



Child Welfare Outcomes 2004-2007

Report to Congress



SAFETY

PERMANENCY

WELL-BEING



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
Children's Bureau

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Executive Summary

Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress provides information on the performance of States in seven outcome categories. In addition to reporting on State performance in these outcome categories, the Child Welfare Outcomes Report also includes data on contextual factors and findings of analyses conducted across States.

CONTEXTUAL FACTORS

The Child Welfare Outcomes Report presents data on child welfare-related contextual factors relevant to understanding and interpreting State performance on the outcome measures. Below is a summary of the FY 2007 data for these contextual factors.

Characteristics of child victims

- In 2007, 753,357 children were confirmed to be victims of maltreatment.¹ The overall national child victim rate was 10.6 child victims per 1,000 children in the population.² State child victim rates varied dramatically, ranging from 1.5 child victims per 1,000 children to 26.3 child victims per 1,000 children.³
- The percentage of child victims of a particular race/ethnicity varied among States. In 2007, there were many States in which the percentage of minority race/ethnicity child victims was disproportionate to the percentage of these children in the State population.⁴ Overrepresentation was found for Black child victims (25 States), Alaska Native/American Indian child victims (13 States), and Hispanic child victims (5 States).

In 2007, 753,357 children were confirmed to be victims of maltreatment.

Foster care information overview

- Approximately 491,000 children nationally were in foster care on the last day of FY 2007.⁵ During that year, about 293,000 children entered foster care, and an approximately equal number of children exited foster care.⁶ Among the States, the foster care entry rate ranged from 1.5 children per 1,000 to 8.5 children per 1,000 in a State's population.⁷
- The percentage of children of a particular race/ethnicity entering foster care varied among States. In 2007, there were many States in which the percentage of minority race/ethnicity children entering foster care was disproportionately greater than the percentage of these children in the State population.⁸ Disproportionate

Approximately 491,000 children nationally were in foster care on the last day of FY 2007.

¹ For the purposes of this report, a victim of child maltreatment is defined as a child for whom an incident of abuse or neglect has been substantiated or indicated by an investigation or assessment. A State may include some children with alternative dispositions as victims (*Child Maltreatment 2007*). It is important to distinguish that the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports use the total reported number of child victims as opposed to a national estimate of child victims, which is often reported in *Child Maltreatment*.

² The overall national child victim rate is calculated by dividing the total number of child victims (753,357) by the child population for all States that submitted NCANDS data (71,099,024), and multiplying by 1,000.

³ A State's rate of child victims is defined as the number of child victims reported to NCANDS per 1,000 children in the State's population. Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁴ For the purposes of this report, we are defining representation as disproportionate when the percentage of a racial/ethnic group of victims constitutes at least one and one-half times the percentage of children of that racial/ethnic group in a State's child population. The analysis of disproportionate representation was conducted for Black, White, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Hispanic children (of any race). Other races were not included in the analysis because of their very small representation in the population of the majority of States. Puerto Rico was excluded from this analysis due to unavailable data.

⁵ Unless otherwise specified, the data used in this report are for Federal fiscal year 2007 (October 1, 2006–September 30, 2007).

⁶ After the AFCARS data were analyzed in detail for the text of this report, late data resubmissions by a few States caused two noteworthy changes to the overall national data. The total number of children in foster care on the last day of FY 2007 changed from 490,000 to 491,000, and the number of children exiting care in FY 2007 changed from 287,000 to 293,000. For accuracy of the overall picture, these two numbers are reported here, but all other data in the report remain unchanged.

⁷ Rate of entry is calculated by dividing the total number of children entering foster care in a State by the total child population in that State and multiplying by 1,000 [(N entering FC/child population) × 1,000].

⁸ For the purposes of this report, representation is considered disproportionate when a racial/ethnic group of children entering foster care constitutes at least one and one-half times the number of children of that racial/ethnic group in a State. The analysis of disproportionate representation was conducted for Black, White, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Hispanic children (of any race). Other races were not included in the analysis because of their very small representation in the population of the majority of States. Puerto Rico was excluded from this analysis due to unavailable data.

representation was found for Black children (37 States), Alaska Native/American Indian children (14 States), and Hispanic children (5 States) entering foster care.

- Nationally, approximately 246,000 children exited foster care to a permanent home in 2007 (i.e., were discharged to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship). Of these 246,000 children, 178,000 were discharged to reunification; 51,000 were discharged to adoption; and 17,000 were discharged to legal guardianship. Approximately 27,000 children emancipated from foster care in 2007. An additional 20,000 foster children exited care for other non-permanency reasons such as transfer to another agency or to another State.
- Approximately 130,000 children were waiting to be adopted in 2007.⁹

In 2007, 178,000 were discharged to reunification, 51,000 were discharged to adoption, and 17,000 were discharged to legal guardianship.

STATE PERFORMANCE ON OUTCOME MEASURES

The Child Welfare Outcomes Report presents data and analyses on seven outcome categories. A synopsis of key findings for these outcome areas is provided below. The measures relevant to these outcomes are described in detail in appendix B of the full report. Most of the outcome measures are also listed in tables I and II of this executive summary. Note that individual measures that are part of the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) permanency composites are preceded by a “C” to distinguish them from the original outcome measures. The original outcome measures were developed prior to the first Child Welfare Outcomes Report (1998) in close consultation with State representatives and other professionals in the field. The composite measures, developed in 2005, were based on the same outcome goals, but were created in response to requests that the Department measure more detailed aspects of the original outcomes to allow a correspondingly more detailed understanding of State performance.

All national medians for outcome measures referenced in this executive summary include only those States for which adequate data are available for FY 2004 through FY 2007. Tables of these medians can be found at the end of this executive summary.¹⁰

Outcome 1: Reduce recurrence of child abuse and/or neglect

- In 2007, State performance varied considerably with regard to the percentage of child victims experiencing a recurrence of child maltreatment within a 6-month period (measure 1.1) (range = 1.4 to 13.1 percent; median = 5.6 percent).
- States with higher victim rates tended to have higher maltreatment recurrence rates within a 6-month period (Pearson’s $r = .63$). In addition, consistent with previous Child Welfare Outcomes Reports, States with a relatively high percentage of children who were victims of neglect (as opposed to other forms of maltreatment) also had some tendency to have a relatively high percentage of maltreatment recurrence within a 6-month period (Pearson’s $r = .31$).¹¹
- Between 2004 and 2007, 56 percent of States demonstrated improved performance with regard to the measure of recurrence of child maltreatment (measure 1.1). In addition, the median across States for this measure changed from 6.5 percent in 2004 to 5.6 percent in 2007. Given that a lower recurrence rate is desirable, this demonstrates an overall improvement in performance (a -13.8 percent change in the median State).¹²

Outcome 2: Reduce the incidence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care

- In 2007, State performance regarding the maltreatment of children while in foster care (measure 2.1) ranged from 0.03 to 1.38 percent, with a median of 0.34 percent.
- Between 2004 and 2007, 21 States (53 percent of States analyzed) demonstrated improved performance. In addition, the median performance for this measure improved from 0.39 percent in 2004 to 0.34 percent in 2007 (a -12.8 percent change).

⁹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents’ parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents’ parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State’s own definition may differ from that used here.

¹⁰ In the Child Welfare Outcomes Report, two separate national medians are computed for each measure for FY 2007. In the 2007 “Range of State Performance” tables, national medians are calculated using all States that had adequate data available for FY 2007 only. However, when looking at performance over time, a separate FY 2007 national median is calculated that includes only the States that had adequate data available for all the relevant years (FY 2004 through FY 2007). This is done to provide a more accurate calculation of change over time. Therefore, the number of States (N) included in each of these calculations may vary, and these two medians may be slightly different. For consistency, the medians used in this executive summary are those that include States that had adequate data available for all relevant years.

¹¹ The strength of relationships in the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports is assessed using correlation coefficients, specifically Pearson’s r , which can range in value from -1 to +1.

¹² Percent change is calculated by subtracting “old” data from “new” data, dividing that result by old data, and multiplying it by 100. For example, if maltreatment recurrence were 9.2 in 2004 and 7.6 in 2007, the formula is $[(7.6-9.2)/9.2] \times 100 = -17.4$ percent change.

Outcome 3: Increase permanency for children in foster care

- In 2007, States were fairly successful in achieving a permanent home for all children exiting foster care (measure 3.1, median = 86.9 percent). However, States were less successful in achieving permanent homes for children exiting foster care who had a diagnosed disability (measure 3.2, median = 76.2 percent), and even less successful in finding permanent homes for children exiting foster care who entered care when they were older than age 12 (measure 3.3, median = 69.2 percent).
- For children who had been in foster care for long periods of time (measure C3.1), the data indicate that, while performance varied (range = 9.0 to 46.4 percent), all States struggled to some degree with finding permanent homes for these children. In 2007, only 26.3 percent (median) of these children had permanent homes by the end of the year. However, between 2004 and 2007, 51 percent of States exhibited an improvement in performance, and the national median for this measure increased from 24.4 percent to 26.3 percent (a 7.8 percent change).
- In many States, a considerable percentage of children emancipated from foster care in 2007 were in foster care for long periods of time before they were emancipated (measures 3.4 and C3.3). In about one-half of the States, 27 percent or more of the children who were emancipated from foster care were age 12 or younger when they entered foster care (measure 3.4), and 45 percent or more of the children emancipated from foster care, or who turned age 18 while in care, were in care for 3 years or longer (measure C3.3). However, it is encouraging to note that between 2004 and 2007, 44 percent of States showed improved performance on measure 3.4, and 27 percent of States showed improvement on measure C3.3.

In many States, a considerable percentage of children emancipated from foster care in 2007 were in foster care for long periods of time before they were emancipated.

Outcome 4: Reduce time in foster care to reunification without increasing reentry

- The 2007 data suggest that, in many States, a majority of children discharged to reunification were reunified in a timely manner. Across States, the median percentage of reunifications occurring in less than 12 months was about 68 percent (measure 4.1 and C1.1).
- Overall, 61 percent of States showed a decline in performance from 2004 to 2007 with regard to the median length of stay in foster care for reunified children (measure C1.2). Consistent with this finding, the national median for this measure also showed a decline in performance. The median length of stay in foster care for children prior to reunification increased from 6.5 months in 2004 to 7.7 months in 2007. Given that a shorter length of stay is desirable, this demonstrates a decline in performance (an 18.5 percent change).
- A longitudinal view of children from the time of entry into foster care (i.e., an entry cohort) until the time of discharge indicates that most States are not reunifying children in a timely manner. Measure C1.3 focuses on children entering care for the first time during the last 6 months of the prior year and follows them for 12 months to determine the percentage that reunified within this time period. In 2007, the median across States was only 41.5 percent, and the 75th percentile was only 48.5 percent. Therefore, in at least 75 percent of States, the majority of children who entered foster care for the first time in the last 6 months of 2006 were still in foster care 12 months later.
- Many States (57 percent) showed improved performance between 2004 and 2007 with regard to the percentage of children who reenter foster care in less than 12 months from being reunified (measure C1.4). In addition, the national median for this measure improved from 15.0 percent in 2004 to 12.7 in 2007 (a -15.3 percent change). Note that because a lower reentry rate is desirable, a negative percent change represents improved performance.
- Many States with a relatively high percentage of children entering foster care who were age 13 or older at the time of entry also had a relatively high percentage of children reentering foster care (measure C1.4) (Pearson's $r = .63$). Conversely, many States with a relatively high percentage of children entering foster care at age 12 or younger also had a relatively low percentage of children reentering foster care (Pearson's $r = -.62$).

Overall, 61 percent of States showed a decline in performance between 2004 and 2007 in the median length of stay in foster care for reunified children.

Between 2004 and 2007, 57 percent of States showed improved performance in the percentage of children who reenter foster care within 12 months from discharge.

Outcome 5: Reduce time in foster care to adoption

- Achieving timely adoptions is a challenge for all but a few States. The percentage of adoptions that occur in less than 12 months from the child's entry into foster care is quite low in almost all States (measure 5.1a, median = 3.4 percent). In addition, the percentage of adoptions occurring in less than 24 months from a child's entry into foster care is fairly low (measure C2.1, median = 31.5 percent).

- From 2004 to 2007, 65 percent of States demonstrated improved performance with regard to the percentage of adoptions occurring in less than 24 months (measure C2.1). The national median for this measure also improved from 25.9 percent in 2004 to 31.5 percent in 2007 (a 21.6 percent change).
- Many States (55 percent) showed an improvement in the median length of stay for children adopted (measure C2.2). The national median for this measure also improved from 32.2 months in 2004 to 30.1 months in 2007 (a -6.5 percent change). Given that a shorter length of stay is desirable, this demonstrates an improvement in performance.
- Fifty-five percent of States showed improved performance in the percentage of children in foster care for 17 months or longer on the first day of the year who were adopted by the end of the year (measure C2.3). Consistent with this finding, the national median for this measure increased from 19.8 percent in 2004 to 21.0 percent in 2007 (a 6.1 percent change).

From 2004 to 2007, 65 percent of States demonstrated improved performance in the percentage of adoptions occurring in less than 24 months.

Outcome 6: Increase placement stability

- In this report, adequate placement stability is defined as limiting the number of placement settings to no more than two. Although most States appear to be reasonably successful in achieving this placement stability goal for children in foster care for less than 12 months, States tend to be far less successful in meeting this goal for children in foster care for longer periods of time. The median across States declines from 85.2 percent for children in foster care for less than 12 months to 61.0 percent for children in foster care for 12 to 24 months, and then declines even further to 31.7 percent for children in foster care for 24 months or longer.
- Children in foster care for a relatively long period of time prior to adoption tend to have relatively stable placement settings prior to adoption finalization. This is supported by the positive correlation (Pearson's $r = .53$) between median length of stay prior to adoption (measure C2.2) and placement setting stability for children in foster care for at least 24 months (measure 6.1c). One possible explanation is that, when a child is in a stable, pre-adoptive home, it may take additional time for the adoption to become finalized, but there would be no reason for additional placement setting changes.

Outcome 7: Reduce placements of young children in group homes or institutions

- In about one-half of the States, 5.7 percent or less of children entering foster care under the age of 12 were placed in group homes or institutions. However, in 12 States, between 10 percent and 20 percent of young children were placed in group homes or institutions, indicating that this is still an important issue in several States.
- In 2006 there was a substantial improvement toward fewer placements of young children in group homes or institutions (measure 7.1), and this improvement has continued through 2007. The national median percentage of young children placed in group homes or institutions decreased from 7.2 percent in 2004 and 2005 to 5.9 percent in 2006 and 2007 (a -18.1 percent change). Consistent with this finding, 76 percent of States showed improved performance on this measure between 2004 and 2007.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION

In reviewing the key findings in all seven outcome areas, it is clear that there are both areas of strength and areas in need of improvement with regard to achieving positive outcomes for children who come into contact with State child welfare systems. All of these areas deserve additional investigation in order to gain further understanding and to move the child welfare field forward. Some areas needing additional attention are the following:

- Nationally, performance on measures of child safety fluctuated somewhat between 2004 and 2007, but the 2006 and 2007 data indicate that performance may be improving overall. States should be encouraged by improvements and work to build on their efforts to ensure that children remain safe.
- Finding permanent homes for children identified as having a diagnosed disability is a challenge for most States. In addition to relatively low performance in 2007, a change in performance between 2004 and 2007 indicates a decline in this area. The reasons for low or declining performance need to be better understood. In addition, the strategies used by States that are more successful in this area should to be carefully examined.
- Another area in need of improvement is finding permanent homes for children who have been in foster care for 24 months or longer. Between 2005 and 2007, national performance in this area remained essentially unchanged. What are the factors that contribute to children being in foster care for long periods of time? What programs or policies have worked to increase permanency for children who have been in care for long periods of time?

- Overall national performance on the percentage of children reunified in less than 12 months and the median length of stay for children reunified point toward a performance decline between 2004 and 2007. However, the reentry rate for children reunified improved within this same time period. These three areas should be reviewed in conjunction with one another so that strategies can be developed that improve performance in both the timeliness and permanency of reunifications. For example, are there services that are effective in ensuring safe and timely reunifications, while also preventing reentry?
- While overall national performance on timeliness of adoptions has improved, it continues to be a significant challenge for almost all States. It is important to note that there may be a variety of factors that contribute to lower performance on these measures, and these factors may vary considerably across States. However, for those States that struggle in this area, a careful review of specific barriers would be beneficial. In addition, a comprehensive analysis of what has been effective in States also is of significant importance.
- Placement setting stability for children in foster care longer than 12 months has consistently been an area of difficulty for many States. Overall performance improved between 2004 and 2007 for children in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months. However, performance declined within this same time period for children in care 24 months or longer. How can States prevent children from remaining in care for long periods of time and increase placement setting stability for children who have been in care for long periods of time?
- The majority of States have made considerable strides toward decreasing the percentage of young children placed in group homes or institutions. It would be useful to determine what is behind the success of the 76 percent of the States that showed improved performance on this measure between 2004 and 2007. This knowledge could then be shared with all States seeking improvements in this area.

Data and analysis presented throughout the full Child Welfare Outcomes Report offer additional details regarding overall national performance. In addition, State Data Pages provide a profile of individual State performance between 2004 and 2007.

Table 1. Median State Performance, 2004–2007
Original Outcome Measures

Outcome Measures ¹³	Median Performance by Year			
	2004	2005	2006	2007
*Measure 1.1: Of all children who were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and/or neglect during the first 6 months of the year, what percentage had another substantiated or indicated report within a 6-month period? (N=43)	6.5%	6.6%	6.1%	5.6%
*Measure 2.1: Of all children who were in foster care during the year, what percentage were the subject of substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member? (N=40)	0.39	0.44	0.42	0.34
Measure 3.1: Of all children who exited foster care during the year, what percentage left to either reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=50)	87.4	87.3	87.3	86.9
Measure 3.2: Of all children who exited foster care during the year and were identified as having a diagnosed disability, what percentage left to either reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=45)	78.9	78.4	76.9	76.2
Measure 3.3: Of all children who exited foster care during the year and were older than age 12 at the time of their most recent entry into care, what percentage left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=49)	72.3	72.4	70.7	69.2
*Measure 3.4: Of all children exiting foster care in the year to emancipation, what percentage were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into care? (N=52)	28.5	28.3	28.6	27.4
Measure 4.1: Of all children reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care during the year, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the time of entry into foster care? (N=52)	70.6	70.8	69.3	67.6
Measure 5.1a: Of all children discharged from care during the year to a finalized adoption, what percentage were discharged in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (N=51)	3.8	3.5	3.0	3.4
Measure 6.1a: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for less than 12 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=52)	83.1	84.4	84.0	85.2
Measure 6.1b: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in foster care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=52)	58.5	59.8	60.5	61.0
Measure 6.1c: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in foster care for at least 24 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=52)	32.1	31.8	32.1	31.7
*Measure 7.1: Of all children who entered foster care during the year and were age 12 or younger at the time of their most recent placement, what percentage were placed in a group home or institution? (N=51)	7.2	7.2	5.9	5.9

*For these measures, a lower number indicates better performance.

¹³ Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available.

Table 2. Median State Performance, 2004–2007
Composite Measures

Composite Measures ¹⁴	Median Performance by Year			
	2004	2005	2006	2007
Measure C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment) (N=51)	69.8	70.7	69.0	68.2
*Measure C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment) (N=51)	6.5 mos.	6.9 mos.	7.1 mos.	7.7 mos.
Measure C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment) (N=52)	37.8	38.7	40.9	41.5
Measure C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge? (N=51)	15.0	14.9	14.0	12.7
Measure C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (N=51) ¹⁵	25.9	29.0	30.3	31.5
*Measure C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from home to the date of discharge to adoption? (N=51)	32.2 mos.	31.6 mos.	31.8 mos.	30.1 mos.
Measure C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year? (N=51) ¹⁶	19.8	20.3	20.0	21.0
Measure C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in foster care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day, what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? (N=50) ¹⁷	9.1	9.1	9.5	9.5
Measure C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free? (N=50)	45.8	46.6	50.4	50.8
Measure C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year? (N=51)	24.4	26.2	26.4	26.3
Measure C3.2: Of all children who were discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday? (N=49) ¹⁸	96.7	95.1	94.6	94.6
*Measure C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer? (N=49)	47.8	48.3	47.7	45.7

*For these measures, a lower number indicates better performance.

¹⁴ Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available. Numbers are expressed as percentages except when measured by months, as noted. Individual measures developed for Composite 4: Placement stability are not shown in this table because the measures are nearly identical to the original measures of placement stability incorporated into measure 6. I (see table I).

¹⁵ Although measure C2.1 is calculated exactly the same way as original measure 5.1b, the results can vary slightly because the source files are different for the composite measures. In the source files for measure C2.1, all children are excluded who were not age 17 for at least 1 day. No such exclusion exists for measure 5.1b. In addition, composites are calculated at the county level and are then aggregated to the State level, which could also slightly influence performance on C2.1 compared to 5.1b. In this instance, there is the added possible impact of using only 49 States for C2.1, while 50 States were used for 5.1b.

¹⁶ The denominator for this measure excludes children who, by the last day of the year, were discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification with parents or primary caretakers, living with relatives, or guardianship.

¹⁷ A child is considered to be “legally free” for adoption if there is a date for parental rights termination reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. Also, the denominator for this measure excludes children who, during the first 6 months of the year, were discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification with parents or primary caretakers, living with other relatives, or guardianship.

¹⁸ A child is considered to be “legally free” for adoption if there is a date for the parental rights termination reported to AFCARS for both mother and father.

ABOUT THE CHILD WELFARE OUTCOMES REPORTS

Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress is a report created by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (the Department) to meet requirements of section 203(a) of the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (ASFA). ASFA amended section 479A of the Social Security Act to require an annual report on State performance. *Child Welfare Outcomes 1998* was the first report created in the Child Welfare Outcomes series of reports. The present report, *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007*, is the ninth report since the series' inception.

Child Welfare Outcomes Reports provide information on the performance of States in seven outcome categories. The Department identified these outcomes prior to the first Child Welfare Outcomes Report in close consultation with State and local child welfare agency administrators, child advocacy organizations, child welfare researchers, State legislators, and other experts in the child welfare field. The outcomes used in this report reflect widely accepted performance objectives for child welfare practice.

In addition to reporting on State performance in these outcome categories, the Child Welfare Outcomes Report also includes data on contextual factors and findings of analyses conducted across States. Data for all measures in this report come from the Department's two national child welfare-related data systems—the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) and the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS).

I: Introduction to the Child Welfare Outcomes, Data, and Analysis

The Child Welfare Outcomes Reports are created by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (the Department) to meet requirements of section 203(a) of the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (ASFA).¹ ASFA amended section 479A of the Social Security Act (the Act) to require an annual report that assesses State performance in operating child protection and child welfare programs under titles IV-B and IV-E of the Act. *Child Welfare Outcomes 1998* was the first report created in the Child Welfare Outcomes series of reports. The present report, *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007*, is the ninth report since the series' inception.

The Child Welfare Outcomes Reports provide information on the performance of States in seven outcome categories. Prior to the first Child Welfare Outcomes Report, the Department identified these outcomes in close consultation with State and local child welfare agency administrators, child advocacy organizations, child welfare researchers, State legislators, and other experts in the child welfare field. The outcomes reflect widely accepted performance objectives for child welfare practice. The seven national outcomes established by the Department through this consultation process are:

- Outcome 1: Reduce recurrence of child abuse and/or neglect
- Outcome 2: Reduce the incidence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care
- Outcome 3: Increase permanency for children in foster care
- Outcome 4: Reduce time in foster care to reunification without increasing reentry
- Outcome 5: Reduce time in foster care to adoption
- Outcome 6: Increase placement stability
- Outcome 7: Reduce placements of young children in group homes or institutions

OUTCOME MEASURES

The Child Welfare Outcomes Reports originally reported on 12 measures established to assess performance on the seven national outcomes. However, starting with *Child Welfare Outcomes 2002–2005*, the Department began including data on the four permanency composites used as part of the second round of the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs).² The composites incorporate a set of 15 individual measures pertaining to permanency (including reunification, adoption, and guardianship) and placement stability for children in foster care. These measures were developed in 2005. While these 15 newer measures were not part of the original set of measures established for this report, they do assess critical performance areas relevant to the seven national child welfare outcomes and are consistent with the mission of the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports. In addition, these new measures supplement the 12 original measures to provide a more comprehensive assessment of State performance. Individual measures that are part of the composite measures are preceded by a “C” throughout this report to distinguish them from the original outcome measures.

THE CHILD WELFARE OUTCOMES REPORT AND THE CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEWS

The CFSRs serve as the Department's results-oriented, comprehensive system for monitoring State performance regarding the safety, permanency, and well-being of children and families who come into contact with public child welfare systems. The CFSRs were developed in response to a mandate in the Social Security Amendments of 1994 requiring the Department to promulgate regulations for review of State child and family services programs under titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act. The CFSRs and Child Welfare Outcomes Report are separate activities within the Department. While the Child Welfare Outcomes Report includes State performance on the CFSR composite measures, this should not be confused with the CFSR process or overall CFSR performance results.

While the Child Welfare Outcomes Report includes many CFSR performance measures, it is separate and should not be confused with the full CFSR process or results.

¹ See appendix A for the specifications of section 479A of the Social Security Act as amended by the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997.

² See appendix B for descriptions of the 27 outcome measures included in the Child Welfare Outcomes Report. Complete information on the CFSR process is provided on the Children's Bureau website: www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/index.htm#cfsr

CONTEXT DATA

The Child Welfare Outcomes Report presents data pertaining to State performance on the outcome measures as well as on child welfare-related contextual factors relevant to understanding and interpreting performance on these measures.³ The contextual factors include the following:

- A State’s estimated child population statistics with regard to the number and race/ethnicity of children, as well as child poverty data⁴
- Caseworker visits data for children in foster care (the percentage of foster children visited monthly by their caseworker and the percentage of monthly visits occurring in the home of the child)⁵
- The number and characteristics (age, race/ethnicity, and type of maltreatment) of child maltreatment victims (defined as children who were the subject of a substantiated or indicated abuse or neglect allegation or whose disposition was “alternative response victim”)⁶
- Mean and median time to investigation (the time between the maltreatment report and the first face-to-face contact with the investigating caseworker)
- The number and characteristics (age and race/ethnicity) of children in foster care at the start of the year and of children who entered and exited foster care during the year⁷
- The median length of stay of children in foster care
- The number and characteristics (age and race/ethnicity) of children “waiting for adoption”⁸
- The number and characteristics (age and race/ethnicity) of children for whom an adoption was finalized during the year

CHILD WELFARE DATA SYSTEMS

Data for the original Child Welfare Outcomes measures, the CFSR composite measures, and the majority of the context data, come from the Department’s two national child welfare-related data systems—the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) and the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS). States are required by law to submit AFCARS data, while NCANDS data are voluntarily submitted by States. The specific NCANDS and AFCARS data elements used to calculate each outcome measure are outlined in appendix D.

Data for the new caseworker visits requirements are reported in each State’s Annual Progress and Services Report (APSR). These data are not part of AFCARS or NCANDS, and some States elected to use an approved sampling procedure. As referenced in the previous section of this chapter, caseworker visits data are reported as context data for the purposes of this report.

National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System

Through NCANDS, the Department collects and analyzes State data pertaining to children who come to the attention of public child protective services agencies as alleged victims of abuse or neglect. Data from this system are published annually in a report titled *Child Maltreatment*. An overview of *Child Maltreatment 2007* is presented in appendix E.

³ Unless otherwise specified, the data used in this report are for Federal fiscal year 2007 (October 1, 2006–September 30, 2007).

⁴ These data come from the Census Bureau and reflect estimates rather than actual numbers. These data are also based on the calendar year rather than the fiscal year.

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. Requirements for the caseworker visits data are defined under Section 424(e)(1) and (2) of the Social Security Act. Detailed information on collection and reporting can be found in Program Instruction ACYF-CB-PI-08-03 issued April 18, 2008: www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/laws_policies/policy/pi/2008/pi0803.htm. For more information, see appendix C.

⁶ *Child Maltreatment 2007* provides the following definitions: (1) “Substantiated” refers to a type of investigation disposition that concludes that the allegation of maltreatment or risk of maltreatment was supported or founded by State law or State policy; (2) “Indicated” refers to an investigation disposition that concludes that maltreatment cannot be substantiated under State law or policy, but there was reason to suspect that the child may have been maltreated or was at risk of maltreatment. This is applicable only to States that distinguish between substantiated and indicated dispositions. Some States use an alternative response rather than a standard investigation in selected cases; “alternative response victim” is a possible disposition in those States.

⁷ The term “foster care” as it is used in the Child Welfare Outcomes Report refers to a variety of out-of-home placement settings, including foster family homes, group homes, shelters, residential treatment facilities, and similar placements for children who are under the care and supervision of a State child welfare agency for 24 hours or longer.

⁸ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the Child Welfare Outcomes Report includes children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parental rights have been terminated, but for whom an adoption was not finalized by the end of the year. It excludes children 16 years of age or older whose parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. This definition may differ from definitions used by individual States.

The NCANDS Child File is a data file that States submit annually. In 2007, 48 States submitted an NCANDS Child File.⁹ This file contains detailed case information about children who are the subjects of an investigation or assessment in response to a maltreatment allegation. A Child File is established for all children associated with reports that have received a disposition during the year. Although the disposition usually refers to a finding regarding the allegation, it also can include those reports that were closed without a finding.

The Child File is the component of NCANDS that is the primary data source for the safety-related data included in the Child Welfare Outcomes Report.¹⁰ The Summary Data Component File (SDC File) can also be used for the purposes of the Child Welfare Outcomes Report in the absence of a State's submission of a Child File. In 2007, there were two States that submitted an SDC File. While alternate safety data sources are sometimes allowed for the purposes of the CFSTRs, they are not used for the purposes of this report.

Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System

Most data included in the Child Welfare Outcomes Report come from AFCARS. AFCARS collects case-level information on all children in foster care for whom State child welfare agencies have responsibility for placement, care, and supervision, and on children who are adopted under the auspices of the State's public child welfare agency. States are required to submit AFCARS data on a semiannual basis. Appendix F includes national AFCARS summary data for FY 2007.

DATA ANALYSES IN THE CHILD WELFARE OUTCOMES REPORT

Chapters II through V of the Child Welfare Outcomes Report present key findings of analyses conducted across States. These findings pertain to variations across States in performance on the outcome measures, changes in performance on the measures over time, and the relationships between contextual factors and State performance.

It is important to note that medians and ranges described in this report are derived by using summary data for each State. These data points are *not* determined by looking at case level data for the country as a whole. In addition, there are occasionally instances in which certain State data are left out of cross-State analyses due to incomplete or inadequate data. Therefore, the total number of States included may vary for each analysis.¹¹

Percent change calculations

Change in State performance over time is assessed by calculating a percent change in performance on the measures.¹² Using a percent change calculation permits an assessment of the extent of change occurring over time by taking into account the size of the percentages (or other units of measurement) being compared. For example, a change from 6 percent in 2004 to 7 percent in 2007 represents a change of only 1 percentage point; however, it reflects a +16.7 percent change. That is, $[(7-6)/6] \times 100 =$ a 16.7 percent change. In contrast, a change from 75 percent to 80 percent represents a change of 5 percentage points but only a +6.7 percent change. That is, $[(80 - 75)/75] \times 100 =$ a 6.7 percent change. Consistent with the Department's approach in prior Child Welfare Outcomes Reports, a percent change of 5.0 or greater in either direction (i.e., positive or negative) is used as a general indicator that meaningful change occurred. That is, for purposes of the analyses presented in the Child Welfare Outcomes Report, if the percent change in performance from 2004 to 2007 was less than 5.0 in either direction, a determination is made that there was "no change" in performance.

⁹ In this report, the designation of "State" includes the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Therefore, the report provides information on a total of 52 States.

¹⁰ Total child fatalities are the only safety data element included in this report that includes information from both the Child File and Agency File.

¹¹ In the Child Welfare Outcomes Report, two separate national medians are computed for each measure for FY 2007. In the 2007 Range of State Performance tables, national medians are calculated using all States that had adequate data available for FY 2007 only. However, when looking at performance over time, a separate FY 2007 national median is calculated that includes only the States that had adequate data available for all the relevant years (FY 2004 through FY 2007). This is done to provide a more accurate calculation of change over time. Therefore, the number of States (N) included in each of these calculations may vary, and these two medians may be slightly different.

¹² Percent change is calculated by subtracting "old" data from "new" data, dividing that result by old data, and multiplying it by 100. For example, if maltreatment recurrence were 9.2 in 2004 and 7.6 in 2007, the formula is $[(7.6-9.2)/9.2] \times 100 =$ -17.4 percent change.

Correlations

Strength of relationships between measures and context variables are assessed using correlation coefficients, specifically Pearson's r . This coefficient can range from -1 to +1. In the Child Welfare Outcomes Report, these coefficients are interpreted in accordance with J.P. Guilford's suggested interpretations for correlation coefficient values.¹³ These are as follows:

- A coefficient of plus or minus .20–.40 indicates a low correlation.
- A coefficient of plus or minus .40–.70 indicates a moderate correlation.
- A coefficient of plus or minus .70–.90 indicates a high correlation.
- A coefficient of plus or minus .90–1.00 indicates a very high correlation.

¹³ Guilford, J. P. (1956). *Fundamental statistics in psychology and education* (3rd ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill.

II: Keeping Children Safe

The primary responsibility of public child welfare agencies is to ensure that children who have been found to be victims of abuse or neglect are protected from further harm, whether they remain in their own homes or are placed in out-of-home care. Keeping children safe should be at the forefront of each decision made by the child welfare agency.

To understand the performance of States in keeping children safe, this chapter provides contextual information about the number and characteristics of child victims as well as data on two critical safety outcome measures:

- The percentage of child victims who experience a recurrence of maltreatment within a 6-month period
- The percentage of all children in foster care who were maltreated by a foster parent or facility staff member

Unless otherwise noted, data reported in this chapter come from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) and are for Federal fiscal year 2007 (October 1, 2006–September 30, 2007). Through NCANDS, the Department collects and analyzes data on children who come into contact with public child protective services (CPS) agencies as alleged victims of abuse or neglect. Although submission of data to NCANDS is voluntary for States, the Department strongly encourages participation and provides technical assistance to help with data collection and reporting. Participation has increased over the past several years, and a total of 50 States submitted NCANDS data for 2007.¹⁴

Although the NCANDS submission is voluntary, it is strongly encouraged; 50 States submitted NCANDS data for 2007.

CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILD VICTIMS

In 2007, 753,357 children were confirmed to be victims of maltreatment.¹⁵ The overall national child victim rate was 10.6 child victims per 1,000 children in the population.¹⁶

Table II-1 illustrates the total number child victims and the national child victim rate between 2004 and 2007.

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total Child Victims	877,120	900,146	885,245	753,357
National Child Victim Rate	12.0	12.1	12.1	10.6

As indicated in table II-1, there was a decrease in both the total number of child victims and the national child victim rate between 2004 and 2007. A predominant factor contributing to the national decrease of victims in 2007 was a change in reporting for the State of Florida. Florida used “indicated” as a disposition option in previous years, but did not report indicated victims in 2007.¹⁷ This contributed to a dramatic decrease in Florida’s total number of victims, from 134,567 in 2006 to 53,484 in 2007. If Florida were removed from the child victim rate calculation, the national child victim rate for 2006 would be 10.8 instead of 12.1, and the national child victim rate for 2007 would be 10.4 instead of 10.6. While there is still a decrease of 0.4 in the national child victim rate data after removing Florida from the calculation, it is not possible to be certain that this decrease indicates a trend toward reduced overall child maltreatment until data are collected in subsequent years.

¹⁴ In this report, the designation of “State” includes the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Therefore, the report provides information on a total of up to 52 States, depending on the number of States that submitted adequate data for a particular measure. At the time this report was being written, Maryland and Michigan were the only States that did not submit any NCANDS data for 2007. However, Michigan indicated it had intentions of doing so at a later date. All data submitted after the development of the current report will be included in the next Child Welfare Outcomes Report.

¹⁵ For the purposes of this report, a victim of child maltreatment is defined as a child for whom an incident of abuse or neglect has been substantiated or indicated by an investigation or assessment. A State may include some children with alternative dispositions as victims (*Child Maltreatment 2007*). It is important to distinguish that the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports use the total reported number of child victims as opposed to a national estimate of child victims, which is often reported in *Child Maltreatment*.

¹⁶ The overall national child victim rate is calculated by dividing the total number of child victims (753,357) by the child population for all States that submitted NCANDS data (71,099,024), and multiplying by 1,000.

¹⁷ Note that an indicated disposition concludes that maltreatment could not be substantiated under State law or policy, but that there was, nonetheless, reason to suspect that the child may have been maltreated or was at risk of maltreatment. These children are identified as victims in the NCANDS Child File. If a State chooses to exclude these indicated disposition cases from reporting, the State will appear to have fewer victims than if they included them.

Consistent with previous Child Welfare Outcomes Reports, child victim rates varied dramatically across States in 2007, ranging from 1.5 child victims per 1,000 children to 26.3 child victims per 1,000 children.¹⁸ There are a number of possible explanations for this variation. One possible explanation concerns State definitions of child maltreatment. States with broader definitions of what constitutes child maltreatment may have higher victim rates than States with narrower definitions. Variations in the level of evidence required for substantiation also may contribute to different child victim rates among States. In addition, there are four States that use “indicated” as a disposition option, which may increase their child victim rates, as illustrated above by the fact that Florida’s victim rate decreased when they stopped reporting indicated dispositions.¹⁹

Another factor causing variation in child victim rates is the use of alternative response approaches. That is, child victim rates may be lower in States that have implemented “alternative response” approaches to maltreatment allegations compared to States that do not use this type of response system. In alternative response approaches, child welfare agencies respond to a maltreatment allegation that is considered to involve minimal risk of harm to the child with a referral for a family assessment rather than with a formal investigation to determine the validity of the allegation. Because alternative response approaches sometimes do not involve a finding (i.e., a disposition) regarding the validity of the allegation, many children who are the subject of an allegation referred for an alternative response may not be reported to the NCANDS Child File and thus are not counted as victims in the NCANDS data. Two States reported “alternative response victims” to NCANDS in 2007.²⁰

There is also a large degree of variation across States in the types of maltreatment reported. One possible explanation for this variation concerns differences in how types of maltreatment are defined in State law or policy. Each State has its own definitions of child abuse and neglect based on basic principles established in the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA).²¹ Most States recognize at least four major types of maltreatment: neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse. Although any of the forms of child maltreatment may be found separately, they also can occur in combination, and a child can be identified as a victim of more than one type of maltreatment.

Most States recognize at least four major types of maltreatment: neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse.

As was true for the variation in victim rates, variation in types of maltreatment reported by States also may be due partially to the way States respond to maltreatment allegations. In some States, for instance, agencies outside of CPS may respond to low-risk neglect cases. In these instances, the State may not report all neglect allegations to the NCANDS Child File, unless the neglect is considered severe.²²

¹⁸ A State’s rate of child victims is defined as the number of child victims reported to NCANDS per 1,000 children in the State’s population. Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

¹⁹ The four States using “indicated” as a disposition option in 2007 are Arizona, Montana, Ohio, and Tennessee.

²⁰ The two States that reported “alternative response victims” to NCANDS in 2007 were Kentucky and North Carolina.

²¹ More information about CAPTA can be found on the Children’s Bureau website: www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/laws_policies/cblaws/capta03/index.htm

²² In Pennsylvania, for instance, allegations of child neglect are addressed by the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families agency. The State does not report an allegation of neglect to the NCANDS Child File unless it is determined to be “severe neglect.”

Table II-2 presents 2007 information pertaining to the age, type of maltreatment experienced, and race/ethnicity of child maltreatment victims. This table illustrates the considerable variation across States in child victim characteristics.

Table II-2. Characteristics of Child Maltreatment Victims, 2007

	Number of States (N) Reporting	Range Across States	Median Across States
Age of Children at Time of Maltreatment Report			
Not yet 1 year old	50	4.6%–18.2%	12.2%
At least 1 year old but not yet 6 years old	50	20.2–40.9	32.3
At least 6 years old but not yet 11 years old	50	20.7–30.0	26.6
At least 11 years old but not yet 16 years old	50	15.6–35.5	22.2
At least 16 years old	50	3.5–12.9	5.7
Type of Maltreatment Experienced			
Neglect (not medical neglect)	50	2.6–93.0	70.3
Physical abuse	50	5.9–46.9	15.9
Psychological/emotional abuse	48	0.1–53.0	2.0
Sexual abuse	50	2.3–60.6	7.5
Medical neglect	37	0.1–7.9	2.3
Other	26	0.0–92.0	3.9
Children's Race/Ethnicity*			
Alaska Native/American Indian	49	0.0–52.7	0.3
Asian	49	0.0–11.3	0.3
Black	49	0.4–64.6	12.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	49	0.0–16.4	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	49	0.7–56.4	8.6
White	49	0.4–91.5	51.9
Multiple Races	49	0.0–35.7	2.4

* All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

Disproportionate racial representation among child victims²³

States varied in 2007 with regard to the race/ethnicity of child victims. Some of this variation is related to the population differences across States. For example, some States serve virtually no Alaska Native/American Indian children. When there are only a few children of a particular race/ethnicity in a State, it is expected that there would be proportionately few children of that race/ethnicity who are child victims. However, in 2007, there were many States in which the percentage of minority race/ethnicity child victims was disproportionate to the percentage of these children in the State population.²⁴ There were no States in which the percentage of White child victims significantly exceeded the percentage of these children in the State's population. These findings are consistent with findings in prior Child Welfare Outcomes Reports.

Disproportionate representation was found for Black child victims (25 States), Alaska Native/American Indian child victims (13 States), and Hispanic child victims (5 States).

²³ In this report, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin. The Hispanic ethnicity category includes children of any race.

²⁴ For the purposes of this report, we are defining representation as disproportionate when the percentage of a racial/ethnic group of victims constitutes at least one and one-half times the percentage of children of that racial/ethnic group in a State's child population. The analysis of disproportionate representation was conducted for Black, White, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Hispanic children (of any race). Other races were not included in the analysis because of their very small representation in the population of the majority of States. Puerto Rico was excluded from this analysis due to unavailable data.

The following key finding pertains to the disproportionate representation of Black children among State child victims:

- In 25 States, the percentage of Black child victims was at least one and one-half times greater than the percentage of these children in the State’s population.²⁵

The following key findings pertain to the disproportionate representation of Alaska Native/American Indian child victims:

- In 13 States, the percentage of Alaska Native/American Indian child victims was at least one and one-half times greater than the percentage of these children in the State’s population.²⁶
- In 6 of these 13 States, the percentage of Alaska Native/American Indian child victims was at least three times greater than the percentage of these children in the State population (Idaho, Minnesota, Nebraska, Oregon, South Dakota, and Washington).

The following key finding pertains to the disproportionate representation of Hispanic children among State child victims:

- In five States, the percentage of Hispanic child victims was at least one and one-half times greater than the percentage of these children in the State population (Connecticut, Massachusetts, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Utah).

RANGE OF STATE PERFORMANCE IN 2007 ON SAFETY-RELATED OUTCOME MEASURES

State performance with regard to children’s safety is addressed through Outcome 1: Reduce recurrence of child abuse and/or neglect, and Outcome 2: Reduce the incidence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care. Table II-3 summarizes State performance in 2007 on the measures pertaining to these outcomes. Note that cases identified as “alternative response victim” are not included in the calculation of these two safety outcome measures. Only substantiated and indicated cases are used for these calculations.

Table II-3. Range of State Performance, 2007
Outcomes 1 and 2: Keeping Children Safe

Outcome Measures*	25th Percentile	National Median (50th Percentile)	75th Percentile	Range
**Measure 1.1: Of all children who were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and/or neglect during the first 6 months of the year, what percentage had another substantiated or indicated report within a 6-month period? (N=50)	3.6%	5.5%	7.3%	1.4–13.1%
**Measure 2.1: Of all children who were in foster care during the year, what percentage were the subject of substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member? (N=47)	0.20	0.35	0.54	0.03–1.38

* Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available.

**For these measures, a lower number indicates better performance.

Recurrence of maltreatment

There are a number of variables that impact the range in performance across States (range = 1.4 to 13.1 percent) with respect to maltreatment recurrence (measure 1.1). One explanation may be that the variation on this measure reflects the variation in child victim rates across States. That is, States with higher child victim rates also tend to have higher rates of recurrence within a 6-month period (Pearson’s $r = .63$ in 2007). This finding also occurred in previous Child Welfare Outcomes Reports.

States with higher child victim rates also tend to have higher recurrence rates (Pearson’s $r = .63$).

The variation in State performance on maltreatment recurrence also may be related to differences in agency policies or practices regarding allegations of child maltreatment involving children who currently are being served by the CPS system (i.e., the agency has an open case involving the child). During the first round of the CFRs, the Department learned that, in many States, when a maltreatment allegation is received on a family currently being served by the CPS system, the allegation frequently is referred to the current caseworker and/or supervisor for follow-up rather than referred for a formal investigation or assessment. Without a formal

²⁵ The 25 States in which Black child victims were overrepresented were Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

²⁶ The 13 States in which Alaska Native/American Indian child victims were overrepresented were Alaska, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin.

investigation or assessment of the allegation, there often is no formal disposition, and the information regarding the child who is the subject of the allegation is not reported to the NCANDS Child File. Consequently, the allegation is not counted as a possible incidence of maltreatment recurrence.

The range in performance with regard to maltreatment recurrence in 2007 also appears to be related to differences across States with regard to the types of maltreatment experienced by children. Several relationships were found between types of maltreatment and maltreatment recurrence:

- States with a relatively high percentage of children who were victims of neglect also had some tendency to have a relatively *high* percentage of maltreatment recurrence within a 6-month period (Pearson's $r = .31$).
- States with a relatively high percentage of children who were victims of physical abuse had some tendency to have a relatively *low* percentage of maltreatment recurrence within a 6-month period (Pearson's $r = -.39$).
- States with a relatively high percentage of children who were victims of sexual abuse had some tendency to have a relatively *low* percentage of maltreatment recurrence within a 6-month period (Pearson's $r = -.29$).

Child maltreatment recurrence is more likely to involve neglect than either physical or sexual abuse.

These findings are similar to those of prior Child Welfare Outcomes Reports and are also consistent with research indicating that child maltreatment recurrence is more likely to involve neglect than either physical or sexual abuse.²⁷ The relationships between recurrence and types of maltreatment may be due to the fact that substantiated allegations of sexual or physical abuse often are followed by legal actions against the perpetrators as well as actions designed to ensure that the perpetrator is prevented from further unsupervised contact with the victim until identified problems have been resolved. In contrast, substantiated allegations of neglect often are not followed by these actions unless the neglect is considered extremely severe.

Maltreatment of children in foster care

Table II-3 also shows the range in State performance regarding the maltreatment of children while in foster care (range = 0.03 percent to 1.38 percent). This variation among States may be influenced by a number of factors, such as the extent to which training and services are offered to support foster families and facility staff members, variations in casework practices and the level of interaction the caseworker has with the family, or differences among States in background check requirements for those who care for children in foster care.²⁸

Variations in performance regarding maltreatment of children in foster care also may be somewhat influenced by the fact that a few maltreated children who are not in foster care are reported with a perpetrator code of “facility staff member.” The perpetrator code is currently the only way to identify a child as “maltreated in foster care.” When the perpetrator code indicates that the perpetrator is a facility staff member, the maltreatment incident is categorized as maltreatment in foster care. However, a fraction of these cases may include children who are not in foster care but instead are in facilities operated by the public mental health system, juvenile justice system, or in a private mental health or substance abuse treatment facility. Currently, several States do not report residential facility staff perpetrators to NCANDS, but many do. While the number of children who are victims of maltreatment while in a residential facility yet not in foster care is generally small, it can slightly impact the calculation of maltreatment in foster care. This is because a few children will be in the numerator who are not in the denominator.²⁹ Nonetheless, this indicator has consistently been calculated the same way each year to allow accurate observance of change over time for each State.

²⁷ See the following for examples: (1) Drake, B., Jonson-Reid, M., Way, I., & Chung, S. (2003). Substantiation and recidivism. *Child Maltreatment*, 8(4), 248–260; (2) Lipien, L., & Forthofer, M. S. (2004). An event history analysis of recurrent child maltreatment reports in Florida. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 28(9), 947–966; and (3) Fluke, J. D., Shusterman, G. R., Hollinshead, D., & Yuan, Y-Y. T. (2005). Rereporting and recurrence of child maltreatment: Findings from NCANDS. Retrieved July 2, 2009, from <http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/05/child-maltreat-rereporting/index.htm>

²⁸ See the following for examples: (1) National Resource Center for Family-Centered Practice and Permanency Planning. (2007). Foster parent in-service training. Retrieved October 26, 2009, from www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcpp/policy-issues/Foster-Parent-In-Service-Training.pdf; (2) Ryan, P., & Cole, K. (1993). Maltreatment in family foster care: A survey of the States. East Lansing, MI: National Foster Care Resource Center; (3) Child Welfare Information Gateway State Statutes: www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws_policies/state

²⁹ As a way to address this issue, the Department introduced another system for identifying which children are maltreated in foster care. States are being encouraged to include an AFCARS ID in the NCANDS Child File so that the two files can be linked and it can be determined whether a child is in foster care at the time of the maltreatment. However, because participation in the NCANDS Child File is voluntary on the part of States, it is currently not possible to track maltreatment of children in foster care solely through this methodology. Current efforts to encourage States to supply the AFCARS ID may make it possible to use this measurement approach in the future.

CHANGES IN STATE PERFORMANCE ON MEASURES OF MALTREATMENT RECURRENCE AND MALTREATMENT OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

The median performance across States for the years 2004 to 2007 on measures of maltreatment recurrence (measure 1.1) and maltreatment in foster care (measure 2.1) are presented in table II-4. For comparison purposes, data are presented only for States that provided adequate and complete data for the measures in all of the relevant years.

Table II-4. Median State Performance, 2004–2007
Outcomes 1 and 2: Keeping Children Safe

Outcome Measures*	Median Performance by Year			
	2004	2005	2006	2007
**Measure 1.1: Of all children who were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and/or neglect during the first 6 months of the year, what percentage had another substantiated or indicated report within a 6-month period? (N=43)	6.5%	6.6%	6.1%	5.6%
**Measure 2.1: Of all children who were in foster care during the year, what percentage were the subject of substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member? (N=40)	0.39	0.44	0.42	0.34

* Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available for all of the relevant years. The 2007 data included on this table may be different than the data included in table II-3 due to differences in the number of States included for each analysis.

** For these measures, a lower number indicates better performance.

To determine the change in State performance for measures 1.1 and 2.1, performance in 2007 was compared to performance in 2004. Change in performance was computed by using a percent change calculation.³⁰ Table II-5 presents findings regarding the change in State performance on these measures.

Table II-5. Change in Performance Over Time, 2004–2007
Outcomes 1 and 2: Keeping Children Safe

Outcome Measures*	States That Improved in Performance	States That Declined in Performance	States That Had No Change in Performance**
***Measure 1.1: Change from 2004 to 2007 in the percentage of child victims experiencing a recurrence of child maltreatment within a 6-month period (N=43)	24 (56%)	13 (30%)	6 (14%)
***Measure 2.1: Change from 2004 to 2007 in the percentage of children in foster care who were victims of maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member (N=40)	21 (53%)	15 (38%)	4 (10%)

* Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available for all of the relevant years.

** When a percent change in performance from 2004 to 2007 is less than 5.0 in either direction (i.e., positive or negative), a determination is made that there is “no change” in performance.

*** For these measures, a lower number indicates better performance.

As shown in table II-5, 56 percent of the applicable States demonstrated improved performance with regard to the measure of recurrence of child maltreatment (measure 1.1). In addition, as shown in table II-4, the median across States for this measure changed from 6.5 percent in 2004 to 5.6 percent in 2007, demonstrating an overall improvement in performance (a -13.8 percent change). However, 30 percent of States showed a decline in performance.

Between 2004 and 2007, 56 percent of the States demonstrated improvement in recurrence of child maltreatment, and 53 percent demonstrated improvement in maltreatment in foster care.

With regard to change in performance on the measure of maltreatment of children in foster care (measure 2.1), 53 percent of the applicable States demonstrated an improved performance. This is consistent with the fact that the median for this measure also improved from 0.39 percent in 2004 to 0.34 percent in 2007 (a -12.8 percent change).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS REGARDING KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

In 2007, there was a noteworthy decrease in the total number of child victims and the national child victim rate. Until further data are collected in subsequent years, however, it cannot be determined whether or not this indicates a trend toward reduced child maltreatment.

³⁰ Percent change is calculated by subtracting “old” data from “new” data, dividing that result by old data, and multiplying it by 100. For example, if maltreatment recurrence were 9.2 in 2004 and 7.6 in 2007, the formula is $[(7.6-9.2)/9.2] \times 100 = -17.4$ percent change.

With regard to the two safety measures, it is important to keep in mind that, while the percentages of maltreatment may be numerically small, these events have serious implications for the safety and well-being of children. Therefore, even “small” percentages are to be viewed with concern. The data for the two safety measures indicate that, nationally, 5.5 percent of child victims reported to NCANDS experienced another maltreatment incident within a 6-month period in 2007 (table II-3, measure 1.1); and 0.35 percent of children in foster care were reported to be victims of maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member (table II-3, measure 2.1). Between 2004 and 2007, both measures of child safety somewhat fluctuated. However, 2006 and 2007 data for these measures indicate that performance is improving overall.

III: Finding Permanent Homes for a Diverse Foster Care Population

Sometimes, foster care is necessary to ensure a child's safety and well-being on a temporary basis.³¹ Once removal occurs, State child welfare agencies work with the family and the courts to return the child to his or her home or to find another permanent home for the child in a timely manner. Outcome 3: Increase permanency for children in foster care, encompasses these permanency goals for children and youth.

This chapter presents national permanency results for the general foster care population, as well as for foster children with disabilities, and children and youth who have been in foster care for long periods of time. Contextual information also is provided regarding the race/ethnicity of children entering foster care.

For the purposes of the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports and the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs), a child has reached a permanent home when he or she is reported to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) as discharged from foster care to one of the following arrangements:

- Reunified with parents or primary caretakers³²
- Living with other relatives
- Legally adopted
- Living with a legal guardian

To assess State performance in finding permanent homes for children, this report provides the following data for each State: (1) the number and characteristics of children in foster care, and (2) the percentages of children in foster care who achieve permanency. This chapter presents key findings of the analyses of these data across States.³³ The source of most of the data presented in this chapter is AFCARS. However, data pertaining to State child populations are estimates from the Census Bureau.

NUMBERS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE³⁴

Approximately 491,000 children nationally were in foster care on the last day of Federal fiscal year 2007.³⁵ During that year, an estimated 293,000 children entered foster care, and 293,000 children exited foster care. States differed considerably in 2007 with respect to both the number of children in foster care and the rate of foster care entry, defined as the number of children entering foster care per 1,000 children in the State population.³⁶ The foster care child entry rate ranged from 1.5 to 8.5 children per 1,000 children in the population, and the median across States was 4.5 children per 1,000 children in the population.

The reasons for variations in the rate of foster care entry are difficult to ascertain. The variation cannot be attributed to differences in the rate of child victims in a State because the correlation between foster care entry rates and child victim rates in 2007 was very low (Pearson's $r = .16$). Variations in entry rates may be due to differences across States in policies regarding when children are taken out of the home and placed in foster care. The existence and availability of services designed to support families and enable children to remain in the home also may affect the number of children who enter foster care within a State.

³¹ The term "foster care" as it is used in the Child Welfare Outcomes Report refers to a variety of out-of-home placement settings, including foster family homes, group homes, shelters, residential treatment facilities, and similar placements for children who are under the care and supervision of a State child welfare agency for 24 hours or longer.

³² For the Child Welfare Outcomes Report, the discharge reasons of "reunification with parents or primary caretakers" and "living with other relatives" are combined into the category of "reunification."

³³ In this report, the designation of "State" includes the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Therefore, the report provides information on a total of up to 52 States, depending on the number of States that submitted adequate data for a particular measure.

³⁴ Some national numbers used in this section were updated using more recent AFCARS data than were available at the time the main report was written. The total number of children in foster care on the last day of FY 2007 changed from 490,000 to 491,000; the number of children exiting care in FY 2007 changed from 287,000 to 293,000.

³⁵ Unless otherwise specified, the data used in this report are for Federal fiscal year 2007 (October 1, 2006–September 30, 2007).

³⁶ Rate of entry is calculated by dividing the total number of children entering foster care in a State by the total child population in that State and multiplying by 1,000 [(N entering FC/child population) × 1,000].

Table III-1 presents information for 2007 pertaining to the ages and race/ethnicity of children at the time of their entry into foster care.

Table III-1. Characteristics of Children Entering Foster Care, 2007		
Children's age at entry (N=52)	Range	Median
Not yet 1 year old	6.9–24.7%	16.2%
At least 1 year old but not yet 6 years old	17.8–40.2	27.4
At least 6 years old but not yet 13 years old	18.9–33.8	26.0
At least 13 years old but not yet 16 years old	8.8–35.0	17.5
At least 16 years old	2.8–29.8	11.0
Children's race/ethnicity at entry (N=52)*		
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0–54.3	0.3
Asian	0.0–11.0	0.3
Black	0.0–85.5	18.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0–20.7	<0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	1.3–98.9	7.9
White	0.6–94.0	48.5
Multiple races	0.0–39.5	3.7

* All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

In 2007, the age of children entering foster care varied dramatically across States, particularly with regard to children age 13 or older. In Delaware, for example, approximately 53 percent of the children entering foster care were age 13 or older at the time of entry. In contrast, in Texas, only 12 percent of the children entering foster care were age 13 or older at entry. However, in 49 of 52 States, at least half of the children entering foster care were under the age of 13. In 19 States, the percentage of children under the age of 13 at the time of entry was at least 75 percent. This age difference is an important distinction because young children and adolescents have unique service and placement resource needs. The age of children entering the foster care system in a State may lead to differences in State practices and policies, including the array of services that would need to be available for these children and families.

Disproportionate racial representation among children entering foster care³⁷

Disproportionate racial representation of child victims was discussed in chapter II. Similarly, in 2007, there were many States in which the percentage of minority race/ethnicity children entering foster care was disproportionate to the percentage of these children in the State population.³⁸ There were no States in which the percentage of White children entering foster care significantly exceeded the percentage of these children in the State's population.

The following key findings pertain to the disproportionate representation of Black children entering foster care:

- In 37 States, the percentage of Black children entering foster care was at least one and one-half times greater than the percentage of these children in the State's population.³⁹
- In 4 of these 37 States, the percentage of Black children entering foster care was at least three times greater than the percentage of these children in the State's population (Iowa, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin).

Disproportionate representation was found for Black children (37 States), Alaska Native/American Indian children (14 States), and Hispanic children (5 States) entering foster care.

The following key findings pertain to the disproportionate representation of Alaska Native/American Indian children entering foster care:

³⁷ In this report, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin. The Hispanic ethnicity category includes children of any race.

³⁸ For the purposes of this report, representation is considered disproportionate when a racial/ethnic group of children entering foster care constitutes at least one and one-half times the number of children of that racial/ethnic group in a State. The analysis of disproportionate representation was conducted for Black, White, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Hispanic children (of any race). Other races were not included in the analysis because of their very small representation in the population of the majority of States. Puerto Rico was excluded from this analysis due to unavailable data.

³⁹ The 37 States in which Black children entering foster care were overrepresented were Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

- In 14 States, the percentage of Alaska Native/American Indian children entering foster care was at least one and one-half times greater than the percentage of these children in the State's population.⁴⁰
- In 9 of these 14 States, the percentage of Alaska Native/American Indian children entering foster care was at least three times greater than the percentage of these children in the State's population (Idaho, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin).

The following key finding pertains to the disproportionate representation of Hispanic children entering foster care:

- In five States, the percentage of Hispanic children entering foster care was at least one and one-half times greater than the percentage of these children in the State's population (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, North Dakota, and Utah).

RANGE OF PERFORMANCE IN ACHIEVING PERMANENCY FOR CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

Nationally, approximately 246,000 children exited foster care to a permanent home in 2007 (i.e., were discharged to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship). Of these 246,000 children, 178,000 were discharged to reunification, 51,000 were discharged to adoption, and 17,000 were discharged to legal guardianship.

State performance with regard to finding permanent homes for foster children is addressed through a number of measures. The original measures established to assess this performance area are shown in table III-2, along with the measures that are part of CFSR composite 3. Composite measures are preceded with the letter C.⁴¹

⁴⁰ The 14 States in which Alaska Native/American Indian children entering foster care were overrepresented were Alaska, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin.

⁴¹ Additional information about the measures and composites can be found in appendix B. Composite measures are from the CFSRs and were first introduced in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2002–2005*. Composite measures are preceded by a "C" throughout this report to distinguish them from the original set of outcome measures.

Table III-2. Range of State Performance, 2007
Outcome 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care

Outcome Measures*	25th Percentile	National Median (50th Percentile)	75th Percentile	Range
Measure 3.1: Of all children who exited foster care during the year, what percentage left to either reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=52)	82.6%	86.9%	89.6%	62.8–94.0%
**Measure 3.2: Of all children who exited foster care during the year and were identified as having a diagnosed disability, what percentage left to either reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=50)	69.0	77.0	80.1	42.8–89.7
Measure 3.3: Of all children who exited foster care during the year and were older than age 12 at the time of their most recent entry into care, what percentage left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=52)	61.9	69.1	74.4	35.1–85.5
***Measure 3.4: Of all children exiting foster care in the year to emancipation, what percentage were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into care? (N=52)	19.2	27.4	37.9	10.4–61.9
Measure C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year? (N=52)	21.1	26.5	31.4	9.0–46.4
Measure C3.2: Of all children who were discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday? (N=52)	91.0	94.7	96.8	78.8–100
***Measure C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer? (N=52)	34.3	45.7	54.7	20.6–70.9

* Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available.

** New York is excluded because it does not report data to AFCARS on the data element pertaining to a “diagnosed disability.”

*** For these measures, a lower number indicates better performance (fewer children emancipated is desirable).

Measures 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, and C3.2 assess permanency for children at the time of discharge from foster care. The data in table III-2 suggest that, in 2007, States were generally successful in achieving permanent homes for children discharged from foster care who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (measure C3.2, median = 94.7 percent).⁴² However, even small percentages of children legally free for adoption who do not exit foster care to a permanent home should be a focus for increased efforts by State administrators.

The data in table III-2 also indicate that, in 2007, States were fairly successful in achieving a permanent home for all children exiting foster care (measure 3.1, median = 86.9 percent). However, States were less successful in achieving permanent homes for children exiting foster care who had a diagnosed disability (measure 3.2, median = 77.0 percent), and even less successful in finding permanent homes for children exiting foster care who entered care when they were older than age 12 (measure 3.3, median = 69.1 percent). This disparity in finding permanent homes for older children and children with disabilities should be considered by all States as an area worthy of special efforts toward improvement.

States tend to be substantially more successful in finding permanent homes for the general foster care population (86.9 percent) than for children with a diagnosed disability (77.0 percent) and children who entered foster care when they were older than age 12 (69.1 percent).

Measure C3.1 follows a cohort of children (those who have been in foster care for 24 months or longer as of the first of the year) from the first day of the year to the last. The focus is on the percentage of these children who achieve permanency by the last day of the year. While there is a wide range in performance for measure C3.1 for 2007 (9.0 percent to 46.4 percent), the data indicate that all States struggle to some degree with finding permanent homes for children who have been in foster care for a long period of time. Only 26.5 percent (median) of these children had permanent homes by the end of the year. There is some evidence that States that are generally successful in achieving permanency for children at the time of exit from foster care (measure 3.1) also are successful in achieving permanency for children who are in foster care for long periods of time (measure C3.1). This is demonstrated by the fact that there is a moderate positive correlation (Pearson’s $r = .44$) between these two measures.

⁴² A child is considered legally free for adoption if a date for the termination of parental rights is reported to AFCARS for both mother and father.

Youth who exit foster care to emancipation

Measures 3.4 and C3.3 focus on youth who exit foster care with a discharge reason of emancipation. These are youth for whom the State was unable to find a permanent home. Nationally, approximately 27,000 emancipated from foster care in 2007. One of the issues addressed by these measures is the amount of time children were in foster care before emancipation. That is, did they spend a large portion of their formative years in foster care, or did they enter foster care in mid- or late adolescence?

In general, there is considerable variation across States regarding the percentage of children exiting foster care who are reported to AFCARS as having a discharge reason of emancipation. States with the lowest percentage of children exiting foster care with a discharge reason of emancipation are Puerto Rico (1.9 percent), Indiana (4.1 percent), and Mississippi (4.6 percent). States with the highest percentages are Virginia (32.5 percent), Maine (22.2 percent), and the District of Columbia (21.0 percent). In 2007, the median across States for children exiting foster care with a discharge reason of emancipation was 8.6 percent.⁴³

States vary substantially in the percentage of foster youth exiting to emancipation, and there is no demonstrable relationship with the number of youth entering foster care who are age 13 or older.

The reasons for the extensive variation across States in the percentage of children exiting foster care with a discharge reason of emancipation are not fully known. While it might be expected that the variation would be due to differences across States in the ages of children entering foster care, this was not the case. The percentage of children discharged from foster care who were emancipated was not found to have any substantial relationship with the percentage of children entering foster care in the State who were age 13 or older (Pearson's $r = .01$).

The data shown in table III-2 suggest that, in many States, a considerable percentage of children emancipated from foster care in 2007 were in foster care for long periods of time before they were emancipated (measures 3.4 and C3.3). In about one-half of the States, 27 percent or more of the children emancipated from foster care were age 12 or younger when they entered foster care (measure 3.4), and 45 percent or more of the children emancipated from foster care, or who turned age 18 while in care, were in care for 3 years or longer (measure C3.3).

⁴³ The median of 8.6 percent refers to the median across States for *all* children exiting foster care to emancipation. This should not be confused with the medians for measures 3.4 and C3.3, which are subpopulations of the total number of children discharged to emancipation.

CHANGES IN STATE PERFORMANCE ON MEASURES OF ACHIEVING PERMANENCY

The median performances across States for the years 2004 to 2007 on measures pertaining to achieving permanency for children in foster care are presented in table III-3. The 2007 results displayed in this table may be somewhat different than data included in table III-2 because table III-3 includes only States that provided data for the measures in all of the relevant years (2004 through 2007). Table III-4 presents a breakdown of the number of States showing an improvement or decline in performance between 2004 and 2007.

Table III-3. Median State Performance, 2004–2007
Outcome 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care

Outcome Measures*	Median Performance by Year			
	2004	2005	2006	2007
Measure 3.1: Of all children who exited foster care during the year, what percentage left to either reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=50)	87.4%	87.3%	87.3%	86.9%
Measure 3.2: Of all children who exited foster care during the year and were identified as having a diagnosed disability, what percentage left to either reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=45)	78.9	78.4	76.9	76.2
Measure 3.3: Of all children who exited foster care during the year and were older than age 12 at the time of their most recent entry into care, what percentage left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=49)	72.3	72.4	70.7	69.2
**Measure 3.4: Of all children exiting foster care in the year to emancipation, what percentage were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into care? (N=52)	28.5	28.3	28.6	27.4
Measure C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year? (N=51)	24.4	26.2	26.4	26.3
***Measure C3.2: Of all children who were discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday? (N=49)	96.7	95.1	94.6	94.6
**Measure C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer? (N=49)	47.8	48.3	47.7	45.7

* Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available for all of the relevant years. The 2007 data included on this table may be different than the data included in table III-2 due to differences in the number of States included for each analysis.

** For these measures, a lower number indicates better performance (fewer children emancipated is desirable).

*** A child is considered to be legally free for adoption if a date for the parental rights termination is reported to AFCARS for both mother and father.

Table III-4 presents a summary of the change in State performance between 2004 and 2007 on the measures of achieving permanency for children in foster care. Change in performance over time was computed by using a percent change calculation.⁴⁴ Analyses included only those States that provided adequate data for a measure for all relevant years.

Table III-4. Change in Performance Over Time, 2004–2007 Outcome 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care			
Outcome Measures*	States That Improved in Performance	States That Declined in Performance	States That Had No Change in Performance**
Measure 3.1: Change from 2004 to 2007 in the percentage of all children exiting foster care who were discharged to a permanent home (N=50)	2 (4%)	8 (16%)	40 (80%)
Measure 3.2: Change from 2004 to 2007 in the percentage of all children with a diagnosed disability exiting foster care who were discharged to a permanent home (N=45)	2 (4%)	21 (47%)	22 (49%)
Measure 3.3: Change from 2004 to 2007 in the percentage of all children who entered care when they were age 13 or older who were discharged to a permanent home (N=49)	7 (14%)	23 (47%)	19 (39%)
***Measure 3.4: Change from 2004 to 2007 in the percentage of all children emancipated from foster care who entered foster care when they were age 12 or younger (N=52)	23 (44%)	20 (38%)	9 (17%)
Measure C3.1: Change from 2004 to 2007 in the percentage of children in foster care for 24 months or longer who were discharged to a permanent home by the end of the year (N=51)	26 (51%)	14 (27%)	11 (22%)
Measure C3.2: Change from 2004 to 2007 in the percentage of children exiting foster care who were legally free for adoption who were discharged to a permanent home (N=51)	1 (2%)	8 (16%)	42 (82%)
***Measure C3.3: Change from 2004 to 2007 in the percentage of children emancipated or turning age 18 while in foster care who were in foster care for 3 years or longer (N=51)	24 (47%)	11 (22%)	16 (31%)

* Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available for all of the relevant years.

** In accordance with standard procedure in this report, when there is a percent change of less than 5.0 in either direction (positive or negative), a determination is made that there was “no change” in performance.

*** For these measures, a lower number indicates better performance (fewer children emancipated is desirable).

As shown in table III-4, there were no distinct patterns of change across States for many of these measures. A large majority (80 percent) of States exhibited no change in performance on measure 3.1, which assesses exits to a permanent home of all children exiting foster care. Similarly, the majority (82 percent) of States did not show a change for measure C3.2, which evaluates exits to permanent homes of children who were legally free for adoption. The absence of substantial change in performance on these measures may be due in large part to the reasonably high performance on the measures of most States for all relevant years (see table III-3).

The performance over time in the percentage of children emancipated from foster care who entered foster care when they were age 12 or younger (measure 3.4) varied among the States, with no clear national pattern. The median across States for this measure changed minimally from 28.5 percent in 2004 to 27.4 percent in 2007. Forty-four percent of States showed an improvement in performance for this measure from 2004 to 2007, while 38 percent of States demonstrated a decline in performance during this time period.

One measure that exhibited improved performance over time pertained to the percentage of children in foster care for 24 months or longer who attained permanency by the end of the year (measure C3.1). For this measure, 51 percent of States exhibited improvement from 2004 to 2007, while 27 percent of States exhibited a performance decline. As shown in table III-3, there also was an improvement in the national median for this measure. The median for measure C3.1 increased from 24.4 percent in 2004 to 26.3 percent in 2007 (a 7.8 percent change).

Similarly, there was an improvement in performance over time in the percentage of children emancipated or turning age 18 while in foster care who were in foster care for 3 years or longer (measure C3.3). For this measure, 47 percent of States demonstrated improvement between 2004 and 2007, while 22 percent of States demonstrated a performance decline. Overall, however, the median for this measure improved minimally, from 47.8 percent in 2004 to 45.7 percent in 2007 (note that a lower percentage is desirable for this measure).

On a less positive note, there was a decline in performance in finding permanent homes for children with a diagnosed disability (measure 3.2) and for children who entered care when they were older than age 12 (measure 3.3). For both of these measures, 47

⁴⁴ Percent change is calculated by subtracting “old” data from “new” data, dividing that result by old data, and multiplying it by 100. For example, if maltreatment recurrence were 9.2 in 2004 and 7.6 in 2007, the formula is $[(7.6-9.2)/9.2] \times 100 = -17.4$ percent change.

percent of States demonstrated a decline in performance between 2004 and 2007. While it is significant that nearly half of the States declined at least somewhat on these measures, the national median for these measures declined only slightly. The percent changes for the medians did not qualify as noteworthy for the purposes of this report because they did not reach 5.0 percent in either direction (the standard criterion used in all Child Welfare Outcomes Reports).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS REGARDING ACHIEVING PERMANENCY FOR CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

The data for 2007 on achieving permanency for children in foster care depict a somewhat variable picture of performance. On the positive side, the measures assessing permanency for children at the time of discharge from foster care indicate that, across the States, the majority of children exiting foster care in 2007 were discharged to a permanent home (table III-2, measure 3.1, median = 86.9 percent). A particularly encouraging finding is that the vast majority of the children who were legally free for adoption at the time of exit from foster care were discharged to a permanent home (table III-2, measure C3.2, median = 94.7 percent). This finding is critical because, when a State terminates parental rights, the State is responsible for ensuring that the child has a permanent family before exiting foster care.

A less positive finding in the 2007 data is that some States experienced challenges finding permanent homes for children with disabilities (table III-2, measure 3.2, median = 77.0 percent, range = 42.8 to 89.7 percent) and for children who entered foster care when they were older than age 12 (table III-2, measure 3.3, median = 69.1 percent, range = 35.1 to 85.5 percent). This has been a consistent finding of the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports, and it suggests that special efforts are needed to eliminate some of the disparity in the achievement of permanency for these children.

A consistent finding in the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports is that States experience challenges in finding permanent homes for children with disabilities and children who have been in foster care for a substantial period of time.

Additional concerns are raised by State performance on the measures assessing permanency for children who are in foster care for a relatively long period of time. The percentages of children in foster care for 24 months or longer at the start of the year who achieved permanency by the end of the year were fairly small for all States (table III-2, measure C3.1, median = 26.5 percent, range = 9.0 to 46.4 percent). While it is encouraging to note that 51 percent of the States exhibited improved performance on this measure between 2004 and 2007, the national median remained essentially unchanged between 2005 and 2007. It is clear that many children remain in care for a substantial period of time, and greater efforts are needed to change this picture.

IV: Achieving Timely Reunifications and Adoptions for Children in Foster Care

While chapter III discussed the issue of permanency more broadly and noted some special issues for the diverse population of children and youth in foster care, this chapter focuses more specifically on the achievement of permanency through reunification and adoption.⁴⁵ Timeliness of guardianships is not addressed in this chapter because the percentage of children who are discharged from foster care to guardianship is very small in almost all States.

The general consensus in the child welfare field is that timeliness of achieving permanency for children in foster care is critical to their well-being. This emphasis is reinforced and supported by Federal policy and law, such as the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (ASFA), which stresses the importance of the timely identification of permanent homes for children taken into foster care.

TIMELINESS OF REUNIFICATIONS⁴⁶

The assessment of the timeliness of reunification is addressed through Outcome 4: Reduce time in foster care to reunification without increasing reentry. The wording of this outcome is intended to ensure that reunifications are not viewed as timely if they are not permanent (i.e., if the child reenters foster care fairly soon after being reunified).

Table IV-1 presents summary data regarding State performance in 2007 on key measures assessing both the timeliness and permanency of reunification.⁴⁷ This table includes one of the measures originally developed for the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports (measure 4.1), as well as the measures that are part of CFSR Composite 1.⁴⁸

For the Child Welfare Outcomes Report and the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs), children are considered to be reunified if the discharge reason provided to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) is either (1) reunified with parent or primary caretaker or (2) living with other relatives

Table IV-1. Range of State Performance, 2007
Outcome 4: Achieving Timely Reunifications

Outcome Measures*	25th Percentile	National Median (50th Percentile)	75th Percentile	Range
Measure 4.1: Of all children reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care during the year, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the time of entry into foster care? (N=52)	58.0	67.6	75.1	36.5–91.9
Measure C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment) (N=52)	62.6	67.7	73.3	39.6–91.9
**Measure C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment) (N=52)	6.1 mos.	7.7 mos.	9.1 mos.	1.9–15.6 mos.
Measure C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment) (N=52)	30.5	41.5	48.5	14.2–63.3
**Measure C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge? (N=52)	9.2	12.5	16.1	1.4–31.7

* Numbers are expressed as percentages except when measured by months, as noted. Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available.

** For these measures, a lower number indicates better performance (shorter length of stay in foster care and lower reentry rate are desirable).

⁴⁵ In this report, the designation of “State” includes the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Therefore, the report provides information on a total of up to 52 States, depending on the number of States that submitted adequate data for a particular measure. The data presented throughout this chapter come from AFCARS (the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System), to which all States report.

⁴⁶ For the Child Welfare Outcomes Report and the CFSRs, children are considered to be reunified if the discharge reason provided to AFCARS is either (1) reunified with parent or primary caretaker or (2) living with other relatives.

⁴⁷ Unless otherwise specified, the data used in this report are for Federal fiscal year 2007 (October 1, 2006–September 30, 2007).

⁴⁸ Additional information about the measures and composites can be found in appendix B. Composite measures are preceded by a “C” throughout this report to distinguish them from the original set of outcome measures.

CFSR round two calculation adjustments to length of stay in foster care: Impact of the less than 8 days exclusion and the trial home visit adjustment

Outcome measures 4.1 and C1.1 assess the percentage of reunifications occurring in less than 12 months from a child's entry into foster care. There are two primary differences between these measures. First, the calculation of measure C1.1 excludes children who were discharged from foster care in less than 8 days. Measure C1.1 also incorporates the trial home visit adjustment. In this calculation, the official discharge of a child from foster care must still occur before any adjustment is made. However, after the discharge, if a child's last foster care placement setting was a trial home visit, any time in that placement setting beyond the first 30 days is subtracted when calculating the length of stay in foster care. This adjustment is made through calculation of the measure and does not require that States make any changes to the data they submit. In contrast, the calculation of measure 4.1 does not incorporate these two adjustments.

The purpose of these two adjustments is to enhance the clarity of comparisons across States. It is known that a few States have children who are placed in care and then sent home rapidly—within a few days. On the grounds that these very short-stay children do not require the same sorts of casework, planning, and services as children in care for longer periods of time (who comprise the vast majority of children in foster care), the children in foster care for less than 8 days were eliminated from the calculation for measure C1.1. The second change, the trial home visit adjustment, is intended to recognize and account for the fact that, in some States, there are policies that do not allow children to be officially discharged from foster care even when they have been physically reunified with their parents for several months. Eliminating any time in a trial home visit beyond 30 days is a way of accounting for this so that lengths of stay across States are more comparable.

Beginning with the 2002–2005 Child Welfare Outcomes Report, this report provided an analysis of the impact of these two adjustments on the national aggregate data. The trial home visit adjustment for measure C1.1 might be expected to decrease length of stay in foster care for States that made extensive use of trial home visits. The exclusion of the children in care for less than 8 days might be expected to have the opposite effect on length of stay, causing it to rise for States with substantial numbers of children who entered and exited foster care within just a few days.

In results that are similar to those from the prior two Child Welfare Outcomes Reports, the data presented in table IV-1 indicate that these adjustments resulted in minimal differences in percentages for the national medians and percentiles in 2007. For example, the median across States for measure 4.1 was 67.6 percent, while the median for measure C1.1 was 67.7 percent. However, the national median may not provide a comprehensive picture of the impact of these adjustments. A more detailed analysis does confirm the expected impacts at the State level. In 28 States in 2007, the difference between measures 4.1 and C1.1 was more pronounced.

In 12 of these 28 States,⁴⁹ the percentage of reunifications occurring in less than 12 months was considerably *lower* when the adjustments were applied (measure C1.1, part of the composite measure) than when the adjustments were not applied (measure 4.1, the original measure).

In contrast, for the other 16 of the 28 States, the percentage of reunifications occurring in less than 12 months was substantially *higher* when the adjustments were applied to the measure (measure C1.1) than when the adjustments were not applied (measure 4.1).⁵⁰ Therefore, individual States were impacted by the adjustments, despite the lack of difference in the national medians. The results for individual States on the two measures are found in the State Data Pages in chapter VI of this report.

Note that measures C1.2 and C1.3 also include the 8-day exclusion and trial home visit adjustment. However, measure C1.4 does not. This is because measure C1.4 does not require calculation of length of stay in foster care.

Performance with regard to the timeliness of reunification and reentry rate

Timeliness of reunification is assessed through a number of approaches in order to provide a comprehensive picture of performance regarding this outcome. Beginning with *Child Welfare Outcomes 2002–2005*, a measure of reentry to foster care was included as part of the total picture of reunification. This was done because a State's reunification speed is best understood when

Speed of reunification of foster children is best understood when it also is known how many of those children reentered foster care within a short period of time.

⁴⁹ The 12 States were Arizona, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, New Mexico, New York, South Carolina, Washington, and Wisconsin.

⁵⁰ The 16 States were Alaska, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Puerto Rico, Texas, and West Virginia.

it also is known how many of those children reentered foster care within a short period of time. In reports prior to the 2002–2005 report, reentry was always considered as an important factor, but it was not possible to link it as closely to reunification speed as it is now that a composite measure is available that includes both reunification and reentry components. All of these closely related measures are discussed below.

Three of the measures of timeliness of reunification focus on children's length of stay in foster care at the time that they are discharged to reunification (measures 4.1, C1.1, and C1.2). The 2007 data shown in table IV-1 suggest that, in many States, a majority of children discharged to reunification were reunified in a timely manner. For the purposes of the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports and the CFSR, a reunification is considered to be timely if it occurs in less than 12 months from the date of entry into foster care. Across States, the median percentage of reunifications occurring in less than 12 months was about 68 percent (measure 4.1 and C1.1). The median length of stay of reunified children was 7.7 months (measure C1.2).

One of the measures of timeliness (C1.3) provides a longitudinal view of children from the time of entry into foster care (i.e., an entry cohort) until the time of discharge. This measure focuses on children entering foster care *for the first time* during the last 6 months of the prior year and follows them for 12 months to determine the percentage that reunified within this time period. As shown in table IV-1, the median across States was only 41.5 percent, and the 75th percentile was only 48.5 percent. Therefore, in at least 75 percent of the States, the majority of children who entered foster care *for the first time* in the last 6 months of 2006 were still in foster care 12 months later.

Measure C1.4 assesses the permanency of reunification (reentry rate) by conducting a 12-month follow-up of a cohort of children who were discharged from foster care to reunification and identifying the percentage of those children who reentered foster care within 12 months of their prior discharge. The data for measure C1.4

indicate that reentry into foster care is an area needing improvement for many States. The median across States for this measure is 12.5 percent, and in five States (Delaware, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Rhode Island),

approximately 20 percent or more of the children exiting foster care in 2006 reentered foster care in less than 12 months. The following are additional important findings with regard to the timeliness of reunifications and reentry rate for 2007:

Reentry into foster care is an area needing improvement for many States.

- *A moderate correlation was found between timeliness of reunification and reentry.* Many States with a relatively high percentage of children reunified in less than 12 months (measure C1.1) also had a relatively high percentage of children reentering foster care in less than 12 months (measure C1.4) (Pearson's $r = .44$). One strategy for States that are trying to achieve better performance on both measures would be to consider what family services they could provide to protect children from reentry once they have been reunified.
- *Moderate correlations were found between the timeliness of reunification measures and foster care entry rates.* Several States with relatively high foster care entry rates also had relatively high percentages of reunifications occurring in less than 12 months (measure C1.1) (Pearson's $r = .38$) and relatively low median lengths of stay (measure C1.2) (Pearson's $r = -.36$). A question to consider is whether States that tend to take more children into foster care, in general, may be taking in more children with less severe concerns, making rapid reunification more feasible. Unfortunately, this interesting question cannot be answered with the AFCARS dataset.
- *Moderate correlations were found between the measure of reentry into foster care and the age of children entering foster care in a State.* Many States with a relatively high percentage of children entering foster care who were age 13 or older at the time of entry also had a relatively high percentage of children reentering foster care (measure C1.4) (Pearson's $r = .63$). Conversely, many States with a relatively high percentage of children entering foster care at age 12 or younger also had a relatively low percentage of children reentering foster care (Pearson's $r = -.62$). Given that older youth tend to cycle in and out of foster care more than younger children, States may want to consider what targeted strategies and services they could provide to youth and their families so these teenagers would be less likely to come back into foster care. Compared to younger children, teenagers may present very different challenges to States, and it appears that States will need to better understand these challenges if they are to prevent the higher reentry rate for youth.

CHANGES IN STATE PERFORMANCE WITH REGARD TO ACHIEVING TIMELY REUNIFICATIONS

Table IV-2 presents the national median State performance on achieving timely reunifications for children in foster care. Data are shown for the years 2004 to 2007. The 2007 results displayed in this table may be slightly different from the data included in table IV-1 because table IV-2 only includes States that provided data for the measures in all of the relevant years (2004 through 2007).

Table IV-2. Median State Performance, 2004–2007
Outcome 4: Achieving Timely Reunifications

Outcome Measures*	Median Performance by Year (numbers are expressed as percentages except when measured by months, as noted)			
	2004	2005	2006	2007
Measure 4.1: Of all children reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care during the year, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the time of entry into foster care? (N=52)	70.6	70.8	69.3	67.6
Measure C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment) (N=51)	69.8	70.7	69.0	68.2
**Measure C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment) (N=51)	6.5 mos.	6.9 mos.	7.1 mos.	7.7 mos.
Measure C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment) (N=52)	37.8	38.7	40.9	41.5
**Measure C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge? (N=51)	15.0	14.9	14.0	12.7

* Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available for all relevant years.

** For these measures, a lower number indicates better performance (shorter length of stay in foster care and lower reentry rate are desirable).

Table IV-3 (below) presents a breakdown of the number of States showing an improvement or decline in performance between 2004 and 2007 on the measures of timeliness of reunification and reentry into foster care. The change in State performance over time was assessed by calculating a percent change in performance.⁵¹

Table IV-3. Change in Performance Over Time, 2004–2007
Outcome 4: Achieving Timely Reunifications

Outcome Measures	States That Improved in Performance	States That Declined in Performance	States That Had No Change in Performance*
Measure 4.1: Change in performance from 2004 to 2007 in the percentage of reunifications in less than 12 months from a child's entry into foster care (N=52)	7 (13%)	23 (44%)	22 (42%)
Measure C1.1: Change in performance from 2004 to 2007 with regard to reunifications in less than 12 months with adjustments (N=51)	8 (16%)	19 (37%)	24 (47%)
**Measure C1.2: Change in performance from 2004 to 2007 with regard to median length of stay in foster care for children reunified (N=51)	9 (18%)	31 (61%)	11 (22%)
Measure C1.3: Change in performance from 2004 to 2007 with regard to reunifications in less than 12 months for children entering foster care (N=52)	15 (29%)	19 (37%)	18 (35%)
**Measure C1.4: Change in performance from 2004 to 2007 with regard to reentry into foster care (N=51)	29 (57%)	15 (29%)	7 (14%)

* In accordance with standard procedure in this report, when there is a percent change of less than 5.0 in either direction (positive or negative), a determination is made that there was "no change" in performance.

** For these measures, a lower number indicates better performance (shorter length of stay in foster care and lower reentry rate are desirable).

As shown in tables IV-2 and IV-3, there were a few national patterns regarding change in performance across States over time for these measures. One of the trends that did emerge concerns the median length of stay in foster care for children who are reunified (measure C1.2). For this measure, 61 percent of States showed a decline in performance from 2004 to 2007. Consistent with this finding, the national median for measure C1.2 also showed a decline in performance. The median length of stay in foster care for children prior to reunification increased from 6.5 months in 2004 to 7.7 months in 2007 (an 18.5 percent change). Note that, because a shorter length of stay is desirable, this represents a decline in performance. The reasons for this change are unknown, but may be related to the correlation between median length of stay and entry rate (Pearson's $r = -.36$) discussed earlier in this chapter.

In addition, there were signs of declined performance on the measures related to the percentage of reunifications occurring in less than 12 months (measures 4.1 and C1.1). For measure 4.1, 44 percent of States showed a decline in performance, and 37 percent of States declined in performance for measure C1.1. Note that measure C1.1 includes the 8-day exclusion and trial home visit

⁵¹ Percent change is calculated by subtracting "old" data from "new" data, dividing that result by old data, and multiplying it by 100. For example, if maltreatment recurrence were 9.2 in 2004 and 7.6 in 2007, the formula is $[(7.6-9.2)/9.2] \times 100 = -17.4$ percent change.

adjustment, which accounts for the slight difference in performance compared with measure 4.1, which does not include these adjustments. There was not a significant change in the national medians for these measures.

However, for the entry cohort measure of reunification (measure C1.3), there were signs of improvement for some States. While only 29 percent of States showed improved performance between 2004 and 2007, the national median for this measure improved from 37.8 percent in 2004 to 41.5 percent in 2007 (a 9.8 percent change). This improved performance for the entry cohort tends to imply that some States were at least making progress on time to reunification for children who entered care more recently (as opposed to the general population of all children in foster care, who entered care at many different times). This could provide hope that recent changes in practice will have positive effects on reunification speed in the future.

There was also a moderate gain in performance across States in the number of children who reenter foster care in less than 12 months from discharge (measure C1.4). Fifty-seven percent of States showed improved performance for this measure, while 29 percent of States exhibited a decline in performance for this measure. In addition, as indicated in table IV-2, the national median for measure C1.4 improved from 15.0 percent in 2004 to 12.7 percent in 2007 (a -15.3 percent change). Note that a lower percentage (a lower reentry rate) is desirable on this measure, so a negative percent change is a positive event.

TIMELINESS OF ADOPTIONS

Nationally, approximately 130,000 children were waiting for adoption, and 51,000 children exited foster care to adoption in 2007.⁵² Outcome 5 addresses the timeliness of adoptions, which is measured by original outcome measure 5.1, as well as the five measures that are part of CFSR composite 2. Table IV-4 presents summary data showing the range of State performance in 2007 on the measures relevant to this outcome.

Table IV-4. Range of State Performance, 2007
Outcome 5: Achieving Timely Adoptions

Outcome Measures*	25th Percentile	National Median (50th Percentile)	75th Percentile	Range
**Measure 5.1a: Of all children discharged from care during the year to a finalized adoption, what percentage were discharged in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (N=52)	2.2	3.4	5.4	0.7–34.4
Measure C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (N=52)	22.0	31.3	36.7	9.1–85.5
***Measure C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from home to the date of discharge to adoption? (N=52)	28.2 mos.	30.2 mos.	33.5 mos.	14.7–51.6 mos.
Measure C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year? (N=52)	16.4	20.9	23.1	3.8–36.1
Measure C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in foster care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day, what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? (N=52)	5.5	9.5	14.0	0.3–26.9
Measure C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free? (N=52)	38.4	50.8	63.4	13.9–85.3

* Numbers are expressed as percentages except when measured by months, as noted. Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available.

** Measure 5.1 was among the original outcome measures established in 1998. It is a calculation of discharges to adoption for a range of time periods. Measure 5.1a denotes a 12-month period for the measure.

*** For this measure, fewer months indicate better performance (shorter length of stay in foster care is desirable).

Outcome measures 5.1, C2.1, and C2.2 focus on the length of time in foster care for children who are discharged to adoption. Performance on these measures in 2007 suggests that achieving timely adoptions is a challenge for all but a few States. As shown in table IV-4, the percentage of adoptions that occur in less than 12 months from the child’s entry into foster care was quite low in almost all States (measure 5.1a, median = 3.4 percent). In five States, however, the percentage of adoptions occurring in less than 12 months was more than 10 percent. These States were Utah (34.4 percent), North Dakota (29.7 percent), Maryland (21.6 percent), Colorado (11.0 percent), and Wisconsin (10.2 percent).

⁵² There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents’ parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents’ parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State’s own definition may differ from that used here.

The data in table IV-4 indicate that the percentage of adoptions occurring in less than 24 months from the child's entry into foster care was higher than the percentage occurring in less than 12 months but still needs improvement (measure C2.1, median = 31.3 percent). There were only three States in which at least 50 percent of adoptions occurred in less than 24 months of the child's entry into foster care. These States were Utah (85.5 percent), Colorado (57.5 percent), and North Dakota (52.0 percent). In addition, across States, the median length of stay in foster care for children adopted is 30.2 months (measure C2.2). In 25 percent of the States, the median length of stay of children adopted is 33 months or longer.

Two measures reported in table IV-4 (measures C2.3 and C2.4) assess the *progress* toward timely adoptions using a longitudinal analysis. These measures focus on children who were in foster care for at least 17 months on the first day of the year and follow them to determine: (1) the percentage adopted by the end of the year (measure C2.3) and (2) the percentage who became legally free for adoption in the first 6 months of the year.⁵³ The data presented in table IV-4 suggest that, across States, only a small percentage of children in foster care for 17 months or longer at the start of FY 2007 were adopted by the end of that year (measure C2.3, median = 20.9 percent). The data also indicate that, across States, an even smaller percentage of children in foster care for 17 months or longer on the first day of 2007 became legally free for adoption within the first 6 months of that year (measure C2.4, median = 9.5 percent). As shown in the range for this measure, even in the highest performing State, only 26.9 percent of the children in foster care for 17 months or longer on the first day of 2007 became legally free for adoption in the first 6 months of the year.

Measure C2.5 follows children for a 12-month period from the time that they became legally free for adoption to identify the percentage of children whose adoptions were finalized during that time period. The assumption is that once parental rights have been terminated, the State should work as rapidly as possible to ensure that the child is safely in a new adoptive home and that the adoption is finalized. As shown in table IV-4, the range in performance on this measure across States is extensive (13.9 to 85.3 percent). For example, in three States (South Dakota, Alabama, West Virginia), less than 30 percent of the children who were legally free for adoption were adopted less than 12 months after becoming legally free. However, in five States (Utah, Wyoming, Puerto Rico, Wisconsin, and the District of Columbia) 75 percent or more of the children who were legally free for adoption were adopted in less than 12 months after becoming legally free.

CHANGES IN STATE PERFORMANCE WITH REGARD TO TIMELINESS OF ADOPTIONS

The median performances across States for the years 2004 to 2007 on measures pertaining to achieving timely adoptions for children in foster care are presented in table IV-5. The 2007 results displayed in this table may be different than data included in table IV-4 because table IV-5 only includes States that provided data for the measures in all of the relevant years (2004 through 2007). Table IV-6 presents a breakdown of the number of States showing an improvement or decline in performance between 2004 and 2007.

⁵³ Measures C2.3 and C2.4 exclude children retrospectively from the denominator if the children exited from foster care during the specified time period to either reunification or guardianship.

Table IV-5. Median State Performance, 2004–2007
Outcome 5: Achieving Timely Adoptions

Outcome Measures*	Median Performance by Year (numbers are expressed as percentages except when measured as months, as noted)			
	2004	2005	2006	2007
**Measure 5.1a: Of all children discharged from care during the year to a finalized adoption, what percentage were discharged in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (N=51)	3.8	3.5	3.0	3.4
Measure C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (N=51)	25.9	29.0	30.3	31.5
***Measure C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from home to the date of discharge to adoption? (N=51)	32.2 mos.	31.6 mos.	30.8 mos.	30.1 mos.
****Measure C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year? (N=51)	19.8	20.3	20.0	21.0
*****Measure C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in foster care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day, what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? (N=50)	9.1	9.1	9.5	9.5
Measure C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free? (N=50)	45.8	46.6	50.4	50.8

* Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available for all relevant years.

** Measure 5.1 was among the original outcome measures established in 1998. It is a calculation of discharges to adoption for a range of time periods. Measure 5.1a denotes a 12-month period for the measure.

*** For this measure, fewer months indicate better performance (shorter length of stay in foster care is desirable).

**** The denominator for this measure excludes children who, by the last day of the year, were discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification with parents or primary caretakers, living with other relatives, or guardianship.

***** A child is considered to be legally free for adoption if a date for parental rights termination is reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. Also, the denominator for this measure excludes children who, during the first 6 months of the year, were discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification with parents or primary caretakers, living with other relatives, or guardianship.

Table IV-6 (below) provides a summary of changes in median State performance on the measures assessing timely adoptions. Change in performance was computed by using a percent change calculation.⁵⁴ Analyses included only those States that provided adequate data for a measure for all relevant years.

Table IV-6. Change in Performance Over Time, 2004–2007
Outcome 5: Achieving Timely Adoptions

Outcome Measures*	States That Improved in Performance	States That Declined in Performance	States That Had No Change in Performance**
Measure 5.1a: Change from 2004 to 2007 in the percentage of children discharged to adoption in less than 12 months from the date of entry into foster care (N=51)	24 (47%)	24 (47%)	3 (6%)
Measure C2.1: Change from 2004 to 2007 in the percentage of children discharged to adoption in less than 24 months from the date the latest removal from home (N=51)	33 (65%)	16 (31%)	2 (4%)
***Measure C2.2: Change from 2004 to 2007 in the median length of stay in months for children adopted (N=51)	28 (55%)	10 (20%)	13 (26%)
Measure C2.3: Change from 2004 to 2007 in the percentage of children in foster care for 17 months or longer on the first day of the year who were adopted by the end of the year (N=51)	28 (55%)	15 (29%)	8 (16%)
Measure C2.4: Change from 2004 to 2007 in the percentage of children in foster care for 17 months or longer on the first day of the year who became legally free for adoption in the first 6 months of the year (N=50)	27 (54%)	14 (28%)	9 (18%)
Measure C2.5: Change from 2004 to 2007 in the percentage of children who were legally free for adoption who were adopted within 12 months of becoming legally free (N=50)	24 (48%)	10 (20%)	16 (32%)

* Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available for all relevant years.

** In accordance with standard procedure in this report, when there is a percent change of less than 5.0 in either direction (positive or negative), a determination is made that there was “no change” in performance.

*** For this measure, fewer months indicate better performance (shorter length of stay in foster care is desirable).

The data presented in table IV-6 reveal a national pattern of improved performance for a number of these measures. The most pronounced improvement was in the percentage of adoptions occurring in less than 24 months (measure C2.1), where 65 percent

⁵⁴ Percent change is calculated by subtracting “old” data from “new” data, dividing that result by old data, and multiplying it by 100. For example, if maltreatment recurrence were 9.2 in 2004 and 7.6 in 2007, the formula is $[(7.6-9.2)/9.2] \times 100 = -17.4$ percent change.

of the States demonstrated improved performance from 2004 to 2007. The national median for this measure also improved from 25.9 percent in 2004 to 31.5 percent in 2007 (a 21.6 percent change).

For adoptions occurring in less than 24 months, 65 percent of the States demonstrated improved performance between 2004 and 2007.

Many States (55 percent) showed an improvement in the median length of stay for children adopted (measure C2.2). The national median for this measure also improved from 32.2 months in 2004 to 30.1 months in 2007 (a -6.5 percent change). Keep in mind that a lower length of stay is desirable, so this negative percent change indicates improved performance for this measure.

Fifty-five percent of States showed improved performance in the percentage of children in foster care for 17 months or longer on the first day of the year who were adopted by the end of the year (measure C2.3). Consistent with this finding, the national median for this measure increased from 19.8 percent in 2004 to 21.0 percent in 2007 (a 6.1 percent change).

For measure C2.4, 54 percent of States showed improved performance between 2004 and 2007. This indicates that a greater percentage of children in care for 17 months or longer on the first day of the year became legally free for adoption in the first 6 months of the year. However, the national median for this measure changed minimally, from 9.1 percent in 2004 to 9.5 percent in 2007.

While fewer than half of the States showed improved performance in the percentage of children who were legally free for adoption who were adopted within 12 months of becoming legally free (measure C2.5), the national median for this measure did show improvement from 45.8 percent in 2004 to 50.8 percent in 2007 (a 10.9 percent change).

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS REGARDING ACHIEVING REUNIFICATIONS AND ADOPTIONS IN A TIMELY MANNER

Achieving timely reunifications

It is interesting to note that overall performance on the percentage of children reunified in less than 12 months (measures 4.1 and C1.1) and the median length of stay for children reunified (measure C1.2) point toward a performance decline between 2004 and 2007. However, the reentry rate for children (measure C1.4) improved within this same time period. It is important that these areas be reviewed together so that strategies can be developed to improve performance in both the timeliness and permanency of reunifications.

On the reentry measure, current findings indicate that between 2004 and 2007, 29 States (57 percent) showed improved performance in the percentage of children who reenter foster care in less than 12 months from discharge (measure C1.4). The national median performance on this measure also improved from 15.0 percent in 2004 to 12.7 percent in 2007 (a -15.3 percent change).

However, there was a decline in performance (a 9.2 percent change) between 2004 and 2007 in the median length of stay for children who were reunified (measure C1.2). The national median was 6.5 months in 2004, but increased to a median of 7.7 months in 2007. Consistent with this finding, 31 States (61 percent) showed a decline in performance during this same time period.

In addition, while the median percentage of children who were reunified in less than 12 months (measures 4.1 and C1.1) was about 68 percent, performance in this area has declined. For measure 4.1, 44 percent of States showed a decline in performance between 2004 and 2007, while only 13 percent of States showed an improvement in performance. However, while the national median for this measure showed a slight decline in performance, the percent change did not qualify as noteworthy for the purposes of this report because it did not reach 5.0 in either direction (the standard criterion used in all Child Welfare Outcomes Reports).

The results for the entry cohort measure (C1.3) indicate that, in most States, the majority of children entering foster care in the last 6 months of 2006 were still in foster care 12 months later. While performance on this measure does indicate improvement between 2004 and 2007, overall performance remains quite low (median = 41.5 percent, table IV-2). Although not all of these children will eventually exit foster care to reunification, many of them will be reunified after being in foster care for a year or longer.

The data for 2007 also suggest that many States experience challenges in ensuring that children who are reunified do not reenter foster care within the year. A consistent finding of the data analyses for the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports is that many States

that have a high percentage of reunifications occurring in less than 12 months from the child's entry into foster care also have a high percentage of children who reenter foster care in less than 12 months from the time of reunification. This is an important finding because it raises the possibility that, at the time of reunification, not all of the problems that resulted in the child's initial entry into foster care were adequately resolved, or that new problems arose at the point of reunification that were not sufficiently addressed by the agency.

An additional consistent finding is that many States with a relatively high percentage of foster care reentries also had a relatively high percentage of children entering foster care who were adolescents (age 13 or older). The challenges that these youth present to State child welfare systems with regard to meeting the reunification needs of the children and their families could be quite different from those encountered in working with younger children and their families.

A consistent finding in Child Welfare Outcomes Reports is that States with more adolescents (age 13 or older) entering foster care tend to have higher reentry rates.

Achieving timely adoptions

The data for 2007 with regard to timely adoptions indicate that achieving adoptions in a timely manner remains a significant challenge for almost all States. The exceptions to this pattern are Utah, Colorado, and North Dakota, where 52 percent to 85 percent of the adoptions finalized in 2007 occurred in less than 24 months from the time of the child's entry into foster care. An area for future investigation is why these States are more successful than others in achieving timely adoptions.

The challenges in achieving adoptions in a timely manner are apparent from the data for all of the relevant measures. However, States are showing improved performance with regard to a number of measures in this area. Sixty-five percent of States exhibited an improvement in performance in the percentage of adoptions occurring in less than 24 months from the child's entry into foster care (measure C2.1); 55 percent showed an improvement in the median length of stay in care for children adopted (measure C2.2); 55 percent showed improved performance in the percentage of children in foster care for 17 months or longer on the first day of the year who were adopted by the end of the year (measure C2.3); 54 percent showed improved performance with regard to the percentage of children in foster care for 17 months or longer on the first day of the year who became legally free for adoption in the first 6 months of the year (measure C2.4); and 48 percent of States showed improved performance in the percentage of children who were legally free for adoption who were adopted within 12 months of becoming legally free (measure C2.5). These positive findings indicate that, despite the challenges, many States have been able to somewhat expedite the adoption process for children.

Despite the challenges of making adoptions more timely, a large number of States demonstrated improved performance between 2004 and 2007 on several of the adoption measures contained in this report.

V: Achieving Stable and Appropriate Placement Settings for Children in Foster Care

The State child welfare agency has the responsibility to ensure that children are in stable placements while they are in foster care. Placement stability is addressed through Outcome 6: Increase placement stability for children in foster care. For the purpose of the analysis in this report, if a child has two or fewer placement settings in a single foster care episode, this is considered to be evidence of placement stability.⁵⁵

State child welfare agencies also are responsible for ensuring that children in foster care are in placements that are appropriate to their age and service needs. This is addressed through Outcome 7: Reduce placements of young children in group homes or institutions. There are some instances in which a group home or institution is determined to be the most appropriate placement to meet the needs of a child. For example, young children may need a particular type of care to meet certain physical or mental health needs. Nonetheless, it is more likely that a family setting will be the most appropriate placement for most young children. Outcome 7 was established to try to discourage the inappropriate placement of young children in these larger placement settings.

There are some foster children for whom a foster family setting truly will not meet their highly specialized needs. However, a family setting generally will be the most appropriate, especially for young children.

Table V-1 presents the findings of State performance on measures of placement stability (measure 6.1) and placements of young children in group homes or institutions (measure 7.1).⁵⁶ For outcome measure 6.1, data are presented that measure placement stability for multiple timeframes for length of stay in foster care (i.e., less than 12 months, 12 months to less than 24 months, and 24 months or more).⁵⁷

Table V-1. Range of State Performance, 2007
Outcomes 6 and 7: Achieving Stable and Appropriate Placement Settings

Outcome Measures	25th Percentile	National Median (50th Percentile)	75th Percentile	Range
Measure 6.1a: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for less than 12 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=52)	79.4%	85.2%	87.0%	67.9–99.7%
Measure 6.1b: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in foster care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=52)	53.1	61.0	66.2	37.3–99.2
Measure 6.1c: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in foster care for at least 24 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=52)	26.8	31.7	37.9	15.9–99.3
*Measure 7.1: Of all children who entered foster care during the year and were age 12 or younger at the time of their most recent placement, what percentage were placed in a group home or institution? (N=52)	3.8	5.7	9.4	1.3–20.3

*For this measure, a lower number indicates better performance (fewer children in group homes or institutions is desirable).

As shown in table V-1, in most States, the majority of children in foster care for less than 12 months experienced no more than two placement settings in 2007 (measure 6.1a, median = 85.2 percent). However, despite the generally positive level of performance on this measure across States, it would be preferable for no child to experience excessive placement setting changes, so there is still some room for improvement on this measure.

⁵⁵ A single foster care episode begins on the date when a child is removed from the home and ends when the child is discharged from foster care (is no longer under the care and placement responsibility of the State). The count of placement settings does not include temporary stays in hospitals, camps, respite care, or institutional placements.

⁵⁶ In this report, the designation of “State” includes the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Therefore, the report provides information on a total of up to 52 States, depending on the number of States that submitted adequate data for a particular measure. Unless otherwise specified, the data used in this report are for Federal fiscal year 2007 (October 1, 2006–September 30, 2007).

⁵⁷ For the second round of the CFRs, three measures were developed as part of Composite 4: Placement stability. These composite measures are not shown in this chapter because the measures are almost identical to the original measures of placement stability incorporated in measure 6.1. We present data on measure 6.1 in this chapter to remain consistent with previous Child Welfare Outcomes Reports. However, individual State performances on composite 4 are presented in chapter VI of this report.

Although most States appear to be reasonably successful in achieving placement stability for children in foster care for less than 12 months, States tend to be far less successful in keeping the number of placement settings low for children in foster care for longer periods of time. As shown in table V-1, the median across States declines from 85.2 percent for children in foster care for less than 12 months to 61.0 percent for children in foster care for 12 to 24 months, and then declines even further to 31.7 percent for children in foster care for 24 months or longer.

One variable that was found to be associated with placement stability was the median length of stay in foster care prior to adoption. States with a relatively long median length of stay prior to adoption (measure C2.2) also tended to have good placement setting stability. The following correlations were found:

- States with a relatively long median length of stay prior to adoption (measure C2.2) had some tendency to have a high percentage of children in care for less than 12 months who had no more than two placement settings (measure 6.1a) (Pearson's $r = .32$).
- States with a relatively long median length of stay prior to adoption (measure C2.2) also tended to have a relatively high percentage of children in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months who had no more than two placement settings (measure 6.1b) (Pearson's $r = .47$).
- States with a relatively long median length of stay prior to adoption (measure C2.2) also tended to have a relatively high percentage of children in care for 24 months or longer who had no more than two placement settings (measure 6.1c) (Pearson's $r = .53$).

Although more information is needed to understand these relationships, one possible explanation is that in some States, if children are perceived as being in stable placements (possibly pre-adoptive homes), States may be less likely to make concerted efforts to finalize the adoptions than they might be if the children were not in stable placements.

The data in table V-1 also indicate that, in about one-half of the States, 5.7 percent or less of children entering foster care under the age of 12 were placed in a group home or institution. However, in 12 States, between 10 percent and 20 percent of young children were placed in group homes or institutions.⁵⁸

CHANGES IN STATE PERFORMANCE ON MEASURES OF ACHIEVING STABLE AND APPROPRIATE PLACEMENT SETTINGS FOR CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

The median performances across States for the years 2004 to 2007 on measures pertaining to achieving stable and appropriate placements for children in foster care are presented in table V-2. For cross-year comparison purposes, data are presented only for States that provided adequate and complete data for the measures in all of the relevant years.

Table V-2. Median State Performance, 2004–2007
Outcomes 6 and 7: Achieving Stable and Appropriate Placement Settings

Outcome Measures*	Median Performance by Year			
	2004	2005	2006	2007
Measure 6.1a: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for less than 12 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=52)	83.1%	84.4%	84.0%	85.2%
Measure 6.1b: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in foster care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=52)	58.5	59.8	60.5	61.0
Measure 6.1c: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in foster care for at least 24 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=52)	32.1	31.8	32.1	31.7
**Measure 7.1: Of all children who entered foster care during the year and were age 12 or younger at the time of their most recent placement, what percentage were placed in a group home or institution? (N=51)	7.2	7.2	5.9	5.9

* Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available for all of the relevant years. The 2007 data included on this table may be different than the data included in table V-1 due to differences in the number of States included for each analysis.

**For this measure, a lower number indicates better performance (fewer children in group homes or institutions is desirable).

⁵⁸ The 12 States were Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, Nevada, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and South Dakota.

As shown in table V-2, there was a substantial improvement in national performance for measure 7.1 in 2006, and this improvement has continued through 2007. The national percentage of young children placed in group homes or institutions decreased from 7.2 percent in 2004 and 2005 to 5.9 percent in 2006 and 2007 (a -18.1 percent change).

The percentage of young children placed in group homes and institutions decreased substantially between 2004 and 2007.

Table V-3 provides the number and percentage of States that improved performance, declined in performance, or exhibited no change in performance with regard to key measures for outcomes 6 and 7. Change in performance over time was computed by using a percent change calculation.⁵⁹ Analyses included only those States that provided adequate and complete data for a measure in all relevant years.

**Table V-3. Change in Performance Over Time, 2004–2007
Outcomes 6 and 7: Achieving Stable and Appropriate Placement Settings**

Outcome Measures*	States That Improved in Performance	States That Declined in Performance	States That Had No Change in Performance**
Measure 6.1a: Percentage of children in foster care for less than 12 months who experience two or fewer placement settings (N=52)	6 (12%)	7 (13%)	39 (75%)
Measure 6.1b: Percentage of children in foster care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months who experience two or fewer placement settings (N=52)	23 (44%)	12 (23%)	17 (33%)
Measure 6.1c: Percentage of children in foster care for at least 24 months who experience two or fewer placement settings (N=52)	22 (42%)	23 (44%)	7 (13%)
***Measure 7.1: Percentage of children entering foster care when they were age 12 or younger who were placed in a group home or institution (N=51)	39 (76%)	9 (18%)	3 (6%)

* Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available for all of the relevant years.

** When a percent change in performance from 2004 to 2007 is less than 5.0 in either direction (i.e., positive or negative), a determination is made that there is “no change” in performance.

***For this measure, a lower number indicates better performance (fewer children in group homes or institutions is desirable).

As shown in table V-3, the performance on measure 6.1b (percentage of children in foster care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months who experience two or fewer placement settings) improved for 44 percent of States and declined for only 23 percent of States between 2004 and 2007. On the other hand, the national median for this measure changed minimally, from 58.5 percent in 2004 to 61.0 percent in 2007 (a 4.3 percent change, which does not meet the criterion of 5.0 in either direction to qualify as a noteworthy change in performance for the Child Welfare Outcomes Report).

The data for measure 7.1 presented in table V-3 are consistent with that found in table V-2, which showed a substantial improvement (a -18.1 percent change) toward fewer placements of young children in group homes and institutions. This is illustrated in table V-3 by the fact that, between 2004 and 2007, 76 percent of States showed improved performance on measure 7.1.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS REGARDING ACHIEVING STABLE AND APPROPRIATE PLACEMENTS FOR CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

A consistent finding of the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports is that, although States are fairly successful in achieving placement stability for children in foster care for less than 12 months, the percentage of children who have placement stability declines considerably the longer the children are in foster care. This is illustrated by the fact that the median across States declines from 85.2 percent for children in foster care for less than 12 months to 61.0 percent for children in foster care for 12 to 24 months, and then declines even further to 31.7 percent for children in foster care for 24 months or longer. There is an ongoing need for improvement in this area.

States are generally more successful in minimizing the number of placement settings for children in care for less than 12 months, but children in care for longer periods of time tend to have considerably more placement setting changes.

Consistent with findings from *Child Welfare Outcomes 2003–2006*, the majority of States are making considerable strides in decreasing the number of young children placed in group homes or institutions. Between 2004 and 2007, 76 percent of States showed improved performance on this measure.

⁵⁹ Percent change is calculated by subtracting “old” data from “new” data, dividing that result by old data, and multiplying it by 100. For example, if maltreatment recurrence were 9.2 in 2004 and 7.6 in 2007, the formula is $[(7.6-9.2)/9.2] \times 100 = -17.4$ percent change. For more information on percent change calculations, see chapter I of this report.

