

Child Welfare Updates & Oregon Child Abuse Hotline (ORCAH)

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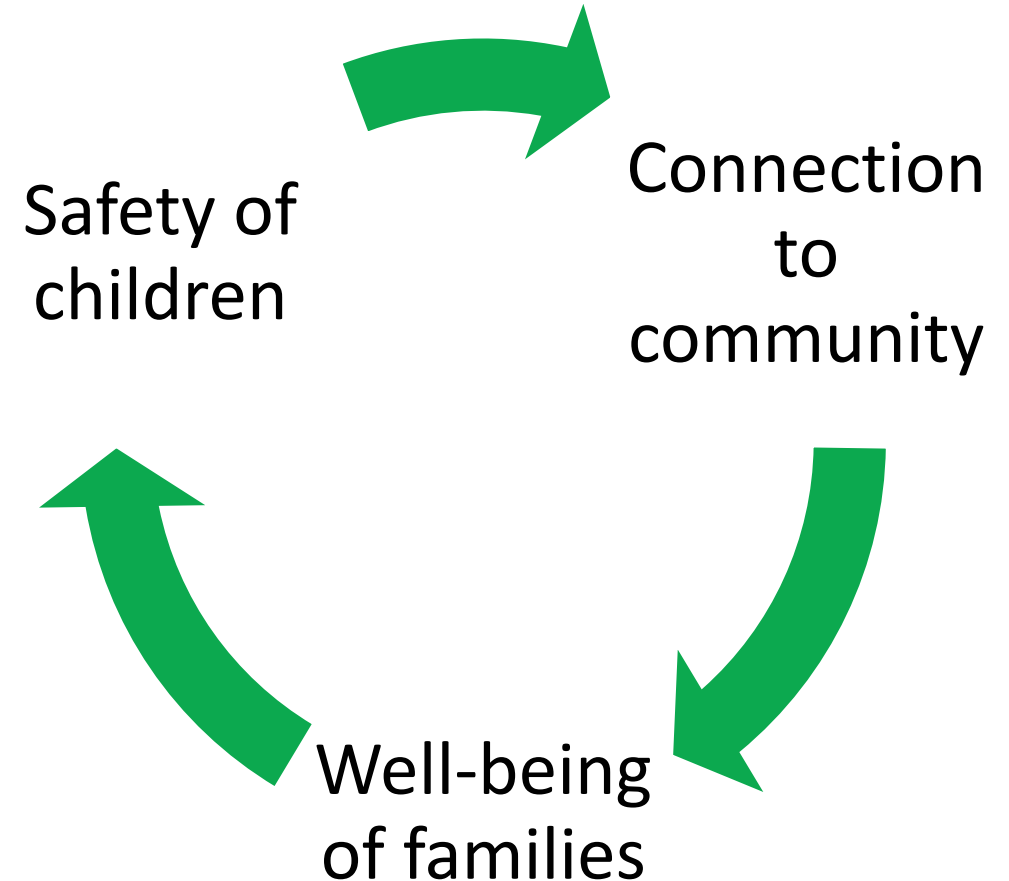
Oregon Child Welfare Division

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Deputy Director, Child Welfare Practice & Program

We are the Child Welfare Division

- Mission: To ensure every child and family is empowered to live a safe, stable and healthy life
- Part of a larger statewide social system that works to support children and families and communities



Child Welfare Division Vision for Transformation

Our Vision for Transformation is based on a belief that children do best growing up in a family and on values related to honoring and supporting cultural wisdom, building community resilience and voice, and ensuring the self-determination of our communities of color. The goal is an absolute transformation.



