

Recurrence of Child Maltreatment

Presentation to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee

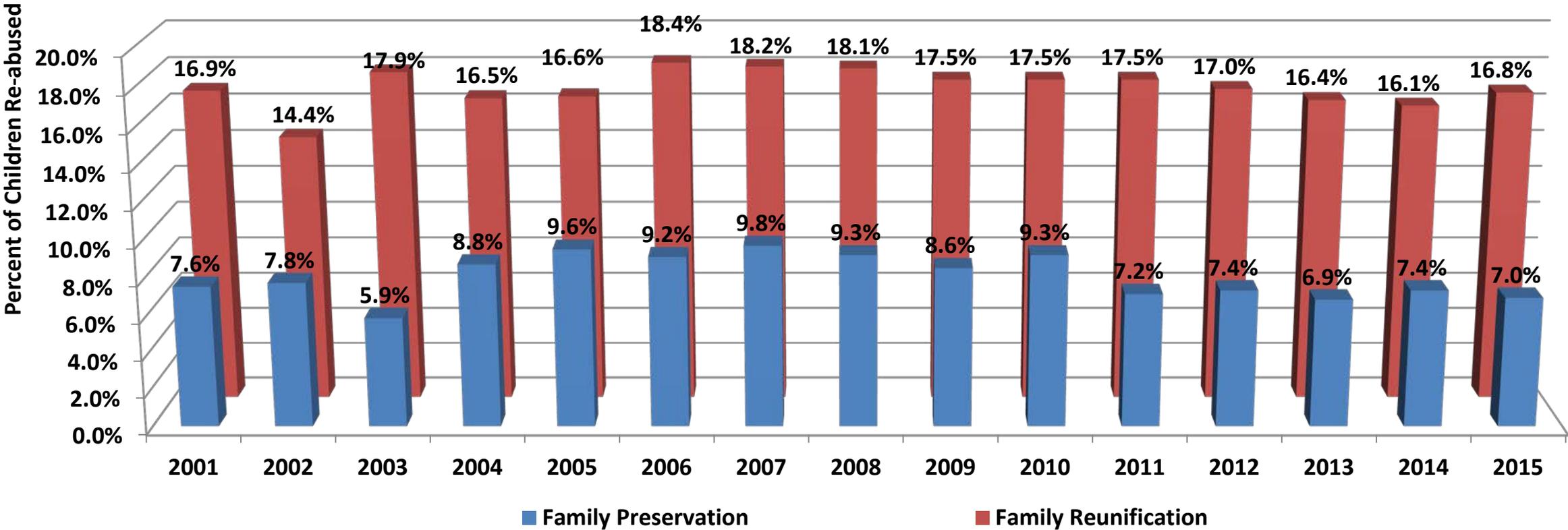
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The Texas Association for the Protection of Children

