

FY 2022

**COURT-APPOINTED
LEGAL REPRESENTATION IN
CHILD PROTECTION CASES**

EXPENDITURE REPORT

June 2023

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Table of Contents

I. Executive Summary	Page 3
II. Introduction	Page 4
III. Spending Summary	Page 5
IV. FY21 & FY22 Spending Comparison	Page 6
V. Systems for Providing Legal Counsel	Page 9
VI. FY22 Reporting Categories	Page 10
VII. Spending Breakdown	Page 11
VIII. Appointments	Page 12
IX. Conclusion	Page 13
Appendix	Page 14
End Notes	Page 33

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Child protection cases are some of the most serious cases heard inside a civil courtroom. The stakes are high for families involved and can lead to permanent family separation.

Statewide data collection for court-appointments in Texas child protection cases is still very new. Following the passage of the 86th Legislature's SB 560, data collection efforts began at the conclusion of Fiscal Year 21 (FY21). The data from Fiscal Year 22 (FY22) reflect the second year of data collection. This data is key in making well-informed decisions about how to improve publicly funded legal representation of families involved in child protection cases.

Expenditure information about court-appointments in child protection cases must be reported annually by county auditors or treasurers. Judicial plan information is reported biennially and will be collected at the conclusion of Fiscal Year 2023. This report focuses only on expenditures reported by counties for FY22.

Overall, reported total statewide spending in FY22 decreased from FY21; however, a substantial number of counties reported an increase in spending. Total spending in FY21 was \$66,238,774 and total spending in FY22 was \$61,573,531, reflecting a 7% decrease. Continued data collection will be imperative to better understand trends and needs throughout the state.



INTRODUCTION

Every year, the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) is involved with tens of thousands of Texas families. Counties are responsible for paying the full cost of providing attorneys for children and indigent parents in child protection court cases. FY22 data shows continued disparities in spending throughout the state.

Total reported spending for FY22 decreased by \$4,665,243 from \$66,238,774 in FY21 to \$61,573,531 in FY22. The exact reason for the decrease in total reported expenditures is currently unknown. One possible explanation is the decrease in the number of children in DFPS conservatorship and number of children named in family preservation cases.[i] Data collected in subsequent years may provide insight into yearly changes in reported expenditures.

More counties reported expenditures in FY22 than FY21, with 239 counties providing data. Accuracy in data collection continues to be a challenge for some counties. With each passing year, TIDC expects increased precision in reporting as counties implement systems to gather the requested information.

FY22 SPENDING SUMMARY

Reported
Statewide
Spending

\$61,573,531

Statewide
Per Capita
Spending

\$2.07

Range in total reported amount spent by a county is between \$750 and \$9,569,202.

239 counties reported expenditures. (233 reported in FY 21)

231 counties reported appointments. (224 reported in FY21)

FY21 & FY22 SPENDING COMPARISON

Reported Spending Changes

Total statewide spending in FY22 decreased by \$4,665,243 from FY21.

Statewide court-appointed legal representation spending per child in DFPS custody increased by \$164 from \$1,444 in FY21 to \$1,608 in FY22. This number is calculated by dividing total amount of reported state spending by total number of children in DFPS legal conservatorship. This number does not indicate amount spent on each individual child.

Total statewide per capita spending in FY22 decreased by \$0.24 from \$2.31 in FY21 to \$2.07 in FY22. Per capita spending is calculated by dividing total amount spent in the state or county by number of residents in the area. Per capita spending among the counties continues to show disparities through the state.