VI: State Performance Relevant to the Seven National Child Welfare Outcomes (State Data Pages)

The previous chapters provide key findings from an analysis of performance across States relevant to the seven national child welfare outcomes. This chapter presents tables of data for each State on the 12 measures originally developed for the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports, and on the additional 15 measures developed for the second round of the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs). As noted in earlier chapters, the 15 CFSR measures are relevant to the seven national child welfare outcomes addressed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Report.

The data pages also include the composite scores for each State for the four CFSR-related composite measures. These composite scores are based on the results of a Principal Components Analysis conducted by the Children's Bureau (within the Department of Health and Human Services). This process is explained in detail in the Federal Register Announcement published on the Children's Bureau website:

www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm

VIEWING THE STATE DATA PAGES

The State Data Pages are structured as follows:

- Data for the context variables
- Data showing State performance on the original outcome measures
- Data pertaining to State performance on the 15 CFSR measures and the State's composite scores for 2005, 2006, and 2007 (No overall composite scores are shown for 2004 because the data from that year were used to calculate the national standards, and it would be inappropriate to evaluate State performance based on the same data set used to calculate those standards. Nonetheless, when available, the composite measure tables show performance on the individual measures in 2004.)
- State Comment page presenting each State's comments on its own data (provided only if a State submitted a comment for publication)

The following conventions were used to distinguish among various types of data reporting:

- If a State reported a value of "zero percent" for any of the context variables or outcome measures, this is indicated by "0.0." For the "maltreatment type" table only, there is an additional usage of 0.0. It is also used when a State reported no data for a particular maltreatment category, and the State did not provide guidance on the intended interpretation of the absence of data for that category.
- If a State reported more than 0 percent but less than 0.1 percent, this is indicated by "< 0.1."
- If a particular cell is not applicable to a State, that is, there is no reason to assume that the State would have data for that cell, this is indicated by "N/A."
- If a particular cell is applicable to a State, that is, there is reason to assume that the State would have data for that cell but no data were provided, this is indicated by a dash (—).

RANGE OF STATE PERFORMANCE

The following two tables provide the 2007 medians and ranges in State performance on the original outcome measures (table VI-1) and the CFSR composite measures (table VI-2). These tables are presented to provide a point of context for understanding individual State performance on these measures. Median State performance on these measures for 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007 are included on tables 1 and 2 of the executive summary of this report.

Table VI-1. Range of State Performance, 2007
Original Outcome Measures

Outcome Measures*	National Median (50th Percentile)	Range
**Measure 1.1: Of all children who were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and/or neglect during the first 6 months of the year, what percentage had another substantiated or indicated report within a 6-month period? (N=50)	5.5%	1.4–13.1%
**Measure 2.1: Of all children who were in foster care during the year, what percentage were the subject of substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member? (N=47)	0.35	0.03–1.38
Measure 3.1: Of all children who exited foster care during the year, what percentage left to either reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=52)	86.9	62.8–94.0
Measure 3.2: Of all children who exited foster care during the year and were identified as having a diagnosed disability, what percentage left to either reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=50)	77.0	42.8–89.7
Measure 3.3: Of all children who exited foster care during the year and were older than age 12 at the time of their most recent entry into care, what percentage left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=52)	69.1	35.1–85.5
**Measure 3.4: Of all children exiting foster care in the year to emancipation, what percentage were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into care? (N=52)	27.4	10.4–61.9
Measure 4.1: Of all children reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care during the year, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the time of entry into foster care? (N=52)	67.6	36.5–91.9
Measure 5.1a: Of all children discharged from care during the year to a finalized adoption, what percentage were discharged in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (N=52)	3.4	0.7–34.4
Measure 6.1a: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for less than 12 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=52)	85.2	67.9–99.7
Measure 6.1b: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in foster care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=52)	61.0	37.3–99.2
Measure 6.1c: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in foster care for at least 24 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=52)	31.7	15.9–99.3
**Measure 7.1: Of all children who entered foster care during the year and were age 12 or younger at the time of their most recent placement, what percentage were placed in a group home or institution? (N=52)	5.7	1.3–20.3

* Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available.

** For these measures, a lower number indicates better performance.

Table VI-2. Range of State Performance, 2007
Composite Measures

Composite Measures*	National Median (50th Percentile)**	Range
Measure C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment) (N=52)	67.7	39.6–91.9
***Measure C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment) (N=52)	7.7 mos.	1.9–15.6 mos.
Measure C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment) (N=52)	41.5	14.2–63.3
***Measure C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge? (N=52)	12.5	1.4–31.7
Measure C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (N=52)	31.3	9.1–85.5
***Measure C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from home to the date of discharge to adoption? (N=52)	30.2 mos.	14.7–51.6 mos.
****Measure C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year? (N=52)	20.9	3.8–36.1
*****Measure C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in foster care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day, what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? (N=52)	9.5	0.3–26.9
Measure C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free? (N=52)	50.8	13.9–85.3
Measure C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year? (N=52)	26.5	9.0–46.4
Measure C3.2: Of all children who were discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday? (N=52)	94.7	78.8–100
***Measure C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer? (N=52)	45.7	20.6–70.9

*Individual measures developed for Composite 4: Placement stability are not shown in this table because the measures are nearly identical to the original measures of placement stability incorporated into measure 6.1 (see table VI-1).

**Numbers are expressed as percentages except when measured by months, as noted. Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available.

***For these measures, a lower number indicates better performance.

****The denominator for this measure excludes children who, by the last day of the year, were discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification with parents or primary caretakers, living with relatives, or guardianship.

*****A child is considered to be legally free for adoption if there is a date for parental rights termination reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. Also, the denominator for this measure excludes children who, during the first 6 months of the year, were discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification with parents or primary caretakers, living with other relatives, or guardianship.

Alabama

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	1,107,942	1,110,799	1,119,663	1,123,537
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
Asian	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9
Black	31.2	30.9	30.7	30.5
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	3.3	3.7	4.1	4.6
White	62.7	62.5	62.1	61.7
Two or more races	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8
Child population in poverty (%)	23.3	24.8	23.0	24.3

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	9,414	9,029	9,378	9,247
Children in foster care on 9/30	5,934	6,913	7,157	7,263
Children adopted	398	336	387	349

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	74
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	275
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	371
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	77
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	31,300	28.3 per 1,000	27,378	24.6 per 1,000	27,340	24.4 per 1,000	27,531	24.5 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	9,414	8.5 per 1,000	9,029	8.1 per 1,000	9,378	8.4 per 1,000	9,247	8.2 per 1,000
Child fatalities	11	1.0 per 100,000	24	2.2 per 100,000	24	2.1 per 100,000	23	2.1 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	8.8	9.6	10.5	12.3
1 year	5.3	6.0	5.7	5.3
2 years	5.8	6.1	5.7	5.8
3 years	6.0	5.5	5.9	5.7
4 years	5.7	5.9	5.0	5.3
5 years	5.3	5.4	5.6	5.5
6 years	5.2	5.2	4.9	5.8
7 years	4.7	4.4	4.6	5.3
8 years	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.7
9 years	4.3	4.1	4.4	4.1
10 years	4.0	4.4	3.8	3.8
11 years	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.1
12 years	5.0	4.8	4.7	4.6
13 years	6.0	5.5	5.4	5.5
14 years	6.7	6.6	6.8	6.4
15 years	6.6	6.1	7.0	6.7
16 years	3.5	3.2	3.5	3.6
17 years	1.7	1.3	2.0	1.9
18+ years	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Missing data	6.4	7.1	5.4	3.3
Number	9,414	9,029	9,378	9,247

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Asian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Black	29.5	23.5	18.5	21.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	2.3	2.5	3.2	3.6
White	52.2	45.5	34.8	34.5
Two or more races	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.6
Missing data	15.7	28.1	42.9	40.0
Number	9,414	9,029	9,378	9,247

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.5
Medical neglect	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Neglect	43.6	44.5	41.7	42.2
Physical abuse	40.5	40.5	39.1	40.5
Sexual abuse	24.0	23.5	26.1	24.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	9,414	9,029	9,378	9,247

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	—	55.8	55.6	51.2
Median	—	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	5,382	6,348	6,840	6,962	3,598	3,844	3,791	3,942	3,046	3,279	3,474	3,641	5,934	6,913	7,157	7,263
Median length of stay (months)	18.1	19.9	18.9	18.9	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.1	9.4	10.3	10.7	17.7	19.2	18.9	19.2

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.6	3.8	4.9	5.1	14.5	15.2	16.2	18.6	6.1	5.5	6.2	6.4	4.2	4.9	5.0	5.9
1 year	4.3	5.3	5.2	5.5	7.1	6.7	6.6	7.0	6.9	6.2	6.4	7.3	5.2	5.2	5.6	5.7
2 years	4.5	4.7	5.3	5.3	5.8	6.8	6.4	5.7	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.8	4.4	5.4	5.3	5.3
3 years	4.2	4.7	4.6	5.1	5.2	5.8	5.6	5.3	6.4	7.0	6.9	6.5	4.2	4.6	5.0	4.9
4 years	4.5	4.0	4.3	4.2	4.9	5.0	4.5	4.6	5.6	5.6	5.3	5.0	3.7	4.4	4.2	4.6
5 years	3.5	4.3	3.7	4.1	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.7	5.0	5.3	4.9	5.2	4.2	3.7	4.0	3.8
6 years	4.1	3.7	4.2	3.9	4.6	4.8	4.7	4.1	5.2	4.9	4.5	4.8	3.5	4.2	3.9	4.0
7 years	4.2	4.0	3.9	4.2	4.0	4.2	4.5	4.8	4.8	3.9	4.7	4.7	3.8	3.9	4.1	3.7
8 years	4.1	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.8	4.3	3.4	4.4	4.0	4.2	3.7	3.9	4.0	3.9	4.1
9 years	4.3	3.6	3.8	3.8	4.0	3.2	4.0	3.9	4.9	2.9	3.8	3.8	3.6	3.7	3.9	3.9
10 years	4.8	4.1	3.5	4.0	3.9	3.7	4.1	3.2	4.1	3.8	3.7	3.9	4.2	3.6	3.9	3.8
11 years	5.1	4.3	3.9	4.1	4.3	3.9	4.0	3.6	4.4	3.8	3.3	3.2	4.5	4.0	4.0	3.7
12 years	6.3	5.2	4.9	4.3	4.9	4.5	4.3	4.1	4.4	3.9	3.8	3.4	5.3	4.9	4.3	4.3
13 years	7.4	6.5	5.2	5.0	6.2	5.4	4.7	4.9	4.8	4.5	3.9	3.8	6.9	5.1	5.0	4.5
14 years	7.5	6.9	7.3	5.6	5.3	6.6	5.5	5.3	4.6	4.9	4.5	3.9	7.4	7.2	5.6	5.8
15 years	8.1	7.8	7.9	7.8	6.3	6.6	6.0	6.1	4.5	4.8	5.9	5.2	8.3	7.8	7.7	6.4
16 years	8.5	8.0	7.9	8.3	6.3	5.3	5.8	6.8	6.3	5.6	5.0	5.7	8.5	7.8	8.1	8.2
17 years	7.8	7.4	7.6	7.6	3.6	3.3	3.7	3.7	4.4	5.0	4.7	5.0	7.8	7.5	7.5	8.2
18 years	3.1	4.9	5.0	5.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	5.4	5.7	6.6	6.1	5.2	4.9	5.3	5.3
19 years	0.0	2.3	2.3	2.4	<.1	0.2	0.2	<.1	1.3	4.0	3.6	3.6	1.3	2.3	2.4	2.7
20+ years	0.0	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	1.8	1.4	1.8	0.0	1.0	1.4	1.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.5	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	<.1	0.2	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Asian	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	0.0	<.1	0.2	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Black	50.2	48.1	46.2	45.9	41.2	40.0	42.0	39.7	42.2	42.3	41.8	41.2	48.8	46.4	46.1	44.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	1.6	1.9	1.9	2.6	2.9	3.3	3.7	4.4	2.8	3.5	3.0	3.4	1.8	1.9	2.3	3.1
White	47.3	48.4	50.5	49.6	53.9	55.4	52.5	53.5	53.7	52.8	54.0	53.7	48.0	50.2	49.9	49.7
Two or more races	0.6	1.2	1.1	1.5	1.4	0.8	1.5	1.6	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.8
Unknown	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	1,599	2,128	1,658	1,820
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	730	1,189	1,073	1,211

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	5.7	5.5	1.9	2.7
1 year	6.8	7.0	5.6	5.5
2 years	5.4	7.0	6.4	6.7
3 years	6.1	6.3	6.5	6.5
4 years	5.1	6.5	5.4	6.5
5 years	5.8	5.0	5.5	5.3
6 years	5.1	6.4	5.1	5.3
7 years	5.8	6.2	5.7	4.4
8 years	5.5	5.8	5.5	6.5
9 years	5.3	5.1	5.8	5.4
10 years	5.6	5.3	5.6	5.3
11 years	6.1	5.4	5.6	5.1
12 years	5.1	5.2	5.9	5.4
13 years	6.4	4.3	5.9	5.7
14 years	6.8	5.4	4.8	5.8
15 years	5.3	5.5	6.5	4.9
16 years	4.5	4.3	7.1	6.2
17 years	3.5	3.8	5.1	6.5

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.2
Asian	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0
Black	47.5	43.8	45.9	44.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	1.4	1.9	1.3	2.5
White	49.3	52.1	50.5	50.0
Two or more races	1.5	1.9	2.2	2.4
Unknown	0.1	<.1	0.1	0.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	398	336	387	349

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.0	0.3	2.1	1.7
1 year	6.8	5.4	7.8	4.9
2 years	7.0	8.3	7.8	13.5
3 years	11.6	15.2	11.9	9.5
4 years	8.3	11.6	10.6	7.4
5 years	7.5	8.3	6.7	8.6
6 years	7.3	6.8	7.5	6.9
7 years	9.0	4.8	8.5	8.0
8 years	6.3	6.3	6.5	6.6
9 years	6.5	5.1	5.9	6.6
10 years	5.8	4.2	4.1	5.4
11 years	5.8	4.8	4.4	5.2
12 years	5.5	5.1	4.4	5.7
13 years	4.5	5.1	2.3	2.6
14 years	2.5	2.4	2.3	3.2
15 years	2.0	2.4	2.8	1.1
16 years	1.3	2.4	1.3	1.4
17 years	0.3	1.5	1.3	1.1
18 years	0.0	0.3	1.8	0.6
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0
Black	35.4	34.5	28.9	36.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	1.8	1.5	4.1	0.9
White	61.8	61.3	65.9	60.7
Two or more races	0.8	2.7	0.8	1.7
Unknown	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

Alabama

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	—	98.1	98.1	98.0
Children with one or more recurrences	—	1.9	1.9	2.0
Number	—	4,012	4,130	4,049

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	0.14	0.28	0.15
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	99.86	99.72	99.85
Number	—	10,192	10,631	10,904

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	13.0	10.2	11.2	9.6
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Reunification	79.9	79.0	79.2	80.4
Other	7.1	10.8	9.5	10.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1
Number	3,046	3,279	3,474	3,641

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	17.4	20.7	15.3	18.6
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Reunification	68.6	56.2	61.7	58.5
Other	14.0	23.2	23.0	22.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8
Number	236	276	248	258

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.7	0.5	0.9
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Reunification	83.8	77.0	78.5	79.5
Other	16.2	22.3	21.0	19.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Number	742	915	962	986

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	50.8	43.9	37.4	49.5
Children older than 12 at entry	49.2	56.1	62.6	50.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	61	189	174	198

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/American Indian				2004	Asian			2004	Black			2004	2005	2006	2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007				
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	11.0	8.4	7.9	8.5				
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Reunification	66.7	100.0	66.7	66.7	60.0	0.0	0.0	75.0	81.7	77.4	79.4	80.2				
Other	33.3	0.0	33.3	33.3	40.0	100.0	0.0	25.0	7.3	14.3	12.7	11.3				
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1				
Number	3	4	3	3	5	1	1	4	1,284	1,388	1,451	1,500				
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)			2004	White			2004	2005	2006	2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007				
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.1	4.3	15.5	2.5	15.0	11.8	13.6	10.8				
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Reunification	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	85.7	81.7	81.6	91.0	78.3	80.3	79.1	79.9				
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.1	13.9	2.9	6.6	6.8	7.9	7.3	9.1				
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1				
Number	0	2	1	0	84	115	103	122	1,637	1,732	1,875	1,957				
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races			2004	Missing Data			2004	2005	2006	2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007				
Adoption	16.7	0.0	0.0	5.6	11.1	29.0	8.3	16.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Reunification	83.3	100.0	100.0	94.4	85.2	67.7	72.2	70.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	3.2	19.4	13.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Number	6	6	4	18	27	31	36	37	0	0	0	0				

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	68.5	67.1	65.8	64.7
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	19.0	18.4	19.5	20.5
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	7.2	7.7	7.4	7.8
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.1	3.1	3.4	2.9
48 or more mos.	3.2	3.6	3.9	4.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,435	2,591	2,753	2,926

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	81.7	80.6	81.5	80.9
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	9.9	9.4	9.0	8.8
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	7.9	9.2	9.1	10.0
Missing data	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.3
Number	3,598	3,844	3,791	3,942

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	2.5	0.9	2.6	2.3
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	13.1	16.7	17.5	10.3
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	21.0	19.1	25.4	26.1
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	28.8	26.0	19.0	25.2
48 or more mos.	34.6	37.3	35.5	36.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	396	335	389	349

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	89.3	89.1	92.8	92.4	73.1	72.4	75.4	71.6	51.0	50.0	49.7	46.4	95.5	87.5	75.0	0.0
Children with 3 or more placements	10.7	10.9	7.2	7.6	26.9	27.6	24.6	28.4	49.0	50.0	50.3	53.6	4.5	12.5	25.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	4,081	4,412	4,476	4,703	1,725	1,907	2,154	2,031	3,152	3,865	3,997	4,170	22	8	4	0

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	1.4	1.1	2.0	1.4
Institutions	3.2	2.6	3.8	3.3
Other settings	94.1	93.7	93.4	93.9
Missing data	1.3	2.5	0.8	1.5
Number	1,783	1,935	2,622	2,661

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	119.7	118.4	120.8
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	66.1	65.3	64.4	66.0
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	7.1	7.7	8.7	8.3
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	48.2	48.8	46.4	47.8
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	7.8	10.6	10.1	10.5

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	56.4	57.9	53.3
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	15.7	17.7	20.3	12.4
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	41.5	41.4	37.9	40.3
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	14.6	10.6	11.1	10.6
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	4.6	9.0	7.4	7.5
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	32.5	31.4	29.5	27.9

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	106.2	104.4	104.7
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	20.7	17.7	18.3	18.3
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	97.3	97.1	94.6	94.8
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	49.6	51.1	49.7	54.9

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	109.5	113.8	111.0
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	87.4	87.5	91.8	91.6
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	73.4	72.6	75.4	71.9
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	51.8	51.3	51.2	47.7

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

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The following are Alabama's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

- Caseworker Visit data for 2007 was based on a sample. 74.0 percent of children received monthly visits and of these 77.0 percent were visited in their homes.
- Section B, the increase in the percentage of children for whom race/ethnicity information is “missing” is due to our current SACWIS system not requiring data in these fields. Alabama's SACWIS is now fully implemented therefore data should be available in 2008.
- Outcome Measure 1.1, In 2007, Recurrence of Maltreatment within 6 months is at 2.0 percent which is one of the lowest in the nation.
- Outcome Measure 3.1, In 2007, Percentage of Children exiting to a permanent home is at 90.0 percent which exceeded the national 75th percentile.
- Outcome Measure 3.3, In 2007, Percentage of Children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care who were discharged to a permanent home is at 80.4 percent which exceeded the national 75th percentile.
- Permanency Composite 1, Measure C1.1, Percentage of Reunifications occurring in less than 12 months of the child's entry into foster care rose slightly to 66.0 percent, and is within the national median.
- Permanency Composite 2, Measure C2.1, Percentage of Adoptions occurring in less than 24 months remains below the 25 percent nationally; this issue is being addressed through our Federal Program Improvement Plan.
- Permanency Composite 2, Measure C2.2, Median length of stay in months for children adopted remains greater than the 75th percentile; this issue is being addressed through our Federal Program Improvement Plan.
- Permanency Composite 2, Measure C2.3, Children in foster care for 17 months or longer, percentage of adoptions by the end of the 12-month target period remains in the bottom 25th percentile at 10.6 percent; this issue is being addressed through our Federal Program Improvement Plan.
- Permanency Composite 2, Measure C2.5, Percentage of children who are legally free for adoption who are adopted within 12 months of becoming legally free remains in the bottom 25th percentile; this issue is being addressed through our Federal Program Improvement Plan.
- Permanency Composite 3, Measure C3.1, For children in foster care for 24 months or longer, percentage who are discharged to a permanent home remains in the bottom 25th percentile; this issue is being addressed through our Federal Program Improvement Plan.
- Permanency Composite 4, All Measures were above the national 75th percentile, Percentage of children in foster care for less than 12 months who had two or fewer placement settings was at 91.6 percent, those in care at least 12 months but less than 24 months was at 71.9 percent, and those in care at least 24 months was at 47.7 percent.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	185,088	183,821	183,500	182,218
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	18.6	18.5	18.3	18.0
Asian	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.9
Black	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Hispanic (of any race)	7.5	8.0	8.3	8.5
White	57.3	56.8	56.6	56.5
Two or more races	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.7
Child population in poverty (%)	11.2	14.5	15.1	11.5

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	—	2,693	3,481	3,138
Children in foster care on 9/30	1,825	1,789	1,993	2,191
Children adopted	185	226	212	254

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	3
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	67
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	—	— per 1,000	6,813	37.1 per 1,000	9,500	51.8 per 1,000	8,222	45.1 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	—	— per 1,000	2,693	14.7 per 1,000	3,481	19.0 per 1,000	3,138	17.2 per 1,000
Child fatalities	—	— per 100,000	3	1.6 per 100,000	2	1.1 per 100,000	4	2.2 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	—	11.3	11.4	11.9
1 year	—	7.4	7.1	7.3
2 years	—	6.5	6.1	8.2
3 years	—	6.5	5.7	6.6
4 years	—	5.9	6.2	6.6
5 years	—	6.8	7.3	6.6
6 years	—	6.1	5.4	6.5
7 years	—	4.9	6.3	6.1
8 years	—	5.1	5.9	6.2
9 years	—	5.2	4.6	4.2
10 years	—	4.1	5.0	5.1
11 years	—	4.6	4.9	3.7
12 years	—	4.5	5.0	4.2
13 years	—	5.3	4.1	3.7
14 years	—	5.2	5.5	4.1
15 years	—	4.2	3.9	3.9
16 years	—	3.1	2.6	2.8
17 years	—	0.8	1.2	0.8
18+ years	—	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	—	2.5	1.7	1.6
Number	—	2,693	3,481	3,138

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	—	49.7	48.7	52.7
Asian	—	0.9	1.2	0.6
Black	—	5.0	6.7	5.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	1.0	1.2	1.5
Hispanic (of any race)	—	2.8	3.5	3.9
White	—	34.0	34.0	30.9
Two or more races	—	3.0	2.4	3.0
Missing data	—	3.6	2.3	2.0
Number	—	2,693	3,481	3,138

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	—	29.4	33.2	29.7
Medical neglect	—	3.7	4.4	4.8
Neglect	—	61.8	57.7	67.4
Physical abuse	—	14.6	14.2	9.9
Sexual abuse	—	4.5	4.5	3.7
Missing data	—	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	—	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	—	2,693	3,481	3,138

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	—	706.0	—	—
Median	—	>144 but<168	—	—

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	1,875	1,624	1,758	2,050	665	940	920	897	715	791	697	762	1,825	1,789	1,993	2,191
Median length of stay (months)	16.9	14.1	15.4	17.4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17.7	15.5	16.7	23.2	21.3	15.0	16.7	17.8

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.9	4.6	5.4	5.8	18.0	16.6	19.8	18.2	4.2	3.2	3.2	5.0	3.7	5.6	6.0	4.6
1 year	6.6	5.7	6.7	7.7	8.7	8.3	8.2	7.6	6.3	4.3	6.3	7.7	5.6	6.7	7.9	6.9
2 years	5.5	6.4	7.5	6.3	7.1	7.1	7.8	8.6	8.5	8.0	10.0	8.3	6.5	7.3	6.4	7.7
3 years	6.0	6.2	5.5	6.6	7.8	5.5	5.7	7.0	6.6	8.0	8.2	8.5	5.8	5.4	6.5	6.2
4 years	5.6	6.0	5.6	4.9	5.4	6.2	5.9	5.2	6.9	6.3	7.2	5.0	5.6	5.6	4.8	6.4
5 years	5.1	5.5	5.3	5.1	5.3	5.1	5.1	6.4	6.2	6.1	7.9	4.9	5.2	5.5	4.9	5.1
6 years	4.7	4.9	5.3	5.0	4.2	4.8	4.1	7.5	5.7	5.4	3.9	5.4	4.4	5.4	4.8	5.9
7 years	5.2	5.7	4.7	5.5	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.3	5.5	4.8	5.3	4.2	5.2	4.9	5.5	5.3
8 years	5.2	5.2	5.4	5.1	5.6	4.9	5.1	7.2	5.6	5.3	4.4	5.0	5.0	5.2	5.2	6.2
9 years	5.3	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.7	3.5	4.0	5.1	4.2	4.6	5.6	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.6	5.5
10 years	5.5	5.3	4.7	4.5	4.1	4.1	4.8	4.2	6.0	4.3	6.2	3.3	5.1	4.4	4.5	4.5
11 years	5.9	4.3	5.6	4.0	3.6	4.0	3.5	3.0	4.9	4.2	4.4	3.1	4.7	5.5	4.2	4.7
12 years	6.6	5.2	3.9	5.2	3.9	5.1	4.0	2.3	5.5	4.8	2.9	3.9	5.6	3.9	5.2	3.8
13 years	6.1	6.3	4.9	4.3	4.8	4.3	4.5	3.5	3.8	4.9	2.0	3.7	6.5	5.1	4.4	4.5
14 years	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.6	3.2	5.5	4.8	3.1	5.0	4.9	3.7	4.2	5.7	6.0	5.7	4.2
15 years	5.3	5.8	6.1	5.9	3.8	4.9	4.1	3.5	3.1	4.8	4.4	3.7	5.9	6.1	5.9	5.3
16 years	5.3	5.4	5.9	5.5	3.6	3.4	2.0	2.2	4.2	3.9	1.9	3.9	5.8	5.9	5.5	5.3
17 years	4.2	5.0	4.7	5.7	1.4	1.7	2.0	0.9	2.9	4.9	3.7	5.6	5.3	4.5	5.7	4.5
18 years	1.5	1.4	1.8	2.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	6.1	6.3	7.5	2.4	1.8	2.0	2.3
19 years	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.6	2.0	2.0	1.0	0.3	0.4	0.6
20+ years	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.4
Missing data	0.0	0.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	63.3	49.7	49.0	50.3	56.5	52.1	53.6	52.5	61.5	49.8	51.8	42.7	61.5	51.0	50.2	53.8
Asian	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.7	0.0	0.5	2.0	0.4	0.7	0.3	1.0	0.9	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.5
Black	7.3	6.1	4.8	5.5	8.9	5.0	7.5	7.0	7.6	6.4	6.3	7.2	7.8	5.3	5.5	5.5
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.1	0.5	1.1	0.0	0.7	1.5	1.9	0.0	0.4	0.4	1.3	0.0	0.3	1.0	1.3
Hispanic (of any race)	2.2	4.0	4.6	4.4	1.4	4.1	3.7	4.0	2.5	5.7	4.3	4.1	1.8	3.4	4.2	4.3
White	25.5	26.8	28.3	27.0	32.5	25.9	24.3	27.9	26.7	23.8	25.7	30.6	27.6	27.6	27.3	26.1
Two or more races	0.0	12.4	12.4	10.3	0.0	6.0	5.3	4.6	0.0	12.3	9.3	11.0	0.0	9.1	10.3	7.9
Unknown	1.2	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.8	1.9	0.9	1.2	1.0	0.6	0.1	1.6	1.1	1.0	0.5	0.4
Missing data	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0	3.7	1.2	0.4	0.0	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.0	1.8	0.4	0.2

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	649	488	714	777
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	337	104	254	268

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.1	3.7	3.1	1.3
1 year	5.4	7.2	8.4	7.1
2 years	7.9	7.0	6.2	8.4
3 years	5.1	9.4	7.6	6.4
4 years	6.2	8.0	6.7	7.6
5 years	5.4	5.9	6.9	5.9
6 years	4.9	6.6	5.5	6.0
7 years	6.3	6.4	7.4	6.2
8 years	6.2	8.2	5.7	8.4
9 years	6.2	4.9	6.2	6.3
10 years	6.3	6.1	5.0	5.4
11 years	5.9	6.4	5.9	5.9
12 years	7.9	3.1	5.6	5.4
13 years	6.9	4.9	4.2	4.8
14 years	7.1	4.7	4.8	3.7
15 years	5.2	3.9	5.2	4.2
16 years	3.4	2.9	3.5	4.4
17 years	2.8	0.8	2.2	2.6

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	63.0	50.8	47.2	52.6
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Black	9.4	6.1	5.0	5.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Hispanic (of any race)	0.9	3.1	5.3	5.3
White	25.9	28.9	26.5	24.3
Two or more races	0.0	10.7	15.7	11.8
Unknown	0.8	0.4	0.1	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	185	226	212	254

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.2	0.0	0.5	0.8
1 year	4.9	3.5	7.1	8.7
2 years	12.4	11.1	17.0	14.6
3 years	7.6	9.3	13.2	11.4
4 years	10.3	9.7	6.1	6.3
5 years	4.3	11.1	9.4	9.8
6 years	4.9	7.1	8.0	10.2
7 years	10.3	8.0	5.2	4.7
8 years	9.7	5.8	4.7	4.7
9 years	5.9	6.2	4.7	5.5
10 years	5.9	5.8	5.2	5.1
11 years	5.9	4.0	5.2	2.8
12 years	4.3	5.8	2.4	3.9
13 years	1.6	5.8	4.2	3.5
14 years	4.3	2.2	0.9	1.2
15 years	2.7	2.2	3.3	2.4
16 years	1.1	1.8	1.4	2.8
17 years	1.6	0.9	1.4	1.2
18 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	55.7	48.2	45.3	35.0
Asian	5.4	0.4	0.0	0.4
Black	9.2	8.0	5.7	8.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	4.9	4.0	1.4	4.7
White	23.8	20.8	27.4	28.7
Two or more races	1.1	18.6	20.3	22.8
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	—	92.0	92.6	89.0
Children with one or more recurrences	—	8.0	7.4	11.0
Number	—	1,165	1,393	1,277

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	0.98	0.90	1.19
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	99.02	99.10	98.81
Number	—	2,564	2,678	2,947

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	24.9	29.2	24.7	31.2
Guardianship	6.2	5.2	3.9	3.9
Reunification	62.5	56.4	58.8	51.7
Other	4.3	9.2	12.6	13.1
Missing data	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	715	791	697	762

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	—	66.7	67.5	61.2
Guardianship	—	6.1	5.6	3.2
Reunification	—	18.6	15.0	14.9
Other	—	8.7	11.9	20.7
Missing data	—	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	—	231	160	188

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	3.0	4.9	3.8	7.0
Guardianship	7.1	8.6	6.8	7.6
Reunification	65.7	50.3	39.8	40.5
Other	23.2	36.2	49.6	44.9
Missing data	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	99	163	133	158

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	23.3	7.7	12.7	18.8
Children older than 12 at entry	76.7	88.5	85.5	81.3
Missing data	0.0	3.8	1.8	0.0
Number	30	52	55	64

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/American Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	24.1	27.7	20.8	25.8	100.0	50.0	0.0	14.3	27.8	33.3	22.7	30.9		
Guardianship	6.8	6.9	3.0	6.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9	5.9	4.5	1.8		
Reunification	62.3	53.6	63.2	52.3	0.0	50.0	100.0	85.7	66.7	54.9	65.9	58.2		
Other	3.9	11.9	13.0	15.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	5.9	6.8	9.1		
Missing data	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	440	394	361	325	5	2	7	7	54	51	44	55		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7	15.6	10.0	38.7	24.6	25.5	28.5	31.8		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	66.7	0.0	5.6	4.4	16.7	0.0	6.3	2.1	2.2	0.9		
Reunification	0.0	100.0	33.3	90.0	66.7	73.3	60.0	41.9	63.4	63.8	55.9	54.5		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	11.1	6.7	13.3	19.4	4.7	8.5	13.4	12.9		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	0	3	3	10	18	45	30	31	191	188	179	233		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	28.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.5	50.8	59.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.3	0.0	5.2	4.6	6.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	57.1	100.0	100.0	91.7	0.0	40.2	30.8	25.0	0.0	100.0	85.7	100.0		
Other	14.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.1	13.8	9.5	0.0	0.0	14.3	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	7	5	1	12	0	97	65	84	0	6	7	5		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	47.9	62.1	60.2	46.4
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	34.7	25.1	28.8	30.2
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	10.7	7.6	7.3	15.2
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	3.1	0.7	1.5	5.3
48 or more mos.	3.6	3.4	0.7	2.5
Missing data	0.0	1.1	1.5	0.3
Number	447	446	410	394

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	78.2	81.9	85.1	85.2
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	5.3	5.0	5.2	9.8
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	13.7	7.7	5.3	3.2
Missing data	2.9	5.4	4.3	1.8
Number	665	940	920	897

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	3.9	1.3	2.3	1.3
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	11.8	23.4	25.6	20.2
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	33.1	28.1	36.6	42.0
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	26.4	25.1	18.0	24.8
48 or more mos.	24.7	18.2	12.8	9.7
Missing data	0.0	3.9	4.7	2.1
Number	178	231	172	238

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	71.7	80.6	66.3	71.2	42.1	61.2	48.0	54.3	19.7	32.4	28.3	27.1	100.0	100.0	0.0	75.0
Children with 3 or more placements	28.3	19.4	33.7	28.8	57.9	38.8	52.0	45.7	80.3	67.6	71.7	72.9	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.0
Number	773	1,059	1,016	990	672	667	710	737	1,093	837	949	1,216	2	1	3	4

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	2.9	7.5	0.0	0.0
Institutions	1.3	4.2	8.6	5.4
Other settings	95.8	88.2	91.4	94.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	550	706	673	717

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	—	128.1	108.8
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	—	69.4	68.6	54.5
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	—	7.1	6.2	10.0
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	—	25.2	23.7	25.5
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	—	—	6.4	8.2

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	85.5	75.6	96.5
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	—	25.7	29.3	21.9
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	—	34.3	29.6	31.5
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	—	27.0	17.8	20.4
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	—	5.6	6.8	13.0
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	—	31.3	31.5	48.5

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	138.1	130.5	122.7
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	—	35.7	23.9	27.1
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	—	100.0	100.0	97.9
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	—	34.2	30.4	42.3

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	90.4	71.6	78.8
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	—	79.0	64.5	69.8
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	—	61.3	48.2	54.2
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	—	32.5	27.8	27.5

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	1,515,962	1,570,032	1,625,870	1,669,866
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	5.9	5.8	5.6	5.4
Asian	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.0
Black	3.7	3.8	4.0	4.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	39.6	40.4	41.3	42.2
White	46.6	45.7	44.7	43.7
Two or more races	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.5
Child population in poverty (%)	20.3	20.3	19.5	20.2

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	7,344	6,119	4,469	4,025
Children in foster care on 9/30	9,194	9,685	9,731	9,787
Children adopted	729	1,066	1,400	1,617

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	40
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	77
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	81,121	53.5 per 1,000	84,154	53.6 per 1,000	76,455	47.0 per 1,000	76,400	45.8 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	7,344	4.8 per 1,000	6,119	3.9 per 1,000	4,469	2.8 per 1,000	4,025	2.4 per 1,000
Child fatalities	23	1.5 per 100,000	22	1.4 per 100,000	16	1.0 per 100,000	28	1.7 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	18.4	15.2	11.8	12.4
1 year	7.4	7.2	8.1	8.1
2 years	7.0	7.6	8.3	7.7
3 years	6.2	6.8	7.1	8.0
4 years	5.7	6.4	6.7	5.7
5 years	5.5	6.2	6.2	6.3
6 years	5.4	6.0	6.1	6.1
7 years	5.5	5.1	6.2	6.5
8 years	4.7	4.7	5.3	4.9
9 years	4.1	4.5	4.3	4.8
10 years	4.1	4.1	4.1	3.8
11 years	3.7	4.4	4.0	4.1
12 years	4.3	4.3	4.8	3.8
13 years	4.4	4.2	3.9	4.4
14 years	4.4	4.6	4.1	4.0
15 years	4.0	4.0	3.8	4.2
16 years	3.3	3.0	3.2	3.1
17 years	1.8	1.7	2.0	2.0
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	7,344	6,119	4,469	4,025

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	3.6	4.0	4.9	4.9
Asian	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.3
Black	6.8	6.3	6.7	7.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	37.1	37.8	35.7	39.2
White	44.6	43.7	45.0	41.0
Two or more races	3.5	3.4	3.1	3.2
Missing data	3.8	4.0	3.8	4.0
Number	7,344	6,119	4,469	4,025

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	0.7	0.9	0.8	1.0
Medical neglect	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Neglect	76.6	75.0	70.6	64.9
Physical abuse	20.5	21.3	23.8	29.8
Sexual abuse	5.8	6.2	7.1	8.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	7,344	6,119	4,469	4,025

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	53.0	58.4	68.6	43.0
Median	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	7,129	8,497	9,514	9,505	7,173	7,546	7,388	7,477	5,108	6,358	7,171	7,195	9,194	9,685	9,731	9,787
Median length of stay (months)	11.3	11.8	12.3	13.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	7.5	9.2	9.8	10.8	11.5	12.2	13.4	13.0

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	7.5	7.2	7.6	7.6	17.0	17.0	18.2	18.2	6.8	6.1	6.6	7.4	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.2
1 year	8.0	8.5	8.5	8.8	7.7	7.6	7.2	7.4	8.1	7.6	8.0	8.2	8.5	8.5	8.8	8.7
2 years	6.6	7.3	7.3	7.3	6.6	6.1	6.3	6.4	7.3	7.8	8.3	8.4	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.6
3 years	5.8	6.5	6.7	6.0	6.4	6.4	5.7	5.8	6.7	6.7	7.1	7.2	6.5	6.7	5.9	6.0
4 years	5.3	5.9	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.5	5.0	5.1	5.6	6.0	6.1	6.3	5.7	6.0	5.8	5.1
5 years	4.4	5.4	5.7	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.7	4.7	5.5	5.6	6.0	5.2	5.3	5.8	4.9	4.8
6 years	4.0	4.4	5.2	4.8	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.7	5.1	5.3	4.4	5.1	4.8	4.7
7 years	4.5	4.1	4.3	4.5	3.9	4.1	4.1	4.5	4.4	4.3	5.2	4.4	4.0	4.3	4.5	4.3
8 years	4.3	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.3	3.6	3.7	4.4	4.2	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.0	3.9	4.3
9 years	3.7	4.2	4.0	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.7	4.3	3.8	3.8	4.1	4.0	3.7	3.7
10 years	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.7	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.9	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.3
11 years	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.3	3.9	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.9	3.3	3.2	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.6
12 years	4.3	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.9	3.7	4.0	3.5	3.7	3.8	4.0	3.2	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.7
13 years	4.4	4.5	3.8	4.3	4.6	4.2	4.6	4.4	3.8	4.4	3.3	3.6	4.5	3.8	4.3	3.6
14 years	5.2	5.0	4.9	4.4	5.7	5.2	5.0	5.1	4.9	4.2	4.1	4.1	5.0	4.9	4.5	4.8
15 years	6.2	5.4	5.5	6.1	5.2	5.9	6.0	5.8	5.1	4.7	4.1	4.8	5.5	5.6	6.1	5.5
16 years	7.5	6.5	6.2	6.5	5.3	5.7	6.3	6.2	5.1	4.9	4.8	5.2	6.3	6.2	6.6	6.6
17 years	7.4	6.9	6.5	6.9	4.1	3.9	4.8	4.6	7.8	4.8	7.6	8.4	6.6	6.5	6.8	7.2
18 years	1.8	1.7	1.6	2.2	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	5.0	6.8	3.5	2.0	2.0	1.6	2.1	2.9
19 years	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.4
20+ years	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.5	0.5	0.7	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.8
Missing data	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.4	0.3	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.5	3.1	3.1	4.3	3.9	3.3	3.0	4.2	3.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.8
Asian	0.2	0.1	<.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.1	<.1	0.1	0.1
Black	8.8	8.5	8.0	8.4	7.2	7.6	8.4	8.5	7.4	8.2	7.9	8.6	8.4	7.9	8.4	8.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	<.1	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Hispanic (of any race)	35.9	38.6	40.0	39.6	38.2	38.9	38.8	39.4	36.9	37.4	39.5	39.5	37.1	39.6	39.5	39.5
White	46.0	43.9	43.0	42.7	43.5	42.5	40.8	40.0	44.5	43.5	41.1	40.9	44.9	43.1	42.8	42.0
Two or more races	4.6	4.8	4.5	4.3	3.9	3.9	3.5	3.8	4.1	4.4	3.9	4.0	4.4	4.4	4.2	4.1
Unknown	2.0	1.8	1.9	2.2	3.7	3.6	3.4	4.0	3.3	3.2	2.9	3.2	2.6	2.2	2.3	2.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	2,124	2,478	2,634	2,435
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	1,499	1,872	2,001	1,898

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.7	3.1	3.2	2.9
1 year	12.2	12.5	12.9	11.7
2 years	10.3	11.1	10.6	11.1
3 years	8.5	9.1	8.0	8.9
4 years	6.9	8.2	8.2	6.9
5 years	6.8	7.9	7.1	6.7
6 years	6.4	7.1	7.5	6.8
7 years	5.2	5.2	6.5	6.2
8 years	6.0	4.7	5.6	6.4
9 years	5.9	5.3	4.7	5.3
10 years	4.7	5.2	4.5	4.5
11 years	5.0	4.4	4.6	4.6
12 years	4.5	4.0	3.9	4.4
13 years	4.3	3.3	3.6	3.5
14 years	4.6	3.5	3.5	3.5
15 years	3.2	3.7	3.2	3.8
16 years	1.4	1.3	1.9	1.6
17 years	0.4	0.5	0.3	1.2

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.3	1.3	1.7	1.9
Asian	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Black	7.2	7.4	7.3	7.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	<.1	0.2
Hispanic (of any race)	37.3	40.6	40.4	40.5
White	46.3	44.3	43.4	42.9
Two or more races	5.6	5.0	5.3	5.0
Unknown	2.2	1.3	1.7	1.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	729	1,066	1,400	1,617

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.1	0.3	1.3	1.5
1 year	12.8	12.7	12.2	11.4
2 years	15.6	16.7	16.8	16.3
3 years	10.3	12.3	11.6	12.4
4 years	9.9	9.8	9.6	8.7
5 years	8.2	8.6	8.7	8.2
6 years	5.2	6.3	7.7	7.9
7 years	6.2	6.3	7.3	5.9
8 years	5.8	5.0	4.4	5.9
9 years	4.4	5.3	4.0	4.6
10 years	4.0	4.1	4.4	3.6
11 years	3.8	3.1	2.8	2.8
12 years	3.6	3.3	3.4	3.0
13 years	3.2	2.9	1.6	2.4
14 years	2.3	1.7	1.4	1.9
15 years	1.6	1.0	1.4	1.5
16 years	1.0	0.8	0.9	1.1
17 years	1.1	0.0	0.6	0.6
18 years	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.7	0.8	0.6	1.1
Asian	0.0	<.1	0.1	0.1
Black	6.9	4.4	6.7	5.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.3	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	42.0	40.8	44.2	42.2
White	43.1	45.6	42.5	44.5
Two or more races	6.0	6.8	4.2	5.0
Unknown	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	97.0	96.9	97.4	98.6
Children with one or more recurrences	3.0	3.1	2.6	1.4
Number	3,001	2,340	1,870	1,795

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.30	0.12	0.21	0.16
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.70	99.88	99.79	99.84
Number	14,302	16,043	16,902	16,982

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	15.3	16.8	19.5	22.6
Guardianship	13.0	14.2	14.6	12.9
Reunification	57.4	53.9	52.1	50.6
Other	14.3	15.2	13.8	14.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	5,108	6,358	7,171	7,195

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	26.3	24.2	27.7	32.9
Guardianship	11.1	14.1	14.6	12.0
Reunification	37.6	39.9	37.5	34.1
Other	25.0	21.8	20.1	21.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,732	2,625	2,930	2,875

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.9	0.6	1.4	2.4
Guardianship	8.5	9.0	10.6	12.0
Reunification	57.5	53.8	50.8	47.4
Other	33.1	36.6	37.2	38.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,422	1,593	1,735	1,781

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	23.0	28.8	20.8	17.5
Children older than 12 at entry	77.0	71.2	79.2	82.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	453	535	518	542

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007	2005		2006	2007		
Adoption	4.1	4.7	2.6	6.9	0.0	10.0	7.4	11.1	13.2	9.0	16.7	13.8		
Guardianship	14.7	16.8	15.5	11.4	10.5	0.0	14.8	11.1	11.1	14.3	12.3	14.1		
Reunification	62.9	57.9	52.1	55.9	73.7	90.0	77.8	77.8	53.4	56.7	54.4	55.3		
Other	18.2	20.5	29.7	25.7	15.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.2	20.0	16.7	16.7		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	170	190	303	245	19	10	27	18	378	524	563	622		

	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007	2005		2006	2007		
Adoption	0.0	0.0	25.0	8.3	16.8	18.4	21.8	24.3	15.3	17.7	20.3	24.5		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	25.0	16.7	13.9	14.1	15.8	13.8	12.8	14.2	13.2	12.2		
Reunification	80.0	100.0	43.8	41.7	57.8	53.1	50.2	48.7	56.6	53.0	53.2	49.7		
Other	20.0	0.0	6.3	33.3	11.5	14.5	12.1	13.2	15.3	15.1	13.4	13.6		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	5	8	16	12	1,886	2,376	2,829	2,839	2,274	2,768	2,947	2,940		

	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007	2005		2006	2007		
Adoption	8.3	7.4	9.1	12.0	23.7	26.2	21.3	28.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	10.1	12.8	18.7	11.6	13.0	14.7	16.2	11.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	72.8	69.5	58.9	64.8	49.3	46.6	47.3	50.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	8.9	10.3	13.4	11.6	14.0	12.5	15.2	10.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	169	203	209	233	207	279	277	286	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	84.5	81.3	79.3	79.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	12.3	15.3	17.2	16.4
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1.9	2.4	2.7	3.7
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.4
48 or more mos.	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,931	3,424	3,735	3,638

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	83.4	83.4	81.7	79.8
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	9.7	9.0	11.0	11.7
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	6.8	7.6	7.4	8.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	7,173	7,546	7,388	7,477

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	2.7	1.4	2.6	3.4
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	35.3	32.4	31.2	32.5
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	37.0	46.4	46.0	39.8
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	13.4	14.0	14.6	17.3
48 or more mos.	11.6	5.7	5.5	7.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	784	1,070	1,401	1,623

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	81.8	84.6	85.5	84.8	55.5	56.2	58.9	60.7	21.3	26.5	28.3	30.0	87.0	96.7	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	15.4	14.6	13.2	12.6	44.4	43.6	41.0	39.0	78.6	73.4	71.6	69.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	2.8	0.9	1.3	2.7	<.1	0.2	<.1	0.2	0.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	13.0	3.3	0.0	0.0
Number	7,849	8,334	8,334	8,423	3,438	4,120	4,479	4,165	2,992	3,559	4,086	4,387	23	30	3	7

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	10.1	9.0	6.1	4.6
Institutions	18.7	14.0	13.9	9.8
Other settings	70.8	77.1	80.1	85.6
Missing data	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	5,117	5,507	5,284	5,280

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	106.3	104.7	106.6
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	75.7	72.2	68.2	68.5
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	5.5	6.3	7.0	7.3
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	30.0	28.2	30.8	33.0
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	19.3	20.0	18.7	17.1

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	112.7	122.0	129.8
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	38.1	33.8	33.8	35.9
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	26.9	26.7	27.7	27.3
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	23.6	28.1	32.3	34.7
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	9.6	11.1	13.8	13.6
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	47.1	40.3	44.9	52.6

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	118.7	130.1	139.3
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	22.9	27.6	33.5	37.0
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	94.6	94.5	94.7	95.6
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	42.5	45.3	39.2	34.0

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	88.5	91.4	93.6
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	80.7	82.0	83.1	84.0
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	55.7	56.4	59.0	61.2
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	21.8	27.5	29.5	31.4

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Arkansas

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	681,358	687,780	696,032	700,537
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Asian	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1
Black	20.0	19.7	19.6	19.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	6.8	7.5	8.2	8.8
White	69.4	68.7	68.0	67.4
Two or more races	2.0	2.1	2.3	2.4
Child population in poverty (%)	25.9	24.9	24.3	25.8

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	7,276	8,382	9,180	9,847
Children in foster care on 9/30	3,124	3,238	3,434	3,616
Children adopted	331	323	395	404

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	32
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,676
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	5,229
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	30
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,214
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	7,338

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	44,472	65.3 per 1,000	46,939	68.2 per 1,000	52,206	75.0 per 1,000	57,986	82.8 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	7,276	10.7 per 1,000	8,382	12.2 per 1,000	9,180	13.2 per 1,000	9,847	14.1 per 1,000
Child fatalities	12	1.8 per 100,000	16	2.3 per 100,000	19	2.7 per 100,000	20	2.9 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	5.6	6.9	8.9	10.1
1 year	5.4	5.4	5.0	5.6
2 years	5.4	5.2	5.6	5.9
3 years	5.6	5.7	5.2	5.6
4 years	5.8	5.6	5.8	5.2
5 years	6.4	6.4	6.7	6.0
6 years	5.8	6.4	6.1	6.1
7 years	5.9	5.8	5.4	5.5
8 years	5.4	5.3	5.0	5.7
9 years	5.0	4.8	4.9	4.8
10 years	4.8	4.8	4.4	4.7
11 years	4.9	4.9	4.3	4.3
12 years	5.6	4.9	4.4	4.8
13 years	6.3	5.7	5.8	4.8
14 years	6.3	6.6	6.3	6.1
15 years	7.5	6.4	7.0	6.5
16 years	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.4
17 years	2.4	3.0	3.1	2.7
18+ years	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Missing data	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.1
Number	7,276	8,382	9,180	9,847

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Asian	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3
Black	20.5	18.7	20.9	19.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.2
Hispanic (of any race)	4.9	4.9	6.4	6.1
White	69.6	69.6	66.4	67.0
Two or more races	4.4	5.8	5.3	6.1
Missing data	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.3
Number	7,276	8,382	9,180	9,847

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	1.0	0.8	1.2	1.2
Medical neglect	3.1	3.2	5.7	6.7
Neglect	56.8	58.1	56.6	61.5
Physical abuse	18.4	18.4	18.8	15.8
Sexual abuse	27.8	27.7	26.1	22.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.1
Number	7,276	8,382	9,180	9,847

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	0.6	201.5	219.4	224.8
Median	<24	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	2,903	2,995	3,131	3,318	3,486	3,615	3,924	4,086	3,265	3,372	3,621	3,788	3,124	3,238	3,434	3,616
Median length of stay (months)	13.1	14.1	12.7	11.9	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.7	13.4	12.5	11.6	11.1

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.4	4.4	5.8	6.1	11.4	12.9	13.5	14.2	6.7	7.1	7.6	8.0	4.3	5.9	6.2	6.5
1 year	5.9	5.8	6.0	6.8	7.2	8.1	7.2	8.6	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.3	6.0	5.9	6.9	7.7
2 years	5.6	5.6	6.5	6.9	7.1	6.9	6.7	6.3	7.4	6.6	6.2	7.4	5.8	6.4	6.7	7.1
3 years	5.7	5.4	5.8	6.4	7.0	5.4	6.3	6.3	6.9	6.0	6.7	6.3	5.5	5.7	6.3	6.5
4 years	5.3	5.5	5.6	5.4	5.8	5.6	5.4	5.7	6.4	5.7	6.4	6.1	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.9
5 years	4.0	4.8	5.0	4.6	5.2	5.3	6.0	5.3	5.1	5.5	5.8	5.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	5.6
6 years	3.7	4.6	4.1	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.6	5.2	4.3	5.4	4.7	5.4	4.7	4.1	4.9	4.6
7 years	4.4	3.6	4.8	4.6	5.2	4.5	4.7	4.1	5.4	4.1	5.0	4.9	3.7	4.8	4.6	4.4
8 years	3.9	4.2	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.1	3.9	4.4	4.3	3.9	4.4	4.6	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.1
9 years	4.1	3.9	4.2	3.5	4.2	3.8	4.0	3.3	4.5	3.9	4.4	3.5	3.9	4.2	3.4	3.7
10 years	3.7	4.2	3.8	4.8	4.2	3.7	4.1	3.7	3.9	3.9	3.5	3.7	4.1	3.9	4.8	3.3
11 years	4.2	3.9	3.9	4.2	4.0	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.1
12 years	5.2	4.5	3.9	4.0	4.6	4.3	3.8	3.8	4.3	4.0	3.6	3.2	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.9
13 years	5.9	5.6	4.9	5.0	4.7	5.1	4.8	3.7	4.4	4.8	3.8	3.2	5.7	5.1	4.9	4.5
14 years	6.3	6.0	5.7	5.6	5.3	5.9	5.4	5.6	4.6	5.0	4.3	4.8	6.0	5.7	5.6	5.3
15 years	8.0	7.2	6.6	7.0	6.4	5.6	6.6	5.9	5.1	5.6	5.6	5.1	7.4	6.8	7.1	6.4
16 years	8.9	9.0	7.3	7.0	5.2	5.7	5.3	6.0	5.1	5.3	5.2	5.1	8.8	7.4	7.0	8.2
17 years	7.2	7.9	8.8	7.1	3.7	4.3	4.1	4.3	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.7	7.8	8.7	7.0	7.1
18 years	2.3	2.3	1.8	1.5	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	4.2	5.8	5.8	5.6	2.2	1.8	1.5	0.2
19 years	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.4	<.1
20+ years	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.4	<.1
Missing data	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	<.1	0.2	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.2	<.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.2	0.2
Asian	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2
Black	30.8	28.5	28.2	30.3	24.5	24.8	28.9	26.2	26.4	24.9	26.9	26.9	28.3	28.1	30.3	29.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.2	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.2	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	3.4	4.3	5.8	4.9	5.5	5.7	5.6	5.6	4.9	4.3	6.4	5.3	4.2	5.8	4.9	5.2
White	56.9	57.4	57.0	55.9	63.3	62.5	58.0	60.7	62.5	63.3	59.1	60.0	58.2	56.9	55.8	57.0
Two or more races	8.2	8.9	8.7	8.2	5.7	6.3	6.5	6.6	5.5	6.3	6.8	6.8	8.3	8.8	8.2	7.9
Unknown	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	949	1,191	945	780
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	386	613	567	383

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.5	5.5	3.2	3.8
1 year	5.4	7.6	7.1	5.1
2 years	6.5	7.1	7.5	6.2
3 years	6.4	7.8	7.9	6.7
4 years	7.4	7.3	7.1	6.7
5 years	6.3	6.5	5.8	6.8
6 years	6.0	6.6	6.5	5.3
7 years	5.5	6.0	5.9	5.1
8 years	5.9	5.1	4.8	5.4
9 years	6.2	5.8	3.9	4.4
10 years	6.4	5.1	6.6	3.7
11 years	5.7	5.5	5.1	5.8
12 years	6.6	5.5	5.9	6.2
13 years	6.6	5.6	5.6	6.9
14 years	5.8	5.2	6.1	6.7
15 years	5.9	4.0	5.9	7.6
16 years	3.1	2.8	2.8	5.1
17 years	1.7	0.8	2.3	2.7

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	<.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Black	27.9	23.8	27.3	29.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	4.1	6.1	5.3	4.6
White	58.0	60.6	57.9	54.6
Two or more races	9.4	9.2	8.9	10.9
Unknown	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	331	323	395	404

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.1	1.5	2.5	2.7
1 year	6.9	5.3	7.3	9.4
2 years	12.7	8.0	9.6	16.1
3 years	11.5	9.6	9.1	8.9
4 years	10.9	7.1	8.9	12.4
5 years	6.0	9.9	9.4	6.7
6 years	6.3	9.6	7.8	7.2
7 years	7.3	5.3	6.8	7.7
8 years	5.7	6.8	7.3	3.5
9 years	6.0	6.2	7.3	4.2
10 years	4.5	6.5	3.5	4.5
11 years	4.2	5.6	4.3	5.0
12 years	5.4	4.6	4.6	2.2
13 years	4.2	4.3	2.8	2.0
14 years	2.4	2.8	1.3	4.0
15 years	1.5	3.7	3.0	1.2
16 years	1.5	1.2	3.3	1.7
17 years	0.6	1.9	0.8	0.7
18 years	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Asian	0.3	0.0	0.0	1.2
Black	30.8	30.0	26.1	24.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	4.5	5.9	6.6	7.2
White	59.2	59.4	61.5	62.6
Two or more races	5.1	4.6	5.8	4.0
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	95.5	94.1	95.3	93.3
Children with one or more recurrences	4.5	5.9	4.7	6.7
Number	3,521	3,903	4,236	4,667

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.20	0.47	0.55	0.50
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.80	99.53	99.45	99.50
Number	6,389	6,610	7,055	7,404

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	11.3	9.8	10.8	10.5
Guardianship	2.3	3.1	3.0	2.6
Reunification	79.8	78.5	77.8	77.4
Other	6.6	8.6	8.5	9.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1
Number	3,265	3,372	3,621	3,788

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	20.0	18.7	22.1	15.9
Guardianship	2.9	3.7	4.4	1.8
Reunification	62.3	55.9	53.2	55.4
Other	14.9	21.6	20.4	26.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	591	481	457	395

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.3	1.2	0.7	0.8
Guardianship	3.9	5.3	4.2	4.0
Reunification	75.4	71.5	71.0	67.6
Other	19.4	22.0	24.0	27.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	850	961	973	1,031

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	20.1	20.2	19.8	17.5
Children older than 12 at entry	79.9	79.8	80.2	82.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	199	252	278	331

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/American Indian				2004	Asian			2004	Black			2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006		2004	2005	2006	
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	10.9	10.1	8.7	8.8	
Guardianship	0.0	28.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	3.0	2.2	2.2	
Reunification	80.0	71.4	0.0	100.0	80.0	75.0	50.0	90.0	79.5	74.8	78.7	78.0	
Other	20.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	25.0	50.0	0.0	8.2	12.1	10.5	11.0	
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Number	5	7	1	5	5	8	4	10	862	841	975	1,018	
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander				2004	Hispanic (of any race)			2004	White			2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006		2004	2005	2006	
Adoption	0.0	14.3	0.0	0.0	9.4	10.3	10.3	14.0	11.3	9.8	11.6	11.3	
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.7	3.0	3.5	2.8	3.2	3.5	2.6	
Reunification	66.7	85.7	100.0	100.0	85.5	83.6	84.1	75.0	79.7	79.7	77.2	77.4	
Other	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	5.5	2.6	7.5	6.2	7.4	7.8	8.7	
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Number	3	7	2	4	159	146	233	200	2,040	2,135	2,141	2,274	
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races			2004	Missing Data			2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006		2004	2005	2006	
Adoption	23.1	11.8	0.0	10.5	14.6	9.0	13.4	8.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Guardianship	7.7	11.8	0.0	0.0	1.1	3.3	2.8	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Reunification	69.2	70.6	94.7	84.2	78.1	78.7	72.4	75.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Other	0.0	5.9	5.3	5.3	6.2	9.0	11.4	11.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Number	13	17	19	19	178	211	246	258	0	0	0	0	

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	88.1	88.9	89.6	87.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	8.4	8.8	7.0	10.1
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1.6	1.4	2.4	2.1
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.2
48 or more mos.	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5
Missing data	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,605	2,647	2,816	2,933

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	81.3	81.6	82.9	82.1
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	10.6	10.5	9.1	10.0
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	7.9	7.6	8.0	7.7
Missing data	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
Number	3,486	3,615	3,924	4,086

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	5.4	5.4	6.4	4.5
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	33.9	25.7	27.4	29.3
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	35.5	36.9	30.3	38.1
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	14.6	17.8	21.0	17.0
48 or more mos.	10.6	14.2	14.9	11.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	369	331	390	399

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	77.9	74.6	74.0	72.4	39.6	36.8	40.1	37.3	22.4	18.3	17.4	19.9	64.9	93.8	100.0	75.0
Children with 3 or more placements	21.1	24.8	25.6	27.2	60.3	63.2	59.8	62.7	77.6	81.6	82.6	80.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	1.0	0.6	0.4	0.4	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	35.1	6.3	0.0	25.0
Number	3,914	4,075	4,463	4,666	1,053	1,053	1,117	1,279	1,385	1,466	1,472	1,455	37	16	3	4

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	0.7	1.4	1.7	2.1
Institutions	9.3	8.2	10.2	9.8
Other settings	89.8	90.1	88.1	88.1
Missing data	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Number	2,540	2,613	2,872	2,975

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	143.2	145.4	144.4
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	89.2	85.8	86.2	84.8
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	1.8	2.3	2.3	2.4
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	68.9	66.5	66.3	63.3
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	13.3	14.4	12.9	11.6

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	90.1	97.9	100.7
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	39.3	31.1	34.2	33.2
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	27.1	30.5	31.5	28.9
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	22.0	22.0	24.9	24.1
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	5.9	7.5	6.0	3.7
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	46.0	42.2	42.4	44.5

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	117.8	130.1	131.6
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	24.8	23.8	30.5	27.0
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	96.6	95.2	94.4	95.3
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	38.8	44.1	37.8	38.2

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	66.9	68.1	67.2
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	74.1	70.5	69.2	68.3
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	39.3	36.7	40.2	37.5
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	22.2	18.5	17.5	20.6

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	9,435,132	9,423,057	9,401,360	9,383,924
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Asian	9.6	9.7	9.8	9.8
Black	6.6	6.5	6.3	6.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
Hispanic (of any race)	46.7	47.5	48.2	49.0
White	33.0	32.3	31.6	30.9
Two or more races	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.4
Child population in poverty (%)	18.9	18.6	18.1	17.3

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	98,201	95,314	89,500	88,319
Children in foster care on 9/30	82,641	80,247	78,373	76,004
Children adopted	7,308	7,556	7,364	7,132

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	48
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	70
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	442,741	46.9 per 1,000	434,589	46.1 per 1,000	427,122	45.4 per 1,000	441,467	47.1 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	98,201	10.4 per 1,000	95,314	10.1 per 1,000	89,500	9.5 per 1,000	88,319	9.4 per 1,000
Child fatalities	140	1.5 per 100,000	140	1.5 per 100,000	140	1.5 per 100,000	184	2.0 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	10.8	11.9	12.2	12.6
1 year	5.9	5.9	6.1	6.4
2 years	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.9
3 years	5.5	5.4	5.6	5.6
4 years	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.5
5 years	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.4
6 years	5.8	5.6	5.6	5.7
7 years	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.4
8 years	5.8	5.4	5.2	5.1
9 years	5.5	5.4	5.2	4.9
10 years	5.2	5.3	5.0	4.8
11 years	5.2	5.1	5.0	4.8
12 years	5.5	5.1	5.0	4.9
13 years	5.4	5.2	5.1	5.1
14 years	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.1
15 years	4.7	4.7	5.0	5.0
16 years	4.0	4.1	4.3	4.5
17 years	2.7	2.8	3.1	3.2
18+ years	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	98,201	95,314	89,500	88,319

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.1	0.7	0.7	0.6
Asian	2.9	2.6	2.7	2.8
Black	15.0	13.1	13.0	12.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4
Hispanic (of any race)	44.8	48.7	49.2	51.7
White	30.6	26.5	26.4	25.2
Two or more races	0.0	3.1	3.2	3.4
Missing data	5.3	4.8	4.5	3.3
Number	98,201	95,314	89,500	88,319

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	17.8	17.9	17.6	18.2
Medical neglect	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Neglect	67.8	70.8	71.7	72.5
Physical abuse	13.9	12.7	12.4	11.8
Sexual abuse	8.1	7.4	7.4	7.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
Number	98,201	95,314	89,500	88,319

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	163.9	159.7	145.7	203.2
Median	>96 but<120	>96 but<120	>96 but<120	>72 but<96

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	84,307	79,893	77,432	74,485	39,366	41,075	41,082	41,166	41,031	40,723	40,144	39,648	82,641	80,247	78,373	76,004
Median length of stay (months)	22.1	20.8	19.2	17.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.7	14.6	13.7	13.6	20.9	19.2	18.3	17.4

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.4	4.7	5.4	5.6	15.9	17.0	16.9	17.4	4.2	4.8	5.1	5.4	4.7	5.4	5.5	5.6
1 year	5.1	5.4	5.7	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.8	6.3	6.9	7.3	8.1	5.4	5.6	6.2	6.3
2 years	4.7	4.9	5.1	5.2	5.8	5.9	5.8	5.9	6.4	6.8	6.9	7.3	4.9	5.1	5.0	5.5
3 years	4.1	4.5	4.5	4.8	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.3	5.7	5.9	5.9	6.1	4.4	4.5	4.7	4.7
4 years	4.2	3.9	4.2	4.3	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.8	5.0	5.0	5.3	5.6	3.9	4.2	4.2	4.4
5 years	4.0	3.9	3.8	4.1	4.6	4.7	4.5	4.7	4.8	4.5	4.6	5.0	3.9	3.8	4.0	4.0
6 years	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.8	4.3	4.4	4.1	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.4	3.9	3.9	3.8	4.0
7 years	4.3	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.0	4.3	4.1	4.3	4.2	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.8
8 years	4.6	4.2	3.9	3.8	4.2	3.8	3.6	3.8	4.2	3.9	3.9	4.1	4.2	3.8	3.8	3.7
9 years	4.7	4.5	4.2	3.8	4.0	3.7	3.7	3.6	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.7	4.5	4.2	3.8	3.8
10 years	5.1	4.6	4.5	4.2	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.4	4.1	3.7	3.7	3.5	4.6	4.4	4.1	3.7
11 years	5.3	5.0	4.7	4.5	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.6	4.0	3.5	3.6	3.6	5.0	4.7	4.4	4.2
12 years	5.9	5.5	5.3	4.9	4.5	4.0	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.5	3.4	3.5	5.5	5.2	4.8	4.7
13 years	6.3	6.3	5.8	5.7	5.2	4.6	4.5	4.7	4.0	3.8	3.4	3.6	6.3	5.8	5.6	5.3
14 years	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.5	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.6	4.4	4.5	4.0	3.8	7.0	6.9	6.4	6.3
15 years	7.5	8.0	7.8	8.0	6.8	6.6	7.1	6.4	5.1	5.2	5.0	4.5	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.6
16 years	8.1	8.4	8.6	9.0	6.9	7.0	7.3	7.0	5.8	6.1	5.8	5.3	8.3	8.5	8.8	9.0
17 years	7.8	8.1	8.5	8.9	4.1	4.3	4.6	4.5	7.9	7.5	8.5	7.4	7.9	8.3	8.5	9.4
18 years	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.7	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	10.6	11.2	10.3	10.2	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.6
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.6	0.8	1.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.5	0.7	1.0	<.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8
Asian	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.6	2.1	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.6
Black	29.0	27.8	26.1	24.8	18.1	17.7	17.9	17.4	20.4	20.4	19.6	18.6	28.0	26.4	25.1	24.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3
Hispanic (of any race)	40.1	41.6	43.6	45.3	46.2	48.3	49.6	51.3	42.8	44.5	46.6	48.4	41.7	43.6	45.2	47.0
White	24.6	24.0	23.5	22.9	27.7	26.3	24.5	23.2	29.2	27.7	26.0	25.3	23.8	23.3	22.8	21.9
Two or more races	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.2	3.8	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.2
Unknown	<.1	<.1	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	<.1	0.1	0.2	0.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	16,299	16,700	18,028	18,169
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	10,148	10,197	10,842	10,644

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	5.9	6.1	6.4	5.8
1 year	11.9	12.1	12.8	12.0
2 years	11.2	11.1	10.5	11.4
3 years	9.1	9.1	9.5	8.9
4 years	7.3	8.0	7.5	7.8
5 years	7.0	6.4	6.8	6.6
6 years	6.0	6.3	5.8	6.1
7 years	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.4
8 years	5.3	4.8	4.7	5.2
9 years	5.3	4.9	4.3	4.5
10 years	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.0
11 years	4.1	3.9	4.0	4.1
12 years	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.8
13 years	3.6	3.4	3.6	3.4
14 years	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.4
15 years	2.8	2.8	3.0	3.0
16 years	2.1	2.4	2.6	2.6
17 years	1.4	1.5	1.9	2.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.7
Asian	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.6
Black	24.3	22.8	20.8	19.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Hispanic (of any race)	44.6	45.9	48.0	49.6
White	24.4	24.1	23.9	23.2
Two or more races	4.7	5.2	5.0	4.9
Unknown	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	7,308	7,556	7,364	7,132

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.0	2.0	1.8	2.2
1 year	12.8	13.4	14.3	16.1
2 years	14.4	15.6	15.5	15.1
3 years	12.0	11.8	12.2	12.2
4 years	9.5	8.9	9.2	9.2
5 years	7.7	7.3	7.2	7.6
6 years	6.3	6.5	6.7	6.1
7 years	6.2	5.4	5.8	5.4
8 years	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.7
9 years	4.7	4.4	4.4	3.7
10 years	4.0	4.2	3.8	3.4
11 years	3.7	3.8	3.5	3.0
12 years	3.2	3.0	2.6	2.8
13 years	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.5
14 years	2.0	2.1	2.0	1.8
15 years	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.5
16 years	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.4
17 years	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1
18 years	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3
19 years	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
Asian	1.3	1.6	1.4	1.8
Black	19.6	18.9	18.6	16.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.1	0.2	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	43.0	44.1	46.0	49.0
White	30.3	29.8	27.8	27.1
Two or more races	5.2	5.0	5.2	4.9
Unknown	0.0	<.1	0.4	<.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	91.2	91.6	92.6	92.8
Children with one or more recurrences	8.8	8.4	7.4	7.2
Number	45,799	44,306	41,654	41,245

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.31	0.44	0.43	0.23
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.69	99.56	99.57	99.77
Number	123,673	120,968	118,514	115,651

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	17.9	18.5	18.1	19.1
Guardianship	6.0	4.5	4.3	3.8
Reunification	56.7	57.2	58.2	60.6
Other	18.3	18.8	18.3	15.6
Missing data	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.9
Number	41,031	40,723	40,144	39,648

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	24.7	26.7	26.3	27.0
Guardianship	6.1	4.7	4.7	4.3
Reunification	50.8	48.2	47.9	48.5
Other	17.1	19.0	19.6	19.1
Missing data	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.2
Number	14,325	14,517	14,853	15,564

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.2
Guardianship	2.7	2.4	2.2	2.5
Reunification	51.3	50.5	50.9	56.6
Other	44.1	44.9	44.7	38.3
Missing data	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.3
Number	10,884	11,106	10,871	9,928

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	44.0	44.0	45.7	43.8
Children older than 12 at entry	55.7	55.7	54.3	56.1
Missing data	0.2	0.3	<.1	0.1
Number	4,167	4,093	3,889	4,065

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	6.6	11.9	8.2	9.7	11.3	14.1	12.0	15.7	17.0	17.1	17.4	17.2		
Guardianship	12.3	7.5	11.8	7.4	4.7	2.7	4.8	3.3	8.1	5.6	4.9	5.3		
Reunification	58.9	54.8	56.2	60.2	67.8	67.1	67.9	69.0	47.1	49.0	48.6	52.1		
Other	20.1	23.5	23.0	21.6	15.1	15.6	14.2	11.7	26.4	26.9	27.4	24.2		
Missing data	2.1	2.4	0.9	1.1	1.2	0.5	1.1	0.3	1.4	1.3	1.7	1.2		
Number	333	294	331	269	850	879	890	883	8,384	8,312	7,869	7,357		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	12.1	8.1	9.0	5.6	18.2	18.4	18.1	19.1	18.2	19.7	19.3	20.5		
Guardianship	5.7	3.6	5.5	1.9	5.5	3.9	3.9	3.3	5.4	4.5	4.2	3.9		
Reunification	61.4	64.9	69.0	81.3	59.9	60.7	61.9	64.7	57.5	56.8	58.0	57.8		
Other	20.7	21.6	16.6	11.2	15.4	16.0	15.3	12.2	18.0	17.9	17.6	16.7		
Missing data	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.1		
Number	140	111	145	107	17,573	18,122	18,725	19,184	12,001	11,278	10,431	10,021		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.7	1.0	0.0	0.9	24.0	23.7	24.0	24.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	1.1	1.6	1.6	1.4	5.6	5.1	4.3	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	75.8	76.6	75.4	77.4	58.0	55.9	55.9	59.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0		
Other	19.7	20.3	22.5	18.9	11.6	14.1	14.8	12.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0		
Missing data	1.7	0.5	0.5	1.4	0.8	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	178	192	187	212	1,572	1,535	1,565	1,614	0	0	1	1		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	60.3	62.7	65.9	66.8
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	26.2	26.2	25.0	25.7
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	6.7	5.3	4.3	3.5
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.3	1.8	1.5	1.3
48 or more mos.	4.5	4.0	3.2	2.6
Missing data	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Number	23,279	23,301	23,370	24,020

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	78.0	78.2	77.1	78.4
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	8.7	8.8	9.7	8.9
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	12.4	12.2	12.5	12.0
Missing data	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7
Number	39,366	41,075	41,082	41,166

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	4.4	4.8	4.2	4.7
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	24.3	25.0	26.6	28.2
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	29.3	32.1	33.8	32.0
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	17.4	17.2	17.3	17.6
48 or more mos.	24.7	20.9	18.2	17.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0
Number	7,327	7,515	7,281	7,554

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	82.2	83.0	83.3	82.7	59.2	59.0	60.9	61.2	37.3	35.6	35.5	34.3	97.7	95.1	91.7	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	17.5	16.7	16.5	17.0	40.7	40.8	39.0	38.8	62.7	64.3	64.5	65.6	2.3	4.9	8.3	0.0
Missing data	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	44,740	46,514	47,082	47,038	26,798	26,182	26,409	26,496	52,004	48,088	44,975	42,072	131	184	48	45

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	1.6	1.2	1.2	1.0
Institutions	5.1	5.0	4.7	3.7
Other settings	93.3	93.8	94.1	95.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	27,476	28,889	26,677	27,870

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	119.5	111.4	106.9
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	65.2	68.4	65.5	62.5
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	7.2	6.4	7.7	8.2
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	35.6	36.6	35.6	37.5
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	13.0	13.0	14.0	14.3

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	91.0	93.3	95.7
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	28.6	29.8	30.8	32.8
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	32.2	31.2	30.2	29.6
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	12.9	14.0	14.3	15.5
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	4.4	5.3	5.0	5.4
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	52.4	55.5	55.2	51.8

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	105.3	105.7	108.0
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	18.2	17.8	17.8	18.3
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	98.1	97.9	97.1	97.4
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	52.9	53.8	52.6	51.2

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	92.6	93.5	92.9
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	80.6	81.4	81.8	81.1
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	59.0	58.9	60.8	61.0
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	36.8	35.0	34.5	34.4

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	1,147,795	1,157,533	1,173,753	1,192,679
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8
Asian	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4
Black	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	26.7	27.5	28.1	28.8
White	63.0	62.2	61.4	60.6
Two or more races	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.0
Child population in poverty (%)	14.5	14.2	15.7	16.3

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	9,578	9,406	10,862	10,588
Children in foster care on 9/30	8,196	8,213	8,139	7,777
Children adopted	969	986	956	1,084

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	76
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	85
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	45,121	39.3 per 1,000	41,166	35.6 per 1,000	48,610	41.4 per 1,000	49,764	41.7 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	9,578	8.3 per 1,000	9,406	8.1 per 1,000	10,862	9.3 per 1,000	10,588	8.9 per 1,000
Child fatalities	35	3.0 per 100,000	20	1.7 per 100,000	24	2.0 per 100,000	28	2.4 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	10.9	11.5	11.7	12.6
1 year	6.9	7.1	7.4	7.1
2 years	7.1	6.6	7.1	7.4
3 years	6.6	6.7	7.1	6.9
4 years	6.9	6.5	6.3	6.6
5 years	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.4
6 years	6.4	6.4	6.2	6.5
7 years	5.6	5.5	6.3	6.2
8 years	5.3	5.3	4.8	5.9
9 years	5.0	5.0	4.8	4.9
10 years	4.6	4.8	4.6	4.4
11 years	4.6	4.8	4.3	3.9
12 years	5.3	4.7	4.0	4.0
13 years	5.1	5.1	4.8	3.9
14 years	4.5	4.5	4.8	4.5
15 years	3.6	4.0	3.9	3.9
16 years	2.8	3.0	3.0	2.9
17 years	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.8
18+ years	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1
Missing data	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Number	9,578	9,406	10,862	10,588

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.5
Asian	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6
Black	7.5	6.6	7.9	9.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2
Hispanic (of any race)	36.1	37.1	36.5	37.3
White	51.5	51.0	50.3	48.2
Two or more races	2.3	2.6	2.7	3.1
Missing data	1.1	1.1	0.8	1.1
Number	9,578	9,406	10,862	10,588

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	5.3	5.1	4.5	3.5
Medical neglect	1.4	1.7	1.5	1.6
Neglect	53.8	63.2	69.8	68.8
Physical abuse	19.0	17.3	15.8	14.2
Sexual abuse	10.7	10.1	9.4	8.7
Missing data	15.0	8.1	4.1	7.9
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	9,578	9,406	10,862	10,588

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	38.4	32.1	35.1	31.4
Median	<24	<24	<24	<24

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	7,989	7,744	7,976	7,931	7,782	7,651	7,059	6,431	7,577	7,182	6,896	6,585	8,196	8,213	8,139	7,777
Median length of stay (months)	12.8	12.2	12.6	13.3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.6	6.2	6.4	8.2	11.9	11.6	12.9	13.0

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.9	5.0	5.3	5.5	11.2	11.9	12.6	13.7	5.3	5.7	5.6	5.9	4.9	5.3	5.5	5.6
1 year	4.9	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.9	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.7	7.2	7.3	8.0	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.8
2 years	4.3	4.5	4.9	4.6	5.6	5.0	5.2	5.5	5.6	6.1	6.3	6.1	4.4	4.8	4.6	4.9
3 years	4.2	4.1	3.8	4.1	4.7	4.9	4.8	4.6	5.3	5.5	5.4	5.0	4.0	3.8	4.1	3.8
4 years	3.6	3.5	3.2	3.5	4.4	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.9	5.0	4.4	4.6	3.4	3.2	3.5	3.9
5 years	3.6	3.7	3.4	3.2	3.9	4.2	4.0	3.8	4.1	4.3	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.3	3.2	3.2
6 years	2.9	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.9	4.0	4.0	3.5	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.1	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.1
7 years	3.6	2.9	3.0	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.9	3.5	3.2	3.5	3.9	3.9	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.0
8 years	3.0	3.6	2.7	3.0	3.3	2.9	3.5	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.6	2.8	3.1	3.5
9 years	3.4	3.1	3.3	3.0	3.2	3.1	3.5	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.0	2.9
10 years	4.0	3.5	3.1	3.3	3.2	2.7	3.2	2.7	3.2	3.1	3.2	2.9	3.5	3.0	3.3	2.8
11 years	3.8	3.7	3.3	3.0	3.4	3.5	3.1	2.9	3.1	2.9	2.9	2.6	3.9	3.3	3.0	3.3
12 years	4.7	4.5	4.4	3.7	4.4	4.1	3.5	3.2	3.4	3.6	2.9	3.1	4.5	4.4	3.7	3.2
13 years	5.6	5.4	5.0	5.2	5.7	5.6	5.2	4.7	4.4	3.9	3.8	3.5	5.6	5.3	5.2	4.3
14 years	6.5	6.8	6.7	6.3	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.2	5.4	5.4	5.0	4.9	7.2	7.0	6.6	6.3
15 years	8.2	8.1	8.2	8.4	9.0	9.0	8.8	9.0	7.3	6.8	6.8	7.0	8.5	8.5	8.6	8.3
16 years	9.1	9.2	10.0	9.7	8.9	9.6	8.6	9.9	7.8	7.9	8.0	7.7	9.6	10.1	9.8	10.4
17 years	10.0	9.7	10.8	10.2	7.4	7.5	7.2	7.0	8.4	8.0	8.2	8.1	9.4	10.3	10.1	10.6
18 years	5.9	5.8	5.9	6.5	0.9	1.0	0.7	1.0	6.9	6.5	7.0	7.0	5.6	5.4	6.2	6.1
19 years	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.9	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	2.7	2.3	2.8	3.3	2.6	2.7	2.8	3.4
20+ years	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.4	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	1.1	1.2	1.9	2.2	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.4
Missing data	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.4	0.4	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.2

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.3	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.9	1.1	0.8	1.0	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.4	1.1	1.2	0.9
Asian	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.3
Black	12.2	11.2	11.0	11.6	8.9	9.2	10.2	11.4	9.4	9.3	9.6	10.0	11.7	11.0	11.5	12.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	0.2	0.3	<.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	<.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.2	0.2	0.3
Hispanic (of any race)	33.2	33.7	35.6	35.7	36.4	36.8	35.2	37.9	36.8	35.1	35.2	36.8	32.9	35.4	35.6	36.6
White	49.8	49.9	48.5	47.0	50.0	49.3	48.7	45.6	49.4	50.7	50.1	47.6	50.3	48.7	47.3	45.4
Two or more races	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.7	3.1	2.8	3.9	3.5	2.9	2.9	3.3	3.6	3.0	2.9	3.5	3.6
Unknown	0.2	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Missing data	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	1,684	1,785	2,099	1,762
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	928	1,036	1,308	1,052

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.4	3.1	4.3	3.6
1 year	9.0	9.9	9.1	9.6
2 years	7.4	8.3	8.6	6.7
3 years	7.7	5.8	8.0	6.7
4 years	5.7	5.5	6.0	6.4
5 years	6.6	5.6	5.7	5.2
6 years	5.6	5.5	6.5	6.0
7 years	5.0	5.2	5.2	5.3
8 years	6.0	5.1	4.9	5.7
9 years	5.3	5.9	5.1	5.0
10 years	5.3	4.8	5.9	5.1
11 years	5.9	5.8	4.3	6.3
12 years	5.8	5.3	5.0	4.2
13 years	6.1	5.8	5.5	5.1
14 years	6.4	6.1	4.8	5.8
15 years	4.9	6.2	5.2	5.5
16 years	2.5	4.1	4.2	4.1
17 years	1.4	2.0	1.9	3.7

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.7	0.8	1.0	0.7
Asian	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.1
Black	13.1	11.4	9.9	10.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	<.1	0.2
Hispanic (of any race)	33.6	35.5	38.4	38.4
White	49.2	48.0	46.6	46.1
Two or more races	3.1	4.0	3.6	3.7
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	969	986	956	1,084

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.5
1 year	15.6	16.3	17.4	18.0
2 years	9.9	14.6	16.7	13.2
3 years	9.3	11.1	11.0	11.2
4 years	9.2	11.3	6.8	8.9
5 years	8.3	5.8	6.2	6.2
6 years	6.5	6.5	6.8	7.1
7 years	5.2	4.7	5.8	6.4
8 years	4.0	4.1	5.1	4.8
9 years	5.8	4.8	3.9	4.3
10 years	4.4	3.3	2.4	4.2
11 years	5.3	4.0	4.0	2.2
12 years	3.4	2.5	2.5	3.7
13 years	3.0	2.3	2.3	1.8
14 years	2.8	2.4	2.3	1.8
15 years	1.7	1.7	1.3	1.3
16 years	1.8	0.6	1.3	1.2
17 years	1.3	1.1	1.3	0.9
18 years	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.8
Asian	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.6
Black	11.1	8.3	8.4	7.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2
Hispanic (of any race)	35.4	34.1	33.5	38.1
White	48.1	52.5	53.0	47.8
Two or more races	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.6
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	96.0	96.1	95.7	95.3
Children with one or more recurrences	4.0	3.9	4.3	4.7
Number	4,739	4,599	5,018	5,020

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.68	0.87	0.59	0.59
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.32	99.13	99.41	99.41
Number	15,771	15,395	15,035	14,362

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	12.5	13.1	13.1	16.0
Guardianship	3.5	4.0	4.1	4.7
Reunification	70.4	70.7	70.3	65.9
Other	12.9	12.0	12.4	13.1
Missing data	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.3
Number	7,577	7,182	6,896	6,585

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	15.4	16.3	17.1	21.2
Guardianship	1.4	1.9	2.1	2.2
Reunification	56.7	54.5	50.5	47.9
Other	25.3	27.0	29.7	27.9
Missing data	1.2	0.4	0.5	0.9
Number	1,122	842	753	675

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.0	0.6	0.8	1.0
Guardianship	1.1	1.5	1.8	1.9
Reunification	71.2	72.4	72.6	70.7
Other	26.6	25.4	24.8	26.4
Missing data	0.1	<.1	0.0	0.0
Number	2,980	2,724	2,639	2,486

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	21.8	21.2	26.0	27.4
Children older than 12 at entry	78.2	78.8	74.0	72.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	399	359	427	405

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	4.1	5.6	5.9	13.0	3.1	7.1	2.6	10.9	13.9	11.5	12.2	12.3		
Guardianship	1.4	3.3	0.0	1.4	0.0	7.1	2.6	0.0	4.9	5.2	3.8	4.3		
Reunification	73.0	62.2	60.3	47.8	78.1	73.8	82.1	80.0	63.5	67.8	65.1	64.9		
Other	21.6	28.9	33.8	37.7	18.8	11.9	12.8	9.1	16.5	15.4	18.7	18.3		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.1	0.3	0.2		
Number	74	90	68	69	32	42	39	55	713	670	664	656		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	33.3	12.5	17.6	15.4	11.8	13.0	12.7	16.8	12.5	13.4	13.4	15.8		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	5.9	0.0	4.4	3.6	6.0	5.5	2.5	3.8	3.0	4.3		
Reunification	33.3	62.5	58.8	76.9	71.4	72.7	71.3	66.1	71.4	70.3	70.7	66.2		
Other	33.3	25.0	17.6	7.7	11.5	10.5	9.9	11.3	13.2	12.1	12.6	13.4		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3		
Number	6	8	17	13	2,790	2,523	2,426	2,422	3,745	3,639	3,455	3,133		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.8	18.6	17.3	22.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.0	5.7	2.7	5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	62.5	65.2	69.5	64.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.3	10.5	10.6	7.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	1	0	1	1	216	210	226	236	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	76.2	80.3	79.6	75.8
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	14.8	13.2	14.0	15.4
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	4.1	3.8	4.2	4.8
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.9
48 or more mos.	1.0	0.9	1.2	2.1
Missing data	2.9	0.7	0.0	0.0
Number	5,337	5,078	4,846	4,341

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	71.5	70.6	67.8	70.0
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	15.9	16.4	15.3	14.3
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	11.9	11.6	13.5	13.7
Missing data	0.7	1.4	3.3	2.0
Number	7,782	7,651	7,059	6,431

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	9.9	10.7	11.8	11.0
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	42.9	42.1	44.3	46.2
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	27.9	27.6	28.0	25.4
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	9.3	10.6	9.0	8.8
48 or more mos.	8.9	8.8	6.9	8.2
Missing data	1.1	0.1	0.0	0.4
Number	946	941	900	1,055

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	81.5	82.0	83.3	83.6	55.5	59.7	60.0	62.1	32.0	31.6	32.2	33.4	62.3	70.7	33.3	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	13.9	13.8	12.6	11.8	43.3	39.2	39.2	37.1	67.5	67.6	67.4	66.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	4.7	4.2	4.2	4.5	1.2	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.3	37.7	29.3	66.7	0.0
Number	8,918	8,952	8,427	7,675	3,087	2,984	3,045	3,064	3,543	3,384	3,560	3,613	223	75	3	10

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.6
Institutions	5.4	4.5	3.8	3.4
Other settings	93.4	94.6	95.3	96.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	4,428	4,320	4,164	3,739

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	120.7	118.0	126.0
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	78.4	80.5	79.8	76.7
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	5.2	4.7	4.9	5.6
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	55.3	57.6	58.0	56.5
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	21.0	19.7	20.2	15.0

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	112.3	115.3	119.2
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	53.4	52.9	56.1	57.5
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	22.7	23.4	22.2	21.9
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	18.5	20.3	17.3	20.0
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	3.7	3.3	3.8	3.2
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	56.3	51.8	57.2	57.8

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	129.2	123.9	124.5
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	19.8	21.7	18.1	21.1
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	97.9	98.2	96.5	97.0
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	26.0	27.0	30.4	32.4

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	94.4	95.9	97.9
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	83.3	83.5	85.1	86.0
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	56.9	61.1	61.3	63.4
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	34.0	34.2	34.4	35.6

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Connecticut

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	840,639	833,803	827,069	820,216
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Asian	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.6
Black	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	15.1	15.5	16.0	16.7
White	68.0	67.4	66.7	65.9
Two or more races	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.4
Child population in poverty (%)	10.5	11.6	11.0	11.1

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	13,285	11,419	10,174	9,875
Children in foster care on 9/30	6,803	6,249	6,365	5,784
Children adopted	349	742	649	702

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	72
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	5,575
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	7,762
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	79
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	34,338
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	43,432

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	48,657	57.9 per 1,000	45,064	54.0 per 1,000	42,286	51.1 per 1,000	39,755	48.5 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	13,285	15.8 per 1,000	11,419	13.7 per 1,000	10,174	12.3 per 1,000	9,875	12.0 per 1,000
Child fatalities	9	1.1 per 100,000	9	1.1 per 100,000	3	0.4 per 100,000	4	0.5 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	9.7	11.0	11.7	11.0
1 year	5.9	6.3	7.0	6.8
2 years	6.0	5.7	6.1	6.3
3 years	5.9	5.8	5.6	6.1
4 years	6.1	5.7	5.8	5.7
5 years	5.8	5.8	6.4	5.8
6 years	6.3	5.9	5.9	6.0
7 years	5.7	5.7	5.9	5.7
8 years	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.7
9 years	5.5	4.9	4.9	5.1
10 years	5.2	5.2	4.6	5.4
11 years	5.1	5.0	4.6	4.3
12 years	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.0
13 years	6.0	5.5	5.2	5.3
14 years	5.8	6.1	5.2	5.4
15 years	5.2	5.6	5.4	4.8
16 years	3.5	3.0	3.1	3.2
17 years	1.7	1.9	2.1	1.9
18+ years	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Missing data	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3
Number	13,285	11,419	10,174	9,875

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.5
Black	23.7	22.8	22.2	21.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	27.2	25.6	27.9	27.4
White	42.8	44.0	41.7	42.4
Two or more races	3.5	4.1	4.8	4.7
Missing data	2.1	2.6	2.6	3.3
Number	13,285	11,419	10,174	9,875

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	33.3	30.5	3.0	3.8
Medical neglect	3.2	3.1	3.8	3.6
Neglect	70.4	74.1	91.3	90.5
Physical abuse	10.4	7.1	6.2	5.9
Sexual abuse	4.7	4.6	4.4	4.5
Missing data	4.1	3.7	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	13,285	11,419	10,174	9,875

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	50.1	41.4	39.5	42.6
Median	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	6,000	5,835	6,164	6,253	2,922	2,964	3,246	2,681	2,119	2,550	3,045	3,150	6,803	6,249	6,365	5,784
Median length of stay (months)	19.9	18.2	18.8	16.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	11.3	17.1	18.0	17.1	21.6	18.7	16.5	17.8

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.8	4.1	4.0	5.4	15.0	14.9	17.1	17.7	6.6	4.7	4.9	5.4	3.5	4.1	5.5	4.9
1 year	5.0	4.7	4.8	5.4	5.4	5.2	6.9	6.7	5.9	6.5	6.1	6.3	4.4	4.9	5.4	6.1
2 years	4.5	5.2	4.0	5.0	5.7	4.7	5.7	5.4	6.5	6.6	5.6	6.7	4.9	4.0	4.9	5.4
3 years	4.2	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.9	4.8	5.1	5.4	6.3	6.0	4.8	6.0	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.2
4 years	4.2	4.0	3.6	4.0	4.9	4.5	4.8	3.7	5.6	6.6	5.1	4.4	3.9	3.6	3.9	3.9
5 years	3.6	4.0	3.7	4.0	4.4	3.8	4.4	3.9	4.7	4.5	3.9	4.4	4.0	3.7	3.9	3.6
6 years	3.5	3.9	3.6	3.4	5.2	3.5	3.7	4.1	5.7	4.3	4.3	4.1	3.9	3.6	3.5	4.0
7 years	3.4	3.8	3.6	3.4	3.9	3.8	3.6	3.8	4.9	4.2	3.5	4.1	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.1
8 years	3.8	3.5	3.8	3.6	3.3	3.6	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.2	3.8	3.6	3.3
9 years	4.3	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.9	3.9	3.0	3.0	4.0	3.1	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.6
10 years	4.7	4.8	3.8	3.4	4.1	3.8	3.3	3.2	3.9	3.6	3.4	3.1	4.3	3.8	3.4	3.6
11 years	5.2	5.2	5.0	3.8	4.2	3.9	3.5	3.6	3.8	3.3	3.5	3.0	4.8	4.9	3.8	3.5
12 years	6.0	5.9	5.7	5.2	5.1	4.7	4.1	4.3	3.5	3.0	3.5	3.3	5.3	5.6	5.2	4.0
13 years	6.5	7.7	6.8	6.0	6.1	6.4	5.2	5.0	4.4	3.7	3.8	3.1	6.5	6.8	5.9	6.1
14 years	8.2	8.6	9.0	8.2	7.7	8.1	7.9	7.7	5.8	4.3	3.8	3.4	7.1	8.9	8.2	7.7
15 years	10.0	10.8	10.8	11.3	9.0	11.3	10.1	9.3	6.2	5.7	5.8	4.5	9.1	10.7	11.2	10.7
16 years	8.5	10.2	11.2	10.7	4.9	5.9	4.7	5.3	8.6	8.9	8.3	7.8	9.4	11.1	10.9	12.3
17 years	5.6	4.7	8.6	8.9	2.3	2.8	3.0	3.9	4.2	5.5	14.2	21.2	7.0	8.7	9.0	9.3
18 years	2.6	0.3	0.2	0.3	<.1	0.4	0.3	0.4	3.5	10.7	8.0	2.1	4.1	0.3	0.4	0.6
19 years	1.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.3	<.1	0.0	1.8	0.0	<.1	<.1
20+ years	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.5	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.8	<.1	<.1	<.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	<.1	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	<.1
Asian	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3
Black	33.0	31.3	30.2	30.0	27.3	27.6	28.2	26.2	29.6	30.0	28.6	28.1	31.7	30.1	29.9	29.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	28.2	30.2	30.0	30.7	31.4	29.7	31.7	32.7	28.6	29.6	30.1	30.0	29.5	30.2	30.8	32.0
White	33.6	32.8	34.1	32.9	34.1	35.9	32.0	33.3	34.9	34.1	34.4	35.1	33.4	33.8	32.9	31.9
Two or more races	4.0	4.7	4.5	4.9	4.6	4.4	5.8	5.9	4.2	4.7	5.0	4.7	4.1	4.5	4.9	5.5
Unknown	0.9	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.8	2.1	1.6	1.4	1.8	1.1	1.5	1.7	1.0	1.1	1.1	0.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	1,450	953	1,168	1,494
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	782	745	753	797

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.1	2.1	6.0	5.5
1 year	6.4	6.0	6.3	9.1
2 years	8.8	4.9	6.8	8.8
3 years	6.9	5.6	6.5	6.6
4 years	7.1	6.1	6.1	7.0
5 years	6.6	4.8	6.5	5.7
6 years	6.1	5.0	4.3	6.8
7 years	5.7	4.6	5.1	4.8
8 years	5.9	6.5	5.5	4.8
9 years	5.9	6.1	5.9	5.6
10 years	7.0	7.9	5.7	5.2
11 years	6.1	8.4	6.6	5.2
12 years	5.9	6.6	6.8	5.6
13 years	4.9	8.3	6.4	6.2
14 years	4.8	8.1	7.5	5.8
15 years	4.1	7.3	6.7	6.2
16 years	2.8	1.0	0.7	0.9
17 years	1.9	0.6	0.9	0.3

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.1	<.1	0.1
Asian	<.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Black	33.3	35.2	28.7	26.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	30.8	30.5	30.7	32.4
White	28.6	27.9	33.7	33.9
Two or more races	6.6	5.7	5.8	6.4
Unknown	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	349	742	649	702

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.6	9.3	14.6	10.4
1 year	8.6	15.8	14.2	15.0
2 years	17.5	11.6	12.6	13.0
3 years	14.0	9.2	7.6	10.3
4 years	9.5	9.8	8.0	7.8
5 years	8.0	6.9	4.3	6.0
6 years	6.3	7.0	6.5	5.6
7 years	5.2	5.0	4.9	5.7
8 years	3.4	5.0	5.1	4.4
9 years	4.9	3.9	5.4	4.7
10 years	6.6	3.4	3.7	3.3
11 years	5.7	3.5	3.7	2.7
12 years	3.2	3.0	2.8	3.1
13 years	4.3	1.9	1.7	1.9
14 years	1.1	2.2	1.5	1.4
15 years	0.9	0.9	1.5	2.4
16 years	0.0	1.3	1.1	1.3
17 years	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.6
18 years	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.6	0.0	0.3	1.0
Asian	0.0	6.6	3.5	3.7
Black	27.2	30.5	29.4	26.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.6
Hispanic (of any race)	26.1	32.2	27.1	27.2
White	37.8	27.4	37.1	38.2
Two or more races	8.0	1.9	1.1	2.0
Unknown	0.3	0.5	1.1	0.7
Missing data	0.0	0.8	0.3	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

Connecticut

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	91.1	91.6	92.8	93.5
Children with one or more recurrences	8.9	8.4	7.2	6.5
Number	6,070	5,358	4,817	4,875

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	0.63	0.54
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	99.37	99.46
Number	—	—	9,410	8,934

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	13.8	19.2	15.7	18.0
Guardianship	4.9	9.1	13.3	13.9
Reunification	76.9	54.8	45.5	45.6
Other	4.4	12.8	21.0	19.8
Missing data	0.0	4.1	4.5	2.7
Number	2,119	2,550	3,045	3,150

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	17.2	15.6	10.6	12.1
Guardianship	4.3	4.2	7.0	8.6
Reunification	68.9	50.1	32.7	35.7
Other	9.6	24.1	42.9	39.6
Missing data	0.0	5.9	6.8	3.9
Number	534	659	823	787

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.7	0.4	1.4
Guardianship	1.6	3.5	5.7	4.8
Reunification	88.2	59.0	41.6	42.9
Other	10.2	29.2	41.9	43.8
Missing data	0.0	7.6	10.3	7.1
Number	559	736	909	955

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	47.1	35.1	38.6	34.3
Children older than 12 at entry	52.9	64.9	61.4	65.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	34	248	477	499

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	16.7	0.0	12.5	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.1	12.4	18.3	14.7	14.1		
Guardianship	16.7	0.0	12.5	50.0	9.1	0.0	12.5	0.0	6.1	11.9	14.4	17.2		
Reunification	50.0	0.0	50.0	25.0	81.8	100.0	37.5	33.3	76.2	53.2	44.4	40.9		
Other	16.7	0.0	25.0	0.0	9.1	0.0	37.5	33.3	5.3	13.3	22.8	24.9		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.5	22.2	0.0	3.3	3.8	2.9		
Number	6	0	8	4	11	11	8	9	627	765	870	885		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.9	19.8	14.6	15.7	16.2	18.0	16.6	21.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.6	7.8	11.8	13.5	4.3	7.7	13.6	12.3		
Reunification	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	81.9	56.2	51.4	51.6	73.9	55.7	41.2	44.7		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.6	11.5	18.7	17.4	5.5	13.9	22.8	19.4		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	3.5	1.8	0.0	4.7	5.8	2.6		
Number	0	0	0	1	607	756	916	945	740	869	1,047	1,107		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	14.3	8.9	11.5	23.3	32.2	25.2	36.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	6.7	1.9	11.1	12.4	15.9	12.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	100.0	75.0	53.3	51.9	63.3	41.3	44.4	40.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	0.0	7.1	17.8	17.3	2.2	11.6	11.9	8.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	3.6	13.3	17.3	0.0	2.5	2.6	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	38	28	45	52	90	121	151	147	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	63.0	59.1	58.9	62.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	21.9	27.1	26.0	24.5
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	5.8	6.8	7.8	6.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.6	2.9	3.3	3.8
48 or more mos.	4.7	4.0	3.9	3.3
Missing data	2.0	<.1	0.0	0.0
Number	1,629	1,398	1,386	1,437

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	83.6	80.1	81.7	80.5
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	7.2	8.8	8.0	7.8
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	8.4	10.5	9.6	11.4
Missing data	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.4
Number	2,922	2,964	3,246	2,681

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	2.4	2.7	7.7	5.3
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	17.5	22.5	24.8	31.4
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	28.1	25.2	25.9	24.3
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	21.2	24.5	15.7	19.6
48 or more mos.	30.5	25.2	25.5	19.2
Missing data	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.2
Number	292	489	479	567

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	84.9	84.6	87.0	87.4	64.5	63.8	65.2	68.5	36.2	29.6	29.1	28.2	95.6	44.4	25.0	31.3
Children with 3 or more placements	14.6	15.3	13.0	12.6	33.9	35.9	34.8	31.5	59.8	62.3	64.4	66.6	4.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	4.0	8.0	6.6	5.2	0.0	55.6	75.0	68.8
Number	3,302	3,233	3,651	3,163	1,880	2,081	2,177	2,415	3,695	3,467	3,566	3,340	45	18	16	16

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	3.6	8.1	8.3	9.3
Institutions	13.6	5.4	3.7	3.4
Other settings	81.0	86.4	88.0	87.3
Missing data	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,988	1,511	1,692	1,264

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	95.8	92.3	100.3
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	62.7	56.0	54.5	57.9
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	9.2	10.1	10.6	10.2
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	33.8	26.1	28.7	27.2
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	12.8	14.5	15.6	13.2

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	79.0	100.4	104.9
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	19.9	25.2	32.7	36.7
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	37.0	35.9	32.0	30.9
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	8.6	13.8	12.2	14.0
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	6.1	6.7	7.1	9.6
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	32.9	43.3	64.5	64.3

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	101.9	95.2	101.7
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	13.2	19.4	18.7	21.0
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	98.7	94.9	89.5	90.7
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	56.6	55.4	58.3	54.8

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	95.4	97.3	98.2
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	84.6	83.9	86.2	86.5
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	65.5	64.0	65.3	68.5
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	37.7	32.3	31.2	29.8

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Susan I. Hamilton, M.S.W., J.D., Commissioner
Department of Children and Families

The following are Connecticut's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

1. Maltreatment Types table. The sharp temporal discontinuity in emotional abuse and neglect reflect a coding change that resulted in emotional neglect being mapped to neglect. This mapping has been revised and the NCANDS data re-run and emotional abuse and emotional neglect have been mapped to emotional maltreatment.
2. AFCARS-based analyses. The CT AFCARS extract program was significantly revised in 2008 to correct long-standing anomalies resulting from prior concept operationalization decisions. The 2004/2005a data used for this Report includes data resulting from both “old” and “updated” code. Most notably this results in:
 - a. Temporal discontinuity between 2004/05 and 06/07 for all AFCARS-based analyses, e.g. Placement Settings
 - b. Increase in “Other” exits - previous coding rules removed such cases from the file (resulting in “dropped cases”)
 - c. Increase in “Missing Data” for exits - previous coding rules selected only cases with non-missing data

Delaware

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	199,577	202,219	204,023	205,646
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Asian	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.9
Black	24.1	24.2	24.1	24.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	9.0	9.6	10.2	10.8
White	61.6	60.6	59.8	59.0
Two or more races	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.8
Child population in poverty (%)	13.8	14.5	15.8	14.7

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	1,581	1,960	1,933	2,116
Children in foster care on 9/30	849	962	1,074	1,157
Children adopted	73	78	94	118

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	43
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	630
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,464
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	81
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	3,610
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	4,477

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	12,307	61.7 per 1,000	13,878	68.6 per 1,000	13,864	68.0 per 1,000	13,546	65.9 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	1,581	7.9 per 1,000	1,960	9.7 per 1,000	1,933	9.5 per 1,000	2,116	10.3 per 1,000
Child fatalities	1	0.5 per 100,000	0	0.0 per 100,000	1	0.5 per 100,000	0	0.0 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	9.3	8.9	10.9	9.9
1 year	6.6	6.5	7.1	6.9
2 years	5.3	6.7	5.7	5.6
3 years	5.8	6.3	6.5	6.8
4 years	5.8	5.5	6.7	6.2
5 years	5.1	6.2	7.5	6.4
6 years	6.2	6.3	6.7	7.1
7 years	5.3	6.0	5.9	5.3
8 years	6.0	6.1	5.2	6.6
9 years	4.1	5.8	4.9	5.2
10 years	5.2	4.3	4.9	5.8
11 years	5.1	5.6	4.3	3.7
12 years	5.8	4.0	4.6	4.4
13 years	4.6	4.9	3.9	4.6
14 years	5.4	4.7	4.1	4.8
15 years	5.7	4.7	4.7	4.3
16 years	5.0	4.2	3.7	4.0
17 years	3.5	3.0	2.6	2.3
18+ years	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,581	1,960	1,933	2,116

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.2
Asian	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.2
Black	42.0	45.6	40.2	48.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	8.7	9.3	12.0	11.8
White	49.0	44.2	46.0	38.5
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	1.3	1.2
Missing data	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.0
Number	1,581	1,960	1,933	2,116

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	24.7	22.6	27.4	27.0
Medical neglect	3.2	2.0	2.5	1.7
Neglect	29.4	28.0	43.6	45.2
Physical abuse	26.2	27.8	19.2	18.6
Sexual abuse	13.2	9.3	8.5	6.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	12.2	10.4	8.3	11.3
Number	1,581	1,960	1,933	2,116

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	1.1	0.8	1.0	158.8
Median	<24	<24	<24	>120 but<144

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	716	712	843	985	880	925	1,021	1,110	749	681	791	939	849	962	1,074	1,157
Median length of stay (months)	12.3	11.8	10.7	12.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.0	3.3	3.3	3.0	10.8	9.3	10.0	11.4

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	5.0	5.9	5.6	7.0	10.8	10.3	11.3	9.7	5.2	3.8	4.0	3.7	5.2	5.1	6.3	5.4
1 year	6.0	7.3	7.1	6.9	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.1	4.1	5.4	3.9	5.9	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.1
2 years	5.6	6.2	5.6	6.0	3.8	3.9	3.1	3.8	3.9	6.2	5.6	5.4	5.3	5.0	5.7	4.9
3 years	4.3	5.2	5.8	4.0	3.0	3.8	3.0	3.6	4.0	5.0	4.9	3.4	4.7	5.0	3.9	5.6
4 years	3.2	3.4	4.0	3.6	2.7	2.7	2.2	3.6	3.5	3.2	3.7	4.6	3.1	3.7	3.4	3.5
5 years	2.7	2.7	3.6	3.7	2.6	3.2	2.7	2.8	3.1	1.9	2.7	2.3	2.6	3.2	3.4	3.5
6 years	3.9	2.5	3.2	3.4	2.0	2.6	3.6	3.2	3.5	2.5	3.7	2.6	2.4	3.0	3.2	3.4
7 years	2.9	2.8	3.2	4.0	1.9	2.4	2.6	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.8	2.7	2.4	3.1	3.6	3.9
8 years	3.1	3.1	3.1	2.4	2.2	1.8	2.2	2.7	1.9	2.6	2.5	2.0	2.8	2.9	2.1	3.8
9 years	2.8	3.5	3.4	2.8	1.8	2.4	1.7	2.6	2.0	1.2	2.0	1.8	3.3	3.3	2.7	2.7
10 years	3.8	2.4	3.4	3.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.5	2.4	1.6	2.1	1.6	2.0	3.1	3.4	3.5
11 years	4.1	3.4	2.3	3.2	1.1	2.7	2.5	1.9	1.3	1.9	2.3	1.8	3.1	2.3	2.7	4.1
12 years	5.3	4.4	4.0	2.9	3.2	2.2	2.7	3.7	1.9	1.9	2.3	1.7	4.5	3.7	2.8	3.4
13 years	5.0	5.9	5.2	4.4	5.0	6.1	3.9	4.7	3.9	3.1	2.1	2.0	5.5	5.4	4.2	5.8
14 years	8.0	7.2	7.5	5.7	10.2	8.8	7.2	7.4	6.4	5.9	5.3	6.1	8.4	7.9	7.0	6.0
15 years	9.6	9.6	9.1	8.8	14.7	12.2	12.6	11.5	11.9	10.1	10.0	8.4	11.9	10.6	9.8	8.4
16 years	9.6	11.8	10.0	11.6	14.2	14.8	15.8	13.8	11.9	15.4	13.1	13.1	13.1	11.5	12.5	11.0
17 years	12.2	9.6	11.5	12.1	13.6	13.1	15.3	14.2	16.4	12.6	16.6	19.7	10.1	12.1	13.1	11.8
18 years	2.5	3.4	2.0	3.6	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.8	9.3	12.6	9.7	10.3	3.3	2.2	3.4	3.0
19 years	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.2
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0
Missing data	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.2	<.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Black	60.1	56.2	57.7	56.0	53.5	56.8	55.1	56.9	56.1	54.5	56.6	55.6	56.9	57.8	56.0	57.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	6.1	7.0	7.5	7.8	8.0	9.1	7.9	9.9	6.9	9.1	7.6	8.7	7.3	7.7	7.8	9.1
White	33.7	36.0	34.0	34.2	38.0	33.1	35.2	30.9	36.6	35.2	34.8	33.3	35.5	33.7	34.6	31.8
Two or more races	0.0	0.6	0.5	1.6	0.0	0.4	1.4	1.8	0.0	0.6	0.8	1.5	0.0	0.4	1.1	1.9
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	<.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	218	274	302	311
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	119	141	155	143

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.1	6.2	9.3	4.5
1 year	11.0	11.7	12.3	11.3
2 years	10.1	9.1	10.3	8.4
3 years	10.6	8.0	6.6	8.0
4 years	5.5	6.2	6.3	5.5
5 years	2.8	5.5	5.0	4.2
6 years	4.6	4.4	5.6	4.5
7 years	4.6	5.1	4.6	6.4
8 years	4.1	5.1	4.0	5.5
9 years	6.9	5.1	4.0	4.2
10 years	3.7	6.2	5.6	6.4
11 years	6.9	1.8	3.3	8.0
12 years	6.4	5.8	3.6	3.2
13 years	6.0	5.5	4.3	4.8
14 years	6.9	4.0	4.0	4.5
15 years	4.6	4.7	4.0	3.2
16 years	0.9	2.9	4.3	3.9
17 years	0.5	2.6	3.0	3.5

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0
Black	63.8	59.9	62.6	65.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	6.4	5.5	4.6	4.2
White	29.8	33.9	31.5	29.6
Two or more races	0.0	0.4	1.3	1.3
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	73	78	94	118

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.4	5.1	1.1	1.7
1 year	11.0	11.5	10.6	14.4
2 years	12.3	14.1	14.9	16.9
3 years	17.8	16.7	14.9	14.4
4 years	12.3	10.3	12.8	11.9
5 years	5.5	1.3	10.6	5.9
6 years	6.8	5.1	7.4	5.1
7 years	5.5	5.1	4.3	6.8
8 years	4.1	7.7	4.3	2.5
9 years	2.7	0.0	2.1	5.1
10 years	5.5	6.4	4.3	6.8
11 years	4.1	2.6	2.1	3.4
12 years	2.7	3.8	3.2	2.5
13 years	2.7	3.8	3.2	0.8
14 years	0.0	3.8	4.3	0.0
15 years	2.7	1.3	0.0	0.8
16 years	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.8
17 years	1.4	1.3	0.0	0.0
18 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0
Black	63.0	52.6	47.9	44.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	4.1	3.8	3.2	6.8
White	32.9	42.3	46.8	47.5
Two or more races	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.8
Unknown	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	98.0	97.1	98.4	97.3
Children with one or more recurrences	2.0	2.9	1.6	2.7
Number	740	870	902	1,084

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.19	0.12	0.05	0.24
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.81	99.88	99.95	99.76
Number	1,596	1,637	1,864	2,095

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	9.7	11.0	11.8	12.7
Guardianship	3.9	4.8	7.5	6.0
Reunification	76.8	73.7	71.2	70.7
Other	9.6	10.4	9.6	10.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	749	681	791	939

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	16.7	18.4	23.6	20.5
Guardianship	7.6	3.9	7.3	5.0
Reunification	48.5	56.6	40.0	42.9
Other	27.3	21.1	29.1	31.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	66	76	110	161

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Guardianship	1.6	1.1	1.6	2.4
Reunification	84.0	82.9	83.9	82.5
Other	14.1	16.1	14.5	15.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	426	380	428	538

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	12.7	11.9	18.1	22.0
Children older than 12 at entry	85.7	86.6	81.9	78.0
Missing data	1.6	1.5	0.0	0.0
Number	63	67	72	82

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	11.0	10.2	10.5	10.3		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	4.9	7.1	4.6		
Reunification	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	75.2	74.7	71.9	73.4		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.8	10.2	10.5	11.7		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	1	1	0	4	1	2	1	3	420	371	448	522		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	4.8	5.0	7.3	9.1	14.2	15.3	18.5		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9	3.2	3.3	8.5	4.0	5.4	9.1	8.0		
Reunification	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	88.5	75.8	85.0	78.0	76.6	70.8	66.9	62.6		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.8	16.1	6.7	6.1	10.2	9.6	8.7	10.9		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	0	1	0	0	52	62	60	82	274	240	275	313		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	83.3	92.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	1	0	1	1	0	4	6	14	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	89.0	89.4	87.7	91.9
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	9.6	6.4	9.4	6.9
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	0.7	2.0	1.8	0.2
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6
48 or more mos.	0.2	1.0	0.2	0.3
Missing data	0.2	0.8	0.4	0.2
Number	575	502	563	664

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	71.1	67.4	70.4	71.8
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	18.2	18.2	17.8	16.7
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	10.1	13.0	11.7	11.4
Missing data	0.6	1.5	<.1	0.2
Number	880	925	1,021	1,110

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	4.1	5.3	1.1	4.2
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	23.3	37.3	28.0	35.3
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	35.6	32.0	50.5	36.1
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	26.0	9.3	14.0	18.5
48 or more mos.	11.0	16.0	6.5	5.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	73	75	93	119

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	97.4	96.0	88.0	86.9	82.0	83.9	62.0	55.2	46.3	53.7	33.4	30.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
Children with 3 or more placements	2.6	4.0	12.0	13.1	18.0	16.1	38.0	44.8	53.7	46.3	66.6	69.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	985	1,044	1,154	1,269	278	274	358	377	324	313	350	449	9	6	2	0

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	6.4	2.0	3.2	2.3
Institutions	0.8	1.2	1.6	1.4
Other settings	92.8	96.3	95.2	96.3
Missing data	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0
Number	362	404	441	513

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	128.6	114.5	111.5
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	87.7	88.5	86.7	91.9
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.2
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	63.1	59.7	55.4	56.8
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	25.3	22.8	27.8	31.7

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	103.8	125.2	118.1
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	27.4	42.7	29.0	39.5
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	32.5	27.9	28.5	26.9
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	22.3	22.0	24.4	23.3
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	11.6	10.7	20.0	9.4
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	45.8	38.9	53.2	61.4

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	140.9	135.1	130.1
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	24.2	27.4	24.4	24.1
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	98.8	95.1	95.2	94.6
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	20.7	21.0	27.8	28.9

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	122.3	97.8	92.1
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	97.1	95.6	86.9	85.9
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	82.3	83.7	62.0	55.2
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	46.9	54.7	33.7	30.5

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

District Of Columbia

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	115,128	114,603	114,531	113,720
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Asian	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.1
Black	69.7	68.5	67.4	65.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	10.4	10.6	10.6	10.8
White	15.6	16.5	17.4	18.7
Two or more races	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5
Child population in poverty (%)	33.9	32.2	32.6	22.7

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	2,378	2,840	2,759	2,757
Children in foster care on 9/30	2,641	2,519	2,378	2,197
Children adopted	433	326	179	152

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	67
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,341
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,993
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	89
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	11,040
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	12,348

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	12,074	104.9 per 1,000	11,950	104.3 per 1,000	12,315	107.5 per 1,000	11,166	98.2 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	2,378	20.7 per 1,000	2,840	24.8 per 1,000	2,759	24.1 per 1,000	2,757	24.2 per 1,000
Child fatalities	5	4.3 per 100,000	2	1.7 per 100,000	2	1.8 per 100,000	2	1.8 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	12.8	12.0	11.8	12.1
1 year	5.8	4.4	4.9	4.6
2 years	4.8	3.9	3.8	3.8
3 years	4.6	4.5	3.1	3.4
4 years	4.7	4.6	4.3	4.0
5 years	5.0	5.6	6.0	5.1
6 years	5.8	5.8	6.1	6.7
7 years	5.6	4.9	5.7	5.3
8 years	4.6	5.5	5.1	5.7
9 years	5.1	5.7	5.4	4.9
10 years	6.1	6.2	5.7	5.2
11 years	5.3	5.8	4.9	5.0
12 years	5.9	5.5	5.7	5.7
13 years	5.6	6.3	6.0	5.5
14 years	7.1	6.5	7.2	6.8
15 years	5.0	6.1	6.7	7.0
16 years	3.6	4.1	4.8	5.3
17 years	2.5	2.6	2.8	3.8
18+ years	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,378	2,840	2,759	2,757

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.1
Black	60.3	62.0	59.3	64.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	2.6	3.3	5.3	6.2
White	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.4
Two or more races	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.4
Missing data	36.1	33.0	34.0	28.2
Number	2,378	2,840	2,759	2,757

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	0.0	0.0	1.9	2.0
Medical neglect	0.0	0.0	6.0	7.4
Neglect	85.8	84.2	57.8	59.4
Physical abuse	15.3	16.1	14.7	12.5
Sexual abuse	4.6	5.7	5.5	4.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	32.5	32.7
Number	2,378	2,840	2,759	2,757

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	55.8	32.4	26.9	15.4
Median	<24	<24	>24 but <48	>24 but <48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	2,916	2,649	2,662	2,357	777	919	668	586	1,052	1,049	952	746	2,641	2,519	2,378	2,197
Median length of stay (months)	37.3	37.9	30.4	30.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	37.7	36.1	28.5	27.6	35.6	30.2	30.5	31.9

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.4	1.7	2.5	2.0	11.1	12.7	12.6	14.2	2.2	2.4	1.6	2.5	2.0	2.8	2.1	2.4
1 year	2.7	2.6	3.3	3.9	7.2	5.8	6.9	7.0	2.1	1.7	4.0	2.9	2.6	3.7	3.8	3.2
2 years	3.4	3.3	3.0	3.8	5.0	5.0	6.3	4.1	4.8	4.8	4.3	6.0	3.3	3.1	3.9	3.9
3 years	3.4	3.7	3.3	2.7	5.3	5.7	4.6	4.1	5.0	5.1	5.4	5.0	3.7	3.4	2.6	3.6
4 years	4.1	2.6	3.3	3.4	4.6	5.1	6.3	3.9	5.2	5.8	5.1	3.9	2.8	3.5	3.4	2.3
5 years	4.3	3.8	2.9	2.9	4.8	5.5	4.3	4.8	5.7	5.0	5.1	4.8	3.9	2.9	2.9	3.3
6 years	4.4	4.0	3.4	2.6	6.2	5.2	4.2	4.6	5.2	6.0	5.7	4.8	3.9	3.5	2.6	2.9
7 years	5.0	4.6	3.5	3.0	5.4	4.4	3.6	5.1	6.0	4.6	4.1	3.8	4.5	3.5	2.9	2.6
8 years	5.3	4.8	4.1	2.8	4.2	4.0	4.6	4.1	5.0	6.9	5.4	3.2	5.0	4.0	2.9	3.1
9 years	5.1	4.1	4.2	3.5	4.4	5.0	3.7	3.6	7.7	6.1	4.6	4.6	4.2	4.0	3.6	2.7
10 years	5.8	5.1	4.4	4.1	4.9	4.9	4.0	3.8	4.4	3.7	5.0	5.2	4.9	4.2	4.0	3.2
11 years	6.3	6.2	5.1	4.2	4.9	5.9	4.2	4.3	6.1	6.1	5.1	3.6	6.2	5.3	4.2	3.9
12 years	5.7	5.5	6.1	5.0	5.8	5.1	5.8	5.1	6.8	5.9	4.6	5.8	5.4	6.0	5.0	4.5
13 years	6.0	6.8	5.2	6.5	7.1	5.5	5.5	4.9	4.8	5.3	4.6	5.8	6.2	5.2	6.6	4.7
14 years	6.0	5.9	7.3	5.5	5.7	6.5	6.4	4.8	5.6	4.4	5.1	3.8	6.2	7.5	5.5	6.6
15 years	6.1	6.9	6.8	8.2	5.4	5.9	5.8	9.4	3.0	4.0	3.6	4.2	6.8	6.5	8.0	6.4
16 years	5.8	6.4	7.4	8.0	3.7	4.5	5.7	6.7	2.9	3.5	3.3	3.6	6.8	7.7	8.1	9.7
17 years	5.4	6.5	7.0	8.8	3.2	2.9	4.3	4.6	3.3	2.4	2.5	3.6	6.2	6.8	8.7	8.9
18 years	5.4	5.6	6.6	7.3	0.5	0.0	0.3	0.5	1.9	2.9	3.5	2.8	5.5	6.4	7.2	9.1
19 years	4.7	5.6	5.0	6.4	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.3	1.5	1.7	2.2	1.9	5.6	4.9	6.4	7.0
20+ years	3.4	4.3	5.1	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	3.8	6.5	13.1	14.1	4.4	5.3	5.0	6.1
Missing data	0.1	<.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	6.7	5.2	2.0	4.2	0.2	<.1	0.2	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	<.1
Black	91.4	90.8	90.2	90.6	86.1	76.1	82.6	85.5	89.1	85.4	84.0	90.3	90.8	87.7	90.6	89.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	<.1	0.1	0.0	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	3.0	3.2	3.5	3.9	4.8	5.4	5.7	6.0	3.3	4.2	4.2	3.5	3.4	3.7	3.8	4.6
White	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.1	1.2	1.2	0.2	<.1	0.1	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.6
Two or more races	3.8	4.6	4.9	4.4	4.8	4.4	3.0	4.3	2.8	3.9	4.7	2.8	4.5	4.8	4.4	4.9
Unknown	0.5	0.3	0.1	<.1	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.0	1.3	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.3	<.1	<.1
Missing data	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.4	3.3	13.4	7.3	2.9	2.9	5.8	6.2	2.3	0.6	3.2	0.4	0.4

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	837	620	667	560
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	198	30	132	64

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.7	1.9	2.7	3.6
1 year	5.7	4.8	7.5	3.9
2 years	7.2	4.8	8.4	7.7
3 years	5.9	4.2	4.2	6.4
4 years	5.4	5.6	6.7	3.4
5 years	6.8	3.9	4.9	5.5
6 years	6.8	3.9	4.5	4.5
7 years	7.9	4.8	5.2	4.6
8 years	8.5	6.8	5.1	5.5
9 years	7.0	7.1	6.7	4.5
10 years	8.8	7.6	7.5	7.0
11 years	8.7	8.7	7.0	7.3
12 years	7.0	9.8	8.2	6.8
13 years	3.6	8.4	9.6	8.4
14 years	3.1	7.6	4.3	9.8
15 years	1.7	4.7	3.3	4.5
16 years	1.7	3.2	2.5	4.1
17 years	0.5	2.1	1.3	2.5

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	92.5	94.0	92.1	90.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	2.2	1.6	2.5	3.0
White	0.4	0.3	0.7	1.1
Two or more races	4.3	3.2	4.5	5.2
Unknown	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.2
Missing data	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.2

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	433	326	179	152

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.7
1 year	0.2	1.5	2.8	1.3
2 years	4.6	7.4	12.3	13.2
3 years	6.0	6.1	9.5	11.8
4 years	8.1	5.5	11.7	7.2
5 years	9.0	6.1	6.7	9.9
6 years	5.5	9.8	6.7	3.9
7 years	5.3	7.1	4.5	5.3
8 years	7.2	10.1	4.5	5.3
9 years	10.6	9.2	10.1	5.9
10 years	5.3	7.4	6.7	6.6
11 years	8.8	7.1	6.1	6.6
12 years	8.8	5.8	5.6	3.9
13 years	8.3	4.6	2.8	5.9
14 years	5.1	5.2	5.6	7.2
15 years	2.5	4.3	2.2	2.0
16 years	2.3	2.1	0.6	0.7
17 years	1.8	0.3	1.7	1.3
18 years	0.2	0.0	0.0	1.3
19 years	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.7	0.6	0.0	0.0
Black	97.5	96.9	96.1	100.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	0.9	1.8	3.4	0.0
White	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
Two or more races	0.7	0.3	0.6	0.0
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

District Of Columbia

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	87.4	94.7	93.0	95.6
Children with one or more recurrences	12.6	5.3	7.0	4.4
Number	1,131	1,333	1,410	1,436

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.30	0.34	0.21	0.44
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.70	99.66	99.79	99.56
Number	3,693	3,568	3,330	2,943

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	34.4	29.6	18.2	19.8
Guardianship	23.0	20.5	19.0	18.8
Reunification	27.0	34.4	42.3	39.3
Other	13.0	15.5	20.4	22.1
Missing data	2.6	0.0	0.1	0.0
Number	1,052	1,049	952	746

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	33.1	23.7	22.8	11.1
Guardianship	13.5	8.5	28.1	22.2
Reunification	33.8	40.7	22.8	40.7
Other	18.8	27.1	26.3	25.9
Missing data	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	133	59	57	27

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.7	2.0	1.9	1.7
Guardianship	15.6	5.9	5.7	9.1
Reunification	28.9	33.5	38.6	36.4
Other	51.4	58.6	53.8	52.8
Missing data	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	173	203	210	176

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	33.1	25.0	41.2	40.8
Children older than 12 at entry	66.9	75.0	58.8	57.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9
Number	118	148	170	157

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/American Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	40.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	36.4	31.0	20.8	21.4		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	23.9	22.0	19.6	19.7		
Reunification	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	40.0	50.0	66.7	0.0	23.8	30.4	37.9	37.7		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	33.3	50.0	13.6	16.6	21.6	21.2		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.1	0.0		
Number	0	2	0	0	5	2	3	2	937	896	800	674		

	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.6	15.9	7.5	3.8	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.1	6.8	7.5	7.7	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	54.3	61.4	67.5	38.5	50.0	0.0	100.0	83.3		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.3	15.9	17.5	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	0	0	2	0	35	44	40	26	2	1	1	6		

	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	14.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	48.3	46.3	6.7	14.3	0.0	6.6	1.7	0.0		
Guardianship	28.6	50.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	19.5	35.6	14.3	20.0	9.8	8.5	5.9		
Reunification	42.9	50.0	50.0	0.0	44.8	19.5	35.6	38.1	66.7	82.0	86.4	94.1		
Other	14.3	0.0	50.0	0.0	3.4	14.6	22.2	33.3	3.3	1.6	3.4	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	14	2	2	0	29	41	45	21	30	61	59	17		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	54.9	74.5	65.5	62.8
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	17.3	10.5	19.9	17.7
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	14.4	5.0	6.7	6.8
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	3.5	1.7	3.0	5.5
48 or more mos.	8.5	8.3	4.7	6.8
Missing data	1.4	0.0	0.2	0.3
Number	284	361	403	293

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	61.6	80.5	72.3	71.8
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	19.2	8.1	11.1	11.9
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	12.6	10.1	13.0	15.2
Missing data	6.6	1.3	3.6	1.0
Number	777	919	668	586

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	1.9	1.6	1.7	5.4
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	6.6	5.8	11.6	6.8
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	14.1	20.0	20.8	37.2
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	18.2	21.0	19.7	18.9
48 or more mos.	59.1	51.6	46.2	31.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7
Number	362	310	173	148

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	80.2	81.9	80.1	75.8	65.8	60.2	54.3	52.9	47.1	38.7	30.1	24.1	95.2	100.0	100.0	0.0
Children with 3 or more placements	11.9	16.4	18.7	23.4	25.7	34.6	43.7	45.7	52.1	60.4	67.9	74.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.0
Missing data	7.9	1.7	1.3	0.8	8.5	5.2	2.1	1.4	0.8	0.9	2.0	1.5	4.8	0.0	0.0	75.0
Number	798	1,007	788	640	529	497	630	497	2,345	2,056	1,911	1,802	21	8	1	4

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	9.7	12.2	11.0	12.9
Institutions	1.3	0.3	1.6	1.6
Other settings	89.1	87.5	87.4	85.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Number	476	625	428	387

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	96.4	111.5	104.0
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	51.9	71.3	62.9	55.2
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	10.4	5.3	8.0	10.2
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	32.5	29.9	32.1	24.9
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	21.3	25.3	12.7	10.2

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	87.6	86.9	89.1
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	8.6	7.4	13.5	12.3
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	51.4	50.8	43.2	36.0
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	20.9	21.2	13.2	11.8
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	9.7	7.4	5.7	3.7
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	71.3	81.4	79.8	76.4

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	116.8	105.0	103.3
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	30.1	32.9	24.3	19.2
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	99.7	99.7	100.0	99.3
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	60.0	60.5	63.9	58.6

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	98.2	89.7	82.3
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	86.1	81.9	79.5	73.8
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	72.6	63.6	56.1	54.8
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	51.9	43.0	34.8	28.3

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

District Of Columbia

STATE COMMENT

Roque R. Gerald, Psy.D., Acting Director
Child and Family Services Agency

The following are the District of Columbia's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

General Child Population

The District was unable to verify data reported from the Census Bureau for total population numbers for children under 18 years and the race and ethnicity data for 2004 and 2005. The District was able to reconcile the data for 2006 and 2007. (Data source: DC State Data: Office of Planning)

Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) - Maltreatment Types of Child Victims In FY06, the District's Maltreatment Types for Child Victims increased in 3 categories from FY05. There was a significant increase in the 'Other' category and minimal increases in the 'Emotional Abuse' and 'Medical Neglect' categories. The increases are the result of remapping of the maltreatment types to align with NCANDS definitions. The District is in agreement with the data reported for each reporting period.

