

# CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT MANDATED REPORTER

## TRAINING:

*A CLINICAL EXPLORATION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT RISK  
FACTORS, WARNING SIGNS, AND INTERVENTIONS*

*Santa Cruz County*



Kelli Kopeck, M.S.

# AGENDA

---

1. Introduction
2. Mandated Reporter Requirements
3. Abuse & Neglect Warning Signs & Definitions
4. Interventions...what happens next?
5. Questions

1. Participants will be able to describe the steps needed to make a child abuse or neglect report.
2. Participants will be able to define and identify at least one warning sign for neglect, physical abuse, emotional abuse, and sexual abuse.
3. Participants will be able to name 3 risk factors that are related to child abuse and neglect.

---

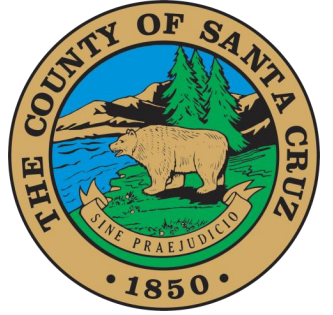
# OBJECTIVES

# GROUP AGREEMENTS

- ✓ Step-Up/Step-Back
- ✓ Take Care of Yourself
- ✓ One Mic
- ✓ Cell Phones...silent/outside...we get it
- ✓ Try it On
- ✓ Respect



**STAND UP IF...**



# STAND UP IF...

- You did something fun last weekend
- You have attended a Mandated Reporter training before
- You believe that “it takes a village” to raise children
- You carpoled, used public transportation, or rode a bicycle to work today
- You were born outside of the USA
- You currently, or have in the past, parented a child
- You feel nervous when calling Child Protective Services (CPS)
- You don’t understand how CPS works with families
- You know someone in your personal life who has struggled with substance use
- You know someone in your personal life who lives with behavioral health challenges
- You know someone in your personal life who has been involved in the cycle of intimate partner violence (domestic violence)
- You think parents have the legal right to hit their children
- You believe that child abuse and neglect is complicated





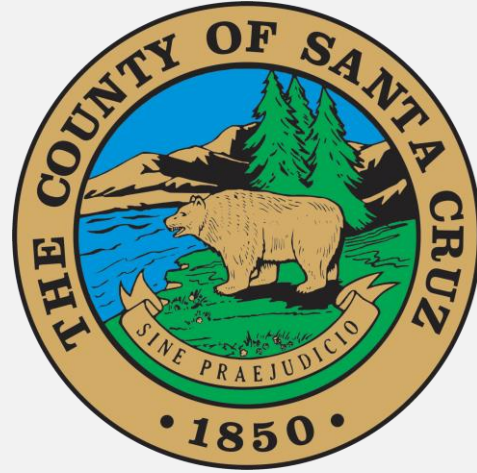
# THE LAWS

# THE CALIFORNIA CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTING ACT (CANRA)

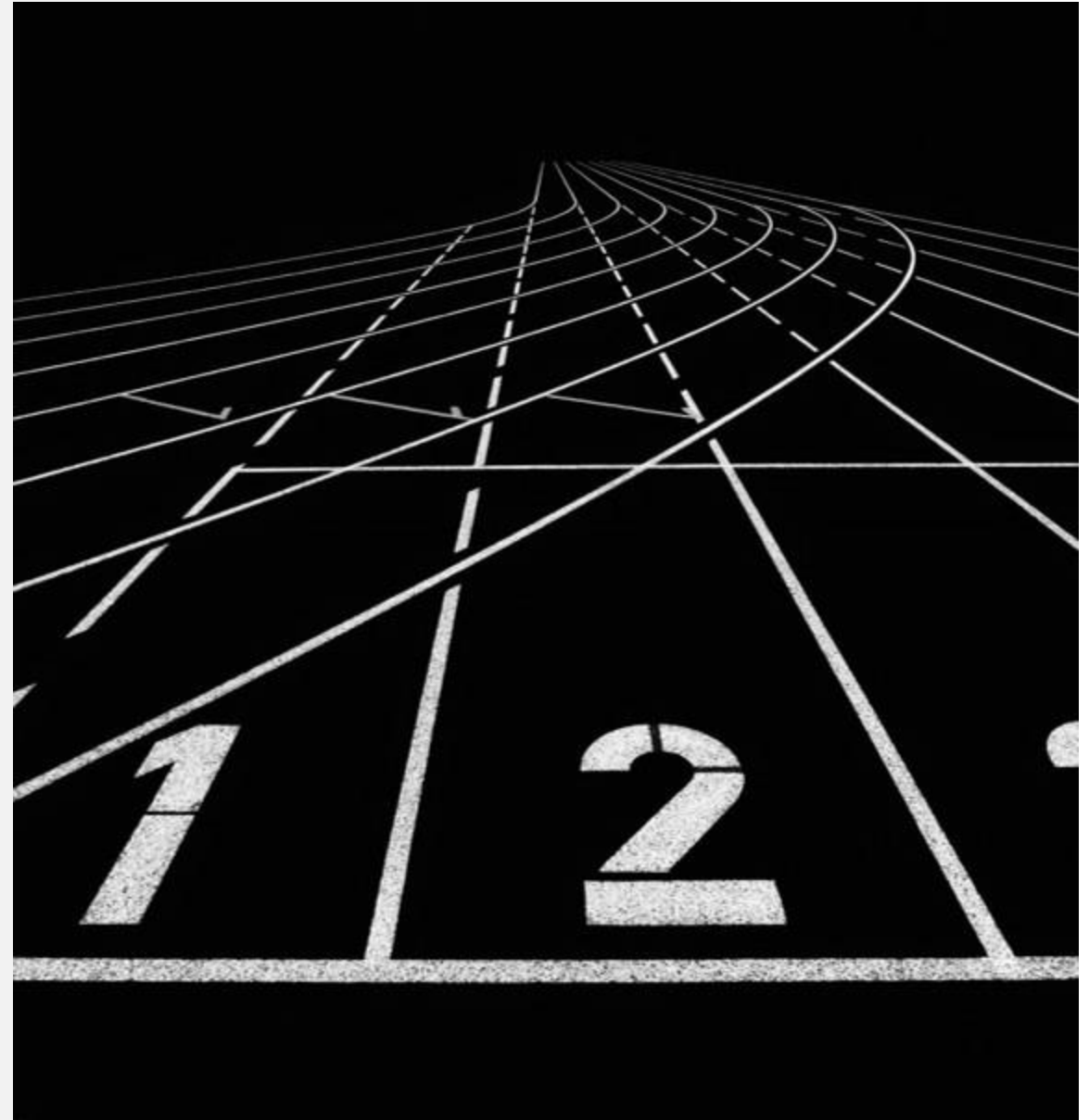
- Federal: Child Abuse Prevention & Treatment Act (CAPTA) 1974
- State: CANRA is codified in the Penal Code § 11164-11174.3  
[www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.legislature.ca.gov)
  - Defines Abuse and Neglect
  - Defines Mandated Reporter categories
  - Designates agencies who must receive and investigate reports







