



KENTUCKY CABINET FOR
HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

Prioritizing Prevention in Child Welfare

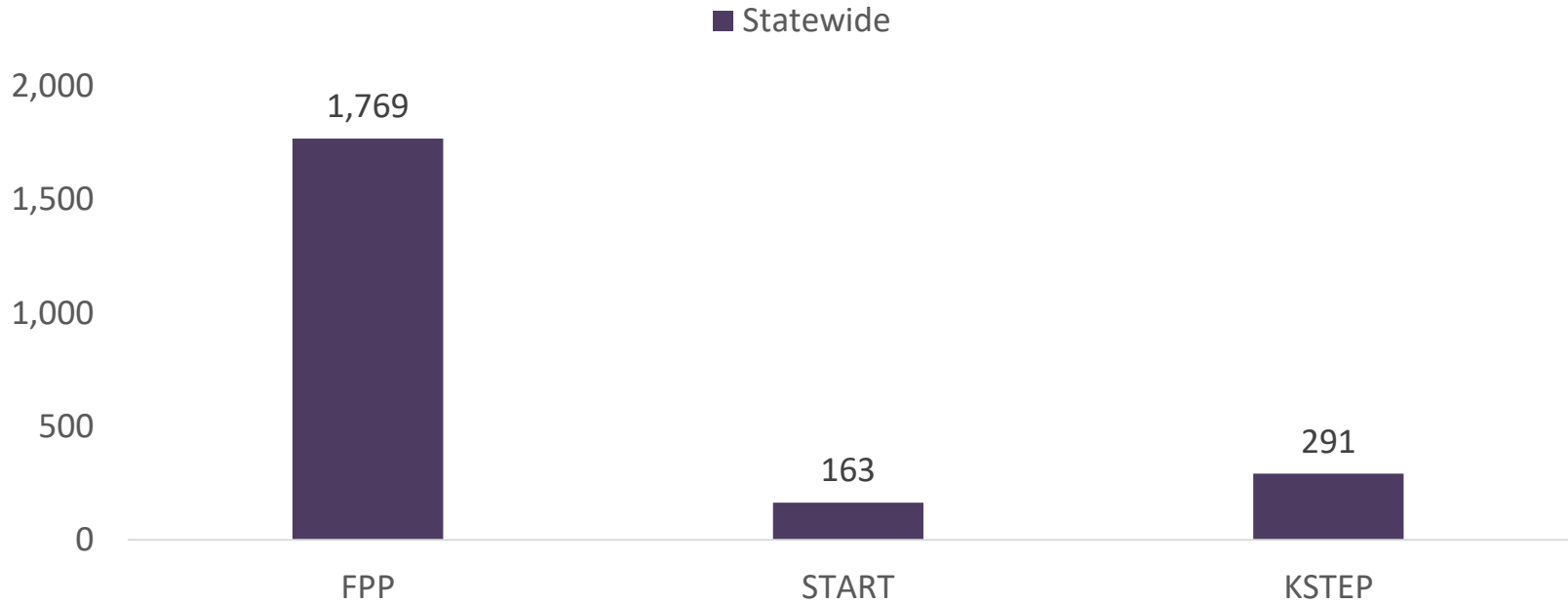
Child Welfare Oversight and Advisory Committee
July 21, 2022

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FAMILY FIRST PREVENTION SERVICES: OUR PREVENTION JOURNEY BEGINS

Family First Services Families Served SFY 2022



- Family Preservation Program
- Sobriety Treatment and Recovery Teams (START)
- Kentucky Strengthening Ties and Empowering Parents (KSTEP)

