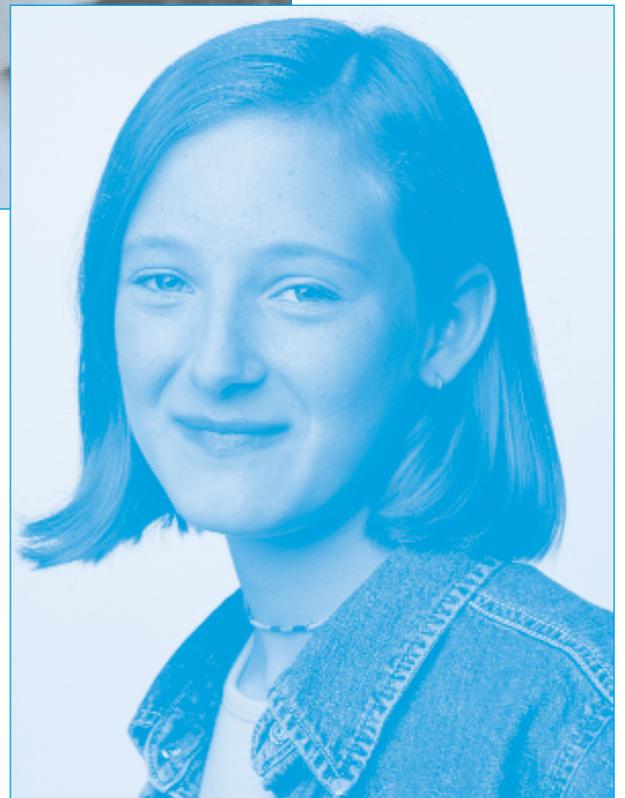
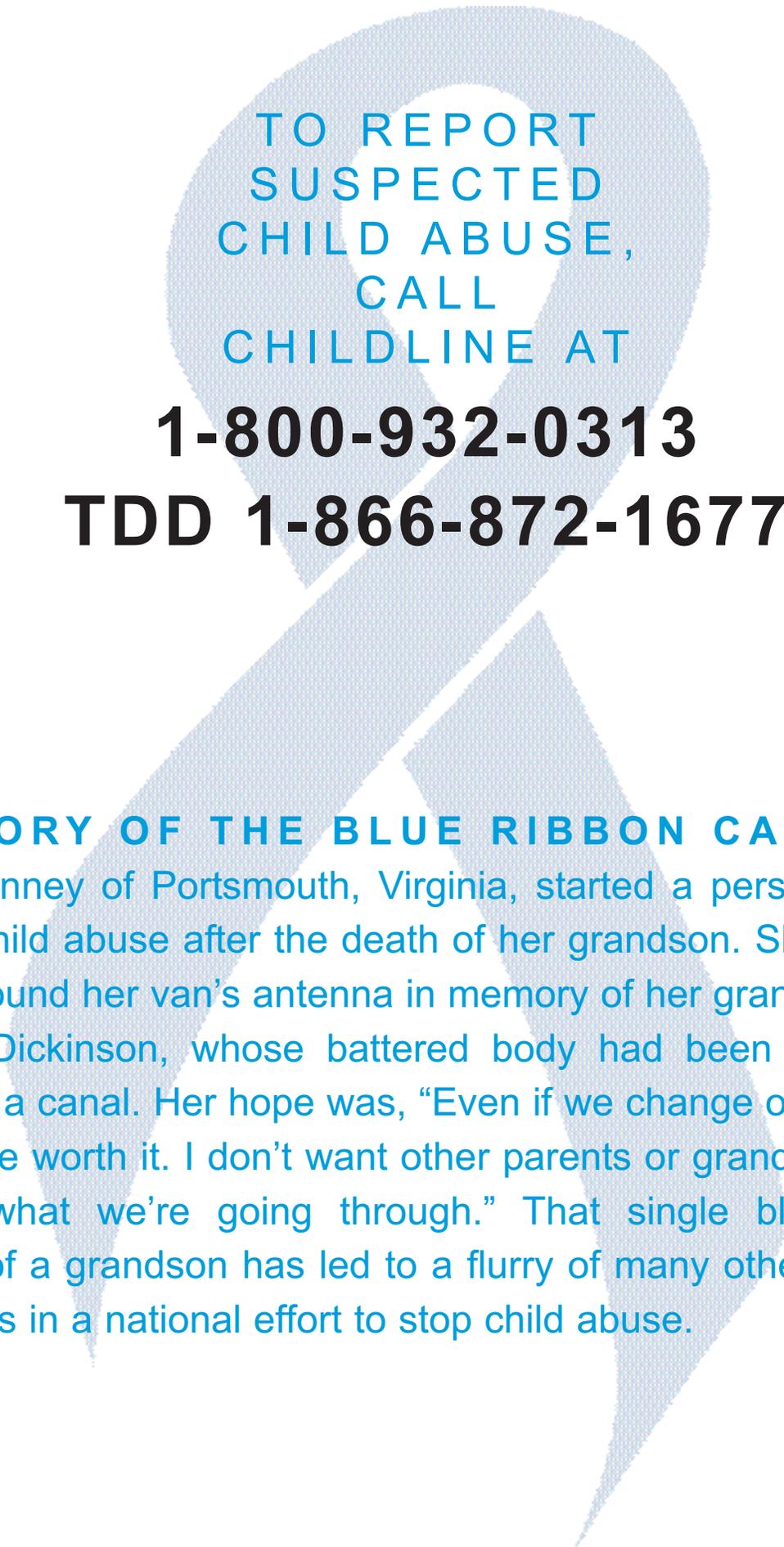


Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare



2005 ANNUAL CHILD ABUSE REPORT



TO REPORT
SUSPECTED
CHILD ABUSE,
CALL
CHILDLINE AT

1-800-932-0313

TDD 1-866-872-1677

HISTORY OF THE BLUE RIBBON CAMPAIGN

Bonnie Finney of Portsmouth, Virginia, started a personal battle to combat child abuse after the death of her grandson. She tied a blue ribbon around her van's antenna in memory of her grandson Michael "Bubba" Dickinson, whose battered body had been found at the bottom of a canal. Her hope was, "Even if we change one child's life, it would be worth it. I don't want other parents or grandparents to go through what we're going through." That single blue ribbon in memory of a grandson has led to a flurry of many other blue ribbon campaigns in a national effort to stop child abuse.

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HARRISBURG

April 2006

Dear Fellow Pennsylvanian:

More than 1 million children are victims of child abuse and neglect each year. Unfortunately, more than 4,000 Pennsylvania children suffer this nightmare each and everyday.

Government has a tremendous responsibility to ensure that all children have a safe and healthy childhood. Pennsylvania not only remains committed to preventing abuse, but we enforce the toughest penalties for crimes committed against children. For example, by passing a law that protects the rights of Pennsylvania children who were abused while visiting other states, we continue to provide a safety net of protection both at home and away from home.

The fact that many people, including teachers and school administrators, hospital personnel, law enforcement officials and concerned citizens assist each day by reporting potential or actual harm done to children, is encouraging. Together, we can give children hope for the future and better prospects for a secure family life.

I urge all Pennsylvanians to continue putting the Commonwealth's children first. By recognizing the signs of child abuse and taking active steps to stop it, we will ensure that all of our children grow up in a safer environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward G. Rendell".

Edward G. Rendell
Governor



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

April 2006

Dear Pennsylvanian:

Protecting the safety of our children is a responsibility we all have. Unfortunately, in communities throughout the Commonwealth, children from all socio-economic circumstances, ethnic and religious groups, are living in fear of when their next attack will happen. These children are helpless and rely on the collective work of concerned adults to open their eyes to the signs of abuse.

County children and youth agencies and mandated reporters are of paramount importance in the prevention of child abuse since they coordinate essential services to protect Pennsylvania's children. Through combined efforts the Department of Public Welfare continues to gain momentum in our fight to stop child abuse by educating professionals and helping them identify children that are living under physical and mental distress.

Fortunately when the lives of children have been disrupted by abuse or neglect, resource families open their homes and their hearts to provide kids with temporary care. We have worked hard over the past year to pass legislation (Acts 68 and 73) that supports these resource families by providing the tools they require to address the needs of the children.

Please share the information in this annual report with your colleagues in an effort to help us spread the word about the significance of protecting our children. The task of preventing child abuse promises to continue to be an arduous one. Working together the cycle of child abuse can be broken. With your help we can continue to provide therapeutic treatment to children and families to assure that children in Pennsylvania have a nurturing environment to call their home.

Sincerely,

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

Estelle B. Richman
Secretary of Public Welfare



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE
P.O. BOX 2675
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17105-2675

Nancy L. Hardy
Deputy Secretary for
Children, Youth and Families

PHONE: (717) 787-4756
FAX: (717) 787-0414

April 2006

Dear Fellow Pennsylvanian:

For more than 30 years Pennsylvania's child protection system has been governed by the Child Protective Services Law. The responsibility for implementing this important law is a partnership between state and local government and a network of private agencies and providers. What a monumental responsibility for our systems and communities!

I want to express my profound appreciation and admiration for those who labor daily to help insure the safety of children and who provide services to families in need. It is only through this combined effort that we can reduce the risks that many of our children and families face each day.

As citizens of this Commonwealth, we all have a role to play in the prevention of child abuse. By continuing to work together we can provide our communities with the tools they need to make a positive difference in the lives of victims of child abuse and neglect. We can provide families with the support they need to raise happy healthy children in safe environments.

Pennsylvania is committed to continue to seek system improvements that recognize the difficulty of the work and the need for better ways to protect at risk children and families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy L. Hardy".

Nancy L. Hardy

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 30th 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 2005 calendar year. In other words, a suspected report of child abuse from December 2005 that was under investigation is not included if the investigation was not completed by December 31, 2005. It will be included in the next annual report.

In 2005 there was a slight decrease in both the number of reports of suspected child abuse and in the number of substantiated reports of child abuse. The substantiation rate decreased by one percent from 20 percent to 19 percent.

Forty children died as a result of abuse in 2005. Although this is consistent with the average seen for the last seven years, all partners in the child welfare system must continue to strive to work collaboratively to prevent 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. Also important in early identification of children who have been abused or neglected or are at risk of being abused or neglected is educating all Pennsylvanians, especially mandated reporters, how to identify and report suspected abuse.



