

Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Annual Report



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 2001: ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Annual Report to Congress (Outcomes Report) is the fourth annual report from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (the Department). This report depicts the performance of States on the following seven national child welfare outcomes:

- Reduce recurrence of child abuse and/or neglect,
- Reduce the incidence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care,
- Increase permanency for children in foster care,
- Reduce time in foster care to reunification without increasing re-entry,
- Reduce time in foster care to adoption,
- Increase placement stability, and
- Reduce placements of young children in group homes or institutions.

Child Welfare Outcomes 2001 presents data for each State (the term “State” as it is used in this report, includes the 50 States and the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico) on each of the 12 measures developed to assess the 7 national outcomes. The report also provides key findings of a cross-State data analyses and a discussion of overall State performance on the outcome measures.

The discussion of State performance incorporates information from the Department’s Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSR) for the 32 States reviewed in fiscal years 2001 and 2002. Although the Outcome Reports and the CFSR represent separate activities within the Department, both are designed to provide information that the Department can use to assist States in improving child welfare services. The CFSR is the Department’s results-oriented, comprehensive monitoring system implemented in fiscal year (FY) 2001. The CFSR examines State child welfare system operations through case reviews and interviews with stakeholders and assesses each State’s conformity with seven outcomes and seven systemic factors. The CFSR also assesses each State’s performance on 6 outcome measures that the Department selected from the 13 measures developed for the Outcomes Reports. Prior to implementation of the CFSR, the Department established national standards for these six measures, and States are assessed with respect to whether their Statewide data for the measure meets the national standard.

Child Welfare Outcomes 2001 is organized as follows:

- **Chapter I. Assisting States in Attaining Positive Outcomes for Children and Families.** This chapter focuses on how the Department can and does use information from the Outcomes Reports and the CFSR to assist States in improving their efforts to achieve positive outcomes for children and families.
- **Chapter II. Key Findings Pertaining to State Performances on the National Child Welfare Outcomes.** This chapter presents the findings of the analyses of State data with regard to the seven outcome measures. The analyses focus on performance in 2001 and changes in performance from 1999 to 2001.
- **Chapter III. Assessment of State Performance on the Seven Child Welfare Outcomes.** This chapter provides a discussion of the key findings and the implications of the findings for assessing State performance. The discussion incorporates relevant information from the analysis of CFSR findings for the 32 States that participated in a CFSR during FYs 2001 and 2002.

- **Chapter IV. State Data Pages.** The data pages for each State are provided in this Chapter. For each State, the data pages are followed by a State comment page (for those States providing comments) and a Federal comment page.

The data analyses conducted for *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001* focused on State performance on the outcomes in 2001 and changes in performance from 1999 to 2001. The data analyses address State performance in the following areas:

- Preventing further maltreatment of child victims (defined as children who were the subject of a substantiated or indicated maltreatment report);
- Achieving permanency for all children in foster care;
- Achieving permanency for children in foster care in a timely manner; and
- Ensuring stable and age-appropriate foster care placements for children.

Key findings pertaining to State performance with regard to each of these areas are summarized below.

State Performance Pertaining to Preventing Further Maltreatment of Children

Children's safety is the primary concern of all child welfare services, particularly the safety of children who have already been identified as maltreatment victims—i.e., children who were the subjects of substantiated or indicated maltreatment reports. The Department established the following outcomes to address this concern: 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.

To assess outcome 1, outcome measure 1.1 was developed: For all children who were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and/or neglect during the first 6 months of the reporting period, what percentage had another substantiated or indicated report within a 6-month period? The Department established the following national standard related to this measure as part of the CFSR: Of all children who were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse or neglect during the first 6 months of a specified year, 6.1 percent or fewer children had another substantiated or indicated report within 6 months.

To assess outcome 2, outcome measure 2.1 was developed: Of all children who were in foster care during the reporting period, what percentage was the subject of substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member? The Department established the following national standard related to this measure for the CFSR: Of all children in foster care in the State during a specified time period, 0.57 percent or fewer were the subject of substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member.

A key finding with regard to outcome measure 1 is that many States experience challenges in preventing maltreatment recurrence. In 2001, of the 40 States reporting data for the outcome measure assessing maltreatment recurrence within 6 months, only 13 (32.5 percent) met the national standard of 6.1 percent or less. Ten States (25 percent) had a maltreatment recurrence rate that was greater than 10 percent. In contrast to these findings, States appear to be experiencing greater success in preventing maltreatment of children in foster care. In 2001, for example, of the 38 States reporting data for the measure assessing maltreatment in foster care, 25 (66 percent) met the national standard of 0.57 percent or less. There were only four States in which the incidence of maltreatment of children in foster care in 2001 exceeded one percent. In addition, there was a substantial increase from 1999 to 2001 in the percentage of States meeting the national standard for this measure (52 percent in 1999 compared to 66 percent in 2001).

Information from the analysis of data from the CFSR Final Reports suggests that the difficulties States experience in preventing maltreatment recurrence may be due to one or more of the following:

- Risk assessments that are inadequate with respect to identifying underlying family issues such as substance abuse and domestic violence;
- A lack of services that sufficiently address risk issues (such as providing parenting education services when parents have domestic violence problems); and
- Insufficient monitoring of families to assess service participation and change in risk factors in child welfare cases in which children remain in their homes.

In addition, information from the analysis of the 32 CFSR Final Reports suggests that a State's success in preventing maltreatment in foster care may be attributed in part to efforts to establish licensing standards for foster homes and care facilities that require adequate training for foster parents and facility staff and that ensure children's safety.

State Performance in Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care

A primary goal of child welfare services is to find permanent homes for children through reunification with their families, adoption, or legal guardianship. The Department assesses State performance in achieving permanency for children in foster care through five measures developed for outcome 3—*increase permanency for children in foster care*. The five measures are listed below (no national standards are related to measures of outcome 3):

- Outcome measure 3.1: For all children who exited foster care during the reporting period, what percentage left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship?
- Outcome measure 3.2: For children who exited foster care and were identified as having a diagnosed disability, what percentage left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship?
- Outcome measure 3.3: For children who exited foster care 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?
- Outcome measure 3.4: Of all children exiting foster care to emancipation, what percentage was age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care?
- Outcome measure 3.5: For all children who exited foster care, what percentage by racial/ethnic category left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship?

A key finding pertaining to permanency for children in foster care is that the vast majority of children who exit foster care are discharged to a permanent home (i.e., through reunification, adoption, or guardianship). Children who are not included in this group are those who were emancipated from foster care, transferred to another system (such as mental health, juvenile justice, or adults with disabilities), died, or ran away and were no longer considered by the State to be in out-of-home care. The mean percentage of children exiting foster care to a permanent home declines when the children have a diagnosed disability or when they entered foster care as adolescents. In FY 2001, the mean percentage of all children exiting foster care to a permanent home was 84.6. In comparison, the mean percentage of children with a diagnosed disability exiting foster care to a permanent home was only 78.4, and for children who entered foster care when they were adolescents, the mean percentage of children exiting to a permanent home declined even further, to 69.7. These findings suggest that achieving permanency for children with disabilities and children who entered foster care as adolescents is a challenge for many States.

The analyses of CFSR Final Report information identified the following potential barriers to attaining permanency for older children:

- A perception of agency and court personnel that older children are “unadoptable” and that filing for termination of parental rights will only result in the creation of “legal orphans.”
- A tendency of child welfare agency personnel and courts to establish a case goal of long-term foster care when older children cannot be reunified with their parents without a thorough consideration of adoption or guardianship as permanency outcomes.
- A tendency among child welfare agency staff to focus service delivery on the child rather than involving the entire family when a child enters foster care at adolescence, particularly when the primary reason for entry into foster care is the child's behavior.

Another key finding relevant to outcome measure 3.4 is that in many States a substantial percentage of children may be said to have “grown up” in foster care. That is, they were emancipated from foster care between the ages of 18 and 21 after having entered foster care when they were age 12 or younger. In FY 2001, there were 25 States in which more than 28 percent of the children emancipated from foster care were age 12 or younger when they entered foster care and in 15 of these States, over 50 percent of the children exiting to emancipation had entered foster care when they were age 12 or younger. Nationally, at least 30 percent of all children exiting foster care to emancipation in FY 1999, 2000, and 2001 were age 12 or younger when they entered foster care.

Information from the analysis of CFSR Final Reports suggests that young children are put at risk for “growing up” in foster care when the child welfare agency and/or the courts decide to maintain reunification as a permanency goal for long periods of time, even when parents have not exhibited progress in moving toward reunification and the prognosis for reunification is poor. Although some of the provisions of the Adoption and Safe Families Act (1997) are intended to address this problem, the CFSR findings suggest that not all States are fully implementing these provisions.

A final key finding relevant to outcome measure 3 is that Black (non-Hispanic), White (non-Hispanic), and Hispanic children are no more or less likely to be discharged from foster care to a permanent home. However, in five States, White (non-Hispanic) children exiting foster care were considerably more likely than Alaska Native/American Indian children to be discharged to a permanent home. In one of these States, 91.9 percent of White (non-Hispanic) children exiting foster care were discharged to a permanent home compared to 65.3 percent of Alaska Native/Native American children exiting foster care.

Information from the CFSR Final Reports suggests that success in achieving positive outcomes for Native American children is promoted when States and Tribes establish written agreements about the roles and responsibilities of each entity for Native American children who come into contact with the child welfare system, and when the State child welfare agency and the courts adhere to the requirements of the Indian Child Welfare Act. However, information from the CFSR also indicates that some Tribes are unwilling to seek termination of parental rights for Native American children because it is not consistent with their cultural values and traditions, although they support permanency through long-term foster care in a stable home.

State Performance in Achieving Permanency in a Timely Manner

A primary goal of child welfare services is to achieve permanency for children in foster care as quickly as possible after a child enters foster care, without jeopardizing the child's continued safety. To address the issue of timely permanency, the Department established two outcomes: outcome 4—reduce time in foster care to reunification without increasing re-entry, and outcome 5—reduce time in foster care to adoption.

The measures developed to assess State performance in attaining outcome 4 are the following:

- Outcome measure 4.1: Of all children who were reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care, what percentage was reunified in the following time periods?
 - (1) Less than 12 months
 - (2) At least 12 months but less than 24 months
 - (3) At least 24 months but less than 36 months
 - (4) At least 36 months but less than 48 months
 - (5) 48 or more months
- Outcome measure 4.2: Of all children who entered foster care during the reporting period, what percentage re-entered care:
 - (1) Within 12 months of a prior foster care episode?
 - (2) More than 12 months after a prior foster care episode?

The Department established the following national standard for the CFSR related to outcome measure 4.1: Of all children who were reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care (in a specified fiscal year), 76.2 percent or more were reunified in less than 12 months from the time of the latest removal from home. The Department established the following national standard for the CFSR related to outcome measure 4.2: Of all children who entered foster care during a specified fiscal year, 8.6 percent or fewer re-entered foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode.

The measure developed to assess State performance with regard to outcome 5 is the following: outcome measure 5.1. Of all children who exited foster care to a finalized adoption, what percentage exited care in the following time periods?

- (1) Less than 12 months from the time of the latest removal from home
- (2) At least 12 months but less than 24 months
- (3) At least 24 months but less than 36 months
- (4) At least 36 months but less than 48 months
- (5) 48 or more months

The Department established the following national standard related to this measure for the CFSR: Of all children who exited foster care to a finalized adoption during the specified fiscal year, 32 percent or more exited foster care in less than 24 months from the time of the latest removal from the home.

A primary finding pertaining to the attainment of permanency in a timely manner is that States appear to be more successful in achieving reunifications in a timely manner (in less than 12 months) than they are in achieving adoptions in a timely manner (in less than 24 months). In FY 2001, 19 (37 percent) of the 52 States met the national standard (76.2 percent or more) for the measure assessing the percentage of exits to reunification that occurred within 12 months of the child's entry into foster care. In comparison, only 14 States (27 percent) met the national standard (32 percent or more) for the measure assessing the percentage of finalized adoptions that occurred within 24 months of the child's entry into foster care. In addition, there was a substantive increase from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+23 percent change) in the percentage of States meeting the national standard for reunifications within 12 months, but there was a substantive decline from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-12.9 percent change) in the percentage of States meeting the national standard for finalized adoptions within 24 months. Finally, the data pertaining to adoptions within 24 months revealed a decline in both the mean and the median performance of States from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Information from the analyses of the 32 CFSR Final Reports suggests that finalizing adoptions in a timely manner is a considerable challenge in most States. The identified barriers to expediting the adoption process included the following:

- Court-related barriers such as overcrowded dockets, the lengthy appeals process pertaining to termination of parental rights petitions, and insufficient attention of court personnel to permanency issues;
- Agency-related barriers including delays in completing paper work and conducting home studies; and
- An unwillingness on the part of agency and/or court personnel to terminate parental rights before an adoptive family has been found because they do not want to create "legal orphans."

Another finding concerns the relationship between State performance pertaining to timely reunification and performance regarding foster care re-entry. Many States with a relatively high percentage of reunifications within 12 months also exhibit a relatively high rate of re-entries into foster care within 12 months of a prior foster care episode; and many States with a relatively low percentage of reunifications within 12 months exhibit a relatively low rate of re-entry into foster care. In fact, in FY 2001, only four States met the national standards for both measures.

Information from the CFSR Final Reports indicates that re-entries into foster care may occur because many States lack sufficient post-reunification services to support children's reintegration into the family and to monitor their safety on an ongoing basis. In many States, moreover, the CFSR found that some reunifications occur before adequate changes have been made in the family to ensure children's safety.

State Performance in Ensuring Stable and Age-Appropriate Placements for Children in Foster Care

Another goal of the child welfare system is to ensure that children in foster care experience placement stability and are in placements that are appropriate for their age. The Department established the following two outcomes to address these concerns: outcome 6—increase placement stability, and outcome 7—reduce placements of young children in group homes or institutions.

The measure developed to assess State performance with regard to outcome 6 is the following: outcome measure 6.1: Of all children served who had been in foster care for the time periods listed below, what percentage had no more than two placement settings during that time period?

- (1) Less than 12 months from the time of latest removal from home
- (2) At least 12 months but less than 24 months
- (3) At least 24 months but less than 36 months
- (4) At least 36 months but less than 48 months
- (5) 48 or more months

The Department established the following national standard related to this measure for the CFSR: Of all children who have been in foster care for less than 12 months from the time of the latest removal from the home, 86.7 percent or more have had no more than 2 placement settings.

The measure developed to assess State performance with regard to outcome 7 is the following: outcome measure 7.1: For all children who entered foster care during the reporting period and were age 12 or younger at the time of their most recent placement, what percentage was placed in a group home or institution?

A key finding with regard to placement stability is that only 13 of the 52 States (25 percent) met the national standard for the percentage of children in foster care for less than 12 months who experienced no more than 2 placements. The analyses of CFSR information identified the following concerns with respect to State effectiveness in ensuring placement stability for children:

- There is frequent use in some States of shelter facilities as initial placements and/or as “temporary” placements when a placement disruption occurs or when an appropriate foster home cannot be located. Although a shelter placement may often be appropriate, the use of shelters as temporary or interim placements tends to contribute to placement instability.
- There is an insufficient supply of appropriate placement options for children, particularly for children with developmental disabilities or severe emotional/behavioral problems.
- There is a lack of services to foster families to prevent placement disruption when problems arise.
- There is inadequate matching of placements and children (i.e., the placement does not meet the child’s needs or the foster parents’ expectations).

A key finding pertaining to age-appropriate placements (outcome measure 7.1) is that, in FY 2001, there were 7 of the 52 States in which more than 20 percent of children entering foster care who were age 12 or younger were placed in a group home or institution, and 1 State in which 45 percent of these children were placed in a group home or institution. In addition, information from the CFSR Final Reports indicates that, in some States, children as young as 2 or 3 years old experience extended stays in “shelter placements” that are equivalent to group homes or institutions.

Assessing Change in Performance Over Time

The findings of the analyses conducted for *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001* with regard to change in performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 suggest that it is too early in the outcome assessment process to identify trends in performance over time, either for individual States or for States as a group. The most common finding of the analyses of change is that, for individual States, a change in one direction from 1999 to 2000 was offset by a change in the other direction from 2000 to 2001. The shift in direction of the States from one year to the next is not unexpected given the fact that some States have implemented improvements in collecting and reporting data in recent years, and that some States have been in the process of implementing a change to a State Automated Child Welfare Information System from a legacy system.

It also is difficult at this time to differentiate changes over time that can be attributed to performance from those that are the result of improvements in data quality. Through the CFSR process, and in response to the data for the Outcomes Reports, many States re-examined the data they reported to the national data systems and discovered errors in their reporting procedures. In some instances, this has resulted in resubmissions of prior years’ data to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System and the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System. However, in other instances, States have chosen not to resubmit data from prior years, but to make the corrections in future years. Consequently, for some States, changes over time will not reflect the corrections made in the reporting procedures, while for other States, changes may be attributed to corrected reporting procedures.

Summary

The findings summarized above suggest that there is much room for improvement with regard to State performance on the seven national child welfare outcomes. The Department’s role in helping States to improve their performance in attaining positive outcomes for children and families is one of providing the necessary information and technical assistance. Information

about the effectiveness of various strategies, practices, policies, and procedures is critical to help ensure the success of the States in their efforts to enhance outcomes. The Department's comprehensive network of resource and information centers is geared to meeting this demand, as is the research funded through discretionary grants. As the Department works with States in developing their program-improvement plans as part of the CFSR, it is anticipated that performance on the outcome measures will improve.

Introduction

The *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Annual Report to Congress* is the fourth in a series of annual reports from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (the Department).¹ The annual reports are prepared in accordance with section 479(A) (provided in appendix A) of the Social Security Act (added by the Adoption and Safe Families Act [ASFA] of 1997). The reports depict the performance of States on seven national child welfare outcomes developed by the Department's Administration for Children and Families in consultation with State and local child welfare agency administrators and other experts in the child welfare field. The measures developed to assess attainment of the outcomes are provided in appendix B. The outcomes, presented below, reflect widely accepted performance objectives for child welfare practice.

- 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 re-entry.
- 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.

In addition to data on the seven national outcomes, the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress (Outcomes Reports) present general context information relevant to each State's² child welfare system. The context information includes the following:

- The State's child population statistics;
- The number and characteristics of child maltreatment victims (defined as children who are the subject of a substantiated or indicated maltreatment report);
- The number and characteristics of children in foster care at the start and end of the fiscal year and of children who entered and exited foster care during the fiscal year;
- The number and characteristics of children "waiting for adoption" (defined as children who are legally free for adoption and/or for whom a goal of adoption has been established but the adoption has not yet been finalized) during the fiscal year; and
- The number and characteristics of children for whom an adoption was finalized during the fiscal year.

With the exception of the child population statistics, which are obtained from the U. S. Census Bureau, the State data come from two Federal national reporting systems—the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS). Through AFCARS and NCANDS, the Department collects and analyzes data and generates reports on children who come into contact with State child welfare systems. The highlights of findings from the most recent Department report based on NCANDS data—*Child Maltreatment 2001*—are presented in appendix C. The annual AFCARS Report for fiscal year (FY) 2001 is presented in appendix D.

Before publishing the Outcomes Reports, the Department disseminates each State's data pages to the State child welfare agency director and data managers for their review and comment. At this time, a State may resubmit data if it believes that the data presented reflect reporting errors. If States choose to comment on their data, these comments are included with the State's data pages in the Outcomes Reports.

¹ Throughout this report, references will be made to the Department (meaning the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services). The unit of the Department that produces this report, and that has primary responsibility for the report and all of the work described here, is the Children's Bureau within the Administration for Children, Youth and Families (ACYF), in the Administration for Children and Families (ACF).

² In the Outcomes Reports, the designation of "State" includes the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Therefore, up to 52 "States" may be noted as having reported data for individual outcome measures.

The first Outcomes Report—*Child Welfare Outcomes 1998*—presented State data pages and provided a discussion of the development of the national child welfare outcomes and measures, including the principles that guided that process. The Department established these guiding principles (presented in appendix E) in conjunction with a consultant work group comprising representatives from a wide range of State and local organizations and agencies.

In addition to State data, the second Outcomes Report—*Child Welfare Outcomes 1999*—identified issues related to the quality and quantity of State data, and presented key findings regarding State performance in 1999 on the national outcomes. That Outcomes Report also described the various components of the Department’s approach to assisting States in achieving safety, permanency, and well-being for children who come into contact with public child welfare systems. As noted in the 1999 report, the key component of this approach is the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR). The CFSR is the Department’s results-oriented, comprehensive monitoring system implemented in FY 2001. It was developed in response to the mandate in the Social Security Amendments of 1994 to promulgate regulations for reviews of State programs for child and family services under titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act.

The third report—*Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*—was similar to earlier reports in that it presented State data pages, State comments, a discussion of data issues, and key findings of the data analyses. A new feature of that report was the “Federal Comment” page. The Federal Comment page was included with each State’s data pages and provided a discussion of: (1) the State’s performance on the national child welfare outcomes; and (2) possible reasons for high or low performance based on information obtained from the CFSR.³ For *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*, Federal Comment pages were provided for the 32 States that participated in a CFSR in FY 2001 and FY 2002.⁴

This fourth report—*Child Welfare Outcomes 2001*—incorporates all features of the 2000 report and is organized as follows:

- **Chapter I. Assisting States in Attaining Positive Outcomes for Children and Families.** This chapter focuses on how the Department can and does use information from the Outcomes Reports and the CFSR to assist States in improving their efforts to achieve positive outcomes for children and families.
- **Chapter II. Key Findings Pertaining to State Performance on the National Child Welfare Outcomes.** This chapter presents the findings of the analyses of State data with regard to the seven outcome measures. The analyses focus on performance in 2001 and changes in performance from 1999 to 2001.
- **Chapter III: Assessment of State Performance on the Seven Child Welfare Outcomes.** This chapter provides a discussion of the key findings and the implications of the findings for assessing State performance. The discussion incorporates relevant information from the analysis of CFSR findings for the 32 States that participated in a CFSR during FYs 2001 and 2002.
- **Chapter IV. State Data Pages.** The data pages for each State are provided in this Chapter. For each State, the data pages are followed by a State Comment page (for those States providing comments) and a Federal Comment page.

³The FY 2000 and FY 2001 data are used for CFSRs occurring in FY 2002 and FY 2003, respectively. There is a time lag between the data provided in the State data pages and the CFSR. For example, the data presented in this Outcomes Report pertain to the years 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001. However, the CFSR final reports cover reviews completed in either FY 2001, 2002, or 2003. This time lag is the result of the time required for State data submission/resubmissions and Federal analyses.

⁴With each new Outcomes Report, CFSR Final Report information will be incorporated into the Federal Comment page for States that participate in a CFSR during the year that the Outcomes Report is prepared. For States that did not participate in a review during that year, the Federal Comment page will focus primarily on changes in performance on the national outcomes over time.

I. ASSISTING STATES IN ATTAINING POSITIVE OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

A primary mission of the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (the Department) is to ensure that essential human services are provided to those individuals in society who are least able to help themselves. Included in that population are the millions of children who come into contact with the Nation's child welfare service systems each year.

The Department is responsible for assisting States in the delivery of child welfare services that strengthen families and promote children's safety, permanency, and well-being. In carrying out this responsibility, the Department provides funding for and/or administers multiple grant programs and special program and training initiatives. In addition, the Department operates resource centers established to provide the field with information and technical assistance in the areas of child welfare programming, research findings, services, policies, and data-collection systems. (See appendix F for a description of the Department's child welfare-related resource centers.)

The Department's assistance to States in this area (through the Children's Bureau) is intended in large part to promote attainment of the following key outcomes:

- Children are protected from harm (safety);
- Children who must be removed from their families are returned home or placed with an appropriate permanent family as quickly as possible (permanency); and
- Children and families who come into contact with the child welfare system receive the supports and services necessary for positive growth and development (well-being).

The Department employs two mechanisms to determine the extent to which States are successful in attaining these outcomes and identify areas where assistance is needed. One mechanism is the *Child Welfare Outcomes: Annual Report to Congress* (Outcomes Report). As noted in the introduction, this initiative was developed in response to section 479(A) of the Social Security Act as added by section 203 (a) of the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) of 1997. ASFA required the Department to develop a set of child welfare outcome measures and to ". . . 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." The second mechanism is the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR), a comprehensive monitoring system first implemented in fiscal year (FY) 2001.

Although the Outcomes Reports and the CFSR represent separate activities within the Department, one objective of both initiatives is to provide information that the Department can use to assist States in improving child welfare services. The following sections provide a discussion of how each of these initiatives meets this objective.

How the Department Can Use Information from the Outcomes Reports To Assist States in Attaining Positive Outcomes for Children and Families

The Outcomes Reports provide annual data (starting in 1998) on each State's performance on the seven national child welfare outcomes and also present annual "context" data on each State's child welfare population. Based on information provided in the Outcomes Reports, a State and the Department can identify changes occurring in the performance on the outcomes over time. The Department can use these data to explore with a State the possible reasons for change in performance and then, if necessary, target assistance to meet that State's unique needs.

The Department also can use information from the Outcomes Reports to identify common concerns across States and develop policies and programs to address those concerns. Some examples of cross-State concerns that have been consistently identified in the Outcomes Reports are the following:

- In many States, substantial percentages of children who enter foster care at age 13 or older and children who have a diagnosed disability are not exiting foster care to a permanent home.
- Many States with a relatively high percentage of reunifications occurring within 12 months of the child's entry into foster care also have a relatively high percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of a prior foster care episode.
- In many States, the majority of children who are exiting foster care to adoption have been in foster care for longer than 2 years.

In addition to identifying common concerns, the Outcomes Reports inform the Department and the field regarding general features of the Nation's public child welfare systems. The Department can use this information as a guide in developing policies and programs designed to enhance the capacity of States to improve outcomes for children and families. For example, although child maltreatment victims are generally perceived as being young children, data from prior Outcomes Reports demonstrate that in most States, at least 20 percent of the child victim population is age 12 or older at the time of the maltreatment substantiation. In many States, 25 percent of child victims are age 12 or older. This is important information because a response to child maltreatment that is effective for children younger than age 12 may not be effective for adolescents.

Finally, data from the Outcomes Reports demonstrate that State foster care populations differ extensively. The populations differ not only with regard to size, but also with regard to the characteristics of children in that population. For example, as reported in a prior Outcomes Report, there are a several States in which 20 percent of the children entering foster care in a given year were age 16 or older. The kinds of issues that these States confront regarding permanency and well-being for children in foster care will be quite different from those encountered by States in which only a very small percentage of children entering foster care in any given year are in that age group.

How the Department Can Use Information from the CFSR Findings To Assist States in Attaining Positive Outcomes for Children and Families

Although the CFSR and the Outcomes Reports have a common goal, a key difference between them is that the reports focus on quantitative data from national data-reporting systems, while the CFSR incorporates qualitative information pertaining to State child welfare agency functioning and casework practices. During a CFSR, information is obtained from the following sources:

- A report prepared by the State that provides the findings of the State's self-assessment conducted prior to the on-site review;
- A State Data Profile prepared by the Department using data from the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS);⁵ and
- An on-site review process that includes comprehensive reviews of 50 cases over 3 sites, and interviews or focus groups with parents, children (when appropriate), foster and adoptive parents, private service providers, child welfare agency caseworkers and supervisors, State and local child welfare agency administrators, and a range of other stakeholders at local and State levels.

The Department analyzes the information from these sources to determine whether a State is in substantial conformity with seven outcomes and seven systemic factors assessed through the CFSR (presented in appendix G). Substantial conformity means that the State has met Federal criteria established for each outcome and systemic factor.

In addition, the Department established national standards for 6 of the 12 national outcome measures developed for the Outcomes Reports (appendix H provides information relevant to development of the national standards, for use in the CFSR). The following are the measures included in the Outcomes Reports for which national standards have been established for the CFSR.

⁵ In some instances, when appropriate, the Department approved the use of alternative sources of data from the State for some of the data provided in the State Data Profile. This is permitted by regulation.

- **Outcomes Report Measure 1.1—Maltreatment recurrence.**

CFSR National Standard: Of all children who were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and/or neglect during the first 6 months of the period under review, 6.1 percent or fewer children had another substantiated or indicated report within 6 months of the first report.

- **Outcomes Report Measure 2.1—Incidence of child abuse and/or neglect of children in foster care.**

CFSR National Standard: Of all children in foster care in the State during the period under review, 0.57 percent or fewer were the subject of substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member.

- **Outcomes Report Measure 4.1—Exits from foster care to reunification occurring in specified time periods.**

CFSR National Standard: Of all children who were reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care, 76.2 percent or more were reunified in less than 12 months from the time of the latest removal from the home.

- **Outcomes Report Measure 4.2—Incidence of re-entry into foster care.**

CFSR National Standard: Of all children who entered foster care during the period under review, 8.6 percent or fewer re-entered foster care within 12 months of a prior foster care episode.

- **Outcomes Report Measure 5.1—Exits from foster care to a finalized adoption occurring within specified time periods.**

CFSR National Standard: Of all children who exited foster care to a finalized adoption during the year under review, 32 percent or more exited foster care in less than 24 months from the time of the latest removal from the home.

- **Outcomes Report Measure 6.1—Percent of children in foster care for specified periods of time who experienced two or fewer placement settings.**

CFSR National Standard: Of all children who have been in foster care for less than 12 months from the time of the latest removal from the home, 86.7 percent or more have had no more than 2 placement settings.

The Department uses performance relative to these national standards, as well as information from case reviews and stakeholder interviews, to determine a State's substantial conformity with specific outcomes. The results of the CFSR are compiled into a final report that serves as a basis for a State's program-improvement plan, which is developed by the State in conjunction with the Department, and that targets those areas identified in the final report as needing improvement. During FY 2001 and FY 2002, 32 States participated in a CFSR. The remainder of the States will participate in the CFSR during FY 2003 (13 States) and FY 2004 (7 States). (The CFSR schedule is provided in appendix I.) In subsequent years, the schedule of the Department's reviews will be based on the completion dates of each State's program-improvement plan.

The program-improvement plan component of the CFSR reflects the Department's State-specific approach to assisting States in improving outcomes for children and families. However, information from the CFSR final reports indicates that many States confront similar problems and have common concerns. This suggests that in addition to State-specific efforts, the Department can use CFSR information to develop more broad-based approaches to assisting States.

Some examples of the common concerns identified from the analyses of CFSR findings for States participating in a CFSR during FY 2001 and FY 2002 are the following:

- No State achieved substantial conformity with outcomes pertaining to: (1) attaining permanency and stability for children in foster care, or (2) enhancing the capacity of families to provide for children's needs.
- In many States, the needs-assessment processes were found to be inadequate to ensure children's safety, permanency, and well-being because they did not capture potential underlying causes of child maltreatment, such as substance abuse, domestic violence, and mental illness; did not address all family members' needs; or were limited to assessing risk of harm only.
- In many States, the barriers to placement stability for foster care children included a lack of appropriate out-of-home placements for children and a tendency to rely on temporary shelter placements when children entered foster care and when children's placements were disrupted. Although a child's placement in a shelter may be necessary in some situations, frequent use of shelters as placement options increased placement instability.
- In many States, the CFSR identified court-related barriers to attaining permanency (particularly adoption) in a timely manner, such as delays in holding permanency hearings in the required timeframes, overcrowded court dockets, time-consuming appeals procedures (particularly when termination of parental rights is involved), and judges (as well as child

welfare agency staff) who did not follow the timeframes for seeking termination of parental rights (TPR) (or providing compelling reasons for not seeking TPR) that were established by ASFA.

- In most States, child welfare agency practice was not consistent with regard to involving parents and children in the case-planning process.
- In many States, the frequency and quality of face-to-face contact between caseworkers and the children and parents in their caseloads often were not sufficient to meet the needs of the children or further the attainment of case goals.
- In many States, the child welfare agency was not consistent in monitoring the ongoing safety of children in cases in which children remain in the home while the family receives services.

These findings provide information to the Department and its network of resource centers regarding potential target areas for a broad-based approach to assisting States in achieving positive outcomes for children and families. The Department and its resource centers also can and have used cross-State information to design workshops to be presented at national and regional conferences and to develop papers and reports for national dissemination. Although these broader approaches are not intended to replace the State-specific assistance process, they enhance the Department's capacity to assist multiple States at the same time.

Integrating Information from the Outcomes Reports and the CFSR

The above discussions indicate that both the Outcomes Reports and the CFSR have significant implications for informing the Department (as well as the States and the field in general) about the kinds of assistance that States need to improve outcomes for children and families in the child welfare system. Taken together, they offer a broad picture of child welfare agency functioning at the State-specific and cross-State levels. The Outcomes Reports provide quantitative information about State child welfare systems and State status with regard to performance on the outcome measures. The CFSR provides more in-depth information about child welfare agency functioning with respect to case-level practices and perceptions of stakeholders.

In this Outcomes Report and in future reports, the Department will continue to assess the status of States with regard to performance on the outcome measures and report cross-State commonalities as well as differences. The following chapter provides the key findings pertaining to State performance on the national child welfare outcomes.

II.

KEY FINDINGS PERTAINING TO STATE PERFORMANCE ON THE NATIONAL CHILD WELFARE OUTCOMES

The Child Welfare Outcomes Reports to Congress provide an ongoing annual assessment of State performance on seven national outcomes pertaining to the safety and permanency of children who come into contact with the Nation's public child welfare systems. An overview of national performance on these outcomes is provided in table 1 on the following page. National performance on each measure was calculated by collapsing the data for all States. For example, for outcome measure 1 in table 1, the data represent all children in the country who were victims of a substantiated (or indicated) maltreatment report during the first 6 months of the reporting period, who were the subject of another substantiated (or indicated) maltreatment report within 6 months.

Additional analyses conducted for *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001* focused on State performance on the outcomes in 2001 and changes in performance from 1999 to 2001. These analyses focus on the range of performance among the States on specific outcome measures and the median and mean performance of States. Although 1998 data are presented in the data pages in chapter 4, they were not included in the analyses because the 1998 data file was not comparable to the files for 1999, 2000, and 2001. The data analyses address State performance in the following areas:

- Preventing further maltreatment of child victims (defined as children who were the subject of a substantiated or indicated maltreatment report);
- Achieving permanency for all children in foster care;
- Achieving permanency for children in foster care in a timely manner; and
- Ensuring stable and age-appropriate foster care placements for children.

The findings of the data analyses pertaining to each of these areas are presented in the sections below. Each section includes a discussion of the following:

- The outcomes and outcome measures relevant to the area;
- State performance on each outcome measure in either calendar year or FY 2001 (depending on the measure); and
- Changes in State performance on each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001 (either calendar year or fiscal year, depending on the measure).

A decision was made to assess change from 1999 to 2001 rather than change across each year in order to take a broader perspective on performance change. However, it is important to note that even this analysis should be interpreted with caution because actual trends in performance often are not observable for 4 to 5 years. The changes observed are best viewed as providing an initial assessment of change across States rather than a "trend" analysis. In addition, for individual States, a change may reflect improvements in data quality or changes in State reporting procedures rather than actual changes in performance.

For the purposes of this report, change in performance over time was assessed by calculating the percent change in performance from one year to the next.⁶ Also for purposes of this Outcomes Report, performance is considered to have "improved" if the percent change is 5.0 or larger in the appropriate direction, depending on the measure. Performance is considered to have "declined" if the percent change is 5.0 or larger in the opposite direction. Performance is considered to have remained the same (i.e., "no change") if the percent change is less than 5.0 in either direction. Although there is no absolute standard for determining whether "real change" occurred, the decision to use a percent change of 5.0 as a baseline is intended to prevent interpreting very small percent changes over time as evidence of a change in performance.

⁶ A percent change differs from a change in percentage points. It is calculated by subtracting "old" data from "new" data and dividing by "old" data. For example, if reunifications within 12 months are 50 percent in 1999 and 75 percent in 2000, the percent change would be +50 percent. If reunifications within 12 months are 75 percent in 1999 and 50 percent in 2000, the percent change would be -33 percent.

Table 1: National performance on select child welfare outcome measures for all States reporting.

Outcome Measure	Year*			National Standard (%)
	1999	2000	2001	
1.1 Percent of children who were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and/or neglect during the first 6 months of reporting period who had another substantiated or indicated report within a 6-month period.	8.5% (N=29)	8.6% (N=34)	8.9% (N=40)	6.1% or less
2.1 Percent of children in foster care who were the subject of substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member.	0.77% (N=21)	0.62% (N=31)	0.50% (N=38)	0.57% or less
3.1 Percent of children exiting foster care who exited to a permanent home (adoption, legal guardianship, or reunification).	82.6% (N=51)	83.9% (N=51)	84.4% (N=52)	NA**
3.2 Percent of children exiting foster care who had a diagnosed disability who exited to a permanent home (adoption, guardianship, or reunification).	75.8% (N=47)	78.1% (N=46)	78.6% (N=48)	NA**
3.3 Percent of children exiting foster care who were older than 12 at the time of entry into foster care who exited to a permanent home (adoption, guardianship, or reunification).	67.0% (N=51)	67.3% (N=51)	67.6% (N=52)	NA**
3.4 Percent of children exiting foster care to emancipation who were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care.	31.9% (N=50)	32.0% (N=51)	32.2 (N=51)	NA**
4.1 Percent of children reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care who were reunified within 12 months from the time of entry into foster care.	64.6% (N=50)	64.9% (N=51)	65.7% (N=52)	76.2% or more
4.2 Percent of children entering foster care that were re-entering care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode.	11.1% (N=51)	11.4% (N=51)	11.5% (N=52)	8.6% or less
5.1 Percent of children exiting foster care to a finalized adoption who exited within 24 months from the time of the latest removal from home.	20.8% (N=48)	20.0% (N=50)	22.3% (N=52)	32.0% or more
6.1 Percent of children in foster care for less than 12 months who experienced two or fewer placement settings.	77.5% (N=51)	81.9% (N=51)	82.7% (N=52)	86.7% or more
7.1 Percent of children age 12 or younger at the time of their most recent placement who were placed in a group home or institution.	11.3% (N=51)	9.8% (N=51)	10.4% (N=52)	NA**

*Measure 1.1 is based on a calendar year, measure 2.1 is based on the first 9 months of a calendar year, and all other measures are based on the Federal fiscal year.

**Not Applicable (NA) means that a national standard was not established for the measure.

STATE PERFORMANCE IN PREVENTING FURTHER MALTREATMENT OF CHILD VICTIMS

Children’s safety is the primary concern of all child welfare services, particularly the safety of children who have already been identified as maltreatment victims—i.e., children who were the subjects of substantiated or indicated maltreatment reports. The Department established two outcomes to address this concern: 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. Findings of data analyses pertaining to these outcomes are presented below.

Outcome Measure 1.1 : For all children who were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and/or neglect during the first 6 months of the reporting period, what percentage had another substantiated or indicated report within a 6-month period?

Outcome measure 1.1 assesses State performance with regard to preventing child victims from experiencing further maltreatment by their parents or caretakers. The Department established the following national standard related to this measure as part of the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR): Of all children who were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse or neglect during the first 6 months of a specified year, 6.1 percent or fewer children had another substantiated or indicated report within 6 months.

State performance in 2001 regarding maltreatment recurrence

Forty States reported sufficient data in 2001 to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) to calculate outcome measure 1.1. Analyses of these data resulted in the following findings:

- The percentage of maltreatment recurrence within a 6-month period ranged from 1.8 to 14.1, with a median of 8.0.
- Thirteen States (32.5 percent) met the national standard for this measure of 6.1 percent or less.
- In 10 States (25 percent), the percentage of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was greater than 10.0 (California, Connecticut, Illinois, Iowa, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, New York, Rhode Island, Washington).
- In 4 States (10 percent), the percentage of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was less than 4.0 (Delaware, Michigan, Pennsylvania, South Carolina).

Changes in State performance from 1999 to 2001 regarding maltreatment recurrence

Table 2 provides key findings regarding State data for recurrence of maltreatment (outcome measure 1.1) in 1999, 2000, and 2001. In general, the mean performance remained consistent over time, while the median performance declined slightly (+8.1 percent change). There was no substantive change in the percentages of States meeting the national standard (i.e., the percent change from 1999 to 2001 of -4.4 percent is less than 5.0, which was cited at the beginning of this chapter as the standard that this report will use as an indication of substantive or “actual” change).

Table 2. *State performance in 1999, 2000, and 2001 regarding maltreatment recurrence.*

Analysis Results	1999	2000	2001
Number of States reporting	29	33	40
Mean performance (% recurrence in 6 months)	7.5	7.8	7.6
Median performance (% recurrence in 6 months)	7.4	7.9	8.0
Percent of States meeting national standard of 6.1 percent	34	30	32.5

Figure 1 provides data showing the percentage of States exhibiting a change in performance on outcome measure 1.1 from 1999 to 2001. As shown in the figure, 52 percent of the 29 States reporting data for this measure exhibited a decline in performance, 27 percent improved performance, and 21 percent exhibited “no change” in performance (defined as a difference of a percent change of less than 5.0 in either direction). Despite the finding that 52 percent of the States exhibited a decline in performance from 1999 to 2001, only 3 States (10 percent) exhibited a continuous decline in performance over that 3-year period, and no State exhibited continuous improvement. Instead, for most States, a change in performance in one direction

from 1999 to 2000 was followed by a change in the other direction from 2000 to 2001. An additional finding was that only 6 (21 percent) of the 29 applicable States met the national standard of 6.1 percent or less for this measure in all 3 years (Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Texas).

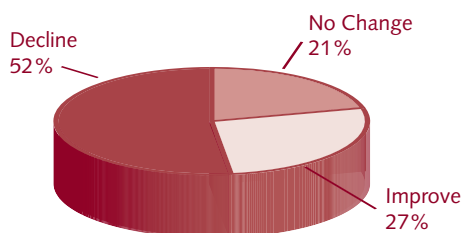


Figure 1. Change in State performance from CY 1999 to CY 2001 regarding the incidence of maltreatment recurrence (outcome measure 1.1) (29 States reported data for this measure in CY 1999).

Outcome Measure 2.1: Of all children who were in foster care during the reporting period, what percentage was the subject of substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member?

Outcome measure 2.1 assesses State performance with regard to ensuring that children placed in foster care are protected from abuse or neglect by their caretakers. The Department established the following national standard related to outcome measure 2.1 for the CFSR: Of all children in foster care in the State during a specified time period, 0.57 percent or fewer were the subject of substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member.

State performance in 2001 regarding the incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In 2001, 38 States provided sufficient data to NCANDS and to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) to calculate outcome measure 2.1. Analyses of these data resulted in the following findings:

- The percentage of children in foster care who were victims of maltreatment by foster parents or facility staff ranged from 0.02 to 1.62 with a median of 0.47.
- Twenty-five (66 percent) of the 38 States met the national standard of 0.57 percent or less for this measure.
- In 4 States (11 percent), more than 1.0 percent of the children in foster care were victims of maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member (Massachusetts, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Rhode Island).
- In 6 States (16 percent), less than 0.15 percent of the children in foster care were victims of maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member (Delaware, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Ohio, West Virginia).

Changes in State performance from 1999 to 2001 regarding maltreatment in foster care

Table 3 presents data pertaining to State performance on outcome measure 2.1 in 1999, 2000, and 2001. The data indicate improvement from 1999 to 2001 in both the mean performance (-22.4 percent change) and the median performance (-9.6 percent change) on this measure. In addition, the percentage of States meeting the national standard for this measure of 0.57 or less exhibited improvement from 1999 to 2001 (+27.9 percent change).

Table 3. State performance in 1999, 2000, and 2001 regarding the incidence of maltreatment of children while in foster care.

Analysis Results	1999	2000	2001
Number of States reporting	21	31	38
Mean performance (% children maltreated in foster care)	0.67	0.65	0.52
Median performance (% children maltreated in foster care)	0.52	0.47	0.47
Percent of States meeting national standard of 0.57% or less	52	58	66

Although there was improved performance with regard to the overall percentage of children experiencing maltreatment in foster care, 62 percent of the 21 States included in this analysis exhibited declines in this measure from 1999 to 2001, as shown in figure 2, with 5 States exhibiting continuous decline over the 3-year period. However, 7 of the 13 States that exhibited declines in performance still met the national standard. Five (24 percent) of the 21 States met the national standard for this measure in all 3 years (Arizona, Kansas, Indiana, Texas, Utah).

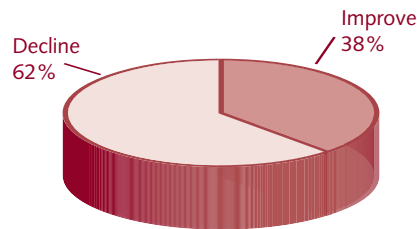


Figure 2. *Change in State performance from 1999 to 2001 (for the first 9 months of the calendar years) regarding the incidence of maltreatment of children in foster care (outcome measure 2.1) (21 States reported data for this measure in CY 1999.)*

STATE PERFORMANCE IN ACHIEVING PERMANENCY FOR CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

A primary goal of child welfare services is to achieve permanency for children placed in foster care through reunification with their families, adoption, or legal guardianship. The Department assesses State performance in achieving permanency for children in foster care through five measures developed for outcome 3—*increase permanency for children in foster care*. The outcome measures and the results of the data analyses are presented below. No national standards are related to the measures for outcome 3.

Outcome Measure 3.1: For all children who exited foster care during the reporting period, what percent left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship?

Outcome measure 3.1 assesses State performance in achieving permanency for all children in foster care. The Department recognizes the following three types of discharge reasons as discharges to a permanent home:

- Reunification with family, including permanent placement with relatives;
- A finalized adoption; and
- A legal guardianship.

Discharges from foster care for reasons other than reunification, adoption, or guardianship include children who: (1) were emancipated from foster care because they reached a particular age; (2) were transferred to another system (such as mental health or juvenile justice); or (3) died.

State performance in FY 2001 regarding exits to permanency

In FY 2001, 51 States reported sufficient data to AFCARS to be included in the analysis of outcome measure 3.1. (West Virginia was excluded from the analysis because 38.2 percent of the children discharged from foster care in FY 2001 did not have “reason for discharge” information.) Analyses of these data resulted in the following findings:

- The percentage of exits from foster care that were exits to a permanent home ranged from 68.8 to 97.3, with a median of 85.3.
- In 6 States (18 percent), less than 75 percent of the children discharged from foster care were discharged to a permanent home (District of Columbia, Louisiana, Nevada, North Dakota, Virginia, Wisconsin).
- In 2 States (4 percent), more than 95 percent of the children discharged from foster care were discharged to a permanent home (Alaska, Puerto Rico).

Changes in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 regarding exits to permanency

Key data for outcome measure 3.1 in FY 1999, 2000, and 2001 are presented in table 4. The data indicate no substantive change in either the mean or the median performance on this measure over time.

Table 4. *State performance in FY 1999, 2000, and 2001 regarding permanency for children exiting foster care.*

Analysis Results	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
Number of States reporting	46	47	51
Mean performance (% exits to permanency)	83.7	84.1	84.6
Median performance (% exits to permanency)	85.0	85.7	85.3
Performance range (% exits to permanency)	59.6-94.9	66.9-94.5	68.8-97.3

The performance of most States individually also remained consistent from FY 1999 to FY 2001. As shown in figure 3, of the 46 States included in the analysis, 72 percent demonstrated no change in performance from 1999 to 2001 (i.e., the change did not exceed 5 percent in either direction). One State (New Hampshire) exhibited continuous improvement on this measure over the 3-year period from 1999 to 2001, but no State exhibited a continuous decline.

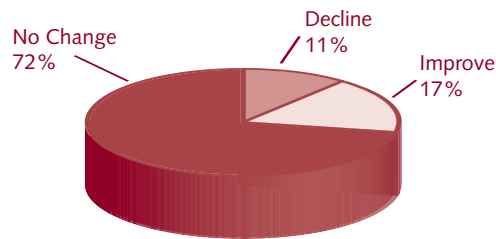


Figure 3. *Change in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 regarding children's exits from foster care to permanent homes (outcome measure 3.1) (N = 46). Five States were excluded from the analysis because of a high percentage of missing data for this measure in FY 1999 and one State was excluded because the State did not report data for this measure in FY 1999.*

Outcome measure 3.2: For children who exited foster care and were identified as having a diagnosed disability, what percentage left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship?

Outcome measure 3.2 assesses State performance with regard to attaining permanency for children who might be considered “difficult to place in a permanent home” because they have a diagnosed disability.

State performance in FY 2001 regarding exits to permanency for children with a diagnosed disability

In FY 2001, 46 States reported sufficient information to AFCARS to be included in the analysis of outcome measure 3.2. (States were excluded from the analysis if they did not report a reason for discharge for more than 20 percent of the children exiting from foster care who had a diagnosed disability.) Analyses of these data resulted in the following findings:

- The percentage of children exiting foster care who had a diagnosed disability who were discharged to a permanent home ranged from 53.0 to 96.5, with a median of 78.4.
- In 4 States (9 percent), less than 70 percent of the children exiting foster care who had a diagnosed disability were discharged to a permanent home (Illinois, Louisiana, South Carolina, Virginia).
- In 3 States (6.5 percent), more than 89 percent of the children exiting foster care who had a diagnosed disability were discharged to a permanent home (Georgia, Puerto Rico, New Jersey).

Changes in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 regarding exits to permanency for children with a diagnosed disability

Table 5 presents data pertaining to State performance on outcome measure 3.2 in FY 1999, 2000, and 2001. The data indicate no substantive change in mean or median performance.

Table 5. *State performance in FY 1999, 2000, and 2001 regarding permanency for children with a diagnosed disability.*

Analysis Results	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
Number of States reporting	42	43	46
Mean performance (% exiting to permanency)	75.1	78.1	78.4
Median performance (% exiting to permanency)	75.2	79.1	78.4
Performance range	36.8-90.9	50.0-97.0	53.0-96.5

The lack of substantive change in mean and median performance is matched by a general stability in performance of individual States over time. As shown in figure 4, 52 percent of the States exhibited no change in performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001. However, 31 percent of the States improved performance on this measure and 3 States (District of Columbia, Montana, Tennessee) exhibited continuous improvement over the 3-year period from FY 1999 to FY 2001. One State (Delaware) exhibited a continuous decline in performance over this time period.

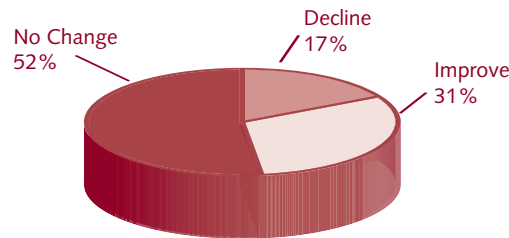


Figure 4. *Change in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 regarding exits to a permanent home for children with a diagnosed disability (outcome measure 3.2) (N = 42). Five States were excluded from the analysis because of a high percentage of missing data in FY 1999 for this measure and five States were excluded because they did not report data for this measure in FY 1999.*

Outcome measure 3.3: For children who exited foster care and were older than age 12 at the time of their most recent entry into foster care, what percentage left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship?

Similar to outcome measure 3.2, measure 3.3 is intended to assess State performance in attaining permanency for children who may be considered “difficult to place.” For this measure, the assessment focuses on State success in finding permanent homes for children who were adolescents (i.e., older than age 12) when they entered foster care.

State performance in FY 2001 regarding exits to permanency for children who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care

In FY 2001, 48 States provided sufficient data to AFCARS to be included in the analysis of data for outcome measure 3.3. Four States were excluded from the analysis because 20 percent or more of the children exiting from foster care who were adolescents when they entered foster care did not have “reason for discharge” information. The analysis of FY 2001 State data resulted in the following findings:

- The percentages of children exiting foster care to a permanent home who were older than age 12 when they entered foster care ranged from 28.9 to 92.4 with a median of 72.3.

- In 4 States (8 percent), less than 50 percent of the children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time they entered foster care were discharged to a permanent home (District of Columbia, Illinois, Louisiana, New Hampshire).
- In 4 States (8 percent), more than 85 percent of the children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time they entered foster care were discharged to a permanent home (Delaware, Iowa, Mississippi, Puerto Rico).

As shown in figure 5, an additional analysis of the 2001 data found that children who entered foster care when they were adolescents were less likely to be discharged to a permanent home than were: (1) all children exiting foster care, and (2) children exiting foster care who had a diagnosed disability. Many children who entered foster care as adolescents tended to be discharged to another agency (such as juvenile justice or mental health) or to independent living (through emancipation from foster care).

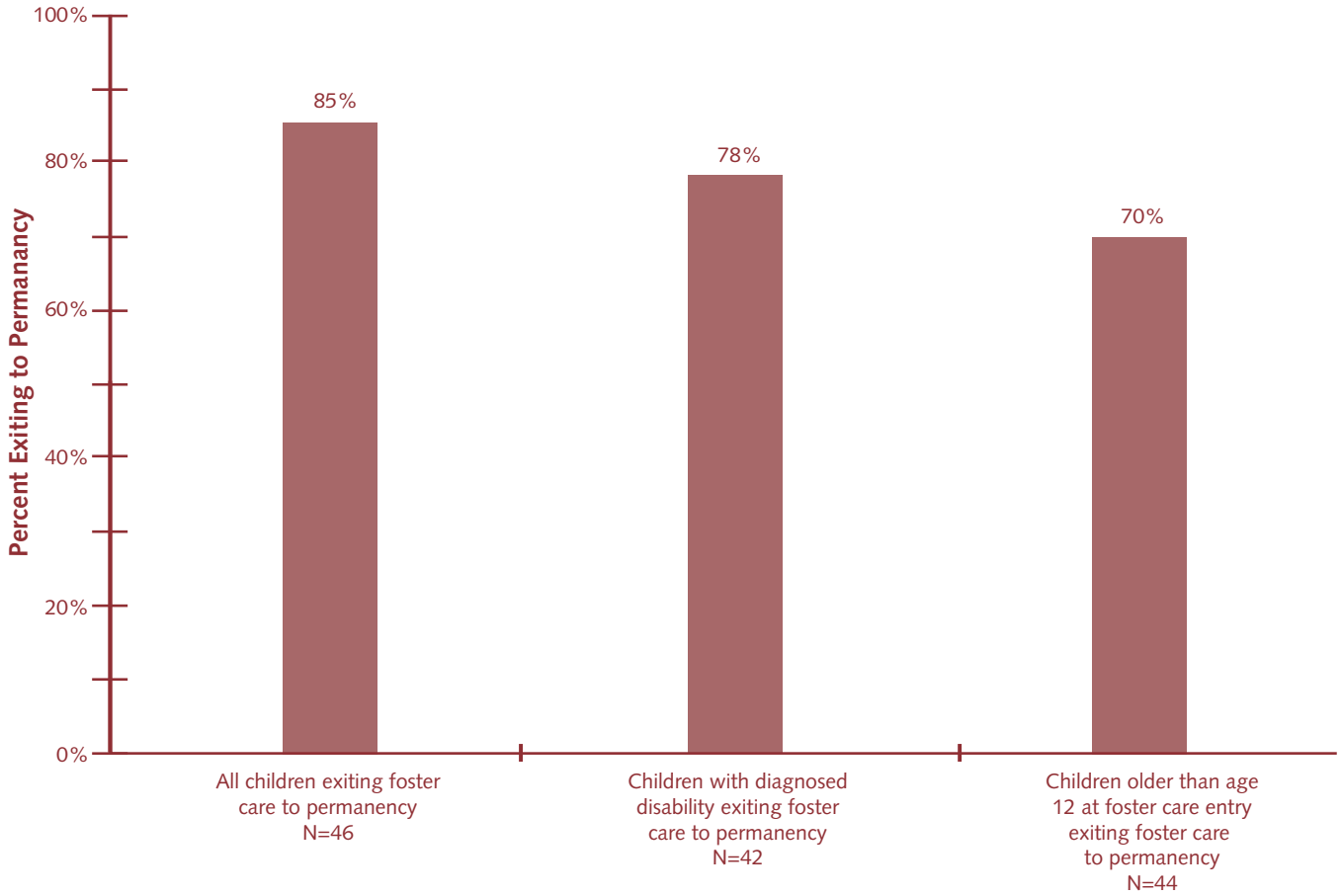


Figure 5. State performance with regard to the mean percent of children exiting foster care who were discharged to a permanent home (reunification, adoption, or guardianship).

Changes in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 regarding exits to permanency of children older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care

Table 6 provides key State data for outcome measure 3.3 in FY 1999, 2000, and 2001. Similar to the data for outcome measures 3.1 and 3.2, there was no substantive change in mean or median performance on this measure over time.

Table 6. State performance in FY 1999, 2000, and 2001 regarding exits to permanency of children who were older than age 12 when they entered foster care.

Analysis Results	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
Number of States reporting	44	42	48
Mean performance (% exiting to permanency)	68.8	68.7	69.7
Median performance (% exiting to permanency)	71.0	72.6	72.3
Performance range (% exiting to permanency)	35.8-86.8	17.6-87.5	28.9-92.4

Data presented in figure 6 indicate that 52 percent of the 44 States included in the analysis exhibited no change in performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001. However, 25 percent of the States improved performance, although only 3 of these States (Florida, Georgia, Maryland) exhibited continuous improvement over the 3-year period from FY1999 to FY 2001. One State (Louisiana) exhibited a continuous decline over the 3-year time period.

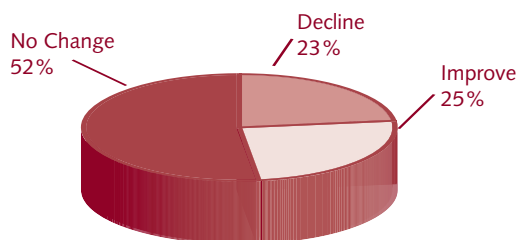


Figure 6. Change in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 regarding exits to permanency of children who were older than age 12 when they entered foster care (outcome measure 3.3) (N=44). Seven States were excluded from the analysis because of a high percentage of missing data in FY 1999, and one State was excluded because it did not report data for this measure in FY 1999.

Outcome measure 3.4: Of all children exiting foster care to emancipation, what percentage was age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care?

Outcome measure 3.4 assesses State performance with regard to ensuring that children who enter foster care at young ages do not “grow up” in the system.

State performance in FY 2001 regarding age of entry into foster care of children who are emancipated from foster care

In FY 2001, 51 States provided sufficient data to AFCARS to calculate outcome measure 3.4 (Nebraska did not report data for this measure). The analyses of these data resulted in the following findings:

- The percentage of children emancipated from foster care who were age 12 or younger when they entered foster care ranged from 0 to 62.5, with a median of 28.0.
- In 5 States (10 percent), more than 50 percent of children emancipated from foster care were younger than age 12 when they entered foster care (Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, Texas, Puerto Rico).
- In 8 States (16 percent), less than 15 percent of children emancipated from foster care were younger than age 12 when they entered foster care (Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, New Mexico, North Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Wyoming).

Changes in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 regarding the age at foster care entry of children emancipated from foster care

Table 7 provides State data on this measure for FY 1999, 2000, and 2001. There was no substantive change in mean or median performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Table 7. State performance in FY 1999, 2000, and 2001 regarding age of entry for children emancipated from foster care.

Analysis Results	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
Number of States reporting	50	51	51
Mean performance (% children who entered care at age 12 or younger)	27.8	27.8	29.1
Median performance (% children who entered care at age 12 or younger)	27.7	26.7	28.0
Performance range (% children who entered care at age 12 or younger)	0-63.0	0-61.2	0-62.5

The data presented in figure 7, however, indicate that although there was no change in mean or median performance on this measure, 73 percent of the States exhibited a change in performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001, with 42 percent exhibiting a decline in performance and 31 percent exhibiting performance improvement. Only three States (Idaho, Kansas, Texas) demonstrated continuous improvement from FY 1999 to FY 2001, while seven States exhibited a continuous decline in performance during that time period. For most States, a change in one direction from FY 1999 to FY 2000 was offset by a change in the other direction from FY 2000 to FY 2001.

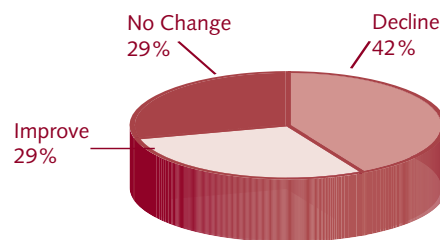


Figure 7. Change in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 regarding the percent of children emancipated from foster care who were age 12 or younger when they entered foster care (outcome measure 3.4) (N = 49). Two States were excluded from the analysis because they did not report data on this measure in 1999, and one State was excluded because it did not report data for this measure in FY 2001.

Outcome Measure 3.5: For all children who exited foster care, what percentage by racial/ethnic category left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship?

Outcome measure 3.5 is intended to assess State performance in achieving permanency for children of different races and ethnicities. The data analyses for this measure focused on whether children of certain racial or ethnic backgrounds were more or less likely to exit foster care to a permanent home.

State performance in FY 2001 regarding exits to a permanent home for children of varying races and ethnicities

Comparisons were conducted on State performance in attaining permanency for White (non-Hispanic), Hispanic, Black (non-Hispanic), and Alaska Native/Native American children. Other racial/ethnic categories were not included in the analyses because they represented only a small percentage of any State’s foster care population.

The results of the analysis comparing exits to permanency for White (non-Hispanic) children and Hispanic children are presented in figure 8. This analysis included only States in which at least 10 percent of the exiting foster care population was Hispanic and at least 10 percent was White (non-Hispanic). As shown in the figure, there was no difference in the percentage of White (non-Hispanic) children and Hispanic children exiting foster care to a permanent home. In addition, as shown in figures 9 and 10, there were no differences in the percentages of Black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic children exiting to a permanent home and no difference in the percentages of Black (non-Hispanic) or White (non-Hispanic) children exiting foster care to a permanent home (figure 10).

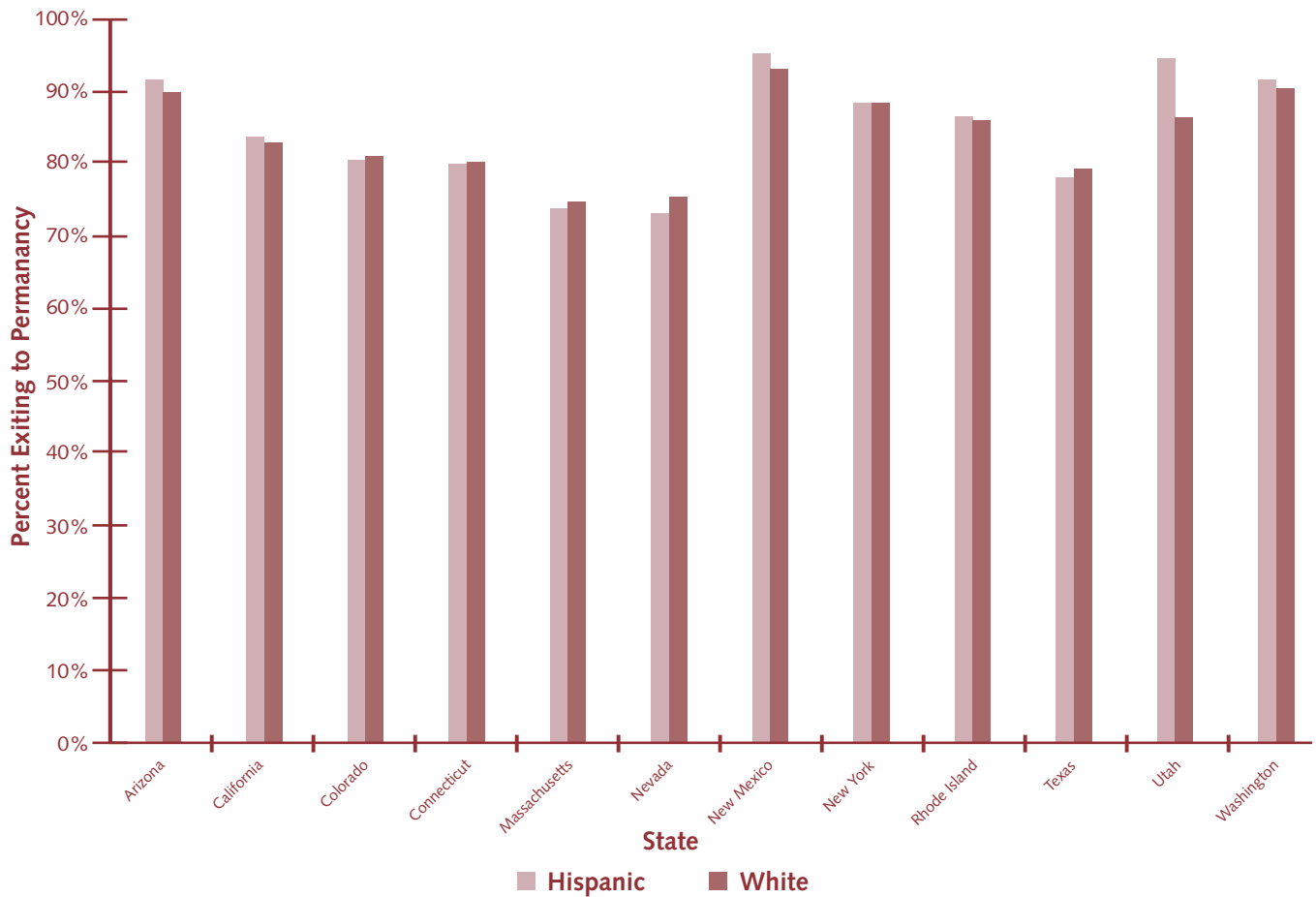


Figure 8. Comparison of State performance in FY 2001 with regard to exits from foster care that were exits to a permanent home for Hispanic children and White (non-Hispanic) children (outcome measure 3.5) (N=12). States included are those in which at least 10% of the exiting foster care population was Hispanic and at least 10% was White (non-Hispanic).

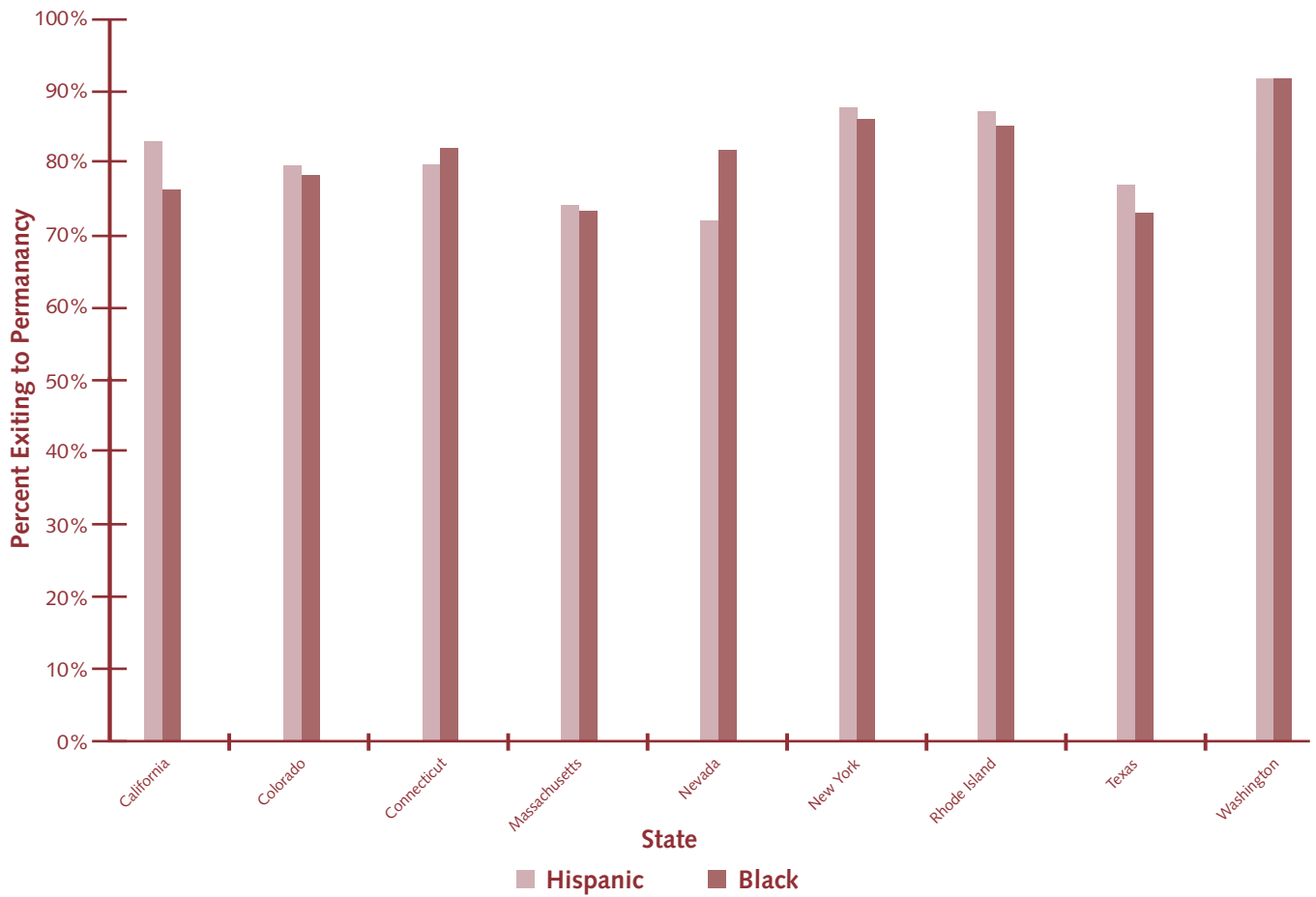


Figure 9. Comparison of State performance in FY 2001 with regard to exits from foster care that were exits to a permanent home for Hispanic children and Black (non-Hispanic) (N = 9). States included are those in which at least 10% of the exiting foster care population was Hispanic and at least 10% was Black (non-Hispanic).

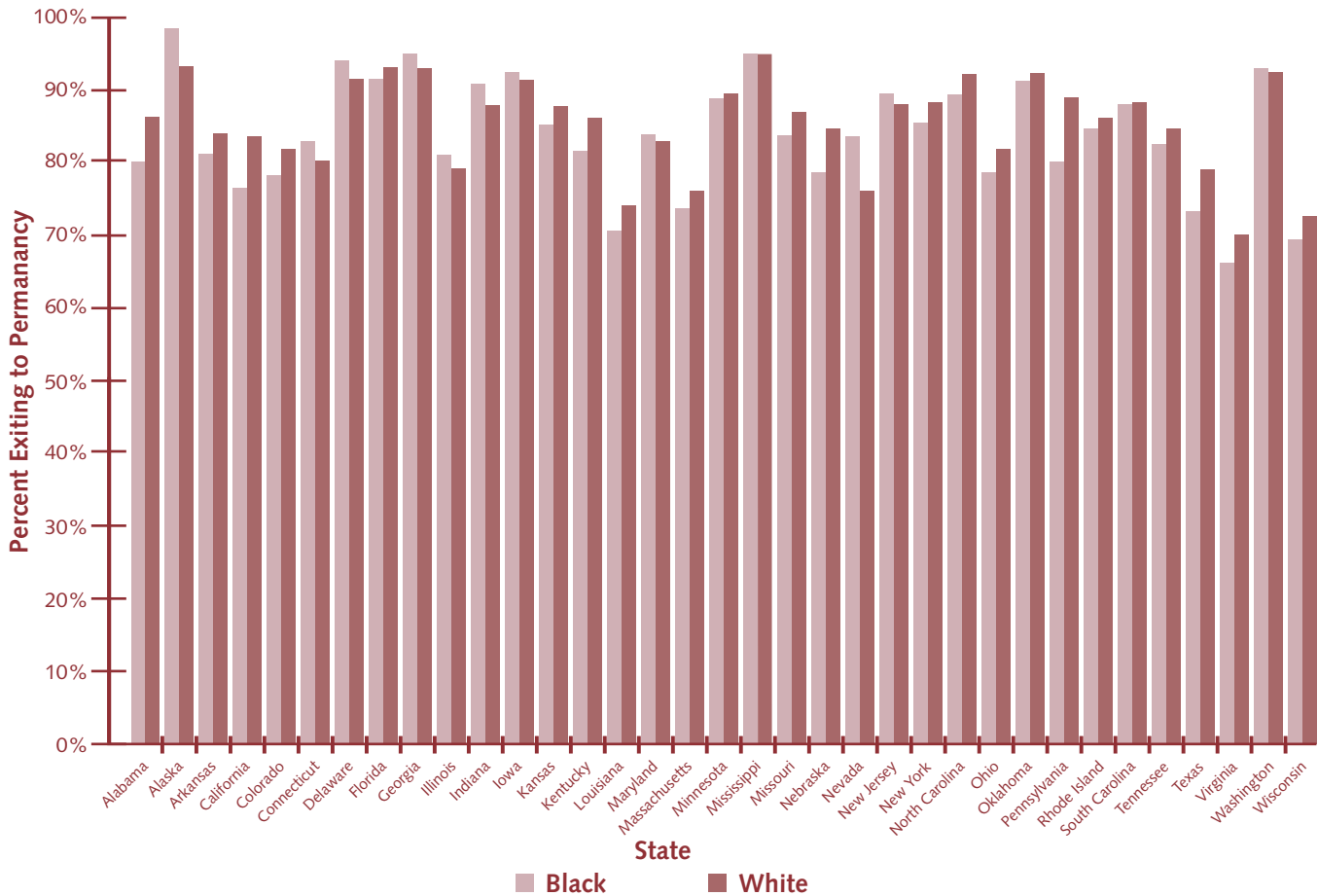


Figure 10. Comparison of State performance in FY 2001 with regard to exits from foster care that were exits to a permanent home for Black (non-Hispanic) children and White (non-Hispanic) children (N=35). States included are those in which at least 10% of the exiting foster care population was Black (non-Hispanic) and at least 10% was White (non-Hispanic).

Figure 11 depicts performance with respect to exits from foster care to permanency for Alaska Native/Native American children and White (non-Hispanic) children for 10 States in which at least 5 percent of the children exiting foster care were Alaska Native/Native American. As shown in the figure, the largest difference between the groups occurred in Washington State, where 91.9 percent of White (non-Hispanic) children exited to permanency compared to only 65.3 percent of Alaska Native/Native American children. In addition, in Nebraska, New Mexico, and North Dakota, the difference between the groups exceeded 10 percentage points, with White (non-Hispanic) children more likely than Alaska Native/Native American children to achieve permanency at the time of their discharge from foster care.

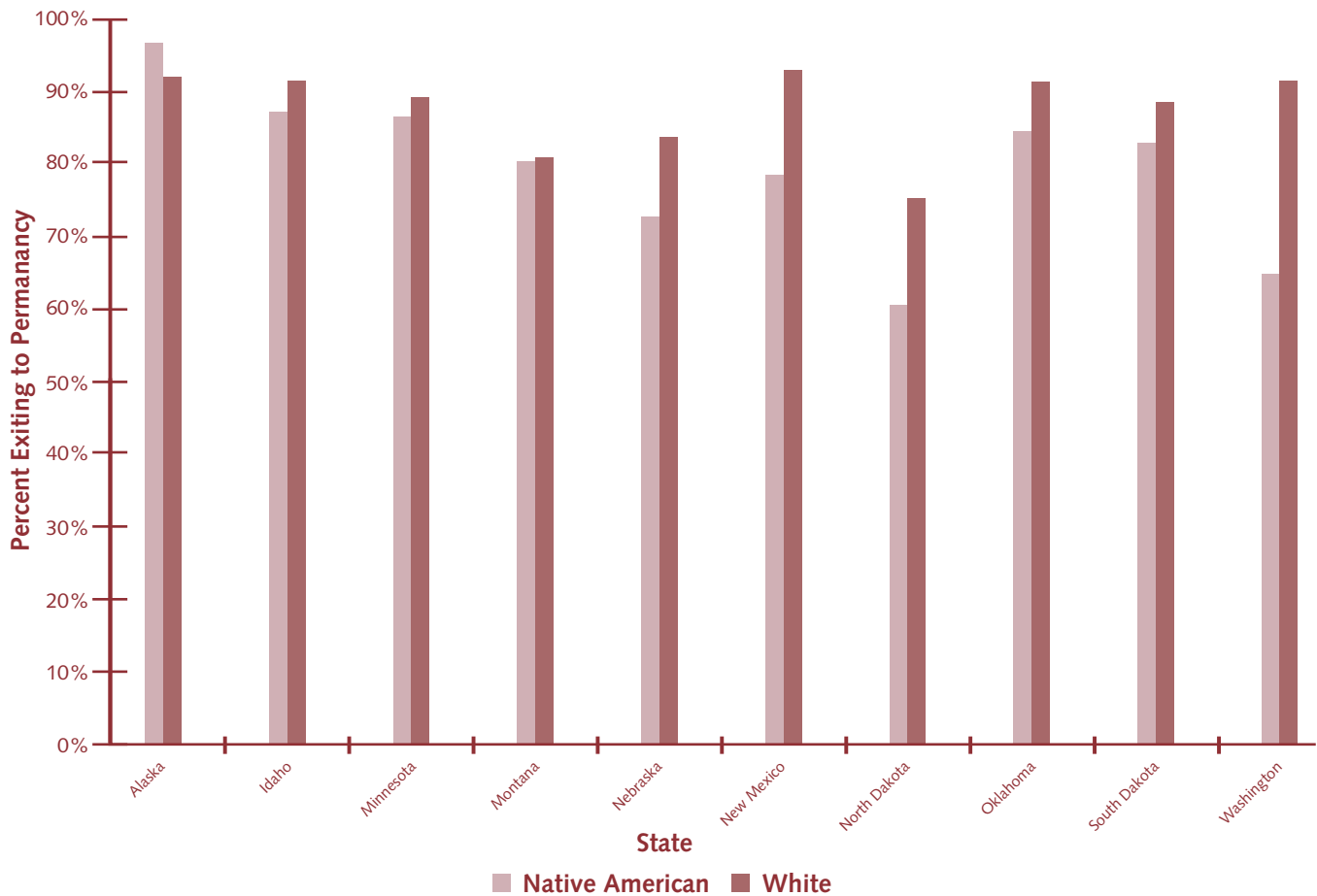


Figure 11. Comparison of State performance in FY 2001 with regard to exits from foster care that were exits to a permanent home for Alaska Native/Native American children and White (non-Hispanic) children (N = 10). States included are those in which at least 5% of the exiting foster care population was Alaska Native/Native American and at least 10% was White (non-Hispanic).

STATE PERFORMANCE IN ACHIEVING PERMANENCY IN A TIMELY MANNER

As noted previously, a primary goal of child welfare services is to achieve permanency for children in foster care either through reunification, adoption, or guardianship. In addition, the Department believes that it is critical to achieve permanency for a child as quickly as possible after a child enters foster care, without jeopardizing the child’s continued safety.

To address this issue, the Department established two outcomes that assess State performance in attaining permanency in a timely manner: (1) outcome 4—reduce time in foster care to reunification without increasing re-entry; and (2) outcome 5—reduce time in foster care to adoption. Three measures were developed to assess State performance in attaining these outcomes. These measures and data analysis findings are presented below.

Outcome Measure 4.1: Of all children who were reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care, what percentage was reunified in the following time periods?

- (1) Less than 12 months
- (2) At least 12 months but less than 24 months
- (3) At least 24 months but less than 36 months
- (4) At least 36 months but less than 48 months
- (5) 48 or more months

Outcome measure 4.1 assesses State performance with regard to the timeliness of reunifications. The Department established the following national standard related to this measure for the CFSR: Of all children who were reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care (in a specified fiscal year), 76.2 percent or more were reunified in less than 12 months from the time of the latest removal from home. The information provided below focuses on an analyses of State performance with regard to achieving reunifications in less than 12 months.

State performance in FY 2001 regarding the percentage of children exiting to reunification who were reunified within 12 months of entry into foster care.

In FY 2001, all 52 States provided data to calculate outcome measure 4.1. Analyses of these data resulted in the following findings:

- The percentage of children reunified within 12 months ranged from 40.3 to 90.1 with a median of 69.2.
- Nineteen (37 percent) of the States met the national standard (76.2 percent or more) for this measure.
- In 6 States (11.5 percent), less than 50 percent of the children exiting to reunification were reunified within 12 months of the time of entry into foster care (Connecticut, Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York).
- In 6 States (11.5 percent), more than 85 percent of the children exiting to reunification were reunified within 12 months of the time of entry into foster care (Arkansas, Delaware, Idaho, Minnesota, New Mexico, South Dakota).

Changes in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 regarding the percentage of children exiting to reunification who were reunified within 12 months of entry into foster care.

Table 8 provides the results of the analyses of State data for FY 1999, 2000, and 2001. Although there was no substantive change in mean performance on this measure, there was a slight improvement (+6.8 percent change) in median performance. The most striking finding, however, was the increase in the percentage of States meeting the national standard for this measure (a +23 percent change from FY 1999 to FY 2001).

Table 8. *State performance in FY 1999, 2000, and 2001 regarding reunifications within 12 months from the time of entry into foster care.*

Analysis Results	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
Number of States reporting	50	51	52
Mean performance (% reunified within 12 months)	67.6	68.9	68.7
Median performance (% reunified within 12 months)	64.8	68.0	69.2
Performance range (% reunified within 12 months)	39.0-86.4	39.9-87.0	40.3-90.1
Percent meeting national standard of 76.2 % or more	30	37	37

The analysis of change in performance for individual States (shown in figure 12) found that 50 percent of the States exhibited no change in performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Although 34 percent of the States improved performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001, no State exhibited continuous improvement over the 3-year period from FY 1999 to FY 2001, and only 2 States exhibited a continuous decline in performance over this time span. Fourteen (28 percent) States met the national standard for this measure in all 3 years (Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Iowa, Kentucky, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Washington, Wyoming).

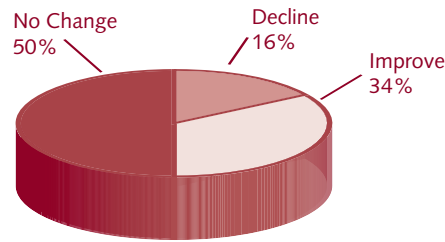


Figure 12. Change in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 regarding reunifications within 12 months of entry into foster care (outcome measure 4.1) (N = 50). Two States were excluded from the analysis because they did not report data for this measure in FY 1999.

Outcome Measure 4.2: Of all children who entered foster care during the reporting period, what percentage re-entered care:

- (1) Within 12 months of a prior foster care episode?
- (2) More than 12 months after a prior foster care episode?

In establishing national outcomes regarding the timeliness of permanency, the Department determined that it was necessary to address the possibility that expedited permanency might result in re-entries into foster care. For example, if a child were reunified with the family before the family was sufficiently prepared or before the necessary changes had been made, the child might need to be removed from the home again. Outcome measure 4.2 is intended to address this concern. The Department established the following national standard related to this measure for the CFSR: Of all children who entered foster care during a specified fiscal year, 8.6 percent or less re-entered foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode.

A consistent finding of the analyses of FY 1999, 2000, and 2001 data is that, although there are exceptions, States exhibiting a relatively high percentage of reunifications within 12 months also demonstrate a relatively high percentage of re-entries within 12 months. In contrast, States with a relatively low percentage of reunifications within 12 months also tend to have a relatively low rate of foster care re-entries within 12 months. In fact, in FY 2001, only 4 States (Wyoming, Georgia, South Carolina, New Mexico) met the national standards for both reunifications within 12 months and re-entries into foster care within 12 months. The analysis of FY 2001 data resulted in a correlation between the percentage of reunifications occurring within 12 months and the rate of re-entry into foster care within 12 months that was significant at the $p < .001$ level (Pearson's $R = .516$).⁷ This level of significance indicates that the probability that the relationship between these variables occurred "by chance" is less than .001.

The consistent finding of a significant correlation between these variables indicates that there is a relationship between reunifications that occur quickly and the rate of re-entry into foster care. This raises concerns about potential unanticipated results of State efforts to expedite reunifications.

State performance in FY 2001 regarding re-entries into foster care

The analysis of FY 2001 State data resulted in the following findings:

- The percentage of children entering foster care who were re-entering within 12 months of a prior foster care episode ranged from 0.4 to 31.0 with a median of 10.0.
- 20 States (38 percent) met the national standard of 8.6 percent or less.
- In 7 States (13 percent), more than 20 percent of the children entering foster care were re-entering within 12 months of a prior foster care episode (Colorado, Iowa, Massachusetts., Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Wisconsin).
- In 7 States (13 percent), less than 4 percent of the children entering foster care were re-entering within 12 months of a prior foster care episode (Kansas, Puerto Rico, Nevada, North Carolina, Texas, Mississippi, Virginia).

⁷The correlation of .516 accounts for 26.6 percent of the variance. Other factors account for the remaining variance of 73.4 percent.

Changes in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 regarding re-entries into foster care

Table 9 presents key findings of the analysis of State data for FY 1999, 2000, and 2001 regarding re-entries into foster care. The data in the table indicate no substantive change in mean or median performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001, although there was a slight increase (+8.6 percent change) in the percentage of States meeting the national standard for this measure.

Table 9. *State performance in FY 1999, 2000, and 2001 regarding re-entries into foster care within 12 months of a prior foster care episode.*

Analysis Results	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
Number of States reporting	51	51	52
Mean performance (% re-entering within 12 months)	10.8	10.8	11.2
Median performance (% re-entering within 12 months)	10.2	10.2	10.4
Performance range (% re-entries within 12 months)	0 – 26.7	0 – 27.7	0 – 31
% of States meeting the national standard of 8.6 % or less	35	37	38

As shown in figure 13, 57 percent of the 51 reporting States exhibited a decline in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Five States (Connecticut, Illinois, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Wyoming) exhibited continuous improvement on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001, although 10 States exhibited a continuous decline in performance over the 3-year period. For most States, a change in one direction from FY 1999 to FY 2000 was offset by a change in the other direction from FY 2000 to FY 2001. An additional finding was that 13 States met the national standard for this measure in all 3 years (Alaska, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Mississippi, Nebraska, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia). However, only South Carolina met the national standards for both foster care re-entries and reunifications within 12 months in all 3 years.

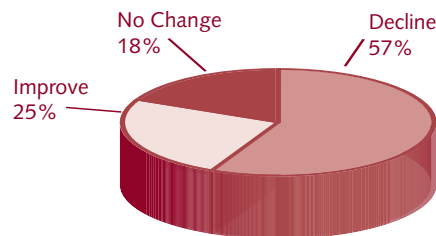


Figure 13. *Change in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 regarding re-entries into foster care within 12 months of a prior foster care episode (outcome measure 4.2) (N = 51). One State was excluded from the analysis because it did not report data for this measure in FY 1999.*

Outcome Measure 5.1: Of all children who exited foster care to a finalized adoption, what percentage exited care in the following time periods?

- (1) **Less than 12 months from the time of the latest removal from home**
- (2) **At least 12 months but less than 24 months**
- (3) **At least 24 months but less than 36 months**
- (4) **At least 36 months but less than 48 months**
- (5) **48 or more months**

Outcome measure 5.1 assesses State performance with regard to the timeliness of the adoption process. The Department established the following national standard related to this measure for the CFSR: Of all children who exited foster care to a finalized adoption during the specified fiscal year, 32 percent or more exited foster care in less than 24 months from the time of the latest removal from the home.

State performance in FY 2001 regarding the timeliness of exits to adoption

In FY 2001, all 52 States provided data sufficient to calculate outcome measure 5.1. Analyses of these data resulted in the following findings:

- The percentages of adoptions finalized within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care ranged from 5.1 to 70.8, with a median of 21.0.
- Fourteen States (27 percent) met the national standard of 32.0 percent or more.
- In 5 States (10 percent), less than 10 percent of the finalized adoptions occurred within 24 months of the child's entry into foster care (District of Columbia, Illinois, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York).
- In 5 States (10 percent), more than 50 percent of the finalized adoptions occurred within 24 months of the child's entry into foster care (Colorado, Idaho, South Dakota, Texas, Utah).
- The percentage of adoptions finalized after a child had been in foster care for 3 years or longer ranged from 9.2 to 81.8, with a median of 48.8.
- In 6 States, more than 70 percent of the children adopted in FY 2001 had been in foster care for at least 3 years (District of Columbia, Illinois, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, Tennessee).

Changes in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 regarding exits to a finalized adoption

Table 10 presents a summary of State data for FY 1999, 2000, and 2001 pertaining to finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of the child's entry into foster care. The data indicate declines from FY 1999 to FY 2001 in mean performance (-9.4 percent change), median performance (-12.9 percent change) and in the percent of States meeting the national standard of 32.0 percent or higher for this measure (-12.9 percent change).

Table 10. *State performance in FY 1999, 2000, and 2001 regarding discharges to adoption that occurred within 24 months of the child's entry into foster care.*

Analysis Results	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
Number of States reporting	48	50	52
Mean performance (% adoptions within 24 months)	27.7	25.0	25.1
Median performance (% adoptions within 24 months)	24.1	19.8	21.0
Performance range (% adoptions within 24 months)	3.0-70.7	4.6-72.4	5.1-70.8
% of States meeting the national standard of 32.0% or more	31	24	27

Despite the general decline in mean and median performance for all States, 54 percent of the 48 States included in the analysis of change from FY 1999 to FY 2001 exhibited an improved performance on this measure (as shown in figure 14), and 10 of these exhibited continuous improvement over the 3-year period (Illinois, Iowa, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah). For the remainder of the States, a change in one direction from FY 1999 to FY 2000 was followed by a change in the other direction from FY 2000 to FY 2001. Nine States met the national standard for this measure in all 3 years (Colorado, Hawaii, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Montana, South Dakota, Texas, Utah).

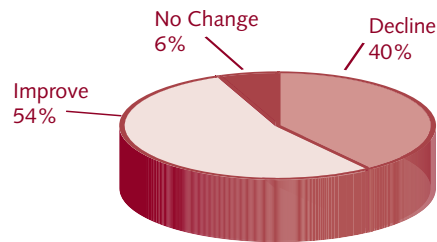


Figure 14. Change in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 regarding exits to adoption occurring within 24 months of the child's entry into foster care (outcome measure 5.1) (N=48). Four States were excluded from the analysis because they did not report data for this measure in FY 1999.

STATE PERFORMANCE IN ENSURING STABLE AND AGE-APPROPRIATE PLACEMENTS FOR CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

Another goal of the child welfare system is to ensure that children in foster care experience placement stability and are in placements that are appropriate for their age. The Department established the following two outcomes to address placement stability and age-appropriate placement: (1) outcome 6—increase placement stability; and (2) outcome 7—reduce placements of young children in group homes or institutions. Results of the analyses of State performance on these two outcomes are presented below.

Outcome Measure 6.1: Of all children served who had been in foster care for the time periods listed below, what percentage had no more than two placement settings during that time period?

- (1) Less than 12 months from the time of latest removal from home
- (2) At least 12 months but less than 24 months
- (3) At least 24 months but less than 36 months
- (4) At least 36 months but less than 48 months
- (5) 48 or more months

Outcome measure 6.1 assesses State performance with regard to placement stability. The Department established the following national standard related to this measure for the CFSR: Of all children who have been in foster care for less than 12 months from the time of the latest removal from the home, 86.7 percent or more have had no more than 2 placement settings. The results of the analyses for this measure focus on the time period of “less than 12 months from the time of the latest removal from home.”

State performance in FY 2001 regarding placement stability

In FY 2001, 51 States provided sufficient data to calculate outcome measure 6.1. The analysis of FY 2001 State data resulted in the following findings:

- The percentage of children in foster care for less than 12 months who had no more than 2 placement settings ranged from 59.5 to 99.6, with a median of 83.3.
- Thirteen States (25 percent) met the national standard of 86.7 percent or more for this measure.
- In 4 States (8 percent), less than 70 percent of children had 2 or fewer placements during their first 12 months in foster care (Kansas, North Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont).
- In 6 States (12 percent), more than 95 percent of the children had 2 or fewer placements during their first 12 months in foster care (Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Wisconsin, Puerto Rico).

Changes in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 regarding placement stability

Table 11 presents data pertaining to State performance on this outcome measure in FY 1999, 2000, and 2001. The data demonstrate no substantive change in mean or median performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001. However, there was a decline

(-30.6 percent change) from FY 1999 to FY 2001 in the percentage of States meeting the national standard for this measure. Because it requires only a slight change in percentages to impact whether the national standard is met, this change would not necessarily affect States' overall mean or median performance.

Table 11. State performance in FY 1999, 2000, and 2001 regarding children's placement stability for their first 12 months in foster care.

Analysis Results	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
Number of States reporting	50	50	51
Mean % of children in foster care for less than 12 months who experienced no more than 2 placement settings.	82.7	83.1	82.8
Median % of children in foster care for less than 12 months who experienced no more than 2 placements settings.	84.2	85.2	83.3
Range (%) of children in foster care for less than 12 months who experienced no more than 2 placement settings.	58.9-99.8	57.7-99.9	59.5-99.6
% of States meeting the national standard of 86.7% or more	36	32	25

The analysis of State changes in performance over time (shown in figure 15) resulted in a finding that 66 percent of the States included in the analysis exhibited no change in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Only one State (Utah) exhibited continuous improvement on this measure over the 3-year period from FY 1999 to FY 2001, and no State exhibited continuous decline. The analysis also found that 10 States met the national standard for this measure in all 3 years (Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Iowa, Maryland, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Wisconsin).

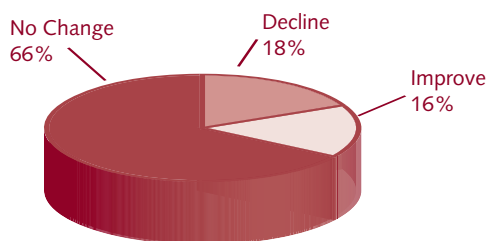


Figure 15. Change in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 with regard to stability of placements for children in foster care for less than 12 months (outcome measure 6.1) (N = 50). One State was excluded from the analysis because of a high percentage of missing data for this measure in FY 1999 and one State was excluded because it did not report data for this measure in FY 1999.

Outcome Measure 7.1: For all children who entered foster care during the reporting period and were age 12 or younger at the time of their most recent placement, what percentage was placed in a group home or institution?

Outcome measure 7.1 is intended to assess State performance with regard to age-appropriate foster care placements. Although generally-recognized good practice supports the concept that, at times, a child's treatment needs may require that the child be placed in a group home or institution, these placement settings are rarely appropriate for children age 12 and younger. A national standard related to this outcome measure has not been established.

State performance in FY 2001 regarding placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, all 52 States reported data sufficient to calculate outcome measure 7.1. An analysis of FY 2001 State data resulted in the following findings:

- The percent of children age 12 and younger who were placed in a group home or institution ranged from 1.2 to 45.5, with a median of 8.7.

- In 7 States (13 percent), more than 20 percent of children age 12 and younger who entered foster care during the fiscal year were placed in a group home or institution (Arizona, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Iowa, Minnesota, Mississippi, South Carolina).
- In 6 States (11.5 percent), less than 4 percent of children age 12 and younger who entered foster care during the fiscal year were placed in a group home or institution (Alaska, Hawaii, Illinois, Kansas, Oregon, Washington).

Changes in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 regarding placement in group homes and institutions

Table 13 presents key State data for FY 1999, 2000, and 2001 pertaining to placements of young children in group homes and institutions. The data indicate no substantive change in mean performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Table 13. State performance in FY 1999, 2000, and 2001 regarding the percentages of children entering foster care at age 12 or younger who were placed in a group home or institution.

Analysis Results	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
Number of States reporting	51	50	52
Mean % in group homes and institutions combined	10.9	10.4	11.2
Mean % in group homes	4.9	4.4	5.0
Mean % in institutions	6.1	6.0	6.2

With regard to changes exhibited by individual States (shown in figure 16), 51 percent of the States included in the analysis improved performance on this measure, 35 percent exhibited declines, and 14 percent showed no change in performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Ten States exhibited continuous improvement in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Tennessee, Wyoming). Five States exhibited continuous decline in performance.

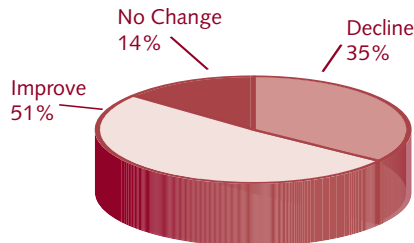


Figure 16. Changes in State performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 regarding placements of young children in group homes and institutions (outcome 7.1) (N = 51). One State was excluded from the analysis because it did not report data for this measure in FY 1999.

SUMMARY

The results of the data analyses presented in this chapter have substantial implications for assessing State performance with respect to the national child welfare outcomes. In addition, table 14 provides the list of States meeting the national standards for each of the measures for which national standards were established.

Table 14. States meeting the national standards in 2001 for the six measures for which national standards were established.

Outcome Measure	National Standard	States Meeting Standard in 2001* (By rank order from lowest to highest)
1.1** Percent of children who were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and/or neglect during the first 6 months of reporting period who had another substantiated or indicated report within a 6-month period.	6.1% or less	Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, South Carolina, Michigan, Arizona, Texas, Minnesota, Nebraska, West Virginia, Maine, Wyoming, Arkansas
2.1*** Percent of children in foster care who were the subject of substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member.	0.57% or less	West Virginia, New Mexico, Nebraska, Delaware, New Hampshire, Ohio, Arizona, Montana, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Arkansas, Texas, Florida, District of Columbia, Michigan, Vermont, California, Idaho, Puerto Rico, Maine, Kansas, South Carolina, Illinois, Utah, Indiana
4.1 Percent of children reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care who were reunified within 12 months from the time of entry into foster care.	76.2% or more	Oklahoma, Wyoming, Georgia, Hawaii, Wisconsin, North Dakota, Iowa, Utah, South Carolina, Kentucky, Washington, Colorado, Montana, Arkansas, Delaware, South Dakota, Minnesota, Idaho, New Mexico
4.2 Percent of children entering foster care who were re-entering care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode.	8.6% or less	Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, Texas, Kansas, Virginia, Nevada, Nebraska, Michigan, Connecticut, Alaska, Florida, District of Columbia, Wyoming, Georgia, South Carolina, Maine, Louisiana, New Jersey, New Mexico
5.1 Percent of children exiting foster care to a finalized adoption who exited within 24 months from the time of the latest removal from home.	32.0% or more	Montana, Idaho, Michigan, Arkansas, Minnesota, North Dakota, Kansas, Rhode Island, Iowa, Texas, Colorado, Hawaii, South Dakota, Utah
6.1 Percent of children in foster care for less than 12 months who experienced two or fewer placements.	86.7% or more	Michigan, New Mexico, Oregon, New Hampshire, Iowa, New York, Georgia, Maryland, Wisconsin, Delaware, Alabama, Connecticut, Puerto Rico

*Measure 1.1 is based on a calendar year; measure 2.1 is based on the first 9 months of a calendar year; and all other measures are based on the Federal fiscal year.

** 40 States reported data to NCANDS to calculate this measure.

***38 States reported data to NCANDS to calculate this measure.

Although no clear patterns of change in performance over time have emerged for the outcome measures, there is consistency from 1999 to 2001 with regard to some of the key findings. These key findings and their implications for assessing State performance are discussed in the following chapter.

III.

ASSESSMENT OF STATE PERFORMANCE ON THE NATIONAL CHILD WELFARE OUTCOMES

This chapter provides a discussion of the key findings reported in chapter II with regard to State performance in the following areas:

- Preventing further maltreatment of children, including maltreatment of children in foster care by their caretakers;
- Achieving permanency for all children in foster care, including children who have a diagnosed disability or who entered foster care when they were adolescents;
- Achieving permanency in a timely manner; and
- Providing children in foster care with stable and age-appropriate placements.

When relevant, the discussion of State performance incorporates information from the findings of the analysis of the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) Final Reports for the 32 States participating in a CFSR during FY 2001 and 2002. The data and measurement issues that may impact interpretation of State performance are discussed in the *Report to Congress: Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*, available from the National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information.

PREVENTING FURTHER MALTREATMENT OF CHILDREN

A key finding relevant to this issue is that preventing child maltreatment recurrence tends to be an ongoing challenge for many States. In 2001, only 13 (32.5 percent) of the 40 States reporting data for the outcome measure assessing maltreatment recurrence met the national standard (6.1 percent or less) and in 10 States (25 percent) the rate of maltreatment recurrence exceeded 10 percent. Although the performance of individual States on this measure tended to fluctuate from 1999 to 2001, for the most part, a change in one direction from 1999 to 2000 was offset by a change in the other direction from 2000 to 2001. Finally, only 6 (21 percent) of a possible 29 States met the national standard in all 3 years.

Information from the analysis of data from the CFSR Final Reports suggests that the difficulties States experience in preventing maltreatment recurrence may be due to one or more of the following:

- Risk assessments that are inadequate with respect to identifying underlying family issues such as substance abuse and domestic violence;
- Providing services that do not sufficiently address risk issues (such as providing parenting education services when parents have domestic violence problems); and
- Insufficient monitoring of families to assess service participation and change in risk factors in child welfare cases in which children remain in their homes.

Although States continue to experience difficulties in preventing maltreatment recurrence, they appear to be experiencing success in preventing maltreatment in foster care. A key finding of the analysis of 2001 data is that 25 (66 percent) of the 38 States reporting data for the measure assessing maltreatment in foster care met the national standard of 0.57 percent or less; in only 4 States did the incidence of maltreatment of children in foster care in 2001 exceed 1 percent. In addition, there was a substantive improvement in mean and median performance on the measure from 1999 to 2001 and an increase in the percent of States meeting the national standard. However, only 5 (24 percent) of the possible 21 States met the national standard in all 3 years.

Information from the analysis of the 32 CFSR Final Reports suggests that a State's success in preventing maltreatment in foster care may be attributed to one or more of the following:

- The State establishes and adheres to standards regarding licensing requirements for foster homes and care facilities, including standards that prevent overcrowding in foster homes;
- The State provides services and supports to foster families when problems occur in placements or when children have behavioral problems or emotional disorders; and/or
- The State provides comprehensive training for foster parents both before licensure and on an ongoing basis.

ACHIEVING PERMANENCY FOR ALL CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

A key finding pertaining to permanency for children in foster care is that, in most States, the vast majority of children who exit foster care are discharged to a permanent home (i.e., through reunification, adoption, or guardianship). Only a small proportion exited through emancipation, transfer to another system, or (even more rarely) death. In FY 2001, the median performance for all States regarding the percentage of exits from foster care that were exits to permanency was 85.3 percent (the mean performance was 84.6 percent). There were only 6 States in which less than 75 percent of the children exiting foster care were discharged to a permanent home. In addition, most States exhibited no change in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Another key finding pertaining to permanency, however, is that States tend to be less successful in achieving permanency for children who exit foster care who have a diagnosed disability or who entered foster care when they were adolescents. In FY 2001, the mean performance across States for the percentage of all children exiting foster care who were discharged to a permanent home was 84.6 percent. In contrast, for children with a diagnosed disability, the mean performance with regard to exits to permanency was 78.4 percent, and for children who entered foster care when they were adolescents (i.e., age 13 or older), the mean performance was 69.7 percent.

The analyses of CFSR Final Report information identified the following potential barriers to attaining permanency for older children:

- A perception of agency and court personnel that older children are “unadoptable” and that filing for termination of parent rights will only result in the creation of “legal orphans;”
- A tendency of child welfare agency personnel and courts to establish a case goal of long-term foster care when older children cannot be reunified with their parents without a thorough consideration of adoption or guardianship as permanency outcomes; and
- A tendency among child welfare agency staff to focus service delivery on the child rather than involving the entire family when a child enters foster care at adolescence, particularly when the primary reason for entry into foster care is the child’s behavior.

A third key finding relevant to permanency for children in foster care is that the percentage of children exiting foster care to permanency is the same for Black (non-Hispanic), White (non-Hispanic), and Hispanic children. For all 3 years, White (non-Hispanic) children exiting foster care were found to be no more or less likely to be discharged to a permanent home than were Hispanic or Black (non-Hispanic) children, and Black (non-Hispanic) children exiting foster care were found to be no more or less likely to be discharged to a permanent home than were Hispanic children.

However, for States in which at least 5 percent of children exiting foster care in a given year were Alaska Native/American Indian, there were clear differences with regard to exits to permanency. In five of these States, White (non-Hispanic) children exiting foster care were considerably more likely than Alaska Native/American Indian children to be discharged to a permanent home. In one of these, 91.9 percent of White children exiting foster care were discharged to a permanent home, compared to 65.3 percent of Alaska Native/Native American children exiting foster care.

Information from the CFSR Final Reports suggests that success in achieving positive outcomes for Native American children is promoted when States and Tribes establish positive relationships and when States adhere to the requirements of the Indian Child Welfare Act. However, information from the CFSR also indicates that some Tribes are unwilling to seek termination of parental rights for Native American children because it is not consistent with their cultural values and traditions. These Tribes may block a State’s efforts to seek permanency for a child through adoption, although they support permanency through long-term foster care in a stable home.

Finally, the findings reported in chapter II with regard to the age of entry into foster care of children exiting to emancipation indicate that there continue to be many children who are “growing up” in foster care. In FY 2001, there were 25 States in which more than 28 percent of the children emancipated from foster care were age 12 or younger when they entered foster

care. In 15 of these States, more than 50 percent of the children exiting to emancipation had entered foster care when they were age 12 or younger. Nationally, at least 30 percent of all children exiting foster care to emancipation in FY 1999, 2000, and 2001 were age 12 or younger when they entered foster care.

Information from the analysis of CFSR Final Reports suggests that young children are put at risk for “growing up” in foster care when the child welfare agency and/or the courts decide to maintain reunification as a permanency goal for long periods of time, even when parents have not exhibited progress in moving toward reunification and the prognosis for reunification is low. Although some provisions of the Adoption and Safe Families Act are intended to address this problem, the CFSR findings suggest that not all States are fully implementing these provisions.

ACHIEVING PERMANENCY IN A TIMELY MANNER

A primary finding pertaining to the attainment of permanency in a timely manner is that States appear to be more successful in achieving timely reunifications (in less than 12 months) than they are in achieving timely adoptions (in less than 24 months). In FY 2001, 19 (37 percent) of the 52 States met the national standard (76.2 percent or more) for the measure assessing the percentage of exits to reunification that occurred within 12 months of the child’s entry into foster care. In comparison, only 14 States (27 percent) met the national standard (32.0 percent or more) for the measure assessing the percentage of finalized adoptions that occurred within 24 months of the child’s entry into foster care. In addition, while there was a substantive increase from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+23 percent change) in the percentage of States meeting the national standard for reunifications within 12 months, there was a substantive decline from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-12.9 percent change) in the percentage of States meeting the national standard for finalized adoptions within 24 months. Also, the data pertaining to adoptions within 24 months revealed a substantive decline in both the mean and the median performance on this measure.

Information from the analyses of the 32 CFSR Final Reports indicates that finalizing adoptions in a timely manner is a considerable challenge in most States. The identified barriers to expediting the adoption process included the following:

- Court-related barriers such as overcrowded dockets, the lengthy appeals process pertaining to termination of parental rights petitions, and insufficient attention of court personnel to permanency issues;
- Agency-related barriers including delays in completing paper work and conducting home studies; and
- An unwillingness on the part of agency and/or court personnel to terminate parental rights before an adoptive family has been found because they do not want to create “legal orphans.”

Another consistent finding pertaining to the timeliness of permanency is that many States with a relatively high percentage of reunifications within 12 months also exhibit a relatively high rate of re-entries into foster care within 12 months of a prior foster care episode; and many States with a relatively low percentage of reunifications within 12 months also exhibit a relatively low rate of re-entry into foster care. In fact, in FY 2001, only four States met the national standards for both measures. This finding underscores the importance of interpreting State performance pertaining to timely reunification in conjunction with performance regarding foster care re-entry.

CFSR Final Reports information indicates that re-entry into foster care may be attributed in part to a lack of post-reunification services and monitoring in many States to support children’s reintegration into the family and ensure their safety during that process. In many States, moreover, the CFSR found that some reunifications occur before adequate changes have been made in the family to ensure children’s safety.

ENSURING STABLE AND AGE-APPROPRIATE PLACEMENTS FOR CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE

The outcome measure developed to assess placement stability examines the percentage of children who were in foster care for a variety of time periods who experienced no more than two placement settings. A key finding for this measure is that only 13 States (25 percent) met the national standard for this measure of 86.7 percent or more. The analyses of CFSR information identified the following concerns with respect to State effectiveness in ensuring placement stability for children:

- There is frequent use in some States of shelter facilities as initial placements and/or as “temporary” placements when a placement disruption occurs or when an appropriate foster home cannot be located. Although a shelter placement may

- often be appropriate, the use of shelters as temporary or interim placements tends to contribute to placement instability.
- There is an insufficient supply of appropriate placement options for children, particularly for children with developmental disabilities or severe emotional/behavioral problems.
 - There is a lack of services to foster families to prevent placement disruption when problems arise.
 - There is inadequate matching of placements and children (i.e., the placement does not meet the child's needs or the foster parents' expectations).

The outcome measure developed to assess age-appropriate placements examines the percentage of children who entered foster care at age 12 or younger who were placed in a group home or institution. Although generally recognized good practice is that a child's treatment needs may occasionally require placement in a group home or institution, such placement settings are rarely appropriate for young children.

A key finding pertaining to age-appropriate placements is that in FY 1999, 2000, and 2001 there were several States in which a substantial percentage of children age 12 and younger were placed in group homes and institutions. For example, in 7 States more than 20 percent of children entering foster care who were age 12 or younger were placed in a group home or institution and in 1 State, 45 percent of these children were placed in a group home or institution. In addition, information from the CFSR Final Reports indicates that in some States, children as young as 2 or 3 years old experience extended stays in "shelter placements" that are equivalent to group homes or institutions.

ASSESSING CHANGE IN PERFORMANCE OVER TIME

The findings of the analyses conducted for Child Welfare Outcomes 2001 with regard to change in performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 suggest that it is too early in the outcome-assessment process to identify trends in performance over time, either for individual States or for States as a group. Currently, there tends to be fluctuations in performance from year to year.

The most common finding of the analyses of change is that for individual States, a change in one direction from 1999 to 2000 was offset by a change in the other direction from 2000 to 2001. There was no measure for which more than 10 States exhibited either a continuous improvement in performance or a continuous decline, and some measures in which no State exhibited either continuous improvement or decline. In addition, findings of stability with regard to mean and median performance often were contradicted by findings of extensive fluctuations over time for individual States.

It also is difficult at this time to differentiate data changes that can be attributed to performance from those that are the result of improvements in data quality. Through the CFSR process, many States re-examined the data they reported to the national data systems and discovered errors in their reporting procedures. In some instances, this has resulted in resubmissions of previous year's data to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System and the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System. However, in other instances, States have chosen not to resubmit data from earlier years, but to make the corrections in future years. Consequently, for some States, changes over time will not reflect the corrections made in the reporting procedures, while for other States, change may be attributed to corrected reporting procedures.

The Department's role in helping States to improve their performance in attaining positive outcomes for children and families is one of providing the necessary information and technical assistance. Information about the effectiveness of various strategies, practices, policies, and procedures is critical to help ensure the success of the States in their efforts to enhance outcomes. The Department's comprehensive network of resource and information centers is geared to meeting this demand, as is the research funded through discretionary grants. As the Department works with States in developing their program improvement plans as part of the CFSR, it is anticipated that performance on the outcome measures will improve.

The following chapter presents data for each State on the 12 outcome measures. In addition, data are provided regarding relevant contextual factors pertaining to each State's child welfare system. Each State's data pages are followed by the State's comments on its data (for the 38 States providing comments), and by a Federal comment page that presents an analysis of each State's performance on the outcome measures.

IV.

STATE DATA PAGES



A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	1,084,135	1,066,177	1,123,422	1,112,966	Child maltreatment victims	16,668	13,773	9,990	9,229
Race/ethnicity (%) ¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	5,198	5,511	5,621	5,859
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.5	Children adopted	115	153	202	238
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.7					
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.7	0.8	0.7	N/A					
Black	32.2	32.2	31.8	31.8					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	1.4	1.5	2.2	2.4					
White	65.3	65.3	63.3	63.3					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	1.3	1.3					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.1	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	25.9	24.0	19.2	23.2					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	69.5	75.5	69.9	67.3					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	Number				Rate			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	35,705	35,919	32,655	29,911	32.9 per 1,000	33.7 per 1,000	29.1 per 1,000	26.6 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	16,668	13,773	9,990	9,229	15.4 per 1,000	12.9 per 1,000	8.9 per 1,000	8.2 per 1,000
Child fatalities	25	29	27	24	2.3 per 100,000	2.7 per 100,000	2.4 per 100,000	2.1 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	7.0	7.7	8.6	8.5	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
1-5 years	27.8	27.2	27.4	28.0	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
6-10 years	30.6	29.3	27.9	27.7	Black	36.6	38.0	38.5	33.5
11-15 years	27.4	28.1	28.9	28.2	Hispanic	0.7	1.0	0.9	1.3
16+ years	5.6	5.1	5.2	5.0	White	62.1	60.0	59.7	62.5
Unknown	1.5	2.5	1.9	2.6	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	1.0	1.6	0.6	2.3
Number	16,668	13,773	9,990	9,229	Total % ³	100.7	101.0	100.0	100.0
					Number	16,668	13,773	9,990	9,229

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	6.4	4.9	3.7	3.4
Medical neglect	—	—	—	—
Neglect	46.3	46.0	43.8	44.5
Physical abuse	39.7	40.9	40.4	44.4
Sexual abuse	21.4	23.1	26.5	21.1
Other	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	113.8	114.9	114.5	113.4
Number	16,668	13,773	9,990	9,229

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	5,246	2,803	2,851	5,198	8,049
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	4,839	2,734	2,062	5,511	7,573
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	5,294	2,661	2,334	5,621	7,955
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	5,458	2,672	2,271	5,859	8,130

Median Length of Stay (Months)	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	19.3	N/A	9.4	22.3	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	22.0	N/A	8.8	21.5	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	21.8	N/A	11.1	22.0	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	21.8	N/A	12.4	21.5	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	3.9	4.0	3.8	4.1	14.3	14.3	15.4	15.4	5.3	5.1	5.7	5.3	4.0	4.0	4.3	3.9
1-5 years	24.5	22.6	23.3	22.2	24.3	25.2	24.2	26.6	25.0	25.4	25.7	27.9	23.5	23.5	22.8	23.0
6-10 years	24.2	25.0	24.6	23.8	21.8	21.5	22.8	21.5	22.5	20.5	22.0	19.9	24.7	24.4	23.9	23.0
11-15 years	28.5	30.2	29.8	31.5	28.5	28.7	29.5	27.7	24.0	24.5	23.5	22.8	29.0	29.7	30.8	31.0
16-18 years	17.0	16.0	16.2	16.3	11.0	9.9	7.9	8.5	18.7	19.3	17.0	17.9	16.5	16.0	16.1	16.9
19+ years	1.9	2.2	2.3	2.1	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.2	4.0	4.9	5.0	5.4	2.2	2.3	2.1	2.2
Unknown	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.4	1.1	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,246	4,839	5,294	5,458	2,803	2,734	2,661	2,672	2,851	2,062	2,334	2,271	5,198	5,511	5,621	5,859

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
Asian	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	0.1	0.0	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.0
Asian/Pacific	0.0	0.1	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—
Black	55.1	55.6	55.9	54.5	48.9	49.5	46.1	42.6	48.7	48.7	47.7	48.7	55.2	55.1	54.6	51.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.2	0.9	1.5	0.9	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.9	1.0
White	43.8	43.5	42.9	43.7	49.4	48.9	51.2	55.6	49.6	49.9	50.8	50.1	43.7	43.7	43.6	46.7
Two or more races	—	—	0.2	0.5	—	—	0.9	0.6	—	—	0.2	0.4	—	—	0.5	0.6
Unknown	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2	—	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	—	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,246	4,839	5,294	5,458	2,803	2,734	2,661	2,672	2,851	2,062	2,334	2,271	5,198	5,511	5,621	5,859

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	972	1,013	1,162	1,288
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	489	567	653	839

Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.4	2.4	2.8	2.1
1-5 years	29.8	27.5	27.8	25.2
6-10 years	37.6	36.2	35.1	32.8
11-15 years	20.2	24.3	25.9	30.5
16+ years	5.3	5.1	4.7	5.8
Unknown	4.7	4.4	3.7	3.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	972	1,013	1,162	1,288

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.1
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	55.7	53.4	53.6	51.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	1.0	0.4	0.7	1.2
White	42.5	45.5	45.0	45.7
Two or more races	—	—	0.3	1.0
Unknown	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	972	1,013	1,162	1,288

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	3.5	1.3	2.5	2.5
1-5 years	45.2	49.0	48.5	46.6
6-10 years	37.4	37.3	33.2	33.2
11-15 years	13.9	11.8	13.4	16.4
16+ years	—	0.7	2.5	1.3
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	115	153	202	238

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	0.8
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	47.0	51.0	40.6	42.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	2.6	2.0	1.0	—
White	50.4	46.4	57.9	55.5
Two or more races	—	—	0.5	1.3
Unknown	—	0.7	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	115	153	202	238

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	—	—
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

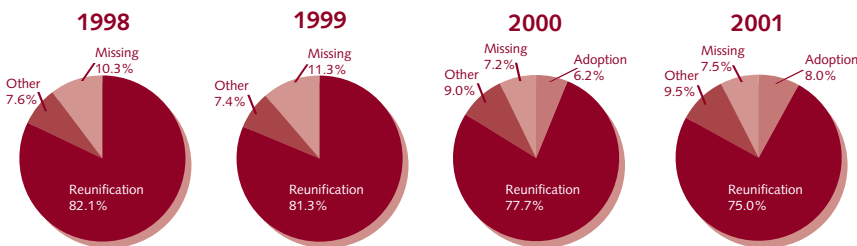
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

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

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	6.2	8.0
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	82.1	81.3	77.7	75.0
Other	7.6	7.4	9.0	9.5
Missing data	10.3	11.3	7.2	7.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,851	2,062	2,334	2,271

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	12.4	8.4
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	60.6	69.9	53.2	62.3
Other	19.2	15.6	25.3	19.9
Missing data	20.2	14.5	9.1	9.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	208	173	186	191

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	0.2
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	77.7	74.1	72.8	71.6
Other	12.9	12.7	14.7	16.2
Missing data	9.4	13.2	12.4	12.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	837	629	651	623

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	64.4	63.0	61.2	60.0
Children older than 12 at entry	35.6	37.0	38.8	39.1
Missing data	—	—	—	0.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	87	81	103	110

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

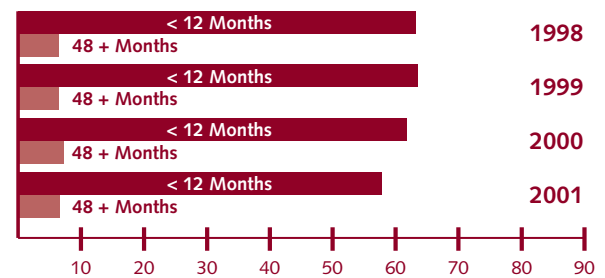
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.0	6.0	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	100.0	50.0	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	80.0	60.0	—	—	82.5	80.6	75.7	73.8	—	—	—	—
Other	—	50.0	66.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	40.0	—	—	9.1	8.4	10.8	11.1	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	33.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8.4	11.1	7.5	9.1	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	7	2	3	2	—	—	—	1	5	5	—	—	1,389	1,004	1,113	1,107	—	—	—	—

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	8.7	—	—	—	6.3	9.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	20.0	37.5	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	88.6	86.4	87.0	83.3	81.5	82.0	79.4	76.3	50.0	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	80.0	62.5	—	—	—	—
Other	2.9	9.1	4.3	—	6.3	6.2	7.3	8.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	8.6	4.5	—	16.7	12.2	11.8	7.0	6.0	50.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	35	22	23	12	1,413	1,029	1,185	1,137	2	—	5	4	—	—	5	8	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

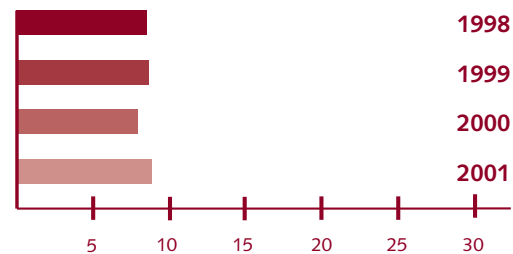
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	63.1	63.5	61.7	57.7
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	19.8	16.6	20.0	22.7
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	7.3	10.2	7.4	8.4
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	3.3	3.3	3.6	4.7
48 or more mos.	6.5	6.4	7.3	6.6
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,341	1,676	1,813	1,704

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	80.8	81.1	81.8	78.6
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	8.5	8.6	7.9	8.8
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	10.2	10.0	10.0	12.2
Missing data	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,803	2,734	2,661	2,672

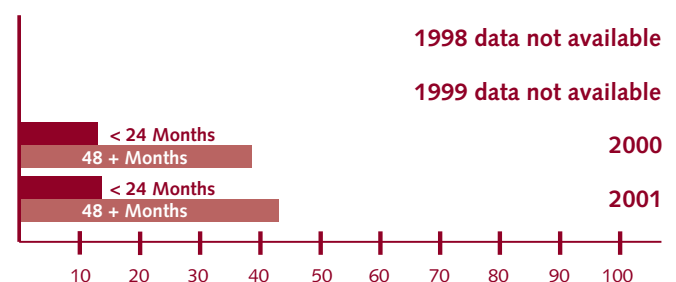
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	—	4.8	2.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	—	8.3	11.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	—	22.8	21.5
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	—	25.5	21.5
48 or more mos.	—	—	38.6	43.1
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	145	181

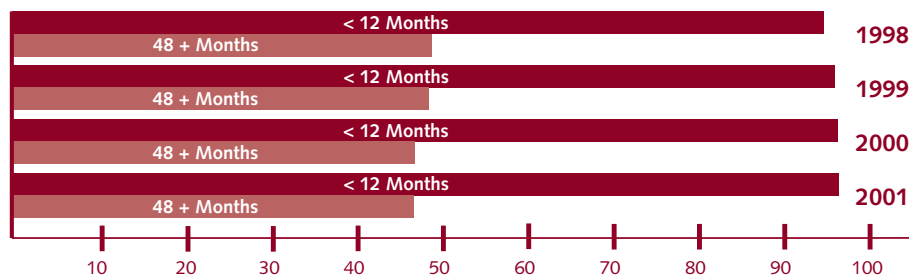
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	94.7	5.3	—	100.0	3,277
	1999	96.0	4.0	—	100.0	3,078
	2000	96.4	3.6	—	100.0	3,064
	2001	96.5	3.6	—	100.0	3,096
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	82.4	17.6	—	100.0	1,651
	1999	83.9	16.1	—	100.0	1,357
	2000	84.2	15.8	—	100.0	1,557
	2001	83.5	16.5	—	100.0	1,552
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	69.6	30.4	—	100.0	881
	1999	71.9	28.1	—	100.0	978
	2000	74.3	25.7	—	100.0	895
	2001	70.1	29.9	—	100.0	1,008
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	69.2	30.8	—	100.0	539
	1999	62.4	37.6	—	100.0	572
	2000	63.9	36.1	—	100.0	689
	2001	65.1	34.9	—	100.0	619
48 or more mos.	1998	49.0	51.0	—	100.0	1,689
	1999	48.6	51.4	—	100.0	1,577
	2000	47.0	53.0	—	100.0	1,743
	2001	46.9	53.1	—	100.0	1,854
Missing data	1998	91.7	8.3	—	100.0	12
	1999	90.9	9.1	—	100.0	11
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	7
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	1

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	2.4	1.8	4.0	3.3
Institutions	6.2	6.9	6.8	4.7
Other settings	88.1	87.8	88.4	91.5
Missing	3.3	3.5	0.8	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,929	1,876	1,907	1,901

Alabama

[STATE COMMENT]

The following discussion focuses on Alabama's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Alabama Child and Family Services Review (CRSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2002, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2000. The final report for that review is available from the <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Alabama's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance was assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

Alabama's performance on outcome 1 cannot be assessed as part of the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) for calculating this outcome. To ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through NCANDS are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are presented in Alabama's CFSR Final Report.

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

Alabama's attainment of outcome 2 cannot be evaluated as part of the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to NCANDS for calculating this outcome. In order to ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through the NCANDS system are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are provided in Alabama's CFSR Final Report.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 83.0 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 85.3 percent); 70.7 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited from foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 78.4 percent); and 71.8 percent of children who were older than age 12 at entry into foster care exited to a permanent home (which is less than the national median of 72.3). In addition, 60.0 percent of the children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care, which was the highest percentage for this measure of all States. Alabama's performance on the measures for outcome 3 did not change substantially from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (i.e., the percent change was less than 5.0 in either direction). These data suggest that the State is not consistently successful in attaining permanency for children in foster care and in ensuring that children do not "grow up" in foster care.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 57.7, which was less than both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. In addition, performance with regard to reunifications within 12 months exhibited a decline from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-9.1 percent change).

