



Iowa Department of Human Services

Terry E. Branstad
Governor

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Director

October 24, 2016

The Honorable David Dawson
State Representative
400 Essex Street
Sioux City, IA 51103

ATTN: Zeke Furlong

Dear Representative Dawson:

This letter is in response to the September 23rd e-mail you sent regarding Drug Endangered Children (DEC) Work Group follow-up questions. The information requested is bulleted below and addressed in the four sections of this letter.

1. Presence of Illegal Drugs data from 2005-2015 for:

- Number of Accepted Intakes with breakdown by drug alleged
- Number of Not Confirmed, Confirmed, or Founded PID assessments with break down by type of drug confirmed/founded
- Break down by year, if possible, for newborn (testing positive at delivery from hospital test completed prior to assessment); age 0-5 (not newborns); age 6-10, and age 11-17 (older kids likely all tested by DHS during assessment)

Total Assessments Involving Presence of Illegal Drugs (PIDS) 2005-2015

Year	Founded	Confirmed**	Not Confirmed	Ages 0-5***	Ages 6-10***	Ages 11-17***
2005	452		227	19	27	760
2006	734		436	29	457	1,058
2007	656		406	22	695	818
2008	462		203	26	682	371
2009	476		269	18	856	406
2010	578		433	113	1,163	509
2011	597		839	548	1,389	804
2012	674		962	949	1,526	955
2013	744		770	1,237	1,075	708
2014	685		447	1,569	523	461
2015	835		465	1,858	590	480
Total*	6,893		5,457			

*Multiple findings can be identified on each assessment so the total does not reflect unique PIDS assessments.

**The PIDS category of abuse can never be confirmed.

***Multiple children can be identified on each assessment so the total does not reflect unique assessments. The data in ages does not distinguish between a newborn testing positive at birth verses exposure following birth.

Breakdown By Substances Alleged in Assessments involving PIDS 2014-2015*

Substance	2014 Totals**	2015 Totals**
Alcohol	18	34
Cocaine	48	62
Heroin	17	22
Marijuana	631	690
Methamphetamine	349	449
Prescription Drugs	94	84
Synthetic Drugs	11	8
Other	57	59

*There is no substance breakout data available prior to 2014; substances have only been tracked since 2014.

**Multiple substances can be identified on each assessment; the totals do not reflect unique assessments.

2. Drug testing by DHS during child abuse assessments data from 2005-2015 for:

- Number of Hair Stat Tests of children, and number of positive results and what drug tested positive
- Number of Hair Stat Tests of caregivers, and number of positive results and what drug tested positive
- Number of UA tests of caregivers, and number of positive results and what drug tested positive
- Number of other types of drug testing (hair, nails, etc.), and number of positive results and what drug tested positive

Below is drug testing data from July 1, 2013 to December 31, 2015. This includes data from the implementation date of the statewide Drug Testing Laboratory and Collections Contracts. Drug testing data from 2005 to 2015 had been requested for this inquiry but prior to the statewide drug testing contracts the data was inconsistent.

Before 2007, individual Service Areas contracted directly with local providers for drug testing. As a result, there was no uniformity in the collection process or in the drug testing panels regarding the type of drugs being tested. In 2007 the department established an optional statewide drug testing laboratory contract that remained in effect until June of 2013. This contract helped to standardize the number of kinds of illegal drugs that could be tested in the same panel thus eliminating the need for independent drug tests for each type of drug. This bundling of compatible types of drugs for testing provided a cost savings measure for the department.

While a statewide drug testing laboratory contract had been implemented on an optional level during this period no statewide collection services contract existed. Attempts had been made but due to cost and the complexity of a statewide collection service the effort had been withdrawn for further review. As such, each of the Service Areas were required to arrange for drug testing collections through individual Memorandums of Understanding, numerous contracts, and/or agreements with local providers and agencies within their respective counties which resulted in inconsistencies and irregularities in the collection process across the state.

Due to the differences in drug testing practices during the period from 2005 to June 30, 2013 there was no mechanism to capture drug testing data on a statewide basis.

On July 1, 2013 a statewide Drug Testing Laboratory and a Drug Testing Collections contract were implemented. The implementation of these contracts allowed for the collection of drug testing data.

