

Data integration in child protection

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Two perspectives – similar purpose

- As a researcher
 - To inform public dialogue on child protection and our response to the malaise.

- Citizen Review Panel
 - To ground the public dialogue in reliable information, and to promote data-driven decision-making.

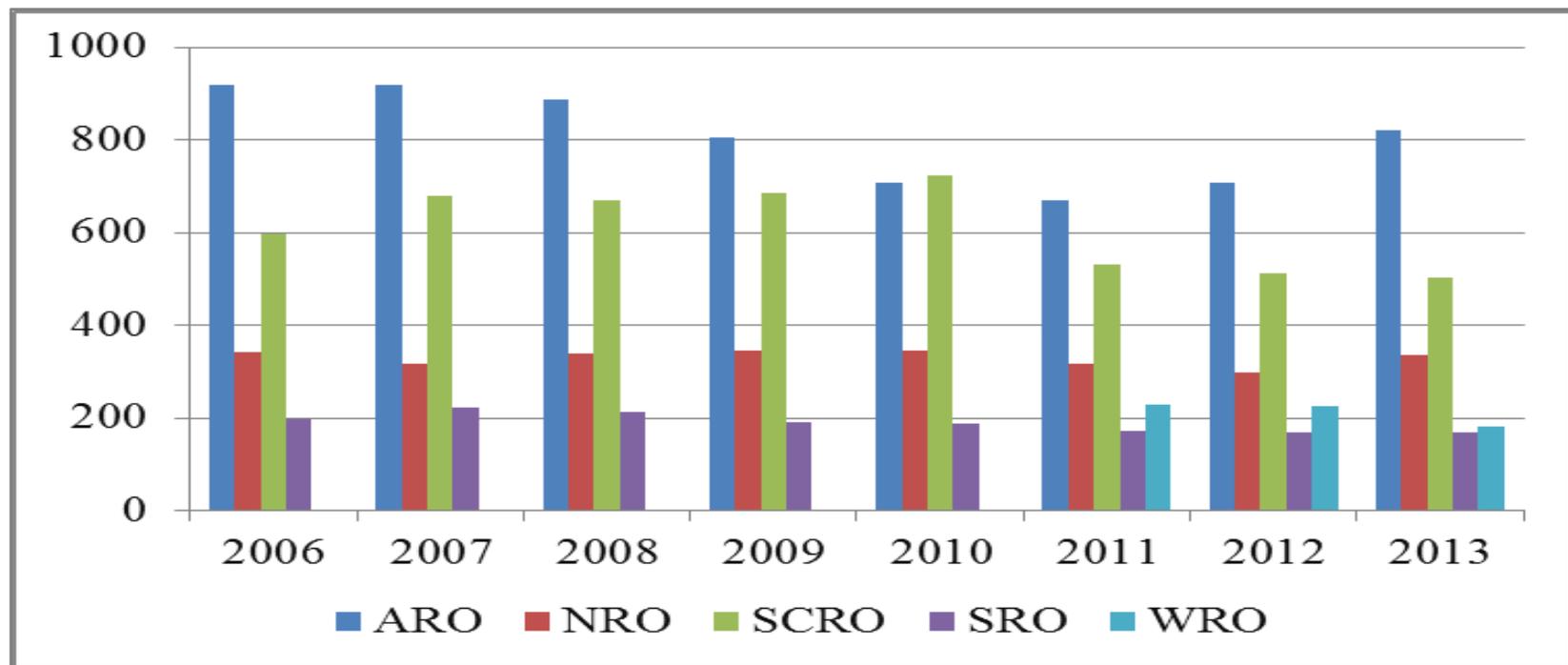
Informing public dialogue

- Informed decision-making requires:
 - Aggregate data at specific periods of time and over time
 - Actionable data - data that allows us to act
 - Accessible data
 - Data at various jurisdictional levels
 - Data that is useful to specific areas of practice
 - Data both on process (implementation) and outcomes (effectiveness)
 - Integrated data between various risk and protective factors and child wellbeing outcomes

