

SCAN Policies Database State Profile 2021: Minnesota

Overview of the SCAN Policies Database

The State Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) Policies Database compiles data on the definitions and policies that states use in their surveillance of child maltreatment, along with data on associated risk and protective factors. The SCAN Policies Database is funded by the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation in collaboration with the Children’s Bureau in the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Mathematica leads this project in partnership with Child Trends.

The project’s purpose is to review and compile information from states’ definitions and policies to create a database of those definitions and policies that can be used for analysis. The SCAN Policies Database is a resource for researchers, analysts, child welfare agency staff, and others interested in examining differences between states in their definitions and policies on child maltreatment and how they change over time.

Content

The scope of the SCAN Policies Database includes information about state definitions and policies related to child abuse and neglect for all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The SCAN Policies Database team gathered this information through a document collection, review, and coding process. The team obtained input from states on data collection through a confirmation and verification process. More information about these data collection procedures can be found in the data user’s guide and data collection protocol, accessible at <https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com/data-use-resources>.

The SCAN Policies Database 2021 represents data collected, reviewed, and verified between July 2021 and January 2022. The data reflect the state definitions and policies for the calendar year 2021. The scope of topics in the database includes states’ definitions of child abuse and neglect, as well as information about policies related to reporting, screening, and investigating child maltreatment. Key aspects of the child welfare systems’ response and context are also included.

The content in the SCAN Policies Database is organized into six domains. The state profiles, codebook, data collection protocol, and data file are also organized by these domains. In the protocol, each question begins with a letter prefix identifying the domain for each variable. The six domains with the identifying protocol number prefix are listed below.

Domain	Question prefix
Definitions	D
Reporting	R
Screening	S
Investigation	I
Child welfare response	W
Child welfare system context	C

State profile

This SCAN Policies Database state profile is a summary of the information collected about the definitions and policies for the identified state. It is organized by six domains, with each section containing a set of tables that depict the state's information for all variables within that domain.

The state profile presents data for each variable with “yes,” “no,” “unknown,” or other response as appropriate. The response of “unknown” appears for topics that could not be located from the state's available resources or verified with that state. In some cases, “logical skip” appears when a question was not applicable to a particular state, given a related response on a preceding question.

Data use resources

Several data use resources are available to support users of the SCAN Policies Database:

- **Data user's guide:** The guide has detailed information about the data set, including the process used to collect and review the data, the scope of information included in the data set, guidance on using the data, such as how to link the data with other data sources, and notes about specific topics. The data user's guide includes appendices with information on corrections to the SCAN Policies Database 2019 and a summary of changes to the data between 2019 and 2021 that reflect changes to state laws and policies during that time period. There is one data user's guide that is updated and applicable for all rounds of data collection for the SCAN Policies Database.
- **Codebook:** The codebook provides information about each variable in the data set, including variable names, labels, definitions, protocol number, variable type, and frequencies. The codebook includes several appendices, including a list of all sources used to review and code data. There are separate codebooks to summarize the data from each round of data collection.
- **Data collection protocol:** The protocol has the questions used to collect information about states' statutes and policies as part of the data review and coding process. There are separate data collection protocols for each round of data collection for the SCAN Policies Database.

These data use resources can be found on the SCAN Policies Database website (<https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com/data-use-resources>) or from the National Data Archive for Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN) (<https://www.ndacan.acf.hhs.gov/>).

More information

More information about the SCAN Policies Database can be found at <https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com>. General inquiries can be submitted to SCANPoliciesDatabase@mathematica-mpr.com.

