

# **13<sup>th</sup> National Roundtable on CPS Risk Assessment**

## **Using Actuarial Risk Assessment to Target Service Interventions in Pilot California Counties**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Conduct of the Risk Assessment Study .....	1
California Risk Assessment Instrument and Procedures .....	2
Policy and Discretionary Overrides .....	3
Final Risk Classification Findings .....	6
Follow-up Investigation and Substantiation .....	6
Average Number of Follow-up Investigations and Substantiations .....	9
Follow-up Child Placement .....	10
Follow-up Child Injury .....	12
California Pilot County Case Management Procedures .....	15

## APPENDICES

- Appendix A: Findings for the Neglect and Abuse Indices
- Appendix B: Item Analysis for Neglect and Risk Indices

In 1998, the state of California contracted with the Children's Research Center (CRC), a division of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD), to assist them in developing a new child protective services (CPS) case management system in seven pilot counties. The goal of the new case management system is twofold:

1. To increase the consistency of decision making in child protective services; and
2. To serve families according to the likelihood that future maltreatment of a child will occur.

To support this effort, CRC and a state/county workgroup conducted a risk assessment study, which observed 2,511 sample families substantiated for abuse or neglect during 1995. Risk assessment study findings derived from observation of these cases were employed to construct an actuarial instrument for identifying high risk families for service intervention and to assist agency administrators in planning future service delivery efforts.

### **Conduct of the Risk Assessment Study**

To increase the face validity and reliability of the risk assessment, a workgroup of pilot county representatives reviewed each step of the research effort. The workgroup's initial tasks were to identify potential risk factors to be examined by the research and to construct a survey instrument for reviewing case files. The survey instrument was designed to record CPS case characteristics that members, based on their experience, felt were strongly related to subsequent maltreatment and could reasonably be observed by a worker during a typical investigation.

The research population consisted of families investigated and substantiated for abuse or neglect in the seven pilot California counties during 1995. The case files of the 2,511 randomly sampled families were reviewed during July and August 1998 to collect the necessary data for the

actuarial research. Each family was observed for a 24-month period subsequent to the sample investigation. The risk assessment instrument was constructed by analyzing case outcomes and characteristics identified during the case review. To help ensure that items were clear and could be scored consistently, the workgroup reviewed all risk factors. Most of the risk characteristics identified as important by the workgroup during the initial design process proved to be strongly related to subsequent maltreatment, and appear on the actuarial risk assessment instrument. A comprehensive prospective validation will be completed at a later date to ensure that the scales are accurately classifying families in the pilot counties.

### **California Risk Assessment Instrument and Procedures**

The family risk assessment shown below employs separate instruments for abuse and neglect. Items found on each instrument refer to the characteristics of caretakers or children that may be observed during a CPS investigation. The study emphasized case and family characteristics that workgroup members felt could be identified and scored by workers during an investigation.

The neglect instrument is composed of ten items that score a family's CPS history, child characteristics, and characteristics of adult caretakers (substance abuse, parental skills, mental health issues) and had a statistical relationship to subsequent neglect among sample cases. The abuse instrument is similarly constructed. There are ten items that score CPS history and family characteristics which had a statistical relationship to subsequent abuse.

In practice, the investigating worker scores each family based on observations made during the investigation. Once item scores are totaled, each instrument provides a classification of low, moderate, high, or very high risk. The scored risk level or classification assigned to the family at the close of the investigation is the highest risk level determined by either the abuse or neglect instrument.

This risk assessment information is used to help the worker set an appropriate service priority for families he or she investigates. Since the agency's mission is to reduce the incidence of abuse and neglect, it is important to ensure that families most likely to be involved in future maltreatment of a child receive a high priority for service provision. The primary purpose of the family risk assessment procedure is to help caseworkers identify these families more accurately and perform this service allocation task more effectively.

### **Policy and Discretionary Overrides**

The scored risk level is not the only information used in making initial case service decisions. Actuarial procedures provide workers with estimates of future family behavior based on a limited set of observable factors. They do not yield infallible predictions for individual families.

Workgroup members proposed four policy overrides, which were incorporated in the preliminary risk assessment form. If any of the case circumstances described by the policy overrides shown on the instrument applies to a family under investigation, the family would be assigned to the very high risk classification, regardless of the scored risk level.

Investigating caseworkers and supervisors are also permitted to make a discretionary override (also shown on the form) that increases the scored classification by one level. Discretionary overrides are based on the worker's professional judgment and observation of the family. Whether workers exercise a discretionary override or not, their decisions are informed by a scored risk classification that is systematically determined and has a strong empirical relationship to the incidence of future maltreatment. Discretionary decisions of the investigating worker may, in fact, improve the actuarial risk classification procedure described here.

**CALIFORNIA  
FAMILY RISK ASSESSMENT**

Draft 10/16/98

Case Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Case #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 County Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Worker Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Worker ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