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

Child Abuse and Student Abuse Statistical Summary

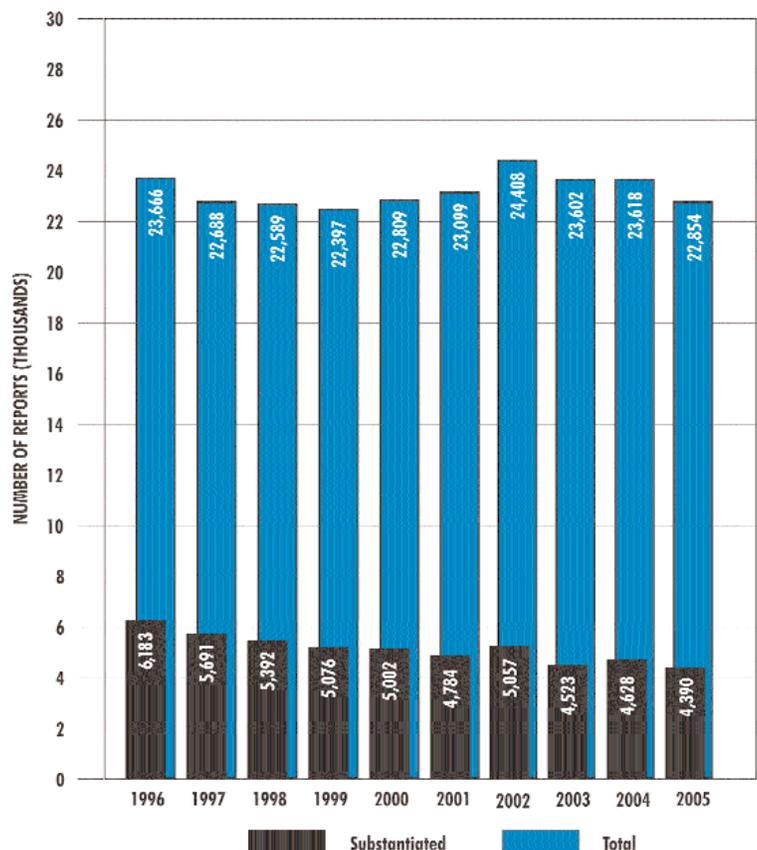
Report Data

- In 2005, 22,854 reports of suspected child and student abuse were received, a decrease of 764 reports from 2004 (refer to Chart 1 for a multi-year comparison).
- Included in the reports above were 55 reports of suspected student abuse, an increase of 32 reports from 2004 (refer to Reporting and Investigating Student Abuse on page 32 for a discussion of student abuse).
- In 2005, 4,390 reports of suspected child and student abuse were substantiated, 238 fewer than in 2004.
- The percentage of total reports of child abuse that were substantiated in 2005 was 19 percent, one percent less than in 2004.
- Sexual abuse was involved in 60 percent of all substantiated reports, up two percent from 2004.
- Of Pennsylvania's 67 counties, 27 received more reports in 2005 than in 2004.
- Law enforcement officials received 8,419 (37 percent) reports for possible criminal investigation and prosecution, the same percent as in 2004. 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, 93 substantiated reports were changed from indicated to founded, including 56 due to criminal conviction of perpetrators. This represents two percent of the total substantiated reports.

Victim Data

- Of the 4,390 substantiated reports of abuse, 4,208 children (unduplicated count) were listed as abuse victims (some children were involved in more than one incident of abuse).
- The 28 reports of substantiated student abuse involved 24 females and four males.
- All 28 of the substantiated student abuse reports were sexual abuse.
- 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 (46 percent). The second highest living arrangement was children living with two parents (32 percent).
- In 2005, 40 children died from abuse – four fewer than in 2004.

Chart 1
CHILD ABUSE REPORTS FROM 1996-2005

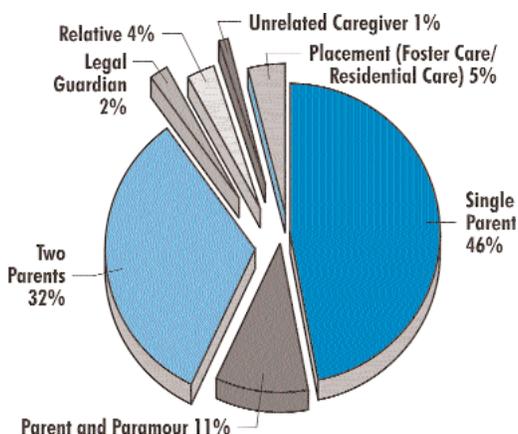


- In 2005, 471 (11 percent) substantiated reports involved children who had been abused before.
- In 2005, 2,849 (65 percent) substantiated reports involved girls, while 1,541 (35 percent) substantiated reports of abuse involved boys.
- In 2005, 2,041 (78 percent) sexually abused children were girls, while 585 (22 percent) sexually abused children were boys.
- Of the 404 reports in which children reported themselves as victims, 145 (36 percent) were substantiated.
- In 2005, 8,694 children were moved from the setting where the alleged or actual abuse occurred, a decrease of four percent from 2004.

Perpetrator Data

- There were 4,143 perpetrators (unduplicated count) in 4,390 substantiated reports.
- 915 (22 percent) of the perpetrators had been a perpetrator in at least one prior substantiated report.
- 3,228 (78 percent) of the perpetrators were reported for the first time.
- In the 4,390 substantiated reports, 59 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), 2005



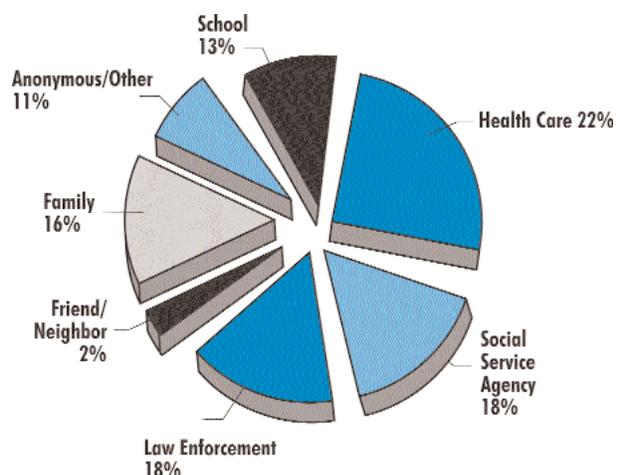
Child Care Setting Data

- A total of 217 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 2,148 reports (a decrease of 189 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 428,919 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 three percent increase from 2004.
- Of the persons requesting clearance for employment, foster care or adoption, 1,404 (less than one percent) were on file at ChildLine as perpetrators of child abuse.

Chart 3 - SOURCE OF SUBSTANTIATED ABUSE REFERRALS, (Substantiated Reports), 2005 (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 are required to report when they have reasonable cause to suspect that a child coming before them in their professional capacity is an abused child. 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, 2004–2005 – Table 1

The data contained in this report is based on completed investigations received at ChildLine during the 2005 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 2004 are included in this report because ChildLine received their investigation findings during the 2005 calendar year.

In 2005, 22,854 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 three percent decrease in the total number of reports received from 2004.
- Investigations found 19 percent of the reports to be substantiated and 81 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 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, 2004–2005**

COUNTY	TOTAL REPORTS		SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS				2005 POPULATION ⁴		TOTAL REPORTS PER 1,000 CHILDREN		SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS PER 1,000 CHILDREN	
	2004	2005	2004	%	2005	%	TOTAL	UNDER 18	2004	2005	2004	2005
Adams	162	136	47	29.0	33	24.3	98,322	23,328	7.1	5.8	2.1	1.4
Allegheny	1,554	1,434	266	17.1	188	13.1	1,250,867	270,810	5.7	5.3	1.0	0.7
Armstrong	142	120	45	31.7	32	26.7	71,395	15,718	9.0	7.6	2.9	2.0
Beaver	165	166	34	20.6	34	20.5	178,601	39,255	4.2	4.2	0.9	0.9
Bedford	67	64	9	13.4	7	10.9	50,230	11,490	5.9	5.6	0.8	0.6
Berks	900	749	145	16.1	137	18.3	391,640	94,241	9.7	7.9	1.6	1.5
Blair	320	301	68	21.3	52	17.3	127,468	28,003	11.5	10.7	2.4	1.9
Bradford	180	183	37	20.6	58	31.7	62,569	15,206	11.8	12.0	2.4	3.8
Bucks	813	838	78	9.6	72	8.6	617,558	152,374	5.4	5.5	0.5	0.5
Butler	257	216	39	15.2	45	20.8	180,663	42,984	6.0	5.0	0.9	1.0
Cambria	183	212	17	9.3	28	13.2	148,496	30,116	6.0	7.0	0.6	0.9
Cameron	13	19	2	15.4	2	10.5	5,652	1,315	9.7	14.4	1.5	1.5
Carbon	118	101	28	23.7	24	23.8	61,194	12,992	9.2	7.8	2.2	1.8
Centre	230	210	40	17.4	36	17.1	140,476	24,269	9.4	8.7	1.6	1.5
Chester	760	816	87	11.4	82	10.0	465,795	117,651	6.6	6.9	0.8	0.7
Clarion	77	76	18	23.4	32	42.1	41,123	8,537	9.0	8.9	2.1	3.7
Clearfield	101	134	29	28.7	38	28.4	82,913	17,879	5.7	7.5	1.6	2.1
Clinton	36	58	6	16.7	19	32.8	37,486	7,817	4.6	7.4	0.8	2.4
Columbia	131	112	23	17.6	17	15.2	65,015	12,875	10.2	8.7	1.8	1.3
Crawford	278	264	43	15.5	46	17.4	89,890	21,388	13.0	12.3	2.0	2.2
Cumberland	261	301	63	24.1	77	25.6	221,397	47,160	5.6	6.4	1.3	1.6
Dauphin	556	535	108	19.4	89	16.6	253,282	60,899	9.1	8.8	1.8	1.5
Delaware	981	924	128	13.0	103	11.1	555,040	135,351	7.3	6.8	0.9	0.8
Elk	32	38	10	31.3	11	28.9	34,064	7,880	4.0	4.8	1.3	1.4
Erie	590	623	111	18.8	129	20.7	282,355	68,624	8.7	9.1	1.6	1.9
Fayette	340	382	70	20.6	89	23.3	145,651	32,096	10.6	11.9	2.2	2.8
Forest	13	10	3	23.1	5	50.0	4,994	1,127	11.5	8.9	2.7	4.4
Franklin	213	154	46	21.6	32	20.8	134,864	31,565	6.8	4.9	1.5	1.0
Fulton	37	33	4	10.8	6	18.2	14,641	3,488	10.7	9.5	1.2	1.7
Greene	102	101	19	18.6	15	14.9	40,133	8,541	11.9	11.8	2.2	1.8
Huntingdon	65	42	20	30.8	11	26.2	45,995	9,665	6.7	4.3	2.1	1.1
Indiana	187	170	50	26.7	30	17.6	89,062	17,622	10.6	9.6	2.8	1.7
Jefferson	78	106	11	14.1	32	30.2	45,952	10,479	7.4	10.1	1.0	3.1
Juniata	39	51	5	12.8	15	29.4	23,391	5,639	7.0	9.0	0.9	2.7
Lackawanna	344	377	50	14.5	72	19.1	209,932	44,482	7.7	8.5	1.1	1.6
Lancaster	644	614	140	21.7	117	19.1	487,332	127,441	5.1	4.8	1.1	0.9
Lawrence	138	148	36	26.1	30	20.3	93,374	21,039	6.6	7.0	1.7	1.4
Lebanon	166	202	36	21.7	50	24.8	124,489	28,647	5.9	7.1	1.3	1.7
Lehigh	987	871	186	18.8	156	17.9	326,050	76,698	13.1	11.4	2.5	2.0
Luzerne	457	475	97	21.2	101	21.3	313,431	64,018	7.1	7.4	1.5	1.6
Lycoming	182	206	43	23.6	53	25.7	118,542	26,789	6.8	7.7	1.6	2.0
McKean	207	207	46	22.2	39	18.8	44,708	10,214	20.0	20.3	4.5	3.8
Mercer	187	178	32	17.1	44	24.7	119,797	27,137	6.9	6.6	1.2	1.6
Mifflin	67	71	19	28.4	13	18.3	46,210	11,133	6.0	6.4	1.7	1.2
Monroe	310	281	58	18.7	51	18.1	158,925	40,320	7.9	7.0	1.5	1.3
Montgomery	744	743	119	16.0	88	11.8	774,029	183,360	4.1	4.1	0.7	0.5
Montour	58	58	10	17.2	10	17.2	18,069	4,293	13.5	13.5	2.3	2.3
Northampton	734	612	96	13.1	106	17.3	282,554	63,530	11.7	9.6	1.5	1.7
Northumberland	216	183	48	22.1	25	13.7	92,879	19,561	11.0	9.4	2.4	1.3
Perry	129	94	21	16.3	26	27.7	44,652	10,963	11.9	8.6	1.9	2.4
Philadelphia	5,117	4,772	1,304	25.5	1,168	24.5	1,470,151	370,831	13.7	12.9	3.5	3.1
Pike	99	101	17	17.2	13	12.9	54,117	13,412	7.7	7.5	1.3	1.0
Potter	57	63	13	22.8	21	33.3	17,950	4,509	12.5	14.0	2.9	4.7
Schuylkill	286	315	75	26.2	71	22.5	147,670	29,614	9.6	10.6	2.5	2.4
Snyder	53	44	17	32.1	16	36.4	38,112	8,815	6.0	5.0	1.9	1.8
Somerset	118	117	41	34.7	32	27.4	79,515	17,064	6.9	6.9	2.4	1.9
Sullivan	8	9	2	25.0	3	33.3	6,413	1,288	6.2	7.0	1.5	2.3
Susquehanna	77	90	27	35.1	43	47.8	42,047	10,111	7.7	8.9	2.7	4.3
Tioga	80	93	20	25.0	29	31.2	41,849	9,428	8.5	9.9	2.1	3.1
Union	57	45	18	31.6	20	44.4	42,720	8,162	7.0	5.5	2.2	2.5
Venango	178	190	43	24.2	54	28.4	56,285	13,151	13.5	14.4	3.3	4.1
Warren	108	103	19	17.6	27	26.2	42,576	9,842	10.9	10.5	1.9	2.7
Washington	365	348	67	18.4	57	16.4	205,738	44,331	8.3	7.9	1.5	1.3
Wayne	83	79	28	33.7	30	38.0	49,561	11,328	7.4	7.0	2.5	2.6
Westmoreland	514	499	68	13.2	66	13.2	368,660	78,393	6.6	6.4	0.9	0.8
Wyoming	92	83	20	21.7	7	8.4	28,168	6,784	13.6	12.2	2.9	1.0
York	775	904	103	13.3	126	13.9	401,613	95,842	8.2	9.4	1.1	1.3
TOTAL	23,618	22,854	4,628	19.6	4,390	19.2	12,406,292	2,880,914	8.2	7.9	1.6	1.5