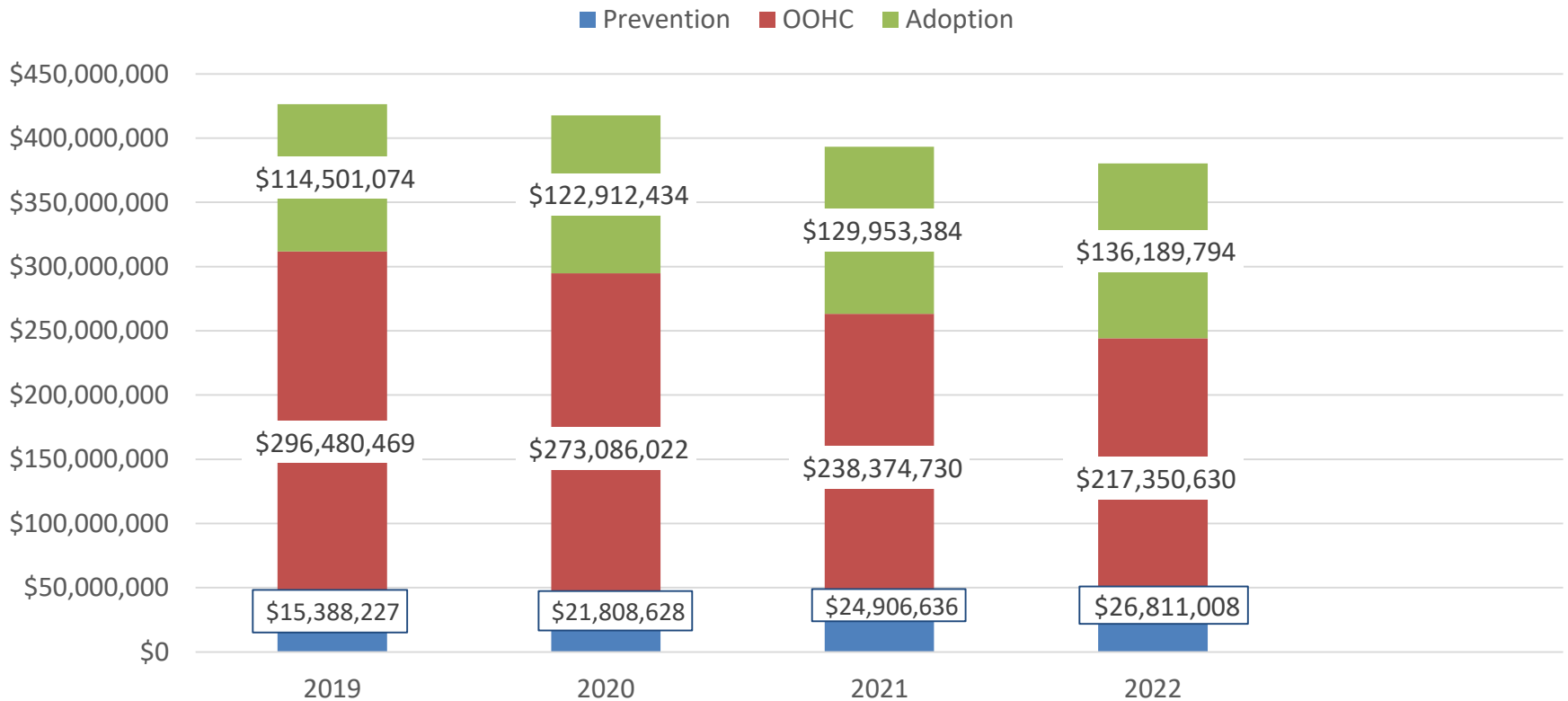
Prevention, Out of Home Care (OOHC), and Adoption Expenditures



Prevention expenditures increased by \$11.4M

Out of Home Care expenditures decreased by \$79.1M

SFY Expenditures 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022



Prevention Expenditures SFY22

- Family First programs (FPP, KSTEP, START, and MST pilots) increased spending to \$26.8 million
- \$2.9 million spent for Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) programs
- Utilized \$12.7 million of the state general funds appropriated for prevention

