

July 27, 2012

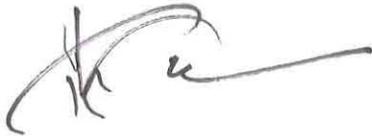
Patrick O'Donnell, Clerk of the Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 2018  
P.O. Box 94604  
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. O'Donnell:

Legislative Bill 949 of the 102<sup>nd</sup> Legislative Session of 2012 (Section 1(1)(a)) requires the Department to provide the Appropriations Committee and the Health and Human Services Committee, on or before July 30, 2012, a report of expenditures between January 1, 2012, and June 30, 2012, the outcomes relating to such expenditures, and any changes or movement of funds in excess of \$250,000 relating to child welfare between subprograms within Budget Program 347.

The attached report provides the required information.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.



Thomas D. Pristow, MSW, ACSW  
Director, Division of Children and Family Services  
Department of Health and Human Services

**REPORT TO:** APPROPRIATIONS AND HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEES  
**REPORT DATE:** JULY 30, 2012  
**LEGISLATIVE BILL:** 949, SECTION 1  
**CONTACT PERSON:** MINDI ALLEY, CFS FINANCE OFFICER, 471-9733

### **General Information**

This report fulfills the following requirement in Section 1(1)(a) of LB 949: "On or before July 30, 2012, the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services shall report in writing its expenditures between January 1, 2012, and June 30, 2012, and the outcomes relating to such expenditures to the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature and the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature. Such report shall identify any changes or movement of funds in excess of two hundred fifty thousand dollars relating to child welfare between subprograms within Budget Program 347."

- Attachment A provides the CFS child welfare expenditures for the period of January 1, 2012 and June 30, 2012
- Attachment B identifies funds changes or movement of funds
- Attachments C1 through C 6 report outcomes relating to expenditures for the period of January 1, 2012 and June 30, 2012

### **Progress Summary**

This is the first expenditure and outcomes report required by LB 949. The next report as required in Section 1(1)(b) of LB 949 will be provided by September 30, 2012.

Outcomes reported are from COMPASS (Children's Outcomes Measured in Protection and Safety Statistics). These measures reflect federal performance measures that DHHS is held accountable for by the federal Administration for Children and Families.

On-going updates of the COMPASS measures are posted on the Department website at [http://dhhs.ne.gov/children\\_family\\_services/Pages/performancegauges.aspx](http://dhhs.ne.gov/children_family_services/Pages/performancegauges.aspx). Each outcome report identifies the outcome measurement, provides a brief description of the measurement, provides numerical data by month for the State and each of the DHHS Service Areas and provides the federal outcome measurement target. Each outcome report also provides a graph to depict the data over time. Measurement definitions and definitions of composite scores are provided in the chart below.

### COMPASS Measure Definitions

Measure	Definition
Absence of Maltreatment Recurrence	Of all children who were victims of abuse or neglect during the first 6 months of the reporting year, the percent that were <i>not victims</i> of another maltreatment within a 6 months period.
Absence of Maltreatment of Children in Foster Care	Of all children who were in foster care during the reporting year, the percent that were <i>not victims</i> of maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member.
Reunification Composite	The Reunification Composite looks at timeliness and permanency of reunifications. The Reunification Composite includes four measures: Reunification in Less Than 12 Months, Median Time to Reunification, Entry Cohort Reunification in Less Than 12 Months, and Permanence of Reunification.
Reunification in Less Than 12 Months	For the reporting year, of all children discharged from foster care to reunification who had been in foster care for 8 days or longer, the percent that met either of the following criteria: (1) the child was reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from the home, or (2) the child was placed in a trial home visit within 11 months of the date of the latest removal and the child's last placement prior to discharge to reunification was the trial home visit.
Median Time to Reunification	For the reporting year, of all children discharged from foster care to reunification who had been in foster care for 8 days or longer, the median length of stay in months from the date of the most recent entry into foster care until either of the following: (1) the date of discharge to reunification; or (2) the date of placement in a trial home visit that exceeded 30 days and was the last placement setting prior to discharge to reunification.

