

Family Protection Representation


Texas Indigent Defense Commission

June 13, 2025





Agenda

- DFPS Numbers
 - Attorney Capacity
 - Attorney Pay
 - SB 1838 & SB 2501
 - Future Considerations
- 



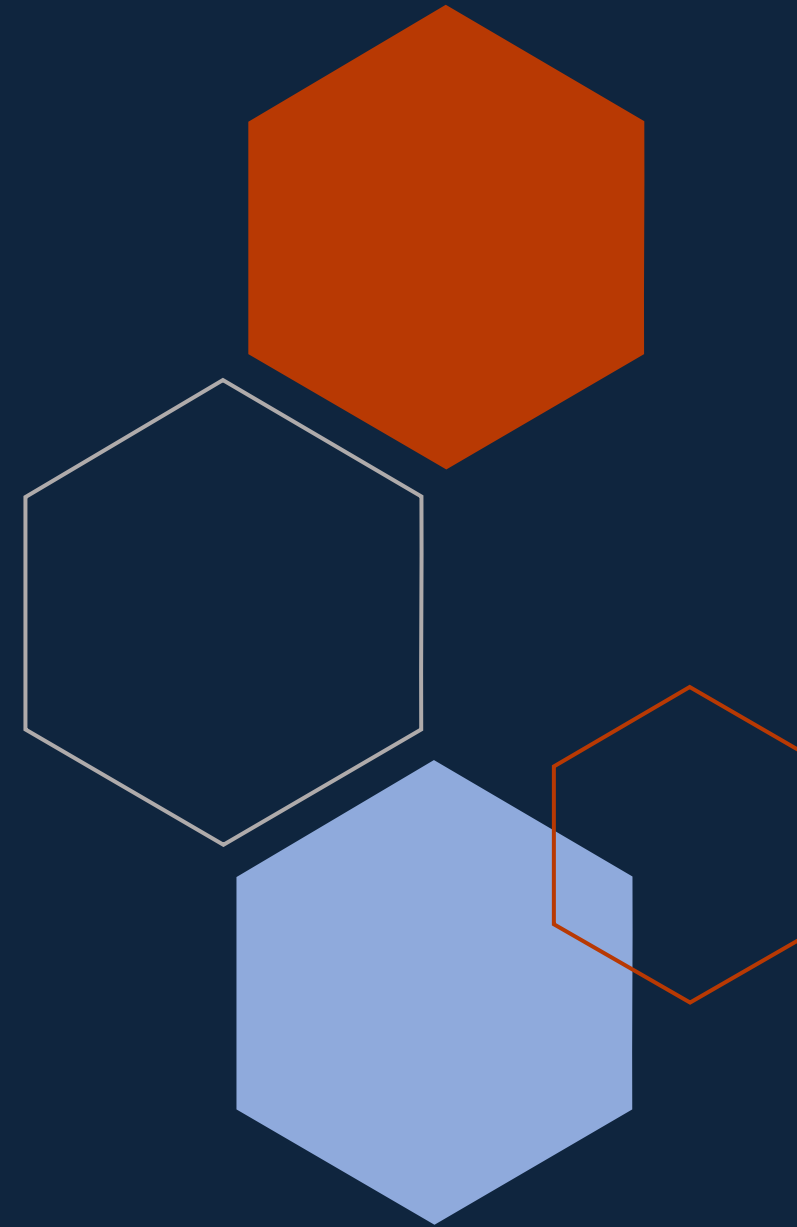
DFPS Numbers

- 28,008 children in DFPS conservatorship in FY24.
- 9,220 children legally removed from their parents by DFPS in FY24.
- 61,062 children were involved in a family preservation case in FY24.
- Children in DFPS conservatorship have decreased while numbers of children in family preservation cases have increased over the last three fiscal years.
- Removals have fluctuated slightly over the last three fiscal years.

Attorney Capacity

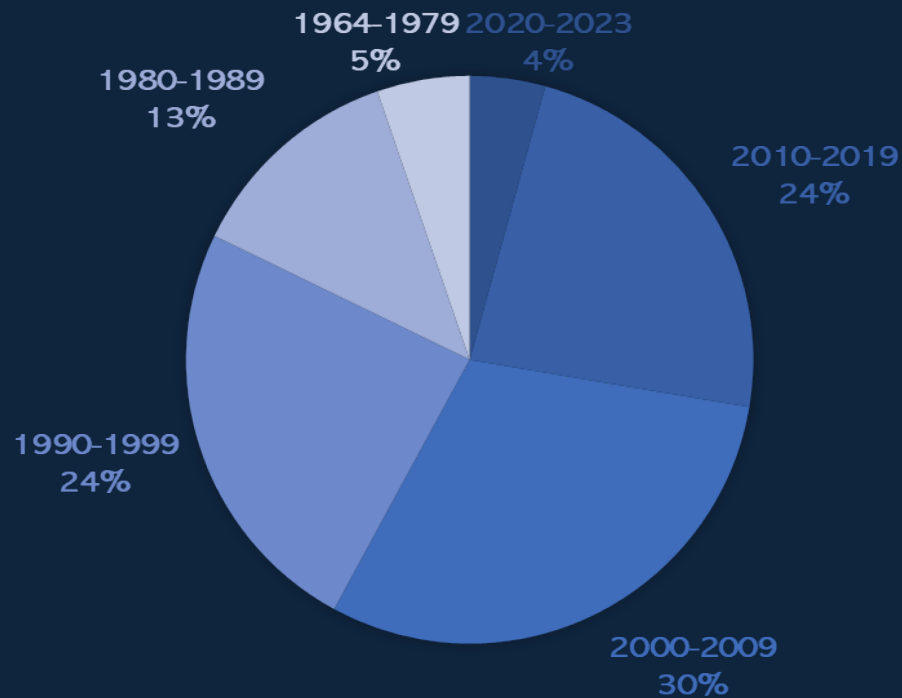
Number of Attorneys on Appointment Lists between 2021 & 2023:

- 52% of counties reported a decrease.
- 21% of counties reported an increase.
- 18% of counties reported no change.
- 9% of counties unable to determine.



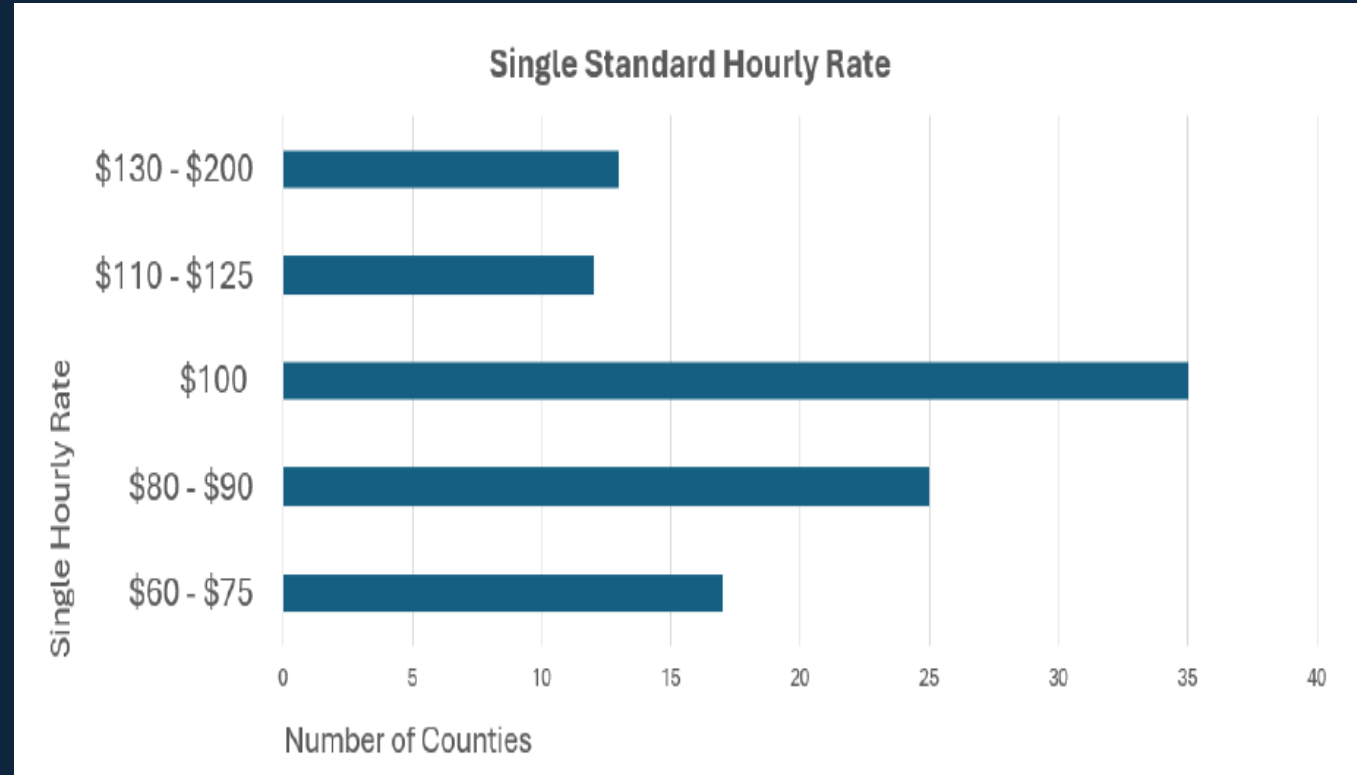
Attorney Capacity

2024 Attorney Practice Time Report & Attorney Licensure Year:



Attorney Pay

- Pay is inconsistent in the state.
- Pay is structured in hourly rates, hourly rate ranges, capped rates, flat rates, or a combination.
- 102 counties use a single hourly rate.
- Consider if attorneys are paid timely.



Legislative Changes

SB 1838

SB 2501



Future Considerations

- Systems building in rural communities
- Title IV-E claiming



A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide consists of a cluster of hexagons in various shades of blue, orange, and white, arranged in a honeycomb-like pattern. Some hexagons are solid colors, while others are outlined in white or orange.

Thank you

Crystal Leff-Piñon

cleff-pinon@tidc.texas.gov

737-279-9461