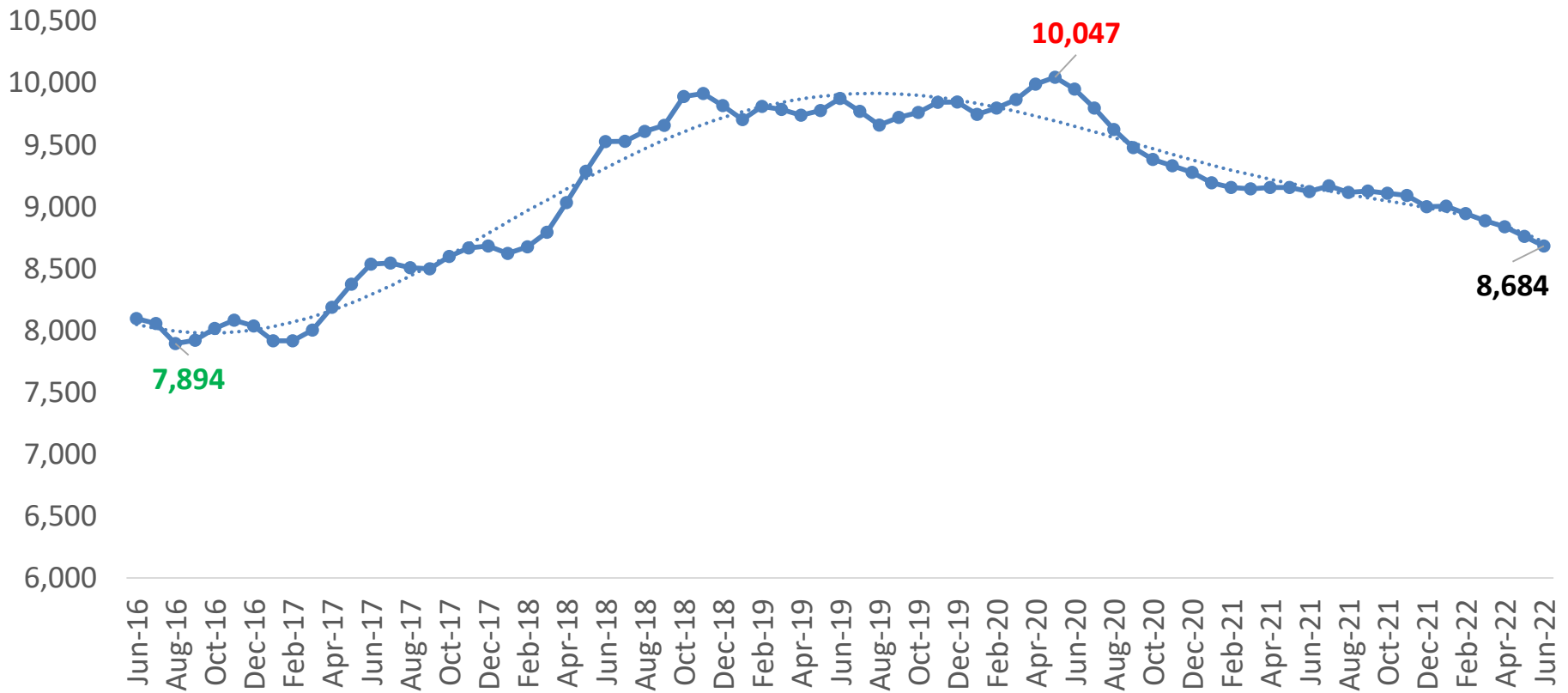


Additional State General Funds for Prevention

- \$3.4 million invested in Family Preservation, START, and KSTEP programs
- \$100,000 invested in launch of Intercept pilot
- \$156,240 invested in MST pilot (Home of the Innocents)
- \$230,218 invested in community response pilot
- \$62,190 invested in Volunteers of America pilot
- \$870,690 invested in primary prevention and fatherhood engagement initiatives
- \$384,796 invested in expansion of Community Collaborations for Children and Parent Engagement Meetings
- \$115,000 invested in support of Thriving Families, creation of birth parent advisory council, and regional visioning sessions
- \$7.4 million invested in support of Qualified Residential Treatment Programs

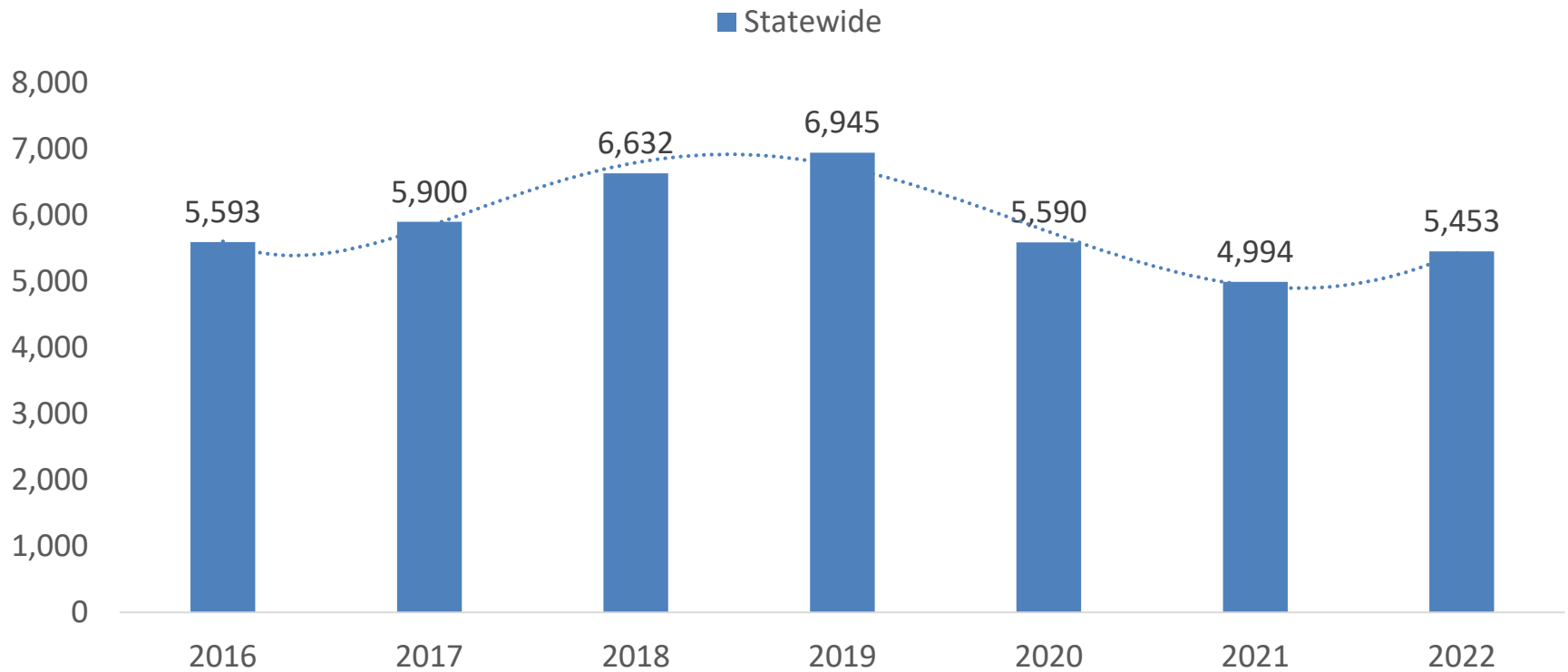
Statewide: Children in the Custody of or Committed to the Cabinet

