



National Partnership for Child Safety Data Dictionary

Critical Incident Review (CIR) Core Data Dictionary with Safe Systems Improvement Tool and Codebook

Scope of Document: This data dictionary contains the core child, family, and critical-incident specific items as well as systems-level data (i.e., Safe Systems Improvement Tool) collected by the NPCS jurisdictions. Coding for each variable is also integrated into this document, for data entry purposes.

The National Partnership for Child Safety strategically does not establish minimum critical incident (e.g., child death) standards for inclusion into the Partnership's shared dataset. Instead, Partnership jurisdictions agree to share the core data (as identified in the table below) whenever the jurisdiction completes a systems-focused critical incident review, per the jurisdiction's internal policy. This is generally, at minimum, any time the jurisdiction had open child welfare involvement at the time a child experiences a maltreatment death.

Through sharing data, Partnership jurisdictions aim to: 1) learn about their unique child-serving system and improvement opportunities, 2) gain insight across jurisdictions to further support improvement efforts, and 3) identify large-scale quality improvement activities the Partnership can inclusively address.

Important Definitions for Understanding the Document:

- **Alleged Perpetrator:** the person alleged to have committed child maltreatment who is evaluated (e.g., investigated, assessed) by the child welfare agency; sometimes referred to as the alleged maltreater or subject
- **Caregiver:** the adult(s) living in the household who is legally obligated and entitled to provide for the safety and well-being of the child
- **Household:** a group of people who have frequent contact with the child leading up to the time of the critical incident. A household member is defined as any individual, regardless of age, who resides in or spends substantial time in the home. Substantial time is defined as a pattern of behavior in spending time within the residence, even if not overnight. If any known

household member (e.g., child) identifies another person as a household member (e.g., significant other), then this person is included. This includes, but is not limited to the following: a non-resident parent who visits the home; relatives, significant others, college students, and/or other individuals who stay overnight in the home; or an individual who routinely babysits in the home and/or otherwise assumes some degree of caregiving responsibility in the home for any child in that home.

Variable	Definition	Response Options with Coding in Parentheses:	Sub-specifiers:
Child Specific:			
Child's Age Range	Age range at time of critical incident. If unavailable, age range as identified in available child welfare records.	Categorical—single selection 0-30 days (1) 1-11 months (2) 1-18+ years (3)	
Age	Age at time of critical incident. If unavailable, age as identified in available child welfare records.	Value—single selection Days: 0-30 --OR-- Months: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 --OR-- Years: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18+ --OR-- Unknown (leave blank)	
Gender	The child's gender as identified in child welfare records. If none is available, as identified in available death certificate or other medical documentation.	Categorical—single selection Female (1) Male (2) Other: specify (3) [narrative] Unknown (4)	
Race	Race of child as identified in death certificate or other medical documentation. If neither is available, race as identified in available child welfare records. *If child is Arab, select White.*	Categorical—multiple selections American Indian (1) Tribal affiliation: Yes (1); No (2) If yes, specify: [narrative] Alaskan Native (2) Asian (3) Black or African American (4) Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (5) White (6)	

Variable	Definition	Response Options with Coding in Parentheses:	Sub-specifiers:
		Unknown (7) Declined to answer (8)	
Ethnicity	Ethnicity of child as identified in death certificate or other medical documentation. If neither is available, ethnicity as identified in available child welfare records.	Categorical—multiple selections Caribbean (1) Chinese (2) Haitian (3) Hispanic or Latino/a origin (4) [additional specifier] Indian (5) Japanese (6) Korean (7) Native African (8) Non-Hispanic or Latino/a origin (9) Other – Black or African American (10) Other – Asian (11) Unknown (12) Declined to answer (13)	Additional specifier: If Hispanic or Latino/a, please further specify, if known: (multiple selections) Central American (1) Caribbean (2) Cuban (3) Dominican (4) Mexican (5) North American (6) Puerto Rican (7) South American (8) Other (9) Unknown (10)
Living Arrangement	The environment in which a child was primarily residing at the time of the critical incident. This may not be the place where the critical incident occurred.	Categorical—single selection Adoptive Home (1) Birth Family's (mother's and father's) home (2) Birth Father's home (3) Birth Mother's home (4) Child at Hospital From Birth (5) Congregate Care (6) Juvenile Detention (7) Kinship Foster Home (8) Non-relative Foster Home (9) Relative's home (10) Other: Specify (11) [narrative] Unknown (12)	Additional specifier: Was this location where the critical incident occurred? Yes (1) No (0) Additional specifier: Was this is the place where the child's physical custody was held? Yes (1) No* (2) Unknown (3) Not applicable (4) *If no, where was the child's physical custody held? [narrative]