⁴ 2004 Annual Estimates from the US Census Bureau.

- Eight out of every 1,000 children living in Pennsylvania were reported as victims of suspected abuse in 2005.
- Two out of every 1,000 children living in Pennsylvania were found to be victims of child abuse in 2005.
- For 2005, the substantiation rate (the percentage of suspected reports that were confirmed as abuse) of 19 percent is one percent less than in 2004. The rate in 38 counties was at or above this average. Twenty-nine counties were below this average.
- While 65 percent of the substantiated victims were girls, 35 percent were boys. The higher number of substantiated reports involving girls is partially explained by the fact that 78 percent of sexual abuse reports (the most prevalent type of abuse) involved girls and 22 percent involved boys. This has been a consistent trend in Pennsylvania.

REPORTS PENDING CRIMINAL COURT (PCC) OR PENDING JUVENILE COURT (PJC), 2004–2005

	2004	2005
Pending Reports from Prior Years	215	161
Pending Reports Added	80	97
Total Pending Reports	295	258
Changed to Unfounded	69	38
Changed to Indicated	22	6
Changed to Founded	43	60
Reports Still Pending	161	154

Pending criminal court (PCC) or pending juvenile court (PJC) is the status assigned to a report when the county agency is unable to complete the investigation within 30 days and criminal or juvenile court action has been initiated. The county agency is responsible for submitting a new investigative report to ChildLine when a final status determination of unfounded, indicated or founded is made. In 2005, 104 final status determinations were received on reports that were pending from prior years. Thirty-eight were changed to unfounded, six were changed to indicated and 60 were changed to founded. Pending criminal and pending juvenile reports are not included in the totals of substantiated reports in other tables in this report.

Referral Source by Status Determination and Children Moved⁵ from the Alleged or Actual Abusive Setting, 2005 – 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, 2005

REFERRAL SOURCE	TOTAL	SUBSTANTIATED	PERCENT	CHILDREN MOVED
SCHOOL	5,457	557	10.2	1,009
OTHER PUBLIC/PRIVATE SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCY	2,865	539	18.8	1,552
HOSPITAL	2,601	740	28.5	1,209
PARENT/GUARDIAN	1,991	404	20.3	939
LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY	1,677	782	46.6	904
RESIDENTIAL FACILITY	1,404	95	6.8	779
OTHER	1,332	409	30.7	556
ANONYMOUS	1,090	54	5.0	169
PUBLIC MH/MR AGENCY	925	144	15.6	293
RELATIVE	868	113	13.0	308
FRIEND/NEIGHBOR	615	76	12.4	141
PRIVATE PSYCHIATRIST	496	96	19.4	214
PRIVATE DOCTOR/NURSE	460	121	26.3	194
CHILD - SELF REFERRAL	404	145	35.9	230
DAY CARE STAFF	342	25	7.3	59
SIBLING	84	22	26.2	35
COURTS	65	16	24.6	35
CLERGY	42	15	35.7	16
BABYSITTER	36	5	13.9	15
PERPETRATOR	35	15	42.9	19
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT	27	4	14.8	5
DENTIST	18	4	22.2	3
CORONER	11	7	63.6	4
LANDLORD	9	2	22.2	6
TOTAL	22,854	4,390	19.2	8,694

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 coming before them in their official capacity has been abused. 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 2005, mandated reporters referred 16,390 reports of suspected abuse. This was 72 percent of all suspected abuse reports.
- Mandated reporters made up 72 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 have come from hospitals and law enforcement 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, 1996-2005

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Private doctor/nurse	593	663	600	589	658	568	618	574	626	460
Dentist	13	19	16	21	13	21	24	11	18	18
Private psychiatrist	462	511	504	475	442	403	478	432	462	496
Public health department	45	42	59	43	46	49	31	37	23	27
Hospital	3,042	2,700	2,830	2,778	2,657	2,735	2,893	2,676	2,624	2,601
Law enforcement agency	1,629	1,643	1,698	1,633	1,618	1,657	1,757	1,525	1,806	1,677
School	5,457	5,403	5,169	5,067	5,248	5,492	5,599	5,716	5,797	5,457
Day care staff	379	356	381	429	461	425	447	380	376	342
Clergy	29	47	39	39	31	35	34	29	36	42
Residential facility	580	502	608	840	1,172	1,445	1,553	1,583	1,318	1,404
Coroner	8	4	11	1	4	5	11	9	10	11
Courts	76	72	60	91	84	87	72	54	58	65
Public MH/MR agency	728	685	757	815	766	695	800	753	842	925
Other public/private social service agency	2,973	2,870	2,874	3,011	3,302	3,289	3,479	3,636	3,195	2,865
Total number of reports for mandated reporters	16,014	15,517	15,606	15,832	16,502	16,906	17,796	17,415	17,191	16,390
	68.0%	68.4%	69.1%	70.7%	72.4%	73.2%	72.9%	73.8%	72.8%	71.7%
Total number of reports for non-mandated reporters	7,573	7,171	6,893	6,565	6,307	6,191	6,612	6,187	6,427	6,464
	32.0%	31.6%	30.9%	29.3%	27.7%	26.8%	27.1%	26.2%	27.2%	28.3%
Total mandated substantiated reports	4,390	4,049	3,903	3,633	3,618	3,502	3,738	3,259	3,385	3,145
Percent of substantiated	71.0%	71.1%	72.4%	71.6%	72.3%	73.2%	73.9%	72.1%	73.1%	71.6%
Total non-mandated substantiated reports	1,793	1,642	1,489	1,443	1,384	1,282	1,319	1,264	1,243	1,245
Percent of substantiated	29.0%	28.9%	27.6%	28.4%	27.7%	26.8%	26.1%	27.9%	26.9%	28.4%

Extent of Child Abuse and Student Abuse

Injuries by Age (Substantiated Reports), 2005 – 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, 7,089 (see Table 3), exceeds the number of substantiated reports, 4,390 (see Table 1).

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

Table 3 – INJURIES, BY AGE GROUP (Substantiated Reports), 2005

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	64	9	41	12	1	1	0
Fractures	146	77	38	6	10	15	0
Skull Fracture	30	29	1	0	0	0	0
Subdural Hematoma	41	27	11	1	0	2	0
Bruises	711	46	143	242	180	100	0
Welts/Ecchymosis	205	6	29	68	79	23	0
Lacerations/Abrasions	246	6	40	65	78	57	0
Punctures/Bites	32	1	5	5	8	13	0
Brain Damage	15	10	4	1	0	0	0
Poisoning	7	4	0	2	1	0	0
Asphyxiation/Suffocation	25	5	9	2	6	3	0
Internal Injuries/Hemorrhage	51	21	13	2	10	5	0
Dismemberment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sprains/Dislocations	13	2	1	2	4	4	0
Drugs/Alcohol	56	1	5	3	20	27	0
Drowning	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
Other Physical Injury	261	22	39	64	84	52	0
TOTAL PHYSICAL INJURIES	1,905	266	381	475	481	302	0
TOTAL MENTAL INJURIES	60	0	2	16	28	14	0
Rape	514	1	23	112	224	142	12
Incest	297	0	24	84	124	59	6
Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse	661	1	54	192	262	137	15
Statutory Sexual Assault	304	1	15	81	121	80	6
Sexual Assault ⁶	2,690	3	248	723	1,056	595	65
Prostitution	25	0	0	0	15	10	0
Sexually Explicit Conduct for Visual Depiction	138	0	1	30	66	36	5
TOTAL SEXUAL INJURIES	4,629	6	365	1,222	1,868	1,059	109
Lack of Supervision	106	19	62	21	3	1	0
Medical Neglect	82	14	23	26	14	5	0
Failure to Thrive	34	20	14	0	0	0	0
Malnutrition	9	4	3	0	2	0	0
Other Physical Neglect	3	1	0	1	1	0	0
TOTAL NEGLECT INJURIES	234	58	102	48	20	6	0
Imminent Risk of Physical Injury	147	22	69	34	12	9	1
Imminent Risk of Sexual Abuse or Exploitation	114	8	22	39	32	13	0
TOTAL IMMINENT RISK INJURIES	261	30	91	73	44	22	1
TOTAL SUBSTANTIATED INJURIES	7,089	360	941	1,834	2,441	1,403	110

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 27 percent of total injuries.
 - ❖ Bruises were 37 percent of physical injuries.
- Mental injuries were one percent of total injuries.
- Sexual injuries were 65 percent of total injuries.
 - ❖ Sexual assault comprised 58 percent of sexual injuries.

Table 4 – FATALITIES BY AGE GROUP (Substantiated Reports), 2004–2005

AGE GROUP	TOTAL SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS		CHILD DIED	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
Under age 1	230	231	19	9
Age 1–4	670	651	15	21
Age 5–9	1,125	1,164	4	4
Age 10–14	1,631	1,472	4	6
Age 15–17	913	812	2	0
Age >17	59	60	0	0
State Total	4,628	4,390	44	40

- Physical neglect injuries were three percent of the total injuries.
 - ❖ Lack of Supervision comprised 45 percent of physical neglect injuries.
- Imminent risk was four percent of total injuries.
 - ❖ Imminent risk of physical injury comprised 56 percent of imminent risk injuries.

Fatalities (Substantiated Reports), 2005 – Tables 4, 4A, 4B, 4C, Chart 4

Forty children died as the result of abuse or neglect in 2005, four fewer than reported in 2004. 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.