June 2016 – June 2022



Youth Entering Out of Home Care (OOHC) by SFY:

SFY 2016 – SFY 2022

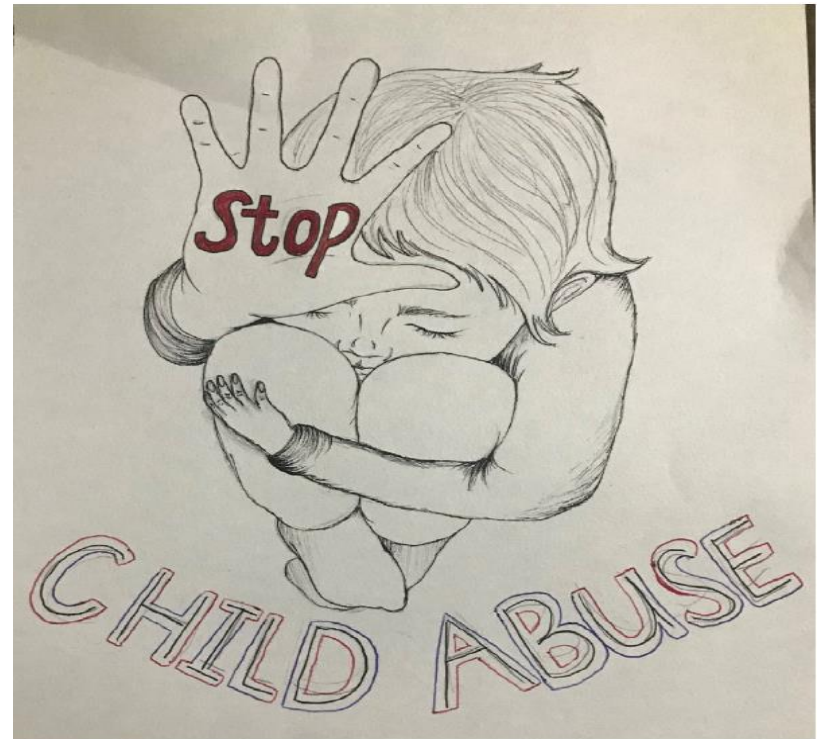


Types of Prevention Efforts

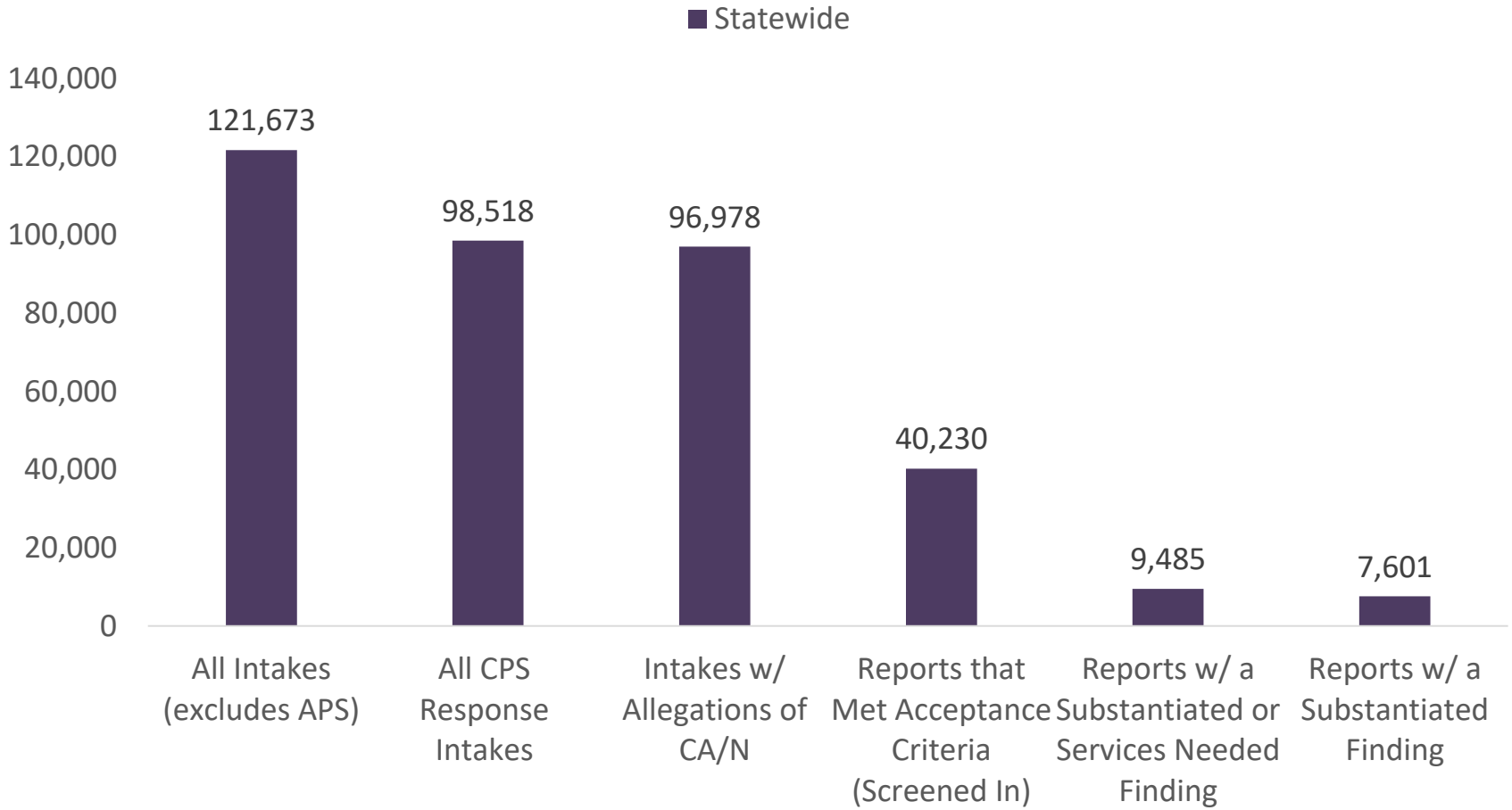
- Primary prevention activities are directed at the general population and attempt to stop maltreatment before it occurs. All members of the community have access to and may benefit from these services. (Examples: access to high quality child care, positive parenting campaigns, parenting books)
- Secondary prevention activities with a high-risk focus are offered to populations that have one or more risk factors associated with child maltreatment. (Examples: HANDS, FRYSCs)
- Tertiary prevention activities focus on families where maltreatment has already occurred and seek to reduce the negative consequences of the maltreatment and to prevent its recurrence. (Examples: Family First programs like FPP, START, and KSTEP)

