



Office of Children
and Family Services
Healthy Families NY

Healthy Families NY



2024-2025 Annual Report





About Healthy Families NY

Healthy Families NY (HFNY) is a Healthy Families America accredited home visiting program that seeks to improve the health and well-being of infants and children through home-based services delivered by non-profit organizations in local communities.

The program was established in 1995 by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) and is supported in its implementation by a Central Administration comprised of partners from OCFS, Prevent Child Abuse New York, and the Center for Human Services Research, State University of New York, University at Albany.

<https://www.healthyfamiliesnewyork.org>



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Introduction

Healthy Families NY (HFNY) is an evidence-based prevention program accredited by Healthy Families America. HFNY seeks to improve the health and well-being of children and families by providing long-term support to expectant and new families within their own homes. Services are targeted to families living in communities with limited access to economic and concrete resources. Participation in the program is always voluntary.

We all need a little guidance to navigate the joys and challenges of parenthood.

Program Goals

HFNY uses an infant mental health approach that focuses on the relationship between the infant and parent(s), and the attachment that develops between them, to achieve its mission of preventing child abuse and neglect.



Supports Parent-Child Bonding and Relationships

HFNY builds healthy, trusting, and nurturing relationships with parents and teaches parents how to build strong relationships with their children.



Promotes Health, Development, and Safety

HFNY promotes positive parenting strategies, provides age-appropriate child development information, and forges strong connections with medical providers and other community partners to address families' needs.



Enhances Family Independence and Self-Sufficiency

HFNY works with families to build personalized service plans and set meaningful and attainable goals. Family strengths are strategically emphasized to reinforce successes and overcome challenges.



Eligibility

Pregnant and parenting families who meet the criteria below are eligible for HFNY. Anyone can refer a family to the program. Families who are interested can contact a program themselves to see if they are eligible.



