



# CFSR2 Data Indicators: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

Presented by:

Daniel Webster, MSW, PhD

Presentation Created by:

Barbara Needell, MSW, PhD

Emily Putnam-Hornstein, MSW

Center for Social Services Research  
University of California at Berkeley

We thank the Children's Bureau for the material contained in this presentation.

For additional information about CFSR2 see:

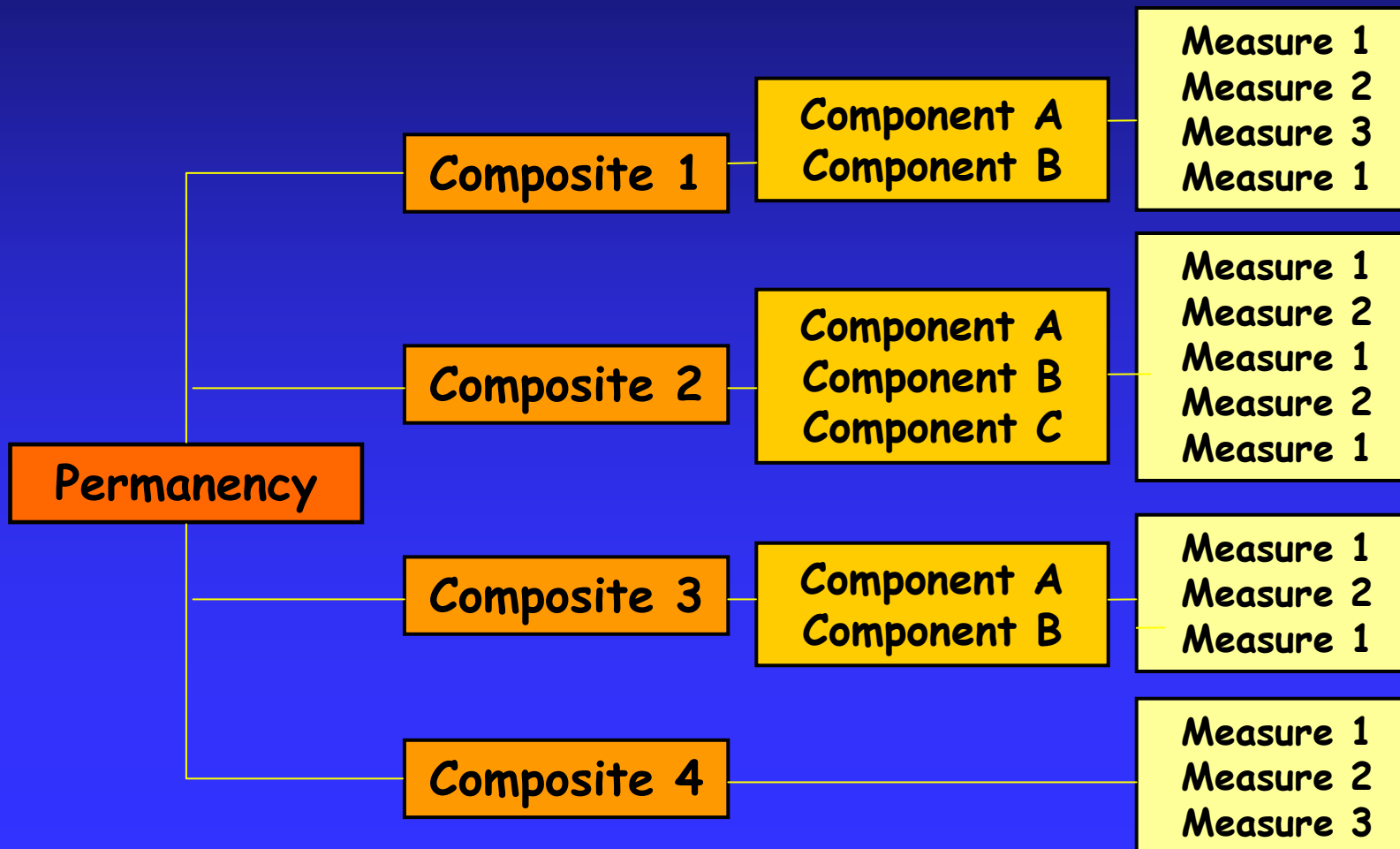
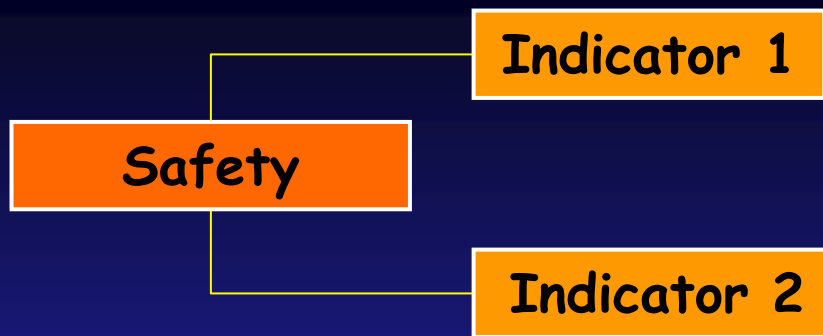
[http://www.nrccwdt.org/cfsr/cfsr\\_toolkit.html](http://www.nrccwdt.org/cfsr/cfsr_toolkit.html)

