

# Permanency Enhancement Project: Southern Region MT. VERNON ACTION TEAM FY 2019 Report

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# Goals of Permanency Enhancement Project

1. Improve permanency
2. Reduce racial disproportionality
3. Reduce racial disparities
4. Reduce overrepresentation of African Americans in the child welfare system

# Southern Region Action Teams

Cairo (Alexander & Pulaski)

Carbondale (Jackson, Franklin, Perry, Williamson)

Carlyle (Bond, Clinton)

Sparta (Monroe, Randolph, Washington)

Effingham (Effingham, Fayette, Jasper)

Madison (Madison)

Metropolis (Hardin, Johnson, Massac, Pope)

**Mt. Vernon (Jefferson, Marion)**

Olney (Crawford, Edwards, Lawrence, Richland, Wabash)

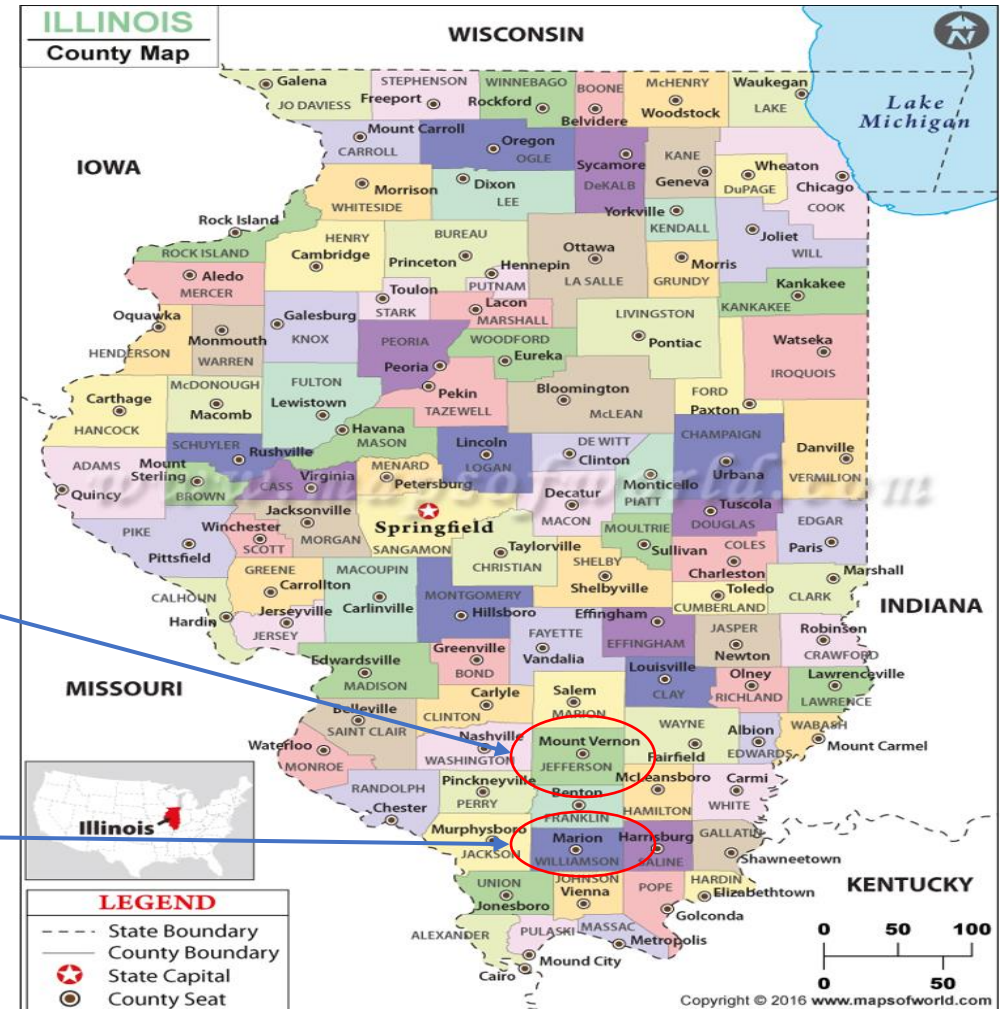
St. Clair (St. Clair)

# Mt Vernon Action Team

## Geographic Location

Mount Vernon Action Team consist of the following:

- Jefferson
- Marion



# Mt Vernon Action Team

**Action Team Chair**- Stacey Weatherford

- Chair since September 27, 2016

**Action Team Co-Chair**- Misty Huff

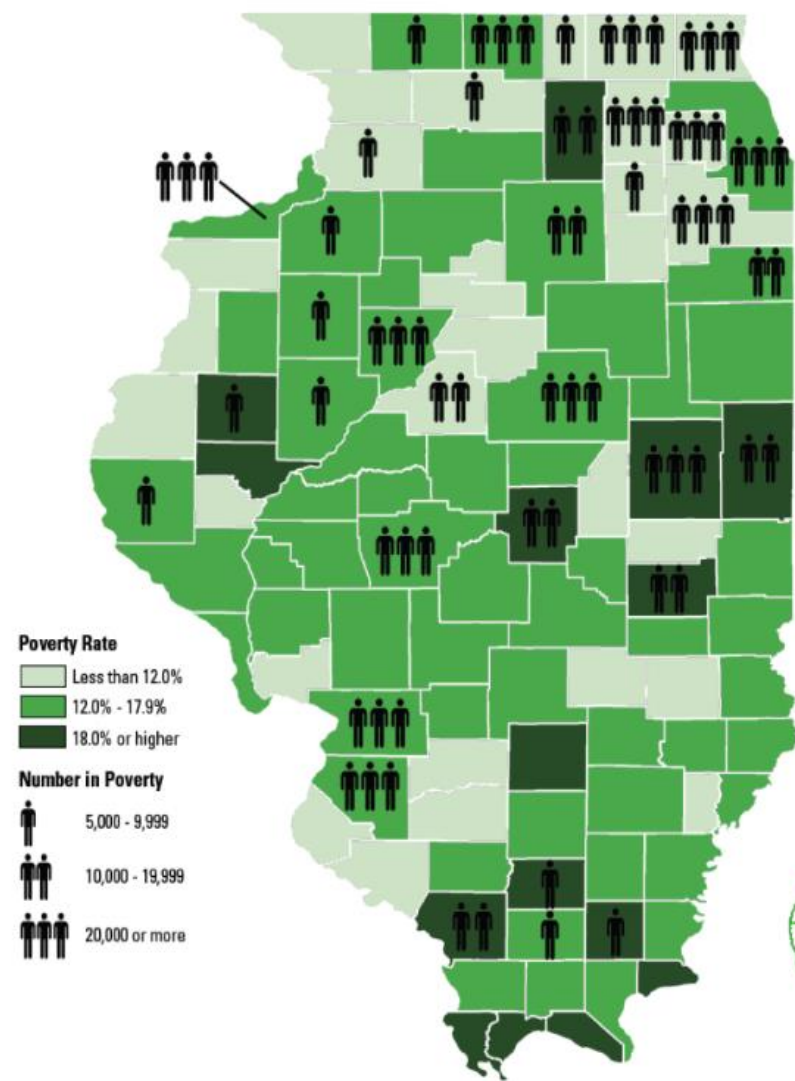
- Fairly New

# Mt Vernon Action Team

This Presentation solely focuses on goals, outcomes, and activities of the **Mt Vernon Action Team**.