Signature Model

Pregnant or infant under 3 months of age

and at least ONE risk factor

Under 21

Unmarried

Late or no prenatal care

Income or financial concerns



Child Welfare Protocol

Pregnant or child under 24 months of age

and

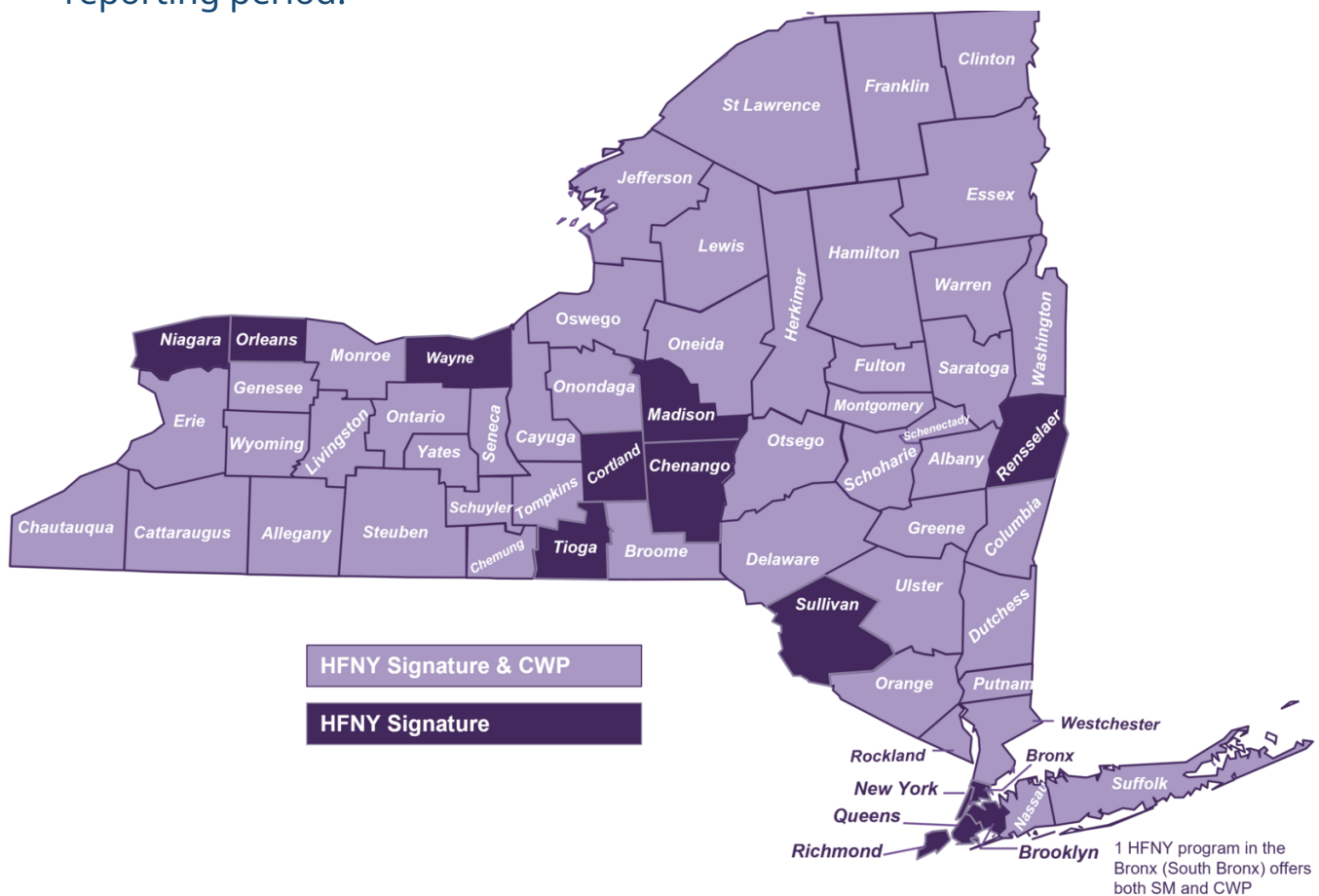


Referred from a child welfare agency

Home visits begin during pregnancy or upon enrollment for families who enroll after the child's birth. Weekly visits are offered initially and decrease over time to biweekly, monthly, and then quarterly as families' needs change. Families can stay enrolled until the child turns 5 years old.

Service Delivery Area

HFNY began serving families in 1995. As of state fiscal year (SFY) 2024-2025, HFNY operates 52 programs and serves all 62 counties in the state. OCFS and HFNY began to implement the Child Welfare Protocol (CWP) in SFY 2022-2023. Prior to implementing CWP, enrollment into HFNY was allowed for prenatal families through the child's third month of life. This is known as the Signature Model (SM). CWP extends the eligibility to families with children up to 24 months of age who are referred to HFNY from child welfare agencies. The new and expanded programs began implementing SM and CWP in 2023. OCFS and HFNY plan to extend CWP to the programs already implementing SM as funds become available. The image below shows the model(s) available in each county during this reporting period.

