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# Child Abuse Report 86

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MAR 10 1988

ACQUISITIONS



PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE  
OFFICE OF CHILDREN YOUTH & FAMILIES



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120

THE SECRETARY

(717) 787-2600, 787-3600

Dear Pennsylvania Citizen:

This is the eleventh *Annual Report on Child Abuse* in Pennsylvania. This document represents a statistical analysis of reported and substantiated child abuse cases during 1986, discusses the Commonwealth's and county's role in protecting abused children and recommends amendments to the law which provides even greater protection to abused children.

As the Secretary of Public Welfare, I am mandated under the Child Protective Services Law to submit this yearly report to the Governor and General Assembly. I am pleased to offer this review and I am anxious to continue Pennsylvania's fight to stop child abuse.

Increased public awareness and sensitivity to the plight of abused children has led to a dramatic increase in the number of child abuse reports in the past 11 years. While the number of reports of physical and mental abuse began leveling off several years ago, the number of child sexual abuse continued to increase rapidly, until this year. Sexual injuries declined from 5,481 in 1985 to 5,179 in 1986, representing a 5.5 percent decrease.

This report also contains a section devoted to the implementation of Act 33 of 1985. Act 33 required applicants for employment in a child caring capacity to submit to their prospective employer verification that they do not have a criminal record on file with the Pennsylvania State Police or with the ChildLine and Abuse Registry. This initiative is just one more step that the Commonwealth has taken to insure the well-being of our most valuable resource — our children.

I urge you to study this report carefully. Child abuse prevention is something everyone in Pennsylvania should be concerned about. As Secretary, I am personally committed to reducing child abuse by increasing family support service, emphasizing sexual abuse treatment and intensifying prevention efforts. Thank you for your interest and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John F. White, Jr.", written over a large, stylized flourish.

John F. White, Jr.  
Secretary  
Department of Public Welfare

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# Office of Children, Youth and Families

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## 11th Annual Report

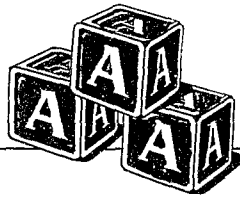
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# HIGHLIGHTS

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- 20,667 reports of suspected child abuse were received in 1986 — a decrease of 1.5 percent from 1985 (see Chart 1).
- 7,127 reports were substantiated in 1986 — 598 fewer than in 1985.
- The percentage of reports that were substantiated in 1986 was 34.5 percent — a decrease from 36.8 percent in 1985.
- 44 children died from abuse in 1986 — an increase from 34 in 1985.
- 2,548 children who were abused in 1986 had been abused before.
- 4,449 (62.4 percent) abused children in 1986 were girls; 2,678 (37.6 percent) abused children in 1986 were boys.
- 2,797 (77.8 percent) sexually abused children in 1986 were girls; 798 (22.2 percent) sexually abused children in 1986 were boys.
- 50.4 percent of all substantiated reports involved sexual abuse.
- 6,969 children were removed from the setting where the abuse occurred.
- 130 children were abused in a child care setting.
- 32 counties received more reports in 1986 than in 1985.
- 6,934 (33.6 percent) reports were made to law enforcement officials for possible criminal investigation and prosecution.
- 71.5 percent of all perpetrators had a parental (natural, step, foster, adoptive) relationship with the child.
- 45,987 persons seeking employment in a child care service requested clearance through ChildLine.
- 146 persons requesting clearance for employment were on file at ChildLine as perpetrators of child abuse.
- The state and counties spent \$13,266,704 in 1986 to implement the Child Protective Services Law.
- Staff in the department's regional offices investigated 725 reports of suspected abuse because the alleged perpetrator was an agent of a county agency.

## INTRODUCTION

The Pennsylvania General Assembly, recognizing the need to protect children who are abused by their parents or other caretakers, enacted the Child Protective Services Law (CPSL) in 1975. The law was amended in June 1982, October 1983, December 1984, and July 1985. The purposes of this law are to:

- Encourage complete reporting of suspected child abuse;
- Establish in each county a Child Protective Service (CPS) to investigate reports of suspected child abuse swiftly and competently;
- Provide children with protection from further abuse;
- Provide rehabilitative services for abused children and their parents to insure the child's well being; and
- Preserve and stabilize family life whenever possible.

The Department of Public Welfare is the state agency mandated to carry out the provisions of the law. The department, through the Office of Children, Youth and Families (OCYF), operates a 24-hour, toll-free telephone line for receiving reports of suspected child abuse, promulgates regulations interpreting the law and provides policy clarifications. OCYF, through four regional offices, investigates selected reports of suspected child abuse and monitors the 67 county children and youth agencies' implementation of the law.

Each county children and youth agency has responsibilities which include:

- Investigating reports of suspected abuse which occur within the county;
- Providing rehabilitation services to abused children and their families;
- Preventing reabuse; and

- Stabilizing family life when possible.

In Pennsylvania an abused child is defined as a child under 18 years of age and a victim of serious non-accidental physical or mental injury, sexual abuse or exploitation, or serious physical neglect caused by the parents, a person responsible for the child's welfare, any individual residing in the same home as the child, or a parent's paramour.

**A report of suspected abuse may be made to the ChildLine and Abuse Registry, 1-800-932-0313, the toll-free 24-hour telephone line established by law to receive reports of suspected child abuse—or one of the county children and youth social service agencies.** Mandated reporters, those persons who in the course of their employment, occupation, or practice of their profession come into contact with children, must report to ChildLine when they have reason to believe, on the basis of their medical, professional or other training and experience, that a child coming before them has been abused. All others may report to ChildLine or a county agency.

Within 30 days of the receipt of a report of suspected child abuse, the CPS in the county children and youth agency or staff in the Department of Public Welfare's regional office must conduct an investigation and determine whether the report is founded, indicated or unfounded.

A report is:

- **FOUNDED** when there is a judicial adjudication that the child was abused;
- **INDICATED** when the CPS determines there is substantial evidence of abuse based on medical evidence, the CPS investigation or an admission of the act or acts of abuse by the perpetrator;
- **UNFOUNDED** when the standards for founded or indicated reports are not met.

In this annual report, **FOUNDED** and **INDICATED** reports of abuse will be referred to as **SUBSTANTIATED** reports. Substantiated reports are kept on file in both the state ChildLine and Abuse Registry and local CPS offices until the child victim reaches 18 years of age or in certain circumstances 23 years of age. Unfounded reports are destroyed within a year after they are received at ChildLine.

Department staff in four regional offices are responsible for licensing and monitoring the social services provided by the county children and youth agencies to abused and neglected children and their families. Reports of suspected child abuse are investigated by regional staff when the alleged perpetrator is an agent of the county children and youth agency, i.e., foster parent, institution staff member, or an employee of the county agency. This is mandated by the CPSL to avoid any potential conflict of interest between the county agency and the alleged perpetrator.

The most serious cases of abuse, and those committed by perpetrators outside the family circle, must be reported to local law enforcement officials for possible criminal investigation and prosecution. The most serious cases include:

- Homicide;
- Sexual abuse or exploitation;
- Serious bodily injury, such as
  - skeletal injuries of differing ages;
  - second and third degree burns;
  - scalding injuries;
  - internal injuries to the head, chest or abdomen;
  - dismemberment; or
  - brain injury with high risk of irreversibility.

Act 33 of 1985 amended the CPSL to require all prospective employees of child care services to undergo background checks by ChildLine and the Pennsylvania State Police.

## REPORTING CHILD ABUSE

### ChildLine and Abuse Registry

ChildLine is the 24-hour toll-free telephone line, 1-800-932-0313, established by the CPSL to receive reports of suspected child abuse and to relay the information to the appropriate CPS or regional office for investigation. ChildLine is located in Harrisburg and is operated under the authority of the Deputy Secretary of the Office of Children, Youth and Families.

ChildLine maintains a **Pending Complaint File**, containing reports under investigation or pending court action; the **Statewide Central Register** containing substantiated reports; and a **Research and Statistical File**, containing all reports ever made, without identifying information, for research and statistical purposes.

When a report is received at ChildLine, a telephone counselor gets as much information about the alleged abusive incident as possible. The counselor checks the Pending Complaint File and Central Register to determine if any of the subjects were involved in a previous incident of substantiated abuse or a current report under investigation. A file number is assigned and the CPS or regional office is notified. The report is then filed in the Pending Complaint File and monitored by the counselor to insure that the results of the investigation are received within the mandated time periods.

When the results of the investigation are received from the CPS or regional office, a telephone counselor checks the report for completeness, accuracy and compliance with the law. It is then sent

to clerical staff who prepare notification letters to subjects of substantiated reports, notifying them of that determination. These reports are then entered in the Central Register under the names of the child, parent(s) and perpetrator. Unfounded reports are expunged within 12 months.

ChildLine has received more than 165,000 reports of suspected abuse since 1976. There were 44,909 substantiated reports on file at ChildLine on December 31, 1986.

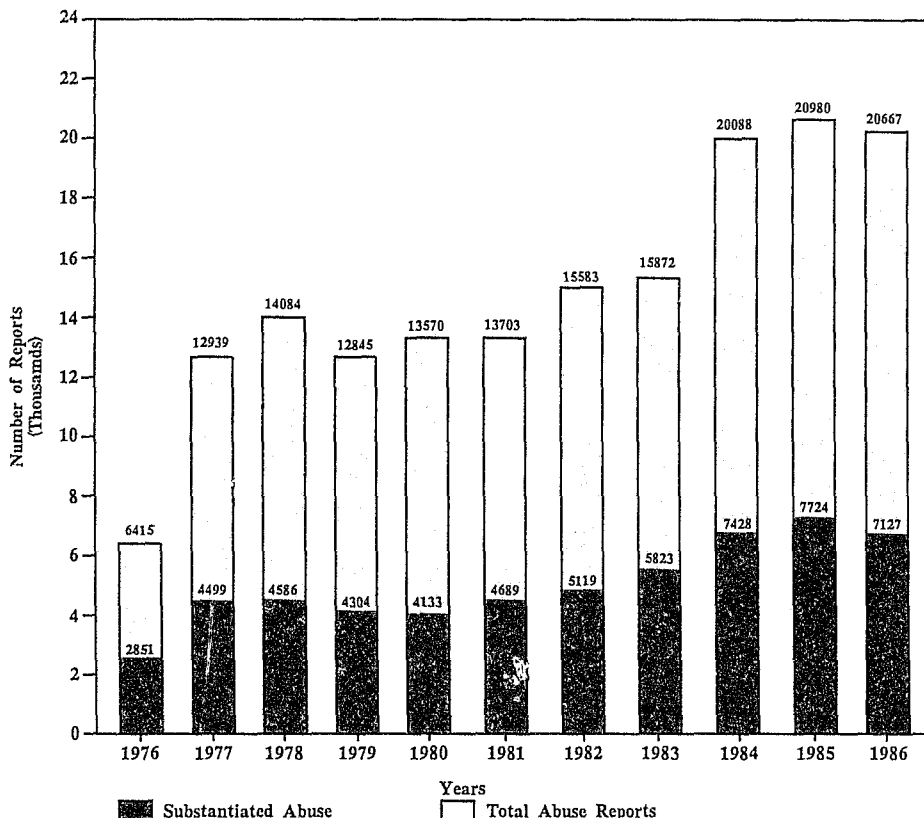
In addition to receiving reports of suspected abuse and neglect, ChildLine received 41,840 information or referral calls in 1986 (see Chart 2). These calls involved requests for information, crisis counseling, complaints regarding agencies' services and referrals to other county resources. Approximately 30 percent of these calls are referred to the county agency for services. They were calls about the safety of children including inadequate housing, clothing, and supervision. The county agencies investigate these reports and provide appropriate services. The number of these calls has increased markedly over the past six years.

