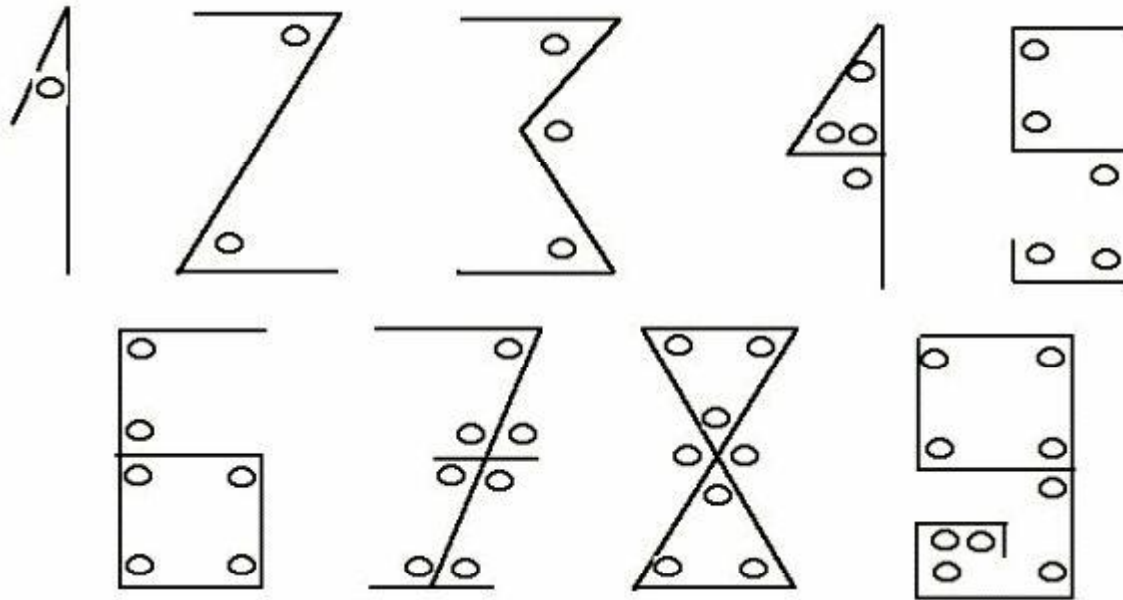




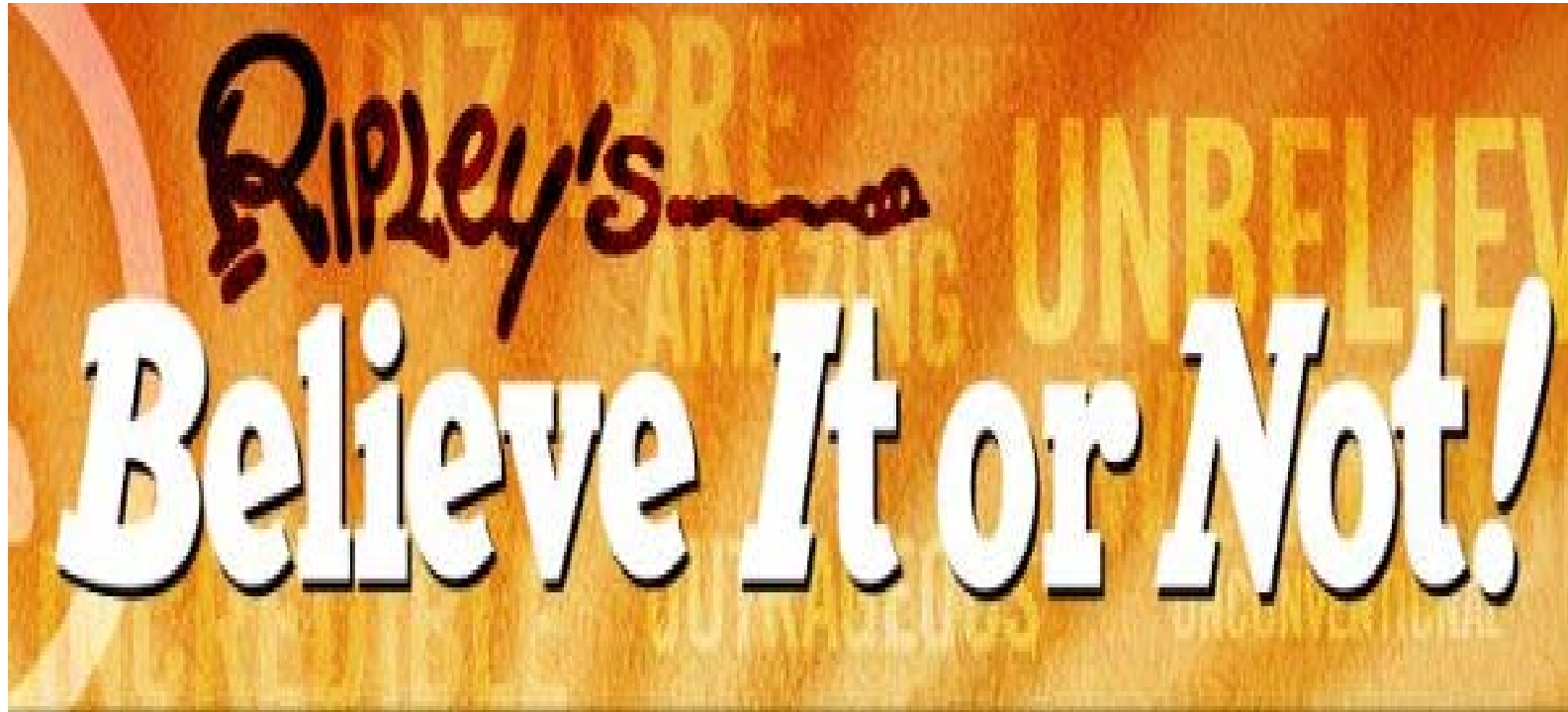
# Data Snapshot

# History of Numbers?



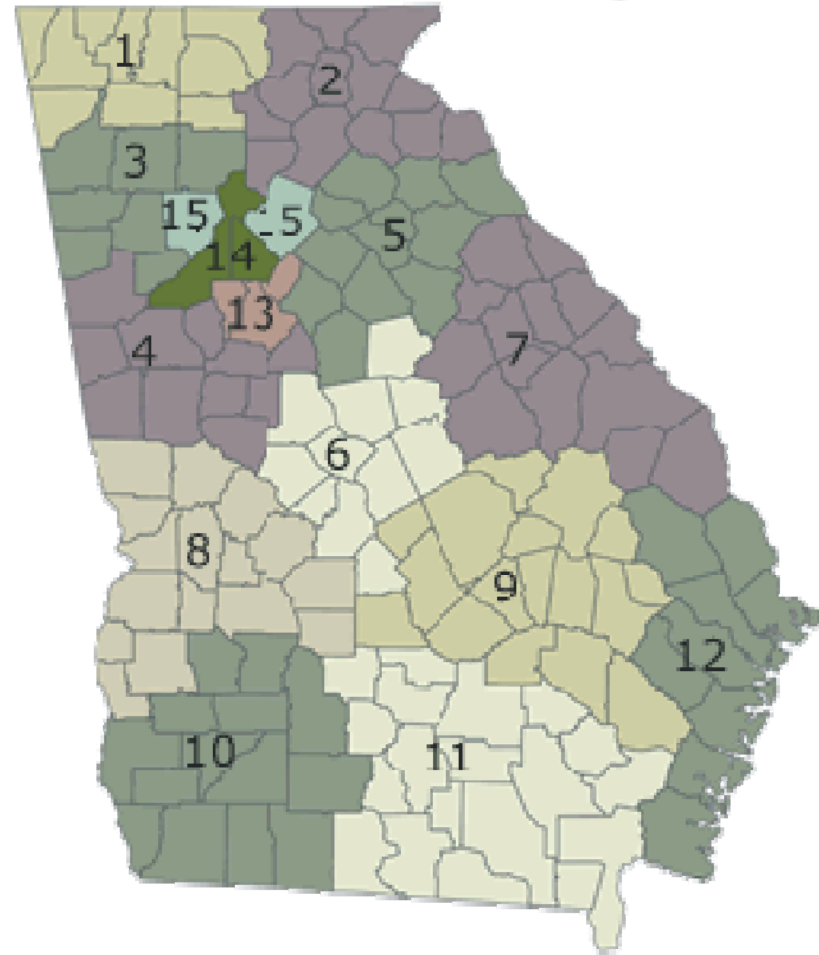
NO  
ANGLES

Some folk etymologies have argued that the original forms of these symbols indicated their value through the number of angles they contained, but no proof exists of any such origin.



# Children in Care by Region

Region	Children In Care
1	562
2	455
3	1059
4	560
5	486
6	520
7	203
8	435
9	118
10	301
11	549
12	664
13	435
14	1129
15	633
<b>State</b>	<b>8109</b>



On October 24, there were 8,109 children in foster in care, including those over 18 who have voluntarily signed themselves in care.

