SCAN
Policies Database

State Child Abuse & Neglect (SCAN) Policies Database

DATA COLLECTION PROTOCOL 2023

January 2025

This page has been left blank for double-sided copying.

State Child Abuse & Neglect (SCAN) Policies Database
DATA COLLECTION PROTOCOL 2023

January 2025

Elizabeth Weigensberg, Nuzhat Islam, Milena Raketic, Mary Grider, and Jeremy Page, Mathematica, Inc.

Subscribe to OPRE News and Follow OPRE on Social Media

This page has been left blank for double-sided copying.

Overview

Introduction

The State Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) Policies Database compiles data on the definitions and policies that states use in their surveillance of child maltreatment, along with data on associated risk and protective factors. The SCAN Policies Database is funded by the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation in collaboration with the Children's Bureau in the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The project team is led by Mathematica in partnership with Child Trends.

Although federal law is the foundation of the child welfare system, states drive much of the structure of their own systems. The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) (42 U.S.C.A. § 5106g), as amended in 2010, identifies certain acts or behaviors as child maltreatment. States must comply with the broader CAPTA definitions, but within those parameters, states have their own legal definitions. State laws—and the policies they set to enforce these laws—have different definitions of child abuse and neglect and different policies for reporting and responding to child maltreatment.

Data on the definitions and related policies for child abuse and neglect—state by state and over time—can help researchers, analysts, policymakers, child welfare agencies, and others broaden their understanding of differences between states and how these differences may influence rates of child maltreatment.

Purpose

The project's purpose is to maintain, enhance, and update the SCAN Policies Database by continuing to review and compile information about selected definitions and policies of child abuse and neglect in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The project aims to sustain and improve the SCAN Policies Database's ability to support researchers, analysts, policymakers, child welfare agencies, and others in broadening their understanding of how differences in states' definitions and policies may influence rates of child maltreatment. A primary benefit of these data is to allow researchers to link the analytic files to other data sources, such as the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS), the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), other federal and state administrative data, and survey data. When data from the SCAN Policies Database are linked with other data sources, the linked data can be used to answer important questions about how variations in states' definitions and policies are associated with the incidence of child maltreatment, the child welfare system response, and ultimately, the safety and well-being of children.

Highlights

The scope of the SCAN Policies Database includes information about state definitions and policies related to child abuse and neglect for all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The scope of the topics in the SCAN Policies Database includes

states' definitions of child abuse and neglect as well as information about policies related to reporting, screening, and investigating child maltreatment. Key aspects of the child welfare systems' response and context are also included. The data in the SCAN Policies Databasewere collected over three time periods and reflect the state definitions and policies for 2019, 2021, and 2023, as presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Summary of data collection for each year of the SCAN Policies Database

SCAN Policies Database year	Data collection time period	Year for state laws and policies
SCAN Policies Database 2019	May 2019 – July 2020	2019
SCAN Policies Database 2021	July 2021 – January 2022	2021
SCAN Policies Database 2023	June 2023 – July 2024	2023

Access to database and data use resources

The SCAN Policies Database and data use resources can be accessed at:

- The SCAN Policies Database website at https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com
  This website provides an interactive tool to view and filter data by state and topic. Users can download the full data file in comma-delimited format and access data use resources.

- The National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN) at https://www.ndacan.acf.hhs.gov.
  NDACAN provides access to the full data file in a variety of formats, including commonly used statistical packages. NDACAN can also provide technical or analytic support for users who access the data from NDACAN.

Contents

This page has been left blank for double-sided copying.

Introduction to the SCAN Policies Database

The State Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) Policies Database compiles data on the definitions and policies that different states use in their surveillance of child maltreatment, along with data on associated risk and protective factors. The SCAN Policies Database is funded by the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation in collaboration with the Children's Bureau in the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The project team is led by Mathematica in partnership with Child Trends.

Background

Although federal law is the foundation of the child welfare system, states drive much of the structure of their own systems. The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) (42 U.S.C.A. § 5106g), as amended in 2010, identifies certain acts or behaviors as child maltreatment. States must comply with the broader CAPTA definitions, but within those parameters, states have their own legal definitions. State laws—and the policies they set to enforce these laws—have different definitions of child abuse and neglect and different policies for reporting and responding to child maltreatment.

Data on the definitions and related policies for child abuse and neglect—state by state and over time—can help researchers, analysts, policymakers, child welfare agencies, and others broaden their understanding of differences between states and how these differences may influence rates of child maltreatment.

Purpose

The project's purpose is to maintain, enhance, and update the SCAN Policies Database by continuing to review and compile information about selected definitions and policies of child abuse and neglect in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The project aims to sustain and improve the SCAN Policies Database's ability to support researchers, analysts, policymakers, child welfare agencies, and others in broadening their understanding of how differences in states' definitions and policies may influence rates of child maltreatment. A primary benefit of these data is to allow researchers to link the analytic files to other data sources, such as the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS), the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), other federal and state administrative data, and survey data. When data from the SCAN Policies Database are linked with other data sources, the linked data can be used to answer important questions about how variations in states' definitions and policies are associated with the incidence of child maltreatment, the child welfare system's response, and ultimately the safety and well-being of children.

Data access

Given the utility of the SCAN Policies Database when merged with datasets available through the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN), the SCAN Policies Database team and NDACAN have both agreed to disseminate the data. The SCAN Policies Database

can be accessed in the following ways: (1) using an interactive data feature to explore data on the SCAN Policies Database website, (2) downloading the full data file in comma-delimited format from the SCAN Policies Database website, or (3) downloading the full data set from NDACAN in one of several formats compatible with common statistical software, including SAS, SPSS, Stata, and a tab-delimited format for import into spreadsheet programs and R. The contents of the full data files and data use documentation are identical across both sources.

The full data files available for download include the following files: (1) SCAN Policies Database 2019, (2) SCAN Policies Database 2021, (3) SCAN Policies Database 2023, and (4) an appended SCAN Policies Database file that includes data from all available years (2019, 2021, and 2023) in one file. The appended SCAN Policies Database file is structured so the variable names are consistent across years, and each state has a row of data for each year of data collection. For variables that were new in 2023, a period (.) is used to indicate it was not collected in 2019 or 2021. The appended data file allows data users to easily analyze data across all years of data collection and assess changes over time.

Data use resources

This data collection protocol has the questions used to guide the document review of state statutes and policy documentation for the 2023 round of data collection. There are separate data collection protocols for the 2019 and 2021 rounds of data collection. Each question or response in the data collection protocol has a protocol number and variable name for the associated variable in the database. Throughout the data collection protocol, the protocol numbers are listed first for each question or response, followed by the variable name that is depicted in red font within brackets. Appendix A provides a glossary of key terms.

Several additional data use resources are available to support users of the SCAN Policies Database:

- **Data user's guide:** The guide has detailed information about the data set, including the process used to collect and review the data, the scope of information included in the data set, guidance on using the data, such as how to link the data with other data sources, and notes about specific topics. The data user's guide has four appendices. Appendix A provides a glossary of key terms. Appendix B summarizes the decisions made on the scope and variables to include in the SCAN Policies Database after a data quality assessment. Appendix C summarizes the changes to data between the 2021 and 2023 data sets that reflect changes to state laws and policies during this time period. There is one data user's guide that is updated with and applicable for all rounds of data collection for the SCAN Policies Database.

- **Codebook:** The codebook provides information about each variable in the data set, including variable names, labels, definitions, protocol number, variable type, and frequencies. There are separate codebooks to summarize the data from each round of data collection. The codebook has four appendices:

  1. Appendix A: Glossary of key terms.

2. Appendix B:

   i. 2019 Codebook: Summarizes corrections made to selected data elements in the 2019 SCAN Policies Database based on information from the 2021 review process.

   ii. 2021 and 2023 Codebooks: Summarizes changes to data since the prior round of data collection that reflect changes to state laws and policies during this time period.

3. Appendix C: Supplemental notes that are important for accurately interpreting and using the data.

4. Appendix D: Comprehensive list of all state statutes and policy documentation sources used to collect data for the SCAN Policies Database for each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

- **Errata statement:** The errata statement presents corrections applied to previous rounds of data for the SCAN Policies Database. During each round of data collection, the SCAN Policies Database project team obtained new information such as state documents or other feedback from state contacts. This new information warranted corrections to certain data elements from previously released versions of the SCAN Policies Database. The errata statement provides details about these corrections, including the year and version of the data requiring a correction, the affected variable name and state, the corrected value for each variable, plus the year and version of the data the in which the correction was applied.

This data collection protocol, along with the other data use resources, can be found on the SCAN Policies Database website (https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com/data-use-resources) or from NDACAN (https://www.ndacan.acf.hhs.gov/).