### COMPASS Measure Definitions

Measure	Definition
Entry Cohort Reunification in Less Than 12 Months	For the prior reporting year, of all children entering foster care in the second 6 months of the year who remained in foster care for 8 days or longer, the percent who met either of the following criteria: (1) the child was reunified in less than 12 months from the date of entry into foster care, or (2) the child was placed in a trial home visit in less than 11 months from the date of entry into foster care and the trial home visit was the last placement setting prior to discharge to reunification.
Permanence of Reunification	Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the year prior to the reporting year, the percent that re-entered foster care in less than 12 months from discharge from a prior episode. A lower score is preferable.
Adoption Composite	The Adoption Composite is concerned with the timeliness of adoptions and includes the following five measures: Adoption in Less Than 24 Months, Median Time to Adoption, Children in Care for 17 Months or Longer Who Are Adopted by the End of the Year, Children in Care for 17 Months or Longer Who Are Legally Free for Adoption within 6 Months, and Children Who Are Legally Free for Adoption Who Are Adopted within 12 Months.
Adoption in Less Than 24 Months	For the reporting year, of all children who were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, the percent that were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from the home.
Median Time to Adoption	For the reporting year, of all children who were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption, the median length of stay in foster care (in months) from the date of removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption.
Children in Care for 17 Months or Longer Who are Adopted by the End of the Year	For the reporting year, of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in foster care for 17 continuous months or longer, the percent that was discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption before the end of the fiscal year.
Children in Care for 17 Months or Longer Who Are Legally Free for Adoption within 6 Months	For the reporting year, of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in foster care for 17 continuous months or longer, the percent that became legally free for adoption within 6 months from the beginning of the reporting year.

### COMPASS Measure Definitions

Measure	Definition
Children Who Are Legally Free for Adoption Who Are Adopted within 12 Months	Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the prior reporting year, what percent was discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months.
Permanency Composite	Exits to Permanency Prior to the Child's 18th Birthday for Children in Care for 24 Months or More, Exits to Permanency for Children Free for Adoption, and Children Emancipated Who Were in Foster Care of 3 Years or More.
Exits to Permanency Prior to the Child's 18th Birthday for Children in Care for 24 Months or More	Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the reporting year shown, the percent that were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the reporting year. A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship or reunification.
Exits to Permanency for Children Free for Adoption	Of all children who were discharged from foster care in the year shown, and who were legally free for adoption at time of discharge, (there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), the percent that were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday. A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification.
Children Emancipated Who Were in Foster Care for 3 Years or More	Of all children who during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, the percent that were in foster care for 3 years of longer. A lower score is preferable.
Placement Stability Composite	Two or Fewer Placement Settings for Children in Care for Less Than 12 Months, Two or Fewer Placement Setting for Children in Care for 12 to 24 Months, and Two or Fewer Placement Settings for Children in Care for More Than 24 Months.
Two or Fewer Placement Settings for Children in Care for Less Than 12 Months	Of all children served in foster care during the 12 month target period that were in foster care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, the percent that had two or fewer placement settings.
Two or Fewer Placement Settings for Children in Care for 12 to 24 Months	Of all children served in foster care during the 12 month target period that were in foster care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, the percent that had two or fewer placement settings.
Two or Fewer Placement	Of all children served in foster care during the 12 month target

### COMPASS Measure Definitions

<b>Measure</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Settings for Children in Care for 24 Months or More	period that were in foster care for at least 24 months, the percent that had two or fewer placement settings.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Attachment A - Expenditures

