8/18/2022

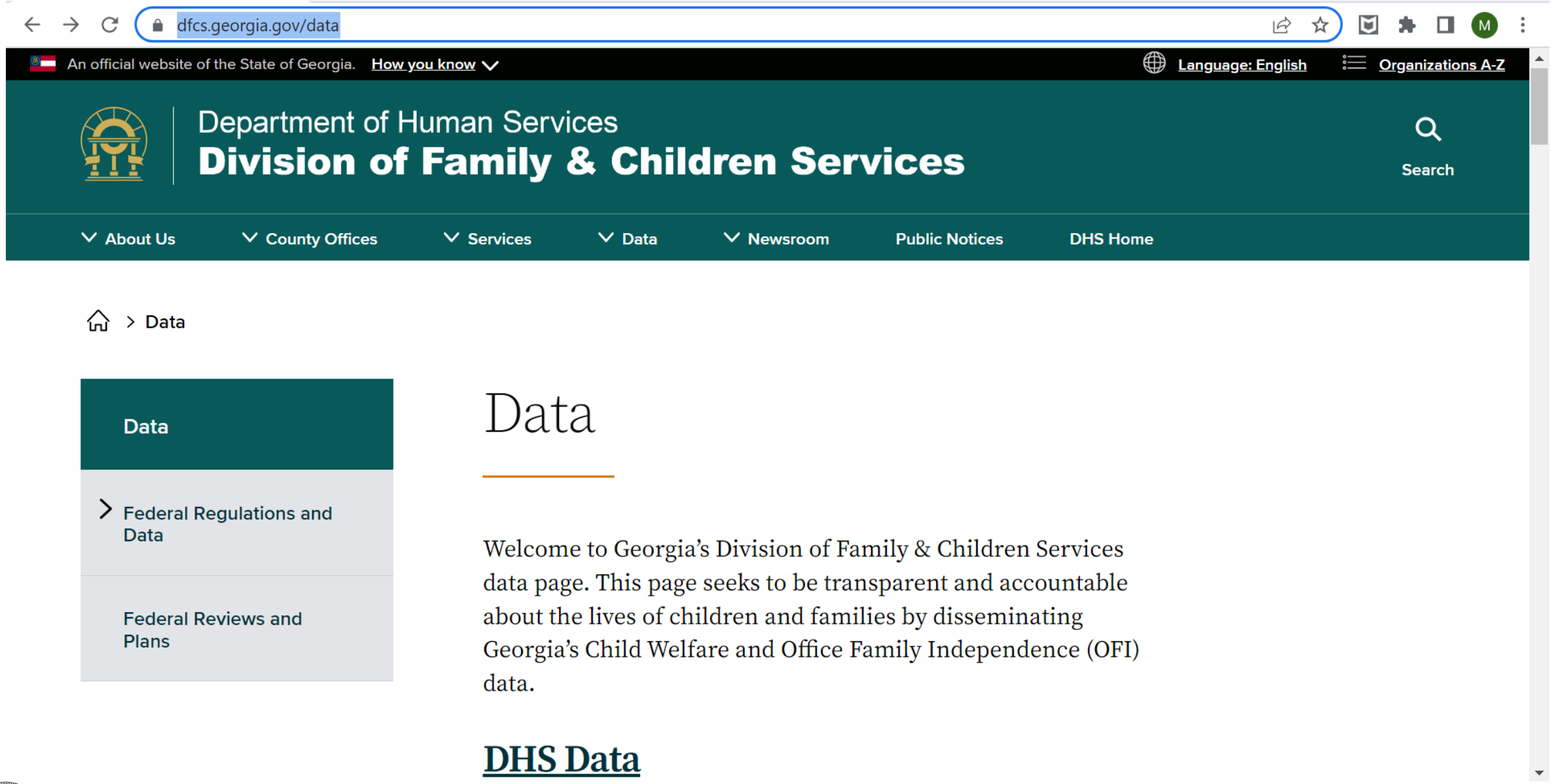
Georgia Department of Human Services

DFCS Updates & mCase Highlights

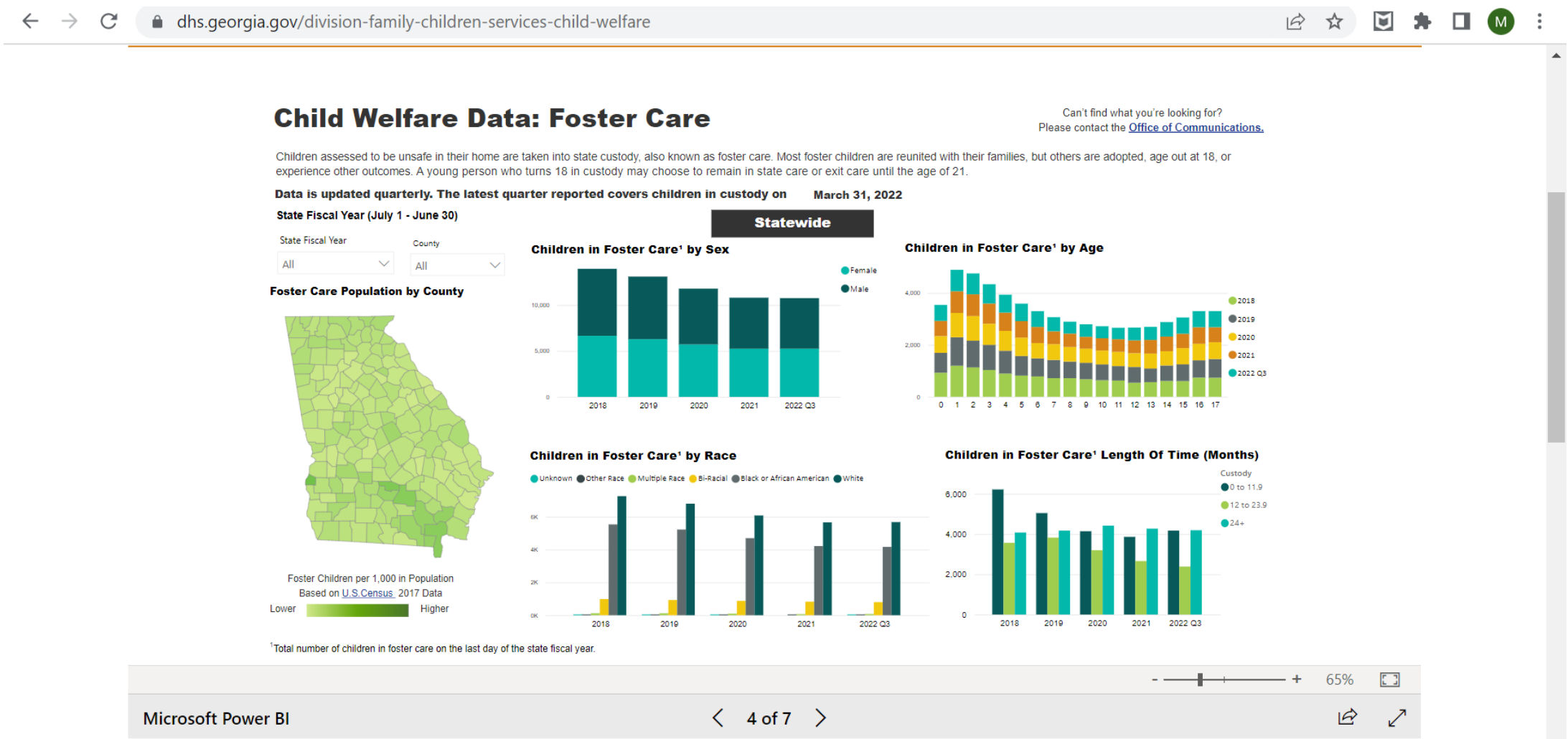
Mary Havick | Deputy Commissioner, Child Welfare

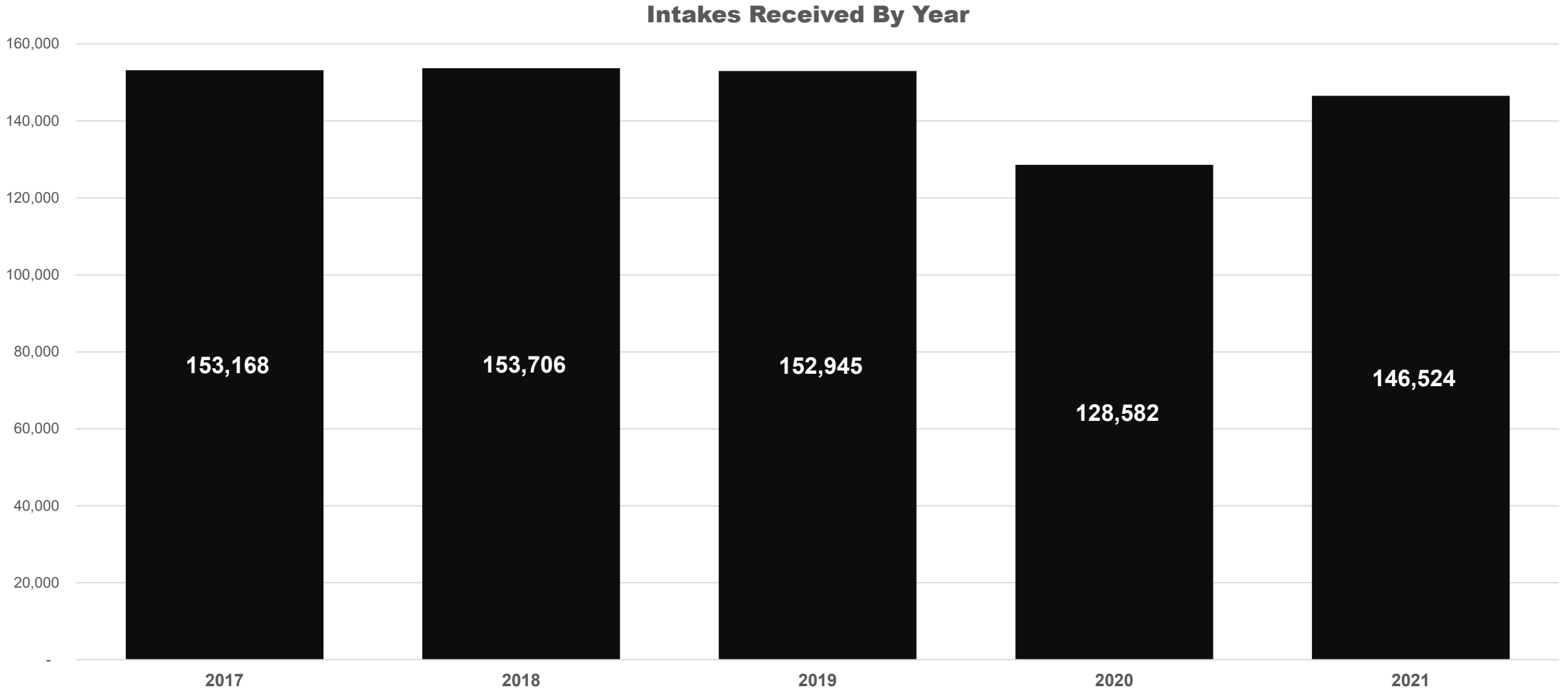
Data Overview

- Programs and outcome views
  - Current and historical
- DFCS data is available on demand
  - https://dhs.georgia.gov/organization/about/dhs-data