Variable	Definition	Response Options with Coding in Parentheses:	Sub-specifiers:
Substance-Exposed Newborn	Identification of any prescribed or unprescribed, in-utero, substance-exposure in the child or mother’s medical records (e.g., Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome diagnosis, positive prenatal drug screen), including alcohol. If medical records are unavailable, prenatal drug-exposure as identified in child welfare records (e.g., self-admission).	Multiple—single selection Yes (1) No (2) Unknown (3)	If yes, then Additional specifiers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was the child diagnosed as substance-affected (e.g., Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome)? Yes (1) No (0) • What <u>type</u> of drug was the child exposed to (multiple selections)? Alcohol (1) Barbiturates (2) Benzodiazepines (3) Methamphetamine (4) Narcotics (5) Tobacco (6) THC (7) Opiates (8) Other: Specify (9) [narrative] Unknown (10)
Custody Status	Identifies the relationship of the entity/person with legal custody (permanent or temporary) at the time of the critical incident. Court records are used as the source of information for this variable whenever possible. Otherwise, general child welfare records are used.	Categorical—multiple selections Birth Parents (1) Father (2) Fictive Kin (3) Mother (4) Relative (5) State/Child Welfare Agency (6) Other: Specify (7) [narrative]	

Variable	Definition	Response Options with Coding in Parentheses:	Sub-specifiers:
		Unknown (8)	
Critical Incident Specific:			
Date of Critical Incident	Date the alleged maltreatment related to the critical incident occurred.	Date (MM/DD/YYYY) --OR-- Unknown	
Critical Incident Type	<p>The category of critical incident that occurred. If the critical incident led to death, the appropriate category is death.</p> <p>Serious physical injury is defined under CAPTA as bodily injury which involves substantial risk of death, extreme physical pain, protracted and obvious disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty. Examples are liver lacerations, multiple fractures, near drowning/lack of oxygen to the brain, and severe malnourishment.</p> <p>Near deaths are generally defined by local statute but may encompass those defined by CAPTA as serious physical injuries. If the critical incident met the <u>jurisdiction's criteria</u> of near death, the appropriate selection is near death.</p> <p>The following definition of a near death is recommended: <i>life-threatening cardiopulmonary dysfunction directly attributable to conditions resulting from suspected abuse or neglect as evidenced by (a) respiratory insufficiency/failure requiring intubation and mechanical ventilation, (b) respiratory insufficiency/failure requiring</i></p>	Categorical—single selection Death (1) Near Death (2) Serious Physical Injury (3) Other: Specify (4) [narrative]	<p>Additional specifier for near deaths:</p> <p>Does this critical incident meet the NPCS recommended definition of a near death? Yes (1) No (2)</p>