January 2012 through June 2012 Child Welfare Expenditures

	July 2011 through December 2011 <u>Expenditures</u>	January 2012 through June 2012 <u>Expenditures</u>	Total FY 2012 <u>Expenditures</u>
<b>PROGRAM 347</b>			
<b><u>PUBLIC ASSISTANCE</u></b>			
16 Predisposition Detention (program 316) GF	\$ 170,894.00	\$ 119,346.00	\$ 290,240.00
17 Post-Adoption Guardianship GF	\$ 358,963.70	\$ 446,704.00	\$ 805,667.70
18 Protection & Safety (program 039) GF	\$ 723,856.13	\$ 870,001.49	\$ 1,593,857.62
19 Adoption Assistance/Incentive GF	\$ 6,800.00	\$ (6,800.00)	\$ -
30 IV-E Foster Care GF	\$ 5,304,620.65	\$ 10,283,057.76	\$ 15,587,678.41
GF	\$ 2,026,737.24	\$ 4,303,721.24	\$ 6,330,458.48
CF	\$ 106,110.12	\$ 106,056.88	\$ 212,167.00
FF	\$ 3,171,773.29	\$ 5,873,279.64	\$ 9,045,052.93
31 IV-E Adoption Assistance GF	\$ 8,583,545.45	\$ 8,998,696.44	\$ 17,582,241.89
GF	\$ 3,517,998.79	\$ 3,909,651.91	\$ 7,427,650.70
FF	\$ 5,065,546.66	\$ 5,089,044.53	\$ 10,154,591.19
34 Subsidized Adoption GF	\$ 3,505,825.03	\$ 3,413,231.48	\$ 6,919,056.51
35 Domestic Violence Program GF	\$ 1,088,044.31	\$ 1,488,325.00	\$ 2,576,369.31
GF	\$ 605,025.00	\$ 914,200.00	\$ 1,519,225.00
FF	\$ 483,019.31	\$ 574,125.00	\$ 1,057,144.31
36 Education Assistance for State Wards GF	\$ 8,543,476.86	\$ 6,232,922.43	\$ 14,776,399.29
48 Child Welfare GF	\$ 72,992,498.70	\$ 61,567,308.81	\$ 134,559,807.51
GF	\$ 69,589,071.54	\$ 58,187,307.56	\$ 127,776,379.10
CF	\$ 1,261,138.50	\$ 1,261,138.50	\$ 2,522,277.00
FF	\$ 2,142,288.66	\$ 2,118,862.75	\$ 4,261,151.41
52 Adoption & Safe Families GF	\$ 874,750.25	\$ 301,701.50	\$ 1,176,451.75
FF		\$ -	
<b>Family Support Total</b>	<b>\$ 102,153,275.08</b>	<b>\$ 93,714,494.91</b>	<b>\$ 195,867,769.99</b>
GF	\$ 89,048,648.29	\$ 78,390,286.11	\$ 167,438,934.40
CF	\$ 1,367,248.62	\$ 1,367,195.38	\$ 2,734,444.00
FF	\$ 11,737,378.17	\$ 13,957,013.42	\$ 25,694,391.59

