



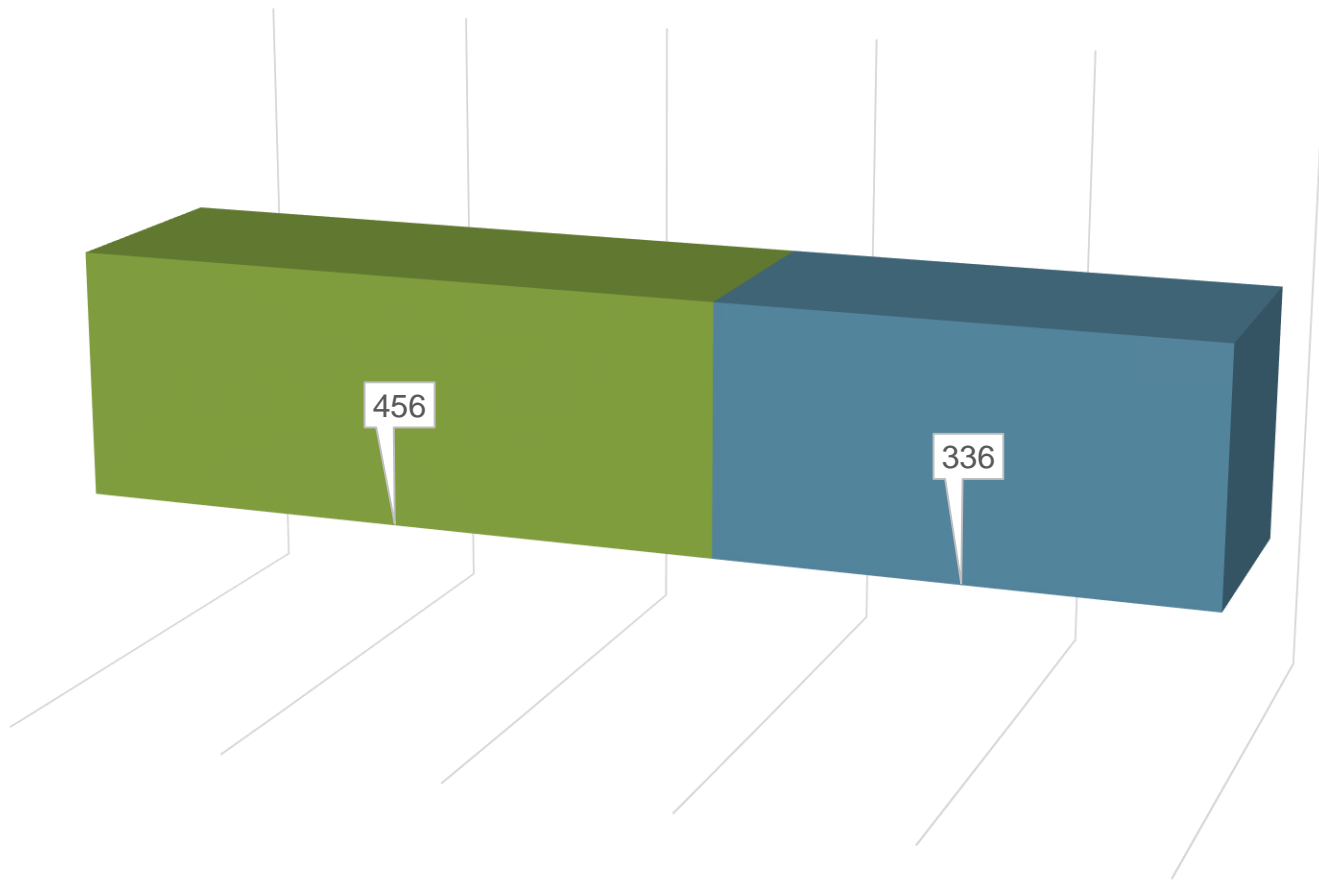
## **Department of Health and Human Services**

### **Division of Social Services – Child Welfare Section**

# **Substance Affected Infant Policy – Screening Notifications**

**September 2017**

## Substance Affected Infants – August 2017



■ Substance Affected Infants	456
■ Screened-In	336

# **Substance Affected Infant Policy – Technical Assistance**

- **“Hot Topic” for CPRs through December**
- **NC DSS follow up with Director regarding concerning data trends**
- **Program Monitoring tool will begin to reflect policy requirements in January 2018**

## Substance Affected Infant Policy – Intake

- Prenatal Substance Use  $\neq$  Abuse or Neglect
- Notification  $\neq$  Screen-In
- Intake policy considers circumstances of exposure and effect to infant

## **Potential Consequences**

- **Women may avoid treatment for their substance use disorder**
- **Pregnant women may refuse prenatal care or choose to give birth outside of medical setting**
- **Abrupt discontinuation of opioids during pregnancy could result in harm to fetus**

# Questions and Feedback

Division of Social Services  
Child Welfare Section

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