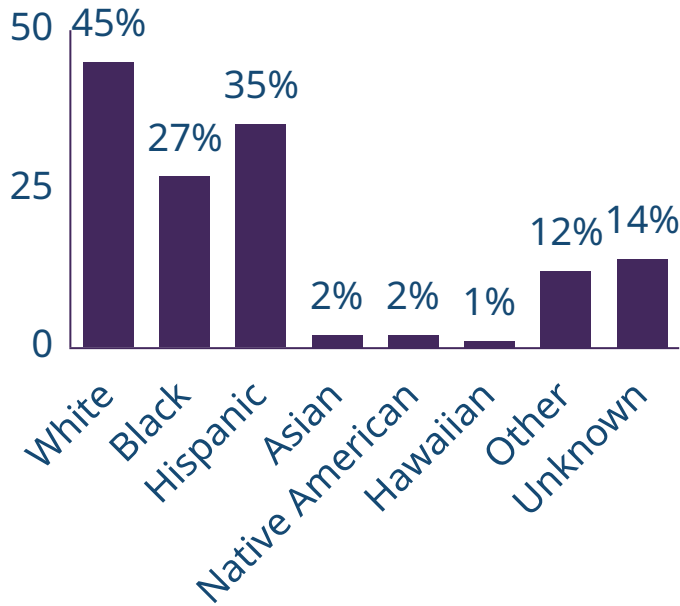




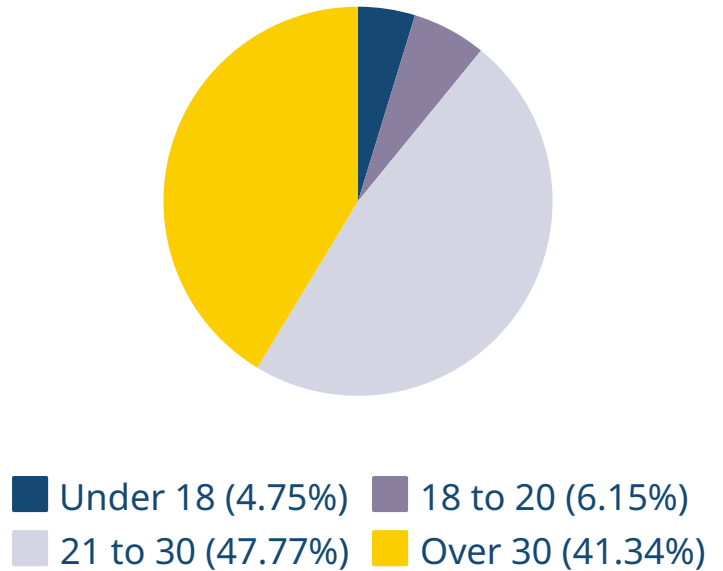
Caregiver Information

Between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025 (SFY 2024-2025), HFNY programs provided services to 5,772 caregivers and their families.