Variable	Definition	Response Options with Coding in Parentheses:	Sub-specifiers:
	<i>medications to reverse effects of toxic ingestion, or (c) cardiac arrhythmia with or without cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).</i>		
Date of Death	Date of the child's death, as identified on the death certificate. If not available, date of death as identified in the autopsy or relevant medical records. If none are available, date of death as identified in child welfare records.	Date (MM/DD/YYYY) --OR-- Not Applicable	
Number of Alleged Perpetrators	Number of perpetrators alleged to have committed any maltreatment contributory to the critical incident, including unknown perpetrators and a perpetrator-by-omission. This variable is specific to those alleged to have committed maltreatment of the subject child (i.e., child who experienced the critical incident).	Value—single selection 1 2 3 4 5+	
Gender of Alleged Perpetrators	Gender as reported in child welfare records.	Categorical—multiple selection Female (1) Male (2) Other: specify (3) [narrative] Unknown (4)	
Relationship of Alleged Perpetrator(s) to Child	Of those alleged to have committed maltreatment contributory to the critical incident, identify the relationship of the alleged perpetrator(s) to child.	Categorical—multiple selections Adoptive Parent (1) Babysitter (2) Child Daycare Provider: Licensed (3) Child Daycare Provider: Unlicensed (4) Congregate Care or Residential/Institutional Facility Staff (5) Foster Sibling (6) Kinship Foster Care: Licensed (7) Kinship Foster Care: Unlicensed (8) Non-kinship Foster Care: Licensed (9) Non-kinship Foster Care: Unlicensed (10) Parent (11)	

Variable	Definition	Response Options with Coding in Parentheses:	Sub-specifiers:
		Parent's Partner (12) Parent's Former Partner (13) Relative: Grandparent (14) Relative: Aunt/Uncle (15) Relative: Sibling (16) Relative: Other (17) Stepparent (18) Other: Specify (e.g., guardian, non-caregiver, medical personnel) (19) Unknown (20)	
Alleged Perpetrator Prior History of Substantiated Maltreatment	Identifies if there was a previous known child welfare substantiation of any alleged perpetrator	Binary—single selection Yes (1) No (2) Unknown (3)	Additional Specifier: If yes, was the Alleged Perpetrator a Caregiver for the current critical incident being reported? Yes (1) No (0)
Number of Maltreatment Types	The child welfare/child protection system's official maltreatment allegations surrounding the critical incident. This variable specifically refers to the allegations identified within the initial report (e.g., hotline call) or otherwise identified during the course of involvement with the family. Multiple alleged perpetrators may be identified for a single maltreatment type. County the number of distinct maltreatment types, not alleged perpetrators, in answering this question.	Value – Single Selection 1 2 3 4 5+	
Maltreatment Type	The child welfare/child protection system's official maltreatment allegations surrounding the critical incident. This variable specifically refers to the allegations identified within the initial report (e.g., hotline call) or otherwise identified during the course of involvement	Categorical—Multiple selections Emotional/Psychological Abuse (1) Neglect (2) Physical Abuse (3) Sexual Abuse (4) Other: Specify (e.g., Threat/Risk of Harm) (5)	Additional Specifier: Open Textbox for sub-specifying maltreatment allegation

Variable	Definition	Response Options with Coding in Parentheses:	Sub-specifiers:
	with the family. If there are multiple allegations, select all that apply.		
Maltreatment Determination	The child welfare/child protection system's official determination regarding maltreatment allegations surrounding the critical incident. This variable specifically refers to the allegations identified within the initial report (e.g., hotline call) or otherwise identified during the course of involvement with the family. Please indicate the appropriate selection(s) for each maltreatment category chosen within Maltreatment Type.	Categorical—Multiple selections Substantiated (1) Unsubstantiated (2) Unsubstantiated with Concerns (3) Pending (4) Closed without Maltreatment Determination (5) Not Applicable (6)	
Manner of Death	Manner of Death as best identified from child welfare records. If an autopsy or death certificate is available, it is reasonable to use this as a primary source for this determination. If none are available, the response option "unknown" is appropriate.	Categorical—single selection Accident (1) Homicide (2) Natural (3) Suicide (4) Undetermined (5) Unknown (6) Pending (7) Other (8)	
Cause of Critical Incident	If the critical incident involves death, this variable records the cause of death as identified in the death certificate or autopsy. If a death certificate or autopsy is not available, medical records about the death may be used. If the critical incident is not a death and/or medical records are unavailable, this variable records the cause of critical incident as identified in child welfare records.	Categorical-- Multiple selections Accidental Choking (1) Acute Life Threatening Event (2) Asphyxia (not SUID) (3) Burns (4) Drowning (5) Emotional Abuse/Psychological Harm (6) Injury from Fall (7) Injury from Firearm (8) Medical (9) Medical Neglect (10) Motor Vehicle Accident (11) Natural (12) Nutritional Neglect (13)	Additional Specifier: How was Cause of Critical Incident decided? <i>Categorical—single selection:</i> Autopsy (1) death certificate (2) other medical records (3) child welfare records (4) Additional Specifier: If the critical incident was not a death, was the

