately report cases of serious physical injury to the DA and may refer other matters involving possible criminal conduct (including but not limited to cases of abuse or neglect) to the DA, regardless of whether the maltreatment report is supported, unsupported, or screened-out. These discretionary referrals may be made at any point in DCF's involvement with a family.

** The case is not opened (child is no longer at risk).

(A) Allegations of sexual abuse, serious physical abuse, or serious neglect are investigated to determine the current safety and potential risk to the reported child and if DCF intervention is necessary. (B) Moderate or lower risk allegations of neglect or physical abuse are assessed to determine if DCF involvement is necessary and to engage and support families. (C) Conversion from initial assessment to investigation: (1) if during the initial assessment DCF receives another child maltreatment report on the family; or (2) upon completion of the initial assessment DCF social worker files a report on the family.

The analyses in this report quantify the magnitude of the child maltreatment problem, its various forms and geographic distribution, and the characteristics of victims, perpetrators, and reporters. The report does not address what factors contribute to the risk of maltreatment. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services) present the following list of characteristics found to increase the risk of being maltreated.³ These factors are associated with child maltreatment; they may not be direct causes.

Risk Factors for Perpetration

Individual Risk Factors

- Parents' lack of understanding of children's needs and child development, and parenting skills
- Parents' history of child abuse in family of origin
- Substance abuse in the family
- Young, single non-biological parents
- Parental thoughts and emotions supporting maltreatment behaviors
- Parental stress and distress, including depression or other mental health conditions

Family Risk Factors

- Social isolation of families
- Poverty and other socioeconomic disadvantage such as unemployment or lack of education
- Family disorganization, dissolution, and violence, including intimate partner violence
- Poor parent-child relationships and negative interactions

Community Risk Factors

- Community violence

Risk Factors for Victimization

Individual Risk Factors

- Children younger than 4 years are at greatest risk for severe injury or death
- Disabilities or mental retardation in children that may increase caregiver burden

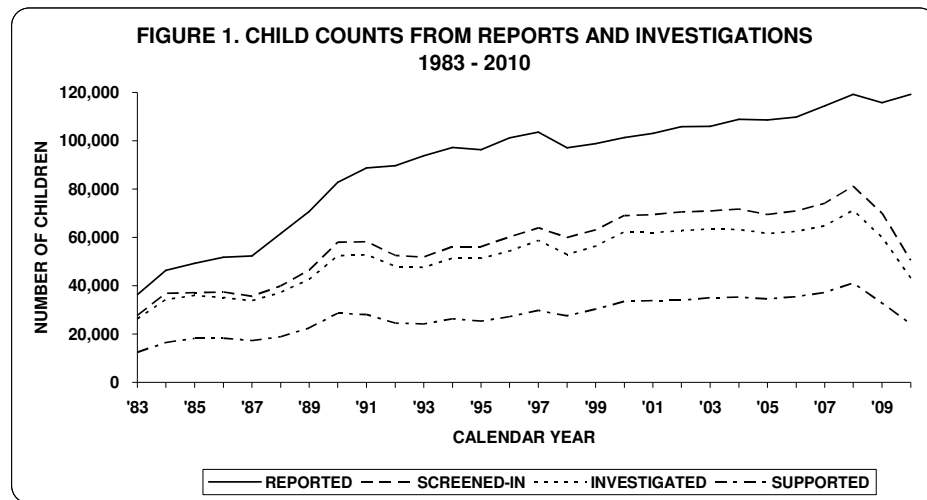
³ Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov/ncipc/dvp/cmp/cmp-risk-p-factors.htm)

CHILD MALTREATMENT STATISTICS

I. Child Counts from Reports, Investigations, and Initial Assessments 1983-2010

A. Statewide Trends

During 2010, the Department of Children and Families (DCF) received 80,637 reports of abuse and neglect. A total of 119,192 children were identified in these reports.⁴ Compared to 2009, this is a 3% increase in reported children (**Fig.1, Table 1A** on page 3). The rise in reported children followed a decrease of 3% in reported children from 2008 to 2009 – the first decline in 26 years. Although there was a modest growth in reported children in 2010, there were decreases in the annual counts of children in screened-in reports for investigation (-28%), investigations (-28%), and supported investigations (-26%).⁵ These declines in child counts were a continuation of the trend that began last year with the implementation of a differential response for allegations of neglect and physical abuse (**Fig. 1, Tables 1A and 1B** on page 3).



NOTE: These are duplicated counts since a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of a report and investigation during the year.

⁴This is a duplicated count since a child may have been reported more than once during 2010. Much of the duplication is due to multiple reports on the same incident. Removing duplication reduces the number of children by 33% to 79,880. The duplication percentage has ranged from 27-33% over the past 25 years. Appendix Table A1 provides duplicated and unduplicated counts of reported children by maltreatment type. Counts of reports by type of maltreatment are also included.

⁵ Please note that the number of children with investigations is lower than the number of children with screened-in reports for investigation. This occurs because an investigation may be associated to multiple reports on the same incident or by reports received on separate but closely occurring incidents.

Declines in children who were the subject of a report or investigation have also been noted in national studies of child maltreatment (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System 2011;⁶ Fourth National Incidence Study 2010⁷). These studies are purely statistical and do not present reasons for the changes. Possible contributing factors to the declines are presented by Finkelhor and Jones (2006)⁸ and Finkelhor and colleagues (2011).⁹ NCANDS (2011) analyses of the number and rate of victimization for the past five years (2006-2010) show an overall decrease. Although there has been a decline in victimizations, child maltreatment is still a major problem. In FFY 2010, an estimated 754,000 duplicate and 695,000 unique children were victims of maltreatment (NCANDS 2011).

According to various researchers, the downward trend in child maltreatment may be the result of multiple factors. NCANDS (2011) noted a relatively new factor, a decrease in the number of children who received a CPS response (investigation) and an increase in the number of states with alternative response dispositions. This was the case in Massachusetts, where a significant portion of the decline in investigations in 2010 is due to the implementation of a differential response for reports of neglect or physical abuse.¹⁰

The differential response allows reports to be screened-in for an investigation response or an initial assessment response. Initial assessments were made available as an alternative to investigations in August 2009 in the DCF case management information system. Not all reports of abuse or neglect require the same type of intervention. An initial assessment response provides an alternative to a CPS investigation. DCF is able to engage families more quickly in an initial assessment when the reported concern does not warrant the formal investigation of an allegation.¹¹ An investigation is required when there has been an allegation of sexual abuse, serious physical abuse, or serious neglect.

Since the differential response system was not fully operational until the end of 2009,¹² it had little statistical impact -- 4,938 reported children screened-in for initial assessment (7% of all reported children screened-in). In 2010, 72,218 reported children were screened-in: 50,539 (70%) were screened-in for investigation and 21,679 (30%) were screened-in for initial assessment (**Table 1B** on page 3).

⁶ National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS). 2011. Child Maltreatment 2010. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/stats_research/index.htm#can

⁷ Fourth National Incidence Study of Child Abuse and Neglect (NIS-4). 2010. Report to Congress. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/opre/abuse_neglect/natl_incid/index.html

⁸ Finkelhor, D. and L. Jones. 2006. Why Have Child Maltreatment and Victimization Declined? *Journal of Social Issues* 62:685-716

⁹ Finkelhor, D., L. Jones, and A. Shattuck. 2011. Updated Trends in Child Maltreatment, 2009. *Crimes Against Children Research Center, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH*. 4pp.

¹⁰ See DCF website at www.mass.gov/DCF [select Integrated Casework Practice Model (ICPM)].

¹¹ NCANDS (2010) noted the positive findings of a recent evaluation of the Ohio alternative response pilot project. The final report is available online at <http://www.iarstl.org/papers/OhioAREvaluation.pdf>.

¹² The screening option was only made available in August 2009 and was not routinely selected until October - December 2009.

The initial assessment screening option resulted in fewer children being involved in investigations. In 2010, 43,145 children were subjects of an investigation and 18,633 children underwent an initial assessment (**Table 1B**). This was a significant change from 59,925 children in 2009 and 71,264 children in 2008 who were subjects of an investigation (**Table 1B**).

Table 1A. Child Counts from Reports, Investigations, and Initial Assessments: 1983 - 2010

Calendar Year	Child Counts ¹											
	Annual Reported No.	Annual Change %	Screened-In for Investigation No.	Annual Change %	Annual Investigated No.	Annual Change %	Annual Supported No.	Annual Change %	Assessed ² No.	Annual Change %	Annual Concern ³ No.	Annual Change %
1983	36,258	--	27,740 (E)	--	26,204	--	12,518	--	--	--	--	--
1984	46,393	28%	36,869	33%	34,326	31%	16,515	32%	--	--	--	--
1985	49,320	6%	37,168	1%	35,971	5%	18,203	10%	--	--	--	--
1986	51,759	5%	37,429	1%	35,085	-2%	18,291	*	--	--	--	--
1987	52,391	1%	35,673	-5%	33,832	-4%	17,356	-5%	--	--	--	--
1988	61,506	17%	39,848	12%	37,229	10%	18,957	9%	--	--	--	--
1989	70,713	15%	46,456	17%	42,590	14%	22,532	19%	--	--	--	--
1990	82,831	17%	57,983	25%	52,492	23%	28,621	27%	--	--	--	--
1991	88,748	7%	58,218	*	52,853	1%	28,048	-2%	--	--	--	--
1992	89,592	1%	52,581	-10%	47,960	-9%	24,601	-12%	--	--	--	--
1993	93,752	5%	51,941	-1%	47,587	-1%	24,186	-2%	--	--	--	--
1994	97,210	4%	56,178	8%	51,452	8%	26,325	9%	--	--	--	--
1995	96,255	-1%	56,175	*	51,285	*	25,375	-4%	--	--	--	--
1996	101,180	5%	60,199	7%	54,403	6%	27,219	7%	--	--	--	--
1997	103,533	2%	64,008	6%	58,743	8%	29,815	10%	--	--	--	--
1998 **	97,108	-6%	59,939	-6%	52,899	-10%	27,559	-8%	--	--	--	--
1999	98,799	2%	63,128	5%	56,335	6%	30,349	10%	--	--	--	--
2000	101,364	3%	69,009	9%	62,234	10%	33,520	10%	--	--	--	--
2001	103,029	2%	69,505	1%	61,942	*	33,858	1%	--	--	--	--
2002	105,787	3%	70,531	1%	62,891	2%	34,011	*	--	--	--	--
2003	105,988	*	70,954	1%	63,505	1%	35,011	3%	--	--	--	--
2004	108,865	3%	71,741	1%	63,329	*	35,344	1%	--	--	--	--
2005	108,581	*	69,470	-3%	61,658	-3%	34,596	-2%	--	--	--	--
2006	109,785	1%	70,993	2%	62,483	1%	35,439	2%	--	--	--	--
2007	114,421	4%	74,143	4%	64,799	4%	37,209	5%	--	--	--	--
2008	119,247	4%	81,150	9%	71,264	10%	41,125	11%	--	--	--	--
2009	115,814	-3%	70,011	-14%	59,925	-16%	32,789	-20%	3,465	--	1,121	--
2010	119,192	3%	50,539	-28%	43,145	-28%	24,232	-26%	18,633	438%	7,493	568%

* Less than 1% after rounding-off.

** The decline in reported and investigated children in CY1998 was partly an artifact of data conversion when DCF implemented a new management information system (FamilyNet) in February 1998.

(E) = Estimate

¹ Duplicated counts since a child is counted each time he/she is a subject of a report and investigation during the year.

² Initial assessments were begun in August 2009, but were not in full use until October-December 2009.

³ Initial assessments with a finding of concern.

Table 1B. Child Counts from Reports, Investigations, and Initial Assessments

Calendar Year	Reported	Screened-in for Investigation	Screened-in for Initial Assessment	Investigated*	Assessed
2009	115,814	70,011	4,938	59,925	3,465
2010	119,192	50,539	21,679	43,145	18,633

* The number of investigated children is lower than the summation of screened-in children; this occurs because an investigation may be associated to multiple reports on the same incident or by reports received on separate but closely occurring incidents.

The major reporters of alleged child maltreatment in 2010 were: law enforcement personnel, medical professionals, school personnel, and “other” mandated reporters (**Appendix Table A2** on page 38). DCF social workers reported fewer children than the major reporting groups; however, children reported by DCF were more likely to be screened-in (73% screen-in rate for social workers vs. 63-67% for medical, law enforcement, and school reporters) (**Appendix Table A2**).

Neglect accounted for the majority of reports to DCF. In 2010, 100,279 children were reported as alleged victims of neglect, 21,246 as physical abuse victims, and 7,675 as sexual abuse victims (**Appendix Table A1** on page 37). As a proportion of all children reported maltreated (119,192), neglect represented 84% of all reported children, physical abuse represented 18%, and sexual abuse represented 6%.¹³ From 2009 to 2010, the number of children with reported allegations of neglect, physical abuse, and sexual abuse rose 3%, 4%, and 4%, respectively (**Appendix Tables A3-A5** on pages 39-41).

B. Screening, Investigation, and Initial Assessment

1. Screening

In late August 2009, the Massachusetts DCF began implementing a new system for handling reports and investigations of child maltreatment. The “Differential Response” system allows reports to be screened-in for an investigation response or an initial assessment response (see chart on page vi).

Reports of sexual abuse, severe physical abuse, and severe neglect are screened-in for investigation. The severity of the situation determines whether the screened-in report requires emergency or non-emergency investigation.¹⁴ An investigation response is initiated to determine the current safety and potential risk to the reported child, the validity of the allegation(s), the identification of the person(s) responsible, and whether DCF intervention is necessary.

Reports with moderate or low risk allegations of neglect and physical abuse can be screened-in for initial assessment. An assessment response is conducted to determine if DCF involvement is necessary and to engage and support families. The response includes a review of the reported allegation(s), an assessment of the child’s safety and risk, the identification of family strengths, and a determination of what, if any, supports and services are needed.

¹³ The summation of counts (and percentages) for the different types of maltreatment do not sum to the total for all maltreatment since a child subjected to more than one type of maltreatment is counted in each maltreatment category, e.g., a neglected, physically abused, and sexually abused child would be counted once under the “all” maltreatment category, and once in each of the neglect, physical abuse, and sexual abuse categories.

¹⁴ In an emergency report, the screener has determined the reported condition poses a threat of immediate danger to the life, health, or physical safety of the child.

Screen-in rates were at their highest level from 1983-1986; fluctuations ranged from 72-79% (see table below). The rates declined to the 55-59% range during 1992-1996. From 1997 to 2008, the screen-in rate ranged from 62 to 68%. Although the screening rate may decline from one year to the next, it does not necessarily result in a decrease in the number of children screened-in as the number of children reported may continue to climb (**Table 1A** on page 3). In 2009 and 2010, the screen-in rate for all reported maltreatment was 64% and 60%, respectively. The recent changes in the screen-in rates can be attributed to the differential response system which was fully operational towards the end of 2009 and throughout 2010. Of the 119,192 children reported in 2010, 42% were screened-in for investigation and 18% for initial assessment. (See second table below)

Proportion of Children Screened-in for Investigation

Calendar Year	% Screened-in	Calendar Year	% Screened-in
1983	77%	1996	59%
1984	79%	1997	62%
1985	75%	1998	62%
1986	72%	1999	64%
1987	68%	2000	68%
1988	65%	2001	67%
1989	66%	2002	67%
1990	70%	2003	67%
1991	66%	2004	66%
1992	59%	2005	64%
1993	55%	2006	65%
1994	58%	2007	65%
1995	58%	2008	68%

Differences in the pre- and post-2009 screening and response processes preclude a comparison of rates.

Proportion of Children Screened-in for Investigation and Initial Assessment

Calendar Year	% Screen-In	% Screened-in	% Screened-in
	Total	for Investigation	for Initial Assessment
2009	64%	60%	4%
2010	60%	42%	18%

2. Investigation

At the end of an investigation, a decision is made whether to support the report of alleged maltreatment based on the information collected. The investigator determines: (1) the existence, nature, extent, and cause of the alleged abuse or neglect; (2) the identity of the person(s) alleged to be responsible, if possible; (3) the name, age, and condition of all other children in the same household; and (4) all other pertinent facts or matters which are deemed necessary to support or unsupport the allegation reported to DCF.

From 1983 to 2008, the percentage of children with investigations that resulted in a decision to support rose from 48% to 58% (see table on below). This translates to 12,518 children with supported allegations of maltreatment in 1983 and 41,125 children with supported allegations in 2008 (**Table 1A** on page 3). The 1983–2008 increase in children with supported allegations resulted from increases in reporting and supporting (**Table 1A**). There does not appear to be any relationship between support rates and screen-in rates. Over the years, the screen-in rate has fluctuated while the support rate has slowly increased and stabilized. In 2010, the support rate was 56%.

Calendar Year	% Supported	Calendar Year	% Supported
1983	48%	1997	51%
1984	48%	1998	52%
1985	51%	1999	54%
1986	52%	2000	54%
1987	51%	2001	55%
1988	51%	2002	54%
1989	53%	2003	56%
1990	55%	2004	56%
1991	53%	2005	56%
1992	51%	2006	57%
1993	51%	2007	57%
1994	51%	2008	58%
1995	49%	2009	55%
1996	50%	2010	56%

3. Initial Assessment

The purpose of an initial assessment is to engage a family in an immediate, collaborative, information-gathering effort to determine: (1) the safety of the child(ren); (2) the impact of parent action or inaction on the child; (3) the potential for any future abuse or neglect; and (4) whether DCF services are needed.