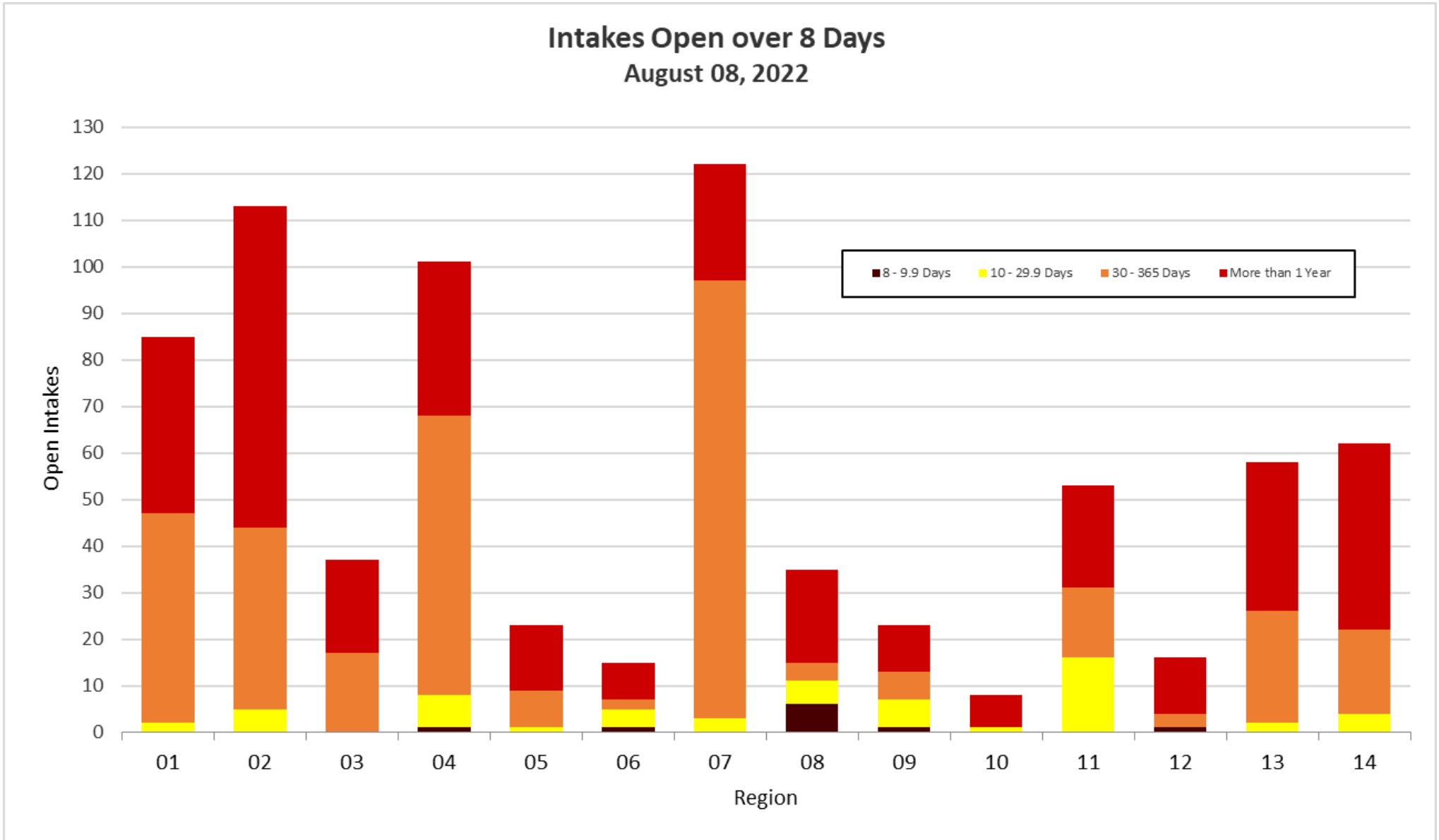

dfcs.georgia.gov/data
An official website of the State of Georgia.
How you know
Language: English
Organizations A-Z
Department of Human Services
Division of Family & Children Services
Search
About Us
County Offices
Services
Data
Newsroom
Public Notices
DHS Home
Data
Data
Federal Regulations and Data
Federal Reviews and Plans
Data
Welcome to Georgia's Division of Family & Children Services data page. This page seeks to be transparent and accountable about the lives of children and families by disseminating Georgia's Child Welfare and Office Family Independence (OFI) data.
DHS Data