GF: General Funds

CF: Cash Funds

FF: Federal Funds

Prepared by Ann Linneman

From: DivBud

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**Attachment B**

**January - June 2012 Transfers**

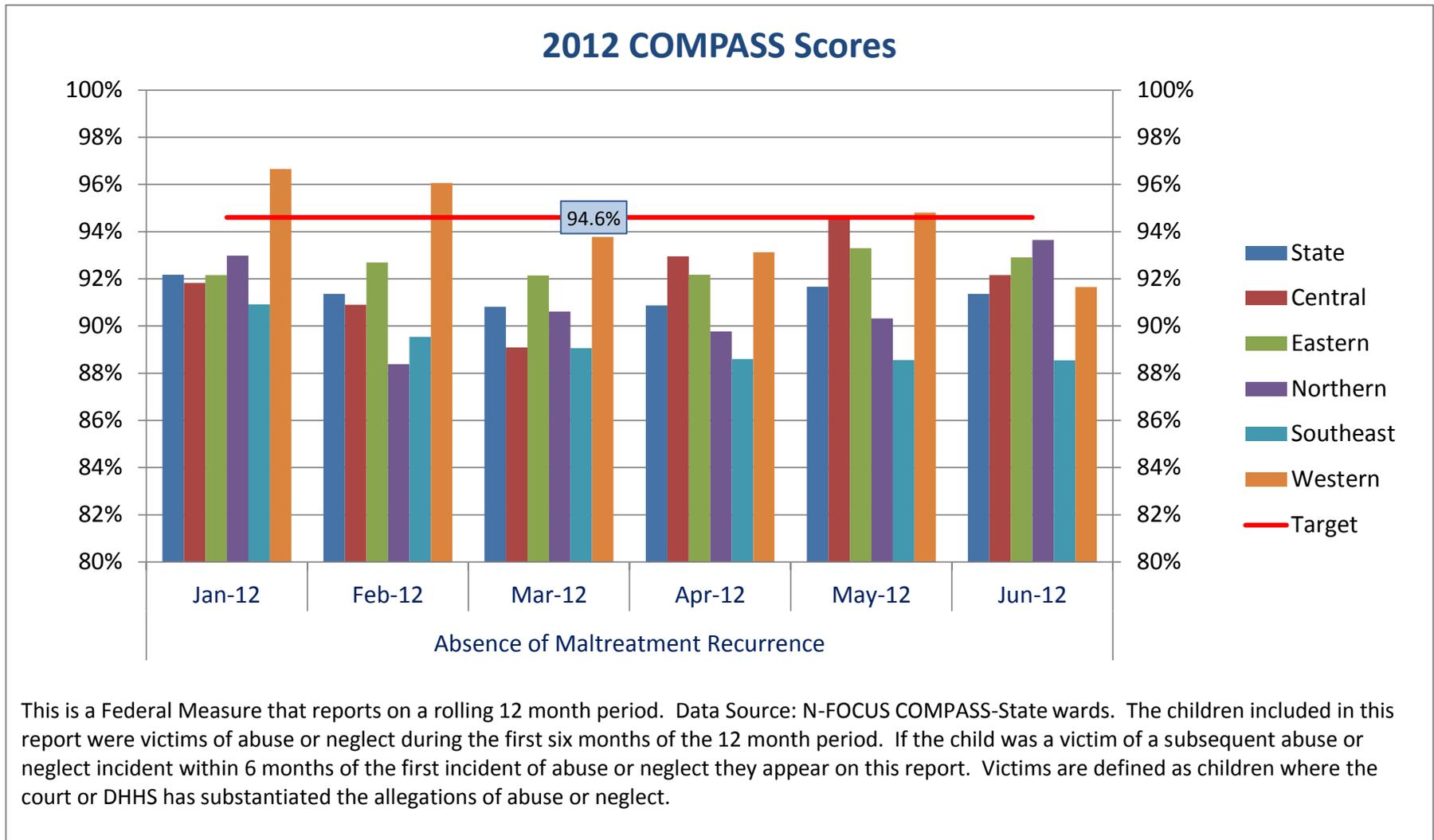
	<b>January 2012 FY 12 Budget</b>	<b>June 2012 FY 12 Budget</b>	<b>Budget Changes</b>	<b>Explanation for Transfers</b>
<b>PROGRAM 347</b>				
<b>PUBLIC ASSISTANCE</b>				
48 Child Welfare	\$ 119,508,440.00	\$ 136,099,699.00	\$ 16,591,259.00	LB968
GF	\$ 106,311,439.00	\$ 122,902,698.00	\$ 16,591,259.00	
CF	\$ 2,522,277.00	\$ 2,522,277.00	\$ -	
FF	\$ 10,674,724.00	\$ 10,674,724.00	\$ -	

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Attachment C-1**

**Absence of Maltreatment Recurrence**

	Month	State	Central	Eastern	Northern	Southeast	Western	Target
Absence of Maltreatment Recurrence	Jan-12	92.2%	91.8%	92.2%	93.0%	90.9%	96.7%	94.6%
	Feb-12	91.4%	90.9%	92.7%	88.4%	89.5%	96.1%	94.6%
	Mar-12	90.8%	89.1%	92.2%	90.6%	89.1%	93.8%	94.6%
	Apr-12	90.9%	93.0%	92.2%	89.8%	88.6%	93.1%	94.6%
	May-12	91.7%	94.6%	93.3%	90.3%	88.6%	94.8%	94.6%
	Jun-12	91.4%	92.2%	92.9%	93.7%	88.5%	91.7%	94.6%