State identifying information

Table I. State identifying information

	Response
a. State abbreviation	MN
b. State Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) code	27
c. Census region code	Midwest
d. State verified coding of information	Yes
e. State confirmed documents reviewed	Yes
f. State definitions and policies for calendar year	2021
g. Data version	2021v1

Domain D: Definitions of child maltreatment

Table II. State's definition of child maltreatment

	Response
1. Types of maltreatment included in state definition	
a. Physical abuse	Yes
b. Excessive corporal punishment	Yes
c. Sexual abuse	Yes
d. Emotional maltreatment	Yes
e. Neglect	Yes
f. Inadequate clothing	Yes
g. Inadequate shelter	Yes
h. Malnourishment, inadequate food	Yes
i. Medical neglect, inadequate medical care	Yes
j. Failure to thrive	Yes
k. Educational neglect	Yes
l. Abandonment	Yes
m. Injurious environment. Likelihood of harm to child's health, physical well-being	Yes
n. Drug lab. Child present within structure where methamphetamine is being created	Yes
o. Inadequate supervision. Failure to meet parent or caretaker responsibilities	Yes
p. Drug or alcohol misuse. Parental drug or alcohol misuse causing harm to child	Yes
q. Prenatal exposure to drugs or alcohol	Yes
r. Illicit substance. Illegally providing a controlled substance to a child	Yes
s. Human trafficking, involuntary servitude, sexual servitude	Yes
t. Female genital mutilation	Yes
u. Shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma	Yes
v. Failure to protect. Failure to protect from harm	Yes
w. Domestic violence. Exposure to domestic violence	Yes
x. Factitious disorder by proxy	No
y. Institutional abuse/neglect	Yes
z. Other definition (specify)	No

Table II (continued)

	Response
2. Subtypes of maltreatment included in state definition	
a. Subtypes of maltreatment considered abuse	Physical abuse includes shaken baby syndrome; Sexual abuse includes trafficking
b. Subtypes of maltreatment considered neglect	Neglect includes inadequate clothing, malnourishment, medical neglect, failure to thrive, educational neglect, failure to provide necessary supervision, parental drug or alcohol misuse, prenatal exposure to drugs or alcohol, failure to protect, and inadequate shelter
c. Subtypes of maltreatment considered other than abuse or neglect	Not applicable
3. Level of harm included in state's definition of child maltreatment	
a. Inflicts harm	Yes
b. Imminent danger or substantial risk of harm	Yes
4. Differences in level of harm included in state's definition of child maltreatment by type of maltreatment	No
5. Type of harm or injury specified in state's definition of child maltreatment	
a. Death, bodily injury, impairment of physical condition	Yes
b. Impairment of mental or emotional condition	Yes
c. Harmful environment, conditions	Yes
d. Type of harm or injury not specified	No
e. Other (specify)	No
6. Variation in extent of injury or harm by maltreatment type in the state's definition of child maltreatment	No
7. Perpetrator identified as part of state's definition of child maltreatment	Yes
8. Types of perpetrators specified as part of state's definition of child maltreatment	
a. Any adult	Yes
b. Parent	Yes
c. Guardian	Yes
d. Caregiver/caretaker	Yes
e. Family member/parent/paramour	No
f. Household member	Yes
g. Person responsible for child	Yes
h. Other (specify)	No

Table II (*continued*)

	Response
9. Types of perpetrators vary by type of maltreatment	Yes
10. Explanation of variation in types of perpetrator by maltreatment type	The perpetrator for sexual abuse is a person responsible for the child's care, by a person who has a significant relationship to the child, or by a person in a position of authority; For sex trafficking, any adult can be a perpetrator
11. Child age included in definition of child maltreatment	Yes
12. Specific child age in definition of child maltreatment	Under age 18 and up to 21 if in the care of the agency
13. Variability of child age by type of maltreatment	No

Table III. Child maltreatment definition exemptions

	Response: Yes/No/Unknown
1. Exemption included in state's definition of child maltreatment	
a. Financial issues, financial inability to provide for a child	Yes
b. Discipline; physical discipline, as long as it is reasonable and causes no bodily injury to the child	Yes
c. Safe haven exemption; newborn relinquished or abandoned in accordance with infant safe haven laws	Yes
d. Infant testing positive for drugs – medical; newborn with positive test for controlled substance as a result of parent's medical treatment	Yes
e. Religious observance; parent relies on spiritual or religious forms of medical treatment	Yes
f. Other exemption (specify)	No
2. Safe haven exemption included in state's definition of child maltreatment	
a. Must leave a child at specific safe haven locations	Yes
b. Child must be left by parent or parent's agent	Yes
c. Child must be left by a certain age (specify)	Yes - 7 days old or younger
d. No intent to return	No
e. Child must be left unharmed	Yes
f. Other (specify)	No