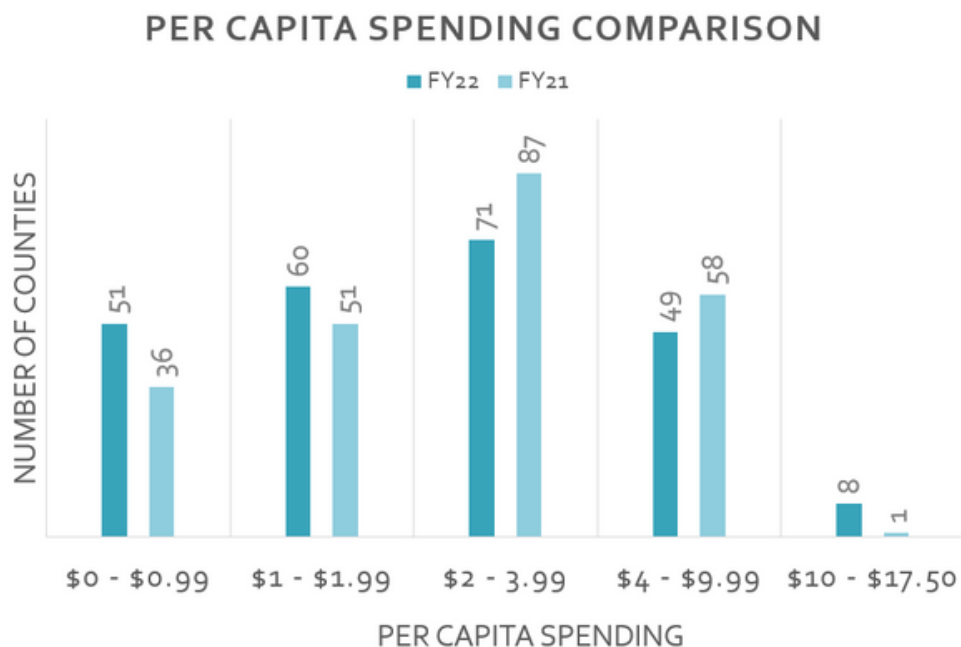


Figure 1

FY21 & FY22 SPENDING COMPARISON

Change in Total Reported Spending from FY21 to FY22

Although total statewide reported spending decreased, a substantial percentage of counties reported an increase in spending in FY22. The percentage change in spending from FY21 to FY22 exhibits continued spending variations throughout the state.

SPENDING CHANGE FY21 → FY22

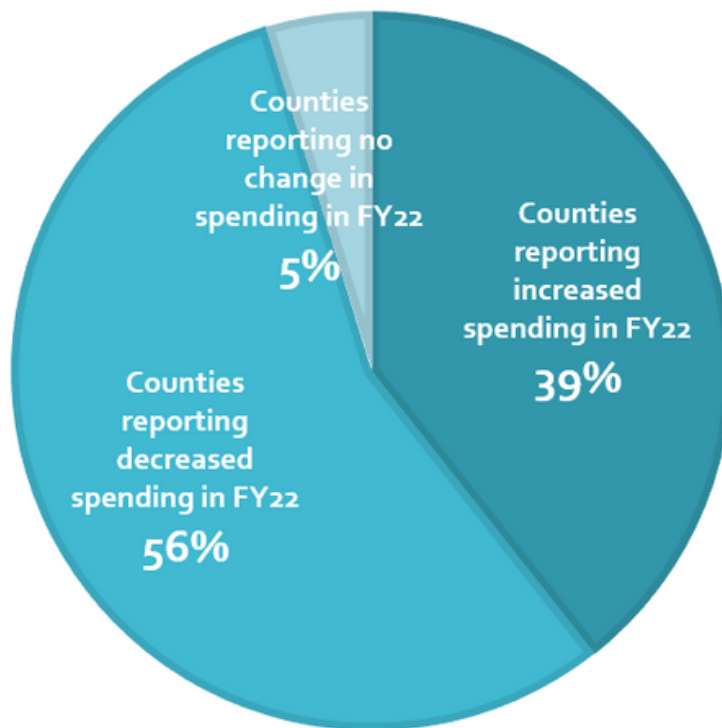


Figure 2

FY21 & FY22 SPENDING COMPARISON

Counties Reporting an Increase in Spending

A total of 100 counties reported an increase in spending. Of the counties reporting an increase in spending, 9 counties reported spending in FY22 and \$0 in spending in FY21.

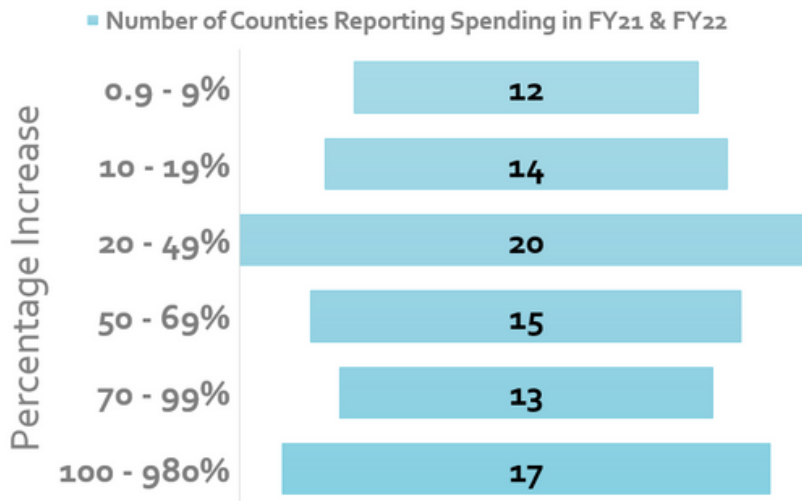


Figure 3

Counties Reporting a Decrease in Spending

A total of 142 counties reported a decrease in spending. Of the counties reporting a decrease in spending, 3 counties reported spending in FY21 and \$0 in spending in FY22.

