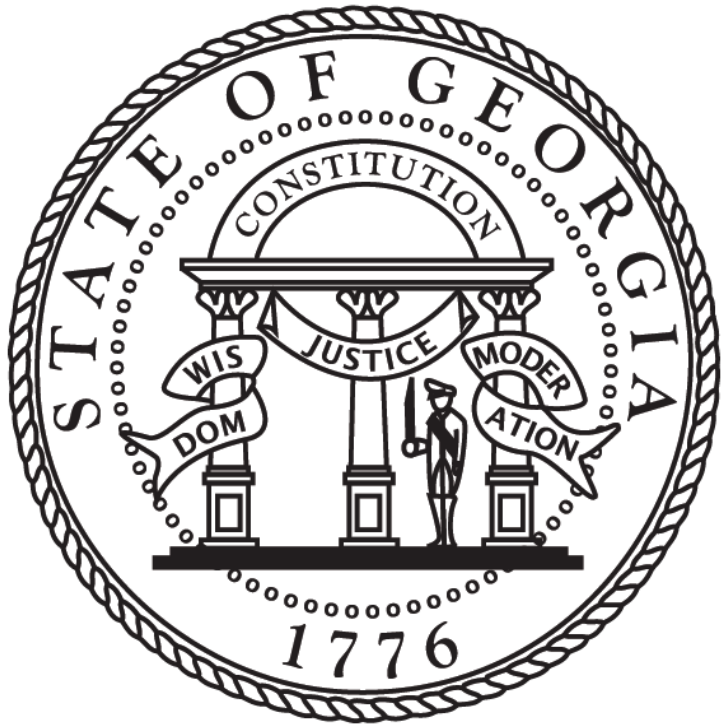


Georgia Department of Human Services

Housekeeping Rules

- Make sure your computer speakers are on.
- Use your computer audio, Microsoft Teams, or call into the meeting. Attempting to use multiple audio options will create feedback.
- Mute yourself if you are not speaking.
- When there are calls for action item votes, everyone will be unmuted to ensure that all board members are heard.
- Please state your name when making a motion or seconding a motion.
- Please note that all motions, presentations, and meeting minutes were emailed to you for your convenience.
- We will check the chat box for any questions or comments throughout the meeting. Please let us know if you experience any audio issues or have trouble viewing the PowerPoint presentation.
- If you are calling in on your phone, please use *6 to mute and unmute yourself.

Georgia Department of Human Services

Agenda Approval

Georgia Department of Human Services

May 17, 2023, Meeting Minutes Approval

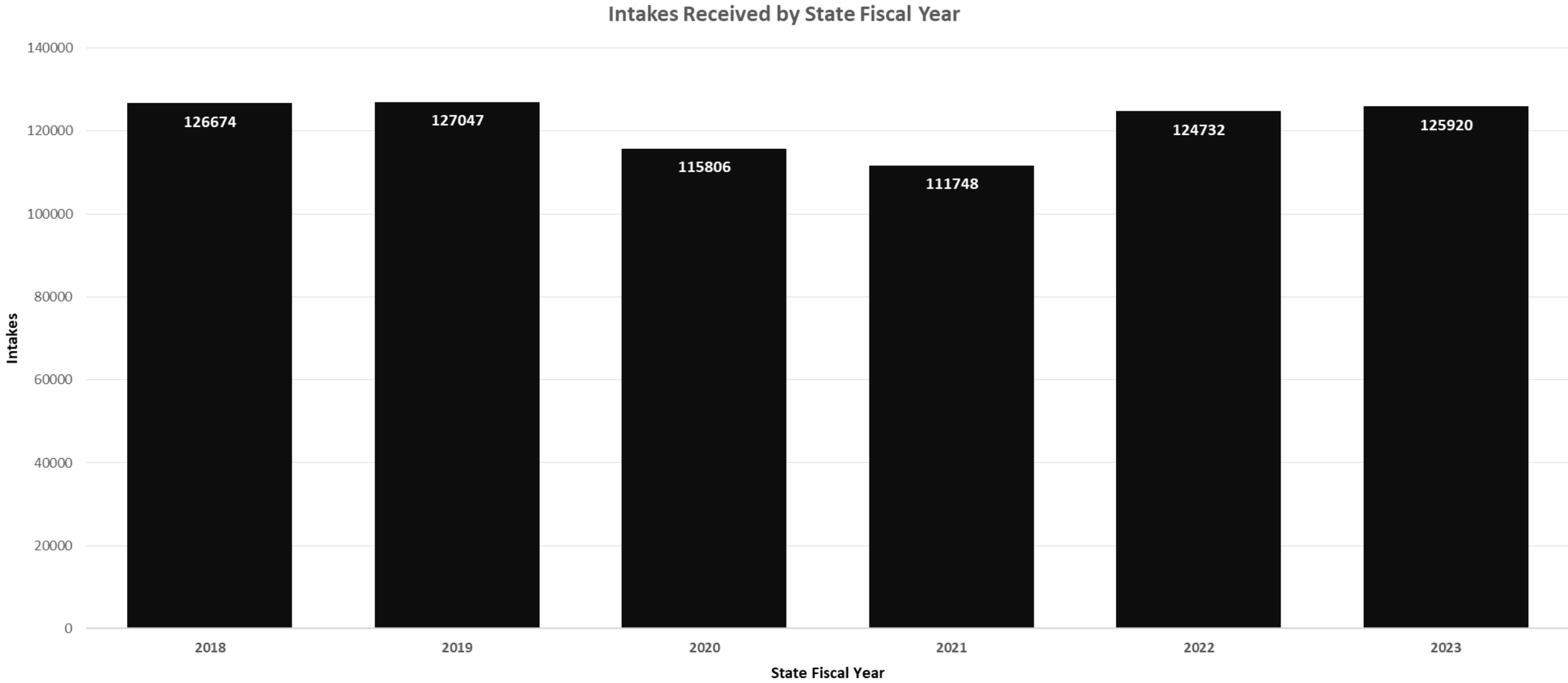
Georgia Department of Human Services

Child Welfare Monthly Data Report

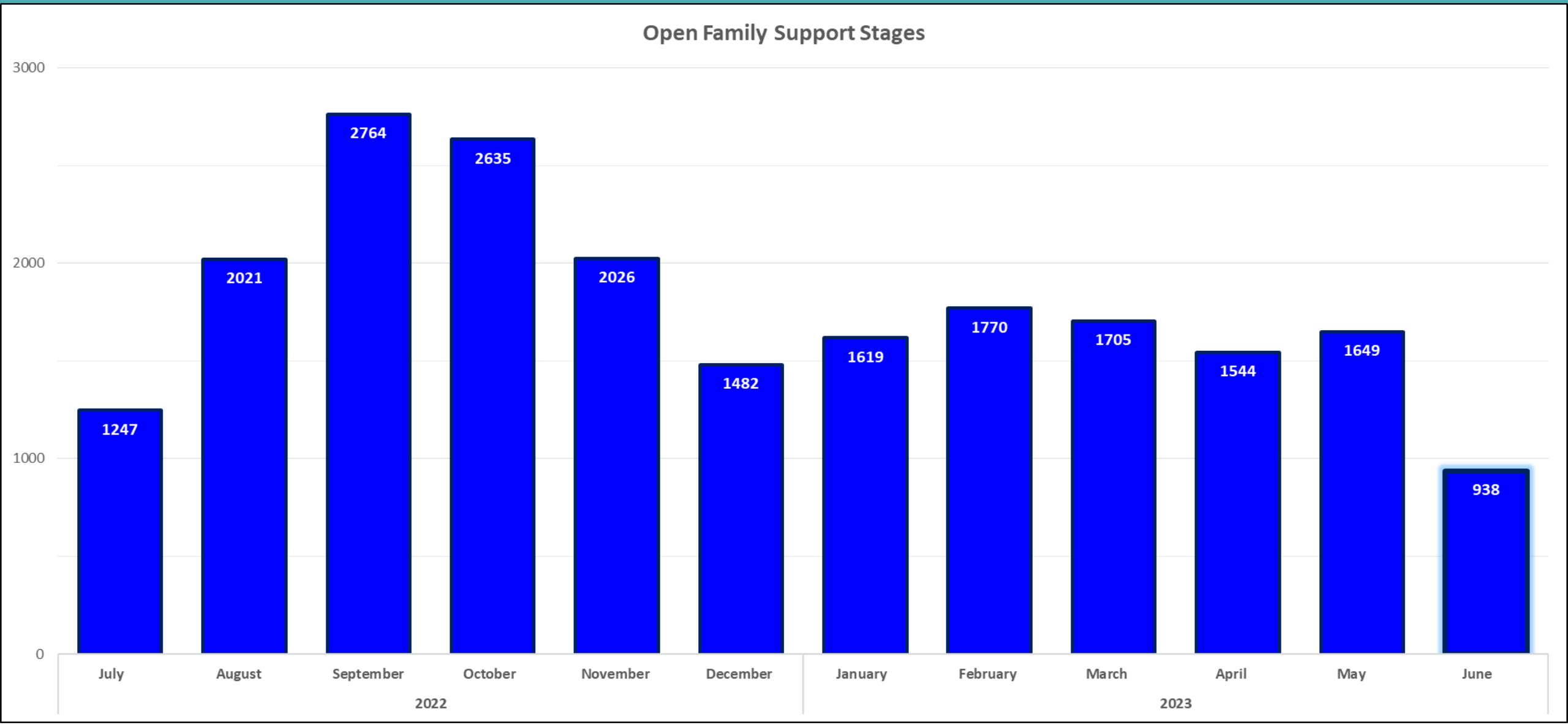
August 2023

Mary Havick

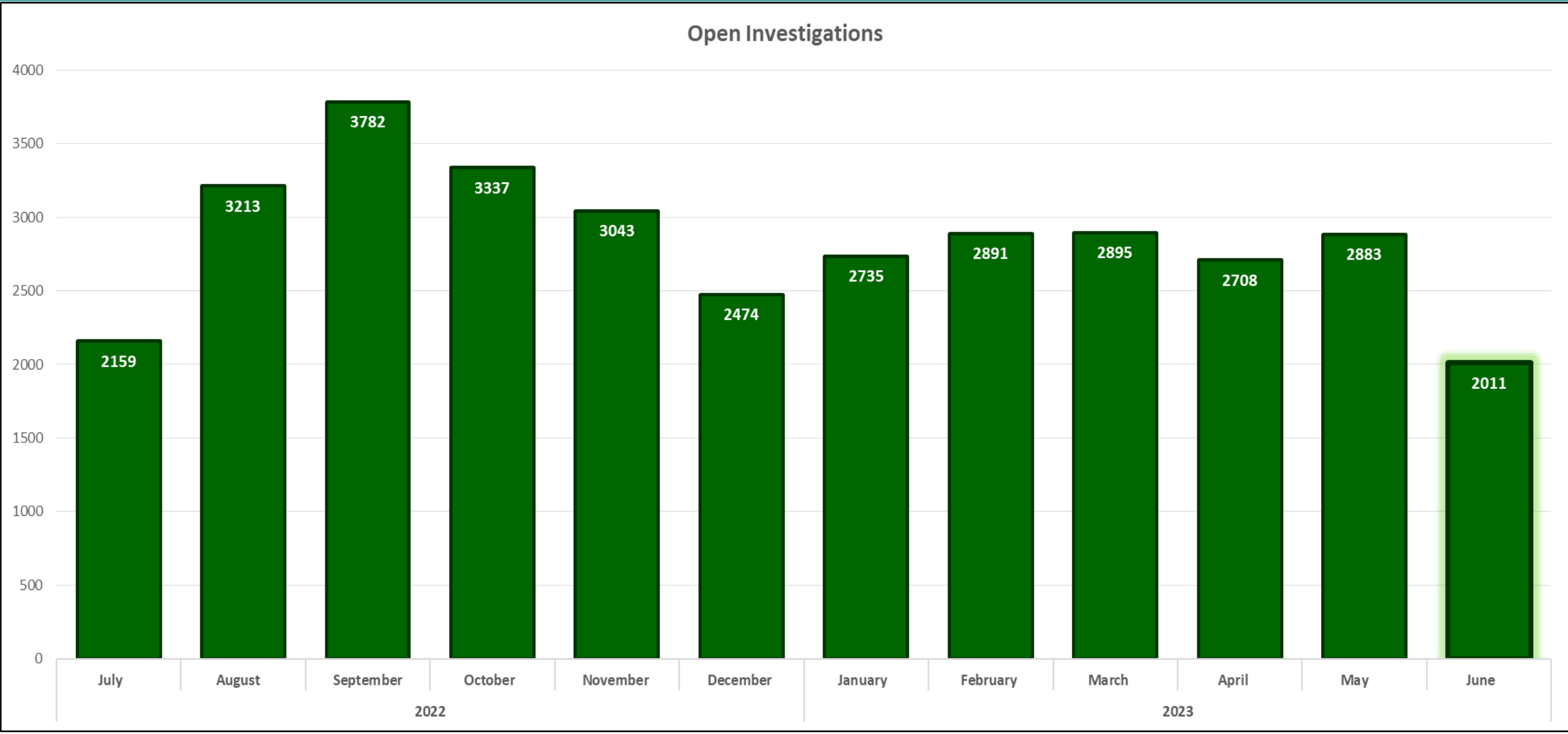
Deputy Commissioner for the Office of Child Welfare