Table IV. Definitions and response for child fatalities and near-fatalities cases

	Response: Yes/No/Unknown
1. State's definition of fatalities or deaths caused by child maltreatment	
a. Not specified/not defined	No
b. Injury from abuse or neglect caused death	Yes
c. Abuse or neglect was contributing factor in death	Yes
d. Death of child was in child welfare custody/foster care	No
e. Other (specify)	No
f. Unknown	No
2. State conducts case reviews with a child fatality review team or a similar review process for fatalities caused by child abuse or neglect	
a. No case review or review process	No
b. Reviews are required of all or some cases	Yes
c. Reviews can be conducted but are not required	No
d. Other (specify)	No
e. Unknown	No
3. State's definition of near-fatalities or near-deaths caused by child maltreatment	
a. Not specified/not defined	No
b. General reference to a serious or critical condition/injury that is life threatening with a substantial risk of death	Yes
c. Specific injury or specific medical treatment/intervention (specify)	Yes - Hospital admission and a high level of medical intervention is required, such as emergency surgery to alleviate a life-threatening injury, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), administration of Narcan, intubation or admission to pediatric intensive care unit
d. Other (specify)	No
e. Unknown	No
4. State conducts case reviews with a review team or similar review process for near-fatalities caused by child abuse or neglect	
a. No case review or review process	No
b. Reviews are required of all or some cases	Yes
c. Reviews can be conducted but are not required	No
d. Other (specify)	No
e. Unknown	No

Domain R: Reporting child abuse and neglect

Table V. Reporting policies

	Response
1. Statewide centralized reporting	No
2. How reporting is decentralized	
a. Each county or region has its own reporting hotline	No
b. Some counties or regions have their own reporting hotline	No
c. During some times of the day, counties or regions have their own reporting hotline	No

Table V (continued)

<p>d. Other (specify)</p>	<p>Yes - Reports can be made to local child welfare agencies or local law enforcement agencies; A mandated reporter who knows or has reason to believe a child has died as a result of neglect or physical or sexual abuse, the person shall report that information to the appropriate medical examiner or coroner instead of the local welfare agency, police department, or county sheriff; If a child is not in immediate danger, reports can be made to the following: (1) the Minnesota Department of Human Services, Licensing Division if alleged maltreatment was committed by a staff person at a child care center, residential treatment center (children's mental health), group home for children, minor parent program, shelter for children, chemical dependency treatment program for adolescents, waived services program for children, crisis respite program for children, or residential program for children with developmental disabilities, (2) the Minnesota Department of Health, Office of Health Facility Complaints if alleged maltreatment occurred in a home health care setting, hospital, regional treatment center, nursing home, intermediate care facility for the developmentally disabled, or licensed and unlicensed care attendants, (3) the Minnesota Department of Education if an alleged perpetrator is employed by a public pre-school, elementary school, middle school, secondary school, or charter school when a child is a student in the school, or (4) local law enforcement agency</p>
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Table V (continued)

	Response
	if alleged offender is staff working in a private or parochial school, someone outside the family and not a staff person at a regulated facility
3. Standard for reporting child maltreatment	
a. Known abuse and neglect	Yes
b. Reasonable cause to believe a child was abused or neglected	Yes
4. Universal mandated reporting	No
5. Required training for mandated reporters	No
6. Penalties for failure to report	Yes, all mandated reporters
7. Specific penalties for failure to report	
a. Criminal charges	Yes
b. Civil charges	No
c. Professional licensure suspended or revoked	No
d. Other (specify)	No
8. Penalties for false reporting	Yes
9. Specific penalties for false reporting	
a. Criminal charges	Yes
b. Civil charges	Yes
c. Professional license suspended or revoked	No
d. Other (specify)	Yes - Any punitive damages set by the court or jury, plus costs and reasonable attorney fees
e. Unknown	No
10. Immunity for reporters of child abuse and neglect	Yes
11. Information requested at the time of report	
a. Identifying information of child	Yes
b. Location/contact information of child and family	Yes
c. Type/severity of suspected maltreatment	Yes
d. Date of suspected maltreatment	Yes
e. Identifying and other information of alleged perpetrator(s)	Yes
f. Identifying and other information of reporter	Yes
g. Identifying information of child's parents, guardian, or caregiver/caretaker	Yes
h. Identifying and other information of family/household members	Yes
i. Information on prior maltreatment	No

