

2007

ANNUAL CHILD ABUSE REPORT



TO REPORT SUSPECTED
CHILD ABUSE, CALL
CHILDLINE AT

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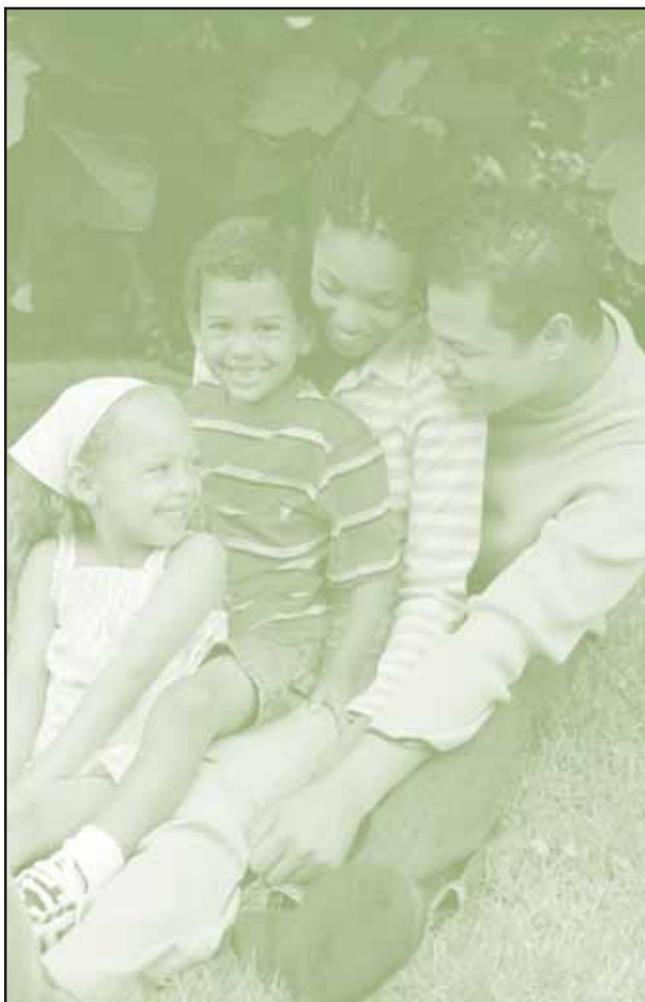
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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Office of the Governor
Harrisburg

THE GOVERNOR

April 2008

Dear Citizens,

I am pleased to release the *2007 Child Abuse Annual Report*. This report presents critical data about the extent and nature of child abuse in the commonwealth. Of course, any level of child abuse is absolutely unacceptable to me as I am sure it is to you. This report lets us see where we have made progress and where we need to redouble our efforts.

The good news is that we are making improvements in some key areas. I am heartened by the fact that the percentage of child abuse that was substantiated in 2007 was only 17 percent – one percentage point lower than in 2006. While we will need to watch this data closely, 2006 could turn out to be an important turning point in our efforts to reduce and eliminate child abuse. The report also outlines the tough new criminal background checks that the legislature passed and I signed in to law last year. The new requirements offer important protections for Pennsylvania children and will keep us moving in the right direction.

While there is evidence that we may be turning a corner, serious challenges remain. Far too many children are still being victimized as is shown by the shocking fact that eight out of every 1,000 children living in Pennsylvania were reported as victims of suspected child abuse last year and the abuse was substantiated for one out of every 1,000 children. The fact that 41 of our 67 counties received more reports of suspected child abuse in 2007 than in the previous year shows that we need to treat child abuse as a statewide problem requiring statewide solutions.

Probably the most sobering statistic in this report is that 46 children died as a result of abuse or neglect in 2007, fifteen more child deaths than in 2006. Clearly we need to do more to reverse this trend. This report provides the key data, and it is now up to all of us now to transform this information into effective action.

Sincerely,

Edward G. Rendell
Governor



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE
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Secretary

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April 2008

Dear Child Advocate:

I would like to thank you for another year of unfaltering commitment and dedication to Pennsylvania's children and their families. Your continued advocacy in support of programs and services that protect children and prevent child abuse and neglect will help us maintain our momentum and focus on these important issues for years to come.

One case of reported abuse will forever be one case too many and the information in this report is a sobering reminder that we still have work to do. Despite our best efforts, we unfortunately saw a slight increase in the number of reports of suspected abuse as well as a slight increase in the number of substantiated cases.

For these reasons, I encourage each and every one of you to continue working together to address the struggles our child welfare system is facing in meeting the needs of abused and neglected children and their families.

It is my sincere hope that through our work advocating for stronger child abuse laws and regulations, that together with effective and quality services we can secure a safe and successful future for the children of Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Estelle B. Richman".

Estelle B. Richman

New Legislative Requirements

Governor Edward G. Rendell signed House Bill 1961, Printer's Number 2832 into law on Dec. 18, 2007. This amendment to the Child Protective Services Law (CPSL), known as Act 73 of 2007, is effective Jan. 1, 2008, for prospective foster and adoptive parents and adult persons living in those homes, and July 1, 2008, for prospective child care service employees and self-employed family day care providers and other persons having significant likelihood of regular contact with children. Act 73 of 2007 brings Pennsylvania into compliance with the Federal Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006, as it relates to background checks.

By enacting Act 73 of 2007, the Child Protective Services Law strengthens Pennsylvania's ability to protect children by enhancing the screening requirements for individuals entrusted with the care of children. Prospective foster and adoptive parents, as well as their adult household members, are required to complete a fingerprint-based federal criminal record check through the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). These individuals are also required to submit for child abuse history record checks from other states in which they resided within the previous five year period.

Pennsylvania has taken further steps to ensure the safety of children by also requiring FBI fingerprint-based criminal

record checks for prospective child care service employees, self-employed family day care providers and other persons having significant likelihood of regular contact with children.

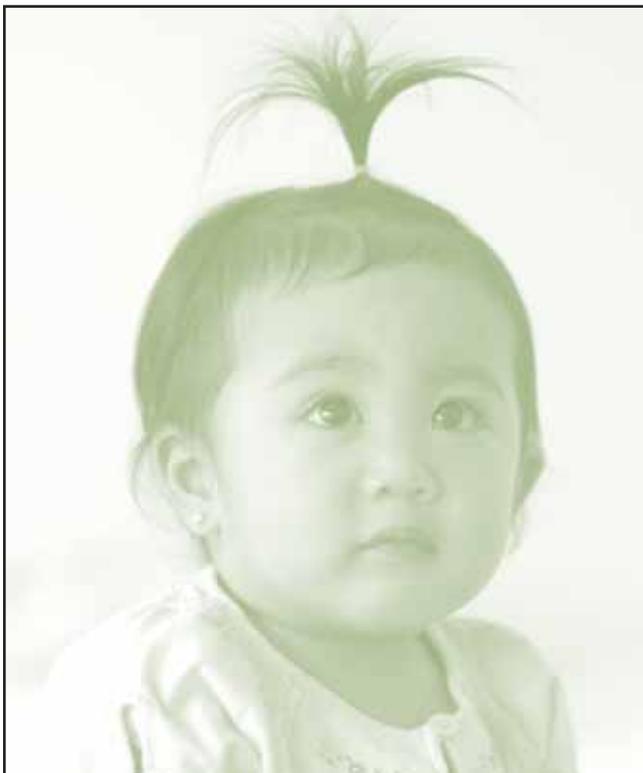
Procedures for Obtaining Clearances

Prospective foster and adoptive parents, as well as adult household members, are required to obtain certification from the statewide central registries of any state in which they have resided within the previous five year period. The applicants and adult household members must obtain and complete the appropriate form(s) and forward them and any additionally required documentation and/or payment as required by the specific state(s) to the ChildLine and Abuse Registry, which will then process the information with the appropriate state(s). Child care service employees are not required to obtain these child abuse clearances from other states.

The Department of Public Welfare will be utilizing Cogent Systems to process fingerprint-based FBI record checks. The fingerprint-based background check is a multiple step process. The applicants must first register online, or through a toll free number, and once registration is complete they must proceed to a fingerprint location authorized by Cogent Systems to have their fingerprints electronically scanned.

Once the registration and scanning is completed, the scanned prints are electronically transmitted to the Pennsylvania State Police, who in turn submit the fingerprints and demographic information to the FBI. The Department will receive the completed federal criminal history record check from the FBI and will interpret the results to determine if the applicant has been convicted of a crime that is the equivalent to a prohibitive hire as outlined in §6344 (c) of the CPSL. The results will then be returned to the applicant or agency based on the payment method.

It is possible that the fingerprints may be rejected by the FBI. Poor fingerprint detail may be caused by age, occupation, or other environmental/physical condition. In the case of a fingerprint rejection by the FBI, applicants are requested by the FBI to submit a second set of fingerprints at no charge. If fingerprints are rejected a second time, the Department will then conduct a name-based check based on the demographic information on the initial application.



Introduction

The Child Protective Services Law (CPSL) requires that every year the Department of Public Welfare (DPW) report to the Governor and General Assembly on the problem of child abuse in the commonwealth. This annual report provides information on the efforts to protect and help children in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania who were reported as victims of suspected abuse and neglect.

The data¹ contained in this report are based on completed investigations during the 2007 calendar year. In other words, a report of suspected child abuse from December 2007 that was under investigation is not included if the investigation was not completed by Dec. 31, 2007. It will be included in the next annual report.

In 2007 there was an increase in the number of reports of suspected child abuse; however, the number of substantiated reports only slightly increased. Therefore, due to the minimal increase of substantiated reports compared to the increase in the overall number of reports received, the substantiation rate actually decreased by one percent from 18 percent in 2006 to 17 percent in 2007.

There were 46 substantiated child fatality reports in 2007. This is the highest number of fatalities since 2004. All partners in the child welfare system must continue to work collaboratively to prevent and decrease the number of these tragedies. Every child's death is closely examined to determine the contributing factors and efforts continue to be made to identify risk factors that contribute to the serious injury or death of children.

Protecting Pennsylvania's children from abuse and neglect requires the collaboration of all involved in the child welfare system and the community. Strong child abuse laws and regulations in conjunction with effective and quality services to children and families help to ensure the safety of children. Educating all Pennsylvanians, especially mandated reporters, on how to identify and report children who have been abused, or are at risk of being abused or neglected is also important.



¹ All data in the narratives of this report have been rounded off to the nearest percent.

Child Abuse and Student Abuse Statistical Summary

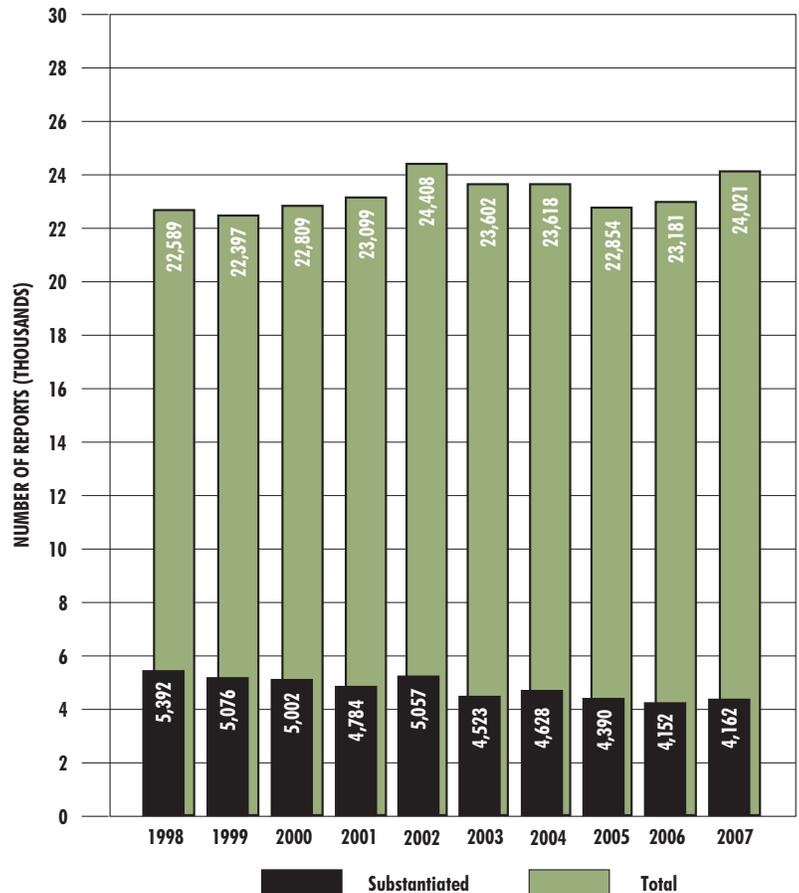
Report Data

- In 2007, 24,021 reports of suspected child and student abuse were received, an increase of 840 reports from 2006 (refer to Chart 1 for a multi-year comparison).
- Included in the reports above were 18 reports of suspected student abuse, a decrease of 6 reports from 2006 (refer to Reporting and Investigating Student Abuse on page 32 for a discussion of student abuse).
- In 2007, 4,162 reports of suspected child and student abuse were substantiated, 10 more than in 2006.
- The percentage of total reports of child abuse that were substantiated in 2007 was 17 percent, one percent less than in 2006.
- Sexual abuse was involved in 58 percent of all substantiated reports, down one percent from 2006.
- Of Pennsylvania's 67 counties, 41 received more reports in 2007 than in 2006.
- Law enforcement officials received 9,075 (38 percent) reports for possible criminal investigation and prosecution, an increase of two percent from 2006. This figure includes certain criminal offenses, such as aggravated assault, kidnapping, sexual abuse or serious bodily injury by any perpetrator. All reports involving perpetrators who are not family members must also be reported. Not all child abuse reports fit into the categories mentioned above.
- Due to court activity, 67 substantiated reports were changed from indicated to founded, including 45 due to criminal conviction of perpetrators. This represents two percent of the total substantiated reports.

Victim Data

- Of the 4,162 substantiated reports of abuse, 3,982 children (unduplicated count) were listed as abuse victims (some children were involved in more than one incident of abuse).
- The 13 reports of substantiated student abuse involved six females and seven males.
- Of the substantiated reports of abuse, the living arrangement of the child at the time of abuse was highest for children living with a single parent (43 percent). The second highest living arrangement was children living with two parents (33 percent).
- In 2007, 46 children died from abuse – 15 more than in 2006.

Chart 1
CHILD ABUSE REPORTS FROM 1998-2007

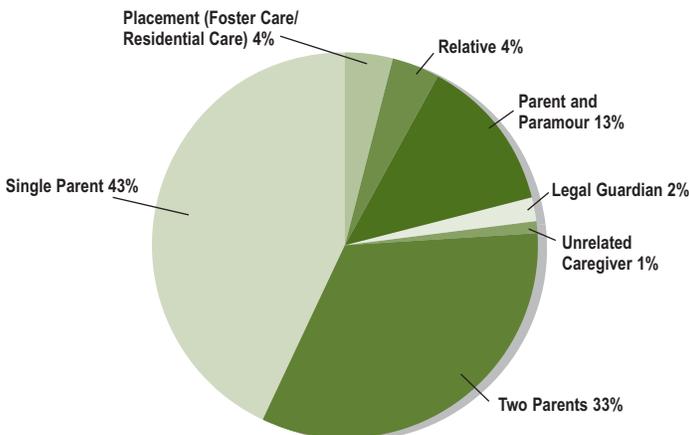


- In 2007, 452 (11 percent) substantiated reports involved children who had been abused before.
- In 2007, 2,678 (64 percent) substantiated reports involved girls, while 1,484 (36 percent) substantiated reports of abuse involved boys.
- In 2007, 1,868 (77 percent) sexually abused children were girls, while 550 (23 percent) sexually abused children were boys.
- Of the 336 reports in which children reported themselves as victims, 113 (34 percent) were substantiated.
- In 2007, 8,560 children were moved from the setting where the alleged or actual abuse occurred, an increase of one percent from 2006.

Perpetrator Data

- There were 3,983 perpetrators (unduplicated count) in 4,162 substantiated reports.
- 527 (13 percent) of the perpetrators had been a perpetrator in at least one prior substantiated report.
- 3,456 (87 percent) of the perpetrators were reported for the first time.
- In the 4,162 substantiated reports, 60 percent of the perpetrators had a parental (mother, father, stepparent, paramour of a parent) relationship to the child.

Chart 2 - CHILD'S LIVING ARRANGEMENT AT THE TIME OF THE ABUSE (Substantiated Reports), 2007



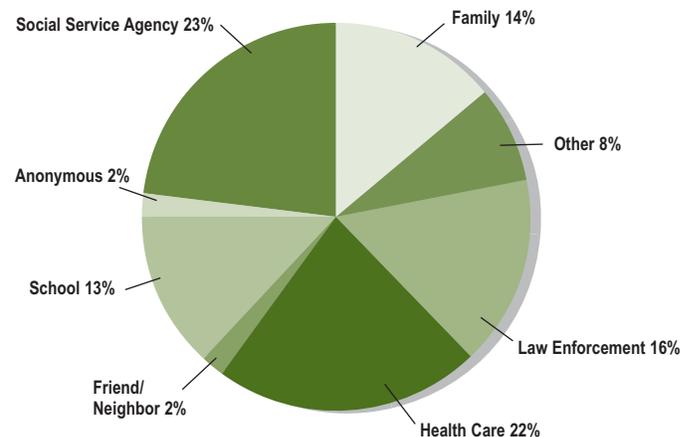
Child Care Setting Data

- A total of 174 substantiated reports involved children abused in a child care setting. Child care setting is defined as services or programs outside of the child's home, such as child care centers, foster homes and group homes. It does not include babysitters (paid or unpaid) arranged by parents.
- Staff in the regional offices of the Department of Public Welfare's (DPW) Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF) investigated 2,238 reports (a decrease of 117 reports) of suspected abuse in cases where the alleged perpetrator was an agent or employee of a county agency. OCYF Regional offices are required to conduct these investigations pursuant to the Child Protective Services Law (CPSL).