Alabama's performance in FY 2001 with regard to the percent of re-entries into foster care within 12 months of a prior foster care episode was 8.8 percent. This is greater than the national standard of 8.6 percent or less, but less than the national median of 10.4 percent. From FY 1999 to FY 2000, performance on this measure demonstrated an improvement and in FY 2000, the State's re-entry rate (7.9 percent) met the national standard. However, from FY 2000 to FY 2001, performance declined to 8.8 percent (+11.4 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 13.8, which does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more, and was lower than the national median of 21.0 percent. These data are difficult to interpret because the number of finalized adoptions in FY 2001 reported to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) Adoption Database was 238 (Section E), but the number of children reported to the AFCARS Foster Care Database as exiting to a finalized adoption (outcome measures 3.1 and 5.1) was only 181. This data discrepancy also occurred in FY 2000. It will be necessary for Alabama to resolve this data issue before performance on outcome 5 can be appropriately assessed. Data provided in 1998 or 1999 were not sufficient to calculate the measure for this outcome (5.1).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 96.5, which exceeds the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure has been consistently high since 1999.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 8.0, which is less than the national median of 8.7 percent. The State's performance on this measure improved from 1999 to 2001 (-8.6 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	192,261	196,825	190,717	190,020	Child maltreatment victims	6,726	5,976	6,957	15,947
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	1,940	2,248	2,193	1,993
Alaska Native/American Indian	22.8	23.2	19.4	19.7	Children adopted	95	137	202	278
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.9					
Asian/Pacific Islander	4.6	4.6	4.1	N/A					
Black	3.8	3.7	3.6	4.0					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.7					
Hispanic	4.5	4.7	5.4	5.5					
White	64.3	63.8	58.8	59.5					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	8.4	6.8					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.3	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	11.3	8.0	10.6	12.5					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	52.0	41.5	39.8	44.7					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	Rate			
		1999	2000	2001		1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	7,489	6,884	8,431	18,422	39.0 per 1,000	35.0 per 1,000	44.2 per 1,000	95.5 per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	6,726	5,976	6,957	15,947	35.0 per 1,000	30.4 per 1,000	36.5 per 1,000	82.6 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	3	6	8	4	1.6 per 100,000	3.0 per 100,000	4.2 per 100,000	2.1 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	7.4	7.4	7.8	7.3	Alaska Native/American Indian	42.9	44.2	45.2	46.7
1-5 years	31.2	29.6	30.9	31.9	Asian/Pacific Islander	1.9	1.8	3.2	3.3
6-10 years	32.6	32.5	32.1	32.3	Black	7.4	5.7	6.4	7.5
11-15 years	24.3	25.1	24.4	24.4	Hispanic	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.9
16+ years	4.5	5.4	4.8	4.1	White	39.5	38.1	36.9	34.9
Unknown	—	—	—	—	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	8.3	10.3	5.8	4.7
Number	6,726	5,976	6,957	15,947	Total % ³	102.3	102.2	100.0	100.0
					Number	6,726	5,976	6,957	15,947

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		3.0	6.5	13.5	9.9
Medical neglect		—	—	—	—
Neglect		61.6	60.5	60.5	58.5
Physical abuse		30.7	29.6	26.6	22.1
Sexual abuse		15.3	15.2	12.1	9.4
Other		0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Unknown		—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴		110.7	111.9	112.9	100.0
Number		6,726	5,976	6,957	15,947

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	1,483	1,092	635	1,940	2,575
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	1,800	1,180	732	2,248	2,980
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	2,010	1,096	913	2,193	3,106
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	1,990	999	996	1,993	2,989
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	17.8	N/A	10.9	13.8	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	13.9	N/A	12.2	15.2	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	15.0	N/A	14.3	16.7	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	17.4	N/A	16.9	17.8	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	4.7	4.8	4.9	4.0	13.0	15.9	14.7	14.1	2.8	5.7	3.0	3.9	4.6	4.7	4.0	3.5
1-5 years	30.8	31.7	29.8	31.0	32.8	30.0	32.2	35.1	32.9	34.7	29.9	35.4	31.5	30.1	31.5	31.4
6-10 years	28.9	29.9	30.7	30.9	27.8	29.7	29.7	29.7	30.7	27.9	31.1	31.6	29.1	30.7	30.8	28.7
11-15 years	24.9	24.4	25.3	25.5	22.7	20.2	20.5	18.1	19.7	19.7	23.3	18.7	24.6	24.7	24.8	26.8
16-18 years	10.5	8.8	9.2	8.3	3.7	4.1	2.8	2.8	13.1	11.1	12.5	9.7	9.2	9.1	8.2	8.9
19+ years	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.4	—	0.1	—	0.1	0.8	1.0	0.2	0.6	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.7
Unknown	—	0.1	0.0	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0	0.1	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,483	1,800	2,010	1,990	1,092	1,180	1,096	999	635	732	913	996	1,940	2,248	2,193	1,993

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	52.7	55.7	55.0	59.8	55.7	53.2	57.4	59.6	50.7	51.5	51.4	58.9	55.0	55.7	57.7	60.2
Asian	—	—	0.9	1.0	—	—	0.5	1.1	—	—	0.4	1.5	—	—	0.9	0.8
Asian/Pacific	0.4	0.7	—	—	1.7	1.2	—	—	1.7	1.1	—	—	0.7	0.8	—	—
Black	12.2	9.9	9.9	10.0	8.2	9.2	8.4	9.4	12.6	9.8	8.1	11.1	9.8	9.6	9.8	9.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	2.0	2.0	2.2	1.6	2.0	1.8	1.5	0.9	1.6	1.1	2.4	1.6	2.2	2.2	1.7	1.3
White	30.9	29.7	29.5	26.3	30.1	31.6	28.4	27.2	31.2	34.2	33.8	24.5	30.4	29.3	27.1	27.6
Two or more races	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unknown	1.8	2.0	2.5	1.3	2.3	3.0	3.9	1.8	2.2	2.3	3.8	2.3	2.0	2.4	2.7	1.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,483	1,800	2,010	1,990	1,092	1,180	1,096	999	635	732	913	996	1,940	2,248	2,193	1,993

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	726	830	780	772
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	596	689	582	553
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	6.6	6.5	4.2	3.9
1-5 years	40.5	38.8	39.7	38.6
6-10 years	35.0	34.5	33.9	32.5
11-15 years	14.6	17.1	18.9	22.4
16+ years	2.1	2.5	2.4	2.1
Unknown	1.2	0.6	0.9	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	726	830	780	772

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	60.5	57.6	59.9	62.3
Asian	—	—	1.2	0.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.0	1.1	—	—
Black	7.7	9.0	9.4	8.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	2.6	2.3	2.1	0.9
White	25.9	27.7	25.3	26.8
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	726	830	780	772

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	3.7	3.0	0.4
1-5 years	48.4	53.3	37.6	51.1
6-10 years	36.8	34.3	44.6	34.2
11-15 years	14.7	6.6	14.4	12.6
16+ years	—	2.2	0.5	1.8
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	95	137	202	278

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	52.6	47.4	36.6	35.6
Asian	—	—	0.5	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.7	—	—
Black	22.1	13.9	3.5	5.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	3.2	9.5	8.9	7.6
White	22.1	27.7	30.2	25.5
Two or more races	—	0.7	19.8	26.3
Unknown	—	—	0.5	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	95	137	202	278

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	—	—
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

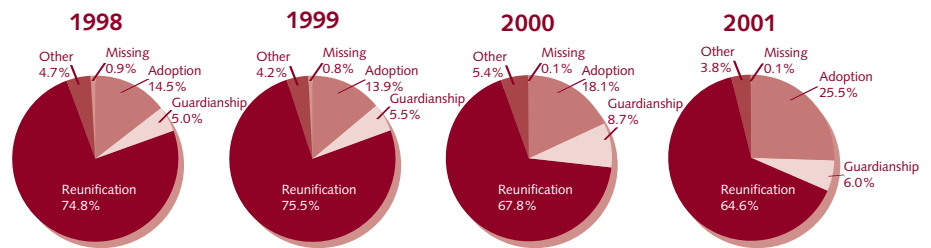
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

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

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	14.5	13.9	18.1	25.5
Guardianship	5.0	5.5	8.7	6.0
Reunification	74.8	75.5	67.8	64.6
Other	4.7	4.2	5.4	3.8
Missing data	0.9	0.8	0.1	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	635	732	913	996

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	0.6	1.7
Guardianship	4.3	4.7	11.0	9.3
Reunification	73.5	73.6	62.6	67.8
Other	19.7	19.4	25.8	21.2
Missing data	2.6	2.3	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	117	129	155	118

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	21.4	19.4	18.8	27.3
Children older than 12 at entry	78.6	80.6	81.3	72.7
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	28	31	48	33

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

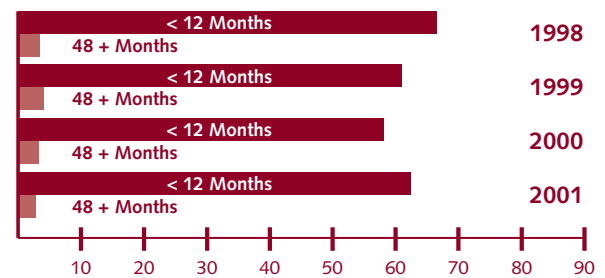
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	14.9	16.2	17.9	26.7	—	—	—	40.0	—	—	—	—	27.5	22.2	13.5	18.9	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	4.3	5.6	7.0	5.5	—	—	25.0	—	—	—	—	—	5.0	2.8	5.4	10.8	—	—	—	—
Reunification	74.8	74.0	69.9	64.9	—	—	75.0	60.0	90.9	87.5	—	—	62.5	70.8	73.0	68.5	—	—	—	—
Other	4.7	3.7	4.9	2.9	—	—	—	—	9.1	12.5	—	—	3.8	4.2	8.1	1.8	—	—	—	—
Missing data	1.2	0.5	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	322	377	469	587	—	—	4	15	11	8	—	—	80	72	74	111	—	—	—	—

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	10.0	12.5	18.2	50.0	10.6	8.8	19.1	24.2	—	11.8	22.9	13.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	10.0	—	—	—	6.6	6.4	13.3	6.6	—	5.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	80.0	87.5	81.8	50.0	76.8	78.4	61.5	62.3	100.0	76.5	74.3	73.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—	5.6	4.8	6.1	6.6	—	5.9	2.9	13.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	0.5	1.6	—	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number	10	8	22	16	198	250	309	244	14	17	35	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

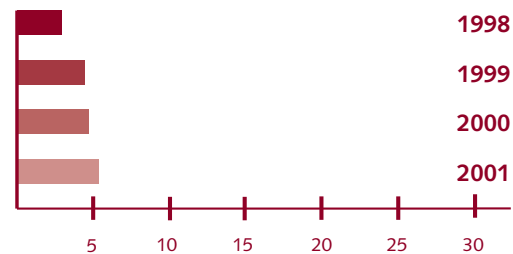
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	66.5	60.9	58.0	62.4
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	14.7	23.9	26.0	20.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	10.7	7.8	10.2	7.8
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	3.2	2.2	1.8	5.8
48 or more mos.	3.4	4.0	3.2	2.8
Missing data	1.5	1.3	0.8	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	475	553	619	643

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	81.1	81.3	81.9	81.7
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	2.9	4.4	4.7	5.3
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	9.1	7.6	7.9	7.8
Missing data	6.9	6.7	5.4	5.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,092	1,180	1,096	999

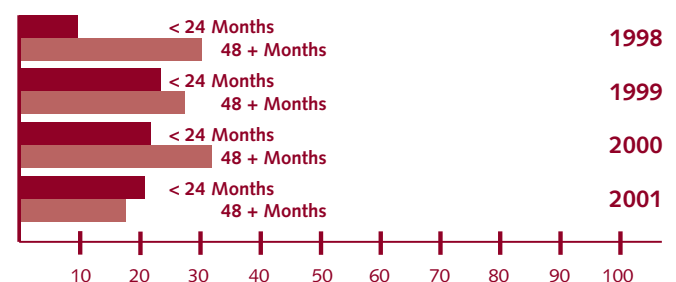
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	7.8	6.1	2.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	9.8	15.7	15.8	18.9
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	31.5	27.5	25.5	26.8
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	27.2	19.6	20.6	32.7
48 or more mos.	30.4	27.5	32.1	17.7
Missing data	1.1	2.0	—	2.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	92	102	165	254

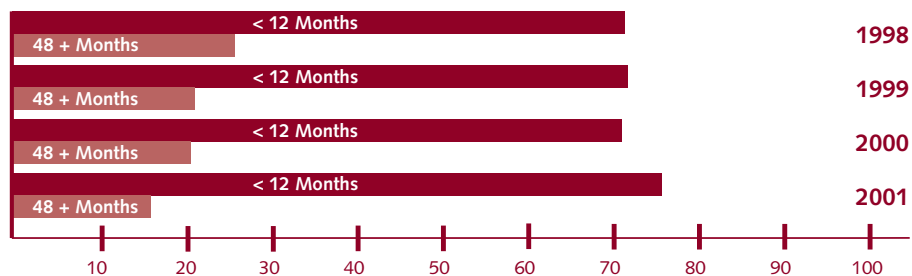
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	71.5	28.5	—	100.0	1,195
	1999	71.9	28.1	—	100.0	1,335
	2000	71.1	28.9	—	100.0	1,251
	2001	75.8	24.2	—	100.0	1,160
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	38.1	61.9	—	100.0	528
	1999	40.3	59.7	—	100.0	697
	2000	45.0	55.0	—	100.0	797
	2001	39.1	61.0	—	100.0	717
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	28.1	71.9	—	100.0	310
	1999	31.2	68.8	—	100.0	378
	2000	30.3	69.7	—	100.0	465
	2001	32.8	67.2	—	100.0	469
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	18.2	81.8	—	100.0	214
	1999	21.7	78.3	—	100.0	189
	2000	21.6	78.4	—	100.0	231
	2001	23.0	77.0	—	100.0	300
48 or more mos.	1998	26.0	74.0	—	100.0	315
	1999	21.3	78.7	—	100.0	367
	2000	20.9	79.1	—	100.0	354
	2001	16.2	83.8	—	100.0	334
Missing data	1998	92.3	7.7	—	100.0	13
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	14
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	8
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	9

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	2.6	4.2	3.3	3.5
Institutions	0.6	0.5	1.4	0.5
Other settings	96.9	95.3	95.3	96.1
Missing	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	898	979	860	864

**Tom Cherian, Acting Director
Division of Family and Youth Services
Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
907-465-3170**

Alaska's comments on their data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001* are as follows:

With regard to information in Section B regarding child maltreatment data, the large increase in child victims in 2001 is largely due to a change in Alaska's methodology for counting child maltreatment victims. Based on instructions from NCANDS, for 2001, children were counted once for each report disposed. In prior years children were counted only once regardless of the number of reports disposed. Therefore, comparisons of 2001 data with prior years' data are not meaningful.

Also, Alaska has had a chronic problem getting investigations properly closed and entered into our MIS. During 2001, an effort was made to officially close and enter data for old investigations. Unfortunately, for many cases the date of entry was entered for the disposition date rather than the date the investigation was actually completed. As a result, data based on the number of investigations disposed during the year, including the number of victims, are overstated in 2001 and understated in previous years.

Alaska does not have data for outcome measures 1.1 and 2.1. These data are based on the NCANDS Child File and Alaska's current MIS cannot produce this file. For 2001, alternative data sources developed for the CFSR show a rate of 24.3 percent recurrence of child maltreatment within 6 months for measure 1.1 and 2.0 percent maltreatment in foster care for measure 2.1. Data for measure 3.2 also are not available from our current MIS.

The following discussion focuses on Alaska's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Alaska Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2002, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2000. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Alaska's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

Alaska's attainment of outcome 1 cannot be assessed in the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) to calculate this outcome. In order to ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through NCANDS are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are presented in Alaska's CFSR Final Report.

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

Alaska's attainment of outcome 2 cannot be evaluated in the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) to calculate this outcome. To ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through NCANDS are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are presented in Alaska's CFSR Final Report.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 96.1 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes, which is the highest rate reported nationally. In addition, 78.8 percent of children who were older than age 12 at entry into foster care exited to a permanent home (which is higher than the national median of 72.3), and 27.3 percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry (which is lower than the national median of 28.0 percent). With respect to this last measure, there was considerable improvement in performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+40.9 percent change). However, the total number of children reported to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) as emancipated from foster care was small (30 children in FY 1999 and 33 children in FY 2001).

These data suggest that Alaska is generally effective in achieving permanency for children and in ensuring that young children do not "grow up" in foster care. However, the percent of children with a diagnosed disability who left foster care and were discharged to permanent homes cannot be determined because the State does not provide data relevant to this measure to AFCARS.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reported reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 62.4, which does not meet the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and is lower than the national median of 69.2 percent. Alaska's performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Alaska's performance with regard to reunification within 12 months must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 5.3, which meets the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is considerably less than the national median of 10.4 percent. However, performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+20.4 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 20.9, which does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and is just under the national median of 21.0 percent. In addition, there was a decline in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-11.3 percent change).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 75.8, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and is lower than the national median of 83.3 percent. However, there was a slight improvement in performance on this outcome measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+5.4 percent change). According to the CFSR Final Report, the State believes that the rate of placement change is due to the way the State information system records some placements. When children in foster care must travel to receive medical care, they often are placed in another foster home for an overnight stay because of flight schedules; the State information system counts these nights in temporary foster homes as a placement change. This data issue will need to be examined further before the State's performance with regard to placement stability can be adequately assessed.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 4.0, which is lower than the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this outcome demonstrated substantial improvement from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-16.2 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	1,263,404	1,334,564	1,366,947	1,437,420	Child maltreatment victims	8,983	9,205	7,460	5,389
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	5,608	7,034	6,475	6,234
Alaska Native/American Indian	7.1	6.9	6.6	6.6	Children adopted	—	761	853	938
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.7					
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.0	2.1	1.6	N/A					
Black	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.6					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	31.8	32.6	36.1	36.7					
White	55.7	55.1	49.6	49.3					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.5	2.0					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	26.3	16.1	21.8	22.3					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	82.8	85.0	87.5	86.2					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	Number				Rate			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	60,610	52,611	51,811	54,166	48.0 per 1,000	39.4 per 1,000	37.9 per 1,000	38.4 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	8,983	9,205	7,460	5,389	7.1 per 1,000	6.9 per 1,000	5.5 per 1,000	3.8 per 1,000
Child fatalities	10	8	7	13	0.8 per 100,000	0.6 per 100,000	0.5 per 100,000	0.9 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	14.8	15.7	17.6	18.8	Alaska Native/American Indian	5.1	5.7	3.5	3.3
1-5 years	29.4	29.4	27.7	28.4	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.8	1.0	0.2	0.4
6-10 years	28.4	27.7	26.1	26.1	Black	8.8	9.2	7.9	8.3
11-15 years	22.1	22.4	23.0	22.1	Hispanic	29.6	31.0	33.9	33.4
16+ years	5.2	4.8	5.4	4.6	White	78.9	78.3	45.9	47.2
Unknown	0.2	—	0.2	0.0	Two or more races	—	—	3.6	3.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	6.4	5.9	5.0	3.7
Number	8,983	9,205	7,460	5,389	Total % ³	129.6	131.0	100.0	100.0
					Number	8,983	9,205	7,460	5,389

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	1.8	1.2	1.5	0.7
Medical neglect	9.0	—	—	—
Neglect	60.8	58.4	71.4	71.6
Physical abuse	23.9	24.8	24.5	25.3
Sexual abuse	4.4	5.6	7.5	6.1
Other	0.1	10.0	—	—
Unknown	—	—	0.0	—
Total % ⁴	100.0	100.0	104.9	103.7
Number	8,983	9,205	7,460	5,389

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	3,498	4,300	2,190	5,608	7,798
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	7,515	4,372	4,853	7,034	11,887
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	6,887	4,644	5,056	6,475	11,531
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	6,188	4,542	4,496	6,234	10,730

Median Length of Stay (Months)

FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	16.0	N/A	4.1	10.7	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	17.2	N/A	10.4	18.9	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	19.1	N/A	9.4	18.0	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	18.3	N/A	9.4	15.5	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	3.9	3.7	4.2	4.7	12.7	12.8	14.1	13.5	7.2	4.0	5.2	4.3	5.2	4.2	4.8	5.4
1-5 years	26.6	27.6	27.0	26.1	28.1	28.0	26.7	27.5	28.1	28.5	29.0	29.9	27.1	26.9	25.9	25.9
6-10 years	27.4	26.7	25.3	23.1	25.1	22.2	22.0	21.1	25.7	24.5	24.2	22.7	26.0	25.2	22.9	21.3
11-15 years	29.8	28.1	28.7	30.7	24.9	26.6	27.1	27.5	22.6	22.7	23.3	25.1	27.9	29.0	30.8	30.1
16-18 years	12.2	13.6	14.3	15.1	9.2	10.4	10.2	10.3	16.1	19.2	17.3	17.4	13.6	14.1	15.2	16.4
19+ years	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.4	—	0.0	—	—	0.3	1.0	1.0	0.4	0.1	0.6	0.4	0.8
Unknown	0.1	—	—	—	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	—	—	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,498	7,515	6,887	6,188	4,300	4,372	4,644	4,542	2,190	4,853	5,056	4,496	5,608	7,034	6,475	6,234

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	4.1	2.9	2.8	2.4	4.9	3.6	3.4	4.1	4.8	3.8	3.8	4.2	4.4	2.8	2.5	2.3
Asian	—	—	0.1	0.0	—	—	0.1	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.0	0.1
Asian/Pacific	0.4	0.1	—	—	0.3	0.2	—	—	0.3	0.2	—	—	0.4	0.1	—	—
Black	14.6	12.8	12.5	12.6	11.1	8.5	9.1	7.4	12.2	9.5	9.5	9.9	12.8	12.4	12.4	10.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.2	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.0
Hispanic	23.9	27.9	31.2	33.0	27.6	33.4	32.5	32.2	23.1	28.1	30.5	32.1	27.0	31.2	32.7	33.1
White	55.3	52.0	48.5	46.3	50.2	48.4	48.4	48.4	55.9	53.4	50.5	46.7	51.2	48.7	46.9	47.5
Two or more races	—	3.7	4.7	4.8	—	4.4	4.0	4.2	—	3.0	4.2	4.7	—	4.6	4.7	4.4
Unknown	1.8	0.6	0.2	0.8	5.9	1.4	2.5	3.5	3.7	2.0	1.5	2.2	4.2	0.2	0.9	1.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,498	7,515	6,887	6,188	4,300	4,372	4,644	4,542	2,190	4,853	5,056	4,496	5,608	7,034	6,475	6,234

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	1,375	3,051	2,370	1,792
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	7	2,633	1,817	1,306
Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	4.9	6.1	4.4	2.3
1-5 years	38.0	40.6	38.9	35.4
6-10 years	39.1	34.6	32.7	32.5
11-15 years	17.2	18.3	22.9	27.7
16+ years	0.6	0.4	1.2	2.0
Unknown	0.1	0.0	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,375	3,051	2,370	1,792

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	4.1	2.3	2.0	1.7
Asian	—	—	0.0	0.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.4	0.0	—	—
Black	14.1	11.4	10.6	9.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	25.7	33.1	37.0	35.3
White	53.2	48.1	44.9	47.7
Two or more races	—	4.8	5.1	4.4
Unknown	2.5	0.2	0.5	1.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,375	3,051	2,370	1,792

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	0.5	0.7	0.9
1-5 years	—	44.8	44.5	49.1
6-10 years	—	39.0	36.9	30.3
11-15 years	—	14.5	16.6	17.5
16+ years	—	1.2	1.2	2.2
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	761	853	938

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	1.1	2.5	1.5
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.3	—	—
Black	—	12.7	10.6	9.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	28.1	25.8	38.3
White	—	55.8	56.4	43.7
Two or more races	—	1.8	4.8	6.4
Unknown	—	0.1	—	0.2
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	761	853	938

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

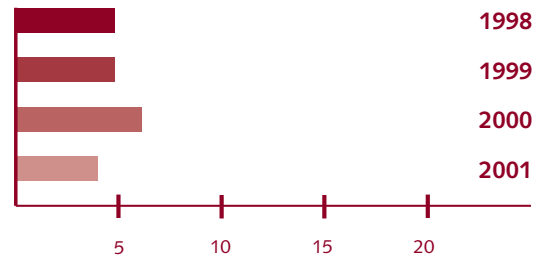
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment

Within 6 Months (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	95.2	95.2	93.9	96.0
Children with one or more recurrences	4.8	4.8	6.1	4.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,244	3,064	3,558	2,461

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



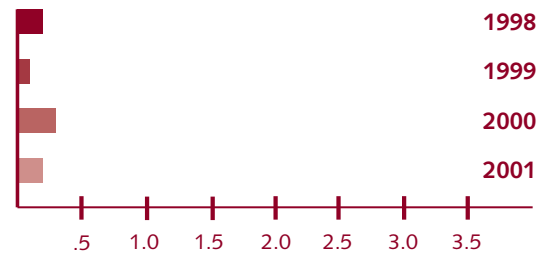
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.20	0.08	0.34	0.17
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.80	99.92	99.66	99.83
Total %	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	7,543	10,935	10,450	9,641

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



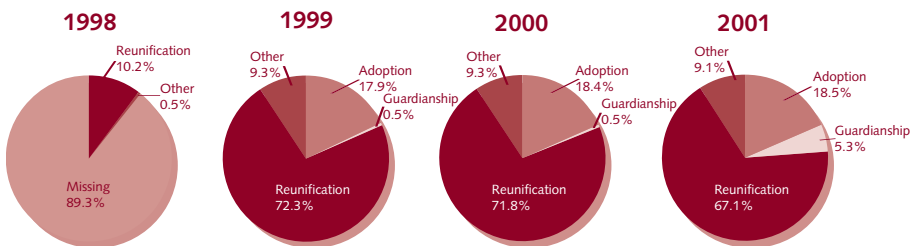
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	17.9	18.4	18.5
Guardianship	—	0.5	0.5	5.3
Reunification	10.2	72.3	71.8	67.1
Other	0.5	9.3	9.3	9.1
Missing data	89.3	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,190	4,853	5,056	4,496

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	8.6	19.5	27.6
Guardianship	—	—	—	7.2
Reunification	22.5	81.4	72.7	51.6
Other	—	10.0	7.8	13.6
Missing data	77.5	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	40	70	128	587

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	1.3	0.7	0.9
Guardianship	—	0.6	0.5	3.4
Reunification	7.6	70.7	71.3	72.8
Other	1.2	27.4	27.6	22.9
Missing data	91.2	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	567	1,333	1,312	1,209

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	50.0	18.9	23.1	26.2
Children older than 12 at entry	50.0	81.1	76.9	73.8
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4	444	450	321

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

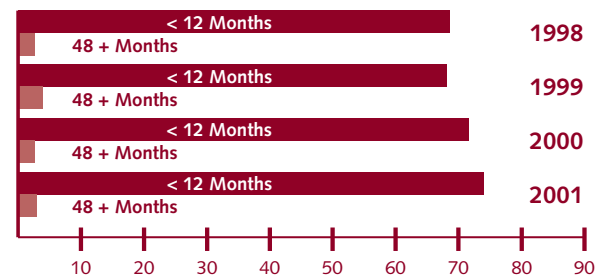
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	9.3	13.6	6.4	—	—	—	—	—	20.0	—	—	—	23.8	20.9	17.7	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	4.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.4	0.2	7.2	—	—	—	—
Reunification	16.0	82.5	81.7	81.4	—	—	83.3	100.0	—	70.0	—	—	10.2	61.1	66.8	61.5	—	—	—	100.0
Other	—	8.2	4.7	8.0	—	—	16.7	—	—	10.0	—	—	0.8	14.7	12.1	13.6	—	—	—	—
Missing data	84.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	89.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0
Number	106	183	191	188	—	—	6	3	7	10	—	—	266	463	479	447	—	—	—	6

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	17.6	16.2	22.7	—	18.7	20.0	16.8	—	—	2.7	2.1	—	11.6	19.5	27.2	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	0.4	0.6	4.4	—	0.6	0.4	5.6	—	—	—	1.0	—	—	1.0	8.0	—	—	—	—
Reunification	7.9	73.7	74.8	65.6	10.4	71.5	69.4	67.9	15.0	94.7	97.3	93.8	—	84.2	73.3	55.9	—	—	—	—
Other	0.6	8.4	8.4	7.2	0.5	9.3	10.2	9.8	—	5.3	—	3.1	—	4.1	6.2	8.9	—	—	—	—
Missing data	91.5	—	—	—	89.1	—	—	—	85.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	506	1,363	1,543	1,442	1,225	2,593	2,553	2,100	80	95	74	97	—	146	210	213	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

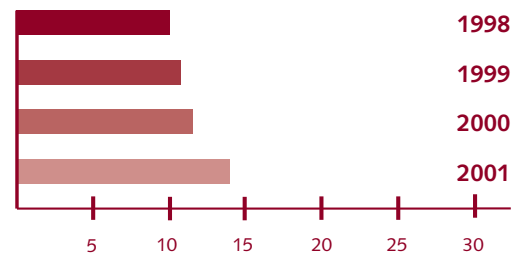
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	68.6	68.0	71.5	73.9
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	10.8	17.8	15.0	14.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	5.8	6.7	8.0	5.5
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.9	3.5	2.8	2.9
48 or more mos.	2.7	3.9	2.7	3.0
Missing data	11.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	223	3,511	3,632	3,019

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	84.3	87.1	84.7	80.4
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	10.0	10.7	11.5	13.9
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	2.8	2.2	3.9	5.7
Missing data	2.9	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,300	4,372	4,644	4,542

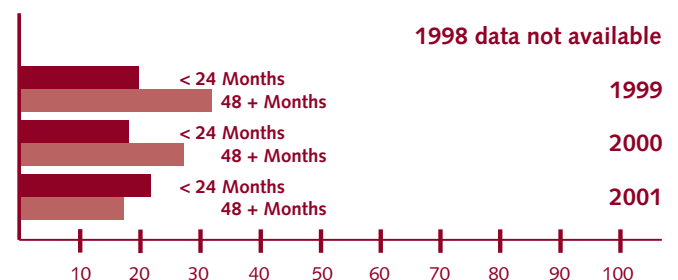
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	8.4	3.8	2.3
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	11.4	14.4	19.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	24.7	28.3	35.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	23.4	26.2	24.5
48 or more mos.	—	32.1	27.3	17.4
Missing data	—	—	—	0.2
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	870	930	831

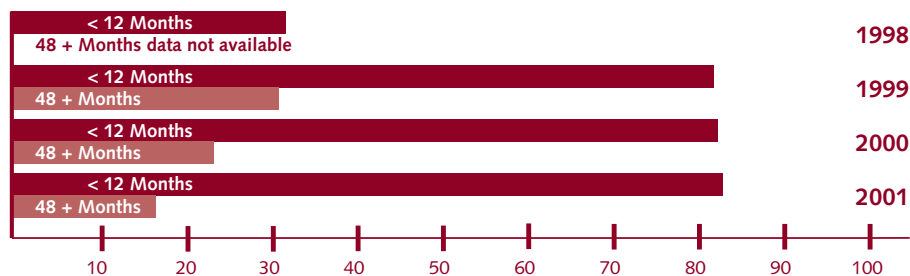
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	32.0	65.8	2.2	100.0	4,496
	1999	81.9	13.9	4.2	100.0	4,921
	2000	82.4	14.9	2.7	100.0	5,171
	2001	82.9	15.4	1.7	100.0	5,030
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	0.3	99.7	—	100.0	1,263
	1999	52.2	47.0	0.8	100.0	2,614
	2000	51.5	47.9	0.6	100.0	2,121
	2001	49.5	50.4	0.1	100.0	2,141
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	—	100.0	—	100.0	692
	1999	38.4	61.3	0.3	100.0	1,697
	2000	35.8	64.0	0.1	100.0	1,688
	2001	33.0	66.9	0.1	100.0	1,238
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	0.2	99.8	—	100.0	501
	1999	33.8	65.7	0.5	100.0	935
	2000	28.4	71.5	0.1	100.0	1,006
	2001	24.8	75.2	—	100.0	915
48 or more mos.	1998	—	99.6	0.4	100.0	757
	1999	31.1	68.8	0.2	100.0	1,697
	2000	23.5	76.3	0.2	100.0	1,530
	2001	16.8	83.0	0.2	100.0	1,396
Missing data	1998	47.2	32.6	20.2	100.0	89
	1999	78.3	—	21.7	100.0	23
	2000	66.7	—	33.3	100.0	15
	2001	40.0	—	60.0	100.0	10

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	6.4	5.7	6.6	7.7
Institutions	22.0	17.3	20.6	23.2
Other settings	71.5	63.4	67.0	67.6
Missing	0.1	13.7	5.7	1.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,010	3,124	3,292	3,160

Arizona

[STATE COMMENT]

The following discussion focuses on Arizona's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Arizona Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2001, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 1999. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Arizona's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the State's rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was 4.0 percent, which meets the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and is lower than the national median of 8.0 percent. Although performance on this measure declined from 1999 to 2000 (-27.1 percent change), this was followed by a substantial performance improvement from 2000 to 2001 (+34.4 percent change).

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

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.17 percent, which meets the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and is lower than the national median of 0.47 percent. Performance on this measure exhibited considerable improvement from 1999 to 2001 (+101.6 percent change).

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 90.9 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes, which is higher than the national median of 85.3 percent. In addition, 86.4 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 78.4 percent), and 77.1 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at entry into foster care exited to a permanent home (which is higher than the national median of 72.3 percent). Finally, 26.2 percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry, which is only slightly lower than the national median of 28.0 percent. The State's performance with regard to this last measure has demonstrated a continuous decline from FY 1999 (18.9 percent) to FY 2000 (23.1 percent) to FY 2001 (26.2 percent). These data suggest that although the State is generally effective in achieving permanency for children, there remain a substantial percentage of children exiting foster care who can be said to have "grown up" in the system. In addition, this percentage appears to be increasing over the years.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 73.9, which does not meet the national standard of 76.2 percent or more, but exceeds the national median of 69.2 percent. Performance with regard to the timeliness of reunifications exhibited continuous improvement from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+8.6 percent change).

In FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 13.9, which does not meet the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and exceeds the national median of 10.4 percent. The State's performance on this measure has exhibited a decline from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+30.3 percent change). Thus, the continuous improvement on performance with regard to the percent of reunifications within 12 months is offset somewhat by the continuous decline in performance regarding the percentage of re-entries into foster care occurring within 12 months of a prior foster care episode.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 21.9, which does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more, but was higher than the national median of 21.0 percent. In addition, Arizona's performance on this measure has exhibited improvement from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+10.8 percent change).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 82.9, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more, and was slightly less than the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure did not change from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 30.9, which is the highest percentage reported nationally. In addition, the State exhibited a decline in performance on this measure from FY 1999 (when only 23 percent of the children age 12 or younger were placed in a group home or institution) to FY 2001 (+34.5 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	653,721	660,224	680,369	680,618	Child maltreatment victims	8,578	7,564	7,479	6,927
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	3,138	2,919	3,045	2,959
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	Children adopted	258	318	325	362
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.8					
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.8	0.8	0.8	N/A					
Black	21.2	21.1	20.6	20.7					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	3.0	3.2	4.7	4.9					
White	74.5	74.3	71.3	71.1					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	1.7	1.7					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.1	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	27.4	18.5	25.5	28.3					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	49.1	45.4	50.5	48.1					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	Rate			
		1999	2000	2001		1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	29,572	23,970	23,335	25,655	45.2 per 1,000	36.3 per 1,000	34.3 per 1,000	37.6 per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	8,578	7,564	7,479	6,927	13.1 per 1,000	11.5 per 1,000	11.0 per 1,000	10.1 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	5	9	12	22	0.8 per 100,000	1.4 per 100,000	1.8 per 100,000	3.2 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	3.2	2.8	5.9	5.0	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.2
1-5 years	28.0	27.4	27.4	27.8	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2
6-10 years	31.3	29.8	29.3	27.3	Black	27.2	19.1	22.4	21.5
11-15 years	26.5	29.0	30.0	31.5	Hispanic	2.3	2.3	2.2	3.7
16+ years	8.9	10.3	6.9	7.8	White	67.0	56.6	72.5	68.4
Unknown	2.0	0.7	0.5	0.6	Two or more races	—	—	—	3.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	5.2	23.9	2.6	2.2
Number	8,578	7,564	7,479	6,927	Total % ³	102.3	102.3	100.0	100.0
					Number	8,578	7,564	7,479	6,927

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		1.0	0.6	0.6	0.9
Medical neglect		4.5	4.8	3.4	3.4
Neglect		67.2	68.9	52.7	47.2
Physical abuse		27.5	27.2	22.3	26.5
Sexual abuse		27.2	37.0	27.9	30.6
Other		—	—	1.2	0.4
Unknown		—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴		127.4	138.5	108.0	109.0
Number		8,578	7,564	7,479	6,927

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	2,490	2,737	2,094	3,138	5,227
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	2,589	2,489	2,160	2,919	5,078
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	3,182	3,542	3,679	3,045	6,724
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	2,856	3,347	3,244	2,959	6,203

Median Length of Stay (Months)	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	11.3	N/A	3.8	12.2	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	15.2	N/A	5.5	12.5	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	12.3	N/A	4.6	12.6	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	12.6	N/A	3.0	11.8	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	4.6	3.8	3.6	4.8	9.6	9.3	9.7	9.6	5.1	4.0	4.8	5.2	4.2	3.8	4.7	4.3
1-5 years	23.0	23.0	23.3	23.2	24.4	25.8	26.2	27.9	27.6	26.9	26.4	29.0	22.5	23.4	23.0	23.5
6-10 years	21.5	23.9	21.7	21.5	23.9	23.2	23.8	23.3	20.7	23.8	23.7	23.6	23.6	22.4	21.6	21.0
11-15 years	30.1	29.4	30.4	29.6	32.1	31.5	29.3	29.0	25.1	24.3	26.6	24.4	30.5	31.1	29.9	31.0
16-18 years	19.8	18.6	19.6	19.6	9.9	10.2	11.0	10.2	20.4	19.3	17.3	16.6	17.8	18.1	19.4	18.8
19+ years	0.7	1.2	1.3	1.3	—	0.0	—	—	0.8	1.6	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.4
Unknown	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	—	—	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,490	2,589	3,182	2,856	2,737	2,489	3,542	3,347	2,094	2,160	3,679	3,244	3,138	2,919	3,045	2,959

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.3
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.4	0.2	—	—	0.3	0.2	—	—	0.3	0.1
Asian/Pacific	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.2	0.3	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.1	0.2	—	—
Black	41.7	41.6	40.5	38.2	31.7	31.9	30.7	26.4	29.6	29.9	32.1	29.0	40.9	42.1	39.4	34.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.0	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	0.0	—
Hispanic	1.3	1.6	2.1	1.9	2.2	2.6	2.2	3.2	2.2	2.3	2.4	3.1	1.5	1.9	1.9	2.0
White	55.6	55.2	54.9	56.0	61.8	61.5	62.5	63.5	63.9	64.4	61.4	61.6	55.5	53.8	55.8	58.3
Two or more races	—	0.1	0.7	2.6	—	0.3	1.8	5.0	—	0.1	1.7	4.3	—	0.3	0.7	3.4
Unknown	0.6	0.9	1.2	1.2	3.7	2.9	2.3	1.3	3.2	2.5	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.9	0.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,490	2,589	3,182	2,856	2,737	2,489	3,542	3,347	2,094	2,160	3,679	3,244	3,138	2,919	3,045	2,959

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	335	867	817	810
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	37	287	63	250

Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	4.5	4.6	3.7	3.2
1-5 years	30.4	36.1	30.7	30.3
6-10 years	33.1	31.4	33.3	32.5
11-15 years	30.1	26.0	28.9	31.0
16+ years	1.8	1.9	3.4	2.6
Unknown	—	0.1	—	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	335	867	817	810

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.1	—	0.2
Asian	—	—	0.1	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.1	—	—
Black	42.7	41.6	41.4	37.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	0.3	1.8	2.1	1.7
White	55.2	54.8	54.1	55.6
Two or more races	—	0.2	0.6	3.6
Unknown	1.8	1.3	1.7	1.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	335	867	817	810

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	3.1	3.5	3.4	1.7
1-5 years	38.4	41.2	39.4	40.9
6-10 years	38.8	30.8	27.1	32.9
11-15 years	17.1	20.4	24.6	19.3
16+ years	2.7	4.1	5.5	5.2
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	258	318	325	362

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	1.2	0.3	0.6	—
Asian	—	—	—	0.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.4	0.3	—	—
Black	22.1	40.3	36.6	32.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	2.3	1.6	4.0	2.8
White	73.6	53.1	57.2	61.9
Two or more races	—	—	0.9	1.7
Unknown	0.4	4.4	0.6	0.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	258	318	325	362

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

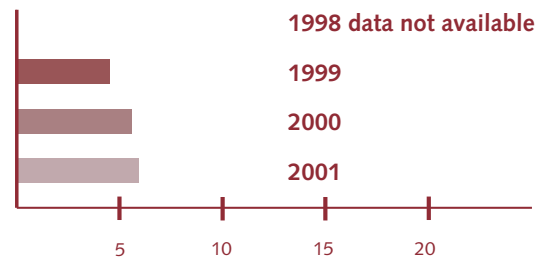
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	95.5	94.4	94.1
Children with one or more recurrences	—	4.5	5.6	5.9
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	3,662	3,887	3,793

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



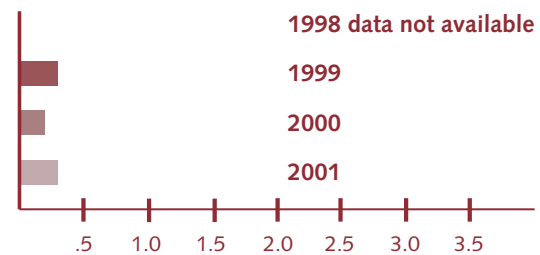
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	0.29	0.17	0.26
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	99.71	99.83	99.74
Total %	—	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	—	4,530	5,991	5,428

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



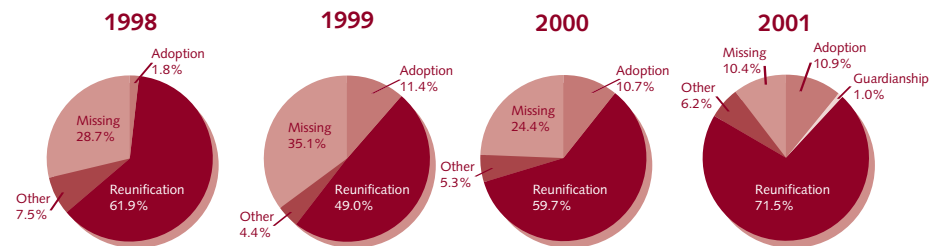
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	1.8	11.4	10.7	10.9
Guardianship	—	—	—	1.0
Reunification	61.9	49.0	59.7	71.5
Other	7.5	4.4	5.3	6.2
Missing data	28.7	35.1	24.4	10.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,094	2,160	3,679	3,244

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	4.2	16.5	15.8	21.7
Guardianship	—	—	—	0.7
Reunification	63.9	44.6	51.1	54.8
Other	9.6	4.7	8.9	13.6
Missing data	22.3	34.2	24.1	9.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	166	278	783	538

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.1	1.3	2.0	1.8
Guardianship	—	—	—	1.7
Reunification	45.5	40.1	54.4	66.8
Other	18.3	11.9	14.3	15.0
Missing data	36.1	46.7	29.2	14.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	743	673	1,136	946

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	10.2	9.4	14.5	19.9
Children older than 12 at entry	89.8	90.6	85.5	80.1
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	49	32	172	166

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

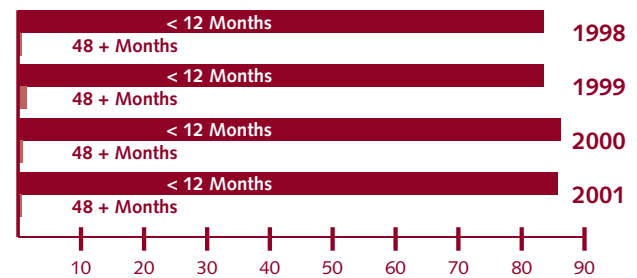
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	18.8	9.1	6.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	14.3	—	—	1.5	15.7	10.9	13.8	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.4	—	—	—	—
Reunification	62.5	36.4	40.0	60.0	—	—	72.7	100.0	100.0	28.6	—	—	61.5	48.4	61.5	65.9	—	—	—	33.3
Other	6.2	9.1	6.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.3	3.7	5.0	6.3	—	—	—	—
Missing data	12.5	45.5	46.7	40.0	—	—	27.3	—	—	—	—	—	31.8	32.2	22.5	12.6	—	—	—	66.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0
Number	16	11	15	5	—	—	11	8	7	7	—	—	620	645	1,180	941	—	—	—	3

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	4.0	13.5	9.9	1.9	9.8	10.9	10.3	—	15.4	4.8	14.9	—	—	1.6	1.4	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	2.0	—	—	—	1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	63.0	66.0	55.1	78.2	61.6	48.8	58.7	72.5	80.6	34.6	64.5	70.2	—	100.0	66.1	89.9	54.8	66.7	—	—
Other	4.3	2.0	3.4	5.9	8.9	4.9	5.8	6.4	5.6	3.8	3.2	6.4	—	—	—	2.9	3.2	3.7	—	—
Missing data	32.6	28.0	28.1	4.0	27.6	36.5	24.7	9.8	13.9	46.2	27.4	8.5	—	—	32.3	5.8	41.9	29.6	—	100.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0
Number	46	50	89	101	1,338	1,392	2,260	1,999	36	26	62	47	—	2	62	139	31	27	—	1

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

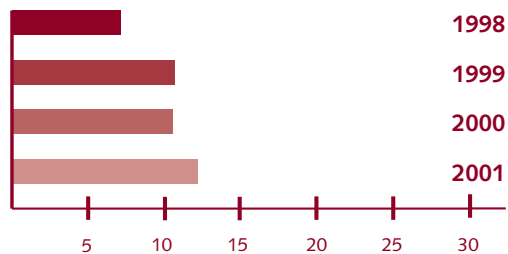
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	83.4	83.4	86.2	85.7
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	12.4	10.9	9.4	10.4
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	2.2	3.8	2.4	1.6
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.1	0.6	0.8	0.6
48 or more mos.	0.5	1.3	0.7	0.5
Missing data	0.3	0.1	0.5	1.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,297	1,059	2,196	2,319

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	89.7	78.7	85.8	81.4
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	7.1	10.6	10.5	12.1
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	0.1	1.6	2.6	5.8
Missing data	3.0	9.2	1.1	0.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,737	2,489	3,542	3,347

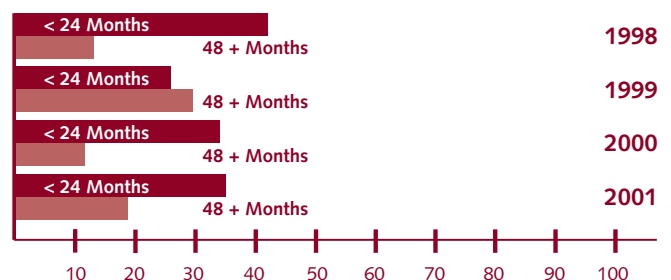
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	7.9	4.5	8.7	5.9
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	34.2	21.5	25.5	29.3
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	21.1	26.4	21.2	28.7
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	23.7	15.9	16.3	17.2
48 or more mos.	13.2	29.7	11.7	18.9
Missing data	—	2.0	16.6	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	38	246	392	355

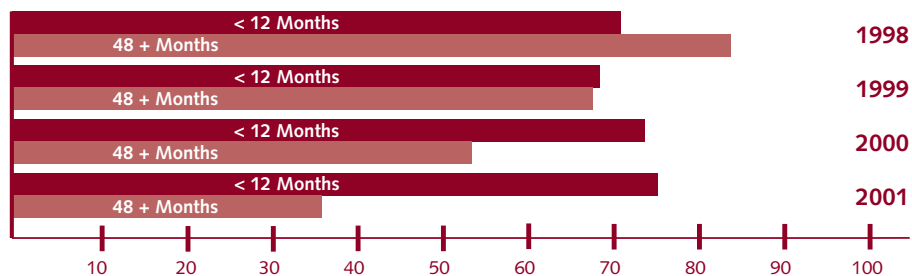
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	71.0	28.7	0.3	100.0	3,112
	1999	68.6	31.2	0.2	100.0	2,808
	2000	73.8	18.3	8.0	100.0	4,048
	2001	75.3	23.2	1.6	100.0	3,797
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	64.8	35.0	0.2	100.0	1,014
	1999	39.9	59.7	0.5	100.0	865
	2000	49.2	47.8	3.0	100.0	1,163
	2001	39.4	60.0	0.6	100.0	1,086
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	72.2	27.8	—	100.0	432
	1999	49.6	50.1	0.3	100.0	617
	2000	39.0	57.1	4.0	100.0	580
	2001	28.8	71.0	0.2	100.0	521
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	79.1	20.9	—	100.0	211
	1999	54.5	44.8	0.7	100.0	279
	2000	42.5	54.5	3.0	100.0	400
	2001	24.4	74.9	0.7	100.0	287
48 or more mos.	1998	83.9	16.1	—	100.0	440
	1999	67.8	31.6	0.6	100.0	475
	2000	53.7	44.0	2.3	100.0	441
	2001	36.2	62.1	1.7	100.0	475
Missing data	1998	72.2	22.2	5.6	100.0	18
	1999	82.4	14.7	2.9	100.0	34
	2000	75.0	—	25.0	100.0	92
	2001	70.3	—	29.7	100.0	37

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	—	—	—	0.7
Institutions	8.7	8.8	3.8	8.3
Other settings	88.9	90.7	96.0	90.9
Missing	2.3	0.4	0.2	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,547	1,640	2,277	2,318

Roy Kindle, Director
Division of Children and Family Services
Arkansas Department of Human Services
501-682-8008

Arkansas' comments on their data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001* are as follows:

With regard to Section B, Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS), the number of child fatalities for 2001 should be 21. We have requested that our technical staff revise the DCDC data for this element.

With regard to Section D, the Overview Section indicates that as of 9/30/01, termination of parental rights had been attained for only 31 percent of the children waiting to be adopted. We believe that this is due to the fact that the Children's Reporting and Information System, the State's SACWIS system, was difficult to understand and required staff to complete information with several data elements. The system and this screen were revised in 2002 and data in this area should reflect an accurate percent of termination of parental rights for the next federal fiscal year.

We suggest the report include an Annual Summary of State Child Welfare Data which was included in the Child Welfare Outcomes 1999 Report but was not in the 2000 report. We also suggest the key context statistics include data on the reasons children enter foster care, current case goal and length of time in care by age.

The following discussion focuses on Arkansas' performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Arkansas Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2001, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 1999. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Arkansas' performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of recurrence of maltreatment within 6 months was 5.9 percent, which is lower than both the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and the national median of 8.0 percent. However, the State's performance on this measure declined from 1999 to 2001 (+32.0 percent change). In addition, information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that the actual rate of maltreatment recurrence may be higher than the reported rate of recurrence because the agency does not routinely investigate maltreatment reports as new reports when they are received on families with open child welfare agency cases.

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

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.26 percent, which meets the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and is lower than the national median of 0.47 percent. Performance on this measure improved slightly from 1999 to 2001 (-10.1 percent change).

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 83.4 percent of the children exiting foster care were discharged to a permanent home (which is slightly less than the national median of 85.3 percent); 77.2 percent of children with a diagnosed disability exiting foster care were discharged to a permanent home (which is slightly less than the national median of 78.4 percent); and 70.3 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 when they entered foster care were discharged to a permanent home (which is less than the national median of 72.3 percent). The change in the State's performance relevant to these outcome measures cannot be assessed because in prior years, the level of missing data for this measure exceeded 20 percent for all measures. The data for FY 2001 represent considerable improvement in data reporting for these measures.

Also in FY 2001, the percentage of children emancipated from foster care who were age 12 or younger when they entered foster care was 19.9. Although this percentage is lower than the national median of 28.0 percent, there was a decline in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+112.0 percent change). However, only 34 children were reported as emancipated from foster care in FY 1999, compared to 166 children in FY 2001. Consequently, the change may reflect improved reporting for this measure.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, 85.7 percent of the children discharged to reunification were reunified within 12 months of the time of their entry into foster care. This exceeds both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. Change in performance on this outcome cannot be appropriately assessed because of the missing data pertaining to "reason for discharge" information in FY 1999.

Arkansas' performance with regard to reunification within 12 months is somewhat offset by the finding that in FY 2001, the

percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 12.1, which does not meet the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is higher than the national median of 10.4 percent. In addition, performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+14.8 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of children discharged to a finalized adoption who had been in foster care for 24 months or less was 35.2, which meets the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and exceeds the national median of 21.0 percent. Change in performance on this outcome cannot be appropriately assessed because of the missing data pertaining to “reason for discharge” information in FY 1999 and FY 2000.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 75.3, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and is less than the national median of 83.3 percent. However, performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+9.7 percent change).

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 and younger placed in a group home or institution was 9.0, which is only slightly higher than the national median of 8.7 percent. Although performance on this measure did not change from FY 1999 to FY 2001, there was a substantial improvement in performance in FY 2000, with only 3.8 percent of children age 12 and younger reported as being placed in group homes or institutions. However, this may reflect a data quality issue rather than an actual difference in performance.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	8,911,372	8,923,423	9,249,829	9,377,970	Child maltreatment victims	157,683	130,510	129,678	128,251
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	112,767	117,937	112,807	107,168
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	Children adopted	4,418	6,372	8,764	9,859
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	9.5					
Asian/Pacific Islander	11.2	11.3	9.6	N/A					
Black	6.9	6.8	7.1	7.2					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.4					
Hispanic	41.2	41.9	43.8	44.3					
White	40.2	39.5	34.8	35.2					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	3.9	3.0					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.3	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	26.4	20.3	21.7	16.4					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	99.4	99.5	96.9	99.2					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	Number				Rate			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	413,372	452,887	486,127	485,911	46.4 per 1,000	50.8 per 1,000	52.6 per 1,000	51.7 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	157,683	130,510	129,678	128,251	17.7 per 1,000	14.6 per 1,000	14.0 per 1,000	13.6 per 1,000
Child fatalities	26	33	30		0.3 per 100,000	0.4 per 100,000	0.3 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	6.0	9.7	9.5	9.6	Alaska Native/American Indian	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.8
1-5 years	29.0	29.3	29.1	28.4	Asian/Pacific Islander	3.2	4.0	3.8	3.5
6-10 years	31.4	31.1	30.8	30.9	Black	16.0	18.0	15.6	14.6
11-15 years	25.4	24.0	24.5	25.0	Hispanic	32.8	37.0	39.6	41.3
16+ years	8.2	6.0	6.2	6.1	White	37.8	33.0	32.9	32.0
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	—	Two or more races	—	—	—	2.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	41.9	44.0	7.1	5.3
Number	157,683	130,510	129,678	128,251	Total % ³	132.8	137.0	100.0	100.0
					Number	157,683	130,510	129,678	128,251

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional		8.1	17.8	18.7
Medical neglect		—	—	—
Neglect		51.9	56.3	56.7
Physical abuse		26.2	17.5	16.1
Sexual abuse		13.4	9.1	8.3
Other		0.4	9.8	10.5
Unknown		—	0.0	—
Total % ⁴		100.0	110.4	110.3
Number		157,683	130,510	129,678

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	109,819	52,997	50,049	112,767	162,816
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	113,506	43,587	39,156	117,937	157,093
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	117,234	45,685	50,112	112,807	162,919
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	106,088	45,176	44,096	107,168	151,264
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	19.8	N/A	12.6	21.6	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	20.8	N/A	14.9	25.2	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	24.5	N/A	18.2	26.6	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	26.2	N/A	17.0	25.3	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	4.2	3.7	3.5	3.5	13.6	14.7	14.0	13.9	4.0	4.0	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.5	3.4	3.6
1-5 years	29.8	26.7	24.8	23.3	28.5	27.2	26.6	26.1	30.8	30.5	29.0	28.2	27.8	24.5	22.9	22.0
6-10 years	29.0	27.5	27.2	26.2	22.5	23.7	23.6	23.1	23.5	23.7	25.8	24.7	29.1	27.5	25.9	24.9
11-15 years	24.2	26.5	27.5	29.3	24.5	24.6	25.9	26.1	18.8	19.2	20.7	20.9	26.7	27.3	28.8	29.7
16-18 years	12.2	15.0	16.1	16.5	10.7	9.7	9.9	10.7	20.2	20.5	19.1	20.7	12.2	16.0	17.1	17.5
19+ years	0.5	0.6	0.7	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	2.1	1.7	1.7	0.4	1.2	1.8	2.0
Unknown	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	109,819	113,506	117,234	106,088	52,997	43,587	45,685	45,176	50,049	39,156	50,112	44,096	112,767	117,937	112,807	107,168

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	1.1	1.2	1.1	0.9	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.9
Asian	—	—	1.8	1.3	—	—	3.1	2.1	—	—	2.7	2.0	—	—	1.9	1.4
Asian/Pacific	1.7	1.9	—	—	3.0	3.6	—	—	3.0	3.2	—	—	1.7	2.1	—	—
Black	36.6	35.5	34.3	32.3	22.6	22.4	21.5	19.7	24.3	23.7	24.7	21.9	35.4	34.6	33.3	31.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.3	0.5	—	—	0.4	0.5	—	—	0.3	0.3
Hispanic	29.3	31.3	32.9	35.6	35.3	36.0	38.2	39.4	32.3	33.5	35.3	38.3	30.8	32.3	33.9	36.1
White	30.9	29.9	29.3	26.6	36.5	35.2	33.6	32.5	38.0	37.1	34.1	32.0	30.4	29.5	28.9	26.8
Two or more races	—	—	0.1	2.5	—	—	0.1	2.9	—	—	0.3	2.6	—	—	0.0	2.6
Unknown	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.5	1.3	1.5	1.9	2.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.7	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	109,819	113,506	117,234	106,088	52,997	43,587	45,685	45,176	50,049	39,156	50,112	44,096	112,767	117,937	112,807	107,168

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	4,455	9,894	12,632	7,714
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	1,915	6,911	9,791	999
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	8.0	4.2	3.7	6.0
1-5 years	55.2	51.6	46.5	40.0
6-10 years	26.2	30.0	32.3	34.3
11-15 years	9.0	12.4	14.8	17.2
16+ years	1.5	1.7	2.2	2.1
Unknown	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,455	9,894	12,632	7,714

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.6
Asian	—	—	1.7	0.9
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.5	1.6	—	—
Black	27.2	31.2	30.7	34.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.2	0.3
Hispanic	29.9	33.6	35.8	37.5
White	40.2	32.4	30.8	23.3
Two or more races	—	—	—	3.2
Unknown	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,455	9,894	12,632	7,714

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	3.1	2.2	2.3	2.6
1-5 years	61.2	63.8	56.8	51.7
6-10 years	28.1	25.7	29.0	30.9
11-15 years	6.8	7.1	10.1	12.4
16+ years	0.8	1.2	1.7	2.2
Unknown	—	—	0.0	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,418	6,372	8,764	9,859

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.3
Asian	—	—	1.2	1.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.5	2.2	—	—
Black	24.2	19.5	21.9	16.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.2	0.3
Hispanic	33.5	31.7	34.0	37.3
White	38.0	42.9	34.7	31.0
Two or more races	—	0.1	0.3	1.2
Unknown	1.2	2.7	7.2	12.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,418	6,372	8,764	9,859

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

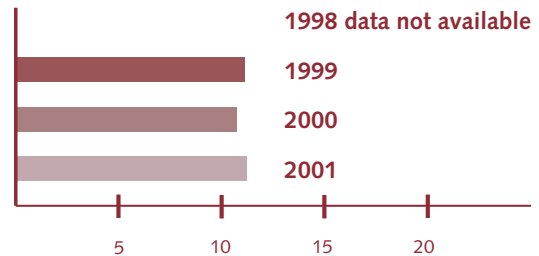
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	88.9	89.3	88.8
Children with one or more recurrences	—	11.1	10.7	11.2
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	60,893	60,886	59,715

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



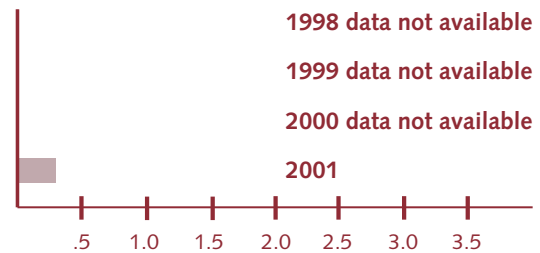
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	0.34
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	99.66
Total %	—	—	—	100.00
Number	—	—	—	140,134

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



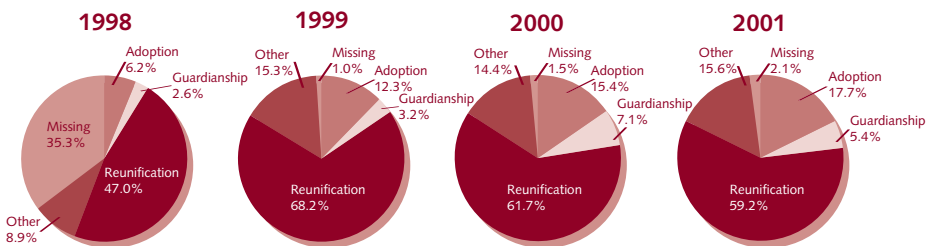
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	6.2	12.3	15.4	17.7
Guardianship	2.6	3.2	7.1	5.4
Reunification	47.0	68.2	61.7	59.2
Other	8.9	15.3	14.4	15.6
Missing data	35.3	1.0	1.5	2.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	50,049	39,156	50,112	44,096

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	6.6	17.1	24.7	27.5
Guardianship	2.7	1.8	6.0	5.1
Reunification	46.1	63.1	56.1	51.6
Other	9.0	17.4	12.4	13.8
Missing data	35.6	0.7	0.8	1.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	988	2,228	4,441	6,587

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.7
Guardianship	0.9	1.5	2.2	2.1
Reunification	48.3	58.3	56.0	54.1
Other	21.5	38.7	39.9	41.3
Missing data	29.0	0.8	1.3	1.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	13,265	10,278	11,795	11,150

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	36.2	32.9	34.7	36.2
Children older than 12 at entry	63.7	67.1	65.3	63.8
Missing data	0.1	0.1	—	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,739	3,728	4,489	4,046

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

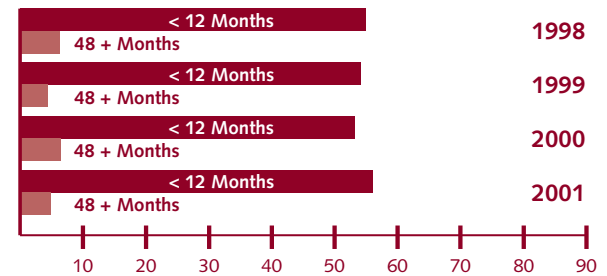
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	7.0	9.2	10.0	7.8	—	—	8.5	10.1	3.1	7.4	—	—	5.7	12.0	15.9	17.6	—	—	9.3	11.8
Guardianship	6.9	5.6	13.5	13.6	—	—	3.6	1.6	2.1	1.3	—	—	2.9	3.1	9.2	6.8	—	—	2.1	4.4
Reunification	43.4	69.0	58.0	58.3	—	—	76.5	75.5	52.9	78.7	—	—	44.8	62.6	54.9	52.0	—	—	71.1	69.1
Other	8.0	14.8	17.3	18.9	—	—	10.2	10.4	7.4	11.9	—	—	12.5	21.6	19.0	21.9	—	—	15.5	11.3
Missing data	34.8	1.3	1.2	1.4	—	—	1.1	2.4	34.6	0.8	—	—	34.1	0.7	1.1	1.6	—	—	2.1	3.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	627	533	572	434	—	—	1,359	887	1,504	1,237	—	—	12,166	9,269	12,385	9,647	—	—	194	204

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	5.3	11.4	14.9	17.8	7.6	14.1	16.6	18.7	3.7	2.3	2.0	3.5	—	—	35.6	23.7	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	2.0	2.4	7.0	4.9	3.0	4.2	5.9	5.2	1.6	2.5	3.3	3.4	—	—	6.8	5.6	—	—	—	—
Reunification	50.0	71.9	63.8	61.2	45.5	66.9	62.4	59.4	45.6	86.1	86.0	81.2	—	—	47.0	59.0	—	—	—	—
Other	7.3	13.2	12.6	13.8	8.1	13.7	13.5	14.5	5.4	7.4	5.6	9.1	—	—	10.6	9.7	—	—	—	—
Missing data	35.3	1.1	1.7	2.3	35.9	1.1	1.5	2.1	43.8	1.7	3.2	2.7	—	—	—	2.1	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	16,168	13,108	17,696	16,897	19,009	14,533	17,110	14,126	575	476	664	733	—	—	132	1,168	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

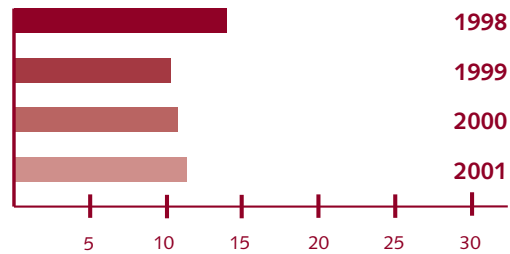
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	54.9	54.0	53.2	56.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	26.0	27.0	24.2	25.3
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	7.9	9.8	10.3	8.1
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	3.4	2.9	4.0	3.4
48 or more mos.	6.3	4.4	6.5	4.8
Missing data	1.5	1.9	1.8	2.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	23,519	26,707	30,908	26,091

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	78.2	81.1	80.1	78.6
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	13.9	10.2	10.7	11.3
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	6.9	8.4	9.0	10.1
Missing data	1.0	0.3	0.2	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	52,997	43,587	45,685	45,176

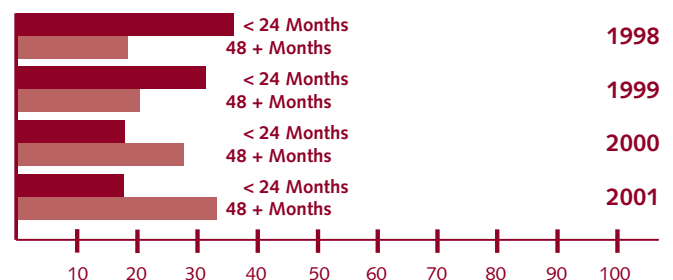
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	12.2	5.8	2.4	2.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	23.9	25.7	15.7	15.7
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	25.7	29.9	30.4	25.1
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	19.5	17.9	23.5	23.4
48 or more mos.	18.6	20.6	27.9	33.3
Missing data	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,105	4,815	7,693	7,801

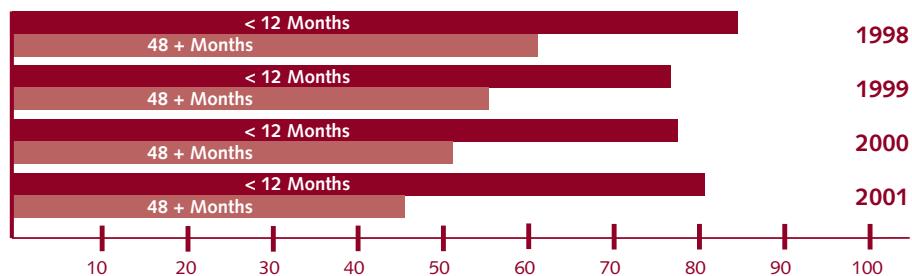
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	84.7	15.3	0.0	100.0	59,548
	1999	76.9	23.1	0.0	100.0	47,401
	2000	77.7	22.2	0.0	100.0	49,747
	2001	80.8	19.2	0.1	100.0	48,882
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	69.8	30.1	0.0	100.0	36,159
	1999	62.3	37.7	0.0	100.0	36,004
	2000	59.0	41.0	0.0	100.0	32,324
	2001	59.8	40.1	0.0	100.0	29,988
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	61.6	38.4	0.0	100.0	18,868
	1999	56.8	43.2	—	100.0	23,460
	2000	53.9	46.1	0.0	100.0	23,964
	2001	48.7	51.3	0.0	100.0	18,328
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	59.4	40.6	—	100.0	11,927
	1999	53.0	47.0	0.0	100.0	13,239
	2000	50.7	49.3	0.0	100.0	16,439
	2001	45.9	54.0	0.1	100.0	14,044
48 or more mos.	1998	61.4	38.5	0.0	100.0	35,355
	1999	55.6	44.4	—	100.0	36,243
	2000	51.4	48.6	0.0	100.0	39,691
	2001	45.8	54.2	0.0	100.0	39,182
Missing data	1998	99.5	0.5	—	100.0	959
	1999	94.8	5.2	—	100.0	746
	2000	94.6	5.4	—	100.0	754
	2001	94.6	5.4	—	100.0	840

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	4.6	4.3	3.8	3.9
Institutions	11.1	12.9	9.8	10.0
Other settings	84.3	82.8	86.4	86.0
Missing	—	0.0	0.1	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	37,818	31,671	32,668	32,040

**Sylvia Pizzini, Deputy Director
Children and Family Services Division
California Department of Social Services
916-657-2614**

Text to California's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

With regard to Section B—Maltreatment Information Overview, the Department does not have 2001 child abuse and neglect fatality data available. The data are derived from three distinct Statewide data systems and are based on the number of unique cases identified in any one of these systems. The final estimates for 2001 have not yet been completed.

The data in Section B—Maltreatment Type indicate a considerable increase in the percentage of children who fall into the category of 'Other' from 2000 (10.5 percent) to 2001 (31.2 percent). This increase most likely results from the creation of a new abuse type ("Substantial Risk") that has grown tremendously since it was added to the Department's Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS).

With regard to the data in Section E—Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children—the data indicate that the race/ethnicity of almost 13 percent of the children adopted was unknown. This issue reflects some State confusion with federal requirements regarding multiple-race children. The Department is working to resolve the inaccurate reporting.

With regard to the data for outcome measure 1.1, which exceeds the national standard, the Department is researching the issue of redundancy in "recurrence of child abuse reports" to our SACWIS system. We believe this recurrence data to be seriously inflated due to county worker input of multiple referrals for the same instance of abuse.

With regard to the data for outcome measure 3.3, these data indicate that in 2001, 41.3 percent of the children who exited foster care who were older than 12 when they entered foster care did not exit to permanency (i.e. adoption, guardianship, or reunification). This is almost 13 percentage points higher than the national median. Exits of children over 12 (at entry) into non-permanency goals is consistent with the Department program statistics for prior years. A certain percentage of this cohort exited into a State program in which the children live with relatives and continue to receive subsidies.

The following discussion focuses on California's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The California Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2002, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2000. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CSFR findings for California's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, California's rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was 11.2 percent, which is higher than both the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and the national median of 8.0 percent. Performance on this outcome did not change substantively from 1999 to 2001. The State believes that this rate is inflated due to redundancy in recurrence of child abuse reports in the State's automated system.

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

In CY 2001, the percentage of children in foster care who were maltreated by foster parents or facility staff was 0.34, which meets the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and is lower than the national median of 0.47 percent. Change in performance on this measure over time cannot be assessed because 2001 was the first year that sufficient data were reported to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System to permit calculation of this measure.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 82.3 percent of children exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is slightly less than the national median of 85.3 percent), and 84.2 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 78.4 percent). However, only 56.9 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes, which is lower than the national median of 72.3 percent. These data suggest that although the State is effective in achieving permanency for children in general and for children with a diagnosed disability, it is less consistently effective in achieving permanency for children who are older than age 12 when they enter foster care. Performance related to the percent of children over age 12 at entry into foster care who were discharged to permanent homes declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-6.1 percent change), while the other indicators of permanency exhibited no substantive change from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

In FY 2001, 36.2 percent of the children who were emancipated from foster care during FY 2001 were age 12 or younger when they entered foster care, which is higher than the national median of 28.0 percent. This suggests that a number of children exiting foster care in FY 2001 may be said to have "grown up" in the system. In addition, performance on this measure has declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+10.2 percent change).

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reported reunifications occurring within 12 months of children's entry into foster care was 56.0, which is lower than both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. The State's performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Also in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 11.3, which exceeds both the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.4 percent. The State's performance on this measure has declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+11.1 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 17.9, which is lower than both the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and the national median of 21.0 percent. Performance on this outcome measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-43.2 percent change).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 80.8, which is lower than both the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure exhibited a slight improvement from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+5.1 percent change).

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 13.9, which is higher than the national median of 8.7 percent. The State's performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-19.0 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	1,040,580	1,065,510	1,100,795	1,136,591	Child maltreatment victims	7,010	6,989	7,467	4,837
Race/ethnicity (%) ¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	7,951	7,639	7,533	7,138
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	Children adopted	575	714	691	610
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.3					
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.6	2.6	2.2	N/A					
Black	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.6					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	20.7	21.3	23.5	24.0					
White	71.6	70.9	66.2	65.8					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.9	2.6					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	10.6	11.6	13.3	10.6					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	86.7	86.1	84.6	84.7					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	Rate			
		1999	2000	2001		1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	39,141	34,110	35,483	30,983	37.6 per 1,000	32.0 per 1,000	32.2 per 1,000	27.5 per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	7,010	6,989	7,467	4,837	6.7 per 1,000	6.6 per 1,000	6.8 per 1,000	4.3 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	28	32	31	20	2.7 per 100,000	3.0 per 100,000	2.8 per 100,000	1.8 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	9.3	9.8	10.0	9.9	Alaska Native/American Indian	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.8
1-5 years	30.4	30.2	30.8	30.4	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.3
6-10 years	32.0	31.8	30.5	30.0	Black	7.7	8.4	7.0	10.2
11-15 years	23.6	23.7	23.5	23.6	Hispanic	22.5	18.6	21.4	30.0
16+ years	4.3	4.2	4.7	5.4	White	73.0	62.8	64.9	79.5
Unknown	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.7	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	17.1	26.8	26.0	8.0
Number	7,010	6,989	7,467	4,837	Total % ³	122.5	118.6	121.4	130.7
					Number	7,010	6,989	7,467	4,837

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	11.7	14.6	15.9	16.9
Medical neglect	6.5	7.1	71.4	1.3
Neglect	67.7	70.7	72.2	41.0
Physical abuse	29.3	27.6	26.8	25.1
Sexual abuse	14.7	15.1	14.4	11.2
Other	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	14.4
Total % ⁴	129.9	135.1	200.7	110.0
Number	7,010	6,989	7,467	4,837

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	6,006	7,147	5,202	7,951	13,153
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	6,131	7,183	5,675	7,639	13,314
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	6,103	6,942	5,512	7,533	13,045
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	5,331	7,007	5,200	7,138	12,338
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	15.2	N/A	3.8	11.1	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	12.1	N/A	3.2	11.3	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	12.2	N/A	3.7	12.0	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	11.9	N/A	4.0	9.6	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	3.2	4.6	4.0	4.5	8.5	7.9	8.8	8.6	3.6	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.3	3.7	4.0	4.5
1-5 years	18.2	18.0	17.8	21.6	19.2	19.1	20.4	18.9	18.8	18.8	19.4	22.3	18.8	19.1	20.1	19.8
6-10 years	23.4	22.6	21.0	20.7	18.7	17.7	17.7	18.3	16.8	16.7	16.6	17.8	22.3	21.4	20.1	18.9
11-15 years	34.4	34.2	36.7	32.0	36.6	38.6	35.5	34.6	31.3	32.9	32.2	28.5	34.0	35.5	34.3	33.4
16-18 years	19.7	19.4	19.0	19.7	17.1	16.7	17.5	19.4	28.1	25.9	26.2	25.2	19.5	19.0	20.0	21.9
19+ years	1.1	1.2	1.5	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	1.2	1.0	0.9	1.5	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.5
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	—	0.0	—	—	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6,006	6,131	6,103	5,331	7,147	7,183	6,942	7,007	5,202	5,675	5,512	5,200	7,951	7,639	7,533	7,138

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	2.3	2.0	2.7	2.1	2.0	2.6	2.0	1.5	2.3	2.4	2.7	1.9	2.1	2.3	2.1	1.7
Asian	—	—	0.8	0.5	—	—	0.8	0.8	—	—	1.0	0.8	—	—	0.7	0.6
Asian/Pacific	1.1	1.0	—	—	1.1	1.1	—	—	1.5	1.3	—	—	0.9	0.9	—	—
Black	17.5	15.7	16.3	16.8	12.3	12.8	11.1	12.8	12.6	11.7	10.3	13.8	16.1	15.9	15.9	15.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	—	0.1
Hispanic	22.4	24.9	25.5	28.1	26.6	26.6	28.7	31.0	24.5	25.6	27.9	30.2	24.8	26.0	26.7	29.4
White	53.5	54.3	51.4	49.5	52.3	48.8	47.3	50.0	52.8	51.7	49.3	48.5	52.9	51.0	49.2	50.7
Two or more races	—	—	—	0.6	—	—	—	1.3	—	—	—	0.8	—	—	—	1.1
Unknown	3.3	2.2	3.3	2.3	5.6	8.0	10.0	2.5	6.3	7.3	8.9	4.0	3.4	3.9	5.4	1.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6,006	6,131	6,103	5,331	7,147	7,183	6,942	7,007	5,202	5,675	5,512	5,200	7,951	7,639	7,533	7,138

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	1,480	1,682	1,788	1,469
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	974	1,211	1,267	695
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.7	1.7	2.0	4.3
1-5 years	30.1	28.7	28.8	35.7
6-10 years	39.2	36.5	35.1	32.4
11-15 years	25.5	28.9	30.0	23.9
16+ years	2.8	3.8	3.7	3.3
Unknown	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,480	1,682	1,788	1,469

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	1.8	1.7	2.5	1.4
Asian	—	—	0.4	0.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.9	1.1	—	—
Black	22.1	18.5	20.5	18.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	0.1
Hispanic	26.5	30.4	30.3	31.7
White	47.1	46.9	44.8	45.3
Two or more races	—	—	—	1.2
Unknown	1.6	1.3	1.5	1.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,480	1,682	1,788	1,469

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.4	4.1	3.0	3.3
1-5 years	48.9	45.4	48.8	51.1
6-10 years	36.2	32.9	31.8	28.0
11-15 years	11.1	14.7	14.3	15.4
16+ years	1.4	2.9	2.0	2.1
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	575	714	691	610

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	2.1	1.4	1.9	2.3
Asian	—	—	0.7	0.8
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.2	—	—	—
Black	20.5	21.3	16.9	18.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	24.2	24.0	28.4	27.0
White	50.8	50.8	51.8	49.5
Two or more races	—	—	—	1.5
Unknown	1.2	2.5	0.3	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	575	714	691	610

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

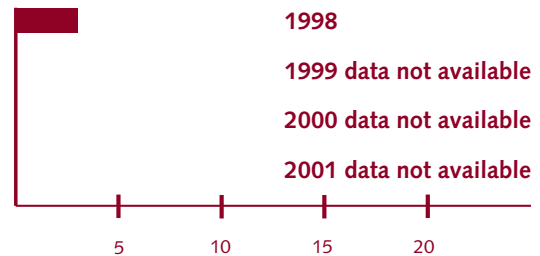
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment

Within 6 Months (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	97.0	—	—	—
Children with one or more recurrences	3.0	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	—	—	—
Number	3,186	—	—	—

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



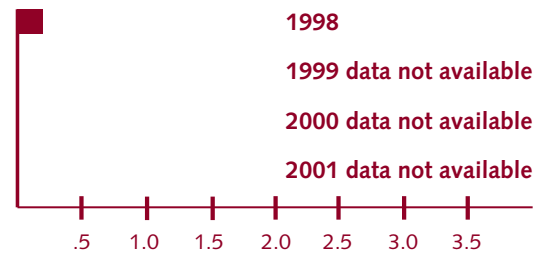
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.20	—	—	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.80	—	—	—
Total %	100.00	—	—	—
Number	12,156	—	—	—

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



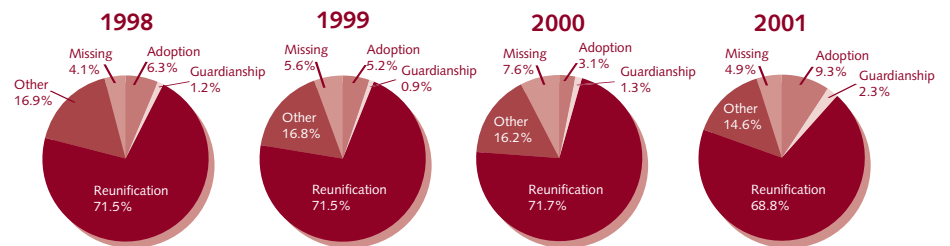
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	6.3	5.2	3.1	9.3
Guardianship	1.2	0.9	1.3	2.3
Reunification	71.5	71.5	71.7	68.8
Other	16.9	16.8	16.2	14.6
Missing data	4.1	5.6	7.6	4.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,202	5,675	5,512	5,200

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	5.6	5.2	3.6	8.5
Guardianship	1.2	0.8	0.8	2.2
Reunification	68.4	68.2	67.9	60.8
Other	21.5	21.2	21.9	23.7
Missing data	3.4	4.6	5.9	4.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,517	1,773	1,793	1,568

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.3	0.4	0.4	1.4
Guardianship	0.6	0.5	0.8	1.8
Reunification	71.0	70.4	70.0	66.0
Other	27.8	28.2	28.6	28.1
Missing data	0.2	0.5	0.2	2.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,553	2,720	2,615	2,288

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	19.1	19.5	18.7	22.9
Children older than 12 at entry	80.9	80.5	81.3	77.1
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	262	246	252	297

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

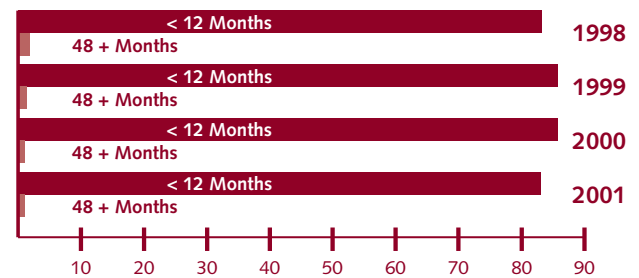
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	10.7	3.0	4.8	9.3	—	—	7.1	2.5	2.6	—	—	—	11.2	10.5	4.8	14.5	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	0.8	2.2	1.4	5.2	—	—	1.8	—	1.3	1.4	—	—	1.5	1.4	1.2	4.0	—	—	—	—
Reunification	66.9	64.9	70.1	63.9	—	—	76.8	75.0	75.3	72.6	—	—	62.8	65.1	66.4	59.5	—	—	—	100.0
Other	19.8	28.4	17.7	12.4	—	—	8.9	22.5	16.9	24.7	—	—	19.0	16.4	18.8	16.6	—	—	—	—
Missing data	1.7	1.5	6.1	9.3	—	—	5.4	—	3.9	1.4	—	—	5.5	6.6	8.8	5.4	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0
Number	121	134	147	97	—	—	56	40	77	73	—	—	654	665	565	719	—	—	—	2

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	5.2	5.3	2.9	8.6	5.9	4.6	3.2	9.1	3.6	2.2	0.8	0.5	—	—	—	11.4	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	0.8	0.8	1.6	2.3	1.3	0.9	1.3	1.9	1.8	0.5	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	75.9	71.1	70.9	69.0	70.6	71.5	70.7	70.4	79.3	85.1	86.4	81.3	—	—	—	70.5	—	—	—	100.0
Other	15.0	17.3	16.0	14.3	17.5	16.7	16.6	14.5	14.9	11.3	11.6	12.6	—	—	—	9.1	—	—	—	—
Missing data	3.1	5.6	8.5	5.9	4.7	6.3	8.2	4.0	0.3	1.0	0.8	5.6	—	—	—	9.1	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	100.0
Number	1,273	1,452	1,537	1,569	2,748	2,936	2,716	2,523	329	415	491	198	—	—	—	44	—	—	—	8

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

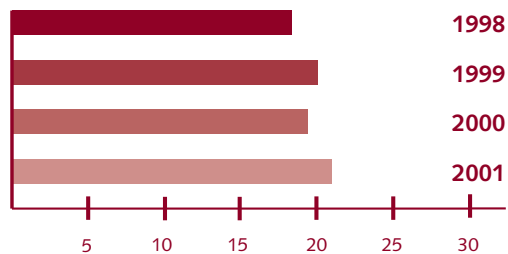
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	83.2	85.7	85.7	83.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	10.2	10.1	10.4	10.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	3.5	1.8	1.7	2.4
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.3	1.2	0.4	0.6
48 or more mos.	1.8	1.3	1.0	1.0
Missing data	—	—	0.8	2.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,718	4,058	3,954	3,579

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	70.4	67.5	69.8	67.9
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	18.3	20.0	19.3	20.9
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	10.7	10.9	10.4	10.8
Missing data	0.6	1.6	0.5	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	7,147	7,183	6,942	7,007

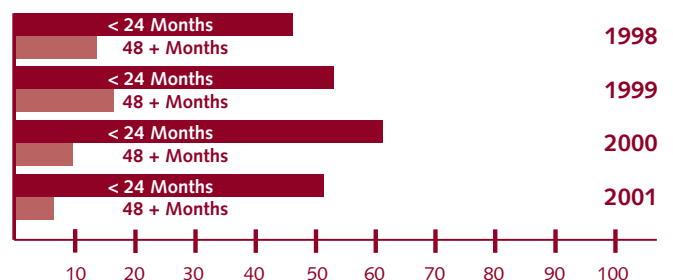
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	19.8	23.4	24.9	24.9
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	26.5	29.8	36.4	26.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	22.9	13.9	22.0	20.6
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	17.1	16.3	6.9	10.3
48 or more mos.	13.7	16.6	9.8	6.6
Missing data	—	—	—	10.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	328	295	173	485

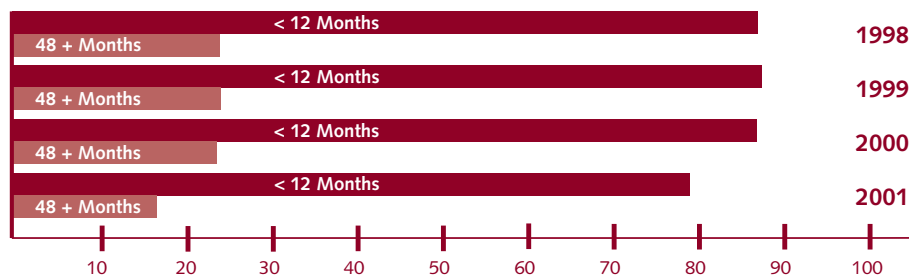
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	87.0	13.0	—	100.0	7,889
	1999	87.5	12.5	—	100.0	8,172
	2000	86.9	13.1	—	100.0	7,870
	2001	79.1	17.8	3.2	100.0	7,762
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	55.5	44.5	—	100.0	2,113
	1999	56.7	43.3	—	100.0	2,266
	2000	57.7	42.3	—	100.0	2,316
	2001	50.0	49.0	1.0	100.0	2,016
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	37.6	62.4	—	100.0	1,108
	1999	42.8	57.2	—	100.0	915
	2000	41.4	58.6	—	100.0	1,068
	2001	33.1	65.9	1.0	100.0	975
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	32.3	67.7	—	100.0	774
	1999	33.9	66.1	—	100.0	641
	2000	33.1	66.9	—	100.0	513
	2001	22.9	76.2	0.9	100.0	424
48 or more mos.	1998	24.2	75.8	—	100.0	1,243
	1999	24.4	75.6	—	100.0	1,293
	2000	23.9	76.1	—	100.0	1,231
	2001	16.9	82.7	0.4	100.0	989
Missing data	1998	96.2	3.8	—	100.0	26
	1999	96.3	3.7	—	100.0	27
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	47
	2001	70.4	0.6	29.1	100.0	172

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	1.8	1.5	1.4	2.0
Institutions	7.0	6.2	5.7	10.6
Other settings	91.2	92.3	92.9	82.1
Missing	—	—	—	5.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,809	3,777	3,783	3,062

**Jane Beveridge, Director
Office of Child and Family Services
Colorado Department of Human Services
303-866-4365**

Colorado's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

With regard to Section B: Maltreatment Overview, there are two factors that impact the percentage of victims identified dropping from 21% in 2000 to 16% in 2001. The first reason is that Colorado's statewide automated case management system was rolled out in stages and the number of maltreatment victims was a partial count for the year. This number is missing approximately 25% of a true sum total. Because of space restrictions in this response, please see the more complete explanation included with the NCANDS data (in **Child Maltreatment 2001**). The second reason that this number is markedly lower than the prior year is because of reporting requirements of NCANDS with the Summary Data Component (SDC) specifying reporting on a report date basis and the Detailed Case Data Component (DCDC) specifying reporting on the disposition date of the report.

With regard to Section B: Maltreatment Type, the percentage increase of children for whom maltreatment type is not known is impacted by several factors, including the factor that Colorado is a Juvenile Justice State and assessments/investigations occur that are not a result of abuse and/or neglect. The result of the investigation on such children yields a conclusion that the child is beyond control of the parent. This value translates to "missing" in NCANDS codes.

The data for Section C that indicate 2202 fewer children in care is a result of technical data conversion problems. The 2001A submission was from the old tracking system and the 2001 B submission was from the new SACWIS system. A multitude of data errors have been isolated. It is the intent of the State of Colorado to resubmit 2001 and 2002 foster care data with these data conversion issues corrected.

With regard to Outcome Measures 1.1 and 2.1, the NCANDS DCDC file could not be submitted for 2001 because Colorado's SACWIS was not available to all counties until April 2001.

With regard to Section D, the drop from 1,267 children with parental rights terminated on September 30, 2000 to 695 for September 30, 2001 reflects the transition time that occurred while learning the data entry within the new SACWIS. The data entry process for termination of parental rights was not consistent across Colorado counties and Colorado child protection workers. However, this has been addressed and the termination of parental rights percentage is much more consistent for 2002. The re-submit of 2001 foster care AFCARS may also indicate a rise in the actual termination of parental rights percentage due to updated data entry subsequent to the current submission.

With regard to Outcome Measure 4.2, Colorado's re-entry rate has been addressed in their Performance Improvement Plan. Education of removal episode spans and the correct data tracking of these spans are areas of focus, as well as education of workers as to the Federal, State and County local safety factors that contribute to the removal of children from their home and the case planning of returning them home safely.

With regard to Outcome Measure 5.1, the 2001 AFCARS foster care data had some conversion issues that are being corrected. It is expected that a re-submission of 2001 data will yield a percentage less discrepant from the national average. Moreover, the State of Colorado has been an expedited permanency planning State for the last six years and has placed much emphasis on adoption resulting in a high percentage of adoptions occurring in a two-year time frame in previous years.

The following discussion focuses on Colorado's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Colorado Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2002, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2000. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Colorado's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

Colorado's performance on outcome 1 cannot be assessed in the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) to calculate this outcome. To ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through NCANDS are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are presented in Colorado's CFSR Final Report.

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

Colorado's attainment of outcome 2 cannot be assessed in the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to NCANDS to calculate this outcome. To ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through NCANDS are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are provided in Colorado's CFSR Final Report.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 80.4 percent of children exiting foster care were discharged to a permanent home, which is less than the national median of 85.3 percent. In addition, 71.5 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to a permanent home (which is less than the national median of 78.4 percent), and 69.2 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 when they entered foster care were discharged to a permanent home (which is less than the national median of 72.3 percent). Performance on these measures did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

The FY 2001 data also indicate that 22.9 percent of children emancipated from foster care were age 12 or younger at the time of entry, which is less than the national median of 28 percent. Performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+17.3 percent change).

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reported reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 83.0, which exceeds the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Colorado's high performance with regard to reunification within 12 months must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 20.9, which does not meet the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is twice the national median of 10.4 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 51.5, which exceeds the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and is considerably higher than the national median of 21.0 percent. It is difficult to assess performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001 due to variation in the numbers of children adopted, and also because of the discrepancy in FY 1999 between the number of finalized adoptions reported to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) Adoption Database (714 finalized adoptions), and the number of children discharged to a finalized adoption as reported to the AFCARS Foster Care Database (295 children discharged to a finalized adoption). While there continues to be a discrepancy between these numbers in FY 2001, the difference is considerably smaller, with 610 finalized adoptions reported to the AFCARS Adoption Database, and 485 children reported as discharged to adoption in the AFCARS Foster Care Database. This suggests an improvement in data quality from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 79.1, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and is lower than the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-9.7 percent change).

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 12.6, which is higher than the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this measure exhibited a considerable decline from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+64.8 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	790,715	828,260	841,688	859,155	Child maltreatment victims	16,923	14,514	14,462	12,120
Race/ethnicity (%) ¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	6,683	7,487	6,996	7,440
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	Children adopted	229	403	499	444
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.7					
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.8	3.0	2.5	N/A					
Black	10.7	10.8	11.1	11.5					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	12.4	12.8	13.7	14.0					
White	73.9	73.3	69.6	69.5					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.5	2.1					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.3	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	10.8	8.8	9.9	9.3					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	95.5	96.4	95.8	93.9					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	Number				Rate			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	40,905	40,714	45,111	47,378	51.7 per 1,000	49.2 per 1,000	53.6 per 1,000	56.2 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	16,923	14,514	14,462	12,120	21.4 per 1,000	17.5 per 1,000	17.2 per 1,000	14.4 per 1,000
Child fatalities	6	3	4	8	0.8 per 100,000	0.4 per 100,000	0.5 per 100,000	1.0 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	8.9	6.1	9.2	10.0	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	—	0.1	0.1
1-5 years	30.3	29.9	29.8	29.3	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.5	0.8	1.0	0.8
6-10 years	32.1	31.5	30.3	28.6	Black	19.3	23.1	23.9	24.8
11-15 years	23.2	25.9	25.6	27.0	Hispanic	16.2	32.9	24.7	26.2
16+ years	4.3	6.6	4.3	4.8	White	31.0	37.8	43.7	43.2
Unknown	1.1	—	0.9	0.4	Two or more races	—	—	2.1	2.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	49.1	38.4	4.5	2.3
Number	16,923	14,514	14,462	12,120	Total % ³	116.2	132.9	100.0	100.0
					Number	16,923	14,514	14,462	12,120

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		52.8	49.8	33.9	28.6
Medical neglect		3.1	4.4	3.5	3.2
Neglect		86.2	90.2	60.2	64.6
Physical abuse		16.5	16.2	14.8	14.2
Sexual abuse		4.2	4.1	3.8	3.9
Other		7.8	4.9	2.7	2.6
Unknown		—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴		170.7	169.7	119.0	117.1
Number		16,923	14,514	14,462	12,120

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	5,143	5,222	3,682	6,683	10,365
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	6,612	3,098	2,169	7,487	9,710
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	6,636	2,763	2,368	6,996	9,399
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	6,635	2,713	1,943	7,440	9,348

Median Length of Stay (Months)	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	9.5	N/A	6.7	11.5	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	21.0	N/A	17.3	23.0	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	25.1	N/A	18.0	24.6	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	25.7	N/A	19.4	25.2	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	5.0	3.3	3.2	2.8	10.5	13.8	13.6	12.9	5.6	5.7	4.8	3.6	4.0	3.2	2.9	3.0
1-5 years	30.5	27.1	24.2	22.7	26.2	25.3	24.1	25.2	27.1	32.2	30.6	28.1	28.5	23.6	20.9	21.4
6-10 years	27.2	27.0	27.5	27.6	23.7	24.2	21.0	20.3	23.5	27.2	27.2	23.4	27.6	26.0	24.9	24.5
11-15 years	26.2	28.8	31.0	32.7	30.7	31.6	35.8	35.6	25.6	18.3	19.7	23.7	28.0	29.7	32.5	32.7
16-18 years	10.3	12.3	12.6	12.5	8.5	4.9	5.4	5.9	16.7	13.1	14.7	18.5	11.0	15.5	16.7	16.1
19+ years	0.7	1.3	1.4	1.5	0.2	0.1	—	0.0	1.1	3.1	2.5	2.1	0.7	1.7	1.8	1.9
Unknown	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,143	6,612	6,636	6,635	5,222	3,098	2,763	2,713	3,682	2,169	2,368	1,943	6,683	7,487	6,996	7,440

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.3	0.2	—	—	0.5	0.7	—	—	0.6	1.0	—	—	0.3	0.2
Asian/Pacific	0.2	0.3	—	—	0.1	0.7	—	—	0.1	0.7	—	—	0.1	0.3	—	—
Black	37.0	38.3	37.7	37.3	31.2	32.7	32.0	30.3	33.1	33.6	33.7	33.8	34.6	37.5	36.7	35.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	0.0	0.0
Hispanic	30.2	25.5	25.7	25.0	36.3	26.9	26.2	27.6	35.3	27.2	28.0	27.1	32.1	25.5	25.1	25.4
White	32.5	32.3	32.3	33.4	32.0	33.8	35.4	35.3	31.1	32.8	32.1	33.0	32.9	32.6	33.6	34.2
Two or more races	—	2.3	2.7	2.8	—	3.1	3.3	3.9	—	2.4	3.1	3.2	—	2.6	2.8	3.1
Unknown	—	1.3	1.3	1.2	—	2.8	2.4	2.2	—	3.0	2.4	1.7	—	1.4	1.3	1.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,143	6,612	6,636	6,635	5,222	3,098	2,763	2,713	3,682	2,169	2,368	1,943	6,683	7,487	6,996	7,440

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	728	173	257	—
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	728	115	151	—

Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.2	2.3	6.2	—
1-5 years	36.8	19.7	24.9	—
6-10 years	39.4	48.0	42.8	—
11-15 years	19.1	30.1	25.7	—
16+ years	2.7	—	0.4	—
Unknown	0.7	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	—
Number	728	173	257	—

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.3	—	—	—
Black	38.6	42.8	36.6	—
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	25.3	30.6	36.2	—
White	35.9	22.0	22.2	—
Two or more races	—	2.9	3.1	—
Unknown	—	1.7	1.9	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	—
Number	728	173	257	—

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	0.9	0.2	0.4	0.7
1-5 years	49.3	49.4	46.5	54.7
6-10 years	36.2	37.0	38.3	31.5
11-15 years	12.7	11.9	13.4	11.9
16+ years	0.9	1.5	1.4	1.1
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	229	403	499	444

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.2	—	—
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.2	—	—
Black	31.0	29.8	30.9	32.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	12.2	12.2	18.4	31.1
White	43.7	34.0	38.3	28.2
Two or more races	—	—	—	8.1
Unknown	13.1	23.6	12.4	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	229	403	499	444

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

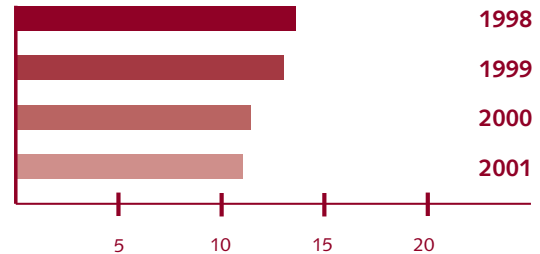
⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	86.4	87.0	88.6	89.0
Children with one or more recurrences	13.6	13.0	11.4	11.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	7,958	8,288	6,905	5,328

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences

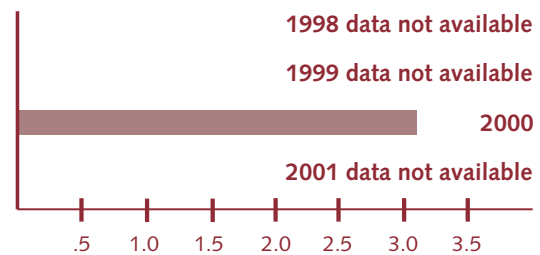


2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	3.11	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	96.89	—
Total %	—	—	100.00	—
Number	—	—	8,847	—

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care

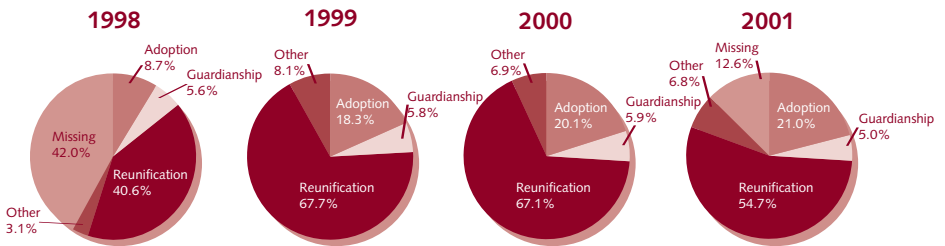


3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	8.7	18.3	20.1	21.0
Guardianship	5.6	5.8	5.9	5.0
Reunification	40.6	67.7	67.1	54.7
Other	3.1	8.1	6.9	6.8
Missing data	42.0	0.0	0.0	12.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,682	2,169	2,368	1,943

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	13.1	25.8	20.9
Guardianship	—	5.1	2.2	3.2
Reunification	39.1	70.5	63.8	51.2
Other	6.4	11.4	8.2	10.6
Missing data	54.5	—	—	14.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	110	176	279	340

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	1.1	1.1	0.2	—
Guardianship	1.3	1.3	3.4	2.4
Reunification	20.2	66.3	72.9	64.9
Other	8.6	31.1	23.4	19.1
Missing data	68.7	0.2	0.2	13.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,218	454	531	498

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	5.6	6.3	26.4	31.3
Children older than 12 at entry	94.4	92.2	73.6	68.8
Missing data	—	1.6	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	36	64	53	32

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

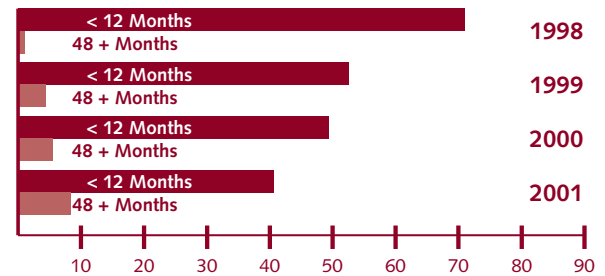
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	12.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12.3	17.4	19.9	20.2	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	7.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.4	5.9	6.8	5.9	—	—	—	—
Reunification	64.3	75.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	92.9	73.7	80.0	100.0	—	—	39.1	67.9	66.9	56.5	—	—	—	100.0
Other	—	12.5	—	—	—	—	7.1	—	—	—	—	—	3.4	8.7	6.3	5.9	—	—	—	—
Missing data	28.6	—	—	—	—	—	—	26.3	20.0	—	—	—	38.8	0.1	0.1	11.4	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0
Number	14	8	2	1	—	—	14	19	5	15	—	—	1,218	728	798	657	—	—	—	1

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	4.9	15.6	18.8	21.5	9.4	22.5	21.6	22.4	—	14.1	15.8	12.9	—	17.6	24.7	22.2	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	6.1	5.9	5.3	3.8	4.0	5.9	5.3	5.3	—	3.1	7.0	6.5	—	5.9	8.2	3.2	—	—	—	—
Reunification	45.4	73.1	70.3	54.2	36.2	61.0	63.7	52.3	—	79.7	73.7	71.0	—	72.5	65.8	50.8	—	—	—	—
Other	2.2	5.4	5.6	6.8	3.9	10.7	9.5	7.9	—	3.1	3.5	3.2	—	3.9	1.4	7.9	—	—	—	—
Missing data	41.3	—	—	13.7	46.5	—	—	12.0	—	—	—	6.5	—	—	—	15.9	—	—	—	100.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0
Number	1,301	591	664	526	1,144	712	760	642	—	64	57	31	—	51	73	63	—	—	—	3

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

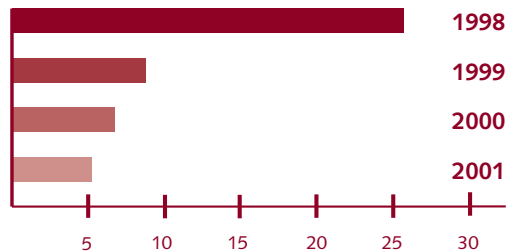
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	70.9	52.5	49.3	40.5
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	16.3	20.1	23.5	24.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	8.0	10.7	7.7	11.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.5	5.9	6.4	6.2
48 or more mos.	1.0	4.4	5.5	8.3
Missing data	1.2	6.4	7.7	8.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,494	1,469	1,590	1,062

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	68.3	87.2	88.3	85.4
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	25.6	8.7	6.7	5.2
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	5.5	3.6	4.7	9.1
Missing data	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,222	3,098	2,763	2,713

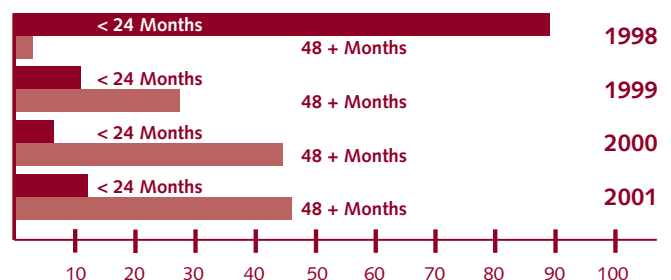
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	55.1	0.5	0.6	1.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	34.0	10.6	5.9	11.3
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	2.2	30.9	15.8	20.6
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.6	30.2	32.8	20.6
48 or more mos.	3.1	27.6	44.6	46.1
Missing data	5.0	0.3	0.2	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	321	398	475	408

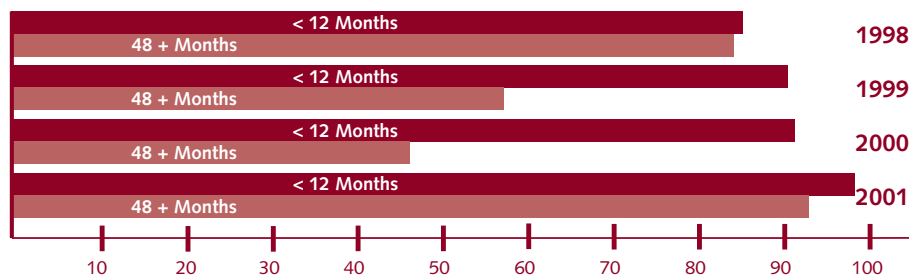
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	85.3	14.7	—	100.0	5,963
	1999	90.5	9.2	0.3	100.0	3,196
	2000	91.3	8.2	0.6	100.0	2,901
	2001	98.4	1.5	0.1	100.0	2,863
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	76.1	23.9	—	100.0	2,273
	1999	76.4	22.7	1.0	100.0	1,858
	2000	70.9	26.3	2.8	100.0	1,871
	2001	93.8	5.5	0.7	100.0	1,754
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	75.7	24.3	—	100.0	1,119
	1999	58.9	38.4	2.7	100.0	1,738
	2000	56.0	35.7	8.3	100.0	1,154
	2001	91.2	7.7	1.1	100.0	1,276
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	79.1	20.9	—	100.0	488
	1999	63.4	34.5	2.1	100.0	1,235
	2000	44.5	46.4	9.1	100.0	1,291
	2001	91.1	8.6	0.2	100.0	891
48 or more mos.	1998	84.2	15.8	—	100.0	412
	1999	57.4	40.3	2.4	100.0	1,513
	2000	46.4	45.3	8.3	100.0	2,019
	2001	93.0	6.7	0.3	100.0	2,489
Missing data	1998	90.9	9.1	—	100.0	110
	1999	87.1	12.9	—	100.0	170
	2000	87.1	12.9	—	100.0	163
	2001	77.3	16.0	6.7	100.0	75

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	0.5	0.7	2.2	3.9
Institutions	7.4	6.3	14.6	23.8
Other settings	92.1	93.0	83.3	72.2
Missing	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,374	2,180	1,807	1,751

Connecticut

[STATE COMMENT]

The following discussion focuses on Connecticut's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Connecticut Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2002, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2000. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Connecticut's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was 11.0 percent, which is higher than both the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and the national median of 8.0 percent. Although the rate is high, the State's performance on this measure improved substantively from 1999 to 2001 (-15.6 percent change).

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

In CY 2001, Connecticut did not report data pertaining to maltreatment in foster care to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System. In CY 2000, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 3.11 percent, which was the highest rate reported nationally for that year.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 80.7 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 85.3 percent); 75.3 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 78.4 percent); and 67.3 percent of children who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 72.3 percent). Although the State exhibited considerable changes in performance on these measures from FY 1999 to FY 2000 and FY 2001, it is difficult to interpret these changes because of differences with regard to missing data. In FY 1999 and FY 2000, the percentage of children exiting foster care that did not have "reason for discharge" information was zero. However, in FY 2001, the percentage of children exiting foster care that did not have "reason for discharge" information was 12.6 percent. This suggests that the observable changes with regard to these measures may reflect data-related issues rather than performance.

In FY 2001, 31.3 percent of the children who were emancipated from foster care were age 12 or younger when they entered foster care, which is higher than the national median of 28.0 percent. Performance on this measure declined considerably from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+400 percent change). However, only 32 children were reported as emancipated from foster care in FY 2001, compared to 53 children in FY 2000 and 64 children in FY 1999. This might be another measure where the observed change may be due to data entry or reporting issues.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 40.5, which is considerably less than both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. In addition, performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-22.9 percent change).

Connecticut's performance with regard to reunification within 12 months must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 5.2, which is less than

both the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.4 percent. In addition, as performance with regard to reunifications within 12 months declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001, performance with respect to the rate of foster care re-entries improved over that time (-39.5 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions that occurred within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 12.3, which is considerably less than both the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and the national median of 21.0 percent. However, performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+10.9 percent change).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 98.4, which is greater than the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+8.7 percent change).

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 27.7, which is greater than the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this measure declined substantially and continuously from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+298.1 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	179,071	182,450	194,587	191,092	Child maltreatment victims	2,894	2,111	1,813	1,666
Race/ethnicity (%) ¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	1,480	1,193	1,098	1,023
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	Children adopted	62	33	103	117
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.2					
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.2	2.3	2.0	N/A					
Black	23.7	24.0	23.7	23.7					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	5.2	5.5	7.0	7.2					
White	68.7	67.9	64.2	64.3					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.5	2.3					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.3	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	16.6	17.6	17.4	9.3					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	82.6	81.8	81.9	82.2					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	Number				Rate			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	9,693	8,330	8,683	8,437	54.1 per 1,000	45.7 per 1,000	44.6 per 1,000	42.8 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	2,894	2,111	1,813	1,666	16.2 per 1,000	11.6 per 1,000	9.3 per 1,000	8.5 per 1,000
Child fatalities	3	3	0	1	1.7 per 100,000	1.6 per 100,000	— per 100,000	0.5 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	5.4	5.4	8.9	9.1	Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.1	—	0.1
1-5 years	28.7	25.8	26.5	25.9	Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.5	0.3	0.2
6-10 years	33.4	33.0	31.5	30.5	Black	48.3	44.6	44.1	46.3
11-15 years	23.8	25.6	25.5	26.2	Hispanic	4.9	7.9	7.0	9.5
16+ years	8.5	8.8	7.6	8.2	White	50.3	52.4	48.3	43.7
Unknown	0.0	1.4	—	0.1	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	1.5	0.9	0.3	0.1
Number	2,894	2,111	1,813	1,666	Total % ³	104.9	106.5	100.0	100.0
					Number	2,894	2,111	1,813	1,666

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	16.2	15.5	18.7	19.3
Medical neglect	2.6	1.8	3.5	1.9
Neglect	39.4	37.5	32.0	31.1
Physical abuse	25.4	25.3	20.5	22.3
Sexual abuse	8.6	11.1	9.4	9.7
Other	7.8	9.0	16.0	15.7
Unknown	0.1	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	100.0	100.2	100.0	100.0
Number	2,894	2,111	1,813	1,666

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	781	1,023	333	1,480	1,804
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	1,002	1,002	811	1,193	2,004
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	1,033	950	886	1,098	1,983
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	1,000	939	916	1,023	1,939
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	12.7	N/A	3.5	9.5	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	11.5	N/A	3.7	12.5	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	14.1	N/A	5.4	13.7	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	14.7	N/A	4.6	13.3	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	5.6	4.2	4.4	4.3	7.7	11.1	10.0	9.5	—	4.8	4.5	4.4	3.6	4.5	3.9	3.8
1-5 years	21.5	25.0	25.1	22.8	18.0	15.5	14.9	13.7	—	17.5	20.7	18.8	24.6	23.0	20.8	20.0
6-10 years	23.3	26.3	24.5	23.6	17.0	14.7	15.2	14.3	—	18.0	16.8	16.4	25.0	22.9	22.4	20.6
11-15 years	26.2	25.0	25.3	27.8	30.2	29.8	32.1	32.7	29.1	20.7	22.6	24.0	26.4	28.0	29.2	30.2
16-18 years	23.3	19.4	20.5	21.4	27.1	28.9	27.8	29.8	70.6	38.3	34.9	36.0	19.9	21.4	23.6	25.1
19+ years	—	0.2	0.3	0.1	—	—	—	—	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.2
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	781	1,002	1,033	1,000	1,023	1,002	950	939	333	811	886	916	1,480	1,193	1,098	1,023

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	0.1	0.2	—	0.3	0.1	—	—	0.2	0.2	0.1	—	0.1	—
Asian	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	0.1
Asian/Pacific	—	—	—	—	—	0.3	—	—	—	0.2	—	—	—	0.1	—	—
Black	58.0	62.5	61.9	62.0	59.4	59.8	61.4	57.1	59.5	58.2	59.8	57.8	58.7	63.1	63.0	61.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	4.7	6.4	7.6	8.0	5.7	6.6	5.6	7.7	6.0	5.5	5.6	9.3	5.1	7.1	7.5	6.5
White	32.3	30.6	30.2	29.9	30.7	32.8	32.7	35.0	32.4	34.8	34.1	32.8	31.2	29.7	29.3	32.1
Two or more races	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unknown	5.0	0.5	0.2	—	4.0	0.5	—	—	2.1	1.2	0.2	—	4.9	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	781	1,002	1,033	1,000	1,023	1,002	950	939	333	811	886	916	1,480	1,193	1,098	1,023

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	138	271	334	319
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	—	123	181	192
Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.4	0.7	2.4	4.4
1-5 years	39.1	40.2	36.8	34.2
6-10 years	45.7	45.8	41.3	36.4
11-15 years	13.0	12.9	18.6	24.5
16+ years	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.6
Unknown	—	—	0.3	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	138	271	334	319

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	57.2	66.8	67.7	62.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	5.8	6.3	6.3	5.3
White	26.8	26.9	26.0	32.3
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	10.1	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	138	271	334	319

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	—	—	1.7
1-5 years	38.7	57.6	58.3	51.3
6-10 years	46.8	42.4	32.0	35.9
11-15 years	14.5	—	9.7	10.3
16+ years	—	—	—	0.9
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	62	33	103	117

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	51.6	39.4	55.3	61.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	8.1	6.1	3.9	10.3
White	14.5	51.5	38.8	28.2
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	25.8	3.0	1.9	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	62	33	103	117

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

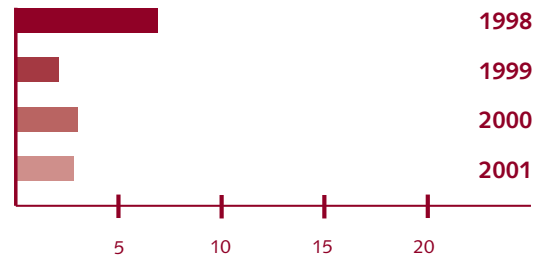
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	93.1	97.9	97.0	97.2
Children with one or more recurrences	6.9	2.1	3.0	2.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,506	1,070	922	1,058

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



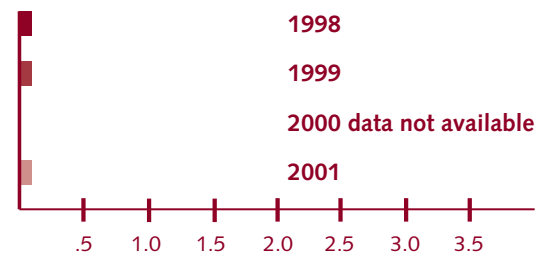
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.10	0.05	—	0.11
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.90	99.95	—	99.89
Total %	100.00	100.00	—	100.00
Number	1,730	1,829	—	1,750

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



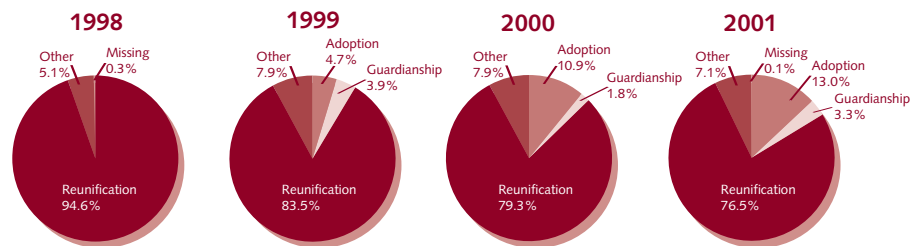
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	4.7	10.9	13.0
Guardianship	—	3.9	1.8	3.3
Reunification	94.6	83.5	79.3	76.5
Other	5.1	7.9	7.9	7.1
Missing data	0.3	—	—	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	333	811	886	916

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	1.6	12.8	12.2
Guardianship	—	8.2	3.8	8.1
Reunification	93.3	80.3	67.9	55.4
Other	6.7	9.8	15.4	24.3
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	30	61	78	74

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	0.2
Guardianship	—	2.4	0.4	0.9
Reunification	94.5	84.3	85.5	87.7
Other	5.2	13.3	14.1	11.3
Missing data	0.3	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	325	414	447	470

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	—	17.0	10.9	24.0
Children older than 12 at entry	100.0	83.0	87.0	76.0
Missing data	—	—	2.2	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3	47	46	50

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

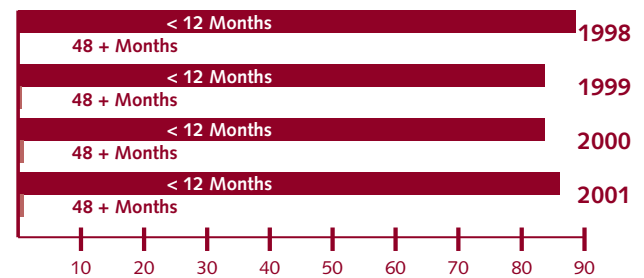
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4.2	10.0	13.6	—	—	—	—	
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.4	1.3	2.3	—	—	—	—	
Reunification	—	—	100.0	50.0	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	94.9	84.7	81.3	78.1	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	50.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4.5	7.6	7.4	5.9	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.5	—	—	0.2	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	198	472	530	529	—	—	—	—

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	4.4	6.0	16.5	—	4.6	13.2	11.0	—	30.0	50.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	2.0	8.2	—	5.7	2.6	3.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	95.0	86.7	88.0	67.1	94.4	81.6	74.5	76.7	85.7	60.0	50.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	5.0	8.9	4.0	8.2	5.6	8.2	9.6	8.7	14.3	10.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number	20	45	50	85	108	282	302	300	7	10	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

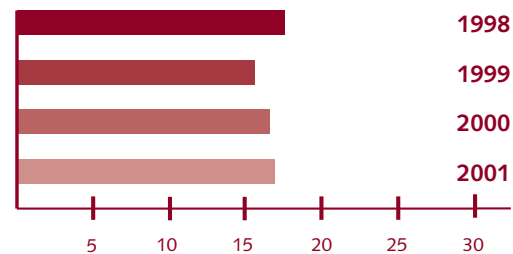
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	88.6	83.6	83.6	86.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	6.7	12.4	11.2	9.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1.3	2.4	2.6	2.0
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.3	0.6	1.4	1.7
48 or more mos.	—	0.6	0.9	0.9
Missing data	3.2	0.4	0.3	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	315	677	703	701

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	75.3	72.8	69.2	71.4
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	17.5	15.5	16.5	16.8
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	3.9	10.2	11.4	11.1
Missing data	3.3	1.6	2.9	0.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,023	1,002	950	939

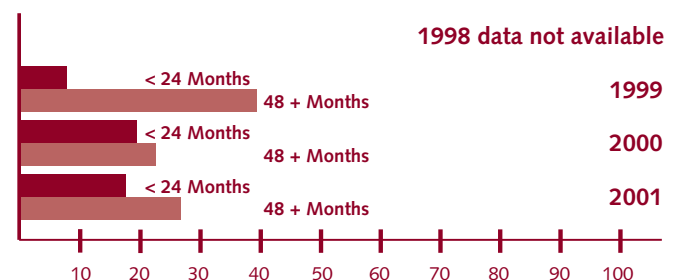
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	—	1.0	1.7
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	7.9	18.6	16.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	26.3	36.1	30.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	26.3	21.6	25.2
48 or more mos.	—	39.5	22.7	26.9
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	38	97	119

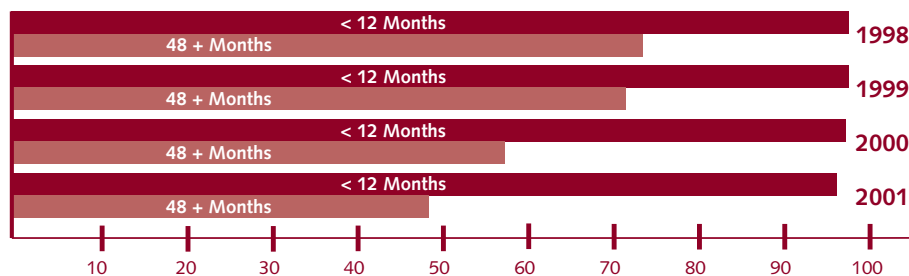
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	97.7	2.3	—	100.0	1,111
	1999	97.7	2.3	—	100.0	1,192
	2000	97.3	2.7	—	100.0	1,136
	2001	96.2	3.8	—	100.0	1,117
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	84.0	16.0	—	100.0	288
	1999	82.9	17.1	—	100.0	357
	2000	84.2	15.8	—	100.0	323
	2001	80.9	19.1	—	100.0	298
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	83.0	17.0	—	100.0	159
	1999	72.7	27.3	—	100.0	183
	2000	73.1	26.9	—	100.0	219
	2001	71.0	29.0	—	100.0	186
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	83.3	16.7	—	100.0	96
	1999	71.2	28.8	—	100.0	104
	2000	69.9	30.1	—	100.0	123
	2001	66.7	33.3	—	100.0	156
48 or more mos.	1998	73.6	26.4	—	100.0	140
	1999	71.6	28.4	—	100.0	162
	2000	57.5	42.5	—	100.0	179
	2001	48.6	51.4	—	100.0	179
Missing data	1998	100.0	—	—	100.0	10
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	6
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	3
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	3

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	2.4	1.1	0.9	3.8
Institutions	2.0	3.9	5.9	2.8
Other settings	95.4	94.8	92.7	93.2
Missing	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	502	466	438	395

Carlyse Giddins, Director
Division of Family Services
Delaware Department of Services of Children, Youth and Their Families
302-633-2650

Delaware's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

The data based on our NCANDS and AFCARS submissions are complete with the exception of the outcome that concerns the incidence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care. The data for 2000 should read as follows:

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

Children maltreated while in foster care	0.1
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.0
Total %	100.0
Number	1,920

In addition, we are concerned about the child poverty rates shown for 2000 and 2001 in your Key Context Statistics on page 1. KIDS Count in Delaware uses a three year rolling average for this figure and reports the Statewide rate as 16.6% for 1998-2000, and 16.7% for 1999-2001. Your data reflects the 2000 child poverty rate as 17.4% and the 2001 rate as 9.3% based on the Annual Demographic Survey, March Supplement from the Bureau of the Census. This survey indicated that 35,000 of 209,000 children in Delaware were in poverty in 2000 and that 18,000 of 197,000 children were in poverty in 2001.

We believe that this wide disparity is due to the nature of the March Supplement. According to background information you kindly provided us: "The March Current Population Survey (CPS) "provides a consistent historical time series at the national level, and can also be used to look at state-level trends and differences (through multi-year averages), though the large sampling error of state-level data limit its usefulness." The extremely wide sampling error in Delaware results in a poverty range of 8.9% to 24.9% in 2000 and a range of 7.6% to 11% in 2001. This is probably due in part to our small population size. We believe that our child poverty rates are more accurately reflected by the KIDS Count Delaware data cited earlier and would like to have that reflected in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001*.

The following discussion focuses on Delaware's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Delaware Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2001, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 1999. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Delaware's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was 2.8 percent, which meets the national standard of 6.1 or less and is considerably lower than the national median of 8.0 percent. Performance on this measure declined from 1999 to 2001 (+35.0 percent). Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that the reported rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months may be misleading because the agency generally does not conduct a formal investigation of maltreatment reports when they involve children who are already being served by the agency in open cases. Consequently, there may be instances of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months that are not reported to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System.

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

In CY 2001, the percentage of children maltreated while in foster care by foster parents or facility staff was .11. This is less than the national standard of .57 or less and the national median of .47. Although performance on this measure declined statistically from 1999 to 2001 (+109.0 percent change), the small number of children involved suggest that the change does not represent an actual decline in performance.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 92.8 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 85.3 percent); 75.7 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 78.4 percent); and 88.8 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is substantially higher than the national median of 72.3 percent). These findings suggest that Delaware generally is successful in achieving permanency for children, but is less successful when children have a diagnosed disability. A change in performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 occurred only with respect to achieving permanency for children with a diagnosed disability (-16.1 percent change, representing a performance decline).

Also in FY 2001, 24.0 percent of the children emancipated from foster care were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care (which is lower than the national median of 28.0 percent). Performance on this measure declined considerably from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+41.0 percent change). However, this measure exhibits instability over the 3-year time span, possibly due to the small number of children who are emancipated from foster care in the State.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of children's entry into foster care was 86.0, which exceeds both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Delaware's high performance with regard to reunification within 12 months must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 16.8, which does not meet the national standard of 8.6 percent or less, and exceeds the national median of 10.3 percent. Delaware's performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+8.8 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 17.7, which does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more, and is less than the national median of 21.0 percent. Performance on this measure improved considerably from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+123.5 percent change). However, the number of adoptions in FY 1999 was only 38, compared to 119 adoptions reported in FY 2001.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 96.2, which exceeds both the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 6.6, which is less than the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this measure improved considerably from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+33.4 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	102,959	95,290	114,992	112,281	Child maltreatment victims	4,916	2,308	2,911	2,908
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	3,397	3,466	3,054	3,339
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	Children adopted	139	166	319	230
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.9					
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.6	2.7	1.5	N/A					
Black	75.8	74.3	74.3	72.4					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	9.0	9.7	9.9	10.6					
White	12.5	13.2	11.9	13.2					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	1.9	1.7					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.3	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	40.2	24.5	21.4	30.8					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	Rate			
		1999	2000	2001		1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	9,862	5,062	7,578	7,332	95.8 per 1,000	53.1 per 1,000	65.9 per 1,000	64.3 per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	4,916	2,308	2,911	2,908	47.7 per 1,000	24.2 per 1,000	25.3 per 1,000	25.5 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	3	5	5	9	2.9 per 100,000	5.2 per 100,000	4.3 per 100,000	7.9 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	12.1	7.8	9.2	Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	—
1-5 years	—	32.4	30.0	28.2	Asian/Pacific Islander	—	1.0	0.5	—
6-10 years	—	31.0	33.8	31.5	Black	—	63.3	68.3	70.6
11-15 years	—	17.5	21.7	24.2	Hispanic	—	3.3	3.6	2.7
16+ years	—	6.8	6.7	6.9	White	—	1.6	1.4	0.5
Unknown	—	0.2	—	—	Two or more races	—	—	—	0.3
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	—	34.5	27.6	26.0
Number	—	2,308	2,911	2,908	Total % ³	—	103.6	101.3	100.0
					Number	—	2,308	2,911	2,908

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	—	3.8	14.7	—
Medical neglect	—	1.2	2.7	—
Neglect	75.9	71.8	68.0	85.2
Physical abuse	8.3	14.4	13.4	17.3
Sexual abuse	1.9	1.7	6.4	3.8
Other	13.9	19.2	25.8	0.3
Unknown	—	18.2	23.4	—
Total % ⁴	100.0	130.3	154.5	106.6
Number	4,916	2,308	2,911	2,908

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	2,966	1,408	979	3,397	4,374
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	2,894	1,231	659	3,466	4,125
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	2,594	775	315	3,054	3,369
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	2,907	822	390	3,339	3,729
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	30.0	N/A	13.0	26.3	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	24.5	N/A	17.2	23.7	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	22.4	N/A	15.8	27.4	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	28.5	N/A	18.7	32.6	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	2.7	2.0	1.3	1.3	12.0	8.9	12.3	12.5	5.2	3.5	2.9	3.3	2.6	1.8	1.5	1.9
1-5 years	27.7	27.4	21.2	19.9	34.3	27.3	29.9	28.5	33.2	31.1	25.7	22.8	26.1	23.3	20.1	19.2
6-10 years	26.1	28.6	28.7	30.5	21.7	27.8	31.5	26.3	23.4	30.5	27.0	27.4	27.1	29.4	29.6	28.3
11-15 years	22.7	23.3	27.4	28.1	20.7	20.8	20.4	25.7	16.8	14.3	20.3	23.1	23.1	23.7	26.7	28.5
16-18 years	15.3	13.6	15.9	15.2	10.2	12.5	5.8	6.9	10.9	7.3	14.0	9.7	15.5	15.2	15.3	15.5
19+ years	5.4	5.0	5.3	4.9	0.9	2.4	0.1	—	10.3	13.4	5.1	9.0	5.8	6.5	6.2	6.1
Unknown	0.1	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	—	0.1	0.2	—	5.1	4.6	—	0.1	0.6	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,966	2,894	2,594	2,907	1,408	1,231	775	822	979	659	315	390	3,397	3,466	3,054	3,339

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.1	—	—	0.4	0.5	—	—	0.3	—	—	—	0.2	0.2
Asian/Pacific	—	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.5	—	—	—	0.1	—	—
Black	96.9	97.1	96.7	94.8	97.0	95.0	83.9	78.0	97.0	95.1	88.6	88.5	96.9	96.7	94.3	91.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	0.3	0.8	0.8	1.2	0.8	1.9	3.4	2.4	0.7	3.0	2.2	2.6	0.4	0.8	1.3	1.4
White	0.8	—	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.1	—	0.6	0.5	0.9	0.1	0.2	0.3
Two or more races	—	—	0.5	0.5	—	0.3	0.5	0.5	—	—	0.6	1.0	—	0.1	0.5	0.4
Unknown	1.9	1.9	1.6	3.1	1.9	2.6	11.6	18.1	2.2	1.4	7.6	7.4	1.9	2.2	3.5	6.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,966	2,894	2,594	2,907	1,408	1,231	775	822	979	659	315	390	3,397	3,466	3,054	3,339

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	1,005	64	1,086	1,148
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	15	44	—	—
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.5	—	1.0	0.5
1-5 years	39.8	18.8	26.9	20.7
6-10 years	43.2	57.8	47.6	44.9
11-15 years	14.4	17.2	23.4	31.5
16+ years	0.8	—	0.7	1.9
Unknown	0.3	6.3	0.4	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,005	64	1,086	1,148

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	97.3	98.4	96.8	96.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	—	1.0	1.0
White	1.3	1.6	0.4	0.4
Two or more races	—	—	0.2	0.2
Unknown	1.4	—	1.7	2.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,005	64	1,086	1,148

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	0.6	1.6	3.0
1-5 years	49.6	41.0	34.5	23.9
6-10 years	33.8	42.8	44.8	52.2
11-15 years	14.4	13.9	16.3	16.1
16+ years	2.2	1.8	2.8	4.8
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	139	166	319	230

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	98.6	97.6	96.9	99.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	0.7	—	1.6	—
White	0.7	—	0.6	—
Two or more races	—	—	0.3	—
Unknown	—	2.4	0.6	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	139	166	319	230

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

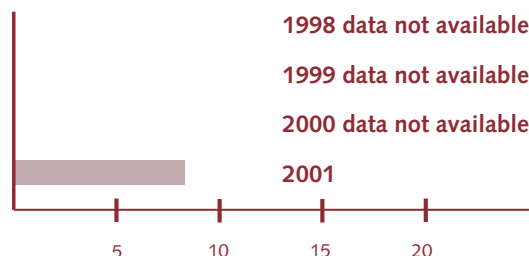
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	—	91.7
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	—	8.3
Total %	—	—	—	100.0
Number	—	—	—	1,353

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



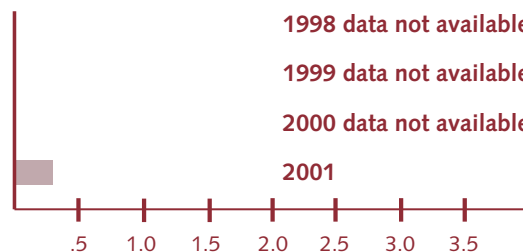
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	0.33
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	99.67
Total %	—	—	—	100.00
Number	—	—	—	3,651

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



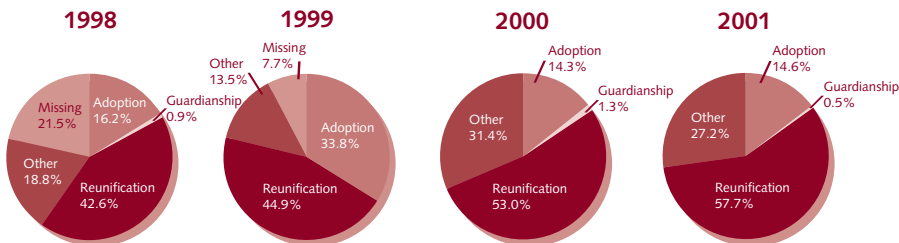
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	16.2	33.8	14.3	14.6
Guardianship	0.9	—	1.3	0.5
Reunification	42.6	44.9	53.0	57.7
Other	18.8	13.5	31.4	27.2
Missing data	21.5	7.7	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	979	659	315	390

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	15.4	15.8	34.4	35.1
Guardianship	7.7	—	—	—
Reunification	15.4	21.1	37.5	40.5
Other	30.8	63.2	28.1	24.3
Missing data	30.8	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	13	19	32	37

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	3.3	21.9	—	2.1
Guardianship	2.8	—	—	—
Reunification	22.0	34.9	17.6	26.8
Other	36.0	33.6	82.4	71.1
Missing data	36.0	9.6	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	214	146	91	97

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	32.9	43.6	20.0	26.5
Children older than 12 at entry	65.9	56.4	80.0	73.5
Missing data	1.2	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	85	78	25	49

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

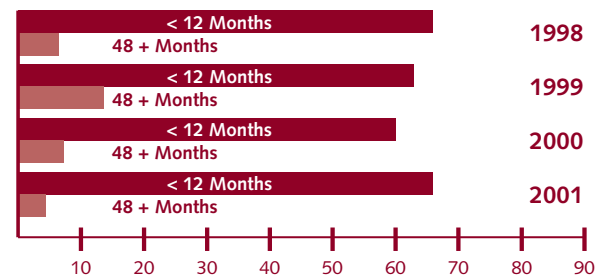
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16.3	34.4	15.8	16.2	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.9	—	1.4	0.6	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33.3	—	—	—	43.5	45.0	51.6	55.9	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	33.3	—	—	18.0	13.2	31.2	27.2	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33.3	—	—	21.3	7.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	950	627	279	345	—	—	—	—

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	14.3	10.0	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	9.5	55.6	—	3.4	—	—	50.0	—	—	—	—	
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Reunification	—	55.0	71.4	70.0	—	—	50.0	100.0	19.0	22.2	70.8	72.4	—	—	—	50.0	—	—	—	
Other	14.3	15.0	28.6	30.0	—	—	50.0	—	57.1	22.2	29.2	24.1	—	—	50.0	50.0	—	—	—	
Missing data	71.4	20.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	14.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	
Number	7	20	7	10	1	—	2	2	21	9	24	29	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

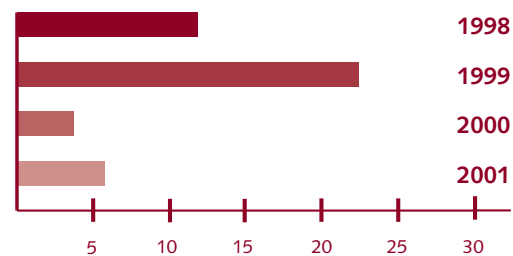
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	65.9	62.8	59.9	65.8
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	16.1	13.5	19.8	10.7
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	5.0	5.7	9.6	16.0
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.6	4.4	3.6	3.1
48 or more mos.	6.5	13.5	7.2	4.4
Missing data	3.8	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	417	296	167	225

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	56.0	64.7	85.4	86.7
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	11.8	22.3	3.7	5.7
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	5.0	12.8	6.2	5.4
Missing data	27.2	0.2	4.6	2.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,408	1,231	775	822

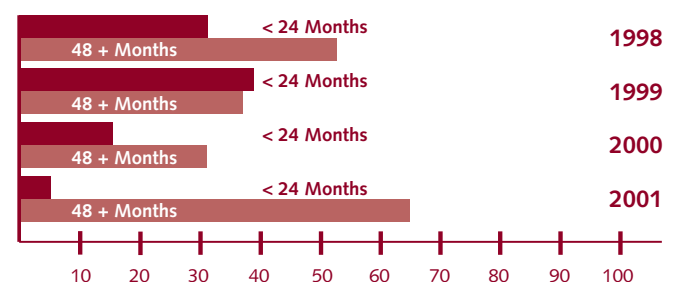
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	17.6	22.9	2.2	5.3
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	13.8	16.1	13.3	—
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	5.7	12.1	35.6	15.8
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	10.1	10.8	17.8	14.0
48 or more mos.	52.8	37.2	31.1	64.9
Missing data	—	0.9	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	159	223	45	57

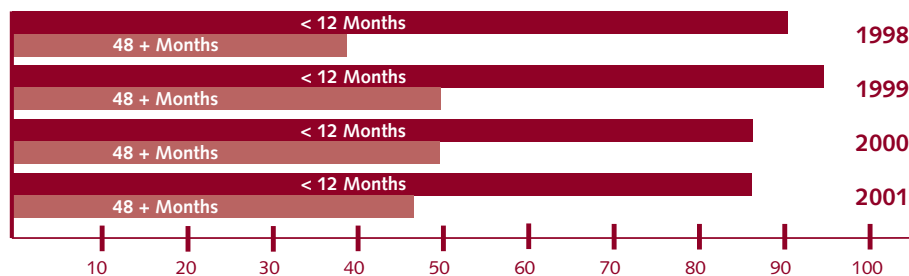
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	90.5	9.1	0.3	100.0	1,510
	1999	94.7	5.3	—	100.0	1,310
	2000	86.5	13.5	—	100.0	820
	2001	86.3	13.8	—	100.0	880
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	69.5	30.3	0.3	100.0	704
	1999	84.5	15.5	—	100.0	826
	2000	75.8	24.2	—	100.0	748
	2001	68.6	31.5	—	100.0	531
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	57.7	41.3	1.0	100.0	496
	1999	71.7	28.3	—	100.0	537
	2000	70.9	29.1	—	100.0	609
	2001	64.9	35.1	—	100.0	678
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	50.5	49.2	0.3	100.0	390
	1999	63.3	36.7	—	100.0	371
	2000	62.9	37.1	—	100.0	337
	2001	63.0	37.1	—	100.0	529
48 or more mos.	1998	39.1	60.9	—	100.0	1,247
	1999	50.0	50.0	—	100.0	1,067
	2000	49.9	50.1	—	100.0	855
	2001	46.9	53.1	—	100.0	1,111
Missing data	1998	85.2	7.4	7.4	100.0	27
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	14
	2000	—	—	—	—	—
	2001	—	—	—	—	—

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	8.3	4.2	7.1	24.9
Institutions	11.0	12.5	16.5	20.6
Other settings	80.2	83.3	74.5	52.7
Missing	0.5	—	2.0	1.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,017	814	595	598

District of Columbia [STATE COMMENT]

The following discussion focuses on the District of Columbia's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The District of Columbia Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2001, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 1999. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for the District of Columbia's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months of a prior substantiated report was 8.3 percent, which is higher than the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and is about equal to the national median of 8.0 percent. Change over time cannot be assessed for this measure because the District of Columbia did not report the relevant data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) in prior years.

