

# Data in the News: July 22-September 1, 2020

---

Relevant articles for Child Welfare Council: Data Linkages Committee

Prepared by [i.e. communications](#), LLC on behalf of the [California Child Welfare Co-Investment Partnership](#)

## **The Shadow Pandemic**

The Atlantic, August 4, 2020

There has been a spike in calls to domestic-abuse help lines, and charities predict an increase in victims seeking support as restrictions loosen and it becomes easier to leave an abusive home.

<https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2020/08/are-refuges-only-solution-domestic-violence/614392/>

## **Recommendations to Check Abuse Reports with Medicaid Based on Questionable Analysis**

The Imprint, August 5, 2020

Last month, an inspector general report out of the Department of Health and Human Services recommended that Medicaid data can be used “to identify instances of potential child abuse or neglect.”

<https://imprintnews.org/youth-services-insider/recommendation-check-abuse-reports-medicaid-questionable-analysis/46184>

## **Proposed Information Collection Activity; Contact After Adoption or Guardianship: Child Welfare Agency and Family Interactions (New Collection)**

Federal Register, August 7, 2020

The primary objective of this study is to describe how public child welfare agencies are in contact with or receive information about the well-being of children and youth who have exited the foster care system through adoption or guardianship, particularly the experiences of these children with instability.

[https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/08/07/2020-17270/proposed-information-collection-activity-contact-after-adoption-or-guardianship-child-welfare-agency?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/08/07/2020-17270/proposed-information-collection-activity-contact-after-adoption-or-guardianship-child-welfare-agency?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

## **Success Focused Artificial Intelligence - Outcomes Management Software for Mental Health, Behavioral Health & Social Services**

Opeeka.com, August 14, 2020

Opeeka’s Person-Centered Intelligence Solution (P-CIS) is a revolutionary new cloud-based assessment software that allows behavioral health, social services and human services staff to track client progress over time.

<https://www.opeeka.com/success-focused-artificial-intelligence/>

## **Youth At Greater Risk for Being Sex Trafficked If Homeless, LGBTQ, Minority**

Youth Today, August 17, 2020

Research has identified several common risk factors for domestic minor sex trafficking (DMST): age, ethnicity, sexuality and housing status.

<https://youthtoday.org/2020/08/youth-at-greater-risk-for-being-sex-trafficked-if-homeless-lgbtq-minority/>

### **Penn State Develops Algorithm to Assess Substance Abuse Risk in Homeless Youth**

The Imprint, August 21, 2020

Researchers think they've come up with a cutting-edge way to predict the likelihood of a given homeless youth running into trouble with substance abuse – and to devise individualized rehab strategies for those who nevertheless develop a disorder.

<https://imprintnews.org/youth-services-insider/algorithm-assess-substance-abuse-risk-homeless-youth/46768>

### **Fewer Youth in Foster Care, But Family Reunifications Hit Record Low**

The Imprint, August 24, 2020

The number of youth in foster care began to decline in earnest last year, according to federal child welfare data released this week, which also found that reunifications have declined and the number of children adopted from foster care continues to reach record levels.

<https://imprintnews.org/adoption/fewer-youth-in-foster-care-but-family-reunifications-hit-record-low/46848>

### **Latinx Youth in the Juvenile Justice System Face Consequences for Undercounting**

The Imprint, August 26, 2020

According to a report released Tuesday by the Alianza for Youth Justice and the UCLA Latino Policy and Politics Initiative, because the nation lacks a uniform way to track race and ethnicity, Latinx youth are often counted by local juvenile justice systems as either “white,” “Black” or “other.” Those inaccuracies, the authors say, obscure their true profile and hamstring efforts to reach them before the crimes they may have committed come to define them.

<https://imprintnews.org/justice/juvenile-justice-2/latinx-youth-in-the-juvenile-justice-system-face-consequences-for-undercounting/46929>

### **Covid-19 Proves It's Time to Abolish 'Predictive' Policing Algorithms**

Wired, August 27, 2020

Instead of actually predicting and reducing crime and violence, these algorithms promote systems of over-policing and mass incarceration, perpetuating racism and increasing tensions between police and communities.

<https://www.wired.com/story/covid-19-proves-its-time-to-abolish-predictive-policing-algorithms/>

### **Advocates for LGBTQ and Native Foster Youth Sue Trump Administration, Demanding Data Expansion**

The Imprint, August 28, 2020

Advocates for Native American and LGBTQ foster youth have filed suit against the Trump Administration after federal officials tossed out a long-awaited plan to collect more data about these most vulnerable young people to inform services and improve their outcomes.

<https://imprintnews.org/news-2/advocates-for-lgbtq-and-native-foster-youth-sue-trump-administration-demanding-data-expansion/46992>

### **Data issues are hiding true number of missing, murdered Indigenous women**

Times-Standard, August 31, 2020

A recent report produced by the Yurok Tribe and the Sovereign Bodies Institute, which has been working on a database of murdered and missing Indigenous girls, women and two-spirit people across the country, found that a significant number of murdered and missing Indigenous women are misclassified in a variety of ways, including their ethnicity and how they were killed.

[https://www.times-standard.com/2020/08/29/data-issues-are-hiding-true-number-of-missing-murdered-indigenous-women/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.times-standard.com/2020/08/29/data-issues-are-hiding-true-number-of-missing-murdered-indigenous-women/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

### **CFSA hotline calls, investigations and substantiated maltreatment reports plummeted under Covid-19 shutdown**

Child Welfare Monitor DC, August 31, 2020

Newly available data confirms the drastic decline in reports, investigations, and substantiations under the Covid-19 emergency.

<https://childwelfaremonitordc.org/2020/08/31/cfsa-hotline-calls-investigations-and-substantiated-maltreatment-reports-plummeted-under-covid-19-shutdown/>