Reporting child abuse in Oregon

Kristen Khamnohack (she/her)

Screening Program/ORCAH Manager

Definitions of abuse

Child Abuse

Under the age of 18

- Physical Abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Mental Injury
- Neglect
- Threat of Harm

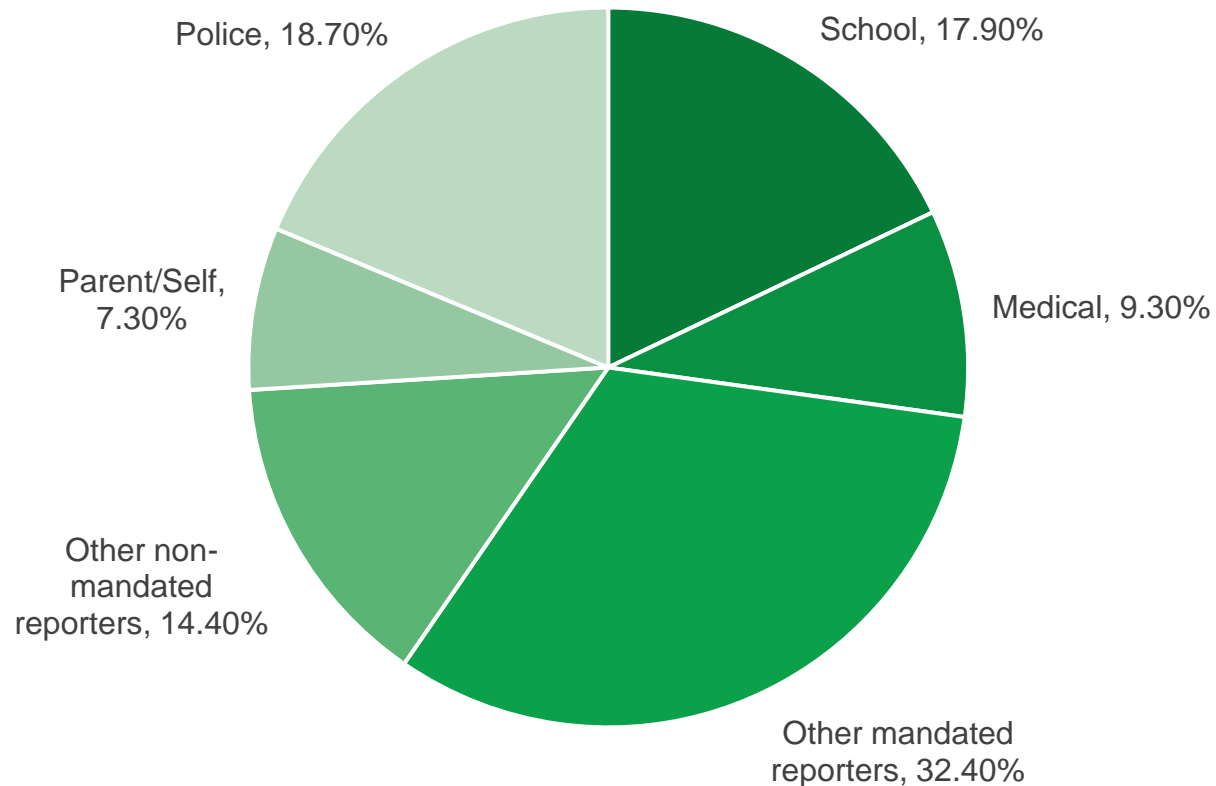
Young Adult Abuse

Under the age of 21, in care/receiving services

- Physical injury/willful infliction of pain
- Wrongful use of physical or chemical restraint
- Involuntary seclusion
- Sexual Abuse
- Verbal Abuse
- Neglect
- Abandonment
- Financial Exploitation

Who reports child abuse in Oregon?

2020 Source of Suspected Child Abuse Reports



- Mandatory reporters accounted for 78.4 percent of the screening reports received by Child Welfare.
- Of all reports in 2020, 36.6 percent came from schools and law enforcement agencies.

Mandatory reporters must report child abuse immediately

- Reports of child abuse can be received 24 hours a day, seven days per week, 365 days a year.
- If the child is in danger or immediate assistance is needed, call 911.
- To report child abuse or concerns for child safety, call the Oregon Child Abuse Hotline at **1-855-503-SAFE.**



Mandatory reporter definition and duties (ORS.419B.010)

Any public or private official having reasonable cause to believe that any child with whom the official comes in contact has suffered abuse or that any person with whom the official comes in contact has abused a child shall immediately report or cause a report to be made in the manner required.