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

In CY 2001, the rate of maltreatment of children in foster care by their foster parents or facility staff was 0.33 percent, which is less than the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and the national median of 0.47 percent. Again, change over time cannot be assessed because the District of Columbia did not report the relevant data to NCANDS in prior years.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 72.8 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to a permanent home (which is less than the national median of 83.3 percent); 75.6 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to a permanent home (which is less than the national median of 78.4 percent); and 28.9 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into care were discharged to a permanent home (which is the lowest percentage reported nationally). In addition, performance with regard to the percentage of children exiting foster care who were discharged from a permanent home declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-7.5 percent change), as did performance related to the percentage of children older than age 12 at entry who were discharged to a permanent home (-49.2 percent change). However, the percentage of children with disabilities who were discharged to a permanent home increased substantially from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+105.4 percent change). These data suggest that the District of Columbia is not consistently effective in achieving permanency for children in foster care.

The FY 2001 data for outcome 3 also indicate that 26.5 percent of children emancipated from foster care were age 12 or younger at the time of entry, which is lower than the national median of 28.0 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-39.1 percent change).

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 65.8 percent, which is lower than both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

The District of Columbia's performance with regard to reunifications within 12 months of entry into foster care must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 5.7, which is less than both the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.3 percent. It is

difficult to assess change in this measure because the data for this measure in FY 1999 indicate a re-entry rate of 22.3 percent. The discrepancy between the FY 1999 data and the FY 2001 data (5.7 percent) may reflect changes in data entry and/or reporting rather than in actual performance.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

The District of Columbia's performance on outcome 5 cannot be assessed for the Federal Comment. The District of Columbia reported 230 finalized adoptions in FY 2001 to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) Adoption Database (Section E of the State Data Pages), but only 57 children were reported to the AFCARS Foster Care Database as having been discharged to a finalized adoption. Consequently, the FY 2001 data pertaining to the percent of adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care applies to only 25 percent of the finalized adoptions.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who were in foster care for less than 12 months and experienced no more than 2 placements was 86.3, which is close to the national standard of 86.7 percent or more, and is greater than the national median of 83.3 percent. However, performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-8.9 percent change).

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger at entry into foster care who were placed in a group home or institution was 45.5, which is considerably higher than the national median of 8.7 percent and is the highest percentage reported nationally. However, because of the extreme change in this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+172.2 percent change), there is a possibility that the change is due to data entry or reporting issues rather than to actual performance.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	3,539,932	3,569,878	3,646,340	3,791,066	Child maltreatment victims	82,119	67,530	95,849	124,134
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	26,320	34,292	36,608	32,477
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	Children adopted	1,549	1,358	1,629	1,761
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.8					
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.9	2.0	1.7	N/A					
Black	21.1	21.2	20.6	21.2					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	17.0	17.5	19.3	19.9					
White	59.7	59.0	55.4	55.0					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.4	1.8					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.4	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	22.1	18.4	16.0	18.8					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	95.0	95.0	93.2	94.5					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	Number				Rate			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	186,967	160,686	205,179	266,502	52.8 per 1,000	45.0 per 1,000	56.3 per 1,000	71.4 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	82,119	67,530	95,849	124,134	23.2 per 1,000	18.9 per 1,000	26.3 per 1,000	33.3 per 1,000
Child fatalities	54	57	65	91	1.5 per 100,000	1.6 per 100,000	1.8 per 100,000	2.4 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	9.3	9.6	9.3	8.8	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
1-5 years	31.2	30.3	30.4	31.0	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
6-10 years	30.7	30.5	30.1	29.5	Black	31.8	31.9	29.9	30.1
11-15 years	23.4	23.7	24.1	24.6	Hispanic	7.6	8.1	7.2	7.8
16+ years	5.4	5.9	6.0	6.1	White	67.0	66.6	61.4	60.8
Unknown	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	0.7	1.0	0.9	0.9
Number	82,119	67,530	95,849	124,134	Total % ³	107.6	108.1	100.0	100.0
					Number	82,119	67,530	95,849	124,134

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional		3.0	3.0	3.4
Medical neglect		2.6	2.3	2.2
Neglect		41.5	39.8	35.9
Physical abuse		18.8	17.8	16.0
Sexual abuse		7.3	6.5	5.7
Other		50.8	54.7	61.6
Unknown		—	—	—
Total % ⁴		124.0	124.1	124.8
Number		82,119	67,530	95,849

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	20,274	13,980	7,934	26,320	34,254
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	21,291	21,118	8,117	34,292	42,409
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	33,353	18,765	15,510	36,608	52,118
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	30,865	18,673	17,061	32,477	49,538

Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	15.8	N/A	16.1	13.3	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	14.2	N/A	15.2	9.9	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	14.3	N/A	14.7	14.8	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	14.4	N/A	13.8	13.9	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	4.3	5.2	5.9	5.8	14.0	14.7	17.8	16.0	2.3	2.6	3.8	3.9	4.9	6.1	5.8	5.8
1-5 years	30.9	30.7	32.1	32.5	33.6	33.3	31.3	32.0	32.3	32.4	33.7	34.2	31.3	32.7	32.4	33.2
6-10 years	29.9	29.3	28.9	28.5	26.9	27.8	26.4	25.9	30.3	30.9	29.5	28.8	29.6	28.9	28.2	27.0
11-15 years	23.8	24.1	23.2	23.4	20.4	19.6	20.0	21.3	20.1	20.3	20.4	21.6	23.5	22.6	23.3	23.9
16-18 years	9.9	9.7	9.1	9.1	4.8	4.5	4.4	4.7	12.9	12.0	11.6	10.7	9.7	9.0	9.5	9.4
19+ years	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	1.6	1.2	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.6
Unknown	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	20,274	21,291	33,353	30,865	13,980	21,118	18,765	18,673	7,934	8,117	15,510	17,061	26,320	34,292	36,608	32,477

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵																
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.1
Asian/Pacific	0.1	0.2	—	—	0.2	0.1	—	—	0.2	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.2	—	—
Black	52.7	51.0	47.4	44.9	45.4	42.8	39.1	38.8	49.6	48.4	41.7	40.7	49.7	46.5	45.6	43.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.0
Hispanic	4.4	4.8	9.0	8.9	4.5	5.4	8.8	7.9	4.1	4.4	7.6	8.8	4.6	5.3	9.4	8.3
White	42.2	43.5	40.2	42.5	49.3	49.9	48.9	50.4	45.4	46.6	47.6	46.6	45.0	46.7	41.6	44.9
Two or more races	—	—	2.9	3.2	—	0.8	2.5	1.9	—	—	2.4	3.1	—	0.5	2.9	2.5
Unknown	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	20,274	21,291	33,353	30,865	13,980	21,118	18,765	18,673	7,934	8,117	15,510	17,061	26,320	34,292	36,608	32,477

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	4,203	4,610	5,395	7,850
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	—	—	—	3,720

Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.9	4.3	2.9	3.9
1-5 years	31.7	32.2	32.9	35.4
6-10 years	37.3	36.6	34.5	29.9
11-15 years	24.8	23.6	25.8	26.1
16+ years	3.0	2.8	3.5	4.3
Unknown	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,203	4,610	5,395	7,850

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
Asian	—	—	0.0	0.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	—	—
Black	50.3	49.7	48.4	44.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.0	0.0
Hispanic	4.4	4.5	10.9	9.4
White	44.5	44.4	36.2	41.6
Two or more races	—	0.3	3.9	3.5
Unknown	0.5	0.9	0.4	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,203	4,610	5,395	7,850

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	0.8	1.3	1.5	1.7
1-5 years	46.8	46.8	49.0	51.0
6-10 years	35.4	34.4	33.8	31.7
11-15 years	15.0	15.9	13.9	13.3
16+ years	1.9	1.7	1.8	2.3
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,549	1,358	1,629	1,761

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.1	—	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.1	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.4	—	—	—
Black	40.1	39.7	35.1	34.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	10.3	11.3	15.2	12.9
White	48.7	48.2	45.0	47.0
Two or more races	—	—	3.7	5.3
Unknown	0.5	0.7	1.0	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,549	1,358	1,629	1,761

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

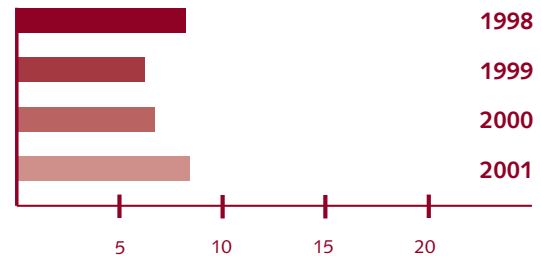
⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	91.8	93.8	93.3	91.6
Children with one or more recurrences	8.2	6.2	6.7	8.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	38,823	37,374	42,749	51,084

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences

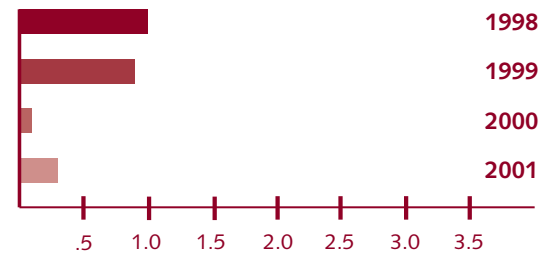


2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	1.00	0.87	0.14	0.32
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.00	99.13	99.86	99.68
Total %	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	32,587	40,268	49,176	43,917

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care

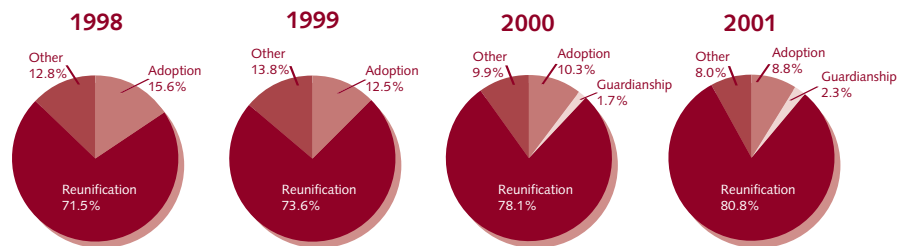


3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	15.6	12.5	10.3	8.8
Guardianship	—	—	1.7	2.3
Reunification	71.5	73.6	78.1	80.8
Other	12.8	13.8	9.9	8.0
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	7,934	8,117	15,510	17,061

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	66.7	21.3	19.1
Guardianship	—	—	1.9	2.3
Reunification	—	—	61.4	63.0
Other	—	33.3	15.5	15.6
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	3	1,782	1,823

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	3.0	2.1	0.6	1.0
Guardianship	—	—	2.9	3.1
Reunification	53.8	54.4	63.0	68.8
Other	43.2	43.5	33.5	27.1
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,406	1,347	2,386	2,742

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	27.8	28.0	32.6	28.5
Children older than 12 at entry	71.8	71.6	67.3	71.5
Missing data	0.4	0.3	0.1	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	684	649	900	828

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	6.7	22.2	11.8	7.7	—	—	5.7	—	11.1	9.1	—	—	12.8	10.0	8.4	7.3	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.6	1.9	—	—	—	—
Reunification	86.7	55.6	82.4	69.2	—	—	88.6	94.6	77.8	63.6	—	—	74.6	76.3	79.2	82.0	—	—	—	66.7
Other	6.7	22.2	5.9	23.1	—	—	5.7	5.4	11.1	27.3	—	—	12.6	13.7	10.8	8.7	—	—	—	33.3
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0
Number	15	9	17	26	—	—	35	37	18	11	—	—	3,937	3,932	6,469	6,946	—	—	—	3

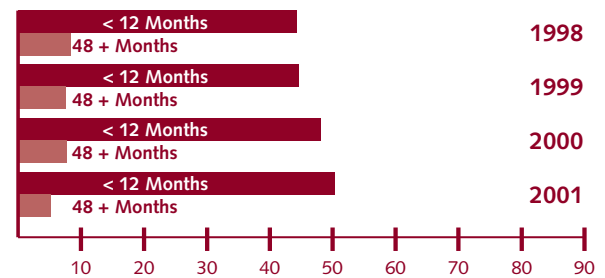
	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	11.0	12.7	17.4	12.2	19.1	15.0	10.0	9.0	25.0	22.6	9.6	5.8	—	—	24.5	17.7	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	0.9	3.9	—	—	1.8	2.5	—	—	1.9	1.4	—	—	1.6	1.3	—	—	—	—
Reunification	76.8	72.6	69.0	74.5	67.6	71.2	79.1	81.3	66.7	58.1	75.0	81.2	—	—	69.7	75.2	—	—	—	—
Other	12.2	14.7	12.6	9.4	13.2	13.8	9.0	7.2	8.3	19.4	13.5	11.6	—	—	4.2	5.7	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	327	354	1,182	1,505	3,601	3,780	7,376	7,951	36	31	52	69	—	—	379	524	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	44.3	44.6	48.0	50.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	28.1	30.1	28.5	31.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	12.7	12.2	10.4	9.4
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	6.4	5.1	4.7	3.9
48 or more mos.	8.3	7.6	7.7	5.2
Missing data	0.2	0.4	0.8	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,674	5,978	12,120	13,788

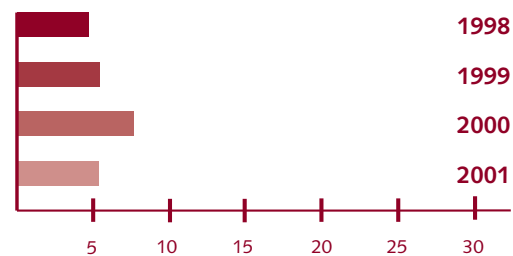
Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	87.7	87.6	88.2	86.2
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	4.7	5.4	7.6	5.3
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	7.6	6.4	4.2	2.2
Missing data	—	0.7	—	6.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	13,980	21,118	18,765	18,673

Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months

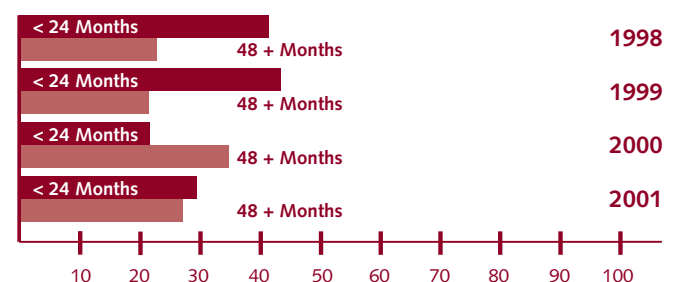


5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	27.6	25.0	4.1	10.1
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	13.9	18.5	17.6	19.5
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	19.3	17.9	25.1	26.0
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	14.4	16.4	18.3	17.1
48 or more mos.	22.9	21.6	34.8	27.2
Missing data	1.9	0.6	0.1	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,241	1,017	1,593	1,506

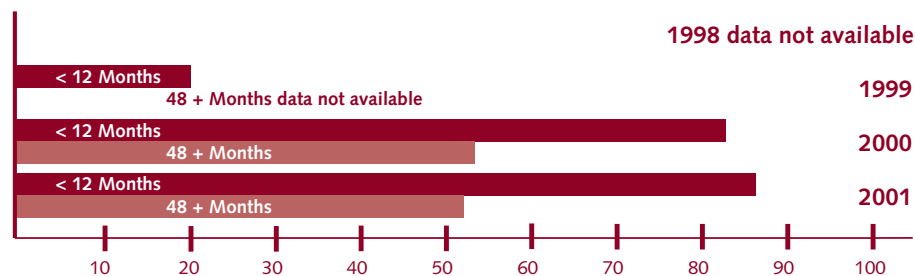
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	20.5	3.3	76.2	100.0	22,730
	2000	82.9	7.9	9.3	100.0	21,641
	2001	86.4	8.1	5.5	100.0	22,371
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	—	—	100.0	100.0	8,674
	2000	75.9	18.6	5.5	100.0	13,575
	2001	79.0	18.0	3.0	100.0	12,156
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	—	—	100.0	100.0	4,296
	2000	65.8	29.6	4.6	100.0	6,082
	2001	69.5	28.7	1.8	100.0	6,241
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	—	—	100.0	100.0	2,390
	2000	58.9	37.3	3.8	100.0	3,462
	2001	59.0	39.1	1.9	100.0	3,022
48 or more mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	—	—	100.0	100.0	4,198
	2000	53.7	42.6	3.8	100.0	7,232
	2001	52.4	46.0	1.6	100.0	5,670
Missing data	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	15.7	0.8	83.5	100.0	121
	2000	76.2	2.4	21.4	100.0	126
	2001	53.9	1.3	44.9	100.0	78

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	—	1.3	0.9	1.4
Institutions	—	0.1	0.3	4.2
Other settings	—	95.3	75.0	90.5
Missing	—	3.3	23.7	3.9
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	4,093	13,744	14,790

**Gladys E. Cherry, Director
Office of Family Safety
Florida Department of Children and Families
850-922-2195**

Florida's Comments to be included in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

- Florida's high percentage of "Other" maltreatments (shown in Section B: Maltreatment Type) reflects the state category Threatened Harm. Almost a quarter of these relate to domestic violence.
- The number and rate of child victims (shown in Section B: Maltreatment Overview) increased due to increased reporting and a higher volume of reports closed in the computer system in 2000 and 2001.
- With regard to Sections C and D, beginning FFY 2000, Florida reported data on Hispanic ethnicity, guardianship, placement date, and number of placements. Data on termination of parental rights and all short-term emergency placements were first reported during FFY 2001. (Prior exclusion of many short-term placements artificially increased length of stay.)
- Based on the ACF method of creating the annual foster care file and the limitations of the state's legacy system data, children entering care during the report year, but not recorded in the computer until later, were included, but late discharges were not. Due to this, the federal data show higher entrants than discharges and a higher end count. This also explains why the number in care the first day of one fiscal year is less than the last day of the prior fiscal year. Because the state increased its efforts to enter discharges timely, the number of discharges improved in FFY 2000. FFY 2001 submission from HomeSafenet have corrected this problem.
- With regard to Section E and outcome measure 5.1, the discrepancy between discharges to adoption in the foster care file and the number of records in the adoption file is being addressed during FFY 2002.
- Variations in law, rule and practice among states have been shown to have significant impact on the context and outcome data presented in this report. The reader is cautioned against assuming that differences in Florida data compared to other states reflect performance variances. This same issue calls to question the national standards that do not take practice variations into account.

The following discussion focuses on Florida's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Florida Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2001, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 1999. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CSFR findings for Florida's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was 8.4 percent, which exceeds the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and the national median of 8.0 percent. Performance on this measure declined substantially from 1999 to 2001 (+36.0 percent change).

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.32 percent, which meets the national standard of 0.57 percent and is lower than the national median of 0.47 percent. Data for this measure has exhibited considerable variation from 1999 (.87 percent) to 2000 (.14 percent) and to 2001 (.32 percent). This suggests that changes may be attributed to factors other than an actual change in performance, such as the small number of children involved as well as data entry and/or reporting issues.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 91.9 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 85.3 percent); 84.4 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 78.4 percent); and 72.9 percent of children who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is about equal to the national median of 72.3 percent). Performance on all three of these measures exhibited substantial improvement from FY 1999 to FY 2001, ranging from +6.7 percent change to +29.0 percent change.

Also in FY 2001, 28.5 percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry, which is about equal to the national median of 28 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001. These findings suggest that although the State is generally effective in achieving permanency for children in foster care, there are a substantial percentage of children who may be said to have "grown up" in the foster care system.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 50.2, which is less than the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+12.6 percent change).

Florida's performance with regard to reunifications occurring within 12 months must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 5.3, which is less than both the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.3 percent. Performance on this measure did not exhibit a substantive change from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 29.6, which does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more, but is higher than the national median of 21.0 percent. Florida's performance on this measure declined between FY 1999 and FY 2001 (-31.9 percent change). However, variation in the data over the 3-year time span indicates that change may be attributed to data quality issues rather than to actual performance.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 86.4, which is slightly less than the national standard of 86.7 percent or more, but is higher than the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001 cannot be assessed because of missing data in FY 1999. However, performance did not exhibit a substantive change from FY 2000 to FY 2001.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children 12 years or younger at the time of entry into foster care who were placed in a group home or institution was 5.6. This is less than the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this measure declined from 1.4 percent in FY 1999 to 5.6 percent in 2001.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	2,022,351	2,056,885	2,169,234	2,228,608	Child maltreatment victims	24,567	26,888	30,806	36,744
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	9,937	11,991	11,204	12,414
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	Children adopted	720	1,150	1,080	899
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.1					
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.1	2.2	2.0	N/A					
Black	34.0	33.9	34.1	33.8					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	3.9	4.2	6.3	6.7					
White	59.9	59.5	55.5	55.6					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	1.7	1.6					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.3	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	25.9	19.5	16.9	19.5					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	62.5	64.1	69.4	72.4					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	Number				Rate			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	74,180	78,734	92,254	114,653	36.7 per 1,000	38.3 per 1,000	42.5 per 1,000	51.7 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	24,567	26,888	30,806	36,744	12.1 per 1,000	13.1 per 1,000	14.2 per 1,000	16.6 per 1,000
Child fatalities	37	42	45	48	1.8 per 100,000	2.0 per 100,000	2.1 per 100,000	2.2 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	10.4	10.2	7.2	10.0	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
1-5 years	30.1	29.8	30.4	31.0	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4
6-10 years	30.6	30.6	31.6	30.2	Black	47.8	47.4	46.2	44.4
11-15 years	23.7	24.3	24.3	24.0	Hispanic	2.6	3.1	3.3	3.3
16+ years	4.6	4.7	6.0	4.6	White	46.3	45.9	46.9	48.4
Unknown	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.3	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	5.5	6.2	3.3	3.4
Number	24,567	26,888	30,806	36,744	Total % ³	102.6	103.1	100.0	100.0
					Number	24,567	26,888	30,806	36,744

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		4.1	3.9	4.6	4.5
Medical neglect		4.6	4.4	4.9	4.3
Neglect		62.3	63.1	68.9	72.5
Physical abuse		14.3	13.4	12.3	11.1
Sexual abuse		8.3	8.4	7.5	6.0
Other		6.5	6.7	8.1	9.1
Unknown		—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴		100.0	100.0	106.2	107.5
Number		24,567	26,888	30,806	36,744

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	9,844	3,724	3,632	9,937	13,568
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	11,040	7,218	6,267	11,991	18,258
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	8,832	7,028	4,657	11,204	15,860
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	9,483	8,024	5,093	12,414	17,507
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	23.0	N/A	12.2	26.2	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	22.9	N/A	11.7	18.9	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	21.6	N/A	7.7	15.2	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	16.9	N/A	5.3	14.4	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	4.2	4.5	5.9	6.9	16.5	17.1	18.1	16.5	4.6	6.3	6.8	6.7	3.3	6.0	7.0	6.4
1-5 years	28.4	27.7	28.0	29.0	28.8	28.9	28.0	30.3	29.2	30.4	31.3	33.6	27.7	27.1	28.4	30.2
6-10 years	29.1	29.2	29.1	27.7	25.6	24.2	24.5	23.7	26.5	27.3	28.8	27.5	29.3	27.1	26.0	25.3
11-15 years	27.6	26.8	31.5	31.0	23.3	24.3	25.0	24.7	23.1	22.7	24.6	24.1	27.2	27.5	29.3	28.6
16-18 years	10.0	10.8	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.2	4.1	4.7	15.2	11.7	8.5	8.1	11.8	11.3	9.2	9.5
19+ years	0.6	0.8	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	1.2	1.3	—	—	0.7	0.8	—	—
Unknown	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	—	—	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	9,844	11,040	8,832	9,483	3,724	7,218	7,028	8,024	3,632	6,267	4,657	5,093	9,937	11,991	11,204	12,414

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.3	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—	0.4	0.6	—	—	0.3	0.2
Asian/Pacific	0.3	0.2	—	—	0.2	0.4	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—
Black	60.7	58.7	59.7	58.8	50.5	49.4	52.1	49.5	53.9	50.0	53.0	50.9	59.3	57.6	57.7	56.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.1	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.1
Hispanic	1.4	3.0	2.4	3.0	4.0	4.4	4.3	4.4	3.9	2.6	3.7	4.3	1.4	4.1	3.0	3.3
White	34.4	34.3	33.6	34.5	41.5	39.3	40.1	42.3	39.1	42.7	38.9	40.3	35.4	32.9	35.5	37.2
Two or more races	—	—	2.9	3.0	—	1.3	2.3	2.4	—	—	2.3	2.8	—	0.8	2.8	2.7
Unknown	3.1	3.7	1.0	0.4	3.4	4.9	0.7	0.7	2.4	4.3	1.3	0.9	3.5	4.1	0.7	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	9,844	11,040	8,832	9,483	3,724	7,218	7,028	8,024	3,632	6,267	4,657	5,093	9,937	11,991	11,204	12,414

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	2,403	2,713	2,875	2,777
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	1,394	1,323	1,511	1,545
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.4	4.6	3.9	2.7
1-5 years	32.6	27.2	31.4	31.8
6-10 years	35.5	36.2	35.0	32.7
11-15 years	24.2	26.6	26.0	28.5
16+ years	4.7	4.4	3.7	4.3
Unknown	0.7	1.1	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,403	2,713	2,875	2,777

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.4	0.0	—
Asian	—	—	0.3	0.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.3	0.4	—	—
Black	57.1	58.9	60.2	60.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	0.8	4.5	3.3	3.3
White	37.5	30.9	31.1	32.2
Two or more races	—	0.6	4.2	3.7
Unknown	4.1	4.3	0.8	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,403	2,713	2,875	2,777

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.5	1.9	0.8	0.2
1-5 years	47.5	44.3	38.5	44.8
6-10 years	35.0	38.4	40.5	35.8
11-15 years	14.3	13.8	17.3	16.8
16+ years	1.7	1.6	2.9	2.3
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	720	1,150	1,080	899

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.9
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.1	—	—
Black	56.4	54.6	55.8	47.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	2.4	1.8	2.0	5.7
White	38.8	41.5	35.8	36.5
Two or more races	0.1	1.1	4.1	7.2
Unknown	2.4	0.9	2.0	2.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	720	1,150	1,080	899

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	—	—
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

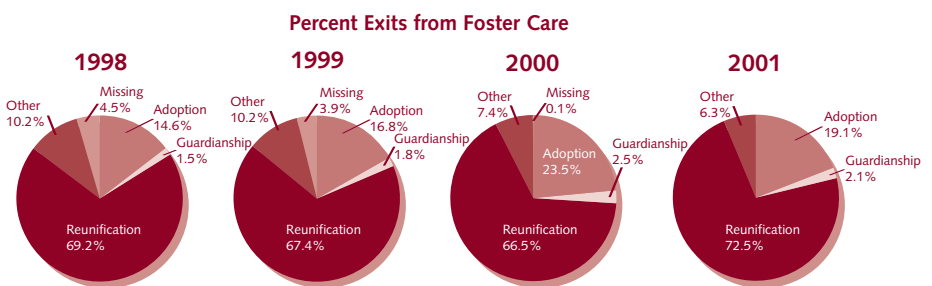
2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

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

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	14.6	16.8	23.5	19.1
Guardianship	1.5	1.8	2.5	2.1
Reunification	69.2	67.4	66.5	72.5
Other	10.2	10.2	7.4	6.3
Missing data	4.5	3.9	0.1	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,632	6,267	4,657	5,093



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	19.1	28.6	42.0	33.6
Guardianship	1.3	1.8	2.3	2.9
Reunification	51.5	44.3	43.2	53.1
Other	21.3	20.4	12.4	10.5
Missing data	6.8	5.0	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	456	619	474	524

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.8	0.4	1.2	0.1
Guardianship	2.0	1.5	2.3	2.3
Reunification	68.1	68.7	76.4	81.5
Other	25.4	25.5	19.9	16.1
Missing data	3.7	3.9	0.2	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	783	1,190	833	864

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	47.0	45.1	28.6	35.4
Children older than 12 at entry	53.0	54.9	71.4	63.1
Missing data	—	—	—	1.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	232	346	56	65

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

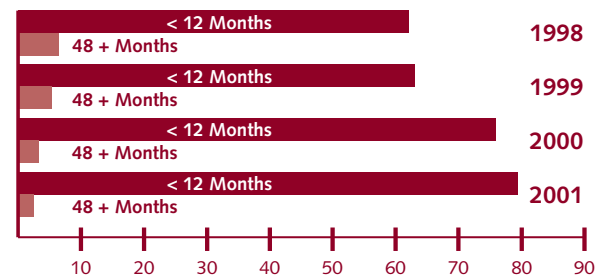
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	30.8	100.0	57.1	—	—	—	35.3	19.4	—	4.8	—	—	13.6	15.9	24.3	18.2	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.0	2.3	3.4	2.3	—	—	—	—
Reunification	30.8	—	33.3	80.0	—	—	58.8	77.4	81.8	81.0	—	—	70.5	67.0	65.4	73.9	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	9.5	20.0	—	—	5.9	3.2	18.2	—	—	—	9.2	10.8	6.9	5.6	—	—	—	100.0
Missing data	38.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14.3	—	—	4.8	3.9	0.0	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0
Number	13	4	21	5	—	—	17	31	11	21	—	—	1,958	3,136	2,469	2,593	—	—	—	1

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	15.4	3.1	17.9	22.8	15.2	17.9	22.2	18.4	24.1	23.0	33.3	20.0	—	—	21.5	38.2	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	1.2	0.9	1.1	1.4	1.5	2.1	2.3	0.4	5.0	—	—	—	2.8	2.1	—	—	—	—
Reunification	72.7	82.1	75.7	70.3	67.7	66.8	67.8	72.1	62.1	68.5	55.0	71.1	—	—	69.2	54.9	—	—	—	—
Other	9.8	3.7	5.2	5.5	12.2	10.7	8.3	7.4	3.4	3.7	6.7	8.9	—	—	6.5	4.9	—	—	—	—
Missing data	2.1	11.1	—	0.5	3.9	3.2	0.2	0.0	8.0	4.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	—	—
Number	143	162	173	219	1,420	2,673	1,810	2,055	87	270	60	45	—	—	107	144	—	1	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

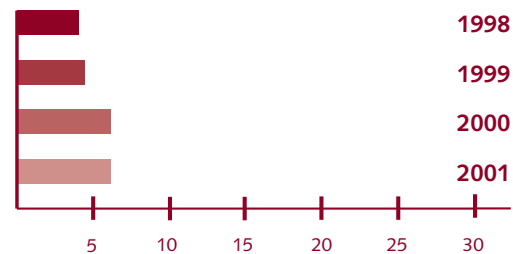
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	62.1	63.0	75.9	79.3
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	15.4	16.4	14.4	14.5
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	8.6	6.9	4.2	2.5
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	5.3	3.0	2.2	1.1
48 or more mos.	6.4	5.3	3.2	2.4
Missing data	2.2	5.4	0.1	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,512	4,223	3,097	3,690

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	92.4	91.0	87.6	87.6
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	4.0	4.4	6.1	6.1
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	3.1	3.6	5.8	5.8
Missing data	0.5	1.0	0.5	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,724	7,218	7,028	8,024

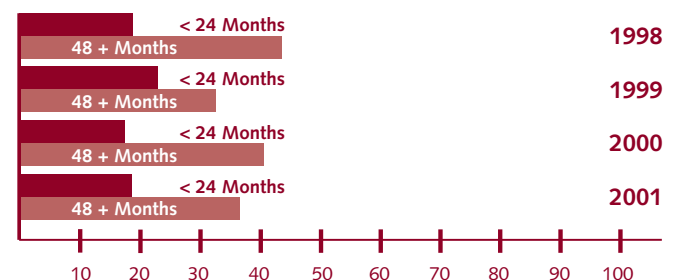
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	6.0	8.6	2.7	3.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	12.9	14.5	14.9	15.7
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	20.4	24.5	22.9	25.5
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	17.0	19.0	18.8	19.3
48 or more mos.	43.7	32.7	40.6	36.6
Missing data	—	0.8	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	529	1,050	1,093	971

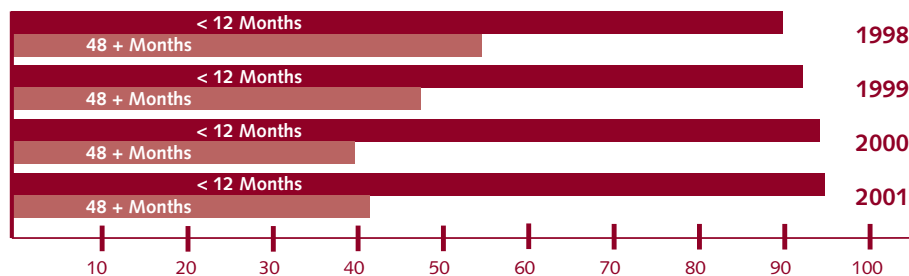
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	90.0	10.0	—	100.0	4,141
	1999	92.3	7.7	—	100.0	7,733
	2000	94.3	5.7	—	100.0	7,512
	2001	94.8	5.2	—	100.0	8,665
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	77.1	22.9	—	100.0	2,787
	1999	72.2	27.6	0.2	100.0	3,036
	2000	75.8	24.2	—	100.0	2,841
	2001	83.0	17.0	—	100.0	3,505
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	70.4	29.6	—	100.0	2,039
	1999	64.2	35.7	0.0	100.0	2,133
	2000	57.5	42.5	0.1	100.0	1,577
	2001	67.5	32.5	—	100.0	1,734
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	64.5	35.5	—	100.0	1,423
	1999	55.9	43.9	0.2	100.0	1,514
	2000	49.8	50.1	0.1	100.0	1,162
	2001	53.3	46.6	0.1	100.0	1,032
48 or more mos.	1998	54.8	45.2	—	100.0	3,105
	1999	47.7	52.2	0.1	100.0	3,496
	2000	40.0	60.0	0.1	100.0	2,757
	2001	41.7	58.2	0.1	100.0	2,556
Missing data	1998	97.3	2.7	—	100.0	73
	1999	96.8	3.2	—	100.0	346
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	11
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	15

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	5.8	3.9	2.1	2.2
Institutions	5.7	8.1	3.0	2.2
Other settings	88.5	88.0	94.9	95.7
Missing	—	0.0	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,946	5,564	5,477	6,349

**Juanita Blount-Clark, Director
Division of Family and Children Services
Georgia Department of Human Resources
404-651-8049**

Georgia's comments to be included in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

Georgia did not provide data that could be used to calculate outcome measure 1.1 and 2.1. Georgia does not have a Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS) that allows for tracking of "unique" children receiving child protective services.

With regard to Section C: Children in Foster Care, annual foster care data are created from two six-month files for the report year and the first six-month period of the following year. An analysis of the data indicate that in many instances a child was discharged from AFCARS during a six-month period within the report year, but the transaction was not entered into the system until a later six-month period of the following year. In our legacy system these transactions are not picked up in the next transmission. This would result in the end of year total exceeding the beginning year total. Changes have been made to improve timeliness of data entered, and changes have been made in data extraction methodology.

Georgia will continue to update and improve the legacy data system, in order to stay current with federal requirements to provide consistent and accurate data while developing the SACWIS system.

The following discussion focuses on Georgia's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Georgia Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2001, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 1999. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Georgia's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

Georgia's performance on outcome 1 cannot be assessed as part of the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) for calculating this outcome. To ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through NCANDS are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are presented in Georgia's CFSR Final Report.

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

Georgia's attainment of outcome 2 cannot be evaluated as part of the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to NCANDS for calculating this outcome. In order to ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through the NCANDS system are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are provided in Georgia's CFSR Final Report.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 93.7 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 85.3 percent); 89.6 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 78.4 percent); and 83.9 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 72.3 percent). Performance on these measures improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001. These data suggest that the State is generally effective in attaining permanency for children, even when they have a diagnosed disability or are older than age 12 when they enter foster care.

The data for outcome measure 3.4 indicate that in FY 2001, 35.4 percent of children emancipating from foster care were age 12 or younger at the time of entry, which is higher than the national median of 28.0 percent. Although performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-21.5 percent change), the variability in the number of children emancipated in FY 1999 (346 children) and FY 2001 (65 children) suggests that the change may reflect data entry and/or reporting issues rather than an actual change in performance.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 79.3, which meets the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and exceeds the national median of 69.2 percent. Performance on this measure improved considerably from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+25.9 percent change).

Also in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 6.1, which is lower than the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.4 percent. However, performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+37.5 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 18.7, which does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and is less than the national median of 21.0 percent. Performance on this measure exhibited a substantive decline from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-19.1 percent change).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 94.8, which exceeds both the national median of 83.3 percent and the national standard of 86.7 percent or more. Performance on this measure did not exhibit a substantive change from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 4.4, which is lower than the national median of 8.7 percent. In addition, performance on this measure improved substantially from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-63.7 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	298,327	289,340	295,767	294,855	Child maltreatment victims	2,185	2,669	3,533	3,982
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	2,441	2,205	2,401	2,584
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.2	Children adopted	301	281	280	260
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	33.3					
Asian/Pacific Islander	62.2	62.8	40.9	N/A					
Black	2.7	2.5	1.8	2.1					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	9.5					
Hispanic	11.4	11.5	11.9	12.3					
White	23.3	22.8	15.0	17.6					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	29.9	25.0					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.3	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	21.0	13.5	13.9	15.9					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	73.3	72.8	70.6	74.9					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	Rate			
		1999	2000	2001		1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	3,568	4,646	6,184	7,334	12.0 per 1,000	16.1 per 1,000	20.9 per 1,000	24.6 per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	2,185	2,669	3,533	3,982	7.3 per 1,000	9.2 per 1,000	11.9 per 1,000	13.4 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	3	5	3	3	1.0 per 100,000	1.7 per 100,000	1.0 per 100,000	1.0 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	13.2	13.4	13.6	14.4	Alaska Native/American Indian	1.0	0.9	0.2	0.2
1-5 years	28.5	27.5	28.8	30.7	Asian/Pacific Islander	59.8	61.9	46.5	41.9
6-10 years	27.8	28.6	28.6	27.0	Black	21.1	2.5	1.7	1.5
11-15 years	23.2	23.4	22.7	21.6	Hispanic	1.6	2.0	2.0	1.9
16+ years	5.6	5.9	5.9	6.0	White	15.1	12.1	10.8	9.0
Unknown	1.6	1.2	0.4	0.2	Two or more races	—	—	22.1	30.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	3.1	22.6	16.7	14.6
Number	2,185	2,669	3,533	3,982	Total % ³	101.6	102.0	100.0	100.0
					Number	2,185	2,669	3,533	3,982

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	2.0	1.6	3.2	4.2
Medical neglect	1.1	0.6	1.6	1.8
Neglect	8.3	8.1	14.6	16.3
Physical abuse	10.4	6.5	13.7	13.6
Sexual abuse	6.6	5.3	7.0	7.0
Other	69.2	84.8	84.3	86.5
Unknown	2.3	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	100.0	106.9	124.4	129.4
Number	2,185	2,669	3,533	3,982

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	2,077	1,774	1,410	2,441	3,851
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	2,156	1,683	1,634	2,205	3,839
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	2,145	1,929	1,682	2,401	4,074
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	2,311	2,193	1,920	2,584	4,504

Median Length of Stay (Months)	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	15.8	N/A	11.4	12.3	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	11.7	N/A	9.5	13.1	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	13.4	N/A	8.5	12.2	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	12.3	N/A	7.7	11.4	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	5.2	7.4	5.6	8.0	15.4	15.0	15.9	16.7	5.1	7.3	6.1	7.8	6.9	5.8	8.0	8.0
1-5 years	35.1	32.5	30.7	28.8	30.2	27.6	28.2	27.5	32.8	32.3	30.4	29.3	32.7	30.7	29.0	29.9
6-10 years	26.4	27.6	27.5	26.7	26.2	23.5	25.9	25.4	29.1	25.8	27.9	25.5	27.2	27.3	26.8	26.1
11-15 years	22.8	22.2	23.2	23.6	22.2	24.3	22.7	23.2	19.2	20.6	20.9	21.7	22.7	23.3	23.8	25.3
16-18 years	10.5	10.4	12.9	12.9	6.0	9.6	7.3	7.1	13.6	14.0	14.5	15.6	10.5	13.0	12.4	10.7
19+ years	0.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.0	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	0.0	—	—	—	0.0	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,077	2,156	2,154	2,311	1,774	1,683	1,929	2,193	1,410	1,634	1,682	1,920	2,441	2,205	2,401	2,584

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵																
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.0	0.8	2.0	0.6	0.4	0.7	1.7	1.0	0.7	1.2	1.4	1.1	0.7
Asian	—	—	21.1	21.7	—	—	23.1	17.8	—	—	23.1	20.5	—	—	21.3	19.3
Asian/Pacific	76.7	73.0	—	—	74.5	65.1	—	—	74.0	66.8	—	—	76.7	71.5	—	—
Black	2.1	1.9	2.3	2.4	2.9	3.4	2.4	1.9	3.5	2.8	2.3	2.6	1.9	2.4	2.4	1.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	50.3	41.5	—	—	32.6	27.6	—	—	41.4	34.1	—	—	42.3	35.2
Hispanic	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.3	2.5	2.5	1.9	2.4	3.2	2.7	2.5	2.8	2.2	2.7	2.2	2.1
White	12.2	13.1	12.7	11.2	13.8	13.9	11.2	12.5	14.7	14.5	13.4	13.3	11.9	12.7	11.1	10.7
Two or more races	—	5.8	7.3	16.4	—	8.5	21.5	32.6	—	6.5	10.8	20.8	—	7.3	16.2	26.9
Unknown	5.1	2.2	2.1	3.5	5.6	4.6	6.6	4.8	4.0	4.9	5.5	5.2	6.1	2.1	3.3	2.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,077	2,156	2,154	2,311	1,774	1,683	1,929	2,193	1,410	1,634	1,682	1,920	2,441	2,205	2,401	2,584

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	585	1,161	1,207	1,160
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	451	1,102	1,156	1,120

Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.2	6.0	8.4	7.5
1-5 years	32.3	34.8	31.5	32.5
6-10 years	31.1	29.9	29.1	26.7
11-15 years	24.3	21.4	23.7	25.1
16+ years	9.9	7.8	7.2	7.7
Unknown	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	585	1,161	1,207	1,160

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	2.1	2.2	1.5	0.9
Asian	—	—	19.6	19.7
Asian/Pacific Islander	75.4	71.9	—	—
Black	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	44.2	38.0
Hispanic	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.0
White	14.2	11.2	9.5	8.0
Two or more races	—	8.5	17.2	26.0
Unknown	3.1	0.8	2.4	2.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	585	1,161	1,207	1,160

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.0	3.6	3.6	5.4
1-5 years	53.5	57.7	52.9	54.2
6-10 years	35.2	32.0	36.4	26.9
11-15 years	8.6	6.8	6.8	12.3
16+ years	0.7	—	0.4	1.2
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	301	281	280	260

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	2.0	1.4	1.1	3.1
Asian	—	—	18.2	21.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	79.7	80.1	—	—
Black	1.0	3.6	2.1	1.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	59.6	45.0
Hispanic	4.0	1.4	1.4	3.1
White	11.3	13.2	13.2	9.2
Two or more races	—	—	3.9	15.8
Unknown	2.0	0.4	0.4	0.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	301	281	280	260

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

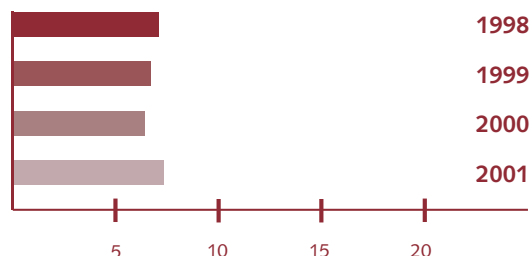
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	92.9	93.3	93.6	92.8
Children with one or more recurrences	7.1	6.7	6.4	7.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,212	1,474	1,734	1,669

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



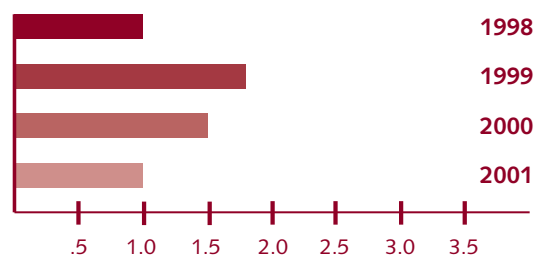
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	1.00	1.77	1.54	0.96
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.00	98.23	98.46	99.04
Total %	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	3,528	3,393	3,701	4,050

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



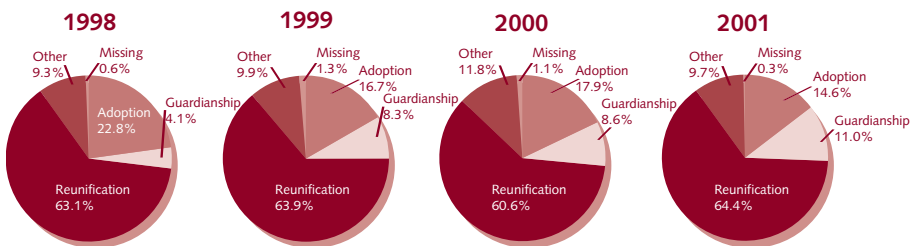
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	22.8	16.7	17.9	14.6
Guardianship	4.1	8.3	8.6	11.0
Reunification	63.1	63.9	60.6	64.4
Other	9.3	9.9	11.8	9.7
Missing data	0.6	1.3	1.1	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,410	1,634	1,682	1,920

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	40.5	42.4	31.8	38.8
Guardianship	6.8	8.6	9.2	9.7
Reunification	38.5	29.0	37.5	36.1
Other	13.2	18.0	20.7	15.4
Missing data	1.0	2.0	0.8	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	205	245	261	227

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.2
Guardianship	3.5	5.3	8.1	8.1
Reunification	64.0	61.9	56.0	60.4
Other	31.1	29.2	33.0	30.8
Missing data	1.0	3.1	2.4	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	286	360	382	442

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	20.4	21.2	15.7	15.1
Children older than 12 at entry	79.6	78.8	84.3	84.9
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	103	118	121	139

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

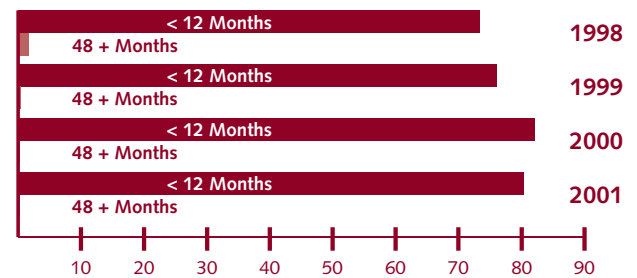
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	70.0	14.3	31.3	57.1	—	—	14.4	14.5	25.4	19.0	—	—	6.1	21.7	15.4	12.2	—	—	22.1	18.3
Guardianship	—	32.1	—	7.1	—	—	7.2	12.2	4.6	9.2	—	—	12.2	—	—	4.1	—	—	11.0	14.7
Reunification	20.0	50.0	50.0	28.6	—	—	62.7	63.7	60.9	60.5	—	—	71.4	69.6	71.8	69.4	—	—	53.9	55.3
Other	10.0	3.6	18.8	7.1	—	—	14.1	9.4	8.6	10.0	—	—	10.2	6.5	10.3	14.3	—	—	12.3	11.5
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.5	0.3	0.5	1.4	—	—	—	2.2	2.6	—	—	—	0.6	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	10	28	16	14	—	—	389	394	1,043	1,092	—	—	49	46	39	49	—	—	697	655

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	24.4	9.1	9.5	17.0	15.5	16.0	18.7	11.7	8.2	1.6	2.7	5.3	—	8.4	17.1	11.8	—	—	5.0	—
Guardianship	2.2	6.8	4.8	24.5	1.4	4.6	6.7	8.2	—	4.8	9.6	8.8	—	8.4	7.7	5.5	—	—	5.0	9.5
Reunification	51.1	75.0	71.4	49.1	73.9	66.7	59.1	65.6	71.4	74.2	80.8	70.2	—	78.5	69.6	78.5	100.0	88.9	75.0	88.1
Other	22.2	9.1	14.3	9.4	8.2	10.5	13.8	13.7	16.3	19.4	4.1	15.8	—	4.7	5.0	4.0	—	11.1	10.0	2.4
Missing data	—	—	—	—	1.0	2.1	1.8	0.8	4.1	—	2.7	—	—	—	0.6	0.3	—	—	5.0	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	45	44	42	53	207	237	225	256	49	62	73	57	—	107	181	400	7	18	20	42

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

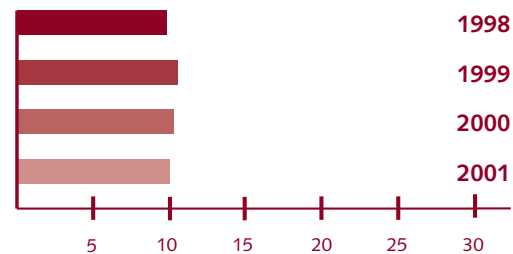
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	73.3	76.0	82.1	80.3
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	15.4	18.4	13.5	16.1
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	5.5	4.1	3.9	3.2
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.6	1.1	0.2	0.2
48 or more mos.	1.6	0.4	0.2	0.2
Missing data	2.7	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	890	1,044	1,019	1,236

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	79.3	78.4	79.8	79.2
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	9.8	10.5	10.2	10.0
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	9.7	10.8	9.4	10.1
Missing data	1.2	0.2	0.6	0.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,774	1,683	1,929	2,193

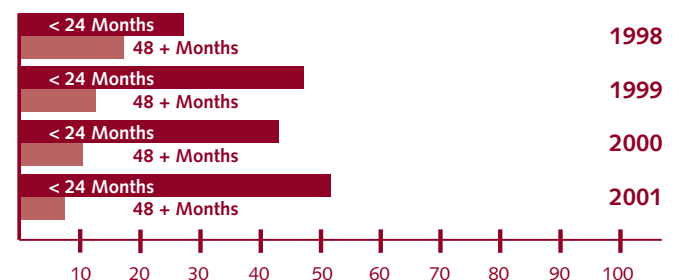
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	7.1	8.8	6.3	13.6
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	20.2	38.5	36.9	38.2
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	27.3	21.6	35.9	27.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	27.6	18.3	10.3	12.9
48 or more mos.	17.4	12.8	10.6	7.5
Missing data	0.3	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	322	273	301	280

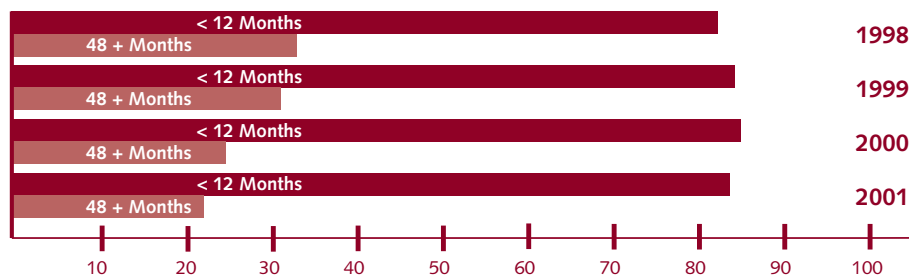
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	82.4	14.3	3.3	100.0	1,923
	1999	84.3	13.6	2.1	100.0	1,922
	2000	85.0	12.9	2.1	100.0	2,144
	2001	83.8	14.9	1.3	100.0	2,477
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	60.7	36.5	2.9	100.0	798
	1999	64.0	34.9	1.1	100.0	992
	2000	60.2	39.5	0.3	100.0	896
	2001	66.5	33.0	0.5	100.0	1,028
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	49.6	49.4	1.0	100.0	413
	1999	51.7	48.3	—	100.0	412
	2000	47.4	52.2	0.3	100.0	578
	2001	42.6	57.4	—	100.0	469
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	47.0	52.3	0.7	100.0	304
	1999	34.1	65.9	—	100.0	214
	2000	36.5	63.5	—	100.0	200
	2001	32.4	67.3	0.4	100.0	275
48 or more mos.	1998	33.2	63.6	3.1	100.0	382
	1999	31.4	68.6	—	100.0	296
	2000	25.0	75.0	—	100.0	264
	2001	22.4	77.6	—	100.0	254
Missing data	1998	77.4	3.2	19.4	100.0	31
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	3
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	1
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	1

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	10.6	0.5	0.4	0.4
Institutions	0.8	1.0	1.5	0.8
Other settings	85.7	96.8	96.5	97.9
Missing	2.9	1.7	1.6	0.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,381	1,229	1,507	1,687

Hawaii

[STATE COMMENT]

The following discussion focuses on Hawaii's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Hawaii Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2003, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2001. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Hawaii's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided below.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence in less than 6 months was 7.3 percent, which is higher than the national standard of 6.1 percent or less, but lower than the national median of 8.0 percent. Performance on this measure declined from 1999 to 2001 (+7.5 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that the actual rate of maltreatment recurrence may be higher than the reported rate of recurrence because the child welfare agency does not routinely investigate maltreatment reports as new reports when they are received on families with open child welfare agency cases. Final Report information identified the following as potential barriers to preventing maltreatment recurrence: (1) lack of sufficient contact between caseworkers and the children and parents in their caseloads; (2) inadequate attention to potential risk factors in the home; (3) premature case closure; and (4) a scarcity of drug treatment services for substance abusing parents.

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.96 percent, which is higher than both the national median of 0.47 percent and the national standard of 0.57 percent. However, performance on this measure improved from 1999 to 2001 (-45.5 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that performance on this measure may be attributed in part to the following practices: (1) infrequent caseworker visits with children in foster care; (2) inadequate and/or delayed initial training for foster parents; and (3) lack of ongoing foster parent training.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 90.0 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 85.3 percent), and 84.6 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 78.4 percent). However, only 68.7 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes, which is lower than the national median of 72.3 percent. Performance on these measures did not exhibit a substantive change from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

These findings suggest that the State generally is effective in achieving permanency for children in foster care, but it is less consistently effective in achieving permanency if the children entered foster care when they were older than age 12. However, the State is more consistently effective in ensuring that children in foster care do not "grow up" in the system. Only 15.1 percent of the children who were emancipated from foster care in FY 2001 were age 12 or younger when they entered foster care, which is less than the national median of 28.0 percent. In addition, performance on this measure exhibited considerable improvement from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-28.7 percent change).

Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies the implementation of Ohana Family Conferencing as an effective means of expediting permanency. The report also notes that the Interim Family Service Plan facilitates early engagement of families in services.

However, the CFSR Final Report identifies infrequent caseworker visitation with parents and lack of consistent parental involvement in case planning as barriers to permanency.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of children's entry into foster care was 80.3, which exceeds both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. Performance on this measure improved slightly from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+5.8 percent change).

Hawaii's high performance with regard to reunification within 12 months must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 10.0, which is higher than the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and about equal to the national median of 10.4 percent. Performance on this measure did not exhibit a substantive change from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies parental substance abuse and the lack of sufficient services to address substance abuse relapse as barriers to preventing re-entries into foster care. However, the Final Report also indicates that Hawaii believes that the re-entry rate may be affected by coding errors and will be reviewing the State data to identify potential errors in coding.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all adoptions finalized within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 51.8, which is considerably higher than both the national median of 21.0 percent and the national standard of 32.0 percent or more. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+9.6 percent change).

Information in the CFSR Final Report identifies the following as effective means of expediting timely adoptions: (1) Ohana Family Conferencing; (2) a collaborative partnership with Adoption Connection that has resulted in staff training on adoption; (3) concurrent planning; and (4) timely termination of parental rights.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who were in foster care for less than 12 months and experienced no more than 2 placements was 83.8, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more, but is about equal to the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure did not exhibit a substantive change from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Information from the CFSR identifies the following as potential barriers to achieving placement stability: (1) lack of appropriate placement resources; (2) insufficient information provided to foster parents about children's needs; and (3) inadequate support services for foster families.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 1.2 percent, which is considerably lower than the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-19.1 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	351,158	350,464	369,030	370,645	Child maltreatment victims	7,936	2,928	3,171	3,557
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	963	959	1,015	1,114
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.4	Children adopted	14	107	140	132
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.9					
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.1	1.1	0.8	N/A					
Black	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	10.5	11.0	11.6	12.0					
White	86.7	86.2	83.4	83.0					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.2	2.0					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.1	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	22.5	21.9	21.0	15.9					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	33.6	37.3	39.0	38.6					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	1998	Rate			2001
		1999	2000	2001			1999	2000		
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	26,682	11,161	14,158	9,959	76.0 per 1,000	31.8 per 1,000	38.4 per 1,000	26.6 per 1,000		
Child maltreatment victims ²	7,936	2,928	3,171	3,557	22.6 per 1,000	8.4 per 1,000	8.6 per 1,000	9.5 per 1,000		
Child fatalities	5	4	1	4	1.4 per 100,000	1.1 per 100,000	0.3 per 100,000	1.1 per 100,000		

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.8	5.8	7.9	8.0	Alaska Native/American Indian	1.5	1.6	2.8	3.7
1-5 years	23.5	21.8	31.3	32.1	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.3
6-10 years	27.6	21.3	29.3	29.9	Black	0.2	0.4	0.8	0.7
11-15 years	23.8	16.5	24.6	24.1	Hispanic	9.2	7.0	9.0	10.4
16+ years	11.8	4.5	5.7	5.9	White	78.5	55.7	81.9	74.6
Unknown	10.5	30.1	1.2	—	Two or more races	—	—	—	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	19.5	42.2	5.0	10.1
Number	7,936	2,928	3,171	3,557	Total % ³	109.2	107.0	100.0	100.0
					Number	7,936	2,928	3,171	3,557

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	—	0.3	1.4	3.3
Medical neglect	—	2.6	11.2	2.0
Neglect	47.5	49.5	46.4	61.9
Physical abuse	31.1	29.0	21.9	19.9
Sexual abuse	16.3	13.1	10.9	8.3
Other	4.8	1.7	0.6	9.1
Unknown	0.2	3.9	7.6	—
Total % ⁴	100.0	100.0	100.0	104.5
Number	7,936	2,928	3,171	3,557

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	682	851	572	963	1,533
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	757	999	806	959	1,756
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	899	1,127	1,011	1,015	2,026
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	989	1,209	1,084	1,114	2,198
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	12.8	N/A	1.2	12.4	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	12.6	N/A	2.1	12.5	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	13.4	N/A	3.3	11.0	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	11.4	N/A	3.3	11.1	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	5.0	4.5	4.2	3.8	12.6	9.8	9.8	10.4	7.0	5.5	5.0	5.3	4.4	4.5	4.0	4.4
1-5 years	27.6	25.4	27.0	27.5	25.7	29.1	27.2	28.4	30.8	28.4	28.3	29.8	25.5	26.4	27.3	26.4
6-10 years	29.3	29.6	25.4	23.3	25.0	21.3	22.3	24.6	22.7	26.3	23.7	23.7	29.7	24.4	23.3	25.2
11-15 years	26.2	30.4	28.9	30.7	28.4	28.5	30.3	27.7	26.7	26.1	25.9	27.3	27.5	29.2	30.9	27.9
16-18 years	11.7	10.2	14.5	14.7	8.2	11.2	10.6	8.9	12.8	13.8	16.9	13.8	12.7	15.5	14.4	16.1
19+ years	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	682	757	899	989	851	999	1,127	1,209	572	806	1,011	1,084	963	959	1,015	1,114

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵																
Alaska Native/American Indian	2.9	8.5	9.7	9.4	3.6	6.2	5.7	5.2	2.1	4.5	5.6	6.3	4.1	9.5	9.3	7.9
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.2	0.5	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—	—	0.4
Asian/Pacific	—	0.5	—	—	—	0.5	—	—	—	0.7	—	—	—	0.3	—	—
Black	1.9	2.5	2.2	2.6	1.2	1.6	2.2	1.2	0.7	2.1	1.6	1.8	2.0	1.9	2.9	2.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.2	0.1
Hispanic	7.3	11.4	13.9	9.7	10.8	12.5	10.1	12.0	12.9	10.9	13.5	9.6	7.1	12.8	10.1	12.3
White	87.2	76.6	72.6	78.1	83.3	73.4	76.7	80.6	83.0	77.4	72.3	81.6	86.3	72.7	77.4	77.4
Two or more races	—	—	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	—
Unknown	0.6	0.5	1.0	—	1.1	5.8	5.1	0.3	1.2	4.3	6.5	0.4	0.6	2.8	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	682	757	899	989	851	999	1,127	1,209	572	806	1,011	1,084	963	959	1,015	1,114

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	149	86	379	243
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	97	13	378	242
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.7	1.2	4.8	0.8
1-5 years	30.9	38.4	32.5	22.6
6-10 years	38.3	37.2	30.1	33.3
11-15 years	20.8	20.9	28.8	33.3
16+ years	6.0	2.3	3.7	9.1
Unknown	1.3	—	0.3	0.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	149	86	379	243

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.3	7.0	11.3	8.6
Asian	—	—	—	0.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	2.7	1.2	2.9	1.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.3	—
Hispanic	10.1	33.7	9.2	10.7
White	85.9	55.8	76.3	78.6
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	2.3	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	149	86	379	243

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	14.3	0.9	7.9	2.3
1-5 years	28.6	52.3	47.9	55.3
6-10 years	50.0	39.3	30.7	24.2
11-15 years	7.1	6.5	12.1	16.7
16+ years	—	0.9	1.4	1.5
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	14	107	140	132

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	—	3.7	4.3	13.6
Asian	—	—	1.4	0.8
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.9	—	—
Black	—	12.2	2.9	8.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	3.6	3.0
Hispanic	—	6.5	23.6	12.1
White	85.7	73.8	60.7	62.1
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	14.3	2.8	3.6	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	14	107	140	132

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

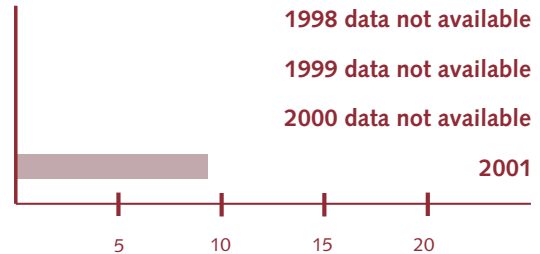
⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	—	90.7
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	—	9.3
Total %	—	—	—	100.0
Number	—	—	—	1,747

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences

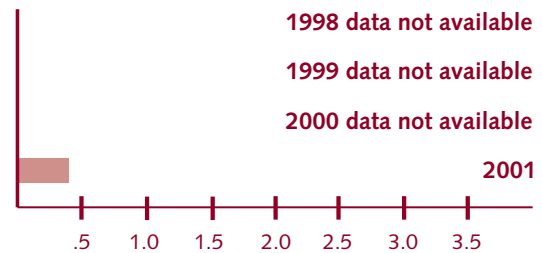


2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	0.36
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	99.64
Total %	—	—	—	100.00
Number	—	—	—	1,941

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care

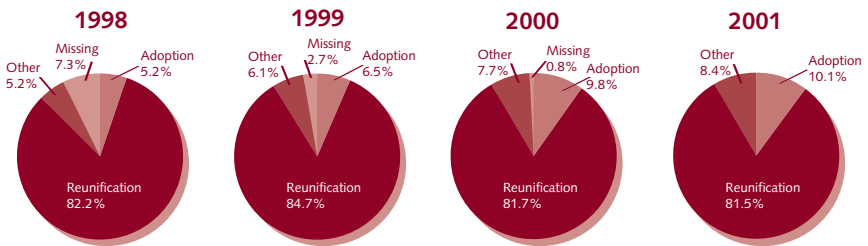


3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	5.2	6.5	9.8	10.1
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	82.2	84.7	81.7	81.5
Other	5.2	6.1	7.7	8.4
Missing data	7.3	2.7	0.8	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	572	806	1,011	1,084

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	9.8	13.7	39.4	55.2
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	74.5	74.5	57.6	31.0
Other	3.9	9.8	3.0	13.8
Missing data	11.8	2.0	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	51	51	66	58

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	0.3	0.3
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	78.2	79.5	78.9	77.9
Other	13.2	15.6	20.1	21.8
Missing data	8.6	4.9	0.7	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	174	224	298	317

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	10.5	21.9	20.5	10.3
Children older than 12 at entry	89.5	75.0	79.5	89.7
Missing data	—	3.1	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	19	32	44	58

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

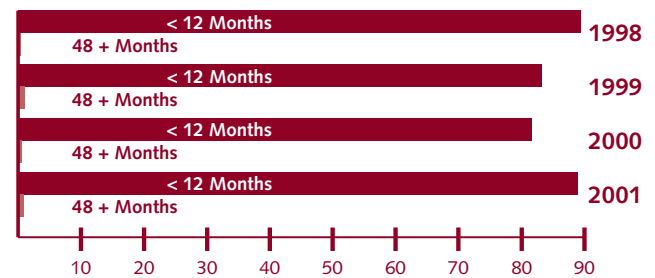
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	5.6	10.5	27.9	—	—	—	—	—	16.7	—	—	—	41.2	6.3	36.8	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	41.7	88.9	77.2	58.8	—	—	75.0	100.0	—	83.3	—	—	75.0	58.8	93.8	52.6	—	—	—	—
Other	8.3	2.8	12.3	13.2	—	—	25.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10.5	—	—	—	—	
Missing data	50.0	2.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	12	36	57	68	—	—	4	4	—	6	—	—	4	17	16	19	—	—	—	—

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	9.5	5.7	21.3	7.7	4.8	5.9	8.6	8.6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	74.3	88.6	75.0	81.7	84.2	84.0	82.1	83.6	100.0	97.1	92.4	100.0	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	—	—
Other	6.8	4.5	3.7	10.6	5.1	7.1	8.2	7.8	—	—	7.6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	9.5	1.1	—	—	5.9	3.0	1.1	—	—	2.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	—	—
Number	74	88	136	104	475	624	731	885	7	35	66	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

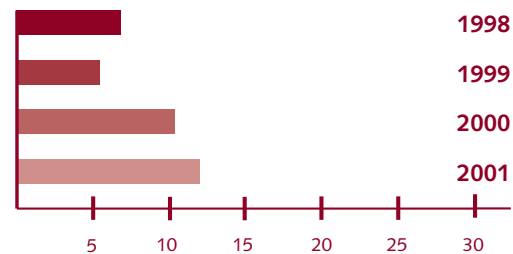
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	89.4	83.2	81.5	88.9
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	6.6	10.2	12.5	8.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1.9	2.3	4.1	1.4
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.9	0.9	1.2	0.5
48 or more mos.	0.4	1.0	0.6	0.8
Missing data	0.9	2.3	0.1	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	470	683	826	883

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	81.4	90.3	81.3	83.9
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	6.8	5.4	10.3	11.9
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	4.5	1.5	6.7	3.1
Missing data	7.3	2.8	1.7	1.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	851	999	1,127	1,209

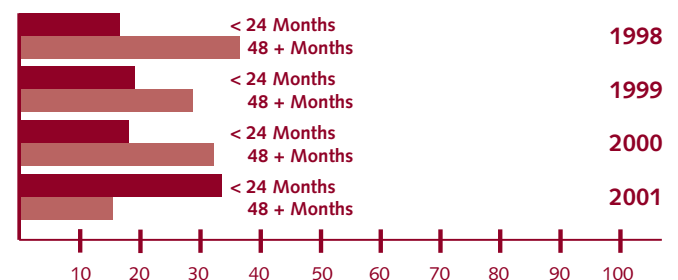
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	6.7	3.8	—	—
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	10.0	15.4	18.2	33.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	36.7	38.5	31.3	29.1
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	10.0	13.5	18.2	21.8
48 or more mos.	36.7	28.8	32.3	15.5
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	30	52	99	110

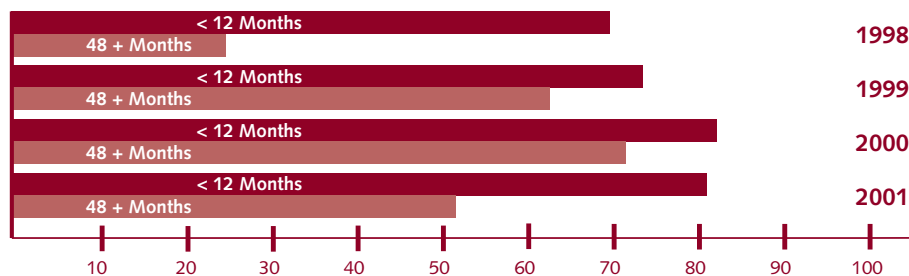
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	69.8	26.0	4.2	100.0	934
	1999	73.6	22.9	3.5	100.0	1,072
	2000	82.3	17.7	—	100.0	1,254
	2001	81.1	18.8	0.1	100.0	1,397
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	46.4	52.9	0.8	100.0	261
	1999	53.0	46.0	1.0	100.0	300
	2000	49.6	50.4	—	100.0	339
	2001	49.3	50.7	—	100.0	371
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	40.6	59.4	—	100.0	133
	1999	64.2	35.8	—	100.0	151
	2000	51.3	48.7	—	100.0	193
	2001	36.3	63.7	—	100.0	182
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	31.7	59.8	8.5	100.0	82
	1999	45.8	54.2	—	100.0	72
	2000	38.5	61.5	—	100.0	91
	2001	28.9	71.2	—	100.0	104
48 or more mos.	1998	25.0	69.2	5.8	100.0	120
	1999	62.8	37.2	—	100.0	148
	2000	71.6	28.4	—	100.0	148
	2001	51.8	48.2	—	100.0	137
Missing data	1998	100.0	—	—	100.0	3
	1999	92.3	7.7	—	100.0	13
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	1
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	7

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	3.2	3.9	4.2	4.4
Institutions	4.4	1.8	2.0	2.0
Other settings	91.6	93.3	93.7	93.7
Missing	0.9	1.0	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	571	674	783	870

Idaho

[STATE COMMENT]

The following discussion focuses on Idaho's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Idaho Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2003, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2001. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Idaho's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided below.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence in less than 6 months was 9.3 percent, which does not meet the national standard of 6.1 percent or less, and is higher than the national median of 8.0 percent. Change in performance cannot be assessed because in prior years, Idaho did not provide data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) to calculate this measure. Information from the CFSR Final Report indicates that performance on this measure may be attributed to inconsistent initial and ongoing assessments and service provision.

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.36 percent, which meets the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and is lower than the national median of 0.47 percent. A change in performance cannot be assessed, because in prior years Idaho did not provide data to NCANDS to calculate this measure. Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that performance on this measure may be attributed in part to new Child Care Licensing standards.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 91.6 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 85.3 percent); 86.2 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 78.4 percent); and 78.2 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 72.3 percent). There were no substantive changes in performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 for any of these measures. In addition, only 10.3 percent of the children who were emancipated from foster care in FY 2001 were 12 years old or younger at the time they entered foster care, which is less than the national median of 28.0 percent. Performance on this measure improved considerably from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-52.7 percent change); however, this change may be due to the small number of children exiting care to emancipation each year.

These data suggest that Idaho is generally effective in achieving permanency for children in foster care. Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies the following as potential reasons for the State's effectiveness in attaining permanency for children exiting foster care: (1) frequent visitation between foster children and their parents; (2) strong agency efforts to maintain the relationship between parents and children in foster care; (3) maintaining connections between children in foster care and their extended family members; and (4) frequent placements of children with relatives.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of children's entry into foster care was 88.9, which meets the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and is greater than the national median of 69.2 percent. Performance on this measure improved slightly from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+6.9 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that the State's

performance on this measure may be attributed to the following: (1) strong collaborations in some counties between child welfare, the court, and the Deputy Attorney General; and (2) frequent visitation between parents and children.

Idaho's high performance with regard to reunifications within 12 months must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 11.9, which does not meet the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is greater than the national median of 10.4 percent. Performance on this measure declined considerably from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+120.3 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies the following as barriers to preventing re-entries into foster care: (1) reunifications without appropriate risk assessment, and (2) lack of consistent post-reunification supports.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all adoptions finalized within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 33.6, which meets the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and is higher than the national median of 21.0 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+74.9 percent change). Information in the CFSR Final Report attributes performance with regard to timely adoptions to the following: (1) early initiation of concurrent planning, and (2) a broad array of programs to promote cross-jurisdictional adoptions. However, the CFSR Final Report noted several barriers to timely adoptions, including: (1) a tendency for the agency and courts to maintain the goal of reunification even when the prognosis for reunification is low, and (2) agency-related delays in processing paperwork necessary for termination of parental rights petitions.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who were in foster care for less than 12 months and experienced no more than 2 placements was 81.1, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and is lower than the national median of 83.3 percent. However, performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001(+10.2 percent change). Information from the CFSR identifies the following as potential barriers to achieving placement stability: (1) lack of appropriate placement resources; (2) inadequate foster parent training; and (3) inconsistent services to support foster care placements when problems arise.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 6.4, which is lower than the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+12.1 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	3,187,332	3,181,338	3,245,451	3,247,687	Child maltreatment victims	35,657	33,125	31,447	27,557
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	48,737	38,975	32,079	28,460
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	Children adopted	4,656	7,113	5,664	4,107
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.2					
Asian/Pacific Islander	3.4	3.5	3.0	N/A					
Black	18.5	18.5	18.5	18.4					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	14.4	15.0	17.0	17.6					
White	63.6	63.0	59.2	58.9					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.0	1.7					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	17.5	15.0	17.0	15.8					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	80.1	88.6	86.3	86.8					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	Number				Rate			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	110,658	104,418	146,792	142,967	34.7 per 1,000	32.8 per 1,000	45.2 per 1,000	44.0 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	35,657	33,125	31,447	27,557	11.2 per 1,000	10.4 per 1,000	9.7 per 1,000	8.5 per 1,000
Child fatalities	58	80	61	79	1.8 per 100,000	2.5 per 100,000	1.9 per 100,000	2.4 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	14.6	13.8	13.7	13.9	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
1-5 years	32.8	32.9	33.3	33.2	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.4	0.4	3.6	0.3
6-10 years	29.9	30.1	29.2	28.6	Black	39.3	39.1	38.4	37.2
11-15 years	18.9	19.4	19.9	20.3	Hispanic	8.5	8.5	9.4	10.0
16+ years	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.9	White	48.6	48.6	48.0	48.4
Unknown	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	11.6	11.9	0.5	4.1
Number	35,657	33,125	31,447	27,557	Total % ³	108.5	108.5	100.0	100.0
					Number	35,657	33,125	31,447	27,557

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	1.3	1.2	0.2	0.2
Medical neglect	3.5	3.1	3.4	3.1
Neglect	44.8	40.6	44.0	43.7
Physical abuse	11.4	11.2	12.7	12.8
Sexual abuse	10.1	10.2	10.1	10.0
Other	43.2	42.8	43.7	43.5
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	114.3	109.0	114.1	113.3
Number	35,657	33,125	31,447	27,557

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	52,134	9,229	12,627	48,737	61,363
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	45,123	7,756	13,904	38,975	52,879
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	37,105	6,582	11,608	32,079	43,687
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	31,380	6,587	9,507	28,460	37,967

Median Length of Stay (Months)	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	35.6	N/A	42.7	40.0	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	40.2	N/A	48.7	40.4	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	39.9	N/A	47.6	39.8	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	40.4	N/A	45.0	39.0	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	3.1	3.4	3.4	3.2	24.8	23.3	22.2	22.0	1.9	2.0	1.8	2.2	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.6
1-5 years	29.9	28.0	26.3	24.6	27.8	28.1	27.0	28.5	27.5	28.6	28.5	27.2	27.7	25.8	24.6	24.3
6-10 years	29.9	29.7	27.6	25.3	21.1	21.1	19.4	20.6	29.4	33.0	30.7	28.2	29.7	27.6	25.1	22.7
11-15 years	22.9	23.2	23.8	24.4	19.0	18.7	20.8	20.3	18.7	19.3	19.3	18.4	23.7	24.3	24.6	25.0
16-18 years	11.1	12.2	14.1	15.7	6.5	7.9	8.7	7.5	12.9	9.4	10.1	10.8	12.1	14.2	15.9	16.5
19+ years	3.0	3.4	4.7	6.6	0.7	0.9	1.7	1.0	7.5	5.5	5.5	7.4	3.3	4.6	6.5	7.7
Unknown	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	—	2.1	2.3	4.3	5.8	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	52,134	45,123	37,105	31,380	9,229	7,756	6,582	6,587	12,627	13,904	11,608	9,507	48,737	38,975	32,079	28,460

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.1
Asian/Pacific	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—
Black	77.6	78.2	76.2	74.7	64.0	60.3	58.4	56.6	69.3	74.2	72.0	69.5	77.2	76.0	74.1	72.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	4.6	4.8	5.1	5.0	7.2	6.0	5.9	6.3	6.1	5.0	5.6	5.4	4.7	5.0	5.0	5.2
White	16.3	15.6	17.1	18.4	26.5	30.7	32.3	33.6	22.7	19.2	20.2	23.0	16.5	17.3	19.0	20.4
Two or more races	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unknown	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.6	2.2	2.7	3.1	3.0	1.6	1.4	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	52,134	45,123	37,105	31,380	9,229	7,756	6,582	6,587	12,627	13,904	11,608	9,507	48,737	38,975	32,079	28,460

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	23,023	19,632	15,091	11,884
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	6,066	16,651	11,531	7,718

Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.1	5.2	5.0	4.5
1-5 years	35.5	38.8	37.7	36.6
6-10 years	39.4	37.2	35.6	32.9
11-15 years	21.0	17.9	20.4	24.2
16+ years	1.6	0.8	1.0	1.4
Unknown	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	23,023	19,632	15,091	11,884

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.1	0.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.0	0.1	—	—
Black	83.3	77.3	75.3	73.1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	4.0	4.6	4.7	4.8
White	11.6	16.3	18.1	20.0
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	1.0	1.6	1.7	1.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	23,023	19,632	15,091	11,884

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.5
1-5 years	39.2	36.6	39.7	40.0
6-10 years	40.9	41.9	40.4	38.7
11-15 years	17.0	18.9	17.7	18.7
16+ years	2.1	2.1	1.7	2.1
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,656	7,113	5,664	4,107

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Asian	—	—	0.1	0.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	—	—
Black	75.1	79.9	76.9	77.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	4.6	4.1	4.8	4.6
White	18.8	14.7	16.0	16.6
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	1.3	1.2	2.1	1.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,656	7,113	5,664	4,107

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

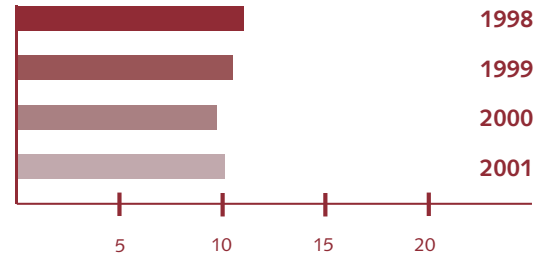
⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	89.0	89.5	90.3	89.9
Children with one or more recurrences	11.0	10.5	9.7	10.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	16,960	15,520	15,391	13,074

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences

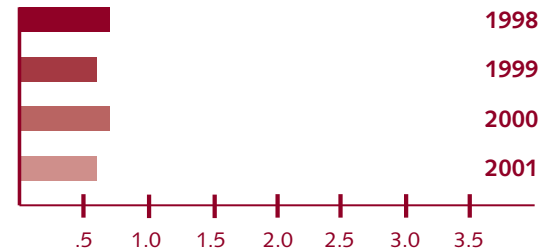


2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.70	0.60	0.66	0.55
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.30	99.40	99.34	99.45
Total %	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	58,640	49,867	40,698	35,772

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care

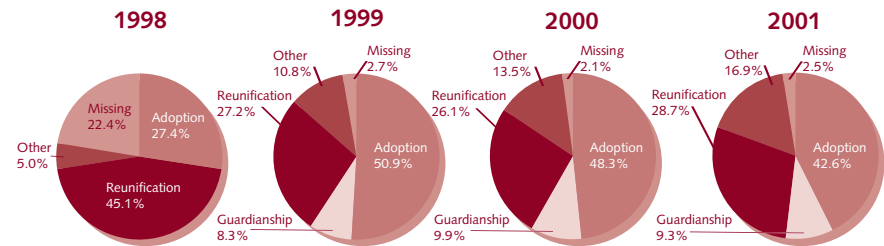


3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	27.4	50.9	48.3	42.6
Guardianship	0.0	8.3	9.9	9.3
Reunification	45.1	27.2	26.1	28.7
Other	5.0	10.8	13.5	16.9
Missing data	22.4	2.7	2.1	2.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	12,627	13,904	11,608	9,507

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	32.2	45.4	40.1	36.6
Guardianship	—	5.7	6.5	6.6
Reunification	29.1	20.1	21.6	18.8
Other	8.4	22.6	25.7	30.5
Missing data	30.3	6.3	6.1	7.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,687	1,919	1,772	1,720

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.7	1.9	2.8	2.6
Guardianship	—	0.4	0.8	1.5
Reunification	30.3	33.5	31.0	29.1
Other	18.7	52.5	57.6	59.1
Missing data	50.3	11.7	7.7	7.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,296	1,774	1,605	1,572

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	28.1	34.9	38.8	41.0
Children older than 12 at entry	71.9	64.8	60.2	58.9
Missing data	—	0.3	1.0	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	516	1,314	1,426	1,479

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	13.3	35.7	55.6	76.9	—	—	30.0	5.3	10.7	19.0	—	—	29.3	55.6	52.5	47.7	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	7.7	—	—	—	10.5	—	—	—	—	—	9.9	11.5	10.8	—	—	—	—
Reunification	53.3	28.6	22.2	7.7	—	—	55.0	52.6	53.6	57.1	—	—	41.7	22.2	21.2	22.3	—	—	—	—
Other	20.0	28.6	22.2	7.7	—	—	10.0	26.3	25.0	23.8	—	—	4.9	9.9	12.9	17.1	—	—	—	—
Missing data	13.3	7.1	—	—	—	—	5.0	5.3	10.7	—	—	—	24.1	2.4	2.0	2.1	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	15	14	9	13	—	—	20	19	28	21	—	—	8,747	10,311	8,363	6,605	—	—	—	—

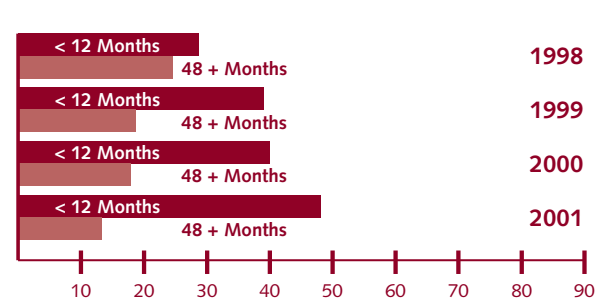
	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	22.9	42.0	39.5	34.6	23.4	35.8	35.4	29.5	26.0	41.0	55.5	38.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	2.3	5.2	3.1	0.1	4.6	6.6	6.3	—	1.0	3.8	4.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	56.3	45.2	41.2	43.7	51.5	40.5	38.9	43.1	58.5	42.5	30.3	46.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	5.1	6.9	11.1	15.7	5.1	15.4	16.7	17.5	3.0	10.5	10.4	7.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	15.7	3.6	2.9	2.9	19.9	3.6	2.4	3.5	12.5	5.0	—	2.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number	765	691	655	517	2,872	2,667	2,350	2,191	200	200	211	162	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	28.7	39.0	39.9	48.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	16.3	15.7	17.1	17.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	15.2	13.9	11.8	12.7
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	14.8	10.0	9.3	5.3
48 or more mos.	24.5	18.6	17.9	13.2
Missing data	0.6	2.7	4.1	3.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,696	3,788	3,030	2,727

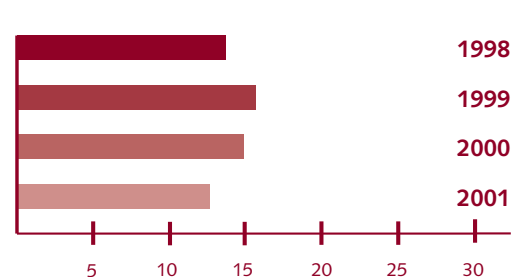
Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	78.3	72.4	72.2	73.9
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	13.6	15.6	14.8	12.6
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	6.5	7.1	7.9	8.6
Missing data	1.5	5.0	5.2	4.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	9,229	7,756	6,582	6,587

Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months

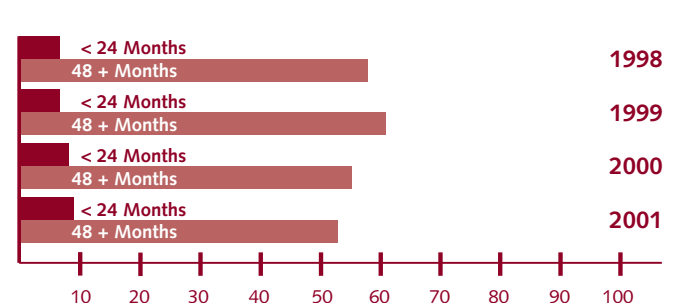


5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	1.2	1.3	1.0	1.6
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	5.6	5.4	7.3	7.4
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	13.1	12.5	14.0	18.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	21.9	19.1	21.9	19.2
48 or more mos.	58.0	61.0	55.3	53.0
Missing data	0.1	0.8	0.5	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,466	7,075	5,610	4,053

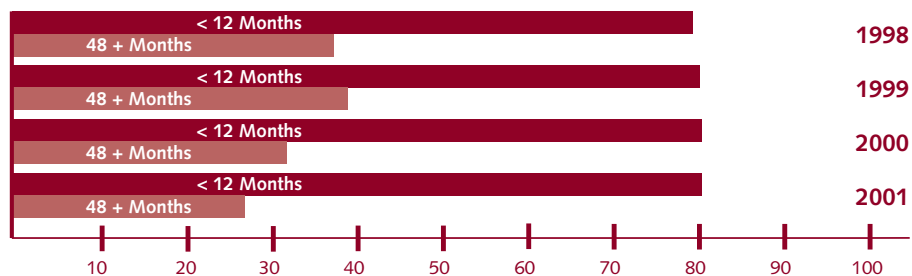
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	79.4	20.6	0.1	100.0	9,787
	1999	80.2	17.9	1.9	100.0	7,983
	2000	80.5	17.6	1.9	100.0	6,703
	2001	80.5	17.9	1.5	100.0	6,771
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	61.6	38.4	—	100.0	8,434
	1999	63.7	36.0	0.3	100.0	7,159
	2000	64.2	35.4	0.4	100.0	6,073
	2001	63.9	35.6	0.5	100.0	5,025
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	55.5	44.5	—	100.0	8,964
	1999	56.7	43.1	0.1	100.0	6,907
	2000	54.4	45.5	0.1	100.0	5,983
	2001	54.3	45.6	0.1	100.0	5,209
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	49.3	50.7	—	100.0	9,213
	1999	50.5	49.4	—	100.0	6,833
	2000	47.4	52.6	—	100.0	5,257
	2001	43.8	56.2	0.0	100.0	4,319
48 or more mos.	1998	37.5	62.5	0.0	100.0	24,849
	1999	39.2	60.8	—	100.0	23,709
	2000	32.1	67.9	—	100.0	19,359
	2001	27.2	72.8	0.0	100.0	16,418
Missing data	1998	56.9	2.6	40.5	100.0	116
	1999	74.0	0.3	25.7	100.0	288
	2000	78.5	0.6	20.8	100.0	312
	2001	72.0	0.4	27.6	100.0	225

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.4
Institutions	3.4	4.0	4.2	3.2
Other settings	93.9	95.8	95.6	96.4
Missing	2.3	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	7,376	6,071	4,945	5,112

The following discussion focuses on Illinois' performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Illinois Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2003, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2001. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Illinois' performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided below.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence in less than 6 months was 10.1 percent, which does not meet the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and is higher than the national median of 8.0 percent. Performance on this measure did not exhibit a substantive change from 1999 to 2001. The CFSR Final Report indicates that the State questions the validity of the data used to calculate maltreatment recurrence. However, the Final Report also identifies the following as potential barriers to preventing maltreatment recurrence: (1) inconsistent provision of services to protect children in the home and reduce risk of harm, and (2) lack of comprehensive risk and safety assessments

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.56 percent, which meets the national standard of 0.57 percent or less but is higher than the national median of 0.47 percent. Performance on this measure improved from 1999 to 2001 (-8.2 percent change).

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 80.6 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 85.3 percent); 62.0 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 78.4 percent); and 33.2 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 72.3 percent). Performance on all three measures declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (the percent change ranged from -6.8 to -12.9). In addition, 41 percent of the children who were emancipated from foster care in FY 2001 were 12 years old or younger at the time they entered foster care, which is considerably higher than the national median of 28.0 percent. Performance on this measure also declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+17.3 percent change).

These data suggest that Illinois is not consistently effective in achieving permanency for children in foster care and that a considerable percentage of children emancipated from foster care may be said to have "grown up" in the foster care system (i.e., they entered the system when they were age 12 or younger). CFSR Final Report information attributes the State's performance on these measures to the multiple barriers in the system to achieving termination of parental rights (TPR) and adoption. However, the CFSR Final Report also notes that many children are beginning to achieve permanency through the State's subsidized guardianship program.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 48.0, which does not meet the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and is lower than the national median of 69.2 percent. However, performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+23.0 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that the State's performance on this measure may be attributed to the following: (1) inconsistent engagement of parents in meeting case goals;

(2) maintaining the goal of reunification when the prognosis for attaining that goal is low; (3) inadequate services and resources in the community to assist in the reunification process; (4) inconsistent agency efforts to promote more frequent parent/child visitation; and (5) infrequent caseworker contact with parents, particularly fathers.

Also in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 12.6, which does not meet the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is greater than the national median of 10.4 percent. However, performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-19.2 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report notes that the agency's ability to prevent re-entries into foster care is impeded somewhat by a lack of services and ongoing support to families following case closure.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all adoptions finalized within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 9.0, which does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and is lower than the national median of 21.0 percent. However, performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+34.9 percent change). Information in the CFSR Final Report attributes performance on this measure to the following: (1) court delays, including lengthy appeals to TPR findings; (2) agency delays, including delays in seeking TPR and delays in transferring cases; and (3) lack of adoptive resources.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who were in foster care for less than 12 months and experienced no more than 2 placements was 80.5, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and is lower than the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure did not change from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Information from the CFSR Final Reports suggests that one barrier to achieving placement stability is the lack of consistent support services for foster parents and relative caregivers.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 3.6, which is lower than the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-15.6 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	1,517,366	1,528,991	1,574,396	1,587,570	Child maltreatment victims	18,962	21,608	21,890	21,128
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	5,070	8,933	7,482	8,383
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	Children adopted	795	759	1,147	878
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.0					
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.0	1.1	0.9	N/A					
Black	10.1	10.2	10.3	10.5					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	3.4	3.6	4.8	5.0					
White	85.2	84.9	81.6	81.4					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	1.9	1.9					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.3	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	13.3	8.5	10.4	11.3					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	54.6	60.1	72.2	59.8					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	Number				Rate			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	102,155	91,625	23,369	53,503	67.3 per 1,000	59.9 per 1,000	14.8 per 1,000	33.9 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	18,962	21,608	21,890	21,128	12.5 per 1,000	14.1 per 1,000	13.9 per 1,000	13.4 per 1,000
Child fatalities	65	41	40	46	4.3 per 100,000	2.7 per 100,000	2.5 per 100,000	2.9 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	6.2	3.3	8.1	9.0	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	1.4	0.2	0.2
1-5 years	25.0	27.8	27.3	29.1	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4
6-10 years	27.8	30.4	29.0	28.6	Black	17.1	17.6	17.9	16.4
11-15 years	25.4	29.0	27.2	28.0	Hispanic	1.1	1.7	4.2	4.5
16+ years	15.6	9.5	4.6	5.1	White	76.5	71.3	74.6	75.5
Unknown	—	—	3.8	0.1	Two or more races	—	—	1.6	2.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	6.0	9.4	1.3	0.8
Number	18,962	21,608	21,890	21,128	Total % ³	101.1	101.7	100.0	100.0
					Number	18,962	21,608	21,890	21,128

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	—	—	—	—
Medical neglect	5.6	5.5	3.6	3.2
Neglect	124.3	124.9	66.2	64.9
Physical abuse	32.0	31.1	18.1	18.2
Sexual abuse	26.1	25.6	19.2	20.5
Other	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	188.0	187.1	107.1	106.8
Number	18,962	21,608	21,890	21,128

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	8,259	6,328	9,524	5,070	14,587
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	8,419	4,808	4,313	8,933	13,227
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	7,084	5,576	5,197	7,482	12,660
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	7,723	5,399	4,750	8,383	13,122
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	18.2	N/A	8.8	19.1	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	19.6	N/A	13.2	17.7	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	17.9	N/A	10.2	12.7	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	16.6	N/A	11.2	13.9	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	3.7	4.3	4.3	4.2	11.5	13.7	13.3	14.8	5.2	4.1	5.2	4.7	4.4	4.3	5.0	5.5
1-5 years	24.2	26.0	25.6	26.1	22.9	26.3	26.2	27.8	22.3	27.3	27.5	30.3	26.2	26.0	25.3	25.8
6-10 years	22.7	24.5	24.9	24.5	20.5	23.3	24.6	21.3	20.8	23.0	25.5	23.3	23.2	24.5	23.9	22.4
11-15 years	28.5	29.2	29.4	30.4	33.2	28.2	28.6	27.5	31.3	24.4	25.1	25.3	24.6	29.1	30.2	29.5
16-18 years	17.7	15.1	15.2	14.0	11.5	8.3	7.2	8.4	19.2	18.9	15.4	14.6	14.8	15.1	14.7	15.7
19+ years	1.9	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.1	0.0	—	—	1.0	2.1	1.3	1.7	3.8	0.9	0.7	0.9
Unknown	1.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	3.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	8,259	8,419	7,084	7,723	6,328	4,808	5,576	5,399	9,524	4,313	5,197	4,750	5,070	8,933	7,482	8,383

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	—	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.2	—	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.3
Asian	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.3	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.2
Asian/Pacific	0.1	—	—	—	0.2	—	—	—	0.2	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—
Black	32.2	1.3	42.9	41.1	27.5	0.8	31.3	30.5	28.1	0.2	33.4	34.5	33.9	1.5	40.7	38.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.1	0.0	—	—	0.1	0.0	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.0	0.0
Hispanic	1.6	98.1	3.8	4.1	2.2	97.5	4.5	5.7	2.2	99.6	4.2	4.8	1.3	97.1	4.0	4.8
White	56.9	0.5	51.6	52.8	58.3	1.5	61.2	59.3	58.6	0.1	60.1	58.4	56.2	1.2	53.0	53.7
Two or more races	—	—	1.1	1.4	—	0.0	2.2	3.4	—	—	1.7	1.7	—	0.0	1.5	2.6
Unknown	8.9	0.1	0.3	0.2	11.5	0.2	0.4	0.4	10.7	0.0	0.1	0.2	8.2	0.2	0.4	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	8,259	8,419	7,084	7,723	6,328	4,808	5,576	5,399	9,524	4,313	5,197	4,750	5,070	8,933	7,482	8,383

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	443	2,632	1,966	2,392
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	124	1,408	1,008	1,128
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.0	1.5	1.9	1.6
1-5 years	42.4	31.4	30.1	29.4
6-10 years	31.2	35.0	31.7	31.9
11-15 years	17.6	27.3	31.6	31.8
16+ years	3.6	4.4	4.2	4.8
Unknown	3.2	0.5	0.5	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	443	2,632	1,966	2,392

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.5	—	0.3	0.1
Asian	—	—	—	0.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	38.6	0.2	47.8	45.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	1.8	99.6	3.1	2.8
White	54.6	0.2	47.3	48.7
Two or more races	—	—	1.4	2.3
Unknown	4.5	—	0.3	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	443	2,632	1,966	2,392

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	0.9	0.9	0.6	1.1
1-5 years	39.1	43.2	38.7	41.1
6-10 years	41.1	35.7	37.9	35.3
11-15 years	16.7	17.5	18.9	19.1
16+ years	2.1	2.6	3.8	3.3
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	795	759	1,147	878

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	0.3
Asian	—	—	0.2	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.1	—	—	—
Black	29.4	—	42.8	50.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	3.3	99.7	2.4	3.4
White	59.9	0.3	52.9	44.8
Two or more races	—	—	1.3	1.4
Unknown	7.3	—	0.3	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	795	759	1,147	878

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

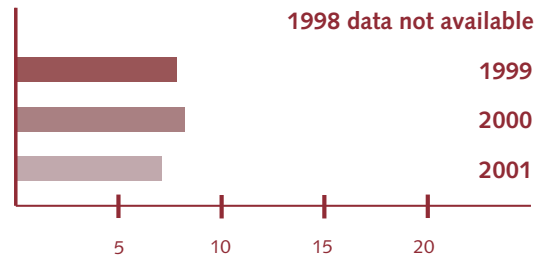
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	92.2	91.8	92.9
Children with one or more recurrences	—	7.8	8.2	7.1
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	8,791	10,096	10,056

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



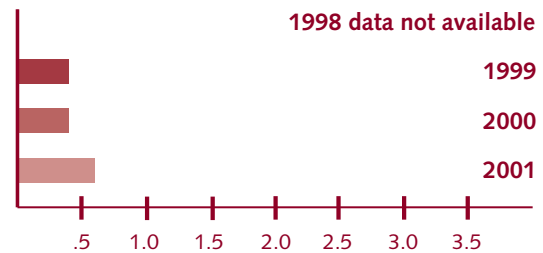
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	0.42	0.44	0.56
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	99.58	99.56	99.44
Total %	—	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	—	12,522	11,468	12,029

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



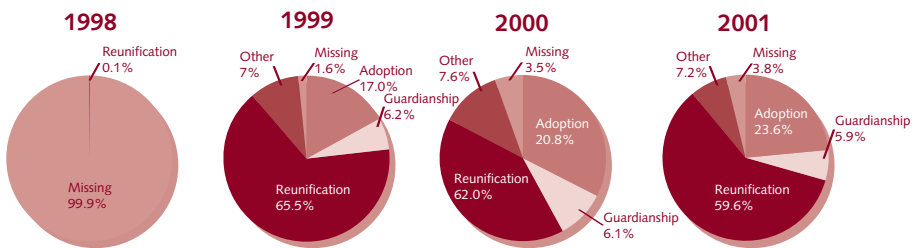
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	17.0	20.8	23.5
Guardianship	—	6.2	6.1	5.9
Reunification	0.1	65.5	62.0	59.6
Other	—	9.7	7.6	7.2
Missing data	99.9	1.6	3.5	3.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	9,524	4,313	5,197	4,750

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	30.7	33.9	39.9
Guardianship	—	5.8	4.7	1.8
Reunification	0.5	48.7	45.0	40.5
Other	—	11.2	13.7	14.7
Missing data	99.5	3.6	2.6	3.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	422	277	380	333

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	1.0	2.0	1.9
Guardianship	—	2.4	3.6	4.7
Reunification	0.1	72.2	70.3	70.3
Other	—	21.9	19.6	18.5
Missing data	99.9	2.6	4.4	4.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,040	1,135	1,243	1,133

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	—	39.1	37.4	39.2
Children older than 12 at entry	—	60.9	61.9	60.8
Missing data	—	—	0.7	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	340	294	260

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

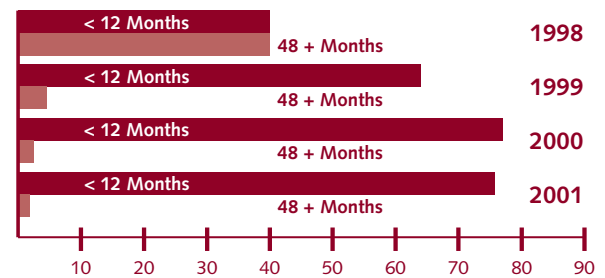
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	27.3	8.3	—	—	28.6	—	—	—	—	—	—	27.4	34.0	—	—	—	—	
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	14.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.0	5.6	—	—	—	—	
Reunification	—	—	72.7	83.3	—	—	57.1	100.0	—	—	—	—	0.1	80.0	55.1	51.3	—	—	50.0	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20.0	7.3	6.1	—	—	50.0	—
Missing data	100.0	—	—	8.3	—	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	99.9	—	3.3	3.1	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	—
Number	17	—	11	12	—	—	7	6	17	—	—	—	2,678	10	1,736	1,637	—	—	4	—

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	17.1	12.3	20.1	—	—	17.8	17.8	—	—	—	12.5	—	—	20.0	19.5	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	6.2	4.1	6.6	—	—	5.8	6.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.3	4.9	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	65.4	77.2	64.6	0.1	83.3	64.4	63.6	—	100.0	100.0	87.5	—	—	73.3	70.7	—	—	—	—
Other	—	9.7	4.6	4.8	—	16.7	8.2	8.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.1	4.9	—	—	—	—
Missing data	100.0	1.6	1.8	3.9	99.9	—	3.8	4.3	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	2.2	—	100.0	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—
Number	211	4,295	219	229	5,578	6	3,123	2,776	428	2	7	8	—	—	90	82	595	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

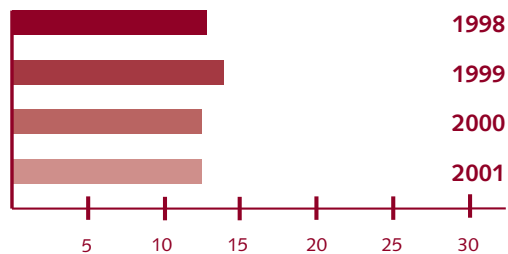
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	40.0	64.0	76.9	75.7
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	21.7	15.0	15.1
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	6.1	3.3	4.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	2.9	1.8	2.1
48 or more mos.	40.0	4.6	2.4	1.9
Missing data	20.0	0.8	0.6	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5	2,825	3,224	2,833

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	78.2	78.2	80.0	79.0
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	12.7	13.8	12.4	12.4
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	6.3	5.9	6.7	8.0
Missing data	2.8	2.1	0.9	0.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6,328	4,808	5,576	5,399

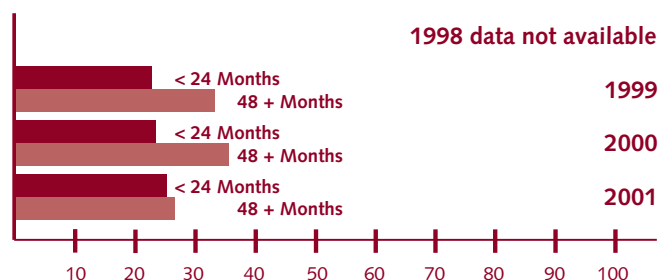
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	3.7	3.3	4.6
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	19.1	20.2	20.7
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	27.2	25.2	32.1
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	16.3	15.6	15.9
48 or more mos.	—	33.4	35.7	26.7
Missing data	—	0.3	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	734	1,080	1,115

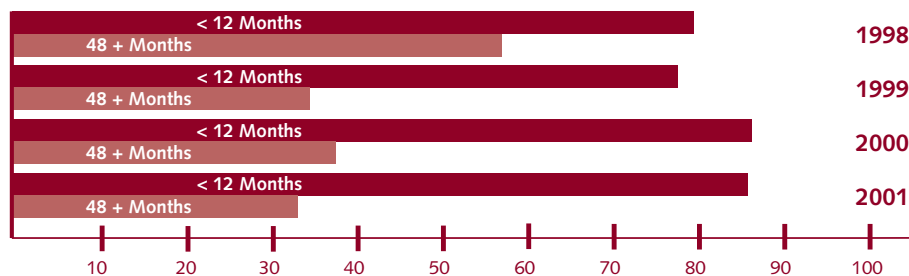
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	79.5	20.4	0.1	100.0	7,102
	1999	77.7	22.0	0.2	100.0	5,411
	2000	86.3	13.5	0.2	100.0	6,438
	2001	85.9	14.0	0.1	100.0	6,245
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	66.9	32.0	1.1	100.0	2,396
	1999	59.6	40.2	0.1	100.0	2,814
	2000	62.6	37.4	—	100.0	2,174
	2001	64.8	35.2	—	100.0	2,606
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	62.4	36.9	0.7	100.0	1,568
	1999	50.2	49.6	0.2	100.0	1,465
	2000	48.0	52.0	—	100.0	1,335
	2001	50.4	49.6	0.1	100.0	1,511
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	61.4	37.8	0.8	100.0	1,027
	1999	45.1	54.9	—	100.0	943
	2000	41.6	58.4	—	100.0	728
	2001	42.0	58.0	—	100.0	860
48 or more mos.	1998	57.2	42.2	0.6	100.0	2,030
	1999	34.7	65.1	0.1	100.0	2,550
	2000	37.8	62.2	0.1	100.0	1,975
	2001	33.4	66.7	—	100.0	1,892
Missing data	1998	95.7	3.2	1.1	100.0	464
	1999	88.6	4.5	6.8	100.0	44
	2000	90.0	10.0	—	100.0	10
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	8

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	1.5	2.2	3.4	1.4
Institutions	9.0	4.9	4.9	5.7
Other settings	66.3	92.0	91.5	92.6
Missing	23.2	0.9	0.1	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,925	3,432	3,804	3,875

Indiana

[STATE COMMENT]

The following discussion focuses on Indiana's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Indiana Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2001, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 1999. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Indiana's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence in less than 6 months was 7.1 percent, which does not meet the national standard of 6.1 percent or less, but is lower than the national median of 8.0 percent. Performance on this measure improved from 1999 to 2001 (-8.4 percent change).

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.56 percent, which does not meet the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and is higher than the national median of 0.47 percent. Performance on this measure declined from 1999 to 2001 (+31.6 percent change).

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 89.0 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 85.3 percent); 82.2 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 78.4 percent); and 76.9 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 72.3 percent). However, 39.2 percent of the children who were emancipated from foster care in FY 2001 were 12 years old or younger at the time they entered foster care, which is greater than the national median of 28.0 percent. There were no substantive changes in performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 for any of these measures.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 75.7, which does not meet the national standard of 76.2 percent, but is greater than the national median of 69.2 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+18.2 percent change).

Indiana's performance in FY 2001 with regard to the percentage of re-entries into foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 12.4. This does not meet the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is greater than the national median of 10.4 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-10.3 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all adoptions finalized within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 25.3, which does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more but exceeds the national median of 21.0 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+11.2 percent change).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who were in foster care for less than 12 months and experienced no more than 2 placements was 85.9, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more but exceeds the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+10.5 percent change).

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 7.1, which is lower than the national median of 8.7 percent. There were no substantive changes in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	722,139	719,685	733,638	710,735	Child maltreatment victims	7,311	9,763	10,822	12,792
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	4,920	4,854	5,068	5,202
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	Children adopted	525	764	729	661
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.5					
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.7	1.7	1.4	N/A					
Black	2.5	2.5	2.9	3.2					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	3.1	3.3	4.5	4.6					
White	92.4	92.0	88.8	88.4					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	1.8	1.8					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	13.2	9.9	8.4	7.6					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	47.3	53.5	45.7	47.9					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	Rate			
		1999	2000	2001		1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	28,072	26,812	31,317	37,704	38.9 per 1,000	37.3 per 1,000	42.7 per 1,000	51.6 per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	7,311	9,763	10,822	12,792	10.1 per 1,000	13.6 per 1,000	14.8 per 1,000	17.5 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	10	11	10	15	1.4 per 100,000	1.5 per 100,000	1.4 per 100,000	2.1 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	8.4	4.5	8.8	8.6	Alaska Native/American Indian	1.3	0.9	0.8	1.0
1-5 years	32.5	34.1	34.7	35.9	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.3	0.7	0.6	0.6
6-10 years	28.7	30.3	28.5	28.2	Black	8.2	8.0	8.3	8.1
11-15 years	20.6	22.3	21.4	20.9	Hispanic	3.5	3.7	3.9	5.1
16+ years	4.8	7.4	5.6	4.9	White	71.4	74.2	74.0	72.0
Unknown	5.0	1.4	1.0	1.5	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	18.8	16.2	12.5	13.2
Number	7,311	9,763	10,822	12,792	Total % ³	103.5	103.7	100.0	100.0
					Number	7,311	9,763	10,822	12,792

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		0.4	1.2	1.2	1.4
Medical neglect		2.9	1.6	1.6	1.6
Neglect		59.4	63.1	68.1	71.9
Physical abuse		22.0	25.2	22.4	18.7
Sexual abuse		13.2	11.1	8.7	8.1
Other		4.1	2.4	2.8	3.8
Unknown		—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴		102.1	104.7	104.7	105.5
Number		7,311	9,763	10,822	12,792

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	4,846	5,331	5,257	4,920	10,177
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	4,954	5,343	5,443	4,854	10,297
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	4,862	5,620	5,414	5,068	10,482
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	5,085	5,829	5,712	5,202	10,914
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	12.9	N/A	4.0	12.5	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	13.5	N/A	4.7	11.7	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	12.5	N/A	4.3	10.7	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	11.3	N/A	4.2	10.7	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	2.5	2.6	2.4	3.2	5.3	4.9	6.4	6.7	2.5	2.3	2.9	2.9	2.6	2.4	3.2	3.7
1-5 years	18.4	17.2	16.9	16.8	13.2	15.0	15.2	17.0	14.0	15.4	15.8	14.6	16.8	16.4	16.7	20.4
6-10 years	20.1	20.1	18.5	16.9	13.0	12.9	13.4	14.3	12.3	14.1	13.7	13.8	19.9	18.1	16.4	16.6
11-15 years	35.6	36.4	37.6	38.1	44.1	43.0	40.9	40.0	34.6	33.4	32.7	34.6	37.1	38.5	38.5	36.1
16-18 years	23.3	23.6	24.5	24.9	24.4	24.1	24.0	21.9	36.0	34.6	34.5	33.8	23.4	24.4	25.0	23.0
19+ years	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
Unknown	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.1	—	0.1	0.0	0.1	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,846	4,954	4,862	5,085	5,331	5,343	5,620	5,829	5,257	5,443	5,414	5,712	4,920	4,854	5,068	5,202

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵																
Alaska Native/American Indian	2.7	2.6	2.1	2.3	1.5	1.7	1.4	2.1	1.7	2.3	1.4	2.0	2.5	1.9	2.1	2.4
Asian	—	—	0.8	0.9	—	—	0.9	0.7	—	—	0.9	0.9	—	—	0.9	0.7
Asian/Pacific	0.8	0.6	—	—	0.7	0.9	—	—	0.8	0.7	—	—	0.7	0.9	—	—
Black	13.6	13.6	12.3	11.5	10.2	9.1	9.3	10.8	10.3	10.6	10.3	10.5	13.5	12.0	11.1	11.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	3.1	3.9	4.0	4.2	3.7	3.8	4.1	4.6	3.1	3.7	4.1	4.1	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.7
White	72.9	71.0	71.3	70.6	70.6	72.0	71.8	71.0	71.9	71.5	72.6	71.4	71.5	71.5	70.5	70.1
Two or more races	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.1	0.2	1.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.8	0.4
Unknown	6.8	8.2	9.2	9.9	13.1	12.4	11.4	10.7	12.2	11.2	10.1	10.6	7.8	9.4	10.6	9.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,846	4,954	4,862	5,085	5,331	5,343	5,620	5,829	5,257	5,443	5,414	5,712	4,920	4,854	5,068	5,202

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	1,039	1,044	1,019	1,130
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	938	922	826	961
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.1	2.4	1.8	2.2
1-5 years	33.5	32.6	31.6	34.3
6-10 years	36.4	32.9	31.1	27.9
11-15 years	23.1	25.7	29.0	28.5
16+ years	4.6	5.4	5.9	6.6
Unknown	0.3	1.2	0.7	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,039	1,044	1,019	1,130

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	5.4	4.3	3.1	2.7
Asian	—	—	0.6	0.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.1	0.4	—	—
Black	20.3	19.1	17.6	13.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	3.5	5.6	4.8	6.4
White	66.3	63.7	63.9	66.4
Two or more races	—	—	0.6	0.7
Unknown	3.5	7.0	9.4	9.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,039	1,044	1,019	1,130

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	0.8	1.2	1.8	2.0
1-5 years	47.0	44.4	44.9	43.7
6-10 years	36.8	37.7	34.3	31.6
11-15 years	13.1	14.9	17.6	19.1
16+ years	2.3	1.8	1.5	3.6
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	525	764	729	661

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	5.5	3.3	3.2	3.0
Asian	—	—	—	1.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.0	1.2	—	—
Black	16.6	17.8	20.4	20.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	2.3	5.2	6.0	6.2
White	69.1	64.1	65.6	63.2
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	5.5	8.4	4.8	5.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	525	764	729	661

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

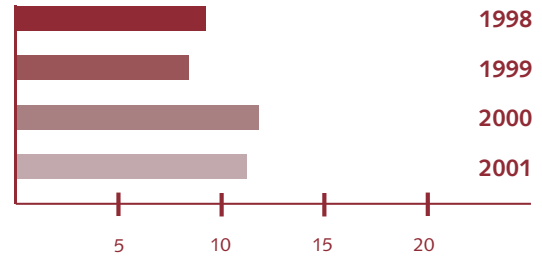
⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	90.8	91.6	88.2	88.8
Children with one or more recurrences	9.2	8.4	11.8	11.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	8,698	8,699	5,041	6,184

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences

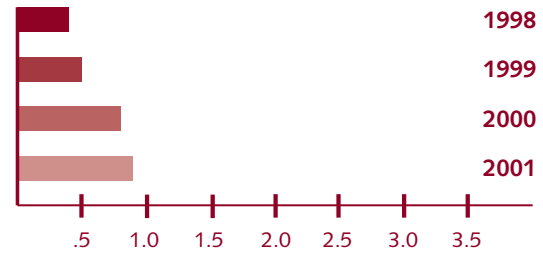


2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.43	0.45	0.79	0.89
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.57	99.55	99.21	99.11
Total %	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	8,875	9,127	9,381	9,638

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care

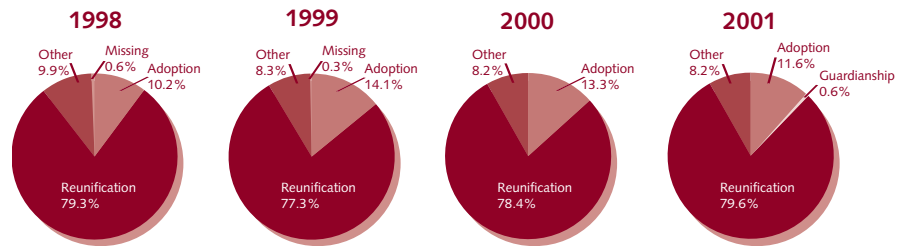


3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	10.2	14.1	13.3	11.6
Guardianship	—	—	—	0.6
Reunification	79.3	77.3	78.4	79.6
Other	9.9	8.3	8.2	8.2
Missing data	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,257	5,443	5,414	5,712

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	27.0	40.8	43.8	39.5
Guardianship	—	—	—	0.4
Reunification	55.6	47.7	43.9	47.3
Other	15.8	10.8	12.3	12.7
Missing data	1.6	0.7	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	891	969	886	919

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.9
Guardianship	—	—	—	0.4
Reunification	84.1	86.4	87.0	86.7
Other	15.3	13.2	12.5	12.0
Missing data	0.1	0.0	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,175	3,106	2,995	3,127

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	2.7	9.5	18.1	26.0
Children older than 12 at entry	97.3	90.5	81.9	74.0
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	255	231	249	269

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

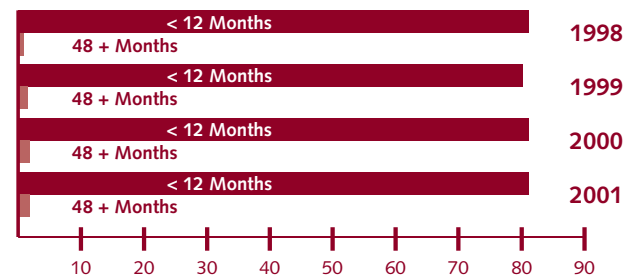
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	32.6	20.2	29.9	18.6	—	—	—	11.1	11.6	21.6	—	—	17.0	23.2	24.7	19.5	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	0.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.7	—	—	—	—
Reunification	53.9	73.4	64.9	70.8	—	—	95.7	75.9	74.4	59.5	—	—	70.2	68.3	68.3	72.2	—	—	—	—
Other	11.2	6.5	5.2	9.7	—	—	4.3	13.0	11.6	18.9	—	—	10.7	8.3	6.8	7.7	—	—	—	—
Missing data	2.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.3	—	—	—	2.0	0.2	0.2	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	89	124	77	113	—	—	47	54	43	37	—	—	540	577	558	601	—	—	—	—

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	9.3	19.6	18.9	15.7	9.7	12.7	11.7	9.6	4.9	11.0	10.2	13.7	—	—	—	26.1	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.7	—	—	—	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	85.8	73.9	74.8	75.0	79.9	78.4	79.8	81.1	85.8	81.6	79.4	80.8	100.0	100.0	100.0	73.9	—	—	—	—
Other	4.3	6.5	6.3	9.3	10.2	8.6	8.4	8.6	8.9	7.2	10.4	5.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	0.6	—	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	0.0	0.5	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	162	199	222	236	3,782	3,892	3,928	4,077	639	608	549	608	2	6	33	23	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

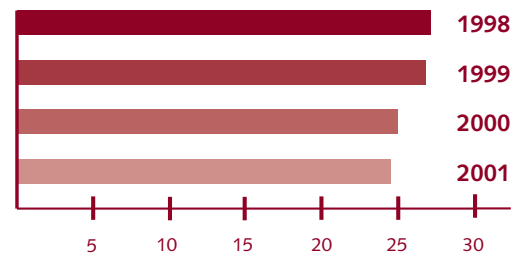
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	81.0	80.2	81.1	81.1
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	11.5	13.2	11.6	12.1
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	3.7	3.2	3.4	3.2
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.1	1.1	1.3	1.3
48 or more mos.	0.9	1.5	1.8	1.8
Missing data	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,168	4,207	4,247	4,547

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	66.4	64.8	66.4	67.1
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	27.0	26.7	24.9	24.4
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	5.7	7.7	8.2	7.9
Missing data	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,331	5,343	5,620	5,829

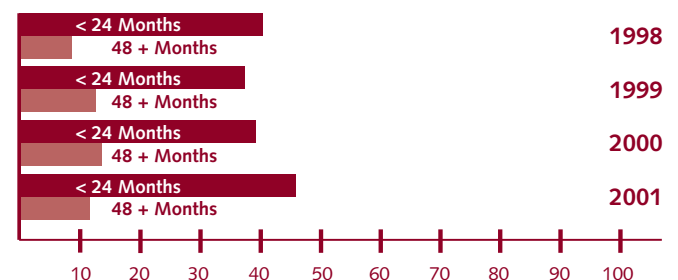
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	17.3	15.5	18.6	18.1
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	23.2	22.0	20.8	27.9
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	32.0	27.4	27.4	26.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	17.7	22.1	19.2	15.0
48 or more mos.	8.7	12.7	13.8	11.8
Missing data	1.1	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	538	769	720	662

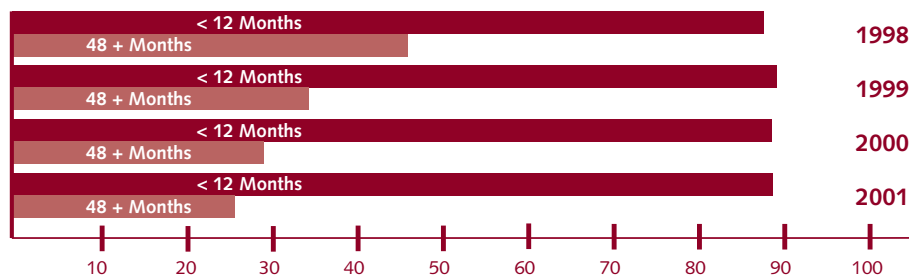
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	87.7	12.3	—	100.0	6,100
	1999	89.2	10.8	—	100.0	6,162
	2000	88.6	11.4	—	100.0	6,474
	2001	88.8	11.2	—	100.0	6,782
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	56.3	43.7	—	100.0	1,746
	1999	58.0	42.0	—	100.0	1,750
	2000	53.8	46.2	—	100.0	1,743
	2001	54.7	45.3	—	100.0	1,935
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	34.4	65.6	—	100.0	993
	1999	33.3	66.7	—	100.0	958
	2000	38.1	61.9	—	100.0	908
	2001	33.7	66.3	—	100.0	900
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	33.7	66.3	—	100.0	751
	1999	28.6	71.4	—	100.0	598
	2000	25.4	74.6	—	100.0	531
	2001	27.5	72.5	—	100.0	520
48 or more mos.	1998	46.2	53.8	—	100.0	528
	1999	34.6	65.4	—	100.0	772
	2000	29.4	70.6	—	100.0	779
	2001	26.0	74.0	—	100.0	734
Missing data	1998	100.0	—	—	100.0	59
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	57
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	47
	2001	97.7	2.3	—	100.0	43

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	14.8	17.7	16.8	18.0
Institutions	5.6	6.1	4.7	4.6
Other settings	78.0	74.4	78.3	77.3
Missing	1.6	1.7	0.3	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,120	2,197	2,416	2,722

Mary Nelson, Administrator
Division of Behavioral, Developmental and Protective Services for Families, Adults and Children
Iowa Department of Human Services
515-281-5521

Iowa's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

Iowa's child welfare system serves children placed due to delinquency, emotional/behavioral problems, and abuse/neglect. Our caseloads and supervisor-to-worker ratios are two to three times national standards.

With regard to safety, child abuse reports have continued to increase. In 2001, Iowa's recurrence rate and incidence of abuse in care are both higher than the national standard. However, our 2002 data indicate an abuse in care rate of 0.40%, which is within the national standard. Last year we reviewed a sample of recurrence data, and found that 20% did not reflect subsequent abuse—rather, they reflected updated information on the same incident or an incident that occurred before our first contact with the family. Excluding these would reduce our recurrence rate to 9.4%.

With regard to permanency, Iowa's "time to reunification", placement stability, and "time to adoption" rates continue to meet the national standard. In 2002, DHS set an all-time record of 792 adoptions.

Iowa foster care re-entry rate is higher than the national standard. Re-entry rates are highest for youth age 11 and older who are in placement due to their behavior rather than abuse/neglect. In these situations, brief placements help to maintain youth in their permanent placement. Additionally, in Iowa when a child is returned home, the court returns custody to the family immediately rather than using a "trial home visit" where the state maintains custody for a period of time, allowing the child to come back into care without counting as a "re-entry".

Iowa's data indicates 18% of youth age 12 and under are placed in group care, which is higher than the national median of 3.4%. We will be examining this as part of our CFSR PIP.

DHS remains committed to working with the Courts and others to improve the safety, permanency and well-being of the children and families we serve.

The following discussion focuses on Iowa's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Iowa Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2003, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2001. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Iowa's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence in less than 6 months was 11.2 percent, which does not meet the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and is higher than the national median of 8.0 percent. Performance on this measure declined from 1999 to 2001 (+33.2 percent change). The State notes in its comment letter that this rate is inflated, because some reports reflect updated information on the same incident or an incident that occurred before the agency's first contact with the family. CFSR Final Report information identified the following as potential barriers to preventing maltreatment recurrence: (1) inconsistent comprehensive assessments of risk to capture underlying problems in the family, particularly mental health issues; (2) a scarcity of substance abuse treatment services for parents; and (3) high caseloads that make it difficult for workers to monitor families.

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.89 percent, which does not meet the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and is higher than the national median of 0.47 percent. Performance on this measure declined substantially from 1999 to 2001 (+98.5 percent change). CFSR Final Report information suggests that performance on this measure may be attributed in part to: (1) extremely high caseloads that make it difficult for workers to monitor children in foster care; (2) placing too many children in foster homes; and (3) insufficient matching of children's needs with foster homes capable of meeting those needs due to scarce resources.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 91.8 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 85.3 percent); 87.2 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 78.4 percent); and 88.0 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 72.3 percent). In addition, 26.0 percent of the children who were emancipated from foster care in FY 2001 were 12 years old or younger at the time they entered foster care, which is less than the national median of 28.0 percent. Although there were no substantive changes in performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 for any of the measures related to the percent of children discharged to permanent homes, there was a large decline in performance related to the percent of the children emancipated from foster care who were 12 years old or younger at the time they entered foster care (+173.2 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies Family Team Meetings and Alternative Dispute Resolution as measures contributing to permanency for children in foster care.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of children's entry into foster care was 81.1, which exceeds the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and is greater than the national median of 69.2 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001. CFSR Final Report information identifies the following as

supporting timely reunification: (1) Family Team Meetings; (2) intensive services and supports for families; and (3) frequent visitation between children in foster care and their parents.