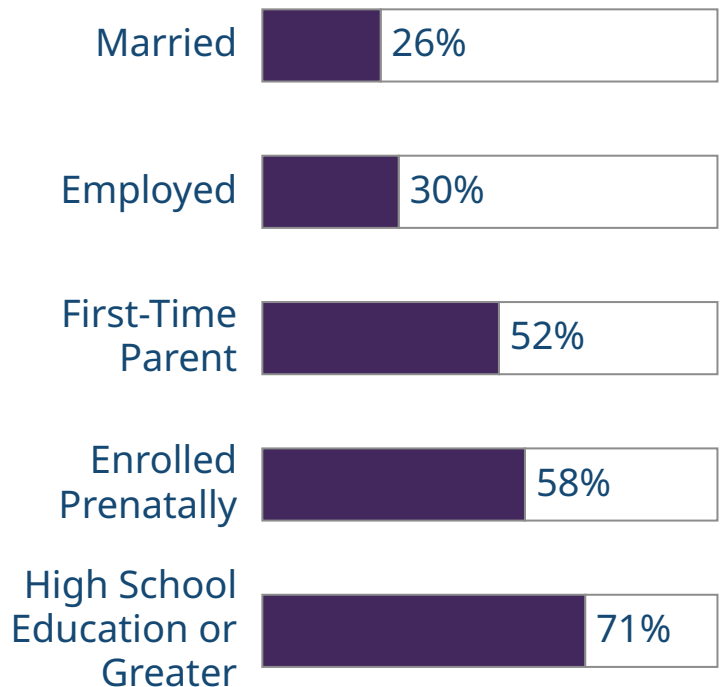
Race/Ethnicity



Age

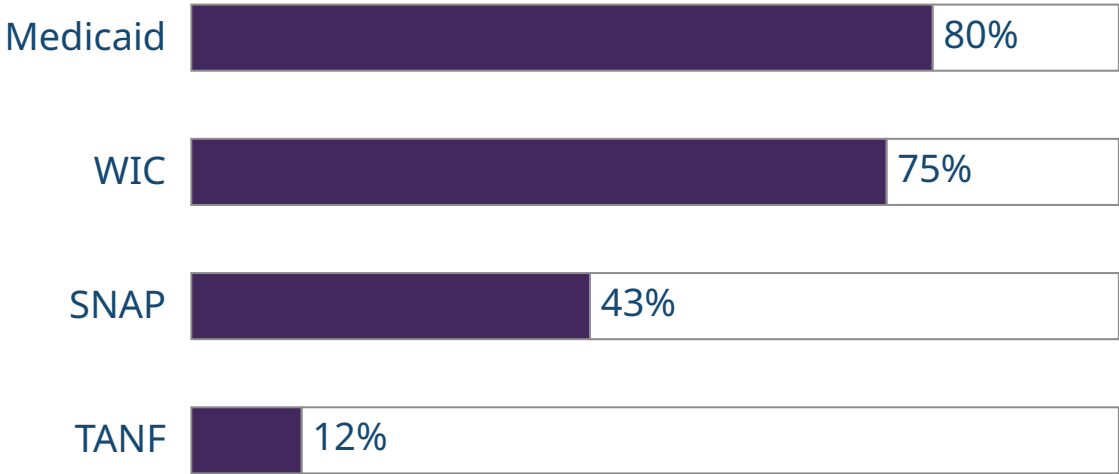


Additional Characteristics



Service Connections at Enrollment

Many of the families served by the program entered with low income. A large percentage were already connected to services for low-income families when they enrolled.

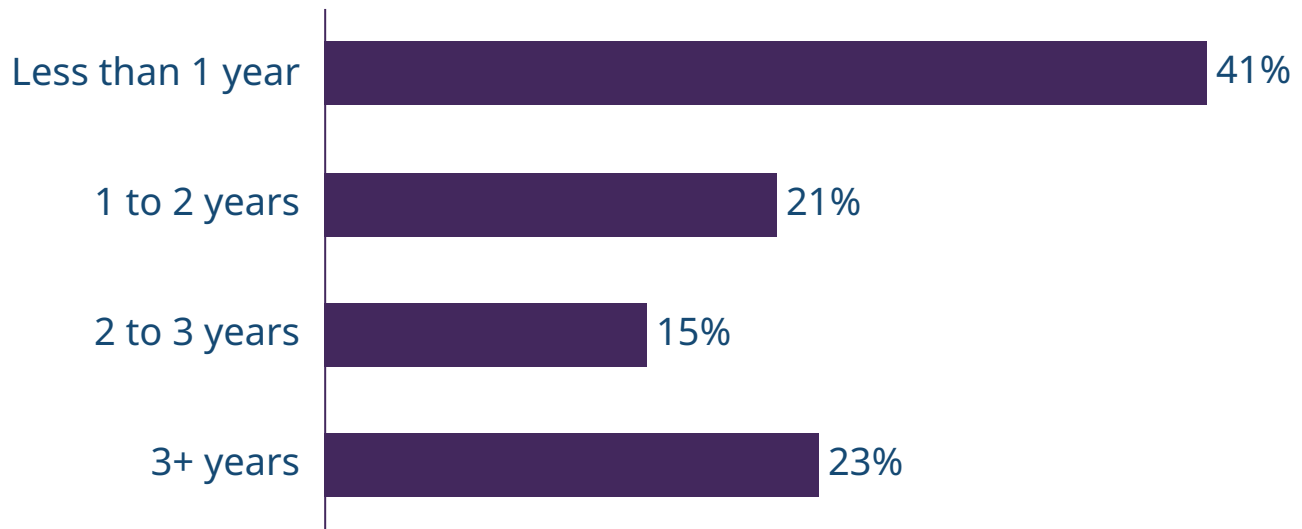


Service Delivery



Length of Enrollment

Families who received services during SFY 2024-2025 were enrolled for:



Home Visit Completion Rate

Most families received the intended level of service (at least 75% of their expected visits).