# Mandated Reporter Responsibilities



## RESPONSIBILITIES

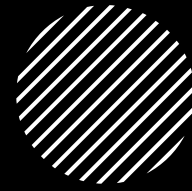
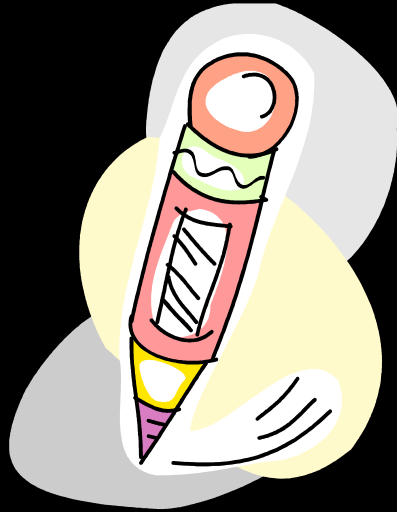
- While in your “...professional capacity or within the scope of his or her employment...”
- “...reasonably suspects...”

## MAKE A REPORT

- 1) Call: **831-454-CARE (immediately)**
- 2) Fax/Email: [SCAR Form](#) w/in 36 hours

**Yes, there are penalties for failing to report. This includes up to six months in jail, \$1,000 fine, liable for damages, and risk of loss of license or credential [PC 11172(e)]**





## WHAT INFORMATION IS NECESSARY WHEN MAKING A REPORT:

- **Via Phone & on SCAR Form**
- Child's Name & Age
- Child's Current Location & Home Address
- Your Name
- Circumstances Which Lead You to Suspect Abuse or Neglect, including general time frame
- Dangerous Circumstances
- Other Known Relevant Information-such as other children in the home
- *Who did you speak with when making the telephone report? (For the SCAR)*

**WHAT  
ADDITIONAL  
INFORMATION  
WILL BE  
REQUESTED?**

- What are your specific worries about this child?
- What do you think needs to happen next?
- Acts of Protection (past and current)
- Strengths
- Services
- Support Network
- Cultural Considerations

## YOU ARE PROTECTED

### **You have legal safeguards in place: PC 11172(a)**

- Immunity from criminal or civil liability
  - UNLESS you KNOWINGLY make a FALSE report with reckless disregard of the truth
- Not liable for photographing the victim and disseminating the photograph WITH the report
- No supervisor or administrator may impede your reporting duties or be subject to sanctions
- Your identity is kept confidential and can only be disclosed in very specific situations
- Violation of confidentiality of this information is a misdemeanor crime





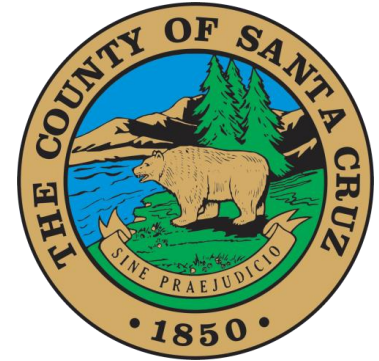
# DEFINING ABUSE & NEGLECT

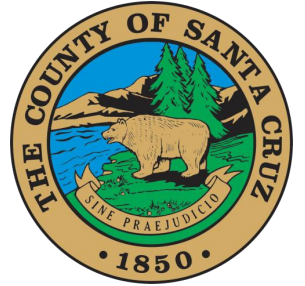
# ABUSE IS ...

When the victim is under the age of 18 years old and the perpetrator is any age

# AND IS NOT...

- A “mutual affray between minors”
- “Reasonable and necessary force” by a peace officer or school employee to quell a disturbance, for self defense or to obtain a dangerous weapon
- Spanking, if age appropriate and non-injurious
- Positive toxicology – by itself (PC § 11165.13)
- Fetal abuse
- Adults who state they were victims of abuse as children
- Consensual acts between children under 14 and/or of a similar age
- Spiritual medical treatment, or withholding of treatment for religious reasons, after consultation with a physician





Caregiver

Behavior

Impact on  
the child

# HOW TO THINK ABOUT REPORTING



# CATEGORIES OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT



- *Neglect*
- *Physical*
- *Emotional*
- *Sexual*

# WARNING SIGNS OF NEGLECT

- Clothes are ill-fitting, filthy, or inappropriate for the weather.
- Hygiene is consistently bad (unbathed, matted and unwashed hair, noticeable body odor).
- Untreated illnesses and physical injuries.
- Is frequently unsupervised or left alone or allowed to play in unsafe situations and environments.
- Is frequently late or missing from school.





# DEFINITION OF NEGLECT

PC 11165.2

Examples:

- Inadequate food
- Inadequate clothing/hygiene
- Inadequate supervision
- Inadequate medical/mental health care
- Caregiver absence/abandonment
- Involving child in criminal activity
- Failure to protect

# WARNING SIGNS OF PHYSICAL ABUSE

---

- Frequent injuries or unexplained bruises, welts, or cuts.
- Is always watchful and “on alert” as if waiting for something bad to happen.
- Injuries appear to have a pattern such as marks from a hand or belt.
- Shies away from touch, flinches at sudden movements, or seems afraid to go home.
- Wears inappropriate clothing to cover up injuries, such as long-sleeved shirts on hot days.



# DEFINITION OF PHYSICAL ABUSE

---

PC 11165.3 & 11165.4

- Willful harming or injuring of a child
- Unlawful corporal punishment or injury
- Non-accidental or suspicious injury
- Caregiver action that likely caused or will cause injury (other than very minor unless child is under 1 year old)

# WARNING SIGNS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

- Trouble walking or sitting.
- Displays knowledge or interest in sexual acts inappropriate to his or her age, or even seductive behavior.
- Makes strong efforts to avoid a specific person, without an obvious reason.
- Doesn't want to change clothes in front of others or participate in physical activities.
- A sexually transmitted disease (STD) or pregnancy, especially under the age of fourteen.
- Runs away from home.