The following charts indicate the start date of the contracts and provide six months' worth of data for 2103. Yearly data for 2014 and 2015 are also provided. It should be noted that the 2014 numbers differ somewhat from 2014 drug testing data that had been submitted for a previous RFI last year. It was later found that inadvertently in pulling the data, a filter had been left on and subsequently additional tests had been added. On behalf of the department we apologize for any inconvenience this error may have caused.

The data is separated by drug testing for Child Protective Assessments and those for Child Welfare and Court Ordered cases. Within each of these categories the type of drug test is listed as is the total number of these tests. Totals are further separated into the number of caretakers and children tested with each particular type of drug test. The percentages regarding the positive rate for the type of test are listed below the charts. These percentages are then broken down into the type of substances at the end of this document.

In reviewing the drug testing data several factors must be taken into account:

- There is only six months' worth of drug testing data for 2013.
- The implementation of the statewide drug testing contracts in 2013 focused on the importance of utilizing drug tests where there exist behavioral, relational, psychological and /or physical indicators of substance abuse in cases.
- The implementation of Differential Response in January of 2014 which involves one of two avenues for families. While drug testing is not available on the Family Assessment path, if drug testing is determined necessary to assure the safety of a child the case will be re-assignment to the Child Abuse Assessment path where drug testing may occur.
- The addition of K2 and bath salts under this contract.
- The role of courts in ordering drug testing.
- The data does not indicate repeat testing per person. For example a caregiver may be required to be tested over a period of time.
- The different tests panels have varying windows of detection.

July 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013

Child Protective Assessment Numbers for July 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013

Test Type	Number of Test	Care Takers	Children
UA's	575	552	23
Hair Test	1003	612	391
Total	1578	1164	414

UA's had a 40% positive rate
 Hair Tests have a 33% positive rate

Child Welfare and Court Ordered Tests for July 1, 2013 through December 31, 2103

Test Type	Number of Test	Care Takers	Children
UA's	4593	4501	92
Hair Test	1500	1440	60
(Sub Total)	6093	5941	152
Patch	1,538	1538	NA
Total TESTS	7631	7479	152

UA's had a 20% positive rate
 Hair tests had a 31% positive rate
 Patch Test had a 27% positive rate

Child Protective Assessment Numbers for January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014

Test Type	Number of Test	Care Takers	Children
UA's	1134	1077	57
Hair Test	789	552	237
Total	1923	1629	294

UA's had a 33% positive rate
 Hair Test had a 41% positive rate

Child Welfare and Court Ordered Tests January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014

Test Type	Number of Test	Care Takers	Children
UA's	7621	7469	152
Hair Test	2154	2025	129
(subtotal)	9775	9494	281
Patch	2593	2593	NA
Total	12368	12087	281

UA's had a 18% positive rate
 Hair Test had a 36% positive rate
 Patch had a 25% positive rate

Child Protective Assessment Numbers for January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015

Test Type	Number of Test	Care Takers	Children
UA's	711	683	28
Hair Test	1602	1121	481
Total	2313	1804	509

UA's had a 34% positive rate
Hair had a 45% positive rate

Child Welfare and Court Ordered Tests January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015

Test Type	Number of Test	Care Takers	Children
UA's	6843	6706	137
Hair Test	1382	1327	55
(subtotal)	8225	8033	192
Patch	2653	2653	NA
Total	10878	10686	192

UA's had a 20% positive rate
Hair Test had a 37% positive rate
Patch had a 25% positive rate

Hair Tests Analysis based on the positive numbers:

- 28% of the hair samples tested positive for Amphetamine
- 24% of the hair samples tested positive for Methamphetamine
- 15% of the hair samples tested positive THC (Marijuana)
- 08% of the hair samples tested positive for cocaine

A hair sample could be positive for more than one drug. Each positive sample could include 5% or less of the following substances: barbiturates, methadone, propoxyphene, fentanyl, meperidine, nalbuphine, oxycodone, oxymorphone, and pentazocine. On cumulative reports the Laboratory is not required to report numbers for substances that occur at 5% or less.