45 types of professionals are identified as mandatory reporters



Medical providers



Legal professionals



Educators



First responders and
law enforcement



Government officials



Child caring professionals

Medical providers

- Physician or physician assistant licensed or naturopathic physician, including any intern or resident
- Dentist
- Licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, nurse practitioner, nurse's aide, home health aide or employee of an in-home health service
- Psychologist
- Optometrist
- Chiropractor
- Physical, speech or occupational therapist
- Audiologist
- Speech-language pathologist
- Licensed professional counselor
- Licensed marriage and family therapist
- Pharmacist



Public service

- Regulated social worker
- Department of Human Services
- Oregon Health Authority
- Early Learning Division
- Department of Education
- Youth Development Division
- Office of Child Care
- Oregon Youth Authority
- A local health department
- A county juvenile department
- A child-caring agency
- Member of the Legislative Assembly
- An individual who is paid by a public body to provide a service identified in an individualized written service plan of a child with a developmental disability



Educators and community program members

- School employee, including an employee of a higher education institution
- Employee of the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission directly involved in investigations or discipline by the commission
- An operator of a preschool recorded program
- An operator of a school-age recorded program
- Member of a school district board or public charter school governing body
- Member of the clergy
- A community mental health program
- A community developmental disabilities program
- An alcohol and drug treatment program



Child and young adult caregivers

- Certified provider of foster care, or an employee thereof
- A childcare provider registered or certified
- Personal support worker
- Home care worker
- Employee of a private agency or organization facilitating the provision of respite services for parents pursuant to a properly executed power of attorney
- Employee of a public or private organization providing child-related services or activities: A coach, assistant coach or trainer of an amateur, semiprofessional or professional athlete, if compensated and if the athlete is a child



Legal professionals, advocates, law enforcement and first responders

- Peace officer
- Firefighter or emergency medical services provider
- Animal control officer
- Attorney
- Court appointed special advocate



Exceptions to mandatory reporting requirements

- If there is reasonable reason to believe that the information is already known by a law enforcement agency or the Oregon Department of Human Services.
- Attorney client privilege: An attorney is not required to make a report under this section by reason of information communicated to the attorney while representing a client if disclosure of the information would be detrimental to the client.
- Other privileged relationships: Those people who have the right of privileged communication by ORS 40.225 to 40.295 are not required to report information about abuse if they gain the information where the professional/client relationship is protected.
- We encourage anyone with questions about these exceptions and whether they apply to contact the Department or their licensing board.

Barriers to reporting child abuse

Barrier	Example
Complacency	“It’s probably fine, it will be ok.”
Uncertainty	“I did not know what to do.” “I did not know if it was actually abuse.”
Group Think	“We always do it this way.” “This is how we do things.”
Hierarchical pressure	“My manager does not want me to report it.”
Competing priorities	“I am too busy.”
Lack of accountability	“I cannot be bothered.”
Entrenched cultures	“We do not need to worry ... we have no issue here.”

Racial disproportionality and bias in reporting

- Research suggests that child abuse occurs across racial and ethnic groups at similar rates.
- Families of color, particularly Tribal and Black families, are reported far more often.
- This racial disproportionality, is connected to personal and systemic bias.
- Racial disproportionality refers to a racial or ethnic group's underrepresentation or overrepresentation compared to the group's percentage in the total population.
- In Oregon and across the nation, children of color are overrepresented in the child welfare system at alarming rates.

Child abuse reporting training, tools and resources

- Mandatory reporter video
- Department websites: Child Safety and Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse
- Prevention and Resources
- General Child Welfare Frequently Asked Questions
- Tools and Guides
 - Child Abuse Reporting Guide
 - What you can do about child abuse
 - COVID-19 Family Wellbeing Assessment
 - Guidance for Helpers in a Virtual Environment
- Train the Trainer: Child Welfare staff and Child Advocacy Intervention Centers
- Request Mandatory Reporter Training in your community

Child abuse prevention organizations and partners

- [Oregon Child Abuse Solutions](#)
- [Safe Families](#)
- [211info](#)
- [Kinship Navigator](#)
- [Oregon Association of Relief Nurseries](#)
- [Prevent Child Abuse Oregon](#)
- [Parent Helpline \(Morrison Center\)](#)
- [Oregon Parenting Education Collaborative](#)
- [Safe Sleep Resources](#)



COVID-19 partnerships and collaboration

- Collaboration with Oregon Department of Education and key partners from school districts across the state.
- Collaboration with Oregon Child Abuse Solution and Child Advocacy and Intervention Centers.
- Increase collaboration with child welfare multi-disciplinary teams.
- Statewide child abuse reporting communication strategy.
- Outreach to mandatory reporters on when and how to report child abuse.