Requests for Child Abuse History Clearances

- A total of 476,895 individuals who were seeking approval as foster or adoptive parents, or employment in a child care service or in a public or private school, requested clearance through ChildLine. This is a six percent increase from 2006.
- Of the persons requesting clearance for employment, foster care or adoption, 1,295 (less than one percent) were on file at ChildLine as perpetrators of child abuse.

Chart 3 - SOURCE OF SUBSTANTIATED ABUSE REFERRALS, (Substantiated Reports), 2007 (by category)



Reporting and Investigating Child Abuse

Act 127 of 1998 amended the Pennsylvania Child Protective Services Law (CPSL) with this purpose:

“... to preserve, stabilize and protect the integrity of family life wherever appropriate or to provide another alternative permanent family when the unity of the family cannot be maintained.”

The act also strengthened the CPSL by providing for more cooperation between county agencies and law enforcement officials when referring and investigating reports of suspected child abuse. Pennsylvania law defines child abuse as any of the following when committed upon a child under 18 years of age by a perpetrator²:

1. Any recent act³ or failure to act which causes non-accidental serious physical injury.
2. An act or failure to act which causes non-accidental serious mental injury or sexual abuse or sexual exploitation.
3. Any recent act, failure to act or series of such acts or failures to act which creates an imminent risk of serious physical injury, sexual abuse or sexual exploitation.
4. Serious physical neglect which endangers a child's life or development or impairs a child's functioning.

The Department of Public Welfare's (DPW) ChildLine and Abuse Registry (1-800-932-0313) is the central clearinghouse for all investigated reports. Professionals who come into contact with children during the course of their employment, occupation, or practice of a profession, are required to report when they have reasonable cause to suspect that a child under the care, supervision, guidance or training of that person or of an agency, institution, organization or other entity with which that person is affiliated is an abused child. This also includes incidents of suspected child abuse in which the individual committing the act is not defined as a perpetrator under the CPSL. For purposes of data reporting contained in this annual report, the data are specific to those cases where the individual committing the acts was considered a perpetrator under the CPSL, unless otherwise noted. In addition, any person may report suspected abuse, even if the individual wishes to remain anonymous.

Staff of the county agencies investigate reports of suspected abuse. When the alleged perpetrator is an agent or employee

of the county children and youth agency, regional office staff from the Department's Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF) conduct the investigation. The investigation must determine within 30 days whether the report is:

FOUNDED – there is a judicial adjudication that the child was abused;

INDICATED – county agency or regional staff find abuse has occurred based on medical evidence, the child protective service investigation or an admission by the perpetrator; or

UNFOUNDED – there is a lack of evidence that the child was abused.

In this annual report, “**founded**” and “**indicated**” reports of abuse will be referred to as “**substantiated**” reports. Substantiated reports are kept on file at both ChildLine and the county agencies until the victim's 23rd birthday. ChildLine keeps the perpetrator's information on file indefinitely if the date of birth or social security number of the perpetrator is known.

Act 127 of 1998 requires that **unfounded** reports be kept on file for one year from the date of the report and be destroyed within 120 days following the one-year period.

Status of Evaluation, Rates of Reporting and Substantiation by County, 2006–2007 – Table 1

The data contained in this report are based on completed investigations received at ChildLine during the 2007 calendar year. County agencies have a maximum of 60 days from the date a report is registered with ChildLine to submit their findings. Therefore, some reports registered in November and December of 2006 are included in this report because ChildLine received their investigation findings during the 2007 calendar year.

In 2007, 24,021 reports of suspected child abuse were received at ChildLine and investigated by staff of a county agency or the Department's regional staff. The following statistical highlights are extracted from Table 1:

- There was a four percent increase in the total number of reports received from 2006.
- Investigations found 17 percent of the reports to be substantiated and 83 percent to be unfounded. Due to local court proceedings, less than one percent were still pending a final disposition.

² A perpetrator is defined as a person who has committed child abuse and is a parent, paramour of a parent, individual (age 14 or older) residing in the same home as a child, or a person responsible for the welfare of a child, including a person who provides mental health diagnosis or treatment.

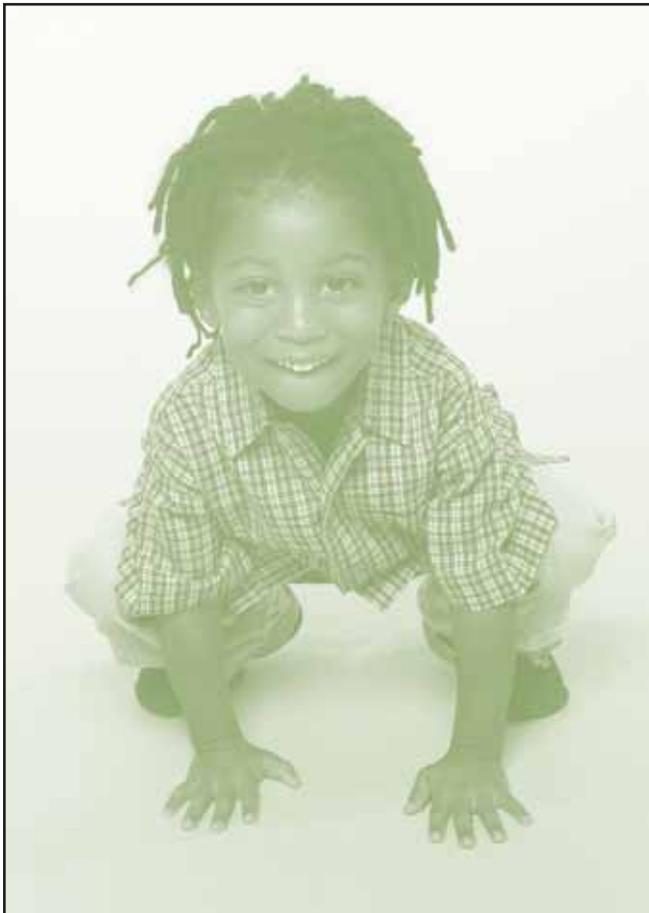
³ A recent act is defined as within two years of the date of the report.

**Table 1 – STATUS OF EVALUATION,
RATES OF REPORTING AND SUBSTANTIATION BY COUNTY, 2006–2007**

COUNTY	TOTAL REPORTS		SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS				2007 POPULATION ⁴		TOTAL REPORTS PER 1,000 CHILDREN		SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS PER 1,000 CHILDREN	
	2006	2007	2006	%	2007	%	TOTAL	UNDER 18	2006	2007	2006	2007
Adams	130	192	18	13.8	49	25.5	101,105	23,988	5.5	8.0	0.8	2.0
Allegheny	1,394	1,487	124	8.9	145	9.8	1,223,411	264,865	5.2	5.6	0.5	0.5
Armstrong	125	128	24	19.2	29	22.7	70,096	15,432	8.0	8.3	1.5	1.9
Beaver	147	169	33	22.4	47	27.8	175,736	38,625	3.8	4.4	0.8	1.2
Bedford	92	91	21	22.8	13	14.3	49,927	11,421	8.0	8.0	1.8	1.1
Berks	758	751	171	22.6	122	16.2	401,149	96,529	7.9	7.8	1.8	1.3
Blair	339	298	75	22.1	57	19.1	126,494	27,789	12.2	10.7	2.7	2.1
Bradford	159	154	57	35.8	41	26.6	62,471	15,183	10.5	10.1	3.8	2.7
Bucks	752	783	59	7.8	88	11.2	623,205	153,768	4.9	5.1	0.4	0.6
Butler	243	272	40	16.5	35	12.9	182,901	43,517	5.6	6.3	0.9	0.8
Cambria	204	248	21	10.3	32	12.9	146,967	29,806	6.8	8.3	0.7	1.1
Cameron	12	14	3	25.0	6	42.9	5,489	1,277	9.1	11.0	2.3	4.7
Carbon	118	105	24	20.3	25	23.8	62,567	13,283	9.0	7.9	1.8	1.9
Centre	168	160	16	9.5	21	13.1	140,953	24,352	6.9	6.6	0.7	0.9
Chester	851	823	81	9.5	112	13.6	482,112	121,772	7.1	6.8	0.7	0.9
Clarion	78	71	19	24.4	16	22.5	40,385	8,384	9.3	8.5	2.3	1.9
Clearfield	109	177	22	20.2	47	26.6	82,442	17,778	6.1	10.0	1.2	2.6
Clinton	42	55	14	33.3	13	23.6	37,232	7,764	5.4	7.1	1.8	1.7
Columbia	151	167	30	19.9	36	21.6	65,014	12,875	11.7	13.0	2.3	2.8
Crawford	339	330	55	16.2	73	22.1	89,389	21,269	15.9	15.5	2.6	3.4
Cumberland	277	343	66	23.8	108	31.5	226,117	48,166	5.8	7.1	1.4	2.2
Dauphin	560	614	95	17.0	113	18.4	254,176	61,114	9.2	10.0	1.6	1.8
Delaware	952	895	100	10.5	85	9.5	555,996	135,585	7.0	6.6	0.7	0.6
Elk	30	54	8	26.7	12	22.2	33,179	7,675	3.9	7.0	1.0	1.6
Erie	719	805	137	19.1	107	13.3	279,811	68,006	10.5	11.8	2.0	1.6
Fayette	312	365	57	18.3	54	14.8	145,760	32,120	9.7	11.4	1.8	1.7
Forest	23	19	7	30.4	4	21.1	6,506	1,468	17.8	12.9	5.4	2.7
Franklin	201	222	37	18.4	32	14.4	139,991	32,765	6.2	6.8	1.2	1.0
Fulton	34	40	6	17.6	8	20.0	14,783	3,522	9.7	11.4	1.7	2.3
Greene	104	90	15	14.4	13	14.4	40,432	8,604	12.3	10.5	1.8	1.5
Huntingdon	45	53	8	17.8	13	24.5	45,771	9,617	4.7	5.5	0.8	1.4
Indiana	172	184	26	15.1	41	22.3	88,234	17,458	9.8	10.5	1.5	2.3
Jefferson	94	78	32	34.0	25	32.1	45,725	10,427	9.0	7.5	3.1	2.4
Juniata	47	48	13	27.7	11	22.9	23,512	5,668	8.3	8.5	2.3	1.9
Lackawanna	432	403	66	15.3	66	16.4	209,728	44,439	9.7	9.1	1.5	1.5
Lancaster	652	659	119	18.3	99	15.0	494,486	129,311	5.1	5.1	0.9	0.8
Lawrence	160	149	47	29.4	35	23.5	91,795	20,683	7.7	7.2	2.2	1.7
Lebanon	221	251	44	19.9	42	16.7	126,883	29,198	7.6	8.6	1.5	1.4
Lehigh	821	891	122	14.9	121	13.6	335,544	78,932	10.6	11.3	1.6	1.5
Luzerne	525	479	120	22.9	101	21.1	313,020	63,935	8.2	7.5	1.9	1.6
Lycoming	184	206	33	17.9	41	19.9	117,668	26,592	6.9	7.7	1.2	1.5
McKean	200	190	28	14.0	39	20.5	44,065	10,067	19.7	18.9	2.8	3.9
Mercer	252	233	45	17.9	52	22.3	118,551	26,855	9.3	8.7	1.7	1.9
Mifflin	70	72	12	17.1	16	22.2	46,057	11,096	6.3	6.5	1.1	1.4
Monroe	319	368	49	15.4	56	15.2	165,685	42,035	7.7	8.8	1.2	1.3
Montgomery	693	741	75	10.8	84	11.3	775,688	183,753	3.8	4.0	0.4	0.5
Montour	79	66	3	3.8	5	7.6	17,934	4,260	18.4	15.5	0.7	1.2
Northampton	685	742	134	19.6	111	15.0	291,306	65,498	10.6	11.3	2.1	1.7
Northumberland	222	196	42	18.9	34	17.3	91,654	19,303	11.4	10.2	2.2	1.8
Perry	116	114	22	19.0	19	16.7	45,087	11,069	10.6	10.3	2.0	1.7
Philadelphia	4,703	4,670	1,092	23.2	1,007	21.6	1,448,394	365,343	12.7	12.8	3.0	2.8
Pike	103	124	14	13.6	17	13.7	58,195	14,422	7.4	8.6	1.0	1.2
Potter	70	81	22	31.4	28	34.6	17,568	4,413	15.6	18.4	4.9	6.3
Schuylkill	289	342	39	13.5	56	16.4	147,405	29,560	9.8	11.6	1.3	1.9
Snyder	46	43	22	47.8	11	25.6	38,226	8,841	5.2	4.9	2.5	1.2
Somerset	114	114	29	25.4	29	25.4	78,508	16,848	6.7	6.8	1.7	1.7
Sullivan	16	19	3	18.8	4	21.1	6,277	1,261	12.5	15.1	2.3	3.2
Susquehanna	103	82	38	36.9	21	25.6	41,889	10,073	10.2	8.1	3.8	2.1
Tioga	87	108	21	24.1	32	29.6	41,137	9,268	9.3	11.7	2.2	3.5
Union	45	68	11	24.4	23	33.8	43,387	8,290	5.5	8.2	1.3	2.8
Venango	147	173	21	14.3	30	17.3	55,488	12,965	11.2	13.3	1.6	2.3
Warren	85	92	24	28.2	25	27.2	41,742	9,649	8.7	9.5	2.5	2.6
Washington	347	348	75	21.6	59	17.0	206,432	44,480	7.8	7.8	1.7	1.3
Wayne	94	67	28	29.8	17	25.4	50,929	11,640	8.2	5.8	2.4	1.5
Westmoreland	478	560	79	16.5	81	14.5	366,440	77,921	6.1	7.2	1.0	1.0
Wyoming	88	89	14	15.9	12	13.5	28,093	6,766	13.0	13.2	2.1	1.8
York	954	996	145	15.2	156	15.7	416,322	99,352	9.8	10.0	1.5	1.6
TOTAL	23,181	24,021	4,152	17.9	4,162	17.3	12,440,621	2,889,990	8.0	8.3	1.4	1.4

⁴ 2007 Annual Estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau.

- Approximately eight out of every 1,000 children living in Pennsylvania were reported as victims of suspected abuse in 2007.
- Approximately one out of every 1,000 children living in Pennsylvania was found to be a victim of child abuse in 2007.
- For 2007, the substantiation rate (the percentage of suspected reports that were confirmed as abuse) of 17 percent is approximately one percent less than in 2006. The rate in 40 counties was at or above this average. Twenty-seven counties were below this average.
- While 64 percent of the substantiated victims were girls, 36 percent were boys. The higher number of substantiated reports involving girls is partially explained by the fact that 77 percent of sexual abuse reports (the most prevalent type of abuse) involved girls and 23 percent involved boys. This has been a consistent trend in Pennsylvania.



Referral Source by Status Determination and Children Moved⁵ from the Alleged or Actual Abusive Setting, 2007 – Table 2A, Table 2B

Table 2A shows the number of suspected child abuse reports by referral source in relation to the number and percent of suspected abuses that were substantiated from those referents. In addition, the table shows the number of children who were moved from the alleged or actual abusive setting in relation to the referral source and the number of suspected abuses substantiated. Children moved from the alleged or actual abusive setting includes children who were removed by the county children and youth agency, moved to another setting by a parent or another adult, and/or those children who left the alleged or actual abusive setting themselves.

The number of children who were moved to another setting by a parent or another adult includes situations where the parents may be separated or divorced, and the non-offending parent by agreement or non agreement of the other parent, takes the child upon learning of the

Table 2A – REFERRAL SOURCE BY STATUS DETERMINATION AND CHILDREN MOVED⁵, 2007

REFERRAL SOURCE	TOTAL	SUBSTANTIATED	PERCENT	CHILDREN MOVED
SCHOOL	5,989	538	9.0	1,055
OTHER PUBLIC/PRIVATE SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCY	3,583	707	19.7	1,764
HOSPITAL	2,815	695	24.7	1,277
PARENT/GUARDIAN	1,885	326	17.3	798
LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY	1,486	675	45.4	746
RESIDENTIAL FACILITY	1,339	111	8.3	693
ANONYMOUS	1,225	66	5.4	186
OTHER	1,133	294	25.9	474
RELATIVE	913	130	14.2	319
PUBLIC MH/MR AGENCY	839	112	13.3	278
FRIEND/NEIGHBOR	639	69	10.8	177
PRIVATE PSYCHIATRIST	555	113	20.4	198
PRIVATE DOCTOR/NURSE	497	97	19.5	203
CHILD CARE STAFF	452	40	8.8	80
CHILD - SELF REFERRAL	336	113	33.6	186
SIBLING	102	25	24.5	57
BABYSITTER	46	6	13.0	10
DENTIST	43	9	20.9	5
CLERGY	41	8	19.5	11
COURTS	39	6	15.4	17
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT	34	7	20.6	10
PERPETRATOR	21	12	57.1	10
CORONER	6	2	33.3	5
LANDLORD	3	1	33.3	1
TOTAL	24,021	4,162	17.3	8,560

⁵ Children moved from the alleged or actual abusive setting includes children who were moved by parents or other adults, those moved by the County Children and Youth Agency, and those who moved themselves.

alleged or actual abuse. Also included in this number are situations where relatives, friends of the family or citizens of the community take the child upon learning of the alleged or actual abuse. Children who remove themselves are typically older children who either run away or leave the home of the alleged or actual abusive setting to seek safety elsewhere.