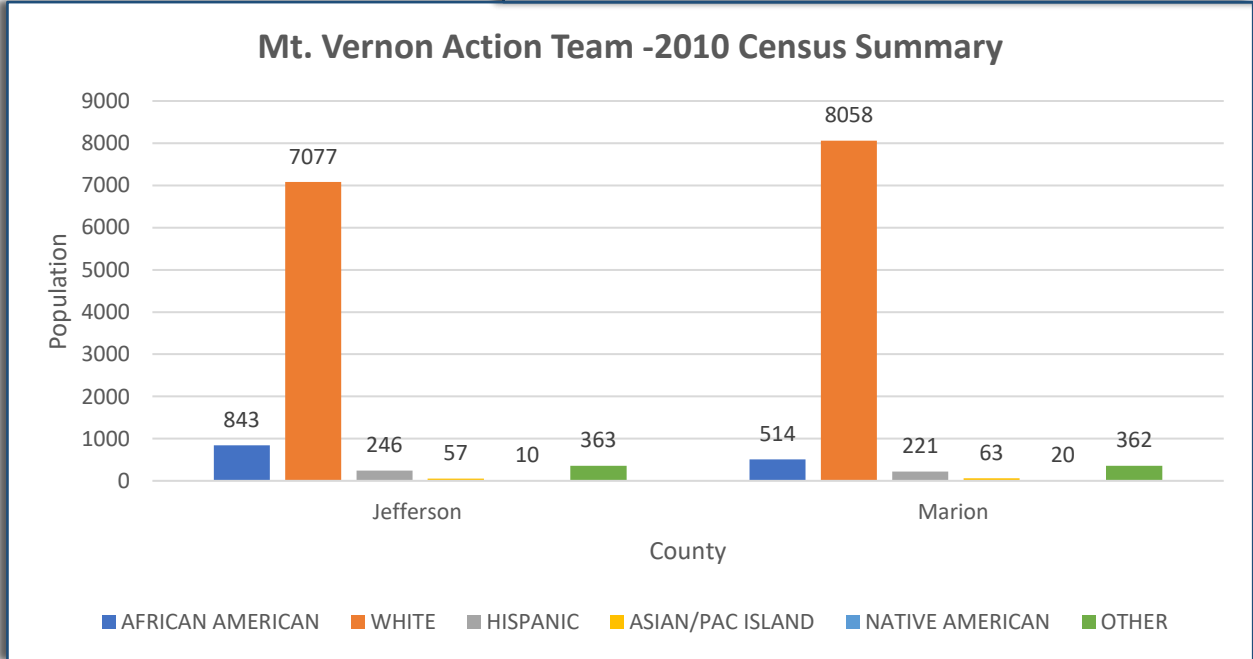
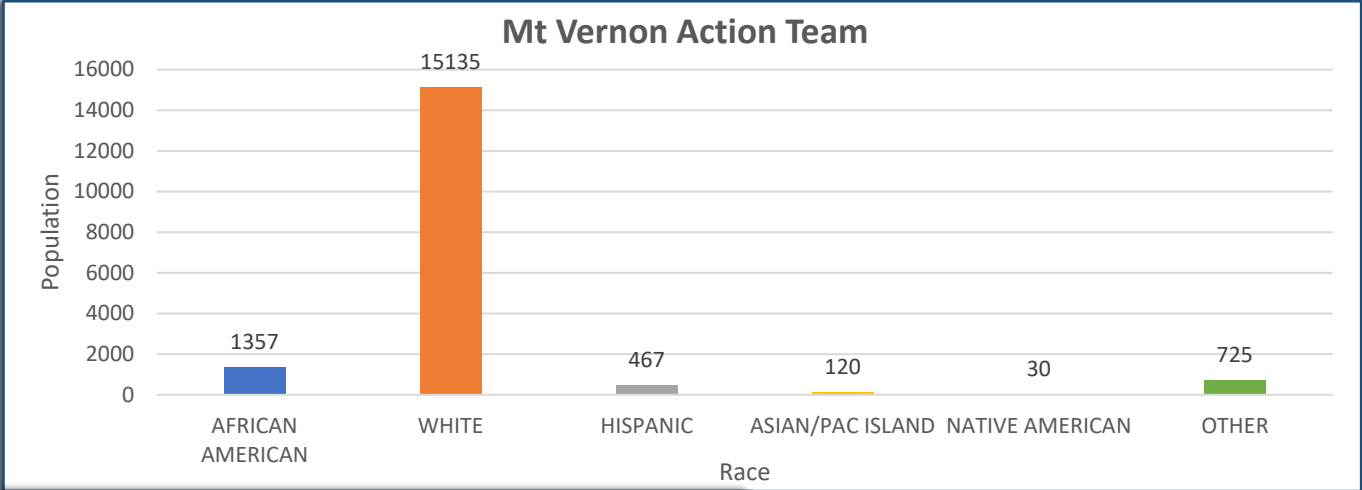
- This action team is comprised of the following counties:
  1. **Jefferson County**
    - ✓ *Population 38,179*
    - ✓ *Family/Child 8,576*
    - ✓ *Person in Poverty 6,643 (17.4%)*
  2. **Marion County**
    - ✓ *Population 37,902*
    - ✓ *Family/Child 9,238*
    - ✓ *Person in Poverty 6,102 (16.1%)*

# Illinois Poverty, by County 2016



# Mt Vernon Action Team

## 'Census 2010 - Race Data'



- The total population of Jefferson is 8,596
- The total population of Marion is 9,238
- In both Jefferson and Marion Counties the predominant race is White ( 84.9% of population);
- The next largest ethnic racial group is African American (7.6%)
- There are negligible numbers of persons of Hispanic, Asian Pacific Islander, or Native American background
- \* Other race is not qualified.



# Child Poverty Rates by County

(Southern Region)

Illinois Child Poverty Rate = 17.7%



County & Child Poverty Rate	County & Child Poverty Rate	County & Child Poverty Rate
Hardin – 35%	Washington – 13.3%	Randolph – 19.4%
Pope – 29.3%	White – 23.3%	Effingham – 15.0%
Franklin – 27.2%	Richland – 19.7%	Clinton – 12.2%
Massac – 28.1%	Lawrence – 24.8%	Jefferson – 25.4%
Gallatin – 31%	Union – 24.7%	Marion – 25.1%
Pulaski – 33.5%	Bond – 18.4%	Franklin – 27.2%
Edwards – 15.8%	Wayne – 21.6%	Jackson – 27.5%
Alexander – 48.6%	Crawford – 20.1%	Williamson – 22.3%
Hamilton – 21.9%	Fayette – 22.9%	Madison – 18%
Massac – 28.1%	Perry – 21.9%	St. Clair – 23%
Johnson – 18.1%	Saline – 30.5%	Wabash-18.6%
Clay – 21.1%	Monroe – 5.3%	

# Service Data & Child Permanency Trends

# University Partnership

## Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE)

- University Partner consists of Faculty and research personnel (*e.g. Research assistants/Community Liaisons*) who help supervise and monitor efforts of each Action Team in the Southern Region
- Ongoing consults and engagement to
  - ✓ Review service data trends and assist teams in using data for action team goal development
  - ✓ Provide ‘Technical Support’ (i.e. assistance) with action team activity and development, as needed
  - ✓ Evaluate progress on action team goals/outcomes.

# Service Data & Child Permanency Trends

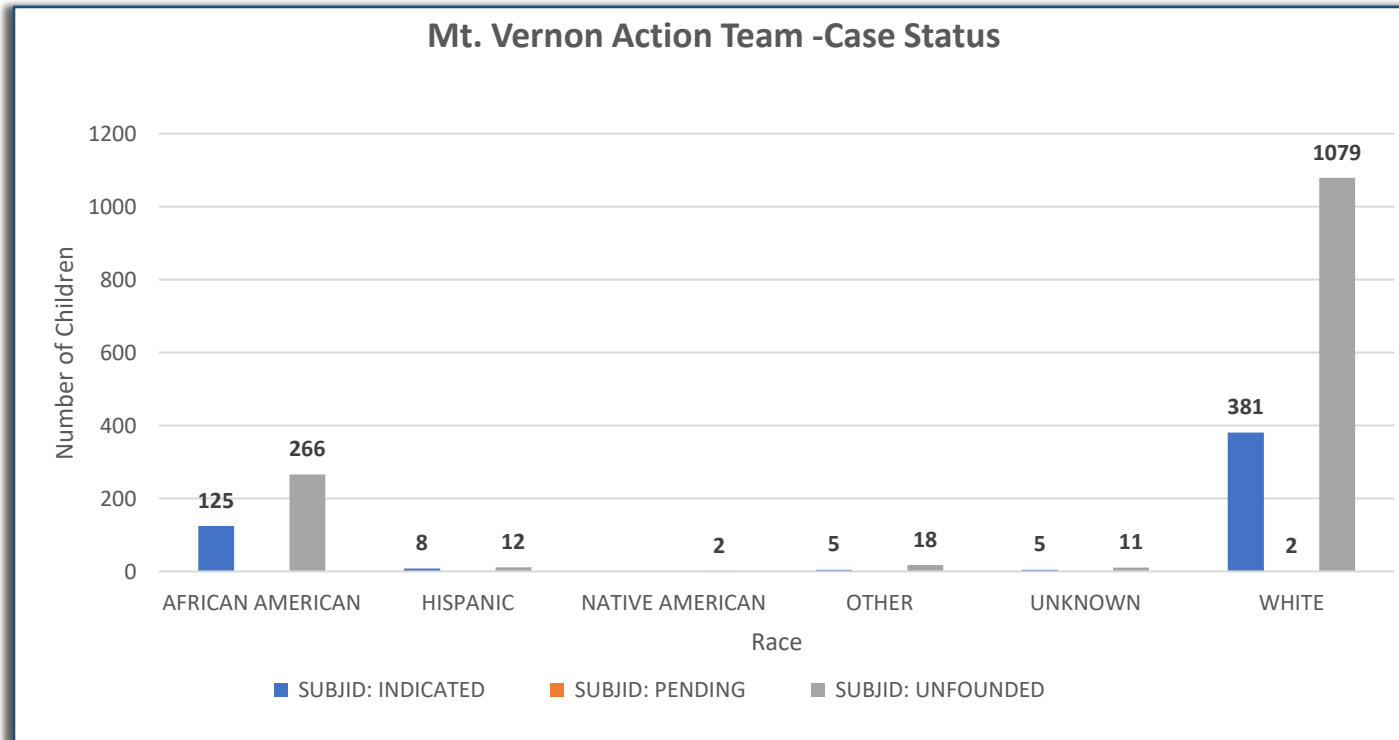
The following Slides will highlight service data trends for **Mt Vernon Action Team**