Florida

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	3,893,618	3,973,594	4,032,726	4,043,560
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Asian	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.2
Black	20.7	20.5	20.4	20.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	21.8	22.7	23.6	24.6
White	53.1	52.2	51.3	50.4
Two or more races	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.3
Child population in poverty (%)	17.7	17.9	17.5	17.1

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	129,914	130,633	134,567	53,484
Children in foster care on 9/30	28,864	29,312	29,229	26,363
Children adopted	3,264	3,022	3,046	3,080

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	85
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	94
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	329,158	84.5 per 1,000	334,293	84.1 per 1,000	340,672	84.5 per 1,000	343,836	85.0 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	129,914	33.4 per 1,000	130,633	32.9 per 1,000	134,567	33.4 per 1,000	53,484	13.2 per 1,000
Child fatalities	86	2.2 per 100,000	117	2.9 per 100,000	140	3.5 per 100,000	153	3.8 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	9.5	9.9	10.5	13.8
1 year	6.9	7.2	7.6	8.2
2 years	6.9	6.9	7.2	7.5
3 years	6.7	6.6	6.5	6.8
4 years	6.3	6.5	6.4	6.3
5 years	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.2
6 years	5.8	6.0	6.0	5.8
7 years	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.8
8 years	5.4	5.2	5.1	5.0
9 years	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.7
10 years	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.3
11 years	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.1
12 years	4.8	4.7	4.5	4.0
13 years	5.1	4.8	4.7	3.9
14 years	5.0	5.0	4.6	4.2
15 years	4.6	4.6	4.6	3.8
16 years	3.8	3.9	3.9	3.5
17 years	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.3
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	129,914	130,633	134,567	53,484

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
Asian	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
Black	29.9	29.7	29.9	30.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	12.4	12.9	13.6	14.8
White	55.2	54.8	53.7	51.7
Two or more races	1.2	1.4	1.6	2.1
Missing data	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5
Number	129,914	130,633	134,567	53,484

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.4
Medical neglect	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7
Neglect	29.8	30.2	32.4	51.0
Physical abuse	13.2	12.0	11.3	9.8
Sexual abuse	4.1	4.0	3.4	4.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	67.5	69.2	68.3	50.0
Number	129,914	130,633	134,567	53,484

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	11.8	10.7	9.2	8.8
Median	<24	<24	<24	<24

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	30,029	27,704	28,468	28,380	19,932	22,147	21,999	18,949	21,097	20,539	21,238	20,967	28,864	29,312	29,229	26,363
Median length of stay (months)	12.5	12.6	10.4	10.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	12.0	11.8	11.2	11.4	12.2	10.2	10.3	11.7

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	6.8	6.8	7.6	7.9	16.8	16.9	17.8	19.0	4.5	4.6	5.1	5.1	6.9	7.7	8.1	8.0
1 year	7.9	8.5	8.8	9.2	8.2	8.1	8.4	8.6	7.8	8.3	8.7	9.3	8.5	8.8	9.3	9.5
2 years	7.6	7.6	7.7	8.1	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.5	7.9	8.2	8.4	8.8	7.6	7.8	8.1	8.3
3 years	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.4	6.9	6.4	6.5	7.4	7.6	7.6	8.2	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.0
4 years	6.2	6.4	6.3	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.7	6.7	6.9	7.0	6.6	6.4	6.3	6.0	6.0
5 years	5.6	5.4	6.0	5.6	5.4	5.9	5.5	5.7	6.5	6.3	6.3	6.6	5.5	5.9	5.7	5.2
6 years	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.3	4.9	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.5	5.6	5.9	5.9	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.0
7 years	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.9	4.7	4.8	4.8	5.3	5.2	5.5	5.3	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.9
8 years	4.6	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.1	5.1	5.1	4.7	4.9	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.3
9 years	4.7	4.2	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.6	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.0	4.1	4.1
10 years	4.7	4.2	4.1	3.7	4.1	3.9	3.7	3.7	4.5	4.3	4.3	3.7	4.2	4.1	3.6	4.0
11 years	4.9	4.6	3.9	3.8	4.2	3.7	3.7	3.4	4.5	4.0	3.8	3.6	4.6	3.9	3.8	3.6
12 years	4.9	4.7	4.4	4.1	4.4	3.9	4.0	3.4	4.5	4.2	3.7	3.7	4.7	4.4	4.1	3.8
13 years	5.0	4.9	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.0	3.7	4.4	4.1	3.6	3.6	5.0	4.6	4.5	4.0
14 years	5.1	5.2	5.2	4.9	4.5	4.4	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.2	4.1	3.6	5.2	5.3	4.9	4.9
15 years	5.3	5.5	5.2	5.6	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.1	4.0	4.1	3.9	3.5	5.5	5.2	5.6	5.5
16 years	5.1	5.7	5.5	5.4	3.4	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.8	3.4	3.3	5.5	5.4	5.4	6.1
17 years	4.6	5.0	5.3	5.4	1.9	1.9	2.3	2.4	4.7	3.3	6.5	9.4	4.8	5.2	5.4	5.7
18 years	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	4.0	5.8	3.1	0.3	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.2
19 years	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1
20+ years	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Missing data	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	<.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	<.1	0.2
Asian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Black	42.6	40.8	39.0	38.8	36.1	34.7	35.7	35.7	39.1	37.4	36.2	36.1	40.7	38.7	38.6	38.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	9.3	9.5	10.2	10.8	8.9	9.9	10.8	11.9	8.8	9.1	10.3	11.0	9.3	10.1	10.6	11.4
White	45.3	46.6	47.8	47.4	52.1	52.4	50.4	49.2	49.3	50.6	50.4	49.9	47.0	48.1	47.9	46.7
Two or more races	2.0	2.3	2.4	2.5	1.9	2.2	2.3	2.3	1.7	2.1	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.4	2.4	2.6
Unknown	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	7,690	7,379	7,480	7,824
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	4,002	3,963	3,761	4,234

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.9	3.4	3.7	3.6
1 year	7.2	7.2	8.3	8.6
2 years	7.7	7.6	8.2	9.0
3 years	7.1	6.7	7.0	7.3
4 years	6.4	6.3	6.0	6.5
5 years	5.9	6.1	5.6	5.2
6 years	5.0	5.4	5.4	5.3
7 years	4.6	4.6	4.7	5.3
8 years	4.1	4.3	4.5	4.5
9 years	4.7	4.1	4.5	4.5
10 years	5.1	4.8	4.2	4.4
11 years	5.6	5.0	4.7	4.2
12 years	6.0	6.0	5.0	4.6
13 years	6.5	6.1	6.2	4.8
14 years	6.4	7.0	6.1	5.9
15 years	5.9	6.3	6.9	5.7
16 years	5.4	5.1	5.2	5.9
17 years	3.5	4.1	3.9	4.7

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	<.1
Asian	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Black	44.9	42.2	40.1	40.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	8.9	8.8	9.6	10.6
White	42.6	45.0	46.4	45.4
Two or more races	2.9	3.2	3.2	3.3
Unknown	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	3,264	3,022	3,046	3,080

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.3	2.0	1.9	2.6
1 year	7.3	10.1	10.3	12.0
2 years	10.5	12.6	13.2	13.9
3 years	11.6	12.8	11.1	13.5
4 years	9.8	9.7	9.8	8.8
5 years	9.0	8.8	7.7	8.0
6 years	6.6	6.9	7.6	6.7
7 years	6.6	5.2	5.6	5.4
8 years	5.8	4.7	5.5	5.2
9 years	5.8	4.3	4.2	4.2
10 years	5.3	3.9	3.8	3.5
11 years	4.2	3.8	3.8	3.4
12 years	4.2	3.4	3.7	2.5
13 years	4.2	3.5	3.3	3.0
14 years	3.0	3.1	3.2	2.5
15 years	2.1	2.0	2.4	1.9
16 years	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.7
17 years	1.0	1.3	1.2	1.1
18 years	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.2
Asian	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3
Black	35.4	35.2	32.5	28.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	9.5	7.5	8.4	10.6
White	50.6	52.8	55.2	56.3
Two or more races	3.3	3.7	3.2	3.4
Unknown	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

Florida

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	90.8	88.7	89.1	94.4
Children with one or more recurrences	9.2	11.3	10.9	5.6
Number	58,497	60,963	61,315	26,409

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.45	0.53	0.55	1.15
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.55	99.47	99.45	98.85
Number	49,961	49,851	50,467	47,329

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	15.2	14.6	14.3	14.5
Guardianship	4.0	3.9	5.8	19.6
Reunification	73.7	74.1	72.1	57.2
Other	7.1	7.3	7.8	7.3
Missing data	0.0	<.1	<.1	1.4
Number	21,097	20,539	21,238	20,967

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	34.7	33.7	32.8	34.6
Guardianship	3.5	2.9	3.7	11.1
Reunification	46.0	44.4	42.6	34.4
Other	15.8	18.9	20.8	18.1
Missing data	0.0	<.1	0.1	1.9
Number	2,463	2,264	2,177	1,926

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.7	1.8	2.2	2.5
Guardianship	6.1	6.5	7.5	18.6
Reunification	64.6	64.8	60.5	47.4
Other	27.6	26.9	29.5	29.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.2	1.7
Number	3,765	3,786	3,830	3,719

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	27.8	28.7	28.4	26.4
Children older than 12 at entry	72.2	71.3	71.6	73.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Number	1,332	1,344	1,488	1,339

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	15.7	8.8	9.4	22.2	4.8	8.2	8.8	15.9	13.7	13.7	12.9	11.6		
Guardianship	13.7	10.5	9.4	7.4	6.3	2.0	5.9	12.7	4.2	4.2	6.0	21.3		
Reunification	64.7	78.9	68.8	33.3	81.0	79.6	77.9	60.3	74.1	73.2	71.4	56.5		
Other	5.9	1.8	12.5	37.0	7.9	10.2	7.4	11.1	8.0	8.9	9.8	9.2		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	1.3		
Number	51	57	32	27	63	49	68	63	8,252	7,672	7,685	7,572		

	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	26.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7	12.0	11.7	14.0	15.7	15.3	15.6	16.4		
Guardianship	0.0	50.0	0.0	22.2	3.2	3.9	4.1	15.3	4.0	3.8	6.1	19.5		
Reunification	73.3	0.0	100.0	55.6	71.4	76.4	76.0	61.6	74.1	74.7	71.8	56.7		
Other	0.0	50.0	0.0	11.1	8.7	7.6	8.2	7.7	6.3	6.2	6.4	5.9		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	1.3	0.0	0.0	<.1	1.5		
Number	15	2	6	9	1,866	1,872	2,189	2,297	10,405	10,397	10,699	10,462		

	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	22.5	24.5	17.9	14.0	28.2	25.2	19.7	21.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	3.8	0.0	7.5	14.0	1.6	2.5	3.9	17.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	68.8	69.8	70.1	66.0	64.9	68.2	70.5	56.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	5.0	5.7	4.5	4.0	5.2	4.1	5.9	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	80	53	67	50	365	437	492	487	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	62.7	63.3	66.7	69.8
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	26.8	27.4	25.1	22.7
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	6.5	6.3	5.7	4.7
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.1	1.7	1.5	1.5
48 or more mos.	1.7	1.3	1.1	0.9
Missing data	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.3
Number	15,540	15,228	15,308	11,992

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	82.3	80.8	80.0	77.8
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	9.1	9.4	9.4	10.0
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	6.5	8.3	9.5	9.7
Missing data	2.1	1.5	1.2	2.5
Number	19,932	22,147	21,999	18,949

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	4.0	5.8	8.7	9.1
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	19.8	23.9	25.4	30.0
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	28.4	29.4	27.9	28.2
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	19.0	19.1	18.4	16.1
48 or more mos.	28.7	21.8	19.7	16.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Number	3,212	3,002	3,033	3,042

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	82.8	81.4	80.8	82.2	65.6	61.6	59.2	61.5	39.9	34.2	28.9	31.7	80.4	82.1	88.9	94.4
Children with 3 or more placements	15.5	17.2	18.1	17.0	34.3	38.4	40.7	38.4	60.0	65.8	71.1	68.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4
Missing data	1.7	1.3	1.1	0.8	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	19.6	17.9	11.1	4.2
Number	24,829	26,541	27,578	24,676	11,869	11,119	11,789	11,863	13,161	12,085	11,082	10,718	102	106	18	72

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions

(AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.9
Institutions	5.3	5.3	4.9	4.6
Other settings	93.0	92.8	93.2	93.4
Missing data	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Number	15,915	17,781	17,740	15,349

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	110.7	112.2	116.3
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	60.8	61.2	65.1	68.5
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	10.3	10.0	9.5	8.7
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	45.3	46.0	47.9	42.1
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	10.1	10.9	12.5	11.9

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	111.2	120.4	125.4
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	23.9	29.7	34.0	39.2
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	35.1	32.2	30.8	27.6
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	25.9	24.0	24.7	24.2
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	10.5	12.5	12.7	14.1
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	47.4	54.0	58.3	60.4

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	123.4	123.3	125.9
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	35.2	32.5	32.8	32.0
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	93.7	91.9	90.8	91.5
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	46.8	48.8	46.3	43.4

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	92.8	88.9	91.9
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	83.7	81.7	81.0	82.2
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	65.7	61.6	59.3	61.5
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	39.9	34.2	28.9	31.7

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Alan Abramowitz, Director
Florida Department of Children and Families

The following are Florida's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

1. Starting with federal fiscal year 2007, Florida changed how it maps report dispositions in our NCANDS reporting. Florida has a three-tiered system of investigatory findings, “No Indicators,” “Some Indicators” and “Verified.” After discussion with our federal partners it was determined that it was most appropriate to map only “Verified” findings as “Substantiated.” In previous years report dispositions of both “Some Indicators” and “Verified” were mapped to “Substantiated.” The result is a drop in the number of victims used to calculate the various maltreatment rates in section B of the Context Data and section 1 of the Outcomes Data.
2. In state fiscal year 2006-2007 Florida had a statutory change that eliminated the permanency option of Long Term Custody (to Relative) and created a new permanency option of Permanent Guardianship. The resulting policy and practice changes had an immediate impact on the AFCARS reporting of Reason for Discharge. Children previously discharged to Long Term Custody (to Relative) had been mapped to Living with Relatives in AFCARS submissions (which are rolled up and included in Reunification in this report). Children discharged to Permanent Guardianship are mapped to Guardianship in AFCARS submission. This change explains the significant shifts in the distribution of children discharged in sections 3 and 4 of the Outcomes Data.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	2,356,973	2,416,000	2,475,382	2,531,609
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Asian	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.6
Black	33.2	33.0	32.9	32.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	8.8	9.6	10.3	11.1
White	53.5	52.8	51.9	51.2
Two or more races	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.1
Child population in poverty (%)	21.3	20.2	20.2	19.7

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	52,851	47,158	39,802	35,729
Children in foster care on 9/30	14,216	13,965	13,175	12,236
Children adopted	1,283	1,124	1,250	1,271

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	51
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	82
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	203,671	86.4 per 1,000	174,409	72.2 per 1,000	142,268	57.5 per 1,000	115,348	45.6 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	52,851	22.4 per 1,000	47,158	19.5 per 1,000	39,802	16.1 per 1,000	35,729	14.1 per 1,000
Child fatalities	98	4.2 per 100,000	76	3.1 per 100,000	63	2.6 per 100,000	61	2.4 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	9.7	10.6	11.4	12.6
1 year	6.4	6.7	6.9	7.1
2 years	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.6
3 years	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.1
4 years	6.0	6.2	6.0	5.8
5 years	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.5
6 years	6.6	6.5	6.7	6.5
7 years	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.9
8 years	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6
9 years	5.4	5.2	4.9	5.1
10 years	5.2	4.9	4.6	4.5
11 years	5.1	4.7	4.6	4.4
12 years	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.2
13 years	5.1	4.9	4.7	4.5
14 years	5.0	5.0	4.8	4.5
15 years	4.3	4.5	4.7	4.6
16 years	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.6
17 years	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.8
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	52,851	47,158	39,802	35,729

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.5
Black	42.4	39.7	41.2	40.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.9
White	55.6	51.4	50.1	50.8
Two or more races	0.0	1.0	1.2	1.5
Missing data	0.0	0.8	0.5	0.3
Number	52,851	47,158	39,802	35,729

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	21.1	21.4	21.9	20.9
Medical neglect	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.4
Neglect	69.0	70.3	71.3	72.3
Physical abuse	10.8	10.4	10.4	10.7
Sexual abuse	4.6	4.6	4.1	4.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	1.2	1.1	0.5	0.4
Number	52,851	47,158	39,802	35,729

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	—	—	—	—
Median	—	—	—	—

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	13,610	14,142	13,924	12,785	11,699	10,887	9,764	9,057	11,094	11,064	10,513	9,606	14,216	13,965	13,175	12,236
Median length of stay (months)	13.9	13.1	13.6	13.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	7.1	9.4	10.2	11.5	13.1	13.5	14.0	13.9

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	6.1	6.4	6.6	6.6	15.7	16.2	17.1	17.8	6.4	6.6	6.8	6.3	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.7
1 year	7.7	7.8	7.3	7.7	7.2	7.1	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.8	7.4	7.6	7.7	7.3	7.5	8.5
2 years	7.3	6.9	6.7	6.8	6.8	5.9	6.0	6.7	7.7	7.2	7.5	7.6	7.0	6.7	6.8	6.8
3 years	6.2	6.7	6.1	6.0	6.1	5.8	5.9	5.7	7.2	7.0	6.4	6.8	6.7	6.0	5.9	5.9
4 years	5.7	5.4	5.8	5.5	5.1	5.4	5.2	5.0	6.0	6.2	5.9	6.0	5.4	5.8	5.5	5.4
5 years	4.7	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.3	5.5	4.6	5.6	5.4	5.6	5.4	5.8	5.1	5.0	5.0	4.9
6 years	4.5	4.5	5.3	4.7	5.0	5.4	5.1	4.8	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.0	4.5	5.2	4.8	4.8
7 years	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.4	4.0	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.4	5.1	5.0	4.5	4.5	4.9	4.6
8 years	4.4	4.2	4.1	4.5	4.4	4.1	3.9	4.2	4.7	4.3	3.9	4.5	4.2	4.0	4.5	4.5
9 years	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.3	4.2	3.8	3.6	3.5	4.2	4.2	3.6	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.4	4.3
10 years	4.5	4.1	3.8	3.7	4.3	3.8	3.3	3.3	4.2	3.9	3.6	3.6	4.1	3.9	3.8	3.9
11 years	5.1	4.6	4.1	3.9	4.6	4.2	3.9	3.2	4.5	4.1	3.4	3.5	4.6	4.1	4.0	3.6
12 years	5.3	5.3	4.8	4.2	4.9	4.5	4.2	3.8	4.3	4.1	3.9	3.5	5.2	4.9	4.2	3.9
13 years	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.1	5.0	5.1	4.5	4.7	4.3	4.3	4.0	5.7	5.6	5.4	4.5
14 years	5.9	6.1	6.4	6.1	5.6	6.0	5.6	5.8	4.8	4.9	4.7	4.3	6.1	6.4	6.1	6.3
15 years	6.3	6.5	6.9	7.1	5.4	6.6	7.0	6.3	4.9	5.5	6.1	5.3	6.5	7.0	7.2	6.8
16 years	6.1	6.3	6.8	7.4	4.2	5.1	5.5	5.7	4.7	5.2	5.4	5.8	6.2	6.8	7.4	7.6
17 years	4.6	5.1	5.5	6.0	1.6	1.7	1.9	2.3	4.6	3.4	7.2	10.3	5.0	5.6	6.0	6.9
18 years	1.4	0.4	0.5	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	4.0	5.5	3.6	0.9	0.3	0.4	<.1	<.1
19 years	0.0	0.2	0.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.4	0.3	0.3	<.1	0.6	<.1	0.0	<.1
20+ years	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.2	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0
Missing data	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Asian	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
Black	51.3	49.3	47.0	47.6	46.5	45.1	47.8	45.2	48.7	48.2	46.6	45.4	49.4	46.9	47.9	47.5
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	3.9	4.7	4.8	4.9	6.3	5.9	5.8	7.4	5.5	5.6	5.9	6.1	4.6	4.8	4.7	5.7
White	41.3	42.7	44.9	44.1	44.0	45.7	43.2	43.3	42.4	42.6	44.2	45.1	42.7	45.0	44.3	42.7
Two or more races	3.0	2.7	2.6	3.0	2.0	2.1	2.3	3.3	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.6	2.4	2.6	3.5
Unknown	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	2,507	2,370	2,305	2,162
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	1,374	1,409	1,540	1,669

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.0	2.8	2.3	2.0
1 year	6.5	7.1	7.6	6.4
2 years	8.0	8.4	7.1	7.6
3 years	9.2	7.2	7.1	6.7
4 years	6.7	7.4	6.9	6.6
5 years	5.8	5.2	6.7	5.4
6 years	5.1	6.3	5.2	6.3
7 years	4.5	4.8	5.7	5.7
8 years	5.9	4.6	5.7	6.3
9 years	5.5	5.1	5.6	5.6
10 years	5.1	5.4	5.6	5.6
11 years	5.4	5.2	5.8	4.9
12 years	5.9	5.4	4.6	6.1
13 years	6.8	7.2	5.8	4.9
14 years	5.5	6.5	6.6	6.4
15 years	4.8	5.4	5.9	6.4
16 years	3.6	3.2	3.3	4.1
17 years	2.5	2.8	2.5	3.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.1	0.1	<.1
Black	53.4	50.8	47.4	46.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	4.0	4.9	5.0	5.6
White	39.0	40.1	43.4	43.9
Two or more races	3.3	3.5	3.4	3.8
Unknown	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	1,283	1,124	1,250	1,271

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.9	1.0	1.5	1.2
1 year	7.6	9.3	10.2	10.7
2 years	13.7	13.2	14.2	14.1
3 years	13.4	12.3	11.3	11.0
4 years	11.6	10.8	10.1	9.4
5 years	7.2	7.9	8.5	7.4
6 years	6.8	6.9	6.8	7.1
7 years	6.5	5.1	5.5	6.1
8 years	4.1	4.5	4.4	4.8
9 years	5.2	5.5	3.1	4.9
10 years	3.4	4.5	4.2	4.9
11 years	3.8	3.4	3.4	4.0
12 years	3.7	3.6	3.8	3.4
13 years	3.4	3.1	3.3	2.8
14 years	3.0	2.1	3.0	2.6
15 years	3.0	2.6	2.2	2.0
16 years	1.3	2.5	1.8	1.8
17 years	1.2	1.4	2.1	1.6
18 years	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.3
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.2
Black	45.8	46.4	42.1	39.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	4.0	4.2	5.8	6.1
White	42.2	40.3	44.8	46.1
Two or more races	7.1	7.7	6.6	7.5
Unknown	0.5	1.2	0.6	0.8
Missing data	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	—	93.0	95.3	96.6
Children with one or more recurrences	—	7.0	4.7	3.4
Number	—	20,713	20,251	18,068

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	11.3	12.0	11.8	13.2
Guardianship	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.3
Reunification	76.1	74.5	72.8	71.6
Other	10.2	11.2	13.2	12.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	11,094	11,064	10,513	9,606

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	19.0	19.7	18.1	18.4
Guardianship	1.9	1.6	1.3	1.7
Reunification	58.0	58.6	57.5	57.6
Other	21.1	20.1	23.1	22.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,903	2,507	2,911	2,756

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.8
Guardianship	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.5
Reunification	69.4	68.3	66.3	62.9
Other	26.9	28.3	30.3	33.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,349	2,462	2,548	2,283

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	36.1	33.1	33.8	27.4
Children older than 12 at entry	63.9	66.9	66.2	72.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	621	683	790	730

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	14.3	10.0	5.6	0.0	0.0	8.0	10.7	11.8	10.7	11.8		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	2.8	3.6	0.0	4.0	2.3	2.5	2.7	2.8		
Reunification	66.7	100.0	71.4	80.0	83.3	89.3	91.7	80.0	76.2	73.2	71.9	70.9		
Other	33.3	0.0	14.3	0.0	8.3	7.1	8.3	8.0	10.8	12.5	14.7	14.5		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	3	8	7	10	36	28	36	25	5,400	5,334	4,899	4,364		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	30.0	0.0	50.0	66.7	8.7	8.6	12.1	13.3	11.8	12.2	12.1	14.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.7	2.6	2.1	1.9	1.9		
Reunification	70.0	66.7	50.0	0.0	84.4	80.2	78.4	75.5	75.4	75.6	73.4	71.9		
Other	0.0	33.3	0.0	33.3	5.8	9.9	8.1	9.5	10.1	10.2	12.7	12.2		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	10	6	2	3	608	625	620	588	4,703	4,715	4,646	4,333		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	12.5	7.5	11.3	20.0	21.8	23.1	28.0	22.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	1.4	5.0	1.9	0.0	2.3	3.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	75.0	78.8	77.4	74.3	64.9	66.0	64.0	69.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	11.1	8.8	9.4	5.7	11.1	7.8	8.0	6.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	72	80	53	35	262	268	250	248	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	74.6	70.5	70.1	65.5
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	16.8	19.9	19.8	24.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	4.9	5.8	6.5	6.7
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.9	2.0	2.1	1.9
48 or more mos.	1.6	1.8	1.4	1.2
Missing data	0.2	<.1	0.0	0.0
Number	8,440	8,244	7,658	6,880

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	85.5	85.1	85.8	84.3
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	7.8	8.1	7.1	8.1
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	6.5	6.5	6.8	7.2
Missing data	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4
Number	11,699	10,887	9,764	9,057

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	2.1	1.9	2.7	2.2
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	15.7	18.5	19.1	20.0
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	31.2	31.8	34.3	32.6
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	24.5	20.2	18.7	21.4
48 or more mos.	26.6	27.6	25.2	23.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,257	1,324	1,239	1,267

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	89.4	88.5	86.5	86.0	72.7	71.3	65.5	63.0	53.7	49.5	46.8	39.4	96.2	100.0	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	10.6	11.5	13.5	14.0	27.3	28.7	34.5	37.0	46.3	50.5	53.2	60.6	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	13,567	12,937	11,826	10,743	5,015	5,452	5,284	4,962	6,674	6,599	6,568	6,109	53	41	10	28

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	4.2	4.8	3.2	2.9
Institutions	2.5	2.8	2.7	3.0
Other settings	93.2	92.4	94.2	94.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	8,984	8,085	7,186	6,700

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	129.1	127.0	119.1
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	72.3	68.2	68.0	60.9
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	5.7	7.4	7.9	10.1
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	48.9	51.2	49.3	49.2
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	9.1	9.2	8.8	8.0

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	94.5	99.3	97.5
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	17.8	20.4	21.8	22.2
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	36.3	35.0	33.7	33.7
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	21.1	21.8	20.0	22.2
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	10.3	11.2	11.7	12.3
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	50.4	55.0	59.0	50.8

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	119.1	115.6	118.3
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	30.5	30.7	30.0	31.2
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	94.1	94.1	92.2	93.9
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	50.7	48.6	49.9	47.9

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	107.3	102.1	97.6
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	87.9	86.8	84.7	84.4
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	72.6	71.3	65.6	63.0
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	53.9	49.6	46.9	39.5

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	286,986	284,521	283,576	285,694
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Asian	27.7	27.4	27.1	26.9
Black	3.3	3.5	3.7	3.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	11.2	11.0	10.8	10.6
Hispanic (of any race)	13.6	14.0	14.4	14.6
White	17.3	17.7	18.3	18.5
Two or more races	26.5	26.0	25.4	25.1
Child population in poverty (%)	14.4	12.7	11.4	9.8

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	3,629	2,762	2,045	2,075
Children in foster care on 9/30	2,939	2,743	2,357	1,940
Children adopted	375	452	397	265

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	53
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	225
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	425
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	61
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	597
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	976

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	7,186	25.0 per 1,000	5,426	19.1 per 1,000	4,261	15.0 per 1,000	4,643	16.3 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	3,629	12.6 per 1,000	2,762	9.7 per 1,000	2,045	7.2 per 1,000	2,075	7.3 per 1,000
Child fatalities	6	2.1 per 100,000	2	0.7 per 100,000	4	1.4 per 100,000	4	1.4 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	15.3	18.4	19.4	15.0
1 year	6.5	6.2	6.7	6.5
2 years	6.4	5.9	6.1	6.5
3 years	5.9	5.2	4.7	5.8
4 years	4.5	5.9	5.2	5.7
5 years	5.1	5.5	5.5	5.4
6 years	5.8	4.6	4.3	4.4
7 years	5.1	4.4	4.0	5.1
8 years	4.7	4.9	4.8	4.5
9 years	4.8	4.8	3.6	4.7
10 years	4.8	4.6	4.4	4.2
11 years	4.9	4.1	4.2	4.3
12 years	5.2	4.3	4.9	4.8
13 years	5.2	5.8	4.5	5.0
14 years	5.2	6.0	4.6	5.3
15 years	4.3	4.1	5.0	5.1
16 years	3.9	2.9	4.3	4.2
17 years	1.9	2.0	3.2	2.8
18+ years	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Missing data	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.6
Number	3,629	2,762	2,045	2,075

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1
Asian	11.0	10.8	12.2	11.3
Black	1.8	1.6	1.2	1.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	20.4	18.0	19.1	16.4
Hispanic (of any race)	2.6	2.5	2.5	3.0
White	11.0	9.8	12.0	11.9
Two or more races	36.0	40.4	37.8	35.7
Missing data	17.1	16.7	14.8	20.5
Number	3,629	2,762	2,045	2,075

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	1.8	0.9	1.3	1.3
Medical neglect	1.5	2.2	1.3	2.0
Neglect	15.1	15.0	15.8	12.6
Physical abuse	11.0	11.1	11.4	10.0
Sexual abuse	5.4	5.6	4.5	6.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	87.4	89.6	91.0	92.0
Number	3,629	2,762	2,045	2,075

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	51.2	31.0	125.9	80.8
Median	<24	<24	>24 but<48	>24 but<48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	2,828	2,870	2,686	2,278	2,259	1,893	1,673	1,447	2,148	2,020	2,002	1,785	2,939	2,743	2,357	1,940
Median length of stay (months)	12.4	13.7	15.1	16.4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.1	11.8	10.9	8.8	13.6	15.0	16.2	19.2

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	7.2	7.0	7.5	7.0	17.0	19.4	17.6	14.7	6.5	6.7	6.2	5.7	7.0	7.7	7.2	5.9
1 year	7.6	8.0	7.6	7.5	6.8	6.5	6.3	6.2	8.1	7.0	7.2	6.9	8.0	7.7	7.6	7.3
2 years	7.2	6.4	7.0	6.9	6.0	5.2	5.7	5.6	7.4	7.4	7.4	6.7	6.4	6.9	6.6	6.3
3 years	5.0	6.8	5.7	6.2	5.8	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.8	5.9	5.8	7.3	6.9	5.7	6.2	6.1
4 years	5.8	4.5	6.1	5.1	3.9	5.0	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.4	6.2	5.3	4.4	6.2	5.3	4.9
5 years	5.4	4.8	4.4	5.9	4.8	4.5	5.3	6.1	5.2	4.3	4.8	6.7	4.8	4.3	5.9	5.3
6 years	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.6	5.3	4.6	4.5	3.8	5.4	5.3	4.7	4.4	5.0	4.7	4.6	5.5
7 years	4.9	5.0	4.8	4.2	4.6	4.1	4.4	4.5	4.9	4.6	5.0	4.6	4.8	4.7	4.3	4.4
8 years	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.2	3.9	3.9	4.2	2.9	4.1	4.8	4.6	4.1	4.7	4.4	4.3	3.7
9 years	5.7	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.9	3.9	4.3	4.6	4.3	4.0	4.3	5.0	4.7	4.7	3.8
10 years	4.6	5.2	4.2	4.2	4.8	3.6	3.9	3.2	5.1	5.0	4.3	3.1	5.2	4.2	4.3	4.9
11 years	5.2	4.3	4.7	4.5	4.3	4.2	3.7	4.3	5.0	5.2	3.4	4.1	4.5	4.8	4.5	4.1
12 years	5.2	5.6	3.8	4.6	4.7	3.5	4.2	5.2	3.8	3.9	3.9	4.5	5.6	4.0	4.6	5.2
13 years	5.3	5.2	5.1	4.1	5.4	5.2	4.8	4.9	5.4	5.0	5.3	3.9	5.1	5.1	4.1	5.4
14 years	4.9	5.6	6.2	5.7	5.1	6.8	6.2	6.7	5.0	5.6	5.4	4.8	5.6	6.0	5.8	5.4
15 years	5.2	5.5	6.5	5.9	4.9	5.8	5.1	6.5	4.5	4.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	6.6	5.9	6.5
16 years	5.9	5.5	6.6	7.5	4.7	4.8	6.2	5.7	3.5	3.8	5.3	4.9	5.4	6.5	7.5	7.0
17 years	4.9	6.0	5.6	6.7	3.0	2.7	3.3	4.8	5.8	2.9	6.5	12.0	5.9	5.5	6.5	8.0
18 years	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.3	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	4.3	8.2	4.2	1.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.5
19 years	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
Asian	12.6	11.4	10.3	10.4	10.1	10.9	12.0	11.0	11.6	12.4	11.7	11.7	11.4	10.4	10.3	9.6
Black	1.3	0.9	0.6	0.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.3	2.3	2.3	1.4	1.1	1.0	0.5	0.7	0.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	27.5	25.1	23.1	21.5	21.8	19.7	21.1	20.7	24.5	23.1	22.8	21.2	25.3	22.8	21.9	21.2
Hispanic (of any race)	3.4	4.1	5.4	4.8	4.4	4.8	2.8	3.7	3.4	3.1	4.0	4.5	4.2	5.3	4.8	4.2
White	8.5	8.4	8.0	9.5	12.1	10.1	13.2	16.7	12.2	10.3	10.6	13.3	8.6	8.2	9.5	11.3
Two or more races	43.2	46.8	49.7	49.5	43.2	46.5	42.7	39.5	38.7	42.4	44.3	43.3	46.4	49.9	49.4	47.8
Unknown	2.1	1.9	1.7	2.5	3.3	2.7	3.7	4.4	3.6	2.9	2.5	3.0	1.9	1.7	2.4	3.5
Missing data	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.9	3.1	3.2	2.4	2.6	3.3	3.1	2.2	1.7	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.4

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	1,019	980	808	733
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	974	945	778	695

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.5	2.0	0.9	0.8
1 year	8.1	8.4	6.9	6.0
2 years	6.4	7.9	7.4	6.8
3 years	7.4	5.7	7.4	6.7
4 years	4.1	7.0	5.3	4.8
5 years	4.6	3.3	5.4	4.6
6 years	5.5	4.6	3.8	5.9
7 years	4.2	5.2	4.5	4.1
8 years	4.8	4.9	4.3	3.4
9 years	5.3	4.7	4.7	3.8
10 years	5.1	4.8	5.0	4.9
11 years	4.9	5.0	5.0	4.5
12 years	6.4	4.2	6.1	5.9
13 years	5.5	6.5	4.2	5.3
14 years	6.3	6.4	6.1	6.0
15 years	5.9	7.7	7.7	7.1
16 years	5.5	6.2	8.7	9.8
17 years	7.6	5.5	6.7	9.5

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.5
Asian	12.1	11.9	9.2	8.0
Black	1.7	0.8	1.0	0.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	26.8	24.1	24.9	23.6
Hispanic (of any race)	4.1	6.4	6.4	7.6
White	6.3	5.6	9.8	9.0
Two or more races	47.7	49.2	46.9	47.9
Unknown	0.8	1.4	1.0	2.3
Missing data	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.1

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	375	452	397	265

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.5	4.4	3.5	2.6
1 year	15.5	15.0	15.9	9.4
2 years	16.3	14.8	17.1	16.2
3 years	9.3	11.1	10.1	15.8
4 years	8.0	9.1	10.1	8.7
5 years	7.5	5.8	5.0	8.7
6 years	8.8	8.4	5.3	6.0
7 years	6.4	4.4	7.1	5.3
8 years	5.6	7.3	5.5	7.5
9 years	2.1	3.8	3.5	3.4
10 years	4.5	3.8	4.3	3.0
11 years	2.1	3.5	2.8	4.2
12 years	2.1	3.3	2.8	2.6
13 years	2.7	2.2	2.8	1.1
14 years	2.7	1.5	1.8	2.3
15 years	1.3	0.2	0.8	2.3
16 years	0.3	1.1	1.5	0.8
17 years	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.0
18 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0
Asian	13.1	12.6	12.6	9.4
Black	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	23.2	21.7	19.9	18.1
Hispanic (of any race)	4.3	3.8	7.8	4.9
White	5.9	7.5	4.3	11.3
Two or more races	49.6	51.5	53.1	55.1
Unknown	1.3	1.1	2.3	0.4
Missing data	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.4

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	95.5	97.3	97.3	96.4
Children with one or more recurrences	4.5	2.7	2.7	3.6
Number	1,827	1,319	1,068	937

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.71	0.80	0.87	0.35
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.29	99.20	99.13	99.65
Number	5,087	4,763	4,359	3,725

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	17.6	22.4	21.0	18.9
Guardianship	10.8	11.4	10.3	8.4
Reunification	62.2	54.7	58.9	62.4
Other	9.2	11.3	9.6	9.5
Missing data	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.8
Number	2,148	2,020	2,002	1,785

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	44.1	43.5	45.5	39.3
Guardianship	9.0	12.4	10.4	11.4
Reunification	35.1	26.1	34.0	35.5
Other	11.4	18.1	10.2	13.0
Missing data	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.8
Number	211	299	374	361

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.2	1.3	1.4	0.8
Guardianship	10.9	8.3	9.2	8.7
Reunification	58.1	56.0	61.1	60.9
Other	30.4	34.0	28.1	28.3
Missing data	0.4	0.4	0.2	1.3
Number	494	468	501	473

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	17.0	12.4	15.1	17.8
Children older than 12 at entry	83.0	87.6	84.9	82.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	147	161	152	152

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	40.0	16.7	0.0	0.0	18.0	20.7	23.5	13.9	8.2	13.0	0.0	5.0		
Guardianship	20.0	16.7	11.1	66.7	11.2	7.6	10.3	13.4	2.0	4.3	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	20.0	0.0	88.9	33.3	59.2	62.5	54.7	60.8	83.7	73.9	89.7	80.0		
Other	20.0	66.7	0.0	0.0	11.6	9.2	11.1	10.5	6.1	8.7	10.3	15.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	5	6	9	3	250	251	234	209	49	46	29	20		

	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	17.1	20.3	17.1	18.0	25.7	27.0	43.2	19.8	9.1	16.3	7.5	11.4		
Guardianship	12.9	17.3	10.1	8.5	5.4	6.3	12.3	7.4	12.9	12.0	6.6	4.6		
Reunification	56.9	45.6	59.2	58.7	63.5	49.2	38.3	58.0	68.8	58.9	74.5	73.0		
Other	12.7	16.3	13.6	13.8	5.4	17.5	6.2	14.8	8.4	12.9	10.8	10.1		
Missing data	0.4	0.4	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.5	0.8		
Number	527	467	456	378	74	63	81	81	263	209	212	237		

	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	10.4	8.6	17.6	1.9	21.8	28.1	25.6	24.8	7.0	3.2	0.0	12.9		
Guardianship	14.3	12.1	13.7	9.4	9.7	9.7	11.5	8.5	4.2	12.7	4.5	0.0		
Reunification	63.6	72.4	62.7	84.9	61.2	52.9	55.0	58.9	83.1	81.0	90.9	87.1		
Other	11.7	6.9	5.9	0.0	7.0	9.1	7.7	7.2	5.6	3.2	4.5	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	77	58	51	53	832	857	886	773	71	63	44	31		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	79.9	78.4	78.6	79.6
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	14.8	16.0	15.3	14.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	4.6	4.5	4.9	4.8
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.5	0.8	1.0	0.9
48 or more mos.	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,335	1,104	1,180	1,113

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	77.6	74.1	75.0	71.7
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	10.9	10.3	11.0	13.1
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	11.3	15.2	13.6	14.3
Missing data	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.9
Number	2,259	1,893	1,673	1,447

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	7.9	9.7	7.4	5.0
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	43.7	30.0	35.5	26.9
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	28.8	38.6	34.3	35.8
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	11.6	13.0	13.1	21.6
48 or more mos.	7.9	8.6	9.8	10.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	378	453	420	338

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	86.8	87.4	85.5	86.4	66.6	66.9	65.8	66.5	43.2	42.7	41.2	40.5	85.7	100.0	100.0	0.0
Children with 3 or more placements	11.9	12.2	12.9	12.1	33.1	33.0	34.1	33.4	56.7	57.3	58.8	59.3	14.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	1.3	0.5	1.7	1.5	0.3	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,549	2,182	1,937	1,658	1,289	1,175	1,064	800	1,242	1,402	1,356	1,267	7	4	2	0

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions

(AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.5
Institutions	0.9	1.4	2.1	2.5
Other settings	97.9	97.6	95.9	95.6
Missing data	0.7	0.6	1.7	1.4
Number	1,719	1,399	1,234	1,024

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	116.3	119.1	121.9
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	71.6	70.8	71.1	69.7
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	5.8	6.3	5.9	6.0
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	39.8	37.9	40.7	50.0
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	16.9	14.9	15.2	14.0

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	118.2	119.8	111.6
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	51.6	39.7	42.9	32.0
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	23.5	26.4	25.9	30.1
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	22.1	27.7	25.4	25.0
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	21.9	14.8	17.6	17.8
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	34.2	35.9	39.9	41.4

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	126.0	130.1	123.7
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	32.4	34.9	37.3	34.0
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	84.9	84.0	89.3	88.6
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	35.5	38.4	39.2	44.7

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	102.2	100.1	100.3
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	85.5	85.6	84.3	84.0
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	66.9	67.1	65.8	66.6
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	43.3	42.7	41.1	40.6

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	381,363	389,878	399,024	407,712
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Asian	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0
Black	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	13.4	13.8	14.5	15.1
White	81.0	80.3	79.3	78.5
Two or more races	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6
Child population in poverty (%)	19.6	17.7	15.1	15.9

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	1,856	1,912	1,651	1,582
Children in foster care on 9/30	1,565	1,818	1,850	1,870
Children adopted	176	149	177	195

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	51
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	75
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	9,669	25.4 per 1,000	9,646	24.7 per 1,000	9,924	24.9 per 1,000	11,022	27.0 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	1,856	4.9 per 1,000	1,912	4.9 per 1,000	1,651	4.1 per 1,000	1,582	3.9 per 1,000
Child fatalities	4	1.0 per 100,000	0	0.0 per 100,000	1	0.3 per 100,000	1	0.3 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	14.4	14.7	15.9	18.2
1 year	6.3	7.9	7.3	7.1
2 years	5.4	6.6	6.9	6.6
3 years	7.1	6.2	6.2	6.6
4 years	6.1	6.3	6.6	5.8
5 years	6.7	6.7	6.1	5.8
6 years	4.9	5.8	6.1	6.6
7 years	4.9	4.8	5.1	5.4
8 years	5.3	4.4	5.2	5.0
9 years	4.7	5.1	4.3	4.3
10 years	4.9	3.7	4.4	4.1
11 years	5.2	4.8	4.0	3.6
12 years	4.7	4.8	3.5	3.4
13 years	5.2	4.6	3.3	4.0
14 years	3.5	4.0	4.6	3.5
15 years	4.4	3.9	4.1	3.9
16 years	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.4
17 years	2.7	1.8	2.7	2.7
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,856	1,912	1,651	1,582

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	4.2	4.5	4.7	4.9
Asian	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.6
Black	1.0	0.4	1.2	1.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2
Hispanic (of any race)	12.9	14.4	16.1	14.2
White	76.6	75.5	74.0	73.0
Two or more races	0.7	1.6	2.0	4.0
Missing data	4.1	3.4	1.8	1.8
Number	1,856	1,912	1,651	1,582

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.1
Medical neglect	1.5	1.6	0.7	0.9
Neglect	69.7	71.9	75.7	74.1
Physical abuse	18.9	18.0	16.0	16.1
Sexual abuse	6.3	6.1	4.7	5.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	8.6	7.4	7.3	8.5
Number	1,856	1,912	1,651	1,582

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	64.8	60.3	59.3	56.7
Median	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	1,345	1,505	1,769	1,794	1,557	1,722	1,552	1,560	1,337	1,409	1,471	1,484	1,565	1,818	1,850	1,870
Median length of stay (months)	13.2	12.0	10.9	13.2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.4	5.3	7.3	8.3	11.8	10.8	12.9	12.4

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	5.5	5.9	6.1	6.7	14.5	14.6	15.0	16.0	7.5	7.3	5.4	5.9	6.0	6.2	7.1	7.0
1 year	6.2	7.5	8.3	7.7	6.1	7.5	7.7	6.9	5.8	6.3	6.7	5.1	7.4	8.4	7.7	8.4
2 years	5.5	5.6	6.9	7.9	4.9	6.4	6.9	6.6	5.8	6.5	8.1	7.5	5.6	6.9	7.8	8.5
3 years	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.5	7.2	5.3	6.7	6.6	6.7	5.7	7.3	6.6	6.3	6.1	6.4	7.3
4 years	6.3	5.6	6.2	5.9	5.1	5.9	5.3	5.6	6.1	6.1	5.4	7.3	5.5	6.1	5.9	6.0
5 years	6.1	6.0	5.1	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.7	5.3	6.1	5.6	7.0	5.4	5.8	5.2	5.6	5.5
6 years	4.6	4.9	5.7	4.7	3.4	5.3	4.6	5.1	4.3	5.8	4.3	6.0	4.8	5.6	4.8	5.5
7 years	5.1	4.7	5.6	5.4	4.2	4.8	4.6	5.4	3.8	4.0	4.6	4.7	4.7	5.5	5.5	4.5
8 years	4.6	4.1	4.1	5.1	4.5	4.2	4.3	4.5	4.2	4.6	5.2	5.8	4.4	4.0	5.2	5.0
9 years	4.4	4.5	4.4	3.7	4.2	4.5	3.4	4.8	5.3	4.8	3.8	4.3	4.5	4.4	3.6	4.8
10 years	4.4	4.5	4.1	4.3	4.8	3.1	3.0	4.1	4.7	4.0	4.0	3.6	4.4	4.1	4.1	3.8
11 years	5.1	4.1	3.8	3.8	5.1	4.2	3.4	3.5	4.6	3.6	3.3	3.5	4.3	3.9	3.8	4.1
12 years	5.1	5.5	5.0	3.7	5.2	4.3	4.4	3.6	4.8	4.2	3.9	3.2	5.4	5.0	3.6	4.4
13 years	4.8	6.4	5.1	5.2	5.7	5.1	3.0	4.1	4.5	5.3	4.1	4.8	6.3	5.2	5.2	3.4
14 years	6.5	4.5	5.7	4.8	4.7	5.7	5.7	4.9	4.9	5.5	4.9	4.0	4.7	5.6	4.8	5.6
15 years	6.2	6.4	5.2	5.5	5.4	4.8	6.6	5.0	4.9	4.3	6.0	4.4	6.4	5.3	5.5	5.5
16 years	7.1	6.4	6.3	6.5	5.5	5.1	5.9	4.6	5.4	4.8	5.4	5.6	6.6	6.4	6.4	5.5
17 years	6.2	6.5	5.9	6.9	4.1	3.7	3.9	3.3	6.2	4.6	7.5	12.3	6.5	6.1	6.7	5.2
18 years	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.4	6.7	3.1	0.0	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.0
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	9.2	8.8	7.4	6.2	5.1	5.3	4.7	5.6	5.6	7.4	5.6	6.3	8.2	6.6	6.6	5.6
Asian	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.1	<.1	0.6	0.5	0.3	<.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.4
Black	1.9	1.6	1.1	1.3	1.2	0.8	1.5	2.1	1.4	0.8	1.3	2.2	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.3	<.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.2	<.1	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	14.2	14.6	16.4	17.4	13.7	15.7	17.3	13.4	13.5	13.3	16.3	14.7	14.4	16.7	17.2	16.2
White	72.2	72.3	71.5	70.5	77.0	75.7	73.0	74.2	76.7	75.9	74.2	72.7	73.1	72.7	70.6	71.8
Two or more races	2.2	2.5	3.5	4.4	1.3	1.7	2.6	3.9	1.0	1.7	1.7	3.6	2.4	2.4	4.2	4.6
Unknown	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.3	0.8	0.2	1.0	0.4	0.8	0.1	0.1	<.1	0.0	<.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	310	373	555	593
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	243	278	379	425

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.9	3.5	4.1	3.2
1 year	5.5	6.4	8.3	7.8
2 years	5.5	9.7	10.1	9.6
3 years	5.8	5.1	7.4	9.6
4 years	7.4	5.4	6.8	7.4
5 years	6.1	6.2	6.7	5.9
6 years	7.1	5.4	5.9	6.2
7 years	4.5	5.1	5.4	5.1
8 years	5.5	4.0	4.7	6.2
9 years	5.5	5.9	4.3	5.2
10 years	5.8	5.9	4.9	4.6
11 years	4.5	5.4	4.5	4.0
12 years	6.8	4.6	4.1	5.4
13 years	6.8	6.4	5.0	3.5
14 years	5.8	6.2	4.1	5.1
15 years	5.8	5.1	5.0	4.7
16 years	4.5	4.0	5.0	3.7
17 years	5.2	5.9	3.4	2.7

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	11.0	7.2	7.9	6.2
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	1.0	1.1	1.3	2.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	16.8	20.9	18.6	18.4
White	67.4	65.7	67.9	67.6
Two or more races	3.5	4.8	4.3	5.6
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	176	149	177	195

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.6	2.7	5.6	3.1
1 year	8.0	3.4	9.0	8.7
2 years	6.3	8.7	12.4	12.8
3 years	10.8	8.1	9.6	12.3
4 years	11.4	8.1	6.8	9.2
5 years	8.5	6.7	9.0	4.6
6 years	5.7	7.4	5.1	9.7
7 years	4.5	8.1	7.3	5.6
8 years	8.0	5.4	4.0	4.1
9 years	8.5	2.7	6.8	3.6
10 years	5.1	5.4	5.6	5.1
11 years	4.0	3.4	1.7	4.6
12 years	5.7	5.4	5.1	3.6
13 years	3.4	6.7	4.5	4.6
14 years	5.1	4.7	2.3	4.1
15 years	0.6	4.0	2.3	2.1
16 years	2.8	4.0	0.0	1.5
17 years	1.1	4.0	2.3	0.5
18 years	0.0	1.3	0.6	0.0
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	9.7	13.4	6.2	9.7
Asian	1.1	0.0	0.0	1.5
Black	0.0	0.7	1.1	1.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	18.2	14.8	24.3	18.5
White	68.2	69.1	63.3	65.1
Two or more races	2.8	2.0	5.1	3.6
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	93.9	96.2	96.1	96.4
Children with one or more recurrences	6.1	3.8	3.9	3.6
Number	902	912	779	786

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.31	0.19	0.42	0.09
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.69	99.81	99.58	99.91
Number	2,902	3,227	3,321	3,354

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	12.1	10.4	11.6	12.8
Guardianship	0.5	0.8	1.3	0.5
Reunification	79.2	80.6	79.1	76.7
Other	8.2	8.2	8.0	9.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.2
Number	1,337	1,409	1,471	1,484

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	67.4	28.4	25.8	26.8
Guardianship	2.8	1.7	1.9	0.8
Reunification	20.6	53.8	56.1	54.9
Other	9.2	16.2	16.2	17.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
Number	141	359	431	526

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.7	2.0	1.6	1.1
Guardianship	0.3	0.6	2.1	0.5
Reunification	74.9	76.1	74.4	67.6
Other	23.1	21.4	21.9	30.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Number	351	351	379	364

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	16.9	25.8	21.4	19.5
Children older than 12 at entry	83.1	74.2	78.6	80.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	77	89	98	123

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian			2004	Black			2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006		2004	2005	2006	
Adoption	22.7	19.2	12.2	20.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.1	10.5	6.1	
Guardianship	1.3	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.3	0.0	
Reunification	60.0	65.4	73.2	66.0	100.0	75.0	100.0	100.0	89.5	72.7	73.7	90.9	
Other	16.0	15.4	13.4	12.8	0.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	10.5	18.2	10.5	3.0	
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Number	75	104	82	94	7	4	1	2	19	11	19	33	
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)			2004	White			2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006		2004	2005	2006	
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.8	11.2	17.9	16.5	10.5	9.4	9.6	11.7	
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.8	1.4	0.6	0.7	1.4	0.5	
Reunification	50.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	75.0	79.8	72.9	74.8	81.2	82.3	81.4	77.5	
Other	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.2	7.4	8.3	6.9	7.7	7.5	7.5	10.3	
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	
Number	2	3	1	2	180	188	240	218	1,026	1,070	1,091	1,079	
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races			2004	Missing Data			2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006		2004	2005	2006	
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	35.7	12.5	40.0	13.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Reunification	92.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	57.1	75.0	52.0	75.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Other	7.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.1	12.5	8.0	11.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Number	14	5	12	2	14	24	25	54	0	0	0	0	

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	83.9	79.0	76.1	74.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	11.4	16.0	19.2	17.1
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	2.5	2.6	2.4	5.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.0	1.1	1.6	1.8
48 or more mos.	1.0	1.1	0.7	1.1
Missing data	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0
Number	1,059	1,136	1,164	1,138

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	81.4	83.2	82.0	80.3
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	10.1	8.9	9.3	9.4
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	8.5	7.8	8.4	10.0
Missing data	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.3
Number	1,557	1,722	1,552	1,560

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	2.5	6.2	3.5	4.2
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	19.8	19.2	28.2	27.9
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	40.1	30.1	33.5	34.2
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	19.8	22.6	16.5	18.4
48 or more mos.	17.9	21.9	18.2	15.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	162	146	170	190

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	86.6	86.2	84.9	85.2	57.7	56.4	59.9	55.8	32.2	31.7	32.0	33.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	13.4	13.5	14.7	14.2	42.3	43.6	40.1	44.2	67.8	68.3	68.0	67.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,733	1,927	1,823	1,822	513	637	793	706	650	654	704	824	6	9	1	2

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	4.0	4.2	1.7	2.2
Institutions	2.8	2.8	3.1	2.4
Other settings	93.2	93.0	95.2	95.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,152	1,299	1,146	1,204

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	125.4	145.9	146.4
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	81.5	76.0	84.5	81.5
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	4.0	4.8	3.0	2.7
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	60.5	55.0	55.6	57.6
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	15.0	15.5	12.0	11.7

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	87.9	102.6	93.0
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	22.2	25.3	31.8	32.1
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	31.2	34.4	28.7	30.6
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	25.6	22.7	22.6	22.7
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	15.1	10.9	15.1	18.2
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	38.0	41.4	44.2	37.8

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	117.1	122.7	119.0
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	32.0	31.3	29.1	30.5
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	97.7	90.4	88.1	90.9
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	33.7	43.6	36.9	38.4

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	91.5	92.5	91.4
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	84.0	84.2	83.1	83.8
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	57.8	56.3	60.2	55.8
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	32.2	31.6	32.1	33.0

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	3,224,612	3,213,832	3,203,178	3,199,159
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Asian	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8
Black	17.9	17.7	17.5	17.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	19.3	19.9	20.4	21.1
White	57.3	56.7	56.1	55.6
Two or more races	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.1
Child population in poverty (%)	16.8	16.4	17.1	16.6

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	29,150	29,325	27,756	31,058
Children in foster care on 9/30	19,931	19,431	18,367	17,800
Children adopted	2,227	1,838	1,740	1,677

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	7
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,472
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	21,993
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	80
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	8,737
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	10,930

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	142,727	44.3 per 1,000	146,091	45.5 per 1,000	145,633	45.5 per 1,000	150,102	46.9 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	29,150	9.0 per 1,000	29,325	9.1 per 1,000	27,756	8.7 per 1,000	31,058	9.7 per 1,000
Child fatalities	85	2.6 per 100,000	68	2.1 per 100,000	58	1.8 per 100,000	74	2.3 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	13.7	13.6	14.1	13.3
1 year	7.3	7.4	7.7	8.1
2 years	7.0	7.3	7.2	7.7
3 years	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.0
4 years	6.7	6.8	6.6	7.0
5 years	6.2	6.5	6.4	6.6
6 years	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.4
7 years	5.7	5.6	5.7	5.9
8 years	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.4
9 years	5.2	4.8	5.1	4.7
10 years	5.0	4.8	4.5	4.5
11 years	4.7	4.5	4.2	4.2
12 years	4.6	4.4	4.0	4.0
13 years	4.3	4.4	4.0	3.8
14 years	4.1	4.0	3.9	3.5
15 years	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.4
16 years	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.8
17 years	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.7
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Number	29,150	29,325	27,756	31,058

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Black	33.9	33.1	33.2	33.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	10.1	10.1	10.8	11.3
White	53.4	54.1	53.5	53.1
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	2.1	2.1	1.9	2.0
Number	29,150	29,325	27,756	31,058

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Medical neglect	3.1	2.7	2.7	2.6
Neglect	63.5	66.2	68.0	69.5
Physical abuse	28.3	26.5	24.7	23.3
Sexual abuse	20.3	18.9	17.9	18.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	29,150	29,325	27,756	31,058

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	13.8	12.8	13.0	13.0
Median	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	20,693	19,819	18,893	17,978	5,669	5,718	5,007	4,796	6,472	6,106	5,534	4,974	19,931	19,431	18,367	17,800
Median length of stay (months)	35.4	33.6	31.1	30.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	34.5	31.0	32.3	34.2	33.6	31.7	30.7	30.7

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.4	22.8	23.7	24.0	24.7	3.2	3.7	3.3	3.3	4.5	4.5	4.3	4.5
1 year	5.7	5.8	6.4	6.4	8.3	8.2	8.0	9.0	5.2	4.9	5.5	5.5	5.9	6.3	6.4	6.3
2 years	6.1	5.9	6.2	6.7	6.2	6.6	6.6	7.0	7.2	7.5	7.2	8.1	5.9	6.1	6.6	6.6
3 years	5.2	5.6	5.7	5.9	6.0	5.6	5.6	5.6	7.3	6.9	7.5	8.9	5.7	5.6	5.8	6.0
4 years	4.8	4.9	5.2	5.2	4.9	5.3	5.5	5.1	5.8	6.7	6.9	6.6	4.9	5.1	5.1	5.3
5 years	4.6	4.5	4.5	5.0	5.0	4.7	5.7	4.9	5.5	6.3	6.1	6.4	4.6	4.5	5.0	5.0
6 years	3.9	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.6	5.1	5.8	5.3	5.2	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.5
7 years	4.2	3.7	3.9	4.1	4.3	4.2	3.8	4.1	4.9	4.6	4.6	4.7	3.7	3.8	4.0	4.3
8 years	4.1	4.0	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.6	4.1	3.5	4.4	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.0	3.5	3.6	4.0
9 years	4.1	3.9	3.8	3.6	3.4	3.7	3.6	3.3	4.0	4.4	4.5	4.0	3.9	3.7	3.5	3.5
10 years	4.2	4.0	3.8	3.4	4.0	3.2	3.3	3.1	4.4	4.1	4.9	3.5	4.0	3.7	3.3	3.5
11 years	4.1	4.1	3.7	3.5	4.2	3.3	2.7	3.0	4.3	4.1	4.0	3.3	4.1	3.7	3.4	3.2
12 years	4.4	4.2	4.1	3.6	4.6	4.1	3.5	3.6	4.3	4.0	3.8	3.4	4.2	4.0	3.5	3.5
13 years	5.0	4.5	4.3	4.1	3.8	3.8	3.6	3.4	4.5	3.9	3.9	2.6	4.4	4.3	4.0	3.7
14 years	4.9	5.1	4.7	4.4	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.2	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.1	5.0	4.6	4.4	4.2
15 years	5.2	5.2	5.5	5.1	3.9	4.4	3.8	4.3	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.2	5.0	5.4	5.0	4.8
16 years	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.9	3.4	3.5	3.8	3.8	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.9	5.4	5.5	5.8	5.4
17 years	5.8	6.3	6.0	5.9	1.9	2.0	2.4	1.9	2.5	2.0	2.2	2.6	5.9	5.9	5.9	6.0
18 years	5.6	5.4	5.8	5.7	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.7	4.3	3.8	3.2	3.7	5.1	5.9	5.7	5.3
19 years	4.6	4.8	4.5	5.2	<.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	2.8	2.5	2.3	2.6	4.8	4.5	5.2	5.0
20+ years	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.6	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	5.0	5.6	8.1	9.2	4.1	4.4	4.3	4.6
Missing data	0.2	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	5.3	4.5	2.3	2.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.4	0.3	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.4	<.1	<.1	0.2	0.1
Asian	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Black	67.6	65.4	63.5	61.5	49.9	48.7	49.3	45.7	58.9	55.5	55.4	52.8	65.4	63.6	62.1	59.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.8	4.9	6.2	5.6	6.5	5.2	5.9	5.4	5.2	5.5	5.8	5.8	6.2
White	24.6	26.8	28.5	30.2	43.0	42.7	42.5	45.5	33.6	36.6	37.0	38.9	27.0	28.4	29.7	31.8
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Unknown	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.8	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	2.3	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	3,432	3,347	3,068	3,417
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	2,882	2,811	2,545	2,477

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.7	0.7	1.4	1.9
1 year	3.0	3.9	3.9	6.5
2 years	6.1	6.8	7.9	9.0
3 years	7.5	8.6	7.9	9.1
4 years	6.7	8.2	8.3	8.7
5 years	6.7	6.9	8.1	8.3
6 years	6.3	6.1	6.1	7.0
7 years	5.3	6.1	6.0	6.9
8 years	6.1	4.2	5.5	5.5
9 years	6.0	5.9	4.8	4.9
10 years	6.4	5.6	5.0	4.7
11 years	6.2	6.3	5.0	4.5
12 years	6.9	6.0	6.6	4.5
13 years	7.3	6.6	5.9	5.4
14 years	7.7	7.1	6.1	4.9
15 years	7.3	7.3	7.1	5.3
16 years	2.4	2.5	2.8	2.1
17 years	1.4	1.1	1.5	1.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Asian	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.2
Black	67.8	64.1	63.0	58.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	4.3	5.2	5.9	5.3
White	25.4	28.1	28.3	33.1
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Unknown	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	2,227	1,838	1,740	1,677

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.5
1 year	5.6	5.9	6.0	7.3
2 years	11.7	11.9	10.9	12.6
3 years	12.3	11.0	12.8	15.6
4 years	9.3	10.3	11.4	10.7
5 years	7.9	9.5	9.5	9.8
6 years	7.8	8.2	7.4	7.3
7 years	6.5	6.8	6.1	6.3
8 years	5.9	7.0	4.9	6.9
9 years	5.5	5.8	5.8	4.6
10 years	5.4	5.2	5.3	4.1
11 years	5.3	4.2	4.2	3.4
12 years	4.3	3.6	3.6	2.9
13 years	4.4	4.0	3.8	2.7
14 years	3.2	2.2	3.1	1.6
15 years	2.3	2.0	2.2	1.8
16 years	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.4
17 years	0.9	0.7	1.1	0.5
18 years	0.4	0.2	0.2	<.1
19 years	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.2
Asian	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0
Black	66.1	60.5	56.7	51.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	4.0	4.4	4.9	5.4
White	27.3	32.6	35.9	40.5
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.1
Unknown	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	92.4	92.2	92.7	92.4
Children with one or more recurrences	7.6	7.8	7.3	7.6
Number	13,299	13,124	12,486	13,856

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.60	0.54	0.53	0.49
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.40	99.46	99.47	99.51
Number	26,362	25,537	23,900	22,774

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	32.6	29.6	31.8	33.8
Guardianship	8.7	9.5	9.3	9.3
Reunification	41.3	44.4	42.9	37.4
Other	16.2	15.3	14.6	19.0
Missing data	1.2	1.1	1.4	0.6
Number	6,472	6,106	5,534	4,974

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	31.6	30.7	27.8	27.7
Guardianship	8.3	8.9	8.0	8.0
Reunification	25.3	21.8	25.2	15.4
Other	32.1	36.6	36.2	48.6
Missing data	2.6	2.0	2.8	0.2
Number	1,797	1,466	1,322	1,270

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	4.5	2.5	5.0	2.1
Guardianship	5.0	5.0	3.8	6.2
Reunification	45.0	47.3	46.8	36.5
Other	42.6	42.9	39.2	53.5
Missing data	2.9	2.4	5.2	1.8
Number	892	844	784	677

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	63.4	61.1	61.5	61.9
Children older than 12 at entry	36.4	38.8	38.5	38.1
Missing data	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0
Number	1,020	916	784	937

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	7.1	0.0	0.0	14.3	31.6	25.0	0.0	0.0	36.5	32.1	33.0	32.9		
Guardianship	0.0	20.0	0.0	4.8	10.5	0.0	0.0	14.3	10.9	11.9	11.4	11.5		
Reunification	92.9	40.0	100.0	47.6	57.9	37.5	84.6	71.4	31.4	35.0	36.0	30.6		
Other	0.0	40.0	0.0	19.0	0.0	25.0	7.7	14.3	19.7	19.5	18.0	24.5		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.3	0.0	12.5	7.7	0.0	1.4	1.4	1.7	0.5		
Number	14	5	2	21	19	8	13	7	3,812	3,389	3,067	2,625		

	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.2	22.5	26.8	34.5	26.8	26.5	30.5	34.8		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6	6.4	8.4	1.2	5.2	6.5	6.4	7.5		
Reunification	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	56.7	58.3	47.7	48.1	55.7	56.4	52.4	45.0		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.2	12.5	16.4	15.1	11.2	9.7	9.5	12.1		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.7	1.2	1.1	0.8	1.2	0.5		
Number	0	0	0	0	337	360	298	258	2,174	2,236	2,048	1,937		

	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	36.2	38.0	40.0	40.5	0.0	0.0	100.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	7.8	8.3	7.6	6.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	44.8	48.1	39.0	35.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	10.3	5.6	11.4	16.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.9	0.0	1.9	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	116	108	105	116	0	0	1	10	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	56.6	58.8	52.7	51.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	17.9	18.4	20.8	25.3
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	9.9	10.1	11.5	11.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	4.6	5.3	5.9	5.9
48 or more mos.	8.6	6.3	7.7	5.4
Missing data	2.4	1.0	1.3	0.3
Number	2,673	2,714	2,375	1,859

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	83.0	83.1	85.0	86.6
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	8.6	8.4	7.2	5.3
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	8.1	8.2	7.6	7.3
Missing data	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.8
Number	5,669	5,718	5,007	4,796

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	2.4	2.2	3.1	1.4
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	10.2	11.2	11.7	12.8
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	23.0	23.9	22.3	25.2
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	20.0	20.4	24.2	22.6
48 or more mos.	44.4	42.3	38.6	38.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,110	1,805	1,758	1,680

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	82.3	83.4	83.0	86.3	64.4	65.2	66.2	66.8	30.1	29.8	31.4	33.1	87.1	98.1	88.9	83.3
Children with 3 or more placements	17.7	16.6	17.0	13.7	35.6	34.8	33.8	33.2	69.9	70.2	68.6	66.9	12.9	1.9	11.1	16.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	5,998	6,112	5,401	5,103	4,192	4,267	4,293	3,964	16,102	15,104	14,170	13,695	70	54	36	12

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3
Institutions	1.6	1.3	1.8	1.6
Other settings	98.2	98.5	98.1	98.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	4,581	4,554	3,967	3,857

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	45.7	52.1	94.6
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	46.0	46.6	42.7	48.7
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	13.7	13.2	14.6	12.5
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	17.7	19.8	19.1	16.9
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	15.4	16.2	15.1	11.8

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	77.5	76.9	76.0
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	12.6	13.4	14.8	14.2
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	43.7	43.3	41.7	40.6
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	16.9	15.4	16.2	16.2
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	10.0	9.6	9.1	8.6
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	61.6	56.8	50.3	50.9

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	97.3	102.8	102.8
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	24.2	23.3	24.2	23.6
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	99.0	98.8	98.8	98.7
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	77.0	76.1	71.8	70.9

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	91.4	92.6	99.3
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	80.4	81.0	81.2	85.7
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	64.6	65.4	66.5	67.1
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	34.4	34.6	36.8	39.1

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Erwin McEwen, Director
Illinois Department of Children and Family Services

The following are Illinois' comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

In 2007 for the first time in several years, the number of child maltreatment victims increased significantly from the previous year. However, the types of maltreatment were similar to previous years. It is important to note that in Illinois we have allegations of both risk of physical abuse and risk of sexual abuse. Based on the instructions from the federal government, substantiated risk of physical abuse is captured under the physical abuse maltreatment type and risk of sexual abuse is captured under the sexual abuse maltreatment type. Thus the risk-only substantiations contribute significantly to the high percentage of physical abuse and sexual abuse maltreatments in Illinois.

The foster care population in Illinois continued its decade long decline in Illinois in 2007. We have seen changes in the demographics of the foster care population over the last several years. In 2007, approximately the same number of White children entered care as did African American children. This is significant in that while there is still racial disparity for children in care, the percentage of African American foster care children at the beginning of 2004 was 67.6% (2/3 of the entire foster care population). At the end of 2007, the percentage dropped below 60% for the first time in well over a decade. The Illinois Department of Children and Family Services has held a series of Permanency Symposiums throughout the state and has implemented several action teams to address issues with children in care, specifically racial disparity.

Illinois continues to struggle with some outcome measures particularly those of timely reunifications and timely adoptions. We have identified specific areas of the state that need improvement as well as those areas that are performing well in the hope that their successful techniques may be applied statewide. At the same time, we have made promising strides in achieving better placement stability as well as a very low re-entry rate for former wards that have been reunited with their families.

The new Context Statistic of Caseworker Visits shows Illinois at only 7% compliance for children receiving monthly visits each and every month in care. When we obtained this baseline data from our SACWIS system, several problems were identified in the way caseworkers were recording contact data, and in some cases, were not utilizing the SACWIS system at all for documenting contacts. Immediately changes were made to the SACWIS system itself to allow easier, timelier recording of caseworker/child visits. Then a statewide effort was made to train both Department staff and our private agency partners to use the new SACWIS functionality to capture all caseworker/child visits. Early indications are that many staff use the system properly now and future reporting will show improvement.

Indiana

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	1,575,420	1,578,868	1,584,017	1,586,518
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Asian	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3
Black	10.8	10.8	10.9	10.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	6.3	6.8	7.3	7.7
White	79.5	78.8	78.1	77.5
Two or more races	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.3
Child population in poverty (%)	14.8	16.7	17.9	17.3

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	18,869	19,062	20,925	18,380
Children in foster care on 9/30	9,778	11,243	11,401	11,372
Children adopted	1,006	1,023	1,183	1,296

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	23
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	3,510
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	15,272
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	18
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,789
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	15,272

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	54,679	34.7 per 1,000	57,752	36.6 per 1,000	67,511	42.6 per 1,000	65,034	41.0 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	18,869	12.0 per 1,000	19,062	12.1 per 1,000	20,925	13.2 per 1,000	18,380	11.6 per 1,000
Child fatalities	77	4.9 per 100,000	29	1.8 per 100,000	42	2.7 per 100,000	53	3.3 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	10.3	11.1	11.6	13.8
1 year	5.7	5.9	6.1	6.3
2 years	6.2	6.0	6.2	6.3
3 years	6.7	6.1	5.9	6.3
4 years	6.1	6.1	5.9	5.7
5 years	6.0	6.3	5.9	5.5
6 years	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.0
7 years	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6
8 years	5.1	5.0	5.3	4.9
9 years	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.7
10 years	4.7	4.4	4.3	4.1
11 years	4.8	4.4	4.2	4.3
12 years	5.2	5.0	4.9	4.0
13 years	6.1	6.2	5.9	5.7
14 years	5.8	5.8	5.5	5.6
15 years	5.2	5.8	6.1	5.2
16 years	3.3	3.4	3.8	3.9
17 years	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Number	18,869	19,062	20,925	18,380

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Asian	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
Black	16.6	17.6	16.2	17.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	5.0	5.7	5.9	6.8
White	74.2	72.1	72.2	70.5
Two or more races	3.2	3.7	4.6	4.5
Missing data	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.5
Number	18,869	19,062	20,925	18,380

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Medical neglect	3.0	2.5	2.5	2.3
Neglect	70.3	70.6	72.9	76.2
Physical abuse	14.6	13.8	12.5	12.5
Sexual abuse	20.8	21.3	20.8	18.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	18,869	19,062	20,925	18,380

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	131.2	102.1	84.0	77.7
Median	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	8,224	9,870	10,744	11,087	7,026	7,541	7,379	7,712	5,472	6,168	6,722	7,427	9,778	11,243	11,401	11,372
Median length of stay (months)	12.3	12.3	12.5	13.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9.9	10.4	10.8	10.9	11.3	12.6	13.4	13.8

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	6.4	6.0	6.8	5.9	15.0	16.0	15.8	16.6	5.3	5.1	5.3	5.6	6.2	6.7	5.8	6.3
1 year	7.2	7.1	7.4	8.0	6.7	7.3	7.1	7.2	7.6	7.4	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.9	7.4
2 years	6.6	6.5	6.9	7.1	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.7	7.5	8.0	8.0	8.4	6.7	6.7	7.1	7.1
3 years	6.1	6.2	6.0	6.0	6.8	6.0	5.7	6.7	7.0	6.7	6.8	6.5	6.4	5.9	6.1	6.6
4 years	5.2	5.7	5.8	5.3	5.5	5.4	5.1	5.5	5.7	6.6	6.8	6.7	5.8	5.6	5.2	5.6
5 years	4.6	5.1	5.5	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.2	5.4	5.7	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.1	5.0
6 years	4.8	4.7	5.0	5.0	5.2	4.8	5.0	4.7	5.0	5.3	5.5	5.3	4.7	4.8	5.0	4.9
7 years	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.7	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.4	5.0	5.1	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.4	4.7	4.7
8 years	4.3	4.2	4.5	4.6	4.0	3.8	4.8	3.7	4.3	4.3	5.0	4.6	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.4
9 years	4.1	4.2	4.0	4.3	3.6	4.1	3.9	3.8	3.7	4.2	3.9	4.2	4.1	3.9	4.3	4.1
10 years	4.7	4.0	3.8	3.9	4.1	3.6	3.6	3.6	4.1	3.8	3.4	4.0	4.0	3.7	3.9	3.9
11 years	4.4	4.5	4.2	3.9	4.1	4.1	3.4	3.7	4.0	4.2	3.7	4.0	4.5	4.2	4.0	3.7
12 years	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.1	5.2	4.4	4.1	4.0	4.5	3.7	3.7	3.5	4.7	4.5	4.2	4.1
13 years	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.0	5.0	5.3	5.4	4.7	4.2	4.0	4.2	3.8	5.1	5.2	5.1	4.5
14 years	6.0	5.5	5.8	5.6	5.6	5.7	5.1	5.3	5.0	4.5	4.3	4.6	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.4
15 years	6.3	6.1	6.2	6.1	5.4	5.4	5.9	5.6	4.9	5.0	4.8	4.8	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.3
16 years	6.6	6.0	6.0	6.7	4.5	4.8	5.3	5.1	4.6	4.8	4.6	5.4	6.2	6.0	6.8	6.2
17 years	5.8	5.4	5.4	5.8	2.8	2.9	3.2	3.4	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.5	5.6	5.3	5.9	6.3
18 years	2.2	1.9	2.0	2.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	5.8	5.6	5.7	4.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.4
19 years	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.5	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	1.2	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.7
20+ years	<.1	0.3	0.2	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.2	<.1	0.3	<.1	0.1
Missing data	<.1	1.7	0.2	0.3	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	1.6	0.2	0.2

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1
Asian	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.2	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Black	34.7	32.4	32.2	31.2	27.8	27.6	24.8	23.3	29.9	27.2	26.2	25.6	32.4	32.1	31.0	29.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	5.3	5.2	6.0	6.5	5.5	6.3	7.1	7.7	5.8	5.2	6.4	6.6	5.2	5.9	6.5	7.3
White	55.5	57.5	56.5	56.4	61.7	60.2	61.6	62.5	59.9	62.4	62.0	61.7	57.5	56.7	56.6	57.1
Two or more races	3.9	4.3	4.8	5.5	4.2	5.3	5.9	5.8	3.7	4.6	4.9	5.4	4.2	4.8	5.4	5.8
Unknown	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	2,550	3,194	3,345	3,211
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	977	1,642	1,555	1,687

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.5	1.7	1.1	1.6
1 year	8.5	8.1	9.9	7.0
2 years	8.7	8.7	8.6	9.7
3 years	8.0	7.3	7.3	7.8
4 years	8.3	6.9	6.4	7.2
5 years	6.2	7.1	6.4	6.0
6 years	5.7	5.5	5.9	6.2
7 years	5.8	5.4	5.7	5.9
8 years	5.1	5.6	4.8	5.8
9 years	5.4	4.9	5.4	5.0
10 years	5.2	5.1	4.6	5.2
11 years	6.2	5.1	5.4	4.5
12 years	4.9	6.0	5.2	4.9
13 years	6.0	5.1	5.7	4.5
14 years	4.8	5.4	4.8	5.3
15 years	4.9	4.4	5.0	4.8
16 years	2.7	4.6	4.5	4.7
17 years	2.1	3.1	3.5	3.8

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2
Asian	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	37.6	37.0	33.8	33.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	4.7	4.7	6.1	6.3
White	52.1	53.0	53.7	52.8
Two or more races	4.9	4.9	5.9	6.9
Unknown	0.3	0.2	<.1	0.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	1,006	1,023	1,183	1,296

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.8
1 year	8.2	7.5	7.9	7.9
2 years	12.9	16.5	14.8	14.7
3 years	10.8	10.4	11.4	9.7
4 years	8.6	9.7	9.5	9.6
5 years	7.2	7.8	8.5	8.1
6 years	6.2	6.9	7.8	7.4
7 years	6.8	6.6	5.7	6.4
8 years	5.9	6.3	6.9	5.6
9 years	4.0	4.4	4.6	5.6
10 years	4.7	4.8	3.6	4.6
11 years	5.3	4.8	3.8	4.3
12 years	4.1	3.9	3.7	4.2
13 years	3.7	2.4	3.3	3.7
14 years	3.5	2.4	2.9	2.5
15 years	2.1	1.6	1.5	1.7
16 years	2.7	1.8	1.0	1.5
17 years	1.7	0.7	1.2	1.3
18 years	0.5	<.1	0.5	0.3
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.5	0.7	<.1	0.2
Asian	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
Black	35.0	31.9	33.9	25.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	4.2	4.2	5.5	5.9
White	53.3	55.9	54.2	61.7
Two or more races	6.8	6.7	5.7	6.1
Unknown	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.2

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	93.7	92.7	92.3	93.2
Children with one or more recurrences	6.3	7.3	7.7	6.8
Number	8,699	8,502	9,151	8,514

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.68	0.70	0.95	0.31
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.32	99.30	99.05	99.69
Number	15,250	17,411	18,123	18,799

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	18.0	16.2	17.6	17.4
Guardianship	7.8	8.0	7.6	7.0
Reunification	62.6	64.7	63.1	63.9
Other	7.4	11.1	11.6	11.8
Missing data	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	5,472	6,168	6,722	7,427

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	28.1	28.0	28.7	29.0
Guardianship	4.7	6.0	7.0	5.3
Reunification	49.5	50.4	43.9	45.4
Other	13.2	15.6	20.4	20.3
Missing data	4.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	612	583	599	661

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	2.8	1.9	1.6	1.9
Guardianship	6.4	6.1	6.8	5.5
Reunification	61.2	63.2	61.1	62.5
Other	21.9	28.8	30.4	30.1
Missing data	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,279	1,471	1,597	1,775

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	28.4	26.5	23.1	19.1
Children older than 12 at entry	71.2	73.5	76.3	80.6
Missing data	0.3	0.0	0.6	0.3
Number	313	302	329	304

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	71.4	58.3	0.0	18.2	0.0	14.3	0.0	0.0	21.6	18.6	22.6	17.9		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	14.3	0.0	6.3	4.8	5.6	4.6	3.7		
Reunification	14.3	33.3	50.0	45.5	81.8	64.3	66.7	62.5	61.3	62.2	59.8	66.1		
Other	14.3	8.3	20.0	36.4	18.2	7.1	33.3	31.3	9.2	13.6	13.0	12.3		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	7	12	10	11	11	14	3	16	1,637	1,675	1,760	1,904		

	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.5	13.8	15.3	15.5	16.0	14.6	15.5	17.3		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	50.0	20.0	7.2	7.8	4.6	6.5	9.4	9.3	9.2	8.4		
Reunification	85.7	100.0	50.0	20.0	69.5	69.0	70.1	67.3	62.6	65.7	63.8	62.3		
Other	14.3	0.0	0.0	60.0	5.7	9.4	10.0	10.6	7.1	10.4	11.5	11.9		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	7	2	2	5	318	319	431	489	3,276	3,848	4,171	4,584		

	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	18.2	25.0	37.5	12.5	28.3	24.5	20.7	19.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	9.1	6.3	0.0	0.0	7.3	5.0	7.6	6.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	72.7	37.5	56.3	75.0	61.5	63.8	63.8	67.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	0.0	31.3	6.3	12.5	1.0	6.7	7.9	6.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	11	16	16	16	205	282	329	402	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	74.4	72.2	70.5	69.3
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	19.6	20.7	21.5	22.9
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	4.0	5.0	5.3	5.7
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.3
48 or more mos.	1.0	1.1	1.3	0.8
Missing data	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1
Number	3,424	3,992	4,244	4,744

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	81.2	82.1	80.8	82.3
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	9.0	7.5	8.7	8.3
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	9.3	9.9	10.0	8.8
Missing data	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6
Number	7,026	7,541	7,379	7,712

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	3.6	4.3	2.9	2.1
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	28.8	27.6	23.8	23.0
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	36.0	40.1	41.6	40.0
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	13.7	16.8	18.8	20.1
48 or more mos.	17.9	11.1	13.0	14.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	985	999	1,183	1,291

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	83.5	84.5	85.8	87.3	61.5	61.0	63.5	64.7	33.9	36.7	35.8	35.9	95.0	82.9	81.3	82.4
Children with 3 or more placements	15.5	15.4	14.1	12.6	37.5	38.9	36.5	35.3	65.0	63.3	64.2	64.1	5.0	17.1	18.8	17.6
Missing data	1.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	1.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	8,150	8,909	8,789	9,092	3,371	3,976	4,496	4,397	3,709	4,491	4,822	5,293	20	35	16	17

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	1.4	0.9	1.3	0.6
Institutions	9.1	7.8	6.7	5.5
Other settings	89.5	91.4	91.9	93.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1
Number	5,301	5,656	5,493	5,800

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	121.7	123.7	120.4
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	75.5	74.3	73.3	70.3
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	6.4	6.9	6.9	6.9
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	40.8	41.8	41.3	41.5
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	15.9	14.0	12.4	12.4

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	115.5	110.4	112.5
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	32.4	31.9	26.6	25.1
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	29.3	28.2	29.9	30.8
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	25.1	22.6	25.5	25.9
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	15.9	15.6	14.8	16.6
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	55.2	57.3	55.5	56.9

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	120.0	132.7	126.8
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	29.1	26.4	31.6	31.0
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	96.9	94.3	95.5	95.7
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	41.5	45.6	39.1	41.3

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	95.6	97.5	99.3
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	83.4	83.3	84.6	86.0
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	62.1	61.1	63.5	64.9
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	34.8	37.0	36.3	36.6

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	712,704	710,722	712,097	711,403
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5
Asian	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7
Black	3.4	3.5	3.7	3.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	5.9	6.3	6.6	7.0
White	86.5	85.9	85.2	84.6
Two or more races	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4
Child population in poverty (%)	12.4	14.0	13.7	13.6

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	13,804	14,016	14,589	14,051
Children in foster care on 9/30	5,384	6,794	9,040	8,240
Children adopted	1,061	953	984	1,060

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	32
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,272
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	7,043
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	65
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	254
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	391

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	37,163	52.1 per 1,000	38,038	53.5 per 1,000	38,767	54.4 per 1,000	35,875	50.4 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	13,804	19.4 per 1,000	14,016	19.7 per 1,000	14,589	20.5 per 1,000	14,051	19.8 per 1,000
Child fatalities	8	1.1 per 100,000	9	1.3 per 100,000	6	0.8 per 100,000	5	0.7 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	9.8	10.4	11.5	11.8
1 year	7.9	8.3	8.6	8.7
2 years	8.3	8.6	8.2	8.5
3 years	8.0	8.1	7.5	8.3
4 years	7.1	7.5	7.3	7.2
5 years	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.9
6 years	6.0	6.4	6.4	6.1
7 years	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.9
8 years	5.3	4.9	5.1	5.5
9 years	4.7	4.5	4.9	4.6
10 years	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.4
11 years	4.0	4.1	3.6	3.8
12 years	4.3	4.2	3.7	3.3
13 years	4.5	4.0	3.9	3.6
14 years	4.2	4.0	4.0	3.5
15 years	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.4
16 years	2.9	2.8	3.1	2.8
17 years	1.9	1.7	1.9	1.6
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.0
Number	13,804	14,016	14,589	14,051

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0
Asian	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.7
Black	7.9	8.8	9.2	9.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2
Hispanic (of any race)	4.7	5.6	5.6	4.9
White	69.4	67.0	64.7	60.3
Two or more races	1.3	1.7	1.2	1.6
Missing data	14.6	15.1	17.2	21.5
Number	13,804	14,016	14,589	14,051

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	1.1	0.7	0.7	0.6
Medical neglect	1.4	1.0	1.0	0.9
Neglect	75.4	78.5	79.4	81.6
Physical abuse	14.2	13.4	12.9	11.9
Sexual abuse	6.2	5.8	5.4	4.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	11.1	9.9	10.4	9.1
Number	13,804	14,016	14,589	14,051

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	2.3	2.1	1.2	0.5
Median	<24	<24	<24	<24

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	4,906	4,738	8,728	8,470	5,962	6,781	5,591	5,149	5,484	4,725	5,279	5,379	5,384	6,794	9,040	8,240
Median length of stay (months)	10.5	11.1	11.1	12.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.9	5.3	14.1	15.0	10.4	7.7	11.9	11.9

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.0	4.3	4.4	4.7	8.8	9.8	12.1	13.1	4.2	3.8	1.8	2.4	4.3	5.3	4.7	4.7
1 year	5.0	4.9	5.9	6.8	4.9	6.2	6.6	6.7	5.3	5.6	6.0	6.5	4.7	6.1	6.7	6.8
2 years	4.4	4.6	5.7	5.8	4.6	5.8	6.1	5.1	5.2	5.5	6.0	7.1	4.6	5.6	5.8	6.0
3 years	3.7	3.9	5.5	5.6	4.0	5.3	4.8	5.1	4.5	5.0	5.7	6.4	3.8	5.2	5.7	5.1
4 years	3.7	3.7	4.3	4.9	3.5	4.6	4.4	4.3	3.8	4.4	4.6	5.5	3.6	4.1	4.9	4.8
5 years	3.2	3.4	4.5	4.4	3.6	4.2	4.6	4.4	3.7	4.1	4.6	4.3	3.3	4.2	4.3	4.2
6 years	3.1	3.3	3.9	4.2	3.1	4.0	4.0	3.5	3.2	3.6	4.1	4.6	3.2	3.5	4.2	4.1
7 years	3.2	2.9	4.0	3.7	2.9	3.5	3.1	3.3	2.9	3.1	4.0	4.3	2.8	3.8	3.8	3.6
8 years	2.6	3.1	3.6	3.3	2.8	3.3	3.1	3.3	2.6	2.9	4.0	3.8	3.1	3.4	3.3	3.4
9 years	3.4	2.9	3.2	3.3	2.4	2.8	3.1	2.5	2.7	2.4	3.1	3.3	2.7	3.3	3.3	3.1
10 years	3.4	3.1	3.2	3.3	2.7	2.7	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.4	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.1
11 years	4.3	4.1	3.2	3.3	3.1	3.4	2.9	2.8	2.8	3.0	3.0	2.8	3.9	3.2	3.3	3.3
12 years	5.2	4.7	4.5	3.5	4.6	4.0	4.0	3.0	3.9	3.3	3.3	2.5	4.5	4.5	3.4	3.5
13 years	6.7	6.6	5.2	4.9	7.3	5.8	5.0	5.3	6.0	4.3	3.6	3.2	6.2	5.5	4.9	4.3
14 years	8.5	9.0	7.2	6.7	10.0	8.2	7.8	7.8	7.6	7.2	5.0	4.3	9.2	7.2	6.7	6.6
15 years	11.3	10.1	9.7	8.9	11.4	10.5	9.3	10.0	9.0	9.7	6.6	6.2	10.9	9.7	8.9	9.0
16 years	12.6	12.5	11.4	11.2	11.9	10.0	9.9	10.9	11.3	10.8	8.6	7.6	13.0	11.0	11.2	11.5
17 years	10.2	11.2	9.9	10.2	8.3	5.9	6.0	5.5	13.4	12.3	15.6	17.2	11.5	9.5	10.4	11.4
18 years	1.3	1.4	0.8	0.8	<.1	<.1	0.1	0.2	4.6	6.1	7.2	4.5	1.7	1.5	1.2	1.4
19 years	<.1	0.2	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
20+ years	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	2.4	1.9	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.2	1.5	1.5	2.0	1.6	1.7	1.9
Asian	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.3	1.0	0.9	0.7	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.6
Black	13.1	13.6	13.0	14.2	11.3	12.6	12.8	13.2	10.8	11.9	11.2	12.8	13.5	13.8	13.9	14.5
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3
Hispanic (of any race)	5.6	5.1	5.6	6.0	5.2	6.2	6.3	7.6	5.7	6.1	6.1	6.7	5.1	5.6	5.7	6.5
White	74.8	75.4	73.6	70.0	75.9	71.5	68.0	65.7	75.8	73.9	73.8	69.3	75.0	72.6	70.0	67.8
Two or more races	1.6	1.4	1.8	2.0	1.0	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.5	1.7	2.2	1.2	1.6	1.8	1.7
Unknown	0.6	1.3	2.9	4.3	2.2	4.1	6.8	8.3	1.8	2.7	3.7	5.4	1.2	3.2	4.8	6.0
Missing data	0.9	0.1	0.5	0.6	1.1	0.6	1.0	0.9	1.2	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.7

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	1,139	1,265	1,439	1,298
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	945	1,027	1,149	1,069

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.1	4.1	2.9	3.2
1 year	8.4	8.4	10.0	10.6
2 years	7.3	8.5	9.0	9.9
3 years	6.4	7.9	9.2	8.6
4 years	6.6	6.9	7.9	8.1
5 years	6.3	5.6	5.4	6.0
6 years	5.4	4.9	6.7	6.9
7 years	4.7	5.5	5.8	5.6
8 years	5.4	5.1	6.1	4.7
9 years	5.0	5.5	4.1	4.5
10 years	5.6	4.6	4.0	3.2
11 years	5.6	4.1	4.5	3.8
12 years	5.3	5.5	3.2	3.6
13 years	5.3	4.7	4.4	3.5
14 years	5.2	4.7	4.2	4.9
15 years	6.0	5.4	3.8	4.2
16 years	4.8	4.5	4.6	4.5
17 years	3.7	4.1	4.2	4.2

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	2.9	1.9	2.9	2.4
Asian	0.4	0.9	0.6	0.5
Black	18.8	17.5	16.6	17.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.3	<.1	0.1	0.3
Hispanic (of any race)	5.6	7.5	7.4	6.3
White	69.1	67.7	66.1	64.5
Two or more races	1.9	1.9	2.2	2.9
Unknown	0.5	2.4	3.5	5.2
Missing data	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.3

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	1,061	953	984	1,060

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.4	2.8	1.4	1.8
1 year	11.8	12.2	12.4	12.5
2 years	12.7	12.8	14.1	13.6
3 years	11.0	10.9	11.6	11.7
4 years	8.8	9.5	10.5	10.5
5 years	7.3	8.3	6.0	6.6
6 years	7.2	7.9	6.4	7.8
7 years	5.7	6.0	7.3	6.2
8 years	6.1	5.0	5.6	6.7
9 years	5.3	5.5	6.2	5.2
10 years	4.1	4.4	4.4	3.3
11 years	3.8	3.3	3.2	4.7
12 years	3.9	3.4	2.9	1.3
13 years	4.1	2.4	2.4	2.4
14 years	2.4	2.1	2.0	2.5
15 years	1.4	2.0	1.6	1.0
16 years	0.9	0.6	1.1	1.4
17 years	1.0	0.7	0.8	0.6
18 years	<.1	0.2	0.0	0.2
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	2.6	2.4	1.9	2.4
Asian	0.6	1.0	0.8	0.5
Black	11.5	16.1	15.5	16.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	9.2	6.0	8.8	10.1
White	71.3	70.0	65.7	64.5
Two or more races	3.8	2.9	4.9	3.4
Unknown	0.5	1.2	2.0	3.1
Missing data	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	90.0	90.6	90.1	91.2
Children with one or more recurrences	10.0	9.4	9.9	8.8
Number	6,358	6,116	6,518	6,554

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.37	0.30	0.30	0.36
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.63	99.70	99.70	99.64
Number	10,868	11,519	14,319	13,619

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	18.5	19.1	17.6	18.6
Guardianship	0.6	1.1	5.9	5.8
Reunification	74.3	72.5	68.2	66.9
Other	6.7	7.3	8.3	8.7
Missing data	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	5,484	4,725	5,279	5,379

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	30.5	32.8	28.3	27.6
Guardianship	1.0	0.5	4.4	3.4
Reunification	57.1	51.3	51.6	51.0
Other	11.4	15.4	15.7	17.9
Missing data	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,467	928	1,613	1,566

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.2	1.5	0.9	0.8
Guardianship	0.7	0.7	3.4	2.7
Reunification	86.6	84.4	79.4	77.6
Other	11.5	13.3	16.3	18.9
Missing data	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,599	2,181	2,099	1,962

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	18.5	15.2	20.8	20.1
Children older than 12 at entry	81.5	84.8	79.2	79.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	319	342	433	463

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	22.1	22.3	24.4	25.6	7.9	17.6	15.4	10.0	19.2	25.2	25.6	23.2		
Guardianship	2.9	1.0	10.3	17.1	0.0	0.0	13.5	11.7	0.8	1.1	4.7	4.6		
Reunification	63.5	71.8	53.8	53.7	76.2	70.6	65.4	66.7	73.1	67.7	61.0	65.7		
Other	11.5	4.9	11.5	3.7	15.9	11.8	5.8	11.7	6.9	6.0	8.6	6.5		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	104	103	78	82	63	51	52	60	594	563	590	690		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	16.7	21.4	14.3	0.0	30.0	19.4	22.8	24.7	17.0	18.1	15.6	17.5		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	7.1	13.3	0.0	1.4	6.8	2.2	0.6	1.0	6.0	6.2		
Reunification	75.0	78.6	78.6	80.0	65.5	73.7	67.3	69.4	75.7	72.9	69.4	66.1		
Other	8.3	0.0	0.0	6.7	4.5	5.5	3.1	3.6	6.7	7.9	9.0	10.2		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	12	14	14	15	313	289	324	360	4,156	3,491	3,898	3,727		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	12.4	9.4	15.7	15.2	44.2	37.7	35.9	22.0	30.9	0.0	5.9	10.8		
Guardianship	0.0	3.9	3.0	3.1	0.0	1.4	4.3	8.5	1.5	0.0	5.9	5.4		
Reunification	86.6	84.3	78.7	77.9	51.9	56.5	54.3	66.9	58.8	100.0	76.5	81.1		
Other	1.0	2.4	2.5	3.8	3.9	4.3	5.4	2.5	8.8	0.0	11.8	2.7		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	97	127	197	290	77	69	92	118	68	18	34	37		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	85.0	80.8	58.1	54.8
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	10.7	14.5	30.2	33.1
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	2.2	2.4	7.7	7.8
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.6	0.8	2.1	2.1
48 or more mos.	0.8	0.9	1.9	2.2
Missing data	0.6	0.5	0.0	0.0
Number	4,072	3,425	3,601	3,598

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	66.1	70.9	82.2	81.0
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	22.6	18.4	10.1	10.4
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	10.8	10.1	6.6	7.8
Missing data	0.5	0.6	1.1	0.9
Number	5,962	6,781	5,591	5,149

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	31.6	32.3	6.1	5.4
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	33.5	34.2	44.8	42.7
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	23.6	21.2	31.2	33.5
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	5.2	6.8	11.5	13.2
48 or more mos.	5.5	4.5	6.3	5.3
Missing data	0.6	1.0	0.1	0.0
Number	1,013	903	927	1,001

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	89.3	91.3	86.8	87.4	57.2	57.4	61.7	62.7	27.0	27.7	31.1	29.6	98.1	98.0	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	10.7	8.7	13.2	12.6	42.8	42.6	38.3	37.3	73.0	72.3	68.9	70.4	1.9	2.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	6,876	7,539	6,846	6,308	2,020	2,058	4,177	3,983	1,919	1,871	3,293	3,325	53	51	3	3

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	15.2	10.2	2.0	1.5
Institutions	4.0	2.8	1.5	1.1
Other settings	80.8	87.1	96.5	97.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	3,005	3,677	3,388	3,062

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	100.9	87.6	112.9
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	82.1	76.0	68.9	67.1
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	3.5	5.0	7.1	8.1
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	61.3	57.2	39.1	42.8
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	29.8	28.1	27.3	14.0

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	117.0	99.2	99.1
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	65.4	67.4	51.0	48.1
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	18.4	18.2	23.9	24.6
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	25.2	22.6	22.4	25.1
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	4.5	3.8	1.7	2.2
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	51.2	43.0	32.8	31.5

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	123.9	133.3	135.7
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	29.0	22.7	30.5	34.1
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	97.2	97.8	96.1	96.0
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	36.0	34.1	32.3	34.4

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	94.7	94.9	95.1
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	87.6	90.3	85.8	86.4
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	57.1	57.3	61.7	62.7
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	26.8	27.4	31.0	29.8

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

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The following are Iowa's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

The Iowa Department of Human Services continues to see improvements in outcomes for the children and families we serve. Increased worker visits, family team meetings, court leadership and increased partnership with providers are making a positive difference in the lives of the children and families we serve. Substance abuse, declining IV-E funding, and caseloads are among the key areas that challenge our system.

