

# Driving Child Welfare Policy with Data

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# Virginia's Children's Services Practice Model

“The practice of collecting and sharing data and information is a non-negotiable part of how we continually learn and improve. We will use data to inform management, improve practice, measure effectiveness and guide policy decisions”.

# Moving Toward Outcome Based Performance Management

- Requires Virginia Children's Services System to undergo a paradigm shift

What are we doing?



What are we  
Accomplishing?

# Changing Methodologies

- Previous data use was punitive and was centered around fiscal sanctions
  - Focus was on meeting minimum standards as opposed to improving practice
- Current data use focuses on using data to develop integrated strategies to live our practice model, and to do better by children and families
  - Staff experience outcomes and process measures as a strategy for improvement and learning what works

# About OBRA

# Creation of OBRA

- The Outcome Based Performance and Analysis Unit (OBRA) was created as a part of Transformation and responsible for the Managing by Data building block.
- OBRA has continued this function but has increased its scope of job functions

# OBRA Job Functions

- Data analysis, research, and reporting
  - All monthly, quarterly and annual reporting, ad hoc research and data requests
- Business owner for all DFS IT systems
  - ASAPS, ARRIS, OASIS
- Manages all DFS data tools
  - SafeMeasures, ROASIS, VCWOR
- Manages all DFS data contracts
  - Chapin Hall, CRC, Mickey Groomes

# OBRA Job Functions

- Performance Based Contracting
  - Internal contracts
  - TFC provider evaluation model
- Sub Recipient Monitoring
  - APA reconciliation process
  - Budget fluctuation monitoring
  - Federal Financial Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA)
- Strategic Financial Reinvestment
  - VDSS reinvestment budget package

# Accomplishments to Date

- Creation of multiple monthly reports
  - Critical Outcomes Report, Transformation Outcomes Report, CPS & APS timeliness reports
- Role out of SafeMeasures statewide
  - Trained 600+ workers across all five regions
- Increased Data Quality
  - Lowest AFCARS error percentages ever recorded, increased usage of fields in OASIS, system edits and enhancements, highest CPS data quality on record
- Creation of TOP process
  - Led to internal process reform around adoption, kinship, and long term foster care

# Accomplishments to Date

- Multiple performance management trainings
  - Have trained in numerous LDSS and in all five regions on multiple occasions
- Ad hoc research
  - DFS Diversion Study, placement cost analysis, timeliness to adoption analysis, children at risk of aging out analysis, alternative goal analysis
- Five releases of OASIS
  - First releases since 2005; three were released in 2010 with two currently in planning for 2011

# 2011 Initiatives

- Implementation of Performance Based Contracting across DFS
  - Examining 220+ existing contracts
  - Working with Secretary of HHR on TFC Budget Language
- Expand local data team pilot
  - Begin engaging low performing LDSS
- Create reinvestment strategy for projected cost savings

# 2011 OBRA Initiatives

- Release three versions of OASIS (3.8 – 3.10)
  - General enhancements, SDM, Custody Assistance
- Release three versions of ASAPS
  - UAI, CIMRS, Business Enhancements / Edits