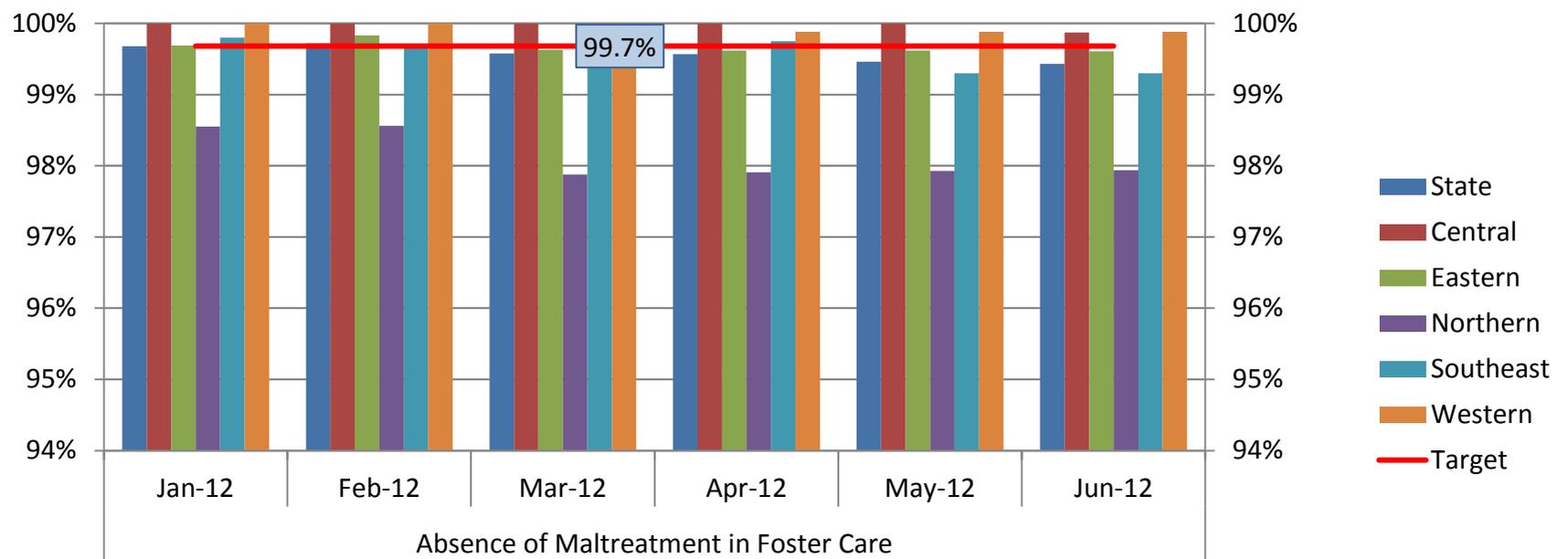
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**Attachment C-2**

**Absence of Maltreatment in Foster Care**

	Month	State	Central	Eastern	Northern	Southeast	Western	Target
Absence of Maltreatment in Foster Care	Jan-12	99.7%	100.0%	99.7%	98.6%	99.8%	100.0%	99.7%
	Feb-12	99.7%	100.0%	99.8%	98.6%	99.7%	100.0%	99.7%
	Mar-12	99.6%	100.0%	99.6%	97.9%	99.8%	100.0%	99.7%
	Apr-12	99.6%	100.0%	99.6%	97.9%	99.8%	99.9%	99.7%
	May-12	99.5%	100.0%	99.6%	97.9%	99.3%	99.9%	99.7%
	Jun-12	99.4%	99.9%	99.6%	97.9%	99.3%	99.9%	99.7%