Table V (continued)

	Response
j. Other (specify)	Yes - Family or alleged perpetrator's awareness of reporter's contact with the agency; Whether reporter has notified any other agency or individual of information provided; How a family may respond to intervention and services; In calls regarding youth experiencing, or at risk of experiencing homelessness, a runaway or sex trafficked child, include questions regarding (1) maltreatment, (2) whether a youth has disclosed or was found in a sex trafficking situation, (3) whether they were shown or described in an ad for escort or sex act online or otherwise, (4) or whether law enforcement agencies have been involved in investigation of alleged trafficking; Description of any action a school and/or other facility or agency has taken in response to an incident, if allegation occurred within such a location; Reporter's awareness of immediate danger that would pose a safety threat for a child protection assessor or investigator; Reporter's knowledge of safety planning underway or behaviors of parent/caregiver that demonstrate ability to protect a child from immediate danger; Reporter's awareness of any immediate family, relative, or community resources willing to offer protection or support; What a reporter is willing to do or has done to help the family thus far; Additional information regarding a child and/or family which may be helpful; Whether reporter would like to be notified of the initial disposition

Table V (continued)

	Response
12. Anonymity of reporter	
a. All reporters (including mandated reports) can stay anonymous	No
b. The general public can be anonymous (mandated reporters cannot remain anonymous)	Yes
c. Reporters (including mandated reporters) cannot be anonymous	No
d. Unknown	No
13. Tribal involvement in accepting reports of tribal cases	
a. Tribes are not involved	No
b. Tribes accept reports (specify tribes)	Yes - Red Lake Nation; Bois Forte Band of Chippewa; Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe; White Earth Nation
c. Collaboration of tribes with state/local public child welfare agency to accept reports (specify tribes)	No
d. Tribes accept reports and collaborate with state/local public child welfare agency (specify tribes)	No
e. Unknown	No
14. State requires all notifications of substance-exposed newborns (SENs) to be submitted as reports of child maltreatment	
a. State does not require all cases of SENs to be reported for child maltreatment, but they could be reported if they meet certain criteria	No
b. State requires all SENs to be reported as child maltreatment	Yes
c. Other (specify)	No
d. Unknown	No
15. Accepts reports of risk without an allegation of child maltreatment (risk-only reports)	
a. No	Yes
b. Yes	No
c. Other (specify)	No
d. Unknown	No

Table VI. Types of mandated reporters

	Response	Response	Response
1. Types of mandated reporters	Included in state's definition of mandated reporters	Training required¹	Subject to penalties for failure to report²
a. Foster parents	Yes	Logical Skip	Yes
b. School staff - teachers	Yes	Logical Skip	Yes
c. School bus drivers or other transportation staff	No	Logical Skip	Logical Skip
d. Before- /after-school program staff	Yes	Logical Skip	Yes
e. Child care staff	Yes	Logical Skip	Yes
f. Camp counselors, directors, or administrators	No	Logical Skip	Logical Skip
g. Athletic coaches or staff	Yes	Logical Skip	Yes
h. Medical or dental professionals	Yes	Logical Skip	Yes
i. Substance abuse disorder treatment providers	Yes	Logical Skip	Yes
j. Mental health, counselors, or other social service professionals	Yes	Logical Skip	Yes
k. Police or other law enforcement	Yes	Logical Skip	Yes
l. Emergency medical technicians, firefighters, or other emergency personnel	Yes	Logical Skip	Yes
m. Judges	No	Logical Skip	Logical Skip
n. District attorneys or other attorneys	No	Logical Skip	Logical Skip
o. Guardian ad litem or court-appointed special advocates	Yes	Logical Skip	Yes
p. Other court personnel	No	Logical Skip	Logical Skip
q. Shelter staff	Yes	Logical Skip	Yes
r. Those who work in fields processing or monitoring print, film, or computer images	No	Logical Skip	Logical Skip
s. Religious clergy	Yes	Logical Skip	Yes
t. Volunteers	No	Logical Skip	Logical Skip
u. Coroners or medical examiners	No	No	No
v. Staff or contractors of state and county agencies	No	No	No