NEGLECT	Score	ABUSE	Score
N1. Current Complaint is for Neglect		A1. Current Complaint is for Abuse	
a. No ..... 0		a. No ..... 0	
b. Yes ..... 1	_____	b. Yes ..... 1	_____
N2. Prior Investigations (assign highest score that applies)		A2. Number of Prior Abuse Investigations (number: _____)	
a. None ..... 0		a. None ..... 0	
b. One or more, <u>abuse</u> only ..... 1		b. One ..... 1	
c. One or two for <u>neglect</u> ..... 2		c. Two or more ..... 2	_____
d. Three or more for <u>neglect</u> ..... 3	_____		
N3. Household has Previously Received CPS (voluntary/court-ordered)		A3. Household has Previously Received CPS (voluntary/court-ordered)	
a. No ..... 0		a. No ..... 0	
b. Yes ..... 1	_____	b. Yes ..... 1	_____
N4. Number of Children Involved in the CA/N Incident		A4. Prior Injury to a Child Resulting from CA/N	
a. One, two, or three ..... 0		a. No ..... 0	
b. Four or more ..... 1	_____	b. Yes ..... 1	_____
N5. Age of Youngest Child in the Home		A5. Primary Caretaker's Assessment of Incident (check applicable items and add for score)	
a. Two or older ..... 0		a. Not applicable ..... 0	
b. Under two ..... 1	_____	b. ___ Blames child ..... 1	
		c. ___ Justifies maltreatment of a child ..... 2	_____
N6. Primary Caretaker Provides Physical Care Inconsistent with Child Needs		A6. Domestic Violence in the Household in the Past Year	
a. No ..... 0		a. No ..... 0	
b. Yes ..... 1	_____	b. Yes ..... 2	_____
N7. Primary Caretaker has a Past or Current Mental Health Problem		A7. Primary Caretaker Characteristics (check applicable items and add for score)	
a. No ..... 0		a. Not applicable ..... 0	
b. Yes ..... 1	_____	b. ___ Provides insufficient emotional/psychological support ..... 1	
		c. ___ Employs excessive/inappropriate discipline ..... 1	
		d. ___ Domineering parent ..... 1	_____
N8. Primary Caretaker has an Alcohol or Drug Abuse Problem (Check applicable items and add for score)		A8. Primary Caretaker has a History of Abuse or Neglect as a Child	
a. Not applicable ..... 0		a. No ..... 0	
b. ___ Alcohol (current or historic) ..... 1		b. Yes ..... 1	_____
c. ___ Drug (current or historic) ..... 1	_____		
N9. Characteristics of Children in Household (Check applicable items and add for score)		A9. Secondary Caretaker has Historic or Current Alcohol or Drug Problem	
a. Not applicable ..... 0		a. No ..... 0	
b. ___ Medically fragile/failure to thrive ..... 1		b. Yes, alcohol and/or drug (check all applicable) ..... 1	_____
c. ___ Developmental or physical disability ..... 1		___ Alcohol      ___ Drug	
d. ___ Positive toxicology screen at birth ..... 1	_____		
N10. Housing (check applicable items and add for score)		A10. Characteristics of Children in Household (check appropriate items and add for score)	
a. Not applicable ..... 0		a. Not applicable ..... 0	
b. ___ Current housing is physically unsafe ..... 1		b. ___ Delinquency history ..... 1	
c. ___ Homeless at time of investigation ..... 2	_____	c. ___ Developmental disability ..... 1	
		d. ___ Mental health/behavioral problem ..... 1	_____
		<b>TOTAL ABUSE RISK SCORE</b>	<b>_____</b>

**TOTAL NEGLECT RISK SCORE** \_\_\_\_\_

**SCORED RISK LEVEL.** Assign the family's scored risk level based on the highest score on either the neglect or abuse instrument, using the following chart:

<u>Neglect Score</u>	<u>Abuse Score</u>	<u>Scored Risk Level</u>
_____ 0 - 1	_____ 0 - 1	_____ Low
_____ 2 - 4	_____ 2 - 4	_____ Moderate
_____ 5 - 8	_____ 5 - 7	_____ High
_____ 9 +	_____ 8 +	_____ Very High

**POLICY OVERRIDES.** Circle yes if a condition shown below is applicable in this case. If any condition is applicable, override final risk level to very high.

- Yes No 1. Sexual abuse case AND the perpetrator is likely to have access to the child victim.  
 Yes No 2. Non-accidental injury to a child under age two.  
 Yes No 3. Severe non-accidental injury.  
 Yes No 4. Parent/caretaker action or inaction resulted in death of a child due to abuse or neglect (previous or current).

**DISCRETIONARY OVERRIDE.** If a discretionary override is made, circle yes, circle override risk level, and indicate reason. Risk level may be overridden one level higher.

Yes No 5. If yes, override risk level (circle one):      Low      Moderate      High      Very High

Discretionary override reason: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Review/Approval of Discretionary Override: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**FINAL RISK LEVEL** (circle final level assigned):      Low      Moderate      High      Very High

## **Final Family Risk Classification Findings**

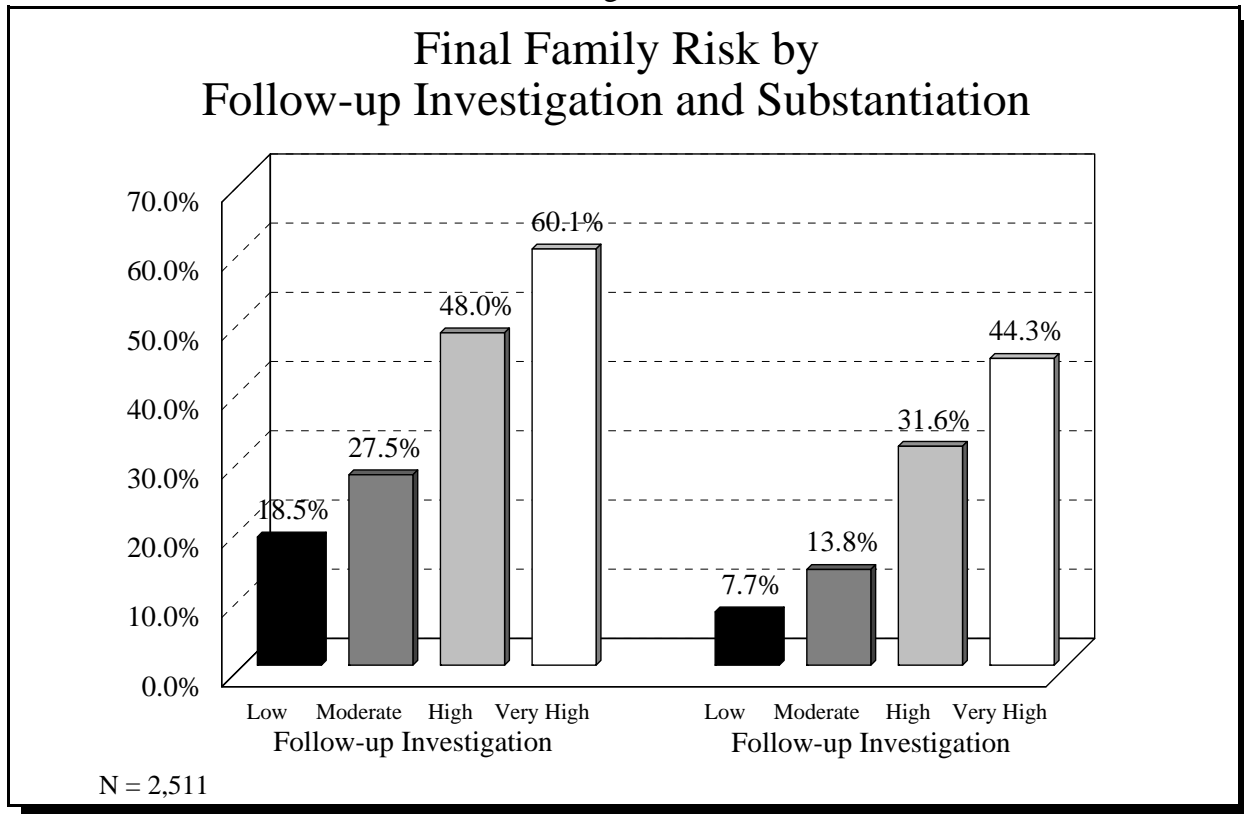
The following figures describe sample case outcomes for the scored risk classification during the 24-month follow-up period. The final or scored family risk classification shown was obtained by simply assigning the case to the highest scored risk level determined by either the abuse or neglect instrument. The result is a final risk classification that can be used to assist the worker in estimating the likelihood that a family will become involved in either an abuse or a neglect incident.