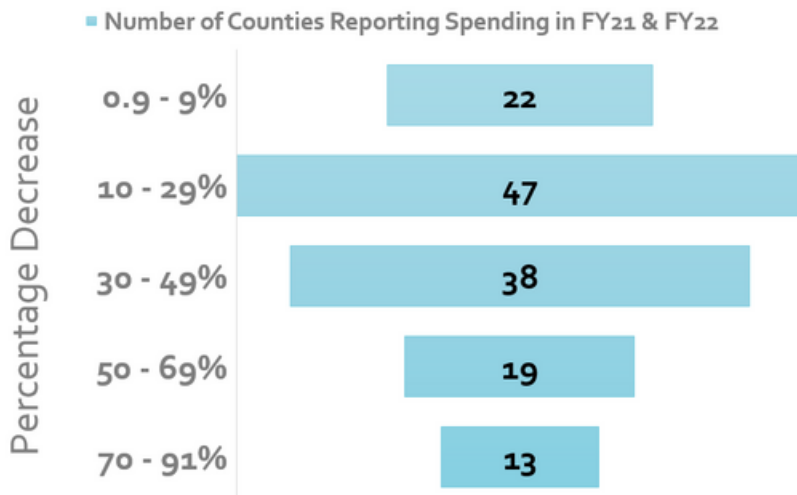


Figure 4

SYSTEMS FOR PROVIDING COUNSEL

Court-appointed legal representation of children and indigent parents involved in child protection cases in Texas can be provided through assigned counsel lists[ii], contract counsel[iii], managed assigned counsel[iv], offices of child representation[v], offices of parent representation[vi], public defender offices[vii], non-profit organizations[viii], or law school clinics[ix]. The overwhelming majority of counties reported spending only on assigned counsel lists in FY22.

Number of Counties Reporting Spending Only on Assigned Counsel List

226

Number of Counties Reporting Spending on Contract Counsel

6

Number of Counties Reporting Spending on Public Defender Office or County Employee

3

Number of Counties Reporting Spending on Office of Parent or Child Representation

1

Number of Counties Reporting Spending on Managed Assigned Counsel

1

FY 22 REPORTING CATEGORIES

New for FY22, expenditures and appointments were reported in six different categories based on who was represented: custodial parents, non-custodial parents, non-parent conservators, children, adult appeal, and children appeal.

CUSTODIAL PARENTS: Mother, Father, or Mother & Father (if living together) AND must be living with the child at the time the lawsuit is filed.

NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS: Mother, Father, Mother & Father (if living together) not living with the child at the time the lawsuit is filed. Also includes all alleged fathers, unknown fathers (identity unknown), and unlocated fathers (identity known, location unknown).

NON-PARENT CONSERVATOR: Non-parent who has been given legal conservatorship (custody) of the child before the filing of the lawsuit by TDFPS.

CHILDREN: Child or sibling group. Representation occurs at any stage of a child protection case other than an appeal.

CHILDREN APPEAL: Representation of a child or sibling group during an appeal.

ADULT APPEAL: Representation of a mother, father, or non-parent conservator during appeal.

FY 22 SPENDING BREAKDOWN

Data reporting for court-appointed legal representation in child protection cases is still very new and some counties have experienced difficulty in gathering the requested categorical data. In summary:

- **228 counties** reported expenditures within at least one category.
- **22 counties** reporting expenditures within the new categories expressed difficulty doing so.
- **11 counties** reporting expenditures were unable to report amounts within the new categories.

Due to the difficulty of reporting expenditures within categories, the reported total categorical amounts should be considered estimate figures. With each fiscal year, an increase in reporting accuracy is expected.

Estimated categorical data shows that amounts reported reflect comparable dollar amounts spent to provide representation for children and parents.