# DEFINITION OF SEXUAL ABUSE

PC 11165.1

- Any sexual act on a child by an adult caregiver or other adult in the household
- Sexual act(s) among siblings or other children living in the home (outside of developmentally appropriate sexual exploration)
- Sexual Exploitation (CSEC)
- Threat of Sexual Abuse
  - Known or highly suspected sexual perpetrator lives with child
- Resources
  - NCYL Sex Between Minors
  - NCTSN Sexual Development & Behavior in Children



# CONSENT



- [Tea Consent - YouTube](#)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oQbei5JGiT8>
-



# COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN (CSEC)

## Buying, trading or selling of sexual acts with a child

- Sex Trafficking – “the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purposes of a commercial sex act”

## Victims are

- Targeted
- Tricked
- Traumatized

## Child/Teen Prostitution

# CSEC INDICATORS/RISK FACTORS

- In foster care placement
- History of emotional, sexual or physical abuse
- Signs of physical abuse and/or STDs
- History of running away or current status as a runaway
- Inexplicable appearance of expensive gifts, clothing or other costly items
- Presence of an older boy/girlfriend
- Withdrawal/lack of interest in previous activities
- Gang Involvement
- Brand/Tattoo of ownership



## WARNING SIGNS OF EMOTIONAL ABUSE

- Excessively withdrawn, fearful, or anxious about doing something wrong.
- Shows extremes in behavior (extremely compliant or extremely demanding; extremely passive or extremely aggressive).
- Doesn't seem to be attached to the parent or caregiver.
- Acts either inappropriately adult-like (taking care of other children) or inappropriately infantile (rocking, thumb-sucking, throwing tantrums).

# DEFINITION OF EMOTIONAL ABUSE

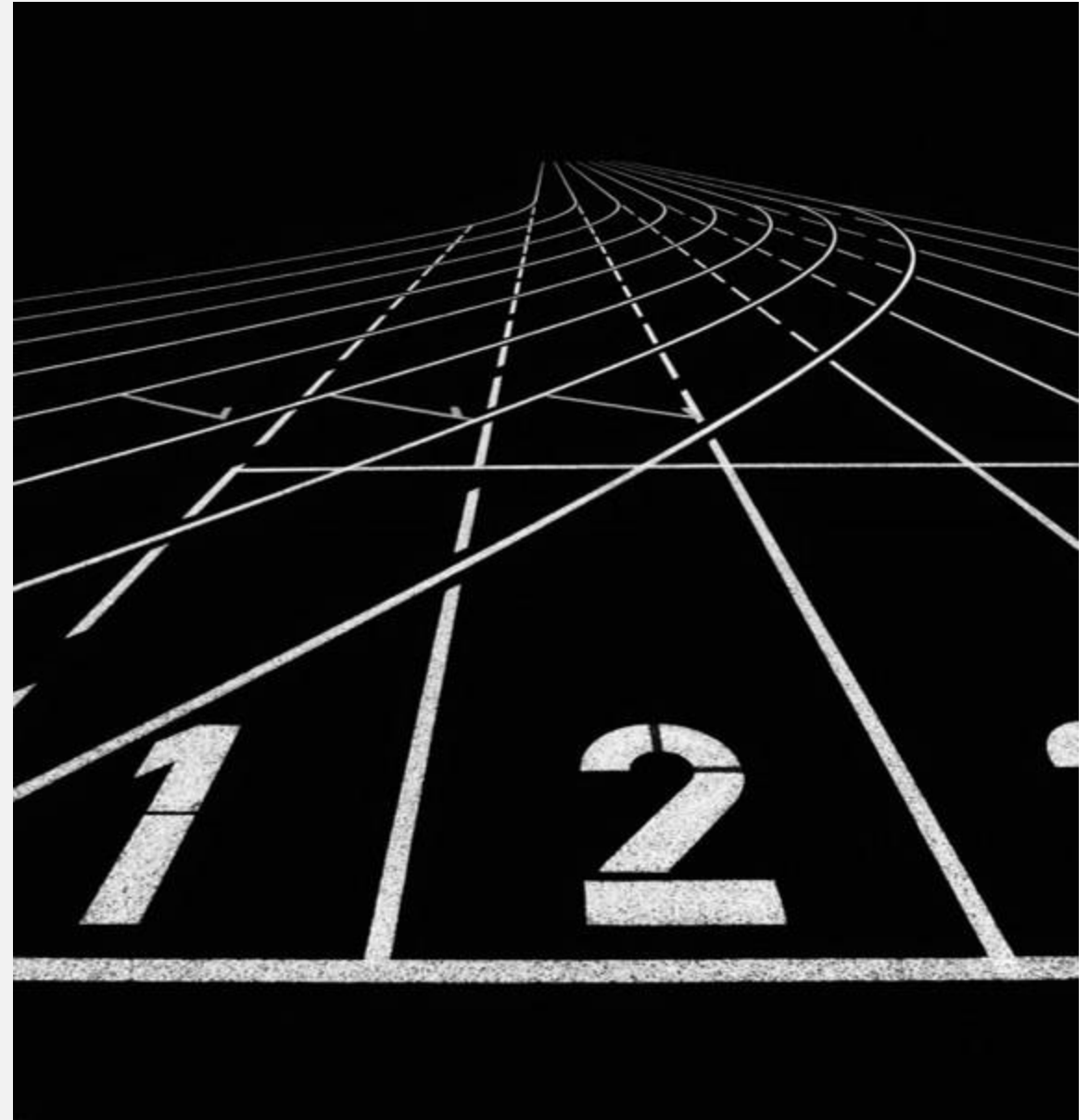
PC 11165.3 & 11165.05

- Caregiver actions have led or are likely to lead to child's severe anxiety, depression, withdrawal, or aggressive behavior toward self or others
- Exposure to domestic violence
- Willfully causing or permitting a child to suffer unjustifiable mental suffering

