



Legislative Report

Minnesota's Child Maltreatment Report, 2021

Children and Family Services

June 2023

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Child Maltreatment Report summary, 2021

Purpose

This annual report provides information on children involved in maltreatment reports and the work happening across Minnesota to ensure and promote safety, permanency and well-being of children who may have experienced maltreatment. This report includes information on child maltreatment reports received and screened by local social service agencies, characteristics of the children involved in screened in child protection reports, information on the assessment or investigation process that occurs following a screened in report and the outcomes of those child protection reports. For information on all state and federal performance measures, see the [Minnesota Child Welfare Data Dashboard](#).

Minnesota Department of Human Services produces an annual report on child welfare statistics to document and understand Minnesota's child welfare trends. Historically, the department included American Indian/Alaska Native children in these reports using county data from the Social Service Information System (SSIS), Minnesota's child welfare data system. When White Earth Nation and Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe assumed sovereignty over their child welfare system as Initiative Tribes, the department began including their data in annual reports. In 2021, Red Lake Nation officially began as an Initiative Tribe and requested data sovereignty. Therefore, their data is available in an independent report developed by Red Lake Nation, see [Red Lake Tribal Nation Report to the Legislator on Tribal Child Welfare](#). The following four paragraphs were prepared by Red Lake Nation to provide additional context related to the decision to submit an independent annual report:

“Red Lake Tribal Nation believes it is important to document the effectiveness of its American Indian Child Welfare Initiative contract, Ombimindwaa Gidanawemaaganidog, to understand what is happening to our tribal citizens who are served. This is best done by looking at data and understanding decolonization of past practices through a new practice model based on indigenous values. The practice of annual review will continue to aid program development-based changes and outcomes when using a model that is culturally centered. This report will help us continue to identify strengths and gaps in practice so we may effectively target interventions to restore our communities to wellbeing and health. Finally, this and future reports will provide documentation and accountability to our leaders, staff, community, and funders including Minnesota Legislature and Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS).

Red Lake Nation assumes responsibility over their nation's children. As part of the agreement, they retained sovereignty over data about their tribal children and families, including limiting what data are entered in SSIS, and how the data is reported. (Section 2.10-2.13). In 2023, prior to publication of their annual report, DHS consulted Red Lake Nation about how to present their data. It was mutually agreed that DHS would retract Red Lake Nation's data from their report. Instead, Red Lake Nation would develop and publish a separate child welfare report to the Minnesota Legislature. The goals of this report are to provide additional context to Red Lake Nation's data; to inform readers of the complexities of tribal child welfare practice, which differs greatly from county practice; and to document progress toward 100 percent family preservation.

Because Red Lake Nation chose not to report all standard child welfare data elements in SSIS, it is not possible to accurately compare their data to Minnesota's counties. Red Lake Nation's practice model is framed around family preservation and intergenerational family wellness. Their work reflects the inherent interconnectedness between the child and their family, extended family, culture, community, and tribal nation.

As Red Lake Nation assumes full jurisdiction of their child welfare system, they are building a new narrative through relationship development and shifting practice to a relative approach (Ombimindwaa Gidanawemaaganidog "Uplifting Our Relatives"). Using a collaborative and inclusive process, they are developing institutional capacity for this work through infrastructure development, data collection, adding and realigning staff, practice model development, and training for staff and relative care providers. Because Red Lake Nation's child welfare practice is so different than county-based practice, this report must look different to reflect the paradigm shift centered on family preservation, not child removal."

Findings

Following a relatively large decline in the number of child maltreatment reports received during the first year of the pandemic, there was a small increase in the number of reports that were received by Child Protective Services across the state in 2021.

Number of intakes in 2021:

- Local social service agencies screened 76,278 intakes, a 7% increase from the prior year.

The screening process found:

- American Indian children and children who identify as two or more races were disproportionately more likely to be involved in a report of maltreatment relative to what might be expected based on their population size
- American Indian children were about 2% of the child population in Minnesota but 6% of the children reported to child protection in 2021
- Children identified as two or more races were 6% of the child population but 18% of the children reported to child protection
- Children identified as African American/Black or as Hispanic are a little more likely relative to their population size to be reported to child protection
- Children identified as white or Asian/Pacific Islander are under-represented relative to their population size.
- Once reported to child protection, nearly half of all Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian/Pacific Islander, children who identify as two or more races and children identified as Hispanic were screened in for further assessment compared to 40% of white children
- Overall, 41.3% of all reports of maltreatment received by local agencies were screened for further assessment
- Mandated reporters made the majority of reports of maltreatment (79%).

Several studies have demonstrated racial bias in child protection reporting, including among mandated reporters and the department continues to identify ways to partner with and support training mandated reporters. [Lane, Rubin, Monteith, Christian, 2002; Hymel et al., 2018]

Statewide Screening Review

The Child Safety and Permanency Division conducts a statewide screening review process every year to ensure consistent statewide screening practices with the Minnesota Child Maltreatment Intake, Screening and Response Path Guidelines. This process involves review of a random selection of approximately 5% of screened out reports each month.

Each review is completed by a team and is appraised for both screening decisions and quality of information in the reports. The review team requested additional consultation with local agencies regarding screening decisions in 23 of 2,616 reports that were reviewed (0.9%) in 2021. Of the 23 cases, consultations resulted in agencies screening in reports 10 times, and in an agency providing additional information to support a screen out 10 times. The remaining cases required additional discussions with county attorneys and agency management or had additional agency policies surrounding decisions.

Following the data on the number of child maltreatment reports received and intakes completed, the remaining portion of the maltreatment report provides information using data on children involved in completed reports during the year.

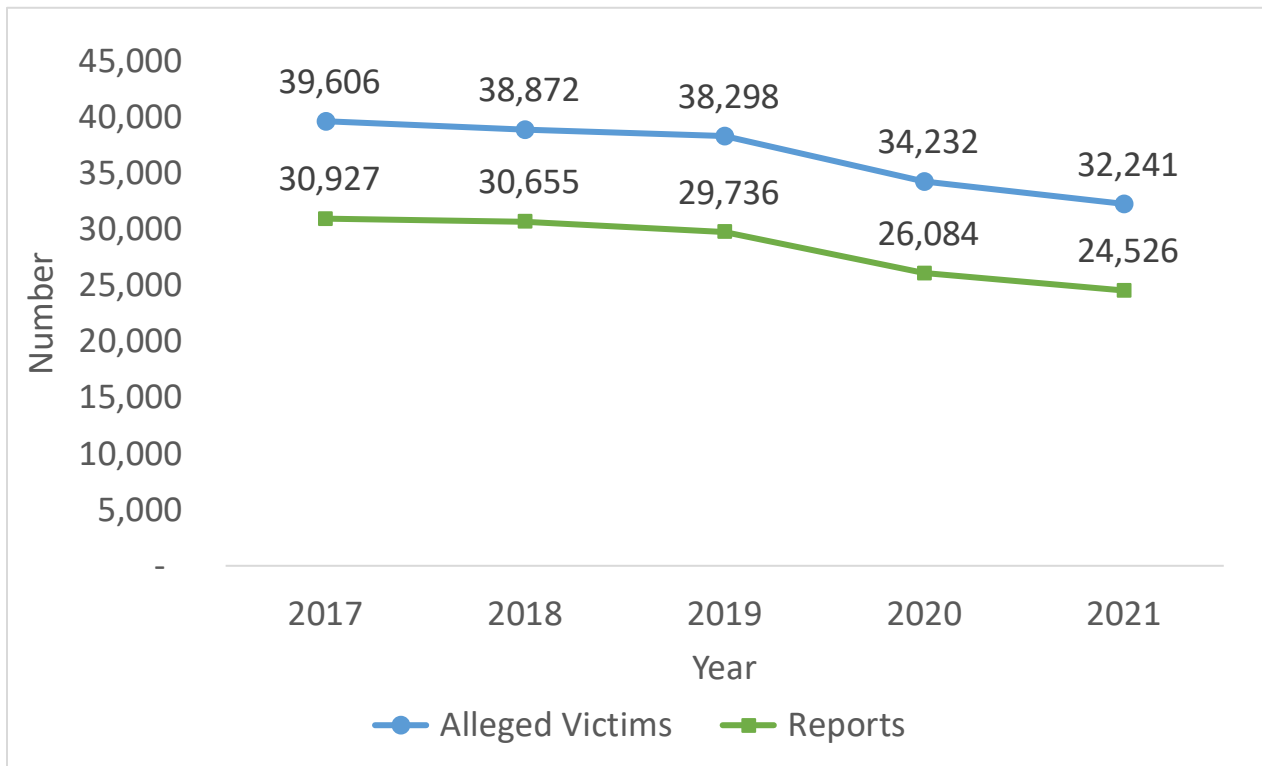
- There were 32,241 alleged victims involved in 24,526 completed assessments or investigations following screened in child maltreatment reports in 2021.
- Children ages 8 and younger represented the majority of children involved in completed maltreatment assessments/investigations (57.3%).
- Almost one in four children involved in completed child maltreatment assessments and investigations were under the age of two.

Families with infants are especially vulnerable to stress; many parents in the months following the arrival of their child experience depression, sleep deprivation, and financial instability as a result of loss of work, increased child care costs and other expenses. These challenges can overwhelm parents' coping and increase the likelihood of maltreatment. [Cadzow et al., 1999] Additionally, this window of development is one where children are completely reliant on their caregivers and undergoing rapid brain development that makes them especially vulnerable to their environment, potentially leading to long term consequences as a result of maltreatment. Increased concrete supports for families with young children and access to supportive services, like home visiting and healthcare for physical and mental health needs during this critical window are important investments to support families and to prevent maltreatment.

As can be seen in Figure 1, this decrease continues the general trend from 2017 to 2021 that seemed to have accelerated during the first year of the pandemic and continued into the second year. Despite the overall reductions, American Indian/Alaska Native and African American/Black children, children who identify as two or more races or as Hispanic continue to disproportionately be represented in completed maltreatment assessments and investigations. Specifically, American Indian/Alaska Native children, children who identify as two or more races, African American/Black children, and children who identify as Hispanic are 5.2, 4.7, 2.4 and 1.9 times more likely, respectively, to be involved in completed maltreatment assessments/investigations than white children.

As discussed in last year's report, there are questions regarding whether this decrease resulted in negative outcomes for children; it is unlikely that administrative data can answer these questions entirely, but recent analysis of national data shows a correlation between the child tax credits provided during the pandemic and reductions in child maltreatment. [Kovski et al. 2022] Given the disproportionality in both poverty rates and child protection involvement for African American/Black children and families, American Indian/Alaska Native children and families and children and families who identify as Hispanic, this evidence that reductions in poverty result in reductions in child protection involvement spotlights a possible path forward.

Figure 1. Number of alleged victims and completed assessments and investigations, 2017 – 2021



Alleged victims with allegations of neglect comprised the largest group of children, approximately 62% of all children in 2021. There are some variations in the pattern of allegation types when examined by age. Of all children who allegedly experience threatened injury, nearly one in three were under the age of two. Threatened injury means a statement, overt act, condition or status that represents a substantial risk of physical abuse, sexual abuse or mental injury. Threatened injury includes, but is not limited to, exposing a child to a person responsible for their care, who has caused harm. [\[Minn. Stat. 260E.03, subd. 23\]](#) Threatened injury includes Birth Match reports, which are reports that occur when at the time of the child’s birth a parent was identified as having parental rights terminated for other children. It could also include issues related to domestic violence. Youths ages 12 through 17 had the highest percentages of all children allegedly experiencing mental injury, accounting for just over half of all reports alleging mental injury.

The number and proportion of reports assigned to Family Assessment (Minnesota’s alternative response path) remained relatively consistent for a fifth year, with 63.8% of the total 24,526 cases. The rest received either a Family or Facility Investigation. In statute, there are certain allegation types or allegation details that require a Family Investigation, including allegations of sexual abuse or any allegation that, if true, would indicate substantial child endangerment. [\[Minn. Stat. 260E.03, subd. 22\]](#)

Local agencies have the discretion to do a Family Investigation or to switch from one response path to another upon learning new information. Discretionary reasons are most common among African American or Black and Asian or Pacific Islander children and their families. The key difference between a Family Assessment and an Investigation is that it is only when doing an investigation that there is a determination made as to whether maltreatment occurred and if so, by whom. Otherwise, all assessments and investigations result in face-to-face contact with alleged victims, assessments of safety and risk and the need for services outside of the child welfare system and for ongoing child protective services, as well as efforts to understand the context and situation surrounding the alleged maltreatment.

Agency improvements on the timeliness of the first face-to-face contact with alleged victims is critical to ensure the safety of the alleged victims. Only 84.1% of victims were seen within the time frame established in statute.

Still the median time for face-to-face contact for Family Investigations is five hours while the median time for Family Assessment cases and discretionary Family Investigations is 53 hours. Like many child and family serving fields, the child welfare workforce is experiencing turnover and high rate of churn. [Paul et al., 2022] Workforce shortages and workload demands likely impinge on workers' abilities to meet timelines. Structured Decision Making Tools are used to assess safety and risk of future maltreatment. Safety is continually monitored throughout each case, but a formal assessment is completed upon first working with the family. The tool results in three possible ratings: safe, conditionally safe and unsafe. Most cases are rated as safe (60%), meaning there appears to be little needed to keep the child safely with their caregivers. Around one in twelve cases results in a rating of unsafe; a rating of unsafe indicates that the child may need to be removed temporarily while the family addresses the safety concerns. Although that pattern remains the same across Family Assessment and Family Investigation pathways, a relatively higher percentage of Family Assessment cases are rated as safe while a relatively higher percentage of Family Investigations are rated as unsafe. Around 9% of screened in and completed assessments and investigations resulted in a child being placed into out-of-home care in 2021.

Not surprisingly given the law around substantial child endangerment and the requirement to move those cases to the investigation pathway, Family Investigations completed in 2021 were more likely to be indicated as high risk for future maltreatment (25.6%) compared to Family Assessments (13.4%). Families at moderate or high risk of future maltreatment likely need additional services and supports to prevent future maltreatment.

- 13,100 children experienced a Family or Facility Investigation, with 42.2% having a determination of maltreatment made at the conclusion of the investigation.
- 1,085 children were in the care of a provider licensed by the department where an allegation of maltreatment resulted in a Facility Investigation; 23.5% of children had a determination of maltreatment.
- Younger children experience higher incidents of recurrence (6.8% of children ages birth to 6) compared to older youth (4.6% of youth ages 12 to 15, and 2.9% of youth ages 15 to 18).
- There were 28 child deaths and 29 life-threatening injuries determined to be a result of maltreatment. In 17 of the cases that resulted in a child fatality, the victim had previously been involved in a screened in child protection case.
- Minnesota met the federal maltreatment recurrence standard in 2021, with 5.8% of all children having a recurrence of maltreatment within 12 months of their first determination.

Local social service agencies and department staff take the work of protecting children seriously and implement a trauma-informed, robust and scientific systemic critical incident review process for child fatalities and near fatalities due to maltreatment. The review process is designed to systemically analyze the child welfare system to identify opportunities for improvement, as well as to address barriers to providing the best possible services to children and families. The model utilizes components from the same science used by other safety-critical industries, including aviation and health care; it moves away from blame and toward a system of accountability, focusing on identifying underlying systemic issues to improve Minnesota's child welfare system.

The department began utilizing this new review process in 2017 in partnership with local agency staff and community partners. In 2019, following a review 72 cases, the review team provided six considerations to agency leadership. Recommendations were based on the information learned. Several of these considerations required legislative changes and further study, including narrowing screen in and response criteria, changing response timeframes to be based on current safety and risk rather than allegation information and providing a mechanism for local agencies to override response timeframes when alleged offenders do not have access to the alleged victims, and reducing documentation

requirements. Other recommendations were more easily acted upon without statutory changes, including creating a workgroup to provide further clarification on unsafe sleep death and near deaths and improving coordination with law enforcement. Several of the considerations have led to changes or are in process of being implemented, including:

- Legislation was passed that provides a mechanism for local agencies to override response timeframes when alleged offenders do not have access to alleged victims
- A legislatively required study is underway to identify ways to reduce the required paperwork and documentation needed
- A workgroup comprised of local agency staff and professionals was convened and made changes to guidance related to unsafe sleep
- A working group comprised of community members, local agency staff and cross-department and cross-agency staff are exploring the intersection of neglect and poverty and identifying possible mechanisms to support families before child welfare involvement is needed in order to narrow the path to child protection.

Department staff will continue to evaluate opportunities to bring forward other considerations offered through the fatality and near fatality review process. This process was completed again in 2021 with a group of internal and external stakeholders, based on cases reviewed in the last half of 2019, 2020 and the first half of 2021. The considerations that were developed in the last half of 2021 align with several considerations in 2019 that were more challenging to address, including addressing the administrative burdens that overload workers and make it challenging to have face time with children and families, and improvements to coordination with law enforcement and county attorney offices. These considerations will be moved forward in 2022, and the department will seek opportunities to make improvements to the system that support improved child and family outcomes.

Legislation

This report was prepared by the Minnesota Department of Human Services (department), Children and Family Services Administration, Child Safety and Permanency Division, for the Minnesota Legislature in response to a directive in [Minn. Stat., section 257.0725](#). This report also fulfills reporting requirements under the Vulnerable Children and Adults Act, [Minn. Stat., section 256M.80, subd. 2](#); the Minnesota Indian Family Preservation Act, [Minn. Stat., section 260.775](#); required referral to early intervention services, [Minn. Stat., section 260E.24, subd. 6](#); and commissioner's duty to provide oversight, quality assurance reviews and annual summary of reviews, [Minn. Stat., section 260E.38](#).

[Minn. Stat., section 257.0725](#): The commissioner of human services shall publish an annual report on child maltreatment and children in out-of-home placement. The commissioner shall confer with counties, child welfare organizations, child advocacy organizations, courts, and other groups on how to improve the content and utility of the department's annual report. For the child maltreatment report, it shall include the number and kinds of maltreatment reports received, and other data that the commissioner determines appropriate in a child maltreatment report.

[Minn. Stat., section 256M.80, subd. 2](#): Statewide evaluation. Six months after the end of the first full calendar year and annually thereafter, the commissioner shall make public counties' progress in improving outcomes of vulnerable children and adults related to safety, permanency and well-being.

[Minn. Stat., section 260.775](#); Placement of records (a) The commissioner of human services shall publish annually an inventory of all Indian children in residential facilities. The inventory shall include, by county and statewide, information on legal status, living arrangement, age, sex, tribe in which the child is a member or eligible for membership, accumulated length of time in foster care, and other demographic information deemed appropriate concerning all Indian children in residential facilities. The report must also state the extent to which authorized child-placing agencies comply with the order of preference described in United States Code, title 25, section 1901, et seq. The commissioner shall include the information required under this paragraph in the annual report on child maltreatment and on children in out-of-home placement under section [257.0725](#).

[Minn. Stat., section 260E.24, subd. 6](#): A child under age 3 who is involved in a substantiated case of maltreatment shall be referred for screening under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, part C. Parents must be informed that evaluation and acceptance of services are voluntary. The commissioner of human services shall monitor referral rates by county and annually report that information to the legislature. Refusal to have a child screened is not a basis for a child in need of protection or services petition under chapter 260C.

[Minn. Stat., section 260E.38](#): Audit. Subd. 2 states: The commissioner shall develop a plan to perform quality assurance reviews of local welfare agency screening practices and decisions. The commissioner shall provide oversight and guidance to county agencies to ensure consistent application of screening guidelines, thorough and appropriate screening decisions, and correct documentation and maintenance of reports. Subd. 3 states: The commissioner shall produce an annual report of the summary results of reviews. The report must only include aggregate data and may not include any data that could be used to personally identify any subject whose data is included in the report. The report is public information and must be provided to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees having jurisdiction over child protection issues.

Introduction

Caring for and protecting children is one of the critical functions of any society. Communities can only be successful when children have opportunities to grow, develop and thrive. [Annie E. Casey, 2017] No factor may be a stronger indicator of a poorly functioning society than high rates of child maltreatment. It is widely considered to be a public health crisis in the U.S., with far-ranging negative consequences for not only developing children, but also for families and communities in which children live.

It is critical that department staff monitor and report on the experiences of children who are alleged to have been maltreated and work of child protection in ensuring those children are safe and reaching their full potential.

What is child maltreatment?

