

# CHILDREN IN NEED OF SERVICES (CHINS)



## BACKGROUND

As part of Juvenile Justice Reform efforts in North Dakota, the 2021 Legislature approved changes to NDCC 27-20.3 for services to be provided by the child welfare system so that children in need of services who have not committed crimes can be served in the community and be maintained outside of the Juvenile Court system.

## CHINS PROGRAM GOALS

- Connect children and their families to appropriate services in the community;
- Focus on prevention, treatment services and support; and
- Divert individuals from entering the foster care and juvenile justice system.

## CHILD BEHAVIORS APPROPRIATE FOR THE CHINS PROGRAM

- Truancy from school
- Regularly disobeying their parents
- Using and possessing tobacco and related products
- Running away

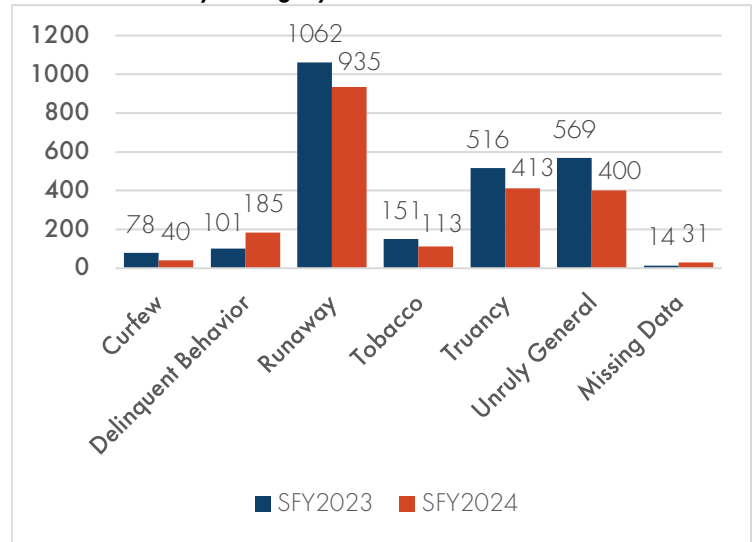
## TO REFER TO THE CHINS PROGRAM

Parents, guardians, law enforcement officers, and school officials can refer children to the CHINS Team, staffed statewide by Human Service Zone professionals.

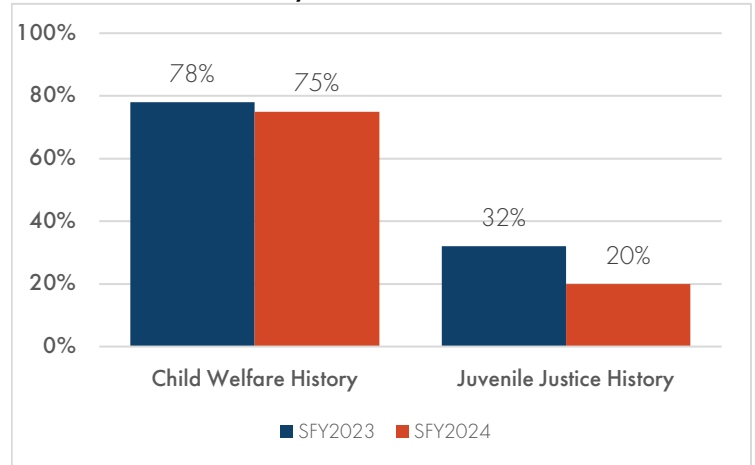
1. Complete a [CHINS Referral Form](#)
2. Submit the Referral Form
  - o Fax: (701) 328-0104
  - o Email: [chins@nd.gov](mailto:chins@nd.gov)
3. Questions regarding the program or referrals can be sent via email to [chins@nd.gov](mailto:chins@nd.gov) or by calling 701-889-9864.

	SFY2023	SFY2024
Total Referrals	2,491	2,117
Total Children	1,493	1,452
Median Age	14 Years	15 Years
Top Living Situation	In Home (89%)	In Home (91%)
Top Referral Source	Law Enforcement (67%)	Law Enforcement (67%)