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# Overview of Key Changes...

- Move from individual measures to data composites for evaluating permanency (no such change for evaluating safety)
- Adjustment of National Standards based on most recent data available
- Measures reversed (where necessary) so that higher score always equals better performance (easier to interpret)
- Some changes in time periods for given measures







# Evaluating Safety:



## Safety Indicator 1

Of all children who were victims of substantiated or indicated abuse or neglect during the first 6 months of the reporting year, 94.6% or more did NOT experience a recurrence of maltreatment within a 6-month period

## Safety Indicator 2

Of all children in foster care during the reporting year, 99.68% or more were NOT maltreated by a foster parent or facility staff member



# Evaluating Permanency:



## Permanency Indicators

Reunification  
(Composite 1)

Nat'l Std=122.6

Adoption  
(Composite 2)

Nat'l Std=106.4

Long Term Care  
(Composite 3)

Nat'l Std=121.7

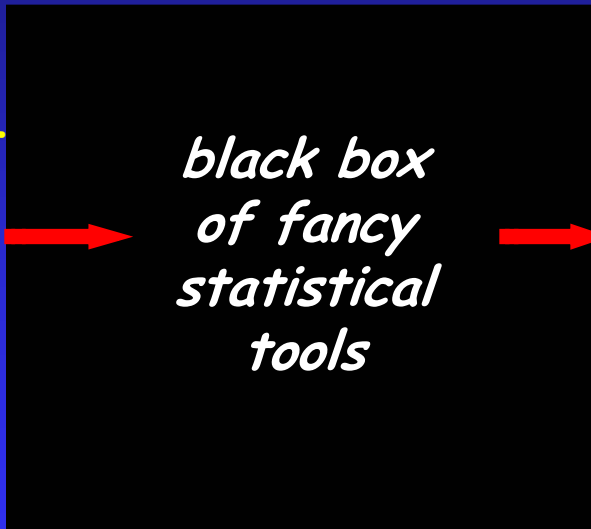
Placement Stability  
(Composite 4)

Nat'l Std=101.5

# Principal Components Analysis (PCA) (the "black box" version)

A bunch of measures...

Median Time in Care  
Emancipating from Care  
Recurrence of Maltreatment  
Timeliness of Reunification  
Abuse in Foster Care  
Permanency of Reunification  
Placement Stability  
Timeliness of Adoption



Three components  
based on related  
measures!

Component #1

Component #2

Component #3

# Z-Scores?

- Before dumping all of the measures into the PCA "Black Box", they were transformed into standard scores (z-scores)
- A z-score serves two purposes:

*Puts measures in the same  
"range"*



*Sets measures to the same  
"system"*



# And an Example...

- A researcher interested in measuring "success" in high school.
- Collects the following measures for each student:
  - Athletic Ability
  - Good Grades
  - Physical Attractiveness
  - Interest in Sports
  - Chess Club Membership
  - Science Club Membership
  - Social Life

*Principal Components Analysis...*



Stratification is the allocation of individuals into such  
groups that reduces the number of individual  
independent variables whose  
measures:

*Jock  
Component =*

Interest in Sports



Athletic Ability

VERY HIGHLY ASSOCIATED!!