Variable	Definition	Response Options with Coding in Parentheses:	Sub-specifiers:
		Physical Abuse (14) Poisoning/Overdose (15) Sexual Abuse (16) Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) (17) Other: Specify (18) Undetermined (19)	cause of the critical incident self-inflicted? Yes (1) No (2) Unknown (3) Additional Specifier: If SUID, was the death either: SIDS (1) ASSB (2)
Unsafe Sleep	Infant was placed in near proximity to one or more persons, on the same sleep surface, when found unresponsive, or Infant was sleeping on a surface other than one specifically designed for safe infant sleep* when found unresponsive, or Infant was found unresponsive on bedding softer than a firm crib mattress and/or near pillow, blankets, comforter, waterbed, sheepskin, etc. (*CPSC approved).	Categorical—single selection Yes (1) No (2) Not Applicable: Child was 1+ years at time of the critical incident. (3)	
Family Specific:			
Number of Caregivers	the adult(s) living in the household who is legally obligated and entitled to provide for the safety and well-being of the child	Value—single selection: 1 2	
Caregivers' Age(s)	Caregiver(s)' age as of the date of the critical incident	Value – open field open field for age in years --or-- Unknown (enter unknown)	Additional specifier: Is the caregiver the alleged perpetrator/maltreater? Yes (1) No (0)

Variable	Definition	Response Options with Coding in Parentheses:	Sub-specifiers:
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If no, what was the age of the alleged maltreater(s)? open field for age in years – or – unknown (enter unknown) <p>Additional specifier: What was the relationship of the caregiver(s) to the child? <i>(single selection)</i></p> <p>1, Adoptive Parent 2, Congregate Care or Residential/Institutional Facility Staff 3, Kinship Foster Care: Licensed 4, Kinship Foster Care: Unlicensed 5, Non-kinship Foster Care: Licensed 6, Non-kinship Foster Care: Unlicensed 7, Parent 8, Parent's Partner 9, Parent's Former Partner 10, Relative: Grandparent 11, Relative: Aunt/Uncle 12, Relative: Sibling 13, Relative: Other</p>

Variable	Definition	Response Options with Coding in Parentheses:	Sub-specifiers:
			14, Stepparent 15, Other 16, Unknown
Open Child Welfare Services or Involvement (CWI) on Household	<p>Identifies if there was any kind of open child welfare involvement, such as an intake, case, assessment, investigation, or screening with the household at the time of the critical incident. This includes child abuse and neglect referrals that did not meet criteria to be screened-in, if known.</p> <p>Child welfare is broadly defined as any type of internal involvement with the following systems: child protection, home-based, foster care, juvenile justice, family preservation, and/or any multi-response child protection involvement.</p>	<p>Categorical—Multiple selections Family Preservation/In-home/Ongoing (1) Foster Care (2) Intake/Assessment (3) Investigation (4) Juvenile Justice (5) Other: Specify (e.g., subsidized adoptive home) (6) None (7)</p>	<p>Additional Specifier: Was the child a named member in that services or involvement? Yes (1) No (0)</p>
History of Household Child Welfare Services or Involvement	<p>Identifies if there was any kind of historical child welfare involvement, such as an intake, case, assessment, investigation or screening with the household within three years of the critical incident. This includes child abuse and neglect referrals that did not meet criteria to be screened-in, if known.</p> <p>Child welfare is broadly defined as any type of internal involvement with the following systems: child protection, home-based, foster care, juvenile justice, family preservation, and/or any multi-response child protection involvement.</p>	<p>Categorical—Multiple selections Family Preservation/In-home/Ongoing (1) Foster Care (2) Intake/Assessment (3) Investigation (4) Juvenile Justice (5) Screened Out Hotline Report (6) Other: Specify (e.g., subsidized adoptive home) (7) None (8)</p>	<p>Additional Specifier: Was the child a named member in that services or involvement? Yes (1) No (0)</p>
Caregiver Intimate Partner Violence History	<p>A pattern of coercive tactics-- which can include physical, sexual, economic, psychological, and emotional abuse—that an intimate partner uses with the goal of</p>	<p>Categorical—Multiple selections Known in Relationship at Time of Critical Incident as Aggressor (1)</p>	