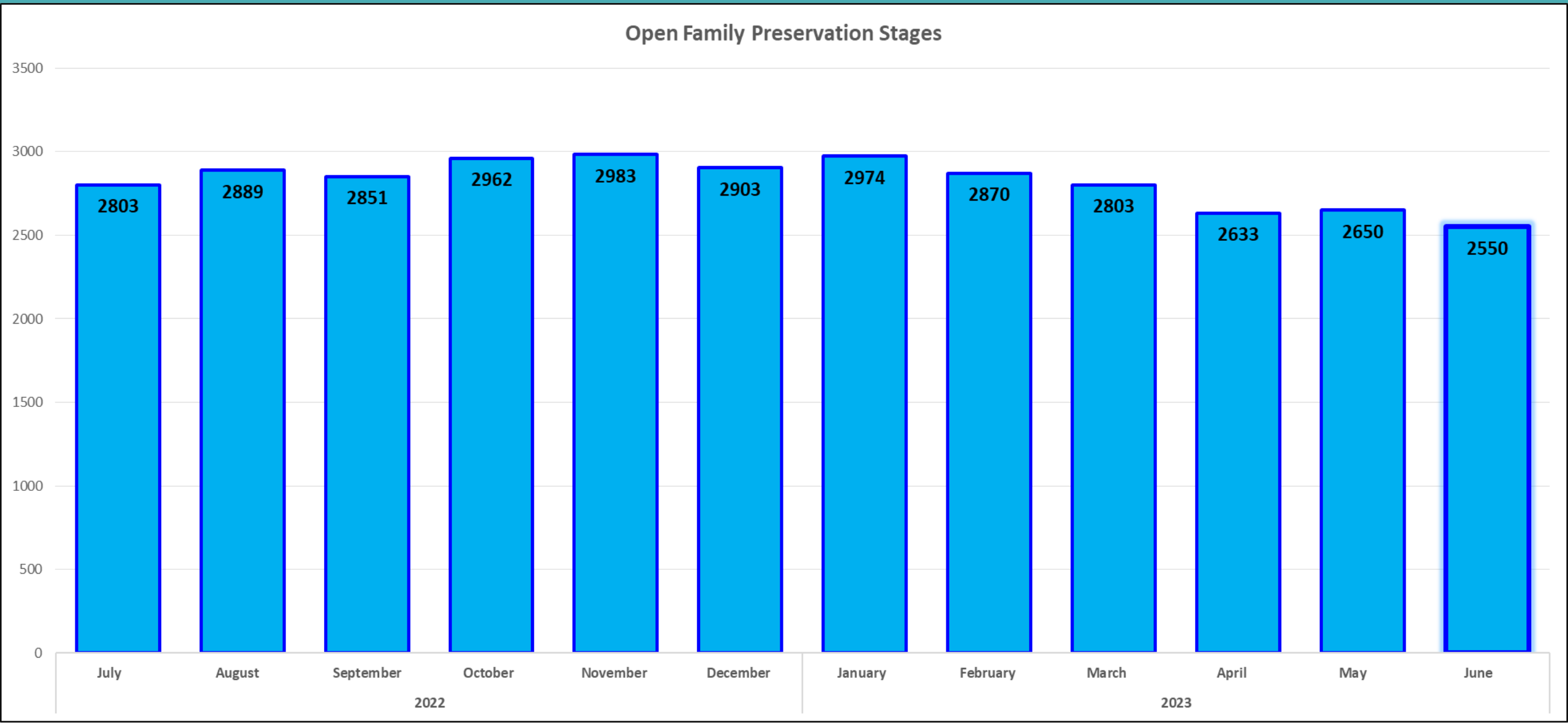
Intakes, or reports of child maltreatment, may be directed to investigation, family support, screened out, or screened out and referred to services. Other intakes, such as Information and Referrals, are not included in these counts. (Data Source: SHINES)



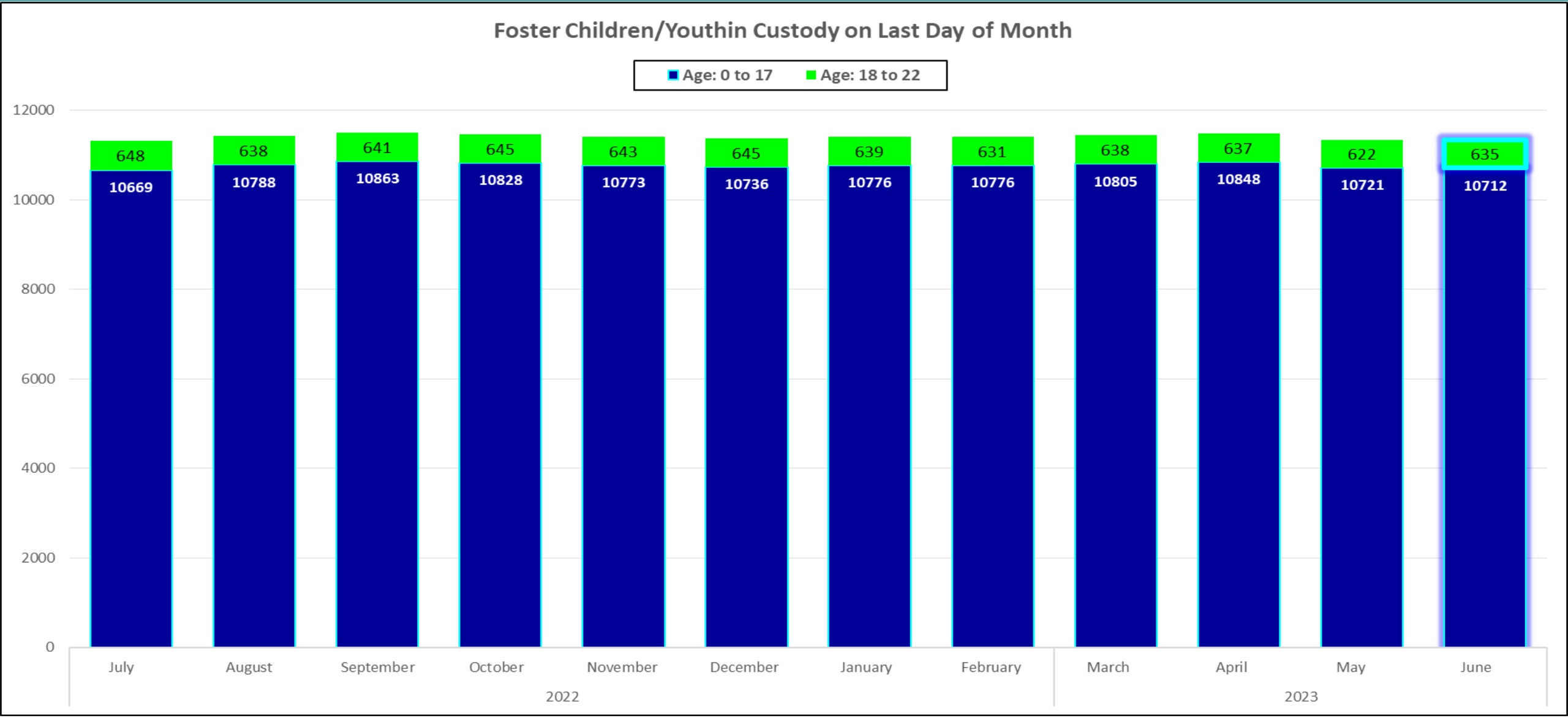
Family support cases are opportunities to assist families where concerns exist but can be managed with only minimal DFCS involvement, usually through referrals to community services. (Data Source: SHINES)



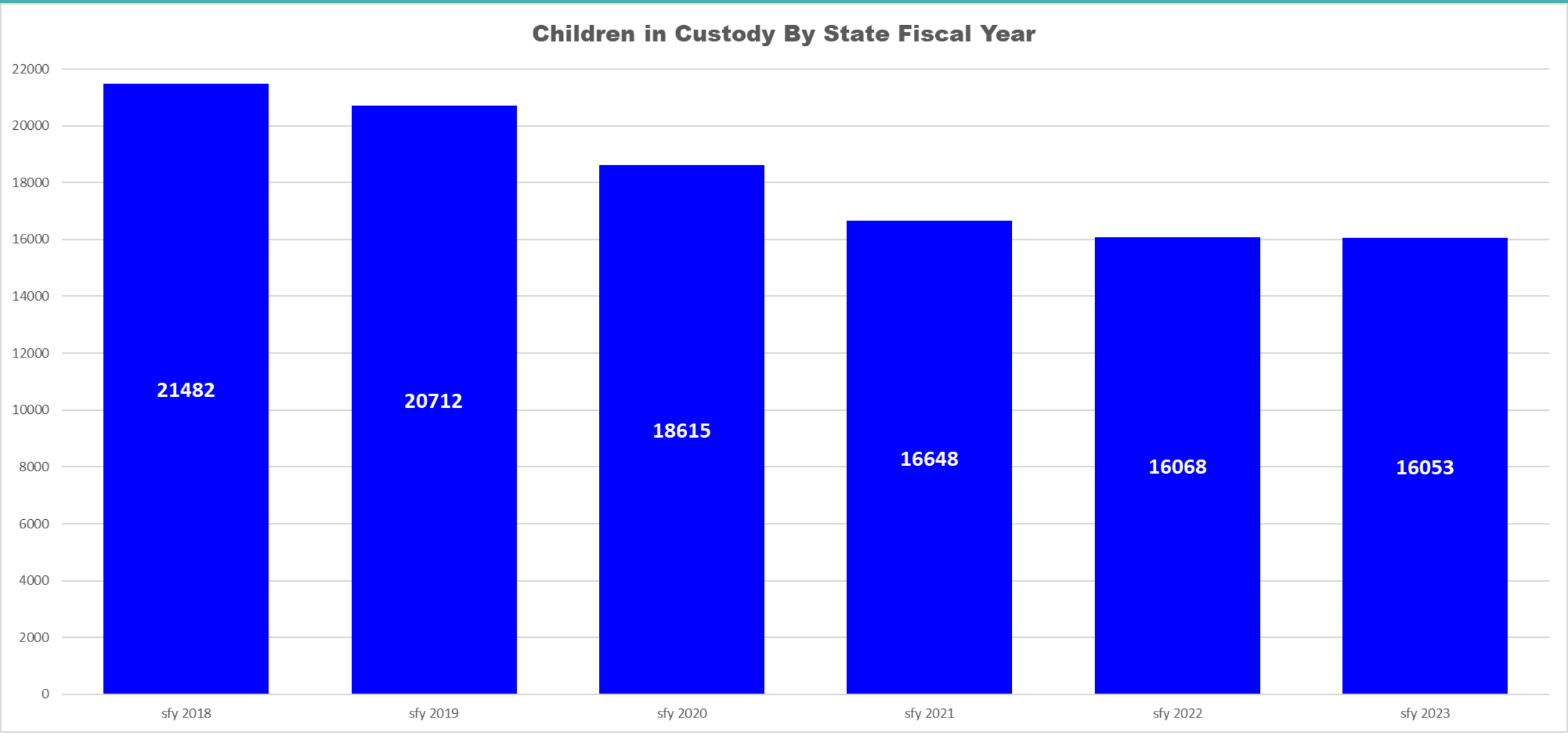
Investigations seek to determine the safety of children where an allegation of abuse or neglect has been received by DFCS. This measure helps DFCS to measure workloads. (Data Source: SHINES)



