

# Family Preservation Services

Program Report | FISCAL YEAR 2021



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**Commissioner**

## **Executive Summary**

### **Family Preservation Services**

### **Fiscal Year 2021 Program Report**

(October 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021)

Family Preservation Services is an intensive, in-home crisis intervention and family education program primarily used for families with children at imminent risk of abuse, neglect, or out-of-home placement. Other families eligible for FPS include ones preparing to be reunified with their children, and resource parents in need of assistance to stabilize children in their family's care. Referrals to FPS are made by NJ's Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P) local offices. Families remain under DCP&P supervision while receiving FPS services. The program's goals are to:

- Ensure the safety of children
- Stabilize families
- Improve family functioning
- Prevent unnecessary out-of-home placement and;
- Link families with appropriate community resources.

Families enrolled in FPS receive an array of services to meet their needs including a child and family assessment, skill-based interventions, counseling and related support, linkages to community resources, and limited financial assistance. Services typically are provided in the family's home and families participate voluntarily. FPS staff are available to families 24 hours a day, seven days a week for up to eight weeks. Interventions are intensive, providing each family five to twenty hours of direct face-to-face service per week, depending on the nature and severity of the situation and the family's presenting needs. All services build on family strengths and respond to family circumstances.

At the onset of the COVID-19 emergency, DCF temporarily relaxed usual operating requirements to permit flexibility in the service delivery modality that preserved quality of service for clients while promoting the ability of both clients and service providers to adhere to necessary social distancing practices. In FY21, FPS providers were instructed to resume in-person service delivery unless the family or individual receiving the service declined to accept in-person services. In those instances, remote services could be offered as an alternative.

The New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) funds each county's FPS program. During Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 (Please note: the fiscal year was shortened 3 months due to the public health emergency):

- Contract funding for FPS services was nearly \$10 million dollars.
- Over 700 families and more than 1,600 children received FPS services.
- 51% of children who received FPS services were six years of age or younger.
- Among the families that completed the full FPS Program, 95% of children were able to remain safely in their home, avoiding the need for a child protective removal.
- 83% percent of children that received the full FPS Program were residing in their target home one year after discharge.

Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 emergency, New Jersey's Family Preservation Services succeeded in providing intensive support to families in crisis, so that child protection removals and foster care placements could be safely avoided and families could remain together while they work through struggles associated with poverty, behavioral and physical health, and other social and economic challenges.

# FAMILY PRESERVATION SERVICES

## Fiscal Year 2021 Program Report

(October 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021)

### **SECTION I: PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) funds Family Preservation Services (FPS) in each of the state's 21 counties. DCF contracts with eight community-based provider agencies, six of which operate programs in multiple counties. During Fiscal Year 2021, funding for FPS services was nearly \$10 million dollars.

#### **THE FPS MODEL**

Family Preservation Services (FPS) is an intensive, in-home<sup>1</sup> crisis intervention and family education program, primarily used for families with children at imminent risk of abuse, neglect, or out-of-home placement. Other families eligible for FPS include those preparing to be reunified with their children, and resource parents in need of assistance to stabilize children in their family's care.

FPS services are delivered by specially trained staff that provide a combination of counseling and concrete services to meet each family's needs. As specified in the enacting legislation (N.J.S.A. 30:4C-74), direct service staff carry a caseload of no more than two families at any time, except during the last week prior to discharging a family, during which staff may begin work with a third family.

Services typically are provided in the family's home and in accordance with the established program model set forth in the New Jersey Family Preservation Services Manual and the enacting statute. Staff are available to families 24 hours a day, seven days a week for up to eight weeks. Program interventions are intensive, providing families no less than five and no more than 20 hours of direct face-to-face service each week depending on the nature and severity of their situation. More specifically:

- Initial visits with the family are conducted within 24 hours of referral, often in collaboration with the DCP&P case manager.
- Initial and final assessments of family functioning are conducted using the NCFAS<sup>2</sup>.
- Goal-directed interventions are developed in consultation with the family and DCP&P to address the reason(s) for the risk determination and to identify services and/or activities.
- Using a behavioral/cognitive approach and building on family strengths, trained staff provide instruction and model skills to improve family functioning in areas including, but not limited to, parenting, stress management, communication, and crisis management.
- Concrete services are provided to families, as needed. Services may include, but are not limited to, emergency financial assistance, food, clothing and transportation.
- Follow-up family evaluations are completed at three, six and 12-month intervals after discharge for families that received the full intervention (28 days or more of service).