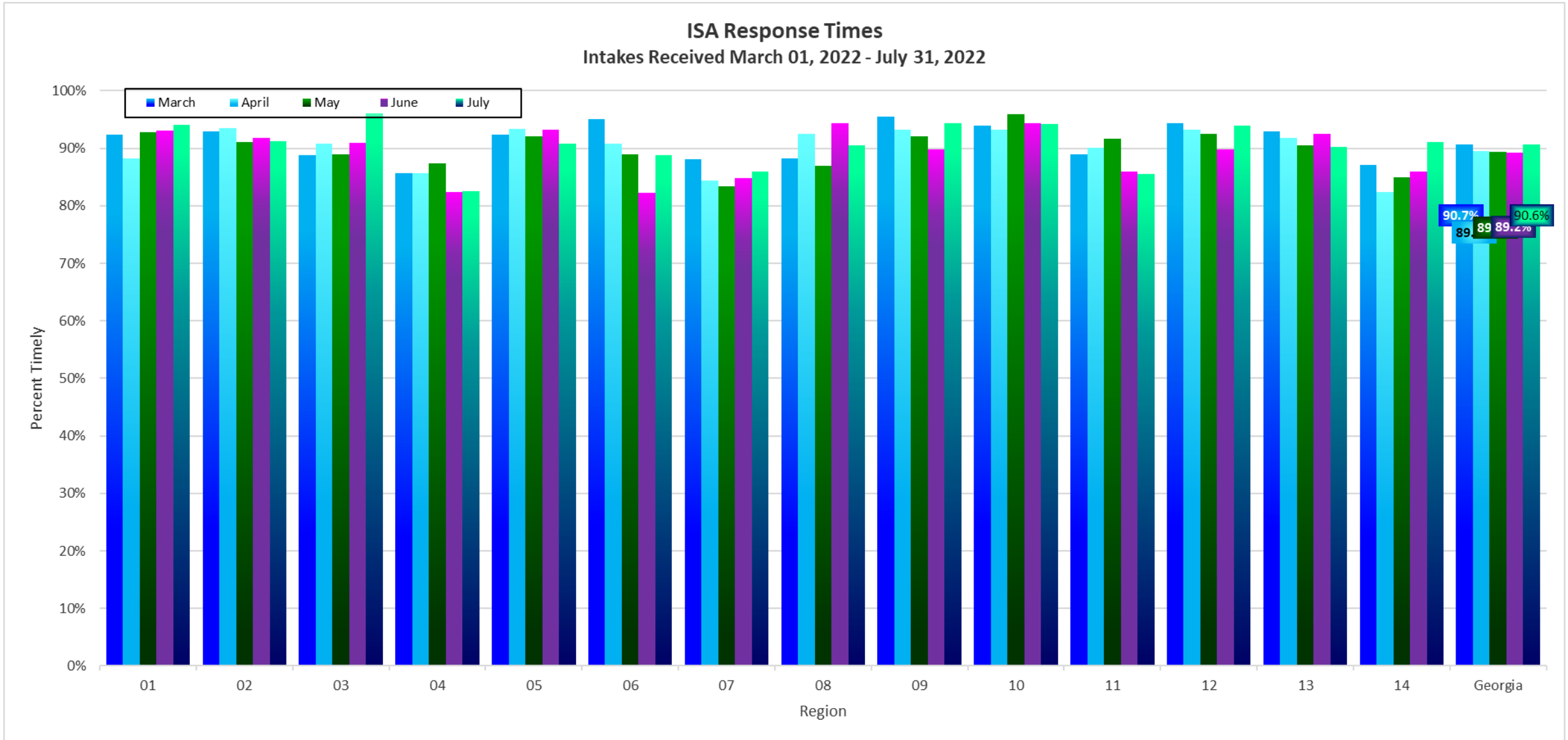
Foster Care: State or County

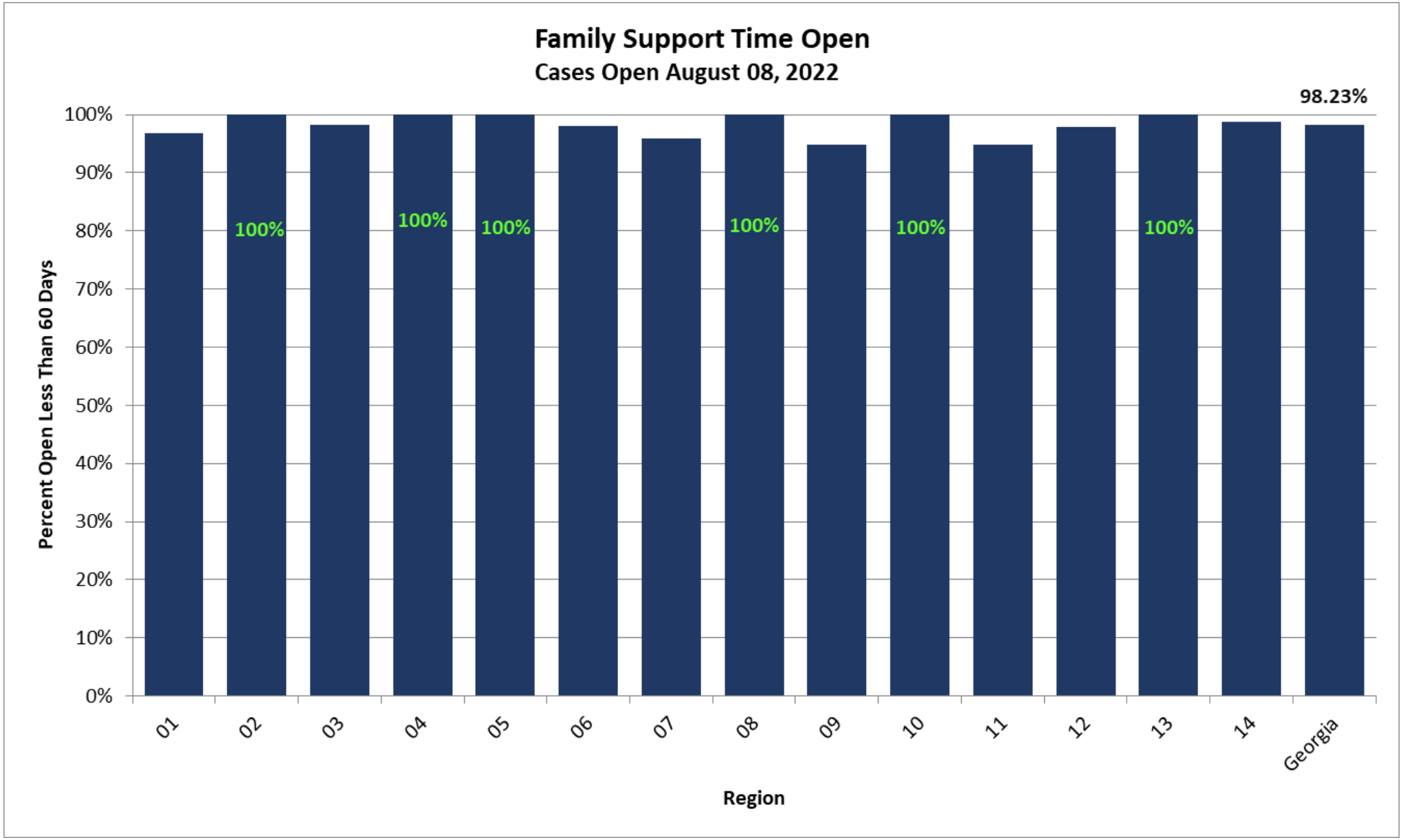


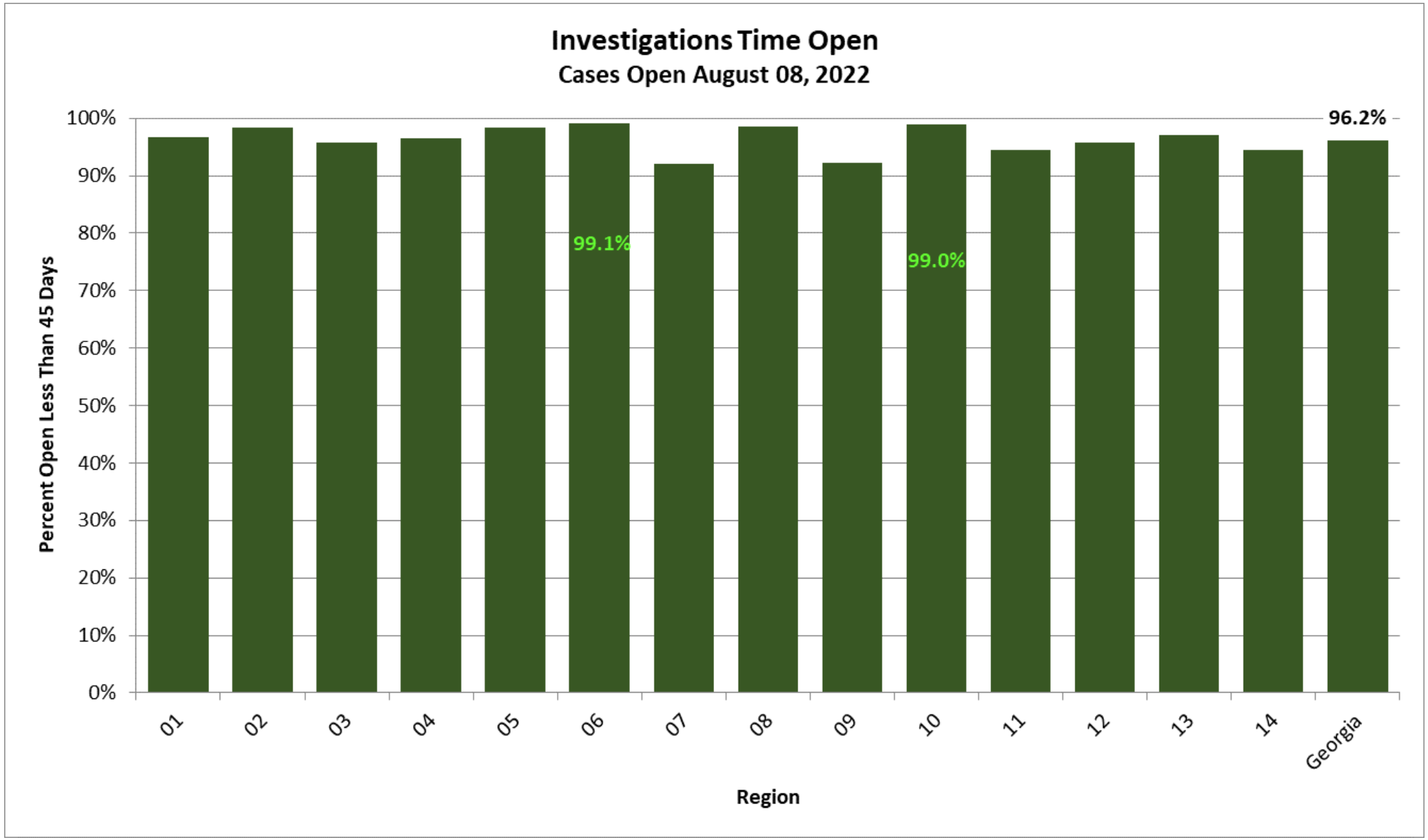


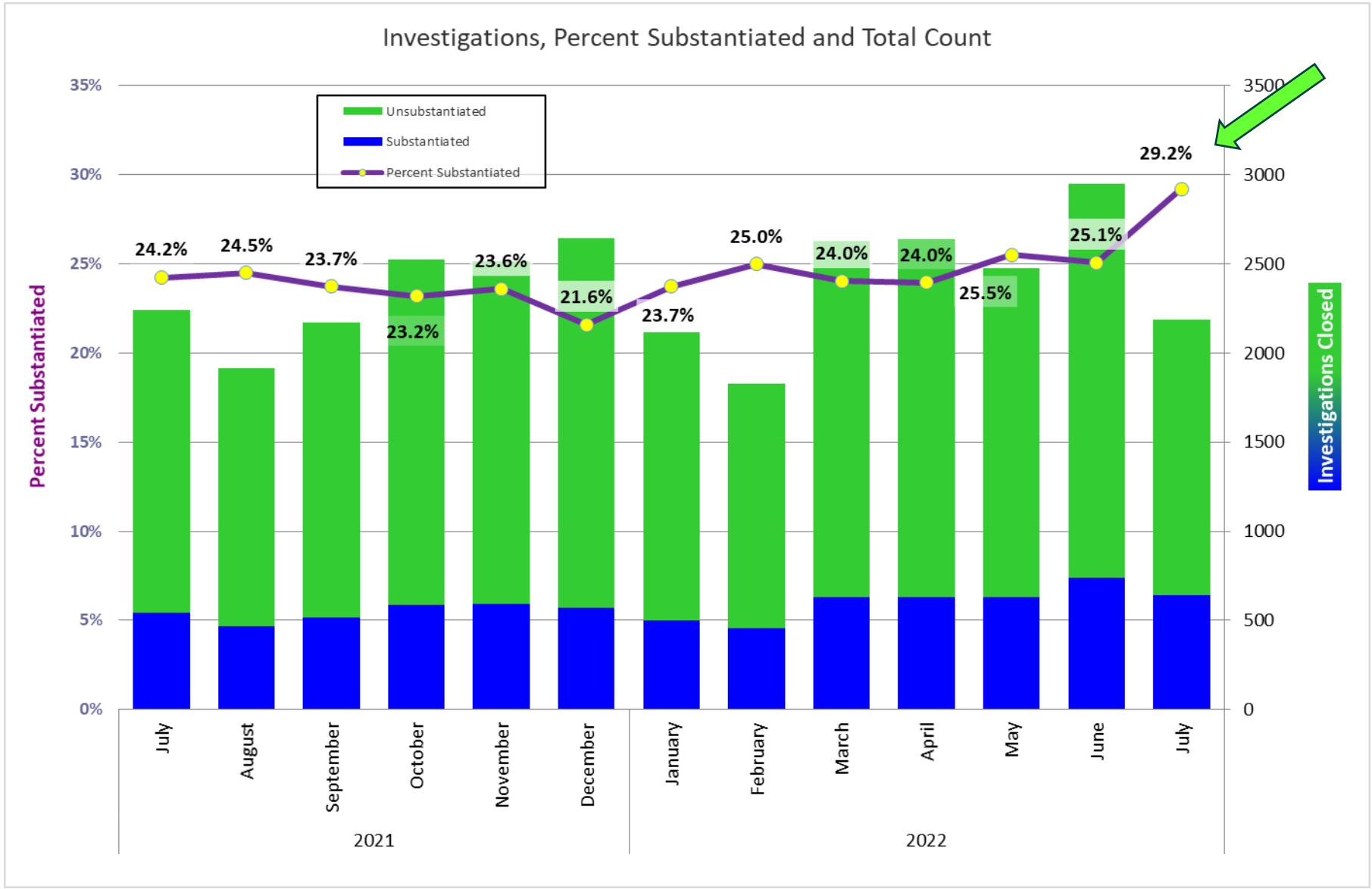
Intakes, or reports of child maltreatment, may be directed to investigation, family support, screened out, or screened out and referred to services. Other intakes, such as Information and Referrals, are not included in these counts. Data Source: Shines.