Table VI (continued)

	Response	Response	Response
1. Types of mandated reporters	Included in state's definition of mandated reporters	Training required ¹	Subject to penalties for failure to report ²
w. Other type of mandated reporter (specify)	Yes - Hospital administrators; Group home staff; In some counties and tribes, county and tribal attorneys consider themselves mandated reporters	Logical Skip	Yes - Hospital administrators; Group home staff; In some counties and tribes, county and tribal attorneys consider themselves mandated reporters

¹Responses in this column can equal logical skip when the given type of mandated reporter is not included in the state's definition of mandated reporters or when no training is required for mandated reporters (Table V.5). Responses in this column can be yes when a state has universal mandated reporting (Table V.4) and all mandated reporters require training (Table V.5).

²Responses in this column can equal logical skip when the given type of mandated reporter is not included in the state's definition of mandated reporters or when no mandated reporters are subject to penalties (Table V.6). Responses in this column can be yes when a state has universal mandated reporting (Table V.4) and when all adults or all mandated reporters are subject to penalties (Table V.6).

Domain S: Screening reports of child abuse and neglect

Table VII. Screening policies

	Response
1. Statewide centralized screening	No
2. How screening is decentralized	
a. Each county or region has its own screening unit	Yes
b. Some counties or regions have their own screening units	No
c. During certain times of the day, counties or regions have their own screening units	No
d. Other (specify)	No
3. Information required to screen in report	
a. Identifying information of child	Yes
b. Location/contact information of child and family	Yes
c. Type/severity of suspected maltreatment	Yes
d. Date of suspected maltreatment	No
e. Identifying and other information of alleged perpetrator(s)	Yes
f. Other (specify)	Yes - A report includes maltreatment allegations that have not been previously assessed or investigated by the local child welfare agency or another child welfare agency
g. Unknown	No

Table VIII. Screening decision process and activities

	Response	Required cases	Conditions or types of cases
1. Decision processes used during screening			
a. Supervisory review	Yes	Required for some	—
b. Team-based decision	Yes	Required for all	—
c. Individual screener	No	Logical Skip	—
d. Other (specify)	No	Logical Skip	—
e. Unknown	No	—	—
2. Variability of decision process used for screening			
a. Consistent statewide	No	—	—
b. Varies locally	Yes	—	—
c. Unknown	No	—	—
3. Certain activities or information are required as part of screening			
Yes			
4. Activities/information required as part of screening			
a. Safety or risk assessment	No	Logical Skip	Not applicable
b. Review agency records for prior involvement with child protective services	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
c. Other (specify)	Yes - Collection of collateral contacts within 24 hours of report; If a collateral contact is initiated, but not completed within 24 hours, a screening decision must be made without the additional information	Required for all	Not applicable
5. Types of safety/risk assessment used during screening			
a. Structured decision making	Logical Skip	—	—
b. Other (specify)	Logical Skip	—	—
6. Consistency of screening activities/information			
a. Consistent statewide	No	—	—

Table VIII (continued)

	Response	Required cases	Conditions or types of cases
b. Varies locally (specify)	Yes - County agencies may propose modifications to screening that provide additional protections for children but must not limit reports that are screened in or provide additional limits on consideration of reports that were screened out in making screening determinations	—	—
c. Unknown	No	—	—