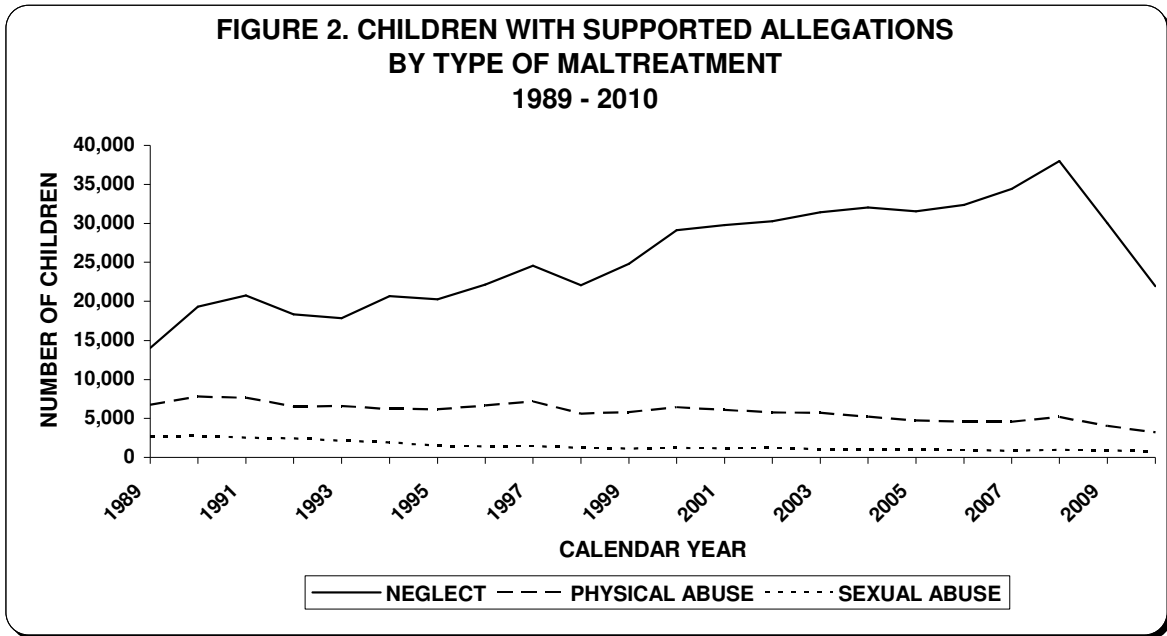
At the completion of the initial assessment, the DCF social worker must determine whether there is a substantiated “concern” for future abuse or neglect or “minimal or no concern” for future abuse or neglect. In 2010, there was a finding of concern for 40% of the children in initial assessments and a finding of minimal or no concern for 60% of the children in initial assessments (table below).

Calendar Year	% Concern	% Minimal or No Concern
2009	32%	68%
2010	40%	60%

To summarize, initial assessments are conducted on cases where the level of severity of the allegations of abuse or neglect does not rise to the level requiring a DCF investigation response. The initial assessment provides a less intrusive way for DCF to become involved and engaged with families who may need help in addressing issues of neglect or safety for their children. By taking such an approach, DCF is better able to focus its efforts on strengthening families and keeping children safe and at home.

C. Type of Maltreatment Supported

Victimized children are the subjects of investigations where it has been determined that they have been maltreated (supported allegations). **Figure 2** displays counts of victimized children by type of maltreatment from 1989 to 2010.¹⁵ Neglect is clearly the driving force behind the sustained growth in child maltreatment in reports and supported findings over the years. Physical abuse and sexual abuse have been declining for most of the past 20 and 25 years, respectively (**Fig.2**). From 2009 to 2010, children with supported allegations of neglect, physical abuse, and sexual abuse decreased 27%, 20%, and 8%, respectively (**Appendix Tables A3-A5** on pages 39-41). Part of the decline in neglect (and physical abuse to a lesser degree) resulted from children with low risk allegations of neglect being screened-in for initial assessment rather than investigation (See section B on page 4 and table on page 10). Declines in all types of maltreatment have been noted nationally (Finkelhor and Jones 2006; NIS-4 2010; Finkelhor and colleagues 2011).¹⁶



NOTE: These are duplicated counts since a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of an investigation during the year.

¹⁵ See duplicated child counts in Appendix Tables A3-A5.

¹⁶ See footnotes on page 1

As noted on the previous page, the continued decline in sexual abuse is a national phenomenon (Finkelhor and Jones 2001 and 2004).¹⁷ Escalating numbers of children found to be sexually abused during the 1980s were followed by declining numbers during the 1990s (Finkelhor and Jones 2001 and 2004). Researchers believe that multiple factors are responsible for the decrease in reports and substantiations of sexual abuse. However, there is no clear consensus as to which factors are involved and to what degree they contributed to the decline. One factor may be an actual decline in the incidence of sexual abuse (Finkelhor and Jones 2001 and 2004). The downward trend in sexual abuse (and physical abuse) was accompanied by sustained economic improvement, increases in law enforcement and child protection personnel, more aggressive prosecution and incarceration policies, growing public awareness about the problems, and dissemination of new treatment options for family and mental health problems (Finkelhor and colleagues 2010).¹⁸

In Massachusetts, there has also been a dramatic decline in the number of children found to be sexually abused (**Fig. 3A** on next page). From 1990 to 2007, the number of children with supported allegations of sexual abuse dropped 69% (table below, **Appendix Table A5** on page 41). Substantial declines occurred across all ages, but most significantly among the youngest children (table below, **Figs. 3A and 3B**). As a result, the largest age group among sexually abused children shifted from 3-5 years in 1990-1997 to 12-14 years in 2002-2010 (**Figs. 3A and 3B** on next page). From 2007 to 2010, the number of children found to be sexually abused decreased 7%. A gain in 12-14 year olds was offset by losses among all other age groups (see table below, **Figs. 3A and 3B**).

Sexually Abused Children*

Age Group (years)	% Change 1990 to 2007	% Change 2007 to 2010
0 – 2	-94%	23%**
3 – 5	-83%	-21%
6 – 8	-71%	-15%
9 – 11	-62%	-18%
12 – 14	-52%	17%
15 – 17	-50%	-7%
Total	-69%	-7%

* Children with supported allegations of sexual abuse following an investigation.

** The 23% increase resulted from relatively small counts for 0-2 year olds (from 13 children in 2007 to 16 in 2010) when compared to the 17% increase for 12-14 year olds (201 to 236 children).

¹⁷ Jones, L. and D. Finkelhor. 2001. The Decline in Child Sexual Abuse Cases. *Juvenile Justice Bulletin* (January). Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. 12pp.

Finkelhor, D. and L. Jones. 2004. Explanations for the Decline in Child Sexual Abuse Cases. *Juvenile Justice Bulletin* (January). Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. 24pp.

¹⁸ Finkelhor, D., L. Jones, and A. Shattuck. 2010. Updated Trends in Child Maltreatment, 2010. *Crimes Against Children Research Center*, University of New Hampshire. 4pp.

FIGURE 3A. CHILD COUNTS BY AGE GROUP FROM INVESTIGATIONS OF SUPPORTED SEXUAL ABUSE: 1990 - 2010

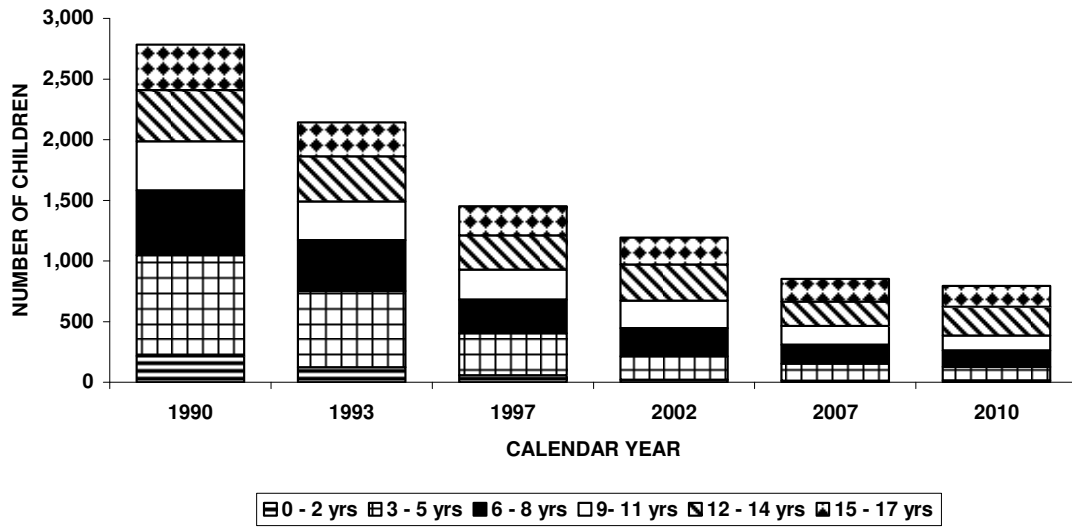
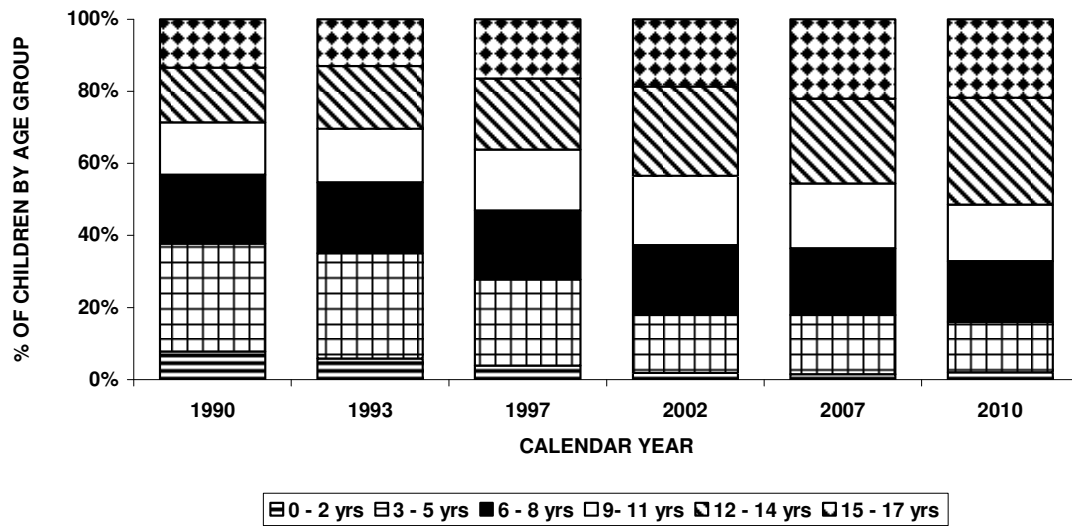


FIGURE 3B. PROPORTIONS OF CHILDREN BY AGE GROUP FROM INVESTIGATIONS OF SUPPORTED SEXUAL ABUSE: 1990 - 2010



Nationally, Finkelhor and Jones (2004) reported a 40% decline in identified sexual abuse cases from 1992 to 2000. Thirty-nine of 49 states had a decline of 30% percent or more in substantiated cases of sexual abuse from their peak year to 2000. Nineteen of these states had declines of more than 50% in their sexual abuse caseloads.

Figures 4A–4C (on page 11) display annual counts of children from reports, screened-in reports, and findings (supported investigations and initial assessments of concern) of neglect, physical abuse, and sexual abuse from 1989 to 2010. For both neglect and physical abuse, annual counts of children reported and screened-in mirror the counts of children with findings of support/concern—upward trend for neglect and downward trend for physical abuse. A slight deviation occurred from 2009 to 2010 when children with reported allegations of neglect or physical abuse rose while screen-ins and findings declined (**Figs. 4A and 4B**). From 2009 to 2010, fewer children were screened-in for investigation and more were screened-in for initial assessment (table below, **Appendix Tables A3 and A4** on pages 39-40). The reduction in children screened-in for investigation resulted in fewer children involved in investigations and supported investigations. The magnitude of these changes can be attributed to the implementation of the differential response system at the end of 2009 and its continued use throughout 2010 (table below, **Appendix Tables A3 and A4**).

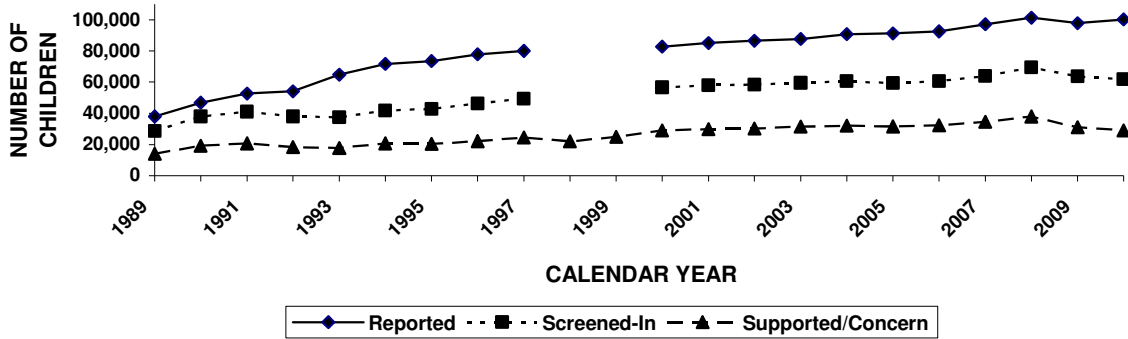
Child Counts from Reports, Investigations, and Initial Assessments Neglect and Physical Abuse: 2009 - 2010				
CHILD MALTREATMENT	CHILD COUNTS*			
	NEGLECT		PHYSICAL ABUSE	
	CY2009	CY2010	CY2009	CY2010
REPORTED	97,776	100,279	20,526	21,246
SCREENED-IN				
for Investigation	59,113	41,684	14,875	11,761
for Initial Assessment	4,606	20,143	546	2,635
RESPONSE:				
Investigation	52,343	37,003	13,577	10,825
Initial Assessment	3,242	17,414	387	2,351
FINDINGS:**				
Support	30,015	21,952	4,030	3,212
Concern	1,060	7,178	123	790

* Duplicated counts since a child is counted each time she/he is the subject of a report, investigation, and initial assessment during the year.

** Outcomes of investigations and initial assessments.

Unlike neglect and physical abuse, annual counts of children with reported allegations of sexual abuse are not a reflection of children with screened-in and supported investigations (**Figs. 4A-4C**). Over the years, children with screened-in reports and children with supported investigations of sexual abuse clearly show a downward trend while the number of children with reported allegations was either increasing or constant (**Fig. 4C**). Consequently, the decline in children with supported allegations of sexual abuse was not due to a decrease in reporting. The drop in the finding of sexual abuse seems to be related to a change in the screening and investigation processes. Although there was a decrease in the findings of sexual abuse for children of all ages, the decline was greatest for the youngest children (**Figs. 3A and 3B** on page 9).

FIGURE 4A. CHILD COUNTS FROM ALLEGATIONS AND FINDINGS OF NEGLECT



NOTE: Data were not available for children reported and screened-in during 1998 and 1999.

FIGURE 4B. CHILD COUNTS FROM ALLEGATIONS AND FINDINGS OF PHYSICAL ABUSE

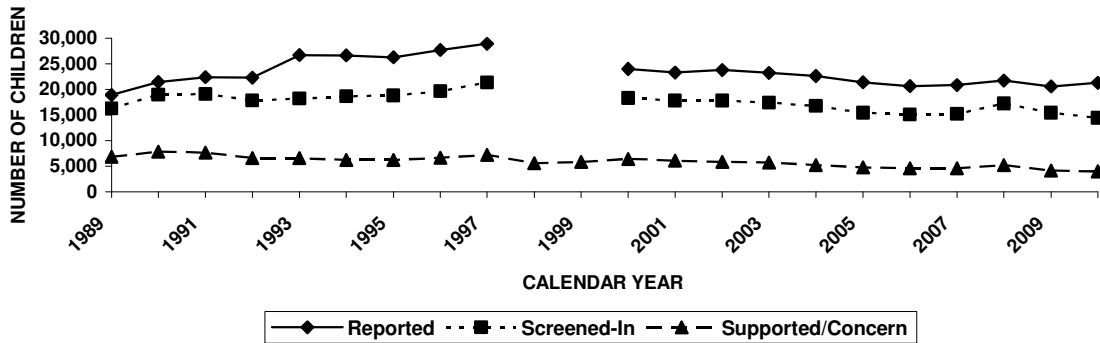
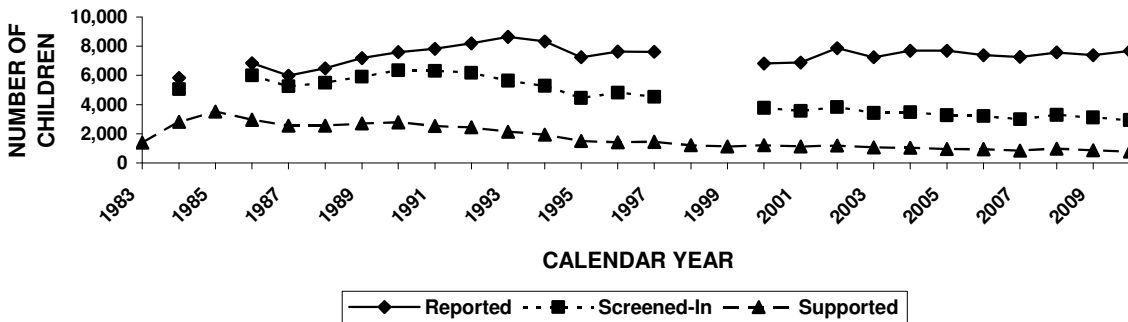


FIGURE 4C. CHILD COUNTS FROM ALLEGATIONS AND FINDINGS OF SEXUAL ABUSE



NOTE: Data were not available for children reported and screened-in during 1983, 1985, 1998 and 1999.

The table below (and **Appendix Table A5** on page 41) contains a complete set of sexual abuse statistics for the years 2000 to 2010. The number of reported children fluctuated over the 11 year period while the screen-in rate dropped from 55% in 2000 to 38% in 2010. During this span of time, both the screen-in rate and number of investigated children declined. Since the support rate was relatively stable over the 11 years, the decreasing number of children with supported allegations may be related to the declining screen-in rate.

