

# Child Abuse and Neglect

**Table 1. Child Abuse and Neglect Investigations, Franklin County, 2000-2008**

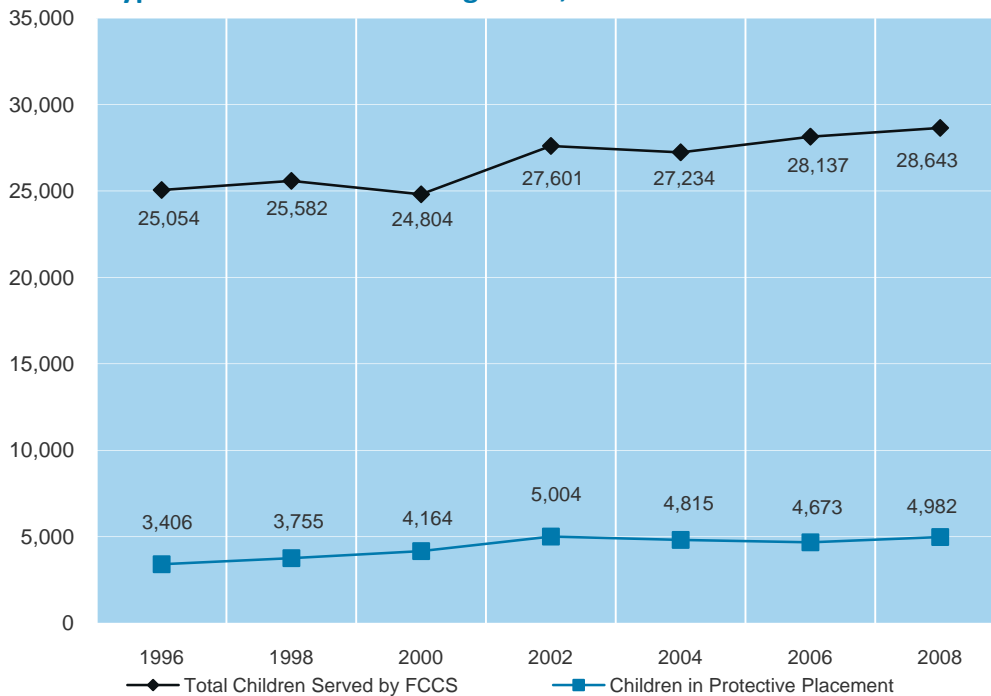
Year	Total Investigations Completed	Number Substantiated	Number Indicated	Total (Percent) Substantiated or Indicated	Percent Unsubstantiated
<b>Child Abuse</b>					
2000	3,870	820	561	1,381 (35.7%)	64.3%
2001	3,942	910	682	1,592 (40.4%)	59.6%
2002	3,081	724	530	1,254 (40.7%)	59.3%
2003	3,130	767	470	1,237 (39.5%)	60.5%
2004	2,651	771	398	1,169 (44.1%)	55.9%
2005	3,220	728	654	1,381 (42.9%)	57.1%
2006	2,902	702	621	1,323 (45.6%)	54.4%
2007*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008	5,741	1,194	603	1,797 (31.3%)	61.6%
<b>Child Neglect</b>					
2000	3,708	1,149	185	1,334 (36.0%)	64.0%
2001	3,695	1,219	163	1,382 (37.4%)	62.6%
2002	2,250	1,190	92	1,282 (57.0%)	43.0%
2003	2,484	1,269	107	1,376 (55.4%)	44.6%
2004	1,893	1,162	40	1,202 (63.5%)	36.9%
2005	2,029	1,134	85	1,219 (60.1%)	39.9%
2006	1,830	1,125	70	1,195 (65.3%)	34.7%
2007*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2008	3,974	521	103	624 (15.9%)	71.4%

Source: Franklin County Children Services

\*Data is unavailable due to the change in state rules and guidelines for classification of child abuse and neglect reports and investigations. Therefore, making historical comparisons of 2008 with previous years is inappropriate.

- In 2008, Franklin County Children Services completed 5,741 investigations related to child abuse and 3,974 related to child neglect. Children Services found that over half (61.6%) of child abuse cases were unsubstantiated, as were over two-thirds (71.4%) of child neglect cases.

**Chart 1. Type of Child Abuse Investigations, 2008**



- In 2008, Franklin County Children Services provided in-home services or out-of-home care to 28,643 youth under age 18 in Franklin County. Among these children, 4,328 received family services through managed care partnerships.
- The number of Franklin County children in protective placement increased from 2,406 in 1996 to 4,982 in 2008, a 107% increase. Among the children in protective placement, 3,130 were in foster home care.

## About the Data

### Data Sources:

- Franklin County Children Services (child abuse and neglect data; protective placement data)
- Ohio Administrative Code 5101:2-1-01 Children services definitions (indicated and substantiated reports)

### Definitions:

- **Child abuse and neglect:** Franklin County Children Services indicates that child maltreatment can include: 1) Physical abuse—a child with bruises, marks or injuries inflicted by other than accidental means; 2) sexual abuse— any sexual activity between a child and adult; 3) emotional abuse—a child who is belittled, ignored or subject to mental or psychological maltreatment; 4) neglect—a parent or caregiver fails to act on behalf of a child to provide adequate food, shelter, clothing, medical care, supervision or education; or 5) dependent child—a child who is homeless, destitute or without adequate parental care and support through no fault of the parent or caregiver, or a child who lives in a home in which another child is abused, neglected or dependent.
- **Indicated report of abuse or neglect:** Report finds that there are circumstantial, medical or other isolated indicators of child abuse or neglect, but confirmation is lacking.
- **Substantiated report of abuse or neglect:** Report finds an admission of child abuse or neglect by the person responsible, an adjudication of child abuse or neglect, other forms of confirmation deemed valid by the Public Children Services Agency, or professional judgment that the child has been abused or neglected.

### Explanations and Caveats:

- The number of children served by Franklin County Children Services includes those served through direct services by Children Services staff and those receiving services purchased by Children Services from 92 community-based agencies.

### Update Status:

March 2010