Appendix 4.2 Additional Information on Graduated Caseloads Methodology

The monitoring team verified the fifteenth and forty-fifth days of eligibility by using the DFPS monthly caseload data for November 2019 as a benchmark to determine if the average caseloads in the graduated caseload data appear accurate. As shown in the table below, the monitoring team identified the average daily caseload on the fifteenth and forty-fifth days of eligibility in each county. The change in the average caseload from the fifteenth day to the forty-fifth day was between -4.8 children to +3.2 children. This range seems reasonable given the low census in some of the less populous counties. For four of the forty-three dates (9.3%), the monitoring team was unable to calculate the difference between the fifteenth day average caseload and the forty-fifth day average caseload because DFPS did not provide either the fifteenth day or the forty-fifth day average. For three days, the caseworkers were not assigned any stages on the fifteenth day. For the remaining date, the forty-fifth day fell outside of the period so DFPS did not report the assigned stage on the forty-fifth day or the average daily caseload on the forty-fifth day.

Pursuant to the established generally applicable internal caseload standard, fourteen to seventeen children per caseworker, any caseworker subject to graduated caseloads should not have a full caseload higher than seventeen children after the effective date. For comparison, as seen in the following table, the average caseload in almost every county in the state of Texas for certain dates in September to November 2019, is higher than seventeen children. When caseworkers are subject to graduated caseloads and are assigned as primary caseworker for children in the PMC class, the caseworkers with one-third of the average caseload or two-thirds of the average caseload may be over the guideline of seventeen children even prior to eligibility for a full caseload.

Table Appendix 4.2 Comparison of Average Daily Caseload on 15th & 45th Day September-November 2019[1]

County Name	Average Daily Caseload for County on 15th Day	Average Daily Caseload for County on 45th Day	Difference Avg. Caseload 15th Day to Avg. Caseload 45th Day
Angelina	35.3	33.9	-1.4
Bell	32.8	32.4	-0.4
Bexar	25.1	25.7	0.6
Bexar	25.3	25.1	-0.2
Bexar	25.7	*Missing*	N.A.
Bexar	25.9	25.3	-0.6
Collin	21.8	20.0	-1.8
Dallas	*Missing*	23.5	N.A.
Dallas	22.7	22.8	0.1

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[1] Note: Counties appear more than once because they had graduated caseworkers eligible to carry cases on multiple dates, thus producing multiple fifteen day and forty-fifth day caseload averages. When caseworkers did not carry cases on the fifteenth day DFPS did not include the average daily caseload for the fifteenth day which did not allow the monitoring team to calculate the difference. For one instance in Bexar, the date of the forty-fifth day fell outside of the period so DFPS did not report the count of assigned stages or the average daily caseload for the forty-fifth day.

Dallas	22.8	23.5	0.7
Ector	30.2	30.3	0.1
Harris	19.5	19.3	-0.2
Tarrant	27.3	27.9	0.6
Taylor	37.8	35.9	-1.9
Tom Green	28.8	29.0	0.2
Atascosa	20.6	21.6	1.0
Bell	34.1	32.8	-1.3
Brown	33.3	31.6	-1.7
Burnet	*Missing*	30.2	N.A.
Cherokee	26.3	26.9	0.6
Denton	*Missing*	42.7	N.A.
El Paso	19.5	20.3	0.8
Grayson	23.7	23.1	-0.6
Harris	19.3	19.3	0
Harris	19.7	19.5	-0.2
Hunt	23.3	23	-0.3
Lamar	46.9	42.6	-4.3
Lampasas	26.3	21.5	-4.8
Liberty	17.6	20.8	3.2
McLennan	29.5	29.5	0
McLennan	31.5	29.5	-2
Midland	32.4	34	1.6
Montgomery	28.2	27.8	-0.4
Montgomery	28.7	28.2	-0.5
Nacogdoches	35.7	32.4	-3.3
Nueces	26.7	22.9	-3.8
Orange	30.9	31.8	0.9
Palo Pinto	26	25.9	-0.1
Potter	25.7	26.6	0.9
Tarrant	26.1	27.3	1.2
Tarrant	27.9	28	0.1
Tom Green	29	30.5	1.5
Travis	27.3	27.3	0