Received at least 75% of expected visits



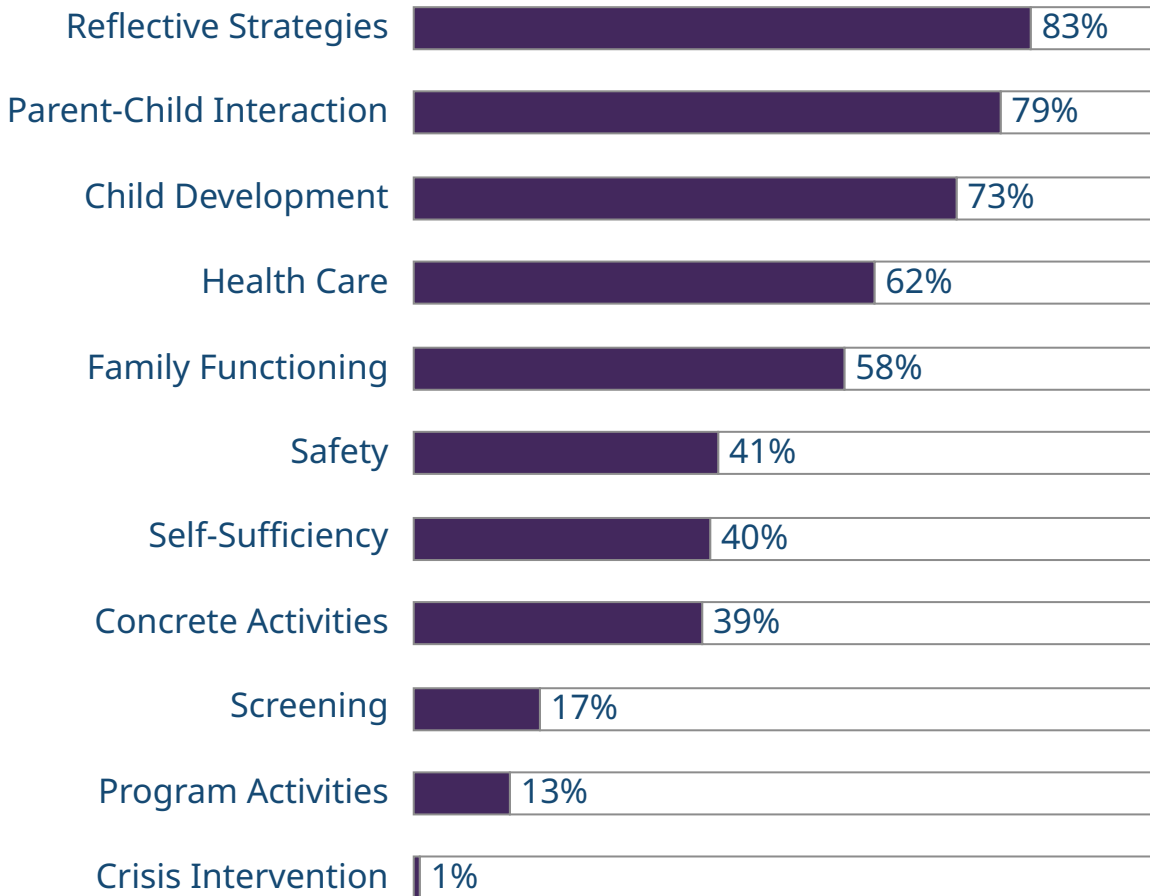
Received at least 90% of expected visits





Home Visit Content

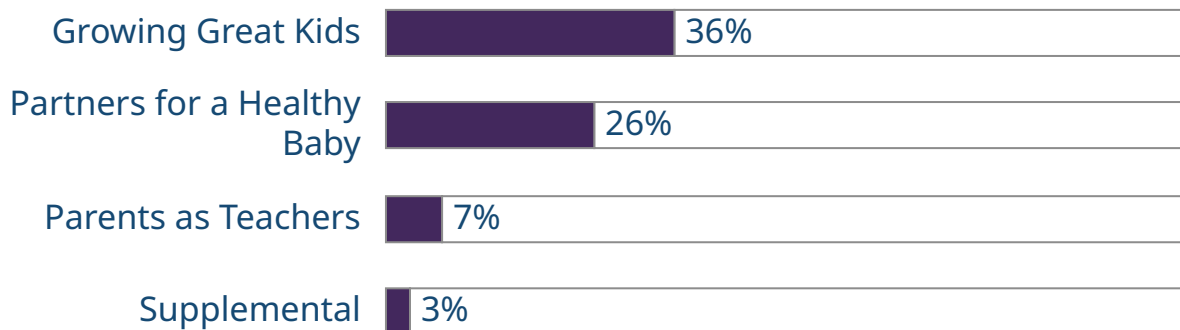
75,817 home visits were completed in SFY 2024-2025.