### Follow-up Investigation and Substantiation

Figure 1 shows the follow-up investigation and substantiation rates for abuse or neglect for families placed in the four risk assessment classifications. Within 24 months of the sample investigation, 915 of 2,511 (36.4%) of the sampled families were investigated for another abuse or neglect allegation on at least one occasion (see Table 1). In comparison, the 352 families classified as low risk had an 18.5% follow-up investigation rate, and the 273 families classified as very high risk had a 60.1% rate.

The risk classification is also strongly related to subsequent substantiation in the follow-up period. Among sampled families, 554 (22.1%) had a substantiated investigation in the follow-up period (see Table 2). The 352 sample families classified as low risk had only a 7.7% substantiation rate, compared to a 44.3% rate among those classified as very high risk. Moderate and high risk families show a strong incremental progression between low and very high.

Figure 1





<b>Table 1</b>				
<b>Total Sample Cases: Final Risk Classification Findings for Follow-up Investigation</b>				
<b>Final Risk Classification</b>	<b>Sample Cases</b>	<b>% Sample</b>	<b>Follow-up Investigation*</b>	
			<b>Cases</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Low	352	14.0%	65	<b>18.5%</b>
Moderate	1,067	42.5%	293	<b>27.5%</b>
High	819	32.6%	393	<b>48.0%</b>
Very High	273	10.9%	164	<b>60.1%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,511</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>36.4%</b>

\*New investigation (one or more) within 24 months of the sample investigation.

<b>Table 2</b>				
<b>Total Sample Cases: Final Risk Classification Findings for Follow-up Substantiation</b>				
<b>Final Risk Classification</b>	<b>Sample Cases</b>	<b>% Sample</b>	<b>Follow-up Substantiation*</b>	
			<b>Cases</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Low	352	14.0%	27	<b>7.7%</b>
Moderate	1,067	42.5%	147	<b>13.8%</b>
High	819	32.6%	259	<b>31.6%</b>
Very High	273	10.9%	121	<b>44.3%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,511</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>22.1%</b>

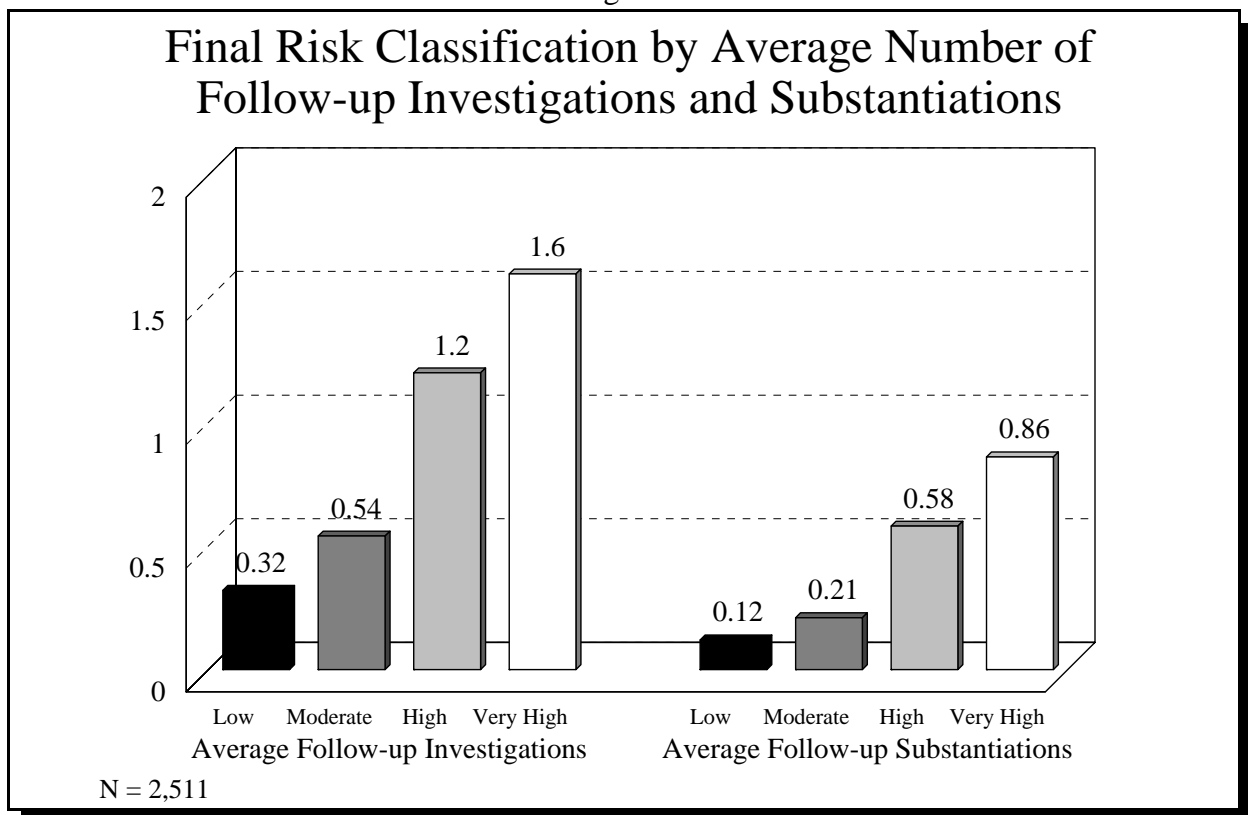
\*Substantiated allegation (one or more) within 24 months of the sample investigation.