Iowa's performance in FY 2001 with regard to the percentage of re-entries into foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 24.4. This does not meet the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is greater than the national median of 10.4 percent. However, performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2000 (-8.5 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies the following as barriers to preventing re-entry into foster care: (1) premature reunification in some cases, and (2) lack of post-reunification supports. The State's self-assessment notes that the re-entry rate also is affected by a program to provide brief out-of-home placements to stabilize families in crisis.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all adoptions finalized within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 46.0, which exceeds the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and the national median of 21.0 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+23.0 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies the following as contributing to timely adoptions: (1) timely filing for termination of parental rights, and (2) use of cross-jurisdictional resources for waiting children.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who were in foster care for less than 12 months and experienced no more than 2 placements was 88.8, which meets the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and exceeds the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2000. Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that the pre-service foster parent training using the Parenting for Safety Model Approach to Partnerships in Parenting curriculum contributes to placement stability.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 22.6, which is higher than the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this measure improved slightly from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-5.0 percent). The CFSR Final Report indicates that children often are placed in emergency shelter care by law enforcement and that length of stay in shelters is increasing due to lack of foster homes and a long waiting list for treatment facilities.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	697,452	698,637	712,993	702,262	Child maltreatment victims	5,312	8,452	8,356	7,308
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	8,488	6,774	6,569	6,409
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.0	Children adopted	419	566	468	428
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.9					
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.0	2.1	1.7	N/A					
Black	6.8	6.8	6.9	7.2					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	7.9	8.4	10.4	10.7					
White	82.5	81.9	77.0	76.6					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.9	2.7					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	13.6	18.5	15.0	14.4					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	63.7	65.6	57.5	58.4					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	Rate			
		1999	2000	1998		1999	2000	2001	
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	26,751	28,694	30,627	7,814	38.4 per 1,000	41.1 per 1,000	43.0 per 1,000	10.9 per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	5,312	8,452	8,356	7,308	7.6 per 1,000	12.1 per 1,000	11.7 per 1,000	10.2 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	13	6	7	7	1.9 per 100,000	0.9 per 100,000	1.0 per 100,000	1.0 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	22.5	6.9	7.5	7.1	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.8	0.7	1.1	1.0
1-5 years	24.5	31.5	31.4	32.9	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.4
6-10 years	28.0	31.7	30.4	30.0	Black	13.4	14.3	14.7	13.5
11-15 years	20.1	24.2	25.0	24.4	Hispanic	3.6	4.9	2.7	2.1
16+ years	4.9	5.4	5.6	5.1	White	77.3	75.9	74.3	75.2
Unknown	—	0.4	—	0.6	Two or more races	—	—	1.4	1.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	8.1	8.8	5.3	6.1
Number	5,312	8,452	8,356	7,308	Total % ³	103.6	104.8	100.0	100.0
					Number	5,312	8,452	8,356	7,308

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	11.1	14.0	88.1	17.0
Medical neglect	2.5	3.0	26.2	2.5
Neglect	45.5	49.5	77.0	27.6
Physical abuse	28.7	30.8	54.3	27.4
Sexual abuse	19.3	15.7	27.4	13.9
Other	—	—	82.5	23.0
Unknown	27.6	—	4.2	0.6
Total % ⁴	134.6	113.0	359.8	112.0
Number	5,312	8,452	8,356	7,308

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1				Entered Care				Exited Care				In Care on 9/30				Total Served			
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	5,205				6,683				3,400				8,488				11,888			
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	4,959				3,376				1,562				6,774				8,335			
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	5,166				3,191				1,788				6,569				8,357			
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	5,376				2,834				1,801				6,409				8,210			
Median Length of Stay (Months)																				
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	11.1				N/A				12.7				8.8				N/A			
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	11.4				N/A				12.9				13.9				N/A			
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	12.3				N/A				13.2				14.8				N/A			
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	13.3				N/A				15.5				16.9				N/A			

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	0.6	3.3	3.9	3.1	4.1	10.9	10.0	11.0	0.9	2.0	2.3	1.9	2.0	3.6	3.0	3.1
1-5 years	3.6	20.0	21.3	22.6	7.2	21.7	21.4	21.8	7.3	16.4	18.3	17.0	5.3	21.5	23.5	24.0
6-10 years	4.8	21.3	21.3	21.8	8.5	20.6	20.2	20.4	7.0	17.6	16.4	17.7	6.4	21.5	21.3	21.8
11-15 years	15.1	34.4	32.5	32.1	19.9	33.5	35.0	33.8	21.4	28.3	28.6	26.7	13.0	30.4	30.3	30.4
16-18 years	13.7	20.1	20.2	19.7	11.5	12.6	13.0	12.7	30.1	33.7	32.9	34.8	9.2	21.5	20.7	19.8
19+ years	0.5	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.8	1.7	1.3	1.7	0.4	1.0	0.8	0.7
Unknown	61.8	0.1	0.2	0.1	48.7	0.7	0.3	0.2	31.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	63.7	0.5	0.3	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,205	4,959	5,166	5,376	6,683	3,376	3,191	2,834	3,400	1,562	1,788	1,801	8,488	6,774	6,569	6,409

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	1.5	1.3	1.5	0.8	1.2	1.4	0.7	1.0	1.2	1.3	2.1	0.7	1.4	1.4	0.9	0.9
Asian	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—	0.5	0.3	—	—	0.6	0.6	—	—	0.4	0.3
Asian/Pacific	0.9	0.4	—	—	0.8	0.5	—	—	1.1	0.7	—	—	0.7	0.4	—	—
Black	21.1	22.3	22.3	22.7	16.9	18.3	18.1	15.9	16.9	15.4	16.8	16.8	19.5	21.9	21.8	21.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.0	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0	0.0
Hispanic	7.7	6.7	6.2	5.5	7.0	6.8	3.8	3.8	7.4	7.2	5.0	3.8	7.3	6.6	5.4	5.2
White	66.7	67.4	67.1	67.3	71.6	70.4	72.6	72.7	70.6	72.2	72.8	73.8	69.0	67.8	68.2	67.8
Two or more races	—	—	0.6	1.0	—	0.0	1.0	1.8	—	—	0.6	0.9	—	0.0	0.8	1.4
Unknown	2.2	1.9	1.9	2.4	2.6	2.6	3.3	4.4	2.8	3.2	2.2	3.4	2.2	1.9	2.5	3.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,205	4,959	5,166	5,376	6,683	3,376	3,191	2,834	3,400	1,562	1,788	1,801	8,488	6,774	6,569	6,409

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	1,528	1,757	1,910	2,063
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	789	987	1,190	1,350
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.0	2.0	1.7	1.9
1-5 years	5.0	26.0	27.3	28.2
6-10 years	5.8	28.9	27.2	27.2
11-15 years	9.8	32.2	31.8	32.0
16+ years	2.8	9.5	10.0	8.8
Unknown	74.7	1.5	2.0	1.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,528	1,757	1,910	2,063

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	1.9	1.6	1.2	1.1
Asian	—	—	0.1	0.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.2	0.3	—	—
Black	27.5	29.3	29.0	29.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	5.8	5.7	6.6	6.8
White	61.6	60.7	60.1	58.9
Two or more races	—	0.1	1.1	1.0
Unknown	3.0	2.4	1.9	2.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,528	1,757	1,910	2,063

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	0.5	0.2	—	—
1-5 years	37.9	39.4	39.7	41.8
6-10 years	36.5	34.8	32.7	34.1
11-15 years	19.8	21.9	20.9	18.7
16+ years	3.6	3.7	6.4	5.4
Unknown	1.7	—	0.2	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	419	566	468	428

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	1.7	1.8	1.5	0.7
Asian	—	—	0.9	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.2	—	—	—
Black	21.5	26.9	27.8	20.1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	6.2	8.3	5.3	2.8
White	67.3	58.8	59.4	71.5
Two or more races	—	1.4	1.9	1.4
Unknown	3.1	2.8	3.2	3.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	419	566	468	428

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

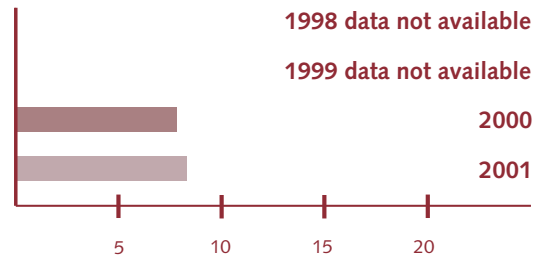
⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	92.2	91.7
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	7.8	8.3
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	4,080	3,533

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences

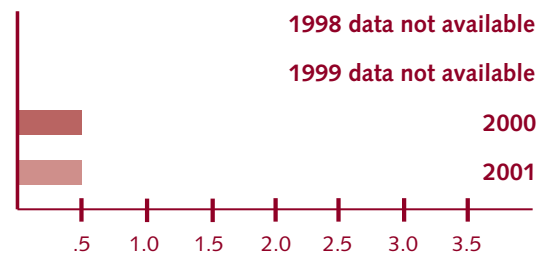


2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	0.49	0.50
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	99.51	99.50
Total %	—	—	100.00	100.00
Number	—	—	7,961	7,796

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care

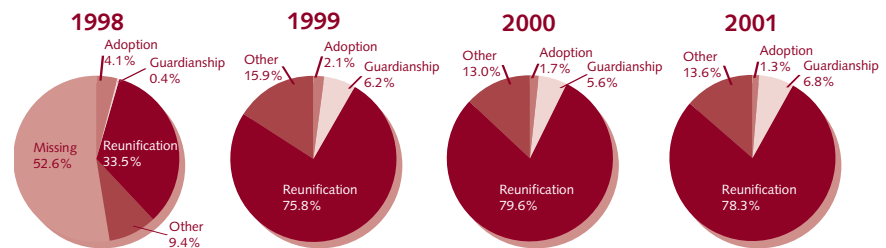


3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	4.1	2.1	1.7	1.3
Guardianship	0.4	6.2	5.6	6.8
Reunification	33.5	75.8	79.6	78.3
Other	9.4	15.9	13.0	13.6
Missing data	52.6	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,400	1,562	1,788	1,801

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	44.4	8.3	22.2	7.1
Guardianship	—	—	5.6	7.1
Reunification	11.1	66.7	66.7	64.3
Other	—	25.0	5.6	21.4
Missing data	44.4	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	9	12	18	14

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.2
Guardianship	0.2	3.9	4.6	5.1
Reunification	32.9	72.1	73.5	69.9
Other	9.8	23.9	21.7	24.8
Missing data	56.6	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,412	727	808	830

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	17.7	23.7	19.5	12.5
Children older than 12 at entry	45.8	76.3	80.5	87.5
Missing data	36.5	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	96	114	149	160

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

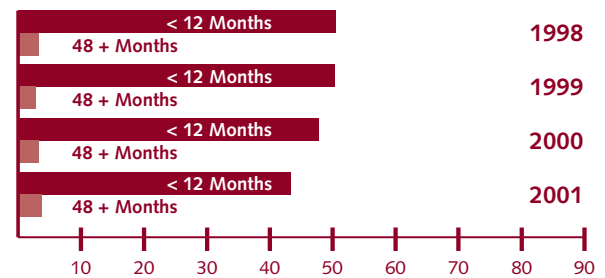
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	20.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.2	3.7	2.3	0.7	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	33.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10.4	5.3	6.3	—	—	—	—
Reunification	5.0	80.0	64.9	58.3	—	—	81.8	63.6	47.2	90.9	—	—	24.0	65.1	79.7	77.8	—	—	—	—
Other	20.0	20.0	35.1	8.3	—	—	18.2	36.4	—	9.1	—	—	10.9	20.7	12.7	15.2	—	—	—	—
Missing data	55.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	52.8	—	—	—	59.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	40	20	37	12	—	—	11	11	36	11	—	—	576	241	300	302	—	—	—	—

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	4.4	2.7	2.2	1.4	3.4	1.6	1.5	1.4	8.3	6.0	—	—	—	—	9.1	6.3	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	0.8	4.4	3.4	5.8	0.4	5.9	6.3	6.5	1.0	—	—	12.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	34.9	78.8	86.5	65.2	36.3	77.2	79.3	79.5	25.0	84.0	89.7	75.8	—	—	72.7	81.3	—	—	—	—
Other	3.2	14.2	7.9	27.5	9.6	15.3	12.8	12.5	10.4	10.0	10.3	11.3	—	—	18.2	12.5	—	—	—	—
Missing data	56.7	—	—	—	50.3	—	—	—	55.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	252	113	89	69	2,400	1,127	1,301	1,329	96	50	39	62	—	—	11	16	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

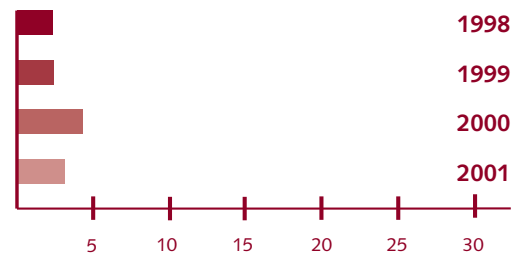
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	50.4	50.3	47.8	43.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	28.2	31.8	33.0	35.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	9.1	9.6	11.9	13.8
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.8	4.3	3.7	4.2
48 or more mos.	3.3	2.8	3.2	3.7
Missing data	6.1	1.2	0.4	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,140	1,184	1,424	1,411

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	92.3	91.1	89.6	89.9
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	2.3	2.4	4.3	3.1
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	0.7	0.7	1.1	2.8
Missing data	4.7	5.8	5.1	4.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6,683	3,376	3,191	2,834

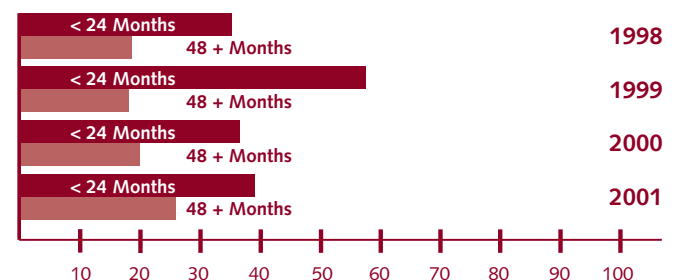
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	13.7	30.3	16.7	4.3
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	21.6	27.3	20.0	34.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	30.2	6.1	36.7	34.8
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	12.9	18.2	6.7	—
48 or more mos.	18.7	18.2	20.0	26.1
Missing data	2.9	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	139	33	30	23

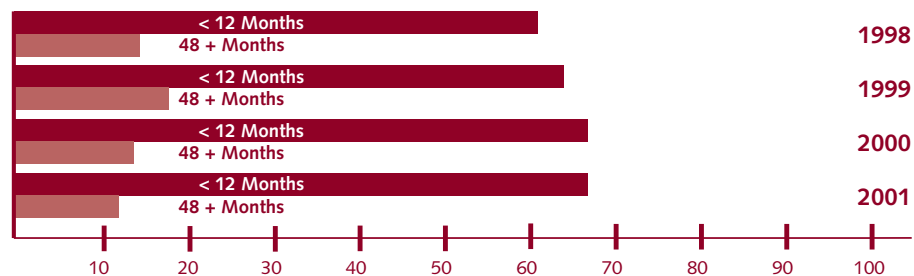
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	61.1	38.9	—	100.0	6,930
	1999	64.2	27.2	8.6	100.0	3,732
	2000	67.0	27.8	5.2	100.0	3,591
	2001	67.0	28.3	4.7	100.0	3,192
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	30.0	70.0	—	100.0	2,384
	1999	44.5	50.7	4.9	100.0	2,377
	2000	42.5	55.2	2.2	100.0	2,339
	2001	42.2	55.6	2.2	100.0	2,319
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	14.4	85.6	—	100.0	952
	1999	30.2	66.3	3.5	100.0	1,040
	2000	28.3	69.4	2.3	100.0	1,224
	2001	27.8	70.3	1.9	100.0	1,254
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	10.3	89.7	—	100.0	447
	1999	21.2	76.8	2.0	100.0	449
	2000	20.7	76.8	2.5	100.0	569
	2001	19.5	78.5	2.0	100.0	697
48 or more mos.	1998	14.7	85.3	—	100.0	876
	1999	18.1	79.5	2.4	100.0	701
	2000	14.0	85.0	1.0	100.0	628
	2001	12.2	86.7	1.1	100.0	744
Missing data	1998	58.5	41.5	—	100.0	299
	1999	75.0	11.1	13.9	100.0	36
	2000	66.7	16.7	16.7	100.0	6
	2001	75.0	—	25.0	100.0	4

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	4.2	3.2	1.6	1.6
Institutions	3.7	2.3	2.9	1.3
Other settings	92.1	93.5	94.2	96.1
Missing	—	1.1	1.2	1.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	976	1,806	1,701	1,585

**Jaymee Metzenthin, Assistant Director
Children and Family Policy
Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services
785-348-6448**

Kansas's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

With regard to information in section B, the 2001 NCANDS submission inadvertently omitted information for those victims alleged, but not substantiated as a subject of an investigation. Efforts are underway to correct this omission for our 2002 child file data.

With regard to information in Section C, data give the appearance that nearly 1,200 fewer children were in care from one day to the next. We are examining our data submissions to identify any problems that would present such a file record incidence.

Data in Section E indicate that 428 children were adopted in FY 2001 (from the AFCARS Adoption Database). However, as shown in outcome 3.1 and 5.1, only 23 of the exits from foster care were reported as discharges to adoption. This issue is apparent in data across the past 3 years, and Kansas will continue to pursue an explanation or mapping issue for the variance in number. It would appear that staff is not entering an accurate reason for discharge, or the data are not mapped correctly into the file.

With regard to outcome measure 1.1, although we did not submit child file information (DCDC), Kansas did receive safety profile information for 1999 as part of the CFSR indicating a victim recurrence rate of 3.1%. In addition, our safety profile of 1999 indicated maltreatment in foster care was 1.5%.

With regard to outcomes 4.1 and 6.1, Kansas is aware that performance does not meet the national standard, and program improvement has been implemented for these items.

The following discussion focuses on Kansas' performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Kansas Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2001, and compliance with national standards was based on data from 1999. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Kansas' performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was 8.3 percent, which does not meet the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and is greater than the national median of 8.0 percent. Change in performance from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because the State did not provide data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) for calculating this outcome for 1999. Performance on this measure declined slightly from 2000 to 2001 (+6.0 percent change).

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.50 percent, which meets the national standard of 0.57 percent but exceeds the national median of 0.47 percent. Change in performance from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because the State did not provide data to NCANDS for calculating this outcome for 1999. Performance on this measure did not change from 2000 to 2001.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 86.4 percent of children exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 85.3 percent); 75.2 percent of children exiting foster care who entered foster care when they were older than age 12 were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 72.3); and only 12.5 percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care (which is lower than the national median of 28.0). (Also in FY 2001, 78.5 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes, but only 14 children were reported in this category.) Performance related to the percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation who were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care improved considerably from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-47.2 percent change). There were no substantive changes in performance on other measures for this outcome..

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 43.2, which is lower than the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. Performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-14.0 percent change).

Kansas' performance with regard to reunifications within 12 months must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 3.1, which is lower than both the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.4 percent. However, performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+27.8 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

The data reported in the State Data Pages regarding time in foster care to adoption (outcome measure 5.1) cannot be interpreted in a

meaningful way. In FY 2001, the State reported 428 adoptions to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) Adoption Database. However, the State reported only 23 children as discharged to finalized adoptions to the AFCARS Foster Care Database. Consequently, the finding regarding the percentage of finalized adoptions achieved within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care is based on only 5.4 percent of the children adopted in 2001. The State comment letter indicated that the State is investigating the reason for this discrepancy.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 67.0, which is less than the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure did not exhibit substantive change from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 2.9, which is lower than the national median of 8.7. Performance on this measure improved considerably between FY 1999 and FY 2001 (-47.1 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	988,293	965,528	994,818	956,596	Child maltreatment victims	22,875	18,650	18,600	16,544
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	—	5,942	6,017	6,141
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	Children adopted	208	360	398	573
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.8					
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.8	0.8	0.7	N/A					
Black	8.7	8.7	8.9	9.2					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	1.1	1.2	1.9	2.0					
White	89.3	89.2	86.3	86.2					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	1.7	1.7					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.3	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	24.7	16.7	15.3	17.2					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	44.5	46.6	49.0	52.3					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	1998	Rate			2001
		1999	2000	2001			1999	2000	2001	
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	63,439	63,384	63,967	56,478	64.2 per 1,000	65.6 per 1,000	64.3 per 1,000	56.6 per 1,000		
Child maltreatment victims ²	22,875	18,650	18,600	16,544	23.1 per 1,000	19.3 per 1,000	18.7 per 1,000	16.6 per 1,000		
Child fatalities	18	5	21	31	1.8 per 100,000	0.5 per 100,000	2.1 per 100,000	3.1 per 100,000		

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	7.0	7.3	7.9	8.2	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
1-5 years	32.6	32.0	32.3	32.4	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
6-10 years	30.9	32.0	30.7	30.3	Black	12.7	13.9	13.0	13.1
11-15 years	23.9	23.1	23.9	23.8	Hispanic	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2
16+ years	5.6	5.6	5.3	5.3	White	80.4	78.3	76.6	75.2
Unknown	0.0	0.0	—	—	Two or more races	—	—	1.5	1.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	6.7	7.5	8.4	9.6
Number	22,875	18,650	18,600	16,544	Total % ³	100.1	100.1	100.0	100.0
					Number	22,875	18,650	18,600	16,544

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	10.8	4.1	2.5	2.1
Medical neglect	—	—	—	—
Neglect	61.4	63.7	67.5	71.4
Physical abuse	26.8	27.6	27.2	23.9
Sexual abuse	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.0
Other	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	106.7	103.2	105.0	104.3
Number	22,875	18,650	18,600	16,544

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	—	—	—	—	—
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	5,122	4,170	3,350	5,942	9,292
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	5,253	4,128	3,364	6,017	9,381
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	5,284	4,456	3,599	6,141	9,740

Median Length of Stay (Months)	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	—	N/A	—	—	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	13.4	N/A	5.1	15.5	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	16.9	N/A	5.4	16.6	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	19.3	N/A	4.7	15.6	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	—	4.0	3.9	3.6	—	11.8	10.7	11.9	—	6.0	5.3	5.7	—	4.2	3.6	4.3
1-5 years	—	23.6	22.2	22.0	—	24.7	24.8	25.1	—	26.5	25.9	26.0	—	22.5	22.2	22.5
6-10 years	—	24.2	23.9	23.0	—	22.5	21.0	21.2	—	21.6	22.1	22.6	—	24.2	22.6	21.0
11-15 years	—	29.9	31.0	31.1	—	29.5	31.4	28.8	—	22.1	23.9	22.9	—	31.0	31.4	30.6
16-18 years	—	16.9	17.6	18.6	—	11.4	12.1	12.9	—	21.7	21.1	21.3	—	16.8	18.6	19.4
19+ years	—	1.3	1.4	1.7	—	0.1	0.1	0.0	—	1.8	1.1	1.3	—	1.3	1.6	2.1
Unknown	—	0.0	0.1	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.2	0.5	0.4	—	0.1	—	0.0
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	5,122	5,253	5,284	—	4,170	4,128	4,456	—	3,350	3,364	3,599	—	5,942	6,017	6,141

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵																
	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.2	0.1	0.1	—	0.1	0.3	0.1	—	0.2	0.3	0.1	—	0.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.2	0.0	—	—	0.2	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.0
Asian/Pacific	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.3	—	—	—	0.3	—	—	—	0.1	—	—
Black	—	24.4	23.9	20.7	—	17.6	14.7	14.7	—	17.2	18.2	16.1	—	23.6	20.8	19.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	0.0	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	—	0.0	0.0
Hispanic	—	0.4	0.7	0.9	—	0.7	0.7	0.5	—	0.3	0.4	0.4	—	0.6	0.8	0.9
White	—	69.0	69.0	72.0	—	74.2	76.4	76.8	—	74.9	72.8	75.7	—	69.3	72.0	73.4
Two or more races	—	2.1	2.8	3.6	—	1.8	2.7	2.2	—	0.3	1.5	2.9	—	2.9	3.5	3.0
Unknown	—	3.9	3.4	2.6	—	5.3	5.0	5.8	—	6.8	6.6	4.9	—	3.3	2.7	3.5
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	5,122	5,253	5,284	—	4,170	4,128	4,456	—	3,350	3,364	3,599	—	5,942	6,017	6,141

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	—	1,789	2,018	1,935
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	—	196	121	52

Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	2.4	1.7	1.7
1-5 years	—	31.7	27.8	25.7
6-10 years	—	36.1	34.6	31.4
11-15 years	—	26.5	31.3	35.5
16+ years	—	3.1	4.3	5.6
Unknown	—	0.3	0.4	0.2
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	1,789	2,018	1,935

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	—	28.5	24.4	21.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	0.2	0.9	1.4
White	—	64.6	68.2	70.7
Two or more races	—	4.1	4.1	3.7
Unknown	—	2.5	2.4	2.4
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	1,789	2,018	1,935

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	0.5	1.7	1.8	0.9
1-5 years	47.1	41.4	45.5	38.6
6-10 years	40.4	36.7	32.4	37.0
11-15 years	10.1	18.1	16.8	19.5
16+ years	1.4	2.2	3.5	4.0
Unknown	0.5	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	208	360	398	573

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	0.3	—
Asian	—	—	0.5	0.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.0	—	—	—
Black	19.2	28.1	36.4	33.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	2.9	—	1.8	3.1
White	58.2	59.4	57.8	58.8
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	18.8	12.5	3.3	4.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	208	360	398	573

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

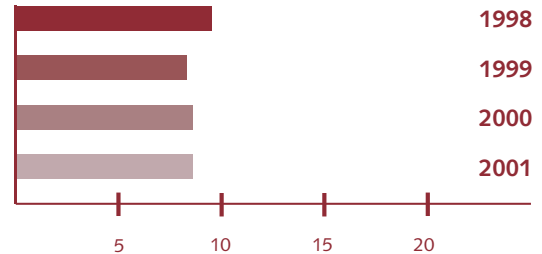
⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	90.5	91.7	91.4	91.4
Children with one or more recurrences	9.5	8.3	8.6	8.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	8,714	7,245	7,994	8,345

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences

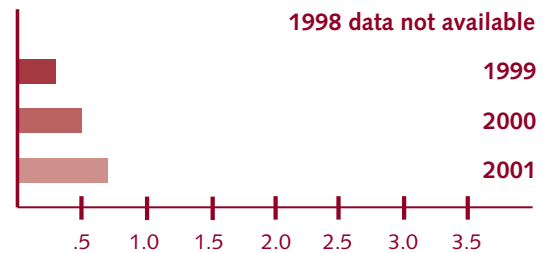


2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	0.27	0.47	0.65
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	99.73	99.53	99.35
Total %	—	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	—	8,566	8,575	8,955

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



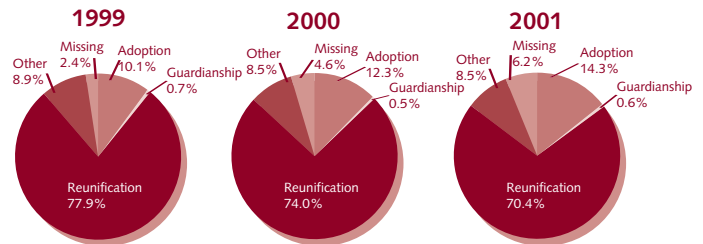
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	10.1	12.3	14.3
Guardianship	—	0.7	0.5	0.6
Reunification	—	77.9	74.0	70.4
Other	—	8.9	8.5	8.5
Missing data	—	2.4	4.6	6.2
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	3,350	3,364	3,599

1998 data not available

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	24.4	25.6	34.0
Guardianship	—	2.4	—	5.7
Reunification	—	51.2	43.6	41.5
Other	—	19.5	28.2	15.1
Missing data	—	2.4	2.6	3.8
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	41	39	53

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	0.8	1.0	0.9
Guardianship	—	0.7	0.9	0.7
Reunification	—	72.1	72.0	70.0
Other	—	21.5	20.2	21.9
Missing data	—	4.9	5.8	6.6
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	1,179	1,168	1,165

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	—	11.7	13.8	13.0
Children older than 12 at entry	—	88.3	86.2	87.0
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	222	232	247

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

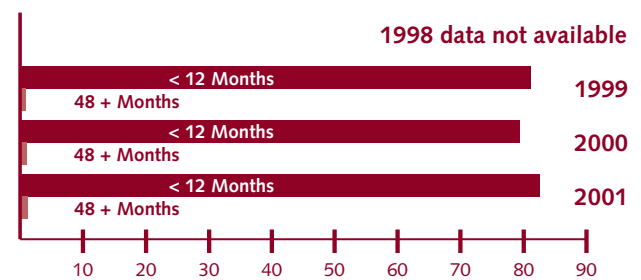
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black			Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander				
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	12.5	10.0	50.0	—	—	—	—	—	10.0	—	—	—	15.0	22.3	22.7	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.4	0.2	0.5	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	62.5	90.0	50.0	—	—	87.5	66.7	—	50.0	—	—	—	73.4	62.8	58.1	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	12.5	33.3	—	40.0	—	—	—	8.7	8.0	8.7	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	25.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.6	6.7	10.0	—	—	100.0	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	—
Number	—	8	10	2	—	—	8	3	—	10	—	—	—	575	611	578	—	—	1	—

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine			Two or More Races			Missing Data					
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	16.7	15.4	—	8.8	9.8	12.5	—	12.3	8.1	9.6	—	9.1	33.3	22.3	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	7.7	—	0.6	0.7	0.6	—	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	80.0	83.3	69.2	—	79.0	76.6	72.5	—	78.4	79.4	80.8	—	81.8	58.8	68.0	—	—	—	—
Other	—	20.0	—	7.7	—	8.9	8.7	8.9	—	7.5	9.4	4.5	—	—	3.9	3.9	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	2.6	4.2	5.5	—	1.3	3.1	5.1	—	9.1	3.9	5.8	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	—	10	12	13	—	2,509	2,448	2,723	—	227	223	177	—	11	51	103	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

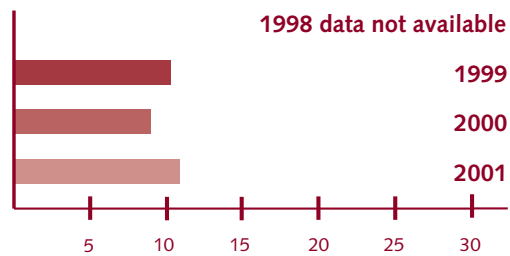
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	81.1	79.3	82.5
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	11.7	13.3	10.5
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	4.7	3.9	3.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	1.3	1.6	1.5
48 or more mos.	—	0.9	1.1	1.2
Missing data	—	0.4	0.8	0.3
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	2,610	2,491	2,535

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	—	87.6	87.5	82.9
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	—	10.2	8.9	10.8
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	—	2.0	3.6	6.1
Missing data	—	0.2	0.0	0.2
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	4,170	4,128	4,456

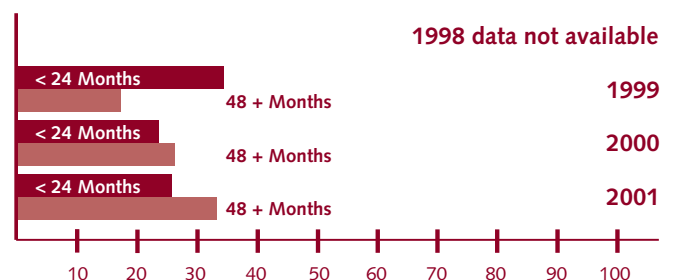
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	9.7	5.6	1.7
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	24.8	18.1	14.2
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	26.5	27.5	27.0
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	21.5	22.5	23.7
48 or more mos.	—	17.4	26.3	33.4
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	339	414	515

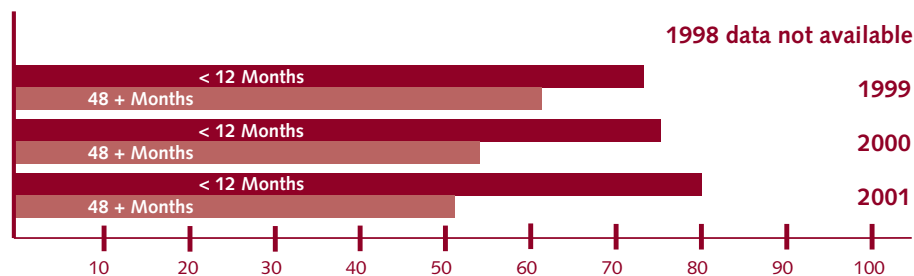
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	73.5	26.5	—	100.0	4,799
	2000	75.5	24.5	—	100.0	4,667
	2001	80.3	19.8	—	100.0	4,992
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	50.2	49.8	—	100.0	1,888
	2000	49.7	50.3	—	100.0	1,681
	2001	52.3	47.7	—	100.0	1,559
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	47.6	52.4	—	100.0	1,287
	2000	39.0	61.0	—	100.0	1,209
	2001	43.0	57.0	—	100.0	1,065
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	52.7	47.3	—	100.0	601
	2000	38.8	61.2	—	100.0	886
	2001	31.5	68.5	—	100.0	839
48 or more mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	61.6	38.4	—	100.0	690
	2000	54.3	45.7	—	100.0	915
	2001	42.4	57.6	—	100.0	1,272
Missing data	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	81.5	18.5	—	100.0	27
	2000	91.3	8.7	—	100.0	23
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	13

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	—	—	—	—
Institutions	—	17.3	15.3	14.3
Other settings	—	82.7	84.7	85.7
Missing	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	2,782	2,681	2,984

**April Vandeventer, Psy.D., Director
Division of Protection and Permanency
Kentucky Department for Community Based Services
502-564-6852**

Kentucky's comments on the State data provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

In analyzing the data we have found a number of inaccuracies, due to data entry errors and lack of functionality in our SACWIS system with regard to entering adoptions data. Specifically, we have noted a significant number of children exited to adoption in 1999, 2000, and 2001, but they either were not exited from the system or the exit reason was entered as "other" or was missing. The data for the number of children waiting to be adopted, who have had parental rights terminated, is incorrect because of the difficulty in entering information in our court hearing screens. Information on child fatalities for the three years is also incorrect because of data entry errors and design flaws in our SACWIS system.

We are currently in the process of comparing our NCANDS data and AFCARS data with alternative sources of data to improve the accuracy of these reports. We are also making changes to our SACWIS system to correct some of the causes of our faulty reporting. Once these corrections have been made, we will be resubmitting our NCANDS and AFCARS reports. Based on preliminary work, we have 493 children in 1999, 510 children in 2000 and 380 children in 2001, who had parental rights terminated. The correct number of child fatalities, due to maltreatment in 1999, was 20, in 2000 we had 27 fatalities, and in 2001 we had 29. The difference in the number of last day children and first day children in Section C was due to a flaw in our extraction query. The children were exited from the system after our AFCARS submission, but were not included in the subsequent AFCARS submission. We are in the process of analyzing the data for outcome measure 6.1.

The following discussion focuses on Kentucky's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Kentucky Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2003, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2001. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Kentucky's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided below.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence in less than 6 months was 8.6 percent, which does not meet the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and is higher than the national median of 8.0 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from 1999 to 2001. Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that the actual rate of maltreatment recurrence may be higher than the reported rate of recurrence, because the child welfare agency does not routinely investigate maltreatment reports as new reports when they are received on families with open child welfare agency cases. The CFSR Final Report indicates that the State believes that the incidence of repeat maltreatment may be due in part to data errors in the State's reporting system in which the same report is counted twice. CFSR Final Report information identified the following as potential barriers to preventing maltreatment recurrence: (1) inadequate needs assessments in some cases, particularly some in-home services cases, and (2) inconsistent caseworker contacts with parents and children in cases in which children remain in their homes while the family receives services.

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.65 percent, which does not meet the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and is higher than the national median of 0.47 percent. Performance on this measure declined substantially from 1999 to 2001 (+141.2 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that performance on this measure may be attributed in part to: (1) a lack of appropriate placement resources and services for children in foster care, and (2) differing licensing standards and training requirements for child welfare agency foster homes and foster homes supervised by private agencies.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 85.3 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is equal to the national median), and 71.6 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is less than the national median of 72.3 percent). (Only 53 of 3,599 children exiting foster care were reported to have a diagnosed disability.) There were no substantive changes in performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 related to the percent of children discharged to permanent homes.

Also in FY 2001, 13.0 percent of the children who were emancipated from foster care were 12 years old or younger at the time they entered foster care, which is less than the national median of 28.0 percent. However, performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+10.6 percent change).

These data suggest that Kentucky is not consistently effective in achieving permanency for children in foster care, particularly for children who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care. However, the State is effective at ensuring that children who enter foster care at a young age do not "grow up" in foster care. Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies the following

potential barriers to promoting permanency for children in foster care: (1) delays in some cases in establishing appropriate permanency goals, and (2) inconsistent efforts to locate adoptive homes for children.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of children's entry into foster care was 82.5, which exceeds the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and is greater than the national median of 69.2 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies the following as supporting timely reunification: (1) the use of family preservation services; (2) the use of Family Group Decision Making meetings in the case-planning process; and (3) the implementation of specialized initiatives to help expedite reunification, including Family to Family, Comprehensive Family Services (CATS), and Comprehensive Assessment and Training Services (CATS).

Kentucky's performance with regard to reunifications within 12 months must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 10.8. This exceeds the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is just above the national median of 10.4 percent. Performance on this measure declined slightly from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+6.2 percent change). CFSR Final Report information identifies the following barriers to preventing re-entry into foster care: (1) inconsistent aftercare planning and services; (2) premature reunifications in some cases; and (3) lack of consistent comprehensive assessments to capture underlying family service needs.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all adoptions finalized within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 15.9, which does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and is less than the national median of 21.0 percent. Performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-53.9 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies the following as potential barriers to timely adoptions: (1) inconsistency with regard to seeking termination of parental rights in a timely manner; (2) lack of concurrent planning; and (3) an insufficient number of adoptive families.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who were in foster care for less than 12 months and experienced no more than 2 placements was 80.3, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and is less than the national median of 83.3 percent. However, performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+9.2 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies the following potential barriers to placement stability: (1) inadequate matching of children with foster care providers due to insufficient needs assessments and lack of placement resources, and (2) insufficient services to support foster parents.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 14.3, which is higher than the national median of 8.7 percent. Kentucky's performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-17.0 percent). Information from the CFSR Final Report notes that the use of emergency shelter care has decreased.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	1,191,412	1,190,001	1,219,799	1,201,111	Child maltreatment victims	13,773	12,614	10,618	11,158
Race/ethnicity (%) ¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	6,301	5,581	5,406	5,024
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.6	Children adopted	237	356	476	470
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.2					
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.4	1.4	1.2	N/A					
Black	39.2	39.4	39.7	39.7					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	2.8	2.9	2.5	2.6					
White	56.1	55.8	54.6	54.6					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	1.2	1.3					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	24.2	26.6	23.7	23.1					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	77.6	72.3	75.3	80.5					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	1998	Rate			2001
		1999	2000	2001			1999	2000	2001	
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	45,318	46,230	36,355	38,085	38.0 per 1,000	38.8 per 1,000	29.8 per 1,000	31.3 per 1,000		
Child maltreatment victims ²	13,773	12,614	10,618	11,158	11.6 per 1,000	10.6 per 1,000	8.7 per 1,000	9.2 per 1,000		
Child fatalities	27	21	30	33	2.3 per 100,000	1.8 per 100,000	2.5 per 100,000	2.7 per 100,000		

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	7.3	7.8	8.2	8.5	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
1-5 years	30.6	29.6	30.4	30.8	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3
6-10 years	30.3	29.8	31.7	30.4	Black	53.9	51.9	51.1	49.6
11-15 years	24.6	25.7	25.0	25.3	Hispanic	0.5	0.8	1.0	0.8
16+ years	7.2	7.0	4.7	4.9	White	44.7	46.6	46.0	48.0
Unknown	0.1	0.2	—	—	Two or more races	—	—	0.7	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7
Number	13,773	12,614	10,618	11,158	Total % ³	100.5	100.8	100.0	100.0
					Number	13,773	12,614	10,618	11,158

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.2
Medical neglect	—	—	—	—
Neglect	69.5	68.1	76.5	76.7
Physical abuse	19.5	20.9	23.0	22.4
Sexual abuse	6.6	6.5	6.7	7.8
Other	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.0
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	100.0	100.0	110.8	111.1
Number	13,773	12,614	10,618	11,158

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	5,649	3,051	2,399	6,301	8,700
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	5,523	2,912	2,854	5,581	8,435
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	5,395	3,157	3,146	5,406	8,552
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	5,194	3,014	3,184	5,024	8,208

Median Length of Stay (Months)

FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	23.0	N/A	15.8	19.6	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	22.9	N/A	13.5	19.5	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	19.8	N/A	11.8	16.3	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	17.1	N/A	11.7	15.3	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	2.5	2.8	2.4	2.7	10.3	9.2	9.8	10.0	3.7	2.5	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.4	2.7	2.7
1-5 years	25.2	22.2	21.1	20.8	22.6	22.8	22.5	23.3	28.9	24.2	22.4	22.3	21.0	21.0	20.7	21.3
6-10 years	27.8	26.7	24.5	24.3	22.2	20.6	20.7	19.1	26.4	23.5	19.9	20.5	25.3	24.4	24.0	22.8
11-15 years	31.2	34.9	36.0	35.8	35.8	37.9	38.1	38.6	20.0	26.1	28.6	29.3	36.2	36.5	36.3	36.8
16-18 years	13.3	13.4	15.9	16.4	9.1	9.4	8.9	9.1	21.0	23.7	26.2	24.9	14.7	15.7	16.4	16.4
19+ years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,649	5,523	5,395	5,194	3,051	2,912	3,157	3,014	2,399	2,854	3,146	3,184	6,301	5,581	5,406	5,024

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.2
Asian	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.2	0.4	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.2	0.3
Asian/Pacific	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.3	0.4	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.2	0.3	—	—
Black	66.3	64.6	62.9	61.7	60.0	59.7	57.2	58.1	62.4	61.7	58.9	59.9	64.7	63.5	61.9	60.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.0
Hispanic	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.6	1.0	0.5	0.8	1.3	1.2	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.7
White	32.2	33.7	34.0	35.4	38.0	38.2	39.8	39.0	36.0	36.4	37.8	37.1	33.6	34.7	35.2	36.5
Two or more races	—	—	1.4	1.2	—	—	0.7	0.4	—	—	1.1	0.7	—	—	1.2	1.0
Unknown	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,649	5,523	5,395	5,194	3,051	2,912	3,157	3,014	2,399	2,854	3,146	3,184	6,301	5,581	5,406	5,024

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	1,171	1,477	1,542	1,441
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	253	375	514	553
Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.3	1.2	1.0	1.4
1-5 years	31.0	28.4	26.7	25.4
6-10 years	41.0	39.3	35.9	34.4
11-15 years	23.7	29.1	32.3	33.1
16+ years	2.0	2.1	4.0	5.7
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,171	1,477	1,542	1,441

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.1
Asian	—	—	—	0.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	61.1	62.5	60.4	58.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	0.5	0.5	0.6	1.0
White	36.7	35.8	36.6	37.7
Two or more races	—	—	1.7	2.0
Unknown	1.3	0.9	0.3	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,171	1,477	1,542	1,441

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.7	1.4	0.6	0.2
1-5 years	37.1	37.1	35.1	37.7
6-10 years	45.1	44.7	40.8	41.3
11-15 years	15.2	14.9	21.8	17.4
16+ years	0.8	2.0	1.7	3.4
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	237	356	476	470

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.8	0.4	0.6
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.4	—	—	—
Black	64.1	64.3	59.9	58.1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	0.3	1.3	0.4
White	34.6	34.0	36.8	38.9
Two or more races	—	—	1.5	1.7
Unknown	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	237	356	476	470

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

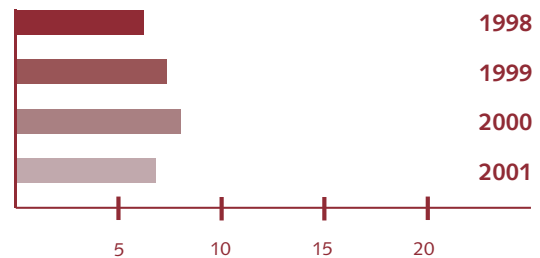
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment

Within 6 Months (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	93.8	92.7	92.0	93.2
Children with one or more recurrences	6.2	7.3	8.0	6.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,466	4,489	5,021	4,666

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



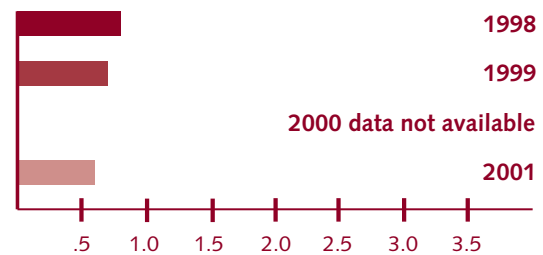
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.80	0.69	—	0.58
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.20	99.31	—	99.42
Total %	100.00	100.00	—	100.00
Number	8,063	7,793	—	7,351

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



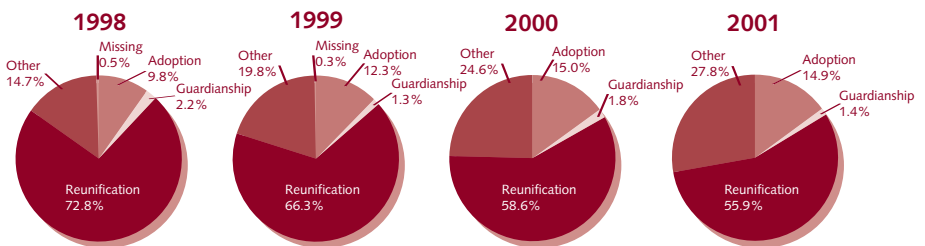
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	9.8	12.3	15.0	14.9
Guardianship	2.2	1.3	1.8	1.4
Reunification	72.8	66.3	58.6	55.9
Other	14.7	19.8	24.6	27.8
Missing data	0.5	0.3	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,399	2,854	3,146	3,184

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	21.1	16.7	12.6	13.2
Guardianship	2.9	1.0	0.9	—
Reunification	39.1	43.1	42.4	40.1
Other	36.2	39.1	44.1	46.7
Missing data	0.8	0.2	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	384	599	762	713

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	0.1	0.3	0.6
Guardianship	1.9	1.1	1.4	0.6
Reunification	60.3	52.6	46.6	41.0
Other	37.0	45.2	51.8	57.8
Missing data	0.8	1.0	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	476	812	1,101	1,128

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	50.3	50.2	49.3	51.1
Children older than 12 at entry	49.7	49.8	50.7	48.9
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	304	315	298	311

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	27.3	25.0	30.0	—	—	—	—	16.7	—	—	—	9.6	12.7	15.1	14.4	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.0	1.0	1.4	1.2	—	—	—	—
Reunification	42.9	45.5	75.0	60.0	—	—	70.0	87.5	33.3	62.5	—	—	72.7	65.1	56.0	54.8	—	—	—	100.0
Other	57.1	27.3	—	10.0	—	—	30.0	12.5	50.0	37.5	—	—	15.1	20.9	27.5	29.6	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.5	0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0
Number	7	11	8	10	—	—	10	8	6	8	—	—	1,497	1,761	1,853	1,908	—	—	—	3

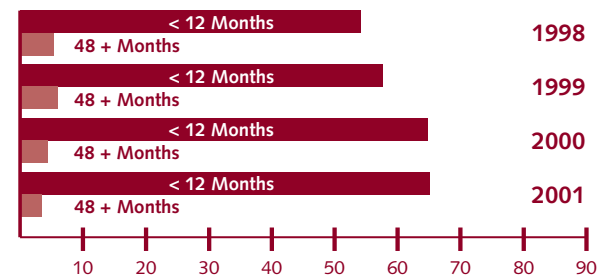
	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	4.5	14.6	5.1	10.2	11.6	14.8	15.7	23.1	15.4	9.1	8.3	—	—	20.6	36.4	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	4.5	—	—	2.3	1.8	2.5	1.8	15.4	—	—	16.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	76.9	72.7	65.9	71.8	73.7	68.4	61.9	56.8	53.8	69.2	72.7	50.0	—	—	64.7	63.6	—	—	—	—
Other	23.1	18.2	19.5	23.1	13.3	17.9	20.8	25.8	7.7	15.4	18.2	25.0	—	—	14.7	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	0.5	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	13	22	41	39	863	1,039	1,189	1,182	13	13	11	12	—	—	34	22	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	54.0	57.5	64.8	65.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	26.2	24.4	20.9	23.9
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	10.3	8.4	7.1	5.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	3.8	3.6	2.6	1.6
48 or more mos.	5.3	6.0	4.3	3.4
Missing data	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,747	1,893	1,843	1,781

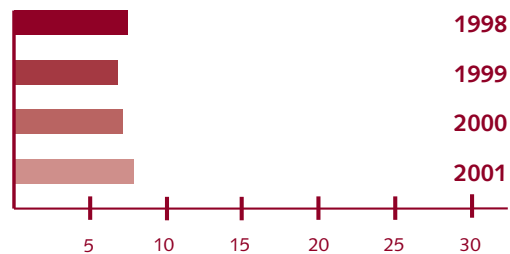
Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	83.3	85.0	84.4	83.0
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	7.4	6.8	7.1	7.8
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	9.2	8.2	8.5	9.2
Missing data	0.1	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,051	2,912	3,157	3,014

Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months

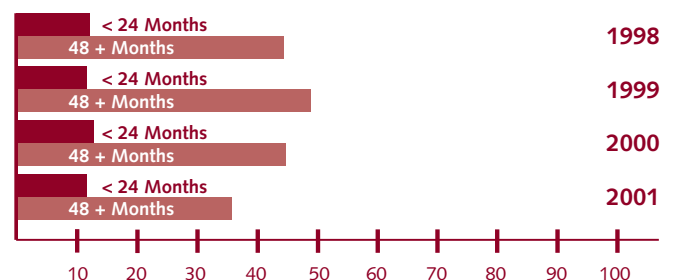


5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	4.2	3.4	1.5	1.1
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	8.1	7.4	11.4	10.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	19.5	19.1	21.8	28.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	23.7	21.1	20.3	24.1
48 or more mos.	44.5	48.9	44.9	35.9
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	236	350	472	473

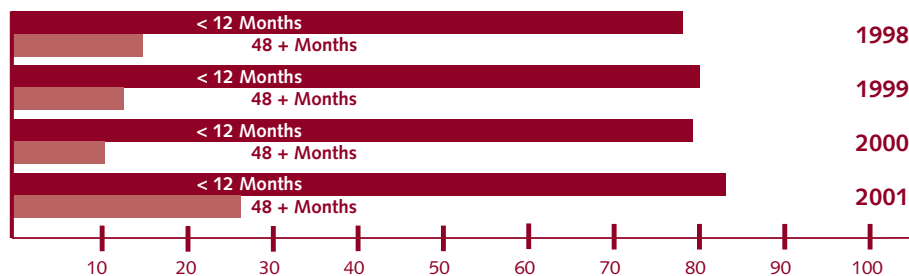
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	78.3	20.4	1.3	100.0	3,415
	1999	80.3	18.7	1.0	100.0	3,394
	2000	79.4	19.3	1.4	100.0	3,849
	2001	83.3	15.3	1.4	100.0	3,784
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	45.8	53.9	0.4	100.0	1,628
	1999	50.1	49.8	0.1	100.0	1,585
	2000	49.7	49.8	0.5	100.0	1,510
	2001	56.7	42.6	0.6	100.0	1,588
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	29.0	70.8	0.2	100.0	1,005
	1999	30.8	69.0	0.1	100.0	898
	2000	30.4	69.5	0.1	100.0	862
	2001	48.1	51.5	0.4	100.0	757
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	25.0	74.9	0.1	100.0	669
	1999	20.1	79.5	0.5	100.0	648
	2000	22.3	77.7	—	100.0	561
	2001	42.2	57.8	—	100.0	521
48 or more mos.	1998	15.3	84.5	0.2	100.0	1,962
	1999	13.0	86.9	0.1	100.0	1,888
	2000	10.8	89.1	0.1	100.0	1,762
	2001	26.7	73.2	0.1	100.0	1,554
Missing data	1998	85.7	9.5	4.8	100.0	21
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	22
	2000	87.5	—	12.5	100.0	8
	2001	50.0	—	50.0	100.0	4

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	2.2	2.1	2.1	1.5
Institutions	5.5	5.6	6.3	6.2
Other settings	92.3	92.3	91.7	92.3
Missing	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,889	1,762	1,901	1,801

**Carmen D. Weisner, Assistant Secretary
Office of Community Services
Louisiana Department of Social Services
225-342-4073**

Louisiana's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

Louisiana is committed to reporting accurate child welfare data. Current projects entail utilizing technical assistance from the NCANDS project and the National Resource Center for Information Technology in Child Welfare to re-map the programming code to produce the NCANDS and AFCARS data sets. Louisiana still operates its child welfare data system from a 17-year-old main frame system. Inaccuracies can result from the conversion of the data from the main frame to the AFCARS and NCANDS data sets.

The following discussion focuses on Louisiana's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Louisiana Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2003, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2001. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Louisiana's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in below.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence in less than 6 months was 6.8 percent, which does not meet the national standard of 6.1 percent or less, but is less than the national median of 8.0 percent. Performance on this measure improved from 1999 to 2001 (-6.3 percent). CFSR Final Report information identified the following as potential barriers to preventing maltreatment recurrence: (1) inconsistent safety and service needs assessments; (2) insufficient services to children and parents in some case, particularly cases in which children remain in their own homes; and (3) inconsistencies with regard to the frequency of caseworker visits with parents in cases in which children remain in their own homes.

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.58 percent, which does not quite meet the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and is higher than the national median of 0.47 percent. Performance on this measure improved from 1999 to 2001 (-15.6 percent change).

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 72.2 percent of children exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is less than the national median of 85.3 percent); 53.3 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is less than the national median of 78.4 percent); and 42.2 percent of children exiting foster care who entered foster care when they were older than age 12 were discharged to permanent homes (which is considerably less than the national median of 72.3). Louisiana's performance related to attaining permanency for children leaving foster care declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 on all three indicators (ranging from -9.6 percent change to -21.6 percent change).

Also in FY 2001, 51.1 percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care (which is greater than the national median of 28.0). There were no substantive changes in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

These data suggest that Louisiana is not consistently effective at achieving permanency for children in foster care and is not consistently effective at ensuring that children who enter foster care at a young age do not "grow up" in foster care. Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that performance on these measures may be attributed to a practice of maintaining the goal of reunification for long periods of time even when the prognosis for attaining that goal is poor.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of children's entry into foster care was 65.0, which does not meet the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and is less than the national median of 69.2 percent. However, Louisiana's

performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+13.1 percent change), with most of the improvement occurring between FY 1999 and FY 2000.

Louisiana's performance with regard to reunifications within 12 months must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 7.8, which meets the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is less than the national median of 10.4 percent. However, performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+15.2 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that performance on this measure may be attributed in part to the following: (1) extensive post-reunification monitoring and supervision, and (2) provision of family preservation and community-based programs.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all adoptions finalized within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 11.7, which does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and is less than the national median of 21.0 percent. Performance on this measure improved slightly from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+7.1 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies the following as potential barriers to timely adoptions: (1) financial "disincentives" for adoptive parents, including the requirement that they must pay attorney fees and that adoption subsidy rates are substantially lower than foster care board rates; and (2) delays in the termination of parental rights (TPR) process, which often occur because judges do not consider that the State has made reasonable efforts to provide services to families to support reunification.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who were in foster care for less than 12 months and experienced no more than 2 placements was 83.3, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more, but is equal to the national median. Louisiana's performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Information from the CFSR Final Report indicates that difficulties with placement stability may be due to insufficient evaluations of children's needs in making placement decisions. However, the Final Report also notes that the agency is effective in providing mentoring and respite care to foster parents when problems arise.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 7.7, which is less than the national median of 8.7 percent. Louisiana's performance on this measure did not change from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	291,585	290,439	301,238	286,097	Child maltreatment victims	3,579	4,154	4,779	4,355
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	3,595	3,154	3,191	3,226
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	Children adopted	125	202	379	364
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.0					
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.9	1.0	0.9	N/A					
Black	0.6	0.5	0.8	1.0					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.2					
White	97.0	96.9	94.6	94.4					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	1.7	1.7					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.1	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	15.5	17.5	8.9	12.4					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	37.2	40.9	36.0	41.6					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	Rate			
		1999	2000	2001		1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	9,030	9,877	9,687	9,163	31.0 per 1,000	34.0 per 1,000	32.2 per 1,000	30.2 per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	3,579	4,154	4,779	4,355	12.3 per 1,000	14.3 per 1,000	15.9 per 1,000	14.4 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	4	3	2	0	1.4 per 100,000	1.0 per 100,000	0.7 per 100,000	0 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	10.7	9.8	9.3	10.4	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.9
1-5 years	32.0	31.3	30.6	31.8	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.2
6-10 years	31.7	31.8	31.0	30.7	Black	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.7
11-15 years	22.5	23.6	23.1	24.1	Hispanic	0.5	—	1.2	0.8
16+ years	3.1	3.3	3.6	3.0	White	49.5	97.4	44.0	43.4
Unknown	—	—	2.4	—	Two or more races	—	—	0.6	0.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	48.8	1.3	52.4	53.3
Number	3,579	4,154	4,779	4,355	Total % ³	100.5	100.0	100.0	100.0
					Number	3,579	4,154	4,779	4,355

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	64.2	54.5	54.5	54.1
Medical neglect	—	—	—	—
Neglect	65.9	59.1	62.0	62.3
Physical abuse	39.8	34.4	30.3	27.0
Sexual abuse	23.2	21.5	20.4	20.3
Other	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	193.0	169.5	167.2	163.7
Number	3,579	4,154	4,779	4,355

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	2,658	1,646	712	3,595	4,304
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	2,675	1,014	535	3,154	3,689
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	2,860	1,052	721	3,191	3,912
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	2,894	1,047	715	3,226	3,941
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	26.2	N/A	15.0	18.7	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	27.8	N/A	19.5	27.0	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	27.9	N/A	31.7	24.9	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	25.7	N/A	31.2	23.6	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	2.2	3.7	3.4	3.7	16.0	17.2	19.6	18.9	4.6	4.9	4.0	4.9	4.9	3.6	4.2	4.1
1-5 years	21.1	20.6	20.8	20.2	24.7	28.4	25.6	27.3	23.2	28.8	30.5	33.1	21.4	21.1	21.1	20.6
6-10 years	26.3	27.2	26.6	24.0	22.7	22.9	23.3	20.3	20.4	24.5	24.5	22.1	25.6	26.3	23.9	21.6
11-15 years	29.6	31.0	30.3	32.4	28.5	27.0	26.6	26.7	21.2	16.8	18.0	14.0	29.1	30.1	30.8	32.1
16-18 years	17.1	15.6	16.6	17.0	6.9	4.3	4.8	6.5	23.7	19.4	16.5	17.8	15.6	16.7	17.2	18.1
19+ years	2.1	1.8	2.2	2.7	—	0.1	0.2	0.2	5.5	5.4	5.1	6.6	1.9	2.1	2.8	3.4
Unknown	1.7	0.1	—	—	1.2	0.1	—	—	1.4	0.2	1.2	1.5	1.6	0.1	—	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,658	2,675	2,860	2,894	1,646	1,014	1,052	1,047	712	535	721	715	3,595	3,154	3,191	3,226

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵																
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.9	1.6	1.3	1.2	1.8	0.9	1.4	1.9	3.0	2.6	1.8	2.5	0.9	1.2	1.3	1.1
Asian	—	—	0.5	0.6	—	—	0.8	—	—	—	0.4	0.6	—	—	0.6	0.4
Asian/Pacific	0.4	0.4	—	—	0.5	0.3	—	—	0.3	—	—	—	0.5	0.4	—	—
Black	2.4	2.1	1.7	1.9	1.5	1.0	1.4	2.3	2.5	1.9	1.1	2.8	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	0.1	0.3	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	0.0	0.1
Hispanic	1.3	2.2	2.3	2.1	2.1	1.4	2.1	2.4	1.0	0.9	1.5	2.0	1.7	2.1	2.4	2.2
White	93.3	91.0	85.3	78.9	83.7	63.3	60.7	60.3	90.7	78.7	84.0	70.2	89.4	84.2	77.5	74.8
Two or more races	—	—	0.4	1.1	—	0.2	1.2	1.4	—	—	0.8	1.0	—	0.1	0.6	1.2
Unknown	1.7	2.7	8.4	14.2	10.5	32.9	32.2	31.4	2.5	15.9	10.3	20.8	5.6	10.2	15.8	18.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,658	2,675	2,860	2,894	1,646	1,014	1,052	1,047	712	535	721	715	3,595	3,154	3,191	3,226

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	1,199	1,098	1,101	1,008
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	175	688	735	713
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	5.3	3.2	4.0	2.7
1-5 years	28.7	33.5	32.2	30.0
6-10 years	34.8	43.2	38.4	36.2
11-15 years	21.2	17.9	23.3	28.1
16+ years	6.3	2.2	1.9	2.0
Unknown	3.8	—	0.1	1.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,199	1,098	1,101	1,008

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.4	1.5	2.0	1.6
Asian	—	—	0.3	0.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.5	0.2	—	—
Black	2.4	2.7	2.2	1.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	0.8	1.4	2.5	2.5
White	91.9	89.8	83.1	77.9
Two or more races	—	—	0.8	1.3
Unknown	2.9	4.5	9.2	14.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,199	1,098	1,101	1,008

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	0.5	0.3	2.5
1-5 years	36.0	37.1	45.4	45.9
6-10 years	35.2	47.5	39.8	34.3
11-15 years	23.2	13.4	14.0	14.6
16+ years	3.2	1.5	0.5	2.7
Unknown	2.4	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	125	202	379	364

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Alaska Native/American Indian	4.8	4.5	2.1	1.4
Asian	—	—	—	0.5
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	1.6	2.0	2.4	2.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	1.6	1.0	0.8	0.5
White	88.8	92.1	90.5	86.5
Two or more races	—	—	0.8	1.4
Unknown	3.2	0.5	3.4	7.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	125	202	379	364

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

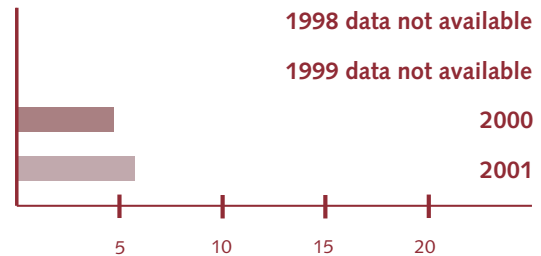
⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	95.3	94.3
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	4.7	5.7
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	2,107	2,280

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences

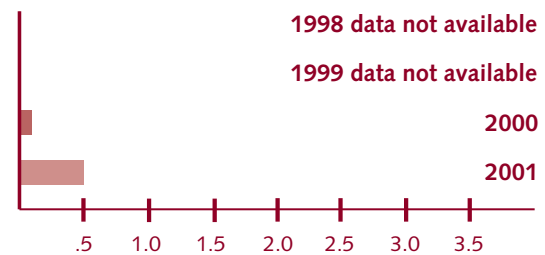


2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	0.08	0.48
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	99.92	99.52
Total %	—	—	100.00	100.00
Number	—	—	3,767	3,724

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care

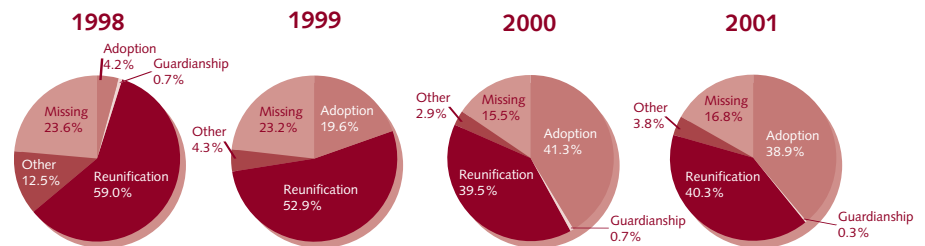


3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	4.2	19.6	41.3	38.9
Guardianship	0.7	—	0.7	0.3
Reunification	59.0	52.9	39.5	40.3
Other	12.5	4.3	2.9	3.8
Missing data	23.6	23.2	15.5	16.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	712	535	721	715

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	46.2	52.4	37.8
Guardianship	—	—	14.3	2.7
Reunification	50.0	15.4	14.3	16.2
Other	—	15.4	—	13.5
Missing data	50.0	23.1	19.0	29.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2	13	21	37

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	0.8
Guardianship	1.5	—	—	0.8
Reunification	40.3	52.5	47.3	39.4
Other	32.8	11.7	8.2	12.1
Missing data	25.4	35.8	44.5	47.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	201	120	146	132

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	21.7	36.8	26.7	33.3
Children older than 12 at entry	78.3	63.2	73.3	66.7
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	60	19	15	24

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

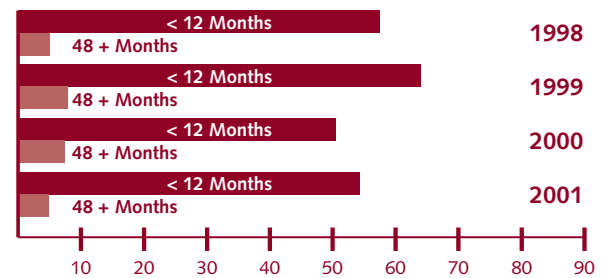
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	28.6	38.5	22.2	—	—	—	25.0	—	—	—	—	5.6	30.0	62.5	50.0	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	9.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	76.2	50.0	30.8	66.7	—	—	66.7	25.0	50.0	—	—	—	61.1	20.0	25.0	45.0	—	—	—	100.0
Other	9.5	7.1	23.1	—	—	—	—	25.0	50.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	4.8	14.3	7.7	11.1	—	—	33.3	25.0	—	—	—	—	33.3	50.0	12.5	5.0	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0
Number	21	14	13	18	—	—	3	4	2	—	—	—	18	10	8	20	—	—	—	1

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	14.3	20.0	27.3	21.4	4.2	22.8	45.2	46.4	—	1.2	11.0	14.8	—	—	50.0	71.4	16.7	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	0.5	—	0.8	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	40.0	45.5	42.9	59.1	47.5	34.3	28.9	75.0	84.7	82.2	75.8	—	—	50.0	14.3	16.7	—	100.0	—
Other	—	20.0	—	—	13.2	5.0	2.6	4.8	—	—	2.7	1.3	—	—	—	—	16.7	—	—	—
Missing data	85.7	20.0	27.3	35.7	23.1	24.7	17.0	19.5	25.0	14.1	4.1	8.1	—	—	—	14.3	50.0	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	—
Number	7	5	11	14	646	421	606	502	12	85	73	149	—	—	6	7	6	—	1	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

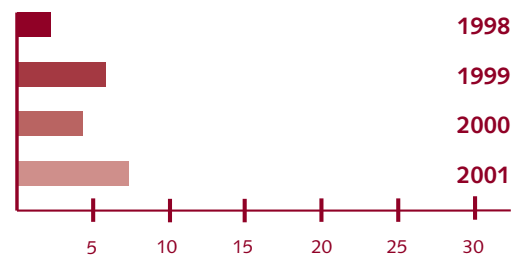
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	57.4	64.0	50.5	54.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	23.3	13.8	21.1	26.4
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	9.8	7.1	14.7	10.4
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	3.3	7.4	6.0	3.5
48 or more mos.	5.0	7.8	7.4	4.9
Missing data	1.2	—	0.4	0.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	420	283	285	288

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	89.2	91.3	93.1	89.3
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	2.2	5.8	4.3	7.3
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	0.5	1.9	2.4	3.1
Missing data	8.1	1.0	0.3	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,646	1,014	1,052	1,047

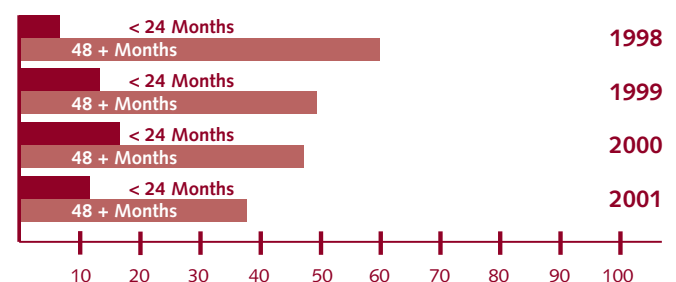
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	2.9	1.0	3.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	6.7	10.5	15.8	8.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	20.0	19.0	19.8	24.1
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	10.0	18.1	16.1	26.3
48 or more mos.	60.0	49.5	47.3	37.8
Missing data	3.3	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	30	105	298	278

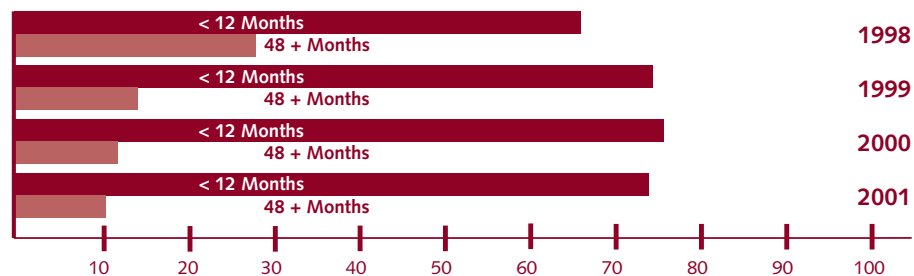
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	66.1	32.6	1.3	100.0	1,737
	1999	74.5	24.3	1.2	100.0	1,076
	2000	75.8	23.5	0.6	100.0	1,093
	2001	74.1	25.1	0.8	100.0	1,103
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	45.1	54.5	0.4	100.0	697
	1999	41.3	58.4	0.3	100.0	673
	2000	46.6	53.1	0.3	100.0	746
	2001	48.0	51.5	0.5	100.0	825
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	33.8	65.6	0.6	100.0	479
	1999	32.5	67.3	0.2	100.0	514
	2000	25.8	74.0	0.2	100.0	550
	2001	33.0	67.0	—	100.0	573
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	31.3	68.4	0.3	100.0	358
	1999	21.9	77.9	0.3	100.0	366
	2000	20.5	79.5	—	100.0	415
	2001	16.6	83.4	—	100.0	379
48 or more mos.	1998	28.2	71.2	0.6	100.0	1,002
	1999	14.4	85.3	0.4	100.0	1,059
	2000	12.1	87.6	0.3	100.0	1,107
	2001	10.7	89.1	0.3	100.0	1,059
Missing data	1998	80.6	9.7	9.7	100.0	31
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	1
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	1
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	2

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	1.1	2.6	3.6	4.4
Institutions	2.5	2.4	2.2	1.6
Other settings	87.2	93.0	89.9	89.1
Missing	9.3	2.0	4.3	4.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,012	760	775	746

**Karen M. Westburg, Director
Bureau of Child and Family Services
Maine Department of Human Services
207-287-5060**

Maine's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

The Data in Section E indicates that 364 children were reported as adopted in FY 2001 to the AFCARS Adoption database. However, as shown in outcome measures 3.1 and 5.1, only 278 children were reported to the AFCARS foster care database as discharges to adoption. This can be explained by the fact that adoption discharge reasons and the number of adoptions are "captured" in different tables within our SACWIS system. Part of this discrepancy is also related to the fact that our system was modified to force a discharge reason after FY 2001.

The data for outcome measures 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 indicate a substantial percentage of missing data with regard to 'reason for discharge' information. During the 2001 calendar year our SACWIS system was modified to force the user to enter a discharge reason when a client left custody. Information was not updated in that AFCARS submission to adjust discharge reasons. However, since 2001 our system has forced the selection of a discharge reason. That change should drastically reduce the number of missing data fields in our AFCARS submissions.

The following discussion focuses on Maine's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Maine Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2003, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2001. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Maine's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided below.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence in less than 6 months was 5.7 percent, which meets the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and is less than the national median of 8.0 percent. Change in performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because the State did not provide data for 1999 to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) for calculating this measure. Performance on this measure declined from 2000 to 2001 (+21.6 percent change).

CFSR Final Report information suggests that the actual rate of maltreatment recurrence may be higher than the reported rate of recurrence because maltreatment allegations on open cases often are not reported to intake as new reports for investigation. Also, some reports are referred to Community Intervention Agencies (CIAs) and are never investigated. The CFSR Final Report also identifies the following as potential barriers to preventing maltreatment recurrence: (1) inconsistent face-to-face contact between caseworkers and children and parents; (2) inconsistent assessments, resulting in services that are not appropriate to ensure children's safety and to reduce the risk of harm; and (3) long timeframes between maltreatment report intake and agency face-to-face contact with the child who is the subject of the report.

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.48 percent, which meets the national standard of 0.57 percent or less, and is close to the national median of 0.47 percent. Change in performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because the State did not provide data to NCANDS for calculating this outcome for 1999. However, performance on this measure declined dramatically from 2000 to 2001 (+506.9 percent change). Key concerns identified in the CFSR Final Report are: (1) the agency is not consistent with regard to timely responses to reports of child maltreatment by foster parents on facility staff; and (2) often, caseworker contacts with children in foster care are not of sufficient frequency to ensure the children's safety and well being.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

The State's performance relevant to this outcome cannot be assessed because "reason for discharge" information was not reported to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) for 16.8 percent of children who exited foster care in FY 2001. Consequently, the percentage of children achieving permanency at exit from foster care cannot be determined. The State notes in its comment letter that this problem should be drastically reduced in their FY 2002 data submissions.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 54.2, which does not meet the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and is less than the national median of 69.2 percent. However, because "reason for discharge" information was not reported to AFCARS for 16.8 percent of children exiting foster care in FY 2001, the current data pertaining to the time to reunification cannot be meaningfully interpreted.

In FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 7.3, which meets the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is less than the national median of 10.4 percent. However, performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+24.8 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that performance on this measure may be attributed to agency efforts to provide services and supports to children and families after reunification.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reported finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 11.8, which is lower than the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and the national median of 21.0 percent. However, Maine's data pertaining to time-in-foster care to finalized adoption cannot be meaningfully interpreted because of the following data quality issues: (1) "reason for discharge" information was not reported to AFCARS for 16.8 percent of the children exiting foster care in FY 2001; and (2) the State reported 364 finalized adoptions to the AFCARS Adoption Database (Section E), but only 278 exits to a finalized adoption to the AFCARS Foster Care Database (Outcome measure 3.1 and 5.1). The CFSR Final Report identified several barriers to timely adoption, including: (1) a practice of maintaining the goal of reunification for too long; (2) delays in achieving termination of parental rights (TPR); (3) an insufficient number of adoptive homes; and (4) delays finalizing adoptions after TPR is obtained.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who were in foster care for less than 12 months and experienced no more than 2 placements was 74.1, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and is less than the national median of 83.3 percent. Maine's performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies several barriers to placement stability: (1) inconsistent matching of children with appropriate resources; (2) too frequent use of short-term emergency placements; and (3) inconsistent supports for foster parents when problems arise in the placement.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 6.0, which is less than the national median of 8.7 percent. However, Maine's performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+20.6 percent change).

Maryland

[CONTEXT DATA]

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	1,287,190	1,309,432	1,356,172	1,368,380	Child maltreatment victims	14,234	—	—	19,750
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	12,890	13,455	13,113	12,564
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	Children adopted	477	592	548	815
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.8					
Asian/Pacific Islander	4.3	4.4	3.7	N/A					
Black	31.3	31.6	31.9	31.8					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	4.5	4.7	5.3	5.5					
White	59.6	58.9	55.9	56.2					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.7	2.4					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.3	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	14.4	6.6	8.5	7.6					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	86.7	89.2	93.1	92.7					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	1998	Rate			2001
		1999	2000	2001			1999	2000		
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	55,964	—	—	—	43.5 per 1,000	—	—	—	— per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	14,234	—	—	19,750	11.1 per 1,000	—	—	—	14.4 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	24	—	—	27	1.9 per 100,000	—	—	—	2.0 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	—	—	5.1	Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	0.1
1-5 years	—	—	—	26.9	Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	1.0
6-10 years	—	—	—	30.6	Black	—	—	—	55.0
11-15 years	—	—	—	26.7	Hispanic	—	—	—	3.2
16+ years	—	—	—	10.7	White	—	—	—	38.7
Unknown	—	—	—	—	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	100.0	Other/Unknown	—	—	—	2.0
Number	—	—	—	19,750	Total % ³	—	—	—	100.0
					Number	—	—	—	19,750

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	—	—	—	0.3
Medical neglect	—	—	—	—
Neglect	—	—	—	56.8
Physical abuse	—	—	—	31.3
Sexual abuse	—	—	—	12.5
Other	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	—	—	—	100.9
Number	14,234	—	—	19,750

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	11,719	4,467	3,296	12,890	16,186
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	12,452	3,936	2,933	13,455	16,388
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	12,295	3,928	3,110	13,113	16,223
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	11,966	3,662	3,064	12,564	15,628
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	25.6	N/A	14.0	26.2	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	28.8	N/A	16.7	31.9	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	31.7	N/A	17.5	33.6	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	33.4	N/A	18.8	34.6	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	2.6	2.8	3.0	3.1	14.2	16.9	17.5	17.9	4.7	5.0	5.8	6.9	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.1
1-5 years	25.1	21.8	20.1	19.7	26.6	26.4	26.0	24.2	27.4	27.3	24.8	25.6	22.6	20.2	20.3	19.4
6-10 years	30.5	30.1	28.5	26.3	26.3	24.4	24.3	21.8	25.9	28.8	27.1	25.3	30.4	28.3	26.1	23.2
11-15 years	27.2	29.2	30.3	31.6	26.1	26.2	25.8	28.7	23.4	21.8	23.0	23.1	27.8	29.3	30.2	31.4
16-18 years	12.9	14.0	15.9	16.6	6.8	6.0	6.3	7.3	15.7	13.7	16.0	15.0	13.2	15.4	16.1	18.0
19+ years	1.7	2.1	2.3	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	2.8	3.3	3.3	4.1	3.0	3.7	4.3	4.9
Unknown	0.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	11,719	12,452	12,295	11,966	4,467	3,936	3,928	3,662	3,296	2,933	3,110	3,064	12,890	13,455	13,113	12,564

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.3	0.2	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—	0.5	0.3	—	—	0.3	0.3
Asian/Pacific	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.2	0.3	—	—	0.2	0.3	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—
Black	79.2	79.4	78.6	78.5	70.4	68.7	68.7	67.8	67.5	70.8	68.2	68.8	79.2	78.1	78.1	77.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.0
Hispanic	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.8	2.3	2.2	2.0	2.0	1.7	2.3	0.8	0.9	1.3	1.3
White	18.7	18.2	18.7	18.5	25.2	26.4	26.2	26.7	28.7	24.2	27.7	26.0	18.4	19.3	18.8	19.0
Two or more races	—	—	0.5	0.7	—	—	1.2	1.7	—	—	0.7	1.3	—	—	0.6	0.9
Unknown	0.7	1.0	0.8	0.7	2.6	2.6	1.1	1.0	1.5	2.4	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.2	0.8	0.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	11,719	12,452	12,295	11,966	4,467	3,936	3,928	3,662	3,296	2,933	3,110	3,064	12,890	13,455	13,113	12,564

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	2,211	2,806	3,076	3,302
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	972	1,304	1,693	1,749
Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.0	1.1	1.5	1.4
1-5 years	31.3	27.8	27.6	27.6
6-10 years	43.0	41.1	37.5	34.2
11-15 years	21.8	26.1	28.7	29.9
16+ years	2.4	3.5	3.8	5.2
Unknown	0.5	0.5	1.0	1.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,211	2,806	3,076	3,302

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	—	0.0
Asian	—	—	—	0.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.0	0.1	—	—
Black	77.6	79.2	79.7	80.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.8
White	20.2	19.1	18.1	16.8
Two or more races	—	—	0.7	0.9
Unknown	1.4	1.0	0.7	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,211	2,806	3,076	3,302

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.3	1.0	1.6	0.7
1-5 years	44.7	41.4	36.3	42.6
6-10 years	41.5	41.2	45.6	38.5
11-15 years	10.7	15.5	15.1	15.8
16+ years	0.8	0.8	1.3	2.3
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	477	592	548	815

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.3	—	—
Asian	—	—	0.5	0.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.6	0.3	—	—
Black	65.2	71.8	67.9	72.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	2.5	0.2	2.4	2.0
White	30.8	26.7	26.8	22.0
Two or more races	—	0.5	2.4	3.2
Unknown	0.8	0.2	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	477	592	548	815

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	—	—
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

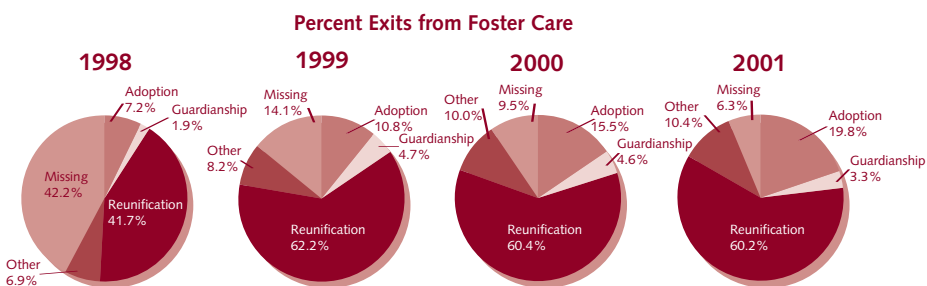
2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

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

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	7.2	10.8	15.5	19.8
Guardianship	1.9	4.7	4.6	3.3
Reunification	41.7	62.2	60.4	60.2
Other	6.9	8.2	10.0	10.4
Missing data	42.2	14.1	9.5	6.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,296	2,933	3,110	3,064



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	9.2	13.5	13.7	17.9
Guardianship	1.1	2.4	2.2	2.8
Reunification	38.1	55.7	59.0	55.7
Other	14.2	16.5	16.0	16.6
Missing data	37.5	12.0	9.2	7.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	544	460	556	609

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.3	1.0	1.3	1.8
Guardianship	1.3	3.0	2.9	3.7
Reunification	39.4	53.2	56.0	58.0
Other	18.1	24.8	27.6	29.3
Missing data	41.0	18.0	12.2	7.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	757	596	682	652

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	32.2	32.5	33.9	36.8
Children older than 12 at entry	67.8	67.5	66.1	63.2
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	143	166	230	231

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

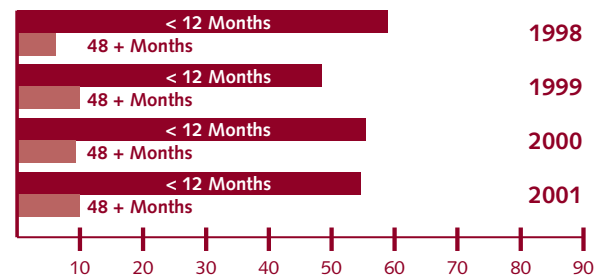
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	25.0	50.0	—	—	—	26.7	—	12.5	—	—	—	6.3	10.3	16.8	22.0	—	—	100.0	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.7	—	—	12.5	—	—	2.3	5.7	6.0	3.9	—	—	—	—
Reunification	16.7	62.5	50.0	100.0	—	—	46.7	77.8	62.5	50.0	—	—	40.3	63.3	59.4	57.4	—	—	—	—
Other	—	12.5	—	—	—	—	6.7	22.2	12.5	12.5	—	—	6.3	7.1	8.9	10.6	—	—	—	—
Missing data	83.3	—	—	—	—	—	13.3	—	12.5	25.0	—	—	44.6	13.6	8.9	6.0	—	—	—	100.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	6	8	4	4	—	—	15	9	8	8	—	—	2,224	2,077	2,122	2,109	—	—	1	1

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine		Two or More Races		Missing Data							
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	2000	2001				
Adoption	7.7	5.0	9.6	9.9	9.2	13.0	11.7	14.9	—	—	20.6	12.5	—	—	18.2	29.3	8.3	10.0	—	—
Guardianship	4.6	—	—	1.4	0.7	2.3	1.5	2.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.4	2.1	2.9	—	—
Reunification	44.6	63.3	67.3	73.2	44.9	58.3	63.1	65.7	—	—	58.8	78.1	—	—	54.5	56.1	41.7	67.1	—	—
Other	3.1	10.0	17.3	8.5	8.9	11.5	12.4	10.4	—	—	11.8	9.4	—	—	9.1	—	2.1	5.7	—	—
Missing data	40.0	21.7	5.8	7.0	36.3	14.9	11.2	6.8	—	—	8.8	—	—	—	18.2	12.2	45.8	14.3	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—
Number	65	60	52	71	945	710	860	797	—	—	34	32	—	—	22	41	48	70	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

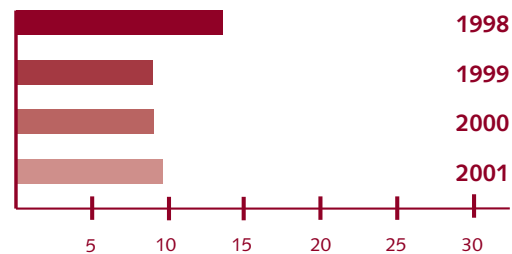
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	58.9	48.4	55.3	54.6
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	17.9	19.0	17.2	18.7
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	8.7	16.3	11.9	11.5
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	8.1	6.3	6.3	5.3
48 or more mos.	6.1	9.9	9.3	9.9
Missing data	0.3	—	—	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,376	1,823	1,879	1,846

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	74.4	80.6	79.5	79.6
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	13.5	8.9	9.0	9.6
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	11.1	9.8	11.0	10.7
Missing data	1.0	0.7	0.4	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,467	3,936	3,928	3,662

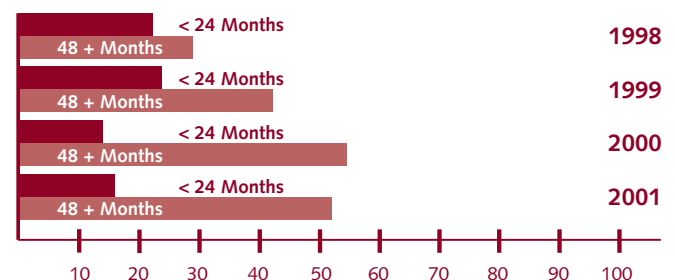
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	6.3	10.7	6.7	4.8
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	16.0	13.2	7.3	11.2
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	25.6	15.5	16.4	14.5
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	22.7	18.3	15.0	17.3
48 or more mos.	29.0	42.3	54.7	52.1
Missing data	0.4	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	238	317	481	606

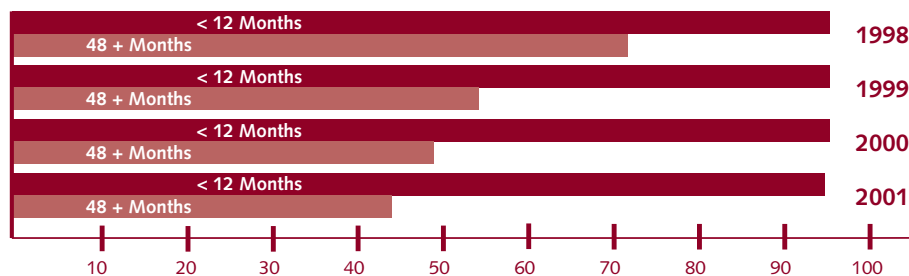
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	95.4	4.6	—	100.0	4,909
	1999	95.4	4.6	—	100.0	4,252
	2000	95.4	4.6	—	100.0	4,246
	2001	94.9	5.1	—	100.0	4,053
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	88.2	11.8	—	100.0	3,221
	1999	82.2	17.8	—	100.0	2,900
	2000	81.9	18.1	—	100.0	2,733
	2001	79.8	20.2	—	100.0	2,574
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	82.8	17.2	—	100.0	2,136
	1999	69.7	30.3	—	100.0	2,361
	2000	70.3	29.7	—	100.0	2,122
	2001	67.5	32.5	—	100.0	1,955
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	78.5	21.5	—	100.0	1,752
	1999	60.8	39.2	—	100.0	1,678
	2000	57.8	42.2	—	100.0	1,666
	2001	58.0	42.1	—	100.0	1,484
48 or more mos.	1998	71.9	28.1	—	100.0	4,109
	1999	54.5	45.5	—	100.0	5,184
	2000	49.2	50.8	—	100.0	5,450
	2001	44.3	55.7	—	100.0	5,560
Missing data	1998	100.0	—	—	100.0	59
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	13
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	6
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	2

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	4.7	6.4	4.2	5.9
Institutions	1.3	3.9	4.1	1.4
Other settings	93.0	87.5	90.1	91.2
Missing	1.0	2.2	1.6	1.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,258	3,042	3,029	2,699

**Linda Mouzon, Executive Director
Social Services Administration
Maryland Department of Human Resources
800-332-6347**

Maryland's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

The blanks in Section B are due to the fact that Maryland did not submit NCANDS Detailed Case Data Component (DCDC) data for 2001. Maryland is submitting its first DCDC data file this spring for Calendar Year 2002.

Maryland's population of children under age 18 grew 1.1% between 2000 and 2001. During the same period, the number of children in out-of-home care declined 4.2%. Entries into out-of-care declined 6.7% in 2001. And, the number of children adopted from out-of-home care rose dramatically.

Despite these trends, length of stay (point in time method) for children in out-of-home care continues to increase—from 33.6 months in 2000 to 34.6 months in 2001. Length of stay in Maryland (see Section C and Outcome Measure 4.1) tends to be longer than some other states because, following federal practice, trial home visits (aftercare) are included in the out-of-home care episode.

Length of stay has also grown in part due to the aging of the out-of-home care caseload. Section C shows that the percentage of children age 16 plus in out-of-home care increased from 16.2% in 1998 to 22.9% in 2001. A rapidly growing caseload (as in the late 1990's) tends to be younger than a caseload where entries have begun to decline.

Federal child welfare measures do not measure length of stay for children who enter out-of-home care in a given year (an entry cohort). The entry cohort method is sensitive to changes in child welfare service practice. By this measure, child welfare practice in Maryland is improving in that the median length of stay for children entering out-of-home care for the first time decreased from 18 months in 2000 to 17.3 months in 2001.

Exits from out-of-home care to a permanent home (Outcome Measure 3.1) improved from 80.5% in 2000 to 83.3% in 2001. Maryland's re-entry rate (Outcome Measure 4.2) rose slightly in 2001 to 9.6%, but is still lower than the national average of 10.7%.

Maryland did not report Detailed Case Data Component (DCDC) data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting System (NCANDS) for 2001. Outcome Measures 1.1 and 2.1 are based on DCDC data. This is the reason Maryland has no entries under these two headings. Thanks to improvements in work procedures, Maryland will have sufficient child protective service data to submit DCDC data for 2002.

The difference between the adoption counts in Section E and exits to adoption reported in Measures 3.1 and 5.1 is due to the fact that the former is a manual count and the latter is derived from Maryland's Client Information System (CIS). The former is used for the semi-annual AFCARS adoption data submission while the latter is used to count exits when reporting AFCARS foster care data. Tracking adoptions on CIS is difficult because the child receives new identifying data in that system when they are adopted. For this reason, manual counts tend to be more accurate than CIS counts of adoption.

Maryland

[FEDERAL COMMENT]

At the time of preparation of this report, the Maryland Child and Family Service Review had not been conducted. States are not accountable for meeting national standards until the time of their review.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	1,457,703	1,468,554	1,500,064	1,473,056	Child maltreatment victims	27,559	29,633	32,334	33,218
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	—	11,169	11,619	11,568
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	Children adopted	1,100	922	861	778
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.2					
Asian/Pacific Islander	4.9	5.2	4.0	N/A					
Black	7.8	8.1	6.5	7.3					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	10.0	10.4	10.5	10.8					
White	77.1	76.2	75.2	75.4					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.7	2.0					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.8	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	21.1	19.5	15.8	11.9					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	97.1	96.9	96.3	95.7					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			1998	Rate		
		1999	2000	2001		1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	52,899	56,620	61,226	61,329	36.3 per 1,000	38.6 per 1,000	40.8 per 1,000	40.9 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	27,559	29,633	32,334	33,218	18.9 per 1,000	20.2 per 1,000	21.6 per 1,000	22.1 per 1,000
Child fatalities	13	3	4	19	0.9 per 100,000	0.2 per 100,000	0.3 per 100,000	1.3 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	—	8.1	8.2	Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	0.1	0.1
1-5 years	—	—	28.8	29.4	Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	1.8	1.9
6-10 years	—	—	30.5	29.9	Black	—	—	12.4	13.8
11-15 years	—	—	26.0	26.4	Hispanic	—	—	11.4	16.9
16+ years	—	—	5.5	5.5	White	—	—	39.0	43.8
Unknown	—	—	1.1	0.6	Two or more races	—	—	0.9	1.5
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	—	—	34.3	22.1
Number	—	—	32,334	33,218	Total % ³	—	—	100.0	100.0
					Number	—	—	32,334	33,218

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	—	—	0.4	0.3
Medical neglect	—	—	—	—
Neglect	—	—	87.4	88.0
Physical abuse	—	—	18.9	18.0
Sexual abuse	—	—	3.2	3.4
Other	—	—	0.1	0.1
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	—	—	110.0	109.7
Number	—	—	32,334	33,218

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	—	—	—	—	—
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	11,550	7,368	7,749	11,169	18,918
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	10,630	7,381	6,392	11,619	18,011
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	11,030	7,174	6,636	11,568	18,204
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	—	N/A	—	—	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	22.1	N/A	10.7	18.5	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	19.2	N/A	8.3	17.4	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	17.9	N/A	9.4	17.5	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	—	2.4	2.6	3.0	—	8.5	9.2	9.7	—	3.0	3.0	3.4	—	2.6	3.0	3.2
1-5 years	—	22.4	20.0	19.8	—	19.5	18.9	20.3	—	21.4	19.7	21.5	—	20.0	19.5	18.9
6-10 years	—	24.4	23.4	21.4	—	19.1	19.2	17.4	—	21.3	20.0	18.0	—	22.9	21.1	20.2
11-15 years	—	30.2	32.0	33.3	—	39.1	40.2	38.9	—	28.4	30.5	31.0	—	32.6	34.0	33.7
16-18 years	—	18.0	19.2	19.5	—	13.3	12.2	13.3	—	23.1	23.9	23.3	—	19.2	19.4	20.9
19+ years	—	1.9	2.3	2.4	—	0.2	0.1	0.2	—	1.6	1.6	1.7	—	2.2	2.4	2.5
Unknown	—	0.6	0.6	0.6	—	0.3	0.1	0.1	—	1.2	1.2	1.2	—	0.6	0.6	0.7
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	11,550	10,630	11,030	—	7,368	7,381	7,174	—	7,749	6,392	6,636	—	11,169	11,619	11,568

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.3	0.2	0.3	—	0.3	0.2	0.1	—	0.2	0.2	0.2	—	0.3	0.3	0.2
Asian	—	—	1.5	1.6	—	—	1.9	2.0	—	—	1.9	1.9	—	—	1.6	1.7
Asian/Pacific	—	1.6	—	—	—	1.6	—	—	—	1.7	—	—	—	1.5	—	—
Black	—	20.1	19.0	17.7	—	15.4	13.5	13.5	—	18.4	15.8	14.8	—	18.2	17.3	16.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	21.0	20.6	21.0	—	16.7	16.5	15.4	—	18.2	16.6	18.1	—	20.0	20.3	19.1
White	—	48.7	48.4	46.8	—	47.1	45.1	43.9	—	47.9	48.2	46.5	—	48.3	46.4	45.2
Two or more races	—	0.4	0.6	1.0	—	0.2	1.1	1.3	—	0.3	0.6	1.3	—	0.4	0.9	1.1
Unknown	—	8.0	9.6	11.6	—	18.7	21.6	23.8	—	13.4	16.8	17.2	—	11.3	13.2	15.9
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	11,550	10,630	11,030	—	7,368	7,381	7,174	—	7,749	6,392	6,636	—	11,169	11,619	11,568

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	—	3,278	3,147	2,912
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	—	927	897	720
Age of Waiting Children (%) 1998 1999 2000 2001				
Under 1 year	—	2.5	3.0	3.2
1-5 years	—	39.5	38.6	39.7
6-10 years	—	41.2	38.6	36.8
11-15 years	—	16.1	19.2	19.2
16+ years	—	0.7	0.5	1.0
Unknown	—	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	3,278	3,147	2,912

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.3	0.3	0.2
Asian	—	—	1.9	2.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	2.1	—	—
Black	—	19.5	16.4	14.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	24.9	24.8	25.6
White	—	44.2	45.0	41.7
Two or more races	—	0.9	1.1	1.8
Unknown	—	8.1	10.6	14.4
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	3,278	3,147	2,912

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	0.5	0.3	1.4	1.2
1-5 years	46.9	44.7	48.1	48.7
6-10 years	39.2	41.8	37.4	32.8
11-15 years	12.7	12.7	12.5	16.3
16+ years	0.6	0.5	0.6	1.0
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,100	922	861	778

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.1
Asian	—	—	2.3	1.7
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.6	0.9	—	—
Black	22.8	23.8	21.5	17.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	23.1	20.9	20.3	23.1
White	46.2	51.6	49.7	52.2
Two or more races	—	—	2.8	2.1
Unknown	7.0	2.6	2.8	3.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,100	922	861	778

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

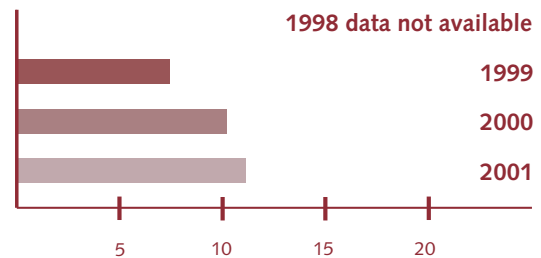
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	92.6	89.8	88.9
Children with one or more recurrences	—	7.4	10.2	11.1
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	14,167	15,354	16,356

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



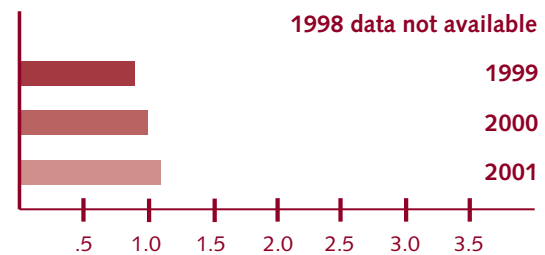
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	0.92	1.03	1.13
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	99.08	98.97	98.87
Total %	—	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	—	17,019	16,579	16,619

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care

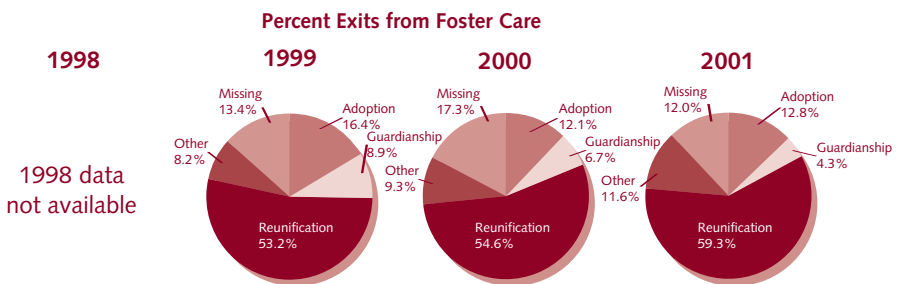


3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	16.4	12.1	12.8
Guardianship	—	8.9	6.7	4.3
Reunification	—	53.2	54.6	59.3
Other	—	8.2	9.3	11.6
Missing data	—	13.4	17.3	12.0
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	7,749	6,392	6,636



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	29.4	16.7	38.9
Guardianship	—	5.9	8.3	—
Reunification	—	29.4	25.0	38.9
Other	—	17.6	33.3	11.1
Missing data	—	17.6	16.7	11.1
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	17	12	18

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	0.1	0.1	0.2
Guardianship	—	3.0	2.6	1.9
Reunification	—	64.2	59.5	61.3
Other	—	16.0	16.8	22.0
Missing data	—	16.6	21.0	14.6
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	2,957	2,694	2,655

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	—	25.0	24.2	25.5
Children older than 12 at entry	—	74.6	75.8	74.5
Missing data	—	0.3	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	635	557	542

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

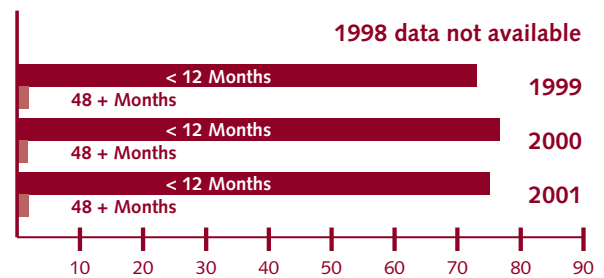
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black			Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander				
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	5.9	—	30.8	—	—	11.8	15.4	—	5.3	—	—	—	20.2	17.0	15.9	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	7.7	—	—	2.5	1.6	—	0.8	—	—	—	13.7	9.1	5.4	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	88.2	30.0	46.2	—	—	64.7	61.8	—	71.2	—	—	—	43.0	43.0	52.2	—	—	100.0	50.0
Other	—	5.9	50.0	7.7	—	—	5.9	13.0	—	9.1	—	—	—	8.6	11.6	14.2	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	20.0	7.7	—	—	15.1	8.1	—	13.6	—	—	—	14.5	19.3	12.3	—	—	—	50.0
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	17	10	13	—	—	119	123	—	132	—	—	—	1,422	1,010	982	—	—	1	2

	Hispanic			White			Unable to Determine			Two or More Races			Missing Data							
	1998	1999	2000	1998	1999	2000	1998	1999	2000	1998	1999	2000	1998	1999	2000					
Adoption	—	21.7	14.6	16.4	—	16.1	12.9	14.2	—	18.0	7.9	6.8	—	57.1	41.5	22.9	—	0.1	0.1	0.1
Guardianship	—	7.0	6.3	4.2	—	8.9	7.1	4.5	—	9.3	8.4	5.3	—	—	—	2.4	—	4.1	3.4	2.9
Reunification	—	49.0	51.4	53.8	—	53.8	54.8	57.3	—	49.4	46.3	68.0	—	33.3	51.2	62.7	—	77.2	72.3	78.1
Other	—	8.2	8.8	12.3	—	9.1	10.3	12.3	—	8.7	15.0	9.2	—	—	—	1.2	—	2.3	2.8	6.8
Missing data	—	14.1	18.9	13.3	—	12.1	14.8	11.7	—	14.7	22.4	10.7	—	9.5	7.3	10.8	—	16.3	21.4	12.1
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	1,414	1,058	1,204	—	3,708	3,079	3,088	—	334	214	206	—	21	41	83	—	701	860	935

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

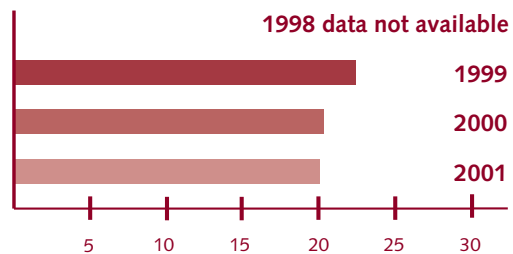
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	72.9	76.6	75.1
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	15.3	14.4	16.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	5.4	4.3	3.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	2.3	1.9	1.4
48 or more mos.	—	1.9	1.7	1.9
Missing data	—	2.1	1.1	1.1
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	4,121	3,489	3,935

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	—	66.0	68.3	68.2
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	—	22.3	20.2	20.0
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	—	11.3	11.3	11.7
Missing data	—	0.4	0.1	0.2
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	7,368	7,381	7,174

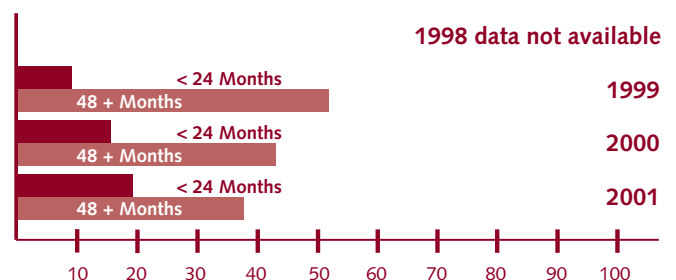
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	2.5	2.2	2.1
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	6.8	13.5	17.2
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	17.2	20.7	24.0
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	21.2	20.3	18.8
48 or more mos.	—	52.0	43.2	37.8
Missing data	—	0.3	0.1	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	1,271	773	849

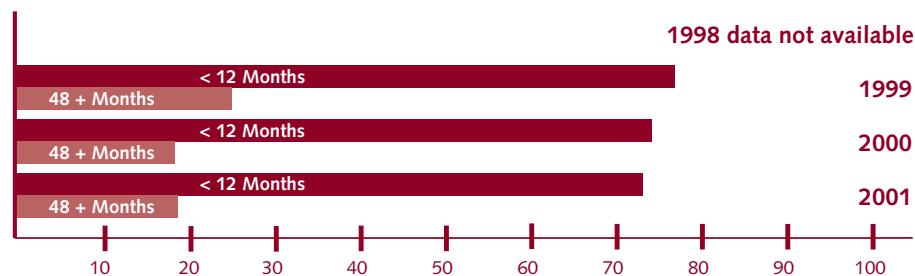
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	77.0	18.4	4.7	100.0	8,170
	2000	74.3	22.7	3.1	100.0	8,154
	2001	73.2	23.7	3.1	100.0	8,113
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	58.7	40.1	1.2	100.0	3,252
	2000	53.8	44.8	1.4	100.0	3,386
	2001	54.4	45.3	0.3	100.0	3,614
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	49.4	50.5	0.1	100.0	2,187
	2000	46.0	53.3	0.7	100.0	1,933
	2001	42.1	57.8	0.1	100.0	2,137
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	39.9	60.1	—	100.0	1,460
	2000	34.1	65.9	—	100.0	1,338
	2001	39.7	60.3	0.1	100.0	1,258
48 or more mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	25.3	74.7	0.0	100.0	3,626
	2000	18.7	81.3	—	100.0	3,079
	2001	19.0	81.0	—	100.0	2,984
Missing data	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	46.6	0.9	52.5	100.0	223
	2000	56.2	0.8	43.0	100.0	121
	2001	57.1	1.0	41.8	100.0	98

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	—	3.8	3.4	4.0
Institutions	—	4.4	3.5	3.8
Other settings	—	91.5	92.9	92.1
Missing	—	0.3	0.3	0.1
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	3,877	3,998	3,870

Massachusetts

[STATE COMMENT]

The following discussion focuses on Massachusetts' performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Massachusetts Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2001, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 1999. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CSFR findings for Massachusetts' performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was 11.1 percent, which exceeds both the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and the national median of 8.0 percent. Performance on this measure declined considerably between 1999 and 2001 (+50.0 percent change).

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 1.13 percent, which is higher than both the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and the national median of 0.47 percent. Performance on this measure declined from 1999 to 2001 (+23.4 percent change).

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

Data for outcome 3 indicate that in FY 2001, 76.4 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes, which is lower than the national median of 85.3 percent. However, the State's performance relevant to outcome 3 cannot be meaningfully interpreted because 12 percent of all exits from foster care in FY 2001 did not have "reason for discharge" information, and 14.6 percent of exits from foster care of children who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into care did not have "reason for discharge" information. In addition, only 18 of the 6,636 children who exited foster care in FY 2001 were reported to have a diagnosed disability.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of children's entry into foster care was 75.1, which is less than the national standard of 76.2 percent or more but exceeds the national median of 69.2 percent. However, because 12 percent of exits from foster care in FY 2001 did not have "reason for discharge" information, the number of children reported as exiting to reunification in outcome measure 4.1 may not be accurate. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Massachusetts' performance in FY 2001 with regard to the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 20.0 percent, which is greater than the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is almost twice the national median of 10.4 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-10.5 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 19.3, which is less than both the national median of 21.0 percent and the national standard of 32.0 percent or more. Although the State did not meet

the national standard for this measure, Massachusetts' performance on the measure exhibited continuous improvement from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+106.3 percent change).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children in foster care for less than 12 months who experienced no more than 2 placements was 73.2, which is lower than both the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure did not exhibit substantive change from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 7.8, which is lower than the national median of 8.7 percent. Massachusetts' performance on this measure declined slightly from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-5.5 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	2,551,615	2,561,139	2,595,767	2,573,235	Child maltreatment victims	22,744	24,505	26,680	28,475
Race/ethnicity (%) ¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	18,583	20,300	20,034	20,896
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	Children adopted	2,257	2,446	2,804	2,979
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.0					
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.8	1.9	1.8	N/A					
Black	17.1	17.2	17.3	17.5					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	3.9	4.1	4.8	4.8					
White	76.5	76.2	72.4	72.6					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.8	2.4					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	15.3	14.1	13.6	13.0					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	87.2	91.3	83.2	89.3					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	Number				Rate			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	156,425	166,160	164,369	172,281	61.3 per 1,000	64.9 per 1,000	63.3 per 1,000	66.3 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	22,744	24,505	26,680	28,475	8.9 per 1,000	9.6 per 1,000	10.3 per 1,000	11.0 per 1,000
Child fatalities	40	48			1.6 per 100,000	1.9 per 100,000		

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	11.0	11.9	12.4	12.4	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6
1-5 years	30.3	28.9	27.9	27.2	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.5	0.4	—	0.4
6-10 years	30.9	31.0	30.6	29.7	Black	39.8	40.7	39.7	38.9
11-15 years	23.0	23.5	24.0	25.6	Hispanic	2.6	2.4	2.2	2.9
16+ years	4.8	4.7	5.1	5.1	White	54.7	55.8	53.7	55.0
Unknown	—	—	—	—	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	4.5	2.4	3.8	2.3
Number	22,744	24,505	26,680	28,475	Total % ³	102.6	102.4	100.0	100.0
					Number	22,744	24,505	26,680	28,475

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		6.0	6.9	7.3	7.5
Medical neglect		2.3	2.3	2.7	2.5
Neglect		46.3	70.8	68.7	66.3
Physical abuse		19.9	20.9	22.7	21.3
Sexual abuse		6.8	6.5	5.9	5.8
Other		25.3	—	—	3.6
Unknown		—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴		106.6	107.4	107.3	106.9
Number		22,744	24,505	26,680	28,475

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	13,570	10,220	5,207	18,583	23,790
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	16,111	10,929	6,740	20,300	27,040
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	17,129	10,707	7,802	20,034	27,836
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	16,925	12,283	8,312	20,896	29,208

Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	13.3	N/A	12.4	13.5	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	13.6	N/A	13.9	14.4	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	14.5	N/A	15.3	14.7	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	14.4	N/A	14.8	12.7	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	4.6	4.7	4.5	4.9	13.0	12.8	13.9	14.0	2.8	2.6	2.7	2.9	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.6
1-5 years	27.1	26.6	25.2	26.6	26.2	24.6	27.0	27.8	24.0	24.2	24.8	27.3	28.0	26.6	27.3	28.0
6-10 years	22.0	23.5	24.4	25.2	22.1	22.5	24.4	23.9	20.5	20.6	22.5	24.2	23.7	25.0	25.2	24.7
11-15 years	24.8	24.7	25.5	25.2	27.2	26.9	24.5	25.6	19.7	19.4	20.0	20.4	23.9	24.7	24.9	25.9
16-18 years	19.8	18.8	18.3	16.6	10.8	11.3	9.5	8.4	26.5	26.7	24.7	20.8	17.6	16.9	16.0	14.5
19+ years	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	6.0	4.9	4.1	3.6	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.1
Unknown	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.3	0.6	1.7	0.5	0.2	0.3	1.6	1.1	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	13,570	16,111	17,129	16,925	10,220	10,929	10,707	12,283	5,207	6,740	7,802	8,312	18,583	20,300	20,034	20,896

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵																
Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1
Asian	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0
Asian/Pacific	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.4
White	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4.9
Two or more races	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.3
Unknown	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	81.4	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	89.1
Total %	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	100.0
Number	—	—	—	16,925	—	—	—	12,283	—	—	—	8,312	—	—	—	20,896

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	7,665	8,495	7,745	7,839
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	4,257	5,166	5,226	6,174

Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	6.7	5.9	5.7	5.6
1-5 years	38.9	35.6	33.0	32.0
6-10 years	31.5	33.6	31.8	30.3
11-15 years	18.7	20.3	23.9	26.3
16+ years	3.2	3.4	4.1	4.8
Unknown	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	7,665	8,495	7,745	7,839

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	0.1
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	—	—	—	4.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	—	—	0.3
White	—	—	—	3.9
Two or more races	—	—	—	0.2
Unknown	—	100.0	100.0	91.2
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	8,495	7,745	7,839

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.8
1-5 years	44.9	47.1	43.3	43.0
6-10 years	37.8	34.3	36.7	36.2
11-15 years	13.8	15.9	15.9	16.8
16+ years	2.2	1.6	2.5	2.2
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,257	2,446	2,804	2,979

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.4	1.0	0.6	0.8
Asian	—	—	0.2	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.3	0.1	—	—
Black	53.0	51.5	49.5	48.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.0	—
Hispanic	3.2	4.3	4.1	4.3
White	41.4	42.4	41.0	40.2
Two or more races	—	0.0	4.2	5.8
Unknown	0.7	0.7	0.3	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,257	2,446	2,804	2,979

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

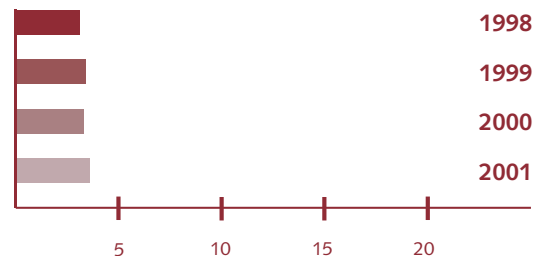
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment

Within 6 Months (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	96.9	96.6	96.7	96.4
Children with one or more recurrences	3.1	3.4	3.3	3.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	11,430	11,576	13,482	14,171

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



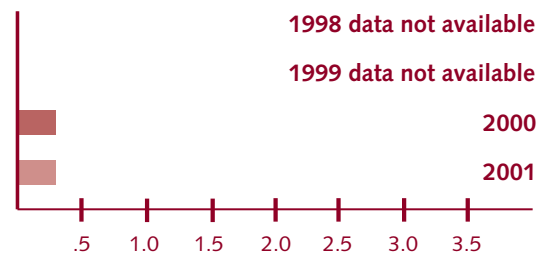
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	0.33	0.34
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	99.67	99.66
Total %	—	—	100.00	100.00
Number	—	—	26,044	27,359

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



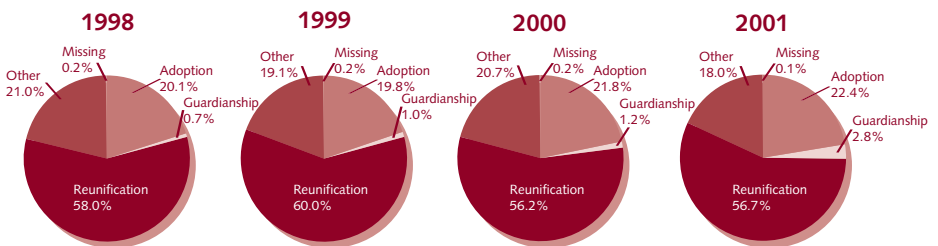
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	20.1	19.8	21.8	22.4
Guardianship	0.7	1.0	1.2	2.8
Reunification	58.0	60.0	56.2	56.7
Other	21.0	19.1	20.7	18.0
Missing data	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,207	6,740	7,802	8,312

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	2.7	1.6	1.4	1.5
Guardianship	0.7	0.8	1.1	2.5
Reunification	57.9	60.7	53.6	54.5
Other	38.4	36.5	43.4	41.1
Missing data	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,073	2,606	2,812	2,532

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	24.4	22.8	23.9	24.3
Children older than 12 at entry	74.9	76.5	75.5	75.5
Missing data	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	426	587	564	485

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

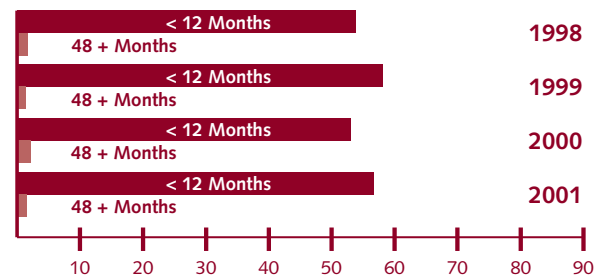
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20.1	19.8	21.8	22.4
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.7	1.0	1.2	2.8
Reunification	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	58.0	60.0	56.2	56.7
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21.0	19.1	20.7	18.0
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Total %	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,207	6,740	7,802	8,312

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

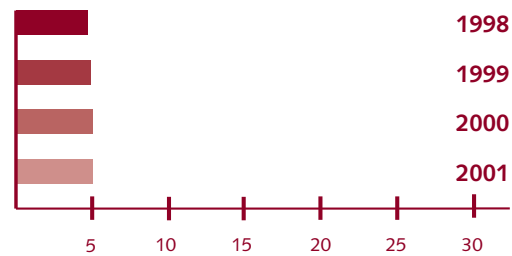
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	53.8	58.1	52.9	56.6
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	27.7	25.0	28.1	28.2
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	8.8	7.7	7.1	8.1
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	3.3	2.4	3.0	2.2
48 or more mos.	1.7	1.4	2.2	1.5
Missing data	4.7	5.3	6.8	3.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,018	4,041	4,383	4,713

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	89.8	90.3	90.0	90.9
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	4.7	4.9	5.0	5.0
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	5.0	4.4	4.6	3.6
Missing data	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	10,220	10,929	10,707	12,283

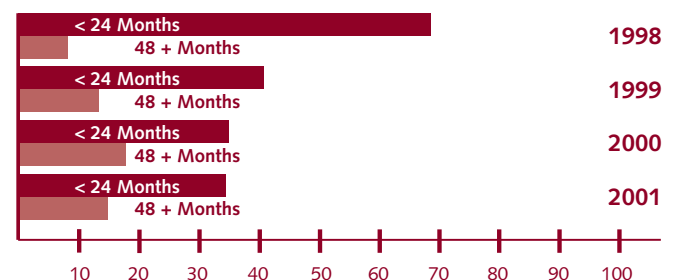
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	48.3	16.7	12.6	12.8
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	20.3	24.2	22.4	21.7
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	13.3	29.2	31.0	32.0
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	9.3	16.4	16.0	18.3
48 or more mos.	8.2	13.4	17.8	14.8
Missing data	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,048	1,333	1,699	1,860

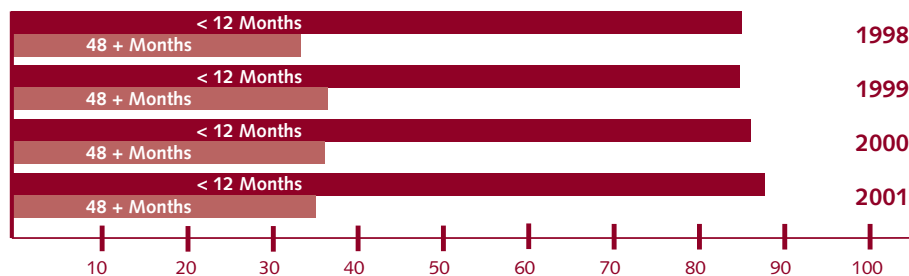
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	85.2	14.8	—	100.0	10,985
	1999	84.9	15.1	—	100.0	11,750
	2000	86.2	13.8	—	100.0	11,588
	2001	87.8	12.2	—	100.0	13,416
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	65.8	34.2	—	100.0	5,758
	1999	66.1	33.9	—	100.0	6,824
	2000	65.8	34.2	—	100.0	6,997
	2001	69.6	30.4	—	100.0	6,955
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	52.8	47.2	—	100.0	2,987
	1999	56.0	44.0	—	100.0	3,614
	2000	59.4	40.6	—	100.0	3,863
	2001	59.2	40.8	—	100.0	3,777
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	44.8	55.2	—	100.0	1,539
	1999	49.0	51.0	—	100.0	1,914
	2000	49.8	50.2	—	100.0	2,091
	2001	54.7	45.3	—	100.0	1,980
48 or more mos.	1998	33.7	66.3	—	100.0	2,214
	1999	36.8	63.2	—	100.0	2,572
	2000	36.5	63.5	—	100.0	2,865
	2001	35.4	64.6	—	100.0	2,820
Missing data	1998	93.5	6.5	—	100.0	307
	1999	95.6	4.4	—	100.0	366
	2000	97.2	2.8	—	100.0	432
	2001	97.3	2.7	—	100.0	260

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Institutions	6.2	5.6	5.7	4.1
Other settings	93.8	94.3	94.3	95.9
Missing	—	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6,929	7,339	7,623	8,525

Nannette M. Bowler, Director
Michigan Family Independence Agency
517-373-2035

Michigan's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

Michigan's Foster Care AFCARS reporting was incomplete during the time periods reflected in this report. For example, the Foster Care AFCARS report did not include children placed with adoptive parents when the adoption had not been finalized (i.e. children in pre-adoptive homes). Efforts for improving reporting compliance were concentrated on developing a new case management and information system under SACWIS. Therefore, we cannot validate the accuracy of the data in the legacy systems. Any data published for time periods prior to October 1, 2001 through March 31, 2002 may not accurately reflect Michigan's experience and should not be used to evaluate performance or outcomes.

The following discussion focuses on Michigan's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Michigan Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2002, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2000. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Michigan's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, Michigan's rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was 3.6 percent, which is lower than both the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and the national median of 8.0 percent. However, the State's performance on this measure declined slightly from 1999 to 2001 (+5.2 percent change).

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

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.34 percent, which is lower than both the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and the national median of 0.47 percent. Change in Michigan's performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because the State did not provide data for 1999 to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System for this outcome. There was no substantive change in performance from 2000 to 2001.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 81.9 percent of children exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 85.3), and 58.5 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 72.3). (The State did not provide data pertaining to children with a diagnosed disability.) However, 24.3 percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care, which is lower than the national median of 28.0 percent. Performance related to the percent of children exiting foster care who were discharged to permanent homes did not change substantively between FY 1999 and FY 2001, but performance related to children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at entry declined somewhat (-7.3 percent change), as did performance related to the percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation who were age 12 or younger at the time of entry (+6.6 percent change).

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reported reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 56.6, which is lower than both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. There was no substantive change in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Michigan's performance with regard to time to reunification must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 5.0, which is lower than both the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.4 percent. Michigan's performance on this measure did not change substantively between FY 1999 and FY 2001.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 34.5 percent, which is higher than both the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and the national median of 21.0 percent. However, the State's performance with regard to achieving adoptions in a timely manner cannot be assessed, because the number of discharges to adoption reported to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) Foster Care Database (1,860) only accounts for 62 percent of the adoptions reported to the AFCARS Adoption Database (2,979). As noted in the State Comment section, the State considers the data reported to the AFCARS Adoption Database as reflecting the correct number of adoptions. Consequently, the percentage of finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of entry into foster care reported in outcome measure 5.1 cannot be considered accurate.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 87.8, which is higher than the national standard of 86.7 percent and the national median of 83.3 percent. There was no substantive change in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 4.1, which is lower than the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this measure improved considerably from FY 1999 and FY 2001 (-28.0 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	1,259,447	1,271,850	1,286,894	1,264,306	Child maltreatment victims	10,572	11,113	11,824	9,840
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	8,521	8,996	8,530	8,167
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.8	1.8	1.5	1.5	Children adopted	429	633	614	567
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.2					
Asian/Pacific Islander	4.1	4.3	4.2	N/A					
Black	4.1	4.3	4.9	5.4					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	2.8	3.0	4.3	4.4					
White	87.1	86.6	82.0	81.7					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.9	2.8					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	17.8	7.9	8.5	8.4					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	73.5	73.8	71.1	67.7					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	Number				Rate			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	24,844	24,855	24,840	23,842	19.7 per 1,000	19.5 per 1,000	19.3 per 1,000	18.4 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	10,572	11,113	11,824	9,840	8.4 per 1,000	8.7 per 1,000	9.2 per 1,000	7.6 per 1,000
Child fatalities	3	28	21	16	0.2 per 100,000	2.2 per 100,000	1.6 per 100,000	1.2 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	5.6	6.2	8.4	8.6	Alaska Native/American Indian	7.5	10.1	7.1	6.9
1-5 years	30.8	31.3	30.2	28.5	Asian/Pacific Islander	2.8	4.0	3.7	2.8
6-10 years	35.2	35.1	34.1	33.9	Black	25.9	28.1	25.1	25.0
11-15 years	23.5	22.0	22.1	23.0	Hispanic	6.7	7.4	7.2	6.9
16+ years	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.6	White	62.6	62.6	48.9	49.7
Unknown	0.1	0.8	0.8	1.4	Two or more races	—	—	4.9	4.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	1.2	1.9	3.0	3.9
Number	10,572	11,113	11,824	9,840	Total % ³	106.7	114.1	100.0	100.0
					Number	10,572	11,113	11,824	9,840

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		0.9	1.0	0.8	0.6
Medical neglect		3.5	4.6	0.2	0.1
Neglect		69.4	77.4	73.6	72.1
Physical abuse		26.1	24.8	21.9	22.3
Sexual abuse		8.1	7.3	7.4	9.3
Other		—	—	—	—
Unknown		—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴		108.1	115.0	104.0	104.4
Number		10,572	11,113	11,824	9,840

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	7,118	9,574	8,171	8,521	16,692
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	8,012	10,724	9,743	8,996	18,736
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	7,664	10,803	9,939	8,530	18,467
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	7,424	10,012	9,269	8,167	17,436

Median Length of Stay (Months)	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	16.9	N/A	2.1	12.7	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	13.7	N/A	2.3	12.5	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	14.8	N/A	2.0	12.7	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	14.6	N/A	2.1	12.7	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	2.3	2.6	2.8	3.0	5.3	5.8	5.6	5.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.6	3.0	3.0	3.2
1-5 years	17.2	15.6	16.3	16.0	15.7	14.6	14.3	14.4	15.8	14.5	15.3	16.2	15.3	15.6	15.3	14.9
6-10 years	23.7	21.5	21.4	20.4	15.2	14.8	15.0	14.4	16.2	15.0	15.0	15.0	20.9	19.8	19.1	17.0
11-15 years	35.8	36.9	35.1	35.1	41.3	39.7	39.6	39.7	34.3	34.2	33.8	32.2	37.6	35.8	36.4	37.8
16-18 years	20.2	22.5	23.5	24.6	22.1	24.7	25.2	25.4	29.3	32.1	31.5	32.4	22.7	24.8	25.2	25.8
19+ years	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.2	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.1
Unknown	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.0	—	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	7,118	8,012	7,664	7,424	9,574	10,724	10,803	10,012	8,171	9,743	9,939	9,269	8,521	8,996	8,530	8,167

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	11.8	11.9	11.3	11.1	8.2	8.0	8.4	9.3	7.8	8.4	8.5	8.1	11.6	11.1	10.8	12.3
Asian	—	—	1.4	1.4	—	—	3.1	2.8	—	—	3.1	2.6	—	—	1.5	1.8
Asian/Pacific	1.2	1.2	—	—	2.2	2.7	—	—	2.2	2.6	—	—	1.3	1.5	—	—
Black	20.5	20.2	22.5	21.9	19.1	19.1	19.4	18.4	19.0	18.3	20.0	18.8	20.3	20.9	21.5	21.1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0	0.1	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.1
Hispanic	4.5	4.8	5.4	5.8	5.1	5.2	5.4	5.7	4.8	4.8	5.1	5.7	4.9	5.2	5.8	5.9
White	54.0	54.1	52.0	51.7	57.6	58.4	56.8	57.3	57.9	58.8	56.9	57.7	54.2	54.2	52.5	51.8
Two or more races	7.2	7.0	6.9	7.0	5.6	5.0	4.8	4.0	5.6	5.3	4.7	4.7	7.0	6.4	6.8	5.9
Unknown	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.9	2.3	1.6	2.0	2.5	2.7	1.8	1.6	2.4	0.8	0.7	1.1	1.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	7,118	8,012	7,664	7,424	9,574	10,724	10,803	10,012	8,171	9,743	9,939	9,269	8,521	8,996	8,530	8,167

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	2,215	2,147	1,839	1,670
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	1,850	1,763	1,480	1,332

Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	4.4	3.6	3.2	3.4
1-5 years	28.9	28.8	25.8	23.7
6-10 years	37.2	34.5	31.9	28.7
11-15 years	22.2	24.4	28.4	31.0
16+ years	5.6	6.7	7.6	9.8
Unknown	1.8	2.1	3.1	3.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,215	2,147	1,839	1,670

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	8.9	8.4	8.4	8.9
Asian	—	—	0.4	0.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.5	0.5	—	—
Black	31.2	31.0	31.2	31.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.6
White	42.5	44.4	43.6	42.7
Two or more races	10.2	9.1	10.0	9.7
Unknown	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,215	2,147	1,839	1,670

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.2	1.6	1.6	1.9
1-5 years	36.4	40.4	40.9	47.6
6-10 years	45.9	41.5	39.4	33.2
11-15 years	14.9	15.6	17.8	16.0
16+ years	1.6	0.8	0.3	1.2
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	429	633	614	567

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	8.6	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.6	—	—	—
Black	42.2	33.0	29.0	22.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	5.6	3.5	4.1	7.2
White	42.0	46.4	47.9	54.3
Two or more races	—	11.8	11.1	11.5
Unknown	—	5.2	8.0	4.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	429	633	614	567

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

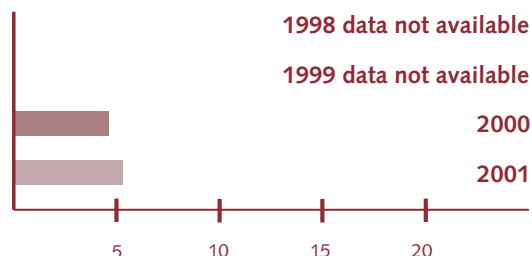
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	95.4	94.7
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	4.6	5.3
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	6,334	4,903

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



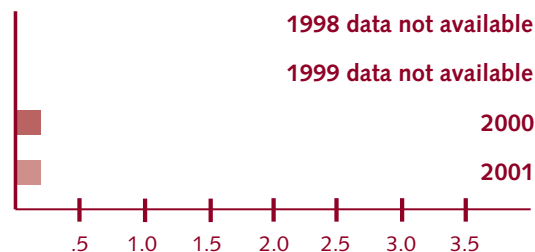
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	0.18	0.24
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	99.82	99.76
Total %	—	—	100.00	100.00
Number	—	—	16,382	15,306

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



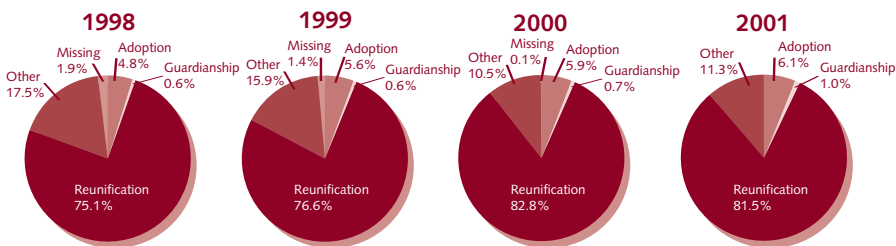
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	4.8	5.6	5.9	6.1
Guardianship	0.6	0.6	0.7	1.0
Reunification	75.1	76.6	82.8	81.5
Other	17.5	15.9	10.5	11.3
Missing data	1.9	1.4	0.1	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	8,171	9,743	9,939	9,269

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	5.1	9.0	12.7	11.4
Guardianship	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.6
Reunification	67.4	68.4	71.6	70.8
Other	22.0	19.1	14.9	17.3
Missing data	4.8	2.9	0.1	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,735	2,510	2,591	2,520

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.2	0.0	—	0.1
Guardianship	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
Reunification	75.5	77.8	85.2	83.3
Other	22.3	20.6	14.6	16.4
Missing data	1.7	1.3	0.0	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,432	5,573	5,597	5,122

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	22.3	21.9	21.4	20.0
Children older than 12 at entry	77.7	78.1	78.4	80.0
Missing data	—	—	0.2	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	291	347	527	520

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	4.7	6.0	4.7	5.1	—	—	1.0	0.8	1.1	0.8	—	—	7.7	10.2	8.5	7.3	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	0.3	0.1	0.5	1.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.6	0.5	0.7	1.1	—	—	—	—
Reunification	74.6	76.3	81.3	79.4	—	—	91.7	88.2	71.4	80.0	—	—	70.1	70.2	80.3	80.2	—	—	—	100.0
Other	18.6	15.8	13.4	14.2	—	—	7.1	10.9	23.1	16.1	—	—	18.2	16.9	10.4	11.3	—	—	—	—
Missing data	1.7	1.8	0.1	—	—	—	0.3	—	4.4	3.1	—	—	3.5	2.2	0.1	0.1	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0
Number	635	818	845	751	—	—	312	238	182	255	—	—	1,556	1,781	1,987	1,742	—	—	—	3

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	4.6	7.1	7.1	7.8	3.4	3.5	4.8	5.5	2.3	1.1	0.6	0.9	12.1	14.7	14.1	14.1	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	0.5	0.4	1.0	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.9	0.5	—	0.6	0.5	0.4	1.4	1.3	3.4	—	—	—	—
Reunification	80.4	75.0	83.3	79.2	76.4	78.8	84.0	82.7	87.6	86.8	89.4	88.2	71.7	70.7	73.1	70.2	—	—	—	—
Other	14.2	16.7	8.6	12.0	17.9	15.9	10.5	10.9	8.8	11.5	8.7	10.5	14.5	13.1	11.5	12.3	—	—	—	—
Missing data	0.3	0.9	—	—	1.6	1.1	0.1	—	0.9	0.6	0.6	—	1.3	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	393	468	510	524	4,732	5,729	5,655	5,351	217	174	161	220	456	518	469	440	—	—	—	—

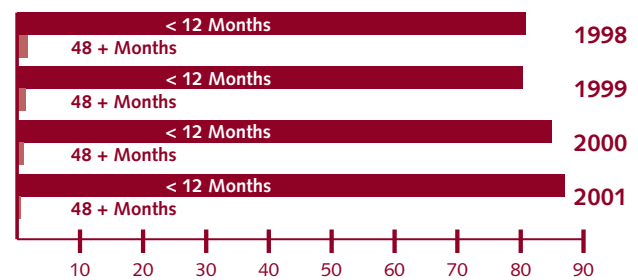
4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	80.7	80.3	84.9	87.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	9.7	10.5	8.2	7.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	2.4	2.7	1.8	1.4
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.3	1.3	0.7	0.4
48 or more mos.	1.6	1.4	1.0	0.5
Missing data	4.3	3.9	3.4	2.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6,140	7,461	8,232	7,551

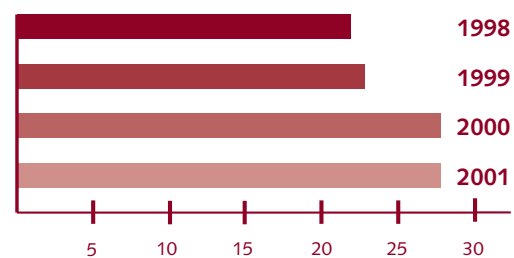
Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	65.2	62.9	61.2	60.7
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	21.8	22.7	27.7	27.7
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	8.4	8.6	8.6	9.6
Missing data	4.6	5.8	2.6	2.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	9,574	10,724	10,803	10,012

Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



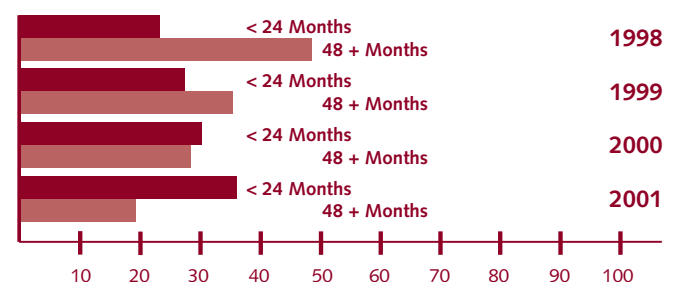
5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	10.5	11.4	7.4	6.3
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	12.8	16.1	22.9	29.9
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	13.8	18.9	23.9	28.6
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	14.3	17.6	17.3	15.6
48 or more mos.	48.7	35.5	28.5	19.3
Missing data	—	0.5	—	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	392	546	585	569

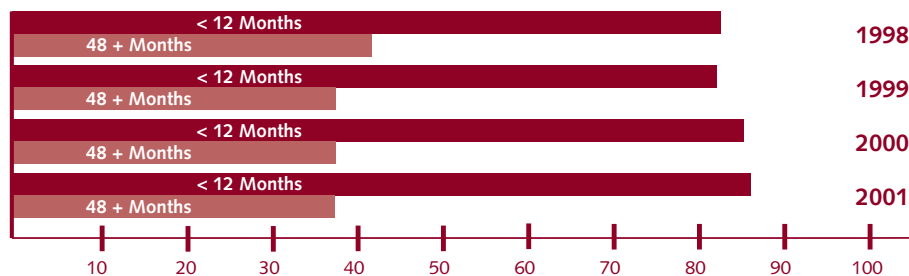
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	82.7	17.3	—	100.0	10,232
	1999	82.3	17.7	—	100.0	11,596
	2000	85.4	14.6	—	100.0	11,762
	2001	86.2	13.9	—	100.0	11,170
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	51.5	48.5	—	100.0	2,239
	1999	49.9	50.1	—	100.0	2,794
	2000	54.4	45.6	—	100.0	2,484
	2001	54.4	45.6	—	100.0	2,292
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	41.6	58.4	—	100.0	1,161
	1999	40.0	60.1	—	100.0	1,199
	2000	39.6	60.4	—	100.0	1,317
	2001	40.5	59.6	—	100.0	1,152
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	36.6	63.4	—	100.0	749
	1999	37.8	62.2	—	100.0	799
	2000	40.4	59.6	—	100.0	713
	2001	32.7	67.4	—	100.0	781
48 or more mos.	1998	42.0	58.0	—	100.0	1,957
	1999	37.8	62.2	—	100.0	1,961
	2000	37.8	62.2	—	100.0	1,866
	2001	37.7	62.3	—	100.0	1,785
Missing data	1998	100.0	—	—	100.0	354
	1999	99.0	1.0	—	100.0	387
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	325
	2001	99.6	0.4	—	100.0	256

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	1.7	2.4	4.6	4.7
Institutions	25.5	24.0	22.4	19.7
Other settings	50.9	60.3	73.0	75.6
Missing	21.9	13.3	0.1	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,206	4,532	4,600	4,287

**Erin Sullivan Sutton, Director
Child, Safety and Permanency
Minnesota Department of Human Services
651-296-2487**

Minnesota's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

- “The data in Section C indicate that there were 8,530 children in foster care on September 30, 2000 and 7,424 children in foster care on October 1, 2000, a difference of 1,106 children.”