- *Indicated-Unfounded Cases* – Slide 13-14
- *Indicated Perp* – Slide 15
- *Reporter Types* – Slide 16
- *Child Data by Race* – Slide 17
- *Child Gender by Race* – Slide 18-19
- *Child Age by Race* - Slide 20-21
- *Openings by Race* - Slide 22
- *Placement Type* - Slide 23-24
- *Child Goal* - Slide 25-26
- *Permanency by Race* – 27-28

# Indicated-Unfounded Cases

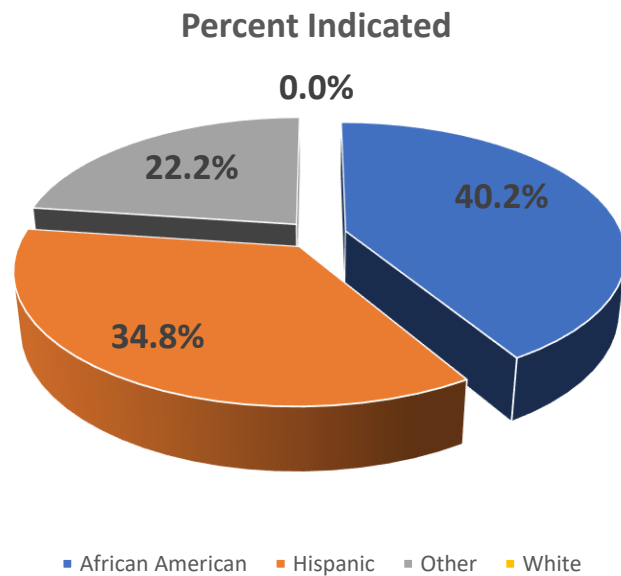
Race	SUBJID: Indicated	SUBJID: Pending	SUBJID: Unfounded	Total	Percentage Indicated
African American	39	3	55	97	40.2%
Hispanic	2	0	7	9	34.8%
Other	0	0	2	2	22.2%
White	114	6	294	414	0.0%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>29.7%</b>

- Unknown race = youth whose race is not identified or assessed
- Other race = identified for youth who do not represent other race categories (e.g. AfAm, AAPI, Hispanic, NA or Unknown)
- There was a total of 524 indicated cases, with most of them being White and African American kids
- Other racial groups had low numbers of indicated cases, this is fitting to the population rate of other minority groups in the area
- Whites and African Americans had the highest numbers of indicated cases: 114 and 49 respectively
- African American had the highest percent of indicated (40.2% of all cases were indicated);
- Hispanic had the next highest percent at 34.8% of cases being indicated



# Indicated-Unfounded Cases

Race	Percent Indicated
African American	40.2%
Hispanic	34.8%
Other	22.2%
White	0.0%



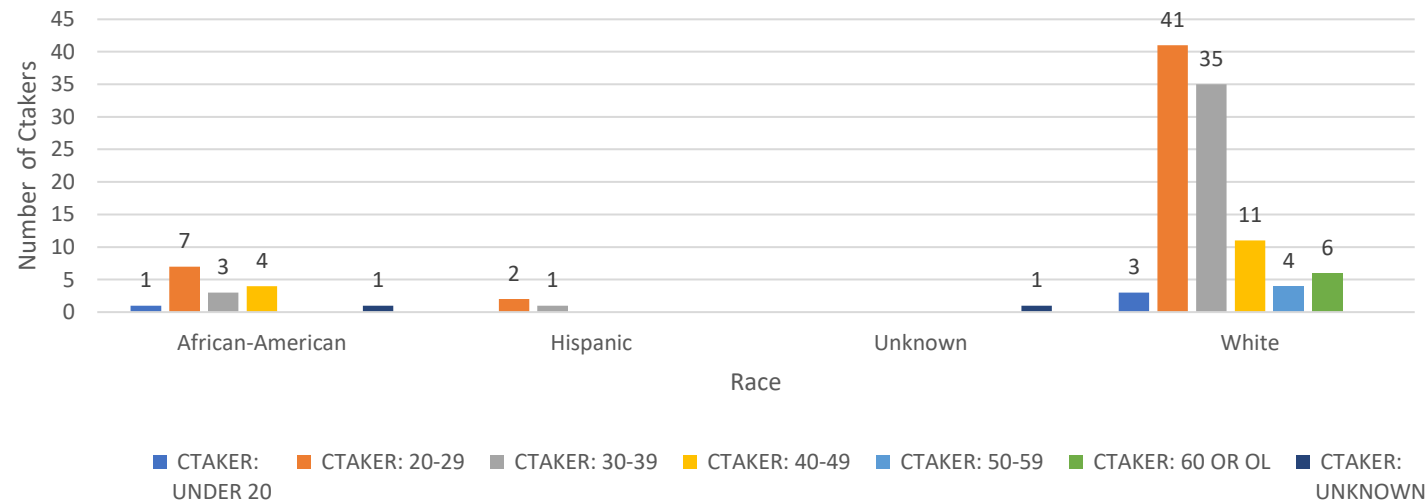
- African Americans had the highest percent of indicated (40% of all cases were indicated);
- Hispanics had the next highest percent at 32% of cases being indicated

# Indicated-Perp

Race	CTAKER: Under 20	CTAKER: 20-29	CTAKER: 30-39	CTAKER: 40-49	CTAKER: 50-59	CTAKER: 60 OR OL	CTAKER: Unknown
African-American	1	7	3	4	0	0	1
Hispanic	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
White	3	41	35	11	4	6	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>

- Whites dominated the number Ctakers with a significant number between 20-29 and 30-39 followed by African-Americans.
- The rest had a negligible number of Ctakers

