



WMPC Network Contract Performance Outcomes

Fiscal Year 2025 Quarter 1
February 10, 2025

WMPC Quarterly Performance Report



Addressing Safety, Permanency, and Well-being for Children in Foster Care in Kent County

West Michigan Partnership for Children (WMPC) is a nonprofit organization in Kent County that is facilitating a performance-based funding model through a contract with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). The performance-based funding model is intended to improve outcomes for children and families; allow for the effective allocation of resources to promote local service innovation; create service efficiencies; and incentivize service providing agencies to be accountable for achieving performance standards. This report outlines performance measures that indicate how the WMPC network is achieving the intended outcomes.

Safety, Permanency, and Well-being are the three goals of the Federal Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) and are best interest principles for the West Michigan Partnership for Children foster care network. To oversee progress toward these principles, WMPC internally monitors over 30 measures governed by three primary entities; Modified Implementation, Sustainability, and Exit Plan (MISEP) Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), Federal Child and Family Service Review (CFSR) Performance Outcome Measures, and WMPC Network Contract Measures.

MISEP Key Performance Indicators

Children's Rights, the State of Michigan, and the MDHHS have worked together since 2006 to reform Michigan's child welfare system. The initial Implementation, Sustainability, and Exit Plan (ISEP) was originally submitted in 2008, and in 2019, the MISEP was introduced to replace it. The Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) outlined in the MISEP establish benchmarks and standards for measures that address children's safety, permanency, and well-being while in care. The benchmarks have been updated to align with the KPI benchmarks in the MISEP, ensuring consistency with statewide goals. Along with these adjustments, WMPC continues to be held accountable for all state Key Performance Indicators.

Federal Performance Outcome Measures

These measures correspond with the Children's Bureau data measures outlined in the Child and Family Service Reviews (CFSRs), or reviews of state's child welfare systems, to see progress toward federal standards and engage systems in improving families' experiences. WMPC receives County and consortium data measures aligned with CFSRs. Similarly to MISEP, permanency benchmarks were revised to include incremental yearly increases. WMPC continues to be held accountable for all Federal Child and Family Services Review data measures.

WMPC Network Contract Measures

The WMPC network also implements additional internal performance measures. These measures are centered around the impact foster care has on children and families and are related to residential and shelter utilization, increasing community, in-county, and relative placements, and licensing more relative and non-relative foster homes. Furthermore, the network carries out a comparison study with other similar Counties like Oakland.

FY25 Contract Performance Measures

At the beginning of FY2025, WMPC's contract benchmarks were aligned to match the MISEP benchmarks. Contract includes the following thirteen measures: 1. Well-being: (a) Medical-Initial, (b) Medical-Periodic, (c) Dental-Initial, (d) Dental-Yearly, 2. Permanency: (a) Worker-Parent Visit, (b) Parent-Child Visit, (c) Return Home Visit, (d) Sibling Visit, (e) Permanency within 12 Months for Children Entering Care, 3. Safety: (a). Licensed Unrelated Foster Homes, (b) Initial Service Plan Timely Completion, (c) Service Plan Approval and Maltreatment in Care.

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Total Children in Care

437

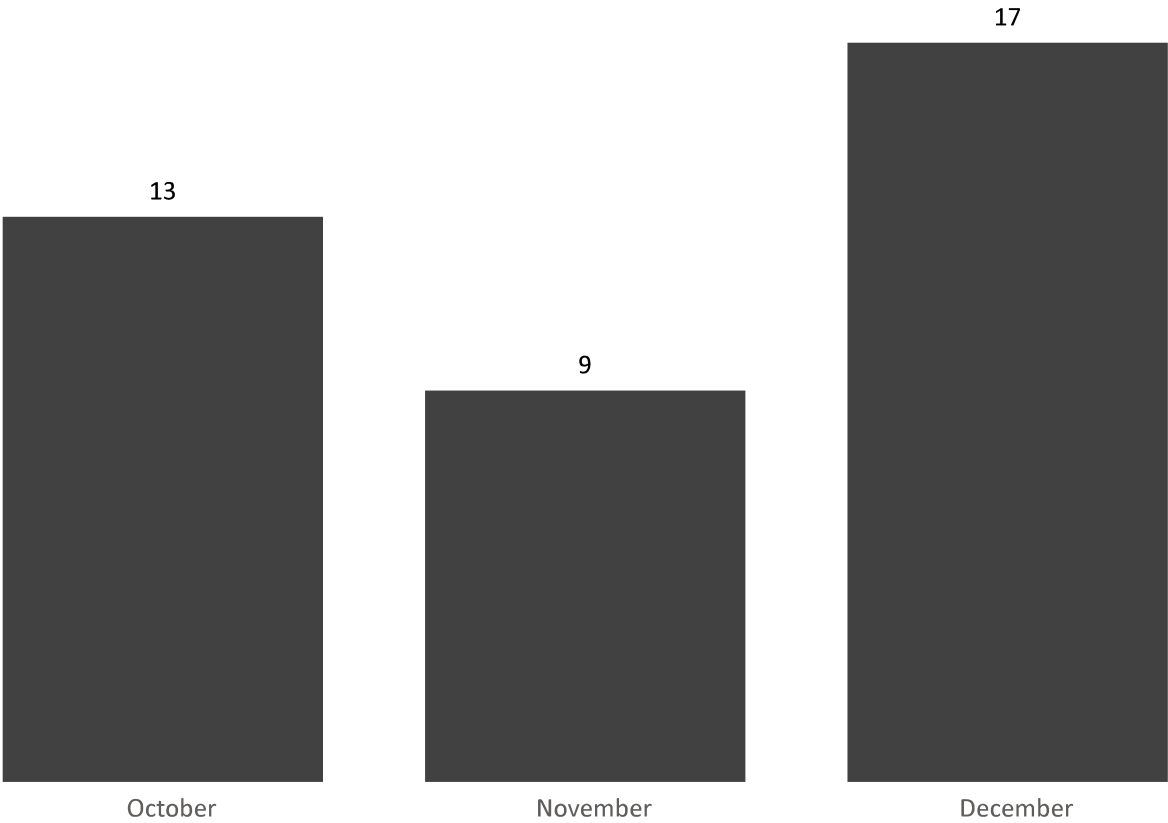
Children Exiting Care

28

Children Entering Care

39

Children Entering Care By Month



FY2025 Q1

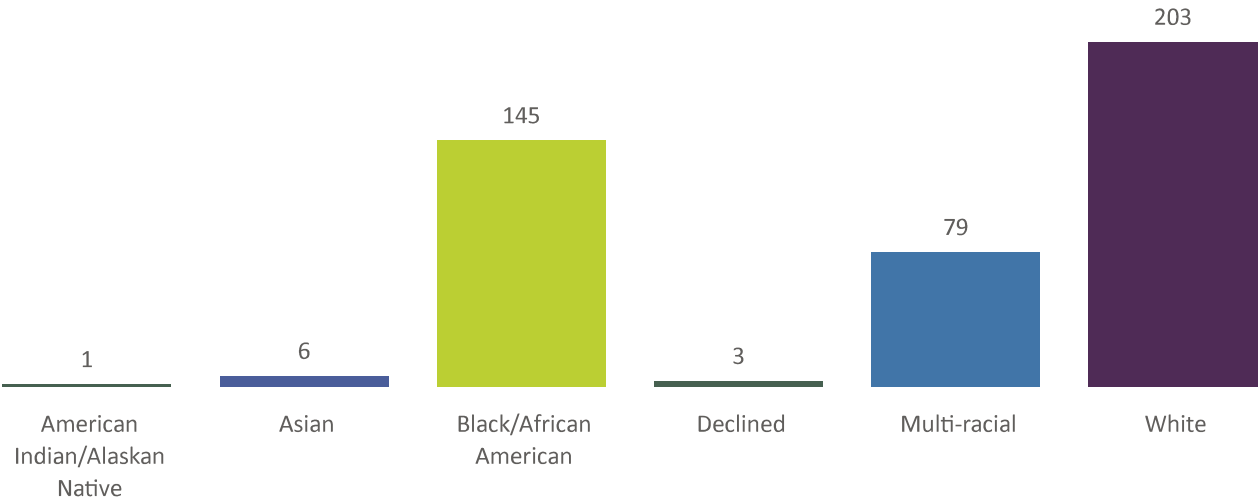
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Race and Children in Foster Care



Children in Care

In FY2025 Q1, there were more White children (47%) in care than any other race. This was followed by Black/African American (34%).

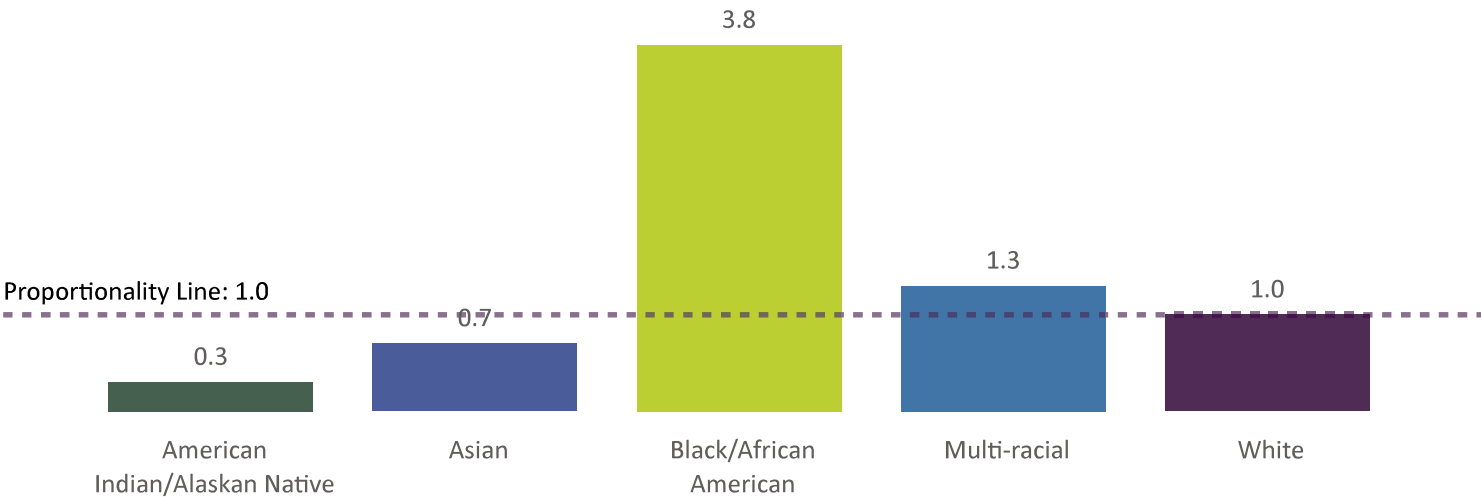


Racial Disproportionality

We used **Relative Rate Index (RRI)** to determine underrepresentation or over representation of a racial or ethnic group. RRI provides a comparison of each racial or ethnic group to a reference group. In this case, the reference group is White children since they are the majority group in Kent population of Children. To calculate RRI, we used the population demographics of Children in Kent County of ages (0-18) from US Population Census. **An RRI of 3 for some race implies that the race is 3 times more likely than White children to be in care.**

Racial Disproportionality: Children in Care

In FY2025 Q1, Black/African American children were the most over represented race in care at WMPC. Black/African American children were represented 3.8 times more in the active population in the WMPC network than White children.