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Original report for each year	47	49	36	44	40
Modified total at the end of current year	47	49	37	45	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), 2005

PERPETRATOR RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD	<25	25-30	30+	TOTAL
Aunt	0	0	1	1
Babysitter	1	1	2	4
Cousin	1	0	0	1
Father	3	2	9	14
Household Member	0	1	0	1
Mother	9	9	4	22
Paramour of Parent	3	0	1	4
Stepfather	1	1	0	2
Stepmother	0	1	0	1
Total	18	15	17	50

Table 4B – FATALITIES BY PERPETRATOR AGE AND SEX, (Substantiated Reports), 2005

AGE GROUP	FEMALE	PERCENT OF TOTAL	MALE	PERCENT OF TOTAL
Under 25	11	22	7	14
25–30	12	24	3	6
30+	8	16	9	18
Total	31	62	19	38

- For 2003, one report changed from pending to founded in 2005.
- For 2004, one report changed from pending to founded in 2005. Two reports that were pending were changed to unfounded in 2005.
- For 2005, two reports are currently pending.

Included in the total deaths for 2005 are eight children who died in 2004 and one child who died in 2001, However, the incidents were not reported until 2005.

The highest incidence of abuse or neglect causing death occurred in children under age five (75 percent of total deaths).

Twelve deaths (30 percent) were attributed to “major trauma” (involving severe injuries such as subdural hematoma, internal injuries, and skull fractures).

Fatalities by Manner of Death

- Twelve children died as a result of major trauma due to inflicted injuries.

Chart 4 – RELATIONSHIP OF PERPETRATOR TO CHILD (When the child died due to abuse), 2005

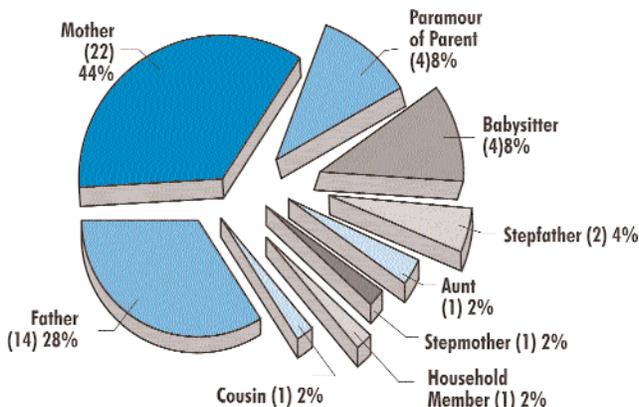


Table 4C – FATALITIES DUE TO ABUSE BY COUNTY (Substantiated Reports), 2005

COUNTY	DEATHS	COUNTY	DEATHS
Berks	2	Northampton	1
Blair	1	Northumberland	1
Cambria	1	Philadelphia	17
Delaware	3	Schuylkill	2
Franklin	1	Tioga	1
Lackawanna	3	Warren	2
Lehigh	1	Washington	1
Lycoming	1	York	1
McKean	1	Total	40

- Thirteen children died as a result of serious physical neglect. Ten of these deaths were attributed to a lack of supervision.
- Nine children died as a result of asphyxiation/suffocation.
- Three children died as a result of inflicted gunshot wounds.
- Two children died of burns and smoke inhalation.
- One child died from poisoning.

Child Fatalities and the Relationship of the Perpetrator to the Child

- In 2005, parents were the most frequent perpetrators of child abuse deaths. Mothers account for 44 percent of all perpetrators in child deaths due to abuse while fathers account for 28 percent.
- 62 percent of the perpetrators of child fatalities were female and 38 percent were male.
- Perpetrators of child deaths ranged in age from 16 to 54 years of age. Thirty-six percent of the perpetrators of child deaths were less than 25 years of age.

Previous Involvement

- Of the 40 substantiated child death reports, one of the children had been a previous victim of substantiated abuse. There were four prior substantiated child abuse reports on other subjects of the reports:

- ❖ Three prior substantiated child abuse reports involved siblings of the victims.
 - One of these child abuse reports involved the same perpetrator.
 - Two child abuse reports involved a different perpetrator.
- ❖ One prior substantiated child abuse report involved a parent perpetrator who was listed as a victim of abuse in those reports.
- Twenty-one 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 CPS and GPS involvement.
- Seventeen families with a substantiated child death report had no prior involvement with the county agency.

Relationship of Perpetrator to Child by Age of the Perpetrator (Substantiated Reports), 2005 – Table 5

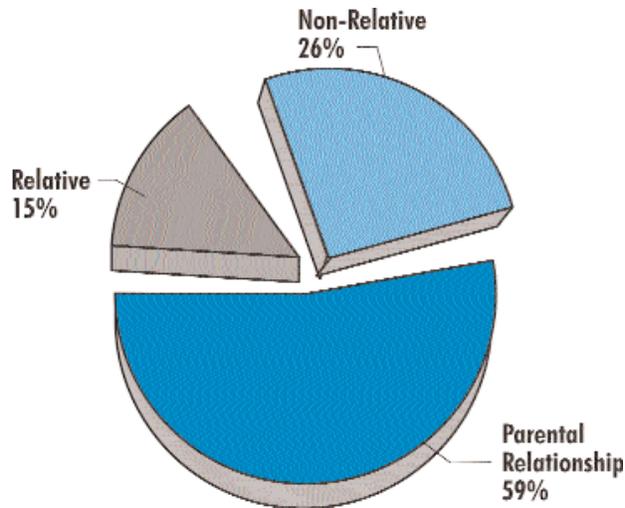
In some reports, more than one perpetrator is involved in an incident of abuse (see Table 5). Therefore, the number of perpetrators (4,930) exceeds the number of substantiated reports (4,390) [see Table 1].

- Twenty-one percent of perpetrators were mothers.
 - ❖ Forty percent of abusive mothers were 20–29 years of age.
- Twenty-two percent of perpetrators were fathers.
 - ❖ Forty percent of abusive fathers were 30–39 years of age.
- Thirteen percent of perpetrators were babysitters.
 - ❖ Twenty-two percent of abusive babysitters were 30–39 years of age.
- A majority (59 percent) of abusers had a parental relationship to the victim child (see Chart 5 on the following page).

Table 5 – RELATIONSHIP OF PERPETRATOR TO CHILD BY AGE OF THE PERPETRATOR (Substantiated Reports), 2005

RELATIONSHIP	TOTAL PERPS	AGE					
		UNKNOWN	10–19	20–29	30–39	40–49	50+
Father	1,062	13	17	241	428	269	94
Mother	1,022	7	55	413	392	136	19
Babysitter	637	26	127	141	129	98	116
Paramour Of Parent	503	24	22	145	187	99	26
Household Member	427	20	118	121	72	57	39
Sibling	303	0	237	62	4	0	0
Stepfather	288	5	1	28	135	95	24
Uncle	171	12	23	32	47	41	16
Grandparent	170	13	0	0	6	36	115
Cousin	73	0	45	22	3	3	0
Residential Facility Staff	50	3	0	19	17	9	2
Foster Parent	44	0	0	4	6	22	12
Legal Guardian	35	1	0	4	10	9	11
Stepmother	29	2	1	8	13	4	1
Other Person Responsible	28	0	1	9	3	6	9
Aunt	23	3	2	7	3	4	4
Teacher	20	0	0	2	3	9	6
Day Care Staff	19	2	0	0	12	3	2
Ex-Parent	11	0	0	0	8	1	2
Other School Staff	8	0	0	3	0	0	5
Other	7	0	0	3	3	0	1
Total	4,930	131	649	1,264	1,481	901	504

Chart 5 – PROFILE OF PERPETRATORS
(Substantiated Reports), 2005



- Reports involving abusers who had a parental relationship decreased by one percent from 2004.
- An additional 15 percent of the perpetrators were otherwise related to the victim child, an increase of two percent from 2004.
- Twenty-six percent of the perpetrators were not related to the child, a decrease of one percent from 2004.

Relationship of Perpetrator to Child by Type of Injury (Substantiated Reports), 2005 – 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 39 percent of all injuries to abused children in 2005.
- Babysitters were responsible for the third largest number of injuries (14 percent).
- Mothers caused 34 percent and fathers caused 31 percent of all physical injuries.
- Mothers were responsible for 60 percent of physical neglect injuries.
- Foster parents, residential facility staff and day care staff were responsible for two percent of all injuries.
- Teachers and school staff accounted for 46 student abuse injuries (all sexual abuse).
- Most of the abuse committed by babysitter was sexual abuse (87 percent).
- Babysitters caused the most sexual abuse injuries (19 percent), with fathers causing the second highest number of sexual abuse injuries (17 percent).
- Mothers were more likely to put a child at imminent risk of physical or sexual abuse (51 percent).



Table 6 – RELATIONSHIP OF PERPETRATOR TO CHILD
BY TYPE OF INJURY (Substantiated Reports), 2005

TYPE OF INJURY	TEACHER	PRINCIPAL	GUIDANCE COUNSELOR	OTHER STAFF	MOTHER	FATHER	SIBLING	STEPMOTNER	STEPFATHER	PARAMOUR OF PARENT	FOSTER PARENT	RESIDENTIAL FACILITY STAFF	DAY CARE STAFF	LEGAL GUARDIAN	BABYSITTER	HOUSEHOLD MEMBER	GRANDPARENT	OTHER RELATIVE	OTHER	AUNT	UNCLE	COUSIN	OTHER PERSON RESPONSIBLE	EX-PARENT	ROW TOTALS
Burns/Scalding	0	0	0	0	31	11	0	0	0	8	0	0	2	0	6	5	9	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	75
Fractures	0	0	0	0	68	73	0	3	4	15	1	7	0	1	12	5	3	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	196
Skull Fractures	0	0	0	0	18	18	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	45
Subdural Hematoma	0	0	0	0	16	23	0	1	1	7	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	57
Bruises	0	0	0	0	264	252	6	11	43	97	4	13	1	12	35	29	10	0	0	4	10	1	1	0	793
Welts/Echymosis	0	0	0	0	89	62	2	4	9	18	1	5	0	2	7	13	6	0	0	2	3	1	0	0	224
Lacerations/Abrasions	0	0	0	0	91	73	2	6	15	24	2	8	1	8	10	16	3	0	0	4	5	1	0	0	269
Punctures/Bites	0	0	0	0	10	14	0	1	1	3	0	0	2	0	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	36
Brain Damage	0	0	0	0	6	6	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	19
Poisoning	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	9
Asphyxiation/Suffocation	0	0	0	0	10	8	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25
Internal Injuries/Hemorrhage	0	0	0	0	17	20	1	1	3	10	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	60
Dismemberment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sprains/Dislocations	0	0	0	0	4	7	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	14
Drugs/Alcohol	0	0	0	0	21	6	2	1	3	5	1	0	0	0	12	3	2	0	0	0	3	0	2	1	62
Drowning	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Other Physical Injury	0	0	0	0	93	106	8	3	9	9	2	9	0	5	11	13	3	0	0	2	6	1	0	0	280
TOTAL PHYSICAL INJURIES	0	0	0	0	743	683	21	31	91	209	12	43	6	29	107	88	37	0	0	18	33	11	6	1	2,169
TOTAL MENTAL INJURIES	0	0	0	0	28	31	0	0	4	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	69
Rape	2	0	0	1	34	78	84	0	52	63	1	1	0	3	98	69	15	0	0	2	35	18	1	5	562
Incest	0	0	0	0	26	132	102	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	2	38	0	0	3	319
Sexual Assault ⁷	14	0	0	11	161	457	298	7	233	341	28	16	6	10	585	367	144	0	5	8	151	74	19	13	2,948
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	5	2	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	11	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	27
Sexually Explicit Conduct for Visual Depiction	6	0	0	3	13	25	8	0	17	11	0	2	0	1	34	10	4	0	1	2	10	3	1	0	151
Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse	5	0	0	2	44	99	104	1	50	72	2	0	0	1	147	80	28	0	2	3	48	23	2	5	718
Statutory Sexual Assault	1	0	0	1	31	45	31	1	27	40	2	0	0	2	67	49	10	0	3	3	20	10	0	4	347
TOTAL SEXUAL INJURIES	28	0	0	18	314	838	628	9	380	529	33	19	6	17	942	578	217	0	11	20	302	128	24	31	5,072
Malnutrition	0	0	0	0	7	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Failure to Thrive	0	0	0	0	33	13	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	48
Lack of Supervision	0	0	0	0	71	24	2	1	0	4	1	2	10	0	9	1	6	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	132
Medical Neglect	0	0	0	0	66	31	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	106
Other Physical Neglect	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
TOTAL NEGLECT INJURIES	0	0	0	0	180	72	3	2	0	5	3	2	10	1	10	2	7	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	301
Imminent Risk of Physical Injury	0	0	0	0	93	42	0	0	1	8	0	2	2	0	8	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	163
Imminent Risk of Sexual Abuse or Exploitation	0	0	0	0	86	29	2	1	3	17	7	1	0	3	12	15	11	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	190
TOTAL IMMINENT RISK INJURIES	0	0	0	0	179	71	2	1	4	25	7	3	2	3	20	18	15	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	353
TOTAL SUBSTANTIATED INJURIES	28	0	0	18	1,444	1,695	654	43	479	772	55	68	24	50	1,079	686	277	0	11	39	338	139	33	32	7,964

