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CHILD WELFARE OVERVIEW

Caleb Orton, Clark County Family Services

NEVADA: STATE SUPERVISED, COUNTY ADMINISTERED CHILD WELFARE STRUCTURE

DCFS supervises and administers child welfare services in the 15 rural counties.

DCFS provides State oversight child welfare programs in Clark and Washoe counties to include:

- **Technical assistance**
- **Policy development**
- **Fiscal oversight for federal monies, quality improvement activities**



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Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Nevada Administrative Code (NAC)

The Nevada Revised Statutes may be found on the Nevada Legislature's website. The Nevada Administrative Code contains all of the permanent regulations pertaining to State of Nevada Agencies. They were adopted under chapter 233B of the Nevada Revised Statutes.

Child welfare statutes: NRS 432, 432B, 432C



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CHILD WELFARE SERVICES



Child Welfare Agencies provide a continuum of services that support the child, the parents, and the caregivers.

- **Nevada Initial Assessment (AKA CPS)**
- **Foster Care Services**
- **Adoption Services**
- **Independent Living Services**

Additional services to support the child and family include in-home counseling (family preservation/intensive family services), early childhood services, and other outpatient services.



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**REPORT
CHILD ABUSE
& NEGLECT**

WASHOE COUNTY
(RENO/SPARKS)
(833) 900-SAFE

CLARK COUNTY
(LAS VEGAS/HENDERSON)
(702) 399-0081

ALL OTHER COUNTIES

Afterhours & weekends please call
local law enforcement to make a report

(833) 571-1041



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FAMILY SERVICES PATHWAY TO PROTECTING CHILDREN

**INTAKE CALL:
SUSPECTED
ABUSE OR
NEGLECT**

FAMILY SERVICES SCREENS THE CALL AND MAY MAKE A **REPORT FOR A SAFETY ASSESSMENT.**

REPORTS MAY BE SCREENED OUT BECAUSE THEY **DO NOT MEET CRITERIA.**



IF SAFETY CONCERNS ARE LOW, A CASE MAY BE ASSESSED, BUT NOT OPENED. VOLUNTARY SERVICES MAY BE RECOMMENDED TO THE FAMILY. **THIS IS REFERRED TO AS UNSUBSTANTIATED.**

**SAFETY
ASSESSMENT**

IF SAFETY CONCERNS ARE MODERATE TO SIGNIFICANT, FAMILY SERVICES IMPLEMENTS A SAFETY PLAN AND OPENS A CASE. **THIS IS REFERRED TO AS SUBSTANTIATED.**

**PROTECTIVE
CUSTODY**

CHILD MAY BE PLACED WITH A RELATIVE, FICTIVE KIN, IN A LICENSED FOSTER HOME, OR IN A SPECIALIZED UNIT. **CHILDREN RECEIVE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES WHILE IN CARE.**

COURT MAY SEND CHILD HOME WITH SUPERVISION OR SUPPORT SERVICES.



WHILE THE CHILD IS IN CUSTODY, THE BIRTH FAMILY RECEIVES A REUNIFICATION PLAN. **THE COURT MONITORS THE PARENTS' PROGRESS.**

**COURT
HEARINGS**

THE COURT REVIEWS PROGRESS EVERY 6 MONTHS, AND HOLDS A PERMANENCY HEARING AFTER 12 MONTHS. **IF NO PROGRESS IS MADE, THE COURT MAY TERMINATE THE PARENTAL RIGHTS.**