Variable	Definition	Response Options with Coding in Parentheses:	Sub-specifiers:
	gaining and maintaining power and control. The intimate partner does not have to live in the household.	History of Intimate Partner Violence as Aggressor (within 5 years) (2) History of Intimate Partner Violence as Aggressor (5+ years ago) (3) Known in Relationship at Time of Critical Incident as Survivor (4) History of Intimate Partner Violence as Survivor (within 5 years) (5) History of Intimate Partner Violence as Survivor (5+ years ago) (6) None (7) Unknown (8)	
Caregiver Prior History of Substantiated Maltreatment	Identifies if there was a previous known child welfare substantiation of caregiver(s)	Binary—single selection Yes (1) No (0)	
Previous Child Fatality in Household	Identifies if a previous child fatality is known to have ever occurred in the household	Binary—single selection Yes (1) No (0)	Additional Specifier: Was child welfare involved as a result of this fatality? Yes (1) No (0) (if Yes to above), Was any maltreatment determined to be present at the time of the fatality? Yes (1) No (0)

Variable	Definition	Response Options with Coding in Parentheses:	Sub-specifiers:
Household's Last Involvement with Child Welfare Agency (CWA)	<p>Date of closure for the last known child welfare involvement, such as an intake, case, assessment, investigation or screening with the household <i>within three years of the critical incident</i>. This includes screened out child abuse and neglect hotline referrals, if known.</p> <p>Child welfare is broadly defined as any type of internal involvement with the following systems: child protection, home-based, foster care, juvenile justice, family preservation, and/or any multi-response child protection involvement.</p>	<p>Date – open field MM/DD/YYYY --OR-- Open Involvement --OR-- Not Applicable</p>	
<p>Safe Systems Improvement Tool <i>See 2021 NPCS Safe Systems Improvement Tool Reference Guide for explanation of response options</i></p>			
List of Improvement Opportunities	<p>Actions or inactions in the case under review either relevant to the outcome (e.g., a child dies abusively at the hands of a caregiver unassessed by the child welfare agency prior to the death) or an important industry standard (e.g., meeting response timeframes for assessing an alleged victim, speaking to collaterals). From a value perspective, Improvement Opportunities identify the case-level gap between what the family and/or child needed in contrast to what the family and/or child received.</p>	Open Textboxes for up to 10 Improvement Opportunities	
Family Conflict	<p>This item refers to how much fighting and arguing occurred between family members. Domestic violence refers to physical fighting in which family members might get hurt.</p>	<p>Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3</p>	<p>Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i></p>

Variable	Definition	Response Options with Coding in Parentheses:	Sub-specifiers:
Development (Caregiver)	This item refers to developmental disabilities including autism and intellectual disabilities.	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Mental Health (Caregiver)	This item refers to mental health needs only (not substance abuse). A formal mental health diagnosis is not required to rate this item. Note: Mental Health Disorders would be rated '2' or '3' unless the individual was in recovery.	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Substance Use (Caregiver)	This item includes problems with alcohol, marijuana, illegal drugs and/or prescription drugs. Note: Substance-Related Disorders would be rated '2' or '3' unless the individual was in recovery.	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Financial Resources (Caregiver)	This item rates the family's financial situation.	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Parenting Behaviors (Caregiver)	This item rates the caregiving behaviors of the primary caregivers. The item rates if the caregiver gave developmentally-appropriate care and followed the care-based recommendations of professionals (e.g., physicians)	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Medical/Physical (Child/Youth)	This item is used to describe the child/youth's medical/physical health. Note: Most transient, treatable conditions would be rates as a '1'. Most chronic conditions (e.g., diabetes, severe	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>