<sup>1</sup> In response to COVID-19, FPS services have been delivered using a hybrid approach that includes both in-person and telehealth.

<sup>2</sup> The North Carolina Family Assessment Scale (NCFAS) is an assessment tool designed to examine family functioning in the domains of Environment, Parental Capabilities, Family Interactions, Family Safety, and Child Well-being. It has an A rating (psychometrics well-demonstrated) from the California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare: <https://www.cebc4cw.org/assessment-tool/north-carolina-family-assessment-scale/>

## **SECTION II: SERVICE STATISTICS**

This section provides aggregate data on program utilization rates and service delivery at each county-based site between October 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021.

### **REFERRALS**

DCP&P is the sole referral source to FPS programs. Families are eligible for FPS when there is a presenting crisis that places at least one child at risk of abuse or neglect or a child protective removal, or when a child is returning home from out-of-home placement. Additional eligibility criteria include: the family is participating in an open DCP&P services case; the child can remain safely at home with intensive services; the family has agreed to participate; and other less intensive services will not sufficiently reduce the risk of removal, or are unavailable.

FPS programs occasionally receive referrals that do not meet program criteria and must “turn back” or return cases to the referring DCP&P office. This determination is made within 72 hours of receiving the referral. FPS program standards note that cases may be returned to DCP&P when:

- The risk of placement is not imminent, and the child can benefit from less intensive services
- The family declines FPS services
- There is a lack of available program slots
- Caregiver substance abuse or mental illness exists to such a great extent that it impedes a family’s ability to engage in services and learn skills
- There are safety concerns for FPS staff or;
- The child entered foster care prior to the FPS intervention or during the 72-hour intake period.

Table 1 provides a statewide summary of FPS referrals and the rate at which referrals were returned without service completion during Fiscal Year 2021.

**TABLE 1: NUMBER OF FPS REFERRALS & RATE OF RETURN  
WITHOUT SERVICE, BY COUNTY**

COUNTY	TOTAL FAMILIES REFERRED	% OF TOTAL RETURNED TO DCPP WITHOUT SERVICE
Atlantic	43	0%
Bergen	57	14%
Burlington	79	9%
Camden	43	2%
Cape May	41	15%
Cumberland	40	3%
Essex	46	11%
Gloucester	38	13%
Hudson	48	19%
Hunterdon	21	14%
Mercer	46	11%
Middlesex	45	36%
Monmouth	44	16%
Morris	22	27%
Ocean	51	12%
Passaic	43	2%
Salem	29	17%
Somerset	19	21%
Sussex	22	23%
Union	19	0%
Warren	19	5%
<b>Statewide Totals</b>	<b>815</b>	<b>12%</b>

Of the 815 cases referred to FPS during FY 2021, 12% (n=101) were returned to the referring local office to provide a referral for a more appropriate service. As in prior years, the primary reason for returning a case is because the family declined to participate in services (80%).

**TABLE 2: REASONS FOR RETURN WITHOUT SERVICE (N=101)**

REASON FOR TURN BACK	NO. OF FAMILIES	PERCENTAGE
Family declined FPS services or is unavailable	81	80%
Other	13	13%
Child placed prior to FPS intervention or during 72 hr. assessment period	3	3%
No slots available at this time	3	3%
Substance abuse or mental illness exists to such a great extent that it impedes a family's ability to engage and learn skills	1	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 3 lists the number of families and children who received FPS services during the reporting period.

**TABLE 3: NUMBER OF FPS SERVICE PARTICIPANTS**

COUNTY	FAMILIES	CHILDREN
Atlantic	43	105
Bergen	49	121
Burlington	72	162
Camden	42	92
Cape May	35	66
Cumberland	39	106
Essex	41	92
Gloucester	33	64
Hudson	39	81
Hunterdon	18	37
Mercer	41	94
Middlesex	29	70
Monmouth	37	90
Morris	16	35
Ocean	45	121
Passaic	42	107
Salem	24	52
Somerset	15	34
Sussex	17	28
Union	19	42
Warren	18	40
<b>Statewide Totals</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>1,639</b>

#### CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES CONCERNS AND DETERMINATIONS

Table 4 lists the primary source of risk at referral that led to DCP&P involvement and the family's eventual referral to FPS. Of the 714 families that entered FPS programs, the most frequently cited source of risk was child neglect (76%).