## Average Number of Follow-up Investigations and Substantiations

To compare the chronicity of families, that is, multiple investigations and substantiations, the average number of investigations and substantiations observed among sample families during the follow-up period is shown for each risk classification. Figure 2 and Table 3 indicate that low risk families were investigated, on average, only .32 times, and moderate risk families were investigated an average of .54 times during the 24-month follow-up period. This compares to 1.6 investigations for very high risk families and an average of 1.2 investigations among those classified as high risk.

Similar findings are observed for new substantiations. Low risk families averaged .12 follow-up substantiations versus .86 among families assigned to the very high risk level.

Figure 2

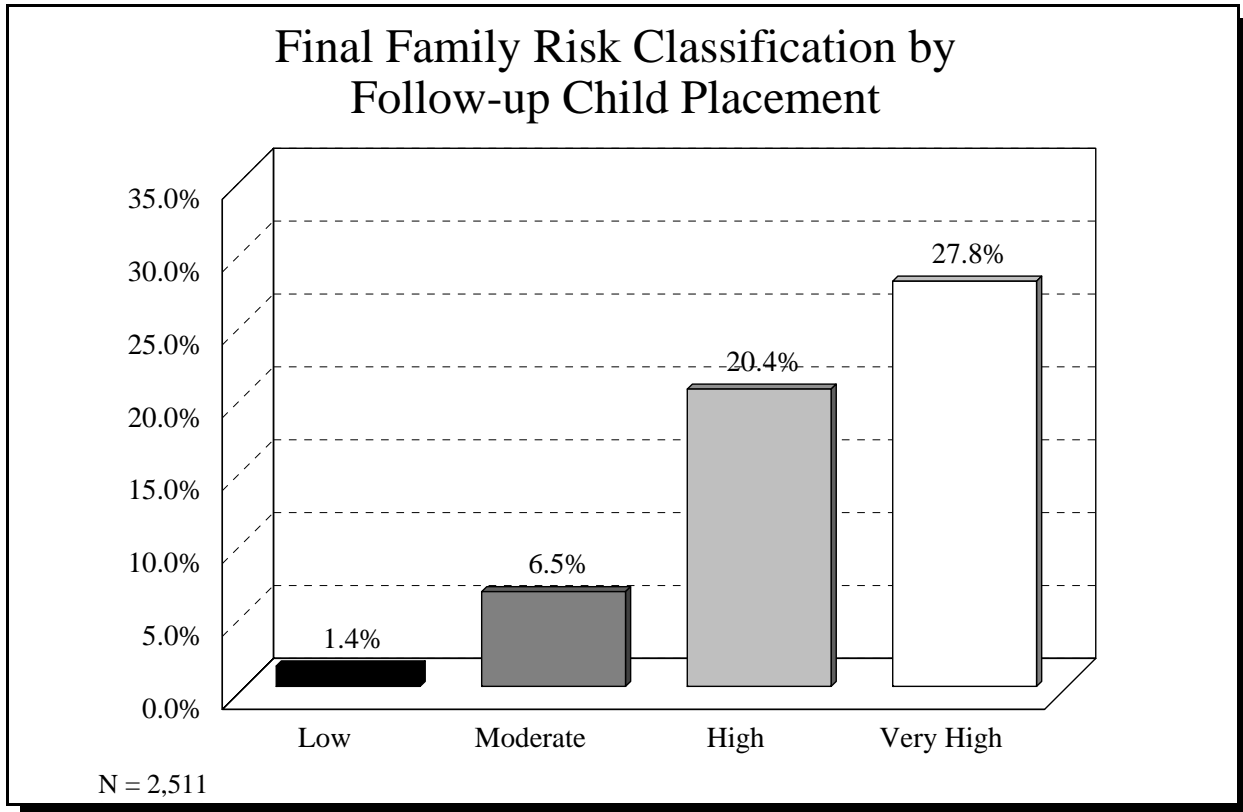


<b>Table 3</b>				
<b>Final Risk Classification by Average Number of Investigations and Substantiations</b>				
<b>Final Risk Classification</b>	<b>Sample Cases</b>	<b>% Sample</b>	<b>Average Number of Follow-up Investigations</b>	<b>Average Number of Follow-up Substantiations</b>
Low	352	14.0%	.32	0.12
Moderate	1,067	42.5%	.54	0.21
High	819	32.6%	1.20	0.58
Very High	273	10.9%	1.60	0.86
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,511</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>.84</b>	<b>0.39</b>

### Follow-up Child Placement

In addition to new investigations and substantiations, the risk classification effectively classifies families based upon the likelihood of a future child placement from the home. Placement, as employed in the research, is defined as any removal of a child from the family after the sample investigation, including emergency removals. Approximately 13% of all sampled families had a child removed from the home subsequent to the sample investigation (see Table 4). As Figure 3 indicates, 1.4% of families classified as low risk had a child placed outside the home during the follow-up period, compared to 20.4% of high risk families and 27.8% of very high risk families. In effect, very high and high risk families were more than ten times as likely to have a child removed from the home during the 24-month follow-up than low risk families.