Source: WMPC Foster Care Population: Mindshare Active Child List, FY2025 Q1, accessed 1/2025

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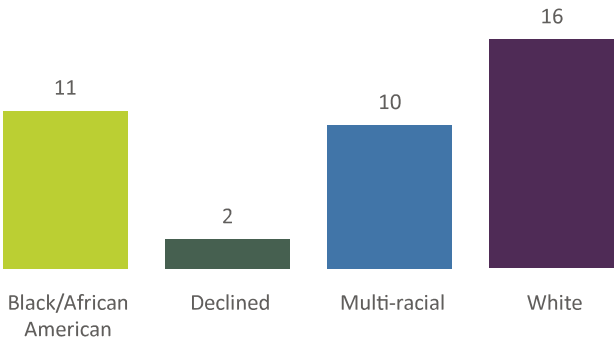
Race and Children in Foster Care Intakes and Exits



Entries in Care

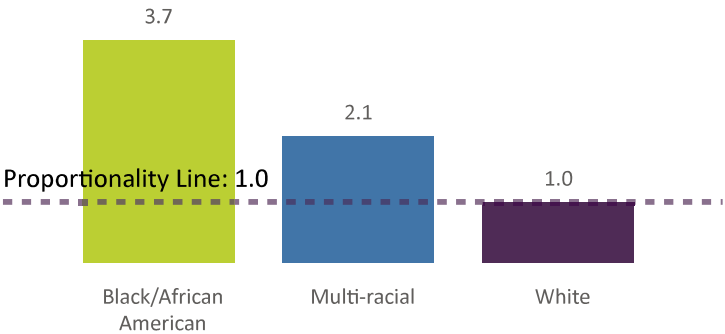
39

In FY2025 Q1, 41% (16 out of 39) of the children entering care at WMPC were White. This was followed by children who are Black/African American. This represents a 21% reduction from FY2024 Q4, when 62% of the children entering care were White.



Relative Rate Index of Entries

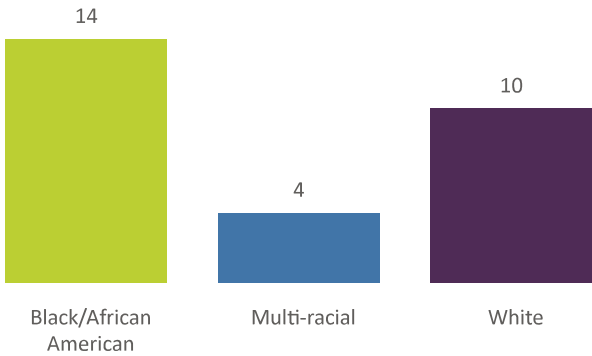
Black/African American children entered care at WMPC at a rate 3.7 times higher than that of White children in FY2025 Q1. This contrasts with FY2024 Q4, where Black/African American children entered the WMPC network at a rate comparable to that of White children.



Exiting Care

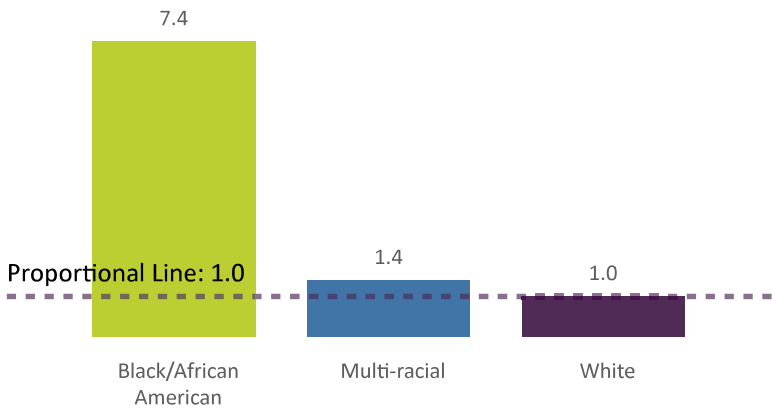
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In FY2024 Q4, 50% of children exiting care at WMPC were Black/African American. This was followed by White children who represented 36% of those exiting.



Relative Rate Index of Exits

Black/African American children exited the WMPC network at a rate at least seven times higher than that of White children. This marks a significant and positive improvement from FY2024 Q4, where the exit rate for these groups was only twice that of White children. This demonstrates effective efforts to support children from groups that enter care at higher rates in achieving stability and permanency.



FY2025 Q1

Source: WMPC Foster Care Population: Mindshare Active Child List FY25Q1, accessed 1/2025

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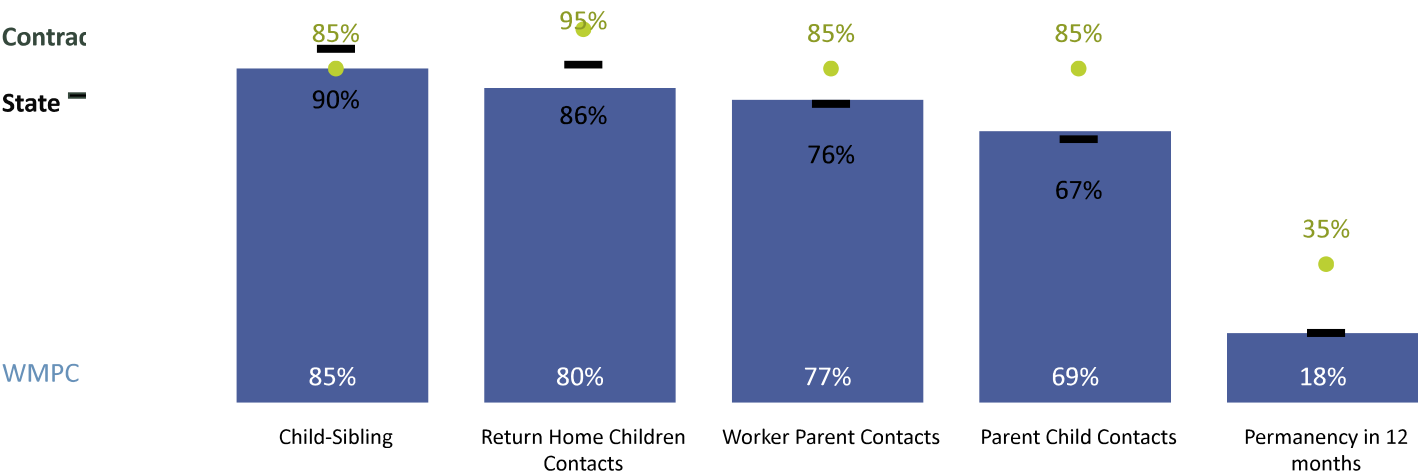


Contract Key Performance Indicators

The WMPC Network met contractual requirement for one of thirteen measures and this was for Child-Sibling. However, WMPC surpassed or met State averages in 9 of 12 measures.

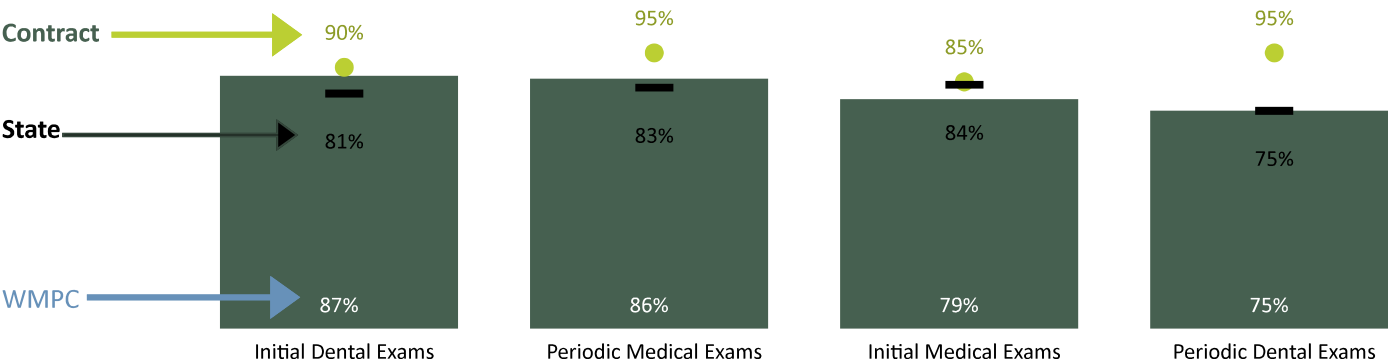
Permanency Performance Outcome Measures

The WMPC Network met the contract requirement for one of the five Permanency measures. This is for Child-Sibling. Note: State average for permanency is 18%.



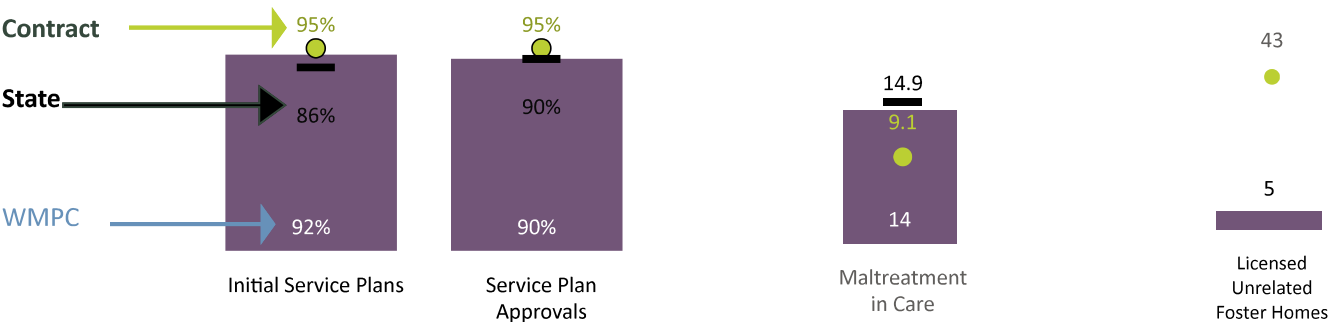
Well-being Performance Outcome Measures

The WMPC Network did not meet any contract requirement for Well-being measures, but surpassed or met State averages for three of four measures.



Safety Performance Outcome Measures

The WMPC Network did not meet any contract requirement for Safety measures, but surpassed or met State averages for three of four measures. Please note, for Maltreatment in Care lower is better. Licensed Unrelated Foster Homes contract benchmark is annual.