**2012 COMPASS Scores**



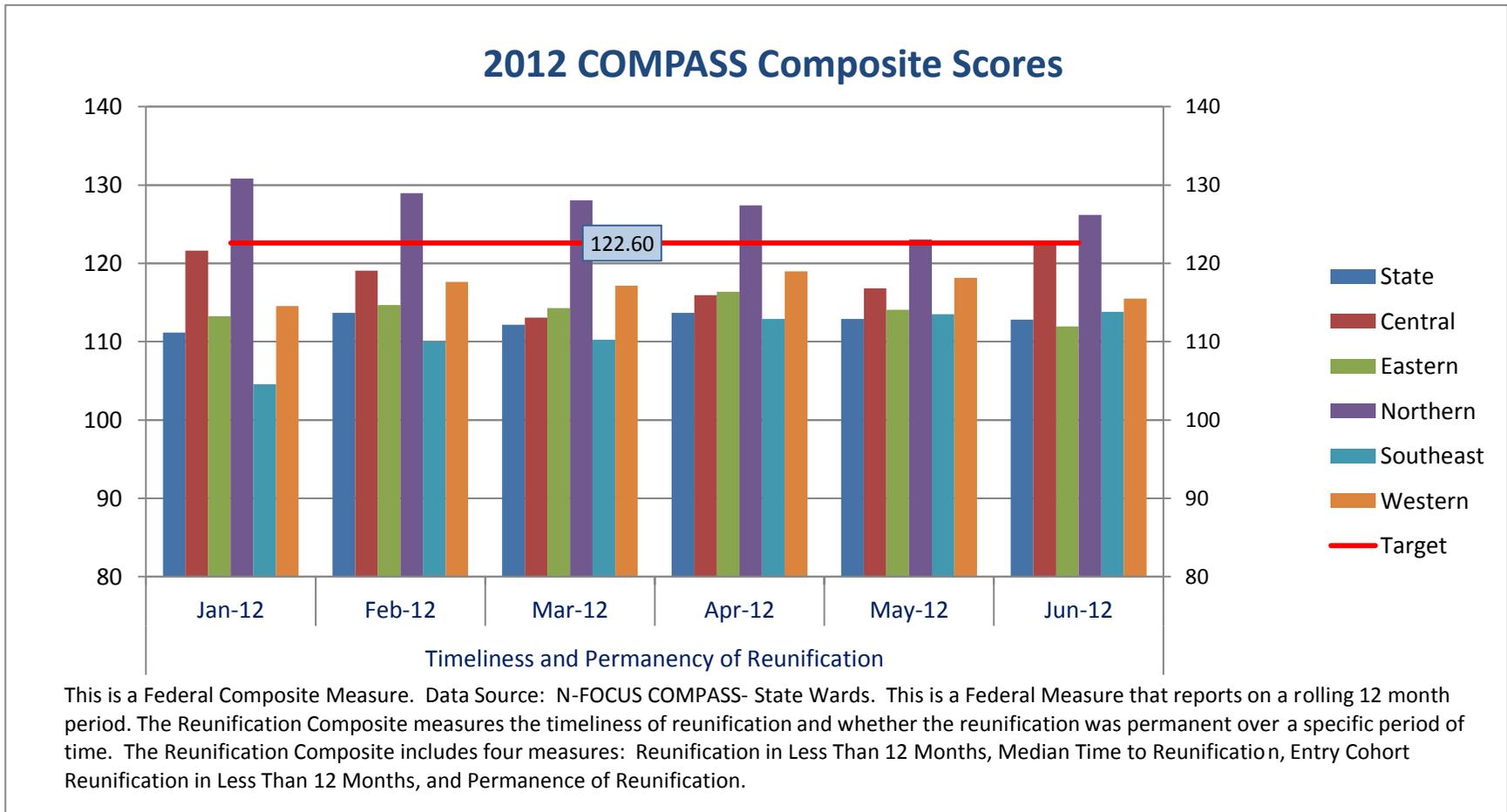
This is a Federal Measure that reports on a rolling 12 month period. Data Source: N-FOCUS COMPASS-Statewards. This measure is of all children who are placed outside of their parental home either in a foster home or group care, the percent that were not abused or neglected by either a foster parent or a facility staff member.

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Attachment C-3**

**Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification**

	Month	State	Central	Eastern	Northern	Southeast	Western	Target
Timeliness and Permanency	Jan-12	111.17	121.64	113.23	130.85	104.56	114.56	122.60
	Feb-12	113.69	119.06	114.66	128.98	109.98	117.63	122.60
	Mar-12	112.18	113.09	114.30	128.04	110.27	117.15	122.60
	Apr-12	113.67	115.94	116.36	127.39	112.92	118.98	122.60
	May-12	112.91	116.81	114.08	123.07	113.50	118.14	122.60
	Jun-12	112.83	122.52	111.94	126.20	113.82	115.52	122.60