# Virginia's Child Welfare Data

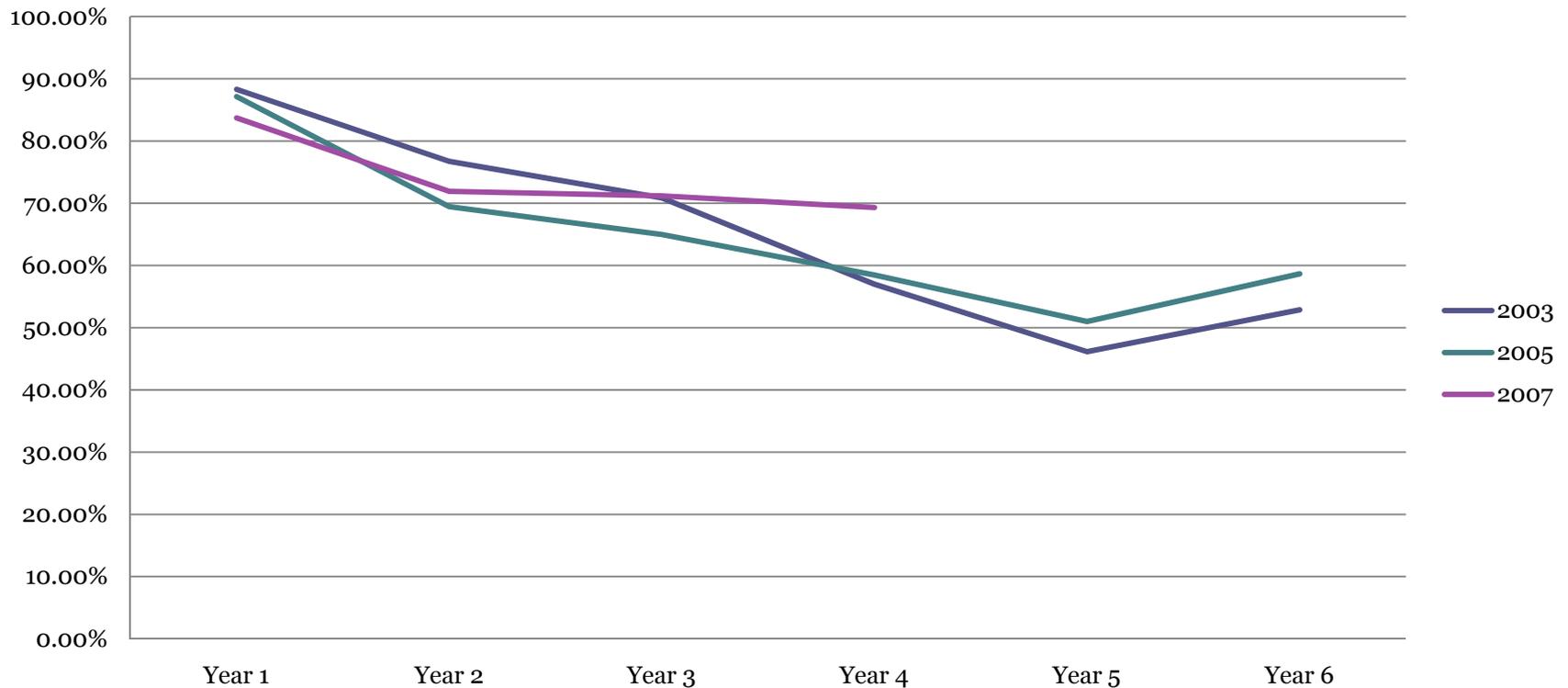
# Types of Data

- Point in Time
- Longitudinal
- Critical Outcomes Report
  - Adoption
  - CPS
  - Foster Care

DFS Critical Outcome Measure	12/07	03/11	Percent Change	Difference
Safely Reduce Foster Care Caseload	7557	5484	-27.43%	-2073
Re-Entries within 12 months of Exit	9.59%	3.69%	-61.49%	-5.90%
Increase Discharges to Permanency	1743	2211	26.85%	468
Increase Discharges to Permanency	64.29%	73.77%	14.75%	9.48%
Increase the Number of Children in Family Based Placements	5398	4532	-16.04%	-866
Increase the Percentage of Family Based Placements	71.43%	82.64%	15.69%	11.21%
Decrease the Number of Children in Group Care	1922	828	-56.92%	-1094
Decrease the Percentage of Children in Group Care	25.43%	15.10%	-40.63%	-10.33%
Increase the Number of Children in Kinship Care	425	338	-20.47%	-87
Increase the Percentage of Children in Kinship Placements	5.62%	6.16%	9.67%	0.54%