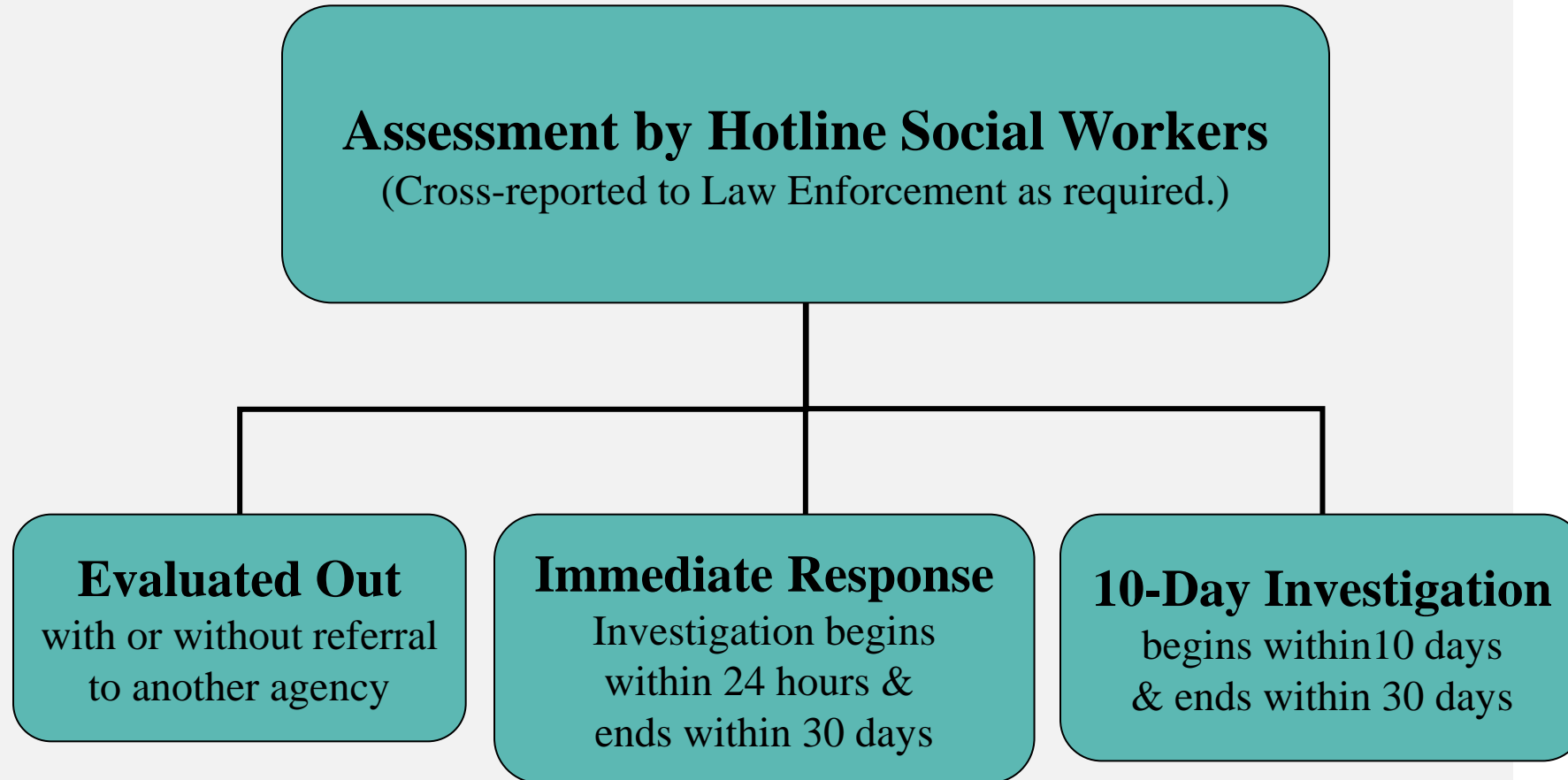


# CULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS

# What Happens Next?



# WHAT ACTION IS TAKEN WHEN A REPORT IS MADE?



# POSSIBLE OUTCOMES OF AN INVESTIGATION:

## First, “Did it happen?”

- Unfounded  
*“didn’t happen or no evidence”*
- Inconclusive  
*“unclear whether it happened or not”*
- Substantiated -  
*“it happened”*

## Second: “Court or Community Referral?”

- Close  
*with or without a referral to other community agencies for preventative services*
- Court Ordered Safety Interventions
  - Family Maintenance Services  
(child at home)*
  - Family Reunification Services  
(child placed out of home)*
  - Permanency Services  
(child cannot go home)*



# EMERGENCY RESPONSE INVESTIGATION

Report Received

Immediate Response-24 hours // 10-Day Response  
// Evaluated Out

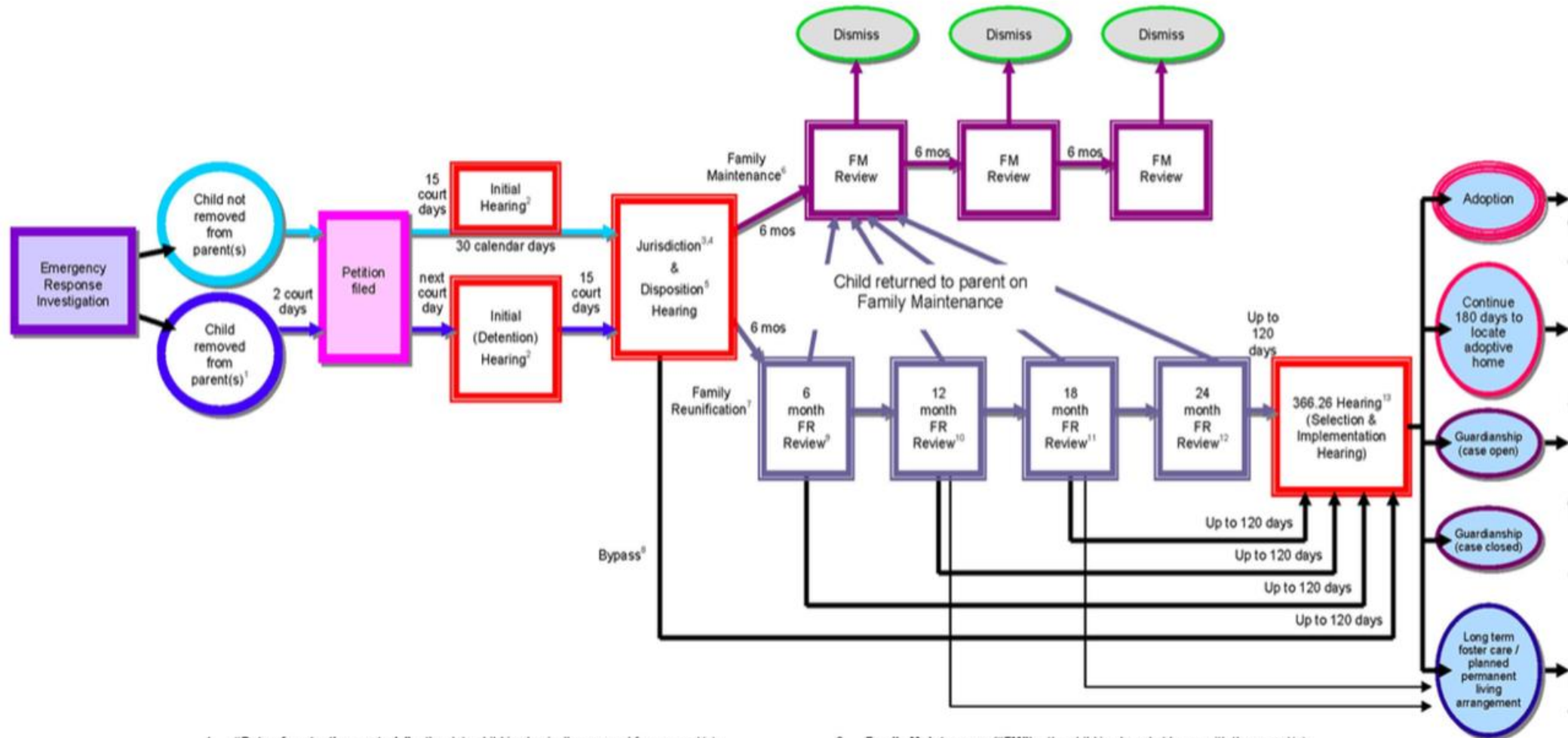
Child determined safe or placed into protective  
custody