Intakes Open over 8 Days
August 08, 2022
Open Intakes
130
120
110
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
8 - 9.9 Days
10 - 29.9 Days
30 - 365 Days
More than 1 Year
01
02
03
04
05
06
07
08
09
10
11
12
13
14
Region

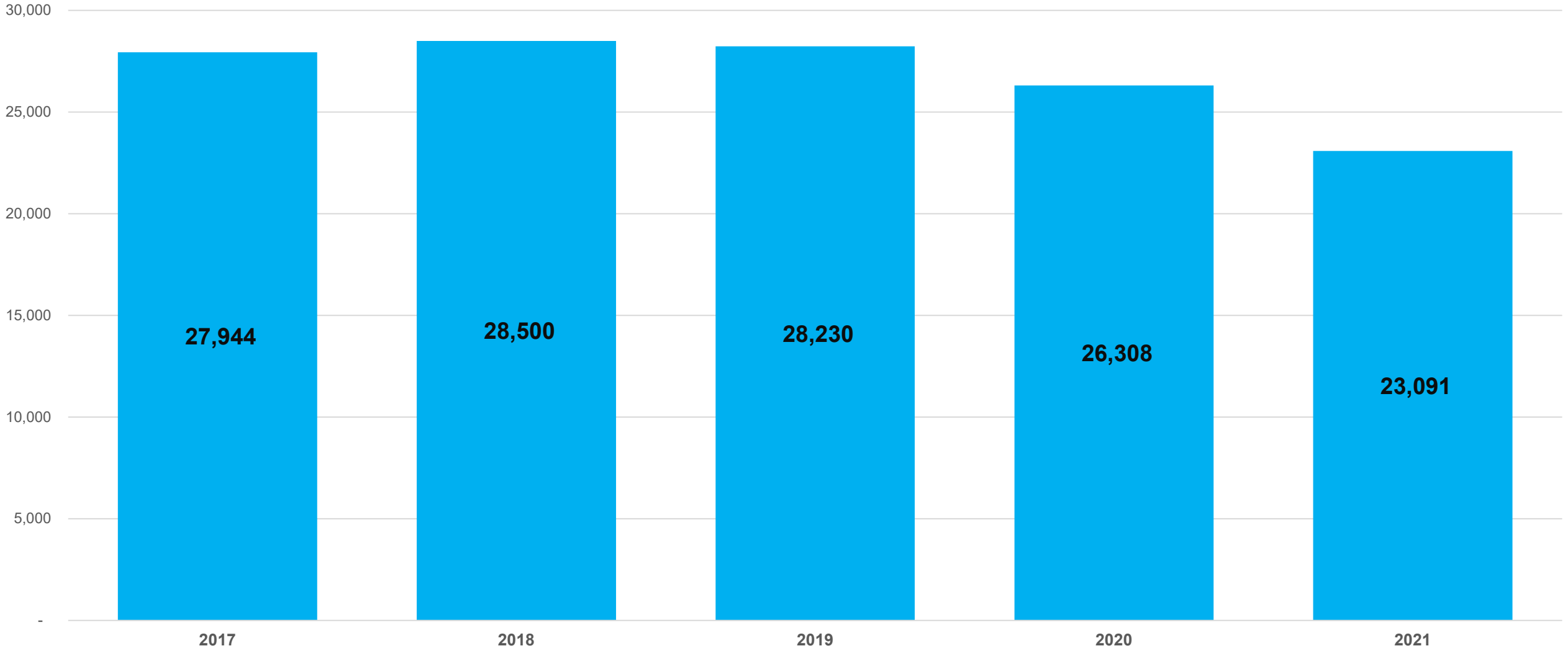

ISA Response Times
Intakes Received March 01, 2022 - July 31, 2022
March
April
May
June
July
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
Percent Timely
01
02
03
04
05
06
07
08
09
10
11
12
13
14
Georgia
Region
90.7%
89
89.2%
90.6%


Family Support Time Open
Cases Open August 08, 2022
98.23%
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
100%
100%
100%
100%
100%
100%
Percent Open Less Than 60 Days
01
02
03
04
05
06
07
08
09
10
11
12
13
14
Georgia
Region

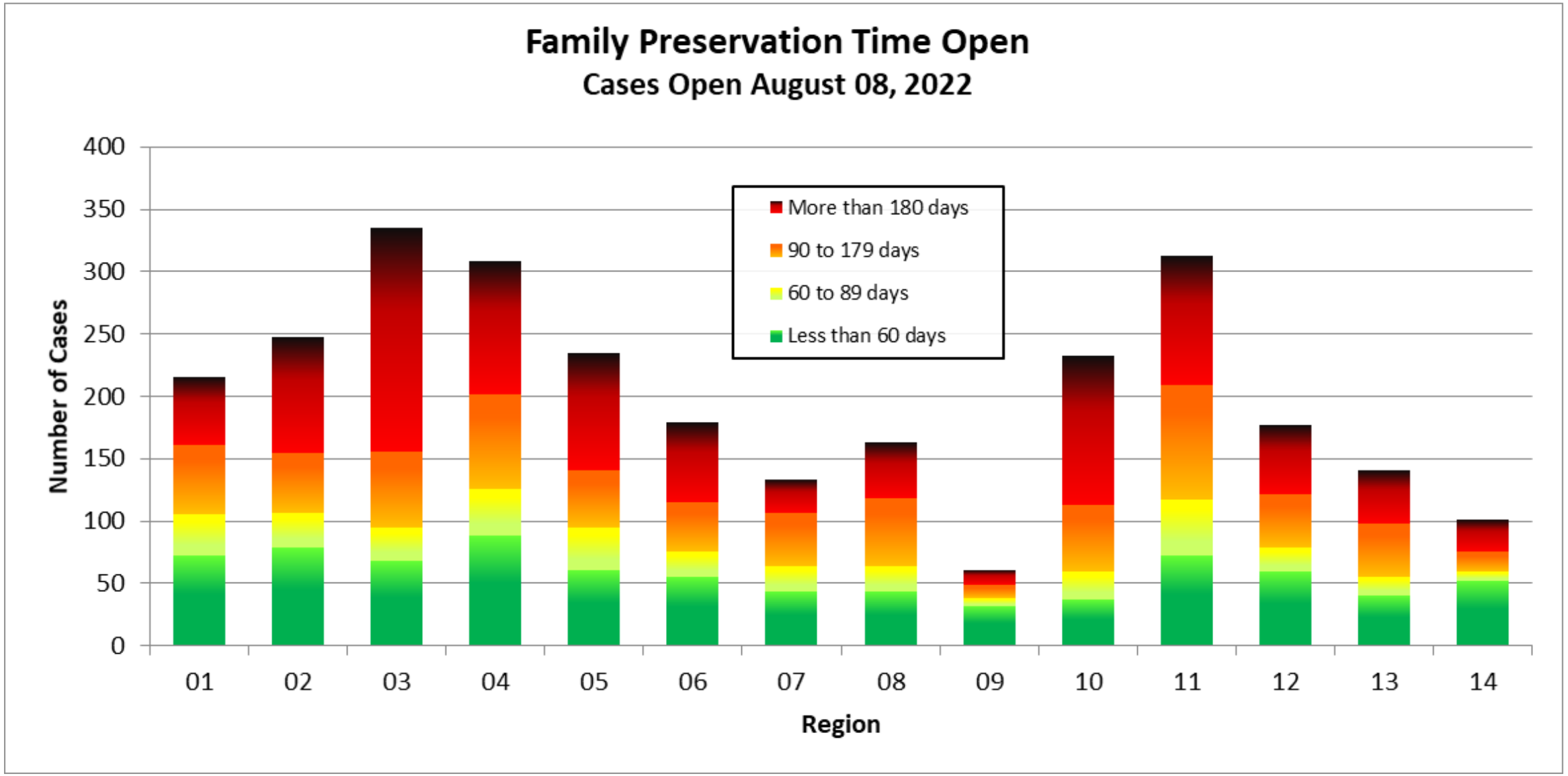

Investigations Time Open
Cases Open August 08, 2022
Percent Open Less Than 45 Days
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
99.1%
99.0%
96.2%
01
02
03
04
05
06
07
08
09
10
11
12
13
14
Georgia
Region

