

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

**Department: Social Services**

**HB Section(s): 11.330**

**Program Name: Foster Parent Training**

**Program is found in the following core budget(s): Foster Parent Training**

### 1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

Safety and wellbeing for foster youth

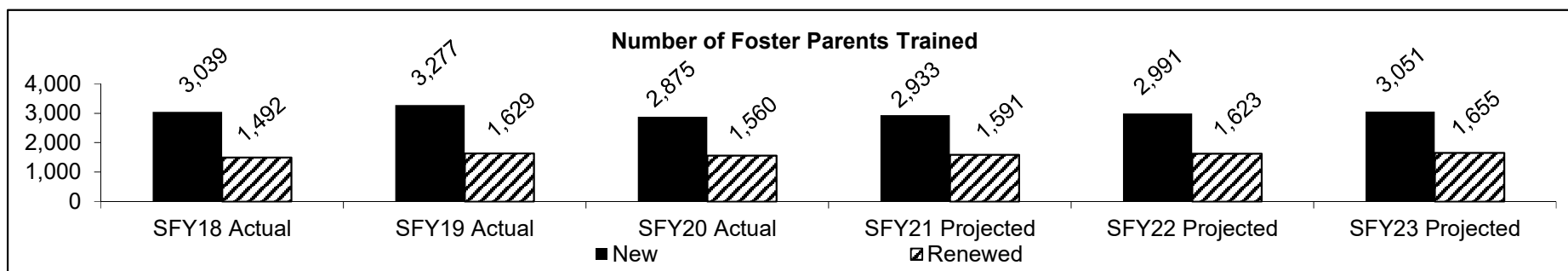
### 1b. What does this program do?

The Children's Division Foster Parent Training program prepares applicants for the roles and responsibilities of foster parenting and provides existing foster parents with advanced training to enhance their functioning as foster parents. Pre-service training introduces applicants to the goals of foster parenting, provides them with an overview of the entire foster care system, and prepares them for the challenges of parenting foster children. In-service training provides foster parents with the opportunity to strengthen their foster parenting skills in a variety of different areas specific to the children they are parenting and challenges encountered.

The specific parenting skills needed to meet the unique needs of the foster youth population and their caregivers are continually assessed through national research and provider engagement. New training topics are continuously being reviewed and added to training requirements.

New foster parents must complete the family assessment process and the 27 hour Foster Specialized Training, Assessment, and Resource Support/Skills (STARS) pre-service training. Relative care providers must complete the family assessment process and the 9-hour STARS for the Caregiver Who Knows the Child pre-service training. The STARS programs are competency-based, and designed to strengthen the quality of family alternative care services by providing the tools and skills families need to protect and nurture foster children, meet children's developmental needs, support relationships between children and their families, connect children with safe nurturing relationships intended to last a lifetime, and work as a member of the family support team. Families must demonstrate competence in the aforementioned areas before they are licensed. Children's Division is coordinating pilots of two new resources parent pre-service training curriculums to help foster and adoptive resources applicants by providing the best training available to equip them with skills and information to co-parents the Children's Division's population of children in foster care. The resource parents are expected to work closely with birth families and are required to obtain 30 hours of training during each 2-year licensing period.