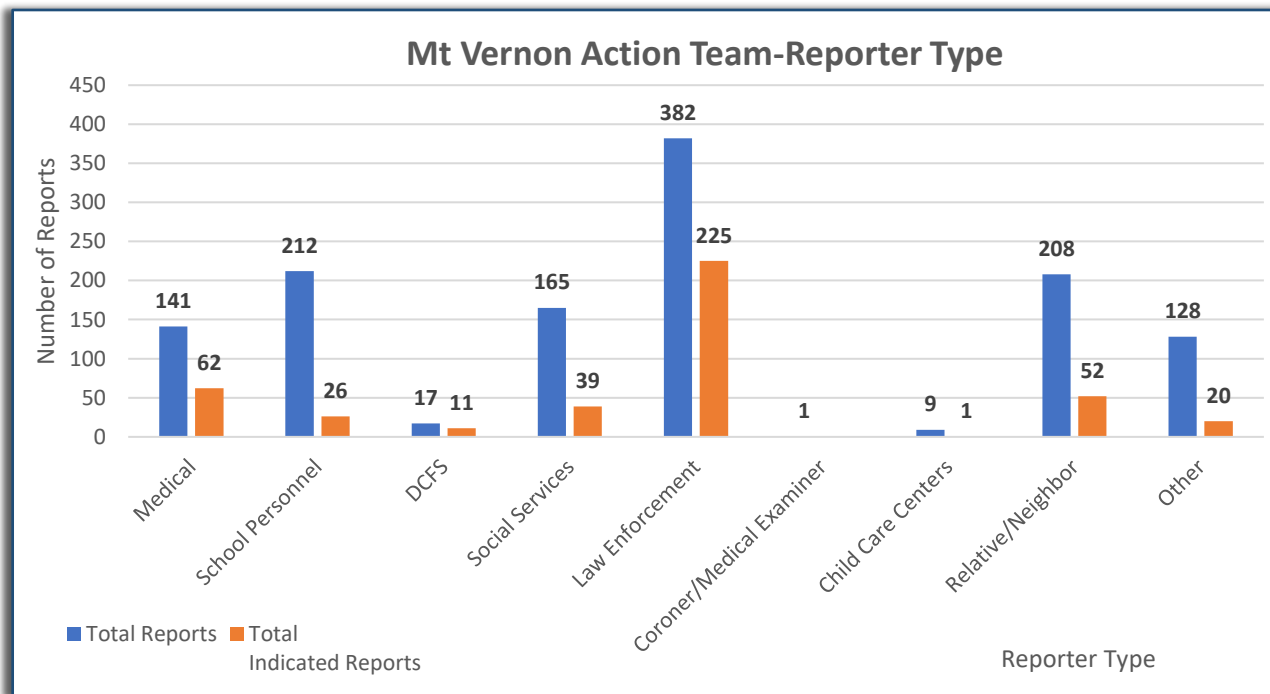
Mt Vernon Action Team - Indicated Perp.



# Reporter Type

Reporter Type	Total Reports	Total Indicated Reports	Percent Indicated
Medical	42	14	33%
School Personnel	67	11	16.4%
DCFS Employee	8	5	62.5%
Social Service Reporter	53	18	34.0%
Law Enforcement	94	48	51.1%
Court Personnel	4	1	25.0%
Licensed Care Provider	2	1	50.0%
Family Reporter	58	19	32.8%
Non-Mandated Reporter	23	5	21.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>35%</b>

- Law Enforcement dominated the number cases reported followed by School Personnel
- However, DCFS dominated the percentage of cases indicated followed by Law Enforcement.

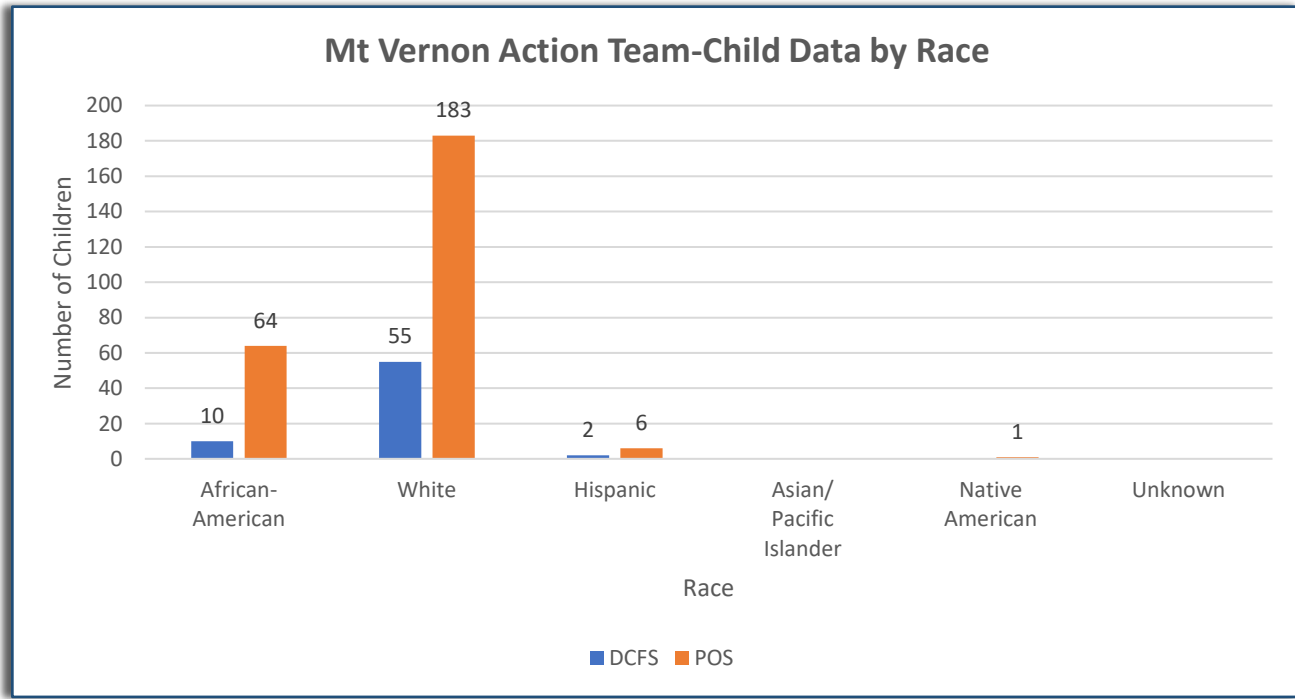




# Child Data, by Race

Agency Type	African-American	White	Hispanic	Asian/Pacific Islander	Native American	Unknown	Total
DCFS	10	55	2	0	0	0	67
POS	64	183	6	0	1	0	254
<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>321</b>

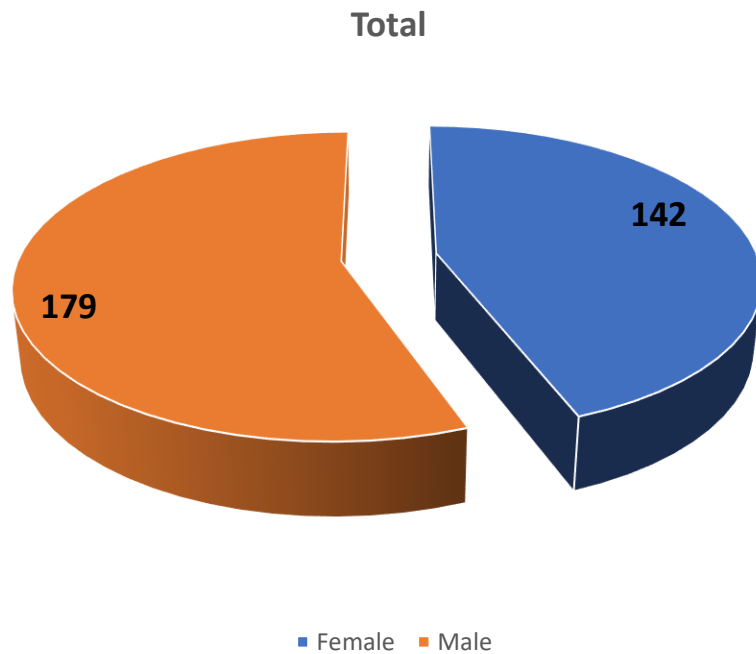
- DCFS had 10 African-Americans and 55 whites children
- POS had 64 African- Americans and 183 Whites .
- The rest of the race had low representation.



