

Healthy, Safe, Stable and Ready for Future Success: Getting Results with the CT Kids Report Card

December 2018

Connecticut General Assembly Committee on Children



www.ctkidsreportcard.org

Our Results Statement

All Connecticut children grow up in a stable living environment, safe, healthy and prepared to lead successful lives.

Why RBA

- * Increases accountability
- * Promotes partnerships for better results
- * Tracks overall population trends AND program performance
- * Targets spending to policies and programs that work
- * Helps under-performing systems “turn the curve”

Ensuring the data are relevant, accurate and understandable

- * Close communication and ongoing coordination with data sources
- * Agreement to report data in accepted format for each discipline
- * Conversion to PLAIN LANGUAGE without compromising accuracy
- * Clear understanding of what the data does AND does not tell us
- * Data updated at least annually

Four Domains

The CT Kids Report Card is broken down into four Domains that contain indicators relevant to each of the four goals in our results statement.

- * **Healthy**

- * Children with affordable, accessible health care services have the initial steps towards having a positive relationship with doctors and the role health care plays in their lives. Actively utilizing health care also helps parents and youth to develop a health lifestyle that reduce the chances of developing a chronic disease like obesity or asthma, lowers engaging in behaviors that result in ER visits and improves pregnancy outcomes, all of which have the potential for long-term health, financial, and personal costs. For future mothers, having proper health education and nutrition provides future children the opportunity to be born health and with positive outcomes of their own. Additionally, access to proper health care and having medical professionals such as doctors as regular mentors opens a door for conversation about behavior/emotional/psychological health assistance.

- * **Safe**

- * Children are more likely to thrive when they feel safe. Safe environments are created through mutual trust relationships, like those between parent and child, student and school, and family and neighborhood. When these relationships become fraught with distrust and harm, children are more likely to face further forms of adversity. For example, children who suffer from abuse and neglect are at greater risk for mental and physical health problems. Likewise, children who do not have their needs met at school or who face exclusionary discipline are more likely to lag behind their peers, become absent, and have contact with the juvenile justice. To keep kids safe, we must focus on improving school climate, community safety and parent education.

- * **Stable**

- * The environment in which children live impacts their well-being. Children who face multiple stressors, such as financial insecurity, transiency, or inadequate parental engagement are significantly less likely to thrive than their peers to suffer poor outcomes. Poverty is a leading cause of instability, which ripples through the lives of everyone involved, including community members and taxpayers.

- * **Future Success**

- * For children to become successful, professionally and financially, education is crucial. Providing a child the opportunity to begin learning as early as possible in age-appropriate programs like pre-school and full-day kindergarten establish the building blocks for continued success and achievement during the remainder of their school experience, including on-time graduation. From that point, children, when they reach adulthood, are more likely to actively seek secondary/specialized education, which greatly improves their employment prospects, annual salary, and reduces their reliance on state/federally provided assistance.

Safe Scorecard: All Connecticut Children Grow Up Safe

Indicator	Published October 2017	Published October 2018
Abuse & Neglect, All Types, Ages 0-17	10.14% (2017)	9.84% (2018)
Juvenile Delinquency	9495 (2016)	9495 (2016)
Unexpected Deaths	64 (2016)	70 (2017)
Students Restrained or Secluded in School	2912 (2015)	2995 (2016)
High School Students Who Do Not Feel Safe	6.90% (2015)	6.90% (2017)
Emergency Department Visits for Injuries	9458.70% (2016)	9273.20% (2017)
Emergency Department Visits for Traumatic Brain Injury	1105.50% (2016)	1022.60% (2017)

Safe Scorecard: Family Assessment Response (FAR)

Indicator	Published October 2017	Published October 2018
Families Enrolled in Community Support for Families (CSF)	2151 (2016)	2037 (2017)
Families Assigned to Family Assessment Response (FAR) Track	12834 (2016)	13247 (2017)
FAR Track - Referred to Community Services (CSF)	18.1% (2016)	17.2% (2017)
FAR Track- Services Declined, No Safety Factors	26.4% (2016)	24.8% (2017)
FAR Track - No Further Agency Involvement	41.5% (2016)	42.6% (2017)
FAR Track- Community Service (non-CSF)	4.2% (2016)	4.8% (2017)
FAR Track - Unable to Complete Assessment	3.1% (2016)	2.3 (2017)
FAR Track - Transferred to Ongoing Services	3.9% (2016)	4.1 (2017)
FAR Track - Pending	0.1% (2016)	0.1% (2017)
FAR Track - New Report Received (Assessment Closed)	1.9% (2016)	1.9% (2017)
FAR Track - Referred to Other Agency	0.8% (2016)	0.6% (2017)
Families Enrolled in Community Support for Families (CSF) - Did Not Engage	215 (2016)	299 (2017)
Families Enrolled in Community Support for Families (CSF) - Engaged	1936 (2016)	1936 (2017)

Stable Scorecard: All Connecticut Children Grow Up in Stable Living Environments

Indicator	Published October 2017	Published October 2018
Students Chronically Absent	9.60% (2016)	9.60% (2016)
Employment Insecurity	27.00% (2015)	27.00% (2015)
Food Insecurity	13.50% (2015)	12.60% (2016)
Housing Insecurity	37.00% (2015)	34.00% (2016)
Out-of-Home Placements	3661 (2016)	4303 (2017)
Children in Single Parent Households	33.00% (2016)	33.00% (2017)
Family Meal Occurrence	68.20% (2015)	65.50% (2017)
Free or Reduced Lunch Eligibility	35.86% (2017)	35.86% (2017)
High School Students Who Feel Loved and Supported	85.00% (2015)	86.60% (2017)