Abuse or Neglect Determination = Substantiated,  
Inconclusive, or Unfounded

Child Abuse Central Indexing (CACI) Notification  
// Grievance Hearing

Investigation Closed or Juvenile Dependency Case  
Opened

# Juvenile Dependency Court Process



1 "Date of protective custody" – the date child is physically removed from parent(s)

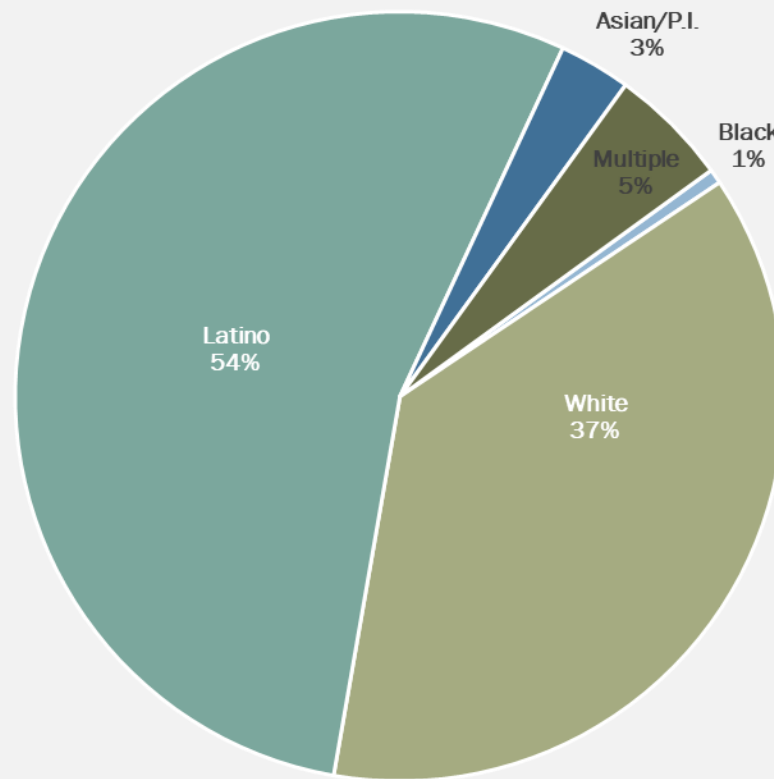
6 Family Maintenance ("FM") – the child is placed at home with the parent(s)



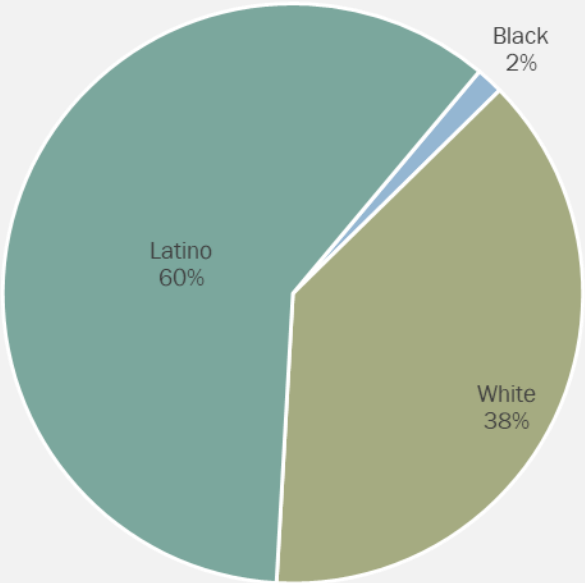
# WHO DO WE SERVE ?

*How many and for  
what reasons ?*

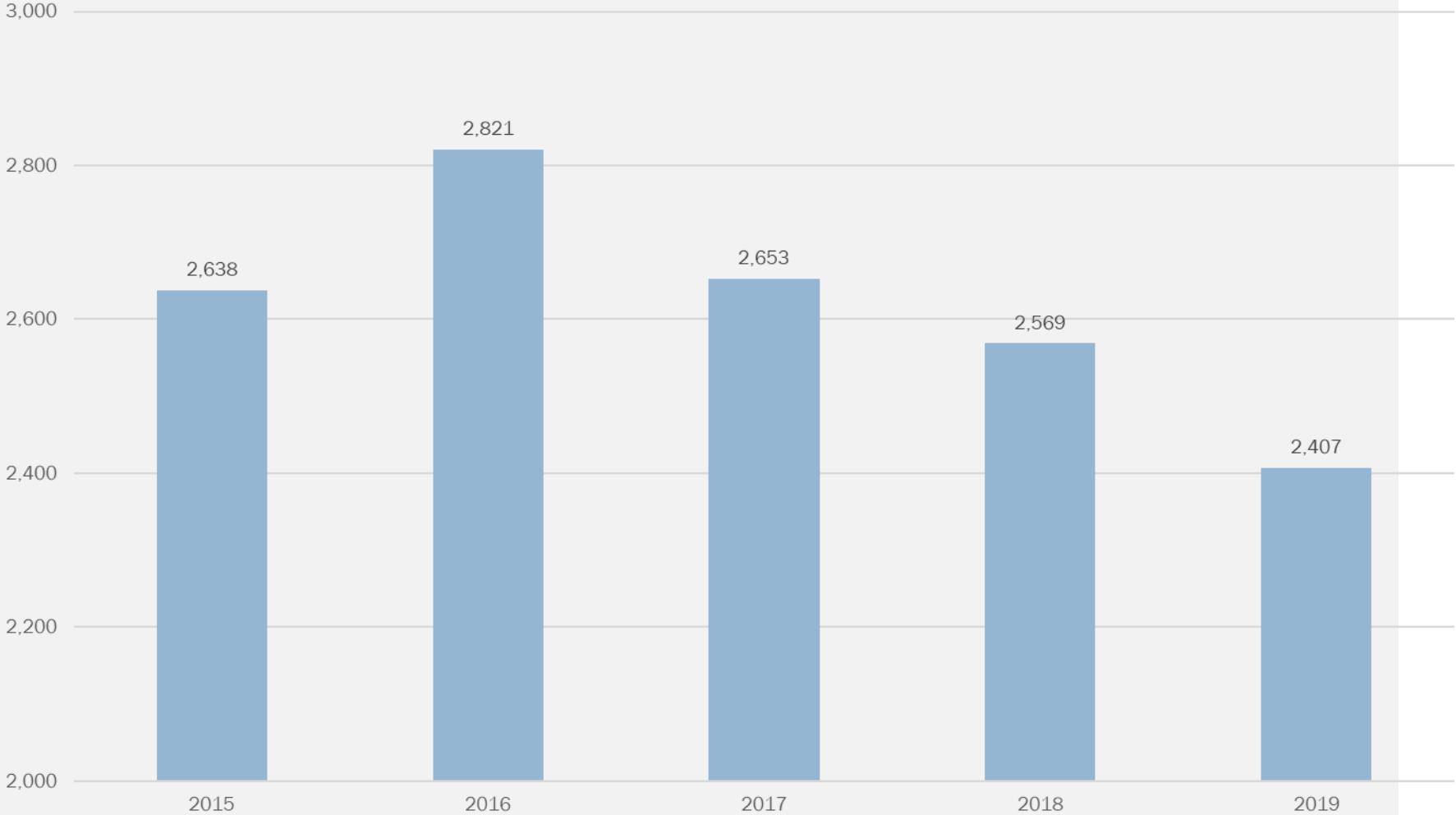
County Child Population by Race/Ethnicity (N=58,696)