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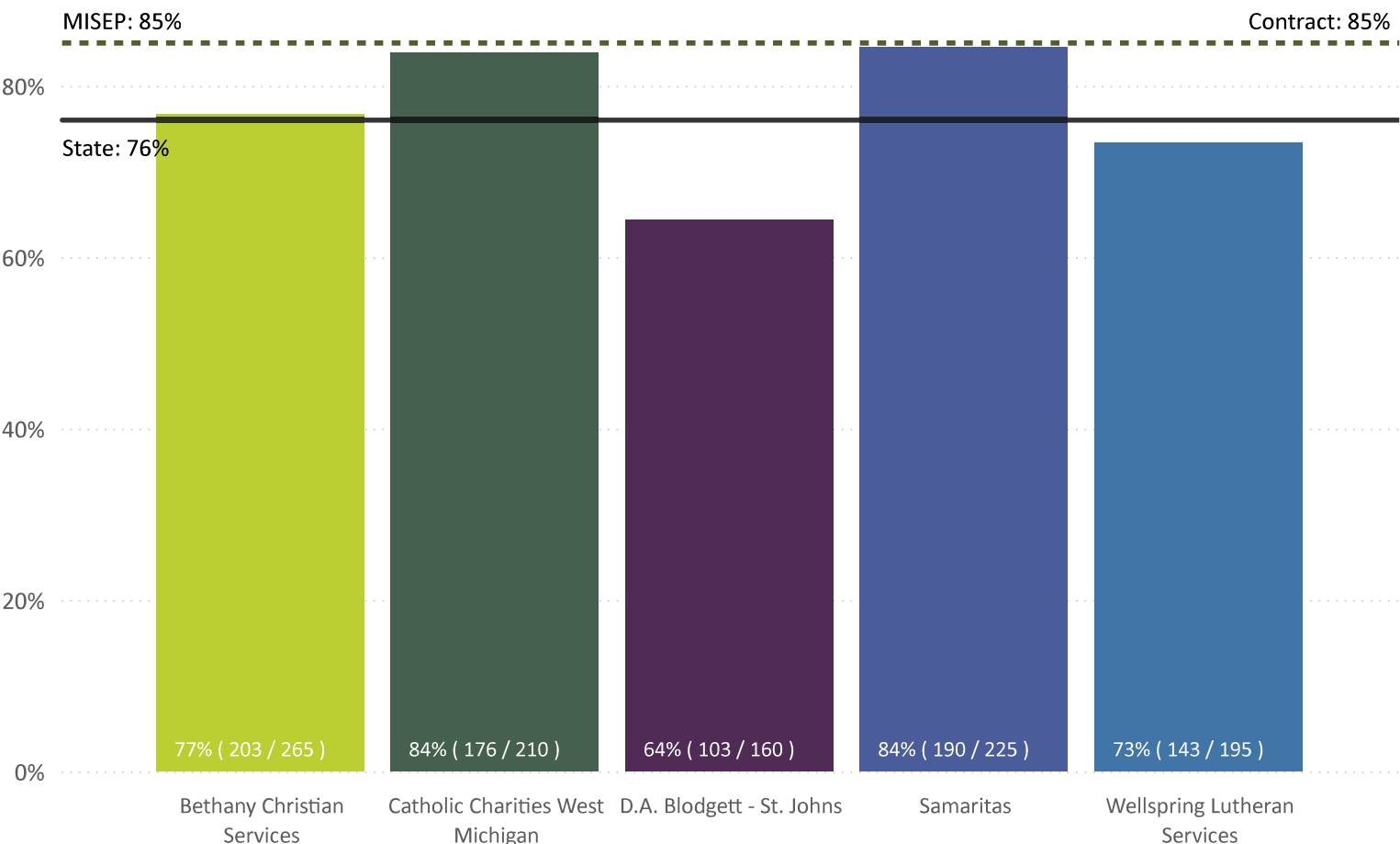
Worker-Parent Contacts

MISEP | Measure Definition: At least 85% of parents whose children have a permanency goal of reunification shall have face-to-face contact by the assigned caseworker in accordance with the guidelines in FOM 722-06H, which states the caseworker must have at least two face-to-face contacts with the legal parent or guardian, with at least one contact occurring at the parent or guardian's home or living environment, during the first month following initial out-of-home placement. In subsequent months the caseworker must have face-to-face contact with the legal parent or guardian at least once per calendar month. At least one contact each quarter must occur in the parent’s residence.

WMPC Contract Amendment | Measure Definition: At least 85% of parents whose children have a permanency goal of reunification and are supervised by the Service Provider, shall have face-to-face contact by the assigned caseworker in accordance with the guidelines in FOM 722-06H by the end of FY2025.

Quarter 1 Performance

Seventy seven percent of parents for the network were visited in accordance with MISEP contract requirements. WMPC did not meet Contract benchmark of 85% but exceeded State average of 76%. On this measure, Catholic Charities West Michigan and Samaritas exceeded State average.



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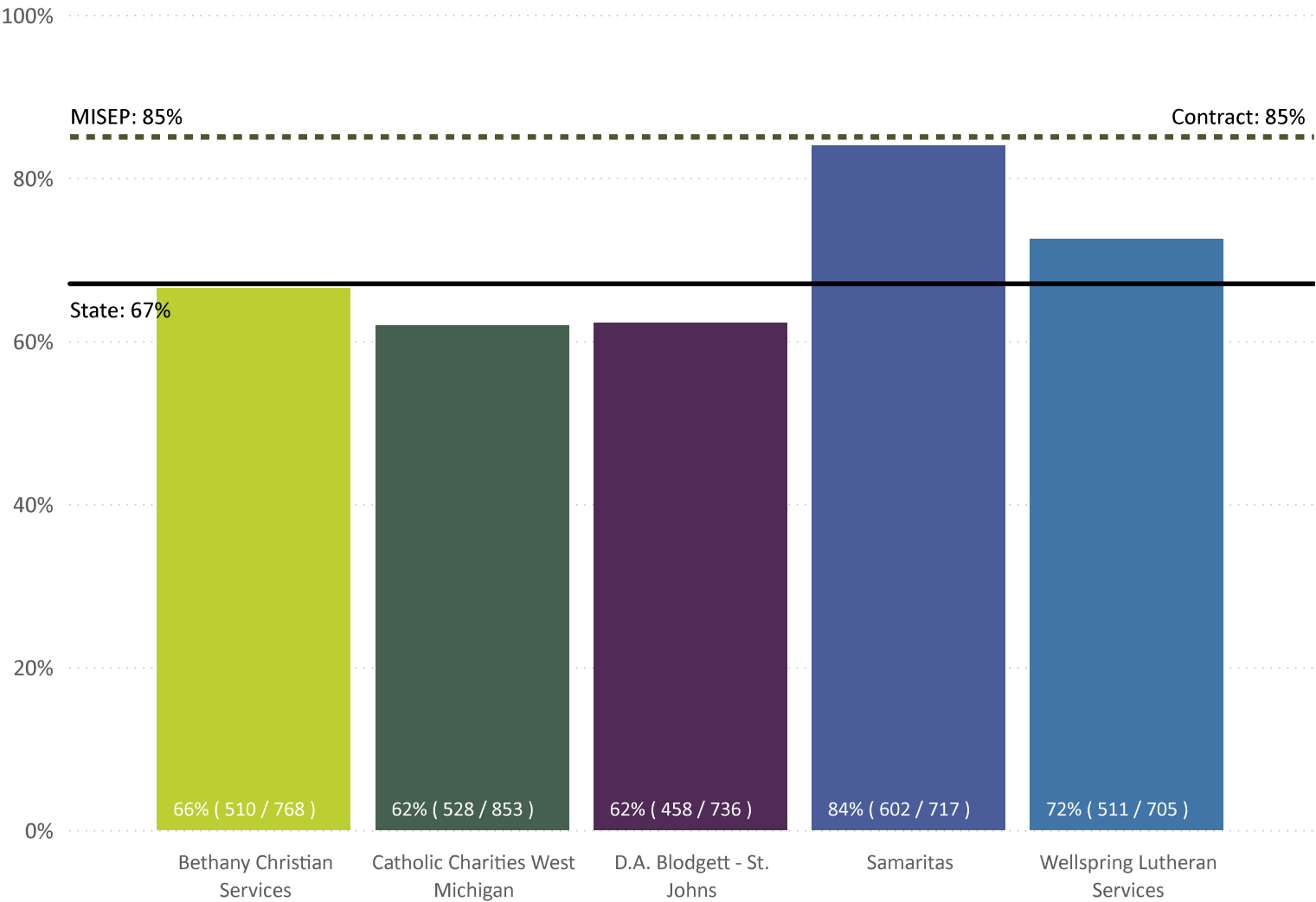
Parent-Child Contacts

MISEP | Measure Definition: No fewer than 85% of children with a goal of reunification shall have visitation with their parent(s) in accordance with Children's Foster Care Manual (FOM) 722-06I Policy. Parenting time is determined by the age of the youngest child of the sibling group in care at the time of removal. If the youngest child entered care between 0-5 years old, parenting time must occur twice per week. If the youngest sibling entered care at 6 years or older, parenting time must occur weekly.

WMPC Contract Amendment | Measure Definition: At least 85% of children with a goal of reunification shall have visitation with their parent(s) in accordance with the guidelines in FOM 722-06I Policy by the end of FY2025.

Quarter 1 Performance

Sixty nine percent of children with a goal of reunification had parent visits in accordance with MISEP and contract amendment requirements. WMPC network did not meet Contract benchmark of 85%. However, WMPC exceeded State average of 67%.