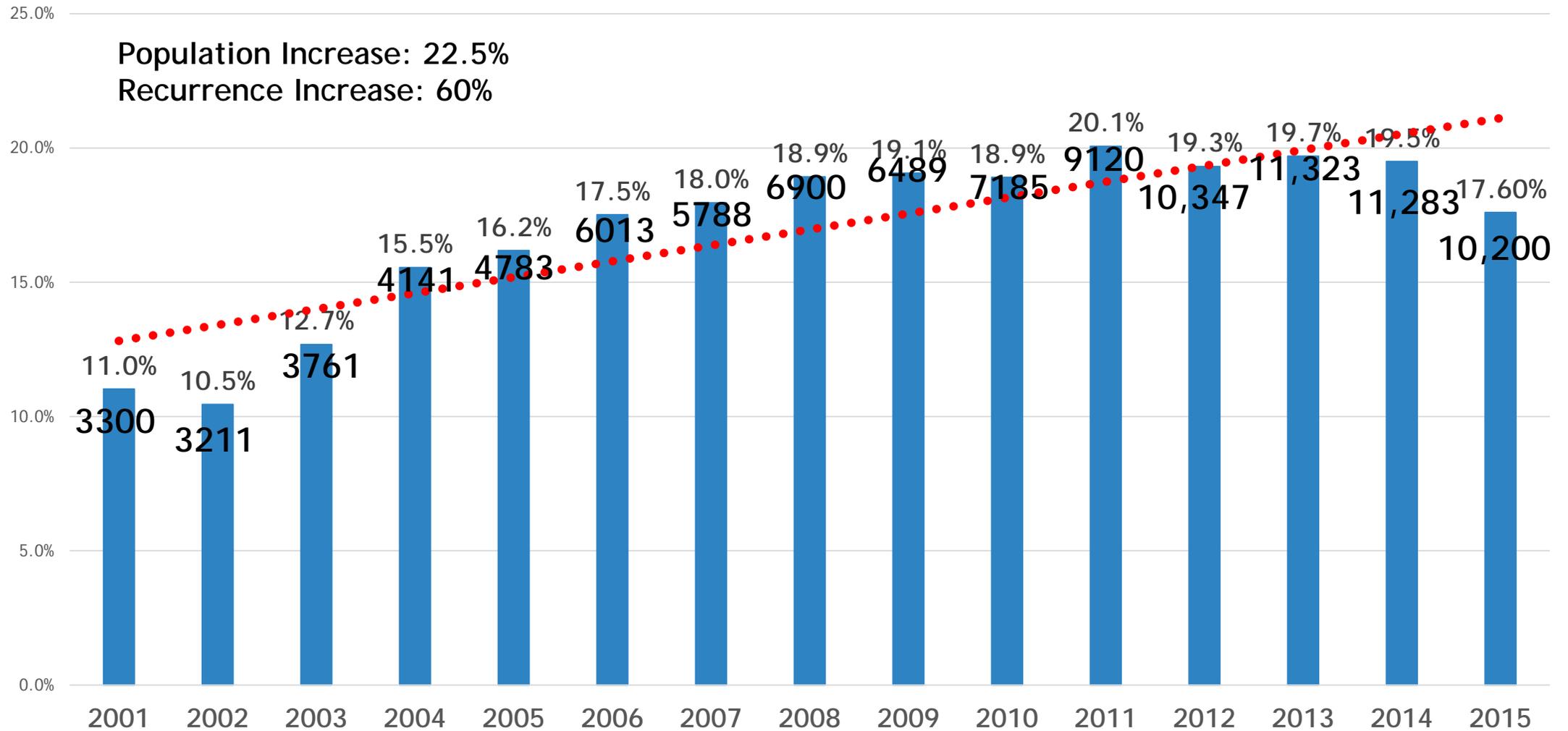
12 Month Recurrence Over 15 Years



Source: 2015 DFPS Databook



5 Year Recurrence for Family Preservation and State Conservatorship



Source: 2015 DFPS Databook



Defining Recurrence

- ▶ How recurrence is measured varies
- ▶ Two variables to consider:
 - ▶ What types of cases should we track?
 - ▶ How long should we track recurrence?
- ▶ Report to CPS: Strongest indicator in predicting serious injury and fatalities
- ▶ Research supports fallibility in the investigative process - we don't always get it right.

Source: Putnam-Hornstein E. (2011). Report of maltreatment as a risk factor for injury death: a prospective birth cohort study. *Child Maltreatment*, 16 (3), 163-174. [PMID: 21680641]; Kohl, P.L., Jonson-Reid, M., & Drake, B. (2009). Time to leave substantiation behind: Findings from a national probability study. *Child Maltreatment*, 14(1), 17-26.

Unmeasured Recurrence

- ▶ Of the 274,448 reports of child abuse to SWI:
- ▶ 46,336 Screened Out and closed *without* an investigation
- ▶ 116,316 Ruled Out Reports
- ▶ 16,696 Unable to Determine Reports
- ▶ 3,350 Unable to Complete Reports
- ▶ 60% of reports to CPS are from professionals, but only 23% (40,506) are substantiated by CPS.

Source: 2015 DFPS Databook



Family Preservation and Foster Care: Recurrence

- ▶ 5 year recurrence rate for Family Preservation/Conservatorship (2010): 17.6%
(10,200 / 52,800 children re-victimized)
- ▶ Only 10% of investigations referred to family preservation services
- ▶ \$356 dollars spent on services per family for Family Preservation: Insufficient for recovery
- ▶ 4% of investigations result in removal of children
- ▶ \$403,000,000 spent on foster care annually



SafeCare: Evidence Based Alternative for CPS Families

- ▶ Family Support Home Visiting for families with CPS case
- ▶ Successful prevention of re-entry of children into CPS
- ▶ 26% less recurrence vs. services as usual (FBSS)
- ▶ Three components: child safety, parent child interaction, child development
- ▶ Targeted to families with children ages 0-5
- ▶ 18-20 once a week sessions (service duration 5-6 months)
- ▶ Currently funded by PEI in 3 counties: Cameron, Webb, Taylor



Preventing Recurrence in Open Cases

- ▶ Roughly 15% of child fatalities occur in cases open to CPS at the time of death*
- ▶ An additional 30% of child fatalities had previous CPS involvement
- ▶ Inconclusive data on serious incidents/near fatalities on open cases
- ▶ Risk readings early in a case and at closure can help avert serious incidents
- ▶ Child Safety Specialists should complete *secondary reads* on high risk and very high risk cases, regardless of age/disposition/referral to Family Preservation.

Source: DFPS A Better Understanding of Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities

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