Table IX. Screeners

	Response
1. Screener of abuse and neglect reports	
a. Caseworkers (frontline staff)	Yes
b. Case managers (supervisors)	Yes
c. Staff in specialized screening unit	Yes
d. Other (specify)	Yes - Encouraged to include other professionals on the screening team, such as law enforcement, county or tribal attorneys, mental health professionals, and physicians to strengthen decisions
2. Qualifications of screener	
a. Associate's degree	No
b. Bachelor's degree	No
c. Master's degree	No
d. Training for screening (specify)	Yes - All child protection workers or social services staff having responsibility for child protective duties shall receive 15 hours of continuing education or in-service training each year relevant to providing child protection services; An individual who seeks employment as a child protection worker after the commissioner of human services has implemented the foundation training program must complete competency-based foundation training during their first 6 months of employment as a child protection worker
e. Years of experience (specify)	No
f. Other (specify)	No
g. Unknown	No
3. Degree in social work or related field for screeners	
a. Not required	Logical Skip
b. Required	Logical Skip
c. Recommended or preferred, but not required	Logical Skip
d. Other (specify)	Logical Skip
e. Unknown	Logical Skip
4. Tribal involvement in screening process of tribal cases	
a. Tribes are not involved	No
b. Tribes conduct screening (specify tribes)	No
c. Collaboration of tribes with state/local public child welfare agency (specify tribes)	Yes - Red Lake Nation; Bois Forte Band of Chippewa; Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe; White Earth Nation
d. Tribes conduct screening and collaborate with state/local public child welfare agency (specify tribes)	No
e. Unknown	No

Domain I: Investigations of child abuse and neglect

Table X. Investigations policies

	Response
1. Child maltreatment investigations lead to criminal penalties	Yes
2. Investigator for reports	
a. Caseworkers (frontline staff)	Yes
b. Case managers (supervisors)	Yes
c. Staff in specialized investigations unit	Yes
d. Law enforcement	No
e. Other (specify)	No
3. Qualifications of investigator	
a. Associate's degree	No
b. Bachelor's degree	No
c. Master's degree	No
d. Training for conducting investigations (specify)	Yes - Training in the appropriate techniques for child abuse assessment and investigation as provided by the commissioners of human services and public safety; Requires competency based foundation training during the first 6 months as a child protection worker; All child protection workers or social services staff having responsibility for child protection duties under this chapter shall receive 15 hours of continuing education or in-service training each year relevant to providing child protective services
e. Years of experience (specify)	No
f. Other (specify)	No
g. Unknown	No
4. Degree in social work or related field for investigators	
a. Not required	Logical Skip
b. Required	Logical Skip
c. Recommended or preferred, but not required	Logical Skip
d. Other (specify)	Logical Skip
e. Unknown	Logical Skip
5. Level of evidence required for substantiation (founded/indicated/confirmed)	
a. Preponderance of evidence	Yes
b. Credible or substantial evidence	No
c. Probable or reasonable cause	No
d. Unknown	No
6. Investigation determination can result in an "inconclusive" finding	
a. No	Yes

Table X (*continued*)

	Response
b. Yes	No
c. Unknown	No

Table XI. Required activities/information for investigation

	Response	Required cases	Conditions or types of cases
1. Certain activities/information required for the investigation process	Yes		
2. Specific activities or information required for investigation			
a. Review agency records for prior involvement with child protective services	No	Logical Skip	Not applicable
b. Visit to child's home	No	Logical Skip	Not applicable
c. Interview or observation of child victim	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
d. Interview or observation of other children living in child's home	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
e. Risk or safety assessment	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
f. Evaluation of home environment or home study	No	Logical Skip	Not applicable
g. Interviews with child's parents, caregivers, or other adults residing in child's home	Yes	Required for all	Not applicable
h. Check of criminal records for adults in home	No	Logical Skip	Not applicable
i. Check of child welfare or central registry for prior child maltreatment allegations against adults in home	No	Logical Skip	Not applicable
j. Medical evaluation	Yes	Required for some	Substance-exposed infants; Physical abuse; Sexual abuse; Shaken baby; Significant malnutrition; Non-verbal child; Medical neglect; Medical child abuse; Concerning behaviors; Infants under 9 months of age with unexplained injury
k. Mental health evaluation	No	Logical Skip	Not applicable
l. Interview alleged perpetrator	Yes	Required for some	If the interview can be conducted safely and it is in the best interest of the child
m. Interview reporter or collateral source	No	Logical Skip	Not applicable
n. Other (specify)	Yes - Coordination with tribes when the alleged victim is an Indian child	Required for some	When the alleged victim is indigenous.