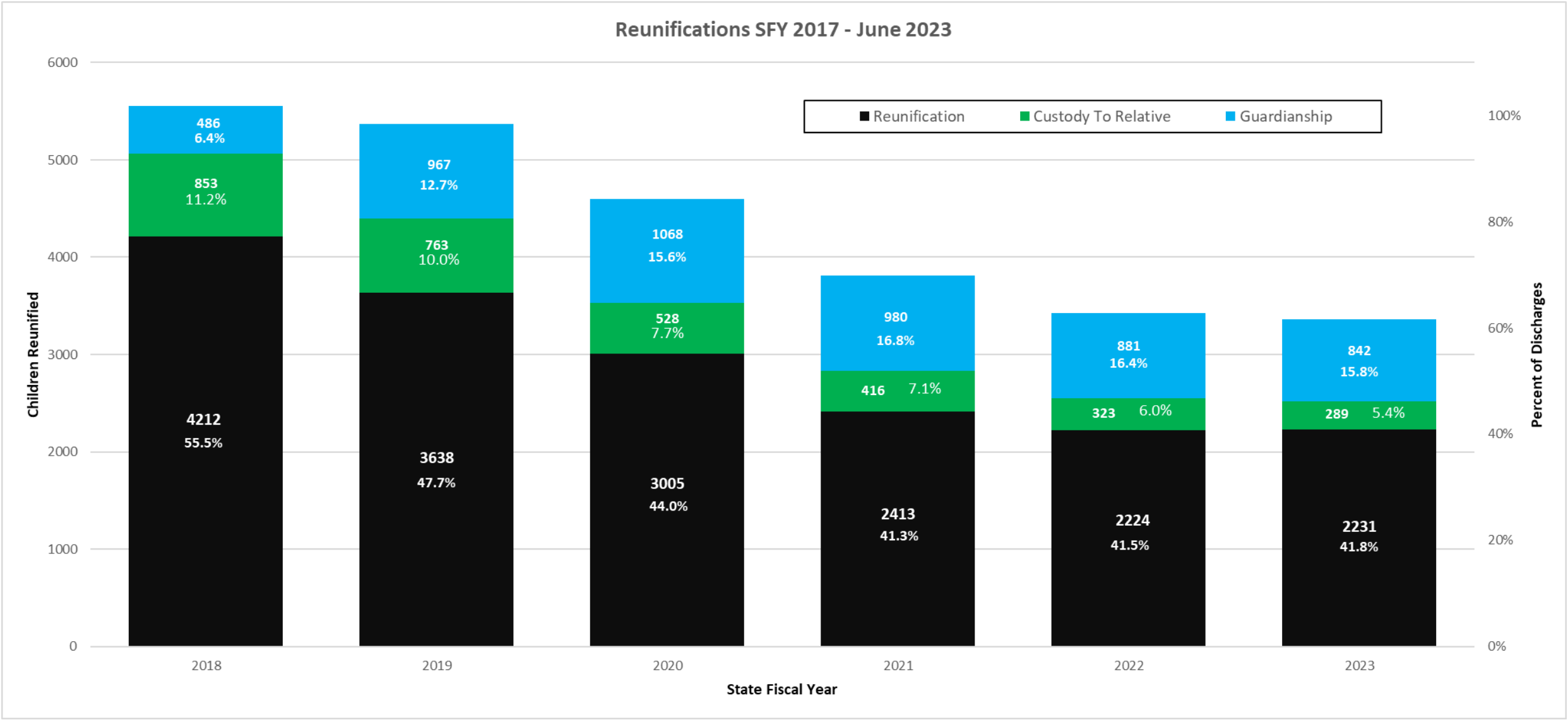
Family preservation is a program designed to continue working with a family where safety concerns have been identified with the children remaining in the home. (Data Source: SHINES)



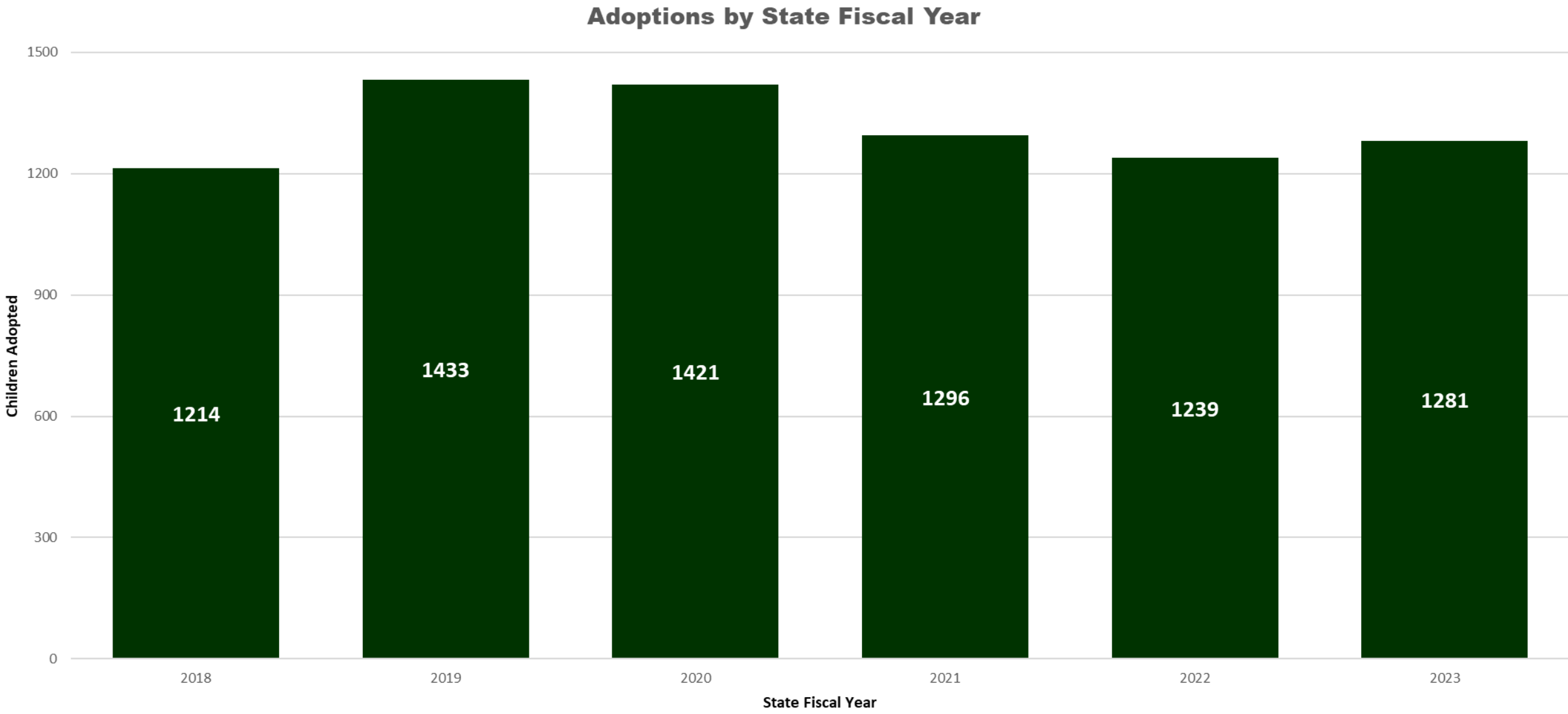
This chart shows the number of children in foster care on the last day of each month. Efforts are made immediately upon entry to pursue reunification when possible. A portion of the decline in the number of foster children over the past two years is due to the efforts by DFCS to exhaust all possible alternatives to entry. (Data Source: SHINES)



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)



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)



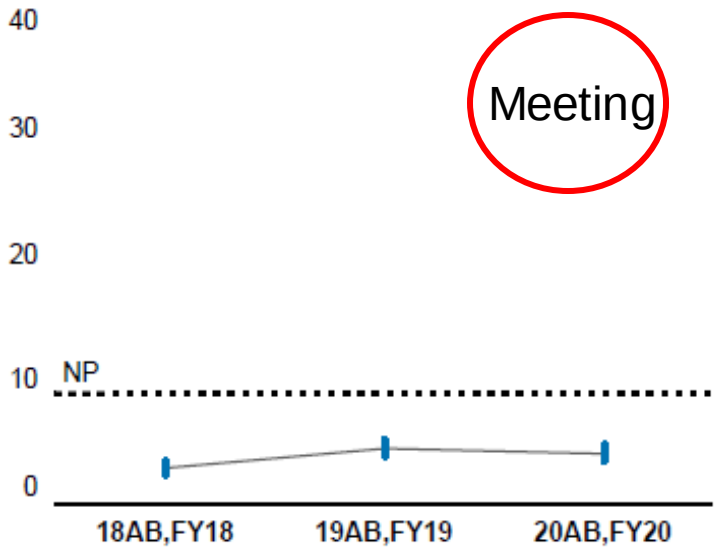
In cases where reunification is not in the best interest of the child, it becomes DFCS' goal to find a loving adoptive home for each child in need. These adoption counts show the continuous effort undertaken to help children in foster care find forever homes. (Data Source: SHINES)

Safety Statewide Data Indicators

Maltreatment in Care
(victimizations/100,000 days in care)

9.07	4.29
NP	RSP

Lower value is desired



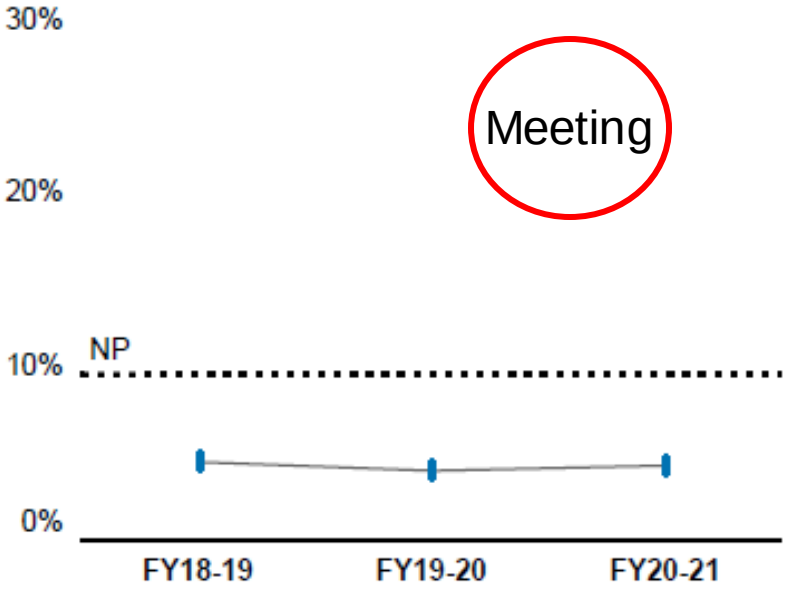
Meeting

Measured as the rate of abuse or neglect per days in foster care in a 12-month period that children experienced while under the state's placement and care responsibility

Recurrence of Maltreatment

9.7%	4.5%
NP	RSP

Lower value is desired



Meeting

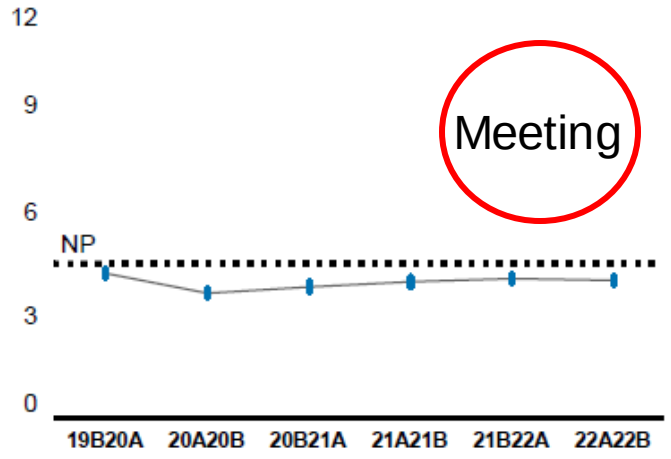
Measured as the percent of children who were the subject of a substantiated or indicated report of maltreatment in a 12-month period and who experienced subsequent maltreatment within 12 months of the initial victimization

Permanency Statewide Data Indicators

Placement Stability
(moves/1,000 days in care)