Curricula

Home visiting programs often use standardized printed or electronic materials (i.e., curricula) to support their work with families. The curricula used generally depends on the needs and characteristics of the families and communities being served. Programs can choose from three primary curricula and may use other supplemental materials to meet the specific needs of the families they serve.

Percent of All Home Visits Using Curricula





Engaging Fathers

HFNY recognizes the essential role of fathers in supporting the growth and development of children and works to actively and consistently engage them in visits. Many programs use curricula specifically designed with fathers in mind.

In SFY 2024-2025:

**Residential
Fathers:**

27%

fathers who attended at least one
PRENATAL HOME VISIT

66%

fathers who attended at least one
POSTNATAL HOME VISIT

26%

fathers who attended
10 OR MORE POSTNATAL HOME VISITS

**Non-Residential
Fathers:**

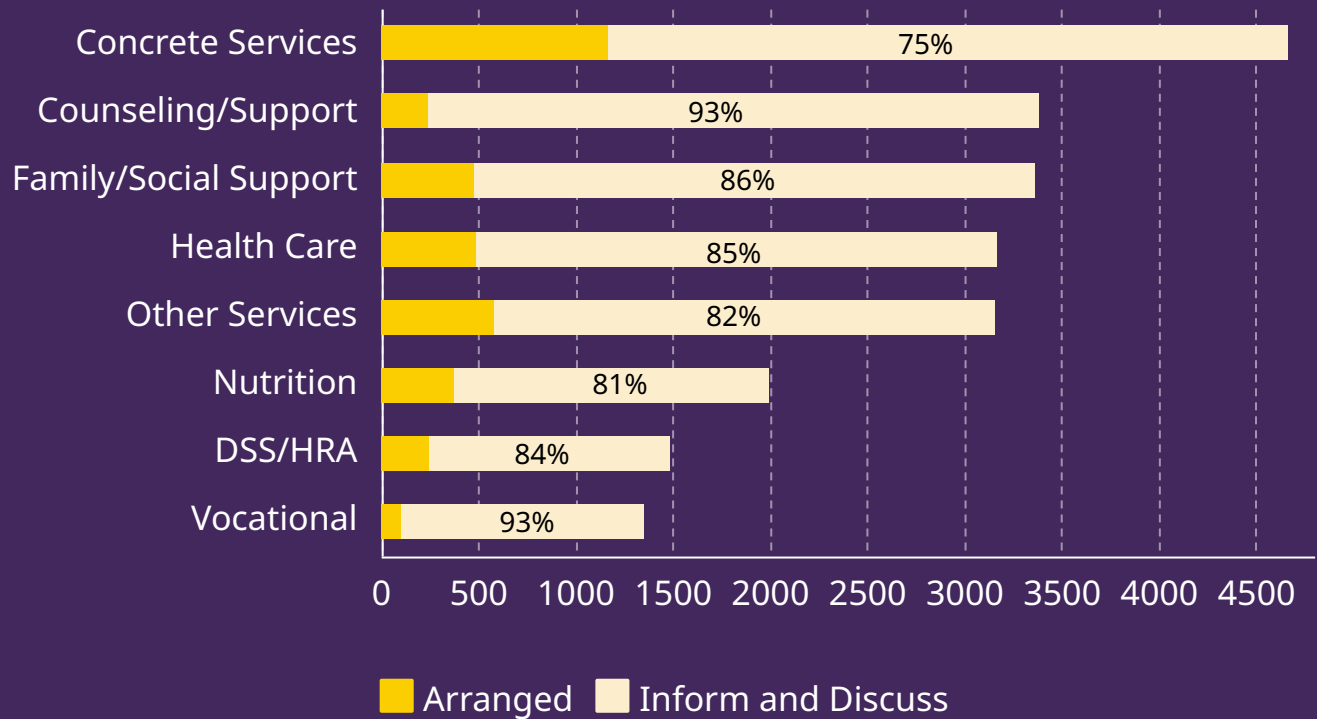
10%

33%

8%

Referrals

Connecting families to needed services is a primary goal of HFNY. During SFY 2024-2025, home visitors documented 22,521 referrals to community-based services.



Referral Outcomes

37%

of all referrals made in 2024-2025 resulted in a service being received.