**TABLE 4: SOURCE OF RISK**

SOURCE OF RISK	NO. OF FAMILIES	PERCENTAGE
Neglect	544	76%
Physical Abuse	113	16%
Emotional Abuse	36	5%
Sexual Abuse	21	3%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 5 displays the age categories of the 1,639 children served in the fiscal year.

**TABLE 5: AGE OF CHILDREN SERVED**

	0-6 Years	7-12 Years	13-18 Years	19+ Years	Total
Number	840	513	284	2	<b>1,639</b>
Percentage	51%	31%	17%	0.1%	<b>100%</b>

Families involved with DCP&P experience many challenges (acute, chronic, or cumulative) that impact their ability to ensure child safety and provide a stable home environment. Table 6 lists the stress factors identified among the 714 families that participated in FPS programs. While families can have multiple stress factors, the top three factors contributing to a family's stress include parental mental health (53%), housing related (42%) and parental substance abuse (41%).

**TABLE 6: FAMILY STRESS FACTORS**

FAMILY STRESS FACTORS	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES
Mental health (parent)	380	53%
Housing related	300	42%
Substance abuse (parent)	293	41%
Financial	292	41%
Domestic violence history	258	36%
Mental/behavioral health (child)	243	34%
Disability (child)	65	9%
Physical health (parent)	60	8%
Physical health (child)	59	8%
Disability (parent)	49	7%
Delinquency	36	5%
Substance abuse (child)	26	4%

Each child under DCP&P supervision has a case goal that drives the delivery of FPS services in their target home. Table 7 provides an overview of DCP&P case/service goals for the 1,639 children whose families participated in FPS.

**TABLE 7: DCP&P CASE/SERVICE GOALS**

Case/Service Goal	Children	Percentage
Stabilize in Home	1,482	90%
Reunification	151	9%
Stabilize in Placement	6	0.4%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,639</b>	<b>100%</b>

## SERVICE INTERVENTIONS

A referral becomes an intervention when the family and FPS staff agree that FPS services are appropriate. While the method and focus of FPS service interventions vary from family-to-family, the service categories listed below provide a broad picture of the assistance FPS staff provided to families (see Table 8). While families can receive multiple services, the primary focus of FPS services in Fiscal Year 2021 was providing parenting skills (51%) and stress management (47%) services.

**TABLE 8: TYPES OF FPS SERVICES PROVIDED**

SERVICES	UNITS PROVIDED	PERCENTAGE OF FAMILIES
Parenting skills	367	51%
Stress management / coping	336	47%
Access resources	192	27%
Daily routines / time management	192	27%
Communication skills	160	22%
Support mental health management	150	21%
Behavior management	131	18%
Concrete services	128	18%
Household management	123	17%
Safety strategies	121	17%
Anger/conflict resolution	112	16%
Support substance abuse management	95	13%
None (Interrupted Intervention)	86	12%
Budget / finance management	71	10%
Support health / medical care	65	9%
Employment assistance	20	3%

\*Concrete Services may include emergency financial assistance, food, clothing, transportation, and housing assistance

FPS does not provide services for substance abuse, mental health, or medical needs; however, staff do work with families to reinforce and complement the specialized care and treatment plans from a family systems perspective and link families to services, as appropriate.

FPS program staff are required to record time spent on each case and to categorize hours into Direct and Indirect Service Hours. Direct Service Hours include face-to-face contact between the FPS worker and the family. Indirect Service Hours include all other time spent on behalf of the family including, but not limited to, documentation, advocacy, collateral contacts, case consultation, supervision, and travel. During the COVID-19 emergency, DCF permitted FPS providers to deliver the model using remote technologies when in-person services were declined. As a result, DCF expanded data collection to also include telehealth service hours provided to families.

Table 9 lists the duration and frequency of FPS services provided to participating families.