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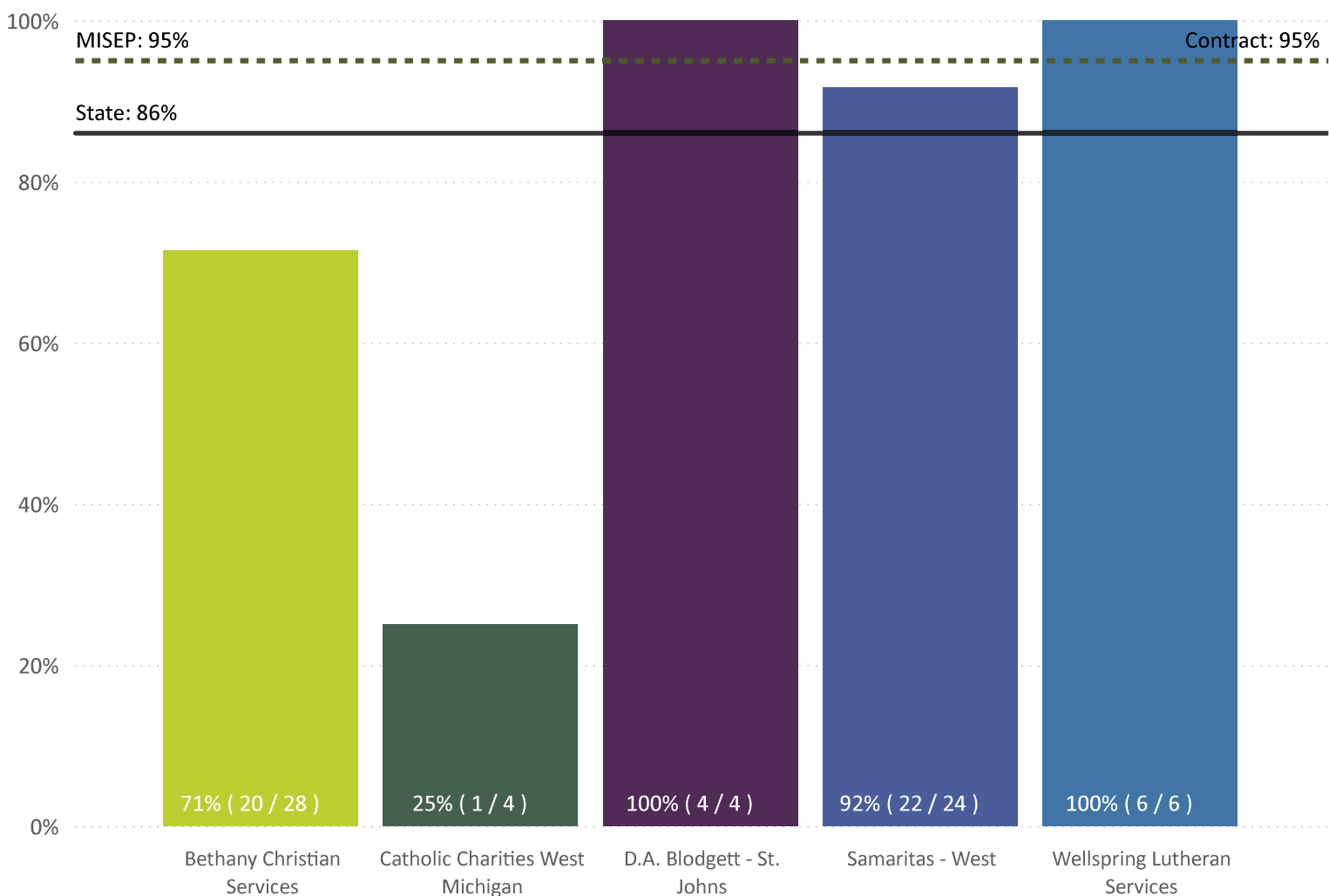
Returned Home Children Contacts

MISEP | Measure Definition: The caseworker must have weekly face-to-face contact in the home with at least 95% of the families (parent/legal guardian and the child) for the first month following reunification or parental placement, with at least one contact each month being a private meeting between the child and the caseworker.

WMPC Contract Amendment | Measure Definition: At least 95% of families that have been reunified or placed in parental home shall have visitation with a caseworker in accordance with the guidelines in FOM 722-06I Policy by the end of FY2025.

Quarter 1 Performance

Eighty percent of families in the WMPC network had caseworker face-to-face contacts in accordance with MISEP requirements. WMPC did not meet Contract requirement of 95% for contacts made with children who have returned home. D.A Blodgett- St Johns and Wellspring Lutheran Services exceeded all benchmarks.



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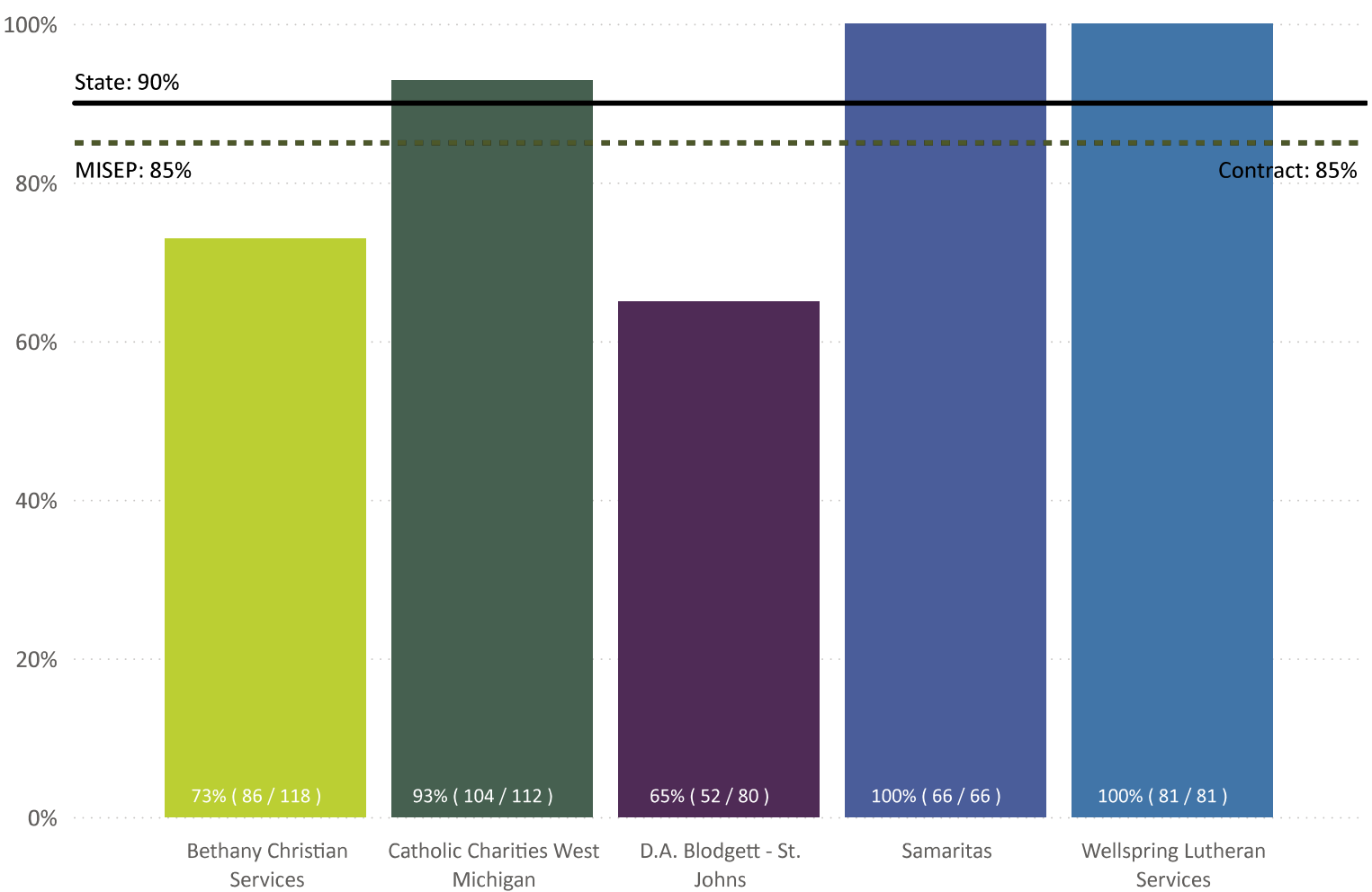
Child-Sibling Contacts

MISEP | Measure Definition: At least 85% of children in foster care who have siblings in custody with whom they are not placed shall have at least monthly visits with their siblings who are placed elsewhere in DHHS foster care custody, unless specified exceptions apply.

WMPC Contract Amendment | Measure Definition: At least 85% of children in foster care who have siblings in custody with whom they are not placed shall have at least monthly visits with their siblings in accordance with the guidelines in FOM 722-06I Policy by the end of FY2025.

Quarter 1 Performance

Eighty five percent of children had sibling visits in accordance with MISEP and contract amendment requirements. WMPC performance on this measure met Contract benchmark of 85%. In addition, WMPC network performance met MISEP benchmark. Three agencies exceeded all benchmarks.



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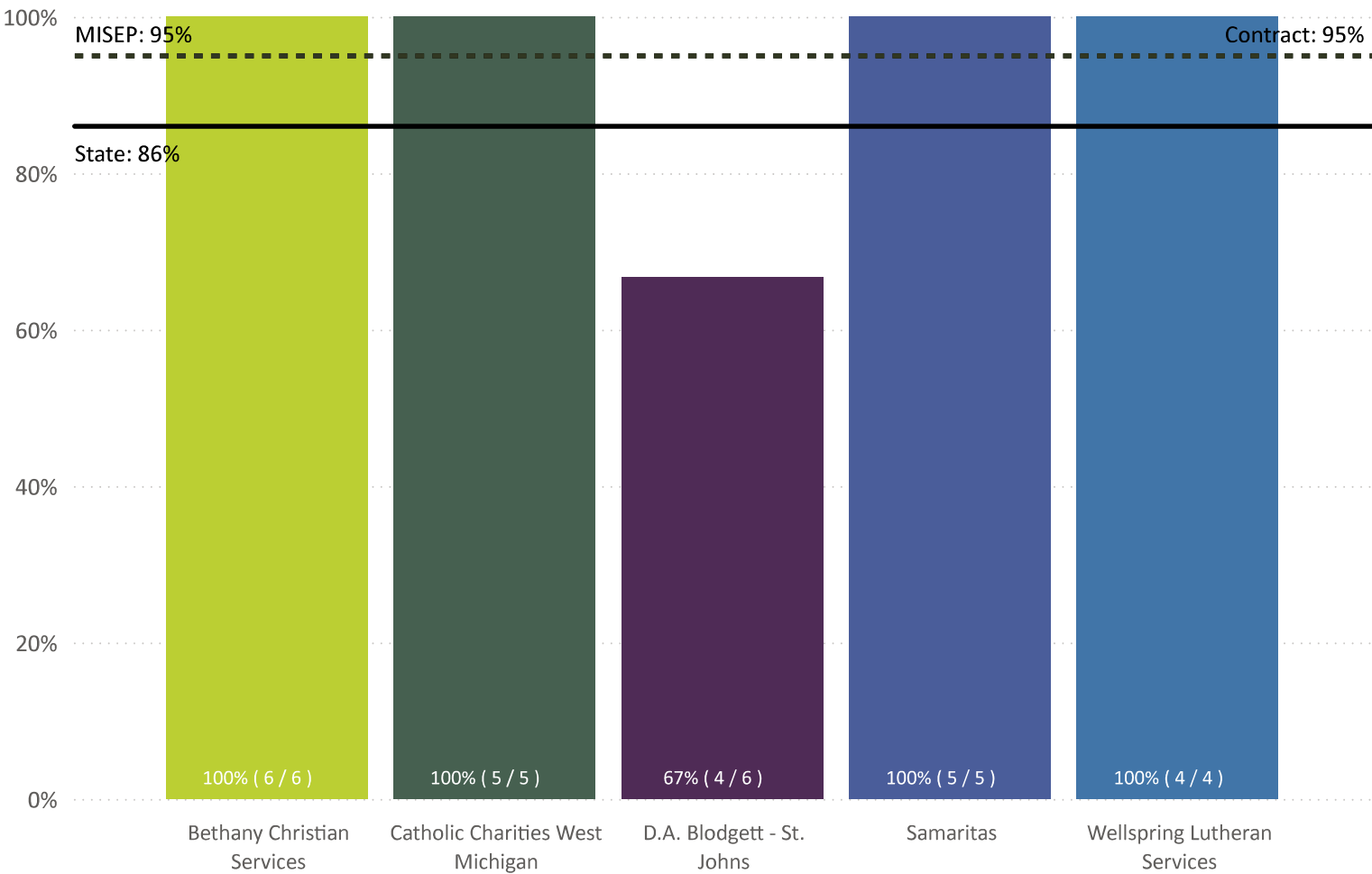
Initial Service Plans

MISEP | Measure Definition: At least 95% of children shall have an initial service plan completed within 30 days of entry into foster care.