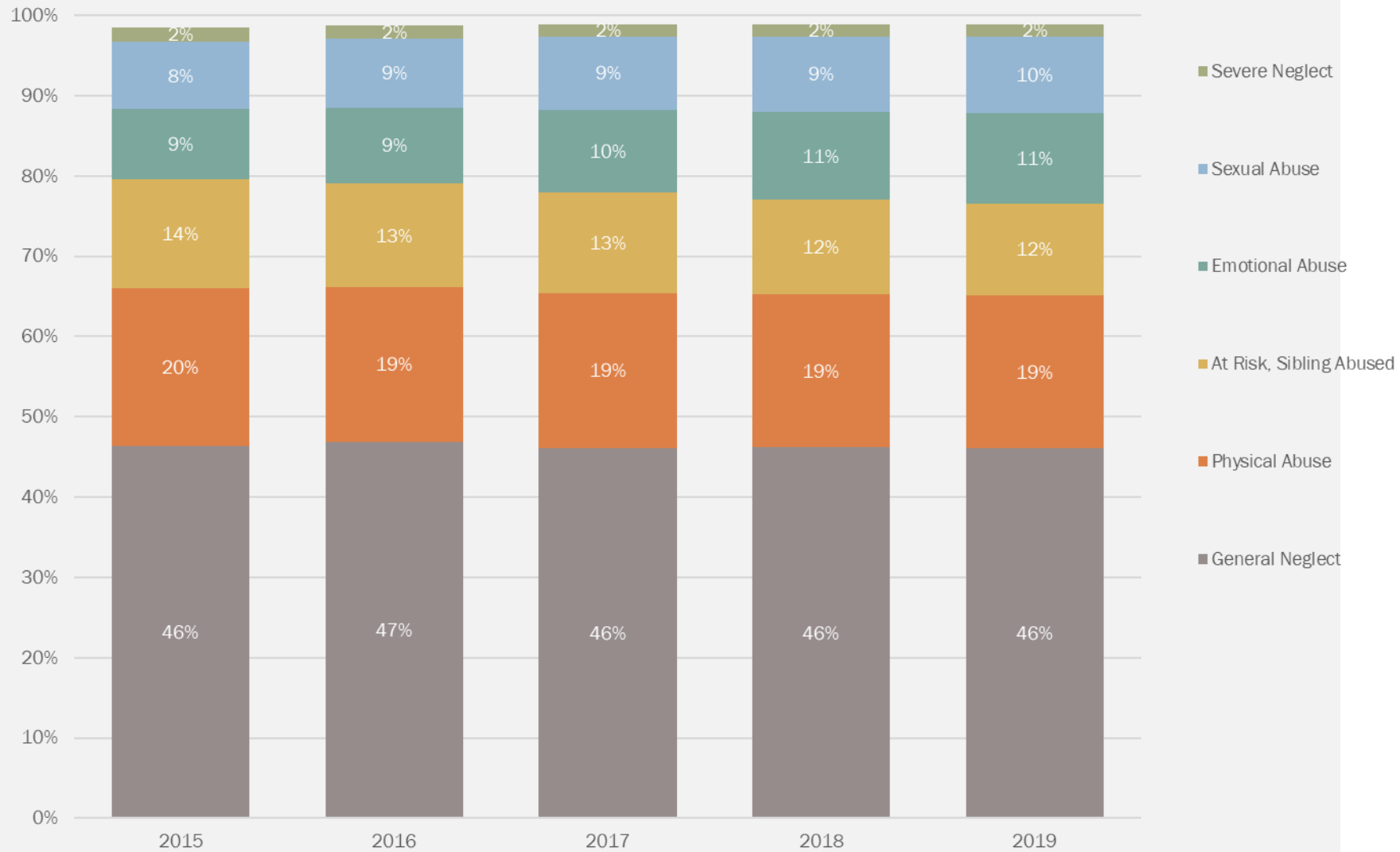
Children Referred to CWS, by Race/Ethnicity  
(CY 2019)