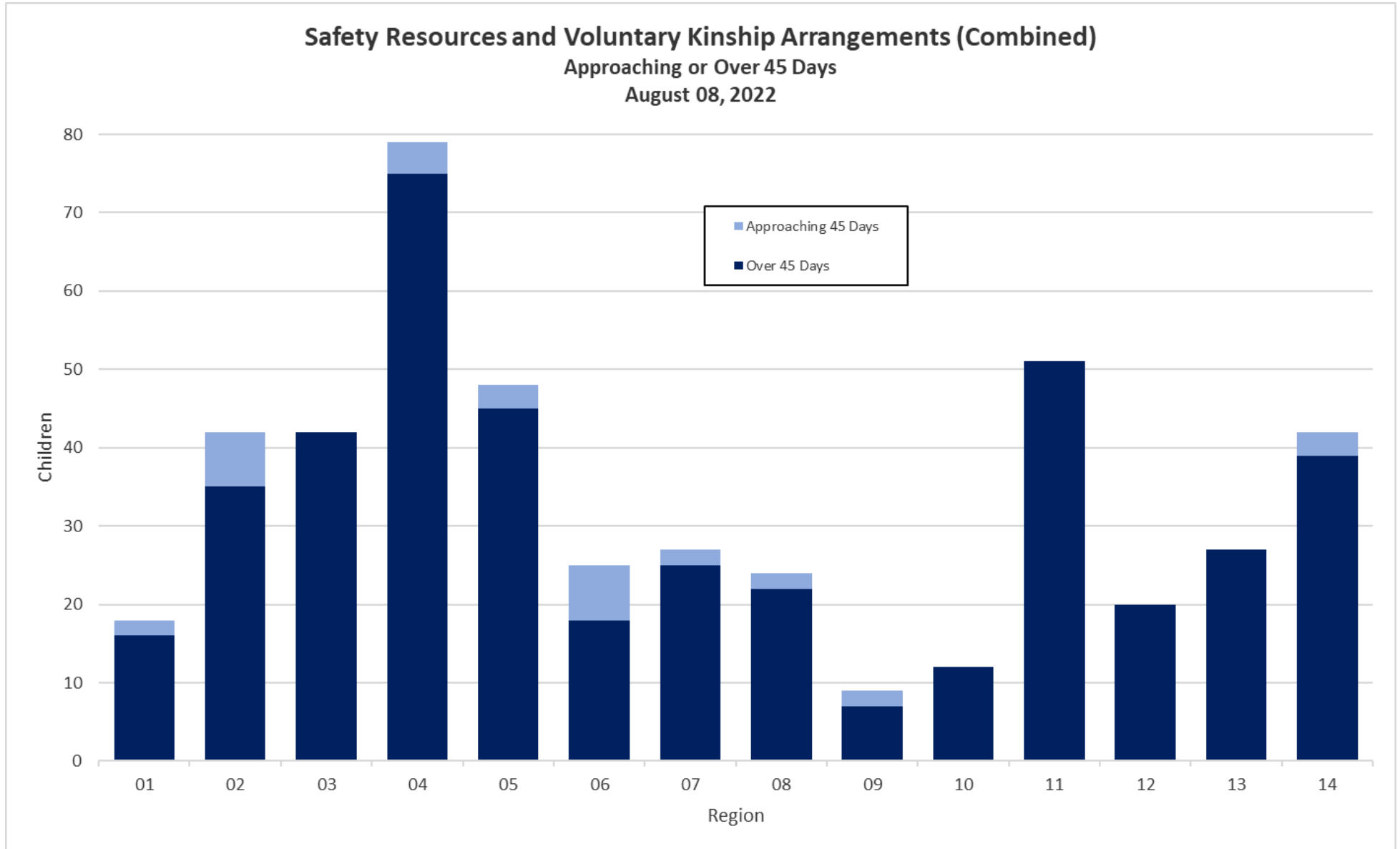

Investigations, Percent Substantiated and Total Count
Unsubstantiated
Substantiated
Percent Substantiated
Percent Substantiated
Investigations Closed
35%
30%
25%
20%
15%
10%
5%
0%
3500
3000
2500
2000
1500
1000
500
0
24.2%
24.5%
23.7%
23.2%
23.6%
21.6%
23.7%
25.0%
24.0%
24.0%
25.5%
25.1%
29.2%
July
August
September
October
November
December
January
February
March
April
May
June
July
2021
2022

Family Preservation Stages Open By Year

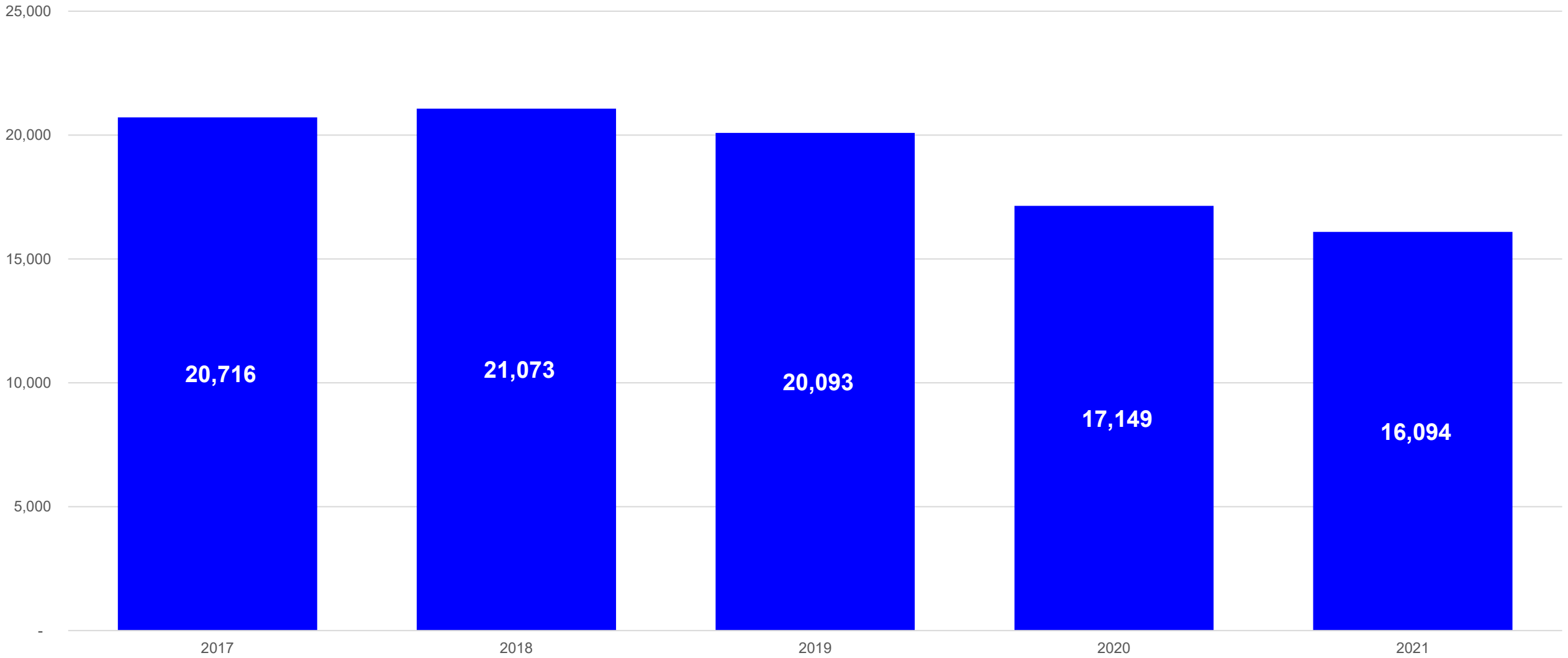


Family Preservation is a program designed to continue working with a family where safety concerns have been identified with the children remaining in the home. Data Source: Shines

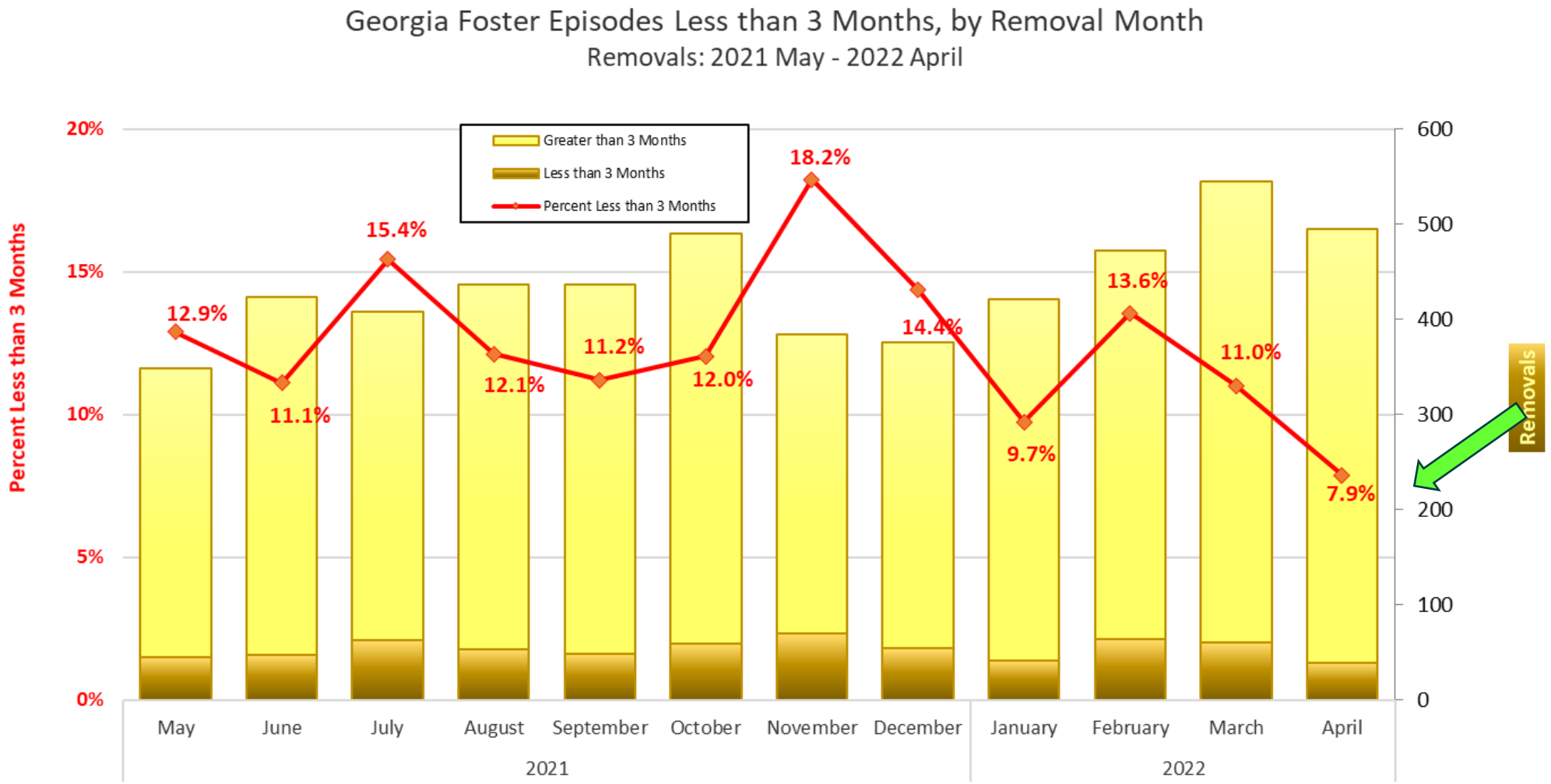

Family Preservation Time Open
Cases Open August 08, 2022
Number of Cases
400
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
More than 180 days
90 to 179 days
60 to 89 days
Less than 60 days
01
02
03
04
05
06
07
08
09
10
11
12
13
14
Region