WMPC Contract Amendment | Measure Definition: At least 95% of children supervised shall have an initial service plan completed within 30 days of entry into foster care, in accordance with the guidelines in FOM 722-06I Policy by the end of FY2025.

Quarter 1 Performance

Ninety two percent of children in the WMPC network had an initial service plan completed within 30 days of entry into foster care. WMPC network performance did not meet Contract benchmark of 95%. However, the network exceeded State averages of 88%. Four agencies exceeded all benchmarks.



WMPC Quarterly Performance Report



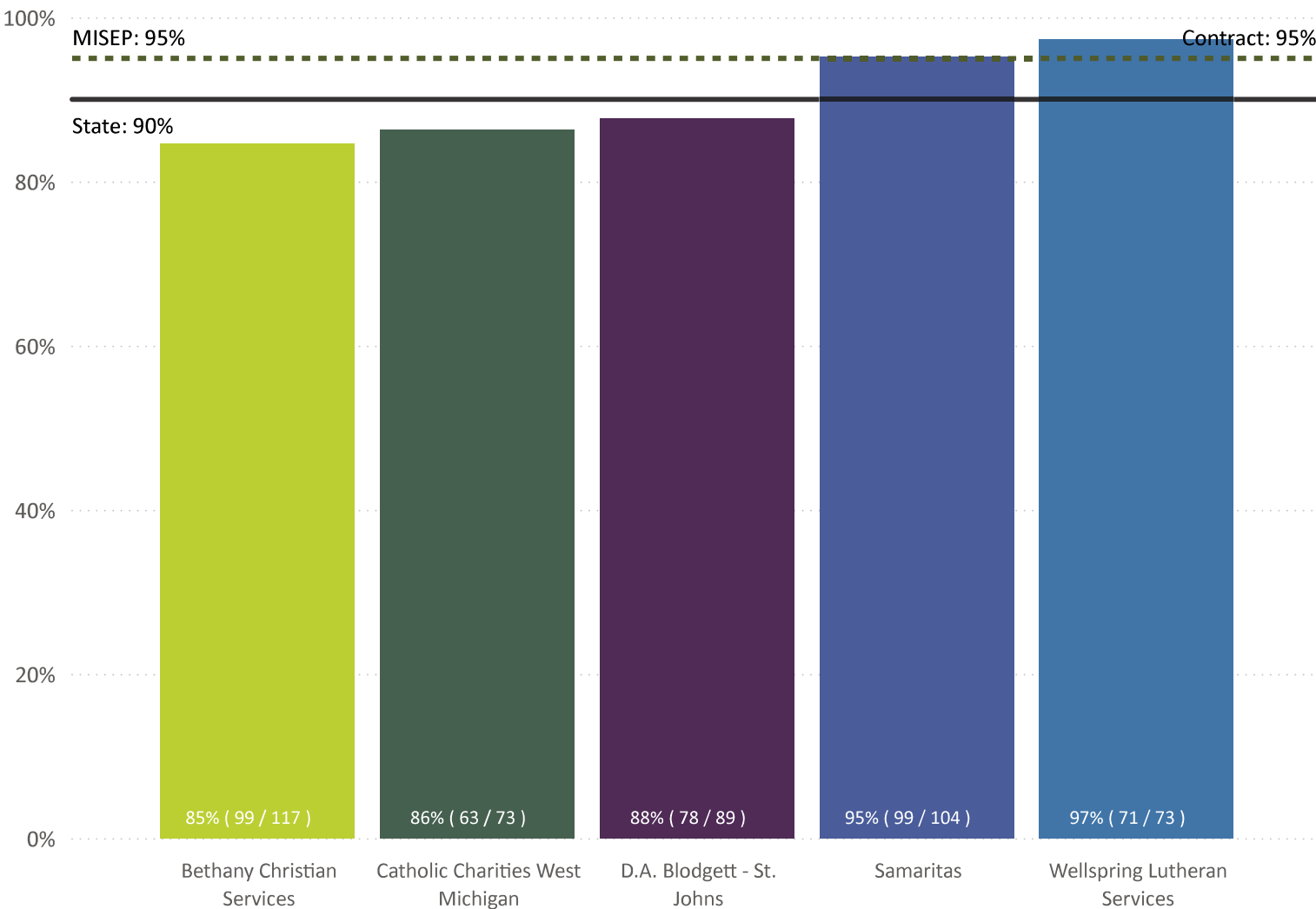
Service Plan Approvals

MISEP | Measure Definition: At least 95% of children shall have a case service plan approved within 14 days of case worker submission to the supervisor for review.

WMPC Contract Amendment | Measure Definition: At least 95% of children supervised shall have a case service plan approved within 14 days of submission to supervisor, in accordance with the guidelines in FOM 722-06I Policy by the end of FY2025.

Quarter 1 Performance

Ninety percent of children in the WMPC network had service plans approved timely. The network did not meet Contract and MISEP benchmark requirements for timely completion of service plan approvals. Samaritas and Wellspring Lutheran Services met or exceeded all benchmarks.



WMPC Quarterly Performance Report



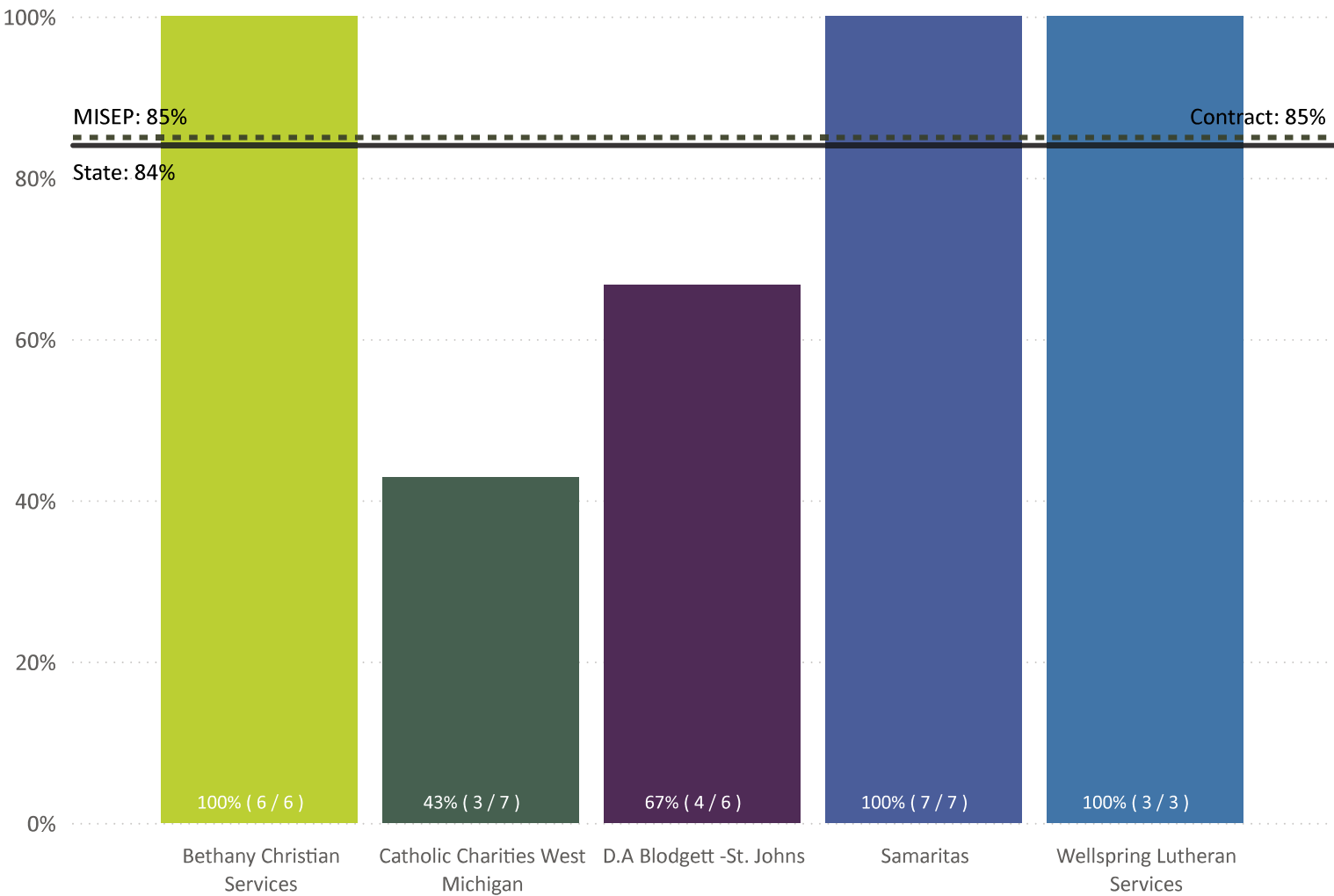
Initial Medical Exams

MISEP | Measure Definition: No fewer than 85% of children will have an initial medical exam within 30 days of removal.

WMPC Contract Amendment | Measure Definition: At least 85% of children supervised shall have an initial medical examination within 30 days of entry into foster care, in accordance with the guidelines in FOM 722-06I Policy by the end of FY2025.

Quarter 1 Performance

Seventy nine percent of children had an initial medical exam within 30 days of removal. The WMPC network did not meet both Contract and MISEP benchmarks. Bethany Christian Services, Samaritas and Wellspring Lutheran Services exceeded all benchmarks.