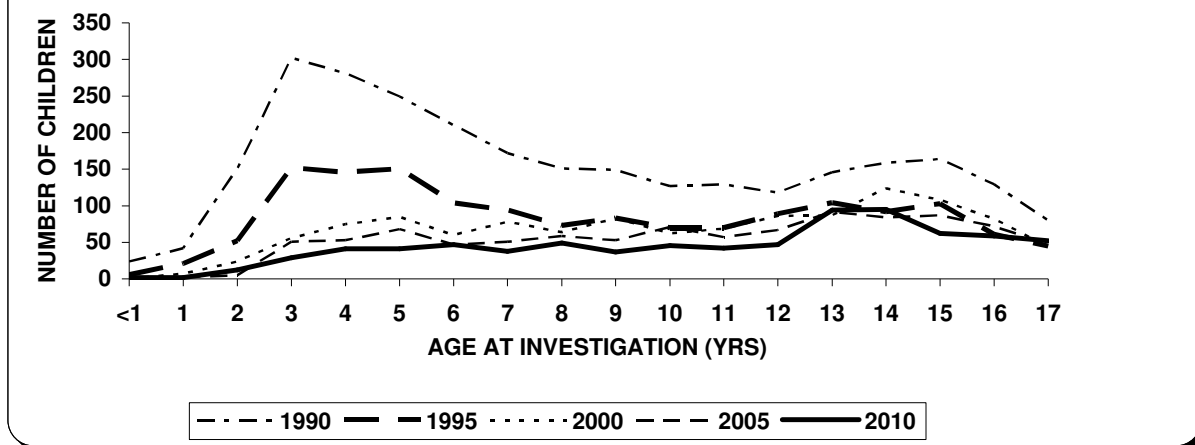
Children with Sexual Abuse Allegations Reported, Screened-In, Investigated, & Supported

Year	Reported No.	Screened-In for Investigation %	Screened-In for Investigation No.	Investigated No.	Supported %	Supported No.
2000	6826	55%	3772	3496	35%	1216
2001	6874	52%	3559	3221	36%	1152
2002	7865	49%	3835	3470	35%	1210
2003	7243	47%	3430	3066	34%	1057
2004	7693	45%	3489	3090	34%	1052
2005	7692	43%	3272	2956	33%	976
2006	7381	44%	3223	2804	34%	956
2007	7260	41%	3003	2605	33%	853
2008	7581	44%	3304	2924	34%	988
2009	7393	42%	3128	2617	33%	874
2010	7675	38%	2937	2428	33%	801

NOTE: The number of children investigated is lower than the number of children screened-in for investigation because an investigation may be associated to multiple reports on the same incident or on separate but closely occurring incidents.

Figure 5 on page 13 displays the number and age of children found to be sexually abused in 1990-2010. From 1990 to 1995, there was a reduction in the number of children found to be sexually abused across all ages. This decline was most distinct among younger children, especially those age 2 to 8 years. From 1995 to 2000, the numbers of children 7 years or older showed little change, while the numbers of children between 2 and 6 years old continued to drop significantly. From 2000 to 2005, the overall numbers of children found to be sexually abused continued to decline but at a much lower rate. From 2005 to 2010, there was a decrease in the total number of children found to be sexually abused; the most notable reductions occurred among children 3-5, 10, and 15 years old.

Figure 5. AGE OF CHILDREN WITH SUPPORTED ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE (1990 - 2010)



NOTE: These are duplicated counts since a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of an investigation during the year.

The drop in children with supported allegations of sexual abuse (especially among 2 to 7 year old children) may be due in part to the difficulty in proving it has occurred (unless there is physical evidence). A young child’s inability to adequately verbalize what occurred, the fear of punishment from threatening adults, the anxiety from the investigation process, and other factors may cause a child to recant or stop talking about the incident. A study by Smith and colleagues (1995)¹⁹ showed that the outcome of sexual abuse cases was highly dependent on the victim’s testimony. In most cases, sexual abuse is not seen by witnesses. Furthermore, family members and relatives are often in disbelief and denial that sexual abuse has occurred. There is also little physical evidence in many incidents of sexual molestation. Under such circumstances, Smith and colleagues found there was greater difficulty substantiating cases involving younger children.

In January 1998, the DCF Office of the General Counsel issued guidelines for investigators in response to increased judicial scrutiny of children’s statements and the expectation that (DCF) investigations meet high standards of reliability. The guidelines enumerate factors pertinent to the credibility of the child’s disclosures that should be documented in all child sexual abuse investigations.²⁰

¹⁹ Smith, S.L., Q.E. Sullivan, and A.H. Cohen. 1995. Factors Associated with the Indication of Child Abuse Reports. *Journal of Social Service Research* 21:15-34.

²⁰ From “Office of the General Counsel provides sexual abuse investigations guidelines,” a news item appearing in “Moving Forward,” Vol. 7, No. 2 (January 22, 1998)—a DCF publication.

II. Child Counts from Reports, Investigations, and Initial Assessments 2010

A. Report Disposition: DCF Regions and Statewide

DCF is divided into four service regions with substantially different consumer counts. Of 71,703 consumers receiving services on 12/31/2010, 27,756 (39%) were in the West, 16,299 (23%) in the North, 19,080 (27%) in the South, 8,192 (11%) in Boston, and 376 (<1%) were being served by contracted agencies.

Of the 119,192 reported children in 2010, 42% were screened-in for investigation and 18% were screened-in for initial assessment (**Table 2**). Eight percent of all children reported were screened-in as needing an emergency response. The percentage of children screened-in ranged from 58% in the Northern DCF Region²¹ to 67% in the Boston Region (**Table 2**).

Boston had the highest proportion of reported children who were screened-in as an emergency (11%). An analysis of emergency screen-ins by reporting group indicated that law enforcement personnel and medical professionals encountered more children in high-risk situations. Seventeen percent of the children reported to DCF by law enforcement personnel had their reports screened-in as emergencies. Sixteen percent of the children reported by medical professionals were screened-in as emergencies.

Table 2. Counts of Children in Reports by DCF Region and Screening Decision during January 1 - December 31, 2010

DCF Service Region	Child Counts ¹										Children Reported	
	Screened-Out		Screened-Out DA Referral		Screened-In for Investigation				Screened-In for Initial Assessment			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Western	14,589	36%	1,025	2%	15,248	37%	3,445	8%	6,704	16%	41,011	34%
Northern	11,134	38%	1,143	4%	8,104	28%	2,118	7%	6,587	23%	29,086	24%
Southern	14,369	39%	618	2%	12,781	35%	2,685	7%	6,279	17%	36,732	31%
Boston	3,674	30%	371	3%	4,649	38%	1,359	11%	2,109	17%	12,162	10%
Unspecified	46	23%	5	2%	113	56%	37	18%	---	---	201	*
Total	43,812	37%	3,162	3%	40,895	34%	9,644	8%	21,679	18%	119,192	100%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

¹ These are duplicated counts since a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of a report during the year.

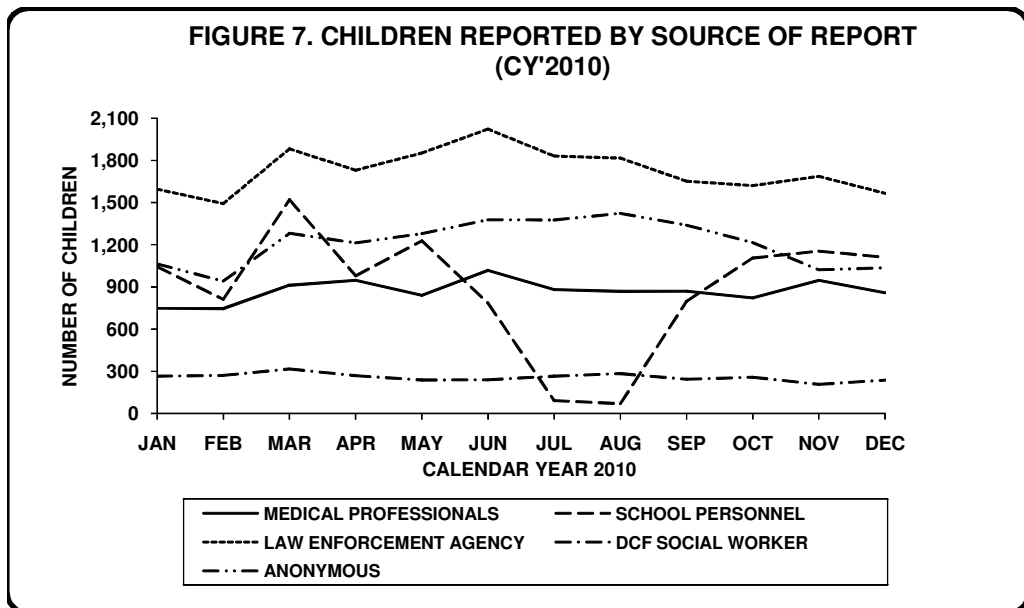
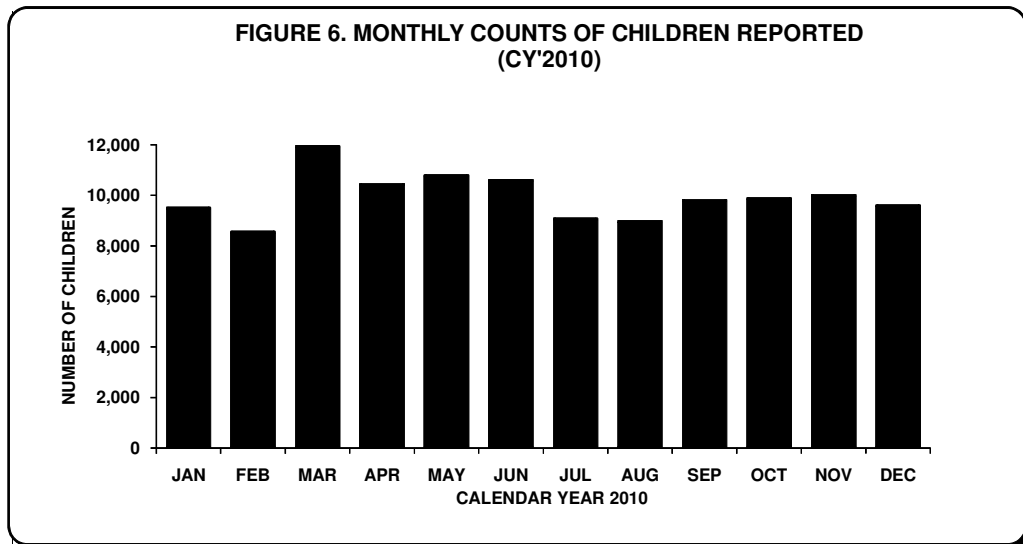
In 2010, 64% of the children reported by mandated²² sources were screened-in for investigation or initial assessment compared to 52% for nonmandated and 49% for anonymous (**Appendix Table A2** on page 38). Reporting groups with the highest screen-in rates were: DCF social workers (73%), medical personnel (67%), law enforcement agency personnel (66%), and school personnel (63%) (**Appendix Table A2**).

²¹ Massachusetts is divided into four DCF service regions: Western, Northern, Southern, and Boston.

²² Refer to M.G.L. c. 119, s. 51A for a description of mandated reporters.

Anonymous sources reported a high number of children (14,574), but they had a relatively low screen-in rate (49%) (**Appendix Table A2** on page 38). Among nonmandated reporters, mothers and fathers out-of-home had the lowest screen-in rates (39% and 42%, respectively). The number of children reported by law enforcement agencies (20,755) exceeded the number reported by anonymous callers (**Appendix Table A2**). Other reporting groups who reported high numbers of children were school personnel (10,701), medical professionals (10,461), and “other” mandated reporters (10,583).

Reports of maltreatment were highest in March through June (**Fig. 6**). The major reporting groups during these four months were law enforcement agencies, school personnel, and anonymous callers (**Fig. 7**). July and August were conspicuous by a virtual absence of reporting from schools. Although the levels of reporting by medical professionals and DCF social workers were lower than the other reporting groups, they were fairly stable throughout the year (**Fig. 7**).



B. Investigation and Initial Assessment Disposition: DCF Regions and Statewide

In CY'2010, DCF conducted 27,657 investigations²³ of alleged maltreatment involving 43,145 children (**Table 3A, Fig. 8** on next page). Of these children, 24,232 (56%) were found to have been victimized (children with supported allegations).²⁴ Regionally, the proportion of children with supported allegations ranged from 55% in Boston to 57% in the South (**Table 3A**).

Table 3A. Counts of Children in Investigations by DCF Region and Investigation Decision during January 1 - December 31, 2010

DCF Service Region	Investigation Decision Child Counts ¹				Total Children in Investigations	
	Supported		Unsupported		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
Western	8,872	56%	6,909	44%	15,781	100%
Northern	5,023	56%	3,874	44%	8,897	100%
Southern	7,612	57%	5,849	43%	13,461	100%
Boston	2,685	55%	2,211	45%	4,896	100%
Unspecified	40	36%	70	64%	110	100%
Total	24,232	56%	18,913	44%	43,145	100%

¹ These are duplicated counts since a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of an investigation during the year.

The investigation process is no longer the Department's only response to reported allegations of neglect and physical abuse. With the differential response system, there is now an assessment track for allegations of moderate or low risk neglect and physical abuse. The initial assessment response provides a less intrusive way for DCF to engage with families who may need help in addressing issues of neglect or safety for their children. (See **Table 3B** on next page)

²³ Nineteen percent of these investigations were emergencies and 81% were non-emergencies. Under the new differential response system which became available in August 2009, emergency investigations were to be completed within 5 business days of the report while non-emergencies were to be completed within 15 business days (see chart on page vi).

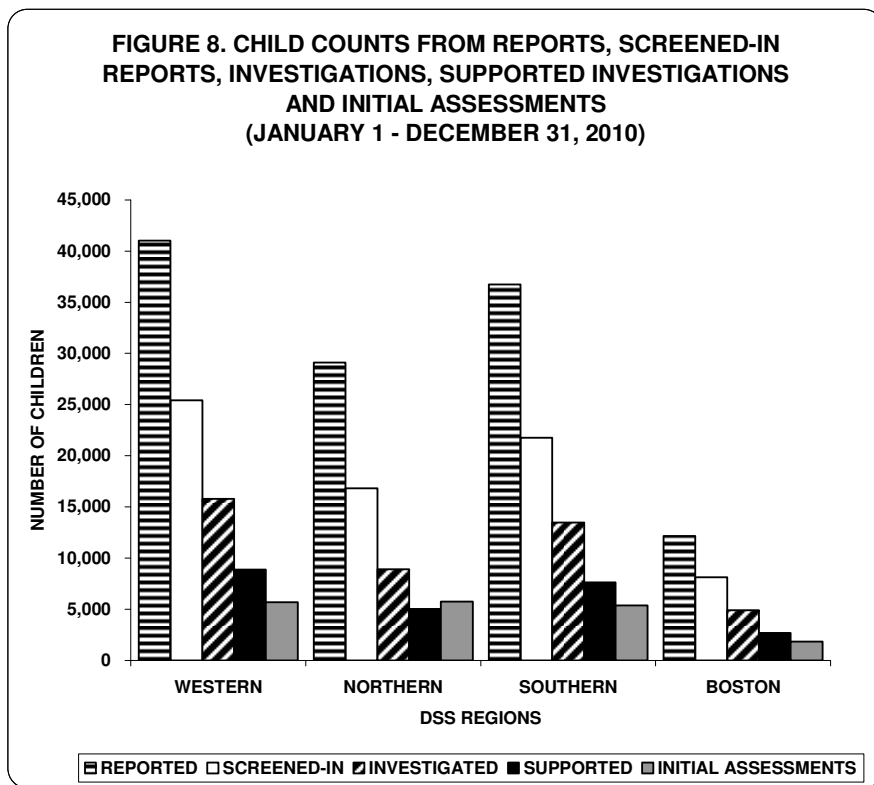
²⁴ These are **duplicated counts** since a child is counted each time he/she was the subject of an investigation during 2010. Removing duplication reduces the number of children with supported investigations by 8% to 22,376. The duplication percentage has ranged from 7-11% over the past 25 years. Appendix Table A1 provides duplicated and unduplicated counts of children who were the subjects of investigations by type of maltreatment. NOTE: The term "supported" is equivalent to "substantiated" which was used in statistical reports produced before 1988.

DCF conducted 12,223 initial assessments involving 18,663 children²⁵ in 2010 (Table 3B, Fig. 8). Of these children, 7,493 (40%) had initial assessments of concern. The proportion of children with findings of concern ranged from 38% in the Southern Region to 42% in the Western Region (Table 3B).

TABLE 3B. Counts of Children in Initial Assessments by DCF Region and Initial Assessment Decision during January 1 - December 31, 2010

DCF Service Region	Initial Assessment Decision Child Counts ¹				Total Children in Initial Assessments	
	Concern		Minimal/No Concern		No.	%
	No.	%	No.	%		
Western	2,414	42%	3,281	58%	5,695	100%
Northern	2,301	40%	3,437	60%	5,738	100%
Southern	2,050	38%	3,319	62%	5,369	100%
Boston	728	40%	1,103	60%	1,831	100%
Total	7,493	40%	11,140	60%	18,633	100%

¹ These are duplicated counts since a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of an initial assessment during the year.