Technical assistance

Users with general inquiries and those who access the SCAN Policies Database from the SCAN Policies Database website (https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com) who need technical assistance can submit a request to SCANPoliciesDatabase@mathematica-mpr.com.

Other data users who access the SCAN Policies Database from NDACAN (https://www.ndacan.acf.hhs.gov/) can receive technical assistance by submitting a request to NDACANsupport@cornell.edu. NDACAN staff provide free user support for the data sets that they distribute. They can address issues such as importing data to an analysis program, clarifying variable labels, or solving problems with the data as delivered. NDACAN staff cannot, however, replace the role of a statistical analyst or a faculty advisor. Before writing to NDACANsupport@cornell.edu for assistance with the data, please review the support resources provided on the User Support page of NDACAN's website (https://www.ndacan.acf.hhs.gov/user-support/user-support.cfm).

Scope

The scope of the SCAN Policies Database includes information about state definitions and policies related to child abuse and neglect for all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The SCAN Policies Database has information about states' definitions of child abuse and neglect, plus information about related policies on reporting,

screening, and investigating child maltreatment. The database also includes selected information about the child welfare system's responses to child maltreatment and information about the context of the child welfare system. The data in the SCAN Policies Database were collected over three time periods and reflect state definitions and policies for 2019, 2021, and 2023, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Summary of data collection for each year of the SCAN Policies Database

SCAN Policies Database year	Data collection time period	Year for state laws and policies
SCAN Policies Database 2019	May 2019 – July 2020	2019
SCAN Policies Database 2021	July 2021 – January 2022	2021
SCAN Policies Database 2023	June 2023 – July 2024	2023

The 2023 SCAN Policies Database includes all variables collected for the first rounds of data collection in 2019 and 2021, plus a few additional variables on new topics or policies. These topics were included based on their relevance to support a better understanding of states' the incidence of child maltreatment in states, along with related risk and protective factors. Topics were selected based on input from a SCAN Policies Database Advisory Group made up of data users, research experts, representatives from federal, state, and local child welfare agencies, and others. Individuals with lived experience with the child welfare system also provided input into the project's scope. In addition, a pilot data collection and review process informed the inclusion of new topics. Detailed information about the process is in the SCAN Policies Database Data User's Guide.

Content

The content in the SCAN Policies Database is organized by six domains. The codebook, data collection protocol, and data file are also organized by these domains. The protocol numbers begin with a letter prefix which identifies the domain for each variable. The six domains with the identifying protocol number prefix are listed below.

Domain	Question prefix
Definitions	D
Reporting	R
Screening	S
Investigation	I
Child welfare response	W
Child welfare system context	C

Updates for 2023

The SCAN Policies Database for 2023 includes any changes to data elements since 2021, which will allow users to identify whether a definition or policy changed for a state during this period. A summary of data elements that changed from 2021 to 2023 is in Appendix C in the data user's guide.

The SCAN Policies Database for 2023 includes a few updates to response categories for existing data elements and incorporates a few new topics based on recommendations from

SCAN Policies Database Advisory Group. Any updates to the 2023 database with regard to new questions or response categories, are identified by an asterisk (*) in the protocol. The new data elements are organized within the current domain structure for the database. All new topics and associated data elements fall within the child welfare response domain and include the following:

Domain	Topics and associated data elements
Child welfare response	- Whether any Tribes directly operate a Title-IV E program - Whether the state codified requirements of the federal Indian Child Welfare Act - Whether youth proactively request, provide consent for, or opt in to receive extended foster care - State criteria for youth to remain in extended foster care - Whether the state has laws or policies that allow for reentry of youth who age out of or leave foster care - Whether the state has anti-discrimination laws, policies, or official statements that apply to the child welfare agency, including agency staff or their contractors, that prohibit discrimination against children, youth, or families involved in the child welfare system - Whether the state has a law or policy that allows child welfare contracted organizations with sincerely held religious beliefs to withhold services from certain children or families due to religious objections

State Identifying Information

For each state we provide the following information:

Field		Description
1	{State}	State abbreviation
2	{StateFIPS}	State Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) code
3	{RegionCode}	Census region code
4	{Verified}	State verified coding of information
5	{DocumentsConfirmed}	State confirmed documents reviewed
6	{Year}	State definitions and policies for calendar year
7	{Version}	Version of data released for calendar year

Domain D: Definition of child maltreatment

D1.   Does the state's definition of child maltreatment include the following types of maltreatment (whether the type of maltreatment is specified in the definition or the definition includes the resulting harm or injuries)?

	Yes = 1	No = 0
D1_1 {Def_PhysicalAbuse} Physical abuse		
D1_2 {Def_Punishment} Excessive corporal punishment		
D1_3 {Def_SexAbuse} Sexual abuse		
D1_4 {Def_Emotional} Emotional maltreatment		
D1_5 {Def_Neglect} Neglect		
D1_6 {Def_InadequateClothing} Inadequate clothing		
D1_7 {Def_ InadequateShelter} Inadequate shelter		
D1_8 {Def_Malnourishment} Malnourishment, inadequate food		
D1_9 {Def_ MedicalNeglect} Medical neglect, inadequate medical care		
D1_10 {Def_FailuretoThrive} Failure-to-thrive		
D1_11 {Def_EducationalNeglect} Educational neglect		
D1_12 {Def_Abandonment} Abandonment		
D1_13 {Def_InjuriousEnvironment} Injurious environment, likelihood of harm to child's health, physical well-being		
D1_14 {Def_DrugLab} Exposure to drug lab. Child present within structure where methamphetamine is created		
D1_15 {Def_InadequateSupervision} Inadequate supervision failure to meet parent or caretaker responsibilities		
D1_16 {Def_DrugAlcMisuse} Drug or alcohol misuse. Parental drug or alcohol misuse causing harm to child		
D1_17 {Def_PrenatalExposure} Prenatal exposure to drugs or alcohol		
D1_18 {Def_IllicitSubstance} Illicit substance. Illegally providing a controlled substance to a child		
D1_19 {Def_HumanTrafficking} Human trafficking, involuntary servitude, sexual servitude		
D1_20 {Def_GenitalMutilation} Female genital mutilation		
D1_21 {Def_ShakenBaby} Shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma		
D1_22 {Def_FailureToProtect} Failure to protect. Failure to protect from harm		
D1_23 {Def_DV} Domestic violence. Exposure to domestic violence		
D1_24 {Def__FactitiousDisorder} Factitious disorder by proxy		
D1_25 {Def_InstitutionalAbuseNeglect} Institutional abuse/neglect		
D1_99 {Def_Other} Other definition		
D1_99_other {Def_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		

*New question or response category for SCAN Policies Database 2023.

The following three open-text response variables indicate whether a subtype of maltreatment is considered part of the statutory definition for a broader category of child abuse, neglect, or other type of maltreatment.

   D1_100 {Def_Subtype_Abuse} Subtypes of maltreatment considered abuse

   D1_101 {Def_Subtype_Neglect} Subtypes of maltreatment considered neglect

   D1_102 {Def_Subtype_Other} Subtypes of maltreatment considered other than abuse or neglect

D2.   Does the state's definition of maltreatment include actual harm and/or risk of maltreatment? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
D2_1 {DefMal_InflictHarm} Inflicts harm		
D2_2 {DefMal_RiskOfHarm} Imminent danger or substantial risk of harm		

D3.   {DefMal_Harm_VaryByType} Does the state's definition of maltreatment of actual harm and risk of maltreatment vary by type of maltreatment?

   No 0
   Yes..1

[ASK IF D3 = 1]

D3_1.   {DefMal_Harm_VaryByTypeSpecify} If the state's definition of maltreatment of actual harm and risk of maltreatment varies by type of maltreatment, specify the difference.

D4.   What is the type of harm or injury specified in the state's definition of maltreatment? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
D4_1 {DefHarm_Physical} Physical harm, including death, bodily injury, and/or impairment of physical condition		
D4_2 {DefHarm_Emotional} Emotional harm, including impairment of mental or emotional condition		
D4_3 {DefHarm_Environment}Harmful environment or conditions		
D4_4 {DefHarm_NotSpecified} Type of harm or injury not specified		
D4_99 {DefHarm_Other} Other		
D4_99_other {DefHarm_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		

D5.   {DefHarm_VaryByType} Does the state's definition of maltreatment regarding the type of harm or injury vary by type of maltreatment?

   No 0
   Yes..1

[ASK IF D5 = 1]

D5_1.   {DefHarm_VaryByTypeSpecify} If the state's definition of maltreatment regarding the type of harm or injury varies by type of maltreatment, specify the difference.

D6.   {DefPerp} Is type of perpetrator identified as part of the state's definition of child maltreatment?