**TABLE 9: DURATION AND FREQUENCY OF SERVICES PROVIDED TO FAMILIES**

COUNTY	NO. FAMILIES SERVED	LENGTH OF PARTICIPATION IN SERVICES (Avg. Number of Weeks)	DIRECT SERVICE HOURS PER FAMILY (Avg. per Week)	INDIRECT SERVICE HOURS PER FAMILY (Avg. per Week)	TELEHEALTH SERVICE HOURS PER FAMILY (Avg. per Week)	TOTAL SERVICE HOURS PER FAMILY (Avg. per Week)
Atlantic	43	5.2	3.1	9.7	1.2	14.0
Bergen	49	4.6	4.2	6.7	1.0	12.0
Burlington	72	3.7	2.9	2.9	1.5	7.3
Camden	42	4.9	8.3	7.4	0.7	16.5
Cape May	35	5.2	3.3	10.8	1.2	15.3
Cumberland	39	4.7	3.9	6.0	1.0	10.9
Essex	41	4.9	1.7	6.6	3.2	11.6
Gloucester	33	4.4	6.6	6.7	1.5	14.8
Hudson	39	5.2	3.3	13.2	1.8	18.3
Hunterdon	18	5.0	5.9	10.1	0.8	16.8
Mercer	41	6.7	2.4	6.3	1.5	10.2
Middlesex	29	5.1	5.0	8.1	1.2	14.3
Monmouth	37	5.2	1.5	8.8	1.6	12.0
Morris	16	4.4	3.3	7.5	1.1	11.8
Ocean	45	5.7	3.4	7.2	1.0	11.6
Passaic	42	5.5	4.9	5.1	1.8	11.8
Salem	24	4.5	2.8	8.1	1.2	12.1
Somerset	15	4.5	5.2	9.9	0.6	15.7
Sussex	17	4.6	3.5	5.1	1.7	10.2
Union	19	5.8	2.1	8.8	3.7	14.7
Warren	18	4.7	6.3	10.9	0.6	17.8
<b>STATEWIDE TOTAL</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>12.8</b>

FPS programs provide limited financial assistance to help families overcome barriers to family success and to reinforce the therapeutic process. Assistance may be used to:

- Address concrete needs that jeopardize the family's stability
- Strengthen and promote family relationships and;
- Reward progress or goal attainment

Not every family FPS serves receives financial assistance. Disbursements are made at the discretion of the program based on the family's needs. Allowable expenses may include essential household items, engagement activities, skill-building aids (e.g. books, videos, games), and low-cost "reinforcement" to reward achievement. Table 10 provides an overview of the financial assistance families have received.



**TABLE 10: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO FAMILIES**

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	
Total No. of Families Served by FPS	714
Percentage of Families that Received Financial Assistance	43%
Total Amount of Financial Assistance Distributed	\$21,792.52
Average Amount per Participating Family	\$71.69

The FPS model has clear standards regarding a family's termination or discharge from the program. FPS is a short-term intervention, so discharge planning begins early with the goal of linking families to other community-based services and supports.

FPS is a voluntary program and families can withdraw at any time, however every effort is made to maintain their engagement. When families choose to discontinue their participation, FPS informs the DCP&P case manager, provides linkages to other relevant services and closes the case.

Termination can occur when families destabilize and safety concerns become too great for children to remain at home. FPS remains actively involved with families that experience short-term, out-of-home placement for seven days or less. During this time, FPS works to facilitate the child's safe and timely return, when possible. FPS must close the case when a placement exceeds seven days.

When FPS cases are closed and services terminated, interventions are classified as either:

- Full Intervention: FPS services last a minimum of 28 days or all case goals are achieved
- Interrupted Intervention: FPS services end prior to 28 days as a result of the family discontinuing FPS services or another reason beyond the control of FPS

Table 11 shows the intervention status of closed FPS cases by county.