This difference is due to a prior error in AFCARS record selection, which selected children on the basis of the discharge date rather than the discharge transaction date. Consequently, some discharges from the end of a reporting period, especially those that were entered after an AFCARS file was extracted, were never included in an AFCARS file.

- “Data for outcome measure 4.2 indicate that 27.7 percent of children entering foster care were re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode. The national median for this measure is 10.7 percent.”

A number of factors contribute to this apparently excessive re-entry rate. Analysis has revealed that some local agencies create new removal records for those situations where respite care is provided; placement authority changes (e.g. from voluntary to court-ordered); parental rights are terminated; a child is moved from an evaluation phase to a treatment phase of a facility; or when a placement changes from an emergency status to non-emergency status.

- “Data for outcome measure 7.1 indicate that 24.4 percent of children age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care were placed in a group home or institution. The national median for this measure is 8.7 percent for group homes and institutions combined.”

This relatively high percentage of children placed in group homes or institutions is due to the tendency of the counties with the highest population in Minnesota to rely on large facilities as their emergency shelters or “receiving homes” rather than on smaller family foster home settings. This is due to the volume of children from the most populous counties.

The following discussion focuses on Minnesota's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Minnesota Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2001 and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 1999. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Minnesota's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was 5.3 percent, which is lower than both the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and the national median of 8.0 percent. This statistic is somewhat difficult to interpret because the State has recently implemented an Alternative Response approach that deflects child maltreatment reports from the traditional response of investigation and substantiation. Change in performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because the State did not provide data for 1999 to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) for this outcome. However, performance on the measure declined from 2000 to 2001 (+15.8 percent change).

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.24 percent, which is lower than both the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and the national median of 0.47 percent. Change in performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because the State did not provide data to NCANDS for calculating this outcome for 1999. However, performance on the measure declined from 2000 to 2001 (+36.6 percent change).

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 88.6 percent of children exiting foster care were discharged to permanent placements (which is higher than the national median of 85.3 percent); 82.8 percent of disabled children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 78.4 percent); 83.6 percent of children who were older than age 12 when they entered foster care exited to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 72.3); and 20.0 percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care (which is lower than the national median of 28.0 percent). Performance on all of these indicators improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001, with a larger percentage of children exiting foster care to permanent homes and fewer children "growing up" in foster care.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of children's entry into foster care was 87.0, which is higher than the national standard of 76.2 percent and the national median of 69.2 percent. Minnesota's performance on this measure has exhibited continuous improvement from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+8.4 percent change).

Minnesota's high performance with regard to reunification within 12 months must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 27.7, which exceeds the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.4. The State's performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to 2001 (+22.0 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 36.2, which exceeds the national standard of 32.0 percent and is higher than the national median of 21.0 percent. Minnesota's performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+31.8 percent change).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 86.2, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more, but is greater than the national median of 83.3 percent. Minnesota's performance related to placement stability improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+4.7 percent change).

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 24.4, which is considerably higher than the national median of 8.7 percent. However, Minnesota's performance on this measure improved slightly from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-7.3 percent change).

Mississippi

[CONTEXT DATA]

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	756,875	752,866	775,187	764,796	Child maltreatment victims	6,079	6,523	6,389	4,556
Race/ethnicity (%) ¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	3,359	3,196	3,292	3,261
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	Children adopted	170	237	288	266
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.7					
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.8	0.8	0.7	N/A					
Black	45.0	44.8	44.7	44.6					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	1.0	1.0	1.6	1.6					
White	52.8	52.8	51.6	51.6					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	0.9	1.0					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.1	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	22.9	22.3	17.3	23.2					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	37.8	35.8	35.7	31.2					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	Number				Rate			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	32,404	29,422	30,670	31,086	42.8 per 1,000	39.1 per 1,000	39.6 per 1,000	40.0 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	6,079	6,523	6,389	4,556	8.0 per 1,000	8.7 per 1,000	8.2 per 1,000	5.9 per 1,000
Child fatalities	5	7	12	5	0.7 per 100,000	0.9 per 100,000	1.5 per 100,000	0.6 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	5.0	6.1	6.3	6.3	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4
1-5 years	29.3	28.9	30.5	27.2	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.5
6-10 years	31.8	29.6	31.5	25.9	Black	51.5	52.8	50.1	49.4
11-15 years	25.0	25.8	25.5	25.6	Hispanic	1.1	1.6	10.2	4.3
16+ years	8.9	9.6	6.2	15.1	White	47.8	46.3	49.1	49.7
Unknown	—	—	—	—	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	0.4	0.2	—	—
Number	6,079	6,523	6,389	4,556	Total % ³	101.1	101.6	110.2	104.3
					Number	6,079	6,523	6,389	4,556

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	2.5	2.7	2.0	2.4
Medical neglect	—	—	—	—
Neglect	62.0	47.0	47.0	59.8
Physical abuse	19.7	26.6	25.3	18.9
Sexual abuse	13.4	21.1	22.7	16.6
Other	2.4	2.6	3.0	2.3
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6,079	6,523	6,389	4,556

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	2,852	1,821	1,325	3,359	4,673
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	3,121	1,750	1,676	3,196	4,871
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	3,013	2,005	1,726	3,292	5,018
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	3,008	1,923	1,670	3,261	4,931
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	18.9	N/A	10.1	17.4	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	18.3	N/A	12.5	17.9	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	18.0	N/A	10.1	16.0	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	15.7	N/A	10.2	15.1	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.8	12.1	11.3	11.0	12.8	4.6	3.3	3.9	4.3	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.7
1-5 years	27.1	25.5	26.3	26.5	28.4	29.4	28.4	28.4	29.9	25.5	27.2	29.6	25.9	26.4	26.2	26.4
6-10 years	27.3	27.5	27.3	26.7	25.3	27.9	27.4	24.9	25.7	30.8	30.0	28.7	27.1	26.9	26.9	25.1
11-15 years	26.6	27.4	27.0	27.2	25.9	24.1	25.6	25.0	24.3	23.1	23.9	22.2	26.5	27.1	26.5	26.4
16-18 years	13.5	14.4	14.1	14.4	6.6	6.9	7.0	7.4	11.8	14.7	12.6	12.8	14.4	13.9	14.5	15.9
19+ years	1.5	1.2	1.6	1.2	—	0.1	0.0	0.1	2.7	2.2	2.4	2.0	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.8
Unknown	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.2	1.6	0.3	0.5	1.3	1.1	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,852	3,121	3,013	3,008	1,821	1,750	2,005	1,923	1,325	1,676	1,726	1,670	3,359	3,196	3,292	3,261

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵																
Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	—	—	0.3	0.2	—	—	0.0	0.2	—	—	0.2	0.1	—	—	0.2	0.2
Asian/Pacific	0.5	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.2	—	—	0.3	0.1	—	—	0.4	0.3	—	—
Black	56.8	58.6	59.4	57.7	55.5	55.7	53.9	51.2	50.7	54.4	57.3	57.1	58.4	59.2	57.1	54.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	1.1	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.8	2.0	0.9	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.4
White	41.4	40.3	39.6	41.4	42.9	43.3	45.1	42.7	47.2	44.9	41.7	41.8	40.0	39.5	41.9	42.0
Two or more races	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0
Unknown	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.2	0.1	3.8	0.9	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.1	2.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,852	3,121	3,013	3,008	1,821	1,750	2,005	1,923	1,325	1,676	1,726	1,670	3,359	3,196	3,292	3,261

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	616	581	520	455
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	174	289	256	240
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.0	1.7	1.4	1.3
1-5 years	26.3	21.2	22.9	18.5
6-10 years	35.9	33.9	31.2	29.9
11-15 years	25.8	27.7	28.9	29.7
16+ years	8.8	11.7	10.6	13.4
Unknown	2.3	3.8	5.2	7.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	616	581	520	455

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	0.2	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.6	0.2	—	—
Black	64.6	68.8	68.8	64.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	0.2	—	0.2
White	34.6	30.5	31.0	35.6
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	0.2	0.3	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	616	581	520	455

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.8	0.8	1.4	—
1-5 years	27.6	32.5	33.3	41.7
6-10 years	37.6	47.3	42.7	36.5
11-15 years	25.3	18.6	18.4	19.2
16+ years	7.1	0.8	4.2	2.6
Unknown	0.6	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	170	237	288	266

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.2	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	—	0.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	1.7	—	—
Black	48.8	49.4	55.2	63.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	1.8	—	0.3	—
White	47.6	48.5	44.4	36.5
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	0.6	0.4	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	170	237	288	266

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	—	—
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

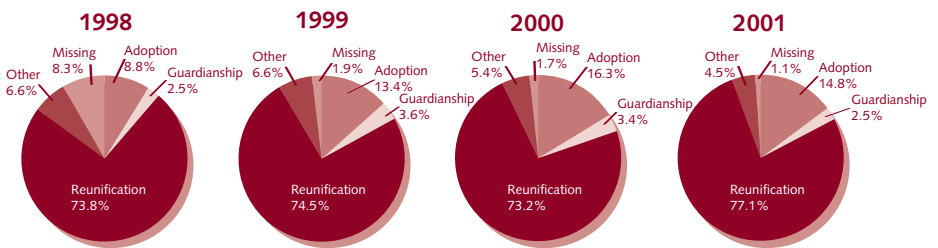
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

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

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	8.8	13.4	16.3	14.8
Guardianship	2.5	3.6	3.4	2.5
Reunification	73.8	74.5	73.2	77.1
Other	6.6	6.6	5.4	4.5
Missing data	8.3	1.9	1.7	1.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,325	1,676	1,726	1,670

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	16.6	23.4	24.5	19.9
Guardianship	5.1	3.6	7.4	7.3
Reunification	52.6	59.5	53.7	59.6
Other	16.0	11.7	13.3	11.9
Missing data	9.7	1.8	1.1	1.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	175	222	188	151

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	0.3	1.6	0.3
Guardianship	2.1	3.6	3.6	2.9
Reunification	66.8	77.9	77.0	82.5
Other	19.6	16.2	15.6	13.5
Missing data	11.4	2.1	2.2	0.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	280	389	365	349

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	30.4	36.8	35.5	37.1
Children older than 12 at entry	69.6	61.8	64.5	61.3
Missing data	—	1.3	—	1.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	56	76	62	62

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	—	7.4	12.4	15.9	16.5	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.7	2.4	3.4	1.9	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	—	25.0	—	—	—	75.1	77.7	73.3	76.2	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50.0	100.0	—	—	5.7	5.9	5.9	4.4	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25.0	—	—	—	9.1	1.5	1.5	1.0	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	4	1	—	—	672	912	989	954	—	—	—	—

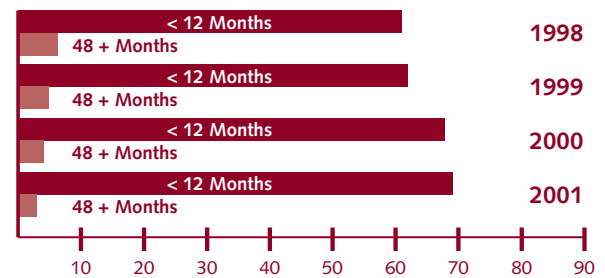
	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	50.0	—	8.3	—	9.4	14.9	17.2	12.8	8.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	7.1	2.4	5.2	3.3	3.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	41.7	62.5	83.3	85.7	73.3	70.9	72.6	78.4	75.0	33.3	100.0	66.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	8.3	25.0	8.3	7.1	7.5	7.0	4.9	4.6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	12.5	—	—	7.4	2.0	1.9	1.0	16.7	66.7	—	33.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number	12	8	12	14	625	752	720	698	12	3	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	60.9	61.9	67.7	69.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	18.6	19.3	19.6	17.2
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	8.6	9.8	6.4	7.1
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.8	3.8	2.3	3.1
48 or more mos.	6.2	4.9	4.0	2.9
Missing data	2.9	0.4	0.1	0.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	978	1,248	1,263	1,288

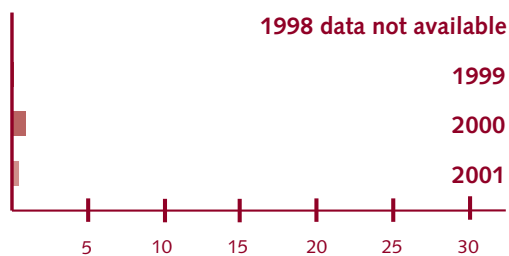
Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	98.8	98.6	98.0	98.5
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	—	0.1	0.9	0.4
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	—	—	0.6	0.4
Missing data	1.2	1.3	0.4	0.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,821	1,750	2,005	1,923

Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months

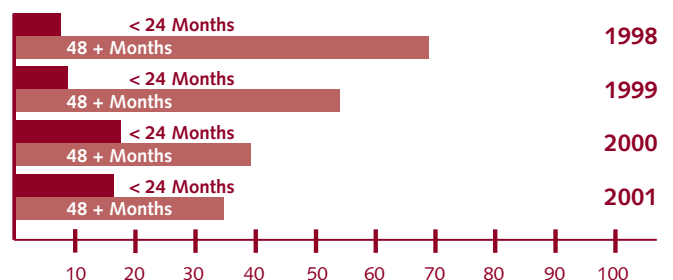


5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	2.6	—	6.0	2.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	5.2	8.9	11.7	14.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	12.9	17.8	20.2	24.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	10.3	19.1	22.7	23.5
48 or more mos.	69.0	54.2	39.4	34.8
Missing data	—	—	—	0.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	116	225	282	247

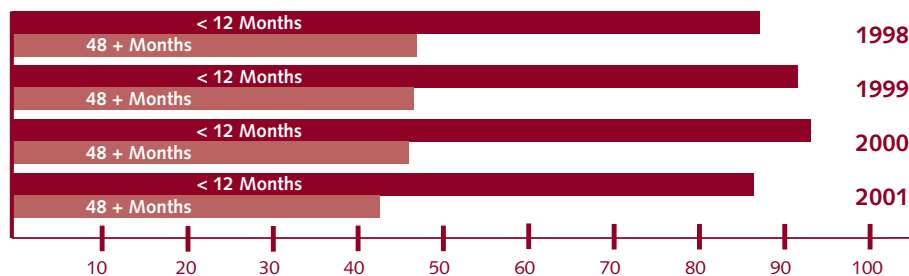
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	87.2	7.7	5.1	100.0	1,993
	1999	91.7	7.2	1.1	100.0	1,992
	2000	93.2	6.5	0.3	100.0	2,297
	2001	86.6	5.9	7.5	100.0	2,290
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	74.0	22.5	3.5	100.0	915
	1999	77.4	21.2	1.4	100.0	1,053
	2000	80.1	19.5	0.4	100.0	945
	2001	82.7	17.1	0.2	100.0	1,047
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	68.7	30.1	1.2	100.0	515
	1999	62.9	34.8	2.2	100.0	580
	2000	70.9	29.1	—	100.0	611
	2001	73.3	26.7	—	100.0	510
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	62.7	34.2	3.0	100.0	330
	1999	65.6	34.4	—	100.0	323
	2000	59.6	40.4	—	100.0	369
	2001	65.0	35.0	—	100.0	369
48 or more mos.	1998	47.2	50.1	2.7	100.0	886
	1999	46.9	51.8	1.3	100.0	898
	2000	46.3	52.6	1.1	100.0	789
	2001	42.9	56.4	0.7	100.0	697
Missing data	1998	70.6	8.8	20.6	100.0	34
	1999	88.0	—	12.0	100.0	25
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	7
	2001	94.4	—	5.6	100.0	18

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	16.2	20.7	17.4	24.0
Institutions	1.9	2.4	1.8	2.6
Other settings	76.7	76.9	80.7	73.0
Missing	5.2	—	0.1	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,267	1,309	1,474	1,252

Mississippi

[STATE COMMENT]

Mississippi

[FEDERAL COMMENT]

At the time of preparation of this report, the Mississippi Child and Family Service Review had not been conducted. States are not accountable for meeting national standards until the time of their review.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	1,406,616	1,399,492	1,427,692	1,407,321	Child maltreatment victims	12,556	9,079	7,658	9,237
Race/ethnicity (%) ¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	12,495	12,577	13,181	13,349
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	Children adopted	640	849	1,265	1,102
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.1					
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.2	1.3	1.1	N/A					
Black	14.3	14.4	14.3	14.5					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	2.2	2.3	3.0	3.0					
White	81.9	81.7	78.9	78.8					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.1	2.1					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	18.7	18.2	10.2	12.9					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	72.9	74.0	68.7	71.8					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	Number				Rate			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	75,178	71,488	74,412	80,743	53.4 per 1,000	51.1 per 1,000	52.1 per 1,000	56.4 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	12,556	9,079	7,658	9,237	8.9 per 1,000	6.5 per 1,000	5.4 per 1,000	6.5 per 1,000
Child fatalities	28	36	48	33	2.0 per 100,000	2.6 per 100,000	3.4 per 100,000	2.3 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	5.7	5.5	6.4	5.2	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5
1-5 years	28.1	28.7	27.9	29.4	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2
6-10 years	33.3	31.2	30.4	29.6	Black	27.5	26.0	22.5	20.6
11-15 years	28.0	29.5	29.1	30.0	Hispanic	1.1	0.9	1.8	2.0
16+ years	4.6	4.7	5.5	5.7	White	70.3	72.0	74.2	75.6
Unknown	0.2	0.3	0.7	—	Two or more races	—	—	0.1	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	1.8	1.4	0.7	1.0
Number	12,556	9,079	7,658	9,237	Total % ³	101.1	100.9	100.0	100.0
					Number	12,556	9,079	7,658	9,237

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		2.0	1.5	4.0	7.7
Medical neglect		2.8	2.5	2.7	3.0
Neglect		54.6	49.6	45.2	51.5
Physical abuse		21.7	24.1	27.4	27.3
Sexual abuse		18.3	26.0	28.3	24.5
Other		9.5	5.2	2.6	3.5
Unknown		0.7	1.1	2.7	—
Total % ⁴		109.5	110.1	112.9	117.6
Number		12,556	9,079	7,658	9,237

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	10,941	6,504	4,950	12,495	17,445
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	11,540	6,341	5,304	12,577	17,881
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	11,474	7,216	5,509	13,181	18,690
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	11,830	7,268	5,749	13,349	19,098
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	19.3	N/A	10.6	18.8	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	19.3	N/A	12.8	18.9	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	19.3	N/A	12.2	17.0	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	17.0	N/A	12.8	15.9	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	3.4	3.7	3.9	4.1	12.5	12.7	12.7	12.6	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.2	3.9	3.8	4.1	4.1
1-5 years	24.6	23.5	22.2	22.2	24.7	24.2	24.7	25.9	24.6	24.6	25.1	27.0	23.4	22.8	22.5	22.7
6-10 years	26.2	26.2	26.5	24.6	23.4	24.2	24.1	24.1	23.4	24.3	25.2	23.7	26.2	26.3	25.2	23.9
11-15 years	29.9	29.7	30.4	31.2	32.0	31.4	31.4	30.5	27.3	24.9	26.0	25.3	29.6	30.3	30.9	30.8
16-18 years	14.2	15.0	15.0	15.8	7.3	7.4	7.1	6.9	17.5	18.8	16.6	16.0	15.0	15.0	15.3	16.1
19+ years	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.0	0.0	0.0	—	0.0	2.5	2.9	2.4	3.4	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.3
Unknown	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	—	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.1	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	10,941	11,540	11,474	11,830	6,504	6,341	7,216	7,268	4,950	5,304	5,509	5,749	12,495	12,577	13,181	13,349

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.3	—	—	0.6	0.3	—	—	0.6	0.5	—	—	0.2	0.2
Asian/Pacific	0.2	0.1	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.5	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.2	—	—
Black	43.0	43.5	43.6	41.2	35.9	35.0	31.3	27.2	33.4	33.5	32.4	32.8	43.1	43.5	41.6	37.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.5	1.8	1.8	2.0	1.6	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.4
White	55.2	54.7	54.5	56.7	61.8	62.3	65.3	68.9	64.0	63.6	64.3	63.9	55.2	54.7	56.4	60.3
Two or more races	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.1	0.1
Unknown	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.7	1.1	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.7	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	10,941	11,540	11,474	11,830	6,504	6,341	7,216	7,268	4,950	5,304	5,509	5,749	12,495	12,577	13,181	13,349

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	2,459	3,143	3,131	3,003
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	1,323	2,150	1,527	1,612
Age of Waiting Children (%) 1998 1999 2000 2001				
Under 1 year	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9
1-5 years	29.8	28.0	26.8	25.5
6-10 years	35.4	35.4	33.9	31.5
11-15 years	26.3	28.1	32.0	35.2
16+ years	4.8	5.4	4.8	5.1
Unknown	1.8	1.2	0.8	0.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,459	3,143	3,131	3,003

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
Asian	—	—	0.1	0.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.1	0.2	—	—
Black	45.3	43.2	47.3	45.1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2
White	53.2	54.9	50.8	52.8
Two or more races	—	—	0.1	0.0
Unknown	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,459	3,143	3,131	3,003

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.3	1.3	2.3	2.6
1-5 years	42.8	45.1	42.1	46.5
6-10 years	36.7	32.9	35.1	31.6
11-15 years	16.6	17.2	17.3	15.9
16+ years	2.7	3.5	3.2	3.4
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	640	849	1,265	1,102

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.3
Asian	—	—	0.2	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.3	0.1	—	—
Black	39.8	39.8	39.3	38.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	0.3	1.1	1.1	2.0
White	58.9	58.2	58.3	58.5
Two or more races	—	—	0.3	—
Unknown	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	640	849	1,265	1,102

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

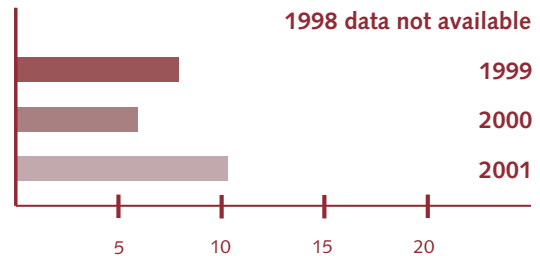
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	92.1	94.1	89.7
Children with one or more recurrences	—	7.9	5.9	10.3
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	4,109	3,436	4,128

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



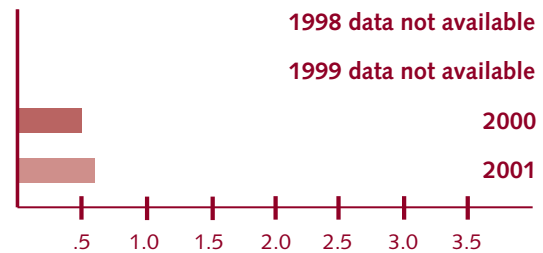
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	0.52	0.60
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	99.48	99.40
Total %	—	—	100.00	100.00
Number	—	—	17,316	17,610

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



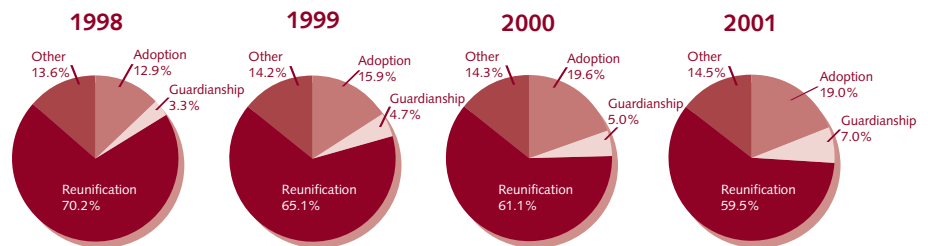
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	12.9	15.9	19.6	19.0
Guardianship	3.3	4.7	5.0	7.0
Reunification	70.2	65.1	61.1	59.5
Other	13.6	14.2	14.3	14.5
Missing data	—	—	—	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,950	5,304	5,509	5,749

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	18.4	24.3	22.0	20.9
Guardianship	2.5	3.8	5.7	6.8
Reunification	61.0	50.9	51.0	51.5
Other	18.0	21.0	21.3	20.8
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,378	822	1,308	1,333

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.4	1.3	1.4	2.4
Guardianship	1.7	2.5	3.2	5.0
Reunification	73.2	70.1	66.2	63.9
Other	24.7	26.0	29.3	28.6
Missing data	—	—	—	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,523	1,597	1,521	1,553

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	49.3	47.1	46.5	50.3
Children older than 12 at entry	50.7	52.9	53.5	49.7
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	489	594	600	680

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

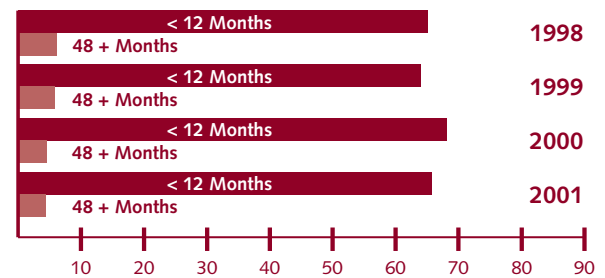
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	21.4	42.9	35.7	13.6	—	—	5.7	—	8.7	8.3	—	—	15.4	19.0	23.0	22.6	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	7.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8.3	—	—	3.5	5.0	4.8	9.4	—	—	—	—
Reunification	57.1	50.0	50.0	72.7	—	—	85.7	86.2	87.0	75.0	—	—	67.4	63.0	58.0	51.5	—	—	—	—
Other	14.3	7.1	14.3	13.6	—	—	8.6	13.8	4.3	8.3	—	—	13.7	13.1	14.2	16.6	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	14	14	14	22	—	—	35	29	23	12	—	—	1,655	1,776	1,784	1,884	—	—	—	—

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	2.6	7.9	12.7	22.2	11.9	14.5	18.2	17.4	6.7	7.7	17.4	7.9	—	—	50.0	—	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	3.5	1.0	2.0	3.3	4.7	5.3	6.0	6.7	—	—	2.6	—	—	—	—	—	—	11.1	—
Reunification	83.1	64.9	75.5	57.6	71.2	66.3	61.9	63.2	80.0	84.6	78.3	73.7	—	—	50.0	100.0	—	—	88.9	100.0
Other	14.3	23.7	10.8	18.2	13.6	14.6	14.6	13.4	6.7	7.7	4.3	15.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	77	114	102	99	3,166	3,375	3,540	3,672	15	13	23	38	—	—	2	2	—	—	9	3

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

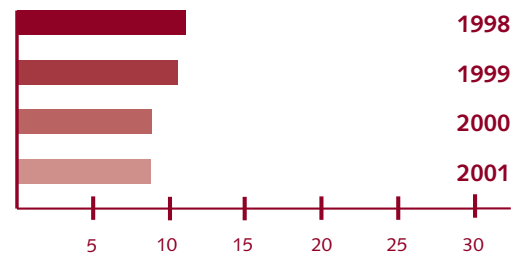
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	65.1	63.9	68.0	65.6
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	16.4	19.2	16.4	20.7
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	8.0	6.5	7.0	5.4
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	3.6	3.4	3.1	3.1
48 or more mos.	6.1	5.8	4.5	4.4
Missing data	0.9	1.2	1.0	0.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,473	3,455	3,367	3,420

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	76.8	76.8	78.1	78.5
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	11.0	10.5	8.8	8.7
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	10.2	10.9	10.9	10.8
Missing data	2.0	1.8	2.2	2.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6,504	6,341	7,216	7,268

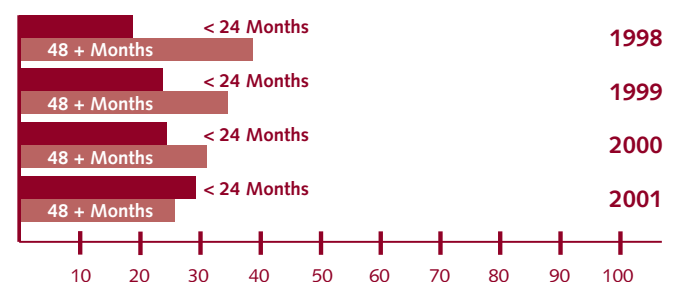
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	3.4	5.0	5.5	7.3
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	15.5	18.8	19.1	22.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	20.0	24.8	25.4	27.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	22.2	16.7	18.6	17.5
48 or more mos.	38.9	34.7	31.2	25.9
Missing data	—	—	0.2	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	640	844	1,078	1,093

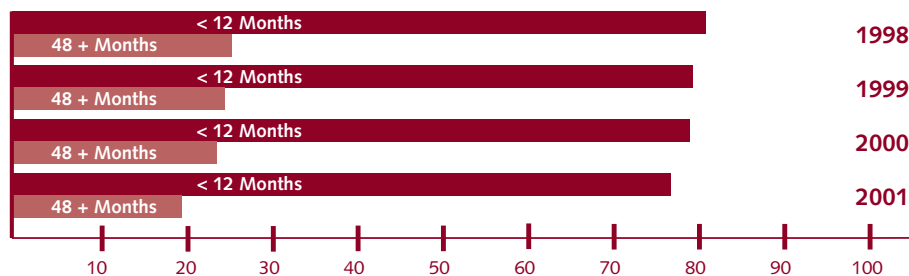
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	80.9	19.1	—	100.0	7,105
	1999	79.4	20.6	—	100.0	7,048
	2000	79.1	20.9	—	100.0	8,020
	2001	76.9	23.1	—	100.0	8,193
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	54.1	45.9	—	100.0	3,485
	1999	56.0	44.0	—	100.0	3,768
	2000	53.6	46.4	—	100.0	3,630
	2001	51.9	48.1	—	100.0	4,252
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	43.0	57.0	—	100.0	2,291
	1999	44.1	55.9	—	100.0	2,265
	2000	43.1	56.9	—	100.0	2,381
	2001	38.4	61.6	—	100.0	2,222
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	35.0	65.0	—	100.0	1,439
	1999	34.7	65.3	—	100.0	1,544
	2000	34.6	65.4	—	100.0	1,452
	2001	32.7	67.3	—	100.0	1,472
48 or more mos.	1998	25.6	74.4	—	100.0	3,075
	1999	24.8	75.2	—	100.0	3,194
	2000	23.9	76.1	—	100.0	3,171
	2001	19.8	80.2	—	100.0	2,914
Missing data	1998	98.0	2.0	—	100.0	50
	1999	93.5	6.5	—	100.0	62
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	36
	2001	95.6	4.4	—	100.0	45

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.8
Institutions	12.1	12.0	9.3	8.7
Other settings	86.1	86.4	88.9	89.4
Missing	—	0.0	—	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,464	4,402	5,051	5,152

**Denise Cross, Director
Division of Family Services
Missouri Department of Social Services
573-751-3221**

Missouri's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

Missouri continues to be committed to providing the most accurate data possible through our NCANDS and AFCARS transmissions. We continue to enhance our data systems to more completely detail our compliance with the mandates of ASFA and to better serve our families. We have intensified our efforts to safely return children to their families and have seen an increase in the percentage of children returned home within 24 months of placement. We have also seen an increase in adoptions within 12 and 24 months of placement. Our Child Fatality Review Panels continue their aggressive pursuit to accurately identify all child maltreatment deaths.

The data in Section C indicate that Missouri has significantly fewer children in care on 10-1-00 than on 9-30-00. This difference is because the 10-1 number counts only those children in the care and custody of Missouri placed in alternative care. The 9-30 number also includes children in the temporary custody of adoptive parents, children in the custody of other agencies, and children for whom the agency provides supervision services only who are generally in the custody of relatives.

Additionally the seeming discrepancy between the number of children awaiting adoption and the number of children with termination of parental rights is reflective of the practice in many Missouri courts to delay termination of parental rights until an adoptive home has been found for a specific child or sibling group.

Missouri is committed to providing timely and accurate data to ACF. We continue to believe our data would be more accurate if we were permitted to update past AFCARS transmissions every time we sent a new transmission.

At the time of preparation of this report, the Missouri Child and Family Service Review had not been conducted. States are not accountable for meeting national standards until the time of their review.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	224,403	223,819	230,062	220,254	Child maltreatment victims	3,292	3,414	2,431	1,935
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	1,991	2,156	2,180	2,008
Alaska Native/American Indian	10.1	10.4	9.2	9.4	Children adopted	149	188	238	275
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.6					
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.8	0.8	0.6	N/A					
Black	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	2.6	2.7	3.2	3.2					
White	86.2	85.7	83.9	83.8					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.6	2.4					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.1	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	20.5	21.8	24.6	16.4					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	19.8	23.3	32.9	26.4					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	Rate			
		1999	2000	1998		1999	2000	2001	
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	19,004	20,315	15,788	15,032	84.7 per 1,000	90.8 per 1,000	69.0 per 1,000	65.4 per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	3,292	3,414	2,431	1,935	14.7 per 1,000	15.3 per 1,000	10.6 per 1,000	8.4 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	3	4	1	4	1.3 per 100,000	1.8 per 100,000	0.4 per 100,000	1.7 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	7.3	7.0	8.8	9.4	Alaska Native/American Indian	25.0	24.9	25.4	21.4
1-5 years	33.7	31.9	29.1	32.7	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1
6-10 years	31.1	32.0	31.5	28.0	Black	1.2	0.8	1.1	0.7
11-15 years	23.2	24.8	24.1	23.1	Hispanic	2.8	1.9	2.6	2.4
16+ years	4.7	4.2	3.4	3.7	White	56.5	57.1	52.3	55.1
Unknown	—	0.0	3.2	3.2	Two or more races	—	—	—	1.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	17.2	16.8	18.4	18.4
Number	3,292	3,414	2,431	1,935	Total % ³	102.8	101.9	100.0	100.0
					Number	3,292	3,414	2,431	1,935

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	15.9	12.2	16.0	15.4
Medical neglect	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.0
Neglect	54.3	62.0	43.4	37.3
Physical abuse	13.0	9.2	44.8	53.2
Sexual abuse	9.7	9.2	14.8	14.9
Other	4.7	4.9	0.4	1.1
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	100.0	100.0	122.1	123.9
Number	3,292	3,414	2,431	122

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	1,711	1,503	1,223	1,991	3,214
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	1,891	1,596	1,331	2,156	3,487
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	1,918	1,588	1,327	2,180	3,506
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	1,999	1,506	1,497	2,008	3,505

Median Length of Stay (Months)

FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	16.8	N/A	3.4	17.0	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	18.6	N/A	4.5	15.6	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	15.9	N/A	5.1	16.0	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	17.0	N/A	6.3	16.2	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	4.1	5.0	4.7	4.5	14.0	13.1	13.7	13.0	7.2	7.4	7.0	6.7	4.9	4.6	4.7	4.1
1-5 years	24.9	24.1	24.9	25.7	29.4	27.2	29.0	30.3	30.1	27.0	30.4	30.7	25.4	24.3	25.9	25.9
6-10 years	28.0	27.2	27.7	27.3	23.7	26.7	25.8	25.4	25.3	26.1	24.0	25.5	26.3	26.9	26.7	25.9
11-15 years	30.2	28.8	29.7	29.3	25.7	25.8	23.7	24.6	24.4	22.7	23.4	22.0	28.7	29.7	28.9	31.2
16-18 years	12.7	14.8	12.9	13.0	7.2	7.1	7.9	6.7	12.4	15.7	14.5	14.1	14.4	14.4	13.6	12.6
19+ years	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	—	0.1	0.1	—	0.7	1.1	0.7	1.0	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.2
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,711	1,891	1,918	1,999	1,503	1,596	1,588	1,506	1,223	1,331	1,327	1,497	1,991	2,156	2,180	2,008

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	27.7	26.3	29.5	32.7	28.7	31.0	32.4	30.3	30.3	25.8	27.5	30.6	26.9	30.1	32.8	32.5
Asian	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.4	0.1	—	—	0.6	0.1	—	—	0.2	0.2
Asian/Pacific	0.4	0.4	—	—	0.2	0.6	—	—	0.1	0.7	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—
Black	1.3	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.9	1.6	1.4	1.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	1.8	3.1	3.3	4.2	3.9	2.9	4.3	3.9	2.9	2.9	3.6	4.3	2.8	3.1	3.9	3.9
White	66.3	64.5	61.9	58.3	58.7	59.0	55.7	55.7	60.7	64.2	61.0	56.8	64.0	60.6	58.0	57.5
Two or more races	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.7	—	—	—	0.2	—	—	—	0.3
Unknown	2.6	3.9	3.4	3.0	6.7	5.2	5.9	8.2	5.1	5.0	5.7	6.2	4.1	4.1	3.8	4.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,711	1,891	1,918	1,999	1,503	1,596	1,588	1,506	1,223	1,331	1,327	1,497	1,991	2,156	2,180	2,008

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	709	780	854	752
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	626	690	717	631
Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.0	2.4	3.4	1.9
1-5 years	26.8	24.9	24.7	24.5
6-10 years	27.9	27.8	29.3	29.8
11-15 years	33.3	32.6	31.2	32.2
16+ years	9.2	10.9	10.0	10.5
Unknown	0.8	1.4	1.5	1.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	709	780	854	752

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	18.9	19.0	23.4	24.9
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.7	0.5	—	—
Black	1.4	2.1	2.6	1.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	2.8	3.8	4.5	4.5
White	72.2	70.3	65.9	65.3
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	3.9	4.4	3.4	3.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	709	780	854	752

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	2.1	1.3	2.5
1-5 years	44.3	46.3	52.5	42.2
6-10 years	36.9	30.3	28.6	32.7
11-15 years	16.8	18.6	15.5	19.3
16+ years	2.0	2.7	2.1	3.3
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	149	188	238	275

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	10.7	19.1	14.3	21.8
Asian	—	—	0.4	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	1.1	—	—
Black	1.3	1.1	0.4	3.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	3.4	2.1	6.7	7.3
White	83.9	72.9	71.8	67.3
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	0.7	3.7	6.3	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	149	188	238	275

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

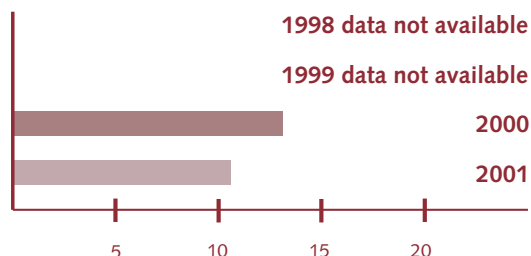
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	86.9	89.4
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	13.1	10.6
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	1,111	871

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



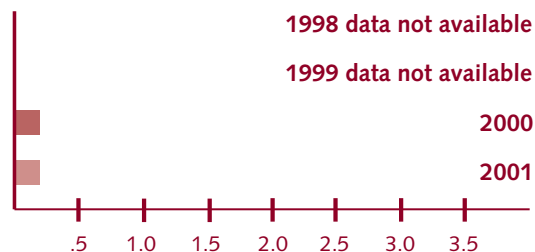
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	0.19	0.19
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	99.81	99.81
Total %	—	—	100.00	100.00
Number	—	—	3,221	3,116

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



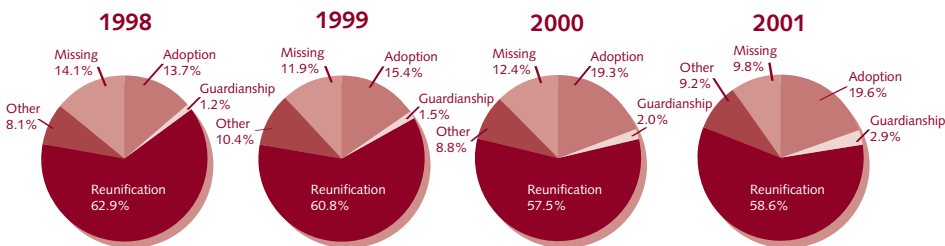
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	13.7	15.4	19.3	19.6
Guardianship	1.2	1.5	2.0	2.9
Reunification	62.9	60.8	57.5	58.6
Other	8.1	10.4	8.8	9.2
Missing data	14.1	11.9	12.4	9.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,223	1,331	1,327	1,497

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	22.7	28.2	38.5	39.2
Guardianship	—	5.1	1.5	2.4
Reunification	40.9	25.6	29.2	32.0
Other	27.3	23.1	15.4	19.2
Missing data	9.1	17.9	15.4	7.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	22	39	65	125

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.3	0.3	2.2	2.5
Guardianship	2.7	1.6	1.9	1.9
Reunification	51.0	52.5	47.4	46.2
Other	27.2	34.0	29.9	30.3
Missing data	18.8	11.6	18.7	19.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	298	318	321	314

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	20.8	27.3	18.9	34.3
Children older than 12 at entry	79.2	72.7	81.1	65.7
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	53	99	90	99

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	5.1	11.4	9.9	13.3	—	—	12.5	—	—	22.2	—	—	16.7	11.1	9.5	38.5	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	1.6	1.7	1.4	4.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	65.0	61.8	64.9	62.9	—	—	25.0	50.0	—	66.7	—	—	41.7	72.2	66.7	34.6	—	—	—	100.0
Other	5.1	4.7	5.2	4.6	—	—	25.0	—	—	11.1	—	—	8.3	16.7	9.5	19.2	—	—	—	—
Missing data	23.2	20.4	18.6	14.8	—	—	37.5	50.0	100.0	—	—	—	33.3	—	14.3	7.7	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0
Number	371	343	365	458	—	—	8	2	1	9	—	—	12	18	21	26	—	—	—	1

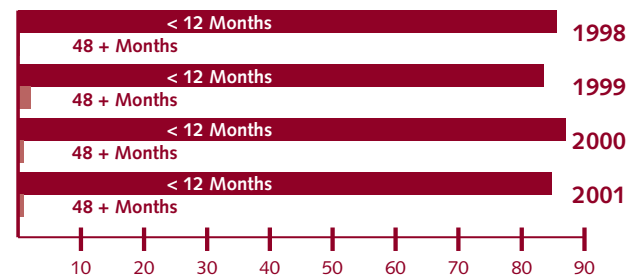
	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	17.1	10.3	35.4	31.3	18.1	17.0	22.9	23.4	10.5	20.0	19.7	4.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	2.6	2.1	1.6	0.8	1.4	2.2	1.8	5.3	1.5	2.6	7.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	65.7	66.7	52.1	48.4	61.5	59.2	54.1	55.5	70.2	67.7	61.8	78.5	—	—	—	66.7	80.0	100.0	—	—
Other	5.7	—	2.1	10.9	10.1	13.7	11.0	11.5	1.8	3.1	5.3	5.4	—	—	—	33.3	20.0	—	—	—
Missing data	11.4	20.5	8.3	7.8	9.6	8.8	9.8	7.8	12.3	7.7	10.5	4.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—
Number	35	39	48	64	742	855	809	850	57	65	76	93	—	—	—	3	5	2	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	85.6	83.4	87.0	84.7
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	11.2	10.8	9.8	10.9
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	2.6	2.8	1.4	3.0
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.4	1.0	0.8	0.6
48 or more mos.	0.3	2.0	0.9	0.8
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	769	809	763	877

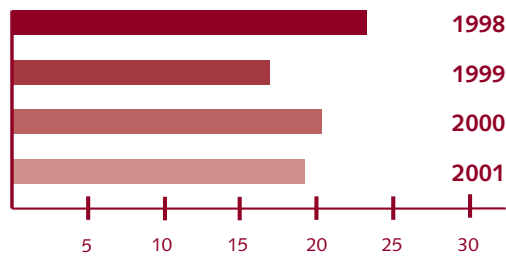
Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	69.2	72.0	68.5	68.5
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	23.2	16.8	20.2	19.1
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	5.0	8.3	8.9	10.6
Missing data	2.6	2.9	2.4	1.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,503	1,596	1,588	1,506

Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months

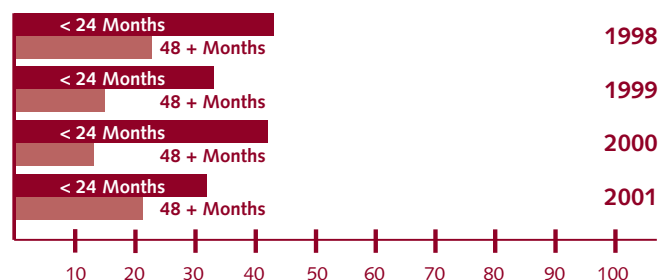


5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	15.6	14.1	10.9	10.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	27.5	19.0	31.3	21.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	22.8	32.2	30.5	27.6
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	11.4	19.5	13.3	19.0
48 or more mos.	22.8	15.1	13.3	21.4
Missing data	—	—	0.8	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	167	205	256	294

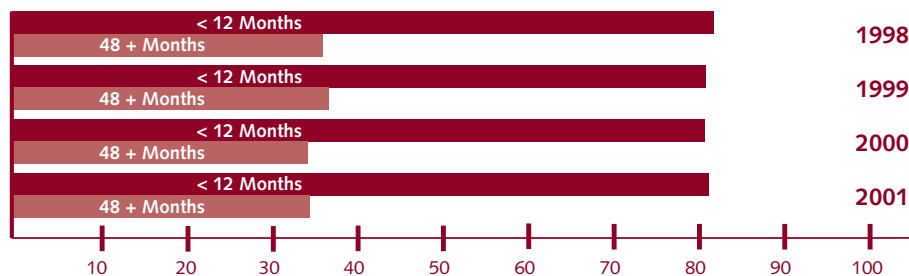
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	81.9	18.1	—	100.0	1,668
	1999	81.0	19.0	—	100.0	1,770
	2000	80.8	19.2	—	100.0	1,779
	2001	81.3	18.7	—	100.0	1,746
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	61.6	38.4	—	100.0	560
	1999	50.4	49.6	—	100.0	607
	2000	57.5	42.5	—	100.0	669
	2001	55.2	44.8	—	100.0	629
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	47.8	52.2	—	100.0	362
	1999	50.3	49.7	—	100.0	366
	2000	41.7	58.3	—	100.0	391
	2001	47.3	52.7	—	100.0	419
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	49.4	50.6	—	100.0	241
	1999	40.1	59.9	—	100.0	252
	2000	42.9	57.1	—	100.0	212
	2001	34.6	65.4	—	100.0	240
48 or more mos.	1998	36.3	63.7	—	100.0	380
	1999	37.0	63.0	—	100.0	487
	2000	34.5	65.5	—	100.0	452
	2001	34.7	65.3	—	100.0	470
Missing data	1998	100.0	—	—	100.0	3
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	5
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	3
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	1

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	10.8	8.6	11.9	11.8
Institutions	0.4	0.2	1.0	0.9
Other settings	88.7	91.2	87.1	87.2
Missing	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,145	1,204	1,220	1,166

Montana

[STATE COMMENT]

The following discussion focuses on Montana's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Montana Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) Final Report was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2002, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2000. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Montana's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, Montana's rate of maltreatment recurrence was 10.6 percent, which is higher than the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and the national median of 8.0 percent. Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that the actual rate of maltreatment recurrence may be higher than the reported rate, because in some areas of the State new maltreatment reports on open child welfare cases are not fully investigated, and in other areas maltreatment reports on open cases are not recorded as new reports. Change in performance on this measure cannot be evaluated because Montana did not provide data for 1999 and 2000 to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) for calculating this outcome.

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

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.19 percent, which is lower than both the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and the national median of 0.47 percent. Change in performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because Montana did not provide data to NCANDS for calculating this outcome for 1999. There was no substantive change in performance from 2000 to 2001.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 81.1 percent of children exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 85.3 percent); 73.6 percent of children with a diagnosed disability exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 78.4 percent); and 50.6 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 72.3 percent). Although these data suggest that the State has not been effective in achieving permanency for children in foster care, the data are difficult to interpret because "reason for discharge" information was not reported to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) for 9.8 percent of the children exiting foster care in FY 2001, and for 19.1 percent of the children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care.

In FY 2001, 34.3 percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care, which is higher than the national median of 28.0 percent. This suggests that Montana has not been successful in ensuring that children do not "grow up" in foster care. Performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+25.9 percent change).

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reported reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 84.7, which is higher than both the national standard of 76.2 percent and the national median of 69.2 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Montana's performance with regard to reunification within 12 months must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 19.1, which is higher than both the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.4 percent. According to information from the CFSR Final Report, the State believes that the rate of foster care re-entry is due to the way the State's management information system records exits and entries. Because the management information system is a payment system, many workers believe that they have to close the case as a foster care case if the child runs away, leaves a foster family to enter respite care for the weekend, go home for a trial visit, or enters a hospital. The worker then re-opens the case as a foster care case when the child returns to the foster family. This is not consistent with AFCARS reporting procedures.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 32.0, which equals the national standard of 32.0 percent and exceeds the national median of 21.0 percent. The State's reported rate of adoption finalizations occurring within 24 months did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 81.3, which is lower than both the national standard of 86.7 percent and the national median of 83.3 percent. Montana's performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 12.7, which is higher than the national median of 8.7 percent. Montana's performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+45.1 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	445,642	443,800	450,242	442,774	Child maltreatment victims	4,219	3,474	3,612	3,314
Race/ethnicity (%) ¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	—	5,146	5,674	6,254
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	Children adopted	—	279	293	292
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.4					
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.7	1.7	1.3	N/A					
Black	5.0	5.0	5.3	5.5					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	6.5	6.9	8.3	8.6					
White	85.6	85.0	81.8	81.3					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.1	2.0					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	12.9	11.5	11.4	13.5					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	55.6	53.4	52.7	60.2					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	1998	Rate			2001
		1999	2000	2001			1999	2000	2001	
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	14,641	13,582	9,997	10,707	32.9 per 1,000	30.6 per 1,000	22.2 per 1,000	23.8 per 1,000		
Child maltreatment victims ²	4,219	3,474	3,612	3,314	9.5 per 1,000	7.8 per 1,000	8.0 per 1,000	7.4 per 1,000		
Child fatalities	—	1	3	2	— per 100,000	0.2 per 100,000	0.7 per 100,000	0.4 per 100,000		

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	6.2	8.4	9.5	9.5	Alaska Native/American Indian	—	4.6	6.1	5.6
1-5 years	33.1	31.3	31.2	31.4	Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.8	0.6	0.6
6-10 years	31.1	31.0	30.1	30.1	Black	—	12.4	12.6	11.2
11-15 years	24.5	22.3	22.6	23.0	Hispanic	—	—	7.0	8.3
16+ years	5.0	4.3	4.6	4.6	White	—	66.1	67.1	65.9
Unknown	—	2.7	2.1	1.3	Two or more races	—	—	0.1	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	—	16.1	6.4	8.1
Number	4,219	3,474	3,612	3,314	Total % ³	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
					Number	—	3,474	3,612	3,314

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	—	3.9	5.1	6.7
Medical neglect	—	0.2	0.1	0.1
Neglect	66.4	64.5	70.8	68.7
Physical abuse	29.2	21.6	23.6	26.1
Sexual abuse	11.4	9.8	10.4	11.5
Other	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	106.9	100.0	110.0	113.2
Number	4,219	3,474	3,612	3,314

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	—	—	—	—	—
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	4,440	2,806	2,100	5,146	7,246
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	5,054	3,134	2,514	5,674	8,188
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	5,540	3,350	2,636	6,254	8,890
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	—	N/A	—	—	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	9.2	N/A	11.0	14.8	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	14.6	N/A	14.3	14.4	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	14.3	N/A	14.9	15.0	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	—	2.3	2.5	2.7	—	7.6	7.6	7.6	—	2.4	1.8	1.8	—	2.4	2.6	2.4
1-5 years	—	20.2	17.5	18.5	—	17.0	19.4	17.9	—	21.6	18.2	18.2	—	16.8	17.8	18.6
6-10 years	—	22.8	19.4	18.9	—	16.1	17.1	17.5	—	23.6	19.2	17.1	—	18.7	18.1	18.1
11-15 years	—	33.7	34.7	33.1	—	37.3	35.0	35.7	—	22.9	23.6	25.5	—	33.8	31.9	30.5
16-18 years	—	20.9	25.9	26.8	—	21.9	21.0	21.4	—	29.5	37.2	37.3	—	28.3	29.6	30.4
19+ years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	4,440	5,054	5,540	—	2,806	3,134	3,350	—	2,100	2,514	2,636	—	5,146	5,674	6,254

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵																
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Alaska Native/American Indian	—	7.5	7.8	8.2	—	8.1	7.1	6.2	—	8.3	7.2	8.8	—	7.5	7.7	6.9
Asian	—	—	0.3	0.5	—	—	0.8	0.5	—	—	0.6	0.8	—	—	0.4	0.3
Asian/Pacific	—	0.2	—	—	—	0.6	—	—	—	0.5	—	—	—	0.3	—	—
Black	—	16.8	16.5	16.6	—	13.0	14.4	13.7	—	13.2	13.5	12.4	—	16.2	16.6	16.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	7.2	7.6	7.6	—	9.5	8.6	9.6	—	9.5	8.9	9.3	—	7.5	7.5	8.0
White	—	66.3	66.0	65.5	—	67.4	67.8	67.9	—	66.8	67.9	67.2	—	66.7	66.1	66.1
Two or more races	—	0.2	0.2	0.1	—	0.1	0.1	0.4	—	0.1	0.1	0.2	—	0.2	0.1	0.2
Unknown	—	1.8	1.6	1.3	—	1.3	1.3	1.7	—	1.6	1.8	1.3	—	1.7	1.4	1.6
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	4,440	5,054	5,540	—	2,806	3,134	3,350	—	2,100	2,514	2,636	—	5,146	5,674	6,254

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	—	437	488	352
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	—	231	258	199
Age of Waiting Children (%) 1998 1999 2000 2001				
Under 1 year	—	3.9	4.1	1.7
1-5 years	—	38.9	35.0	33.0
6-10 years	—	35.2	36.5	38.6
11-15 years	—	19.0	20.5	22.2
16+ years	—	2.8	2.3	4.0
Unknown	—	0.2	1.6	0.6
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	437	488	352

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	—	5.3	7.8	8.5
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.2	—	—
Black	—	17.4	19.7	21.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	10.8	10.0	9.7
White	—	64.1	60.5	58.0
Two or more races	—	0.2	0.2	—
Unknown	—	2.1	1.6	2.0
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	437	488	352

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	1.1	—	1.4
1-5 years	—	43.4	41.0	42.8
6-10 years	—	40.9	41.0	33.9
11-15 years	—	12.5	16.0	19.2
16+ years	—	2.2	2.0	2.7
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	279	293	292

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	—	2.2	4.4	4.8
Asian	—	—	—	0.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	—	19.4	21.8	16.1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	6.8	3.8	7.9
White	—	70.3	68.3	69.2
Two or more races	—	—	—	0.7
Unknown	—	1.4	1.7	1.0
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	279	293	292

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

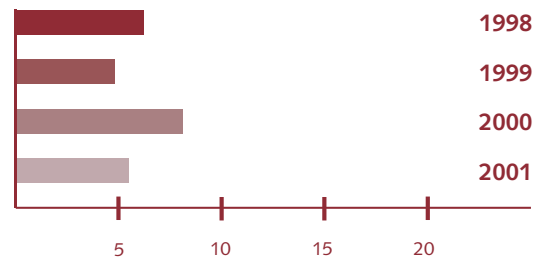
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment

Within 6 Months (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	93.8	95.2	91.9	94.5
Children with one or more recurrences	6.2	4.8	8.1	5.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	613	1,118	1,445	1,427

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



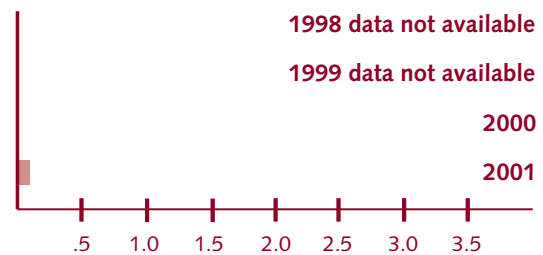
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	0.04	0.08
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	99.96	99.92
Total %	—	—	100.00	100.00
Number	—	—	7,637	8,310

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



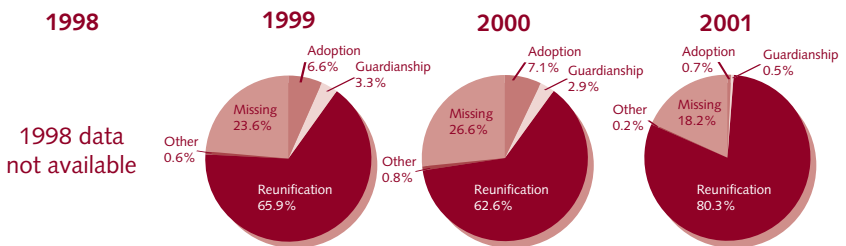
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	6.6	7.1	0.7
Guardianship	—	3.3	2.9	0.5
Reunification	—	65.9	62.6	80.3
Other	—	0.6	0.8	0.2
Missing data	—	23.6	26.6	18.2
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	2,100	2,514	2,636

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	6.7	10.3	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	2.3
Reunification	—	66.7	65.5	76.7
Other	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	26.7	24.1	20.9
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	15	29	43

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	0.1	—
Guardianship	—	1.8	1.3	0.1
Reunification	—	76.7	72.8	82.2
Other	—	0.2	0.7	0.1
Missing data	—	21.2	25.1	17.7
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	825	1,191	1,234

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	—	50.0	50.0	—
Children older than 12 at entry	—	50.0	50.0	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	—
Number	—	2	2	—

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black			Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander				
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	1.7	2.8	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.4	10.6	1.5	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	1.1	1.7	2.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4.0	5.3	0.3	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	55.4	56.4	71.2	—	—	71.4	100.0	—	81.8	—	—	—	61.7	56.2	76.5	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	2.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.4	0.9	0.3	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	41.7	36.5	26.2	—	—	28.6	—	—	18.2	—	—	—	27.4	27.1	21.3	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	—	175	181	233	—	—	14	21	—	11	—	—	—	277	340	328	—	—	—	—

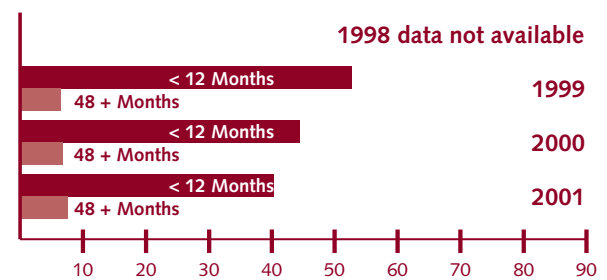
	Hispanic				White			Unable to Determine			Two or More Races			Missing Data						
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	1998	1999	2000	1998	1999	2000	1998	1999	2000	2001			
Adoption	—	7.5	2.7	—	—	7.4	7.5	0.7	—	3.0	9.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	2.5	3.1	—	—	3.7	2.5	0.5	—	—	2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	58.3	61.8	72.5	—	68.6	64.6	83.0	—	78.8	65.9	90.9	—	100.0	50.0	60.0	—	—	—	—
Other	—	0.5	—	—	—	0.5	0.6	0.2	—	—	2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	31.2	32.4	27.5	—	19.7	24.8	15.7	—	18.2	20.5	9.1	—	—	50.0	40.0	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	—	199	225	244	—	1,403	1,708	1,772	—	33	44	33	—	2	2	5	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	52.6	44.4	40.3
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	26.4	30.7	27.2
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	9.2	12.4	15.6
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	5.3	5.8	9.3
48 or more mos.	—	6.5	6.7	7.6
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	1,384	1,575	2,118

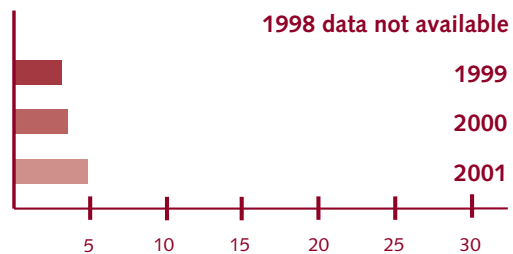
Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	—	91.8	92.9	90.0
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	—	3.1	3.5	4.8
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	—	0.2	2.1	3.9
Missing data	—	4.9	1.5	1.3
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	2,806	3,134	3,350

Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months

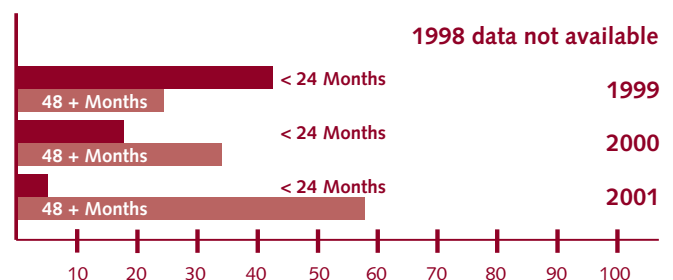


5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	18.1	—	—
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	24.6	17.9	5.3
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	10.9	26.3	15.8
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	21.7	21.8	21.1
48 or more mos.	—	24.6	34.1	57.9
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	138	179	19

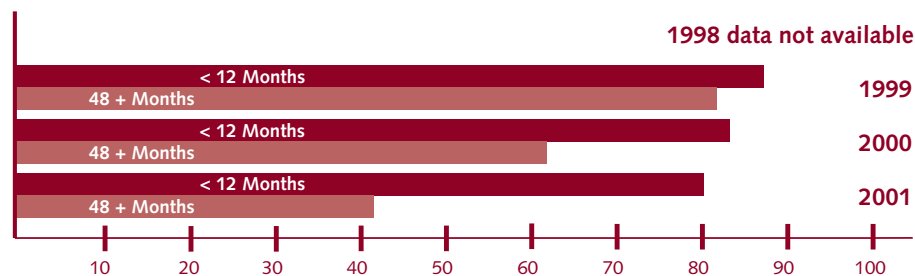
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	87.4	12.6	—	100.0	3,321
	2000	83.4	16.6	—	100.0	3,575
	2001	80.4	19.6	—	100.0	3,775
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	72.7	27.3	—	100.0	2,111
	2000	56.8	43.2	—	100.0	2,097
	2001	50.8	49.2	—	100.0	2,320
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	77.1	22.9	—	100.0	699
	2000	52.3	47.7	—	100.0	1,347
	2001	33.6	66.4	—	100.0	1,272
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	81.4	18.6	—	100.0	414
	2000	59.8	40.2	—	100.0	440
	2001	36.6	63.4	—	100.0	858
48 or more mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	81.9	18.1	—	100.0	691
	2000	62.1	37.9	—	100.0	728
	2001	41.9	58.1	—	100.0	664
Missing data	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	10
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	1
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	1

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	—	2.8	3.0	2.6
Institutions	—	8.3	6.6	6.0
Other settings	—	89.0	90.4	91.4
Missing	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	1,307	1,586	1,642

**Dawn Swanson, Administrator
Office of Protection and Safety
Nebraska Health and Human Services System
402-471-3121**

Nebraska's comments on the State's data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

Data related to 'Discharge from Foster Care' was skewed for Nebraska in FY2001. Nebraska had a technical systems error in which discharge data was stored erroneously. The discharge reason stored was a generic code that does not translate to child welfare discharge reasons. We were also unable to systematically convert this information, and manual changes were not feasible. This problem has subsequently been fixed, but because of this issue, data for the outcome measures 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 4.1 and 5.1 will be inaccurate. Even with the missing discharge reason data, 80.3% of our youth were reunified in FY2001.

The data in Section E show 292 children being adopted, which is in direct opposition to outcome measures 3.1 and 5.1. The Section E data would be correct, as we pull the Adoption Finalization information from a table other than the discharge reasons.

The following discussion focuses on Nebraska's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Nebraska Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2002, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2000. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Nebraska's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the State's rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was 5.5 percent, which meets the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and is lower than the national median of 8.0 percent. Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that the reported rate of maltreatment recurrence may be less than the actual rate, because maltreatment reports on families with open child welfare cases are not always investigated as new reports and therefore are not always entered into the State's automated information system. Nebraska's performance on this measure declined from 1999 to 2001 (+15.4 percent change).

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

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.08 percent, which is lower than both the national standard of 0.57 percent and the national median of 0.47 percent. Change in performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because Nebraska did not provide data for 1999 to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) for this measure.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

The State's performance relevant to this outcome cannot be assessed because 18.2 percent of children who exited foster care in FY 2001 did not report "reason for discharge" information to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS). Consequently, the percentage of children achieving permanency at exit from foster care cannot be determined. The State's comment letter describes the data error that resulted in this problem.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reported reunifications occurring within 12 months of children's entry into foster care was 40.3, which is lower than the national standard of 76.2 percent and the national median of 69.2 percent. However, because "reason for discharge" information was not reported to AFCARS for over 18 percent of children exiting foster care in FY 2001, the current data pertaining to the time to reunification cannot be interpreted.

Nebraska's data regarding re-entries into foster care indicate that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 4.8, which is lower than both the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.4 percent. However, Nebraska's performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+56.0 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reported finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 5.3, which is lower than the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and close to the lowest rate reported nationally. However, Nebraska's data pertaining to time in foster care to finalized adoption cannot be meaningfully interpreted because of the following data quality issues: (1) "reason for discharge" information was not reported to AFCARS for over 18 percent of the children exiting foster

care in FY 2001; and (2) the State reported 292 finalized adoptions to the AFCARS Adoption Database (Section E), but only 19 exits to a finalized adoption to the AFCARS Foster Care Database (Outcome measures 3.1 and 5.1). Consequently, the time to adoption data pertains to only 6.5 percent of the finalized adoptions. The State's comment letter describes the data error that resulted in these discrepancies.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 80.4, which is lower than both the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and the national median of 83.3 percent. Nebraska's performance on this measure declined continuously from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-8.0 percent change).

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 8.6, which is slightly under the national median of 8.7. Nebraska's performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-21.5 percent change).

Nevada

[CONTEXT DATA]

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	467,107	491,476	511,799	551,467	Child maltreatment victims	8,014	8,238	5,775	4,939
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	—	—	1,615	1,789
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.7	1.7	1.2	1.2	Children adopted	—	123	231	243
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.0					
Asian/Pacific Islander	4.5	4.8	4.0	N/A					
Black	8.4	8.3	8.0	8.1					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.5					
Hispanic	22.4	23.6	28.6	29.0					
White	63.0	61.6	54.0	53.9					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	4.1	3.5					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	17.4	17.3	12.4	9.1					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	85.9	83.5	86.7	84.3					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	Rate			
		1999	2000	2001		1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	23,229	27,682	20,437	21,744	49.7 per 1,000	56.3 per 1,000	39.9 per 1,000	40.4 per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	8,014	8,238	5,775	4,939	17.2 per 1,000	16.8 per 1,000	11.3 per 1,000	9.2 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	13	7	3	4	2.8 per 100,000	1.4 per 100,000	0.6 per 100,000	0.7 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	11.8	12.3	11.1	12.5	Alaska Native/American Indian	1.9	1.3	1.2	2.0
1-5 years	35.5	36.7	36.1	33.3	Asian/Pacific Islander	1.4	1.0	0.7	0.7
6-10 years	30.0	29.3	28.7	28.1	Black	19.0	20.2	23.7	18.7
11-15 years	19.5	18.6	19.0	20.7	Hispanic	13.6	7.2	4.5	4.6
16+ years	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.6	White	61.6	65.3	66.2	70.2
Unknown	—	—	1.9	1.9	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	16.1	12.1	3.6	3.9
Number	8,014	8,238	5,775	4,939	Total % ³	113.6	107.2	100.0	100.0
					Number	8,014	8,238	5,775	4,939

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		3.9	3.7	3.5	4.7
Medical neglect		3.1	2.2	1.9	1.8
Neglect		58.6	22.1	42.8	34.8
Physical abuse		17.4	14.6	18.0	16.3
Sexual abuse		3.4	2.8	4.5	4.5
Other		46.4	54.7	51.2	45.6
Unknown		—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴		132.8	100.0	122.0	107.8
Number		8,014	8,238	5,775	4,939

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1		Entered Care		Exited Care		In Care on 9/30		Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	—		—		—		—		—
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	—		—		—		—		—
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	1,329	—	673	—	387	—	1,615	—	2,002
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	1,524	—	707	—	442	—	1,789	—	2,231
Median Length of Stay (Months)									
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	—		N/A		—		—		N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	—		N/A		—		—		N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	16.7	—	N/A	—	13.3	—	17.0	—	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	20.7	—	N/A	—	12.3	—	24.8	—	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	—	—	5.7	4.0	—	—	19.2	16.1	—	—	4.7	4.5	—	—	4.5	4.3
1-5 years	—	—	31.2	32.2	—	—	36.0	35.6	—	—	33.1	40.5	—	—	34.7	31.2
6-10 years	—	—	27.8	26.8	—	—	23.8	25.6	—	—	31.5	25.6	—	—	26.7	26.8
11-15 years	—	—	26.6	25.6	—	—	17.1	17.5	—	—	24.0	17.0	—	—	23.2	24.4
16-18 years	—	—	7.9	10.7	—	—	3.7	4.7	—	—	5.7	10.9	—	—	10.2	11.4
19+ years	—	—	0.5	0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.0	0.9	—	—	0.4	1.5
Unknown	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—	0.3	0.4	—	—	—	0.7	—	—	0.3	0.4
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	1,329	1,524	—	—	673	707	—	—	387	442	—	—	1,615	1,789

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵																
Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	1.4	0.9	—	—	0.6	1.3	—	—	2.6	1.1	—	—	0.8	1.0
Asian	—	—	1.1	0.4	—	—	1.0	0.3	—	—	2.6	0.5	—	—	0.7	0.3
Asian/Pacific	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black	—	—	20.9	25.5	—	—	15.6	8.5	—	—	6.5	13.3	—	—	22.2	21.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	1.1	1.4	—	—	1.0	0.6	—	—	0.3	0.5	—	—	1.2	1.3
Hispanic	—	—	10.3	10.2	—	—	10.1	16.8	—	—	12.1	13.3	—	—	9.8	12.0
White	—	—	57.0	55.1	—	—	60.2	48.2	—	—	63.8	55.7	—	—	56.7	52.3
Two or more races	—	—	2.8	3.3	—	—	3.1	4.2	—	—	1.3	5.0	—	—	3.3	3.3
Unknown	—	—	5.4	3.1	—	—	8.3	20.1	—	—	10.9	10.6	—	—	5.3	8.0
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	1,329	1,524	—	—	673	707	—	—	387	442	—	—	1,615	1,789

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	—	—	68	138
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	—	—	67	131
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	—	1.5	2.2
1-5 years	—	—	35.3	30.4
6-10 years	—	—	32.4	33.3
11-15 years	—	—	23.5	26.8
16+ years	—	—	7.4	5.1
Unknown	—	—	—	2.2
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	68	138

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	1.5	0.7
Asian	—	—	1.5	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	—	—	22.1	24.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	1.5	2.2
Hispanic	—	—	5.9	7.2
White	—	—	66.2	56.5
Two or more races	—	—	1.5	7.2
Unknown	—	—	—	1.4
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	68	138

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	3.3	3.0	0.8
1-5 years	—	56.1	59.7	60.9
6-10 years	—	27.6	26.0	25.9
11-15 years	—	13.0	9.5	11.5
16+ years	—	—	1.7	0.8
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	123	231	243

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.8	1.3	0.8
Asian	—	—	1.3	1.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	—	17.1	22.5	23.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	6.5	12.6	12.3
White	—	74.8	60.2	62.1
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	0.8	2.2	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	123	231	243

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment

Within 6 Months (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	—	—
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

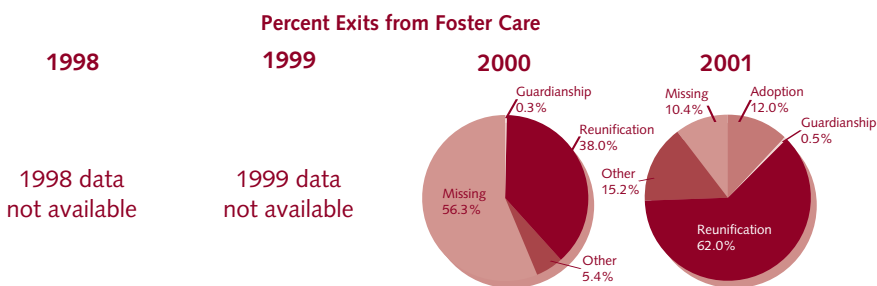
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	12.0
Guardianship	—	—	0.3	0.5
Reunification	—	—	38.0	62.0
Other	—	—	5.4	15.2
Missing data	—	—	56.3	10.4
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	387	442



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	31.0
Guardianship	—	—	9.1	—
Reunification	—	—	45.5	42.9
Other	—	—	—	16.7
Missing data	—	—	45.5	9.5
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	11	42

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	2.2	—
Reunification	—	—	26.7	59.7
Other	—	—	6.7	33.9
Missing data	—	—	64.4	6.5
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	45	62

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	—	—	50.0	44.0
Children older than 12 at entry	—	—	50.0	56.0
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	2	25

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33.9	—	—	—	50.0	
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.4	—	—	—	—	
Reunification	—	—	—	60.0	—	—	10.0	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	40.0	45.8	—	—	50.0	
Other	—	—	—	40.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4.0	13.6	—	—	—	
Missing data	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	90.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	56.0	3.4	—	—	100.0	
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	
Number	—	—	10	5	—	—	10	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	59	—	—	1	

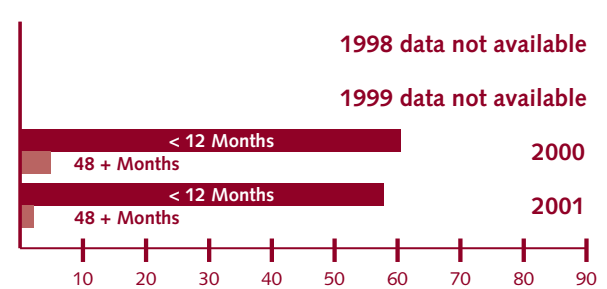
	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	3.4	—	—	—	11.4	—	—	—	2.1	—	—	—	4.5	—	—	—	
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Reunification	—	—	51.1	69.5	—	—	41.7	64.2	—	—	16.7	66.0	—	—	40.0	50.0	—	—	—	
Other	—	—	8.5	13.6	—	—	4.5	13.0	—	—	4.8	23.4	—	—	60.0	27.3	—	—	—	
Missing data	—	—	40.4	13.6	—	—	53.4	11.4	—	—	78.6	8.5	—	—	—	18.2	—	—	—	
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	
Number	—	—	47	59	—	—	247	246	—	—	42	47	—	—	5	22	—	—	—	

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%) 1998 1999 2000 2001

Less than 12 mos.	—	—	60.5	57.7
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	—	27.9	28.5
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	—	5.4	9.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	—	1.4	1.1
48 or more mos.	—	—	4.8	2.2
Missing data	—	—	—	0.7
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	147	274

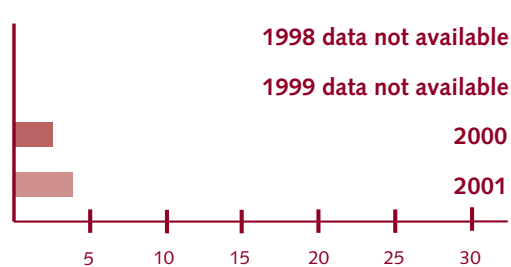
Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%) 1998 1999 2000 2001

Children entering care for the first time	—	—	78.6	78.9
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	—	—	2.5	3.8
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	—	—	1.5	5.5
Missing data	—	—	17.4	11.7
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	673	707

Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months

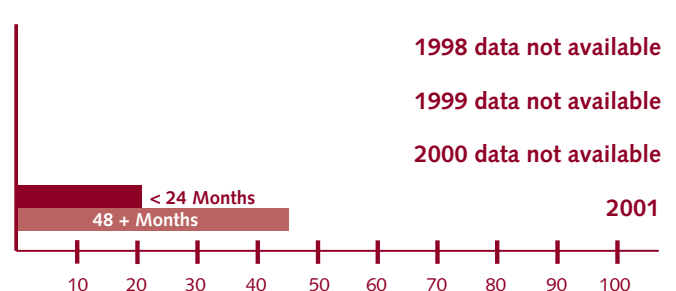


5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%) 1998 1999 2000 2001

Less than 12 mos.	—	—	—	1.9
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	—	—	18.9
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	—	—	22.6
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	—	—	11.3
48 or more mos.	—	—	—	45.3
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	100.0
Number	—	—	—	53

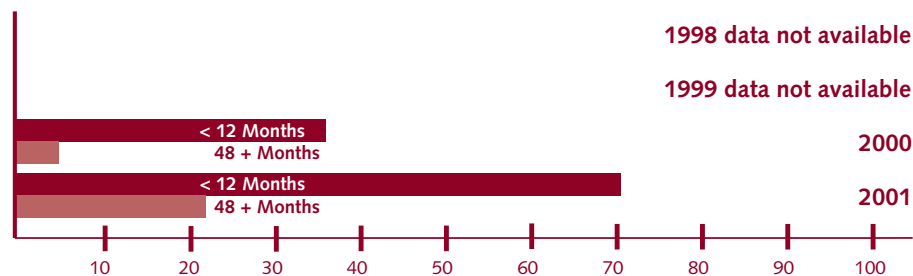
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	—	—	—	—	—
	2000	36.3	1.3	62.4	100.0	760
	2001	70.7	4.5	24.8	100.0	757
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	—	—	—	—	—
	2000	6.5	3.3	90.2	100.0	510
	2001	36.8	7.0	56.2	100.0	443
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	—	—	—	—	—
	2000	5.3	1.6	93.1	100.0	245
	2001	23.5	3.4	73.2	100.0	354
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	—	—	—	—	—
	2000	4.0	2.9	93.1	100.0	173
	2001	18.4	2.4	79.2	100.0	207
48 or more mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	—	—	—	—	—
	2000	5.1	8.9	86.0	100.0	314
	2001	22.3	6.9	70.9	100.0	467
Missing data	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	—	—	—	—	—
	2000	—	—	—	—	—
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	3

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	—	—	0.9	2.1
Institutions	—	—	5.7	11.2
Other settings	—	—	93.4	86.8
Missing	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	212	438

**Edward Cotton, Administrator
Division of Child and Family Services
Nevada Department of Human Services
775-684-4400**

Nevada's comments on the State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

Nevada's Division of Child and Family Services is currently in the process of conversion to our SACWIS system (UNITY-United Nevada Information Technology For Youth) from our CWAF system (Child Welfare Action Form), which has served primarily as a payment system. The State is also in the process of moving from a bifurcated child welfare system to a newly integrated State administered and County run system.

During 2001, our first submission for AFCARS Adoptions data was successful, however we were not able to successfully submit AFCARS Foster Care data. A delayed external fiscal certification process and internal system programming factors in addition to the delays involving the transition to a newly integrated child welfare system have delayed the statewide implementation of a fully functioning SACWIS system.

We are continuing to make progress toward reaching our goal of providing accurate, current and complete data. We expect that in the current year, AFCARS submissions for Adoption and Foster Care will be successfully submitted. Our Program Evaluation and Data Unit has developed software to track statewide progress in meeting all federal outcome measures. The conversion from CWAF to UNITY should be completed by fall of this year, which will provide us with comprehensive data that will enable us in succeeding years to provide complete data for all federal outcome measures.

Nevada

[FEDERAL COMMENT]

At the time of preparation of this report, the Nevada Child and Family Service Review had not been conducted. States are not accountable for meeting national standards until the time of their review.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	298,610	304,436	309,562	307,717	Child maltreatment victims	1,159	926	811	1,102
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	—	1,385	1,311	1,288
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	Children adopted	51	62	97	95
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.4					
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.3	1.4	1.3	N/A					
Black	0.6	0.6	0.8	1.0					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.6					
White	95.7	95.5	93.4	93.2					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	1.6	1.5					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	14.6	8.1	7.7	8.2					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	67.3	63.4	61.7	64.7					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			1998	Rate		
		1999	2000	2001		1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	8,974	8,833	8,120	12,132	30.1 per 1,000	29.0 per 1,000	26.2 per 1,000	38.6 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	1,159	926	811	1,102	3.9 per 1,000	3.0 per 1,000	2.6 per 1,000	3.5 per 1,000
Child fatalities	1	3	9	1	0.3 per 100,000	1.0 per 100,000	2.9 per 100,000	0.3 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	—	7.8	9.4	Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	0.3
1-5 years	—	—	27.3	29.3	Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	0.5	0.6
6-10 years	—	—	28.6	31.1	Black	—	—	2.2	3.0
11-15 years	—	—	31.3	24.1	Hispanic	—	—	5.3	3.6
16+ years	—	—	4.1	5.1	White	—	—	65.7	79.4
Unknown	—	—	1.0	0.9	Two or more races	—	—	1.0	1.5
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	—	—	25.3	11.5
Number	—	—	811	1,102	Total % ³	—	—	100.0	100.0
					Number	—	—	811	1,102

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	3.9	5.3	2.6	3.6
Medical neglect	—	1.9	2.6	1.8
Neglect	66.3	65.2	64.4	63.4
Physical abuse	27.4	27.5	18.9	19.2
Sexual abuse	27.8	25.7	20.3	21.4
Other	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	125.4	125.7	108.8	109.4
Number	1,159	926	811	1,102

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	—	—	—	—	—
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	1,264	522	401	1,385	1,786
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	1,317	484	491	1,311	1,801
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	1,222	534	468	1,288	1,756

Median Length of Stay (Months)	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	—	N/A	—	—	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	20.9	N/A	15.4	23.5	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	24.6	N/A	18.3	26.1	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	27.6	N/A	20.3	25.2	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	—	2.4	2.6	1.9	—	11.1	10.3	10.7	—	3.2	2.9	3.4	—	2.6	2.0	2.1
1-5 years	—	22.2	21.0	20.1	—	24.9	25.2	29.2	—	25.2	25.3	25.2	—	20.6	20.1	21.4
6-10 years	—	26.9	29.2	26.6	—	25.1	22.5	21.5	—	15.7	25.9	20.7	—	28.2	25.7	24.5
11-15 years	—	30.3	30.8	35.3	—	32.6	32.6	28.5	—	20.9	17.1	22.6	—	31.8	35.7	35.3
16-18 years	—	16.3	15.0	15.0	—	6.3	9.1	9.6	—	28.9	23.8	22.6	—	15.3	15.5	15.5
19+ years	—	1.9	1.4	1.1	—	—	—	—	—	5.5	3.7	4.3	—	1.4	1.1	1.3
Unknown	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	—	0.2	0.6	—	0.5	1.4	1.1	—	0.1	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	1,264	1,317	1,222	—	522	484	534	—	401	491	468	—	1,385	1,311	1,288

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.3	0.2	0.2	—	—	—	0.4	—	0.2	—	0.2	—	0.2	0.2	0.3
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.4	0.2	—	—	0.6	0.2	—	—	0.2	0.2
Asian/Pacific	—	0.2	—	—	—	0.4	—	—	—	0.2	—	—	—	0.3	—	—
Black	—	1.7	1.9	2.6	—	2.1	4.3	3.2	—	1.5	2.9	1.3	—	1.9	2.4	3.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	0.1
Hispanic	—	3.9	5.2	4.7	—	7.5	5.2	5.6	—	4.0	5.9	4.7	—	5.2	4.9	5.0
White	—	89.7	87.7	87.4	—	82.2	82.4	85.6	—	86.8	83.1	89.1	—	87.7	87.5	86.0
Two or more races	—	3.5	3.5	4.1	—	2.3	2.7	2.2	—	2.0	1.4	2.8	—	3.5	4.0	3.8
Unknown	—	0.7	1.2	0.7	—	5.6	5.0	2.8	—	5.2	6.1	1.7	—	1.2	0.8	1.2
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	1,264	1,317	1,222	—	522	484	534	—	401	491	468	—	1,385	1,311	1,288

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	—	289	283	230
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	—	257	195	122

Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	4.5	1.8	1.7
1-5 years	—	44.6	38.9	32.2
6-10 years	—	39.8	42.1	39.1
11-15 years	—	10.0	16.3	24.4
16+ years	—	1.0	0.7	2.6
Unknown	—	—	0.4	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	289	283	230

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.7	0.7	0.9
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	—	2.1	1.4	1.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	3.1	5.3	6.5
White	—	89.3	86.9	86.1
Two or more races	—	4.8	5.7	5.2
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	289	283	230

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	—	1.0	—
1-5 years	51.0	48.4	44.3	47.4
6-10 years	33.3	40.3	45.4	40.0
11-15 years	13.7	9.7	8.2	11.6
16+ years	2.0	1.6	1.0	1.1
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	51	62	97	95

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	2.0	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	7.8	—	2.1	3.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	3.1	1.1
Hispanic	5.9	6.5	8.2	5.3
White	84.3	87.1	85.6	88.4
Two or more races	—	4.8	—	2.1
Unknown	—	1.6	1.0	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	51	62	97	95

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

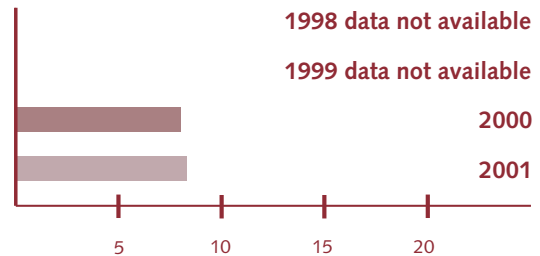
⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	92.0	91.7
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	8.0	8.3
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	289	384

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences

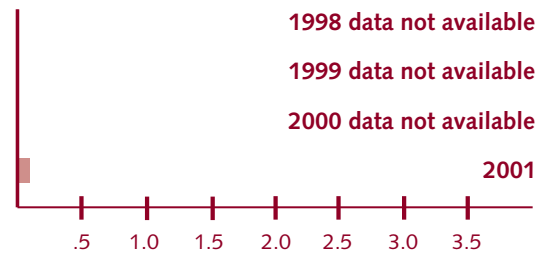


2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	0.12
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	100.00	99.88
Total %	—	—	100.00	100.00
Number	—	—	1,693	1,631

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



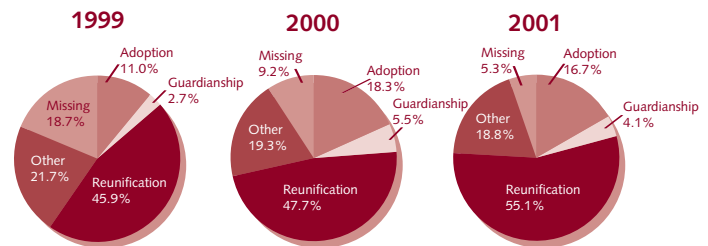
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	11.0	18.3	16.7
Guardianship	—	2.7	5.5	4.1
Reunification	—	45.9	47.7	55.1
Other	—	21.7	19.3	18.8
Missing data	—	18.7	9.2	5.3
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	401	491	468

1998 data not available

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	27.1	44.3	33.3
Guardianship	—	3.5	3.2	1.4
Reunification	—	34.1	31.6	44.7
Other	—	24.7	15.8	14.9
Missing data	—	10.6	5.1	5.7
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	85	158	141

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	0.8
Guardianship	—	1.5	1.4	3.2
Reunification	—	45.6	52.8	44.4
Other	—	34.6	35.9	45.2
Missing data	—	18.4	9.9	6.3
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	136	142	126

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	—	45.3	45.6	33.3
Children older than 12 at entry	—	54.7	54.4	66.7
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	64	57	54

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

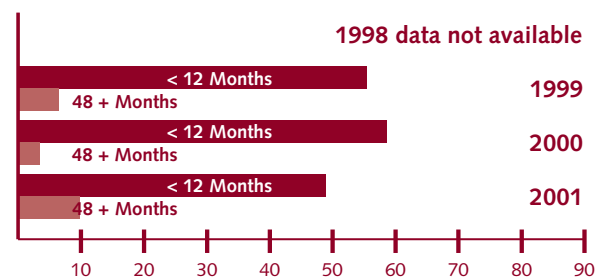
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21.4	33.3	—	—	—	—	
Guardianship	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21.4	—	—	—	—	—	
Reunification	—	—	—	—	—	—	33.3	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	50.0	35.7	33.3	—	—	—	
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	21.4	16.7	—	—	—	—	
Missing data	—	100.0	—	—	—	—	66.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	50.0	—	16.7	—	—	—	
Total %	—	100.0	—	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	
Number	—	1	—	1	—	—	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	6	14	6	—	—	—	

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	12.5	10.3	22.7	—	11.5	20.6	15.3	—	25.0	—	—	—	12.5	—	53.8	—	—	—	
Guardianship	—	—	3.4	—	—	3.2	5.6	4.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16.7	
Reunification	—	43.8	58.6	68.2	—	45.4	46.1	56.6	—	50.0	60.0	100.0	—	50.0	42.9	15.4	—	52.9	68.0	
Other	—	18.8	13.8	9.1	—	22.7	19.6	18.5	—	—	20.0	—	—	25.0	42.9	30.8	—	17.6	16.0	
Missing data	—	25.0	13.8	—	—	17.2	8.1	5.5	—	25.0	20.0	—	—	12.5	14.3	—	—	29.4	16.0	
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	
Number	—	16	29	22	—	348	408	417	—	4	5	2	—	8	7	13	—	17	25	

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

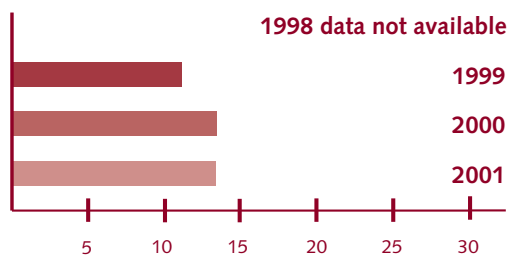
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	55.4	58.5	48.8
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	28.3	22.6	26.4
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	5.4	9.8	8.5
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	2.2	4.3	6.2
48 or more mos.	—	6.5	3.4	9.7
Missing data	—	2.2	1.3	0.4
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	184	234	258

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	—	73.0	69.4	71.9
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	—	11.1	13.4	13.3
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	—	4.0	5.4	5.6
Missing data	—	11.9	11.8	9.2
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	522	484	534

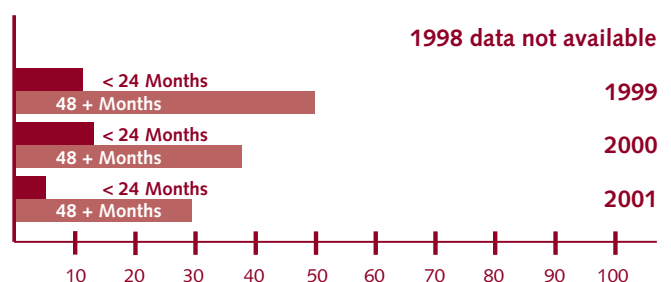
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	2.3	3.3	2.6
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	9.1	10.0	2.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	22.7	18.9	21.8
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	15.9	30.0	43.6
48 or more mos.	—	50.0	37.8	29.5
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	44	90	78

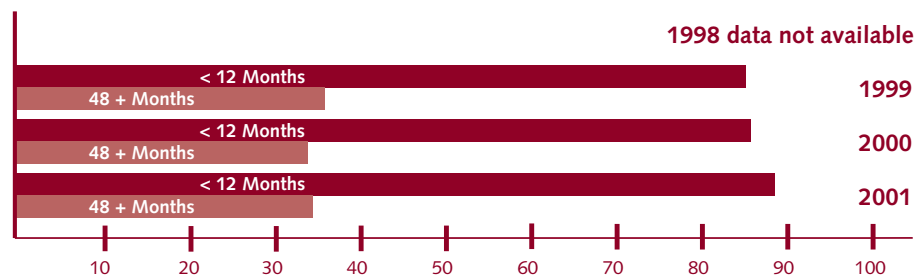
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	85.3	14.7	—	100.0	578
	2000	85.8	14.2	—	100.0	557
	2001	88.7	11.3	—	100.0	576
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	64.5	35.5	—	100.0	372
	2000	60.6	39.4	—	100.0	335
	2001	63.4	36.6	—	100.0	306
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	58.8	41.2	—	100.0	274
	2000	54.6	45.4	—	100.0	260
	2001	53.8	46.2	—	100.0	210
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	50.0	50.0	—	100.0	168
	2000	53.4	46.6	—	100.0	221
	2001	49.0	51.0	—	100.0	198
48 or more mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	36.2	63.8	—	100.0	389
	2000	34.2	65.8	—	100.0	421
	2001	34.7	65.3	—	100.0	464
Missing data	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	5
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	7
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	2

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	—	10.7	9.4	7.3
Institutions	—	1.1	0.3	—
Other settings	—	88.2	90.3	92.7
Missing	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	355	329	371

New Hampshire

[STATE COMMENT]

The following discussion focuses on New Hampshire's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The New Hampshire Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2003, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2001. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for New Hampshire's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided below.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence in less than 6 months was 8.3 percent, which does not meet the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and is greater than the national median of 8.0 percent. Change in performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because the State did not provide data for 1999 to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) for calculating this outcome. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from 2000 to 2001. The CFSR Final Report suggests that performance on this measure may be attributed to inconsistencies in the assessment of underlying family issues resulting in a lack of appropriate service provision,

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.12 percent, which meets the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and is less than the national median of 0.47 percent. Change in performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because the State did not provide data for 1999 or 2000 NCANDS for calculating this measure. Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that performance on this measure may be attributed in part to the following: (1) the provision of comprehensive pre-placement training for foster parents; (2) the availability of a variety of ongoing training opportunities for foster parents and staff of care facilities; and (3) strict adherence to State licensing and certification standards.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 75.9 percent of children exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 85.3 percent), and 48.4 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is considerably lower than the national median of 72.3 percent). However, 79.4 percent of children with a diagnosed disability exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is greater than the national median of 78.4 percent). These data suggest that the State has not been effective overall in achieving permanency for children in foster care, particularly children who enter foster care after age 12. New Hampshire's performance related to attaining permanency for children in foster care, including disabled children, improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

In FY 2001, 33.3 percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care, which is higher than the national median of 28.0 percent. This suggests that New Hampshire has not been successful in ensuring that children do not "grow up" in foster care. However, performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-26.4 percent change).

Information in the CFSR Final Report suggests that performance related to attainment of permanency for children exiting foster care may be attributed at least in part to: (1) inconsistent efforts to establish appropriate permanency goals, and (2) inappropriate use of the goal of long-term foster care (i.e., for young children).

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 48.8, which is lower than the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. New Hampshire's performance related to time to reunification declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-11.9 percent change). Information in the CFSR Final Report identifies the following as potential barriers to timely reunification: (1) high worker caseloads; (2) lack of adequate services; and (3) inconsistency with regard to involvement of parents in case planning.

Also, New Hampshire's data regarding re-entries into foster care indicate that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 13.3, which is greater than both the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.4 percent. Performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+19.7 percent change). The CFSR Final Report notes that a large percentage of children re-entering foster care are under the supervision of the Division for Juvenile Justice Services, and that some of the re-entries are actually short-term placements in the child's home while awaiting an opening in a group home or treatment facility.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reported finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 5.2, which is lower than the national standard of 32.0 percent or more. Performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-54.9 percent change). Information in the CFSR Final Report identifies the following as potential barriers to timely adoptions: (1) inconsistent efforts to file for termination of parental rights (TPR) in a timely manner; (2) delays in scheduling TPR hearings (hearings are scheduled based on the time of the adjudication hearing rather than entry into foster care); and (3) delays in finalizing adoptions due to court-related scheduling problems.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 88.7, which meets the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and is greater than the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 7.3, which is less than the national median of 8.7 percent. New Hampshire's performance on this measure improved continuously from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-38.5 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	1,990,439	2,003,204	2,087,558	2,108,533	Child maltreatment victims	9,851	9,222	8,727	8,514
Race/ethnicity (%) ¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	9,182	9,494	9,794	10,666
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	Children adopted	814	732	832	1,028
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	6.1					
Asian/Pacific Islander	6.0	6.3	5.9	N/A					
Black	15.9	15.9	15.6	15.9					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	15.5	15.8	16.2	16.8					
White	62.4	61.8	59.4	59.3					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.3	1.8					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.3	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	15.0	10.1	10.9	9.6					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	Number				Rate			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	75,988	74,585	69,305	70,733	38.2 per 1,000	37.2 per 1,000	33.2 per 1,000	33.8 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	9,851	9,222	8,727	8,514	4.9 per 1,000	4.6 per 1,000	4.2 per 1,000	4.1 per 1,000
Child fatalities	29	29	25	24	1.5 per 100,000	1.4 per 100,000	1.2 per 100,000	1.2 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.5	2.4	15.6	15.2	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1
1-5 years	30.1	30.6	26.6	26.2	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.9
6-10 years	33.8	33.1	29.6	29.7	Black	49.6	47.2	44.1	45.4
11-15 years	23.1	24.2	22.4	23.4	Hispanic	13.7	15.3	5.5	5.6
16+ years	7.6	7.3	5.5	5.5	White	33.5	33.6	36.0	33.3
Unknown	2.9	2.5	0.3	0.0	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	15.9	18.2	13.3	14.7
Number	9,851	9,222	8,727	8,514	Total % ³	113.7	115.3	100.0	100.0
					Number	9,851	9,222	8,727	8,514

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		2.9	2.8	3.3	2.8
Medical neglect		3.4	3.2	14.4	14.1
Neglect		63.2	62.7	52.8	52.4
Physical abuse		22.5	23.3	24.9	25.3
Sexual abuse		8.0	8.0	8.7	8.8
Other		—	—	—	—
Unknown		—	—	0.1	0.2
Total % ⁴		100.0	104.1	103.5	
Number		9,851	9,222	8,727	8,514

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	8,672	4,747	4,246	9,182	13,419
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	8,894	4,768	4,178	9,494	13,662
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	9,241	4,654	4,109	9,794	13,895
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	9,835	5,433	4,607	10,666	15,268
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	20.1	N/A	11.7	19.8	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	20.0	N/A	11.7	20.3	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	20.5	N/A	12.6	20.8	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	20.5	N/A	13.1	19.2	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	7.6	7.5	6.7	6.4	21.4	20.2	20.9	21.8	6.3	6.7	6.0	6.3	7.5	6.5	6.3	7.4
1-5 years	32.1	32.1	31.2	31.2	21.2	20.9	21.0	21.0	26.2	27.3	26.0	27.3	32.2	31.4	31.3	30.0
6-10 years	23.2	23.3	24.5	24.6	16.4	18.3	17.6	19.1	18.1	17.8	18.1	20.4	22.9	24.0	24.1	23.8
11-15 years	23.2	23.8	24.0	25.1	28.2	27.8	27.6	26.5	23.0	22.7	22.7	21.9	24.1	24.4	25.3	25.6
16-18 years	13.2	12.7	12.9	12.1	12.6	12.7	12.7	11.4	24.2	23.0	24.2	21.9	12.9	13.1	12.6	12.6
19+ years	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	2.0	2.1	2.6	2.0	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.6
Unknown	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	—	0.0	—	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	8,672	8,894	9,241	9,835	4,747	4,768	4,654	5,433	4,246	4,178	4,109	4,607	9,182	9,494	9,794	10,666

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵																
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.1	—	—	0.2	0.4	—	—	0.4	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.3
Asian/Pacific	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.4	0.2	—	—	0.5	0.3	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—
Black	65.3	64.9	63.2	63.1	55.9	55.6	53.3	54.4	57.5	56.7	53.2	55.0	64.1	63.8	62.7	62.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0
Hispanic	10.1	9.3	8.3	7.6	8.5	7.8	7.6	6.2	9.8	9.5	9.0	7.7	9.4	8.4	7.6	6.8
White	21.5	21.6	22.4	22.2	27.7	28.5	28.0	28.1	27.4	26.8	28.5	27.2	22.0	22.8	22.5	23.1
Two or more races	—	—	1.3	1.5	—	0.0	1.3	1.1	—	—	1.5	1.4	—	0.0	1.2	1.4
Unknown	2.5	3.5	4.3	5.0	7.1	7.6	9.1	9.6	4.7	6.2	7.0	8.2	3.9	4.4	5.4	6.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	8,672	8,894	9,241	9,835	4,747	4,768	4,654	5,433	4,246	4,178	4,109	4,607	9,182	9,494	9,794	10,666

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	3,908	4,427	5,032	5,618
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	2,900	3,655	4,129	4,905
Age of Waiting Children (%) 1998 1999 2000 2001				
Under 1 year	4.6	3.8	3.9	6.1
1-5 years	42.2	41.4	39.9	39.4
6-10 years	28.3	29.8	29.7	28.6
11-15 years	18.3	18.3	20.3	19.9
16+ years	5.8	5.8	5.0	5.2
Unknown	0.7	1.1	1.2	0.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,908	4,427	5,032	5,618

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.3
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.2	0.2	—	—
Black	69.9	70.6	68.7	67.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	0.0
Hispanic	8.9	8.0	7.4	6.8
White	18.3	18.0	17.9	18.4
Two or more races	—	0.0	1.6	1.9
Unknown	2.4	2.8	3.8	4.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,908	4,427	5,032	5,618

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.5	1.0	0.7	1.0
1-5 years	55.0	58.5	57.6	56.5
6-10 years	32.6	29.5	29.9	30.1
11-15 years	10.4	10.4	10.1	11.6
16+ years	0.5	0.7	1.7	0.9
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	814	732	832	1,028

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.5
Asian	—	—	—	0.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.3	—	—
Black	69.4	65.3	65.5	66.1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	9.0	9.0	6.7	6.6
White	20.6	22.3	22.2	20.9
Two or more races	—	0.3	3.0	2.0
Unknown	0.9	2.5	2.0	3.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	814	732	832	1,028

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

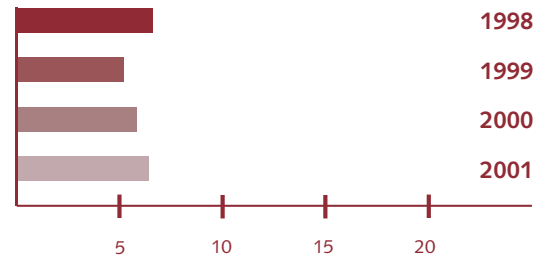
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment

Within 6 Months (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	93.4	94.8	94.2	93.6
Children with one or more recurrences	6.6	5.2	5.8	6.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6,633	4,514	4,335	4,347

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



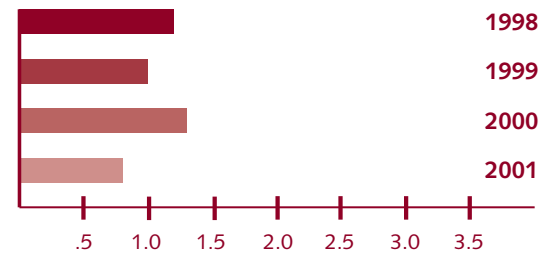
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	1.20	1.02	1.31	0.78
Children not maltreated while in foster care	98.80	98.98	98.69	99.22
Total %	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	12,617	12,726	12,997	14,294

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



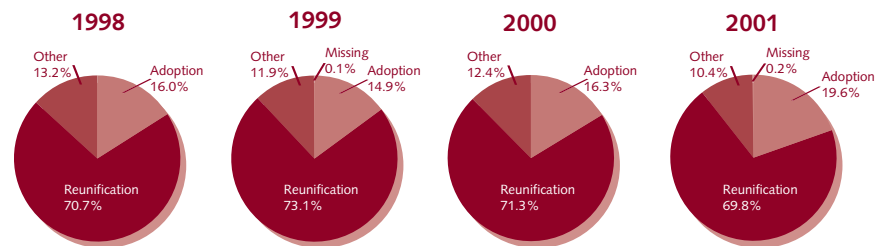
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	16.0	14.9	16.3	19.6
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	70.7	73.1	71.3	69.8
Other	13.2	11.9	12.4	10.4
Missing data	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,246	4,178	4,109	4,607

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	34.7	31.0	30.9	39.1
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	50.4	56.5	52.4	50.3
Other	14.9	12.5	16.8	10.5
Missing data	—	—	—	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	845	768	758	867

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.2	—	0.4	0.2
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	71.7	73.3	73.1	74.2
Other	28.0	26.4	26.6	25.3
Missing data	0.1	0.3	—	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,426	1,388	1,408	1,394

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	31.1	30.1	30.0	28.0
Children older than 12 at entry	68.9	69.3	70.0	71.6
Missing data	—	0.6	—	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	334	309	307	289

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

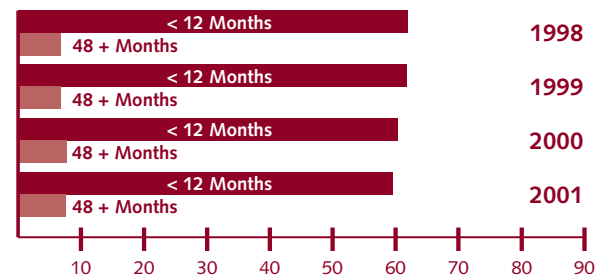
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	13.6	10.5	33.3	—	—	—	14.3	—	7.1	—	—	19.1	17.2	19.2	22.3	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	60.0	77.3	84.2	66.7	—	—	93.3	71.4	63.2	64.3	—	—	68.5	70.4	68.3	67.0	—	—	—	—
Other	40.0	9.1	5.3	—	—	—	6.7	14.3	36.8	28.6	—	—	12.4	12.3	12.5	10.5	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.3	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	5	22	19	15	—	—	15	7	19	14	—	—	2,440	2,371	2,186	2,533	—	—	—	—

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	12.9	12.9	11.4	16.0	13.3	12.8	14.8	16.8	2.0	5.8	4.5	10.5	—	—	32.3	36.9	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	68.4	71.4	74.3	73.3	73.4	76.2	72.2	71.1	88.9	87.2	87.1	82.1	—	—	59.7	61.5	—	—	—	—
Other	18.7	15.7	14.3	10.7	13.3	10.9	13.0	11.9	9.0	7.0	8.4	7.1	—	—	8.1	1.5	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	0.2	—	—	—	0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	418	395	370	356	1,165	1,119	1,170	1,251	199	257	287	380	—	—	62	65	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

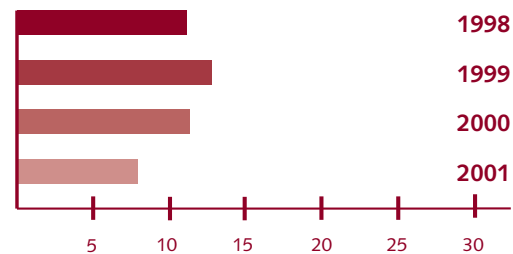
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	61.8	61.7	60.3	59.5
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	17.0	18.6	18.9	17.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	8.1	8.1	7.4	8.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	4.0	3.5	3.6	4.0
48 or more mos.	6.8	6.8	7.7	7.6
Missing data	2.3	1.2	2.1	3.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,004	3,053	2,929	3,215

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	77.6	77.2	77.1	81.6
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	11.1	12.7	11.3	7.9
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	9.6	8.8	9.9	8.4
Missing data	1.8	1.3	1.7	2.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,747	4,768	4,654	5,433

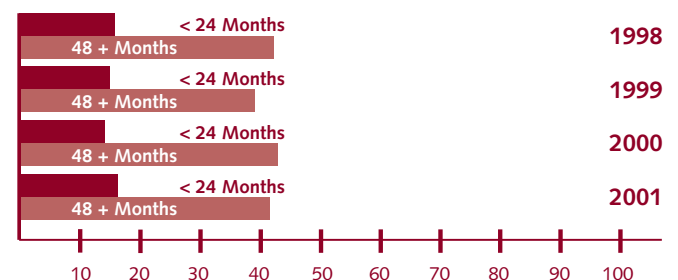
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	5.4	3.5	3.3	3.7
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	10.5	11.6	11.0	12.7
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	17.5	19.0	19.0	20.8
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	23.0	24.5	22.1	20.3
48 or more mos.	42.4	39.1	43.0	41.6
Missing data	1.2	2.3	1.6	1.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	679	621	670	901

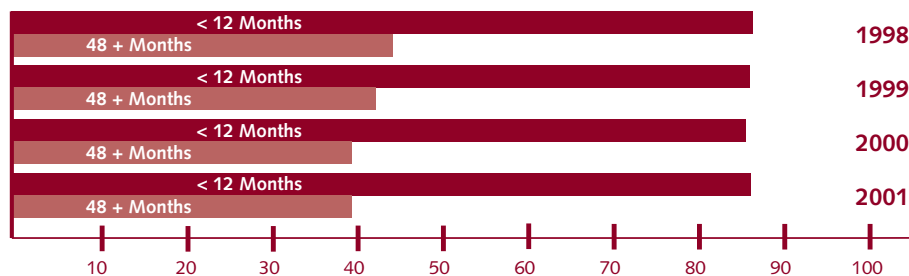
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	86.5	12.4	1.1	100.0	5,300
	1999	86.1	12.1	1.8	100.0	5,403
	2000	85.6	12.5	1.9	100.0	5,286
	2001	86.2	12.1	1.7	100.0	5,995
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	67.5	30.1	2.5	100.0	2,628
	1999	69.7	28.3	2.0	100.0	2,636
	2000	67.3	29.6	3.1	100.0	2,739
	2001	68.6	29.0	2.4	100.0	2,975
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	59.5	38.1	2.4	100.0	1,692
	1999	60.6	36.6	2.8	100.0	1,809
	2000	59.8	37.5	2.7	100.0	1,759
	2001	59.3	36.8	3.9	100.0	1,932
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	53.3	42.5	4.1	100.0	1,329
	1999	53.4	43.6	3.0	100.0	1,213
	2000	54.6	42.2	3.2	100.0	1,328
	2001	53.9	43.9	2.3	100.0	1,327
48 or more mos.	1998	44.4	53.7	1.9	100.0	2,388
	1999	42.5	55.0	2.5	100.0	2,538
	2000	39.6	58.1	2.4	100.0	2,713
	2001	39.7	57.7	2.6	100.0	2,927
Missing data	1998	91.5	—	8.5	100.0	82
	1999	93.7	1.6	4.8	100.0	63
	2000	97.1	—	2.9	100.0	70
	2001	96.4	0.9	2.7	100.0	112

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	7.0	4.9	4.1	4.5
Institutions	7.7	7.4	7.2	5.5
Other settings	84.4	86.9	88.3	89.2
Missing	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,082	3,082	3,018	3,694

**Doris Jones, Acting Director
Division of Youth and Family Services
New Jersey Department of Human Services
609-292-6920**

New Jersey's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

We are pleased to note the database counts, from which the statistics are derived, are well within acceptable limits and correspond to our data; therefore we have no additional comments to submit.

New Jersey

[FEDERAL COMMENT]

At the time of preparation of this report, the New Jersey Child and Family Service Review had not been conducted. States are not accountable for meeting national standards until the time of their review.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	504,210	495,612	508,574	501,239	Child maltreatment victims	4,241	3,730	6,288	6,929
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	821	1,941	1,912	1,757
Alaska Native/American Indian	11.8	11.9	11.7	11.7	Children adopted	197	258	347	369
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.0					
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.2	1.2	0.9	N/A					
Black	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.9					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	48.4	49.2	50.9	50.8					
White	36.9	36.0	32.5	32.9					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.1	1.6					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	30.7	29.7	24.9	25.4					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	49.6	56.4	54.1	56.8					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	1998	Rate			2001
		1999	2000	2001			1999	2000		
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	13,403	12,084	20,956	23,314	26.6 per 1,000	24.4 per 1,000	41.2 per 1,000	45.6 per 1,000		
Child maltreatment victims ²	4,241	3,730	6,288	6,929	8.4 per 1,000	7.5 per 1,000	12.4 per 1,000	13.6 per 1,000		
Child fatalities	5	7	6		1.0 per 100,000	1.4 per 100,000	1.2 per 100,000	— per 100,000		

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	5.5	7.5	8.0	Alaska Native/American Indian	—	8.6	10.4	10.5
1-5 years	—	23.0	25.6	25.7	Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.7	0.3	0.2
6-10 years	—	31.1	30.4	30.8	Black	—	3.7	3.0	3.1
11-15 years	—	27.1	25.5	24.0	Hispanic	—	45.9	48.2	46.5
16+ years	—	9.0	4.8	4.9	White	—	75.7	30.4	29.1
Unknown	—	4.3	6.1	6.5	Two or more races	—	—	1.5	1.7
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	—	11.2	6.2	8.9
Number	—	3,730	6,288	6,929	Total % ³	—	145.9	100.0	100.0
					Number	—	3,730	6,288	6,929

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		13.7	16.5	6.6	6.9
Medical neglect		2.7	2.8	2.3	2.0
Neglect		52.3	52.4	63.4	64.5
Physical abuse		24.9	22.3	33.5	32.1
Sexual abuse		6.3	6.0	6.0	6.6
Other		0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Unknown		—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴		100.0	100.0	112.0	112.2
Number		4,241	3,730	6,288	6,929

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	470	1,480	1,137	821	1,950
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	1,761	1,829	1,691	1,941	3,590
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	1,731	1,780	1,716	1,912	3,511
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	1,613	1,887	1,754	1,757	3,500
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	2.1	N/A	0.3	6.9	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	14.0	N/A	1.0	18.4	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	18.2	N/A	1.2	17.5	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	16.5	N/A	0.2	15.7	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	5.3	4.3	4.2	4.0	11.4	11.8	11.5	11.8	8.6	6.6	6.9	6.9	6.7	4.1	4.0	4.2
1-5 years	29.6	31.4	27.7	24.7	32.9	33.7	31.0	33.0	31.9	35.8	33.4	32.8	32.9	28.1	25.1	26.2
6-10 years	33.8	30.6	31.5	30.8	26.8	28.1	28.2	27.9	27.4	30.0	29.5	32.3	30.5	30.9	30.1	26.5
11-15 years	23.8	26.3	28.2	30.2	23.2	21.3	24.0	22.6	24.1	20.7	23.4	21.7	23.1	26.5	28.2	29.6
16-18 years	7.2	7.4	8.4	10.3	5.7	5.1	5.3	4.7	7.9	6.9	6.8	6.2	6.7	10.4	12.6	13.5
19+ years	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	470	1,761	1,731	1,613	1,480	1,829	1,780	1,887	1,137	1,691	1,716	1,754	821	1,941	1,912	1,757

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	7.2	5.7	6.5	7.4	12.0	13.5	9.7	16.1	14.6	14.8	10.8	14.9	5.5	6.5	6.6	9.2
Asian	—	—	0.3	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.4	—	—	0.1	0.5	—	—	0.3	0.1
Asian/Pacific	—	0.3	—	—	0.2	0.4	—	—	0.3	0.4	—	—	—	0.3	—	—
Black	6.2	8.0	7.7	7.3	5.9	4.2	4.8	3.2	4.3	4.4	5.5	3.2	8.2	7.4	6.5	6.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.1
Hispanic	55.1	56.3	55.2	53.8	44.9	48.3	49.3	47.0	41.0	46.4	48.7	45.7	56.4	56.6	54.7	54.5
White	31.3	29.4	28.9	29.6	28.5	31.3	32.6	27.9	30.0	32.3	31.4	30.8	28.0	28.1	30.2	26.6
Two or more races	—	0.3	1.0	1.6	—	1.0	2.2	2.9	—	0.5	1.8	2.3	—	0.8	1.5	2.2
Unknown	0.2	—	0.3	0.1	8.6	1.3	1.1	2.3	9.9	1.1	1.6	2.2	2.0	0.3	0.2	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	470	1,761	1,731	1,613	1,480	1,829	1,780	1,887	1,137	1,691	1,716	1,754	821	1,941	1,912	1,757

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	120	878	822	668
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	18	53	22	14
Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	5.0	1.7	1.8	2.0
1-5 years	33.3	32.0	30.7	28.7
6-10 years	36.7	41.8	37.1	37.6
11-15 years	23.3	23.2	28.8	29.8
16+ years	1.7	1.3	1.6	1.8
Unknown	—	—	—	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	120	878	822	668

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	2.5	5.9	6.1	7.0
Asian	—	—	0.2	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.2	—	—
Black	5.0	8.5	7.9	8.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	69.2	58.5	56.2	57.2
White	23.3	26.2	28.0	24.6
Two or more races	—	0.6	1.6	2.5
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	120	878	822	668

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.0	1.2	1.4	0.5
1-5 years	41.1	32.9	46.7	37.4
6-10 years	36.0	46.1	38.0	42.5
11-15 years	17.8	17.1	13.5	16.8
16+ years	2.5	2.7	0.3	2.7
Unknown	0.5	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	197	258	347	369

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	3.0	—	0.6	3.5
Asian	—	—	3.7	0.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	4.1	—	4.3	5.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.3	—
Hispanic	47.7	54.3	59.1	55.8
White	42.1	45.7	30.3	33.6
Two or more races	—	—	1.7	1.1
Unknown	3.0	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	197	258	347	369

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

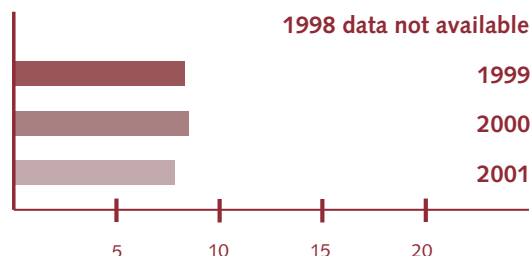
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	91.7	91.5	92.3
Children with one or more recurrences	—	8.3	8.5	7.8
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	915	2,986	2,891

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



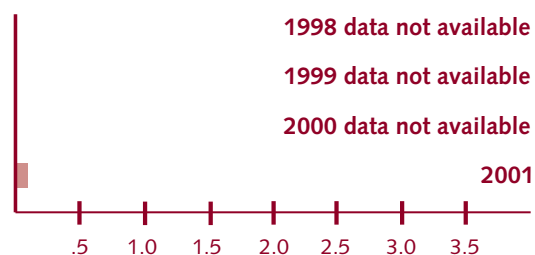
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	0.06
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	99.94
Total %	—	—	—	100.00
Number	—	—	—	3,083

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



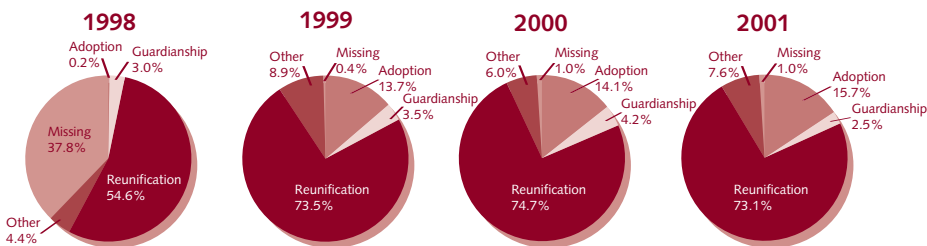
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.2	13.7	14.1	15.7
Guardianship	3.0	3.5	4.2	2.5
Reunification	54.6	73.5	74.7	73.1
Other	4.4	8.9	6.0	7.6
Missing data	37.8	0.4	1.0	1.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,137	1,691	1,716	1,754

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	21.0	21.1	30.8
Guardianship	1.3	1.0	3.0	4.8
Reunification	30.8	67.6	69.9	54.8
Other	11.5	9.5	6.0	5.8
Missing data	56.4	1.0	—	3.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	78	105	133	104

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	5.2	1.8	1.9
Guardianship	1.7	1.4	3.5	3.0
Reunification	48.0	69.2	77.1	76.3
Other	7.4	23.5	16.9	17.4
Missing data	42.8	0.7	0.7	1.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	229	289	284	270

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	—	—	—	—
Children older than 12 at entry	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6	22	26	13

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander				
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Adoption	—	3.2	8.6	6.5	—	—	—	11.1	—	—	—	—	—	28.4	18.9	28.1	—	—	—	—	
Guardianship	3.6	4.4	3.8	1.9	—	—	—	—	—	14.3	—	—	—	1.4	4.2	—	—	—	—	—	
Reunification	51.2	66.0	65.9	69.1	—	—	50.0	77.8	100.0	85.7	—	—	—	51.0	66.2	68.4	66.7	—	—	100.0	100.0
Other	12.7	26.0	21.1	22.5	—	—	50.0	11.1	—	—	—	—	—	2.0	4.1	8.4	5.3	—	—	—	—
Missing data	32.5	0.4	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	46.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	166	250	185	262	—	—	2	9	3	7	—	—	—	49	74	95	57	—	—	1	3

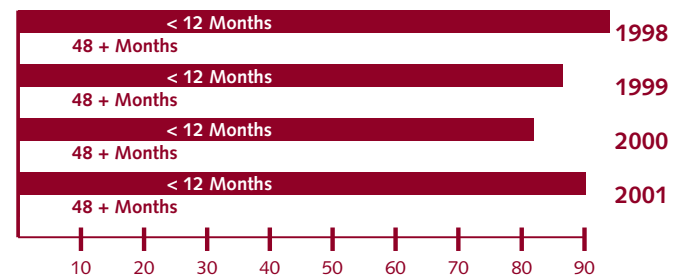
	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data				
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Adoption	0.4	18.2	16.0	19.7	—	11.0	13.8	14.6	—	—	—	2.6	—	—	—	9.8	—	—	—	—	
Guardianship	5.4	3.7	4.7	3.0	0.9	3.1	4.1	2.4	—	—	—	5.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Reunification	50.6	71.8	74.6	73.1	57.8	79.0	77.0	75.6	60.0	92.9	100.0	78.9	—	100.0	87.1	68.3	76.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Other	2.4	5.6	3.9	3.1	5.0	6.9	3.3	6.5	—	7.1	—	13.2	—	—	12.9	14.6	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	41.2	0.6	0.7	1.1	36.4	—	1.9	0.9	40.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.3	23.4	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	466	785	836	802	341	547	538	541	65	14	25	38	—	9	31	41	47	5	3	1	1

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	94.0	86.4	81.8	90.1
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	0.2	9.5	5.5	5.7
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	0.2	0.2	2.0	0.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	—	0.2	0.5
48 or more mos.	—	—	0.1	0.2
Missing data	5.6	3.9	10.4	3.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	621	1,243	1,282	1,283

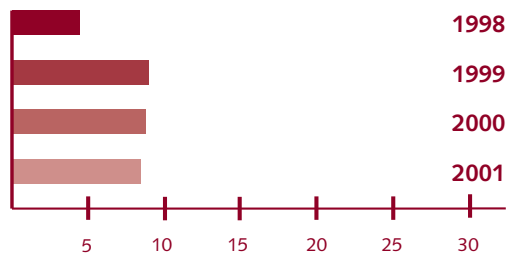
Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	90.8	88.6	86.9	86.1
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	4.4	8.9	8.7	8.4
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	0.1	1.0	2.2	4.7
Missing data	4.7	1.5	2.2	0.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,480	1,829	1,780	1,887

Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months

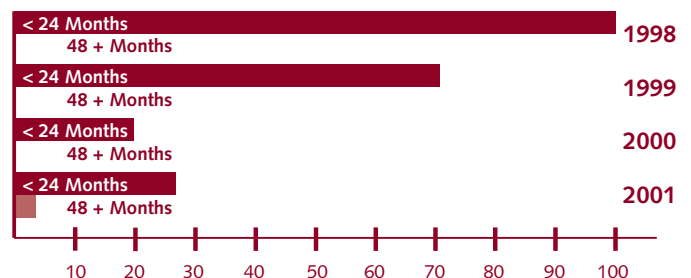


5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	2.2	2.9	1.4
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	100.0	68.5	16.9	25.4
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	26.7	67.4	32.6
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	—	6.6	33.7
48 or more mos.	—	—	—	3.6
Missing data	—	2.6	6.2	3.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2	232	242	276

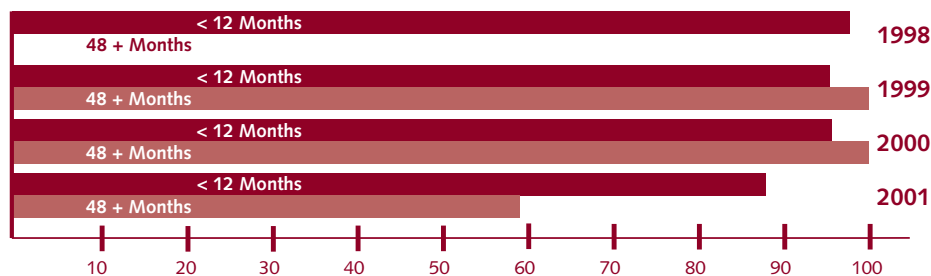
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	97.7	2.3	—	100.0	1,589
	1999	95.4	4.6	—	100.0	1,958
	2000	95.6	4.4	—	100.0	1,946
	2001	88.0	12.0	—	100.0	2,001
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	96.7	3.3	—	100.0	305
	1999	99.7	0.3	—	100.0	744
	2000	99.6	0.4	—	100.0	478
	2001	58.0	42.0	—	100.0	579
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	100.0	—	—	100.0	1
	1999	99.5	0.5	—	100.0	842
	2000	99.8	0.2	—	100.0	522
	2001	43.3	56.7	—	100.0	305
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	—	—	—	—	—
	2000	99.8	0.2	—	100.0	513
	2001	44.7	55.3	—	100.0	264
48 or more mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	1
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	1
	2001	59.3	40.7	—	100.0	300
Missing data	1998	100.0	—	—	100.0	55
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	45
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	51
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	51

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	13.3	14.2	12.2	15.6
Institutions	2.3	1.7	2.1	3.2
Other settings	84.3	84.1	85.8	81.2
Missing	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,193	1,481	1,411	1,567

New Mexico

[STATE COMMENT]

The following discussion focuses on New Mexico's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. New Mexico's Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2001, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 1999. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for New Mexico's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was 7.8 percent, which is higher than the national standard of 6.1 percent or less, but lower than the national median of 8.0 percent. Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that the reported rate of maltreatment recurrence may be less than the actual rate because maltreatment reports on families with open child welfare case are not always investigated as new reports. New Mexico's reported rate of recurrence of child abuse and/or neglect declined from 1999 to 2001 (-7.2 percent change).

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.06 percent, which is lower than both the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and the national median of 0.47 percent. Change in performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because New Mexico did not provide 1999 data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) to calculate this measure.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 91.3 percent of children exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 85.3 percent); 90.4 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 78.4 percent); and 81.2 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 when they entered care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 72.3 percent). New Mexico's performance regarding the percentage of children exiting foster care who were discharged to permanent homes and the percentage of disabled children who exited foster care to permanent homes did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Performance with regard to the percentage of children who were older than age 12 when they entered foster care and who were discharged to permanent homes improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+7.0 percent change). New Mexico did not provide data pertaining to emancipations.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of children's entry into foster care was 90.1, which exceeds both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. There was no substantive change in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

In FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 8.4, which meets the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is lower than the national median of 10.4 percent. Performance on this measure did not exhibit a substantive change from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 26.8, which does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more, but exceeds the national median of 21.0 percent. However, dramatic changes in the reported time to adoption between FY 1999 and FY 2001 (-62.1 percent change) indicate that there may be data quality issues for some or all of these years. In addition, the State reported 369 finalized adoptions to the AFCARS Adoption Database for FY 2001, but only 276 exits to finalized adoptions to the AFCARS Foster Care Database.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percent of children experiencing no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 88.0, which exceeds the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and the national median of 83.3 percent. Despite high performance on this measure, performance declined between FY 1999 and FY 2001 (-7.8 percent change).

