

Legislative Oversight And Investigations Committee Meeting Request (9/12/24)  
 Cabinet for Health and Family Services  
 Contact: Will Spears, 502-564-8100 (ext. 59923) or Ashley Taylor (ext. 59195)  
 Sent September 20, 2024

At the September 12, 2024 meeting of the Legislative Oversight and Investigations Committee, committee members raised two questions regarding staff's report, "[Child Removal and Reunification](#)," that required additional information. The Department for Community Based Services provided information to address the questions, as indicated by the **Agency Response** sections.

**Question 1:** For reports of alleged child DNA that meet acceptance criteria, Co-Chair Bowling asked whether the department consistently meets the regulatory time requirements for conducting initial in-person interviews with alleged child victims.

- Please see [the YouTube recording from 25:05 to 26:09](#) for the request.
- **Data Request:** Provide the following information for all reported incidents of child DNA that met acceptance criteria annually from January 2021 to December 2023:
  - Number of cases that met 4-hour response criteria (per year)
    - Number of cases where response was greater than 4-hours (per year)
- **Agency Response**

Response Time	CY 2021			CY 2022			CY 2023		
	Total	Timely	Untimely	Total	Timely	Untimely	Total	Timely	Untimely
4 Hours	5081	4726	1075	4993	4121	872	4793	3859	934

Source: TWS147\_148 Initiations Timely

- Number of cases that met 24-hour response criteria (per year)
  - Number of cases where response was greater than 24-hours (per year)
- **Agency Response**

Response Time	CY 2021			CY 2022			CY 2023		
	Total	Timely	Untimely	Total	Timely	Untimely	Total	Timely	Untimely
24 Hours	20839	14564	6275	20154	14098	6056	18439	13363	4986

Source: TWS 147\_148 Initiations Timely

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- Number of cases that met 48-hour response criteria (per year)
  - Number of cases where response was greater than 48-hours (per year)

- **Agency Response**

Response Time	CY 2021			CY 2022			CY 2023		
	Total	Timely	Untimely	Total	Timely	Untimely	Total	Timely	Untimely
48 Hours	9862	7284	2578	12988	9605	3383	16423	12215	4208

Source: TWS 147\_148 Initiations Timely

- Number of cases that met 72-hour response criteria (per year)
  - Number of cases where response was greater than 72-hours (per year)

- **Agency Response**

Response Time	CY 2021			CY 2022			CY 2023		
	Total	Timely	Untimely	Total	Timely	Untimely	Total	Timely	Untimely
72 Hours	4083	3095	988	3986	3114	872	3032	2431	601

Source: TWS 147\_148 Initiations Timely

**Question 2:** Representative Petrie asked whether DCBS tracks the completion rate of case permanency plans (as defined in KRS 620.230) and whether the department could identify potential factors contributing to delays.

- Please see [the YouTube recording from 26:10 to 29:35](#) for the request.
- **Information Request:** Does the department track any data on factors that commonly delay the completion of case permanency plans? If so, please provide the top five factors that most commonly contributed to delays in case permanency plan completion and the frequency with which each occurred annually from January 2021 to December 2023.
- **Agency Response:** The department does not have the ability to provide the data requested from data elements in The Worker’s Information SysTem (TWIST). There is no data element that would generate the top 5 reasons why a case permanency plan was or was not completed timely.
  - The department collects qualitative data relating to delays in permanency goals as part of our statewide assessment for the federal Child and Family Services Plan (CFSP). This data is collected from case reviews, interviews with stakeholders (including AOC and courts), and interviews with staff. The top reasons collected as part of the most recent CFSP (2024) related to delays in permanency goals were court delays, lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, a child turning 18,

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length of time between goal change and TPR, paternity in question and parental challenges with case plan progress. The department does not collect any data elements regarding delays in case plans.