WMPC Quarterly Performance Report



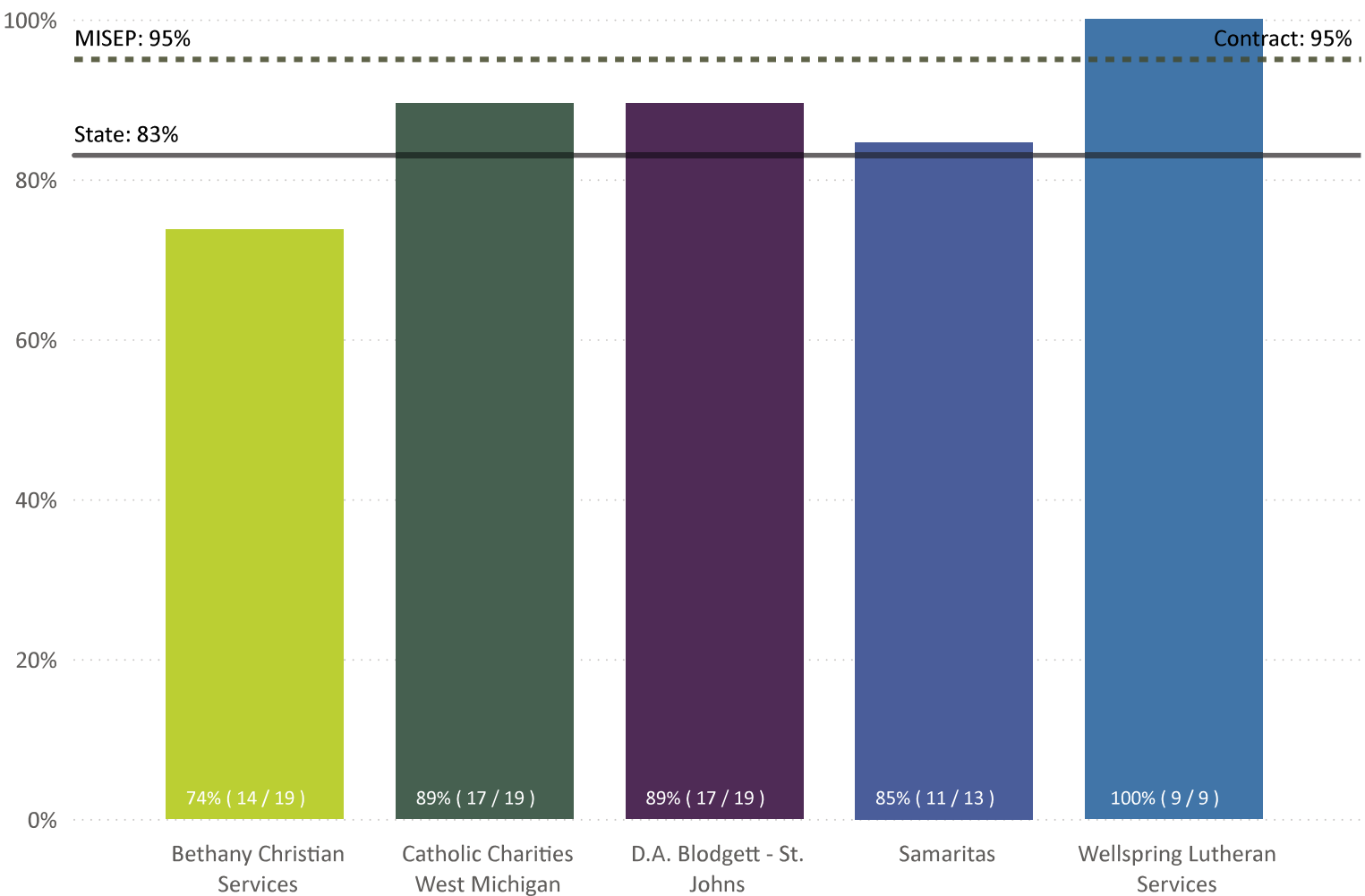
Periodic Medical Exams

MISEP | Measure Definition: Following an initial medical examination, at least 95% of children shall receive periodic medical examinations and screenings.

WMPC Contract Amendment | Measure Definition: At least 95% of children supervised shall have periodic and ongoing medical examinations and screenings according to guidelines set forth by the American Academy of Pediatrics, in accordance with the guidelines in FOM 722-06I Policy by the end of FY2025.

Quarter 1 Performance

Eighty six percent of children in the WMPC network received a timely periodic medical exam and screening. The network did not meet Contract requirement of 95%. Only Wellspring Lutheran Services exceeded Contract benchmark. However, the network exceeded State average of 83%.



WMPC Quarterly Performance Report



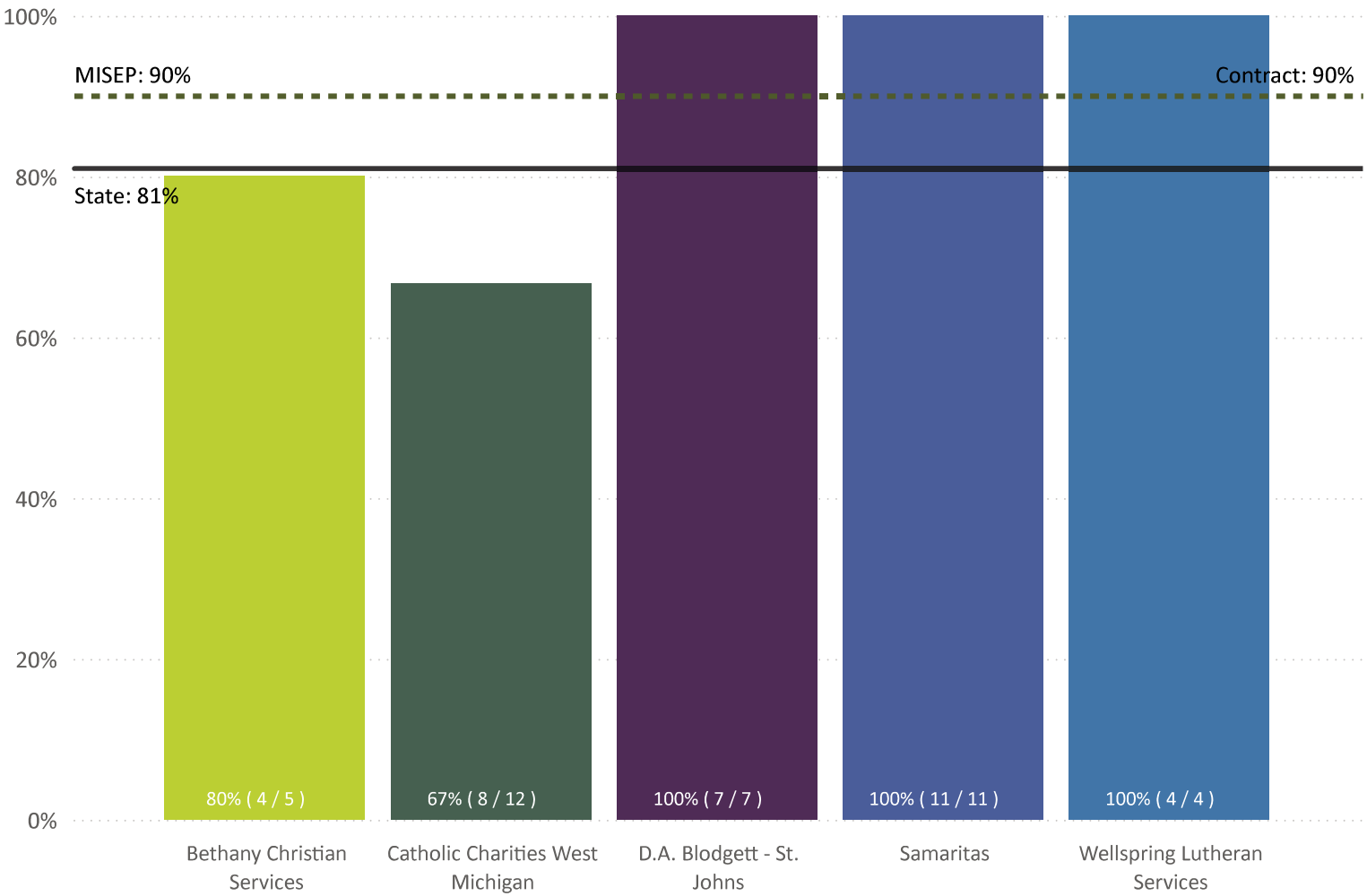
Initial Dental Exams

MISEP | Measure Definition: No fewer than 90% of children shall have an initial dental examination within 90 days of removal unless the child has had an exam within 6 months prior to placement or the child is less than one years of age.

WMPC Contract Amendment | Measure Definition: At least 90% of children shall have an initial dental examination completed within 90 days of entry into foster care, in accordance with the guidelines in FOM 722-06I Policy by the end of FY2025.

Quarter 1 Performance

Eighty seven percent of children in the WMPC network had an initial dental exam as required by MISEP. The WMPC Network did not meet Contract, MISEP benchmarks but surpassed State average. Three agencies: D.A Blodgett -St. Johns, Samaritas and Wellspring Lutheran Services exceeded all benchmarks.



Source: MiSACWIS Infoview KC-2604 CFC Medical and Dental Exam Timeliness by Agency, Accessed 1/2025; State Performance: CSA Monthly Management Report, December 2024, Prior 3 Months

WMPC Quarterly Performance Report



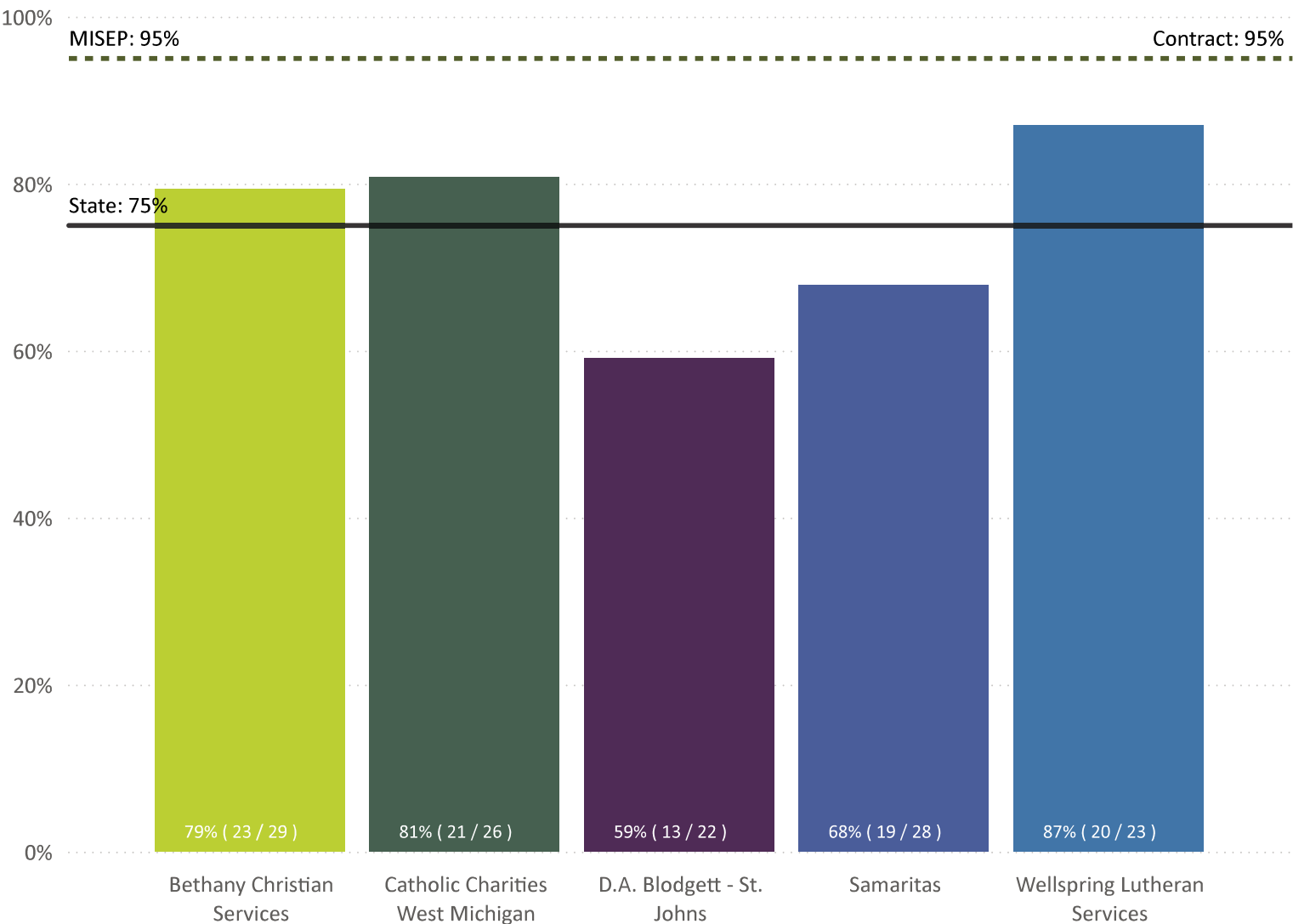
Periodic Dental Exams

MISEP | Measure Definition: Following an initial dental examination, at least 95% of children shall receive periodic dental examinations and screenings.