4.48	4.06
NP	RSP

Lower value is desired



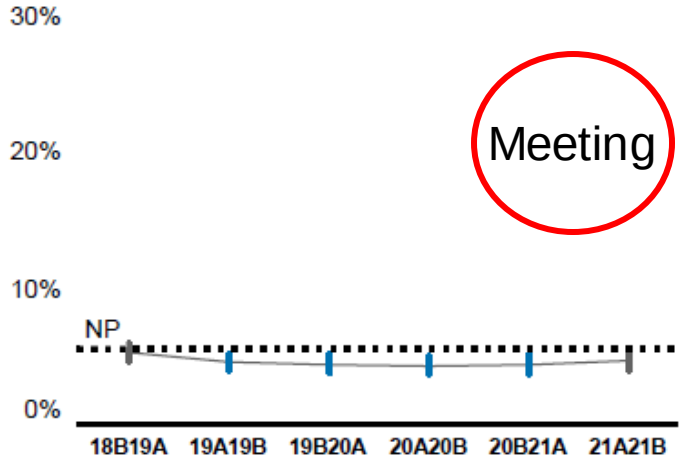
Meeting

Among children who entered care in a 12-month period, the number of placement moves per day they experienced during that year

Reentry to Foster Care

5.6%	4.9%
NP	RSP

Lower value is desired



Meeting

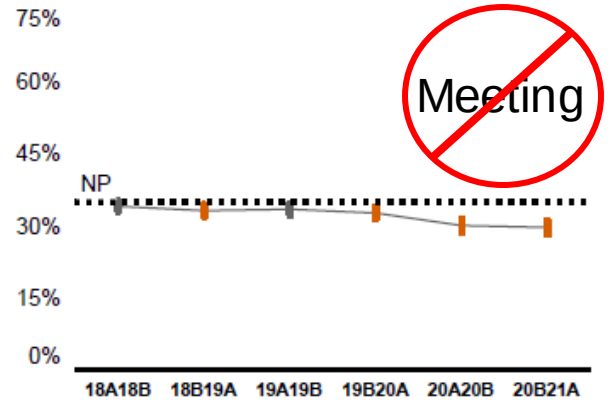
Among children who discharged to permanency (excluding adoption) in a 12-month period, the percent who reentered care within 12 months of exit

Permanency Statewide Data Indicators

Permanency in 12 Months (entries)

35.2%	30.2%
NP	RSP

Higher value is desired

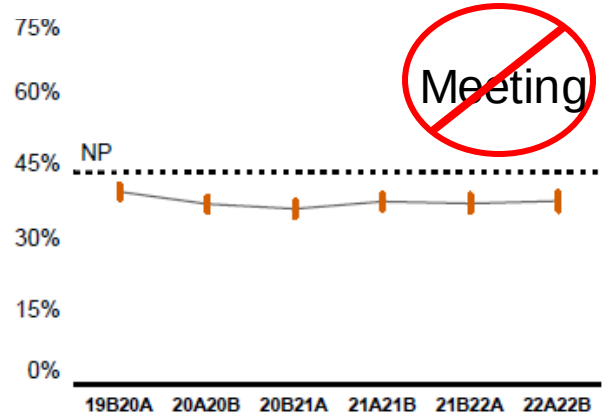


Among children who entered foster care in a 12-month period, the percent who exited foster care to reunification, adoption, guardianship, or living with a relative within 12 months of their entry

Permanency in 12 Months (12-23 mos)

43.8%	38.1%
NP	RSP

Higher value is desired

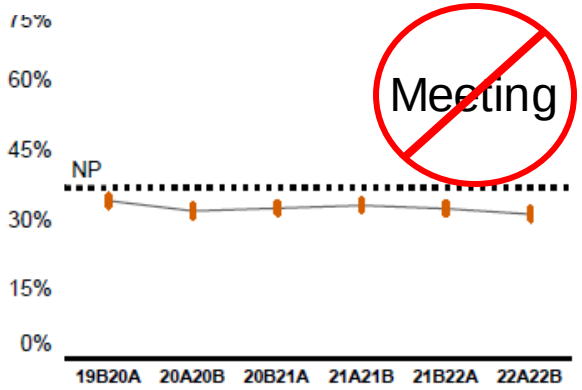


Among children in foster care at the start of the 12-month period who had been in care for 12 to 23 months, the percent who exited to permanency in the subsequent 12 months

Permanency in 12 Months (24+ mos)

37.3%	31.6%
NP	RSP

Higher value is desired



Among children in foster care at the start of the 12-month period who had been in care 24 months or more, the percent who exited to permanency in the subsequent 12 months

Celebration of Excellence

- The Celebration of Excellence is our division's largest event that highlights and celebrates the academic success of youth in care.

- This year, we celebrated the 31st annual Celebration of Excellence, where we honored 266 youth who graduated from high school, vocational school, and college.

Monthly Observance Highlights

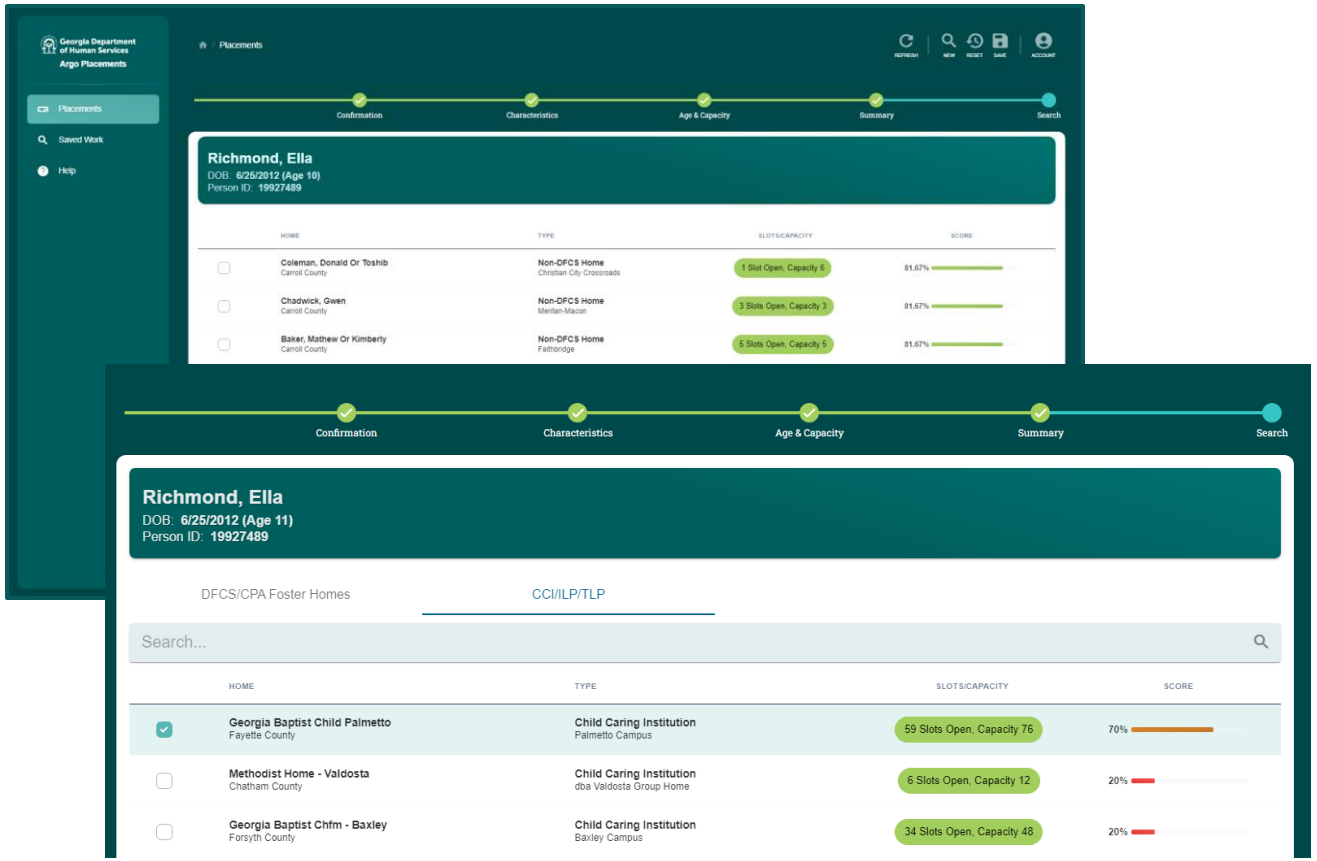
- Throughout the year DHS recognizes several child welfare observances including; Parent Leadership Month, Social Work Month, Child Abuse Prevention Month, National Foster Care Month, Reunification Month, and National Adoption Month.
- This year:
  - During Reunification Month, DHS leadership and staff joined Governor Brian P. Kemp and First Lady Marty Kemp at the State Capitol to promote Reunification Month and take a photo with Governor Kemp's Reunification Month proclamation.
  - During Child Abuse Prevention Month, DHS staff joined Governor Brian P. Kemp, First Lady Marty Kemp, members of the Georgia General Assembly, and Prevent Child Abuse Georgia to educate others on how to prevent child abuse.
  - During National Foster Care Month, DHS hosted a statewide celebration to honor the 2023 Foster Caregivers of the Year.

mCase Mobile Application Update

The mCase Application will be pushed to DHS issued Samsung phones.

Targeting a release of this by end of September!

Argo Placements



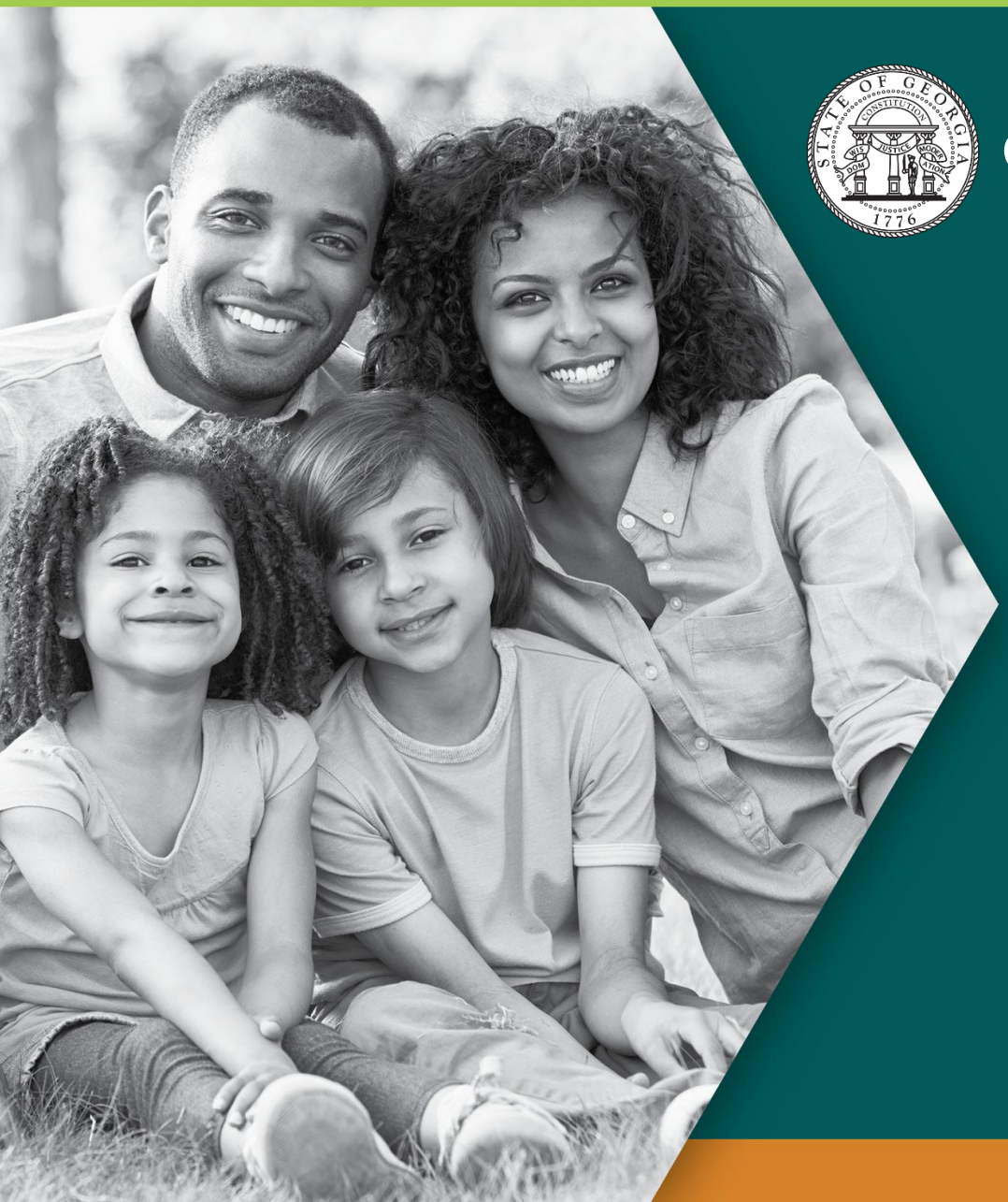
Staff will be presented with a list of available placements based on configured search criteria.