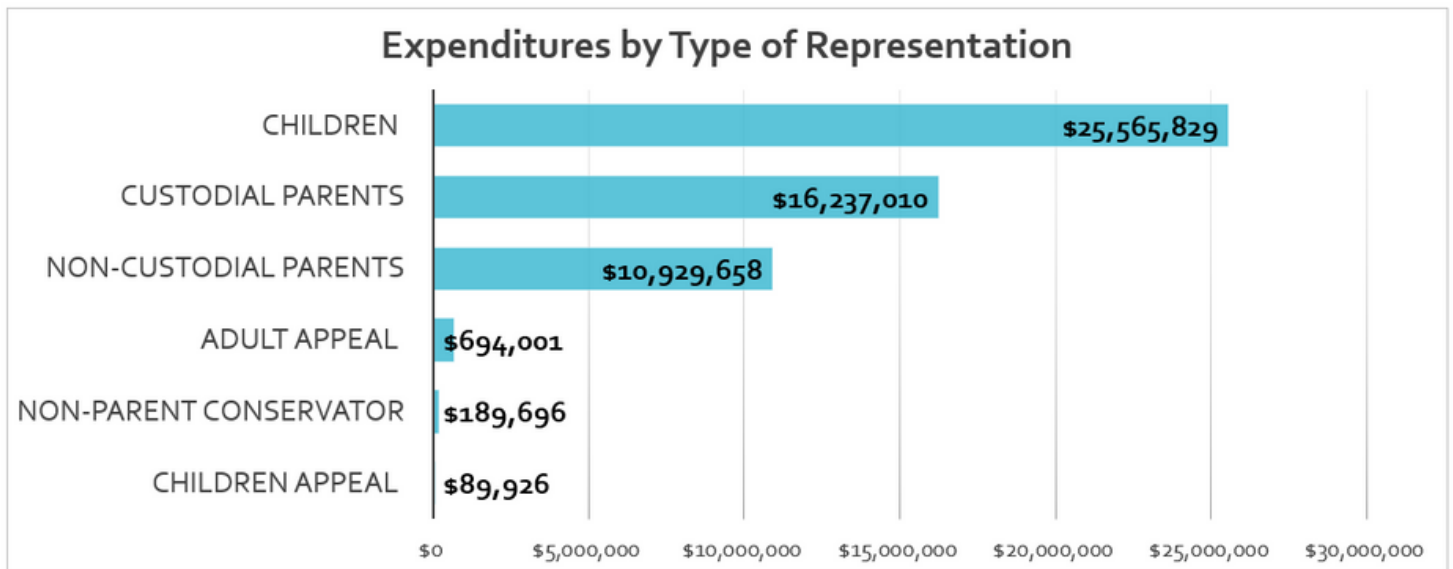


Figure 5

APPOINTMENTS

Due to the nature of child protection cases, reporting the number of appointments has been a challenge for many counties. Child protection cases almost always have multiple attorneys appointed on one case, can last over one year, and have multiple hearings and settings for the duration of the case. Additionally, attorneys often submit multiple bills throughout the life of a case and attorney appointments in the same case can end at different times depending on the legal situation of the attorney's client.

For FY22, counties were asked to count an appointment at the time an attorney submits a final bill. Based on feedback from multiple counties, the method for counting appointments will change for FY23 reporting. This change should provide more accurate information regarding appointments. Due to the continued difficulty with counting appointments, FY22 appointment numbers should be considered estimates.