# Child Gender

Gender	Total
Female	142
Male	179

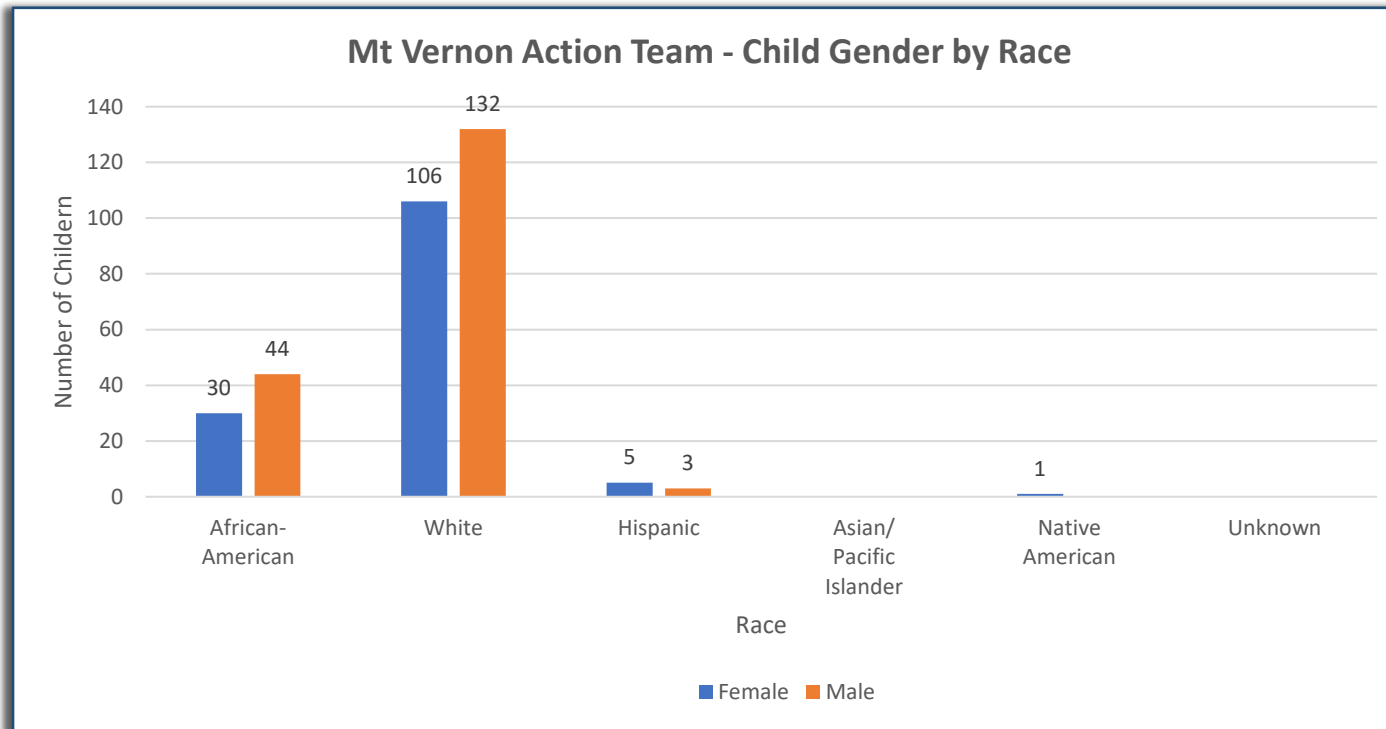
Male dominated the number of children in the system



# Child Gender, by Race

Gender	African-American	White	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Native American	Unknown	Total
Female	30	106	5	0	1	0	142
Male	44	132	3	0	0	0	179
<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>321</b>

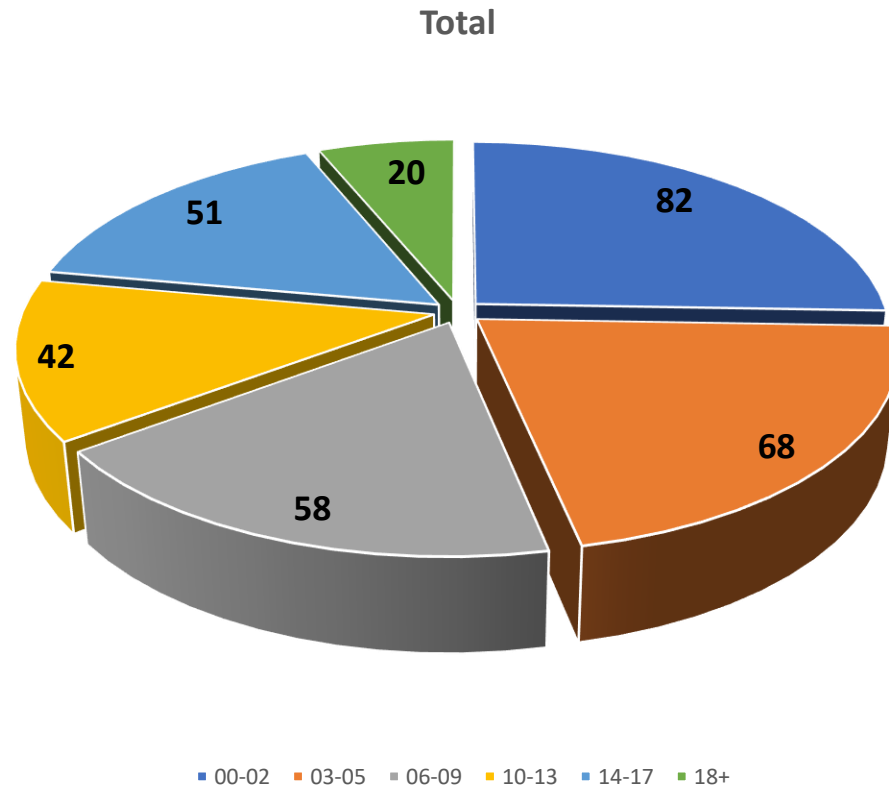
- White male dominated the race



# Child Age

Age Group	Total
00-02	82
03-05	68
06-09	58
10-13	42
14-17	51
18+	20

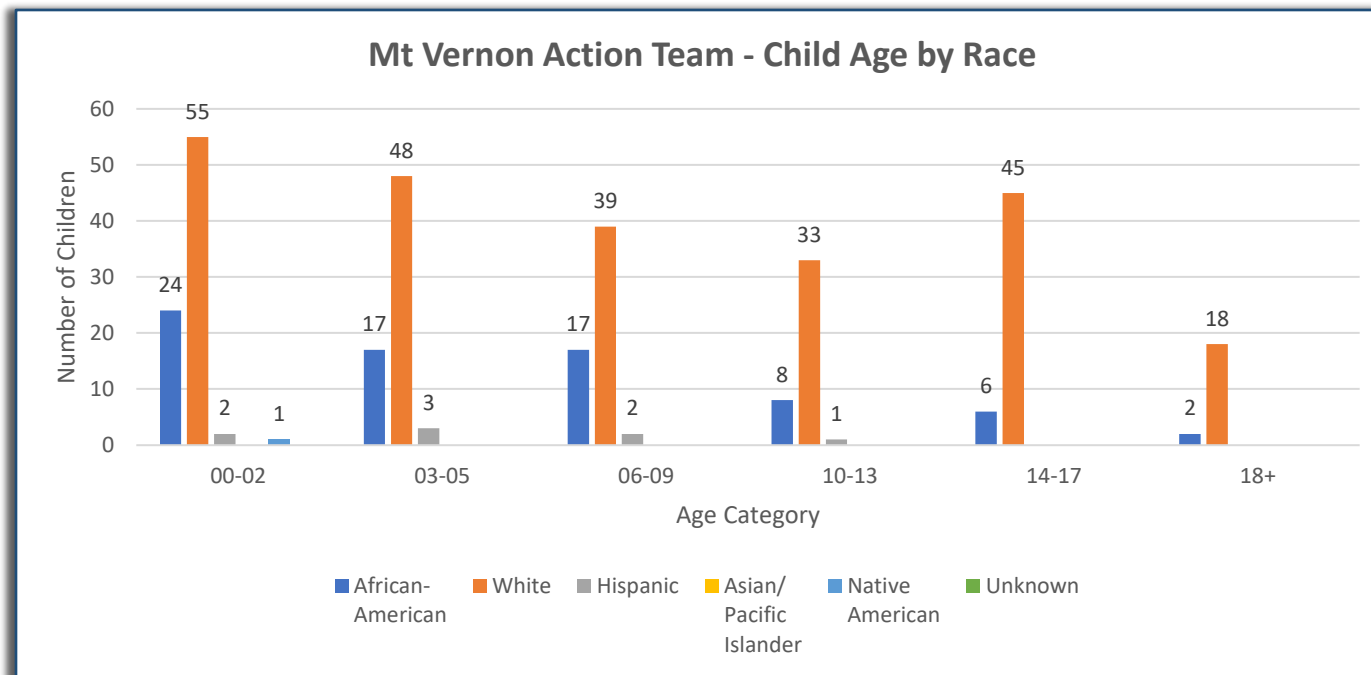
Age range between 00-02 dominated with a total of 82 cases followed by age 03-05 and rest.



