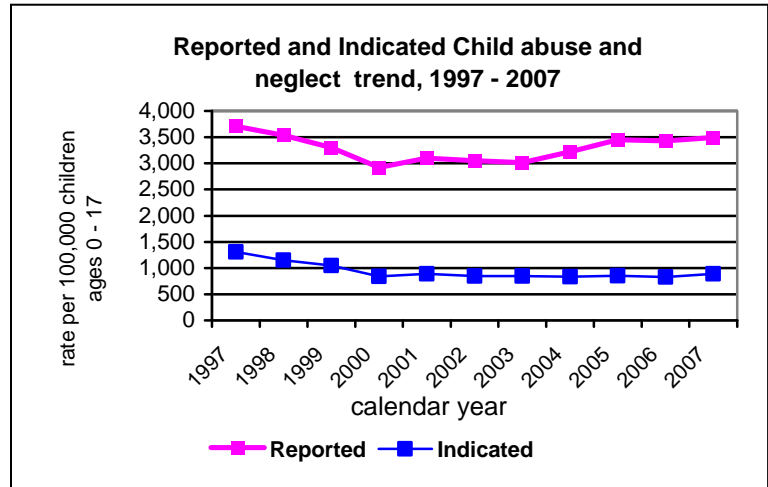
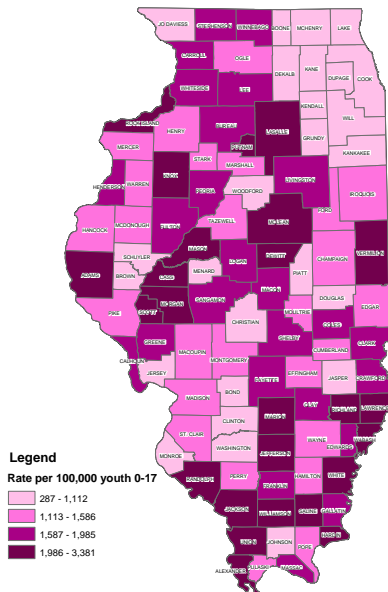


Reported and Indicated child abuse and neglect

2007 Indicated Cases



Source: Department of Children and Family Services

- Child abuse includes physical, sexual or emotional abuse. Neglect occurs when a parent/guardian fails to provide adequate shelter, food, or other needs of the child. The chart above shows the trends in initial child abuse and neglect incidents reported to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), as well as indicated incidents, where further investigation revealed credible evidence that abuse/neglect occurred.
- In 2007, there were 111,742 *reported* cases of child abuse and neglect in Illinois. Further, there were 28,516 indicated (verified) cases of child abuse and neglect in the state. The map above shows the distribution of these indicated (verified) cases by county, in terms of the rate per 100,000 children under age 18.
- From 1997 through 2007, the *reported* rate of child abuse and neglect decreased six percent in Illinois (from 3,706 per 100,000 children under age 18 to 3,492 per 100,000 children under age 18).
- From 1997 through 2007, there was a 17 percent increase in the *reported* child abuse and neglect rate in the Central region, a 16 percent increase in the Southern region, and a four percent increase in the Northern region outside Cook County. In contrast, the *reported* child abuse and neglect rate decreased 26 percent in Cook County during the same time period. (See map below for these geographic regions.)
- From 1997 through 2007, the indicated (verified) child abuse and neglect rate decreased 32 percent in Illinois (from 1,307 per 100,000 children under age 18 to 891 per 100,000 children under age 18).
- From 1997 through 2007, indicated (verified) child abuse and neglect rates decreased in every region of the state: decreased 54 percent in Cook County, decreased 19 percent in the Northern region outside Cook County, decreased 12 percent in the Southern, and decreased eight percent in the Central region.