**CHILD
EXITS CARE**

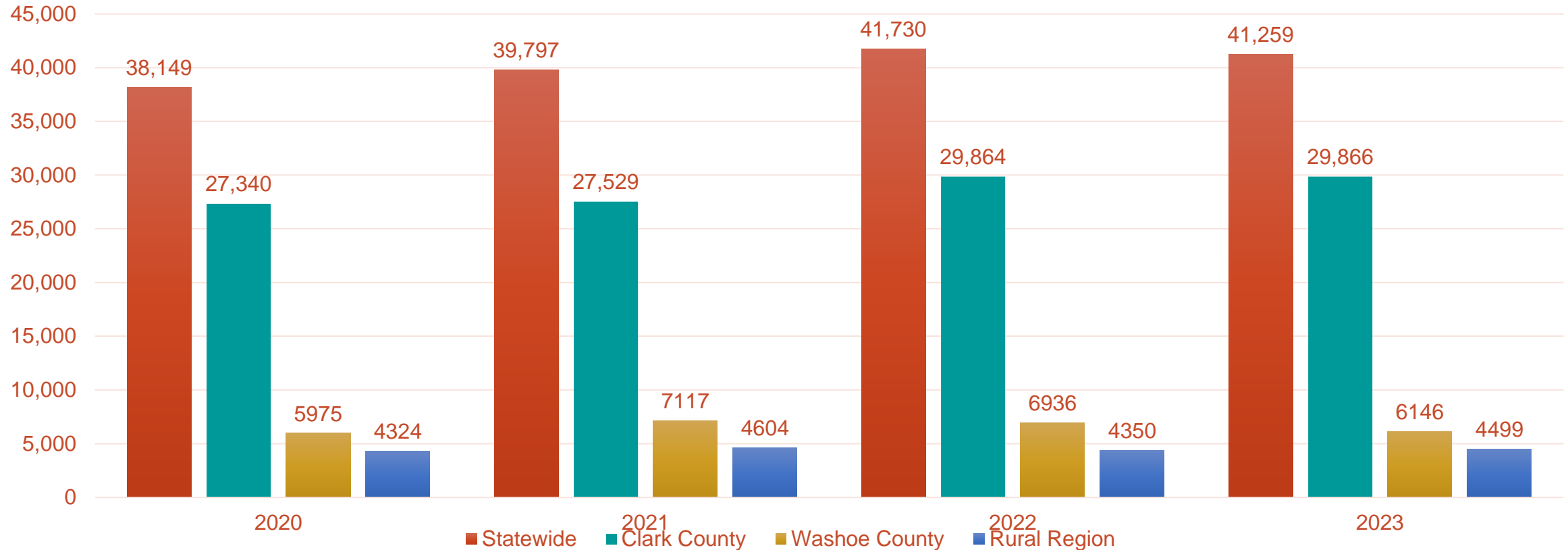
IF THE BIRTH FAMILY COMPLETES THEIR REUNIFICATION PLAN, THE CHILD IS RETURNED HOME.

IF PARENTAL RIGHTS ARE TERMINATED, THE CHILD MAY REMAIN IN FOSTER CARE UNTIL THE AGE OF 18, AND RECEIVE INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES UNTIL THEY HAVE AGED-OUT. PREFERRABLY, THE CHILD MAY BE PLACED IN A PERMANENT HOME, SUCH AS THROUGH ADOPTION, GUARDIANSHIP, OR WITH A RELATIVE. **THE GOAL IS ALWAYS PERMANENCY.**



Intake is the first stage of the child protective services (CPS) process and is one of the most important decision-making points in the child protection system. It is the point at which reports of suspected child abuse and neglect are received. Information gathered by caseworkers is used to make decisions regarding safety and the type of CPS response required. A supervisor then disposes the referral, which then becomes a report. The report disposition determines whether the report is screened-in for subsequent agency involvement or screened-out and the agency's involvement does not continue.

INTAKE REFERRALS BY YEAR



FOSTER CARE



Foster for their Futures

While fostering teens may be temporary, the guidance you provide for their future will carry them through adulthood.

Become a foster parent or show your support as a Proud Partner of Clark County Foster Care.

clarkcountyfostercare.com

WHO CAN FOSTER?
AGES 21+ | RENTERS | HOMEOWNERS | WORKING | STAY-AT-HOME
RETIRED | SINGLE | MARRIED | DIVORCED | LGBTQ

GET STARTED TODAY!
Scan the code & sign up for an information session. When you decide that fostering is the right choice, you'll get fingerprinted and start your amazing journey to helping children!



- The goal of the foster care system is to ensure the safety, permanency and well-being of children who either temporarily or permanently cannot be safely maintained in their own homes.
- Foster care is intended to be a short-term situation until a permanent placement can be made.

- **Placement with relatives/fictive kin is first choice**
- **Regular family foster care or specialized level care if needed**
- **Shelter care**
- **Adoption**
- **Reunification**

- While in foster care a case manager is assigned to the child and his/her family to assist with case plan development and to work on minimizing the safety threats in the family so the child can be safely returned home.
- If reunification is not an option, other permanent living situations are explored such as adoption, guardianship and APPLA (Another planned living arrangement).