Race/Ethnicity: DHS has implemented several initiatives to address disproportionality in child welfare, and we are currently partnering with the Supreme Court's Children's Justice Division to further this work. Our goal is to eliminate disproportionality within child welfare over the next ten years.

Section B (Child Maltreatment Data): The number of child victims in Iowa reached a peak in 2006 and appears to be leveling off, however, it is too early to determine whether this trend will continue. Neglect continues to be the largest category, with declines in physical and sexual abuse. We are investigating ways to improve reporting of race and ethnicity information.

Section C (Children in Foster Care): The large increase between FY2005 and FY2006 in the number of children in foster care is due to reporting changes related to children in relative care and trial home visits. In real terms, the number of children in foster care has been declining due to increased emphasis on placement prevention.

Sections D and E (Adoption): Both the number of children waiting for adoption and children adopted has remained relatively steady. Iowa continues to place a high priority on adoption, and has more children participating in the adoption subsidy program than in foster care.

Outcome Measure 1.1: Iowa's top priority is child safety. We have focused efforts on strengthening risk and safety assessment, developing strong safety plans, and engaging providers and other stakeholders in safety and risk discussions. Over the next year, we will continue to enhance our efforts to address safety and risk throughout the life of the case.

Outcome Measure 3.1: Over the last 2 years, the number of children exiting care has increased; however the percentage of children reunited with their families has decreased and the number of children exiting to "other" has increased. We are implementing two primary strategies to increase safe reunification – developing parent mentors and strengthening family interaction for children in foster care. We are also developing strategies to reduce the use of "Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement" as a permanency goal.

Outcome Measure 3: One of our more significant challenges remains the number of children, especially those under age 12, that remain in foster care until emancipation. We expect statewide efforts to better engage relatives, strengthen family interaction, and focus on permanent family connections as an integral part of transition planning to contribute to successful pathways to permanency for this population.

Outcome Measure 4.1: The drop in the percentage of children who are reunited in less than 12 months was primarily due to changes in how we recorded data on unlicensed relative placements and on children in a trial home visit status.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	698,594	695,911	693,395	696,082
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9
Asian	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1
Black	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	12.2	12.7	13.2	13.8
White	74.8	74.2	73.6	72.9
Two or more races	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.2
Child population in poverty (%)	12.5	15.1	15.6	14.6

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	4,895	2,775	2,630	2,272
Children in foster care on 9/30	6,060	5,833	6,237	6,631
Children adopted	653	649	524	793

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	43
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	153
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	354
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	56
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	455
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	817

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	24,140	34.6 per 1,000	21,240	30.5 per 1,000	22,688	32.7 per 1,000	25,412	36.5 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	4,895	7.0 per 1,000	2,775	4.0 per 1,000	2,630	3.8 per 1,000	2,272	3.3 per 1,000
Child fatalities	8	1.1 per 100,000	6	0.9 per 100,000	5	0.7 per 100,000	10	1.4 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	7.2	7.0	6.7	6.9
1 year	6.3	7.6	5.9	7.0
2 years	7.0	6.9	6.2	7.7
3 years	7.4	7.5	6.9	6.8
4 years	6.9	7.5	6.9	6.9
5 years	6.6	7.0	7.5	7.1
6 years	6.5	7.3	6.3	6.9
7 years	6.1	5.8	5.7	6.2
8 years	5.3	4.2	6.7	5.4
9 years	5.1	5.3	4.1	4.8
10 years	4.8	5.4	4.8	4.5
11 years	4.9	4.3	5.3	4.7
12 years	5.0	4.8	4.3	5.4
13 years	5.1	4.5	5.3	4.2
14 years	4.9	5.4	5.3	4.5
15 years	4.7	4.6	5.7	5.3
16 years	3.5	3.2	3.4	3.3
17 years	2.0	1.5	2.5	2.4
18+ years	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.0
Missing data	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.0
Number	4,895	2,775	2,630	2,272

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.7	0.9	1.3	0.8
Asian	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.6
Black	12.1	13.3	13.3	12.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2
Hispanic (of any race)	2.7	3.9	3.9	6.4
White	75.4	75.4	76.3	75.2
Two or more races	2.5	2.6	3.1	3.3
Missing data	6.3	3.7	1.9	1.2
Number	4,895	2,775	2,630	2,272

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	16.0	15.4	17.2	13.4
Medical neglect	2.4	2.9	2.6	2.3
Neglect	25.7	21.4	22.3	22.5
Physical abuse	25.3	21.7	19.9	18.2
Sexual abuse	16.6	23.4	25.5	27.6
Missing data	1.2	2.3	1.5	0.0
Other	23.8	22.8	23.7	25.5
Number	4,895	2,775	2,630	2,272

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	18.3	69.4	67.2	72.0
Median	<24	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	5,237	5,656	5,649	6,139	3,038	3,117	3,506	4,075	2,216	2,940	2,918	3,584	6,060	5,833	6,237	6,631
Median length of stay (months)	15.8	14.3	13.7	13.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	20.0	17.5	15.7	16.1	14.3	13.6	12.9	11.6

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.3	3.7	4.2	4.6	11.9	11.9	12.3	14.0	1.9	1.7	2.0	2.4	3.6	4.2	4.6	5.6
1 year	5.3	5.5	5.8	6.2	5.6	6.6	5.8	6.6	4.6	4.6	4.8	5.7	5.3	5.9	6.2	6.7
2 years	5.3	5.4	5.9	5.3	5.3	6.0	5.2	6.0	5.7	5.3	5.9	6.0	5.2	5.9	5.2	6.3
3 years	4.6	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.0	4.7	4.7	5.0	5.3	5.7	5.8	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.0
4 years	4.7	4.6	5.0	5.0	4.3	4.9	4.3	4.6	4.6	5.4	4.6	5.4	4.5	5.0	5.0	5.1
5 years	4.7	4.4	4.1	5.0	3.9	4.0	4.2	4.6	4.3	4.5	4.3	5.1	4.4	4.2	5.0	4.8
6 years	3.9	4.6	4.1	4.2	3.9	3.7	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.9	4.4	4.7	4.5	4.1	4.2	4.5
7 years	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.4	3.8	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.5	4.2	3.6	4.6	3.9	3.9	4.4	4.1
8 years	4.1	3.8	3.9	3.9	3.0	3.2	4.0	3.5	3.4	3.9	2.9	4.0	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.9
9 years	4.0	3.7	3.0	4.2	3.4	3.0	3.1	3.6	3.9	3.9	2.8	4.3	3.7	3.1	4.2	3.8
10 years	4.7	3.9	3.8	3.4	2.8	3.5	3.1	3.6	3.5	3.5	2.5	3.2	3.7	3.8	3.4	4.1
11 years	5.1	4.3	3.6	3.9	3.7	3.2	3.8	3.7	4.2	3.4	2.8	3.2	4.3	3.6	3.9	3.5
12 years	5.4	5.3	4.4	4.3	4.8	4.4	4.4	4.0	3.7	4.0	2.9	3.4	5.1	4.4	4.3	4.1
13 years	5.7	5.9	5.7	5.3	6.2	6.1	5.0	4.3	4.2	4.1	3.7	3.1	5.8	5.9	5.2	4.9
14 years	6.7	7.2	7.2	6.4	8.4	7.8	7.2	6.7	5.1	5.2	5.6	4.1	7.2	7.0	6.4	6.1
15 years	8.6	7.8	8.6	8.2	9.5	9.6	9.6	8.4	5.4	6.1	6.7	6.4	8.0	8.6	8.3	7.9
16 years	9.2	9.9	9.3	9.6	8.8	8.3	8.9	8.5	8.5	8.1	7.7	6.9	10.0	9.2	9.7	9.5
17 years	8.8	8.5	9.5	9.5	5.3	5.5	5.8	5.0	8.9	7.4	11.7	11.7	8.6	9.3	9.5	9.4
18 years	1.4	1.6	1.9	0.9	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	13.0	12.6	14.1	9.8	2.4	2.0	0.9	0.9
19 years	0.3	0.3	0.3	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	1.1	1.2	0.5	0.5	0.4	<.1	<.1
20+ years	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.2	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0
Missing data	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.3	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	0.9	1.0	1.5	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.4	1.6	1.1	1.2	1.3	0.7
Asian	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.4
Black	21.4	20.1	20.5	19.6	14.3	14.5	14.9	16.3	15.3	14.9	15.4	15.9	20.0	19.8	19.8	19.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	5.2	5.9	6.6	7.5	5.7	5.6	7.2	8.7	4.6	6.0	6.1	7.9	5.7	5.7	7.2	8.0
White	66.0	66.8	67.4	67.6	72.0	72.6	72.3	69.3	72.6	72.8	71.9	71.1	66.5	66.9	68.1	66.7
Two or more races	2.2	2.6	2.3	2.8	2.8	3.3	2.8	3.3	1.8	2.0	2.7	2.2	2.7	3.3	2.4	3.4
Unknown	3.9	3.1	1.6	1.0	3.9	2.4	1.1	1.1	4.4	2.9	1.9	1.0	3.7	2.8	1.1	1.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	1,926	1,811	2,005	1,812
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	1,372	1,188	1,335	1,220

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.9	2.1	2.8	3.2
1 year	5.1	5.2	6.4	6.4
2 years	5.7	7.0	5.9	7.7
3 years	5.8	6.1	7.5	5.5
4 years	5.1	6.0	6.1	6.0
5 years	6.0	5.5	6.5	6.0
6 years	5.5	5.6	4.9	5.3
7 years	5.7	5.3	5.5	4.7
8 years	5.6	5.1	5.2	4.5
9 years	4.9	5.0	5.4	4.7
10 years	5.3	5.4	4.7	5.5
11 years	7.1	5.2	5.6	4.1
12 years	7.9	6.8	5.4	5.7
13 years	6.8	7.9	6.4	6.5
14 years	7.5	7.0	7.2	7.4
15 years	5.9	7.2	6.8	7.7
16 years	5.5	4.1	5.0	5.7
17 years	2.7	3.3	2.5	3.5

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.1	1.2	1.3	0.7
Asian	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.3
Black	27.8	28.5	26.5	26.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	5.6	5.1	5.7	5.8
White	60.3	58.0	62.3	62.5
Two or more races	2.3	3.7	2.5	3.3
Unknown	2.6	3.1	1.5	1.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	653	649	524	793

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.2	0.6	1.3	1.3
1 year	6.9	7.9	8.2	10.6
2 years	9.8	9.4	13.9	11.5
3 years	9.5	9.4	10.5	9.6
4 years	8.9	9.1	10.3	10.3
5 years	9.2	8.2	6.9	8.8
6 years	8.7	7.2	8.2	8.8
7 years	6.7	8.0	6.7	5.9
8 years	6.1	6.5	5.0	6.6
9 years	6.6	5.1	5.0	5.5
10 years	5.1	4.6	5.2	4.4
11 years	6.9	5.4	3.2	3.5
12 years	5.4	5.2	3.4	3.9
13 years	3.7	3.9	4.6	1.8
14 years	2.5	3.7	3.4	2.0
15 years	2.1	2.8	1.7	2.5
16 years	1.4	1.8	1.3	1.8
17 years	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.8
18 years	0.2	0.3	0.8	0.3
19 years	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	1.5	1.5	1.4
Asian	0.5	0.8	0.2	0.1
Black	23.9	20.8	22.1	20.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	3.7	4.5	5.0	7.6
White	68.8	71.6	66.6	66.6
Two or more races	0.8	0.5	0.6	2.9
Unknown	2.1	0.3	4.0	1.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	93.5	94.6	96.8	96.8
Children with one or more recurrences	6.5	5.4	3.2	3.2
Number	2,540	1,225	1,242	974

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.53	0.13	0.11	0.08
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.47	99.87	99.89	99.92
Number	8,275	8,773	9,155	10,214

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	25.3	22.1	18.2	22.3
Guardianship	6.5	6.7	7.9	6.9
Reunification	52.7	57.3	53.4	56.3
Other	15.5	13.7	19.7	13.8
Missing data	<.1	0.2	0.8	0.7
Number	2,216	2,940	2,918	3,584

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	94.5	88.2	69.6	54.7
Guardianship	1.4	1.1	2.6	3.5
Reunification	1.7	6.1	13.4	25.7
Other	2.5	4.6	14.4	16.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	363	458	425	821

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.7	1.7	0.5	1.4
Guardianship	5.3	7.3	8.1	6.0
Reunification	61.7	61.1	53.1	57.6
Other	32.1	29.3	36.5	33.0
Missing data	0.1	0.6	1.9	2.0
Number	812	1,040	1,174	1,233

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	20.8	21.4	24.5	17.3
Children older than 12 at entry	79.2	78.6	75.3	82.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
Number	259	299	481	416

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	11.1	35.7	19.5	17.2	22.2	27.8	5.6	10.0	39.2	31.1	26.3	27.5		
Guardianship	11.1	3.6	9.8	12.1	22.2	0.0	11.1	0.0	4.4	6.4	6.5	6.8		
Reunification	44.4	50.0	46.3	60.3	33.3	66.7	66.7	70.0	40.4	44.2	40.8	49.1		
Other	33.3	10.7	24.4	8.6	22.2	5.6	16.7	20.0	15.9	18.3	25.7	15.6		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.9		
Number	18	28	41	58	9	18	18	10	339	437	448	570		

	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.9	17.7	14.7	21.3	23.9	21.6	16.8	21.1		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	5.7	4.0	3.5	7.3	6.9	8.2	7.4		
Reunification	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	64.4	61.1	57.6	59.9	53.4	58.3	55.7	57.4		
Other	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.8	14.9	22.0	12.1	15.4	13.0	18.4	13.7		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	1.7	3.2	<.1	0.2	0.8	0.4		
Number	2	0	0	0	101	175	177	282	1,609	2,139	2,099	2,550		

	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	19.4	2.4	37.5	25.7	15.0	5.1	3.8	30.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	3.1	6.0	0.0	2.9	2.5	10.2	20.3	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	69.4	82.1	48.2	60.0	67.5	76.3	59.5	50.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	8.2	9.5	14.3	11.4	15.0	8.5	15.2	15.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	98	84	56	35	40	59	79	79	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	44.9	46.9	56.8	53.7
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	35.8	36.5	31.4	34.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	10.7	11.3	8.4	8.4
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	5.0	2.7	1.9	2.4
48 or more mos.	3.1	2.3	1.5	1.4
Missing data	0.5	0.2	<.1	<.1
Number	1,168	1,686	1,559	2,016

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	86.7	87.3	86.3	87.6
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	3.6	3.9	5.0	4.2
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	6.5	6.2	7.1	7.5
Missing data	3.3	2.6	1.6	0.7
Number	3,038	3,117	3,506	4,075

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	3.8	3.1	2.6	4.3
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	18.8	26.0	23.0	27.9
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	28.4	31.7	35.7	31.8
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	25.2	18.6	20.4	17.8
48 or more mos.	23.9	20.5	18.3	18.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	560	649	530	798

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	70.1	73.6	72.9	72.5	45.7	47.9	50.4	50.3	21.3	21.9	23.3	26.7	82.1	63.6	100.0	50.0
Children with 3 or more placements	27.3	25.1	26.3	26.6	51.4	49.1	47.0	46.2	75.3	75.5	74.0	69.2	17.9	27.3	0.0	50.0
Missing data	2.6	1.3	0.8	0.9	2.9	3.0	2.5	3.5	3.4	2.7	2.6	4.1	0.0	9.1	0.0	0.0
Number	3,330	3,600	4,101	4,738	2,112	2,401	2,366	2,712	2,805	2,750	2,687	2,762	28	22	1	2

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.4
Institutions	0.8	0.8	1.4	0.9
Other settings	98.0	98.8	98.1	98.7
Missing data	0.5	<.1	<.1	0.0
Number	1,679	1,772	2,044	2,529

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	115.9	120.3	117.4
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	57.2	61.0	66.5	65.8
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	10.5	9.3	8.3	8.6
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	20.6	28.9	30.7	32.1
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	6.7	7.0	7.7	9.1

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	86.4	85.3	98.1
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	22.5	29.2	25.7	32.2
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	35.6	30.9	32.2	30.1
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	21.6	23.7	19.8	26.6
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	9.2	7.4	10.8	8.7
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	25.8	28.1	31.1	35.3

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	123.9	115.4	134.8
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	27.2	29.8	24.4	33.2
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	88.6	90.9	83.8	91.9
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	38.8	36.7	35.1	28.8

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	77.1	78.8	79.9
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	71.0	73.8	72.8	72.3
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	47.3	49.3	52.2	52.3
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	22.3	22.9	24.4	28.1

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

**Tanya Keys, Director
Children and Family Services
Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services**

The following are Kansas' comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

With regard to Child Maltreatment Data (Part B) in July 2004, the Kansas Administrative Regulations regarding the Standard of Evidence for making a case finding decision were changed from preponderance of evidence to clear and convincing evidence. A result of this change was a decrease in the number of substantiated child victims in FFY 2005 compared to FFY 2004. Substantiated means the facts or circumstances provide clear and convincing evidence to conclude abuse or neglect did occur based on the Kansas Statutes Annotated and Kansas Administrative Regulations definition of abuse or neglect. In Maltreatment Types of Child Victims, the "other" maltreatment type category includes "lack of supervision."

Outcomes data reported for Increase in Permanency for Children in Foster Care continues to show an improvement in accuracy in reporting children who are diagnosed with a disability in for Outcomes Measure 3.2.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	994,300	997,849	1,003,483	1,003,973
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Asian	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0
Black	9.2	9.2	9.2	9.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	2.8	3.1	3.4	3.7
White	84.9	84.5	84.0	83.6
Two or more races	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.2
Child population in poverty (%)	25.0	22.5	22.8	23.9

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	19,186	19,474	19,833	18,778
Children in foster care on 9/30	6,998	7,220	7,606	7,555
Children adopted	805	876	759	689

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	33
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	3,450
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	10,401
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	94
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	17,779
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	18,869

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	73,375	73.8 per 1,000	75,625	75.8 per 1,000	77,035	76.8 per 1,000	77,221	76.9 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	19,186	19.3 per 1,000	19,474	19.5 per 1,000	19,833	19.8 per 1,000	18,778	18.7 per 1,000
Child fatalities	38	3.8 per 100,000	29	2.9 per 100,000	36	3.6 per 100,000	41	4.1 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	10.2	11.0	11.8	13.0
1 year	7.0	7.4	7.4	7.5
2 years	7.4	7.1	7.2	7.2
3 years	7.0	7.3	6.9	7.0
4 years	6.9	6.6	6.7	6.3
5 years	6.5	6.9	6.6	6.2
6 years	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.1
7 years	6.0	5.7	5.7	5.8
8 years	5.3	5.1	5.0	5.4
9 years	5.1	4.8	4.6	5.1
10 years	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.1
11 years	4.9	4.4	4.1	4.4
12 years	4.6	4.7	4.4	4.0
13 years	4.6	4.6	4.4	4.0
14 years	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.1
15 years	3.9	3.9	4.1	4.1
16 years	3.3	3.0	3.3	3.6
17 years	1.8	1.9	2.1	2.2
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	19,186	19,474	19,833	18,778

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Black	12.5	13.1	14.0	13.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	1.5	1.9	2.1	2.0
White	74.5	73.1	72.4	71.8
Two or more races	2.4	2.7	2.8	2.4
Missing data	8.9	9.0	8.5	10.2
Number	19,186	19,474	19,833	18,778

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.4
Medical neglect	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Neglect	82.8	85.0	87.2	87.5
Physical abuse	14.9	12.4	11.0	10.3
Sexual abuse	4.8	5.1	4.0	4.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	19,186	19,474	19,833	18,778

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	41.8	44.9	41.4	40.1
Median	<24	<24	<24	<24

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	6,529	6,764	6,981	7,173	5,561	5,950	6,315	5,795	5,092	5,494	5,690	5,413	6,998	7,220	7,606	7,555
Median length of stay (months)	13.8	13.1	12.1	12.2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	7.6	7.6	7.1	8.0	12.8	11.8	12.0	13.1

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.7	5.3	5.4	5.9	13.3	13.6	14.5	15.2	6.1	6.2	7.3	6.9	5.2	5.5	5.6	6.0
1 year	5.2	5.7	5.9	5.9	6.4	6.3	6.0	6.3	6.2	7.1	7.0	6.8	5.7	6.0	5.8	6.2
2 years	4.8	4.8	5.0	5.4	5.9	5.3	5.4	5.3	6.7	6.3	6.6	6.5	4.7	5.1	5.2	5.3
3 years	4.2	4.7	4.1	4.2	5.5	5.1	5.0	4.9	5.7	6.0	5.8	5.4	4.7	4.1	4.0	4.6
4 years	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.0	5.0	4.7	4.6	4.0	5.5	5.1	5.1	5.0	4.1	4.0	3.8	3.8
5 years	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.7	4.7	4.4	4.0	3.9	4.3	4.9	4.7	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.5	3.6
6 years	4.0	4.0	3.5	3.7	4.3	4.1	4.1	3.7	4.6	4.6	3.9	4.4	4.0	3.6	3.6	3.4
7 years	3.6	3.3	3.6	3.6	4.0	4.2	4.1	3.9	4.8	4.4	4.6	4.0	3.2	3.6	3.5	3.4
8 years	3.6	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.7	3.2	3.5	4.0	3.7	3.6	4.1	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.3
9 years	3.8	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.6	3.0	3.1	3.6	3.6	3.3	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.1	3.2
10 years	4.1	3.3	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.4	3.4	2.9	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.1
11 years	3.9	4.1	3.5	3.7	4.2	3.6	3.1	3.2	3.7	3.3	3.1	3.3	4.0	3.5	3.6	3.1
12 years	4.8	4.5	4.5	3.9	4.2	4.6	3.7	4.0	3.6	3.8	3.3	3.1	4.6	4.5	3.7	3.7
13 years	5.9	5.5	5.3	5.0	5.6	5.6	5.4	4.8	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.5	5.5	5.4	5.0	4.7
14 years	7.0	7.2	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.3	6.6	5.2	4.5	4.6	4.4	7.3	7.1	7.1	6.5
15 years	8.7	8.6	8.8	9.2	7.3	7.6	9.0	9.0	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.8	8.5	8.7	9.4	8.8
16 years	10.0	9.7	10.0	10.1	7.5	7.7	7.9	8.7	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.7	9.6	9.7	10.7	11.2
17 years	9.1	10.1	10.4	9.7	5.1	5.1	6.1	6.6	7.5	6.7	9.8	11.4	10.4	10.4	10.5	10.8
18 years	2.6	2.6	2.9	3.0	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	7.3	8.8	6.4	5.7	2.7	2.9	3.5	3.1
19 years	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.4	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	1.1	0.9	0.8	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.5
20+ years	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.8	1.1	1.1	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.1	<.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	<.1	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.0	0.1	<.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.2	0.1	<.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Black	17.7	18.4	19.1	18.9	14.5	15.7	16.3	14.9	13.5	14.7	15.7	15.7	18.2	19.0	19.3	18.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.2	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	0.2
Hispanic (of any race)	0.8	0.8	3.0	3.7	0.6	0.6	3.6	3.3	0.8	0.7	3.0	3.7	0.6	0.7	3.5	3.4
White	74.9	74.5	71.5	70.3	76.9	74.5	72.5	75.1	78.1	76.8	74.3	74.2	74.1	72.8	70.2	71.1
Two or more races	4.4	4.1	4.7	5.2	2.7	4.2	4.0	3.7	3.5	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7	4.4	4.7	5.1
Unknown	1.9	1.9	1.6	1.6	5.0	4.7	3.2	2.8	3.7	3.8	2.9	2.4	3.1	2.8	1.9	2.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	1,969	2,125	2,083	2,125
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	13	1,213	1,257	1,385

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.0	2.0	1.8	2.4
1 year	5.9	5.4	5.9	6.2
2 years	5.5	5.5	6.5	6.5
3 years	5.5	4.9	4.8	5.3
4 years	5.1	4.8	4.3	4.2
5 years	4.9	4.8	4.7	3.8
6 years	5.1	4.4	4.6	4.4
7 years	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.8
8 years	3.8	4.3	4.7	5.0
9 years	5.0	4.1	4.6	4.5
10 years	4.9	5.2	4.6	4.7
11 years	6.1	4.8	5.7	5.2
12 years	6.0	6.5	5.3	5.8
13 years	7.7	7.2	6.9	5.5
14 years	8.7	9.4	7.1	7.8
15 years	8.7	9.2	10.0	8.4
16 years	6.4	7.8	8.3	9.6
17 years	3.7	4.6	5.5	5.8

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.2
Asian	0.2	<.1	<.1	<.1
Black	18.3	20.4	20.5	20.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	0.8	1.0	3.7	3.7
White	72.8	70.8	68.0	68.1
Two or more races	5.7	5.0	5.3	6.2
Unknown	2.0	2.6	2.3	1.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	805	876	759	689

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.4	0.9	1.3	1.5
1 year	5.7	8.3	9.2	9.3
2 years	9.2	11.1	10.8	14.1
3 years	9.1	8.7	9.2	10.7
4 years	7.6	8.0	8.3	9.9
5 years	7.0	7.0	7.6	5.5
6 years	6.2	8.0	5.7	6.5
7 years	8.4	6.1	7.0	5.8
8 years	6.0	5.0	4.9	6.4
9 years	6.0	4.7	4.3	6.0
10 years	6.6	5.0	4.5	5.4
11 years	5.8	5.0	5.0	4.4
12 years	4.5	5.8	3.0	2.8
13 years	4.8	2.5	5.0	3.8
14 years	3.6	2.7	4.3	2.3
15 years	3.7	4.6	3.8	2.2
16 years	2.9	3.8	2.6	2.3
17 years	1.5	2.5	2.9	1.2
18 years	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.1
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Black	17.8	13.1	16.9	13.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	4.2	3.3	4.0	6.5
White	71.9	74.7	71.3	69.5
Two or more races	5.6	6.8	5.3	7.1
Unknown	0.5	1.6	2.6	2.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	92.2	93.0	93.0	93.5
Children with one or more recurrences	7.8	7.0	7.0	6.5
Number	7,343	7,438	7,486	7,334

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.37	0.53	0.23	0.31
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.63	99.47	99.77	99.69
Number	12,090	12,714	13,296	12,968

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	14.3	16.0	13.3	12.7
Guardianship	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6
Reunification	68.4	72.4	74.4	73.8
Other	10.0	11.0	11.7	12.5
Missing data	6.7	0.0	<.1	0.4
Number	5,092	5,494	5,690	5,413

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	27.3	29.5	33.8	12.6
Guardianship	2.3	2.1	1.4	3.7
Reunification	43.8	36.3	35.8	45.9
Other	23.4	32.2	29.1	29.6
Missing data	3.1	0.0	0.0	8.1
Number	128	146	148	135

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.7	2.4	1.5	1.0
Guardianship	0.9	0.9	0.6	1.0
Reunification	68.2	69.0	68.6	66.5
Other	25.4	27.6	29.2	30.3
Missing data	3.8	0.0	<.1	1.2
Number	1,599	1,724	1,851	1,846

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	20.1	19.1	15.6	16.5
Children older than 12 at entry	79.9	80.9	84.4	83.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	472	544	591	624

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7	0.0	0.0	16.8	14.4	14.4	11.3		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.9	0.2	1.1		
Reunification	66.7	50.0	50.0	0.0	88.9	66.7	66.7	100.0	59.6	68.7	71.5	70.4		
Other	0.0	20.0	50.0	0.0	11.1	16.7	33.3	0.0	15.8	16.0	13.8	16.7		
Missing data	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.2	0.0	0.1	0.6		
Number	9	10	4	0	9	6	6	7	685	806	891	851		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	35.0	25.0	17.4	22.7	13.8	16.0	12.8	11.9		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5		
Reunification	0.0	100.0	100.0	50.0	55.0	66.7	76.2	70.2	69.5	72.9	74.9	74.9		
Other	100.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	10.0	8.3	6.4	7.1	9.4	10.5	11.7	12.2		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.6	0.0	0.0	0.4		
Number	2	2	3	2	40	36	172	198	3,979	4,219	4,230	4,019		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	4.8	8.2	12.1	15.4	22.2	29.0	17.8	22.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	2.7	0.5	0.6	2.3	0.6	1.0	1.4	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	85.1	86.5	80.6	77.7	61.1	63.8	71.7	65.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	3.7	4.8	6.7	4.6	6.1	6.3	9.1	11.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	188	208	165	130	180	207	219	206	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	78.6	79.2	80.5	77.7
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	15.4	15.3	15.2	16.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	3.5	3.5	3.1	3.6
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.0	1.0	0.7	1.0
48 or more mos.	1.2	0.7	0.4	0.7
Missing data	0.3	0.2	<.1	0.3
Number	3,481	3,975	4,235	3,993

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	79.7	80.7	80.6	80.1
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	11.6	9.4	9.8	10.3
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	8.4	9.6	9.2	9.3
Missing data	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3
Number	5,561	5,950	6,315	5,795

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	4.1	3.2	3.3	2.3
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	18.3	25.8	27.0	27.4
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	28.2	35.6	33.0	36.2
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	22.0	17.6	16.5	19.5
48 or more mos.	25.7	17.8	20.2	14.6
Missing data	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	728	880	758	686

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	87.5	87.4	86.2	88.7	58.5	57.7	57.1	58.6	31.5	29.4	25.5	27.2	97.6	100.0	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	12.5	12.6	13.6	11.3	41.5	42.3	42.9	41.4	68.5	70.6	74.5	72.8	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	<.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	6,441	6,997	7,433	6,916	2,384	2,522	2,727	2,766	3,223	3,174	3,128	3,272	42	21	8	14

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1
Institutions	11.1	11.8	13.5	13.6
Other settings	88.9	88.2	86.5	86.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	3,666	3,889	3,992	3,638

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	124.6	129.4	128.2
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	75.7	76.9	77.6	75.2
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	5.5	5.3	5.5	6.2
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	37.7	54.7	55.3	52.2
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	14.9	15.9	13.4	12.7

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	123.1	129.8	132.4
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	22.8	29.0	30.3	29.8
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	35.4	31.3	30.1	29.8
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	23.0	27.4	24.4	21.9
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	0.1	23.6	20.8	21.4
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	100.0	44.3	56.4	53.7

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	129.4	127.5	122.0
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	28.0	30.4	26.9	25.8
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	100.0	94.1	91.7	89.5
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	33.9	33.6	30.1	31.0

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	92.5	89.8	94.6
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	86.1	86.2	85.0	87.7
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	58.6	57.7	57.3	58.8
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	30.9	29.1	25.5	27.7

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Louisiana

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	1,170,914	1,164,224	1,066,962	1,079,560
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Asian	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.4
Black	39.3	39.2	37.5	37.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.9
White	54.0	53.8	55.2	54.6
Two or more races	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8
Child population in poverty (%)	30.0	28.4	27.8	26.8

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	10,862	12,366	12,472	9,468
Children in foster care on 9/30	4,397	4,833	5,213	5,333
Children adopted	455	471	466	428

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	55
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	195
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	357
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	82
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,018
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,247

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	39,337	33.6 per 1,000	44,630	38.3 per 1,000	41,795	39.2 per 1,000	30,801	28.5 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	10,862	9.3 per 1,000	12,366	10.6 per 1,000	12,472	11.7 per 1,000	9,468	8.8 per 1,000
Child fatalities	18	1.5 per 100,000	21	1.8 per 100,000	37	3.5 per 100,000	27	2.5 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	8.4	9.3	11.0	14.8
1 year	6.4	6.6	7.2	6.9
2 years	6.0	6.4	6.6	7.2
3 years	7.4	6.6	6.6	6.2
4 years	7.6	6.3	6.0	6.3
5 years	6.1	6.5	6.4	5.9
6 years	6.4	6.1	6.4	6.5
7 years	5.9	6.1	5.6	5.9
8 years	5.7	5.2	4.8	5.1
9 years	5.1	4.7	5.1	4.9
10 years	5.4	5.1	4.5	4.3
11 years	5.2	4.7	4.5	4.6
12 years	5.5	5.1	4.5	4.1
13 years	4.9	4.7	5.1	4.2
14 years	4.8	5.0	4.9	4.5
15 years	4.4	4.3	4.3	3.9
16 years	3.4	3.9	3.3	3.3
17 years	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	1.9	1.8	0.1
Number	10,862	12,366	12,472	9,468

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
Asian	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1
Black	46.6	44.4	42.8	43.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	1.4	1.1	0.8	1.6
White	49.6	52.5	53.5	51.9
Two or more races	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.1
Missing data	1.3	1.2	1.8	2.0
Number	10,862	12,366	12,472	9,468

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	3.9	3.4	2.6	0.8
Medical neglect	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Neglect	75.0	76.2	78.9	78.9
Physical abuse	29.6	27.7	25.5	25.5
Sexual abuse	7.1	7.2	7.2	6.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3
Number	10,862	12,366	12,472	9,468

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	157.4	162.7	140.7	138.7
Median	>48 but<72	>48 but<72	>48 but<72	>72 but<96

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	4,314	4,224	4,634	5,008	2,754	3,371	3,965	3,633	2,671	2,762	3,386	3,308	4,397	4,833	5,213	5,333
Median length of stay (months)	15.5	15.3	12.4	12.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	11.8	11.4	8.7	11.3	14.8	11.9	11.8	12.6

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.5	4.0	5.6	5.9	11.7	14.0	14.2	17.1	2.9	4.6	4.9	5.0	4.0	5.5	5.8	6.7
1 year	5.8	6.7	6.4	8.2	6.6	7.2	8.1	7.8	6.1	6.3	6.3	7.4	6.7	6.3	8.3	7.7
2 years	5.5	5.4	6.7	7.0	6.1	6.1	6.9	7.8	6.5	7.1	6.4	8.1	5.4	6.6	7.0	7.9
3 years	5.6	5.3	5.3	6.3	5.8	5.7	5.9	6.2	7.0	5.6	6.8	7.2	5.2	5.3	6.3	7.0
4 years	4.7	4.8	4.9	5.4	5.3	4.0	5.6	6.2	6.1	5.8	5.9	6.1	4.7	4.8	5.2	6.1
5 years	4.4	4.1	4.1	4.8	4.6	5.3	5.0	5.1	5.9	4.9	4.3	5.4	4.0	4.1	4.7	5.3
6 years	4.4	3.8	4.2	5.0	3.8	4.7	5.8	5.0	4.9	4.8	5.0	5.4	3.8	4.1	4.9	4.8
7 years	3.6	3.7	4.0	4.3	3.7	3.7	4.2	3.8	4.5	3.5	4.7	4.7	3.7	3.9	4.3	4.2
8 years	4.2	3.6	4.2	3.9	4.5	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.3	4.0	4.3	4.6	3.5	4.1	4.0	4.0
9 years	3.6	4.4	3.5	4.1	3.3	3.1	4.1	3.3	3.2	3.4	3.7	3.9	4.3	3.5	4.0	3.7
10 years	5.0	3.7	4.2	3.8	3.2	4.2	3.6	3.4	3.7	3.7	3.4	4.0	3.7	4.1	3.7	3.7
11 years	4.8	5.0	4.1	4.4	4.6	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.2	4.0	3.7	3.7	4.9	4.1	4.3	3.5
12 years	6.4	4.8	4.9	4.3	4.8	5.1	3.9	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	4.7	4.9	4.3	4.4
13 years	5.9	7.1	5.8	5.0	6.3	5.9	5.3	4.4	4.5	3.9	4.5	3.8	7.2	6.0	5.0	4.5
14 years	7.5	7.5	7.8	6.2	7.4	7.4	6.5	5.1	4.7	5.4	5.2	4.3	7.5	8.0	6.6	5.6
15 years	8.3	9.6	8.2	7.9	9.6	6.9	6.3	6.0	5.9	6.8	5.9	5.1	9.8	8.5	8.3	6.6
16 years	8.7	9.5	8.5	7.4	6.9	7.1	5.8	5.3	6.5	7.9	7.1	5.9	9.7	8.8	7.5	8.1
17 years	7.2	7.1	7.7	6.1	1.7	1.7	1.2	1.5	10.2	5.2	10.9	11.6	7.1	7.7	6.0	6.1
18 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.5	9.4	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2
Asian	0.4	0.1	0.2	<.1	0.3	0.3	<.1	0.1	0.7	0.1	0.3	<.1	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.1
Black	56.3	55.9	51.1	49.3	53.8	48.4	48.0	47.1	53.5	54.3	49.3	47.9	56.4	51.5	49.9	48.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	0.9	0.8	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.2	0.7	1.9	1.4	0.6	1.0	1.5	0.8	1.2	1.0	1.4
White	40.5	41.3	45.8	47.7	43.2	48.3	49.0	47.5	42.7	42.6	47.4	48.1	40.9	45.5	47.2	47.3
Two or more races	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.4	0.7	0.7	1.3	0.8	1.1	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	1.2
Unknown	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.2	1.9	0.5	0.9	1.0	1.4	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	1,179	1,162	1,079	1,137
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	790	809	722	789

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.2	1.3	1.9	1.9
1 year	6.2	4.4	6.7	6.6
2 years	6.4	7.8	6.9	8.5
3 years	5.3	6.1	8.2	7.7
4 years	6.1	6.7	5.3	7.8
5 years	4.5	4.5	5.0	4.7
6 years	4.6	4.0	3.8	4.9
7 years	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.7
8 years	3.2	5.4	4.7	5.0
9 years	6.4	4.5	4.9	4.1
10 years	4.7	6.3	4.0	4.8
11 years	6.5	4.8	6.0	3.9
12 years	6.6	6.3	5.2	5.4
13 years	8.7	7.1	5.7	5.4
14 years	5.9	9.1	6.8	6.1
15 years	8.3	5.4	8.8	6.1
16 years	6.2	7.1	5.5	7.8
17 years	4.8	4.7	6.4	4.6

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.2	<.1	0.3
Asian	0.3	0.3	0.0	<.1
Black	58.2	57.1	56.5	49.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	0.7	0.9	1.5	1.3
White	38.5	39.9	40.2	47.1
Two or more races	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.3
Unknown	0.8	0.3	0.6	0.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	455	471	466	428

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7
1 year	7.5	7.2	6.2	11.4
2 years	11.6	16.3	13.5	17.5
3 years	9.5	10.0	12.7	12.1
4 years	10.8	11.5	13.5	10.3
5 years	10.3	9.1	7.5	7.9
6 years	9.0	6.2	8.2	6.3
7 years	5.7	6.6	5.2	5.8
8 years	6.8	5.3	7.9	5.4
9 years	3.7	5.1	4.3	5.1
10 years	6.2	5.5	4.3	5.1
11 years	5.5	5.1	4.5	4.2
12 years	2.2	3.0	2.8	2.1
13 years	3.3	3.6	3.9	1.6
14 years	2.6	0.8	1.9	2.1
15 years	2.2	1.9	1.9	1.2
16 years	1.5	1.5	0.6	0.5
17 years	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.5
18 years	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.2
Asian	0.7	0.0	0.9	0.0
Black	54.1	51.4	43.3	44.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.9
White	42.9	45.0	52.6	52.6
Two or more races	0.4	1.7	1.7	0.7
Unknown	0.4	0.8	0.2	0.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	93.5	93.4	94.1	95.9
Children with one or more recurrences	6.5	6.6	5.9	4.1
Number	4,799	5,294	5,554	4,730

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.27	0.59	0.59	0.21
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.73	99.41	99.41	99.79
Number	7,068	7,595	8,599	8,641

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	17.0	16.4	13.9	13.0
Guardianship	1.1	1.4	1.1	1.5
Reunification	69.4	70.3	73.4	74.7
Other	12.5	11.9	11.7	10.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,671	2,762	3,386	3,308

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	23.1	24.6	23.5	19.4
Guardianship	0.9	2.0	0.9	0.3
Reunification	46.3	51.5	50.6	45.1
Other	29.7	21.9	25.0	35.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	451	447	464	288

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.6	0.9	0.4	0.4
Guardianship	1.1	2.0	2.2	2.4
Reunification	71.3	74.6	72.8	67.7
Other	26.0	22.6	24.6	29.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	705	807	959	759

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	47.2	46.4	42.0	38.2
Children older than 12 at entry	52.8	53.6	58.0	61.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	265	263	293	280

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	27.3	22.2	14.3	10.0	16.7	0.0	36.4	0.0	17.2	15.3	12.3	12.1		
Guardianship	9.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	1.1	1.2	1.6		
Reunification	63.6	55.6	78.6	70.0	72.2	100.0	63.6	100.0	68.7	69.7	71.1	72.6		
Other	0.0	22.2	7.1	20.0	11.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.2	13.8	15.4	13.7		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	11	9	14	10	18	4	11	1	1,429	1,500	1,668	1,583		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.5	17.6	12.1	8.2	17.0	17.4	15.3	14.3		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.1	1.3	1.9	1.1	1.1		
Reunification	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	84.2	70.6	84.8	79.6	69.7	71.3	75.4	76.1		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.3	11.8	3.0	8.2	11.9	9.4	8.3	8.5		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	0	0	0	0	38	17	33	49	1,140	1,177	1,606	1,591		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	14.3	20.0	2.9	6.5	9.5	26.7	40.0	10.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	7.1	0.0	2.9	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	78.6	72.0	88.2	87.0	71.4	60.0	55.0	85.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	0.0	8.0	5.9	2.2	19.0	13.3	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	14	25	34	46	21	30	20	28	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	68.6	71.1	77.3	69.6
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	23.1	21.5	16.7	24.4
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	3.7	4.0	2.9	3.1
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.2	1.2	1.5	1.2
48 or more mos.	2.1	2.1	1.2	1.3
Missing data	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.4
Number	1,855	1,942	2,484	2,470

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	82.5	85.1	87.0	86.4
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	8.6	6.6	5.6	6.1
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	8.9	8.3	7.4	7.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,754	3,371	3,965	3,633

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	2.4	2.0	1.7	2.6
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	19.6	22.5	17.7	27.5
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	31.9	41.1	38.8	37.5
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	23.1	20.8	22.4	21.0
48 or more mos.	22.9	13.7	19.4	11.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	454	453	469	429

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	82.0	82.1	81.2	80.5	58.5	54.3	55.1	52.1	27.2	28.2	28.2	28.5	83.3	93.3	85.7	60.0
Children with 3 or more placements	16.8	15.9	17.0	17.7	41.5	45.7	44.7	47.9	72.8	71.8	71.8	71.5	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	1.2	2.0	1.9	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.5	6.7	14.3	40.0
Number	3,261	3,898	4,689	4,398	1,536	1,473	1,771	2,051	2,247	2,209	2,132	2,182	24	15	7	10

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	1.3	1.0	0.5	0.8
Institutions	4.3	2.5	2.0	1.7
Other settings	94.3	96.4	97.5	97.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,817	2,299	2,887	2,728

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	118.5	127.5	125.0
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	67.4	68.2	74.8	67.1
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	9.0	8.3	6.7	9.2
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	44.1	47.3	47.0	45.3
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	9.4	11.5	11.1	7.9

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	104.9	95.7	113.2
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	22.0	24.5	19.4	30.1
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	34.5	31.0	32.8	29.8
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	19.5	18.5	21.8	18.5
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	9.2	9.0	7.5	9.3
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	49.9	50.0	50.5	59.4

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	74.9	83.9	76.3
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	23.5	21.8	26.4	21.2
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	89.8	87.4	88.7	85.0
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	63.9	62.9	57.5	61.2

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	88.0	87.9	86.3
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	81.4	82.4	81.1	80.4
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	58.5	54.3	55.2	52.1
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	27.2	28.2	28.2	28.5

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	291,215	287,425	283,332	279,467
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Asian	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1
Black	1.5	1.6	1.8	1.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1
White	93.1	92.6	92.2	91.9
Two or more races	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.2
Child population in poverty (%)	17.1	17.5	17.6	15.4

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	4,235	3,349	3,548	4,118
Children in foster care on 9/30	2,589	2,343	2,082	1,975
Children adopted	308	320	331	329

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	49
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	57
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	9,543	32.8 per 1,000	9,241	32.2 per 1,000	9,788	34.6 per 1,000	11,009	39.4 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	4,235	14.5 per 1,000	3,349	11.7 per 1,000	3,548	12.5 per 1,000	4,118	14.7 per 1,000
Child fatalities	2	0.7 per 100,000	1	0.3 per 100,000	1	0.4 per 100,000	1	0.4 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	12.0	12.6	13.4	13.8
1 year	7.6	7.2	7.6	8.1
2 years	6.9	6.8	6.6	6.8
3 years	6.4	6.2	6.8	6.6
4 years	6.1	6.2	6.5	6.2
5 years	6.8	6.2	6.3	5.6
6 years	6.1	6.1	5.3	6.7
7 years	5.9	5.4	5.5	5.8
8 years	5.2	5.6	5.6	5.2
9 years	5.5	5.4	5.6	5.3
10 years	4.8	5.6	5.0	4.2
11 years	4.7	4.2	4.1	4.2
12 years	4.7	4.4	4.0	4.0
13 years	5.1	5.2	4.8	4.4
14 years	4.9	4.7	4.8	4.4
15 years	3.6	4.2	3.8	4.2
16 years	2.6	2.9	2.9	3.1
17 years	0.9	1.1	1.4	1.3
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	4,235	3,349	3,548	4,118

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.6	1.1	1.2	1.2
Asian	0.4	0.6	0.2	0.3
Black	1.3	1.8	1.4	1.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.9
White	61.3	63.5	64.9	63.2
Two or more races	1.3	1.7	1.7	2.1
Missing data	34.6	30.5	29.7	30.6
Number	4,235	3,349	3,548	4,118

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	54.0	44.9	38.9	39.8
Medical neglect	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Neglect	70.7	65.9	68.4	66.8
Physical abuse	26.9	22.4	17.8	17.4
Sexual abuse	12.3	12.7	10.6	8.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	4,235	3,349	3,548	4,118

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	358.8	253.2	123.8	104.0
Median	>240 but<264	>168 but<192	>96 but<120	>96 but<120

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	2,737	2,617	2,333	2,058	819	718	738	842	967	992	989	925	2,589	2,343	2,082	1,975
Median length of stay (months)	26.0	27.3	27.2	23.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	26.5	31.3	30.1	27.7	26.7	27.0	23.6	18.0

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.8	3.2	4.1	5.0	17.9	19.9	21.0	21.6	3.2	2.1	2.1	3.0	3.4	4.1	4.9	5.7
1 year	5.5	5.2	5.1	6.1	7.8	6.7	8.4	8.1	5.6	4.8	6.4	5.9	5.2	5.1	6.2	7.4
2 years	5.0	5.7	5.2	5.4	5.1	6.7	7.7	7.2	6.7	7.6	6.6	7.6	5.8	5.2	5.5	6.6
3 years	5.0	4.5	4.6	4.7	5.0	6.0	4.9	7.8	5.1	7.1	7.3	6.8	4.6	4.7	4.7	5.6
4 years	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.0	4.4	5.8	5.3	5.1	7.1	4.6	5.3	4.9	4.4	4.4	4.0	4.6
5 years	4.1	3.6	3.8	4.1	4.4	4.9	5.1	4.0	4.3	6.0	5.3	4.6	3.7	4.0	4.2	4.3
6 years	3.8	4.2	3.7	3.9	4.3	4.6	3.0	5.1	3.8	4.0	3.4	4.8	4.2	3.7	3.9	4.0
7 years	3.4	3.9	4.0	3.3	4.3	4.6	4.6	3.3	3.7	5.1	4.2	3.5	3.9	4.0	3.4	4.1
8 years	4.3	3.4	3.8	4.1	4.2	3.1	3.4	3.3	3.5	3.2	5.0	4.3	3.5	3.8	4.1	3.1
9 years	4.2	4.3	3.3	3.6	4.0	2.8	4.5	4.6	4.0	3.9	2.2	3.2	4.4	3.3	3.6	3.7
10 years	4.7	4.2	4.1	4.0	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.1	3.9	3.2	3.0	3.2	4.3	4.1	4.0	4.1
11 years	5.1	4.4	4.7	4.2	3.7	3.1	2.4	2.4	3.8	3.2	3.8	3.9	4.3	4.7	4.2	3.9
12 years	6.1	5.3	4.5	4.1	3.9	4.2	2.6	3.2	4.3	3.4	4.1	3.1	5.4	4.6	4.0	3.9
13 years	6.9	6.5	6.0	5.2	6.3	6.1	5.3	3.8	3.5	2.6	2.1	2.9	6.6	5.9	5.2	4.3
14 years	7.8	8.3	7.9	7.7	7.0	5.4	6.4	5.0	3.6	3.6	3.0	3.2	8.0	7.9	7.6	5.7
15 years	8.8	9.3	9.6	9.3	7.0	6.7	4.9	5.1	4.2	3.8	3.5	4.9	9.2	9.5	9.3	8.3
16 years	9.0	10.2	10.4	10.5	6.5	4.7	5.3	5.2	4.3	5.0	4.4	4.0	9.9	10.4	10.5	10.4
17 years	8.0	9.0	10.2	10.5	0.9	1.4	2.0	1.9	13.1	4.9	18.3	25.2	8.8	10.2	10.6	10.0
18 years	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.6	20.9	9.1	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.2	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.9	0.8	1.8	1.8	1.0	1.5	1.3	1.1
Asian	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5
Black	1.6	1.8	1.7	2.0	1.7	1.9	2.7	3.2	1.3	2.1	1.7	2.5	1.7	1.7	2.1	2.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.1	2.9	4.9	2.3	4.3	2.5	3.9	2.5	3.8	2.9	3.1	3.1	3.3
White	83.1	86.1	85.3	85.2	77.5	78.3	83.6	80.8	79.3	82.1	84.3	81.8	82.7	85.4	85.2	84.9
Two or more races	1.4	2.5	3.5	4.3	1.1	5.0	5.0	6.4	1.0	1.9	3.0	4.4	1.4	3.5	4.3	5.1
Unknown	9.6	5.2	4.4	3.5	14.8	7.2	4.6	3.8	13.8	8.6	6.4	5.2	9.7	4.4	3.5	2.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	851	789	680	619
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	679	704	623	571

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.7	0.6	0.7	2.3
1 year	3.6	3.8	4.4	6.5
2 years	8.9	6.6	5.4	7.4
3 years	5.9	5.8	5.6	4.4
4 years	6.2	5.4	4.0	3.2
5 years	5.1	5.7	5.4	6.3
6 years	6.0	4.9	4.6	5.7
7 years	6.2	5.1	4.7	5.5
8 years	5.1	6.0	5.9	3.7
9 years	6.5	4.8	5.9	4.8
10 years	6.1	7.6	6.0	5.2
11 years	6.2	7.4	7.6	6.5
12 years	6.9	6.3	7.1	5.7
13 years	7.9	7.1	6.3	6.3
14 years	8.5	8.5	7.9	6.5
15 years	5.6	8.7	9.6	9.0
16 years	2.7	3.4	5.3	6.9
17 years	1.9	2.2	3.5	4.2

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.2	1.6	1.0	1.1
Asian	0.6	0.1	0.3	0.6
Black	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	3.6	2.8	3.1	3.6
White	84.6	88.7	88.8	85.1
Two or more races	1.6	3.0	3.1	6.0
Unknown	6.8	2.2	2.4	2.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	308	320	331	329

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.3	1.3	0.0	0.3
1 year	7.5	5.6	8.2	7.6
2 years	11.0	12.5	10.3	12.2
3 years	11.4	12.5	13.0	10.6
4 years	11.0	5.9	9.7	7.3
5 years	7.8	8.8	8.2	5.2
6 years	7.5	5.3	6.3	8.5
7 years	5.2	8.1	5.1	4.6
8 years	5.8	5.6	6.6	9.4
9 years	5.5	5.6	3.3	5.2
10 years	5.2	4.4	4.8	4.6
11 years	4.5	3.8	5.1	5.8
12 years	7.5	5.6	6.6	4.9
13 years	2.9	3.8	2.1	4.9
14 years	2.9	4.1	3.9	1.8
15 years	1.9	3.8	2.7	2.4
16 years	1.0	0.9	2.7	2.4
17 years	0.6	2.5	0.3	2.1
18 years	0.3	0.0	0.9	0.3
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.0	2.5	2.4	0.9
Asian	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0
Black	0.3	1.6	1.5	0.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	3.2	4.1	2.4	3.0
White	79.5	82.8	89.7	88.4
Two or more races	2.3	0.9	3.0	3.0
Unknown	13.6	6.6	0.9	4.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	91.8	91.6	93.7	92.7
Children with one or more recurrences	8.2	8.4	6.3	7.3
Number	2,016	1,615	1,671	1,909

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.28	0.30	0.03	0.17
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.72	99.70	99.97	99.83
Number	3,556	3,335	3,071	2,900

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	29.1	32.0	33.3	35.4
Guardianship	0.2	0.3	1.5	5.2
Reunification	49.2	45.1	41.0	36.4
Other	21.5	22.7	24.3	23.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	967	992	989	925

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	27.7	41.7	44.0	42.7
Guardianship	0.7	0.6	1.5	3.6
Reunification	35.0	22.2	24.5	19.6
Other	36.5	35.6	30.0	34.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	137	180	200	225

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.3	2.3	2.5	3.2
Guardianship	0.4	0.9	1.0	3.7
Reunification	45.7	41.7	42.3	34.9
Other	52.6	55.0	54.2	58.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	230	218	201	189

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	39.3	45.9	54.7	48.8
Children older than 12 at entry	60.7	54.1	45.3	51.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	196	218	234	205

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	11.1	37.5	44.4	17.6	0.0	83.3	0.0	0.0	7.7	28.6	29.4	13.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.7		
Reunification	66.7	50.0	55.6	47.1	100.0	16.7	0.0	100.0	69.2	52.4	41.2	30.4		
Other	22.2	12.5	0.0	35.3	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	23.1	19.0	29.4	47.8		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	18	8	18	17	1	6	1	3	13	21	17	23		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	41.7	33.3	32.0	28.6	28.7	32.7	34.9	38.3		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0	2.9	0.3	0.0	1.7	5.4		
Reunification	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	37.5	59.0	52.0	60.0	47.3	43.2	38.2	33.3		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.8	5.1	16.0	8.6	23.7	24.1	25.2	23.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	0	0	1	0	24	39	25	35	767	814	834	757		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	30.8	24.7	9.5	25.0	70.0	15.8	36.7	22.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	2.4	0.0	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	58.6	51.8	73.0	45.8	30.0	63.2	33.3	56.1	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0		
Other	10.5	21.2	17.5	25.0	0.0	21.1	30.0	17.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	133	85	63	48	10	19	30	41	1	0	0	1		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	40.8	40.9	40.7	48.1
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	34.2	30.9	32.6	32.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	13.2	13.2	11.1	9.5
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	5.0	6.5	6.7	3.3
48 or more mos.	6.1	8.3	8.1	6.5
Missing data	0.6	0.2	0.7	0.6
Number	476	447	405	337

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	86.3	86.9	87.1	85.4
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	7.0	6.3	4.3	5.8
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	6.7	6.8	8.5	8.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Number	819	718	738	842

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	2.5	1.3	1.2	0.9
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	14.6	11.0	13.7	21.7
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	27.0	23.0	27.7	30.9
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	26.0	24.6	26.1	22.0
48 or more mos.	29.9	40.1	31.3	24.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	281	317	329	327

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	79.6	82.5	83.8	88.0	56.6	59.9	61.5	64.3	22.8	27.6	26.4	28.5	100.0	100.0	75.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	18.5	17.0	15.7	12.0	43.2	40.1	38.5	35.5	77.2	72.4	73.6	71.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	1.9	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.0	0.0
Number	898	800	803	918	740	681	654	631	1,911	1,851	1,610	1,349	7	3	4	2

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	2.6	6.1	5.4	4.6
Institutions	0.7	0.2	0.0	0.3
Other settings	90.4	72.4	78.1	91.5
Missing data	6.4	21.2	16.5	3.7
Number	582	537	552	657

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	117.6	133.5	131.8
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	46.3	64.0	74.0	76.4
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	13.1	6.9	3.7	2.6
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	29.6	25.6	25.6	30.0
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	6.3	9.5	7.6	9.6

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	42.7	69.8	81.7
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	17.1	12.3	14.9	22.6
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	38.9	42.8	38.3	35.2
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	14.7	18.2	20.5	22.3
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	6.7	8.1	9.1	9.4
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	21.6	21.4	27.6	36.3

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	88.3	91.9	95.9
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	19.7	24.8	25.7	26.8
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	92.4	90.9	90.8	89.6
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	69.2	76.1	69.5	70.5

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	89.8	92.0	96.9
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	80.4	82.2	83.8	87.7
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	56.7	59.9	61.5	64.4
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	22.8	27.6	26.5	28.6

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Maryland

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	1,377,939	1,375,018	1,368,470	1,358,797
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Asian	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.5
Black	31.9	31.8	31.7	31.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	7.0	7.6	8.3	9.0
White	53.9	53.2	52.4	51.6
Two or more races	2.7	2.8	2.9	3.0
Child population in poverty (%)	11.4	10.8	9.7	10.5

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	15,180	14,603	—	—
Children in foster care on 9/30	11,111	10,867	10,451	9,949
Children adopted	915	636	364	203

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	74
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	219
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	298
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	68
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,468
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,154

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	30,538	22.2 per 1,000	29,289	21.3 per 1,000	—	— per 1,000	—	— per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	15,180	11.0 per 1,000	14,603	10.6 per 1,000	—	— per 1,000	—	— per 1,000
Child fatalities	28	2.0 per 100,000	28	2.0 per 100,000	—	— per 100,000	—	— per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	8.2	9.8	—	—
1 year	5.1	5.4	—	—
2 years	5.1	5.1	—	—
3 years	5.7	5.9	—	—
4 years	6.1	6.1	—	—
5 years	6.0	6.3	—	—
6 years	6.5	6.1	—	—
7 years	6.1	5.9	—	—
8 years	5.5	4.9	—	—
9 years	5.3	4.6	—	—
10 years	5.1	4.9	—	—
11 years	5.0	4.8	—	—
12 years	5.7	5.5	—	—
13 years	6.0	5.4	—	—
14 years	5.8	5.6	—	—
15 years	5.3	5.6	—	—
16 years	4.4	4.6	—	—
17 years	3.0	3.4	—	—
18+ years	0.0	0.0	—	—
Missing data	0.0	0.0	—	—
Number	15,180	14,603	—	—

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.1	—	—
Asian	0.9	0.9	—	—
Black	47.5	48.1	—	—
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	—	—
Hispanic (of any race)	4.8	5.4	—	—
White	40.0	39.2	—	—
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	—	—
Missing data	6.5	6.3	—	—
Number	15,180	14,603	—	—

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	0.3	0.3	—	—
Medical neglect	0.0	0.0	—	—
Neglect	59.2	61.8	—	—
Physical abuse	30.4	26.7	—	—
Sexual abuse	12.4	13.4	—	—
Missing data	0.0	0.0	—	—
Other	0.0	0.0	—	—
Number	15,180	14,603	—	—

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	—	—	—	—
Median	—	—	—	—

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	10,749	10,193	10,160	9,902	3,564	3,353	3,241	2,840	3,265	2,679	2,950	2,793	11,111	10,867	10,451	9,949
Median length of stay (months)	32.4	30.6	31.7	31.9	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	21.4	17.7	19.3	24.4	31.1	30.4	32.0	32.5

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.6	3.7	3.9	4.2	18.3	20.5	20.1	17.2	5.4	7.1	5.0	3.8	3.7	4.0	4.2	3.3
1 year	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.6	5.0	6.6	6.0	6.4	5.1	5.4	5.3	5.6	4.4	4.6	4.7	4.9
2 years	3.8	4.3	4.2	4.2	5.1	4.4	4.8	4.9	6.0	6.8	6.0	6.2	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.5
3 years	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.8	4.7	4.0	4.6	4.3	5.5	5.4	5.2	5.4	3.5	3.8	4.0	3.9
4 years	3.7	3.4	3.1	3.2	4.6	4.1	4.4	4.7	5.1	4.7	4.7	4.6	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.7
5 years	3.8	3.4	3.1	3.1	4.1	3.7	4.1	3.7	5.0	4.4	4.3	3.8	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.3
6 years	3.4	3.8	3.4	3.3	3.5	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.8	3.9	3.6	3.8	3.4	3.3	3.0
7 years	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.2	4.2	3.5	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.4	3.5	3.2	3.6	3.3	3.4
8 years	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.4	3.0	3.1	3.8	3.9	4.0	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.5	3.4
9 years	4.2	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.9	3.0	3.9	3.3	3.7	3.3	3.2	2.7	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.6
10 years	4.8	4.3	3.6	3.3	4.6	3.9	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.7	3.4	2.7	4.2	3.5	3.3	3.7
11 years	5.7	5.2	4.3	3.7	4.5	3.7	3.6	3.7	4.3	3.8	2.9	2.5	5.0	4.2	3.8	3.5
12 years	6.0	5.9	5.4	4.6	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.1	4.3	3.5	3.2	5.7	5.3	4.7	4.1
13 years	6.7	6.6	6.2	5.6	6.3	5.8	5.5	5.4	4.5	3.9	3.5	3.2	6.4	6.1	5.6	5.2
14 years	7.3	7.4	7.3	6.9	6.3	6.6	6.7	6.8	5.2	5.1	4.5	4.2	7.2	7.0	6.9	6.4
15 years	8.0	8.0	8.1	7.9	6.4	7.2	6.9	7.4	4.7	4.7	5.2	4.8	7.7	8.0	7.9	7.7
16 years	7.5	8.8	8.3	8.5	5.9	6.9	5.3	6.5	5.8	7.3	4.9	5.4	8.3	8.2	8.3	8.4
17 years	6.7	7.4	8.1	8.5	4.1	4.0	4.2	4.0	5.6	6.1	5.0	5.9	7.0	8.2	8.2	8.4
18 years	5.4	5.2	5.5	6.5	0.1	0.2	0.2	1.2	6.2	7.2	7.9	8.5	5.3	5.6	6.3	6.8
19 years	3.4	4.1	3.8	4.3	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.2	2.7	3.1	3.4	4.0	4.1	3.9	4.2	5.1
20+ years	1.4	<.1	3.1	3.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.1	1.7	1.2	8.5	9.3	2.7	3.3	3.0	3.5
Missing data	0.0	<.1	0.3	0.5	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	3.7	0.0	3.0	3.6	<.1	0.0	0.4	0.4

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	<.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
Asian	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4
Black	75.7	74.9	75.7	74.6	62.7	63.7	61.7	60.6	65.2	66.3	66.5	66.0	74.5	73.6	74.0	73.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.9	3.4	3.3	3.0	3.7	3.2	2.7	2.1	2.5	1.6	1.8	1.9	2.2
White	20.1	20.8	20.4	21.4	28.9	28.5	32.1	31.8	27.2	26.8	27.4	28.5	20.8	21.6	22.0	22.4
Two or more races	1.1	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	1.4	0.0	0.0	1.9	1.4	0.0	0.0	1.1	1.0	0.0	0.0
Unknown	1.2	1.3	1.7	1.5	2.5	2.5	2.7	3.4	2.0	2.2	3.6	2.6	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	2,202	1,954	1,656	1,760
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	1,200	1,093	338	468

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.8	0.8	1.8	1.6
1 year	4.5	4.4	6.5	7.5
2 years	6.9	7.4	8.2	8.6
3 years	4.8	5.9	8.2	7.8
4 years	5.2	4.7	6.2	8.2
5 years	5.1	4.7	6.1	5.7
6 years	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.6
7 years	5.2	5.2	6.0	5.9
8 years	4.8	5.2	6.0	6.1
9 years	4.8	4.9	5.8	5.7
10 years	5.9	4.4	5.1	5.6
11 years	6.4	6.1	5.1	4.7
12 years	7.8	6.4	6.7	4.5
13 years	6.7	7.8	5.3	6.0
14 years	7.8	6.9	5.4	4.4
15 years	7.4	8.1	4.8	4.9
16 years	5.8	6.1	3.9	3.7
17 years	4.4	5.5	3.3	3.2

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	<.1	<.1	0.1	0.2
Asian	<.1	0.0	0.3	0.2
Black	77.2	74.5	70.1	66.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	1.1	1.2	1.6	2.7
White	18.4	20.9	24.6	27.3
Two or more races	1.1	1.2	0.0	0.0
Unknown	1.9	2.0	3.3	2.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	915	636	364	203

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.5	1.7	0.3	2.0
1 year	6.1	4.7	4.1	7.9
2 years	10.5	13.5	16.8	13.8
3 years	9.5	11.0	14.8	13.3
4 years	10.3	8.0	7.4	10.8
5 years	9.7	9.0	6.9	10.3
6 years	6.6	7.1	6.6	5.4
7 years	5.9	8.0	5.2	6.9
8 years	5.8	6.0	6.3	6.9
9 years	5.0	5.7	5.2	1.5
10 years	6.2	4.2	5.2	3.0
11 years	4.7	3.0	3.0	2.5
12 years	5.6	4.4	4.7	4.9
13 years	2.1	2.4	2.2	2.5
14 years	4.7	4.2	2.7	4.9
15 years	1.7	2.2	2.7	1.0
16 years	3.1	3.9	2.5	0.5
17 years	1.5	0.9	2.7	1.5
18 years	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.5
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.1	0.6	0.0	0.0
Black	71.0	62.1	68.4	58.1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	1.1	0.9	1.6	1.0
White	21.4	31.1	25.8	27.6
Two or more races	3.5	3.0	1.4	9.4
Unknown	2.8	2.2	2.7	3.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	93.0	92.8	—	—
Children with one or more recurrences	7.0	7.2	—	—
Number	7,000	6,651	—	—

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.10	0.12	—	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.90	99.88	—	—
Number	14,313	13,546	—	—

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	20.2	13.8	16.5	12.6
Guardianship	1.1	0.6	1.4	5.8
Reunification	57.9	47.1	50.2	47.1
Other	15.9	8.7	17.6	19.0
Missing data	4.8	29.7	14.3	15.4
Number	3,265	2,679	2,950	2,793

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	21.6	14.5	0.0	0.0
Guardianship	1.2	1.1	0.0	0.0
Reunification	47.4	42.8	100.0	83.3
Other	24.4	11.8	0.0	0.0
Missing data	5.4	29.9	0.0	16.7
Number	755	663	1	6

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.9	1.0	2.6	2.8
Guardianship	1.7	0.4	1.6	3.2
Reunification	51.5	48.5	43.2	38.8
Other	36.5	18.3	36.1	36.8
Missing data	8.4	31.7	16.5	18.4
Number	776	703	770	778

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	42.7	39.3	45.9	46.4
Children older than 12 at entry	57.3	60.7	53.0	52.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.7
Number	361	140	434	461

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	25.0	50.0	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.3	14.6	15.0	11.8		
Guardianship	16.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.7	1.7	6.6		
Reunification	66.7	33.3	25.0	0.0	33.3	53.8	83.3	44.4	55.5	46.3	47.4	44.1		
Other	16.7	33.3	25.0	50.0	11.1	7.7	16.7	33.3	16.1	8.8	19.9	20.6		
Missing data	0.0	33.3	25.0	0.0	22.2	38.5	0.0	22.2	4.1	29.6	16.0	16.9		
Number	6	3	4	2	9	13	6	9	2,129	1,776	1,963	1,843		

	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.5	5.6	6.3	7.1	14.9	13.0	19.5	13.7		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	1.5	0.6	0.9	4.5		
Reunification	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	58.5	48.6	69.8	67.1	62.3	49.3	54.5	52.8		
Other	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	15.1	13.9	12.7	10.0	16.1	8.9	13.6	16.9		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.9	31.9	11.1	14.3	5.2	28.3	11.5	12.1		
Number	1	0	2	0	106	72	63	70	887	718	807	795		

	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	13.6	13.6	28.6	25.7	21.3	13.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	1.7	1.0	6.8	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	68.2	49.2	57.1	43.2	68.9	36.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	12.1	0.0	6.7	10.8	8.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	6.1	35.6	6.7	13.5	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	66	59	105	74	61	38	0	0	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	48.4	50.0	49.9	36.7
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	23.1	24.2	22.8	30.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	12.1	10.9	11.4	13.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	4.1	5.6	6.0	6.3
48 or more mos.	9.4	9.4	9.9	12.5
Missing data	3.0	0.0	<.1	0.0
Number	1,891	1,262	1,481	1,316

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	80.5	78.7	78.2	77.4
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	7.3	8.5	9.2	7.8
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	12.2	12.5	12.5	14.7
Missing data	0.0	0.2	<.1	<.1
Number	3,564	3,353	3,241	2,840

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	4.1	3.5	19.3	21.6
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	10.6	15.1	24.4	13.4
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	22.4	21.9	18.7	15.6
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	16.6	17.8	9.2	9.9
48 or more mos.	46.1	41.6	26.9	29.5
Missing data	0.2	0.0	1.4	9.9
Number	661	370	487	352

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	93.5	89.7	83.3	79.1	79.8	77.5	67.8	56.6	50.5	51.2	41.1	29.4	100.0	100.0	55.6	45.2
Children with 3 or more placements	6.5	10.3	16.2	20.6	20.2	22.5	32.0	43.3	49.5	48.8	58.8	70.6	0.0	0.0	44.4	54.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.2	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	3,898	3,705	3,569	3,076	2,504	2,537	2,344	2,329	7,895	7,285	7,470	7,275	16	19	18	62

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	7.4	11.6	14.2	9.6
Institutions	1.3	2.8	0.2	0.7
Other settings	90.2	84.3	85.2	88.2
Missing data	1.1	1.3	0.5	1.5
Number	2,503	2,279	2,260	1,875

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	99.7	89.2	66.4
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	54.7	55.5	52.1	39.6
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	10.3	9.9	11.5	15.6
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	22.4	23.9	13.9	21.7
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	14.4	11.6	12.5	14.7

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	46.4	63.4	62.8
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	14.8	18.7	45.4	39.4
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	44.5	42.3	25.9	29.9
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	9.8	5.7	5.1	3.8
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	4.2	3.9	0.6	1.5
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	42.9	40.0	24.8	43.5

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	89.7	72.9	91.1
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	16.1	10.4	10.0	10.8
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	98.2	98.7	94.4	97.5
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	63.1	62.6	65.0	60.8

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	112.4	101.4	87.6
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	93.1	89.2	82.8	79.6
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	79.7	77.4	68.2	57.0
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	51.0	51.7	44.2	30.9

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Massachusetts

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	1,477,598	1,462,155	1,446,323	1,432,856
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Asian	4.6	4.8	4.9	5.1
Black	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	11.7	12.0	12.3	12.7
White	74.0	73.5	72.8	72.2
Two or more races	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4
Child population in poverty (%)	12.5	13.6	12.4	12.9

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	36,201	35,887	36,151	37,690
Children in foster care on 9/30	12,562	12,197	11,499	10,494
Children adopted	812	832	874	795

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	40
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	52
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	81,219	55.0 per 1,000	79,909	54.7 per 1,000	79,855	55.2 per 1,000	80,752	56.4 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	36,201	24.5 per 1,000	35,887	24.5 per 1,000	36,151	25.0 per 1,000	37,690	26.3 per 1,000
Child fatalities	11	0.7 per 100,000	7	0.5 per 100,000	6	0.4 per 100,000	16	1.1 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	8.7	9.2	9.9	10.7
1 year	6.2	5.8	6.5	6.7
2 years	5.8	5.8	5.9	6.1
3 years	6.0	5.8	5.7	6.0
4 years	5.8	5.8	5.9	5.8
5 years	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.9
6 years	5.9	5.9	5.9	6.0
7 years	5.6	5.5	5.9	5.6
8 years	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.6
9 years	5.5	5.3	5.1	5.2
10 years	5.3	5.4	5.2	4.9
11 years	5.4	5.4	4.9	4.7
12 years	5.5	5.6	5.1	4.6
13 years	5.6	5.5	5.3	4.9
14 years	5.6	5.4	5.5	5.2
15 years	5.1	5.3	5.0	5.1
16 years	4.0	4.1	4.4	4.3
17 years	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2
Number	36,201	35,887	36,151	37,690

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.6
Black	14.0	13.5	12.5	12.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	21.2	20.8	21.9	23.0
White	45.6	45.4	45.3	44.5
Two or more races	2.2	2.6	2.8	2.6
Missing data	15.1	15.7	15.7	15.7
Number	36,201	35,887	36,151	37,690

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Medical neglect	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Neglect	90.5	91.1	91.5	92.1
Physical abuse	15.0	14.1	12.9	12.5
Sexual abuse	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	36,201	35,887	36,151	37,690

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	19.0	18.6	—	—
Median	<24	<24	—	—

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	12,293	12,274	11,869	10,285	6,616	6,252	6,377	6,408	6,347	6,329	6,747	6,199	12,562	12,197	11,499	10,494
Median length of stay (months)	19.1	18.9	18.9	15.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	12.6	13.4	14.8	13.3	18.4	18.5	16.8	14.3

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.3	3.4	3.4	4.3	10.9	11.0	12.1	14.0	3.1	2.9	3.0	3.4	3.4	3.4	4.0	5.3
1 year	4.0	4.1	4.3	5.0	4.7	5.0	4.6	5.0	4.6	4.8	4.5	5.8	4.2	4.2	4.6	5.5
2 years	3.8	3.9	3.8	4.2	4.3	4.3	3.9	4.5	4.2	5.1	4.8	4.7	3.9	3.8	3.9	4.6
3 years	3.6	3.8	3.3	4.1	3.9	3.6	4.2	3.9	4.3	5.1	4.0	4.5	3.8	3.3	3.7	4.0
4 years	3.6	3.5	3.3	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.8	3.8	4.2	4.0	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.5	3.9
5 years	3.7	3.1	3.4	3.7	3.2	3.9	3.5	3.5	3.9	4.0	3.8	3.7	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.7
6 years	3.4	3.5	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.6	3.0	3.4	3.8	3.5	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.0	3.1	3.7
7 years	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.4	2.6	3.6	4.0	3.6	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.0	3.1
8 years	3.5	3.2	3.3	3.6	3.0	3.3	3.1	2.8	3.1	3.1	3.1	2.9	3.1	3.3	3.3	3.0
9 years	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.6	3.3	3.5	3.2	2.9	3.3	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.4
10 years	4.2	3.7	3.2	3.7	3.5	2.8	3.2	2.8	3.3	3.4	2.9	2.9	3.6	3.2	3.4	3.6
11 years	4.6	4.2	3.9	3.7	3.7	4.2	3.0	2.9	3.8	3.3	2.9	2.4	4.1	3.9	3.3	3.6
12 years	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.9	5.2	4.9	4.7	4.6	4.1	3.2	3.3	3.2	4.7	4.4	4.5	4.3
13 years	6.2	6.4	6.0	5.8	8.2	6.8	6.5	6.6	4.5	4.5	3.8	3.7	6.3	6.0	5.4	5.8
14 years	8.5	7.8	7.5	8.3	10.3	9.5	9.3	10.1	6.7	6.0	5.2	5.2	8.0	7.7	7.8	8.3
15 years	9.7	10.2	9.8	10.6	12.0	12.7	11.3	12.1	9.2	8.9	7.9	8.3	10.3	10.0	10.0	11.0
16 years	9.8	10.0	10.9	12.0	9.5	10.0	10.8	10.3	9.9	9.7	9.1	9.7	10.1	11.0	11.0	11.9
17 years	9.0	9.0	9.2	12.1	3.6	3.2	4.3	4.4	9.5	8.0	14.1	25.7	8.9	9.1	10.9	11.3
18 years	3.3	4.0	4.3	0.1	0.3	0.7	1.1	0.0	7.2	8.7	8.9	0.6	3.9	4.3	0.4	<.1
19 years	2.0	2.3	2.8	0.0	<.1	0.3	0.7	0.0	1.4	1.8	2.1	0.0	2.3	2.8	3.2	0.0
20+ years	1.3	1.4	1.8	0.0	<.1	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.7	0.9	1.1	0.0	1.4	1.8	2.4	0.0
Missing data	0.9	1.2	1.5	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	1.8	2.0	2.1	0.0	1.1	1.4	2.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.1	0.1	<.1	0.3	<.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Asian	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.3	2.1	2.2	1.7	2.1	2.1	2.5	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.5
Black	17.9	17.3	17.5	16.2	15.3	15.6	15.6	14.9	16.5	15.3	16.9	15.2	17.2	17.4	16.8	16.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	25.0	24.8	24.9	25.7	25.0	24.4	24.1	25.0	26.1	24.5	24.1	24.5	24.4	24.7	24.9	26.0
White	49.5	49.6	49.4	49.0	48.9	50.0	49.0	49.2	48.5	50.0	49.4	50.4	49.7	49.6	49.1	48.3
Two or more races	2.7	3.2	3.3	3.8	3.1	3.5	3.9	3.7	2.6	3.3	3.6	3.2	3.0	3.3	3.5	4.1
Unknown	2.9	3.1	3.1	3.6	4.0	3.5	4.1	4.3	3.1	3.5	3.0	4.0	3.4	3.1	3.7	3.8
Missing data	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	1.4	0.7	1.4	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.3	<.1	0.4	<.1

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	3,006	2,925	2,705	2,867
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	1,159	1,629	1,279	1,536

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.7	3.8	5.4	6.0
1 year	8.8	9.4	10.1	10.4
2 years	8.7	8.3	8.4	8.6
3 years	8.1	7.5	7.9	7.5
4 years	8.1	7.7	7.1	7.1
5 years	7.2	7.1	6.7	6.7
6 years	8.2	6.6	6.3	6.3
7 years	6.9	6.7	6.0	5.9
8 years	6.0	6.4	6.6	5.4
9 years	6.6	5.9	5.9	5.8
10 years	5.8	5.4	5.3	5.3
11 years	5.8	5.4	4.8	4.9
12 years	4.8	5.2	5.0	4.3
13 years	4.0	4.8	4.2	4.6
14 years	3.4	4.0	4.1	3.9
15 years	2.7	3.5	3.5	3.6
16 years	0.8	1.9	1.8	2.2
17 years	0.6	0.5	0.9	1.3

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	<.1	0.2	<.1	<.1
Asian	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.7
Black	15.3	15.1	14.6	14.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	29.6	28.3	28.2	26.8
White	45.6	46.7	46.1	46.8
Two or more races	4.3	4.7	5.4	6.0
Unknown	4.0	4.0	5.0	5.1
Missing data	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	812	832	874	795

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.4	0.8	1.0	1.9
1 year	10.0	12.7	11.8	17.2
2 years	11.6	14.4	15.6	12.1
3 years	10.2	12.4	11.4	11.7
4 years	10.6	10.7	9.3	7.5
5 years	7.6	8.3	9.3	7.7
6 years	9.6	7.6	6.6	6.3
7 years	5.0	7.0	7.9	6.8
8 years	6.7	5.5	5.8	4.9
9 years	4.9	5.2	4.5	6.9
10 years	5.8	4.3	4.8	4.3
11 years	5.5	3.1	2.4	3.1
12 years	3.3	3.0	3.7	3.3
13 years	3.4	1.6	1.7	1.9
14 years	1.4	1.3	1.5	1.5
15 years	1.4	1.1	1.0	1.3
16 years	0.9	0.5	0.9	1.3
17 years	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.1
18 years	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.1
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0
Asian	1.1	0.4	0.8	0.6
Black	16.3	15.4	14.3	10.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	25.9	27.4	25.2	27.5
White	49.3	46.6	50.8	48.3
Two or more races	3.9	4.7	5.4	6.4
Unknown	3.6	5.2	3.4	6.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

Massachusetts

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	89.4	89.4	88.0	88.7
Children with one or more recurrences	10.6	10.6	12.0	11.3
Number	17,484	16,957	17,066	17,746

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	1.13	1.27	0.95	0.86
Children not maltreated while in foster care	98.87	98.73	99.05	99.14
Number	18,909	18,526	18,246	16,693

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	12.6	14.1	13.3	13.1
Guardianship	8.8	8.0	6.8	7.5
Reunification	65.5	64.2	59.3	59.6
Other	13.1	13.7	20.6	19.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1
Number	6,347	6,329	6,747	6,199

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	46.5	44.6	40.1	38.9
Guardianship	6.1	7.5	4.8	6.7
Reunification	35.0	32.5	29.0	30.2
Other	12.4	15.4	26.0	24.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	637	747	937	935

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
Guardianship	3.1	3.3	3.3	2.8
Reunification	72.2	70.1	61.4	63.2
Other	24.4	26.4	35.3	33.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1
Number	2,600	2,568	2,884	2,646

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	23.7	21.9	26.2	27.0
Children older than 12 at entry	76.2	78.1	73.5	73.0
Missing data	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0
Number	731	773	1,283	1,149

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	15.8	0.0	9.6	3.1	4.3	5.4	11.8	13.6	11.7	9.1		
Guardianship	11.1	0.0	5.3	0.0	9.6	7.5	10.1	3.6	8.4	8.7	7.5	10.7		
Reunification	77.8	40.0	68.4	80.0	68.9	82.0	64.5	65.2	64.0	61.3	54.1	56.8		
Other	11.1	60.0	10.5	20.0	11.9	7.5	21.0	25.9	15.7	16.5	26.7	23.3		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	9	5	19	5	135	161	138	112	1,048	971	1,140	940		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	50.0	0.0	20.0	13.0	16.0	14.3	15.0	12.7	13.2	13.4	12.7		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.0	7.6	6.5	4.9	5.3	9.9	8.6	7.5	7.7		
Reunification	100.0	50.0	0.0	40.0	68.3	64.8	62.9	60.0	63.8	63.8	58.4	59.8		
Other	0.0	0.0	100.0	20.0	11.0	12.7	17.9	19.7	13.7	14.3	20.8	19.7		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1		
Number	1	2	1	5	1,657	1,553	1,629	1,521	3,078	3,164	3,335	3,127		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	14.2	20.0	15.2	18.0	15.8	21.9	18.7	25.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	4.6	7.3	7.4	10.4	10.9	7.6	6.2	5.1	1.8	4.7	5.0	0.0		
Reunification	66.5	62.3	62.7	60.4	65.5	63.8	61.4	58.2	91.2	83.7	80.0	74.4		
Other	14.7	10.5	14.7	11.2	7.9	6.7	13.7	11.2	7.0	11.6	15.0	25.6		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	197	220	204	250	165	210	241	196	57	43	40	43		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	68.4	66.9	65.3	69.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	18.7	20.2	20.5	20.4
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	6.3	6.7	7.0	6.4
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.5	2.7	2.9	2.2
48 or more mos.	3.8	3.6	4.3	2.1
Missing data	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	4,158	4,062	3,998	3,693

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	76.6	76.2	74.8	76.7
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	11.4	11.2	11.4	11.5
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	12.0	12.5	13.9	11.8
Missing data	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	6,616	6,252	6,377	6,408

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	1.8	1.2	1.3	2.6
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	17.6	22.3	21.6	28.6
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	29.6	23.8	28.4	30.6
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	24.3	20.8	20.2	16.8
48 or more mos.	26.7	31.8	28.4	21.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	797	895	897	814

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	79.6	75.3	75.3	74.4	52.8	48.5	49.3	49.1	26.5	23.8	22.8	22.0	90.7	96.4	57.1	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	20.0	24.7	24.5	25.5	47.2	51.5	50.7	50.9	73.5	76.2	77.2	78.0	0.0	3.6	42.9	0.0
Missing data	0.4	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	7,746	7,438	7,590	7,570	3,867	3,918	3,701	3,783	7,253	7,142	6,948	5,335	43	28	7	5

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	3.7	3.0	4.0	5.2
Institutions	3.5	3.1	3.6	2.3
Other settings	92.7	93.8	92.4	92.5
Missing data	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.0
Number	3,517	3,409	3,433	3,535

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	117.8	118.5	119.2
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	71.7	70.9	70.2	73.3
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	6.1	6.3	6.4	5.8
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	46.3	45.8	46.5	44.5
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	16.9	15.7	15.1	16.1

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	75.1	79.4	88.0
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	19.3	23.6	23.0	31.2
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	36.5	37.0	35.0	31.3
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	13.0	14.7	16.0	14.4
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	5.7	6.7	4.9	5.3
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	51.3	44.8	47.9	47.1

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	118.9	113.6	111.5
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	22.7	24.7	24.1	22.4
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	99.2	97.7	95.2	93.2
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	47.0	44.1	47.7	47.1

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	77.5	77.4	76.6
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	78.5	73.3	73.8	73.1
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	52.6	48.4	48.6	49.1
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	27.1	24.3	22.9	22.1

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Angelo McClain, Commissioner
Department of Children and Families

The following are Massachusetts' comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

Outcome measure 2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%) and Outcome measure 1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months do not accurately represent the foster care maltreatment rate or the recurrence rate for Massachusetts as compared to most other states. Massachusetts law requires that investigations be completed within 10 days. Most other states allow for investigations of 30-60 days before a finding must be made. Investigations that start in one report period and end in another are never included in either safety outcome measure. Because of the short investigation period, more Massachusetts investigations meet the criteria of having both the report date and the disposition date fall within a reporting period. For Maltreatment in Foster Care, this simply means that more records qualify for inclusion. For Recurrence of Maltreatment, the percentage of children found to have a recurrence is necessarily higher relative to these other states, as nearly a full 6 months worth of supported investigations is included in the measure for Massachusetts rather than the 4-5 months included for states with longer investigation periods. This significantly increases the pool of children who are potentially subject to a recurrence. Additionally, Massachusetts policy requires that all reports of child abuse/neglect be screened and investigated based upon the merit of the report, without regard to whether the child is currently receiving services from DCF, so it is likely that more reports received on open cases are investigated, leading to a greater chance that a recurrence will be included in the measure.

Michigan

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	2,540,350	2,514,489	2,483,332	2,446,856
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Asian	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5
Black	17.3	17.3	17.2	17.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	5.6	5.8	6.0	6.2
White	71.7	71.4	71.1	70.9
Two or more races	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.8
Child population in poverty (%)	17.6	18.5	18.3	19.4

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	28,035	24,603	27,148	—
Children in foster care on 9/30	21,173	20,498	20,142	20,830
Children adopted	2,801	2,886	2,591	2,617

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	14
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	54
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	380
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	78
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	226
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	288

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	196,873	77.5 per 1,000	173,806	69.1 per 1,000	186,754	75.2 per 1,000	—	— per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	28,035	11.0 per 1,000	24,603	9.8 per 1,000	27,148	10.9 per 1,000	—	— per 1,000
Child fatalities	52	2.0 per 100,000	48	1.9 per 100,000	—	— per 100,000	—	— per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	12.6	14.5	15.0	—
1 year	5.6	5.8	6.3	—
2 years	5.8	5.6	5.8	—
3 years	5.5	5.8	5.7	—
4 years	5.4	5.5	5.7	—
5 years	5.6	5.4	5.8	—
6 years	5.4	5.2	5.5	—
7 years	5.3	5.2	5.1	—
8 years	5.3	4.9	4.9	—
9 years	5.2	4.8	4.7	—
10 years	5.2	4.9	4.6	—
11 years	5.3	5.1	4.7	—
12 years	5.6	5.4	4.7	—
13 years	6.0	5.7	5.2	—
14 years	5.6	5.7	5.2	—
15 years	4.9	5.0	4.9	—
16 years	3.8	3.7	4.0	—
17 years	1.9	1.9	2.0	—
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	—
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	—
Number	28,035	24,603	27,148	—

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.9	0.8	0.8	—
Asian	0.4	0.4	0.3	—
Black	34.5	35.4	33.7	—
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	—
Hispanic (of any race)	3.3	3.6	3.2	—
White	59.5	58.4	60.6	—
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	—
Missing data	1.4	1.3	1.4	—
Number	28,035	24,603	27,148	—

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	3.3	2.2	2.1	—
Medical neglect	2.2	1.8	1.7	—
Neglect	71.9	75.1	76.0	—
Physical abuse	19.6	17.9	17.4	—
Sexual abuse	5.2	4.8	4.5	—
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	—
Other	3.4	2.6	2.6	—
Number	28,035	24,603	27,148	—

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	—	—	—	—
Median	—	—	—	—

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	20,664	20,747	19,826	20,260	9,741	9,296	9,005	9,114	9,234	9,546	8,695	8,550	21,173	20,498	20,142	20,830
Median length of stay (months)	15.8	15.4	15.7	15.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	20.2	19.5	20.1	20.5	15.2	15.7	15.5	15.7

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.7	5.0	5.2	5.6	15.0	16.1	17.5	17.6	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	5.0	5.2	5.7	5.5
1 year	5.9	5.7	6.3	6.5	5.4	6.0	6.1	6.6	6.0	6.7	6.4	7.1	5.7	6.2	6.5	6.9
2 years	5.6	5.3	5.4	6.0	5.1	5.5	5.4	5.8	6.7	6.3	6.2	7.8	5.3	5.3	6.1	5.7
3 years	5.0	5.2	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.9	5.2	5.0	5.7	5.9	5.8	6.0	5.1	4.8	4.9	5.3
4 years	4.7	4.6	4.8	4.7	4.5	4.7	4.8	4.7	5.7	5.6	5.1	5.7	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.6
5 years	4.3	4.3	4.1	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.9	4.4	5.1	5.0	5.2	4.9	4.3	4.0	4.5	4.4
6 years	4.3	4.0	4.2	4.0	3.7	4.0	3.9	4.7	4.7	4.4	4.7	4.8	3.9	4.1	4.0	4.3
7 years	4.1	4.0	3.8	3.7	4.1	3.9	3.7	4.1	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.1	4.0	3.7	3.7	3.8
8 years	4.1	4.0	3.9	3.6	4.0	3.9	3.7	4.1	4.2	4.3	3.9	4.4	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.8
9 years	4.4	4.2	3.8	3.6	4.0	3.7	3.7	3.6	4.1	4.5	4.1	4.2	4.1	3.9	3.6	3.5
10 years	4.7	4.3	3.7	3.5	4.3	3.5	3.4	3.4	4.9	4.0	3.6	3.9	4.2	3.7	3.6	3.3
11 years	5.0	4.5	4.1	3.7	4.5	4.4	3.5	4.0	4.6	4.4	4.1	3.3	4.6	4.1	3.7	3.5
12 years	5.1	5.2	4.8	4.0	5.3	4.8	4.1	4.1	4.5	4.3	4.1	3.6	5.1	4.8	4.0	3.9
13 years	6.1	5.7	5.6	5.0	5.9	5.8	5.1	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.3	3.8	5.6	5.4	5.0	4.3
14 years	6.4	7.2	6.7	6.1	7.5	7.1	6.2	5.7	4.5	4.7	4.5	3.9	7.0	6.6	6.1	5.7
15 years	7.1	8.0	8.4	8.0	7.9	8.1	8.2	7.5	4.6	5.1	5.3	4.5	7.8	8.4	7.6	6.9
16 years	7.9	8.4	9.0	10.0	6.5	7.0	7.5	7.0	4.9	5.7	5.9	4.8	8.2	9.1	9.6	9.1
17 years	6.9	7.4	7.3	8.7	2.6	2.3	3.1	2.8	6.1	6.7	6.4	6.0	7.5	7.6	8.5	9.6
18 years	3.8	3.2	4.1	4.2	0.2	0.1	<.1	0.1	8.5	7.6	7.6	11.3	4.0	4.3	4.4	5.6
19 years	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.2	3.7	6.2	3.6	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.3
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.3	1.4	1.0	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.4	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0
Asian	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Black	50.8	50.7	48.4	48.1	44.9	41.3	39.8	39.5	44.2	45.0	40.7	40.4	51.0	49.1	47.9	47.5
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	4.0	4.1	4.4	4.8	4.9	5.3	5.5	5.4	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.6	4.1	4.3	4.6	4.7
White	40.4	40.0	41.5	41.6	44.9	47.4	48.4	48.7	45.3	45.2	47.8	48.4	40.4	41.0	41.9	42.0
Two or more races	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.9	3.3	3.3	4.1	4.5	3.6	3.4	3.8	3.8	3.1	3.3	3.7	4.2
Unknown	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.8	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.7	0.6	0.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	6,486	7,061	6,164	6,115
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	6,223	5,913	5,840	5,769

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.7	4.3	2.8	3.1
1 year	5.3	6.7	6.3	7.0
2 years	5.8	6.0	6.7	6.9
3 years	5.5	5.5	5.5	6.5
4 years	4.6	5.1	5.3	5.3
5 years	4.2	4.7	4.8	5.5
6 years	4.5	4.4	4.0	4.8
7 years	4.8	4.3	4.6	4.6
8 years	4.7	4.4	4.2	4.6
9 years	4.9	4.8	4.4	4.3
10 years	5.5	4.8	4.6	4.5
11 years	6.2	5.5	4.9	4.5
12 years	6.5	6.2	5.4	5.2
13 years	7.3	6.9	7.0	5.8
14 years	8.3	7.9	8.1	7.3
15 years	7.8	8.5	9.0	8.5
16 years	6.5	5.9	7.2	6.3
17 years	4.9	4.1	5.3	5.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.9	1.1	1.0	0.9
Asian	0.1	<.1	0.1	0.1
Black	55.5	51.6	52.1	48.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	3.4	3.9	4.4	4.7
White	36.4	38.6	38.1	40.5
Two or more races	3.4	3.8	3.6	5.0
Unknown	0.1	0.8	0.6	<.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	2,801	2,886	2,591	2,617

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.6	1.9	2.2	2.2
1 year	9.8	10.5	10.8	11.3
2 years	10.6	9.9	9.9	12.2
3 years	9.3	9.4	10.0	10.2
4 years	8.2	8.3	7.0	7.8
5 years	7.6	6.7	7.4	7.4
6 years	6.8	6.3	6.6	6.3
7 years	5.8	6.3	5.9	5.6
8 years	4.7	5.9	5.6	5.4
9 years	5.8	5.6	5.9	4.8
10 years	6.4	5.7	4.4	5.3
11 years	5.5	4.7	5.2	3.9
12 years	5.2	5.3	4.4	4.4
13 years	4.2	4.5	4.6	4.0
14 years	3.1	3.7	3.3	3.5
15 years	2.2	2.6	3.3	2.8
16 years	1.4	1.7	1.9	1.6
17 years	1.5	1.0	1.4	1.2
18 years	<.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.5
Asian	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1
Black	44.9	42.3	39.0	38.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	5.0	5.2	5.8	6.6
White	42.5	46.1	47.3	48.2
Two or more races	6.5	5.5	6.9	5.9
Unknown	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

Michigan

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	94.5	95.4	94.8	—
Children with one or more recurrences	5.5	4.6	5.2	—
Number	11,460	9,900	11,070	—

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.32	0.12	0.19	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.68	99.88	99.81	—
Number	30,405	30,043	28,831	—

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	29.3	29.1	28.6	30.9
Guardianship	4.6	4.6	4.1	3.6
Reunification	54.1	55.0	54.2	51.0
Other	11.2	10.5	12.3	12.9
Missing data	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.6
Number	9,234	9,546	8,695	8,550

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	39.0	35.9	31.7	37.2
Guardianship	3.4	3.4	3.0	2.1
Reunification	38.2	39.1	39.5	34.8
Other	17.9	20.2	24.2	22.7
Missing data	1.4	1.4	1.6	3.2
Number	1,323	1,296	1,180	1,181

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	3.1	3.2	3.8	3.6
Guardianship	5.8	5.5	5.8	4.5
Reunification	58.5	60.7	58.8	54.0
Other	29.7	28.0	29.3	32.3
Missing data	2.8	2.6	2.3	5.5
Number	2,458	2,679	2,460	2,254

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	31.3	29.0	36.5	34.3
Children older than 12 at entry	68.7	71.0	63.5	65.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Number	667	514	718	795

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	28.7	33.0	24.2	33.3	13.8	8.3	4.3	20.0	29.5	27.2	27.4	30.2		
Guardianship	5.2	3.8	7.3	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.3	4.1	4.5	3.4	2.4		
Reunification	58.3	51.9	56.5	54.8	72.4	83.3	87.0	46.7	53.3	56.4	53.5	49.5		
Other	7.0	10.4	12.1	10.8	13.8	8.3	8.7	20.0	12.3	11.2	14.8	15.6		
Missing data	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.7	0.8	2.2		
Number	115	106	124	93	29	12	23	15	4,084	4,295	3,542	3,458		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	10.0	57.1	42.1	15.8	28.8	27.9	29.2	31.3	29.0	29.9	28.6	31.0		
Guardianship	5.0	14.3	0.0	0.0	3.6	5.2	8.0	6.3	5.1	4.7	4.0	4.3		
Reunification	80.0	28.6	57.9	73.7	58.3	57.5	52.4	50.2	54.1	54.3	55.8	52.5		
Other	5.0	0.0	0.0	10.5	8.9	8.4	10.3	10.4	10.7	10.2	10.7	11.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	1.1	0.0	1.9	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.2		
Number	20	14	19	19	448	463	435	480	4,182	4,311	4,155	4,134		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	4.0	11.8	39.1	13.0	34.4	44.5	41.7	37.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	4.0	0.0	6.3	4.3	5.4	3.0	4.8	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	76.0	41.2	45.3	56.5	52.3	45.7	42.6	46.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	16.0	47.1	9.4	8.7	6.9	6.4	10.2	12.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.4	0.9	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	25	17	64	23	331	328	333	328	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	39.6	37.7	38.1	36.5
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	40.5	42.3	41.3	45.3
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	12.3	12.0	13.6	10.7
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	4.6	4.3	3.9	3.9
48 or more mos.	2.8	3.5	2.8	3.5
Missing data	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Number	4,995	5,255	4,715	4,362

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	92.0	92.2	91.9	90.1
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	3.7	2.8	2.9	3.2
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	3.3	3.3	3.7	4.2
Missing data	1.0	1.8	1.4	2.5
Number	9,741	9,296	9,005	9,114

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	3.8	4.2	5.3	4.9
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	26.4	28.3	29.5	29.2
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	33.8	32.2	31.7	33.6
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	18.5	18.5	18.0	17.3
48 or more mos.	17.5	16.8	15.3	14.8
Missing data	0.1	<.1	0.2	0.2
Number	2,702	2,779	2,490	2,640

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	83.9	86.1	86.4	87.0	61.6	69.1	70.1	71.7	31.2	39.6	39.1	41.8	80.9	90.6	95.2	75.0
Children with 3 or more placements	16.1	13.9	13.6	13.0	38.4	30.9	29.9	28.3	68.8	60.4	60.9	58.2	19.1	9.4	4.8	25.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	11,021	10,741	10,371	10,311	8,310	8,472	8,052	8,420	11,027	10,798	10,387	10,631	47	32	21	12

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions

(AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Institutions	2.0	2.3	1.8	1.7
Other settings	98.0	97.7	98.2	98.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	6,538	6,295	6,093	6,434

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	98.2	99.7	96.2
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	44.2	41.7	42.4	41.4
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	13.1	13.5	13.6	13.8
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	22.3	24.1	22.8	19.7
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	3.5	4.3	3.1	3.3

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	92.3	99.7	96.8
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	30.2	32.5	34.9	34.2
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	30.7	29.9	29.0	28.6
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	24.5	24.7	23.3	23.4
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	14.5	11.7	15.0	12.8
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	22.2	32.1	35.3	32.6

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	123.2	118.7	118.1
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	28.8	31.0	27.6	26.6
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	96.7	96.6	96.7	95.9
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	46.2	48.3	49.8	47.9

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	102.4	103.2	105.4
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	83.8	85.9	86.3	86.8
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	61.9	69.3	70.3	71.9
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	32.2	40.9	40.9	43.4

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

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The following are Michigan's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

Michigan did not submit National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) data in fiscal year (FY) 2007 because of a conversion to a new Children's Protective Services (CPS) system. An alternative data source was used to submit the NCANDS data for the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR). This alternative system was operational throughout the conversion to the new system. Michigan is in the process of programming and testing the NCANDS submission for FY 2008. Michigan anticipates submitting NCANDS in June 2009.

Michigan's Alternative Safety Data

For FY 2007, Michigan had:

- 123,149 complaints received of child abuse and/or neglect.
- 70,583 of those reports were assigned for investigation.
- 29,971 children were substantiated victims of child abuse and/or neglect.

Recurrence of Maltreatment within 6 months:

- 15,006 victims within the first six months of the FY.
- 1,156 victims had a recurrence within six months.
- 13,850 victims did not have a recurrence.
- The absence of maltreatment recurrence percentage was 92.3%.

Maltreatment Foster Care:

- There were 104 unique child victims maltreated in foster care.
- The number of children in foster care for FY 2007 was 29,040.
- The absence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care percentage was 99.64%.

Child Deaths

The nature of child fatality reporting for child abuse and/or neglect by a parent and/or a guardian is delayed because of autopsy results and child fatality review teams analysis of these very sensitive cases. Michigan has implemented an auto-tracking system for all child fatalities reported at CPS intake. In addition to the tracking system, there are active child fatality review teams located in each county. Furthermore, Michigan has a centrally-located child fatality review process in the Office of the Family Advocate to review all child fatalities regardless of program.

In FY 2007, 39 children died because of abuse and/or neglect by a parent and/or guardian. Michigan's FY 2008 NCANDS submission will include child abuse and/or neglect fatalities.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	1,268,263	1,262,427	1,261,017	1,260,282
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Asian	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.7
Black	5.9	6.0	6.2	6.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	5.7	6.0	6.4	6.8
White	79.6	78.9	78.2	77.6
Two or more races	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.1
Child population in poverty (%)	10.7	11.6	12.2	12.0

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	8,183	8,499	7,623	6,847
Children in foster care on 9/30	6,540	6,978	7,156	6,756
Children adopted	603	732	664	549

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	36
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	3,195
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	8,857
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	99
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	3,158
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	3,195

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	25,595	20.2 per 1,000	27,682	21.9 per 1,000	29,521	23.4 per 1,000	27,557	21.9 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	8,183	6.5 per 1,000	8,499	6.7 per 1,000	7,623	6.1 per 1,000	6,847	5.4 per 1,000
Child fatalities	10	0.8 per 100,000	15	1.2 per 100,000	14	1.1 per 100,000	17	1.4 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	11.6	10.9	11.5	13.3
1 year	6.7	6.6	7.0	7.2
2 years	6.3	6.3	6.8	6.8
3 years	6.4	6.3	6.8	6.4
4 years	6.2	6.2	6.7	6.6
5 years	6.6	6.2	6.2	6.2
6 years	6.5	6.6	6.3	6.3
7 years	6.4	6.4	5.8	5.7
8 years	5.5	5.6	5.2	5.5
9 years	5.0	5.2	5.3	4.9
10 years	5.4	5.2	4.9	4.8
11 years	4.8	5.1	4.3	4.3
12 years	4.6	4.9	4.3	4.2
13 years	5.1	4.7	4.8	4.1
14 years	4.5	4.6	4.3	4.4
15 years	3.7	3.9	4.5	4.5
16 years	2.9	3.0	3.2	3.1
17 years	1.8	2.0	2.0	1.7
18+ years	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	8,183	8,499	7,623	6,847

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	6.4	6.5	7.4	8.3
Asian	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.0
Black	23.8	22.1	21.2	19.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	8.9	9.7	9.5	10.7
White	45.9	47.7	46.5	45.4
Two or more races	8.7	8.4	9.7	9.7
Missing data	4.0	3.5	3.3	4.0
Number	8,183	8,499	7,623	6,847

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.5
Medical neglect	1.2	1.6	1.5	1.6
Neglect	75.4	76.4	75.8	74.6
Physical abuse	17.9	16.9	15.7	16.0
Sexual abuse	10.4	10.7	12.1	13.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	8,183	8,499	7,623	6,847

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	94.7	86.7	70.8	67.3
Median	>48 but<72	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	6,288	6,120	6,386	6,496	7,806	8,166	8,017	7,740	7,554	7,308	7,248	7,480	6,540	6,978	7,156	6,756
Median length of stay (months)	14.3	12.7	10.9	11.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.2	3.4	4.3	4.3	11.8	9.9	9.6	10.8

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.2	4.9	5.1	5.6	9.0	10.2	11.4	10.7	4.7	5.0	4.7	5.1	4.9	6.0	7.3	5.8
1 year	4.2	4.3	5.3	5.6	4.8	5.1	5.0	5.1	4.9	5.1	5.5	5.7	4.4	5.3	5.5	5.7
2 years	4.0	4.2	4.6	4.7	4.3	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.5	5.0	4.6	4.1	4.6	4.6	5.1
3 years	3.3	3.6	3.9	4.2	3.9	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.7	4.9	4.2	3.5	3.8	3.9	4.7
4 years	3.6	3.0	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.4	4.0	3.8	2.9	3.5	3.5	4.3
5 years	3.3	3.7	3.0	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.2	3.4	3.9	3.7	3.3	3.2	3.6	2.9	3.2	3.6
6 years	2.8	2.8	3.1	2.9	3.1	3.5	3.4	2.9	2.9	3.7	3.7	3.4	2.7	3.0	2.8	2.8
7 years	2.7	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.0
8 years	3.2	2.9	3.0	3.2	2.9	2.7	3.0	2.9	3.2	3.0	3.3	3.1	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.0
9 years	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.7	2.8	3.0	2.7	2.8	2.8	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.8
10 years	3.6	3.0	3.3	2.9	2.9	3.1	2.9	2.9	3.1	2.9	2.6	3.0	3.0	3.1	2.9	3.0
11 years	5.0	3.9	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.4	2.7	2.5	3.3	3.0	2.8	2.5	3.8	3.5	3.4	3.3
12 years	5.9	5.2	4.4	4.1	4.4	4.4	4.2	4.0	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.1	5.2	4.4	4.1	3.9
13 years	7.3	7.0	6.5	5.4	6.8	6.4	6.3	5.6	5.5	5.2	4.6	4.0	7.1	6.4	5.5	5.1
14 years	9.1	8.8	8.2	8.4	9.4	8.6	8.9	8.6	7.6	7.3	7.0	6.8	8.9	8.3	8.5	7.8
15 years	10.3	10.9	10.4	10.3	11.1	11.2	11.1	11.9	9.4	9.7	8.8	9.5	11.2	10.6	10.2	10.8
16 years	11.6	12.1	12.2	12.1	11.3	10.8	10.9	11.9	10.0	10.2	10.1	11.3	12.4	12.2	12.3	12.2
17 years	12.4	12.5	12.5	12.5	8.7	8.3	8.4	8.8	12.2	9.3	13.5	16.0	12.5	12.5	12.7	12.3
18 years	0.4	0.9	0.9	1.2	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	6.8	9.9	6.5	4.4	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.8
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	12.3	10.8	12.2	12.5	8.9	10.3	9.8	10.0	10.0	9.0	9.5	9.9	11.0	12.2	12.3	12.6
Asian	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.4	3.0	2.5	2.2	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.3	2.7	1.7	1.4	1.5	1.6
Black	22.1	21.3	19.4	20.8	20.2	19.0	20.7	20.4	20.7	20.5	19.9	19.6	21.4	19.4	20.4	21.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	7.6	7.5	8.2	7.8	7.7	8.4	7.9	9.0	7.8	7.6	8.5	8.6	7.4	8.4	7.6	8.2
White	49.1	50.2	50.1	48.0	51.0	51.2	47.6	46.2	50.3	51.6	49.9	48.5	50.0	49.9	47.5	45.4
Two or more races	7.0	7.5	7.1	8.0	6.3	6.2	6.9	7.1	5.9	6.3	6.2	6.8	7.4	7.2	7.8	8.2
Unknown	0.5	1.1	1.3	1.5	2.8	2.3	3.9	4.1	2.3	2.2	3.2	3.7	1.1	1.4	2.3	2.1
Missing data	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.2	0.9	0.3	<.1	<.1	0.5	0.1	<.1	0.1	0.6	0.2

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	1,795	1,559	1,363	1,526
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	1,379	1,277	1,186	1,332

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	6.3	5.6	5.9	5.6
1 year	6.9	8.5	7.2	9.0
2 years	6.1	6.5	6.2	8.3
3 years	6.5	5.3	5.8	8.3
4 years	4.3	5.3	3.8	6.4
5 years	5.3	3.4	4.8	5.0
6 years	4.8	4.2	3.4	4.3
7 years	4.3	4.0	4.3	3.6
8 years	3.8	3.4	3.7	3.9
9 years	4.7	3.6	4.0	3.7
10 years	4.4	4.2	3.6	3.4
11 years	5.0	4.5	4.3	3.4
12 years	6.8	5.0	4.5	4.0
13 years	6.7	7.4	4.9	4.3
14 years	6.4	7.4	8.2	4.9
15 years	7.0	7.6	8.4	7.3
16 years	5.6	7.8	8.2	7.4
17 years	5.0	6.3	8.9	7.3

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	8.4	8.1	7.6	7.7
Asian	0.7	0.6	0.9	1.2
Black	28.1	27.0	28.3	26.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	8.7	10.6	9.1	9.4
White	44.6	43.6	44.9	44.1
Two or more races	8.9	9.0	7.3	10.0
Unknown	0.6	1.0	1.9	1.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	603	732	664	549

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.5	7.4	5.4	2.7
1 year	13.3	15.7	15.1	16.6
2 years	10.9	10.9	15.1	10.0
3 years	10.9	10.9	10.5	10.2
4 years	8.5	6.1	8.6	8.6
5 years	8.3	7.2	5.0	6.4
6 years	7.8	7.0	6.3	7.3
7 years	5.5	5.7	4.2	5.1
8 years	4.8	5.6	5.3	5.1
9 years	5.3	4.0	3.8	5.6
10 years	4.6	4.2	3.2	4.0
11 years	4.3	3.8	3.8	3.3
12 years	4.6	2.7	3.9	3.5
13 years	3.2	3.3	2.4	3.1
14 years	2.7	1.8	3.5	1.8
15 years	1.3	2.3	2.0	2.6
16 years	1.0	1.0	1.8	2.0
17 years	0.3	0.3	0.3	2.0
18 years	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	4.1	2.6	4.4
Asian	0.0	1.1	0.6	0.5
Black	23.7	17.1	18.5	21.1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2
Hispanic (of any race)	11.9	7.5	11.7	11.5
White	49.3	55.2	51.4	53.6
Two or more races	10.4	13.9	14.0	6.7
Unknown	4.5	1.1	1.2	2.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	94.8	94.4	94.7	94.7
Children with one or more recurrences	5.2	5.6	5.3	5.3
Number	4,025	4,066	3,722	3,399

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.30	0.42	0.40	0.33
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.70	99.58	99.60	99.67
Number	14,094	14,286	14,403	14,236

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	8.0	9.5	9.0	8.0
Guardianship	7.6	6.7	8.1	8.6
Reunification	72.0	70.6	69.3	69.8
Other	12.4	13.2	13.6	13.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	7,554	7,308	7,248	7,480

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	8.4	10.0	10.8	9.1
Guardianship	4.5	4.6	4.1	5.5
Reunification	66.0	61.6	63.3	62.5
Other	21.0	23.8	21.7	22.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,073	1,976	1,899	2,236

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4
Guardianship	2.8	2.2	2.7	2.8
Reunification	77.1	76.0	74.8	75.6
Other	19.9	21.5	22.1	21.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	3,480	3,400	3,292	3,480

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	28.6	26.1	26.5	29.7
Children older than 12 at entry	71.4	73.9	73.5	70.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	630	655	698	725

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	5.6	7.0	5.4	3.5	1.4	3.6	1.8	1.5	8.9	10.1	9.3	8.2		
Guardianship	13.6	12.5	16.9	18.6	1.9	2.0	1.8	6.9	9.1	5.4	5.1	6.1		
Reunification	66.2	64.7	59.8	62.6	87.0	85.8	84.4	78.4	70.7	71.7	71.8	69.9		
Other	14.6	15.7	17.9	15.3	9.6	8.6	12.0	13.2	11.2	12.8	13.8	15.8		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	755	655	686	737	208	197	167	204	1,565	1,498	1,441	1,468		

	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.0	11.7	7.6	12.5	9.8	7.6	10.1	8.6	9.3		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.6	9.6	9.1	7.6	6.0	5.8	7.3	7.5		
Reunification	50.0	100.0	100.0	50.0	72.1	73.5	66.9	72.5	72.9	70.0	70.2	69.4		
Other	50.0	0.0	0.0	25.0	8.6	9.4	11.4	10.1	13.5	14.1	13.8	13.9		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	2	3	1	4	592	554	614	644	3,803	3,771	3,620	3,628		

	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	2.8	3.8	3.8	3.6	13.1	13.4	18.4	8.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	5.7	8.1	6.8	4.0	8.0	8.2	12.2	13.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.1		
Reunification	83.5	79.4	80.9	82.2	67.3	66.3	60.1	69.9	75.0	85.7	72.7	66.7		
Other	8.0	8.8	8.5	10.2	11.6	12.1	9.3	8.4	25.0	14.3	27.3	22.2		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	176	160	235	275	449	463	451	511	4	7	33	9		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	91.4	91.8	90.6	89.5
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	6.3	6.1	7.7	8.5
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1.4	1.0	0.9	1.0
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.4
48 or more mos.	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1
Number	5,439	5,156	5,024	5,222

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	65.3	67.3	68.7	64.8
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	23.0	20.5	19.2	20.9
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	11.0	11.5	11.5	14.1
Missing data	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.2
Number	7,806	8,166	8,017	7,740

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	5.6	6.2	4.7	6.8
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	38.6	39.5	42.4	42.9
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	28.0	28.8	30.1	31.1
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	13.5	15.4	12.8	9.1
48 or more mos.	14.3	10.1	9.9	10.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	607	694	654	602

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	87.9	83.1	82.8	86.3	57.8	51.5	44.5	52.4	32.2	30.3	27.3	30.8	100.0	98.5	93.1	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	12.1	16.8	17.1	13.7	42.2	48.5	55.4	47.6	67.8	69.7	72.7	69.2	0.0	1.5	6.9	0.0
Missing data	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	9,047	9,359	9,431	9,117	1,906	1,991	2,272	2,355	3,081	2,869	2,671	2,736	60	67	29	28

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	3.1	3.6	3.1	2.0
Institutions	13.9	11.1	11.4	11.6
Other settings	83.0	85.2	85.5	86.4
Missing data	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0
Number	4,058	4,354	4,212	4,058

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	117.1	117.0	117.9
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	87.8	89.0	88.0	87.2
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	3.3	3.3	3.7	3.9
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	66.4	62.8	63.7	52.7
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	28.0	27.9	26.9	24.4

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	89.8	100.1	94.6
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	44.2	45.7	47.0	49.7
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	25.8	26.4	24.8	24.0
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	14.2	16.8	16.8	15.2
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	2.1	2.7	3.0	2.1
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	42.5	40.1	47.9	36.7

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	105.8	106.8	101.3
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	15.3	17.0	17.1	15.6
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	90.5	91.1	90.1	86.2
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	45.2	42.6	40.5	40.6

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	85.9	82.0	89.2
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	84.8	79.7	80.0	83.1
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	57.7	51.4	44.4	52.5
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	32.2	30.2	27.1	31.1

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Erin Sullivan Sutton, Director
Minnesota Child Safety and Permanency Division

The following are Minnesota's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

Minnesota has demonstrated improved performance on outcome of reduction in recurrence of child abuse and/or neglect; reduction in the incidence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care; and has shown steady improvement in reduction of children placed in institutions. The recurrence of maltreatment rate for 2007 was 5.3 percent. Rates were consistently below the 7.3 percent national standard from 2004 to 2007.