**TABLE 11: INTERVENTION STATUS (CLOSED CASES)**

COUNTY	TOTAL FAMILY INTERVENTIONS	% FULL INTERVENTION	% INTERRUPTED INTERVENTION
Atlantic	43	84%	16%
Bergen	49	88%	12%
Burlington	72	74%	26%
Camden	42	95%	5%
Cape May	35	83%	17%
Cumberland	39	74%	26%
Essex	41	80%	20%
Gloucester	33	79%	21%
Hudson	39	85%	15%
Hunterdon	18	78%	22%
Mercer	41	88%	12%
Middlesex	29	66%	34%
Monmouth	37	76%	24%
Morris	16	94%	6%
Ocean	45	82%	18%
Passaic	42	95%	5%
Salem	24	75%	25%
Somerset	15	67%	33%
Sussex	17	82%	18%
Union	19	89%	11%
Warren	18	67%	33%
<b>STATEWIDE TOTAL</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>18%</b>

Treatment goals are formed within 10 days of the initial FPS assessment. Goals are set through a collaborative process that includes the family, the referring DCP&P worker, and FPS staff. Goals are developed to address the reasons for the risk determination that precipitated the referral and the information obtained during the assessment. Treatment goals are specific to each family, clearly delineated and achievable within the duration of the FPS intervention. Table 12 provides a summary of the extent to which participating families attained their respective treatment goals at discharge. Seventy-five percent (75%) of participating families achieved or significantly achieved their treatment goals.

**TABLE 12: STATUS OF TREATMENT GOALS AT DISCHARGE**

Individualized Treatment Goals	Total*	Percentage
Achieved	341	48%
Significantly Achieved	191	27%
Partially Achieved	59	8%
Minimally Achieved	123	17%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Includes 132 interrupted interventions which, by definition, includes families that did not complete the program or achieve all of their respective treatment goals.

FPS programs track the whereabouts of all children from the time a case is accepted through discharge. Table 13 details the placement disposition at discharge of every child who received services in FY 2021 and whose case was closed by FPS during the reporting period.

**TABLE 13: LOCATION OF CHILDREN SERVED AT DISCHARGE**

<b>Housing Location at Discharge</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
In Home	1,512	92%
Foster care	78	5%
With relative	20	1%
Shelter	7	0.4%
Other	6	0.4%
Unknown	5	0.3%
Other family-like setting	4	0.2%
In-state residential	3	0.2%
Hospital	1	0.1%
Incarcerated / detention	1	0.1%
Living independently	1	0.1%
Ran away	1	0.1%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,639</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*“Unknown” signifies the program was unable to provide the child’s location at discharge. The majority of “unknown” locations are among children whose families did not complete the full FPS intervention.

Table 14 provides a broad overview of the levels, programmatic delivery, and impact of FPS services statewide.