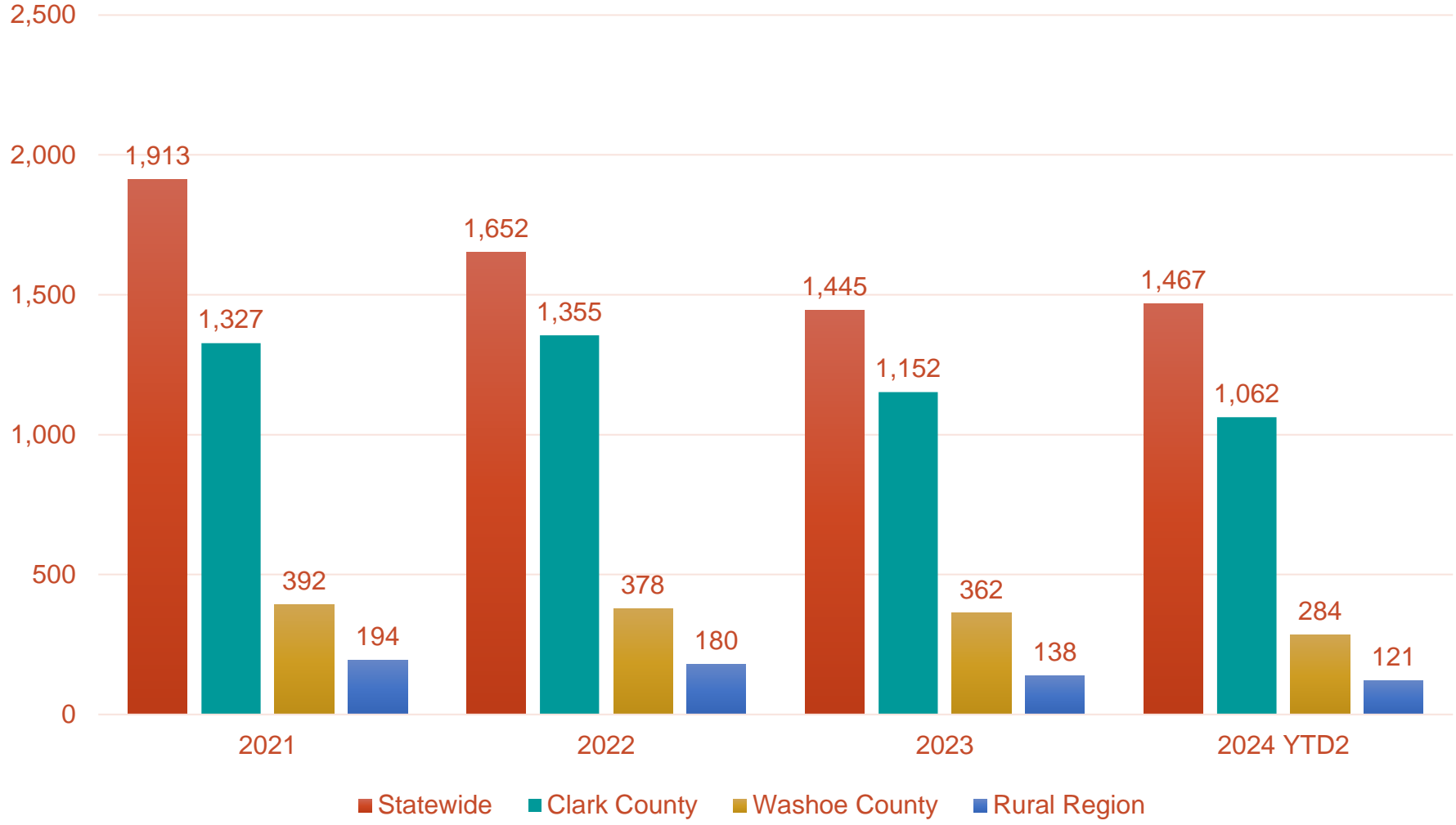
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COUNT OF YOUTH ENTERING FOSTER CARE