How do we Prevent Maltreatment BEFORE it Occurs?

- Identify reasons families become involved with child welfare
- Ensure families have access to services when they need them
- Collaborate with community-based providers
- Encourage community members to support families in times of need
- Create community pathways to leverage federal funding for prevention



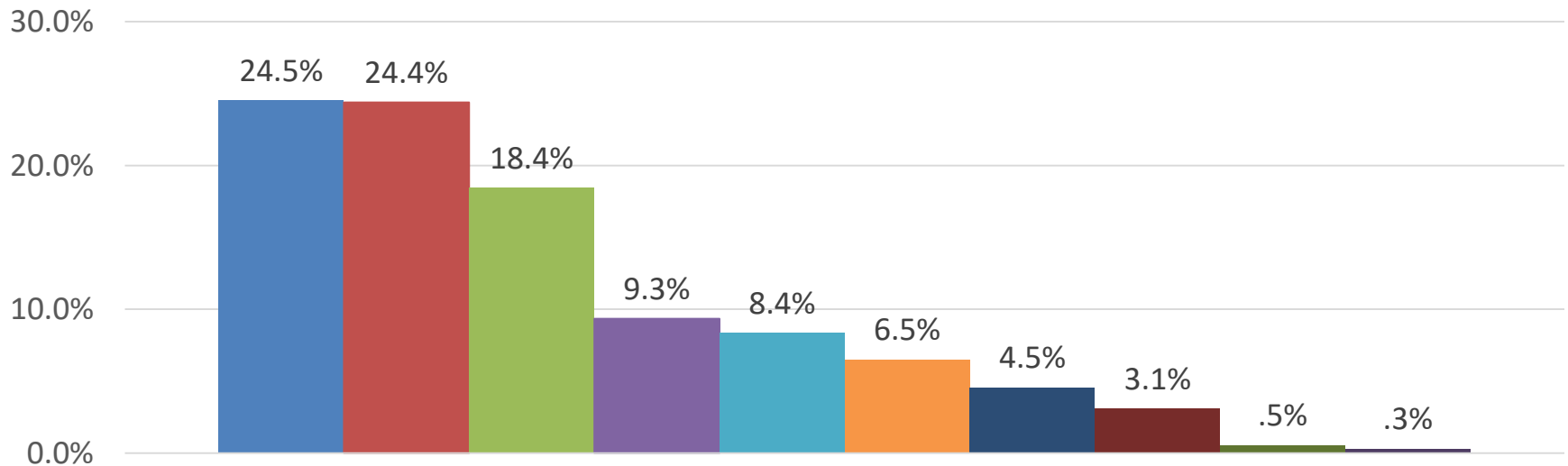
CPS Intakes – SFY 2022



Type of Maltreatment

Children in Reports with a Substantiated or Services Needed Finding and an OOHC Case Disposition
SFY 2016 – SFY 2022*

- risk of harm neglect
- basic neglect
- physical - assault/injury, physical abuse, threat of physical abuse
- environment, environmental neglect
- abandonment/supervision
- sexual abuse, threat of sexual abuse
- risk of harm-substance affected infant, substance affected infant neglect
- medical neglect
- emotional injury, threat of emotional injury
- exploitation, exploitation neglect