    No 0
    Yes..1

[ASK IF D6 = 1]

Identify types of perpetrators: (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
D6_1 {DefPerp_Parent} Parent			
D6_2 {DefPerp_Guardian} Guardian			
D6_3 {DefPerp_Caregiver} Caregiver/Caretaker			
D6_4 {DefPerp_FamilyMember} Family member/Parent paramour			
D6_5 {DefPerp_HouseholdMember} Household member			
D6_6 {DefPerp_PersonResponsible} Person responsible for child			
D6_7 {DefPerp_AnyPerson} Any person			
D6_99 {DefPerp_Other} Other type			
D6_99_other {DefPerp_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)			

[ASK IF D6 = 1]

D7.   {DefPerp_VaryByType} Does the type of perpetrator identified as part of the state's definition of child maltreatment vary by type of maltreatment?

    No 0
    Yes..1

[ASK IF D7 = 1]

D7_1.   {DefPerp_VaryByTypeSpecify} Specify how the identification of perpetrators in the state's definition varies by type of maltreatment.

D8.   {DefAge} Is an age of the child specified as part of the definition?

No 0

Yes..1

[ASK IF D8 = 1]

D8_1. {DefAge_Specify} Specify age at which definition applies:

Under age 18...1
Under age 18 with variability under 18..2
Under age 18 and up to 21 if in the care of the agency.............................3
Under age 18 with variability over 18..4
Under age 18 with variability under 18 and over 18 5
Under age 18 and up to 21 if in the care of the agency and variability over 18 6
Under age 18 and up to 21 if in the care of the agency and variability under 18 7
Under age 19...8

D9.   {DefAge_VaryByType} Does the age of the child specified as part of the definition vary by type of maltreatment?

No 0

Yes..1

[ASK IF D9 = 1]

D9_1. {DefAge_VaryByTypeSpecify} If the state's definition of maltreatment regarding age of child varies by type of maltreatment, specify the difference.

D10.   Does the definition of maltreatment exempt any of the following:

	Yes = 1	No = 0
D10_1 {Exempt_FinancialIssues} Financial inability to provide for a child		
D10_2 {Exempt_Discipline} Physical discipline as long as it is reasonable and causes no bodily injury to the child		
D10_3 {Exempt_SafeHaven} Newborn relinquished or abandoned in accordance with infant safe haven laws		
D10_4 {Exempt_SubstanceExposed} Newborn with positive test for controlled substance as a result of parent's medical treatment		
D10_5 {Exempt_Religious} Parent relies on spiritual or religious forms of medical treatment		
D10_99 {Exempt_Other} Other exemptions		
D10_99_other {Exempt_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		

*New question or response category for SCAN Policies Database 2023.

[ASK IF D10_3 = 1]

What are the conditions regarding the safe haven exemption? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
D10_3_1 {SafeHaven_Location} Must leave child at specific safe haven locations or with a designated provider		
D10_3_2 {SafeHaven_Parent} Child must be left by parent or parent's agent		
D10_3_3 {SafeHaven_Age} Child must be left by certain age		
D10_3_4 {SafeHaven_NoIntentReturn} No intent to return for child		
D10_3_5 {SafeHaven_ChildUnharmed} Child left unharmed		
D10_3_99 {SafeHaven_Other} Other		
D10_3_99_other {SafeHaven_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		

[ASK IF D10_3_3 = 1]

D10_3_3_other {SafeHaven_AgeSpecify} Specify age at which condition applies

72 hours old or younger...1

7 days old or younger 2

10 days old or younger 3

14 days old or younger 4

21 days old or younger 5

28 days old or younger 6

30 days old or younger 7

31 days old or younger 8

45 days old or younger 9

60 days old or younger 10

90 days old or younger 11

1 year old or younger..12

*New question or response category for SCAN Policies Database 2023.

11

D11.   How does the state define fatalities or deaths caused by child abuse or neglect? (Check all the apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
D11_0 {FatalitiesDefine_Not} Not specified or defined *[EXCLUSIVE]*		
D11_1 {FatalitiesDefine_Injury} Injury from abuse or neglect caused death		
D11_2 {FatalitiesDefine_Abuse} Abuse or neglect was a contributing factor in the death		
D11_3 {FatalitiesDefine_Care} Death of child currently or previously engagedin child welfare, including those with an investigation, open case, or are in custody/foster care		
D11_99 {FatalitiesDefine_Other} Other		
D11_99_other {FatalitiesDefine_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		

D12.   {FatalitiesReview} Does the state conduct case reviews with a child fatality review team or similar review process for fatalities caused by child abuse or neglect?

No 0

Yes, reviews are required of all or some cases 1

Yes, reviews can be conducted but are not required 2

Other 99

D12_99_other {FatalitiesReview_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)

D13.   How does the state define near-fatalities or near-deaths caused by child abuse or neglect? (Check all the apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
D13_0 {NearFatalities_Not} Not specified or defined *[EXCLUSIVE]*		
D13_1 {NearFatalities_General} General reference to a serious or critical condition/injury that is life-threatening with a substantial risk of death		
D13_2 {NearFatalities_Specific} Specific injury or specific medical treatment/intervention		
D13_2_other {NearFatalities_SpecificSpecify} Specify injury or medical treatment or intervention (open-text response)		
D13_99 {NearFatalities_Other} Other		
D13_99_other {NearFatalities_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		

D14.   {NearFatalitiesReview} Does the state conduct case reviews with a review team or similar review process for near-fatalies caused by child abuse or neglect?

No 0

Yes, reviews are required of all or some cases..1

Yes, reviews can be conducted but are not required 2

Unknown 88

Other 99

D14_99_other {NearFatalitiesReview_OtherSpec} Other – specify (open-text response)

Domain R: Laws or policies related to reporting child maltreatment

R1.   {CentralizedReporting} Does the state have centralized reporting (one statewide hotline) for making reports of child maltreatment?

No 0

Yes...1

Other 99

R1_99_other {CentralizedReporting_Specify} Other – specify (open-text response)

[ASK IF R1 = 0]

R1_2.   {DecentralizedReporting} How is reporting decentralized?

Each county or region has its own reporting hotline..1

Some counties or regions have own reporting hotline..2

During some times of the day, counties or regions have their own reporting hotline 3

Other 99

R1_2_99_other {DecentralizedReporting_Specify} Other – specify (open-text response)

R2.   What is the standard (regarding knowledge or reasonable cause) for reporting child maltreatment? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
R2_1 {ReportStandard_Known} Known abuse and neglect		
R2_2 {ReportStandard_ReasonCause} Reasonable cause to believe a child was abused and neglected		

R3.   {UniversalMandatedReporting} Does the state have universal mandated reporting for all adults?

No 0

Yes...1

[ASK IF R3 = 0]

R3_1. For each type of individual listed below, identify those who are included in the state's definition of mandated reporter. (Check all that apply.)

Types of mandated reporters specified in the state's laws or policies:

	Yes = 1	No = 0
R3_1_1 {Reporter_FosterParent} Foster parents		
R3_1_2 {Reporter_TeacherSchool} School teachers, administrators, or other staff		
R3_1_3 {Reporter_BusDriver} School bus drivers or other transportation staff		
R3_1_4 {Reporter_AfterSchool} Before/after school program staff		
R3_1_5 {Reporter_ChildcareStaff} Child care staff		
R3_1_6 {Reporter_CampStaff} Camp counselors, directors, or administrators		
R3_1_7 {Reporter_Coach} Athletic coaches or staff		
R3_1_8 {Reporter_MedicalDental} Medical or dental professionals		
R3_1_9 {Reporter_SUDProvider} Substance use disorder treatment providers		
R3_1_10 {Reporter_MHProf} Mental health providers, counselors, or other social service professionals		
R3_1_11 {Reporter_Police} Police or other law enforcement		
R3_1_12 {Reporter_EMTEmergency} Emergency medical technicians, firefighters, or other emergency personnel		
R3_1_13 {Reporter_Judges} Judges		
R3_1_14 {Reporter_DAAttorneys} District attorneys or other attorneys		
R3_1_15 {Reporter_GALCASA} Guardian ad litems or Court-appointed special advocates		
R3_1_16 {Reporter_OtherCourt} Other court personnel		
R3_1_17 {Reporter_ShelterStaff} Shelter staff		
R3_1_18 {Reporter_Images} Those who work in fields processing or monitoring print, film, or computer images		
R3_1_19 {Reporter_Clergy} Religious clergy		
R3_1_20 {Reporter_Volunteer} Volunteers		
R3_1_21 {Reporter_Coroner} Coroner or medical examiner		
R3_1_22 {Reporter_StateCountyAgency} Staff or contractor of state or county agencies		
R3_1_99 {Reporter_Other} Other type of mandated reporter		
R3_1_99_other {Reporter_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		

R4.　{ReporterTrainingReq} Is training required of any of the mandated reporters?