Context Data

Section A (Context Statistics): Caseworker visits are a new measure presenting challenges regarding documentation capacity. Minnesota is working on improving county performance in documenting all caseworker visits.

Section B (Child Maltreatment Data): The number of children the subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment decreased from 2006–2007, while the number of children determined to be victims of child maltreatment also declined. Minnesota's Differential Response continuum allows for a Family Assessment for the majority of accepted child maltreatment reports, utilizing a family-centered, strengths-based approach that does not involve findings of maltreatment. The trend of declining victims of maltreatment is reflective of these child protection practice changes and provision of prevention and early intervention programs. Additionally, efforts to improve time to investigation have consistently improved over the years.

Section C (Characteristics of Children in Foster Care): Minnesota experienced a decline in number of children entering foster care from 2005–2007. Differential Response and early intervention program implementation address child safety and risk factors before foster care becomes necessary.

Outcomes Data

Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect: Minnesota consistently maintains relatively low percentages of maltreatment recurrence. The number of victims continues to decline due to the influence of Family Assessment within Minnesota's Differential Response continuum.

Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care: In 2007, 0.33 percent of the children in foster care in Minnesota were found to be maltreated by a foster parent or facility staff member. Minnesota performed below the national performance median of 0.39 percent in 2007.

Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry: In 2007, 89.5 percent of all reunifications in Minnesota occurred within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care, which exceeds the national 75th percentile rate of 73.3. While reentry rates within 12 months of a prior placement are not at the national median of 12.1 percent, improvement is demonstrated from 2004 compared to 2007.

Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption: Time to adoption of at least 12 months but less than 24 months has steadily improved between years 2004 and 2007. Minnesota's Children's Justice Initiative, a statewide collaborative effort with the Minnesota Judicial Branch, is impacting permanency planning for children across the state.

Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions: The percentage of children placed in group homes and institutions has shown continuous improvement moving from 17.0 percent in 2004 down to 13.6 percent in 2007.

Mississippi

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	764,474	766,074	764,275	768,704
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Asian	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8
Black	43.8	43.5	43.6	43.5
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	2.2	2.5	2.7	3.0
White	51.4	51.3	50.9	50.6
Two or more races	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5
Child population in poverty (%)	31.0	30.9	29.5	29.3

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	5,674	6,154	6,272	7,002
Children in foster care on 9/30	2,989	3,269	3,126	3,328
Children adopted	270	244	248	295

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	65
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	48
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	24,546	32.1 per 1,000	24,648	32.2 per 1,000	26,306	34.4 per 1,000	27,563	35.9 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	5,674	7.4 per 1,000	6,154	8.0 per 1,000	6,272	8.2 per 1,000	7,002	9.1 per 1,000
Child fatalities	19	2.5 per 100,000	14	1.8 per 100,000	4	0.5 per 100,000	19	2.5 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	9.1	9.2	9.9	11.4
1 year	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
2 years	6.4	5.7	5.7	6.0
3 years	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.6
4 years	6.5	6.0	6.0	5.7
5 years	6.0	6.3	6.2	6.1
6 years	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.2
7 years	5.6	6.4	6.3	5.6
8 years	5.6	5.3	6.1	5.6
9 years	5.8	5.1	4.9	5.0
10 years	5.8	5.8	4.3	4.8
11 years	5.8	5.5	5.0	4.5
12 years	4.9	5.3	5.3	5.4
13 years	5.4	5.9	5.4	4.9
14 years	4.8	5.5	5.6	5.6
15 years	4.7	4.6	5.2	5.3
16 years	3.4	3.3	4.3	4.3
17 years	1.9	2.0	1.7	2.3
18+ years	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	5,674	6,154	6,272	7,002

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Asian	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2
Black	40.4	41.0	46.3	44.5
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	1.0	1.2	1.6	2.0
White	40.1	42.5	43.9	46.9
Two or more races	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.1
Missing data	17.5	14.2	6.9	5.2
Number	5,674	6,154	6,272	7,002

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	11.7	11.0	9.3	9.7
Medical neglect	3.3	2.9	3.1	4.1
Neglect	52.5	56.6	59.4	60.3
Physical abuse	22.6	21.2	19.9	19.1
Sexual abuse	15.9	15.0	14.9	12.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.2
Number	5,674	6,154	6,272	7,002

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	137.6	111.7	77.8	58.5
Median	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	<24	<24

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	2,697	2,880	3,194	3,088	1,852	2,048	1,950	2,283	1,560	1,659	2,018	2,043	2,989	3,269	3,126	3,328
Median length of stay (months)	17.1	13.9	13.4	14.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	12.3	11.1	11.7	11.1	13.9	13.1	14.2	12.8

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.2	4.5	5.4	5.7	13.3	14.5	14.5	16.7	3.5	4.2	4.1	5.0	4.6	5.5	5.7	6.6
1 year	5.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.6	7.7	7.0	6.1	5.5	5.8	6.2	7.1	6.3	6.4	6.3	7.0
2 years	5.3	5.6	6.4	6.3	5.7	6.2	6.0	6.5	6.0	6.4	6.9	7.9	5.5	6.5	6.4	5.5
3 years	5.3	5.9	6.4	5.7	6.9	5.9	5.2	5.5	5.4	6.8	6.5	6.2	6.0	6.2	5.8	6.1
4 years	4.7	5.5	5.3	5.4	5.7	6.1	5.6	5.3	6.0	5.8	5.9	5.7	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.1
5 years	4.6	5.8	5.2	5.2	6.5	5.4	4.8	5.6	4.7	5.8	6.6	5.5	5.5	5.3	5.3	5.3
6 years	4.5	4.8	5.5	4.3	5.0	5.1	5.8	5.2	5.5	6.0	5.8	5.3	5.1	5.5	4.4	4.8
7 years	4.3	4.1	4.2	5.2	4.4	4.4	5.0	4.6	5.1	4.8	5.2	5.3	4.1	4.3	5.2	4.9
8 years	4.7	4.3	3.9	4.7	4.8	3.9	4.9	4.2	4.5	5.5	4.4	3.8	4.3	3.9	4.6	4.6
9 years	5.0	4.5	3.9	3.7	3.8	4.2	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.4	4.2	4.6	3.9	3.8	4.6
10 years	4.5	4.3	4.6	3.7	4.8	4.5	3.6	4.1	4.7	4.5	4.8	4.4	4.4	4.6	3.6	3.6
11 years	5.6	5.1	4.0	4.0	5.3	4.5	4.7	3.4	4.9	4.9	3.5	3.0	5.1	4.0	4.2	3.5
12 years	5.3	5.3	5.4	4.9	5.6	5.4	4.9	4.2	6.2	4.1	4.9	4.8	5.2	5.3	4.9	4.4
13 years	5.5	5.1	5.9	5.7	4.8	5.3	5.1	5.0	5.3	4.5	4.5	4.7	5.1	5.8	5.7	4.5
14 years	5.9	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.1	5.7	6.3	5.6	5.2	4.6	5.3	4.6	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.9
15 years	5.6	5.9	5.8	6.8	4.7	5.1	5.7	6.4	3.9	5.0	4.7	5.3	5.8	5.7	6.7	6.8
16 years	6.8	5.9	6.2	6.3	4.5	4.1	5.1	4.9	4.4	3.7	4.8	5.3	5.9	6.1	6.0	7.0
17 years	6.2	6.1	5.1	5.7	2.4	2.1	1.6	2.4	4.7	4.8	4.9	4.7	6.0	5.0	5.6	5.3
18 years	3.5	3.0	2.9	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.9	5.2	3.9	3.7	3.0	3.0	2.4	3.1
19 years	1.5	1.6	1.3	1.7	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	1.0	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.3	1.6	1.0
20+ years	1.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	1.6	1.2	1.5	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5
Missing data	<.1	0.1	0.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	1.1	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	<.1	<.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	<.1	<.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.0	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1
Asian	0.1	0.3	<.1	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.1	<.1	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.3	<.1	0.0	<.1
Black	53.7	50.1	50.8	52.9	44.0	45.9	49.6	47.4	51.2	43.8	46.6	49.5	49.0	50.7	52.8	51.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	1.6	1.3	1.6	1.9	0.8	2.2	2.4	1.8	1.3	1.6	2.4	1.8	1.3	1.7	1.6	1.9
White	41.6	45.7	44.6	42.6	48.1	48.4	45.2	48.3	42.1	50.8	48.0	46.5	45.4	44.8	42.8	44.1
Two or more races	1.4	1.4	2.2	2.3	1.5	2.1	1.8	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.9	1.5	1.4	1.9	2.1	2.3
Unknown	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4
Missing data	1.3	0.7	0.0	0.0	4.4	0.3	<.1	0.0	3.6	1.6	0.0	0.0	2.0	<.1	<.1	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	914	858	903	898
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	329	303	286	392

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.6	2.4	2.7	4.6
1 year	6.5	6.8	6.1	8.5
2 years	6.6	7.9	7.1	5.7
3 years	7.0	6.2	7.2	7.5
4 years	6.6	5.8	7.5	5.6
5 years	6.0	6.2	5.3	6.1
6 years	5.1	6.5	5.2	6.0
7 years	4.3	4.9	6.3	4.8
8 years	5.0	5.1	5.1	6.3
9 years	6.8	5.0	4.7	5.7
10 years	4.8	5.9	4.9	3.9
11 years	5.5	4.7	5.2	4.0
12 years	6.3	5.7	4.3	5.2
13 years	6.2	6.2	6.6	5.1
14 years	5.8	6.4	6.5	6.1
15 years	5.7	5.6	6.9	6.3
16 years	4.4	5.1	5.2	5.7
17 years	2.8	3.5	3.2	2.9

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	51.0	52.8	53.5	50.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2
Hispanic (of any race)	2.2	1.7	1.4	1.9
White	42.8	42.7	41.6	44.2
Two or more races	2.5	2.1	2.8	2.8
Unknown	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.6
Missing data	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	270	244	248	295

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.4	0.0	0.8	0.7
1 year	5.2	4.9	6.5	6.1
2 years	6.7	8.6	12.1	9.5
3 years	8.9	10.7	10.9	13.2
4 years	9.6	8.2	7.3	9.2
5 years	4.1	10.2	8.9	10.5
6 years	7.8	7.4	8.5	8.1
7 years	10.7	5.7	7.3	6.8
8 years	5.2	5.3	6.9	3.7
9 years	4.1	7.0	4.0	5.1
10 years	8.9	7.4	4.8	5.1
11 years	7.0	5.3	4.8	2.7
12 years	7.0	5.3	3.2	5.4
13 years	5.6	3.3	3.2	2.7
14 years	3.7	4.5	3.2	4.1
15 years	1.9	2.5	2.4	3.1
16 years	1.1	2.0	2.8	2.4
17 years	1.9	1.2	2.0	0.3
18 years	0.4	0.4	0.4	1.0
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0
Black	46.7	41.4	40.3	42.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	2.6	2.9	2.8	2.4
White	48.1	52.5	53.2	51.9
Two or more races	2.2	2.0	2.4	2.7
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

Mississippi

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	95.5	94.7	94.3	95.2
Children with one or more recurrences	4.5	5.3	5.7	4.8
Number	2,646	2,805	2,816	3,215

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.48	0.49	0.76	0.80
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.52	99.51	99.24	99.20
Number	4,549	4,928	5,144	5,371

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	17.4	14.0	12.7	14.4
Guardianship	3.7	6.4	4.0	5.6
Reunification	67.5	71.8	77.3	72.7
Other	10.2	6.8	5.6	7.0
Missing data	1.3	1.0	0.4	0.3
Number	1,560	1,659	2,018	2,043

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	30.5	27.6	16.2	22.8
Guardianship	2.0	3.9	3.9	4.5
Reunification	52.2	55.5	67.1	57.3
Other	15.1	11.5	12.3	15.0
Missing data	0.2	1.4	0.4	0.4
Number	456	355	228	246

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.7	1.3	2.0	1.0
Guardianship	3.5	5.2	4.4	4.1
Reunification	67.1	72.8	77.5	75.4
Other	26.7	20.1	15.3	19.0
Missing data	1.0	0.5	0.9	0.4
Number	401	383	458	483

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	26.7	28.6	38.1	31.2
Children older than 12 at entry	73.3	71.4	61.9	68.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	116	98	84	93

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/American Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	100.0	0.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	22.2	0.0	0.0	15.9	12.7	11.3	12.5		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3	5.8	3.4	3.8		
Reunification	0.0	0.0	75.0	50.0	75.0	77.8	100.0	0.0	66.2	71.9	77.9	76.2		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.7	8.1	6.8	7.3		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.5	0.6	0.3		
Number	1	0	4	2	4	9	5	0	798	726	941	1,012		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	35.0	25.9	14.6	21.6	19.8	15.1	13.9	15.9		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.8	4.1	7.4	4.9	7.6		
Reunification	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	55.0	70.4	83.3	62.2	67.7	70.8	76.2	69.6		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	3.7	2.1	2.7	6.9	6.1	4.8	6.7		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	1.5	0.7	0.2	0.2		
Number	0	1	0	0	20	27	48	37	656	842	968	950		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	14.3	18.2	28.6	20.0	13.2	25.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	12.5	7.1	0.0	4.8	0.0	2.6	3.2	5.4	3.8	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	100.0	87.5	78.6	81.8	57.1	80.0	78.9	64.5	91.1	92.3	0.0	0.0		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.5	0.0	5.3	6.5	1.8	3.8	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	4	8	14	11	21	20	38	31	56	26	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	66.5	69.4	64.2	68.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	21.3	20.6	25.1	22.2
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	7.3	5.2	6.3	5.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.3	2.2	2.6	2.2
48 or more mos.	2.6	2.4	1.9	2.3
Missing data	<.1	0.2	0.0	0.0
Number	1,053	1,191	1,560	1,485

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	90.8	90.5	90.3	89.4
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	5.2	4.3	4.5	4.5
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	4.0	5.1	5.2	6.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,852	2,048	1,950	2,283

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	1.5	0.0	2.7	2.0
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	9.6	17.2	18.4	14.6
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	23.6	29.2	28.9	22.4
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	22.9	26.6	25.8	32.2
48 or more mos.	42.4	27.0	24.2	28.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	271	233	256	295

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	79.7	80.8	78.4	79.3	58.5	55.6	53.3	54.2	39.5	35.5	32.8	31.7	100.0	87.5	100.0	83.3
Children with 3 or more placements	15.8	18.6	20.0	20.0	37.7	44.1	46.7	45.8	58.0	63.9	66.9	68.3	0.0	12.5	0.0	16.7
Missing data	4.4	0.7	1.7	0.7	3.8	0.3	0.0	0.0	2.5	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,090	2,422	2,453	2,660	939	1,033	1,139	1,138	1,518	1,465	1,551	1,567	2	8	1	6

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	20.3	17.4	11.9	7.2
Institutions	0.7	1.8	2.2	2.0
Other settings	78.9	80.8	85.9	90.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,368	1,550	1,397	1,672

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	125.4	123.3	133.2
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	63.3	69.2	64.0	70.8
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	8.3	7.6	9.0	6.2
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	33.2	43.4	47.3	48.7
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	10.9	8.2	6.9	6.0

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	103.9	103.6	109.6
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	11.1	16.8	21.3	16.4
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	42.8	38.0	35.5	39.2
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	22.1	19.6	19.5	22.8
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	10.5	10.2	14.2	17.5
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	36.4	64.9	58.8	64.0

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	118.6	106.7	127.0
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	31.2	26.5	27.8	32.0
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	98.3	96.5	95.4	96.6
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	41.1	54.2	52.2	44.5

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	90.6	87.3	88.2
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	82.1	80.8	78.9	78.8
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	60.7	55.8	53.5	54.3
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	40.9	36.4	33.9	33.1

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	1,418,725	1,420,194	1,425,014	1,424,830
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
Asian	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4
Black	14.3	14.3	14.2	14.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	4.0	4.3	4.6	4.9
White	77.6	77.2	76.8	76.4
Two or more races	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6
Child population in poverty (%)	16.2	19.0	18.6	17.7

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	9,616	8,945	7,108	7,235
Children in foster care on 9/30	11,778	11,433	10,181	9,853
Children adopted	1,391	1,321	1,253	968

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	56
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	209
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	375
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	93
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,447
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,555

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	82,442	58.1 per 1,000	82,252	57.9 per 1,000	70,270	49.3 per 1,000	79,623	55.9 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	9,616	6.8 per 1,000	8,945	6.3 per 1,000	7,108	5.0 per 1,000	7,235	5.1 per 1,000
Child fatalities	48	3.4 per 100,000	42	3.0 per 100,000	43	3.0 per 100,000	50	3.5 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	6.5	6.6	6.8	6.9
1 year	6.0	5.9	6.0	5.9
2 years	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.8
3 years	6.2	6.2	6.4	6.4
4 years	6.6	5.9	6.6	6.7
5 years	6.0	5.8	5.6	6.1
6 years	5.9	6.0	5.4	5.8
7 years	5.5	5.5	5.3	5.5
8 years	5.3	5.1	5.3	5.3
9 years	5.0	5.1	4.7	5.1
10 years	5.6	4.7	4.3	4.3
11 years	5.2	5.0	5.7	4.3
12 years	5.7	5.9	5.7	5.0
13 years	6.1	6.3	6.2	5.9
14 years	6.2	6.7	6.1	6.6
15 years	6.0	6.5	6.4	6.4
16 years	4.4	4.8	5.3	4.7
17 years	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.3
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Number	9,616	8,945	7,108	7,235

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.3
Asian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
Black	22.3	19.5	21.7	20.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.6
White	72.6	75.6	73.1	73.1
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	1.5	1.3	1.4	1.8
Number	9,616	8,945	7,108	7,235

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	6.2	6.2	6.7	5.8
Medical neglect	3.0	3.8	0.0	0.0
Neglect	50.5	51.7	51.7	51.1
Physical abuse	28.8	27.5	31.2	29.8
Sexual abuse	27.2	26.2	28.7	27.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	2.3	2.1	0.0	1.7
Number	9,616	8,945	7,108	7,235

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	54.3	57.2	55.3	75.6
Median	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	11,188	11,195	10,900	9,675	6,618	6,451	5,657	5,347	6,028	6,213	6,376	5,169	11,778	11,433	10,181	9,853
Median length of stay (months)	17.4	16.8	16.2	17.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	14.3	15.0	14.1	14.1	16.1	15.7	16.4	16.5

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.6	4.9	5.2	5.1	14.9	15.1	15.8	17.3	4.6	4.1	4.6	5.1	5.1	5.4	5.2	5.6
1 year	5.1	5.3	5.8	6.0	6.8	7.1	7.7	7.4	6.8	6.5	7.1	7.8	5.5	5.9	6.1	6.1
2 years	5.1	5.1	5.8	5.4	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.7	6.6	5.9	7.3	7.4	5.2	5.8	5.5	6.1
3 years	4.9	4.6	5.0	5.1	5.8	5.8	6.0	5.9	6.6	5.6	6.8	6.3	4.6	5.1	5.2	4.7
4 years	4.3	4.5	4.2	4.3	5.1	4.9	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.4	5.9	5.9	4.6	4.3	4.5	5.0
5 years	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.9	4.6	5.3	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.4	5.0	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.1
6 years	3.9	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.6	4.8	4.5	4.7	4.3	5.2	4.6	5.0	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.0
7 years	3.6	4.0	4.3	3.7	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.6	4.4	4.7	5.1	4.3	4.0	4.4	3.6	4.0
8 years	4.1	3.9	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.3	4.1	3.9	3.8	4.0	3.7
9 years	4.3	3.7	3.7	3.6	4.0	4.1	3.6	3.9	4.0	4.4	3.9	3.5	3.8	3.7	3.6	4.2
10 years	4.6	4.3	3.7	3.7	4.2	4.0	3.6	3.5	4.6	4.1	3.5	3.8	4.3	3.7	3.7	3.5
11 years	4.8	4.5	4.2	3.7	4.5	4.1	3.7	3.3	4.5	4.5	3.7	3.5	4.5	4.1	3.7	3.6
12 years	5.6	4.9	4.7	4.5	5.3	4.8	4.8	4.2	4.8	3.9	4.0	3.5	4.9	4.6	4.4	3.7
13 years	5.9	5.9	5.6	5.5	5.5	6.0	5.6	4.2	4.7	4.6	4.2	3.9	5.8	5.6	5.5	4.7
14 years	7.1	6.7	6.7	6.5	6.4	6.2	6.5	6.1	5.0	5.1	4.6	4.4	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.1
15 years	7.3	7.6	7.4	7.9	6.8	6.7	6.4	6.2	5.2	5.9	4.9	5.2	7.5	7.2	7.8	7.3
16 years	7.8	8.0	7.6	8.3	5.0	5.4	5.7	5.9	5.9	6.0	5.5	5.7	7.8	7.6	8.2	8.1
17 years	6.2	6.3	6.6	6.5	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.5	4.6	5.4	5.2	5.3	6.1	6.6	6.4	7.1
18 years	3.6	3.6	3.5	4.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	<.1	4.5	4.7	4.5	5.0	3.5	3.5	3.9	4.1
19 years	1.9	2.3	2.2	2.5	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	1.6	2.0	1.8	1.7	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.4
20+ years	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.6	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	2.5	2.9	3.3	3.4	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.8
Missing data	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.3	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6
Asian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Black	33.7	32.0	30.9	31.9	23.8	24.0	26.0	23.5	25.9	24.9	25.4	26.2	32.2	31.3	31.6	30.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	1.9	2.2	2.4	2.7	3.1	3.3	3.4	4.0	2.7	2.9	3.0	3.7	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.9
White	63.0	64.2	65.1	63.3	71.4	70.8	68.3	69.7	69.8	70.2	70.0	67.4	64.3	64.7	63.8	64.7
Two or more races	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.7
Unknown	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	3,227	3,532	2,722	2,555
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	1,518	1,385	1,301	1,280

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	5.7	6.3	4.3	1.8
1 year	6.4	8.3	5.9	5.9
2 years	6.3	7.7	6.6	6.8
3 years	6.0	6.5	6.2	5.8
4 years	5.6	5.5	5.3	5.8
5 years	4.8	5.6	5.5	5.2
6 years	4.5	5.3	5.0	5.6
7 years	4.6	5.0	5.0	5.6
8 years	4.9	5.3	5.2	4.5
9 years	4.8	5.1	5.4	6.1
10 years	6.1	5.0	5.4	5.1
11 years	6.1	5.9	5.2	5.3
12 years	6.4	5.7	6.5	5.3
13 years	7.1	5.8	6.9	6.9
14 years	7.2	6.7	6.9	7.9
15 years	7.0	6.3	8.2	8.1
16 years	3.8	2.8	4.2	5.0
17 years	2.6	1.3	2.3	3.3

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.5
Asian	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.1
Black	37.9	35.5	36.3	32.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	2.2	2.7	3.2	2.8
White	58.5	60.2	58.9	62.0
Two or more races	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.8
Unknown	0.4	0.5	0.5	1.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	1,391	1,321	1,253	968

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.7	5.1	4.1	3.7
1 year	11.2	11.1	12.2	10.5
2 years	10.9	11.1	12.8	11.9
3 years	9.9	8.2	10.1	9.1
4 years	7.8	8.5	9.3	8.7
5 years	7.3	6.5	7.0	6.5
6 years	5.2	6.1	7.1	6.4
7 years	5.1	6.0	5.3	6.5
8 years	5.0	4.8	4.8	5.4
9 years	4.8	5.0	4.5	5.2
10 years	5.1	3.9	4.2	4.4
11 years	4.7	4.6	4.2	4.3
12 years	4.9	4.5	3.8	4.2
13 years	4.2	3.0	3.0	2.9
14 years	3.6	3.3	2.1	2.6
15 years	2.8	3.0	1.4	2.6
16 years	2.7	2.4	2.4	3.1
17 years	0.8	2.3	1.0	1.3
18 years	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.2
19 years	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.1
20+ years	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.2

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.3
Asian	0.6	0.0	0.3	0.1
Black	31.3	27.9	25.6	28.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	4.0	3.7	2.9	5.0
White	63.0	66.8	69.7	64.5
Two or more races	0.5	0.7	0.6	1.0
Unknown	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	91.5	93.4	94.4	95.4
Children with one or more recurrences	8.5	6.6	5.6	4.6
Number	4,191	3,841	3,199	3,147

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.55	0.37	0.34	0.45
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.45	99.63	99.66	99.55
Number	17,806	17,646	16,557	15,022

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	22.0	21.1	19.6	15.9
Guardianship	11.9	12.6	12.8	10.5
Reunification	57.9	56.8	58.2	57.3
Other	8.2	9.5	9.2	9.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.1	7.0
Number	6,028	6,213	6,376	5,169

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	21.1	21.2	21.3	14.0
Guardianship	8.8	10.6	11.0	12.7
Reunification	54.6	53.1	52.1	48.7
Other	15.5	15.1	15.6	15.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	<.1	9.3
Number	1,268	1,368	1,212	956

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	2.8	3.2	3.0	2.2
Guardianship	8.0	6.9	8.5	10.6
Reunification	64.9	65.3	64.0	58.3
Other	24.3	24.5	24.3	24.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.2	4.0
Number	1,476	1,645	1,596	1,290

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	26.1	28.8	32.5	31.2
Children older than 12 at entry	73.9	71.2	67.5	68.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	329	354	379	292

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	14.8	23.5	17.9	9.7	43.8	0.0	28.6	5.6	26.5	23.4	19.8	18.6		
Guardianship	0.0	5.9	3.6	12.9	0.0	15.4	0.0	5.6	16.9	15.3	12.2	10.8		
Reunification	77.8	52.9	60.7	54.8	56.3	76.9	64.3	66.7	44.2	47.9	53.9	54.4		
Other	7.4	17.6	17.9	19.4	0.0	7.7	7.1	16.7	12.3	13.4	14.1	12.5		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6	0.0	0.0	<.1	3.8		
Number	27	34	28	31	16	13	14	18	1,560	1,548	1,619	1,356		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.5	26.9	18.9	22.4	19.9	20.1	19.5	14.7		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	8.2	13.7	6.3	10.5	12.1	13.1	10.6		
Reunification	0.0	100.0	0.0	50.0	59.1	57.7	59.5	61.5	62.7	59.6	59.7	58.0		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.7	7.1	7.9	4.2	6.9	8.2	7.5	8.3		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.7	0.0	0.0	0.2	8.3		
Number	1	1	0	2	164	182	190	192	4,207	4,364	4,461	3,486		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	8.8	8.9	18.8	4.2	36.8	34.6	25.0	27.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	5.9	4.4	9.4	10.4	10.5	3.8	12.5	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	79.4	80.0	59.4	72.9	52.6	57.7	62.5	55.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	5.9	6.7	12.5	10.4	0.0	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	34	45	32	48	19	26	32	36	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	65.0	61.6	65.8	66.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	21.3	22.6	20.6	20.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	5.6	7.1	6.7	6.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.7	2.9	2.7	2.5
48 or more mos.	4.2	4.5	3.4	3.5
Missing data	1.3	1.3	0.8	0.6
Number	3,491	3,528	3,714	2,964

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	76.1	74.0	77.2	79.3
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	8.1	8.1	7.7	7.9
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	9.1	11.6	11.4	10.9
Missing data	6.7	6.3	3.8	1.9
Number	6,618	6,451	5,657	5,347

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	7.3	9.9	8.4	9.2
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	25.9	25.5	30.5	26.9
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	31.7	29.5	30.8	30.7
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	19.0	18.2	16.4	16.6
48 or more mos.	15.8	16.9	14.0	16.5
Missing data	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,328	1,311	1,252	823

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	79.5	86.8	85.9	83.9	51.7	60.1	59.6	57.9	24.2	28.5	25.5	23.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	20.5	13.2	14.1	16.1	48.3	39.9	40.4	42.1	75.8	71.5	74.5	76.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	7,503	7,395	6,868	6,247	3,959	4,026	3,925	3,410	6,262	6,158	5,730	5,345	82	67	34	20

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7
Institutions	4.3	4.8	5.0	6.5
Other settings	94.9	94.3	94.3	92.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Number	3,176	2,193	2,625	3,684

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	119.7	119.0	122.8
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	67.8	66.6	69.6	68.2
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	7.0	7.8	7.1	7.6
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	37.2	36.6	40.7	38.4
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	8.3	8.7	9.7	8.1

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	126.9	133.0	123.1
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	33.3	35.4	39.0	36.3
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	30.0	29.3	28.2	29.3
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	21.5	21.5	21.3	15.9
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	13.0	13.3	15.1	14.0
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	67.2	67.7	74.7	72.2

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	114.7	117.8	107.1
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	28.7	29.4	28.0	22.2
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	97.3	97.2	96.7	96.0
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	55.4	57.4	52.9	57.2

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	94.3	92.3	89.4
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	77.4	85.6	84.7	82.5
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	51.7	60.2	59.7	58.0
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	25.5	30.6	27.3	25.3

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

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The following are Missouri's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

Missouri is dedicated to providing the most accurate data possible through our NCANDS and AFCARS submissions. We persist in our efforts to enhance our data systems to more thoroughly detail our compliance with the mandates of ASFA and to better serve our families.

Section B: Missouri does not consider children involved in alternative response (family assessments) as victims and therefore are not included in the number of child maltreatment victims noted in this section.

In Missouri, investigations do not result in a specific finding of medical neglect. Substantiated findings related to medical needs result in a finding of the broader category of neglect.

The change in 2007 mean time to investigation resulted from modification in how data was captured as Missouri aimed to improve consistency and to meet the federal definition for this measure.

Section C: Missouri continues to have a steady decline in the foster care population. Children age 14 and older comprise the largest age group of children in care. Missouri is aggressively developing new policy and practice for older youth programs to address the needs of the older youth population. In addition, diligent efforts are occurring to locate and engage extended family for placement or permanent support for these youth. Missouri has also convened a team to review disproportionality and disparity in foster care and is developing creative strategies to address this important issue.

Section D: Data demonstrates a steady decrease in the number of children waiting to be adopted. Missouri continues to use a variety of creative outreach activities to streamline recruitment processes. The Heart Gallery, Adoption Exchange and other appropriate web-based recruitment activities are examples of programs used to locate adoptive families for children of all ages while highlighting older youth and sibling groups.

Outcomes Data: Missouri successfully exited the Program Improvement Plan (PIP) in 2007. The PIP was instrumental in developing strategies to improve performance in many areas of practice. PIP strategies were adopted into policy and practice which is expected to have continued impact on improved outcomes for children and families.

Missouri is committed to improving the rates of timely reunification, placement stability and safety for children in our care. Fostering Courts Improvement Project is an example of a collaborative strategy underway to improve permanency outcomes for children. As indicated, 87% of children are reunified in less than 24 months. Missouri has also seen a steady decrease in recurrence of Child Abuse and Neglect.

Case Management data converted to the State Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS) during SFY07. Therefore, changes in how data have been captured or reported (due to development processes and a learning curve for field staff) may have resulted in some variations shown in this report. Therefore, 2007 data may not indicate a change in field practice or performance.

Missouri is committed to providing timely and accurate data. We are working aggressively to improve how we capture and report data for areas identified in a recent AFCARS Assessment through the development of an AFCARS Improvement Plan.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	219,996	219,162	218,929	219,498
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	9.5	9.6	9.5	9.5
Asian	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7
Black	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	4.2	4.5	4.8	4.9
White	82.0	81.4	81.0	80.6
Two or more races	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.1
Child population in poverty (%)	19.2	20.1	17.3	18.3

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	1,753	2,095	1,775	1,886
Children in foster care on 9/30	2,030	2,222	1,909	1,737
Children adopted	192	244	272	246

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	2
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	50
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	12,406	56.4 per 1,000	13,793	62.9 per 1,000	14,171	64.7 per 1,000	14,477	66.0 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	1,753	8.0 per 1,000	2,095	9.6 per 1,000	1,775	8.1 per 1,000	1,886	8.6 per 1,000
Child fatalities	2	0.9 per 100,000	2	0.9 per 100,000	1	0.5 per 100,000	1	0.5 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	10.0	13.9	13.0	12.7
1 year	8.9	9.1	8.5	8.7
2 years	7.8	6.6	6.2	8.6
3 years	7.6	7.9	7.8	7.2
4 years	6.3	5.9	6.4	6.8
5 years	6.0	6.1	5.4	6.1
6 years	6.0	5.9	5.5	5.2
7 years	5.4	5.6	6.1	4.9
8 years	5.3	4.2	5.5	5.0
9 years	4.7	4.3	4.3	4.6
10 years	4.7	3.9	4.0	4.0
11 years	4.0	3.6	3.4	4.1
12 years	4.1	4.0	4.2	4.0
13 years	3.9	4.4	4.7	3.3
14 years	3.8	4.2	3.9	3.2
15 years	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.1
16 years	2.6	2.7	3.3	2.9
17 years	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.1
18+ years	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	4.0	2.4	3.3	4.5
Number	1,753	2,095	1,775	1,886

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	22.2	23.7	17.1	19.0
Asian	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.0
Black	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	4.4	4.1	4.6	3.8
White	52.0	48.0	54.2	51.7
Two or more races	3.1	4.0	4.1	3.4
Missing data	17.1	18.9	19.0	21.3
Number	1,753	2,095	1,775	1,886

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	22.2	20.4	19.8	25.5
Medical neglect	1.6	2.4	1.7	1.6
Neglect	69.4	74.3	70.3	71.8
Physical abuse	12.6	10.7	12.1	10.7
Sexual abuse	8.7	6.9	8.4	6.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.1
Number	1,753	2,095	1,775	1,886

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	198.2	245.9	204.1	216.5
Median	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>48 but<72

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	1,794	1,939	2,065	1,885	1,228	1,432	1,153	1,075	992	1,149	1,309	1,223	2,030	2,222	1,909	1,737
Median length of stay (months)	17.2	16.3	14.0	16.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9.4	12.3	12.0	15.2	15.9	13.5	15.8	17.6

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.3	4.8	6.5	5.4	15.4	17.8	17.1	16.7	5.2	5.9	4.9	3.4	4.7	6.6	5.6	5.6
1 year	6.6	6.7	7.9	8.4	8.2	9.1	9.7	9.3	8.1	6.5	8.8	9.1	6.7	7.8	8.4	7.8
2 years	6.8	6.4	7.7	7.7	8.0	7.1	8.6	9.2	6.6	7.2	9.3	9.4	6.6	7.6	8.0	7.7
3 years	6.0	7.5	5.9	7.2	6.0	6.8	6.9	6.7	5.7	7.7	6.4	9.0	7.4	5.9	7.4	7.7
4 years	5.2	6.2	6.1	5.5	6.4	5.9	6.6	5.7	7.4	8.2	7.2	7.0	6.2	6.3	5.7	5.5
5 years	4.6	4.8	5.3	5.3	5.0	4.7	5.8	6.6	5.0	6.2	6.3	5.6	5.0	5.3	5.4	5.4
6 years	4.0	4.6	4.9	5.1	5.8	5.5	5.1	5.1	4.6	5.5	6.3	5.6	4.7	4.6	5.0	5.3
7 years	4.0	4.4	4.9	3.6	4.6	4.9	4.2	3.8	3.7	4.6	5.0	3.8	4.6	5.0	3.7	5.4
8 years	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.7	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.2	3.9	4.0	4.9	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.8	3.6
9 years	4.5	4.4	3.8	4.1	3.7	3.8	4.2	3.5	3.5	4.1	3.7	4.3	4.3	3.9	4.0	4.7
10 years	5.6	4.7	4.2	4.2	4.5	3.3	3.3	3.3	4.5	3.7	3.1	4.5	4.6	4.1	4.3	3.7
11 years	6.6	4.7	4.4	4.2	3.5	3.4	3.1	3.4	4.5	3.9	4.2	3.4	4.8	4.2	4.3	3.3
12 years	5.3	6.0	4.0	3.9	4.2	4.1	3.5	4.3	5.1	4.2	3.2	3.6	5.9	4.3	3.8	5.0
13 years	6.2	5.1	6.3	4.5	4.8	4.7	4.3	3.8	4.1	4.2	4.7	3.7	5.1	6.2	4.2	4.5
14 years	6.1	6.4	5.4	6.5	5.0	4.6	4.3	4.7	5.8	4.4	4.6	4.3	6.2	5.2	6.0	4.8
15 years	6.4	5.4	6.7	5.6	3.5	4.1	3.8	4.1	3.5	3.4	3.7	4.1	5.5	6.5	5.4	6.7
16 years	5.8	6.2	5.6	6.5	4.4	3.8	3.1	3.4	4.6	3.9	3.9	3.2	5.9	5.4	6.6	5.5
17 years	5.6	5.5	5.0	5.8	2.6	2.2	1.8	2.0	5.4	4.4	4.9	7.4	5.4	5.3	5.6	6.8
18 years	2.0	1.7	1.0	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	6.9	6.2	4.4	4.0	1.7	1.4	1.3	0.7
19 years	0.3	0.3	<.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	1.7	0.5	0.5	0.3	<.1	0.3	0.3
20+ years	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	33.7	32.6	32.6	31.9	29.9	32.6	31.0	33.2	28.7	30.7	32.1	30.4	33.8	33.6	32.0	33.8
Asian	0.1	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.4	0.4	<.1	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.2	0.4	0.2	<.1	<.1	<.1
Black	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.5	1.1	1.2	1.1	0.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.2	<.1	0.0	0.4	<.1	0.1	0.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	5.5	5.8	4.9	5.9	6.0	4.9	6.4	5.7	5.7	6.7	4.7	6.1	5.7	4.7	6.0	5.6
White	54.6	53.8	54.1	53.7	53.6	51.0	52.6	51.3	57.8	53.4	54.3	53.5	52.4	52.2	53.1	52.4
Two or more races	2.0	3.7	4.8	5.2	4.9	5.6	5.0	4.1	2.7	3.5	4.7	4.7	3.3	5.0	5.0	4.8
Unknown	2.8	2.6	2.2	2.0	4.2	4.1	3.8	3.9	3.4	3.7	3.0	2.9	3.3	3.1	2.6	2.5
Missing data	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	713	646	606	597
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	596	550	535	521

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.4	1.7	1.5	1.5
1 year	4.3	4.6	6.1	5.2
2 years	5.9	5.9	5.9	8.0
3 years	7.2	6.3	6.6	6.0
4 years	6.2	6.5	3.8	5.9
5 years	6.2	5.4	5.0	3.9
6 years	6.2	3.1	3.8	4.2
7 years	3.5	4.8	3.6	4.7
8 years	3.4	3.9	4.5	3.7
9 years	4.1	4.2	5.1	4.7
10 years	4.3	3.9	4.5	4.5
11 years	5.6	4.6	5.1	4.0
12 years	8.0	6.0	4.8	5.5
13 years	6.6	8.5	5.8	5.2
14 years	8.6	6.5	9.4	6.0
15 years	6.5	9.8	7.6	9.4
16 years	7.6	7.1	10.1	7.7
17 years	5.6	7.1	6.9	9.9

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	29.9	24.5	22.8	21.1
Asian	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Black	1.5	2.0	1.3	1.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	4.9	5.3	6.6	6.5
White	58.5	61.1	62.2	63.3
Two or more races	2.1	4.0	4.1	5.4
Unknown	2.8	2.9	2.6	2.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	192	244	272	246

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.6	2.5	0.0	0.0
1 year	9.9	8.2	11.8	9.8
2 years	16.1	9.8	14.0	15.9
3 years	12.0	12.3	8.1	12.6
4 years	8.3	12.7	11.4	9.8
5 years	3.6	11.5	10.7	7.3
6 years	7.8	9.8	7.4	8.9
7 years	5.7	4.9	5.5	3.3
8 years	7.8	4.9	5.1	4.1
9 years	4.2	3.7	5.1	4.1
10 years	3.6	4.9	4.4	5.3
11 years	5.7	3.3	3.3	3.7
12 years	6.3	4.1	2.6	4.9
13 years	0.5	4.1	3.7	2.4
14 years	1.6	2.0	2.2	3.3
15 years	2.1	0.4	3.3	0.8
16 years	1.6	0.8	0.7	0.4
17 years	0.5	0.0	0.7	3.3
18 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	17.2	24.6	25.0	22.4
Asian	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0
Black	0.0	1.2	2.2	2.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	13.5	9.8	7.4	6.5
White	68.2	60.2	60.3	65.4
Two or more races	1.0	3.3	5.1	3.3
Unknown	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	93.5	92.8	94.6	91.0
Children with one or more recurrences	6.5	7.2	5.4	9.0
Number	815	1,001	900	851

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.23	0.36	0.34	0.24
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.77	99.64	99.66	99.76
Number	3,022	3,371	3,218	2,960

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	17.9	20.8	20.5	20.3
Guardianship	4.4	8.0	6.4	7.1
Reunification	57.8	57.4	61.1	60.8
Other	13.2	9.9	8.9	9.2
Missing data	6.7	3.9	3.1	2.7
Number	992	1,149	1,309	1,223

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	31.6	29.6	35.3	27.7
Guardianship	0.0	11.3	4.9	6.7
Reunification	31.6	27.8	30.4	34.5
Other	25.3	22.6	22.5	26.1
Missing data	11.4	8.7	6.9	5.0
Number	79	115	102	119

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.3	1.4	2.6	1.9
Guardianship	4.4	3.6	4.3	8.1
Reunification	47.3	55.4	58.9	57.1
Other	30.1	31.5	26.4	26.7
Missing data	16.8	8.1	7.8	6.2
Number	226	222	231	210

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	34.8	34.4	40.6	45.7
Children older than 12 at entry	65.2	65.6	59.4	54.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	92	90	96	92

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	10.5	17.3	16.0	14.8	0.0	12.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.4	42.9	33.3	
Guardianship	6.7	10.2	9.8	9.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.1	0.0	7.1	11.1		
Reunification	57.2	57.8	61.4	61.8	66.7	87.5	50.0	100.0	90.9	64.3	35.7	55.6		
Other	18.2	10.5	9.0	9.7	33.3	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	14.3	14.3	0.0		
Missing data	7.4	4.2	3.8	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	285	353	420	372	3	8	2	5	11	14	14	18		

	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	43.9	29.9	31.1	21.3	21.1	23.3	22.8	24.9		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.5	11.7	1.6	5.3	3.3	7.0	5.2	4.7		
Reunification	100.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	38.6	46.8	54.1	65.3	57.1	56.0	59.9	58.0		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.8	6.5	4.9	6.7	12.0	10.0	9.6	10.1		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.3	5.2	8.2	1.3	6.5	3.8	2.5	2.3		
Number	2	1	0	5	57	77	61	75	573	613	711	654		

	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.4	20.0	22.6	13.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	5.9	4.8	7.7	13.9	3.7	5.0	1.6	17.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	82.4	76.2	87.2	80.6	70.4	65.0	69.4	62.1	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	5.9	11.9	5.1	5.6	7.4	10.0	4.8	5.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	5.9	7.1	0.0	0.0	11.1	0.0	1.6	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	34	42	39	36	27	40	62	58	0	1	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	75.7	75.4	73.3	63.7
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	18.2	18.4	20.1	28.1
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	3.0	3.0	4.1	4.4
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.9	1.2	0.1	1.1
48 or more mos.	2.3	2.0	2.4	2.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	573	659	800	743

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	72.2	76.9	73.9	69.3
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	13.4	10.1	14.0	15.3
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	12.4	11.5	11.2	12.9
Missing data	2.0	1.5	1.0	2.4
Number	1,228	1,432	1,153	1,075

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	6.2	2.5	1.5	2.0
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	32.0	23.4	35.4	29.4
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	33.1	37.7	35.1	39.9
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	12.9	20.5	14.6	12.9
48 or more mos.	15.7	15.9	13.4	15.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	178	239	268	248

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	86.4	86.4	87.4	88.4	63.8	68.8	66.6	70.3	37.0	37.5	37.6	38.9	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
Children with 3 or more placements	13.6	13.6	12.6	11.6	36.2	31.2	33.4	29.7	63.0	62.5	62.4	61.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,371	1,581	1,375	1,212	647	731	826	721	998	1,050	1,017	1,027	6	9	0	0

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	5.2	5.2	4.3	7.4
Institutions	0.5	0.4	0.8	0.6
Other settings	94.3	94.3	94.8	92.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	961	1,132	946	876

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	102.8	107.7	100.8
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	74.5	75.5	73.0	64.6
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	5.1	5.4	6.6	7.6
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	39.0	38.2	41.0	45.5
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	26.0	23.0	19.7	17.1

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	98.1	114.7	122.3
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	38.2	25.9	36.9	31.5
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	26.6	31.7	28.3	29.3
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	14.3	21.0	22.1	21.4
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	13.3	16.8	17.0	22.4
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	37.8	34.1	42.8	47.9

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	103.2	99.2	94.2
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	16.8	27.5	26.4	26.8
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	86.1	87.7	87.7	89.4
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	48.5	62.8	63.8	64.4

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	100.5	100.5	103.8
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	84.8	85.0	85.9	86.9
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	63.9	68.9	66.6	70.4
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	36.8	37.8	37.8	39.3

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	445,445	444,912	445,094	446,145
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3
Asian	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.7
Black	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	10.9	11.4	12.1	12.6
White	78.5	77.8	77.0	76.3
Two or more races	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5
Child population in poverty (%)	13.1	14.8	14.4	14.9

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	4,785	6,630	6,160	4,108
Children in foster care on 9/30	6,292	6,231	6,187	5,875
Children adopted	367	387	534	500

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	27
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	101
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	369
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	52
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	355
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	682

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	24,235	54.4 per 1,000	35,621	80.1 per 1,000	30,500	68.5 per 1,000	26,709	59.9 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	4,785	10.7 per 1,000	6,630	14.9 per 1,000	6,160	13.8 per 1,000	4,108	9.2 per 1,000
Child fatalities	11	2.5 per 100,000	6	1.3 per 100,000	15	3.4 per 100,000	16	3.6 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	10.0	11.0	11.2	11.2
1 year	7.9	7.1	8.1	8.0
2 years	7.6	7.5	7.2	7.1
3 years	6.8	7.2	7.9	7.4
4 years	6.8	7.1	7.1	6.7
5 years	7.0	6.5	6.9	6.3
6 years	5.7	6.7	6.5	6.4
7 years	5.9	5.5	5.4	5.6
8 years	5.0	5.4	4.9	6.0
9 years	5.3	4.5	4.8	5.5
10 years	4.4	4.8	4.4	4.1
11 years	5.0	4.4	4.0	4.4
12 years	4.6	4.2	3.4	4.4
13 years	4.2	4.0	4.6	3.9
14 years	4.1	4.4	4.4	4.2
15 years	3.7	3.9	3.9	3.4
16 years	2.6	2.7	3.1	3.0
17 years	2.0	2.0	1.6	1.9
18+ years	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Missing data	1.1	0.8	0.5	0.5
Number	4,785	6,630	6,160	4,108

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.9
Asian	0.5	0.5	0.6	1.0
Black	11.3	12.9	14.0	10.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	10.2	9.0	9.7	9.9
White	64.0	62.2	61.2	63.5
Two or more races	0.2	0.8	0.8	1.3
Missing data	7.9	8.8	7.8	7.7
Number	4,785	6,630	6,160	4,108

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	5.7	5.5	6.3	4.7
Medical neglect	0.1	<.1	0.1	0.0
Neglect	79.2	83.1	85.0	86.7
Physical abuse	18.2	14.0	13.0	13.4
Sexual abuse	8.0	8.9	9.9	7.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	4,785	6,630	6,160	4,108

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	239.2	207.4	171.7	0.4
Median	>48 but<72	>24 but<48	>48 but<72	<24

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	5,255	5,714	6,046	6,004	4,155	3,942	3,799	3,575	3,118	3,425	3,658	3,704	6,292	6,231	6,187	5,875
Median length of stay (months)	14.7	12.2	12.6	13.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	14.2	12.6	14.2	14.9	11.1	12.5	12.8	12.6

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.9	3.6	4.0	4.1	9.0	10.4	10.5	11.2	2.1	3.0	2.2	2.1	3.5	4.0	4.1	4.0
1 year	4.2	5.2	5.0	5.3	4.9	5.3	5.6	5.9	3.3	4.6	4.5	5.1	4.9	5.0	5.3	6.1
2 years	4.6	4.6	5.3	5.3	4.3	5.1	4.4	5.0	4.6	4.7	5.0	6.3	4.5	5.3	5.2	5.3
3 years	4.3	4.9	4.7	5.0	4.1	4.7	5.0	4.1	4.5	4.3	4.8	5.1	4.7	4.6	5.1	4.7
4 years	4.2	4.1	4.7	4.6	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.2	4.8	4.8	4.6	3.9	4.7	4.5	4.6
5 years	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.6	3.7	3.7	3.8	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.1	3.9	4.0	4.2	4.6	4.2
6 years	3.8	3.9	3.7	3.8	3.2	3.7	3.9	4.0	3.8	4.1	3.4	4.4	3.7	3.6	3.8	4.7
7 years	3.4	3.6	3.9	4.1	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.4	4.1	3.7	3.8	4.0	3.3	3.8	4.0	3.5
8 years	3.5	3.2	3.4	3.5	2.9	3.3	3.1	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.8	3.9	3.1	3.3	3.6	3.8
9 years	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.1	3.6	3.0	2.9	3.3	3.6	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.3
10 years	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.2	2.8	3.2	3.1	2.8	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.1
11 years	3.9	3.7	3.3	3.3	3.7	3.4	3.7	3.0	2.9	3.1	3.0	2.9	3.7	3.3	3.3	3.0
12 years	3.8	4.2	4.1	3.6	4.4	3.8	3.5	3.7	3.3	3.5	3.3	3.1	4.1	4.2	3.7	3.7
13 years	5.8	4.7	4.8	4.3	5.4	6.1	5.8	5.0	4.1	3.7	3.4	2.9	4.7	4.9	4.4	4.2
14 years	6.6	7.0	6.5	6.5	8.5	8.1	7.3	7.3	4.6	4.3	4.4	4.9	7.2	6.5	6.6	5.8
15 years	9.6	9.2	9.3	8.8	11.2	9.1	9.5	10.0	6.3	5.8	6.3	6.2	9.4	9.4	8.9	8.2
16 years	11.0	11.3	10.5	10.8	11.2	10.5	10.1	10.3	8.7	8.6	8.1	8.7	12.1	10.7	11.0	10.7
17 years	11.6	10.4	10.8	10.1	8.6	7.5	8.3	8.1	11.4	11.3	11.6	10.0	11.0	10.7	9.9	11.1
18 years	5.9	5.5	5.5	5.7	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.1	14.4	10.8	11.8	13.2	5.6	5.4	5.6	6.0
19 years	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.1	5.6	5.1	2.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	8.2	7.7	8.9	8.2	8.4	9.9	7.8	8.7	9.3	7.8	8.9	7.7	7.8	9.0	8.3	8.9
Asian	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4
Black	15.6	15.2	15.4	16.0	13.1	12.7	15.2	14.6	12.9	12.3	14.4	13.8	15.3	15.2	15.9	16.5
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	8.2	10.0	10.1	9.8	11.6	10.9	10.8	11.3	8.7	11.4	11.4	11.2	10.2	9.8	9.8	9.8
White	65.3	63.7	61.7	61.7	63.0	61.7	61.5	60.4	66.6	63.9	61.4	62.8	63.2	62.3	61.7	60.2
Two or more races	0.8	0.6	1.0	1.2	0.5	0.9	1.1	1.0	0.5	0.6	0.5	1.3	0.7	0.8	1.3	1.1
Unknown	1.6	2.5	2.6	2.7	3.0	3.4	3.3	3.5	1.6	3.4	3.2	2.8	2.5	2.6	2.7	3.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	920	916	972	805
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	572	491	648	501

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.4	1.9	2.8	1.6
1 year	7.1	4.7	7.3	7.6
2 years	6.8	7.3	7.3	7.0
3 years	7.8	7.9	7.0	6.5
4 years	6.3	7.0	6.6	6.1
5 years	6.8	6.8	6.5	5.8
6 years	6.5	6.6	5.6	7.1
7 years	8.0	5.2	6.4	5.2
8 years	5.3	6.6	5.1	5.0
9 years	5.4	5.9	5.5	6.8
10 years	6.4	5.3	4.6	4.2
11 years	5.9	6.8	4.7	5.5
12 years	6.6	6.2	6.0	4.5
13 years	5.1	6.6	6.1	5.3
14 years	4.1	5.5	6.8	7.7
15 years	4.9	3.9	4.9	6.7
16 years	3.4	3.8	4.1	4.3
17 years	2.0	2.2	2.8	3.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	9.0	8.7	7.6	8.2
Asian	0.4	0.9	0.4	0.5
Black	20.4	19.7	17.6	18.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	9.8	11.7	9.8	9.3
White	56.6	55.9	60.3	59.4
Two or more races	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.1
Unknown	2.4	2.0	2.8	3.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	367	387	534	500

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.0	1.6	0.7	0.8
1 year	3.3	7.5	8.1	8.0
2 years	10.1	11.1	11.6	13.8
3 years	12.5	8.3	12.4	11.8
4 years	9.0	10.3	11.0	9.0
5 years	10.9	6.7	7.3	7.0
6 years	7.9	8.0	7.7	7.4
7 years	6.3	9.0	5.6	7.4
8 years	8.2	8.3	7.5	6.2
9 years	4.1	7.0	5.1	4.6
10 years	4.9	4.7	5.6	5.0
11 years	6.0	5.2	4.7	3.0
12 years	4.6	3.4	5.1	5.2
13 years	3.8	2.3	3.0	2.6
14 years	3.0	1.0	2.4	3.4
15 years	2.2	1.6	1.1	1.6
16 years	0.5	3.4	0.9	1.6
17 years	0.8	0.8	0.2	0.8
18 years	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.6
19 years	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.2
20+ years	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	5.4	5.4	7.5	8.2
Asian	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.8
Black	18.3	16.8	18.0	12.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	6.8	6.5	8.6	9.2
White	67.6	66.7	62.9	65.0
Two or more races	1.1	0.3	0.7	2.0
Unknown	0.8	4.1	2.1	2.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	91.2	90.1	90.8	93.3
Children with one or more recurrences	8.8	9.9	9.2	6.7
Number	1,883	2,509	2,370	1,804

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.17	0.42	0.48	0.44
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.83	99.58	99.52	99.56
Number	9,410	9,656	9,845	9,579

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	11.5	10.0	11.3	13.0
Guardianship	9.3	7.8	7.2	7.7
Reunification	69.4	73.2	67.6	66.7
Other	5.5	6.9	14.0	12.7
Missing data	4.2	2.2	0.0	0.0
Number	3,118	3,425	3,658	3,704

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	27.8	16.1	15.6	15.7
Guardianship	7.2	7.9	7.2	9.4
Reunification	56.5	64.7	58.8	56.4
Other	5.7	10.7	18.4	18.5
Missing data	2.8	0.7	0.0	0.0
Number	460	878	1,809	1,803

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.4	0.2	<.1	0.8
Guardianship	7.2	5.9	5.9	8.1
Reunification	78.1	78.9	67.1	66.2
Other	9.1	12.5	26.9	24.9
Missing data	5.2	2.5	0.0	0.0
Number	1,410	1,465	1,597	1,537

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	5.9	15.2	12.1	11.5
Children older than 12 at entry	94.1	84.8	87.9	88.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	101	158	405	365

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007	2005		2006	2007		
Adoption	6.2	7.5	10.5	14.0	0.0	4.8	12.5	26.7	15.6	13.6	14.5	12.1		
Guardianship	11.4	7.5	14.8	9.5	12.5	0.0	12.5	6.7	9.7	9.3	5.3	9.6		
Reunification	74.4	77.2	58.0	58.9	87.5	90.5	62.5	53.3	67.2	65.2	66.7	63.5		
Other	3.1	7.1	16.7	17.5	0.0	4.8	12.5	13.3	2.2	9.0	13.5	14.8		
Missing data	4.8	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.2	2.9	0.0	0.0		
Number	289	268	324	285	8	21	8	15	403	420	525	512		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007	2005		2006	2007		
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.7	6.2	9.6	11.4	12.0	10.4	11.2	13.2		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.9	9.0	7.9	5.6	9.2	7.4	6.5	7.3		
Reunification	100.0	100.0	50.0	100.0	73.1	77.2	70.0	70.3	68.4	73.3	68.3	67.7		
Other	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	5.5	4.1	12.5	12.8	6.4	6.9	14.0	11.8		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.8	3.6	0.0	0.0	4.0	2.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	2	2	2	1	271	390	416	414	2,078	2,188	2,246	2,327		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007	2005		2006	2007		
Adoption	6.0	9.6	6.0	9.8	23.5	4.8	20.0	18.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	2.0	4.3	5.1	10.8	11.8	19.0	5.0	8.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	78.0	76.5	76.1	68.6	64.7	66.7	60.0	64.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	12.0	8.7	12.8	10.8	0.0	4.8	15.0	8.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	2.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	50	115	117	102	17	21	20	48	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	54.2	58.2	56.9	54.5
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	24.4	26.6	29.6	30.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	10.7	8.6	9.6	10.2
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	4.5	3.4	2.6	2.6
48 or more mos.	6.1	3.3	1.3	1.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,165	2,508	2,471	2,469

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	80.1	80.9	80.9	78.5
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	9.9	9.3	8.9	10.9
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	9.8	9.8	10.1	10.6
Missing data	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	4,155	3,942	3,799	3,575

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	2.5	4.7	1.4	2.1
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	12.8	17.3	15.7	17.5
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	31.8	27.6	29.2	35.6
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	25.4	22.3	23.4	20.8
48 or more mos.	27.4	28.2	30.2	24.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	358	341	414	480

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	81.6	82.3	83.2	85.4	50.6	47.9	54.0	54.7	28.1	28.4	26.3	26.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	18.4	17.7	16.8	14.6	49.4	52.1	46.0	45.3	71.9	71.6	73.7	73.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	4,683	4,701	4,525	4,362	2,083	2,418	2,594	2,531	2,620	2,529	2,724	2,684	24	8	2	2

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	4.2	5.4	3.3	2.9
Institutions	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.2
Other settings	94.9	93.7	95.6	95.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,216	2,234	2,181	2,042

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	110.9	112.7	111.8
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	64.1	68.4	66.3	63.9
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	7.4	6.9	8.0	8.0
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	33.2	39.2	42.1	44.8
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	10.9	16.6	14.1	13.5

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	81.0	80.9	98.4
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	15.4	22.1	16.5	19.3
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	37.0	36.4	37.9	34.3
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	18.5	17.2	21.0	23.5
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	8.8	6.0	9.0	12.6
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	38.1	42.2	39.5	57.5

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	142.2	151.7	151.3
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	33.4	30.4	36.4	39.2
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	98.6	97.8	99.1	97.8
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	22.5	25.5	22.8	23.6

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	85.8	88.2	90.3
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	80.6	81.6	82.6	85.0
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	50.9	48.4	54.9	55.1
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	29.4	29.4	27.5	27.7

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

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The following are Nebraska's comments on the State's data presented in the *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

Nebraska continues to be dedicated to providing the most accurate data possible. We persist in our efforts to enhance our data systems and maintain data integrity. We promote transparency in government and encourage access and review of our data for continuous evaluation and improvement toward the achievement of the outcomes of child safety, permanency and well-being.

Child Maltreatment Victims

The Child Welfare Summary Table in Section A shows there was a drop of nearly 33% in the number of child maltreatment victims from 2006 to 2007. There was an agreement between the NCANDS Advisory Team and the State of Nebraska to exclude victim reports where the Finding or Report Disposition was "Court Pending". These reports were included in previous years and it was found that the same reports were being included in subsequent years because the "Court Pending" is an interim finding/disposition that later gets an updated permanent finding.

Time to Investigation (In Hours)

In 2007 Nebraska implemented a new Safety Intervention System. This new system improved system functionality to allow entry of the date and time of contact with the victim rather than staff only being able to enter the contact date. This resulted in a majority of the reports showing zero days and causing the mean to be 0.4 hours. Preliminary review of the 2008 submission has indicated that the average time is about 179.5 hours. Nebraska finds that the Agency file related to reporting the average response time to be more accurate as the Agency file compares actual times instead of using the number of days. Nebraska reported the average response time to be 148 hours.

Children in Foster Care

Nebraska continues to have a high percentage, 42% of 16- to 18-year-olds, in the foster care system. Many of them are in our care because of delinquency filings as our division serves child welfare and juvenile justice youth. The racial makeup of the foster care population is disproportional to the general population.

Composite

Nebraska is proud of our achievement of obtaining permanency for children in foster care for long periods of time, including permanency for youth with a diagnosed disability and older youth entering care. This outcome is even more remarkable because almost 25% of our foster care population is in our juvenile justice population. We are also proud to have our Timeliness for Adoption increase significantly.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	595,477	616,385	639,645	660,002
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Asian	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.5
Black	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Hispanic (of any race)	33.1	34.3	35.6	36.9
White	49.0	47.5	46.0	44.6
Two or more races	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.1
Child population in poverty (%)	18.8	14.9	13.9	15.3

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	4,462	5,230	5,345	5,417
Children in foster care on 9/30	4,037	4,654	5,069	5,053
Children adopted	287	404	444	466

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	19
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	61
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	24,695	41.5 per 1,000	28,576	46.4 per 1,000	30,475	47.6 per 1,000	34,039	51.6 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	4,462	7.5 per 1,000	5,230	8.5 per 1,000	5,345	8.4 per 1,000	5,417	8.2 per 1,000
Child fatalities	2	0.3 per 100,000	17	2.8 per 100,000	14	2.2 per 100,000	21	3.2 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	17.3	17.6	18.0	17.5
1 year	6.7	8.0	8.0	8.5
2 years	8.5	7.8	7.3	7.3
3 years	7.3	7.8	6.7	7.5
4 years	6.4	6.3	6.0	6.7
5 years	5.8	6.1	6.1	5.9
6 years	5.4	5.7	6.3	5.8
7 years	5.7	4.9	5.6	5.1
8 years	5.0	4.6	5.3	5.1
9 years	5.0	4.6	4.4	4.7
10 years	4.3	4.1	4.2	3.9
11 years	3.9	3.7	3.8	4.0
12 years	3.9	4.1	3.9	3.4
13 years	4.3	3.9	3.4	3.5
14 years	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.6
15 years	3.4	3.6	3.5	3.2
16 years	2.1	2.4	2.4	3.0
17 years	1.4	1.2	1.6	1.4
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	4,462	5,230	5,345	5,417

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.9
Asian	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1
Black	16.6	14.6	20.0	18.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.7
Hispanic (of any race)	20.8	22.9	24.9	26.5
White	52.2	51.6	44.0	45.5
Two or more races	4.1	5.0	6.6	6.1
Missing data	3.7	3.4	1.9	0.4
Number	4,462	5,230	5,345	5,417

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	5.1	7.9	8.4	9.4
Medical neglect	1.9	1.6	2.1	2.0
Neglect	82.0	83.0	84.8	81.8
Physical abuse	18.0	17.4	17.8	19.3
Sexual abuse	3.8	4.3	3.7	5.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	4,462	5,230	5,345	5,417

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	48.4	47.5	45.5	39.7
Median	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	3,595	4,072	4,604	5,009	3,495	3,646	3,957	3,679	3,053	3,064	3,492	3,635	4,037	4,654	5,069	5,053
Median length of stay (months)	15.4	13.8	12.9	12.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.1	7.3	9.8	11.7	13.6	12.9	12.4	13.3

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	8.8	8.9	9.5	9.2	18.6	20.2	20.2	20.9	8.3	7.5	7.6	6.7	8.9	9.5	9.1	9.1
1 year	8.3	9.0	9.5	10.3	7.3	7.8	8.4	8.9	8.3	8.8	9.7	10.0	9.1	9.5	10.4	10.7
2 years	8.3	7.3	8.0	7.6	7.7	7.4	7.0	6.8	8.4	7.9	9.0	8.8	7.4	8.0	7.7	8.4
3 years	6.7	7.5	7.1	7.1	6.2	6.9	6.2	7.3	6.6	7.5	7.1	7.3	7.6	7.1	7.1	7.2
4 years	6.3	6.2	6.7	6.6	6.0	5.8	5.9	5.5	6.7	7.4	6.5	6.5	6.1	6.7	6.5	6.8
5 years	5.4	5.7	5.5	6.1	5.5	5.7	5.6	5.2	6.4	6.3	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.6	6.2	5.7
6 years	5.6	5.2	5.3	5.5	5.6	5.0	5.2	5.0	6.5	5.4	5.4	5.6	5.2	5.2	5.6	6.0
7 years	4.6	4.8	4.8	4.8	5.2	4.5	4.9	4.4	4.8	4.9	5.2	5.1	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.5
8 years	4.0	4.8	4.5	4.9	4.9	4.6	4.5	4.8	5.2	4.2	4.7	5.5	4.9	4.6	4.9	4.5
9 years	4.6	3.9	4.8	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.3	4.9	5.0	4.4	3.9	4.8	4.1	4.4
10 years	4.1	4.5	3.8	4.6	4.1	4.4	4.0	3.6	4.2	4.4	3.8	4.2	4.5	3.9	4.6	3.8
11 years	4.2	4.0	4.1	3.9	4.1	3.7	3.9	3.5	4.4	4.3	4.0	3.7	3.9	4.0	3.9	4.2
12 years	4.4	3.7	3.8	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.2	3.6	4.5	3.9	3.9	4.2	3.7	3.8	4.0	3.6
13 years	4.4	4.4	3.7	4.1	4.3	3.8	3.6	3.5	4.4	4.1	3.2	3.7	4.4	3.7	4.1	4.0
14 years	4.4	4.6	4.1	4.0	4.6	4.1	3.6	3.2	4.0	4.3	3.5	3.1	4.6	4.2	3.9	3.9
15 years	5.1	4.7	4.4	4.2	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.8	3.9	3.5	3.4	4.7	4.3	4.2	3.7
16 years	4.5	4.9	4.3	4.4	2.4	2.5	2.9	3.7	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.4	4.8	4.3	4.3	4.5
17 years	3.6	3.5	4.3	4.1	1.4	1.6	1.9	2.4	1.9	1.9	3.7	5.9	3.6	4.3	4.0	4.7
18 years	1.9	1.8	1.1	0.5	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	3.1	3.8	4.2	2.2	1.6	1.1	0.5	0.3
19 years	0.6	0.4	0.5	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.2	0.4	0.4	<.1	0.0
20+ years	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1	<.1	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.2	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7
Asian	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.6	1.2	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.2	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.9
Black	22.0	22.5	21.5	21.9	21.2	20.1	22.3	23.0	21.0	21.0	21.8	20.5	22.1	21.6	22.0	23.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.4	0.8	1.5	1.2	0.5	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.5
Hispanic (of any race)	16.7	17.2	20.7	22.5	22.1	24.4	25.3	25.3	21.9	20.6	23.3	25.0	17.5	20.6	22.4	22.7
White	53.3	52.6	50.3	46.5	49.1	46.1	41.7	43.1	49.1	48.7	45.9	45.6	52.8	50.1	46.6	44.7
Two or more races	5.3	5.3	5.4	6.7	4.7	5.8	7.1	6.3	4.7	5.6	5.4	6.3	5.2	5.5	6.7	6.7
Unknown	0.4	0.1	0.2	<.1	0.6	1.2	0.4	<.1	0.9	1.2	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.2	<.1	<.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	1,573	1,701	1,758	1,765
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	662	728	810	766

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	10.0	9.9	10.4	8.2
1 year	12.0	10.9	11.8	13.4
2 years	9.9	9.2	8.8	9.7
3 years	10.3	8.8	7.9	7.9
4 years	7.2	8.4	7.8	6.7
5 years	6.4	7.1	7.8	7.4
6 years	6.5	6.2	6.1	7.1
7 years	6.2	5.8	4.9	5.2
8 years	5.9	5.1	5.3	4.5
9 years	4.2	6.1	4.8	5.4
10 years	5.3	4.1	5.4	4.4
11 years	4.5	4.5	4.3	5.1
12 years	3.5	4.2	3.6	4.4
13 years	2.9	3.6	3.9	4.0
14 years	2.2	2.5	3.1	2.8
15 years	1.7	1.9	2.0	2.4
16 years	0.9	1.0	1.2	0.8
17 years	0.4	0.7	0.9	0.7

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.8
Asian	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.9
Black	22.4	22.8	23.3	23.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.3
Hispanic (of any race)	17.9	18.0	19.9	21.2
White	51.7	51.8	48.5	46.6
Two or more races	5.6	5.8	6.3	6.5
Unknown	0.2	0.1	<.1	0.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	287	404	444	466

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.7	2.7	1.6	1.9
1 year	14.3	15.1	13.5	17.4
2 years	17.8	16.3	15.3	12.4
3 years	8.0	9.9	9.0	10.5
4 years	9.1	10.9	8.1	9.2
5 years	7.3	6.4	8.6	6.7
6 years	9.1	6.2	6.3	6.4
7 years	5.6	7.4	7.4	5.4
8 years	4.2	4.2	4.1	3.9
9 years	6.3	3.5	5.9	3.9
10 years	0.7	4.0	4.1	4.5
11 years	4.9	4.0	3.6	3.2
12 years	3.5	2.7	4.5	2.8
13 years	4.2	2.7	2.9	2.8
14 years	1.4	1.7	2.0	3.0
15 years	1.4	1.5	1.8	2.8
16 years	1.4	0.5	0.5	2.4
17 years	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.9
18 years	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.0
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.7	0.5	0.0	0.2
Asian	0.3	0.7	0.7	0.9
Black	20.6	21.5	19.4	19.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	1.0	2.0	0.7	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	15.7	14.6	19.4	19.3
White	57.1	53.7	53.6	57.7
Two or more races	3.1	6.2	6.1	2.4
Unknown	0.3	0.7	0.2	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	94.7	93.4	93.8	93.8
Children with one or more recurrences	5.3	6.6	6.2	6.2
Number	2,108	2,379	2,561	2,520

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.23	0.23	0.11	0.33
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.77	99.77	99.89	99.67
Number	7,090	7,718	8,561	8,688

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	9.8	13.2	13.0	12.4
Guardianship	12.1	9.9	12.7	13.0
Reunification	71.2	69.2	66.5	66.9
Other	6.6	7.7	7.8	7.8
Missing data	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	3,053	3,064	3,492	3,635

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	33.3	41.1	35.2	35.4
Guardianship	11.9	7.7	7.5	3.6
Reunification	29.9	32.0	30.7	28.5
Other	24.3	19.2	26.7	32.5
Missing data	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	177	297	375	305

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.7
Guardianship	7.8	5.8	8.0	8.4
Reunification	71.1	70.5	67.4	61.1
Other	20.7	23.5	24.4	29.8
Missing data	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	502	515	573	571

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	39.7	45.1	41.7	33.3
Children older than 12 at entry	59.5	54.9	58.3	66.7
Missing data	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	116	144	204	207

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	29.4	12.5	0.0	3.8	3.4	10.7	7.0	8.9	8.9	13.1	11.2	11.8		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	13.3	15.4	6.9	7.1	11.6	8.9	15.6	11.8	13.6	13.6		
Reunification	70.6	56.3	26.7	23.1	82.8	71.4	74.4	75.6	67.9	65.4	65.4	63.9		
Other	0.0	31.3	60.0	57.7	6.9	10.7	7.0	6.7	7.6	9.7	9.8	10.7		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	17	16	15	26	29	28	43	45	641	642	762	745		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	12.0	17.8	7.3	0.0	6.6	9.2	10.6	8.6	11.7	14.8	15.5	15.7		
Guardianship	8.0	17.8	7.3	11.1	10.0	9.5	13.0	11.5	11.9	8.9	12.4	14.0		
Reunification	72.0	53.3	80.5	77.8	80.5	76.7	72.6	75.3	67.8	68.1	63.1	62.4		
Other	8.0	11.1	4.9	11.1	2.2	4.6	3.8	4.6	8.3	8.2	9.0	7.8		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	25	45	41	18	668	632	815	908	1,499	1,491	1,603	1,659		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	3.4	10.8	4.3	0.0	9.7	14.5	14.2	7.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	6.9	5.4	4.3	50.0	13.1	12.8	13.2	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	82.8	81.1	87.0	25.0	73.1	66.9	68.4	77.8	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	6.9	2.7	4.3	25.0	4.1	5.8	4.2	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	29	37	23	4	145	172	190	230	0	1	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	77.9	73.9	74.0	67.4
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	13.8	17.1	17.4	23.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	5.4	5.5	5.6	6.4
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.2	1.5	0.9	2.1
48 or more mos.	0.9	1.5	1.5	1.2
Missing data	0.8	0.5	0.6	<.1
Number	2,174	2,119	2,321	2,430

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	86.0	85.1	83.5	85.7
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.0
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	7.6	8.3	10.0	7.9
Missing data	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.5
Number	3,495	3,646	3,957	3,679

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	4.0	4.2	2.2	2.7
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	21.0	21.7	21.6	26.3
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	31.0	31.1	29.6	27.4
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	17.3	18.3	22.1	22.3
48 or more mos.	26.7	24.7	24.5	21.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	300	405	453	449

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	78.6	77.7	77.9	75.9	47.8	45.3	46.0	47.5	34.4	26.8	23.2	20.2	48.8	48.1	38.5	55.6
Children with 3 or more placements	15.9	18.1	19.2	20.5	48.3	52.6	52.3	51.6	63.4	72.1	76.0	78.9	4.7	3.7	7.7	11.1
Missing data	5.4	4.2	2.9	3.6	3.9	2.1	1.7	0.9	2.2	1.1	0.8	0.9	46.5	48.1	53.8	33.3
Number	3,831	4,020	4,470	4,306	1,409	1,699	1,960	2,223	1,807	1,972	2,105	2,150	43	27	26	9

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	1.0	2.3	3.2	3.6
Institutions	38.6	27.0	20.9	16.7
Other settings	60.2	70.5	75.8	79.7
Missing data	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0
Number	2,756	2,968	3,258	3,039

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	137.4	148.1	153.4
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	69.2	73.4	86.6	87.7
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	7.0	3.7	1.9	1.9
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	38.7	36.5	38.8	36.8
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	8.8	9.1	10.2	8.2

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	90.6	100.3	94.3
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	24.9	25.9	23.8	29.0
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	31.7	32.8	34.1	33.5
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	18.5	21.9	24.3	21.7
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	8.7	12.1	15.3	11.9
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	28.6	35.2	41.4	40.1

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	109.3	119.9	121.2
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	25.9	31.4	32.6	32.3
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	95.6	98.5	97.2	95.3
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	65.7	68.3	52.8	48.2

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	79.5	78.3	77.0
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	77.1	75.8	75.6	74.8
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	49.8	46.4	46.7	48.0
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	34.7	27.2	23.7	20.5

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

New Hampshire

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	307,729	305,443	302,593	298,186
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Asian	1.8	1.9	2.1	2.2
Black	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	3.4	3.6	3.9	4.1
White	91.4	90.9	90.2	89.7
Two or more races	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.0
Child population in poverty (%)	9.7	9.4	9.6	8.8

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	948	941	822	912
Children in foster care on 9/30	1,236	1,178	1,146	1,084
Children adopted	102	124	135	141

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	28
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	71
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	9,037	29.4 per 1,000	9,275	30.4 per 1,000	9,399	31.1 per 1,000	9,958	33.4 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	948	3.1 per 1,000	941	3.1 per 1,000	822	2.7 per 1,000	912	3.1 per 1,000
Child fatalities	0	0.0 per 100,000	2	0.7 per 100,000	2	0.7 per 100,000	5	1.7 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	8.5	10.6	12.5	11.6
1 year	5.0	5.1	5.7	5.6
2 years	5.7	5.4	5.2	6.3
3 years	7.3	6.4	5.4	6.9
4 years	6.3	5.0	5.2	4.3
5 years	6.0	6.2	4.9	3.1
6 years	5.3	6.0	5.6	5.9
7 years	5.2	4.6	4.5	5.0
8 years	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.9
9 years	5.7	5.8	4.4	4.3
10 years	5.8	5.1	4.3	6.1
11 years	4.5	4.8	5.2	4.5
12 years	5.5	5.2	4.9	4.8
13 years	6.4	7.0	6.2	6.5
14 years	5.1	6.0	6.6	5.6
15 years	5.8	6.6	6.4	4.8
16 years	3.6	3.3	4.4	6.4
17 years	2.5	1.4	2.8	2.4
18+ years	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
Number	948	941	822	912

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.3
Asian	0.1	0.7	0.7	0.7
Black	3.0	2.1	2.6	2.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	5.6	6.0	6.2	4.4
White	82.2	82.0	82.6	82.1
Two or more races	2.8	2.9	1.1	2.9
Missing data	5.9	6.2	6.4	7.5
Number	948	941	822	912

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	2.5	1.0	1.8	2.0
Medical neglect	1.9	2.6	2.8	3.7
Neglect	63.8	66.4	68.7	71.1
Physical abuse	21.3	20.4	16.8	19.3
Sexual abuse	18.6	19.7	19.6	14.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	948	941	822	912

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	17.5	19.2	19.1	18.7
Median	<24	<24	<24	<24

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	1,199	1,178	1,146	1,090	560	548	557	585	523	549	557	591	1,236	1,178	1,146	1,084
Median length of stay (months)	25.4	25.4	23.3	21.2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	13.1	16.3	16.1	17.0	24.0	22.4	20.2	19.6

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.8	3.0	3.1	3.0	11.4	12.8	13.3	11.6	3.1	3.1	2.3	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.3
1 year	4.0	3.1	4.4	6.9	3.8	5.5	7.5	6.7	2.9	4.0	3.8	3.7	3.2	4.3	6.8	5.1
2 years	4.9	4.0	3.9	4.1	5.4	4.7	3.9	4.6	4.8	4.0	4.3	7.3	4.0	3.8	4.0	6.8
3 years	3.7	4.8	4.4	4.3	5.2	4.7	6.3	3.9	5.4	5.3	6.6	5.4	4.9	4.2	4.3	3.3
4 years	3.9	3.7	4.3	3.8	5.2	3.5	4.1	5.3	5.2	4.9	4.5	4.4	4.0	4.4	4.0	4.4
5 years	4.7	4.2	3.2	4.0	4.6	4.2	3.9	3.6	3.8	4.9	4.8	3.9	4.1	3.2	4.0	3.8
6 years	3.4	4.8	4.0	3.5	3.4	3.8	2.9	4.3	2.7	4.0	2.5	3.4	4.8	3.9	3.7	3.7
7 years	2.8	4.1	3.8	3.2	3.8	3.8	2.7	4.6	3.1	6.2	3.4	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.1	4.7
8 years	3.3	3.1	4.4	4.6	3.4	3.8	3.6	2.6	3.1	1.6	2.9	3.6	2.8	4.2	4.5	2.5
9 years	3.4	3.3	3.1	3.9	2.7	2.4	2.7	3.1	3.8	2.7	2.5	2.9	3.1	2.9	4.0	4.4
10 years	5.3	3.1	3.7	3.6	3.0	1.6	3.8	3.1	4.0	1.5	3.4	1.9	3.0	3.7	3.6	4.8
11 years	5.5	5.4	3.0	3.8	3.9	3.1	3.4	2.9	3.3	3.8	3.8	2.4	5.3	3.0	3.5	3.2
12 years	6.8	5.4	5.4	2.8	4.5	4.7	4.8	3.6	5.2	2.2	3.9	2.9	5.3	5.6	3.2	4.0
13 years	7.2	7.6	7.2	5.3	7.3	8.4	5.6	8.0	4.6	5.1	4.7	3.2	7.8	7.0	5.2	4.9
14 years	8.6	7.0	7.9	7.7	8.0	10.6	7.7	6.5	4.2	6.6	6.5	5.1	7.4	8.1	7.9	6.1
15 years	9.8	10.7	10.5	9.1	12.5	13.0	11.8	9.2	8.4	8.4	9.5	8.6	11.2	10.9	9.3	9.5
16 years	10.0	9.6	10.5	11.3	7.3	5.8	9.2	11.3	11.9	8.9	11.0	11.8	9.9	10.7	10.8	9.5
17 years	7.4	8.7	8.4	9.3	4.6	3.3	2.5	4.4	8.8	7.8	8.4	11.3	8.0	7.9	9.2	9.3
18 years	2.6	2.5	2.8	3.3	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.5	10.5	11.8	7.5	7.8	2.5	3.0	3.2	3.7
19 years	0.8	1.3	1.1	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	1.0	1.6	1.4	2.2	1.2	1.0	1.6	1.5
20+ years	0.2	0.6	1.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.7	2.0	1.2	0.6	0.8	0.6	1.2
Missing data	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.0	<.1	0.3	0.3

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.3	0.2	<.1	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.7	0.7	0.2	0.2	<.1	<.1
Asian	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.3	0.2	0.4	1.1	0.9	0.0	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.2	<.1	0.3	0.6
Black	3.3	4.1	3.8	4.4	4.3	3.8	3.4	3.8	2.9	3.8	2.9	4.4	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.3	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	<.1	0.2	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	4.9	5.2	6.3	6.9	5.5	6.8	8.4	6.2	4.6	5.3	7.5	7.4	5.3	5.9	6.7	6.2
White	81.1	80.6	81.0	79.5	81.4	77.6	77.2	76.8	79.7	76.9	77.4	76.0	81.8	80.8	80.9	80.0
Two or more races	4.3	4.4	3.6	2.8	3.6	2.9	2.2	3.4	4.2	5.1	4.1	2.5	4.0	3.4	2.6	3.2
Unknown	5.7	5.3	5.0	5.7	5.0	8.4	7.0	8.7	7.8	8.4	6.5	8.5	4.4	5.4	5.2	5.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	239	272	250	244
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	73	24	23	23

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.8
1 year	3.3	4.4	2.4	2.9
2 years	6.7	3.3	6.0	9.0
3 years	9.2	7.4	5.6	4.9
4 years	7.5	7.4	3.6	5.7
5 years	9.2	5.1	8.8	3.7
6 years	10.5	7.7	5.2	6.1
7 years	6.7	7.7	4.8	6.6
8 years	3.8	6.3	10.0	3.3
9 years	5.4	7.4	6.8	10.2
10 years	4.2	7.0	5.6	7.8
11 years	7.1	5.5	4.0	4.1
12 years	3.8	6.6	4.0	5.7
13 years	7.9	4.8	7.6	4.5
14 years	5.0	8.1	5.2	7.4
15 years	5.0	4.4	9.6	5.3
16 years	2.5	4.8	6.4	7.0
17 years	0.8	2.2	4.4	4.9

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	2.5	2.2	4.8	4.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	8.4	7.7	6.4	7.0
White	81.6	81.3	80.4	82.0
Two or more races	5.9	4.8	4.4	3.7
Unknown	1.7	4.0	4.0	3.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	102	124	135	141

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.0	2.4	0.7	1.4
1 year	3.9	5.6	3.0	3.5
2 years	12.7	6.5	7.4	14.2
3 years	9.8	16.1	11.9	12.1
4 years	7.8	8.9	11.1	9.2
5 years	3.9	13.7	11.1	8.5
6 years	4.9	9.7	6.7	6.4
7 years	7.8	12.1	6.7	7.8
8 years	5.9	0.8	3.7	6.4
9 years	3.9	4.0	4.4	5.0
10 years	11.8	0.8	8.1	4.3
11 years	5.9	3.2	3.7	3.5
12 years	5.9	4.0	3.0	1.4
13 years	6.9	4.8	5.2	1.4
14 years	3.9	1.6	5.2	2.8
15 years	2.9	1.6	3.7	4.3
16 years	2.0	2.4	1.5	7.1
17 years	0.0	1.6	3.0	0.7
18 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0
Black	2.9	2.4	0.7	2.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	2.9	8.1	8.1	9.9
White	91.2	82.3	81.5	80.9
Two or more races	0.0	4.0	5.9	5.0
Unknown	2.0	1.6	3.0	1.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

New Hampshire

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	95.4	94.0	97.2	97.6
Children with one or more recurrences	4.6	6.0	2.8	2.4
Number	436	401	362	419

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.06
Children not maltreated while in foster care	100.00	100.00	99.88	99.94
Number	1,759	1,726	1,703	1,675

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	18.9	22.4	23.9	23.4
Guardianship	2.7	1.3	3.2	4.2
Reunification	56.0	51.5	52.6	53.5
Other	20.7	22.8	18.3	17.1
Missing data	1.7	2.0	2.0	1.9
Number	523	549	557	591

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	15.1	21.1	26.5	20.6
Guardianship	0.5	0.0	3.4	3.1
Reunification	60.0	49.8	44.1	52.5
Other	23.2	27.8	25.2	22.9
Missing data	1.1	1.4	0.8	0.9
Number	185	209	238	223

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.5	1.0	2.6	1.9
Guardianship	2.1	1.0	3.1	0.9
Reunification	58.0	60.0	64.8	67.3
Other	38.3	35.1	28.1	27.0
Missing data	1.0	2.9	1.5	2.8
Number	193	205	196	211

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	30.0	50.7	55.6	48.2
Children older than 12 at entry	70.0	49.3	44.4	51.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	60	73	63	56

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/American Indian				2004	Asian			2004	Black			2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006		2004	2005	2006	
Adoption	50.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.0	19.0	6.3	15.4	
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.8	6.3	0.0	
Reunification	0.0	0.0	100.0	75.0	0.0	50.0	75.0	100.0	33.3	42.9	62.5	65.4	
Other	50.0	0.0	0.0	25.0	0.0	50.0	25.0	0.0	46.7	28.6	12.5	15.4	
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.8	12.5	3.8	
Number	2	1	4	4	0	2	4	2	15	21	16	26	
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander				2004	Hispanic (of any race)			2004	White			2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006		2004	2005	2006	
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.8	37.9	31.0	29.5	19.7	21.8	24.1	24.5	
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.1	1.2	3.9	5.6	
Reunification	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	79.2	48.3	40.5	52.3	56.6	53.8	53.8	51.4	
Other	50.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	13.8	26.2	15.9	18.7	20.9	17.4	16.9	
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	2.3	1.9	2.4	0.7	1.6	
Number	2	0	1	0	24	29	42	44	417	422	431	449	
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races			2004	Missing Data			2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006		2004	2005	2006	
Adoption	4.9	8.7	16.7	14.0	27.3	39.3	39.1	26.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.5	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Reunification	58.5	41.3	50.0	60.0	36.4	46.4	39.1	60.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	
Other	34.1	50.0	30.6	22.0	31.8	10.7	4.3	13.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Missing data	2.4	0.0	2.8	4.0	0.0	0.0	17.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Number	41	46	36	50	22	28	23	15	0	0	0	1	

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	65.5	63.6	67.2	66.5
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	21.5	20.5	21.5	19.9
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	3.1	6.0	3.8	3.5
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.4	4.9	1.7	1.3
48 or more mos.	6.5	3.9	5.8	8.2
Missing data	1.0	1.1	0.0	0.6
Number	293	283	293	316

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	71.3	75.0	75.2	76.6
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	17.1	13.5	14.4	15.0
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	6.1	6.4	5.6	5.6
Missing data	5.5	5.1	4.8	2.7
Number	560	548	557	585

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	1.0	4.1	3.8	0.7
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	12.1	11.4	10.5	10.9
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	20.2	38.2	34.6	44.2
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	27.3	27.6	19.5	18.8
48 or more mos.	39.4	18.7	31.6	25.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	99	123	133	138

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	82.6	81.2	81.6	80.1	65.3	65.0	66.1	64.9	39.2	38.2	36.8	41.4	87.5	100.0	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	17.4	18.8	18.4	19.9	34.7	35.0	33.9	35.1	60.8	61.8	63.2	58.6	12.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	649	618	629	662	303	323	339	316	799	783	734	694	8	2	1	3

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	8.5	9.2	12.4	6.1
Institutions	0.0	0.6	0.9	0.9
Other settings	91.5	90.2	86.7	93.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	331	315	347	342

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	92.0	92.7	101.6
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	65.3	61.9	65.4	65.2
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	8.1	8.9	7.8	8.2
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	32.3	34.6	32.4	41.4
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	18.5	20.9	20.9	19.0

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	97.5	92.8	97.2
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	13.1	15.4	14.3	11.8
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	41.5	34.9	36.5	35.4
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	13.5	16.1	19.3	22.0
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	4.8	4.5	6.1	5.5
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	73.9	84.4	72.0	71.0

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	98.0	95.1	101.6
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	17.0	18.5	21.4	27.0
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	100.0	99.2	99.2	95.2
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	61.9	65.2	70.5	64.9

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	95.5	95.9	94.7
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	82.1	80.1	80.6	78.7
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	65.3	64.9	66.0	64.6
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	39.5	39.2	37.0	41.5

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	2,108,034	2,097,700	2,079,588	2,063,789
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Asian	6.9	7.2	7.4	7.6
Black	15.3	15.2	15.0	14.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	18.2	18.8	19.3	20.0
White	57.4	56.8	56.1	55.2
Two or more races	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.1
Child population in poverty (%)	11.8	11.8	11.8	11.6

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	8,159	9,812	11,680	7,543
Children in foster care on 9/30	12,282	11,205	10,618	10,115
Children adopted	1,317	1,379	1,325	1,219

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	70
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	85,304
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	121,890
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	76
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	64,482
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	85,304

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	79,057	37.5 per 1,000	61,041	29.1 per 1,000	47,172	22.7 per 1,000	68,985	33.4 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	8,159	3.9 per 1,000	9,812	4.7 per 1,000	11,680	5.6 per 1,000	7,543	3.7 per 1,000
Child fatalities	34	1.6 per 100,000	30	1.4 per 100,000	32	1.5 per 100,000	33	1.6 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	13.0	12.4	11.8	13.6
1 year	5.6	5.5	6.1	5.9
2 years	4.9	5.5	5.4	5.9
3 years	5.9	5.8	5.4	5.5
4 years	5.3	5.3	5.7	5.6
5 years	5.5	5.9	5.8	5.9
6 years	6.0	6.2	6.5	6.0
7 years	5.4	5.8	6.1	5.7
8 years	5.4	5.4	5.7	5.5
9 years	5.3	5.0	5.0	5.0
10 years	5.5	5.0	4.5	4.8
11 years	4.9	5.0	4.7	4.9
12 years	5.5	5.3	5.0	4.3
13 years	5.5	4.8	4.8	4.7
14 years	4.7	5.2	5.1	4.7
15 years	5.0	4.7	4.7	4.9
16 years	3.7	4.0	4.2	4.2
17 years	2.8	2.9	3.0	2.7
18+ years	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Missing data	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Number	8,159	9,812	11,680	7,543

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Asian	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8
Black	37.4	33.2	31.9	30.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	5.8	5.8	6.8	10.3
White	35.9	33.3	34.9	34.8
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1
Missing data	19.7	26.5	25.3	22.2
Number	8,159	9,812	11,680	7,543

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	4.0	1.5	0.8	0.1
Medical neglect	11.7	9.4	6.1	0.0
Neglect	52.3	49.6	57.9	66.7
Physical abuse	26.6	33.4	29.0	26.1
Sexual abuse	8.1	8.8	8.8	9.7
Missing data	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	8,159	9,812	11,680	7,543

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	—	—	—	69.6
Median	—	—	—	>24 but <48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	12,305	12,385	11,225	10,299	6,660	5,811	6,287	5,580	6,717	7,024	6,930	5,775	12,282	11,205	10,618	10,115
Median length of stay (months)	17.7	18.0	19.4	16.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	12.6	15.4	15.3	14.9	17.9	19.4	16.7	16.4

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	7.6	7.2	7.3	7.6	20.5	21.6	20.2	21.9	4.7	4.7	5.2	5.5	7.4	7.4	7.6	8.0
1 year	8.2	8.6	8.2	8.6	5.5	5.5	6.2	6.7	6.3	7.2	6.7	7.3	8.7	8.4	8.5	8.8
2 years	7.0	6.9	7.4	7.2	4.4	5.2	5.4	5.1	7.4	7.6	7.4	7.9	7.0	7.4	7.2	7.7
3 years	5.7	5.5	5.9	6.0	4.4	4.7	4.4	5.4	6.7	6.3	7.0	7.3	5.6	6.0	6.0	5.9
4 years	5.1	4.8	4.8	5.0	4.3	4.6	4.8	4.2	5.2	5.5	5.6	5.9	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.0
5 years	4.8	4.4	4.1	4.3	3.6	4.7	4.8	4.1	5.1	5.1	4.8	4.6	4.4	4.1	4.3	4.3
6 years	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.2	3.6	4.0	4.5	4.2	4.5	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.0
7 years	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.5	4.1	3.4	3.9	4.2	4.0	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
8 years	3.9	3.9	3.7	4.0	3.3	3.7	3.8	3.4	4.0	4.1	4.4	3.8	3.9	3.7	4.0	3.9
9 years	4.3	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.1	3.8	3.0	3.6	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.7
10 years	4.5	4.6	3.6	3.9	4.2	3.1	3.4	3.3	3.7	3.4	3.1	3.7	4.6	3.6	3.8	3.4
11 years	4.9	4.3	4.6	3.8	3.7	3.9	3.7	3.4	4.0	3.9	3.7	3.2	4.3	4.6	3.8	3.8
12 years	4.9	5.0	4.4	4.7	4.4	4.1	4.1	3.0	3.6	3.8	3.6	3.5	5.0	4.5	4.7	3.9
13 years	5.3	5.5	5.4	5.0	5.5	4.9	4.4	4.4	4.1	4.5	3.8	3.8	5.4	5.4	5.0	4.5
14 years	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.5	6.0	5.4	5.1	5.4	5.0	4.8	4.5	4.6	5.8	5.8	5.6	5.5
15 years	6.1	6.6	6.4	6.3	7.2	6.2	5.7	5.6	6.0	5.7	5.8	5.2	6.5	6.2	6.4	5.9
16 years	6.1	6.6	6.7	6.3	6.3	6.0	6.2	6.6	6.4	6.1	6.2	5.5	6.5	6.6	6.4	6.6
17 years	5.4	5.8	6.6	6.1	4.9	4.8	4.5	4.9	6.3	5.7	6.5	6.9	5.7	6.5	6.1	6.5
18 years	1.6	1.8	2.1	2.5	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.3	7.6	8.0	7.3	6.5	1.8	2.1	2.6	3.0
19 years	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.5	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.9	0.5	0.8	0.9	1.1
20+ years	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.5
Missing data	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1
Asian	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
Black	60.8	59.9	57.4	53.5	46.6	44.5	40.7	41.1	49.3	51.2	48.2	46.8	59.4	57.2	53.6	50.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	6.7	6.5	6.7	6.5	7.5	7.2	7.2	8.0	7.8	6.9	7.5	6.9	6.6	6.7	6.5	7.1
White	23.3	23.7	24.0	25.5	30.8	29.5	31.5	29.5	29.6	27.9	28.5	28.6	23.9	24.2	25.4	26.0
Two or more races	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.7	1.4	1.6	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.6
Unknown	6.9	7.7	9.7	12.4	12.9	16.8	18.6	19.3	11.3	11.9	14.0	15.5	7.8	9.8	12.2	14.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	5,110	4,845	4,679	4,498
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	2,005	1,912	2,174	4,095

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	10.0	10.8	9.4	4.2
1 year	12.8	12.0	13.1	11.0
2 years	11.2	11.4	10.3	11.3
3 years	8.6	8.9	8.6	7.7
4 years	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.3
5 years	6.2	5.4	5.6	5.4
6 years	5.3	5.2	5.0	4.6
7 years	4.8	5.0	4.6	4.7
8 years	4.8	4.2	4.5	4.7
9 years	4.5	4.1	3.8	4.6
10 years	4.9	3.9	4.2	3.9
11 years	4.6	4.5	4.0	4.4
12 years	4.1	4.6	4.6	4.1
13 years	3.7	3.9	4.3	5.1
14 years	3.0	3.7	4.0	5.2
15 years	2.8	2.9	3.8	5.1
16 years	1.3	1.7	2.2	4.6
17 years	1.0	1.2	1.3	3.2

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	<.1
Asian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Black	64.6	60.8	56.2	52.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	5.9	5.7	5.6	5.9
White	19.8	21.4	23.1	25.2
Two or more races	2.9	2.4	2.4	1.9
Unknown	6.6	9.2	12.2	14.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	1,317	1,379	1,325	1,219

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.9	0.6	1.2	1.3
1 year	6.8	9.6	7.5	9.7
2 years	14.7	16.5	17.8	16.3
3 years	14.7	14.7	16.2	15.8
4 years	9.9	9.9	10.5	11.4
5 years	8.7	9.1	7.1	6.6
6 years	8.0	6.8	6.8	7.4
7 years	6.7	5.4	4.8	4.0
8 years	5.5	5.1	5.4	3.8
9 years	5.1	4.4	3.5	3.5
10 years	4.3	3.5	3.1	3.4
11 years	4.5	4.2	3.7	3.4
12 years	3.7	2.7	3.2	3.4
13 years	2.3	2.3	3.3	2.5
14 years	1.5	1.6	2.0	2.5
15 years	1.2	1.7	1.3	1.6
16 years	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.9
17 years	0.4	0.6	1.5	1.2
18 years	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2
19 years	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.2
Asian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Black	57.7	64.5	57.7	55.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	7.7	5.7	5.8	5.3
White	23.2	18.9	24.2	22.9
Two or more races	2.9	3.6	2.9	3.7
Unknown	8.3	7.0	9.1	12.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	95.0	95.1	93.9	95.1
Children with one or more recurrences	5.0	4.9	6.1	4.9
Number	3,927	3,962	5,878	4,263

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.79	0.68	0.68	0.09
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.21	99.32	99.32	99.91
Number	18,965	18,196	17,512	15,879

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	19.4	18.8	19.1	19.1
Guardianship	5.4	9.1	9.4	5.4
Reunification	57.8	56.1	54.8	53.0
Other	16.1	13.7	14.0	10.1
Missing data	1.3	2.3	2.8	12.4
Number	6,717	7,024	6,930	5,775

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	39.3	38.2	43.1	34.6
Guardianship	2.0	2.9	3.5	2.6
Reunification	36.0	35.9	30.4	35.2
Other	19.7	19.2	20.4	14.3
Missing data	3.0	3.8	2.5	13.2
Number	1,141	1,085	1,076	892

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.5	0.4	1.1	1.0
Guardianship	2.6	4.4	5.8	4.1
Reunification	54.5	56.0	52.9	50.2
Other	41.3	37.0	37.9	28.6
Missing data	1.1	2.3	2.4	16.1
Number	1,960	1,898	1,823	1,462

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	21.3	25.2	27.9	32.0
Children older than 12 at entry	78.5	74.4	72.0	68.0
Missing data	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.0
Number	578	527	560	372

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	10.0	12.5	45.5	12.9	12.5	15.8	11.5	22.7	23.6	22.5	22.4		
Guardianship	22.2	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	6.2	9.7	10.8	6.4		
Reunification	55.6	60.0	75.0	45.5	64.5	70.8	52.6	65.4	52.1	48.3	47.2	44.6		
Other	22.2	10.0	12.5	0.0	19.4	12.5	26.3	11.5	17.5	15.9	16.3	12.3		
Missing data	0.0	10.0	0.0	9.1	3.2	4.2	5.3	7.7	1.5	2.5	3.2	14.2		
Number	9	10	8	11	31	24	19	26	3,310	3,596	3,340	2,700		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	18.8	15.5	15.2	15.8	15.0	13.4	16.2	15.7		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	4.8	8.1	3.0	5.8	9.8	8.8	5.3		
Reunification	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	54.4	59.6	54.5	53.5	63.7	64.0	60.5	61.0		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.4	18.2	19.4	13.3	14.6	11.0	12.3	8.7		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	1.9	2.9	14.3	1.0	1.8	2.2	9.3		
Number	0	0	1	1	522	483	521	398	1,989	1,957	1,976	1,651		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	14.2	10.8	12.8	14.5	40.6	37.3	43.3	41.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	3.8	7.8	7.1	3.7	1.0	9.3	5.2	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	71.4	70.6	70.5	64.7	45.8	43.2	47.4	35.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	10.0	8.3	7.2	5.2	11.5	9.3	3.1	4.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.5	2.6	2.4	11.9	1.0	0.8	1.0	11.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	760	836	968	897	96	118	97	91	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	69.1	62.6	64.0	61.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	18.5	23.4	20.3	22.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	6.6	7.2	6.2	5.2
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.9	2.7	2.9	4.5
48 or more mos.	2.8	3.5	4.3	5.2
Missing data	1.1	0.6	2.3	2.1
Number	3,885	3,940	3,798	3,059

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	84.4	83.2	82.4	77.2
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	6.6	7.1	7.9	10.5
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	7.6	8.1	8.0	10.8
Missing data	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.6
Number	6,660	5,811	6,287	5,580

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	3.2	2.3	2.3	3.6
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	12.2	14.1	11.0	15.7
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	23.8	25.9	25.4	26.6
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	24.9	23.2	24.1	21.4
48 or more mos.	35.7	34.2	34.6	30.8
Missing data	<.1	0.4	2.5	1.8
Number	1,301	1,323	1,323	1,105

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	80.6	82.1	82.1	85.1	55.2	59.1	63.1	66.6	41.1	36.3	35.4	36.2	82.4	85.7	73.8	81.8
Children with 3 or more placements	18.3	16.7	16.6	14.3	44.0	40.4	36.2	32.4	56.9	62.3	63.5	62.9	0.0	0.0	2.1	3.4
Missing data	1.1	1.2	1.3	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.7	1.0	2.0	1.5	1.1	1.0	17.6	14.3	24.1	14.9
Number	7,776	6,880	7,111	6,449	4,122	4,217	3,658	3,705	7,033	7,064	6,602	5,577	34	35	141	148

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	3.0	3.1	3.0	2.5
Institutions	4.4	3.9	4.1	3.1
Other settings	92.6	93.0	92.9	94.4
Missing data	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0
Number	4,529	4,106	4,458	3,770

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	114.2	115.5	108.2
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	68.0	61.0	61.9	59.6
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	7.2	8.9	8.7	9.0
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	44.8	42.6	39.6	37.3
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	8.8	9.9	9.6	10.7

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	95.9	95.9	98.9
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	15.5	16.5	13.7	19.6
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	40.4	39.6	39.9	37.8
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	19.8	20.9	23.0	21.5
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	9.8	12.8	14.4	26.9
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	36.5	59.4	57.6	35.0

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	124.5	125.2	120.0
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	26.2	28.5	31.7	31.2
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	95.8	95.2	94.6	93.9
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	40.9	40.4	43.7	47.9

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	94.0	95.2	99.4
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	80.4	82.0	81.9	84.8
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	55.5	59.3	63.5	67.3
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	42.1	36.9	36.1	36.9

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Christine Mozes, Director
Division of Youth and Family Services

The following are New Jersey's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

Overall

New Jersey fully implemented its SACWIS system in 2007. Consequently, the 2007 data in this report is impacted by conversion, mapping and transition issues.

NJ has been diligent in resubmitting updated AFCARS data. Unfortunately, the data used in this report came from an early submission, and not the December 2008 resubmission. NJ will also be resubmitting NCANDS data.

Thus, any use or interpretation of the data needs to occur within the context of the above-stated cautions.

NJ anticipates that the Composite Measures will change favorably based on its AFCARS re-submissions. Based on the latest Data Profile (2/6/2009) received from the Children's Bureau, NJ is at the median or above for all of the Composite Measures. NJ is particularly strong in achieving "Permanency for Children and Youth in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time".

The Children's Bureau has informed us that next year's report to Congress will contain NJ's updated 2007 data.

Performance

NJ continues to significantly reduce the number of children entering foster care. More children exit the system than enter.

Children who enter out-of-home placement experience more placement stability, and are less likely to be in congregate care settings, than in previous years.

The median length of stay in out-of-home care continues to decline.

For children who achieve permanency through adoption, NJ has shown significant improvement in accomplishing that in less than 24 months.

The increase of youth age 18 years and older in foster care for 2007 is a direct result of NJ's new initiatives to serve children until they are 21 years of age.

NJ believes the increase of children of Hispanic ethnicity in our data is attributable to two factors. First, there has been a growth of the Hispanic population in NJ. Second, NJ's new SACWIS system captures ethnicity as a distinct data element, thus reflecting better reporting than in the past.

Data Issues

In 2006, the number of children subject to a report of maltreatment was noted to be miscoded and that the actual number should be 74,000. Thus, the 2007 data is comparable to previous years.

Medical neglect for 2007 should show a rate of 2.3%.

The "time to investigation" data was impacted by the issues noted earlier. NJ data shows the number of hours to investigation is 24–26 hours. NJ will submit an updated NCANDS file.

The number of children waiting for adoption as presented in this report is misleading as it includes children for whom a goal of adoption has been set at the 12 month Permanency Hearing, as well as those for whom TPR has been granted. Likewise the number of children whose parental rights have been terminated is over-reported. It should be 1,765.

The number of adoptions for 2007 is 1,293.

The exit from foster care data has over 12% of the data missing. This negatively impacts both the exit measures as well as the re-entry measure.