Figure 3



<b>Table 4</b>				
<b>Total Sample Cases: Final Risk Classification Findings for Follow-up Placement of Any Child</b>				
<b>Final Risk Classification</b>	<b>Sample Cases</b>	<b>% Sample</b>	<b>Follow-up Placement*</b>	
			<b>Cases</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Low	352	14.0%	5	<b>1.4%</b>
Moderate	1,067	42.5%	69	<b>6.5%</b>
High	819	32.6%	167	<b>20.4%</b>
Very High	273	10.9%	76	<b>27.8%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,511</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>12.6%</b>

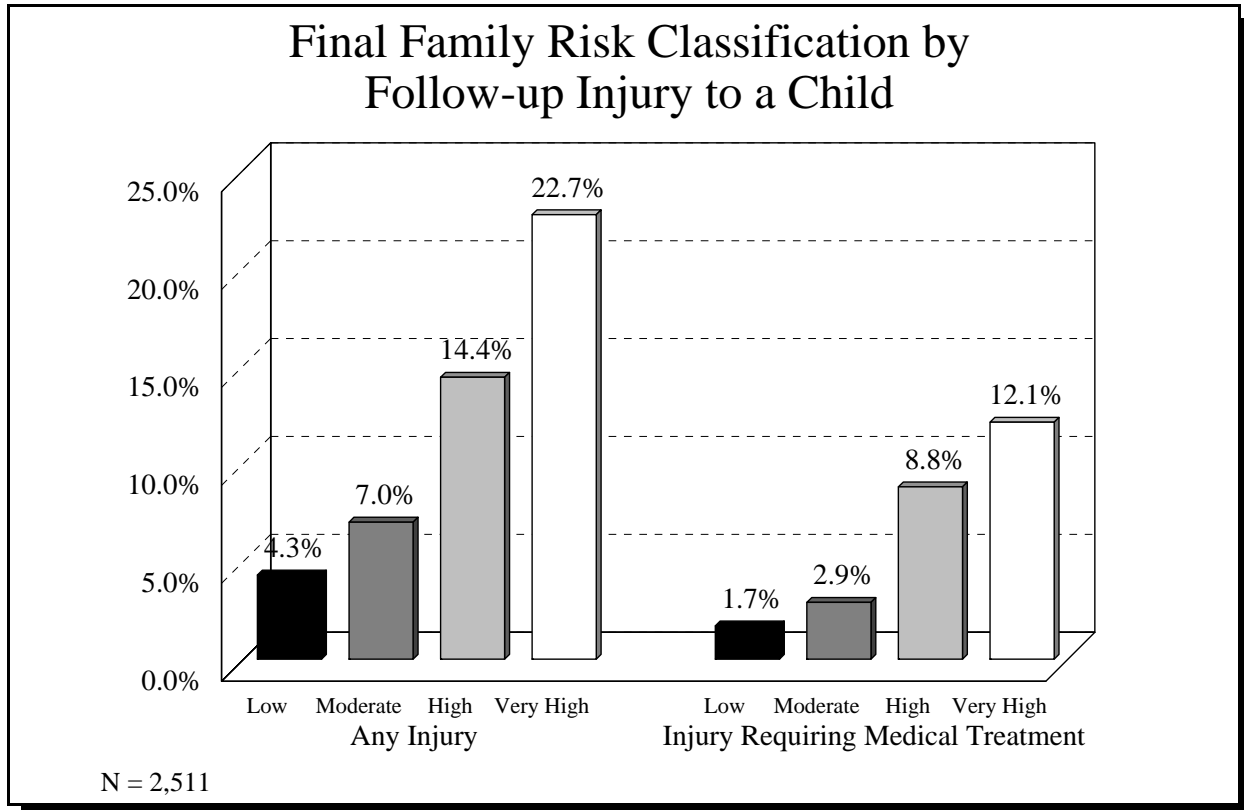
\*Any type of placement of any child within 24 months of the sample investigation.

## Follow-up Child Injury

Similar findings are shown for injuries to children observed during a CPS incident occurring after the sample investigation. In Table 5, injury is defined as any bruise, scratch, or cut observed during a follow-up investigation for any child in the family, regardless of injury severity. Table 6 includes only injuries that were severe enough to require medical treatment (medical evaluations in which treatment was not required were excluded). In the total sample, follow-up injuries of any kind were observed in only 10.8% of the families, and injuries severe enough to require treatment were observed in only 5.7%.

As Figure 4 demonstrates, injury rates increase steadily as the family risk classification progresses from low to very high, i.e., only 1.7% of low risk families reported a child injury requiring medical treatment versus 12.1% of the very high risk families. Rates for any child injury were 4.3% among low risk cases and 22.7% among very high risk families.

Figure 4



<b>Table 5</b>				
<b>Total Sample Cases: Final Risk Classification Findings for Follow-up Injury to Any Child</b>				
<b>Final Risk Classification</b>	<b>Sample Cases</b>	<b>% Sample</b>	<b>Follow-up Injury*</b>	
			<b>Cases</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Low	352	14.0%	15	<b>4.3%</b>
Moderate	1,067	42.5%	75	<b>7.0%</b>
High	819	32.6%	118	<b>14.4%</b>
Very High	273	10.9%	62	<b>22.7%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,511</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>10.8%</b>

\*Any type of injury to any child within 24 months of the sample investigation.

<b>Table 6</b>				
<b>Total Sample Cases: Final Risk Classification Findings for Follow-up Injury Requiring Medical Treatment to Any Child</b>				
<b>Final Risk Classification</b>	<b>Sample Cases</b>	<b>% Sample</b>	<b>Follow-up Injury Requiring Medical Treatment*</b>	
			<b>Cases</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Low	352	14.0%	6	<b>1.7%</b>
Moderate	1,067	42.5%	31	<b>2.9%</b>
High	819	32.6%	72	<b>8.8%</b>
Very High	273	10.9%	33	<b>12.1%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,511</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>5.7%</b>

\*Injury which required medical treatment or hospitalization to any child within 24 months of the sample investigation.