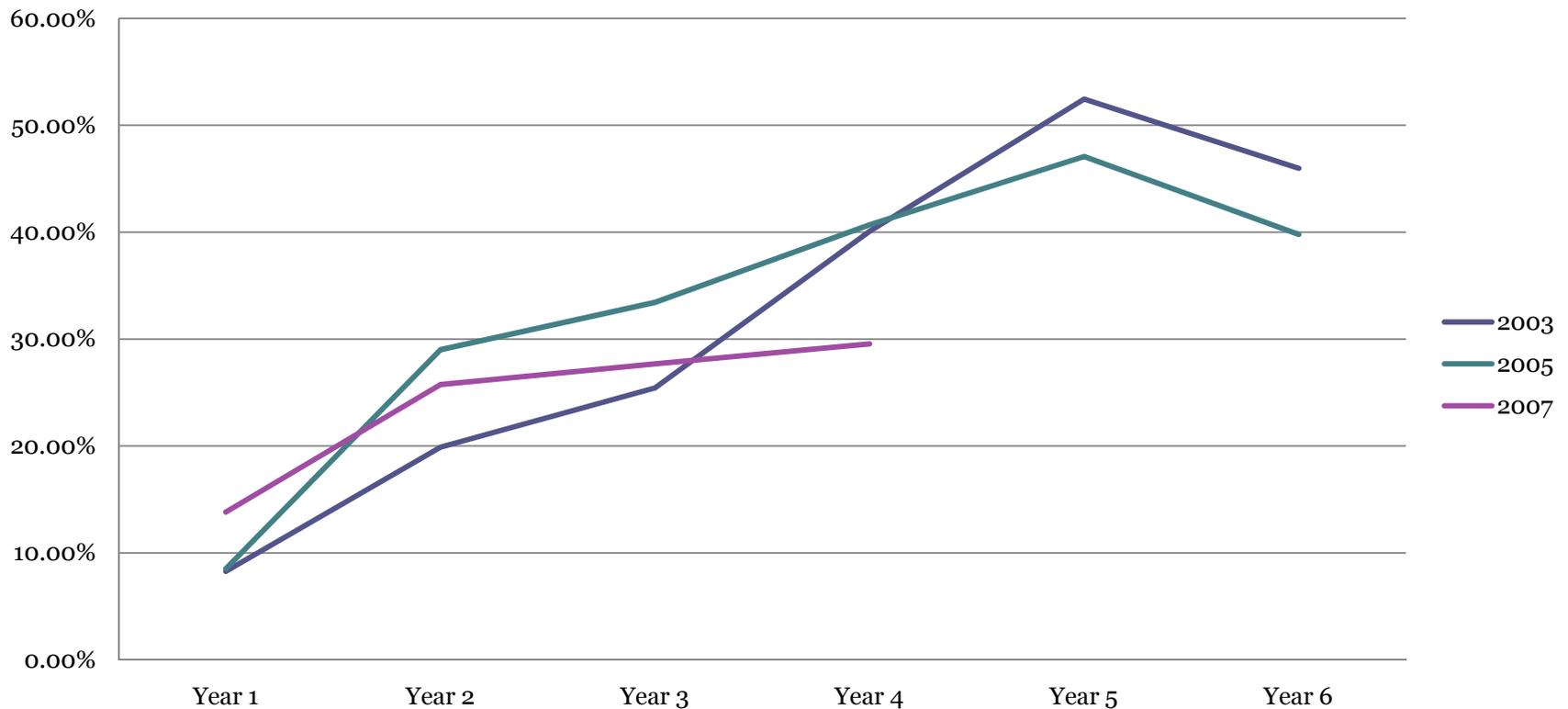
# Entry Cohort Analysis

**Entry Cohort Comparison: Permanency**

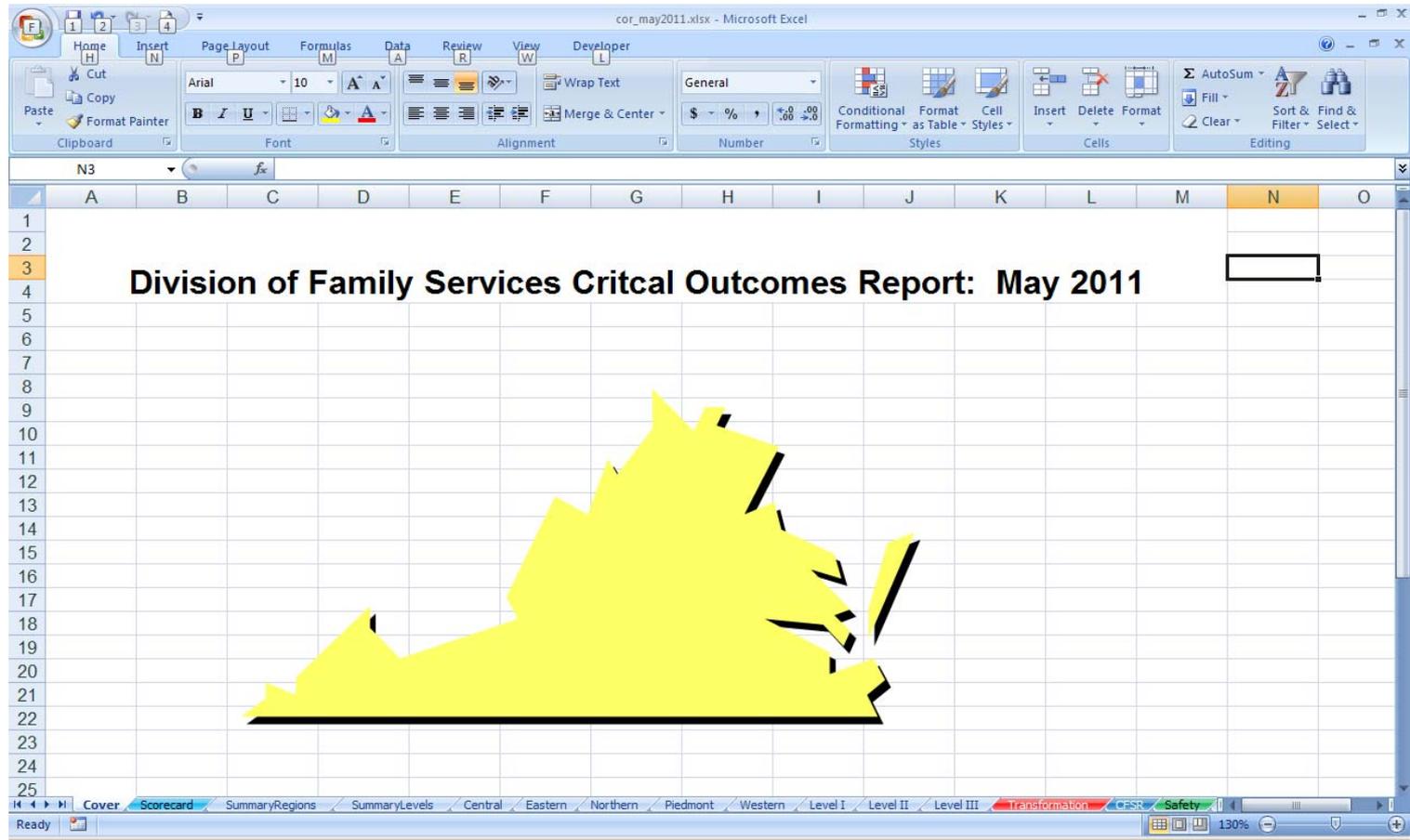


# Entry Cohort Analysis

**Entry Cohort Comparison: Emancipations**



# Critical Outcomes