New Mexico

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	495,845	496,229	497,679	500,276
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	11.5	11.2	11.0	10.7
Asian	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1
Black	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	52.6	53.0	53.5	54.1
White	30.8	30.4	29.9	29.4
Two or more races	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.0
Child population in poverty (%)	27.7	26.0	25.6	25.5

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	6,333	7,285	5,926	6,065
Children in foster care on 9/30	2,157	2,316	2,357	2,423
Children adopted	265	289	338	355

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	60
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,459
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,426
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	97
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	3,837
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	3,953

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	26,324	53.1 per 1,000	32,950	66.4 per 1,000	26,471	53.2 per 1,000	23,776	47.5 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	6,333	12.8 per 1,000	7,285	14.7 per 1,000	5,926	11.9 per 1,000	6,065	12.1 per 1,000
Child fatalities	11	2.2 per 100,000	12	2.4 per 100,000	14	2.8 per 100,000	7	1.4 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	9.4	10.2	12.3	11.6
1 year	6.4	6.5	5.7	6.7
2 years	5.6	5.7	5.3	6.7
3 years	6.0	5.8	5.9	5.6
4 years	5.1	5.4	5.7	5.8
5 years	5.9	6.2	6.3	6.7
6 years	6.1	6.3	6.2	7.6
7 years	5.6	5.9	6.3	5.9
8 years	5.5	5.1	5.4	5.4
9 years	5.8	5.5	5.5	4.7
10 years	5.8	5.0	4.7	4.3
11 years	5.5	4.9	4.4	4.2
12 years	5.1	4.5	4.7	4.4
13 years	5.2	4.7	4.8	4.7
14 years	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.3
15 years	3.8	4.2	3.7	4.6
16 years	2.8	3.1	2.9	3.2
17 years	1.8	1.6	1.9	1.7
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	4.0	5.1	3.8	1.8
Number	6,333	7,285	5,926	6,065

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	8.7	6.5	7.8	7.9
Asian	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0
Black	2.4	3.2	2.3	2.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	48.5	50.5	51.8	56.4
White	28.7	24.4	23.8	24.4
Two or more races	2.0	1.9	2.3	2.2
Missing data	9.5	13.3	11.8	6.9
Number	6,333	7,285	5,926	6,065

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	22.8	22.1	18.6	18.3
Medical neglect	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5
Neglect	70.6	70.4	74.3	76.4
Physical abuse	12.9	14.5	13.3	13.4
Sexual abuse	5.4	5.3	4.5	3.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1
Number	6,333	7,285	5,926	6,065

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	—	—	138.6	98.4
Median	—	—	>48 but <72	>48 but <72

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	1,749	2,114	2,296	2,308	2,243	2,241	2,121	2,268	1,842	2,039	2,061	2,153	2,157	2,316	2,357	2,423
Median length of stay (months)	11.8	11.5	12.3	14.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.5	2.1	2.1	2.0	11.5	12.3	14.6	13.4

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	6.5	5.3	6.0	5.7	11.8	13.8	14.5	14.3	6.6	6.0	5.8	5.9	5.2	6.0	5.8	5.7
1 year	7.3	7.4	8.2	8.3	8.4	9.8	7.4	8.1	9.0	7.8	8.0	7.9	7.2	8.2	8.2	9.0
2 years	7.2	7.0	7.7	7.4	7.1	8.1	7.2	7.6	7.7	8.1	8.7	7.8	7.0	7.8	7.4	8.2
3 years	5.1	7.1	7.2	6.5	7.3	6.4	6.6	6.9	7.7	6.8	7.2	7.4	6.8	7.3	6.6	7.1
4 years	6.1	5.9	6.9	6.8	5.7	6.0	7.3	7.1	5.3	6.2	7.7	7.0	5.7	6.8	6.7	6.3
5 years	5.3	5.1	5.8	5.9	4.9	5.6	6.3	6.2	5.9	5.5	6.6	6.4	5.0	5.7	6.2	5.9
6 years	4.7	4.9	4.8	5.7	5.3	5.6	5.3	6.4	6.4	5.9	5.6	5.9	4.8	5.0	5.6	6.3
7 years	4.3	4.5	5.0	5.1	5.1	4.9	5.3	5.0	4.9	4.8	5.0	5.1	4.5	5.0	5.1	6.0
8 years	4.2	4.4	4.6	5.2	4.7	4.2	4.1	4.9	4.8	4.7	3.7	5.0	4.4	4.6	5.0	5.0
9 years	3.8	4.4	4.2	5.1	5.0	4.3	4.1	3.7	4.7	4.3	4.1	4.4	4.4	4.1	5.1	4.7
10 years	5.1	4.4	4.0	4.0	5.0	4.2	4.0	3.5	4.6	4.8	3.4	4.1	4.5	4.0	3.9	4.3
11 years	5.3	5.1	4.3	4.0	4.6	3.6	3.8	4.1	4.6	3.6	4.0	4.3	5.1	4.4	4.0	3.7
12 years	5.9	5.2	4.6	4.4	4.6	4.6	3.9	3.7	5.2	5.0	4.0	4.3	5.2	4.5	4.4	3.6
13 years	5.3	5.6	4.7	4.7	5.3	4.4	5.0	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.6	3.9	5.6	4.7	4.7	4.6
14 years	6.5	5.6	5.2	4.9	5.1	4.3	4.1	3.9	4.9	4.8	4.3	4.0	5.5	5.1	5.0	5.0
15 years	7.3	6.6	5.4	5.5	4.9	4.4	5.1	4.7	4.8	4.7	4.8	4.7	6.5	5.3	5.3	4.8
16 years	5.6	6.5	6.0	4.8	3.6	3.8	3.7	3.4	4.1	4.7	4.0	3.2	6.3	5.9	4.8	5.1
17 years	4.5	5.0	5.4	6.0	1.3	2.0	2.3	1.9	2.7	4.9	7.1	8.2	4.8	5.6	6.0	4.7
18 years	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	2.6	1.4	0.4	1.6	<.1	<.1	<.1
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	6.6	5.2	5.9	6.8	8.4	9.1	10.4	9.7	10.5	8.7	9.1	8.5	5.1	5.8	7.1	8.0
Asian	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Black	5.5	4.9	4.4	3.7	2.6	3.4	2.5	3.0	2.7	3.7	3.3	3.0	4.9	4.4	3.7	3.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	53.1	55.0	57.7	58.9	48.9	54.9	51.4	52.8	46.6	51.9	51.0	53.9	54.4	57.7	57.8	57.7
White	31.2	31.4	28.3	25.6	30.0	23.8	24.4	26.5	28.8	26.6	27.6	25.9	31.8	28.2	25.4	26.2
Two or more races	2.7	2.3	2.6	4.1	2.9	2.3	4.2	3.2	3.4	2.1	2.9	3.8	2.2	2.5	3.8	3.5
Unknown	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3	2.6	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.8	2.0	1.7	2.0	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.3
Missing data	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.6	4.6	4.5	5.3	2.6	5.1	4.7	4.4	2.8	0.7	0.8	1.7	0.5

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	634	711	860	963
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	446	461	478	539

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.6	2.3	1.5	2.0
1 year	5.8	7.2	8.3	6.6
2 years	6.8	7.2	7.8	9.2
3 years	7.7	7.7	7.4	8.7
4 years	5.5	7.7	8.4	5.6
5 years	5.5	6.5	7.7	7.1
6 years	6.2	5.3	7.2	6.7
7 years	4.3	5.3	5.5	6.6
8 years	4.1	5.2	5.1	5.1
9 years	6.0	4.8	5.0	6.0
10 years	4.7	4.6	4.8	5.5
11 years	6.6	5.5	4.3	4.0
12 years	6.9	6.8	5.7	5.0
13 years	7.4	5.8	5.5	5.7
14 years	6.2	5.8	5.2	5.5
15 years	7.9	5.1	4.9	5.6
16 years	6.3	5.8	4.1	3.4
17 years	0.5	1.5	1.7	1.5

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	5.7	3.8	4.5	6.1
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1
Black	8.5	5.6	3.5	3.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	54.6	58.8	61.4	60.1
White	29.3	28.3	25.8	25.4
Two or more races	1.4	3.4	3.5	4.2
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2
Missing data	0.3	0.1	0.8	0.3

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	265	289	338	355

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.4	2.1	0.9	1.1
1 year	17.0	8.0	11.2	10.7
2 years	10.9	7.6	10.7	10.7
3 years	9.8	8.0	10.1	9.0
4 years	6.8	8.0	9.5	6.8
5 years	7.2	7.6	6.8	9.0
6 years	5.3	6.2	6.8	9.6
7 years	6.4	5.2	5.0	6.5
8 years	2.6	4.2	4.4	3.4
9 years	3.0	3.8	6.2	5.6
10 years	3.0	7.6	3.0	4.5
11 years	5.3	5.5	5.3	5.1
12 years	5.7	5.2	3.8	5.1
13 years	3.0	7.6	4.7	3.7
14 years	3.0	2.1	3.0	3.4
15 years	3.8	5.9	3.3	2.8
16 years	3.4	3.8	3.0	2.0
17 years	0.4	1.7	2.1	1.1
18 years	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.8	4.5	0.0	0.6
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	5.7	5.9	1.2	5.1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.6
Hispanic (of any race)	55.8	47.8	41.7	65.6
White	34.0	39.4	54.4	24.8
Two or more races	2.6	1.7	2.1	3.4
Unknown	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	90.0	91.4	91.0	90.0
Children with one or more recurrences	10.0	8.6	9.0	10.0
Number	2,881	2,950	2,750	2,909

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.60	0.34	0.38	0.46
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.40	99.66	99.62	99.54
Number	3,992	4,355	4,417	4,576

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	13.7	14.3	17.1	17.0
Guardianship	6.3	5.8	4.4	1.3
Reunification	73.5	72.4	69.3	72.5
Other	5.2	7.3	9.1	9.2
Missing data	1.4	0.2	<.1	0.0
Number	1,842	2,039	2,061	2,153

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	15.5	41.3	38.8	38.2
Guardianship	12.7	6.8	5.9	1.7
Reunification	57.3	38.5	39.6	44.0
Other	11.8	12.8	15.6	16.1
Missing data	2.7	0.8	0.2	0.0
Number	110	400	508	529

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.5	3.2	2.9	2.4
Guardianship	5.7	6.6	2.7	1.4
Reunification	80.6	68.0	68.3	68.4
Other	11.0	21.8	25.7	27.8
Missing data	1.2	0.5	0.5	0.0
Number	335	412	413	424

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	43.9	28.3	28.9	21.3
Children older than 12 at entry	56.1	71.7	70.2	78.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0
Number	41	106	121	127

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	2.1	9.6	8.5	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.0	30.3	26.5	21.9		
Guardianship	8.8	0.0	3.7	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.0	3.9	7.4	0.0		
Reunification	73.7	74.7	68.1	66.3	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	52.0	53.9	61.8	62.5		
Other	11.9	15.7	19.7	26.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.0	11.8	4.4	15.6		
Missing data	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	194	178	188	184	1	5	0	0	50	76	68	64		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	16.8	15.5	18.7	21.8	15.1	14.4	18.8	13.4		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.7	7.8	4.5	0.7	6.6	5.2	4.9	2.0		
Reunification	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	71.8	69.9	66.9	71.2	75.1	74.2	69.8	75.1		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	6.5	9.8	6.3	2.4	6.1	6.5	9.5		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.3	<.1	0.0	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.0		
Number	0	2	1	3	858	1,058	1,051	1,160	531	543	569	558		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	3.9	2.5	2.9	0.0	11.1	7.1	22.0	18.5	2.1	4.2	1.1	0.0		
Guardianship	2.0	10.0	0.0	4.7	14.3	2.4	6.8	2.5	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	80.4	85.0	94.3	83.7	58.7	83.3	67.8	70.4	95.7	89.5	93.3	98.3		
Other	7.8	2.5	2.9	11.6	15.9	7.1	3.4	8.6	1.1	6.3	4.4	1.7		
Missing data	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0		
Number	51	40	35	43	63	42	59	81	94	95	90	60		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	89.6	82.9	82.1	79.4
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	8.6	14.5	12.9	13.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	0.9	2.2	4.1	5.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3
48 or more mos.	<.1	0.2	0.4	0.4
Missing data	0.4	0.0	0.1	<.1
Number	1,353	1,476	1,428	1,562

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	85.8	84.4	82.3	84.0
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	6.7	7.5	9.2	7.7
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	7.2	8.0	8.4	8.2
Missing data	0.3	<.1	<.1	<.1
Number	2,243	2,241	2,121	2,268

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	6.7	3.8	3.7	2.5
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	38.1	28.1	29.2	34.2
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	27.4	33.6	39.1	37.5
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	13.1	19.5	18.1	17.3
48 or more mos.	14.3	15.1	9.9	8.5
Missing data	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	252	292	353	365

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	85.0	86.5	88.5	86.6	48.3	51.0	55.9	54.7	15.5	19.2	24.3	28.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	15.0	13.5	11.5	13.4	51.7	49.0	44.1	45.3	84.5	80.8	75.7	71.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,459	2,445	2,282	2,454	786	1,044	1,119	997	740	860	1,002	1,121	7	6	14	4

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	10.0	5.3	5.5	7.1
Institutions	3.3	6.4	6.9	1.1
Other settings	86.7	88.3	87.6	91.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,773	1,806	1,684	1,837

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	119.1	109.4	106.7
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	73.1	69.4	62.1	61.1
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	5.4	7.7	9.7	9.3
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	27.6	31.2	31.8	27.6
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	12.9	9.7	11.9	10.9

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	115.2	124.4	124.7
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	45.0	31.8	32.9	36.7
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	26.5	31.3	28.2	26.5
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	26.2	30.9	33.7	28.7
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	17.7	10.7	14.9	18.4
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	39.8	51.3	51.3	51.5

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	114.3	125.8	134.5
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	27.2	35.9	40.8	35.7
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	95.5	91.0	91.4	91.9
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	60.8	50.9	52.0	39.4

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	80.3	85.0	84.6
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	76.1	78.6	80.0	77.2
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	48.3	51.0	55.8	54.7
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	15.5	19.2	24.3	28.4

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

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The following are New Mexico's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

New Mexico is distinguished by its racial and ethnic composition. Persons of Hispanic (any race) and American Indian origin account for more than 50% of New Mexico's nearly two million inhabitants. This is a significantly higher proportion of these minority groups than the estimated 15.4% seen nationally. Thus, New Mexico's population demographics necessitates child- and family-serving agencies to meet needs specific to multicultural populations and to address unique sovereignty issues with tribal governments.

Over a number of years New Mexico has allocated significant resources to the enhancement of its State Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS), also known as FACTS, to more accurately capture and report child welfare data. In 2006 New Mexico's data system was awarded Tier 1 status by ACF, signifying compliance with all SACWIS requirements. Since that time the State has also met the requirements of the Advanced Planning Document process.

The State continues to maintain and refine the functionality of its Tier 1 SACWIS. Evidence of New Mexico's improving data quality is portrayed throughout the *Child Welfare Outcomes 2007: Annual Report*. For example under Context Data, Section B, "Age of Child Victims": in 2004 there were an estimated 253 with "Missing Data" and in 2007 there were only 109. This pattern of New Mexico's improving data quality is seen throughout the *Annual Report*.

There are also several notable instances of New Mexico's efforts to refine practice. One example is provided by State efforts to reduce placement of young children in group homes or institutions (Outcomes Data, Section 7). During the period of this *Annual Report*, the placement of children under 12 years in group home or institutional care steadily dropped from a count of 236 in 2004 to a count of 150 in 2007. Thus, during this reporting period the State experienced a 12% increase in children in foster care, as measured point in time, end of the federal fiscal year, while simultaneously experiencing a 37% reduction of younger children in group and institutional settings.

New Mexico also continues to excel in adoptions, as reflected in the Context Data, Sections D and E. Thus as workers moved to attain permanency between 2004 and 2007, the number of children "freed and waiting" increased by more than 20% while the related population in foster care at the close of the annual reporting period increased by only 12%. During this same time New Mexico increased the actual count of children adopted by 34%.

Finally, since New Mexico is a "minority-majority" state, it is worth specifying that New Mexico staff were effective in placing Hispanic and American Indian freed and waiting foster care children in suitable adoptive homes. Combined adoption counts for Hispanic and American Indian children were 149 in 2004, while by 2007 workers placed 234 such children. Thus, New Mexico has managed both to increase significantly the numbers of all children adopted and also has increased by more than 50% the numbers of American Indian and Hispanic children adopted during the period of this review.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	4,567,217	4,516,875	4,467,031	4,413,414
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
Asian	5.9	6.1	6.3	6.5
Black	17.5	17.3	17.1	16.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	19.9	20.2	20.5	20.9
White	54.2	53.9	53.6	53.1
Two or more races	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2
Child population in poverty (%)	20.7	19.4	20.0	19.4

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	74,483	70,878	80,077	83,502
Children in foster care on 9/30	33,445	30,458	29,973	30,072
Children adopted	4,532	3,452	2,810	2,488

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	12
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	80
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	250,459	54.8 per 1,000	236,897	52.4 per 1,000	253,436	56.7 per 1,000	259,687	58.8 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	74,483	16.3 per 1,000	70,878	15.7 per 1,000	80,077	17.9 per 1,000	83,502	18.9 per 1,000
Child fatalities	71	1.6 per 100,000	75	1.7 per 100,000	73	1.6 per 100,000	96	2.2 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	8.5	8.2	8.6	8.6
1 year	5.4	5.7	5.6	5.7
2 years	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.2
3 years	5.3	5.4	5.1	5.0
4 years	5.2	5.3	5.1	5.1
5 years	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.3
6 years	5.8	5.9	5.9	6.2
7 years	5.9	5.6	5.9	5.8
8 years	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.4
9 years	5.5	5.4	5.2	5.1
10 years	5.4	5.2	5.0	4.9
11 years	5.4	5.2	5.1	4.9
12 years	5.6	5.4	5.3	5.3
13 years	6.0	5.9	5.7	5.6
14 years	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.4
15 years	6.1	6.3	6.6	6.7
16 years	4.7	5.2	5.6	5.8
17 years	2.4	2.4	2.7	2.9
18+ years	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Number	74,483	70,878	80,077	83,502

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3
Asian	0.9	0.8	1.0	1.3
Black	26.9	26.6	28.8	28.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	18.9	19.1	22.5	23.3
White	40.8	40.9	35.2	34.7
Two or more races	2.0	2.1	2.4	2.4
Missing data	10.0	10.1	9.7	9.4
Number	74,483	70,878	80,077	83,502

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.8
Medical neglect	3.9	4.1	4.4	4.9
Neglect	90.8	91.5	91.5	91.7
Physical abuse	12.1	11.2	10.6	10.5
Sexual abuse	3.8	3.9	3.4	3.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	25.4	24.8	25.6	25.9
Number	74,483	70,878	80,077	83,502

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	8.7	6.0	5.8	5.5
Median	<24	<24	<24	<24

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	36,766	33,771	29,838	29,811	12,705	11,283	13,353	13,225	16,085	14,667	13,289	12,964	33,445	30,458	29,973	30,072
Median length of stay (months)	28.6	28.3	27.9	24.4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	23.6	22.2	19.6	16.8	27.8	27.9	24.0	20.6

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.9	13.5	13.4	14.3	14.1	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.5	3.0	3.0	3.9	3.8
1 year	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.5	4.7	5.0	5.3	5.4	2.9	3.1	3.4	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.5	5.2
2 years	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.7	4.1	3.9	4.8	4.7	4.1	4.1	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.8	4.9
3 years	4.6	4.3	4.2	4.5	3.8	4.1	4.3	3.9	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.3	4.2	4.5	4.6
4 years	4.6	4.2	4.1	4.1	3.4	3.4	4.1	4.1	4.6	4.4	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.2
5 years	4.2	4.0	3.7	4.0	3.1	3.3	3.9	3.9	4.4	4.2	4.0	4.1	4.0	3.7	4.1	4.0
6 years	4.3	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.1	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.7	3.9
7 years	4.2	4.1	3.6	3.6	3.0	2.7	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.6	3.6	4.1	3.5	3.7	3.9
8 years	4.1	3.9	3.6	3.6	3.2	2.8	3.4	3.5	3.9	3.7	3.4	3.6	3.9	3.6	3.6	3.6
9 years	4.4	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.0	2.7	3.2	3.2	3.8	3.5	3.0	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.5
10 years	4.6	4.2	3.6	3.6	3.5	2.6	3.3	3.1	4.2	3.6	3.1	3.3	4.2	3.6	3.6	3.3
11 years	4.7	4.5	4.1	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.3	3.3	3.8	3.7	3.4	3.3	4.6	4.0	3.6	3.6
12 years	4.9	4.7	4.7	4.1	4.9	4.4	4.0	4.2	4.1	3.9	3.6	3.3	4.8	4.6	4.1	3.7
13 years	5.7	5.5	5.3	5.0	6.9	6.7	6.0	5.9	4.8	4.2	4.3	4.1	5.4	5.3	5.0	4.7
14 years	6.5	6.9	6.7	6.3	10.3	10.4	9.0	8.5	5.9	5.7	5.8	5.4	6.9	6.7	6.4	6.1
15 years	7.7	8.2	8.9	8.1	13.0	14.1	11.5	11.5	7.9	8.2	8.0	7.7	8.2	8.9	8.2	7.8
16 years	8.3	9.0	9.4	9.5	8.6	10.1	8.7	8.7	9.3	10.3	10.3	9.5	8.8	9.4	9.5	9.1
17 years	6.6	7.4	7.8	7.9	3.5	3.3	3.2	4.0	7.2	7.8	8.5	9.1	7.4	7.8	7.8	8.2
18 years	4.1	4.6	5.1	5.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	5.4	6.2	5.7	5.4	4.5	5.1	4.8	5.2
19 years	2.7	3.3	3.5	3.7	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	2.1	2.4	2.6	2.1	3.2	3.6	3.6	3.7
20+ years	2.2	2.2	2.7	2.9	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	4.4	4.5	6.6	6.4	2.1	2.7	2.7	2.9
Missing data	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	1.5	1.0	0.9	<.1	0.2	<.1	0.2

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
Asian	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4
Black	47.4	47.5	47.1	46.2	40.5	41.3	43.4	41.0	41.9	42.0	41.8	41.0	47.4	47.8	47.8	46.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	18.9	19.2	19.1	19.9	19.5	18.1	20.9	21.2	18.6	17.6	18.3	19.1	19.3	19.6	20.3	20.8
White	18.4	18.8	19.6	18.2	28.3	28.6	23.0	22.2	24.2	24.3	23.9	23.5	19.3	19.8	19.2	17.7
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3
Unknown	14.7	13.8	13.5	13.3	10.7	11.2	11.7	12.4	14.5	15.3	15.1	14.3	13.3	12.1	12.0	12.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	10,650	9,238	8,040	7,659
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	5,482	4,987	4,622	4,308

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.0
1 year	3.4	3.3	3.5	4.7
2 years	5.9	5.6	5.5	6.0
3 years	6.1	6.2	6.0	6.6
4 years	6.1	5.9	5.8	6.3
5 years	6.4	5.7	5.6	5.9
6 years	5.9	5.7	5.6	5.6
7 years	6.5	5.6	5.5	5.6
8 years	5.9	5.9	5.4	5.2
9 years	5.8	5.5	5.6	5.2
10 years	6.7	5.4	5.6	5.1
11 years	6.7	6.4	5.5	5.4
12 years	6.8	6.8	6.4	5.5
13 years	6.7	6.9	6.9	6.3
14 years	6.6	7.2	6.9	6.9
15 years	6.4	7.5	7.6	6.9
16 years	4.5	5.7	6.6	6.2
17 years	3.0	4.1	5.2	5.5

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2
Asian	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4
Black	50.1	49.9	47.9	46.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	18.2	19.5	18.5	18.5
White	14.0	15.3	17.0	15.8
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3
Unknown	17.1	14.8	16.1	16.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	4,532	3,452	2,810	2,488

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.4
1 year	1.9	3.0	2.9	3.6
2 years	6.4	7.1	8.4	9.1
3 years	9.4	8.4	9.2	9.6
4 years	8.4	7.9	8.4	7.7
5 years	8.5	7.4	7.4	7.3
6 years	7.1	8.2	7.4	7.2
7 years	7.5	7.1	6.2	6.6
8 years	6.4	7.0	5.9	6.1
9 years	6.5	6.1	5.7	7.1
10 years	6.9	6.5	5.7	5.4
11 years	5.6	6.3	6.3	5.5
12 years	5.9	5.9	5.3	5.1
13 years	5.9	5.2	5.6	4.5
14 years	4.1	4.3	5.1	3.9
15 years	3.7	3.2	3.8	3.6
16 years	2.5	2.8	2.5	2.9
17 years	1.6	1.8	2.2	2.8
18 years	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.0
19 years	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4
20+ years	0.1	0.1	<.1	0.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	<.1	0.3	0.1
Asian	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
Black	45.8	45.6	42.1	40.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	15.6	15.7	17.8	16.4
White	17.1	18.3	19.9	21.5
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
Unknown	21.0	20.0	19.6	20.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	86.0	87.3	86.3	87.7
Children with one or more recurrences	14.0	12.7	13.7	12.3
Number	31,698	31,343	36,930	39,129

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.71	1.07	1.25	1.38
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.29	98.93	98.75	98.62
Number	49,471	45,054	43,191	43,036

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	24.8	23.3	20.8	19.1
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Reunification	58.3	60.4	60.0	63.2
Other	14.8	15.6	17.6	17.0
Missing data	2.1	0.7	1.6	0.7
Number	16,085	14,667	13,289	12,964

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	—	—	—	26.8
Guardianship	—	—	—	0.0
Reunification	—	—	—	55.4
Other	—	—	—	17.5
Missing data	—	—	—	0.3
Number	—	—	—	693

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.0
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Reunification	67.1	69.1	65.5	67.2
Other	28.8	28.9	30.9	30.8
Missing data	3.0	1.1	2.5	0.9
Number	5,422	5,349	5,060	4,870

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	37.7	36.7	37.8	38.7
Children older than 12 at entry	59.8	60.5	58.7	61.2
Missing data	2.4	2.7	3.5	<.1
Number	1,481	1,437	1,551	1,506

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	18.5	5.4	20.0	5.9	13.3	11.5	9.1	10.9	27.5	25.3	20.8	18.8		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	68.5	83.9	57.8	80.4	69.3	67.9	80.5	71.7	54.6	57.5	58.0	61.3		
Other	13.0	3.6	13.3	11.8	14.7	20.5	9.1	15.2	15.9	16.7	19.5	19.2		
Missing data	0.0	7.1	8.9	2.0	2.7	0.0	1.3	2.2	2.0	0.6	1.7	0.7		
Number	54	56	45	51	75	78	77	46	6,732	6,155	5,561	5,321		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.4	20.7	20.0	16.5	17.8	17.7	17.4	17.5		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	61.3	63.0	60.6	65.8	69.9	70.0	68.7	69.3		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.4	15.9	18.0	17.0	10.4	11.2	12.7	12.4		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.8	0.3	1.4	0.7	1.8	1.1	1.2	0.8		
Number	0	0	0	0	2,994	2,583	2,429	2,470	3,896	3,558	3,176	3,043		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	35.0	30.4	27.2	27.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	45.0	49.4	50.5	53.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	69.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	18.1	19.4	20.2	18.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	1.9	0.8	2.1	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	2,334	2,237	2,001	1,856	0	0	0	177	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	51.8	50.2	56.0	60.1
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	22.4	23.1	21.1	21.1
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	10.5	10.9	9.2	8.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	6.3	6.5	5.5	4.1
48 or more mos.	8.8	9.1	8.0	6.3
Missing data	0.3	0.2	0.3	<.1
Number	9,375	8,861	7,974	8,188

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	74.4	74.6	76.6	77.7
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	10.7	10.5	9.5	8.3
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	14.9	14.2	13.5	14.0
Missing data	<.1	0.7	0.4	0.0
Number	12,705	11,283	13,353	13,225

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.0
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	5.0	6.6	7.5	7.9
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	14.5	17.3	16.6	19.3
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	18.3	18.0	19.0	19.0
48 or more mos.	60.8	56.5	55.1	52.7
Missing data	<.1	0.3	0.3	0.0
Number	3,996	3,414	2,758	2,482

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	91.7	90.5	89.5	91.0	74.1	72.8	72.3	73.1	48.6	44.1	41.4	40.6	100.0	93.5	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	8.3	8.9	9.7	9.0	25.9	27.2	27.7	26.9	51.4	55.9	58.6	59.4	0.0	4.8	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.6	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0
Number	14,614	13,188	15,107	15,154	8,570	8,174	7,162	8,755	26,220	23,630	20,902	19,112	67	62	20	15

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	1.7	2.2	1.7	1.0
Institutions	6.3	6.3	4.9	4.9
Other settings	91.8	91.4	93.4	94.1
Missing data	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	7,137	6,036	7,977	7,863

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	83.7	94.4	97.3
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	48.8	47.3	52.8	57.1
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	12.3	12.9	11.6	10.7
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	37.6	35.9	35.7	34.2
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	12.4	12.0	11.7	14.2

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	59.2	58.0	60.2
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	6.4	8.0	9.1	9.1
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	55.7	52.9	50.4	49.7
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	19.8	19.0	17.4	17.5
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	9.0	10.3	9.6	11.1
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	44.1	44.0	40.1	42.5

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	113.3	110.4	114.4
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	28.9	28.0	25.7	25.2
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	96.3	96.5	96.0	96.0
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	54.8	54.9	55.7	50.5

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	109.3	107.6	108.4
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	91.1	90.4	89.5	90.3
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	74.0	72.8	72.4	73.1
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	50.5	46.0	43.7	43.0

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

North Carolina

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	2,082,517	2,118,313	2,163,091	2,217,680
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3
Asian	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.0
Black	25.0	24.7	24.3	24.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	8.8	9.6	10.4	11.3
White	60.9	60.4	59.8	59.1
Two or more races	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.3
Child population in poverty (%)	21.9	21.3	20.2	19.5

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	33,849	33,250	28,422	25,976
Children in foster care on 9/30	10,077	10,698	11,115	10,827
Children adopted	1,198	1,203	1,234	1,521

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	39
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	145
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	374
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	73
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	899
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,224

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	134,436	64.6 per 1,000	135,809	64.1 per 1,000	130,966	60.6 per 1,000	133,230	60.1 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	33,849	16.3 per 1,000	33,250	15.7 per 1,000	28,422	13.1 per 1,000	25,976	11.7 per 1,000
Child fatalities	—	— per 100,000	—	— per 100,000	—	— per 100,000	—	— per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	9.7	10.4	10.8	11.6
1 year	7.2	7.2	7.4	7.6
2 years	7.0	6.6	6.8	7.1
3 years	7.0	6.8	6.5	6.6
4 years	6.5	6.6	6.3	6.2
5 years	6.4	6.7	6.5	6.3
6 years	6.2	5.9	6.1	6.1
7 years	5.9	5.6	5.9	5.8
8 years	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.4
9 years	4.9	4.9	5.1	4.9
10 years	5.1	4.8	4.7	4.4
11 years	5.1	4.7	4.4	4.5
12 years	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.3
13 years	5.1	5.1	5.0	4.8
14 years	4.8	4.9	5.1	4.8
15 years	4.7	4.8	4.6	4.8
16 years	3.3	3.6	3.7	3.7
17 years	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	33,849	33,250	28,422	25,976

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	2.1	1.9	2.4	1.8
Asian	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.3
Black	33.2	33.0	31.6	31.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
Hispanic (of any race)	8.9	9.0	9.3	9.3
White	52.3	52.2	52.1	52.2
Two or more races	2.1	2.2	2.6	3.2
Missing data	0.7	0.9	1.3	1.4
Number	33,849	33,250	28,422	25,976

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.4
Medical neglect	0.0	1.5	1.3	2.2
Neglect	0.0	64.3	52.1	78.5
Physical abuse	0.0	3.5	6.4	9.8
Sexual abuse	0.0	3.8	4.8	7.5
Missing data	100.0	25.9	34.2	0.0
Other	0.0	0.7	0.8	1.6
Number	33,849	33,250	28,422	25,976

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	49.5	49.7	47.2	46.1
Median	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	9,182	9,651	10,279	10,591	6,089	6,529	6,413	6,021	5,194	5,482	5,577	5,785	10,077	10,698	11,115	10,827
Median length of stay (months)	14.0	13.2	13.0	13.4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	13.6	12.8	14.0	14.7	13.1	13.1	13.5	13.9

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	5.5	6.0	6.2	6.5	16.1	16.6	17.7	18.6	4.7	4.3	4.4	4.3	6.0	6.3	6.5	6.4
1 year	7.5	6.8	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.4	8.3	7.4	7.9	7.8	8.3	8.2	6.8	7.5	7.6	8.2
2 years	6.3	7.0	6.4	7.5	6.2	6.0	6.3	7.1	7.4	7.6	6.9	8.9	7.0	6.3	7.5	6.9
3 years	5.7	5.5	6.0	5.7	6.0	6.0	5.3	5.2	6.9	6.5	6.8	7.7	5.6	6.0	5.8	6.0
4 years	5.0	5.5	5.6	5.3	5.6	5.6	5.0	5.0	5.5	6.1	6.2	6.0	5.6	5.6	5.3	5.0
5 years	4.8	4.8	5.2	5.0	4.9	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.5	5.3	6.0	5.7	4.9	5.3	4.9	4.9
6 years	4.2	4.6	4.7	4.9	4.3	4.1	4.9	4.3	4.4	5.1	5.3	5.2	4.5	4.7	5.0	4.5
7 years	3.6	4.0	4.3	4.6	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.6	4.0	4.2	4.5	4.8
8 years	3.8	3.6	3.9	4.0	3.6	4.2	3.7	4.3	3.8	3.8	4.1	4.1	3.6	4.0	4.0	4.4
9 years	4.2	3.7	3.8	4.1	3.2	3.5	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.7	4.1	4.1
10 years	4.0	3.9	3.7	3.9	4.0	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.9	3.8	3.2	3.1	3.9	3.6	3.8	4.0
11 years	5.1	4.2	3.9	3.8	4.1	4.2	3.4	3.1	4.7	4.0	3.4	3.3	4.2	3.9	3.7	4.0
12 years	5.0	5.0	4.4	4.2	4.5	4.1	3.9	3.2	4.1	3.9	3.5	3.3	4.9	4.3	4.1	3.6
13 years	5.6	5.4	5.1	4.7	5.4	5.1	4.9	4.5	4.2	4.1	3.4	3.7	5.3	5.1	4.7	4.3
14 years	6.8	6.5	6.0	6.1	6.6	6.0	5.8	5.9	5.0	4.7	4.6	4.1	6.5	6.0	5.9	5.5
15 years	7.7	7.9	7.4	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.4	6.5	5.5	5.4	4.9	4.4	7.7	7.4	6.6	7.2
16 years	7.1	7.4	7.5	7.6	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.5	5.7	6.1	6.4	5.4	7.4	7.5	7.4	7.1
17 years	6.0	5.6	6.0	5.8	2.0	2.5	2.5	2.7	5.9	4.2	6.8	8.9	5.7	6.2	6.2	6.7
18 years	1.0	1.6	1.4	1.2	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.7	5.8	7.6	6.1	3.9	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.6
19 years	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5
20+ years	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Missing data	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.2	0.2	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	2.1	2.2	1.4	1.9	2.7	1.8	2.7	1.6	2.8	3.0	2.0	2.5	2.1	1.5	1.9	1.4
Asian	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.8	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	<.1
Black	43.1	43.5	41.8	41.6	38.4	36.1	36.6	34.7	38.0	38.3	36.9	37.5	42.9	41.7	41.3	39.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
Hispanic (of any race)	5.9	6.5	7.2	7.7	9.0	8.8	8.7	9.4	7.9	8.2	7.7	9.1	6.7	7.0	7.8	7.9
White	45.9	44.1	45.6	44.2	46.3	49.0	47.1	48.4	48.5	46.6	49.4	46.0	44.8	45.9	44.5	45.6
Two or more races	2.3	2.8	3.2	3.6	2.6	3.0	3.7	4.6	2.2	2.6	3.2	3.8	2.6	3.0	3.5	4.1
Unknown	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	3,074	3,137	3,116	3,095
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	1,607	1,654	1,637	1,750

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.4	3.7	4.1	3.2
1 year	6.6	6.9	7.3	7.8
2 years	7.8	7.0	8.3	7.9
3 years	6.3	7.3	6.7	7.8
4 years	5.6	6.2	6.2	5.8
5 years	4.6	6.3	5.9	5.4
6 years	5.3	5.1	5.5	5.2
7 years	4.4	4.6	5.3	5.7
8 years	3.8	4.7	4.9	5.4
9 years	4.8	4.1	4.7	4.8
10 years	4.9	4.8	3.8	5.3
11 years	4.8	4.7	4.8	4.6
12 years	6.5	4.7	4.2	4.4
13 years	6.2	6.0	4.8	4.2
14 years	6.2	5.9	6.0	5.0
15 years	7.3	6.1	5.8	6.1
16 years	6.7	6.3	6.0	6.0
17 years	4.8	5.5	5.5	5.4

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.8	0.9	0.7	1.3
Asian	0.2	<.1	0.1	<.1
Black	43.8	42.5	42.8	42.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.5
Hispanic (of any race)	5.7	6.1	6.9	6.8
White	44.5	45.8	44.4	44.3
Two or more races	3.6	3.9	4.0	4.4
Unknown	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	1,198	1,203	1,234	1,521

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.1	3.8	4.3	2.7
1 year	11.8	12.1	13.5	12.0
2 years	12.2	11.6	10.2	12.8
3 years	10.2	11.2	11.1	11.6
4 years	7.1	8.5	8.8	9.7
5 years	8.2	7.1	8.1	8.6
6 years	5.9	6.7	8.2	7.1
7 years	4.8	5.6	6.1	6.0
8 years	5.7	5.1	4.9	4.8
9 years	4.0	3.3	4.3	5.3
10 years	4.5	4.5	4.1	3.6
11 years	5.3	4.1	3.5	3.3
12 years	3.6	3.6	2.8	3.2
13 years	3.8	3.0	2.2	2.1
14 years	3.0	2.7	2.9	2.2
15 years	1.6	2.7	1.9	2.2
16 years	3.1	2.9	2.0	1.5
17 years	0.9	1.4	0.9	1.1
18 years	0.3	<.1	<.1	0.1
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.5	2.3	1.1	0.9
Asian	<.1	0.4	<.1	0.0
Black	34.2	35.7	33.5	33.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	8.3	8.0	7.1	8.2
White	49.0	45.0	47.7	47.3
Two or more races	6.8	8.2	10.3	9.8
Unknown	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

North Carolina

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	92.1	93.3	95.6	96.2
Children with one or more recurrences	7.9	6.7	4.4	3.8
Number	13,311	11,275	8,861	5,933

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	1.00	0.82	0.75	0.69
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.00	99.18	99.25	99.31
Number	15,271	16,180	16,692	16,612

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	23.3	20.7	22.4	24.2
Guardianship	12.9	13.1	14.8	14.5
Reunification	52.9	55.6	51.3	50.1
Other	10.9	10.6	11.4	11.0
Missing data	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.1
Number	5,194	5,482	5,577	5,785

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	23.0	19.2	18.1	21.4
Guardianship	11.3	10.0	16.0	14.8
Reunification	47.3	51.0	46.6	42.0
Other	18.4	19.8	19.3	21.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
Number	575	551	575	514

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	3.1	3.0	2.1	2.4
Guardianship	9.8	9.6	14.0	12.3
Reunification	60.3	60.9	56.3	54.3
Other	26.9	26.4	27.5	30.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.2
Number	1,261	1,380	1,435	1,387

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	29.6	27.6	24.3	23.4
Children older than 12 at entry	70.4	72.2	75.5	76.6
Missing data	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0
Number	389	417	469	499

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	15.2	16.3	12.4	6.8	0.0	11.9	8.3	4.5	22.2	19.3	20.1	22.2		
Guardianship	34.5	16.3	19.5	23.1	33.3	2.4	0.0	9.1	11.1	14.5	16.3	15.7		
Reunification	45.5	62.7	56.6	63.3	50.0	71.4	83.3	86.4	53.6	54.1	49.4	48.2		
Other	4.8	4.8	11.5	6.1	16.7	14.3	8.3	0.0	13.1	12.1	14.1	13.9		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1		
Number	145	166	113	147	12	42	12	22	1,974	2,098	2,057	2,170		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	16.7	42.9	28.6	40.0	19.9	18.9	22.7	20.2	24.5	21.7	23.2	26.8		
Guardianship	8.3	28.6	28.6	5.0	10.8	8.9	9.8	8.2	13.4	12.4	14.4	14.6		
Reunification	75.0	28.6	35.7	55.0	59.6	63.5	58.9	64.9	52.3	55.4	52.0	48.0		
Other	0.0	0.0	7.1	0.0	9.8	8.7	8.6	6.5	9.8	10.4	10.4	10.4		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.1		
Number	12	14	14	20	408	449	428	524	2,518	2,552	2,753	2,661		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	15.4	12.5	42.9	28.6	42.0	35.2	39.1	33.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	7.7	25.0	19.0	33.3	12.5	15.9	14.0	11.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	69.2	56.3	33.3	38.1	35.7	45.5	42.5	46.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	7.7	6.3	4.8	0.0	9.8	3.4	4.5	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	13	16	21	21	112	145	179	220	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	60.8	62.9	60.0	59.5
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	27.1	24.9	27.1	28.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	6.8	6.7	7.2	8.4
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.1	2.5	2.9	1.7
48 or more mos.	3.1	2.9	2.8	1.9
Missing data	0.2	<.1	0.1	0.0
Number	2,749	3,047	2,861	2,896

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	97.2	96.8	97.2	97.5
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	1.5	1.8	1.5	1.4
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.1
Missing data	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1
Number	6,089	6,529	6,413	6,021

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	6.0	6.4	6.9	6.1
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	33.9	32.4	30.9	29.1
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	28.2	31.3	29.3	33.6
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	16.1	14.3	18.8	16.9
48 or more mos.	15.7	15.5	14.1	14.3
Missing data	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0
Number	1,208	1,135	1,249	1,401

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	56.6	56.6	86.7	92.7	27.1	32.3	67.9	75.5	13.8	11.6	39.3	45.0	94.3	93.3	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	43.4	43.4	13.3	7.3	72.9	67.7	32.1	24.5	86.2	88.4	60.7	55.0	5.7	6.7	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	7,057	7,655	7,561	7,252	3,702	3,995	4,362	4,382	4,477	4,500	4,762	4,976	35	30	7	2

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	2.2	2.3	1.7	1.5
Institutions	6.6	5.8	2.1	1.8
Other settings	91.2	91.9	94.0	93.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	2.2	2.8
Number	4,399	4,782	4,735	4,433

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	139.3	129.9	127.0
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	69.7	72.0	66.1	63.5
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	6.7	6.4	7.9	9.2
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	29.9	30.2	26.2	28.3
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	1.6	2.3	2.4	2.1

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	123.7	121.3	123.9
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	39.9	38.9	37.8	35.2
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	26.8	27.6	28.6	28.4
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	23.4	22.5	23.6	25.2
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	13.5	14.3	13.3	13.7
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	60.1	62.1	59.2	58.8

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	117.3	122.9	122.1
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	27.6	27.5	30.2	31.7
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	95.1	94.0	93.8	94.2
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	50.6	49.6	44.3	45.6

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	52.4	102.0	112.0
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	55.0	55.4	86.4	92.5
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	27.0	32.2	68.1	75.5
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	13.7	11.6	39.6	45.3

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

North Dakota

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	146,844	145,224	143,529	142,809
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	8.6	8.8	9.0	9.1
Asian	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8
Black	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	2.7	2.9	3.1	3.4
White	84.3	83.7	83.0	82.6
Two or more races	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.5
Child population in poverty (%)	15.5	13.5	13.0	13.4

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	1,668	1,547	1,438	1,288
Children in foster care on 9/30	1,314	1,370	1,331	1,263
Children adopted	128	152	150	125

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	2
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	79
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	6,818	46.4 per 1,000	6,972	48.0 per 1,000	6,722	46.8 per 1,000	6,272	43.9 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	1,668	11.4 per 1,000	1,547	10.7 per 1,000	1,438	10.0 per 1,000	1,288	9.0 per 1,000
Child fatalities	0	0.0 per 100,000	0	0.0 per 100,000	2	1.4 per 100,000	1	0.7 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	6.9	8.1	8.4	8.0
1 year	5.8	6.4	6.0	7.2
2 years	6.8	6.6	6.9	7.5
3 years	6.9	6.9	6.5	6.4
4 years	6.1	6.5	5.9	6.4
5 years	6.1	5.8	6.5	4.9
6 years	6.1	5.5	5.4	6.5
7 years	5.3	6.1	6.5	5.6
8 years	5.2	5.6	6.1	5.1
9 years	5.2	4.3	4.8	5.1
10 years	5.3	5.4	4.4	5.0
11 years	5.0	4.5	5.1	4.5
12 years	5.5	4.8	4.7	5.5
13 years	5.7	6.5	6.6	5.0
14 years	5.9	5.2	4.9	5.6
15 years	5.9	4.3	4.9	4.0
16 years	3.2	4.3	3.4	4.2
17 years	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.3
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
Number	1,668	1,547	1,438	1,288

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	20.0	23.8	22.0	25.8
Asian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
Black	5.2	3.8	4.0	5.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	6.1	6.3	7.9	5.8
White	73.6	70.5	64.7	67.9
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0
Number	1,668	1,547	1,438	1,288

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	51.3	53.3	54.2	53.0
Medical neglect	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.0
Neglect	87.8	80.1	63.5	93.0
Physical abuse	17.6	16.7	11.0	14.1
Sexual abuse	9.4	7.7	5.4	7.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,668	1,547	1,438	1,288

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	—	—	—	—
Median	—	—	—	—

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	1,140	1,183	1,264	1,253	1,048	1,098	948	901	874	911	881	891	1,314	1,370	1,331	1,263
Median length of stay (months)	10.7	10.7	11.4	12.3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9.0	8.8	10.3	10.1	10.6	10.9	12.2	12.7

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.8	3.9	5.8	3.8	11.9	14.2	13.1	15.5	3.8	4.4	6.7	6.6	5.9	6.9	4.1	6.0
1 year	3.6	4.1	4.6	5.7	5.7	4.8	5.1	5.5	4.2	3.6	5.9	5.3	4.8	5.3	5.8	4.3
2 years	4.6	4.4	4.9	4.5	4.8	6.6	4.4	4.7	5.4	6.1	5.1	5.8	4.3	4.7	4.7	4.9
3 years	4.1	4.5	5.1	4.7	4.3	4.4	4.7	4.3	3.8	4.3	5.6	4.2	4.4	4.8	4.5	4.8
4 years	4.1	4.5	4.8	3.7	4.2	3.9	2.6	3.6	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.5	3.8	4.0
5 years	3.2	3.8	4.0	4.3	4.1	3.3	3.0	2.9	4.0	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.9	3.9	4.2	3.8
6 years	3.4	3.4	4.3	3.6	3.3	3.6	2.7	2.2	3.0	3.4	3.7	2.7	3.4	3.9	3.5	3.9
7 years	2.7	4.1	3.7	4.0	3.2	3.8	4.2	4.2	3.8	3.1	3.2	3.1	4.0	3.8	3.8	4.0
8 years	2.5	2.5	4.5	4.3	3.1	3.4	2.8	2.8	1.8	3.7	2.8	2.8	2.3	4.3	4.1	4.4
9 years	3.2	3.0	3.2	4.5	3.1	2.6	2.5	2.6	3.5	2.3	2.0	3.9	3.0	2.9	4.5	3.8
10 years	3.8	2.7	2.6	3.4	2.8	2.9	2.7	2.1	3.4	2.7	3.1	3.1	2.6	2.5	3.2	3.6
11 years	4.2	4.1	3.2	3.0	3.1	3.2	2.5	2.9	2.3	3.2	2.0	3.1	4.0	3.1	3.0	3.2
12 years	4.7	5.1	4.6	3.6	4.3	4.1	3.3	4.3	3.7	3.3	1.9	1.9	4.6	4.5	3.5	3.0
13 years	7.0	6.2	4.8	5.2	6.3	4.5	6.4	5.1	4.3	3.6	4.4	3.4	6.2	4.7	5.2	5.5
14 years	9.4	7.9	8.4	6.7	7.5	7.6	6.3	8.3	5.3	4.5	5.2	4.6	7.6	8.5	6.8	6.5
15 years	10.2	10.6	9.7	10.9	11.4	10.1	13.3	9.3	8.7	7.6	7.2	7.4	10.6	10.0	11.3	9.4
16 years	10.0	10.7	10.6	10.8	8.9	10.0	10.7	11.5	10.6	9.8	10.1	10.4	10.7	10.7	11.0	11.3
17 years	13.6	11.2	9.5	11.6	7.8	7.0	9.5	8.0	13.5	13.3	15.0	17.6	10.4	9.1	11.3	11.7
18 years	2.4	3.0	1.3	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.5	12.1	7.0	5.5	2.8	1.3	1.4	1.6
19 years	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3
20+ years	0.3	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	<.1	<.1	<.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	28.8	27.2	26.8	26.7	20.5	25.5	23.6	24.4	21.5	26.5	23.4	26.5	27.0	26.4	26.8	25.3
Asian	1.1	1.6	1.2	1.1	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.3	1.1	0.7	0.6	1.8	1.4	1.2	1.3
Black	2.5	3.1	2.8	1.8	3.0	2.2	2.7	3.7	2.3	2.3	4.4	2.8	3.0	2.9	1.7	2.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	3.9	4.2	5.7	7.1	6.0	7.5	6.4	5.1	5.8	6.1	5.0	6.1	4.3	5.5	6.7	6.4
White	60.0	59.3	57.1	55.9	64.1	58.6	60.0	58.3	66.1	60.5	61.5	57.1	59.2	58.0	56.3	56.7
Two or more races	3.4	4.1	6.2	7.3	4.9	5.3	6.4	7.5	3.8	3.2	5.0	6.7	4.3	5.7	7.1	7.8
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	277	344	321	337
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	162	223	214	221

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	14.4	16.3	9.0	13.1
1 year	7.9	8.7	12.1	5.9
2 years	6.5	7.3	8.1	9.8
3 years	8.3	7.3	7.8	5.0
4 years	6.5	6.7	7.5	6.5
5 years	5.8	6.1	5.0	6.2
6 years	6.5	5.5	5.3	5.6
7 years	5.4	6.7	6.2	6.2
8 years	2.9	7.0	6.2	6.8
9 years	4.3	3.5	7.8	5.6
10 years	3.6	2.6	4.7	6.2
11 years	5.1	3.8	2.5	3.6
12 years	4.7	4.1	3.1	1.8
13 years	4.7	4.1	3.7	5.0
14 years	5.1	3.5	3.7	4.2
15 years	5.1	3.2	2.8	3.0
16 years	2.2	2.6	2.5	3.3
17 years	1.1	1.2	1.9	2.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	27.4	18.0	19.9	18.1
Asian	5.4	4.7	4.4	4.7
Black	4.3	4.4	2.2	4.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	5.1	7.8	12.1	10.1
White	49.8	56.7	52.0	50.4
Two or more races	7.9	8.4	8.7	12.5
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	128	152	150	125

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	25.0	28.9	22.7	20.0
1 year	10.2	7.2	10.0	11.2
2 years	7.0	6.6	6.0	10.4
3 years	8.6	5.9	8.0	9.6
4 years	8.6	9.2	9.3	8.8
5 years	6.3	4.6	8.0	7.2
6 years	5.5	6.6	6.7	4.0
7 years	3.1	5.3	3.3	4.8
8 years	0.8	5.3	6.0	2.4
9 years	6.3	2.6	6.0	5.6
10 years	3.1	2.0	2.7	5.6
11 years	3.1	3.9	2.7	2.4
12 years	1.6	2.6	3.3	1.6
13 years	5.5	2.6	2.7	1.6
14 years	1.6	2.0	1.3	1.6
15 years	3.1	2.0	1.3	0.8
16 years	0.0	1.3	0.0	1.6
17 years	0.8	1.3	0.0	0.8
18 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	3.9	19.7	9.3	14.4
Asian	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0
Black	3.1	3.9	4.7	0.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6
Hispanic (of any race)	7.8	7.2	4.7	12.8
White	72.7	57.2	67.3	54.4
Two or more races	12.5	9.9	14.0	16.0
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

North Dakota

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	—	—	97.0	96.1
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	3.0	3.9
Number	—	—	742	637

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	10.1	9.5	16.3	14.4
Guardianship	0.2	0.4	0.7	0.1
Reunification	60.4	57.8	52.8	54.3
Other	27.5	29.3	29.4	29.2
Missing data	1.8	2.9	0.8	2.0
Number	874	911	881	891

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	11.6	11.0	12.9	9.6
Guardianship	0.4	0.2	0.7	0.0
Reunification	51.2	51.3	47.0	47.4
Other	34.9	37.5	38.8	41.6
Missing data	1.8	0.0	0.5	1.4
Number	447	429	402	363

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.0
Guardianship	0.2	0.2	1.0	0.0
Reunification	57.7	54.8	52.8	51.1
Other	39.6	42.6	44.8	45.8
Missing data	2.2	2.1	0.8	3.1
Number	402	425	386	393

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	19.4	13.4	14.8	16.7
Children older than 12 at entry	80.6	86.6	85.2	83.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	62	67	61	66

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	2.7	7.9	5.3	7.2	0.0	30.0	83.3	60.0	10.0	14.3	25.6	12.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.4	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0		
Reunification	59.0	52.7	55.8	57.6	66.7	50.0	0.0	40.0	65.0	61.9	64.1	52.0		
Other	36.2	36.9	35.4	33.5	0.0	20.0	16.7	0.0	25.0	9.5	7.7	36.0		
Missing data	2.1	2.1	1.9	1.7	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.3	0.0	0.0		
Number	188	241	206	236	3	10	6	5	20	21	39	25		

	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	17.6	10.7	25.0	38.9	11.4	9.3	16.8	12.4		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.2		
Reunification	100.0	33.3	0.0	0.0	68.6	67.9	43.2	29.6	60.0	59.9	53.5	56.4		
Other	0.0	66.7	0.0	0.0	11.8	16.1	31.8	29.6	26.5	27.9	28.8	28.5		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	3.6	0.0	1.9	1.7	2.7	0.6	2.6		
Number	1	3	0	2	51	56	44	54	578	551	542	509		

	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.2	17.2	36.4	31.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	57.6	44.8	36.4	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.2	31.0	27.3	18.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	0	0	0	0	33	29	44	60	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	77.5	76.3	70.1	75.4
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	16.7	17.6	22.6	19.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	3.4	4.0	5.4	3.5
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.9	0.9	1.1	0.6
48 or more mos.	1.3	0.9	0.2	1.0
Missing data	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.4
Number	528	527	465	484

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	76.6	77.9	75.2	77.0
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	12.1	9.6	12.6	11.5
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	9.4	11.2	11.1	9.1
Missing data	1.8	1.4	1.2	2.3
Number	1,048	1,098	948	901

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	10.2	5.7	29.9	29.7
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	25.0	28.7	23.6	22.7
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	37.5	34.5	34.7	26.6
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	21.6	24.1	10.4	14.8
48 or more mos.	5.7	6.9	1.4	6.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	88	87	144	128

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	83.6	84.7	84.3	84.7	55.3	52.1	58.3	55.6	43.3	39.2	35.9	39.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	16.4	15.3	15.7	15.3	44.7	47.9	41.7	44.4	56.7	60.8	64.1	60.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,256	1,293	1,170	1,149	463	501	523	478	462	480	515	522	7	7	4	5

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	1.2	0.6	2.4	1.6
Institutions	5.3	6.5	2.8	4.0
Other settings	93.5	92.9	94.8	94.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	586	646	502	503

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	111.8	106.2	108.8
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	74.1	73.0	69.0	74.2
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	7.5	7.2	7.7	7.6
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	39.6	40.9	36.5	37.0
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	20.3	16.9	16.2	18.2

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	81.6	117.3	115.3
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	35.2	34.5	53.5	52.0
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	27.5	29.0	23.0	23.0
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	17.3	16.8	17.6	16.0
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	4.9	7.0	5.6	8.0
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	32.1	29.8	43.1	46.7

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	129.3	132.7	122.0
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	23.6	20.9	20.4	18.5
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	93.5	95.6	95.9	96.9
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	31.7	25.0	28.3	28.5

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	92.3	93.9	94.4
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	81.9	83.4	83.1	83.3
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	54.6	51.8	57.9	55.5
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	43.9	39.8	36.4	39.9

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	2,818,589	2,796,229	2,774,850	2,751,874
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Asian	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.5
Black	14.6	14.6	14.6	14.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.0
White	78.1	77.8	77.4	77.1
Two or more races	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.6
Child population in poverty (%)	18.3	18.6	18.7	18.5

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	43,093	42,483	41,449	38,484
Children in foster care on 9/30	18,004	17,446	16,631	17,016
Children adopted	2,201	2,044	1,803	1,739

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	18
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	4,422
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	24,799
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	79
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	22,118
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	27,832

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	110,972	39.4 per 1,000	112,600	40.3 per 1,000	116,129	41.9 per 1,000	119,591	43.5 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	43,093	15.3 per 1,000	42,483	15.2 per 1,000	41,449	14.9 per 1,000	38,484	14.0 per 1,000
Child fatalities	61	2.2 per 100,000	83	3.0 per 100,000	74	2.7 per 100,000	90	3.3 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	9.0	9.6	10.1	11.2
1 year	5.8	6.1	6.3	6.6
2 years	6.2	6.1	6.5	6.3
3 years	6.7	6.3	6.4	6.5
4 years	6.3	6.5	6.4	6.2
5 years	6.4	6.3	6.4	6.2
6 years	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.3
7 years	5.7	5.7	5.9	5.6
8 years	5.3	5.0	5.2	5.4
9 years	4.9	4.7	4.8	4.9
10 years	4.8	4.5	4.5	4.3
11 years	4.7	4.5	4.2	4.1
12 years	5.0	4.9	4.5	4.4
13 years	5.3	5.4	5.0	4.7
14 years	5.3	5.8	5.5	5.2
15 years	4.9	5.2	5.1	4.9
16 years	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.0
17 years	2.5	2.7	2.5	2.6
18+ years	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Missing data	1.1	0.6	0.3	0.5
Number	43,093	42,483	41,449	38,484

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2
Asian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Black	26.1	26.3	26.5	26.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.9
White	63.9	64.8	65.7	64.2
Two or more races	1.2	1.1	1.2	0.3
Missing data	6.9	5.8	4.5	6.9
Number	43,093	42,483	41,449	38,484

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	10.4	9.9	10.0	7.5
Medical neglect	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Neglect	56.0	55.0	54.3	52.4
Physical abuse	21.3	20.9	22.2	25.6
Sexual abuse	17.5	18.6	17.6	17.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	43,093	42,483	41,449	38,484

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	34.9	34.9	29.2	30.7
Median	<24	<24	<24	<24

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	18,426	17,336	15,900	16,281	13,152	12,311	12,016	11,746	13,574	12,201	11,285	11,011	18,004	17,446	16,631	17,016
Median length of stay (months)	14.9	15.0	15.1	14.4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9.8	9.8	10.1	10.5	14.6	14.5	13.4	13.5

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	5.7	6.2	6.0	6.6	15.2	15.8	16.8	18.1	6.0	6.4	6.5	6.9	6.2	6.0	7.0	7.3
1 year	6.3	5.8	6.5	6.7	5.8	6.4	6.5	7.1	6.7	7.4	7.2	8.3	5.9	6.5	6.7	7.2
2 years	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.5	5.8	5.7	6.0	5.8	7.0	6.5	7.1	7.0	5.3	5.2	5.6	5.5
3 years	5.0	4.7	4.5	4.7	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.3	6.1	6.0	5.3	6.4	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.9
4 years	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.9	4.7	4.8	5.1	5.4	5.3	5.1	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.4
5 years	4.0	3.8	3.9	3.8	4.3	4.0	4.6	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.7	3.8	3.9	3.9	4.1
6 years	3.8	3.9	3.3	3.7	4.2	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.0	3.4	3.7	3.7
7 years	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.3	3.7	4.0	3.8	3.7	4.1	4.3	4.2	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.3	3.6
8 years	3.7	3.6	3.3	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.4	3.6	3.9	3.4	3.9	3.6	3.3	3.5	3.2
9 years	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.3	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.2
10 years	4.2	3.7	3.5	3.3	3.4	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.5	3.3	3.5	2.9	3.7	3.5	3.2	3.4
11 years	4.4	4.2	3.7	3.5	3.8	3.6	3.1	3.0	3.6	3.5	3.0	3.0	4.2	3.6	3.4	3.3
12 years	5.1	4.8	4.6	3.7	4.5	4.3	3.8	3.5	3.7	3.4	3.5	2.9	4.9	4.5	3.7	3.6
13 years	5.7	6.0	5.7	5.2	5.9	5.8	5.1	4.7	4.4	4.4	3.7	3.4	6.0	5.7	5.2	4.3
14 years	6.6	6.4	7.1	6.8	6.4	7.1	6.7	6.0	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.6	6.5	7.1	6.8	6.1
15 years	7.6	7.7	7.8	8.3	7.5	7.2	7.4	7.4	6.0	5.5	5.8	5.4	7.7	7.7	8.2	8.0
16 years	8.3	8.9	9.0	8.9	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.4	6.3	6.0	6.0	6.3	8.9	8.9	8.9	9.2
17 years	8.4	8.8	9.5	9.3	5.3	4.9	4.9	4.9	6.5	5.6	7.5	7.8	8.7	9.2	9.1	9.0
18 years	3.0	2.9	3.2	3.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	8.3	9.3	8.8	7.7	2.9	3.2	3.0	3.5
19 years	0.5	0.9	0.6	1.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.5	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0
20+ years	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.4	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.6
Missing data	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.9	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.8	1.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	<.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Asian	0.1	<.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Black	44.7	42.8	42.9	41.2	38.3	36.7	37.4	35.9	41.2	39.0	38.8	38.2	42.6	41.1	41.7	39.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.4	3.4	3.3	2.8	3.3	3.6	3.3	3.0	3.1	2.9	3.0
White	48.2	50.1	49.7	51.8	54.4	55.0	54.9	55.2	51.3	53.4	53.2	53.9	50.4	51.2	51.1	52.8
Two or more races	3.5	3.3	3.6	2.9	3.0	3.5	3.1	2.4	3.5	3.1	3.5	3.1	3.1	3.6	3.4	2.5
Unknown	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.7	1.1	0.9	0.8	1.8	1.0	0.7	0.6	1.0	0.6	0.7	0.6	1.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	4,814	4,350	4,015	3,782
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	3,784	3,340	3,307	3,114

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.4	3.3	4.6	3.6
1 year	6.5	6.5	6.7	6.5
2 years	5.9	6.3	6.7	6.2
3 years	5.4	5.4	5.9	5.7
4 years	5.7	5.1	5.2	5.2
5 years	4.5	5.1	4.3	5.6
6 years	5.0	4.5	4.3	4.3
7 years	4.6	5.2	4.2	4.5
8 years	5.0	4.5	5.1	3.8
9 years	5.2	5.2	4.8	4.6
10 years	5.7	5.2	4.7	5.2
11 years	5.9	5.6	5.1	5.1
12 years	6.8	6.1	5.8	5.1
13 years	7.2	6.7	6.3	6.3
14 years	6.8	7.7	7.4	7.0
15 years	7.1	7.3	8.0	8.3
16 years	5.2	5.8	6.0	7.5
17 years	4.1	4.7	4.9	5.4

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.1
Asian	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Black	49.1	46.9	45.9	42.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	3.3	3.8	3.6	3.8
White	43.4	45.0	46.1	49.2
Two or more races	3.4	3.3	3.6	3.2
Unknown	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	2,201	2,044	1,803	1,739

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	5.6	3.9	3.4	3.9
1 year	9.9	11.4	11.2	13.7
2 years	12.0	11.5	12.6	13.0
3 years	10.0	8.9	8.9	10.2
4 years	7.9	7.8	8.2	7.1
5 years	6.9	6.6	7.6	5.6
6 years	5.8	6.2	5.2	5.7
7 years	5.5	5.1	4.6	4.3
8 years	4.4	5.8	4.7	5.3
9 years	4.6	4.2	4.6	4.6
10 years	5.0	5.0	4.8	3.5
11 years	4.7	4.5	3.8	3.3
12 years	4.3	3.7	4.5	3.7
13 years	3.6	4.5	3.7	3.7
14 years	3.4	3.2	4.5	3.0
15 years	2.4	3.2	2.9	2.8
16 years	1.8	2.5	2.4	3.1
17 years	1.9	1.7	1.8	2.9
18 years	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.5
19 years	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1
20+ years	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3
Asian	<.1	0.2	0.0	0.0
Black	41.2	40.4	38.6	35.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	2.5	3.7	4.2	4.0
White	49.8	50.4	53.5	55.4
Two or more races	5.7	4.7	3.2	4.3
Unknown	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5
Missing data	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	92.5	93.2	92.7	93.6
Children with one or more recurrences	7.5	6.8	7.3	6.4
Number	20,059	19,336	19,103	17,967

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.32	0.43	0.48	0.41
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.68	99.57	99.52	99.59
Number	31,578	29,647	27,916	28,027

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	15.2	15.9	15.1	14.5
Guardianship	3.6	3.7	3.6	4.1
Reunification	63.2	65.9	68.8	66.9
Other	10.6	10.9	12.2	12.0
Missing data	7.4	3.6	0.3	2.4
Number	13,574	12,201	11,285	11,011

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	20.2	23.4	21.5	22.0
Guardianship	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.9
Reunification	50.7	48.6	47.5	45.8
Other	20.5	22.6	27.9	26.4
Missing data	5.8	2.6	0.1	1.9
Number	3,417	2,659	2,277	2,064

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.9	1.5	1.0	1.5
Guardianship	2.7	3.5	3.0	3.8
Reunification	57.4	62.7	65.6	61.5
Other	25.6	27.0	29.8	29.7
Missing data	13.5	5.3	0.6	3.5
Number	4,228	3,617	3,465	3,318

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	24.7	26.3	24.9	25.2
Children older than 12 at entry	75.3	73.7	75.1	74.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,293	1,214	1,255	1,166

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	25.0	16.7	7.7	21.7	8.7	5.4	0.0	0.0	15.1	16.3	14.6	13.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	0.0	16.7	3.7	3.1	3.0	3.6		
Reunification	58.3	58.3	84.6	65.2	73.9	78.4	90.9	72.2	60.6	63.9	68.0	66.7		
Other	16.7	8.3	7.7	8.7	17.4	2.7	9.1	11.1	11.3	12.7	14.1	14.5		
Missing data	0.0	16.7	0.0	4.3	0.0	10.8	0.0	0.0	9.3	3.9	0.3	2.2		
Number	12	12	13	23	23	37	22	18	5,593	4,759	4,380	4,210		

	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.5	18.3	18.7	16.8	14.7	15.0	15.5	15.3		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.9	2.7	4.5	3.6	3.5	4.2	3.8	4.5		
Reunification	0.0	100.0	83.3	100.0	68.3	67.7	68.7	66.1	65.5	67.5	69.0	67.0		
Other	0.0	0.0	16.7	0.0	7.7	7.4	8.0	9.1	10.3	9.9	11.4	10.7		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.6	4.0	0.2	4.4	6.0	3.4	0.3	2.4		
Number	1	1	6	1	379	405	402	363	6,963	6,520	6,006	5,936		

	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	6.8	7.7	12.1	8.3	26.3	25.0	14.4	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	3.0	6.6	7.6	5.6	4.2	3.2	4.1	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7		
Reunification	72.0	72.5	72.7	76.9	55.4	59.6	70.0	64.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	83.3		
Other	4.5	4.4	4.5	2.8	9.3	10.6	11.5	10.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	13.6	8.8	3.0	6.5	4.7	1.6	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	132	91	66	108	471	376	390	340	0	0	0	12		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	71.4	72.9	72.9	73.1
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	21.0	19.6	19.1	19.4
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.4
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1
48 or more mos.	0.9	1.0	1.4	1.1
Missing data	1.0	1.1	1.2	0.9
Number	8,585	8,046	7,759	7,365

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	70.4	73.0	72.5	73.6
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	14.5	12.4	12.3	12.1
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	13.9	13.5	13.6	12.2
Missing data	1.3	1.1	1.5	2.1
Number	13,152	12,311	12,016	11,746

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	6.3	5.7	6.0	6.6
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	22.0	25.1	23.9	30.8
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	31.5	30.7	30.6	23.7
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	18.6	17.7	16.3	18.4
48 or more mos.	21.7	20.8	23.3	20.6
Missing data	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0
Number	2,064	1,936	1,708	1,602

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	86.2	86.7	86.9	86.8	61.1	61.8	64.0	66.4	30.8	30.6	33.6	35.6	76.3	79.9	92.0	80.6
Children with 3 or more placements	12.2	12.4	12.4	11.5	38.6	37.8	35.9	33.4	69.0	69.1	66.0	64.0	0.0	0.6	0.9	0.9
Missing data	1.6	1.0	0.7	1.7	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	23.8	19.5	7.1	18.5
Number	15,547	14,541	14,100	14,097	6,610	6,151	5,592	5,823	9,261	8,781	8,111	7,999	160	174	113	108

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	0.7	0.6	1.2	0.5
Institutions	3.0	2.2	3.2	2.9
Other settings	96.3	97.2	95.6	96.6
Missing data	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Number	8,702	8,190	8,072	7,949

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	107.8	115.0	108.6
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	69.0	70.7	70.8	71.0
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	7.3	7.0	7.0	7.3
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	44.6	46.8	48.3	51.6
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	17.7	18.2	15.8	16.2

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	99.5	96.5	100.7
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	28.3	30.9	29.9	37.4
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	31.6	31.6	32.1	30.2
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	21.3	20.6	20.7	18.6
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	11.2	9.2	9.3	9.5
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	40.8	43.2	43.6	45.4

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	116.2	116.9	115.9
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	24.4	24.0	24.8	22.5
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	92.2	93.2	91.9	93.3
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	47.3	44.0	45.4	43.5

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	95.7	97.6	100.5
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	86.2	86.1	86.3	87.3
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	61.4	62.2	64.2	66.8
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	31.3	31.0	33.6	35.4

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	877,448	879,923	889,658	899,507
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	9.9	9.8	9.6	9.4
Asian	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4
Black	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	10.1	10.7	11.3	11.9
White	63.3	62.9	62.4	61.9
Two or more races	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.9
Child population in poverty (%)	20.7	23.0	24.3	22.5

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	12,483	13,941	13,414	13,179
Children in foster care on 9/30	11,325	11,393	11,816	11,842
Children adopted	1,152	1,032	1,141	1,251

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	46
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	99
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	63,684	72.6 per 1,000	65,716	74.7 per 1,000	64,962	73.0 per 1,000	64,298	71.5 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	12,483	14.2 per 1,000	13,941	15.8 per 1,000	13,414	15.1 per 1,000	13,179	14.7 per 1,000
Child fatalities	39	4.4 per 100,000	41	4.7 per 100,000	26	2.9 per 100,000	31	3.5 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	14.0	15.1	15.5	17.4
1 year	8.3	8.0	8.0	8.5
2 years	7.3	8.1	7.9	8.4
3 years	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.1
4 years	6.7	6.9	6.8	7.2
5 years	6.3	6.7	6.6	6.6
6 years	6.0	5.5	6.0	6.0
7 years	5.2	5.4	5.6	5.3
8 years	4.6	4.8	5.0	4.8
9 years	4.5	4.2	4.4	4.2
10 years	4.5	4.4	4.0	3.5
11 years	4.4	4.1	3.9	3.5
12 years	4.3	3.9	3.5	3.6
13 years	4.6	4.0	3.6	3.4
14 years	4.1	4.0	3.7	3.6
15 years	3.5	3.1	3.7	3.1
16 years	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.3
17 years	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.5
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Number	12,483	13,941	13,414	13,179

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	15.7	9.1	7.9	7.5
Asian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4
Black	13.7	11.6	11.6	11.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	10.7	11.1	12.6	13.4
White	56.5	51.7	49.7	48.2
Two or more races	2.6	16.0	17.8	18.6
Missing data	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1
Number	12,483	13,941	13,414	13,179

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	4.3	22.6	22.9	21.4
Medical neglect	2.8	3.5	3.5	2.9
Neglect	88.0	82.4	83.1	83.7
Physical abuse	19.0	18.3	17.9	16.7
Sexual abuse	6.9	6.4	6.6	6.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	12,483	13,941	13,414	13,179

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	206.4	161.5	141.1	96.8
Median	>72 but<96	>72 but<96	>48 but<72	>48 but<72

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	10,021	10,285	11,202	11,679	6,507	7,129	6,927	6,765	5,203	6,021	6,313	6,602	11,325	11,393	11,816	11,842
Median length of stay (months)	16.0	14.1	13.4	14.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	12.7	13.8	14.3	15.2	15.5	13.4	14.4	15.4

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	5.4	5.9	7.2	6.6	16.2	18.0	18.6	21.5	4.5	4.4	4.6	4.7	5.5	7.3	6.8	7.8
1 year	6.2	7.9	7.9	8.9	8.6	8.2	8.0	8.6	7.0	6.9	7.3	7.5	7.3	7.8	9.0	8.9
2 years	6.4	7.4	7.8	8.2	7.6	7.6	8.3	8.3	7.7	8.2	7.7	8.7	6.9	7.8	8.1	8.6
3 years	6.3	6.8	7.3	7.9	6.8	6.8	6.7	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.0	7.5	6.4	7.4	7.9	8.3
4 years	5.7	6.4	6.8	7.1	6.1	7.0	6.0	6.9	6.7	7.1	7.1	7.6	5.9	6.8	7.1	7.6
5 years	5.5	6.0	6.0	6.2	5.7	6.1	5.9	5.7	6.2	6.4	6.3	6.3	5.6	6.0	6.3	6.6
6 years	5.1	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.3	4.9	5.3	5.2	5.4	6.0	6.0	6.1	5.4	5.8	5.8	5.8
7 years	4.8	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.0	5.0	4.8	4.5	4.7	5.3	5.7	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.4
8 years	4.5	4.8	4.9	4.7	4.0	4.3	4.7	4.1	4.2	5.1	4.8	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.7	5.0
9 years	4.6	4.3	4.4	4.7	4.2	3.9	4.1	3.6	4.3	4.4	4.9	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.8	4.4
10 years	4.8	4.7	4.2	4.0	4.7	4.0	3.7	3.0	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.6	4.7	4.2	4.0	4.1
11 years	4.9	4.8	4.2	3.9	4.1	3.6	3.5	2.9	4.0	4.6	3.7	3.6	4.8	4.1	4.0	3.3
12 years	5.7	4.8	4.3	4.0	4.3	3.8	3.5	3.1	4.4	4.3	3.9	3.8	5.0	4.4	3.9	3.6
13 years	5.9	5.0	4.5	3.9	4.1	4.2	3.6	3.4	4.1	4.4	4.1	3.9	5.4	4.4	3.9	3.5
14 years	5.8	5.3	4.9	4.3	4.3	3.9	4.0	3.9	4.3	3.9	4.1	3.7	5.8	4.9	4.3	3.7
15 years	5.8	5.2	5.0	4.7	3.7	3.5	4.0	3.2	3.7	3.8	4.1	3.5	5.7	5.0	4.7	4.2
16 years	5.5	5.2	4.9	4.9	3.4	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.6	5.5	4.9	4.8	4.6
17 years	5.4	4.3	4.6	4.4	1.8	1.7	1.9	1.6	5.6	3.5	6.8	6.6	4.8	4.6	4.4	4.3
18 years	1.5	0.2	0.2	0.6	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	6.7	6.4	3.8	3.8	1.1	0.2	0.2	0.3
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	1.4	<.1	<.1	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	11.0	11.2	10.9	10.1	10.1	10.2	9.1	9.5	10.6	10.4	10.1	10.1	10.7	11.0	10.3	9.7
Asian	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Black	17.1	15.8	16.6	16.8	15.2	16.6	15.6	15.7	16.4	15.5	14.9	15.3	16.3	16.5	16.9	17.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	10.0	11.1	11.7	13.1	12.0	12.2	13.6	13.9	10.3	11.2	12.1	12.3	11.0	11.7	12.6	13.9
White	45.4	44.1	42.2	40.3	45.2	42.8	44.3	43.2	47.5	46.3	46.3	44.3	44.3	42.2	41.2	39.6
Two or more races	16.3	17.6	18.5	19.7	17.3	17.9	17.1	17.4	14.9	16.2	16.3	17.6	17.5	18.5	18.9	19.5
Unknown	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	4,429	3,204	3,592	4,663
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	1,764	1,892	2,127	3,651

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	6.9	5.1	3.0	3.7
1 year	9.2	7.5	8.7	7.4
2 years	7.9	7.6	8.0	8.5
3 years	7.6	7.1	8.4	7.9
4 years	7.1	6.6	7.3	8.0
5 years	6.5	5.7	6.2	6.6
6 years	5.9	5.6	5.8	6.0
7 years	5.7	5.0	5.4	5.5
8 years	5.2	4.7	5.2	5.6
9 years	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
10 years	4.9	4.7	4.7	4.8
11 years	5.4	4.9	4.7	4.2
12 years	5.5	5.5	4.7	4.6
13 years	5.5	6.3	5.0	4.5
14 years	5.1	6.8	5.8	5.2
15 years	4.3	6.8	6.5	5.9
16 years	1.6	3.2	3.7	4.4
17 years	0.8	1.8	1.9	2.3

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	10.6	10.0	9.5	8.2
Asian	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Black	18.0	17.7	21.4	21.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	10.8	11.3	11.4	14.0
White	44.3	44.4	39.7	37.2
Two or more races	16.2	16.5	17.9	19.4
Unknown	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	1,152	1,032	1,141	1,251

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.0	0.7	1.6	1.1
1 year	8.2	8.4	9.7	11.0
2 years	11.8	11.5	12.0	14.4
3 years	9.5	11.1	9.3	10.0
4 years	11.1	9.3	9.2	10.6
5 years	8.7	9.4	8.5	7.6
6 years	7.6	8.6	6.7	7.0
7 years	5.6	6.8	7.3	6.2
8 years	5.6	4.9	5.3	4.8
9 years	5.2	4.5	5.2	4.2
10 years	4.3	4.4	4.4	5.1
11 years	4.3	4.9	4.2	3.9
12 years	4.4	3.8	2.8	3.4
13 years	4.1	3.7	4.5	3.7
14 years	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.2
15 years	1.8	2.0	2.4	1.9
16 years	1.6	1.6	2.2	1.4
17 years	1.6	1.4	1.8	1.2
18 years	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	13.9	14.6	13.4	11.1
Asian	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.0
Black	19.2	15.5	11.3	12.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.2
Hispanic (of any race)	6.1	7.6	10.3	11.5
White	49.9	49.0	50.3	49.5
Two or more races	10.4	12.6	13.8	15.7
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	91.8	91.4	91.9	91.1
Children with one or more recurrences	8.2	8.6	8.1	8.9
Number	5,808	6,258	6,114	5,989

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	1.16	1.18	1.05	1.28
Children not maltreated while in foster care	98.84	98.82	98.95	98.72
Number	16,528	17,414	18,129	18,444

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	22.3	17.3	17.9	19.2
Guardianship	11.1	7.3	7.4	7.0
Reunification	55.0	66.2	65.0	63.7
Other	11.4	9.1	9.6	10.1
Missing data	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.0
Number	5,203	6,021	6,313	6,602

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	22.1	16.8	18.6	18.8
Guardianship	10.3	5.8	7.1	8.2
Reunification	38.0	50.8	47.4	42.4
Other	29.3	26.4	26.8	30.5
Missing data	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0
Number	679	689	784	825

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	2.4	2.0	2.7	2.1
Guardianship	13.7	6.6	6.5	6.6
Reunification	50.0	60.0	59.5	56.0
Other	33.6	31.4	31.2	35.3
Missing data	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,076	1,099	1,213	1,160

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	31.7	28.3	29.8	31.3
Children older than 12 at entry	68.3	71.7	70.2	68.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	451	420	477	512

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	25.7	21.8	19.3	21.2	0.0	0.0	8.3	0.0	23.6	16.1	12.8	14.5		
Guardianship	11.8	11.7	8.6	7.4	0.0	23.5	8.3	0.0	10.8	4.5	6.6	4.9		
Reunification	41.7	52.3	58.0	57.1	83.3	64.7	50.0	64.3	53.6	70.1	68.7	69.7		
Other	19.6	14.2	14.1	14.3	16.7	11.8	33.3	35.7	12.0	9.3	11.9	10.9		
Missing data	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	552	625	638	664	6	17	12	14	852	935	939	1,013		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	18.2	0.0	20.0	28.6	16.1	15.2	20.5	18.8	23.2	18.6	19.1	21.3		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.9	5.8	5.4	6.4	11.4	7.5	7.8	7.2		
Reunification	63.6	60.0	60.0	71.4	67.8	72.3	67.6	68.1	54.8	65.0	63.6	62.0		
Other	18.2	40.0	20.0	0.0	9.0	6.7	6.5	6.7	10.4	8.9	9.5	9.5		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.0		
Number	11	5	5	7	534	672	765	815	2,470	2,785	2,924	2,927		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	33.3	0.0	0.0	20.1	13.7	16.5	17.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	100.0	16.7	0.0	0.0	12.6	7.7	8.1	9.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	0.0	50.0	100.0	0.0	57.8	70.6	68.1	63.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.5	8.0	7.3	10.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	1	6	1	0	777	976	1,029	1,162	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	73.0	58.9	58.0	57.5
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	18.1	27.3	28.6	29.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	5.7	10.2	9.3	9.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.1	2.5	2.4	2.8
48 or more mos.	1.1	1.0	1.8	1.4
Missing data	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0
Number	2,864	3,984	4,102	4,207

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	83.5	86.6	86.2	85.8
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	6.0	5.4	5.9	5.4
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	10.0	7.5	7.6	8.4
Missing data	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4
Number	6,507	7,129	6,927	6,765

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	4.4	2.5	3.0	2.9
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	23.2	25.1	26.1	24.7
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	33.6	32.1	33.8	32.7
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	20.4	18.2	18.6	22.3
48 or more mos.	18.3	22.1	18.6	17.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,159	1,044	1,131	1,265

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	72.4	71.2	71.8	72.0	47.2	48.1	46.6	47.1	37.3	25.8	26.4	24.8	88.9	90.6	80.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	25.9	27.2	26.6	26.7	52.3	51.4	53.3	52.8	62.5	74.0	73.5	75.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.4	0.4	0.5	<.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	<.1	0.0	11.1	9.4	20.0	0.0
Number	7,066	7,851	7,776	7,620	3,888	4,520	4,979	4,911	5,547	5,011	5,364	5,906	27	32	10	7

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	11.1	12.0	11.3	12.2
Institutions	2.4	2.9	2.0	1.6
Other settings	86.5	85.1	86.7	86.2
Missing data	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1
Number	5,250	5,825	5,619	5,602

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	120.1	119.3	117.1
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	73.9	66.6	66.2	62.9
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	5.4	8.0	8.0	8.6
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	28.8	28.1	27.5	29.1
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	18.3	8.9	8.9	8.3

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	104.4	101.8	101.4
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	27.6	27.6	29.1	27.7
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	31.2	31.9	30.2	31.5
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	18.9	20.8	19.9	21.0
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	10.2	13.1	13.6	23.1
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	42.5	51.3	43.3	31.6

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	112.2	116.1	109.8
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	22.0	30.5	30.6	30.7
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	87.8	88.5	88.0	85.9
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	60.0	53.8	50.1	54.2

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	73.3	73.2	73.0
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	69.0	67.6	68.5	68.7
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	47.4	48.3	46.7	47.2
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	36.3	25.8	26.5	24.8

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	846,588	848,900	857,570	862,908
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3
Asian	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5
Black	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Hispanic (of any race)	15.8	16.6	17.4	18.3
White	73.2	72.2	71.2	70.1
Two or more races	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.1
Child population in poverty (%)	19.1	18.4	16.8	16.9

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	11,759	12,414	12,927	11,552
Children in foster care on 9/30	10,048	11,020	10,661	9,562
Children adopted	943	1,030	1,095	1,016

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	43
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	5,502
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	12,722
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	35
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	11,742
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	33,692

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	37,865	44.7 per 1,000	40,110	47.2 per 1,000	41,245	48.1 per 1,000	42,198	48.9 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	11,759	13.9 per 1,000	12,414	14.6 per 1,000	12,927	15.1 per 1,000	11,552	13.4 per 1,000
Child fatalities	8	0.9 per 100,000	18	2.1 per 100,000	17	2.0 per 100,000	12	1.4 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	13.6	14.3	13.9	13.7
1 year	7.7	7.9	7.9	8.2
2 years	7.3	7.5	7.5	7.9
3 years	7.3	6.7	6.9	6.8
4 years	6.9	6.7	6.8	6.9
5 years	6.5	6.6	6.8	6.2
6 years	6.3	6.5	6.5	6.3
7 years	6.0	5.9	6.0	5.9
8 years	5.4	5.5	5.3	5.7
9 years	5.0	4.9	5.0	4.8
10 years	4.4	4.7	4.3	4.3
11 years	4.3	3.9	4.1	4.2
12 years	4.4	4.1	4.0	4.0
13 years	4.5	4.0	3.9	3.8
14 years	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.6
15 years	2.9	3.4	3.5	3.5
16 years	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.8
17 years	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.5
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	11,759	12,414	12,927	11,552

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	8.6	7.8	5.0	5.3
Asian	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.1
Black	5.1	5.0	5.1	6.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2
Hispanic (of any race)	13.3	14.3	15.0	13.7
White	63.4	64.0	58.3	66.6
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	8.5	7.9	15.4	6.9
Number	11,759	12,414	12,927	11,552

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	4.0	2.8	2.5	1.9
Medical neglect	4.5	2.5	2.0	1.6
Neglect	26.8	30.8	36.9	37.8
Physical abuse	9.7	8.6	7.6	8.5
Sexual abuse	9.8	8.7	9.5	9.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	59.0	58.9	59.3	56.5
Number	11,759	12,414	12,927	11,552

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	—	—	—	—
Median	—	—	—	—

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	8,959	9,842	10,842	10,385	5,544	6,197	5,294	4,604	4,455	5,019	5,475	5,427	10,048	11,020	10,661	9,562
Median length of stay (months)	16.6	15.2	14.6	16.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	13.6	13.8	15.1	16.1	14.8	14.4	16.2	18.5

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	5.5	6.2	6.2	6.0	17.0	17.9	19.5	19.6	3.5	4.1	4.3	3.9	6.2	6.3	6.1	6.0
1 year	6.7	7.2	8.2	7.9	8.4	8.4	8.1	9.2	7.2	7.4	8.6	7.7	7.3	8.3	7.9	7.9
2 years	7.2	7.1	7.5	7.2	7.3	8.0	7.6	8.0	7.9	8.4	8.8	9.0	7.1	7.5	7.3	7.7
3 years	6.4	6.7	6.4	6.8	6.7	6.0	7.0	7.3	7.8	7.8	8.2	7.9	6.7	6.4	6.8	6.9
4 years	5.9	6.1	5.9	5.8	6.0	5.9	6.0	5.8	6.8	6.9	7.4	7.7	6.1	5.9	5.8	5.8
5 years	5.9	5.4	5.9	5.7	6.0	5.8	6.1	5.4	6.9	5.8	6.5	6.2	5.5	6.0	5.6	5.3
6 years	5.0	5.3	5.2	5.5	5.1	5.1	6.0	4.9	5.9	5.8	6.4	5.9	5.3	5.1	5.5	5.1
7 years	4.9	4.7	5.2	5.1	4.8	4.6	5.2	4.6	5.3	5.4	5.4	5.6	4.6	5.2	5.1	4.8
8 years	4.6	4.7	4.3	4.9	4.3	4.5	4.1	4.3	4.7	4.5	4.8	5.4	4.7	4.4	4.9	4.7
9 years	4.3	4.4	4.8	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.0	4.5	4.2	4.3	4.6	4.4	4.7	4.2	4.6
10 years	4.6	4.2	4.2	4.5	3.8	3.8	3.3	3.6	4.1	4.0	3.8	4.7	4.2	4.2	4.5	3.8
11 years	4.8	4.5	4.0	4.1	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.8	4.1	4.0	3.8	4.0	4.4	4.0	4.1	4.2
12 years	5.0	4.6	4.5	4.2	4.3	4.1	3.9	3.5	3.7	3.9	3.3	3.5	4.6	4.5	4.2	4.2
13 years	5.6	5.3	4.5	4.8	4.5	4.4	3.7	3.9	4.4	4.5	3.2	3.6	5.3	4.5	4.8	4.3
14 years	6.0	5.5	5.3	4.8	4.7	4.9	3.7	3.7	4.4	4.4	3.8	3.6	5.5	5.4	4.8	5.0
15 years	5.7	5.6	5.4	5.2	4.0	3.9	3.6	4.1	4.6	4.3	3.7	3.4	5.7	5.4	5.3	4.9
16 years	5.2	5.5	5.1	5.3	3.5	3.1	2.8	2.6	3.6	4.3	3.4	3.3	5.5	5.1	5.3	5.4
17 years	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.5	3.6	3.7	3.3	3.0	4.3	4.4	4.5	5.1
18 years	1.8	1.8	2.0	2.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	5.8	4.6	5.3	4.6	1.8	1.9	2.1	2.6
19 years	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.3	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.1
20+ years	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.2	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	9.2	11.4	11.2	5.4	12.6	10.3	7.4	2.0	8.4	10.3	10.2	5.3	11.4	11.3	9.8	3.8
Asian	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.3
Black	7.3	6.8	6.4	2.9	5.1	5.4	4.8	1.7	5.8	5.7	4.7	3.0	6.8	6.5	6.4	2.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2
Hispanic (of any race)	10.3	10.8	11.2	9.5	12.6	13.3	14.3	12.4	11.9	13.0	12.7	11.2	10.9	11.2	12.0	9.9
White	59.1	56.7	55.9	59.5	54.5	54.2	53.9	57.4	59.0	55.6	55.8	59.6	56.7	55.8	54.9	58.5
Two or more races	0.5	0.7	1.6	11.1	0.8	2.3	3.2	13.9	0.4	0.7	1.3	8.0	0.7	1.6	2.6	14.2
Unknown	12.6	12.6	12.8	10.9	13.4	13.7	15.4	12.1	13.6	13.8	14.3	12.0	12.6	12.7	13.3	10.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	3,302	3,441	2,776	2,527
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	1,485	1,493	1,387	1,510

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	7.0	7.1	3.0	2.3
1 year	10.5	11.6	10.2	8.4
2 years	10.7	10.5	10.8	10.7
3 years	10.1	8.9	9.7	9.1
4 years	8.8	8.7	8.5	9.4
5 years	7.5	8.5	8.2	7.8
6 years	7.7	6.2	7.9	7.4
7 years	5.9	7.0	5.7	7.5
8 years	6.0	5.0	6.8	5.8
9 years	5.2	5.5	5.0	6.3
10 years	4.2	4.4	5.2	4.6
11 years	4.0	3.7	4.0	4.6
12 years	3.4	3.7	3.3	4.0
13 years	2.6	2.6	3.4	2.5
14 years	2.3	2.2	2.8	3.1
15 years	1.9	1.8	2.3	2.7
16 years	1.6	1.4	1.8	2.4
17 years	0.7	1.1	1.5	1.5

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	8.7	8.6	8.5	4.2
Asian	0.7	0.7	1.0	0.5
Black	6.1	6.0	6.4	3.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2
Hispanic (of any race)	11.7	11.2	11.5	9.0
White	55.3	55.1	53.7	56.9
Two or more races	0.9	1.6	2.4	12.4
Unknown	16.3	16.6	16.2	13.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	943	1,030	1,095	1,016

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.0	0.2	0.4	<.1
1 year	6.4	8.2	9.3	9.8
2 years	12.4	15.6	16.3	15.9
3 years	13.6	13.6	13.4	12.7
4 years	10.4	11.0	9.9	10.3
5 years	10.9	9.0	9.9	7.9
6 years	10.1	9.6	8.0	8.5
7 years	7.1	7.0	7.4	5.9
8 years	5.4	5.0	5.8	5.8
9 years	5.9	4.8	4.5	5.1
10 years	4.2	4.2	3.9	5.3
11 years	4.1	3.8	4.0	3.7
12 years	3.1	2.3	2.3	3.0
13 years	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.6
14 years	2.0	1.4	1.0	1.5
15 years	0.6	1.0	0.9	0.7
16 years	0.6	0.9	0.3	0.5
17 years	0.6	<.1	0.4	0.6
18 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.3	<.1	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.6	0.3	0.4
Black	6.7	2.9	2.9	2.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	13.3	18.8	17.0	15.6
White	72.4	68.4	72.9	73.4
Two or more races	7.2	8.8	6.8	7.8
Unknown	0.1	<.1	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	—	—	93.5	92.5
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	6.5	7.5
Number	—	—	6,098	5,669

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	0.66	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	99.34	—
Number	—	—	16,136	—

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	21.2	20.6	20.1	18.8
Guardianship	4.4	4.9	4.7	6.1
Reunification	62.7	63.5	64.5	64.5
Other	8.5	9.1	8.6	8.4
Missing data	3.2	1.9	2.1	2.1
Number	4,455	5,019	5,475	5,427

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	26.2	26.3	24.7	26.4
Guardianship	3.9	4.7	4.5	4.5
Reunification	52.1	50.4	50.4	49.1
Other	14.1	16.2	17.7	16.7
Missing data	3.7	2.4	2.7	3.3
Number	1,287	1,310	1,391	1,268

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.9	0.4	0.7	0.6
Guardianship	4.2	3.3	5.9	5.9
Reunification	62.2	64.0	59.3	56.9
Other	25.3	27.5	29.6	32.4
Missing data	7.5	4.8	4.6	4.1
Number	817	953	869	824

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	47.5	42.7	47.8	41.6
Children older than 12 at entry	52.5	57.3	52.2	58.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	198	253	295	310

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	16.0	20.1	19.1	28.7	0.0	29.7	9.1	26.9	26.6	15.7	15.5	20.2		
Guardianship	8.5	11.4	9.3	12.9	14.3	10.8	9.1	7.7	3.5	0.0	5.0	6.7		
Reunification	64.5	60.7	62.0	45.5	66.7	56.8	68.2	53.8	47.9	61.2	57.4	52.1		
Other	7.2	6.6	7.5	10.1	9.5	2.7	13.6	7.7	15.8	19.9	17.1	16.0		
Missing data	3.7	1.2	2.1	2.8	9.5	0.0	0.0	3.8	6.2	3.1	5.0	4.9		
Number	375	517	560	286	21	37	44	26	259	286	258	163		

	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	20.0	50.0	22.2	8.7	17.6	21.0	18.2	16.1	21.9	20.0	20.4	18.2		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	3.6	3.4	4.9	6.1	4.3	4.4	3.9	5.7		
Reunification	75.0	50.0	55.6	78.3	71.1	65.6	70.1	70.9	61.0	63.8	64.2	65.0		
Other	5.0	0.0	22.2	8.7	5.7	7.8	5.7	6.3	9.7	9.7	9.5	9.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	2.1	1.0	0.7	3.1	2.0	2.0	2.1		
Number	20	8	9	23	529	652	696	608	2,627	2,792	3,057	3,236		

	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	22.8	24.2	24.5	25.0	16.7	24.2	10.0	10.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	3.1	4.9	4.5	5.5	5.6	3.0	1.4	5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	67.7	63.5	62.6	63.1	66.7	69.7	85.7	71.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	3.5	5.8	5.5	4.9	11.1	3.0	2.9	8.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	3.0	1.6	2.9	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	606	694	781	651	18	33	70	434	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	64.4	65.1	58.0	54.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	27.5	27.3	33.7	35.3
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	4.3	4.5	5.1	7.4
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.8	1.3	1.3	1.5
48 or more mos.	2.0	1.8	1.9	1.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,795	3,186	3,531	3,503

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	81.7	81.7	82.3	80.5
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	8.4	8.3	8.6	9.7
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	9.8	10.0	9.1	9.8
Missing data	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0
Number	5,544	6,197	5,294	4,604

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	1.2	0.7	0.8	1.5
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	16.4	17.3	21.0	17.6
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	35.8	41.1	40.7	39.7
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	25.7	25.6	23.4	23.3
48 or more mos.	20.9	15.3	14.1	17.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	943	1,036	1,103	1,020

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	85.4	84.3	84.1	83.8	64.5	65.9	64.0	64.8	33.1	33.7	35.3	35.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	14.6	15.7	15.9	16.2	35.5	34.1	36.0	35.2	66.9	66.3	64.7	64.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	6,318	7,143	6,380	5,582	3,292	3,734	4,361	3,793	4,866	5,134	5,389	5,601	27	28	6	13

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3
Institutions	4.0	3.9	2.5	3.5
Other settings	95.7	95.8	97.3	96.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	4,440	5,033	4,446	3,841

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	118.5	114.0	115.1
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	73.6	76.1	71.0	65.7
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	6.5	6.3	7.7	8.3
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	37.6	40.6	42.3	43.4
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	16.1	15.9	14.9	11.3

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	96.4	109.3	100.7
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	17.6	18.0	21.8	19.1
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	35.0	33.3	32.1	33.3
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	21.0	21.9	22.0	20.3
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	10.1	11.9	11.9	13.3
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	45.8	48.3	59.8	52.9

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	107.8	111.8	106.6
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	24.3	25.8	26.2	26.3
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	97.8	98.4	97.1	97.4
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	61.4	62.7	58.7	66.2

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	96.7	96.5	96.3
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	84.4	83.4	83.1	82.8
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	64.5	65.9	64.0	64.8
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	33.5	34.4	36.2	35.9

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Pennsylvania

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	2,844,729	2,824,287	2,807,284	2,786,719
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Asian	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6
Black	13.1	13.2	13.2	13.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	6.3	6.8	7.2	7.7
White	76.2	75.5	74.8	74.2
Two or more races	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.2
Child population in poverty (%)	16.8	16.7	16.9	16.3

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	4,647	4,353	4,177	4,177
Children in foster care on 9/30	21,944	21,691	21,135	20,858
Children adopted	1,898	2,065	1,926	1,940

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	77
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	94
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,175
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,319

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	23,862	8.4 per 1,000	23,114	8.2 per 1,000	23,071	8.2 per 1,000	23,513	8.4 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	4,647	1.6 per 1,000	4,353	1.5 per 1,000	4,177	1.5 per 1,000	4,177	1.5 per 1,000
Child fatalities	42	1.5 per 100,000	40	1.4 per 100,000	33	1.2 per 100,000	47	1.7 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	5.3	5.0	5.7	5.4
1 year	2.5	3.2	3.1	3.4
2 years	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.5
3 years	4.3	4.0	3.7	4.2
4 years	4.3	4.6	4.9	5.4
5 years	4.7	4.8	5.0	4.7
6 years	4.3	5.2	5.6	4.9
7 years	4.7	5.6	5.4	5.1
8 years	5.3	5.3	4.8	5.7
9 years	5.3	5.1	4.9	5.2
10 years	6.4	5.4	5.5	5.2
11 years	6.5	5.4	5.6	5.7
12 years	6.6	6.8	6.3	6.6
13 years	7.5	7.9	7.6	7.3
14 years	8.5	8.4	8.2	7.9
15 years	8.5	8.2	8.9	8.0
16 years	6.4	6.3	6.8	6.9
17 years	4.5	4.7	4.2	4.4
18+ years	1.3	1.3	0.9	1.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	4,647	4,353	4,177	4,177

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	—	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	—	—
Black	—	—	—	—
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic (of any race)	—	—	—	—
White	—	—	—	—
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Number	4,647	4,353	4,177	4,177

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	1.6	1.1	1.3	1.0
Medical neglect	2.2	2.0	2.4	2.5
Neglect	2.6	3.5	3.5	3.0
Physical abuse	34.3	32.4	34.0	34.5
Sexual abuse	60.7	62.5	60.5	60.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	4,647	4,353	4,177	4,177

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	—	—	—	—
Median	—	—	—	—

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	19,995	20,613	20,233	19,710	14,574	14,658	14,209	14,318	12,625	13,582	13,307	13,170	21,944	21,691	21,135	20,858
Median length of stay (months)	17.1	15.5	15.5	15.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	10.6	10.9	11.7	10.6	14.6	14.4	13.9	14.0

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.5	3.8	4.1	4.4	11.5	11.2	12.3	13.1	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.7	4.5	4.8	5.1	5.3
1 year	4.7	4.9	5.2	5.8	4.3	4.8	4.6	5.1	3.7	4.0	4.2	4.5	4.9	5.0	5.5	6.0
2 years	4.7	4.9	5.1	5.2	3.7	3.8	4.3	4.0	4.3	4.2	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.9	5.0	5.5
3 years	4.0	4.3	4.7	4.8	3.4	3.6	3.2	3.8	3.5	3.9	4.4	4.5	4.1	4.5	4.5	4.7
4 years	3.7	4.0	4.3	4.3	3.0	3.3	3.3	3.1	3.5	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.8	4.1	4.1	4.3
5 years	3.7	3.6	3.6	4.4	2.9	2.8	3.1	3.0	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.5	3.4	3.5	4.1	4.0
6 years	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.7	3.0	3.0	2.9	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.7
7 years	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.6	2.4	2.6	2.9	2.7	2.8	2.8	3.1	2.9	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.3
8 years	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.3	2.9	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.8	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.4
9 years	4.3	3.4	3.4	3.4	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.6	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.9	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.2
10 years	4.6	4.1	3.4	3.2	2.9	2.5	2.3	2.5	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.5	4.0	3.2	3.1	3.2
11 years	5.0	4.5	4.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	2.9	2.7	3.4	3.0	3.0	2.5	4.4	4.1	3.2	3.5
12 years	5.6	4.9	4.8	4.4	4.3	4.4	3.9	3.4	4.0	3.8	3.4	2.9	4.8	4.7	4.3	3.5
13 years	6.4	6.2	5.6	5.2	6.6	6.3	5.7	5.7	5.1	4.9	4.7	4.0	6.3	5.6	5.2	5.1
14 years	7.5	7.3	7.0	6.3	9.5	9.5	9.0	8.5	7.4	6.9	6.4	5.8	7.5	7.3	6.5	6.6
15 years	9.1	8.8	8.8	8.9	13.0	12.2	12.8	12.0	10.4	9.6	8.7	8.9	9.2	9.1	9.2	8.4
16 years	9.5	10.2	10.0	10.1	12.0	13.0	12.4	12.5	11.4	11.7	11.7	11.3	10.4	10.3	10.5	10.5
17 years	8.6	9.5	9.9	9.6	8.2	8.1	8.7	8.9	11.5	11.5	12.8	14.1	9.4	9.8	9.9	9.7
18 years	2.7	3.3	3.8	3.7	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.8	7.8	9.5	9.0	8.2	3.4	4.0	4.0	3.7
19 years	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.6	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.2	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.1	1.3	1.6	1.5
20+ years	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	1.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Asian	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4
Black	48.5	47.8	47.1	45.7	41.0	41.7	41.1	42.2	40.9	42.7	42.3	41.4	47.8	46.9	46.1	46.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	8.3	8.4	8.8	9.0	8.7	8.7	9.0	9.1	8.9	8.2	8.9	9.6	8.2	8.7	8.9	8.7
White	39.6	40.2	40.8	41.1	45.9	45.3	44.4	42.5	46.5	45.4	45.1	44.8	39.8	40.4	40.5	39.7
Two or more races	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5
Unknown	2.8	2.9	2.3	3.1	3.5	3.4	4.3	5.2	2.6	2.9	2.7	3.1	3.4	3.2	3.4	4.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	3,996	3,679	3,559	3,379
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	1,165	1,561	1,666	1,712

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.7	3.5	3.3	2.4
1 year	6.5	7.2	7.5	7.7
2 years	7.1	8.3	8.7	9.3
3 years	7.3	8.0	8.0	8.6
4 years	6.5	6.4	7.2	7.8
5 years	6.1	5.9	7.2	6.8
6 years	6.1	5.8	5.9	7.1
7 years	5.2	5.5	5.9	5.4
8 years	5.4	5.2	5.4	5.5
9 years	5.1	5.1	5.1	4.9
10 years	6.7	4.3	4.8	4.9
11 years	6.1	6.2	4.5	4.6
12 years	5.9	6.0	6.0	4.3
13 years	6.2	5.4	4.7	4.9
14 years	5.5	5.2	4.6	5.0
15 years	4.7	5.0	4.4	3.9
16 years	4.2	3.8	4.0	3.8
17 years	3.0	3.1	2.8	3.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2
Asian	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.4
Black	46.4	45.0	43.8	44.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	8.9	10.0	10.4	9.3
White	40.2	40.1	41.2	41.8
Two or more races	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.7
Unknown	4.0	4.1	3.3	3.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	1,898	2,065	1,926	1,940

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.8	1.3	0.9	0.6
1 year	7.1	7.9	10.0	9.9
2 years	10.7	11.2	13.4	14.2
3 years	8.4	9.2	11.8	11.4
4 years	9.3	9.9	8.0	8.9
5 years	8.0	8.0	7.2	8.5
6 years	6.5	7.3	7.5	7.3
7 years	6.4	6.1	5.5	6.3
8 years	6.2	4.9	4.8	5.2
9 years	6.3	5.9	5.0	5.4
10 years	4.9	6.5	4.8	4.5
11 years	6.3	5.0	3.7	3.8
12 years	4.8	4.6	3.7	3.9
13 years	4.2	3.6	4.4	3.6
14 years	2.8	3.3	3.3	1.8
15 years	3.0	2.6	1.8	2.1
16 years	2.4	1.1	2.2	1.4
17 years	1.3	1.1	1.7	1.1
18 years	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.3
19 years	0.2	0.0	0.0	<.1
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	<.1	0.1	0.4
Asian	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.7
Black	51.1	45.2	44.4	39.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	10.7	9.4	9.3	11.0
White	37.0	44.2	45.2	47.5
Two or more races	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.9
Unknown	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

Pennsylvania

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	97.1	97.2	97.8	97.0
Children with one or more recurrences	2.9	2.8	2.2	3.0
Number	2,245	2,036	2,010	1,920

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.20	0.19	0.19	0.20
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.80	99.81	99.81	99.80
Number	34,569	35,271	34,442	34,028

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	15.1	15.2	14.6	14.6
Guardianship	6.2	6.7	7.0	5.6
Reunification	64.1	63.5	62.3	63.1
Other	14.5	14.6	16.1	16.7
Missing data	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0
Number	12,625	13,582	13,307	13,170

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	17.8	16.7	15.2	15.7
Guardianship	3.8	3.7	4.3	3.7
Reunification	56.6	57.0	57.1	57.7
Other	21.7	22.6	23.3	23.0
Missing data	0.1	<.1	0.0	0.0
Number	2,251	2,568	2,583	2,574

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6
Guardianship	2.1	2.3	2.6	2.4
Reunification	73.8	73.7	70.3	69.6
Other	23.3	23.4	26.3	27.4
Missing data	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0
Number	5,910	6,440	6,304	6,279

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	27.0	29.6	24.3	24.2
Children older than 12 at entry	73.0	70.4	75.7	75.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,025	949	1,051	1,064

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	36.4	10.5	7.1	46.7	10.4	10.2	5.2	19.6	18.0	14.9	14.3	12.9		
Guardianship	0.0	10.5	28.6	6.7	0.0	1.7	10.4	1.8	10.2	10.1	9.5	7.3		
Reunification	50.0	73.7	64.3	6.7	61.2	57.6	57.1	55.4	55.0	57.6	56.5	58.0		
Other	13.6	5.3	0.0	40.0	28.4	30.5	27.3	23.2	16.6	17.2	19.7	21.8		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.0		
Number	22	19	14	15	67	59	77	56	5,167	5,800	5,635	5,446		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.7	14.2	13.7	16.3	12.4	15.2	14.9	15.6		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2	4.9	3.0	2.8	3.2	3.8	5.0	4.7		
Reunification	0.0	0.0	50.0	100.0	68.1	64.3	68.5	66.0	71.5	69.2	67.0	67.4		
Other	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	13.0	16.6	14.6	14.9	12.9	11.8	13.1	12.3		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0		
Number	0	0	2	2	1,123	1,120	1,182	1,262	5,876	6,164	6,002	5,905		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	16.9	22.0	18.1	14.1	10.3	8.3	38.7	23.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	7.9	7.8	11.8	6.1	5.1	12.5	3.2	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	62.2	57.3	57.1	61.9	79.5	75.0	54.8	65.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	13.0	12.9	12.9	18.0	2.6	4.2	3.2	6.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	331	396	364	412	39	24	31	72	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	72.2	71.7	69.6	72.8
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	17.5	18.2	19.8	17.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	5.1	5.3	5.9	4.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.2	1.9	1.7	2.0
48 or more mos.	2.8	2.5	2.8	2.4
Missing data	0.2	0.3	<.1	0.1
Number	8,096	8,619	8,290	8,308

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	67.6	67.9	68.6	69.5
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	22.6	22.9	22.0	21.6
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	9.7	9.1	9.4	8.9
Missing data	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0
Number	14,574	14,658	14,209	14,318

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	3.5	2.8	2.4	2.4
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	18.3	18.5	22.6	21.9
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	27.6	32.9	33.7	37.1
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	20.4	20.6	21.2	21.7
48 or more mos.	30.3	25.2	20.1	16.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,910	2,060	1,942	1,926

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	87.2	86.7	87.1	87.3	66.7	66.1	66.5	67.3	44.5	43.1	42.0	41.8	100.0	97.2	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	12.8	13.3	12.9	12.7	33.3	33.9	33.5	32.7	55.5	56.9	58.0	58.2	0.0	2.8	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	16,304	16,708	16,337	16,446	6,904	7,442	7,487	7,346	11,263	11,013	10,588	10,209	98	108	30	27

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	3.4	3.3	2.7	2.7
Institutions	5.2	4.4	3.2	2.6
Other settings	91.4	92.3	94.1	94.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	7,091	7,194	6,998	7,216

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	82.6	82.8	88.1
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	69.5	69.7	67.4	71.0
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	6.5	6.7	7.1	6.7
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	43.3	44.7	45.0	43.6
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	28.4	30.0	29.1	28.5

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	97.2	105.3	106.6
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	21.8	21.3	25.0	24.3
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	36.3	34.8	32.7	32.4
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	18.9	21.5	20.8	21.9
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	4.2	8.2	9.4	9.9
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	68.5	60.8	62.3	65.0

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	132.5	134.6	135.4
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	29.2	31.5	30.9	30.6
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	96.8	96.9	97.8	97.2
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	36.0	35.8	33.7	31.7

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	101.8	102.3	102.6
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	86.0	85.5	86.0	86.3
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	66.7	66.0	66.7	67.4
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	45.1	43.9	42.9	43.0

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Richard J. Gold, Deputy Secretary for Children, Youth and Families
Department of Public Welfare

The following are Pennsylvania's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

- Section B (Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims)

Data on the race/ethnicity of child maltreatment victims is not available because Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Law prohibits the collection of this information.

- Section D (Children Waiting to be Adopted)

We believe the AFCARS foster care data does not provide a complete account of the number of children waiting to be adopted who have had termination of parental rights (TPR). A delay in entering the TPR dates into AFCARS by county child welfare agencies may be contributing to the discrepancies between the two sets of data. The state continues to improve the quality of the AFCARS data in this area.

- Outcome Measure 1.4

Pennsylvania had identified composite measure C1.4, foster care re-entry, as an area needing improvement. This is an area we will continue to monitor.