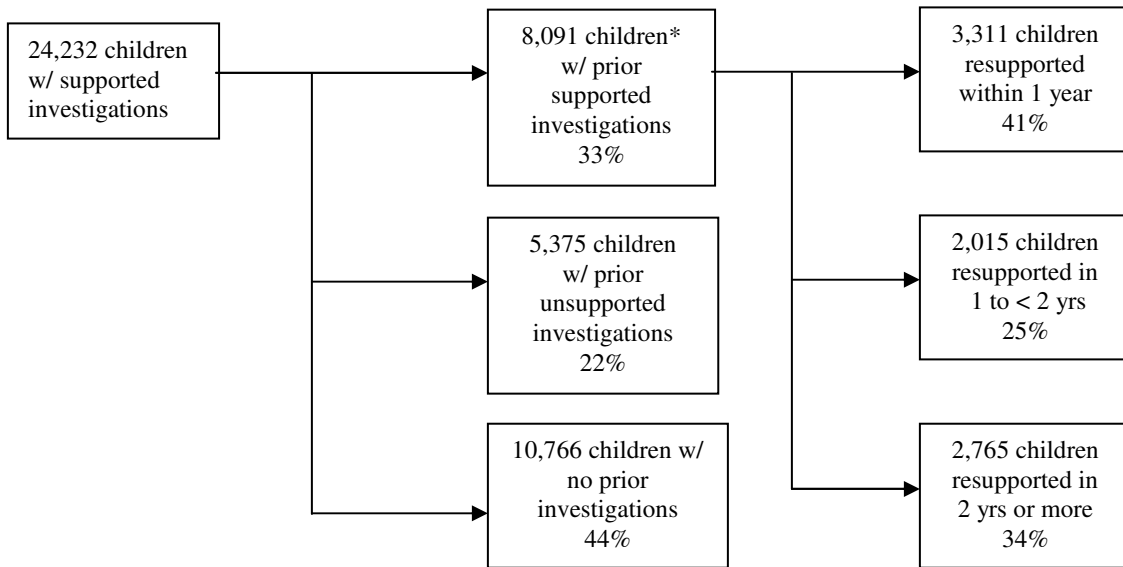
NOTE: These are duplicated counts since a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of a report, investigation, and initial assessment during the year. Screened-in includes children screened-in for investigation and children screened-in for initial assessment.

²⁵ This is a duplicated count of children since a child is counted each time he/she was the subject of an initial assessment during 2010. Removing duplication reduces the number of children with initial assessments by 4% to 17,888 and the number of children with findings of concern by 3% to 7,300. See Appendix Table A1 for duplicated and unduplicated counts of children with initial assessments by type of maltreatment.

C. Recidivism: Children with Supported Allegations

There were 16,171 supported investigations involving 24,232 children in 2010.²⁶ Forty-four percent of these children had no prior investigation, 33% had a prior supported investigation, and 22% had a prior unsupported investigation (see diagram below).

The following table displays the time that elapsed from the prior investigation to the current supported investigation. The recidivism distribution over the specified time periods showed little difference for children with prior supported or unsupported investigations. Recidivism time does not appear to be affected by whether a child had a prior supported investigation or an unsupported investigation.



* 8,091 children with prior supported investigations represent 7,477 unique individuals

Maltreatment Recidivism Time from Prior Support/Unsupport to Current Support	Children with Supported Investigations			
	Prior Support		Prior Unsupport	
	No.	%	No.	%
1 to < 30 days	262	3%	204	4%
30 to < 60 days	419	5%	298	6%
60 to < 90 days	339	4%	223	4%
90 days to < 6 months	845	10%	617	11%
6 months to < 1 year	1446	18%	979	18%
1 to < 1.5 years	1136	14%	717	13%
1.5 to < 2 years	879	11%	513	10%
2 to < 5 years	1958	24%	1260	23%
5 or more years	807	10%	563	10%
Unknown	----	----	1	*
Total	8091	100%	5375	100%

Notes: The summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

²⁶ A duplicated count since a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of a supported investigation during 2010.

D. Geographic Distribution of Child Maltreatment

1. Reporting and Victimization Rates by Incorporated City and Town

The numbers of reported children by city and town of residence are presented in **Appendix Tables A6 to A8** on pages 42-44.²⁷ To compare the incidence of maltreatment among cities and towns of differing population sizes, unduplicated counts of reported children were converted to rates--number of reported children per 1,000 children less than 18 years old residing in a particular area.²⁸ Rates based on reports are less vulnerable to bias than rates based on screened-in reports or supported investigations (Zuravin and Taylor 1987).²⁹

In 1997, the maltreatment reporting rate for Massachusetts was 50.4 reported children per 1,000 resident children less than 18 years old (Felix 1998).³⁰ The statewide reporting rate for Massachusetts was 51.2 in 2007, 52.9 in 2008, 51.9 in 2009, and 56.3 in 2010. The victimization rate in Massachusetts was 22.3 victimized children per 1,000 resident children less than 18 years old in 2007, 24.4 in 2008, 19.9 in 2009, and 15.8 in 2010. Victimized children were the subject of an investigation that resulted in a supported allegation of maltreatment. The drop in the victimization rate is partly due to the Department's differential response system which allows reports to be screened-in for an investigation response or an initial assessment response (see pages 5-6).

The municipalities with the highest reporting rates typically had the highest victimization rates (see table below, **Appendix Table A8** on page 44):

City/Town	Reporting Rate	Victimization Rate	City/Town	Reporting Rate	Victimization Rate
North Adams	195.2	48.8	Greenfield	128.9	29.1
Athol	185.4	41.1	New Bedford	125.5	50.9
Pittsfield	156.0	46.5	Gardner	110.5	38.8
Webster	147.6	39.7	Southbridge	108.8	28.2
Holyoke	143.5	45.1	Fall River	105.7	31.4
Springfield	130.7	41.0	Fitchburg	102.0	28.3

²⁷ Selected cities had more than 300 (unduplicated count) children reported as having been maltreated.

²⁸ City/town population of resident children less 18 years old in Massachusetts from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census, American Fact Finder, Table DP-1. Profile of General Population and Housing Characteristics: 2010 Demographic Profile Data. (<http://factfinder2.census.gov>).

²⁹ Zuravin, S.J. and R. Taylor. 1987. The Ecology of Child Maltreatment: Identifying and Characterizing High Risk Neighborhoods. *Child Welfare* 66:497-506.

³⁰ Felix, A.C. , III. 1998. Massachusetts Child Maltreatment Statistics, January 1 – December 31, 1997. Massachusetts Department of Social Services, Boston, MA. 73pp.

The municipalities³¹ listed in the following table (and **Appendix Table A6** on page 42) had more than 300 (unduplicated count) resident children reported as maltreated in 2010. In 2010, 12 municipalities had reporting rates over 100. North Adams had the highest reporting rate, followed by Athol and Pittsfield. The reporting rates of 33 cities/towns were higher than the statewide reporting rate (see table below). Although high reporting rates indicate a high incidence of maltreatment, they may also reflect a high public awareness within the geographic area.

Municipality Reporting Rates

North Adams	195.2	Lynn	83.1	Revere	55.5
Athol	185.4	Brockton	83.0	Somerville	55.3
Pittsfield	156.0	Chelsea	81.2	Attleboro	54.8
Webster	147.6	West Springfield	74.5	Peabody	54.1
Holyoke	143.5	Lawrence	72.8	Falmouth	53.9
Springfield	130.7	Taunton	72.6	Marlborough	53.0
Greenfield	128.9	Leominster	72.2	Beverly	51.5
New Bedford	125.5	Wareham	70.1	Weymouth	51.3
Gardner	110.5	Everett	69.8	Framingham	51.2
Southbridge	108.8	Malden	66.8	Waltham	50.0
Fall River	105.7	Gloucester	63.3	Randolph	48.3
Fitchburg	102.0	Boston	62.3	Plymouth	47.1
Chicopee	95.5	Barnstable	61.4	Woburn	43.6
Lowell	95.1	Westfield	60.8	Methuen	39.1
Haverhill	90.2	Milford	58.6	Cambridge	38.7
Salem	87.5	Quincy	57.8	Medford	35.6
Worcester	84.6	STATE	56.3	Newton	20.4

NOTES: Cities/towns with more than 300 reported children.

Rates = reported children per 1,000 resident children less than 18 years old

2. Associated Demographic/Socioeconomic Factors

City/town reporting rates are listed in **Appendix Tables A6 and A7** (pages 42-43) relative to some demographic and socioeconomic factors that have been associated with child maltreatment by various researchers. To further examine the relationship between these demographic/socioeconomic variables and maltreatment reporting, statistics are displayed for two groups in the table on page 21. One group is comprised of 10 municipalities³² with the highest reporting rates in the above table. The second group represents 10 cities/towns³³ with the lowest reporting rates in the above table.

³¹ Data are compiled by incorporated cities and towns. Within each incorporated city/town, the counts of maltreated children from all villages and sections were combined.

³² Highest: North Adams, Athol, Pittsfield, Webster, Holyoke, Springfield, Greenfield, New Bedford, Gardner, Southbridge

³³ Lowest: Newton, Medford, Cambridge, Methuen, Woburn, Plymouth, Randolph, Waltham, Framingham, Weymouth

INDICATOR	10 CITIES/TOWNS w/HIGHEST REPORTING RATES		10 CITIES/TOWNS w/LOWEST REPORTING RATES	
	RANGE	AVERAGE	RANGE	AVERAGE
Reporting Rate ³⁴	108.8 - 195.2	143.2	20.4 - 51.3	42.5
%Households w/Cash Public Assistance Income ³⁵	3.9% - 9.1%	5.9%	1.3% - 4.5%	2.3%
%Households w/Food Stamps/SNAP Benefits ³⁶	12.0% - 34.1%	19.1%	2.8% - 10.9%	6.0%
Median Family Income	\$39,935 - \$62,939	\$50,818	\$74,395 - \$136,843	\$87,322
Below Poverty Level: %Families w/Children ³⁷	11.1% - 39.1%	23.1%	4.4% - 14.8%	9.4%
Below Poverty Level: %Families w/Single Female & Children ³⁸	19.4% - 58.9%	41.1%	15.8% - 36.4%	26.3%
%Unemployed	8.5% - 14.6%	11.2%	5.6% - 10.2%	7.8%
Teen Birth Rate ³⁹	23.1 - 96.8	54.1	4.1 - 30.1	13.4

These factors should not be viewed as causes of child maltreatment but rather as indicators of potential risk.

The reporting rates on the preceding pages (and **Appendix Tables A6-A8** pages 42-44) are computed from combined counts of all types of reported maltreatment. Since 86% (69,079 of 79,880 from **Appendix Table A1** on page 37)⁴⁰ of the children reported in 2010 were allegedly neglected,⁴¹ these rates are more a reflection of neglect than the less frequently occurring physical abuse and sexual abuse.

Among the cities and towns listed in Appendix Tables A6 and A7, those with the most extreme poverty/stress indicator values are:

- Families with related children less than 18 years old that were below poverty level (11.5% statewide and 15.7% nationwide): Holyoke 39.1%, Springfield 33.2%, Lawrence 31.9%, New Bedford 29.6%, Chelsea 28.4%, and Fall River 28.0%.
- Families with female householder and no husband present with related children less than 18 years that were below poverty level (33.4% statewide and 37.4% nationwide): Holyoke 58.9%, Springfield 50.9%, New Bedford 50.5%, Fall River 49.8%, Lawrence 49.1%, and Chicopee 48.8%.

³⁴ Number of reported children per 1,000 resident children less than 18 years old

³⁵ Households with cash public assistance income in the past 12 months as a percent of all households

³⁶ Households with food stamps/supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP) benefits in the past 12 months as a percent of all households

³⁷ Percent of all families with related children less than 18 years old who were below poverty level

³⁸ Percent of all families with female householder and no husband present with related children less than 18 years old who were below poverty level

³⁹ Number of births per 1,000 females ages 15-19 years

⁴⁰ Unduplicated counts of reported children from Appendix Table A1

⁴¹ Neglect was recorded as one of the reported maltreatment conditions.

- Live births per 1,000 females ages 15-19 years (19.6 statewide and 39.1 nationwide):⁴² Holyoke 96.8, Lawrence 79.0, Chelsea 76.0, and Springfield 72.1.
- Households that were receiving cash public assistance (2.7% statewide and 2.5% nationwide): Holyoke 9.1%, Springfield 7.6%, New Bedford 7.2%, Chelsea 6.7%, and Lawrence 6.6%.
- Households that were receiving Food Stamps/SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits (8.4% statewide and 9.3% nationwide): Holyoke 34.1%, Springfield 28.1%, Lawrence 25.3%, New Bedford 20.5%, and Chelsea 20.1%.
- Labor force unemployment rate (8.3% statewide and 9.6% nationwide): Lawrence 16.5%, Fall River 14.7%, New Bedford 14.6%, and Springfield 12.6%.
- Family median income (\$81,165 statewide and \$62,982 nationwide): Lawrence \$36,940, Holyoke \$39,935, Springfield \$41,532, Chelsea \$43,060, Fall River \$44,498, and New Bedford \$45,347.

Socioeconomic and demographic factors strongly influence child maltreatment rates. At the city/town level of analysis, the degree to which these indicators are masked (including the maltreatment rate) is dependent on the diversity of the communities--the mixture of affluent and poor neighborhoods.

⁴² According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the teen birth rate in 2009 was 39.1 births per 1,000 teenagers aged 15-19 years nationwide. (<http://www.cdc.gov/features/dsteenpregnancy>)

E. Type of Child Maltreatment Reported and Investigated

1. Report and Investigation Disposition by Type of Maltreatment

Of the 119,192 children with reports of alleged maltreatment during 2010, 42% had their reports screened-in for investigation and 18% for initial assessment. Screen-in for investigation rates varied for specific types of alleged maltreatment: 55% for physical abuse, 42% for neglect, and 38% for sexual abuse (see table below). A total of 43,145 children were the subjects of investigations of alleged maltreatment; 56% of these children were victimized (supported allegations). As with screen-in rates, support rates differed by type of maltreatment: 59% for neglect, 33% for sexual abuse, and 30% for physical abuse.

Screening and Support Rates by Type of Maltreatment

<i>Type of Maltreatment</i>	Child Counts		
	<i>Children Reported</i>		<i>Children Investigated</i>
	<i>% w/Screened-In Allegations for Investigation</i>	<i>% w/Screened-In Allegations for Initial Assessment*</i>	<i>% w/Supported Allegations</i>
All	42%	18%	56%
Neglect	42%	20%	59%
Physical Abuse	55%	12%	30%
Sexual Abuse	38%	NA	33%

* Moderate to low risk allegations of neglect and physical abuse

NA = Not Applicable (reports of sexual abuse may be screened-in for investigation, but not for initial assessment)

Compared to other forms of maltreatment, a child with a reported allegation of physical abuse was more likely to be screened-in for investigation. At the investigation level, allegations of physical abuse and sexual abuse were much less likely than neglect to be supported. (above table)

2. Report Source and Type of Maltreatment Reported

Counts of children reported by type of maltreatment and reporter are presented in **Appendix Table A9** on page 45. Neglect was the major form of maltreatment with 100,279 reported children compared to 21,246 for physical abuse, and 7,675 for sexual abuse (duplicated and unduplicated counts are presented in **Appendix Table A1** on page 37).

Children reported by mandated sources exceeded children reported by nonmandated for all forms of maltreatment (**Appendix Table A9**). Mandated sources reported 71%, 81%, and 87% of all children reported as neglected, physically abused, and sexually abused, respectively (**Appendix Table A9**). Medical professionals were the primary reporters of sexual abuse (**Appendix Table A9**). Physical abuse was most frequently reported by school personnel. Law enforcement agencies were the leading reporters of neglect. Several factors contributed to the greater numbers of children reported by mandated sources: (1) they are required by law to report incidents of child maltreatment, (2) they have more opportunities to observe children because of the nature of their jobs, and (3) they are more likely to have received training in the recognition and reporting of maltreated children.

Reports are screened-in when there is reason to believe that a child has been maltreated or may be at risk of maltreatment by a caretaker. If there are allegations of sexual abuse, severe physical abuse, and severe neglect, the report is screened-in for investigation. Reports with moderate or low risk allegations of physical abuse and neglect are screened-in for initial assessment.

Depending on the urgency, a report screened-in for investigation is designated an emergency or non-emergency. Under the Department’s differential response system which became available August 2009, emergency investigations are initiated within 2 hours and completed within 5 business days of the report. Non-emergencies are initiated within 2 business days and completed within 15 business days. For reports screened-in for initial assessment, a determination is made if DCF involvement is necessary and what, if any, supports and services are needed to help the families. Initial assessments are initiated within 2 business days and completed within 15 business days of the report.

The mandated reporting group had higher screen-in rates for neglect and physical abuse than the nonmandated and anonymous reporting groups (table below, **Appendix Table A9** on page 45). However, nonmandated and anonymous reporters had higher screen-in rates for sexual abuse than mandated reporters. Screen-in rates for the major reporting groups are presented below (and **Appendix Table A9**). Screen-in rates for all reporting groups were lower in CY’2010 than in CY’2009. The largest declines were recorded for school personnel reporting physical abuse and sexual abuse.

<i>Report Source</i>	<i>Neglect</i>	<i>Physical Abuse</i>	<i>Sexual Abuse</i>
Mandated	66%	69%	37%
Nonmandated	51%	63%	46%
Anonymous	49%	58%	45%
All Sources	62%	68%	38%

<i>Neglect</i>		<i>Physical Abuse</i>		<i>Sexual Abuse</i>	
DCF Social Worker	76%	DCF Social Worker	75%	DCF Social Worker	48%
Medical Professional	71%	School Personnel	74%	Law Enforcement Agency	40%
Law Enforcement Agency	67%	Medical Professional	72%	Medical Professional	36%
School Personnel	64%	Law Enforcement Agency	68%	School Personnel	27%

Note: The screen-in rates in the above tables represent the percentage of reported children screened-in for investigation or initial assessment.

3. Biological Mothers of Reported Children and Type of Maltreatment Reported

Of the 119,192 children reported to DCF, the identity of their mother (biological, adoptive, step, and foster) was recorded for 77,947 of the children. Ninety-eight percent of these identified mothers were biological mothers. Only those children whose mothers were identified as biological (76,726) were used in the following analysis.