Total number of appointments reported: 32,133

Total number of counties reporting appointments: 231

Total number of counties reporting appointments in new categories: 223

Total number of counties expressing difficulty reporting appointments: 40

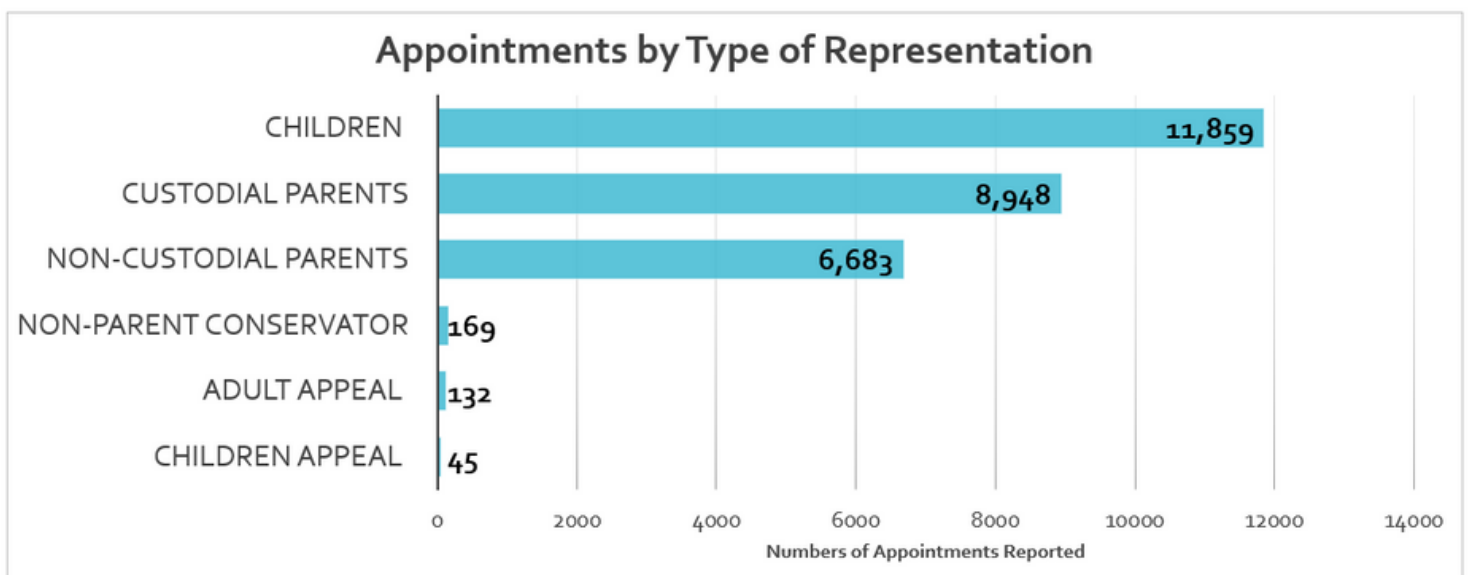


Figure 6

CONCLUSION

Data collected for FY22 provides further insight into the court-appointed legal representation system in child protection cases. Total spending decreased in FY22 and spending disparities throughout the state continued. The exact reasons for the decrease in spending are unknown at this time; a reduction in children involved in certain DFPS cases may be a partial explanation. The amount of money spent per capita to provide legal representation to children and parents in child protection cases varies widely from county to county.

County compliance with data collection has been encouraging. Some counties have expressed difficulty in gathering requested data and are working to implement systems to better gather the information. With time, we expect an increase in accurate data reporting, which will further inform our understanding of county systems that provide legal counsel for families in child protection cases.

Ultimately, child protection cases are about family. Quality legal representation for families involved in child protection cases can provide life-altering benefits for children and parents. The data indicates that there are gaps and areas of need in providing attorneys for children and indigent parents involved in child protection cases.



APPENDIX A

County Spending Tables

*Amount spent and per child spending are rounded to the nearest dollar amount.

*Per child in custody spending is calculated by dividing total amount spent in a county for all court-appointed legal representation in child protection cases by the number of children in DFPS legal conservatorship (custody). This amount does not reflect actual amount spent on each individual child.

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending	Per Child in Custody Spending
Anderson	\$67,858	\$1.17	\$492
Andrews	\$55,056	\$2.94	\$2,039
Angelina	\$295,729	\$3.41	\$1,338
Aransas	\$31,356	\$1.29	\$454
Archer	\$34,716	\$4.07	\$2,314
Atascosa	\$123,136	\$2.47	\$708
Austin	\$29,898	\$0.98	\$1,359
Bailey	\$22,943	\$0.98	\$998
Bandera	\$99,280	\$4.52	\$2,112
Bastrop	\$380,035	\$3.64	\$2,032
Baylor	\$21,852	\$6.28	\$1,561
Bee	\$33,492	\$1.09	\$284
Bell	\$1,307,306	\$3.45	\$909
Bexar	\$3,431,491	\$1.67	\$815

County Spending Tables

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending	Per Child in Custody Spending
Blanco	\$42,598	\$3.49	\$2,662
Bosque	\$47,233	\$2.57	\$1,027
Bowie	\$104,424	\$1.14	\$1,014
Brazoria	\$724,790	\$1.89	\$2,934
Brazos	\$345,339	\$1.45	\$1,107
Brewster	\$8,083	\$0.85	\$1,155
Brooks	\$19,947	\$2.88	\$798
Brown	\$187,579	\$4.89	\$819
Burleson	\$204,447	\$11.39	\$353
Burnet	\$176,444	\$3.44	\$1,269
Caldwell	\$150,938	\$3.18	\$1,301
Calhoun	\$44,245	\$2.23	\$1,301
Callahan	\$79,795	\$5.54	\$1,400
Cameron	\$460,575	\$1.09	\$974
Camp	\$155,552	\$12.41	\$4,575

County Spending Tables

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending	Per Child in Custody Spending
Carson	\$7,440	\$1.30	\$1,240
Cass	\$52,205	\$1.81	\$715
Castro	\$15,380	\$2.13	\$854
Chambers	\$54,393	\$1.07	\$1,700
Cherokee	\$89,610	\$1.74	\$533
Childress	\$27,457	\$4.08	\$1,830
Clay	\$59,183	\$5.82	\$1,973
Cochran	\$10,500	\$4.11	\$1,313
Coke	\$17,628	\$5.32	\$2,518
Coleman	\$47,543	\$6.18	\$1,639
Collin	\$1,318,720	\$1.17	\$3,305
Collingsworth	\$7,435	\$2.85	\$826
Colorado	\$10,065	\$0.48	\$774
Comal	\$167,853	\$0.91	\$593
Comanche	\$63,554	\$4.59	\$1,444