A subject of a child abuse report has a right to a copy of the report from either ChildLine or the county agency. ChildLine provided 707 copies of reports to subjects in 1986.

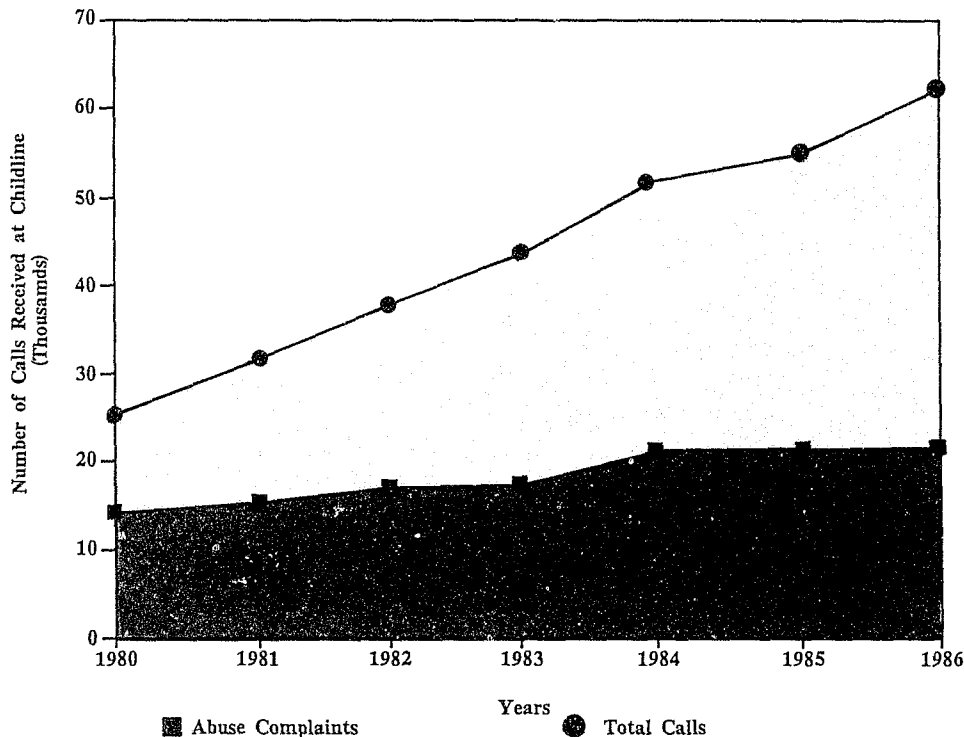
At any time, a subject of an indicated or founded report of child abuse may request the Secretary, or his designee\* within the department, to amend, seal, or expunge a report if the subject feels the report is inaccurate or not being maintained in compliance with the law. If the Secretary or designee refuses to grant the request, the subject has a right to a hearing before the Office of Hearings and Appeals.

\* This responsibility had been delegated to the Deputy Secretary of the Office of Children, Youth and Families.

**Chart 1**  
**CHILD ABUSE FROM 1976-1988**



**Chart 2**  
**TELEPHONE ACTIVITY AT CHILDLINE**  
**1980-1986**



In 1986 the Deputy Secretary received 420 requests to amend, seal, or expunge a report. The Deputy Secretary denied 358 (83.2 percent) requests; granted 29 (6.9 percent); and took under advisement 33 (7.9 percent). In 140 (39.1 percent) of the requests that were denied, the subject requested a hearing before the Office of Hearings and Appeals. ChildLine has a full-time staff person to process these requests.

Changes at ChildLine in 1986 to improve services include:

- Addition of a separate hotline for the hearing impaired (1-800-932-0316);
- Addition of a call sequencer to prevent callers from getting a busy signal;
- Updating of the computer program which allows ChildLine to process reports more quickly and efficiently;
- Refinement of the categorization policy which determines when a report must be investigated

according to the CPSL and when it is referred to a community agency or county children and youth agency for general intake;

- Hiring of a second shift clerical unit to expedite processing of reports.

#### **Status of Evaluation and Rate of Reporting and Substantiation by County, 1985-1986 - Table 1**

In 1986, 20,667 reports of suspected child abuse were received at ChildLine and investigated by staff of the county children and youth agency or the Department of Public Welfare's regional offices (see Table 1). This is a 1.5 percent decrease from 1985. Investigations determined 7,127 (34.5 percent) reports to be substantiated; 13,449 (65.1 percent) were determined to be unfounded; and 91 (0.4 percent) were still pending a final status determination by the county courts.

Almost seven out of every 1,000 children living in Pennsylvania were reported as victims of suspected child

abuse. The rate of reporting suspected child abuse ranged from 2.7 reports per 1,000 children in Elk County to 12.8 per 1,000 children in Northumberland County.

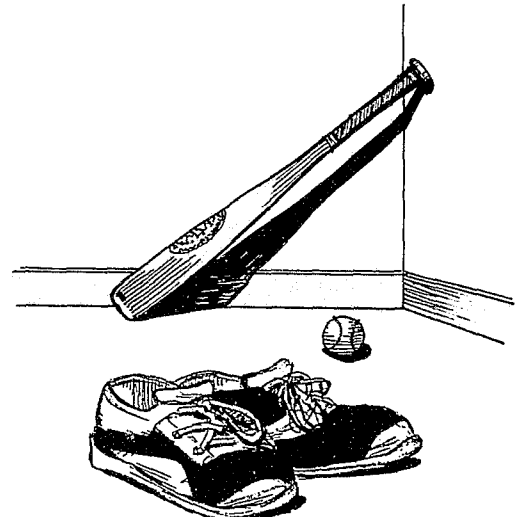
The statewide average rate of substantiation was 2.3 reports per 1,000 children. The rate of substantiated reports per 1,000 children ranged from .7 in Elk County to 5.7 in Northumberland County.

The substantiation rate in 1986 was 34.5 percent, a decrease of 2.3 percent from 1985. The rate in 33 counties was above this average and below it in 34 counties. The range was from 61.5 percent in Cameron County to 18.7 percent in Perry County.

In Pennsylvania in 1986, 4,449 (62.4 percent) of the substantiated reports involved girls while 2,678 (37.6 percent) involved boys. The higher number of substantiated reports involving girls is partially explained by the fact that 77.8 percent of reports of sexual abuse—the most prevalent type of abuse—involved girls and 22.2 percent involved boys, thereby affecting the overall ratio of girls to boys.

In 1986, 11,782 (57 percent) of the total number of reports of suspected abuse involved girls and 8,885 (43 percent) involved boys. Nationally, 52.1 percent of the reports involved boys and 47.9 percent involved girls in 1984, the most recent year for which national statistics are available.

The average age of children reported as victims of suspected child abuse in Pennsylvania was 9 years of age, compared to 7.1 years of age for children nationally.



**Table 1**  
**STATUS OF EVALUATION AND RATE OF REPORTING AND SUBSTANTIATION BY COUNTY 1985-1986**

COUNTY	TOTAL*		SUBSTANTIATED**		NUMBER OF REPORTS PER 1000 CHILDREN		NUMBER OF SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS PER 1000 CHILDREN	
	1985	1986	1985 (%)	1986 (%)	1985	1986	1985	1986
ADAMS	187	190	58 (31.0)	74 (38.9)	9.6	9.8	3.0	3.8
ALLEGHENY	2,002	1,970	750 (37.5)	548 (27.8)	5.8	5.7	2.2	1.6
ARMSTRONG	105	94	48 (45.7)	43 (45.7)	5.0	4.5	2.3	2.0
BEAVER	220	241	55 (25.0)	72 (29.9)	4.0	4.4	1.0	1.3
BEDFORD	71	47	38 (53.5)	23 (48.9)	5.1	3.4	2.8	1.7
BERKS	683	661	289 (42.3)	278 (42.1)	8.6	8.4	3.7	3.5
BLAIR	275	296	103 (37.5)	81 (27.4)	7.3	7.9	2.7	2.2
BRADFORD	201	213	67 (33.3)	90 (42.3)	10.2	10.8	3.4	4.6
BUCKS	617	647	202 (32.7)	193 (29.8)	4.3	4.5	1.4	1.4
BUTLER	188	198	42 (22.3)	52 (26.3)	4.4	4.7	1.0	1.2
CAMBRIA	218	227	70 (32.1)	79 (34.8)	4.4	4.6	1.4	1.6
CAMERON	17	13	9 (52.9)	8 (61.5)	9.3	7.1	4.9	4.4
CARBON	97	70	37 (38.1)	14 (20.0)	7.2	5.2	2.7	1.0
CENTRE	155	145	58 (37.4)	48 (25.1)	6.4	6.0	2.4	1.9
CHESTER	402	411	166 (41.3)	143 (34.8)	4.5	4.6	1.8	1.6
CLARION	63	60	20 (31.7)	14 (23.3)	5.3	5.1	1.7	1.2
CLEARFIELD	207	191	64 (30.9)	51 (26.7)	8.4	7.7	2.6	2.1
CLINTON	83	59	27 (32.5)	16 (27.1)	8.0	5.7	2.6	1.5
COLUMBIA	157	172	34 (21.7)	50 (29.1)	10.1	11.1	2.2	3.2
CRAWFORD	218	247	110 (50.5)	108 (43.7)	8.5	9.6	4.3	4.2
CUMBERLAND	223	230	70 (31.4)	72 (31.3)	4.9	5.0	1.5	1.6
DAUPHIN	491	467	144 (29.3)	137 (29.3)	8.1	7.7	2.4	2.3
DELAWARE	841	674	339 (40.3)	291 (43.2)	6.0	4.8	2.4	2.1
ELK	61	31	31 (50.8)	17 (54.8)	5.3	2.7	2.7	1.8
ERIE	434	443	293 (67.5)	262 (59.1)	5.4	5.5	3.6	3.2
FAYETTE	305	271	62 (20.3)	65 (24.0)	6.9	6.1	1.4	1.5
FOREST	24	10	9 (37.5)	5 (50.0)	17.7	7.4	6.6	3.7
FRANKLIN	87	97	27 (31.0)	21 (21.6)	2.7	3.0	0.8	0.7
FULTON	13	12	7 (53.8)	5 (41.7)	3.3	3.0	1.8	1.3
GREENE	102	83	35 (34.3)	23 (27.7)	8.6	7.0	2.9	1.9
HUNTINGDON	88	49	46 (52.3)	17 (34.7)	7.4	4.1	3.9	1.4
INDIANA	87	70	40 (46.0)	34 (48.6)	3.6	2.9	1.6	1.4
JEFFERSON	48	61	13 (27.1)	13 (21.3)	3.5	4.5	1.0	1.0
JUNIATA	31	29	18 (58.1)	8 (27.6)	5.6	5.2	3.2	1.4
LACKAWANNA	308	276	79 (25.6)	59 (21.4)	5.5	5.0	1.4	1.1
LANCASTER	359	371	174 (48.5)	142 (38.3)	3.5	3.6	1.7	1.4
LAWRENCE	106	118	40 (37.7)	43 (36.4)	3.8	4.2	1.4	1.5
LEBANON	237	253	120 (50.6)	93 (36.8)	7.9	8.5	4.0	3.1
LEHIGH	402	434	195 (48.5)	184 (42.4)	6.0	6.5	2.9	2.7
LUZERNE	503	425	153 (30.4)	109 (25.6)	6.0	5.1	1.8	1.3
LYCOMING	313	289	124 (39.6)	99 (34.3)	9.5	8.8	3.8	3.0
McKEAN	151	173	55 (36.4)	78 (45.1)	10.4	12.0	3.8	5.4
MERCER	276	335	51 (18.5)	85 (25.4)	8.0	9.8	1.5	2.5
MIFFLIN	73	57	24 (32.9)	21 (36.8)	5.4	4.2	1.8	1.5
MONROE	152	154	47 (30.9)	59 (38.3)	8.5	8.6	2.6	3.3
MONTGOMERY	940	821	232 (24.7)	196 (23.9)	5.7	5.0	1.4	1.2
MONTOUR	55	37	17 (30.9)	8 (21.6)	12.8	8.6	3.9	1.9
NORTHAMPTON	496	508	133 (26.8)	133 (26.2)	8.7	8.9	2.3	2.3
NORTHUMBERLAND	344	332	182 (52.9)	147 (44.3)	13.2	12.8	7.0	5.7
PERRY	128	91	25 (19.5)	17 (18.7)	11.9	8.4	2.3	1.6
PHILADELPHIA	4,289	4,506	1,812 (42.2)	1,832 (40.7)	9.8	10.3	4.1	4.2
PIKE	14	33	5 (35.7)	7 (21.2)	3.2	7.5	1.1	1.6
POTTER	29	16	13 (44.8)	6 (37.5)	5.2	2.9	2.3	1.1
SCHUYLKILL	226	306	71 (31.4)	104 (34.0)	5.6	7.6	1.8	2.6
SNYDER	44	26	25 (56.8)	10 (38.5)	4.7	2.8	2.7	1.1
SOMERSET	91	97	38 (41.8)	27 (27.8)	4.0	4.3	1.7	1.2
SULLIVAN	15	13	5 (33.3)	6 (46.2)	8.4	7.3	2.8	3.4
SUSQUEHANNA	78	66	31 (39.7)	26 (39.4)	6.8	5.8	2.7	2.3
TIOGA	100	124	55 (55.0)	62 (50.0)	8.2	10.2	4.5	5.1
UNION	39	54	16 (41.0)	28 (51.9)	4.7	6.6	1.9	3.4
VENANGO	102	117	40 (39.2)	35 (29.9)	5.6	6.4	2.2	1.9
WARREN	103	119	35 (34.0)	57 (47.9)	7.7	8.9	2.6	4.2
WASHINGTON	284	267	104 (36.6)	107 (40.1)	5.1	4.8	1.9	1.9
WAYNE	48	52	26 (54.2)	16 (30.8)	4.8	5.2	2.6	1.6
WESTMORELAND	606	589	185 (30.5)	195 (33.1)	5.8	5.6	1.8	1.9
WYOMING	63	88	24 (38.1)	26 (29.5)	7.5	10.4	2.8	3.1
YORK	1,005	841	207 (20.6)	163 (19.4)	11.6	9.7	2.4	1.9
STATE TOTAL	20,980	20,667	7,724 (36.8)	7,127 (34.5)	6.7	6.6	2.4	2.3