Healthy Scorecard: All Connecticut Children Grow Up Healthy

Indicator	Published October 2017	Published October 2018
Low Birth Weight	7.90% (2015)	7.90% (2015)
Childhood Obesity	17.00% (2015)	12.70% (2017)
Health Insurance Access	96.10% (2014)	96.10% (2014)
Appropriate Immunizations by Age 2	73.00% (2014)	80.60% (2015)
Children with Asthma	11.70% (2015)	12.90% (2017)
Students Who Have Seriously Considered Suicide	13.40% (2015)	13.50% (2017)
Emergency Department Visits for Asthma	88.30% (2015)	85.00% (2017)

Future Successes: All Connecticut Children Grow Up Prepared to Lead Successful Lives

Indicator	Published October 2017	Published October 2018
Reading Proficiency (NAEP)	43.00% (2015)	43.00% (2017)
Graduation Rate	87.40% (2016)	87.40% (2016)
Childhood Poverty	13.00% (2016)	13.00% (2017)
Pre-Kindergarten Experience	77.60% (2017)	80.60% (2018)
Teen Motherhood	12.00% (2014)	10.00 (2015)
Postsecondary Education, Ages 25-34	48.00% (2014)	48.00% (2014)
Youth Enrolled or Employed	95.20% (2016)	95.10% (2017)
Reading Proficiency (SBAC)	51.80% (2017)	51.80% (2017)

Program Drill Down

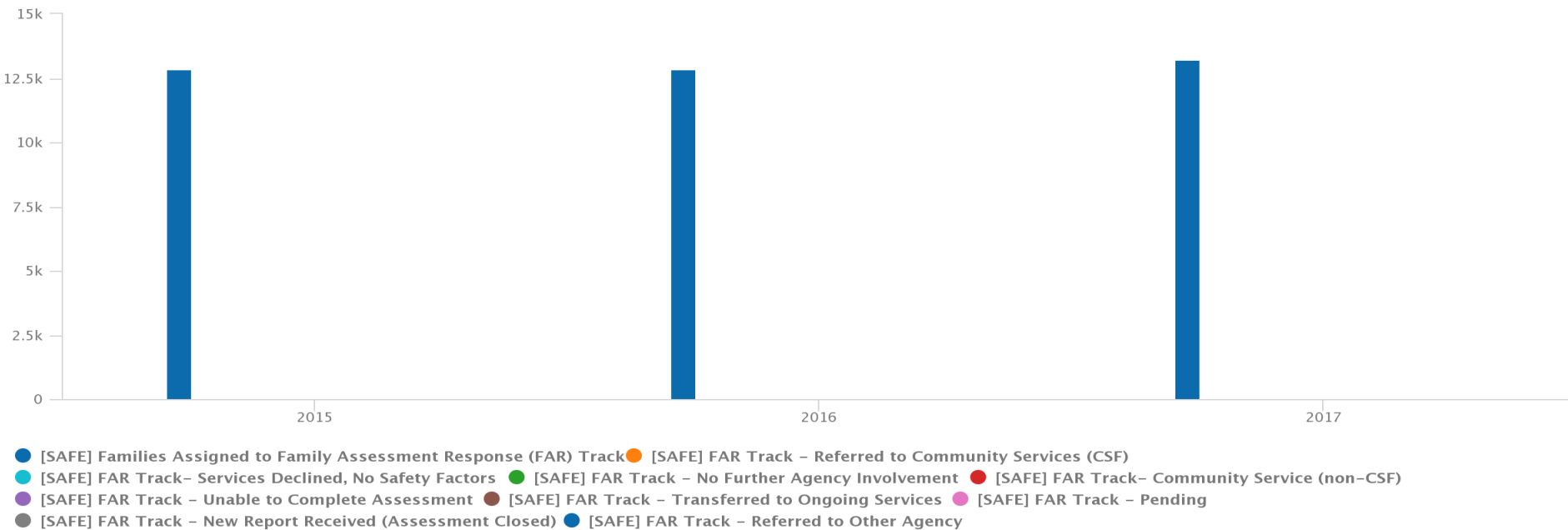
- * Programs suitable for drill down are state programs that are existing currently being funded and have the potential to impact indicators.
- * Programs should be able to provide data that answers the following questions:
 - * How much did the program do?
 - * How well did the program perform?
 - * Is anyone better off because of the program?
- * Our goal is to determine what programs work and what programs are not working so we can reallocate resources to programs that are working and avoid expending further funds on programs that don't work.

Example: Family Assessment Response

- * In 2015, the Committee on Children started work to drill down into the Department of Children and Families Family Assessment Response Track.
- * A Family Assessment Response is a program that works to help connect families with services and supports in the community.
- * Still in process of collecting data and stories behind the curve but over time will help us to assess whether families in CT are better off because of this program.

Example: Family Assessment Response

Families Assigned to Family Assessment Response (FAR) Track - Comparison



ClearImpact.com

Of 2,237 families referred to the “Community support for Families” Program 1,843 of the referrals resulted in an episode in 2017.

Next Steps

We ask you to share with us
programs you think the CT
Kids Report Card should
drill down into