WMPC Contract Amendment | Measure Definition: At least 95% of children supervised shall receive periodic and ongoing dental examinations and screenings according to the guidelines set forth by the American Academy of Pediatrics, in accordance with the guidelines in FOM 722-06I Policy by the end of FY2025.

Quarter 1 Performance

Seventy five percent of children in the WMPC network had a periodic dental exam. The WMPC network did not meet Contract benchmark of 95%.



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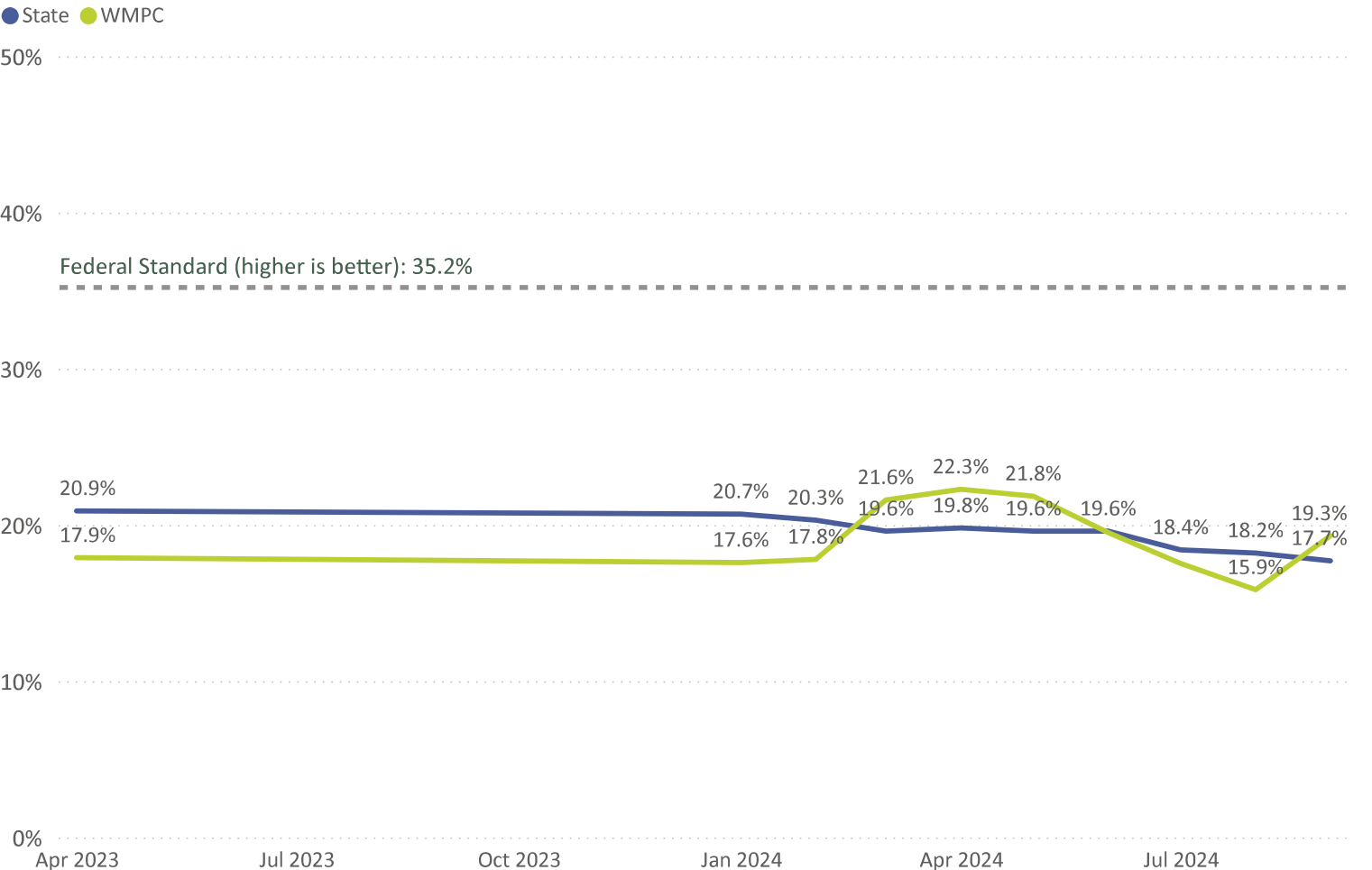
Permanency in 12 months

Federal | Measure Definition: Of all children who enter foster care in a 12-month period, the percentage who are discharged to permanency within 12 months of entering foster care should be at least 35.2%. This percent is the federal standard. Children who are discharged to permanency must not re-enter foster care for the following 12 months to be counted in this measure. **Higher is better for this measure. Note: the most recent performance for this measure is September 2024 as children must remain discharged from foster care for 12 months to be counted.**

WMPC Contract Amendment | Measure Definition: At least 35.2% of children shall achieve permanency within 12 months for children entering foster care by the end of FY2025.

Current Performance

For the most recent entry cohort, 19.3% of children achieved permanency, which did not meet the Federal goal of 35.2% or WMPC contract requirement. WMPC outperforms the State in achieving permanency within 12 months for the most recent entry cohort, but is still below the federal standard of 35.2%.



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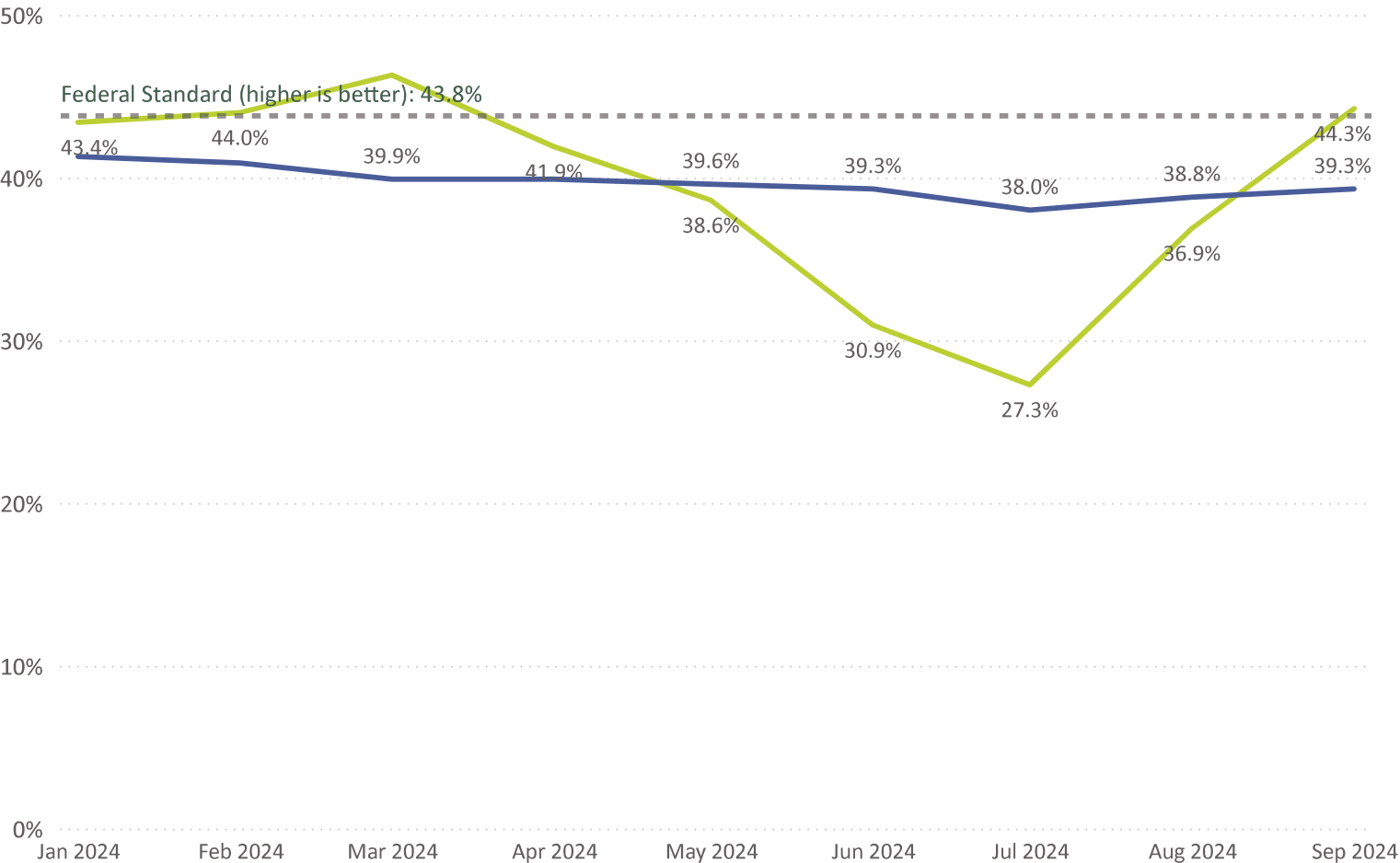
Permanency in 12 months for children in care 12-23 months

Federal | Measure Definition: Of all children in care on the first day of a 12-month period who had been in care between 12 and 23 months, the percentage who are discharged to permanency within 12 months of the first day should be at least 43.8%. This percent is the federal standard. **Higher is better for this measure. Note: the most recent performance for this measure is children that have been in care for 12-23 months since September 2023.**

Current Performance

For the most recent exit cohort, WMPC's performance of 44.3% is exceeding the Federal standard for children in care between 12-23 months achieving permanency. For FY2025 Q1 reporting cohort, WMPC shows a significant upward trend in achieving permanency, starting from a low of 27.3% in July 2024 and reaching a peak of 44.3% in September 2024. This rebound is notably higher than the State's performance, which remains relatively steady. The data indicates a strong recovery and improvement by WMPC in September, exceeding both its previous performance and the State's, reflecting effective strategies or interventions implemented during this period.