County Spending Tables

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending	Per Child in Custody Spending
Concho	\$10,009	\$3.00	\$1,430
Cooke	\$127,230	\$3.01	\$1,446
Coryell	\$230,682	\$2.71	\$1,073
Crockett	\$14,654	\$4.78	\$1,628
Crosby	\$24,332	\$4.85	\$1,159
Culberson	\$8,766	\$3.99	\$974
Dallam	\$8,160	\$1.13	\$221
Dallas	\$3,056,432	\$1.17	\$1,074
Dawson	\$15,323	\$1.23	\$666
Deaf Smith	\$14,520	\$0.79	\$519
Denton	\$3,040,305	\$3.17	\$4,246
Dewitt	\$51,951	\$2.61	\$1,528
Dickens	\$15,135	\$8.76	\$2,522
Dimmit	\$13,146	\$1.53	\$376
Donley	\$6,553	\$1.99	\$815

County Spending Tables

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending	Per Child in Custody Spending
Duval	\$31,200	\$3.32	\$480
Eastland	\$91,022	\$5.10	\$1,213
Ector	\$549,903	\$3.45	\$1,432
El Paso	\$1,025,538	\$1.17	\$1,796
Ellis	\$154,712	\$0.74	\$1,629
Erath	\$17,300	\$0.39	\$393
Falls	\$100,475	\$6.04	\$1,861
Fannin	\$211,600	\$5.77	\$3,067
Fayette	\$12,386	\$0.50	\$210
Fisher	\$20,206	\$5.42	\$1,554
Foard	\$1,000	\$0.93	\$167
Fort Bend	\$729,220	\$0.83	\$4,367
Franklin	\$4,550	\$0.43	\$325
Freestone	\$25,275	\$1.27	\$602
Frio	\$8,392	\$0.46	\$116

County Spending Tables

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending	Per Child in Custody Spending
Gaines	\$5,445	\$0.24	\$681
Galveston	\$1,253,926	\$3.54	\$3,014
Garza	\$5,722	\$0.99	\$477
Gillespie	\$30,020	\$1.10	\$1,201
Goliad	\$6,674	\$0.92	\$667
Gonzales	\$2,640	\$0.13	\$91
Gray	\$73,273	\$3.54	\$621
Grayson	\$208,725	\$1.47	\$928
Gregg	\$113,573	\$0.92	\$277
Grimes	\$63,110	\$2.07	\$1,402
Guadalupe	\$70,541	\$0.39	\$811
Hale	\$43,230	\$1.32	\$548
Hall	\$15,340	\$5.43	\$1,534
Hamilton	\$33,750	\$4.19	\$1,350
Hardin	\$293,792	\$5.14	\$2,277

County Spending Tables

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending	Per Child in Custody Spending
Harris	\$9,569,202	\$2.01	\$3,207
Harrison	\$96,580	\$1.39	\$871
Hartley	\$2,480	\$0.46	\$155
Haskell	\$36,980	\$6.88	\$1,541
Hays	\$401,541	\$1.51	\$1,043
Henderson	\$333,180	\$3.93	\$1,234
Hidalgo	\$740,193	\$0.83	\$1,645
Hill	\$102,003	\$2.77	\$843
Hockley	\$88,983	\$4.21	\$1,412
Hood	\$237,352	\$3.69	\$2,447
Hopkins	\$35,095	\$0.93	\$487
Houston	\$46,481	\$2.08	\$1,162
Howard	\$89,347	\$2.60	\$1,176
Hunt	\$511,529	\$4.92	\$2,424
Hutchinson	\$111,183	\$5.51	\$1,356

County Spending Tables

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending	Per Child in Custody Spending
Jack	\$36,135	\$4.05	\$2,258
Jackson	\$62,613	\$4.13	\$3,131
Jasper	\$201,438	\$6.15	\$2,120
Jefferson	\$322,734	\$1.28	\$600
Jim Hogg	\$18,000	\$3.73	\$1,000
Jim Wells	\$116,100	\$3.09	\$1,001
Johnson	\$278,219	\$1.45	\$1,412
Jones	\$121,692	\$6.13	\$1,901
Karnes	\$45,632	\$3.13	\$1,342
Kaufman	\$211,252	\$1.29	\$1,390
Kendall	\$45,861	\$0.95	\$1,911
Kerr	\$103,445	\$1.91	\$1,499
Kimble	\$3,945	\$0.93	\$564
Kinney	\$12,278	\$3.92	\$1,364
Kleberg	\$53,825	\$1.74	\$792

County Spending Tables

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending	Per Child in Custody Spending
Knox	\$6,387	\$1.90	\$798
La Salle	\$15,136	\$2.27	\$797
Lamar	\$58,475	\$1.17	\$479
Lamb	\$15,050	\$1.18	\$627
Lampasas	\$106,522	\$4.71	\$1,332
Lavaca	\$13,403	\$0.63	\$609
Lee	\$57,735	\$3.27	\$1,178
Leon	\$17,181	\$1.09	\$521
Liberty	\$275,442	\$2.73	\$1,583
Limestone	\$55,726	\$2.51	\$832
Lipscomb	\$6,230	\$2.19	\$779
Live Oak	\$9,462	\$0.85	\$1,352
Llano	\$227,158	\$10.34	\$2,010
Lubbock	\$131,752	\$0.41	\$167
Lynn	\$9,397	\$1.66	\$409