No 0

Yes, all mandated reporters..1

Yes, some mandated reporters...2

Unknown 88

[ASK IF R4 = 2]

R4_1. Identify which type of mandated reporters require training? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66	Unknown = 88
R4_1_1 {ReporterTraining_FosterParent} Foster parents				
R4_1_2 {ReporterTraining_TeacherSchool} School teachers, administrators, or other staff				
R4_1_3 {ReporterTraining_BusDriver} School bus drivers or other transportation staff				
R4_1_4 {ReporterTraining_AfterSchool} Before/after school program staff				
R4_1_5 {ReporterTraining_ChildcareStaff} Child care staff				
R4_1_6 {ReporterTraining_CampStaff} Camp counselors, directors, or administrators				
R4_1_7 {ReporterTraining_Coach} Athletic coaches or staff				
R4_1_8 {ReporterTraining_MedicalDental} Medical or dental professionals				
R4_1_9 {ReporterTraining_SUDProvider} Substance use disorder treatment providers				
R4_1_10 {ReporterTraining_MHProf} Mental health, counselors, or other social service professionals				
R4_1_11 {ReporterTraining_Police} Police or other law enforcement				
R4_1_12 {ReporterTraining_EMTEmergency} Emergency medical technicians, firefighters, or other emergency personnel				
R4_1_13 {ReporterTraining_Judges} Judges				
R4_1_14 {ReporterTraining_DAAttorneys} District attorneys or other attorneys				
R4_1_15 {ReporterTraining_GALCASA} Guardian ad litems or Court-appointed special advocates				
R4_1_16 {ReporterTraining_OtherCourt} Other court personnel				

*New question or response category for SCAN Policies Database 2023.

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66	Unknown = 88
R4_1_17 {Reporter_ShelterStaff} Shelter staff				
R4_1_18 {ReporterTraining_Images} Those who work in fields processing or monitoring print, film, or computer images				
R4_1_19 {ReporterTraining_Clergy} Religious clergy				
R4_1_20 {ReporterTraining_Volunteer} Volunteers				
R4_1_21 {ReporterTraining_Coroner} Coroner or medical examiner				
R4_1_22 {ReporterTraining_StateCntyAgency} Staff or contractor of state or county agencies				
R4_1_99 {ReporterTraining_Other} Other type of mandated reporter				
R4_1_99_other {ReporterTraining_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)				

R5.   {ReporterPenalty} Are there penalties for failure to report abuse and neglect?

No 0

Yes, all adults..1

Yes, all mandated reporters..2

Yes, some mandated reporters...3

[ASK IF R5 = 3]

R5_1. Which mandated reporters are subject to penalties for failing to report child abuse and neglect? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
R5_1_1 {ReporterPenalty_FosterParent} Foster parents			
R5_1_2 {ReporterPenalty_TeacherSchool} School teachers, administrators, or other staff			
R5_1_3 {ReporterPenalty_BusDriver} School bus drivers or other transportation staff			
R5_1_4 {ReporterPenalty_AfterSchool} Before/after school program staff			
R5_1_5 {ReporterPenalty_ChildcareStaff} Child care staff			
R5_1_6 {ReporterPenalty_CampStaff} Camp counselors, directors, or administrators			
R5_1_7 {ReporterPenalty_Coach} Athletic coaches or staff			
R5_1_8 {ReporterPenalty_MedicalDental} Medical or dental professionals			

*New question or response category for SCAN Policies Database 2023.   17

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
R5_1_9 {ReporterPenalty_SUDProvider} Substance use disorder treatment providers			
R5_1_10 {ReporterPenalty_MHProf} Mental health, counselors, or other social service professionals			
R5_1_11 {ReporterPenalty_Police} Police or other law enforcement			
R5_1_12 {ReporterPenalty_EMTEmergency} Emergency medical technicians, firefighters, or other emergency personnel			
R5_1_13 {ReporterPenalty_Judges} Judges			
R5_1_14 {ReporterPenalty_DAAttorneys} District attorneys or other attorneys			
R5_1_15 {ReporterPenalty_GALCASA} Guardian ad litems or Court-appointed special advocates			
R5_1_16 {ReporterPenalty_OtherCourt} Other court personnel			
R5_1_17 {ReporterPenalty_ShelterStaff} Shelter staff			
R5_1_18 {ReporterPenalty_Images} Those who work in fields processing or monitoring print, film, or computer images			
R5_1_19 {ReporterPenalty_Clergy} Religious clergy			
R5_1_20 {ReporterPenalty_Volunteer} Volunteers			
R5_1_21 {ReporterPenalty_Coroner} Coroner or medical examiner			
R5_1_22 {ReporterPenalty_StateCntyAgency} Staff or contractor of state or county agencies			
R5_1_99 {ReporterPenalty_Other} Other type of mandated reporter			
R5_1_99_other {ReporterPenalty_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)			

[ASK IF R5=1, 2, or 3]

R5_2. What are the penalties for failure to report abuse and neglect? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
R5_2_1 {Penalty_Criminal} Criminal charges		
R5_2_2 {Penalty_Civil} Civil charges		
R5_2_3 {Penalty_Professional} Professional licensure suspended or revoked		
R5_2_99 {Penalty_Other} Other		
R5_2_99_other {Penalty_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		

*New question or response category for SCAN Policies Database 2023.

R6.   {FalseReportPenalty} Are there penalties for false reporting of abuse and neglect?

No 0

Yes...1

[ASK IF R6 = 1]

R6_1. What are the penalties for false reporting of abuse and neglect? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
R6_1_1 {FalseReportPenalty_Criminal} Criminal charges			
R6_1_2 {FalseReportPenalty_Civil} Civil charges			
R6_1_3 {FalseReportPenalty_Professional} Professional licensure suspended or revoked			
R6_1_99 {FalseReportPenalty_Other} Other			
R6_1_99_other {FalseReportPenalty_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)			

R7.   {ReportImmunity} Is there immunity from criminal or civil penalties for reporters of suspected child abuse and neglect?

No 0

Yes...1

R8.   What information is requested at the time of report regarding the suspected child abuse and neglect? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
R8_1 {ReportInfo_ChildIdentity} Identifying and other information of child		
R8_2 {ReportInfo_ChildLocationContact} Location/contact information of child and family		
R8_3 {ReportInfo_Maltreatment} Information about type of suspected maltreatment		
R8_4 {ReportInfo_MaltreatmentDate} Information about date of suspected maltreatment		
R8_5 {ReportInfo_Perpetrator} Identifying and other information of alleged perpetrator(s)		
R8_6 {ReportInfo_Reporter} Identifying and other information of reporter		
R8_7 {ReportInfo_Parent} Identifying and other information of child's parents, guardian, or caregiver/caretaker		
R8_8 {ReportInfo_FamilyMember} Identifying and other information of family/household members		
R8_9 {ReportInfo_PriorMaltreatment} Information known about ongoing or prior maltreatment of the child or child's siblings		
R8_99 {ReportInfo_Other} Other		
R8_99_other {ReportInfo_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		

R9.   {ReportAnonymous} When making a report of suspected child abuse and neglect, can the reporter remain anonymous (reporter's name not required)?

Yes, all reporters (including mandated reporters) can remain anonymous...................1

Sometimes, the general public can be anonymous (mandated reporters cannot remain anonymous)...2

No, reporters (including mandated reporters) cannot be anonymous..........................3

R10.   {TribalReport} Are Tribes involved in the state's public child welfare agency process to accept reports of Tribal cases? If yes, specify Tribe(s) if known.

No, Tribes are not involved...0

Yes, Tribes directly accept reports..1

Yes, collaboration of Tribes with state/local public child welfare agency to accept reports 2

Yes, Tribes accept directly reports and collaborate with state/local public child welfare agency 3

No, there are no Tribes within the state*..4

[ASK IF R10 = 1, 2, or 3]

R10_1. {TribalReport_Specify} Specify Tribes involved in accepting reports

R11.   Does the state require all notifications of substance-exposed newborns to be submitted as reports of child maltreatment?

	Yes = 1	No = 0
R11_0 {SENNotificationReport_No} No, states do not require all cases of SENS to be reported for child maltreatment, but they could be reported if they meet certain criteria (such as when there is also an allegation of child maltreatment or risk of harm)		
R11_1 {SENNotificationReport_YesAll} Yes, state requires all substance-exposed newborns to be reported as child maltreatment		
R11_99 {SENNotificationReport_Other} Other		
R11_99_other {SENNotificationReport_OtherSpec} Other – specify (open-text response)		

R12.   {RiskOnlyReport} Can reports of risk be made without an allegation of child maltreatment? (These can be referred to as "risk-only" or "no allegation" reports or reports of children "at risk.")