**TABLE 14: SUMMARY OF FPS SERVICE INTERVENTIONS**

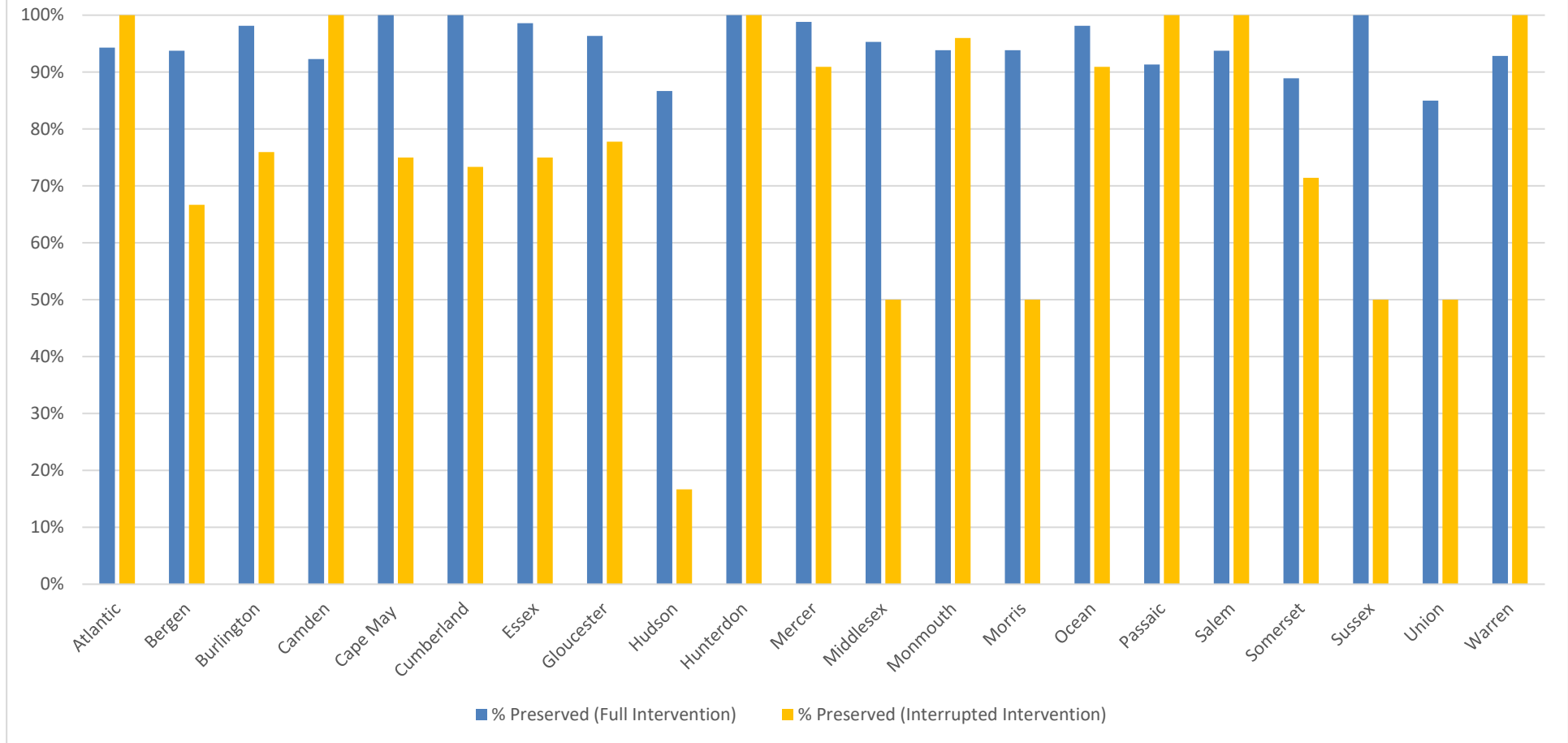
COUNTY	Clients Served		FPS Services Provided				Child's Status at Discharge*			% PRESERVED Full Interventions	% PRESERVED Interrupted Interventions
	FAMILIES	CHILDREN	LENGTH OF PARTICIPATION IN SERVICES (Avg. Number of Weeks)	DIRECT SERVICE HOURS (Avg. per Week)	FULL INTERVENTION	INTERRUPTED INTERVENTION	PRESERVED	PLACED	OTHER		
Atlantic	43	105	5.2	3.1	36	7	100	0	5	94%	100%
Bergen	49	121	4.6	4.2	43	6	107	4	10	94%	67%
Burlington	72	162	3.7	2.9	53	19	147	3	12	98%	76%
Camden	42	92	4.9	8.3	40	2	85	0	7	92%	100%
Cape May	35	66	5.2	3.3	29	6	63	2	1	100%	75%
Cumberland	39	106	4.7	3.9	29	10	102	0	4	100%	73%
Essex	41	92	4.9	1.7	33	8	86	0	6	99%	75%
Gloucester	33	64	4.4	6.6	26	7	60	2	2	96%	78%
Hudson	39	81	5.2	3.3	33	6	66	4	11	87%	17%
Hunterdon	18	37	5.0	5.9	14	4	37	0	0	100%	100%
Mercer	41	94	6.7	2.4	36	5	92	0	2	99%	91%
Middlesex	29	70	5.1	5.0	19	10	64	0	6	95%	50%
Monmouth	37	90	5.2	1.5	28	9	85	0	5	94%	96%
Morris	16	35	4.4	3.3	15	1	32	1	2	94%	50%
Ocean	45	121	5.7	3.4	37	8	118	1	2	98%	91%
Passaic	42	107	5.5	4.9	40	2	98	1	8	91%	100%
Salem	24	52	4.5	2.8	18	6	50	2	0	94%	100%
Somerset	15	34	4.5	5.2	10	5	29	1	4	89%	71%
Sussex	17	28	4.6	3.5	14	3	26	2	0	100%	50%
Union	19	42	5.8	2.1	17	2	35	0	7	85%	50%
Warren	18	40	4.7	6.3	12	6	38	0	2	93%	100%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>1,639</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>1,520</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>81%</b>

\*Child's Status at Discharge: "Preserved" means the child remained in the target home; "Placed" means the child was in a DCP&P out-of-home placement setting; "Other" means the child voluntarily relocated or was residing in an alternative living arrangement not related to child protective services.