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

Number of Reports of Reabuse, 2005 – 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 2005, there were 1,953 reports investigated where the victim had been listed in other reports.
- Of those reports of suspected reabuse, 471 were substantiated.
- In 2005, 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 (33 percent). This is also the age group with the most substantiated reports of reabuse (38 percent).

Chart 6 – REPORTS OF REABUSE BY AGE, 2005

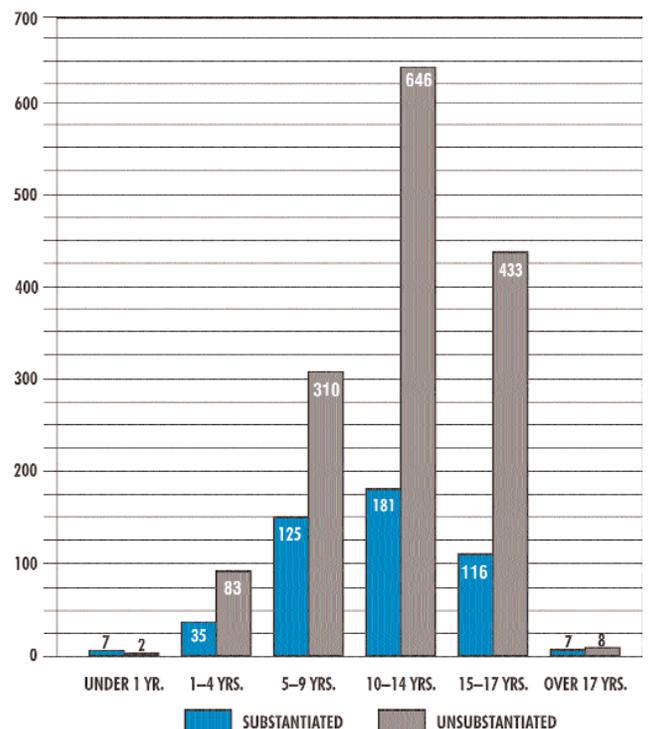


Table 7 – NUMBER OF REPORTS OF REABUSE BY COUNTY, 2005

COUNTY	TOTAL SUSPECTED REPORTS	TOTAL SUSPECTED REABUSE	PERCENT	TOTAL SUSTANTIATED REPORTS	TOTAL SUSTANTIATED REABUSE	PERCENT
Adams	136	9	6.6	33	3	9.1
Allegheny	1,434	124	8.6	188	14	7.4
Armstrong	120	12	10.0	32	5	15.6
Beaver	166	7	4.2	34	1	2.9
Bedford	64	4	6.3	7	0	0.0
Berks	749	58	7.7	137	10	7.3
Blair	301	35	11.6	52	10	19.2
Bradford	183	18	9.8	58	7	12.1
Bucks	838	48	5.7	72	0	0.0
Butler	216	20	9.3	45	5	11.1
Cambria	212	9	4.2	28	3	10.7
Cameron	19	1	5.3	2	0	0.0
Carbon	101	5	5.0	24	3	12.5
Centre	210	14	6.7	36	5	13.9
Chester	816	71	8.7	82	4	4.9
Clarion	76	14	18.4	32	8	25.0
Clearfield	134	6	4.5	38	4	10.5
Clinton	58	3	5.2	19	1	5.3
Columbia	112	8	7.1	17	3	17.6
Crawford	264	23	8.7	46	3	6.5
Cumberland	301	29	9.6	77	13	16.9
Dauphin	535	40	7.5	89	13	14.6
Delaware	924	72	7.8	103	8	7.8
Elk	38	0	0.0	11	0	0.0
Erie	623	54	8.7	129	19	14.7
Fayette	382	47	12.3	89	23	25.8
Forest	10	2	20.0	5	0	0.0
Franklin	154	8	5.2	32	3	9.4
Fulton	33	1	3.0	6	1	16.7
Greene	101	5	5.0	15	1	6.7
Huntingdon	42	2	4.8	11	0	0.0
Indiana	170	10	5.9	30	2	6.7
Jefferson	106	6	5.7	32	4	12.5
Juniata	51	3	5.9	15	2	13.3
Lackawanna	377	38	10.1	72	2	2.8
Lancaster	614	46	7.5	117	8	6.8
Lawrence	148	11	7.4	30	3	10.0
Lebanon	202	18	8.9	50	6	12.0
Lehigh	871	72	8.3	156	27	17.3
Luzerne	475	51	10.7	101	10	9.9
Lycoming	206	20	9.7	53	6	11.3
McKean	207	40	19.3	39	11	28.2
Mercer	178	14	7.9	44	4	9.1
Mifflin	71	5	7.0	13	2	15.4
Monroe	281	20	7.1	51	5	9.8
Montgomery	743	53	7.1	88	3	3.4
Montour	58	9	15.5	10	2	20.0
Northampton	612	54	8.8	106	16	15.1
Northumberland	183	23	12.6	25	1	4.0
Perry	94	9	9.6	26	2	7.7
Philadelphia	4,772	458	9.6	1,168	132	11.3
Pike	101	4	4.0	13	1	7.7
Potter	63	1	1.6	21	1	4.8
Schuylkill	315	17	5.4	71	3	4.2
Snyder	44	7	15.9	16	4	25.0
Somerset	117	14	12.0	32	4	12.5
Sullivan	9	1	11.1	3	0	0.0
Susquehanna	90	10	11.1	43	6	14.0
Tioga	93	7	7.5	29	2	6.9
Union	45	10	22.2	20	5	25.0
Venango	190	9	4.7	54	4	7.4
Warren	103	10	9.7	27	1	3.7
Washington	348	36	10.3	57	5	8.8
Wayne	79	2	2.5	30	1	3.3
Westmoreland	499	33	6.6	66	10	15.2
Wyoming	83	8	9.6	7	0	0.0
York	904	75	8.3	126	6	4.8
TOTAL	22,854	1,953	8.5	4,390	471	10.7

REPORTS OF CHILD ABUSE

■ TOTAL SUSPECTED REPORTS

() TOTAL SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS

SUSPECTED REPORTS

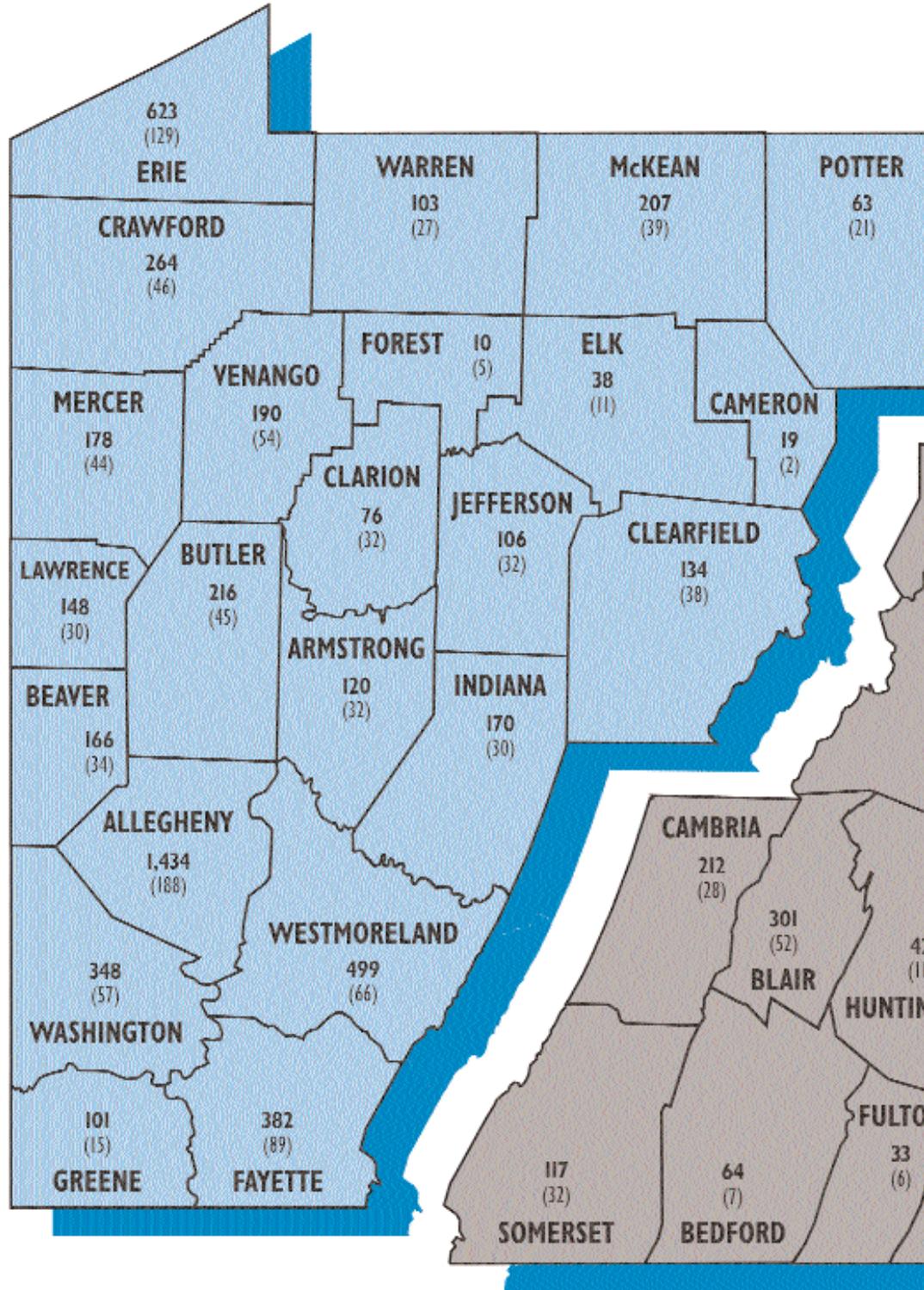
- Central 4,747
- Northeast 4,419
- Southeast 8,093
- Western 5,595