# Child Age, by Race

Age Group	African-American	White	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Native American	Unknown	Total
00-02	24	55	2	0	1	0	82
03-05	17	48	3	0	0	0	68
06-09	17	39	2	0	0	0	58
10-13	8	33	1	0	0	0	42
14-17	6	45	0	0	0	0	51
18+	2	18	0	0	0	0	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>321</b>

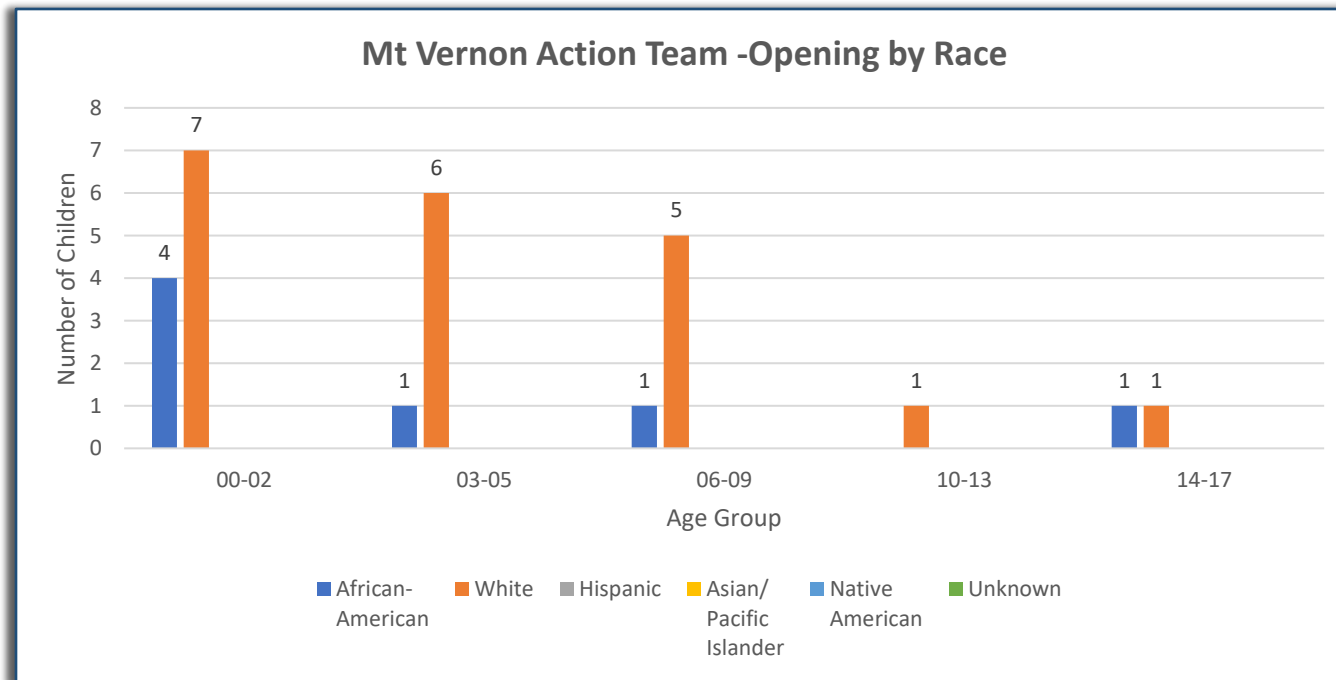
- White children dominated age by race followed by African- American.
- The rest of the race had a low representation.



# Openings, by Race

Age Group	African-American	White	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Native American	Unknown	Total
00-02	4	7	0	0	0	0	11
03-05	1	6	0	0	0	0	7
06-09	1	5	0	0	0	0	6
10-13	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
14-17	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27</b>

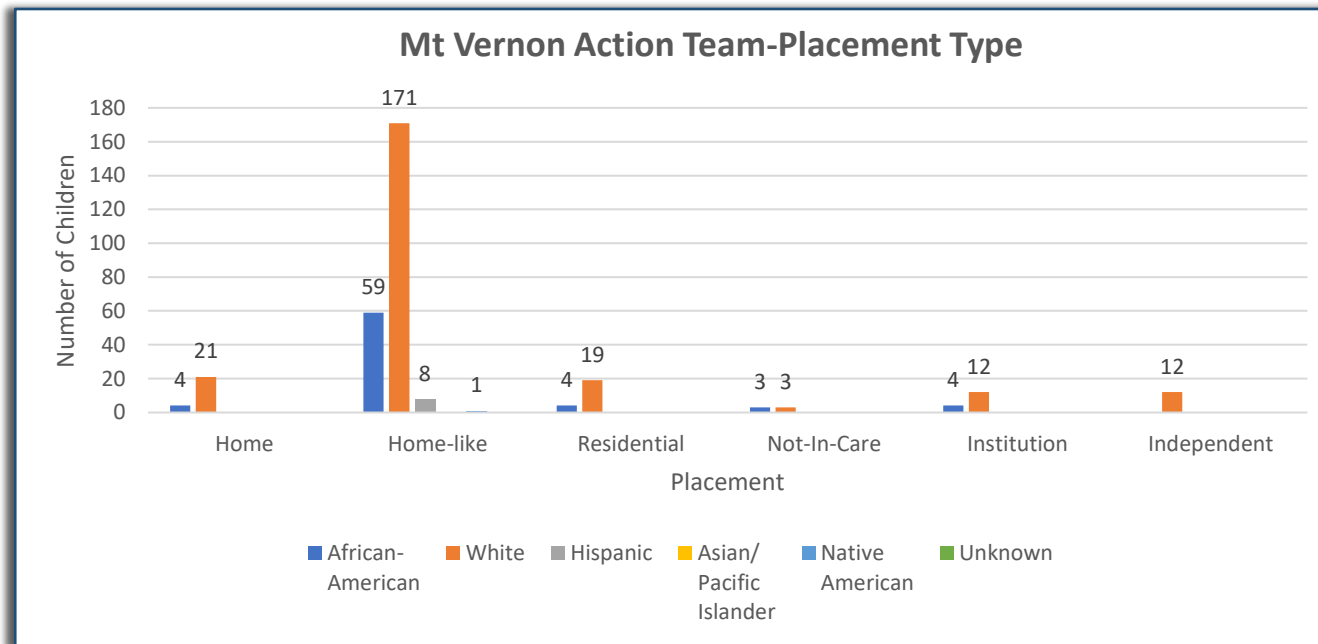
White largely dominated opening by race with 20 cases..



# Placement Type

Placement	African-American	White	Hispanic	Asian/Pacific Islander	Native American	Unknown	Total
Home	4	21	0	0	0	0	25
Home-like	59	171	8	0	1	0	239
Residential	4	19	0	0	0	0	23
Not-In-Care	3	3	0	0	0	0	6
Institution	4	12	0	0	0	0	16
Independent	0	12	0	0	0	0	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>321</b>

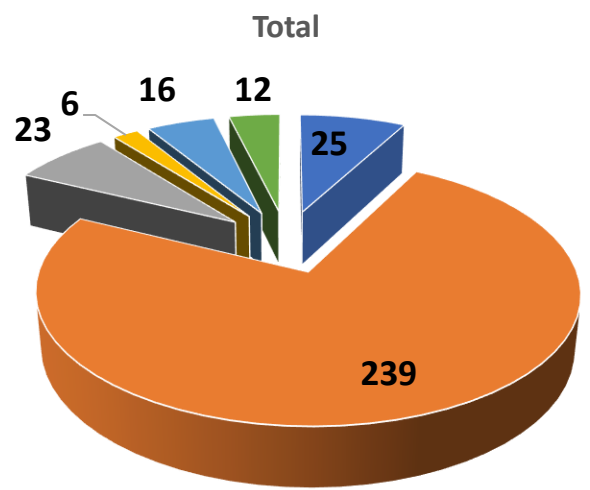
- African-American and white had 4 and 21 respectively in Homes.
- Home-Like facilities had 59 African American and 171 white
- Residential placement type had 4 African-American and 19 whites



# Placement Type

Placement	Total
Home	25
Home-like	239
Residential	23
Not-In-Care	6
Institution	16
Independent	12

Home-Like Placement Type dominated with 239 total placement.