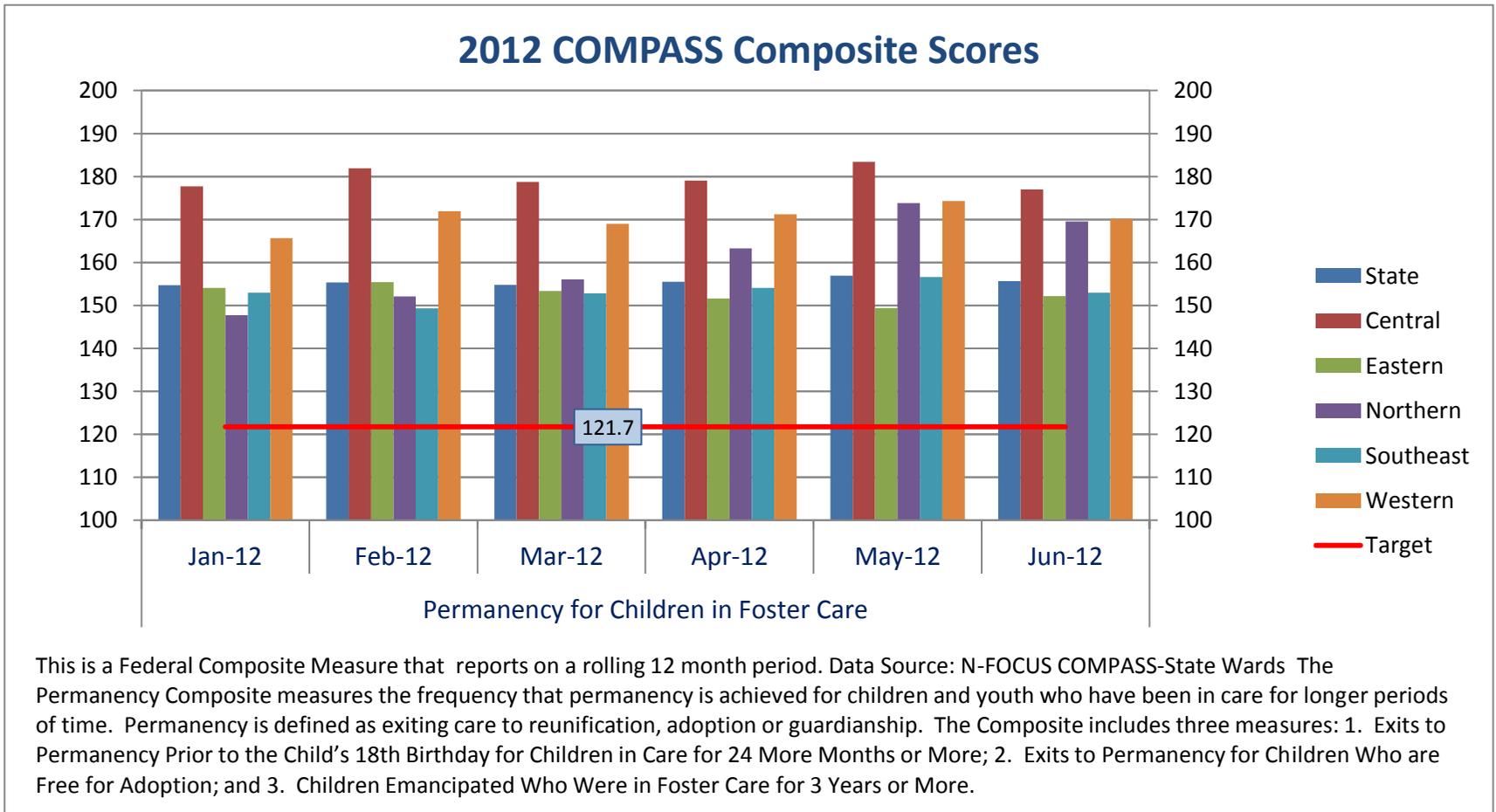


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Attachment C-4

Permanency for Children in Foster Care

		State	Central	Eastern	Northern	Southeast	Western	Target
Permanency for Children in Foster Care	Jan-12	154.72	177.7	154.04	147.67	152.96	165.64	121.7
	Feb-12	155.33	181.89	155.37	152.05	149.3	171.91	121.7
	Mar-12	154.75	178.71	153.34	156.05	152.82	168.97	121.7
	Apr-12	155.47	179.08	151.57	163.27	154.09	171.18	121.7
	May-12	156.91	183.39	149.41	173.78	156.6	174.27	121.7
	Jun-12	155.65	176.99	152.17	169.5	152.97	170.19	121.7