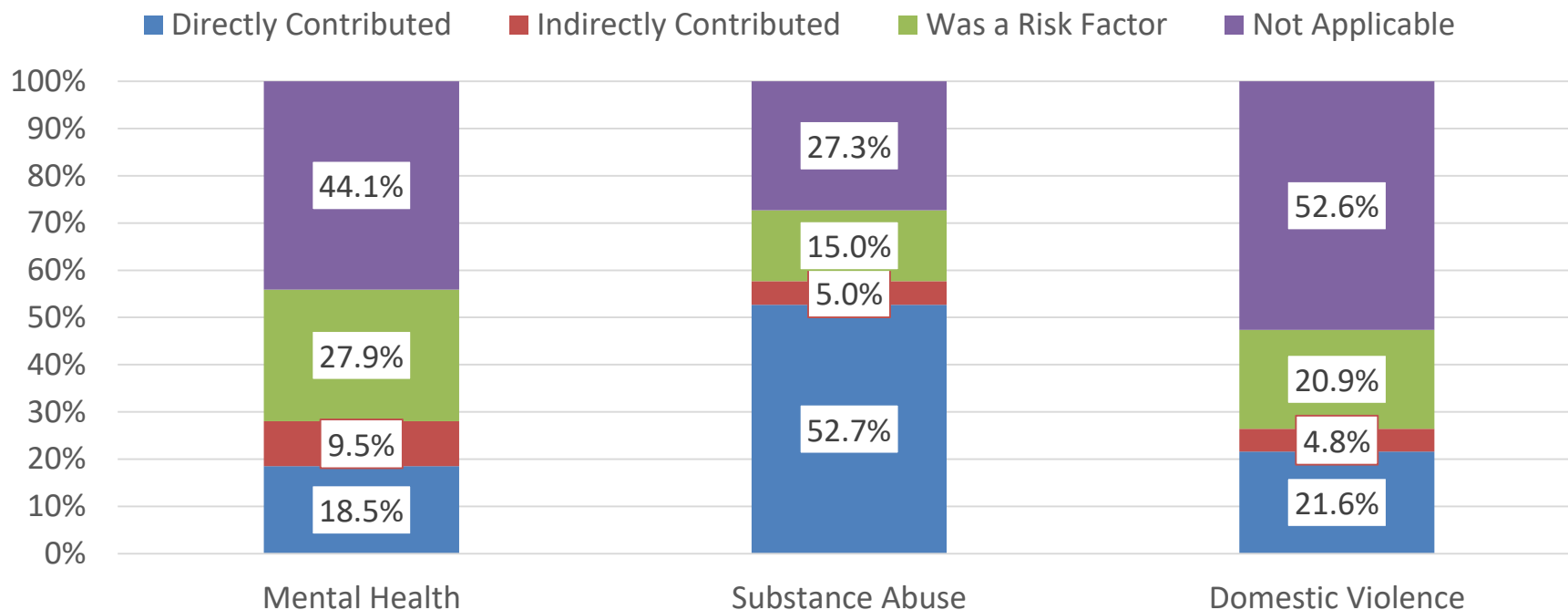


*SFY 2022 is incomplete references July through April

Statewide

Risk Factors

Children in Reports with a Substantiated or Services Needed Finding and an OOHC Case Disposition
SFY 2016 – SFY 2022



HOPE - Community Response Pilot

- Helping Others and Promoting Empowerment
- Reports that do not meet criteria for assessment or services will be referred to a community-based agency to offer supports or resources to the family
- Overall goal is to strengthen families, prevent child abuse and neglect, and reduce future reports to DCBS
- Reduces burden on CPS staff allowing them to focus on the most critical safety issues
- Serving Barren, Clark, Montgomery, and Perry Counties in partnership with Gateway Children's Services and Family Resource Youth Service Centers
- Will be formally evaluated



Other Primary and Secondary Prevention Efforts

- Parent engagement meetings expanded to 14 counties, served 579 families in SFY22
- Increase in-home service provision under Community Collaborations for Children, served 568 families in SFY22
- Lean on Me, Fatherhood Engagement initiatives
- Expansion of definition of candidacy for foster care under Family First to create community pathways to leverage additional Title IV-E funding
- Implementation of alternative response

Future Funding for Prevention

- Title IV-E prevention funding matches Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) rate beginning October 2026, which will reduce general fund percentage
- Expanding definition of candidacy to leverage federal funding for youth/families currently not included
- One time Family First Transition Act funding
- One time Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) supplement
- Other funding sources that support prevention include TANF funds, Title IV-B funds, Child Victims Trust Fund

Thriving Families, Safer Children: A National Commitment to Child Well-Being

- Joint initiative by Children’s Bureau, Casey Family Programs, Annie E. Casey Foundation, and Prevent Child Abuse America
- Kentucky was selected as a Round Two jurisdiction
- No funding, but receive technical assistance, consultation, and peer support
- Equity and sharing power with those with lived experience are key
- Intended to be a movement
- Kentucky’s stated priorities include development of a robust network of community-based prevention supports, creation of formalized structures to serve families “screened out” by the child welfare agency, clearly differentiate poverty and neglect, development of a statewide collaborative primary/secondary prevention plan, and creation of a parent advisory council.