Comparing the age⁴³ and marital status distributions of bio-mothers by type of alleged maltreatment, showed a tendency towards younger, single mothers of neglected children (**Appendix Table A10** on page 46 and table below). For neglect, a greater proportion of mothers were in the 20 to 29 year age group. Other maltreatment types had greater proportions of mothers in the 30 to 39 year age range (**Appendix Table A10**).

Alleged Maltreatment	Bio-Mother		
	Age Group	Median Age	Marital Status
Neglect	34% were 20-29 years old	32 years old	61% were single
Physical Abuse	27% were 20-29 years old	34 years old	57% were single
Sexual Abuse	23% were 20-29 years old	35 years old	56% were single

There were minor variations in the type of maltreatment and proportion of mothers by race (**Appendix Table A10**).

Restricting this analysis to mother's age at the time of the reported maltreatment is deceptive. If the age of mothers at the birth of their oldest child is examined, teenage mothers become a major component. Zuravin (1988)⁴⁴ pointed out that the risk of teenage mothers maltreating their children was not an immediate risk but a delayed risk. A mother's progression from "young age at first birth" to child maltreatment has been linked to chronic stressors such as: low economic status, low self-esteem, single parenthood, lack of social support, unemployment, low educational achievement, and an unmanageable number of children.

Depending on the type of maltreatment, up to 3% of the mothers with allegedly maltreated children in 2010 were teenagers (12-19 years old) (table below, **Appendix Table A11** on page 47). However, the teenage component rose to 46-47% when age was determined at the birth of their oldest child (**Appendix Table A11**). Median age of mothers went from 32-35 years in 2010 to 20 years when their oldest child was born. These data appear to support the observations of others that child maltreatment by teenage mothers may be delayed rather than immediate.

Alleged Maltreatment	% Teen Mothers	
	2010	At Birth of Oldest Child
Neglect	3%	47%
Physical Abuse	1%	46%
Sexual Abuse	<1%	47%

⁴³ Age of mother at time of report

⁴⁴ Zuravin, S.J. 1988. Child Maltreatment and Teenage First Births: A Relationship Mediated by Chronic Sociodemographic Stress? *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry* 58:91-103

F. Type of Child Maltreatment Supported

1. Distribution of Victimized Children: DCF Regions and Statewide

After one or more reports dealing with a particular incident are screened-in for a child, an investigation of the alleged maltreatment is conducted. A decision to “support” is reached if DCF finds reason to believe that a child was maltreated or was at high risk of maltreatment by a caretaker. After a determination to support, a protective case is opened for each family requiring services that was not in the DCF caseload at the time of the report. These newly opened cases include families unknown to DCF and families with previously closed cases. A description of investigation outcomes for children with supported investigations is provided on page 34.

Neglect was the most prevalent form of maltreatment. A total of 21,952 children (91% of all maltreated children)⁴⁵ were found to have been neglected (**Table 4**). There were 3,212 physically abused children and 801 sexually abused children, 13% and 3% of all maltreated children, respectively.⁴⁶ The Western Region has a substantially larger caseload than the other DCF Regions. A higher child population coupled with higher reporting rates in the West may account for a greater percentage of victimized children—37% of neglected, 36% of physically abused, and 34% of sexually abused children (**Table 4**).

Table 4. Victimized Children¹ by Type of Supported Maltreatment and DCF Service Region during January 1 - December 31, 2010

DCF Service Region	Child Counts by Type of Supported Maltreatment ²					
	Neglect		Physical Abuse		Sexual Abuse	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Western	8,171	37%	1,171	36%	269	34%
Northern	4,485	20%	710	22%	176	22%
Southern	6,957	32%	840	26%	247	31%
Boston	2,302	10%	490	15%	107	13%
Unspecified	37	*	1	*	2	*
Total	21,952	100%	3,212	100%	801	100%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

Note: Summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

¹ Children who were the subject of an investigation that resulted in a supported allegation of maltreatment.

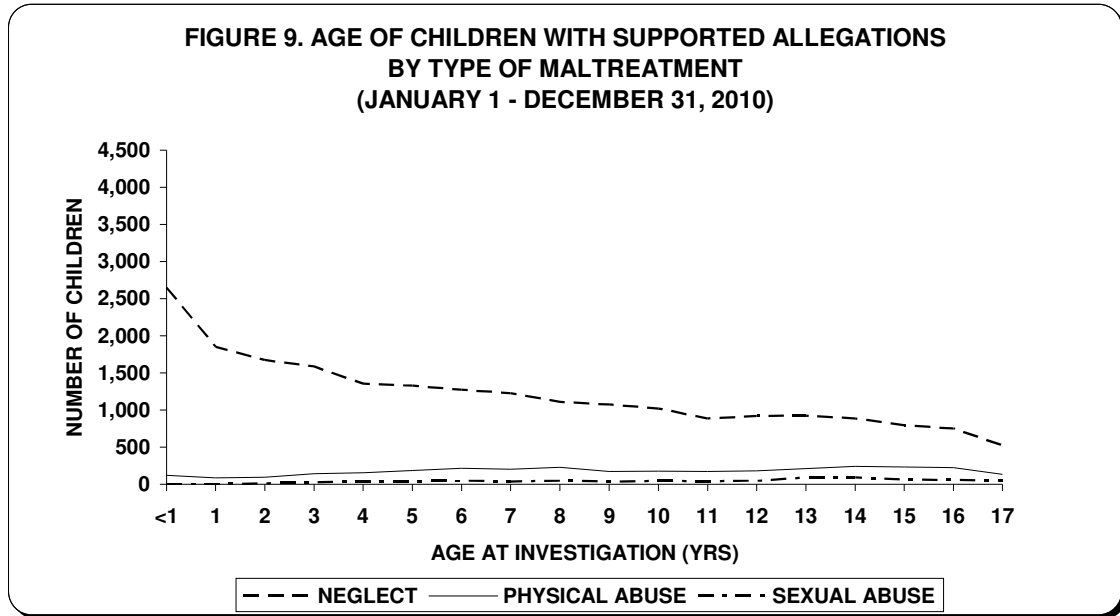
² These are duplicated counts since a child subjected to more than one form of maltreatment is counted under each maltreatment category. Also, a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of an investigation during the year.

⁴⁵ 21,952 neglected children out of 24,232 total maltreated children (children with supported allegations following an investigation)

⁴⁶ Adding the percentages for neglect, physical abuse, and sexual abuse does not yield 100% since children subjected to more than one form of maltreatment are counted in each maltreatment category.

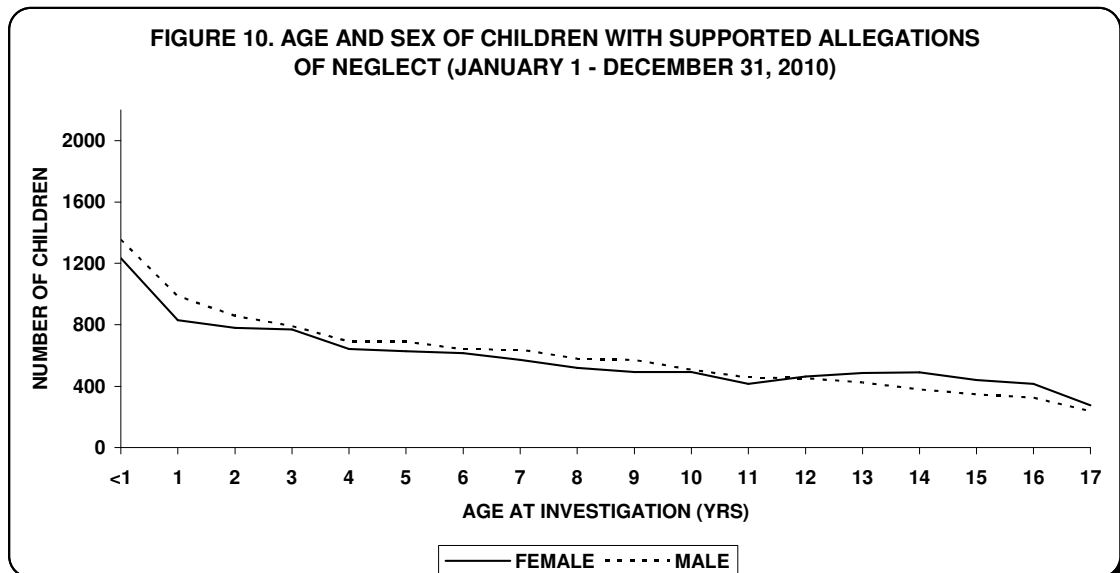
2. Age, Gender, and Race of Victimized Children

Figure 9 displays the age distributions of neglected, physically abused, and sexually abused children. It depicts the high volume of neglected children compared to physically abused and sexually abused children.

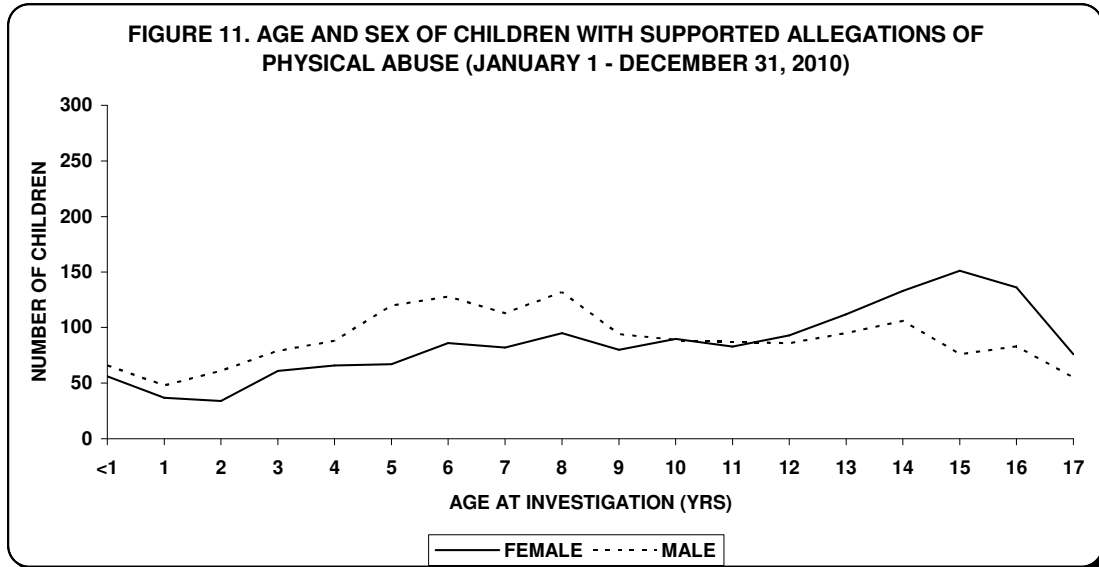


NOTE: Child counts from investigations that resulted in supported allegations.

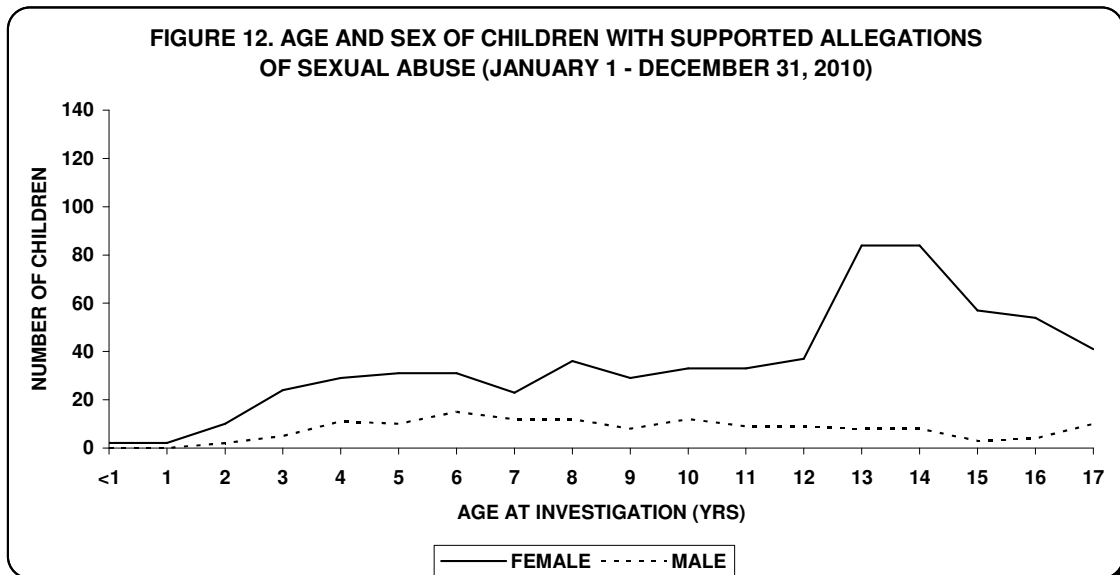
Males accounted for 50% of the children with supported allegations of neglect (48% females, 2% unknown). The distributions of girls and boys across all ages were similar--highest at ages under one year and gradually diminishing with increasing age (**Fig. 10**). However, there was a resurgence in the number of girls during the teen years while the number of boys continued to decline. Forty-two percent of neglected children were White, 12% were Black, and 24% were of Hispanic/Latino (**Appendix Table A12** on page 48).



Fifty percent of physically abused children were male (48% female, 2% unknown). Boys outnumbered girls at ages 11 years and younger (Fig. 11). At ages 12 and older, girls were more numerous than boys. The number of female victims peaked at 15 years old. Male victims were highest at 6-8 years old. Thirty-one percent of physically-abused children were White, 18% were Black, and 29% were Hispanic/Latino (Appendix Table A12 on page 48).



Sexually abused children were mostly female—80% (17% male, 2% unknown). The number of girls with supported allegations exceeded the number of boys at all ages (Fig. 12). Female victims were most numerous at ages 13-17 years. Counts of younger girls were relatively stable from 4 to 12 years old. Thirty-seven percent of sexually-abused children were White, 9% were Black, and 23% were of Hispanic/Latino (Appendix Table A12).



- Comparing the age distributions of victimized boys and girls showed that during the teen years significantly more girls than boys were physically abused, sexually abused, or neglected (**Figs. 10-12** on pages 27-28).
- Approximately equal numbers of boys and girls were neglected and physically abused. Eighty percent of sexually abused children were female.
- The proportion of children with supported allegations by type of maltreatment and race:

Type of Maltreatment	Children by Race*		
	White	Black	Hispanic/Latino**
Neglect	42%	12%	24%
Physical Abuse	31%	18%	29%
Sexual Abuse	37%	9%	23%

*Race was not recorded for 17% of neglected, 15% of physically-abused, and 26% of sexually-abused children (See Appendix Table A12 page 48).

** Hispanic/Latino includes all races.

	White	Black	Hispanic/Latino**
State Child Population ⁴⁷	67%	7%	15%

NOTE: Row percentages do not sum to 100% because “Other” race and “Unknown” race is not included in the above table.

The above table shows a significant over-representation of Black and Hispanic children among maltreated children when compared to children residing in Massachusetts. The difference in racial composition at the state level masks much greater differences among communities across the state.

⁴⁷ U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary File, Tables P1, P2, P3, and P4.

Grouping maltreated children in Massachusetts by the age classes used in national studies, yields the following relative percentages.⁴⁸

Children with Supported Allegations				
Type of Maltreatment	Year	Age Groups (yrs.)		
		0-5	6-11	12-17
Sexual Abuse:	1989	35%	35%	30%
	1997	28%	36%	36%
	2007	18%	36%	46%
	2008	18%	32%	50%
	2009	15%	33%	52%
	2010	16%	33%	51%
Physical Abuse:	1989	32%	35%	33%
	1997	26%	40%	33%
	2007	22%	38%	40%
	2008	23%	37%	39%
	2009	24%	38%	38%
	2010	25%	37%	38%
Neglect:	1989	54%	30%	16%
	1997	44%	36%	21%
	2007	44%	31%	25%
	2008	43%	31%	25%
	2009	47%	30%	24%
	2010	48%	30%	22%

Over the years, the 0 to 5 age group has been declining for all types of maltreatment (see above). Yearly fluctuations in the 6 to 11 age group have resulted in little change overall. From 1989 to 2010, the 12 to 17 age group has increased 5% for physical abuse, 6% for neglect, and 21% for sexual abuse. There has been a shift in victimized children from younger to older, regardless of the type of maltreatment.

⁴⁸ Relative percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding-off.

3. Age, Gender, and Relationship of Perpetrator by Type of Maltreatment Supported

In 2010, there were 24,232 children who were the subject of an investigation that resulted in a supported allegation of maltreatment. Sixty-nine percent of the children were victimized by one perpetrator (see table below). A perpetrator may have subjected a child to one or more types of maltreatment. For any one child, multiple perpetrators may have committed one or more types of maltreatment.

Perpetrator Count	Child Count	
	No.	%
1	16691	69%
2	7043	29%
3	350	1%
4	33	*
5	1	*
Unknown**	114	*
Total	24232	100%

* Less than 1% after rounding-off

** Perpetrator information was unavailable.

The following characteristics are presented for only those perpetrators who were found to have victimized a child. Each group of characteristics represent the combined data for a maximum of 4 perpetrators per child victimization.⁴⁹ A perpetrator who committed more than one type of maltreatment on a child was counted in each maltreatment category. For each maltreatment category, the counts were derived from the number of victimized children (21,952 neglected, 3,212 physically abused, and 801 sexually abused children).