Oregon Child Abuse Hotline (ORCAH)

Vision: Engage our communities, including mandatory reporters, and respond to reports of child abuse in a transparent way. Our vision is to do so while ensuring our children and youth, in their own communities, are safe.

Mission: To receive reports of child abuse and provide excellent customer service with equitable and consistent decision making to ensure safety for Oregon's children.



Types of calls received at ORCAH

Suspected reports of child abuse.

Requests for assistance from the Child Welfare Division – Family Support Services.

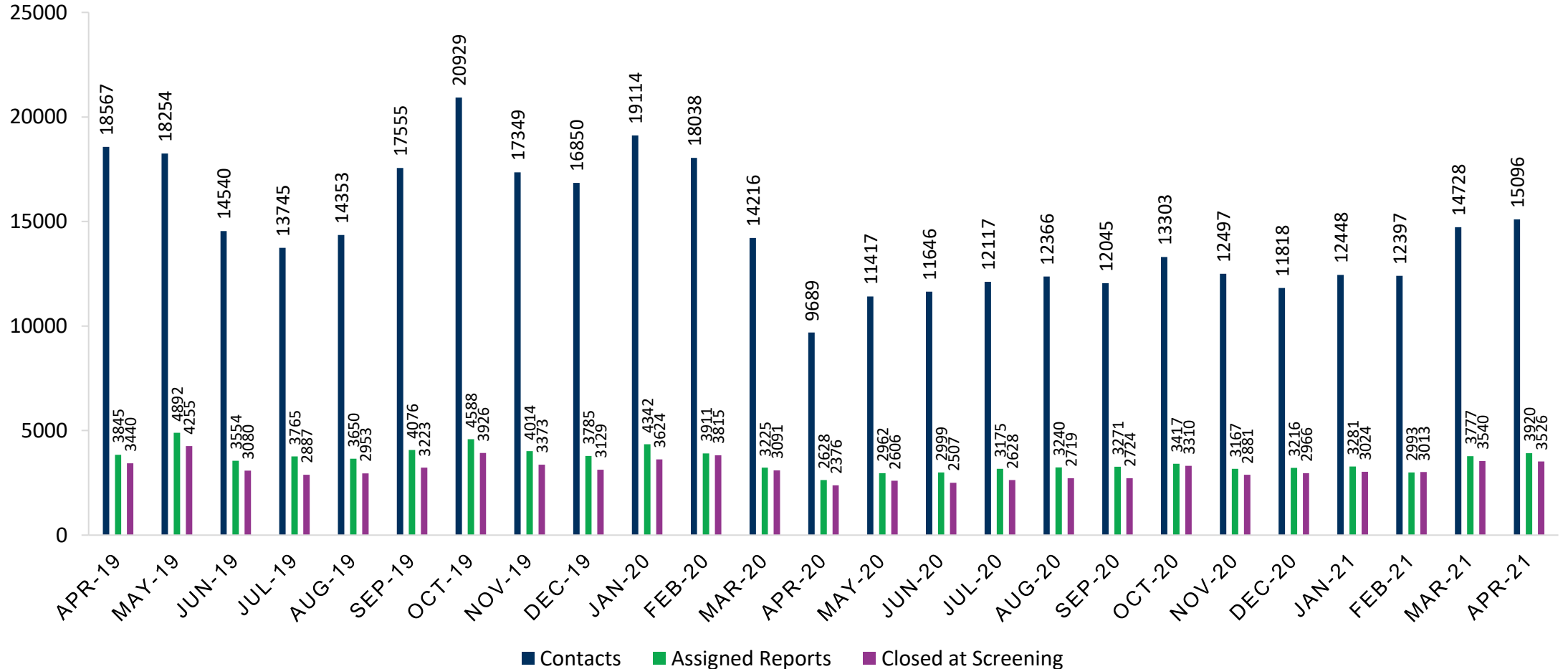
Information involving a setting screened and investigated by the OTIS.