\*The total includes 91 reports that were submitted "Pending Juvenile Court."

\*\*Includes both founded and indicated reports.



**Referral Source by Status  
Determination and Children Placed,  
1986 - Table 2**

Persons whose occupation or profession brings them into contact with children are mandated by law to report suspected child abuse to ChildLine, when they have reason to suspect that a child coming before them in their professional capacity has been abused. Anyone else may report suspected child abuse either to ChildLine or a county children and youth agency (see Table 2). In 1986, 11,612 (56.2 percent) reports of suspected abuse were made by mandated reporters; 4,631 (39.9 percent) reports were substantiated. Of all substantiated reports, 65 percent were made by mandated reporters.

Of the children who were removed from the setting in which the abuse occurred, 4,067 (60.7 percent) were referred by mandated reporters.

Medical personnel, including psychologists, made 3,655 reports (17.6 percent); school personnel made 3,543 (17.1 percent) (see Chart 3). Nationally, in 1984, medical personnel made 11.2 percent and school personnel 13.3 percent of the total reports of suspected abuse.

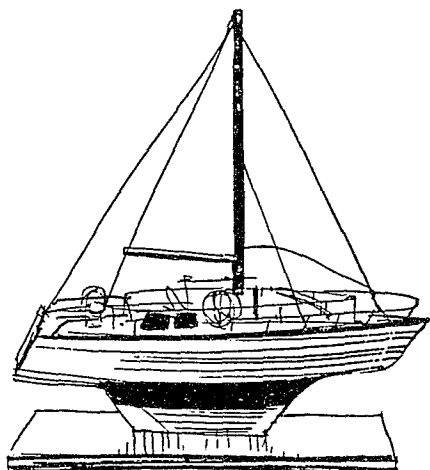
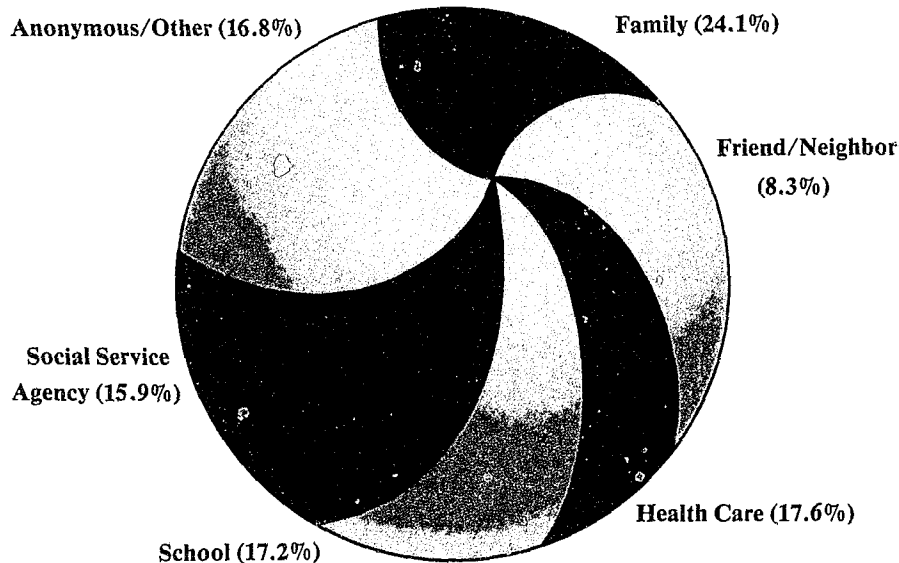
Of the abused children who had abuse reported anonymously, 8.7 percent were placed away from the setting where the abuse occurred. Of the children who reported themselves as being abused, 51.1 percent were placed in substitute care.

**Table 2**  
**REFERRAL SOURCE BY STATUS**  
**DETERMINATION AND CHILDREN PLACED**  
**1986**

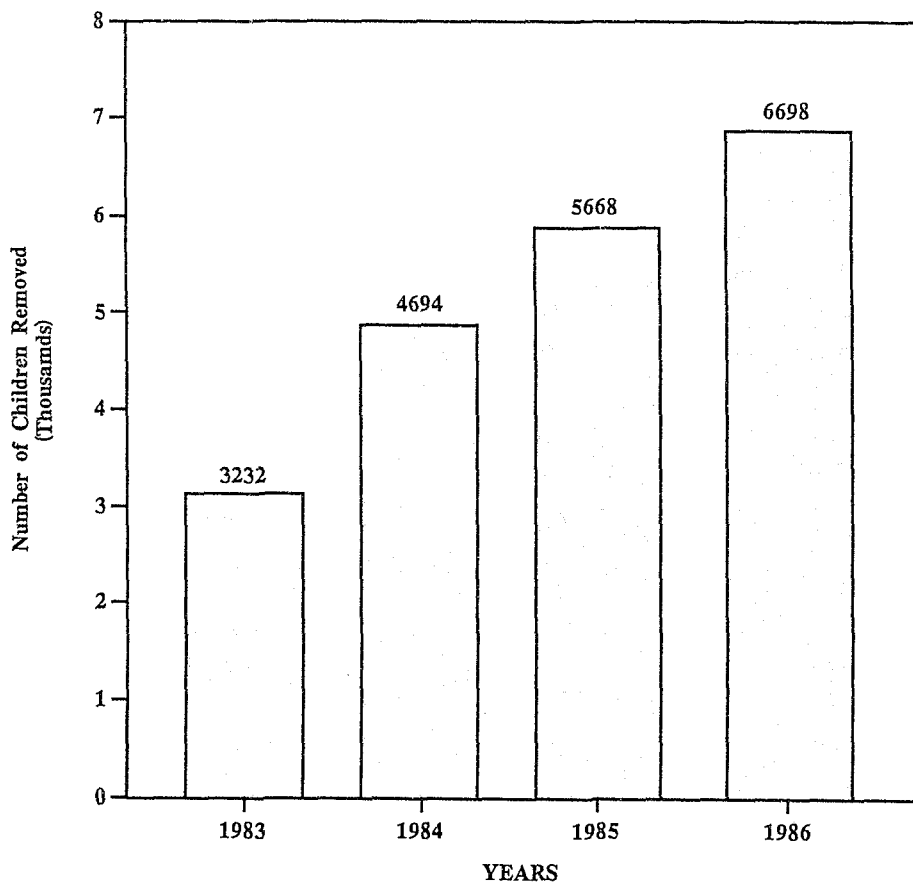
REFERRAL SOURCE	TOTAL	SUBSTANTIATED	CHILDREN PLACED
Anonymous	1,535	148 ( 9.6)	133
Child-Self Referral	948	424 (44.7)	484
Perpetrator-Self Ref.	106	54 (50.9)	28
Parent/Guardian	2,517	954 (37.9)	986
Sibling	200	72 (36.0)	58
Relative	1,315	335 (25.5)	377
Friend/Neighbor	1,725	259 (15.0)	275
Babysitter	100	20 (20.0)	19
Landlord	24	5 (20.8)	5
Private Doctor/Nurse	435	169 (38.9)	174
Dentist	1	1 (100.0)	1
Private Psychiatrist/ Psychologist	200	94 (47.0)	81
Public Health Dept.	59	18 (30.5)	11
Hospital	2,951	1,370 (46.4)	1,258
Law Enforcement	1,040	581 (55.9)	498
School	3,543	1,216 (34.3)	732
Day Care Staff	271	71 (26.2)	45
Clergy	51	25 (49.0)	16
Residential Facility	360	85 (23.6)	145
Coroner	9	6 (66.7)	7
Courts	35	13 (37.1)	17
Public MH/MR Agency	461	193 (41.9)	134
Other Public/Private Soc. Ser. Agency	2,196	798 (36.3)	948
Other	585	215 (36.8)	264
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20,667</b>	<b>7,127 (34.5)</b>	<b>6,696</b>

This includes children who ran away from the place where they were abused; children who were placed with friends or relatives by their parents, and children who were placed by a county CPS.

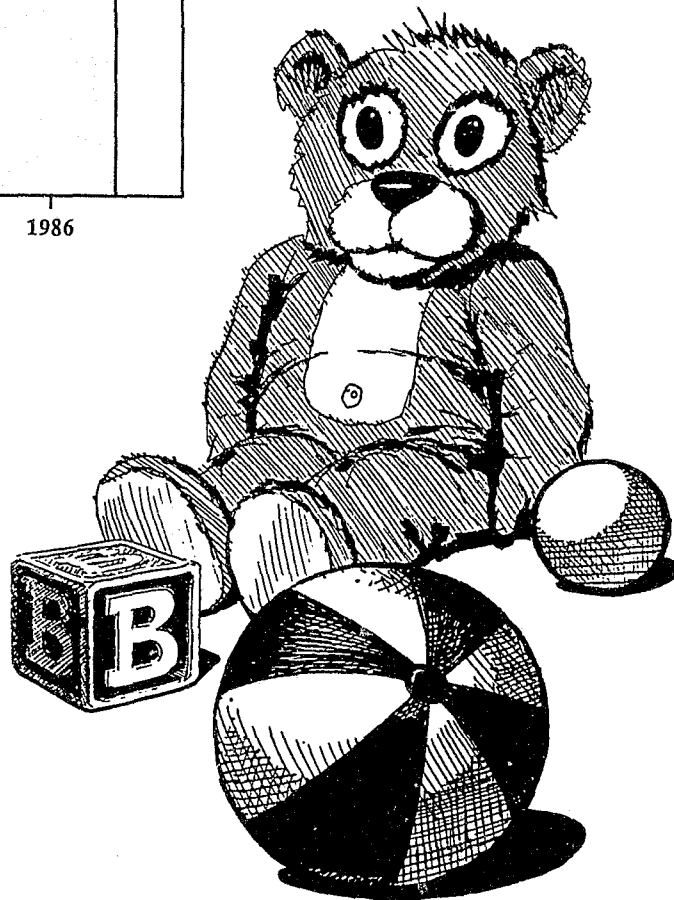
**Chart 3**  
**SOURCE OF ABUSE REFERRALS**  
**By Category**



**Chart 4**  
**NUMBER OF CHILDREN REMOVED FROM HOME**  
**1983-1986**



The number of children who were removed from the setting where they were abused has increased steadily over the past four years (see Chart 4). In 1986, 1,028 (18.1 percent) more children were placed on an emergency basis than in 1985.