Perpetrators of neglect were more likely to be female (54% female vs. 43% male). Most perpetrators of sexual abuse were male (86% male). There were more male than female perpetrators of physical abuse (51% male vs. 46% female). (**Appendix Table A13** on page 49)

The majority of perpetrators, regardless of the type of maltreatment, were in the 30-39 year age group—36% of neglect perpetrators, 39% of physical abuse perpetrators, and 28% of sexual abuse perpetrators. Perpetrators of neglect tended to be younger than physical abuse and sexual abuse perpetrators. Compared to neglect and physical abuse, there were greater proportions of sexual abuse perpetrators who were either teenagers or 50 years and older. (**Appendix Table A13**)

Perpetrators of neglect were more likely to have been identified as a perpetrator in a prior supported investigation. The prior supported finding may have been for a different type of maltreatment. This higher proportion of repeat offenders may be an indicator of chronic neglect—a major problem confronting child protective service agencies. (**Appendix Table A13**)

⁴⁹ A child may have multiple victimizations by any number of perpetrators. However, the count declines dramatically after three perpetrators. A victimization is defined as an investigation that resulted in a supported allegation(s) of maltreatment.

The perpetrator's relationship to the victimized child is displayed by the type of supported maltreatment in the following table. Only those relationship categories with 2% or more of the total victims are displayed below (see **Appendix Table A13** on page 49 for a complete list). Biological parents are the leading perpetrators of neglect and physical abuse. The proportion of mothers is greater than the proportion of fathers, especially for neglect. Fathers are the most significant perpetrators of sexual abuse; they are followed by Other Person (caretaker), Unrelated Caretaker Out-of-Home, and Other Relative. Other notable perpetrators of neglect, physical abuse, and sexual abuse are Stepfathers and Mother's Partners both In-Home and Out-of-Home. (**Appendix Table A13**)

Perpetrator's Relationship to Victimized Child by Type of Maltreatment					
<i>Neglect</i>		<i>Physical Abuse</i>		<i>Sexual Abuse</i>	
Biological Mother	50%	Biological Mother	39%	Biological Father	17%
Biological Father	33%	Biological Father	34%	Other Person	13%
Mother's Partner In-Home	7%	Mother's Partner In-Home	9%	Unrelated Caretaker Out-of-Home	13%
Stepfather	2%	Stepfather	5%	Other Relative	13%
Mother's Partner Out-of-Home	2%	Mother's Partner Out-of-Home	2%	Stepfather	11%
		Other Relative	2%	Mother's Partner In-Home	9%
				Mother's Partner Out-of-Home	6%
				Sibling Brother	5%
				Biological Mother	3%
				Grandfather Maternal	3%
				Unrelated Caretaker In-Home	2%
				Grandfather Paternal	2%

4. DCF Area Offices: 2009 to 2010 Changes in Victimization by Type of Maltreatment Supported

From 2009 to 2010, the number of children with supported allegations of neglect dropped 27% statewide. Over the same period, physically abused children decreased 20% and sexually abused children declined 8% (**Appendix Tables A14-A16** on pages 49-51). The decline in numbers of children with supported allegations of neglect and physical abuse resulted primarily from the use of the Department's differential response system (pages 2, 5-7, 15). The investigation process is no longer the only response to reported allegations of neglect and physical abuse. There is now an assessment track for allegations of moderate or low risk neglect and physical abuse. An investigation response is still required when there are allegations of sexual abuse, serious physical abuse, and serious neglect. In 2010, there were 18,633 children with an initial assessment response compared to 3,465 in 2009 (**Table 1B** on page 3). This large increase occurred because the initial assessment response was available throughout 2010, whereas it was only in full use the last few months of 2009.

Appendix Tables A14-A16 (on pages 50-52) display victimized child statistics for all DCF areas/regions by type of maltreatment. There was a widespread decline in victimized children from 2009 to 2010 across all regions and areas. This was partly due to the differential response system; reports of low risk neglect/physical abuse are screened-in for initial assessment instead of investigation. Allegations of sexual abuse must be screened-in for investigation. Consequently, there were lower area declines (and some increases) in counts of sexually abused children from 2009 to 2010. Increases in sexually abused children may also be related to the smaller numbers of victimized children at the area level when compared to neglect and physical abuse (e.g., Haverhill: 11 sexual abuse victims in 2009 and 19 in 2010, 73%; 43 physical abuse victims in 2009 and 40 victims in 2010, -7%; 626 neglect victims in 2009 and 459 in 2010, -27%).

Neglect, physical abuse, and sexual abuse as a percentage of all maltreatment were highest in the DCF areas presented below. Statistics for all DCF areas and regions appear in **Appendix Tables A14-A16**. For each DCF office, the tables show how common a particular form of maltreatment is relative to other types of maltreatment.

Type of Allegation Supported as a Percentage of All Maltreatment Supported at DCF Areas					
<i>Neglect</i>		<i>Physical Abuse</i>		<i>Sexual Abuse</i>	
Pittsfield	97%	North Central	28%	South Central	6%
Van Wart	95%	Lawrence	24%	Lawrence	6%
Haverhill	95%	Park Street	22%	Cape Ann	6%
Cape & Islands	95%	Dimock Street	20%	Hyde Park	6%
		South Central	20%		
Statewide	91%	Statewide	13%	Statewide	3%

Neglect was the predominant form of maltreatment throughout the area offices (91% statewide) (see above table). Physical abuse and sexual abuse accounted for 13% and 3% of all children with supported allegations, respectively. Ranking area offices within each maltreatment category revealed that neglect was prominent throughout the area offices (ranged from 76% in Lawrence to 97% in Pittsfield). Physical abuse was marginally higher in the North Central and Lawrence Area Offices. Sexual abuse ranged from 1% in Coastal to 6% in South Central, Lawrence, Cape Ann, and Hyde Park.

5. Investigation Outcomes for Children with Supported Allegations by Type of Maltreatment

Based on the information gathered during an investigation, the investigator and supervisor decide on the outcome of the case. Outcomes for the family of a child with supported allegations in 2010 are presented below by type of maltreatment.

Investigation Outcomes for Children with Supported Allegations of Maltreatment						
<i>Type of Maltreatment</i>	<i>Open for Services</i>	<i>Continue Ongoing Services</i>	<i>No Services Required</i> ⁵⁰	<i>Referred for Voluntary Services</i> ⁵¹	<i>Unable to Locate Family</i>	<i>Total</i>
Neglect	14070 (64%)	5155 (23%)	2701 (12%)	2 (*)	24 (*)	21952
Physical Abuse	2024 (63%)	773 (24%)	412 (13%)	1 (*)	2 (*)	3212
Sexual Abuse	283 (35%)	200 (25%)	318 (40%)	---	---	801

Note: These are duplicated counts since a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of an investigation during the year. Also, a child subjected to more than one form of maltreatment is counted under each maltreatment category.

(*) Less than 1% after rounding-off

Investigation outcomes for neglected and physically abused children were similar, 63-64% had their cases opened for services (new or previously closed cases) and 23-24% had their services continued (ongoing cases). Sexually abused children had a significantly lower “open for services” outcome—35%. This disparity in investigation outcomes occurred because sexually abused children were more likely to have an outcome of “no services required”—40% vs. 12-13% for both neglect and physical abuse (see first footnote below).

The type of maltreatment had no apparent effect on the percentage of children receiving placement services within 90 days following an investigation disposition to support an allegation: 14% of neglected, 15% of physically abused, and 12% of sexually abused children entered placement.

G. Child Maltreatment and the DCF Caseload

- On the 31st of December 2010, DCF had 22,041 open cases representing 71,703 consumers.⁵² A total of 34,591 adults and 37,112 children were being served.

⁵⁰ The case is not opened. Examples are: (1) the alleged perpetrator was not a family member (baby sitter, bus driver, etc.) and the parent(s) or parent substitute(s) acted appropriately when the situation was identified; (2) the alleged perpetrator is out of the home and poses no current or potential threat to the reported child(ren), and the parent(s) or parent substitute(s) had dealt with the situation appropriately.

⁵¹ Families are offered supportive services.

⁵² Total consumers include all individuals with an active case status on the last day of the year and were in a case with an assessment for services or a service plan. These selection criteria exclude consumers not in placement who have an active case status that is pending the outcome of an investigation or initial assessment.

- Child maltreatment is the driving force behind the DCF caseload. On the last day of 2010, 88% of 7,845 children less than 18 years old in placement had their case opened by a supported report of maltreatment. The remaining children in placement entered DCF care via a voluntary request for services, CHINS referral, and other means (court referral, institutional abuse/neglect).
- Of 29,267 children not in placement (active case status with an assessment for services or a service plan) less than 18 years old, 87% had case openings via a supported report of maltreatment.

VI. Appendix
Additional Tables
A1 to A16

Table A1. Duplicated and Unduplicated Child Maltreatment Counts by Type of Maltreatment during January 1 - December 31, 2010 ¹

Counts	Type of Maltreatment						
	All ² Maltreatment	Neglect	Physical Abuse	Sexual Abuse	Emotional Maltreatment	Congenital Drug Addiction	Failure to Thrive
Children in Reports (duplicated)	119,192	100,279	21,246	7,675	164	65	17
Reports	80,637	64,373	17,992	7,095	135	65	14
Children per Report	1.5	1.6	1.2	1.1	1.2	1	1.2
Children in Reports (unduplicated)	79,880	69,079	17,547	6,124	159	64	15
Children in Investigations (duplicated)	43,145	37,033	10,825	2,428	66	62	15
Investigations	27,657	22,659	8,845	2,137	53	62	14
Children per Investigation	1.6	1.6	1.2	1.1	1.2	1	1.1
Children in Investigations (unduplicated)	38,491	33,313	10,284	2,353	66	61	15
Children in Investigations w/Supported Allegations (duplicated)	24,232	21,952	3,212	801	28	50	10
Investigations w/Supported Allegations	16,171	13,651	2,741	743	19	50	10
Children per Investigation w/Supported Allegations	1.5	1.6	1.2	1.1	1.5	1	1
Children in Investigations w/Supported Allegations (unduplicated)	22,376	20,350	3,127	792	28	50	10
Children in Initial Assessments (duplicated)	18,633	17,414	2,351	NA	NA	NA	NA
Initial Assessments	12,223	11,211	1,977	NA	NA	NA	NA
Children per Initial Assessment	1.5	1.6	1.2	NA	NA	NA	NA
Children in Initial Assessments (unduplicated)	17,888	16,731	2,324	NA	NA	NA	NA
Children in Initial Assessments w/Findings of Concern (duplicated)	7,493	7,178	790	NA	NA	NA	NA
Initial Assessments w/Findings of Concern	4,961	4,700	675	NA	NA	NA	NA
Children per Initial Assessment w/Findings of Concern	1.5	1.5	1.2	NA	NA	NA	NA
Children in Initial Assessments w/Findings of Concern (unduplicated)	7,300	6,998	781	NA	NA	NA	NA

¹ Duplicated means that a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of a report, investigation, and initial assessment; whereas, with unduplicated counts, a child is counted only once, regardless of the number of times he/she is the subject of a report, investigation, and initial assessment during the year.

² Total counts for all maltreatment do not equal the summation of specific maltreatment counts due to children with more than one type of maltreatment alleged or supported/concern.

NOTE: Initial assessment response does not apply to reports where there has been an allegation of sexual abuse, serious physical abuse, or serious neglect. Also, it does not apply to the low frequency allegations of emotional maltreatment, congenital drug addiction, and failure to thrive.

Table A2. Counts of All Reported Children by Report Source during January 1 - December 31, 2010

Report Source	Child Counts ¹				
			2009 to 2010		
	2010 Reported No.	2009 Reported No.	Annual Change %	2010 Screened-In ² No.	%
Law Enforcement Agency	20,755	19,594	6%	13,696	66%
Medical Professionals	10,461	10,242	2%	7,037	67%
School Personnel	10,701	10,176	5%	6,728	63%
DCF Social Worker	3,092	3,831	-19%	2,262	73%
Court	1,594	1,804	-12%	951	60%
Private Social Service Agency	1,171	1,083	8%	645	55%
Other Mass. State Agency	737	737	---	446	61%
Out-of-State Agency	370	286	29%	217	59%
Day-Care Provider	637	664	-4%	387	61%
Foster Parent	117	129	-9%	79	68%
Other Substitute-Care Provider	140	141	-1%	76	54%
Other Mandated Reporter	10,583	10,347	2%	6,456	61%
Missing ³	27,718	26,139	6%	17,636	64%
Total Mandated	88,076	85,173	3%	56,616	64%

Self (Victim)	106	98	8%	71	67%
Father in Home	361	356	1%	179	50%
Father Out of Home	2,376	2,314	3%	1,004	42%
Mother in Home	1,003	975	3%	472	47%
Mother Out of Home	709	630	13%	276	39%
Stepparent	79	97	-19%	38	48%
Sibling	107	103	4%	57	53%
Other Relative	2,188	2,395	-9%	1,242	57%
Other Nonmandated Reporter	3,854	3,095	25%	2,093	54%
Missing ³	5,759	6,088	-5%	3,098	54%
Total Nonmandated	16,542	16,151	2%	8,530	52%

Anonymous	14,574	14,490	1%	7,072	49%
All Sources	119,192	115,814	3%	72,218	61%

¹ These are duplicated counts since a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of a report during the year.

² Total count of children in reports screened-in for investigation or initial assessment .

³ Type of reporter was not recorded.

Table A3. Child Counts from Reports, Investigations, and Initial Assessments of Neglect: 1989 - 2010

Calendar Year	Child Counts ¹											
	Reported No.	Annual Change %	Screened-In ² No.	Annual Change %	Investigated No.	Annual Change %	Supported No.	Annual Change %	Assessed ³ No.	Annual Change %	Concern ⁴ No.	Annual Change %
1989	38,010	---	28,625	---	N/A	N/A	14,048	---	---	---	--	--
1990	46,766	23%	37,921	32%	N/A	N/A	19,293	37%	---	---	--	--
1991	52,681	13%	41,029	8%	N/A	N/A	20,763	8%	---	---	--	--
1992	54,161	3%	37,963	-7%	N/A	N/A	18,307	-12%	---	---	--	--
1993	64,768	20%	37,457	-1%	N/A	N/A	17,840	-3%	---	---	--	--
1994	71,723	11%	41,743	11%	N/A	N/A	20,664	16%	---	---	--	--
1995	73,582	3%	42,897	3%	N/A	N/A	20,283	-2%	---	---	--	--
1996	77,845	6%	46,314	8%	N/A	N/A	22,148	9%	---	---	--	--
1997	80,091	3%	49,319	6%	N/A	N/A	24,538	11%	---	---	--	--
1998	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	22,052	-10%	---	---	--	--
1999	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	24,782	12%	---	---	--	--
2000	82,781	---	56,715	---	52,640	---	29,114	17%	---	---	--	--
2001	85,206	3%	57,908	2%	53,078	1%	29,770	2%	---	---	--	--
2002	86,560	2%	58,436	1%	53,817	1%	30,262	2%	---	---	--	--
2003	87,714	1%	59,492	2%	54,962	2%	31,430	4%	---	---	--	--
2004	90,733	3%	60,680	2%	55,294	1%	32,043	2%	---	---	--	--
2005	91,266	1%	59,330	-2%	54,236	-2%	31,555	-2%	---	---	--	--
2006	92,545	1%	60,681	2%	55,001	1%	32,367	3%	---	---	--	--
2007	97,096	5%	63,913	5%	57,564	5%	34,398	6%	---	---	--	--
2008	101,243	4%	69,477	9%	63,075	10%	37,973	10%	---	---	--	--
2009	97,776	-3%	63,719	-8%	52,343	-17%	30,015	-21%	3,242	---	1,060	--
2010	100,279	3%	61,827	-3%	37,033	-29%	21,952	-27%	17,414	437%	7,178	577%

NA = Not Available

¹ Duplicated counts since a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of a report, investigation, and initial assessment during the year.

² From 1989 to 2008, the count represents the number of children with reports screened-in for investigation. Starting in 2009, the count represents the total number of children with reports screened-in for investigation or initial assessment. The initial assessment response does not apply to reports where there has been an allegation of serious neglect.

³ Initial assessments were begun August 2009, but were not in full use until October - December 2009.

⁴ Initial assessments with a finding of concern.

Table A4. Child Counts from Reports, Investigations, and Initial Assessments of Physical Abuse: 1989 - 2010

Calendar Year	Child Counts ¹											
	Annual		Annual		Annual		Annual		Annual		Annual	
	Reported No.	Change %	Screened-In ² No.	Change %	Investigated No.	Change %	Supported No.	Change %	Assessed ³ No.	Change %	Concern ⁴ No.	Change %
1989	18,873	---	16,257	---	N/A	N/A	6,768	---	---	---	--	--
1990	21,461	14%	18,927	16%	N/A	N/A	7,822	16%	---	---	--	--
1991	22,350	4%	19,053	1%	N/A	N/A	7,630	-2%	---	---	--	--
1992	22,273	*	17,832	-6%	N/A	N/A	6,562	-14%	---	---	--	--
1993	26,691	20%	18,170	2%	N/A	N/A	6,590	*	---	---	--	--
1994	26,657	*	18,606	2%	N/A	N/A	6,213	-6%	---	---	--	--
1995	26,235	-2%	18,757	1%	N/A	N/A	6,166	-1%	---	---	--	--
1996	27,676	5%	19,607	5%	N/A	N/A	6,650	8%	---	---	--	--
1997	28,898	4%	21,328	9%	N/A	N/A	7,182	8%	---	---	--	--
1998	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5,603	-22%	---	---	--	--
1999	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5,805	4%	---	---	--	--
2000	23,972	---	18,313	---	17,582	---	6,432	11%	---	---	--	--
2001	23,254	-3%	17,763	-3%	16,887	-4%	6,103	-5%	---	---	--	--
2002	23,778	2%	17,805	*	16,908	*	5,777	-5%	---	---	--	--
2003	23,218	-2%	17,426	-2%	16,662	-1%	5,698	-1%	---	---	--	--
2004	22,581	-3%	16,738	-4%	15,677	-6%	5,218	-8%	---	---	--	--
2005	21,355	-5%	15,402	-8%	14,515	-7%	4,727	-9%	---	---	--	--
2006	20,581	-4%	15,105	-2%	14,048	-3%	4,597	-3%	---	---	--	--
2007	20,821	1%	15,189	1%	14,080	*	4,593	*	---	---	--	--
2008	21,717	4%	17,237	13%	16,066	14%	5,167	12%	---	---	--	--
2009	20,526	-5%	15,421	-11%	13,577	-15%	4,030	-22%	387	---	123	--
2010	21,246	4%	14,396	-7%	10,825	-20%	3,212	-20%	2,351	507%	790	542%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off. NA = Not Available

¹ Duplicated counts since a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of a report, investigation, and initial assessment during the year.