Mandated reporters continue to be the highest reporters of suspected child abuse reports as can be seen in Table 2B. Mandated reporters are individuals whose occupation or profession brings them into contact with children. They are required by law to report suspected child abuse to ChildLine when they have reason to suspect that a child under the care, supervision, guidance or training of that person, or of an agency, institution, organization or other entity with which that person is affiliated has been abused, including child abuse committed by an individual who is not defined as a perpetrator under the CPSL. Suspected abuse of students by school employees is reported to ChildLine by the county agency after they receive the report from law enforcement officials. More information on student abuse can be found on page 32.

- In 2007, mandated reporters referred 17,718 reports of suspected abuse. This represents 74 percent of all suspected abuse reports.
- Mandated reporters made up 75 percent of all substantiated reports. This has continued to be a relatively consistent trend for the past 10 years.
- Schools have consistently reported the highest number of total reports from mandated reporters, whereas the highest numbers of substantiated reports that originated from mandated reporters came from other public or private social service agencies.
- Parents and guardians have reported the highest number of suspected reports from non-mandated reporters.
- The highest numbers of substantiated reports that originated from non-mandated reporters have come from parents/guardians and others.

Table 2B – REPORTING BY MANDATED REPORTERS, 1998-2007

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Private doctor/nurse	600	589	658	568	618	574	626	460	474	497
Dentist	16	21	13	21	24	11	18	18	34	43
Private psychiatrist	504	475	442	403	478	432	462	496	466	555
Public health department	59	43	46	49	31	37	23	27	26	34
Hospital	2,830	2,778	2,657	2,735	2,893	2,676	2,624	2,601	2,668	2,815
Law enforcement agency	1,698	1,633	1,618	1,657	1,757	1,525	1,806	1,677	1,570	1,486
School	5,169	5,067	5,248	5,492	5,599	5,716	5,797	5,457	5,805	5,989
Child care staff	381	429	461	425	447	380	376	342	385	452
Clergy	39	39	31	35	34	29	36	42	48	41
Residential facility	608	840	1,172	1,445	1,553	1,583	1,318	1,404	1,465	1,339
Coroner	11	1	4	5	11	9	10	11	7	6
Courts	60	91	84	87	72	54	58	65	52	39
Public MH/MR agency	757	815	766	695	800	753	842	925	847	839
Other public/private social service agency	2,874	3,011	3,302	3,289	3,479	3,636	3,195	2,865	2,824	3,583
Total number of reports for mandated reporters	15,606	15,832	16,502	16,906	17,796	17,415	17,191	16,390	16,671	17,718
	69.1%	70.7%	72.4%	73.2%	72.9%	73.8%	72.8%	71.7%	71.9%	73.8%
Total number of reports for non-mandated reporters	6,893	6,565	6,307	6,191	6,612	6,187	6,427	6,464	6,510	6,303
	30.9%	29.3%	27.7%	26.8%	27.1%	26.2%	27.2%	28.3%	28.1%	26.2%
Total mandated substantiated reports	3,903	3,633	3,618	3,502	3,738	3,259	3,385	3,145	2,934	3,120
Percent of substantiated	72.4%	71.6%	72.3%	73.2%	73.9%	72.1%	73.1%	71.6%	70.7%	75.0%
Total non-mandated substantiated reports	1,489	1,443	1,384	1,282	1,319	1,264	1,243	1,245	1,218	1,042
Percent of substantiated	27.6%	28.4%	27.7%	26.8%	26.1%	27.9%	26.9%	28.4%	29.3%	25.0%

Extent of Child Abuse and Student Abuse

Injuries by Age (Substantiated Reports), 2007 – Table 3

Substantiated reports of child abuse and student abuse are recorded in the Statewide Central Register. Some

children received more than one injury; therefore, the total number of injuries, 6,157 (see Table 3), exceeds the number of substantiated reports, 4,162 (see Table 1).

The Child Protective Services Law defines the types of injuries as follows:

Table 3 – INJURIES, BY AGE GROUP (Substantiated Reports), 2007

TYPE OF INJURY	TOTAL INJURIES	AGE GROUPS					
		AGE <1	AGE 1–4	AGE 5–9	AGE 10–14	AGE 15–17	AGE >17
Burns/Scalding	88	13	50	17	7	1	0
Fractures	155	74	31	8	18	24	0
Skull Fracture	32	19	12	1	0	0	0
Subdural Hematoma	58	38	15	1	2	2	0
Bruises	703	54	162	211	173	103	0
Welts/Ecchymosis	155	2	28	57	44	24	0
Lacerations/Abrasions	208	8	41	43	68	48	0
Punctures/Bites	39	3	5	8	13	10	0
Brain Damage	9	5	3	0	0	1	0
Poisoning	2	0	0	1	1	0	0
Asphyxiation/Suffocation	17	4	4	4	3	2	0
Internal Injuries/Hemorrhage	43	22	13	1	6	1	0
Dismemberment	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Sprains/Dislocations	13	0	0	3	6	4	0
Drugs/Alcohol	90	3	6	7	32	42	0
Drowning	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
Other Physical Injury	205	23	23	46	65	48	0
TOTAL PHYSICAL INJURIES	1,821	270	394	409	438	310	0
TOTAL MENTAL INJURIES	50	0	2	11	26	11	0
Rape	417	1	11	91	175	120	19
Incest	239	0	14	57	99	57	12
Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse	523	1	35	125	216	127	19
Statutory Sexual Assault	187	0	7	22	87	64	7
Sexual Assault ⁶	2,262	4	207	609	872	512	58
Prostitution	10	0	0	0	4	6	0
Sexually Explicit Conduct for Visual Depiction	136	0	4	36	59	25	12
TOTAL SEXUAL INJURIES	3,774	6	278	940	1,512	911	127
Lack of Supervision	81	10	48	13	6	4	0
Medical Neglect	109	12	41	26	21	9	0
Failure to Thrive	42	19	17	6	0	0	0
Malnutrition	12	1	6	4	1	0	0
Other Physical Neglect	10	0	4	6	0	0	0
TOTAL NEGLECT INJURIES	254	42	116	55	28	13	0
Imminent Risk of Physical Injury	158	25	59	32	26	16	0
Imminent Risk of Sexual Abuse or Exploitation	100	2	15	31	35	16	1
TOTAL IMMINENT RISK INJURIES	258	27	74	63	61	32	1
TOTAL SUBSTANTIATED INJURIES	6,157	345	864	1,478	2,065	1,277	128

⁶ Sexual assault includes aggravated indecent assault, exploitation, indecent assault, indecent exposure, sexually explicit conduct and sexual assault.

- Physical injury is an injury that “causes a child severe pain or significantly impairs a child’s physical functioning, either temporarily or permanently.”
- Mental injury is a “psychological condition, as diagnosed by a physician or licensed psychologist, including the refusal of appropriate treatment that:
 1. Renders a child chronically and severely anxious, agitated, depressed, socially withdrawn, psychotic or in reasonable fear that his or her life or safety is threatened; or
 2. Seriously interferes with a child’s ability to accomplish age-appropriate developmental tasks.”
- Sexual abuse includes engaging a child in sexually explicit conduct, including the photographing, videotaping, computer depicting or filming, or any visual depiction of sexually explicit conduct of children.
- Physical neglect constitutes prolonged or repeated lack of supervision or the failure to provide the essentials of life, including adequate medical care.
- Imminent risk is a situation where there is a likelihood of serious physical injury or sexual abuse.

The following is a statistical summary of Table 3:

- Physical injuries were 30 percent of total injuries.
 - ❖ Bruises were 39 percent of physical injuries.
- Mental injuries were less than one percent of total injuries.
- Sexual injuries were 61 percent of total injuries.
 - ❖ Sexual assault comprised 60 percent of sexual injuries.

Table 4 – FATALITIES BY AGE GROUP (Substantiated Reports), 2006–2007

AGE GROUP	TOTAL SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS		CHILD DIED	
	2006	2007	2006	2007
Under age 1	231	222	14	18
Age 1–4	619	651	14	17
Age 5–9	1,067	1,042	1	8
Age 10–14	1,377	1,359	1	3
Age 15–17	820	822	1	0
Age >17	38	66	0	0
State Total	4,152	4,162	31	46

- Physical neglect injuries were four percent of the total injuries.
 - ❖ Medical neglect comprised 43 percent of physical neglect injuries.
- Imminent risk represented four percent of total injuries.
 - ❖ Imminent risk of physical injury comprised 61 percent of imminent risk injuries.

Fatalities (Substantiated Reports), 2007 – Tables 4, 4A, 4B, 4C, Chart 4

Forty-six children died as the result of abuse or neglect in 2007, 15 more than reported in 2006. The information below shows the number of fatalities due to substantiated abuse first as originally reported in each calendar year and second as of the current calendar year.

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Original report for each year	36	44	40	31	46
Modified total at the end of current year	41	42	38	31	N/A

One of the reasons for the number of substantiated reports increasing from prior years is due to the original report having a disposition of pending criminal court action (PCC) or pending juvenile court action (PJC). A report with a PCC or PJC disposition is not reported as a substantiated child death until such time as a court finds the death resulted from child abuse, which may occur in a subsequent year.

Table 4A – FATALITIES BY AGE AND RELATIONSHIP OF PERPETRATOR (Substantiated Reports), 2007

PERPETRATOR RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD	<25	25-30	30+	TOTAL
Babysitter	4	2	0	6
Child Care Staff	0	0	1	1
Father	5	4	7	16
Foster Parent	0	1	1	2
Grandparent	0	0	1	1
Legal Guardian	0	0	1	1
Mother	9	9	0	18
Paramour of Parent	4	3	0	7
Sibling (Step’s/Half’s)	2	0	0	2
Total	24	19	11	54

Table 4B – FATALITIES BY PERPETRATOR AGE AND SEX, (Substantiated Reports), 2007

AGE GROUP	FEMALE	PERCENT OF TOTAL	MALE	PERCENT OF TOTAL
Under 25	12	22.2	12	22.2
25–30	11	20.4	8	14.8
Over 30	4	7.4	7	13.0
Total	27	50.0	27	50.0

- For 2004, one report changed from indicated to unfounded as a result of an appeal.
- For 2005, one report changed from indicated to unfounded as a result of an appeal.

Included in the total deaths for 2007 are two children who died in 2006, and one who died in 2004.

The highest incidence of abuse or neglect causing death occurred in children under age five (76 percent of total deaths).

Sixteen deaths (35 percent) were attributed to “major trauma” (involving severe injuries such as subdural hematoma, internal injuries and skull fractures).

Chart 4 – RELATIONSHIP OF PERPETRATOR TO CHILD (When the child died due to abuse), 2007

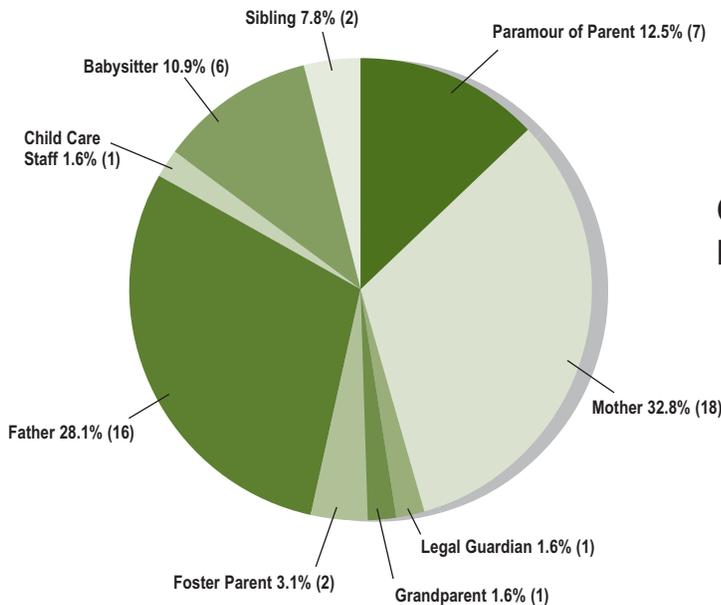


Table 4C – FATALITIES DUE TO ABUSE, BY COUNTY (Substantiated Reports), 2007

COUNTY	DEATHS	COUNTY	DEATHS
Allegheny	9	Lancaster	1
Berks	2	Lehigh	4
Blair	1	Lycoming	1
Bucks	1	Monroe	1
Butler	2	Montgomery	1
Chester	1	Philadelphia	7
Crawford	1	Tioga	1
Dauphin	1	Westmoreland	3
Delaware	1	Wyoming	1
Erie	3	York	1
Fayette	1		
Lackawanna	2	Total	46

Fatalities by Manner of Death

- Sixteen children died as a result of major trauma due to inflicted injuries.
- Ten children died as a result of serious physical neglect. Nine of these deaths were attributed to a lack of supervision. One was due to medical neglect.
- Six children died as a result of asphyxiation/suffocation.
- Four children died as a result of inflicted gunshot wounds.
- Seven children died of burns and smoke inhalation.
- One child died from poisoning.
- One child died from hypothermia.
- One child died from intentional drowning.

Child Fatalities and the Relationship of the Perpetrator to the Child

- In 2007, parents were the most frequent perpetrators of child abuse deaths. Mothers accounted for 33 percent of all perpetrators in child deaths due to abuse while fathers accounted for 30 percent.
- 50 percent of the perpetrators of child fatalities were female and 50 percent were male.
- Perpetrators of child deaths ranged in age from 14 to 49 years of age. Forty-four percent of the perpetrators of child deaths were less than 25 years of age.

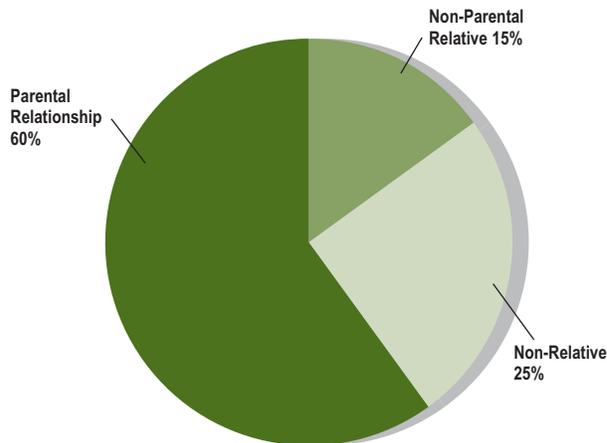
Previous Involvement

- Of the 46 substantiated child death reports, one of the children had been a previous victim of substantiated abuse.
- There were 11 prior substantiated child abuse reports on other subjects of the reports.
- Five substantiated child abuse reports involved siblings of the victims. All of these reports involved different perpetrators.
- Four prior substantiated child abuse reports involved parents as a victim of abuse.
 - ❖ Two of those four child abuse reports involved the same parent as a victim.
- Two of those child abuse reports involved different victims.
- Two perpetrators had a history of previously abusing children.
- Twenty-two of the families with a substantiated child death due to abuse or neglect had previously received General Protective Services (GPS), Intake Services or other services through their county agency. Some families may have had both Child Protective Services and GPS involvement.
- Twenty-four families with a substantiated child death report had no prior involvement with the county agency.

Table 5 – RELATIONSHIP OF PERPETRATOR TO CHILD BY AGE OF THE PERPETRATOR (Substantiated Reports), 2007

RELATIONSHIP	TOTAL PERPS	AGE					
		UNKNOWN	10–19	20–29	30–39	40–49	50+
Father	1,015	11	17	228	392	288	79
Mother	997	3	42	451	345	138	18
Babysitter	606	36	88	114	116	106	146
Paramour Of Parent	537	18	8	188	186	105	32
Household Member	405	23	104	115	66	47	50
Sibling (Step's/Half's)	339	0	266	71	2	0	0
Stepfather	271	7	0	52	121	67	24
Grandparent	170	13	0	1	4	25	127
Uncle	129	11	24	30	27	21	16
Residential Facility Staff	70	0	0	24	28	14	4
Cousin	41	0	29	8	3	1	0
Stepmother	31	7	0	8	10	6	0
Legal Guardian	27	1	0	3	6	10	7
Foster Parent	27	0	0	5	7	5	10
Other Person Responsible	26	2	1	4	11	6	2
Aunt	22	1	2	12	1	5	1
Ex-Parent	8	0	0	1	2	4	1
Other School Staff	8	0	0	3	5	0	0
Child Care Staff	6	0	0	2	3	1	0
Teacher	4	0	0	3	1	0	0
Other	2	0	0	0	1	0	1
Guidance Counselor	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Total	4,742	133	581	1,323	1,338	849	518

**Chart 5 – PROFILE OF PERPETRATORS
(Substantiated Reports), 2007**



Relationship of Perpetrator to Child by Age of the Perpetrator (Substantiated Reports), 2007 – Table 5

In some reports, more than one perpetrator is involved in an incident of abuse (see Table 5). Therefore, the number of perpetrators (4,742) exceeds the number of substantiated reports (4,162) [see Table 1].

- Twenty-one percent of perpetrators were mothers.
 - ❖ Forty-five percent of abusive mothers were 20–29 years of age.
- Twenty-one percent of perpetrators were fathers.
 - ❖ Thirty-nine percent of abusive fathers were 30–39 years of age.
- Thirteen percent of perpetrators were babysitters.
 - ❖ Twenty-four percent of abusive babysitters were over 50 years of age.
- A majority (60 percent) of abusers had a parental relationship to the victim child (See Chart 5).
- The percentage of total reports where the abusers had a parental relationship did not change from 2006.
- An additional 15 percent of the perpetrators were otherwise related to the victim child, an increase of one percent from 2006.
- Twenty-five percent of the perpetrators were not related to the child.