## SCOPE OF CHILD ABUSE

### Injuries by Age (Substantiated Reports), 1986 - Table 3

All substantiated cases of child abuse are recorded in the statewide Central Registry. Some children receive more than one injury. Therefore, the total number of injuries, 10,170, exceeds the number of substantiated reports, 7,127 (see Table 3).

The most significant change in 1986 was in the number of sexual injuries which decreased for the first time since the department began keeping statistics on sexual abuse in 1976. Sexual injuries

declined from 5,481 in 1985 to 5,179 in 1986—5.5 percent. Sexual injuries account for 51 percent of all substantiated injuries, with indecent

assault accounting for 61 percent of all sexual abuse. The most significant decrease occurred among the 5 to 9 year olds—1,706 to 1,476 (13.5 percent).

Children in Pennsylvania sustained 823 (7.5 percent) fewer injuries in 1986 than in 1985. Reported physical injuries decreased 8.9 percent from 4,880 in 1985 to 4,445 in 1986. Bruises continue to account for the largest category of physical injuries, 1,993 injuries, or 44.8 percent of all physical injuries. In 1986, reported mental injuries decreased 4.3 percent and reported physical neglect decreased 15.8 percent from 1985.

**Table 3**  
**INJURIES BY AGE**  
(Substantiated Reports)  
1986

TYPE OF INJURY	TOTAL INJURIES	AGE GROUPS				
		UNDER AGE 1	AGE 1-4	AGE 5-9	AGE 10-14	AGE 15-17
<b>PHYSICAL INJURIES</b>	<b>4,445</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>743</b>	<b>1,243</b>	<b>1,171</b>	<b>911</b>
Burns/Scalding	221	37	98	65	15	6
Fractures	170	69	34	32	15	20
Skull Fractures	50	34	13	1	2	0
Subdural Hematoma	38	11	5	7	5	10
Bruises	1,993	100	320	599	567	407
Welts/Ecchymosis	726	19	85	233	238	151
Lacerations/Contusions/Abrasions	704	33	97	189	199	186
Wounds/Punctures	68	8	11	13	18	18
Brain Damage	20	13	5	2	0	0
Poisoning	10	1	6	2	1	0
Asphyxiation/Suffocation	16	8	3	2	2	1
Internal Injuries/Hemorrhage	45	14	9	8	5	9
Dismemberment	1	0	1	0	0	0
Sprains/Dislocations	27	2	1	3	7	14
Drugs/Alcohol	18	2	4	6	2	4
Drowning	3	1	0	1	1	0
Other	335	25	51	80	94	85
<b>MENTAL INJURIES</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>SEXUAL INJURIES</b>	<b>5,179</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>1,476</b>	<b>1,740</b>	<b>1,533</b>
Rape	289	0	8	50	85	146
Statutory Rape	315	0	13	62	137	103
Incest	432	0	32	89	130	181
Involuntary/Voluntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse	916	1	83	302	287	243
Indecent Assault	3,158	4	289	959	1,071	835
Promoting Prostitution	11	0	0	0	3	8
Pornography	58	0	0	14	27	17
<b>PHYSICAL NEGLECT</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>14</b>
Malnutrition	32	21	9	0	1	1
Failure to thrive	88	67	20	0	1	0
Lack of Supervision	121	30	57	28	4	2
Medical Neglect	167	42	54	32	29	10
Other	17	9	6	1	0	1
<b>Total of Substantiated Injuries</b>	<b>10,170</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>1,316</b>	<b>2,816</b>	<b>3,001</b>	<b>2,486</b>

### Fatalities by Age (Substantiated Reports), 1985-1986 - Table 4

In 1986, 44 children died in Pennsylvania as a result of child abuse (see Table 4). This is a 29.4 percent increase from 1985 and is the largest number since 1982. Almost 60 percent of the children who died from abuse were less than a year old.

Chart 5 shows the number of deaths by the county in which they occurred. The number of deaths in Philadelphia doubled from 13 in 1985 to 24 in 1986.

### Chart 5 1986 CHILD ABUSE RELATED DEATHS BY COUNTY:

Allegheny.....	4
Armstrong.....	1
Berks.....	1
Centre.....	1
Dauphin.....	1
Delaware.....	2
Fayette.....	3
Lancaster.....	1
Lehigh.....	1
Mercer.....	2
Montgomery.....	1
Philadelphia.....	24
Westmoreland.....	2
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>44</b>

**Table 4**  
**FATALITIES BY AGE**  
**(Substantiated Reports)**  
**1986**

AGE GROUP	TOTAL SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS		CHILD DIED		RATE/100 SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS	
	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986
Under Age 1	358	378	14	26	3.9	6.9
Age 1-4	1,051	939	9	13	.9	1.4
Age 5-9	2,276	2,065	8	3	.4	.1
Age 10-14	2,199	2,100	1	1	.05	.05
Age 15-17	1,840	1,645	2	1	.1	.06
<b>State Total</b>	<b>7,724</b>	<b>7,127</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>.4</b>	<b>.6</b>

### Relationship of Perpetrator to Child by Age of the Perpetrator (Substantiated Reports), 1986 - Table 5

Occasionally more than one perpetrator is involved in an incident of abuse (see Table 5). That is why the 8,102 perpetrators is a larger number than the 7,127 total of substantiated incidents (see Table 1).

Mothers and fathers continue to

comprise the largest group of perpetrators—4,003 or 49.4 percent. However, this is a 5.5 percent decrease from the 4,235 parental perpetrators in 1985.

The largest number of abusive mothers—46.8 percent—were between the ages of 20 and 29. The largest number of abusive fathers—45.6 percent—were between the ages of 30 and 39.

**Table 5**  
**RELATIONSHIP OF PERPETRATOR TO CHILD BY AGE OF THE PERPETRATOR**  
**(Substantiated Reports)**  
**1986**

RELATIONSHIPS	TOTAL PERPS	AGE OF PERPETRATORS					
		Age 10-19	Age 20-29	Age 30-39	Age 40-49	Age 50+	Age Unavailable
Mother	1,946	112	910	762	137	14	11
Father	2,057	16	422	939	500	143	37
Sibling	346	276	51	9	3	0	7
Step-mother	64	2	18	31	11	1	1
Step-father	653	5	139	317	123	45	24
Paramour	1,086	20	306	587	99	39	35
Foster Parent	30	2	1	11	4	9	3
Residential Staff	34	0	17	15	1	0	1
Day Care Staff	10	1	1	1	3	2	2
Legal Guardian	50	1	5	9	4	6	25
Custodian	17	3	4	4	4	2	0
Babysitter	424	161	98	76	44	38	7
Household Member	246	107	68	34	20	9	8
Grandparent	227	0	1	7	38	174	17
Teacher	3	0	1	1	1	0	0
Other Relative	393	141	123	61	27	25	16
Other	516	68	97	178	77	79	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,102</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>2,262</b>	<b>3,042</b>	<b>1,096</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>201</b>

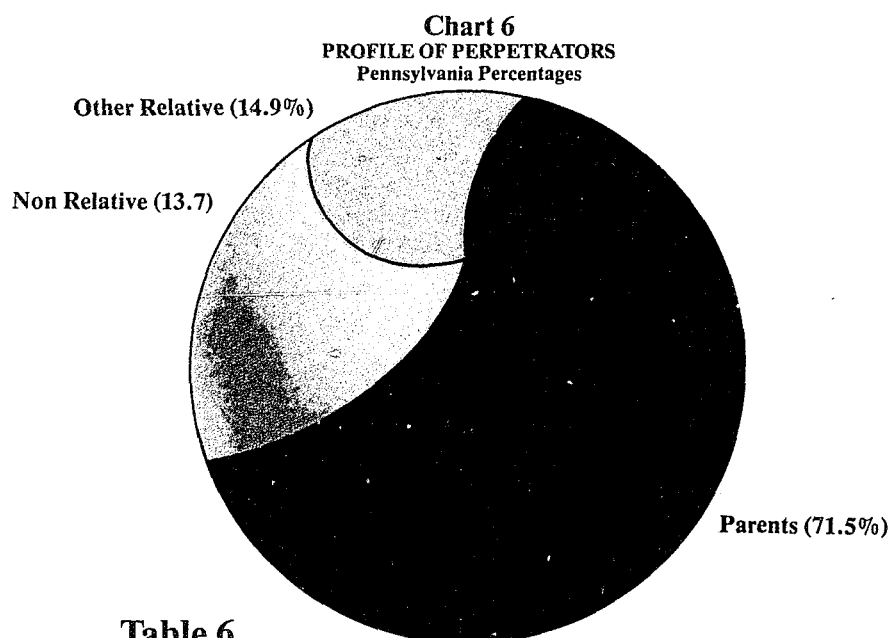
The child-perpetrator relationship in 5,806 (71.5 percent) reports was parental; 1,110 (13.7 percent) was a nonrelative; and 1,208 (14.9 percent) was an other relative (see Chart 6 - Pennsylvania Profile of Perpetrators).

Parental relationships include: mothers, fathers, stepmothers, stepfathers, and paramours.

Nonrelatives include: foster parents, residential staff, day care staff, legal guardians, custodians, babysitters, non-public or private school teachers, e.g. teachers in day-care programs, other, and unknown.

Other Relatives include: siblings, household members, grandparents, and other relatives.