Puerto Rico

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	1,043,952	1,031,794	1,018,306	1,002,944
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	—	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	—	—
Black	—	—	—	—
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic (of any race)	—	—	—	—
White	—	—	—	—
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Child population in poverty (%)	—	54.7	56.3	55.3

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	—	15,807	15,066	10,696
Children in foster care on 9/30	7,663	6,786	6,661	6,509
Children adopted	490	246	236	171

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	56
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	100
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	—	— per 1,000	49,507	48.0 per 1,000	31,849	31.3 per 1,000	32,810	32.7 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	—	— per 1,000	15,807	15.3 per 1,000	15,066	14.8 per 1,000	10,696	10.7 per 1,000
Child fatalities	—	— per 100,000	4	0.4 per 100,000	5	0.5 per 100,000	10	1.0 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	—	—	6.3	4.6
1 year	—	—	5.0	3.7
2 years	—	—	5.1	4.3
3 years	—	—	5.1	4.3
4 years	—	—	6.4	4.3
5 years	—	—	6.5	4.2
6 years	—	—	6.5	4.7
7 years	—	—	6.3	3.9
8 years	—	—	5.9	4.0
9 years	—	—	5.8	4.3
10 years	—	—	5.3	3.8
11 years	—	—	5.5	4.1
12 years	—	—	5.4	4.0
13 years	—	—	5.3	4.1
14 years	—	—	5.7	4.2
15 years	—	—	5.1	3.8
16 years	—	—	3.8	3.3
17 years	—	—	2.3	1.8
18+ years	—	—	0.5	0.3
Missing data	—	—	2.4	28.3
Number	—	15,807	15,066	10,696

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	—	—	0.4	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.1
Black	—	—	1.0	0.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.0	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	—	—	83.3	55.6
White	—	—	7.7	1.9
Two or more races	—	—	0.0	0.0
Missing data	—	—	7.5	41.8
Number	—	15,807	15,066	10,696

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	—	16.3	27.1	34.1
Medical neglect	—	0.0	10.3	7.9
Neglect	—	51.0	56.7	66.0
Physical abuse	—	24.1	23.4	25.1
Sexual abuse	—	4.3	3.9	5.6
Missing data	—	0.2	0.0	0.0
Other	—	4.2	12.3	4.2
Number	—	15,807	15,066	10,696

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	—	—	360.6	1192.5
Median	—	—	>48 but <72	>480 but <504

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	7,463	6,598	6,303	5,781	2,138	1,936	1,877	2,198	1,937	1,748	1,521	1,472	7,663	6,786	6,661	6,509
Median length of stay (months)	27.9	31.5	36.6	35.3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	13.4	14.5	14.0	16.4	34.9	37.6	39.0	30.7

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.8	3.0	2.8	3.0	12.6	13.9	13.6	13.0	4.2	5.5	4.5	3.8	2.5	2.7	2.7	3.4
1 year	4.4	3.4	3.4	3.5	5.8	6.5	5.1	5.8	7.2	6.4	6.1	6.3	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.2
2 years	4.5	4.0	3.7	3.9	6.3	5.5	6.2	5.6	8.1	6.2	6.9	6.5	3.7	3.3	3.5	3.7
3 years	5.0	4.5	4.3	4.2	6.2	6.1	5.6	5.6	7.5	7.4	6.0	7.1	4.1	3.9	3.6	4.0
4 years	5.1	5.0	4.3	4.7	6.0	6.0	6.4	5.2	8.1	6.6	6.9	6.7	4.4	4.1	4.1	3.7
5 years	5.6	5.3	5.2	4.9	5.9	5.5	5.8	5.1	7.1	7.5	6.8	6.5	4.9	4.9	4.4	4.6
6 years	5.9	6.0	5.2	5.3	5.6	5.1	5.4	5.0	6.8	6.2	7.4	6.7	5.5	5.0	4.7	4.6
7 years	5.6	6.3	5.7	5.6	5.4	4.8	5.9	5.1	6.2	6.9	6.4	6.7	5.6	5.4	5.1	4.9
8 years	5.8	5.9	6.0	6.2	4.7	4.9	4.7	4.5	5.7	6.2	5.7	6.1	5.3	5.9	5.6	5.1
9 years	5.8	6.1	5.8	6.2	3.4	3.9	4.7	4.9	5.2	5.0	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.6	5.7
10 years	5.8	6.1	6.0	6.2	5.0	3.7	4.5	4.2	4.7	5.0	5.1	4.7	5.4	5.7	5.7	6.1
11 years	6.7	6.7	6.0	6.9	4.1	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.9	5.0	4.3	4.8	5.8	5.9	6.0	6.0
12 years	6.7	7.1	6.7	6.7	4.5	3.8	3.8	4.4	5.0	3.8	4.5	4.8	6.3	6.4	5.9	6.4
13 years	7.0	7.8	7.7	7.3	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.6	3.9	4.6	3.8	4.1	6.9	7.3	6.5	6.7
14 years	6.8	8.2	8.3	8.5	5.9	5.0	5.3	5.4	4.5	4.2	5.1	4.8	7.0	8.0	7.5	7.2
15 years	6.9	8.3	8.4	9.3	4.3	5.2	5.5	6.0	3.8	5.4	5.5	4.4	7.3	8.0	8.2	8.5
16 years	5.1	4.8	5.9	6.2	2.7	3.1	3.9	4.1	3.4	2.4	4.8	4.8	6.6	8.2	8.3	9.2
17 years	4.0	0.7	4.2	0.7	1.2	0.8	1.9	1.2	1.4	2.1	3.1	2.6	5.1	4.9	5.4	5.6
18 years	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.2	0.9	1.1	0.8	3.7	<.1	3.6	<.1
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.6	0.7	0.3	0.7	5.3	6.5	2.0	5.0	2.2	2.6	0.6	2.7	1.3	1.7	0.5	1.4

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0
Black	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	<.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	<.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	99.0	99.0	99.0	98.9	99.0	98.8	98.7	98.9	98.7	98.5	98.8	98.8	99.0	99.1	99.0	98.9
White	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.6	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unknown	0.2	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.5	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	1,599	1,542	1,432	1,251
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	28	26	37	34

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.9	1.5	2.0	2.3
1 year	3.9	3.0	2.7	3.6
2 years	6.0	3.7	3.9	3.8
3 years	6.1	5.8	3.9	3.8
4 years	7.3	6.2	6.6	4.0
5 years	8.8	7.7	6.2	7.2
6 years	8.8	8.2	8.0	7.3
7 years	10.1	9.3	8.9	8.1
8 years	9.4	9.6	10.1	9.3
9 years	9.4	8.9	9.3	10.1
10 years	7.3	9.3	9.4	9.2
11 years	6.5	7.5	7.8	9.3
12 years	5.7	6.9	6.4	6.6
13 years	3.6	5.3	5.7	5.0
14 years	2.6	3.2	4.5	4.4
15 years	1.3	1.9	2.7	3.0
16 years	0.8	1.2	1.5	2.2
17 years	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.9

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	98.9	98.8	99.1	99.0
White	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.6
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unknown	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	490	246	236	171

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.7	2.4	1.7	2.3
1 year	14.7	8.5	6.4	5.8
2 years	11.8	12.6	5.5	6.4
3 years	6.5	6.5	5.9	7.6
4 years	13.5	9.8	13.6	9.9
5 years	7.6	10.2	13.6	11.7
6 years	6.3	9.8	9.3	4.7
7 years	6.3	9.3	5.5	13.5
8 years	6.1	6.5	8.9	9.9
9 years	3.9	4.9	7.6	8.2
10 years	4.7	4.1	5.9	4.1
11 years	3.9	2.8	6.8	3.5
12 years	3.9	2.0	2.1	3.5
13 years	2.2	2.8	0.8	3.5
14 years	1.6	2.0	1.7	1.8
15 years	2.0	1.2	0.4	1.2
16 years	1.0	1.2	1.7	1.2
17 years	0.4	1.6	0.4	0.6
18 years	0.6	1.2	0.4	0.6
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	100.0	100.0	97.9	99.4
White	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.6
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

Puerto Rico

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	—	—	98.0	96.5
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	2.0	3.5
Number	—	—	5,979	5,573

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	0.18	0.06
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	99.82	99.94
Number	—	—	8,180	7,979

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	7.4	8.7	9.5	9.6
Guardianship	0.0	<.1	0.3	0.1
Reunification	88.1	86.8	85.8	84.2
Other	2.0	2.1	3.4	3.3
Missing data	2.5	2.3	1.1	2.6
Number	1,937	1,748	1,521	1,472

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	7.3	6.2	6.0	13.5
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0
Reunification	85.0	85.6	82.1	76.1
Other	4.7	4.8	8.7	7.1
Missing data	3.1	3.4	2.2	3.2
Number	193	146	184	155

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Reunification	90.7	88.3	90.5	84.4
Other	6.4	7.4	8.7	11.7
Missing data	2.9	4.3	0.9	3.9
Number	204	188	231	179

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	73.9	43.5	66.7	46.4
Children older than 12 at entry	26.1	52.2	33.3	42.9
Missing data	0.0	4.3	0.0	10.7
Number	23	23	27	28

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Reunification	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	66.7	100.0	100.0	100.0		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	6	2	2	3		

	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.5	8.8	9.5	9.6	0.0	5.6	6.3	18.2		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	88.1	86.8	85.8	84.2	100.0	88.9	87.5	81.8		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9	2.1	3.3	3.4	0.0	0.0	6.3	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	2.3	1.1	2.7	0.0	5.6	0.0	0.0		
Number	2	0	0	0	1,912	1,722	1,503	1,454	17	18	16	11		

	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	0.0	83.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	16.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	46.5	44.8	45.7	38.6
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	33.5	32.3	30.6	39.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	11.0	11.3	9.7	9.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	3.4	3.8	6.2	2.2
48 or more mos.	5.3	7.5	7.7	9.4
Missing data	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2
Number	1,707	1,518	1,305	1,240

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	89.7	92.6	91.5	91.5
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	3.4	1.9	1.8	1.2
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	5.2	4.5	5.7	4.8
Missing data	1.6	1.0	1.0	2.4
Number	2,138	1,936	1,877	2,198

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	2.8	2.6	2.1	0.7
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	20.8	15.1	8.3	8.5
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	27.1	19.7	17.4	17.6
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	16.0	17.8	17.4	17.6
48 or more mos.	33.3	44.7	54.9	55.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	144	152	144	142

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	99.6	99.6	99.5	99.7	99.8	99.7	99.4	99.2	99.0	99.3	99.3	99.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,624	2,364	2,261	2,489	1,804	1,464	1,396	1,452	5,157	4,690	4,518	4,035	16	16	5	3

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	0.6	0.4	0.9	0.3
Institutions	8.1	6.8	7.6	6.5
Other settings	91.3	92.8	91.5	93.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,555	1,396	1,401	1,562

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	118.3	114.7	104.2
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	60.0	57.9	56.4	49.7
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	9.9	10.1	10.5	12.0
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	22.3	19.4	19.9	15.8
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	0.6	1.4	1.3	1.4

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	38.6	66.8	60.0
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	23.6	17.8	10.4	9.2
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	35.8	45.1	51.8	51.6
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	2.4	3.1	3.4	3.8
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	0.1	0.0	0.6	0.3
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	77.4	65.0	79.3	78.7

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	142.7	82.4	109.0
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	8.1	9.1	9.3	9.0
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	73.5	50.0	71.4	45.7

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	150.1	150.1	150.0
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	99.7	99.7	99.5	99.7
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	99.8	99.7	99.6	99.2
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	98.9	99.3	99.3	99.3

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Rhode Island

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	245,339	240,970	236,719	233,115
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Asian	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.0
Black	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	16.6	17.2	17.9	18.5
White	70.5	69.7	68.8	68.1
Two or more races	2.6	2.7	2.8	2.8
Child population in poverty (%)	21.0	19.5	15.1	17.5

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	3,068	3,366	4,400	3,857
Children in foster care on 9/30	2,414	2,509	2,842	2,722
Children adopted	235	219	258	239

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	23
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	830
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	3,567
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	23
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	902
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	3,862

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	9,920	40.4 per 1,000	10,734	44.5 per 1,000	12,996	54.9 per 1,000	11,808	50.7 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	3,068	12.5 per 1,000	3,366	14.0 per 1,000	4,400	18.6 per 1,000	3,857	16.6 per 1,000
Child fatalities	3	1.2 per 100,000	5	2.1 per 100,000	0	0.0 per 100,000	0	0.0 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	12.2	12.5	12.0	13.8
1 year	4.9	5.4	7.6	6.9
2 years	6.0	5.9	6.9	6.6
3 years	6.4	5.7	5.4	6.3
4 years	6.0	6.7	6.6	6.0
5 years	5.4	6.4	5.8	5.7
6 years	5.4	5.6	6.1	5.5
7 years	5.5	5.4	5.2	5.7
8 years	5.0	5.0	5.5	5.1
9 years	5.9	5.3	4.5	4.7
10 years	5.4	4.8	5.6	4.3
11 years	5.4	4.6	4.2	4.3
12 years	4.9	3.9	4.7	4.5
13 years	5.2	5.8	4.2	4.7
14 years	5.0	5.0	4.8	4.8
15 years	4.8	4.5	4.3	5.1
16 years	4.1	4.4	4.3	3.5
17 years	2.4	2.6	2.2	2.1
18+ years	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.1
Missing data	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.2
Number	3,068	3,366	4,400	3,857

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.2	0.7	0.6	0.5
Asian	2.0	1.6	1.5	1.8
Black	12.2	11.6	12.3	11.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	22.1	21.6	21.0	24.2
White	55.4	55.9	55.5	52.4
Two or more races	3.2	3.7	4.8	4.9
Missing data	3.9	4.8	4.3	4.8
Number	3,068	3,366	4,400	3,857

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.1
Medical neglect	1.8	2.5	1.5	1.7
Neglect	77.0	82.9	85.7	87.5
Physical abuse	19.4	14.2	12.5	9.3
Sexual abuse	5.3	5.0	5.7	5.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	2.8	2.4	1.0	1.4
Number	3,068	3,366	4,400	3,857

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	33.5	36.9	45.7	62.6
Median	<24	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	2,227	2,306	2,400	2,708	1,649	1,561	2,024	1,744	1,462	1,358	1,582	1,730	2,414	2,509	2,842	2,722
Median length of stay (months)	14.7	15.1	15.5	12.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9.9	10.7	9.6	10.9	14.7	15.2	12.5	14.6

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.3	5.8	5.3	5.3	12.2	14.3	12.2	14.3	4.0	6.0	4.6	4.7	5.8	5.4	5.4	5.6
1 year	5.2	4.1	5.3	6.0	3.4	3.7	5.5	4.6	4.7	6.7	6.1	5.8	4.0	5.1	5.9	5.2
2 years	3.8	3.7	3.4	4.1	4.4	4.0	4.3	4.6	5.7	3.7	5.1	5.5	3.6	3.3	4.0	5.3
3 years	3.5	3.3	3.3	3.6	3.0	2.9	3.6	3.2	4.7	4.2	4.1	4.0	3.3	3.3	3.5	3.6
4 years	3.3	3.1	3.5	3.3	3.3	3.5	4.1	2.6	3.5	3.1	3.5	2.8	3.1	3.5	3.3	3.4
5 years	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.7	2.5	3.3	2.7	2.8	3.3	2.8	2.7	3.4	3.1	2.8	3.5	3.2
6 years	2.9	2.6	3.4	3.4	1.9	2.7	3.3	1.8	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.7	2.5	3.3	3.2	2.9
7 years	2.5	2.5	2.9	3.6	2.4	2.7	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.3	3.0	2.9	2.4	2.9	3.5	3.2
8 years	2.6	2.3	2.7	3.0	2.3	2.6	2.9	2.6	2.3	1.9	2.6	2.0	2.3	2.6	2.9	3.7
9 years	2.8	2.6	2.6	3.0	2.9	2.5	2.2	2.5	2.7	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.7	3.0	3.0
10 years	4.2	3.0	3.0	2.6	3.0	2.7	3.2	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.1	2.3	2.9	2.9	2.6	3.1
11 years	3.7	4.4	3.0	3.2	2.9	2.9	2.4	3.0	2.3	3.0	2.0	2.1	4.2	2.9	3.2	2.9
12 years	4.9	4.0	4.7	3.7	3.8	4.4	4.3	3.7	4.0	3.3	3.9	2.8	4.0	4.6	3.6	3.9
13 years	5.6	5.4	4.8	4.9	7.8	6.6	5.9	6.8	5.8	5.0	4.3	4.5	5.3	4.8	5.0	4.7
14 years	7.9	7.5	6.9	6.4	9.4	9.2	9.2	9.9	7.3	6.8	6.4	5.5	7.7	6.9	6.5	7.3
15 years	9.0	9.3	8.6	8.3	13.2	11.9	11.0	13.0	10.7	9.8	9.3	9.2	9.5	9.0	8.6	8.8
16 years	10.3	10.4	10.9	9.7	11.5	11.7	11.0	10.6	8.6	8.4	12.0	8.4	10.6	11.1	10.0	10.2
17 years	9.4	10.2	9.9	10.2	8.8	7.6	7.8	7.7	12.5	11.0	9.6	11.6	10.7	10.4	10.2	9.6
18 years	5.9	5.7	6.1	6.1	0.7	0.7	1.1	0.9	4.7	6.9	6.6	8.7	5.7	6.2	6.2	5.1
19 years	3.1	4.0	3.5	3.3	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.2	2.4	2.9	2.5	3.4	4.1	3.3	3.2	3.2
20+ years	1.7	2.2	2.7	2.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.8	2.9	3.0	3.4	2.1	2.6	2.0	1.7
Missing data	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	1.6	1.6	1.7	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.2

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.1	1.1	1.5	1.1	0.8	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.5	<.1	1.1	0.6	1.2	1.6	1.1	1.1
Asian	1.8	1.4	1.9	1.6	1.7	2.4	2.1	2.3	2.2	1.5	2.7	2.0	1.5	2.0	1.6	1.8
Black	18.6	17.3	17.6	19.4	15.3	15.6	18.1	16.3	16.9	14.7	15.4	16.4	17.4	17.6	19.2	19.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.3	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	18.4	19.0	20.9	22.2	19.7	21.7	23.3	25.2	19.9	20.2	21.5	23.7	18.4	20.0	22.2	23.2
White	54.7	54.2	51.4	48.6	54.2	52.0	48.9	48.1	53.8	56.3	52.1	49.8	54.9	51.8	49.2	47.6
Two or more races	4.1	5.1	4.6	5.5	4.2	3.9	4.7	4.9	3.8	5.0	4.9	5.5	4.3	4.4	4.5	5.1
Unknown	1.3	1.8	2.0	1.5	3.4	3.2	2.2	2.5	2.3	2.0	2.2	1.8	2.1	2.6	2.0	1.9
Missing data	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.5	0.0	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	331	407	404	399
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	172	215	201	176

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.0	1.5	0.5	1.3
1 year	6.0	8.1	7.4	5.3
2 years	6.0	2.7	6.4	7.0
3 years	4.2	5.7	4.5	4.8
4 years	5.1	6.1	5.0	5.5
5 years	4.5	5.2	6.2	5.3
6 years	4.8	6.1	6.4	5.0
7 years	4.5	6.6	6.9	6.8
8 years	4.5	4.7	5.7	7.3
9 years	4.5	4.7	4.0	4.3
10 years	6.0	5.7	3.7	6.3
11 years	7.9	6.4	6.9	4.8
12 years	7.3	7.6	5.4	6.8
13 years	5.1	7.1	9.7	5.3
14 years	8.8	5.2	7.2	10.0
15 years	7.6	7.6	5.7	6.8
16 years	6.0	5.2	5.7	4.5
17 years	3.9	3.9	2.7	3.3

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	2.4	3.7	3.0	3.0
Asian	0.3	1.0	1.0	1.0
Black	21.8	19.2	21.0	20.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.9	0.2	0.0	0.3
Hispanic (of any race)	19.9	22.9	26.5	24.1
White	47.7	45.0	38.4	41.4
Two or more races	4.8	5.4	8.7	8.8
Unknown	2.1	2.7	1.5	1.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	235	219	258	239

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.6	3.2	2.3	0.8
1 year	11.5	16.0	17.4	11.7
2 years	14.9	12.8	14.3	20.5
3 years	13.6	9.6	8.9	9.2
4 years	7.7	9.6	8.5	7.5
5 years	7.2	5.0	5.4	9.2
6 years	6.4	5.9	5.4	5.0
7 years	4.7	5.9	8.5	7.9
8 years	3.0	2.3	6.2	4.2
9 years	6.8	4.1	6.2	3.3
10 years	3.0	2.3	2.7	2.1
11 years	3.8	7.3	1.9	2.5
12 years	4.7	3.7	4.7	3.3
13 years	3.8	3.7	1.9	3.8
14 years	1.7	1.8	0.8	2.1
15 years	2.6	4.1	0.4	2.1
16 years	1.3	1.4	0.8	2.1
17 years	0.9	0.5	2.3	2.1
18 years	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.4
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.9	3.1	2.1
Asian	0.9	1.4	1.2	2.5
Black	18.3	18.3	14.0	18.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	1.4	0.4	0.4
Hispanic (of any race)	18.7	22.8	20.5	25.1
White	50.6	47.9	51.9	36.0
Two or more races	8.1	5.9	7.4	14.6
Unknown	0.4	0.0	0.8	0.4
Missing data	3.0	1.4	0.8	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

Rhode Island

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	92.2	91.1	87.3	86.9
Children with one or more recurrences	7.8	8.9	12.7	13.1
Number	1,416	1,548	1,880	1,752

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	1.29	1.55	1.45	1.30
Children not maltreated while in foster care	98.71	98.45	98.55	98.70
Number	3,876	3,867	4,424	4,452

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	16.2	16.1	16.2	13.5
Guardianship	2.1	1.6	2.0	2.5
Reunification	64.9	66.0	67.3	67.6
Other	16.8	16.3	14.4	16.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1
Number	1,462	1,358	1,582	1,730

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	16.2	19.7	20.6	19.9
Guardianship	0.4	0.6	1.2	1.8
Reunification	61.1	55.2	54.9	55.3
Other	22.3	24.5	23.2	23.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	475	466	495	559

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.3	0.8	0.9	0.8
Guardianship	0.7	1.1	1.4	1.7
Reunification	70.3	71.1	73.7	70.4
Other	28.7	27.0	23.9	27.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	698	651	773	861

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	35.4	25.2	25.2	25.5
Children older than 12 at entry	64.6	74.8	74.8	74.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	82	103	119	161

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	41.2	45.5	6.3	15.0	7.0	17.6	17.4	19.5	14.4	14.1		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	11.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.7	0.0	1.6	0.5	2.5	1.4		
Reunification	62.5	100.0	29.4	54.5	71.9	65.0	65.1	58.8	61.9	59.0	70.0	65.5		
Other	37.5	0.0	17.6	0.0	21.9	20.0	23.3	23.5	19.0	21.0	13.2	19.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	8	1	17	11	32	20	43	34	247	200	243	284		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	75.0	100.0	100.0	17.2	15.3	18.8	14.4	15.5	14.1	15.3	10.1		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	1.5	1.2	2.4	2.2	2.2	1.8	3.0		
Reunification	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	62.2	68.6	70.3	70.7	67.0	67.0	66.0	68.5		
Other	0.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	18.6	14.6	9.7	12.4	15.4	16.6	16.9	18.2		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1		
Number	0	4	1	1	291	274	340	410	787	764	824	861		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	9.1	7.4	2.9	6.3	30.4	30.9	26.0	35.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	5.7	0.0	7.1	0.0	1.3	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	63.6	88.9	80.0	81.3	55.4	58.8	64.9	52.1	100.0	0.0	50.0	100.0		
Other	27.3	3.7	11.4	12.5	7.1	10.3	7.8	9.4	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	33	27	35	32	56	68	77	96	8	0	2	1		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	70.6	73.5	75.8	72.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	19.7	18.1	14.6	19.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	6.2	5.2	4.9	4.5
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.7	1.5	2.3	1.5
48 or more mos.	1.3	1.7	2.4	2.2
Missing data	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	949	896	1,065	1,169

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	64.4	68.9	72.3	70.1
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	21.0	16.4	13.4	18.1
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	13.9	13.8	13.4	11.5
Missing data	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.3
Number	1,649	1,561	2,024	1,744

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	7.6	6.9	8.2	3.0
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	42.2	41.7	39.3	28.6
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	27.0	28.4	25.7	39.3
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	9.7	12.4	12.8	15.4
48 or more mos.	13.1	10.6	14.0	13.7
Missing data	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	237	218	257	234

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	85.3	86.9	85.7	84.2	63.3	68.6	67.5	64.0	32.1	32.0	33.3	35.4	90.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
Children with 3 or more placements	13.4	13.0	14.2	15.8	36.7	31.4	32.5	36.0	67.8	68.0	66.5	64.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	1.3	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,886	1,830	2,306	2,125	840	856	881	1,058	1,130	1,174	1,237	1,269	20	7	0	0

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	17.9	16.7	14.8	16.5
Institutions	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.0
Other settings	81.9	83.0	85.0	83.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	781	792	1,064	878

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	101.8	108.5	102.9
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	69.8	73.5	76.2	73.3
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	6.6	6.3	5.7	6.9
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	48.6	48.6	46.8	46.8
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	21.2	24.9	22.6	23.0

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	134.9	127.6	119.1
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	50.0	48.6	47.7	31.8
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	24.1	25.0	24.4	28.1
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	18.8	16.2	19.2	20.9
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	8.9	12.2	11.3	12.9
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	79.9	78.8	68.2	69.2

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	114.4	125.7	128.4
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	20.3	17.8	22.4	23.2
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	97.6	97.0	98.7	96.7
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	36.2	40.5	33.8	29.9

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	99.9	99.9	97.4
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	85.7	86.2	85.3	83.7
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	63.6	69.2	67.8	64.3
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	33.5	33.4	36.5	37.4

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Patricia Martinez, Director
Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families

The following are Rhode Island's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

The data submitted to AFCARS for Rhode Island's children in foster care include not only traditional child welfare youth, but also juvenile justice, children's mental health, and developmentally disabled youth. We believe that these additional populations impact many of the outcome measures including average length of stay (Measure 3), re-entry into foster care (Measure 4.2), as well as, the number of youth in group home settings (Measure 7.1).

After seeing significant increases in the number of child maltreatment victims from 2004 thru 2006, Rhode Island saw a decrease in victims in 2007. We attribute this decline to an increase in preventive programs and referrals to community-based intervention services.

Outcomes measure 1.1: Rhode Island continues to see a high rate of recurrence of maltreatment and has developed strategies to address this problem. Additional prevention and community-based resources are beginning to reverse this trend. The percentage of youth experiencing physical abuse declined from 19.4% in 2004 to 9.3% in 2007. The vast majority of maltreatment continues to be neglect which accounted for 87.5% of all maltreatment in 2007.

Outcomes measure 5.1: Rhode Island has traditionally ranked very high in the timeliness of adoptions with the majority of adoptions occurring within 24 months of removal. In 2007, the majority of adoptions occurred between 24 and 36 months after removal. We believe that high caseloads during this period of time resulted in this decline. The department has reduced caseload numbers by hiring additional staff and creating permanency support teams and expects to see improvement in this outcome.

South Carolina

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	1,028,461	1,036,276	1,048,614	1,059,917
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Asian	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.2
Black	34.5	34.0	33.4	32.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	4.3	4.8	5.4	6.1
White	58.0	57.9	57.7	57.5
Two or more races	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.0
Child population in poverty (%)	22.8	22.7	22.1	20.9

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	9,950	10,759	10,795	12,762
Children in foster care on 9/30	4,635	4,757	4,920	5,127
Children adopted	366	415	425	405

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	82
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	32
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	38,462	37.4 per 1,000	38,238	36.9 per 1,000	37,922	36.2 per 1,000	41,579	39.2 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	9,950	9.7 per 1,000	10,759	10.4 per 1,000	10,795	10.3 per 1,000	12,762	12.0 per 1,000
Child fatalities	21	2.0 per 100,000	23	2.2 per 100,000	19	1.8 per 100,000	19	1.8 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	12.7	13.4	13.7	14.9
1 year	6.5	6.9	6.9	7.0
2 years	6.3	6.5	6.6	6.9
3 years	5.8	5.7	5.4	6.0
4 years	6.0	6.3	5.5	5.6
5 years	5.7	5.9	6.7	6.4
6 years	5.7	5.8	6.0	6.2
7 years	5.3	5.5	5.4	5.9
8 years	5.0	4.8	5.1	4.9
9 years	5.0	4.5	4.7	4.6
10 years	4.9	4.3	4.3	4.1
11 years	4.6	4.4	4.1	3.9
12 years	5.2	4.7	4.8	3.8
13 years	5.4	5.4	4.7	4.4
14 years	5.1	5.1	5.1	4.7
15 years	4.8	5.0	4.5	4.2
16 years	3.3	3.6	3.3	3.5
17 years	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.4
18+ years	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Missing data	1.2	1.0	1.8	1.4
Number	9,950	10,759	10,795	12,762

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Asian	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Black	39.1	36.9	37.7	38.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	2.8	3.2	3.4	3.5
White	53.2	54.0	52.4	52.3
Two or more races	2.9	3.0	4.0	3.5
Missing data	1.6	2.4	2.2	2.3
Number	9,950	10,759	10,795	12,762

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
Medical neglect	3.7	4.0	3.9	3.8
Neglect	67.5	69.8	72.2	72.8
Physical abuse	32.3	30.0	30.3	29.8
Sexual abuse	8.5	8.4	7.2	5.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5
Number	9,950	10,759	10,795	12,762

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	13.8	14.1	50.2	50.1
Median	<24	<24	<24	<24

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	4,678	4,594	4,694	4,768	3,108	3,234	3,485	3,773	3,151	3,071	3,259	3,414	4,635	4,757	4,920	5,127
Median length of stay (months)	18.2	18.7	17.5	16.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.4	6.4	6.1	5.9	18.6	17.3	16.9	15.4

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.4	5.2	5.6	6.6	14.8	15.4	16.4	17.1	6.0	6.2	6.9	7.9	5.2	5.7	6.6	6.5
1 year	6.0	5.4	6.5	6.6	7.2	7.5	7.1	7.2	6.3	6.6	6.6	6.6	5.5	6.7	6.5	7.3
2 years	5.8	6.2	5.5	6.3	6.1	6.4	6.7	6.9	6.4	6.9	7.1	7.9	6.3	5.7	6.3	6.7
3 years	5.3	5.2	5.5	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.5	6.7	5.8	6.1	6.4	5.1	5.5	5.1	5.9
4 years	3.9	4.3	4.6	5.1	4.7	5.3	4.8	4.6	5.4	5.2	5.2	5.2	4.4	4.6	4.9	4.5
5 years	3.7	3.8	4.2	4.6	4.5	4.8	5.7	5.2	4.9	5.3	5.9	5.5	3.9	4.2	4.4	4.8
6 years	4.1	4.2	4.0	4.3	5.7	4.7	5.0	5.6	4.3	5.0	4.9	6.0	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.3
7 years	3.5	4.5	4.0	3.9	4.7	4.2	5.1	5.5	4.3	4.7	5.0	5.7	4.5	3.9	3.9	4.2
8 years	3.7	3.4	4.1	4.2	4.3	3.6	4.5	4.0	4.1	3.9	4.3	4.3	3.5	4.0	4.0	3.8
9 years	4.0	3.9	3.3	4.0	4.2	3.6	3.7	4.0	3.9	3.9	4.2	4.5	3.9	3.2	3.9	3.9
10 years	4.6	4.0	4.0	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.7	3.4	4.1	3.2	3.9	3.1	4.1	4.0	3.6	4.0
11 years	4.6	5.0	4.3	3.7	4.3	4.6	3.3	3.6	3.3	3.7	3.8	3.4	5.0	4.3	3.6	4.0
12 years	5.6	5.1	5.4	4.3	4.9	4.5	4.3	3.9	4.2	4.6	4.0	3.2	5.1	5.3	4.3	3.8
13 years	7.2	6.2	5.6	6.1	6.2	6.2	5.3	4.9	5.4	4.4	3.8	4.2	6.2	5.6	6.0	4.6
14 years	7.5	7.9	7.4	6.5	6.2	6.4	6.3	5.8	5.1	5.2	4.8	4.4	8.0	7.3	6.3	6.9
15 years	8.0	8.5	8.7	8.7	6.5	7.2	6.7	5.8	4.7	5.3	5.2	4.9	8.5	8.8	8.5	7.1
16 years	9.3	8.5	9.3	9.5	5.2	5.4	4.7	5.5	5.3	4.9	4.3	5.0	8.5	9.2	9.3	9.0
17 years	8.3	8.3	8.1	6.5	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.4	7.0	3.5	8.1	8.5	8.2	8.0	8.5	8.7
18 years	0.3	0.2	<.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.5	11.6	5.9	3.3	0.2	<.1	0.1	0.0
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.2	<.1
Asian	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	<.1
Black	53.4	50.3	48.4	46.9	41.5	41.0	42.4	40.9	46.2	43.5	43.1	42.9	50.3	48.3	47.7	45.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	2.2	2.8	3.8	3.6	4.4	6.2	4.2	5.0	3.5	4.7	4.6	4.7	2.8	3.8	3.6	3.9
White	41.1	42.6	42.5	43.3	48.8	47.2	46.8	47.5	46.6	47.6	47.0	46.0	42.5	42.5	42.6	44.6
Two or more races	2.9	3.9	4.7	5.6	4.2	5.0	5.6	4.8	2.9	3.7	4.4	4.8	3.9	4.8	5.5	5.6
Unknown	<.1	<.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.6	1.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.9	<.1	0.1	0.3	0.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	1,769	1,819	1,750	1,744
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	834	844	788	763

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.2	3.2	3.0	4.2
1 year	6.5	7.5	6.9	7.7
2 years	7.8	6.9	7.8	8.2
3 years	7.8	7.6	6.3	7.5
4 years	5.8	7.0	6.7	5.4
5 years	5.8	5.2	5.9	6.3
6 years	4.2	5.1	4.8	5.6
7 years	5.9	4.7	5.1	4.9
8 years	4.4	5.8	4.7	4.8
9 years	5.2	4.0	5.3	5.4
10 years	4.9	5.9	4.5	5.7
11 years	6.7	5.3	5.4	4.8
12 years	6.1	7.1	6.1	4.8
13 years	6.5	6.4	7.5	5.7
14 years	7.2	5.7	5.9	7.2
15 years	6.3	6.9	5.9	5.4
16 years	4.0	3.9	5.2	3.2
17 years	1.6	1.9	2.9	3.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0
Asian	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
Black	55.8	50.9	47.9	44.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	2.4	3.6	3.9	3.8
White	37.0	39.9	41.5	43.5
Two or more races	4.5	5.4	6.2	7.6
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	366	415	425	405

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.7	1.9	1.9	1.5
1 year	8.2	8.7	7.8	8.9
2 years	14.2	11.3	11.8	14.3
3 years	15.3	11.6	10.4	12.3
4 years	9.0	10.4	11.5	10.6
5 years	6.6	11.3	11.1	8.4
6 years	5.7	6.7	7.5	7.4
7 years	5.7	5.5	4.7	6.2
8 years	5.2	5.8	5.2	4.4
9 years	4.1	4.6	4.7	5.7
10 years	5.2	4.3	4.5	4.0
11 years	3.6	2.4	4.7	3.0
12 years	3.6	6.5	3.8	4.0
13 years	3.3	3.9	4.2	2.2
14 years	3.3	2.7	2.6	2.2
15 years	1.4	1.2	2.1	2.0
16 years	1.1	0.7	0.5	1.5
17 years	1.6	0.5	0.9	1.5
18 years	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.0
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0
Black	45.9	49.4	42.1	39.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	1.1	4.1	3.5	4.4
White	48.4	41.0	47.3	48.6
Two or more races	4.6	4.8	6.4	6.9
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

South Carolina

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	97.8	97.2	97.4	97.2
Children with one or more recurrences	2.2	2.8	2.6	2.8
Number	4,777	5,199	5,114	6,326

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.49	0.57	0.18	0.19
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.51	99.43	99.82	99.81
Number	7,786	7,828	8,179	8,541

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	11.9	13.6	13.2	12.7
Guardianship	1.0	1.3	1.1	1.1
Reunification	74.3	71.7	73.9	76.0
Other	12.8	13.3	11.8	10.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	3,151	3,071	3,259	3,414

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	13.5	19.0	5.6	17.4
Guardianship	0.0	1.3	1.4	4.3
Reunification	18.3	13.9	25.4	37.0
Other	68.3	65.8	67.6	41.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	104	79	71	46

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.7	0.0	0.5	0.5
Guardianship	1.9	1.2	0.8	1.2
Reunification	68.5	67.6	69.3	69.7
Other	28.9	31.2	29.4	28.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	851	821	788	802

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	39.1	36.6	38.9	30.9
Children older than 12 at entry	60.9	63.4	61.1	69.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	348	361	347	314

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/American Indian				2004	Asian			2004	Black			2004	2005	2006	2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007				
Adoption	0.0	75.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30.0	0.0	11.7	15.4	13.0	11.9				
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.7	14.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	1.0	1.1	1.5				
Reunification	100.0	0.0	75.0	66.7	85.7	80.0	70.0	100.0	71.6	67.2	70.0	73.7				
Other	0.0	25.0	25.0	6.7	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	15.9	16.3	16.0	12.9				
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Number	6	4	4	15	7	5	10	10	1,456	1,336	1,405	1,463				
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander				2004	Hispanic (of any race)			2004	White			2004	2005	2006	2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007				
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.6	11.7	10.1	11.7	12.5	11.8	13.2	13.5				
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	2.0	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.0	0.5				
Reunification	100.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	90.0	75.2	82.6	81.5	75.5	75.2	76.5	76.9				
Other	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	6.4	11.7	5.4	5.6	10.6	11.5	9.3	9.0				
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Number	4	0	2	0	110	145	149	162	1,467	1,461	1,533	1,570				
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races			2004	Missing Data			2004	2005	2006	2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007		2005	2006	2007				
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3	18.7	18.3	18.8	17.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Guardianship	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	2.1	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Reunification	80.0	100.0	100.0	93.3	73.6	76.5	74.3	78.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Other	10.0	0.0	0.0	3.3	7.7	3.5	4.9	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
Number	10	5	12	30	91	115	144	164	0	0	0	0				

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	79.0	80.8	79.1	81.8
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	13.9	12.3	15.0	13.4
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	4.5	4.0	3.7	3.2
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.1	1.7	1.6	1.2
48 or more mos.	1.5	1.1	0.7	0.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,340	2,203	2,408	2,595

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	83.6	84.1	86.6	84.0
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	6.5	5.2	5.4	4.3
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	9.7	10.2	7.9	8.6
Missing data	0.2	0.4	<.1	3.1
Number	3,108	3,234	3,485	3,773

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	3.2	2.1	2.3	1.6
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	16.5	13.4	13.7	14.3
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	25.5	28.4	28.8	27.4
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	24.5	20.8	21.6	28.0
48 or more mos.	30.3	35.3	33.5	28.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	376	419	430	435

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	81.2	80.1	79.8	78.2	46.4	46.9	45.4	47.2	25.3	25.9	25.0	25.2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	18.7	19.9	20.1	21.8	53.6	53.1	54.6	52.8	74.7	74.1	75.0	74.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	3,601	3,726	3,990	4,371	1,439	1,357	1,504	1,569	2,732	2,738	2,684	2,600	14	7	1	1

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	10.9	10.2	9.0	8.8
Institutions	9.6	9.1	13.0	10.1
Other settings	79.4	80.7	78.0	81.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,295	2,352	2,608	2,862

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	140.4	140.7	141.3
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	74.7	76.8	74.6	77.9
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.7
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	59.0	55.8	55.3	54.3
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	9.8	7.3	7.6	9.1

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	88.9	66.6	93.2
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	19.7	15.5	16.0	15.9
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	37.1	39.5	38.8	38.7
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	13.5	16.2	16.2	17.3
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	10.6	10.6	9.9	10.6
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	41.6	51.3	46.3	43.3

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	77.0	72.3	74.8
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	17.9	20.4	20.8	20.6
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	86.7	91.0	85.3	88.7
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	62.4	61.3	60.6	50.8

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	79.3	78.3	77.8
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	78.6	77.2	77.1	75.2
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	46.4	46.9	45.4	47.2
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	25.3	26.0	25.0	25.2

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

South Carolina

STATE COMMENT

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State Director
South Carolina Department of Social Services

The following are South Carolina's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

- Outcome Measure 3.2: Percentage of all children with a diagnosed disability exiting foster care who were discharged to a permanent home. The under-reporting of children with a diagnosed disability is a contributing factor to this measure. SC technical assistance staff is working with direct service staff to stress the importance of entering this data.
- Outcome Measure 3.4: Percentage of all children who were emancipated from foster care who entered care when they were age 12 or younger. The age of majority in SC is age 18; however, children who remain in care past age 18 are coded for AFCARS reporting as having exited care due to “emancipation” on their 18th birthday (per federal requirements).
- Outcome Measure 7.1: Percentage of all children entering foster care at age 12 or younger who were placed in group homes or institutions. SC recognizes the importance of all children residing in family settings. DSS has begun a statewide recruitment plan in order to provide the much needed homes for South Carolina's foster children.

SC has also conducted a statewide placement survey in order to better understand local placement decisions.

- Composite 2: Timeliness of adoption, all measures. SC has created permanency teams who have implemented processes focused on improving timeliness of adoption and will continue to monitor the progress in this area.
- Composite 3: Achieving permanency for children in Foster Care for long periods of time, all measures. SC has implemented processes focused on achieving permanency for children and is monitoring progress. SC provides transitional services to youth.
- Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care, all measures. SC has implemented a statewide recruitment plan based on recommendations from the Governor's Task Force on Children in Foster Care and Adoption Services. SC continues to monitor progress. SC has received federal technical assistance with AFCARS and SC is researching our system to improve our data.

South Dakota

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	195,843	195,592	196,231	196,890
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	13.5	13.4	13.3	13.2
Asian	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8
Black	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	3.8	4.2	4.4	4.6
White	78.0	77.5	77.1	76.8
Two or more races	2.6	2.7	2.8	2.8
Child population in poverty (%)	14.8	18.2	16.8	16.8

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	1,917	1,617	1,529	1,485
Children in foster care on 9/30	1,582	1,704	1,648	1,569
Children adopted	176	113	150	159

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	36
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	65
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	8,355	42.7 per 1,000	8,048	41.1 per 1,000	7,135	36.4 per 1,000	6,869	34.9 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	1,917	9.8 per 1,000	1,617	8.3 per 1,000	1,529	7.8 per 1,000	1,485	7.5 per 1,000
Child fatalities	3	1.5 per 100,000	5	2.6 per 100,000	1	0.5 per 100,000	8	4.1 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	11.8	16.6	15.6	14.0
1 year	8.5	8.8	8.9	9.9
2 years	7.1	8.2	9.2	9.2
3 years	8.0	8.3	6.9	8.6
4 years	7.5	6.0	6.1	6.7
5 years	5.9	6.3	6.3	6.5
6 years	6.4	4.9	6.1	7.5
7 years	4.8	5.8	5.1	4.3
8 years	5.3	4.3	5.0	5.2
9 years	5.1	4.5	4.3	4.3
10 years	4.9	3.6	4.3	4.1
11 years	4.3	3.3	3.8	4.0
12 years	3.9	4.1	4.0	3.2
13 years	4.7	4.4	4.6	2.8
14 years	3.5	2.6	3.4	3.0
15 years	2.7	3.3	2.5	2.6
16 years	2.7	2.2	2.3	2.6
17 years	1.6	1.5	1.2	1.1
18+ years	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1
Missing data	1.3	1.1	0.5	0.5
Number	1,917	1,617	1,529	1,485

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	40.4	50.8	51.3	51.2
Asian	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.3
Black	1.9	2.7	2.9	3.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	5.1	4.6	6.3	5.9
White	40.6	34.4	30.2	30.3
Two or more races	3.8	4.8	5.4	6.2
Missing data	7.9	2.4	3.9	2.7
Number	1,917	1,617	1,529	1,485

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	14.1	3.4	3.0	2.1
Medical neglect	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Neglect	79.0	87.7	88.2	88.4
Physical abuse	14.6	12.2	12.2	11.6
Sexual abuse	4.0	3.9	4.3	3.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,917	1,617	1,529	1,485

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	277.8	194.0	196.6	130.5
Median	>168 but<192	>120 but<144	>120 but<144	>48 but<72

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	1,447	1,516	1,651	1,581	1,274	1,368	1,356	1,392	1,139	1,180	1,359	1,404	1,582	1,704	1,648	1,569
Median length of stay (months)	13.7	14.6	12.9	15.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.3	7.3	6.3	6.3	14.2	12.5	14.9	13.7

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.1	4.6	5.6	4.6	13.0	14.5	14.2	16.5	6.2	6.2	6.8	7.7	4.9	5.6	4.7	5.9
1 year	6.8	5.5	7.1	7.5	8.8	8.5	10.3	9.4	8.2	7.0	8.7	7.8	5.9	7.3	7.5	7.5
2 years	6.9	6.4	6.8	7.0	6.8	8.8	9.2	11.0	8.1	9.2	10.2	10.2	6.4	6.7	7.3	8.2
3 years	6.6	6.7	5.8	6.3	7.5	7.5	6.5	7.4	8.0	7.8	7.6	9.0	6.5	5.8	6.3	6.9
4 years	4.7	6.1	5.4	5.5	6.4	7.2	6.1	6.9	6.2	10.0	5.7	6.6	6.0	5.4	5.7	5.5
5 years	3.9	4.9	5.1	5.4	6.2	5.5	6.6	5.5	5.5	4.2	6.5	5.8	4.8	5.0	5.4	5.3
6 years	5.7	4.9	5.7	4.4	6.7	5.3	5.9	6.3	5.9	6.5	5.8	5.1	4.8	5.8	4.3	6.1
7 years	5.2	6.5	4.8	5.6	5.4	5.1	5.0	4.5	4.9	4.8	5.6	5.6	6.3	4.8	5.5	4.9
8 years	4.8	4.7	5.5	5.1	5.4	4.3	5.0	4.5	6.6	5.1	5.1	5.1	4.7	5.5	5.1	4.1
9 years	4.4	4.9	4.2	5.5	3.7	3.7	4.5	4.1	4.6	4.1	4.9	4.7	4.8	4.4	5.4	5.0
10 years	5.0	3.9	4.5	4.0	5.0	3.9	3.6	3.5	4.5	4.2	4.4	3.5	3.9	4.5	3.9	4.9
11 years	5.7	4.7	4.1	3.9	4.9	4.6	3.8	3.7	4.9	3.5	3.3	3.6	4.9	4.0	3.9	4.1
12 years	5.5	5.2	5.8	4.2	4.2	4.6	3.7	3.4	4.8	3.3	3.5	2.6	5.4	5.6	4.1	4.5
13 years	6.2	5.7	5.6	5.8	5.1	3.9	4.9	3.3	4.3	4.5	4.6	3.9	5.6	5.6	5.9	3.8
14 years	6.1	5.9	5.6	5.9	3.1	3.9	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.9	3.5	3.4	6.0	5.5	6.1	5.7
15 years	6.2	6.2	6.1	5.8	3.8	3.9	2.7	2.7	3.2	2.8	2.2	3.1	6.3	6.1	5.8	6.1
16 years	6.6	6.1	6.1	6.3	2.1	2.8	3.2	2.4	2.7	3.1	3.8	3.3	6.1	6.1	6.1	5.4
17 years	4.8	5.7	5.0	6.1	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.3	3.1	2.8	4.1	5.3	5.5	5.0	5.9	5.3
18 years	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	4.4	6.4	3.3	3.3	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.5
19 years	0.0	0.4	0.3	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.3	<.1	0.2
20+ years	<.1	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2	<.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.3	<.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	53.4	53.4	51.2	50.3	53.4	51.9	50.1	54.3	52.2	53.6	50.3	51.5	54.2	52.0	51.0	52.8
Asian	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.2	0.0	0.4	<.1	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	<.1
Black	1.9	1.5	2.3	2.3	2.0	3.4	4.4	4.2	2.5	2.5	4.3	3.1	1.5	2.2	2.4	3.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	6.0	7.3	7.3	7.9	6.8	7.1	6.9	6.8	5.3	7.3	6.0	8.4	7.1	7.1	8.1	6.4
White	32.9	33.1	33.0	32.1	33.8	32.0	31.1	28.3	34.4	32.2	33.0	30.6	32.5	32.9	31.4	30.0
Two or more races	5.6	4.6	6.1	7.3	3.7	5.3	7.1	5.7	5.0	3.6	5.9	5.8	4.5	5.8	7.1	7.3
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	<.1	0.2	0.0	0.2	<.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.3	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	480	472	507	452
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	423	392	446	402

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.7	1.3	1.8	1.5
1 year	2.9	5.9	5.9	6.4
2 years	5.2	5.1	8.5	6.6
3 years	5.0	6.1	7.9	7.7
4 years	5.8	4.4	7.1	6.4
5 years	4.8	6.8	4.7	6.2
6 years	3.1	5.7	5.3	6.0
7 years	8.3	4.2	5.3	5.8
8 years	6.5	6.1	4.9	5.3
9 years	5.8	5.7	5.1	5.8
10 years	5.0	5.5	3.2	5.5
11 years	5.8	4.0	5.1	4.0
12 years	6.3	7.6	4.5	4.2
13 years	5.4	5.1	5.9	4.4
14 years	8.3	5.5	5.3	6.2
15 years	8.5	8.5	6.1	5.8
16 years	5.4	7.4	6.5	5.8
17 years	5.0	4.9	6.7	6.4

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	40.8	42.8	42.0	40.7
Asian	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	1.7	2.5	2.8	3.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	10.8	10.0	11.2	9.7
White	41.3	39.2	37.5	37.4
Two or more races	5.2	5.5	6.5	8.8
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	176	113	150	159

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.1	0.0	0.7	0.0
1 year	9.1	5.3	5.3	1.9
2 years	14.8	10.6	10.0	11.9
3 years	10.2	8.8	11.3	15.1
4 years	9.1	13.3	9.3	11.9
5 years	7.4	3.5	6.0	8.8
6 years	5.1	6.2	11.3	5.0
7 years	5.7	10.6	8.0	7.5
8 years	6.3	8.8	8.0	5.7
9 years	11.4	1.8	9.3	9.4
10 years	3.4	3.5	4.7	3.8
11 years	5.7	6.2	3.3	3.1
12 years	2.8	6.2	4.0	5.0
13 years	4.5	5.3	3.3	6.3
14 years	0.0	5.3	0.7	2.5
15 years	2.3	1.8	0.0	0.0
16 years	1.1	0.0	2.7	0.6
17 years	0.0	2.7	1.3	1.3
18 years	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	43.8	23.9	35.3	36.5
Asian	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0
Black	0.6	0.9	4.7	1.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	8.0	8.8	11.3	16.4
White	37.5	61.1	40.0	40.9
Two or more races	10.2	4.4	8.7	4.4
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

South Dakota

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	93.1	93.6	95.3	95.9
Children with one or more recurrences	6.9	6.4	4.7	4.1
Number	839	717	686	681

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.11	0.28	—	0.13
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.89	99.72	—	99.87
Number	2,721	2,884	—	2,973

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	11.5	9.6	11.0	11.4
Guardianship	6.9	10.8	9.1	6.3
Reunification	65.2	59.8	62.3	62.3
Other	16.3	19.8	17.4	19.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.1	<.1
Number	1,139	1,180	1,359	1,404

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	33.3	24.1	28.1	27.0
Guardianship	8.7	12.7	9.1	9.3
Reunification	31.9	27.8	37.2	34.7
Other	26.1	35.4	25.3	28.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.4
Number	138	158	285	248

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.5	1.0	1.9	0.9
Guardianship	7.0	5.6	7.0	6.4
Reunification	55.6	54.4	63.8	57.5
Other	36.9	39.0	26.8	34.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5
Number	187	195	213	219

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	22.7	34.9	43.2	36.8
Children older than 12 at entry	77.3	65.1	56.8	63.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	66	83	74	95

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	9.9	4.1	8.1	8.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	3.3	11.9	6.8		
Guardianship	10.4	14.8	9.7	6.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3	3.4	2.3		
Reunification	59.3	55.8	58.3	58.4	100.0	20.0	0.0	100.0	89.7	86.7	81.4	84.1		
Other	20.3	25.3	23.9	27.0	0.0	60.0	0.0	0.0	6.9	6.7	3.4	6.8		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	595	633	683	723	1	5	0	4	29	30	59	44		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.7	11.6	19.5	22.9	11.7	18.2	13.4	15.1		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.3	7.3	5.1	3.6	5.8	9.1	7.0		
Reunification	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	55.0	61.6	52.4	60.2	73.7	64.2	68.4	66.3		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.3	17.4	19.5	11.9	11.0	11.8	9.1	11.6		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	3	2	2	0	60	86	82	118	392	380	449	430		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.1	14.0	15.0	8.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.3	4.7	10.0	4.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	63.2	60.5	56.3	64.2	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.5	20.9	18.8	22.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	2	1	3	0	57	43	80	81	0	0	1	4		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	84.1	80.6	83.8	79.9
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	13.7	15.6	11.8	15.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1.7	2.8	2.7	3.0
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.6
48 or more mos.	0.1	0.7	1.2	0.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	743	706	847	875

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	77.9	77.8	80.8	77.4
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	13.5	13.5	8.6	10.1
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	7.7	8.2	10.2	11.3
Missing data	0.9	0.6	0.4	1.1
Number	1,274	1,368	1,356	1,392

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	1.5	0.9	1.3	2.5
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	29.0	25.7	19.3	13.8
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	37.4	39.8	40.0	53.8
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	21.4	21.2	26.0	17.5
48 or more mos.	10.7	12.4	13.3	12.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	131	113	150	160

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	82.7	78.9	81.0	86.0	49.9	49.9	41.4	46.0	21.5	19.2	22.8	22.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	17.3	21.1	19.0	14.0	50.1	50.1	58.6	54.0	78.5	80.8	77.2	77.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,476	1,586	1,615	1,617	525	533	596	531	716	761	794	818	4	4	2	7

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Institutions	16.4	14.4	13.0	14.2
Other settings	83.6	85.6	87.0	85.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,063	1,123	1,136	1,198

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	120.5	123.2	129.7
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	85.0	79.3	83.3	77.8
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	3.9	5.0	4.4	4.5
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	51.3	44.9	41.4	45.2
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	21.4	19.2	17.8	14.0

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	74.0	70.2	85.7
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	30.5	26.5	20.7	16.3
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	30.5	31.2	32.9	31.8
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	17.7	14.5	18.8	20.1
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	4.7	2.1	4.3	6.8
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	25.1	17.7	11.6	13.9

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	74.7	76.7	63.0
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	20.4	22.7	23.9	25.8
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	87.1	81.6	83.5	78.8
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	49.4	62.8	64.9	57.4

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	77.5	76.3	82.4
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	79.2	75.0	77.3	82.2
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	49.9	49.8	41.4	45.6
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	21.3	18.6	22.4	22.5

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Virgena Wieseler, Division Director
Division of Child Protection services
Department of Social Services

The following are South Dakota's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

A. Context Statistics

Caseworker Visits: The Division of Child Protection Services has completed an analysis of the reasons for the low percentage of monthly caseworker visits with children (36%). Results of the analysis found that staff were making frequent visits, but they were not necessarily one visit per calendar month. The Division has taken steps to address caseworker visits in the following areas:

- Policy was revised to clarify requirements regarding caseworker visits to provide better guidance to assure monthly visits take place for children placed in and out of state;
- Focus on improving quality of caseworker visits with emphasis on assessing safety and well being;
- Revised narrative entry headings in FACIS (Children and Family Information System) to improve data entry resulting in more accurate reports;
- Development of FACIS (Children and Family Information System) Caseworker Visits Monthly Report for staff to monitor caseworker visits

B. Child Maltreatment Data

Child Fatalities: The data shows an increase in child fatalities from 1 in 2006 to 8 in 2007. One of the fatalities involved a child in the custody of the Division of Child Protection Services. Three of the eight fatalities occurred in 2006, but the cases were not completed until federal fiscal year 2007.

Composite and Individual Measures for Child and Family Service Review

The Division of Child Protection Services completed the Child and Family Service Review in May 2008 and is in the process of developing the Program Improvement Plan which will be addressing Composites Two, Three and Four.

Tennessee

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	1,428,422	1,443,700	1,462,511	1,471,486
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Asian	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3
Black	21.0	20.8	20.6	20.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	4.2	4.8	5.3	5.9
White	71.5	71.0	70.4	70.0
Two or more races	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1
Child population in poverty (%)	21.1	21.4	22.7	23.0

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	14,840	18,376	19,182	16,059
Children in foster care on 9/30	9,590	9,017	8,618	7,751
Children adopted	891	1,114	994	1,214

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	89
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	10,783
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	12,124
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	66
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	47,492
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	72,432

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	74,835	52.4 per 1,000	94,469	65.4 per 1,000	98,163	67.1 per 1,000	101,435	68.9 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	14,840	10.4 per 1,000	18,376	12.7 per 1,000	19,182	13.1 per 1,000	16,059	10.9 per 1,000
Child fatalities	15	1.1 per 100,000	34	2.4 per 100,000	22	1.5 per 100,000	44	3.0 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	12.9	12.8	13.1	13.6
1 year	5.8	6.5	6.4	6.3
2 years	6.0	6.3	6.2	6.4
3 years	6.6	6.0	6.2	6.1
4 years	5.9	6.1	5.8	6.2
5 years	6.1	6.3	6.6	6.0
6 years	5.9	5.9	6.1	6.0
7 years	5.1	5.4	5.5	5.6
8 years	5.2	5.0	5.2	5.0
9 years	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.9
10 years	4.6	4.6	4.4	4.4
11 years	5.2	4.5	5.0	4.4
12 years	5.5	5.2	4.6	4.9
13 years	5.1	4.8	4.7	4.4
14 years	4.5	4.9	4.4	4.3
15 years	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.5
16 years	3.6	3.6	3.8	4.1
17 years	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.8
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
Number	14,840	18,376	19,182	16,059

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Asian	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Black	26.7	24.7	25.4	26.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	3.2	3.0	3.7	4.1
White	58.0	62.6	62.8	62.5
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	11.4	9.2	7.7	6.7
Number	14,840	18,376	19,182	16,059

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5
Medical neglect	2.2	2.0	2.2	1.9
Neglect	51.9	53.3	53.1	50.1
Physical abuse	31.6	33.3	34.1	33.3
Sexual abuse	24.1	20.4	20.4	24.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	14,840	18,376	19,182	16,059

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	139.4	23.7	9.7	11.8
Median	>24 but <48	<24	<24	<24

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	7,752	8,382	8,847	8,310	6,715	7,056	6,612	6,411	4,877	6,421	6,841	6,970	9,590	9,017	8,618	7,751
Median length of stay (months)	12.9	12.9	11.8	11.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	10.4	10.2	10.5	11.3	12.0	11.3	11.4	10.0

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.7	11.1	11.1	11.2	11.2	5.6	4.6	4.2	4.3	4.1	4.4	4.6	4.9
1 year	4.6	4.9	5.4	5.4	5.2	5.2	4.8	5.2	4.8	5.5	5.0	4.7	4.8	5.4	5.3	5.7
2 years	4.6	4.6	4.2	5.1	4.1	4.2	4.0	4.1	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.9	4.4	4.1	5.0	5.3
3 years	4.6	4.2	4.4	3.9	4.2	3.5	3.7	3.4	5.1	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.3	3.7	4.6
4 years	4.2	4.2	3.9	3.9	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.1	3.9	3.6	3.9	3.6	4.1	3.9	3.9	3.5
5 years	3.8	3.8	4.0	3.8	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.1	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.7	3.5
6 years	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.3	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.8	3.0	3.2	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.2
7 years	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.7	3.0	2.8	2.4	2.9	3.4	3.2	2.9	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.6	3.6
8 years	3.6	3.3	3.2	3.1	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	3.1	2.8	2.9	2.7	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.3
9 years	3.4	3.2	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.2	2.1	2.8	3.0	2.6	2.5	2.8	3.1	2.9	2.8	3.0
10 years	4.0	3.0	3.2	2.7	2.8	2.5	2.1	2.4	3.6	2.4	2.3	2.5	3.1	3.2	2.7	2.9
11 years	4.3	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.0	2.5	3.0	2.5	3.3	2.2	2.7	2.6	3.4	3.2	3.2	2.6
12 years	4.8	4.4	3.7	3.8	4.2	3.9	3.9	3.6	3.5	3.0	3.0	3.0	4.3	3.8	3.8	3.3
13 years	6.0	5.6	5.1	4.6	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.0	3.7	3.9	4.0	3.8	5.5	5.1	4.7	4.5
14 years	7.3	6.9	7.0	6.3	7.6	7.9	7.9	7.4	4.9	4.8	4.6	4.6	6.9	7.2	6.6	6.1
15 years	8.8	9.5	9.4	9.7	10.2	10.9	11.6	10.7	5.6	6.9	7.1	7.2	9.6	9.7	10.0	9.4
16 years	10.8	11.2	12.3	11.8	12.2	13.3	13.1	14.6	6.6	8.9	9.8	9.4	12.0	12.8	12.2	13.3
17 years	12.2	13.9	13.6	14.9	10.8	11.7	12.2	12.0	12.8	11.3	17.2	21.2	13.6	13.3	14.6	14.7
18 years	1.9	2.6	2.9	2.7	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.4	14.2	17.6	11.1	7.1	2.9	2.8	2.6	2.9
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.5	1.5	0.5	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.2	<.1	0.2	<.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Asian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Black	33.8	33.7	31.2	31.5	27.3	26.4	27.1	26.5	27.5	29.1	26.8	29.4	32.5	31.2	31.6	29.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	2.9	3.6	3.7	4.0	4.6	4.2	4.7	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.2	3.5	3.7	4.0	4.2
White	59.4	58.8	60.6	59.8	63.8	64.3	63.2	64.0	63.8	62.5	64.2	61.9	60.3	60.5	59.8	61.4
Two or more races	2.3	2.3	2.7	2.8	1.8	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.0	2.0	2.3	2.4	2.1	2.6	2.7	2.8
Unknown	1.2	1.3	1.6	1.6	1.7	2.4	2.1	2.3	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.4	1.8	1.8	2.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	1,776	1,717	1,788	1,614
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	485	743	796	796

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.7	1.7	1.1	2.2
1 year	3.6	4.9	4.6	4.5
2 years	4.4	4.0	5.4	5.8
3 years	4.6	5.3	3.7	6.3
4 years	5.2	4.3	4.8	4.3
5 years	4.7	4.9	4.3	4.0
6 years	3.9	4.5	4.7	4.3
7 years	4.1	4.0	4.6	4.0
8 years	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.7
9 years	4.4	4.3	3.9	4.8
10 years	3.9	4.5	4.4	4.1
11 years	5.2	4.4	4.1	3.8
12 years	6.6	4.7	5.5	4.2
13 years	8.6	5.9	5.8	5.3
14 years	9.0	9.0	6.8	5.6
15 years	9.4	9.3	10.1	8.9
16 years	9.5	11.5	10.0	12.5
17 years	7.8	8.7	11.9	10.7

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	<.1	0.0	<.1
Asian	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2
Black	39.6	35.2	39.0	33.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	3.0	4.1	3.7	4.8
White	53.3	56.2	52.5	56.4
Two or more races	2.9	3.0	3.4	2.9
Unknown	0.8	1.2	1.4	2.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	891	1,114	994	1,214

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.5	1.4	2.4	2.1
1 year	4.9	7.5	8.4	6.5
2 years	8.2	10.4	8.0	9.1
3 years	8.2	7.3	8.4	9.0
4 years	6.3	7.5	7.4	5.3
5 years	7.4	6.1	6.3	7.4
6 years	6.4	5.6	5.9	5.8
7 years	5.8	6.3	4.5	6.1
8 years	6.4	5.1	6.1	5.5
9 years	5.2	4.5	5.0	4.4
10 years	5.7	4.7	4.4	4.7
11 years	5.5	3.8	5.0	3.7
12 years	5.8	5.7	4.0	5.3
13 years	4.5	6.2	4.3	6.1
14 years	5.3	5.4	4.8	4.0
15 years	4.7	4.8	5.2	5.8
16 years	3.5	4.1	5.8	4.3
17 years	4.2	3.5	3.7	4.3
18 years	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.6
19 years	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.2	0.2	<.1
Black	25.4	28.5	23.5	29.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	3.4	4.7	5.5	4.6
White	63.3	61.1	65.2	60.3
Two or more races	7.7	4.8	3.7	3.5
Unknown	0.2	0.4	1.7	2.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

Tennessee

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	96.4	91.9	91.7	93.7
Children with one or more recurrences	3.6	8.1	8.3	6.3
Number	5,794	7,870	9,160	7,852

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.24	0.87	0.73	0.75
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.76	99.13	99.27	99.25
Number	14,467	15,438	15,459	14,721

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	18.2	17.5	14.5	17.4
Guardianship	0.4	0.6	0.4	3.5
Reunification	63.4	67.5	71.7	65.9
Other	17.9	14.5	13.3	13.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	4,877	6,421	6,841	6,970

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	47.8	42.7	29.5	34.5
Guardianship	0.2	0.5	0.8	6.1
Reunification	27.9	37.1	45.8	38.1
Other	24.2	19.7	23.8	21.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	542	628	491	472

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.6	2.4	2.4	2.6
Guardianship	0.7	0.9	0.4	2.3
Reunification	61.6	71.0	73.4	70.7
Other	36.1	25.7	23.8	24.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,944	3,035	3,343	3,224

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	19.3	16.1	12.7	13.1
Children older than 12 at entry	80.7	83.9	87.3	86.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	735	753	718	739

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	7.1	33.3	9.1	0.0	13.0	21.4	10.0	5.6	18.6	17.1	12.8	17.5		
Guardianship	7.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.4	5.6		
Reunification	71.4	66.7	36.4	100.0	78.3	71.4	80.0	88.9	60.6	65.4	70.3	61.3		
Other	14.3	0.0	54.5	0.0	8.7	7.1	10.0	5.6	20.3	17.0	16.6	15.6		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	14	9	11	2	23	14	20	18	1,340	1,870	1,834	2,047		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.3	20.4	18.4	19.2	18.2	17.3	14.8	17.0		
Guardianship	0.0	33.3	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.5	0.7	2.4	0.3	0.6	0.4	2.8		
Reunification	100.0	66.7	0.0	66.7	71.1	68.4	65.6	62.3	64.0	68.1	72.7	68.1		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.3	16.7	9.7	15.4	16.1	17.4	14.1	12.1	12.1		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	7	3	0	3	204	269	299	292	3,113	4,010	4,395	4,316		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	9.1	9.4	13.7	19.0	40.4	28.7	23.4	25.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.9	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	79.2	82.9	78.2	72.2	47.5	62.8	69.0	65.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	11.7	6.8	7.3	8.7	12.1	8.5	7.0	7.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	77	117	124	126	99	129	158	166	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	76.0	73.7	69.4	70.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	16.7	18.4	21.6	21.2
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	4.4	4.8	5.5	5.2
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.3	1.6	2.2	2.0
48 or more mos.	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.5
Missing data	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0
Number	3,093	4,332	4,905	4,595

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	84.4	81.9	80.4	80.7
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	8.6	10.8	11.7	10.4
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	7.0	7.3	8.0	8.8
Missing data	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	6,715	7,056	6,612	6,411

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	2.8	4.1	5.0	4.0
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	18.2	23.5	24.6	23.9
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	25.7	28.4	32.0	32.0
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	19.2	17.2	19.2	19.9
48 or more mos.	34.0	26.9	19.2	20.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	890	1,121	995	1,214

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	73.7	72.9	75.9	78.7	45.8	45.2	48.5	51.9	26.0	26.8	34.4	35.9	84.8	96.9	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	25.3	26.3	23.8	21.1	53.9	54.6	51.5	48.1	73.9	73.2	65.6	64.1	4.3	3.1	0.0	0.0
Missing data	1.0	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	10.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	7,469	8,257	8,210	8,021	3,188	3,295	3,517	3,303	3,764	3,854	3,729	3,394	46	32	3	3

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5
Institutions	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.5
Other settings	97.7	98.1	97.8	98.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	3,483	3,464	3,200	3,155

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	119.7	118.1	122.7
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	74.0	72.9	71.5	71.6
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	6.2	7.1	7.5	7.8
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	32.2	25.0	55.5	54.1
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	16.6	11.1	15.0	13.2

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	91.1	122.0	147.8
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	21.0	27.6	29.6	27.9
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	37.9	32.5	30.8	31.3
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	23.9	28.4	25.9	36.1
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	5.2	8.6	14.6	23.4
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	50.8	36.7	62.7	72.9

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	140.0	147.2	155.4
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	28.7	34.0	34.5	46.4
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	93.3	93.0	92.9	92.3
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	25.2	22.1	20.9	20.9

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	75.2	82.5	86.4
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	72.7	71.8	74.9	77.8
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	46.5	46.2	49.4	52.8
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	26.3	27.2	35.2	36.6

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Bonnie Hommrich, Deputy Commissioner
Tennessee Department of Children's Services

The following are Tennessee's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

TN Data questions and inconsistencies

Section B (Maltreatment information overview) response:

Recently the state has been implementing its Multiple Response System (MRS) and fewer of the referred cases have required out-of-home care.

Section C (children in foster care) response:

As a result of AFCARS files being created as point-in-time files the possibility will always exist for a difference in the number of active cases on the last day of one reporting cycle and the number of active cases in care on the first day of the next reporting cycle. Tennessee's child welfare system includes both child welfare and juvenile justice programs. As a result, AFCARS numbers may be influenced by some juvenile justice cases that were a part of the child welfare program for only a brief period of time during one reporting year and not the next. This impact should be minimal and decreasing in more recent and future years due to some programming changes we made as a result of the last AFCARS review. Currently, any child welfare cases that reach the age of 18 before the start of an AFCARS period are excluded from the next report period. Any juvenile justice cases reaching the age of 19 prior to the start of a new period are also excluded from the next report period. This will change with the implementation of Tennessee's new SACWIS system since some portion of these children are actually IV-E eligible if they meet certain criteria and will be included in future submissions generated from the new system.

Section D (children waiting to be adopted) response:

State requirements on confidentiality of finalized adoption cases had prevented data entry into our SACWIS system due to the system's inability to restrict the data from unauthorized persons. Tennessee's SACWIS system was updated in January 2005 to include AFCARS adoption data elements. Beginning with the AFCARS period, April–September 2005, both AFCARS Foster Care and Adoption files are generated by our SACWIS system. With restricted access available to adoption workers, some modifications to the AFCARS code around TPR data, and all AFCARS data elements coming from one system, it is our belief that termination of parental rights is now reported more accurately than in the past AFCARS Foster Care file.

Due to the state's concerted effort to implement MRS and find safe alternatives to removal, Tennessee has reduced the overall number of children in state custody. This reform has changed the face of the state's foster care population. The state now serves children who are older or who have more substantial clinical issues. In some cases, these factors have increased the length of stay of some children, however placement stability is improving with more focused teaming intervention and tracking of all placement moves. As placement stability improves, Tennessee continues to be quite successful in placing children who are free for adoption. Tennessee also has subsidized permanent guardianship as option that has allowed many older children to reach permanence.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	6,238,009	6,325,760	6,489,667	6,623,366
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Asian	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.9
Black	12.0	11.8	12.0	11.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	43.6	44.3	44.7	45.6
White	39.8	39.1	38.3	37.5
Two or more races	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8
Child population in poverty (%)	22.9	24.9	23.9	23.2

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	50,891	61,994	69,065	71,111
Children in foster care on 9/30	24,529	28,883	30,848	30,137
Children adopted	2,556	3,185	3,409	4,022

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	54
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	229
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	421
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	73
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,269
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,731

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	226,614	36.3 per 1,000	269,122	42.5 per 1,000	280,913	43.3 per 1,000	283,355	42.8 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	50,891	8.2 per 1,000	61,994	9.8 per 1,000	69,065	10.6 per 1,000	71,111	10.7 per 1,000
Child fatalities	212	3.4 per 100,000	197	3.1 per 100,000	257	4.0 per 100,000	228	3.4 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	13.7	13.8	13.8	14.7
1 year	7.8	7.9	8.0	8.4
2 years	7.7	7.8	7.8	8.0
3 years	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.4
4 years	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.2
5 years	6.9	7.1	6.9	6.8
6 years	6.2	6.4	6.4	6.4
7 years	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.8
8 years	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.3
9 years	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.6
10 years	4.3	4.1	4.2	4.2
11 years	4.3	4.0	3.9	3.7
12 years	4.2	3.9	3.8	3.7
13 years	4.2	4.0	3.9	3.5
14 years	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.4
15 years	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.2
16 years	2.3	2.6	2.5	2.5
17 years	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Number	50,891	61,994	69,065	71,111

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
Black	17.3	16.4	16.2	17.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	40.9	43.3	43.4	44.3
White	37.2	35.2	34.6	32.7
Two or more races	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.6
Missing data	1.3	1.7	2.5	2.7
Number	50,891	61,994	69,065	71,111

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.1
Medical neglect	4.6	4.4	3.8	3.4
Neglect	66.3	70.7	73.9	76.3
Physical abuse	26.2	23.4	22.3	21.3
Sexual abuse	13.4	11.9	10.7	9.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	50,891	61,994	69,065	71,111

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	167.7	186.8	191.3	132.4
Median	>120 but<144	>120 but<144	>120 but<144	>72 but<96

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	21,758	24,110	28,615	30,762	13,613	16,933	16,928	15,222	10,842	12,160	14,695	15,847	24,529	28,883	30,848	30,137
Median length of stay (months)	13.9	12.9	11.6	12.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	14.0	14.2	13.8	14.9	12.8	11.5	12.6	13.9

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	7.6	8.0	8.4	7.9	21.0	21.7	21.2	22.8	5.8	5.9	5.0	4.3	8.0	8.3	7.9	7.6
1 year	8.4	8.0	8.9	9.3	9.0	9.3	9.2	10.0	11.6	11.7	11.4	11.7	8.1	8.9	9.2	9.2
2 years	6.6	7.1	7.2	7.7	8.1	8.4	8.1	8.1	10.0	10.1	9.6	10.8	7.1	7.3	7.7	7.8
3 years	5.9	6.2	6.6	6.5	6.8	7.1	7.5	7.0	8.2	8.6	8.5	8.3	6.2	6.7	6.5	6.9
4 years	5.4	5.7	5.8	6.2	6.5	6.0	6.7	6.6	6.5	6.7	7.7	7.3	5.7	5.8	6.2	6.0
5 years	4.9	5.4	5.3	5.5	5.7	6.0	5.8	5.9	6.3	6.4	6.0	6.3	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.9
6 years	4.5	4.7	5.3	5.2	5.0	5.5	5.5	5.3	4.9	5.3	5.9	5.7	4.7	5.4	5.2	5.2
7 years	4.4	4.3	4.9	5.1	4.5	4.8	5.0	4.9	5.0	4.5	5.3	5.6	4.5	4.9	5.1	5.1
8 years	4.1	4.2	4.5	4.8	3.8	4.3	4.7	4.5	4.0	4.1	4.7	5.0	4.1	4.5	4.8	4.7
9 years	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.5	4.0	3.4	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.4	4.0	4.3	4.1	4.1	4.5	4.6
10 years	4.5	4.3	4.1	4.1	3.7	3.5	3.3	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.8	4.3	4.1	4.1	4.2
11 years	4.8	4.5	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.2	3.3	3.1	3.5	3.3	3.1	3.1	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.0
12 years	4.9	4.7	4.3	4.0	3.6	3.3	3.0	2.9	3.3	3.1	3.0	2.9	4.7	4.3	4.0	4.0
13 years	5.6	5.2	4.7	4.3	3.8	3.3	3.3	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.6	5.1	4.7	4.3	4.1
14 years	5.8	5.8	5.3	4.9	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.0	2.7	2.9	2.7	2.4	5.8	5.2	4.9	4.5
15 years	6.3	5.8	5.8	5.5	3.6	3.1	3.1	3.0	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.5	5.8	5.7	5.5	5.3
16 years	6.3	6.3	5.6	5.6	2.6	2.6	2.4	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.1	6.3	5.6	5.6	5.7
17 years	5.7	5.6	5.3	4.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	6.7	2.4	7.6	11.1	5.5	5.2	4.9	5.2
18 years	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.4	10.4	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
Black	25.8	24.6	23.7	22.9	21.6	21.1	20.1	21.1	23.4	22.3	21.4	20.0	24.5	23.5	22.8	23.5
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	36.8	38.9	39.4	40.2	40.0	40.2	40.3	41.8	36.6	39.4	38.9	40.9	38.6	39.4	40.2	40.6
White	33.0	32.3	32.3	31.9	34.1	33.5	34.1	31.0	35.3	33.7	34.9	33.8	32.6	32.4	32.0	30.5
Two or more races	3.2	3.3	3.6	3.6	3.1	3.9	3.4	3.7	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.7	3.1	3.5	3.6	3.6
Unknown	0.6	0.5	0.7	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.6	2.0	0.7	0.6	0.9	1.2	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.4
Missing data	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	9,957	10,947	12,542	13,552
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	7,176	8,144	9,294	9,695

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	5.4	5.2	5.0	4.7
1 year	8.9	9.6	10.2	9.9
2 years	7.8	7.4	8.1	8.4
3 years	6.6	6.7	6.6	7.4
4 years	5.8	6.1	6.3	6.4
5 years	6.0	5.8	5.8	6.2
6 years	5.2	5.8	5.6	5.7
7 years	5.1	5.5	5.6	5.4
8 years	5.1	5.2	5.5	5.4
9 years	5.1	4.6	5.3	5.3
10 years	5.5	5.1	4.7	5.1
11 years	5.6	5.2	5.0	4.8
12 years	6.1	5.4	4.9	4.9
13 years	5.7	5.6	4.9	4.8
14 years	6.0	5.7	5.3	4.8
15 years	5.6	5.7	5.2	5.1
16 years	3.0	3.7	3.8	3.5
17 years	1.6	1.8	2.1	2.2

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.1	<.1
Asian	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Black	28.2	27.2	26.8	26.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	37.4	38.0	39.0	38.8
White	29.5	29.5	28.6	29.0
Two or more races	3.7	4.3	4.2	3.8
Unknown	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	2,556	3,185	3,409	4,022

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.2	3.2	3.1	2.2
1 year	17.8	15.7	15.5	15.3
2 years	16.7	15.8	14.5	17.1
3 years	11.2	11.8	11.1	10.9
4 years	8.6	8.6	8.8	9.0
5 years	6.7	8.0	7.3	7.0
6 years	5.2	6.5	7.2	6.8
7 years	6.2	4.8	6.4	6.2
8 years	4.3	4.8	4.6	5.5
9 years	3.8	3.5	4.3	4.5
10 years	3.1	3.9	3.5	3.8
11 years	3.1	3.4	3.2	2.7
12 years	3.6	3.1	2.8	2.6
13 years	2.2	2.1	2.2	1.9
14 years	1.5	1.8	2.1	1.6
15 years	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.3
16 years	0.8	0.9	1.2	1.0
17 years	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.4
18 years	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.3	0.1	<.1
Asian	0.5	0.6	0.2	<.1
Black	23.6	21.3	21.9	19.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	38.2	44.5	41.3	44.7
White	32.3	28.2	31.2	29.7
Two or more races	4.4	4.5	4.2	4.4
Unknown	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	96.0	95.9	95.7	96.2
Children with one or more recurrences	4.0	4.1	4.3	3.8
Number	24,224	29,158	31,393	33,430

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.25	0.55	0.32	0.42
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.75	99.45	99.68	99.58
Number	35,371	41,043	45,543	45,984

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	23.3	26.0	23.4	25.7
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1
Reunification	62.4	59.7	64.9	62.4
Other	5.9	12.4	11.1	10.3
Missing data	8.5	1.9	0.7	1.4
Number	10,842	12,160	14,695	15,847

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	31.3	32.7	29.8	31.2
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1
Reunification	47.3	45.5	49.9	48.2
Other	8.6	20.2	19.6	18.9
Missing data	12.9	1.6	0.7	1.7
Number	2,947	3,533	3,963	4,391

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.7	2.3	2.4	2.9
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Reunification	49.5	42.7	46.6	47.1
Other	25.2	50.8	50.3	47.8
Missing data	23.6	4.2	0.8	2.2
Number	1,615	1,772	2,117	2,042

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	40.0	41.1	36.2	41.9
Children older than 12 at entry	60.0	58.9	63.8	58.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	325	1,368	1,399	1,440

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	33.3	33.3	20.0	11.5	28.0	48.6	18.8	12.9	23.6	24.9	23.7	25.2		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	33.3	37.0	52.0	61.5	64.0	40.5	59.4	61.3	61.0	58.4	62.2	59.4		
Other	4.8	29.6	12.0	19.2	2.0	10.8	12.5	19.4	6.0	14.8	13.6	14.0		
Missing data	28.6	0.0	16.0	7.7	6.0	0.0	9.4	6.5	9.4	2.0	0.4	1.4		
Number	21	27	25	26	50	37	32	31	2,534	2,714	3,148	3,166		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.4	29.2	24.7	27.9	21.2	21.9	21.0	22.9		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1		
Reunification	66.7	75.0	60.0	100.0	62.3	57.6	65.0	61.6	63.6	63.4	66.7	65.1		
Other	33.3	25.0	40.0	0.0	5.8	11.4	9.8	9.2	6.3	12.7	11.5	10.3		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.5	1.8	0.6	1.2	8.9	2.0	0.7	1.7		
Number	3	4	5	9	3,965	4,791	5,716	6,488	3,824	4,097	5,133	5,354		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	22.8	32.8	27.0	31.5	30.7	33.8	29.3	30.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	62.0	58.2	62.8	63.0	60.5	59.8	62.5	63.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	6.3	9.0	8.0	3.8	2.5	5.7	7.0	5.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	8.9	0.0	2.2	1.6	6.3	0.7	1.2	1.2	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	79	67	137	184	365	423	499	589	1	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	61.2	63.7	60.2	56.3
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	31.7	31.1	34.6	37.9
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	3.8	2.8	2.9	3.6
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.7	1.3	1.3	0.9
48 or more mos.	1.5	1.0	1.1	1.4
Missing data	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0
Number	6,760	7,261	9,531	9,896

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	90.6	91.3	91.2	90.8
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	2.4	2.3	2.9	3.3
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	4.5	4.4	4.5	5.2
Missing data	2.5	2.0	1.4	0.7
Number	13,613	16,933	16,928	15,222

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	6.2	6.9	6.7	5.5
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	42.5	42.2	42.8	42.9
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	30.0	28.5	27.1	32.1
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	11.0	11.4	13.2	10.5
48 or more mos.	10.3	10.9	10.3	9.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,526	3,165	3,433	4,080

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	71.4	77.9	80.1	79.6	38.6	48.0	52.2	53.5	14.4	16.9	19.3	21.0	92.3	92.7	87.5	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	28.4	22.1	19.9	20.4	61.4	52.0	47.8	46.5	85.6	83.1	80.7	79.0	3.1	7.3	12.5	0.0
Missing data	0.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	16,458	20,073	21,217	19,451	8,383	9,980	12,454	13,134	10,465	10,908	11,864	13,392	65	82	8	7

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	5.7	4.6	4.4	4.1
Institutions	6.7	4.7	4.3	5.4
Other settings	86.1	89.8	90.8	89.5
Missing data	1.5	1.0	0.5	1.0
Number	11,296	14,328	14,498	13,158

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	127.5	123.6	119.0
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	68.6	70.8	68.7	64.3
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	9.8	9.7	10.2	10.6
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	37.9	33.6	37.1	37.5
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	3.5	4.5	5.5	5.3

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	98.7	100.3	99.1
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	48.7	49.2	49.5	48.4
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	24.3	24.2	24.1	24.3
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	16.0	18.6	19.2	20.7
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	5.3	4.2	5.2	5.3
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	37.4	37.6	38.3	36.5

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	87.8	94.0	93.0
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	16.3	17.9	19.3	20.4
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	93.5	87.3	87.8	88.6
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	65.0	63.3	60.8	63.0

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	77.7	81.9	82.9
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	70.8	77.5	79.8	79.3
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	38.6	48.0	52.2	53.5
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	14.4	16.9	19.3	21.0

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

**Audrey Deckinga, Assistant Commissioner for Child Protective Services
Texas Department of Family and Protective Services**

The following are Texas' comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

Tremendous change has occurred in the Texas child welfare system since 2004. In Texas, these changes are referred to as Child Protective Services (CPS) Reform. CPS Reform includes extensive internal and external stakeholder participation that was incorporated into the IV-B and IV-E State Plans and the CFSR Statewide Assessment process with the goal of improving outcomes for children and families by strengthening the Texas child welfare system.

In May 2005, the 79th Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 6 outlining comprehensive reform of DFPS. Resources and direction were put in place to transform the program charged with protecting children. Since the legislation's passage, the state has hired additional casework staff, strengthened training for caseworkers, improved risk assessments, deployed technological innovations to enhance casework in the field, and emphasized effective involvement of both professional and civic communities. Systems have been established to increase accountability for the quality and timeliness of casework and for the desired outcome for clients served.

Policy and structural changes have formalized the inclusion of families as critical decision makers regarding child safety and well-being. An innovative managed care model was developed to deliver quality healthcare services geared to specific needs of children in foster care. Resources are being deployed towards better educational outcomes for children. Youth aging out of foster care are now provided with continuous Medicaid coverage through a single application process up to the age of 21.

In May 2007, the 80th Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 758, mandating continuation of CPS Reform. The second wave of CPS Reform focused on strengthening services beyond investigation, addressing other parts of the child welfare system in order to help keep families together, reduce the length of time children are in substitute care, and strengthen the quality and accountability of the foster care system.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	754,064	774,314	796,877	816,822
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3
Asian	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5
Black	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Hispanic (of any race)	13.1	13.7	14.3	15.1
White	79.7	79.0	78.2	77.2
Two or more races	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.7
Child population in poverty (%)	13.3	10.9	11.9	11.0

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	13,559	13,152	13,043	13,611
Children in foster care on 9/30	2,108	2,285	2,427	2,739
Children adopted	300	350	503	454

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	94
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	95
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	33,746	44.8 per 1,000	33,684	43.5 per 1,000	32,181	40.4 per 1,000	32,134	39.3 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	13,559	18.0 per 1,000	13,152	17.0 per 1,000	13,043	16.4 per 1,000	13,611	16.7 per 1,000
Child fatalities	10	1.3 per 100,000	10	1.3 per 100,000	13	1.6 per 100,000	11	1.4 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	8.0	8.1	8.7	8.5
1 year	6.8	6.7	6.9	7.1
2 years	6.9	7.0	7.0	7.0
3 years	7.0	6.9	7.0	6.9
4 years	7.3	6.7	6.9	6.6
5 years	6.2	6.8	6.5	6.3
6 years	6.0	6.1	5.7	6.1
7 years	5.8	5.8	6.0	5.8
8 years	5.1	5.7	5.5	5.4
9 years	4.9	4.6	4.9	5.0
10 years	4.8	4.5	4.7	4.5
11 years	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.1
12 years	4.7	4.6	4.4	4.5
13 years	5.7	5.5	4.6	5.0
14 years	5.0	5.3	5.1	5.2
15 years	4.8	4.8	4.9	5.0
16 years	3.4	3.7	4.0	3.9
17 years	2.6	2.6	2.9	2.8
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1
Number	13,559	13,152	13,043	13,611

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.6
Asian	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.7
Black	2.5	3.1	3.1	2.5
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.5
Hispanic (of any race)	23.0	23.8	21.9	23.6
White	67.8	65.9	67.9	66.1
Two or more races	1.5	1.7	1.7	2.1
Missing data	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.9
Number	13,559	13,152	13,043	13,611

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	45.0	42.5	43.4	44.7
Medical neglect	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2
Neglect	21.0	20.7	21.1	20.6
Physical abuse	12.6	14.7	14.9	14.1
Sexual abuse	18.8	19.3	17.8	17.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	17.6	19.2	20.2	20.3
Number	13,559	13,152	13,043	13,611

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	136.4	125.8	118.1	112.1
Median	>96 but<120	>72 but<96	>72 but<96	>72 but<96

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	1,943	2,054	2,210	2,396	1,954	2,215	2,173	2,111	1,791	1,984	1,956	1,768	2,108	2,285	2,427	2,739
Median length of stay (months)	10.8	11.3	10.2	10.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	7.1	7.5	8.5	10.3	10.9	9.7	9.9	9.9

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.4	5.4	4.6	5.1	13.8	12.4	12.8	15.0	8.5	8.8	7.2	6.8	5.5	4.6	5.2	6.3
1 year	3.9	4.3	4.1	4.7	7.1	6.7	8.3	6.8	7.1	7.7	8.5	7.5	4.2	3.9	4.8	5.4
2 years	3.6	3.6	4.4	4.0	6.8	6.6	7.4	8.0	7.5	7.2	8.0	7.2	3.5	4.4	4.1	5.0
3 years	3.4	3.7	2.9	4.2	5.6	5.3	5.1	5.6	6.0	6.6	5.1	7.0	3.8	2.8	4.2	4.6
4 years	3.3	3.1	3.6	3.1	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.4	6.4	5.0	5.2	5.9	3.1	3.5	3.2	3.5
5 years	3.1	2.8	3.2	3.6	4.7	4.4	4.6	4.2	5.0	4.6	5.1	4.3	2.8	3.2	3.6	3.6
6 years	2.6	3.4	3.1	2.8	4.4	4.3	3.7	4.0	4.3	4.5	4.7	4.3	3.3	3.2	2.8	3.0
7 years	3.3	2.9	3.2	2.5	3.5	3.8	4.0	3.9	3.6	3.8	4.4	3.0	2.8	3.0	2.6	3.5
8 years	2.7	3.3	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.8	3.2	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.0
9 years	3.4	2.9	3.5	3.4	3.1	3.0	3.5	3.1	2.8	2.6	3.6	3.5	2.8	3.5	3.4	3.1
10 years	4.1	3.8	3.0	3.2	3.3	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.2	2.7	3.0	2.7	3.8	2.9	3.2	3.1
11 years	4.6	4.0	4.4	3.3	4.4	3.4	3.0	2.8	3.6	3.3	2.8	2.8	4.0	4.2	3.3	3.6
12 years	5.1	5.1	4.4	4.6	5.5	4.6	3.5	4.1	3.7	3.3	2.8	2.8	5.3	4.4	4.6	3.4
13 years	6.9	6.6	6.2	5.5	5.7	6.2	4.9	5.0	4.4	3.8	3.0	3.7	6.8	6.4	5.5	5.6
14 years	8.7	7.7	9.4	7.4	6.6	6.5	5.9	6.0	4.7	3.5	3.8	3.3	8.2	9.2	7.7	6.7
15 years	10.6	9.8	9.7	10.3	7.1	7.4	7.3	7.2	6.1	5.8	5.9	5.1	9.9	10.0	10.2	9.5
16 years	11.2	10.7	10.8	11.4	5.8	7.0	7.8	6.5	5.6	5.0	6.0	6.2	10.7	11.0	11.4	10.8
17 years	11.7	11.8	11.3	12.4	4.1	6.1	5.9	5.5	4.7	6.1	5.0	6.4	11.5	11.3	12.0	10.4
18 years	2.7	4.6	4.1	4.5	0.0	0.2	0.4	<.1	8.2	10.4	10.6	12.2	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.5
19 years	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	1.3	1.7	2.2	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.2
20+ years	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.2
Missing data	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	6.0	5.4	5.7	4.6	3.4	3.3	3.0	3.9	4.1	2.7	4.2	4.2	5.3	5.7	4.5	4.3
Asian	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5
Black	3.8	4.6	4.8	5.0	4.0	4.6	5.3	3.8	3.0	4.4	5.1	4.9	4.6	4.7	5.0	4.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	1.4	1.2	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.9	1.3	0.7	1.1	2.1	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.2	0.6
Hispanic (of any race)	20.6	21.2	22.2	22.2	26.4	26.5	25.0	27.0	26.7	25.6	25.2	25.2	20.8	22.5	22.3	24.0
White	67.3	65.6	63.8	64.0	64.3	61.1	62.1	60.0	64.5	63.0	61.9	61.0	66.9	63.5	63.9	62.9
Two or more races	0.0	1.1	1.7	2.4	0.0	1.7	2.3	3.3	0.0	1.4	1.7	2.5	0.0	1.4	2.2	3.0
Unknown	<.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.1	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	437	436	475	571
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	141	142	194	258

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	7.3	7.3	7.2	6.3
1 year	8.5	7.6	7.4	8.6
2 years	6.6	8.9	5.3	6.7
3 years	6.4	5.0	6.9	4.6
4 years	3.9	5.7	4.8	6.3
5 years	3.9	7.1	5.5	4.6
6 years	6.6	4.4	5.1	6.3
7 years	5.5	6.2	4.8	5.6
8 years	5.9	5.7	5.3	5.1
9 years	4.3	5.3	5.1	5.6
10 years	7.3	5.0	5.9	4.9
11 years	6.6	7.3	4.0	6.3
12 years	6.4	5.7	6.7	4.2
13 years	6.2	6.0	5.5	6.0
14 years	4.8	5.7	6.5	4.4
15 years	6.2	4.4	6.5	5.4
16 years	1.4	1.6	4.4	5.8
17 years	2.1	0.9	3.2	3.5

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	4.8	2.3	1.3	1.2
Asian	1.1	1.4	1.1	0.9
Black	5.0	5.7	5.1	4.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.5	0.2	0.8	1.1
Hispanic (of any race)	24.0	25.2	24.8	26.8
White	64.5	64.2	65.1	61.6
Two or more races	0.0	0.7	1.9	3.5
Unknown	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	300	350	503	454

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	8.0	8.6	8.3	9.7
1 year	15.0	18.0	16.9	17.2
2 years	13.0	12.3	14.1	13.7
3 years	10.3	11.4	9.7	11.2
4 years	11.3	4.9	8.0	9.3
5 years	6.3	5.1	8.7	6.4
6 years	5.7	6.3	6.0	7.0
7 years	5.7	6.6	6.2	4.6
8 years	4.0	6.0	2.4	3.3
9 years	3.7	5.1	4.8	2.6
10 years	5.3	3.7	2.8	3.5
11 years	2.7	3.1	2.2	2.2
12 years	3.0	2.9	2.6	2.4
13 years	1.3	2.3	1.6	2.0
14 years	3.0	0.6	1.6	1.3
15 years	1.0	2.0	1.2	1.1
16 years	0.7	0.9	2.0	0.9
17 years	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.9
18 years	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.4
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.7	4.0	2.4	0.9
Asian	1.0	0.0	0.6	0.0
Black	1.0	5.4	5.2	5.1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.6	1.0	1.3
Hispanic (of any race)	29.0	30.9	31.2	31.5
White	67.0	58.0	57.7	58.4
Two or more races	0.0	1.1	1.8	2.6
Unknown	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	92.8	93.4	93.5	92.9
Children with one or more recurrences	7.2	6.6	6.5	7.1
Number	6,373	6,221	6,342	6,488

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.51	0.42	0.27	1.00
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.49	99.58	99.73	99.00
Number	3,897	4,269	4,383	4,507

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	16.2	18.0	21.8	19.6
Guardianship	1.5	1.6	5.1	7.5
Reunification	69.1	61.8	54.5	51.4
Other	13.2	18.3	14.9	17.0
Missing data	<.1	0.2	3.7	4.5
Number	1,791	1,984	1,956	1,768

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	17.7	22.3	24.0	20.1
Guardianship	1.7	2.0	5.4	7.0
Reunification	57.1	51.0	45.9	42.6
Other	23.5	24.6	22.8	28.4
Missing data	0.0	<.1	1.9	1.8
Number	716	1,111	1,122	999

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.0	1.3	2.3	2.2
Guardianship	2.1	2.2	5.4	6.7
Reunification	57.2	48.6	41.9	36.2
Other	39.5	47.6	39.3	43.1
Missing data	0.2	0.3	11.1	11.8
Number	512	597	596	585

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	13.0	24.1	23.0	16.7
Children older than 12 at entry	87.0	75.9	77.0	83.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	162	216	209	203

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	6.8	26.4	15.9	5.3	20.0	0.0	10.0	0.0	5.7	22.7	20.0	25.6		
Guardianship	4.1	3.8	2.4	10.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	0.0	4.0	9.3		
Reunification	67.1	37.7	57.3	40.0	70.0	57.1	40.0	87.5	71.7	56.8	56.0	43.0		
Other	21.9	32.1	18.3	32.0	10.0	42.9	40.0	12.5	18.9	20.5	15.0	20.9		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	6.1	12.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	1.2		
Number	73	53	82	75	10	7	10	8	53	88	100	86		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	4.8	26.3	27.3	17.8	21.5	26.0	22.2	16.9	16.7	20.7	19.2		
Guardianship	5.0	4.8	0.0	13.6	0.8	1.8	3.3	6.1	1.4	1.4	6.4	7.7		
Reunification	80.0	81.0	42.1	45.5	72.0	63.5	55.3	55.1	67.7	61.6	54.3	51.0		
Other	15.0	9.5	15.8	4.5	9.4	13.0	10.8	12.6	13.9	20.0	16.4	18.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	15.8	9.1	0.0	0.2	4.7	4.0	<.1	0.2	2.1	4.1		
Number	20	42	19	22	478	507	492	445	1,155	1,249	1,210	1,078		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.8	27.3	17.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	50.0	54.5	30.0	22.2	0.0	81.5	57.6	62.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	0.0	45.5	10.0	11.1	0.0	3.7	6.1	11.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	60.0	66.7	0.0	0.0	9.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	2	11	10	9	0	27	33	45	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	85.3	86.3	82.8	78.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	10.8	10.8	13.8	18.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1.7	1.7	1.6	2.0
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.7
48 or more mos.	1.1	0.7	1.1	0.8
Missing data	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0
Number	1,237	1,227	1,066	909

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	75.7	76.4	77.8	82.0
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	12.8	13.3	10.3	8.7
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	11.2	9.1	11.0	9.0
Missing data	0.3	1.1	1.0	0.3
Number	1,954	2,215	2,173	2,111

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	36.4	34.1	34.2	34.4
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	38.5	47.2	43.8	50.9
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	16.2	9.8	13.1	8.1
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	5.8	3.9	4.4	4.0
48 or more mos.	3.1	5.0	4.4	2.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	291	358	427	346

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	71.7	74.2	80.3	73.2	37.5	36.2	45.8	41.7	14.3	15.8	14.8	15.9	70.0	90.0	50.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	26.0	22.8	18.8	26.5	62.4	63.8	54.2	58.3	85.7	84.2	85.2	84.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	2.2	3.0	0.9	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30.0	10.0	50.0	0.0
Number	2,342	2,605	2,618	2,587	742	821	928	1,054	803	833	833	864	10	10	4	2

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	1.3	0.7	1.1	0.8
Institutions	2.5	2.7	1.7	2.6
Other settings	96.1	96.6	97.2	96.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,335	1,442	1,457	1,437

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	127.6	123.6	118.6
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	87.4	84.7	83.4	78.3
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	3.0	4.1	4.4	6.6
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	55.4	55.6	49.5	41.3
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	13.4	19.3	19.3	16.2

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	147.7	157.8	152.4
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	74.9	81.3	78.1	85.5
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	16.2	15.4	15.4	14.7
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	15.3	12.1	16.0	12.6
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	1.9	3.3	4.4	3.0
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	84.3	80.3	82.8	85.3

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	121.9	123.4	119.7
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	16.4	15.7	18.5	10.8
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	97.3	94.7	97.3	96.1
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	32.0	29.1	30.3	24.2

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	68.8	77.1	69.9
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	71.1	74.1	79.4	71.6
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	37.7	36.1	46.1	41.8
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	14.1	15.9	15.2	16.0

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

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The following are Utah's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

Utah utilizes SACWIS system data and Case Reviews regularly to evaluate performance outcomes and services to children and families. For more information on Utah's Child and Family Services, as well as our performance and regular reports please visit our website at www.hsdcs.utah.gov. Below is some information to help in understanding our data.

Utah has a law that defines child witnessing, or knowledge of, domestic violence as a type of child abuse. This allegation type is mapped to emotional abuse in NCANDS and accounts for the large percentage of emotional abuse allegations in Utah.

In Utah, time to investigation is calculated as the time to the initial face-to-face visit with the alleged child victim.

When children have to be placed in protective custody, judges may order custody with DCFS or may order temporary custody with a kinship provider with DCFS supervision and provision of in-home services while working towards reunification. We serve a large number kinship cases through this less intensive service that are not reflected in our AFCARS data. If reunification efforts are unsuccessful, children may be adopted by kin providers from these in-home services. Adoptions from in-home services are reflected in our AFCARS adoption file numbers but not in the numbers of children adopted from foster care.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	139,178	136,559	133,878	131,353
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Asian	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4
Black	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.0
White	93.7	93.4	93.1	92.7
Two or more races	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.1
Child population in poverty (%)	11.7	15.4	13.2	12.4

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	1,138	1,080	861	872
Children in foster care on 9/30	1,432	1,436	1,379	1,309
Children adopted	220	166	164	199

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	11
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	213
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,875
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	29
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	283
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	980

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	3,361	24.1 per 1,000	3,099	22.7 per 1,000	2,841	21.2 per 1,000	3,222	24.5 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	1,138	8.2 per 1,000	1,080	7.9 per 1,000	861	6.4 per 1,000	872	6.6 per 1,000
Child fatalities	0	0.0 per 100,000	0	0.0 per 100,000	0	0.0 per 100,000	3	2.3 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	6.8	8.0	6.2	4.8
1 year	4.0	4.1	4.8	5.8
2 years	3.8	5.0	4.8	4.8
3 years	6.1	5.3	5.5	5.7
4 years	6.9	5.6	5.1	5.0
5 years	6.1	5.6	6.0	6.2
6 years	6.0	5.6	7.4	6.0
7 years	3.8	5.4	6.2	5.7
8 years	5.7	5.3	5.3	5.6
9 years	5.5	5.6	5.0	3.8
10 years	5.0	5.4	4.4	4.9
11 years	5.0	4.6	4.5	4.1
12 years	6.2	4.4	5.6	5.0
13 years	7.2	6.6	6.2	7.1
14 years	7.3	7.5	6.6	8.7
15 years	6.4	7.8	6.0	7.7
16 years	4.6	4.5	6.2	4.8
17 years	3.6	3.6	4.2	4.0
18+ years	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,138	1,080	861	872

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Asian	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1
Black	2.8	1.3	2.1	0.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	0.2	0.7	0.7	0.7
White	93.0	94.8	93.4	91.5
Two or more races	0.2	0.0	0.5	1.7
Missing data	3.7	3.0	3.0	4.9
Number	1,138	1,080	861	872

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	0.3	1.1	0.9	1.4
Medical neglect	2.6	1.9	2.3	3.6
Neglect	5.7	5.6	4.9	2.6
Physical abuse	49.4	48.4	51.3	46.9
Sexual abuse	45.7	46.5	43.2	48.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,138	1,080	861	872

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	81.5	82.1	100.7	96.0
Median	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	1,350	1,375	1,405	1,349	840	770	701	618	763	714	729	661	1,432	1,436	1,379	1,309
Median length of stay (months)	17.7	15.3	15.9	16.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	19.9	14.8	19.0	18.7	15.5	16.0	16.5	16.7

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.6	2.8	3.6	3.9	8.0	11.2	11.1	12.6	2.5	3.1	2.1	3.0	2.7	3.5	3.9	3.9
1 year	4.7	2.5	3.3	5.2	4.6	4.0	5.7	4.2	5.2	4.3	4.5	7.1	2.4	3.4	5.1	3.5
2 years	4.4	3.7	3.0	3.5	3.2	3.9	4.6	4.7	5.4	3.9	3.3	5.9	3.6	2.9	3.4	4.4
3 years	3.8	2.9	3.1	3.0	4.4	3.1	4.3	3.9	6.3	3.6	4.3	3.8	2.9	3.1	2.9	3.7
4 years	2.4	3.9	2.8	3.6	4.0	3.1	3.3	3.6	4.2	4.9	4.0	3.3	3.7	2.7	3.5	3.0
5 years	3.0	2.0	2.9	2.7	2.5	3.4	2.9	2.6	4.1	4.2	3.4	3.0	1.9	2.7	2.7	3.1
6 years	3.4	3.5	2.2	3.0	3.8	3.2	4.9	4.0	2.5	3.5	2.1	3.3	3.3	2.2	3.0	3.2
7 years	3.2	3.7	3.0	3.1	2.5	2.3	1.6	2.9	3.1	3.6	3.0	2.9	3.6	2.9	3.0	2.8
8 years	3.6	2.8	3.8	3.0	3.2	3.0	2.7	2.4	3.7	3.4	3.0	3.3	2.7	3.8	2.8	2.8
9 years	2.4	3.0	2.0	3.2	2.7	2.6	2.9	2.4	3.0	2.0	2.5	2.7	3.1	2.0	3.1	2.4
10 years	3.8	2.5	3.5	2.4	3.5	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.4	2.5	2.7	3.0	2.4	3.4	2.5	2.9
11 years	4.6	4.4	2.8	3.6	2.7	2.5	3.0	2.9	3.1	2.7	1.8	3.9	4.3	3.0	3.5	3.1
12 years	5.5	5.7	4.9	3.8	7.0	5.5	4.6	3.7	4.3	3.2	3.4	2.7	5.6	4.7	3.8	3.1
13 years	4.8	7.3	7.1	5.9	9.8	9.6	5.7	7.3	4.3	4.9	5.2	3.3	7.3	6.8	5.7	5.4
14 years	8.4	8.7	10.3	8.2	10.8	10.5	11.1	12.5	3.8	4.9	5.2	4.7	8.6	10.3	8.3	7.7
15 years	12.5	12.4	12.2	13.7	14.3	15.2	15.7	15.2	8.4	6.6	9.5	8.9	12.6	12.4	13.6	12.5
16 years	13.0	14.0	14.4	14.0	9.0	8.7	9.1	9.2	6.4	9.9	9.6	8.8	13.8	14.5	13.7	15.3
17 years	13.3	12.1	13.2	12.5	3.7	4.9	4.0	2.9	12.5	10.6	17.3	16.9	12.2	12.7	12.5	12.8
18 years	1.6	2.1	1.8	1.7	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	14.5	17.8	12.8	8.9	2.9	2.6	2.7	3.6
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.9
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	<.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.2	<.1	0.0
Asian	0.1	0.2	<.1	<.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.2	<.1	<.1	<.1
Black	1.7	2.3	2.8	3.1	2.9	2.3	4.4	2.6	1.8	1.5	3.2	2.6	2.3	2.7	3.4	3.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	1.1	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.5	1.7	0.4	1.6	1.2	1.3	1.0	1.1	0.7	1.0	0.7	1.0
White	96.2	95.5	95.1	94.5	94.0	94.5	92.7	94.0	95.5	95.5	94.1	94.7	95.3	95.0	94.4	94.0
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unknown	<.1	0.6	0.4	0.7	1.2	0.5	0.9	1.0	0.0	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.8
Missing data	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.9	1.0	0.6	1.1	0.8	1.2	0.6	0.4	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.8

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	267	265	251	257
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	231	215	220	183

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.5	1.5	2.8	3.1
1 year	3.7	4.5	8.0	4.3
2 years	6.4	4.5	6.0	8.6
3 years	5.2	6.8	3.2	6.2
4 years	7.5	6.4	3.2	4.7
5 years	1.5	4.5	4.4	3.9
6 years	5.2	2.3	4.4	5.1
7 years	5.2	4.2	4.8	5.8
8 years	5.6	7.2	4.4	4.7
9 years	4.9	3.8	8.4	5.1
10 years	4.5	6.0	2.8	6.6
11 years	5.2	5.3	7.6	5.1
12 years	6.7	6.4	6.4	6.2
13 years	8.2	6.8	7.6	6.6
14 years	5.2	8.3	5.2	6.2
15 years	5.6	6.0	8.4	6.2
16 years	9.7	6.0	6.8	7.4
17 years	7.9	9.4	6.0	4.3

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	0.7	2.3	0.4	5.1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	0.4	1.1	0.8	0.4
White	98.1	95.8	98.0	93.8
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unknown	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.4
Missing data	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.4

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	220	166	164	199

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.4	1.8	0.6	3.5
1 year	8.6	8.4	11.0	16.6
2 years	11.4	9.0	7.9	12.6
3 years	13.6	10.2	11.6	7.0
4 years	8.6	10.2	12.2	6.0
5 years	10.9	9.0	9.1	3.0
6 years	7.3	7.2	2.4	7.0
7 years	6.4	7.8	6.7	3.0
8 years	6.8	7.2	3.7	7.5
9 years	5.0	1.2	6.7	5.0
10 years	3.2	4.8	4.9	4.0
11 years	4.5	3.6	3.7	4.0
12 years	3.2	6.0	3.7	5.0
13 years	2.3	3.0	5.5	4.5
14 years	0.5	4.8	3.0	4.0
15 years	4.1	1.2	4.9	3.5
16 years	0.9	1.2	1.2	1.5
17 years	1.4	3.0	1.2	2.0
18 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	1.4	2.4	1.2	1.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	2.3	0.6	0.6	0.5
White	92.3	89.8	94.5	92.0
Two or more races	3.6	6.0	3.7	6.0
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Missing data	0.5	1.2	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	95.5	96.0	94.8	96.1
Children with one or more recurrences	4.5	4.0	5.2	3.9
Number	550	499	387	388

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.73	0.14	0.05	0.31
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.27	99.86	99.95	99.69
Number	2,190	2,145	2,106	1,967

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	27.8	21.8	20.9	29.5
Guardianship	1.2	1.1	2.5	2.4
Reunification	55.8	61.3	60.8	56.6
Other	14.9	15.7	15.9	11.5
Missing data	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	763	714	729	661

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	23.8	23.4	24.9	26.9
Guardianship	1.3	1.7	1.0	3.4
Reunification	49.0	46.0	41.3	36.1
Other	25.2	28.9	32.8	33.6
Missing data	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	151	239	201	119

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	2.3	2.2	1.4	3.1
Guardianship	1.0	0.3	1.1	3.8
Reunification	69.1	71.9	72.3	71.3
Other	26.8	25.6	25.1	21.8
Missing data	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	298	320	354	289

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	28.7	21.9	23.1	10.4
Children older than 12 at entry	71.3	77.1	76.9	89.6
Missing data	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Number	108	96	104	67

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.3	27.3	8.7	5.9	
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	5.9	
Reunification	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	75.0	100.0	100.0	71.4	72.7	69.6	64.7		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	14.3	0.0	17.4	23.5		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	1	0	3	0	0	4	1	1	14	11	23	17		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	55.6	0.0	14.3	14.3	28.0	21.8	21.7	30.7		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.1	0.0	0.0	1.2	1.0	2.5	2.2		
Reunification	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	22.2	77.8	85.7	57.1	55.6	61.0	59.5	56.2		
Other	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.2	11.1	0.0	28.6	15.0	16.1	16.3	10.9		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	1	0	1	0	9	9	7	7	729	682	686	626		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	50.0	0.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.1	50.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	0.0	50.0	100.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	88.9	50.0	100.0	83.3		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	0	4	5	4	0	0	0	0	9	4	3	6		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	65.7	63.2	52.4	55.6
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	18.5	21.7	26.6	21.9
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	8.0	6.6	13.1	11.2
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.3	3.4	4.1	6.4
48 or more mos.	4.7	4.3	3.6	4.3
Missing data	0.7	0.7	0.2	0.5
Number	426	438	443	374

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	78.6	79.5	81.5	79.0
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	11.7	10.3	9.1	8.7
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	9.8	10.3	9.4	12.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	840	770	701	618

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	3.8	7.7	2.0	5.1
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	26.9	28.2	34.2	40.0
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	46.2	34.0	34.9	30.3
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	12.7	22.4	15.1	17.4
48 or more mos.	9.9	7.7	13.2	7.2
Missing data	0.5	0.0	0.7	0.0
Number	212	156	152	195

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	68.5	66.5	67.8	67.9	36.8	39.3	42.2	46.4	23.5	19.4	18.8	21.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
Children with 3 or more placements	31.5	33.5	32.2	32.1	63.2	60.7	57.8	53.6	76.5	80.6	81.2	78.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	914	887	796	719	475	545	566	509	797	712	743	739	4	1	1	0

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	4.2	6.3	2.9	4.6
Institutions	1.4	1.0	0.5	0.0
Other settings	94.4	92.7	96.5	95.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	430	382	375	324

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	107.9	94.9	108.2
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	67.0	66.0	58.4	56.1
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	6.1	7.8	9.5	8.9
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	42.1	35.2	32.3	32.4
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	18.9	15.6	17.1	11.6

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	107.5	106.4	125.4
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	30.8	35.5	36.4	45.1
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	28.8	28.4	27.4	25.8
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	23.3	20.0	18.6	20.8
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	10.3	8.5	7.7	8.8
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	59.2	59.0	58.9	71.9

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	113.8	108.0	121.4
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	26.6	26.2	25.2	31.5
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	92.1	93.5	92.8	97.0
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	59.6	47.2	51.7	51.1

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	64.0	66.1	68.6
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	65.0	63.4	64.2	64.4
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	37.0	39.4	42.1	46.3
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	23.9	19.8	19.1	21.5

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	1,801,602	1,814,347	1,821,202	1,826,179
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3
Asian	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.5
Black	22.5	22.2	22.1	21.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	7.7	8.3	8.8	9.4
White	62.5	61.9	61.3	60.6
Two or more races	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.2
Child population in poverty (%)	12.9	13.3	12.2	13.0

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	6,959	6,469	6,828	6,413
Children in foster care on 9/30	6,869	7,022	7,843	7,480
Children adopted	525	510	551	581

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	14
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,401
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	9,909
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	40
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	562
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,401

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	56,088	31.1 per 1,000	56,156	31.0 per 1,000	58,826	32.3 per 1,000	61,342	33.6 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	6,959	3.9 per 1,000	6,469	3.6 per 1,000	6,828	3.8 per 1,000	6,413	3.5 per 1,000
Child fatalities	28	1.6 per 100,000	26	1.4 per 100,000	20	1.1 per 100,000	31	1.7 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	10.2	9.7	10.2	11.0
1 year	6.6	6.5	6.4	7.2
2 years	7.0	6.8	7.1	7.2
3 years	6.3	7.0	6.6	6.5
4 years	6.0	6.9	6.3	6.1
5 years	6.2	6.4	6.2	6.1
6 years	5.6	5.7	5.4	6.1
7 years	5.0	5.8	5.4	5.5
8 years	5.1	4.9	4.8	4.6
9 years	4.9	4.6	4.8	4.4
10 years	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.1
11 years	4.3	4.3	4.0	4.0
12 years	4.9	4.1	4.4	4.3
13 years	4.9	5.1	4.8	4.8
14 years	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.1
15 years	4.7	4.7	4.9	4.5
16 years	4.0	3.7	4.3	3.9
17 years	2.5	2.7	2.9	2.8
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Missing data	2.1	1.4	1.7	1.7
Number	6,959	6,469	6,828	6,413

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Asian	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.8
Black	33.2	37.7	34.5	32.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	8.0	7.9	7.5	8.6
White	49.0	46.5	50.6	49.2
Two or more races	5.5	4.9	4.2	5.4
Missing data	3.7	2.4	2.3	3.3
Number	6,959	6,469	6,828	6,413

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	1.5	1.1	1.1	1.0
Medical neglect	2.4	2.7	2.5	2.4
Neglect	61.8	59.8	61.6	62.3
Physical abuse	24.6	27.4	27.9	25.7
Sexual abuse	15.8	15.0	13.9	14.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	6,959	6,469	6,828	6,413

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	176.1	209.1	184.1	197.2
Median	>48 but<72	>48 but<72	>48 but<72	>48 but<72

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	6,221	6,920	6,951	6,864	3,418	3,518	3,936	3,472	2,772	3,417	3,044	2,856	6,869	7,022	7,843	7,480
Median length of stay (months)	19.5	18.5	18.1	16.5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	14.7	14.6	18.4	17.3	18.2	18.3	16.0	17.1

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.9	3.2	3.3	3.8	12.1	11.9	12.8	12.7	3.8	3.8	3.5	3.9	3.4	3.2	3.9	3.5
1 year	4.0	4.2	4.5	4.7	5.2	5.6	5.3	5.8	4.4	5.1	4.4	5.4	4.3	4.5	4.9	4.8
2 years	4.0	3.7	4.2	4.2	4.5	4.7	5.2	4.3	5.5	4.5	5.7	5.1	3.7	4.2	4.6	4.4
3 years	3.6	3.9	3.8	3.7	4.4	5.5	4.5	4.7	4.5	5.0	5.1	4.6	3.9	3.9	3.9	4.3
4 years	3.1	3.3	4.1	3.8	4.1	3.9	4.1	4.1	4.3	4.0	4.5	4.3	3.4	4.1	4.0	3.6
5 years	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.6	3.4	3.9	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.1	3.7	3.7	3.0	3.1	3.7	3.9
6 years	3.1	2.8	3.2	3.4	2.9	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.4	3.2	3.5	2.7	2.9	3.2	3.5	3.8
7 years	3.3	3.0	2.8	3.3	3.6	3.3	3.9	3.7	2.9	3.4	3.3	2.8	3.1	2.8	3.5	3.9
8 years	3.4	3.4	3.1	2.9	3.2	3.5	2.8	3.2	3.3	2.8	2.7	2.9	3.4	3.1	3.0	3.5
9 years	4.0	3.6	3.4	3.0	3.7	3.0	3.5	3.3	3.7	3.3	3.6	2.7	3.6	3.5	3.0	3.3
10 years	4.3	3.7	3.5	3.2	3.7	3.4	2.9	3.1	3.5	3.5	2.6	2.1	3.7	3.5	3.3	3.3
11 years	5.0	4.4	3.7	3.5	3.9	3.1	3.0	3.7	3.7	2.8	2.8	2.5	4.4	3.7	3.6	3.4
12 years	5.9	5.0	4.7	4.2	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.9	3.2	3.5	2.7	2.6	5.1	4.8	4.2	4.4
13 years	7.8	7.1	6.0	6.0	6.5	7.2	6.4	6.0	4.0	4.0	2.6	2.4	7.1	6.1	5.9	5.2
14 years	9.4	8.9	8.5	7.6	9.7	8.2	8.0	8.0	5.8	4.8	3.7	4.1	8.8	8.5	7.7	7.5
15 years	10.4	11.2	10.6	11.1	9.9	9.4	9.6	8.8	6.3	7.0	4.7	5.0	11.0	10.6	10.6	9.4
16 years	12.4	11.7	12.7	12.9	9.2	9.6	9.4	9.5	7.4	7.1	4.4	6.1	11.6	12.6	12.5	12.6
17 years	10.5	12.4	12.4	14.0	5.1	5.3	5.9	6.0	13.5	5.4	19.5	32.6	12.3	12.2	13.3	13.1
18 years	0.0	1.3	2.4	1.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	12.8	21.0	12.1	3.3	1.2	2.3	1.1	1.9
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	4.9	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Asian	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4
Black	47.0	43.4	42.5	41.6	36.0	37.3	36.5	36.1	43.3	39.4	39.6	36.7	43.0	42.3	40.6	41.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	4.9	5.9	6.2	7.1	7.6	7.0	8.1	7.5	6.4	6.6	6.3	7.6	5.6	6.1	7.1	7.1
White	42.9	44.4	44.8	44.7	49.3	49.3	48.5	48.8	45.7	48.0	47.1	49.9	45.0	45.1	45.7	44.6
Two or more races	4.3	5.5	5.6	5.7	6.1	5.0	5.3	5.6	3.6	5.0	5.6	4.7	5.5	5.6	5.5	6.0
Unknown	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.8	1.2	1.4	0.4	0.6	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	1,611	1,823	1,797	1,754
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	84	942	966	992

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.1	2.0	2.6	2.0
1 year	6.2	5.4	6.9	6.8
2 years	5.6	6.9	6.2	7.1
3 years	7.0	5.5	6.8	5.9
4 years	7.0	6.1	5.9	5.5
5 years	5.0	5.7	5.7	6.3
6 years	5.7	4.5	5.0	6.6
7 years	6.0	4.7	4.4	5.6
8 years	5.9	5.2	4.8	5.5
9 years	6.5	5.7	5.5	5.4
10 years	7.5	5.8	5.5	5.8
11 years	7.9	7.3	6.1	5.2
12 years	6.2	6.9	6.4	6.3
13 years	7.3	6.6	6.2	6.7
14 years	5.5	7.2	6.7	5.7
15 years	4.7	6.9	6.8	6.0
16 years	2.2	5.2	5.0	4.6
17 years	0.7	2.4	3.5	3.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1
Asian	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
Black	46.9	46.0	43.9	40.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	4.8	4.7	5.3	7.1
White	39.9	41.5	43.2	42.8
Two or more races	7.3	7.3	6.8	8.6
Unknown	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	525	510	551	581

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.2	1.0	0.4	1.5
1 year	5.3	8.2	6.5	8.3
2 years	11.0	10.2	10.3	12.9
3 years	8.0	9.2	9.3	11.9
4 years	7.4	10.8	8.5	9.5
5 years	6.3	7.8	9.1	7.6
6 years	6.3	5.5	6.7	5.7
7 years	5.3	6.9	7.3	5.0
8 years	6.7	4.3	6.2	4.5
9 years	5.5	6.7	6.7	5.9
10 years	6.7	5.3	4.4	5.3
11 years	6.7	5.5	5.4	4.1
12 years	6.7	4.5	4.5	4.1
13 years	4.4	3.9	4.7	3.4
14 years	5.3	3.9	3.4	4.1
15 years	2.9	3.3	2.9	2.9
16 years	2.7	1.4	2.4	2.1
17 years	1.7	1.6	1.1	0.9
18 years	0.6	0.0	0.2	0.3
19 years	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
Asian	0.4	0.4	1.1	0.9
Black	47.8	46.7	34.3	38.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	4.6	3.5	3.8	5.5
White	39.0	40.8	48.5	45.1
Two or more races	7.6	8.2	11.8	10.3
Unknown	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	97.0	97.6	98.0	98.0
Children with one or more recurrences	3.0	2.4	2.0	2.0
Number	2,938	3,078	3,148	2,954

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.40	0.24	0.36	0.21
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.60	99.76	99.64	99.79
Number	9,639	10,438	10,887	10,336

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	21.3	19.1	20.8	20.8
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Reunification	53.8	50.0	41.5	42.0
Other	25.0	26.3	34.4	34.4
Missing data	0.0	4.6	3.4	2.8
Number	2,772	3,417	3,044	2,856