Safety Resources and Voluntary Kinship Arrangements (Combined)
Approaching or Over 45 Days
August 08, 2022
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
Children
Approaching 45 Days
Over 45 Days
01
02
03
04
05
06
07
08
09
10
11
12
13
14
Region

Children in Custody By Year

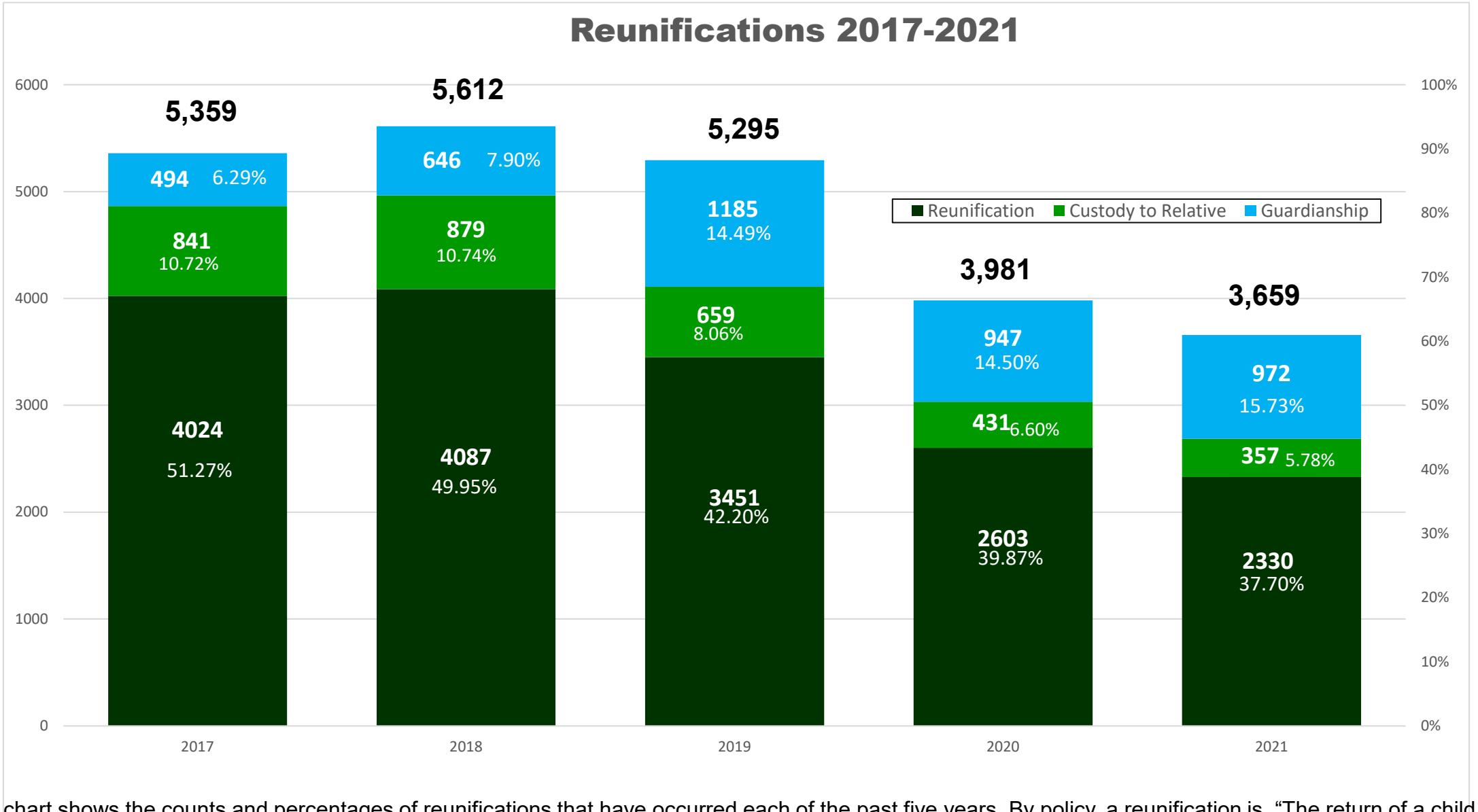


Children may have been in foster care for only part of the year. Each child is counted only once in a year, regardless of the number of foster episodes. Individual children may be counted in more than one year. Data Source: Shines

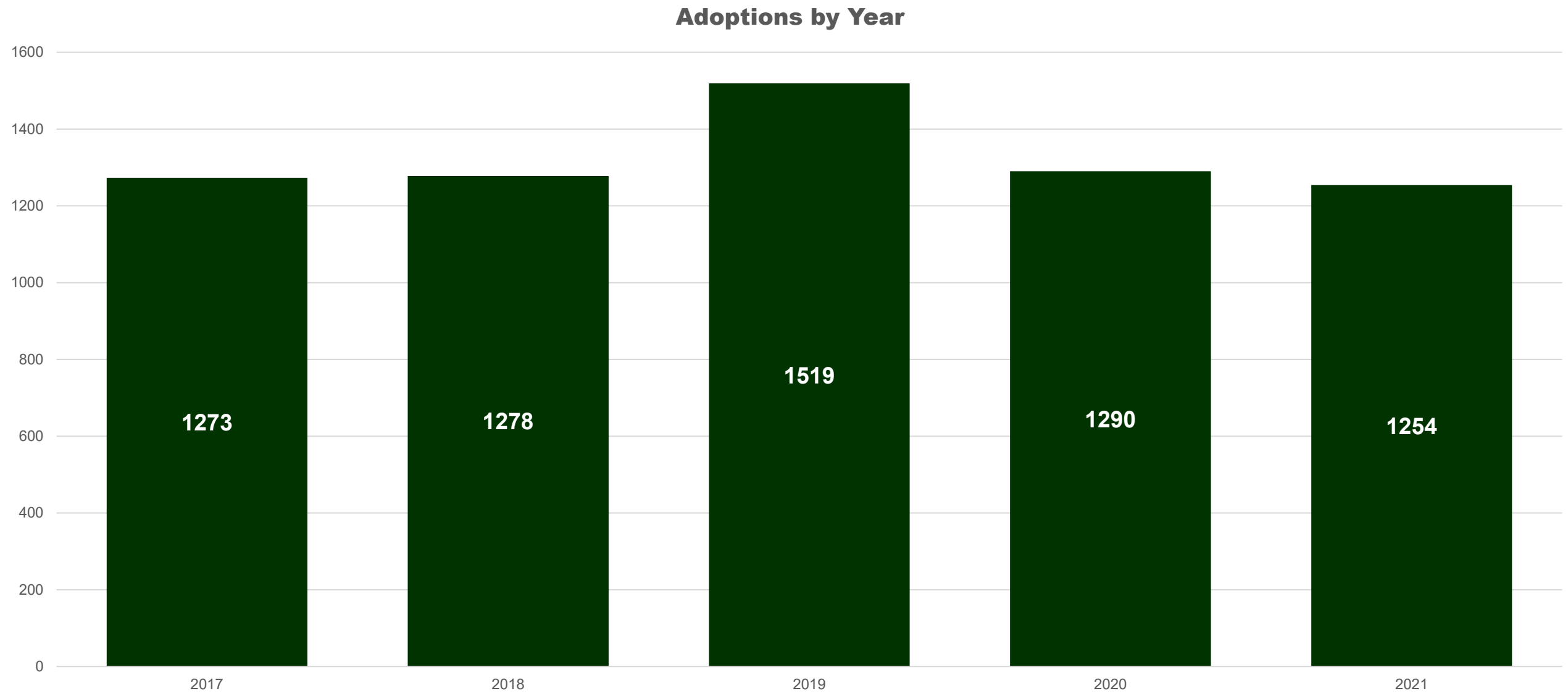


Down from 10.5% (data for 2021 April – 2022 March)

Reunifications 2017-2021



This chart shows the counts and percentages of reunifications that have occurred each of the past five years. By policy, a reunification is, “The return of a child in the temporary custody of DFCS to the legal and physical custody of the parent, guardian or legal custodian. Custody to a non-custodial parent is also deemed reunification.”
Data Source: Shines



Finding a forever family for each child is the goal of DFCS when it is clear that reunification will not be in the best interest of the child. These adoption counts show the continuous effort undertaken to help foster children achieve this goal. Data Source: Shines

Placement Support

- Youth with complex needs
  - Enhanced rates to providers
  - Emergency funds to support youth to prevent or end a hoteling episode
  - Temporary staffing to congregate care providers
  - Encouraging proposals from providers

- Family-based caregivers
  - Researching expanded respite

Decrease Hoteling

- Complex Care Coordinator position
- Daily tracking spreadsheet
- PASS calls with all districts
- Dashboard

Increase Family Caregivers

- Foster Parent Recruitment campaign announced in coordination with Gov. Kemp's office

For Immediate Release
Tuesday, August 2, 2022

Gov. Kemp, First Lady Marty Kemp, and DHS Announce Statewide Campaign to Recruit More Foster Parents

Atlanta, GA – Governor Brian Kemp, First Lady Marty Kemp, and Department of Human Services (DHS) Commissioner Candice Broce today announced a new statewide marketing campaign to help recruit and retain more foster parents for youth in state custody.