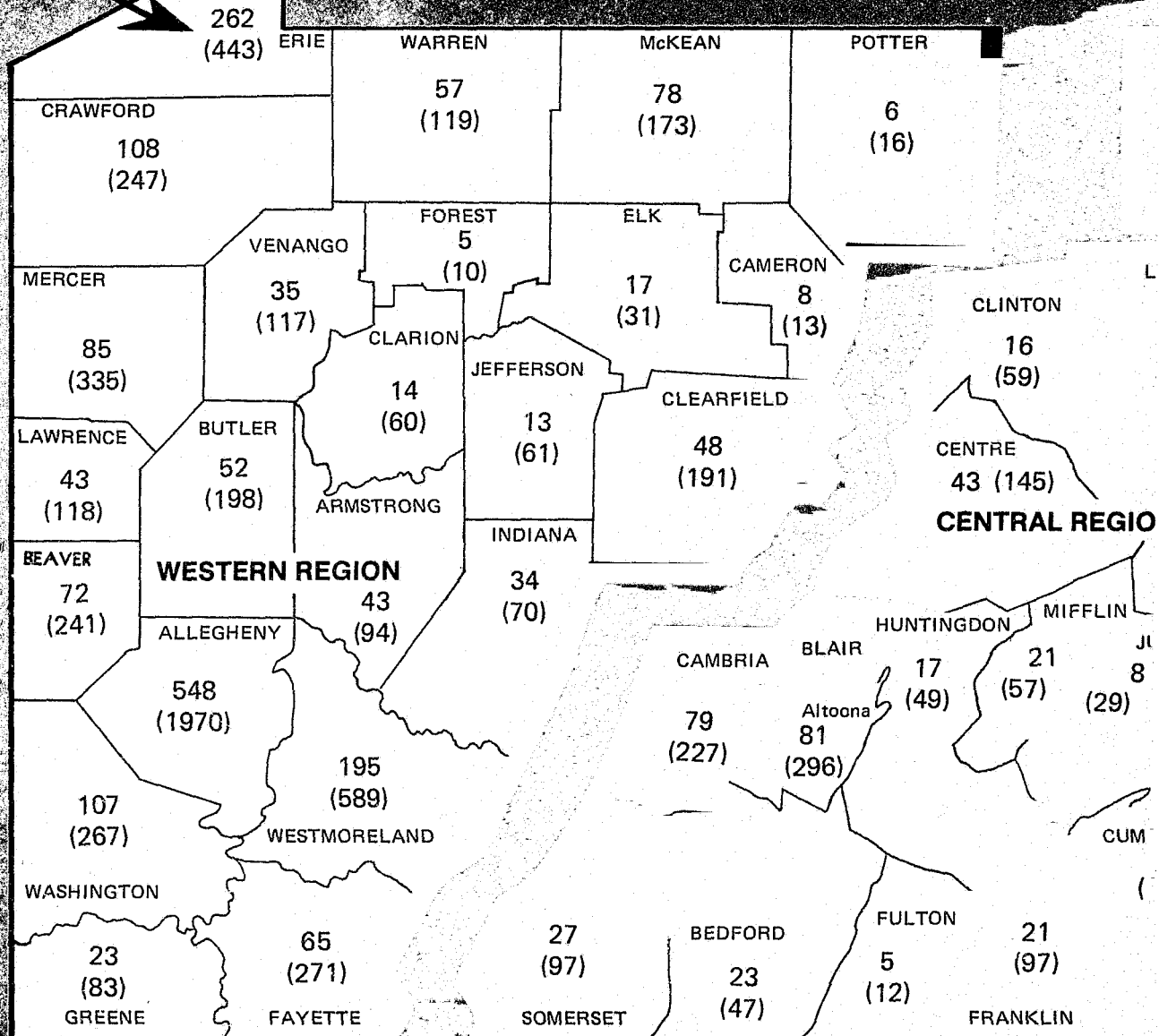
On a national level these percentages for 1984 were 85.9 percent for parental relationship, 8.3 percent nonrelative,



**Table 6**  
**RELATIONSHIP OF PERPETRATOR BY TYPE OF INJURY**  
(Substantiated Reports) 1986

TYPE OF INJURY	Mother	Father	Sibling	Step Mother	Step Father	Para-mour	Foster Parent	Res. Staff	Day Care Staff	Legal Guardian	Custodian	Baby Sitter	Teacher	Household Memb.	Grand Parent	Other Relative	Other	Row Total
<b>PHYSICAL INJURIES</b>	<b>1,960</b>	<b>1,409</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>563</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>4,920</b>
Burns/Scalding	141	54	3	3	7	23	0	0	0	4	1	6	0	3	7	10	6	268
Fractures	104	55	2	2	11	18	2	2	0	1	0	5	0	4	3	1	2	212
Skull Fractures	33	11	0	0	2	7	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	1	2	60
Subdural Hematoma	14	16	1	1	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	1	46
Bruises	777	662	30	35	163	292	9	8	0	16	1	51	1	14	29	43	43	2,174
Welts/Ecchymosis	318	238	11	9	65	85	2	1	0	7	0	22	0	4	4	15	15	796
Lacerations/Abrasions	316	207	18	8	61	82	2	10	0	8	0	11	0	6	6	20	16	771
Punctures/Bites	34	11	1	2	2	3	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	2	4	68
Brain Damage	8	9	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	26
Poisoning	4	4	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	12
Asphyxiation/Suffocation	11	6	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	20
Int. Injuries/																		
Hemorrhage	24	17	4	0	1	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	57
Dismemberment	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Sprains/Dislocations	8	12	0	1	2	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27
Drugs/Alcohol	14	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	21
Drowning	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Other	151	102	6	3	29	32	1	2	1	3	0	5	0	8	2	6	6	357
<b>MENTAL INJURIES</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>175</b>
<b>SEXUAL ABUSE</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>1,476</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>5,650</b>
Rape	27	71	26	0	49	60	0	0	1	2	1	10	0	26	5	24	27	329
Statutory Rape	23	92	19	0	46	112	0	0	1	2	0	14	0	26	8	21	38	402
Incest	40	270	98	1	5	5	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	1	9	26	8	467
Deviate Sexual																		
Intercourse	65	246	91	0	117	90	2	0	1	5	2	77	0	57	38	93	110	994
Sexual Assault	208	779	231	9	379	355	17	21	10	16	14	322	2	193	151	273	402	3,382
Promoting Prostitution	3	3	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	16
Pornography	5	15	0	0	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	1	2	4	18	60
<b>PHYSICAL NEGLECT</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>538</b>
Malnutrition	29	8	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	1	44
Failure to Thrive	85	25	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	115
Lack of Supervision	91	40	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	9	0	5	150
Medical Neglect	149	45	0	1	1	3	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	1	2	211
Other	11	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	18
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>2,775</b>	<b>3,064</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>966</b>	<b>1,208</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>11,283</b>

1,918  
(5,717)

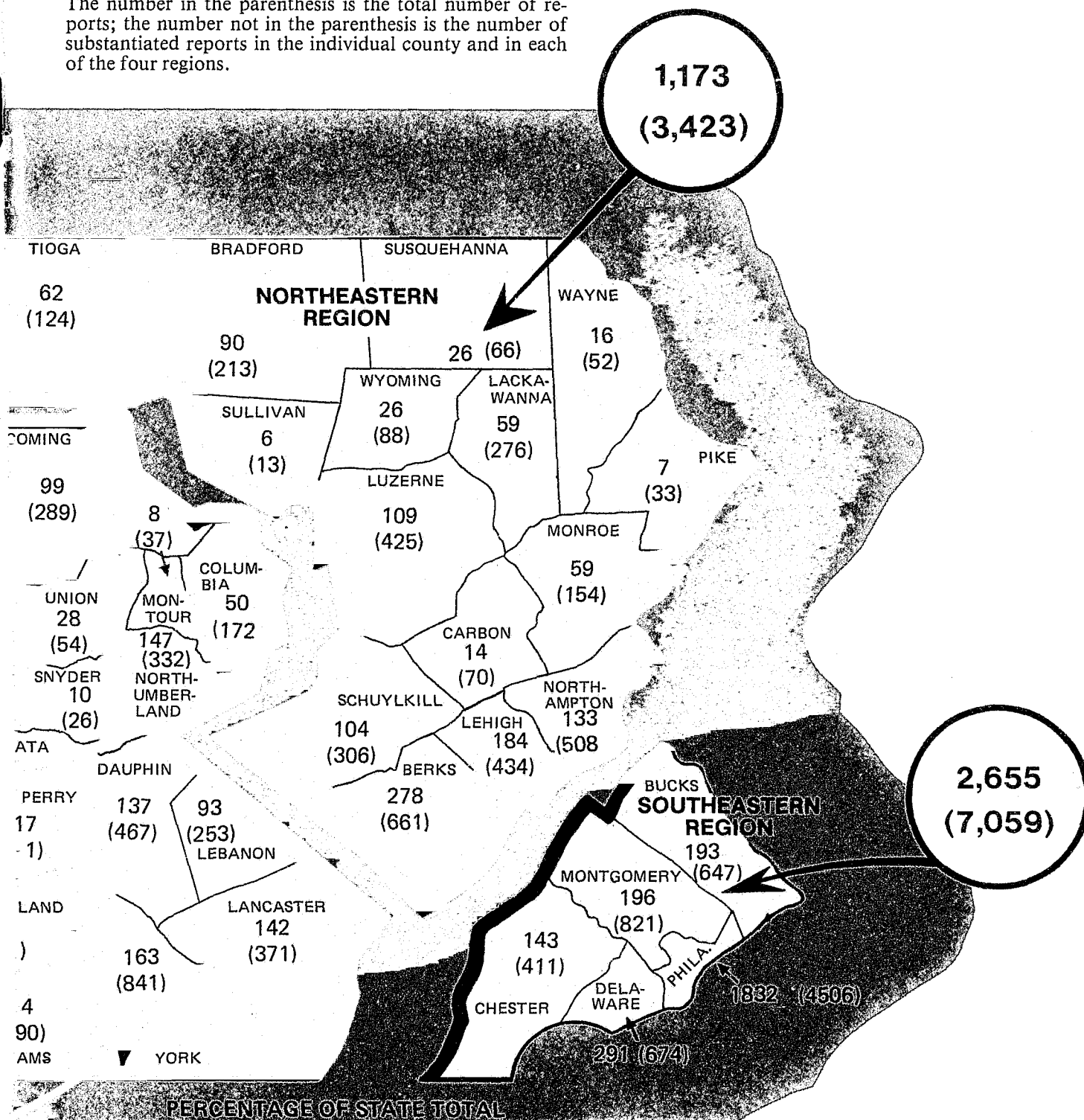


TOTAL SUSPECTED CASES - 2,667  
TOTAL SUBSTANTIATED - 7,117

1,381  
(4,468)

# INVESTIGATED REPORTS OF CHILD ABUSE

The number in the parenthesis is the total number of reports; the number not in the parenthesis is the number of substantiated reports in the individual county and in each of the four regions.



PERCENTAGE OF STATE TOTAL

REGION	SUSPECTED CASES	SUBSTANTIATED CASES
CENTRAL	4,468	1,381
NORTHEAST	3,423	1,173
SOUTHEAST	7,059	2,655
WESTERN	5,717	1,918

and 5.8 percent other relative (see Chart 7 - National Profile of Perpetrators).

### Relationship of Perpetrator by Type of Injury (Substantiated Reports), 1986 - Table 6

Since some perpetrators cause more than one injury, more injuries are recorded than the total number of substantiated reports (see Table 6).

Parents were responsible for 5,839 (51.7 percent) of all injuries to abused children in 1986. While mothers and fathers were almost equally responsible for abuse overall, mothers were more frequently responsible for causing physical injuries and neglect than fathers. Fathers were four times more responsible for sexual abuse than mothers.

Babysitters were responsible for the highest number of injuries to children among nonrelated or nonparental perpetrators. Of the abuse by babysitters, 79 percent was sexual. A high incidence of sexual abuse by babysitters is a consistent trend over the years.

Across the nation the news media has reported incidents of physical and sexual abuse perpetrated by staff in day-care centers and child caring facilities. Pennsylvania and 22 other states have enacted laws requiring applicants for employment to a child care service be screened by statewide central registers and police to determine whether or not they have a record that indicates they might be a threat to children's safety. In Pennsylvania in 1986, residential child caring staff, foster parents, and day-care center staff were responsible for 98 injuries—less than 1 percent of the 11,283 injuries received by abused children.

### Number of Reports of Reabuse by County, 1986 - Table 7

The CPSL established a Central Register for all founded and indicated reports of child abuse. The purpose of the Central Register is to detect prior abuse of a child or by a perpetrator. Upon receipt of a report at ChildLine, the telephone counselor searches the Central Register to determine if any subject was involved in a previous substantiated report.