“This important effort will demonstrate how all sectors of a community can work together to reallocate resources into equitable, hope-inspiring services and supports that reduce the need for foster care and improve the well-being of children and families across the nation.”

— William C. Bell, President and CEO of Casey Family Programs

Prevention Collaborative

- Formal prevention collaborative formed and convenes quarterly
- Includes community stakeholders and families with lived experience
- Developed formal primary and secondary prevention plan
- Alignment of prevention efforts across agencies
- Community based, family and youth driven
- Regional visioning sessions held in every DCBS service region



Birth Parent Advisory Council



- Thriving Families team and DCBS partnered with Kentucky Youth Advocates to launch a Birth Parent Advisory Council
- Recruitment and interviews complete with applicants with lived experience
- Opportunity for feedback, co-design, voice in policy making

THE PREDICTIONS WERE NOT TRUE...



“Experts fear child abuse will rise as stressors related to coronavirus pandemic increase”

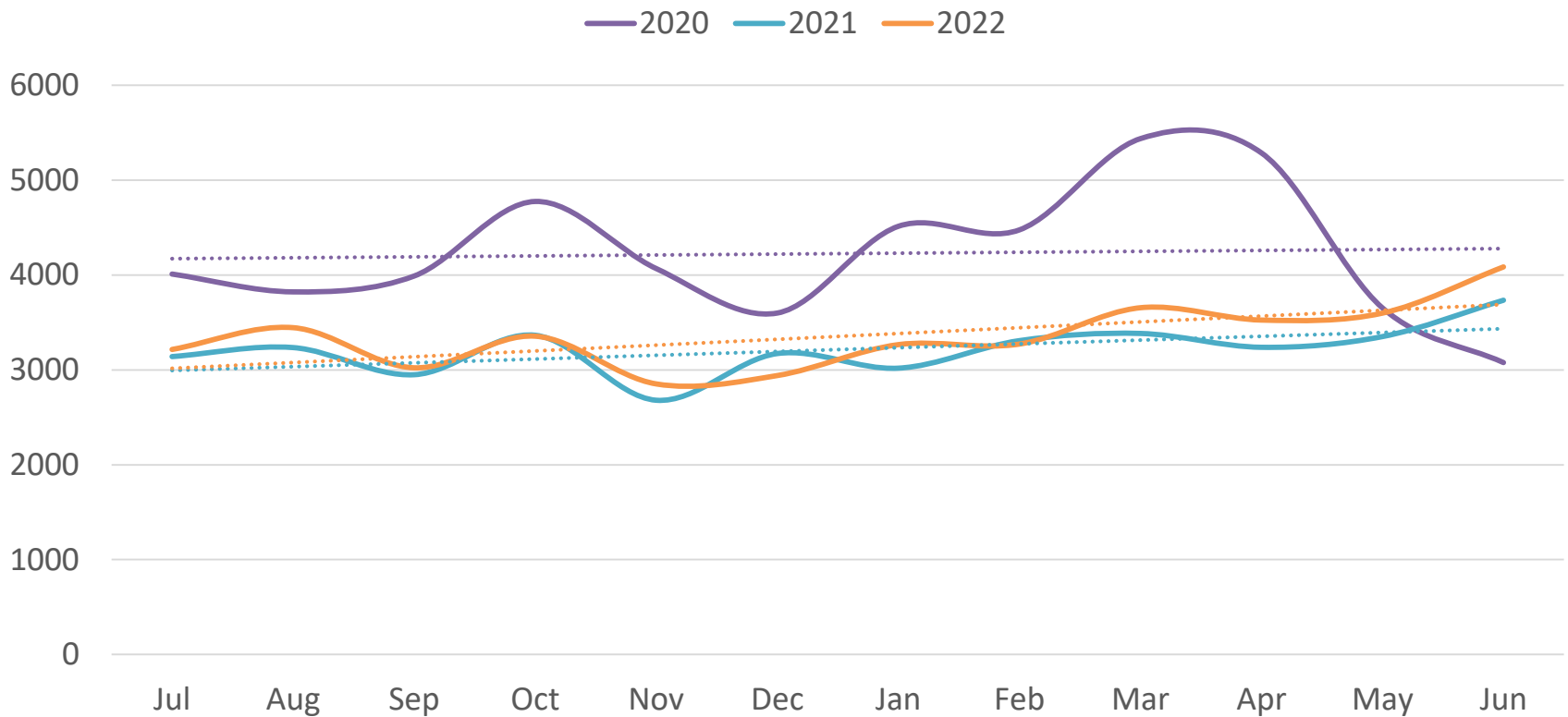
“Children more at risk for abuse and neglect amid coronavirus pandemic, experts say”

“Pandemic has masked child abuse, neglect cases”

“Child Abuse reports expected to rise with school returning”