Urine Analysis (UA's) based on the positives numbers:

- 15% of the UA samples tested positive for THC (Marijuana)
- 8% of the UA samples tested positive for Amphetamine
- 6% of the UA samples tested positive for Methamphetamine
- 9% of the UA samples tested positive for Opiates
- 4% of the UA samples test positive for Cocaine
- 4% of the UA samples Morphine

A UA sample could be positive and counted more than once. Each of these positive samples could also include 4% or less of the following substances: BarbMethedrone, Methylone, Butylone, MDPV, Mephedrone, 25B-NBOME, ETHCATHINONE, PENE, and Synthetic

Drugs/Bath Salts (including METHEDRONE, METHYLONE, BUTYLONE, MDPV, MEPHEDRONE, 25B-NBOME, 25I-NBOME, 2C-B, FAMP, FMETHAMP, 4-MEC, BUPHEDRON, BZP, CATHINONE, ETHYLONE, FLEPHEDRONE, MBDB, METHCATHINONE, PENTEDRONE, PENTYLONE, and TFMPP) and Synthetic Drugs, K2 Spice, N-PENTANOIC ACID, N-BUTANOIC, N-5-OH-PENTYL, N-5-COOH-PENTYL, N-5-HYDROXPENTYL, N-4-HYDROXPENTYL, N-6HYDROXYHEXYL, N-PENTANOIC ACID, N-4-HYDROXPENTYL, XLR11 N-4-HYDROXPENTYL, AKB48 N-PENTANOIC ACID, 5-F-AKB48 N-4-OH-PENTYL, 5-F-AKB48 N-4-OH-PENTYL, BB-22 3-CARBOXYINDOLE, PB-22 3-CARBOXYINDOLE, AB-PINACA N-PENTANOIC ACID, ADB-PINACA N-PENTANOIC ACID, 5-F-AB-(4-OH-PENTYL), and ADBICA N-PENTANOIC ACID. On cumulative reports the laboratory is not required to report numbers for substances that occur at 4% or less.

It is important to note that in collecting drug testing data the Department adheres to all federal and state rules regarding confidentiality and drug testing. Drug testing results are handled on a case by case basis. Only the Case Manager and Service Area Drug Testing Coordinator receive the result of a specific drug test due to strict rules and requirements regarding the confidentiality of substance detection and treatment.

3. CINA Assessment data from 2006-2015 for:

- Number of accepted CINA assessments, including breakdown by CINA code section 232.2(6)(a) thru (r)
- Number of rejected CINA assessments, including breakdown by CINA code section 232.2(6)(a) thru (r)
- If possible information about type of drug involved for CINA grounds (b) neglect; (c)(2) supervision; (m) child substance abuse; (n) caretaker substance abuse; (o) PID; and (p) dangerous substance manufacturing

Total Child In Need of Assistance (CINA) Assessments 2011-2015*
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Year	Accepted**	Rejected**	Total
2011	729	888	1,617
2012	897	904	1,801
2013	767	926	1,693
2014	714	888	1,602
2015	765	825	1,590

*There is no CINA Assessment data readily available prior to 2011, review of each incident would be required.

**There is no CINA code breakout data readily available, review of each incident would be required.

Breakdown By Substances Alleged in CINA Assessments 2014-2015*	
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Substance	2014-2015 Totals**
Alcohol	32
Cocaine	9
Heroin	9
Marijuana	71
Methamphetamine	89
Prescription Drugs	31
Synthetic Drugs	3
Other	28

*There is no substance breakout data available prior to 2014; substances have only been tracked since 2014.

**Multiple substances can be identified on each assessment so the totals do not reflect unique assessments.

4. Family Assessment reassignment:

- Other questions about more specific information about reasons why Family Assessments involving drug allegations were re-assigned to Child Abuse Assessments would also be helpful. The catch all of "unsafe" was not very specific when we got that data in early 2016 during sessions.

As presented in the 2016 legislative session, there are a total of 14 reasons, which are established by either Iowa law or Iowa Administrative Code, which require a Family Assessment to be reassigned as a Child Abuse Assessment. A large number of those cases were reassigned due to a determination of "Child unsafe". While specific data about what led to such determination is not readily available, each incident would capture such specifics as part of the Safety Assessment(s) that are completed for each incident/assessment.

Please feel free to contact me if you need additional information.

Sincerely,



Sally Titus
Deputy Director

ST/rr/jrb/tb

cc: Dale Woolery