



MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & FAMILIES FACT SHEET

ABOUT DCF

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) works in partnership with families and communities to keep children safe from abuse and neglect. In most cases, DCF is able to provide supports and services to keep children safe with parents or family members. When necessary, DCF provides foster care or finds new permanent families for children through kinship, guardianship or adoption.

Commissioner:

Linda S. Spears

STAFFING

- **4,216** FTEs as of September 2019
- **\$1.06B** appropriated to DCF in budget
- **29** foster care recruiters. **14** hired in the past year.
- Added approximately **300** front line social workers, more than **100** managers and more than **100** social worker technicians in 2015
- **29** medical social workers
- **16** substance abuse coordinators (**10** regional and **6** for plans of safe care)
- **9** domestic violence specialists
- **5** regional mental health specialists
- **2551** front line social workers
- **349** social workers promoted since Oct. 2018

LOCATIONS



Main Office

600 Washington St,
Boston, MA 02111

DCF has **29** local offices managed by **5** regional offices in:
Boston // Springfield // Worcester // Brockton // Lawrence

Phone:
Main (617) 748-2000

Child-at-Risk Hotline 800-792-5200

Website: www.mass.gov/dcf

State Facts



45,000

children age 17
and under

Approximately **80%** of the children DCF serves live at home. **20%** are in foster care.

Key Services

Investigations of suspected abuse, neglect, and trafficking of children reported by mandated reporters and the general public.

Family assessment, action planning, service delivery coordination and case management for families with children in need of protective services.

Departmental foster and kinship care, specialized foster care and group care for children in need of more intensive treatment.

Adoption services and support for families who wish to adopt from foster care.

Voluntary services to help young adults who turn 18 while in DCF custody transition to adulthood. Services may be provided up to age 22.

DCF By the Numbers (FY 2019)



936

children adopted.



60%

reunification
rate.



More than **2000**
young adults ages
18-22 who receive
voluntary services to
help with the transition
from foster care to
adulthood



65+ providers serving
DCF-involved children
who need specialized
foster care or intensive
support services to
remain living with family.



46% increase in
initial kinship placements
since Dec. 2018 due to
pilot program in
11 area offices.



4,800

licensed foster homes
on June 30, 2019.

37% of all out-of-home
placements are kin
placements on
June 30, 2019.