Information involving an open CPS assessment, open Child Welfare case or a certified foster home.

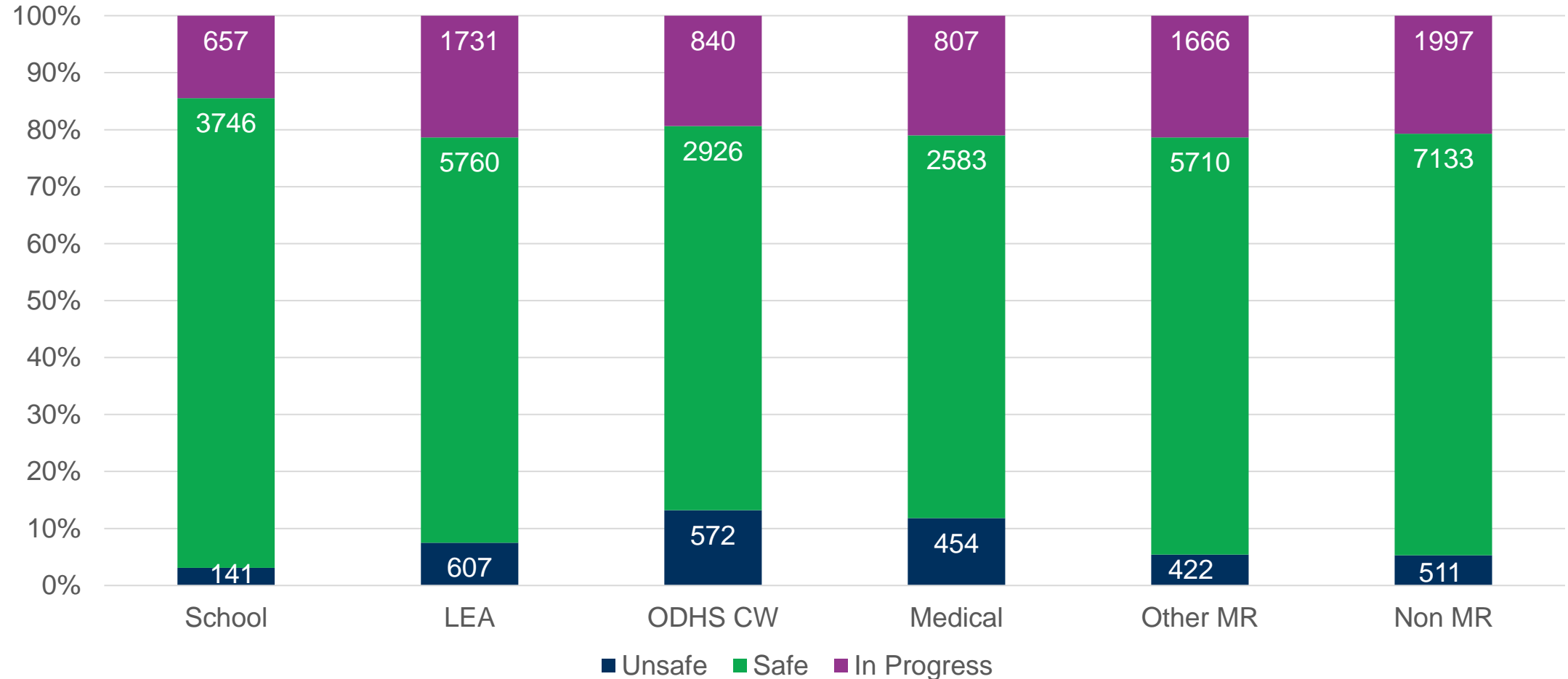
Requests for other types of community resource information or service referrals.