Minnesota Statutes provide a detailed description of what constitutes child maltreatment (see [Minn. Stat. 260E](#)). Minnesota Statutes recognize six types of maltreatment: Neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, mental injury, emotional harm and threatened injury.

Minnesota's child protection system

Minnesota is a state supervised, locally administered child protection system. This means that local social service agencies (87 counties and three American Indian Initiative tribes) are responsible for screening reports, assessing allegations of maltreatment and providing protective services for children and families. The department's Child Safety and Permanency Division provides oversight, guidance, training, technical assistance and quality assurance monitoring of local agencies in support of that work. This annual report provides information on children affected and work happening across Minnesota to ensure and promote safety, permanency and well-being of children who may have experienced maltreatment. For information about performance on all state and federal performance measures, see the [Minnesota Child Welfare Data Dashboard](#).

The intake process

When community members have concerns that children are being maltreated, they can (or must if a mandated reporter – see [Minn. Stat. 260E.06, subd. 1](#), for information about who is a mandated reporter) call their local child protection agency to report concerns. Local agencies document reports of maltreatment, including information about reporters, children involved, alleged offenders and specifics of alleged maltreatment.

The annual child maltreatment report begins with information on the number of child maltreatment reports received and screening rates for these reports at the time of intake. **All other information included in the report is based on assessments/investigations completed during the calendar year because it includes information not known until an assessment/investigation closes.** Although these two groups of reports are related, they are not identical populations of reports or corresponding children. Some reports made to child protection in the year (i.e., reports at the intake phase) will not have an assessment or investigation of allegations completed until the following year and will be included in that year's annual report (e.g., reports received in December). Likewise, some assessments/investigations completed during the reporting year were based on maltreatment reports received later in the prior year.

The screening process

Once receiving a report of maltreatment, local agency staff reviews information and determines if allegation/s meet the statutory threshold for child maltreatment. If it does and allegations have not been previously assessed/investigated, staff screen in reports for further assessment or investigation. Local agencies cross report all allegations of maltreatment to law enforcement, regardless of screening decision. Table 1 provides information on the child maltreatment reports received by local agencies during the year and the screening disposition of those reports, and Table 2 provides that same information statewide by race/ethnicity.

Table 1. Screening decisions of maltreatment reports received by agency, 2021

Agency	Screened out reports (N)	Screened out reports (%)	Screened in reports (N)	Screened in reports (%)	Total reports received
Aitkin	217	66.8%	108	33.2%	325
Anoka	2,503	67.9%	1,186	32.1%	3,689
Becker	445	66.1%	228	33.9%	673
Beltrami	304	49.7%	308	50.3%	612
Benton	536	72.3%	205	27.7%	741
Big Stone	27	49.1%	28	50.9%	55
Blue Earth	726	65.6%	380	34.4%	1,106
Brown	250	53.1%	221	46.9%	471
Carlton	576	57.5%	426	42.5%	1,002
Carver	467	58.4%	332	41.6%	799
Cass	171	62.9%	101	37.1%	272
Chippewa	167	45.9%	197	54.1%	364
Chisago	499	69.0%	224	31.0%	723
Clay	1,286	75.7%	413	24.3%	1,699
Clearwater	116	54.2%	98	45.8%	214
Cook	36	42.4%	49	57.6%	85
Crow Wing	1,219	84.4%	225	15.6%	1,444
Dakota	2,900	65.5%	1,525	34.5%	4,425
Des Moines Valley HHS	317	70.9%	130	29.1%	447
Douglas	388	55.5%	311	44.5%	699
Faribault-Martin	385	56.9%	292	43.1%	677
Fillmore	168	74.3%	58	25.7%	226
Freeborn	193	54.4%	162	45.6%	355
Goodhue	417	62.2%	253	37.8%	670
Hennepin	5,863	48.3%	6,265	51.7%	12,128
Houston	109	57.7%	80	42.3%	189
Hubbard	270	59.7%	182	40.3%	452
Isanti	606	78.8%	163	21.2%	769
Itasca	211	34.4%	402	65.6%	613
Kanabec	187	70.8%	77	29.2%	264
Kandiyohi	650	61.1%	413	38.9%	1,063

Agency	Screened out reports (N)	Screened out reports (%)	Screened in reports (N)	Screened in reports (%)	Total reports received
Kittson	15	68.2%	7	31.8%	22
Koochiching	169	53.3%	148	46.7%	317
Lac qui Parle	73	65.8%	38	34.2%	111
Lake	64	53.8%	55	46.2%	119
Lake of the Woods	11	28.2%	28	71.8%	39
Le Sueur	340	67.7%	162	32.3%	502
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	395	65.1%	212	34.9%	607
Mahnomen	26	59.1%	18	40.9%	44
Marshall	74	58.7%	52	41.3%	126
McLeod	334	62.0%	205	38.0%	539
Meeker	279	63.8%	158	36.2%	437
Mille Lacs	666	71.9%	260	28.1%	926
MN Prairie	710	56.1%	555	43.9%	1,265
Morrison	743	84.8%	133	15.2%	876
Mower	464	60.9%	298	39.1%	762
Nicollet	301	56.1%	236	43.9%	537
Nobles	201	57.4%	149	42.6%	350
Norman	75	57.3%	56	42.7%	131
Olmsted	1,494	74.8%	503	25.2%	1,997
Otter Tail	478	53.2%	421	46.8%	899
Pennington	58	43.6%	75	56.4%	133
Pine	516	77.0%	154	23.0%	670
Polk	446	76.1%	140	23.9%	586
Ramsey	2,618	43.6%	3,388	56.4%	6,006
Red Lake County	8	25.8%	23	74.2%	31
Renville	139	52.3%	127	47.7%	266
Rice	650	67.2%	317	32.8%	967
Roseau	125	62.2%	76	37.8%	201
Scott	710	51.9%	657	48.1%	1,367
Sherburne	956	64.7%	521	35.3%	1,477
Sibley	103	41.9%	143	58.1%	246
Southwest HHS	981	65.8%	511	34.2%	1,492
St. Louis	1,907	40.4%	2,814	59.6%	4,721
Stearns	1,323	62.9%	780	37.1%	2,103
Stevens	99	48.5%	105	51.5%	204
Swift	187	72.2%	72	27.8%	259
Todd	343	79.2%	90	20.8%	433
Traverse	97	61.0%	62	39.0%	159
Wabasha	162	66.7%	81	33.3%	243
Wadena	352	68.3%	163	31.7%	515
Washington	1,338	64.4%	741	35.6%	2,079

Agency	Screened out reports (N)	Screened out reports (%)	Screened in reports (N)	Screened in reports (%)	Total reports received
Watonwan	124	53.7%	107	46.3%	231
Western Prairie HS	254	56.2%	198	43.8%	452
White Earth Nation	158	49.7%	160	50.3%	318
Wilkin	122	72.2%	47	27.8%	169
Winona	426	60.1%	283	39.9%	709
Wright	1,337	61.1%	853	38.9%	2,190
Yellow Medicine	108	55.7%	86	44.3%	194
Minnesota	44,768	58.7%	31,510	41.3%	76,278

Table 2. Screening decisions of maltreatment reports received by race/ethnicity, 2021

Race/Ethnicity	Screened out reports (N)	Screened out reports (%)	Screened in reports (N)	Screened in reports (%)	Total reports received
African American / Black	5,255	49.1%	5,456	50.9%	10,711
American Indian / Alaska Native	2,465	50.3%	2,434	49.7%	4,899
Asian / Pacific Islander	645	48.5%	684	51.5%	1,329
Two or more races	7,135	50.8%	6,909	49.2%	14,044
Unknown / declined	8,658	75.3%	2,842	24.7%	11,500
White	23,197	60.0%	15,445	40.0%	38,642
Total	44,768	58.7%	31,510	41.3%	76,278
Hispanic (any race)	4,305	53.4%	3,760	46.6%	8,065

Screened out maltreatment reports

There are several reasons reports of maltreatment received by local agencies may be screened out. The most common reason is that the report did not meet the statutory threshold for maltreatment. Other reasons include the report did not include enough identifying information, allegations referred to an unborn child or alleged victims were not in a family unit or covered entity and were referred to the appropriate investigative agency. Table 3 provides information on the reasons for screened out maltreatment reports statewide.

Table 3. Reasons for screened out child maltreatment reports, 2021

Screen out reason	Number	Percent
Did not meet statutory threshold	40,279	90.0%
Alleged victims not in family or licensed entity	2,169	4.8%
Allegations referred to an unborn child	1,698	3.8%
Not enough identifying information	622	1.4%
Total	44,768	100.0%

Referral source of child maltreatment reports

Mandated reporters make the vast majority of reports of maltreatment to local agencies. Mandated reporters include those in health care, law enforcement, mental health, social services, education and childcare, among others working with children. Table 4 provides information on the number and percent of reports made and the percent screened in and out by source of reporter.

Table 4. Screening decisions of maltreatment reports received by report source, 2021

Reporter type	Reporter source	Screened out reports (N)	Screened out reports (%)	Screened in reports (N)	Screened in reports (%)	Total reports received
Mandated	Chemical dependency practitioner	419	80.3%	103	19.7%	522
Mandated	Child care provider	480	70.2%	204	29.8%	684
Mandated	Clergy	57	72.2%	22	27.8%	79
Mandated	Coroner/medical examiner	41	73.2%	15	26.8%	56
Mandated	Court/court services	924	49.4%	945	50.6%	1,869
Mandated	DHS birth match	27	12.2%	194	87.8%	221
Mandated	Facility staff	371	63.5%	213	36.5%	584
Mandated	Foster parent	182	63.6%	104	36.4%	286
Mandated	Hospital/clinic	4,018	49.8%	4,044	50.2%	8,062
Mandated	Human/social services staff	3,053	49.4%	3,123	50.6%	6,176
Mandated	Law enforcement	7,722	56.7%	5,890	43.3%	13,612
Mandated	Mental health practitioner	4,705	68.0%	2,210	32.0%	6,915
Mandated	Other health practitioner	201	64.6%	110	35.4%	311
Mandated	Other mandated	3,092	62.1%	1,891	37.9%	4,983
Mandated	Other school personnel	6,510	58.3%	4,654	41.7%	11,164
Mandated	Private physician	28	59.6%	19	40.4%	47
Mandated	Public health nurse	138	77.5%	40	22.5%	178
Mandated	School nurse	159	58.0%	115	42.0%	274
Mandated	Teacher	2,379	66.8%	1,185	33.2%	3,564
Mandated	Tribal social services	87	59.6%	59	40.4%	146
Non-mandated	Alleged offender	19	52.8%	17	47.2%	36
Non-mandated	Alleged victim	118	48.6%	125	51.4%	243
Non-mandated	Anonymous	2,602	57.7%	1,910	42.3%	4,512

Reporter type	Reporter source	Screened out reports (N)	Screened out reports (%)	Screened in reports (N)	Screened in reports (%)	Total reports received
Non-mandated	Babysitter	7	38.9%	11	61.1%	18
Non-mandated	Friend/acquaintance/neighbor	1,264	58.0%	914	42.0%	2,178
Non-mandated	Other non-mandated	622	64.8%	338	35.2%	960
Non-mandated	Other relative in home	201	55.7%	160	44.3%	361
Non-mandated	Other relative out of home	1,782	58.0%	1,288	42.0%	3,070
Non-mandated	Parent in home	1,044	65.5%	550	34.5%	1,594
Non-mandated	Parent out of home	2,511	70.4%	1,055	29.6%	3,566
Unknown	Unknown	5	71.4%	2	28.6%	7
Total		44,768	58.7%	31,510	41.3%	76,278

Completed assessments and investigations

As mentioned previously, for the prior intake and screening process sections, data provided are based on reports initially made to child welfare agencies in the report calendar year. Beginning in this section, and for all subsequent sections, information provided is based on maltreatment reports with completed assessments/ investigations during the report year.

Characteristics of alleged victims in completed assessments/investigations

Minnesota children involved in allegations of maltreatment live with all types of families in all parts of the state. The following section provides demographic information on children with at least one completed child protection assessment or investigation, including:

- Number and percent of alleged in completed assessments/investigations, and rate per 1,000 in population, by gender and agency, 2021(Table 5)
- Number and (percent) of alleged victims in completed assessments/investigations by race/ethnicity alone and agency, 2021(Table 6)
- Number and (percent) of alleged victims in completed assessments/investigations by race/ethnicity alone or combined and agency, 2021(Table 7)
- Number, percent and per 1,000 rate of alleged victims in population by race/ethnicity alone, 2021 (Table 8)
- Number and (percent) of alleged victims in completed assessments/investigations by age groups and agency, 2021 (Table 9)
- Number and percent of alleged victims in completed assessments/investigations by disability status, 2021 (Table 10).

Table 5. Number and percent of alleged and determined victims in completed assessments/investigations, and rate per 1,000 in population, by gender and agency, 2021

Agency	Female (N)	Female (%)	Male (N)	Male (%)	Alleged victims	Child population	Rate per 1,000 alleged victims
Aitkin	66	55.5%	53	44.5%	119	2,604	45.7
Anoka	624	52.6%	562	47.4%	1,186	87,296	13.6
Becker	135	50.9%	130	49.1%	265	8,514	31.1
Beltrami	198	48.1%	214	51.9%	412	11,781	35.0
Benton	147	53.6%	127	46.4%	274	10,676	25.7
Big Stone	26	53.1%	23	46.9%	49	1,145	42.8
Blue Earth	211	50.6%	206	49.4%	417	13,884	30.0
Brown	97	44.7%	120	55.3%	217	5,766	37.6
Carlton	185	49.7%	187	50.3%	372	8,141	45.7
Carver	176	49.9%	177	50.1%	353	28,155	12.5
Cass	47	40.5%	69	59.5%	116	6,298	18.4
Chippewa	91	48.1%	98	51.9%	189	3,134	60.3
Chisago	103	50.0%	103	50.0%	206	12,883	16.0
Clay	209	51.9%	194	48.1%	403	16,404	24.6
Clearwater	56	52.3%	51	47.7%	107	2,186	48.9
Cook	28	45.9%	33	54.1%	61	861	70.8
Crow Wing	172	56.2%	134	43.8%	306	14,149	21.6
Dakota	749	49.6%	760	50.4%	1,509	107,500	14.0
Des Moines Valley HHS	64	44.8%	79	55.2%	143	5,078	28.2
Douglas	153	54.3%	129	45.7%	282	8,574	32.9
Faribault-Martin	170	51.1%	163	48.9%	333	7,613	43.7
Fillmore	34	51.5%	32	48.5%	66	5,302	12.4
Freeborn	94	45.6%	112	54.4%	206	6,862	30.0
Goodhue	132	51.6%	124	48.4%	256	10,580	24.2
Hennepin	3,054	51.3%	2,899	48.7%	5,953	281,235	21.2
Houston	37	52.9%	33	47.1%	70	4,187	16.7
Hubbard	109	55.6%	87	44.4%	196	4,603	42.6
Isanti	86	49.1%	89	50.9%	175	9,862	17.7
Itasca	190	50.0%	190	50.0%	380	9,358	40.6
Kanabec	53	53.0%	47	47.0%	100	3,445	29.0
Kandiyohi	215	48.4%	229	51.6%	444	10,838	41.0
Kittson	4	44.4%	5	55.6%	9	929	9.7
Koochiching	82	50.3%	81	49.7%	163	2,131	76.5

Agency	Female (N)	Female (%)	Male (N)	Male (%)	Alleged victims	Child population	Rate per 1,000 alleged victims
Lac qui Parle	17	37.8%	28	62.2%	45	1,413	31.8
Lake	32	58.2%	23	41.8%	55	2,111	26.1
Lake of the Woods	14	45.2%	17	54.8%	31	731	42.4
Le Sueur	66	48.9%	69	51.1%	135	6,779	19.9
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	84	49.1%	87	50.9%	171	2,233	76.6
Mahnomen	10	47.6%	11	52.4%	21	1,700	12.4
Marshall	25	41.0%	36	59.0%	61	2,123	28.7
McLeod	152	49.4%	156	50.6%	308	8,384	36.7
Meeker	74	52.1%	68	47.9%	142	5,734	24.8
Mille Lacs	145	54.3%	122	45.7%	267	6,261	42.6
MN Prairie	314	50.8%	304	49.2%	618	19,117	32.3
Morrison	93	44.1%	118	55.9%	211	7,974	26.5
Mower	176	52.1%	162	47.9%	338	10,267	32.9
Nicollet	115	47.3%	128	52.7%	243	7,649	31.8
Nobles	92	51.4%	87	48.6%	179	6,273	28.5
Norman	25	48.1%	27	51.9%	52	1,535	33.9
Olmsted	378	51.1%	362	48.9%	740	40,098	18.5
Otter Tail	182	47.6%	200	52.4%	382	13,236	28.9
Pennington	36	46.8%	41	53.2%	77	3,195	24.1
Pine	70	52.6%	63	47.4%	133	5,608	23.7
Polk	81	54.0%	69	46.0%	150	7,714	19.4
Ramsey	1,652	50.8%	1,600	49.2%	3,252	129,515	25.1
Red Lake County	16	59.3%	11	40.7%	27	956	28.2
Renville	75	48.7%	79	51.3%	154	3,458	44.5
Rice	180	50.8%	174	49.2%	354	14,583	24.3
Roseau	44	50.0%	44	50.0%	88	3,670	24.0
Scott	390	53.8%	335	46.2%	725	40,612	17.9
Sherburne	268	50.3%	265	49.7%	533	25,561	20.9
Sibley	81	49.4%	83	50.6%	164	3,406	48.2
Southwest HHS	294	51.0%	283	49.0%	577	18,512	31.2
St. Louis	1,311	50.9%	1,265	49.1%	2,576	38,151	67.5
Stearns	430	51.6%	403	48.4%	833	37,348	22.3
Stevens	51	41.5%	72	58.5%	123	2,116	58.1
Swift	60	58.3%	43	41.7%	103	2,279	45.2
Todd	57	53.8%	49	46.2%	106	6,114	17.3

Agency	Female (N)	Female (%)	Male (N)	Male (%)	Alleged victims	Child population	Rate per 1,000 alleged victims
Traverse	32	46.4%	37	53.6%	69	713	96.8
Wabasha	50	51.0%	48	49.0%	98	4,751	20.6
Wadena	93	49.7%	94	50.3%	187	3,736	50.1
Washington	401	51.3%	380	48.7%	781	65,552	11.9
Watonwan	72	50.7%	70	49.3%	142	2,775	51.2
Western Prairie HS	101	50.8%	98	49.2%	199	3,855	51.6
White Earth Nation	119	50.4%	117	49.6%	236	2,079	113.5
Wilkin	27	40.9%	39	59.1%	66	1,455	45.4
Winona	90	43.5%	117	56.5%	207	8,942	23.1
Wright	398	47.2%	446	52.8%	844	39,451	21.4
Yellow Medicine	54	53.5%	47	46.5%	101	2,189	46.1
Minnesota	16,324	50.6%	15,917	49.4%	32,241	1,329,576	24.2

Table 6. Number and (percent) of alleged victims in completed assessments/investigations by race/ethnicity alone and agency, 2021

Agency	African American / Black	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian / Pacific Islander	Two or more races	Unknown / declined	White	Hispanic (any race)
Aitkin	*	16 (13.4%)	*	19 (16.0%)	*	80 (67.2%)	*
Anoka	231 (19.5%)	24 (2.0%)	23 (1.9%)	190 (16.0%)	72 (6.1%)	646 (54.5%)	79 (6.7%)
Becker	8 (3.0%)	62 (23.4%)	*	73 (27.5%)	*	116 (43.8%)	20 (7.5%)
Beltrami	*	221 (53.6%)	*	83 (20.1%)	*	96 (23.3%)	10 (2.4%)
Benton	57 (20.8%)	*	*	65 (23.7%)	*	147 (53.6%)	14 (5.1%)
Big Stone	*	*	*	*	*	38 (77.6%)	*
Blue Earth	82 (19.7%)	11 (2.6%)	*	77 (18.5%)	11 (2.6%)	235 (56.4%)	27 (6.5%)
Brown	*	*	*	11 (5.1%)	*	202 (93.1%)	31 (14.3%)
Carlton	*	108 (29.0%)	*	79 (21.2%)	*	177 (47.6%)	12 (3.2%)
Carver	35 (9.9%)	7 (2.0%)	*	52 (14.7%)	29 (8.2%)	227 (64.3%)	46 (13.0%)
Cass	*	21 (18.1%)	*	9 (7.8%)	9 (7.8%)	75 (64.7%)	*