Relationship of Perpetrator to Child by Type of Injury (Substantiated Reports), 2007 – Table 6

- Since some perpetrators cause more than one injury, more total injuries are recorded than the total number of substantiated reports (see Table 6 on the following page).
- Mothers and fathers were responsible for 42 percent of all injuries to abused children in 2007.
- Babysitters were responsible for the third largest number of injuries (13 percent).
- Mothers caused 31 percent and fathers caused 32 percent of all physical injuries.
- Mothers were responsible for 56 percent of physical neglect injuries.
- Foster parents, residential facility staff and child care staff were responsible for two percent of all injuries.
- Teachers and school staff accounted for 20 student abuse injuries.
- Most of the abuse committed by a babysitter was sexual abuse (82 percent).
- Fathers and babysitters caused the most sexual abuse injuries, with each responsible for 17 and 18 percent, respectively, of all sexual abuse injuries.
- Mothers were more likely to put a child at imminent risk of physical or sexual abuse (45 percent).



Table 6 – RELATIONSHIP OF PERPETRATOR TO CHILD
BY TYPE OF INJURY (Substantiated Reports), 2007

TYPE OF INJURY	TEACHER	PRINCIPAL	GUIDANCE COUNSELOR	OTHER STAFF	MOTHER	FATHER	SIBLING	STEPMOTHER	STEPFATHER	PARAMOUR OF PARENT	FOSTER PARENT	RESIDENTIAL FACILITY STAFF	CHILD CARE	LEGAL GUARDIAN	BABYSITTER	HOUSEHOLD MEMBER	GRANDPARENT	OTHER	UNKNOWN OR NOT LISTED	CUSTODIAN (AGENCY)	AUNT	UNCLE	COUSIN	OTHER PERSON RESPONSIBLE	EX-PARENT	ROW TOTALS
Burns/Scalding	0	0	0	0	45	18	0	0	1	14	2	0	0	2	14	2	3	1	0	0	2	4	0	0	0	108
Fractures	0	0	0	0	66	72	5	0	3	22	4	7	0	1	12	5	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	203
Skull Fractures	0	0	0	0	14	14	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	43
Subdural Hematoma	0	0	0	0	26	28	0	1	0	8	0	0	0	1	10	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	79
Bruises	0	0	0	0	245	253	16	9	40	121	5	7	1	9	40	25	7	0	0	0	4	2	4	1	0	789
Welts/Ecchymosis	0	0	0	0	49	63	0	4	7	28	1	0	0	3	6	5	2	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	173
Lacerations/Abrasions	0	0	0	0	71	72	9	3	9	34	2	8	1	3	14	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	232
Punctures/Bites	0	0	0	0	19	10	5	0	0	3	0	2	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	43
Brain Damage	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Poisoning	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Asphyxiation/Suffocation	0	0	0	0	3	7	1	1	1	3	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19
Internal Injuries/Hemorrhage	0	0	0	0	15	19	2	0	1	10	0	2	0	0	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	57
Dismemberment	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sprains/Dislocations	0	0	0	0	4	6	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
Drugs/Alcohol	0	0	0	0	34	26	1	1	4	9	0	2	0	0	22	8	2	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	113
Drowning	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Other Physical Injury	0	0	0	0	71	91	7	3	8	24	1	5	1	1	5	5	3	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	228
TOTAL PHYSICAL INJURIES	0	0	0	0	667	685	47	23	74	287	17	34	4	22	135	62	26	1	0	0	11	10	10	3	0	2,118
TOTAL MENTAL INJURIES	0	0	0	0	22	27	0	5	5	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63
Rape	0	0	0	0	30	82	71	2	40	63	2	0	0	1	70	44	6	0	0	0	0	31	13	3	2	460
Incest	0	0	0	0	25	114	97	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	263
Sexual Assault ⁷	4	0	1	3	178	350	280	4	188	316	15	35	3	8	485	313	132	1	0	0	9	99	32	23	8	2,428
Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse	2	0	0	2	44	92	93	1	32	74	5	1	0	3	106	59	20	0	0	0	3	32	8	4	3	584
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Sexually Explicit Conduct For Visual Depiction	0	0	0	5	17	33	4	1	17	16	2	1	0	0	37	8	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	148
Statutory Sexual Assault	1	0	0	2	20	33	19	0	17	25	2	1	0	0	37	35	1	0	0	0	1	11	3	2	0	210
TOTAL SEXUAL INJURIES	7	0	1	12	316	705	566	8	296	494	26	38	3	12	735	462	175	1	0	0	13	191	56	33	13	4,163
Malnutrition	0	0	0	0	11	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23
Failure to Thrive	0	0	0	0	41	16	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	66
Lack of Supervision	0	0	0	0	48	19	0	0	0	7	0	7	1	0	11	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	99
Medical Neglect	0	0	0	0	91	44	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	1	2	1	5	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	154
Other Physical Neglect	0	0	0	0	7	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
TOTAL NEGLECT INJURIES	0	0	0	0	198	87	1	2	1	14	0	7	1	1	14	1	23	0	0	0	1	2	1	2	0	356
Imminent Risk of Physical Injury	0	0	0	0	88	49	2	0	5	10	0	6	0	0	5	8	1	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	180
Imminent Risk of Sexual Abuse or Exploitation	0	0	0	0	61	26	2	3	8	16	3	2	0	1	10	8	7	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	151
TOTAL IMMINENT RISK INJURIES	0	0	0	0	149	75	4	3	13	26	3	8	0	1	15	16	8	0	0	0	3	6	1	0	0	331
TOTAL SUBSTANTIATED INJURIES	7	0	1	12	1,352	1,579	618	41	389	823	46	87	8	38	899	541	232	2	0	0	28	209	68	38	13	7,031

⁷ Sexual assault includes aggravated indecent assault, exploitation, indecent assault, indecent exposure, sexually explicit conduct and sexual assault.

Number of Reports of Reabuse, 2007 – Table 7

One of the reasons the CPSL established the Statewide Central Register of all founded and indicated reports was to detect prior abuse of a child or prior history of abuse inflicted by a perpetrator. Upon receipt of a report at ChildLine, a caseworker searches the register to see if any subject of the report was involved in a previous substantiated report or one that is under investigation. Table 7 reflects prior reports on the victim.

During the course of an investigation, it is possible that other past unreported incidents become known. For example, an investigation can reveal another incident of abuse that for a number of reasons was never before disclosed by the child or the family. These previously unreported incidents would be registered with ChildLine and handled as separate reports. Also, if a child is abused in one county then moves to another county and is abused again, this would be considered reabuse, whether or not the original county agency had referred the matter to the new county agency. In both examples, such reports would be reflected in Table 7 as reabuse of the child; therefore, it is not accurate to assume that the victim and the family were known to the county agency in all instances where a child was a victim of multiple incidents of abuse. The statistics on reabuse should be understood within this context.

The following explains the two major column areas from Table 7 on page 19:



Total Suspected Abuse Reports – The total number of reports received for investigation. Also included in this area is the number (and percentage of total reports) of reabuse reports involving the same child.

Total Substantiated Abuse Reports – The number of substantiated abuse reports from all those investigated, along with associated numbers and percentages of substantiated reabuse.

Information related to Table 7 reveals the following:

- In 2007, there were 1,715 reports investigated where the victim had been listed in other reports.
- Of those reports of suspected reabuse, 452 were substantiated.
- In 2007, substantiated reports of reabuse accounted for 11 percent of all substantiated reports of abuse.
- Children less than one year of age and older than 17 years of age are less likely to be reabused than any other age group (see Chart 6).
- More allegations of reabuse were received on 10-14 year-olds than any other age group (42 percent). This is also the age group with the most substantiated reports of reabuse (37 percent).

Chart 6 – REPORTS OF REABUSE, BY AGE, 2007

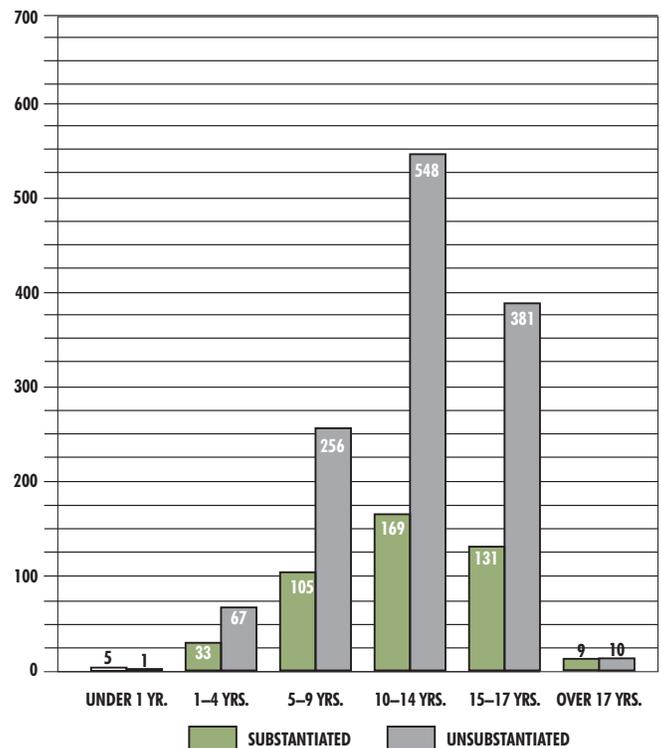


Table 7 - NUMBER OF REPORTS OF REABUSE, BY COUNTY, 2007

COUNTY	TOTAL SUSPECTED REPORTS	TOTAL SUSPECTED REABUSE	PERCENT	TOTAL SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS	TOTAL SUBSTANTIATED REABUSE	PERCENT
Adams	192	18	9.4	49	11	22.4
Allegheny	1,487	94	6.3	145	12	8.3
Armstrong	128	10	7.8	29	5	17.2
Beaver	169	10	5.9	47	5	10.6
Bedford	91	7	7.7	13	2	15.4
Berks	751	41	5.5	122	10	8.2
Blair	298	25	8.4	57	9	15.8
Bradford	154	13	8.4	41	6	14.6
Bucks	783	31	4.0	88	5	5.7
Butler	272	21	7.7	35	4	11.4
Cambria	248	8	3.2	32	1	3.1
Cameron	14	0	0.0	6	0	0.0
Carbon	105	3	2.9	25	2	8.0
Centre	160	7	4.4	21	1	4.8
Chester	823	47	5.7	112	9	8.0
Clarion	71	7	9.9	16	3	18.8
Clearfield	177	15	8.5	47	7	14.9
Clinton	55	5	9.1	13	2	15.4
Columbia	167	10	6.0	36	1	2.8
Crawford	330	21	6.4	73	4	5.5
Cumberland	343	26	7.6	108	10	9.3
Dauphin	614	38	6.2	113	13	11.5
Delaware	895	55	6.1	85	6	7.1
Elk	54	2	3.7	12	0	0.0
Erie	805	64	8.0	107	7	6.5
Fayette	365	36	9.9	54	12	22.2
Forest	19	0	0.0	4	0	0.0
Franklin	222	7	3.2	32	1	3.1
Fulton	40	0	0.0	8	0	0.0
Greene	90	11	12.2	13	0	0.0
Huntingdon	53	1	1.9	13	1	7.7
Indiana	184	11	6.0	41	6	14.6
Jefferson	78	6	7.7	25	4	16.0
Juniata	48	5	10.4	11	3	27.3
Lackawanna	403	41	10.2	66	8	12.1
Lancaster	659	45	6.8	99	10	10.1
Lawrence	149	11	7.4	35	5	14.3
Lebanon	251	15	6.0	42	3	7.1
Lehigh	891	54	6.1	121	13	10.7
Luzerne	479	40	8.4	101	14	13.9
Lycoming	206	13	6.3	41	6	14.6
McKean	190	20	10.5	39	9	23.1
Mercer	233	31	13.3	52	8	15.4
Mifflin	72	5	6.9	16	1	6.3
Monroe	368	21	5.7	56	4	7.1
Montgomery	741	48	6.5	84	7	8.3
Montour	66	3	4.5	5	0	0.0
Northampton	742	49	6.6	111	15	13.5
Northumberland	196	25	12.8	34	2	5.9
Perry	114	14	12.3	19	6	31.6
Philadelphia	4,670	404	8.7	1,007	112	11.1
Pike	124	3	2.4	17	2	11.8
Potter	81	12	14.8	28	4	14.3
Schuylkill	342	23	6.7	56	9	16.1
Snyder	43	4	9.3	11	3	27.3
Somerset	114	10	8.8	29	2	6.9
Sullivan	19	1	5.3	4	0	0.0
Susquehanna	82	7	8.5	21	3	14.3
Tioga	108	8	7.4	32	5	15.6
Union	68	8	11.8	23	4	17.4
Venango	173	12	6.9	30	1	3.3
Warren	92	12	13.0	25	1	4.0
Washington	348	16	4.6	59	4	6.8
Wayne	67	3	4.5	17	2	11.8
Westmoreland	560	42	7.5	81	9	11.1
Wyoming	89	14	15.7	12	1	8.3
York	996	46	4.6	156	17	10.9
TOTAL	24,021	1,715	7.1	4,162	452	10.9

REPORTS OF CHILD ABUSE

■ TOTAL SUSPECTED REPORTS

() TOTAL SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS

SUSPECTED REPORTS

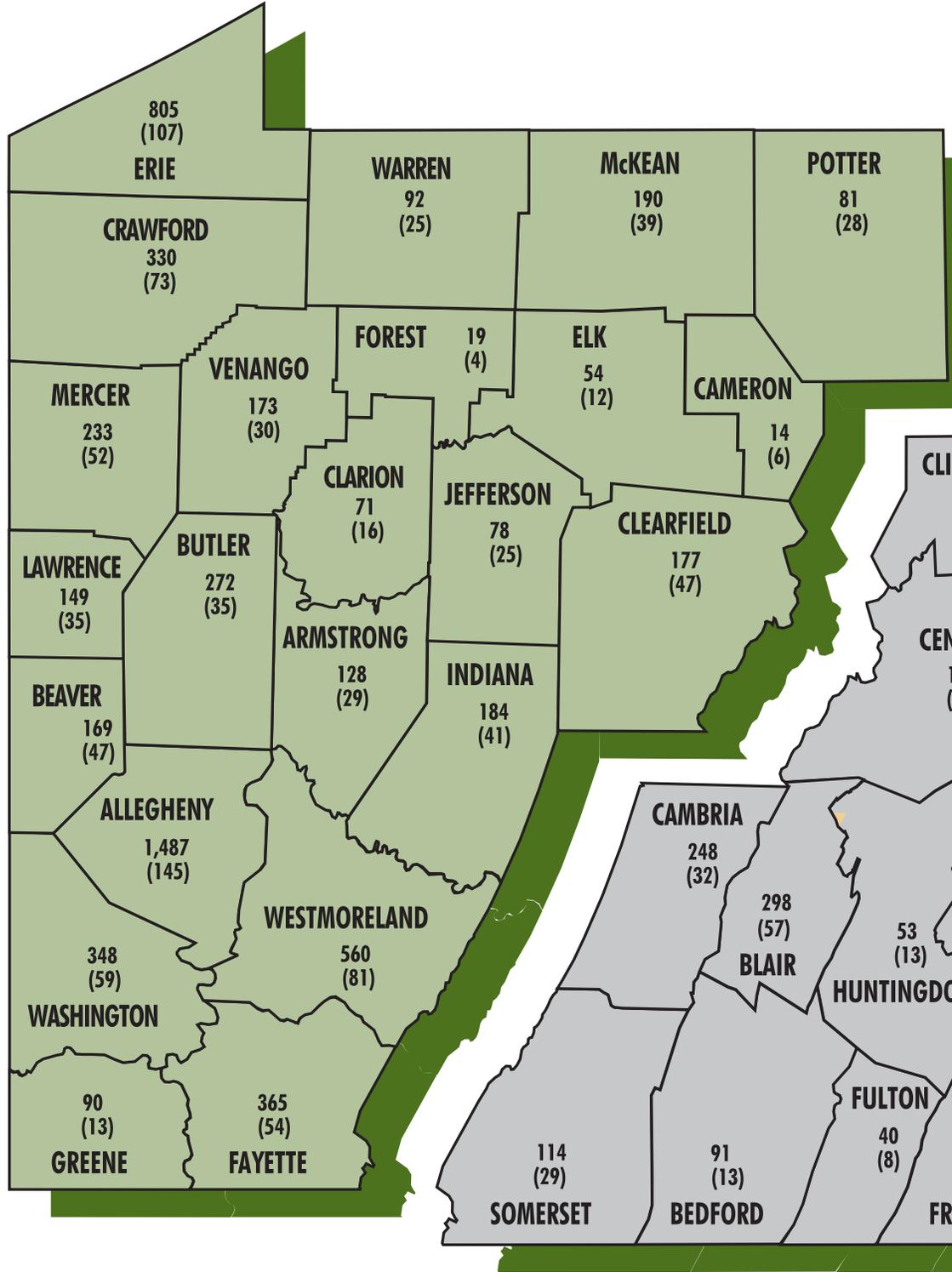
Central 5,316
 Northeast 4,724
 Southeast 7,912
 Western 6,069

Suspected Reports include all reported cases (substantiated and unfounded).

SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS

Central (981)
 Northeast (802)
 Southeast (1,376)
 Western (1,003)

Substantiated Reports include reports that were founded as a result of judicial adjudication or indicated by the county or regional agency based on medical evidence, the child abuse investigation or an admission by the perpetrator.



Child Protective Services

Role of County Agencies

One of the purposes of the Child Protective Services Law (CPSL) is to ensure that each county children and youth agency establishes a program of protective services to ensure the child's safety. Each program must:

- Include procedures to assess risk of harm to a child;
- Be able to respond adequately to meet the needs of the family and child who may be at risk; and
- Prioritize the responses and services rendered to children most at risk.