No 0

Yes...1

Other 99

R12_99_other {RiskOnlyReport_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)

Domain S: Laws or policies related to screening reports of child maltreatment

S1.   {CentralScreen} Does the state have a centralized screening unit (one statewide unit to screen all reports) for child maltreatment?

No 0

Yes...1

[ASK IF S1 = 0]

S1_1.   {DecentralScreen} How is screening decentralized?

Each county or region has its own screening unit 1

Some counties or regions have their own screening units 2

During certain times of the day, counties or regions have their own screening units....3

S2.   What information is required to screen in a report of suspected child abuse or neglect? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
S2_1 {ScreenInfo_ChildName} Name, age, demographic or other identifying information of child		
S2_2 {ScreenInfo_ChildAddr} Address, contact information or other locating information child		
S2_3 {ScreenInfo_MalType} Type and severity of suspected maltreatment		
S2_4 {ScreenInfo_MalDate} Date of suspected maltreatment		
S2_5 {ScreenInfo_Perp} Identify, relationship to child, and locating information of alleged perpetrator		
S2_99 {ScreenInfo_Other}		
S2_99_other {ScreenInfo_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		

S3.   What decision process is used during screening? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
S3_1 {ScreenProcess_SupReview} Supervisory review		
S3_2 {ScreenProcess_Team} Team-based decision		
S3_3 {ScreenProcess_Individual} Individual staff or screener makes screening decision		
S3_99 {ScreenProcess_Other} Other		
S3_99_other {ScreenProcess_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		
S3_88 {ScreenProcess_Unknown} Unknown [*EXCLUSIVE*]		

[ASK FOR EACH VARIABLE IF S3_* = 1]

S3_4. {S3_4 (1,2,3,99)} For [FILL S3 ITEM], is this decision process required for all cases or only certain conditions or types of maltreatment?

Required for all cases..1

Required only for certain cases 2

S4. {ScreenProcess_Statewide} Is the decision process used for screening consistent statewide or does it vary locally?

Consistent statewide 1

Varies locally 2

S5. {ScreenRequired} Are certain activities or information required as part of the screening process?

No 0

Yes..1

[ASK IF S5 = 1, OTHERWISE SKIP TO S6]

S5_1. What activities or information are required as part of screening? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
S5_1_1 {ScreenReq_RiskAssess} Safety or risk assessment		
S5_1_2 {ScreenReq_PriorCPS} Review agency records for prior involvement with child protective services		
S5_1_99 {ScreenReq_Other} Other		
S5_1_99_other {ScreenReq_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		

[ASK FOR EACH VARIABLE IF S5_1_* = 1]

S5_2. {S5_2_(1, 2, 99)} For [FILL S5_1 ITEM], is the screening activity or information required for all cases or only certain conditions or types of maltreatment?

Required for all cases..1

Required only for certain cases 2

[ASK IF S5_2 = 2]

S5_2_1_1 {ScreenReq_RiskAssessCase_Specify} Specify what conditions or types of cases the screening activity or information is required?

S5_2_2_1 {ScreenReq_PriorCPSCases_Specify} Specify what conditions or types of cases the screening activity or information is required?

*New question or response category for SCAN Policies Database 2023.

22

S5_2_99_1 {ScreenReq_OtherCases_Specify} Specify what conditions or types of cases the screening activity or information is required?

[ASK IF S5_1_1 = 1]

S5_3. What types of safety or risk assessment tools or procedures are used as part of screening? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
S5_3_1 {ScreenRiskAssess_SDM} Structured Decision Making			
S5_3_99 {ScreenRiskAssess_Other} Other			
S5_3_99_other {ScreenRiskAssess_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)			

S6. {ScreenInfo_Statewide} Are the activities/information required for screening consistent statewide or does it vary locally?

Consistent statewide 1

Varies locally. 2

S6_2_other {ScreenInfo_VaryLocalSpecify} Variation – specify (open-text response)

S7. Who conducts screening of reports of abuse and neglect? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
S7_1 {Screener_Caseworker} Case workers (frontline staff)		
S7_2 {Screener_Supervisor} Case managers (supervisors)		
S7_3 {Screener_SpecialUnit} Staff in specialized screening unit or roles		
S7_99 {Screener_Other} Other		
S7_99_other {Screener_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		

S8. What are the qualifications of the staff who screen reports of child abuse and neglect? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
S8_1 {ScreenerQual_Associate} Associate's degree		
S8_2 {ScreenerQual_Bachelor} Bachelor's degree		
S8_3 {ScreenerQual_Master} Master's degree		
S8_4 {ScreenerQual_Training} Training for screening		
S8_4_other {ScreenerQual_TrainingSpecify} Training – specify (open-text response)		
S8_5 {ScreenerQual_Experience} Experience		

*New question or response category for SCAN Policies Database 2023.

	Yes = 1	No = 0
S8_5_other {ScreenerQual_ExperienceSpecify} Experience – specify (open-text response)		
S8_99 {ScreenerQual_Other} Other		
S8_99_other {ScreenerQual_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		

[ASK IF S8_1, S8_2 or S8_3 = 1]

S8_1_1 {ScreenerQual_SW} Is a degree in social work or a related field recommended or required?

No 0

Yes, required...1

Yes, recommented or preferred, but not required 2

Other 99

S8_1_1_99_other {ScreenerQual_SW_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)

S9. {TribalScreen} Are Tribes involved in the state's public child welfare agency process to screen reports of Tribal cases? If yes, specify Tribe(s) if known.

No, Tribes are not involved...0

Yes, Tribes directly conduct screening 1

Yes, collaboration of Tribes with state/local public child welfare agency. 2

Yes, Tribes directly conduct screening and and collaborate with state/local public child welfare agency 3

No, there are no Tribes within the state*...4

[ASK IF S9 = 1, 2, or 3]

S9_1 {TribalScreen_Specify} Specify Tribes involved in screening

*New question or response category for SCAN Policies Database 2023.   24

Domain I: Laws or policies related to investigation of child maltreatment reports

I1.   {InvPenalty_Criminal} Can child maltreatment investigations lead to criminal penalties?

   No 0

   Yes..1

I2.   {InvestigationReq} Are certain activities or information required as part of the investigation process?

   No 0

   Yes..1

[ASK IF I2 = 1]

I2_1.   What activities or information are required as part of the investigation? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
I2_1_1 {InvestReq_PriorCPS} Review agency records for prior involvement with child protective services		
I2_1_2 {InvestReq_HomeVisit} Visit to child's home		
I2_1_3 {InvestReq_Victim} Interview or observation of child victim		
I2_1_4 {InvestReq_OtherChild} Interview or observation of other children living in child's home		
I2_1_5 {InvestReq_RiskAssess} Risk or safety assessment		
I2_1_6 {InvestReq_HomeStudy} Evaluation of home environment or home study		
I2_1_7 {InvestReq_Parent} Interviews with child's parents, caregivers, or other adults residing in child's home		
I2_1_8 {InvestReq_PerpCrim} Check of criminal records for perpetrator or other adults in home		
I2_1_9 {InvestReq_PerpPriorCPS} Check of child welfare agency records or central registry for prior child maltreatment allegations of perpetrator or other adults in home		
I2_1_10 {InvestReq_MedEval} Medical evaluation		
I2_1_11 {InvestReq_MHEval} Mental health evaluation		
I2_1_12 {InvestReq_PerpInterview} Interview alleged perpetrator		
I2_1_13 {InvestReq_Reporter} Interview reporter or collateral source		
I2_1_99 {InvestReq_Other} Other		
I2_1_99_other {InvestReq_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		

*New question or response category for SCAN Policies Database 2023.

[ASK FOR EACH VARIABLE IN I2_1_* = 1]

I2_2.   {I2_2_(1-13,99)} Is the investigation activity or information required for all reports or only certain conditions or types of maltreatment?

Required for all reports 1
Required only for certain reports..2
Unknown 88

[ASK IF I2_2 = 2]

I2_3   {I2_3_(1-13,99)} Specify what conditions or types of cases the investigation activity or information is required?

I3.   Who conducts investigations of reports? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
I3_1 {InvestStaff_Caseworker} Case workers (frontline staff)		
I3_2 {InvestStaff_Supervisor} Case managers (supervisors)		
I3_3 {InvestStaff_SpecialUnit} Staff in specialized investigations unit or roles		
I3_4 {InvestStaff_LawEnforcement} Law enforcement		
I3_99 {InvestStaff_Other} Other		
I3_99_other {InvestStaff_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		

I4.   What are the qualifications of the staff who conduct investigations of reports? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
I4_1 {InvestQual_Associate} Associate's degree		
I4_2 {InvestQual_Bachelor} Bachelor's degree		
I4_3 {InvestQual_Master} Master's degree		
I4_4 {InvestQual_Training} Training for conducting investigations		
I4_4_other {InvestQual_TrainingSpecify} Training – specify (open-text response)		
I4_5 {InvestQual_Experience} Years of experience		
I4_5_other {InvestQual_ExperienceSpecify} Experience – specify (open-text response)		
I4_99 {InvestQual_Other} Other		
I4_99_other {InvestQual_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		

[ASK IF I4_1, I4_2 or I4_3 = 1]

I4_1_1 {InvestQual_SW} Is a degree in social work or a related field recommended or required?

