



Texas Department of  
**Family and Protective Services**

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House Human Services Hearing  
October 13, 2021

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# Impact of Children Crossing the Texas- Mexico Border on DFPS Programs

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- The U.S. government has the authority to detain and enforce immigration actions through its Department of Homeland Security, and to resettle refugees through its Administration of Children and Families, Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR).
- [Texas Family Code §261.102-103](#) requires that reports concerning abuse and neglect of children be made to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) if the alleged abuse or neglect involves a person traditionally responsible for the care, custody, or welfare of the child, as defined by [Texas Family Code §261.001\(5\)](#).
- Pursuant to [Texas Family Code §261.102-103](#), Statewide Intake (SWI) receives all reports alleging abuse, neglect and exploitation (ANE). SWI staff assess the report to determine if DFPS has authority to investigate.
- [Texas Family Code §261.301](#) gives DFPS statutory authority to investigate child abuse, neglect, and exploitation (ANE) allegations that occur in children's homes or in state-licensed residential child care facilities regulated by the Texas Department of Health and Human Services (HHSC).



# FY 2020 Total Contact Data

Type	Program	Percent of Total	Actual Number
Abuse Neglect	APS In-Home	15.7%	115,421
	APS Provider	2.6%	19,045
	CPS	36.9%	272,198
	DCL	0.4%	2,869
	RCCL	0.8%	5,561
Special Requests	APS In-Home	0.0%	50
	CPS	0.9%	6,930
	Not Specified	0.0%	1
Information & Referral	Not Specified	42.7%	314,702
<b>Total</b>			<b>736,777</b>

The term "contacts" represents information received by DFPS and then entered into IMPACT system. Information may be received in the form of a telephone call, regular mail, via online or fax. 4



# Statewide Intake Process

<b>Relationship of Alleged Perpetrator to Unaccompanied Child</b>	<b>SWI Actions</b>
<b>Federal Border Patrol Employee</b>	SWI refers the reporter to the Department of Homeland Security's Office of the Inspector General (Department of Homeland Security OIG) at (800) 323-8603.  If the reporter refuses to report the situation to the Department of Homeland Security OIG hotline, SWI makes the report via fax.
<b>Family or Household Member in Home Country</b>	Not recommended for investigation due to lack of jurisdiction.
<b>Employee of Federal Shelter, not subject to state licensure or monitoring</b>	SWI refers the reporter to the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) hotline at (800) 203-7001.  If the reporter refuses to report the situation to the ORR hotline, SWI makes the report via fax.
<b>RCCR Facility Employee</b>	RCCI intake or Information & Referral to RCCR for Standards Compliance
<b>Placed by ORR with UAC's Sponsor in Texas</b>	CPI Intake



# Completed FY20 RCCI Investigations

Operation Type	Investigations Closed	Validated	% Validated
Child Placing Agency/Branch	1,292	87	6.7%
General Residential Operation	633	40	6.3%
Residential Treatment Center	1,010	49	4.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,935</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>6.0%</b>

# Human Trafficking & Child Exploitation

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- In June 2017, the DFPS Human Trafficking and Child Exploitation (HTCE) Division was created with a two-year grant from the Office of the Governor's Child Sex Trafficking Team.
- The 86th Legislature then appropriated funding for five full-time positions to continue the HTCE Division.
- DFPS investigates human trafficking allegations if a person traditionally responsible for the children's care, custody, and welfare either:
  - Knowingly causes, permits, encourages, engages in, or allows a child to be trafficked, or
  - Fails to make a reasonable effort to prevent a child from being trafficked.



# Overview of Texas Children & Youth in DFPS Conservatorship FY 2020

Total number in DFPS Conservatorship at some point in FY 2020	47,913
Total number of unique children and youth missing from DFPS Conservatorship	2,229
Total number of unique children recovered during FY 2020	1,972
Number of unique children who reported being victimized during missing episode	136
Number of unique victims of sex trafficking during missing episode	68
Number of unique victims of labor trafficking during missing episode	0