Agency	African American / Black	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian / Pacific Islander	Two or more races	Unknown / declined	White	Hispanic (any race)
Chippewa	7 (3.7%)	*	*	49 (25.9%)	*	120 (63.5%)	59 (31.2%)
Chisago	*	*	*	26 (12.6%)	16 (7.8%)	156 (75.7%)	21 (10.2%)
Clay	41 (10.2%)	49 (12.2%)	*	133 (33.0%)	*	180 (44.7%)	57 (14.1%)
Clearwater	*	17 (15.9%)	*	20 (18.7%)	*	66 (61.7%)	*
Cook	*	24 (39.3%)	*	7 (11.5%)	*	26 (42.6%)	7 (11.5%)
Crow Wing	*	21 (6.9%)	*	52 (17.0%)	*	231 (75.5%)	*
Dakota	253 (16.8%)	57 (3.8%)	27 (1.8%)	284 (18.8%)	318 (21.1%)	570 (37.8%)	243 (16.1%)
Des Moines Valley HHS	9 (6.3%)	*	*	*	14 (9.8%)	112 (78.3%)	42 (29.4%)
Douglas	8 (2.8%)	*	*	91 (32.3%)	8 (2.8%)	169 (59.9%)	22 (7.8%)
Faribault-Martin	*	7 (2.1%)	*	28 (8.4%)	12 (3.6%)	280 (84.1%)	75 (22.5%)
Fillmore	*	*	*	10 (15.2%)	*	53 (80.3%)	*
Freeborn	17 (8.3%)	*	10 (4.9%)	17 (8.3%)	9 (4.4%)	153 (74.3%)	41 (19.9%)
Goodhue	27 (10.5%)	10 (3.9%)	*	48 (18.8%)	9 (3.5%)	161 (62.9%)	25 (9.8%)
Hennepin	2388 (40.1%)	354 (5.9%)	140 (2.4%)	1347 (22.6%)	161 (2.7%)	1563 (26.3%)	827 (13.9%)
Houston	*	*	*	*	*	61 (87.1%)	*
Hubbard	*	25 (12.8%)	*	23 (11.7%)	*	139 (70.9%)	14 (7.1%)
Isanti	*	*	*	16 (9.1%)	*	145 (82.9%)	8 (4.6%)
Itasca	*	37 (9.7%)	*	140 (36.8%)	*	197 (51.8%)	10 (2.6%)
Kanabec	*	*	*	9 (9.0%)	*	80 (80.0%)	*
Kandiyohi	19 (4.3%)	13 (2.9%)	*	34 (7.7%)	11 (2.5%)	364 (82.0%)	207 (46.6%)
Kittson	*	*	*	*	*	9 (100.0%)	*
Koochiching	*	12 (7.4%)	*	21 (12.9%)	*	128 (78.5%)	*

Agency	African American / Black	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian / Pacific Islander	Two or more races	Unknown / declined	White	Hispanic (any race)
Lac qui Parle	*	*	*	7 (15.6%)	*	37 (82.2%)	*
Lake	*	*	*	*	*	46 (83.6%)	*
Lake of the Woods	*	*	*	*	*	23 (74.2%)	*
Le Sueur	*	*	*	12 (8.9%)	7 (5.2%)	113 (83.7%)	21 (15.6%)
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	*	159 (93.0%)	*	12 (7.0%)	*	*	*
Mahnomen	*	10 (47.6%)	*	9 (42.9%)	*	*	*
Marshall	*	*	*	20 (32.8%)	*	37 (60.7%)	9 (14.8%)
McLeod	12 (3.9%)	*	*	54 (17.5%)	17 (5.5%)	224 (72.7%)	52 (16.9%)
Meeker	7 (4.9%)	*	*	7 (4.9%)	9 (6.3%)	117 (82.4%)	13 (9.2%)
Mille Lacs	7 (2.6%)	76 (28.5%)	*	37 (13.9%)	*	141 (52.8%)	*
MN Prairie	40 (6.5%)	*	*	45 (7.3%)	19 (3.1%)	508 (82.2%)	92 (14.9%)
Morrison	12 (5.7%)	10 (4.7%)	*	37 (17.5%)	7 (3.3%)	145 (68.7%)	14 (6.6%)
Mower	52 (15.4%)	*	25 (7.4%)	31 (9.2%)	*	227 (67.2%)	65 (19.2%)
Nicollet	31 (12.8%)	*	*	62 (25.5%)	13 (5.3%)	134 (55.1%)	45 (18.5%)
Nobles	14 (7.8%)	*	15 (8.4%)	10 (5.6%)	43 (24.0%)	94 (52.5%)	88 (49.2%)
Norman	*	*	*	7 (13.5%)	*	42 (80.8%)	9 (17.3%)
Olmsted	135 (18.2%)	*	31 (4.2%)	177 (23.9%)	12 (1.6%)	379 (51.2%)	96 (13.0%)
Otter Tail	20 (5.2%)	19 (5.0%)	*	55 (14.4%)	32 (8.4%)	256 (67.0%)	11 (2.9%)
Pennington	*	*	*	*	*	65 (84.4%)	17 (22.1%)
Pine	*	37 (27.8%)	*	*	7 (5.3%)	83 (62.4%)	*
Polk	7 (4.7%)	10 (6.7%)	*	29 (19.3%)	*	100 (66.7%)	35 (23.3%)
Ramsey	1,201 (36.9%)	86 (2.6%)	438 (13.5%)	556 (17.1%)	107 (3.3%)	864 (26.6%)	389 (12.0%)

Agency	African American / Black	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian / Pacific Islander	Two or more races	Unknown / declined	White	Hispanic (any race)
Red Lake County	*	*	*	*	*	22 (81.5%)	*
Renville	*	*	*	17 (11.0%)	*	129 (83.8%)	38 (24.7%)
Rice	30 (8.5%)	7 (2.0%)	*	44 (12.4%)	33 (9.3%)	239 (67.5%)	79 (22.3%)
Roseau	*	8 (9.1%)	*	20 (22.7%)	*	52 (59.1%)	*
Scott	97 (13.4%)	16 (2.2%)	35 (4.8%)	140 (19.3%)	71 (9.8%)	366 (50.5%)	108 (14.9%)
Sherburne	49 (9.2%)	15 (2.8%)	*	114 (21.4%)	35 (6.6%)	317 (59.5%)	31 (5.8%)
Sibley	*	*	*	14 (8.5%)	14 (8.5%)	130 (79.3%)	37 (22.6%)
Southwest HHS	26 (4.5%)	42 (7.3%)	11 (1.9%)	69 (12.0%)	41 (7.1%)	388 (67.2%)	86 (14.9%)
St. Louis	184 (7.1%)	284 (11.0%)	7 (0.3%)	743 (28.8%)	100 (3.9%)	1258 (48.8%)	92 (3.6%)
Stearns	172 (20.6%)	26 (3.1%)	7 (0.8%)	113 (13.6%)	31 (3.7%)	484 (58.1%)	64 (7.7%)
Stevens	*	7 (5.7%)	*	17 (13.8%)	*	92 (74.8%)	17 (13.8%)
Swift	*	*	*	13 (12.6%)	*	87 (84.5%)	31 (30.1%)
Todd	*	*	*	14 (13.2%)	*	88 (83.0%)	9 (8.5%)
Traverse	*	34 (49.3%)	*	8 (11.6%)	*	27 (39.1%)	*
Wabasha	*	*	*	11 (11.2%)	*	72 (73.5%)	8 (8.2%)
Wadena	*	7 (3.7%)	*	25 (13.4%)	16 (8.6%)	134 (71.7%)	7 (3.7%)
Washington	112 (14.3%)	22 (2.8%)	29 (3.7%)	141 (18.1%)	170 (21.8%)	307 (39.3%)	59 (7.6%)
Watonwan	*	*	*	*	8 (5.6%)	122 (85.9%)	81 (57.0%)
Western Prairie HS	*	*	*	36 (18.1%)	11 (5.5%)	148 (74.4%)	10 (5.0%)
White Earth Nation	*	229 (97.0%)	*	*	*	*	*
Wilkin	*	*	*	14 (21.2%)	*	41 (62.1%)	*
Winona	33 (15.9%)	*	*	17 (8.2%)	10 (4.8%)	143 (69.1%)	12 (5.8%)

Agency	African American / Black	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian / Pacific Islander	Two or more races	Unknown / declined	White	Hispanic (any race)
Wright	64 (7.6%)	16 (1.9%)	7 (0.8%)	112 (13.3%)	176 (20.9%)	469 (55.6%)	38 (4.5%)
Yellow Medicine	*	24 (23.8%)	*	19 (18.8%)	*	56 (55.4%)	8 (7.9%)
Minnesota	5,564 (17.3%)	2,322 (7.2%)	850 (2.6%)	5,924 (18.4%)	1,770 (5.5%)	15,811 (49.0%)	3,710 (11.5%)

* Note: If the number of children is less than seven when data are disaggregated by race/ethnicity and agency, it is not shown to prevent identification of individuals.

Table 7. Number and (percent) of alleged victims in completed assessments/investigations by race/ethnicity alone or combined and agency, 2021

Agency	African American / Black	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian / Pacific Islander	Unknown / declined	White	Hispanic (any race)
Aitkin	11 (9%)	29 (24%)	*	*	99 (83%)	* (*)
Anoka	349 (29%)	121 (10%)	37 (3%)	73 (6%)	819 (69%)	79 (7%)
Becker	22 (8%)	129 (49%)	*	*	188 (71%)	20 (8%)
Beltrami	29 (7%)	296 (72%)	*	*	174 (42%)	10 (2%)
Benton	102 (37%)	26 (9%)	*	*	208 (76%)	14 (5%)
Big Stone	*	*	*	*	41 (84%)	* (*)
Blue Earth	131 (31%)	55 (13%)	8 (2%)	10 (2%)	303 (73%)	27 (6%)
Brown	*	7 (3%)	*	*	214 (99%)	31 (14%)
Carlton	16 (4%)	178 (48%)	*	*	253 (68%)	12 (3%)
Carver	58 (16%)	35 (10%)	14 (4%)	23 (7%)	280 (79%)	46 (13%)
Cass	*	27 (23%)	*	9 (8%)	83 (72%)	* (*)
Chippewa	19 (10%)	46 (24%)	*	*	169 (89%)	59 (31%)
Chisago	17 (8%)	19 (9%)	*	16 (8%)	181 (88%)	21 (10%)
Clay	93 (23%)	159 (39%)	*	*	294 (73%)	57 (14%)
Clearwater	*	35 (33%)	*	*	89 (83%)	* (*)
Cook	*	31 (51%)	*	*	33 (54%)	7 (11%)
Crow Wing	14 (5%)	60 (20%)	*	*	283 (92%)	* (*)
Dakota	436 (29%)	219 (15%)	55 (4%)	296 (20%)	830 (55%)	243 (16%)

Agency	African American / Black	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian / Pacific Islander	Unknown / declined	White	Hispanic (any race)
Des Moines Valley HHS	10 (7%)	*	*	14 (10%)	115 (80%)	42 (29%)
Douglas	23 (8%)	90 (32%)	*	8 (3%)	259 (92%)	22 (8%)
Faribault-Martin	17 (5%)	24 (7%)	*	12 (4%)	308 (92%)	75 (23%)
Fillmore	8 (12%)	*	*	*	63 (95%)	* (*)
Freeborn	26 (13%)	8 (4%)	11 (5%)	9 (4%)	170 (83%)	41 (20%)
Goodhue	58 (23%)	32 (13%)	*	9 (4%)	205 (80%)	25 (10%)
Hennepin	3,442 (58%)	1,146 (19%)	222 (4%)	152 (3%)	2,520 (42%)	827 (14%)
Houston	*	*	*	*	65 (93%)	* (*)
Hubbard	12 (6%)	40 (20%)	*	*	163 (83%)	14 (7%)
Isanti	14 (8%)	9 (5%)	*	*	160 (91%)	8 (5%)
Itasca	23 (6%)	163 (43%)	*	*	335 (88%)	10 (3%)
Kanabec	*	8 (8%)	*	*	91 (91%)	* (*)
Kandiyohi	27 (6%)	42 (9%)	*	11 (2%)	399 (90%)	207 (47%)
Kittson	*	*	*	*	9 (100%)	* (*)
Koochiching	7 (4%)	28 (17%)	*	*	148 (91%)	* (*)
Lac qui Parle	*	*	*	*	43 (96%)	* (*)
Lake	*	*	*	*	52 (95%)	* (*)
Lake of the Woods	*	8 (26%)	*	*	27 (87%)	* (*)
Le Sueur	8 (6%)	*	*	7 (5%)	125 (93%)	21 (16%)
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	*	171 (100%)	*	*	7 (4%)	* (*)
Mahnomen	*	18 (30%)	*	*	55 (90%)	* (*)
Marshall	31 (10%)	41 (13%)	*	17 (6%)	278 (90%)	9 (15%)
McLeod	*	19 (90%)	*	*	11 (52%)	52 (17%)
Meeker	12 (8%)	*	*	9 (6%)	124 (87%)	13 (9%)
Mille Lacs	18 (7%)	105 (39%)	* (*)	*	175 (66%)	* (*)

Agency	African American / Black	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian / Pacific Islander	Unknown / declined	White	Hispanic (any race)
MN Prairie	68 (11%)	25 (4%)	7 (1%)	18 (3%)	549 (89%)	92 (15%)
Morrison	33 (16%)	27 (13%)	* (*)	7 (3%)	181 (86%)	14 (7%)
Mower	79 (23%)	13 (4%)	25 (7%)	*	258 (76%)	65 (19%)
Nicollet	58 (24%)	51 (21%)	*	13 (5%)	194 (80%)	45 (19%)
Nobles	19 (11%)	8 (4%)	20 (11%)	42 (23%)	103 (58%)	88 (49%)
Norman	*	7 (13%)	*	*	49 (94%)	9 (17%)
Olmsted	259 (35%)	86 (12%)	57 (8%)	11 (1%)	546 (74%)	96 (13%)
Otter Tail	40 (10%)	61 (16%)	*	32 (8%)	310 (81%)	11 (3%)
Pennington	*	*	*	*	68 (88%)	17 (22%)
Pine	*	42 (32%)	*	*	88 (66%)	* (*)
Polk	18 (12%)	29 (19%)	*	*	127 (85%)	35 (23%)
Ramsey	1,636 (50%)	388 (12%)	488 (15%)	95 (3%)	1,286 (40%)	389 (12%)
Red Lake County	*	*	*	*	25 (93%)	* (*)
Renville	*	18 (12%)	*	*	146 (95)	38 (25%)
Rice	53 (15%)	37 (10%)	*	24 (7%)	288 (81)	79 (22%)
Roseau	8 (9%)	19 (22%)	*	*	72 (82)	* (*)
Scott	161 (22%)	113 (16%)	54 (7%)	69 (10%)	492 (68)	108 (15%)
Sherburne	110 (21%)	90 (17%)	13 (2%)	32 (6%)	411 (77)	31 (6%)
Sibley	*	17 (10%)	*	14 (9%)	143 (87)	37 (23%)
Southwest HHS	50 (9%)	95 (16%)	14 (2%)	39 (7%)	455 (79%)	86 (15%)
St. Louis	447 (17%)	940 (36%)	40 (2%)	95 (4%)	1,928 (75%)	92 (4%)
Stearns	245 (29%)	90 (11%)	18 (2%)	27 (3%)	596 (72%)	64 (8%)
Stevens	*	21 (17%)	*	*	110 (89%)	17 (14%)
Swift	12 (12%)	9 (9%)	*	*	98 (95%)	31 (30%)
Todd	*	13 (12%)	*	*	101 (95%)	9 (8%)
Traverse	*	42 (61%)	*	*	35 (51%)	* (*)
Wabasha	9 (9%)	15 (15%)	*	*	82 (84%)	8 (8%)
Wadena	18 (10%)	23 (12%)	*	16 (9%)	157 (84%)	7 (4%)
Washington	186 (24%)	106 (14%)	50 (6%)	165 (21%)	434 (56%)	59 (8%)

Agency	African American / Black	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian / Pacific Islander	Unknown / declined	White	Hispanic (any race)
Watonwan	7 (5%)	* (*)	*	8 (6%)	127 (89%)	81 (57%)
Western Prairie HS	15 (8%)	28 (14%)	*	10 (5%)	185 (93%)	10 (5%)
White Earth Nation	*	236 (100%)	*	*	*	* (*)
Wilkin	*	18 (27%)	*	*	55 (83%)	* (*)
Winona	48 (23%)	*	*	10 (5%)	160 (77%)	12 (6%)
Wright	121 (14%)	78 (9%)	17 (2%)	174 (21%)	579 (69%)	38 (5%)
Yellow Medicine	*	40 (40%)	*	*	75 (74%)	8 (8%)
Minnesota	8,828 (27%)	6,313 (20%)	1,255 (4%)	1,622 (5%)	21,000 (65%)	3,710 (12%)

* Note: If the number of children is less than seven when data are disaggregated by race/ethnicity and agency, it is not shown to prevent identification of individuals. Children may be counted in multiple race/ethnicity categories; therefore, percentages will not total 100%.