# Children Less Than 18 in Care

REGION	Age 0-5	Age 6-12	Age 13-17	Total
1	211	173	158	542
2	180	135	122	437
3	393	332	299	1024
4	221	135	176	532
5	186	138	131	455
6	203	152	137	492
7	84	62	50	196
8	196	120	102	418
9	49	40	28	117
10	119	82	86	287
11	249	169	119	537
12	305	198	144	647
13	148	151	108	407
14	406	254	363	1023
15	223	186	172	581
<b>State</b>	<b>3173</b>	<b>2327</b>	<b>2195</b>	<b>7695</b>



Each month about 600 children enter care throughout Georgia with a similar number exiting.

# Youth Who Have Signed Themselves Back into Care

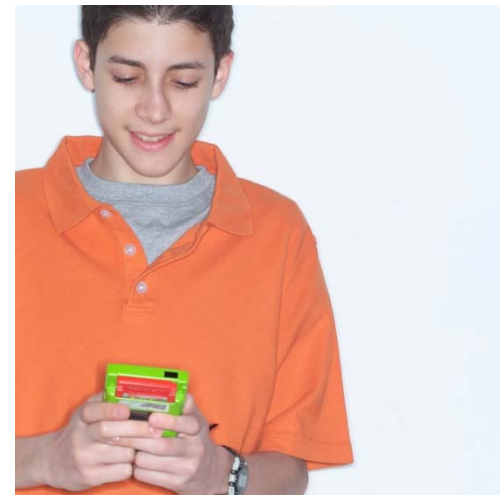
REGION	Youth Count	Age 18	Age 19	Age 20	Age 21	Age 22
1	20	9	5	4	2	0
2	18	9	4	4	1	0
3	35	15	9	10	1	0
4	28	16	2	8	1	1
5	31	14	11	5	1	0
6	28	11	10	4	2	1
7	7	2	4	0	1	0
8	17	7	6	1	2	1
9	1	1	0	0	0	0
10	14	8	3	3	0	0
11	12	3	5	4	0	0
12	17	6	4	6	1	0
13	28	9	7	8	2	2
14	106	51	27	18	8	2
15	52	32	17	3	0	0
<b>State</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>7</b>



Upon reaching 18 a youth in care is emancipated. Some youth choose to sign themselves back into care as “Temporary Voluntary” in order to access various services.

# Children in CCI's

Region	Children In CCI
1	90
2	79
3	177
4	138
5	61
6	87
7	18
8	51
9	14
10	71
11	84
12	109
13	76
14	248
15	103
<b>State</b>	<b>1406</b>



About one out of five children in care resides in a CCI. Most are teenagers.