Homes are scored based on location, school district, characteristics, and capacity.

Users can drill into each location to review detailed information.

Questions?

Mary Havick
Deputy Commissioner | Child Welfare
Georgia Department of Human Services
mary.havick@dhs.ga.gov



Georgia Department of Human Services

OFI Monthly Data Report

August 2023

John Hallman
Deputy Commissioner for the Office of Family Independence

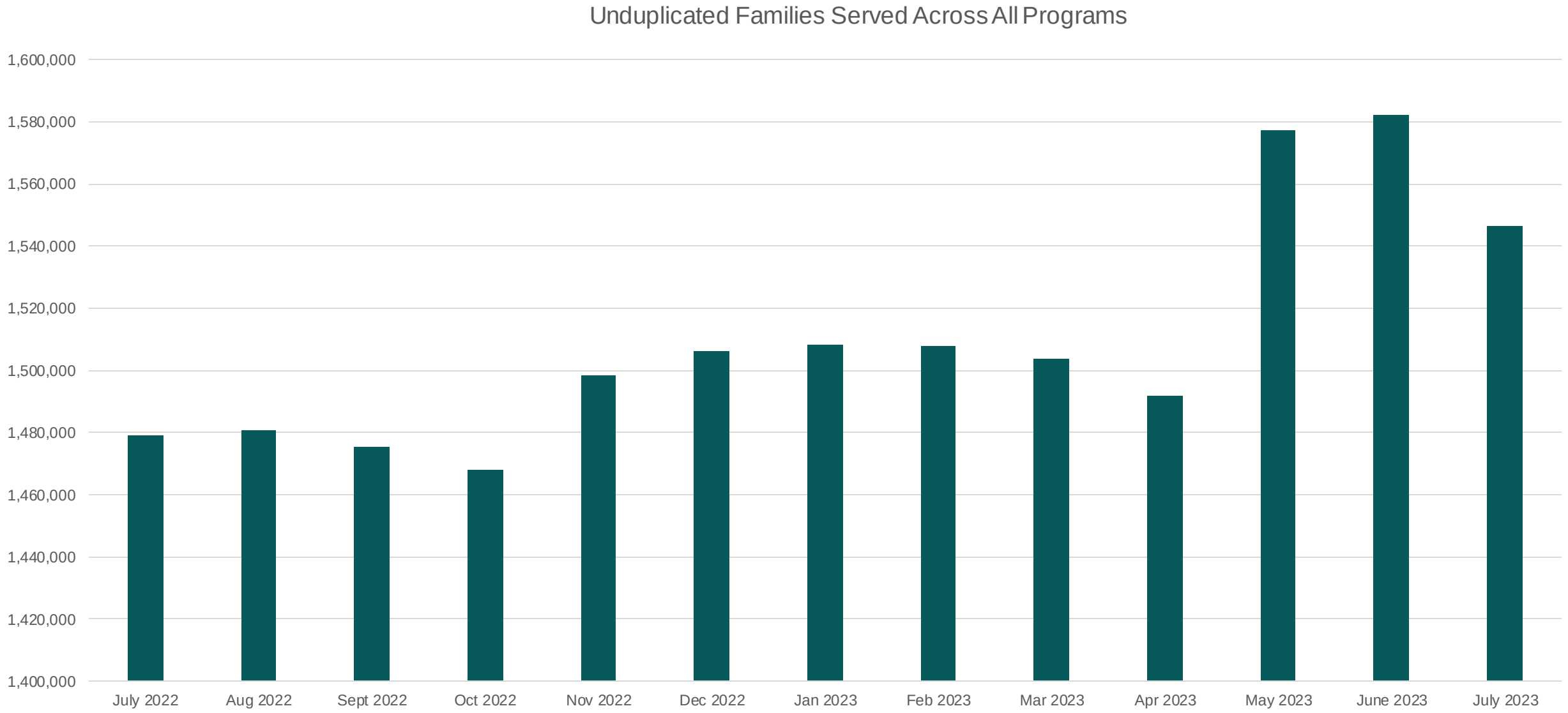
Division of Family & Children Services
Office of Family Independence

The Office of Family Independence (OFI) determines eligibility and administers government assistance programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Medical Assistance (Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids®), and energy assistance programs.

SNAP Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

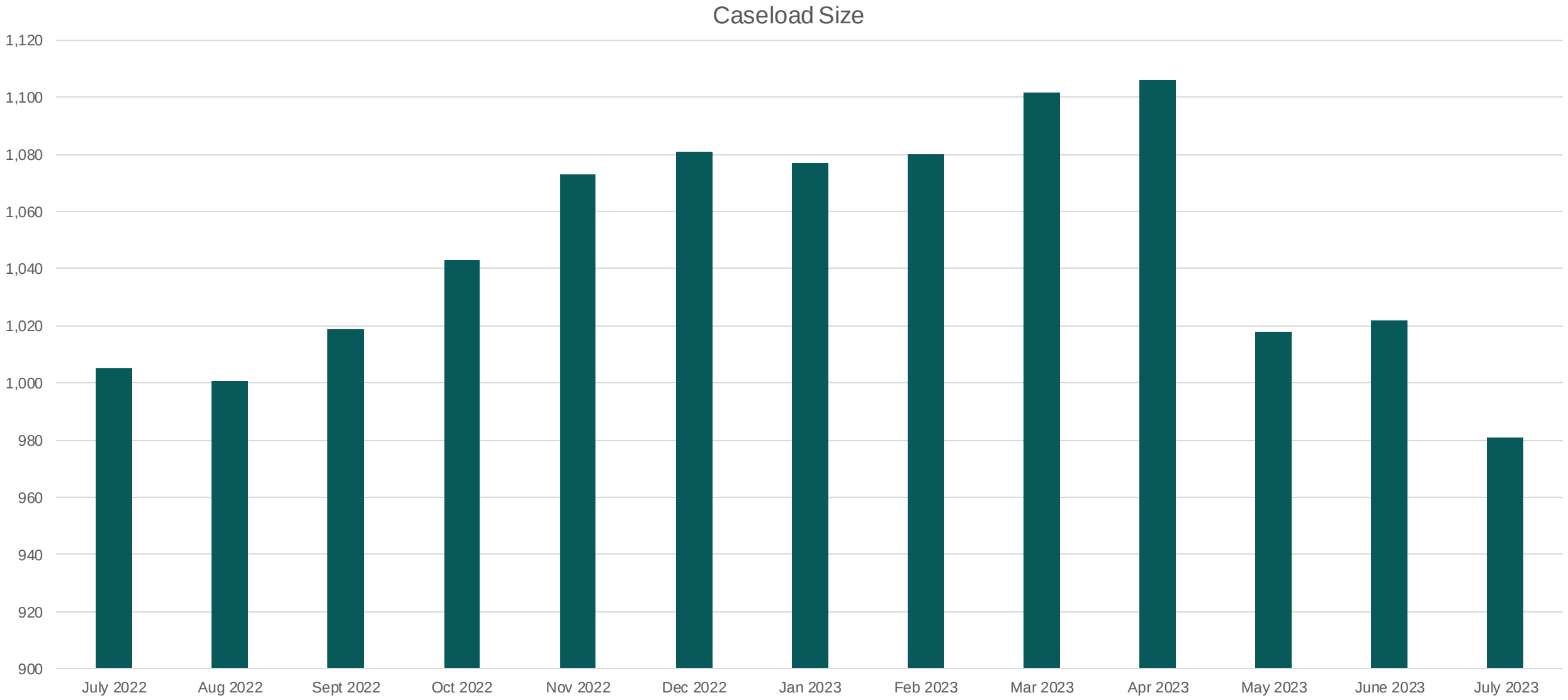
TANF.us

Medicaid



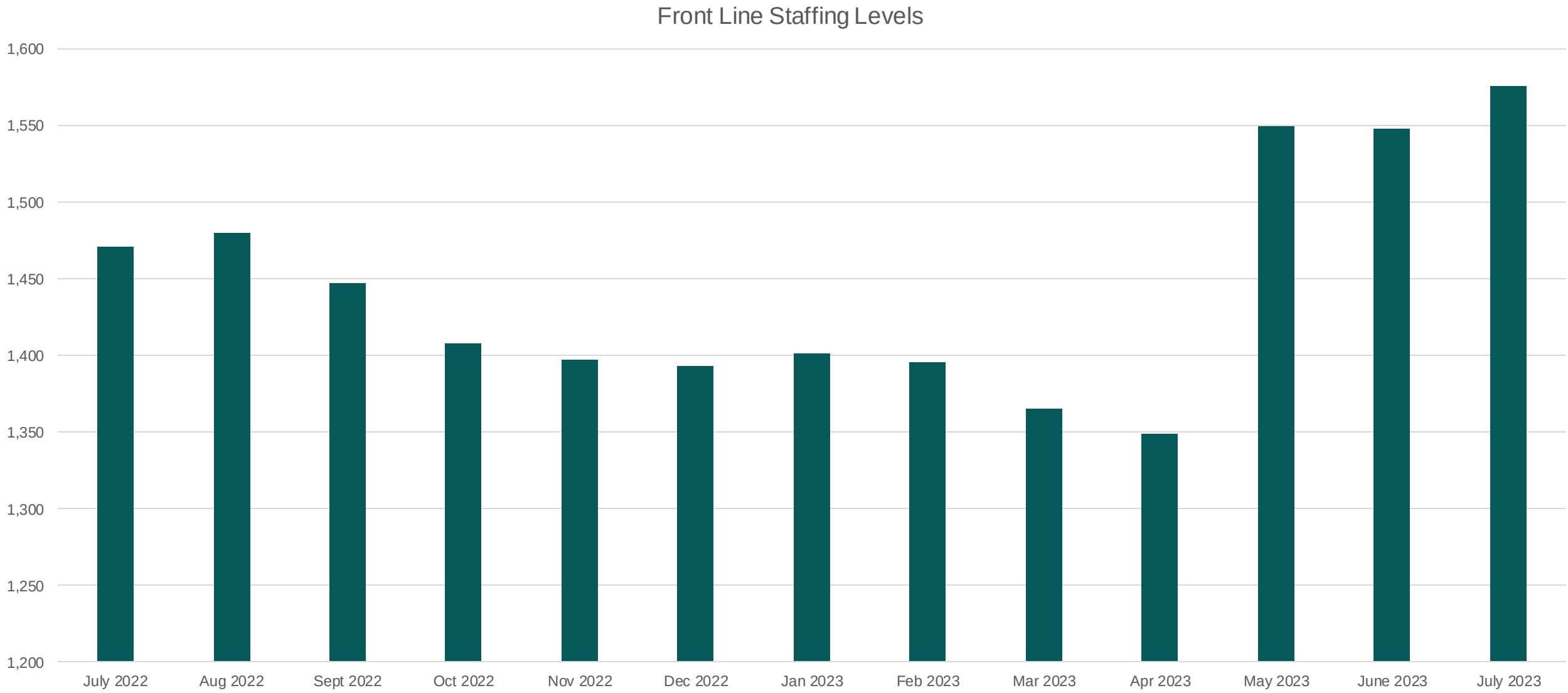
1,546,589 unduplicated families were served across all DFCS benefits programs in July 2023.