Arranged



Inform and Discuss

vs

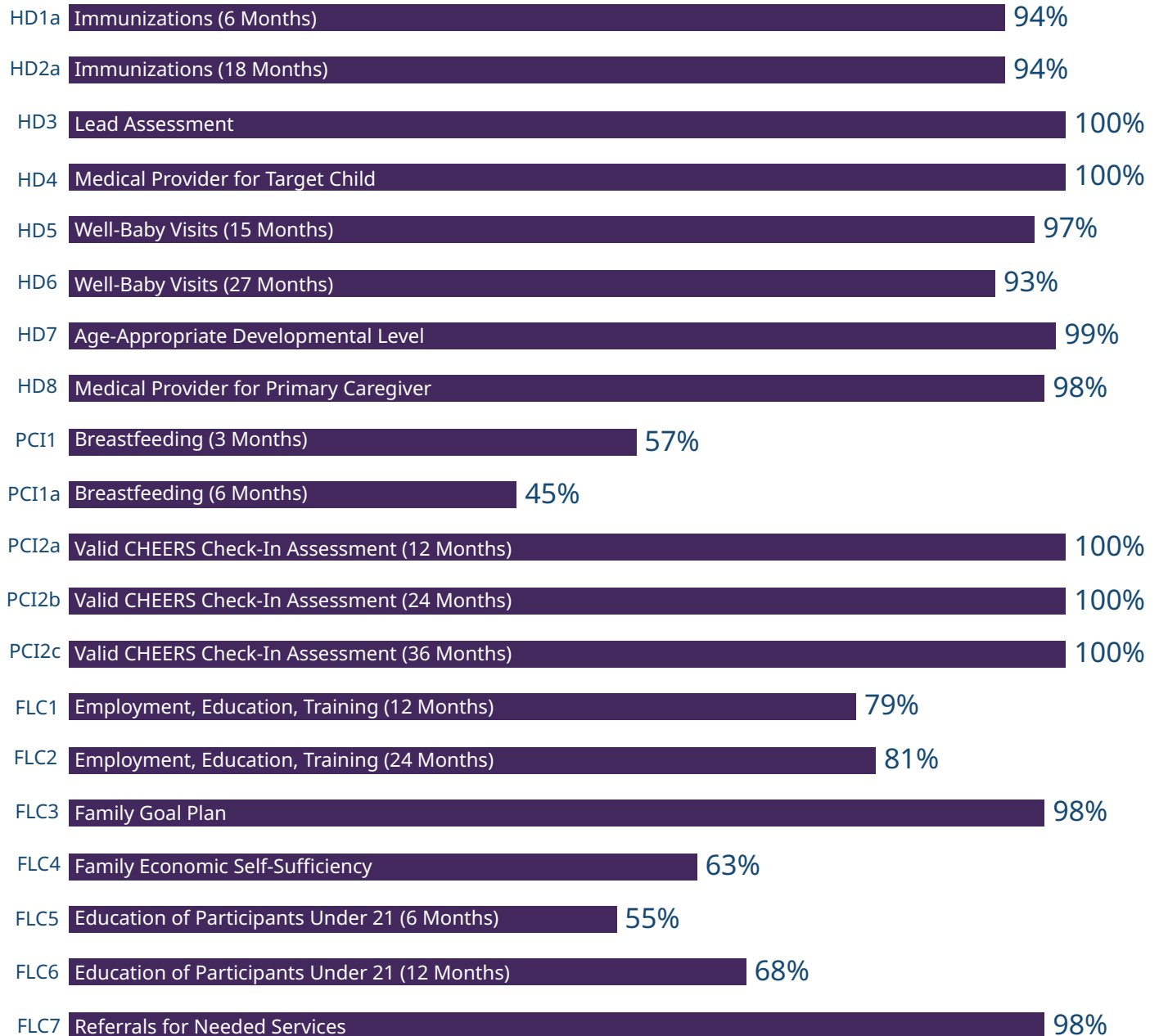


Home visitors use their best judgment to determine the most appropriate mechanism for connecting families with community resources (i.e., arranging referrals directly or providing information about a referral and discussing it with families). Supporting families in obtaining resources for themselves is often part of the goal setting process and is a useful strategy to support future successes. In 2024-2025, arranged referrals were more likely to result in a service being received than inform and discuss referrals.