## California Pilot County Case Management Procedures

The risk assessment is completed at the close of an investigation on unsubstantiated and substantiated investigations. Both the final risk level and the results of the investigation guide the case opening decision.<sup>1</sup> The following table reviews the guidelines for opening a case based upon the final risk level and the investigation findings.

<b>Risk-based Case Open/Close Guidelines</b>		
<b>Risk Level</b>	<b>Investigation Finding</b>	
	<b>Substantiated</b>	<b>Inconclusive/ Unsubstantiated</b>
Low	Open or Close	Close
Moderate	Open	Open or Close
High	Open	Open
Very High	Open	Open

These guidelines, determined by a core team of pilot county representatives, suggest opening high and very high risk cases for service whether or not child maltreatment was substantiated as a result of the investigation. Therefore, families with a high likelihood of future maltreatment of a child are recommended for services even if maltreatment was unsubstantiated in the current incident. Moderate risk families with substantiated allegations of abuse or neglect are also recommended for services, while substantiated low risk families and unsubstantiated moderate risk families may be opened or closed based more upon worker discretion.

Once a family case is opened for services, the final risk level is employed to recommend a service level that suggests the number and nature of case contacts made by the worker or a contracted service provider during each month. The service levels and associated standards are

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<sup>1</sup> The final risk level is the risk level assigned to a family after policy or discretionary overrides have been exercised.



designed to ensure that high risk families receive priority for service intervention. Pilot county representatives established the following case contact standards.

<b>MONTHLY MINIMUM CASE CONTACT GUIDELINES FOR IN-HOME SERVICES</b>		
<b>Risk Level</b>	<b>Parent/Guardian and Child Contacts</b>	<b>Location</b>
Low	<b>One</b> face-to-face per month with parent/guardian and child <b>One</b> collateral contact	<b>Must</b> be in parent/guardian's residence
Moderate	<b>Two</b> face-to-face per month with parent/guardian and child <b>Two</b> collateral contacts	<b>One</b> must be in parent/guardian's residence
High	<b>Three</b> face-to-face per month with parent/guardian and child <b>Three</b> collateral contacts	<b>One</b> must be in parent/guardian's residence
Very High	<b>Four</b> face-to-face per month with parent/guardian and child <b>Four</b> collateral contacts	<b>Two</b> must be in parent/guardian's residence
<b>Additional Considerations</b>		
Contact Definition	Each required contact will include at least one parent/guardian and one child. During the course of a month, each parent/guardian and each child in the household will be contacted at least once.	
Designated Contacts	The ongoing worker/supervisor/service team may delegate face-to-face contacts to providers with contractual relationship to the Department and/or other Department staff such as social work aids. However, the ongoing worker must always maintain at least one face-to-face contact with the parent/guardian and child per month, as well as monthly contact with the service provider designated to replace the ongoing worker's face-to-face contacts.	

Note: A collateral contact is a contact made to any service provider or other source of information regarding the family case (e.g., other staff, school, personnel, reporters, etc.) made by phone or in person.

Periodic reassessments of risk and needs occur at three-month intervals to help ensure the appropriateness of case plans and service levels. As a family's risk of future maltreatment decreases, the suggested number of case contacts also decreases.

It should be noted that risk assessment is only one step in the CPS case assessment and planning process. Other pilot county workgroups developed consensus-based assessment instruments to guide worker decisions at other points in the CPS delivery process. California's pilot Structured Decision Making<sup>®</sup> system to be implemented in the seven pilot counties consists of the following:

- A response priority decision-making guide to help determine how quickly investigative staff should respond to a referral alleging child abuse/neglect;
- A safety assessment to determine the threat of immediate harm during an investigation and identify interventions needed to protect children;
- A risk assessment, which estimates the likelihood of future abuse/neglect at the close of an investigation; and
- An assessment of family and child strengths and needs to identify priorities for service planning.

These assessments support a comprehensive approach to case management. The intent of the entire system is 1) to provide workers with simple, objective, and reliable tools to help them make the best possible decisions for individual cases; and 2) to provide managers with information for improved policy development, planning, and resource allocation.