Table 8. Number, percent and per 1,000 rate of alleged victims in population by race/ethnicity alone, 2021

	African American / Black	American Indian / Alaska Native	Asian / Pacific Islander	Two or more races	White	Total	Hispanic (any race)
Alleged Victims (N)	5,564	2,322	850	5,924	15,811	32,241	3,710
Alleged Victim (%)	17.3%	7.2%	2.6%	18.4%	49.0%	100.0%	11.5%
Population (N)	144,611	27,890	89,012	78,716	989,347	1,329,576	122,347
Population (%)	10.9%	2.1%	6.7%	5.9%	74.4%	100.0%	9.2%
Per 1,000 Rate	38.5	83.3	9.5	75.3	16.0	24.2	30.3

Table 9. Number and (percent) of alleged victims in completed assessments/investigations by age groups and agency, 2021

Agency	Under 3 years	3 to 5 years	6 to 8 years	9 to 11 years	12 to 14 years	15 to 17 years
Aitkin	20 (16.8%)	13 (10.9%)	20 (16.8%)	26 (21.8%)	26 (21.8%)	14 (11.8%)
Anoka	277 (23.4%)	181 (15.3%)	231 (19.5%)	198 (16.7%)	161 (13.6%)	138 (11.6%)
Becker	58 (21.9%)	47 (17.7%)	50 (18.9%)	45 (17.0%)	35 (13.2%)	30 (11.3%)
Beltrami	106 (25.7%)	69 (16.7%)	63 (15.3%)	69 (16.7%)	64 (15.5%)	41 (10.0%)
Benton	79 (28.8%)	48 (17.5%)	52 (19.0%)	42 (15.3%)	33 (12.0%)	20 (7.3%)
Big Stone	10 (20.4%)	13 (26.5%)	9 (18.4%)	7 (14.3%)	6 (12.2%)	4 (8.2%)

Agency	Under 3 years	3 to 5 years	6 to 8 years	9 to 11 years	12 to 14 years	15 to 17 years
Blue Earth	123 (29.5%)	80 (19.2%)	79 (18.9%)	57 (13.7%)	49 (11.8%)	29 (7.0%)
Brown	48 (22.1%)	50 (23.0%)	30 (13.8%)	42 (19.4%)	29 (13.4%)	18 (8.3%)
Carlton	67 (18.0%)	52 (14.0%)	74 (19.9%)	67 (18.0%)	65 (17.5%)	47 (12.6%)
Carver	65 (18.4%)	56 (15.9%)	57 (16.1%)	54 (15.3%)	59 (16.7%)	62 (17.6%)
Cass	27 (23.3%)	22 (19.0%)	20 (17.2%)	19 (16.4%)	14 (12.1%)	14 (12.1%)
Chippewa	32 (16.9%)	35 (18.5%)	43 (22.8%)	33 (17.5%)	22 (11.6%)	24 (12.7%)
Chisago	57 (27.7%)	32 (15.5%)	30 (14.6%)	33 (16.0%)	29 (14.1%)	25 (12.1%)
Clay	97 (24.1%)	73 (18.1%)	79 (19.6%)	66 (16.4%)	51 (12.7%)	37 (9.2%)
Clearwater	27 (25.2%)	26 (24.3%)	14 (13.1%)	11 (10.3%)	19 (17.8%)	10 (9.3%)
Cook	4 (6.6%)	16 (26.2%)	13 (21.3%)	7 (11.5%)	10 (16.4%)	11 (18.0%)
Crow Wing	77 (25.2%)	46 (15.0%)	53 (17.3%)	50 (16.3%)	53 (17.3%)	27 (8.8%)
Dakota	294 (19.5%)	227 (15.0%)	262 (17.4%)	304 (20.1%)	240 (15.9%)	182 (12.1%)
Des Moines Valley HHS	28 (19.6%)	25 (17.5%)	29 (20.3%)	32 (22.4%)	23 (16.1%)	6 (4.2%)
Douglas	51 (18.1%)	50 (17.7%)	48 (17.0%)	45 (16.0%)	55 (19.5%)	33 (11.7%)
Faribault-Martin	57 (17.1%)	72 (21.6%)	67 (20.1%)	45 (13.5%)	59 (17.7%)	33 (9.9%)
Fillmore	14 (21.2%)	14 (21.2%)	11 (16.7%)	10 (15.2%)	7 (10.6%)	10 (15.2%)
Freeborn	65 (31.6%)	38 (18.4%)	31 (15.0%)	28 (13.6%)	21 (10.2%)	23 (11.2%)
Goodhue	53 (20.7%)	57 (22.3%)	54 (21.1%)	38 (14.8%)	27 (10.5%)	27 (10.5%)
Hennepin	1,462 (24.6%)	926 (15.6%)	1,061 (17.8%)	962 (16.2%)	865 (14.5%)	677 (11.4%)
Houston	11 (15.7%)	17 (24.3%)	15 (21.4%)	12 (17.1%)	10 (14.3%)	5 (7.1%)
Hubbard	35 (17.9%)	37 (18.9%)	30 (15.3%)	35 (17.9%)	26 (13.3%)	33 (16.8%)
Isanti	34 (19.4%)	27 (15.4%)	33 (18.9%)	25 (14.3%)	35 (20.0%)	21 (12.0%)
Itasca	66 (17.4%)	88 (23.2%)	79 (20.8%)	56 (14.7%)	54 (14.2%)	37 (9.7%)
Kanabec	24 (24.0%)	15 (15.0%)	16 (16.0%)	13 (13.0%)	22 (22.0%)	10 (10.0%)
Kandiyohi	88 (19.8%)	76 (17.1%)	79 (17.8%)	78 (17.6%)	65 (14.6%)	58 (13.1%)
Kittson	1 (11.1%)	3 (33.3%)	2 (22.2%)	1 (11.1%)	2 (22.2%)	0 (0.0%)
Koochiching	33 (20.2%)	30 (18.4%)	28 (17.2%)	28 (17.2%)	31 (19.0%)	13 (8.0%)
Lac qui Parle	8 (17.8%)	5 (11.1%)	7 (15.6%)	10 (22.2%)	6 (13.3%)	9 (20.0%)
Lake	7 (12.7%)	12 (21.8%)	17 (30.9%)	10 (18.2%)	4 (7.3%)	5 (9.1%)
Lake of the Woods	5 (16.1%)	8 (25.8%)	9 (29.0%)	3 (9.7%)	3 (9.7%)	3 (9.7%)
Le Sueur	29 (21.5%)	24 (17.8%)	17 (12.6%)	23 (17.0%)	18 (13.3%)	24 (17.8%)
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	40 (23.4%)	27 (15.8%)	40 (23.4%)	45 (26.3%)	8 (4.7%)	11 (6.4%)
Mahnomen	7 (33.3%)	1 (4.8%)	4 (19.0%)	2 (9.5%)	4 (19.0%)	3 (14.3%)
Marshall	12 (19.7%)	15 (24.6%)	10 (16.4%)	7 (11.5%)	11 (18.0%)	6 (9.8%)
McLeod	58 (18.8%)	46 (14.9%)	63 (20.5%)	62 (20.1%)	45 (14.6%)	34 (11.0%)
Meeker	34 (23.9%)	25 (17.6%)	31 (21.8%)	20 (14.1%)	15 (10.6%)	17 (12.0%)

Agency	Under 3 years	3 to 5 years	6 to 8 years	9 to 11 years	12 to 14 years	15 to 17 years
Mille Lacs	66 (24.7%)	48 (18.0%)	41 (15.4%)	39 (14.6%)	46 (17.2%)	27 (10.1%)
MN Prairie	132 (21.4%)	104 (16.8%)	121 (19.6%)	100 (16.2%)	101 (16.3%)	60 (9.7%)
Morrison	51 (24.2%)	34 (16.1%)	42 (19.9%)	31 (14.7%)	32 (15.2%)	21 (10.0%)
Mower	81 (24.0%)	49 (14.5%)	67 (19.8%)	61 (18.0%)	55 (16.3%)	25 (7.4%)
Nicollet	44 (18.1%)	40 (16.5%)	48 (19.8%)	42 (17.3%)	41 (16.9%)	27 (11.1%)
Nobles	37 (20.7%)	30 (16.8%)	33 (18.4%)	22 (12.3%)	40 (22.3%)	17 (9.5%)
Norman	7 (13.5%)	8 (15.4%)	11 (21.2%)	11 (21.2%)	9 (17.3%)	6 (11.5%)
Olmsted	169 (22.8%)	128 (17.3%)	144 (19.5%)	122 (16.5%)	105 (14.2%)	72 (9.7%)
Otter Tail	72 (18.8%)	69 (18.1%)	82 (21.5%)	64 (16.8%)	52 (13.6%)	43 (11.3%)
Pennington	15 (19.5%)	13 (16.9%)	12 (15.6%)	14 (18.2%)	18 (23.4%)	5 (6.5%)
Pine	44 (33.1%)	20 (15.0%)	18 (13.5%)	18 (13.5%)	20 (15.0%)	13 (9.8%)
Polk	37 (24.7%)	24 (16.0%)	25 (16.7%)	28 (18.7%)	22 (14.7%)	14 (9.3%)
Ramsey	747 (23.0%)	480 (14.8%)	613 (18.8%)	569 (17.5%)	477 (14.7%)	365 (11.2%)
Red Lake County	9 (33.3%)	4 (14.8%)	6 (22.2%)	4 (14.8%)	3 (11.1%)	1 (3.7%)
Renville	29 (18.8%)	35 (22.7%)	23 (14.9%)	19 (12.3%)	30 (19.5%)	18 (11.7%)
Rice	71 (20.1%)	66 (18.6%)	61 (17.2%)	56 (15.8%)	62 (17.5%)	38 (10.7%)
Roseau	15 (17.0%)	14 (15.9%)	16 (18.2%)	17 (19.3%)	20 (22.7%)	6 (6.8%)
Scott	127 (17.5%)	119 (16.4%)	122 (16.8%)	127 (17.5%)	120 (16.6%)	110 (15.2%)
Sherburne	93 (17.4%)	86 (16.1%)	79 (14.8%)	97 (18.2%)	94 (17.6%)	84 (15.8%)
Sibley	25 (15.2%)	24 (14.6%)	39 (23.8%)	28 (17.1%)	25 (15.2%)	23 (14.0%)
Southwest HHS	108 (18.7%)	93 (16.1%)	106 (18.4%)	108 (18.7%)	98 (17.0%)	64 (11.1%)
St. Louis	590 (22.9%)	468 (18.2%)	512 (19.9%)	403 (15.6%)	357 (13.9%)	245 (9.5%)
Stearns	210 (25.2%)	151 (18.1%)	131 (15.7%)	141 (16.9%)	105 (12.6%)	95 (11.4%)
Stevens	19 (15.4%)	26 (21.1%)	20 (16.3%)	24 (19.5%)	18 (14.6%)	16 (13.0%)
Swift	24 (23.3%)	19 (18.4%)	14 (13.6%)	18 (17.5%)	13 (12.6%)	15 (14.6%)
Todd	22 (20.8%)	15 (14.2%)	13 (12.3%)	30 (28.3%)	19 (17.9%)	7 (6.6%)
Traverse	15 (21.7%)	14 (20.3%)	17 (24.6%)	8 (11.6%)	8 (11.6%)	7 (10.1%)
Wabasha	14 (14.3%)	23 (23.5%)	21 (21.4%)	14 (14.3%)	20 (20.4%)	6 (6.1%)
Wadena	49 (26.2%)	41 (21.9%)	30 (16.0%)	25 (13.4%)	25 (13.4%)	17 (9.1%)
Washington	181 (23.2%)	119 (15.2%)	130 (16.6%)	140 (17.9%)	124 (15.9%)	87 (11.1%)
Watonwan	31 (21.8%)	35 (24.6%)	19 (13.4%)	18 (12.7%)	23 (16.2%)	16 (11.3%)
Western Prairie HS	34 (17.1%)	42 (21.1%)	45 (22.6%)	26 (13.1%)	35 (17.6%)	17 (8.5%)
White Earth Nation	56 (23.7%)	41 (17.4%)	49 (20.8%)	42 (17.8%)	25 (10.6%)	23 (9.7%)
Wilkin	10 (15.2%)	15 (22.7%)	17 (25.8%)	12 (18.2%)	8 (12.1%)	4 (6.1%)
Winona	57 (27.5%)	29 (14.0%)	45 (21.7%)	32 (15.5%)	21 (10.1%)	23 (11.1%)
Wright	149 (17.7%)	147 (17.4%)	154 (18.2%)	129 (15.3%)	161 (19.1%)	103 (12.2%)

Agency	Under 3 years	3 to 5 years	6 to 8 years	9 to 11 years	12 to 14 years	15 to 17 years
Yellow Medicine	21 (20.8%)	16 (15.8%)	23 (22.8%)	16 (15.8%)	15 (14.9%)	10 (9.9%)
Minnesota	7,151 (22.2%)	5,413 (16.8%)	5,909 (18.3%)	5,375 (16.7%)	4,828 (15.0%)	3,561 (11.0%)

Note: For victims with more than one report during the report year, the age at their first screened in and completed maltreatment report was used to determine age group. There were four alleged victims who were identified as 18 years of age.

Table 10. Number and percent of alleged victims in completed assessments/investigations by disability status, 2021

	Alleged victims	Percent of alleged victims
No known disability	28,748	89.2%
Emotional disturbance	2,449	7.6%
Other condition	785	2.4%
Developmental disability	562	1.7%
Speech impairment	210	0.7%
Learning disability	177	0.5%
Physical disability	106	0.3%
Chemical dependency	85	0.3%
Hearing impairment	57	0.2%
Visual impairment	32	0.1%
Currently evaluating	2	0.0%
Total	32,241	100.0%

Note: Children may be counted in multiple disability categories; therefore, percentages will not total 100%.

Prior screened out reports

Minnesota statute currently requires county and tribal child welfare agencies to consider children’s prior screened out report histories when making a decision to screen in a new report. Children’s histories of screened out maltreatment reports has shown to be a predictor of future maltreatment. [Morley & Kaplan, 2011] The following table examines whether children involved in a screened out maltreatment report were eventually involved in a screened in maltreatment report. To conduct this examination, children in screened out reports during the prior reporting year with no prior child protection history within the past four years were followed to see if they were alleged victims in a screened in report within 12 months of their initial screened out report.

Table 11. Alleged victims with a screened out maltreatment report in 2020 with a subsequent screened in and completed assessment/investigation report within 12 months

	Alleged victims with prior screened out report(s) in previous year (N)	Alleged victims with a subsequent screened in report (N)	Alleged victims with a subsequent screened in report (%)
One report	15,093	2,064	13.7%
Two reports	2,652	553	20.9%
Three reports	755	205	27.2%
Four or more reports	492	162	32.9%
Total	18,991	2,984	15.7%

Note: Only victims in screened out reports in 2020 with no prior child protection involvement are included.

Alleged maltreatment type

In any given report of maltreatment, a child may have one or more types of alleged maltreatment identified. The five main categories of maltreatment are:

- **Mental injury**, behavior of a caregiver that causes emotional or mental injury to child
- **Neglect**, not adequately providing for the physical, mental or behavioral needs of child
- **Physical abuse**, behavior that is intended to and/or results in physical harm to child
- **Sexual abuse**, any behavior towards or exploitation of children by a caregiver sexual in manner
- **Threatened injury**, attempting or threatening harm to child or placing them in a situation putting them at risk for serious harm.

Refer to the [Minnesota Child Maltreatment Screening Guidelines](#) and [Minn. Stat. 260E](#), Reporting of Maltreatment of Minors. Table 12 provides information on the number and percent of alleged victims by maltreatment type.

Table 12. Number and percent of alleged victims in completed assessments/investigations by maltreatment type and agency, 2021

	Neglect (N)	Neglect (%)	Physical abuse (N)	Physical abuse (%)	Threatened injury (N)	Threatened injury (%)	Sexual abuse (N)	Sexual abuse (%)	Mental injury (N)	Mental injury (%)
Aitkin	75	63.0%	41	34.5%	5	4.2%	17	14.3%	1	0.8%
Anoka	685	57.8%	344	29.0%	121	10.2%	153	12.9%	17	1.4%
Becker	188	70.9%	50	18.9%	35	13.2%	40	15.1%	13	4.9%
Beltrami	287	69.7%	95	23.1%	35	8.5%	42	10.2%	22	5.3%
Benton	184	67.2%	34	12.4%	46	16.8%	35	12.8%	8	2.9%
Big Stone	27	55.1%	12	24.5%	3	6.1%	5	10.2%	9	18.4%
Blue Earth	289	69.3%	93	22.3%	18	4.3%	39	9.4%	5	1.2%
Brown	137	63.1%	59	27.2%	23	10.6%	23	10.6%	29	13.4%
Carlton	249	66.9%	86	23.1%	58	15.6%	49	13.2%	78	21.0%
Carver	169	47.9%	92	26.1%	42	11.9%	89	25.2%	11	3.1%
Cass	68	58.6%	32	27.6%	7	6.0%	14	12.1%	9	7.8%
Chippewa	141	74.6%	51	27.0%	25	13.2%	24	12.7%	14	7.4%
Chisago	128	62.1%	43	20.9%	29	14.1%	18	8.7%	8	3.9%

	Neglect (N)	Neglect (%)	Physical abuse (N)	Physical abuse (%)	Threatened injury (N)	Threatened injury (%)	Sexual abuse (N)	Sexual abuse (%)	Mental injury (N)	Mental injury (%)
Clay	267	66.3%	72	17.9%	38	9.4%	66	16.4%	5	1.2%
Clearwater	72	67.3%	20	18.7%	22	20.6%	21	19.6%	4	3.7%
Cook	44	72.1%	9	14.8%	13	21.3%	7	11.5%	2	3.3%
Crow Wing	179	58.5%	128	41.8%	15	4.9%	55	18.0%	21	6.9%
Dakota	999	66.2%	395	26.2%	34	2.3%	204	13.5%	6	0.4%
Des Moines Valley HHS	79	55.2%	40	28.0%	8	5.6%	25	17.5%	2	1.4%
Douglas	209	74.1%	56	19.9%	63	22.3%	23	8.2%	49	17.4%
Faribault-Martin	238	71.5%	89	26.7%	4	1.2%	33	9.9%	6	1.8%
Fillmore	34	51.5%	18	27.3%	9	13.6%	5	7.6%	2	3.0%
Freeborn	133	64.6%	44	21.4%	58	28.2%	24	11.7%	13	6.3%
Goodhue	175	68.4%	71	27.7%	7	2.7%	41	16.0%	3	1.2%
Hennepin	3,355	56.4%	1,468	24.7%	1,365	22.9%	929	15.6%	189	3.2%
Houston	46	65.7%	19	27.1%	0	0%	3	4.3%	15	21.4%
Hubbard	129	65.8%	55	28.1%	38	19.4%	24	12.2%	33	16.8%
Isanti	98	56.0%	46	26.3%	12	6.9%	37	21.1%	5	2.9%
Itasca	238	62.6%	69	18.2%	84	22.1%	52	13.7%	18	4.7%
Kanabec	75	75.0%	24	24.0%	14	14.0%	10	10.0%	8	8.0%
Kandiyohi	294	66.2%	102	23.0%	65	14.6%	99	22.3%	16	3.6%
Kittson	6	66.7%	1	11.1%	0	0%	4	44.4%	1	11.1%
Koochiching	133	81.6%	22	13.5%	9	5.5%	12	7.4%	12	7.4%
Lac qui Parle	32	71.1%	8	17.8%	5	11.1%	6	13.3%	4	8.9%
Lake	40	72.7%	7	12.7%	3	5.5%	9	16.4%	7	12.7%
Lake of the Woods	24	77.4%	4	12.9%	0	%	3	9.7%	0	0%
Le Sueur	94	69.6%	34	25.2%	5	3.7%	11	8.1%	8	5.9%
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	145	84.8%	11	6.4%	9	5.3%	6	3.5%	7	4.1%
Mahnomen	19	90.5%	1	4.8%	0	0%	2	9.5%	0	0%
Marshall	48	78.7%	11	18.0%	2	3.3%	8	13.1%	1	1.6%
McLeod	201	65.3%	50	16.2%	63	20.5%	59	19.2%	8	2.6%
Meeker	96	67.6%	28	19.7%	12	8.5%	16	11.3%	1	0.7%
Mille Lacs	192	71.9%	61	22.8%	67	25.1%	38	14.2%	14	5.2%
MN Prairie	389	62.9%	127	20.6%	29	4.7%	129	20.9%	69	11.2%
Morrison	119	56.4%	49	23.2%	14	6.6%	40	19.0%	3	1.4%
Mower	204	60.4%	82	24.3%	39	11.5%	58	17.2%	11	3.3%
Nicollet	158	65.0%	50	20.6%	51	21.0%	15	6.2%	19	7.8%
Nobles	86	48.0%	45	25.1%	31	17.3%	44	24.6%	2	1.1%
Norman	25	48.1%	11	21.2%	10	19.2%	14	26.9%	16	30.8%
Olmsted	227	30.7%	137	18.5%	312	42.2%	130	17.6%	11	1.5%
Otter Tail	256	67.0%	92	24.1%	20	5.2%	51	13.4%	40	10.5%
Pennington	52	67.5%	11	14.3%	5	6.5%	13	16.9%	0	0%
Pine	88	66.2%	33	24.8%	6	4.5%	19	14.3%	0	0%
Polk	91	60.7%	46	30.7%	3	2.0%	27	18.0%	6	4.0%
Ramsey	2,017	62.0%	739	22.7%	643	19.8%	395	12.1%	131	4.0%
Red Lake County	17	63.0%	9	33.3%	0	0%	2	7.4%	0	0%
Renville	104	67.5%	29	18.8%	14	9.1%	21	13.6%	24	15.6%

	Neglect (N)	Neglect (%)	Physical abuse (N)	Physical abuse (%)	Threatened injury (N)	Threatened injury (%)	Sexual abuse (N)	Sexual abuse (%)	Mental injury (N)	Mental injury (%)
Rice	196	55.4%	111	31.4%	23	6.5%	77	21.8%	12	3.4%
Roseau	67	76.1%	18	20.5%	1	1.1%	6	6.8%	2	2.3%
Scott	375	51.7%	208	28.7%	106	14.6%	123	17.0%	29	4.0%
Sherburne	306	57.4%	170	31.9%	21	3.9%	74	13.9%	47	8.8%
Sibley	110	67.1%	65	39.6%	7	4.3%	11	6.7%	14	8.5%
Southwest HHS	352	61.0%	114	19.8%	99	17.2%	136	23.6%	10	1.7%
St. Louis	1,774	68.9%	472	18.3%	718	27.9%	394	15.3%	155	6.0%
Stearns	496	59.5%	185	22.2%	196	23.5%	121	14.5%	11	1.3%
Stevens	91	74.0%	27	22.0%	25	20.3%	15	12.2%	9	7.3%
Swift	81	78.6%	15	14.6%	2	1.9%	15	14.6%	4	3.9%
Todd	72	67.9%	16	15.1%	20	18.9%	12	11.3%	3	2.8%
Traverse	57	82.6%	10	14.5%	8	11.6%	4	5.8%	9	13.0%
Wabasha	50	51.0%	23	23.5%	9	9.2%	16	16.3%	9	9.2%
Wadena	121	64.7%	23	12.3%	41	21.9%	30	16.0%	27	14.4%
Washington	415	53.1%	203	26.0%	158	20.2%	129	16.5%	21	2.7%
Watonwan	94	66.2%	32	22.5%	5	3.5%	23	16.2%	5	3.5%
Western Prairie HS	146	73.4%	34	17.1%	41	20.6%	18	9.0%	34	17.1%
White Earth Nation	192	81.4%	32	13.6%	13	5.5%	11	4.7%	7	3.0%
Wilkin	44	66.7%	13	19.7%	4	6.1%	13	19.7%	1	1.5%
Winona	152	73.4%	34	16.4%	14	6.8%	24	11.6%	7	3.4%
Wright	518	61.4%	196	23.2%	104	12.3%	114	13.5%	53	6.3%
Yellow Medicine	48	47.5%	17	16.8%	14	13.9%	23	22.8%	15	14.9%
Minnesota	19,911	61.8%	7,473	23.2%	5,277	16.4%	4,727	14.7%	1,500	4.7%

Note: Alleged victims can have more than one allegation type and so rows may not total the number of alleged victims.