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	28.5	26.6	24.6	25.1
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Reunification	32.2	23.4	17.7	17.7
Other	39.3	46.9	54.1	55.6
Missing data	0.0	3.1	3.6	1.6
Number	575	616	475	367

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.9	0.9	0.6	0.9
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Reunification	49.3	45.1	30.7	34.2
Other	49.8	50.3	66.2	62.0
Missing data	0.0	3.7	2.5	2.8
Number	1,040	1,326	1,190	1,230

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	24.1	26.8	24.8	21.7
Children older than 12 at entry	75.8	73.1	75.2	78.3
Missing data	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0
Number	586	770	979	927

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	75.0	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7	41.7	33.3	23.7	20.3	19.1	18.3		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	25.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	40.0	50.0	50.0	58.3	49.3	43.4	37.1	38.9		
Other	0.0	66.7	0.0	0.0	60.0	25.0	8.3	8.3	27.0	32.5	41.1	40.4		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	2.7	2.4		
Number	4	3	1	0	10	12	12	12	1,201	1,347	1,205	1,048		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.4	14.3	17.8	19.4	19.0	17.3	20.5	20.2		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	59.6	62.1	46.1	45.4	56.9	54.3	44.1	44.2		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	23.0	17.4	28.3	32.4	24.1	23.6	31.9	32.5		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.3	7.9	2.8	0.0	4.8	3.5	3.1		
Number	0	0	0	2	178	224	191	216	1,268	1,641	1,435	1,424		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	9.1	25.0	10.0	30.0	29.0	31.8	38.8	46.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	81.8	60.0	73.3	40.0	57.0	45.9	38.2	36.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	9.1	10.0	10.0	20.0	14.0	15.9	20.6	15.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	0.0	5.0	6.7	10.0	0.0	6.5	2.4	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	11	20	30	20	100	170	170	134	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	69.3	68.1	72.0	66.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	19.8	23.4	20.7	25.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	6.2	4.9	5.3	4.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.8	1.8	0.8	1.9
48 or more mos.	2.2	1.5	1.1	1.6
Missing data	0.6	0.3	<.1	0.2
Number	1,490	1,710	1,262	1,200

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	91.3	88.8	89.6	89.7
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	4.6	4.4	4.3	2.9
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	2.6	4.7	4.1	3.7
Missing data	1.6	2.1	2.0	3.6
Number	3,418	3,518	3,936	3,472

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	2.2	3.2	0.9	3.7
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	18.0	19.9	27.2	26.8
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	28.6	29.0	29.9	32.2
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	20.0	20.9	21.4	18.7
48 or more mos.	31.0	27.0	20.6	18.7
Missing data	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	590	652	632	594

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	84.8	85.7	86.7	85.8	59.2	61.3	61.8	62.9	42.0	39.3	37.6	37.0	73.7	88.5	100.0	66.7
Children with 3 or more placements	15.0	14.0	12.9	13.7	40.6	38.6	38.1	36.7	57.9	60.6	62.3	62.9	0.0	3.8	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.1	<.1	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.1	<.1	0.2	26.3	7.7	0.0	33.3
Number	3,771	3,985	4,411	3,846	2,058	2,343	2,383	2,715	3,791	4,084	4,090	3,772	19	26	3	3

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions

(AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	0.7	0.7	1.1	0.6
Institutions	7.6	6.1	4.9	5.3
Other settings	91.5	92.9	93.4	93.6
Missing data	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.5
Number	1,985	1,979	2,233	1,880

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	128.3	126.2	110.1
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	70.9	70.8	71.9	65.1
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	5.7	5.8	5.1	7.9
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	25.3	28.7	29.2	14.2
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	11.3	7.7	8.4	10.1

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	65.3	75.1	74.0
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	20.2	23.2	28.2	30.5
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	36.5	34.4	33.2	30.3
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	14.6	14.7	14.2	13.0
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	2.2	2.5	4.6	3.9
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	52.3	37.3	40.7	37.8

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	101.7	103.7	98.4
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	17.1	17.3	15.6	14.2
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	99.8	92.6	90.9	88.8
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	47.8	49.4	42.2	44.4

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	97.6	97.9	97.6
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	84.0	84.9	86.3	85.6
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	59.3	61.4	61.9	63.2
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	42.0	39.6	37.9	37.0

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Washington

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	1,514,566	1,515,424	1,525,947	1,536,368
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.7
Asian	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.8
Black	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Hispanic (of any race)	14.0	14.7	15.4	16.0
White	69.0	68.2	67.3	66.4
Two or more races	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.4
Child population in poverty (%)	17.2	15.1	15.4	15.0

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	6,730	7,932	7,294	6,984
Children in foster care on 9/30	9,368	10,068	10,457	11,107
Children adopted	1,250	1,410	1,196	1,295

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	9
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,354
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	15,578
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	41
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	556
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,354

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	50,865	33.6 per 1,000	53,124	35.1 per 1,000	53,576	35.1 per 1,000	52,386	34.1 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	6,730	4.4 per 1,000	7,932	5.2 per 1,000	7,294	4.8 per 1,000	6,984	4.6 per 1,000
Child fatalities	7	0.5 per 100,000	9	0.6 per 100,000	21	1.4 per 100,000	27	1.8 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	13.8	15.4	15.1	14.3
1 year	8.0	7.1	7.3	7.6
2 years	7.6	7.2	7.5	7.3
3 years	7.1	7.1	6.5	6.4
4 years	7.0	7.1	6.3	6.4
5 years	6.4	6.0	5.9	6.0
6 years	6.0	6.2	6.3	5.7
7 years	5.5	5.8	5.9	5.1
8 years	5.0	5.4	5.3	5.4
9 years	4.2	4.6	4.9	4.7
10 years	4.6	4.3	4.4	4.7
11 years	3.9	4.1	4.2	3.9
12 years	4.4	3.9	4.0	4.4
13 years	4.0	4.3	3.8	4.4
14 years	3.8	3.8	4.1	4.2
15 years	3.6	3.0	3.4	3.9
16 years	2.3	2.3	2.7	3.4
17 years	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.5
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Missing data	1.6	1.1	1.0	0.8
Number	6,730	7,932	7,294	6,984

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	7.3	7.5	7.3	7.6
Asian	1.6	1.2	1.3	2.2
Black	8.9	6.0	8.3	6.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.7
Hispanic (of any race)	15.7	15.4	16.7	16.6
White	62.5	65.9	62.4	62.7
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.6
Number	6,730	7,932	7,294	6,984

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Medical neglect	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Neglect	80.1	83.1	81.9	81.4
Physical abuse	18.9	16.5	17.3	18.2
Sexual abuse	6.9	6.0	6.0	5.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	6,730	7,932	7,294	6,984

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	12.0	12.8	5.8	5.0
Median	<24	<24	<24	<24

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	8,896	9,188	9,882	10,359	6,554	7,004	6,738	6,998	6,082	6,124	6,163	6,250	9,368	10,068	10,457	11,107
Median length of stay (months)	16.1	14.7	14.8	15.7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9.4	9.4	10.4	11.1	14.9	14.8	15.7	16.2

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	7.8	7.5	9.2	8.5	17.3	20.7	21.3	21.1	4.9	5.9	6.6	6.5	7.5	9.2	8.5	8.1
1 year	8.7	9.3	9.1	10.0	7.4	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.4	8.2	7.8	9.2	9.1	10.0	9.9
2 years	7.9	7.7	8.3	8.1	5.7	6.2	6.0	6.0	7.5	7.0	7.8	8.1	7.6	8.3	8.0	8.7
3 years	6.4	7.3	7.0	7.3	5.9	5.6	5.5	4.8	6.4	6.4	7.0	6.2	7.3	7.0	7.2	6.9
4 years	6.4	6.2	6.4	6.3	5.0	5.1	4.8	4.9	6.0	5.8	5.8	6.2	6.1	6.4	6.3	6.4
5 years	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.9	4.6	4.0	4.9	4.3	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.9	5.5
6 years	4.7	5.3	4.9	5.2	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.6	5.2	4.6	4.9	5.2	4.9	5.2	5.0
7 years	4.8	4.4	4.7	4.8	3.5	4.0	4.4	3.7	3.9	4.0	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.8	4.8	4.9
8 years	4.2	4.6	4.3	4.5	3.6	3.6	3.3	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.7	4.0	4.6	4.2	4.5	4.7
9 years	4.2	4.1	4.4	4.0	3.1	3.3	3.6	2.9	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.0	4.0	4.4	4.0	4.0
10 years	4.3	4.0	3.8	4.2	3.1	3.2	2.9	3.4	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.9	3.8	4.2	4.1
11 years	4.5	4.0	3.9	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.4	2.9	3.9	3.4	3.6	3.1	4.0	3.9	3.6	3.9
12 years	4.7	4.4	3.9	3.9	4.4	3.3	3.3	3.8	4.3	3.5	3.2	3.6	4.4	3.8	3.9	3.6
13 years	4.8	4.8	4.3	3.9	5.4	4.4	4.4	4.5	5.0	4.6	4.3	4.3	4.8	4.4	3.9	4.0
14 years	5.1	5.0	4.7	4.4	6.5	5.5	4.9	5.8	6.2	6.2	4.8	5.2	5.1	4.6	4.3	4.2
15 years	5.4	5.5	5.0	5.0	7.3	6.5	6.4	6.7	7.1	6.9	6.3	6.4	5.3	4.9	4.8	4.7
16 years	5.0	5.6	5.2	5.4	5.9	6.3	5.7	6.0	6.1	7.2	6.1	6.1	5.6	5.1	5.2	5.2
17 years	5.1	4.5	4.9	4.8	3.6	3.5	3.7	3.7	5.6	4.6	6.4	6.8	4.6	4.9	4.7	5.1
18 years	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	5.2	5.9	4.7	4.3	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.9
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	8.8	8.7	8.2	8.1	7.0	6.7	6.6	6.7	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.4	8.8	8.4	8.0	8.2
Asian	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.6	1.2	0.9	1.1	1.3	0.7	0.8	0.8	1.0
Black	11.5	11.6	10.3	10.5	8.6	6.7	8.0	7.0	8.2	8.1	7.6	7.6	11.6	10.3	10.4	9.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4
Hispanic (of any race)	12.7	13.8	14.1	15.1	14.9	14.4	15.9	16.6	13.5	14.5	14.9	15.8	13.7	13.8	14.8	15.7
White	58.2	55.6	56.1	54.6	57.0	59.0	56.2	55.0	60.9	59.2	59.1	57.5	55.6	55.8	54.5	53.2
Two or more races	6.7	7.7	8.7	9.5	7.6	8.1	8.5	9.1	6.5	7.0	7.7	8.4	7.5	8.5	9.2	9.8
Unknown	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.7	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.7	1.3	1.3	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.8
Missing data	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	1.4	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.2	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	2,317	2,167	2,361	2,837
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	1,871	1,810	1,933	2,121

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.9	2.4	2.4	1.8
1 year	9.0	7.8	8.9	8.4
2 years	9.5	9.7	8.6	11.0
3 years	8.5	8.9	8.4	8.8
4 years	6.9	7.5	7.4	8.0
5 years	7.1	6.6	7.3	6.5
6 years	6.5	5.7	5.9	6.3
7 years	4.7	6.0	5.5	5.5
8 years	5.6	4.2	5.7	4.9
9 years	4.9	5.0	4.7	5.1
10 years	4.7	4.6	4.9	4.7
11 years	4.6	4.1	4.4	4.5
12 years	4.5	4.8	3.8	3.8
13 years	4.3	4.6	4.3	4.1
14 years	4.1	4.7	3.9	4.2
15 years	4.7	4.5	5.0	4.0
16 years	4.1	4.7	4.5	4.3
17 years	3.2	4.2	4.4	4.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.4
Asian	0.4	1.0	0.6	0.6
Black	13.2	13.3	12.7	11.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4
Hispanic (of any race)	13.7	14.4	15.4	16.4
White	57.7	55.9	55.3	54.8
Two or more races	8.1	7.9	9.0	9.6
Unknown	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.8
Missing data	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.5

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	1,250	1,410	1,196	1,295

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.2	2.3	1.3	1.2
1 year	15.2	14.5	15.6	14.0
2 years	15.9	15.5	15.8	15.7
3 years	11.1	12.3	13.5	11.6
4 years	11.4	10.9	10.1	10.7
5 years	9.3	7.7	8.7	8.6
6 years	6.9	8.1	7.4	7.6
7 years	5.4	5.3	6.2	5.8
8 years	4.7	5.5	4.5	5.6
9 years	3.3	4.2	3.2	4.3
10 years	3.4	3.8	3.0	3.3
11 years	3.6	3.1	2.9	2.6
12 years	2.2	2.8	2.5	2.5
13 years	2.3	1.5	2.0	2.1
14 years	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.7
15 years	1.0	0.7	1.1	1.0
16 years	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.8
17 years	0.5	<.1	0.2	0.5
18 years	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.2
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	4.1	5.1	4.5	4.4
Asian	0.6	0.6	1.3	0.5
Black	7.4	7.8	6.9	8.1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	<.1	0.6	0.3	0.5
Hispanic (of any race)	12.5	15.6	14.1	14.9
White	69.0	62.2	64.6	62.9
Two or more races	4.9	6.3	6.1	7.1
Unknown	1.5	1.8	2.0	1.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

Washington

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	90.4	89.9	92.0	92.7
Children with one or more recurrences	9.6	10.1	8.0	7.3
Number	2,779	3,050	3,240	3,309

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.36	0.27	0.42	0.23
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.64	99.73	99.58	99.77
Number	15,450	16,192	16,620	17,357

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	18.6	19.3	17.6	19.2
Guardianship	6.5	5.6	6.1	5.6
Reunification	61.8	61.6	62.1	59.7
Other	7.9	7.5	7.8	8.1
Missing data	5.3	6.1	6.3	7.5
Number	6,082	6,124	6,163	6,250

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	15.7	19.3	31.1	30.1
Guardianship	8.6	21.1	16.6	12.1
Reunification	57.1	39.4	34.4	23.8
Other	15.7	15.6	14.6	29.7
Missing data	2.9	4.6	3.3	4.3
Number	70	109	151	488

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.5
Guardianship	3.6	3.0	3.9	2.8
Reunification	77.4	77.7	75.8	75.8
Other	16.4	16.4	17.1	17.8
Missing data	2.2	2.6	2.6	3.1
Number	1,764	1,787	1,633	1,668

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	28.6	25.6	31.4	31.5
Children older than 12 at entry	71.4	74.4	68.6	68.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	357	344	382	403

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	10.5	14.4	12.2	12.1	9.6	10.9	22.4	8.5	17.3	19.8	17.3	20.1		
Guardianship	13.8	15.6	14.6	17.1	9.6	1.8	1.5	4.9	6.0	7.5	8.6	6.3		
Reunification	53.8	47.1	44.7	45.5	67.1	72.7	67.2	73.2	59.0	59.4	59.5	56.4		
Other	19.3	16.0	18.9	15.8	12.3	3.6	4.5	6.1	11.5	9.3	10.1	13.2		
Missing data	2.6	6.9	9.6	9.5	1.4	10.9	4.5	7.3	6.2	4.0	4.5	4.0		
Number	420	418	418	398	73	55	67	82	497	495	467	477		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	6.9	8.6	13.3	16.7	17.6	19.3	16.2	17.9	21.0	20.8	19.0	21.1		
Guardianship	6.9	2.9	3.3	0.0	5.4	3.3	4.5	5.2	6.0	4.9	5.1	4.7		
Reunification	58.6	80.0	80.0	80.6	64.0	63.9	66.2	61.3	61.1	61.8	62.6	60.1		
Other	10.3	0.0	3.3	0.0	6.6	5.7	6.6	7.0	6.6	6.8	6.8	7.1		
Missing data	17.2	8.6	0.0	2.8	6.5	7.9	6.4	8.6	5.4	5.7	6.5	7.0		
Number	29	35	30	36	819	891	918	987	3,703	3,627	3,641	3,593		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	11.1	10.6	12.5	11.1	13.9	16.9	14.3	17.4	10.8	9.6	17.6	10.8		
Guardianship	0.0	2.9	3.8	4.9	7.6	6.1	8.6	3.8	0.0	1.4	7.4	4.1		
Reunification	87.7	76.9	78.8	71.6	66.3	61.0	63.1	59.6	80.0	80.8	64.7	77.0		
Other	1.2	6.7	2.5	7.4	8.4	7.7	8.2	8.4	3.1	6.8	5.9	1.4		
Missing data	0.0	2.9	2.5	4.9	3.8	8.2	5.7	10.7	6.2	1.4	4.4	6.8		
Number	81	104	80	81	395	426	474	522	65	73	68	74		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	76.4	75.7	72.8	73.4
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	13.0	14.3	16.2	15.1
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	6.8	5.8	7.2	7.7
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.2
48 or more mos.	1.4	2.0	1.7	1.7
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	3,756	3,770	3,827	3,731

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	77.1	78.3	78.4	78.7
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	11.2	10.9	11.2	10.4
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	11.3	10.5	10.2	10.5
Missing data	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.5
Number	6,554	7,004	6,738	6,998

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.2
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	26.8	28.8	29.7	25.0
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	36.2	33.6	34.1	37.2
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	18.5	19.5	20.5	18.7
48 or more mos.	15.6	15.4	13.1	16.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,130	1,183	1,083	1,199

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	84.7	85.5	84.8	86.1	60.8	59.1	61.2	61.1	32.1	33.1	35.2	38.5	100.0	92.9	87.5	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	15.3	14.5	15.2	13.9	39.2	40.9	38.8	38.9	67.9	66.9	64.8	61.5	0.0	7.1	12.5	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	7,122	7,557	7,366	7,557	3,452	3,851	4,217	4,204	4,857	4,756	5,029	5,593	19	28	8	3

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	2.3	1.7	2.0	1.3
Institutions	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.6
Other settings	96.8	97.7	97.6	98.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	4,582	5,054	4,960	5,047

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	105.3	106.2	101.7
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	65.4	65.6	64.2	63.9
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	5.7	5.8	6.2	5.8
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	30.7	27.1	25.9	25.2
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	16.4	17.3	15.9	17.3

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	115.9	110.1	106.0
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	29.7	31.5	32.3	27.2
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	30.1	29.8	30.0	31.0
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	23.1	23.5	20.7	22.1
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	15.9	15.2	13.2	15.0
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	51.8	54.9	53.7	50.7

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	124.6	115.5	118.0
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	32.6	33.5	30.7	31.5
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	95.9	95.6	93.9	93.5
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	54.3	48.2	51.1	52.0

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	91.3	92.8	95.3
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	79.9	81.3	80.7	82.4
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	60.8	59.1	61.2	61.1
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	32.1	33.1	35.2	38.6

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Randy Hart, Interim Assistant Secretary
Department of Social and Health Services

The following are Washington's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

Washington State remains focused on achieving safety for all children we serve and on securing stable permanent homes for children in the shortest time possible. To ensure the safety of children returning home, a reunification assessment is used to evaluate their safety before returning home and transition and safety plans are used when children are reunified with their parents. These tools continue to reduce the reentry rate for children exiting to reunification.

The total number of adoptions completed increased in 2007 at the same time Washington focused on permanency with specialized recruitment and a decrease in social worker caseload. Washington shows continued improvement in outcome 6.1 with an increase in the number of children with 2 or fewer placements increasing to 86.1% and children with 3 or more placements decreasing to 13.9%. Measure 7.1, the percentage of children 12 and under placed in a group home or institution declined to 1.9% in 2007. Furthermore in permanency composite three, measure C3.1, the percentage of children in foster care for 24 months or longer who exited to permanency by the end of the year continues to improve to 31.5% in 2007. Measure 2.1 children not maltreated while in foster care is 99.77 in 2007 which exceeds the national standard 99.68%.

Children's Administration conducts formal reviews of child fatalities in cases where there is an open case on the child or family, or the family has been served by the administration in the 12 months prior to the child's death. The number of reviewable child fatalities increased in 2007. Washington has begun closer examination to determine the reasons for the increase in child fatalities. Children's Administration is working across administrations to identify common trends and risk factors in child fatalities.

A new monthly visit policy was implemented for in-home dependencies in April 2007 and for children in out-of-home care effective September 2008. Washington has made significant progress with caseworker visits. June 2009, leaders of the Department of Social and Health Services expect staff members to visit monthly with 95% of dependent children who are (1) living in their families' homes; (2) under the age of 6 and living with unlicensed relatives, and (3) over 6 and living in foster homes or with unlicensed relatives. Currently, the rates of monthly visits range from 69% for older children to 79% for the other two groups.

Washington State efforts to improve practice move forward with evidence based initiatives. A statewide practice model 'Solution Based Casework' has been implemented with ongoing training and coaching through 2009. We continue to use a safety assessment and safety plan during investigation of abuse and neglect and enhanced practice with 'Structured Decision Making'. SDM is a validated actuarial model that helps to identify appropriate services responsive to the demonstrated risk. Washington has decreased time to investigations from 12.0 hours in 2004 to 5.0 in 2007 for investigations required to be completed within 24 hours.

The Governor and legislature of Washington State are committed to management accountability and performance measurement.

West Virginia

CONTEXT DATA

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	390,582	388,725	388,451	387,381
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Asian	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7
Black	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.7
White	91.9	91.6	91.2	90.8
Two or more races	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1
Child population in poverty (%)	24.4	25.6	25.2	22.8

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	8,446	9,511	8,345	7,109
Children in foster care on 9/30	3,990	4,629	4,018	4,410
Children adopted	384	368	419	403

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	10
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	770
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	7,459
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	18
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	322
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,839

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	40,916	104.8 per 1,000	50,249	129.3 per 1,000	51,674	133.0 per 1,000	49,357	127.4 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	8,446	21.6 per 1,000	9,511	24.5 per 1,000	8,345	21.5 per 1,000	7,109	18.4 per 1,000
Child fatalities	12	3.1 per 100,000	16	4.1 per 100,000	15	3.9 per 100,000	12	3.1 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	7.3	8.2	9.1	10.0
1 year	5.7	6.5	6.1	6.7
2 years	5.8	6.1	6.6	6.3
3 years	6.3	5.8	6.5	6.9
4 years	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.6
5 years	5.8	6.7	6.2	6.0
6 years	5.9	6.5	6.5	6.5
7 years	5.1	6.0	5.6	6.0
8 years	5.6	5.0	5.1	5.6
9 years	5.3	4.8	5.2	5.3
10 years	5.2	4.8	4.5	4.7
11 years	5.1	4.8	4.4	4.6
12 years	4.8	4.4	4.7	4.2
13 years	5.3	4.9	5.0	4.6
14 years	4.9	4.8	5.1	4.1
15 years	4.5	4.6	4.2	4.0
16 years	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.2
17 years	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.1
18+ years	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Missing data	5.5	4.2	3.3	2.5
Number	8,446	9,511	8,345	7,109

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Black	3.6	3.2	3.4	2.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	0.7	1.0	1.2	1.1
White	82.6	83.1	83.9	84.2
Two or more races	3.8	3.7	4.3	5.0
Missing data	9.1	8.9	7.0	6.9
Number	8,446	9,511	8,345	7,109

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	20.9	22.8	24.5	24.6
Medical neglect	1.5	1.2	1.5	1.4
Neglect	54.7	54.9	55.5	54.1
Physical abuse	27.6	27.2	24.5	25.8
Sexual abuse	5.3	4.7	4.6	4.5
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	7.4	7.9	8.0	9.4
Number	8,446	9,511	8,345	7,109

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	281.5	474.7	499.4	400.6
Median	>192 but<216	>216 but<240	>168 but<192	>168 but<192

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	2,871	4,266	3,754	3,890	2,402	2,846	2,814	3,069	1,283	2,483	2,550	2,549	3,990	4,629	4,018	4,410
Median length of stay (months)	17.4	16.3	11.0	11.4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.7	11.6	11.3	11.6	11.7	14.1	11.3	11.2

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.1	2.9	5.1	6.0	9.3	10.3	11.9	11.7	1.9	2.3	2.3	2.9	3.8	4.3	5.8	5.5
1 year	4.1	4.0	4.8	6.4	4.1	5.2	4.2	5.3	3.6	4.2	4.2	5.4	4.1	4.1	6.2	6.5
2 years	3.3	3.6	4.9	4.9	4.5	4.1	3.9	4.6	5.2	4.5	4.5	5.3	3.9	4.2	4.7	6.1
3 years	3.7	3.1	3.6	4.5	3.3	3.8	3.3	4.6	4.4	3.6	3.4	4.5	3.2	3.2	4.4	4.9
4 years	3.5	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.5	4.1	4.7	3.5	3.4	4.2	3.3	3.5	3.5	4.4
5 years	3.3	3.4	3.9	4.2	3.7	3.3	3.2	3.9	3.6	3.2	3.1	3.5	3.3	3.8	4.1	3.9
6 years	3.2	3.7	3.9	4.0	3.0	2.9	3.1	3.5	3.7	2.5	3.7	4.0	3.3	3.6	4.0	4.0
7 years	2.8	3.1	3.4	2.9	2.2	2.5	2.6	3.3	2.5	3.0	3.1	3.0	2.8	3.6	2.9	3.8
8 years	3.1	2.9	2.9	3.3	2.9	2.6	2.5	3.2	3.2	2.3	2.7	2.6	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.4
9 years	3.5	3.0	3.2	2.8	2.4	2.7	1.9	2.2	2.9	2.2	2.3	2.7	2.9	3.1	2.7	3.2
10 years	3.7	3.3	3.2	3.0	2.6	3.1	2.3	2.6	3.0	2.5	2.8	1.8	2.9	3.2	3.0	2.6
11 years	4.1	4.0	3.4	2.9	3.7	2.6	2.2	2.6	3.5	2.4	2.2	2.4	3.6	3.5	2.9	3.2
12 years	5.1	4.1	4.0	3.8	3.7	4.5	3.7	3.5	3.0	3.1	2.8	2.3	3.9	4.0	3.7	3.5
13 years	5.9	5.6	5.2	5.5	6.8	6.1	7.9	5.6	3.6	3.7	4.5	3.2	5.8	5.3	5.5	5.0
14 years	8.6	6.8	7.9	6.6	9.0	9.2	8.6	8.2	5.3	5.6	6.0	5.0	7.2	7.6	6.8	7.0
15 years	10.4	10.1	9.2	10.0	13.1	12.2	12.3	10.5	7.2	9.4	8.4	8.0	11.1	8.9	10.4	8.6
16 years	12.4	11.9	11.5	10.5	12.9	11.9	12.6	10.5	9.7	12.6	12.6	11.4	13.0	10.9	11.0	10.4
17 years	11.2	11.1	10.4	9.8	7.8	8.2	9.3	8.8	14.0	13.9	16.8	17.3	12.3	10.2	9.9	9.7
18 years	3.1	4.5	3.7	3.1	1.3	1.0	0.8	0.9	11.1	11.5	8.1	7.6	4.7	4.3	3.2	2.7
19 years	1.5	2.2	1.3	1.4	0.2	0.1	<.1	<.1	2.3	2.3	2.0	1.6	1.5	2.3	1.4	1.0
20+ years	0.4	1.2	0.5	0.5	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	1.2	1.1	0.8	1.2	0.5	1.1	0.6	0.5
Missing data	0.0	1.9	0.1	0.1	<.1	0.2	<.1	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.2	0.1	<.1	2.4	0.2	0.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Asian	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1
Black	7.6	6.9	7.0	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.2	5.8	6.8	6.5	6.7	7.3	7.3	7.0	6.6	5.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	1.1	1.3	2.0	1.7	1.2	1.8	1.7	1.3	1.3	1.0	2.5	1.4	1.1	1.8	1.5	1.7
White	84.5	84.6	84.0	84.0	83.2	84.6	83.5	86.4	83.6	85.5	83.6	83.6	84.0	84.1	84.0	85.9
Two or more races	4.9	5.8	6.5	6.8	4.0	5.4	5.8	5.5	4.8	4.6	5.6	5.8	4.4	6.2	6.6	6.5
Unknown	0.7	0.7	0.2	<.1	1.1	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.2	1.0	0.6	<.1	0.1
Missing data	1.1	0.7	0.2	0.8	3.8	0.9	2.2	0.4	2.7	1.7	1.1	1.5	2.2	0.3	1.1	<.1

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	976	1,312	1,204	1,273
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	659	910	818	976

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.1	6.6	6.6	5.1
1 year	6.9	6.6	9.8	9.3
2 years	5.4	7.5	7.0	9.4
3 years	6.4	5.4	6.7	7.4
4 years	5.9	5.8	5.2	5.3
5 years	5.2	6.1	7.0	5.2
6 years	6.0	5.6	4.7	6.2
7 years	5.0	6.6	5.2	5.1
8 years	4.9	4.7	5.1	4.7
9 years	5.6	4.7	4.2	4.7
10 years	4.8	4.0	4.7	4.2
11 years	6.1	5.0	4.0	4.9
12 years	5.9	5.9	4.5	4.2
13 years	7.0	6.3	6.0	4.2
14 years	5.5	6.6	5.7	5.5
15 years	6.3	5.1	7.6	6.0
16 years	5.8	3.4	3.3	5.7
17 years	3.0	4.1	2.7	2.9

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.2	<.1	<.1
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1
Black	6.8	5.9	6.1	4.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	0.9	2.1	2.2	2.2
White	85.0	83.1	83.0	85.1
Two or more races	5.8	7.6	8.0	7.3
Unknown	1.0	0.9	0.0	0.2
Missing data	0.4	0.2	0.7	0.2

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	384	368	419	403

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.2
1 year	6.8	9.8	12.2	14.1
2 years	12.0	10.9	12.2	11.9
3 years	9.6	8.2	8.4	12.9
4 years	8.9	9.8	9.1	9.4
5 years	8.1	8.7	8.4	7.4
6 years	8.6	6.5	7.6	6.5
7 years	6.3	6.3	6.9	5.5
8 years	7.6	7.1	7.6	5.0
9 years	6.0	4.3	3.1	4.7
10 years	5.7	5.4	5.3	3.5
11 years	5.7	4.6	4.3	3.5
12 years	3.6	5.2	3.1	3.5
13 years	3.9	2.2	2.9	3.5
14 years	2.9	2.2	2.6	3.0
15 years	2.1	2.7	1.2	1.0
16 years	1.0	2.2	1.4	1.5
17 years	0.3	2.4	2.6	1.5
18 years	0.3	0.8	0.2	0.2
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	6.0	7.9	4.8	7.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	2.3	0.8	5.0	3.0
White	83.6	84.8	82.6	79.4
Two or more races	7.3	6.3	7.4	10.4
Unknown	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

West Virginia

OUTCOMES DATA

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	88.9	86.6	88.7	88.0
Children with one or more recurrences	11.1	13.4	11.3	12.0
Number	4,100	3,905	3,851	3,267

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.66	0.51	0.52	0.03
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.34	99.49	99.48	99.97
Number	5,273	7,112	6,568	6,959

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	28.0	14.7	16.7	16.0
Guardianship	3.8	2.9	4.4	3.9
Reunification	51.1	50.9	65.2	67.5
Other	13.8	12.0	13.4	12.2
Missing data	3.3	19.5	0.3	0.4
Number	1,283	2,483	2,550	2,549

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	43.7	19.9	19.8	25.3
Guardianship	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.0
Reunification	32.3	43.3	59.2	55.0
Other	18.2	14.6	18.6	17.7
Missing data	3.4	20.1	0.1	0.0
Number	412	816	819	862

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.2
Guardianship	1.8	1.7	2.8	1.7
Reunification	71.0	56.7	76.3	76.8
Other	20.9	16.9	19.6	20.0
Missing data	5.4	23.8	0.2	0.2
Number	556	1,274	1,303	1,252

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	38.8	29.2	29.2	24.1
Children older than 12 at entry	61.2	70.8	70.8	75.9
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	152	233	219	216

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian			2004	Black			2004	2005	2006	2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006		2007	2004	2005				
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	24.1	17.9	12.3	15.6				
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	0.6	6.4	5.9				
Reunification	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	52.9	54.9	70.2	62.4				
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.2	6.8	11.1	16.1				
Missing data	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	19.8	0.0	0.0				
Number	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	1	87	162	171	186				
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)			2004	White			2004	2005	2006	2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006		2007	2004	2005				
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	52.9	12.5	34.9	34.3	27.9	14.6	16.5	15.2				
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.0	4.1	3.2	4.5	4.0				
Reunification	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	23.5	58.3	54.0	57.1	50.6	50.3	65.1	68.2				
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.5	12.5	9.5	8.6	14.0	12.7	13.6	12.2				
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7	0.0	0.0	3.4	19.3	0.3	0.4				
Number	1	0	1	1	17	24	63	35	1,073	2,124	2,131	2,132				
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races			2004	Missing Data			2004	2005	2006	2007
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006		2007	2004	2005				
Adoption	37.5	6.7	8.3	0.0	43.5	20.2	21.7	28.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.6				
Guardianship	0.0	13.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	2.8	2.7	2.9	2.4	0.0	0.0				
Reunification	50.0	66.7	75.0	83.3	46.8	50.0	60.1	58.4	82.9	57.1	88.9	92.3				
Other	12.5	0.0	16.7	16.7	6.5	9.6	15.4	10.7	8.6	7.1	7.4	5.1				
Missing data	0.0	13.3	0.0	0.0	3.2	19.3	0.0	0.0	5.7	33.3	3.7	0.0				
Number	8	15	12	6	62	114	143	149	35	42	27	39				

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	74.2	68.5	69.2	67.8
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	17.5	22.0	23.8	25.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	4.3	5.5	4.4	4.6
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.8	1.7	0.9	1.2
48 or more mos.	2.0	2.2	1.7	1.5
Missing data	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	656	1,263	1,663	1,721

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	81.8	81.4	80.7	80.7
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	8.8	10.4	11.3	10.8
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	4.2	6.5	7.4	8.0
Missing data	5.2	1.7	0.7	0.5
Number	2,402	2,846	2,814	3,069

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	1.1	2.2	5.4	3.4
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	24.8	30.9	34.4	41.5
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	34.3	32.8	35.4	32.2
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	24.8	17.5	12.6	13.8
48 or more mos.	15.0	16.7	12.2	9.1
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	359	366	427	407

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	86.2	88.8	85.8	87.4	60.3	65.0	65.4	66.4	28.8	41.0	29.8	31.8	92.9	100.0	75.0	0.0
Children with 3 or more placements	13.8	11.2	14.2	12.6	39.7	35.0	34.6	33.6	71.2	59.0	70.2	68.2	0.0	0.0	25.0	0.0
Missing data	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	2,574	3,353	3,426	3,607	1,048	1,457	1,603	1,769	1,637	2,294	1,535	1,583	14	8	4	0

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	5.9	5.8	4.5	3.6
Institutions	0.7	1.5	0.6	1.4
Other settings	92.3	92.5	94.8	94.5
Missing data	1.0	0.2	0.2	0.5
Number	1,069	1,288	1,185	1,486

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	95.1	113.1	113.0
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	73.2	68.5	72.3	71.5
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	6.8	7.9	7.7	7.7
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	20.7	26.7	44.1	41.6
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	16.1	20.1	16.8	16.1

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	71.7	99.7	98.6
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	25.9	33.1	40.1	45.3
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	31.4	29.9	27.2	25.4
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	20.1	15.9	24.7	22.2
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	4.1	5.1	6.2	9.4
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	20.8	20.5	35.9	28.8

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	113.0	127.1	124.8
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	23.5	19.2	28.9	25.7
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	92.2	91.9	92.8	93.2
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	40.9	39.7	34.5	34.2

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	101.5	95.4	98.5
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	85.4	88.0	85.0	86.9
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	59.9	64.8	65.2	66.4
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	28.6	39.8	29.5	32.2

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	1,340,324	1,331,297	1,326,996	1,321,279
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Asian	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9
Black	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	6.9	7.3	7.7	8.1
White	78.4	77.8	77.2	76.7
Two or more races	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5
Child population in poverty (%)	14.0	13.9	14.9	14.4

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	9,325	9,686	8,583	7,856
Children in foster care on 9/30	7,812	8,109	7,556	7,446
Children adopted	1,152	915	885	734

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	27
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	2,849
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	10,558
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	67
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	13,008
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	19,398

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	40,205	30.0 per 1,000	41,430	31.1 per 1,000	41,230	31.1 per 1,000	39,671	30.0 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	9,325	7.0 per 1,000	9,686	7.3 per 1,000	8,583	6.5 per 1,000	7,856	6.0 per 1,000
Child fatalities	11	0.8 per 100,000	13	1.0 per 100,000	13	1.0 per 100,000	22	1.7 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	6.5	7.7	8.2	9.9
1 year	3.8	4.7	5.4	6.8
2 years	4.4	5.0	5.5	6.9
3 years	5.0	5.3	5.2	6.2
4 years	4.7	5.3	5.7	5.6
5 years	4.9	5.6	5.2	6.4
6 years	4.9	5.6	5.5	6.3
7 years	4.4	5.1	5.1	5.3
8 years	4.3	4.5	5.3	5.0
9 years	4.5	4.3	4.6	5.1
10 years	4.3	4.6	4.1	4.3
11 years	4.7	4.3	3.9	3.8
12 years	4.8	4.9	4.5	4.3
13 years	7.3	6.7	6.3	4.9
14 years	9.6	7.9	7.6	5.6
15 years	11.1	8.4	8.1	5.8
16 years	6.1	5.9	5.8	4.3
17 years	3.4	3.2	3.0	2.5
18+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	1.2	1.1	0.8	1.0
Number	9,325	9,686	8,583	7,856

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	2.5	3.5	2.6	3.2
Asian	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.3
Black	21.3	22.8	20.9	21.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	4.3	7.1	6.7	7.3
White	58.7	53.5	55.6	53.7
Two or more races	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	11.7	11.9	13.0	13.4
Number	9,325	9,686	8,583	7,856

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.5
Medical neglect	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.9
Neglect	28.2	28.4	29.9	36.2
Physical abuse	14.0	12.7	14.2	13.8
Sexual abuse	43.3	37.8	35.0	25.6
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	17.4	25.0	25.4	29.7
Number	9,325	9,686	8,583	7,856

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	—	97.5	103.3	103.3
Median	—	>24 but<48	>24 but<48	>24 but<48

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	7,183	7,444	7,350	6,756	5,643	6,099	5,375	5,232	5,682	5,754	5,249	4,571	7,812	8,109	7,556	7,446
Median length of stay (months)	19.5	15.7	15.3	15.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9.4	7.4	8.8	8.8	13.5	14.1	15.0	14.0

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.0	4.0	4.3	5.0	10.5	10.6	12.6	13.5	3.5	3.8	3.9	4.6	4.3	4.2	4.8	5.5
1 year	4.6	5.1	5.2	5.8	5.5	5.1	5.9	7.1	4.0	4.8	5.5	6.5	5.1	5.3	5.7	6.4
2 years	4.6	4.8	4.8	6.1	4.2	4.8	5.9	5.8	4.4	4.9	5.4	5.3	5.0	4.8	5.9	6.1
3 years	3.9	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.3	5.0	5.0	4.6	4.4	5.2	4.7	4.5	4.8	4.6	6.3
4 years	4.6	3.7	4.2	4.1	4.1	3.7	4.3	4.2	4.6	3.7	4.7	4.2	3.8	4.1	4.2	4.7
5 years	4.7	4.2	3.7	4.1	3.8	3.0	3.9	3.6	4.4	3.5	4.3	3.4	4.2	3.8	4.0	4.1
6 years	4.2	4.2	4.0	4.1	3.5	3.5	3.8	3.8	4.3	3.7	3.5	3.8	3.9	3.9	4.0	3.8
7 years	4.1	4.3	4.1	3.8	3.1	3.0	3.3	3.5	3.3	3.7	3.6	3.7	4.2	3.9	3.8	4.2
8 years	4.2	3.7	3.9	3.8	3.4	3.2	3.6	3.6	3.9	3.4	3.9	3.5	3.5	3.9	3.9	3.7
9 years	4.7	4.3	3.5	3.3	3.3	2.7	2.6	3.2	3.4	2.9	3.3	3.1	4.1	3.5	3.5	3.7
10 years	4.9	4.6	4.0	3.4	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.9	3.6	3.3	2.6	4.3	4.0	3.4	3.6
11 years	5.5	4.7	4.6	3.8	3.7	3.3	3.2	2.8	4.4	3.4	3.3	3.0	4.5	4.2	3.9	3.4
12 years	5.9	5.5	5.0	4.5	5.3	4.0	3.6	3.5	5.1	3.6	3.8	3.3	5.5	5.0	4.6	3.7
13 years	6.7	6.5	5.7	5.1	6.6	6.7	5.8	6.3	5.0	5.9	4.6	3.9	6.7	5.8	5.3	5.3
14 years	8.1	7.7	7.6	7.1	9.9	9.2	8.5	7.5	7.5	7.3	5.8	6.3	7.6	7.7	7.0	6.4
15 years	9.0	9.9	9.1	9.2	10.6	12.6	11.1	9.8	8.6	10.4	8.7	8.0	10.0	9.6	9.2	8.3
16 years	8.0	9.6	10.9	10.5	10.8	12.9	10.4	10.2	10.7	12.1	10.4	10.5	10.1	11.0	10.5	9.8
17 years	6.7	7.1	8.7	9.5	3.3	3.8	3.3	3.6	7.9	8.9	10.7	13.3	7.1	8.5	9.1	8.6
18 years	1.3	1.6	1.7	2.0	0.3	<.1	<.1	<.1	5.9	5.5	5.4	5.9	1.5	1.7	2.1	1.8
19 years	<.1	<.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.4	<.1	0.3	0.4	0.3
20+ years	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	<.1	0.2	0.1
Missing data	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	2.2	2.8	3.6	3.4	3.7	4.0	3.8	4.4	2.9	2.7	3.8	4.0	2.8	3.8	3.6	3.8
Asian	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.3	1.7	1.4	0.9	1.2	1.0	1.0
Black	44.4	41.6	39.5	37.3	28.4	27.4	27.7	27.1	33.1	30.7	30.3	26.1	40.1	38.0	37.6	37.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	7.7	7.3	7.5	7.8	8.2	7.6	8.7	9.2	7.4	7.9	8.4	8.6	8.1	7.3	7.7	8.3
White	39.7	42.1	42.7	44.7	51.3	53.5	52.1	51.0	48.9	52.0	50.1	53.5	42.4	43.9	44.3	43.7
Two or more races	3.9	4.3	4.4	4.7	3.7	3.5	4.1	4.7	3.8	3.4	3.8	4.5	3.9	4.4	4.7	4.8
Unknown	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	2.0	1.7	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.8
Missing data	0.4	<.1	0.2	0.3	1.2	0.7	0.6	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.5

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	1,341	1,283	1,214	1,244
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	571	669	628	593

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.0	3.2	3.5	3.4
1 year	6.6	6.3	7.1	6.4
2 years	7.3	6.8	8.6	8.3
3 years	6.4	6.3	5.4	9.9
4 years	4.5	7.1	5.5	6.9
5 years	6.3	4.8	6.2	5.8
6 years	6.4	6.4	5.8	5.6
7 years	6.0	5.6	5.8	5.4
8 years	5.1	5.4	5.8	5.5
9 years	6.2	5.2	5.4	6.1
10 years	6.4	6.2	5.3	5.5
11 years	6.6	6.8	5.8	4.2
12 years	7.2	6.6	7.0	5.1
13 years	7.2	5.5	6.0	5.3
14 years	4.6	5.8	4.8	4.6
15 years	4.5	5.2	5.3	4.0
16 years	3.4	4.0	4.1	4.8
17 years	1.3	2.7	2.7	3.1

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.6	2.5	3.1	4.3
Asian	0.7	1.2	0.9	1.3
Black	52.1	47.3	44.0	43.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	9.7	9.7	10.0	8.7
White	30.1	33.1	35.8	35.5
Two or more races	5.0	5.9	5.7	6.0
Unknown	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.5
Missing data	0.2	0.0	0.0	<.1

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	1,152	915	885	734

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	2.7	5.0	4.6	6.4
1 year	7.6	9.1	8.7	12.4
2 years	7.6	10.5	11.0	11.7
3 years	7.9	8.2	10.2	9.8
4 years	8.2	6.4	9.0	6.1
5 years	6.9	5.2	6.8	6.9
6 years	7.9	6.4	6.3	5.6
7 years	6.3	8.1	6.4	6.1
8 years	6.0	5.8	7.1	4.8
9 years	6.1	4.6	4.9	5.6
10 years	6.0	4.9	4.1	4.0
11 years	6.6	4.9	3.7	4.4
12 years	5.7	4.5	4.1	4.6
13 years	4.7	6.7	4.1	3.1
14 years	3.8	3.4	2.3	3.0
15 years	3.0	2.5	2.3	2.3
16 years	2.2	2.4	2.8	1.4
17 years	0.9	1.3	1.6	1.6
18 years	<.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	2.2	1.3	2.4	3.3
Asian	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.7
Black	51.2	44.7	39.1	33.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	8.0	10.6	11.6	12.0
White	33.2	37.0	38.8	43.6
Two or more races	4.6	4.9	6.7	6.4
Unknown	0.0	0.8	0.6	0.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	—	92.6	93.9	92.8
Children with one or more recurrences	—	7.4	6.1	7.2
Number	—	4,263	3,728	3,487

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	0.54	0.30	0.43
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	99.46	99.70	99.57
Number	—	13,543	12,725	11,988

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	21.8	15.2	15.8	14.8
Guardianship	6.1	5.5	5.7	3.2
Reunification	60.6	68.3	65.7	67.1
Other	11.4	11.0	12.8	14.9
Missing data	0.2	0.0	<.1	0.0
Number	5,682	5,754	5,249	4,571

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	40.7	36.9	37.8	41.4
Guardianship	2.4	2.9	4.0	3.0
Reunification	41.8	45.9	39.6	35.8
Other	14.8	14.3	18.4	19.9
Missing data	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0
Number	973	918	939	937

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.3	0.8	1.5	1.1
Guardianship	1.7	2.4	2.2	2.6
Reunification	75.5	77.8	73.3	71.0
Other	21.3	18.9	23.0	25.3
Missing data	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	1,836	2,265	1,917	1,835

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	27.4	29.9	31.2	30.2
Children older than 12 at entry	59.4	63.9	65.1	68.0
Missing data	13.3	6.2	3.7	1.8
Number	475	438	513	506

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	10.8	4.4	9.4	10.5	9.8	5.4	7.8	6.5	32.2	23.0	21.0	18.7		
Guardianship	1.8	1.9	11.4	3.3	0.0	5.4	0.0	1.6	8.7	8.1	10.2	3.5		
Reunification	69.3	80.4	65.3	74.6	79.3	83.8	80.0	77.4	47.3	56.0	53.4	57.5		
Other	13.9	13.3	13.9	11.6	10.9	5.4	12.2	14.5	11.7	12.9	15.4	20.3		
Missing data	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	166	158	202	181	92	74	90	62	1,881	1,766	1,591	1,195		
	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	33.3	0.0	16.7	0.0	26.5	17.5	20.8	20.1	15.0	10.8	12.0	12.2		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	16.7	0.0	10.0	8.1	3.6	2.5	4.2	3.6	3.3	3.1		
Reunification	66.7	100.0	66.7	100.0	53.3	67.0	66.7	68.7	68.9	74.9	72.4	70.7		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.2	7.4	8.8	8.7	11.7	10.7	12.2	13.9		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.0		
Number	3	5	6	3	422	457	442	393	2,779	2,990	2,628	2,445		
	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	6.0	6.9	6.5	1.9	34.0	25.1	29.0	25.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	4.5	4.2	1.6	1.9	7.4	9.2	3.5	3.9	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	79.1	83.3	79.0	85.2	54.0	53.8	58.5	59.9	89.5	100.0	96.4	90.3		
Other	10.4	5.6	12.9	11.1	4.7	11.8	9.0	11.1	8.8	0.0	3.6	9.7		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	67	72	62	54	215	195	200	207	57	37	28	31		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	70.6	74.5	77.7	76.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	12.2	12.4	14.3	15.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	3.4	3.6	3.9	4.5
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.5
48 or more mos.	3.7	2.7	2.3	1.8
Missing data	8.7	5.5	0.5	0.4
Number	3,441	3,931	3,448	3,069

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	71.9	69.4	72.3	73.3
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	19.2	22.5	18.7	17.1
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	4.2	6.7	8.4	9.1
Missing data	4.7	1.4	0.6	0.5
Number	5,643	6,099	5,375	5,232

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	7.9	8.0	8.8	10.2
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	13.7	20.0	20.7	26.0
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	16.0	23.7	29.9	32.2
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	10.3	13.1	14.9	16.1
48 or more mos.	31.5	28.9	21.6	14.7
Missing data	20.5	6.3	4.1	0.9
Number	1,241	875	830	678

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	90.5	88.9	84.8	85.5	71.0	65.4	62.5	60.9	47.7	39.9	36.7	37.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	9.5	11.1	15.1	14.5	29.0	34.6	37.5	39.1	52.3	60.1	63.3	62.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	6,364	6,851	6,276	5,981	2,277	2,729	2,530	2,480	4,166	3,937	3,916	3,518	19	26	3	9

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	4.2	2.7	2.3	2.6
Institutions	2.6	3.5	2.5	2.3
Other settings	93.2	93.8	94.6	95.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.6	<.1
Number	3,226	3,297	3,236	3,257

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	94.9	92.5	100.5
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	71.6	72.7	73.2	72.2
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	5.8	5.7	6.2	6.0
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	28.6	48.8	48.1	46.4
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	29.3	26.0	29.2	23.3

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	117.0	115.9	118.4
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	26.8	29.7	30.8	36.5
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	38.5	33.6	31.2	29.1
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	21.7	19.6	19.3	17.2
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	10.9	9.9	10.3	8.5
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	44.5	78.5	73.2	76.7

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	119.5	120.4	114.5
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	30.3	26.2	28.4	22.5
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	97.5	98.4	97.3	97.3
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	54.1	46.1	45.5	47.7

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	101.9	96.9	97.0
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	89.2	87.0	82.8	83.7
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	71.0	65.3	62.4	61.0
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	47.5	39.9	37.1	38.0

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

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The following are Wisconsin’s comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2004–2007: Report to Congress*.

The Wisconsin child welfare program is county-operated and state-administered, except for the special needs adoption program and child welfare services in Milwaukee County, which are operated by the state Division of Safety and Permanence (DSP), formerly known as the Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS).

Beginning in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2005, Wisconsin submitted its first NCANDS Child and Agency Files. For previous FFY periods, alternative methodologies were used to estimate our state’s performance on the Maltreatment Recurrence and Maltreatment in Foster Care Outcomes. Both of these alternate approaches were reviewed and approved by the federal Children’s Bureau for use in the Child and Family Service Review process. The Wisconsin results on these measures for the 2002–2004 calendar year (CY) periods were as follows:

Safety Outcome Measures	WI Data 2002 (Percent)	WI Data 2003 (Percent)	WI Data 2004 (Percent)
Safety Outcome 1 – Recurrence of Maltreatment	6.04	7.13	5.25
Safety Outcome 2 – Maltreatment in Foster Care	0.26	0.30	0.57

The foster care population served in Wisconsin includes children who are placed in out-of-home care for child protection, juvenile justice or voluntary reasons. The juvenile justice population has a significant impact on the state’s permanency outcomes, including the state’s re-entry rate.

Current data quality initiatives to improve placement data include the following:

- Providing technical assistance to children welfare agencies to support more accurate NCANDS and AFCARS reporting;
- Improving accurate and timely data entry of basic demographic and client characteristic information, including documentation of a Native American child’s tribal status and disability status, to better understand the needs and concerns of children and families served in the child welfare system;
- Correcting placement data incompletely converted to eWiSACWIS to accurately represent placement history and to meet AFCARS reporting requirements, and;
- Continuing development and implementation of an eWiSACWIS data warehouse to increase reporting capacity.

A. Context Statistics¹

General Child Population (Census Bureau)²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children under 18 years	122,656	122,141	122,974	125,365
Race/ethnicity (%) ³				
Alaska Native/ American Indian	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3
Asian	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7
Black	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	<.1	<.1	0.1	0.1
Hispanic (of any race)	10.1	10.5	10.8	11.2
White	82.5	81.8	81.2	80.5
Two or more races	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5
Child population in poverty (%)	14.0	11.1	12.0	11.6

Child Welfare Summary⁴

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Child maltreatment victims	678	853	786	772
Children in foster care on 9/30	1,184	1,244	1,304	1,231
Children adopted	64	67	57	73

Caseworker Visits for Children in Foster Care⁵

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children receiving monthly visits (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	71
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Children receiving visits in the home (%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	62
Numerator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—
Denominator	N/A	N/A	N/A	—

B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System [NCANDS])

Overview Maltreatment Information⁶

	2004		2005		2006		2007	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	3,734	30.4 per 1,000	3,936	32.2 per 1,000	4,819	39.2 per 1,000	4,959	39.6 per 1,000
Total child maltreatment victims ⁷	678	5.5 per 1,000	853	7.0 per 1,000	786	6.4 per 1,000	772	6.2 per 1,000
Child fatalities	4	3.3 per 100,000	2	1.6 per 100,000	1	0.8 per 100,000	2	1.6 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	10.9	14.9	11.2	11.4
1 year	8.0	10.6	9.7	8.5
2 years	5.8	8.0	8.0	7.4
3 years	7.2	8.6	9.3	7.8
4 years	5.3	6.2	8.9	7.1
5 years	7.8	7.2	6.2	6.0
6 years	7.1	6.7	5.7	6.2
7 years	5.8	6.6	6.1	6.3
8 years	3.2	4.6	5.3	5.3
9 years	6.3	3.4	4.5	5.6
10 years	3.8	3.8	3.2	4.3
11 years	5.2	3.3	3.7	4.0
12 years	4.3	3.5	2.0	4.3
13 years	5.6	4.0	4.3	3.6
14 years	6.0	2.3	4.2	3.2
15 years	4.3	3.2	3.9	4.5
16 years	2.2	1.8	2.3	2.2
17 years	0.9	1.6	1.3	2.1
18+ years	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Missing data	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	678	853	786	772

Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)⁸

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.7
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.1
Black	2.2	1.6	2.3	2.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	9.9	8.6	10.8	9.7
White	77.7	76.8	75.2	77.1
Two or more races	0.9	0.1	0.4	0.8
Missing data	8.0	11.6	9.3	8.0
Number	678	853	786	772

¹ The source data for each table is indicated in parentheses for each section. A calendar year is the basis for data from the Census Bureau. Most other data on these pages are from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) or the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and are based on the Federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30.

² The total child population and data on race/ethnicity represent estimates from the Census Bureau and are available at www.census.gov/popest/datasets.html. Child poverty data are from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

³ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

⁴ Data on child maltreatment victims are from NCANDS. Data on children in foster care on 9/30 and children adopted are from AFCARS. A child victim is defined as a child who is the subject of a maltreatment report for which the disposition is substantiated, indicated, or "alternative response victim."

⁵ Caseworker visits are a new reporting requirement as of FY 2007. While submission of numerators and denominators is not a requirement, this information is included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that data calculations were incorrect, and the 2007 data may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions. For more information, please see appendix C.

⁶ The rate for maltreatment investigations and victims is per 1,000 children under age 18; for fatalities, the rate is per 100,000 children under age 18.

⁷ Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁸ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) Continued

Maltreatment Types of Child Victims (%)⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Emotional abuse	15.9	13.2	12.0	7.5
Medical neglect	2.5	1.6	0.9	0.8
Neglect	62.8	71.0	70.9	74.4
Physical abuse	8.3	7.0	6.4	8.0
Sexual abuse	10.6	7.4	7.9	9.6
Missing data	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Other	4.7	5.9	7.3	3.5
Number	678	853	786	772

Time to Investigation (in hours)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mean	21.6	23.9	13.8	19.3
Median	<24	<24	<24	<24

C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

(Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System [AFCARS] Foster Care file)

Overview Foster Care Information

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total number	970	1,106	1,162	1,213	1,168	1,208	1,187	1,061	954	1,070	1,045	1,043	1,184	1,244	1,304	1,231
Median length of stay (months)	10.5	10.0	9.3	10.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.3	7.3	7.9	9.3	9.8	9.1	9.8	10.4

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	1.8	3.9	4.3	3.0	7.1	9.7	6.7	6.9	2.2	4.6	3.1	2.4	3.7	4.3	3.0	2.8
1 year	3.8	4.2	5.9	5.7	4.7	7.8	5.5	4.9	3.7	5.8	5.3	5.0	4.1	5.6	5.3	4.5
2 years	3.7	3.9	5.5	5.1	3.8	5.3	5.4	4.9	4.9	5.6	6.4	5.5	3.8	5.4	4.9	5.4
3 years	3.4	4.0	4.6	5.6	4.2	4.8	5.1	4.2	3.5	3.9	5.3	5.1	3.8	4.7	5.4	4.6
4 years	3.5	3.8	4.4	5.2	3.9	4.6	4.6	4.1	3.6	4.2	3.9	4.1	3.5	4.3	4.8	4.6
5 years	4.1	4.6	3.9	4.8	3.9	3.9	3.7	2.7	3.6	4.1	3.3	4.7	4.4	3.8	4.7	4.6
6 years	2.7	3.6	4.5	4.2	3.4	3.9	3.5	2.8	3.1	3.5	3.4	2.9	3.5	4.3	4.0	3.7
7 years	2.5	2.8	4.3	4.7	3.3	3.9	4.0	3.4	3.6	3.1	5.0	3.6	2.9	4.3	4.4	3.5
8 years	2.6	2.6	2.9	3.4	2.2	2.6	2.8	2.6	2.9	3.0	2.5	4.1	2.5	2.8	3.3	4.1
9 years	3.5	2.2	2.9	3.5	3.0	2.2	3.0	2.5	3.0	2.1	2.6	3.2	2.3	3.0	3.5	2.4
10 years	3.0	2.9	2.2	2.8	1.9	2.1	2.8	2.8	2.1	2.4	2.8	2.1	2.8	2.1	2.8	4.1
11 years	5.1	3.5	2.6	3.1	3.1	2.2	2.7	2.5	2.9	2.3	2.2	2.7	3.3	2.6	2.8	3.0
12 years	4.5	4.3	4.2	2.6	3.9	3.6	3.0	4.4	3.8	2.7	2.9	3.0	4.3	4.1	2.6	3.7
13 years	6.5	6.1	4.4	5.1	7.3	5.5	6.9	5.0	4.9	4.6	4.7	3.8	5.7	4.5	5.3	3.7
14 years	10.5	7.4	7.9	6.6	9.1	9.2	9.2	9.9	7.9	5.4	5.5	5.7	7.8	8.4	7.3	6.7
15 years	9.1	12.1	11.5	9.5	14.9	11.2	13.0	14.0	10.0	10.3	11.1	9.6	12.9	11.5	10.0	10.2
16 years	13.1	12.3	10.5	11.0	12.8	10.8	10.2	14.5	12.4	10.7	11.3	11.0	12.7	11.2	11.9	13.1
17 years	11.3	10.8	9.2	10.1	6.8	6.3	7.1	6.9	12.3	11.9	10.8	11.2	10.9	8.9	10.0	11.5
18 years	4.2	3.1	2.7	2.5	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.8	9.0	8.4	7.2	8.7	3.1	2.7	2.4	2.5
19 years	0.6	1.1	0.8	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.5	1.0	0.6	0.9	1.1	0.7	0.6	0.6
20+ years	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.5	<.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.2
Missing data	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.6

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%)¹⁰

	In Foster Care on 10/1				Entered Foster Care				Exited Foster Care				In Foster Care on 9/30			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/ American Indian	1.9	0.8	1.2	1.2	2.6	2.3	1.9	1.7	3.9	2.1	2.0	1.2	0.9	1.2	1.2	1.5
Asian	0.3	<.1	0.3	0.2	<.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	<.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Black	3.8	3.0	4.6	3.1	2.4	3.2	3.3	3.2	2.7	1.7	4.8	3.4	3.3	4.3	3.2	3.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.2	0.0	<.1	0.1	<.1	<.1	0.0	0.0	<.1	0.0	<.1
Hispanic (of any race)	7.7	10.2	10.3	10.3	11.0	10.7	12.1	13.9	8.5	10.5	12.0	11.8	10.4	10.5	10.7	12.2
White	82.0	82.0	77.0	79.7	77.1	75.4	74.8	72.7	76.5	80.0	72.3	76.1	81.5	77.3	78.8	76.7
Two or more races	1.1	0.9	0.8	1.4	0.3	0.2	1.0	0.8	0.5	0.3	0.4	1.2	0.8	0.8	1.3	1.1
Unknown	3.2	3.0	5.8	4.0	6.4	7.6	6.7	7.4	7.4	5.2	8.1	6.0	3.0	5.5	4.7	5.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

⁹ For this table, in addition to using 0.0 for a true zero, it is also used when a State simply did not report data for a particular maltreatment category (such as the less commonly used "medical neglect" category). Percentages may total more than 100 because children can be victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

¹⁰ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption¹¹ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Children Waiting for Adoption

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total waiting children	171	200	209	151
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	55	58	73	50

Age of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹²

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	4.1	5.5	3.8	1.3
1 year	5.3	5.0	6.2	4.0
2 years	7.6	7.5	4.8	4.0
3 years	6.4	7.0	8.1	4.6
4 years	7.0	7.0	6.7	6.6
5 years	9.4	8.5	6.7	8.6
6 years	5.8	10.0	8.6	6.6
7 years	4.7	6.0	10.0	7.9
8 years	5.8	6.5	5.7	9.3
9 years	5.3	5.0	6.2	5.3
10 years	6.4	5.0	4.3	6.6
11 years	5.8	4.0	5.3	5.3
12 years	7.6	4.5	3.3	6.6
13 years	6.4	4.5	3.3	3.3
14 years	4.7	5.0	4.8	4.0
15 years	5.3	4.0	4.3	6.0
16 years	1.2	3.0	4.3	4.0
17 years	1.2	2.0	3.3	6.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Waiting for Adoption (%)¹³

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	2.3	3.0	1.9	3.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	11.1	9.5	11.5	10.6
White	80.7	82.5	81.3	81.5
Two or more races	3.5	3.0	2.9	3.3
Unknown	2.3	2.0	2.4	1.3
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS Adoption File)

Children Adopted

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Total children adopted	64	67	57	73

Age of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Under 1 year	3.1	6.0	1.8	1.4
1 year	10.9	4.5	5.3	12.3
2 years	4.7	7.5	17.5	13.7
3 years	7.8	14.9	17.5	17.8
4 years	6.3	6.0	1.8	6.8
5 years	4.7	11.9	10.5	9.6
6 years	9.4	6.0	3.5	6.8
7 years	1.6	6.0	14.0	9.6
8 years	9.4	3.0	1.8	5.5
9 years	4.7	4.5	8.8	5.5
10 years	6.3	4.5	3.5	4.1
11 years	7.8	4.5	3.5	0.0
12 years	4.7	4.5	1.8	2.7
13 years	1.6	4.5	1.8	1.4
14 years	7.8	1.5	1.8	2.7
15 years	4.7	6.0	1.8	0.0
16 years	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0
17 years	4.7	4.5	1.8	0.0
18 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
19 years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
20+ years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.6	0.0	1.8	0.0
Asian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	4.7	3.0	8.8	5.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic (of any race)	9.4	13.4	10.5	13.7
White	82.8	80.6	77.2	78.1
Two or more races	1.6	1.5	0.0	1.4
Unknown	0.0	1.5	1.8	1.4
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

¹¹ There is no Federal definition for a child waiting to be adopted. The definition used in the tables on this page includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹² Children older than 17 years fall outside of the definition used to identify waiting children and are therefore excluded from this table.

¹³ For race/ethnicity tables, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children without a recurrence	96.9	95.5	96.1	97.3
Children with one or more recurrences	3.1	4.5	3.9	2.7
Number	325	421	362	338

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS Foster Care File)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.53
Children not maltreated while in foster care	100.00	100.00	99.83	99.47
Number	2,138	2,314	2,349	2,274

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Foster Care File)

3.1 Exits of Children From Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	6.9	5.9	5.4	7.2
Guardianship	4.1	6.4	6.6	4.0
Reunification	81.0	79.5	81.0	80.8
Other	7.7	7.6	7.1	7.7
Missing data	0.3	0.6	0.0	0.3
Number	954	1,070	1,045	1,043

3.2 Exits of Children With a Diagnosed Disability (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	17.6	9.2	12.5	13.4
Guardianship	4.6	8.0	5.0	6.0
Reunification	66.0	71.3	76.3	68.5
Other	10.5	10.9	6.3	12.1
Missing data	1.3	0.6	0.0	0.0
Number	153	174	160	149

3.3 Exits of Children Older Than Age 12 at Entry Into Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	1.2	0.4	0.4	0.0
Guardianship	2.0	3.7	3.9	1.8
Reunification	84.1	82.8	83.4	83.7
Other	12.2	12.5	12.3	13.8
Missing data	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.6
Number	508	511	487	491

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children age 12 or younger at entry	6.4	7.7	9.1	13.8
Children older than 12 at entry	93.6	92.3	90.9	86.2
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	47	52	44	58

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)¹⁴

	Alaska Native/Am. Indian				2004	Asian				2004	Black			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.5	11.1	10.0	11.4	
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	22.2	4.0	2.9	
Reunification	78.4	68.2	85.7	92.3	100.0	100.0	33.3	100.0	80.8	61.1	74.0	80.0		
Other	18.9	27.3	9.5	7.7	0.0	0.0	66.7	0.0	3.8	5.6	12.0	5.7		
Missing data	0.0	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	37	22	21	13	3	2	3	2	26	18	50	35		

	Native Hawaiian/Other Pac. Is.				2004	Hispanic (of any race)				2004	White			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.4	8.0	4.8	8.1	7.5	5.8	5.8	7.4		
Guardianship	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	4.5	10.4	3.3	4.7	6.8	6.7	4.3		
Reunification	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	82.7	83.0	79.2	83.7	80.1	79.6	80.6	79.5		
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.4	3.6	5.6	4.9	7.4	7.4	6.9	8.4		
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.4		
Number	1	1	1	0	81	112	125	123	730	856	756	794		

	Unable to Determine				2004	Two or More Races				2004	Missing Data			
	2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007		2004	2005	2006	2007
Adoption	0.0	1.8	1.2	1.6	20.0	33.3	0.0	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Guardianship	2.8	3.6	2.4	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Reunification	88.7	83.9	90.6	88.9	80.0	33.3	100.0	84.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Other	7.0	10.7	5.9	4.8	0.0	33.3	0.0	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Missing data	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Number	71	56	85	63	5	3	4	13	0	0	0	0		

¹⁴ All races exclude children of Hispanic origin.

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS Foster Care File)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	75.0	72.5	72.1	68.8
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	17.3	19.6	19.6	22.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	4.4	4.3	5.0	5.1
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.2	0.9	1.1	1.4
48 or more mos.	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.9
Missing data	1.3	1.6	1.7	0.9
Number	773	851	846	843

4.2 Children Reentering Foster Care (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children entering care for the first time	72.3	75.3	75.7	74.3
Children reentering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	14.3	13.9	12.8	13.5
Children reentering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	10.0	8.0	9.2	9.1
Missing data	3.3	2.7	2.3	3.1
Number	1,168	1,208	1,187	1,061

5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Foster Care File)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Less than 12 mos.	7.6	20.6	12.5	2.7
At least 12 mos. but less than 24 mos.	37.9	12.7	23.2	24.0
At least 24 mos. but less than 36 mos.	28.8	38.1	33.9	40.0
At least 36 mos. but less than 48 mos.	15.2	15.9	12.5	21.3
48 or more mos.	10.6	12.7	17.9	12.0
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	66	63	56	75

6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Foster Care File)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)

	In Care Less Than 12 Months				In Care at Least 12 Months but Less Than 24 Months				In Care for 24 Months or Longer				Missing Time in Care			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Children with 2 or fewer placements	89.0	85.7	82.9	84.5	62.1	61.6	58.9	65.6	32.7	32.0	38.1	37.8	100.0	85.2	88.2	100.0
Children with 3 or more placements	9.8	12.9	13.5	13.1	37.9	38.2	40.7	33.2	67.3	68.0	61.9	62.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Missing data	1.3	1.3	3.5	2.4	0.0	0.2	0.4	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.8	11.8	0.0
Number	1,332	1,416	1,417	1,304	435	484	511	506	358	387	404	455	13	27	17	9

7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Foster Care File)

7.1 Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 or Younger at the Time of This Placement (%)

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Group homes	4.3	2.5	2.3	3.7
Institutions	4.5	2.4	2.4	3.5
Other settings	91.3	95.1	95.3	92.8
Missing data	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Number	560	676	622	513

Composite and Individual Measures Established for the Federal Child and Family Services Reviews¹⁵ (AFCARS Foster Care File)

Composite 1: Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification¹⁶

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score¹⁷	N/A	113.2	115.4	119.9
C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	71.9	69.5	72.4	70.3
C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	6.5	6.7	6.8	6.9
C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)	56.9	60.6	51.5	59.6
C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?	16.7	18.7	17.3	14.5

Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoptions

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	121.1	125.2	118.4
C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?	45.5	33.3	35.7	26.7
C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption?	25.7	30.7	29.7	29.3
C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?	16.3	18.5	15.3	19.2
C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? ¹⁸	4.9	9.3	10.6	4.8
C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?	66.0	72.0	75.4	80.8

Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time¹⁹

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	151.1	151.7	142.3
C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?	28.4	32.3	30.2	30.7
C3.2: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?	98.1	100.0	96.6	93.4
C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?	12.1	22.9	14.1	20.6

Composite 4: Placement Stability While in Foster Care²⁰

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Composite Score	N/A	95.9	95.5	98.6
C4.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	88.5	84.9	84.5	85.2
C4.2: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	61.9	62.0	58.7	66.5
C4.3: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?	32.0	31.7	38.5	38.0

¹⁵ State composite scores for 2004 are not provided because that year's data served as the source data for the establishment of the national standards. Composite scores were not used for performance assessment purposes until 2005; therefore, composite scores are only provided for 2005, 2006, and 2007. Individual measure performance is shown under each composite unless the State did not provide the data necessary to calculate those measures.

¹⁶ Calculation of measures C1.1, C1.2, and C1.3 include a trial home visit adjustment. For these measures, if a child was reunified with a final placement type of "trial home visit," any length of time in the trial home visit beyond 30 days is excluded from the length of stay calculation done by ACF. In addition, only children in care for at least 8 days are included in these measures.

¹⁷ Detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department of Health and Human Services on the Children's Bureau website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm.

¹⁸ Legally free means that there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. This calculation excludes children who, by the end of the first 6 months of the fiscal year, had discharged from foster care to reunification, living with relative, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification (including living with relative).

²⁰ The "served" population refers to all children who were in the public foster care system during the year. This number is the sum of two mutually exclusive groups of children: the children who are already in care on the first day of the fiscal year (as of October 1) and the children who enter foster care during the year. An individual child is counted only once for each year.

Appendix A

Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-89)

SEC. 203. Performance of States in Protecting Children.

(a) ANNUAL REPORT ON STATE PERFORMANCE.—Part E of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 670 et seq.) is amended by addition at the end of the following:

SEC. 479A. Annual Report.

The Secretary, in consultation with Governors, State legislatures, State and local public officials responsible for administering child welfare programs, and child welfare advocates, shall:

- (1) develop a set of outcome measures (including length of stay in foster care, number of foster care placements, and number of adoptions) that can be used to assess the performance of States in operating child protection and child welfare programs pursuant to parts B and E to ensure the safety of children;
- (2) to the maximum extent possible, the outcome measures should be developed from data available from the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System;
- (3) develop a system for rating the performance of States with respect to the outcome measures and provide to the States an explanation of the rating system and how scores are determined under the rating system;
- (4) prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to ensure that States provide to the Secretary the data necessary to determine State performance with respect to each outcome measure, as a condition of the State receiving funds under this part; and
- (5) on May 1, 1999, and annually thereafter, prepare and submit to the Congress a report on the performance of each State on each outcome measure, which shall examine the reasons for high performance and low performance and, where possible, make recommendations as to how State performance could be improved.

Appendix B

Child Welfare Outcomes Report: Outcomes and Measures

The 12 Original Outcome Measures for the Child Welfare Outcomes Report

Outcome 1: Reduce recurrence of child abuse and/or neglect

- **Measure 1.1:** Of all children who were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and/or neglect during the first 6 months of the year, what percentage had another substantiated or indicated report within a 6-month period?¹

Outcome 2: Reduce the incidence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care

- **Measure 2.1:** Of all children who were in foster care during the year, what percentage were the subject of substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff?

Outcome 3: Increase permanency for children in foster care

- **Measure 3.1:** Of all children who exited foster care during the year, what percentage left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship?
- **Measure 3.2:** Of all children who exited foster care during the year and were identified as having a diagnosed disability, what percentage left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship?
- **Measure 3.3:** Of all children who exited foster care during the year and were older than age 12 at the time of their most recent entry into care, what percentage left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship?
- **Measure 3.4:** Of all children exiting foster care during the year to emancipation, what percentage were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into care?
- **Measure 3.5:** Of all children who exited foster care during the year, what percentage by racial/ethnic category left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship?

Outcome 4: Reduce time in foster care to reunification without increasing reentry

- **Measure 4.1:** Of all children reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care during the year, what percentage were reunified in the following time periods?
 - (a) Less than 12 months from the time of latest removal from home
 - (b) At least 12 months but less than 24 months
 - (c) At least 24 months but less than 36 months
 - (d) At least 36 months but less than 48 months
 - (e) 48 or more months
- **Measure 4.2:** Of all children who entered foster care during the year, what percentage reentered care?
 - (a) Within 12 months of a prior foster care episode?
 - (b) More than 12 months after a prior foster care episode?

¹ In this report, all references to “year” indicate a Federal fiscal year (October 1 through September 30). Although alternate years are never used in the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports, the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) sometimes use alternate 12-month time periods in order to track progress over time.

Outcome 5: Reduce time in foster care to adoption

- **Measure 5.1:** Of all children discharged from foster care during the year to a finalized adoption, what percentage exited care in the following time periods?
 - (a) Less than 12 months from the time of latest removal from home
 - (b) At least 12 months but less than 24 months
 - (c) At least 24 months but less than 36 months
 - (d) At least 36 months but less than 48 months
 - (e) 48 or more months

Outcome 6: Increase placement stability

- **Measure 6.1:** Of all children served in foster care during the year who had been in care for the time periods listed below, what percentage had no more than two placement settings during that time period?
 - (a) Less than 12 months from the time of latest removal from home
 - (b) At least 12 months but less than 24 months
 - (c) At least 24 months but less than 36 months
 - (d) At least 36 months but less than 48 months
 - (e) 48 or more months

Outcome 7: Reduce placements of young children in group homes or institutions

- **Measure 7.1:** Of all children who entered foster care during the year and were age 12 or younger at the time of their most recent placement, what percentage were placed in a group home or an institution?

The 15 Outcome Measures Developed for the Second Round of the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs)

Although some of the 15 CFSR measures are similar to the original outcome measures developed for the Child Welfare Outcomes Report, an important difference is that the calculation for all CFSR measures excludes children who were age 18 or older on the first day of the year. The calculation for the original measures does not exclude this population. A key reason for the exclusion of these children in the CFSR measures is to ensure greater consistency across States. States vary considerably with regard to their reporting of children age 18 or older to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS). Some States do not report these children, some States report all children in foster care regardless of age, and some States report only some of the children age 18 or older in foster care.

The 15 CFSR measures included in the Child Welfare Outcomes Report are incorporated into four separate data composites. The measures subsumed under each composite are presented below. The detailed information on how the individual measures are combined to form the composites is provided in the Federal Register Announcement published by the Department on the Children's Bureau website at:

www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwmonitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm

Permanency Composite 1: Timeliness and permanency of reunifications

This composite addresses issues relevant to Outcome 4: Reduce time in foster care to reunification without increasing reentry. The Department considers children as discharged from foster care to reunification if the reason for discharge reported to AFCARS is either "reunification with parent or primary caretaker" or "living with other relative." It is important to note that the discharge reason of living with other relatives only applies to children discharged from foster care to the care of a relative. It does not apply to children in the foster care system in out-of-home placements with relatives, and it does not apply to children discharged from foster care to a legal guardian, even if the legal guardian is a relative.

The calculation of three of the measures included in permanency composite 1 excludes children who were discharged from foster care in less than 8 days, and incorporates a “trial home visit” adjustment, when relevant. These are explained below.

- **Exclusions of children discharged from foster care in less than 8 days.** The calculation of some of the CFSR measures excludes children who were discharged from foster care in less than 8 days from the time of entry. This exclusion was not part of the calculation of any of the original child welfare outcomes measures. When the exclusion is incorporated, it is stated explicitly in the wording of the measure. The decision to exclude these children from the calculation of some of the measures, particularly the timeliness of reunification measures, was based on two factors:
 - (1) the extensive variation across States in the percentages of children discharged from foster care after having been in foster care for very short periods of time (i.e., less than 8 days); and
 - (2) the fact that the kinds of case practices and agency efforts necessary to achieve a timely reunification for a child who has been removed from home and placed in foster care are not usually applicable for these very short-term placements. The Department believes that the exclusion of these very short-term placements from measures of timeliness of reunification and placement stability provides a more accurate portrait of State performance in these areas.
- **The trial home visit adjustment.** The CFSR timeliness of reunification measures incorporate a trial home visit adjustment. The use of this adjustment is stated explicitly in all measures to which it applies. The trial home visit adjustment addresses the variation across States with regard to the practice of returning children in foster care to their families without discharging them from foster care for a period of time in order to provide continued monitoring and/or services. This practice often is referred to as “physical reunification,” and may be required in State statute, written into agency policy, or simply reflect standard case practice in a State. To allow for greater uniformity across States in measuring length of stay in foster care, the Department developed the trial home visit adjustment as a proxy for physical reunification.

The adjustment works in the following way: When a child is discharged from foster care to reunification, if the child’s current placement setting is a trial home visit, any trial home visit in excess of 30 days is excluded when calculating length of stay in foster care.² An important feature of this adjustment, however, is that the child must have been discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification or living with other relatives before the trial home visit adjustment is considered.

The individual measures included in permanency composite 1 (C1) are as follows:

- **Individual Measure C1.1:** Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)
- **Individual Measure C1.2:** Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)
- **Individual Measure C1.3:** Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment)
- **Individual Measure C1.4:** Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?

Because this longitudinal measure of reentry into foster care is a more direct measure than the original reentry measure, it now replaces the original measure as the assessment of reentry.

Permanency Composite 2: Timeliness of adoptions

This composite addresses Outcome 5: Reduce time in foster care to adoption. The following measures are included in permanency composite 2 (C2).

- **Individual Measure C2.1:** Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?

² More information on this adjustment is provided in the Federal Registers of November 9, 2005, and June 7, 2006, and on the Children’s Bureau website.

- **Individual Measure C2.2:** Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from home to the date of discharge to adoption?
- **Individual Measure C2.3:** Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer (and who, by the last day of the year, were not discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification, living with relative, or guardianship), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year?
- **Individual Measure C2.4:** Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day (i.e., there was not a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year?

Similar to the entry cohort measure of reunification and the CFSR measure of reentry, individual measures C2.3 and C2.4 capture State performance in achieving timely adoptions from a longitudinal perspective, rather than from the point of discharge from foster care. The measures reflect the statutory requirement of the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) of 1997 that States pursue adoption as a permanency goal for any child who has been in foster care for 15 of the most recent 22 months, unless the agency documents a compelling reason why such action would not be in the best interests of the child.³

- **Individual Measure C2.5:** Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free?

This is another longitudinal measure that became possible when States began reporting unique encrypted identifiers for children that permitted tracking them over time.

Permanency Composite 3: Achieving permanency for children in foster care for long periods of time

This composite addresses issues relevant to Outcome 3: Increase permanency for children in foster care. The following measures are included in permanency composite 3 (C3):

- **Individual Measure C3.1:** Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year?⁴
- **Individual Measure C3.2:** Of all children discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (i.e., there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?

This measure reflects the concern of professionals in the field that, by pursuing termination of parental rights for children who have been in foster care for 15 of the most recent 22 months, child welfare agencies may be creating “legal orphans,” that is, children who, at the time of discharge from foster care, have no legal parents and no permanent home.

- **Individual Measure C3.3:** Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer?

This measure and the original measure 3.4 in the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports are both intended to assess whether children are spending large parts of their childhoods in foster care without ever being discharged to permanent homes.

³ ASFA requires State child welfare agencies to file a petition to terminate parental rights and pursue adoption for a child who has been in foster care for 15 of the most recent 22 months, unless the agency documents a compelling reason why such action would not be in the best interests of the child. A 17-month rather than a 15-month timeframe was chosen for the measure because, in accordance with ASFA, a child is considered to have “entered foster care” (for purposes of starting the clock for the 15 of 22 months) on the earlier of:

- (1) the first judicial finding that the child has been subjected to abuse and neglect, or
- (2) the date that is 60 days after the date on which the child is removed from the home.

The 17-month timeframe is used in the measure because AFCARS does not collect information pertaining to the date of the first judicial finding.

⁴ The 24-month period was chosen because nationally about 50 percent of the children in foster care on any given day have been in foster care for approximately 2 years or longer.

Permanency Composite 4: Placement stability

Permanency composite 4 (C4) is consistent with the objectives of Outcome 6: Increase placement stability. The three individual measures included in this composite are similar to the original measure 6.1 in the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports. As previously noted, however, one difference is that the measures included in this composite exclude children who were age 18 or older on the first day of the fiscal year. Measure 6.1 does not exclude these children. In addition, measure C4.1 excludes children who were not in foster care for at least 8 days. (See composite 1 for an explanation of the 8-day exclusion.)

- **Individual Measure C4.1:** Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 8 days but less than 12 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?
- **Individual Measure C4.2:** Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?
- **Individual Measure C4.3:** Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had two or fewer placement settings?

Appendix C

Caseworker Visits

The Child and Family Services Improvement Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-288) amended section IV-B of the Social Security Act (the Act) to include new funding to partially support monthly caseworker visits with children who are in State foster care. Under Section 424(e)(1) and (2) of the Act, States are required to collect and report the following data on caseworker visits:

- The percentage of children in foster care who were visited on a monthly basis by the caseworker handling the case of the child
- The percentage of these monthly visits that occurred in the home of the child

Federal fiscal year (FFY) 2007 is the first year of required data collection on caseworker visits and the only year of data included in the current Child Welfare Outcomes Report. While submission of numerators and denominators was not required, this information was included in the report when available. Data have been resubmitted by some States since the initial collection period because it was determined that the calculations done by a few States were incorrect. Data for 2007 may change in future reports due to additional resubmissions.

For more detailed information on the collection and reporting of caseworker visits data, please see Program Instruction ACYF-CB-PI-08-03 issued April 18, 2008:

www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/laws_policies/policy/pi/2008/pi0803.htm

Calculation of Monthly Caseworker Visits (MCV)¹

To calculate the percentage of children in foster care who were visited on a monthly basis by a social worker, the following data are required:

- Denominator: the aggregate number of children served in foster care for at least 1 full calendar month during the FFY²
- Numerator: the number of children visited each and every full calendar month that they were reported to be in foster care during the FFY

The MCV percentage is calculated by dividing the numerator by the denominator and multiplying that product by 100 [(numerator/denominator) x 100]. This calculation is expressed as a percentage and rounded to the nearest whole number.

Calculation of Children Receiving Visits in the Home (VIH)

To calculate the percentage of monthly visits that occur in the home, the following data are required:

- Denominator: the total number of visit months aggregated for all children who were visited each and every full calendar month they were in foster care during the FFY³
- Numerator: the total number of visit months in which at least one child visit occurred in the child's home⁴

The VIH percentage is calculated by dividing the numerator by the denominator and multiplying that product by 100 [(numerator/denominator) x 100]. This calculation is expressed as a percentage and rounded to the nearest whole number.

Data Collection Methodology

States may choose to report caseworker visits data based on their total foster care population or based on sample data. States that choose to submit sample data must use a sampling methodology developed by the Children's Bureau Data Team or one that has been approved by the Children's Bureau Regional Office in consultation with the Children's Bureau Data Team.

¹ Note that even though a State may keep some youth in foster care beyond age 17, only children and youth under age 18 are included in this calculation.

² The FFY is the 12-month period beginning October 1 and ending September 30. For example, FFY 2007 began October 1, 2006, and ended September 30, 2007.

³ A visit month is defined as a month in which a child was visited at least once (only children in foster care for at least 1 calendar month are included in this calculation).

⁴ A child's home is defined as the home where the child is residing, whether in-State or out-of-State, and can include the foster home or child care institution.

The following States elected to submit sample data for FFY 2007:

Alabama

Hawaii

Idaho

Iowa (sample was used to calculate “visits in the home” percentage only)

Kansas

Louisiana

Maryland

Michigan

Missouri

Montana

Nebraska

North Carolina

Pennsylvania

Texas

Appendix D

Child Welfare Outcomes Report: Data Sources and Elements

CONTEXT INFORMATION

ITEMS	DATA SOURCES AND ELEMENTS
<i>Section A. Context Statistics</i>	
Total children under 18 years	U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau
Race/ethnicity (%)	U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau
Child population in poverty (%)	U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau
Caseworker visits for children in foster care	States submit data in conjunction with Child and Family Services Plan and Annual Progress and Services Reports
<i>Section B. Child Maltreatment Data (National Child Abuse And Neglect Data System)</i>	
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau, National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) Two possible data sources: (1) NCANDS Child File: Elements 27, 29, 31, 33, Maltreatment Disposition Level; or (2) NCANDS SDC: Item 3.1, Children Subject of a CPS Investigation or Assessment by Disposition
Total child maltreatment victims	Two possible data sources: (1) NCANDS Child File: Elements 27, 29, 31, 33, Maltreatment Disposition Level; or (2) NCANDS SDC: Sum of Item 3.1A, Children for Whom the Allegation of Maltreatment Was Substantiated; 3.1B, Children for Whom the Allegation of Maltreatment Was Indicated; and 3.1C, Children for Whom the Allegation of Maltreatment Was Given an Alternative Response That Identified Child Victim(s)
Child fatalities	Three possible data sources: (1) NCANDS Child File: Element 34, Maltreatment Death; (2) NCANDS Agency File: Element 4.1; or (3) NCANDS SDC: Item 5.1, Child Victims Who Died as a Result of Maltreatment
Age of child victims	Two possible data sources: (1) NCANDS Child File: Element 12, Child Age at Report, or a combination of Element 6, Report Date and Element 13, Child Date of Birth; or (2) NCANDS SDC: Item 4.2, Child Victims By Age
Race/ethnicity of child victims	Two possible data sources: (1) NCANDS Child File: Elements 15 through 20, Child Race; and Element 21, Child Ethnicity; or (2) NCANDS SDC: Item 4.4, Child Victims by Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity; and Item 4.5, Child Victims by Race
Maltreatment types of child victims	Two possible data sources: (1) NCANDS Child File: Elements 26 through 33, Maltreatment Type, Maltreatment Disposition Level; or (2) NCANDS SDC: Item 4.1, Child Victims by Type of Maltreatment
Time to investigation	Mean time to investigation in hours is computed from the Child File records using the Report Date, Field 6; and the Investigation Start Date, Field 7. The result is converted to hours by multiplying by 24. Median time to investigation in hours is computed from the NCANDS Child File records using the Report Date, Field 6; and the Investigation Start Date, Field 7. The result is converted to hours by multiplying by 24.
<i>Section C. Characteristics of Children in Foster Care (Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System)</i>	
Total number for each FY (for each FY) <ul style="list-style-type: none">In care on 10/1Entered careExited careIn care on 9/30	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau, Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 56, Date of Discharge From Foster Care
Median length of stay (for each FY) <ul style="list-style-type: none">In care on 10/1Exited careIn care on 9/30	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 56, Date of Discharge From Foster Care
Age of children (for each FY) <ul style="list-style-type: none">In care on 10/1Entered careExited careIn care on 9/30	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 6, Date of Birth; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 56, Date of Discharge From Foster Care

ITEMS	DATA SOURCES AND ELEMENTS
Race/ethnicity of children (for each FY) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In care on 10/1 Entered care Exited care In care on 9/30 	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 8, Race; and Element 9, Hispanic Origin
<i>Section D. Characteristics of Children Waiting for Adoption on 9/30 (AFCARS)</i>	
Total waiting children	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 35, Death of Parent; Element 43, Most Recent Case Plan Goal; Element 47, Date of Mother's Termination of Parental Rights; and Element 48, Date of Father's Termination of Parental Rights
Number of waiting children whose parents' rights have been terminated	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 35, Death of Parent; Element 47, Date of Mother's Termination of Parental Rights; and Element 48, Date of Father's Termination of Parental Rights
Age of children waiting for adoption	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 6, Date of Birth; Element 35, Death of Parent; Element 43, Most Recent Case Plan Goal; Element 47, Date of Mother's Termination of Parental Rights; Element 48, Date of Father's Termination of Parental Rights
Race/ethnicity of children waiting for adoption	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 8, Race; and Element 9, Hispanic Origin; Element 6, Date of Birth; Element 35, Death of Parent; Element 43, Most Recent Case Plan Goal; Element 47, Date of Mother's Termination of Parental Rights; Element 48, Date of Father's Termination of Parental Rights
<i>Section E. Characteristics of Children Adopted (AFCARS)</i>	
Total children adopted	AFCARS Adoption File: Element 21, Date Adoption Legalized
Age of children adopted	AFCARS Adoption File: Element 4, State Involvement; Element 5, Child's Date of Birth; and Element 21, Date Adoption Legalized
Race/ethnicity of children adopted	AFCARS Adoption File: Element 4, State Involvement; Element 7, Race; and Element 8, Hispanic Origin

OUTCOME INFORMATION

OUTCOME MEASURES	DATA SOURCES AND ELEMENTS
<i>Outcome 1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS)</i>	
1.1 Recurrence of maltreatment within 6 months	NCANDS Child File: Field 4, Child ID; Field 6, Report Date; Fields 27, 29, 31, and 33, Maltreatment Disposition Level(s); and Field 34, Maltreatment Death
<i>Outcome 2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS and AFCARS)</i>	
2.1 Maltreatment in foster care	AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; and Element 56, Date of Discharge From Foster Care NCANDS Child File: Field 4, Child ID; Field 6, Report Date; Fields 27, 29, 31, and 33, Maltreatment Disposition Level(s); Field 34, Maltreatment Death; and Fields 89, 108, 127, Perpetrator Relationship
<i>Outcome 3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS)</i>	
3.1 Exits of children from foster care	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 56, Date of Discharge From Foster Care; and Element 58, Reasons for Discharge
3.2 Exits of children with a diagnosed disability	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 10, Child Diagnosed With Disabilities; Element 56, Date of Discharge From Foster Care; and Element 58, Reasons for Discharge
3.3 Exits of children older than age 12 at entry	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 6, Date of Birth; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 56, Date of Discharge From Foster Care; and Element 58, Reasons for Discharge
3.4 Exits to emancipation	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 56, Date of Discharge From Foster Care; and Element 58, Reasons for Discharge
3.5 Exits by race/ethnicity	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 8, Race; Element 9, Hispanic Origin; Element 56, Date of Discharge From Foster Care; and Element 58, Reasons for Discharge
<i>Outcome 4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Reentry (AFCARS)</i>	
4.1 Time to reunification	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 56, Date of Discharge From Foster Care; and Element 58, Reasons for Discharge
4.2 Children reentering foster care	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 19, Total Number of Removals; Element 20, Date of Discharge From Last Foster Care Episode; and Element 21, Date of Latest Removal
<i>Outcome 5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS)</i>	
5.1 Time to adoption	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 56, Date of Discharge From Foster Care; and Element 58, Reasons for Discharge
<i>Outcome 6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS)</i>	
6.1 Number of placements by time in care	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 23, Date of Placement in Current Placement Setting; Element 24, Number of Previous Settings in Episode; and Element 56, Date of Discharge From Foster Care

OUTCOME MEASURES	DATA SOURCES AND ELEMENTS
<i>Outcome 7. Reduce Placement of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS)</i>	
7.1 Most recent placement settings of children age 12 or younger who entered care during FY	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 6, Date of Birth; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 23, Date of Placement in Current Placement Setting; Element 41, Current Placement Setting
<p><i>Composite 1. Timeliness and Permanency of Reunification</i></p> <p><i>Please note: Construction of the source file for calculating ALL Composite 1 measures must have Element 3, FIPS code; Element 4, Record Number; and Element 6, Date of Birth. For each individual measure under Composite 1, other elements needed for the calculations are shown next to the applicable measure.</i></p>	
C1.1 Reunification in less than 12 months	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 56, Date of Discharge; Element 58, Reason for Discharge; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 41, Current Placement Setting; Element 23, Date of Placement in Current Placement Setting
C1.2 Median length of stay to reunification	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 56, Date of Discharge; Element 58, Reason for Discharge; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 41, Current Placement Setting; Element 23, Date of Placement in Current Placement Setting
C1.3 Entry cohort reunification	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 18, Date of First Removal From Home; Element 19, Total Number of Removals; Element 56, Date of Discharge; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 58, Reason for Discharge; Element 20, Date Child was Discharged From Last Foster Care Episode; Element 41, Current Placement Setting; Element 23, Date of Placement in Current Placement Setting
C1.4 Reentry of children exiting	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 56, Date of Discharge; Element 58, Reason for Discharge; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 20, Date Child was Discharged From Last Foster Care Episode; Element 19, Total Number of Removals
<p><i>Composite 2. Timeliness of Adoptions</i></p> <p><i>Please note: Construction of the source file for calculating ALL Composite 2 measures must have Element 3, FIPS code; Element 4, Record Number; and Element 6, Date of Birth. For each individual measure under Composite 2, other elements needed for the calculations are shown next to the applicable measure.</i></p>	
C2.1 Adoptions in less than 24 months	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 56, Date of Discharge; Element 58, Reason for Discharge; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal
C2.2 Median length of stay to adoption	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 56, Date of Discharge; Element 58, Reason for Discharge; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal
C2.3 Adoption of children in care for 17 months or longer	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 56, Date of Discharge; Element 58, Reason for Discharge; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal
C2.4 Achieving legal freedom of children in care for 17 months or longer	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 56, Date of Discharge; Element 58, Reason for Discharge; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 47, Date of Termination of Parental Rights for Mother; Element 48, Date of Termination of Parental Rights for Father
C2.5 Adoption of children who are legally free	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 56, Date of Discharge; Element 58, Reason for Discharge; Element 47, Date of Termination of Parental Rights for Mother; Element 48, Date of Termination of Parental Rights for Father
<p><i>Composite 3. Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time</i></p> <p><i>Please note: Construction of the source file for calculating ALL Composite 3 measures must have Element 3, FIPS code; Element 4, Record Number; and Element 6, Date of Birth. For each individual measure under Composite 3, other elements needed for the calculations are shown next to the applicable measure.</i></p>	
C3.1 Permanency for children in foster care for 24 + months	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 6, Date of Birth; Element 56, Date of Discharge; Element 58, Reason for Discharge; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal
C3.2 Permanency for children who are legally free	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 6, Date of Birth; Element 56, Date of Discharge; Element 58, Reason for Discharge; Element 47, Date of Termination of Parental Rights for Mother; Element 48, Date of Termination of Parental Rights for Father
C3.3 Children emancipated or 18 years old in foster care for 3 years or longer	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 6, Date of Birth; Element 56, Date of Discharge; Element 58, Reason for Discharge; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 19, Total Number of Removals; Element 20, Date Child was Discharged From Last Foster Care Episode; Element 18, Date of First Removal From Home
<p><i>Composite 4. Placement Stability While in Foster Care</i></p> <p><i>Please note: Construction of the source file for calculating ALL Composite 4 measures must have Element 3, FIPS code; Element 4, Record Number; and Element 6, Date of Birth. For each individual measure under Composite 4, other elements needed for the calculations are shown next to the applicable measure.</i></p>	
C4.1 Placement stability for children in care for less than 12 months	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 56, Date of Discharge; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 23, Date of Placement in Current Placement Setting; Element 24, Number of Previous Placement Settings During This Removal Episode
C4.2 Placement stability for children in care for 12 to 24 months	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 56, Date of Discharge; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 23, Date of Placement in Current Placement Setting; Element 24, Number of Previous Placement Settings During This Removal Episode
C4.3 Placement stability for children in care for 24 + months	AFCARS Foster Care File: Element 56, Date of Discharge; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 23, Date of Placement in Current Placement Setting; Element 24, Number of Previous Placement Settings During This Removal Episode

Appendix E

Child Maltreatment 2007: Summary of Key Findings

The following are key findings from *Child Maltreatment 2007*. The statistics in the Child Maltreatment series of reports are based on data submitted to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS).

The full *Child Maltreatment 2007* report is available on the Children's Bureau website:

www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/pubs/cm07/index.htm

What is NCANDS?

NCANDS is a federally sponsored effort that collects and analyzes annual data on child abuse and neglect. The 1988 Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) directed the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (the Department) to establish a national data collection and analysis program. The Children's Bureau in the Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Administration for Children and Families within the Department collects and analyzes the data.

The data are submitted voluntarily by the States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The first Child Maltreatment report from NCANDS was based on data for 1990; the report for 2007 data is the 18th issuance of this annual report.

How are the data used?

Data are used for the annual report, *Child Maltreatment*, which is released each spring. In addition, data are used in several efforts by the Children's Bureau to measure the impact and effectiveness of child protective services (CPS). Data from NCANDS are used in the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) of the States, in the Child Welfare Outcomes series of reports to Congress, and in the Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART).

What data are collected?

NCANDS collects case-level data on all children who received an investigation or assessment by a CPS agency. States that are unable to provide case-level data submit aggregated counts of key indicators.

Case-level data include information on the characteristics of referrals of abuse or neglect that are made to CPS agencies, the children referred, the types of maltreatment that are alleged, the dispositions (or findings) of the investigations, the risk factors of the child and the caregivers, the services that are provided, and the perpetrators.

Where are the data available?

Restricted usage files of State case-level data are available for researchers from the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect at www.ndacan.cornell.edu. In addition, aggregated counts of key indicators by State are available for 1990–2007.

How many children were reported and received an investigation or assessment for abuse and neglect?

During FY 2007, an estimated 3.2 million referrals, involving the alleged maltreatment of approximately 5.8 million children, were made to CPS agencies. An estimated 3.5 million children received an investigation or assessment.

- Approximately 62 percent (61.7 percent) of referrals were screened in for investigation or assessment by CPS agencies.
- Approximately 25 percent (25.2 percent) of the investigations or assessments found at least one child to be a victim of abuse or neglect, with the following report dispositions: 24.1 percent substantiated, 0.6 percent indicated, and 0.5 percent alternative response victim.¹

¹ The NCANDS disposition category of "alternative response victim" is defined as a conclusion that the child was identified as a victim when a response other than an investigation was provided.

- Almost 75 percent of the investigations or assessments determined that the child was not a victim of maltreatment, with the following dispositions: 61.3 percent unsubstantiated, 6.1 percent alternative response nonvictim,² 5.7 percent “other,” 1.6 percent closed with no finding, and 0.0 percent intentionally false.

Who reported child maltreatment?

For fiscal year (FY) 2007, more than one-half (57.7 percent) of all reports of alleged child abuse or neglect were made by professionals. The term “professional” means that the person had contact with the alleged child maltreatment victim as part of the report source’s job. The remaining reports were made by nonprofessionals, including friends, neighbors, sports coaches, and relatives.

The three most common report sources were teachers (17.0 percent), lawyers or police officers (16.3 percent), and social services staff (10.2 percent).

Who were the child victims?

During FY 2007, an estimated 794,000 children were determined to be victims of abuse or neglect. Among the children confirmed as victims by CPS agencies in 2007:

- Children in the age group of birth to 1 year had the highest rate of victimization at 21.9 per 1,000 children of the same age group in the national population.
- Just over one-half (51.5 percent) of the child victims were girls, and 48.2 percent were boys.
- Almost one-half of all victims (46.1 percent) were White; 21.7 percent were African-American; and 20.8 percent were Hispanic.

What were the most common types of maltreatment?

As in prior years, neglect was the most common form of child maltreatment. CPS investigations determined that:³

- Nearly 60 percent (59.0 percent) of victims suffered neglect.
- More than 10 percent (10.8 percent) of victims suffered physical abuse.
- Less than 10 percent (7.6 percent) of victims suffered sexual abuse.
- Less than 5 percent (4.2 percent) of victims suffered psychological maltreatment.

How many children died from abuse or neglect?

Child fatalities are the most tragic consequence of maltreatment. During FY 2007:

- An estimated 1,760 children died due to abuse or neglect.
- The overall rate of child fatalities was 2.35 deaths per 100,000 children.
- More than 30 percent (34.1 percent) were attributed to neglect only; physical abuse also was a major contributor to child fatalities.
- More than three-quarters (75.7 percent) of the children who died due to child abuse and neglect were younger than 4 years old.
- Infant boys (younger than 1 year) had the highest rate of fatalities, at 18.85 deaths per 100,000 boys of the same age in the national population.
- Infant girls had a rate of 15.39 deaths per 100,000 girls of the same age.

² The NCANDS disposition category of “alternative response nonvictim” is defined as a conclusion that the child was not identified as a victim when a response other than an investigation was provided.

³ Note that the calculation of maltreatment type in *Child Maltreatment 2007* followed a different methodology than what was used in previous Child Maltreatment reports, including *Child Maltreatment 2006*. Therefore, the percentages provided here should not be compared to the breakdown of child maltreatment type from previous Child Maltreatment reports. Using a methodology comparable to that used in *Child Maltreatment 2006*, 70.4 percent of victims suffered neglect, 16.2 percent suffered physical abuse, 9.4 percent suffered sexual abuse, and 7.0 percent suffered psychological maltreatment.

Who abused and neglected children?

In FY 2007, nearly 80 percent (79.9 percent) of perpetrators of child maltreatment were parents, and another 6.6 percent were other relatives of the victim. Women comprised a larger percentage of all perpetrators than men: 56.5 percent compared to 42.4 percent. Nearly 75 percent (74.8 percent) of all perpetrators were younger than age 40.

Overall, 7.2 percent of all perpetrators were associated with sexually abusing a child, and this percentage was highest among friends or neighbors (57.7 percent), other relatives (32.0 percent), and child daycare providers (23.9 percent).

Of the perpetrators who were parents, almost 90 percent (87.7 percent) were a biological parent of the victim.

Who received services?

During an investigation, CPS agencies provide services to children and their families, both in the home and in foster care.

- More than 60 percent (62.1 percent) of victims and 31.2 percent of nonvictims received postinvestigation services.
- Approximately one-fifth (20.7 percent) of victims and 3.8 percent of nonvictims were placed in foster care.

Appendix F

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families,
Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau, www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb

The AFCARS Report

Preliminary FY 2007 Estimates as of October 2009 (15)

SOURCE: Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) FY 2007 data (October 1, 2006, through September 30, 2007).

NOTES: Data from both the regular and revised foster care file submissions received by October 1, 2009, and data from adoption file submissions received by July 1, 2009, are included in the information below. Missing data are not used in the calculation of percentages.

How many children were in foster care on September 30, 2007? 491,000

What were the ages of the children in foster care?

Mean Age	9.7	
Median Age	9.9	
Less than 1 Year	6%	29,384
1 Year	7%	34,438
2 Years	6%	30,887
3 Years	5%	26,889
4 Years	5%	24,015
5 Years	5%	22,238
6 Years	4%	21,162
7 Years	4%	20,215
8 Years	4%	19,350
9 Years	4%	18,692
10 Years	4%	18,086
11 Years	4%	18,336
12 Years	4%	19,779
13 Years	5%	22,993
14 Years	6%	28,947
15 Years	7%	35,340
16 Years	8%	41,333
17 Years	8%	39,859
18 Years	2%	12,198
19 Years	1%	4,065
20 Years	1%	2,794

What were the lengths of stay of children in foster care?

Mean Months	27.5	
Median Months	15.5	
Less than 1 Month	4%	21,743
1–5 Months	19%	94,556
6–11 Months	18%	88,726
12–17 Months	13%	65,140
18–23 Months	9%	46,353
24–29 Months	7%	35,896
30–35 Months	5%	24,990
3–4 Years	11%	54,354
5 Years or More	12%	59,241

What were the placement settings of children in foster care?

Pre-Adoptive Home	4%	19,007
Foster Family Home (Relative)	25%	123,760
Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	46%	225,138
Group Home	7%	32,066
Institution	10%	48,167
Supervised Independent Living	1%	5,468
Runaway	2%	10,769
Trial Home Visit	5%	26,624

Children in Foster Care on September 30, 2007 (continued)

What were the case goals of the children in foster care?

Reunify with Parent(s) or Principal Caretaker(s)	48%	235,655
Live with Other Relative(s)	4%	19,058
Adoption	24%	118,867
Long Term Foster Care	8%	40,871
Emancipation	6%	31,906
Guardianship	4%	21,447
Case Plan Goal Not Yet Established	5%	23,197

What was the race/ethnicity of the children in foster care?

Alaska Native/American Indian	2%	9,214
Asian	1%	2,779
Black	31%	152,293
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	976
Hispanic (of any race)	20%	96,581
White	40%	196,397
Unknown/Unable to Determine	2%	11,144
Two or more races	4%	21,615

NOTE: Using U.S. Census Bureau standards, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Beginning in FY 2000, children could be identified with more than one race designation.

What was the gender of the children in foster care?

Male	52%	257,438
Female	48%	233,562

How many children entered foster care during FY 2007? 293,000

What were the ages of the children who entered care during FY 2007?

Mean Age	8.0	
Median Age	7.2	
Less than 1 Year	16%	48,058
1 Year	7%	20,617
2 Years	6%	17,840
3 Years	5%	15,777
4 Years	5%	14,233
5 Years	5%	13,533
6 Years	4%	12,769
7 Years	4%	11,779
8 Years	4%	10,950
9 Years	3%	10,043
10 Years	3%	9,563
11 Years	3%	9,627
12 Years	4%	10,972
13 Years	5%	13,757
14 Years	6%	17,816
15 Years	7%	21,402
16 Years	7%	20,773
17 Years	4%	12,717
18 Years	0%	627
19 Years	0%	113
20 Years	0%	36

What was the race/ethnicity of the children who entered care during FY 2007?

Alaska Native/American Indian	2%	5,897
Asian	1%	2,363
Black	26%	75,397
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	735
Hispanic (of any race)	20%	58,567
White	44%	129,808
Unknown/Unable to Determine	3%	7,671
Two or more races	4%	12,562

NOTE: Using U.S. Census Bureau standards, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Beginning in FY 2000, children could be identified with more than one race designation.

How many children exited foster care during FY 2007? 293,000

What were the lengths of stay of the children who exited foster care during FY 2007?

Mean Months	21.3	
Median Months	12.6	
Less than 1 Month	14%	41,567
1–5 Months	16%	46,376
6–11 Months	18%	53,343
12–17 Months	14%	41,322
18–23 Months	10%	28,983
24–29 Months	7%	19,931
30–35 Months	5%	13,928
3–4 Years	9%	26,688
5 Years or More	7%	20,862

What were the ages of the children who exited care during FY 2007?

Mean Age	9.7	
Median Age	9.3	
Less than 1 Year	5%	14,307
1 Year	7%	21,218
2 Years	7%	21,084
3 Years	6%	18,374
4 Years	6%	16,126
5 Years	5%	14,538
6 Years	5%	13,723
7 Years	4%	12,530
8 Years	4%	11,845
9 Years	4%	10,842
10 Years	3%	9,920
11 Years	3%	9,484
12 Years	3%	9,701
13 Years	4%	10,562
14 Years	4%	12,616
15 Years	5%	15,808
16 Years	6%	18,238
17 Years	10%	30,469
18 Years	5%	15,929
19 Years	1%	3,201
20 Years	1%	2,485

What was the race/ethnicity of the children who exited care during FY 2007?

Alaska Native/American Indian	2%	5,854
Asian	1%	2,337
Black	27%	78,642
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	765
Hispanic (of any race)	19%	55,668
White	45%	130,926
Unknown/Unable to Determine	2%	6,938
Two or more races	4%	11,870

NOTE: Using U.S. Census Bureau standards, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Beginning in FY 2000, children could be identified with more than one race designation.

What were the outcomes for the children exiting foster care during FY 2007?

Reunification with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s)	53%	153,868
Living with Other Relative(s)	9%	27,720
Adoption	18%	52,235
Emancipation	10%	29,730
Guardianship	6%	18,158
Transfer to Another Agency	2%	6,118
Runaway	2%	4,697
Death of Child	0%	473

NOTE: Deaths are attributable to a variety of causes, including medical conditions, accidents, and homicide.

How many children were waiting to be adopted on September 30, 2007? 132,000

NOTES: Waiting children are identified as children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parental rights have been terminated. Children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the estimate.

How old were the waiting children when they were removed from their parents or caretakers?

Mean Age	4.9	
Median Age	4.1	
Less than 1 Year	25%	33,420
1 Year	9%	11,606
2 Years	8%	10,197
3 Years	7%	9,481
4 Years	7%	8,942
5 Years	7%	8,661
6 Years	6%	8,240
7 Years	6%	7,757
8 Years	5%	6,993
9 Years	5%	6,209
10 Years	4%	5,459
11 Years	4%	4,649
12 Years	3%	3,844
13 Years	2%	2,916
14 Years	2%	1,997
15 Years	1%	1,092
16 Years	0%	455
17 Years	0%	82

What is the gender distribution of the waiting children?

Male	53%	69,565
Female	47%	62,435

How many months have the waiting children been in continuous foster care?

Mean Months	37.9
Median Months	28.2
Less than 1 Month	1% 1,003
1–5 Months	5% 7,017
6–11 Months	8% 10,643
12–17 Months	13% 16,813
18–23 Months	14% 18,168
24–29 Months	13% 17,117
30–35 Months	9% 12,365
36–59 Months	20% 26,107
60 or more Months	17% 22,766

What is the racial/ethnic distribution of the waiting children?

Alaska Native/American Indian	2%	2,190
Asian	1%	679
Black	30%	40,160
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	301
Hispanic (of any race)	21%	27,944
White	38%	50,659
Unknown/Unable to Determine	2%	3,092
Two or more races	5%	6,975

NOTE: Using U.S. Census Bureau standards, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Beginning in FY 2000, children could be identified with more than one race designation.

Children waiting to be adopted in FY 2007 (continued)

Where were the waiting children living on September 30, 2007?

Pre-Adoptive Home	13%	17,116
Foster Family Home (Relative)	24%	31,200
Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	52%	68,962
Group Home	4%	4,878
Institution	6%	7,778
Supervised Independent Living	0%	158
Runaway	1%	944
Trial Home Visit	1%	964

How old were the waiting children on September 30, 2007?

Mean Age	8.1	
Median Age	7.4	
Less than 1 Year	4%	5,724
1 Year	9%	11,321
2 Years	9%	11,518
3 Years	8%	9,928
4 Years	7%	8,773
5 Years	6%	7,968
6 Years	6%	7,624
7 Years	5%	7,092
8 Years	5%	6,830
9 Years	5%	6,612
10 Years	5%	6,264
11 Years	5%	6,107
12 Years	5%	6,117
13 Years	5%	6,290
14 Years	5%	6,781
15 Years	5%	6,958
16 Years	4%	5,773
17 Years	3%	4,318

How many children in foster care had their parental rights terminated for all living parents? 81,000

As of September 30, 2007, how many months had elapsed since the parental rights of these foster children were terminated?

Mean Months	24.6
Median Months	13.0

How many children were adopted with public agency involvement in FY 2007? 52,000

SOURCE: Adoptions can be reported to the AFCARS adoption database at any time after an adoption has been finalized. This report includes adoptions finalized in FY 2007 reported in regular and revised submissions by July of 2009.

NOTES: The number of adoptions reported here do not equal the number of adoption discharges reported under foster care exits because the adoptions reported here include adoptions of some children who were not in foster care but received other support from the public agency. Missing data are not used in the calculation of the percentages.

What is the gender distribution of the children adopted from the public foster care system?

Male	51%	26,410
Female	49%	25,590

How old were the children when they were adopted from the public foster care system?

Mean Age	6.4
Median Age	5.2

What percentage of the children adopted receive an adoption subsidy?

Yes	89%	46,268
No	11%	5,732

Less than 1 Year	2%	1,071
1 Year	12%	6,144
2 Years	14%	7,183
3 Years	11%	5,950
4 Years	9%	4,667
5 Years	8%	3,953
6 Years	7%	3,553
7 Years	6%	3,040
8 Years	5%	2,750
9 Years	5%	2,476
10 Years	4%	2,148
11 Years	4%	1,838
12 Years	3%	1,780
13 Years	3%	1,520
14 Years	2%	1,242
15 Years	2%	1,037
16 Years	2%	854
17 Years	1%	627
18 Years	0%	143
19 Years	0%	20
20 Years	0%	5

Children Adopted in FY 2007 (continued)

What is the racial/ethnic distribution of the children adopted from the public foster care system?

Alaska Native/American Indian	1%	722
Asian	1%	297
Black	25%	13,078
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	85
Hispanic (of any race)	20%	10,564
White	45%	23,472
Unknown/Unable to Determine	2%	1,093
Two or more races	5%	2,689

What was the relationship of the adoptive parents to the child prior to the adoption?

Non-Relative	14%	7,528
Foster Parent	57%	29,767
Stepparent	0%	39
Other Relative	28%	14,666

NOTE: Using U.S. Census Bureau standards, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Beginning in FY 2000, children could be identified with more than one race designation.

How many months did it take after termination of parental rights for the children to be adopted?

Mean Months	14.1	
Median Months	10.3	
Less than 1 Month	3%	1,311
1–5 Months	24%	12,314
6–11 Months	32%	16,567
12–17 Months	19%	9,675
18–23 Months	10%	5,047
24–29 Months	5%	2,527
30–35 Months	3%	1,430
3–4 Years	4%	2,137
5 Years or More	2%	992

What is the family structure of the child's adoptive family?

Married Couple	68%	35,461
Unmarried Couple	2%	1,037
Single Female	27%	14,017
Single Male	3%	1,485