County agencies are the sole civil entity charged with investigating reports of suspected child abuse and student abuse under the CPSL⁸. They must have the cooperation of

the community for other essential programs, such as encouraging more complete reporting of child abuse and student abuse, adequately responding to meet the needs of the family and child who may be at risk and encouraging innovative and effective prevention programs. The county agencies prepare annual plans describing how they will implement the law. The county court, law enforcement agencies, other community social services agencies and the general public provide input to the plan.



⁸ The appropriate office of the Department of Public Welfare would assume the role of the county agency if an employee or agent of the county agency has committed the suspected abuse.

Number of Reports Investigated Within 30 and 60 Days, 2007 – Table 8

The CPSL requires county agency staff and the Department's staff to complete child abuse and student abuse investigations within 30 days from the date the report is registered at ChildLine. If the summary report of an investigation is not postmarked or electronically submitted to ChildLine within 60 days, the report must be considered unfounded (see Table 8).

- Within 30 days, 52 percent of the reports were completed.
- Within 31-60 days, 48 percent of the reports were completed.
- Less than one percent of the reports were automatically considered unfounded after 60 days.

Table 8 – NUMBER OF REPORTS INVESTIGATED WITHIN 30 AND 60 DAYS, 2007

COUNTY	0–30	31–60	OVER 60 (EXPUNGED)		COUNTY	0–30	31–60	OVER 60 (EXPUNGED)	
Adams	87	84	3	1.7%	Lebanon	97	145	0	0.0%
Allegheny	796	469	3	0.2%	Lehigh	98	677	1	0.1%
Armstrong	75	50	0	0.0%	Luzerne	289	155	1	0.2%
Beaver	111	52	2	1.2%	Lycoming	126	72	0	0.0%
Bedford	58	30	0	0.0%	McKean	52	120	5	2.8%
Berks	355	340	1	0.1%	Mercer	113	83	1	0.5%
Blair	141	149	1	0.3%	Mifflin	49	18	0	0.0%
Bradford	38	108	2	1.4%	Monroe	193	127	0	0.0%
Bucks	300	319	2	0.3%	Montgomery	424	197	1	0.2%
Butler	128	78	0	0.0%	Montour	42	24	0	0.0%
Cambria	167	71	2	0.8%	Northampton	405	300	1	0.1%
Cameron	12	2	0	0.0%	Northumberland	139	27	0	0.0%
Carbon	21	74	0	0.0%	Perry	86	27	0	0.0%
Centre	113	42	1	0.6%	Philadelphia	2,009	2,243	4	0.1%
Chester	380	220	0	0.0%	Pike	66	57	0	0.0%
Clarion	31	39	0	0.0%	Potter	46	33	0	0.0%
Clearfield	50	121	1	0.6%	Schuylkill	267	68	1	0.3%
Clinton	28	27	0	0.0%	Snyder	16	23	1	2.5%
Columbia	137	27	0	0.0%	Somerset	55	57	2	1.8%
Crawford	114	204	0	0.0%	Sullivan	14	5	0	0.0%
Cumberland	171	162	0	0.0%	Susquehanna	38	40	1	1.3%
Dauphin	171	411	6	1.0%	Tioga	53	50	0	0.0%
Delaware	536	281	1	0.1%	Union	54	8	0	0.0%
Elk	53	1	0	0.0%	Venango	94	49	0	0.0%
Erie	338	402	0	0.0%	Warren	76	16	0	0.0%
Fayette	73	276	0	0.0%	Washington	200	119	0	0.0%
Forest	14	0	0	0.0%	Wayne	35	27	0	0.0%
Franklin	122	61	1	0.5%	Westmoreland	212	323	2	0.4%
Fulton	32	7	0	0.0%	Wyoming	32	11	0	0.0%
Greene	21	65	2	2.3%	York	554	420	1	0.1%
Huntingdon	32	16	0	0.0%	COUNTY TOTAL	11,287	10,436	60	0.3%
Indiana	113	64	2	1.1%	Central	138	90	0	0.0%
Jefferson	54	24	0	0.0%	Northeast	249	228	0	0.0%
Juniata	34	12	0	0.0%	Southeast	483	509	3	0.3%
Lackawanna	172	121	3	1.0%	Western	322	216	0	0.0%
Lancaster	203	432	4	0.6%	REGIONAL TOTAL	1,192	1,043	3	0.1%
Lawrence	72	74	1	0.7%	STATE TOTAL	12,479	11,479	63	0.3%

Services Provided and Planned⁹ 2007

The county children and youth agency is required to provide services during investigation or plan for services as needed to prevent further abuse.

Multidisciplinary Teams (MDT)

Composed of professionals from a variety of disciplines who are consultants to the county agency in its case management responsibilities that:

- Assist the county agency in diagnosing child abuse;
- Provide or recommend comprehensive coordinated treatment;
- Periodically assess the relevance of treatment and the progress of the family; and
- Participate in the state or local child fatality review team to investigate a child fatality or to develop and promote strategies to prevent child fatalities.

Parenting Education Classes

Programs for parents on the responsibilities of parenthood.

Protective and Preventive Counseling Services

Counseling and therapy for individuals and families to prevent further abuse.

Emergency Caregiver Services

Temporary substitute care and supervision of children in their homes.

Emergency Shelter Care

Residential or foster home placement of children taken into protective custody after being removed from their homes.

Emergency Medical Services

Emergency medical services which include appropriate emergency medical care for examination, evaluation and treatment of children suspected of being abused.

Preventive and Educational Programs

Programs to increase public awareness and willingness to identify victims of suspected child abuse and to provide necessary community rehabilitation.

Self-Help Groups

Groups of parents organized to help reduce or prevent abuse through mutual support and help.

Role of the Regional Offices

The Department's Office of Children, Youth and Families has regional offices in Philadelphia, Scranton, Harrisburg and Pittsburgh. Their responsibilities include:

- Monitoring, licensing and providing technical assistance to public and private children and youth agencies and facilities;
- Investigating child abuse when the alleged perpetrator is a county agency employee or one of its agents;
- Monitoring county agencies' implementation of the CPSL;
- Ensuring regulatory compliance of agencies and facilities by investigating complaints and conducting annual inspections;
- Assisting county agencies in the interpretation and implementation of Protective Services regulations; and
- Reviewing and recommending approval of county needs-based plans and budget estimates.

Regional Investigations of Agents of the Agency, 2006–2007 – Table 9

Section 6362(b) of the CPSL requires the Department to investigate reports of suspected child abuse "when the suspected abuse has been committed by the county agency or any of its agents or employees" An agent of the county agency is anyone who provides a children and youth social service for, or on behalf of, the county agency. Agents include:

- Foster parents;
- Residential child care staff;
- Staff and volunteers of other agencies providing services for children and families;
- Staff and volunteers at child care centers;
- Staff of social service agencies; or
- Preadoptive parents.

In 2007, regional staff investigated 2,238 reports of suspected abuse involving agents of a county agency, a decrease of five percent from 2006 (see Table 9). The

⁹ As part of the investigation, the need for services is evaluated. Services may be provided immediately or planned for a later date.

Table 9 – REGIONAL INVESTIGATIONS OF AGENTS OF THE AGENCY, 2006-2007

REGION	FOSTER HOMES				RESIDENTIAL FACILITY				OTHER				TOTAL			
	TOTAL		SUBSTANTIATED		TOTAL		SUBSTANTIATED		TOTAL		SUBSTANTIATED		TOTAL		SUBSTANTIATED	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
Central	95	88	17 17.9%	16 18.2%	125	112	4 3.2%	1 0.9%	42	28	2 4.8%	7 25.0%	262	228	23 8.8%	24 10.5%
Northeast	76	99	15 19.7%	11 11.1%	339	303	21 6.2%	19 6.3%	75	75	7 9.3%	2 2.7%	490	477	43 8.8%	32 6.7%
Southeast	245	249	12 4.9%	21 8.4%	613	567	15 2.4%	29 5.1%	205	179	10 4.9%	13 7.3%	1,063	995	37 3.5%	63 6.3%
Western	128	114	21 16.4%	12 10.5%	308	313	13 4.2%	8 2.6%	104	111	9 8.7%	9 8.1%	540	538	43 8.0%	29 5.4%
TOTALS	544	550	65 11.9%	60 10.9%	1,385	1,295	53 3.8%	57 4.4%	426	393	28 6.6%	31 7.9%	2,355	2,238	146 6.2%	148 6.6%

overall regional substantiation rate increased to seven percent from six percent in 2006.

Type of Abuse in Regional Investigations, by Region (Substantiated Reports), 2007 – Table 10

The total number of injuries, 155, exceeds the number of substantiated reports, 148, because some children received several injuries (see Table 10). The data show the following changes from 2006 to 2007:

- An overall increase in injuries from 152 to 155.
- An increase in physical injuries from 45 to 46.
- An increase in sexual injuries from 97 to 102.
- A decrease in neglect from ten to seven.

Table 10 – REGIONAL INVESTIGATIONS TYPE OF ABUSE, BY REGION (Injuries in Substantiated Reports), 2007

REGION	PHYSICAL	MENTAL	SEXUAL	NEGLECT	TOTAL
FOSTER CARE					
Central	1	0	15	0	16
Northeast	3	0	9	0	12
Southeast	8	0	13	0	21
Western	3	0	9	0	12
RESIDENTIAL FACILITY					
Central	1	0	0	0	1
Northeast	8	0	11	0	19
Southeast	12	0	17	5	34
Western	6	0	2	1	9
OTHER					
Central	0	0	7	0	7
Northeast	0	0	2	0	2
Southeast	3	0	9	1	13
Western	1	0	8	0	9
TOTAL	46	0	102	7	155



Children Abused in Child Care Settings

The Child Protective Services Law (CPSL) requires the Department to report on the services provided to children abused in child care settings and the action taken against perpetrators. Child care settings include family day care homes and child care centers, foster homes, boarding homes for children, juvenile detention centers, residential facilities and institutional facilities.

In 2007, there were 2,449 reports of suspected abuse of children in child care settings. A total of 174 (seven percent) were substantiated. The Department investigated 129 (74 percent) of the substantiated reports because the alleged perpetrators were agents of county agencies.

Social services were planned and/or provided to alleged victims involved in the investigated reports when appropriate. In 679 reports (28 percent), information was

referred to law enforcement officials for criminal investigation and prosecution, 157 of which were substantiated by the county agency investigation.

Of the 174 reports substantiated in a child care setting, the most frequent services planned or provided for a child, parent or perpetrator were as follows (See Child Protective Services, page 24 for description of services):

- Protective and preventive counseling services – 106
- Other services – 34
- Emergency shelter care – 10
- Multidisciplinary Team case review – 8
- Instruction and education for parenthood and parenting skills – 4



Clearances for Persons Who Provide Child Care Services and for School Employees

Child care agencies are prohibited from employing any person who will have direct contact with children if the individual was named as a perpetrator of a founded report of child abuse or if they were convicted of a felony offense under the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act (P.L. 233, No. 64) within five years preceding the request for a clearance.

The CPSL requires prospective child care service employees, prospective school employees, and any prospective employees applying to engage in occupations with a significant likelihood of regular contact with children, in the form of care, guidance, supervision or training to obtain child abuse clearances from the Department to ensure they are not a known perpetrator of child abuse or student abuse.

These same prospective employees are required to obtain clearances from the Pennsylvania State Police to determine whether they have been convicted of any of the following crimes at the time of the background clearance.

- Criminal homicide
- Aggravated assault
- Stalking
- Kidnapping
- Unlawful restraint
- Rape
- Statutory sexual assault
- Involuntary deviate sexual intercourse
- Sexual assault
- Aggravated indecent assault
- Indecent assault
- Indecent exposure
- Incest
- Concealing the death of a child
- Endangering the welfare of children
- Dealing in infant children
- Prostitution and related offenses
- Pornography
- Corruption of minors
- Sexual abuse of children

Child care services include:

- Child care centers
- Group and family child care homes
- Foster family homes
- Adoptive parents
- Residential programs
- Juvenile detention services
- Programs for delinquent/dependent children
- Mental health/mental retardation services
- Early intervention and drug/alcohol services
- Any child care services which are provided by or subject to approval, licensure, registration or certification by DPW or a county social service agency
- Any child care services which are provided under contract with DPW or a county social service agency

An applicant for school employment includes:

- Individuals who apply for a position as a school employee
- Individuals who transfer from one position to another
- Contractors for schools

The CPSL requires that administrators shall not hire an individual convicted of one of the offenses previously listed above. However, the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania ruled in *Warren County Human Services v. State Civil Service Commission*, 376 C.D. 2003, that it is unconstitutional to prohibit employees convicted of these offenses from ever working in a child care service. The Department of Public Welfare issued a letter on Aug. 12, 2004, outlining the requirements agencies are to follow when hiring an individual affected by this. Individuals are permitted to be hired when:

- The individual has a minimum five year aggregate work history in care dependent services since conviction of the crime or release from prison, whichever is later. Care dependent services include health care, elder care, child care, mental health services, mental retardation services or care of the disabled.
- The individual's work history in care dependent services may not include any incidents of misconduct.

This court ruling does not apply to prospective foster and adoptive parent applicants. Agencies with questions regarding these requirements should contact their program representative from their respective regional office.

Federal criminal history record clearances by the FBI are also required for applicants for employment or approval for the following positions in Pennsylvania:

- Public or private schools (effective April 1, 2007)
- Adoptive parents and adult household members (effective January 1, 2008)
- Foster parents and adult household members (effective January 1, 2008)
- Child care services (effective July 1, 2008)
- Any prospective employee applying to engage in an occupation with a significant likelihood of regular contact with children, in the form of care, guidance, supervision or training (effective July 1, 2008)

At any time, a person can request voluntary certification to prove that he or she is not on file as a perpetrator of child or student abuse or been convicted of any crimes that would prohibit hire.

In 2007, ChildLine received 476,895 requests (a six percent increase over 2006) for a background clearance. All requests were processed in the following categories:

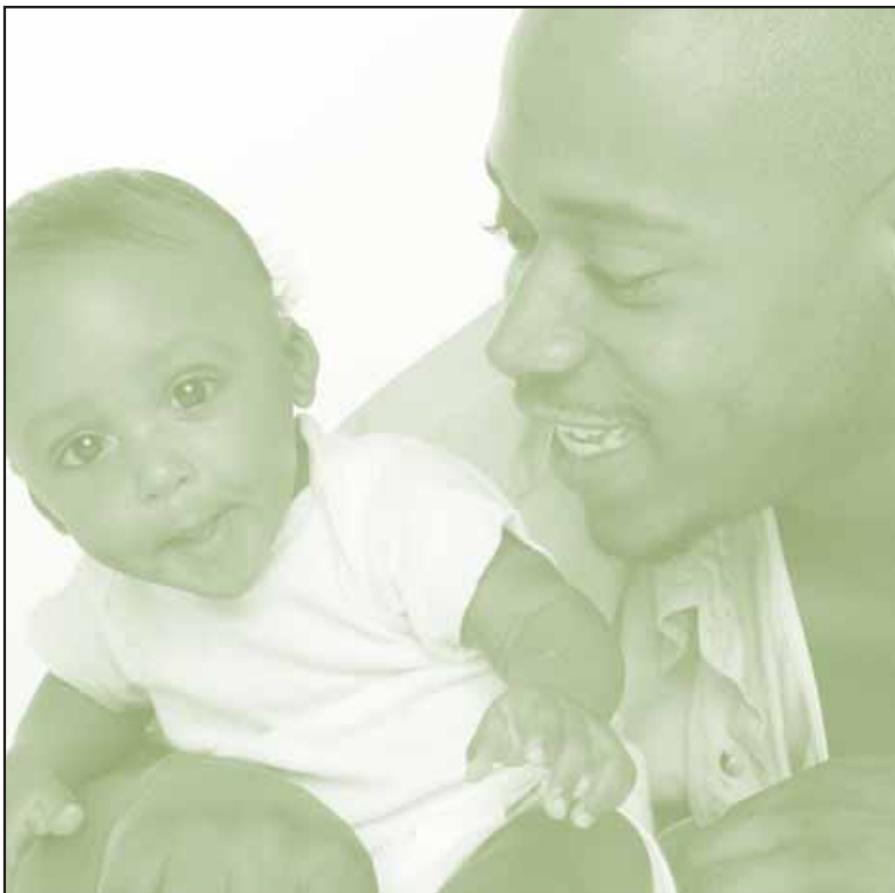
- School employment - 223,224 (47 percent)
- Child care employment - 162,779 (34 percent)
- Volunteers - 36,568 (eight percent)
- Foster care - 33,844 (seven percent)
- Adoption - 12,334 (three percent)
- Big Brother/Big Sister - 4,467 (one percent)
- Work Experience¹⁰ - 3,211 (less than one percent)

- Domestic Violence - 468 (less than one percent)

The average processing time was about ten days (an increase of one day from 2006). The CPSL mandates that requests for clearances be completed within 14 calendar days.

A total of 1,295 applicants (less than one percent) were named as perpetrators in child abuse reports. Of these perpetrators, 62 were identified as being prohibited from hire.

The purpose of requiring clearances is to protect children from abuse at school and in child care settings. Less than one percent of the applicants were identified as being perpetrators. However, it is unknown how many perpetrators do not apply for employment in schools and child care settings because they know they are on file at ChildLine or have a criminal history.



¹⁰ This category refers to individuals in work experience or job training programs arranged by the Department of Public Welfare.