Report

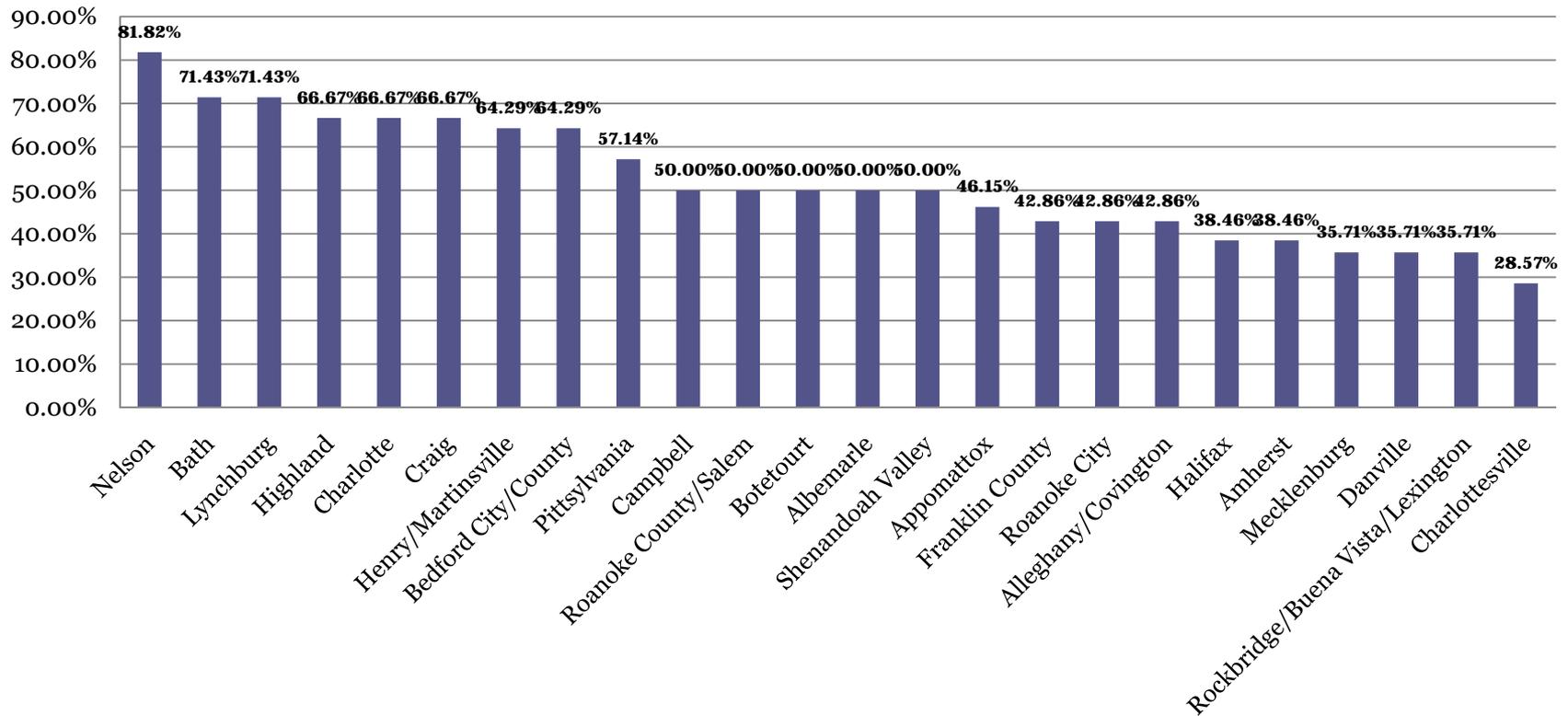


# Critical Outcomes Report

- Contains 14 critical outcomes across three areas of measurement:
  - Transformation
  - Child and Family Services Review (CFSR)
  - Safety

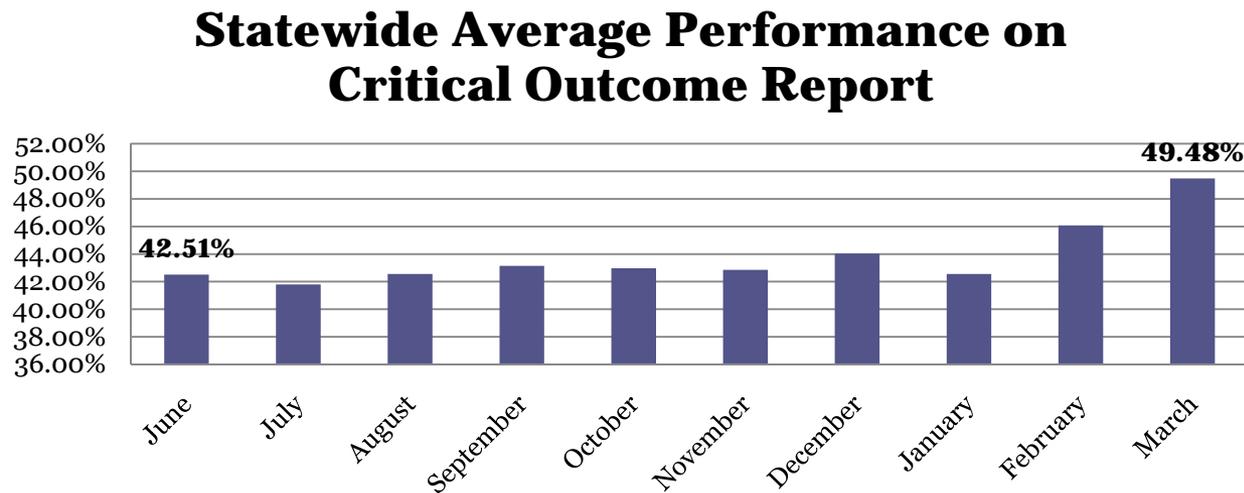
# Agency Rankings on 14 Outcomes

## Piedmont Outcomes Summary: May 2011



# Critical Outcomes Report

- Performance has improved significantly since June 2010.



# Questions?

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