1. **General Statewide Comments:**
   - Some of the homes reported as “under capacity” may have a child(ren) under courtesy supervision, which is not captured on ICWSIS.
   - Some districts using ICWSIS did not indicate waivers for homes with more than five total children (foster children and all others). These homes have to be identified and the waiver reason entered manually. Instructions on how to do this through ICWSIS will be sent out again to the districts.
   - Districts that use ICWSIS for their over/under reports need to include only family foster homes and homes with a dual license as shelter and foster (agency, group, and shelter homes are not counted).
   - The scheduled due dates for the over/under quarterly capacity reports have been changed to coincide with the districts’ quarterly schedule, per the request of several districts. The next report will be due **October 20**, then on **January 20**, **April 20**, and **July 20**.
   - All districts will be sent a questionnaire and asked to provide feedback on how data for the over/under capacity reports are collected analyzed and used.

2. **Foster Home Licensed Capacity** (Graph #1):
   - There were 3,971 total active/available department foster homes reported statewide.
   - The majority of homes (46%) were under licensed capacity (n=1,811).
   - The next largest group of homes were (39%) were at licensed capacity (n=1,527).
   - 15% of homes were over licensed capacity (n=590).

3. **Distribution of Licensed Capacity** (Graph #2):
   - The total licensed capacity of all department homes counted is 9,095.
   - 59% (n=2,312) of homes are licensed for 1-2 children.
   - 32% (n=272) of homes are licensed for 3-4 children.
   - 7% (n=272) of homes are licensed for 5 children.
   - 2% (n=69) of homes are licensed for more than five children.

4. **Homes with More Than Five Total Children** (Graph #3):
   - There were a total of 479 homes with more than five total children. *Not all of these homes were included in the February and May graphs because some*
• The ICWSIS reports from districts 6 and 11 did not include waivers. The 350 homes indicated on graph #3 do not include the 129 homes from districts 6 and 11.
• 46% (n=160) indicated an appropriate waiver.
• 54% (n=190) did not indicate an appropriate waiver.

5. **February Vs May:**

• Some districts generated their own reports in February, but then used ICWSIS in May. Some of February’s reports did not delineate the types of department homes, but the ICWSIS reports did. Therefore, the May quarterly report may have excluded homes (group, medical, and respite) that were included in the February quarterly report.
• There were 3,971 active/available department homes counted in February. There were 3,928 active/available department homes counted in May. (decrease of 43 homes).
• The number of homes over licensed capacity decreased by 14 from February to May.
• The number of homes at licensed capacity increased by 12 from February to May.
• The number of homes under licensed capacity decreased by 41 from February to May.
• The percentages of each of the above categories remained about the same.
• Homes licensed for 1-2 children increased by 3% (n=192).
• Homes licensed for 3-4 children increased by 1% (n=65).
• Homes licensed for 5 children decreased by 1% (n=18).
• Homes licensed for more than five children decreased by 1% (n=34).
• There were 355 total homes (excluding district six) with more than five total children in February. In May, there were 396 homes (excluding district six) with more than five total children. There was a net gain of 41 homes with more than five total children between February and May.

6. **Comments/Suggestions:**

• The licensed capacity assigned to a foster home need to be based on the total number of children living in the home.
• Reduce the number of children living in homes with more than five total children (without appropriate waivers) through attrition.
• Target homes with large numbers of children and/or with large licensed capacities and develop a specific plan for each home. As the numbers of children are reduced through attrition, the licensed capacity can also be adjusted, at the time of relicensure, to reflect the total number of children living in the home.
• Develop specific plans, with time frames, to reduce over capacity when waivers
are requested and granted. When developing plans for each home, take into consideration the goal, expected length of stay, and needs of the children living in the home.

- Assist in maintaining placements by offering supports/services to homes over licensed capacity. Assess and address the needs of the foster families and the children placed with them.

- Develop a long-term foster parent recruitment and retention plan specific to your district that uses general recruitment efforts and targets foster parents for specific groups of youth (teens, sibling groups, pre-school children).

- Routinely review all homes under licensed capacity as placement options. Offer services to encourage foster parents to be more flexible in accepting teens, sibling groups, and pre-school age children.
Foster Home Capacity
N=3,928

- Under Capacity: 46% (N=1,811)
- At Capacity: 39% (N=1,527)
- Over Capacity: 15% (N=590)

*This graph includes all active/available department foster homes.
*Based on May Over/Under Capacity Reports
*The total licensed capacity of all department foster homes counted is 9,095.

*Based on February Over/Under Capacity Report
Graph #3

Statewide Quarterly Over/Under Capacity Report
5/98

Homes with More Than Five Total Children
N=350

- Meets Waiver: 46% (N=160)
- Does Not Meet Waiver: 54% (N=190)

*Districts 6 and 11 are not included in the above graph.
*There are 479 total homes (including districts 6 and 11) with more than five total children.