Domain W: Child welfare response

Table XII. Differential or alternative response

	Response
1 Differential/alternative response	
a. No	No
b. Yes - implemented statewide	Yes
c. Yes - implemented in specific counties or regions (specify)	No
d. Unknown	No
2. Types of maltreatment eligible for differential/alternative response	
a. All types of maltreatment are eligible	No
b. Only certain types of maltreatment are eligible	Yes
c. Unknown	No
3. Types of maltreatment <u>not</u> eligible for differential/alternative response	
a. Cases involving child fatalities	Yes
b. Substance-exposed infants	No
c. Physical abuse	No
d. Sexual abuse	Yes
e. Neglect	No
f. Abandoned infants	No
g. Other (specify)	Yes - Substantial child endangerment; Situations of serious danger; Near fatalities
4. Eligibility for differential/alternative response determined by a risk determination	
a. No	Yes
b. Yes	No
c. Other (specify)	Logical Skip
d. Unknown	No
5. Tools used to determine risk for differential/alternative response	Logical Skip
6. Risk level eligible for differential/alternative response	
a. No risk	Logical Skip
b. Low risk	Logical Skip
c. Moderate risk	Logical Skip
d. Other (specify)	Logical Skip
e. Unknown	Logical Skip

Table XII (continued)

	Response
7. Other types of cases or conditions eligible for differential/alternative response	
a. No other cases or conditions	No
b. No immediate safety concerns	Yes
c. No or few prior reports of child abuse or neglect	Yes
d. Other (specify)	Yes - Reports of educational neglect; Unmet basic needs (such as unsafe living conditions); Chemical addiction of caregiver who has acknowledged need for help
8. When is determination made for differential/alternative response	
a. At time of screening to screen out to differential response	No
b. After a report is screened in	Yes
c. Other (specify)	Yes - Switching response paths during an assessment or investigation is permissible in some situations. Switching response paths is best when done in the early phases of an assessment or investigation, and only after completing initial face-to-face contact with alleged victims and caregivers. Along with additional and encouraged consultation with the county attorney or tribal representative, switching response paths should be conducted in consultation with a child protection supervisor and include supporting documentation in the Social Service Information System
9. Referrals to community services for cases engaged in differential response	
a. No	Yes
b. Yes - for all cases	No
c. Yes - when families express interest	No
d. Yes - when there is a determination of risk	No
e. Yes - other (specify)	No

Table XIII. In-home services, foster care, and permanency

	Response
1. In-home services provided for unsubstantiated cases to maintain intact families	
a. No	No
b. Yes - implemented statewide	No
c. Yes - implemented in specific counties or regions	Yes
d. Unknown	No
2. In-home services provided post reunification	
a. No	No
b. Yes - implemented statewide	Yes
c. Yes - implemented in specific counties or regions	No
d. Unknown	No
3. Tribal involvement in foster care for tribal cases	
a. Tribes do not provide foster care	No
b. Tribes provide foster care (specify tribes)	Yes - Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe; White Earth Nation
c. Unknown	No
4. Foster care extension for those older than 18	
	Yes
5. Age youth are allowed to remain in extended foster care	
a. Age 21	Yes
b. Other (specify)	No
6. Permanency	
a. Kinship guardianship as a permanency option	Yes
b. Subsidized guardianship	No
c. Subsidized kinship guardianship	Yes
d. Subsidized adoption	Yes
7. Foster care case management staff	
a. State/county public agency staff	Yes
b. Contracted provider staff	Yes
c. Tribal agency staff	Yes
d. Unknown	No
8. Qualifications of foster care case managers	
a. Associate degree	No
b. Bachelor's degree	No
c. Master's degree	No
d. Training for case management (specify)	Yes - All child protection workers or social services staff having responsibility for child protection duties shall receive 15 hours of continuing education or in-service training each year relevant to providing child protective services; An individual who seeks employment as a child protection worker must complete competency-based foundation training during their first six months of employment as a child protection worker
e. Years of experience (specify)	No

Table XIII (continued)