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

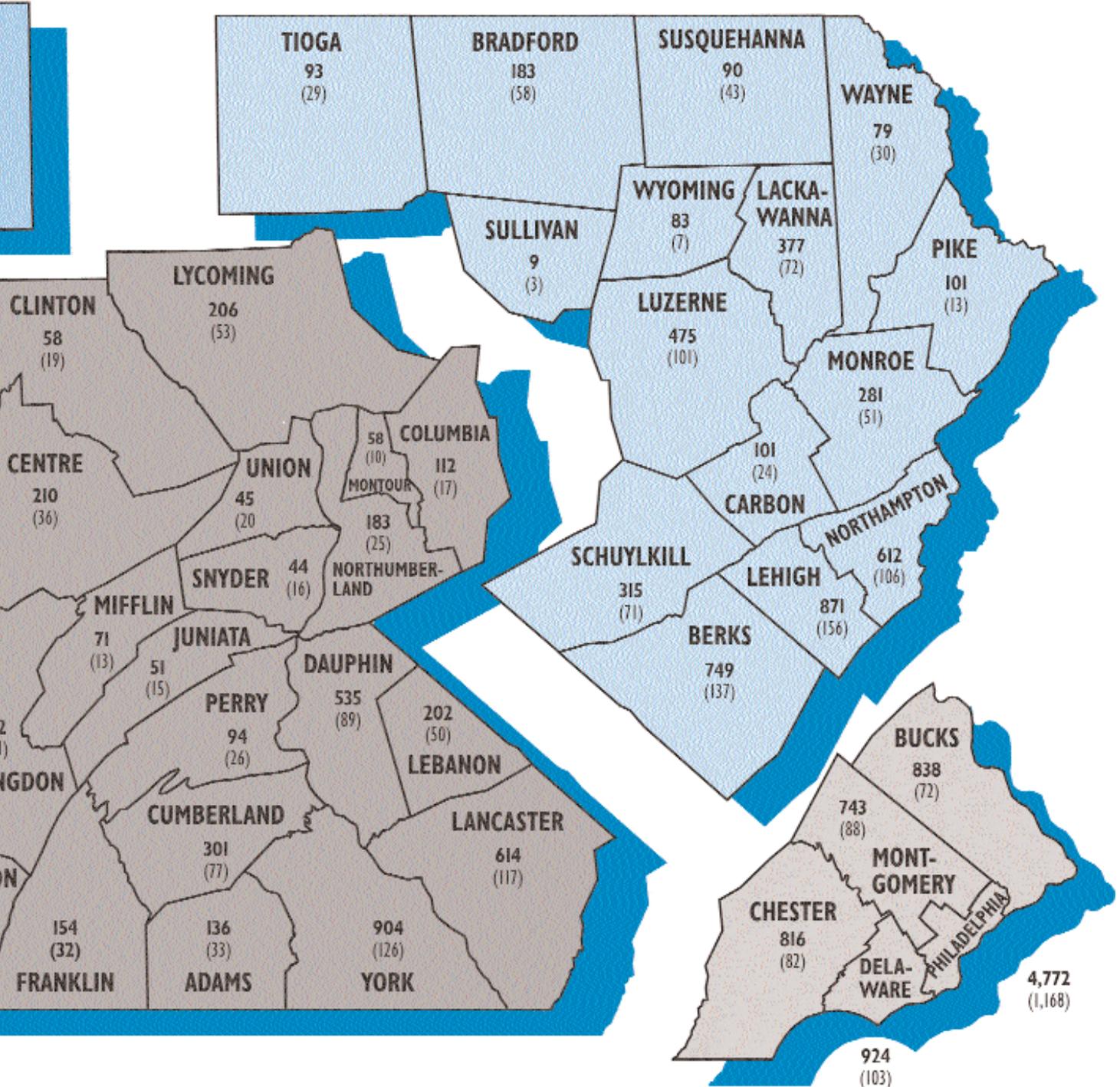
SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS

- Central (910)
- Northeast (901)
- Southeast (1,513)
- Western (1,066)

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.



LD ABUSE BY COUNTY - 2005



Role of County Agencies

One of the Child Protective Services Law (CPSL) purposes 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 DPW 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, 2005 – 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, 51 percent of the reports were completed.
- Within 31-60 days, 49 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, 2005

COUNTY	0–30	31–60	OVER 60 (EXPUNGED)		COUNTY	0–30	31–60	OVER 60 (EXPUNGED)	
Adams	55	71	0	0.0%	Lebanon	143	57	0	0.0%
Allegheny	586	623	0	0.0%	Lehigh	220	572	0	0.0%
Armstrong	38	76	0	0.0%	Luzerne	291	117	0	0.0%
Beaver	125	36	0	0.0%	Lycoming	124	76	0	0.0%
Bedford	37	26	0	0.0%	McKean	71	121	3	1.5%
Berks	424	271	0	0.0%	Mercer	117	39	0	0.0%
Blair	153	137	1	0.3%	Mifflin	32	30	4	6.1%
Bradford	39	132	1	0.6%	Monroe	141	99	1	0.4%
Bucks	248	334	1	0.2%	Montgomery	363	248	0	0.0%
Butler	105	86	1	0.5%	Montour	31	21	1	1.9%
Cambria	129	79	0	0.0%	Northampton	353	221	0	0.0%
Cameron	18	1	0	0.0%	Northumberland	120	46	1	0.6%
Carbon	37	52	0	0.0%	Perry	64	26	0	0.0%
Centre	132	71	0	0.0%	Philadelphia	1,934	2,435	3	0.1%
Chester	350	211	0	0.0%	Pike	62	35	0	0.0%
Clarion	63	13	0	0.0%	Potter	34	18	0	0.0%
Clearfield	90	35	0	0.0%	Schuylkill	186	116	0	0.0%
Clinton	48	9	0	0.0%	Snyder	10	27	0	0.0%
Columbia	102	8	0	0.0%	Somerset	73	42	0	0.0%
Crawford	134	120	0	0.0%	Sullivan	9	0	0	0.0%
Cumberland	193	101	1	0.3%	Susquehanna	43	43	0	0.0%
Dauphin	272	222	1	0.2%	Tioga	68	21	0	0.0%
Delaware	517	285	1	0.1%	Union	35	8	0	0.0%
Elk	31	5	0	0.0%	Venango	114	54	0	0.0%
Erie	232	340	2	0.3%	Warren	67	36	0	0.0%
Fayette	202	175	0	0.0%	Washington	216	83	0	0.0%
Forest	4	1	0	0.0%	Wayne	41	33	0	0.0%
Franklin	88	39	0	0.0%	Westmoreland	249	225	0	0.0%
Fulton	26	7	0	0.0%	Wyoming	16	15	0	0.0%
Greene	46	55	0	0.0%	York	423	442	5	0.6%
Huntingdon	26	14	0	0.0%	COUNTY TOTAL	10,817	9,659	31	0.2%
Indiana	84	78	0	0.0%	Central	159	60	0	0.0%
Jefferson	71	31	1	1.0%	Northeast	253	215	0	0.0%
Juniata	32	19	0	0.0%	Southeast	107	1,056	0	0.0%
Lackawanna	203	87	2	0.7%	Western	287	210	0	0.0%
Lancaster	142	445	1	0.2%	REGIONAL TOTAL	806	1,541	0	0.0%
Lawrence	85	58	0	0.0%	STATE TOTAL	11,623	11,200	31	0.1%

Services Provided and Planned⁹ 2005

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

DPW'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;
- Assuring 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, 2004–2005 – 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 day care centers;
- Staff of social service agencies; or
- Preadoptive parents.

In 2005, regional staff investigated 2,148 reports of suspected abuse involving agents of a county agency, a decrease of eight percent from 2004 (see Table 9 on 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, 2004-2005

REGION	FOSTER HOMES				RESIDENTIAL FACILITY				OTHER				TOTAL			
	TOTAL		SUBSTANTIATED		TOTAL		SUBSTANTIATED		TOTAL		SUBSTANTIATED		TOTAL		SUBSTANTIATED	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
Central	90	101	9 10.0%	6 5.9%	94	69	1 1.1%	0 0%	27	15	2 7.4%	1 6.7%	211	185	12 5.7%	7 3.8%
Northeast	114	111	14 12.3%	25 22.5%	264	242	9 3.4%	11 4.5%	57	56	3 5.3%	12 21.4%	435	409	26 6.0%	48 11.7%
Southeast	357	268	26 7.3%	34 12.7%	695	671	10 1.4%	8 1.2%	157	154	8 5.1%	8 5.2%	1,209	1,093	44 3.6%	50 4.6%
Western	128	124	8 6.3%	17 13.7%	272	255	19 7.0%	17 6.7%	82	82	6 7.3%	10 12.2%	482	461	33 6.8%	44 9.5%
TOTALS	689	604	57 8.3%	82 13.6%	1,325	1,237	39 2.9%	36 2.9%	323	307	19 5.9%	31 10.1%	2,337	2,148	115 4.9%	149 6.9%

following page). The overall regional substantiation rate increased to seven percent from five percent in 2004.

Type of Abuse of Children in Substitute Care by Region (Substantiated Reports), 2005 – Table 10

The total number of injuries, 150, exceeds the number of substantiated reports, 149, because some children received several injuries (see Table 10). The data showed the following changes from 2004 to 2005:

- An overall decrease in injuries from 161 to 150.
- A decrease in physical injuries from 43 to 41.
- A decrease in sexual injuries from 109 to 106.
- A decrease in neglect from seven to two.
- A decrease in mental injuries from two to one.

Table 10 – REGIONAL INVESTIGATIONS TYPE OF ABUSE BY REGION (Substantiated Reports), 2005

REGION	PHYSICAL	MENTAL	SEXUAL	NEGLECT	TOTAL
FOSTER CARE					
Central	0	0	6	0	6
Northeast	3	0	21	1	25
Southeast	4	0	29	1	34
Western	3	0	14	0	17
RESIDENTIAL FACILITY					
Central	0	0	0	0	0
Northeast	6	0	5	0	11
Southeast	6	0	2	0	8
Western	9	1	8	0	18
OTHER					
Central	0	0	1	0	1
Northeast	3	0	9	0	12
Southeast	3	0	5	0	8
Western	4	0	6	0	10
TOTAL	41	1	106	2	150



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 2005, there were 2,770 reports of suspected abuse of children in child care settings. A total of 217 (eight percent) were substantiated. The Department investigated 144 (66 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 619 reports (22 percent), information was

referred to law enforcement officials for criminal investigation and prosecution, 188 of which were substantiated by the county agency investigation.

Of the 217 reports substantiated in a child care setting, the most frequent services planned or provided for child, parent or perpetrator were as follows (See Child Protective Services, page 24 for description of services):

- Protective and preventive counseling services – 140.
- Other Services – 73.
- Emergency medical services – 21.
- Instruction and education for parenthood and parenting skills – 13.
- Multidisciplinary Team Case Review – 12.



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 convicted of certain criminal offenses or was named as a perpetrator of a founded report of child abuse within five years preceding the request for a clearance.

The CPSL requires prospective child care service and school employees to obtain child abuse clearances from the Department to ensure they are not a known perpetrator of child abuse or student abuse.

Child care employees are also required to obtain clearance 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
- Felony offense under the Act of April 14, 1972 (P.L. 233, No. 64), known as the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, committed within the five-year period immediately preceding verification under this section.

Act 127 of 1998 also prohibits hire if the applicant has been convicted of an equivalent crime listed above under the law of another state, or the attempt, solicitation or conspiracy, to commit those offenses.