## **Appendix A**

### **Findings for the Neglect and Abuse Indices**

**Preliminary Risk Assessment Instrument and Findings  
Risk Classification for Neglect**

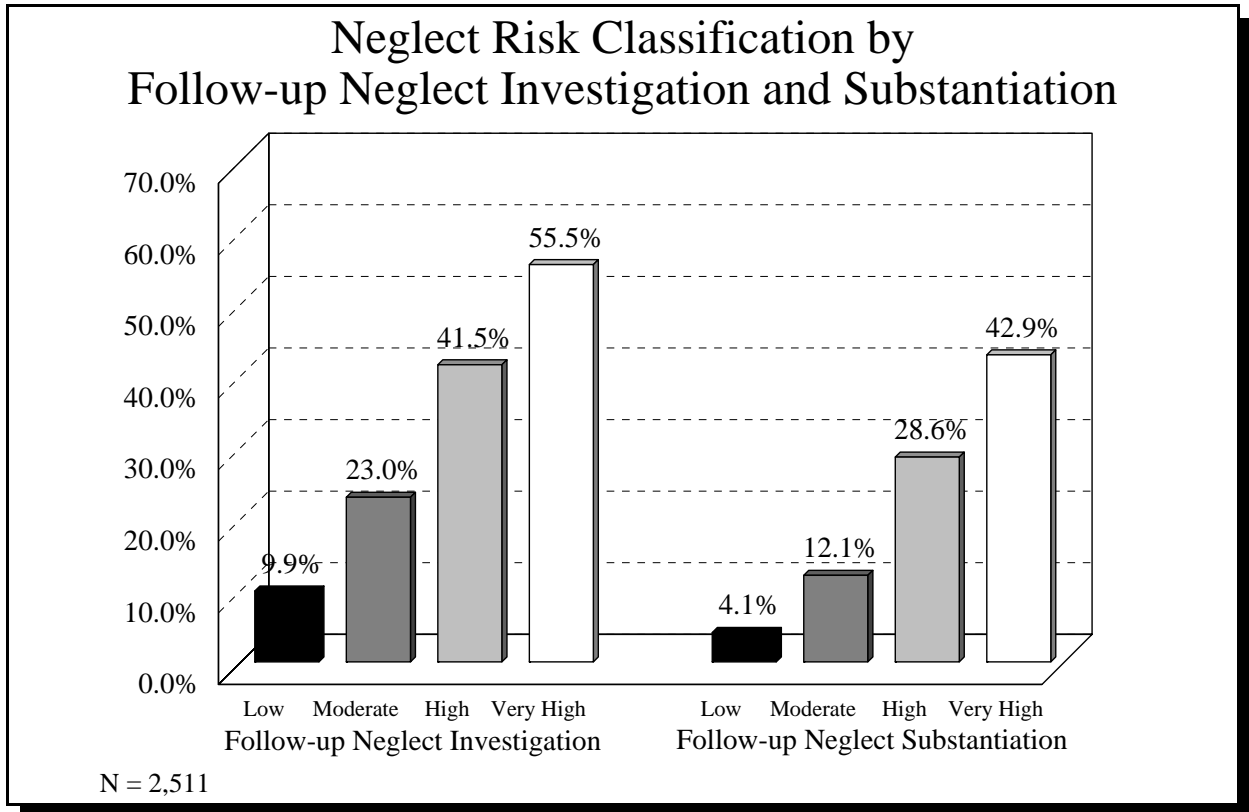
<b>Table A1</b>				
<b>Total Sample Cases: Neglect Risk Classification Findings for Follow-up Neglect Allegation</b>				
<b>Neglect Classification</b>	<b>Sample Cases</b>	<b>% Sample</b>	<b>Follow-up Neglect Allegation*</b>	
			<b>Cases</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Low	727	29.0%	72	<b>9.9%</b>
Moderate	903	36.0%	208	<b>23.0%</b>
High	699	27.8%	290	<b>41.5%</b>
Very High	182	7.2%	101	<b>55.5%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,511</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>26.7%</b>

\*Investigated allegation (one or more) within 24 months of the sample investigation.

<b>Table A2</b>				
<b>Total Sample Cases: Neglect Risk Classification Findings for Follow-up Neglect Substantiation</b>				
<b>Neglect Classification</b>	<b>Sample Cases</b>	<b>% Sample</b>	<b>Follow-up Neglect Substantiation*</b>	
			<b>Cases</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Low	727	29.0%	30	<b>4.1%</b>
Moderate	903	36.0%	109	<b>12.1%</b>
High	699	27.8%	200	<b>28.6%</b>
Very High	182	7.2%	78	<b>42.9%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,511</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>16.6%</b>

\* Substantiated allegation (one or more) within 24 months of the sample investigation.

Figure A1



## Risk Classification for Abuse

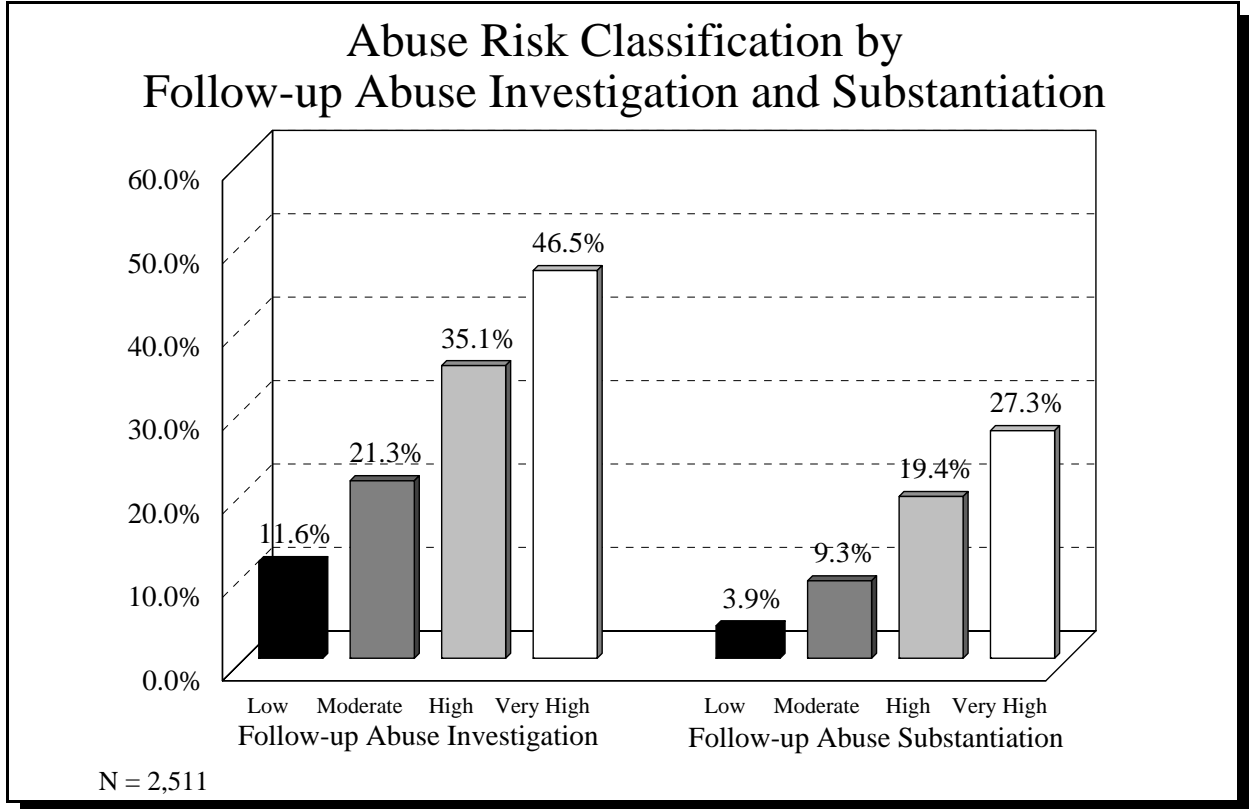
<b>Table A3</b>				
<b>Total Sample Cases: Abuse Risk Classification Findings for Follow-up Abuse Allegation</b>				
<b>Abuse Classification</b>	<b>Sample Cases</b>	<b>% Sample</b>	<b>Follow-up Abuse Allegation*</b>	
			<b>Cases</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Low	955	38.0%	111	<b>11.6%</b>
Moderate	1081	43.1%	230	<b>21.3%</b>
High	376	15.0%	132	<b>35.1%</b>
Very High	99	3.9%	46	<b>46.5%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2511</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>20.7%</b>

\*Investigated allegation (one or more) within 24 months of the sample investigation.

