



## North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Social Services

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Michael F. Easley, Governor  
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August 1, 2008

### **DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

**ATTENTION: Children's Services Program Managers  
Children's Services Supervisors  
Children's Services Social Workers**

**SUBJECT: The County Experiences Report Website**

In collaboration with UNC-Chapel Hill, the Division will release the latest version of the web-based County Experiences Report on August 4, 2008. The web address to access the report remains the same: <http://sww.unc.edu/cw/index.html>.

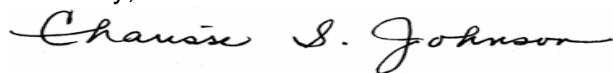
This release (Version 6.0) will include all of the information on the old Experiences Report, along with several new enhancements to the data including:

- ◆ The number and percentage of children exiting DSS custody or placement authority by reason (exit type) and length of stay in custody over time;
- ◆ The number and percentage of children in foster care under DSS custody on the last day of each month over time, by characteristics (gender, age, race, ethnicity) or by placement type, for a single county, counties of similar size (small, medium or large), judicial district or the entire State;
- ◆ The annual number and percentage of children in foster care under DSS custody over time, also available by characteristics (gender, age, race) with percentages;
- ◆ The rate of children in foster care during a particular 12 month period for every 1000 children under age 18 in the population, for a single county, counties of similar size (small, medium or large), judicial district and the entire State;
- ◆ The rate of children with a report of abuse and neglect during a particular 12 month period for every 1000 children under age 18 in the population, for a single county, counties of similar size (small, medium or large), judicial district and the entire State
- ◆ Demographic data including census poverty counts and estimates of poverty counts and median household income (for later years) for counties of similar size (small, medium or large) or judicial district

Data previously available on the website continues to be updated quarterly.

The Division hopes that this latest version of the County Experiences Report will be helpful to you. We hope you will continue to use and share this information with staff members and the wider community in an effort to demonstrate your progress on ensuring the safety, permanence and well-being of the children in your county and in the state. We also encourage you to share the latest information regarding judicial districts with your judges and other court personnel. If you have questions about the information contained in these reports, the interpretation of that information, or the specific programming logic used to develop this report, please contact Dawn Cambridge at Dawn.Cambridge@ncmail.net or 919-733-4530.

Sincerely,



Charisse Johnson, Chief  
Family Support and  
Child Welfare Services



Hank Bowers, Chief  
Performance Management/  
Reporting and Evaluation Management Section

PM-REM-06-2008

**FSCWS-43-08**