**Table 7**  
**NUMBER OF REPORTS OF REABUSE BY COUNTY**  
**1986**

COUNTY	TOTAL	SUBSTANTIATED (%)
ADAMS	18	8 (44%)
ALLEGHENY	226	68 (30%)
ARMSTRONG	11	9 (82%)
BEAVER	21	9 (43%)
BEDFORD	4	2 (50%)
BERKS	98	43 (44%)
BLAIR	38	11 (29%)
BRADFORD	27	17 (63%)
BUCKS	59	19 (32%)
BUTLER	18	4 (22%)
CAMBRIA	21	12 (55%)
CAMERON	0	0 (0%)
CARBON	13	1 (8%)
CENTRE	17	5 (29%)
CHESTER	41	19 (46%)
CLARION	4	0 (0%)
CLEARFIELD	22	5 (23%)
CLINTON	59	7 (12%)
COLUMBIA	22	6 (27%)
CRAWFORD	31	14 (45%)
CUMBERLAND	23	9 (39%)
DAUPHIN	56	22 (39%)
DELAWARE	74	37 (50%)
ELK	3	2 (67%)
ERIE	81	55 (68%)
FAYETTE	16	3 (19%)
FOREST	1	1 (100%)
FRANKLIN	1	0 (0%)
FULTON	2	1 (50%)
GREENE	7	4 (57%)
HUNTINGDON	3	0 (0%)
INDIANA	11	6 (55%)
JEFFERSON	8	1 (13%)
JUNIATA	2	1 (50%)
LACKAWANNA	22	3 (14%)
LANCASTER	33	16 (48%)
LAWRENCE	11	0 (0%)
LEBANON	33	14 (42%)
LEHIGH	71	38 (53%)
LUZERNE	58	16 (28%)
LYCOMING	43	14 (33%)
McKEAN	20	12 (60%)
MERCER	29	9 (31%)
MIFFLIN	10	6 (60%)
MONROE	18	10 (56%)
MONTGOMERY	91	25 (27%)
MONTOUR	2	2 (100%)
NORTHAMPTON	69	26 (38%)
NORTHUMBERLAND	61	37 (61%)
PERRY	10	3 (30%)
PHILADELPHIA	638	321 (50%)
PIKE	1	0 (0%)
POTTER	2	1 (50%)
SCHUYLKILL	47	20 (43%)
SNYDER	5	0 (0%)
SOMERSET	14	2 (14%)
SULLIVAN	2	1 (50%)
SUSQUEHANNA	7	3 (43%)
TIOGA	12	7 (58%)
UNION	5	2 (40%)
VENANGO	15	4 (27%)
WARREN	12	9 (75%)
WASHINGTON	26	11 (42%)
WAYNE	4	2 (50%)
WESTMORELAND	42	19 (45%)
WYOMING	4	1 (25%)
YORK	93	28 (30%)
<b>STATE TOTAL</b>	<b>2,548</b>	<b>1,271 (50%)</b>

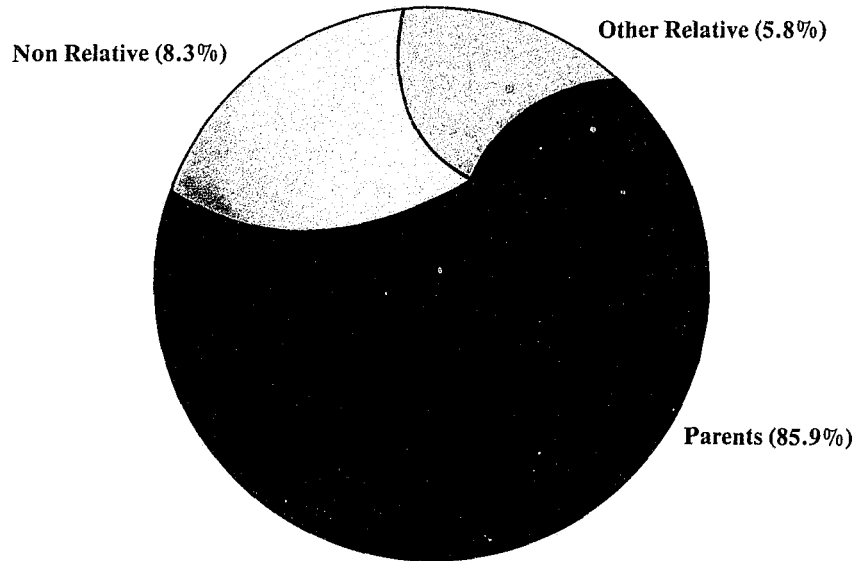


In 1986, there were 2,548 reports of reabuse of children on file in the Central Register (see Table 7). This was a 10 percent increase in 1986 compared with an 18 percent increase in 1985 and a 35 percent increase in 1984. Statewide, 33 counties received more reports of reabuse in 1986 than in 1985, 27 received fewer reports, and seven counties received the same number.

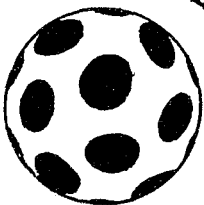
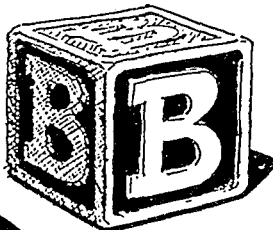
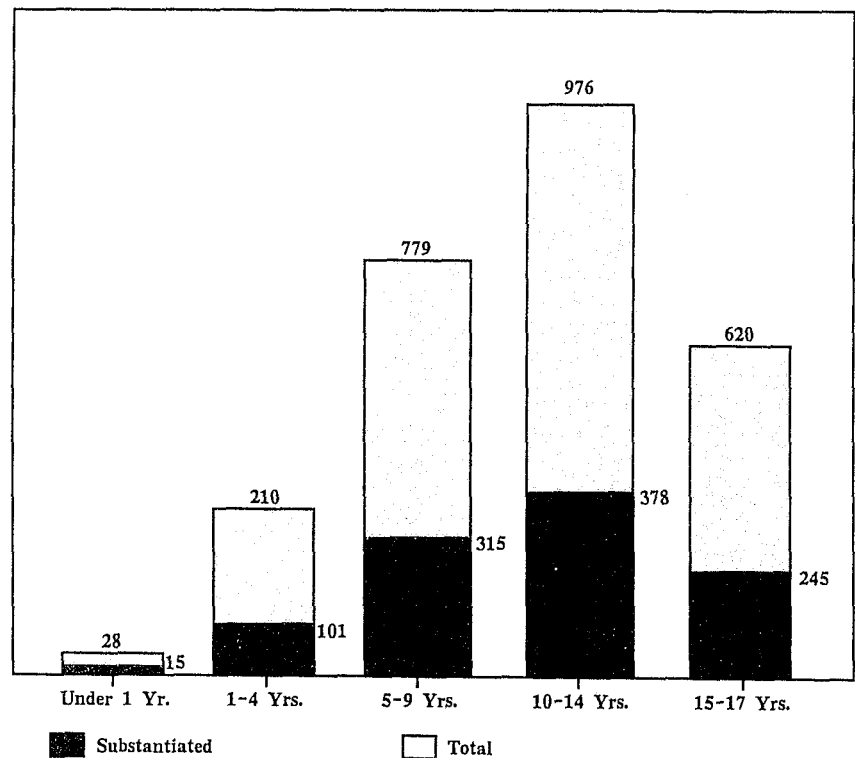
The substantiated rate for all reports received in 1986 was 34.5 percent; the substantiated rate for reabuse was 50 percent—compared with 45 percent in 1985.

Chart 8 shows reabuse by age of the children. A total of 15 children were abused at least two times before their first birthday. The highest substantiation rate (53.6 percent) was for children less than one year old.

**Chart 7**  
**PROFILE OF PERPETRATORS**  
National Percentages



**Chart 8**  
**REABUSE BY AGE**  
1986



## CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES

### Role of the County Children and Youth Agencies

Each county is required by the County Code to establish a children and youth agency to protect children from abuse and neglect. The CPSL mandates each children and youth agency to have a child protective service to swiftly and competently receive and investigate reports of suspected child abuse, provide protection from reabuse, and provide rehabilitative services to children and parents to "preserve and stabilize life wherever appropriate." The county children and youth agency prepares an annual plan describing how it will implement the law. Input for the plan is provided from the county court, law enforcement agencies, other community social services agencies, and the general public.

The county agency is required to make the following services available for the prevention and treatment of child abuse:

- ▶ **Multidisciplinary Teams (MDT)**  
Community members from various professions assist the CPS by:
  - Developing treatment plans for abused children and their families;
  - Recommending improvements in service delivery;
  - Identifying and pursuing resources to fill service gaps in the community.
- ▶ **Instruction in Education for Parenthood**  
Programs for the community and parents on the responsibilities of parenthood.
- ▶ **Protective and Preventive Social Counseling Caseworker Services**  
Counseling and therapy for individuals and families aimed at protecting children from further abuse.
- ▶ **Emergency Caregiver Services**  
Temporary, substitute care and

supervision of children in their own home.

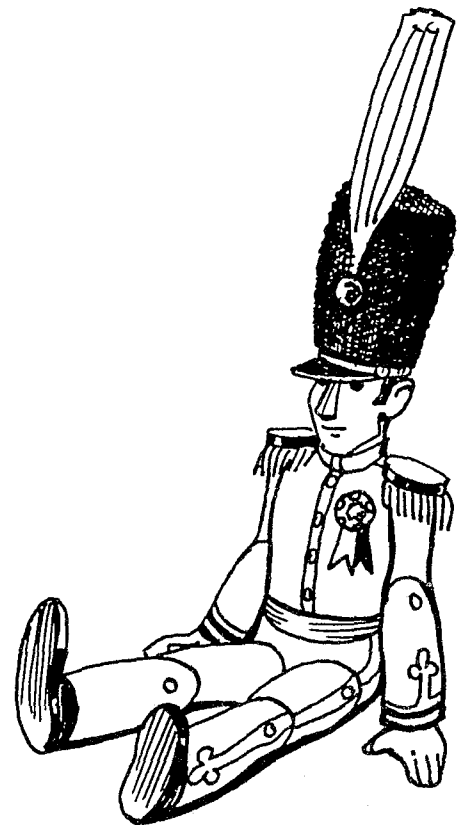
- ▶ **Emergency Shelter Care**  
Residential or foster home placement of children taken into protective custody after being removed from their own home.
- ▶ **Emergency Medical Services**  
Emergency medical services for the examination and treatment of children suspected of being abused, which is provided only with parental consent or by court order.
- ▶ **Preventive and Educational Functions for Staff and Community**  
Programs to increase public awareness and willingness to identify victims of suspected child abuse and to provide necessary community rehabilitative services.
- ▶ **Self Help Groups**  
Groups of former or potentially abusive parents organized to help reduce abusive behavior through mutual support and help.

### Number of Cases Investigated Within 30 and 60 Days, 1985-1986 - Table 8

The CPSL requires the CPS staff and the department's regional office to complete child abuse investigations within 30 days from the date the report is received at ChildLine. If the results of the investigation are not received at ChildLine within 60 days, the report is considered unfounded and expunged.

In 1986, 12,688 (61.4 percent) reports were received at ChildLine within 30 days (see Table 8). This is 10.9 percent more than were received within 30 days than in 1985. The 10.9 percent increase in the number of reports that were received within 30 days is partially explained by a change in department regulations. Prior to January 1986 the 30 days were counted from when the report was initially received at ChildLine to when the status determination report was received. Often times reports were received after

30 days because of delays due to the postal service. The regulations were amended to count 30 days from when the report was received initially at ChildLine to when the status determination was postmarked. Only 49 (.2 percent) reports were expunged because they were not received within 60 days.