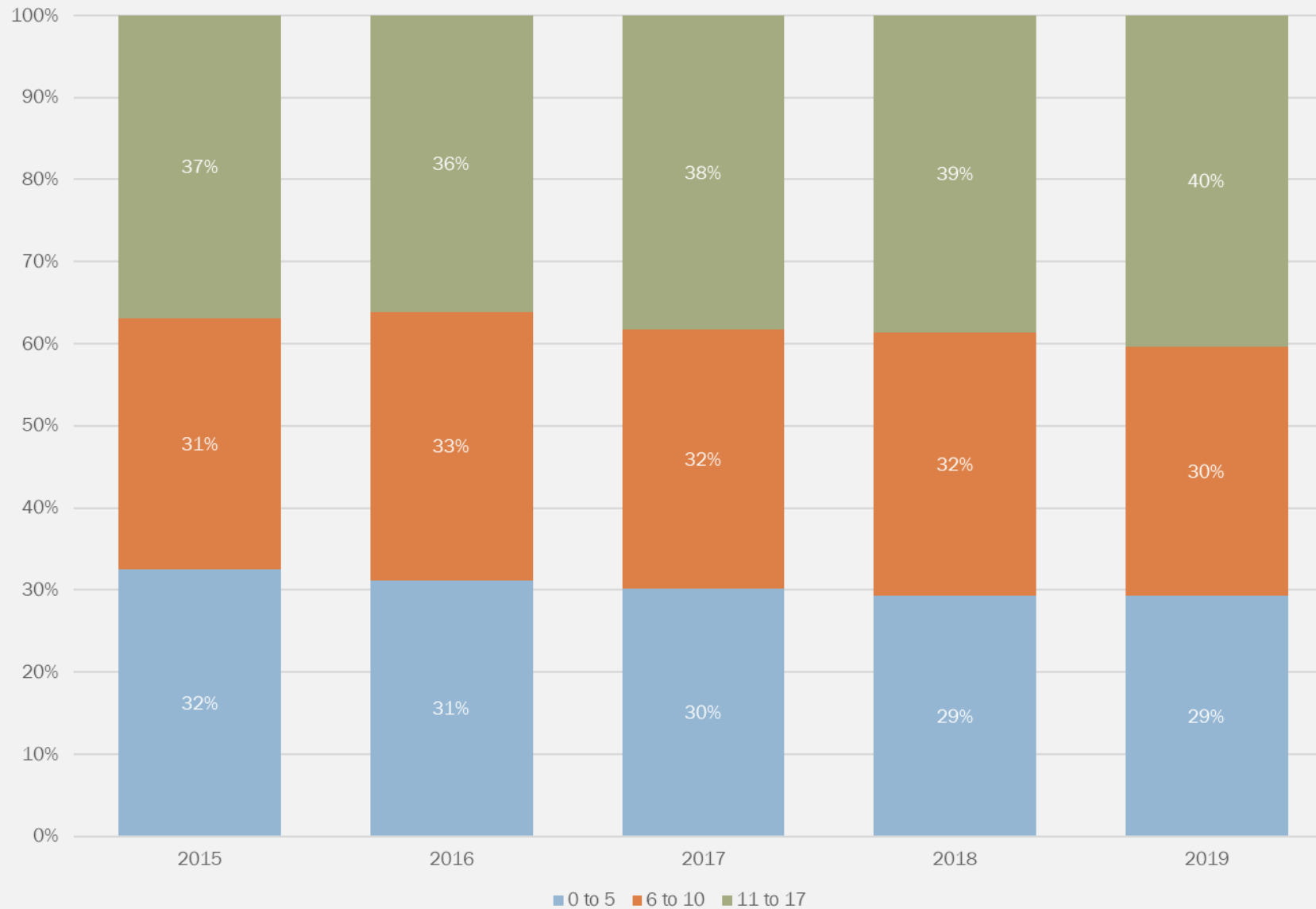
Number of Children with One or More Referrals, by CY