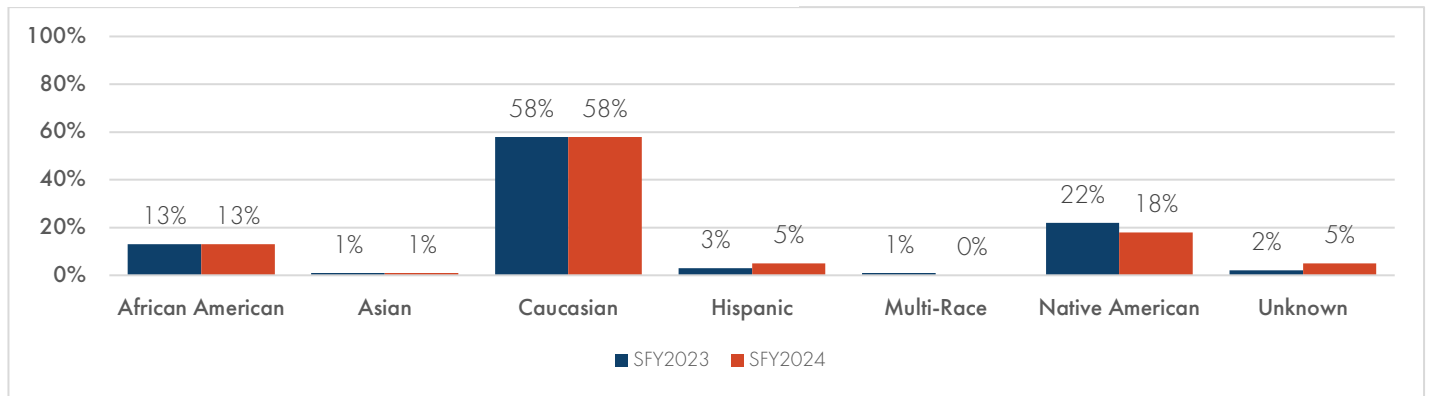
## Total Referrals by Category



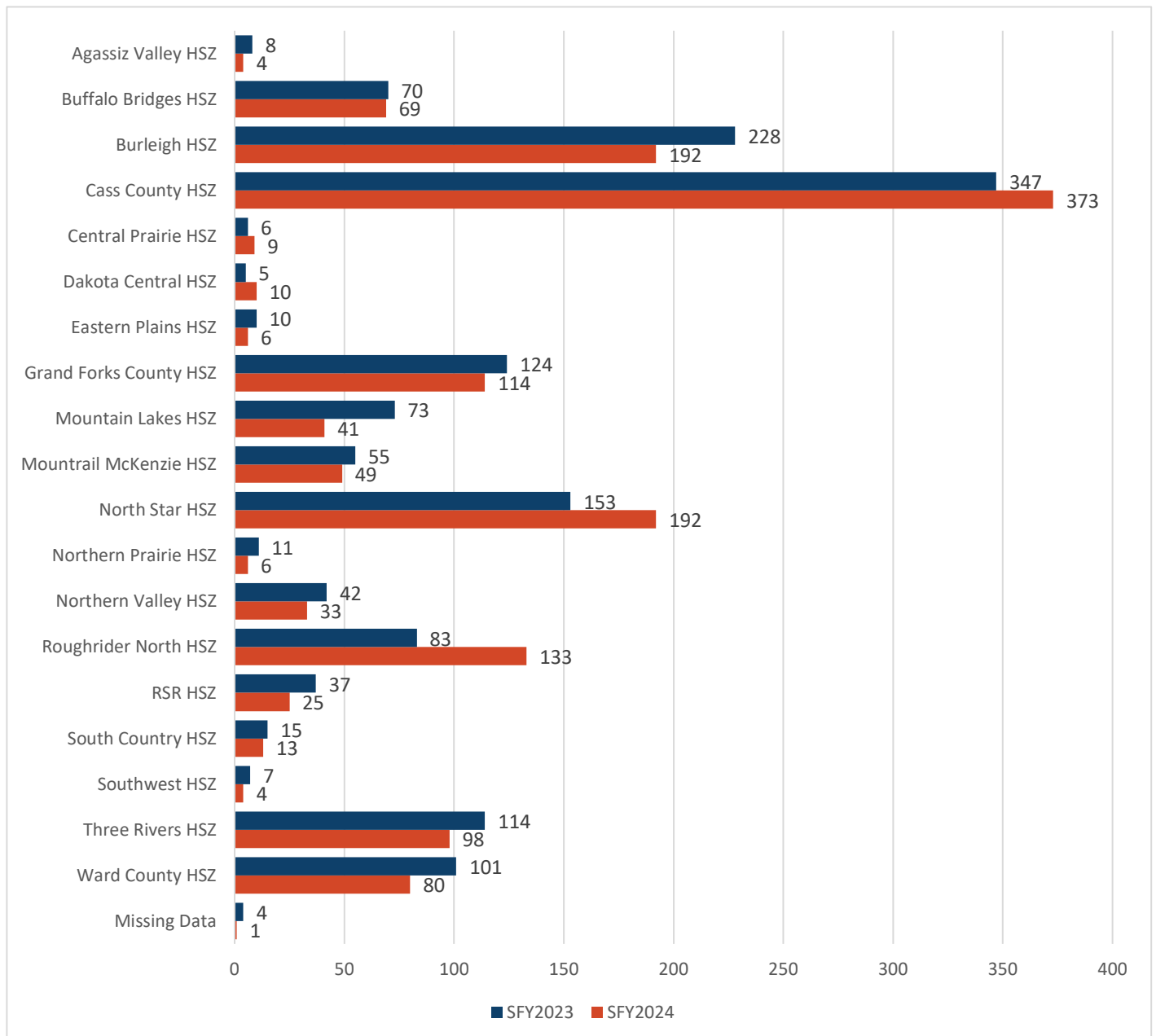
## Percentage of Children with Child Welfare or Juvenile Justice History



## Total Children by Race



## Total Children by Human Service Zone



### Children and Family Services Section

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