No 0

Yes, required 1

Yes, recommended or preferred, but not required 2

Other 99

I4_1_1_99_other {InvestQual_SW_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)

I5.   {EvidenceLevel} What level of evidence is required for substantiation of child maltreatment (if report was founded, indicated, or confirmed)?

Preponderance of evidence...1

Credible or substantial evidence..2

Probable or reasonable cause..3

I6.   {InvestInconclusive} Can an investigation determination result in an "inconclusive" finding?

No 0

Yes..1

Domain W: Laws or policies related to child welfare response

W1.   {AlternativeResponse} Does the state have differential or alternative response?

No 0

Yes—implemented statewide 1

Yes—implemented in specific counties or regions 2

W1_other {AlternativeResp_VaryLocalSpecify} Local – specify (open-text response)

[ASK IF W1 =1 or 2]

W1_1. {AltResp_EligibilityMaltreatment} Is eligibility for differential or alternative response limited to only certain types of maltreatment?

All types of maltreatment are eligible 0

Only certain types of maltreatment are eligible 1

[Ask if W1_1 = 1]

W1_2. What types of alleged maltreatment are not eligible for differential or alternative response? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
W1_2_1 {AltResp_Inelig_Fatality} Cases involving child fatalities			
W1_2_2 {AltResp_Inelig_SubExposed} Substance-exposed newborns			
W1_2_3 {AltResp_Inelig_PhysicalAbuse} Physical abuse			
W1_2_4 {AltResp_Inelig_SexAbuse} Sexual abuse			
W1_2_5 {AltResp_Inelig_Neglect} Neglect			
W1_2_6 {AltResp_Inelig_Abandoned} Abandoned infants			
W1_2_99 {AltResp_Inelig_Other} Other			
W1_2_99_other {AltResp_Inelig_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)			

[ASK IF W1 = 1 or 2]

W1_3. {AltResp_EligibilityRiskDet} Is eligibility for differential or alternative response informed by a risk determination?

No 0

Yes..1

[ASK IF W1_3 = 1]

W1_4. {AltResp_EligibilityRiskTool} Is a tool used to determine risk for eligibility for differential or alternative response?

No 0

Yes...1

W1_4_other {AltResp_EligibilityRiskToolSpec} Tool – specify (open-text response)

Unknown 88

W1_5. What risk level is eligible for differential or alternative response? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
W1_5_0 {AltResp_EligibilityRisk_No} No risk			
W1_5_1 {AltResp_EligibilityRisk_Low} Low risk			
W1_5_2 {AltResp_EligibilityRisk_Moderate} Moderate risk			
W1_5_99 {AltResp_EligibilityRisk_Other} Other			
W1_5_99_other {AltResp_EligibilityRiskOtherSpec} Other – specify (open-text response)			
W1_5_88 {AltResp_EligibilityRisk_Unknown} Unknown *[EXCLUSIVE]*			

[ASK IF W1=1 or 2]

W1_6. What other types of cases or conditions are eligible for referral to differential or alternative response? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
W1_6_0 {AltResp_Eligibility_NoOtherCases} No other cases or conditions *[EXCLUSIVE]*			
W1_6_1 {AltResp_Eligibility_NoSafetyCon} No immediate safety concerns			
W1_6_2 {AltResp_Eligibility_PriorReports} No or few prior reports of child abuse or neglect			
W1_6_99 {AltResp_Eligibility_Other} Other			
W1_6_99_other {AltResp_Eligibility_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)			

[ASK IF W1=1 or 2]

W1_7. Where in the process is the determination for referral to differential or alternative response? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
W1_7_1 {AltResp_Process_AtScreening} At time of screening to screen-out to differential response			
W1_7_2 {AltResp_Process_AfterScreenIn} After a report is screened-in			
W1_7_99 {AltResp_Process_Other} Other			
W1_7_99_other {AltResp_Process_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)			

[ASK IF W1=1 or 2]

W2. For cases engaged in differential or alternative response, are referrals provided to community services? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
W2_0 {AltResp_ServiceReferral_No} No [*EXCLUSIVE*]			
W2_1 {AltResp_ServiceReferral_AllCases} Yes—for all cases			
W2_2 {AltResp_ServiceReferral_Interest} Yes—when families express an interest			
W2_3 {AltResp_ServiceReferral_Risk} Yes—when there is a determination of risk			
W2_4 {AltResp_ServiceReferralOther} Yes—other			
W2_4_other {AltResp_ServiceReferralOtherSpec} Other – specify (open-text response)			

W3. {InHome_Unsubstantiated} Does the child welfare agency provide in-home services for unsubstantiated cases to address needs to maintain intact families?

No 0

Yes—implemented statewide 1

Yes—implemented in specific counties or regions.. 2

Unknown 88

W4.   {InHome_PostReunification} Does the child welfare agency provide in-home services post reunification?

   No 0

   Yes—implemented statewide 1

   Yes—implemented in specific counties or regions…..................................2

W5.   {TribalFoster} Are Tribes within the state involved in providing foster care for Tribal cases? If yes, specify Tribe(s) if known.

   No, Tribes within the state do not provide foster care 0

   Yes, Tribes within the state provide foster care 1

   No, there are no Tribes within the state*...2

[ASK IF W5 = 1]

W5_1. {TribalFoster_Specify} Specify Tribes that provide foster care

W5_2. {Tribe_IVE} Are there any Tribes that directly operate a Title IV-E program (i.e., they have an HHS-approved plan and receive Title IV-E funds directly from the federal government)?*

   No 0

   Yes..1

[ASK IF W5_2 = 1]

{Tribe_IVE_Number} Specify the number of Tribes that operate a Title IV-E program. (numeric whole number response)*

{Tribe_IVE_Specify} Specify the name of the Tribe(s) that operates a Title IV-E program. (open-text response)*

W5_3. {ICWAState} Are federal ICWA requirements codified in state law?*

    No 0

    Yes...1

[ASK IF W5_3=1]

W5_3_1. Which of the following federal ICWA requirements are codified in state law? (Check all that apply.)*

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
{ICWAState_TribalStatus} Identifying a child's Tribal status			
{ICWAState_ActiveEfforts} Use of active efforts to prevent removal and reunite families			
{ICWAState_Notification} Notification of child's parents and Tribe for child custody proceedings (such as for foster care placement or termination of parental rights)			
{ICWAState_Custody} Actively working to involve a child's parents and Tribe during the custody proceedings			
{ICWAState_Placement} Identifying a foster care or pre-adoptive placement using ICWA preference provisions			
{ICWAState_Expert} Use of qualified expert witnesses			

[ASK IF W5_3=1]

W5_3_2. {ICWAState_StateRecTribes} Does the state law codifying ICWA apply to state-recognized Tribes, which may include Tribes that are not federally-recognized?*

    No 0

    Yes...1

W6. {ExtendedFosterCare} Does the state extend foster care for those older than 18 years old?

    No 0

    Yes...1

    Other*...99

    {ExtendedFosterCare_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)*

[ASK IF W6 = 1]

W6_1. {ExtendedFosterCare_Age} To what age does the state child welfare agency allow youth to remain in extended foster care?

Up to Age 21 (until 21st birthday) 1

Other 99

W6_1_99_other {ExtendedFosterCare_Age_OtherSpec} Other – specify (open-text response)

W6_2. {ExtFosterCare_Request} Does the state require youth to proactively request, provide consent, or opt in to receive extended foster care?*

No 0

Yes...1

Other 99

{ExtFosterCare_Request_OtherSpec} Other – specify (open-text response)

W6_3. What criteria does the state have for youth to remain in extended foster care? (Check all that apply.)*

	Yes = 1	No = 0
{ExtFosterCare_Criteria_None} There are no criteria [*EXCLUSIVE*]		
{ExtFosterCare_Criteria_School} Enrolled in school		
{ExtFosterCare_Criteria_Employed} Employed		
{ExtFosterCare_Criteria_Training} Participating in workforce development or training program		
{ExtFosterCare_Criteria_Plan} Comply with independent living or self-sufficiency plan		
{ExtFosterCare_Criteria_Services} Receive independent living or other services		
{ExtFosterCare_Criteria_Exempt} Medical condition/exemption		
{ExtFosterCare_Criteria_Other} Other		
{ExtFosterCare_Criteria_OtherSpec} Other – specify (open-text response)		

W6_4. {ExtFosterCare_Reentry} Does the state allow youth who age out of or leave foster care to reenter into extended foster care (after age 18)?*

No 0

Yes...1

Unknown 88

[ASK if W6_4 = 1]

W6_4_1. Under what conditions are youth allowed to reenter extended foster care? (Check all that apply.)*

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
{ExtFosterCare_Reentry_Consent} Youth consent or sign a voluntary placement agreement			
{ExtFosterCare_Reentry_Plan} Youth develop an independent living plan			
{ExtFosterCare_Reentry_Best} It is in the best interest of the youth			
{ExtFosterCare_Reentry_Other} Other			
{ExtFosterCare_Reentry_OtherSpec} Other – specify (open-text response)			

W7.　{KinGuardianship} Does the state have kinship guardianship as a permanency option?