**Table 8**  
**NUMBER OF CASES INVESTIGATED WITHIN 30 and 60 DAYS**  
**1985-1986**

COUNTY	0-30		30-60		OVER 60 (Expunged)	
	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986
ADAMS	79	155	107	35	1	0
ALLEGHENY	614	739	1,379	1,221	9	10
ARMSTRONG	35	42	69	52	1	0
BEAVER	140	211	80	30	0	0
BEDFORD	55	29	16	18	0	0
BERKS	294	384	387	276	2	1
BLAIR	247	288	28	8	0	0
BRADFORD	94	130	107	83	0	0
BUCKS	468	550	148	97	1	0
BUTLER	125	151	63	47	0	0
CAMBRIA	206	217	12	10	0	0
CAMERON	11	13	5	0	1	0
CARBON	67	53	30	17	0	0
CENTRE	129	134	26	10	0	1
CHESTER	193	321	200	88	9	2
CLARION	20	24	43	36	0	0
CLEARFIELD	99	103	108	88	0	0
CLINTON	70	52	13	7	0	0
COLUMBIA	116	163	38	9	3	0
CRAWFORD	58	124	157	122	3	1
CUMBERLAND	123	212	100	18	0	0
DAUPHIN	275	289	216	178	0	0
DELAWARE	318	286	516	377	7	11
ELK	53	29	8	2	0	0
ERIE	138	169	296	274	0	0
FAYETTE	207	213	98	58	0	0
FOREST	5	3	19	7	0	0
FRANKLIN	17	59	70	38	0	0
FULTON	11	9	2	3	0	0
GREENE	70	69	31	14	1	0
HUNTINGDON	70	36	18	13	0	0
INDIANA	65	64	22	6	0	0
JEFFERSON	33	54	9	5	6	2
JUNIATA	28	27	3	2	0	0
LACKAWANNA	188	201	119	75	1	0
LANCASTER	218	267	141	104	0	0
LAWRENCE	41	80	64	38	1	0
LEBANON	170	187	67	66	0	0
LEHIGH	24	19	378	415	0	0
LUZERNE	204	246	299	178	0	1
LYCOMING	188	211	125	78	0	0
McKEAN	74	106	76	67	1	0
MERCER	260	310	16	25	0	0
MIFFLIN	61	51	12	6	0	0
MONROE	78	115	74	39	0	0
MONTGOMERY	526	540	412	279	2	2
MONTOUR	43	29	12	8	0	0
NORTHAMPTON	246	373	250	135	0	0
NORTHUMBERLAND	92	105	252	227	0	0
PERRY	101	74	26	17	1	0
PHILADELPHIA	1,929	2,484	2,356	2,012	4	10
PIKE	4	18	10	15	0	0
POTTER	19	12	9	14	4	0
SCHUYLKILL	178	258	48	48	0	0
SNYDER	20	14	24	12	0	0
SOMERSET	77	79	14	18	0	0
SULLIVAN	14	11	1	2	0	0
SUSQUEHANNA	56	56	22	10	0	0
TIOGA	75	117	25	7	0	0
UNION	31	42	8	12	0	0
VENANGO	59	88	42	29	1	0
WARREN	19	20	82	99	2	0
WASHINGTON	150	218	133	46	1	3
WAYNE	38	44	10	8	0	0
WESTMORELAND	328	271	267	316	11	2
WYOMING	48	72	15	16	0	0
YORK	593	569	411	269	1	3
<b>STATE TOTAL</b>	<b>10,685</b>	<b>12,689</b>	<b>10,224</b>	<b>7,929</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>49</b>

## Services Planned and Provided, 1986 - Table 9

### Definitions for Table 9

**Planned** - those services planned by the CPS for the child/parents/perpetrator during the investigative period.

**Provided** - those services provided to the child/parents/perpetrator during the investigative period.

Counseling by the CPS continues to be the most frequently used social service to help parents correct the problems that lead to abuse and to protect children from further abuse (see Table 9). The amount of services, both planned and provided, decreased in all categories. The most noticeable change was a 21.6 percent decrease in the number of children who received emergency medical care.

### County Expenditures for Child Abuse Programs, 1986 - Table 10

Federal, state, and county governments share in funding CPS programs. The major source of federal funds is Title XX of the Social Security Act.

Federal, state and county funds to provide services to abused children and their families increased to \$11,643,312

in 1986, \$1,858,265 more than in 1985 (see Table 10). These costs include personnel expenditures associated with implementing the law, but do not include administrative or placement costs.

The department used Federal monies under Title IV-B of the Social Security Act to operate ChildLine. The total expenditures for ChildLine including costs associated with Act 33 in 1986 were \$1,196,400. Expenditures for staff in the Central Office of Children, Youth and Families were \$158,850. Regional staff expenditures was \$268,142.

The total funding, excluding administrative and placement costs, to implement the CPSL in 1986 was \$13,266,704.

### Role of the Regional Offices

The Office of Children, Youth and Families has regional offices in Philadelphia, Scranton, Harrisburg, and Pittsburgh. Regional staff monitor, license, and provide technical assistance to public and private child care agencies and facilities. Their responsibilities include:

- Carrying out CPS responsibilities for child abuse investigation, when the report involves county children and youth agency employees or its agents;

- Monitoring the county's implementation of the CPSL; Assuring compliance with governing regulations of social service agencies and facilities, by investigating complaints and conducting annual inspections;
- Assisting counties in the interpretation and implementation of CPS regulations;
- Reviewing and recommending approval of county children and youth agency annual child protective service plans.

### Regional Investigations of Agents of the Agency, 1985-1986 - Table 11

Section 16 of the CPSL requires the department to investigate reports of suspected child abuse "... when the suspected abuse has been committed by a county children and youth agency or any of its agents or employees." An agent of the county children and youth agency is anyone who acts for, or on behalf of, the county agency. Agents include foster parents, residential child care staff, and child day-care staff. Regional staff conduct these investigations.

In 1986, regional staff investigated 725 reports of suspected abuse involving agents of the county children and youth agencies, a decrease of four (.6 percent) reports from 1985 (see Table 11). Except for the Southeast Region which received 6.3 percent more reports in 1986 than in 1985, all regions received slightly fewer reports.

The substantiated rate of regional investigations was 18.3 percent, compared to 34.5 percent for children in their own home.

### Type of Abuse of Children in Substitute Care by Region (Substantiated Reports), 1986 - Table 12

Since some children receive more than one injury, the total number of injuries, 184 (see Table 12), exceeds the total number of substantiated reports, 133 (see Table 11). There were only slight variations in the number of injuries children received in substitute care in 1986.

**Table 9**  
**SERVICES**  
**1986**

SERVICES	Child		Parent/Perpetrator		TOTAL
	PL*	PR*	PL	PR	
Counseling	4,992	7,645	9,898	14,639	37,174
Referral to Self Help Group	311	371	1,168	1,345	3,195
Referral to Intra-Agency Services	1,833	2,298	3,472	3,994	11,597
Referral to Community Services	1,641	2,434	3,477	4,705	12,257
Homemaker/Care-taker Services			316	413	729
Instruction & Education for Parenthood			1,413	1,339	2,752
Emergency Medical Care		1,040			1,040
Other	289	626	325	999	2,239
Multidisciplinary Team Case Review			638	1,086	1,724

\*PL—Planned \*\*PR—Provided

**Table 10**  
**COUNTY EXPENDITURES FOR**  
**CHILD ABUSE PROGRAMS**  
**1986**

COUNTY	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	COUNTY	TOTAL EXPENDITURES
ADAMS	12,250	LANCASTER	132,628
ALLEGHENY	1,261,141	LAWRENCE	30,247
ARMSTRONG	67,897	LEBANON	109,920
BEAVER	115,608	LEHIGH	400,120
BEDFORD	22,370	LUZERNE	284,248
BERKS	243,294	LYCOMING	116,373
BLAIR	70,981	McKEAN	51,422
BRADFORD	72,087	MERCER	48,999
BUCKS	485,236	MIFFLIN	28,220
BUTLER	89,663	MONROE	33,473
CAMBRIA	146,649	MONTGOMERY	181,460
CAMERON	2,877	MOTOUR	28,845
CARBON	28,097	NORTHAMPTON	382,155
CENTRE	45,763	NORTHUMBERLAND	147,283
CHESTER	230,012	PERRY	43,600
CLARION	53,943	PHILADELPHIA	3,577,886
CLEARFIELD	63,758	PIKE	17,923
CLINTON	22,487	POTTER	6,743
COLUMBIA	42,128	SCHUYLKILL	108,381
CRAWFORD	66,768	SNYDER	20,439
CUMBERLAND	86,993	SOMERSET	29,625
DAUPHIN	211,750	SULLIVAN	9,941
DELAWARE	364,492	SUSQUEHANNA	19,069
ELK	28,408	TIOGA	68,305
ERIE	612,120	UNION	16,863
FAYETTE	154,110	VENANGO	72,522
FOREST	1,907	WARREN	33,847
FRANKLIN	41,166	WASHINGTON	66,461
FULTON	11,575	WAYNE	27,278
GREENE	36,252	WESTMORELAND	156,968
HUNTINGDON	72,507	WYOMING	15,962
INDIANA	107,922	YORK	370,166
JEFFERSON	14,176		
JUNIATA	9,123		
LACKAWANNA	110,430		
		<b>STATE TOTAL</b>	<b>11,643,312</b>

**Table 11**  
**REGIONAL INVESTIGATIONS OF AGENTS OF THE AGENCY**  
**1985-1986**

REGION	FOSTER HOMES				RESIDENTIAL FACILITY				OTHER*				TOTAL			
	TOTAL		SUBSTANTIATED		TOTAL		SUBSTANTIATED		TOTAL		SUBSTANTIATED		TOTAL		SUBSTANTIATED	
	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986
Central	76	81	15 (19.7)	13 (16.0)	35	21	2 ( 5.7)	2 ( 9.5)	9	12	1 (11.1)	3 (25.0)	120	114	18 (15.0)	18 (15.8)
Northeastern	71	78	28 (39.4)	30 (38.5)	44	34	11 (25.0)	4 (11.8)	15	9	1 ( 6.7)	0 (0)	130	121	40 (30.8)	34 (28.1)
Southeastern	153	139	34 (22.0)	19 (13.7)	95	117	18 (18.9)	20 (17.1)	17	27	2 (11.8)	7 (25.9)	265	283	54 (20.4)	46 (16.3)
Western	102	98	17 (16.7)	23 (23.5)	98	98	7 ( 7.1)	9 ( 9.2)	14	11	3 (21.4)	3 (27.2)	214	207	27 (12.6)	35 (16.9)
Totals	402	396	94 (23.4)	85 (21.5)	272	270	38 (14.0)	35 (13.0)	55	59	7 (12.7)	13 (22.0)	729	725	139 (19.1)	133 (18.3)

\*Other includes children reportedly abused in day care homes and centers, day treatment centers, non-residential facilities, and by agency employees.

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO AMEND THE LAW

### Protective Services Law

- A. Allow for release of child abuse information by the Department and county agencies to out-of-state agencies to aid them in locating clients, conducting investigations, and providing protective services to child/parents who previously resided in Pennsylvania. Forty-eight other states are authorized by statute to honor such requests.
- B. Establish an age limit for a perpetrator of child abuse who is an individual residing in the same home as the victim child. The category of a perpetrator of "any individual residing in the home of the child" is problematic when applied to children who engage in a fight at home. When a four year-old child bites a two year-old child, the four year-old child becomes a perpetrator of child abuse and remains on file at ChildLine until the two-year-old child turns 18 years of age.
- C. The law allows any subject of an indicated or founded report to request the Secretary of the department to amend, seal, or expunge a report if the subject believes the report is not being maintained in accordance with the law. The law does not put a time limit on when the request must be made to the Secretary. Because witnesses may not be available due to death or relocation and children may not be able to recall what happened to them and the possibility of emotional trauma of recalling unpleasant incidents that had been forgotten, the department recommends that a time limit be established for a subject to request the Secretary to amend, seal, or expunge an indicated or founded report of child abuse. In addition to the above three recommendations to amend the law, the Secretary is reviewing several other suggested amendments.