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 18.8, which is higher than the national median of 8.7 percent. New Mexico's performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+18.6 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	4,502,611	4,440,924	4,690,107	4,634,371	Child maltreatment victims	83,537	64,045	74,065	77,860
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	53,555	51,159	47,118	43,365
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	Children adopted	4,819	4,864	4,234	3,934
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.4					
Asian/Pacific Islander	5.6	5.8	5.0	N/A					
Black	16.8	16.7	17.8	18.2					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	19.2	19.5	19.0	19.6					
White	58.2	57.8	54.6	54.6					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.6	1.9					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.5	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	26.2	21.8	19.5	20.0					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	90.7	92.2	92.3	90.8					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			1998	Rate		
		1999	2000	2001		1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	240,655	186,002	230,449	251,164	53.4 per 1,000	41.9 per 1,000	49.1 per 1,000	53.7 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	83,537	64,045	74,065	77,860	18.6 per 1,000	14.4 per 1,000	15.8 per 1,000	16.6 per 1,000
Child fatalities	61	79	79	78	1.4 per 100,000	1.8 per 100,000	1.7 per 100,000	1.7 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	5.1	9.1	8.8	Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.2	0.3	0.4
1-5 years	—	26.2	27.4	27.7	Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.1	0.8	0.8
6-10 years	—	29.7	30.6	30.8	Black	—	31.0	32.3	31.3
11-15 years	—	25.3	27.0	27.1	Hispanic	—	18.4	18.0	18.4
16+ years	—	9.2	5.8	5.6	White	—	38.0	41.5	42.2
Unknown	—	4.5	0.1	0.1	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	—	30.7	7.1	6.8
Number	—	64,045	74,065	77,860	Total % ³	—	118.4	100.0	100.0
					Number	—	64,045	74,065	77,860

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional		1.5	1.7	1.1
Medical neglect		5.0	6.2	3.7
Neglect		19.0	23.3	89.5
Physical abuse		21.9	24.8	13.9
Sexual abuse		5.3	5.6	4.1
Other		148.2	182.9	22.8
Unknown		—	—	—
Total % ⁴		200.9	244.6	135.2
Number		83,537	64,045	74,065

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	54,102	19,749	20,324	53,555	73,851
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	53,483	18,172	20,497	51,159	71,655
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	50,847	16,605	20,337	47,118	67,452
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	46,932	15,135	18,703	43,365	62,067
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	32.1	N/A	20.9	28.6	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	28.7	N/A	22.5	28.3	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	28.6	N/A	22.4	29.9	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	30.3	N/A	23.3	30.9	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.1	15.5	15.4	14.8	14.0	3.3	3.2	3.0	3.1	3.6	3.4	3.2	2.9
1-5 years	27.5	26.7	26.1	25.3	23.9	22.9	22.2	21.8	22.8	21.6	22.1	23.2	26.6	26.1	25.4	24.2
6-10 years	28.2	27.8	27.1	26.1	21.1	21.2	20.0	19.9	24.0	24.6	24.0	23.4	27.8	27.2	26.1	24.7
11-15 years	25.3	25.8	26.6	27.6	32.7	33.7	35.9	36.4	25.8	26.3	26.8	26.8	26.4	27.1	28.1	29.0
16-18 years	12.6	13.1	13.5	14.1	6.7	6.7	7.1	7.9	18.3	18.3	18.2	17.4	12.8	13.2	13.8	14.9
19+ years	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	5.4	5.6	4.8	5.0	2.7	2.9	3.4	4.1
Unknown	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.4	1.2	1.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	54,102	53,483	50,847	46,932	19,749	18,172	16,605	15,135	20,324	20,497	20,337	18,703	53,555	51,159	47,118	43,365

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Asian	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.6	0.8	—	—	0.5	0.5	—	—	0.3	0.4
Asian/Pacific	0.3	0.2	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—	0.4	0.3	—	—	0.2	0.3	—	—
Black	48.8	46.6	44.9	44.6	34.1	33.8	38.8	43.0	41.3	40.1	40.3	40.9	46.2	44.7	44.7	45.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	14.8	15.0	15.3	15.7	13.5	13.6	15.8	19.7	13.6	13.5	14.7	17.0	14.8	15.1	15.7	16.5
White	13.2	13.5	13.9	15.0	21.5	23.2	25.0	27.7	19.7	20.5	20.3	21.5	13.8	14.1	15.1	16.6
Two or more races	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unknown	22.9	24.5	25.4	24.1	30.2	28.6	19.4	8.5	24.7	25.3	23.9	19.8	24.9	25.7	24.0	20.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	54,102	53,483	50,847	46,932	19,749	18,172	16,605	15,135	20,324	20,497	20,337	18,703	53,555	51,159	47,118	43,365

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	17,818	18,762	17,325	14,840
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	13,596	14,707	12,519	8,559
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	0.9	2.4	1.6	0.7
1-5 years	29.6	31.9	31.6	30.0
6-10 years	37.8	35.5	35.3	34.5
11-15 years	27.4	26.4	27.8	30.0
16+ years	3.3	2.8	2.8	3.5
Unknown	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	17,818	18,762	17,325	14,840

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.1	0.2	—	—
Black	51.1	48.7	47.9	48.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	14.0	14.3	14.8	15.3
White	9.9	11.5	11.8	11.2
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	24.9	25.3	25.1	25.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	17,818	18,762	17,325	14,840

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.5
1-5 years	31.7	28.4	31.6	34.2
6-10 years	42.0	41.4	38.1	36.7
11-15 years	21.4	25.3	25.6	24.7
16+ years	4.4	4.7	4.3	3.9
Unknown	—	0.0	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,819	4,864	4,234	3,934

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	—	—
Black	52.1	50.3	46.5	46.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	14.1	13.6	12.5	13.9
White	10.4	10.5	11.8	13.0
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	23.2	25.4	28.9	26.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,819	4,864	4,234	3,934

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

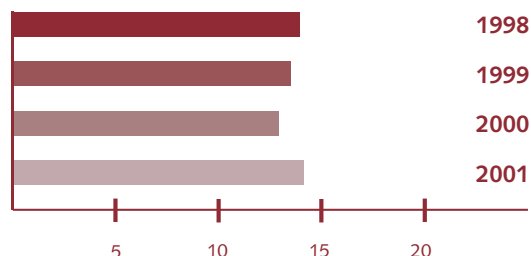
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	86.1	86.5	87.1	85.9
Children with one or more recurrences	13.9	13.5	12.9	14.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	33,579	33,687	32,876	34,768

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



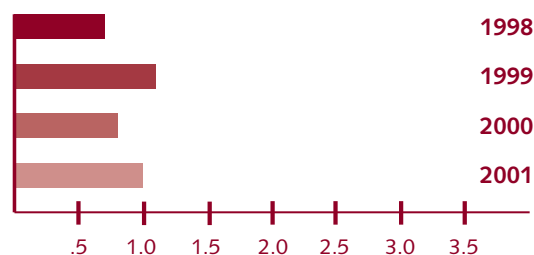
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.70	1.12	0.77	0.98
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.30	98.88	99.23	99.02
Total %	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	69,304	67,155	62,873	57,405

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care

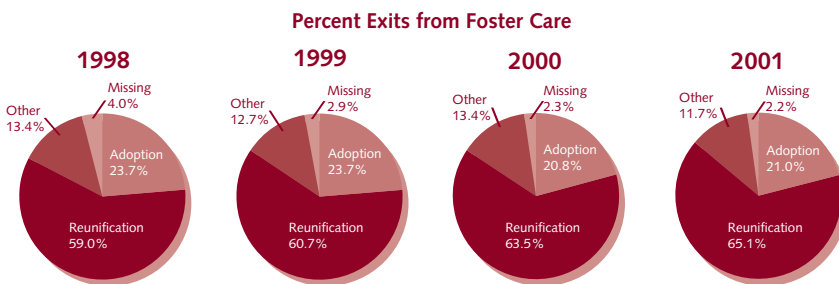


3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	23.7	23.7	20.8	21.0
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	59.0	60.7	63.5	65.1
Other	13.4	12.7	13.4	11.7
Missing data	4.0	2.9	2.3	2.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	20,324	20,497	20,337	18,703



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.7
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	64.9	68.5	66.6	70.9
Other	28.1	27.2	29.4	25.3
Missing data	6.4	4.0	3.5	3.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,890	5,773	5,743	5,275

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	47.5	46.7	46.0	44.6
Children older than 12 at entry	51.9	53.2	53.9	55.4
Missing data	0.6	0.1	0.1	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,491	1,543	1,568	1,324

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

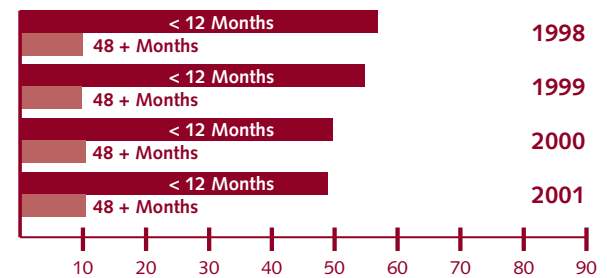
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	2.0	6.1	6.6	10.2	—	—	8.6	5.3	11.2	9.2	—	—	30.6	29.8	24.0	23.8	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	87.8	79.6	86.9	83.1	—	—	74.2	80.9	57.3	73.8	—	—	51.4	53.3	60.1	61.4	—	—	—	—
Other	10.2	8.2	6.6	5.1	—	—	16.1	11.7	28.1	15.4	—	—	14.4	14.0	13.7	12.8	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	6.1	—	1.7	—	—	1.1	2.1	3.4	1.5	—	—	3.6	2.9	2.2	2.0	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	49	49	61	59	—	—	93	94	89	65	—	—	8,388	8,212	8,201	7,643	—	—	—	—

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	25.4	23.8	17.8	17.1	12.3	12.1	12.0	12.7	20.6	23.8	25.1	28.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	58.2	60.0	67.5	70.8	70.5	75.5	74.6	75.2	62.7	60.4	56.9	56.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	12.6	12.8	12.0	10.0	12.5	10.1	11.1	10.1	12.7	12.9	15.8	12.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	3.9	3.4	2.6	2.2	4.8	2.2	2.3	2.0	4.0	3.0	2.2	2.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number	2,767	2,777	2,983	3,180	4,005	4,203	4,138	4,029	5,026	5,191	4,861	3,698	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

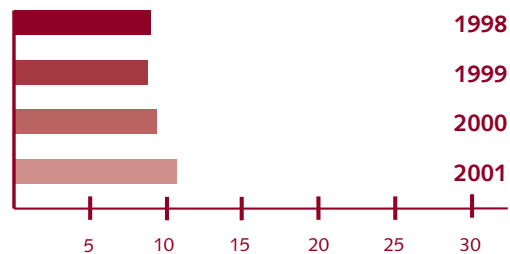
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	56.7	54.7	49.7	48.9
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	19.1	19.9	20.5	20.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	8.0	10.7	11.2	11.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	4.5	4.5	6.6	7.3
48 or more mos.	9.9	9.7	10.4	10.4
Missing data	1.9	0.5	1.6	1.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	11,990	12,439	12,914	12,181

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	78.8	78.8	78.5	76.7
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	8.9	8.7	9.3	10.6
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	12.0	12.5	12.2	12.6
Missing data	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	19,749	18,172	16,605	15,135

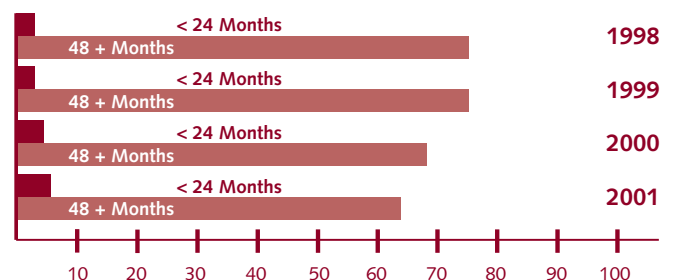
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	0.7	0.5	0.7	1.3
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	2.3	2.5	3.9	4.5
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	8.7	10.1	11.4	12.5
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	12.9	11.7	15.8	17.8
48 or more mos.	75.3	75.2	68.2	64.0
Missing data	0.1	0.0	0.0	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,808	4,860	4,230	3,926

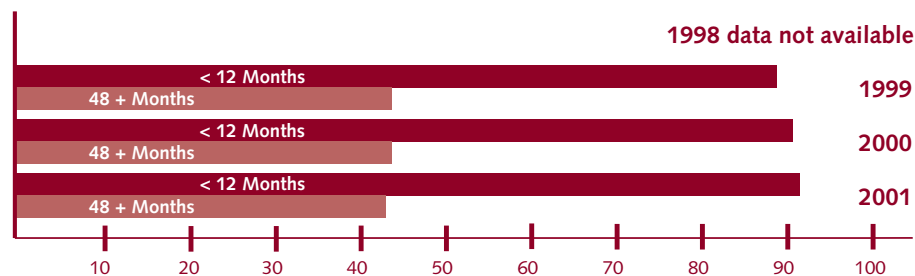
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	88.9	9.7	1.4	100.0	20,348
	2000	90.8	9.2	—	100.0	18,660
	2001	91.6	8.4	—	100.0	17,120
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	74.5	25.5	—	100.0	12,833
	2000	75.5	24.0	0.5	100.0	11,607
	2001	75.3	24.1	0.6	100.0	10,360
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	65.5	34.5	—	100.0	9,435
	2000	65.3	33.5	1.2	100.0	9,426
	2001	66.7	31.9	1.4	100.0	8,097
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	57.9	42.1	—	100.0	6,697
	2000	58.5	40.1	1.4	100.0	7,071
	2001	59.3	39.1	1.7	100.0	6,896
48 or more mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	44.0	56.0	—	100.0	22,197
	2000	44.0	55.1	0.9	100.0	20,419
	2001	43.2	55.6	1.1	100.0	19,354
Missing data	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	93.1	6.9	—	100.0	145
	2000	96.3	3.7	—	100.0	269
	2001	95.8	4.2	—	100.0	240

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.6
Institutions	5.5	5.8	6.3	7.1
Other settings	93.0	92.5	92.2	91.2
Missing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	13,456	12,251	10,791	9,699

**William F. Baccaglini, Director
Strategic Planning & Policy Development
New York State Office of Children and Family Services
518-473-1776**

New York's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

New York's SACWIS system, Connections, is partially implemented. Child protective data and facility and resource information are operational. Currently, NCANDS data are being submitted through the SACWIS system; AFCARS data continue to be reported through the legacy systems and are unable to meet some reporting requirements. Significant efforts are being made to support the production of outcome measures until full SACWIS implementation. Data to support the reporting of the outcomes will be enhanced in future submissions. For Outcome Measure 3.2, the SACWIS functionality that supports this reporting is not yet operational.

NYS objects to the use of outcome measures presented in this report to construct national standards for the Child and Family Services Review, against which state performance is judged. Comparisons across states on these outcome measures are invalidated by extensive inter-state variation in the way events and populations are defined and counted, in case volume and composition, and in data quality. In addition, many states concede that the data submitted to support the standards is flawed. OCFS does not believe that the federal measures of "time to reunification" and "time to adoption" will accurately reflect the progress anticipated in New York over the next two years because of the exit cohort methodology used for these measures. Efforts to reduce a backlog of cases in foster care for an extended period can actually increase time to reunification or adoption among exit cohorts because the cohorts discharged after this programmatic shift contain a higher concentration of children who had been in foster care a long time.

The following discussion focuses on New York's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The New York Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2001, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 1999. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for New York's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence in 6 months was 14.1 percent, which is higher than the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and was the highest rate reported nationally. According to information provided in the CFSR Final Report, the State believes that the actual maltreatment recurrence rate is lower than the reported rate because the State's information system records all maltreatment reports as new reports, even if they involve the same incident. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from 1999 to 2001.

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.98 percent, which is higher than the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and the national median of 0.47 percent. Performance on this measure improved from 1999 to 2001 (-13.0 percent change).

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 86.1 percent of children exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes, which exceeds the national median of 85.3 percent. However, only 71.6 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes, which is lower than the national median of 72.3 percent. In addition, 44.6 percent of the children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into care, which is higher than the national median of 28.0 percent. These data suggest that the State is not consistently successful in attaining permanency for children in foster care and ensuring that children do not "grow up" in foster care. There was no substantive change on any of these measures from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of children's entry into foster care was 48.9, which is lower than the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. New York's performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-10.6 percent change).

Also in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 10.6, which is higher than the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and slightly higher than the national median of 10.4 percent. Performance on this measure declined continuously from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+22.7 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 5.8, which does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and is less than the national median of 21.0 percent. New York exhibited improvement in performance from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+94.3 percent change).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 91.6, which exceeds both the national median of 83.3 percent and the national standard of 86.7 percent or more. New York's performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 8.7, which is equal to the national median. Performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+17.2 percent change).

North Carolina

[CONTEXT DATA]

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	1,919,774	1,940,947	1,964,047	2,028,146	Child maltreatment victims	37,357	36,976	36,186	36,601
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	11,314	11,339	10,847	10,130
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.4	Children adopted	882	949	1,337	1,327
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.7					
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.6	1.7	1.6	N/A					
Black	26.6	26.4	26.2	26.1					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	3.3	3.6	6.1	6.5					
White	66.8	66.6	62.5	62.6					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	1.8	1.6					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.3	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	16.9	18.5	18.5	16.4					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	72.8	76.5	67.9	72.3					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			1998	Rate		
		1999	2000	2001		1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	125,862	127,522	123,043	122,354	65.6 per 1,000	65.7 per 1,000	62.6 per 1,000	61.5 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	37,357	36,976	36,186	36,601	19.5 per 1,000	19.1 per 1,000	18.4 per 1,000	18.4 per 1,000
Child fatalities	23	21	0	0	1.2 per 100,000	1.1 per 100,000	— per 100,000	— per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	7.1	1.7	9.5	9.4	Alaska Native/American Indian	2.3	2.4	1.9	1.7
1-5 years	35.5	32.8	32.5	33.2	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.8	1.1	0.7	0.9
6-10 years	29.8	32.4	31.7	30.4	Black	39.1	37.9	36.6	36.2
11-15 years	19.5	24.5	23.0	23.3	Hispanic	7.0	6.9	8.2	7.9
16+ years	8.1	8.5	3.4	3.7	White	56.2	57.1	51.8	52.2
Unknown	—	—	0.0	0.0	Two or more races	—	—	0.7	0.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	1.6	1.5	0.2	0.3
Number	37,357	36,976	36,186	36,601	Total % ³	107.0	106.9	100.0	100.0
					Number	37,357	36,976	36,186	36,601

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional		0.4	0.3	0.3
Medical neglect		2.6	2.5	2.1
Neglect		87.2	87.8	89.9
Physical abuse		3.9	3.6	3.9
Sexual abuse		4.1	3.7	3.5
Other		1.8	2.1	0.4
Unknown		—	—	—
Total % ⁴		100.0	100.0	100.0
Number		37,357	36,976	36,186

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	9,843	5,464	3,993	11,314	15,307
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	10,265	5,391	4,317	11,339	15,656
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	9,870	5,458	4,481	10,847	15,328
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	10,068	5,301	5,239	10,130	15,369
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	16.1	N/A	13.4	16.3	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	16.9	N/A	13.0	17.9	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	17.7	N/A	14.9	16.4	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	16.5	N/A	14.7	16.3	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	4.6	4.6	4.3	5.1	14.9	15.1	16.0	15.4	3.9	4.7	4.2	3.8	4.5	4.3	5.1	5.0
1-5 years	27.6	27.1	26.5	25.6	28.9	26.5	25.7	28.3	30.0	29.3	29.7	30.9	27.5	26.3	25.8	26.3
6-10 years	26.8	26.4	26.5	25.0	23.7	24.2	23.3	23.4	25.1	24.2	25.0	24.7	26.5	26.3	24.8	23.5
11-15 years	29.0	29.5	29.9	31.0	27.6	29.2	29.6	26.8	21.6	24.6	23.2	23.8	28.8	29.4	30.6	30.3
16-18 years	11.5	11.5	12.1	12.5	4.8	4.9	5.3	5.9	18.3	15.9	16.8	15.7	11.8	12.9	12.9	13.9
19+ years	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.0	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8
Unknown	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	9,843	10,265	9,870	10,068	5,464	5,391	5,458	5,301	3,993	4,317	4,481	5,239	11,314	11,339	10,847	10,130

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	1.7	1.5	1.9	2.3	1.9	2.6	3.5	2.6	2.7	2.4	3.0	3.2	1.5	1.7	2.3	2.0
Asian	—	—	0.3	0.2	—	—	0.3	0.4	—	—	0.4	0.2	—	—	0.2	0.3
Asian/Pacific	0.2	0.3	—	—	0.5	0.3	—	—	0.5	0.4	—	—	0.3	0.2	—	—
Black	54.3	53.1	50.9	49.3	43.9	41.6	41.5	38.7	45.4	45.1	43.8	43.5	52.4	50.7	49.1	46.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.2	0.3	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.2
Hispanic	4.7	5.6	6.2	5.6	8.0	7.9	6.5	8.8	6.3	6.6	7.6	7.6	5.8	6.3	5.8	6.2
White	38.5	39.2	39.9	41.2	45.4	47.1	46.8	47.5	44.5	45.2	44.3	44.2	39.7	40.7	41.6	42.9
Two or more races	—	—	0.5	1.0	—	0.0	1.2	1.7	—	—	0.4	0.9	—	0.0	0.9	1.4
Unknown	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	9,843	10,265	9,870	10,068	5,464	5,391	5,458	5,301	3,993	4,317	4,481	5,239	11,314	11,339	10,847	10,130

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	4,298	3,603	3,715	3,337
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	2,486	1,757	2,134	2,047
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	4.9	2.7	2.8	2.7
1-5 years	35.2	31.1	29.7	27.8
6-10 years	33.1	33.9	31.9	29.5
11-15 years	22.5	26.3	28.5	31.8
16+ years	3.9	5.1	6.6	7.7
Unknown	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,298	3,603	3,715	3,337

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.5
Asian	—	—	0.3	0.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.1	0.1	—	—
Black	53.8	53.5	53.9	52.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.1	0.1
Hispanic	5.4	5.9	5.7	5.1
White	38.9	38.5	37.1	39.1
Two or more races	—	—	1.0	1.6
Unknown	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,298	3,603	3,715	3,337

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	4.3	3.8	4.0	4.0
1-5 years	44.0	46.4	44.9	45.4
6-10 years	33.3	32.0	33.5	29.8
11-15 years	15.6	16.2	15.3	17.6
16+ years	2.7	1.6	2.2	2.7
Unknown	—	—	0.1	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	882	949	1,337	1,327

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	1.4	0.6	1.2	1.9
Asian	—	—	0.5	0.5
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.8	0.5	—	—
Black	54.2	51.6	44.9	48.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	0.2
Hispanic	2.8	4.1	6.7	5.7
White	40.1	41.8	42.9	37.0
Two or more races	—	—	3.1	5.8
Unknown	0.7	1.3	0.7	0.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	882	949	1,337	1,327

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

North Carolina

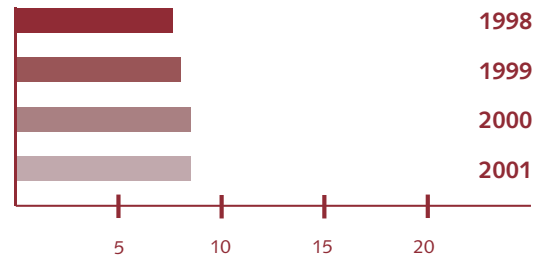
[OUTCOMES DATA]

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	92.4	92.0	91.5	91.5
Children with one or more recurrences	7.6	8.0	8.5	8.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	14,261	14,159	15,841	16,315

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences

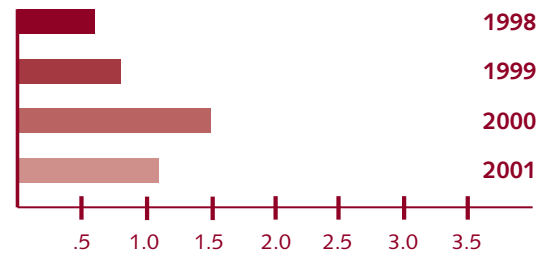


2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.60	0.83	1.52	1.11
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.40	99.17	98.48	98.89
Total %	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	14,316	14,447	14,121	13,986

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care

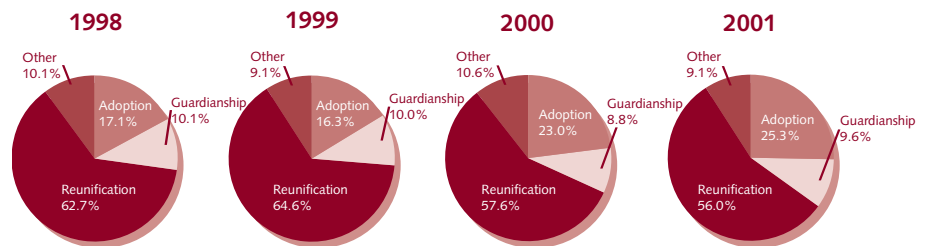


3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	17.1	16.3	23.0	25.3
Guardianship	10.1	10.0	8.8	9.6
Reunification	62.7	64.6	57.6	56.0
Other	10.1	9.1	10.6	9.1
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,993	4,317	4,481	5,239

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	28.2	24.1	27.0	27.8
Guardianship	10.0	8.0	6.8	11.1
Reunification	47.0	53.3	45.8	44.1
Other	14.8	14.7	20.5	17.0
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	642	565	533	583

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	1.4	0.8	0.9	2.4
Guardianship	6.9	7.8	5.7	8.2
Reunification	65.8	70.6	68.7	67.9
Other	25.8	20.8	24.7	21.5
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	972	1,024	1,088	1,193

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	27.3	33.2	28.5	33.8
Children older than 12 at entry	72.7	66.8	71.5	66.2
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	256	244	277	302

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

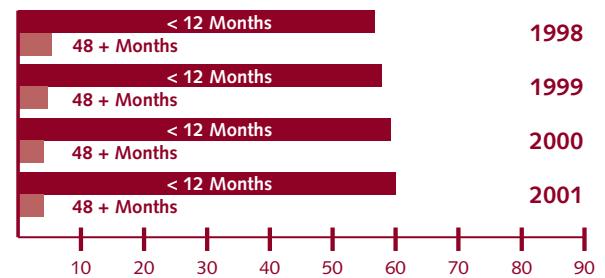
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	9.2	3.8	11.3	19.8	—	—	5.3	36.4	4.8	11.1	—	—	19.4	17.7	24.4	28.5	—	—	—	57.1
Guardianship	20.2	40.4	33.8	29.9	—	—	5.3	9.1	9.5	—	—	—	12.6	10.3	7.9	9.8	—	—	—	14.3
Reunification	67.0	53.8	43.6	46.1	—	—	78.9	54.5	66.7	88.9	—	—	57.6	62.8	55.9	50.8	—	—	75.0	28.6
Other	3.7	1.9	11.3	4.2	—	—	10.5	—	19.0	—	—	—	10.4	9.1	11.9	10.9	—	—	25.0	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	109	104	133	167	—	—	19	11	21	18	—	—	1,813	1,946	1,963	2,277	—	—	4	7

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	10.7	11.6	21.4	23.1	16.3	16.4	22.6	22.4	13.6	23.1	47.1	36.4	—	—	25.0	40.8	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	8.7	10.2	7.0	9.3	7.2	8.2	8.3	8.2	9.1	—	17.6	—	—	—	20.0	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	71.0	71.2	60.7	61.2	66.4	65.7	59.8	61.0	59.1	76.9	17.6	63.6	—	—	50.0	55.1	—	—	—	—
Other	9.5	7.0	10.9	6.5	10.1	9.8	9.3	8.4	18.2	—	17.6	—	—	—	5.0	4.1	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	252	285	341	399	1,776	1,951	1,984	2,318	22	13	17	11	—	—	20	49	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

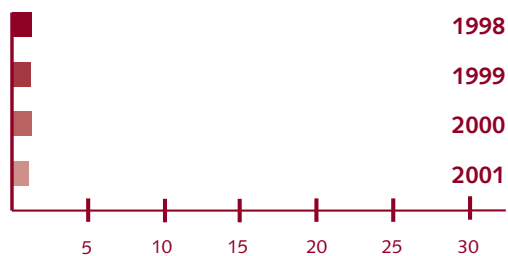
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	56.6	57.7	59.2	60.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	25.4	24.1	23.1	24.5
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	8.9	9.4	9.1	7.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	3.8	3.8	4.3	3.2
48 or more mos.	5.3	4.7	4.0	4.1
Missing data	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,503	2,789	2,579	2,932

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	96.7	97.9	97.5	97.7
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.1
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	2.0	0.9	1.3	1.1
Missing data	—	0.0	—	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,464	5,391	5,458	5,301

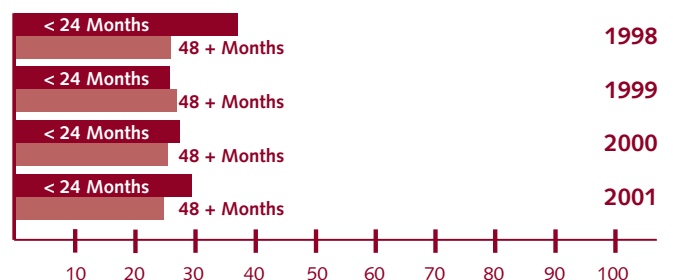
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	14.8	8.5	6.2	5.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	22.3	17.4	21.3	24.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	21.4	28.9	28.1	25.5
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	15.5	18.0	19.0	20.1
48 or more mos.	26.0	27.1	25.5	24.8
Missing data	—	—	—	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	682	705	1,029	1,326

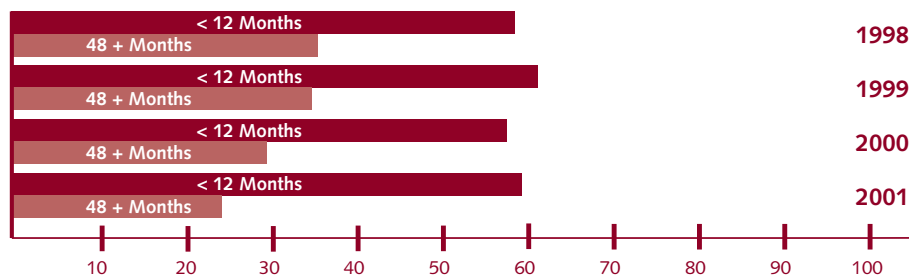
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	58.7	41.3	—	100.0	6,263
	1999	61.3	38.7	—	100.0	6,260
	2000	57.7	42.3	—	100.0	6,312
	2001	59.5	40.5	—	100.0	6,343
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	46.7	53.3	—	100.0	3,631
	1999	41.5	58.5	—	100.0	3,523
	2000	38.9	61.1	—	100.0	3,329
	2001	33.4	66.6	—	100.0	3,548
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	40.7	59.3	—	100.0	1,894
	1999	39.9	60.1	—	100.0	2,205
	2000	30.8	69.2	—	100.0	2,074
	2001	27.6	72.4	—	100.0	1,901
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	40.9	59.1	—	100.0	1,188
	1999	37.8	62.2	—	100.0	1,184
	2000	31.8	68.2	—	100.0	1,287
	2001	23.1	77.0	—	100.0	1,267
48 or more mos.	1998	35.7	64.3	—	100.0	2,306
	1999	35.0	65.0	—	100.0	2,453
	2000	29.7	70.3	—	100.0	2,313
	2001	24.5	75.5	—	100.0	2,287
Missing data	1998	88.0	12.0	—	100.0	25
	1999	80.6	19.4	—	100.0	31
	2000	84.6	15.4	—	100.0	13
	2001	91.3	8.7	—	100.0	23

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	3.0	3.0	3.3	3.0
Institutions	3.3	3.7	3.6	3.0
Other settings	93.6	93.2	93.0	93.9
Missing	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,096	3,950	3,963	3,968

North Carolina

[STATE COMMENT]

Pheon E. Beal, Director
Division of Social Services
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
919-733-3055

North Carolina's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

The data have been reviewed and the outcomes are consistent with what we have reported to the Children's Bureau in our Program Improvement Plan.

The following discussion focuses on North Carolina's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The North Carolina Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2001, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 1999. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for North Carolina's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was 8.5 percent, which is higher than the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and the national median of 8.0 percent. Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that the actual rate of maltreatment recurrence may be higher than the reported rate because maltreatment reports on open child welfare cases are not treated as new reports and subject to an investigation. Performance on this measure declined from 1999 to 2001 (+6.1 percent change).

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 1.11 percent, which is higher than both the national standard of 0.57 percent and the national median of 0.47 percent. Performance on this measure declined from 1999 to 2001 (+33.4 percent change).

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 90.9 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 85.3 percent); 83.0 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 78.4 percent); and 78.5 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 72.3 percent). These findings suggest that the State is generally effective in achieving permanency for children in foster care. However, 33.8 percent of the children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care, which is higher than the national median of 28.0 percent. There was no substantive change on any of the measures of this outcome from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of children's entry into foster care was 60.0, which is less than the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. North Carolina's performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

North Carolina's performance with regard to reunifications occurring within 12 months must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 1.1, which is less than both the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.4 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-6.2 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 29.6, which

does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more, but is higher than the national median of 21.0 percent. North Carolina's performance on this measure improved continuously from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+13.9 percent change).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 59.5, which is lower than both the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and the national median of 83.3 percent. North Carolina's performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children entering foster care who were age 12 and younger and who were placed in a group home or institution was 6.0, which is lower than the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-9.5 percent change).

North Dakota

[CONTEXT DATA]

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	162,611	160,092	160,849	151,223	Child maltreatment victims	—	1,284	1,383	1,359
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	1,170	1,143	1,129	1,167
Alaska Native/American Indian	8.3	8.5	7.8	8.0	Children adopted	111	139	105	145
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.7					
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.2	1.2	0.6	N/A					
Black	0.7	0.8	0.8	1.0					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	1.7	1.8	2.0	2.0					
White	88.1	87.7	86.6	86.4					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.1	1.8					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.1	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	20.1	19.2	15.3	19.5					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	38.0	37.8	42.6	37.8					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			1998	Rate		
		1999	2000	2001		1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	7,098	6,926	6,985	6,963	43.7 per 1,000	43.3 per 1,000	43.4 per 1,000	43.8 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	—	1,284	1,383	1,359	— per 1,000	8.0 per 1,000	8.6 per 1,000	8.5 per 1,000
Child fatalities	0	0	0	1	— per 100,000	— per 100,000	— per 100,000	0.6 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	6.9	6.6	6.0	Alaska Native/American Indian	—	26.2	21.3	21.2
1-5 years	—	26.3	26.8	28.8	Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.2	0.1	0.3
6-10 years	—	33.6	32.8	30.8	Black	—	3.5	3.1	3.8
11-15 years	—	28.0	26.5	26.7	Hispanic	—	3.3	2.0	1.8
16+ years	—	5.3	7.3	7.7	White	—	68.8	73.8	72.0
Unknown	—	—	—	—	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	—	1.2	—	1.0
Number	—	1,284	1,383	1,359	Total % ³	—	103.3	100.3	100.0
					Number	—	1,284	1,383	1,359

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	—	48.3	53.2	52.5
Medical neglect	—	4.3	2.6	1.7
Neglect	—	64.0	61.0	58.3
Physical abuse	—	12.5	18.9	18.4
Sexual abuse	—	7.2	6.5	8.2
Other	—	136.3	—	—
Unknown	—	—	1.4	3.2
Total % ⁴	—	272.6	143.6	142.4
Number	—	1,284	1,383	1,359

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	785	1,056	671	1,170	1,841
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	1,005	965	827	1,143	1,970
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	974	1,006	851	1,129	1,980
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	982	1,013	828	1,167	1,995

Median Length of Stay (Months)

FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	12.8	N/A	7.0	10.8	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	11.1	N/A	8.0	10.8	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	10.9	N/A	6.4	10.8	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	11.0	N/A	7.1	10.2	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	5.2	5.9	5.4	4.2	12.1	13.5	12.0	8.8	3.4	2.5	4.7	3.0	8.5	8.9	6.8	5.4
1-5 years	21.3	13.4	14.4	15.7	11.9	16.4	14.0	16.3	18.3	16.1	14.9	16.8	15.2	16.3	16.3	16.9
6-10 years	22.5	20.6	19.9	17.9	14.4	15.3	15.6	15.8	17.9	15.6	15.2	13.0	18.2	19.2	17.4	17.7
11-15 years	33.1	33.5	34.7	35.9	37.7	35.1	36.7	36.4	25.0	26.7	29.1	26.8	33.4	32.6	34.9	35.0
16-18 years	17.5	25.8	24.8	25.3	23.8	19.7	21.7	22.6	34.9	38.1	35.4	39.4	23.9	22.2	23.6	24.5
19+ years	0.3	0.8	0.7	0.9	—	—	—	—	0.3	1.0	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.4
Unknown	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.1	—	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	785	1,005	974	982	1,056	965	1,006	1,013	671	827	851	828	1,170	1,143	1,129	1,167

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	36.7	34.2	33.1	32.8	25.9	27.5	28.2	27.1	27.7	30.6	29.7	27.7	32.1	31.1	31.3	31.5
Asian	—	—	0.8	0.4	—	—	0.5	0.7	—	—	0.2	—	—	—	1.0	0.9
Asian/Pacific	—	0.2	—	—	0.5	0.8	—	—	0.5	0.2	—	—	0.2	0.7	—	—
Black	1.9	1.8	2.4	1.6	2.7	2.5	1.8	3.5	2.2	1.6	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.5	1.9	2.8
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.2	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.1
Hispanic	1.8	3.1	2.5	3.1	5.2	5.0	4.2	2.7	4.3	5.3	3.9	3.0	3.4	3.1	2.9	2.7
White	59.1	59.6	60.3	60.2	65.0	63.6	62.1	63.0	65.0	61.8	61.8	64.7	61.0	61.4	60.8	59.4
Two or more races	0.4	1.0	0.9	1.8	0.8	0.6	3.2	2.9	0.2	0.5	2.1	2.3	0.9	1.0	2.0	2.4
Unknown	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	—	—	0.2	—	—	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	785	1,005	974	982	1,056	965	1,006	1,013	671	827	851	828	1,170	1,143	1,129	1,167

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	370	387	343	322
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	323	332	262	191
Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	23.5	22.2	14.9	13.7
1-5 years	33.0	29.7	32.1	28.3
6-10 years	26.5	26.4	22.5	24.5
11-15 years	15.7	19.6	26.0	27.0
16+ years	0.8	1.0	4.4	5.9
Unknown	0.5	1.0	0.3	0.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	370	387	343	322

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	29.2	25.1	26.2	31.4
Asian	—	—	2.6	1.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.5	2.1	—	—
Black	4.9	4.7	2.9	3.1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	3.0	3.4	3.8	2.5
White	61.1	63.6	62.4	59.3
Two or more races	1.4	1.3	2.0	2.2
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	370	387	343	322

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	45.9	48.2	41.9	27.6
1-5 years	36.9	31.7	34.3	32.4
6-10 years	9.0	14.4	18.1	21.4
11-15 years	7.2	4.3	4.8	13.1
16+ years	0.9	1.4	1.0	5.5
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	111	139	105	145

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	4.5	14.4	9.5	23.4
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	4.5	5.0	3.8	4.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	3.6	7.2	4.8	4.1
White	87.4	73.4	79.0	66.2
Two or more races	—	—	2.9	1.4
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	111	139	105	145

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	—	—
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

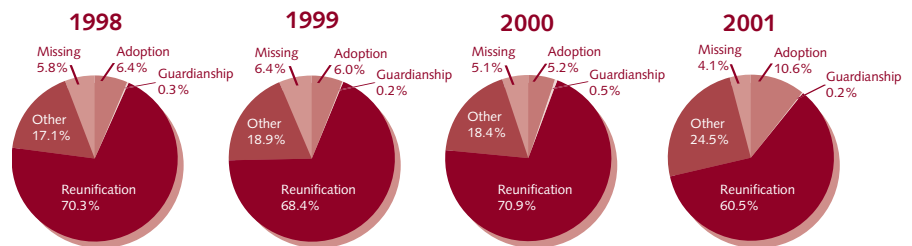
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

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

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	6.4	6.0	5.2	10.6
Guardianship	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.2
Reunification	70.3	68.4	70.9	60.5
Other	17.1	18.9	18.4	24.5
Missing data	5.8	6.4	5.1	4.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	671	827	851	828

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	89.7	90.9	85.4	72.8
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	6.9	—	9.8	16.5
Other	3.4	4.5	—	9.7
Missing data	—	4.5	4.9	1.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	29	44	41	103

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	0.4	—	0.9
Guardianship	0.3	0.4	0.9	0.4
Reunification	64.4	65.8	67.0	60.3
Other	26.5	25.2	25.1	35.8
Missing data	8.8	8.0	7.1	2.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	351	448	463	464

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	—	—	—	10.9
Children older than 12 at entry	100.0	100.0	100.0	89.1
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	37	42	43	46

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

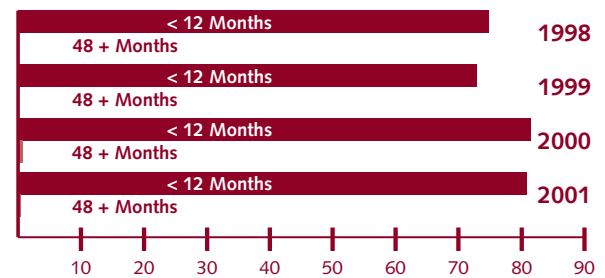
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	1.6	5.1	4.0	9.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16.7	—	—	—	—	
Guardianship	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Reunification	75.3	64.0	63.2	52.4	—	—	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	86.7	76.9	63.2	72.2	—	—	—	100.0
Other	17.7	25.3	22.9	32.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.7	15.4	31.6	11.1	—	—	—	—
Missing data	4.8	5.5	9.9	5.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6.7	7.7	5.3	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0
Number	186	253	253	229	—	—	2	—	3	2	—	—	15	13	19	18	—	—	—	1

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	6.8	—	16.0	9.2	6.7	6.1	11.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	11.1	—	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	0.2	0.4	0.8	0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	86.2	75.0	81.8	60.0	66.5	69.5	73.4	63.4	100.0	—	—	—	—	100.0	88.9	63.2	—	—	—	—
Other	13.8	15.9	9.1	16.0	17.4	16.2	17.1	22.2	—	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	15.8	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	2.3	9.1	8.0	6.7	7.2	2.7	2.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21.1	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	29	44	33	25	436	511	526	536	1	—	—	—	1	4	18	19	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

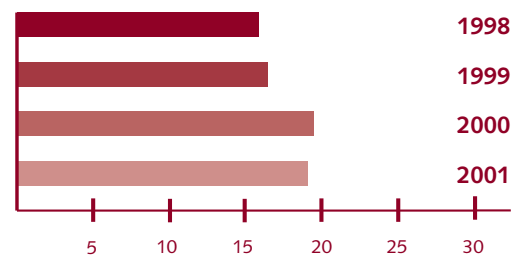
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	74.8	72.8	81.4	80.8
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	19.3	21.0	13.9	15.4
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	4.9	3.9	2.7	3.0
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.4	2.1	1.3	0.2
48 or more mos.	—	—	0.7	0.4
Missing data	0.6	0.2	—	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	472	566	603	501

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	65.1	70.7	71.3	66.2
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	15.8	16.4	19.4	19.0
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	7.1	9.1	7.0	10.2
Missing data	12.0	3.8	2.4	4.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,056	965	1,006	1,013

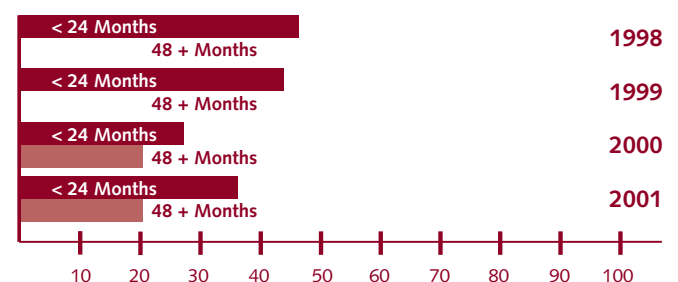
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	18.6	22.0	11.4	11.4
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	27.9	22.0	15.9	25.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	46.5	14.0	36.4	20.5
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	7.0	42.0	15.9	22.7
48 or more mos.	—	—	20.5	20.5
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	43	50	44	88

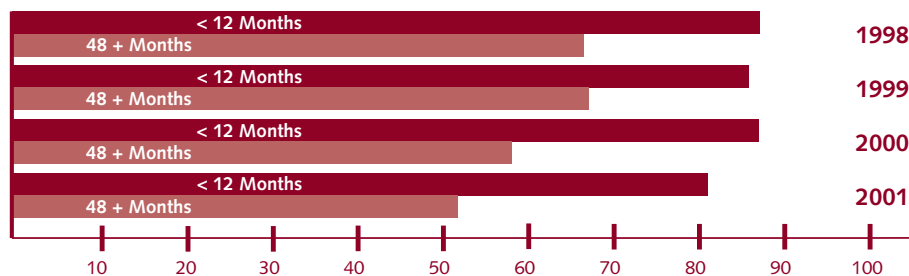
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	87.2	8.2	4.6	100.0	1,157
	1999	86.0	10.9	3.0	100.0	1,151
	2000	87.1	12.6	0.3	100.0	1,210
	2001	81.2	14.4	4.3	100.0	1,220
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	75.1	22.7	2.3	100.0	309
	1999	68.8	30.3	0.9	100.0	426
	2000	63.5	36.2	0.3	100.0	359
	2001	59.7	40.3	—	100.0	352
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	67.4	30.8	1.8	100.0	227
	1999	65.9	33.3	0.7	100.0	138
	2000	54.5	45.5	—	100.0	167
	2001	49.0	51.1	—	100.0	143
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	69.8	27.1	3.1	100.0	129
	1999	61.3	36.0	2.7	100.0	150
	2000	61.0	39.0	—	100.0	77
	2001	49.0	51.0	—	100.0	102
48 or more mos.	1998	66.7	—	33.3	100.0	12
	1999	67.3	30.7	2.0	100.0	101
	2000	58.3	40.5	1.2	100.0	163
	2001	52.0	46.9	1.1	100.0	175
Missing data	1998	85.7	—	14.3	100.0	7
	1999	50.0	—	50.0	100.0	4
	2000	50.0	—	50.0	100.0	4
	2001	—	—	100.0	100.0	3

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	1.1	1.4	1.0	1.7
Institutions	4.9	4.7	8.8	5.7
Other settings	94.0	93.6	90.2	92.4
Missing	—	0.2	—	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	452	487	489	459

North Dakota

[STATE COMMENT]

The following discussion focuses on North Dakota's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The North Dakota Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2001, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 1999. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for North Dakota's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

North Dakota's performance on outcome 1 cannot be assessed as part of the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) for calculating this outcome. To ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through NCANDS are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data submitted for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are presented in North Dakota's CFSR Final Report.

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

North Dakota's attainment of outcome 2 cannot be evaluated in the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to NCANDS for calculating this outcome. In order to ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through the NCANDS are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are presented in North Dakota's CFSR Final Report.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 71.3 percent of children exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 85.3 percent), and only 61.6 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 72.3 percent). However, in FY 2001, 89.3 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 78.4), and 10.9 percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry (which is lower than the national median of 28.0 percent). These data suggest that although the State is not consistently effective in achieving permanency for children in foster care, particularly children who enter foster care when they are older than age 12, they are successful in ensuring that children who enter foster care at relatively young ages do not "grow up" in the system. North Dakota's performance relative to permanency for children who enter foster care when they are older than age 12 declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-7.6 percent change).

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of children's entry into foster care was 80.8, which is higher than both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. North Dakota's performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+11.1 percent change).

North Dakota's effectiveness with regard to reunification within 12 months must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 19.0. This percentage exceeds both the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.4 percent. However, this performance represents an improvement from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+15.8 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 36.4, which is higher than the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and the national median of 21.0 percent. However, the number of children reported as exiting to adoption to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) Foster Care Database (88) is less than the number of finalized adoptions reported to the AFCARS Adoption Database (145). This discrepancy prevents a meaningful interpretation of the State's performance on this outcome measure.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children in foster care for less than 12 months who experienced no more than 2 placements was 81.2, which is lower than the national median of 83.3 percent and the national standard of 86.7 percent or more. North Dakota's performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-5.6 percent change).

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 7.4, which is lower than the national median of 8.7 percent. However, North Dakota's performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+20.2 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	2,844,005	2,844,071	2,888,339	2,876,999	Child maltreatment victims	58,938	55,921	54,084	51,031
Race/ethnicity (%) ¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	—	20,078	20,365	21,584
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	Children adopted	1,015	1,868	2,044	2,230
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.2					
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.3	1.4	1.1	N/A					
Black	14.5	14.5	14.2	14.5					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	2.3	2.4	2.8	2.8					
White	81.7	81.6	79.2	79.1					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.3	2.2					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.3	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	16.1	17.6	14.6	16.2					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	84.6	89.5	80.7	83.5					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			1998	Rate		
		1999	2000	2001		1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	135,613	128,924	120,712	113,720	47.7 per 1,000	45.3 per 1,000	41.8 per 1,000	39.5 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	58,938	55,921	54,084	51,031	20.7 per 1,000	19.7 per 1,000	18.7 per 1,000	17.7 per 1,000
Child fatalities	60	58	58	80	2.1 per 100,000	2.0 per 100,000	2.0 per 100,000	2.8 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	7.6	7.6	8.2	7.9	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.2
1-5 years	30.6	29.6	30.2	30.2	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2
6-10 years	30.0	29.9	29.6	28.9	Black	31.8	30.1	31.2	30.0
11-15 years	23.0	23.8	23.7	24.7	Hispanic	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.0
16+ years	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.5	White	62.6	64.0	63.5	60.7
Unknown	2.7	2.8	1.9	1.8	Two or more races	—	—	—	1.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	4.1	4.8	5.4	6.9
Number	58,938	55,921	54,084	51,031	Total % ³	100.4	100.7	101.8	100.0
					Number	58,938	55,921	54,084	51,031

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		3.1	4.2	5.5	11.2
Medical neglect		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Neglect		55.0	53.3	52.7	53.1
Physical abuse		27.3	28.0	27.7	25.6
Sexual abuse		14.1	14.1	14.0	15.4
Other		—	—	—	—
Unknown		0.4	0.3	0.1	—
Total % ⁴		100.0	100.0	100.0	105.3
Number		58,938	55,921	54,084	51,031

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	—	—	—	—	—
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	16,951	15,946	12,819	20,078	32,897
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	19,100	15,396	14,131	20,365	34,496
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	19,563	16,157	14,136	21,584	35,720
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	—	N/A	—	—	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	12.6	N/A	4.8	13.4	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	14.0	N/A	7.4	14.4	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	14.7	N/A	7.6	13.4	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	—	5.3	5.4	5.3	—	12.7	12.9	13.8	—	5.7	5.4	5.7	—	5.5	5.4	5.7
1-5 years	—	24.0	24.9	24.7	—	24.8	24.7	24.0	—	25.5	27.3	27.1	—	24.8	24.8	24.4
6-10 years	—	23.0	23.8	23.2	—	21.5	21.1	20.4	—	20.2	21.5	20.8	—	23.5	23.0	22.0
11-15 years	—	29.0	28.5	28.8	—	28.6	28.5	29.1	—	25.3	24.0	24.9	—	28.6	28.8	28.9
16-18 years	—	17.2	16.1	16.8	—	12.0	12.6	12.6	—	21.7	20.4	20.2	—	15.9	16.6	17.6
19+ years	—	0.7	0.8	0.8	—	0.0	0.0	0.0	—	1.1	1.2	1.1	—	0.9	0.8	1.0
Unknown	—	0.9	0.6	0.5	—	0.3	0.2	0.0	—	0.5	0.2	0.2	—	0.9	0.6	0.4
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	16,951	19,100	19,563	—	15,946	15,396	16,157	—	12,819	14,131	14,136	—	20,078	20,365	21,584

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	0.2	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.2	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.3	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.1
Asian/Pacific	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black	—	—	46.9	47.1	—	0.1	41.0	42.3	—	—	40.3	41.1	—	0.1	47.0	47.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.0
Hispanic	—	0.7	2.6	2.7	—	0.8	2.8	2.7	—	1.2	2.9	2.6	—	0.5	2.5	2.7
White	—	0.3	44.2	44.0	—	0.5	50.5	49.6	—	0.2	50.7	50.2	—	0.5	44.4	44.1
Two or more races	—	—	5.1	5.1	—	—	4.2	3.4	—	—	4.3	4.4	—	—	4.9	4.3
Unknown	—	99.0	0.9	0.9	—	98.6	1.3	1.7	—	98.6	1.2	1.3	—	98.9	1.0	1.2
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	16,951	19,100	19,563	—	15,946	15,396	16,157	—	12,819	14,131	14,136	—	20,078	20,365	21,584

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	—	3,476	4,439	5,929
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	—	590	3,035	4,919
Age of Waiting Children (%) 1998 1999 2000 2001				
Under 1 year	—	3.1	2.8	2.8
1-5 years	—	27.7	26.6	26.9
6-10 years	—	30.4	29.3	28.0
11-15 years	—	30.5	31.5	31.4
16+ years	—	6.9	8.2	8.7
Unknown	—	1.5	1.7	2.3
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	3,476	4,439	5,929

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	0.1	0.1
Asian	—	—	—	0.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	—	0.2	48.0	53.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	0.4	2.0	2.6
White	—	0.3	44.2	37.9
Two or more races	—	—	5.4	5.0
Unknown	—	99.1	0.4	0.4
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	3,476	4,439	5,929

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.0	7.4	6.3	4.9
1-5 years	53.7	48.6	48.4	47.0
6-10 years	29.6	28.7	28.9	29.9
11-15 years	13.1	13.1	13.7	15.4
16+ years	1.7	2.2	2.7	2.8
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,015	1,868	2,044	2,230

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0
Asian	—	—	0.3	0.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.1	—	—
Black	41.6	50.9	42.5	44.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	2.0	0.4	3.6	2.7
White	50.7	46.6	45.6	45.1
Two or more races	—	—	6.8	6.8
Unknown	5.6	1.9	0.9	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,015	1,868	2,044	2,230

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

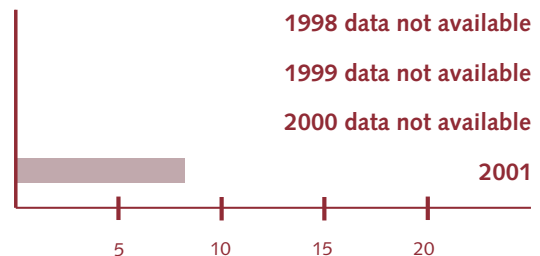
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	—	91.8
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	—	8.2
Total %	—	—	—	100.0
Number	—	—	—	19,452

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



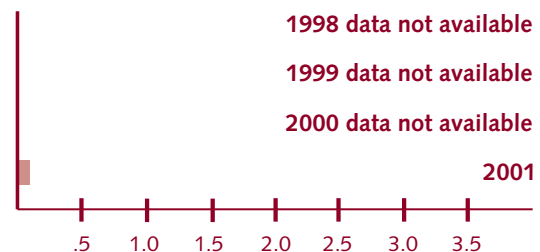
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	0.13
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	99.87
Total %	—	—	—	100.00
Number	—	—	—	32,418

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



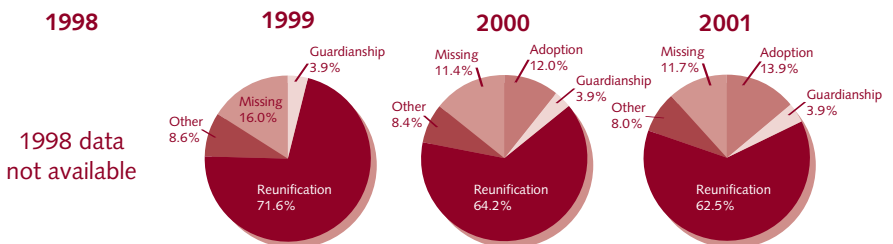
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	12.0	13.9
Guardianship	—	3.9	3.9	3.9
Reunification	—	71.6	64.2	62.5
Other	—	8.6	8.4	8.0
Missing data	—	16.0	11.4	11.7
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	12,819	14,131	14,136

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	15.6	18.0
Guardianship	—	2.8	3.5	3.3
Reunification	—	72.6	59.5	57.0
Other	—	15.7	13.7	14.7
Missing data	—	8.9	7.7	7.0
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	4,391	4,930	4,344

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	0.4	0.6
Guardianship	—	3.1	3.0	3.5
Reunification	—	50.8	52.8	50.3
Other	—	18.1	20.1	19.1
Missing data	—	28.0	23.6	26.4
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	4,548	4,601	4,603

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	—	24.2	22.5	22.2
Children older than 12 at entry	—	75.6	77.3	77.8
Missing data	—	0.2	0.2	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	952	1,028	1,013

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	9.7	8.3	—	—	10.3	5.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	12.0	14.7	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	6.5	—	—	—	2.6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4.3	4.3	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	—	64.5	66.7	—	—	76.9	68.6	—	—	—	—	—	—	62.9	59.7	—	—	—	100.0
Other	—	—	6.5	16.7	—	—	—	11.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	8.8	7.8	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	12.9	8.3	—	—	10.3	14.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	12.0	13.6	—	—	100.0	—
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	31	12	—	—	39	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	5,701	5,806	—	—	1	3

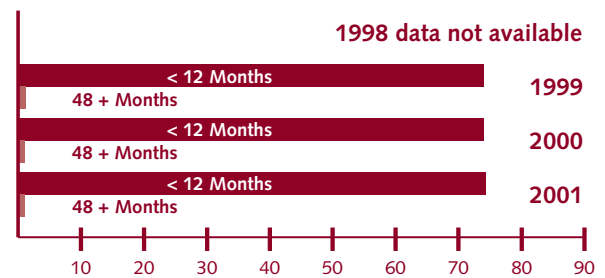
	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	15.3	15.7	—	—	11.5	13.0	—	—	6.3	4.4	—	—	18.0	19.8	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	4.5	5.8	4.9	—	4.3	3.5	3.5	—	3.9	3.4	2.2	—	—	5.1	4.5	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	68.8	62.0	62.4	—	78.3	65.3	64.7	—	71.6	66.3	57.5	—	—	63.2	63.5	—	—	—	—
Other	—	5.2	8.0	9.7	—	4.3	8.3	8.2	—	8.6	5.7	5.5	—	—	7.8	8.0	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	21.4	8.8	7.3	—	13.0	11.4	10.6	—	16.0	18.3	30.4	—	—	5.9	4.3	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	—	154	411	370	—	23	7,167	7,102	—	12,642	175	181	—	—	606	627	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	74.0	73.9	74.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	19.3	18.9	18.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	3.7	3.6	3.6
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	0.9	1.1	1.1
48 or more mos.	—	1.2	1.1	1.0
Missing data	—	0.9	1.3	1.4
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	9,172	9,074	8,828

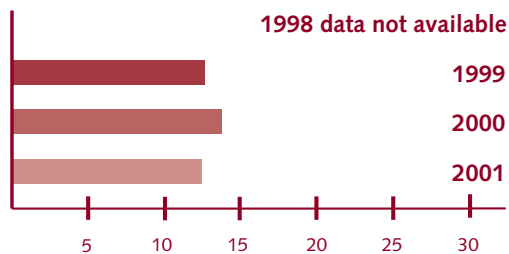
Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	—	68.7	72.0	72.0
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	—	12.6	13.7	12.4
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	—	11.4	12.4	13.2
Missing data	—	7.3	1.9	2.4
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	15,946	15,396	16,157

Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months

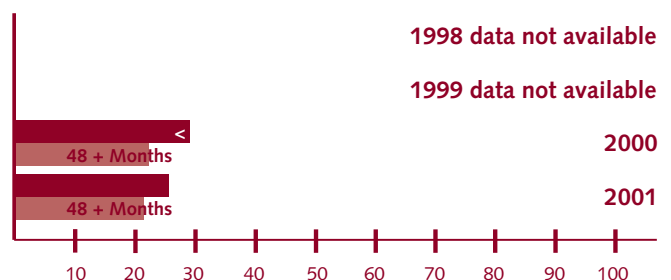


5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	—	5.4	4.6
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	—	23.8	21.1
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	—	28.2	32.7
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	—	20.2	20.1
48 or more mos.	—	—	22.3	21.5
Missing data	—	—	0.1	—
Total %	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	—	1,694	1,967

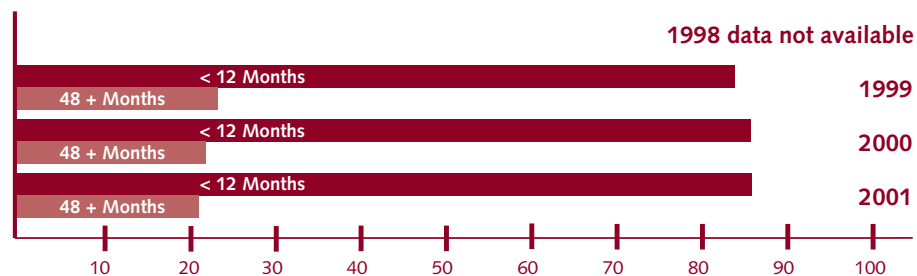
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	84.0	12.2	3.7	100.0	18,460
	2000	85.8	12.0	2.2	100.0	17,945
	2001	86.0	12.4	1.6	100.0	18,718
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	62.1	37.4	0.6	100.0	6,503
	2000	62.1	37.5	0.3	100.0	6,921
	2001	62.3	37.5	0.3	100.0	6,911
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	47.3	52.2	0.5	100.0	2,883
	2000	45.2	54.5	0.2	100.0	3,446
	2001	44.4	55.3	0.3	100.0	3,666
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	32.2	67.2	0.5	100.0	1,523
	2000	34.8	64.9	0.3	100.0	2,096
	2001	35.5	64.4	0.1	100.0	2,176
48 or more mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	23.7	75.4	1.0	100.0	3,367
	2000	22.3	77.0	0.7	100.0	3,906
	2001	21.4	77.9	0.7	100.0	4,102
Missing data	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	79.5	0.6	19.9	100.0	161
	2000	68.7	—	31.3	100.0	182
	2001	55.8	1.4	42.9	100.0	147

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	—	1.1	1.1	1.2
Institutions	—	3.5	2.8	2.8
Other settings	—	95.4	96.1	95.9
Missing	—	0.0	—	0.0
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	10,527	10,102	10,629

**Barbara E. Riley, Deputy Director
Office for Children and Families
Ohio Job and Family Services
614-466-1213**

Ohio's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

Ohio's child protection system is state supervised and county administered with the State setting program parameters, allocating funds, and supervising county performance. The State's data reporting system for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 1998 and 1999 did not capture all necessary information to be AFCARS compliant with the federal guidelines as outlined by the ACE. The State achieved full AFCARS compliance in FFY 2000, therefore 2000 and 2001 data more accurately reflects Ohio's child welfare practice.

State data indicates a steady decline in the number of children who were the subject of an investigative report and the number of child victims from 1998 to 2001. Many agencies have screening procedures modeled after other states. Several agencies have implemented "service tracks" that allow them to identify needs and provide services to families without opening the referral for investigation. As a result of conducting fewer "formal" investigations, agencies are reporting fewer number of child victims. Agencies are using other prevention activities to provide up-front services before the referral is made to child protection services.

The data for outcome measure 4.2 indicate that children entering foster care in FFY 2001 had experienced a prior foster care episode. Although a great deal of emphasis is placed on providing up-front services to prevent removal, there is still a need to increase the availability of services to support reunified families and kinship placement. Ohio is developing aftercare programs and protocols designed to assist workers in the provision of services to children and families following reunification.

Ohio notes a substantial increase in the number of finalized adoptions for FFY 2000 to FFY 2001. This increase is based on enhanced recruitment efforts for foster to adopt families, early identification of kinship care placements and the effective utilization of adoption incentives to the agencies.

The following discussion focuses on Ohio's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Ohio Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was conducted in fiscal year (FY) 2002, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2000. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Ohio's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the State's rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was 8.2 percent, which does not meet the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and is higher than the national median of 8.0 percent. Change in performance with regard to outcome 1 cannot be assessed because the State did not provide data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) for calculating this measure for previous years.

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.13 percent, which meets the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and is lower than the national median of 0.47 percent. Change in performance with regard to outcome 2 cannot be assessed because the State did not provide data to NCANDS for calculating this measure for previous years.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 80.3 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 85.3 percent), and 78.3 percent of children with a diagnosed disability leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is just under the national median of 78.4 percent). (The data for children older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care cannot be assessed because "reason for discharge" information was not reported for 26.4 percent of those children.) However, the State's performance improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 with regard to the percentage of children leaving foster care who were discharged to permanent homes (+6.4 percent change).

Also in FY 2001, 22.2 percent of the children emancipated from foster care were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care (which is lower than the national median of 28.0 percent). Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-8.1 percent change). In general, the data pertaining to outcome 3 suggest that the State is not consistently effective in attaining permanency for children exiting foster care, although it is more effective in ensuring that children who enter foster care at young ages do not "grow up" in foster care.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reported reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 74.2, which is lower than the national standard of 76.2 percent or more, but higher than the national median of 69.2 percent. Information from the CFSR Final Report notes that the State believes that the rate of reunification within 12 months is actually higher than the rate reported to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), because the State may not be reporting "reason for discharge" information to AFCARS for all children. The table for outcome measure 3.1 supports this contention: for FY 2001, "reason for discharge" information was not reported for 11.7 percent of children exiting from foster care. Ohio's reported performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

In FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 12.4, which exceeds the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.4 percent. Ohio's performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 25.7, which does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more, but is higher than the national median of 21.0 percent. Change in Ohio's performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001 cannot be evaluated, because the State did not provide data to AFCARS for calculating this outcome in FY 1999. Ohio's performance on this measure declined from FY 2000 to FY 2001 (-12.0 percent change).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children experiencing no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 86.0, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more, but is higher than the national median of 83.3 percent. Ohio's performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 4.0, which is lower than the national median of 8.7 percent. Ohio's performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-13.1 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	879,367	882,062	892,360	878,154	Child maltreatment victims	16,584	16,210	13,861	13,698
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	7,233	8,173	8,406	8,674
Alaska Native/American Indian	10.1	9.7	10.6	10.3	Children adopted	505	825	1,067	956
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.4					
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.4	1.5	1.3	N/A					
Black	9.6	9.5	9.3	9.6					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	6.0	6.2	7.9	7.9					
White	72.9	73.1	64.6	65.2					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	6.2	5.5					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.1	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	19.8	16.7	24.1	21.4					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	61.5	61.7	61.5	61.5					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	Rate			
		1999	2000	2001		1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	60,340	60,955	59,955	63,520	68.6 per 1,000	69.1 per 1,000	67.2 per 1,000	71.1 per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	16,584	16,210	13,861	13,698	18.9 per 1,000	18.4 per 1,000	15.5 per 1,000	15.3 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	45	47	45	28	5.1 per 100,000	5.3 per 100,000	5.0 per 100,000	3.1 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	8.9	9.3	11.2	11.7	Alaska Native/American Indian	13.6	14.4	12.7	13.6
1-5 years	31.3	31.4	32.6	32.7	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.8
6-10 years	30.2	30.5	28.7	28.2	Black	14.3	13.5	12.9	13.8
11-15 years	23.0	23.0	21.7	22.6	Hispanic	4.7	5.2	6.2	7.3
16+ years	4.9	4.4	4.5	4.6	White	68.7	69.1	63.0	61.2
Unknown	1.8	1.4	1.2	0.2	Two or more races	—	—	3.5	2.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	3.1	2.6	1.2	0.8
Number	16,584	16,210	13,861	13,698	Total % ³	104.7	105.2	100.0	100.0
					Number	16,584	16,210	13,861	13,698

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		10.9	11.4	11.2	8.4
Medical neglect		3.3	3.1	3.3	3.3
Neglect		93.7	98.0	80.0	83.4
Physical abuse		24.9	24.9	19.9	20.0
Sexual abuse		8.5	8.0	7.8	7.6
Other		10.6	13.2	—	—
Unknown		—	—	1.4	0.1
Total % ⁴		151.9	158.6	123.6	122.8
Number		16,584	16,210	13,861	13,698

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	6,214	6,346	5,337	7,233	12,560
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	6,432	6,484	4,746	8,173	12,916
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	7,204	6,558	5,364	8,406	13,762
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	8,051	6,487	5,864	8,674	14,538
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	13.2	N/A	4.2	12.9	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	14.5	N/A	6.4	11.6	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	13.4	N/A	7.6	11.9	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	15.5	N/A	6.9	14.8	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	4.0	4.4	4.2	4.8	11.3	11.1	11.5	14.3	5.9	5.3	4.5	5.2	4.6	4.4	4.9	5.4
1-5 years	27.0	27.7	25.8	28.6	27.7	27.1	26.7	33.7	27.6	28.7	26.5	32.4	26.9	26.7	26.4	31.3
6-10 years	26.7	27.4	26.3	27.5	23.2	21.1	21.6	24.7	23.7	23.7	23.0	26.6	26.2	25.0	24.5	25.5
11-15 years	27.5	27.0	27.5	26.8	25.2	25.2	24.7	21.6	23.1	21.1	22.7	21.8	26.0	27.0	26.3	26.2
16-18 years	14.5	13.3	16.0	12.2	12.6	15.4	15.4	5.6	18.9	20.9	23.0	13.6	16.3	16.5	17.4	11.3
19+ years	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	—	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.2
Unknown	0.1	0.0	0.0	—	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6,214	6,432	7,204	8,051	6,346	6,484	6,558	6,487	5,337	4,746	5,364	5,864	7,233	8,173	8,406	8,674

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	14.5	14.7	12.0	12.6	15.3	14.3	18.4	13.7	14.2	14.0	12.8	12.9	15.4	14.8	16.4	13.2
Asian	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—	0.2	0.4	—	—	0.2	0.1
Asian/Pacific	0.1	0.2	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.2	0.3	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—
Black	25.7	24.8	21.6	20.4	20.0	19.5	17.3	15.5	20.6	20.7	19.7	16.7	24.5	23.0	19.5	19.3
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.1	0.2	—	—	0.4	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.3	—	—	0.3	0.1
Hispanic	4.5	4.6	4.7	5.0	5.3	5.6	6.0	7.5	5.5	5.5	6.6	6.8	4.4	4.8	4.5	5.7
White	55.0	55.3	51.0	49.0	58.4	58.7	50.0	51.5	58.9	58.6	52.5	51.7	55.1	56.1	49.3	49.0
Two or more races	—	0.1	10.2	12.4	—	1.0	6.9	10.8	—	0.3	7.7	10.6	—	0.7	9.2	12.4
Unknown	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6,214	6,432	7,204	8,051	6,346	6,484	6,558	6,487	5,337	4,746	5,364	5,864	7,233	8,173	8,406	8,674

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	1,422	1,832	1,767	2,390
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	11	25	18	—
Age of Waiting Children (%) 1998 1999 2000 2001				
Under 1 year	3.1	2.6	2.5	3.0
1-5 years	32.9	29.9	29.3	31.9
6-10 years	36.1	33.1	33.1	31.3
11-15 years	24.8	30.2	31.2	29.0
16+ years	2.8	3.8	3.5	4.8
Unknown	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,422	1,832	1,767	2,390

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	13.6	13.9	11.4	10.8
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.3	—	—
Black	35.0	31.1	25.4	24.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	4.5	5.0	3.7	4.7
White	46.5	49.3	47.2	45.8
Two or more races	—	0.2	11.8	13.5
Unknown	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,422	1,832	1,767	2,390

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.0	2.1	1.4	1.3
1-5 years	45.1	39.4	40.9	39.6
6-10 years	34.1	37.0	35.4	37.0
11-15 years	16.4	19.0	18.7	19.9
16+ years	2.4	2.5	3.7	2.2
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	505	825	1,067	956

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	11.7	9.6	12.1	11.2
Asian	—	—	0.7	0.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.4	0.4	—	—
Black	24.4	22.5	24.7	18.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.3	0.5
Hispanic	3.2	4.2	6.5	5.1
White	56.2	56.6	50.9	57.7
Two or more races	3.6	6.3	4.6	6.7
Unknown	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	505	825	1,067	956

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

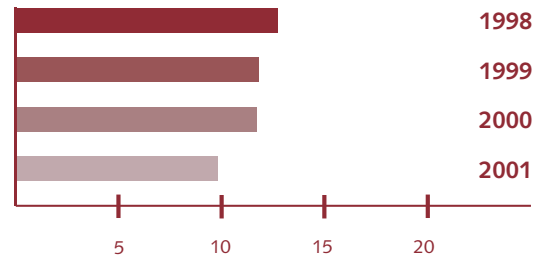
⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	87.3	88.2	88.3	90.2
Children with one or more recurrences	12.7	11.8	11.7	9.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	7,667	7,108	6,287	6,249

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences

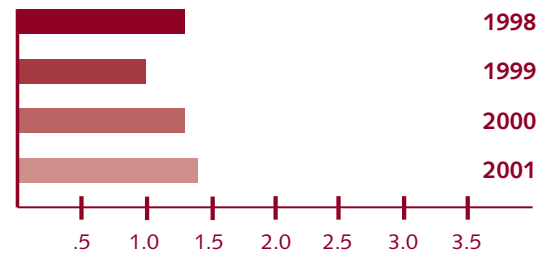


2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	1.30	0.96	1.27	1.40
Children not maltreated while in foster care	98.70	99.04	98.73	98.60
Total %	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	11,483	11,868	12,478	13,141

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care

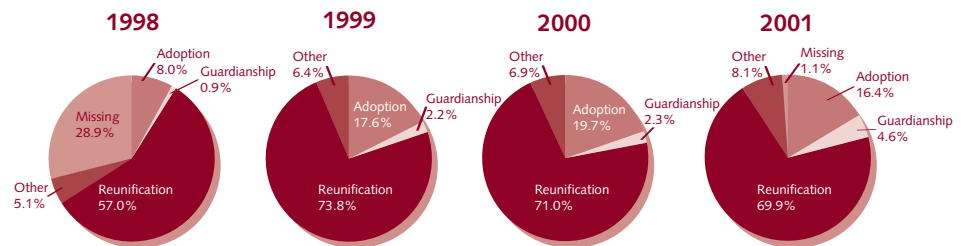


3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	8.0	17.6	19.7	16.4
Guardianship	0.9	2.2	2.3	4.6
Reunification	57.0	73.8	71.0	69.9
Other	5.1	6.4	6.9	8.1
Missing data	28.9	—	—	1.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,337	4,746	5,364	5,864

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	20.4	39.6	42.0	26.8
Guardianship	0.7	2.2	2.4	4.4
Reunification	35.5	45.7	43.4	47.0
Other	9.2	12.6	12.2	21.2
Missing data	34.2	—	—	0.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	991	692	655	836

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.7	1.0	1.3	1.8
Guardianship	0.5	0.4	0.9	3.4
Reunification	46.5	83.4	82.2	72.0
Other	11.1	15.1	15.7	21.7
Missing data	41.2	—	—	1.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,599	1,448	1,794	1,205

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	31.5	36.4	27.8	33.6
Children older than 12 at entry	68.5	63.6	68.5	66.4
Missing data	—	—	3.7	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	92	88	54	280

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	7.0	15.0	10.0	11.1	—	—	—	3.8	9.1	—	—	—	8.5	17.7	22.3	16.9	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	0.9	2.7	1.5	4.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.3	0.6	1.8	6.0	—	—	—	—
Reunification	60.1	75.3	79.7	69.7	—	—	100.0	88.5	63.6	100.0	—	—	56.3	74.9	69.3	68.3	—	—	57.1	94.7
Other	6.5	6.9	8.9	14.0	—	—	—	7.7	—	—	—	—	4.6	6.7	6.6	7.6	—	—	42.9	5.3
Missing data	25.6	—	—	1.3	—	—	—	—	27.3	—	—	—	30.4	—	—	1.1	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	759	665	688	758	—	—	10	26	11	14	—	—	1,097	981	1,055	981	—	—	7	19

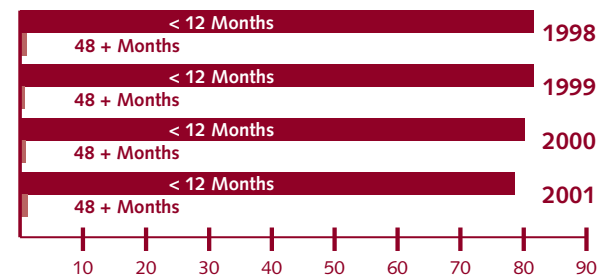
	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	7.1	17.8	21.5	14.8	8.3	18.2	19.4	17.5	—	9.4	24.0	17.9	—	33.3	30.2	18.8	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	3.1	2.5	0.5	1.2	2.6	2.7	4.8	2.9	3.1	4.0	3.6	—	—	2.2	5.0	—	—	—	—
Reunification	63.6	73.0	70.1	79.4	56.0	73.0	70.9	69.3	40.0	81.3	68.0	78.6	—	60.0	62.8	67.4	—	—	—	—
Other	3.7	6.2	5.9	4.3	5.2	6.2	7.0	7.4	2.9	6.3	4.0	—	—	6.7	4.9	7.9	—	—	—	—
Missing data	25.5	—	—	1.0	29.3	—	—	1.1	54.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.0	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	294	259	354	399	3,141	2,780	2,814	3,030	35	32	25	28	—	15	411	623	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	81.6	81.5	80.2	78.6
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	11.5	12.0	13.5	14.7
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.4	1.1	1.2	1.6
48 or more mos.	1.0	0.7	0.9	1.2
Missing data	0.8	1.2	0.7	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,042	3,504	3,811	4,097

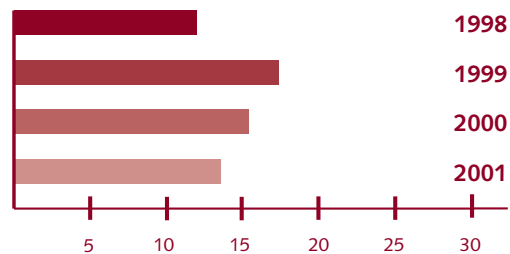
Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	82.1	74.8	76.0	78.4
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	11.9	17.3	15.3	13.5
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	4.4	5.2	6.9	8.0
Missing data	1.7	2.7	1.8	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6,346	6,484	6,558	6,487

Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months

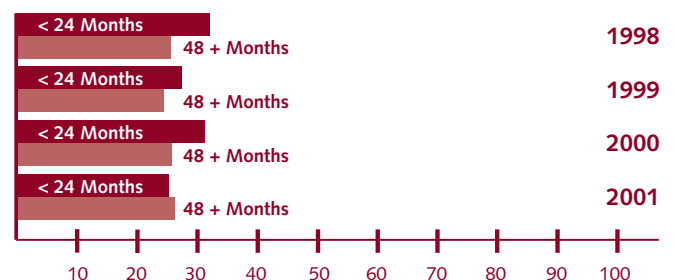


5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	10.5	7.7	6.7	3.6
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	21.7	19.9	24.6	21.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	20.3	26.4	26.1	29.4
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	21.3	21.5	16.4	18.7
48 or more mos.	25.7	24.5	25.9	26.4
Missing data	0.5	—	0.3	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	428	833	1,056	962

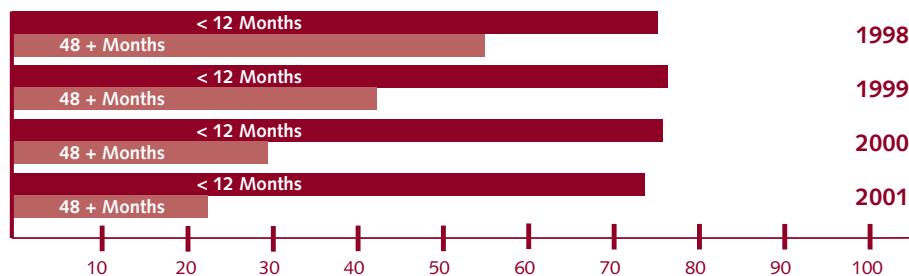
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	75.3	24.7	—	100.0	7,192
	1999	76.5	23.5	—	100.0	7,269
	2000	75.9	24.1	—	100.0	7,618
	2001	73.8	24.2	2.0	100.0	7,322
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	47.8	52.2	—	100.0	2,282
	1999	42.0	58.0	—	100.0	2,231
	2000	48.2	51.8	—	100.0	2,566
	2001	45.9	53.7	0.4	100.0	2,942
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	40.6	59.4	—	100.0	1,211
	1999	32.8	67.2	—	100.0	1,296
	2000	30.9	69.1	—	100.0	1,330
	2001	34.7	64.8	0.5	100.0	1,572
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	44.9	55.1	—	100.0	709
	1999	33.5	66.5	—	100.0	805
	2000	23.7	76.3	—	100.0	806
	2001	23.7	76.1	0.2	100.0	929
48 or more mos.	1998	55.2	44.8	—	100.0	1,124
	1999	42.6	57.4	—	100.0	1,259
	2000	29.8	70.2	—	100.0	1,414
	2001	22.9	77.2	—	100.0	1,768
Missing data	1998	97.6	2.4	—	100.0	42
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	56
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	28
	2001	80.0	20.0	—	100.0	5

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	18.0	13.4	13.2	14.9
Institutions	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.4
Other settings	80.7	85.2	85.4	83.7
Missing	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,225	4,081	4,182	5,093

**Linda Smith, Director
Children and Family Services Division
Oklahoma Department of Human Services
405-521-6602**

Oklahoma's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

The data in Context Data Section D, Children Whose Parental Rights Have Been Terminated are inaccurate. The programming error has been corrected and the 2002A and 2002B files will be resubmitted with the 2003A file.

With regard to the data for Outcome Measure 7.1 Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions, Oklahoma includes brief stays in shelters in the group home category of placement settings. This may account for the higher percentages Oklahoma has in group home settings as compared to other states.

With regard to Child Welfare Context Data, Section A, Child Maltreatment Victims, an alternative response system was implemented in April 1999. Changes in overall and individual findings were made in May 2000. Effective December 2000, children assessed under the alternative response system were no longer reported to NCANDS as victims. These changes resulted in a decrease in the number of child maltreatment victims and the victimization rate for Oklahoma after 2000.

The following discussion focuses on Oklahoma's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Oklahoma Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2002, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2000. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Oklahoma's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months of a prior substantiated report was 9.8 percent, which is higher than both the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and the national median of 8.0 percent. Oklahoma's performance on this measure improved from 1999 to 2001 (-16.6 percent change).

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 1.40 percent, which is higher than both the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and the national median of 0.47 percent. Oklahoma's performance on this measure declined from 1999 to 2001 (+45.8 percent change).

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 90.9 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 85.3 percent); 78.2 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is just below the national median of 78.4 percent); and 77.2 percent of children who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care exited to permanent homes (which is greater than the national median of 72.3 percent). However, 33.6 percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care (which is higher than the national median of 28.0 percent). These data suggest that the State is effective in attaining permanency for children, including children who are older than age 12 when they enter foster care, but is not consistently effective in ensuring that children do not "grow up" in foster care.

Oklahoma's performance with regard to the percentage of children leaving foster care who were discharged to permanent homes, including children with a diagnosed disability and children who were older than age 12 at the time of entry, improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Performance related to the percentage of children exiting foster care through emancipation who were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care also improved from FY 1999 to FY 2002 (-7.7 percent change).

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 78.6, which exceeds both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. Oklahoma's performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Oklahoma's success with regard to reunification within 12 months must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 13.5, which exceeds both the national median of 10.4 percent and the national standard of 8.6 percent or less. Information from the CFSR Final Report notes that the State believes that the actual re-entry rate is lower than the reported rate, because some children who are reported as reunified in

the automated system actually remain in Department custody and are on a trial home visit. When these children come back into foster care for safety reasons, it is recorded as a re-entry even though the child has remained in State custody. Despite this issue, Oklahoma exhibited continuous improvement from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-21.8 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 25.4, which does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more, but is higher than the national median of 21.0 percent. Performance on this measure declined from 1999 to 2001 (-8.7 percent change). According to information from the CFSR Final Report, the State believes that the actual percentage of finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of entry into foster care is lower than the reported rate because the State has been coding adoptive placements as discharges to adoption to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, rather than only reporting finalized adoptions, as is required by the data measure.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children in foster care for less than 12 months who experienced no more than 2 placements was 73.8, which is less than both the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and the national median of 83.3 percent. Oklahoma's performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 16.3, which is higher than the national median of 8.7 percent. Oklahoma's performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+9.5 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	825,170	827,501	846,526	853,083	Child maltreatment victims	10,147	11,241	11,381	9,011
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	9,242	9,278	9,193	8,966
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.4	Children adopted	665	765	831	1,071
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.3					
Asian/Pacific Islander	3.7	3.9	3.1	N/A					
Black	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.2					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.3					
Hispanic	9.7	10.3	12.7	13.2					
White	83.1	82.4	76.3	76.0					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	4.2	3.7					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	18.6	17.0	21.8	15.1					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	69.1	66.2	73.1	68.8					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	Rate			
		1999	2000	2001		1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	27,680	24,627	27,616	25,618	33.5 per 1,000	29.8 per 1,000	32.6 per 1,000	29.9 per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	10,147	11,241	11,381	9,011	12.3 per 1,000	13.6 per 1,000	13.4 per 1,000	10.5 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	17	18	21	8	2.1 per 100,000	2.2 per 100,000	2.5 per 100,000	0.9 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	12.3	12.5	12.1	13.8	Alaska Native/American Indian	2.2	2.3	2.9	3.8
1-5 years	35.2	35.1	37.3	36.3	Asian/Pacific Islander	1.0	1.2	0.9	1.0
6-10 years	31.0	29.9	29.0	29.0	Black	5.1	4.9	4.3	4.8
11-15 years	18.5	19.3	19.0	18.5	Hispanic	8.1	8.9	8.4	10.5
16+ years	3.0	3.2	2.7	2.5	White	55.9	56.5	56.0	63.4
Unknown	—	—	—	—	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	35.8	35.2	27.5	16.6
Number	10,147	11,241	11,381	9,011	Total % ³	108.1	108.9	100.0	100.0
					Number	10,147	11,241	11,381	9,011

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	7.5	6.7	6.4	4.9
Medical neglect	4.2	4.3	3.6	4.5
Neglect	22.4	21.1	21.1	27.1
Physical abuse	14.2	13.2	12.1	12.8
Sexual abuse	14.1	11.8	10.4	10.5
Other	62.5	68.7	58.4	50.6
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	125.0	125.7	112.0	110.4
Number	10,147	11,241	11,381	9,011

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	8,832	4,875	4,465	9,242	13,707
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	9,018	4,818	4,558	9,278	13,836
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	9,081	4,675	4,563	9,193	13,756
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	9,016	4,537	4,587	8,966	12,097

Median Length of Stay (Months)	In Care On:	Entered Care During FY:	Exited Care During FY:	In Care On:	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	15.8	N/A	11.4	17.5	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	18.0	N/A	12.5	18.5	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	19.1	N/A	13.9	18.5	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	18.8	N/A	15.9	17.7	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	4.2	4.3	4.8	4.5	13.5	14.9	15.0	15.5	3.0	3.2	3.0	3.3	4.3	4.9	4.6	4.8
1-5 years	31.3	29.7	29.0	30.9	29.4	29.8	32.2	32.5	31.6	30.2	31.0	32.8	29.6	29.1	31.0	31.3
6-10 years	28.6	28.9	28.8	27.3	24.4	25.0	23.3	23.7	26.0	26.6	24.9	26.2	28.5	28.8	27.2	25.7
11-15 years	26.1	26.6	26.7	27.7	26.2	24.4	24.8	23.8	24.1	24.0	24.6	24.8	27.0	26.8	27.7	28.1
16-18 years	9.4	10.2	10.2	9.0	6.5	5.7	4.7	4.5	14.2	14.9	15.1	11.6	10.2	10.0	9.0	9.6
19+ years	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.1	—	0.0	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.4	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5
Unknown	0.0	0.0	—	0.0	0.0	—	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	—	0.0	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	8,832	9,018	9,081	9,016	4,875	4,818	4,675	4,537	4,465	4,558	4,563	4,587	9,242	9,278	9,193	8,966

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	4.6	5.0	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.0	5.1	6.5	4.0	4.5	4.9	4.7	4.9	4.7	4.7	5.5
Asian	—	—	0.6	0.8	—	—	1.0	0.5	—	—	0.7	1.0	—	—	0.8	0.5
Asian/Pacific	0.6	0.6	—	—	0.7	1.1	—	—	0.7	0.8	—	—	0.6	0.8	—	—
Black	11.4	11.0	10.4	9.7	6.9	6.1	6.1	6.5	7.3	7.1	7.4	7.2	11.0	10.3	9.7	9.4
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.2	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.5	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.3
Hispanic	6.4	7.1	7.3	8.2	9.0	8.3	10.6	10.0	7.6	7.9	9.0	9.5	7.1	7.3	8.2	8.5
White	66.9	64.6	63.5	61.9	60.6	60.7	55.4	58.3	64.4	62.7	58.8	59.6	64.8	63.5	61.8	61.3
Two or more races	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.2	—	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4
Unknown	10.0	11.5	13.1	14.2	18.0	19.6	21.5	17.3	15.8	16.9	19.1	17.4	11.4	13.1	14.3	14.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	8,832	9,018	9,081	9,016	4,875	4,818	4,675	4,537	4,465	4,558	4,563	4,587	9,242	9,278	9,193	8,966

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	2,781	3,000	3,150	2,680
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	—	—	—	—

Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	6.0	5.9	5.4	4.2
1-5 years	46.0	45.6	46.8	48.0
6-10 years	36.6	36.4	35.2	33.9
11-15 years	10.8	11.7	11.9	13.1
16+ years	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.8
Unknown	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,781	3,000	3,150	2,680

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	3.2	3.0	2.8	3.0
Asian	—	—	0.4	0.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.4	0.5	—	—
Black	11.9	11.2	10.3	9.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.1	0.2
Hispanic	7.9	8.3	8.6	9.9
White	65.1	61.7	60.3	58.6
Two or more races	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.6
Unknown	11.0	14.7	16.8	17.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,781	3,000	3,150	2,680

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2
1-5 years	53.4	47.1	51.0	48.4
6-10 years	34.1	39.9	34.2	35.3
11-15 years	11.4	11.4	13.6	14.7
16+ years	0.8	1.4	1.1	1.5
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	665	765	831	1,071

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	2.1	—	4.3	3.8
Asian	—	—	0.5	0.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.5	—	—	—
Black	10.8	—	11.6	8.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	10.1	12.0	12.0	13.2
White	74.3	—	71.0	71.2
Two or more races	—	—	0.2	2.2
Unknown	1.2	88.0	0.4	0.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	665	765	831	1,071

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment

Within 6 Months (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	—	—
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

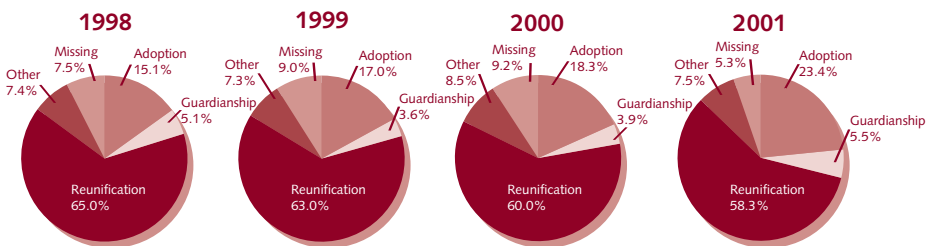
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

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

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	15.1	17.0	18.3	23.4
Guardianship	5.1	3.6	3.9	5.5
Reunification	65.0	63.0	60.0	58.3
Other	7.4	7.3	8.5	7.5
Missing data	7.5	9.0	9.2	5.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,465	4,558	4,563	4,587

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	16.6	21.7	23.1	31.5
Guardianship	4.1	2.1	3.1	4.3
Reunification	54.3	49.0	43.9	45.7
Other	13.6	13.3	14.2	12.2
Missing data	11.5	13.9	15.8	6.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,537	1,568	1,488	1,381

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2
Guardianship	1.7	1.9	2.2	5.2
Reunification	61.0	57.7	49.5	58.3
Other	23.0	22.4	25.8	26.2
Missing data	14.0	17.6	22.2	10.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,042	1,054	1,046	829

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	35.0	41.6	42.2	42.1
Children older than 12 at entry	65.0	58.4	57.8	57.9
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	117	101	147	159

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

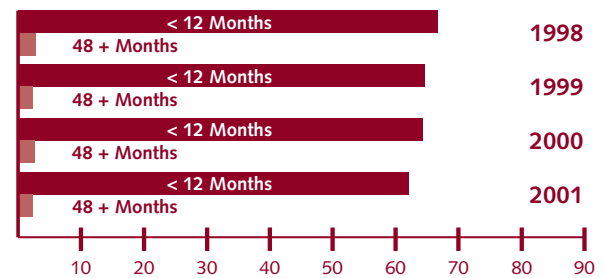
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	4.4	9.3	13.1	19.1	—	—	12.9	13.0	—	10.5	—	—	19.6	30.2	26.0	28.7	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	9.4	4.9	9.0	14.4	—	—	—	2.2	—	—	—	—	5.8	4.0	5.9	3.9	—	—	11.1	—
Reunification	61.7	65.9	57.2	54.0	—	—	67.7	76.1	81.3	65.8	—	—	56.3	46.9	46.3	46.5	—	—	55.6	85.7
Other	7.2	7.8	5.4	5.6	—	—	12.9	6.5	12.5	7.9	—	—	9.2	12.3	10.3	13.6	—	—	22.2	—
Missing data	17.2	12.2	15.3	7.0	—	—	6.5	2.2	6.3	15.8	—	—	9.2	6.5	11.5	7.3	—	—	11.1	14.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	180	205	222	215	—	—	31	46	32	38	—	—	327	324	339	331	—	—	9	7

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	9.1	11.9	15.4	16.6	17.3	18.6	19.5	23.7	10.4	10.2	14.9	25.3	28.6	—	—	50.0	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	3.2	1.7	1.5	2.5	4.9	3.7	3.6	5.6	5.2	4.0	4.3	5.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	74.0	75.0	68.7	70.3	62.7	60.6	57.6	56.9	74.0	72.5	69.3	61.4	71.4	—	100.0	50.0	—	—	—	—
Other	8.3	4.2	6.1	4.6	8.3	8.0	9.8	8.6	2.4	4.0	5.2	3.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	5.3	7.2	8.3	6.0	6.8	9.1	9.5	5.2	7.9	9.2	6.3	4.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	339	360	409	434	2,875	2,860	2,682	2,736	705	771	870	800	7	—	1	18	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

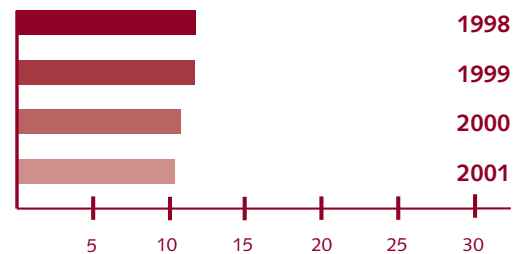
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	66.6	64.6	64.3	62.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	21.4	22.9	23.0	26.3
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	6.6	7.4	7.4	6.7
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	2.6	2.7	2.8	2.8
48 or more mos.	2.8	2.3	2.6	2.3
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,901	2,873	2,739	2,674

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	77.0	77.7	80.8	79.9
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	11.7	11.6	10.7	10.3
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	11.4	10.7	8.5	9.9
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,875	4,818	4,675	4,537

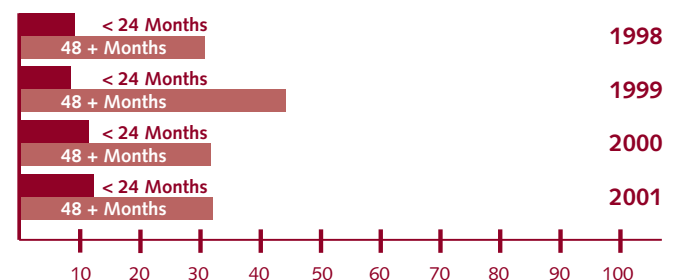
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	1.2	0.5	0.7	0.7
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	8.0	8.1	10.8	11.7
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	25.8	22.8	27.3	30.2
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	34.2	24.1	29.4	25.2
48 or more mos.	30.8	44.4	31.8	32.2
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	675	775	836	1,073

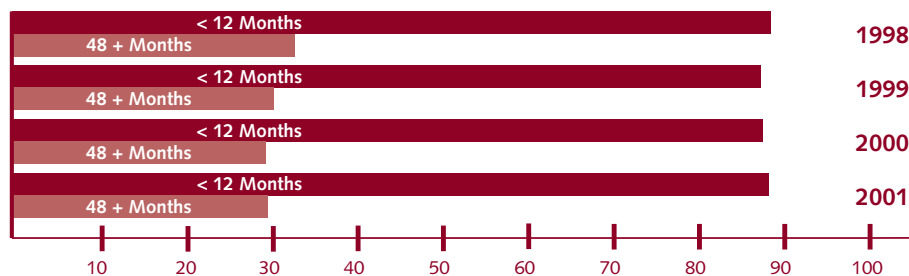
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	88.5	11.5	—	100.0	5,781
	1999	87.4	12.6	—	100.0	5,641
	2000	87.6	12.4	—	100.0	5,485
	2001	88.3	11.7	—	100.0	5,333
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	65.0	35.0	—	100.0	3,063
	1999	67.9	32.1	—	100.0	2,897
	2000	65.1	34.9	—	100.0	2,917
	2001	64.6	35.4	—	100.0	2,919
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	52.1	47.9	—	100.0	1,628
	1999	51.6	48.4	—	100.0	1,952
	2000	56.0	44.0	—	100.0	1,753
	2001	52.2	47.8	—	100.0	1,758
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	40.9	59.1	—	100.0	1,282
	1999	44.2	55.8	—	100.0	1,111
	2000	41.4	58.6	—	100.0	1,352
	2001	44.9	55.1	—	100.0	1,149
48 or more mos.	1998	33.0	67.0	—	100.0	1,929
	1999	30.5	69.5	—	100.0	2,210
	2000	29.6	70.4	—	100.0	2,231
	2001	29.9	70.1	—	100.0	2,391
Missing data	1998	100.0	—	—	100.0	24
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	25
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	18
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	3

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	0.7	0.9	1.2	0.4
Institutions	3.8	4.5	4.1	3.5
Other settings	95.4	94.5	94.7	95.7
Missing	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,696	3,764	3,748	3,635

**Ramona L. Foley, Assistant Director
Children, Adults and Families
Oregon Department of Human Services
503-945-5600**

Oregon's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

In the 'Context Data,' Section B, the numbers of 'children subject of an investigated report' are estimated. Beginning in 2000, child maltreatment victim counts are duplicate victim counts, in compliance with NCANDS DCDC definitions. The decrease in number of victims for 2001 is partially due to a change in the threshold for calling a child a 'threat of harm' victim. 'Threat of harm' victims are reflected in the 'Other' maltreatment type category. Oregon does not participate in NCANDS DCDC, but Outcome measures 1.1 and 2.1, calculated with Federal guidance, are available.

Planned edits in Oregon's automated system will eventually reduce the number of 'Unknown' responses in race/ethnicity for victims and children in foster care in future submissions (Sections B and C). The low percentage of 'waiting children' whose parents' rights have been terminated will also be corrected in future submissions (Section D).

The following discussion focuses on Oregon's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Oregon Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2001, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 1999. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Oregon's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

Oregon's performance on outcome 1 cannot be assessed as part of the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) for calculating this outcome. To ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through NCANDS are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are presented in Oregon's CFSR Final Report.

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

Oregon's attainment of outcome 2 cannot be evaluated in the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to NCANDS for calculating this outcome. To ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through NCANDS are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are presented in Oregon's CFSR Final Report.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 87.2 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes, which is greater than the national median of 85.3 percent), and 81.5 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is greater than the national median of 78.4 percent). However, 63.7 percent of children who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care exited to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 72.3 percent), and 42.1 percent of the children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care (which is substantially greater than the national median of 28.0 percent). These data suggest that although the State is somewhat effective in attaining permanency for children in foster care, it is not consistently effective in ensuring that children do not "grow up" in foster care.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of children's entry into foster care was 62.0, which is lower than both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. Oregon's performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Also in FY 2001, 10.3 percent of children entering foster care were re-entering within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode. This percentage is higher than the national standard of 8.6 percent or less, but about equal to the national median of 10.4 percent. Oregon's performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-11.3 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 12.4, which is lower than the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and the national median of 21.0 percent. However, Oregon's performance on this measure improved continuously from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+43.4 percent change).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 foster care placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 88.3, which is higher than the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and the national median of 83.3 percent. There was no substantive change in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 3.9, which is lower than the national median of 8.7 percent. Oregon's performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-27.4 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	2,859,828	2,852,520	2,922,221	2,880,499	Child maltreatment victims	5,392	5,076	5,002	4,784
Race/ethnicity (%) ¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	23,070	22,690	21,631	21,237
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	Children adopted	1,516	1,454	1,712	1,564
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.0					
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.0	2.1	1.9	N/A					
Black	12.1	12.2	12.7	13.0					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	4.1	4.3	5.1	5.2					
White	81.6	81.3	78.2	78.1					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	1.8	1.6					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	17.9	12.8	10.6	14.0					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	84.8	90.0	84.8	84.1					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			1998	Rate		
		1999	2000	2001		1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	22,589	22,437	22,694	23,012	7.9 per 1,000	7.9 per 1,000	7.8 per 1,000	7.9 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	5,392	5,076	5,002	4,784	1.9 per 1,000	1.8 per 1,000	1.7 per 1,000	1.6 per 1,000
Child fatalities	52	50	38	47	1.8 per 100,000	1.8 per 100,000	1.3 per 100,000	1.6 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	3.1	0.6	5.6	5.4	Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	—
1-5 years	22.5	21.0	21.5	21.1	Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
6-10 years	30.5	28.3	29.4	29.5	Black	—	—	—	—
11-15 years	32.1	32.5	32.8	33.5	Hispanic	—	—	—	—
16+ years	11.8	17.6	10.5	10.5	White	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	0.2	—	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	—	—	—	100.0
Number	5,392	5,076	5,002	4,784	Total % ³	—	—	—	100.0
					Number	—	—	—	4,784

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		1.9	2.0	2.0	2.1
Medical neglect		2.8	2.4	2.9	2.8
Neglect		3.8	3.8	3.6	3.5
Physical abuse		41.1	62.1	37.6	37.9
Sexual abuse		46.4	80.4	49.9	48.6
Other		5.8	1.8	6.3	6.4
Unknown		—	—	0.0	1.0
Total % ⁴		101.8	152.5	102.3	102.2
Number		5,392	5,076	5,002	4,784

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	20,983	13,019	10,933	23,070	34,002
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	21,809	13,299	12,419	22,690	35,108
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	21,322	12,235	11,926	21,631	33,557
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	20,544	12,420	11,730	21,237	32,964

Median Length of Stay (Months)	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	23.6	N/A	10.4	19.6	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	20.5	N/A	10.3	19.2	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	20.3	N/A	10.5	19.9	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	20.8	N/A	9.9	20.1	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.0	11.4	10.7	10.6	10.1	3.4	3.1	3.4	3.4	4.0	3.9	3.3	3.1
1-5 years	22.8	21.1	21.0	20.4	18.8	18.8	18.5	16.7	20.0	18.9	18.6	18.5	21.3	20.5	20.5	19.4
6-10 years	25.0	23.9	24.2	23.6	16.2	16.8	17.0	15.8	17.6	16.7	17.5	16.8	23.3	23.4	23.3	21.5
11-15 years	30.0	30.7	31.6	33.1	34.4	34.6	36.2	38.3	27.3	26.9	27.7	29.5	30.3	31.3	33.1	34.1
16-18 years	17.5	19.5	18.3	18.4	19.1	18.9	17.6	19.0	29.2	31.6	30.1	29.0	19.5	19.3	18.4	20.1
19+ years	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.6	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.7
Unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	20,983	21,809	21,322	20,544	13,019	13,299	12,235	12,420	10,933	12,419	11,926	11,730	23,070	22,690	21,631	21,237

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.5	0.4	—	—	0.3	0.6	—	—	0.5	0.6	—	—	0.4	0.4
Asian/Pacific	0.4	0.5	—	—	0.7	0.7	—	—	0.5	0.7	—	—	0.6	0.5	—	—
Black	54.5	52.4	53.3	52.4	41.4	40.9	40.2	38.8	43.8	42.6	42.9	41.3	52.2	51.0	51.6	50.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	9.7	10.7	8.5	8.9	11.0	11.1	9.2	9.5	9.6	10.5	8.2	9.2	10.5	11.0	9.1	9.2
White	34.8	36.0	37.3	37.7	46.3	46.9	49.4	50.2	45.5	45.6	47.7	48.2	36.2	37.1	38.4	39.2
Two or more races	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	0.1	0.2	—	—	0.0	0.1	—	—	0.0	0.1
Unknown	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	20,983	21,809	21,322	20,544	13,019	13,299	12,235	12,420	10,933	12,419	11,926	11,730	23,070	22,690	21,631	21,237

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	4,768	4,891	5,210	4,808
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	739	846	1,008	942

Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.6	2.1	1.6	1.5
1-5 years	35.9	32.1	30.6	30.3
6-10 years	37.2	37.5	36.7	35.1
11-15 years	20.7	24.1	26.4	27.7
16+ years	3.3	3.6	4.0	4.8
Unknown	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,768	4,891	5,210	4,808

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.5	0.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.4	0.5	—	—
Black	58.2	54.3	57.2	55.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	11.1	12.4	9.5	10.3
White	29.7	32.4	32.3	33.0
Two or more races	—	—	0.0	0.0
Unknown	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,768	4,891	5,210	4,808

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	0.8	1.0	0.6	0.9
1-5 years	44.2	43.6	40.3	43.0
6-10 years	38.9	38.2	38.5	33.4
11-15 years	14.2	14.9	18.0	19.4
16+ years	2.0	2.3	2.5	3.3
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,516	1,454	1,712	1,564

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.2	0.1	—	—
Black	62.1	57.4	55.6	45.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	4.6	4.7	6.5	9.1
White	30.3	36.5	37.0	44.1
Two or more races	—	—	—	0.2
Unknown	2.7	1.2	0.6	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,516	1,454	1,712	1,564

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

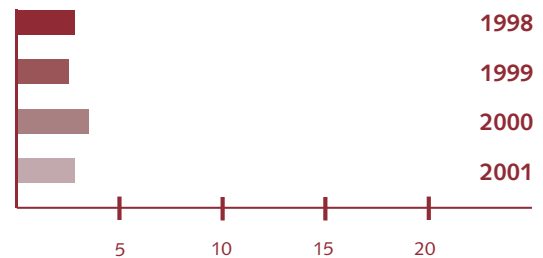
⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	97.2	97.5	96.5	97.2
Children with one or more recurrences	2.8	2.5	3.5	2.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,755	2,522	2,606	2,421

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences

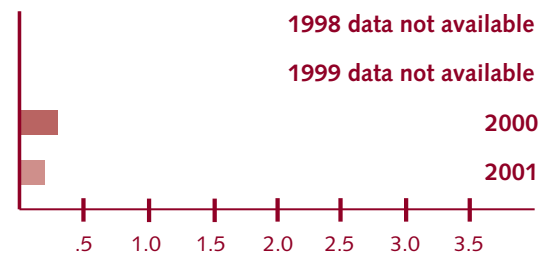


2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	0.25	0.24
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	99.70	99.76
Total %	—	—	100.00	100.00
Number	—	—	30,739	30,568

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care

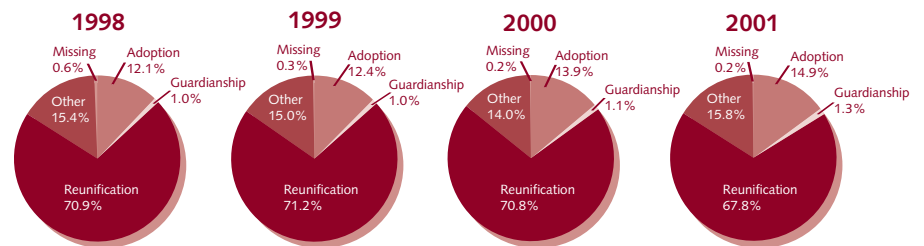


3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	12.1	12.4	13.9	14.9
Guardianship	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.3
Reunification	70.9	71.2	70.8	67.8
Other	15.4	15.0	14.0	15.8
Missing data	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	10,933	12,419	11,926	11,730

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	14.9	16.7	19.4	20.5
Guardianship	1.3	1.3	1.8	1.6
Reunification	64.8	60.3	58.7	54.8
Other	18.9	21.6	20.0	23.0
Missing data	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,035	2,526	2,396	2,317

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.6
Guardianship	1.1	1.0	0.9	1.3
Reunification	75.9	77.0	77.6	74.1
Other	21.8	21.3	20.6	23.9
Missing data	1.0	0.5	0.3	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,688	5,761	5,295	5,251

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	33.8	30.6	31.5	32.9
Children older than 12 at entry	66.1	68.9	68.5	67.1
Missing data	0.2	0.4	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	634	702	688	680

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

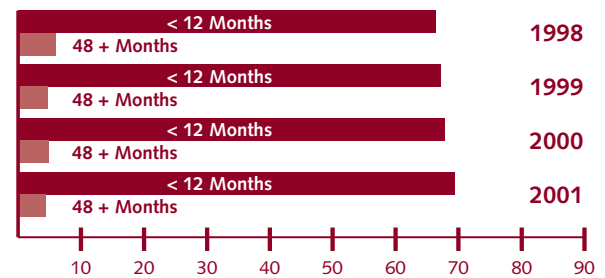
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	9.1	—	12.5	18.2	—	—	6.6	15.1	7.8	3.3	—	—	16.0	16.4	17.1	17.3	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	12.5	—	—	—	—	4.1	—	—	—	—	0.9	1.1	1.4	1.7	—	—	—	—
Reunification	81.8	87.5	75.0	63.6	—	—	68.9	60.3	62.7	71.7	—	—	63.8	64.2	64.6	60.7	—	—	—	—
Other	9.1	12.5	—	18.2	—	—	24.6	20.5	27.5	25.0	—	—	18.3	17.9	16.7	20.3	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.0	—	—	—	1.0	0.4	0.3	0.1	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	11	16	8	11	—	—	61	73	51	92	—	—	4,793	5,296	5,116	4,839	—	—	—	—

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	12.4	10.0	13.8	13.9	8.4	9.5	11.1	13.2	5.3	13.3	14.5	6.0	—	—	—	20.0	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	1.0	1.2	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.8	2.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	64.3	68.9	68.3	64.0	79.2	78.2	76.8	74.4	82.5	77.8	73.7	85.1	—	—	100.0	80.0	—	—	—	—
Other	21.1	19.5	16.7	20.2	11.3	11.2	11.1	11.3	10.5	6.7	10.5	9.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	1.1	0.4	0.2	0.9	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	—	—	1.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	1,050	1,302	978	1,076	4,971	5,668	5,686	5,649	57	45	76	67	—	—	1	15	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

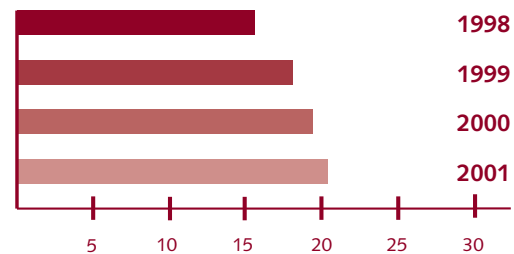
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	66.3	67.1	67.7	69.3
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	16.5	19.7	18.9	17.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	7.0	5.6	5.4	5.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	3.8	2.5	2.8	2.8
48 or more mos.	6.0	4.7	4.9	4.4
Missing data	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	7,754	8,844	8,443	7,950

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	77.7	74.6	71.8	70.7
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	15.5	18.0	19.3	20.3
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	5.4	7.2	8.7	8.9
Missing data	1.4	0.2	0.1	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	13,019	13,299	12,235	12,420

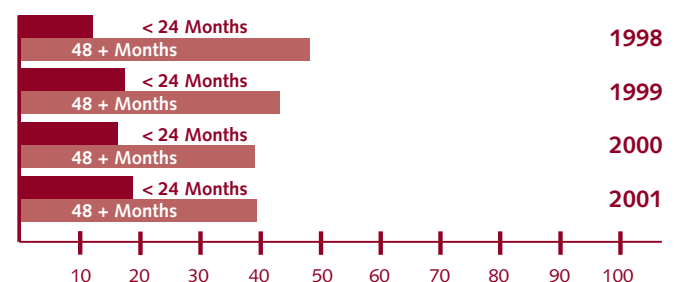
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	2.0	2.3	2.1	2.1
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	10.3	15.2	14.3	16.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	18.4	21.1	24.8	24.0
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	21.1	18.1	19.6	17.6
48 or more mos.	48.3	43.4	39.2	39.5
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,324	1,543	1,655	1,750

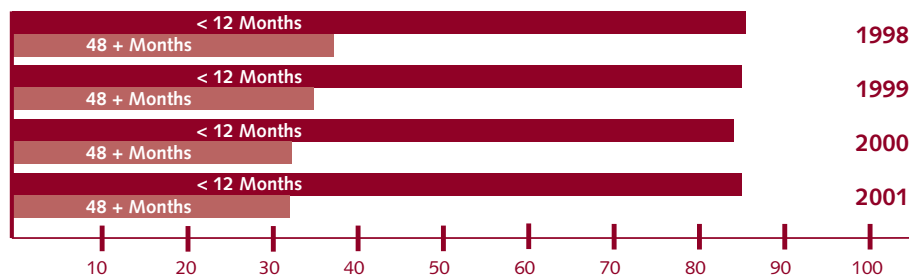
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	85.6	13.5	0.9	100.0	14,556
	1999	85.1	14.9	0.0	100.0	15,210
	2000	84.2	15.8	0.0	100.0	14,127
	2001	85.2	14.8	—	100.0	14,073
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	66.1	33.7	0.2	100.0	5,725
	1999	65.3	34.7	—	100.0	6,593
	2000	62.5	37.5	—	100.0	6,415
	2001	62.2	37.8	—	100.0	6,074
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	55.2	44.8	—	100.0	3,646
	1999	55.4	44.6	—	100.0	3,695
	2000	54.2	45.8	—	100.0	3,784
	2001	53.7	46.3	—	100.0	3,778
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	48.8	51.2	—	100.0	2,655
	1999	48.8	51.2	—	100.0	2,466
	2000	48.4	51.6	—	100.0	2,417
	2001	47.7	52.3	—	100.0	2,505
48 or more mos.	1998	37.5	62.4	0.0	100.0	7,342
	1999	35.2	64.7	0.0	100.0	7,050
	2000	32.7	67.2	0.0	100.0	6,772
	2001	32.4	67.6	0.0	100.0	6,483
Missing data	1998	89.7	5.1	5.1	100.0	78
	1999	96.8	3.2	—	100.0	94
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	42
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	51

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	4.4	4.3	3.8	4.1
Institutions	9.5	8.5	8.9	8.4
Other settings	86.1	87.2	87.3	87.5
Missing	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6,856	6,987	6,549	6,204

Pennsylvania

[STATE COMMENT]

**Wayne Stevenson, Deputy Secretary
Children, Youth and Families
Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare
717-787-4756**

Pennsylvania's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

Data on the race/ethnicity of child maltreatment victims are not available because Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Law prohibits the collection of this information.

AFCARS data indicate that as of 9/30/01, parental rights had been terminated for only 942 of the 4,808 children waiting to be adopted. We believe the AFCARS foster care data does not provide an accurate account of the number of children waiting to be adopted who have had termination of parental rights (TPR).

A separate report that is produced from the Pennsylvania Statewide Adoption Network System indicates that for the quarter ending 9/30/01 there were 4,079 children with a goal of adoption and of those, 2,344 had a TPR completed, 1,542 had a TPR pending, and 119 had a TPR appeal.

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 work to improve the quality of the AFCARS data in this area.

Pennsylvania has identified outcome measure 4.2 Foster Care Re-entry as an area needing improvement and has addressed it in our Program Improvement Plan.

The following discussion focuses on Pennsylvania's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Pennsylvania Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2002, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2000. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Pennsylvania's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, Pennsylvania's rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was 2.8 percent, which is lower than both the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and the national median of 8.0 percent. However, it is important to note that most reports of child neglect, including environmental concerns and lack of supervision, are not considered "child maltreatment" in Pennsylvania and therefore are not reported to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS). The State is unique in this approach to reports involving child neglect. Pennsylvania's reported performance related to maltreatment recurrence declined from 1999 to 2001 (+12.0 percent change).

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

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.2 percent, which is lower than both the national standard of 0.57 percent and the national median of 0.47 percent. Change in performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because Pennsylvania did not report 1999 data to NCANDS for this measure.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 84.0 percent of children exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 85.3 percent); 76.9 percent of children with a diagnosed disability exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 78.4 percent); and 32.9 percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry (which is higher than the national median of 28.0 percent). However, 76.0 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 72.3). Pennsylvania's performance on these indicators suggests that although the State is somewhat successful in finding permanent homes for children who entered foster care after age 12, it is not consistently effective in ensuring that children who enter foster care at relatively young ages do not "grow up" in the system.

There were no substantive changes in Pennsylvania's performance related to the attainment of permanency for children in foster care. Performance related to the percentage of children exiting foster care through emancipation who were age 12 or younger at the time of entry declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+7.6 percent change).

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reported reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 69.3, which is lower than both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and about equal to the national median of 69.2 percent. However, according to the CFSR Final Report, the court does not permit transfer of custody until a child has been physically reunified with the family for 6 months. Therefore, many children may be physically reunified within 12 months, but this would not be reported to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) because the State maintains care and supervision responsibility. Pennsylvania's performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Also in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 20.3, which is higher than the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and almost twice the national median of 10.4 percent. Pennsylvania's performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+12.6 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 18.9, which is lower than both the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and the national median of 21.0 percent. However, Pennsylvania's performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+8.2 percent change).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 85.2, which is lower than the national standard of 86.7 percent or more, but greater than the national median of 83.3. There was no substantive change in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 12.5, which is higher than the national median of 8.7 percent. There was no substantive change in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	1,222,818	—	1,092,101	1,101,000	Child maltreatment victims	—	—	—	12,840
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	6,629	7,760	—	8,476
Alaska Native/American Indian	N/A	N/A	0.0	N/A	Children adopted	281	357	260	257
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A					
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	0.1	N/A					
Black	N/A	N/A	0.1	N/A					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A					
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	99.0	N/A					
White	N/A	N/A	0.7	N/A					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	0.1	N/A					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.0	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	—	—	—	—					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	—	—	83.2	—					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number				Rate			
		1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	—	—	—	33,831	— per 1,000	— per 1,000	— per 1,000	30.7 per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	—	—	—	12,840	— per 1,000	— per 1,000	— per 1,000	11.7 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	—	—	—	38	— per 100,000	— per 100,000	— per 100,000	3.5 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	—
1-5 years	—	—	—	—	Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
6-10 years	—	—	—	—	Black	—	—	—	—
11-15 years	—	—	—	—	Hispanic	—	—	—	—
16+ years	—	—	—	—	White	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—	Other/Unknown	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—	Total % ³	—	—	—	—
					Number	—	—	—	—

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	—	—	—	—
Medical neglect	—	—	—	—
Neglect	—	—	—	—
Physical abuse	—	—	—	—
Sexual abuse	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	6,073	2,171	1,615	6,629	8,244
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	6,568	2,703	1,510	7,760	9,271
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	—	—	—	—	—
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	6,195	3,254	977	8,476	9,013
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	21.6	N/A	11.5	28.0	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	26.6	N/A	13.0	26.4	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	—	N/A	—	—	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	27.4	N/A	11.7	22.4	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	3.3	2.9	—	3.2	14.2	12.8	—	12.5	4.0	2.9	—	4.3	2.9	2.9	—	3.4
1-5 years	32.7	29.1	—	24.6	35.5	34.3	—	35.0	40.1	36.6	—	40.2	29.2	27.4	—	25.4
6-10 years	31.9	32.4	—	31.4	29.8	29.7	—	29.5	31.3	31.4	—	32.8	32.3	32.2	—	30.1
11-15 years	26.0	26.7	—	32.2	17.1	19.8	—	19.2	19.6	21.5	—	21.7	26.5	26.7	—	28.7
16-18 years	6.0	8.7	—	8.3	2.6	2.8	—	2.9	4.7	7.4	—	1.3	9.0	9.1	—	12.1
19+ years	—	0.0	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	0.3	—	—	—	1.6	—	0.2
Unknown	0.1	0.1	—	0.1	0.8	0.6	—	0.9	0.2	—	—	0.2	0.2	0.1	—	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0
Number	6,073	6,568	—	6,195	2,171	2,703	—	3,254	1,615	1,510	—	977	6,629	7,760	—	8,476

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.0	—	0.2	0.1	—	—	0.0	—	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.0	—	0.2
Asian	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0
Asian/Pacific	0.1	0.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	0.0	—	—
Black	0.2	0.2	—	0.1	0.1	0.0	—	0.3	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	0.2
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	—	0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.3
Hispanic	99.1	99.4	—	98.7	99.8	99.8	—	98.6	99.6	99.5	—	99.3	99.2	99.5	—	98.6
White	0.4	0.3	—	0.6	0.1	0.1	—	0.5	0.3	0.2	—	0.3	0.4	0.3	—	0.6
Two or more races	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0
Unknown	0.2	0.1	—	0.1	—	0.0	—	—	—	0.1	—	0.4	0.2	0.1	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0
Number	6,073	6,568	—	6,195	2,171	2,703	—	3,254	1,615	1,510	—	977	6,629	7,760	—	8,476

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	628	625	—	418
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	144	165	—	69
Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	3.0	1.6	—	9.1
1-5 years	18.0	14.7	—	23.2
6-10 years	39.8	38.6	—	25.8
11-15 years	30.6	34.6	—	27.0
16+ years	6.1	6.6	—	11.0
Unknown	2.5	4.0	—	3.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	—	100.0
Number	628	625	—	418

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	—	—	—	0.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	0.5
Hispanic	99.5	99.8	—	98.8
White	0.5	0.2	—	0.5
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	—	100.0
Number	628	625	—	418

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	5.0	6.2	5.8	3.1
1-5 years	56.6	41.2	44.6	45.5
6-10 years	24.6	37.5	32.7	32.7
11-15 years	10.0	13.7	10.0	12.8
16+ years	3.9	1.4	6.9	5.8
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	281	357	260	257

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.4	—	—	—
Black	—	—	0.4	—
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	98.9	99.4	98.5	99.6
White	0.4	0.6	1.2	0.4
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	0.4	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	281	357	260	257

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

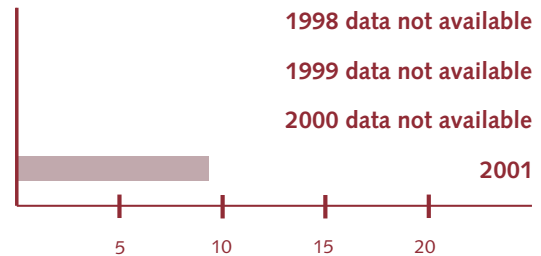
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	—	90.7
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	—	9.3
Total %	—	—	—	100.0
Number	—	—	—	6,138

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



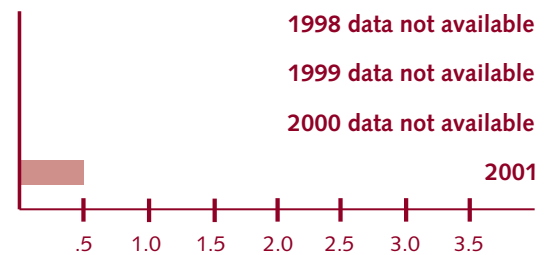
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	0.45
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	99.55
Total %	—	—	—	100.00
Number	—	—	—	9,401

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



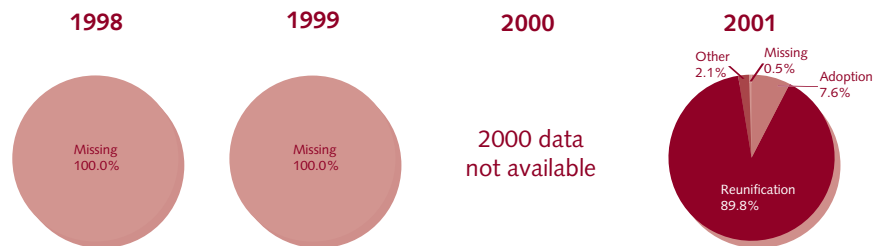
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	7.6
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	—	—	89.8
Other	—	—	—	2.1
Missing data	100.0	100.0	—	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	—	100.0
Number	1,615	1,510	—	977

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	15.8
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	—	—	80.7
Other	—	—	—	3.5
Missing data	100.0	100.0	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	—	100.0
Number	94	97	—	57

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	—	—	92.4
Other	—	—	—	7.6
Missing data	100.0	100.0	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	—	100.0
Number	164	199	—	66

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	—	—	—	62.5
Children older than 12 at entry	—	—	—	25.0
Missing data	—	—	—	12.5
Total %	—	—	—	100.0
Number	—	—	—	8

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

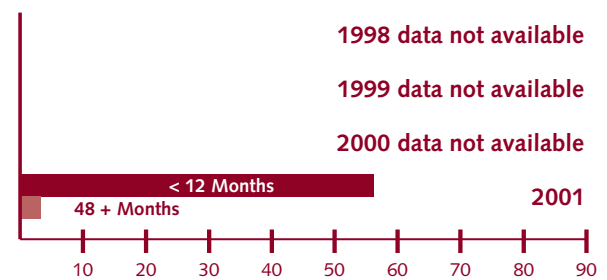
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	7.5	—	—	—	33.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	—	—	89.8	—	—	—	66.7	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	2.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	100.0	100.0	—	0.5	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	—	100.0	—	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number	1,608	1,503	—	970	5	3	—	3	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

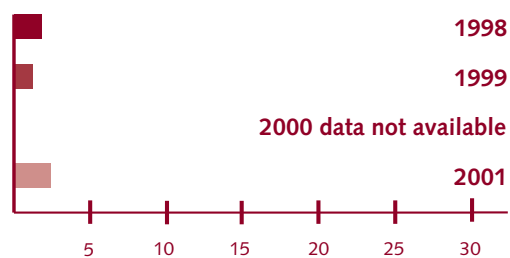
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	—	—	56.1
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	—	—	28.6
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	—	—	6.0
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	—	—	4.3
48 or more mos.	—	—	—	3.3
Missing data	—	—	—	1.6
Total %	—	—	—	100.0
Number	—	—	—	877

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	94.4	92.9	—	90.7
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	1.8	1.2	—	2.4
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	3.7	5.8	—	5.6
Missing data	—	—	—	1.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	—	100.0
Number	2,171	2,703	—	3,254

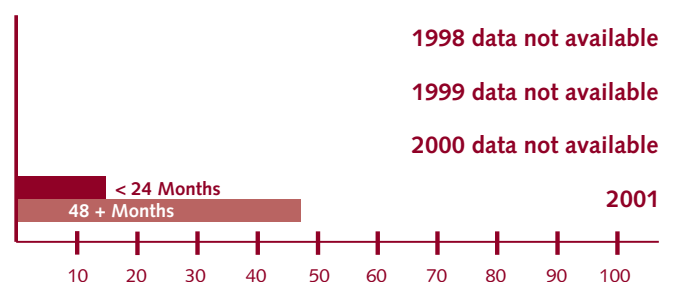
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	—	—	4.1
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	—	—	10.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	—	—	21.6
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	—	—	16.2
48 or more mos.	—	—	—	47.3
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	100.0
Number	—	—	—	74

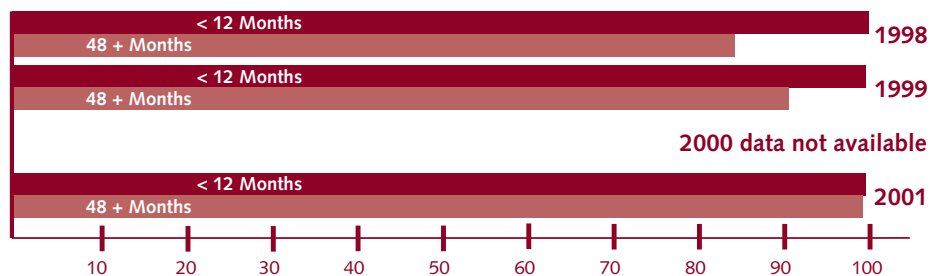
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	99.9	0.1	—	100.0	2,708
	1999	99.6	0.4	—	100.0	3,073
	2000	—	—	—	—	—
	2001	99.6	0.4	—	100.0	3,417
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	99.6	0.4	—	100.0	1,610
	1999	99.5	0.5	—	100.0	1,748
	2000	—	—	—	—	—
	2001	98.9	1.1	—	100.0	1,725
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	99.1	0.9	—	100.0	1,169
	1999	99.4	0.6	—	100.0	1,050
	2000	—	—	—	—	—
	2001	98.5	1.5	—	100.0	1,017
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	97.9	2.1	—	100.0	1,214
	1999	98.8	1.2	—	100.0	901
	2000	—	—	—	—	—
	2001	99.3	0.7	—	100.0	669
48 or more mos.	1998	84.3	15.7	—	100.0	1,530
	1999	90.6	9.4	—	100.0	2,491
	2000	—	—	—	—	—
	2001	99.2	0.8	—	100.0	2,610
Missing data	1998	100.0	—	—	100.0	13
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	8
	2000	—	—	—	—	—
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	11

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	5.0	0.4	—	1.0
Institutions	5.3	6.6	—	6.7
Other settings	89.7	93.0	—	92.3
Missing	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	—	100.0
Number	1,894	2,330	—	2,719

**Carmen R. Nazario, Administrator
Administration for Children and Families
Puerto Rico Department of the Family
787-721-1331**

Puerto Rico's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

We observed discrepancies between the Annual Report and the Data Profile. Our Administration transmitted data collected through the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) with updated information. Said data are reflected in the Data Profile but not in the Annual Report. Therefore, we request that the Annual Report be updated in accordance to the Data Profile.

We are collecting some of the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) data elements. These data elements were also included in the 2001 Calendar Year Data Profile mentioned above. We hereby request that your Office update the Annual Report accordingly.

The following discussion focuses on Puerto Rico's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Puerto Rico Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2003, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2001. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Puerto Rico's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided below.

Puerto Rico's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence in less than 6 months was 9.3 percent, which does not meet the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and is higher than the national median of 8.0 percent. Change in performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because the State did not provide data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) for calculating this outcome for 1999. Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that the reported rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months may be an undercount because reports of alleged maltreatment on open cases are not always investigated as new reports. Information from the CFSR Final Report notes that previous backlogs of uninvestigated reports due to staff shortages have been reduced in the past two years. The CFSR Final Report identifies several factors which may contribute to maltreatment recurrence: (1) lack of services in the communities to meet the needs of children and families; (2) lack of consistent and comprehensive assessment of needs; (3) lack of ongoing risk assessment; and (4) inconsistent contact between caseworkers and children and parents.

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.45 percent, which meets the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and is lower than the national median of 0.47 percent. Change in performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because the State did not provide data to NCANDS for calculating this outcome for 1999. Information in the CFSR Final Report indicates that the rate of maltreatment in foster care may be underreported because: (1) maltreatment by relative caregivers is not reported as maltreatment in foster care, and (2) there are too few workers to investigate all allegations of institutional abuse. The CFSR Final Report also notes that Puerto Rico lacks a uniform training program for prospective foster parents.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 97.3 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is the highest rate reported nationally); 96.5 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is the highest rate reported nationally); and 92.4 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is the highest rate reported nationally). Change in performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because the State did not provide data to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) for calculating this outcome for 1999.

Also in FY 2001, 62.5 percent of the children who were emancipated from foster care in FY 2001 were age 12 or younger when they entered foster care, (which is the highest rate reported nationally). Change in performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because the State did not provide data to AFCARS for calculating this outcome for 1999. Overall, these data suggest that the State is effective in achieving permanency for children in foster care; however, the State is not effective in ensuring that children who enter foster care at young ages do not "grow up" in foster care.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 56.1, which does not meet the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and is lower than the national median of 69.2 percent. Change in performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because the State did not provide data to AFCARS for calculating this outcome for 1999. Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies the following potential barriers to timely reunification: (1) lack of services, particularly substance abuse treatment and mental health evaluation; (2) efforts to promote frequent parent-child visits or to support parent-child relationships; and (3) inconsistent efforts to involve parents in the case planning process.