<b>Table A4</b>				
<b>Total Sample Cases: Abuse Risk Classification Findings for Follow-up Abuse Substantiation</b>				
<b>Abuse Classification</b>	<b>Sample Cases</b>	<b>% Sample</b>	<b>Follow-up Abuse Substantiation*</b>	
			<b>Cases</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Low	955	38.0%	37	<b>3.9%</b>
Moderate	1081	43.1%	100	<b>9.3%</b>
High	376	15.0%	73	<b>19.4%</b>
Very High	99	3.9%	27	<b>27.3%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2511</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>9.4%</b>

\*Substantiated allegation (one or more) within 24 months of the sample investigation.

Figure A2



## **Appendix B**

### **Item Analysis for Neglect and Risk Indices**



Table B1 Neglect Scale Item Analysis Total Sample						
Item	Sample Distribution		Cases With Follow-up Neglect Substantiation			
	N	%	N	%	Correlation	P Value
<b>N1. Current Complaint is for Neglect</b>					.164	.001
No	927	36.9%	80	8.6%		
Yes	1584	63.1%	337	21.3%		
<b>N2. Any Prior Investigations</b>					.179	.001
No	1233	49.1%	121	9.8%		
Yes	1278	50.9%	296	23.2%		
<b>N3. Number of Prior Neglect Investigations</b>					.229	.001
None	1535	61.1%	161	10.5%		
One to two	722	28.8%	164	22.7%		
Three or more	254	10.1%	92	36.2%		
<b>N4. Household has Previously Received CPS</b>					.159	.001
No	1993	79.4%	271	13.6%		
Yes	518	20.6%	146	28.2%		
<b>N5. Number of Children Involved in Incident</b>					.130	.001
One, two, or three	2239	89.2%	334	14.9%		
Four or more	272	10.8%	83	30.5%		
<b>N6. Age of Youngest Child in the Home</b>					.123	.001
Two or older	1788	71.2%	245	13.7%		
One or younger	723	28.8%	172	23.8%		
<b>N7. Caretaker Provides Physical Care Inconsistent with Child Needs</b>					.187	.001
No	1793	71.4%	219	12.2%		
Yes	718	28.6%	198	27.6%		
<b>N8. Primary Caretaker has a Past or Current Diagnosed Mental Condition</b>					.128	.001
No	2362	94.1%	364	15.4%		
Yes	149	5.9%	53	35.6%		
<b>N9. Primary Caretaker has an Alcohol or Drug Abuse Problem*</b>						
Alcohol	412	16.4%	107	26.0%	.111	.001
Drug	867	34.5%	216	24.9%	.162	.001
<b>N10. Characteristics of Children in Household*</b>						
Medically fragile/failure to thrive	113	4.5%	37	32.7%	.094	.001
Developmental or physical disability	274	10.9%	68	24.8%	.077	.001
Positive toxicology screen at birth	325	12.9%	86	26.5%	.102	.001
<b>N11. Housing*</b>						
Current housing is physically unsafe	202	8.0%	59	29.2%	.100	.001
Homeless at time of investigation	191	7.6%	65	34.0%	.134	.001

\*Multiple response items; percentages do not total 100%.

Table B2						
Abuse Scale Item Analysis Total Sample						
Item	Sample Distribution		Cases With Follow Up Abuse Substantiation			
	N	%	N	%	Correlation	P Value
<b>A1. Prior Complaint is for Abuse</b>					.052	.009
No	1199	47.7%	94	7.8%		
Yes	1312	52.3%	143	10.9%		
<b>A2. Number of Prior Abuse Investigations</b>					.152	.001
None	1691	67.3%	113	6.7%		
One	486	19.4%	59	12.1%		
Two or more	334	13.3%	65	19.5%		
<b>A3. Household has Previously Received CPS</b>					.098	.001
No	1993	79.4%	159	8.0%		
Yes	518	20.6%	78	15.1%		
<b>A4. Prior Injury to a Child Resulting from CA/N</b>					.096	.001
No	1952	77.7%	155	7.9%		
Yes	559	22.3%	82	14.7%		
<b>A5. Primary Caretaker's Assessment of Incident*</b>						
Blames child	160	6.4%	30	18.8%	.083	.001
Justifies maltreatment of a child	88	3.5%	19	21.6%	.079	.001
<b>A6. Domestic Violence in the Household in the Past Year</b>					.082	.001
No	2282	90.9%	198	8.7%		
Yes	229	9.1%	39	17.0%		
<b>A7. Primary Caretaker Characteristics*</b>						
Provides insufficient emotional/psychological support	509	20.3%	72	14.1%	.081	.001
Employs excessive/inappropriate discipline	378	15.1%	55	14.6%	.074	.001
Domineering parent	91	3.6%	20	22.0%	.083	.001
<b>A8. Primary Caretaker has a History of Abuse or Neglect as a Child</b>					.054	.006
No	2231	88.8%	198	8.9%		
Yes	280	11.2%	39	13.9%		
<b>A9. Secondary Caretaker has Current or Historic Alcohol or Drug Problem</b>					.079	.001
No	2041	81.3%	170	8.3%		
Yes	470	18.7%	67	14.3%		
<b>A10. Characteristics of Children in Household*</b>						
Delinquency history	202	8.0%	33	16.3%	.070	.001
Developmental disability	226	9.0%	35	15.5%	.065	.001
Mental health/behavioral problem	255	10.2%	36	14.1%	.054	.007

\*Multiple response items; percentages do not total 100%.