Child protection response path assignment

Once a report has been accepted and screened in, local agencies assign a case to one of three child protection responses: Family Assessment, Family Investigation, or Facility Investigation. All response paths are mandatory; families must engage with child protection or face the possibility of court action. Information about how cases are assigned to each of the tracks is provided below. (Note: A **case** in this report refers to a completed investigation or assessment.)

By law, cases including allegations of sexual abuse or substantial child endangerment (such as egregious harm, homicide, felony assault, abandonment, neglect due to failure to thrive, and malicious punishment), must be assigned to **Family Investigation**. Maltreatment allegations reported occurring in family foster homes or family childcare homes are assigned to **Facility Investigation**. Maltreatment occurring in state licensed residential facilities, institutions and childcare centers is investigated by the Minnesota Department of Human Services, Licensing Division, and is not included in this report. Cases not alleging substantial child endangerment or sexual abuse can be assigned to **Family Assessment**, or if complicating factors are associated with a report, such as frequent, similar, or recent history of past reports, or need for legal intervention due to violent activities in a home, a local agency may, at its discretion, assign reports to **Family Investigation** for a response.

In all types of child protection responses to maltreatment reports, the assessment or investigative phase has five shared goals:

- Identify and resolve immediate safety needs of children
- Conduct fact-finding regarding circumstances described in a maltreatment report
- Identify risk of ongoing maltreatment
- Identify needs and circumstances of children (and families)
- Determine whether child protective services focus on providing ongoing safety, permanency and well-being for children.

In investigations (both family and facility), an additional goal is to use evidence gathered through fact-finding to determine if it is maintained that the allegations of maltreatment occurred. If a determination of maltreatment is made, information is maintained for a minimum of 10 years. Table 13 shows the number and percent of cases and alleged victims by response path and agency.

Table 13. Number and (percent) of cases and victims by path assignment and agency, 2021

FA – Family Assessment; FI – Family Investigation; Fac Inv – Facility Investigation

Agency	FA alleged victims	FA cases	FI alleged victims	FI cases	Fac. Inv. alleged victims	Fac. Inv. cases	Total alleged victims	Total cases
Aitkin	88 (73.9%)	63 (67.0%)	35 (29.4%)	31 (33.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	119 (100.0%)	94 (100.0%)
Anoka	718 (60.5%)	597 (61.0%)	476 (40.1%)	356 (36.4%)	31 (2.6%)	26 (2.7%)	1,186 (100.0%)	979 (100.0%)
Becker	108 (40.8%)	86 (47.0%)	151 (57.0%)	89 (48.6%)	17 (6.4%)	8 (4.4%)	265 (100.0%)	183 (100.0%)
Beltrami	196 (47.6%)	114 (44.5%)	211 (51.2%)	131 (51.2%)	22 (5.3%)	11 (4.3%)	412 (100.0%)	256 (100.0%)
Benton	157 (57.3%)	113 (57.7%)	127 (46.4%)	82 (41.8%)	1 (0.4%)	1 (0.5%)	274 (100.0%)	196 (100.0%)
Big Stone	37 (75.5%)	21 (70.0%)	9 (18.4%)	6 (20.0%)	4 (8.2%)	3 (10.0%)	49 (100.0%)	30 (100.0%)
Blue Earth	355 (85.1%)	287 (83.9%)	66 (15.8%)	51 (14.9%)	5 (1.2%)	4 (1.2%)	417 (100.0%)	342 (100.0%)
Brown	175 (80.6%)	135 (79.9%)	47 (21.7%)	31 (18.3%)	7 (3.2%)	3 (1.8%)	217 (100.0%)	169 (100.0%)
Carlton	285 (76.6%)	238 (74.8%)	80 (21.5%)	58 (18.2%)	28 (7.5%)	22 (6.9%)	372 (100.0%)	318 (100.0%)
Carver	224 (63.5%)	183 (66.3%)	135 (38.2%)	87 (31.5%)	10 (2.8%)	6 (2.2%)	353 (100.0%)	276 (100.0%)
Cass	81 (69.8%)	62 (72.1%)	29 (25.0%)	19 (22.1%)	7 (6.0%)	5 (5.8%)	116 (100.0%)	86 (100.0%)
Chippewa	116 (61.4%)	101 (66.4%)	78 (41.3%)	46 (30.3%)	4 (2.1%)	5 (3.3%)	189 (100.0%)	152 (100.0%)
Chisago	154 (74.8%)	111 (69.8%)	61 (29.6%)	46 (28.9%)	4 (1.9%)	2 (1.3%)	206 (100.0%)	159 (100.0%)
Clay	314 (77.9%)	201 (75.3%)	93 (23.1%)	57 (21.3%)	12 (3.0%)	9 (3.4%)	403 (100.0%)	267 (100.0%)
Clearwater	54 (50.5%)	38 (55.1%)	55 (51.4%)	27 (39.1%)	11 (10.3%)	4 (5.8%)	107 (100.0%)	69 (100.0%)

Agency	FA alleged victims	FA cases	FI alleged victims	FI cases	Fac. Inv. alleged victims	Fac. Inv. cases	Total alleged victims	Total cases
Cook	40 (65.6%)	27 (61.4%)	23 (37.7%)	17 (38.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	61 (100.0%)	44 (100.0%)
Crow Wing	201 (65.7%)	140 (64.5%)	99 (32.4%)	71 (32.7%)	12 (3.9%)	6 (2.8%)	306 (100.0%)	217 (100.0%)
Dakota	891 (59.0%)	739 (60.3%)	628 (41.6%)	462 (37.7%)	29 (1.9%)	24 (2.0%)	1,509 (100.0%)	1,225 (100.0%)
Des Moines Valley HHS	96 (67.1%)	71 (64.0%)	49 (34.3%)	37 (33.3%)	6 (4.2%)	3 (2.7%)	143 (100.0%)	111 (100.0%)
Douglas	176 (62.4%)	127 (61.7%)	114 (40.4%)	74 (35.9%)	9 (3.2%)	5 (2.4%)	282 (100.0%)	206 (100.0%)
Faribault-Martin	251 (75.4%)	172 (71.7%)	96 (28.8%)	65 (27.1%)	4 (1.2%)	3 (1.3%)	333 (100.0%)	240 (100.0%)
Fillmore	57 (86.4%)	46 (83.6%)	9 (13.6%)	9 (16.4%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	66 (100.0%)	55 (100.0%)
Freeborn	122 (59.2%)	80 (56.3%)	94 (45.6%)	59 (41.5%)	4 (1.9%)	3 (2.1%)	206 (100.0%)	142 (100.0%)
Goodhue	202 (78.9%)	163 (79.9%)	52 (20.3%)	37 (18.1%)	14 (5.5%)	4 (2.0%)	256 (100.0%)	204 (100.0%)
Hennepin	3,836 (64.4%)	2,999 (64.9%)	2,254 (37.9%)	1,486 (32.2%)	189 (3.2%)	134 (2.9%)	5,953 (100.0%)	4,619 (100.0%)
Houston	58 (82.9%)	44 (81.5%)	13 (18.6%)	8 (14.8%)	2 (2.9%)	2 (3.7%)	70 (100.0%)	54 (100.0%)
Hubbard	93 (47.4%)	61 (43.9%)	118 (60.2%)	78 (56.1%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	196 (100.0%)	139 (100.0%)
Isanti	106 (60.6%)	83 (64.8%)	58 (33.1%)	41 (32.0%)	15 (8.6%)	4 (3.1%)	175 (100.0%)	128 (100.0%)
Itasca	243 (63.9%)	151 (58.3%)	142 (37.4%)	96 (37.1%)	14 (3.7%)	12 (4.6%)	380 (100.0%)	259 (100.0%)
Kanabec	67 (67.0%)	44 (60.3%)	39 (39.0%)	29 (39.7%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	100 (100.0%)	73 (100.0%)
Kandiyohi	163 (36.7%)	100 (36.6%)	284 (64.0%)	168 (61.5%)	12 (2.7%)	5 (1.8%)	444 (100.0%)	273 (100.0%)
Kittson	4 (44.4%)	4 (57.1%)	5 (55.6%)	3 (42.9%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	9 (100.0%)	7 (100.0%)
Koochiching	139 (85.3%)	106 (80.3%)	31 (19.0%)	24 (18.2%)	4 (2.5%)	2 (1.5%)	163 (100.0%)	132 (100.0%)
Lac qui Parle	33 (73.3%)	28 (68.3%)	16 (35.6%)	12 (29.3%)	1 (2.2%)	1 (2.4%)	45 (100.0%)	41 (100.0%)
Lake	37 (67.3%)	31 (73.8%)	19 (34.5%)	11 (26.2%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	55 (100.0%)	42 (100.0%)
Lake of the Woods	28 (90.3%)	24 (88.9%)	3 (9.7%)	3 (11.1%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	31 (100.0%)	27 (100.0%)
Le Sueur	100 (74.1%)	63 (68.5%)	38 (28.1%)	29 (31.5%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	135 (100.0%)	92 (100.0%)
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	149 (87.1%)	114 (87.0%)	24 (14.0%)	16 (12.2%)	1 (0.6%)	1 (0.8%)	171 (100.0%)	131 (100.0%)
Mahnomen	16 (76.2%)	10 (76.9%)	2 (9.5%)	2 (15.4%)	3 (14.3%)	1 (7.7%)	21 (100.0%)	13 (100.0%)

Agency	FA alleged victims	FA cases	FI alleged victims	FI cases	Fac. Inv. alleged victims	Fac. Inv. cases	Total alleged victims	Total cases
Marshall	50 (82.0%)	27 (67.5%)	15 (24.6%)	11 (27.5%)	4 (6.6%)	2 (5.0%)	61 (100.0%)	40 (100.0%)
McLeod	147 (47.7%)	101 (47.2%)	174 (56.5%)	109 (50.9%)	5 (1.6%)	4 (1.9%)	308 (100.0%)	214 (100.0%)
Meeker	118 (83.1%)	103 (76.9%)	27 (19.0%)	26 (19.4%)	5 (3.5%)	5 (3.7%)	142 (100.0%)	134 (100.0%)
Mille Lacs	138 (51.7%)	94 (50.3%)	132 (49.4%)	91 (48.7%)	4 (1.5%)	2 (1.1%)	267 (100.0%)	187 (100.0%)
MN Prairie	478 (77.3%)	338 (78.4%)	141 (22.8%)	86 (20.0%)	18 (2.9%)	7 (1.6%)	618 (100.0%)	431 (100.0%)
Morrison	156 (73.9%)	117 (74.1%)	51 (24.2%)	37 (23.4%)	9 (4.3%)	4 (2.5%)	211 (100.0%)	158 (100.0%)
Mower	238 (70.4%)	193 (74.5%)	102 (30.2%)	63 (24.3%)	6 (1.8%)	3 (1.2%)	338 (100.0%)	259 (100.0%)
Nicollet	199 (81.9%)	150 (79.8%)	44 (18.1%)	32 (17.0%)	7 (2.9%)	6 (3.2%)	243 (100.0%)	188 (100.0%)
Nobles	119 (66.5%)	88 (65.2%)	56 (31.3%)	42 (31.1%)	5 (2.8%)	5 (3.7%)	179 (100.0%)	135 (100.0%)
Norman	39 (75.0%)	26 (70.3%)	21 (40.4%)	11 (29.7%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	52 (100.0%)	37 (100.0%)
Olmsted	554 (74.9%)	351 (72.7%)	181 (24.5%)	121 (25.1%)	23 (3.1%)	11 (2.3%)	740 (100.0%)	483 (100.0%)
Otter Tail	270 (70.7%)	213 (69.8%)	124 (32.5%)	85 (27.9%)	7 (1.8%)	7 (2.3%)	382 (100.0%)	305 (100.0%)
Pennington	49 (63.6%)	34 (68.0%)	30 (39.0%)	16 (32.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	77 (100.0%)	50 (100.0%)
Pine	81 (60.9%)	52 (54.2%)	47 (35.3%)	40 (41.7%)	7 (5.3%)	4 (4.2%)	133 (100.0%)	96 (100.0%)
Polk	99 (66.0%)	75 (65.2%)	58 (38.7%)	38 (33.0%)	2 (1.3%)	2 (1.7%)	150 (100.0%)	115 (100.0%)
Ramsey	1,710 (52.6%)	1,340 (55.9%)	1,573 (48.4%)	1,007 (42.0%)	80 (2.5%)	51 (2.1%)	3,252 (100.0%)	2,398 (100.0%)
Red Lake County	24 (88.9%)	17 (81.0%)	3 (11.1%)	3 (14.3%)	1 (3.7%)	1 (4.8%)	27 (100.0%)	21 (100.0%)
Renville	76 (49.4%)	53 (48.6%)	85 (55.2%)	56 (51.4%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	154 (100.0%)	109 (100.0%)
Rice	204 (57.6%)	147 (58.1%)	163 (46.0%)	101 (39.9%)	10 (2.8%)	5 (2.0%)	354 (100.0%)	253 (100.0%)
Roseau	68 (77.3%)	49 (72.1%)	22 (25.0%)	18 (26.5%)	1 (1.1%)	1 (1.5%)	88 (100.0%)	68 (100.0%)
Scott	559 (77.1%)	461 (77.2%)	183 (25.2%)	125 (20.9%)	12 (1.7%)	11 (1.8%)	725 (100.0%)	597 (100.0%)
Sherburne	376 (70.5%)	281 (67.5%)	158 (29.6%)	115 (27.6%)	34 (6.4%)	20 (4.8%)	533 (100.0%)	416 (100.0%)
Sibley	143 (87.2%)	103 (82.4%)	28 (17.1%)	20 (16.0%)	2 (1.2%)	2 (1.6%)	164 (100.0%)	125 (100.0%)
Southwest HHS	335 (58.1%)	253 (62.0%)	228 (39.5%)	140 (34.3%)	44 (7.6%)	15 (3.7%)	577 (100.0%)	408 (100.0%)

Agency	FA alleged victims	FA cases	FI alleged victims	FI cases	Fac. Inv. alleged victims	Fac. Inv. cases	Total alleged victims	Total cases
St. Louis	1,500 (58.2%)	1,224 (55.1%)	1,213 (47.1%)	916 (41.3%)	186 (7.2%)	80 (3.6%)	2,576 (100.0%)	2,220 (100.0%)
Stearns	582 (69.9%)	416 (68.9%)	282 (33.9%)	178 (29.5%)	17 (2.0%)	10 (1.7%)	833 (100.0%)	604 (100.0%)
Stevens	92 (74.8%)	65 (73.0%)	38 (30.9%)	22 (24.7%)	2 (1.6%)	2 (2.2%)	123 (100.0%)	89 (100.0%)
Swift	54 (52.4%)	33 (50.0%)	45 (43.7%)	31 (47.0%)	6 (5.8%)	2 (3.0%)	103 (100.0%)	66 (100.0%)
Todd	66 (62.3%)	40 (59.7%)	33 (31.1%)	25 (37.3%)	7 (6.6%)	2 (3.0%)	106 (100.0%)	67 (100.0%)
Traverse	51 (73.9%)	29 (61.7%)	24 (34.8%)	17 (36.2%)	1 (1.4%)	1 (2.1%)	69 (100.0%)	47 (100.0%)
Wabasha	63 (64.3%)	52 (66.7%)	35 (35.7%)	25 (32.1%)	1 (1.0%)	1 (1.3%)	98 (100.0%)	78 (100.0%)
Wadena	139 (74.3%)	100 (66.7%)	60 (32.1%)	43 (28.7%)	8 (4.3%)	7 (4.7%)	187 (100.0%)	150 (100.0%)
Washington	514 (65.8%)	384 (63.9%)	254 (32.5%)	198 (32.9%)	23 (2.9%)	19 (3.2%)	781 (100.0%)	601 (100.0%)
Watonwan	111 (78.2%)	75 (78.1%)	36 (25.4%)	20 (20.8%)	1 (0.7%)	1 (1.0%)	142 (100.0%)	96 (100.0%)
Western Prairie HS	134 (67.3%)	99 (65.6%)	67 (33.7%)	49 (32.5%)	12 (6.0%)	3 (2.0%)	199 (100.0%)	151 (100.0%)
White Earth Nation	206 (87.3%)	119 (83.8%)	18 (7.6%)	12 (8.5%)	22 (9.3%)	11 (7.7%)	236 (100.0%)	142 (100.0%)
Wilkin	41 (62.1%)	31 (64.6%)	22 (33.3%)	13 (27.1%)	7 (10.6%)	4 (8.3%)	66 (100.0%)	48 (100.0%)
Winona	152 (73.4%)	115 (69.3%)	64 (30.9%)	45 (27.1%)	6 (2.9%)	6 (3.6%)	207 (100.0%)	166 (100.0%)
Wright	504 (59.7%)	373 (57.6%)	380 (45.0%)	262 (40.4%)	16 (1.9%)	13 (2.0%)	844 (100.0%)	648 (100.0%)
Yellow Medicine	63 (62.4%)	46 (60.5%)	41 (40.6%)	28 (36.8%)	2 (2.0%)	2 (2.6%)	101 (100.0%)	76 (100.0%)
Minnesota	20,672 (64.1%)	15,644 (63.8%)	12,121 (37.6%)	8,231 (33.6%)	1,085 (3.4%)	651 (2.7%)	32,241 (100.0%)	24,526 (100.0%)

Mandatory and discretionary reasons for child protection response paths

As stated previously, there are both mandatory and discretionary reasons that local child protection agency staff will assign a case to the Family Investigation response path. Table 14 shows the percent of alleged victims assigned to Family Investigation by discretionary and mandatory reasons by race.

Table 14. Number and percent of alleged victims in completed assessments/investigations assigned to Family Investigation by discretionary versus mandatory reasons, by race/ethnicity alone, 2021

	Discretionary (N)	Discretionary (%)	Mandatory (N)	Mandatory (%)	Total alleged victims in FI (N)
African American / Black	741	37.1%	1,299	65.1%	1,995
American Indian / Alaska Native	263	30.0%	636	72.4%	878
Asian / Pacific Islander	168	43.3%	224	57.7%	388
Two or more races	857	34.3%	1,746	70.0%	2,496
Unknown / declined	147	23.6%	481	77.1%	624
White	1,453	25.3%	4,411	76.8%	5,740
Total	3,629	29.9%	8,797	72.6%	12,121
Hispanic (any race)	398	25.7%	1,191	77.0%	1,546

Assessment of safety, risk and service need

After a maltreatment report is screened in and a case assigned to the appropriate child protection response path, caseworkers must make contact with alleged victims and all other relevant parties to assess their immediate safety. The specifics of how those meetings occur, when and with whom are specific to each case and family. After initial interviews and meetings in both the Family Assessment and Family Investigation response paths, caseworkers make an assessment of safety, based on professional judgement and information provided from a safety assessment tool. If a safety threat is indicated, caseworkers, along with other partners, determine whether a safety plan can keep the child/ren safe, or if additional intervention such as placement in out-of-home care, is warranted.