"My administration has taken great strides to support foster parents in the critically important mission of caring for Georgia children in need," **said Governor Brian Kemp.** "Our state believes in protecting life at all stages, and we're committed to achieving this goal. We hope this new campaign reaches more who are ready to answer this call."

Streamlining Efforts

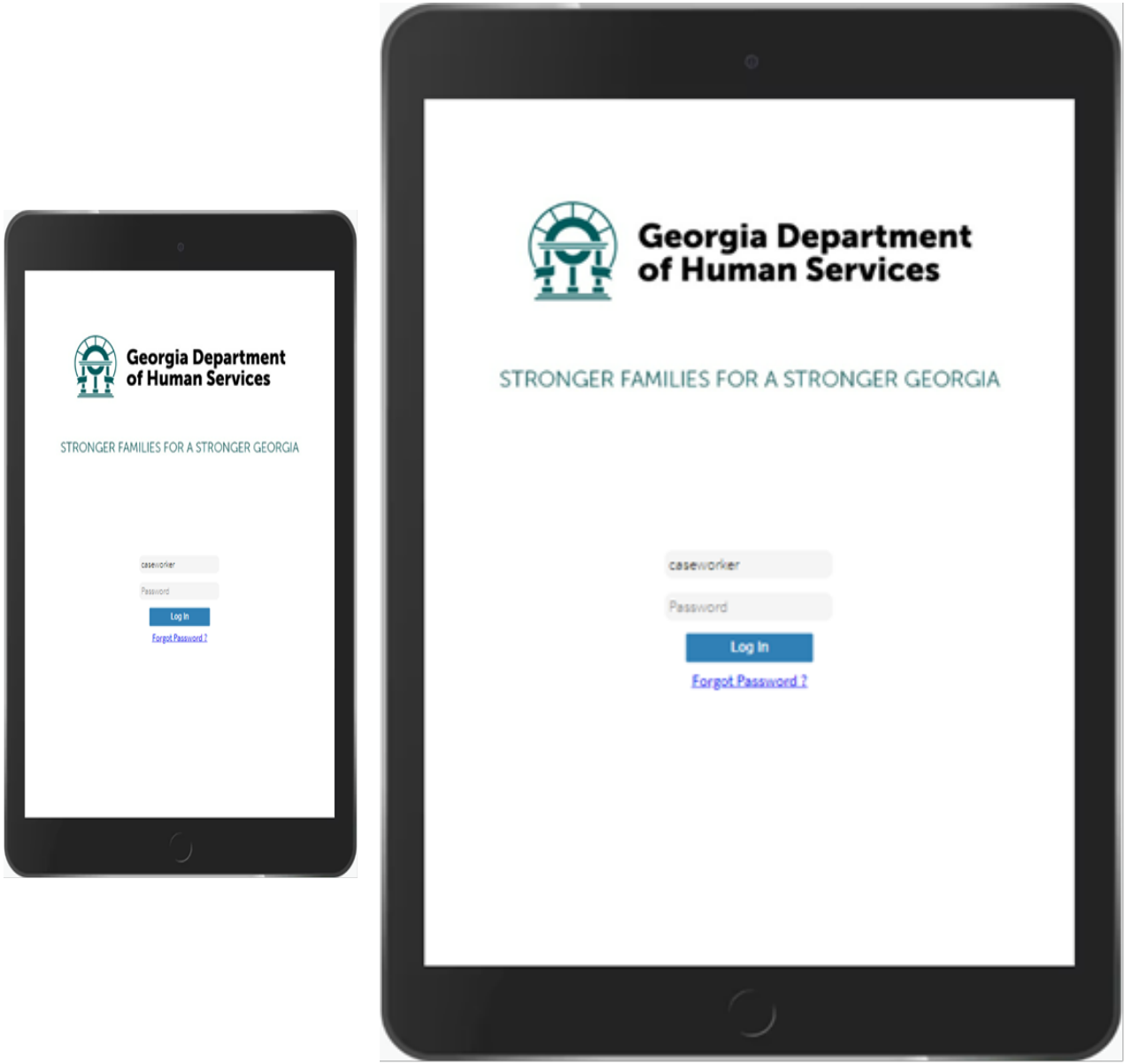
- Focus on removing administrative burdens on county staff
- Listen to feedback from county directors
- Solicit ideas from frontline staff
- Examples:
  - Temporary suspension of 100-mile rule for transportation
  - Supply of car seats and portable cribs
- Exploring:
  - Prevention of unnecessary weekend work

Technology Modernization

- mCase mobile solutions pilot
- Community Portal
- Placement Portal
- *Future portals for CASA, foster parents, prospective foster parents*

mCase

Functionality



mCase Functions

- View essential case, stage, and person data

- Complete forms:
  - Authorization for Release of Information (English & Spanish)
  - Safety Plan (English & Spanish)
  - Consent for State Criminal Records Check

- Capture and upload photos

- Create contact records

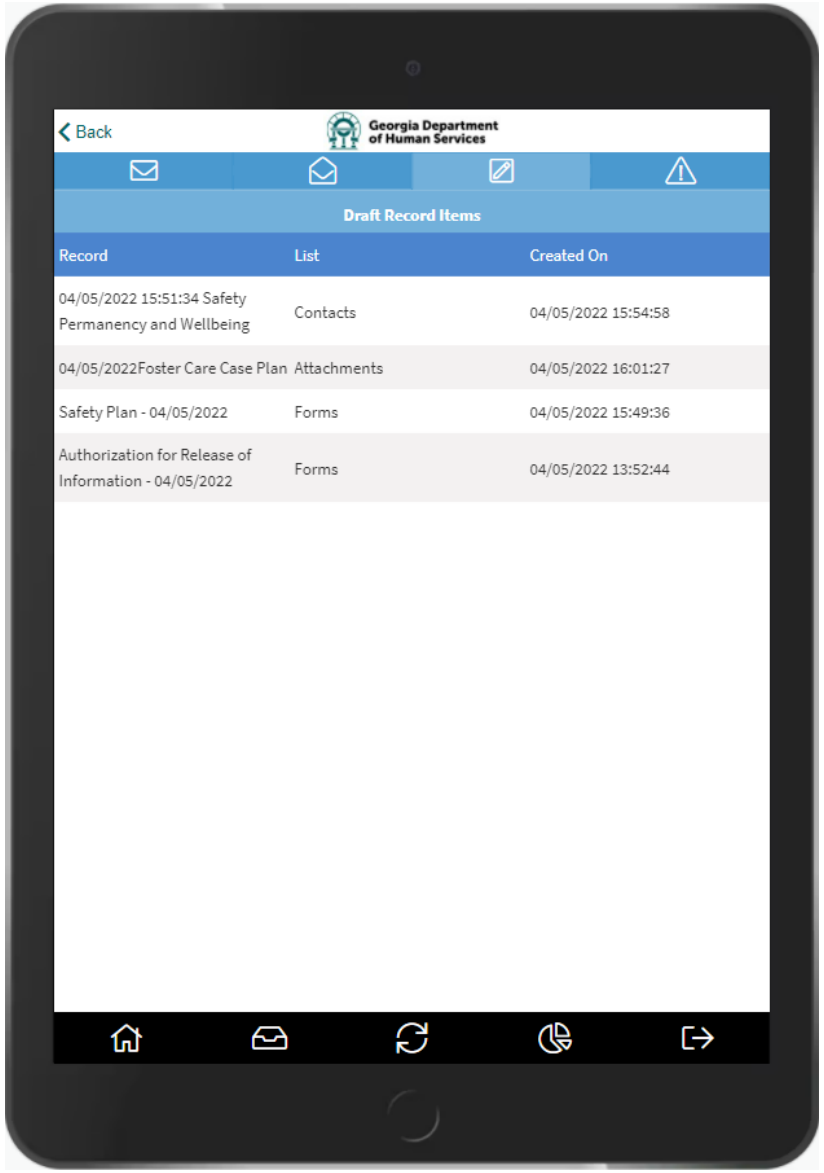
The scope of Phase 1

Phase 1 of the GA Mobility solution is limited, both in functionality and the target end-users. Users in the pilot counties (Paulding and Douglas) will be able to view their assigned caseloads and relevant case and person details using the GA Mobility Application on their mobile devices. There will be limited data that will be added or updated using the GA Mobility solution.

Inbox

There are four different tabs within the user's inbox.

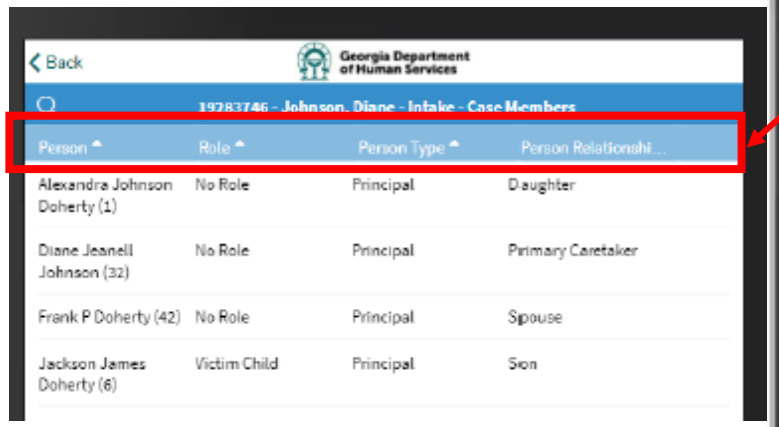
- **New Inbox Items** – displays a list of all unread system notifications
- **Open Inbox Items** – displays a list of all read system notifications
- **Draft Record Items** – displays a list of all records that have been created and are currently in a 'draft' status
- **Error Messages** – displays a list of all error messages