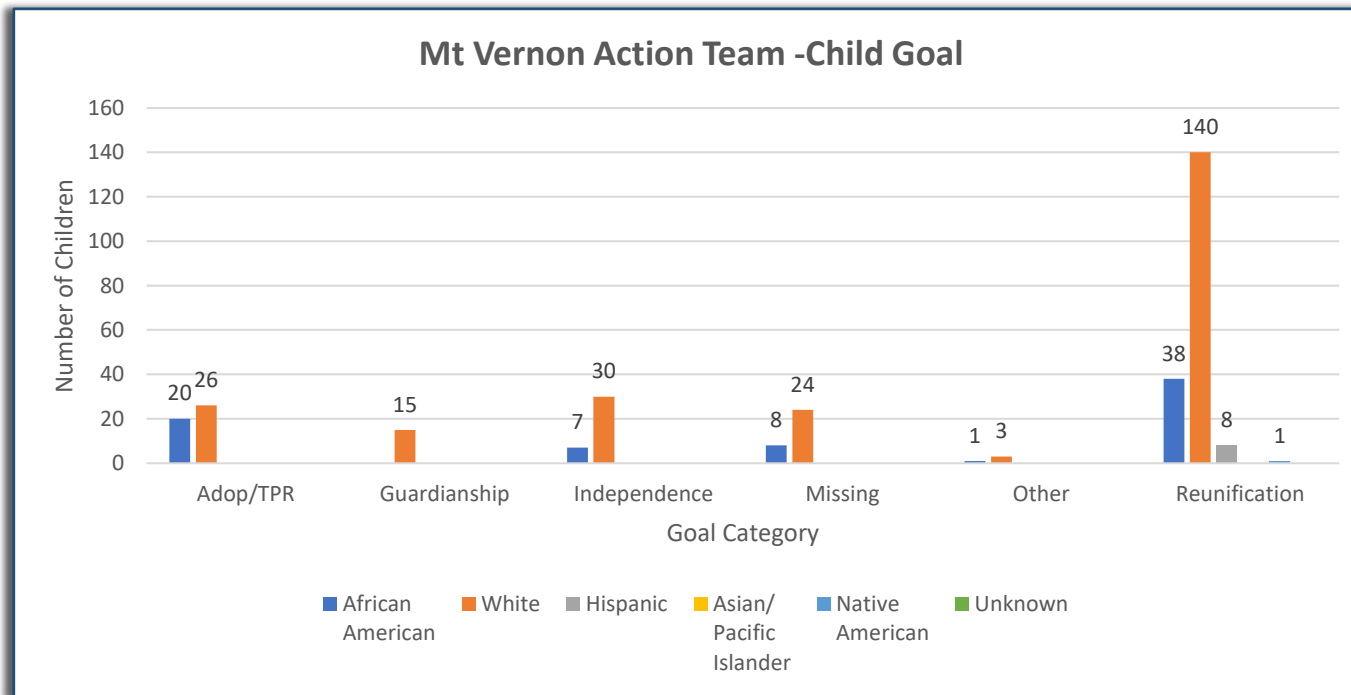
■ Home ■ Home-like ■ Residential ■ Not-In-Care ■ Institution ■ Independent



# Child Goal

Goal Category	African American	White	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Native American	Unknown	Total
Adop/TPR	20	26	0	0	0	0	46
Guardianship	0	15	0	0	0	0	15
Independence	7	30	0	0	0	0	37
Missing	8	24	0	0	0	0	32
Other	1	3	0	0	0	0	4
Reunification	38	140	8	0	1	0	187
<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>321</b>

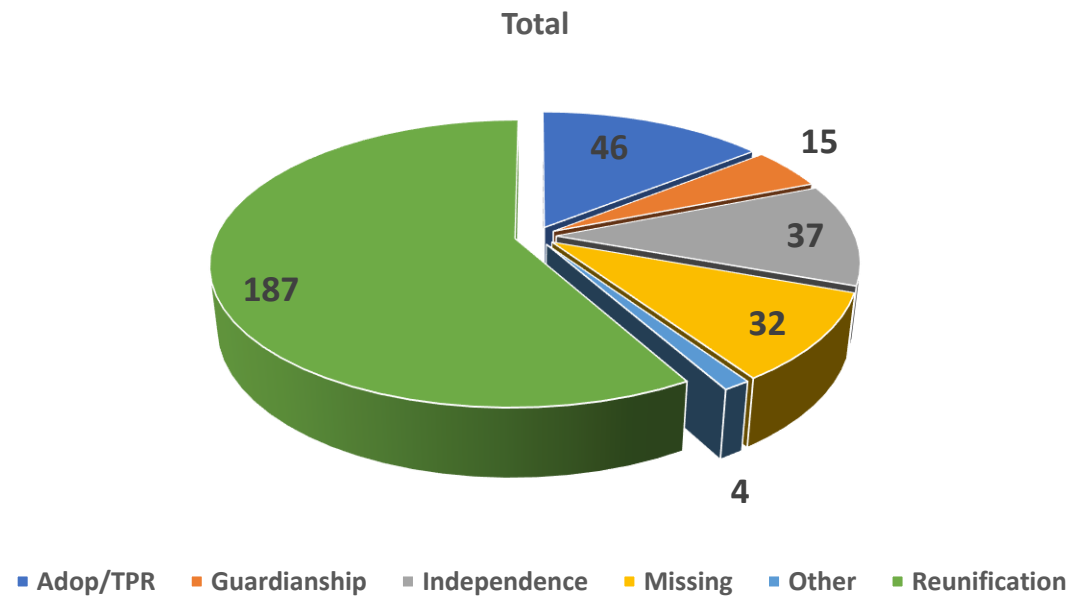
- 20 African-American and 26 White were ADOPT/TPR
- African-American 38 and 140 White were Reunified.
- 7 African American and 30 Whites went independent
- 8 African American and 24 Whites went missing.



# Child Goal

Goal Category	Total
Adop/TPR	46
Guardianship	15
Independence	37
Missing	32
Other	4
Reunification	187

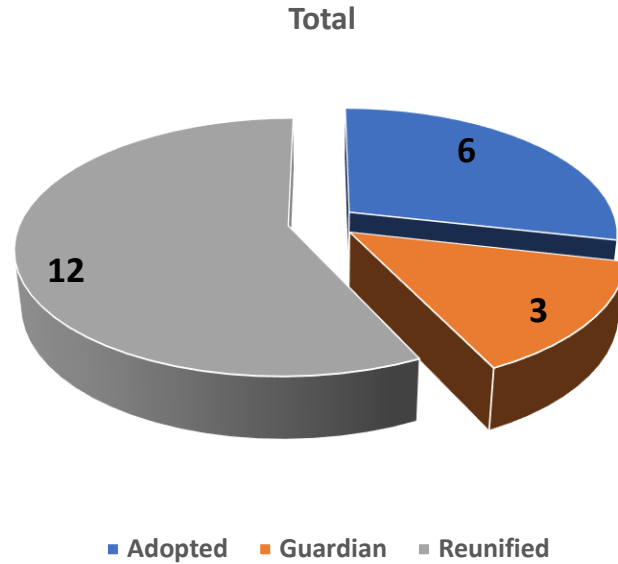
Reunification dominated the goal category.