● WMPC ● State



FY2025 Q1

Source: NCANDS Entry cohorts April 1st 2022 to March end 2023 prepared by MDHHS
DTMB, generated October 2024

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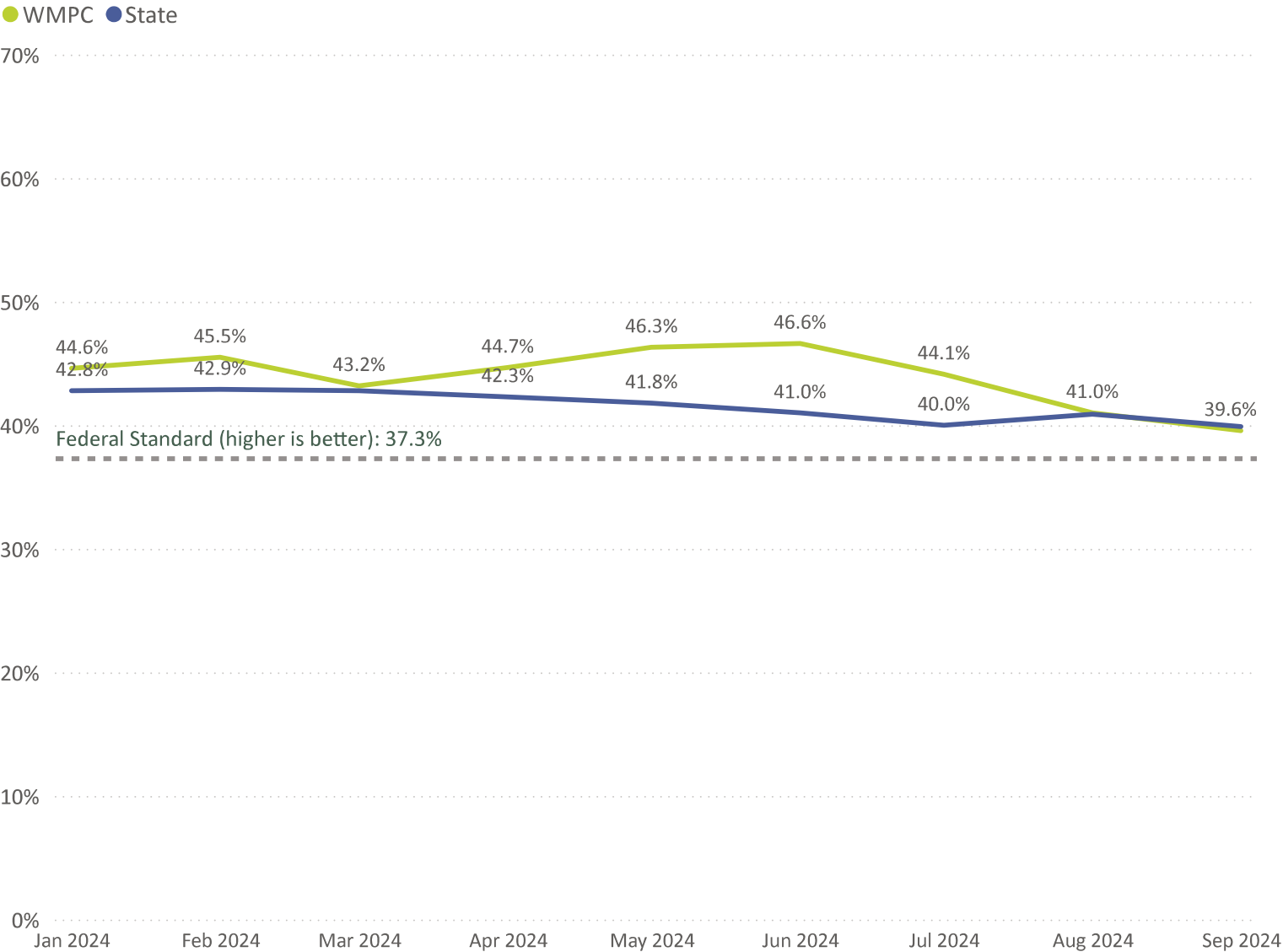


Permanency in 12 months for children in care 24+ months

Federal | Measure Definition: Of all children in foster care on the first day of a 12-month period who had been in foster care for 24 months or more, the percentage who are discharged to permanency within 12 months of the first day should be at least 37.3%. This percent is the federal standard. **Higher is better for this measure. Note: the most recent performance for this measure is children that have been in care for 24+ months since April 2022.**

Current Performance

The WMPC network continues to exceed the federal benchmark and is now performing at the same rate as the State average. Over the three reporting months, WMPC's performance demonstrates a declining trend from 44.1% in July 2024, which was well above the federal standard of 37.3%, down to 39.6% in September 2024. Despite this decline, WMPC has mostly remained above the federal standard.



FY2025 Q1

Source: NCANDS entry cohorts April 1st 2021 to June 2022, prepared by MDHHS DTMB, generated October 2024

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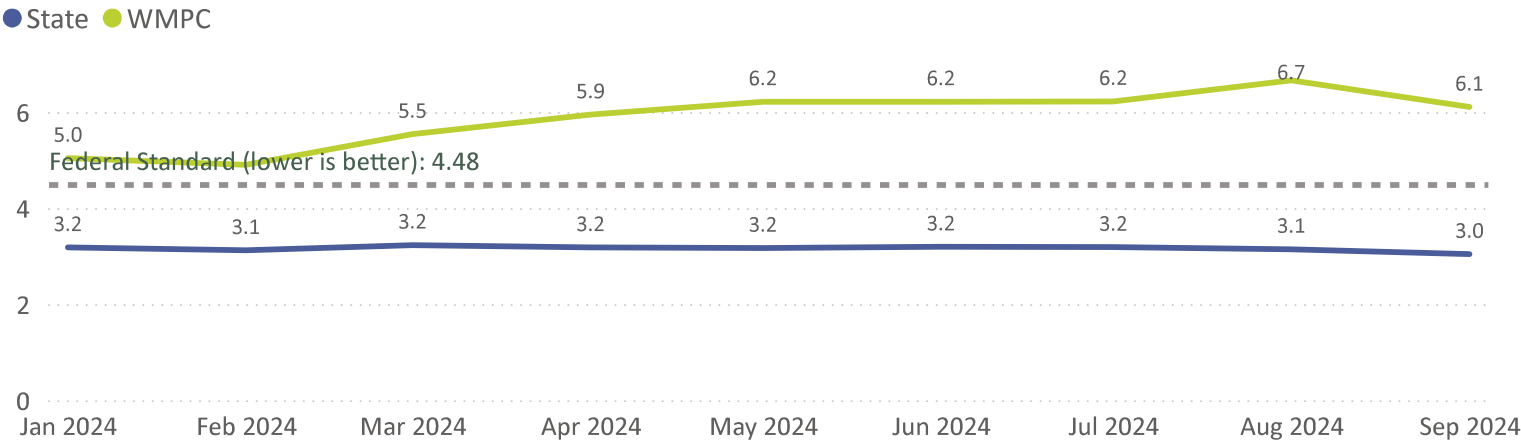


Placement Stability

Federal | Measure Definition: Of all children who entered care in a 12-month period, the rate of placement moves per 1,000 days of foster care should be at most 4.48. This rate is the Federal standard. **Lower is better for this measure.**

Current Performance

WMPC has not met the Federal standard for this measure of 4.48. In addition, WMPC's current placement moves of 6.1 per 1,000 days in care is two times the State's performance of 3.0.

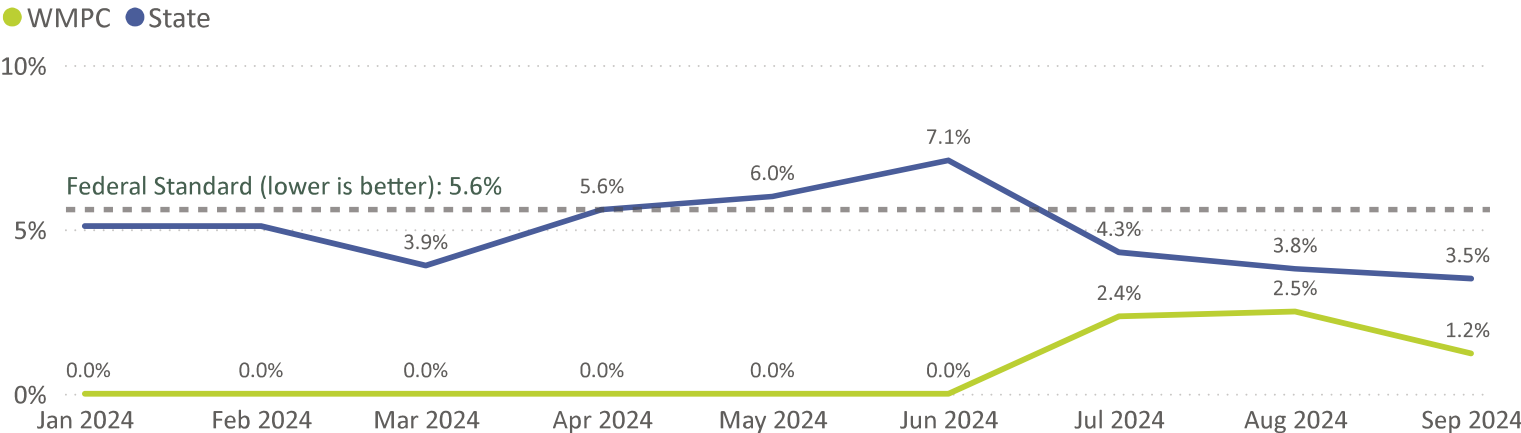


Re-entry into foster care within 12 months

Federal | Measure Definition: Of all children who enter care in a 12- month period, who discharged within 12 months to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship, the percent who re-enter care within 12 months of their discharge should be at most 5.6%. This percent is the Federal standard. **Lower is better for this measure.**

Current Performance

WMPC met this measure's goal. The network is consistently outperforming the State and the Federal standard for this measure. However, we are seeing an upward trend in children re-entering foster care within 12 months of being discharged from care.



WMPC Quarterly Performance Report



Maltreatment In Care

Federal | Measure Definition: Of all children in foster care during a 12-month period, the rate of victimization per 100,000 days of foster care should be at most 9.07. This rate is the federal standard. **Lower is better for this measure.**

Current Performance

The WMPC network has not met the Federal standard but outperformed the state's average. The most recent maltreatment in care rate of 15.6 per 100,000 days in foster care is above the federal standard of 9.07.