During the assessment or investigation phase, caseworkers also determine the risk of future maltreatment and decide whether child protective services are needed to provide ongoing safety, well-being and permanency. The assessment or investigation phase of all types of child protection responses is 45 days. If child protective services are needed, ongoing case management services are provided to families by opening child protection case management. At closing of a Family or Facility Investigation, a determination as to whether or not maltreatment occurred is made. At any point during the assessment or investigation phase, if local agency staff feel a child is not safe, they may seek removal and place the child in out-of-home care, and/or seek a Child in Need of Protection or Services (CHIPS) petition to provide court oversight and monitoring.

Timeliness of face-to-face contact with alleged victims of child maltreatment

After screening a report, the first step in all child protection responses is to have face-to-face contact with alleged victims of maltreatment to determine if children are safe or in need of protection. Occasionally, at the time of receiving a report, children may already be placed on a 72-hour hold by local law enforcement. Caseworkers must see all alleged

victims in a report. Two response time frames align with assignment of child protection response. Allegations that indicate risk of substantial child endangerment or sexual abuse require an investigation and require local agencies to see all alleged victims within 24 hours. The five-day timeline applies to children named as alleged victims in child protection cases assigned either a Family Assessment response or a Family Investigation response which is due to the discretion of agency staff (rather than for mandatory reasons because of severity of current allegation/s).

Table 15. Timeliness of face-to-face contact with alleged victims in completed assessments/investigations by agency, 2021

Agency	Total alleged victims	Alleged victims seen timely (N)	Alleged victims seen timely (%)
Aitkin	125	112	89.6%
Anoka	1,229	1,087	88.4%
Becker	247	215	87.0%
Beltrami	398	374	94.0%
Benton	274	259	94.5%
Big Stone	48	46	95.8%
Blue Earth	443	434	98.0%
Brown	249	247	99.2%
Carlton	342	210	61.4%
Carver	359	342	95.3%
Cass	117	106	90.6%
Chippewa	217	148	68.2%
Chisago	211	172	81.5%
Clay	384	321	83.6%
Clearwater	105	69	65.7%
Cook	45	21	46.7%
Crow Wing	298	271	90.9%
Dakota	1,536	1,339	87.2%
Des Moines Valley HHS	145	139	95.9%
Douglas	307	291	94.8%
Faribault-Martin	342	296	86.5%
Fillmore	68	68	100.0%
Freeborn	214	188	87.9%
Goodhue	292	266	91.1%
Hennepin	5,674	4,611	81.3%
Houston	71	64	90.1%
Hubbard	211	189	89.6%
Isanti	159	146	91.8%

Agency	Total alleged victims	Alleged victims seen timely (N)	Alleged victims seen timely (%)
Itasca	359	295	82.2%
Kanabec	94	73	77.7%
Kandiyohi	424	359	84.7%
Kittson	9	8	88.9%
Koochiching	165	145	87.9%
Lac qui Parle	54	52	96.3%
Lake	60	52	86.7%
Lake of the Woods	35	33	94.3%
Le Sueur	133	133	100.0%
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	174	57	32.8%
Mahnomen	16	15	93.8%
Marshall	72	68	94.4%
McLeod	325	302	92.9%
Meeker	167	141	84.4%
Mille Lacs	267	234	87.6%
MN Prairie	646	405	62.7%
Morrison	198	196	99.0%
Mower	366	311	85.0%
Nicollet	267	247	92.5%
Nobles	185	158	85.4%
Norman	70	68	97.1%
Olmsted	743	690	92.9%
Otter Tail	382	321	84.0%
Pennington	69	63	91.3%
Pine	128	77	60.2%
Polk	162	152	93.8%
Ramsey	3,260	2,815	86.3%
Red Lake County	26	25	96.2%
Renville	165	159	96.4%
Rice	378	333	88.1%
Roseau	84	80	95.2%
Scott	759	667	87.9%
Sherburne	525	500	95.2%
Sibley	180	172	95.6%
Southwest HHS	547	427	78.1%

Agency	Total alleged victims	Alleged victims seen timely (N)	Alleged victims seen timely (%)
St. Louis	2,818	1,702	60.4%
Stearns	868	817	94.1%
Stevens	139	134	96.4%
Swift	103	99	96.1%
Todd	76	71	93.4%
Traverse	73	65	89.0%
Wabasha	98	97	99.0%
Wadena	219	214	97.7%
Washington	750	664	88.5%
Watonwan	134	122	91.0%
Western Prairie Human Services	224	205	91.5%
White Earth Nation	136	102	75.0%
Wilkin	63	53	84.1%
Winona	211	193	91.5%
Wright	891	838	94.1%
Yellow Medicine	105	102	97.1%
Minnesota	32,512	27,342	84.1%

Assessment of safety and risk

After making initial contact with alleged victims and their family, child protection caseworkers utilize a formal assessment tool regarding safety. Ratings of conditionally safe require caseworkers to create a safety plan to immediately address safety needs identified in the assessment tool for an alleged victim to remain in their home. Ratings of unsafe indicate removal of child is likely necessary to achieve safety if the caregiver(s) is/are unable or unwilling to make necessary changes to ensure safety; a court order is ultimately required to place a child in out-of-home care unless a parent voluntary agrees to removal. Sometimes children's removals last only a few days, but they can be in care for many months while their families work to ensure they are able to provide for their children's safety. Children may enter out-of-home care at times outside of a child protection assessment or investigation because of maltreatment or for other reasons (e.g., children's mental health needs or developmental disabilities).

Tables 16 and 17 contain information regarding assessments of safety and removals that occur during the course of the assessment or investigation of maltreatment. For information on children in out-of-home care, see **Minnesota's 2021 Out-of-Home Care and Permanency Report**.

Table 16. Number and (percent) of cases by safety assessment level and agency, 2021

Agency	FA Safe	FA Cond Safe	FA Unsafe	FI Safe	FI Cond Safe	FI Unsafe	Total cases
Aitkin	31 (49.2%)	30 (47.6%)	2 (3.2%)	15 (48.4%)	10 (32.3%)	6 (19.4%)	94
Anoka	474 (79.4%)	117 (19.6%)	7 (1.2%)	160 (45.1%)	132 (37.2%)	63 (17.7%)	952

Agency	FA Safe	FA Cond Safe	FA Unsafe	FI Safe	FI Cond Safe	FI Unsafe	Total cases
Becker	48 (55.8%)	39 (45.3%)	1 (1.2%)	16 (18.0%)	44 (49.4%)	31 (34.8%)	175
Beltrami	74 (64.9%)	31 (27.2%)	9 (7.9%)	46 (35.1%)	33 (25.2%)	52 (39.7%)	245
Benton	95 (84.1%)	17 (15.0%)	1 (0.9%)	10 (12.2%)	55 (67.1%)	17 (20.7%)	195
Big Stone	11 (52.4%)	10 (47.6%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (16.7%)	4 (66.7%)	1 (16.7%)	27
Blue Earth	162 (56.4%)	111 (38.7%)	14 (4.9%)	20 (39.2%)	23 (45.1%)	8 (15.7%)	338
Brown	54 (40.0%)	73 (54.1%)	8 (5.9%)	10 (32.3%)	17 (54.8%)	4 (12.9%)	166
Carlton	128 (53.8%)	99 (41.6%)	11 (4.6%)	4 (6.9%)	50 (86.2%)	4 (6.9%)	296
Carver	89 (48.6%)	74 (40.4%)	20 (10.9%)	24 (27.6%)	47 (54.0%)	17 (19.5%)	270
Cass	36 (58.1%)	19 (30.6%)	7 (11.3%)	6 (31.6%)	5 (26.3%)	8 (42.1%)	81
Chippewa	54 (53.5%)	42 (41.6%)	5 (5.0%)	10 (21.7%)	24 (52.2%)	13 (28.3%)	147
Chisago	57 (51.4%)	51 (45.9%)	3 (2.7%)	22 (47.8%)	20 (43.5%)	5 (10.9%)	157
Clay	108 (53.7%)	85 (42.3%)	12 (6.0%)	21 (36.8%)	30 (52.6%)	8 (14.0%)	258
Clearwater	20 (52.6%)	18 (47.4%)	0 (0.0%)	16 (59.3%)	10 (37.0%)	1 (3.7%)	65
Cook	21 (77.8%)	6 (22.2%)	0 (0.0%)	11 (64.7%)	4 (23.5%)	2 (11.8%)	44
Crow Wing	52 (37.4%)	69 (49.6%)	18 (12.9%)	23 (32.4%)	37 (52.1%)	11 (15.5%)	210
Dakota	664 (90.0%)	64 (8.7%)	10 (1.4%)	317 (68.6%)	116 (25.1%)	29 (6.3%)	1,200
Des Moines Valley HHS	43 (60.6%)	27 (38.0%)	1 (1.4%)	11 (29.7%)	25 (67.6%)	1 (2.7%)	108
Douglas	90 (70.9%)	36 (28.3%)	1 (0.8%)	10 (13.7%)	45 (61.6%)	19 (26.0%)	200
Faribault-Martin	82 (47.7%)	87 (50.6%)	3 (1.7%)	16 (24.6%)	40 (61.5%)	9 (13.8%)	237
Fillmore	35 (76.1%)	11 (23.9%)	1 (2.2%)	6 (66.7%)	2 (22.2%)	1 (11.1%)	55
Freeborn	62 (77.5%)	17 (21.3%)	2 (2.5%)	24 (40.7%)	26 (44.1%)	9 (15.3%)	139
Goodhue	90 (55.6%)	67 (41.4%)	5 (3.1%)	11 (29.7%)	17 (45.9%)	9 (24.3%)	199
Hennepin	2,622 (87.7%)	320 (10.7%)	51 (1.7%)	920 (62.0%)	391 (26.3%)	176 (11.9%)	4,476
Houston	9 (20.5%)	34 (77.3%)	1 (2.3%)	0 (0.0%)	6 (75.0%)	2 (25.0%)	52

Agency	FA Safe	FA Cond Safe	FA Unsafe	FI Safe	FI Cond Safe	FI Unsafe	Total cases
Hubbard	33 (55.9%)	20 (33.9%)	6 (10.2%)	34 (44.7%)	23 (30.3%)	20 (26.3%)	135
Isanti	52 (62.7%)	27 (32.5%)	5 (6.0%)	6 (14.6%)	33 (80.5%)	3 (7.3%)	124
Itasca	107 (70.9%)	37 (24.5%)	7 (4.6%)	28 (29.2%)	52 (54.2%)	16 (16.7%)	247
Kanabec	19 (43.2%)	22 (50.0%)	3 (6.8%)	6 (20.7%)	17 (58.6%)	6 (20.7%)	73
Kandiyohi	37 (37.0%)	64 (64.0%)	0 (0.0%)	54 (32.1%)	78 (46.4%)	36 (21.4%)	268
Kittson	3 (75.0%)	1 (25.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	3 (100.0%)	0 (0.0%)	7
Koochiching	70 (66.0%)	25 (23.6%)	11 (10.4%)	11 (45.8%)	9 (37.5%)	4 (16.7%)	130
Lac qui Parle	8 (28.6%)	19 (67.9%)	1 (3.6%)	1 (8.3%)	8 (66.7%)	3 (25.0%)	40
Lake	6 (19.4%)	20 (64.5%)	5 (16.1%)	2 (18.2%)	8 (72.7%)	2 (18.2%)	42
Lake of the Woods	12 (50.0%)	8 (33.3%)	4 (16.7%)	2 (66.7%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	27
Le Sueur	19 (30.2%)	43 (68.3%)	1 (1.6%)	6 (20.7%)	14 (48.3%)	9 (31.0%)	92
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	82 (71.9%)	20 (17.5%)	12 (10.5%)	9 (56.3%)	6 (37.5%)	1 (6.3%)	130
Mahnomen	4 (40.0%)	3 (30.0%)	3 (30.0%)	1 (50.0%)	1 (50.0%)	0 (0.0%)	12
Marshall	13 (48.1%)	14 (51.9%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (36.4%)	6 (54.5%)	1 (9.1%)	38
McLeod	90 (89.1%)	12 (11.9%)	0 (0.0%)	28 (25.7%)	61 (56.0%)	21 (19.3%)	210
Meeker	58 (56.3%)	42 (40.8%)	3 (2.9%)	12 (46.2%)	11 (42.3%)	3 (11.5%)	129
Mille Lacs	40 (42.6%)	52 (55.3%)	4 (4.3%)	21 (23.1%)	51 (56.0%)	24 (26.4%)	185
MN Prairie	285 (84.3%)	39 (11.5%)	16 (4.7%)	58 (67.4%)	26 (30.2%)	2 (2.3%)	424
Morrison	64 (54.7%)	41 (35.0%)	12 (10.3%)	9 (25.0%)	24 (66.7%)	3 (8.3%)	153
Mower	162 (83.9%)	22 (11.4%)	10 (5.2%)	34 (54.0%)	18 (28.6%)	11 (17.5%)	256
Nicollet	117 (78.0%)	23 (15.3%)	11 (7.3%)	20 (62.5%)	6 (18.8%)	6 (18.8%)	182
Nobles	38 (43.2%)	46 (52.3%)	4 (4.5%)	16 (38.1%)	21 (50.0%)	5 (11.9%)	130
Norman	17 (65.4%)	10 (38.5%)	0 (0.0%)	6 (54.5%)	5 (45.5%)	0 (0.0%)	37
Olmsted	100 (28.5%)	244 (69.5%)	7 (2.0%)	29 (24.0%)	88 (72.7%)	5 (4.1%)	472
Otter Tail	156 (73.6%)	52 (24.5%)	4 (1.9%)	41 (48.2%)	27 (31.8%)	17 (20.0%)	297

Agency	FA Safe	FA Cond Safe	FA Unsafe	FI Safe	FI Cond Safe	FI Unsafe	Total cases
Pennington	21 (61.8%)	12 (35.3%)	1 (2.9%)	8 (50.0%)	6 (37.5%)	2 (12.5%)	50
Pine	24 (46.2%)	28 (53.8%)	0 (0.0%)	10 (25.0%)	20 (50.0%)	11 (27.5%)	92
Polk	51 (68.0%)	20 (26.7%)	4 (5.3%)	11 (28.9%)	21 (55.3%)	6 (15.8%)	113
Ramsey	1,243 (92.8%)	83 (6.2%)	13 (1.0%)	767 (76.2%)	162 (16.1%)	83 (8.2%)	2,346
Red Lake County	14 (82.4%)	1 (5.9%)	2 (11.8%)	3 (100.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	20
Renville	35 (66.0%)	17 (32.1%)	1 (1.9%)	21 (37.5%)	22 (39.3%)	13 (23.2%)	109
Rice	89 (60.5%)	55 (37.4%)	3 (2.0%)	39 (38.6%)	38 (37.6%)	24 (23.8%)	248
Roseau	19 (38.8%)	20 (40.8%)	10 (20.4%)	11 (61.1%)	6 (33.3%)	1 (5.6%)	67
Scott	365 (79.2%)	88 (19.1%)	8 (1.7%)	86 (68.8%)	34 (27.2%)	6 (4.8%)	586
Sherburne	99 (35.2%)	175 (62.3%)	7 (2.5%)	5 (4.3%)	98 (85.2%)	12 (10.4%)	396
Sibley	36 (35.0%)	63 (61.2%)	4 (3.9%)	5 (25.0%)	14 (70.0%)	1 (5.0%)	123
Southwest HHS	154 (60.9%)	87 (34.4%)	12 (4.7%)	56 (40.0%)	57 (40.7%)	28 (20.0%)	393
St. Louis	791 (64.6%)	418 (34.2%)	17 (1.4%)	402 (43.9%)	381 (41.6%)	135 (14.7%)	2,140
Stearns	232 (55.8%)	144 (34.6%)	40 (9.6%)	60 (33.7%)	75 (42.1%)	43 (24.2%)	594
Stevens	11 (16.9%)	52 (80.0%)	2 (3.1%)	5 (22.7%)	12 (54.5%)	5 (22.7%)	87
Swift	0 (0.0%)	33 (100.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	17 (54.8%)	14 (45.2%)	64
Todd	22 (55.0%)	15 (37.5%)	3 (7.5%)	13 (52.0%)	4 (16.0%)	8 (32.0%)	65
Traverse	28 (96.6%)	1 (3.4%)	0 (0.0%)	7 (41.2%)	7 (41.2%)	3 (17.6%)	46
Wabasha	24 (46.2%)	27 (51.9%)	1 (1.9%)	10 (40.0%)	11 (44.0%)	4 (16.0%)	77
Wadena	41 (41.0%)	49 (49.0%)	11 (11.0%)	7 (16.3%)	27 (62.8%)	9 (20.9%)	143
Washington	252 (65.6%)	120 (31.3%)	12 (3.1%)	102 (51.5%)	77 (38.9%)	25 (12.6%)	582
Watonwan	18 (24.0%)	55 (73.3%)	3 (4.0%)	0 (0.0%)	16 (80.0%)	4 (20.0%)	95
Western Prairie HS	66 (66.7%)	30 (30.3%)	3 (3.0%)	17 (34.7%)	21 (42.9%)	12 (24.5%)	148
White Earth Nation	77 (64.7%)	26 (21.8%)	16 (13.4%)	6 (50.0%)	3 (25.0%)	3 (25.0%)	131

Agency	FA Safe	FA Cond Safe	FA Unsafe	FI Safe	FI Cond Safe	FI Unsafe	Total cases
Wilkin	20 (64.5%)	11 (35.5%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (30.8%)	9 (69.2%)	0 (0.0%)	44
Winona	104 (90.4%)	8 (7.0%)	3 (2.6%)	29 (64.4%)	5 (11.1%)	11 (24.4%)	160
Wright	151 (40.5%)	213 (57.1%)	9 (2.4%)	54 (20.6%)	174 (66.4%)	34 (13.0%)	635
Yellow Medicine	13 (28.3%)	31 (67.4%)	2 (4.3%)	8 (28.6%)	15 (53.6%)	5 (17.9%)	74
Minnesota	10,803 (69.1%)	4,342 (27.8%)	509 (3.3%)	3,914 (47.6%)	3,142 (38.2%)	1,206 (14.7%)	23,854

Table 17. Number and percent of alleged victims with out-of-home placement during assessment/investigation phase by agency, 2021

Agency	Total alleged victims	Alleged victims removed (N)	Alleged victims removed (%)
Aitkin	128	9	7.0%
Anoka	1,318	108	8.2%
Becker	290	57	19.7%
Beltrami	446	104	23.3%
Benton	291	32	11.0%
Big Stone	53	3	5.7%
Blue Earth	469	43	9.2%
Brown	264	18	6.8%
Carlton	468	20	4.3%
Carver	394	53	13.5%
Cass	127	17	13.4%
Chippewa	237	22	9.3%
Chisago	228	31	13.6%
Clay	434	37	8.5%
Clearwater	128	7	5.5%
Cook	66	3	4.5%
Crow Wing	325	65	20.0%
Dakota	1,674	82	4.9%
Des Moines Valley HHS	159	4	2.5%
Douglas	332	35	10.5%
Faribault-Martin	367	47	12.8%
Fillmore	71	4	5.6%
Freeborn	228	24	10.5%

Agency	Total alleged victims	Alleged victims removed (N)	Alleged victims removed (%)
Goodhue	318	32	10.1%
Hennepin	6,713	391	5.8%
Houston	82	9	11.0%
Hubbard	224	27	12.1%
Isanti	184	19	10.3%
Itasca	425	51	12.0%
Kanabec	108	13	12.0%
Kandiyohi	502	102	20.3%
Kittson	9	0	0.0%
Koochiching	201	31	15.4%
Lac qui Parle	57	5	8.8%
Lake	63	5	7.9%
Lake of the Woods	35	3	8.6%
Le Sueur	142	18	12.7%
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	200	23	11.5%
Mahnomen	21	6	28.6%
Marshall	76	2	2.6%
McLeod	351	39	11.1%
Meeker	180	10	5.6%
Mille Lacs	289	34	11.8%
MN Prairie	705	41	5.8%
Morrison	221	30	13.6%
Mower	387	33	8.5%
Nicollet	279	41	14.7%
Nobles	197	12	6.1%
Norman	71	0	0.0%
Olmsted	794	18	2.3%
Otter Tail	435	40	9.2%
Pennington	80	14	17.5%
Pine	142	17	12.0%
Polk	176	16	9.1%
Ramsey	3,569	205	5.7%
Red Lake County	30	6	20.0%
Renville	172	25	14.5%
Rice	416	56	13.5%

Agency	Total alleged victims	Alleged victims removed (N)	Alleged victims removed (%)
Roseau	98	18	18.4%
Scott	831	67	8.1%
Sherburne	597	26	4.4%
Sibley	183	9	4.9%
Southwest HHS	651	79	12.1%
St. Louis	3,463	337	9.7%
Stearns	944	151	16.0%
Stevens	146	13	8.9%
Swift	112	22	19.6%
Todd	112	16	14.3%
Traverse	83	6	7.2%
Wabasha	105	8	7.6%
Wadena	240	47	19.6%
Washington	842	66	7.8%
Watonwan	157	32	20.4%
Western Prairie HS	251	27	10.8%
White Earth Nation	278	61	21.9%
Wilkin	71	3	4.2%
Winona	232	36	15.5%
Wright	943	56	5.9%
Yellow Medicine	118	12	10.2%
Minnesota	36,921	3,382	9.2%

By the end of an assessment or investigation, child protection caseworkers must also complete a standardized assessment tool of risk of future maltreatment. Table 18 provides information regarding the number and percent of assessments/investigations in which the current situation of the alleged victims is at low, moderate or high risk of future maltreatment by agency.