(Source: DFCS Transparency Data)



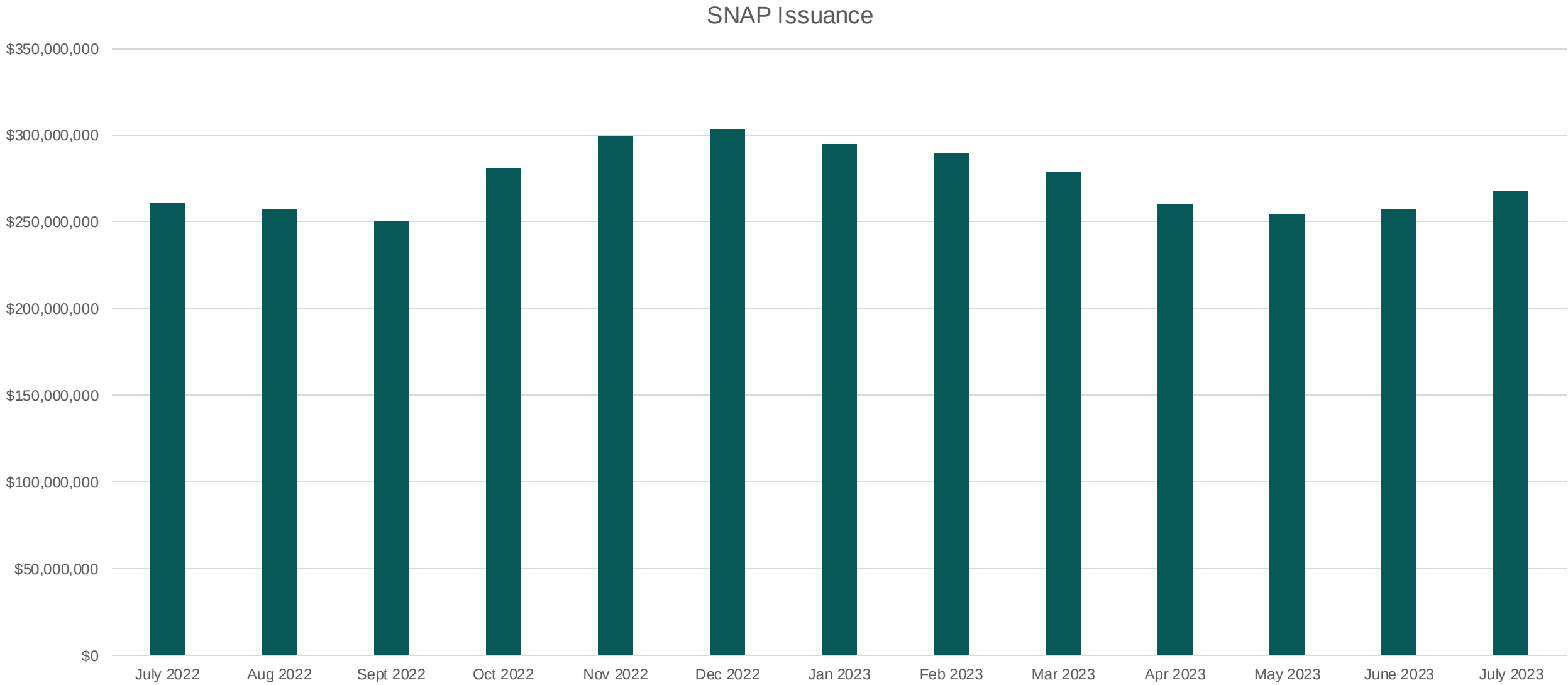
The average caseload in July 2023 was **981**.

(Source: DFCS Transparency Data)



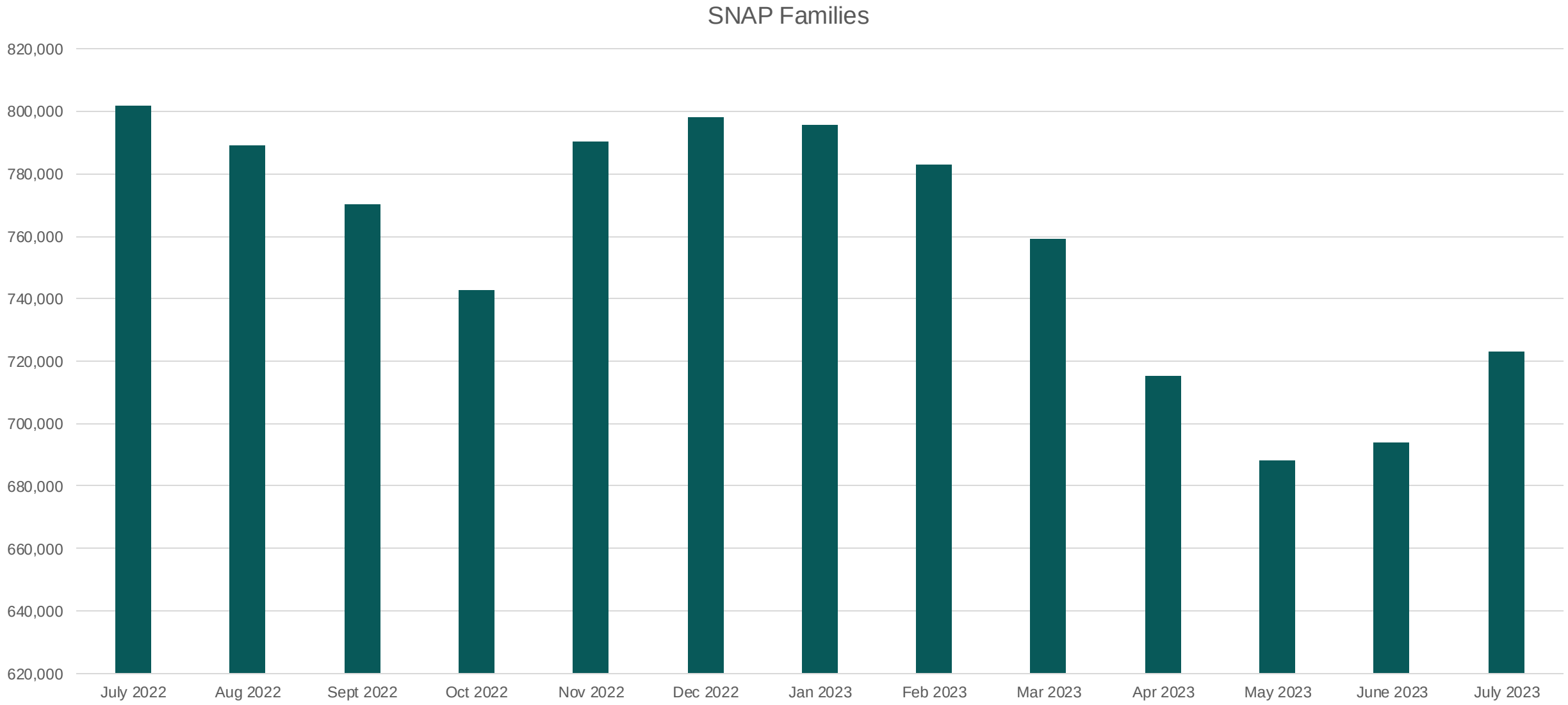
We had **1,576** frontline staff processing cases in July 2023.

(Source: DFCS Transparency Data)



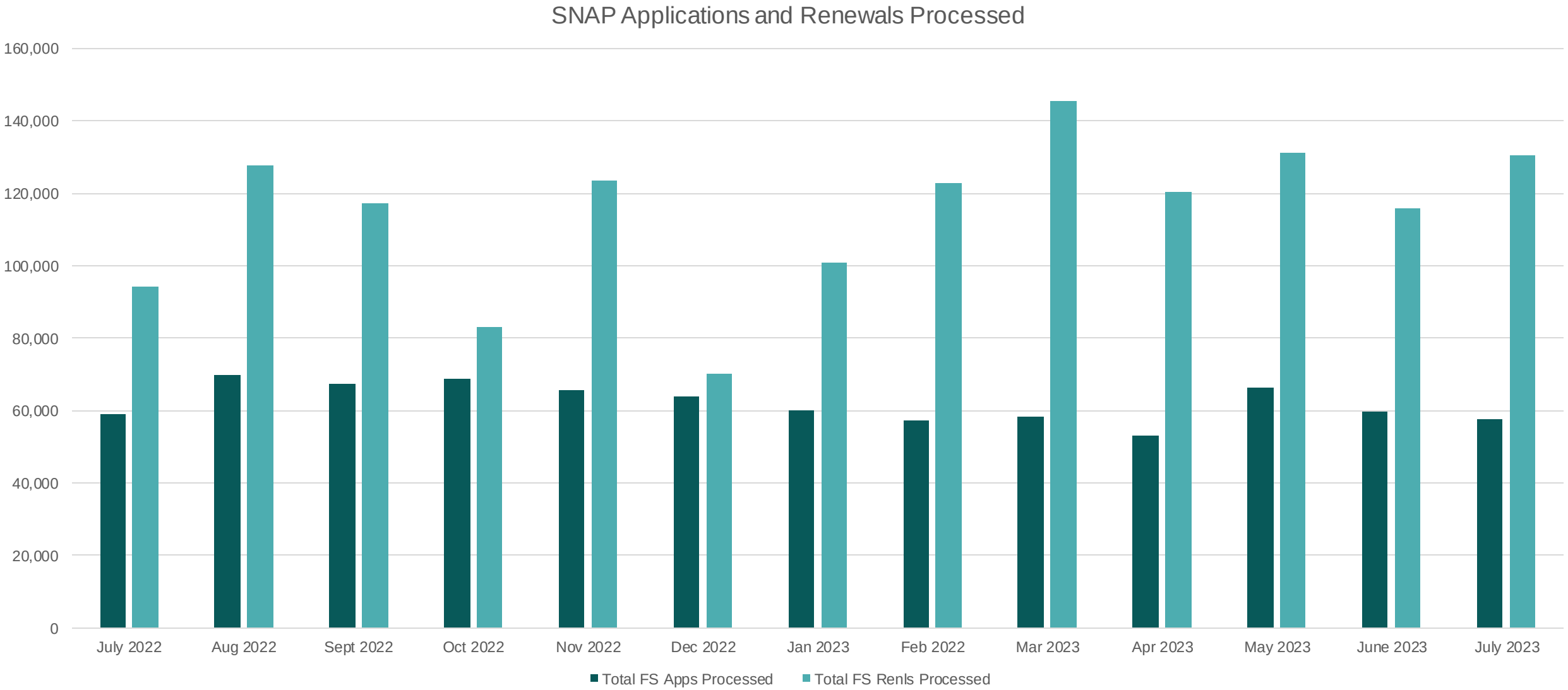
SNAP issuance in July 2023 totaled **$268,216,814**. The average issuance per family was **$371**.

(Source: DFCS Transparency Data)



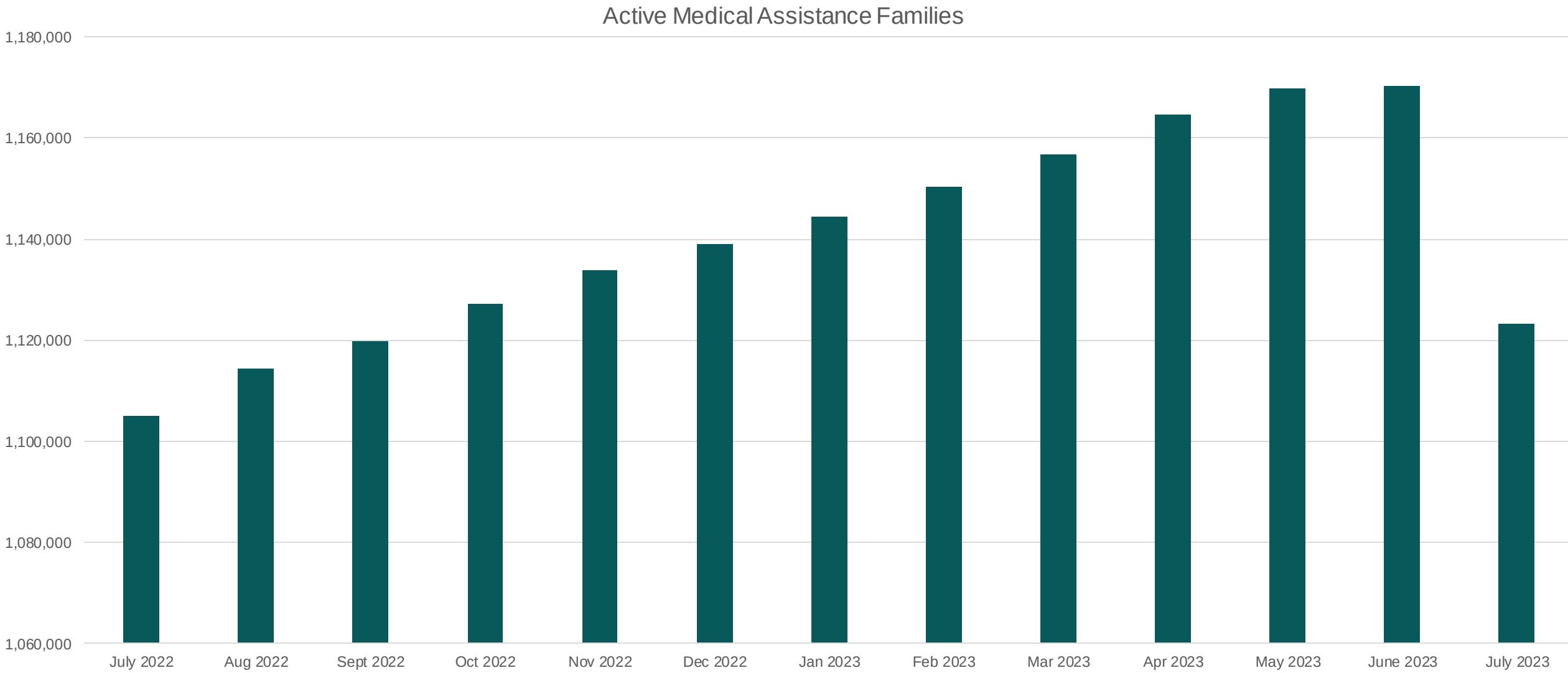
There were **722,899** SNAP families in July 2023.