Puerto Rico's performance with regard to reunifications within 12 months of entry into foster care must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 2.4. This performance meets the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is lower than the national median of 10.4 percent. However, performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+96.3 percent change). According to the Puerto Rico's self-assessment, the actual rate of re-entry may be lower than indicated by the data because changes in temporary custody to other government agencies may be coded as re-entries when the children return to child welfare agency custody. Puerto Rico's self-assessment also identifies continued monitoring and support from caseworkers after case closure as a key factor contributing to preventing re-entry.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all adoptions finalized within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 14.9, which does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and is lower than the national median of 21.0 percent. These data are difficult to interpret because the number of finalized adoptions in FY 2001 reported to the AFCARS Adoption Database was 257 (Section E), but the number of children reported to the AFCARS Foster Care Database as exiting to a finalized adoption (outcome measures 3.1 and 5.1) was only 74. Information in the CFSR Final Report identifies the following as potential barriers to timely adoptions: (1) maintaining the goal of reunification for too long; (2) delays in completing paperwork; (3) lack of discussion about adoption and adoption subsidies with foster parents; and (4) court-related barriers such as continuances, delays in seeking termination of parental rights (TPR), and lengthy TPR appeals.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who were in foster care for less than 12 months and experienced no more than 2 placements was 99.6, which meets the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and is greater than the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001. According to Puerto Rico's self-assessment, the data reported for this measure may be incorrect because placement changes are not routinely entered into the data system.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 7.7, which is lower than the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+10.4 percent change). Information in the CFSR Final Report notes that shelter is used as a first placement, even for infants. The CFSR Final Report also notes that the lack of therapeutic foster homes results in placements in residential treatment facilities.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	237,917	241,180	247,822	243,064	Child maltreatment victims	3,448	3,485	3,361	3,319
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	2,844	2,621	2,302	2,414
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	Children adopted	222	292	260	267
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.8					
Asian/Pacific Islander	3.2	3.2	2.7	N/A					
Black	5.5	5.5	5.5	6.4					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	10.3	10.9	14.1	14.4					
White	80.5	79.8	72.7	73.2					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	3.3	2.4					
Other	N/A	N/A	1.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	22.8	14.3	15.8	11.0					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	93.1	92.2	94.3	90.4					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	1998	Rate			2001
		1999	2000	2001			1999	2000	2001	
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	9,863	9,424	11,531	11,369	41.5 per 1,000	39.1 per 1,000	46.5 per 1,000	45.7 per 1,000		
Child maltreatment victims ²	3,448	3,485	3,361	3,319	14.5 per 1,000	14.4 per 1,000	13.6 per 1,000	13.3 per 1,000		
Child fatalities	2	4	3	5	0.8 per 100,000	1.7 per 100,000	1.2 per 100,000	2.0 per 100,000		

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	6.8	6.8	9.8	10.6	Alaska Native/American Indian	1.5	1.0	1.2	1.2
1-5 years	29.1	29.0	30.0	28.8	Asian/Pacific Islander	2.3	2.1	1.8	2.2
6-10 years	31.5	32.0	30.5	31.1	Black	17.1	16.3	14.0	13.2
11-15 years	23.5	23.0	23.9	24.1	Hispanic	16.8	17.3	18.2	19.3
16+ years	8.0	8.4	4.8	5.3	White	72.8	72.6	61.3	59.1
Unknown	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.1	Two or more races	—	—	1.0	2.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	6.3	8.0	2.4	2.2
Number	3,448	3,485	3,361	3,319	Total % ³	116.8	117.3	100.0	100.0
					Number	3,448	3,485	3,361	3,319

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		0.7	0.6	0.2	0.2
Medical neglect		2.5	2.2	2.3	2.0
Neglect		84.7	84.6	73.9	75.8
Physical abuse		28.9	26.6	19.8	19.7
Sexual abuse		8.9	8.9	7.4	5.9
Other		3.4	3.8	6.1	5.2
Unknown		—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴		129.1	126.7	109.8	108.7
Number		3,448	3,485	3,361	3,319

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	1,907	1,623	915	2,844	3,530
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	2,102	1,403	1,018	2,621	3,505
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	2,181	1,409	1,348	2,302	3,590
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	2,122	1,493	1,227	2,414	3,615
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	15.6	N/A	7.4	14.2	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	15.5	N/A	11.1	15.3	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	16.6	N/A	11.7	15.1	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	16.1	N/A	10.1	15.5	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	5.0	5.4	4.8	4.9	11.7	14.0	12.7	12.3	6.3	6.1	4.5	5.1	4.5	4.7	4.9	4.3
1-5 years	23.2	22.6	20.4	17.3	18.8	19.1	16.0	17.7	22.8	26.8	22.7	21.7	20.9	20.5	17.7	18.2
6-10 years	21.8	20.6	19.2	18.7	17.3	15.1	15.6	13.3	19.2	21.5	16.5	14.1	19.9	17.6	17.6	16.0
11-15 years	25.8	29.7	30.4	33.3	33.1	33.2	38.4	38.1	26.2	25.9	25.9	29.8	27.5	28.4	33.7	32.3
16-18 years	20.0	18.6	21.8	21.7	18.4	17.7	17.2	18.2	22.2	17.1	26.0	24.0	22.8	24.4	22.1	25.0
19+ years	3.7	3.0	3.5	4.1	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.3	2.3	2.4	3.6	4.3	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.1
Unknown	0.5	0.0	—	0.0	0.2	0.1	—	—	0.9	0.2	0.9	1.1	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,907	2,102	2,181	2,122	1,623	1,403	1,409	1,493	915	1,018	1,348	1,227	2,844	2,621	2,302	2,414

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	2.1	1.6	1.2	1.2	1.5	2.2	1.2	1.3	2.2	3.1	1.0	1.1	1.7	1.4	1.3	1.3
Asian	—	—	2.0	1.4	—	—	1.2	2.2	—	—	2.0	2.0	—	—	1.6	1.6
Asian/Pacific	0.8	1.3	—	—	1.7	2.4	—	—	1.0	1.5	—	—	1.2	2.0	—	—
Black	25.5	23.4	22.6	21.4	17.9	18.1	16.3	17.1	19.5	19.6	18.8	18.3	22.6	21.3	20.7	20.5
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	0.0
Hispanic	13.1	15.5	13.4	14.8	16.0	15.0	20.2	17.3	13.7	19.7	18.6	16.1	14.3	14.0	14.7	15.6
White	54.3	54.3	58.0	58.3	59.3	59.4	58.0	58.8	59.5	51.9	56.7	60.1	56.3	57.9	58.7	57.7
Two or more races	—	—	0.0	1.0	—	—	0.9	1.3	—	—	0.2	0.6	—	—	0.5	1.5
Unknown	4.3	3.9	2.7	1.8	3.7	2.8	2.1	1.9	4.3	4.1	2.6	2.0	3.8	3.3	2.4	1.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,907	2,102	2,181	2,122	1,623	1,403	1,409	1,493	915	1,018	1,348	1,227	2,844	2,621	2,302	2,414

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	322	339	399	409
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	100	87	238	253
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.2	1.5	0.8	1.2
1-5 years	40.4	34.8	28.3	31.1
6-10 years	41.3	36.6	32.8	28.9
11-15 years	15.2	25.1	33.8	33.3
16+ years	1.6	2.1	3.0	4.7
Unknown	0.3	—	1.3	1.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	322	339	399	409

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	2.2	0.9	1.3	0.7
Asian	—	—	1.3	0.7
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.3	1.2	—	—
Black	27.0	32.2	27.6	30.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.3	0.2
Hispanic	14.9	13.3	19.3	15.6
White	50.6	45.1	47.1	49.9
Two or more races	—	—	—	1.5
Unknown	5.0	7.4	3.3	1.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	322	339	399	409

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.8	1.4	2.3	2.6
1-5 years	52.3	45.2	51.5	53.2
6-10 years	34.2	37.3	30.4	29.6
11-15 years	9.5	14.4	14.6	13.5
16+ years	2.3	1.7	1.2	1.1
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	222	292	260	267

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.9	2.1	0.4	2.2
Asian	—	—	0.8	2.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.8	0.7	—	—
Black	29.7	25.7	25.8	24.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	6.3	12.7	15.4	13.1
White	36.0	45.5	53.8	46.8
Two or more races	—	—	1.5	3.0
Unknown	25.2	13.4	2.3	8.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	222	292	260	267

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

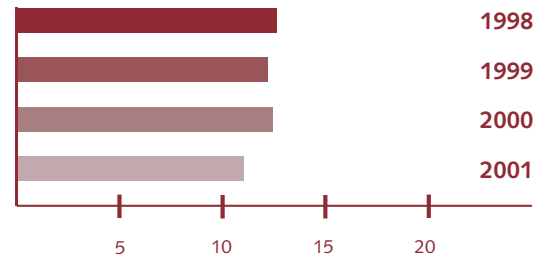
⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	87.4	87.8	87.6	89.0
Children with one or more recurrences	12.6	12.2	12.4	11.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,751	1,781	1,634	1,624

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences

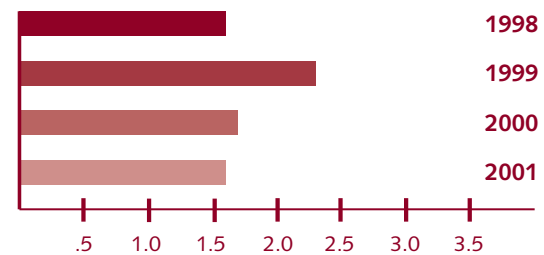


2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	1.60	2.31	1.66	1.62
Children not maltreated while in foster care	98.40	97.69	98.34	98.38
Total %	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	3,400	3,292	3,304	3,327

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care

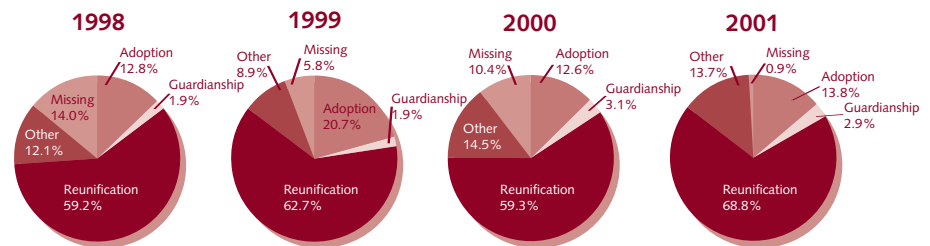


3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	12.8	20.7	12.6	13.8
Guardianship	1.9	1.9	3.1	2.9
Reunification	59.2	62.7	59.3	68.8
Other	12.1	8.9	14.5	13.7
Missing data	14.0	5.8	10.4	0.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	915	1,018	1,348	1,227

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	11.9	30.2	13.5	12.4
Guardianship	—	0.5	4.2	3.3
Reunification	51.3	39.6	51.4	64.5
Other	14.4	18.7	18.1	19.4
Missing data	22.5	11.0	12.7	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	160	182	259	242

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	0.3	0.5	—
Guardianship	1.1	0.6	0.7	1.6
Reunification	53.8	68.3	58.3	72.4
Other	20.3	18.2	25.8	24.2
Missing data	24.8	12.5	14.7	1.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	359	319	563	561

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	16.7	11.6	17.1	18.2
Children older than 12 at entry	80.6	83.7	81.7	80.5
Missing data	2.8	4.7	1.2	1.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	36	43	82	77

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

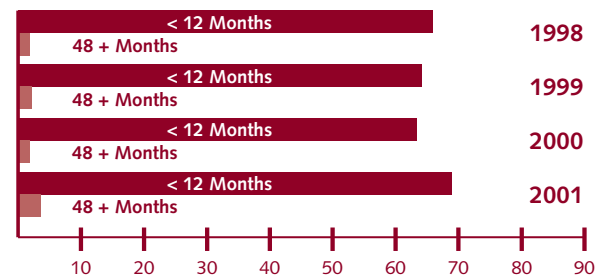
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	10.0	21.9	7.7	15.4	—	—	—	12.5	11.1	26.7	—	—	24.7	22.5	18.9	21.9	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	9.4	15.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.1	2.5	5.1	3.6	—	—	—	—
Reunification	85.0	56.3	61.5	53.8	—	—	81.5	70.8	44.4	66.7	—	—	46.1	58.0	53.9	58.9	—	—	100.0	—
Other	—	9.4	7.7	30.8	—	—	14.8	16.7	33.3	6.7	—	—	13.5	12.0	14.6	14.3	—	—	—	—
Missing data	5.0	3.1	7.7	—	—	—	3.7	—	11.1	—	—	—	10.7	5.0	7.5	1.3	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	—
Number	20	32	13	13	—	—	27	24	9	15	—	—	178	200	254	224	—	—	1	—

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	7.2	23.9	11.2	10.1	9.7	17.6	11.5	12.2	20.5	33.3	14.3	20.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	3.2	0.5	2.4	2.0	0.7	1.9	2.6	3.1	—	—	2.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	73.6	65.2	61.8	74.2	59.7	64.2	59.0	70.4	56.4	57.1	65.7	70.8	—	—	100.0	71.4	—	—	—	—
Other	3.2	6.0	12.7	13.1	13.8	9.1	15.4	13.6	12.8	7.1	11.4	8.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	12.8	4.5	12.0	0.5	16.0	7.2	11.4	0.7	10.3	2.4	5.7	—	—	—	—	28.6	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	125	201	251	198	544	528	764	737	39	42	35	24	—	—	3	7	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

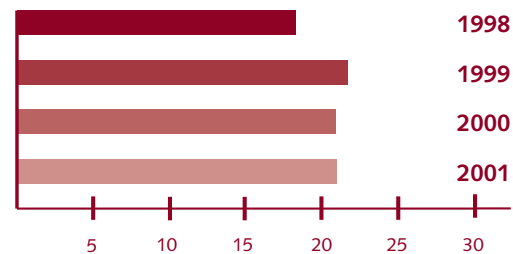
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	65.9	64.1	63.3	68.8
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	9.0	17.2	19.8	17.2
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	2.0	4.1	5.6	4.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.8	1.4	3.0	2.7
48 or more mos.	1.8	2.2	1.8	3.6
Missing data	19.4	11.0	6.6	3.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	542	638	800	844

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	48.4	65.0	66.7	64.8
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	18.2	21.6	20.8	20.9
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	8.3	8.7	11.1	13.2
Missing data	25.1	4.7	1.4	1.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,623	1,403	1,409	1,493

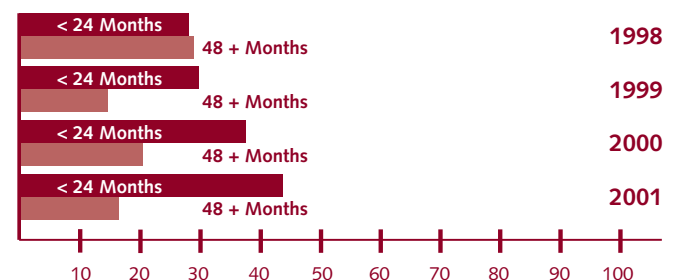
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	5.1	9.5	7.6	12.4
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	23.1	20.4	30.0	31.4
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	13.7	26.5	24.1	24.9
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	20.5	12.3	16.5	13.6
48 or more mos.	29.1	14.7	20.6	16.6
Missing data	8.5	16.6	1.2	1.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	117	211	170	169

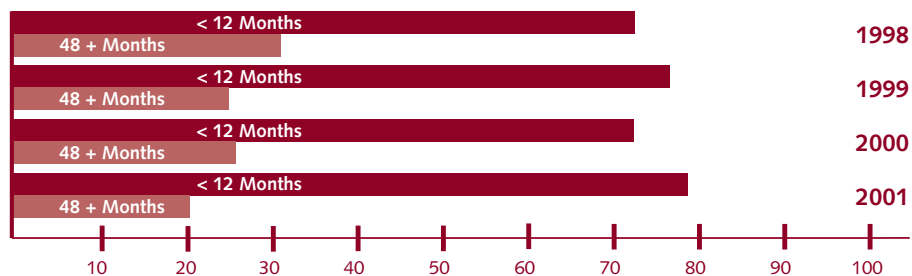
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	72.7	27.3	0.1	100.0	1,712
	1999	76.7	22.6	0.7	100.0	1,593
	2000	72.6	27.4	—	100.0	1,653
	2001	78.8	21.2	—	100.0	1,710
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	47.0	47.0	5.9	100.0	761
	1999	58.1	37.9	3.9	100.0	762
	2000	55.1	44.9	—	100.0	742
	2001	55.1	44.9	—	100.0	739
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	35.2	54.4	10.4	100.0	327
	1999	34.4	53.1	12.5	100.0	480
	2000	45.5	54.3	0.2	100.0	409
	2001	45.4	54.3	0.3	100.0	357
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	27.8	48.9	23.2	100.0	237
	1999	29.5	56.5	14.0	100.0	207
	2000	28.5	70.4	1.1	100.0	284
	2001	40.3	58.9	0.8	100.0	241
48 or more mos.	1998	31.4	54.4	14.2	100.0	478
	1999	25.3	59.3	15.5	100.0	459
	2000	26.1	73.5	0.4	100.0	494
	2001	20.8	78.3	0.9	100.0	553
Missing data	1998	66.7	33.3	—	100.0	15
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	4
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	8
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	15

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	19.8	16.6	15.8	17.5
Institutions	0.6	1.3	1.2	1.9
Other settings	79.6	82.1	82.9	80.7
Missing	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	470	469	726	756

Jay G. Lindgren, Director
Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families
401-528-3541

Rhode Island's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

The State of Rhode Island is pleased once again to submit our comments as part of the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Report. We are very proud of our accomplishments and are using the federal outcome measures to improve the services we provide to children, youth, and families.

Rhode Island has made significant progress in reducing the amount of missing or incomplete data.

It is important to note that the data submitted to AFCARS for our 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 this additional population impacts both average length of stay as well as the proportion of youth in group care.

RI is very aggressive in investigating child abuse reports that have been disclosed by the victim after the initial child abuse investigation has begun but which relate to incidents of child abuse and neglect prior to the initial opening. These reports impact Outcome Measure 1 as they appear to be incidents of repeat abuse because the report date occurs after the initial report is received.

RI data includes indicated allegations of corporeal punishment by foster parents which is prohibited by RI law. Institutional abuse includes the state's juvenile detention facility and private psychiatric hospitals. These factors impact Outcome Measure 2.

Rhode Island

[FEDERAL COMMENT

At the time of preparation of this report, the Rhode Island Child and Family Service Review had not been conducted. States are not accountable for meeting national standards until the time of their review.

South Carolina

[CONTEXT DATA]

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	959,296	955,930	1,009,641	988,687	Child maltreatment victims	8,432	9,580	11,246	11,199
Race/ethnicity (%) ¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	4,644	4,545	4,525	4,774
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	Children adopted	465	456	378	384
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.9					
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.0	1.0	0.9	N/A					
Black	36.5	36.1	36.4	36.1					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	1.7	1.9	2.8	3.0					
White	60.6	60.8	58.0	58.3					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	1.5	1.4					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	20.1	17.5	17.8	23.0					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	63.6	67.9	69.4	79.1					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	Rate			
		1999	2000	2001		1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	38,238	39,902	38,844	36,836	39.9 per 1,000	41.7 per 1,000	38.5 per 1,000	36.2 per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	8,432	9,580	11,246	11,199	8.8 per 1,000	10.0 per 1,000	11.1 per 1,000	11.0 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	16	13	20	16	1.7 per 100,000	1.4 per 100,000	2.0 per 100,000	1.6 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	3.9	8.2	8.1	10.7	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.2
1-5 years	35.6	26.9	28.2	28.3	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.3
6-10 years	29.9	31.3	29.9	29.1	Black	47.2	45.9	45.6	43.9
11-15 years	24.2	24.9	26.2	26.2	Hispanic	0.4	1.5	1.7	2.3
16+ years	5.7	8.7	6.0	5.2	White	49.9	52.6	52.3	50.7
Unknown	0.8	0.0	1.5	1.5	Two or more races	—	—	—	1.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	101.1	Other/Unknown	2.7	0.7	1.5	0.6
Number	8,432	9,580	11,246	11,199	Total % ³	100.4	101.7	101.7	100.0
					Number	8,432	9,580	11,246	11,199

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		0.9	0.5	0.6	2.9
Medical neglect		4.4	4.1	4.0	3.9
Neglect		46.5	54.8	53.0	68.1
Physical abuse		14.7	13.7	13.6	33.4
Sexual abuse		8.4	6.3	5.4	8.1
Other		52.1	67.7	70.0	0.2
Unknown		—	0.1	8.9	—
Total % ⁴		126.9	147.2	155.5	116.6
Number		8,432	9,580	11,246	11,199

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	5,142	3,191	3,689	4,644	8,333
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	4,475	2,923	2,853	4,545	7,398
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	4,491	3,172	3,137	4,525	7,663
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	4,476	3,405	3,107	4,774	7,881
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	27.0	N/A	8.1	24.8	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	24.8	N/A	6.2	20.2	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	20.3	N/A	5.4	20.4	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	21.2	N/A	4.6	19.2	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	4.2	4.9	4.5	5.0	14.8	14.4	15.4	13.9	6.3	6.7	7.0	7.1	4.9	4.5	5.2	4.7
1-5 years	24.6	23.1	22.0	21.6	25.7	24.0	25.7	26.1	26.8	27.3	28.4	28.8	23.0	22.1	21.7	22.4
6-10 years	24.5	24.5	23.2	23.1	25.2	24.5	26.2	24.4	26.1	25.0	24.9	25.1	24.5	23.3	22.9	20.8
11-15 years	28.4	30.1	32.1	31.7	27.5	31.0	27.6	28.9	22.3	24.1	23.5	23.5	29.7	32.3	31.7	32.1
16-18 years	16.7	15.6	16.2	16.8	6.2	6.0	5.0	6.6	16.0	14.2	13.8	13.6	15.7	16.0	16.6	18.1
19+ years	1.5	1.9	1.9	1.8	0.2	—	—	0.0	2.1	2.3	2.0	1.6	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.9
Unknown	0.2	—	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,142	4,475	4,491	4,476	3,191	2,923	3,172	3,405	3,689	2,853	3,137	3,107	4,644	4,545	4,525	4,774

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.4	0.2	—	—	0.4	0.3	—	—	0.2	0.2
Asian/Pacific	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.3	—	—	0.1	0.4	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—
Black	62.7	62.9	62.7	61.2	51.6	55.0	52.0	52.7	54.1	55.2	54.3	53.6	61.9	62.6	61.1	60.1
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	—	0.0
Hispanic	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.5	2.7	2.9	1.3	1.3	2.2	2.9	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.5
White	34.9	35.6	35.6	36.8	45.2	42.8	44.2	43.1	42.8	42.8	42.6	42.5	35.7	35.8	36.9	37.5
Two or more races	—	0.1	0.1	0.3	—	0.0	0.6	0.5	—	0.1	0.3	0.3	—	0.1	0.3	0.5
Unknown	1.0	0.0	—	—	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.1	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,142	4,475	4,491	4,476	3,191	2,923	3,172	3,405	3,689	2,853	3,137	3,107	4,644	4,545	4,525	4,774

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	1,927	2,199	2,201	2,157
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	704	853	820	753
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	3.0	2.9	3.0	2.8
1-5 years	29.6	29.8	27.1	28.4
6-10 years	33.5	30.5	29.8	26.7
11-15 years	28.1	32.1	32.9	34.0
16+ years	4.6	4.2	6.6	7.1
Unknown	1.1	0.5	0.6	1.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,927	2,199	2,201	2,157

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.1	0.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.2	0.1	—	—
Black	66.4	65.1	63.1	63.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	0.6	0.9	1.0	1.3
White	31.1	33.4	35.3	35.0
Two or more races	—	0.1	0.3	0.4
Unknown	1.3	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,927	2,199	2,201	2,157

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.9	2.2	2.1	2.9
1-5 years	40.4	43.9	47.1	43.2
6-10 years	39.4	38.2	32.3	32.0
11-15 years	16.1	14.0	17.5	17.7
16+ years	2.2	1.8	1.1	4.2
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	465	456	378	384

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.4	—	0.3	0.5
Asian	—	—	0.3	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	68.4	61.4	63.5	58.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	0.4	0.7	1.3	1.8
White	29.0	36.6	34.7	39.1
Two or more races	—	—	—	0.3
Unknown	1.7	1.3	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	465	456	378	384

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

South Carolina

[OUTCOMES DATA]

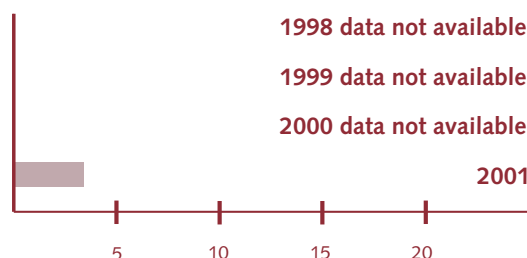
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	—	96.6
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	—	3.4
Total %	—	—	—	100.0
Number	—	—	—	6,028

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



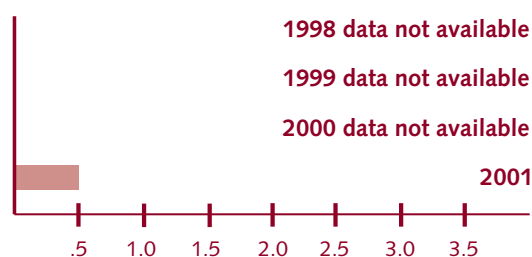
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	0.51
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	99.49
Total %	—	—	—	100.00
Number	—	—	—	7,194

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



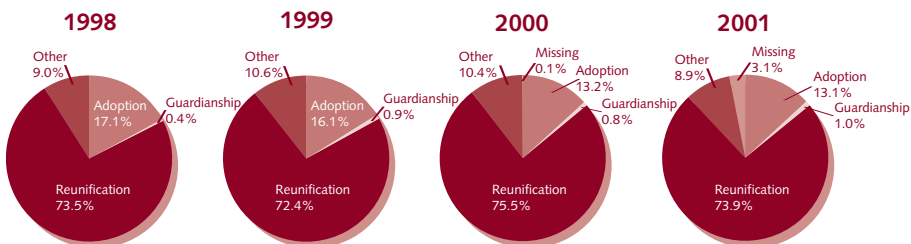
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	17.1	16.1	13.2	13.1
Guardianship	0.4	0.9	0.8	1.0
Reunification	73.5	72.4	75.5	73.9
Other	9.0	10.6	10.4	8.9
Missing data	—	0.0	0.1	3.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,689	2,853	3,137	3,107

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	32.7	36.1	28.3	29.5
Guardianship	—	0.5	1.0	—
Reunification	48.9	36.9	33.2	36.2
Other	18.4	26.5	37.5	32.9
Missing data	—	—	—	1.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	370	377	304	210

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8
Guardianship	0.2	1.0	0.7	1.4
Reunification	74.3	72.6	71.4	70.6
Other	24.9	25.9	27.1	23.7
Missing data	—	—	0.1	3.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	871	700	720	725

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	35.1	35.1	37.6	35.0
Children older than 12 at entry	64.9	64.9	62.4	65.0
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	285	242	271	214

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

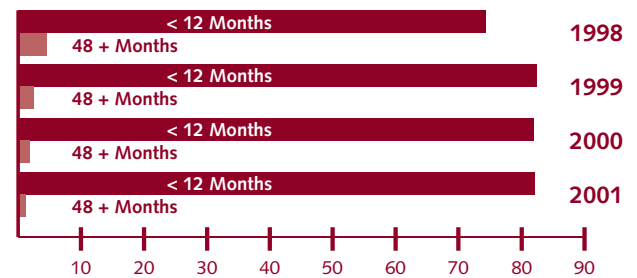
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	16.7	50.0	11.1	22.2	—	—	9.1	—	—	—	—	20.1	17.6	15.2	14.5	—	—	—	—	
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11.1	—	—	—	0.6	0.9	0.5	1.0	—	—	—	—	
Reunification	66.7	—	77.8	77.8	—	—	72.7	77.8	100.0	100.0	—	—	69.4	70.4	72.8	72.3	—	—	100.0	66.7
Other	16.7	50.0	11.1	—	—	—	18.2	11.1	—	—	—	—	9.9	11.2	11.5	9.4	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.9	—	—	—	33.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	12	2	9	9	—	—	11	9	3	10	—	—	1,997	1,576	1,702	1,666	—	—	2	3

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	23.4	7.9	8.7	9.0	12.9	14.5	11.0	11.8	23.1	66.7	—	—	—	—	—	12.5	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	0.1	0.9	1.2	1.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	74.5	86.8	87.0	86.5	78.8	74.5	78.3	75.0	73.1	33.3	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	87.5	—	—	—	—
Other	2.1	5.3	4.3	3.4	8.1	10.0	9.4	8.9	3.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	1.1	—	0.1	0.1	3.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	47	38	69	89	1,578	1,220	1,335	1,322	52	3	1	1	—	4	8	8	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

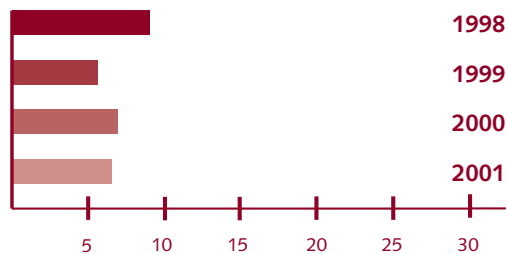
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	74.2	82.4	81.8	82.1
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	11.1	10.1	12.4	12.2
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	5.8	3.1	2.8	3.1
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	3.8	1.7	0.9	1.1
48 or more mos.	4.6	2.5	1.9	1.2
Missing data	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,713	2,066	2,370	2,296

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	82.2	85.0	85.0	84.3
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	9.0	5.6	6.9	6.5
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	8.1	8.7	7.9	8.0
Missing data	0.6	0.7	0.2	1.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,191	2,923	3,172	3,405

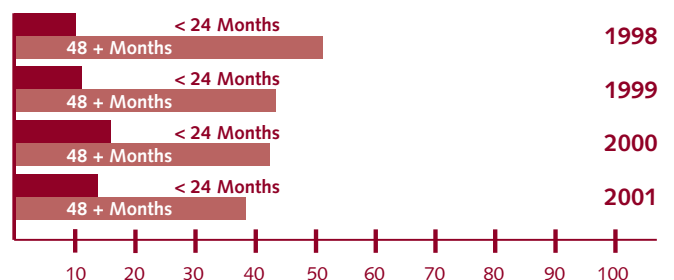
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	3.2	2.2	3.4	3.4
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	7.0	9.1	12.6	10.5
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	17.6	20.0	23.4	23.8
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	20.8	25.2	18.1	23.3
48 or more mos.	51.3	43.5	42.5	38.5
Missing data	0.2	—	—	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	631	460	414	408

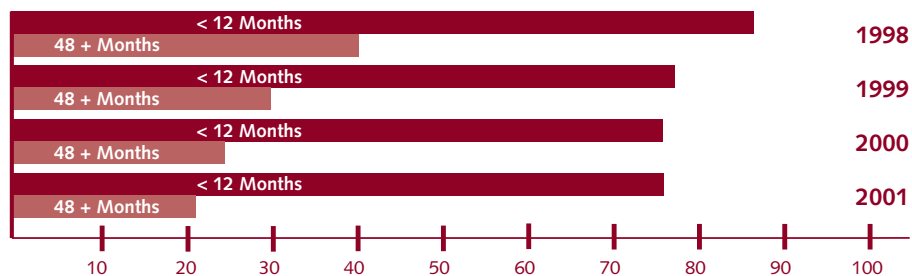
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	86.6	13.3	0.1	100.0	3,657
	1999	77.4	22.6	—	100.0	3,343
	2000	75.9	24.1	—	100.0	3,634
	2001	76.0	24.0	0.0	100.0	3,832
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	63.2	36.7	0.1	100.0	1,085
	1999	51.3	48.4	0.3	100.0	1,198
	2000	42.1	57.9	—	100.0	1,226
	2001	37.4	62.6	—	100.0	1,282
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	51.9	48.0	0.1	100.0	902
	1999	38.4	61.6	—	100.0	659
	2000	36.3	63.7	—	100.0	813
	2001	27.7	72.3	—	100.0	804
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	50.9	49.1	—	100.0	812
	1999	32.3	67.7	—	100.0	567
	2000	26.5	73.5	—	100.0	464
	2001	25.0	75.0	—	100.0	563
48 or more mos.	1998	40.5	59.5	—	100.0	1,844
	1999	30.2	69.7	0.1	100.0	1,617
	2000	24.8	75.1	0.1	100.0	1,520
	2001	21.4	78.5	0.1	100.0	1,387
Missing data	1998	100.0	—	—	100.0	33
	1999	92.9	7.1	—	100.0	14
	2000	83.3	16.7	—	100.0	6
	2001	92.3	7.7	—	100.0	13

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	28.5	3.6	3.9	3.4
Institutions	1.5	18.3	13.4	17.0
Other settings	61.5	78.1	82.6	79.5
Missing	8.5	—	0.1	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,324	2,045	2,346	2,512

Kim S. Aydlette, State Director
South Carolina Department of Social Services
803-898-7360

South Carolina's comments on the State's data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

With regard to Section B: Child Maltreatment; while the number of reports accepted for investigation is declining, the percentage of identified victims of maltreatment is increasing. We believe that this is a positive outcome, reflecting (1) an emphasis, beginning in 2000, on the use of safety and risk indicators as the standard in all aspects of CPS program design, staff training, and program operation, and (2) cross agency training on reporting and coordinated service delivery.

In 2001, the number of children whose deaths were determined to be the result of maltreatment by their caregivers as defined by the state child protection statute was 23. The 16 deaths listed are those in which DSS conducted an investigation. The other 7 deaths represent situations in which the matter was handled solely by law enforcement because there were no other children in the home. The increase in identified child maltreatment deaths largely represents continued improved case identification by the medical, law enforcement and social service communities, especially as the result of the efforts by the State and county-based child fatality oversight groups.

Reviewing the Maltreatment Type of Child Victims data, the difference between the 2000 and 2001 data reflects a change in state statute, which redefined Threat of Harm situations (included in Other in 1998, 1999, and 2000) by their primary type of maltreatment. As a result the "Other" category was dramatically decreased, while other maltreatment types increased.

With regard to Section D. Children Waiting to be adopted (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database), AFCARS mapping was revised (02/2003) to select the most recent plan of care for reporting; previously the most recent plan of care was not reported. For future submissions, the revision should reduce the number of children with a Permanency Goal of adoption and increase the percentage with TPR complete.

The following discussion focuses on South Carolina's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The South Carolina Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2003, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2001. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for South Carolina's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided below.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence in less than 6 months was 3.4 percent, which meets the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and was lower than the national median of 8.0 percent. Change in performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because the State did not provide data for 1999 or 2000 to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) for calculating this measure. CFSR Final Report information suggests that the State's performance on this measure may be attributed to: (1) timely response to reports of maltreatment, and (2) timely implementation of safety plans.

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.51 percent, which meets the national standard of 0.57 percent or less, but is slightly higher than the national median of 0.47 percent. Change in performance on this measure from 1999 to 2001 cannot be evaluated because the State did not provide 1999 or 2000 data to NCANDS for calculating this measure. Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that performance on this measure may be attributed in part to agency efforts to work with foster parents on safety issues and to encourage foster parents to use respite care if they need support.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 88.0 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 85.3 percent), and 72.8 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 72.3 percent). However, only 65.7 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 78.4 percent). Performance related to the percent of disabled children who exited foster care to permanent homes declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-10.6 percent change). These findings suggest that the State generally is effective in achieving permanency for children in foster care, but it is less consistently effective in achieving permanency for children with a diagnosed disability.

Also in FY 2001, 35.0 percent of the children emancipated from foster care were age 12 or younger when they entered foster care, which is higher than the national median of 28.0 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies the following as potential barriers to permanency for children exiting foster care: (1) the agency's and court's reluctance to pursue adoption for older children (children age 14 and older) when reunification fails; (2) lack of consistent concurrent planning; and (3) inconsistency with regard to filing for termination of parental rights (TPR) when a child has been in foster care for 15 of the most recent 22 months.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 82.1, which exceeds both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies strong assessments and treatment planning as contributing to the State's performance on this measure.

In FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 6.5, which meets the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is less than the national median of 10.4 percent. Performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+16.7 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies the following practices as contributing to the State's performance on this measure: (1) completion of comprehensive assessments prior to reunification, and (2) provision of post-reunification services and monitoring.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percent of all adoptions finalized within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 13.0, which is less than both the national median of 21.0 percent and the national standard of 32.0 percent or more. However, performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+23.6 percent change). Information in the CFSR Final Report identifies the following as potential barriers to timely adoptions: (1) extensive delays in agency filing for TPR; (2) court-related delays due to overcrowded dockets and the granting of continuances for TPR hearings; and (3) the reluctance of many judges to terminate parental rights for fear of creating legal orphans.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who were in foster care for less than 12 months and experienced no more than 2 placements was 76.0, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and is less than the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure did not exhibit a substantive change from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Information from the CFSR identifies the following as potential barriers to achieving placement stability: (1) lack of placement resources, resulting in inadequate matching of children and foster care placements; and (2) lack of consistent services for foster parents and relative caregivers.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 20.4, which is considerably higher than the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-6.9 percent change). Information in the CFSR Final Report notes that shelter care is frequently used as an initial placement regardless of the age of the child.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	200,937	198,037	202,649	197,879	Child maltreatment victims	2,647	2,561	3,081	3,707
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	—	1,101	1,215	1,367
Alaska Native/American Indian	14.1	14.4	13.3	13.5	Children adopted	55	84	94	97
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.7					
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.8	0.9	0.6	N/A					
Black	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.0					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	1.8	1.8	2.2	2.3					
White	82.6	82.1	80.6	80.3					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.3	2.1					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.1	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	20.4	7.3	13.3	8.2					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	38.9	36.1	34.3	35.8					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	1998	Rate			2001
		1999	2000	2001			1999	2000		
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	5,313	4,709	10,403	9,984	26.4 per 1,000	23.8 per 1,000	51.3 per 1,000	49.2 per 1,000		
Child maltreatment victims ²	2,647	2,561	3,081	3,707	13.2 per 1,000	12.9 per 1,000	15.2 per 1,000	18.3 per 1,000		
Child fatalities	3	3	6	2	1.5 per 100,000	1.5 per 100,000	3.0 per 100,000	1.0 per 100,000		

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	0.8	—	4.1	4.8	Alaska Native/American Indian	45.1	—	45.4	45.1
1-5 years	20.9	—	28.6	29.8	Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
6-10 years	35.5	—	30.2	29.0	Black	—	—	—	—
11-15 years	27.8	—	24.4	23.7	Hispanic	—	—	—	—
16+ years	10.7	—	10.5	10.1	White	42.6	—	48.0	45.1
Unknown	4.3	—	2.3	2.6	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	12.3	—	6.6	9.8
Number	2,647	—	3,081	3,707	Total % ³	100.0	—	100.0	100.0
					Number	2,647	—	3,081	3,707

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	10.6	11.4	11.3	18.3
Medical neglect	—	—	—	—
Neglect	73.0	70.9	70.3	78.9
Physical abuse	23.3	25.1	21.5	19.7
Sexual abuse	8.3	10.0	6.3	4.6
Other	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	115.3	117.5	109.4	121.4
Number	2,647	2,561	3,081	3,707

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	—	—	—	—	—
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	898	1,308	1,106	1,101	2,206
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	816	1,441	1,042	1,215	2,257
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	1,182	1,357	1,173	1,367	2,539
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	—	N/A	—	—	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	12.7	N/A	2.3	10.5	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	11.3	N/A	2.2	8.3	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	11.3	N/A	2.8	12.4	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	—	4.6	5.5	5.4	—	13.9	12.8	11.3	—	9.5	9.7	8.2	—	6.3	6.1	3.1
1-5 years	—	28.7	27.2	26.5	—	33.8	32.8	37.6	—	35.8	33.3	37.1	—	26.9	29.4	29.7
6-10 years	—	29.5	28.8	26.5	—	26.0	26.4	25.9	—	26.9	27.2	26.4	—	27.6	25.8	25.4
11-15 years	—	28.1	27.7	30.8	—	20.6	21.9	20.6	—	18.9	19.8	18.6	—	28.9	28.9	29.9
16-18 years	—	8.9	10.3	10.6	—	5.3	5.8	4.3	—	8.4	9.7	9.2	—	10.1	9.5	11.7
19+ years	—	0.1	0.2	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	0.2	0.3	0.2	—	0.2	0.1	0.1
Unknown	—	0.1	0.2	0.2	—	0.5	0.2	0.2	—	0.3	0.1	0.3	—	0.1	0.2	0.1
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	898	816	1,182	—	1,308	1,441	1,357	—	1,106	1,042	1,173	—	1,101	1,215	1,367

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵																
Alaska Native/American Indian	—	63.8	63.4	61.4	—	60.2	59.7	59.8	—	59.2	60.3	59.7	—	64.2	61.6	61.3
Asian	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	0.3	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.2	0.3
Asian/Pacific	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—
Black	—	1.8	2.3	1.4	—	2.7	2.2	1.5	—	2.4	2.9	1.2	—	2.2	1.6	1.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.1
Hispanic	—	1.9	3.6	3.6	—	3.4	4.2	4.7	—	2.0	4.1	4.6	—	3.5	3.9	3.8
White	—	32.3	29.0	30.8	—	32.7	31.3	29.3	—	35.9	30.8	30.9	—	29.2	30.2	29.3
Two or more races	—	—	1.2	2.6	—	0.2	2.0	2.7	—	0.1	1.1	2.0	—	0.1	2.3	3.2
Unknown	—	0.2	0.4	0.2	—	0.8	0.5	1.6	—	0.4	0.8	1.6	—	0.7	0.2	0.4
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	898	816	1,182	—	1,308	1,441	1,357	—	1,106	1,042	1,173	—	1,101	1,215	1,367

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	—	284	311	411
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	—	198	238	332
Age of Waiting Children (%) 1998 1999 2000 2001				
Under 1 year	—	8.5	4.2	3.2
1-5 years	—	26.1	32.8	29.2
6-10 years	—	32.4	28.6	28.5
11-15 years	—	27.5	31.5	31.9
16+ years	—	5.3	2.6	6.6
Unknown	—	0.4	0.3	0.7
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	284	311	411

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	—	58.1	56.6	57.9
Asian	—	—	—	0.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.4	—	—
Black	—	2.8	2.6	1.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	4.2	4.8	3.2
White	—	33.5	34.4	33.8
Two or more races	—	0.4	1.6	2.9
Unknown	—	0.7	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	284	311	411

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.8	1.2	4.3	2.1
1-5 years	45.5	45.2	55.3	51.5
6-10 years	32.7	39.3	26.6	37.1
11-15 years	18.2	9.5	13.8	7.2
16+ years	1.8	4.8	—	2.1
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	55	84	94	97

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	34.5	46.4	51.1	41.2
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	1.8	2.4	—	2.1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	1.8	3.6	6.4	11.3
White	61.8	46.4	37.2	41.2
Two or more races	—	—	5.3	4.1
Unknown	—	1.2	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	55	84	94	97

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment

Within 6 Months (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	—	—
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

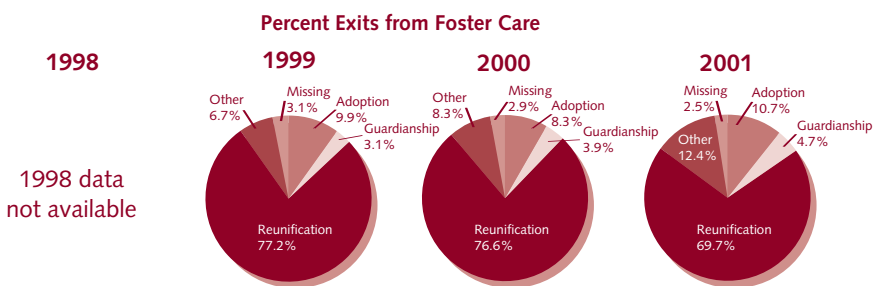
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	9.9	8.3	10.7
Guardianship	—	3.1	3.9	4.7
Reunification	—	77.2	76.6	69.7
Other	—	6.7	8.3	12.4
Missing data	—	3.1	2.9	2.5
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	1,106	1,042	1,173



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	23.9	29.1	29.2
Guardianship	—	8.0	4.5	6.9
Reunification	—	44.2	37.3	33.8
Other	—	17.7	20.9	26.9
Missing data	—	6.2	8.2	3.1
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	113	110	130

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	0.5	1.0	—
Guardianship	—	4.9	5.6	3.8
Reunification	—	68.3	73.2	67.6
Other	—	18.0	15.7	23.8
Missing data	—	8.2	4.5	4.9
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	183	198	185

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	—	21.7	21.7	26.2
Children older than 12 at entry	—	78.3	78.3	73.8
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	23	23	42

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

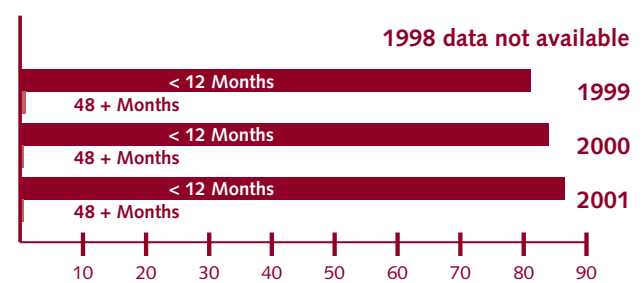
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	6.6	6.5	7.1	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	7.4	6.7	42.9	—	—	—	—	
Guardianship	—	2.6	4.6	4.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Reunification	—	80.9	76.8	70.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	92.6	83.3	42.9	—	—	—	100.0	
Other	—	6.9	9.1	14.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10.0	14.3	—	—	—	—	
Missing data	—	3.1	3.0	3.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0	
Number	—	655	628	700	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	27	30	14	—	—	—	1	

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	9.1	11.6	20.4	—	15.6	11.2	14.4	—	25.0	12.5	—	—	—	9.1	30.4	—	—	—	
Guardianship	—	—	—	1.9	—	4.3	3.4	4.7	—	—	12.5	—	—	—	—	13.0	—	—	—	
Reunification	—	68.2	67.4	66.7	—	70.8	76.9	69.6	—	75.0	75.0	84.2	—	—	81.8	43.5	—	—	—	
Other	—	18.2	16.3	11.1	—	6.3	5.6	9.1	—	—	—	15.8	—	—	9.1	13.0	—	—	—	
Missing data	—	4.5	4.7	—	—	3.0	2.8	2.2	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	
Number	—	22	43	54	—	397	321	362	—	4	8	19	—	1	11	23	—	—	—	

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

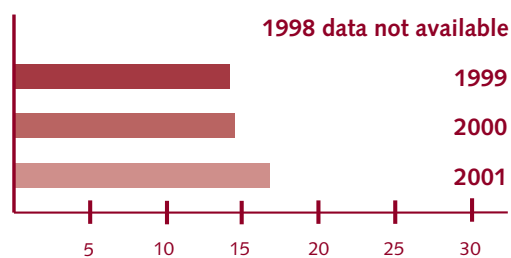
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	81.1	84.0	86.5
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	9.4	6.8	7.1
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	2.2	1.3	2.1
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	0.4	0.9	0.7
48 or more mos.	—	0.9	0.5	0.5
Missing data	—	6.0	6.6	3.1
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	854	798	817

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	—	62.1	65.9	69.0
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	—	14.1	14.4	16.7
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	—	22.5	17.8	14.0
Missing data	—	1.3	1.8	0.4
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	1,308	1,441	1,357

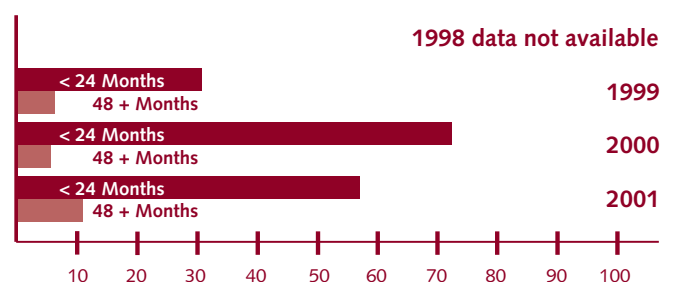
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	24.5	31.0	26.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	36.4	41.4	31.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	28.2	19.5	20.6
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	4.5	2.3	11.1
48 or more mos.	—	6.4	5.7	11.1
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	110	87	126

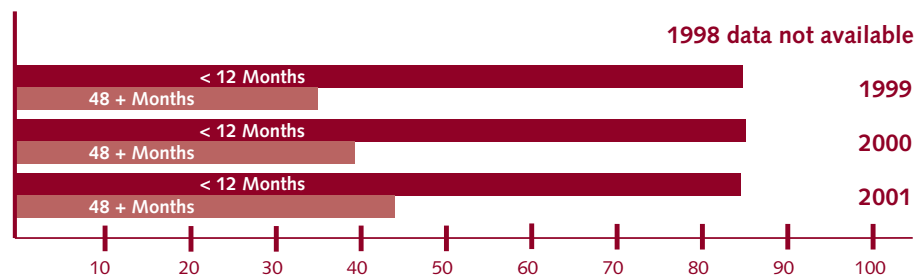
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	84.9	13.8	1.4	100.0	1,387
	2000	85.3	13.8	0.9	100.0	1,529
	2001	84.7	15.1	0.2	100.0	1,544
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	68.3	31.7	—	100.0	357
	2000	58.0	41.7	0.3	100.0	319
	2001	57.5	42.3	0.2	100.0	470
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	46.0	53.4	0.6	100.0	176
	2000	51.1	48.9	—	100.0	137
	2001	50.6	49.4	—	100.0	168
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	41.6	57.1	1.3	100.0	77
	2000	39.6	60.4	—	100.0	96
	2001	57.1	42.9	—	100.0	105
48 or more mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	35.3	64.0	0.7	100.0	139
	2000	39.6	60.4	—	100.0	111
	2001	44.3	55.8	—	100.0	226
Missing data	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	95.7	4.3	—	100.0	70
	2000	92.3	1.5	6.2	100.0	65
	2001	96.2	3.9	—	100.0	26

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	—	0.7	1.2	1.7
Institutions	—	15.1	15.3	13.7
Other settings	—	83.3	83.3	84.6
Missing	—	1.0	0.3	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	1,015	1,108	1,110

**Virgena Weiseler, Administrator
Child Protection Services
South Dakota Department of Social Services
605-773-3227**

South Dakota's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

With regard to Context Section B: The number of children for which there was an investigation in 2001 was 7049 instead of 9984. The number of children victims was 3703 which would be 53%. Apparently the number of children for whom an assessment was completed for 2001 (2935) was added to the 7049. This number should have not have been added in because there are no findings of maltreatment in assessments.

With regard to Section E, the data were submitted incorrectly. South Dakota was counting the children leaving foster care and moving into adoption as a discharge, even though the adoption was not finalized. There were 97 finalized adoptions based on the AFCARS Adoption Database. There were 126 children discharged to adoption on the AFCARS Foster Care Database, but not all of the 126 were finalized within the AFCARS reporting period. This has been corrected and the last two AFCARS submissions have reflected this correction.

With regard to Outcome Measure 1.1, the SDC NCANDS report does not require that this information be reported. In the future, the DCDC Child Profile will be completed.

With regard to Outcome Measure 2.2, the SDC NCANDS report does not require that this information be reported. In the future, the DCDC Child Profile will be completed.

With regard to Outcome Measure 4.2, we believe the increase in the percentage of children entering foster care within 12 months is due to not reporting trial home visits in AFCARS. Trial home visits had been reported as discharges and we are working to assure that staff are reporting trial home visits correctly. We are also addressing the issue of children entering care having a prior foster care episode through our Program Improvement Plan.

The following discussion focuses on South Dakota's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The South Dakota Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2001, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 1999. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for South Dakota's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

South Dakota's performance on outcome 1 cannot be assessed as part of the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) for calculating this outcome. To ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through NCANDS are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are presented in South Dakota's CFSR Final Report.

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

South Dakota's performance on outcome 2 cannot be assessed as part of the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to NCANDS for calculating this outcome. To ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through NCANDS are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are presented in South Dakota's CFSR Final Report.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 85.1 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is just below the national median of 85.3 percent); 69.9 percent of children with a diagnosed disability were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 78.4 percent); and 71.4 percent of children who were older than age 12 at entry into foster care exited foster care to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 72.3). However, 26.2 percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry, which is lower than the national median of 28.0 percent. These data suggest that the State is not consistently effective in establishing permanency for children.

South Dakota's performance related to attainment of permanency for children in foster care declined between FY 1999 and FY 2001. In addition, although data related to the percentage of children exiting foster care through emancipation who were age 12 or younger at the time of entry indicate that the State is somewhat effective at ensuring that children do not "grow up" in foster care, performance on this measure declined between FY 1999 and FY 2001 (+20.5 percent change).

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 86.5, which is higher than both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. South Dakota's performance on this measure improved continuously from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+6.6 percent change).

South Dakota's high performance with regard to reunification within 12 months must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 16.7, which is higher than both the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.4 percent. Performance on this measure declined

from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+17.8 percent change). The State notes in its comment letter that it believes the increase in the re-entry rate is due to a change in the way trial home visits are recorded.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 57.2, which is higher than the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and the national median of 21.0 percent. Change in performance on this measure cannot be evaluated because in previous years the State data system recorded adoptive placements as discharges to adoption rather than only recording finalized adoptions as discharges, as is required by the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements in their first 12 months in foster care was 84.7, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more, but is higher than the national median of 83.3 percent. There was no substantive change in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 15.4, which is higher than the national median of 8.7 percent. There was no substantive change in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	1,331,402	1,340,930	1,398,521	1,397,933	Child maltreatment victims	9,930	10,611	16,572	9,571
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	—	10,796	10,144	9,679
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	Children adopted	337	382	431	646
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.1					
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.2	1.2	1.0	N/A					
Black	21.4	21.4	21.1	21.2					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	1.6	1.7	2.8	2.9					
White	75.6	75.4	73.0	73.0					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	1.6	1.5					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	20.3	17.4	19.7	20.4					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	76.2	73.4	69.0	71.0					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	Rate			
		1999	2000	2001		1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	32,286	33,629	51,917	50,870	24.2 per 1,000	25.1 per 1,000	37.1 per 1,000	36.2 per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	9,930	10,611	16,572	9,571	7.5 per 1,000	7.9 per 1,000	11.8 per 1,000	6.8 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	12	16	3	13	0.9 per 100,000	1.2 per 100,000	0.2 per 100,000	0.9 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	9.6	9.1	9.9	10.8	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2
1-5 years	31.7	30.5	30.9	31.1	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.7
6-10 years	31.2	31.1	29.4	28.7	Black	31.1	31.6	30.4	29.8
11-15 years	22.1	23.8	24.0	24.2	Hispanic	0.8	1.5	1.0	1.9
16+ years	5.2	5.2	5.7	5.1	White	63.5	62.5	64.2	57.0
Unknown	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	4.9	5.6	4.0	16.8
Number	9,930	10,611	16,572	9,571	Total % ³	100.8	101.5	100.0	106.4
					Number	9,930	10,611	16,572	9,571

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	1.8	1.2	2.3	1.1
Medical neglect	3.1	3.1	3.3	2.8
Neglect	43.0	43.5	42.9	39.5
Physical abuse	19.6	20.0	20.0	16.4
Sexual abuse	22.4	21.0	21.0	24.4
Other	10.1	11.2	10.5	20.0
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	100.0	100.0	100.0	104.2
Number	9,930	10,611	16,572	9,571

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1				Entered Care				Exited Care				In Care on 9/30				Total Served			
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	—				—				—				—				—			
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	8,296				5,968				3,481				10,796				14,264			
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	9,034				5,480				4,370				10,144				14,514			
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	9,101				5,667				5,089				9,679				14,768			
Median Length of Stay (Months)																				
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	—				N/A				—				—				N/A			
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	17.5				N/A				12.3				13.6				N/A			
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	17.9				N/A				11.8				16.8				N/A			
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	17.4				N/A				12.0				15.6				N/A			

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	—	2.7	2.7	2.6	—	9.0	7.8	8.6	—	2.6	2.3	3.2	—	3.2	2.5	2.8
1-5 years	—	18.5	17.4	18.3	—	13.1	13.9	14.8	—	15.5	13.3	16.2	—	16.6	17.3	17.1
6-10 years	—	18.9	18.9	18.9	—	12.6	12.5	12.2	—	11.9	12.2	13.1	—	17.6	17.4	17.6
11-15 years	—	30.8	30.8	32.0	—	35.3	36.6	34.7	—	19.1	21.2	21.9	—	29.8	30.9	31.5
16-18 years	—	28.3	29.2	28.3	—	30.0	29.2	29.7	—	48.5	48.0	44.1	—	31.8	31.1	31.0
19+ years	—	0.7	0.9	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	2.0	2.7	1.4	—	1.0	0.7	0.1
Unknown	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.0	—	—	—	0.4	0.3	—	—	0.1	0.1	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	8,296	9,034	9,101	—	5,968	5,480	5,667	—	3,481	4,370	5,089	—	10,796	10,144	9,679

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.2	0.2	0.1	—	0.3	0.3	0.2	—	0.3	0.3	0.2	—	0.2	0.2	0.2
Asian	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—	0.4	0.2	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—	0.4	0.3
Asian/Pacific	—	0.3	—	—	—	0.5	—	—	—	0.4	—	—	—	0.4	—	—
Black	—	38.2	40.0	38.1	—	35.2	30.4	28.1	—	29.9	31.5	30.9	—	39.2	38.4	36.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	1.4	1.6	1.9	—	1.6	2.4	2.9	—	1.2	2.2	2.8	—	1.5	1.8	2.0
White	—	59.5	56.7	57.5	—	61.5	64.5	65.3	—	67.5	64.8	63.6	—	58.0	57.4	58.8
Two or more races	—	—	1.2	1.8	—	—	1.0	2.0	—	—	0.3	1.7	—	—	1.4	1.9
Unknown	—	0.5	0.1	0.3	—	1.0	0.9	1.1	—	0.7	0.5	0.4	—	0.7	0.4	0.7
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	8,296	9,034	9,101	—	5,968	5,480	5,667	—	3,481	4,370	5,089	—	10,796	10,144	9,679

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	—	1,666	2,044	2,289
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	—	992	397	480
Age of Waiting Children (%) 1998 1999 2000 2001				
Under 1 year	—	2.1	1.5	1.8
1-5 years	—	24.0	27.4	26.5
6-10 years	—	34.1	35.9	33.1
11-15 years	—	30.0	29.4	33.2
16+ years	—	8.1	4.9	5.2
Unknown	—	1.7	0.9	0.2
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	1,666	2,044	2,289

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.2	0.2	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.2	—	—
Black	—	48.3	45.7	43.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	1.9	1.9	1.8
White	—	49.1	49.7	51.6
Two or more races	—	—	2.3	2.4
Unknown	—	0.4	0.0	0.3
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	1,666	2,044	2,289

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.5	1.0	0.5	1.1
1-5 years	46.9	44.5	35.3	35.3
6-10 years	32.3	34.0	40.6	37.5
11-15 years	16.3	17.0	20.4	21.5
16+ years	3.0	3.4	3.2	4.6
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	337	382	431	646

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.8	—	0.2
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	44.8	37.4	38.3	31.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	3.6	2.4	3.0	4.5
White	51.0	59.2	56.1	57.0
Two or more races	—	—	1.4	7.3
Unknown	0.3	0.3	1.2	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	337	382	431	646

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	—	—
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

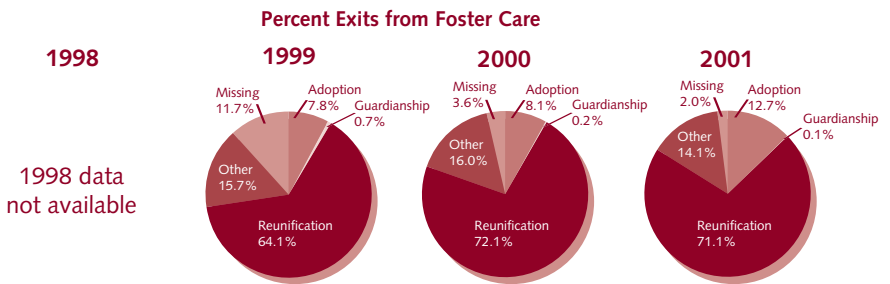
2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

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

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	7.8	8.1	12.7
Guardianship	—	0.7	0.2	0.1
Reunification	—	64.1	72.1	71.1
Other	—	15.7	16.0	14.1
Missing data	—	11.7	3.6	2.0
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	3,481	4,370	5,089



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	18.2	24.4	43.4
Guardianship	—	0.7	—	0.3
Reunification	—	44.2	52.0	41.8
Other	—	22.6	20.0	13.5
Missing data	—	14.2	3.6	1.0
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	274	225	392

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	0.1	0.0	0.2
Guardianship	—	0.4	0.1	0.1
Reunification	—	64.4	73.6	74.4
Other	—	22.3	22.0	22.3
Missing data	—	12.8	4.2	3.0
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	2,045	2,599	2,793

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	—	14.5	17.8	12.7
Children older than 12 at entry	—	84.9	82.2	87.3
Missing data	—	0.6	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	496	596	581

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black			Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander				
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4.8	—	—	—	—	—	7.5	7.8	13.9	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	11.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.3	0.1	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	77.8	72.7	87.5	—	—	75.0	66.7	—	71.4	—	—	—	65.9	70.1	68.2	—	—	—	100.0
Other	—	11.1	18.2	—	—	—	18.8	28.6	—	28.6	—	—	—	15.7	17.6	15.8	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	9.1	12.5	—	—	6.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	9.6	4.4	2.0	—	—	100.0	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	—	9	11	8	—	—	16	21	—	14	—	—	—	1,041	1,378	1,571	—	—	1	2

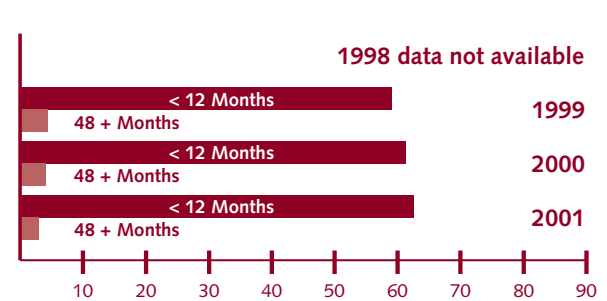
	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races			Missing Data				
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	11.9	10.4	15.4	—	7.9	8.2	11.7	—	4.2	—	13.6	—	—	21.4	22.4	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	0.4	0.2	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	—	61.9	69.8	69.9	—	63.1	73.0	72.5	—	83.3	85.0	72.7	—	—	71.4	69.4	—	—	100.0	—
Other	—	14.3	11.5	12.6	—	15.8	15.6	13.5	—	4.2	—	9.1	—	—	7.1	7.1	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	11.9	8.3	2.1	—	12.7	2.9	2.0	—	8.3	15.0	4.5	—	—	—	1.2	—	100.0	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	—
Number	—	42	96	143	—	2,350	2,833	3,237	—	24	20	22	—	—	14	85	—	1	1	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	59.0	61.3	62.5
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	24.8	23.4	23.4
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	8.2	6.9	7.7
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	3.3	3.5	3.1
48 or more mos.	—	4.3	4.0	3.0
Missing data	—	0.5	0.9	0.3
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	2,233	3,150	3,617

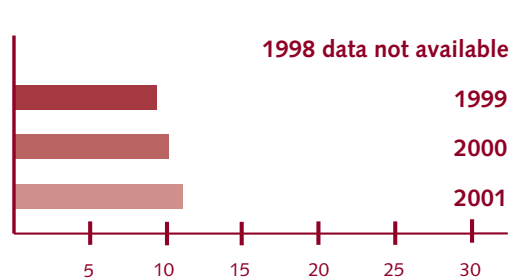
Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	—	84.2	83.1	81.9
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	—	9.3	10.1	11.0
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	—	6.2	6.8	7.0
Missing data	—	0.4	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	5,968	5,480	5,667

Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months

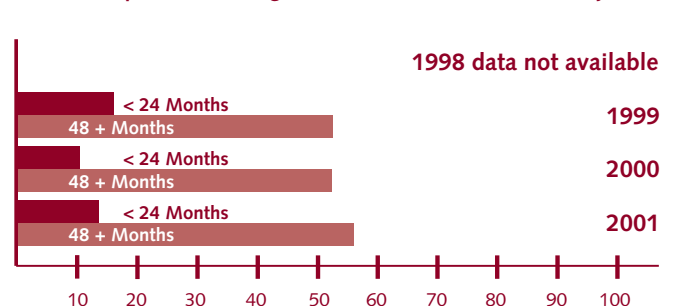


5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	3.0	3.1	1.7
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	—	13.3	7.4	12.1
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	—	17.4	17.3	13.7
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	—	13.3	19.5	16.3
48 or more mos.	—	52.6	52.4	56.1
Missing data	—	0.4	0.3	0.2
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	270	353	644

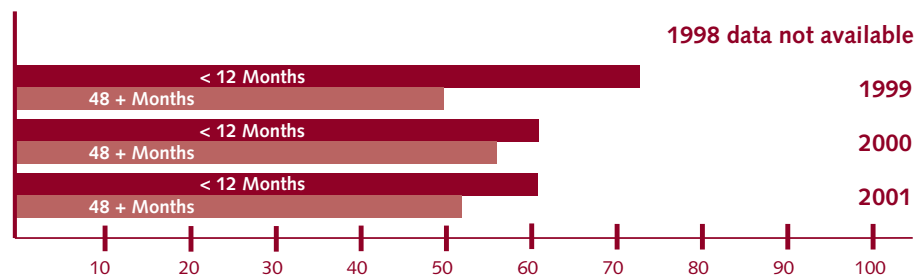
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	72.9	25.2	1.9	100.0	6,734
	2000	61.1	32.4	6.5	100.0	6,334
	2001	61.0	36.8	2.2	100.0	6,726
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	52.2	47.3	0.5	100.0	2,876
	2000	47.4	49.6	3.0	100.0	2,950
	2001	40.4	58.8	0.8	100.0	2,981
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	51.0	48.8	0.2	100.0	1,448
	2000	53.5	44.0	2.5	100.0	1,635
	2001	43.4	55.8	0.8	100.0	1,606
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	48.5	51.2	0.3	100.0	934
	2000	54.4	43.5	2.0	100.0	981
	2001	50.7	49.2	0.1	100.0	1,050
48 or more mos.	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	50.0	49.6	0.4	100.0	2,245
	2000	56.2	41.0	2.8	100.0	2,556
	2001	52.1	47.4	0.6	100.0	2,383
Missing data	1998	—	—	—	—	—
	1999	81.5	14.8	3.7	100.0	27
	2000	34.5	—	65.5	100.0	58
	2001	50.0	4.6	45.5	100.0	22

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	—	8.3	5.9	4.6
Institutions	—	6.8	7.6	4.2
Other settings	—	84.5	86.4	91.2
Missing	—	0.4	—	—
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	2,264	1,987	2,296

Tennessee

[STATE COMMENT]

The following discussion focuses on Tennessee's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Tennessee Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2002, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2000. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Tennessee's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

Tennessee's performance on outcome 1 cannot be assessed as part of the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) for calculating this outcome. To ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through NCANDS are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are presented in Tennessee's CFSR Final Report.

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

Tennessee's attainment of outcome 2 cannot be evaluated as part of the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to NCANDS for calculating this outcome. In order to ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through the NCANDS system are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are provided in Tennessee's CFSR Final Report.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 83.9 percent of children exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 85.3 percent). Although these data suggest that the State is not consistently effective in achieving permanency for children in foster care, the data for outcome 3 also indicate that 85.5 percent of children with a diagnosed disability exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is greater than the national median of 78.4 percent) and 74.7 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 72.3). Only 12.7 percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry (which is lower than the national median of 28.0 percent). These data suggest that the State has experienced success in achieving permanency for children with a diagnosed disability and children who are older than age 12 when they enter foster care. Also, the State has been effective in ensuring that children who enter foster care at younger ages do not "grow up" in the system. Tennessee's performance on all of the indicators for this outcome exhibited substantial improvement from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 62.5, which is lower than both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. However, Tennessee's performance on this measure improved between FY 1999 and FY 2001 (+6.0 percent change).

Also in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 11.0, which does not meet the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is greater than the national median of 10.4 percent. Performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+18.8 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 13.8, which is lower than both the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and the national median of 21.0 percent. Tennessee's performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-15.2 percent change).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 61.0, which is lower than both the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and the national median of 83.3 percent. According to information in the CFSR Final Report, the State believes that the actual number of placement changes may be higher than the number reported to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System, because the State's management information system does not capture changes in foster care placements for children who remain with the same private child placement provider agency. That is, a child could move from one foster home to another, but if both foster homes were under the supervision of the same foster care provider agency, this move would not be recorded in the State's management information system. This suggests that placement stability is a concern for the State. Tennessee's reported performance on this measure declined between FY 1999 and FY 2001 (-16.3 percent change).

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 8.8, which is about equal to the national median of 8.7 percent. Tennessee's performance on this measure improved considerably from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-42.0 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	5,629,200	5,719,234	5,886,759	6,027,691	Child maltreatment victims	39,925	39,488	45,800	44,623
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	15,182	16,326	18,190	19,739
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	Children adopted	1,602	2,063	2,040	2,318
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.5					
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.6	2.7	2.4	N/A					
Black	12.4	12.3	12.4	12.4					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	38.5	39.1	40.5	41.3					
White	46.4	45.7	42.6	42.2					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	1.6	1.3					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.1	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	24.4	22.1	22.9	21.1					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	82.9	81.4	85.7	85.5					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	Number				Rate			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	172,718	170,834	193,966	197,838	30.7 per 1,000	29.9 per 1,000	32.9 per 1,000	32.9 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	39,925	39,488	45,800	44,623	7.1 per 1,000	6.9 per 1,000	7.8 per 1,000	7.4 per 1,000
Child fatalities	176	143	177	206	3.1 per 100,000	2.5 per 100,000	3.0 per 100,000	3.4 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	11.2	10.7	11.3	12.5	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1
1-5 years	33.2	33.0	30.3	34.6	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.6
6-10 years	31.0	31.3	26.2	28.9	Black	24.8	24.5	20.4	19.4
11-15 years	21.3	21.1	18.5	20.5	Hispanic	34.9	33.7	36.6	38.7
16+ years	3.3	3.9	3.0	3.4	White	69.6	73.2	38.7	37.6
Unknown	0.1	0.0	10.8	0.1	Two or more races	—	—	2.0	2.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	4.7	1.4	1.7	1.5
Number	39,925	39,488	45,800	44,623	Total % ³	134.9	133.7	100.0	100.0
					Number	39,925	39,488	45,800	44,623

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		3.9	3.5	3.4	3.0
Medical neglect		4.8	5.1	4.7	4.9
Neglect		57.3	59.6	59.3	60.6
Physical abuse		29.9	29.3	28.2	27.7
Sexual abuse		15.7	14.9	14.6	14.8
Other		3.4	3.5	1.4	1.1
Unknown		—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴		115.0	115.9	111.5	112.1
Number		39,925	39,488	45,800	44,623

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	15,818	7,025	7,665	15,182	22,843
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	15,582	8,938	8,200	16,326	24,520
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	16,303	9,869	7,989	18,190	26,172
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	17,914	10,680	8,858	19,739	28,594

Median Length of Stay (Months)	In Care On:	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	22.4	N/A	17.2	18.8	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	20.1	N/A	15.8	14.5	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	15.8	N/A	13.6	13.6	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	14.4	N/A	14.0	13.5	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	5.0	5.2	6.8	7.0	18.7	20.1	20.7	20.7	4.8	5.2	5.6	5.5	5.3	7.0	7.4	7.4
1-5 years	27.8	26.3	26.3	27.7	30.1	31.4	32.5	33.2	33.2	34.1	36.1	38.7	26.7	26.8	28.3	29.4
6-10 years	25.6	26.1	25.4	24.7	22.8	22.8	22.6	21.4	23.0	22.6	23.3	22.5	26.3	25.5	24.7	23.1
11-15 years	27.7	28.9	29.0	28.6	22.8	20.3	20.2	20.3	17.2	17.5	17.1	16.0	29.1	28.5	27.9	28.3
16-18 years	13.6	13.5	12.5	11.9	5.6	5.4	3.9	4.4	20.8	20.0	17.6	17.3	12.5	12.1	11.6	11.8
19+ years	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	—	—	—	0.9	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unknown	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	—	—	0.0	—	0.0	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	15,818	15,582	16,303	17,914	7,025	8,938	9,869	10,680	7,665	8,200	7,989	8,858	15,182	16,326	18,190	19,739

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵																
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.4	0.5	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—	0.3	0.3
Asian/Pacific	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.3	0.5	—	—	0.2	0.3	—	—	0.1	0.2	—	—
Black	32.9	31.8	30.2	29.1	27.6	26.8	25.4	24.6	31.0	30.1	27.6	27.0	31.4	29.9	28.7	27.6
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.0
Hispanic	31.5	32.4	33.5	33.8	35.1	35.9	35.3	37.6	32.9	33.3	34.3	35.7	32.4	33.8	34.1	35.0
White	32.0	32.5	32.7	33.0	33.3	33.0	34.4	33.3	31.6	32.7	33.7	32.7	32.8	32.7	33.1	33.3
Two or more races	1.8	1.8	2.4	2.8	2.4	2.8	3.3	3.0	2.2	1.8	2.6	3.0	1.9	2.4	2.7	2.8
Unknown	1.5	1.0	0.7	0.6	1.1	0.7	0.9	0.9	2.0	1.4	1.0	0.9	1.1	0.7	0.7	0.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	15,818	15,582	16,303	17,914	7,025	8,938	9,869	10,680	7,665	8,200	7,989	8,858	15,182	16,326	18,190	19,739

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	6,389	6,616	7,200	7,931
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	4,467	5,067	5,483	6,104

Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	3.5	4.3	4.6	5.0
1-5 years	32.0	29.7	30.5	31.2
6-10 years	34.3	33.2	31.3	29.2
11-15 years	26.8	29.1	29.4	30.3
16+ years	3.2	3.8	4.2	4.3
Unknown	0.1	—	0.0	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6,389	6,616	7,200	7,931

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.3
Asian	—	—	0.2	0.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.0	0.2	—	—
Black	33.4	32.6	31.0	30.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	32.4	32.8	34.0	33.3
White	30.4	30.4	30.8	31.3
Two or more races	2.2	2.7	2.9	3.2
Unknown	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	6,389	6,616	7,200	7,931

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.8
1-5 years	51.7	49.2	52.6	54.6
6-10 years	33.3	32.1	30.1	28.8
11-15 years	11.4	14.5	12.7	11.6
16+ years	0.8	1.2	1.3	1.1
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,602	2,063	2,040	2,318

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.2
Asian	—	—	0.1	0.1
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.3	0.2	—	—
Black	34.0	30.0	25.8	23.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	0.0
Hispanic	31.0	35.6	37.1	38.5
White	29.0	30.3	31.5	32.1
Two or more races	—	—	3.3	4.4
Unknown	5.5	3.7	1.6	0.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,602	2,063	2,040	2,318

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

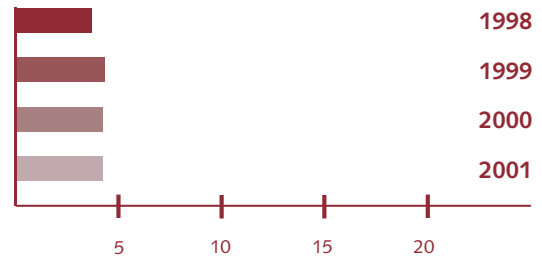
⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	96.3	95.7	95.8	95.8
Children with one or more recurrences	3.7	4.3	4.2	4.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	20,794	20,929	22,290	22,414

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences

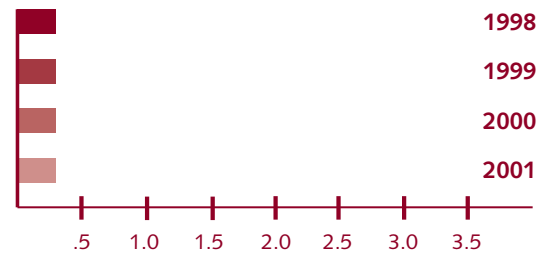


2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.30	0.28	0.30	0.30
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.70	99.72	99.70	99.70
Total %	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	19,915	22,623	24,147	26,378

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care

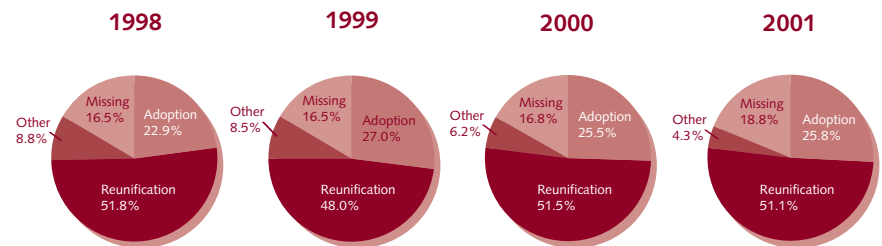


3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	22.9	27.0	25.5	25.8
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	51.8	48.0	51.5	51.1
Other	8.8	8.5	6.2	4.3
Missing data	16.5	16.5	16.8	18.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	7,665	8,200	7,989	8,858

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	22.9	31.4	32.0	33.2
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	52.1	40.7	40.2	40.1
Other	11.0	12.8	9.7	7.0
Missing data	14.0	15.2	18.1	19.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,504	1,936	2,107	2,326

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.4	1.3	2.0	1.1
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	30.1	28.8	34.0	31.2
Other	23.4	20.9	17.6	12.9
Missing data	46.1	49.0	46.5	54.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,570	1,489	1,427	1,507

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	48.7	56.4	52.9	50.2
Children older than 12 at entry	51.3	43.6	47.1	49.8
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	556	569	365	259

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

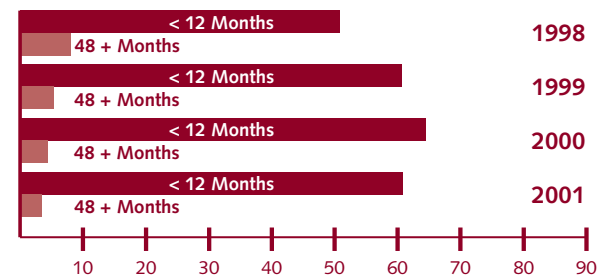
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	16.0	13.8	37.9	14.8	—	—	9.1	8.8	8.3	4.0	—	—	23.5	24.5	23.5	22.7	—	—	—	100.0
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	52.0	48.3	48.3	63.0	—	—	84.8	76.5	50.0	92.0	—	—	49.0	49.5	49.9	50.1	—	—	100.0	—
Other	4.0	20.7	3.4	7.4	—	—	—	—	8.3	—	—	—	8.6	7.9	6.4	5.2	—	—	—	—
Missing data	28.0	17.2	10.3	14.8	—	—	6.1	14.7	33.3	4.0	—	—	18.9	18.1	20.3	22.0	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	25	29	29	27	—	—	33	34	12	25	—	—	2,373	2,470	2,202	2,395	—	—	2	1

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	22.6	30.4	27.8	28.0	22.0	25.6	24.5	25.1	33.8	43.2	35.3	28.8	26.1	27.7	29.9	37.1	11.8	14.3	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	52.9	45.6	50.4	49.2	53.4	48.8	53.9	53.7	45.1	38.9	35.3	50.7	61.2	57.4	55.0	50.2	29.4	9.5	—	—
Other	7.5	8.1	5.5	3.9	10.9	10.0	7.1	4.3	5.3	5.3	2.9	1.4	2.4	3.4	2.4	2.6	—	—	—	—
Missing data	17.0	15.9	16.3	18.9	13.7	15.7	14.5	16.9	15.8	12.6	26.5	19.2	10.3	11.5	12.8	10.1	58.8	76.2	100.0	100.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,521	2,730	2,740	3,158	2,419	2,682	2,694	2,900	133	95	68	73	165	148	211	267	17	21	10	3

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

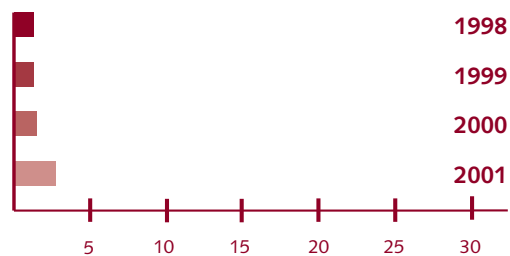
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	50.8	60.6	64.4	60.7
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	27.4	25.1	26.7	31.3
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	8.7	5.6	3.4	3.2
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	4.8	3.3	1.1	1.1
48 or more mos.	8.0	5.3	4.3	3.4
Missing data	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,972	3,938	4,115	4,524

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	96.7	96.4	95.9	92.1
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	1.3	1.3	1.5	2.7
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	0.6	1.1	1.5	2.0
Missing data	1.4	1.2	1.0	3.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	7,025	8,938	9,869	10,680

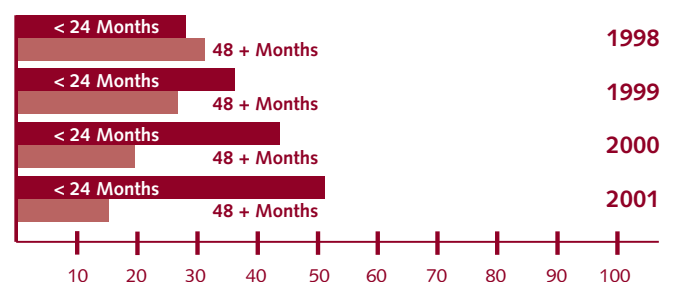
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	5.5	7.1	7.9	9.1
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	22.7	29.2	36.0	42.2
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	21.4	20.8	23.3	23.2
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	19.1	16.0	13.2	10.1
48 or more mos.	31.3	26.9	19.7	15.3
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,754	2,211	2,038	2,285

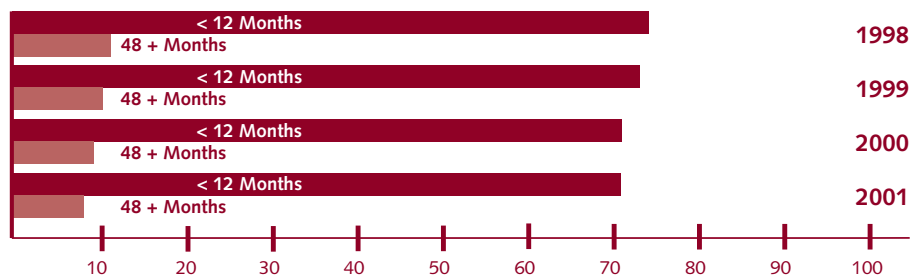
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	74.3	25.7	0.0	100.0	8,521
	1999	73.3	26.7	0.0	100.0	10,684
	2000	71.2	28.8	—	100.0	11,845
	2001	71.0	28.7	0.4	100.0	12,887
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	44.4	55.6	—	100.0	4,657
	1999	42.7	57.3	—	100.0	4,593
	2000	44.5	55.5	—	100.0	5,805
	2001	42.3	57.7	0.0	100.0	6,759
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	30.6	69.4	—	100.0	2,445
	1999	27.2	72.8	—	100.0	2,491
	2000	23.1	76.9	—	100.0	2,336
	2001	25.1	74.9	—	100.0	2,839
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	23.0	77.0	—	100.0	1,790
	1999	22.4	77.6	—	100.0	1,537
	2000	18.7	81.3	—	100.0	1,505
	2001	13.3	86.7	—	100.0	1,485
48 or more mos.	1998	11.5	88.5	—	100.0	5,370
	1999	10.6	89.4	—	100.0	5,175
	2000	9.6	90.4	—	100.0	4,644
	2001	8.4	91.6	—	100.0	4,589
Missing data	1998	68.3	31.7	—	100.0	60
	1999	77.5	22.5	—	100.0	40
	2000	62.2	37.8	—	100.0	37
	2001	37.1	60.0	2.9	100.0	35

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	2.2	3.0	3.5	3.5
Institutions	9.7	9.0	9.1	8.6
Other settings	83.4	83.8	84.0	85.2
Missing	4.8	4.1	3.4	2.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,474	7,122	8,008	8,521

**Rose Benham, MSSW, Director
Child Protective Services
Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services
512-438-4778**

Texas' comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

The numbers in each table appear to be accurate with the exception of item B. (NCANDS), Age of Child Victims for 2000, which shows 10.8% Unknown. This is an aberrant percentage compared with 98', 99' and 2001 (0 – 0.1%). The 2000 file that we submitted contained 656 records out of 171,641 with no valid age. The file used by NCANDS for publication has 22,538 out of 171,641. We also looked at 2001 data and the accepted file has 754 out of 197,274. The only thing we can say in response is that the data published for 2000 do not match the information that the state submitted.

The data for outcome measure 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 indicate a substantial percentage of missing data with respect to “reason for discharge” information reported to AFCARS. Our response to this issue is that a very high number of children aging out of care during these years is missing a “reason for discharge”. This field is not required in CAPs, but will be required in IMPACT beginning 9/1/2003. A significant proportion of the missing data would be present if the field could be mapped to a default AFCARS code, but we have been advised against this by the Children's Bureau.

The data for outcome measure 3.4 indicate that 50.2 percent of children emancipated from foster care in FY 2001 were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into foster care. The national median for this measure is 28 percent. Our response is as follows: the data in 3.4 cannot be considered reliable due to the problem identified in the response to 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 above. The high number of cases without a reason for discharge renders the percentage unreliable. However, this data problem will resolve itself when Reason for Discharge becomes a required data entry field in September 2003.

Finally, with regard to the Outcomes Data for Texas, we would prefer that the first two rows under 2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care be reversed. Currently, the order of these rows is as follows: “Children Maltreated while in foster care” is the first row, and “Children not maltreated while in foster care” is the second row. We are requesting that the order be as follows: “Children not maltreated while in foster care” as the first row, and “Children maltreated while in foster care” be the second row. This would provide parallel construction with the rows under 1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months.

The following discussion focuses on Texas' performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Texas Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2002, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2000. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Texas' performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was 4.2 percent, which is lower than both the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and the national median of 8.0 percent. Texas' performance on this measure did not change substantively from 1999 to 2001.

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.3 percent, which is lower than both the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and the national median of 0.47 percent. Texas' performance on this measure declined slightly from 1999 to 2001 (+6.2 percent change).

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 76.9 percent of children exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes, which is less than the national median of 84.7 percent. However, it is not possible to assess State performance on this outcome because "reason for discharge" information was not provided to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) for 18.8 percent of the children exiting foster care during FY 2001. In addition, discharge reasons were not provided for 19.7 percent of the children with a diagnosed disability who exited from foster care, or for 54.8 percent of children who exited from foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care. The State's comment letter notes that many of the children with a missing "reason for discharge" were discharged to emancipation.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 60.7, which is lower than both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. According to information provided in the CFSR Final Report, the State believes that performance on this measure is due to the agency's practice of maintaining legal custody of a child for 3 to 6 months after physical reunification to continue monitoring the family and to support children's safety. There was no substantive change overall from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

The State's performance with regard to reunification within 12 months must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 2.7, which is considerably lower than both the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.4 percent. Despite very good performance on this measure, there was a decline from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+105.6 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 51.3, which is

higher than the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and the national median of 21.0 percent. Texas' performance on this measure exhibited continuous improvement from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+41.3 percent change).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children in foster care for less than 12 months who experienced no more than 2 placements was 71.0, which is lower than the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and the national median of 83.3 percent. There was no substantive change in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 12.1, which is higher than the national median of 8.7. There was no substantive change in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	701,300	707,366	718,698	716,243	Child maltreatment victims	7,990	8,660	8,729	10,200
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	2,468	2,273	1,805	1,957
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	Children adopted	334	369	303	349
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.7					
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.6	2.7	2.1	N/A					
Black	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.9					
Hispanic	8.3	8.7	10.9	11.2					
White	87.0	86.4	82.4	81.7					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.3	2.2					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.1	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	12.2	7.1	11.5	12.5					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	83.5	80.0	75.9	80.7					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	Rate			
		1999	2000	2001		1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	27,222	26,847	25,102	28,485	38.8 per 1,000	38.0 per 1,000	34.9 per 1,000	39.0 per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	7,990	8,660	8,729	10,200	11.4 per 1,000	12.2 per 1,000	12.1 per 1,000	14.0 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	12	7	12	11	1.7 per 100,000	1.0 per 100,000	1.7 per 100,000	1.5 per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	3.7	4.1	7.9	7.2	Alaska Native/American Indian	3.0	2.0	1.2	1.7
1-5 years	29.2	30.8	31.7	30.0	Asian/Pacific Islander	1.8	1.2	1.0	1.4
6-10 years	31.4	30.0	29.7	28.8	Black	2.4	1.9	1.6	2.0
11-15 years	26.7	25.5	24.5	27.3	Hispanic	12.7	12.9	13.1	13.9
16+ years	8.9	9.6	6.0	6.7	White	71.5	49.7	38.7	43.9
Unknown	—	—	0.2	—	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	21.4	45.3	44.4	37.1
Number	7,990	8,660	8,729	10,200	Total % ³	112.7	112.9	100.0	100.0
					Number	7,990	8,660	8,729	10,200

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	40.3	41.4	40.8	31.7
Medical neglect	1.4	1.2	1.0	0.8
Neglect	33.0	28.8	29.3	25.9
Physical abuse	18.8	16.6	15.8	14.3
Sexual abuse	23.2	21.8	19.6	22.7
Other	11.6	10.1	9.5	7.2
Unknown	—	0.0	0.0	14.6
Total % ⁴	128.3	119.9	116.0	117.2
Number	7,990	8,660	8,729	10,200

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	2,228	2,196	1,956	2,468	4,424
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	2,222	2,383	2,332	2,273	4,605
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	1,921	2,148	2,264	1,805	4,069
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	1,960	2,006	2,009	1,957	3,966

Median Length of Stay (Months)	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	11.7	N/A	5.5	12.5	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	12.7	N/A	5.5	11.2	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	12.0	N/A	5.8	10.4	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	12.6	N/A	6.8	10.9	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	2.9	3.6	4.4	4.7	10.3	12.8	12.8	11.6	6.4	7.9	8.1	7.5	3.7	4.8	5.1	4.3
1-5 years	19.9	19.1	16.6	20.6	28.9	26.6	32.8	26.5	28.7	29.0	30.3	29.9	20.1	17.9	20.0	18.3
6-10 years	23.0	22.6	19.6	19.9	23.2	22.7	23.1	22.4	23.2	23.3	21.4	22.4	22.6	19.6	20.5	18.4
11-15 years	34.1	34.1	36.6	33.8	29.5	29.2	23.1	29.7	24.8	23.3	21.0	21.8	33.4	35.9	35.2	38.5
16-18 years	19.8	20.1	22.2	20.1	8.1	8.6	8.1	9.7	16.2	15.4	17.8	17.1	19.6	21.2	18.6	19.5
19+ years	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.0	—	—	—	0.6	0.9	1.3	1.2	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.9
Unknown	0.0	—	—	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,228	2,222	1,921	1,960	2,196	2,383	2,148	2,006	1,956	2,332	2,264	2,009	2,468	2,273	1,805	1,957

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵																
Alaska Native/American Indian	6.2	4.2	5.2	5.2	4.3	5.1	2.8	3.1	6.2	3.1	2.4	3.8	4.5	6.3	5.9	4.5
Asian	—	—	0.5	1.1	—	—	0.6	0.3	—	—	0.5	0.6	—	—	0.6	0.9
Asian/Pacific	0.6	0.7	—	—	1.1	0.8	—	—	1.0	0.8	—	—	0.7	0.7	—	—
Black	4.0	3.6	3.0	5.5	3.8	4.8	1.9	2.9	4.3	4.3	1.1	4.5	3.7	4.1	4.2	3.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.2	0.7	—	—	0.4	1.1	—	—	0.2	0.9	—	—	0.4	0.8
Hispanic	13.6	14.2	13.8	19.2	15.9	16.2	18.6	20.8	15.8	15.5	16.1	21.9	14.0	15.0	16.6	18.1
White	73.0	72.7	49.3	59.2	69.7	62.6	33.3	42.7	68.5	67.5	29.5	47.3	73.6	67.5	55.1	54.5
Two or more races	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unknown	2.6	4.5	28.0	9.1	5.2	10.4	42.4	29.0	4.2	8.8	50.3	21.0	3.6	6.3	17.2	17.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,228	2,222	1,921	1,960	2,196	2,383	2,148	2,006	1,956	2,332	2,264	2,009	2,468	2,273	1,805	1,957

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	658	325	371	336
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	647	245	310	254

Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	6.8	4.3	9.4	6.0
1-5 years	35.0	27.4	29.4	29.8
6-10 years	36.3	32.0	32.1	32.1
11-15 years	18.5	30.5	25.9	28.3
16+ years	2.1	4.6	3.2	3.0
Unknown	1.2	1.2	—	0.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	658	325	371	336

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.2	1.5	4.9	1.2
Asian	—	—	0.8	1.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.8	1.5	—	—
Black	4.3	4.9	4.3	5.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	0.3
Hispanic	17.5	19.4	22.6	24.7
White	72.8	67.1	57.7	60.7
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	3.5	5.5	9.7	6.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	658	325	371	336

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	4.8	7.6	7.6	8.6
1-5 years	47.9	43.1	50.8	53.6
6-10 years	34.1	36.9	29.7	26.9
11-15 years	12.9	12.2	10.6	9.7
16+ years	0.3	0.3	1.3	1.1
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	334	369	303	349

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)				
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.8	0.5	1.7	2.9
Asian	—	—	1.0	1.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.9	—	—	—
Black	4.2	2.4	3.3	5.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.3	1.1
Hispanic	16.2	20.3	18.5	28.4
White	62.6	33.9	54.5	51.9
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	14.4	42.8	20.8	8.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	334	369	303	349

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

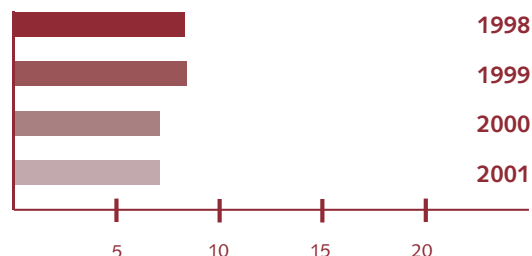
⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	91.7	91.6	92.9	92.9
Children with one or more recurrences	8.3	8.4	7.1	7.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,967	4,062	4,241	4,965

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences

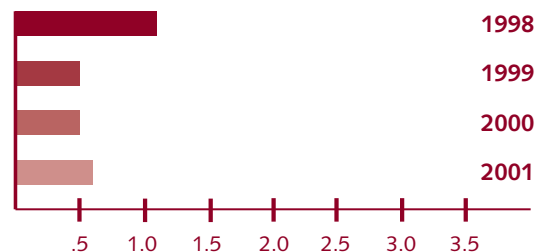


2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	1.10	0.52	0.54	0.55
Children not maltreated while in foster care	98.90	99.48	99.46	99.45
Total %	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	3,885	4,069	3,535	3,440

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care

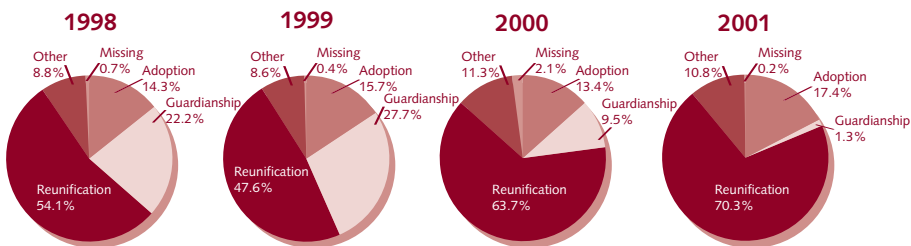


3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	14.3	15.7	13.4	17.4
Guardianship	22.2	27.7	9.5	1.3
Reunification	54.1	47.6	63.7	70.3
Other	8.8	8.6	11.3	10.8
Missing data	0.7	0.4	2.1	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,956	2,332	2,264	2,009

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	14.4	21.1	23.2	26.0
Guardianship	16.4	18.9	8.3	1.2
Reunification	52.5	44.5	53.2	59.4
Other	16.7	15.5	14.0	12.8
Missing data	—	—	1.3	0.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	299	375	457	335

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.2	0.3	0.8	0.6
Guardianship	13.8	15.3	6.5	1.5
Reunification	59.8	57.1	57.4	65.5
Other	25.7	26.6	33.7	32.1
Missing data	0.5	0.7	1.6	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	552	608	618	545

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	12.8	14.0	10.5	13.5
Children older than 12 at entry	87.2	86.0	89.5	86.5
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	109	121	172	163

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	4.1	4.1	9.3	13.2	—	—	25.0	41.7	15.0	—	—	—	16.7	12.0	25.0	22.0	—	—	25.0	21.1
Guardianship	25.6	38.4	7.4	1.3	—	—	—	—	10.0	27.8	—	—	27.4	31.0	—	1.1	—	—	50.0	—
Reunification	62.8	49.3	66.7	63.2	—	—	41.7	33.3	65.0	66.7	—	—	46.4	51.0	58.3	61.5	—	—	25.0	63.2
Other	6.6	6.8	16.7	22.4	—	—	33.3	25.0	10.0	5.6	—	—	9.5	5.0	16.7	15.4	—	—	—	15.8
Missing data	0.8	1.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	121	73	54	76	—	—	12	12	20	18	—	—	84	100	24	91	—	—	4	19

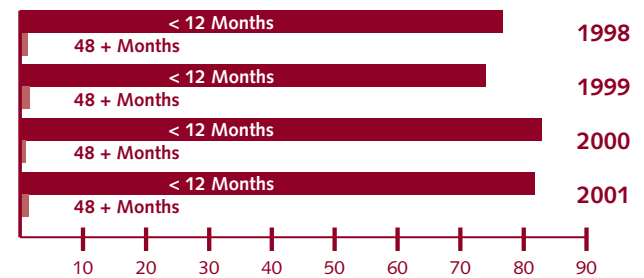
	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	14.6	20.5	15.1	22.5	15.4	16.3	21.0	19.1	7.2	9.7	8.3	7.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	18.2	29.1	7.4	—	23.0	26.0	3.3	1.6	16.9	33.0	14.1	2.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	61.7	46.3	68.2	72.0	50.8	46.8	52.8	64.6	71.1	51.5	69.0	85.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	5.5	3.9	7.9	5.0	10.0	10.4	22.0	14.6	3.6	5.3	5.4	4.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	0.3	1.4	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.9	0.1	1.2	0.5	3.2	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number	308	361	365	440	1,340	1,574	667	950	83	206	1,138	421	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	76.6	73.9	82.9	81.7
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	15.6	16.9	11.6	12.4
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	3.4	4.7	2.4	2.7
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.0	1.2	1.8	1.4
48 or more mos.	1.2	1.5	0.8	1.3
Missing data	2.2	1.9	0.5	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,058	1,109	1,442	1,412

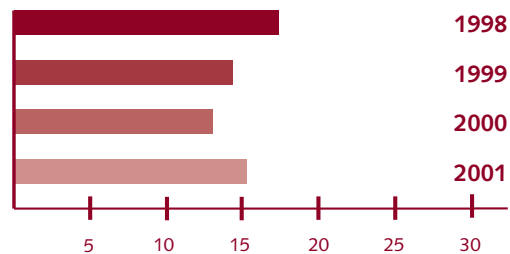
Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	69.6	75.9	73.9	75.1
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	17.3	14.3	13.0	15.2
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	8.6	7.8	6.7	8.1
Missing data	4.5	2.1	6.4	1.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,196	2,383	2,148	2,006

Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months

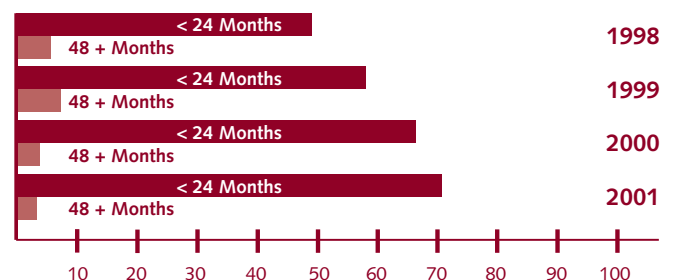


5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	12.9	15.6	27.3	25.5
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	36.2	42.3	39.1	45.3
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	33.0	25.4	23.7	20.1
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	12.2	9.3	5.9	5.7
48 or more mos.	5.7	7.4	3.9	3.4
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	279	366	304	349

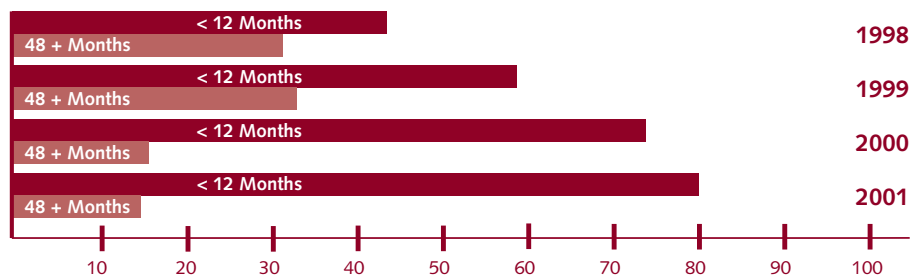
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	43.7	56.3	—	100.0	2,449
	1999	58.9	41.1	—	100.0	2,674
	2000	74.0	26.0	—	100.0	2,575
	2001	80.1	19.9	—	100.0	2,345
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	22.5	77.5	—	100.0	1,003
	1999	24.7	75.3	—	100.0	904
	2000	31.3	68.7	—	100.0	684
	2001	42.2	57.8	—	100.0	772
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	24.4	75.6	—	100.0	446
	1999	28.9	71.1	—	100.0	494
	2000	16.5	83.5	—	100.0	327
	2001	16.6	83.4	—	100.0	343
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	33.6	66.4	—	100.0	229
	1999	28.6	71.4	—	100.0	199
	2000	14.6	85.4	—	100.0	219
	2001	15.1	84.9	—	100.0	179
48 or more mos.	1998	31.6	68.4	—	100.0	247
	1999	33.2	66.8	—	100.0	280
	2000	16.0	84.0	—	100.0	256
	2001	15.0	85.1	—	100.0	321
Missing data	1998	82.0	18.0	—	100.0	50
	1999	90.7	9.3	—	100.0	54
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	8
	2001	83.3	16.7	—	100.0	6

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	19.6	25.0	1.2	1.1
Institutions	0.3	0.4	1.9	3.7
Other settings	80.0	74.4	97.0	95.1
Missing	0.1	0.1	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,318	1,600	1,295	1,307

**Richard Anderson, LCSW, Director
Division of Child and Family Services
Utah Department of Human Services
801-538-4100**

Utah's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

With regard to foster care exits, Utah has a closure reason of discharge to relative/guardian. Prior to 2000, this category was mapped to guardianship. Upon determining most of these cases were relatives, Utah corrected the mapping. Consequently 1998-1999 guardianship closures are inflated. This correction is reflected in 2000.

Regarding placement changes, placement changes data are inflated. Utah had counted every coding change, which included actual movement and changes in service levels for the same provider. The programming for this fixed in mid-2000 to show actual movement of children to different providers. In 2002, the Children's Bureau issued clarifications on types of placements to count and exclude. Utah's programming was again altered to exclude the temporary placements outlined in the federal clarification. With these programming changes Utah's trend shows an increase in performance that is more a reflection of data measurement changes.

Regarding placement settings, it was determined that some placement settings were incorrectly mapped to group homes. This error was remedied in 2000.

Regarding ethnicity of victims, children in care and adopted, errors were found with edits in the system and a glitch, which caused ethnicity to be set to unknown. These errors have been fixed and will begin to show in the 2001-2002 data.

Regarding maltreatment type, in October 1997 Utah started tracking domestic violence related abuse as an allegation subcategory of emotional abuse. In 1998, it became one of the most substantiated allegations investigated, resulting in an increase in the percentage of emotional abuse.

Regarding time to adoption, in the mid 1990's Utah worked with the court system to improve time to adoption. We are proud of our timeliness in this area.

Regarding re-entry to care, Utah is currently researching our re-entry rate to determine contributing factors and area's needing improvement.

The following discussion focuses on Utah's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Utah Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2003, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2001. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Utah's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided below.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence in less than 6 months was 7.1 percent, which does not meet the national standard of 6.1 percent or less, but was lower than the national median of 8.0 percent. Performance on this measure improved from 1999 to 2001 (-15.5 percent change). Information in the CFSR Final Report indicates that, according to the State's self-assessment, the maltreatment recurrence rate may be inflated because when a child or someone else reports a previous maltreatment incident during an investigation of a current incident, that maltreatment is entered using the date of the disclosure rather than the date of the maltreatment.

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.55 which meets the national standard of 0.57 percent or less, but is higher than the national median of 0.47 percent. Utah's performance on this measure declined slightly from 1999 to 2001 (+7.0 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that performance on this measure may be attributed at least in part to the high quality and comprehensiveness of foster parent training.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 89.0 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 85.3 percent), and 86.6 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is higher than the national median of 78.4 percent). However, only 67.6 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 72.3 percent). Performance related to permanency for children who entered foster care after age 12 declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-7.1 percent change).

In FY 2001, 13.5 percent of children who were emancipated from foster care in FY 2001 were age 12 or younger when they entered foster care, which is lower than the national median of 28.0 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Overall, these data suggest that the State is effective in achieving permanency for most children in foster care (with the exception of children who enter care after age 12) and is effective in ensuring that children who enter foster care at young ages do not "grow up" in foster care.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 81.7, which exceeds both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+10.7 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report indicates that performance on this measure may be attributed to concerted efforts on the part of the agency to (1) support the parent-child relationships of children in foster care, and (2) ensure frequent visitation between children in foster care and their parents.

Utah's performance with regard to reunifications within 12 months of entry into foster care must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 15.2. This performance does not meet the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is greater than the national median of 10.4 percent. Performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+6.6 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies the following practices as possibly contributing to the State's performance on this measure: (1) premature reunifications in some cases, and (2) lack of post-reunification services.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percent of all adoptions finalized within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 70.8, which exceeds the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and is the highest rate reported nationally. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+22.2 percent change). The State's comment letter attributes this high level of performance to collaborative efforts with the court system in the mid-1990s to improve time to adoption. Information in the CFSR Final Report identifies the following as contributing to timely adoptions: (1) placement of children in foster homes that are already licensed as adoptive placements; (2) timely filing for termination of parental rights, (3) adherence to the provisions of the Adoption and Safe Families Act; and (4) the large array of services and resources available to support adoption.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who were in foster care for less than 12 months and experienced no more than 2 placements was 80.1, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and is lower than the national median of 83.3 percent. However, performance on this measure improved substantially from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+36.1 percent change). The State's comment page notes that these changes reflect improvements in the way data are entered for this measure rather than changes in practice. Information from the CFSR final report notes that almost all children coming into foster care are initially placed into shelter placements for comprehensive assessments. Although this practice adds a "placement setting" to each foster care episode, the State believes that the practice has resulted in improvements in placement stability.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 4.8, which is considerably lower than the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this measure improved substantially from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-80.8 percent change), with most of the change occurring between FY 1999 and FY 2000. The State's comment letter indicates that this change is due primarily to resolution of data errors.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	141,347	139,346	147,523	141,415	Child maltreatment victims	887	1,080	1,347	1,139
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	1,316	1,445	1,318	1,360
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	Children adopted	118	139	122	116
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.1					
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.0	1.0	1.0	N/A					
Black	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.8					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.2					
White	97.3	97.3	94.7	94.6					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	1.8	1.8					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	13.6	12.5	18.1	12.2					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	26.8	28.5	27.5	39.9					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	Rate			
		1999	2000	1998		1999	2000	2001	
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	1,973	2,470	3,609	3,558	14.0 per 1,000	17.7 per 1,000	24.5 per 1,000	24.0 per 1,000	
Child maltreatment victims ²	887	1,080	1,347	1,139	6.3 per 1,000	7.8 per 1,000	9.1 per 1,000	7.7 per 1,000	
Child fatalities	0	4	1	0	— per 100,000	2.9 per 100,000	0.7 per 100,000	— per 100,000	

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	3.8	4.2	5.0	6.9	Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.1	0.2	0.1
1-5 years	21.6	25.1	22.4	25.8	Asian/Pacific Islander	1.0	0.6	1.4	0.8
6-10 years	34.0	31.6	29.9	30.0	Black	0.7	0.6	1.6	0.7
11-15 years	30.7	29.0	34.7	29.7	Hispanic	0.1	0.6	0.4	—
16+ years	8.2	10.1	7.9	7.6	White	98.1	97.9	95.8	97.5
Unknown	1.6	0.1	—	0.1	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	0.2	0.8	0.6	0.9
Number	887	1,080	1,347	1,139	Total % ³	100.1	100.6	100.0	100.0
					Number	887	1,080	1,347	1,139

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	1.1	0.9	0.9	1.1
Medical neglect	2.7	1.9	2.2	2.3
Neglect	36.8	43.7	38.2	41.9
Physical abuse	26.5	22.0	22.1	20.5
Sexual abuse	41.8	40.4	40.8	37.8
Other	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	108.9	108.9	104.2	103.6
Number	887	1,080	1,347	1,139

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	1,188	783	655	1,316	1,971
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	1,417	750	722	1,445	2,167
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	1,211	788	684	1,318	1,999
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	1,227	697	581	1,360	1,924

Median Length of Stay (Months)

FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	20.9	N/A	13.7	17.5	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	20.5	N/A	16.0	19.9	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	20.1	N/A	15.1	15.9	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	19.2	N/A	13.4	18.9	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)

Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	1.9	2.1	2.1	1.4	5.5	7.2	7.2	8.3	1.1	2.1	2.5	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.6
1-5 years	12.8	13.1	11.1	14.0	14.3	14.5	15.9	15.8	15.3	16.2	14.5	16.2	12.4	12.4	12.4	13.1
6-10 years	14.6	16.6	14.1	15.5	15.6	16.3	14.6	15.5	11.9	14.8	14.2	14.1	15.6	15.4	13.7	15.8
11-15 years	40.9	39.6	41.5	40.9	50.2	49.9	48.4	44.5	30.4	27.3	27.9	31.0	39.4	42.2	40.2	37.5
16-18 years	29.2	28.5	31.1	28.1	14.4	12.1	14.0	15.9	38.3	37.5	39.8	35.1	30.2	27.6	31.0	30.4
19+ years	0.7	0.1	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	3.1	2.1	1.2	1.4	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.6
Unknown	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.2	—	—	0.1	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,188	1,417	1,211	1,227	783	750	788	697	655	722	684	581	1,316	1,445	1,318	1,360

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	—	0.1	0.3	—	0.2	—	0.1	—	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3
Asian	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.5	0.7	—	—	0.9	0.7	—	—	0.2	0.4
Asian/Pacific	0.3	0.1	—	—	0.6	0.8	—	—	1.1	0.4	—	—	0.2	0.3	—	—
Black	1.9	2.2	1.8	1.3	1.3	1.3	2.4	3.6	0.9	2.4	2.5	2.9	2.0	1.7	1.8	1.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1
Hispanic	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.1	0.4	0.4	—	0.5	0.4	0.6	—	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5
White	96.1	96.3	96.5	97.0	96.9	97.1	95.4	95.4	96.8	96.0	95.5	95.9	96.3	96.8	96.4	96.7
Two or more races	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unknown	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.4	1.0	0.3	1.0	0.3	0.6	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.3	0.7	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,188	1,417	1,211	1,227	783	750	788	697	655	722	684	581	1,316	1,445	1,318	1,360

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	215	403	252	298
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	159	351	184	238

Age of Waiting Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	3.3	3.7	1.6	1.3
1-5 years	27.9	28.3	22.6	22.2
6-10 years	26.0	29.3	25.8	28.2
11-15 years	33.5	32.0	37.7	40.3
16+ years	8.4	6.2	9.5	7.1
Unknown	0.9	0.5	2.8	1.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	215	403	252	298

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	0.2	0.4	0.3
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	1.9	2.0	1.6	1.7
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	0.9	1.2	0.8	0.7
White	96.3	95.8	96.0	96.3
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	0.9	0.7	1.2	1.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	215	403	252	298

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.7	0.7	1.6	2.6
1-5 years	49.2	43.2	48.4	40.5
6-10 years	38.1	38.8	31.1	33.6
11-15 years	10.2	15.8	18.0	21.6
16+ years	0.9	1.4	0.8	1.7
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	118	139	122	116

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	1.6	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	1.7	4.3	4.9	—
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	—	2.5	—
White	98.3	95.7	90.2	94.8
Two or more races	—	—	0.8	3.4
Unknown	—	—	—	1.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	118	139	122	116

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

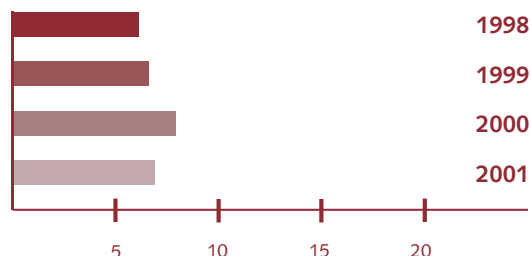
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	93.9	93.4	92.1	93.1
Children with one or more recurrences	6.1	6.6	7.9	6.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	495	547	658	563

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



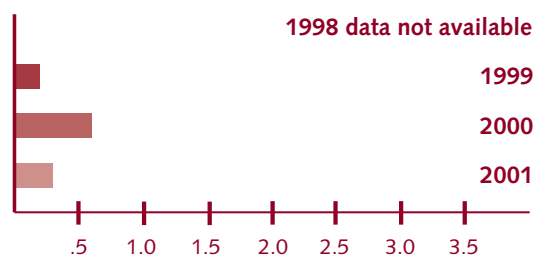
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	0.15	0.59	0.34
Children not maltreated while in foster care	100.00	99.85	99.41	99.66
Total %	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	1,808	1,998	1,864	1,783

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



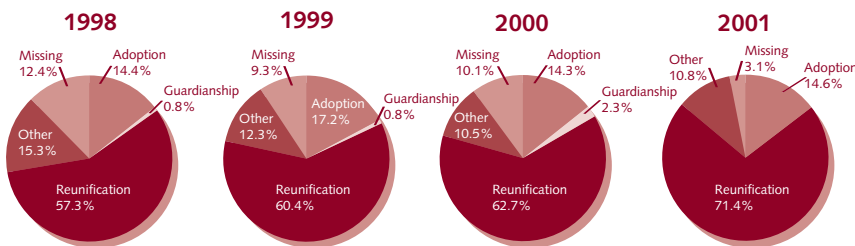
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	14.4	17.2	14.3	14.6
Guardianship	0.8	0.8	2.3	—
Reunification	57.3	60.4	62.7	71.4
Other	15.3	12.3	10.5	10.8
Missing data	12.4	9.3	10.1	3.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	655	722	684	581

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	11.1	5.9	18.8	17.6
Guardianship	—	—	6.3	—
Reunification	16.7	35.3	43.8	52.9
Other	50.0	41.2	18.8	17.6
Missing data	22.2	17.6	12.5	11.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	18	17	16	17

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.3	—	0.3	—
Guardianship	0.3	0.5	2.9	—
Reunification	61.1	67.6	68.2	82.7
Other	22.4	17.9	15.5	12.7
Missing data	15.9	14.0	13.1	4.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	370	364	343	283

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	17.0	28.1	27.7	30.8
Children older than 12 at entry	83.0	71.9	72.3	61.5
Missing data	—	—	—	7.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	53	57	65	52

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

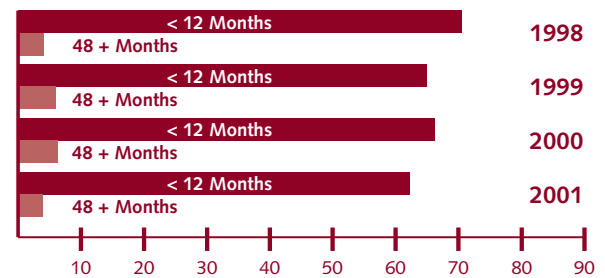
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28.6	—	—	—	16.7	23.5	11.8	—	—	—	—	
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.9	—	—	—	—	
Reunification	—	—	—	—	—	—	83.3	100.0	71.4	100.0	—	—	50.0	70.6	58.8	94.1	—	—	—	
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	16.7	—	—	—	—	—	33.3	5.9	5.9	5.9	—	—	—	
Missing data	100.0	—	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17.6	—	—	—	—	
Total %	100.0	—	100.0	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	
Number	1	—	1	—	—	—	6	4	7	3	—	—	6	17	17	17	—	—	—	

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	75.0	—	14.2	17.3	13.9	15.3	25.0	—	66.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	0.8	0.9	2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Reunification	100.0	66.7	—	—	57.3	59.6	63.2	70.4	25.0	100.0	33.3	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	
Other	—	33.3	—	—	15.1	12.6	10.7	11.1	50.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Missing data	—	—	25.0	—	12.6	9.7	9.8	3.2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	
Number	3	3	4	—	634	693	653	557	4	6	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

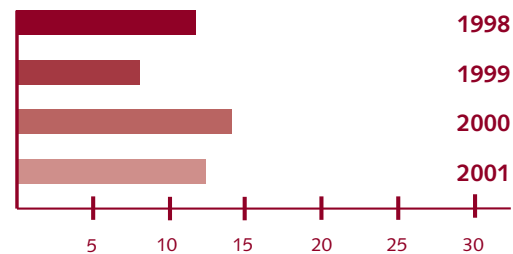
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	70.4	64.9	66.2	62.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	13.1	16.7	18.2	18.1
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	8.3	7.3	6.3	9.2
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	4.3	5.0	2.6	4.3
48 or more mos.	4.0	6.0	6.3	3.9
Missing data	—	—	0.5	2.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	375	436	429	415

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	77.1	82.9	73.7	78.0
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	11.7	8.0	14.0	12.3
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	6.3	9.1	7.7	9.6
Missing data	4.9	—	4.6	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	783	750	788	697

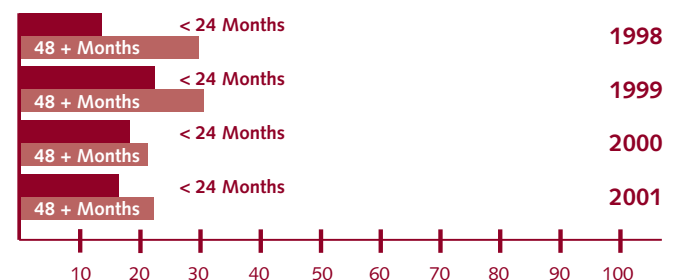
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	—	4.8	2.0	—
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	13.8	17.7	16.3	16.5
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	24.5	30.6	32.7	35.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	31.9	16.1	27.6	22.4
48 or more mos.	29.8	30.6	21.4	22.4
Missing data	—	—	—	3.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	94	124	98	85

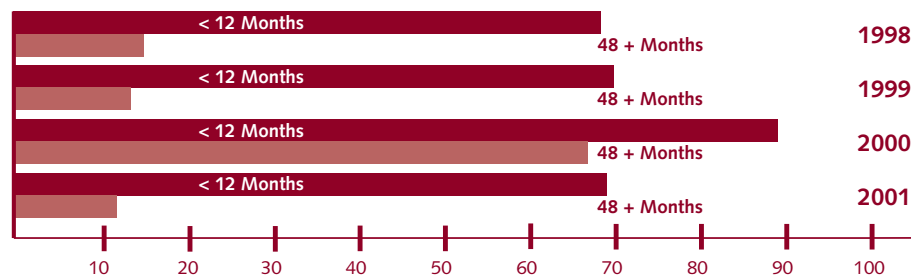
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	68.5	31.5	—	100.0	829
	1999	70.0	30.0	—	100.0	839
	2000	89.1	10.9	—	100.0	853
	2001	69.2	30.7	0.1	100.0	757
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	31.8	68.2	—	100.0	371
	1999	35.8	64.2	—	100.0	433
	2000	80.6	19.4	—	100.0	402
	2001	36.4	63.6	—	100.0	404
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	25.8	74.2	—	100.0	275
	1999	30.3	69.7	—	100.0	297
	2000	77.8	22.2	—	100.0	261
	2001	29.7	70.3	—	100.0	296
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	20.7	79.3	—	100.0	184
	1999	27.5	72.5	—	100.0	211
	2000	78.3	21.7	—	100.0	161
	2001	14.6	85.4	—	100.0	158
48 or more mos.	1998	15.2	84.8	—	100.0	309
	1999	13.6	86.4	—	100.0	383
	2000	66.9	33.1	—	100.0	320
	2001	12.0	87.7	0.3	100.0	309
Missing data	1998	100.0	—	—	100.0	3
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	4
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	2
	2001	—	—	—	—	—

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	5.6	9.2	4.0	5.2
Institutions	1.5	1.7	0.9	0.9
Other settings	92.9	89.1	95.2	93.9
Missing	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	340	359	352	326

Don Mandelkorn, Social Services Director
Social Services Division
Vermont Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services
802-241-2407

Vermont's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

The Vermont Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services is a state-supervised child protection, child welfare and juvenile justice system. Twelve local offices investigate reports of child abuse and neglect. We investigate reports of sexual abuse by out-of-home perpetrators, resulting in a high percentage of substantiated abuse that is sexual abuse. Vermont has also seen a substantial increase in substantiated child abuse in the last several years due to an expanded role with parents whose use of drugs are putting children at risk of harm.

The department is responsible for about 1,600 children in custody for abuse and neglect (63% of children in custody), delinquency (22%), or because they are beyond parental control (15%). In addition, social work staff supervise about 300 youth on juvenile probation.

Children can "exit" one part of our system as an abused child and "re-enter" as a delinquent child, making our rate of re-entry appear quite high. About 65% of children in custody are age 12 and older. This reality has substantial impact on placement stability, length of stay and permanency outcomes.

The Vermont data presented in this volume exhibit some discrepancies in descriptive data for children in custody on 9/30 and 10/1 of the same year. These represent two AFCARS report periods. Before each AFCARS submission, we review data to correct temporary stays home that were incorrectly coded as exits. We typically have not re-submitted previous AFCARS reports, which results in this type of discrepant data.

There is an additional discrepancy in our adoption data that we will attempt to correct in our next AFCARS transmissions. The correct figure for 2001 adoption finalizations is 116.

The following discussion focuses on Vermont's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Vermont Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2001, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 1999. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFRS findings for Vermont's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence in less than 6 months was 6.9 percent, which does not meet the national standard of 6.1 percent or less but is lower than the national median of 8.0 percent. According to information in the CFRS Final Report, the State believes that the rate of maltreatment recurrence may be attributed to the fact that the State "substantiates" reports based on "risk of harm" and does not require evidence of actual maltreatment for substantiation. Vermont's performance on this measure declined from 1999 to 2001 (+5.0 percent).

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.34 percent, which meets the national standard of 0.57 percent or less and is lower than the national median of 0.47 percent. Although the State continued to meet the national standard, performance on this measure declined considerably from 1999 to 2001 (+124.1 percent change). However, the small numbers of children involved suggest that this "statistical decline" does not represent an actual performance change.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 86.0 percent of children exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is greater than the national median of 85.3 percent), and 82.7 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is greater than the national median of 72.3 percent). (Only 17 of the 581 children who exited foster care in FY 2001 were reported to have a diagnosed disability.) However, 30.8 percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry (which is higher than the national median of 28.0 percent). These data suggest that the State is effective in establishing permanency for children, including children who were older than age 12 at the time of entry. However, the State is not consistently effective in ensuring that children who enter foster care at a young age do not "grow up" in foster care. Although the State's performance related to attaining permanency for children in foster care improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001, performance related to the percentage of children exiting foster care through emancipation who were age 12 or younger at the time of entry declined (+9.6 percent change).

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of reported reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 62.2, which is lower than both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. Vermont's performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Also in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 12.3, which is higher than the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.4 percent. Vermont's performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+54.2 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 16.5, which is lower than the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and the national median of 21.0 percent. Vermont's performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-27.1 percent change).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 69.2, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and is lower than the national median of 83.3 percent. Overall, there was no substantive change in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to 2001; however, performance was considerably higher in FY 2000.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 6.1, which is lower than the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-43.5 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	1,644,678	1,664,810	1,738,262	1,761,515	Child maltreatment victims	9,766	8,199	7,416	9,873
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	7,213	6,778	6,789	6,866
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	Children adopted	235	326	448	495
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.7					
Asian/Pacific Islander	4.0	4.1	3.5	N/A					
Black	23.0	23.1	23.1	23.2					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	4.9	5.1	5.9	6.2					
White	67.9	67.5	64.0	64.1					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.9	2.6					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.4	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	18.8	10.9	7.8	8.4					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	77.8	81.8	80.4	83.7					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	Number				Rate			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	49,026	53,837	40,799	37,988	29.8 per 1,000	32.3 per 1,000	23.5 per 1,000	21.6 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	9,766	8,199	7,416	9,873	5.9 per 1,000	4.9 per 1,000	4.3 per 1,000	5.6 per 1,000
Child fatalities	29	36	31	36	1.8 per 100,000	2.2 per 100,000	1.8 per 100,000	2.0 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	7.1	3.9	9.4	10.4	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
1-5 years	30.3	30.4	30.6	29.6	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.8	1.1	1.4	1.0
6-10 years	32.8	31.8	31.1	30.3	Black	39.4	39.3	36.6	37.3
11-15 years	23.9	24.7	23.2	23.7	Hispanic	4.6	3.1	6.4	6.3
16+ years	5.9	8.4	5.6	5.8	White	51.3	51.6	49.6	48.7
Unknown	—	0.9	0.2	0.3	Two or more races	—	—	3.2	3.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	8.3	7.9	2.8	3.3
Number	9,766	8,199	7,416	9,873	Total % ³	104.6	103.1	100.0	100.0
					Number	9,766	8,199	7,416	9,873

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		4.1	3.4	1.8	1.6
Medical neglect		2.6	1.0	2.4	2.4
Neglect		65.4	64.7	58.6	58.8
Physical abuse		28.1	31.1	28.5	28.0
Sexual abuse		16.2	14.4	11.0	12.2
Other		1.0	—	—	—
Unknown		—	0.1	—	—
Total % ⁴		117.4	114.6	102.4	102.9
Number		9,766	8,199	7,416	9,873

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	5,916	2,639	1,354	7,213	8,555
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	5,804	2,683	1,715	6,778	8,487
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	5,871	2,738	1,826	6,789	8,609
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	6,055	2,904	2,096	6,866	8,959

Median Length of Stay (Months)	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	26.2	N/A	11.9	25.5	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	23.7	N/A	14.2	22.3	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	22.9	N/A	17.5	21.8	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	22.2	N/A	16.2	20.5	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.5	10.5	11.2	11.3	10.7	3.6	4.0	4.1	3.0	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.7
1-5 years	20.4	19.2	17.9	17.7	22.4	21.9	22.2	23.2	24.9	19.8	21.1	23.1	19.1	19.0	18.4	18.2
6-10 years	23.0	22.8	23.1	22.3	21.2	20.8	21.5	19.6	20.8	17.8	19.2	19.1	22.4	23.1	22.2	20.4
11-15 years	32.9	35.4	35.6	36.5	33.7	34.2	33.9	33.4	24.7	18.9	17.5	18.9	31.2	34.5	35.3	36.1
16-18 years	19.7	20.3	20.9	21.0	12.1	11.9	11.0	13.1	23.0	38.8	36.3	33.9	21.8	20.9	21.5	22.6
19+ years	1.8	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	—	2.7	0.7	1.8	1.9	3.1	—	—	—
Unknown	0.1	0.0	—	—	0.2	0.0	—	0.1	0.4	—	—	—	0.3	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,916	5,804	5,871	6,055	2,639	2,683	2,738	2,904	1,354	1,715	1,826	2,096	7,213	6,778	6,789	6,866

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.6	0.4	—	—	0.5	0.2	—	—	1.0	0.4	—	—	0.4	0.3
Asian/Pacific	0.8	0.8	—	—	0.8	0.6	—	—	0.8	1.0	—	—	0.8	0.7	—	—
Black	54.0	53.4	53.9	51.8	44.3	46.1	39.9	40.9	41.1	46.2	45.6	44.2	52.9	52.3	50.5	49.5
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0	—	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.0	—
Hispanic	3.6	3.1	3.6	3.8	3.8	5.3	4.4	4.8	4.2	4.3	3.4	5.0	3.6	3.7	3.9	3.9
White	40.7	41.3	40.3	41.5	49.5	46.0	50.3	48.2	53.2	47.3	46.9	46.6	41.6	41.7	42.5	42.8
Two or more races	0.4	0.7	1.0	1.9	0.4	1.0	4.1	4.5	0.1	0.1	2.2	3.1	0.4	1.0	1.9	2.7
Unknown	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.4	1.1	0.9	0.7	1.0	0.5	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,916	5,804	5,871	6,055	2,639	2,683	2,738	2,904	1,354	1,715	1,826	2,096	7,213	6,778	6,789	6,866

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	2,167	2,178	2,132	1,947
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	904	749	640	484

Age of Waiting Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	4.0	4.3	4.9	4.1
1-5 years	39.7	38.4	36.0	34.4
6-10 years	40.0	40.5	40.1	37.6
11-15 years	15.2	15.8	18.3	22.9
16+ years	0.8	1.0	0.8	1.0
Unknown	0.3	—	0.1	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,167	2,178	2,132	1,947

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.3	0.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.6	0.6	—	—
Black	54.4	54.2	53.0	54.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.0	—
Hispanic	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.4
White	39.5	38.9	39.4	37.4
Two or more races	0.6	1.1	2.2	3.1
Unknown	0.7	0.9	0.7	0.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,167	2,178	2,132	1,947

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	0.4	1.5	0.2	0.4
1-5 years	34.9	45.7	36.2	39.8
6-10 years	47.7	37.4	42.0	40.0
11-15 years	15.7	15.3	18.8	17.2
16+ years	1.3	—	2.9	2.6
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	235	326	448	495

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	0.4	0.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.4	1.8	—	—
Black	43.8	45.1	45.8	41.0
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	4.7	5.8	4.7	4.8
White	49.4	45.4	44.4	45.5
Two or more races	—	1.5	4.0	7.9
Unknown	1.7	0.3	0.7	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	235	326	448	495

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

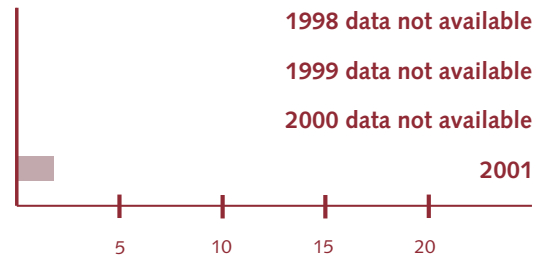
⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	—	98.2
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	—	1.8
Total %	—	—	—	100.0
Number	—	—	—	4,242

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

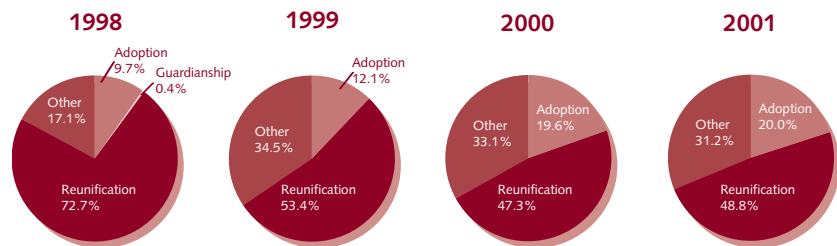
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

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

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	9.7	12.1	19.6	20.0
Guardianship	0.4	—	—	—
Reunification	72.7	53.4	47.3	48.8
Other	17.1	34.5	33.1	31.2
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,354	1,715	1,826	2,096

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	16.5	13.1	19.0	20.5
Guardianship	0.4	—	—	—
Reunification	60.9	42.0	38.9	32.5
Other	22.2	44.9	42.2	47.0
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	243	336	453	453

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.8
Guardianship	0.2	—	—	—
Reunification	61.8	36.9	35.3	36.7
Other	37.8	62.9	64.4	62.5
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	434	674	660	774

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	36.6	26.3	29.9	24.3
Children older than 12 at entry	63.4	73.3	69.9	75.7
Missing data	—	0.4	0.2	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	134	520	542	556

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

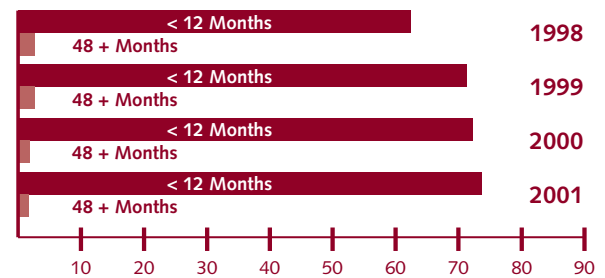
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	—	—	—	15.8	25.0	—	—	—	—	10.4	11.0	18.6	19.1	—	—	—	50.0
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	100.0	50.0	—	33.3	—	—	26.3	25.0	63.6	47.1	—	—	68.6	52.1	43.1	46.9	—	—	100.0	—
Other	—	50.0	100.0	66.7	—	—	57.9	50.0	36.4	52.9	—	—	20.5	36.9	38.3	34.0	—	—	—	50.0
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	1	2	1	3	—	—	19	8	11	17	—	—	557	792	833	926	—	—	1	2

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	11.0	24.2	21.9	10.3	13.4	20.6	21.3	—	11.1	38.5	—	—	100.0	7.3	13.8	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	86.0	67.1	48.4	53.3	74.9	53.4	50.1	48.4	85.7	66.7	53.8	100.0	100.0	—	80.5	70.8	—	—	—	—
Other	14.0	21.9	27.4	24.8	14.6	33.2	29.3	30.3	14.3	22.2	7.7	—	—	—	12.2	15.4	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	57	73	62	105	720	811	856	976	7	18	13	11	1	2	41	65	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

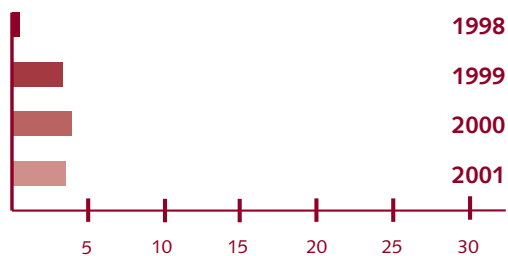
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	62.4	71.2	72.2	73.6
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	20.2	17.1	18.1	15.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	8.6	6.3	5.3	6.2
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	4.6	1.2	1.9	2.4
48 or more mos.	2.7	2.7	1.9	1.7
Missing data	1.4	1.4	0.7	0.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	985	916	864	1,022

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	97.9	94.6	92.1	93.0
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	0.5	3.3	3.9	3.5
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	—	0.7	1.5	1.7
Missing data	1.6	1.4	2.6	1.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,639	2,683	2,738	2,904

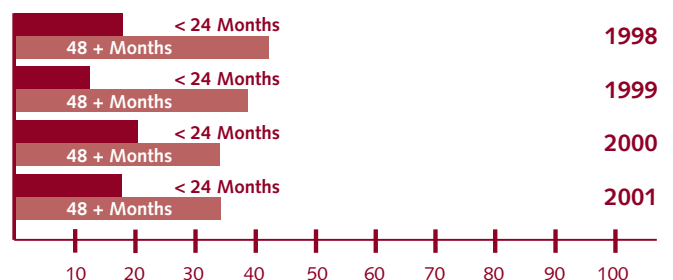
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	4.5	1.4	3.1	1.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	13.6	11.1	17.4	16.9
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	19.7	23.1	26.1	29.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	19.7	25.5	18.8	18.6
48 or more mos.	42.4	38.9	34.2	34.3
Missing data	—	—	0.6	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	132	208	357	420

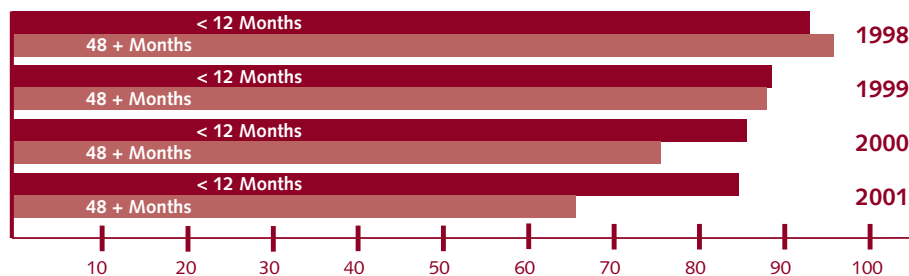
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	93.1	6.9	—	100.0	2,851
	1999	88.6	10.6	0.8	100.0	2,893
	2000	85.8	13.0	1.2	100.0	2,947
	2001	84.8	14.5	0.8	100.0	3,205
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	90.9	9.1	—	100.0	1,529
	1999	76.3	22.9	0.8	100.0	1,733
	2000	70.4	29.2	0.4	100.0	1,717
	2001	67.0	32.4	0.6	100.0	1,800
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	92.2	7.8	—	100.0	1,089
	1999	79.0	20.4	0.6	100.0	1,049
	2000	62.3	37.3	0.4	100.0	1,177
	2001	54.9	44.9	0.2	100.0	1,204
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	94.5	5.5	—	100.0	880
	1999	79.7	19.5	0.8	100.0	728
	2000	65.6	34.1	0.3	100.0	756
	2001	51.0	48.7	0.4	100.0	781
48 or more mos.	1998	95.9	4.1	—	100.0	2,192
	1999	88.1	11.4	0.5	100.0	2,065
	2000	75.7	23.9	0.4	100.0	2,007
	2001	65.8	34.0	0.3	100.0	1,965
Missing data	1998	100.0	—	—	100.0	14
	1999	84.2	—	15.8	100.0	19
	2000	60.0	—	40.0	100.0	5
	2001	50.0	—	50.0	100.0	4

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	6.6	0.7	0.6	0.6
Institutions	0.2	5.9	5.4	5.8
Other settings	93.0	92.7	93.1	93.4
Missing	0.2	0.6	0.8	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,632	1,653	1,712	1,768

**Cathleen Newbanks, Director
Division of Family Services
Virginia Department of Social Services
804-692-2227**

Virginia's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

- Data in Section B-Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS) – Data collection issues related to the adoption of a new automated system resulted in an undercount of child victims in 1999 and 2000. In addition, some unsubstantiated reports were purged from the system resulting in an undercount of children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment.
- Data for Outcome Measures 1 and 2 –Virginia has calculated outcomes using alternative data. For 2001 out of 4,133 maltreated children, 96.2% were children without a recurrence, and 3.8% were children with one or more recurrences. Out of 8,331 foster children, 0.35% of the children were maltreated while in foster care, and 99.65% of the children were not maltreated while in foster care.
- Data for Outcome Measure 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 –Virginia's laws recognize an alternative permanency goal of Permanent Foster Care. This goal is similar to the federal goal of guardianship, except custody is retained by the agency. Permanent foster care provides the youth, at time of discharge, with significant adult relationships upon which the child can rely for continuing support and contact.