# Children in CPA's

Region	Children In CPA
1	103
2	149
3	335
4	120
5	111
6	148
7	55
8	79
9	17
10	41
11	122
12	193
13	126
14	513
15	164
<b>State</b>	<b>2276</b>



About one out of four children in care resides in a CPA.



# Youth in Placement Types

Placement Type	Youth
CCI Family Foster Home	1
Child Care Institution	203
CPA Family Foster Home	99
DFCS Family Foster Home	41
Hospital	3
ILP/Aftercare	1
Missing	27
Other Person	7
Other Resource	18
Relative - Paid	2
Relative - Unpaid	7
Relative Foster Home	2
Runaway	2
YDC/RYDC	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>414</b>



The above shows the number of youth (age 18 to 22) by placement types.

# All Children in Care by Program Types

Placement Type	Youth
2nd Chance	43
AWO	244
Base	432
Base WO	889
Regular / Non-Specialized	4558
MAAC	245
Maternity Home	2
Max WO	710
MWO	368
NTF	180
PRTF	27
SBWO	8
SMFWO	110
SMWO	56
Teen Development	106
Traditional	55
Unapproved CCI	32
Unapproved CPA	44
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>8109</b>



The above shows the number of children by program types. *Data are for children in care on October 24.*

# Stakeholders

Relationships can be strengthened by:  
Increased communication between DFCS and  
community partners



# Stakeholder Findings:

General Information				
	Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Disagree
DFCS staff are accessible to my organization (easy to locate, return telephone calls timely, etc)	63%	24%	8%	5%
DFCS staff meet as often as necessary with me or members of my organization (participate in staffings, community work groups/meetings)	69%	19%	7%	5%
Disagreements or issues between our respective agencies/organizations are resolved in a timely and satisfactory manner	71%	20%	5%	4%
DFCS has an effective partnership with my agency/organization	78%	17%	3%	2%
DFCS staff does a good job in identifying children at risk and provide emergency services or removal when placement is warranted.	74%	20%	4%	2%

## Agencies and Service Providers

	Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Disagree
DFCS referral information provides us with the information needed to understand the case situation and provide our services	60%	27%	8%	5%
DFCS referrals to our program are timely (based on family's situation and the types of services needed)	65%	26%	6%	3%
DFCS followed up with us to determine whether our services were initiated with the children/families referred	65%	22%	7%	6%
DFCS involve us in decision making on cases when appropriate	65%	21%	8%	6%
DFCS has a good working knowledge of the services we provide to the children and families and make appropriate referrals	71%	21%	5%	3%
DFCS keeps us informed about our mutual cases and notify us before they close or transfer their cases	55%	16%	12%	17%



# Article 1 – General Provisions

Change in terminology: Dependency

Defines Key Terms

Abandonment: grounds reduced from 12 months to 6 months to show intent to forgo parental duties

Abuse:

- Any nonaccidental physical injury or physical injury which is inconsistent with the explanation given for it by a child as a result of the acts or omissions of a **person responsible for the care of a child**.
- **Emotional abuse**
- Sexual abuse or sexual exploitation
- **Prenatal abuse**
- The commission of acts of family violence

# Article 1 (cont'd)

“Party” defined to include a child

Permanent placement definition does not include permanent custody (custody modification); does include reunification, adoption and permanent guardianship

Person responsible for the care of a child

- Adult member of the child’s household
- A person exercising supervision over the child
- Any adult who has access to the child based on his or her relationship to the parent/guardian or a member of the child’s household

Relative and Sibling – maintain relationship even if parent divorces  
step-parent



# Article 1 (cont'd)

Expands jurisdiction of juvenile courts to review services offered to children over age 18

Promotes mediation

Establishes “best interest” factors

Allows the court to modify or vacate a delinquency order if the child was found to have committed a prostitution-related act and was a victim of human trafficking or sexual exploitation

# Article 3 - Dependency

Expedites permanency timelines for children under the age of 7, requiring a permanency planning hearing within 9 months of entry into foster care