■ Statewide ■ Clark County

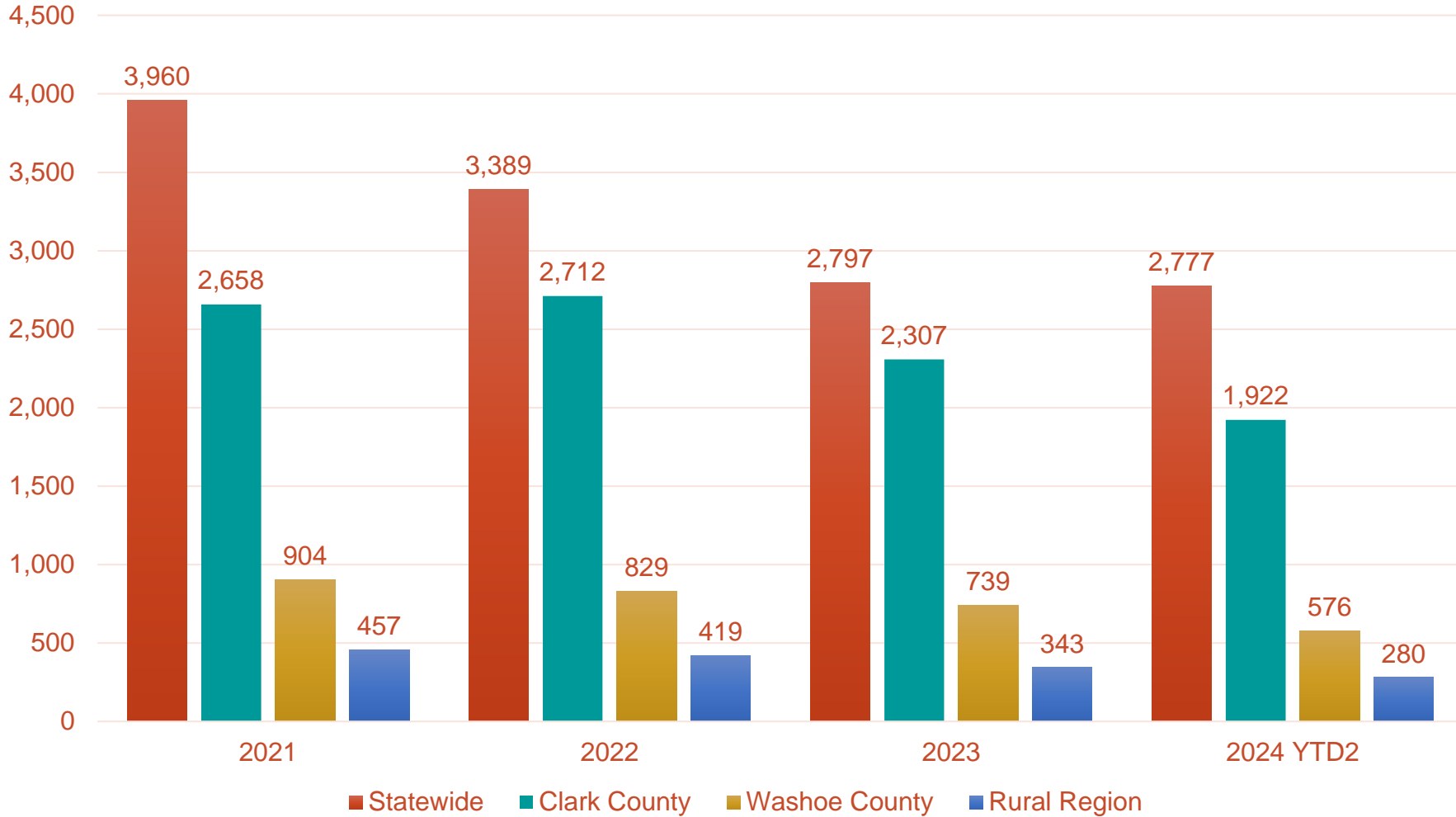


Average Number of Family Foster Home Licenses



- [Adopt Only](#)
- [Fictive Kin](#)
- [Foster Care - Regular](#)
- [Foster Care - Relative](#)
- [Foster Care - Specialized](#)
- [Group Care - Regular](#)
- [Group Care - Specialized](#)
- [ICPC Incoming](#)
- [ICPC Outgoing](#)
- [Respite Only](#)

Average Number of Family Foster Home Beds



[Adopt Only](#)

[Fictive Kin](#)

[Foster Care - Regular](#)

[Foster Care - Relative](#)

[Foster Care - Specialized](#)

[Group Care - Regular](#)