Table 18. The number and (percent) of cases by risk assessment level and agency, 2021

Agency	FA Low	FA Moderate	FA High	FI Low	FI Moderate	FI High	Total cases
Aitkin	12 (19.0%)	36 (57.1%)	15 (23.8%)	5 (16.1%)	15 (48.4%)	11 (35.5%)	94
Anoka	273 (45.7%)	288 (48.2%)	36 (6.0%)	84 (23.6%)	120 (43.3%)	120 (33.7%)	952
Becker	22 (25.6%)	55 (64.0%)	10 (11.6%)	6 (6.7%)	32 (36.0%)	55 (61.8%)	175

Agency	FA Low	FA Moderate	FA High	FI Low	FI Moderate	FI High	Total cases
Beltrami	52 (45.6%)	44 (38.6%)	18 (15.8%)	27 (20.6%)	41 (31.3%)	63 (48.1%)	245
Benton	25 (22.1%)	62 (54.9%)	27 (23.9%)	10 (12.2%)	35 (42.7%)	38 (46.3%)	195
Big Stone	4 (19.0%)	13 (61.9%)	4 (19.0%)	2 (33.3%)	1 (16.7%)	3 (50.0%)	27
Blue Earth	99 (34.5%)	142 (49.5%)	46 (16.0%)	23 (45.1%)	17 (33.3%)	11 (21.6%)	338
Brown	23 (17.0%)	70 (51.9%)	42 (31.1%)	7 (22.6%)	15 (48.4%)	9 (29.0%)	166
Carlton	104 (43.7%)	97 (40.8%)	37 (15.5%)	9 (15.5%)	33 (56.9%)	16 (27.6%)	296
Carver	73 (39.9%)	90 (49.2%)	20 (10.9%)	28 (32.2%)	38 (43.7%)	21 (24.1%)	270
Cass	28 (45.2%)	27 (43.5%)	7 (11.3%)	6 (31.6%)	5 (26.3%)	9 (47.4%)	81
Chippewa	43 (42.6%)	46 (45.5%)	12 (11.9%)	7 (15.2%)	14 (30.4%)	25 (54.3%)	147
Chisago	43 (38.7%)	56 (50.5%)	12 (10.8%)	16 (34.8%)	17 (37.0%)	13 (28.3%)	157
Clay	46 (22.9%)	102 (50.7%)	56 (27.9%)	11 (19.3%)	25 (43.9%)	21 (36.8%)	258
Clearwater	6 (15.8%)	24 (63.2%)	8 (21.1%)	6 (22.2%)	17 (63.0%)	4 (14.8%)	65
Cook	5 (18.5%)	15 (55.6%)	7 (25.9%)	4 (23.5%)	10 (58.8%)	3 (17.6%)	44
Crow Wing	42 (30.0%)	76 (54.3%)	22 (15.7%)	26 (36.6%)	32 (45.1%)	13 (18.3%)	210
Dakota	280 (37.9%)	414 (56.0%)	45 (6.1%)	173 (37.4%)	237 (51.3%)	53 (11.5%)	1,200
Des Moines Valley HHS	18 (25.4%)	36 (50.7%)	18 (25.4%)	10 (27.0%)	18 (48.6%)	9 (24.3%)	108
Douglas	25 (19.7%)	89 (70.1%)	13 (10.2%)	9 (12.3%)	48 (65.8%)	18 (24.7%)	200
Faribault-Martin	59 (34.3%)	91 (52.9%)	22 (12.8%)	20 (30.8%)	20 (30.8%)	26 (40.0%)	237
Fillmore	18 (39.1%)	24 (52.2%)	4 (8.7%)	3 (33.3%)	4 (44.4%)	2 (22.2%)	55
Freeborn	24 (30.0%)	45 (56.3%)	13 (16.3%)	5 (8.5%)	35 (59.3%)	19 (32.2%)	139
Goodhue	20 (12.3%)	79 (48.5%)	64 (39.3%)	8 (21.6%)	13 (35.1%)	16 (43.2%)	199
Hennepin	1,079 (36.1%)	1522 (50.9%)	392 (13.1%)	356 (24.1%)	736 (49.8%)	387 (26.2%)	4,476
Houston	6 (13.6%)	26 (59.1%)	12 (27.3%)	3 (37.5%)	2 (25.0%)	3 (37.5%)	52
Hubbard	11 (18.6%)	30 (50.8%)	18 (30.5%)	11 (14.7%)	41 (54.7%)	24 (32.0%)	135

Agency	FA Low	FA Moderate	FA High	FI Low	FI Moderate	FI High	Total cases
Isanti	17 (20.5%)	53 (63.9%)	14 (16.9%)	11 (26.8%)	23 (56.1%)	11 (26.8%)	124
Itasca	45 (29.8%)	72 (47.7%)	34 (22.5%)	26 (27.1%)	51 (53.1%)	19 (19.8%)	247
Kanabec	11 (25.0%)	20 (45.5%)	13 (29.5%)	3 (10.3%)	10 (34.5%)	16 (55.2%)	73
Kandiyohi	30 (30.0%)	53 (53.0%)	17 (17.0%)	27 (16.1%)	66 (39.3%)	75 (44.6%)	268
Kittson	2 (50.0%)	2 (50.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (66.7%)	7
Koochiching	19 (17.9%)	45 (42.5%)	42 (39.6%)	3 (12.5%)	10 (41.7%)	11 (45.8%)	130
Lac qui Parle	7 (25.0%)	11 (39.3%)	10 (35.7%)	0 (0.0%)	8 (66.7%)	4 (33.3%)	40
Lake	4 (12.9%)	17 (54.8%)	12 (38.7%)	2 (18.2%)	5 (45.5%)	4 (36.4%)	42
Lake of the Woods	6 (25.0%)	9 (37.5%)	9 (37.5%)	2 (66.7%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	27
Le Sueur	16 (25.4%)	26 (41.3%)	21 (33.3%)	5 (17.2%)	18 (62.1%)	6 (20.7%)	92
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	57 (50.4%)	46 (40.7%)	10 (8.8%)	8 (53.3%)	6 (40.0%)	1 (6.7%)	130
Mahnomen	3 (30.0%)	4 (40.0%)	3 (30.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (50.0%)	1 (50.0%)	12
Marshall	0 (0.0%)	18 (66.7%)	9 (33.3%)	1 (9.1%)	7 (63.6%)	3 (27.3%)	38
McLeod	28 (27.7%)	57 (56.4%)	16 (15.8%)	18 (16.5%)	59 (54.1%)	32 (29.4%)	210
Meeker	24 (23.3%)	58 (56.3%)	22 (21.4%)	10 (38.5%)	11 (42.3%)	5 (19.2%)	129
Mille Lacs	20 (21.3%)	60 (63.8%)	15 (16.0%)	28 (30.8%)	38 (41.8%)	31 (34.1%)	185
MN Prairie	70 (20.7%)	207 (61.2%)	64 (18.9%)	22 (25.6%)	49 (57.0%)	16 (18.6%)	424
Morrison	27 (23.1%)	72 (61.5%)	18 (15.4%)	7 (19.4%)	26 (72.2%)	3 (8.3%)	153
Mower	82 (42.5%)	100 (51.8%)	12 (6.2%)	18 (28.6%)	38 (60.3%)	7 (11.1%)	256
Nicollet	40 (26.7%)	80 (53.3%)	30 (20.0%)	6 (18.8%)	17 (53.1%)	9 (28.1%)	182
Nobles	31 (35.2%)	46 (52.3%)	11 (12.5%)	15 (35.7%)	23 (54.8%)	4 (9.5%)	130
Norman	2 (7.7%)	13 (50.0%)	11 (42.3%)	4 (36.4%)	5 (45.5%)	2 (18.2%)	37
Olmsted	84 (23.9%)	204 (58.1%)	70 (19.9%)	29 (24.0%)	79 (65.3%)	16 (13.2%)	472
Otter Tail	65 (30.5%)	119 (55.9%)	29 (13.6%)	17 (20.0%)	44 (51.8%)	24 (28.2%)	297
Pennington	14 (41.2%)	20 (58.8%)	0 (0.0%)	5 (31.3%)	9 (56.3%)	2 (12.5%)	50

Agency	FA Low	FA Moderate	FA High	FI Low	FI Moderate	FI High	Total cases
Pine	10 (19.2%)	27 (51.9%)	15 (28.8%)	8 (20.0%)	21 (52.5%)	11 (27.5%)	92
Polk	26 (34.7%)	37 (49.3%)	13 (17.3%)	4 (10.5%)	17 (44.7%)	18 (47.4%)	113
Ramsey	723 (54.0%)	586 (43.7%)	31 (2.3%)	401 (39.8%)	511 (50.7%)	96 (9.5%)	2,346
Red Lake County	8 (47.1%)	9 (52.9%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	2 (66.7%)	0 (0.0%)	20
Renville	14 (26.4%)	34 (64.2%)	5 (9.4%)	16 (28.6%)	26 (46.4%)	14 (25.0%)	109
Rice	49 (33.3%)	85 (57.8%)	13 (8.8%)	22 (21.8%)	46 (45.5%)	33 (32.7%)	248
Roseau	11 (22.4%)	25 (51.0%)	13 (26.5%)	6 (33.3%)	11 (61.1%)	1 (5.6%)	67
Scott	160 (34.7%)	267 (57.9%)	36 (7.8%)	55 (44.0%)	54 (43.2%)	16 (12.8%)	586
Sherburne	94 (33.5%)	161 (57.3%)	27 (9.6%)	29 (25.2%)	53 (46.1%)	33 (28.7%)	396
Sibley	48 (46.6%)	47 (45.6%)	10 (9.7%)	3 (15.0%)	14 (70.0%)	3 (15.0%)	123
Southwest HHS	102 (40.3%)	117 (46.2%)	35 (13.8%)	40 (28.6%)	65 (46.4%)	35 (25.0%)	393
St. Louis	475 (38.8%)	587 (48.0%)	165 (13.5%)	217 (23.7%)	389 (42.5%)	313 (34.2%)	2,140
Stearns	123 (29.6%)	232 (55.8%)	61 (14.7%)	51 (28.7%)	83 (46.6%)	45 (25.3%)	594
Stevens	26 (40.0%)	30 (46.2%)	10 (15.4%)	6 (27.3%)	8 (36.4%)	8 (36.4%)	87
Swift	2 (6.1%)	19 (57.6%)	12 (36.4%)	2 (6.5%)	6 (19.4%)	23 (74.2%)	64
Todd	12 (30.0%)	21 (52.5%)	7 (17.5%)	10 (40.0%)	5 (20.0%)	10 (40.0%)	65
Traverse	11 (37.9%)	17 (58.6%)	1 (3.4%)	1 (5.9%)	13 (76.5%)	3 (17.6%)	46
Wabasha	17 (32.7%)	27 (51.9%)	8 (15.4%)	6 (24.0%)	14 (56.0%)	5 (20.0%)	77
Wadena	20 (20.0%)	58 (58.0%)	22 (22.0%)	3 (7.0%)	29 (67.4%)	11 (25.6%)	143
Washington	153 (39.8%)	199 (51.8%)	32 (8.3%)	66 (33.3%)	96 (48.5%)	43 (21.7%)	582
Watonwan	16 (21.3%)	44 (58.7%)	15 (20.0%)	3 (15.0%)	11 (55.0%)	6 (30.0%)	95
Western Prairie HS	35 (35.4%)	46 (46.5%)	18 (18.2%)	8 (16.3%)	23 (46.9%)	18 (36.7%)	148
White Earth Nation	51 (42.9%)	48 (40.3%)	20 (16.8%)	8 (66.7%)	1 (8.3%)	3 (25.0%)	131
Wilkin	3 (9.7%)	27 (87.1%)	1 (3.2%)	3 (23.1%)	7 (53.8%)	3 (23.1%)	44

Agency	FA Low	FA Moderate	FA High	FI Low	FI Moderate	FI High	Total cases
Winona	40 (34.8%)	62 (53.9%)	13 (11.3%)	16 (35.6%)	18 (40.0%)	11 (24.4%)	160
Wright	163 (43.7%)	175 (46.9%)	36 (9.7%)	92 (35.1%)	128 (48.9%)	42 (16.0%)	635
Yellow Medicine	4 (8.7%)	30 (65.2%)	12 (26.1%)	9 (32.1%)	13 (46.4%)	7 (25.0%)	74
Minnesota	5,540 (35.4%)	8,028(51.4%)	2,103 (13.5%)	2,229 (27.1%)	3,923 (47.7%)	2,107 (25.6%)	23,851

Assessing need for ongoing child protection services post-assessment or investigation phase

At the conclusion of a Family Assessment or Family Investigation, child protection caseworkers indicate whether an alleged victim and/or family need ongoing services to maintain safety and promote permanency and well-being. Table 19 provides information regarding whether the need for child protective services was indicated by risk levels identified through the risk assessment completed during the assessment or investigation phase.

Table 19. Number and percent of cases where child protective services were indicated by risk level and agency, 2021

Agency	Total low risk cases	Low risk cases - CP services needed (%)	Total moderate risk cases	Moderate risk cases - CP services needed (%)	Total high-risk cases	High-risk cases - CP services needed (%)
Aitkin	17	0.0%	51	25.5%	26	69.2%
Anoka	357	0.6%	442	10.0%	156	47.4%
Becker	28	10.7%	87	11.5%	65	86.2%
Beltrami	79	5.1%	85	21.2%	81	60.5%
Benton	35	0.0%	97	7.2%	65	92.3%
Big Stone	6	50.0%	14	35.7%	7	71.4%
Blue Earth	122	0.8%	159	10.7%	57	54.4%
Brown	30	3.3%	85	17.6%	51	62.7%
Carlton	113	3.5%	130	20.0%	53	32.1%
Carver	101	2.0%	128	30.5%	41	92.7%
Cass	34	5.9%	32	15.6%	16	62.5%
Chippewa	50	6.0%	60	31.7%	37	81.1%
Chisago	59	1.7%	73	12.3%	25	64.0%
Clay	57	5.3%	127	18.1%	77	55.8%
Clearwater	12	0.0%	42	9.8%	12	25.0%
Cook	9	0.0%	25	20.0%	10	40.0%
Crow Wing	68	4.4%	108	19.4%	35	80.0%
Dakota	453	1.8%	651	5.7%	98	67.3%

Agency	Total low risk cases	Low risk cases - CP services needed (%)	Total moderate risk cases	Moderate risk cases - CP services needed (%)	Total high-risk cases	High-risk cases - CP services needed (%)
Des Moines Valley HHS	28	21.4%	54	22.2%	27	81.5%
Douglas	34	14.7%	137	24.8%	31	71.0%
Faribault-Martin	79	5.1%	111	18.9%	48	62.5%
Fillmore	21	9.5%	28	21.4%	6	66.7%
Freeborn	29	10.3%	80	13.8%	32	59.4%
Goodhue	28	3.6%	92	14.1%	80	25.0%
Hennepin	1,435	3.1%	2,258	20.6%	779	61.6%
Houston	9	0.0%	28	14.3%	15	53.3%
Hubbard	22	4.5%	71	22.5%	42	50.0%
Isanti	28	7.1%	76	19.7%	25	92.0%
Itasca	71	7.0%	123	13.0%	53	43.4%
Kanabec	14	21.4%	30	26.7%	29	55.2%
Kandiyohi	57	12.3%	119	33.6%	92	84.8%
Kittson	3	0.0%	2	0.0%	2	50.0%
Koochiching	22	4.5%	55	10.9%	53	41.5%
Lac qui Parle	7	0.0%	19	15.8%	14	35.7%
Lake	6	16.7%	22	50.0%	16	68.8%
Lake of the Woods	8	0.0%	10	20.0%	9	77.8%
Le Sueur	21	9.5%	44	25.0%	27	55.6%
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	65	4.6%	52	5.8%	11	63.6%
Mahnomen	3	0.0%	5	20.0%	4	100.0%
Marshall	1	0.0%	25	36.0%	12	50.0%
McLeod	46	0.0%	116	13.8%	48	45.8%
Meeker	34	2.9%	69	15.9%	27	40.7%
Mille Lacs	48	6.3%	98	20.4%	46	54.3%
MN Prairie	92	0.0%	256	9.4%	80	58.8%
Morrison	34	5.9%	98	14.3%	21	66.7%
Mower	100	1.0%	138	18.8%	19	73.7%
Nicollet	46	0.0%	97	21.6%	39	66.7%
Nobles	46	8.7%	69	14.5%	15	60.0%
Norman	6	0.0%	18	5.6%	13	84.6%
Olmsted	113	3.5%	283	21.2%	86	57.0%
Otter Tail	82	4.9%	163	18.4%	53	67.9%
Pennington	19	5.3%	29	6.9%	2	50.0%
Pine	18	0.0%	48	22.9%	26	57.7%

Agency	Total low risk cases	Low risk cases - CP services needed (%)	Total moderate risk cases	Moderate risk cases - CP services needed (%)	Total high-risk cases	High-risk cases - CP services needed (%)
Polk	30	0.0%	54	9.3%	31	71.0%
Ramsey	1,124	1.4%	1,097	10.6%	127	72.4%
Red Lake County	9	33.3%	11	18.2%	0	0.0%
Renville	30	6.7%	60	23.3%	19	73.7%
Rice	71	1.4%	131	14.5%	46	76.1%
Roseau	17	11.8%	36	41.7%	14	85.7%
Scott	215	2.3%	321	18.1%	52	78.8%
Sherburne	123	4.1%	214	14.0%	60	68.3%
Sibley	51	5.9%	61	39.3%	13	84.6%
Southwest HHS	142	7.0%	182	26.9%	70	72.9%
St. Louis	692	3.2%	977	9.7%	478	54.6%
Stearns	174	2.9%	315	12.7%	106	63.2%
Stevens	32	6.3%	38	31.6%	18	61.1%
Swift	4	25.0%	25	32.0%	35	68.6%
Todd	22	9.1%	26	26.9%	17	70.6%
Traverse	12	16.7%	30	36.7%	4	25.0%
Wabasha	23	4.3%	41	29.3%	13	61.5%
Wadena	23	17.4%	87	32.2%	33	75.8%
Washington	219	2.7%	295	15.6%	75	74.7%
Watonwan	19	0.0%	55	18.2%	21	71.4%
Western Prairie HS	43	18.6%	69	40.6%	36	58.3%
White Earth Nation	59	8.5%	49	49.0%	23	52.2%
Wilkin	6	0.0%	34	11.8%	4	75.0%
Winona	56	0.0%	80	13.8%	24	58.3%
Wright	255	3.1%	303	7.9%	78	37.2%
Yellow Medicine	13	0.0%	43	25.6%	19	78.9%
Minnesota	7,769	3.4%	11,953	16.5%	4,210	61.7%

Determining maltreatment

For both Family and Facility Investigations, there is a final step at the conclusion of a child maltreatment case not made in Family Assessment. The final step is to make a determination of whether maltreatment occurred based on information gathered during an investigation. Table 20 provides information about the number of determined reports and victims by Family or Facility Investigation.