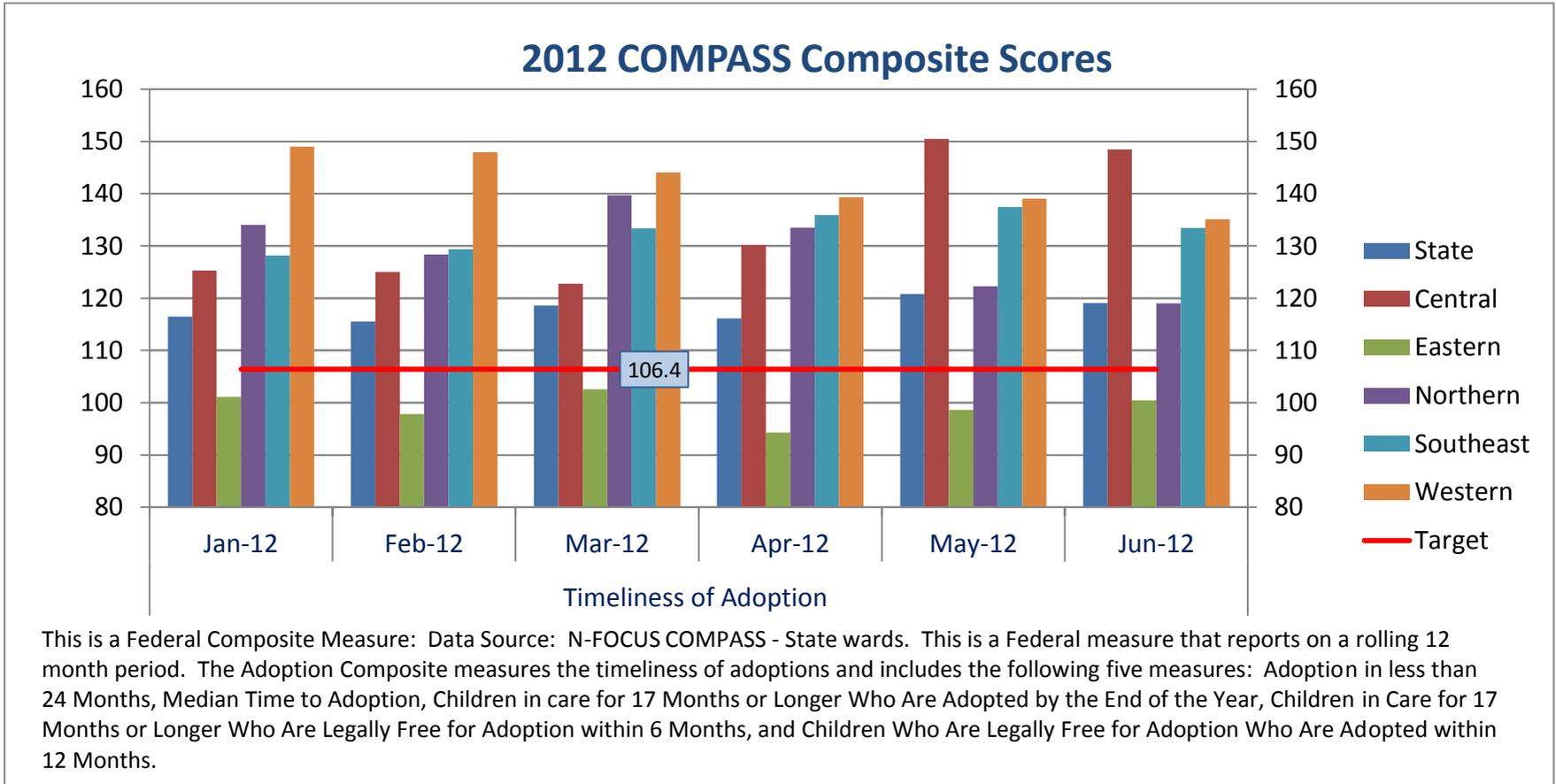


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Attachment C-5

Timeliness of Adoption

		State	Central	Eastern	Northern	Southeast	Western	Target
Timeliness of Adoption	Jan-12	116.5	125.3	101.1	134.0	128.2	149.0	106.4
	Feb-12	115.6	125.0	97.8	128.3	129.3	147.9	106.4
	Mar-12	118.6	122.8	102.6	139.7	133.4	144.1	106.4
	Apr-12	116.1	130.2	94.3	133.5	135.9	139.3	106.4
	May-12	120.8	150.4	98.7	122.3	137.5	139.0	106.4
	Jun-12	119.1	148.5	100.4	119.0	133.5	135.1	106.4



**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Attachment C-6**

**Placement Stability**

		State	Central	Eastern	Northern	Southeast	Western	Target
Placement Stability	Jan-12	95.4	94.7	97.4	88.2	96.6	90.7	101.5
	Feb-12	95.8	95.6	97.5	88.1	97.7	90.2	101.5
	Mar-12	96.2	97.3	97.1	88.9	98.5	92.1	101.5
	Apr-12	96.5	96.4	97.5	91.0	98.9	91.9	101.5
	May-12	97.0	94.9	97.7	92.8	99.6	94.5	101.5
	Jun-12	97.0	95.2	97.7	93.2	100.2	93.4	101.5

