

The December 2020 Arizona Department of Child Safety special report found that, although the Department has various practices that can help ensure the reliability of the underlying data it uses to calculate caseloads for 3 public reports, its method for calculating caseloads results in less precise caseload numbers and increases the potential for reporting errors. We made 2 recommendations to the Department, and its status in implementing the recommendations is as follows:

Status of 2 recommendations

Implemented	1
Partially implemented	1

Unless otherwise directed by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, this report concludes our follow-up work on the Department's efforts to implement the recommendations from the December 2020 report.

Finding 1: Department has practices that can help ensure reliability of underlying data used in caseload calculations for 3 public reports but uses a less precise method for calculating caseloads

1. The Department should develop, implement, and document a more precise method for calculating publicly reported caseloads that uses the actual number of filled FTE positions by casework type and update the report footnotes accordingly.

Implemented at 30 months

2. The Department should complete its development and testing of the queries that will be used to obtain Guardian data for the publicly reported caseloads to help ensure their accuracy.

Partially implemented at 24 months—Although the Department developed queries for obtaining Guardian data for its publicly reported caseloads, it was unable to provide documentation demonstrating that it tested the queries to ensure the data it uses in its caseload reporting is sufficiently reliable.