(Source: DFCS Transparency Data)



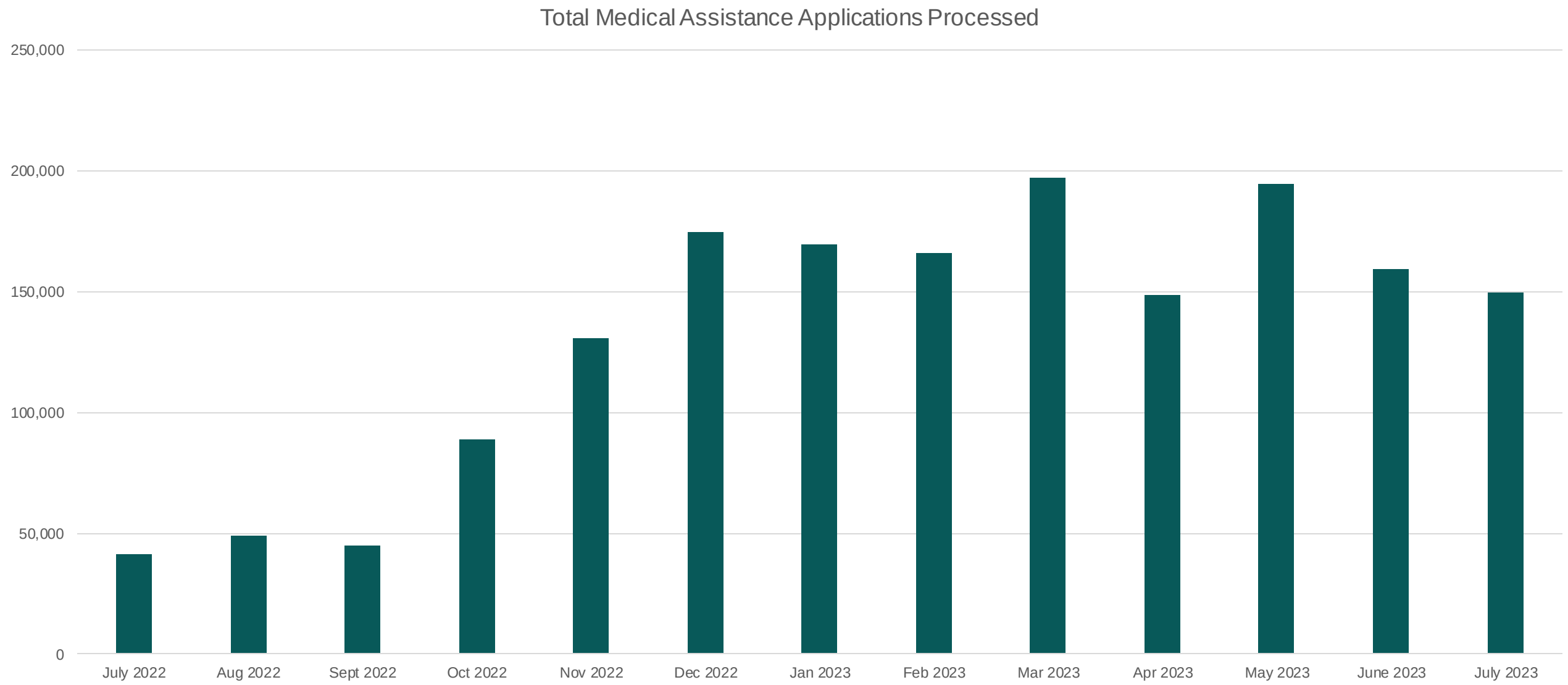
57,677 SNAP applications and **130,409** renewals were processed in July 2023.

(Source: DFCS Transparency Data)



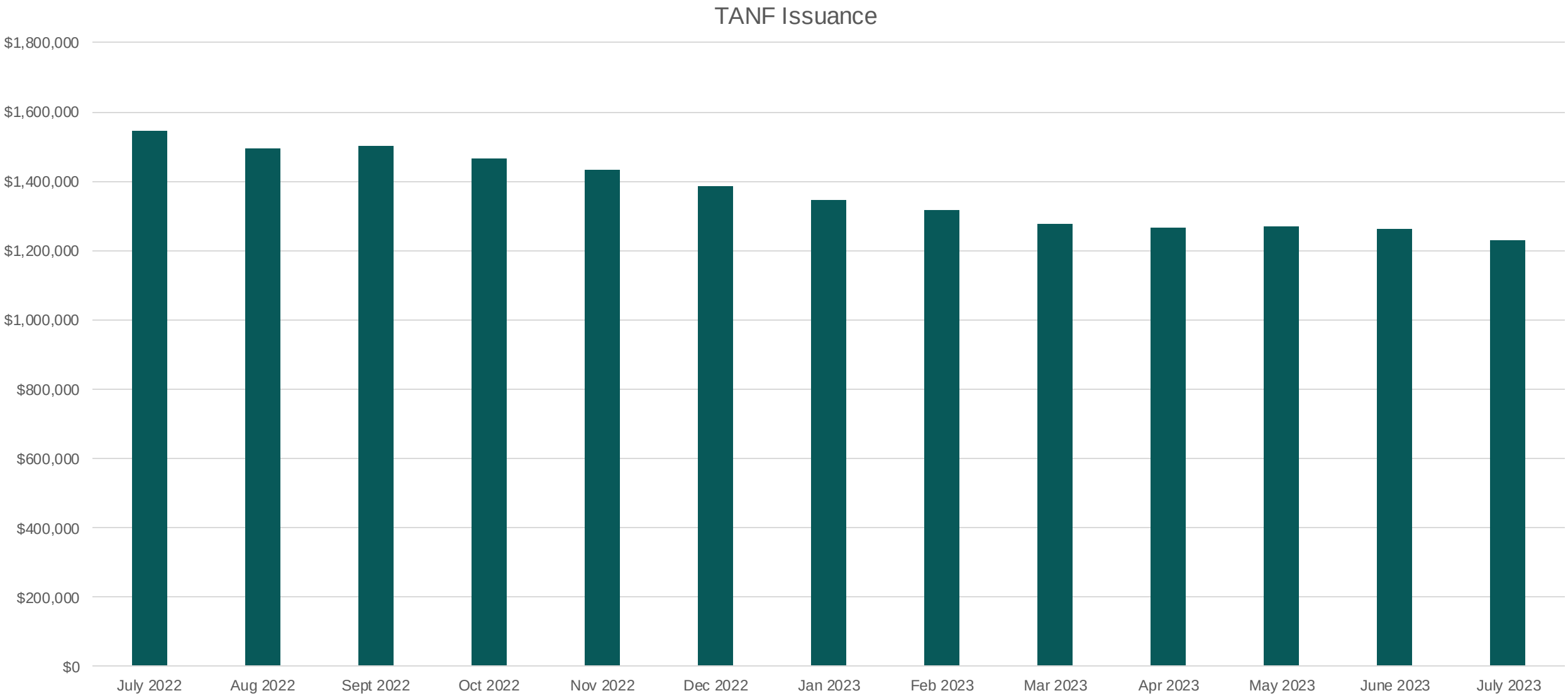
There were **1,123,373** active Medical Assistance families in July 2023.

(Source: DFCS Transparency Data)



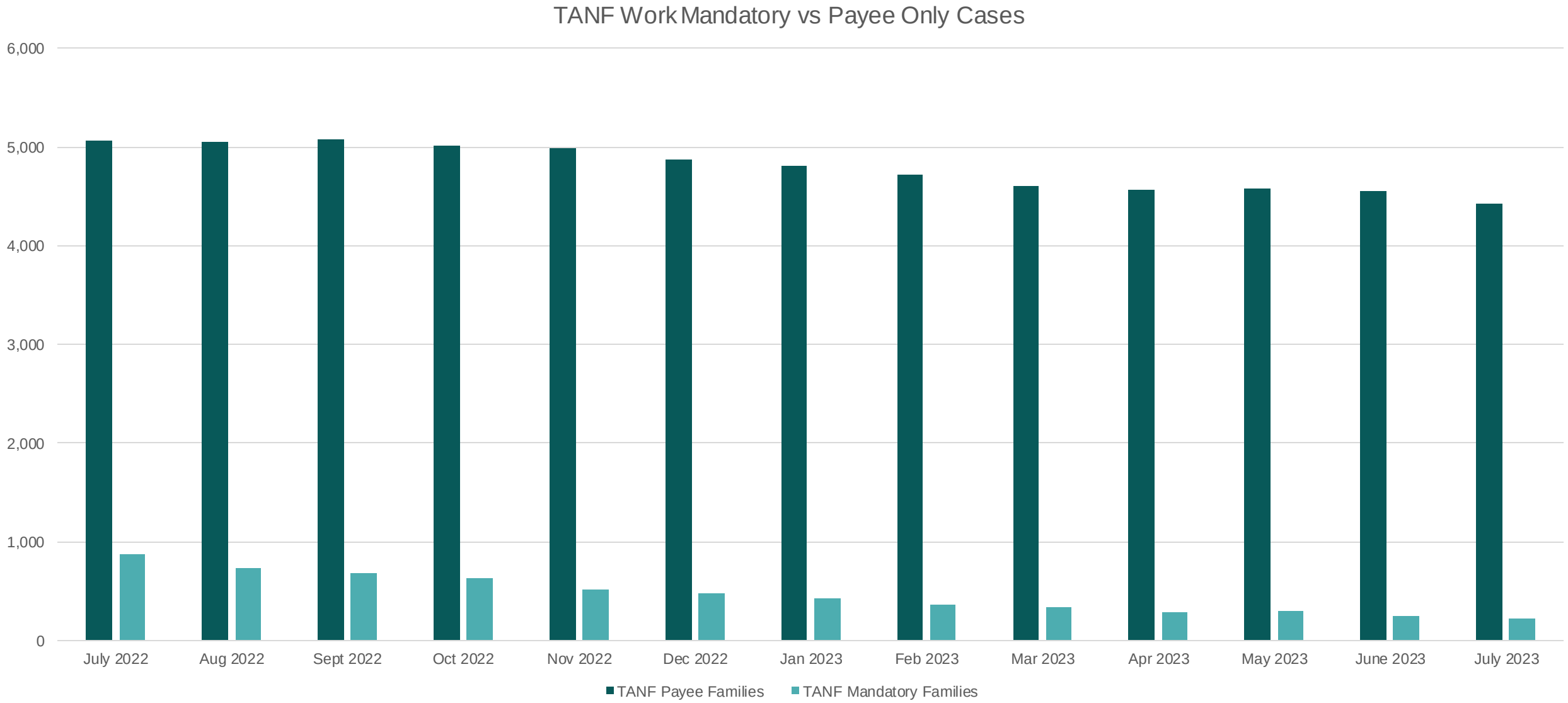
149,912 Medical Assistance applications were processed in July 2023.