# Permanency Placement Type

Permanency	Total
Adopted	6
Guardian	3
Reunified	12

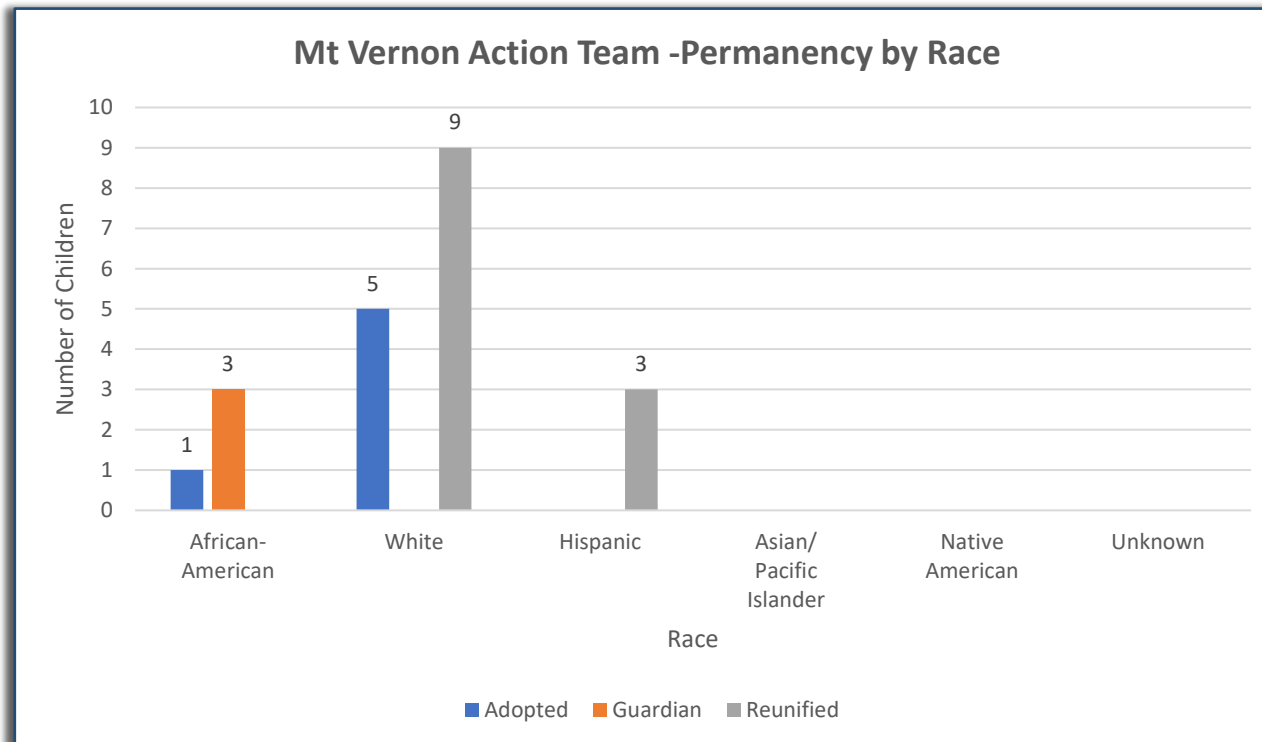
Reunification placement type had 12 cases.



# Permanency, by Race

Permanency	African-American	White	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Native American	Unknown	Total
Adopted	1	5	0	0	0	0	6
Guardian	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Reunified	0	9	3	0	0	0	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>

- 3 Hispanic and 9 White were Reunified
- 1 African-American and 5 white were adopted.
- 3 African American and 0 White went a Guardian
- The rest of the race had low representation in all the permanency type.



# Disproportionality & Disparity

## **Disproportionality** –

Occurs when the percentage of a group of children in a population is different from the percentage of the same group in the child welfare system.

*For example, if 25% of the children in a county were African American, then 25% of those in foster care should be African American, all things being equal. That would be proportional. If these percentages differ there is disproportionality.*

## **Disparity** –

Unequal treatment or outcomes when comparing children of color to non-minority children.

*For example, if 30% of Hispanic children who are indicated are then placed into care, but only 15% of White children who are indicated are then placed into care, there is a disparity in the risk of entering placement, with Hispanic children at twice the risk to be placed into care outside their homes after indications.*

Disparity & Disproportionality examined at 4 critical points:

- Indicated Cases
- Entries into Care (Child Data, by race)
- Child Goal
- Permanencies

# Racial Disparity: Case Indications

## Disparity Ratio\* for Indications [FY 18-19]

Action Team	FY13-14	FY14-15	FY15-16	FY16-17	FY17-18	FY18-19
Mt Vernon			1.23	1.23*	1.23*	1.05

- 
- ✓ Mt Vernon had **Low Disparity** with regards to the number of Indicated Cases of African American Children compared to their white counterpart.

# Racial Disparity: Child Goal

## Disparity Ratio\* for Indications [FY 18-19]

<b>Permanency</b>	<b>FY13-14</b>	<b>FY14-15</b>	<b>FY15-16</b>	<b>FY16-17</b>	<b>FY17-18</b>	<b>FY18-19</b>
Adoption			1.20	1.20*	1.20*	2.84
Guardian			0.69	0.69*	0.69*	0
Independent			0.43	0.43*	0.43*	0.86
Missing			-	-	-	1.23
Other			0.61	0.61*	0.61*	1.23
Reunification			0.68	0.68*	0.68*	1.00

- Mt Vernon Action Team had :
- ✓ **Significant Disparity** with regards to “ Adoption” of African –American Children
  - ✓ **No Disparity** with regards to “ Guardian” of African –American Children
  - ✓ **No Disparity** with regards to “ Independency” of African –American Children
  - ✓ **Low Disparity** with regards to “ Missing” of African –American Children
  - ✓ **Low Disparity** with regards to “ Other” permanency of African –American Children
  - ✓ **Low Disparity** with regards to “ Reunification” of African –American Children

\*All data was compared to their White counterpart.

# Racial Disparity: Permanency

## Disparity Ratio\* for Indications [FY 18-19]

Action Team	FY13-14	FY14-15	FY15-16	FY16-17	FY17-18	FY18-19
Mt Vernon			0.75	0.75*	0.75*	1.05

- ✓ Mt Vernon had **Low Disparity** with regards to the number Permanency of African American Children compared to their White counterpart.

*Disparity ratio on this variable = (number of African American children achieving goal divided by number of African American children who enter care) over (number of White children achieving goal by the number of White children who enter care).*



# *Racial Disparity: Indices Category*

No disparity - 0 to 0.99

Low disparity - 1.00 to 1.49

Moderate disparity - 1.5 to 2.49

Significant disparity - 2.5 to 3.49

# Action Team Development: *Activities, Goals, Outcomes*

# About Mt Vernon Action Team (FY19)

## INITIATIVES

The team has put together three major initiatives to enhance efforts to help all stakeholders. These are:

- ✓ The initiation of parenting groups to:
  - Share program plans
  - Assess proper referrals
  - Provide specified/ in-depth care assessment.
- ✓ The implementation of Parenting Monitoring (SPIRO)- A Birth to Three (B-3) initiative.
- ✓ The implementation of Digital Life books- An Application to help document children and youth in care. It is an online app including videos, pictures, document storage. It will be available to prospective caregivers as well as birth families, other agency, staff, child and other stakeholders. Suggested folders for this app includes; medical/family information, pictures and videos, interview videos, clinical status reports and life book pages.
  - The goal is to decrease the days in residential after the child has been identified to begin the process of stepping down to a home environment.
  - to increase time in stepdown placement without disruption, as it is assumed that a better match is possible using this format

However, the digital life book been stalled due to some technically (security) challenges.

# Goals (FY19)

- Assist families in accessing proper hygiene/skin care/hair care for kids
- Work towards targeted recruitment for foster parents that would accept older Youth in Care as well as homes that are from minority cultures
- Attempt to develop a format for writing summaries for youth in care that puts weight on the child's present and more recent history rather than creating an image of the child from the past that is not accurate to the present.
- Improve permanency outcomes for all children in care.
- Promote community based solutions to promote youth and community involvement.
- Address disproportionality for children of color in foster care.

# *Annual Activities (FY19)*

Meetings are held quarterly. However, the last time a meeting was held was when Jay Reeves was the chair.

## Concerns/Barriers

- Maintain current level of action team engagement and leadership
- Identification of community partners to help enhance action team efforts.
- Not meeting regularly



## RESPONSE to Concerns/Barriers

- Network and partner with area community partners
- Refine action team goals and plans of address
- Team is addressing needs identified by action team members
- Encourage regular meeting at least quarterly.

# *Future Directions (FY19)*

- Sustain Action Team Membership as well as attendance
- Continue to identify action team partners
- Strengthen ongoing support from University partner to help enhance action team efforts.
- Solicit and await the arrival of updated data to continue to assess area permanency trends.
- Work on operationalizing the digital life book.