Family Outcomes

HFNY programs work toward achieving family outcomes that align with the goals described earlier in this report: Health, Development, and Safety (HD); Parent-Child Bonding and Relationships (PCI); and Family Independence and Self-Sufficiency (FLC). In 2024-2025, the majority of families met the performance targets for these outcomes.

Percent of Families Meeting the Target



Retention

Retention rates measure how long programs keep families engaged in services. Retention often varies based on caregiver demographic characteristics, as well as social and programmatic factors.

To better understand what influences retention, HFNY looked at families who enrolled in the previous year (SFY 2023-2024). Understanding these influences allows HFNY to develop strategies that can aid in increasing retention.

55%

of families who enrolled in 2023-2024 remained enrolled for at least one year.

Retention Patterns

Families who stayed enrolled for at least one year were more likely to:



Have other children

Have more than one home visitor

Participate in 20 or more home visits

And.. More families who reported domestic violence, mental health issues, or substance use at the FROG were retained than those who left.

Reasons for Leaving

Many families who shared their reasons for leaving said school or employment commitments were priorities or they no longer desired services. Some families were unable to be reached and, after consistent outreach by the program with no progress, their spots were eventually closed. As a voluntary human services program, HFNY recognizes how family needs and priorities change, and we respect the wishes of the family to discontinue services when they no longer fit their needs.

Summary

Overall, HFNY programs are operating with fidelity to national model requirements and achieving the outcomes that the program is intended to address.



Serving a Diverse Array of Families Across the State

HFNY served a diverse array of families across the state with a particular focus on families living in high-risk or low-resourced communities and worked diligently to engage fathers in program services.



Providing Services as Expected by the Model

Most families received services as intended. HFNY programs addressed the core model components during home visits and made appropriate referrals to other community-based services as needed.



Achieving Positive Outcomes for Families

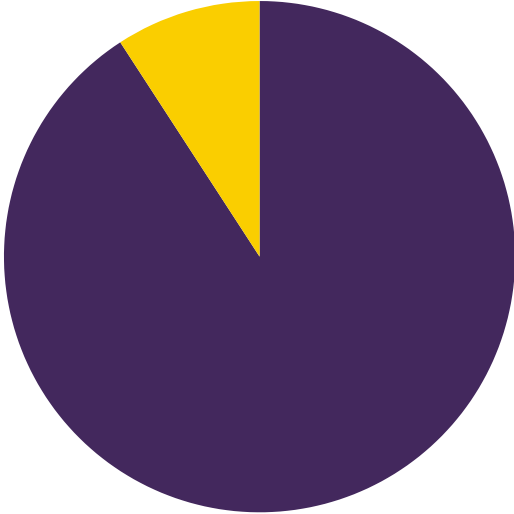
HFNY programs kept families engaged in services and were able to support them in achieving their personal and programmatic goals.

HFNY Central Administration partners will continue to work closely with each program to provide technical assistance and support to address performance that does not yet meet state targets.

Fiscal Information

In SFY 2024-2025, HFNY received \$52,429,884 from state appropriations and the federal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program. These funds supported the implementation of HFNY programs throughout the state, training and staff development, data collection system design and maintenance, and external evaluation.

The cost to administer the program and evaluate its effectiveness at OCFS is not included in the total amount provided above.



■ State Appropriations (90.82%)
■ Federal MIECHV (9.18%)



Conclusion

This report summarizes the services provided and the family outcomes achieved by the HFNY home visiting program for SFY 2024-2025. HFNY uses an ongoing, data-responsive approach to develop strategies to address identified challenges and reinforce successes. These quality improvement activities are an essential component of the model, fostering equitable and sustainable services and enhancing child and family well-being.

By understanding the context within which positive outcomes occur and taking steps to further promote them, HFNY paves the way for a resilient and prosperous future for children and families.



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<https://www.healthyfamiliesnewyork.org>



Office of Children
and Family Services



Prevent Child Abuse
New York



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