(Source: DFCS Transparency Data)



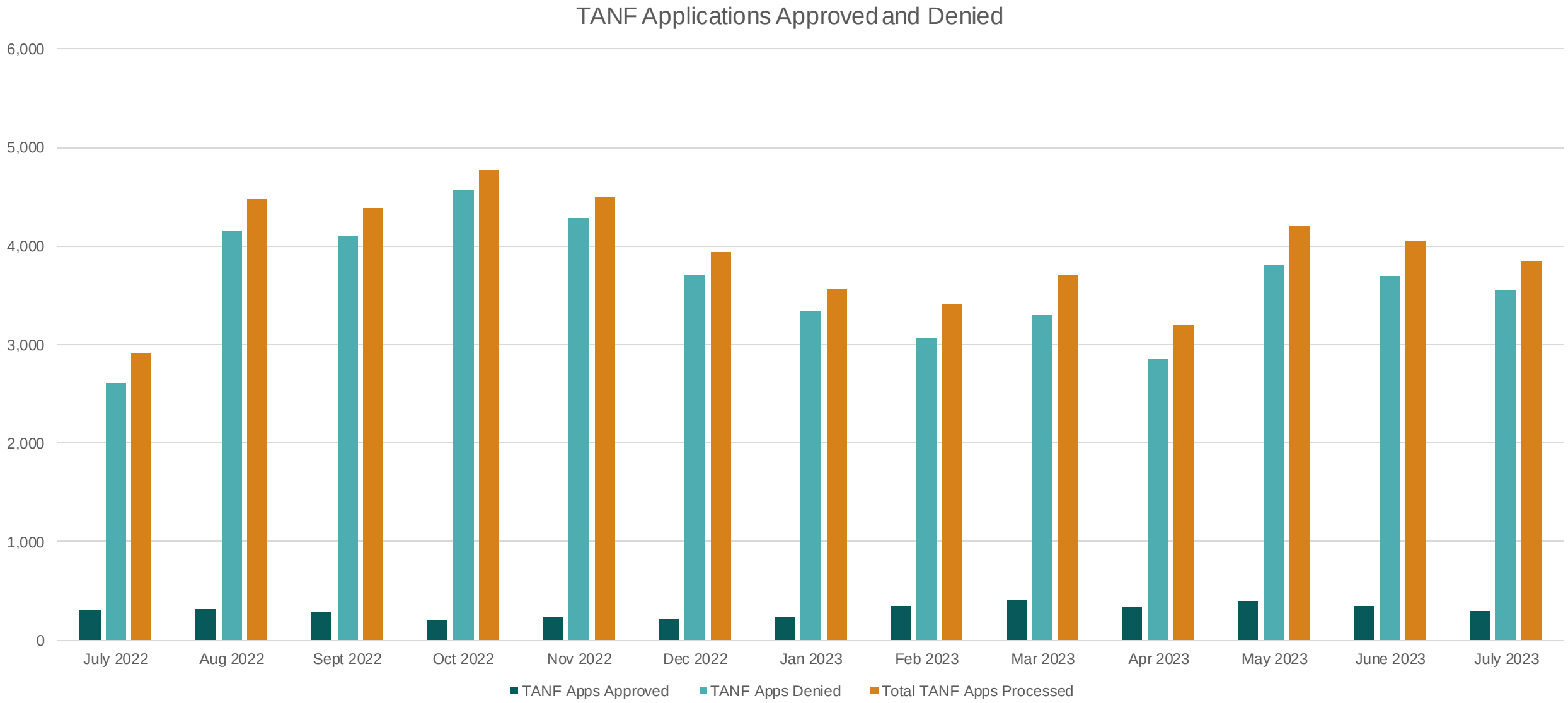
TANF issuance totaled **$1,230,452 in July 2023.** The average issuance per family was **$264**.

(Source: DFCS Transparency Data)



As of July 2023, there were **4,654** TANF families.

(Source: DFCS Transparency Data)

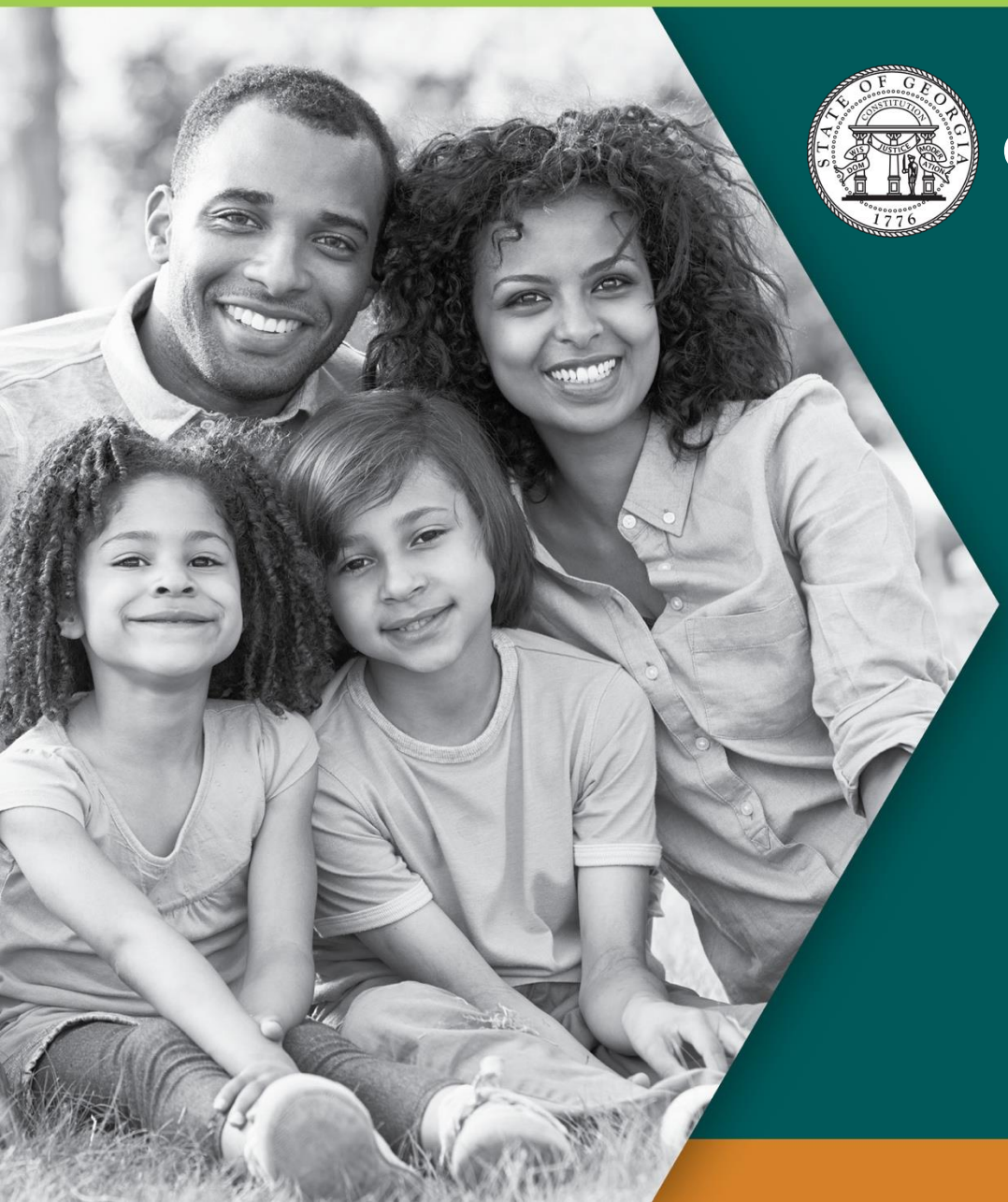


3,848 TANF applications were processed in July 2023.

(Source: DFCS Transparency Data)

Questions?

John Hallman
Deputy Commissioner | Office of Family Independence
John.hallman@dhs.ga.gov



Georgia Department of Human Services

Board Business

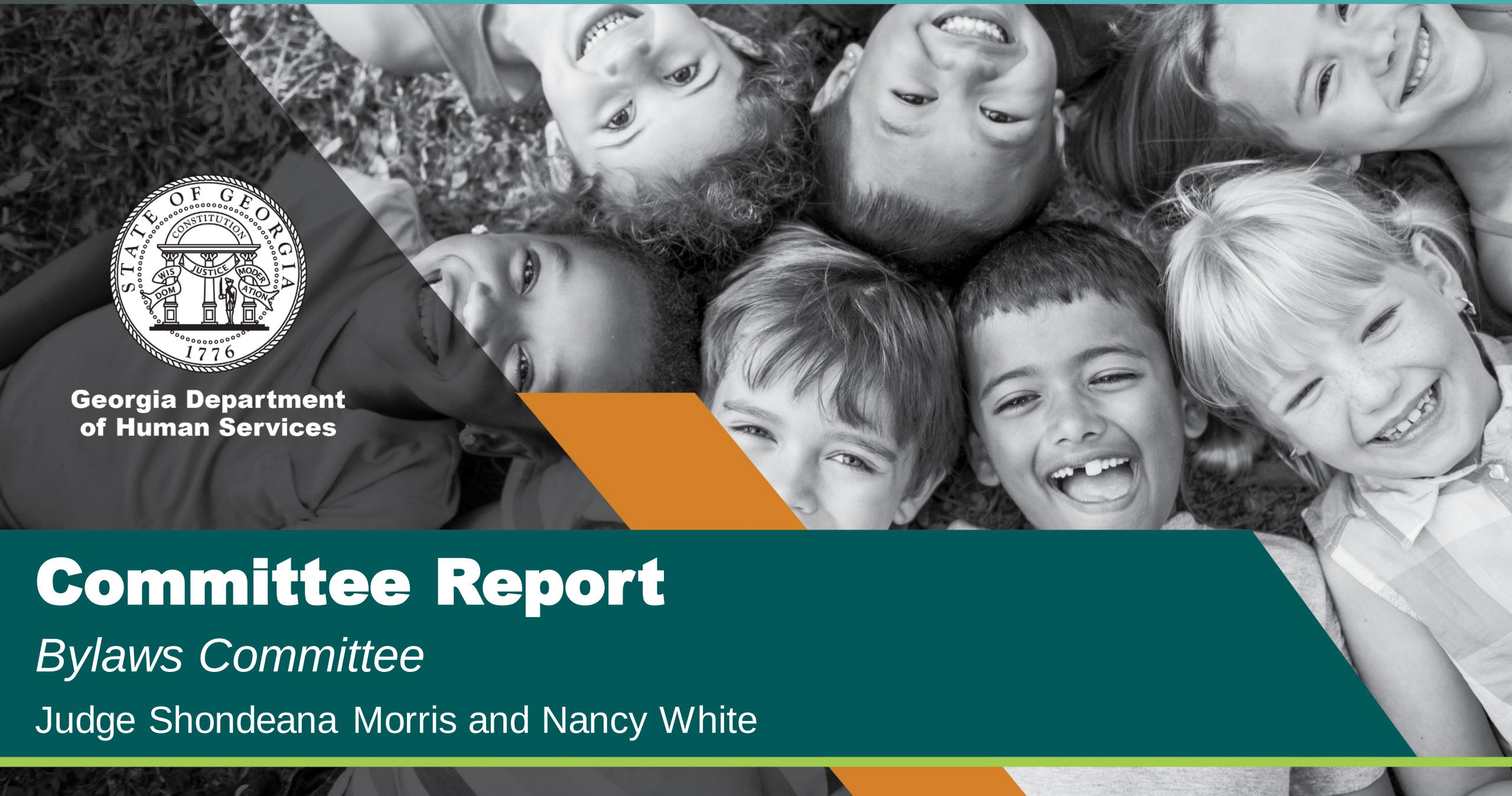
9/7/2023

Proposed Bylaw Amendment

(to be inserted in Article III: Members)

Section 6. Should an Advisory Board Member have a concern that relates to their role as an Advisory Board member, the following communication process is requested:

1. If related to an issue or topic covered by Board committees, a Board member should bring the concern to the appropriate Committee Chair. The Committee Chair can then bring the concern to Chair of the Board if issue cannot be resolved.
2. If the concern is not related to a committee topic but falls more broadly under operations or programming, the member is asked to bring it to the Chair. The Chair of the Board will then reach out to the Board Liaison and other Division Leadership, as appropriate.



Georgia Department of Human Services

Committee Report

Bylaws Committee

Judge Shondeana Morris and Nancy White

Proposed Bylaw Amendment Vote

(to be inserted in Article III: Members)

Section 6. Should an Advisory Board Member have a concern that relates to their role as an Advisory Board member, the following communication process is requested:

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Georgia Department of Human Services

Committee Report

Regional Trends Committee

Meredith Holt

9/7/2023

Georgia Department of Human Services

Regional Reports

1-2 areas going well, 1-2 areas of improvement in region

Georgia Department
of Human Services

Commissioner's Report

Georgia Department
of Human Services

New Business & Adjournment