Clarifies the representation scheme for a child

Limits continuances only for good cause

Presumes unsupervised visitation unless court finds it would not be in the child's best interests

Provides factors for court's consideration of "reasonable efforts"

## Article 3 (cont'd)

Modifies the “previous TPR of a sibling” exception to the requirement to make reasonable efforts to preserve/reunify a family to require the court to determine whether the parent has resolved the issues that led to the previous TPR

Incorporates new federal requirement to include 2 new circumstances in which reasonable efforts to reunify are not required:

- 1) when parent has been convicted of sexual abuse of the child or another child of the parent;
- 2) when the parent is required to register as a sex offender and preservation of the parent-child relationship is not in the child’s best interests.

# Article 3 (cont'd)

Eliminates the expiration of temporary custody orders, which will endure until a contrary order is made or the purpose of the order is fulfilled

Requires an initial review hearing within 75 days of removal and a subsequent review hearing within 4 months after the initial hearing

Eliminates the option for courts to delegate permanency hearings to citizen review panels

## Article 3 (cont'd) - Summary of Review and Permanency Plan Review Hearing Requirements

### Child under 7 years old:

initial review: within 75 days post-removal (can only be held by court)

ongoing review: every 4 months (can be held by court or panel)

permanency plan hearing: within 9 months post-removal (can only be held by court)

permanency plan review hearing: every 6 months after the initial permanency plan hearing (can only be held by court)

### Child 7 years old or older:

initial review: within 75 days post-removal (can only be held by court)

ongoing reviews: every 4 months (can be held by court or panel)

permanency plan hearing: within 12 months post-removal (can only be held by court)

permanency plan review hearing: every 6 months after the initial permanency plan hearing (can only be held by court)

## Article 4 - Termination of Parental Rights

Preserves the right of a child to inherit and receive benefits from parents post-TPR until adopted

Preserves a child's legal relationship with siblings and other extended family after TPR until adopted

Reduces the amount of time a parent has to develop and maintain a bond, to provide support, and to comply with reunification services from 12 months to 6 months

Creates a mechanism for the reinstatement of parental rights

# Article 5 - Children in Need of Services

Creates a new approach for intervening with status offenders

## Purpose

- 1) To acknowledge certain behaviors/conditions indicate that a child is experiencing serious difficulties and is in need of services;
- 2) To make family members aware of their contributions to their family's problems;
- 3) To provide child with a program of treatment to help child become a responsible and productive member of society; and
- 4) To ensure cooperation and coordination of all agencies having responsibility to supply services

# Parties/Agencies that May be Involved

Parent, guardian, or legal custodian of the child

Child's attorney

The person who filed the petition

Child's guardian ad litem, if any

Mental health or developmental disabilities representatives

Child's caseworker

A representative from the child's school

Any family member who has shown an interest and involvement in the child's well-being

A representative from Department of Public Health

A DFCS caseworker

Representatives of the public and private resources to be utilized in the child's comprehensive services plan

Other persons who have demonstrated an ongoing commitment to the child

Note: Court has the authority to order child-serving agencies to attend court hearings.



# Who is a CHINS?

A child adjudicated to be in need of care, guidance, counseling, structure, supervision, treatment, or rehabilitation and who is adjudicated to be:

Truant without good and sufficient cause;

Habitually disobedient/ungovernable;

Runaway;

Committed an offense applicable only to a child;

Wanders/loiters between midnight and 5 AM;

Disobeys terms of supervision contained in a court order which has been directed to such child who has been adjudicated as a CHINS; or

Unaccompanied patron of a bar where alcoholic beverages are sold

A child who has committed a delinquent act and is adjudicated to be in need of supervision but not in need of treatment or rehabilitation

# Case Initiation and Temporary Custody

A case is initiated by a complaint, filed with the juvenile intake officer

CHINS complaint may be filed by a parent, DFCS, school, law enforcement, GAL, or attorney