  No 0
  Yes...1

W8.　{SubGuardianship} Does the state have subsidized guardianship?

  No 0
  Yes...1

W9.　{SubKinGuardianship} Does the state have subsidized kinship guardianship?

  No 0
  Yes...1

W10.　{SubAdoption} Does the state have subsidized adoption?

  No 0
  Yes...1

W11.   Who conducts foster care case management? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
W11_1 {CaseManagement_State} State or county public agency staff		
W11_2 {CaseManagement_Provider} Contracted provider staff		
W11_3 {CaseManagement_Tribal} Tribal agency staff		

W12.   What are the required qualifications of foster care case managers? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
W12_1 {CaseManagerQual_Associate} Associate's degree		
W12_2 {CaseManagerQual_Bachelor} Bachelor's degree		
W12_3 {CaseManagerQual_Master} Master's degree		
W12_4 {CaseManagerQual_Training} Training for case management		
W12_4_other {CaseManagerQual_TrainingSpecify} Training – specify (open-text response)		
W12_5 {CaseManagerQual_Experience} Years of experience		
W12_5_other {CaseManagerQual_ExperienceSpec} Experience – specify (open-text response)		
W12_99 {CaseManagerQual_Other} Other		
W12_99_other {CaseManagerQual_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)		

[ASK IF W12_1, W12_2 or W12_3 = 1]

W12_1_1 {CaseManagerQual_SW} Is a degree in social work or a related field recommended or required?

No 0

Yes, required..1

Yes, recommended or preferred, but not required 2

Other 99

W12_1_1_99_other {CaseManagerQual_SW_OtherSpec} Other – specify (open-text response)

W13.   Does the child welfare agency use staff roles or functions specifically dedicated to addressing disproportionality and/or equity? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0
W13_0 {EquityStaffRole_No} No [*EXCLUSIVE*]		
W13_1 {EquityStaffRole_CulturalBroker} Yes, cultural brokers		
W13_2 {EquityStaffRole_Manager} Yes, manager, administrator, or office focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) or multicultural or Tribal affairs		
W13_99 {EquityStaffRole_Other} Other		
W13_88 {EquityStaffRole_Unknown} Unknown [*EXCLUSIVE*]		

[ASK IF W13_1 = 1]

What aspects of the process are cultural brokers involved in? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
W13_1_1 {CulturalBroker_Screening} Screening process			
W13_1_2 {CulturalBroker_Investigation} Investigation process			
W13_1_3 {CulturalBroker_CaseMgmt} Case management/child welfare response			
W13_1_99 {CulturalBroker_Other} Other			
W13_1__99_other {CulturalBroker_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)			

[ASK IF W13_2 = 1 or W13_99 = 1]
W13_2_1. {EquityStaff_Specify} Specify their staff role/job function. [open text response]

[ASK IF W13_2 = 1 or W13_99 = 1]
What aspects of the process are these staff involved in? (Check all that apply.)

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
W13_2_2_1 {EquityStaff_Screening} Screening process			
W13_2_2_2 {EquityStaff_Investigation} Investigation process			
W13_2_2_3 {EquityStaff_CaseMgmt} Case management or child welfare response			
W13_2_2_99 {EquityStaff_Other} Other			
W13_2_2_99_other {EquityStaff_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)			

W14.   {AntiDiscrim}. Does the state have anti-discrimination law, policy, or official statement that prohibit discrimination by the child welfare agency (including agency staff or their contractors) against children, youth, or families involved in the child welfare system?*

No 0

Yes..1

[ASK IF W14 = 1]

W14_1. What characteristics of children, youth, or families are described by the anti-discrimination law, policy, or official statement? (Check all that apply)*

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
{AntiDiscrim_Age} Age			
{AntiDiscrim_Race} Race and ethnicity			
{AntDiscrim_Tribal} Tribal affiliation			
{AntiDiscrim_Gender} Gender identity or expression			
{AntiDiscrim_SexualOrientation} Sexual orientation			
{AntiDiscrim_Sex} Sex			
{AntiDiscrim_Disablility} Disability			
{AntiDiscrim_Religion} Religion			
{AntiDiscrim_National} National origin			
{AntiDiscrim_Poverty} Poverty			
{AntiDiscrim_Marital} Marital status			
{AntiDiscrim_Crim} Justice involvement or criminal history			
{AntiDiscrim_Color} Color			
{AntiDiscrim_Ancestry} Ancestry			
{AntiDiscrim_Political} Political beliefs or affiliations			
{AntiDiscrim_Military} Military or veteran status			
{AntiDiscrim_Genetic} Genetic information			
{AntiDiscrim_Familial} Familial status			
{AntiDiscrim_Other} Other			
{AntiDiscrim_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)			
{AntiDiscrim_Unknown} Unknown [*EXCLUSIVE*]			

*New question or response category for SCAN Policies Database 2023.

[ASK IF ANY VARIABLE IN W14_1 = 1, EXCEPT {AntiDiscrim_Unknown}]

W14_2. Who are the children, youth, or families covered by the anti-discrimination law, policy, or official statement? (Check all that apply.)*

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
{AntiDiscrim_Who_All} All children, youth, and families engaged in the child welfare system			
{AntiDiscrim_Who_Some} Specific children, youth, or families engaged in the child welfare system			
{AntiDiscrim_Who_SomeSpecify} Specify (open-text response)			

[ASK IF {AntiDiscrim_Who_All} and {AntiDiscrim_Who_Some} = 1]

W14_3. {AntiDiscrim_Who_Vary} Is there any variation by characteristics regarding the children, youth, or families covered by the anti-discrimination law, policy, or official statement?*

No 0
Yes...1

[ASK IF W14_3= 1]

{AntiDiscrim_Who_VarySpecify} Specify the variation by characteristics for the children, youth, or families covered by the anti-discrimination law, policy, or official statement. (open-text response)*

[ASK IF ANY VARIABLE IN W14_1 = 1, EXCEPT {AntiDiscrim_Unknown}]

W14_4. Which decision points or parts of the process within the child welfare system does the anti-discrimination law, or policy, or official statement specifically apply? (Check all that apply.)*

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
{AntiDiscrim_Apply_All} Applies broadly to all decision points and parts of the child welfare system			
{AntiDiscrim_Apply_Some} Applies to specific decision points or parts of the child welfare system			
{AntiDiscrim_Apply_SomeSpecify} Specify (open-text response)			

*New question or response category for SCAN Policies Database 2023.   38

[ASK IF {AntiDiscrim_Apply_All} and {AntiDiscrim_Apply_Some} = 1]

W14_5. {AntiDiscrim_Apply_Vary} Is there any variation by characteristics regarding the decision points or parts of the child welfare system that the anti-discrimination law, policy, or official statement apply?*

No 0

Yes...1

[ASK IF W14_5= 1]

{AntiDiscrim_Apply_VarySpecify} Specify the variation by characteristics for the decision points or parts of the child welfare system that the anti-discrimination law, policy, or official statement apply. (open-text response)*

[ASK IF ANY VARIABLE IN W14_1 = 1, EXCEPT {AntiDiscrim_Unknown}]

W14_6. Which child welfare staff and providers are required to abide by the anti-discrimination law, policy, or official statement? (Check all that apply.)*

	Yes = 1	No = 0	Logical skip = 66
{AntiDiscrim_Staff_CWAgency} Child welfare agency staff working with children, youth, and families			
{AntiDiscrim_Staff_Contractor} Staff from contracted child welfare provider organizations (service providers, foster care provider organizations, etc.) working with children, youth, and families			
{AntiDiscrim_Staff_Foster} Foster parents and kinship caregivers			
{AntiDiscrim_Staff_Other} Other			
{AntiDiscrim_Staff_OtherSpecify} Other specify (open-text response)			

[ASK IF MULTIPLE VARIABLES IN W14_6 = 1]

W14_7. {AntiDiscrim_Staff_Vary} Is there any variation by characteristics regarding the child welfare agency staff, contractors, or others providing child welfare services who are required to abide by the anti-discrimination law, policy, or official statement?*

No 0

Yes...1

[ASK IF W14_7= 1]

{AntiDiscrim_Staff_VarySpecify} Specify the variation by characteristics for the child welfare agency staff, contractors, or others providing child welfare services who are required to abide by the anti-discrimination law, policy, or official statement. (open-text response)*

W14_8. {ReligiousObjections}. Does state law or policy allow child welfare contracted organizations (delivering foster care or other services) with sincerely held religious beliefs to withhold serving certain children or families due to religious objections (serving them would be against their religious beliefs)?*

No..0

Yes...1

Other..99

{ReligiousObjections_OtherSpecify} Other – specify (open-text response)

Unknown...88

Domain C: Context information regarding child welfare system

C1.   {CWSystemAdmin} Does the state operate a state-administered or county-administered child welfare system?