	Response
f. Other (specify)	No
g. Unknown	No
9. Degree in social work or related field for foster care case managers	
a. Not required	Logical Skip
b. Required	Logical Skip
c. Recommended or preferred, but not required	Logical Skip
d. Other (specify)	Logical Skip
e. Unknown	Logical Skip

Table XIV. Agency staff dedicated to equity

	Response
1. Child welfare agency uses staff roles/functions dedicated to addressing disproportionality and/or equity	
a. No staff or roles	Yes
b. Uses cultural brokers	No
c. Uses manager, administrator, or office focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) or multicultural or tribal affairs	No
d. Other (specify)	No
e. Unknown	No
2. Aspects of child welfare process that involve cultural brokers	
a. Screening process	Logical Skip
b. Investigation process	Logical Skip
c. Case management/child welfare response	Logical Skip
d. Other (specify)	Logical Skip
e. Unknown	Logical Skip
3. Specify other staff roles/job functions dedicated to addressing disproportionality and/or equity	Not applicable
4. Aspects of child welfare process that involve other staff roles/functions used to address disproportionality and/or equity	
a. Screening process	Logical Skip
b. Investigation process	Logical Skip
c. Case management/child welfare response	Logical Skip
d. Other (specify)	Logical Skip
e. Unknown	Logical Skip

Domain C: Child welfare system context

Table XV. Child welfare system context

	Response
1. State- or county-administered child welfare system	
a. State administered	No
b. County administered	Yes
c. Hybrid (partially administered by the state and partially administered by the counties)	No
d. Unknown	No
2. State operates under legal consent decree or other court-ordered monitoring	No

Supplemental Notes on State

Definitions

Minnesota statutes define "egregious harm" as infliction of bodily harm to a child or neglect of a child which demonstrates a grossly inadequate ability to provide minimally adequate parental care. The egregious harm need not have occurred in the state or in the county where a termination of parental rights action is otherwise properly venued. Egregious harm includes, but is not limited to:

1. Conduct towards a child that constitutes a violation of sections 609.185 to 609.2114, 609.222, subdivision 2, 609.223, or any other similar law of any other state;
2. The infliction of "substantial bodily harm" to a child
3. Conduct towards a child that constitutes felony malicious punishment of a child
4. Conduct towards a child that constitutes felony unreasonable restraint of a child
5. Conduct towards a child that constitutes felony neglect or endangerment of a child
6. Conduct towards a child that constitutes assault
7. Conduct towards a child that constitutes solicitation, inducement, or promotion of, or receiving profit derived from prostitution
8. Conduct towards a child that constitutes murder or voluntary manslaughter
9. Conduct towards a child that constitutes aiding or abetting, attempting, conspiring, or soliciting to commit a murder or voluntary manslaughter
10. Conduct toward a child that constitutes criminal sexual conduct or sexual extortion

Screening

Team-based review is recommended but not required for certain cases. The use of staff in specialized screening units to screen reports of child abuse and neglect vary by county staffing compositions due to Minnesota's state-supervised, county-administered child welfare system.

Investigations

Investigations of reports by case workers, case managers, and staff in a specialized investigations unit vary by each county agency staffing composition, due to Minnesota's state-supervised, county-administered child welfare system.

Child welfare response

When determining eligibility for differential response, both statutory and discretionary reasons are considered. Factors to consider when receiving and screening in a report on a family who has had a previous or current child protection assessment, investigation, or case management include the following:

1. Level of cooperation, such as follow-through on appointments and other agreed-on action steps in safety planning

2. Willingness to change as demonstrated by observable and meaningful changes in parental behavior
3. Ability of parent(s) to ensure the child's safety and provide for the needs of a child
4. Level of involvement on the part of parent(s) or caregiver(s) in services during an ongoing child protection case, or previous case involvement
5. Whether there is court involvement or permanency being sought in an open case management situation

In-home services are provided for unsubstantiated cases to address needs to maintain intact families but are implemented in specific counties or regions only.

Some agencies have a child welfare program, some have the Parent Support Outreach Program (PSOP), and some have no services. Private social service agencies do not have responsibilities for case management under a state agreement, but county social services agencies may enter into contracts with agencies for case management services.

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