



# PROJECT MILK CARTON

## STATE CPS ANALYSIS: CALIFORNIA

Comprehensive Child Protective Services System Review

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### Executive Summary

**Administrative Structure:** County Administered (State Supervised)

**Evidence Standard:** Preponderance of Evidence

**12-Year Trend:** DECREASING (-37.1% change from 2012-2023)

**Training Organizations (3):** California CASA Association; California Regional Training Academies; Los Angeles County DCFS Training Division

**Case Management Systems (2):** Child Welfare Services – California Automated Response and Engagement System (CWS-CARES) [in development]; Child Welfare Services/Case Management System (CWS/CMS) [legacy]

**Decision Tools (4):** Status offenders handled as WIC §601 minors (juvenile status offense jurisdiction):contentReference[oaicite:9]{index=9}; Child Welfare Services/Case Management System (CWS/CMS) / Child Welfare Services – California Automated Response and Engagement System (CWS-CARES, in development); Risk Stratification Model (predictive pilot in Los Angeles); Structured Decision Making (SDM) system

### Child Maltreatment Trends (2012-2023)

Year	Victims	Rate per 1,000
2012	76,026	40.10
2013	75,641	40.30
2014	75,033	40.10
2015	72,000	41.20
2016	68,663	41.40
2017	65,342	40.40
2018	50,619	40.00
2019	64,115	38.60



2020	60,317	34.90
2021	55,503	30.90
2022	50,869	34.40
2023	47,824	22.90

## National Comparison

**Rank:** #N/A out of 52 states

**State Rate:** 22.90 per 1,000 children

**National Average:** N/A per 1,000 children

## CPS Training Organizations (3 found)

Organization	Description
California CASA Association	A statewide nonprofit that supports and coordinates Court Appointed Special Advocate programs across California. CASA volunteers are trained and managed by local CASA organizations (under this associa...
California Regional Training Academies	California funds several Regional Training Academies (at UC Davis, CSU Fresno, San Francisco State, and San Diego State) that provide standardized training to county child welfare workers statewide. T...
Los Angeles County DCFS Training Division	The training arm of LA County's Department of Children and Family Services, responsible for preparing the county's CPS staff. It operates a Child Welfare Institute that offers new social worker traini...

## Case Management Systems (2 found)

System Name	Vendor Information
Child Welfare Services – California Automated Response and Engagement System (CWS-CARES) [in development]	Vendor(s): Multiple (modular approach after 2018 reboot – vendors like Accenture, IBM, etc., under state project management)
Child Welfare Services/Case Management System (CWS/CMS) [legacy]	Vendor(s): IBM (primary contractor for original CWS/CMS in 1990s); ongoing maintenance by state's Office of Systems Integration and vendor partners

## CPS Decision Tools (4 found)

Tool/Legal Framework	Category	Description
Status offenders handled as WIC §601 minors (juvenile status offense jurisdiction ): contentReference[oaicite:9]{index=9}	legal	N/A
Child Welfare Services/Case Management System (CWS/CMS) / Child Welfare Services – California Automated Response and Engagement System (CWS-CARES, in development)	tools	N/A
Risk Stratification Model (predictive pilot in Los Angeles)	tools	N/A
Structured Decision Making (SDM) system	tools	N/A

## Data Sources

- HHS Child Maltreatment Reports (2012-2023)
- CPS Training Organizations Database
- Case Management Systems Registry
- CPS Decision Tools Registry
- State Administrative Structure Data
- Comprehensive Org Mapping

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Report generated by Project Milk Carton - Protecting Children Through Transparency.