% Preserved (Full Interventions) is based on families who successfully completed the FPS program.

% Preserved (Interrupted Interventions) is based on families who did not successfully complete the FPS Program.

### NJ SFY 2021 Family Preservation Services Percentage of Children Preserved at Discharge



**SECTION III: FOLLOW-UP DATA****CASE FOLLOW-UP (FY 2020)**

For families that received the full FPS intervention, follow up evaluations are completed by FPS provider agencies at three, six, and 12-month intervals, after they are discharged from the program. The proportion of children that remain with their families one year after receiving services is tied to the overarching goal of preventing placement and is considered an indicator of success for FPS programs.

Table 15 displays information regarding 12-month follow up results for children who received the full FPS intervention between July 1, 2019 and September 30, 2020 (FY 2020).

**TABLE 15: 12-MONTH FOLLOW-UP RESULTS FOR CHILDREN SERVED IN FY 2020**

County	No. Children Eligible for Follow-Up	% Contacts Made	Preserved	Placed	Other*	% Preserved**
Atlantic	73	100%	59	13	1	81%
Bergen	48	100%	48	0	0	100%
Burlington	112	100%	103	3	6	92%
Camden	115	100%	109	6	0	95%
Cape May	59	93%	39	8	8	66%
Cumberland	89	89%	76	3	0	85%
Essex	81	90%	63	10	0	78%
Gloucester	72	100%	62	8	2	86%
Hudson	77	52%	37	0	3	48%
Hunterdon	21	100%	17	1	3	81%
Mercer	46	100%	46	0	0	100%
Middlesex	55	100%	50	5	0	91%
Monmouth	43	98%	37	1	4	86%
Morris	44	18%	6	2	0	0%
Ocean	74	100%	71	2	1	96%
Passaic	77	100%	75	2	0	97%
Salem	39	100%	37	2	0	95%
Somerset	22	100%	22	0	0	100%
Sussex	44	100%	44	0	0	100%
Union	36	50%	18	0	0	50%
Warren	27	100%	27	0	0	100%
<b>STATEWIDE TOTAL</b>	<b>1,254</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>1,046</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>83%</b>

\*Other means the child voluntarily relocated or was residing in an alternative living arrangement not related to child protective services.

\*\*% Preserved is calculated based on the number of contacts made.

Specific information regarding the status and housing location of children served one-year post-discharge is shown in Tables 16 and 17.

**TABLE 16: STATUS OF CHILDREN SERVED IN FY 2020, 12 MONTHS POST-DISCHARGE**

Follow-Up Status	Total	Percentage
Preserved: Remains in home	949	75.7%
Unknown	114	9.1%
Preserved: Reunified with family	74	5.9%
Placed by DCP&P safety reasons (CP&P obtained custody)	57	4.5%
Preserved: Stabilized in foster home	23	1.8%
Voluntary move or relocation	22	1.8%
Remains in placement (Reunification Service Goal Only)	5	0.4%
Brief placement & reunified within period	4	0.3%
Other placement non-safety reasons (CP&P does not have custody)	4	0.3%
Other	2	0.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,254</b>	<b>100%</b>

**TABLE 17: LIVING SITUATION OF CHILDREN SERVED IN FY 2020, 12-MONTHS POST-DISCHARGE**

Living Situation at 12-Month Follow-Up	Total	Percentage
In home	1,026	81.8%
Unknown	116	9.3%
Foster care	50	4.0%
With relative	40	3.2%
Other	11	0.9%
In-state residential	5	0.4%
Other family-like setting	4	0.3%
Group home	1	0.1%
Living independently	1	0.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,254</b>	<b>100%</b>

## **SECTION IV. CONCLUSION**

In Fiscal Year 2021, New Jersey invested nearly \$10 million in contract funding for FPS services, reaching over 700 families and more than 1,600 children. Ninety-five percent (95%) of the children in families that completed full interventions remained safely in their homes at the end of the intervention; 83% of children that received the full intervention were still residing in their target home one year after discharge. New Jersey's Family Preservation Services succeeded in providing intensive support to families in crisis, so that child protection removals and foster care placements could be safely avoided, and families could remain together while they work through struggles associated with poverty, behavioral and physical health, and other social and economic challenges.