### 2a. Provide an activity measure(s) for the program.



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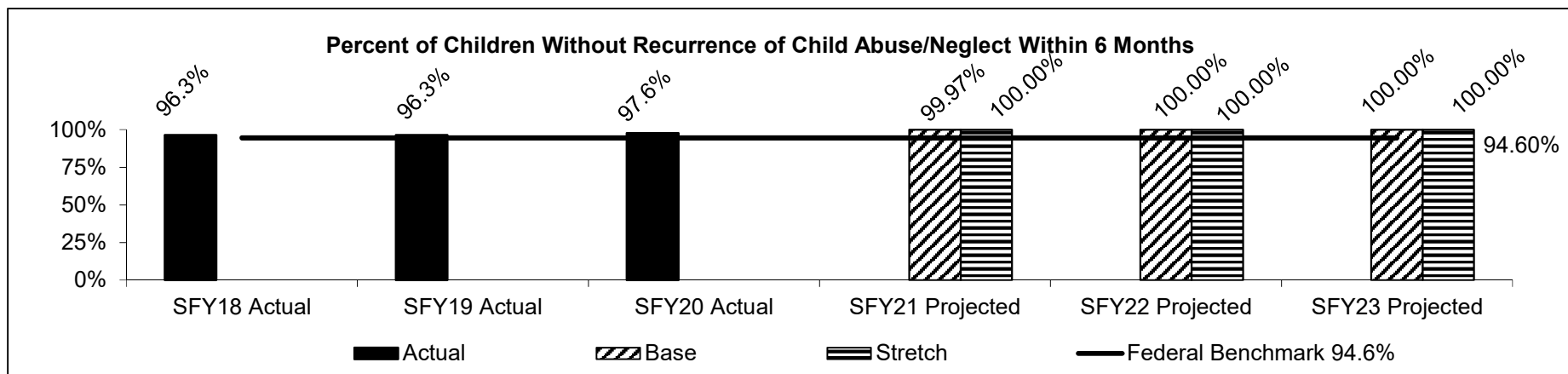
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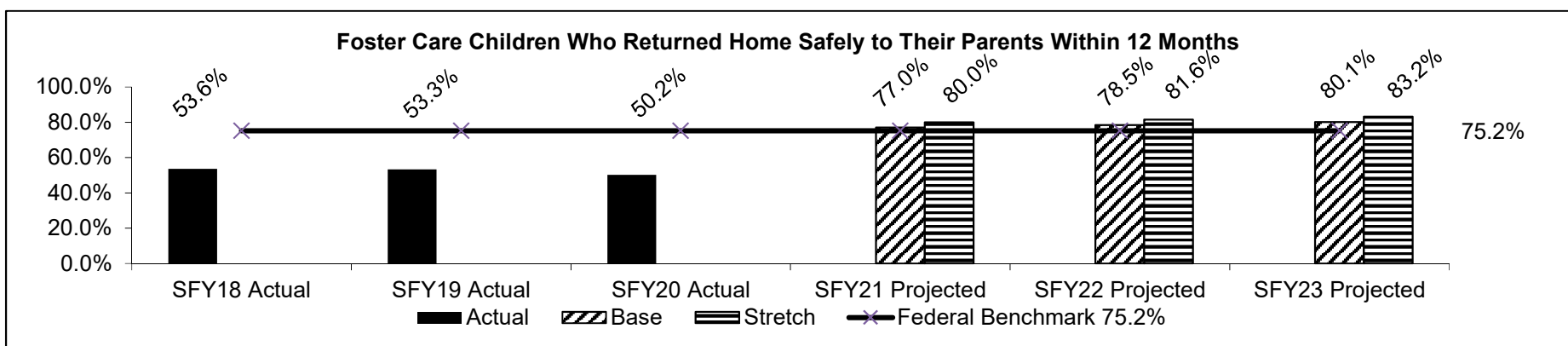
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**2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.**



**2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.**



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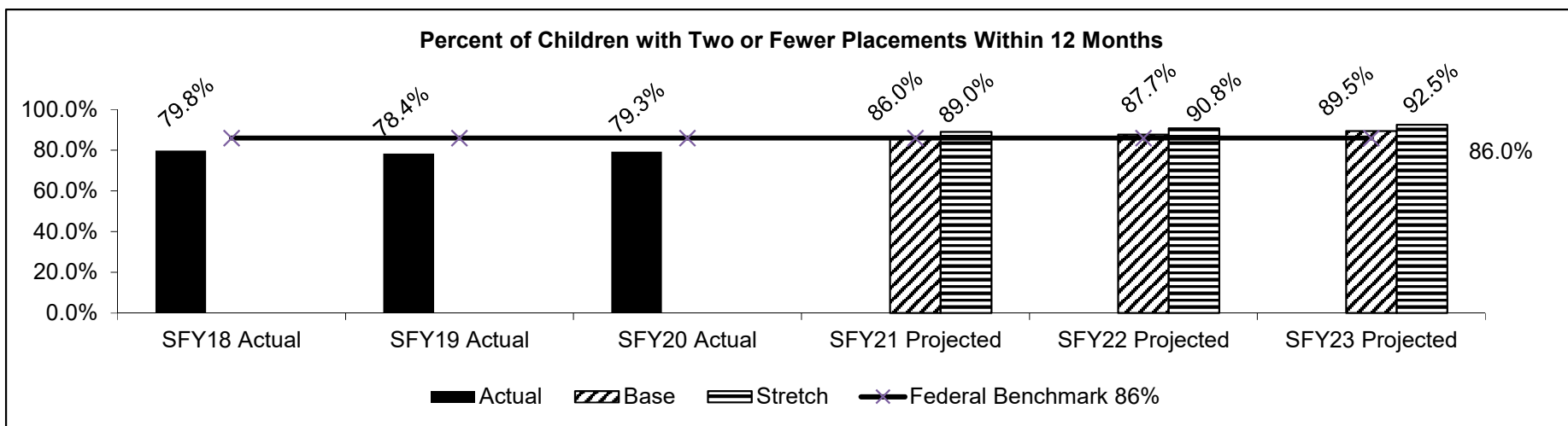
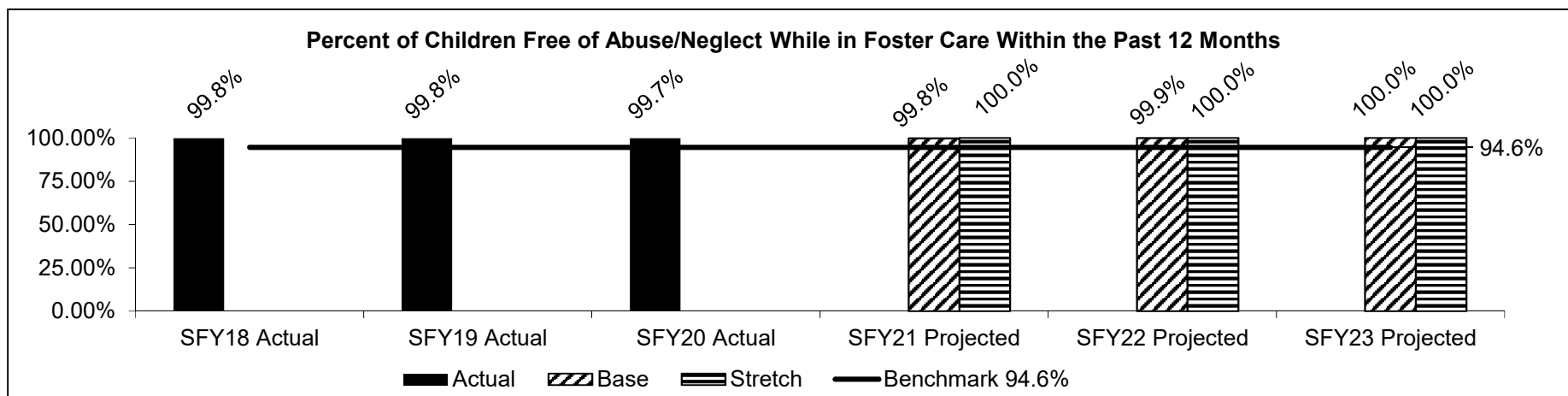
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**2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.**