County Spending Tables

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending	Per Child in Custody Spending
Madison	\$49,141	\$3.61	\$1,695
Marion	\$9,929	\$1.02	\$621
Martin	\$13,278	\$2.51	\$1,021
Mason	\$8,152	\$2.10	\$815
Matagorda	\$90,103	\$2.46	\$1,048
Maverick	\$18,216	\$0.31	\$294
McCulloch	\$40,573	\$5.44	\$828
McLennan	\$1,206,648	\$4.61	\$1,239
Medina	\$154,883	\$3.00	\$1,475
Menard	\$5,283	\$2.65	\$660
Midland	\$115,783	\$0.68	\$990
Milam	\$59,387	\$2.36	\$508
Mills	\$19,128	\$4.29	\$1,471
Mitchell	\$32,308	\$3.59	\$1,197
Montague	\$169,538	\$8.42	\$2,734

County Spending Tables

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending	Per Child in Custody Spending
Montgomery	\$745,990	\$1.11	\$1,426
Moore	\$336,209	\$16.03	\$5,512
Morris	\$91,905	\$7.62	\$2,626
Nacogdoches	\$34,130	\$0.53	\$198
Navarro	\$125,427	\$2.32	\$2,367
Newton	\$46,154	\$3.73	\$1,538
Nolan	\$107,778	\$7.47	\$1,159
Nueces	\$550,419	\$1.57	\$695
Ochiltree	\$19,190	\$1.96	\$1,199
Orange	\$364,617	\$4.33	\$1,823
Palo Pinto	\$73,351	\$2.57	\$655
Panola	\$78,812	\$3.49	\$1,212
Parker	\$447,752	\$2.81	\$2,035
Parmer	\$2,100	\$0.21	\$300
Pecos	\$57,150	\$3.78	\$985

County Spending Tables

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending	Per Child in Custody Spending
Polk	\$96,702	\$1.82	\$1,029
Potter	\$482,459	\$4.19	\$992
Rains	\$75,839	\$6.09	\$2,446
Randall	\$141,030	\$0.97	\$613
Real	\$12,030	\$4.40	\$1,337
Red River	\$7,530	\$0.64	\$377
Reeves	\$17,338	\$1.16	\$913
Refugio	\$32,686	\$4.83	\$3,269
Robertson	\$170,324	\$10.12	\$1,638
Rockwall	\$28,521	\$0.23	\$392
Runnels	\$3,245	\$0.32	\$162
Rusk	\$101,101	\$1.92	\$972
Sabine	\$17,554	\$1.78	\$675
San Augustine	\$10,684	\$1.35	\$668
San Jacinto	\$11,752	\$0.42	\$326

County Spending Tables

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending	Per Child in Custody Spending
San Patricio	\$101,667	\$1.46	\$987
San Saba	\$18,596	\$3.27	\$1,162
Scurry	\$56,800	\$3.43	\$653
Shelby	\$13,898	\$0.58	\$331
Sherman	\$1,640	\$0.59	\$234
Smith	\$866,250	\$3.64	\$1,666
Somervell	\$20,950	\$2.21	\$952
Starr	\$83,407	\$1.27	\$1,283
Stephens	\$160,397	\$17.48	\$4,010
Sutton	\$8,554	\$2.61	\$855
Swisher	\$6,900	\$1.00	\$460
Tarrant	\$3,339,887	\$1.57	\$1,719
Taylor	\$1,827,520	\$12.78	\$2,896
Terry	\$17,280	\$1.48	\$665
Titus	\$77,198	\$2.50	\$1,930

County Spending Tables

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending	Per Child in Custody Spending
Tom Green	\$566,887	\$4.70	\$1,488
Travis	\$7,603,095	\$5.72	\$6,166
Trinity	\$32,316	\$2.37	\$979
Tyler	\$106,435	\$5.36	\$2,172
Upshur	\$165,036	\$3.98	\$1,602
Upton	\$6,790	\$2.08	\$849
Uvalde	\$32,042	\$1.32	\$1,105
Val Verde	\$55,798	\$1.18	\$962
Van Zandt	\$41,494	\$0.67	\$244
Victoria	\$209,351	\$2.30	\$1,586
Walker	\$36,528	\$0.47	\$937
Waller	\$87,784	\$1.45	\$2,582
Ward	\$34,740	\$3.22	\$847
Washington	\$140,116	\$3.93	\$1,919
Webb	\$45,396	\$0.16	\$112

