

Early Childhood Success

Outcome:
Children Are
Healthy, Safe &
Nurtured

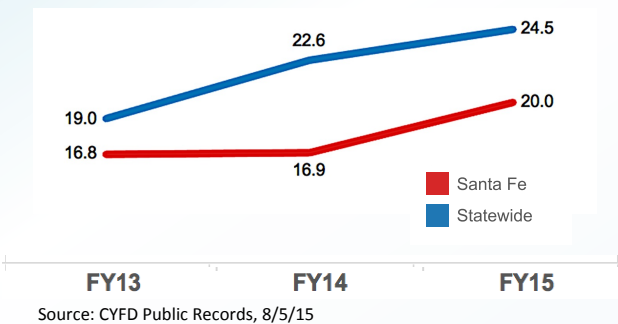
Indicator:
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect Cases
per 1,000 for Children Under 5

Where Is Santa Fe Now?

- Better than State (Nation: unknown)
- ▬ Worsened from Previous Year

How Are We Doing? Santa Fe's rate of substantiated child abuse and neglect is lower than the statewide average. However, the rate has increased substantially in the past year.

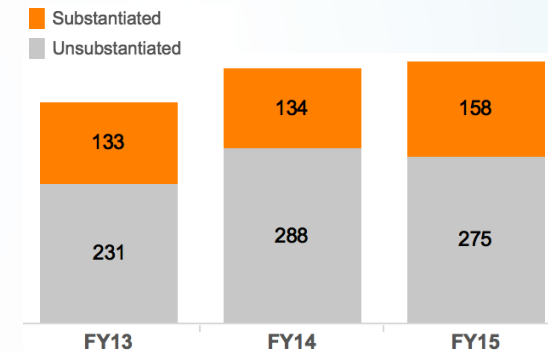
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect Cases per 1,000 for Children Under 5



20 per 1,000 substantiated child abuse and neglect cases in Santa Fe for children under 5 in 2015

158 total substantiated cases in 2015. (Additional 275 unsubstantiated cases)

Substantiated vs. Unsubstantiated Investigations



Substantiated cases rose in Santa Fe County in 2015 to 158 from 133 two years ago. The rate per thousand for Santa Fe County of 20.0 is below the statewide rate of 24.5 in 2015; however both are rising.

Unsubstantiated cases are also of concern, with many professionals suggesting that these cases may reflect family problems that have not fully escalated (Pew Home Visiting Data Initiative, December 2014).

Some stakeholders indicate potential opportunity to advocate for significant positive change with new leadership at New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) showing commitment to tackling Child Protective Services policies and practices.

Why is this important?

Any instance of child abuse and neglect is too many. Maltreatment and neglect of infants, toddlers and young children can have devastating effects on their development. Recently we have begun to learn so much more about the effects of trauma on very young children. The emerging studies about Adverse Childhood Experiences (or ACEs) bring into focus the often life-long negative effects of early maltreatment.