Variable	Definition	Response Options with Coding in Parentheses:	Sub-specifiers:
	asthma, HIV) would be rated a '2'. The rating '3' is reserved for life threatening medical conditions.	3	
Developmental/Intellectual (Child/Youth)	This item describes the child/youth's development as compared to standard developmental milestones, as well as rates the presence of any developmental (motor, social and speech) or intellectual disabilities. It includes Intellectual Developmental Disorder (IDD) and Autism Spectrum Disorders. Rate the item depending on the significance of the disability and the related level of impairment in personal, social, family, school, or occupational functioning.	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Mental Health (Child/Youth)	This item is used to describe the child/youth's mental health (not substance abuse or dependence). A formal mental health diagnosis is not required to score this item.	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Bias	A faulty understanding of a situation due to inherent predisposition(s) (e.g., confirmation bias, cognitive fixation, focusing effect, transference).	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Stress	Psychological strain or tension resulting from adverse or demanding circumstances. Professionals express or exhibit difficulty managing the strains of casework and/or other life circumstances (e.g., divorce).	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Fatigue	Extreme tiredness as a result of casework and/or other life circumstances (e.g., single parent, personal illness).	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>

Variable	Definition	Response Options with Coding in Parentheses:	Sub-specifiers:
		3	
Knowledge Base	An absence of knowledge or difficulty activating knowledge (i.e., putting knowledge into practice).	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Documentation	Absent or ineffective official, internal records.	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Evidence	Difficulties in obtaining and/or synthesizing (i.e., summarizing; combining multiple pieces of information into a coherent holistic assessment) externally-sourced information (e.g., medical records, criminal records, statements from key members, formal assessments).	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Teamwork/Coordination	Ineffective collaboration between two or more internal and/or external entities (e.g., agencies, people and teams). Notably, this item does not encompass the family's willingness or cooperation but rather the team of family-serving professionals. Note: Ineffective teamwork between a supervisor and supervisee is captured under "Supervisory Support."	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Supervisory Support	Supervisor provides ineffective support, communication, teamwork, and/or is unavailable.	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>

Variable	Definition	Response Options with Coding in Parentheses:	Sub-specifiers:
Supervisory Knowledge Transfer	Case direction from supervisor was inconsistent with best practice.	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Production Pressure	Demands on professionals to increase efficiency. Note: This is distinctive from Demand Resource Mismatch (DRM) as Production Pressure describes pressures within casework (e.g., overdues, extensive court involvement, child removals in other assigned cases). Though not exclusively, the presence of DRM may impact the presence of Production Pressures.	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Demand-Resource Mismatch	A lack of internal resources or programs (e.g., inadequate staffing, limited access to drug testing supplies, insufficient funding for services) to carry out safe work practices. Note: The absence of equipment/technology and external resources/programs are scored in separate items.	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Practice Drift	A widely-accepted, often gradient, departure from work-as-prescribed. Practice Drift usually occurs as a result of experienced success and as a means of managing production pressures and/or complex interpersonal decisions. Practice Drift uniquely describes an environmental (e.g., system-wide, county-wide, office-wide) departure from work-as-prescribed and may involve a single or multiple child serving agencies.	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>

Variable	Definition	Response Options with Coding in Parentheses:	Sub-specifiers:
Policies	The absence, poor clarity, or ineffectiveness of a written practice or procedure. Conflicting policies would also be rated here, as well as other written rules, statutes, and procedures detailing work-as-prescribed.	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Training	The absence, poor clarity, or ineffectiveness of formal instruction. This may include a variety of learning modalities, such as: web-based, classroom, independent study, formal mentoring or coaching, etc.)	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>
Service Array	The unavailability or ineffectiveness of a particular external and/or community-based service. These services include provider agencies as well as county and state child-service partners (e.g., school, court, law enforcement).	Ordinal – single selection: 0 1 2 3	Additional Specifier: If selection is 2 or 3, please justify the rating: <i>open field</i>