The CPSL requires federal criminal history checks only when applicants who are applying for child care service employment or who are interested in finalizing an adoption in Pennsylvania reside in another state. There is no provision under the CPSL to conduct federal criminal history checks of Pennsylvania residents. The purpose of these checks is to determine if an applicant has been convicted of a crime anywhere in the country that relates to the applicant's fitness to care for or supervise children. The Volunteers for Children Act (VCA) strengthens the CPSL and the Department's ability to protect children by permitting federal criminal history checks of Pennsylvania residents. This act has been adopted as a means to close a gap in protection where children may be at risk. Through ChildLine's Criminal Verification Unit, the Department of Public Welfare implemented the VCA Program in March 2003.

The first step of the VCA process is for interested child care service agencies to submit a request to ChildLine for status as a qualified entity. In order to be deemed a qualified entity by the Department, an internal policy on federal criminal history clearances must be established by the entity and submitted to ChildLine. Once a request is

received by ChildLine, the agency will be provided more detailed information on becoming a qualified entity.

- In 2007, 70 agencies requested approval to become a qualified entity.
- A total of 281 agencies are qualified entities (35 are county children and youth agencies).
- Of the criminal history clearance requests received by ChildLine under the VCA in 2007, 4,669 were processed by the FBI.
- 14 applicants were determined disqualified.
- 4,655 applicants were determined qualified.
- 433 applicants were still pending as of Dec. 31, 2007.

For further information regarding the process and requirements of participating in this program, please contact:

Department of Public Welfare
ChildLine and Abuse Registry
Criminal Verification Unit
P.O. Box 8053
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8053



Expenditures for Child Abuse Investigations

Pennsylvania's child welfare system is responsible for a wide range of services to abused and neglected children, and dependent and delinquent children. Funding through the state and county agencies for all these services exceeds \$1 billion. More than \$44.9 million of that amount was spent by state and county agencies to investigate reports of suspected child and student abuse.

The Department uses State General Fund money to operate ChildLine. In 2007, ChildLine expenditures amounted to \$3 million. Expenditures for the ChildLine Act 33, the Child Protective Services law Act 179 and the

Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety units, which process child abuse history clearances, were an additional \$619,921. Expenditures for the headquarters of the Department totaled \$663,517. Regional staff expenditures were nearly \$2.6 million.

Table 11 lists the total expenditures for county agencies to conduct child abuse and student abuse investigations. These numbers do not reflect total expenditures for all services provided by the county agencies. In state fiscal year 2006-2007, county expenditures for child abuse and student abuse investigations were \$40.92 million.

Table 11
EXPENDITURES FOR CHILD ABUSE INVESTIGATIONS,
STATE FISCAL YEAR 2006-2007

COUNTY	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	COUNTY	TOTAL EXPENDITURES
Adams	\$613,999	Lackawanna	\$269,351
Allegheny	\$3,686,398	Lancaster	\$626,768
Armstrong	\$245,286	Lawrence	\$158,157
Beaver	\$1,046,396	Lebanon	\$120,917
Bedford	\$70,193	Lehigh	\$3,430,736
Berks	\$1,475,193	Luzerne	\$1,118,721
Blair	\$250,672	Lycoming	\$270,172
Bradford	\$426,340	McKean	\$328,769
Bucks	\$2,319,117	Mercer	\$109,113
Butler	\$622,171	Mifflin	\$55,456
Cambria	\$184,387	Monroe	\$457,955
Cameron	\$43,123	Montgomery	\$850,504
Carbon	\$116,354	Montour	\$81,407
Centre	\$300,059	Northampton	\$1,307,058
Chester	\$1,337,095	Northumberland	\$402,298
Clarion	\$308,860	Perry	\$123,756
Clearfield	\$197,458	Philadelphia	\$6,851,872
Clinton	\$125,604	Pike	\$75,320
Columbia	\$40,073	Potter	\$130,834
Crawford	\$536,391	Schuylkill	\$263,766
Cumberland	\$489,631	Snyder	\$71,477
Dauphin	\$1,148,954	Somerset	\$219,530
Delaware	\$1,990,176	Sullivan	\$31,071
Elk	\$87,738	Susquehanna	\$274,503
Erie	\$1,975,300	Tioga	\$294,904
Fayette	\$205,895	Union	\$143,658
Forest	\$34,810	Venango	\$95,204
Franklin	\$86,524	Warren	\$106,430
Fulton	\$65,802	Washington	\$577,125
Greene	\$113,643	Wayne	\$294,255
Huntingdon	\$31,840	Westmoreland	\$405,014
Indiana	\$394,011	Wyoming	\$58,711
Jefferson	\$39,903	York	\$673,375
Juniata	\$38,151	TOTAL	\$40,925,734

Supplemental Statistical Points

- As of Dec. 31, 2007, there were a total of 111,915 substantiated reports in the Statewide Central Register. ChildLine received approximately 98,514 calls in 2007. Calls involved suspected child abuse, referrals for general protective services, requests for information and referral to local services and brief counseling.
- Of the 24,021 reports of suspected abuse, ChildLine received 65 percent initially and 35 percent were received initially by county agencies.
- Of the 4,162 substantiated reports of child abuse, 3,199 listed factors contributing to the cause of abuse. Among the most frequently cited factors were:
 - ❖ Vulnerability of child (70 percent)
 - ❖ Marginal parenting skills or knowledge (40 percent)
 - ❖ Impaired judgment of perpetrator (24 percent)
 - ❖ Stress (22 percent)
 - ❖ Insufficient social/family support (15 percent)
 - ❖ Substance abuse (14 percent)
 - ❖ Sexual deviancy of perpetrator (nine percent)
 - ❖ Abuse between parent figures (seven percent)
 - ❖ Perpetrator abused as a child (six percent)
- Copies of child abuse reports were provided to 784 persons who were the subjects of those reports.
- Copies of 1,095 founded or indicated reports on 743 perpetrators (offenders) were provided to the Sexual Offenders Assessment Board as required by Pennsylvania's Megan's Law. These reports were provided to aid the courts in determining whether or not the perpetrator should be classified as a sexually violent predator.
- The Department received 1,294 requests for first-level appeals (administrative review) to amend or expunge reports.
- The Department's Bureau of Hearings and Appeals (BHA) received 628 requests for second-level appeals. Of those requests:
 - ❖ 174 (28 percent) county agency decisions were overturned;
 - ❖ 14 (two percent) county agency decisions were upheld;
 - ❖ 26 (four percent) were dismissed by BHA;
 - ❖ Two (less than one percent) were withdrawn by the county agency;
 - ❖ Nine (one percent) were withdrawn by the appellant;
 - ❖ Three (less than one percent) were expunged due to the child turning age 18/23 during the appeal;
 - ❖ 16 (three percent) were denied hearings or dismissed for a timeliness issue;
 - ❖ 377 (60 percent) were still pending.



Reporting and Investigating Student Abuse

Act 151 of 1994 established a procedure to investigate and address reports in which students are suspected of being abused by a school employee. Student abuse is limited to “serious bodily injury”¹¹ and “sexual abuse or sexual exploitation” of a student by a school employee.

When a school employee informs a school administrator of suspected student abuse, the administrator is mandated to immediately report the incident to law enforcement officials and the appropriate district attorney. If local law enforcement officials have reasonable cause to suspect, on the basis of an initial review, that there is evidence of serious bodily injury, sexual abuse or exploitation committed by a school employee against a student, the law enforcement official shall notify the county agency so it can also conduct an investigation of the alleged abuse. In 2007, of the 18 reports of suspected student abuse, the following were the initial referral sources:

- Law enforcement (eight)
- Other Public/Private Social Service Agency (one)
- School (five)
- Other (four)

A county children and youth agency has 60 days in which to determine if the report is an indicated or unfounded report for a school employee. To the fullest extent possible, the county agency is required to coordinate its investigation with law enforcement officials. The child must be interviewed jointly by law enforcement and the county agency, but law enforcement officials may interview the school employee before the county agency has any contact with the school employee.

In 2007, 18 reports of suspected student abuse were investigated, 6 less than in 2006. Of these reports:

- One was in the Northeast Region.
- Six were in the Central Region.
- Ten were in the Southeast Region.
- One was in the Western Region.
- Thirteen were substantiated while five were unfounded.
- In the 13 substantiated reports of student abuse, six of the victims were female and seven were male.



¹¹ The CPSL defines serious bodily injury as an injury that creates a substantial risk of death or which causes serious permanent disfigurement or protracted loss or impairment of functions of any bodily member or organ.

In 2002, Act 201, known as The Newborn Protection Act, was enacted. The Commonwealth's Newborn Protection Program is known as Safe Haven.

Safe Haven gives mothers a safe, legal and confidential alternative to abandoning their baby. Pennsylvania is one of 48 states to have a Safe Haven Law. The law allows parents to relinquish newborns up to 28 days old at any hospital in the state of Pennsylvania without being criminally liable providing that the following criteria are met:

- The parent expresses orally or through conduct that they intend for the hospital to accept the child; and
- The newborn is not a victim of child abuse or criminal conduct.

Babies can be left with any hospital staff member or, if a person is unwilling or unable to wait, they will be directed by signs where to place the baby.

The Act requires that designated hospital staff take protective custody of a newborn and perform a medical evaluation and any act necessary to care for and protect the physical health and safety of the child. The hospital is also required to notify the county children and youth agency and local law enforcement. The county children and youth agency is to make diligent efforts to notify a parent, guardian or other family member of the whereabouts of the newborn (unless prohibited by court order) and the reasons for the need for protective custody. The county children and youth agency will find a safe and permanent home for the baby.

In 2007, the Department of Public Welfare continued to maintain a statewide toll free helpline, 1-866-921-7233 (SAFE), and the Safe Haven Web site, www.secretssafe.org.

The statewide helpline is established for women in crisis and individuals seeking information to be able to speak with a person regarding the program and locate the nearest hospital. The helpline averages 22 calls per month and in the 2007 calendar year received a total of 265 calls.

The Safe Haven Web site is tailored to expectant mothers as well as agencies, hospitals, etc. They can download all educational materials related to the program. The Web site receives at least 10 visits per day.

In an effort to increase public awareness about the Safe Haven program in 2007, the

Department ran a targeted media campaign designed to target young women between the ages of 15 and 24. The campaign consisted of mailing educational materials and purchasing movie theater and kiosk advertisements.

The Department mailed educational materials to more than 1,350 organizations, including, hospitals, county children and youth agencies, family centers, rape crisis centers, faith based organizations, colleges and universities across Pennsylvania.

The Department also purchased movie theater trailers and kiosk advertisements to promote awareness about Safe Haven. The movie theater trailer consisted of a 15 second advertisement about Safe Haven that ran during previews and commercials. The advertisement offers direct response information including phone number and Web site information. The movie trailer advertisement ran in the following media markets and during the dates indicated:

- Pittsburgh on a total of 39 screens from June 22, 2007, to July 26, 2007.
- Philadelphia on a total of 289 screens during May 25, 2007, to June 14, 2007.
- Harrisburg, Lancaster, Lebanon and York on a total of 51 screens during June 15, 2007, to July 5, 2007.
- Erie on a total of 23 screens during June 29, 2007, to July 19, 2007.
- Wilkes-Barre and Scranton on a total of 30 screens during June 8, 2007, to June 28, 2007

Safe Haven advertisements were also placed on three kiosk units in the Monroeville Mall, Pittsburgh, and the King of Prussia Mall, Philadelphia, from May 28, 2007, through Aug. 20, 2007, for a total of 12 weeks.

Since 2003, nine newborns have been relinquished at hospitals under the Safe Haven of Pennsylvania program.



Child Fatality/Near Fatality Summaries for 2007 Annual Child Abuse Report

Act 146 of 2006 became effective on May 8, 2007. A major provision of this legislation requires the Department to report to the Governor and the General Assembly in the Annual Child Abuse Report a summary of each case of a child fatality or near fatality that was due to substantiated abuse or neglect and to provide as much case specific information as permissible while respecting the confidentiality rights of the individuals. The following are those cases that were substantiated between May 8, 2007, and Dec. 31, 2007.

Fatalities

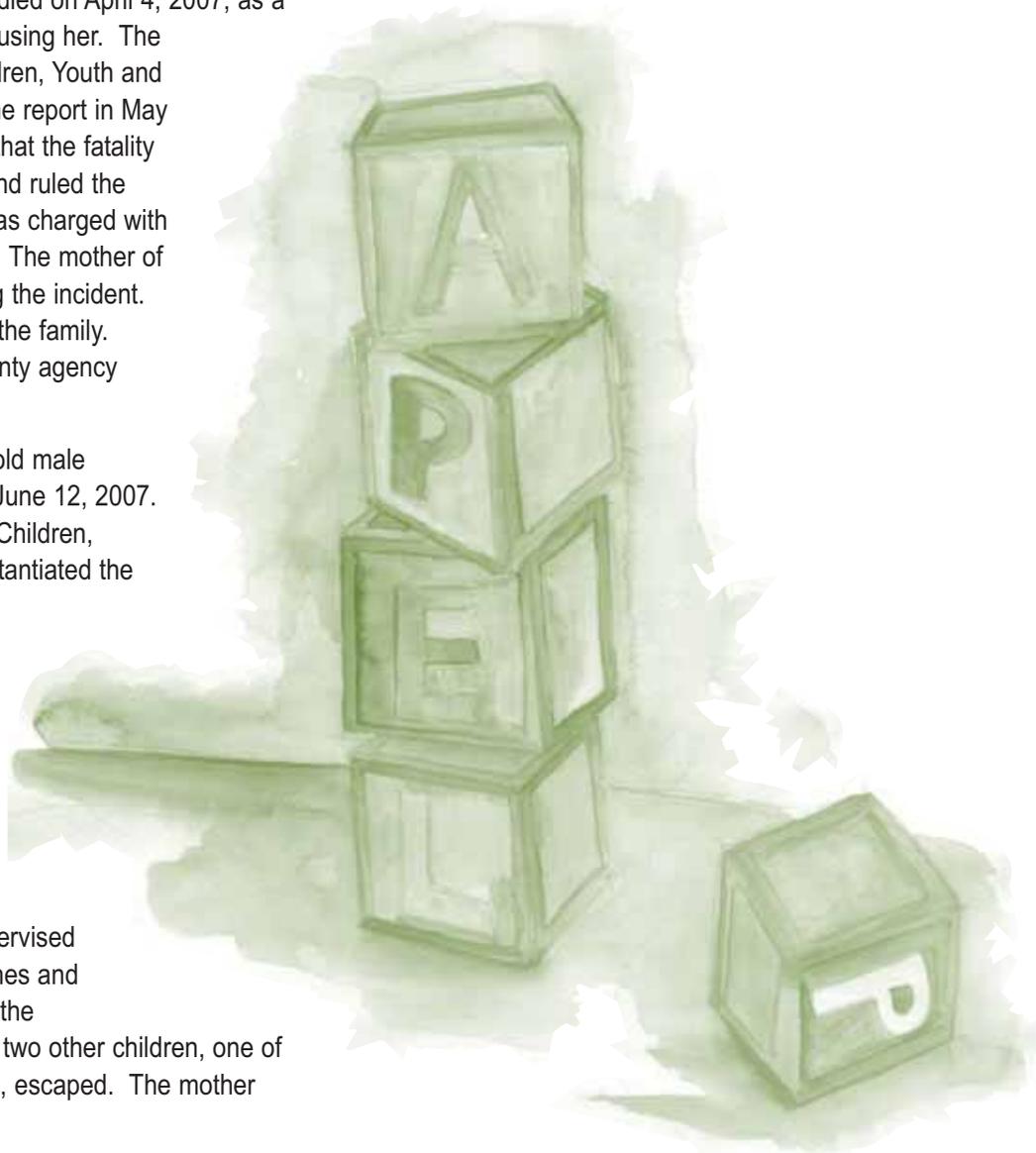
Allegheny County:

1. A six-month old female child died on April 4, 2007, as a result of her father physically abusing her. The Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Family Services substantiated the report in May 2007. The coroner determined that the fatality was due to blunt force trauma and ruled the death a homicide. The father was charged with homicide and was incarcerated. The mother of the child was not at home during the incident. There were no other children in the family. There was not any previous county agency involvement.

2-3. Six-year old and five-year old male children died in a house fire on June 12, 2007. The Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Family Services substantiated the reports in August 2007. The investigation revealed that the mother of the children had left them at a friend's residence with another male sibling (age unknown) and the friend's four children (all between the ages of 2 and 8) while the mother and friend went to a bar. The unsupervised children were playing with matches and started the house fire. Three of the friend's children died also, while two other children, one of the mother and one of the friend, escaped. The mother

was charged with involuntary manslaughter, reckless endangerment, child endangerment and false reporting and was incarcerated. The mother and her three children were involved with the county agency from November 2004 until February 2006 due to the mother being arrested for robbery and concerns about housing conditions. The surviving sibling and the other surviving child of the friend are living with relatives and the county agency is involved.

4-6. Three female siblings (ages 8, 7 and 3) died in a house fire on June 12, 2007. The Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Family Services substantiated the



reports in August 2007. The investigation revealed that the mother of the children had left them home with three children of a friend (all between the ages of 2 and 8) while the mother and the friend went to a bar. The unsupervised children were playing with matches and started the house fire. Two of the friend's children died also, while two children, one of the mother and one of the friend, escaped. The mother was charged with involuntary manslaughter, reckless endangerment, child endangerment and false reporting and was incarcerated. The family was involved with the county agency on an intake level from February 2007 until April 2007 due to concerns of no heat or running water at the residence. The county agency investigated and determined that the home did have heat and running water, but in the past the home had been without heat and running water. The intake was closed and the family was referred to community services. The surviving male sibling (age unknown) and the other surviving child of the friend are living with relatives and the county agency is involved.