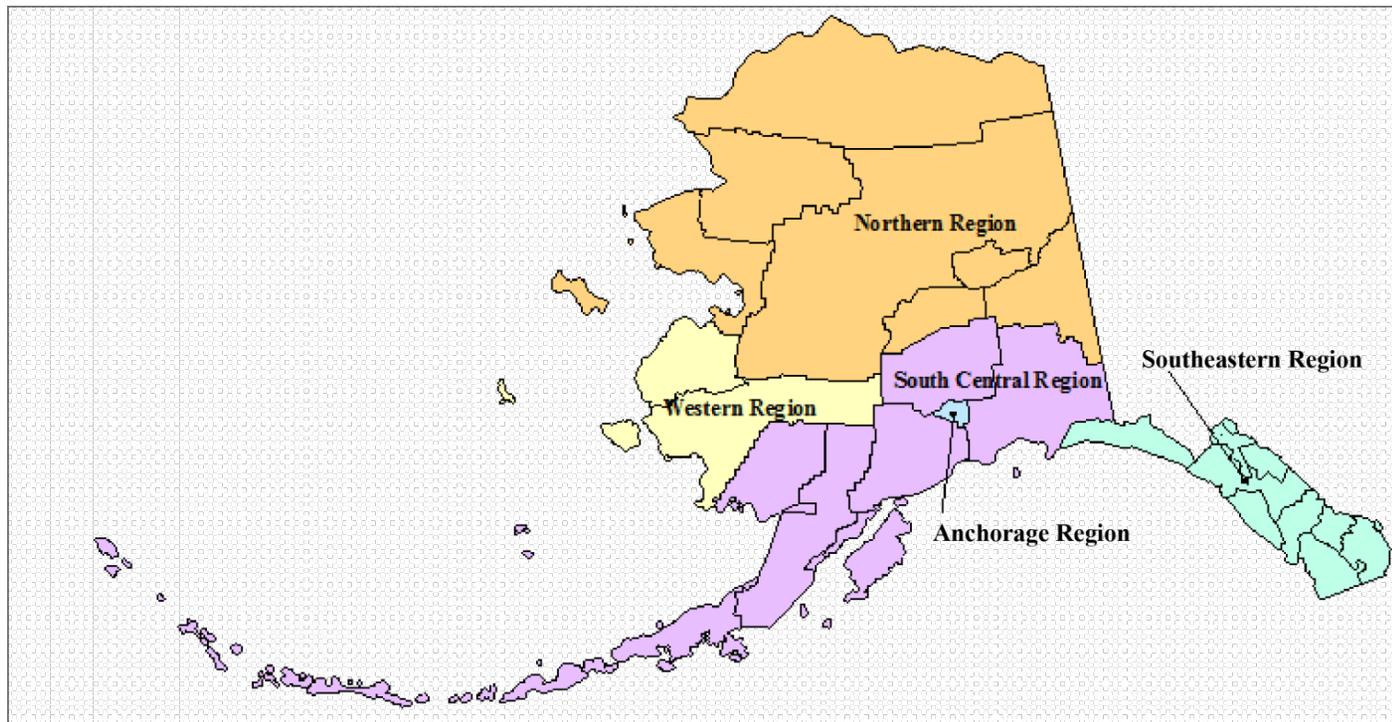
Incidence – first step



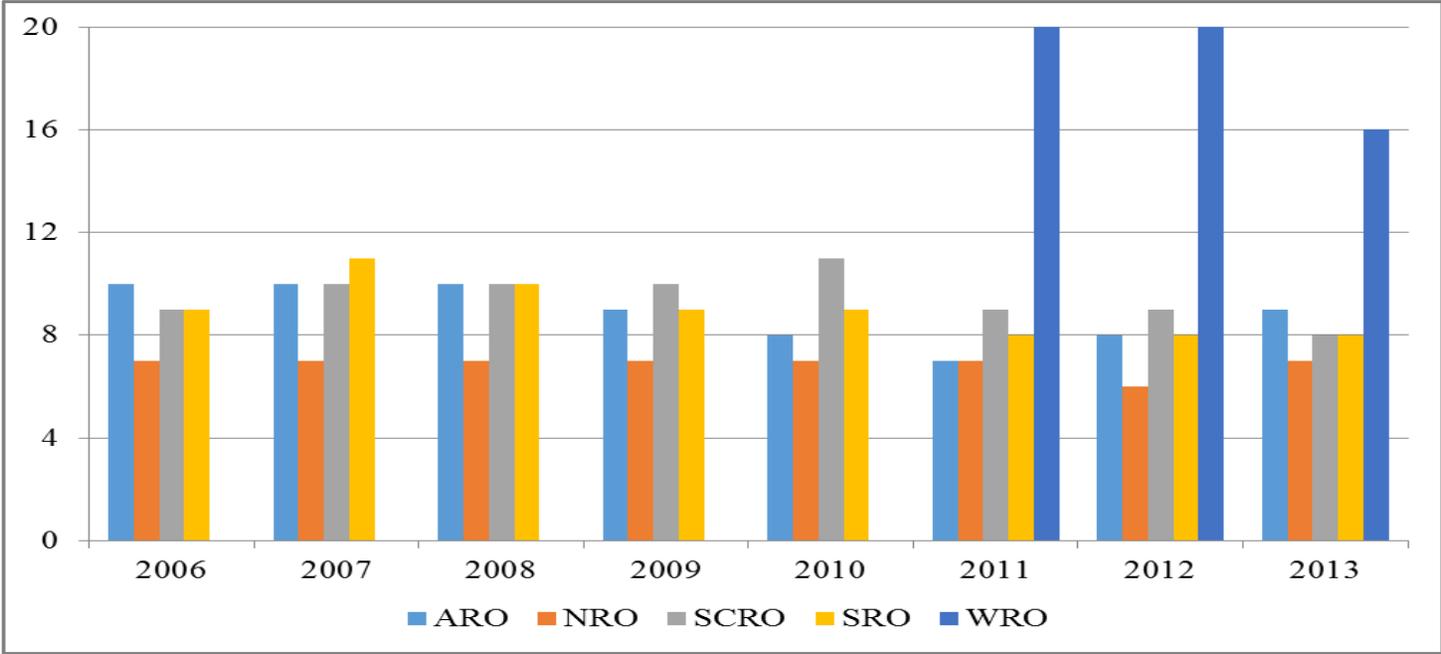
Number of children in foster care by region