Notifications to Child Welfare Division.

ORCAH Contact Volume: April 2019 - April 2021

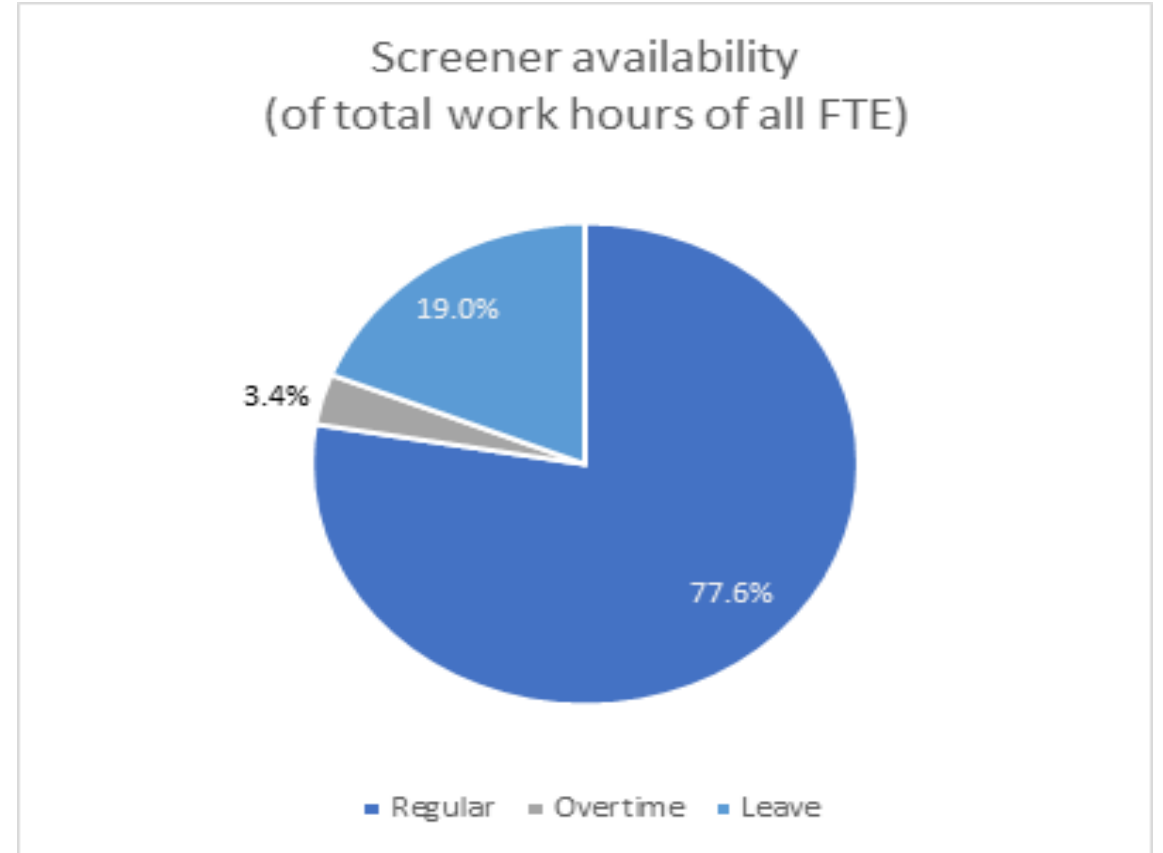


2020 Safety decision by reporter type



March 2021: Screener staffing

	Total	Percentage
Screening FTE Allocation	140.5	
Screening	123.5	88%
Rotation (out of ORCAH)	1	0.7%
Lead Trainers	2	1.4%
Lead Continuous Quality Improvement Specialists	4	2.8%
Vacancies	10	7%





The seal of the State of Oregon is a large, circular emblem in the background. It features an eagle with wings spread at the top, a ship on the water in the middle, a plow and a sheaf of wheat at the bottom, and a banner that reads "THE UNION". The words "STATE OF OREGON" are written around the top inner edge, and "1859" is at the bottom. The entire seal is rendered in a light blue color against a dark blue background.

Questions?