7. An 11-year old male died on Aug. 28, 2007, due to multiple stabbings. The Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Family Services substantiated the report in October 2007. Another brother (age 11) was also stabbed and survived. Working with local law enforcement, the county agency determined that the child's brother (age 18) had stabbed both children multiple times. The brother was charged and was incarcerated. The brother who committed the act was a college student who had recently returned home due to suicidal ideations and hearing voices. He refused mental health treatment and the day before the stabbing, a mobile crisis team was contacted due to his behaviors but determined that that he did not pose a danger to himself or others. The surviving child remains at home with the parents. There was no previous county agency involvement.

Bucks County:

8. A one-year old male child died on Aug. 25, 2007, after drowning in a bathtub. The Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency substantiated the report in October 2007. The perpetrators on the report are the mother of the child and her paramour. The mother's paramour admitted to giving the child a bath and leaving

the child unattended for a prolonged period of time. The county agency received a referral involving the mother in October 2006 due to the mother frequently leaving the child in the care of inappropriate people and accepted the family for services in December 2006. The mother received parenting education, medical and other public assistance, and counseling through a domestic violence program. In June 2007, the mother's paramour moved into the home and the county agency determined that he should not have any unsupervised contact with the child due to a prior child abuse investigation and subsequent criminal conviction involving a different child. The county agency instructed the mother and her paramour that the paramour may never be alone with the child. The mother agreed that her paramour would move out of the house and have no unsupervised contact with the child. The mother agreed to change her work schedule and use a relative to help out with transportation to and from child care to accommodate this agreement. The county agency had made one scheduled follow-up visit to verify if the plan was being followed. Since the paramour had unsupervised contact with the child at the time of the fatality, the mother was also listed as a perpetrator. There are no other children in the family.

Butler County:

9. A one-year old male child died on June 25, 2007, as a result of injuries consistent with Shaken Baby Syndrome. The child had internal swelling and blunt force trauma to the head. Butler County Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in August 2007. The county agency determined that the mother's paramour was the perpetrator. The perpetrator has a history of drug use and domestic violence. The paramour reported that the child hit his head on the side of a bathtub as he was undressing the child to give him a bath. The county determined, based on its investigation and in cooperation with local law enforcement and medical experts, that the injuries were not consistent with this account. The perpetrator was incarcerated due to the incident. There were no other children in the family. The family was not known to the county agency.

Chester County:

10. A three-year old female child died on Aug. 27, 2007, as a result of being physically abused by her mother. The Chester County Department of Children, Youth and Families substantiated the report in September 2007. The mother admitted that she was physically disciplining the child when the fatality occurred. The maternal grandmother of the child was also named as a perpetrator as she witnessed the abuse and failed to protect the child. Law enforcement is currently investigating the incident. The county agency received a referral regarding this family in August 2006 regarding the mother's drug and alcohol problems and inappropriate discipline. The county closed the case a month later at the conclusion of an investigation and the family was not accepted for services. There are two other children (ages unknown) in the family who are now residing with relatives due to the incident. The county agency is currently involved with monitoring the safety of these children.

Crawford County:

11. An 11-month old male child died on Oct. 24, 2007, due to brain injuries, retinal hemorrhaging and a rib fracture. Crawford County Human Services substantiated the report in November 2007 and named the mother's paramour as the perpetrator. He is currently incarcerated and charged with criminal homicide. The county agency placed the four-year old brother of the child into foster care after the death. During the investigation, the mother tested positive for methamphetamines. Also during the investigation, the Pennsylvania State Police arrested relatives of the family for methamphetamine possession, manufacturing and distribution that was occurring in the mother's home. The home had been under surveillance by law enforcement agencies due to numerous reports of drug use, manufacturing and distribution. There was a previous referral to the county agency in May of 2007 related to mother's methamphetamine use. The county agency discussed these concerns with the mother and she refused services. The family also had prior involvement with Child Protective Services in Ohio when the family lived there due to mother's drug use and inability to care for her children. The case was closed in Ohio in December of 2006.

Dauphin County:

12. A ten-year old female died on April 29, 2007, as a result of burns to her body. Dauphin County Social Services for Children and Youth substantiated the report in June 2007, naming the father and a female relative as perpetrators. The child suffered from cerebral palsy, seizures, was blind and confined to a wheelchair. The female perpetrator gave the child a bath in very hot water and the child received extensive burns. The child subsequently died due to complications from the burns. The father was held responsible for a lack of medical attention for the burns. The perpetrators were charged with homicide, criminal conspiracy and endangering the welfare of a child. Both of them are currently incarcerated. An 11-year old male sibling of the child was released to the custody of his mother and three other children (two males and one female, ages 7, 2 and 1), who are children of the female relative, were placed into foster care. The child had been receiving medical services and adaptive living services for her medical and physical disabilities through community agencies at the time of the fatality. There was no prior county agency involvement with the family.

Erie County:

13. A two-year old female child died on May 30, 2007, as a result of drowning in a pond. The Erie County Office of Children and Youth substantiated the report in July 2007. There was another one-year old female child, who was a sibling to the babysitter, who also drowned. A female family friend was babysitting the child and the county determined the family friend to be the perpetrator. The babysitter fell asleep and failed to provide supervision for the child during which time she wandered outside and drowned. There were no other children in the family. There was no previous or current county agency involvement. The babysitter was charged criminally in the death of the child.





14. A one-year old female child died on May 30, 2007, as a result of drowning in a pond. There was another two-year old female child, who was a child of a family friend, who also drowned. The Erie County Office of Children and Youth substantiated the report in July 2007. A female babysitter who is a sibling to the child was babysitting the child and determined to be the perpetrator. The babysitter fell asleep and failed to provide supervision for the child during which time she wandered outside and drowned. There were no other children in the family. There was no previous or current county agency involvement. The babysitter was charged criminally in the death of the child.

15. A newborn female child died on Aug. 12, 2007, as a result of suffocation. The Erie County Office of Children and Youth substantiated the report in October 2007 and named the mother of the child as the perpetrator. The mother placed the newborn in a plastic bag. The county coroner determined that the child was alive when born, but subsequently died as a result of being suffocated in the plastic bag. The mother was arrested. There were no other children in the family. There was no prior or current county agency involvement.

Lackawanna County:

16. A seven-month old male child died on June 7, 2007, as a result of physical injuries. Lackawanna County Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in July 2007 and determined the mother's paramour to be the perpetrator. The child had severe fractures of the skull and retinal hemorrhaging. A female family friend

was babysitting the child when the mother's paramour returned home. The babysitter said that the child was crying and the mother's paramour went into the room. The babysitter reported that the child stopped crying and she went to check on him and found him unresponsive. The mother's paramour fled the state after the incident and recently was apprehended in North Carolina, returned to Pennsylvania and charged with homicide. There were no other children in the family. There was no prior or current county agency involvement.

17. A one-year old female child died on Sept. 20, 2007, as a result of complications of a drug overdose. Lackawanna County Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in November 2007 and determined the parents to be the perpetrators. The home was very dirty and cluttered the night the child became sick and it is believed that the child found sleep medication on the floor and put them in her mouth. The father was prescribed medication due to suffering from post traumatic stress disorder. The child experienced seizures and cardiac arrest which resulted in a coma. The child died three days later. There were no other children in the family. There was no prior or current agency involvement.

Lancaster County:

18. A five-month old female child died on July 31, 2007, as a result of physical injuries consistent with Shaken Baby Syndrome. Lancaster County Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in September 2007 and determined the father to be the perpetrator. In addition to the recent injuries, there were healing fractures found on various parts of the child's body. The father of the child was arrested and incarcerated. There are two siblings to the child, a ten-year old female and a five-month old male, both of whom were placed with relatives. There was no prior or current county agency involvement.

Lehigh County:

19. An 11-month old female child died on Jan. 15, 2007, as a result of physical injuries and suffocation. The Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in August 2007 and determined the father to be the perpetrator. The father confessed to punching the

child on the head and suffocating her with a pillow. The mother of the child had been living in the same house, but has since moved to another state. The father is currently incarcerated due to the incident. There was no prior or current county agency involvement with the family. There were no other children in the family. There was no prior or current county agency involvement.

20. A five-month old female child died on Aug. 21, 2007, as a result of a drug overdose. The Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in October 2007 and determined the father of the child to be the perpetrator since the child was at his house when the incident occurred. The father and mother do not live together. The father gave the child an adult dosage of Tylenol PM to make the child fall asleep. The child suffered respiratory failure as a result of being given the adult dosage. A two-year old female sibling is living with the mother. There was no prior or current county agency involvement.

Lycoming County:

21. A four-year old male child died on April 7, 2007, due to smoke inhalation from a house fire that was started by a 14-year old male sibling. Lycoming County Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in May 2007. The older sibling was charged as an adult and is incarcerated. There were two female siblings, ages 6 and 9, who were unharmed during the fire and remain with the parents. There was no prior or current county agency involvement.

Monroe County:

22. A 12-year old female child was shot and killed by her father on May 28, 2007. Monroe County Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in June 2007. The child was primarily cared for by the father. The child's mother has a history of drug use and prostitution and the father is an indicated perpetrator from 1996 for sexual abuse. The local court ordered the child to live with the father during a private custody hearing with the full knowledge of the indicated report. There were no other children in the family. There was no current county agency involvement.

Montgomery County:

23. A three-year old male child died on Aug. 9, 2007, as a result of drowning in a pool. The Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth substantiated the report in October 2007. The child was at a licensed home-based child care program and was left alone with another child in a wading pool. The child care operator went inside the house to get something and returned to find the child face down in the pool. The child care operator was found to be out of compliance with adult-to-child staffing ratios. The county children and youth agency removed the child care operator's own six children during the investigation but they have since been returned. There was a prior report of children not being appropriately supervised at the child care program in June 2003. The county agency determined that the children were properly supervised at that time. There were no other children in the family of the victim child.

Philadelphia County:

24. A five-year old female child died on May 1, 2007, as a result of smoke inhalation from a house fire. It was determined by the Philadelphia Department of Human Services that the father of the child left the child alone in the house when the fire started and they substantiated the report in May 2007. The Philadelphia Medical Examiner determined that the fatality was accidental and the criminal investigation was ongoing at the time the Department of Human Services made their determination. The Department of Human Services is currently involved with the family due to this incident. The mother and her two-year old child are living with relatives. Although there was no current or past county involvement with family, the relatives that the mother and sibling are staying with are currently involved with the Department of Human Services since the relative's children are in placement.

25. A nine-month old male child died on May 31, 2007, as a result of drowning in a bathtub. The Philadelphia Department of Human Services substantiated the report in June 2007 and determined that the mother left the child with two other siblings (ages 2 and 3) unsupervised in the bathtub. The Department of Human Services placed the remaining children with relatives. The county agency will continue to monitor the case and all children are receiving

grief counseling. The younger children have been referred for Early Intervention services. There had been county agency and various community agencies involved with the family since November 1999. In November 2006, the private agency providing services to the family sent formal alerts to the Department of Human Services that they were having difficulty with the family being cooperative with services. The county agency responded to these alerts that they felt the children were safe and the private agency should continue providing services.

26. A four-month old male child died on July 27, 2007, as a result of being physically abused by his father. The Philadelphia Department of Human Services substantiated the report in July 2007. The incident actually occurred on June 25, 2007. The child suffered from internal bleeding in his head, retinal hemorrhages, bruising to his leg and compression injuries to the spine. The father reported that the child was in a car seat and fell out. However, the medical evidence and investigation determined that the father caused the injuries. The father was charged and is incarcerated. The mother of the child was at work at the time of the incident. There were no other children in the family. There was no prior or current county agency involvement.

27. A three-year old male child died on Aug. 27, 2007, as a result of being physically abused by a male relative. The Philadelphia Department of Human Services substantiated the report in September 2007. The relative was babysitting the child and during this time the male relative repeatedly punched and threw the child which caused the child to suffer brain injuries, internal bleeding in the head and a lacerated liver. The relative was arrested and incarcerated. A female sibling (age unknown) in the home was placed into foster care to ensure her safety. The father of the child has been working to have the sibling returned to his care. The mother of the children is deceased. There was no prior or current county agency involvement.

28. An 11-month old male child died on Sept. 3, 2007, as a result of drowning in a bathtub. The Southeast Regional Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF) investigated the report and substantiated it in October 2007. The regional office investigated this report since

the incident occurred in a foster home with whom the county agency contracted. An 11-year old female biological child of the foster mother was permitted by the foster mother to give the victim child a bath. The 11-year old child left the victim child unattended.

The county agency listed the foster mother as the perpetrator for lack of supervision. The county agency removed a three-year old male sibling of the victim child and the biological

children (all female, ages 12, 4 and 2) of the foster mother from the home during the investigation. The foster mother's biological children have since been returned to her care. The foster mother is no longer approved as a foster parent.

Tioga County:

29. A one-month old female child died on Aug. 3, 2007, as a result of being left alone for nine hours in a hot room. The Tioga County Human Services Agency substantiated the report in September 2007 naming both parents as perpetrators for lack of supervision. There were no other children in the family. The family was never active with the county agency.

Wyoming County:

30. A two-month old male child died on July 11, 2007, due to being physically abused by his mother. Wyoming County Human Services substantiated the report in September 2007. The mother hit the child in the head out of frustration because the child was crying. At the time of the incident, the family was involved with a parenting service referred by the hospital, which is available for all first-time mothers. The mother is currently incarcerated. There were no other children in the family.





Near Fatalities

Allegheny County:

31. A six-month old male child was brought to the hospital on Oct. 22, 2007, with a head injury and retinal hemorrhaging consistent with Shaken Baby Syndrome. The child also had linear bruising to the left side of face consistent with a handprint. The county considered the report a near fatality because the child was determined to be in critical condition due to the injuries. The Allegheny County Office of Children, Youth and Family Services substantiated the report in November 2007. The county considered the father to be the perpetrator since he was alone with the child when the injuries occurred. The father's explanation was that the child fell off of a couch and hit his head on a coffee table. At the time the county agency finished its investigation, law enforcement was continuing its investigation. There were no other children in the family. This family was never known to the county agency before this incident.

Bucks County:

32. A four-month old male child was brought to the hospital on May 17, 2007, with a skull fracture, other head injuries, retinal hemorrhaging and a fracture of the arm. The hospital found older head injuries. The father of the child stated the child hit his head on a plastic truck and became unresponsive. The Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency substantiated the report in July 2007. This report is considered to be a near fatality because the child was determined to be in critical condition due to the injuries. The father eventually

admitted to causing the injuries and was convicted of aggravated assault and child endangerment. The county agency placed the child and a sibling (age unknown) into foster care and later returned the children to the mother. There had been initial concerns during the investigation that the mother possibly knew about the father harming the child and did nothing to prevent it from happening. The mother and children are currently receiving services from the county agency and the mother has been receiving in-home parenting instruction. There was no previous county agency involvement.

Carbon County:

33. A 16-year old male child suffered severe brain damage on July 27, 2007, as a result of his father giving him narcotics. The Carbon County Office of Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in September 2007. The county considered the report a near fatality due to the child's injuries. The county further determined that medical attention had not been immediately sought by the father and the child's severe injuries may have been prevented if medical attention was sought sooner. There had been no previous county agency involvement. However, the father was wanted in another state due to drug-related charges. The father is currently incarcerated. A male sibling (age unknown) is now living with a relative.

Erie County:

34. A one-year old female child nearly died on Aug. 15, 2007, as a result of being taken into a pool by a nine-year old female sibling. The Erie County Office of Children and Youth substantiated the report in September 2007. The county considered the babysitter, who was a male relative of the child, to be the perpetrator. The babysitter had decided to take a shower and another relative, who came to the home, found the nine-year old sibling holding the child in a blanket. The child was soaking wet and this relative rushed the child to the hospital. The child had a seizure from the incident and had to be placed on a ventilator. The mother of the children has made other arrangements for child care for all four children in the home and the perpetrator is not allowed any unsupervised contact with the children. There had been multiple referrals to the county agency in the past due to various reasons, including allegations of inappropriate discipline,

lack of supervision, lack of food and oldest child displaying inappropriate sexual behaviors. The children were determined to be safe each time and the family never received services after the referrals were investigated.

Lebanon County:

35. A two-year old male child nearly died on June 28, 2007, as a result of physical injuries. Lebanon County Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in August 2007 and determined the mother and her paramour to be the perpetrators. The child had swelling and a depression to his head, along with various bruising and abrasions to his body. The perpetrators never gave an explanation for the injuries. The child and a one-month old male sibling have been placed with a grandparent and the county agency opened the case for services. The county received previous referrals in 2006 related to inappropriate discipline of the victim child by the mother. The first referral was addressed by the county agency with the mother and the second referral could not be investigated because the county could never locate the family.

36. A one-year old female child nearly died on Sept. 10, 2007, as a result of physical injuries. Lebanon County Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in October 2007 naming the mother as the perpetrator. The child suffered internal bleeding and bruising of the head. There were no other children in the family. The county agency was in the process of investigating a referral on the mother over concerns about the cleanliness of the home when this incident occurred.

Lehigh County:

37. A two-month old male child nearly died on June 25, 2007, as a result of physical injuries. The Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in August 2007 and determined the father to be the perpetrator. The child had sustained a skull fracture, retinal hemorrhaging, broken ribs and a fractured knee. The child was suffering from vomiting and diarrhea due to the incident and was placed on a ventilator. No explanation for the injuries was ever given. The father was the caretaker at the time of the incident since the

mother was at a job interview. The county agency had been involved with the family at the intake level at the time of the incident because of unexplained bruising to the child. The county agency had a safety plan in place with the mother and other relatives who had contact with the child regarding these unexplained injuries. The county agency attempted, but was never able to assess, the father and his home for a safety plan. The case is currently active with the county agency due to the child being released from the hospital into the care of the mother. The father does not reside in the home. There were no other children in the family

Luzerne County:

38. A four-year old female child was considered a near fatality as a result of being physically abused by her father on Sept. 13, 2007. Luzerne County Children and Youth Agency substantiated the report in October 2007. The father and mother were separated and the father learned that the mother had a new paramour and attacked both the mother and child with a baseball bat when the mother brought the child to his house for a visit. The child suffered skull fractures, bruising and lacerations from the incident. The child and a four-year old female sibling were placed with relatives because of the incident and the county agency is monitoring the case. The father was incarcerated. There had been previous county agency involvement on an intake level in December 2005 due to reports of domestic violence in the home.