*Brainiac  
Component =*

Good Grades



Chess Club Member



~~Science Club Member~~

*Popular Kids  
Component =*

Physical Attractiveness



Active Social Life



# Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification



Permanency  
Indicators

Reunification  
(Composite 1)

Adoption  
(Composite 2)

Long Term Care  
(Composite 3)

Placement Stability  
(Composite 4)



# Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification



## Permanency Indicators

Reunification  
(Composite 1)

Adoption  
(Composite 2)

Long Term Care  
(Composite 3)

Placement Stability  
(Composite 4)

Timeliness  
(Component A)

Permanency  
(Component B)

Measure1 % of children exiting to reunification in less than 12 months

Measure2 Median # of months in care for children exiting to reunification

Measure3 % of first entries exiting to reunification in less than 12 months

Measure1 % of children re-entering care in less than 12 months from discharge



# Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoption



Permanency  
Indicators

Reunification  
(Composite 1)

Adoption  
(Composite 2)

Long Term Care  
(Composite 3)

Placement Stability  
(Composite 4)



# Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoption



## Permanency Indicators

Reunification  
(Composite 1)

Adoption  
(Composite 2)

Long Term Care  
(Composite 3)

Placement Stability  
(Composite 4)

Timeliness  
(Component A)

Progress  
(Component B)

"Legally Free"  
(Component C)

Measure1

% exiting care to adoption in less than 24m of entry

Measure2

Median # of months in care for children exiting to adoption

Measure1

% in care 17m+ exiting to adoption

Measure2

% in care 17m+ who become free for adoption

Measure1

% of legally free adopted w/in 12m



# Composite 3: Permanency for Children in Long Term Care



Permanency  
Indicators

Reunification  
(Composite 1)

Adoption  
(Composite 2)

Long Term Care  
(Composite 3)

Placement Stability  
(Composite 4)



# Composite 3: Permanency for Children in Long Term Care



## Permanency Indicators

Reunification  
(Composite 1)

Adoption  
(Composite 2)

Long Term Care  
(Composite 3)

Placement Stability  
(Composite 4)

Permanency  
(Component A)

"Growing-up"  
(Component B)

Measure1

% of legally free discharged to a permanent home

Measure2

% in care 24m+ discharged to a permanent home

Measure1

% emancipated or age 18 in care who have been in care for 3+ years



# Composite 4: Placement Stability



Permanency  
Indicators

Reunification  
(Composite 1)

Adoption  
(Composite 2)

Long Term Care  
(Composite 3)

Placement Stability  
(Composite 4)



# Composite 4: Placement Stability



## Permanency Indicators

Reunification  
(Composite 1)

Adoption  
(Composite 2)

Long Term Care  
(Composite 3)

Placement Stability  
(Composite 4)

% in care for less than 12m with only 1 or 2 placements

Measure1

% in care for 12-24m with only 1 or 2 placements

Measure2

% in care for 24m+ with only 1 or 2 placements

Measure3

# Timeliness & Permanency of Reunification

## (Scaled) State Composite Score

(Transformed to position on national 50-150 scale)

## (Un-Scaled) State Composite Score

(County weighted scores summed and divided by total # of children served)

## (Weighted) County Composite Score

(# of Children in Foster Care x Score)

## (Un-Weighted) County Composite Score

(Component A + Component B / 2)

### Component A

#### Timeliness of Reunification

(Sum of Weighted Measures)

Std Measure1 x Weight (0.462)

Std Measure2 x Weight (0.451)

Std Measure3 x Weight (0.295)

Std Measure4 x Weight (0.129)

### Component B

#### Permanency of Reunification

(Sum of Weighted Measures)

Std Measure1 x Weight (0.085)

Std Measure2 x Weight (0.070)

Std Measure3 x Weight (-0.005)

Std Measure4 x Weight (1.025)

# Making the Most of CFSR Scores...

- Each state will be provided with a data profile that includes percentages for each measure within each composite.
- The data profile also will provide the ranges, medians, and 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles of performance, so each state will know exactly how it stacks up with all others on each measure.
- In California, we at CSSR will attempt to replicate each of the measures and composite scores, break them out by child welfare and probation agencies, and report/update quarterly.
- The focus must be on performance on **INDIVIDUAL MEASURES** (with age, race, gender, etc breakouts), and an understanding of how that performance contributes to National Standard Performance.
- More importantly, we must work to understand how performance on individual measures really relates to safety and permanence, what else we need to measure, and what we need to do to improve.