Table 20. Number and percent of determined victims by Family Investigation and Facility Investigation response paths and agency, 2021

Agency	Total FI alleged victims	FI determined victims (N)	FI determined victims (%)	Total Fac. Inv. alleged victims	Fac. Inv. determined victims (N)	Fac. Inv. determined victims (%)
Aitkin	35	16	45.7%	0	0	N/A
Anoka	476	229	48.1%	31	10	32.3%
Becker	151	85	56.3%	17	5	29.4%
Beltrami	211	113	53.6%	22	4	18.2%
Benton	127	63	49.6%	1	0	0.0%
Big Stone	9	5	55.6%	4	0	0.0%
Blue Earth	66	31	47.0%	5	3	60.0%
Brown	47	25	53.2%	7	2	28.6%
Carlton	80	23	28.8%	28	2	7.1%
Carver	135	61	45.2%	10	1	10.0%
Cass	29	7	24.1%	7	2	28.6%
Chippewa	78	54	69.2%	4	1	25.0%
Chisago	61	32	52.5%	4	0	0.0%
Clay	93	46	49.5%	12	2	16.7%
Clearwater	55	22	40.0%	11	1	9.1%
Cook	23	9	39.1%	0	0	N/A
Crow Wing	99	31	31.3%	12	7	58.3%
Dakota	628	227	36.1%	29	3	10.3%
Des Moines Valley HHS	49	26	53.1%	6	4	66.7%
Douglas	114	84	73.7%	9	2	22.2%
Faribault-Martin	96	33	34.4%	4	0	0.0%
Fillmore	9	6	66.7%	0	0	N/A
Freeborn	94	60	63.8%	4	2	50.0%
Goodhue	52	33	63.5%	14	9	64.3%
Hennepin	2,254	1,027	45.6%	189	37	19.6%
Houston	13	8	61.5%	2	0	0.0%
Hubbard	118	36	30.5%	0	0	N/A
Isanti	58	24	41.4%	15	2	13.3%
Itasca	142	35	24.6%	14	0	0.0%
Kanabec	39	20	51.3%	0	0	N/A
Kandiyohi	284	178	62.7%	12	10	83.3%
Kittson	5	4	80.0%	0	0	N/A
Koochiching	31	5	16.1%	4	0	0.0%

Agency	Total FI alleged victims	FI determined victims (N)	FI determined victims (%)	Total Fac. Inv. alleged victims	Fac. Inv. determined victims (N)	Fac. Inv. determined victims (%)
Lac qui Parle	16	5	31.3%	1	0	0.0%
Lake	19	4	21.1%	0	0	N/A
Lake of the Woods	3	0	0.0%	0	0	N/A
Le Sueur	38	15	39.5%	0	0	N/A
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	24	2	8.3%	1	0	0.0%
Mahnomen	2	1	50.0%	3	0	0.0%
Marshall	15	4	26.7%	4	4	100.0%
McLeod	174	64	36.8%	5	0	0.0%
Meeker	27	5	18.5%	5	1	20.0%
Mille Lacs	132	54	40.9%	4	3	75.0%
MN Prairie	141	40	28.4%	18	4	22.2%
Morrison	51	19	37.3%	9	5	55.6%
Mower	102	57	55.9%	6	6	100.0%
Nicollet	44	24	54.5%	7	2	28.6%
Nobles	56	30	53.6%	5	1	20.0%
Norman	21	8	38.1%	0	0	N/A
Olmsted	181	82	45.3%	23	8	34.8%
Otter Tail	124	53	42.7%	7	0	0.0%
Pennington	30	2	6.7%	0	0	N/A
Pine	47	26	55.3%	7	1	14.3%
Polk	58	46	79.3%	2	1	50.0%
Ramsey	1,573	509	32.4%	80	13	16.3%
Red Lake County	3	1	33.3%	1	0	0.0%
Renville	85	28	32.9%	0	0	N/A
Rice	163	70	42.9%	10	1	10.0%
Roseau	22	8	36.4%	1	0	0.0%
Scott	183	60	32.8%	12	1	8.3%
Sherburne	158	85	53.8%	34	7	20.6%
Sibley	28	11	39.3%	2	0	0.0%
Southwest HHS	228	155	68.0%	44	32	72.7%
St. Louis	1,213	475	39.2%	186	28	15.1%
Stearns	282	208	73.8%	17	7	41.2%
Stevens	38	23	60.5%	2	1	50.0%
Swift	45	22	48.9%	6	0	0.0%
Todd	33	15	45.5%	7	0	0.0%

Agency	Total FI alleged victims	FI determined victims (N)	FI determined victims (%)	Total Fac. Inv. alleged victims	Fac. Inv. determined victims (N)	Fac. Inv. determined victims (%)
Traverse	24	14	58.3%	1	0	0.0%
Wabasha	35	12	34.3%	1	0	0.0%
Wadena	60	29	48.3%	8	1	12.5%
Washington	254	108	42.5%	23	5	21.7%
Watonwan	36	15	41.7%	1	0	0.0%
Western Prairie Human Services	67	33	49.3%	12	8	66.7%
White Earth Nation	18	3	16.7%	22	0	0.0%
Wilkin	22	12	54.5%	7	2	28.6%
Winona	64	32	50.0%	6	3	50.0%
Wright	380	154	40.5%	16	1	6.3%
Yellow Medicine	41	12	29.3%	2	0	0.0%
Minnesota	12,121	5,293	43.7%	1,085	255	23.5%

Social service agency referrals to early intervention for infants and toddlers

Under the Individuals with Disabilities Act, Part C, children under the age of three involved in a report with a determination of maltreatment must be referred to early intervention services. Table 21 provides information on the number of children eligible for referral, and the number and percent that were referred.

Table 21. Number of social service agency referrals to early intervention for infants and toddlers involved in substantiated cases of maltreatment, 2021

Agency	Children required to be referred	Children with a referral (N)	Referral rate (%)
Aitkin	3	0	0.0%
Anoka	68	64	94.1%
Becker	19	15	78.9%
Beltrami	43	34	79.1%
Benton	22	20	90.9%
Big Stone	1	1	100.0%
Blue Earth	8	5	62.5%
Brown	8	6	75.0%
Carlton	5	5	100.0%
Carver	19	17	89.5%
Cass	2	2	100.0%
Chippewa	9	7	77.8%
Chisago	12	4	33.3%

Agency	Children required to be referred	Children with a referral (N)	Referral rate (%)
Clay	14	12	85.7%
Clearwater	7	3	42.9%
Cook	0	0	N/A
Crow Wing	10	5	50.0%
Dakota	39	35	89.7%
Des Moines Valley HHS	4	4	100.0%
Douglas	18	17	94.4%
Faribault-Martin	7	7	100.0%
Fillmore	2	1	50.0%
Freeborn	23	18	78.3%
Goodhue	7	4	57.1%
Hennepin	280	256	91.4%
Houston	2	1	50.0%
Hubbard	7	2	28.6%
Isanti	7	7	100.0%
Itasca	3	3	100.0%
Kanabec	4	3	75.0%
Kandiyohi	45	38	84.4%
Kittson	0	0	N/A
Koochiching	0	0	N/A
Lac qui Parle	1	1	100.0%
Lake	1	1	100.0%
Lake of the Woods	0	0	N/A
Le Sueur	4	1	25.0%
Mahnomen	0	0	N/A
Marshall	1	1	100.0%
McLeod	11	10	90.9%
Meeker	0	0	N/A
Mille Lacs	10	5	50.0%
MN Prairie	8	8	100.0%
Morrison	5	3	60.0%
Mower	16	13	81.3%
Nicollet	8	8	100.0%
Nobles	10	0	0.0%
Norman	0	0	N/A
Olmsted	16	12	75.0%

Agency	Children required to be referred	Children with a referral (N)	Referral rate (%)
Otter Tail	17	17	100.0%
Pennington	0	0	N/A
Pine	15	12	80.0%
Polk	10	9	90.0%
Ramsey	149	140	94.0%
Red Lake County	1	1	100.0%
Renville	6	5	83.3%
Rice	13	12	92.3%
Roseau	1	1	100.0%
Scott	18	15	83.3%
Sherburne	17	15	88.2%
Sibley	2	1	50.0%
Southwest HHS	41	25	61.0%
St. Louis	121	102	84.3%
Stearns	42	30	71.4%
Stevens	3	3	100.0%
Swift	7	6	85.7%
Todd	6	5	83.3%
Traverse	5	4	80.0%
Wabasha	0	0	N/A
Wadena	5	3	60.0%
Washington	28	28	100.0%
Watonwan	4	4	100.0%
Western Prairie Human Services	10	7	70.0%
White Earth Nation	3	2	66.7%
Wilkin	2	1	50.0%
Winona	8	5	62.5%
Wright	38	33	86.8%
Yellow Medicine	1	1	100.0%
Minnesota	1,362	1,146	84.1%

Relationship of alleged offenders to alleged victims in completed assessments/ investigations by determination of maltreatment

Alleged offenders can be anyone responsible for the care of children, including parents or guardians or anyone given responsibility by the parent or guardian to provide the child care. It also includes anyone working within facilities or homes licensed by the Department of Human Services, including childcare, foster care or residential facilities. The

Minnesota Department of Education is responsible for the investigation of alleged maltreatment in schools. Strangers who maltreat or harm children would be reported to law enforcement. Table 22 provides information on the number by response path of alleged offenders by their relationship to alleged victims, as well as the number and percent of cases determined by that relationship to the alleged victims.

Table 22. Alleged offenders by relationship to alleged victims, child protection response path, and percent determined, 2021

Alleged offender relationship	Alleged offenders in FA cases	Alleged offenders in Inv. cases	Determined alleged offenders	Percent determined
Biological parent	14,451	7,018	3,284	46.8%
Unmarried partner of parent	871	985	468	47.5%
Stepparent	561	407	177	43.5%
Other relative (non-foster parent)	359	543	228	42.0%
Legal guardian	296	155	55	35.5%
Adoptive parent	268	161	41	25.5%
Other	110	366	154	42.1%
Sibling	109	636	231	36.3%
Unknown or missing	29	58	34	58.6%
Friends or neighbors	14	70	34	48.6%
Relative foster parent	12	176	38	21.6%
Child daycare provider	12	120	36	30.0%
Non-relative foster parent	6	148	22	14.9%
Other professionals	2	12	3	25.0%
Group home or residential facility staff	2	29	10	34.5%

Alleged offender relationship	Alleged offenders in FA cases	Alleged offenders in Inv. cases	Determined alleged offenders	Percent determined
Non-caregiver sex trafficker	0	6	1	16.7%
Total	16,417	9,938	4,384	44.1%

Child fatalities and near fatalities due to maltreatment

Tables 23 and 24 provide information about victims who died as a result of maltreatment in the reporting year. Table 23 provides information on victims who died as a result of maltreatment and had at least one prior screened in maltreatment report; Table 24 provides information on victims who died and had no known prior involvement in a screened in child maltreatment report. There are often a number of months, and sometimes longer, between when a determination is finalized and when deaths occurred. The delay often results from needing to wait until criminal investigations are completed before making a determination. The related tables provide information about when deaths occurred; in all cases, final determinations about whether deaths were a result of maltreatment were not made until the current reporting year, which is why they are included in this report. Other information included in the tables provides age at time of death, gender and type of maltreatment resulting in death.

Table 23. Details regarding deaths determined to be a result of maltreatment in 2021, with prior child protection history

Year of death	Age and gender	Type of maltreatment
2020	13 years old, female	Neglect
2020	3 years old, male	Neglect
2020	3 years old, male	Neglect
2020	1 year old, female	Neglect
2020	Less than 1 year old, male	Neglect
2021	14 years old, male	Neglect
2021	10 years old, male	Neglect
2021	11 years old, male	Neglect, Physical abuse
2021	5 years old, female	Physical abuse

Year of death	Age and gender	Type of maltreatment
2021	2 years old, female	Neglect, Physical abuse
2021	2 years old, male	Neglect, Physical abuse, Sexual abuse
2021	2 years old, male	Neglect
2021	Less than 1 year old, female	Neglect
2021	1 year old, male	Neglect
2021	Less than 1 year old, female	Neglect
2021	Less than 1 year old, male	Neglect
2021	Less than 1 year old, male	Physical abuse

Table 24. Details regarding deaths determined to be a result of maltreatment in 2021, with no prior child protection history

Year of death	Age and gender	Type of maltreatment
2015	1 year old, male	Physical abuse
2020	15 years old, male	Physical abuse
2020	3 years old, male	Physical abuse
2020	Less than 1 year old, female	Neglect
2020	3 years old, male	Neglect
2021	8 years old, male	Neglect
2021	6 years old, male	Neglect
2021	3 years old, female	Threatened injury
2021	1 year old, male	Neglect

Year of death	Age and gender	Type of maltreatment
2021	Less than 1 year old, female	Physical abuse
2021	Less than 1 year old, male	Neglect

Outcomes after child maltreatment assessments/investigations concluded

To determine how successful child protection is in assessing needs of children and families and providing appropriate services to meet needs, local agency and Child Safety and Permanency Division staff monitor whether children who were alleged or determined to be victims in maltreatment reports had another occurrence of alleged or determined victimization in a screened in report within 12 months.

Re-reporting of alleged maltreatment and recurrence of maltreatment determinations

Table 25 provides information on how many alleged victims in screened in maltreatment reports during the prior reporting year then had another screened in maltreatment report within 12 months of the first report by agency. Table 26 provides information on children who were determined to be victims of maltreatment in the prior reporting year and then had another maltreatment determination within 12 months of the first determined report by agency. Maltreatment recurrence is a federal performance measure examined annually by the Children’s Bureau. It sets a federal performance standard that states must meet or face the possibility of a performance improvement plan with fiscal penalties. Table 27 provides data by race and ethnicity for the recurrence.

Table 25. Number and percent of alleged victims with a re-report of maltreatment within 12 months by agency, 2021

Agency	Total alleged victims	Alleged victims with re-report (N)	Alleged victims with re-report (%)
Aitkin	130	28	21.5%
Anoka	1,204	114	9.5%
Becker	278	60	21.6%
Beltrami	412	73	17.7%
Benton	209	23	11%
Big Stone	35	7	20%
Blue Earth	424	92	21.7%
Brown	197	58	29.4%
Carlton	412	119	28.9%
Carver	385	57	14.8%
Cass	170	24	14.1%
Chippewa	200	62	31%
Chisago	280	46	16.4%

Agency	Total alleged victims	Alleged victims with re-report (N)	Alleged victims with re-report (%)
Clay	423	64	15.1%
Clearwater	102	32	31.4%
Cook	46	3	6.5%
Crow Wing	341	35	10.3%
Dakota	1,745	223	12.8%
Des Moines Valley HHS	169	30	17.8%
Douglas	305	87	28.5%
Faribault-Martin	333	60	18%
Fillmore	65	5	7.7%
Freeborn	281	34	12%
Goodhue	220	36	17.4%
Hennepin	6,937	1,182	17%
Houston	97	19	19.6%
Hubbard	277	80	28.9%
Isanti	170	22	12.9%
Itasca	416	73	17.5%
Kanabec	143	41	28.7%
Kandiyohi	386	57	14.8%
Kittson	12	0	0%
Koochiching	142	49	34.5%
Lac qui Parle	81	15	18.5%
Lake	55	11	20%
Lake of the Woods	21	5	23.8%
Le Sueur	128	8	6.3%
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	183	38	20.8%
Mahnomen	32	5	15.6%
Marshall	22	0	0%
McLeod	301	62	20.6%
Meeker	143	35	24.5%
Mille Lacs	285	53	18.6%
MN Prairie	591	124	21%
Morrison	151	7	4.6%
Mower	382	77	20.2%
Nicollet	191	46	24.1%
Nobles	190	54	28.4%

Agency	Total alleged victims	Alleged victims with re-report (N)	Alleged victims with re-report (%)
Norman	74	11	14.9%
Olmsted	778	105	13.5%
Otter Tail	379	70	18.5%
Pennington	61	3	4.9%
Pine	160	12	7.5%
Polk	197	26	13.2%
Ramsey	3,352	513	15.3%
Red Lake County	13	3	23.1%
Renville	205	37	18%
Rice	437	86	19.7%
Roseau	51	9	17.6%
Scott	740	109	14.7%
Sherburne	543	92	16.9%
Sibley	158	46	29.1%
Southwest HHS	551	123	22.3%
St. Louis	2,698	873	32.4%
Stearns	932	146	15.7%
Stevens	123	38	30.9%
Swift	88	10	11.4%
Todd	103	7	6.8%
Traverse	68	20	29.4%
Wabasha	122	26	21.3%
Wadena	205	53	25.9%
Washington	855	103	12%
Watsonwan	81	17	21%
Western Prairie Human Services	225	70	31.1%
White Earth Nation	202	49	24.3%
Wilkin	57	21	36.8%
Winona	311	55	17.7%
Wright	714	117	16.4%
Yellow Medicine	103	29	28.2%
Minnesota	34,288	6,314	18.4%

Table 26. Number and percent of determined victims with a maltreatment determination recurrence within 12 months by agency, 2021

Agency	Total determined victims	Determined victims with recurrence (N)	Determined victims with recurrence (%)
Aitkin	26	3	11.5%
Anoka	272	16	5.9%
Becker	74	5	6.8%
Beltrami	168	3	1.8%
Benton	37	0	0%
Big Stone	0	0	N/A
Blue Earth	43	0	0%
Brown	26	1	3.8%
Carlton	73	7	9.6%
Carver	56	0	0%
Cass	13	0	0%
Chippewa	58	11	19.0%
Chisago	30	0	0%
Clay	66	1	1.5%
Clearwater	18	2	11.1%
Cook	3	0	0%
Crow Wing	32	1	3.1%
Dakota	224	11	4.9%
Des Moines Valley HHS	19	4	21.1%
Douglas	68	6	8.8%
Faribault-Martin	49	1	2%
Fillmore	3	0	0%
Freeborn	100	9	9.0%
Goodhue	16	1	6.3%
Hennepin	1,429	63	4.4%
Houston	2	0	0%
Hubbard	42	5	11.9%
Isanti	66	2	3%
Itasca	36	0	0%
Kanabec	31	4	12.9%
Kandiyohi	154	6	3.9%
Kittson	0	0	N/A
Koochiching	16	0	0%

Agency	Total determined victims	Determined victims with recurrence (N)	Determined victims with recurrence (%)
Lac qui Parle	3	0	0%
Lake	1	0	0%
Lake of the Woods	1	0	0%
Le Sueur	15	0	0%
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	1	0	0%
Mahnomen	2	0	0%
Marshall	1	0	0%
McLeod	77	7	9.1%
Meeker	24	0	0%
Mille Lacs	78	9	11.5%
MN Prairie	49	2	4.1%
Morrison	24	0	0%
Mower	47	5	10.6%
Nicollet	9	0	0%
Nobles	32	1	3.1%
Norman	12	0	0%
Olmsted	64	3	4.7%
Otter Tail	70	0	0%
Pennington	9	0	0%
Pine	29	0	0%
Polk	53	1	1.9%
Ramsey	544	13	2.4%
Red Lake County	0	0	N/A
Renville	44	4	9.1%
Rice	116	8	6.9%
Roseau	4	1	25%
Scott	61	1	1.6%
Sherburne	81	2	2.5%
Sibley	20	0	0%
Southwest HHS	161	15	9.3%
St. Louis	633	92	14.5%
Stearns	245	9	3.7%
Stevens	13	1	7.7%
Swift	18	2	11.1%
Todd	12	0	0%

Agency	Total determined victims	Determined victims with recurrence (N)	Determined victims with recurrence (%)
Traverse	10	1	10%
Wabasha	6	0	0%
Wadena	10	4	40%
Washington	148	4	2.7%
Watonwan	4	0	0%
Western Prairie Human Services	48	4	8.3%
White Earth Nation	13	0	0%
Wilkin	5	0	0%
Winona	43	2	4.7%
Wright	133	9	6.8%
Yellow Medicine	5	0	0%
Minnesota	6,228	362	5.8%

Table 27. Number and percent of determined victims with a maltreatment determination recurrence within 12 months by race, 2021

Race/ethnicity	Determined victims	Determined victims with maltreatment recurrence within 12 months	Percent with maltreatment recurrence
African American / Black	1,005	41	4
American Indian / Alaska Native	633	44	7.0
Asian / Pacific Islander	161	7	4.3
Two or more races	1,305	101	7.7
White	2,876	162	5.6
Unknown / declined	248	7	2.8
Total	6,228	362	5.8
Hispanic (any race)	827	41	5.0

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