

DSS

SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT *of* SOCIAL SERVICES



Monthly Case Manager Visits to Children in Care



Monthly Caseworker Visit Formula Grants Report

The report below from CAPSS, the State’s Automated Child Welfare Information System compiled by the SCDSS Accountability, Data, and Research Unit, shows that the South Carolina Department of Social Services (SCDSS) achieved a total of 95.4% of the total visits that would be made if each child were visited once per month for Federal Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (continuing to meet the required compliance of 95%).

The report below also highlights that SCDSS achieved a total of 69% of the total number of monthly visits made by caseworkers to children in foster care in the child’s residence, exceeding the required compliance of at least 50%.

South Carolina Department of Social Services

Face-to-face Visits with Children in Foster Care (eff. 20211201 / ADR)

Period: October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021

The total number of visits made by caseworkers monthly to children in foster care during a fiscal year must not be less than 95 percent of the total number of such visits that would occur if each child were visited once every month while in care.

# children	Monthly Caseworker Visits	# Complete Calendar Visits	# Visits Months in the Residence	% of Visits on a Monthly Basis	% of Visits in the Residence
5,803	45,280	43,175	29,774	95.35%	68.96%

Monthly caseworker visits with Children

Leadership in South Carolina recognizes the critical importance of caseworker visits to conduct assessments and make decisions at the individual and family level and thus, have been working to systemically improve and strengthen the quality of caseworker visits despite the COVID-19 pandemic during Federal Fiscal Year 20-21. **The visits grant has been used to improve the quality of caseworker visits by leadership messaging accountability, data analysis, infrastructure improvements, and practice accountability.**

To continue to ensure that statutory performance standards are met, the agency continues its major reform work in process to solidify and improve agency values, practice, infrastructure and CQI around caseworker visits (*Michelle H. Consent* decree, Child and Family Services Review, and the implementation of the new casework practice model). Along with stipulated visitation frequencies, policy also requires that children are visited no less than is needed to assess their progress and ensure their needs are met.