



CHILDREN WITHOUT PLACEMENT AGENCY EFFORTS

PRIORITY

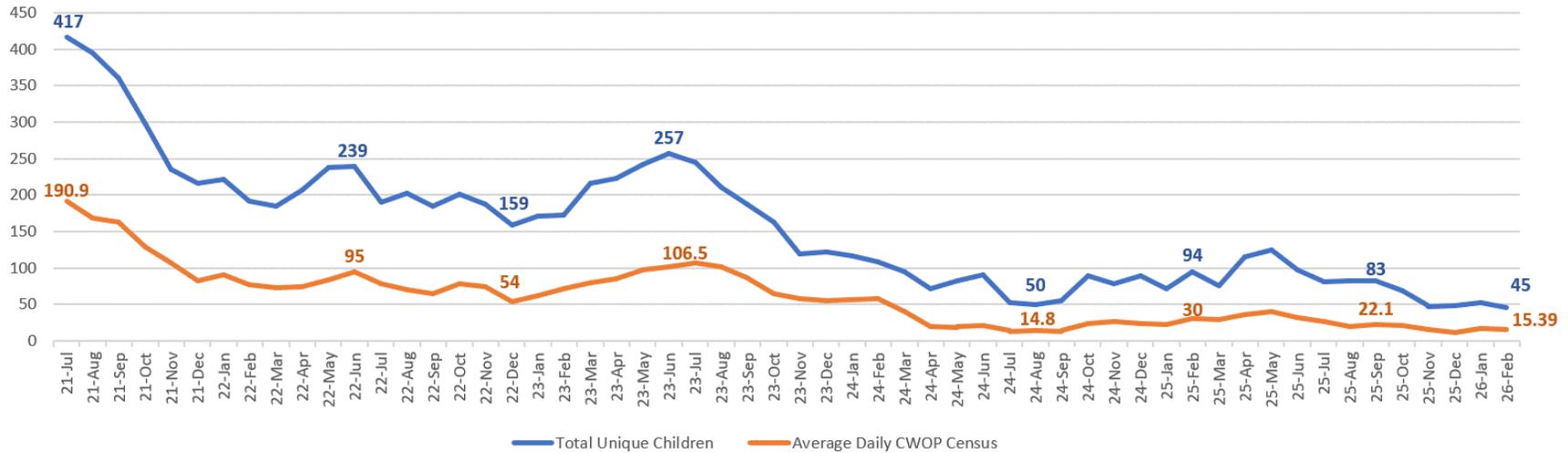
GOAL

ACTIONS

	<p>CARE</p> <p>Augment the structure and staffing of DFPS Supervision sites, providing an environment that incentivizes positive youth behaviors while prioritizing the safety of both youth and caseworkers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFPS Temporary Emergency Care Pilot Site • Additional training for dedicated emergency care site staff, including de-escalation techniques • Hiring dedicated positions • Increased temporary staffing • Expediting placement referrals to Residential Treatment Placement Coordinators and for Child Specific Contract searches • Law enforcement engagement • Clinical coordinators to support with caseworker tasks when a child/youth is in DFPS Supervision • Placement Support Staffing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy updates to support staff wellbeing by limiting the number of DFPS Supervision shifts allowable • Trafficking assessment • Missing youth searches • Convening of State Agencies and Stakeholders • Pathways to Placement • Interagency Critical Case Meetings • Children’s Behavioral Health Strategic Plan Subcommittee • Placement Stabilization and Support Team
	<p>CAPACITY</p> <p>Enhance the capacity and stability of kinship and licensed placements while streamlining DFPS placement processes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluating Intensive Psychiatric Stabilization Program (IPSP) and Treatment Family Foster Care (TFFC) • Temporary Emergency Placement (TEP) expansion • Temporary Transitional Beds • Emergency Shelter Partnership • Placement process improvement and additional staffing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for staff regarding engaging kin and placement with kinship. • Developing strategies to increase 1st placements with kinship • Updating kinship policies to strengthen kinship practices • Expanded and flexible Kinship spending • Kinship Behavioral Health Grants • Provider Clinical and Programmatic Support
	<p>SERVICES</p> <p>Support programs and services to meet the specific needs of youth in DFPS Supervision, with a focus on preparing older youth for successful transitions to independence and self-sufficiency within appropriate placements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on services and support, such as preparation for adult living, housing, job opportunities, and other basic life skills • Partner with HHSC on state operated residential treatment facility • Utilize behavioral health funding for youth crisis outreach and extended inpatient hospital support • Partnering youth with mentor support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure every youth is referred for a Circle of Support • Providing up to date mental health resources to staff through broadcasts and Job Aids • Ensure therapeutic supports are scheduled for youth regardless of participation
	<p>DIVERSION</p> <p>Implement actions to divert children and youth from entering state custody as appropriate through effective intervention strategies and alternative support systems, promoting family preservation and community-based solutions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with HHSC to support access to behavioral health resources and additional funding to prevent removals as a result of refusal to accept parental responsibility • Increased use of Alternative Response • Increased use of Behavioral Health Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on least restrictive environment • Partnership with Juvenile Justice • Increased communication with psychiatric hospitals • Emphasis on first placement with kinship

Children Without Placement Data

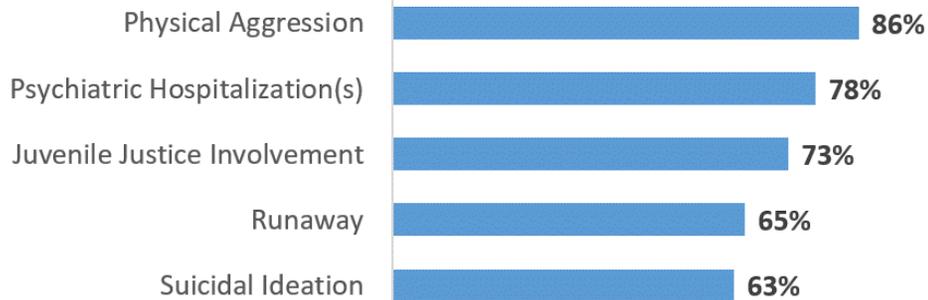
Total Children Without Placement



Definition: A child without placement event refers to when a child or youth was without placement for at least two consecutive, uninterrupted nights. If a youth goes missing during a child without placement event, the youth will be in a missing status rather than a child without placement event to ensure protocols are followed to ensure the safe return of a youth. If the youth returns from the missing event, a new event starts after at least two consecutive, uninterrupted nights.

Top 5 Child Characteristics/Needs February 2026 N=49 Events

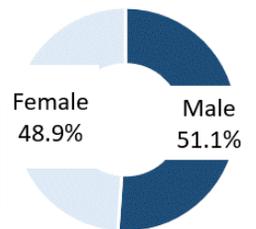
Children without placement have complex needs



Children Without Placement February 2026 Age N=45 Children



Gender



40%

Of all children who had a CWOP event in February 2026 (45 children) had been in conservatorship for less than one year

42%

Of all children who had a CWOP event in February 2026 (45 children) were removed due to Refusal to Accept Parental Responsibility