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 agency
- Any child care services which are provided under contract with DPW or a county social service agency

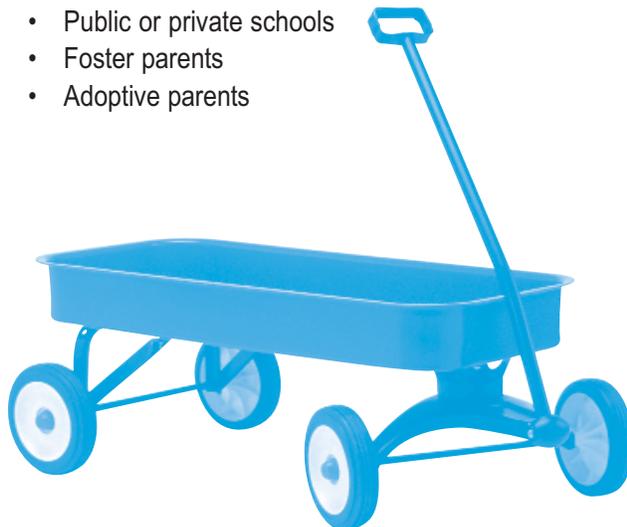
An applicant for school employment includes:

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

The CPSL prohibits school administrators from employing anyone who has been convicted of certain criminal offenses, named as the perpetrator of a founded report of child abuse (at any time) or named as the individual responsible for a founded report of student abuse.

Federal criminal history record clearances by the FBI are also required for out-of-state residents who are applying for employment or approval for the following positions in Pennsylvania:

- Child care services
- Public or private schools
- Foster parents
- Adoptive parents



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.

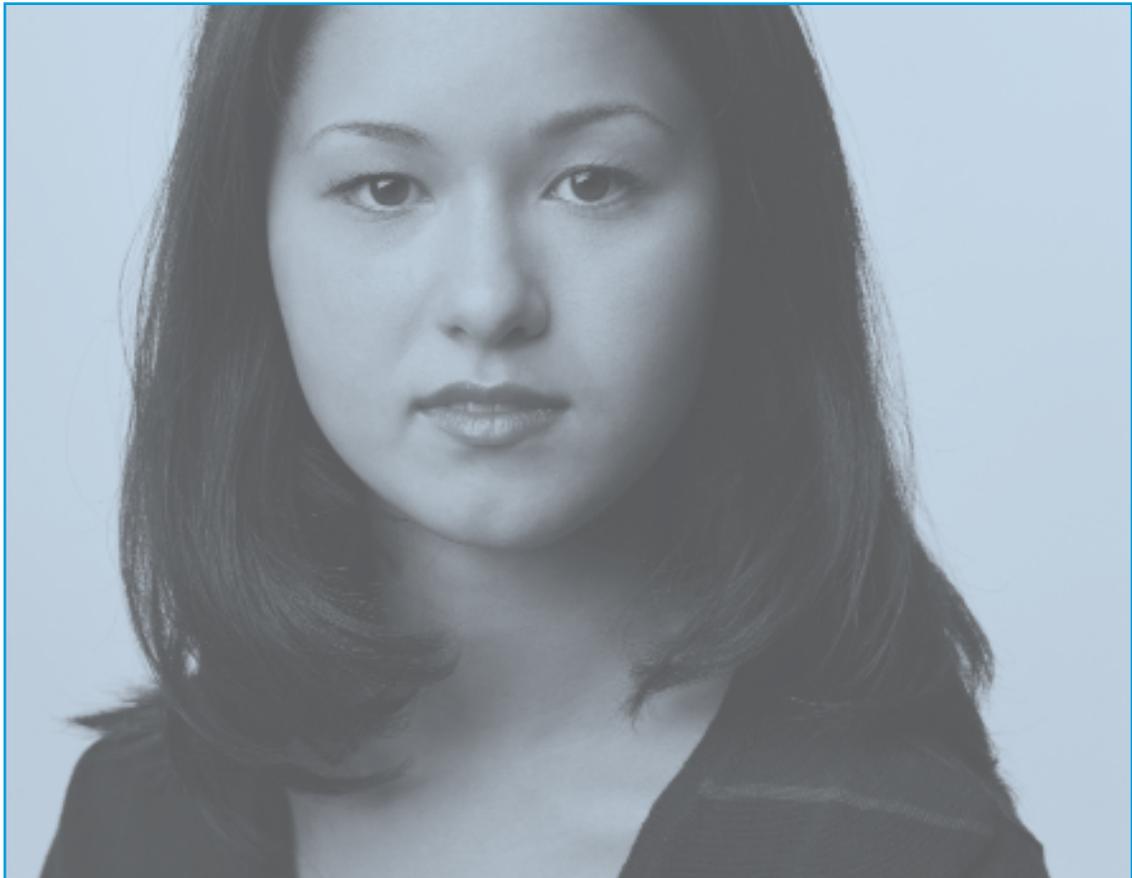
In 2005, ChildLine received 428,919 requests (a three percent increase over 2004) for a background clearance. Of these requests, 434,131 requests were processed in the following categories:

- School employment 208,338 (48 percent)
- Child care employment 141,297 (33 percent)
- Volunteers 36,850 (eight percent)
- Foster care 27,882 (six percent)
- Adoption 12,701 (three percent)
- Big Brother/Big Sister 4,770 (one percent)
- Work Experience¹⁰ 1,807 (less than one percent)
- Domestic Violence 486 (less than one percent)

The average processing time was about eight days (an increase of one day from 2004). The CPSL mandates that requests for clearances be completed within 14 calendar days.

A total of 1,404 applicants (less than one percent) were named as perpetrators in child abuse reports. Of these perpetrators, 57 were identified as being prohibited from hire.

The purpose of requiring clearances is to protect children from abuse at school and at 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 DPW.

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 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 2005, 22 agencies requested approval to become a qualified entity.
- A total of 127 agencies are qualified entities (23 are county children and youth agencies).
- Of the criminal history clearance requests received by ChildLine under the VCA in 2005, 2,945 were processed by the FBI.
- Four applicants were determined disqualified.
- 2,920 applicants were determined qualified.

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

Department of Public Welfare ChildLine &
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 was \$1.6 billion. More than \$43.1 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 2005, ChildLine expenditures amounted to \$2.89 million. Expenditures for the ChildLine Verification Unit, which processes child abuse history

clearances, were an additional \$202,737. Expenditures for the headquarters of DPW's Office of Children, Youth and Families totaled \$591,029. Regional staff expenditures were nearly \$1.89 million.

Table 11 lists the total expenditures for county agencies to conduct alleged 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 2004-2005, county expenditures for suspected abuse investigations were \$37.6 million.

Table 11
EXPENDITURES FOR CHILD ABUSE INVESTIGATIONS,
STATE FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005

COUNTY	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	COUNTY	TOTAL EXPENDITURES
Adams	503,695	Lackawanna	452,617
Allegheny	3,411,124	Lancaster	659,317
Armstrong	263,206	Lawrence	152,672
Beaver	1,066,304	Lebanon	96,073
Bedford	49,725	Lehigh	3,002,850
Berks	1,143,254	Luzerne	869,867
Blair	206,009	Lycoming	274,946
Bradford	245,334	McKean	268,958
Bucks	2,126,670	Mercer	60,560
Butler	510,956	Mifflin	33,400
Cambria	243,994	Monroe	441,309
Cameron	24,465	Montgomery	791,137
Carbon	102,293	Montour	88,848
Centre	368,071	Northampton	1,166,968
Chester	1,314,840	Northumberland	355,742
Clarion	292,654	Perry	73,865
Clearfield	150,347	Philadelphia	6,020,593
Clinton	94,623	Pike	97,828
Columbia	43,596	Potter	81,285
Crawford	436,091	Schuylkill	330,434
Cumberland	336,113	Snyder	104,592
Dauphin	1,229,598	Somerset	272,392
Delaware	2,069,689	Sullivan	30,652
Elk	82,713	Susquehanna	269,706
Erie	1,882,000	Tioga	300,611
Fayette	263,293	Union	111,997
Forest	18,743	Venango	127,499
Franklin	167,315	Warren	112,079
Fulton	63,733	Washington	446,705
Greene	102,664	Wayne	228,219
Huntingdon	53,172	Westmoreland	318,268
Indiana	344,223	Wyoming	24,243
Jefferson	81,043	York	616,105
Juniata	45,714	TOTAL	37,619,601

Supplemental Statistical Points

- As of December 31, 2005, there were a total of 104,263 substantiated reports in the statewide central register. ChildLine received approximately 93,372 calls in 2005. Calls involved suspected child abuse, referrals for general protective services, requests for information and referral to local services and brief counseling.
- Since 1976, ChildLine has received approximately 1.8 million calls.
- Of the 22,854 reports of suspected abuse, ChildLine received 62 percent initially and 38 percent were received initially by county agencies.
- Of the 4,390 substantiated reports of child abuse, 3,529 listed factors contributing to the cause of abuse. Among the most frequently cited factors were:
 - ❖ Vulnerability of child (71 percent)
 - ❖ Marginal parenting skills or knowledge (41 percent)
 - ❖ Impaired judgment of perpetrator (23 percent)
 - ❖ Stress (23 percent)
 - ❖ Substance abuse (16 percent)
 - ❖ Insufficient social/family support (16 percent)
 - ❖ Abuse between parent figures (eight percent)
 - ❖ Sexual deviancy of perpetrator (seven percent)
 - ❖ Perpetrator abused as a child (seven percent)
- Copies of child abuse reports were provided to 780 persons who were the subjects of those reports.
- Copies of 1,237 founded or indicated reports on 722 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 1,379 requests for first-level appeals (administrative review) to amend or expunge reports.
- The Department's Bureau of Hearings and Appeals (BHA) received 794 requests for second-level appeals. Of those requests:
 - ❖ 183 (23 percent) county agency decisions were overturned;
 - ❖ Nine (one percent) county agency decisions were upheld;
 - ❖ 36 (five percent) were dismissed by BHA;
 - ❖ 17 (two percent) were withdrawn by the county agency;
 - ❖ 14 (two percent) were withdrawn by the appellant;
 - ❖ Two (less than one percent) were expunged due to the child turning age 18/23 during the appeal;
 - ❖ 50 (six percent) were denied hearings or dismissed for timeliness issue;
 - ❖ 483 (61 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.