County Spending Tables

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending	Per Child in Custody Spending
Wharton	\$50,984	\$1.22	\$1,000
Wheeler	\$9,727	\$1.98	\$1,216
Wichita	\$600,289	\$4.60	\$1,390
Wilbarger	\$61,180	\$4.78	\$1,492
Willacy	\$37,400	\$1.87	\$912
Williamson	\$566,738	\$0.85	\$2,003
Wilson	\$41,645	\$0.80	\$571
Winkler	\$12,848	\$1.68	\$1,168
Wise	\$304,070	\$4.21	\$2,112
Wood	\$139,553	\$3.09	\$1,836
Yoakum	\$3,783	\$0.49	\$378
Young	\$61,328	\$3.43	\$1,203
Zapata	\$9,450	\$0.68	\$304

County Spending Tables

Spending Reported

Between 1-5 children reported in DFPS conservatorship (custody) in the County for FY22, exact number of children in DFPS custody unknown, unable to calculate per child spending

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending
Armstrong	\$800	\$0.43
Briscoe	\$8,615	\$6.15
Cottle	\$7,234	\$5.23
Crane	\$750	\$0.16
Delta	\$1,590	\$0.29
Floyd	\$3,130	\$0.59
Hansford	\$8,215	\$1.59
Hardeman	\$12,225	\$3.51
Hudspeth	\$2,328	\$0.72
Irion	\$1,316	\$0.82
Oldham	\$2,590	\$1.49
Reagan	\$3,730	\$1.11
Roberts	\$2,560	\$3.14
Shleicher	\$5,568	\$2.29

County Spending Tables

Spending Reported

Between 1-5 children reported in DFPS conservatorship (custody) in the County for FY22, exact number of children in DFPS custody unknown, unable to calculate per child spending

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending
Schackelford	\$47,157	\$15.45
Throckmorton	\$980	\$0.64

Spending Reported

No children in DFPS conservatorship (custody) in the County for FY22

County	\$ Spent in FY22	Per Capita Spending
Jeff Davis	\$3,673	\$1.86

No Spending Reported
1-5 children in DFPS
conservatorship (custody)
in the County for FY22

Hemphill
Sterling
Stonewall

No Spending Reported
More than 5 children in DFPS
conservatorship (custody)
in the County for FY22

Zavala

County Spending Tables

No Spending Reported
No children in DFPS Conservatorship (Custody) in the County for FY22

Borden	Edwards
Glasscock	Kenedy
Kent	King
Loving	McMullen
Motley	Presidio
Terrell	

APPENDIX B

Figures

Figure 1

Per Capita Spending Comparison..... Page 6

Figure 2

Spending Change FY21 to FY22..... Page 7

Figure 3

Counties Reporting an Increase in Spending..... Page 8

Figure 4

Counties Reporting a Decrease in Spending..... Page 8

Figure 5

Expenditures by Type of Representation..... Page 11

Figure 6

Appointments by Type of Representation..... Page 12

END NOTES

[i] https://www.dfps.texas.gov/about_dfps/data_book/default.asp

[ii] An assigned counsel list is a list of private attorneys who accept court-appointments in child protection cases managed and overseen by the local county court system. *See Texas Government Code §§ 37.003, 37.004.*

[iii] Contract counsel are private attorneys who establish a contract with a county to provide court-appointed representation of children and indigent parents involved in child protection cases for a set amount of money during a set time period regardless of the amount of cases assigned or work that is required.

[iv] Managed assigned counsel is a list of private attorneys who accept appointments in child protection cases managed and overseen by a governmental entity, non-profit, or local bar association. *See Texas Family Code § 107.302.*

[v] An office of child representation is "an entity that uses public money to provide legal representation and services for a child in a suit filed by a governmental entity seeking termination of the parent-child relationship or the appointment of a conservator for the child in which appointment is mandatory for a child under Section 107.012." *Texas Family Code § 107.254.*

[vi] An office of parent representation is "an entity that uses public money to provide legal representation and services for a parent in a suit filed by a governmental entity seeking termination of the parent-child relationship or the appointment of a conservator for a child in which appointment is mandatory for a parent under Section 107.013." *Texas Family Code § 107.255.*

[vii] A public defender office is a publicly funded office that provides legal representation to indigent clients in criminal or juvenile justice cases. A small number of public defender offices also provide representation to children or indigent parents in child protection cases.

[viii] A non-profit organization is a private organization that receives various funding, often from a mix of public and private monies. These organizations are not governmental offices.

[ix] Law school clinics are managed by a law school and allow law students, supervised by licensed attorneys, to provide legal representation or services to clients in a specific area of law.