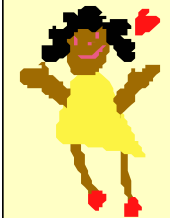


# Changes to AB636

This means that a total of 11 new measures, plus 6 revised measures, must be a part of AB636 according to statute.

In order to eliminate redundancy and avoid unnecessary complexity, some current AB636 measures will be eliminated:

- Recurrence of Abuse at 12 months
- Recurrence when children are not removed
- Time to reunification (State)
- Time to adoption (State)
- Placement Stability (State)
- Foster Care Re-entry (State)
- Least Restrictive Setting (Predominant Placement view)



# Suggested Transitional Data Indicators

## AB636 July Outcomes Report

Data Element	Currently Reported	Slightly Modified	New Federal Indicator
Recurrence of maltreatment*	X	X	
Abuse in foster care*	X	X	
Reunification within 12 months exit cohort	X	X	
Reunification within 12 months (6 month entry cohort)	X	X	
Re-entry following Reunification			X
Adoption within 24 months (exit cohort)	X		
Placement Stability within 12 months (fed)	X	X	
Median time to reunification			X
Median time to adoption			X
All participation rates**	X		
Siblings Placed together in Foster Care	X		
Least Restrictive Placement (first placement type and point in time only)**	X	X	
Time to Investigation	X		
Social Worker Contacts	X	X	
ICWA	X	X	
Youth in Transition***	X	X	

\* Same measure but reversed so higher is better

\*\*Entry rates and first placement type will include all entries, instead of current 5 days or more restriction

\*\*\* Still in development phase

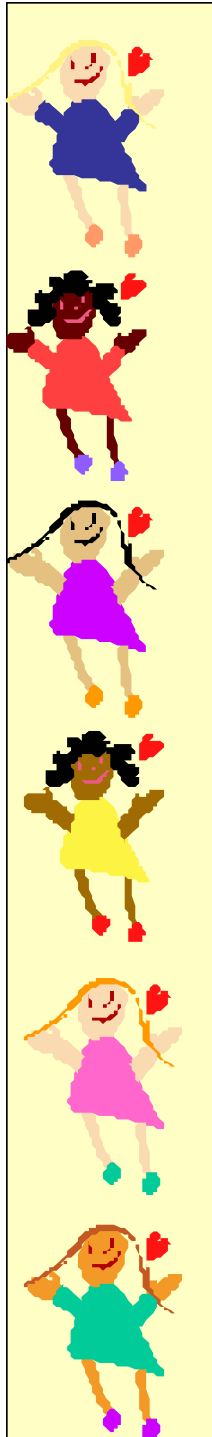
# When?

CSSR plans to have a subset of the revised measures available in July 2007.

The July 2007 county reports will only contain measures that are going forward with minimal changes.

The rest of the measures will be added so that all will be available in time for the CFSR onsite review in February 2008. Data will be available on all new measures back to at least 2000.





Barbara Needell  
[bneedell@berkeley.edu](mailto:bneedell@berkeley.edu)  
510.642.1893  
510.290.6334 (pcs)

Daniel Webster  
[dwebster@berkeley.edu](mailto:dwebster@berkeley.edu)  
510.290.6779

[CSSR.BERKELEY.EDU/CWSCMSREPORTS](http://CSSR.BERKELEY.EDU/CWSCMSREPORTS)

Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Shaw, T., Dawson, W., Piccus, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Conley, A., Smith, J., Dunn, A., Frerer, K., & Putnam Hornstein, E., (2007). *Child Welfare Services Reports for California*. Retrieved [month day, year], from University of California at Berkeley Center for Social Services Research website.  
URL: <<http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/>>