Philadelphia County:

39. An eight-year old male child nearly drowned on Aug. 2, 2007, at summer camp as a result of a lack of supervision by a camp counselor. The Philadelphia Department of Human Services substantiated the report in September 2007. There were no other children in the family. There was no prior or current county agency involvement.



Pike County:

40. A one-year old male child nearly died on Aug. 26, 2007, due to extensive injuries. Pike County Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in October 2007 and named both parents as the perpetrators. The child had a skull fracture, internal bleeding in head, retinal hemorrhaging, healing fractures of the wrist and pelvis and bruising throughout the body. The child was unable to breathe and was in a coma. The child required that part of his skull be removed to alleviate pressure in the brain. The parents reported that the child fell off of a trampoline, but medical evidence disproved that account. The child was placed into foster care once released from the hospital and his four-year old female sibling had already been placed in foster care. The county agency is attempting to proceed with having the children adopted. The child will have physical disabilities as a result of the abuse; however, the extent of these disabilities has not yet been determined. There was no prior county agency involvement.

Washington County:

41. A 24-day old male child nearly died on July 15, 2007, due to physical abuse by the mother. Washington County Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in September 2007. The child was lethargic, hypothermic and had various skull fractures and brain hemorrhaging.

The mother reported that she often became frustrated with the child for not eating and would shake him. The mother was charged with aggravated assault, child and reckless endangerment. The county took legal custody of the child, a three-year old female sibling and a one-year old male sibling and placed the children with a relative. There had been a prior referral on the family in November 2006 due to the three-year old female child opening the door to the house and getting outside. The county agency investigated the referral and decided to not accept the family for services. The family had been trying to get the landlord to fix the locks on the door and eventually had to block the door while sleeping so the child could not get outside. The county agency was not involved with the family at the time of the incident.

York County:

42. A four-year old male child nearly died on Oct. 26, 2007, as a result of physical injuries. York County Children and Youth Services substantiated the report in November 2007 naming both the father and stepmother as the perpetrators. The child had internal bleeding in the head and bruising to the face, ears and back. The father reported that the child fell off a bed, but medical evidence disproved that account. There were no other children in the family.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE OFFICE OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

HEADQUARTERS

Office of Children, Youth and Families
Department of Public Welfare
P.O. Box 2675
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2675
(717) 787-4756
www.dpw.state.pa.us

ChildLine and Abuse Registry
Office of Children, Youth and Families
Hillcrest, 2nd Floor • P.O. Box 2675
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2675
Administrative Offices (717) 783-8744 or (717) 783-1964
Child Abuse Hotline (Toll-free nationwide) 1-800-932-0313
TDD: 1-866-872-1677

REGIONAL OFFICES

SOUTHEAST REGION

Office of Children, Youth and Families
1400 Spring Garden Street
502 State Office Building
Philadelphia, PA 19130
(215) 560-2249 • (215) 560-2823

WESTERN REGION

Office of Children, Youth and Families
707 State Office Building
300 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
(412) 565-2339

NORTHEAST REGION

Office of Children, Youth and Families
Scranton State Office Building
100 Lackawanna Avenue, Room 301, 3rd Floor
Scranton, PA 18503
(570) 963-4376

CENTRAL REGION

Office of Children, Youth and Families
Bertolino Building, 4th Floor
1401 North 7th Street
P.O. Box 2675
Harrisburg, PA 17105
(717) 772-7702

COUNTY CHILDREN AND YOUTH AGENCIES

ADAMS COUNTY

Adams County Children and Youth Services
Adams County Courthouse
111-117 Baltimore Street, Room 201-B
Gettysburg, PA 17325
(717) 337-0110

ALLEGHENY COUNTY

Department of Human Services
Office of Children, Youth and Family Services
One Smithfield Street, Suite 400
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2225
(412) 350-5701 • (412) 350-5705
24-hour (412) 473-2000

ARMSTRONG COUNTY

Armstrong County Children and Youth Services
310 South Jefferson Street
Kittanning, PA 16201
(724) 548-3466

BEAVER COUNTY

Beaver County Children and Youth Services
1080 Eighth Avenue, 3rd Floor
Beaver Falls, PA 15010
(724) 891-5800

BEDFORD COUNTY

Bedford County Children and Youth Services
200 South Juliana Street
Bedford, PA 15522
(814) 623-4804

BERKS COUNTY

Berks County Children and Youth Services
County Services Center
633 Court Street, 11th Floor
Reading, PA 19601
(610) 478-6700

BLAIR COUNTY

Blair County Children and Youth Services
Blair County Courthouse
423 Allegheny Street, Suite 132
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648
(814) 693-3130

BRADFORD COUNTY

Bradford County Children and Youth Services
220 Main Street, Unit 1
Towanda, PA 18848-1822
(570) 265-2154 • 1-800-326-8432

Directory of Services

BUCKS COUNTY

Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency
4259 West Swamp Road, Suite 200
Doylestown, PA 18901-1042
(215) 348-6900

BUTLER COUNTY

Butler County Children and Youth Services
Butler County Judicial Building, 2nd Floor
124 West Diamond Street • P.O. Box 1208
Butler, PA 16003-1208
(724) 284-5156

CAMBRIA COUNTY

Cambria County Children and Youth Services
Central Park Complex
110 Franklin Street, Suite 400
Johnstown, PA 15901
(814) 539-7454 • 1-800-260-5860

CAMERON COUNTY

Cameron County Children and Youth Services
Court House, 20 East Fifth Street, Suite 102
Emporium, PA 15834
(814) 486-3265 ext. 5 (automated)
(814) 486-9351 (direct to CYS)

CARBON COUNTY

Carbon County Office of Children and Youth Services
76 Susquehanna Street
P.O. Box 449
Jim Thorpe, PA 18229
(570) 325-3644

CENTRE COUNTY

Centre County Children and Youth Services
Willowbank Office Building
420 Holmes Street
Bellefonte, PA 16823
(814) 355-6755

CHESTER COUNTY

Chester County Department of Children, Youth and Families
601 Westtown Road, Suite 310
West Chester, PA 19382-4526
(610) 344-5800

CLARION COUNTY

Clarion County Children and Youth Services
214 South Seventh Avenue, Suite B
Clarion, PA 16214-2053
(814) 226-9280 • 1-800-577-9280

CLEARFIELD COUNTY

Clearfield County Children, Youth and Family Services
650 Leonard Street, Suite 216
Clearfield, PA 16830
(814) 765-1541 • 1-800-326-9079

CLINTON COUNTY

Clinton County Children and Youth Social Services
P.O. Box 787, Garden Building
232 East Main Street
Lock Haven, PA 17745
(570) 893-4100 or 893-4101 • 1-800-454-5722

COLUMBIA COUNTY

Columbia County Children and Youth Services
26 West First Street
Bloomsburg, PA 17815
(570) 389-5700

CRAWFORD COUNTY

Crawford County Human Services
18282 Technology Drive, Suite 101
Meadville, PA 16335
(814) 724-8380 • 1-877-334-8793

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Cumberland County Children and Youth Services
Human Services Building, Suite 200
16 West High Street
Carlisle, PA 17013-2961
(717) 240-6120

DAUPHIN COUNTY

Dauphin County Social Services for Children and Youth
25 South Front Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101-2025
(717) 780-7200

DELAWARE COUNTY

Delaware County Children and Youth Services
20 South 69th Street, 3rd Floor
Upper Darby, PA 19082
(610) 713-2000

ELK COUNTY

Elk County Children and Youth Services
P.O. Box 448 • 300 Center Street
Ridgway, PA 15853
(814) 776-1553

ERIE COUNTY

Erie County Office of Children and Youth
154 West 9th Street
Erie, PA 16501-1303
(814) 451-6600

Directory of Services

FAYETTE COUNTY

Fayette County Children and Youth Services
130 Old New Salem Road
Uniontown, PA 15401
(724) 430-1283

FOREST COUNTY

Forest County Children and Youth Services
613 Elm Street • P.O. Box 523
Tionesta, PA 16353
(814) 755-3622

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Franklin County Children and Youth Services
Franklin County Human Services Building
425 Franklin Farm Lane
Chambersburg, PA 17201
(717) 263-1900

FULTON COUNTY

Fulton County Services for Children
219 North Second Street, Suite 2
McConnellsburg, PA 17233
(717) 485-3553

GREENE COUNTY

Greene County Children and Youth Services
201 Fort Jackson County Building
19 South Washington Street
Waynesburg, PA 15370
(724) 852-5217 or 852-5245

HUNTINGDON COUNTY

Huntingdon County Children and Youth Services
Court House Annex II, 430 Penn Street
Huntingdon, PA 16652
(814) 643-3270

INDIANA COUNTY

Indiana County Children and Youth Services
350 North 4th Street
Indiana, PA 15701
(724) 465-3895 • 1-888-559-6355

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Jefferson County Children and Youth Services
155 Main Street, Jefferson Place
Brookville, PA 15825
(814) 849-3696 • 1-800-523-5041

JUNIATA COUNTY

Juniata County Children and Youth Social Services
Agency
14 Industrial Circle, Box 8
Mifflintown, PA 17059
(717) 436-7707

LACKAWANNA COUNTY

Lackawanna County Children and Youth Services
Lackawanna County Office Building
200 Adams Avenue
Scranton, PA 18503
(570) 963-6781

LANCASTER COUNTY

Lancaster County Children and Youth Services
900 East King Street
Lancaster, PA 17602
(717) 299-7925 • 1-800-675-2060

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Lawrence County Children and Youth Services
1001 East Washington Street
New Castle, PA 16101
(724) 658-2558

LEBANON COUNTY

Lebanon County Children and Youth Services
Room 401 Municipal Building
400 South Eighth Street
Lebanon, PA 17042
(717) 274-2801 ext. 2304

LEHIGH COUNTY

Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services
17 South 7th Street
Allentown, PA 18101
(610) 782-3064 or 782-3068

LUZERNE COUNTY

Luzerne County Children and Youth Agency
111 North Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 110
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701-3697
(570) 826-8710 • Hazleton area: (570) 454-9740

LYCOMING COUNTY

Lycoming County Children and Youth Services
Sharwell Building, 200 East Street
Williamsport, PA 17701-6613
(570) 326-7895 • 1-800-525-7938

Directory of Services

McKEAN COUNTY

McKean County Department of Human Services
17155 Route 6
Smethport, PA 16749
(814) 887-3350

MERCER COUNTY

Mercer County Children and Youth Services
8425 Sharon-Mercer Road
Mercer, PA 16137-1207
(724) 662-2703

MIFFLIN COUNTY

Mifflin County Children and Youth Social Services
144 East Market Street
Lewistown, PA 17044
(717) 248-3994

MONROE COUNTY

Monroe County Children and Youth Services
730 Phillips Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360-2224
(570) 420-3590

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth
Montgomery County Human Services Center
1430 DeKalb Street • P.O. Box 311
Norristown, PA 19404-0311
(610) 278-5800

MONTOUR COUNTY

Montour County Children and Youth Services
114 Woodbine Lane, Suite 201
Danville, PA 17821
(570) 271-3050

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY

Northampton County Department of Human Services
Children, Youth and Families Division
Governor Wolf Building
45 North Second Street
Easton, PA 18042-3637
(610) 559-3290

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY

Northumberland County Children and Youth Services
322 North 2nd Street
Sunbury, PA 17801
(570) 495-2101 or (570) 988-4237

PERRY COUNTY

Perry County Children and Youth Services
Rhinesmith Building
P.O. Box 123
New Bloomfield, PA 17068
(717) 582-2131 ext. 212

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY

Philadelphia Department of Human Services
Children and Youth Division
1 Parkway Building, 8th Floor
1515 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102
(215) 683-6100

PIKE COUNTY

Pike County Children and Youth Services
506 Broad Street
Milford, PA 18337
(570) 296-3446

POTTER COUNTY

Potter County Human Services
62 North Street • P.O. Box 241
Roulette, PA 16746-0241
(814) 544-7315 • 1-800-800-2560

SCHUYLKILL COUNTY

Schuylkill County Children and Youth Services
410 North Centre Street
Pottsville, PA 17901
(570) 628-1050 • 1-800-722-8341

SNYDER COUNTY

Snyder County Children and Youth Services
713 Bridge Street, Suite 15
Selinsgrove, PA 17870
(570) 374-4570

SOMERSET COUNTY

Somerset County Children and Youth Services
300 North Center Avenue, Suite 220
Somerset, PA 15501
(814) 445-1600

SULLIVAN COUNTY

Sullivan County Children and Youth Services
Sullivan County Court House
Main and Muncy Streets
P.O. Box 157
Laporte, PA 18626-0157
(570) 946-4250

Directory of Services

SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY

Susquehanna County Services for Children and Youth
31 Public Avenue
Montrose, PA 18801
(570) 278-4600 ext. 300

TIOGA COUNTY

Tioga County Human Services Agency
1873 Shumway Hill Road
Wellsboro, PA 16901
(570) 724-5766 • 1-800-242-5766

UNION COUNTY

Union County Children and Youth Services
1610 Industrial Boulevard, Suite 200
Lewisburg, PA 17837
(570) 522-1330

VENANGO COUNTY

Venango County Children and Youth Services
1283 Liberty Street • P.O. Box 1130
Franklin, PA 16323
(814) 432-9743

WARREN COUNTY

Warren County Human Services, Children and Youth
27 Hospital Drive
North Warren, PA 16365
(814) 726-2100

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Washington County Children and Youth Services
100 West Beau Street, Suite 502
Washington, PA 15301
(724) 228-6884 • 1-888-619-9906

WAYNE COUNTY

Wayne County Children and Youth Services
648 Park Street, Suite C
Honesdale, PA 18431
(570) 253-5102
(570) 253-3109 (after hours)

WESTMORELAND COUNTY

Westmoreland County Children's Bureau
40 North Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 310
Greensburg, PA 15601
(724) 830-3300 • 1-800-422-6926
(724) 830-3301 (direct to CYS)

WYOMING COUNTY

Wyoming County Human Services
P.O. Box 29
Tunkhannock, PA 18657
(570) 836-3131

YORK COUNTY

York County Children and Youth Services
100 West Market Street, 4th Floor
York, PA 17401
(717) 846-8496



Directory of Services

TOLL-FREE NUMBERS AND WEB SITES PENNSYLVANIA

Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

1-800-986-5437

www.helpinpa.state.pa.us • www.compass.state.pa.us

Health insurance information for children.

Healthy Baby Line

1-800-986-2229

www.helpinpa.state.pa.us

Prenatal health care information for pregnant women.

Healthy Kids Line

1-800-986-5437

www.helpinpa.state.pa.us

Health care services information for families.

Pennsylvania Adoption Exchange

1-800-585-SWAN (7926)

www.adoptpakids.org

Waiting Child Registry – a database of children in the Pennsylvania foster care system with a goal of adoption

Resource Family Registry – a database of families approved to foster or adopt in Pennsylvania

Adoption Medical History Registry – collects medical information voluntarily submitted by birth parents for release to adoptees upon their request.

Also provides a matching and referral service that matches specific characteristics of waiting children with the interests of registered, approved adoptive families, publishes a photo listing book and operates a Web site that features a photo album of waiting children and information on adoption.

Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence

1-800-932-4632, 1-800-537-2238

www.pcadv.org

Referrals to local domestic violence agencies. Information and resources on policy development and technical assistance to enhance community response to and prevention of domestic violence.

Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape

1-888-772-7227

www.pcar.org

Referrals to local rape crisis agencies through a statewide network of rape crisis centers, working in concert to administer comprehensive services in meeting the diverse needs of victims/survivors and to further provide prevention education to reduce the prevalence of sexual violence within their communities.

Pennsylvania Family Support Alliance

1-800-448-4906

www.pennsylvaniafamilysupportalliance.org

Support groups for parents who are feeling overwhelmed and want to find a better way of parenting.

Office of Child Development and Early Learning

Regional Child Care Licensing Offices

www.dpw.state.pa.us

Information on state-licensed child care homes and centers.

Central – 1-800-222-2117

Northeast – 1-800-222-2108

Southeast – 1-800-346-2929

Western – 1-800-222-2149

Special Kids Network

1-800-986-4550

www.helpinpa.state.pa.us

Information about services for children with special health care needs.

Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network (SWAN)

1-800-585-SWAN (7926)

www.diakon-swan.org

Information about the adoption of Pennsylvania's children who are currently waiting in foster care.

Directory of Services

NATIONAL

Administration for Children and Families

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

www.acf.dhhs.gov

Child Abuse Prevention Network

<http://child-abuse.com>

Child Welfare League of America

www.cwla.org

Children's Defense Fund

www.childrensdefense.org

National Center for Missing Children

1-800-843-5678

www.missingkids.com

Information and assistance to parents of missing/abducted/runaway children. Handles calls concerning child pornography, child prostitution and

children enticed by perpetrators on the Internet. Takes information on sightings of missing children.

National Child Abuse Hotline

1-800-422-4453

www.childhelp.org

24-hour crisis hotline offering support, information, literature and referrals.

Prevent Child Abuse America

www.preventchildabuse.org

TeenLine

1-800-722-5385

www.hsh.org (Search: TeenLine)

Specially trained counselors to help teens and those who care about them.

Child Welfare Information Gateway

www.childwelfare.gov





Edward G. Rendell, *Governor*