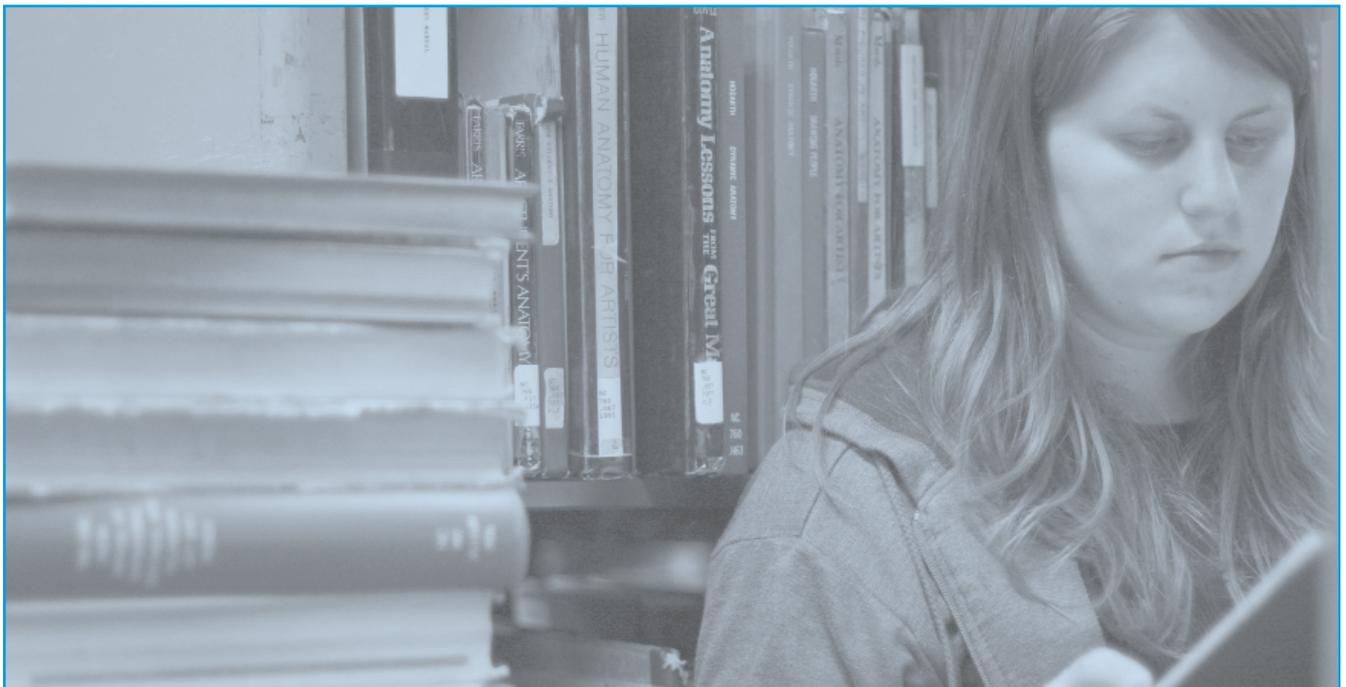
When a school employee informs a school administrator of suspected student abuse, the administrator is mandated to immediately report the incident to law enforcement officials and the appropriate district attorney. If local law enforcement officials have reasonable cause to suspect, on the basis of an 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 2005, of the 55 reports of suspected student abuse, the following were the initial referral sources:

- Law enforcement (33)
- Other Public/Private Social Service Agency (11)
- School (six)
- Other (three)
- Parent/Guardian (one)
- Child-Self Referral (one)

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 2005, 55 reports of suspected student abuse were investigated, 32 more than in 2004. Of these reports:

- Twenty were in the Northeast Region.
- Eighteen were in the Central Region.
- Twelve were in the Southeast Region.
- Five were in the Western Region.
- 28 were substantiated while 27 were unfounded.
- All 28 substantiated reports of student abuse reports involved sexual abuse.
- In the 28 substantiated reports of student abuse, 24 of the victims were female and four 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.

Act 201 of 2002, also known as The Newborn Protection Act, took effect in February 2003 and states that a parent of a newborn may leave the child in the care of a hospital 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.

A newborn is defined by this act as a child less than 28 days of age as reasonably determined by a physician.

Pennsylvania's program for newborn protection is known as "Safe Haven of Pennsylvania."

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. A statewide hotline has been established for women in crisis and individuals seeking information to be able to speak with a person regarding the program and to find out the location of the nearest hospital.

1-800-921-7233 (SAFE)

Since 2003, two newborns have been relinquished at hospitals under the Safe Haven of Pennsylvania program. Both babies have been adopted and both adoptions were finalized prior to the end of 2004.



Pennsylvania has a strong commitment to adjusting the child protection system to improve the safety and well being of all children. One of the most significant events to improve child safety was the Child Protective Services Law (CPSL) which was signed into law in November of 1975.

In the eight years prior to the passage of the CPSL, Pennsylvania had addressed child abuse by requiring physicians, school nurses and teachers to report suspected abuse and permitted the general public to make a report. *Child abuse was defined indirectly by identifying that a physician must report observations of non-accidental gross physical negligence or injury and wounds (including self inflicted). Any adult may report gross physical neglect or intentionally caused serious physical injury.*

The CPSL:

- expanded the group of professionals required to report suspected abuse/neglect and provided penalties for failure to report and immunity for reporting in good faith;
- created a definition of child abuse by limiting abuse/neglect to those involving serious injuries/conditions;
- established a confidentiality provision which limited access to report information;
- created a 24 hour toll free statewide hotline for reporting suspected abuse/neglect; and
- created a Statewide Central Register to contain all reports investigated in Pennsylvania in order to track a child's or perpetrator's history of abuse/neglect.

The CPSL was amended 14 times over the next 30 years. The amendments considered among the most significant were those adopted in 1982, 1985, and 1994. Highlights of those changes are as follows:

Act 136 of 1982 – This set of amendments reflected a greater concern for the protection of children over the privacy rights of families by involving law enforcement in certain situations and requiring the retention of files for a longer period to track child abuse history.

Act 33 of 1985 – This set of amendments increased the focus on prevention by requiring civil and criminal background checks for adults working with or responsible for children.

Act 151 of 1994 – This set of amendments was aimed at reducing the risk of abuse to children by requiring new

investigative protocols, mandating protective services for non-serious abuse/neglect, limiting the perpetrator's rights to appeal, and expanding access to files.

By 2005, changes to our child protection system have become more sophisticated to respond to the changing legal climate, the increase in and change in types of sexual abuse, and the high turnover of child protective services staff. Some examples of systemic changes are summarized below:

- A state level Risk Assessment Task Force was formed to develop statewide standards in assessing risk of maltreatment of children and a single standardized risk assessment model for use in all county children and youth agencies, which is still in use today.
- A state wide protocol for safety planning and assessing the safety of children was established and implemented in the year 2000. This protocol required county children and youth agencies to evaluate the current conditions in which a child resides in order to determine whether it is safe for the child to remain in those conditions. Unlike Risk Assessment, safety assessments evaluate the issues impacting a child that suggests that there are immediate threats of harm to the child.
- A state wide protocol for reviewing child deaths as a result of suspected child abuse was established and implemented in the year 2000. The purpose of these reviews is to make recommendations to improve child protection within local communities and reduce the likelihood of future child fatalities.
- Systems of Care, Family Group Decision Making, Legal Services Initiative, and the American Bar Association's Barriers to Termination are just a few of the many practices being implemented in county children and youth agencies across the state in an effort to improve child welfare practices and outcomes for children, youth and families. Involving families and youth and building community partnerships is now seen as the cornerstone for effective service delivery in child welfare.

The efforts over the past thirty years have been significant to improve the safety and well being of children. However, all state and local partners continue their work to find ways to decrease the incidents of child abuse and to assure services and supports are available to all victims of child abuse.

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
Hillcrest, 1st Floor • P.O. Box 2675
Harrisburg, PA 17105
(717) 772-7702

COUNTY CHILDREN AND YOUTH AGENCIES

ADAMS COUNTY

Adams County Children and Youth Services
100 North Stratton Street
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
220 South Thomas 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
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
Emporium, PA 15834
(814) 486-3265 ext 9351

CARBON COUNTY

Carbon County Office of Children and Youth Services
69 Broadway, 3rd Floor
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
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
632 Arch Street, Suite B101
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

FAYETTE COUNTY

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

FOREST COUNTY

Forest County Department of Human 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
Neighborhood Service Center
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
11 North Third Street, Fry Building
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 Boulevard
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701
(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 Children and Youth Services
17155 Route 6 • PO Box 1565
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 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

PERRY COUNTY

Perry County Children and Youth Services
Rhine Smith 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
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 • P.O. Box 766
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 Department of Human Services
27 Hospital Drive
North Warren, PA 16365
(814) 726-2100

WASHINGTON COUNTY

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

WAYNE COUNTY

Wayne County Children and Youth Services
925 Court Street
Honesdale, PA 18431
(570) 253-5972

WESTMORELAND COUNTY

Westmoreland County Children's Bureau
303 Court House Square
Greensburg, PA 15601
(724) 830-3300 • 1-800-422-6926

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 INTERNET 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 of middle and low-income families.

Healthy Baby Line

1-800-986-2229

www.helpinpa.state.pa.us

Prenatal health care information for middle and low-income pregnant women.

Healthy Kids Line

1-800-986-5437

www.helpinpa.state.pa.us

Health care services information for middle and low-income families.

Pennsylvania Adoption Exchange

1-800-227-0225

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 website that features a photo album of waiting children and information on adoption.

Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence

1-800-932-4632

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

Regional Day Care Licensing Offices

www.dpw.state.pa.us

Information on state-licensed day 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

www.diakon-swan.org

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

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.childhelpusa.org

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

National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect

<http://nccanch.acf.hhs.gov>

Prevent Child Abuse America

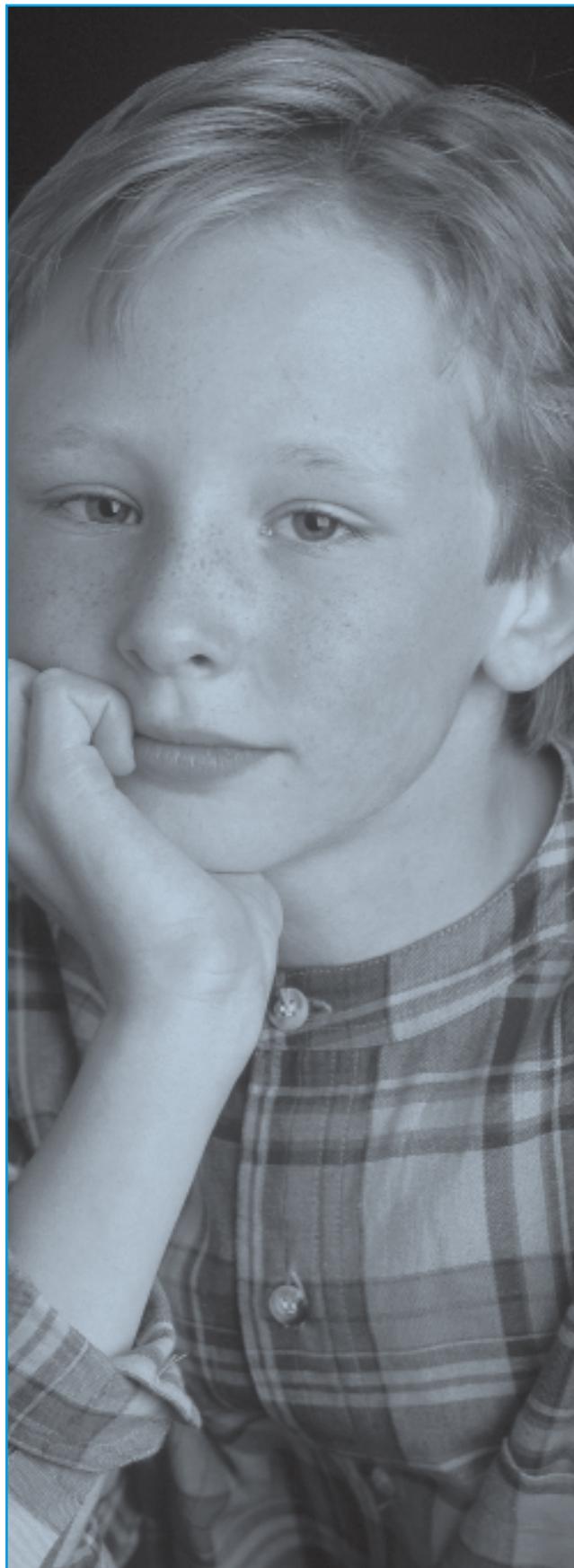
www.preventchildabuse.org

TeenLine

1-800-722-5385

www.hsh.org

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







www.dpw.state.pa.us

Edward G. Rendell, *Governor*

Estelle B. Richman, *Secretary*