State-administered 1

County-administered 2

Hybrid (partially administered by the state and partially administered by the counties) 3

C2.   {ConsentDecree} Does the state operate under a legal consent decree or other court-ordered monitoring?

No 0

Yes...1

[ASK IF C2 = 1]

C2_1. {ConsentDecree_Specify} Specify the name of the court case/consent decree.

This page has been left blank for double-sided copying.

APPENDIX A

Glossary of Key Terms

This page has been left blank for double-sided copying.

Appendix A: Glossary of Key Terms

This glossary defines several key terms used in the SCAN Policies Database. The terms are organized alphabetically within each of the six topic domains, which reflect the organizational structure of the data file, codebook, and data collection protocol. This glossary is not an exhaustive list of all terms used in the database. Instead, it highlights several terms that may be unfamiliar to data users.

The SCAN Policies Database codebook (https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com/data-use-resources) also provides a resource for users to understand the definitions of specific variables. For more information about these or other child welfare terms, please refer to the glossary produced by the Child Welfare Information Gateway (https://www.childwelfare.gov/glossary/).

Alternative or differential response: An approach used by some child protection or child welfare agencies to provide different options to respond to reports of child abuse and neglect, other than an investigation to assess whether child maltreatment occurred. This response can be referred to as an alternative response, a differential response, or a dual-track or multiple-track response system. Different factors are used to determine eligibility for alternative or differential response. Such factors often include assessment of the level of risk for the child and the family's need for support services.

Anti-discrimination laws or policies: A state law, policy, or other official statement that prohibits discrimination against children, youth, or families involved in the child welfare system or other public programs. Any anti-discrimination law, policy, or statement established by a state department or agency that includes the child welfare agency would apply.

Centralized reporting: A child maltreatment reporting method, usually a hotline, designed to facilitate reporting to one entity that will accept reports of suspected child abuse and neglect from all locations across a state (see definition for *reporting*).

Consent decree: A legal order that results from a lawsuit against the child welfare agency. Consent decrees often have requirements for the child welfare agency to implement corrective actions and monitor improvements related to the reason for the lawsuit.

Cultural broker: A person who draws on established community relationships and provides culturally-sensitive brokering, support, and advocacy to families to who are involved with or at risk of being involved with the child welfare system. Cultural brokers also help identify and address concerns about disproportionality and disparities in the child welfare system.

Extended foster care: Foster care services provided to young adults aged 18 and older, which may include a voluntary placement or similar agreement[1]. For purposes of this project, extended foster care services are not limited to only those services funded by Title IV-E and may include services supported by other funding sources, such as state funding.

---

[1] For more information about extended foster care, please see the available resources from the Child Welfare Information Gateway at https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/laws-policies/statutes/extensionfc.

Factitious disorder by proxy: A type of child maltreatment, also known as Munchausen by proxy or medical child abuse, that results when a parent or caretaker misrepresents information, simulates an illness, or seeks medical treatment for a child who is not really sick with the alleged illness.

Failure to thrive: A type of child maltreatment that is a medically diagnosed condition in which a child fails to develop physically. Also referred to as nonorganic failure to thrive. This condition is typically indicated by a child's weight, height, and motor development falling significantly below age-appropriate ranges with no medical or organic cause.

Guardianship: A legal permanency option granted by the court when the parental rights of the child are transferred to an adult nonparent to serve as the child's caretaker.

Indian Child Welfare Act: The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) of 1978 is a federal law that governs the removal and out-of-home placement of American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) children and youth. ICWA sets minimum standards for states concerning the removal of AI/AN children and youth, placement preferences for family and Tribal members, and protections for parents when terminating parental rights. The law also specifies the roles of states and Tribal governments in these processes.[2]

In-home services: Services provided to children and families who were reported for alleged child maltreatment and determined as needing supports to address the children's safety needs. The children are not in foster care or in the custody of the child welfare agency. These services can be provided to children who are able to remain at home, without needing out-of-home or foster care, or to children who have been reunified with their families and returned home from being in out-of-home or foster care.

Institutional abuse or neglect: A type of child maltreatment that occurs while the child is in an institution, facility, or agency that is responsible for the child's welfare, such as foster care, out-of-home care, or any public or private residential home.

Investigation: A response by the child protection or child welfare agency that gathers information to determine whether the reported child maltreatment occurred. The investigation assesses whether child maltreatment occurred or whether the child is at risk of child maltreatment and results in a formal determination or disposition, such as whether or not the report of child maltreatment was substantiated (see definition for *substantiation*).

Kinship guardianship: State laws and policies that allow for a family member, or "kin", to become the legal permanent guardian for a child who has been placed in out-of-home or foster care (see definition for *guardianship*).

Mandated reporting: A state law requiring certain people to report known or suspected child abuse and neglect. Some states require all people to report child maltreatment (see *universal mandated reporting*), while other states identify specific professionals as mandated reporters (see definition for *reporting*).

---

[2] For more information about the Indian Child Welfare Act, please see the available resources from the Child Welfare Information Gateway at https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/tribal-child-welfare/indian-child-welfare-act/?top=1390.

Reporting: The process in which a person who knows of or suspects child abuse or neglect notifies authorities, such as child protection or child welfare agencies, of the alleged child maltreatment and provides information that is known about the alleged child victim, perpetrator, and child maltreatment.

Safe haven: A policy where a parent can voluntarily relinquish a child, usually a newborn, to lawfully designated locations, such as hospitals, fire stations, or other safe settings. When a child is safely surrendered in this way, the parent is protected from criminal prosecution. The voluntary relinquishment of a child that follows the safe haven policy requirements may be exempt from the state's definitions of child maltreatment.

Screening: The process in which child protection or child welfare agency staff review information received from a report of child maltreatment to determine whether there is sufficient information to accept or "screen-in" a report to pursue next steps, such as opening an investigation or referring the case for an alternative response. The screening process typically considers whether there is sufficient information about a variety of factors, including whether the report provides enough information to identify the alleged child victim and whether the alleged child maltreatment meets the state's definitions for child abuse or neglect.

Shaken baby syndrome: A type of child maltreatment that involves a serious head or brain injury resulting from violent shaking or impacting of the head of an infant or small child, which can result in death or permanent neurologic disability. Also known as abusive head trauma or shaking impact syndrome.

State- and county-administered child welfare systems: The framework for administration of child welfare services and programs, which can be administered at the state or county levels. State- administered systems are more centralized, while county-administered systems are decentralized and can have more variability across counties.

Subsidized adoption: State program that provides financial assistance or subsidies for caregivers to adopt children from foster care who have special needs.

Subsidized guardianship: State program that provides financial assistance or subsidies for caregivers who take legal guardianship of children (see definition for *guardianship*).

Substantiation: A decision made at the conclusion of an investigation of a report of alleged child maltreatment, when there is sufficient and credible evidence that the child maltreatment occurred or that there is risk of child maltreatment. The term for a substantiated investigation decision can vary by jurisdiction. It can also be referred to as a founded, indicated, or confirmed report of child maltreatment (see definition for *investigation*).

Title IV-E foster care program: Title IV-E of the Social Security Act provides federal funding for foster care—including maintenance expenses for eligible children and related administrative and training expenses—to states and Tribes with approved title IV-E plans.[3]

Tribes: The original or first inhabitants of North America and their communities, including Indigenous, First Nation, American Indian, Indian, Native American, Native, and Alaska Native communities. The project did not limit this definition to only federally recognized Tribes, so it is

---

[3] For more information about the title IV-E foster care program, please see the available resources from the Children's Bureau at https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/grant-funding/title-iv-e-foster-care.

inclusive of all Tribes based on each states' definitions and policies. Some Tribal lands span multiple states.

Universal mandated reporting: A state law that requires all people, regardless of profession, to report known or suspected child maltreatment (see definition for *reporting*).

This page has been left blank for double-sided copying.