² From 1989 to 2008, the count represents the number of children with reports screened-in for investigation. Starting in 2009, the count represents the total number of children with reports screened-in for investigation or initial assessment. The initial assessment response does not apply to reports where there has been an allegation of serious neglect.

³ Initial assessments were begun August 2009, but were not in full use until October - December 2009.

⁴ Initial assessments with a finding of concern.

Table A5. Child Counts from Reports and Investigations of Sexual Abuse: 1983 - 2010

Calendar Year	Child Counts ¹							
	Reported	Annual	Screened-In ²	Annual	Investigated	Annual	Supported	Annual
	No.	Change %	No.	Change %	No.	Change %	No.	Change %
1983	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,386	--
1984	5,834	---	5,065	---	4,056	---	2,826	104%
1985	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3,533	25%
1986	6,838	---	6,002	---	N/A	N/A	2,965	-16%
1987	5,992	-12%	5,245	-13%	N/A	N/A	2,554	-14%
1988	6,499	8%	5,503	5%	N/A	N/A	2,557	*
1989	7,184	11%	5,913	7%	N/A	N/A	2,707	6%
1990	7,605	6%	6,358	8%	N/A	N/A	2,784	3%
1991	7,824	3%	6,322	-1%	N/A	N/A	2,538	-9%
1992	8,204	5%	6,180	-2%	N/A	N/A	2,450	-3%
1993	8,640	5%	5,641	-9%	N/A	N/A	2,149	-12%
1994	8,331	-4%	5,299	-6%	N/A	N/A	1,930	-10%
1995	7,243	-13%	4,454	-16%	N/A	N/A	1,516	-21%
1996	7,638	5%	4,832	8%	N/A	N/A	1,415	-7%
1997	7,607	*	4,532	-6%	N/A	N/A	1,451	3%
1998	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,220	-16%
1999	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,136	-7%
2000	6,826	---	3,772	---	3,496	---	1,216	7%
2001	6,874	1%	3,559	-6%	3,221	-8%	1,152	-5%
2002	7,865	14%	3,835	8%	3,470	8%	1,210	5%
2003	7,243	-8%	3,430	-11%	3,066	-12%	1,057	-13%
2004	7,693	6%	3,489	2%	3,090	1%	1,052	*
2005	7,692	*	3,272	-6%	2,956	-4%	976	-7%
2006	7,381	-4%	3,223	-1%	2,804	-5%	956	-2%
2007	7,260	-2%	3,003	-7%	2,605	-7%	853	-11%
2008	7,581	4%	3,304	10%	2,924	12%	988	16%
2009	7,393	-2%	3,128	-5%	2,617	-10%	874	-12%
2010	7,675	4%	2,937	-6%	2,428	-7%	801	-8%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off. NA = Not Available

¹ Duplicated counts since a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of a report and investigation during the year.

² Count of children in reports screened-in for investigation. Reports of sexual abuse are never screened-in for initial assessment.

Table A6. 2010 Child Maltreatment Reporting Rate and Associated Demographic/Socioeconomic Factors by Incorporated City and Town

City/Town ¹	2010 ² Reporting Rate (per 1,000)	2009 ³ Teen Birth Rate (per 1,000)	2010 ⁴ % Families w/Related Children <18 Below Poverty Level	
			Families w/Female Householder and No Husband Present	
			Families	
North Adams	195.2	51.3	20.8%	39.4%
Athol	185.4	23.1	11.1%	19.4%
Pittsfield	156.0	55.1	22.2%	40.2%
Webster	147.6	59.7	24.8%	43.7%
Holyoke	143.5	96.8	39.1%	58.9%
Springfield	130.7	72.1	33.2%	50.9%
Greenfield	128.9	28.5	18.3%	31.1%
New Bedford	125.5	58.5	29.6%	50.5%
Gardner	110.5	40.4	15.1%	44.2%
Southbridge	108.8	55.6	16.4%	32.3%
Fall River	105.7	45.6	28.0%	49.8%
Fitchburg	102.0	40.9	23.8%	40.6%
Chicopee	95.5	41.4	20.1%	48.8%
Lowell	95.1	53.0	21.8%	45.3%
Haverhill	90.2	36.7	12.5%	34.4%
Salem	87.5	15.4	12.1%	25.4%
Worcester	84.6	31.1	23.2%	47.1%
Lynn	83.1	55.8	20.9%	37.0%
Brockton	83.0	37.7	16.2%	29.5%
Chelsea	81.2	76.0	28.4%	41.6%
West Springfield	74.5	33.8	16.8%	28.0%
Lawrence	72.8	79.0	31.9%	49.1%
Taunton	72.6	42.9	13.2%	32.4%
Leominster	72.2	32.7	11.8%	31.0%
Wareham	70.1	25.4	9.1%	15.4%
Everett	69.8	34.9	13.5%	25.5%
Malden	66.8	16.8	14.5%	33.9%
Gloucester	63.3	10.0	11.0%	40.2%
Boston	62.3	26.4	23.8%	42.1%
Barnstable	61.4	15.4	7.2%	18.6%
Westfield	60.8	9.9	12.0%	28.5%
Milford	58.6	14.6	12.7%	43.1%
Quincy	57.8	11.1	12.2%	35.9%
Revere	55.5	53.2	17.0%	28.0%
Somerville	55.3	18.4	16.5%	41.4%
Attleboro	54.8	34.4	8.4%	27.1%
Peabody	54.1	11.2	4.2%	18.7%
Falmouth	53.9	18.3	8.9%	-----
Marlborough	53.0	24.6	9.2%	28.0%
Beverly	51.5	9.5	10.6%	42.8%
Weymouth	51.3	6.9	9.4%	32.3%
Framingham	51.2	25.6	12.2%	36.4%
Waltham	50.0	9.4	10.3%	33.7%
Randolph	48.3	9.1	7.7%	23.4%
Plymouth	47.1	12.0	14.6%	23.5%
Woburn	43.6	17.4	8.6%	26.5%
Methuen	39.1	30.1	6.4%	18.3%
Cambridge	38.7	4.1	14.8%	35.4%
Medford	35.6	6.2	5.8%	15.8%
Newton	20.4	NA	4.4%	17.4%
MASSACHUSETTS	56.3	19.6	11.5%	33.4%
NATIONWIDE	---	39.1	15.7%	37.4%

¹ Residence of reported children at time of the report. Selected municipalities had more than 300 (unduplicated count) children in residence who were reported maltreated. A child is counted only once, regardless of the number of times reported during the year.

² Reporting Rate for all maltreatment = number of reported children per 1,000 resident children less than 18 years old. Resident children less than 18 years old in Massachusetts from U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census, American Fact Finder, Table DP-1. Profile of General Population and Housing Characteristics: 2010 Demographic Profile Data (<http://factfinder2.census.gov>)

³ Number of Births per 1,000 Females ages 15 - 19 years (Source: Teen Births (15 - 19 year old mothers) during 2009; Massachusetts Community Health Information Profile (MassCHIP Custom Report), Massachusetts Department of Public Health)

⁴ Percentage of families whose income in the past 12 months is below poverty level. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 - 2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table DP03. Selected Economic Characteristics 2010 (based on combined years 2006 - 2010) (<http://factfinder2.census.gov>)

Table A7. 2010 Child Maltreatment Reporting Rate and Associated Demographic/Socioeconomic Factors by Incorporated City and Town

City/Town ¹	2010 ²	2010 ³	2010 ⁴	2010 ⁵	2010 ⁶
	Reporting Rate (per 1,000)	% Households w/Cash Public Assistance Income	% Households w/Food Stamps/SNAP Benefits	Median Family Income	% Unemployed Annual Average
North Adams	195.2	3.9%	17.2%	\$53,987	10.3%
Athol	185.4	5.0%	13.6%	\$49,043	11.8%
Pittsfield	156.0	5.8%	15.9%	\$56,256	8.8%
Webster	147.6	6.0%	18.4%	\$51,263	10.4%
Holyoke	143.5	9.1%	34.1%	\$39,935	11.6%
Springfield	130.7	7.6%	28.1%	\$41,532	12.6%
Greenfield	128.9	4.8%	14.0%	\$55,621	8.5%
New Bedford	125.5	7.2%	20.5%	\$45,347	14.6%
Gardner	110.5	5.2%	12.0%	\$62,939	11.6%
Southbridge	108.8	4.4%	16.9%	\$52,262	12.0%
Fall River	105.7	4.9%	19.4%	\$44,498	14.7%
Fitchburg	102.0	4.6%	14.8%	\$57,245	11.9%
Chicopee	95.5	4.0%	15.8%	\$56,446	10.2%
Lowell	95.1	4.8%	16.4%	\$55,852	10.8%
Haverhill	90.2	2.6%	9.7%	\$75,342	9.4%
Salem	87.5	2.5%	11.5%	\$68,844	8.3%
Worcester	84.6	5.1%	16.3%	\$56,053	10.0%
Lynn	83.1	4.7%	19.8%	\$50,536	9.7%
Brockton	83.0	5.1%	16.2%	\$57,861	11.6%
Chelsea	81.2	6.7%	20.1%	\$43,060	10.6%
West Springfield	74.5	4.7%	12.4%	\$63,887	9.6%
Lawrence	72.8	6.6%	25.3%	\$36,940	16.5%
Taunton	72.6	3.4%	11.8%	\$68,796	9.7%
Leominster	72.2	2.4%	8.8%	\$69,655	11.0%
Wareham	70.1	6.1%	10.4%	\$65,323	9.7%
Everett	69.8	3.0%	12.1%	\$59,942	9.1%
Malden	66.8	2.8%	10.6%	\$67,666	8.4%
Gloucester	63.3	2.4%	6.1%	\$79,500	10.0%
Boston	62.3	4.3%	13.8%	\$58,600	7.9%
Barnstable	61.4	2.6%	6.6%	\$72,741	8.3%
Westfield	60.8	2.6%	11.7%	\$69,828	8.5%
Milford	58.6	1.7%	5.1%	\$75,000	7.9%
Quincy	57.8	2.3%	7.5%	\$77,514	8.5%
Revere	55.5	3.7%	14.8%	\$59,327	9.5%
Somerville	55.3	2.2%	7.0%	\$69,245	6.4%
Attleboro	54.8	2.7%	7.2%	\$79,688	10.4%
Peabody	54.1	1.7%	6.6%	\$80,471	8.0%
Falmouth	53.9	1.9%	6.9%	\$73,039	8.2%
Marlborough	53.0	2.4%	6.0%	\$97,146	6.8%
Beverly	51.5	2.4%	6.5%	\$87,248	7.6%
Weymouth	51.3	2.2%	5.7%	\$82,992	9.0%
Framingham	51.2	2.7%	7.6%	\$84,362	6.4%
Waltham	50.0	2.4%	3.1%	\$82,688	6.7%
Randolph	48.3	2.3%	8.1%	\$78,071	9.3%
Plymouth	47.1	4.5%	10.9%	\$74,395	9.4%
Woburn	43.6	2.1%	5.7%	\$84,538	7.7%
Methuen	39.1	2.2%	6.2%	\$80,739	10.2%
Cambridge	38.7	1.5%	5.0%	\$87,750	5.6%
Medford	35.6	1.3%	4.6%	\$80,839	7.7%
Newton	20.4	1.4%	2.8%	\$136,843	5.7%
MASSACHUSETTS	56.3	2.7%	8.4%	\$81,165	8.3%
NATIONWIDE	2.5%	2.5%	9.3%	\$62,982	9.6%

¹ Residence of child at time of the report. Selected municipalities had more than 300 (unduplicated count) children in residence who were reported maltreated. A child is counted only once, regardless of the number of times reported during the year.

² Reporting Rate for all maltreatment = number of reported children per 1,000 resident children less than 18 years old. Resident children less than 18 years old in Massachusetts from U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census, American Fact Finder, Table DP-1. Profile of General Population and Housing Characteristics: 2010 Demographic Profile Data (<http://factfinder2.census.gov>)

³ Households with cash public assistance income in the past 12 months as a percent of all households Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 - 2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table DP03. Selected Economic Characteristics 2010 (based on combined years 2006 - 2010) (<http://factfinder2.census.gov>)

⁴ Households with food stamp/SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits in the past 12 months as a percent of all households. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 - 2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table DP03. Selected Economic Characteristics 2010 (based on combined years 2006 - 2010) (<http://factfinder2.census.gov>)

⁵ Median family income in 2010. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 - 2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table DP03. Selected Economic Characteristics 2010 (based on combined years 2006 - 2010) (<http://factfinder2.census.gov>)

⁶ Commonwealth of Massachusetts, The Official Website of the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development: Labor Force and Unemployment Data by City/Town, State, and Nation, Calendar Year 2010 (Not Seasonally Adjusted Data) (lmi2.detma.org/lmi/lur_a.asp#4).

Table A8. CY2010 Child Maltreatment Reporting and Victimization Rates by Incorporated City/Town

City/Town ¹	All Maltreatment				Children w/Initial Assessment of Concern ⁶	
	Reported Children ²	Reporting Rate ³	Victimized Children ⁴	Victimization Rate ⁵		
	No.	(per 1,000)	No.	(per 1,000)	No.	
North Adams	512	195.2	128	48.8	26	
Athol	370	185.4	82	41.1	43	
Pittsfield	1,480	156.0	441	46.5	61	
Webster	372	147.6	100	39.7	75	
Holyoke	1,508	143.5	474	45.1	157	
Springfield	5,401	130.7	1,696	41.0	626	
Greenfield	443	128.9	100	29.1	55	
New Bedford	2,770	125.5	1,123	50.9	175	
Gardner	464	110.5	163	38.8	40	
Southbridge	420	108.8	109	28.2	85	
Fall River	2,016	105.7	598	31.4	164	
Fitchburg	941	102.0	261	28.3	78	
Chicopee	1,095	95.5	355	31.0	92	
Lowell	2,401	95.1	806	31.9	131	
Haverhill	1,264	90.2	274	19.6	204	
Salem	676	87.5	77	10.0	82	
Worcester	3,381	84.6	1,192	29.8	251	
Lynn	1,869	83.1	573	25.5	73	
Brockton	2,003	83.0	683	28.3	106	
Chelsea	723	81.2	234	26.3	56	
West Springfield	447	74.5	139	23.2	37	
Lawrence	1,615	72.8	273	12.3	173	
Taunton	915	72.6	210	16.7	66	
Leominster	670	72.2	208	22.4	35	
Wareham	375	70.1	87	16.3	24	
Everett	663	69.8	142	14.9	124	
Malden	781	66.8	174	14.9	147	
Gloucester	339	63.3	33	6.2	51	
Boston	6,458	62.3	1,740	16.8	521	
Barnstable	509	61.4	179	21.6	15	
Westfield	536	60.8	167	19.0	57	
Milford	331	58.6	59	10.4	45	
Quincy	885	57.8	225	14.7	62	
Revere	583	55.5	169	16.1	40	
Somerville	505	55.3	133	14.6	44	
Attleboro	543	54.8	155	15.6	35	
Peabody	529	54.1	48	4.9	73	
Falmouth	352	53.9	101	15.5	26	
Marlborough	441	53.0	85	10.2	76	
Beverly	396	51.5	29	3.8	58	
Weymouth	571	51.3	149	13.4	37	
Framingham	731	51.2	173	12.1	79	
Waltham	442	50.0	52	5.9	46	
Randolph	336	48.3	71	10.2	18	
Plymouth	686	47.1	145	10.0	65	
Woburn	329	43.6	90	11.9	25	
Methuen	441	39.1	83	7.4	49	
Cambridge	466	38.7	168	14.0	35	
Medford	332	35.6	79	8.5	47	
Newton	376	20.4	48	2.6	40	
MASSACHUSETTS	79,880	56.3	22,376	15.8	7,300	

¹ Residence of reported children at time of the report. Selected municipalities are those with more than 300 (unduplicated count) children in residence who were reported maltreated.

² A child is counted only once, regardless of the number of times reported during the year.

³ Reporting Rate for all maltreatment = number of reported children per 1,000 resident children under 18 years old. Resident children less than 18 years old in Massachusetts from U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder, Quick Tables, Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF1) (factfinder.census.gov)

⁴ Children who were the subject of an investigation that resulted in a supported allegation of maltreatment. A child is counted only once, regardless of the number of times he/she was the subject of an investigation during the year.

⁵ Victimization Rate for all maltreatment = number of victimized children per 1,000 resident children under 18 years old

⁶ Children with an initial assessment response of concern due to moderate or lower risk allegations of neglect or physical abuse. In 2010, there were 17,888 children with an initial assessment response compared to 3,444 during 2009. This large increase occurred because the initial assessment response was in use throughout 2010, whereas it was only in full use the last few months of 2009.