**Table 12**  
**TYPE OF ABUSE OF CHILDREN IN**  
**SUBSTITUTE CARE BY REGION**  
**(Substantiated Reports)**  
**1986**

PLACEMENT	REGION	TYPE OF ABUSE				TOTAL
		PHYSICAL	MENTAL	SEXUAL	NEGLECT	
FOSTER CARE	Central	3	0	13	1	17
	Northeastern	6	0	34	0	40
	Southeastern	16	0	17	1	34
	Western	4	0	23	0	27
RESIDENTIAL FACILITY	Central	0	0	2	0	2
	Northeastern	4	0	1	0	5
	Southeast	13	0	19	0	32
	Western	4	0	7	0	11
OTHER	Central	2	0	2	0	4
	Northeastern	0	0	0	0	0
	Southeastern	4	0	5	0	9
	Western	0	1	2	0	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>56</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>184</b>



## ACT 33

The Pennsylvania General Assembly amended the Child Protective Services Law in 1985 requiring child care service employees to obtain certification from the Department of Public Welfare on whether or not they are named in the Central Register at ChildLine as the perpetrator of abuse in a founded or indicated report. Act 33, as it is commonly referred to, became effective January 1, 1986, and prohibits an administrator of a child care service from employing any person who will have contact with children if the individual was the perpetrator of child abuse in a founded report in the previous five years. An administrator may hire a person who was the perpetrator of child abuse in an indicated report, if the administrator feels that the person will not pose a threat to the safety of the children in the person's care.

Federal criminal history records checks by the FBI are also required for out-of-state residents seeking employment in a child care service in Pennsylvania.

The law allows anyone, such as a babysitter, to request voluntary certification to provide proof to a child's parents, that the individual is not on file in the central register as a perpetrator of child abuse in an indicated or founded report.

The law further requires that child care employees receive clearance from the Pennsylvania State Police that they have not been convicted of any one of the crimes listed in section 23.1 of the CPSL, within the past five years. The crimes listed in section 23.1 are:

- homicide
- aggravated assault
- kidnapping
- unlawful restraint
- rape
- statutory rape
- deviate sexual intercourse
- indecent assault
- indecent exposure
- concealing death of a child born out of wedlock
- endangering welfare of children
- dealing in infant children

- prostitution
- pornography
- corruption of minors
- sexual abuse of children

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**A child care employee includes day-care employees, foster parents, adoptive parents, residential child care employees, juvenile detention center employees, juvenile delinquent residential program employees, and juvenile probation officers. Child care also includes employees in mental health, mental retardation, and drug and alcohol programs for children.**

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The requirement does not include employees of public and private schools, intermediate units, or area vocational-technical schools. These employees are covered by Act 34 of 1985 which amended the Pennsylvania School Code requiring teachers and other school personnel to obtain certification from only the Pennsylvania State Police on whether or not they were convicted of any of the crimes listed above, within the previous five years.

Pennsylvania is one of 23 states that have a screening law to provide additional protection to children from abuse.

## CLEARANCE

### Reports Processed by ChildLine

In 1986, ChildLine processed 45,987 requests for verification. Of this number 44,834 (97.5 percent) were seeking employment in a child care service and 1,153 (2.5 percent) were requesting voluntary verification. There were 146 (.3 percent) who had a record on file at ChildLine as perpetrators of child abuse: four (2.7 percent) were perpetrators of a founded report of child abuse and 142 (97.3 percent) were perpetrators of an

indicated report. These 146 people were involved in 187 reports of child abuse since 28 (19.2 percent) were perpetrators in more than one report: 20 in two reports; four in three reports; three in four reports; and one in five reports. The type of abuse perpetrated by persons requesting clearance was: physical, 69.4 percent; mental, 1.5 percent; sexual, 15.5 percent; and neglect, 13.5 percent.

### Characteristics of Perpetrator Applicants

Of the 146 applicants who were perpetrators of abuse 99 (67.8 percent) were women and 47 (32.2 percent) were men. The greatest number, 79, (54.1 percent) were between the ages of 31 and 40 when they submitted their request for verification (see Chart 9). In 97.3 percent of the cases there was a familial relationship between the perpetrator applicant and the child (see Chart 10).

Applicants identified as perpetrators of child abuse in the verification process are advised of their right to request the Secretary of the Department of Public Welfare to amend, seal, or expunge the report, if they believe the report is inaccurate or not being maintained in a manner that is consistent with the act. A total of 31 (21.2 percent) persons requested the Secretary to amend the report: 18 (58.1 percent) of the requests to expunge were denied; eight (25.8 percent) requests for expungement are still under consideration; four (12.9 percent) requests for expungement were granted; and one (3.2 percent) request for amendment was granted.

The goal of Act 33 is to protect children who receive part or full day-care away from their home. Although .3 percent of the applicants were identified as being a perpetrator in a prior incident of abuse, it is not known how many potential employees did not submit an application because they knew they were on file at ChildLine and chose not to pursue a career in the child care field.

Of the four applicants who were perpetrators of a prior founded report of child abuse, two had abused the child within the past five years and were absolutely prohibited from being employed in a child care service.

### Children Abused in Child Care Service

Act 33 also requires the department to include in the annual report the services that were provided to children who were abused in a child care service, and also what action was taken against the perpetrator.

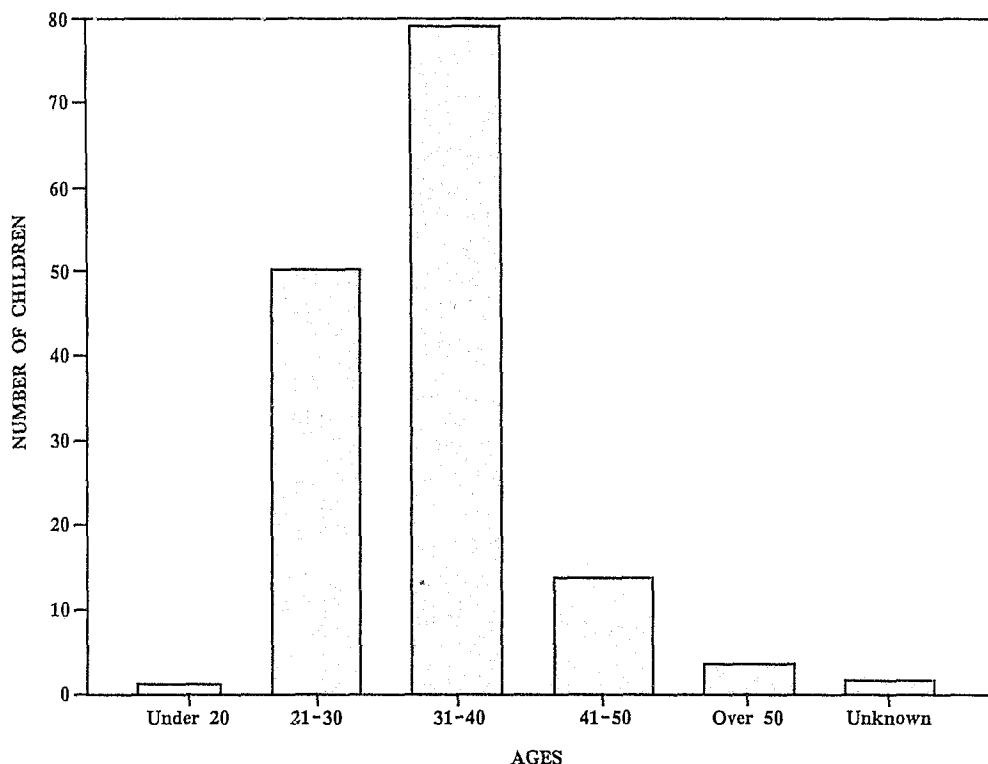
In 1986, there were 843 reports of suspected abuse of children in a child care setting. A total of 130 (15.4 percent) were substantiated. The regional staff investigated 722 (85.6 percent) of these reports, because the alleged perpetrator was an agent of the county children and youth agency.

In 361 (42.8 percent) reports the child was removed from the setting where the abuse occurred. This compares with 32 percent of the children who were abused in their own home and were placed in another setting.

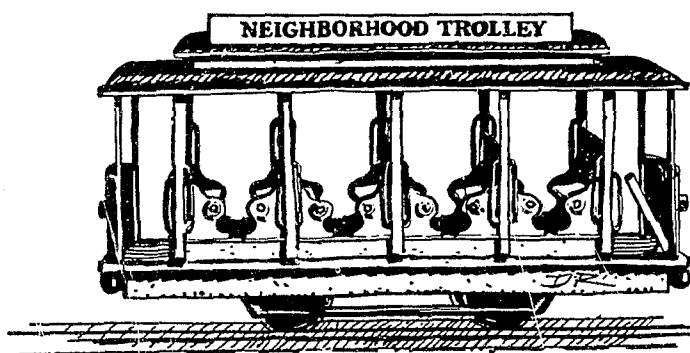
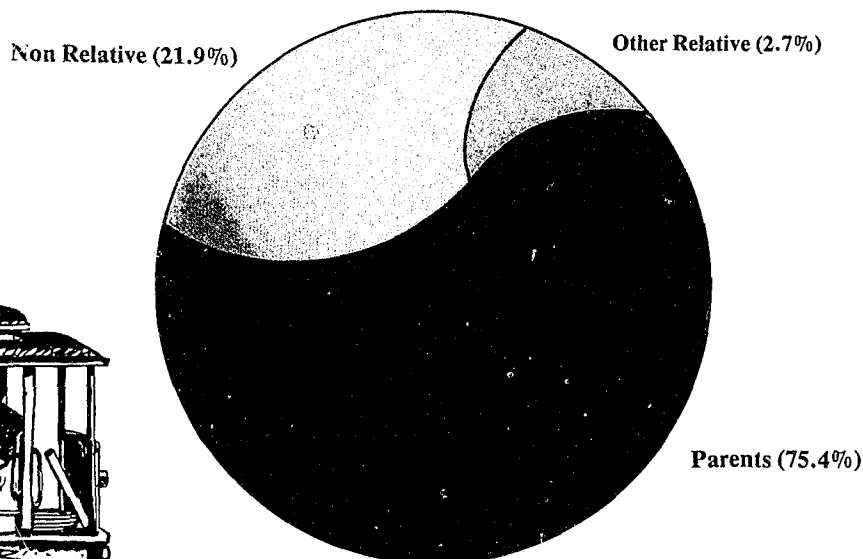
Social services were provided to 86 (52 percent) children involved in substantiated reports. Counseling was the most frequently provided social service to children abused in a child care setting. Seven children received emergency medical care for the abuse they received.

The law also requires the department to include in the report what action was taken against the perpetrator. In 220 (26.1 percent) reports the information was referred to a law enforcement official for possible criminal investigation and prosecution.

**Chart 9**  
**AGE OF PERPETRATORS**  
**IDENTIFIED UNDER ACT 33**



**Chart 10**  
**PROFILE OF PERPETRATORS**  
**Act 33 Percentages**







**Pennsylvania Department of  
Public Welfare**

**Robert P. Casey**  
Governor

**John F. White, Jr.**  
Secretary of Public Welfare

**Shirley A. Walker**  
Deputy Secretary  
Children, Youth and Families

**Robert V. Dieck**  
Acting Director  
Office of Child Welfare Services

**Lee W. Miller**  
Director  
Bureau of Child Welfare Policy

**Joseph L. Spear**  
Director  
Division of Protective Services

**Warren L. Lewis**  
Acting Director  
State Operated Children's Programs

**Lawrence Woods**  
Chief  
Research, Evaluation and  
Statistical Analysis