School must first exhaust administrative remedies

Permits a CHINS to be taken into temporary custody under limited circumstances, but directs the least-restrictive environment

If a child is detained and the parent does not pick the child up, the child will be placed in DFCS custody

# Continued Custody Hearing

## Initial hearing

Court determines whether there is probable cause to believe the child has committed a status offense or is otherwise a CHINS and that continued custody is necessary. If the court finds probable cause, the court:

May release the child to the custody of his parent OR place the child in the least restrictive placement available

- Child may be detained for up to 72 hours for the purpose of arranging for an alternative placement pending adjudication

Must refer the child and his family to a community based risk reduction program OR order that a CHINS petition be filed and set the date for an Adjudication Hearing

# Community-Based Risk Reduction Programs

Court may order establishment “for the purpose of utilizing available community resources in assessment and intervention in cases of delinquency, dependency, or [CHINS]...” Any individual, public or private agency or entity may participate.

Court may adopt an early intervention program designed to identify children who are at risk of becoming involved with the court, with the goal of diverting them.

Court may enter into info-sharing/protocol agreements with school systems, DFCS, health department, DJJ, mental health, local health care providers, licensed counselors and social workers, and any other education or treatment service provider.

When an at-risk child is identified, the case shall be referred to a multiagency staffing panel, which develops a multiagency intervention plan for the child. Failure to comply may result in a referral to DFCS.

# CHINS Petition and Adjudication Hearing

If the court orders the case to proceed, a petition may be filed by “any person, including a law enforcement officer, who has knowledge of the facts alleged or is informed and believes that such facts are true.”

A petition filed by a school officer must account for attempts to resolve the problem through educational approaches.

The petitioner has the burden of proving the allegations by clear and convincing evidence.

# Disposition Hearing

The court shall order the least restrictive and most appropriate disposition, which may include:

ermitting the child to remain with his caregiver with or without conditions prescribed by the court;

lacing the child on probation or unsupervised probation;

equiring community service;

equiring restitution;

nposing a fine;

equiring the child to attend structured afterschool or evening programs or other court approved rograms as well as requiring supervision during the day;

ny order authorized for the disposition of a dependent child;

- If the child is placed in foster care, a case plan must be developed that conforms with 15-11-404.

ny order authorized for the disposition of a delinquent child except the child shall not be placed in secure or non-secure residential facility;

ny combination of the above.

# Disposition Order

In effect for the shortest time necessary to accomplish the purposes of the order and for not more than 2 years

The order may be extended under certain circumstances

The court may terminate the order prior to expiration if the purposes of the order have been accomplished

The court must conduct an initial review of the disposition at least once within the first 3 months and at least every 6 months thereafter

# Plan Manager and Comprehensive Services Plan

A plan manager shall be appointed by the court to direct the development of a comprehensive services plan for a child who is “unrestorably incompetent to proceed” (Article 7)

Responsibilities include:

Collecting all histories of the child

Convene all relevant parties to develop a comprehensive services plan

Submit the plan to the court

Identify to the court any person who should provide testimony at the comprehensive services plan hearing

Monitor the plan, present amendments and evidence as needed to the court for reapproval of the plan at subsequent review hearings

The plan must be submitted to the court within 30 days of the disposition order, and a hearing must be held within 30 days of submission. The court will thereafter conduct review hearings every 6 months to monitor the child’s condition, and the child is to be placed in an appropriate treatment setting.







# Article 9 – Access to Hearings and Records

Prohibits exclusion of child's attorney even if child is excluded from proceedings

Allows the court to seal child's delinquency records for prostitution-related offenses if the child was a victim of human trafficking or sexual exploitation

# What's Out

Raising the age of delinquency jurisdiction to 18  
Codification of Independent Living Services  
Mandatory conference for CHINS

# What's Next

Effectiveness date is January 1, 2014

Expect a "clean-up" bill next year

# Questions

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LUNCH  
TIME**

# CREDIT REPORTING





# TED TALKS



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