Percentage of Children Referred, by Allegation Type and CY

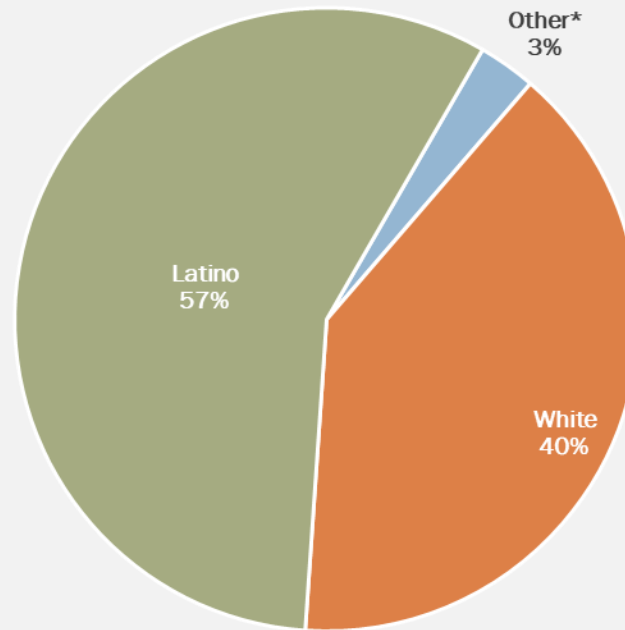


Percentage of Referred Children, by Age Group & CY

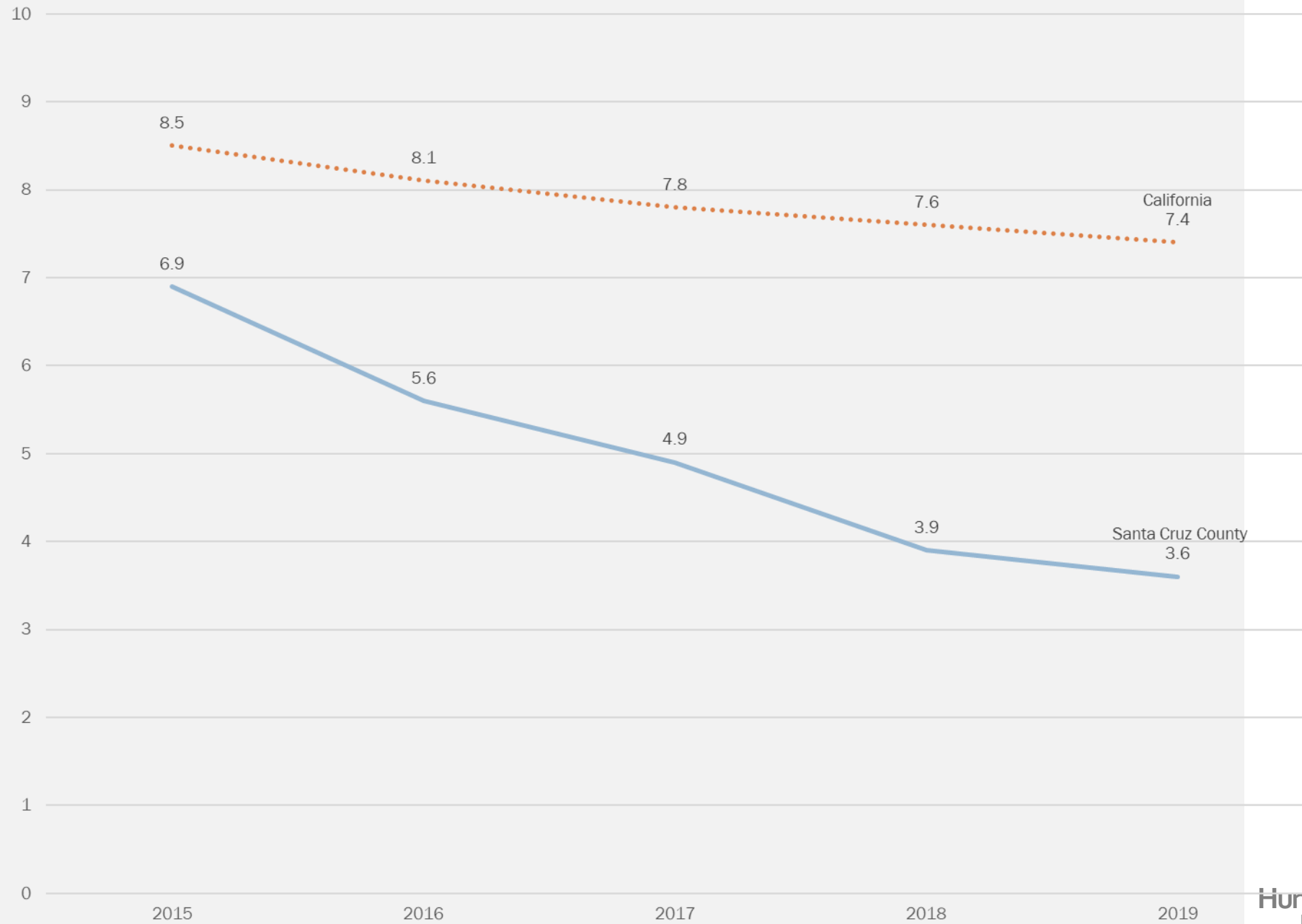




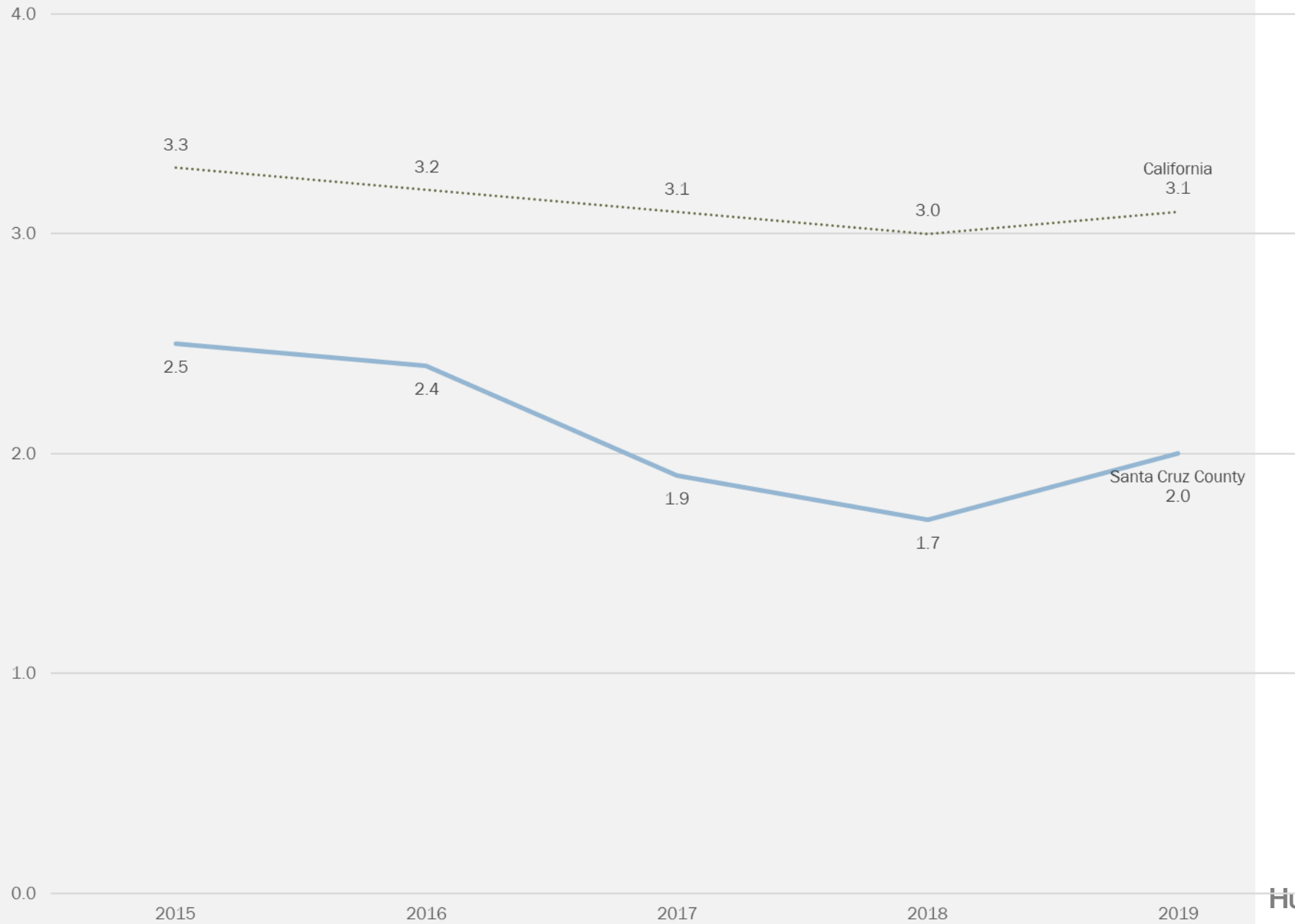
Percent of Children with Substantiated Referrals, by Ethnicity (CY 2019)



# Substantiated Allegations per 1,000 Children



# Children entering placement per 1,000 (CY)



1) Complete & Turn-  
in the Evaluation

2) Complete the  
WHITE

3) Write 3 CEUs

4) Keep the **GREEN**

5) Sign-Out



## CONFIRMATION OF ATTENDANCE

Do Not Destroy - Retain as Verification of Continuing Education

3 CEU'S

CE Cert # 00308

Name:

YOUR NAME

License Type:

LCSW/LMFT/LPCC

License Number:

Course Title:

Child Abuse + Neglect Mandated Reporter Training

Instructor(s):

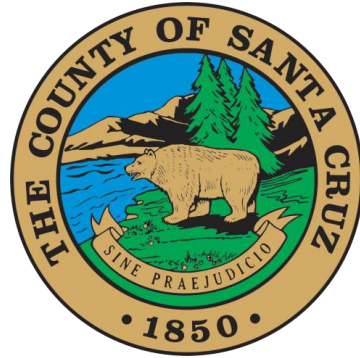
Jeremy Lansing, LCSW

Date:

Today's Date

Location:

where you are now



# QUESTIONS?

Mary Bergman, ASW

☎ 831.454.4106

*Training Supervisor*

✉ *Mary.EGBergman@santacruzcounty.us*

🌐 *www.santacruzhumanservices.org*