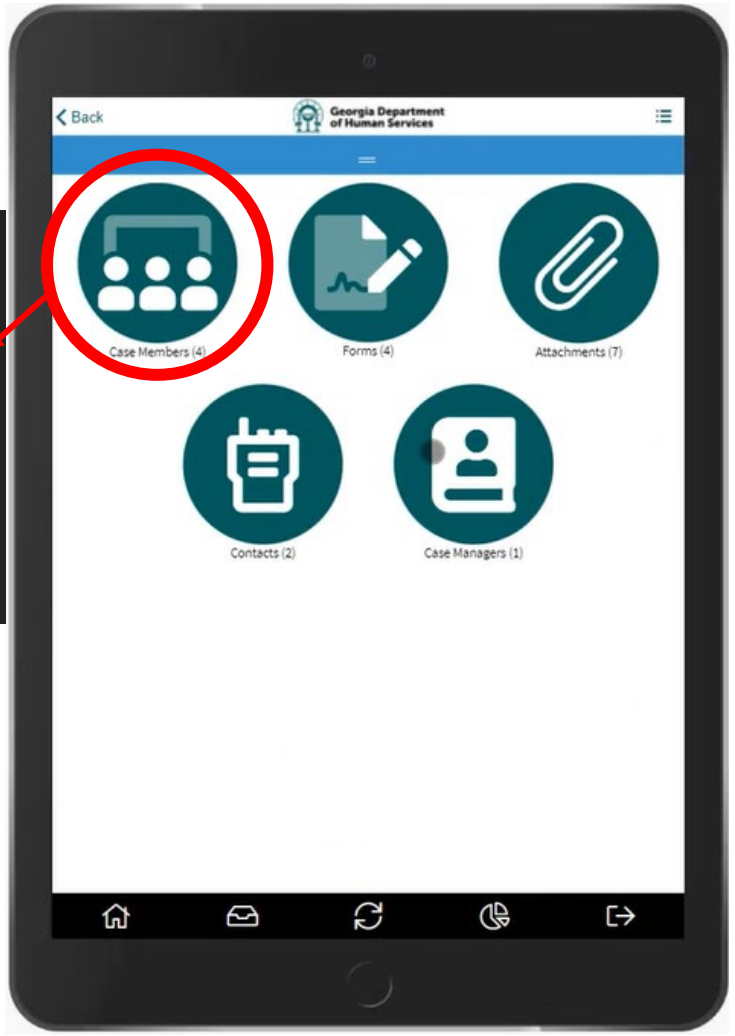


Case Member

Clicking the Case Member icon lists all members associated with the case and the following columns:

- **Person** – displays the person and their age in parenthesis
- **Role** – any roll associated with the person
- **Person Type** – examples are collateral, principal, which can be listed here
- **Person Relationship to Case** - lists the client relationship to those in the case

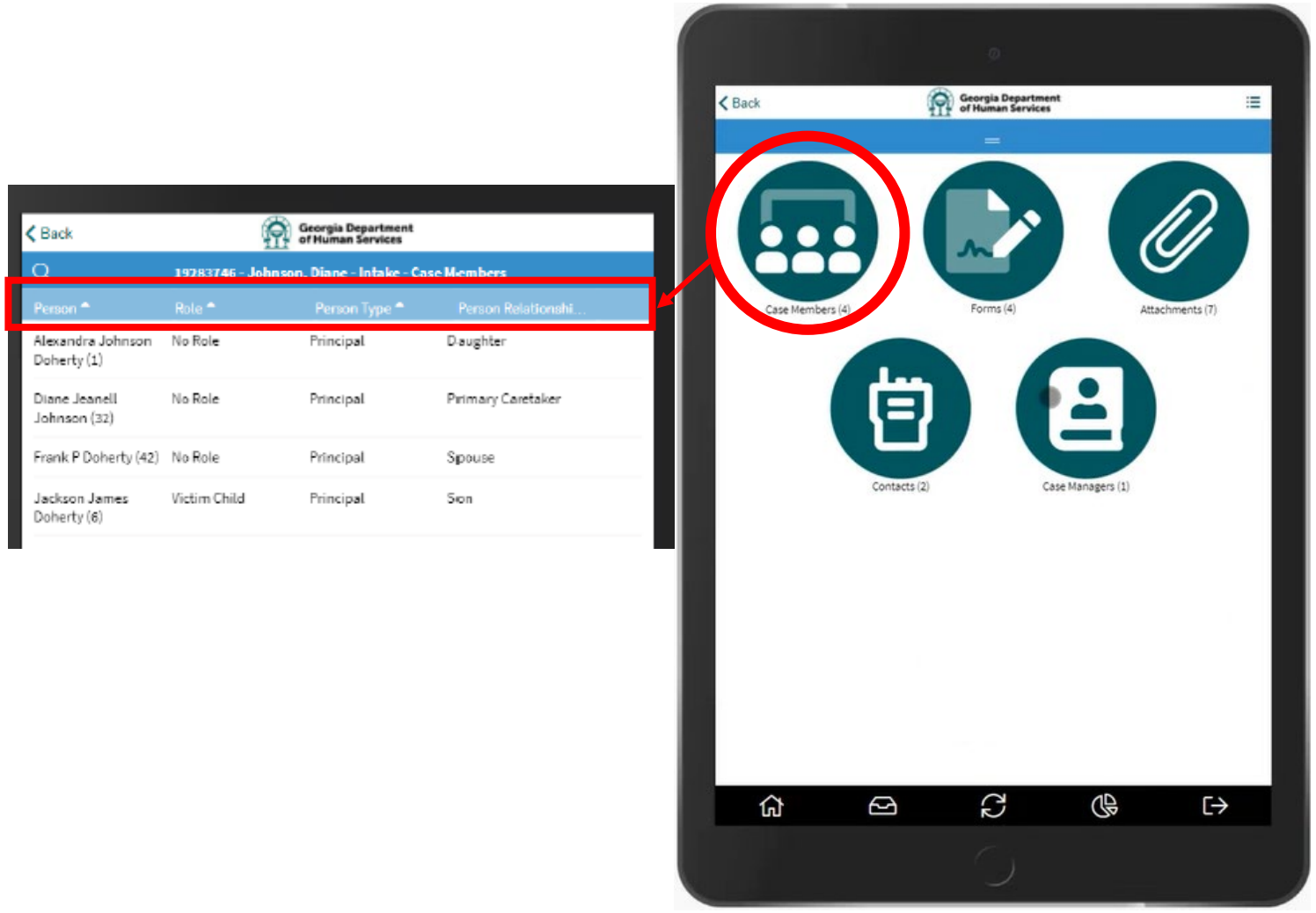




Forms

Clicking the Forms icon lists all forms associated with the case member and the following appears on the Forms list columns:

- **Form Type** – displays the type of form by name
- **Date** – date the form finalized
- **User** – the user that uploaded the form



Draft Form

- When selecting the Draft form from the form list, it has "View Embedded Document"

- In order to edit the Draft form to make changes or updates, select the Action Menu to view the options in the top right

Workforce Support

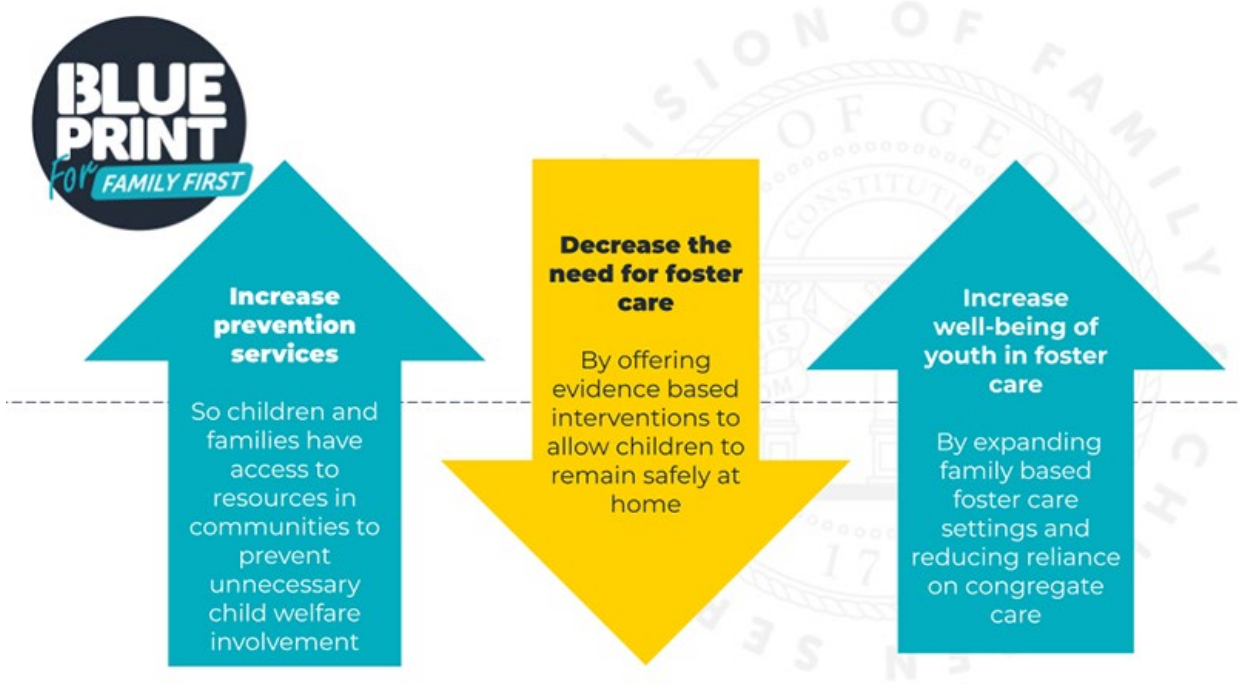
- Career ladder for case managers
- Master's degree pay increase
  - 10% for behavioral health science degrees
- LCSW supplement
- National Child Welfare Workforce Institute (NCWWI) grant
- $5,000 salary increase and bonus
  - Ability to convert leave to dollars
- Paid down to one hour for comp. time
- Job fairs
- HR positions to expedite hiring

Legislative Updates

- Autism respite care pilot
- Autism prevalence project
- Provider rate increase
  - 10% all providers
- Clothing allowance increase
- Community Action Teams pilot

Family First Update

- Family First Prevention Services Act
- RFP for services released
- www.blueprintfamilyfirst.org



Questions?

Mary Havick

mary.havick@dhs.ga.gov