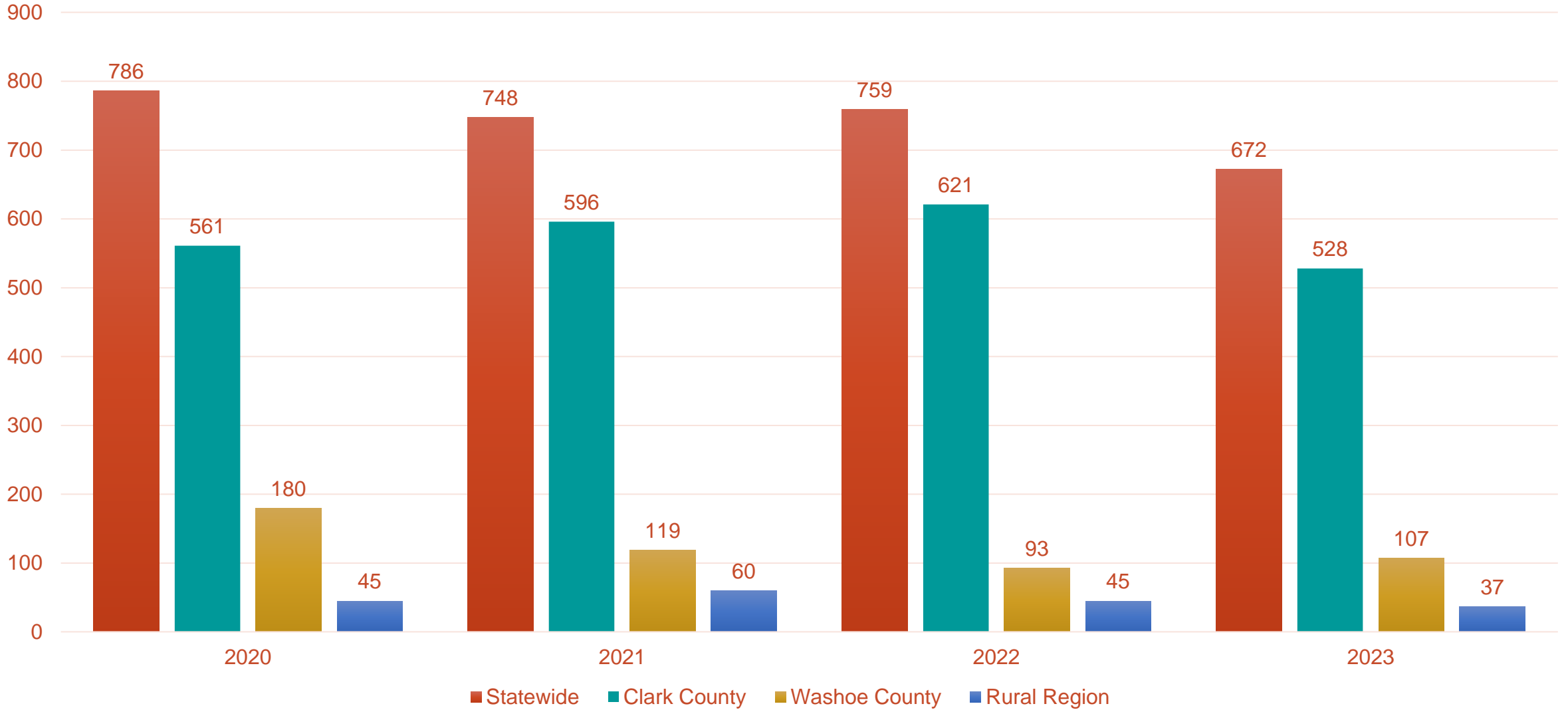
[Group Care - Specialized](#)

[ICPC Incoming](#)

[ICPC Outgoing](#)

[Respite Only](#)

Adoptions Finalized by Year



Recent Nevada Child Welfare Service Expansions



Child Welfare in Nevada also continues to develop greater interconnections with other services/systems that support families including education, mental health treatment, and housing assistance.

During the past decade, Nevada's Child Welfare system has expanded through multiple legislative acts to include a wider scope of services, including:

- **Nevada Safety Model (High level of engagement with families)**
- **Expanded School Investigations**
- **Kinship Guardianship Assistance**
- **Commercially Sexually Exploited Children**
- **Extended Foster Care**



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FEDERAL OVERSIGHT of CHILD WELFARE PROGRAMMING

The Federal Foster Care Program helps to provide safe and stable out-of-home care for children until the children are safely returned home, placed permanently with adoptive families or placed in other planned arrangements for permanency.

STATE AGENCIES MUST SUBMIT:

- **5-year Child and Family Services Plans (CFSP)**
- **Annual Progress and Services Reports (APSRs)**



U.S. Department of Health & Human Services



Administration for Children & Families

CHILDREN'S BUREAU

An Office of the Administration for Children & Families

The Children's Bureau administers formula grants to support states and tribes in operating their child welfare systems, including child maltreatment prevention, foster care, adoption, and the information systems necessary to support these programs.

Funding is provided through:

- **Titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act**
- **Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act**

Title IV-E Agency funds:

- **Maintenance payments for daily care/supervision of children**
- **Administrative costs**
- **Training staff & foster care providers**
- **Recruitment of foster parent**
- **Costs associated with state-wide data collection system**

CAPTA Funds:

- **Research and demonstration projects on the causes, prevention, identification, assessment and treatment of child abuse and neglect**
- **Development and implementation of evidence-based training programs, technical assistance to grantees and communities through national resource centers and the Child Welfare Information Gateway.**



Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS)

AFCARS was established to provide data that assists in policy development and program management. Data can be used by policymakers at the federal, tribal, and state levels to assess how many children are in foster care, reasons why they enter, how they exit, and to develop strategies to prevent their entry into foster care.