Table A9. Reported Children by Report Source, Screening Decision, and Type of Alleged Maltreatment during January 1 - December 31, 2010

Report Source	Reported Children by Type of Alleged Maltreatment ¹					
	Neglect		Physical Abuse		Sexual Abuse	
	Reported	% Screened-In ²	Reported	% Screened-In ²	Reported	% Screened-In ³
Law Enforcement Agency	18,790	67%	1,954	68%	900	40%
Medical Professionals	8,252	71%	1,858	72%	1,108	36%
School Personnel	7,388	64%	3,788	74%	881	27%
DCF Social Worker	2,632	76%	410	75%	311	48%
Court	1,435	61%	227	62%	65	38%
Private Social Service Agency	861	58%	331	57%	117	33%
Day-Care Provider	459	61%	220	68%	39	49%
Other Massachusetts State Agency	577	63%	177	66%	57	28%
Out-of-State Agency	308	61%	62	56%	30	40%
Foster Parent	72	67%	24	75%	38	61%
Other Substitute-Care Provider	93	57%	39	51%	24	33%
Other Mandated Reporter	8,400	63%	2,239	65%	842	37%
Missing ⁴	22,066	66%	5,872	69%	2,277	39%
Total Mandated	71,333	66%	17,201	69%	6,689	37%

Self (Victim)	82	66%	42	83%	11	55%
Father in Home	326	48%	75	65%	12	58%
Father Out of Home	2,200	42%	336	55%	40	45%
Mother in Home	778	46%	221	65%	125	39%
Mother Out of Home	609	39%	170	46%	21	33%
Stepparent	66	47%	11	45%	9	67%
Sibling	90	53%	20	55%	2	50%
Other Relative	2,076	57%	259	71%	76	59%
Other Nonmandated Reporter	3,326	55%	622	67%	263	39%
Missing ⁴	5,454	57%	676	62%	125	58%
Total Nonmandated	15,007	51%	2,432	63%	684	46%

Anonymous	13,939	49%	1,613	58%	302	45%
All Sources	100,279	62%	21,246	68%	7,675	38%

¹ These are duplicated counts since a child subjected to more than one form of maltreatment is counted under each maltreatment category. Also, a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of a report during the year.

² The percentage of reported children screened-in for investigation or initial assessment.

³ The percentage of reported children screened-in for investigation (reports of sexual abuse may be screened-in for investigation, but not for initial assessment).

⁴ Type of reporter was not recorded.

**Table A10. Bio-Mother's Age, Race, Hispanic Origin, and Marital Status by Type of Alleged Maltreatment of Children
Reported during January 1 - December 31, 2010**

Bio-Mother's Characteristics	Counts of Reported Children by Type of Alleged Maltreatment ¹					
	Neglect		Physical Abuse		Sexual Abuse	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Age: ²						
12 - 17	442	1%	41	*	8	*
18 - 19	1,207	2%	119	1%	14	*
20 - 29	22,537	34%	3,619	27%	986	23%
30 - 39	27,801	42%	6,079	46%	2,079	49%
40 - 49	12,054	18%	2,826	21%	970	23%
50 - 59	1,676	3%	451	3%	149	4%
60 & 69	35	*	14	*	7	*
Unspecified	130	*	48	*	15	*
Total	65,882	100%	13,197	100%	4,228	100%
Race:						
White	36,364	55%	6,142	47%	2,217	52%
Hispanic/Latino	12,649	19%	3,223	24%	957	23%
Black	7,772	12%	1,930	15%	487	12%
Asian	788	1%	264	2%	54	1%
Native American	164	*	29	*	1	*
Pacific Islander	25	*	---	---	---	---
Multi-Racial	749	1%	132	1%	35	1%
Unable to Determine	1,254	2%	306	2%	95	2%
Missing ³	6,117	9%	1,171	9%	382	9%
Total	65,882	100%	13,197	100%	4,228	100%
Marital Status:						
Married	15,423	23%	3,435	26%	1,047	25%
Single	40,438	61%	7,539	57%	2,371	56%
Separated	3,296	5%	676	5%	279	7%
Divorced	3,931	6%	891	7%	297	7%
Widowed	375	*	50	*	26	*
Missing	2,419	4%	606	5%	208	5%
Total	65,882	100%	13,197	100%	4,228	100%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off.

¹ These are duplicated counts since a child allegedly subjected to more than one form of maltreatment is counted under each maltreatment category. Also, a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of a report during the year.

² Age of mother at time of report

³ Race was not recorded.

**Table A11. Age of Bio-Mothers in 2010 and at Birth of Their Oldest Child by Type of Alleged Maltreatment of Children
Reported during January 1 - December 31, 2010**

Bio-Mother's Age in 2010 (yrs)	Counts of Reported Children by Type of Alleged Maltreatment ¹					
	Neglect		Physical Abuse		Sexual Abuse	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
12 - 17	442	1%	41	*	8	*
18 - 19	1,207	2%	119	1%	14	*
20 - 21	2,546	4%	276	2%	49	1%
22 - 23	3,869	6%	493	4%	140	3%
24 - 25	4,969	8%	762	6%	189	4%
26 - 27	5,382	8%	950	7%	285	7%
28 - 29	5,771	9%	1,138	9%	323	8%
30 - 39	27,801	42%	6,079	46%	2,079	49%
40 - 49	12,054	18%	2,826	21%	970	23%
50 - 59	1,676	3%	451	3%	149	4%
60 & 69	35	*	14	*	7	*
Unspecified	130	*	48	*	15	*
Total	65,882	100%	13,197	100%	4,228	100%
Median Age	32 years		34 years		35 years	
Age at Birth of Oldest Child (yrs)						
12 - 17	14,884	23%	3,036	23%	984	23%
18 - 19	16,316	25%	3,054	23%	1,007	24%
20 - 21	10,966	17%	2,179	17%	722	17%
22 - 23	6,960	11%	1,347	10%	415	10%
24 - 25	4,426	7%	886	7%	280	7%
26 - 27	3,412	5%	673	5%	206	5%
28 - 29	2,600	4%	540	4%	149	4%
30 - 39	5,362	8%	1,234	9%	371	9%
40 - 49	381	1%	102	1%	31	1%
50 - 59	---	---	---	---	---	---
60 & 69	---	---	---	---	---	---
Unspecified	575	1%	146	1%	63	1%
Total	65,882	100%	13,197	100%	4,228	100%
Median Age	20 years		20 years		20 years	

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off.

Note: Summation of relative percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding-off.

¹ These are duplicated counts since a child allegedly subjected to more than one form of maltreatment is counted under each maltreatment category. Also, a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of a report during the year.

Table A12. Race of Victimized Children¹ by Type of Supported Maltreatment during January 1 - December 31, 2010

	Child Counts by Type of Supported Maltreatment ²					
	Neglect		Physical Abuse		Sexual Abuse	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Race:						
White	9,226	42%	1,009	31%	297	37%
Hispanic/Latino ³	5,187	24%	923	29%	188	23%
Black	2,705	12%	585	18%	75	9%
Asian	307	1%	93	3%	11	1%
Native American	30	*	2	*	1	*
Pacific Islander	7	*	---	---	---	---
Multi-Racial	807	4%	120	4%	24	3%
Unable to Determine	874	4%	125	4%	27	3%
Missing ⁴	2,809	13%	355	11%	178	22%
Total	21,952	100%	3,212	100%	801	100%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

¹ Children who were the subject of an investigation that resulted in a supported allegation of maltreatment.

² These are duplicated counts since a child subjected to more than one form of maltreatment is counted under each maltreatment category. Also, a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of an investigation during the year.

³ Hispanic/Latino includes all races.

⁴ Race was not recorded.

Table A13. Perpetrator Characteristics by Type of Supported Maltreatment during January 1 - December 31, 2010

Perpetrator Characteristics ²	Counts of Victimized Children ¹					
	Type of Maltreatment Supported					
	Neglect		Physical Abuse		Sexual Abuse	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Gender						
Male	12,607	43%	1,724	51%	684	86%
Female	15,649	54%	1,546	46%	52	7%
Unspecified	742	3%	106	3%	60	8%
Total	28,998	100%	3,376	100%	796	100%
Age Group (yrs.)						
12 - 17	155	1%	16	0%	44	6%
18 - 19	606	2%	34	1%	20	3%
20 - 29	10,256	35%	815	24%	138	17%
30 - 39	10,518	36%	1,324	39%	220	28%
40 - 49	5,565	19%	779	23%	190	24%
50 - 59	1,254	4%	260	8%	86	11%
60 - 69	223	1%	53	2%	31	4%
70 or older	62	*	6	*	15	2%
Unknown	359	1%	89	3%	52	7%
Total	28,998	100%	3,376	100%	796	100%
Identified as Perpetrator in a Prior Supported Investigation ³						
Yes	14,290	49%	1,482	44%	226	28%
No ⁴	14,708	51%	1,894	56%	570	72%
Total	28,998	100%	3,376	100%	796	100%
Relationship						
Biological Mother	14,417	50%	1,319	39%	26	3%
Biological Father	9,437	33%	1,126	34%	130	17%
Stepmother	119	*	24	1%	2	*
Stepfather	628	2%	161	5%	87	11%
Adoptive Mother	54	*	17	1%	---	---
Adoptive Father	38	*	15	*	7	1%
Mom's Partner in Home	1,950	7%	305	9%	67	9%
Mom's Partner out of Home	559	2%	60	2%	48	6%
Dad's Partner in Home	122	*	18	1%	1	*
Dad's Partner out of Home	30	*	12	*	1	*
Grandmother Maternal	227	1%	38	1%	---	---
Grandmother Paternal	74	*	20	1%	1	*
Grandfather Maternal	67	*	10	*	22	3%
Grandfather Paternal	27	*	2	*	14	2%
Sibling Brother	20	*	13	*	42	5%
Sibling Sister	39	*	12	*	2	*
Other Relative	200	1%	54	2%	98	13%
Unrelated Caretaker in Home	79	*	21	1%	17	2%
Unrelated Caretaker out of Home	148	1%	23	1%	98	13%
Foster Mother	64	*	6	*	---	---
Foster Father	13	*	2	*	5	1%
Legal Guardian	287	1%	36	1%	5	1%
Day Care (Family Based)	34	*	---	---	1	*
Day Care (Center Based)	36	*	3	*	---	---
Residential Program	63	*	5	*	4	1%
Public School	43	*	16	*	6	1%
Private School	1	*	1	*	---	---
After School Program	---	---	---	---	---	---
Other Institution	19	*	7	*	1	*
Other Person	155	1%	23	1%	99	13%
Unknown	9	*	5	*	---	---
Total	28,959	100%	3,354	100%	784	100%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

¹ Counts of children are duplicated since a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of an investigation that results in a finding of maltreatment during the year. Also, a child subjected to more than one type of maltreatment is counted in each maltreatment category.

² Based on combined data for a maximum of 4 perpetrators per child (some children were victimized by multiple perpetrators). The totals for each group of perpetrator characteristics may differ due to missing data.

³ The prior supported finding may have been for a different type of maltreatment.

⁴ The individual was not identified in a previous supported investigation.

Table A14. Children with Supported Allegations: All Maltreatment and Neglect by DCF Area Office and Region during January 1 - December 31, 2010

DCF Area Office/Region	Child Count from Supported Investigations ¹				
	2010	% Change	2010	% Change	Neglect as % of All Maltreatment
	All Maltreatment No.	All 2009 - 2010	Neglect No.	Neglect 2009 - 2010	
Greenfield	611	-35%	576	-38%	94%
Holyoke	1,116	-23%	1,014	-24%	91%
North Central	1,105	-7%	974	-6%	88%
Pittsfield	969	-9%	941	-9%	97%
Van Wart Center	1,264	-29%	1,200	*	95%
South Central	719	-42%	605	-46%	84%
Springfield	1,596	-25%	1,474	-25%	92%
Worcester East ²	1,165	-50%	1,041	-50%	89%
Worcester West ²	1,045	757%	950	719%	91%
Contracted Agencies	1	---	1	---	100%
Western	9,591	-22%	8,776	-23%	92%
Cambridge	554	-30%	504	-32%	91%
Cape Ann	270	-59%	218	-64%	81%
Framingham	575	-39%	537	-38%	93%
Haverhill	484	-26%	459	-27%	95%
Lawrence	470	-32%	355	-35%	76%
Lowell	1,312	-7%	1,167	-10%	89%
Lynn	774	-28%	719	-26%	93%
Malden	584	-37%	526	-39%	90%
Northern	5,023	-30%	4,485	-31%	89%
Arlington	392	-48%	354	-50%	90%
Brockton	1,081	-22%	961	-24%	89%
Cape Cod	881	-15%	834	-15%	95%
Coastal	748	-19%	699	-19%	93%
Fall River	808	-29%	737	*	91%
New Bedford	1,572	-26%	1,474	-26%	94%
Plymouth	723	-30%	679	-32%	94%
Taunton/Attleboro	688	-22%	614	-24%	89%
Southern	6,893	-26%	6,352	-27%	92%
Dimock Street	511	-35%	436	-32%	85%
Harbor	787	-30%	708	-28%	90%
Hyde Park	575	-40%	485	-42%	84%
Park Street	812	-30%	673	-31%	83%
Boston	2,685	-33%	2,302	-33%	86%
Unspecified	40	-34%	37	-34%	93%
STATE	24,232	-26%	21,952	-27%	91%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

¹ Counts of children are duplicated since a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of an investigation that results in a finding of maltreatment during the year.

² Worcester East no longer screens reports for both area offices. Worcester West is now screening and investigating its own reports which accounts for the large increase in victimized children from 2009 to 2010.

Table A15. Children with Supported Allegations: All Maltreatment and Physical Abuse by DCF Area Office and Region during January 1 - December 31, 2010

DCF Area Office/Region	Child Count from Supported Investigations ¹				
	2010	% Change	2010	% Change	Physical Abuse
	All Maltreatment	All	Physical Abuse	Physical Abuse	as % of All
	No.	2009 - 2010	No.	2009 - 2010	Maltreatment
Greenfield	611	-35%	58	-6%	9%
Holyoke	1,116	-23%	138	-17%	12%
North Central	1,105	-7%	312	-7%	28%
Pittsfield	969	-9%	63	0%	7%
Robert Van Wart	1,264	-29%	88	-13%	7%
South Central	719	-42%	146	-15%	20%
Springfield	1,596	-25%	184	-12%	12%
Worcester East ²	1,165	-50%	184	-50%	16%
Worcester West ²	1,045	757%	144	1008%	14%
Contracted Agencies	1	---	---	---	---
Western	9,591	-22%	1,317	-11%	14%
Cambridge	554	-30%	73	-9%	13%
Cape Ann	270	-59%	49	-36%	18%
Framingham	575	-39%	57	-52%	10%
Haverhill	484	-26%	40	-7%	8%
Lawrence	470	-32%	113	-32%	24%
Lowell	1,312	-7%	178	19%	14%
Lynn	774	-28%	109	-37%	14%
Malden	584	-37%	91	-22%	16%
Northern	5,023	-30%	710	-23%	14%
Arlington	392	-48%	44	-36%	11%
Brockton	1,081	-22%	130	-21%	12%
Cape Cod	881	-15%	72	-29%	8%
Coastal	748	-19%	62	-23%	8%
Fall River	808	-29%	104	-15%	13%
New Bedford	1,572	-26%	133	-35%	8%
Plymouth	723	-30%	70	49%	10%
Taunton/Attleboro	688	-22%	79	-7%	11%
Southern	6,893	-26%	694	-21%	10%
Dimock Street	511	-35%	103	-37%	20%
Harbor	787	-30%	107	-42%	14%
Hyde Park	575	-40%	102	-28%	18%
Park Street	812	-30%	178	-27%	22%
Boston	2,685	-33%	490	-34%	18%
Unspecified	40	-34%	1	-83%	3%
STATE	24,232	-26%	3,212	-20%	13%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

¹ Counts of children are duplicated since a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of an investigation that results in a finding of maltreatment during the year.

² Worcester East no longer screens reports for both area offices. Worcester West is now screening and investigating its own reports which accounts for the large increase in victimized children from 2009 to 2010.

Table A16. Children with Supported Allegations: All Maltreatment and Sexual Abuse by DCF Area Office and Region during January 1 - December 31, 2010

DCF Area Office/Region	Child Count from Supported Investigations ¹				
	2010	% Change	2010	% Change	Sexual Abuse as % of All Maltreatment
	All Maltreatment No.	All 2009 - 2010	Sexual Abuse No.	Sexual Abuse 2009 - 2010	
Greenfield	611	-35%	32	3%	5%
Holyoke	1,116	-23%	30	-19%	3%
North Central	1,105	-7%	34	17%	3%
Pittsfield	969	-9%	21	17%	2%
Van Wart Center	1,264	-29%	34	17%	3%
South Central	719	-42%	40	-13%	6%
Springfield	1,596	-25%	39	-34%	2%
Worcester East ²	1,165	-50%	39	-53%	3%
Worcester West ²	1,045	757%	39	1200%	4%
Contracted Agencies	1	---	1	---	100%
Western	9,591	-22%	309	-8%	3%
Cambridge	554	-30%	10	-9%	2%
Cape Ann	270	-59%	16	-30%	6%
Framingham	575	-39%	12	-8%	2%
Haverhill	484	-26%	19	73%	4%
Lawrence	470	-32%	27	23%	6%
Lowell	1,312	-7%	48	17%	4%
Lynn	774	-28%	21	-22%	3%
Malden	584	-37%	23	-15%	4%
Northern	5,023	-30%	176	1%	4%
Arlington	392	-48%	20	11%	5%
Brockton	1,081	-22%	32	23%	3%
Cape Cod	881	-15%	33	0%	4%
Coastal	748	-19%	10	-47%	1%
Fall River	808	-29%	33	-3%	4%
New Bedford	1,572	-26%	36	-32%	2%
Plymouth	723	-30%	14	-39%	2%
Taunton/Attleboro	688	-22%	29	-9%	4%
Southern	6,893	-26%	207	-13%	3%
Dimock Street	511	-35%	10	-73%	2%
Harbor	787	-30%	31	*	4%
Hyde Park	575	-40%	33	22%	6%
Park Street	812	-30%	33	22%	4%
Boston	2,685	-33%	107	-12%	4%
Unspecified	40	-34%	2	-50%	5%
STATE	24,232	-26%	801	-8%	3%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off

¹ Counts of children are duplicated since a child is counted each time he/she is the subject of an investigation that results in a finding of maltreatment during the year.

² Worcester East no longer screens reports for both area offices. Worcester West is now screening and investigating its own reports which accounts for the large increase in victimized children from 2009 to 2010.