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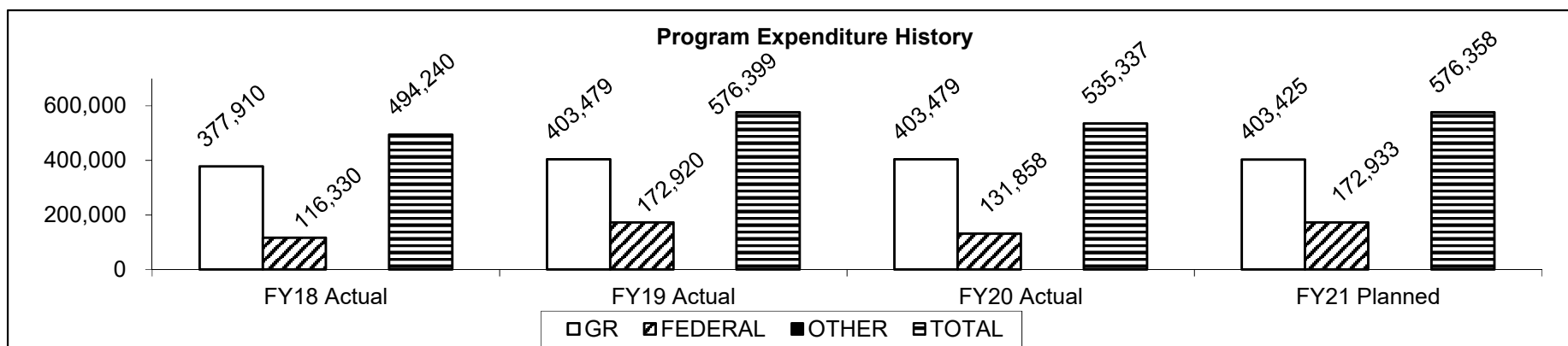
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**3. Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years and planned expenditures for the current fiscal year. (Note: Amounts do not include fringe benefit costs.)**



Planned FY 2021 expenditures are net of reverted and reserves.

**4. What are the sources of the "Other " funds?**

N/A

**5. What is the authorization for this program, i.e., federal or state statute, etc.? (Include the federal program number, if applicable.)**

State statute: Sections 173.270, 211.031 and 453.315, RSMo.; Federal: 42 USC Sections 670 and 5101.

**6. Are there federal matching requirements? If yes, please explain.**

Child Welfare training expenditures may receive a 50% or 75% federal match for Title IV-E. The Title IV-E program rate of federal reimbursement is the FMAP (Federal Medical Assistance Percentage). The FMAP fluctuates annually based on state and national economic and population data, but generally the state matching requirement is around 35% and the federal match 65%.

**7. Is this a federally mandated program? If yes, please explain.**

The federal Child Welfare Act and the federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act obligate Missouri to care for children who are abused and neglected. Administrative activities related to these obligations would be considered mandatory.