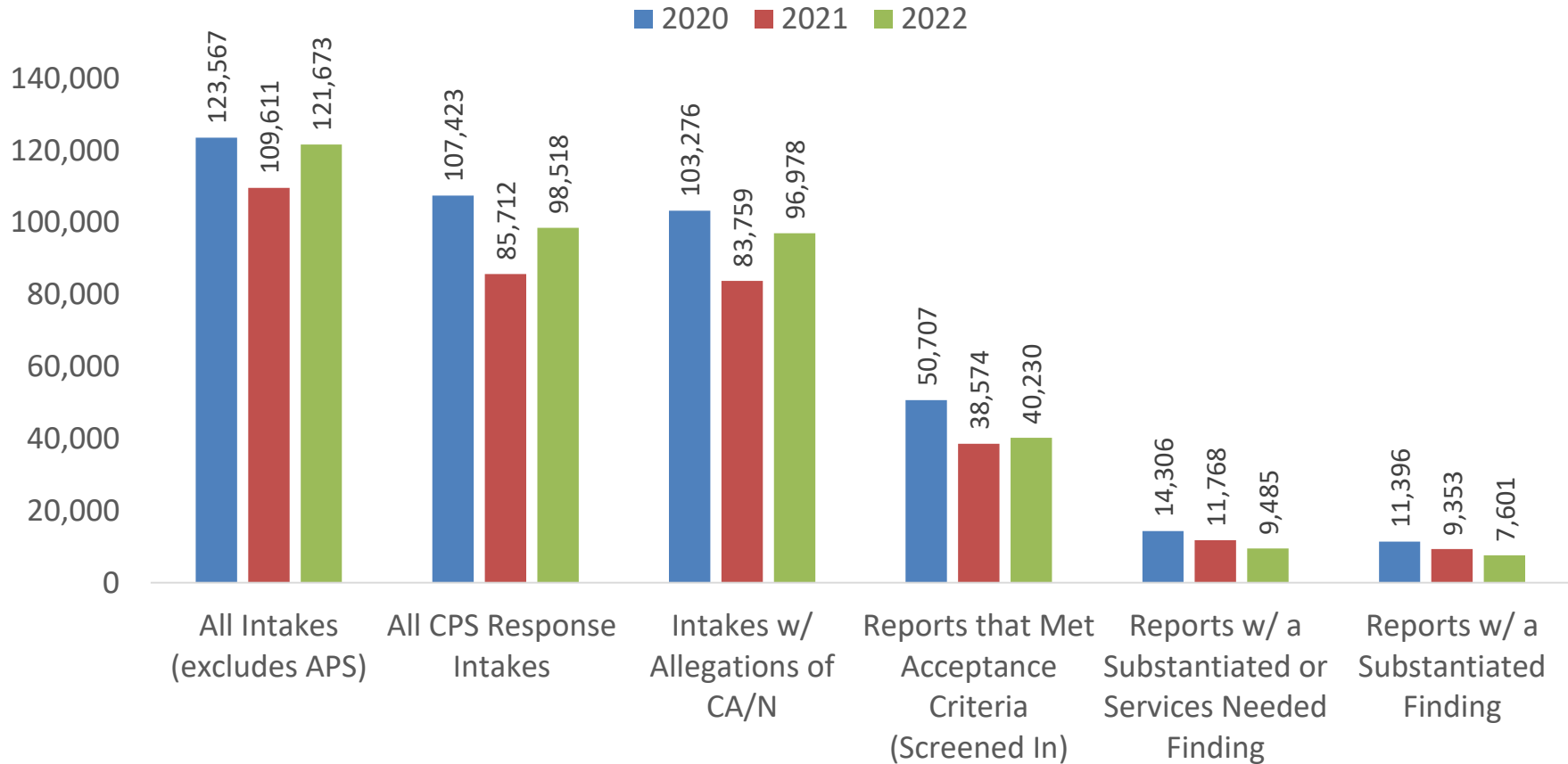
REPORTS THAT MET ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA FOR CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT ASSESSMENT

SFY 2020 – SFY 2022



Child Protective Services (CPS) Intakes

SFY 2020 – SFY 2022



Economic and Concrete Supports

- Study included all 50 states and Washington DC
- Each additional **\$1,000** that states spend annually on public benefit programs per person living in poverty is associated with:
 - 4.3% reduction in child maltreatment reports
 - 4% reduction in substantiated child maltreatment
 - 2.1% reduction in foster care placements
 - 7.7% reduction in child fatalities due to maltreatment
- “Our measured associations suggest that a 13.3% increase in state spending on benefit programs might hypothetically be related to 181,000 fewer reports for suspected maltreatment, 28,500 fewer children being substantiated as victims of maltreatment, 4100 fewer children requiring foster care, and 130 fewer maltreatment-related fatalities.”



Puls, et al. (2021) – State Spending on Public Benefits and Child Maltreatment
<https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/article/148/5/e2021050685/181348/State-Spending-on-Public-Benefit-Programs-and?autologincheck=redirected>

