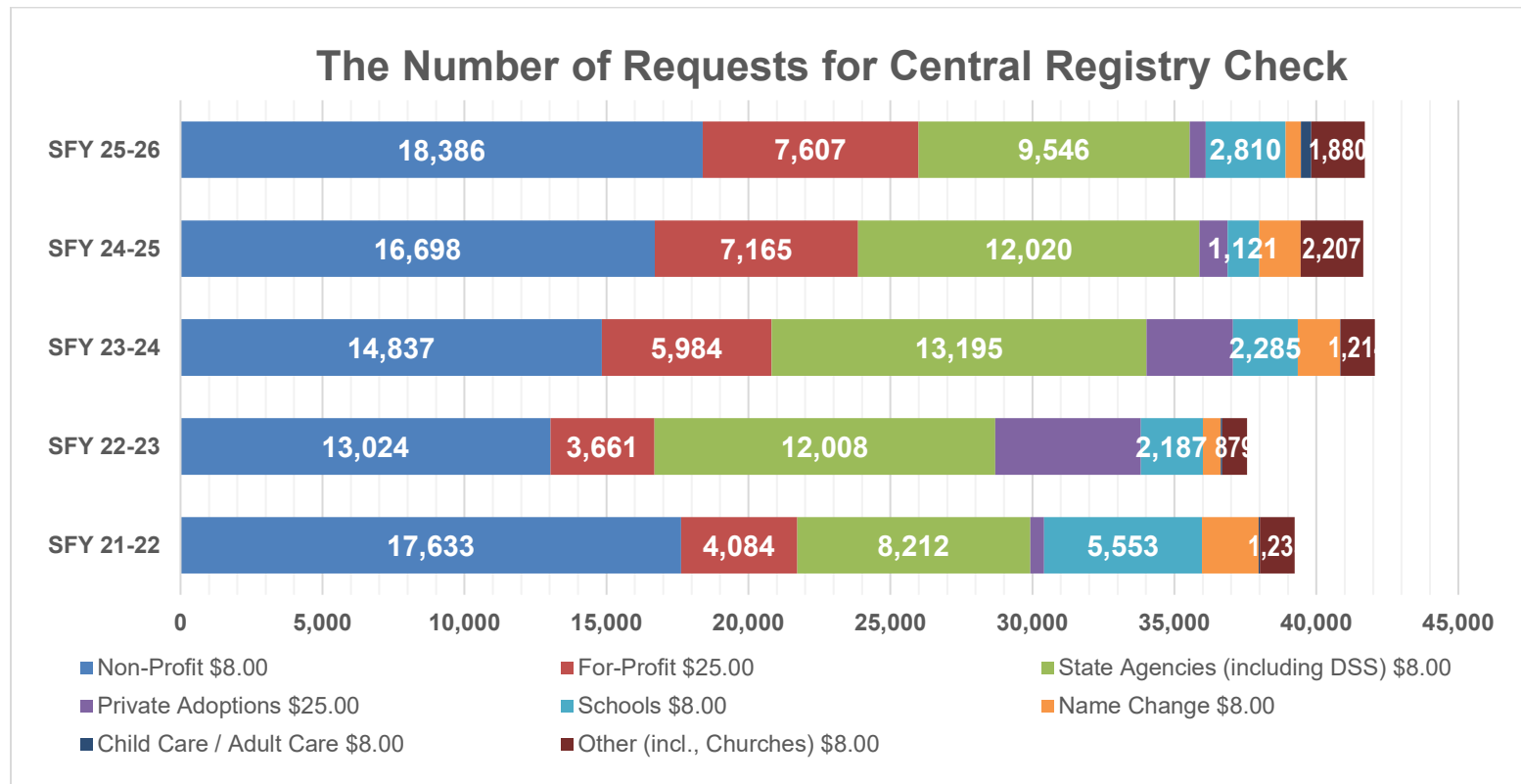


The Central Registry is a statewide database that maintains records of perpetrators of confirmed abuse and neglect in South Carolina. A person's name is entered into the Central Registry through one of the following actions: (1) Judge orders it during a DSS legal action in Family Court, (2) Judge orders it as part of a criminal sentence for crimes that involve harm to children, and (3) an Out of Home Abuse or Neglect (OHAN) investigation is indicated for abuse or neglect. Since the June 7, 2002 amendment to S. C. Code of Laws Ann. Section 63-7-1920, called "Stephanie's Law," all individuals entered into the Central Registry on or after June 7, 2002 will remain in the Central Registry indefinitely. As the agency responsible for maintaining the Central Registry, SCDSS acts as a statewide clearinghouse for agencies and businesses (statewide and out-of state requests) inquiring if prospective or current employees have a record of abuse and/or neglect. Please note: in calendar year 2022, Central Registry adopted an online portal for data records and thus data may not be comparable with last year's data.



"Non-Profit" includes group homes, child placing agencies (that are non-profit - a few are for profit), and GAL.

"For Profit" includes businesses and some child placing agencies.

"State Agencies" includes SCDSS as well as all other State Agencies.

"Schools" includes requests for teachers as well as volunteers.

Design: SCDSS – Division of Accountability, Data, and Research
Data: Central Registry Dept. (Aug 1, 2026)