Incidence – first step



Number of children in foster care for every 1000 children in the general population



Alaska Citizen Review Panel



A federal and state statutory body to review the policies, procedures, and practices (PPP) of state and local child protective services

Each state has at least one such panel, and Alaska has one.

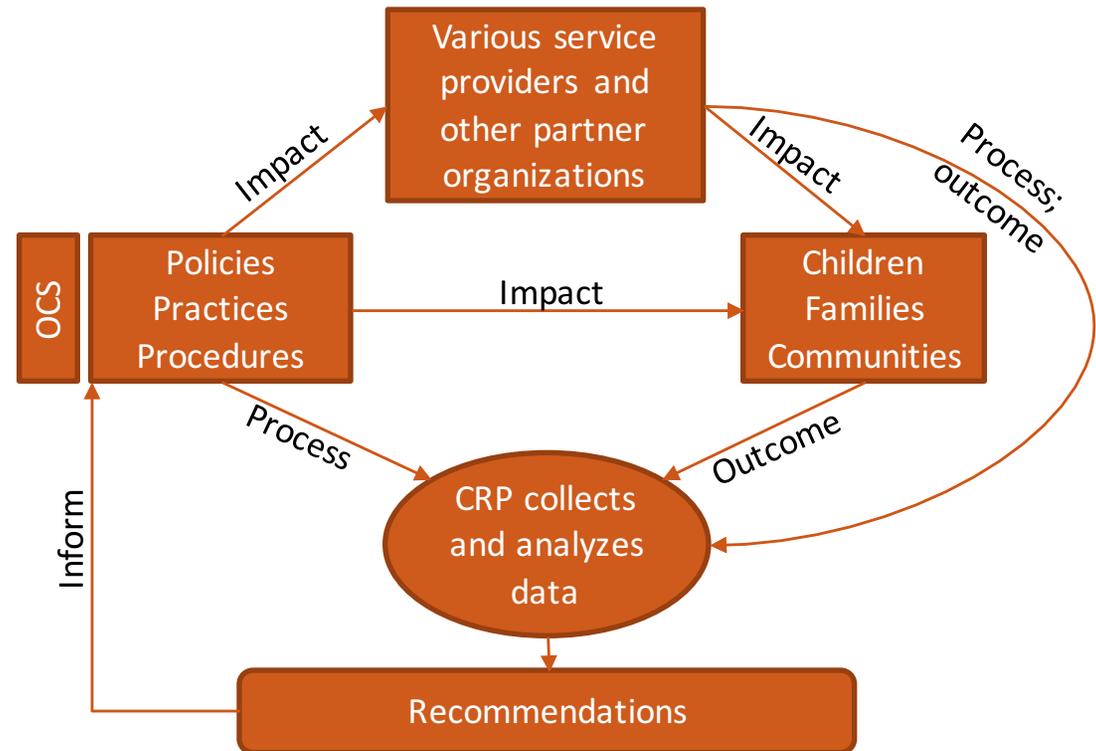
Three main functions:

- Review – reviews the work of OCS
- Outreach – collects public opinion on the impacts of OCS PPP
- Advocacy – Advocates for relevant changes in PPP



Data streams and purposes

- The overarching purpose is to involve citizens in decision-making
 - By sharing information with the general public
 - By collecting opinion from the general public



Data streams and purposes



- Data sources and types
 - OCS
 - Meetings and discussions (qualitative)
 - Policy manual and other internal reports and procedural documentation (qualitative)
 - Data from ORCA (quantitative)
 - Other agencies
 - Interviews and focus group meetings (qualitative)
 - Aggregate data (quantitative)
 - Individuals
 - Foster parents (qualitative)
 - Birth parents
 - Foster youth

How does this data get processed



- Short Answer – very haphazardly
- Long Answer – CRP needs the data management and analysis capacity to handle these diverse types of data.
- Considerations include:
 - Valid and consistent methods of data collection
 - Capacity to compile and analyze data
 - Adequately and accurately convey the findings to inform PPP
 - Disseminate findings widely