The following discussion focuses on Virginia's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Virginia Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2003, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2001. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Virginia's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided below.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the rate of maltreatment recurrence in less than 6 months was 1.8 percent, which meets the national standard of 6.1 percent or less, and was the lowest rate reported nationally. However, this differs from the data reported in the State's Comment.

Information from the CFSR Final Report suggests that the reported rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months may be misleading because the agency supports local policies that do not require formal investigations of maltreatment reports on open cases. However, CFSR Final Report information also suggests that the State's performance on this measure may be attributed in part to the following: (1) a large array of services available to protect children who remain in their homes, and (2) the use of risk assessments on a consistent ongoing basis.

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

Virginia's attainment of outcome 2 cannot be evaluated as part of the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to NCANDS for calculating this outcome. In order to ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through the NCANDS system are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are provided in Virginia's CFSR Final Report in the State's Comment.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 68.8 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is less than the national median of 85.3 percent); 53.0 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is the lowest rate reported nationally); and only 37.5 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is considerably lower than the national median of 72.3 percent). Performance related to the percent of children leaving foster care who were discharged to permanent homes improved slightly from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+5.0 percent change).

Also in FY 2001, 24.3 percent of the children who were emancipated from foster care in FY 2001 were age 12 or younger when they entered foster care, which is lower than the national median of 28.0 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-7.8 percent change). Overall, these data suggest that the State is not consistently effective in achieving permanency for children in foster care; however, the State is generally effective in ensuring that children who enter foster care at young ages do not "grow up" in foster care.

Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies the following key concerns related to achieving permanency: (1) inconsistent implementation of periodic reviews and procedures seeking termination of parental rights (TPR), and (2) lack of consistency with regard to fully exploring adoption with children and foster parents or providing adoption counseling.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 73.6, which does not meet the national standard of 76.2 percent or more, but is greater than the national median of 69.2 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies the following potential barriers to timely reunification: (1) children and families are not consistently involved in case planning across the State; (2) the State is not consistent in supporting visitation between parents and children in foster care; and (3) there is inadequate service delivery to children and parents, related to both the inconsistent quality of needs assessments and the availability of culturally appropriate services.

Virginia's performance with regard to reunifications within 12 months of entry into foster care must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 3.5. This performance meets the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is considerably lower than the national median of 10.4 percent. However, performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+8.1 percent change). Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies continued monitoring of families after reunification as a key factor contributing to the prevention of re-entry into foster care.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percent of all adoptions finalized within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 17.9, which does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more and is lower than the national median of 21.0 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+42.0 percent change). Information in the CFSR Final Report identifies the following as potential barriers to timely adoptions: (1) court-related delays including overcrowded dockets, continuances, and lengthy appeals; (2) agency delays in completing paperwork and filing for TPR; and (3) a lack of adoptive homes for older children and children with special needs.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who were in foster care for less than 12 months and experienced no more than 2 placements was 84.8, which does not meet the national standard of 86.7 percent or more, but is greater than the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Information in the CFSR Final Report identifies several potential barriers to placement stability: (1) inadequate standards for foster family homes and child care institutions; (2) lack of consistent agency support to maintain placements; and (3) inconsistent assessments of children's needs.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 6.4, which is lower than the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	1,472,490	1,486,340	1,513,843	1,510,230	Child maltreatment victims	12,926	8,039	7,095	6,010
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	8,872	8,688	8,945	9,101
Alaska Native/American Indian	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.8	Children adopted	878	1,047	1,141	1,204
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.5					
Asian/Pacific Islander	6.5	6.8	5.5	N/A					
Black	3.8	3.9	3.7	4.1					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.5					
Hispanic	9.7	10.1	11.7	12.0					
White	77.9	77.2	71.5	71.2					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	5.5	4.8					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.3	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	15.0	10.7	15.0	13.7					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	76.5	77.0	83.0	77.7					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	Number				Rate			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	47,281	53,060	38,070	35,491	32.1 per 1,000	35.7 per 1,000	25.1 per 1,000	23.2 per 1,000
Child maltreatment victims ²	12,926	8,039	7,095	6,010	8.8 per 1,000	5.4 per 1,000	4.7 per 1,000	3.9 per 1,000
Child fatalities	8	6	7	5	0.5 per 100,000	0.4 per 100,000	0.5 per 100,000	0.3 per 100,000

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	12.7	12.0	11.6	12.1	Alaska Native/American Indian	7.0	9.1	6.6	6.7
1-5 years	31.2	32.4	32.5	34.3	Asian/Pacific Islander	2.4	2.6	2.5	2.4
6-10 years	32.0	30.5	31.6	29.0	Black	9.5	10.5	8.8	8.3
11-15 years	20.5	20.6	19.8	20.0	Hispanic	8.3	12.8	12.9	13.3
16+ years	3.7	4.1	3.0	3.0	White	71.3	75.0	66.5	66.2
Unknown	0.0	0.4	1.6	1.7	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	9.8	8.5	2.7	3.1
Number	12,926	8,039	7,095	6,010	Total % ³	108.3	118.4	100.0	100.0
					Number	12,926	8,039	7,095	6,010

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	9.8	10.9	6.4	7.0
Medical neglect	4.9	6.6	3.7	3.7
Neglect	65.4	70.8	71.0	72.0
Physical abuse	29.9	27.1	21.7	21.4
Sexual abuse	11.2	9.0	7.0	6.7
Other	1.3	2.3	0.3	0.3
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	122.4	126.8	110.1	111.1
Number	12,926	8,039	7,095	6,010

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	8,454	7,541	7,123	8,872	15,995
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	8,695	7,369	7,376	8,688	16,064
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	8,484	7,590	7,129	8,945	16,074
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	8,266	7,273	6,438	9,101	15,539
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	18.9	N/A	2.9	16.8	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	17.0	N/A	5.1	16.5	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	16.8	N/A	3.6	15.9	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	16.2	N/A	4.1	15.4	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	5.4	5.5	6.2	6.8	12.5	14.3	14.5	15.3	5.0	5.3	5.6	5.2	5.6	6.3	6.7	7.1
1-5 years	32.7	32.1	32.0	32.2	24.1	24.8	24.4	25.3	24.8	26.7	26.5	27.5	32.2	31.8	31.9	32.7
6-10 years	26.0	26.8	26.9	24.9	20.7	20.3	20.4	19.4	21.4	21.4	22.9	20.5	26.6	26.5	24.7	23.8
11-15 years	23.2	23.9	24.4	25.1	32.1	30.1	29.9	29.3	30.7	28.9	28.5	29.0	24.1	24.7	25.4	24.8
16-18 years	11.6	11.1	10.2	10.7	10.5	10.4	10.7	10.6	16.8	16.8	16.0	17.2	11.0	10.4	10.9	11.1
19+ years	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.1	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.4
Unknown	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	8,454	8,695	8,484	8,266	7,541	7,369	7,590	7,273	7,123	7,376	7,129	6,438	8,872	8,688	8,945	9,101

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	8.2	8.8	8.8	8.4	9.0	8.7	7.3	8.2	8.4	8.6	7.4	7.4	8.8	8.9	8.7	9.0
Asian	—	—	0.9	0.9	—	—	1.4	1.6	—	—	1.5	1.6	—	—	0.9	0.9
Asian/Pacific	1.4	1.3	—	—	1.6	1.5	—	—	1.8	1.8	—	—	1.3	1.1	—	—
Black	15.7	14.8	14.0	13.1	11.0	9.4	8.7	8.6	11.9	10.5	10.2	10.0	14.8	13.9	12.6	11.7
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.1	0.2	—	—	0.3	0.4	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.2	0.2
Hispanic	9.4	10.3	11.8	11.5	11.0	12.8	12.0	12.2	9.9	11.0	12.2	12.1	10.4	11.8	11.6	11.6
White	59.3	58.7	57.7	58.4	60.9	60.8	62.0	60.4	61.5	62.2	61.4	60.2	58.8	57.6	58.4	58.7
Two or more races	5.4	5.5	6.0	6.9	5.3	5.5	5.7	4.4	5.3	4.8	4.9	4.9	5.4	6.1	6.6	6.3
Unknown	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.1	1.3	2.5	4.3	1.2	1.2	2.1	3.4	0.5	0.6	1.0	1.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	8,454	8,695	8,484	8,266	7,541	7,369	7,590	7,273	7,123	7,376	7,129	6,438	8,872	8,688	8,945	9,101

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	4,131	3,720	2,669	2,302
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	3,911	3,368	2,216	1,854
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	8.3	7.3	3.7	3.3
1-5 years	45.6	44.6	41.4	39.6
6-10 years	31.4	31.1	31.7	30.5
11-15 years	12.1	14.4	19.7	21.6
16+ years	2.3	2.5	3.3	4.8
Unknown	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,131	3,720	2,669	2,302

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	5.1	4.9	4.9	4.8
Asian	—	—	0.6	0.7
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.8	0.9	—	—
Black	16.6	16.9	17.9	17.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.2	0.3
Hispanic	11.1	11.6	11.4	11.7
White	59.5	58.8	57.7	57.0
Two or more races	6.2	6.3	6.6	7.3
Unknown	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,131	3,720	2,669	2,302

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.3	1.6	1.3	1.3
1-5 years	56.2	57.6	55.9	57.1
6-10 years	33.8	31.6	32.3	30.9
11-15 years	8.1	8.2	9.3	9.9
16+ years	0.7	1.0	1.2	0.7
Unknown	—	—	—	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	878	1,047	1,141	1,204

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	3.3	2.1	3.9	4.8
Asian	—	—	0.7	1.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.0	0.3	—	—
Black	13.7	5.4	13.2	12.4
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.1	0.2
Hispanic	9.0	10.8	12.2	11.3
White	66.6	36.5	63.6	63.0
Two or more races	5.6	3.2	5.9	6.5
Unknown	0.8	41.7	0.4	0.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	878	1,047	1,141	1,204

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

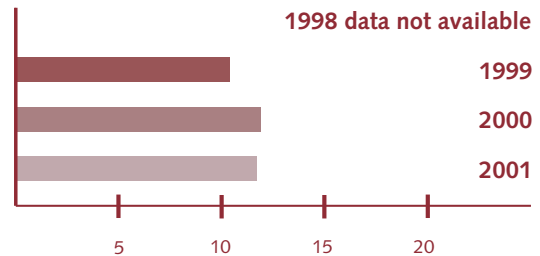
1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect

(NCANDS)

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	89.6	88.1	88.3
Children with one or more recurrences	—	10.4	11.9	11.7
Total %	—	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	—	3,378	3,075	3,083

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences



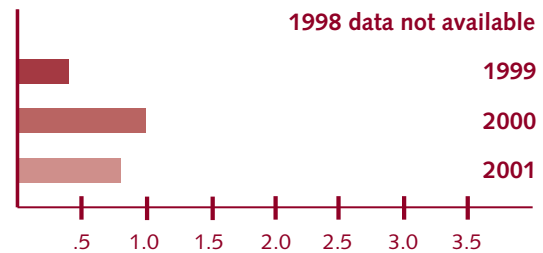
2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care

(NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	0.35	0.97	0.79
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	99.65	99.03	99.21
Total %	—	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	—	14,192	14,375	13,948

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care



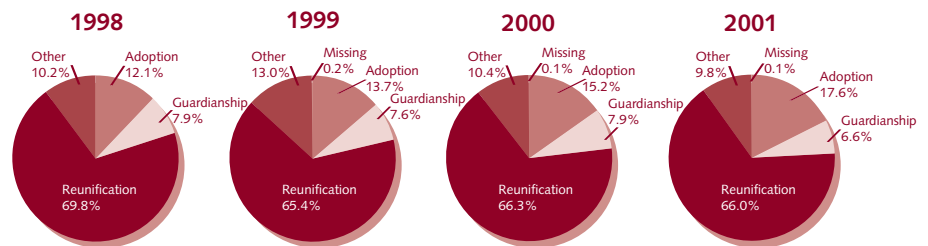
3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	12.1	13.7	15.2	17.6
Guardianship	7.9	7.6	7.9	6.6
Reunification	69.8	65.4	66.3	66.0
Other	10.2	13.0	10.4	9.8
Missing data	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	7,123	7,376	7,129	6,438

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	22.2
Guardianship	—	—	—	26.7
Reunification	—	—	—	22.2
Other	—	—	—	28.9
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	100.0
Number	—	—	—	45

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2
Guardianship	2.2	3.3	2.2	3.4
Reunification	82.9	76.4	81.6	80.1
Other	14.9	19.9	15.7	16.1
Missing data	—	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,475	2,372	2,246	2,179

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	31.6	29.4	30.3	22.0
Children older than 12 at entry	68.4	70.4	69.4	77.7
Missing data	—	0.2	0.3	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	405	405	333	327

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	4.9	7.1	7.6	11.6	—	—	7.5	8.7	8.0	3.0	—	—	14.2	14.5	19.6	22.4	—	—	4.5	9.1
Guardianship	9.7	9.0	11.2	6.5	—	—	2.8	6.7	8.0	10.5	—	—	14.6	16.6	12.8	9.8	—	—	9.1	—
Reunification	62.9	51.3	43.9	47.3	—	—	78.5	78.8	76.0	69.9	—	—	62.7	56.7	58.5	60.6	—	—	81.8	90.9
Other	22.5	32.5	37.3	34.5	—	—	9.3	5.8	8.0	16.5	—	—	8.5	12.0	9.1	7.3	—	—	4.5	—
Missing data	—	—	—	0.2	—	—	1.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	596	633	526	476	—	—	107	104	125	133	—	—	847	772	728	644	—	—	22	22

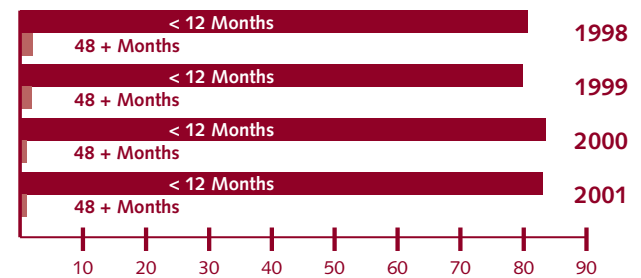
	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	11.5	13.5	15.9	16.5	13.0	14.9	15.7	18.4	6.8	8.2	2.6	4.5	12.9	13.9	18.2	21.6	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	7.9	6.6	5.5	7.4	6.4	6.3	7.3	6.1	8.0	2.4	2.6	2.3	7.1	5.7	10.5	7.6	—	—	—	—
Reunification	73.6	69.0	71.2	68.6	71.0	67.5	68.9	67.4	78.4	77.6	85.0	88.2	71.2	69.9	58.7	59.0	—	—	—	—
Other	7.0	10.8	7.4	7.4	9.7	11.1	8.0	7.9	6.8	11.8	9.8	5.0	8.7	10.2	12.5	11.7	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	0.1	—	—	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	705	815	868	781	4,383	4,586	4,374	3,875	88	85	153	221	379	352	351	315	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	80.6	79.8	83.5	83.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	7.2	9.6	8.4	8.4
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	3.5	3.3	2.4	3.0
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.4	1.5	1.0	1.0
48 or more mos.	2.0	1.8	1.1	1.1
Missing data	5.3	4.0	3.5	3.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,969	4,826	4,727	4,247

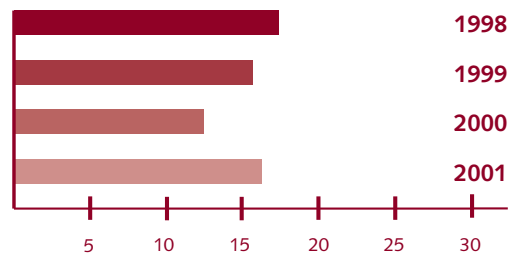
Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	68.3	67.9	69.6	71.2
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	17.3	15.6	12.4	16.2
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	10.4	9.6	9.3	11.9
Missing data	3.9	7.0	8.7	0.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	7,541	7,369	7,590	7,273

Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months

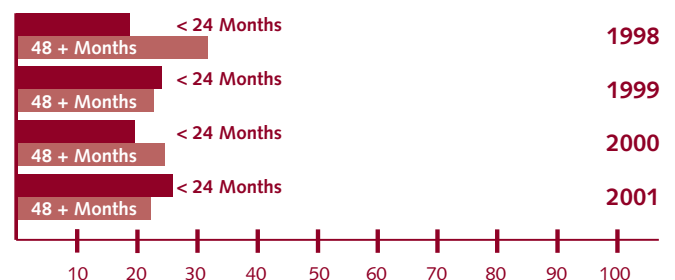


5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	1.6	2.2	1.9	2.0
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	17.3	22.0	17.8	24.0
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	23.9	28.4	32.8	31.6
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	25.2	24.6	22.7	20.0
48 or more mos.	31.9	22.8	24.7	22.4
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	865	1,012	1,084	1,131

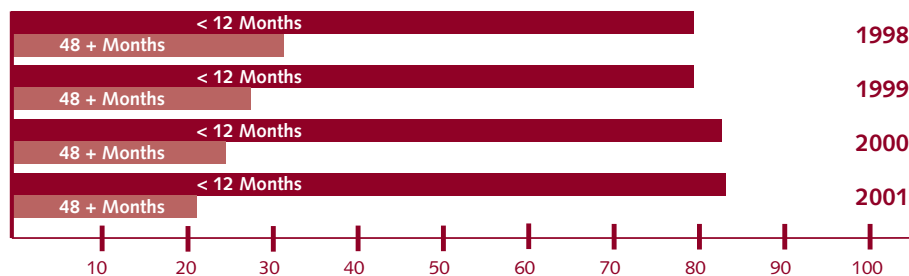
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	79.6	19.7	0.7	100.0	7,691
	1999	79.5	20.1	0.4	100.0	7,736
	2000	82.8	16.8	0.4	100.0	7,917
	2001	83.3	16.3	0.4	100.0	7,565
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	53.6	46.2	0.2	100.0	2,840
	1999	54.8	45.0	0.2	100.0	3,044
	2000	55.0	44.9	0.2	100.0	3,108
	2001	54.7	45.1	0.2	100.0	3,136
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	45.4	54.6	0.1	100.0	1,791
	1999	44.9	55.1	—	100.0	1,877
	2000	44.3	55.6	0.1	100.0	1,870
	2001	44.9	55.0	0.1	100.0	1,962
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	34.1	65.8	0.1	100.0	1,249
	1999	35.3	64.7	—	100.0	1,108
	2000	36.0	64.0	—	100.0	1,097
	2001	32.7	67.3	—	100.0	1,003
48 or more mos.	1998	31.7	68.0	0.3	100.0	2,038
	1999	27.9	71.7	0.4	100.0	1,931
	2000	25.0	74.6	0.4	100.0	1,755
	2001	21.6	78.0	0.4	100.0	1,575
Missing data	1998	91.2	7.8	1.0	100.0	386
	1999	92.1	6.5	1.4	100.0	368
	2000	94.8	3.7	1.5	100.0	327
	2001	94.3	4.0	1.7	100.0	298

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1
Institutions	1.7	1.3	1.1	1.3
Other settings	96.8	97.0	97.4	97.0
Missing	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,795	3,890	4,531	4,707

**Ross Dawson, Acting Assistant Secretary
Children's Administration
Washington Department of Social and Health Services
360-902-7820**

Washington State continues to focus efforts on achieving stable permanent homes for children in out-of-home care in the shortest time possible. More children were adopted and more quickly than in previous years. A high percentage of children were reunified within twelve months of their placements, and those children remaining in care had more stable placements than ever before.

Washington State has developed many tools to improve the safety of children, including a Reunification Assessment to assess safety before returning children home, and a Transition and Safety Plan used when children are reunified with their parents. Our re-entry rate has shown a steady decline. Using an alternate state calculation method more closely reflects actual practice in Washington State.

Washington State has also developed a Safety Assessment and a Safety Plan used during investigations of abuse and neglect. In spite of this primary emphasis on child safety, our recurrence rate remains high. Recurrence is impacted by multiple reports of the same incident recorded in our information system, but this is not taken into account in the calculation of this measure. In addition, cases of neglect impact the rate, as children who are the victims of neglect are at higher risk of recurrence than children who are abused, particularly those who remain in their own homes after investigation.

The Governor and legislature of Washington State are committed to managing by outcomes. We have been tracking performance on select outcomes for several years. We support the federal effort to evaluate states' performance in comparison to national standards, but some unique characteristics of Washington's child welfare system make this comparison difficult. Because the scope of this report does not permit clarification of laws and policies that may influence the data, some of the results presented may be misleading. We support the federal government's efforts to explore state differences which may impact the comparability of the data. This work will assist us in improving child welfare services for all children and their families.

Washington

[FEDERAL COMMENT]

At the time of preparation of this report, the Maryland Child and Family Services Review had not been conducted. States are not accountable for meeting national standards until the time of their review.

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	404,254	403,481	402,393	393,721	Child maltreatment victims	7,791	8,609	8,244	7,907
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	3,082	3,169	3,388	3,298
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	Children adopted	211	312	352	362
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.6					
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.6	0.5	0.5	N/A					
Black	3.8	3.5	3.6	4.0					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0					
Hispanic	0.8	0.7	1.0	0.9					
White	94.7	95.1	93.0	92.9					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	1.5	1.4					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.2	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	23.7	22.6	18.0	22.2					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	48.5	51.1	42.6	56.2					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	1998	Rate			2001
		1999	2000	2001			1999	2000	2001	
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	33,601	36,142	27,145	26,812	83.1 per 1,000	89.6 per 1,000	67.5 per 1,000	67.2 per 1,000		
Child maltreatment victims ²	7,791	8,609	8,244	7,907	19.3 per 1,000	21.3 per 1,000	20.5 per 1,000	19.8 per 1,000		
Child fatalities	1	1	4	1	0.2 per 100,000	0.2 per 100,000	1.0 per 100,000	0.3 per 100,000		

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	3.6	3.2	6.2	6.8	Alaska Native/American Indian	0.2	0.1	—	0.0
1-5 years	27.4	25.2	27.9	29.1	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3
6-10 years	27.7	28.2	26.6	27.4	Black	5.6	5.1	4.2	3.3
11-15 years	22.3	23.2	23.8	23.0	Hispanic	1.1	0.6	0.6	0.4
16+ years	7.6	7.8	5.5	5.6	White	86.2	84.0	83.8	84.2
Unknown	11.3	12.3	9.9	8.1	Two or more races	—	—	2.7	2.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	7.9	10.7	8.4	9.3
Number	7,791	8,609	8,244	7,907	Total % ³	101.1	100.6	100.0	100.0
					Number	7,791	8,609	8,244	7,907

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Emotional	8.4	9.9	10.4	11.6
Medical neglect	1.4	1.4	1.2	0.9
Neglect	43.3	43.8	47.5	47.1
Physical abuse	27.1	25.1	29.1	28.6
Sexual abuse	10.2	8.6	7.7	7.0
Other	14.3	18.7	18.7	23.5
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴	104.7	107.7	114.6	118.7
Number	7,791	8,609	8,244	7,907

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	2,838	2,011	1,767	3,082	4,849
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	2,989	2,151	1,973	3,169	5,140
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	3,252	2,392	2,256	3,388	5,644
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	3,404	2,234	2,340	3,298	5,638
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	17.3	N/A	8.7	16.8	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	17.8	N/A	9.1	16.3	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	17.8	N/A	8.7	15.1	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	15.7	N/A	10.5	16.2	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	2.6	2.6	2.3	2.8	7.8	7.8	8.4	8.7	2.8	2.7	2.8	3.0	2.9	2.8	3.3	3.2
1-5 years	16.1	16.9	15.7	16.2	16.6	17.4	17.8	17.2	13.0	17.5	14.5	16.8	17.5	16.4	17.4	16.5
6-10 years	19.7	20.6	19.8	18.4	16.2	16.5	15.4	14.0	12.5	15.4	15.7	15.0	21.0	20.5	18.9	17.2
11-15 years	33.1	32.6	34.2	34.7	37.4	37.8	37.3	38.5	27.3	26.3	27.4	25.4	32.2	33.5	34.1	36.0
16-18 years	26.5	25.5	26.0	25.9	21.7	20.3	21.1	21.2	40.5	35.0	36.8	37.1	24.5	24.7	24.4	24.8
19+ years	2.0	1.8	1.9	1.9	0.1	0.1	—	0.3	3.7	2.9	2.5	2.4	1.8	2.0	1.9	2.3
Unknown	—	0.1	0.1	—	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	—	0.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,838	2,989	3,252	3,404	2,011	2,151	2,392	2,234	1,767	1,973	2,256	2,340	3,082	3,169	3,388	3,298

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	0.1	0.0	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	0.1	0.0
Asian	—	—	0.0	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.2	—	—	0.0	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.1
Asian/Pacific	0.2	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.2	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—
Black	11.8	12.5	9.1	8.2	11.3	8.0	6.8	7.1	11.3	9.5	8.2	7.6	11.8	11.4	8.1	7.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.0	—	—	—	0.0	—	—	0.1	0.1
Hispanic	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.3	0.9	0.6	1.3	1.0	1.1	0.8	1.2	1.3	1.1	0.9	1.2	1.1
White	85.7	85.3	84.2	84.5	85.0	86.1	81.9	83.2	85.2	86.9	83.2	84.4	85.5	84.9	83.3	83.7
Two or more races	—	—	3.9	4.1	—	0.2	3.0	2.6	—	—	3.0	3.0	—	0.2	3.8	3.9
Unknown	1.0	0.9	1.7	1.8	2.8	5.0	6.8	5.9	2.2	2.7	4.3	3.4	1.5	2.5	3.5	3.4
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,838	2,989	3,252	3,404	2,011	2,151	2,392	2,234	1,767	1,973	2,256	2,340	3,082	3,169	3,388	3,298

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	843	779	766	731
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	13	12	23	87
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	3.7	3.6	3.9	4.1
1-5 years	33.5	30.8	28.7	28.5
6-10 years	39.7	41.0	38.8	32.0
11-15 years	20.8	22.5	24.5	29.1
16+ years	2.1	1.8	3.8	5.1
Unknown	0.2	0.4	0.3	1.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	843	779	766	731

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	0.1
Asian	—	—	0.1	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	0.1	—	—
Black	14.6	15.7	10.3	7.9
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2
White	83.4	81.9	81.2	82.6
Two or more races	—	0.4	5.9	6.6
Unknown	0.6	0.6	1.2	1.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	843	779	766	731

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	0.9	1.0	0.6	0.8
1-5 years	45.0	42.9	32.7	40.1
6-10 years	37.9	39.7	44.9	37.3
11-15 years	13.3	14.4	20.2	18.0
16+ years	2.8	1.9	1.7	3.9
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	211	312	352	362

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	—	—	—	—
Asian	—	—	—	0.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.4	—	—	—
Black	10.0	9.3	15.1	7.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	1.4	0.6	2.8	0.6
White	83.4	86.9	76.4	84.3
Two or more races	—	—	5.4	7.7
Unknown	3.8	3.2	0.3	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	211	312	352	362

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

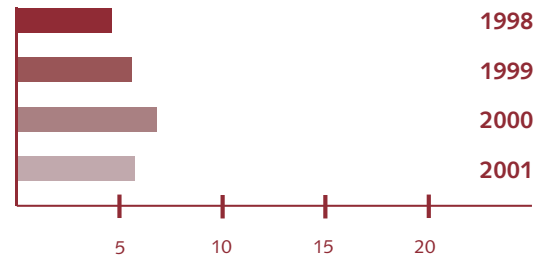
⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	95.4	94.4	93.3	94.3
Children with one or more recurrences	4.6	5.6	6.8	5.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,325	2,500	633	4,020

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences

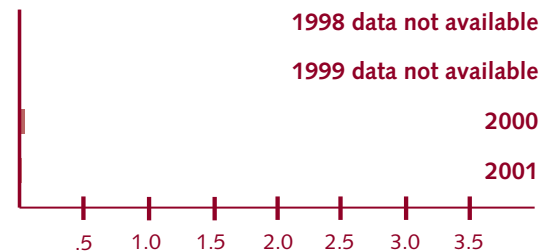


2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	0.04	0.02
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	99.96	99.98
Total %	—	—	100.00	100.00
Number	—	—	5,208	5,182

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care

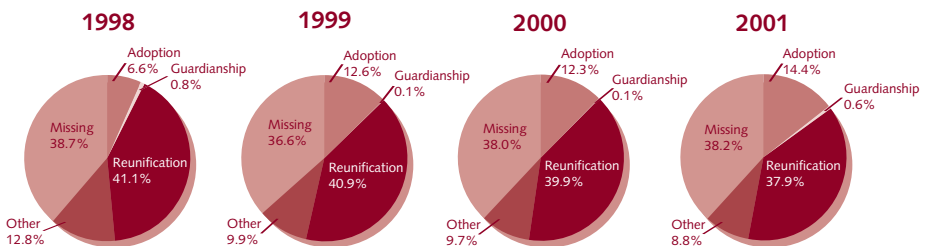


3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	6.6	12.6	12.3	14.4
Guardianship	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.6
Reunification	41.1	40.9	39.9	37.9
Other	12.8	9.9	9.7	8.8
Missing data	38.7	36.6	38.0	38.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,767	1,973	2,256	2,340

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	2.8	9.7	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	34.8	29.9	—	—
Other	16.9	16.9	—	—
Missing data	45.5	43.5	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	—	—
Number	431	154	—	—

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	0.1	0.1	0.5
Guardianship	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4
Reunification	39.2	38.4	39.4	38.4
Other	18.5	15.4	14.7	13.7
Missing data	42.2	46.1	45.7	47.0
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,041	983	1,180	1,185

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	8.2	29.1	34.5	29.6
Children older than 12 at entry	90.4	70.9	65.5	70.4
Missing data	1.4	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	73	79	87	81

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25.0	—	—	—	—	6.5	12.3	26.5	14.5	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.0	0.5	0.5	1.7	—	—	—	—
Reunification	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	50.0	—	—	—	—	36.0	40.1	30.8	43.6	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25.0	—	—	—	—	14.5	14.4	8.1	7.3	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	42.0	32.6	34.1	33.0	—	—	—	100.0
Total %	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	100.0
Number	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	2	3	—	—	200	187	185	179	—	—	—	1

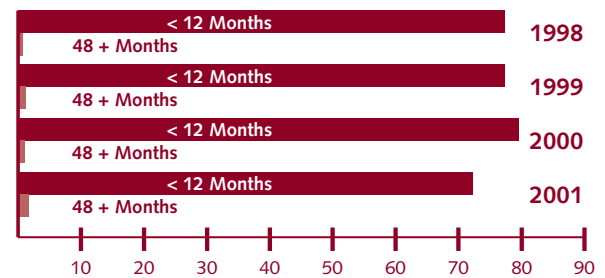
	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	5.0	13.3	11.1	20.0	6.7	13.0	11.1	14.2	3.7	—	1.0	—	—	—	22.1	33.8	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	3.3	0.8	—	0.1	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.8	—	—	—	—
Reunification	35.0	53.3	48.1	53.3	41.5	40.3	40.3	37.1	63.0	64.7	46.9	51.3	—	—	41.2	26.8	45.5	62.2	—	—
Other	10.0	13.3	—	6.7	12.8	9.6	10.2	9.0	7.4	5.9	6.1	8.8	—	—	8.8	5.6	—	2.7	—	—
Missing data	50.0	20.0	40.7	16.7	38.2	37.2	38.4	39.3	25.9	29.4	45.9	40.0	—	—	27.9	31.0	54.5	35.1	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—
Number	20	15	27	30	1,506	1,714	1,877	1,975	27	17	98	80	—	—	68	71	11	37	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	77.2	77.3	79.5	72.2
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	18.2	16.1	14.7	20.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	3.4	4.2	3.9	4.1
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	0.4	1.1	0.9	1.4
48 or more mos.	0.7	1.2	1.1	1.6
Missing data	0.1	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	727	807	901	888

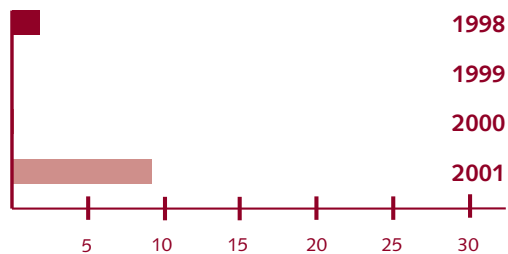
Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	97.4	99.9	99.9	87.9
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	1.8	0.0	0.1	9.1
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	0.0	—	—	2.5
Missing data	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.5
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,011	2,151	2,392	2,234

Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months

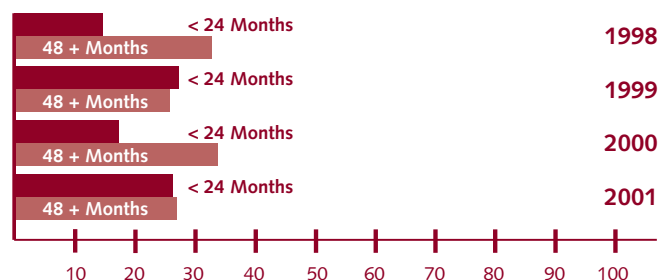


5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	0.9	3.2	1.4	1.5
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	13.8	24.2	15.9	24.9
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	28.4	29.0	29.6	27.6
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	24.1	17.7	19.1	19.0
48 or more mos.	32.8	25.8	33.9	27.0
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	116	248	277	337

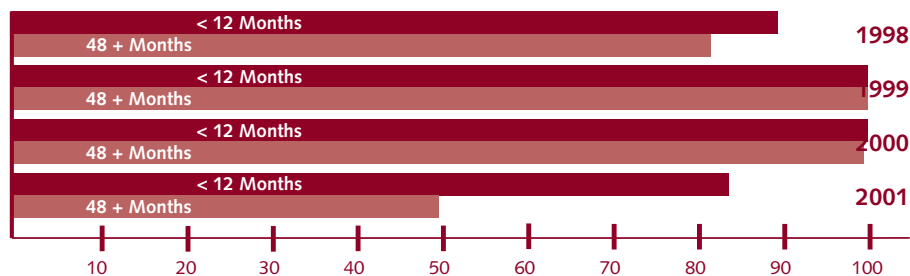
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	89.4	10.6	—	100.0	2,306
	1999	99.8	0.2	—	100.0	2,518
	2000	99.9	0.1	—	100.0	2,827
	2001	83.6	16.4	—	100.0	2,683
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	85.9	14.1	—	100.0	944
	1999	99.6	0.4	—	100.0	902
	2000	99.6	0.4	—	100.0	999
	2001	51.5	48.6	—	100.0	1,135
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	83.0	17.0	—	100.0	499
	1999	99.6	0.4	—	100.0	553
	2000	99.3	0.7	—	100.0	558
	2001	33.2	66.8	—	100.0	603
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	86.9	13.1	—	100.0	312
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	366
	2000	99.7	0.3	—	100.0	354
	2001	35.1	64.9	—	100.0	370
48 or more mos.	1998	81.6	18.4	—	100.0	773
	1999	99.9	0.1	—	100.0	792
	2000	99.4	0.6	—	100.0	904
	2001	49.8	50.2	—	100.0	846
Missing data	1998	100.0	—	—	100.0	15
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	9
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	2
	2001	—	100.0	—	100.0	1

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	4.8	4.3	9.6	9.5
Institutions	1.5	3.1	1.1	0.9
Other settings	80.7	77.4	89.3	89.7
Missing	13.0	15.2	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	870	967	1,072	939

**Fred Boothe, Commissioner
Bureau for Children and Families
West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources
304-558-0628**

West Virginia's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

The data presented in Section D may be somewhat misleading. The 731 children awaiting adoption includes all children who have been assigned adoption as a goal while the data on children whose parental rights have been terminated includes only those situations where termination has been obtained and reported for both parents. The termination of the rights of absent and non-custodial parents is frequently accomplished and reported at a date subsequent to establishing adoption as a plan for the child.

The substantial percentage of children exiting foster care for which the report indicates no information for exit reason in all likelihood results from how our submission is interpreted in the report. The West Virginia data system contains and reports a number of reasons for exiting foster care that are not recognized in the [Annual Report](#). We assume exits associated with these values were translated as missing data.

The lack of information on the exit of disabled children is also a concern of ours. We are currently investigating the extraction procedures to determine if a processing error may be resulting in this situation.

We believe that the information presented for Outcome Measure 4.2 is correct. The abnormally low percentage of children re-entering care previously reported led us to undertake an extensive review of this area. The review resulted in the institution of a number of improvements which yielded a much more accurate portrayal of the re-entry situation. Therefore, the increase in re-entry resulted from reporting improvements and not an actual change in the numbers of children re-entering care.

The following discussion focuses on West Virginia's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The West Virginia Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2002, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2000. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for West Virginia's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the State's rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was 5.7 percent, which meets the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and is lower than the national median of 8.0 percent. There was no substantive change in performance from 1999 to 2001.

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

In CY 2001, the reported incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.02 percent. However, an assessment of the State's performance on this measure is not possible because, as noted in the State Comment section in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*, the data used to calculate this measure are incorrect. The State Comment section also notes that revisions have been made to the automated case management information system to ensure accurate reporting of data for this measure in the future.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

The State's performance relevant to this outcome cannot be assessed because the State did not report "reason for discharge" information to the Federal Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) for 38.2 percent of children who exited foster care in FY 2001.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

The State's performance with regard to outcome 4 must be considered in the context of the fact that 38.2 percent of children reported to AFCARS as exiting foster care in FY 2001 did not have "reason for discharge" information. Because some of these children may have been reunified at discharge, the percentage of children reunified within 12 months cannot be accurately established. For those children who were reported as reunified, 72.2 percent were reunified within 12 months of entry into foster care, which does not meet the national standard of 76.2 percent, but is higher than the national median of 69.2 percent. West Virginia's performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-6.6 percent change).

Also in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 9.1, which does not meet the national standard of 8.6 percent, but is lower than the national median of 10.4 percent. Change in performance on this measure cannot be assessed because information provided in the State Comment indicates that data used to calculate this measure in previous years were inaccurate.

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

The State's performance with regard to outcome 5 must be considered in the context of the fact that 38.2 percent of children who exited foster care in FY 2001 did not have "reason for discharge" information. Since it is possible that some of these children may have been adopted, the missing data suggest that the actual percentage of children adopted within 24 months of entry into foster care cannot be established. The data that are available for this outcome indicate that in FY 2001, the percentage of all reported finalized adoptions

that occurred within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 26.4, which is lower than the national standard of 32.0 percent or more, but higher than the national median of 21.0.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 83.6, which is lower than the national standard of 86.7 percent or more, but just above the national median of 83.3. Change in performance on this measure cannot be assessed because of data quality issues. According to information provided in the CFSR Final Report, the State believes that the reported percentage of children experiencing no more than 2 placements was likely to be inaccurate, because the State information system only tracked when a child moved from one private child placement agency to another and not when a child moved from one foster care placement to another.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 10.4, which exceeds the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+38.7 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	1,351,044	1,348,268	1,368,756	1,352,921	Child maltreatment victims	8,168	11,646	12,120	11,917
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	10,076	5,853	6,697	7,290
Alaska Native/American Indian	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	Children adopted	643	642	736	754
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.6					
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.5	2.6	2.6	N/A					
Black	7.9	7.9	8.3	8.5					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	4.0	4.2	5.5	5.6					
White	84.3	84.1	80.4	80.1					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.0	2.0					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.1	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	13.5	9.3	13.7	12.0					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	74.2	72.4	68.5	73.8					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	1998	Rate			2001
		1999	2000	2001			1999	2000	2001	
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	22,232	40,188	37,455	40,216	16.5 per 1,000	29.8 per 1,000	27.4 per 1,000	29.3 per 1,000		
Child maltreatment victims ²	8,168	11,646	12,120	11,917	6.0 per 1,000	8.6 per 1,000	8.9 per 1,000	8.7 per 1,000		
Child fatalities	11	11	10	17	0.8 per 100,000	0.8 per 100,000	0.7 per 100,000	1.2 per 100,000		

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	4.0	5.3	5.6	5.7	Alaska Native/American Indian	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8
1-5 years	23.8	23.7	24.7	24.2	Asian/Pacific Islander	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.2
6-10 years	24.4	26.8	26.1	26.1	Black	22.8	27.7	19.3	18.0
11-15 years	25.5	36.6	35.1	35.3	Hispanic	4.7	5.4	5.2	6.0
16+ years	7.6	7.3	8.0	8.1	White	52.1	60.9	69.4	67.4
Unknown	14.7	0.3	0.5	0.7	Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	20.5	1.2	1.2	3.8
Number	8,168	11,646	12,120	11,917	Total % ³	104.7	100.0	100.0	100.0
					Number	8,168	11,646	12,120	11,917

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		0.9	0.6	0.4	0.7
Medical neglect		0.7	0.9	0.6	0.4
Neglect		37.6	38.7	27.9	27.4
Physical abuse		22.4	20.8	15.5	15.5
Sexual abuse		27.3	42.5	40.0	38.7
Other		14.6	22.9	20.3	21.7
Unknown		—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴		103.6	126.4	104.7	104.4
Number		8,168	11,646	12,120	11,917

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	9,356	5,566	4,846	10,076	14,922
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	6,641	4,550	5,338	5,853	11,191
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	7,826	3,738	4,867	6,697	11,564
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	8,529	3,204	4,443	7,290	11,733
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	19.1	N/A	5.4	23.9	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	18.0	N/A	7.5	18.4	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	18.7	N/A	7.0	26.8	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	25.3	N/A	7.2	35.8	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	2.5	2.2	2.9	1.5	7.3	8.2	8.0	6.7	3.0	2.5	3.2	2.5	2.0	3.2	1.3	1.1
1-5 years	24.1	23.8	23.8	23.2	16.2	20.2	17.6	16.4	17.7	18.9	19.1	21.0	21.1	22.6	21.8	18.8
6-10 years	26.0	29.6	29.5	27.8	16.9	18.2	18.2	15.1	16.8	18.1	19.6	16.9	25.6	31.2	29.1	26.9
11-15 years	29.3	30.8	31.8	32.1	42.1	38.4	39.7	42.6	33.9	32.4	32.2	31.6	30.6	33.7	34.6	34.7
16-18 years	16.5	13.5	11.8	14.8	17.4	14.9	16.4	19.1	28.3	27.4	25.7	27.8	17.7	9.1	12.4	16.2
19+ years	1.5	0.1	0.2	0.6	—	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.4	2.5	0.2	0.7	2.1
Unknown	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.0	—	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	9,356	6,641	7,826	8,529	5,566	4,550	3,738	3,204	4,846	5,338	4,867	4,443	10,076	5,853	6,697	7,290

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	3.3	2.7	2.8	2.3	5.1	3.9	4.0	4.6	5.2	4.7	5.0	4.7	3.4	1.8	1.9	1.9
Asian	—	—	1.1	0.9	—	—	2.6	2.3	—	—	2.7	2.1	—	—	0.7	0.8
Asian/Pacific	0.9	1.3	—	—	3.2	2.3	—	—	2.3	2.7	—	—	1.5	0.8	—	—
Black	50.1	53.0	55.1	55.4	20.6	32.5	25.2	14.9	20.3	22.4	20.4	18.9	48.1	64.9	63.7	59.9
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	0.0	0.0	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	4.4	4.1	4.4	4.7	3.5	4.4	4.3	4.1	3.3	3.9	3.9	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.8	4.8
White	41.4	38.8	36.3	35.7	67.6	56.5	62.1	72.7	68.9	66.0	67.0	68.7	42.6	27.7	28.4	31.8
Two or more races	—	0.2	0.3	0.9	—	0.4	1.8	1.4	—	0.3	1.0	1.5	—	0.3	0.6	0.8
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	9,356	6,641	7,826	8,529	5,566	4,550	3,738	3,204	4,846	5,338	4,867	4,443	10,076	5,853	6,697	7,290

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	865	618	690	740
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	606	323	341	357
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	1.7	5.0	2.2	1.9
1-5 years	31.1	27.4	25.8	21.6
6-10 years	35.4	37.5	35.2	31.5
11-15 years	24.2	26.7	31.3	35.3
16+ years	5.7	2.8	4.4	7.2
Unknown	2.0	0.7	1.2	2.6
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	865	618	690	740

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	7.1	3.9	4.1	4.1
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.2	0.2	—	—
Black	33.3	56.5	52.6	51.8
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	3.7	2.6	2.8	2.6
White	55.7	35.9	39.1	40.0
Two or more races	—	1.0	1.4	1.6
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	865	618	690	740

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	0.6	2.3	2.7	6.8
1-5 years	42.8	41.0	42.1	43.9
6-10 years	37.6	40.0	36.5	33.8
11-15 years	16.0	13.6	16.8	14.1
16+ years	3.0	3.1	1.8	1.5
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	643	642	736	754

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	5.0	5.0	4.9	2.8
Asian	—	—	1.0	0.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.3	—	—	—
Black	47.6	41.7	38.5	36.5
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	5.0	6.1	6.5	7.3
White	42.1	47.2	47.8	46.6
Two or more races	—	—	1.2	6.5
Unknown	—	—	0.1	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	643	642	736	754

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	—	—	—	—
Children with one or more recurrences	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

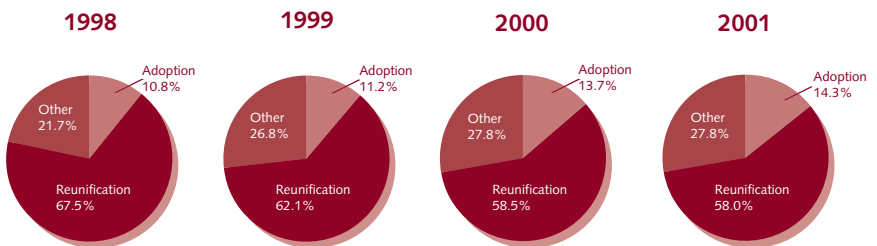
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Children not maltreated while in foster care	—	—	—	—
Total %	—	—	—	—
Number	—	—	—	—

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

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	10.8	11.2	13.7	14.3
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	67.5	62.1	58.5	58.0
Other	21.7	26.8	27.8	27.8
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	4,846	5,338	4,867	4,443

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	23.7	25.0	29.3	31.4
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	51.7	47.8	42.1	42.3
Other	24.6	27.2	28.6	26.4
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	1,650	1,668	1,702	1,604

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.7
Guardianship	—	—	—	—
Reunification	64.9	64.5	62.3	63.5
Other	34.7	34.9	37.0	35.8
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,388	2,506	2,169	2,057

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	16.4	13.7	16.0	19.2
Children older than 12 at entry	83.6	86.3	84.0	80.8
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	268	292	231	266

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	13.0	11.5	14.3	11.1	—	—	5.3	4.3	0.9	—	—	—	22.4	19.9	25.8	27.3	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	62.5	59.7	59.6	67.8	—	—	65.9	66.7	76.8	75.2	—	—	58.5	55.1	46.6	41.5	—	—	—	—
Other	24.5	28.9	26.1	21.2	—	—	28.8	29.0	22.3	24.8	—	—	19.1	25.1	27.5	31.1	—	—	100.0	100.0
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0
Number	253	253	245	208	—	—	132	93	112	145	—	—	982	1,197	995	838	—	—	1	1

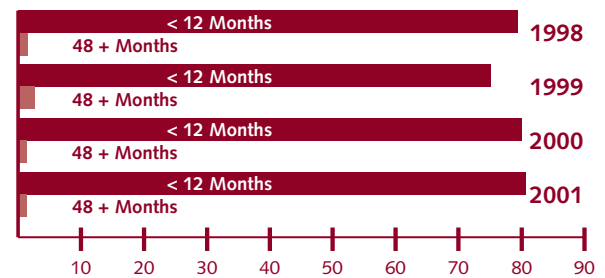
	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	12.6	16.4	21.3	24.1	7.5	8.4	9.8	10.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	17.0	41.5	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	67.9	59.4	52.1	48.1	70.3	64.3	61.9	62.6	—	—	—	—	—	50.0	70.2	38.5	—	—	—	—
Other	19.5	24.2	26.6	27.8	22.3	27.3	28.3	27.4	—	—	—	—	—	50.0	12.8	20.0	—	—	—	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	159	207	188	187	3,340	3,522	3,259	3,051	—	—	—	—	—	14	47	65	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

4.1 Time to Reunification (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	79.3	75.0	79.9	80.6
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	13.5	15.2	12.9	12.4
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	3.6	4.7	4.4	4.0
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.4	2.2	1.2	1.3
48 or more mos.	1.5	2.7	1.3	1.4
Missing data	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	3,273	3,313	2,845	2,575

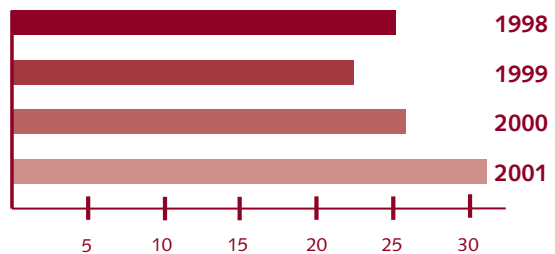
Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	68.5	64.0	59.9	53.3
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	25.1	22.3	25.7	31.0
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	6.4	9.0	9.5	10.5
Missing data	—	4.7	5.0	5.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	5,566	4,550	3,738	3,204

Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months

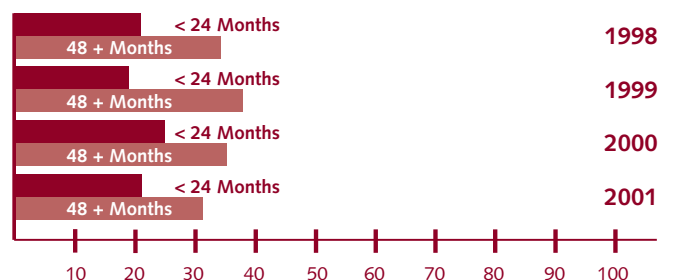


5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	5.2	7.5	7.2	5.4
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	15.9	11.6	17.8	15.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	18.5	20.4	23.1	26.3
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	26.0	22.4	16.5	21.1
48 or more mos.	34.4	38.0	35.4	31.4
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	523	597	667	634

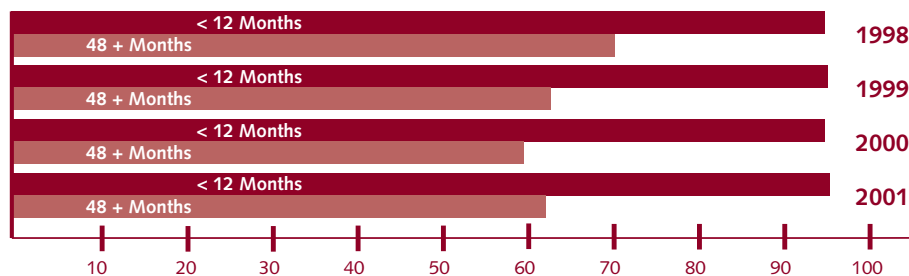
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	94.9	5.1	—	100.0	6,403
	1999	95.2	4.8	—	100.0	5,539
	2000	94.9	5.1	—	100.0	4,674
	2001	95.4	4.6	—	100.0	3,968
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	83.3	16.7	—	100.0	2,650
	1999	80.5	19.5	—	100.0	1,946
	2000	83.8	16.2	—	100.0	2,216
	2001	81.9	18.1	—	100.0	1,627
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	73.6	26.4	—	100.0	1,965
	1999	67.6	32.3	0.1	100.0	1,147
	2000	74.0	26.0	—	100.0	1,559
	2001	80.6	19.4	—	100.0	1,909
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	69.8	30.2	—	100.0	1,210
	1999	58.9	41.1	—	100.0	841
	2000	64.5	35.4	0.1	100.0	915
	2001	73.4	26.6	—	100.0	1,367
48 or more mos.	1998	70.3	29.6	0.1	100.0	2,649
	1999	62.9	37.0	0.1	100.0	1,692
	2000	59.7	40.3	0.0	100.0	2,190
	2001	62.3	37.6	0.0	100.0	2,852
Missing data	1998	100.0	—	—	100.0	45
	1999	100.0	—	—	100.0	26
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	10
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	10

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	5.2	2.6	3.4	4.6
Institutions	5.4	3.1	2.8	4.4
Other settings	89.4	94.3	93.8	91.1
Missing	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	2,725	2,383	1,890	1,489

Kitty Kocol, Administrator
Division of Children and Family Services
Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services
608-267-3905

Wisconsin's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

The Wisconsin child welfare program is primarily county-operated, except for the special needs adoption program and child welfare services in Milwaukee County, which are operated by DCFS. The State is currently implementing a new WiSACWIS system, however, much of the data for the years in this report is from legacy systems.

Wisconsin currently reports child maltreatment data for NCANDS using the SDC format. The child maltreatment data shown for 1998 to 2000 is not complete due to the timing of the NCANDS data submission. Processing of maltreatment reports from county agencies for the prior calendar year is not complete by the due date of the annual NCANDS report. Wisconsin has submitted updated NCANDS reports for those years and the complete maltreatment information for Wisconsin is:

	CY 1998	CY 1999	CY 2000
Reports	42,520	40,188	38,116
Child Victims	14,154	11,646	12,109
Child Fatalities	13	11	10

The legacy systems do not permit computation of recurrence of maltreatment or maltreatment of children in foster care. Measurement of both of these outcomes will be possible once the WiSACWIS system is implemented statewide.

For foster care, the population served in Wisconsin includes children who were placed due to voluntary placement agreements, maltreatment, status offenses, and delinquent behaviors. The foster care caseload numbers for FFY 1999 through FFY 2001 are incomplete and Wisconsin is submitting updated AFCARS files for those years, which will include WiSACWIS data for Milwaukee County beginning in FFY 2000. The inclusion of WiSACWIS data will result in more complete entry and exit counts and more accurate median length of stay figures. The "Other" reasons for exit include reaching age of majority and transfer to a correctional or mental health institution. Wisconsin uses guardianship as a permanency outcome, but data are not captured in the legacy system showing exits to guardianship.

The adoption data show the total number of finalized adoptions for children with special needs for whom the adoptive parents received Adoption Assistance. Some exits to adoption may not be reflected in the foster care data due to the transition to WiSACWIS. In addition, some children were adopted from outside of the foster care system.

The following discussion focuses on Wisconsin's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Wisconsin Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2003, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2001. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Wisconsin's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided below.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

Wisconsin's performance on outcome 1 cannot be assessed as part of the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) for calculating this outcome. To ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through NCANDS are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are presented in Wisconsin's CFSR Final Report.

Outcome 2. Reduce incidence of maltreatment in foster care

Wisconsin's performance on outcome 2 cannot be assessed as part of the Federal Comment section because the State does not provide data to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) for calculating this outcome. To ensure data consistency across States, only data submitted through NCANDS are presented for this outcome in the Report to Congress. However, the State provided data for this outcome for its CFSR using an alternative source. These data are presented in Wisconsin's CFSR Final Report.

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 72.3 percent of children leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is less than the national median of 85.3 percent); 73.7 percent of children with a diagnosed disability who exited foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 78.4); and 64.2 percent of children exiting foster care who were older than age 12 at the time of entry into foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is lower than the national median of 72.3 percent). Performance related to these indicators did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Also in FY 2001, 19.2 percent of the children who were emancipated from foster care in FY 2001 were age 12 or younger when they entered foster care, which is lower than the national median of 28.0 percent. However, performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+40.0 percent change). Overall, these data suggest that the State is not consistently effective in achieving permanency for children in foster care; however, the State is more effective in ensuring that children who enter foster care at young ages do not "grow up" in foster care.

Information from the CFSR Final Report identifies the following potential barriers to achieving permanency: (1) appropriate permanency goals are not consistently established in a timely manner; (2) there are significant delays in seeking and obtaining termination of parental rights (TPR), and (3) agency efforts to locate and assess relatives as placement and permanency resources are inconsistent.

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 80.6, which meets the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and is greater than the national median of 69.2 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+7.4 percent change).

Wisconsin's performance with regard to reunifications within 12 months of entry into foster care must be balanced by the finding that in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 31.0. This performance does not meet the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and is the highest rate reported nationally. Performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+39.1 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percent of all adoptions finalized within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 21.2, which does not meet the national standard of 32.0 percent or more, but is just above the national median of 21.0 percent. Performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+10.7 percent change). The State does not believe that these adoption data are correct and is resubmitting data regarding adoption to AFCARS. Information in the CFSR Final Report identifies the following as potential barriers to timely adoptions: (1) delays filing for TPR, and (2) delays in scheduling court time for TPR hearings and appeals.

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who were in foster care for less than 12 months and experienced no more than 2 placements was 95.4, which meets the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and is greater than the national median of 83.3 percent. Performance on this measure did not change substantively from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Information in the CFSR Final Report suggests that the agency works to minimize placement changes for children in foster care through competency-based pre-service training for foster parents and through early identification and assessment of children's service needs.

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 9.0, which is just above the national median of 8.7 percent. Performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (+57.7 percent change).

A. Key Context Statistics

General Population	1998	1999	2000	2001	Child Welfare Summary	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total children under 18 years	129,406	126,807	128,873	124,111	Child maltreatment victims	807	1,221	1,332	990
Race/ethnicity (%)¹					Children in foster care on 9/30	759	774	815	965
Alaska Native/American Indian	3.0	3.1	2.9	2.9	Children adopted	34	45	61	46
Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.6					
Asian/Pacific Islander	0.9	1.0	0.5	N/A					
Black	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9					
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.1					
Hispanic	8.3	8.5	9.0	9.2					
White	87.1	86.7	84.7	84.5					
Two or more races	N/A	N/A	2.0	1.8					
Other	N/A	N/A	0.1	N/A					
% Child population in poverty	17.8	14.8	15.0	10.7					
% Child population living in metropolitan areas	38.4	32.9	29.7	32.3					

B. Child Maltreatment Data (NCANDS)

Maltreatment Information Overview	1998	Number			2001	1998	Rate			2001
		1999	2000	2001			1999	2000	2001	
Children subject of an investigated report alleging child maltreatment	2,209	3,331	3,864	4,184	17.1 per 1,000	26.3 per 1,000	30.0 per 1,000	32.4 per 1,000		
Child maltreatment victims ²	807	1,221	1,332	990	6.2 per 1,000	9.6 per 1,000	10.3 per 1,000	7.7 per 1,000		
Child fatalities	3	1	1	1	2.3 per 100,000	0.8 per 100,000	0.8 per 100,000	0.8 per 100,000		

Age of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	Race/Ethnicity of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	3.7	3.2	8.7	6.8	Alaska Native/American Indian	3.7	5.7	5.8	1.9
1-5 years	34.1	33.7	32.3	35.2	Asian/Pacific Islander	0.7	0.3	0.6	1.1
6-10 years	33.3	31.7	32.1	30.2	Black	1.0	1.8	1.7	1.6
11-15 years	21.6	22.0	21.9	22.9	Hispanic	6.1	6.6	8.2	7.2
16+ years	4.6	6.4	5.0	4.8	White	76.6	75.9	76.8	80.8
Unknown	2.7	2.9	—	0.2	Two or more races	—	—	—	0.3
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	Other/Unknown	18.0	16.2	6.9	7.1
Number	807	1,221	1,332	990	Total % ³	106.1	106.6	100.0	100.0
					Number	807	1,221	1,332	990

Maltreatment Type of Child Victims (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001	
Emotional		1.5	1.6	1.1	1.4
Medical neglect		1.7	1.8	1.2	1.8
Neglect		66.5	63.9	63.1	59.1
Physical abuse		25.9	29.4	27.3	28.9
Sexual abuse		11.2	9.0	10.3	10.7
Other		1.0	1.0	0.7	0.4
Unknown		—	—	—	—
Total % ⁴		107.8	106.6	103.6	102.3
Number		807	1,221	1,332	990

1 The 2000 Census of the United States includes two new race categories: (1) Persons of two or more races and (2) Other.

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

3 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because Hispanics may be counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

4 Percentages may total more than 100 percent because children could have been victims of more than one type of maltreatment.

C. Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

Number of Children	In Care on 10/1	Entered Care	Exited Care	In Care on 9/30	Total Served
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	758	689	688	759	1,447
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	742	715	683	774	1,457
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	759	786	731	815	1,545
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	758	896	689	965	1,654
Median Length of Stay (Months)					
FY1998 (10/1/97-9/30/98)	15.6	N/A	4.4	16.5	N/A
FY1999 (10/1/98-9/30/99)	16.3	N/A	5.2	13.0	N/A
FY2000 (10/1/99-9/30/00)	13.0	N/A	4.3	12.5	N/A
FY2001 (10/1/00-9/30/01)	13.0	N/A	4.8	10.4	N/A

Age of Children in Foster Care (%)	In Care On:				Entered Care During FY:				Exited Care During FY:				In Care On:			
	10/1/97	10/1/98	10/1/99	10/1/00	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Under 1 year	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.1	5.7	5.5	5.3	3.9	3.2	3.4	3.7	2.5	1.4	1.4	1.1	1.1
1-5 years	20.8	20.9	16.5	11.6	21.6	18.3	19.5	18.8	20.2	21.4	22.3	17.3	20.4	16.3	11.2	14.0
6-10 years	20.1	21.4	21.5	19.0	11.9	16.6	11.8	13.6	12.5	16.7	15.7	13.9	20.9	21.1	18.2	15.6
11-15 years	34.4	31.7	35.3	40.4	36.9	38.3	42.0	40.6	30.4	26.5	26.9	30.8	32.4	36.2	41.2	36.1
16-18 years	21.6	23.3	23.2	25.7	23.4	21.0	21.1	23.1	32.1	31.2	29.8	34.4	23.6	23.0	26.4	31.7
19+ years	1.1	0.7	1.4	1.5	0.1	0.1	0.3	—	1.0	0.6	1.4	1.0	0.7	1.4	1.2	0.6
Unknown	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.1	—	—	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	758	742	759	758	689	715	786	896	688	683	731	689	759	774	815	965

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care (%) ⁵

Alaska Native/American Indian	2.8	3.4	3.6	2.2	3.3	2.8	1.8	1.5	2.8	2.3	2.6	2.2	3.3	3.7	2.7	1.6
Asian	—	—	0.5	0.5	—	—	0.5	0.6	—	—	0.5	0.7	—	—	0.5	0.4
Asian/Pacific	0.8	0.8	—	—	0.3	0.1	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.8	0.6	—	—
Black	3.3	3.2	4.3	4.5	0.9	2.9	2.2	1.9	1.0	1.6	1.8	3.2	3.2	4.4	4.5	3.0
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.3	—	—	—	0.4	—	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	9.8	8.1	9.5	7.9	8.7	8.7	11.2	8.5	10.6	7.0	12.7	9.4	8.0	9.6	8.2	7.4
White	81.1	83.3	80.5	82.2	83.5	80.7	79.4	83.6	80.8	84.0	78.2	79.2	83.5	80.2	81.5	85.6
Two or more races	—	—	—	0.3	—	—	0.8	0.3	—	—	0.5	0.1	—	—	0.2	0.4
Unknown	2.2	1.2	1.4	2.4	3.3	4.8	3.9	3.7	4.5	4.7	3.1	5.1	1.2	1.4	2.3	1.7
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	758	742	759	758	689	715	786	896	688	683	731	689	759	774	815	965

D. Children Waiting to Be Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database) ⁶

Overview	9/30/98	9/30/99	9/30/00	9/30/01
Children waiting to be adopted	140	145	125	129
Children whose parents' rights have been terminated (TPR)	109	107	89	91
Age of Waiting Children (%)				
	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	4.3	2.1	2.4	1.6
1-5 years	40.0	35.2	23.2	24.8
6-10 years	41.4	40.0	43.2	34.1
11-15 years	12.1	18.6	25.6	31.8
16+ years	2.1	4.1	5.6	7.0
Unknown	—	—	—	0.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	140	145	125	129

Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	1.4	2.1	1.6	1.6
Asian	—	—	—	—
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	7.1	5.5	6.4	6.2
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	15.0	12.4	12.0	6.2
White	76.4	80.0	79.2	85.3
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	0.8	0.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	140	145	125	129

E. Children Adopted

(AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

Age of Adopted Children (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—
1-5 years	47.1	48.9	39.3	30.4
6-10 years	32.4	31.1	41.0	50.0
11-15 years	20.6	13.3	14.8	17.4
16+ years	—	6.7	4.9	2.2
Unknown	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	34	45	61	46

Race/Ethnicity of Adopted Children (%)

Alaska Native/American Indian	5.9	2.2	1.6	6.5
Asian	—	—	—	2.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Black	2.9	11.1	8.2	—
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—
Hispanic	8.8	8.9	11.5	19.6
White	82.4	71.1	78.7	71.7
Two or more races	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	6.7	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	34	45	61	46

⁵ In this and subsequent race/ethnicity tables, data for two or more races may be provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States' resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of two or more races and therefore may not be comparable to the 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

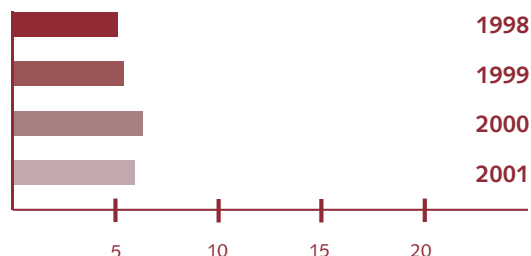
⁶ Waiting children are children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' rights have been terminated. Children 16 years and older with TPR, but with a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the waiting children and TPR.

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

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children without a recurrence	94.9	94.6	93.7	94.1
Children with one or more recurrences	5.1	5.4	6.3	5.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	568	631	620	560

Percent Children With One or More Recurrences

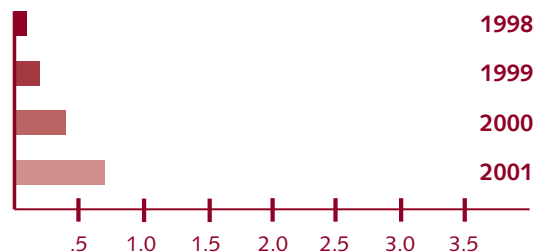


2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care (NCANDS, AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database Jan—Sept)

2.1 Maltreatment in Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children maltreated while in foster care	0.10	0.15	0.43	0.74
Children not maltreated while in foster care	99.90	99.85	99.57	99.26
Total %	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Number	1,556	1,303	1,406	1,486

Percent Children Maltreated While In Foster Care

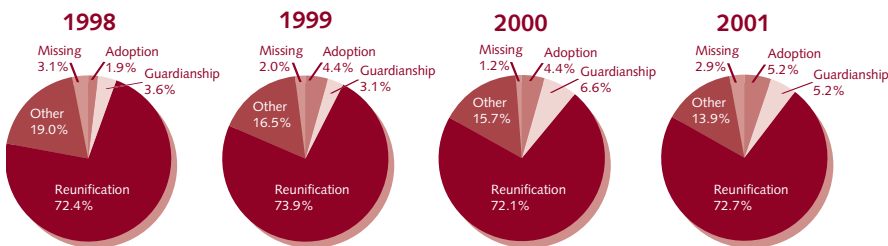


3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

3.1 Exits from Foster Care (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	1.9	4.4	4.4	5.2
Guardianship	3.6	3.1	6.6	5.2
Reunification	72.4	73.9	72.1	72.7
Other	19.0	16.5	15.7	13.9
Missing data	3.1	2.0	1.2	2.9
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	688	683	731	689

Percent Exits from Foster Care



3.2 Exits of Disabled Children (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	4.2	7.9	7.2	9.3
Guardianship	3.1	3.7	9.2	7.0
Reunification	64.6	63.4	63.2	62.0
Other	23.4	22.0	17.8	18.6
Missing data	4.7	3.0	2.6	3.1
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	192	164	152	129

3.3 Exits of Children Over Age 12 at Entry (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	—	—	0.3	0.3
Guardianship	0.8	1.3	1.7	3.0
Reunification	69.9	64.7	69.0	70.3
Other	25.7	32.5	27.8	24.3
Missing data	3.6	1.6	1.2	2.2
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	362	320	345	370

3.4 Exits to Emancipation (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children age 12 or younger at entry	21.7	7.9	13.9	6.7
Children older than 12 at entry	78.3	89.5	86.1	93.3
Missing data	—	2.6	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	23	38	36	45

3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity (%)

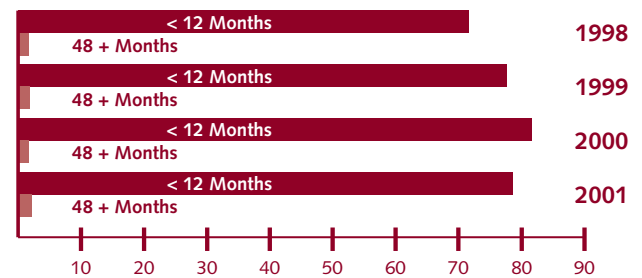
	Alaska Native/A.I.				Asian				Asian/Pacific Islander				Black				Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	5.3	—	—	20.0	—	—	—	20.0	—	—	—	—	—	36.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	—	—	5.3	6.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30.8	9.1	—	—	—	—
Reunification	94.7	93.8	63.2	60.0	—	—	100.0	40.0	100.0	50.0	—	—	57.1	54.5	53.8	77.3	—	—	66.7	—
Other	—	6.3	31.6	13.3	—	—	—	40.0	—	50.0	—	—	42.9	—	15.4	9.1	—	—	33.3	—
Missing data	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9.1	—	4.5	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	—
Number	19	16	19	15	—	—	4	5	2	2	—	—	7	11	13	22	—	—	3	—

	Hispanic				White				Unable to Determine				Two or More Races				Missing Data			
	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001	1998	1999	2000	2001
Adoption	1.4	6.3	6.5	9.2	2.0	4.0	4.5	4.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guardianship	6.8	6.3	6.5	4.6	3.2	3.1	6.1	5.5	6.5	—	8.7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Reunification	65.8	64.6	75.3	67.7	72.3	73.7	72.0	73.8	77.4	90.6	69.6	71.4	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Other	21.9	22.9	10.8	12.3	19.6	16.9	15.9	13.7	9.7	9.4	21.7	20.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Missing data	4.1	—	1.1	6.2	2.9	2.3	1.4	2.2	6.5	—	—	8.6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	—	—	100.0	100.0	—	—	—	—
Number	73	48	93	65	556	574	572	546	31	32	23	35	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—

4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

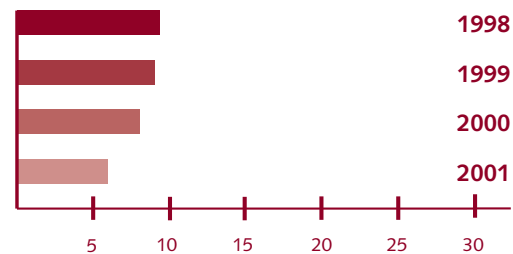
4.1 Time to Reunification (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	71.5	77.6	81.6	78.6
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	17.1	13.5	12.9	14.8
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	8.2	4.6	1.1	2.6
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1.6	2.6	2.1	1.8
48 or more mos.	1.6	1.8	1.7	2.2
Missing data	—	—	0.6	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	498	505	527	501

Percent Reunifications in < 12 Months or in 48 + Months of Entry



4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Children entering care for the first time	86.1	80.4	85.0	90.3
Children re-entering care within 12 mos. of a prior episode	9.3	9.0	8.0	5.9
Children re-entering care more than 12 mos. after a prior episode	0.1	—	—	—
Missing data	4.5	10.6	7.0	3.8
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	689	715	786	896

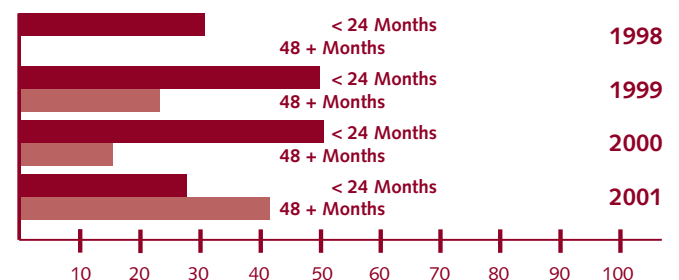
Percent Re-entries Into Foster Care Within 12 Months



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

5.1 Time to Adoption (%)	1998	1999	2000	2001
Less than 12 mos.	7.7	20.0	21.9	11.1
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	23.1	30.0	18.8	16.7
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	46.2	23.3	21.9	25.0
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	23.1	3.3	21.9	5.6
48 or more mos.	—	23.3	15.6	41.7
Missing data	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	13	30	32	36

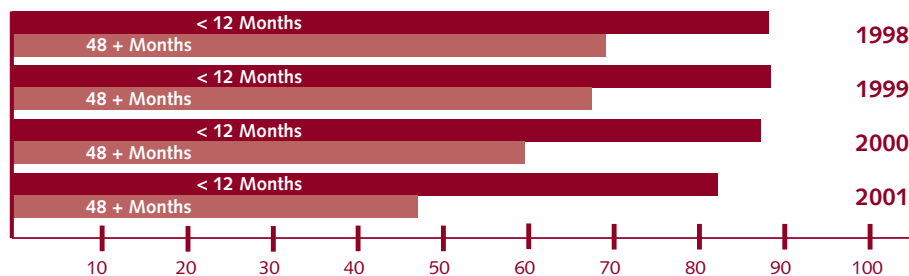
Percent Adoptions Occurring in < 24 or in 48 + Months of Entry



6. Increase Placement Stability (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care (%)		Children With 2 or Fewer Placements	Children With 3 or More Placements	Missing Placements	Total %	Number
Less than 12 mos.	1998	88.3	11.7	—	100.0	795
	1999	88.5	10.8	0.7	100.0	834
	2000	87.4	11.7	0.9	100.0	907
	2001	82.4	16.6	1.0	100.0	1,017
At least 12 mos., but less than 24 mos.	1998	66.7	33.3	—	100.0	273
	1999	67.4	32.6	—	100.0	230
	2000	60.5	38.8	0.7	100.0	276
	2001	63.1	36.5	0.4	100.0	282
At least 24 mos., but less than 36 mos.	1998	52.9	47.1	—	100.0	155
	1999	54.1	45.9	—	100.0	133
	2000	48.5	51.5	—	100.0	97
	2001	34.7	64.5	0.8	100.0	121
At least 36 mos., but less than 48 mos.	1998	59.6	40.4	—	100.0	109
	1999	43.6	56.4	—	100.0	94
	2000	44.0	56.0	—	100.0	84
	2001	52.5	47.5	—	100.0	59
48 or more mos.	1998	69.3	30.7	—	100.0	114
	1999	67.7	32.3	—	100.0	158
	2000	59.8	40.2	—	100.0	179
	2001	47.4	52.6	—	100.0	173
Missing data	1998	100.0	—	—	100.0	1
	1999	87.5	12.5	—	100.0	8
	2000	100.0	—	—	100.0	2
	2001	100.0	—	—	100.0	2

Percent of Children Who Have Been in Care for Less Than 12 Months or More Than 48 Months Who Experience 2 or Fewer Placements



7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions (AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database)

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 (%)

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Group homes	4.6	9.0	6.4	5.9
Institutions	2.8	5.0	4.8	3.9
Other settings	92.6	86.0	88.8	90.2
Missing	—	—	—	—
Total %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	282	301	312	307

Merit A. Thomas, Administrator
Protective Services Division
Wyoming Department of Family Services
307-777-7561

Wyoming's comments on State data presented in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Report to Congress* are the following:

With regard to Section B. Child Maltreatment Data; Maltreatment Information Overview; Child Fatalities: For the year 2000, Wyoming reports three child fatalities versus one. This discrepancy is a result of worker data entry error.

With regard to Section E. Number 5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption (AFCARS) Annual Foster Care Data Base; 5.1 Time to Adoption (%), a discrepancy occurred as a result of adoptions data being entered in the adoption file versus the foster care file. Since the CFSR, the Department has corrected this error.

The following discussion focuses on Wyoming's performance with regard to each of the outcomes assessed in the Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Reports to Congress. The Wyoming Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) was completed in fiscal year (FY) 2002, and compliance with the national standards was based on data from 2000. The final report for that review is available from <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cwrp/staterpt/index.htm>. A discussion of the implications of CFSR findings for Wyoming's performance on the Report to Congress Outcomes is provided in *Child Welfare Outcomes 2000*.

The State's performance is assessed by examining the percent change in the data for each outcome measure from 1999 to 2001. The percent change was calculated using data carried out to the second decimal point. However, with the exception of outcome measure 2.1, the data presented in the Report to Congress are rounded to one decimal for ease of reading the tables (measure 2.1 must be presented as two decimals because the national standard is less than one percent).

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

In calendar year (CY) 2001, the State's rate of maltreatment recurrence within 6 months was 5.9 percent, which is less than the national standard of 6.1 percent or less and the national median of 8.0 percent. According to information provided in the CFSR Final Report, the actual rate of maltreatment recurrence may be higher than the reported rate because maltreatment reports involving children in open child protective services cases usually are not treated as new reports and are not subjected to an investigation. Performance on this measure declined from 1999 to 2001 (+9.1 percent change).

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

In CY 2001, the incidence of maltreatment in foster care was 0.7 percent, which is higher than the national standard of 0.57 percent and the national median of 0.47 percent. Performance on this measure declined from 1999 to 2001 (+382.3 percent change).

Outcome 3. Increase permanency for children in foster care

In FY 2001, 83.1 percent of children exiting foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is less than the national median of 85.3 percent), and 78.3 percent of children with a diagnosed disability leaving foster care were discharged to permanent homes (which is close to the national median of 78.4 percent). However, 73.6 percent of children who were older than age 12 at entry into foster care exited to a permanent home (which is greater than the national median of 72.3 percent), and only 6.7 percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation were age 12 or younger at the time of entry (which is lower than the national median of 28.0 percent). These data suggest that although the State is only moderately effective in achieving permanency for children, it is effective in ensuring that children who enter foster care at a young age do not "grow up" in foster care.

Wyoming's performance on this outcome improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001. Specifically, the percentage of children older than age 12 at entry into foster care who exited to permanent homes increased (+11.5 percent change), and the percent of children exiting foster care through emancipation who were age 12 or younger at the time of entry decreased (-15.6 percent change).

Outcome 4. Reduce time to reunification without increasing re-entry

In FY 2001, the percentage of all reported reunifications occurring within 12 months of a child's entry into foster care was 78.6, which is higher than both the national standard of 76.2 percent or more and the national median of 69.2 percent. There was no substantive change in performance on this measure from FY 1999 to FY 2001.

Also in FY 2001, the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of discharge from a prior foster care episode was 5.9, which is lower than the national standard of 8.6 percent or less and the national median of 10.4 percent. Wyoming's performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-33.9 percent change).

Outcome 5. Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In FY 2001, the percentage of all finalized adoptions occurring within 24 months of a child's entry into foster care was 27.8, which is lower than the national standard of 32.0 percent or more but higher than the national median of 21.0 percent. Wyoming's performance on this measure declined from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-44.4 percent change).

Outcome 6. Increase placement stability

In FY 2001, the percentage of children who experienced no more than 2 placements during their first 12 months in foster care was 82.4, which is lower than both the national standard of 86.7 percent or more and the national median of 83.3 percent. Wyoming's performance on this measure declined continuously from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-6.9 percent change).

Outcome 7. Reduce placements of young children in group homes and institutions

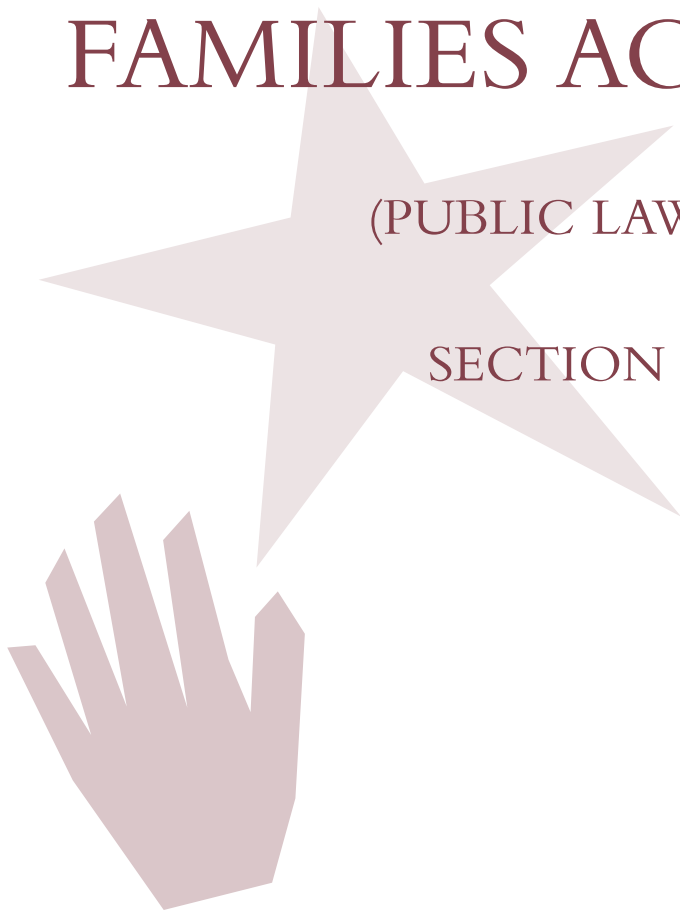
In FY 2001, the percentage of children age 12 or younger placed in a group home or institution was 9.8, which is higher than the national median of 8.7 percent. Wyoming's performance on this measure improved from FY 1999 to FY 2001 (-30.0 percent change).

Appendix A

ADOPTION AND SAFE FAMILIES ACT OF 1997

(PUBLIC LAW 105-89)

SECTION 203(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:

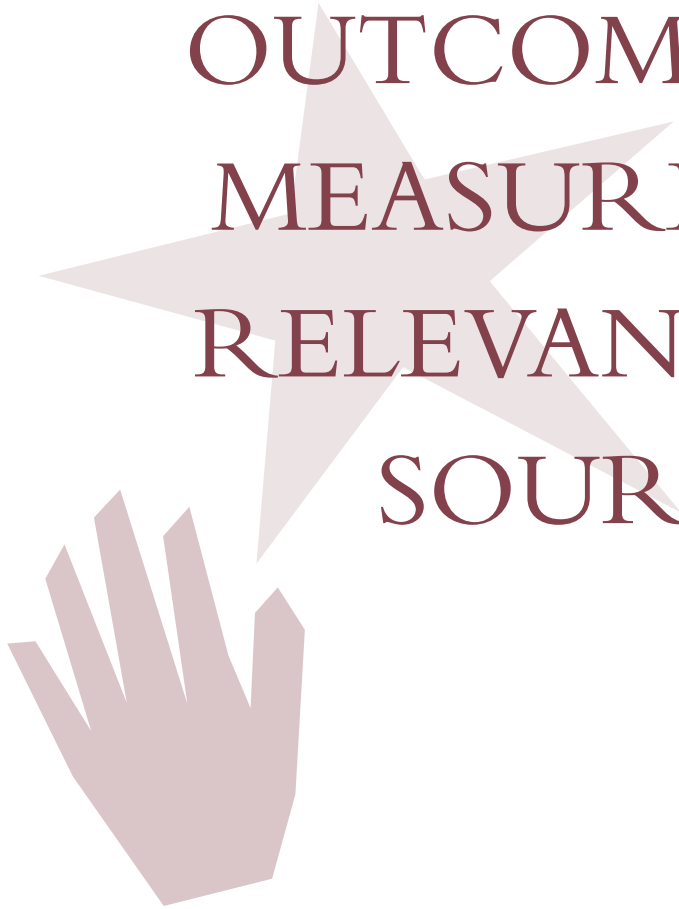
SEC. 479A. Annual Report.

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 AND MEASURES AND RELEVANT DATA SOURCES



Child Welfare Outcomes and Measures

This document provides information about the child welfare outcomes and measures for **Child Welfare Outcomes 2001: Annual Report**.

Child Welfare 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 reporting period, what percentage had another substantiated or indicated report within a 6-month period?

Child Welfare 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 reporting period, what percentage was the subject of substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff?

Note: The reporting period for this measure is January 1 to September 30 (9 months).

Child Welfare Outcome 3:

Increase permanency for children in foster care

Measure 3.1: For all children who exited foster care, what percentage left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship?

Measure 3.2: For children who exited foster care and were identified as having a diagnosed disability, what percentage left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship?

Measure 3.3: For children who exited foster care 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 to emancipation, what percentage was age 12 or younger at the time of entry into care?

Measure 3.5: For all children who exited foster care, what percentage by racial/ethnic category left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship?

Child Welfare Outcome 4:

Reduce time in foster care to reunification without increasing re-entry

Measure 4.1: Of all children who were reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care, what percentage was reunified in the following time periods?

- (1) Less than 12 months from the time of latest removal from home
- (2) At least 12 months, but less than 24 months
- (3) At least 24 months, but less than 36 months
- (4) At least 36 months, but less than 48 months
- (5) 48 or more months

Measure 4.2: Of all children who entered foster care during the reporting period, what percentage re-entered care:

- (1) Within 12 months of a prior foster care episode?
- (2) More than 12 months after a prior foster care episode?

Child Welfare Outcome 5:

Reduce time in foster care to adoption

Measure 5.1: Of all children who exited foster care to a finalized adoption, what percentage exited care in the following time periods?

- (1) Less than 12 months from the time of latest removal from home
- (2) At least 12 months, but less than 24 months

- (3) At least 24 months, but less than 36 months
- (4) At least 36 months, but less than 48 months
- (5) 48 or more months

Child Welfare Outcome 6:

Increase placement stability

Measure 6.1: Of all children served who had been in foster care for the time periods listed below, what percentage had no more than two placement settings during that time period?

- (1) Less than 12 months from the time of latest removal from home
- (2) At least 12 months, but less than 24 months
- (3) At least 24 months, but less than 36 months
- (4) At least 36 months, but less than 48 months
- (5) 48 or more months

Child Welfare Outcome 7:

Reduce placements of young children in group homes or institutions

Measure 7.1: For all children who entered foster care during the reporting period and were age 12 or younger at the time of their most recent placement, what percentage was placed in a group home or an institution?

Child Welfare Outcomes: Data Sources and Elements

CONTEXT DATA

Section A. Key Context Statistics

DATA ITEMS	DATA SOURCES AND ELEMENTS
Total Children Under 18 Years	U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census
Child Population in Poverty	U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census
Child Population Living in Metropolitan Areas	U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census
Child Maltreatment Victims	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau
	<p>For 1998 and 1999, the data source was NCANDS SDC: Sum of Item 3.2 A, Children for Whom the Allegation of Maltreatment or Risk of Maltreatment was Substantiated, and Item 3.2 B, Children for Whom the Allegation of Maltreatment was Indicated</p> <p>For 2000, there are three possible data sources: (1) NCANDS Child File, 2000: Elements 27, 29, 31, 33, Maltreatment Disposition Level; (2) NCANDS DCDC, 2000: Element 21, 23, 25, 27, Maltreatment Disposition Level; or (3) NCANDS SDC, 2000: 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).</p> <p>For 2001, there are 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).</p>
Children in Foster Care On 9/30 (End of FY)	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau
	AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database.
Children Adopted	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau
	AFCARS Annual Adoption Database: Element 4, State Involvement.

Section B. Child Maltreatment Data

DATA ITEMS	DATA SOURCES AND ELEMENTS
Children Subject of an Investigated Report Alleging Child Maltreatment	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau
	<p>For 1998 and 1999, the data source was NCANDS SDC: Item 3.2, Children Subject of a CPS Investigation or Assessment by Disposition Pertaining to the Child.</p> <p>For 2000, there were three possible data sources: (1) NCANDS Child File, 2000: Elements 27, 29, 31, 33, Maltreatment Disposition Level; (2) NCANDS DCDC, 2000: Elements 21, 23, 25, 27, Maltreatment Disposition Level; or (3) NCANDS SDC, 2000: Item 3.1, Children Subject of a CPS Investigation or Assessment by Disposition.</p> <p>For 2001, there were 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.</p>
Child Maltreatment Victims	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau

For 1998 and 1999, the data source was NCANDS SDC: Sum of Item 3.2 A, Children for Whom the Allegation of Maltreatment or Risk of Maltreatment was Substantiated; and Item 3.2 B, Children for Whom the Allegation of Maltreatment was Indicated.

For 2000, there are three possible data sources:

(1) NCANDS Child File, 2000: Elements 27, 29, 31, 33, Maltreatment Disposition Level;

(2) NCANDS DCDC, 2000: Element 21, 23, 25, 27, Maltreatment Disposition Level; or

(3) NCANDS SDC, 2000: 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).

For 2001, there were 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

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau

For 1998 and 1999 the data source was NCANDS Summary Data Component: Item 5.1, Child Victims Who Died as a Result of Maltreatment.

For 2000, there are three possible data sources:

(1) NCANDS Child File, 2000: Element 34, Maltreatment Death;

(2) NCANDS DCDC, 2000: Element 28, Maltreatment Death; or

(3) NCANDS SDC, 2000: Item 5.1, Child Victims who Died as a Result of Maltreatment.

For 2001, there are two possible data sources:

(1) NCANDS Child File: Element 34, Maltreatment Death; or

(2) NCANDS SDC: Item 5.1, Child Victims who Died as a Result of Maltreatment.

Age of Child Victims

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau

For 1998 and 1999, the data source was NCANDS SDC: Item 4.2, Child Victims by Age

For 2000, there are three possible data sources:

(1) NCANDS Child File, 2000: Element 12, Child Age at Report, or a combination of Element 6, Report Date and Element 13, Child Date of Birth;

(2) NCANDS DCDC, 2000: Element 11, Child Age at Report, or a combination of Element 6, Report Date and Element 12, Child Date of Birth; or

(3) NCANDS SDC, 2000: Item 4.2, Child Victims By Age.

For 2001, there are 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

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau

For 1998 and 1999, the data source was NCANDS SDC: Item 4.4, Child Victims by Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity; and Item 4.5, Child Victims by Race.

For 2000, there are three possible data sources:

(1) NCANDS Child File, 2000: Elements 15 through 20, Child Race, and Element 21, Child Ethnicity;

(2) NCANDS DCDC, 2000: Element 14, Child Race, and Element 15, Child Ethnicity; or

(3) NCANDS SDC, 2000: Item 4.4, Child Victims by Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity, and Item 4.5, Child Victims by Race.

For 2001, there are 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 Type of Child Victims U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau

For 1998 and 1999, the data source was NCANDS SDC: Item 4.1, Child Victims by Type of Maltreatment.

For 2000, there are three possible data sources:
 (1) NCANDS Child File, 2000: Elements 26 through 33, Maltreatment Type, Maltreatment Disposition Level;
 (2) NCANDS DCDC, 2000: Elements 20 through 27, Maltreatment Type, Maltreatment Disposition Level; or
 (3) NCANDS SDC, 2000: Item 4.1, Child Victims by Type of Maltreatment.

For 2001, there are 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.

Section C. Children in Foster Care

DATA ITEMS

DATA SOURCES AND ELEMENTS

Children (for each FY) U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau

- In Care On 10/1
- Entered Care
- Exited Care
- In Care On 9/30
- Total Served (FY)

AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 56, Date of Discharge from Foster Care.

Children's Median Length of Stay (for each FY) U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau

- In Care On 10/1
- Exited Care
- In Care On 9/30

AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 56, Date of Discharge from Foster Care.

Age of Children (for each FY) U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau

- In Care On 10/1
- Entered Care
- Exited Care
- In Care On 9/30

AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: Element 6, Date of Birth; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 56, Date of Discharge from Foster Care.

Race/Ethnicity of Children (for each FY) U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau

- In Care On 10/1
- Entered Care
- Exited Care
- In Care On 9/30

AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: Element 8, Race; and Element 9, Hispanic Origin

Section D. Children Waiting to be Adopted on 9/30 (End of Fiscal Year)

DATA ITEMS

DATA SOURCES AND ELEMENTS

Children Waiting to be Adopted U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau

AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: 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; and Element 48, Date of Father's Termination of Parental Rights.

Children Whose Parents' Rights Have Been Terminated U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau

AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: Element 6, Date of Birth; Element 35,

Age of Waiting Children	Death of Parent; Element 47, Date of Mother's Termination of Parental Rights; and Element 48, Date of Father's Termination of Parental Rights. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau
Race/Ethnicity of Waiting Children	AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: 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. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: 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.

Section E. Children Adopted (AFCARS Annual Adoption Database)

DATA ITEMS	DATA SOURCES AND ELEMENTS
Age of Children Adopted	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau AFCARS Annual Adoption Database: Element 4, State Involvement; and Element 5, Child's Date of Birth.
Race/Ethnicity of Children Adopted	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau AFCARS Annual Adoption Database: Element 4, State Involvement; Element 7, Race; and Element 8, Hispanic Origin.

OUTCOME DATA

Child Welfare Outcome Measures	Data Sources and Elements
Outcome 1. Reduce Recurrence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect (NCANDS, DCDC)	
1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau For 1998 and 1999 (unless a State submitted revised data) the data source was NCANDS Detailed Care Data Component: Element 3, Report ID; Element 4, Child ID; Element 6, Report Date; and Element 8, Report Disposition. For 2000 there were two possible data sources: (1) NCANDS Child File, 2000: Element 3, Report ID; Element 4, Child ID; Element 6, Report Date; and Elements 27, 29, 31, and 33, Maltreatment Disposition Level; or (2) NCANDS DCDC, 2000: Element 3, Report ID; Element 4, Child ID; Element 6, Report Date; and Elements 21, 23, 25, and 27, Maltreatment Disposition Level. For 2001, the data source was: (1) NCANDS Child File: Element 3, Report ID; Element 4, Child ID; Element 6, Report Date; and Elements 27, 29, 31, and 33, Maltreatment Disposition Level.
Outcome 2. Reduce the Incidence of Child Abuse and/or Neglect in Foster Care	
2.1 Maltreatment In Foster Care	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database, Element 21, Date of Latest Removal, and Element 56, Date of Discharge from Foster Care For 1998 and 1999 the data source was NCANDS DCDC: Element 3, Report ID; Element 4, Child ID; Elements 80, 93, and 106, Perpetrator Relationship. For 2000 there were two possible data sources: (1) NCANDS Child File 2000: Element 3, Report ID; Element 4, Child ID; and Elements 89, 108, and 127, Perpetrator Relationship; or (2) NCANDS DCDC 2000: Element 3, Report ID; Element 4, Child ID, Elements 80, 93, and 106, Perpetrator Relationship. For 2001 the data source was: (1) NCANDS Child File: Element 3, Report ID; Element 4, Child ID; and Elements 89, 108, and 127, Perpetrator Relationship.

Outcome 3. Increase Permanency for Children in Foster Care

3.1 Exits From Foster Care	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: Element 56, Date of Discharge from Foster Care; and Element 58, Reasons for Discharge
3.2 Exits Of Disabled Children	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: 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 Age 12 Or Older At Entry	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: Element 6, Date of Birth; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; and Element 58, Reasons for Discharge.
3.4 Exits to Emancipation	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: Element 6, Date of Birth; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; and Element 58, Reasons for Discharge.
3.5 Exits by Race/Ethnicity	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: Element 8, Race; Element 9, Hispanic Origin; and Element 58, Reasons for Discharge.

Outcome 4. Reduce Time to Reunification Without Increasing Re-entry

4.1 Time to Reunification	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 56, Date of Discharge from Foster Care; and Element 58, Reasons for Discharge.
4.2 Children Who Entered Foster Care During Fiscal Year	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: Element 19, Total Number of Removals; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; and Element 56, Date of Discharge from Foster Care.

Outcome 5. Reduce Time in Foster Care to Adoption

5.1 Time to Adoption	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 56, Date of Discharge from Foster Care; and Element 58, Reasons for Discharge.
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Outcome 6. Increase Placement Stability

6.1 Number of Placements by Time in Care	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 24, Number of Previous Settings in Episode; and Element 56, Date of Discharge from Foster Care.
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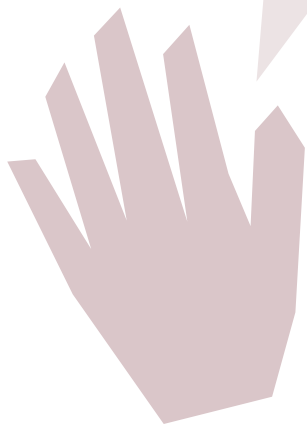
Outcome 7. Reduce Placements of Young Children in Group Homes or Institutions

7.1 Placement Settings of Children Age 12 or Younger Who Entered Care During FY	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, ACF/ACYF, Children's Bureau AFCARS Annual Foster Care Database: Element 6, Date of Birth; Element 21, Date of Latest Removal; Element 23, Placement Date in Current Setting; Element 41, Current Placement Setting.
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Appendix C

HIGHLIGHTS OF
FINDINGS FROM
CHILD

MALTREATMENT 2001



Appendix C: Highlights from Child Maltreatment 2001.

HIGHLIGHTS OF FINDINGS¹

The following is a list of key findings from Child Maltreatment 2001.

Reports

Each week CPS agencies receive more than 50,000 referrals alleging that children have been abused or neglected. More than two-thirds of referrals were screened in by CPS agencies because they were deemed appropriate for investigation or assessment.

- Nationally, 67.4 percent of all referrals (approximately 1,802,000) were screened in and 32.5 percent (approximately 870,000) were screened out.
- Professionals submitted more than half (56.5%) of the screened-in referrals. Nonprofessional report sources, which include family and community members, submitted the remaining 43.5 percent of screened-in referrals.
- Most States have established time standards for initiating the investigation of reports. The average response time from submission of the report to investigation was 50 hours.
- More than one-quarter of investigations or assessments resulted in a “Substantiated” (27.5%), “Indicated” (4.4%), or “Alternative Response Victim” (0.4%) disposition, meaning that at least one child involved in an investigation was determined to be a victim. More than half (59.2%) of investigations led to a finding that the alleged maltreatment was “Unsubstantiated.”²
- The average number of investigations per investigation/assessment worker was 69 per year.

Victims

Victims of maltreatment are defined as children who experienced or who were at risk of experiencing abuse or neglect.

- Nationally, an estimated 903,000 children were victims of abuse and neglect in 2001. Statistically, the 2001 victimization rate of 12.4 is comparable to the 2000 rate of 12.2 per 1,000 children. This is especially true as the 2001 child population base numbers were estimated. Both the 2000 and 2001 rates are lower than the 1998 rate. The 1999 rate is considered an outlier (extreme value) that was unduly influenced by the census population estimates.
- During 2001, 57.2 percent of victims suffered neglect (including medical neglect), 18.6 percent were physically abused, and 9.6 percent were sexually abused; 26.6 percent of victims were associated with additional types of maltreatment.
- Percentages were similar for male and female victims (48.0% and 51.5% respectively). The sex for 0.5 percent of child victims was unknown or not reported.
- Children in the age group of birth to 3 years accounted for 27.7 percent of victims. Victimization percentages declined as age increased.
- More than half of all victims were White (50.2%); one-quarter (25.0%) were African American; and one-sixth (14.5%) were Hispanic. American Indians and Alaska Natives accounted for 2.0 percent of victims, and Asian-Pacific Islanders accounted for 1.3 percent of victims.
- Children who had been victimized in a prior year were more than twice as likely to experience recurrence compared to children without a history of victimization.

Perpetrators

A perpetrator of child abuse or neglect is defined as a parent or caretaker who has maltreated a child.

- Women comprised 59.3 percent of all perpetrators, while men comprised 40.7 percent. Female perpetrators were typically younger than male perpetrators—42.3 percent of females compared to 31.9 percent of males were younger than 30 years old.
- A child was most likely to be victimized by his or her mother (40.5%). One “Parent,” acting alone, accounted for 80.9 percent of all perpetrators.³
- For almost every type of perpetrator, neglect was the most common type of maltreatment.
- Almost one-third (31.5%) of perpetrators with a relationship code of “Other Relative” were associated with sexual abuse. Only 4.7% perpetrators coded as “Parent” were associated with sexual abuse.

Fatalities

Child fatality estimates are based on data recorded by CPS agencies or other agencies, such as a coroner’s office or fatality review boards.

- Nationally, an estimated 1,300 children died of abuse or neglect—a rate of 1.81 children per 100,000 children in the population.

- Approximately 1.5 percent of child fatalities occurred in foster care.
- Children younger than 1 year old accounted for 40.9 percent of fatalities, and 84.5 percent of fatalities were younger than 6 years of age.
- Maltreatment deaths were more often associated with neglect alone (35.6%) than with any other type of abuse.
- Less than 10 percent (8.8%) of the families of child fatality victims had received family preservation services in the 5 years prior to the deaths, while less than 1 percent (0.9%) of child fatality victims had been in foster care and returned to their families within 5 years prior to their deaths.

Services

CPS agencies provide services to prevent future instances of child abuse or neglect and to remedy conditions that have come to the attention of the child welfare agency. Preventive services are provided to parents whose children are at risk of abuse or neglect. Postinvestigation services are offered to families on a voluntary basis by child welfare agencies or are ordered by the courts to ensure the safety of children. Data on postinvestigation services are reported if the services were provided within 90 days of the disposition of the report.

- Nationally, an estimated two million children were recipients of preventive services.
- The weighted average time from the start of an investigation to provision of service was 48 days.
- More than half, 58.4 percent, of the child victims (an estimated 528,000), received postinvestigation services, while more than one-quarter, 28.8 percent, of nonvictims (an estimated 629,000 children), received postinvestigation services.
- About a fifth of victims (19.0%) were removed from their homes as a result of investigations or assessments. In addition, 4.7 percent of nonvictims were placed in foster care. Nationally it is estimated that more than 275,000 children were placed in foster care as a result of child abuse investigations or assessments.
- Court actions were initiated for 17.5 percent (an estimated 90,000) of victims. Nearly one-fifth of victims (18.3%) were reported as having court-appointed representatives.

¹ Highlights denoted with an asterisk (*) designate data elements required by CAPTA.

² Terms that are capitalized and in quotation marks refer to data values used in NCANDS. Terms that are not capitalized and in quotation marks refer to data values that are State specific.

³ In this report, the terms “Parent,” “Mother,” and “Father” include biological parent, adoptive parent, and stepparent.

Appendix D

THE AFCARS REPORT: FY2001



The AFCARS Report

Preliminary FY 2001 Estimates as of March 2003 (8)

How many children were in foster care on September 30, 2001? 542,000

SOURCE: Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for the FY 2001, 10/1/00 through 9/30/01.

NOTES: Data from both regular and revised submissions received by January 21, 2003 are included in the estimates. Some percentages do not total 100% and/or the estimated numbers do not add up to the total number in the category due to rounding.

What were the ages of the children in foster care?

Mean Yrs	10.1	
Median Yrs	10.6	
Under 1 Yr	4%	22,957
1 - 5 Yrs	24%	130,857
6 - 10 Yrs	24%	127,711
11 - 15 Yrs	30%	160,419
16 - 18 Yrs	17%	89,632
19 or more Yrs	2%	10,424

What were the placement settings of children in foster care?

Pre-Adoptive Home	4%	20,289
Foster Family Home (Relative)	24%	130,869
Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	48%	260,384
Group Home	8%	43,084
Institution	10%	56,509
Supervised Independent Living	1%	5,068
Runaway	2%	9,112
Trial Home Visit	3%	16,685

What were the lengths of stay in foster care?

Mean Months	33	
Median Months	19	
Less than 1 Month	4%	22,512
1 - 5 Months	17%	91,533
6 - 11 Months	15%	82,935
12 - 17 Months	11%	60,915
18 - 23 Months	9%	46,144
24 - 29 Months	7%	38,340
30 - 35 Months	5%	29,233
3 - 4 Yrs	15%	79,171
5 Yrs or More	17%	91,217

What were the case goals of the children in foster care?

Reunify with Parent(s) or Principal Caretaker(s)	44%	241,051
Live with Other Relative(s)	5%	26,555
Adoption	22%	116,653
Long Term Foster Care	8%	45,792
Emancipation	6%	32,309
Guardianship	3%	17,624
Case Plan Goal Not Yet Established	11%	62,014

Children in Foster Care on September 30, 2001 (continued)

What was the race/ethnicity of the children in foster care?

AI/AN Non-Hispanic	2%	10,106
Asian Non-Hispanic	1%	3,649
Black Non-Hispanic	38%	204,973
Hawaiian/PI Non-Hispanic	0%	1,551
Hispanic	17%	89,785
White Non-Hispanic	37%	203,222
Unknown/Unable to Determine	3%	17,235
Two or More Races Non-Hispanic	2%	11,479

What was the gender of the children in foster care?

Male	52%	283,854
Female	48%	258,146

NOTE: Using U.S. Bureau of the Census standards, children of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Beginning in FY 2000, children could receive more than one race designation.

How many children entered foster care during FY 2001? 290,000

What were the ages of the children who entered care during FY 2001?

Mean Yrs	8.6	
Median Yrs	8.7	
Under 1 Yr	13%	38,786
1 - 5 Yrs	25%	72,927
6 - 10 Yrs	21%	61,242
11 - 15 Yrs	29%	84,558
16 - 18 Yrs	11%	32,261
19 or more Yrs	0%	227

What was the race/ethnicity of the children who entered care during FY 2001?

AI/AN Non-Hispanic	3%	7,364
Asian Non-Hispanic	1%	2,925
Black Non-Hispanic	28%	81,118
Hawaiian/PI Non-Hispanic	0%	1,125
Hispanic	16%	46,574
White Non-Hispanic	46%	134,773
Unknown/Unable to Determine	3%	9,079
Two or More Races Non-Hispanic	2%	7,042

NOTE: Using U.S. Bureau of the Census standards, children of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Beginning in FY 2000, children could receive more than one race designation.

How many children exited foster care during FY 2001? 263,000

What were the ages of the children who exited care during FY 2001?

Mean Yrs	10.1	
Median Yrs	10.2	
Less than 1 Yr	4%	10,923
1 - 5 Yrs	27%	70,395
6 - 10 Yrs	23%	59,544
11 - 15 Yrs	24%	63,881
16 - 18 Yrs	20%	53,253
19 or more Yrs	2%	5,005

What was the race/ethnicity of the children who exited care during FY 2001?

AI/AN Non-Hispanic	2%	6,544
Asian Non-Hispanic	1%	2,689
Black Non-Hispanic	30%	79,308
Hawaiian/PI Non-Hispanic	0%	1,046
Hispanic	15%	40,346
White Non-Hispanic	45%	117,377
Unknown/Unable to Determine	4%	9,602
Two or More Races Non-Hispanic	2%	6,087

NOTE: Using U.S. Bureau of the Census standards, children of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Beginning in FY 2000, children could receive more than one race designation.

What were the lengths of stay of the children who exited foster care during FY 2001?

Mean Months	22.1	
Median Months	11.8	
Less than 1 Month	19%	50,300
1 - 5 Months	17%	44,969
6 - 11 Months	14%	37,707
12 - 17 Months	11%	29,270
18 - 23 Months	8%	20,833
24 - 29 Months	6%	15,234
30 - 35 Months	5%	12,146
3 - 4 Yrs	11%	28,604
5 or More Yrs	9%	23,936

What were the outcomes for the children exiting foster care during FY 2001?

Reunification with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s)	57%	148,606
Living with Other Relative(s)	10%	26,084
Adoption	18%	46,668
Emancipation	7%	19,008
Guardianship	3%	8,969
Transfer to Another Agency	3%	7,918
Runaway	2%	5,219
Death of Child	0%	528

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, 2001? 126,000

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 parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the estimate.

What is the gender distribution of the waiting children?

Male	53%	66,175
Female	47%	59,825

How old were the waiting children when they were removed from their parents or caretakers?

Mean Yrs	4.7	
Median Yrs	4.0	
Less than 1Yr	26%	33,052
1-5 Yrs	38%	48,026
6-10 Yrs	27%	34,144
11-15 Yrs	8%	10,515
16-18 Yrs	0%	263

How many months have the waiting children been in continuous foster care?

Mean Months	44	
Median Months	35	
Less than 1 Month	1%	725
1-5 Months	4%	4,946
6-11 Months	8%	9,567
12-17 Months	10%	12,889
18 -23 Months	11%	13,420
24-29 Months	10%	13,194
30-35 Months	8%	10,692
36-59 Months	24%	30,503
60 or more Months	24%	30,064

What is the racial/ethnic distribution of the waiting children?

AI/AN Non-Hispanic	2%	2,146
Asian Non-Hispanic	0%	484
Black Non-Hispanic	45%	56,306
Hawaiian/PI Non-Hispanic	0%	400
Hispanic	12%	15,253
White Non-Hispanic	34%	42,913
Unknown/Unable to Determine	4%	5,602
Two or More Races Non-Hispanic	2%	2,895

NOTE: Using U.S. Bureau of the Census standards, children of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Beginning in FY 2000, children could receive more than one race designation.

How old were the children on September 30, 2001?

Mean Yrs	8.3	
Median Yrs	8.3	
Less than 1Yr	3%	4,206
1-5 Yrs	32%	40,848
6-10 Yrs	32%	40,648
11-15 Yrs	28%	34,724
16-18 Yrs	4%	5,573

Where were the waiting children living on September 30, 2001?

Pre-Adoptive Home	12%	15,141
Foster Family Home (Relative)	19%	24,247
Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	59%	73,992
Group Home	3%	4,087
Institution	6%	7,638
Supervised Independent Living	0%	94
Runaway	0%	437
Trial Home Visit	0%	364

How many children in foster care had their parental rights terminated for all living parents? 65,000

As of September 30, 2001, how many months had elapsed since the parental rights of these foster children were terminated?

Mean Months	24
Median Months	15

How many children were adopted from the public foster care system in FY 2001? 50,000

SOURCE: Adoptions can be reported to the AFCARS adoption database at any time after the adoption has been finalized. TAR 8 includes adoptions finalized in FY 2001 reported in regular and revised submissions by December 12, 2002.

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. In addition, states have historically under reported adoption discharges. In contrast, states tend to more accurately report the adoptions to the AFCARS adoption database because those are the adoptions used to calculate adoption incentive awards. Some percentages do not total 100% and/or the estimated numbers do not add up to the total number in the category due to rounding.

What is the gender distribution of the children adopted from the public foster care system?

Male	50%	25,117
Female	50%	24,883

Black Non-Hispanic	35%	17,606
Hawaiian/PI Non-Hispanic	0%	164
Hispanic	16%	8,033
White Non-Hispanic	38%	19,139
Unknown/Unable to Determine	5%	2,583
Two or More Races Non-Hispanic	3%	1,502

How old were the children when they were adopted from the public foster care system?

Mean Yrs	6.9
Median Yrs	6.3

NOTE: Using U.S. Bureau of the Census standards, children of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Beginning in FY 2000, children could receive more than one race designation.

Less than 1 Yr	2%	993
1-5 Yrs	46%	22,942
6-10 Yrs	34%	16,759
11-15 Yrs	16%	8,075
16-18 Yrs	2%	1,181
19 or more Yrs	0%	51

How many months did it take after termination of parental rights for the children to be adopted?

Mean Months	16	
Median Months	12	
Less than 1 Month	3%	1,749
1-5 Months	17%	8,683
6-11 Months	28%	13,845
12-17 Months	20%	9,954
18-23 Months	12%	6,153
24-29 Months	7%	3,722
30-35 Months	4%	2,027
3-4 Yrs	6%	2,922
5 or more Yrs	2%	945

What proportion of the children adopted are receiving an adoption subsidy?

Yes	88%	44,013
No	12%	5,987

Children Adopted in FY 2001 (Continued)

What is the family structure of the child's adoptive family?

What is the racial/ethnic distribution of the children adopted from the public foster care system?

AI/AN Non-Hispanic	1%	715
Asian Non-Hispanic	1%	260

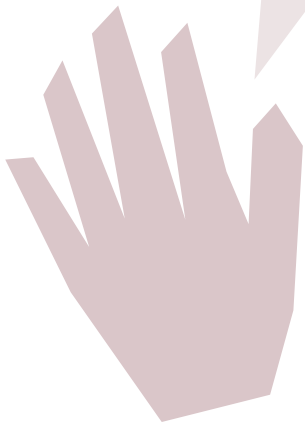
Married Couple	67%	33,251
Unmarried Couple	1%	664
Single Female	30%	14,975
Single Male	2%	1,110

What was the relationship of the adoptive parents to the child prior to the adoption?

Non-Relative	17%	8,699
Foster Parent	59%	29,501
Step-Parent	0%	131
Other Relative	23%	11,670

Appendix E

GUIDING PRINCIPLES
FOR DEVELOPING THE
CHILD WELFARE
OUTCOMES AND
MEASURES



GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE NATIONAL CHILD WELFARE OUTCOMES

During the fall of 1998, the Department of Health and Human Services engaged in a consultation process with representatives from State, Tribal, county and municipal child welfare agencies; private nonprofit child and family services agencies; State legislatures; Governors' offices; juvenile and family courts; local child advocacy organizations; and a national public employees union. The purpose of the consultation process was to obtain assistance from the field in developing a national set of child welfare outcomes and measures.

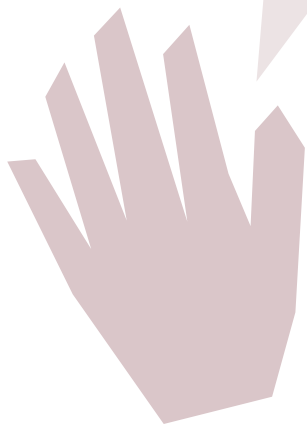
Discussions held during consultation meetings resulted in establishing four principles that served to guide the development of the child welfare outcomes and measures. These principles are the following:

- **The outcome measures should reflect performance that is to a large extent within the control of State child welfare systems.** It is difficult to identify outcomes that can be linked solely to child welfare system operations because of the dependency of child welfare on the functioning of many other systems. The outcomes related to safety, permanency, and well-being are significantly influenced by factors beyond the control of a child welfare agency. For example, the capacity and functioning of juvenile or family court systems, juvenile justice systems, law enforcement systems, mental health services, and substance abuse treatment systems in a State or community significantly affect a child welfare agency's ability to impact outcomes in the areas of safety, permanency, and well-being for the children it serves. In addition, economic conditions or the extent of substance abuse problems in a community can increase the number of children who are unsafe in their own homes or reduce the number of children who can be safely returned to their families once they have been removed from their homes.
- **The outcome measures should be assessed in ways that limit the potential for misinterpretation.** Determining the meaning of changes in State performance is complex. Such changes can be the result of other influencing factors and/or imbalances in the child welfare system. Basically, positive or negative changes must be viewed in relation to other conditions in the State. For example, an increase in the number of child abuse and/or neglect reports could be the result of an economic downturn or an increase in the extent of substance abuse problems in a community. Equally important is for States to focus attention on strengthening all parts of the system to ensure a balanced approach to systems performance. This will result in (1) better decisions for the children and families who come into contact with the child welfare agency and (2) improved performance on the outcome measures overall. Conversely, if a State focuses on improving one part of its system such as reducing the time children spend in foster care, the State may achieve the desired goal but negatively impact some other part of the system, e.g., increase the rate of re-entry of children into foster care.
- **The outcome measures should be used to assess the continuous improvement of each State over time, rather than compare the performance of States with one another.** Comparison across States on their performance on the outcome measures is difficult due to variations in State population demographics, programs, and policies and must be undertaken with great care. State performance is better assessed by tracking a State's own continuous improvement over time. Some useful factors in considering State variations may include the proportion of children in poverty in each State; the State's definition of abuse and/or neglect; the State's standards that prompt the removal of children from their homes and the decision to return them home; the resources available in the community to meet the needs of children and families; the resources allocated by the State to the child welfare system to develop and test innovative strategies to attain desired outcomes; and the internal capacity of the child welfare agency in terms of staffing, caseload size, and other factors.
- **The outcome measures should be based on data that are available through existing data collection systems in order to limit the reporting burden on the States.** There have been great advances at the State and Federal Government levels in collecting, analyzing, and reporting child welfare data, using the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) and the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS). This is evident by the number of States reporting data in this fourth annual report. Despite this progress, a significant number of States are in the process of improving their data collection capabilities through the design and implementation of new and improved Statewide Automated Child Welfare Systems (SACWIS). As a result, many State SACWIS systems are still developing and being refined, which means that the collection and reporting of

data to support measuring some or all of the outcomes are not yet available for all States. The Department is confident that State data will continue to improve each year and in subsequent annual reports and is providing assistance to States on developing and implementing their SACWIS systems, in addition to assistance on improving the quality of their data submissions on the outcome measures.

Appendix F

CHILDREN'S BUREAU
TRAINING AND
TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE NETWORK



CHILDREN'S BUREAU TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NETWORK

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IntroductionF-3
National Child Welfare Resource Center for Family-Centered PracticeF-4
<i>www.cwresource.org</i>	
Offers training and technical assistance to States throughout the stages of the CFSRs including preparation of Statewide Assessment and Onsite Review, and development and implementation of the Program Improvement Plan.	
National Child Welfare Resource Center for Organizational ImprovementF-5
<i>www.muskie.usm.maine.edu/helpkids</i>	
Offers technical assistance, training, teleconferences, and publications to assist States with the CFSRs, including strategic planning, evaluating outcomes, facilitating collaboration, implementing quality control, and structuring public-private partnerships.	
National Child Welfare Resource Center on Legal and Judicial IssuesF-6
<i>www.abanet.org/child/rcjji</i>	
Offers States assistance with their CFSRs including collecting and analyzing data, legal and judicial issue analysis, promoting stakeholder involvement, action planning, and Program Improvement Plan implementation.	
National Resource Center on Child MaltreatmentF-7
<i>www.gocwi.org/nrccm</i>	
Provides States participating in the CFSR process with technical assistance, consultation, and training in the areas of child protective services, permanency attainment, and well-being for children and their families.	
National Resource Center for Foster Care and Permanency PlanningF-8
<i>www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcpp</i>	
Focuses on assisting States in response to the CFSR process by providing technical assistance and training including addressing the continuum of excellence in child welfare practice, promoting stakeholder involvement, building capacity, evaluating outcomes, and providing intensive follow-up.	
National Resource Center for Information Technology in Child WelfareF-9
<i>www.nrcitcw.org</i>	
Addresses a broad range of program and technical issues (including Tribal and court child welfare issues) in assisting with the CFSR process including preparing data, understanding and using State data profiles, addressing the seven outcome measures, evaluating systemic factors, and preparing for the Onsite Review.	
National Resource Center for Special Needs AdoptionF-10
<i>www.nrcadoption.org</i>	
Partners with States, Tribes, and other NRCs to offer support in all phases of the CFSR process, including analyzing adoption and permanency options, exploring systemic factors, increasing cultural competence, and promoting stakeholder involvement.	
National Resource Center for Youth DevelopmentF-11
<i>www.nrcys.ou.edu/nrcyd.htm</i>	
Provides States with CFSR assistance including promoting stakeholder involvement, technical assistance and training, and information services. Also offers States, Tribes, and other youth-serving organizations with assistance in effectively implementing the Chafee Foster Care Independence and the Education and Training Voucher programs and supporting youth engagement in child welfare policy, planning, and program development.	

The Collaboration to AdoptUSKidsF-12
www.adoptuskids.org

Provides training and technical assistance to States and Tribes in connection with the CFSR on issues that pertain to the development and implementation of quality recruitment and retention services for foster and adoptive families.

The National Resource Center listed below is co-sponsored by the Children’s Bureau and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

National Center on Substance Abuse and Child WelfareF-13
www.ncsacw.samhsa.gov

Works to develop knowledge and provide technical assistance to Federal, State, and local agencies and Tribes to improve outcomes for families with substance use disorders in the child welfare and family court systems.

The following two National Resource Centers were established to support statutorily mandated programs and provide services primarily to grantees.

National Abandoned Infants Assistance Resource CenterF-14
aia.berkeley.edu

Works to enhance the quality of social and health services delivered to children who are abandoned or at risk of abandonment due to the presence of drugs or HIV in the family.

National Resource Center for Community-Based Family Resource and Support ProgramsF-15
www.friendsnrc.org

Offers knowledge and expertise in the implementation of family support strategies in a variety of settings and for many purposes. Provides CFSR assistance, including building networks, collecting data, and promoting stakeholder involvement.

Introduction

This booklet summarizes information on National Resource Centers (NRCs) funded by the Children's Bureau, within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Each NRC provides onsite training and technical assistance to States, Tribes, and public child welfare agencies in the preparation and implementation of the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) process. This booklet is designed to communicate to States the focus of each NRC and the training and technical assistance each provides.

State and Tribal requests for training and technical assistance are made to Regional ACF offices. For a listing of Regional ACF offices and the States they serve, visit the ACF Web site at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/oro/contacts/regions.htm.

Additional copies of this booklet may be obtained from:

National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information
330 C Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20447
(800) 394-3366
nccanch@calib.com

National Child Welfare Resource Center for Family-Centered Practice

WHO WE ARE

The National Child Welfare Resource Center for Family-Centered Practice works with State and Tribal child welfare staff to promote family-centered practices that support the safety, permanency, and well-being of children while meeting the needs of their families. The Center helps States implement strategies to expand knowledge, increase competencies, and change attitudes of staff at all levels, with the goal of infusing family-centered principles and practices in their work with children and families who enter the child welfare system.

HOW WE CAN HELP

The Center offers training and technical assistance to States throughout all stages of the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs), including preparation of the Statewide Assessment and the Onsite Review, and development and implementation of the Program Improvement Plan (PIP). Sample areas of technical assistance include:

“Kicking Off” the CFSR

The Center helps States prepare for the CFSR process.

Analyzing Family-Centered Practice Opportunities

Staff can review the Statewide Assessment, final report, and PIP to identify recurring family-centered practice themes and propose strategies to address issues of nonconformity.

Developing Community Stakeholder Workgroups

The Center can help States develop community stakeholder workgroups that can be used to prepare for the CFSR and the Onsite Review, and to develop and monitor the PIP.

Improving the Case Planning/Case Management Process

Staff provide technical assistance to State child welfare agencies to assess, improve, and complement their current casework practices. Specific technical assistance topics include:

- Making frontline practice family-centered at all stages (intake; screening; risk, safety, and family assessment; service planning and implementation; reunification; closure; post-adoption services and supports).
- Analyzing workloads.
- Involving all family members, especially fathers.
- Assessing the representation of minority children in the system.
- Decreasing repeat maltreatment.

Integrating the CFSR with Regulations and Standards

The Center can help with cross-referencing the many legal mandates, regulations, and standards impacting State systems.

Expanding the Array of Services

Center staff help States assess current services and develop a plan to expand and improve the quality of services.

Evaluating Family Strengthening Policies and Practices of Private Provider Agencies

Staff can assist State-contracted agencies in conducting a self-assessment of family-strengthening policies and practices at all levels of the organization, and in developing a PIP.

Building Collaborations with Other Service Providers

The Center provides training and technical assistance to help States create productive partnerships with different agencies serving children and families in the child welfare system.

Developing Family Group Conferencing

Staff can help develop family group conference models that respond to particular States' needs.

Moving Toward Differential Response

The Center assists States in moving toward the practice of differential responses to families according to risk and need.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 1150 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20036

Phone: (202) 638-7922

Fax: (202) 742-5394

E-Mail: info@cwresource.org

Web site: www.cwresource.org

Contact: Elena Cohen, Director

National Child Welfare Resource Center for Organizational Improvement

WHO WE ARE

The National Child Welfare Resource Center for Organizational Improvement strengthens and supports State and Tribal agencies committed to the welfare of children, youth, and families through training, technical assistance, and evaluation. The aim is to improve management and operations, bolster organizational capacity, promote service integration, and develop supervisory and management systems, resulting in improved outcomes for children and families.

HOW WE CAN HELP

The Center offers technical assistance, training, and publications to assist States with the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs), in the areas of:

Strategic Planning

The Center can help States with all aspects of strategic planning, including:

- Assessing community needs and resources.
- Developing, implementing, and monitoring comprehensive strategic plans.
- CAPTA planning and oversight.
- Integrating strategic plans.
- Developing annual progress and services reports.
- Developing Statewide Assessments and Program Improvement Plans (PIPs) for the CFSR.

Evaluating Outcomes

Center staff can assist States with developing targeted performance outcomes and integrating the use of outcome data and data-driven decision-making at all agency levels.

Facilitating Collaboration

The Center helps States develop collaborative strategies and involve stakeholder agencies in the CFSR process, particularly in the areas of domestic violence and substance abuse services, court and legal systems, and community programs. Staff can also help engage stakeholders in the CFSR process and improve coordination with State and Tribal child welfare agencies and other Federal agencies.

Implementing Quality Assurance

The Center has experience developing quality assurance systems to monitor performance for both child welfare agencies and courts. Staff can help train administrators on how to develop and implement such systems and how to integrate CFSR requirements into quality assurance systems.

Structuring Public-Private Partnerships

The Center helps States develop performance-based contracting systems that maximize the impact of funding. Training for administrators includes how to plan, design, and manage performance-based contracts and how to develop rate systems.

Teleconferences and Publications

The Center offers a number of teleconference sessions and publications that can help States with organizational improvement and the CFSR process, including:

Teleconference Sessions

- Program Improvement Planning: An Overview.
- The Role of Citizen Review Panels.
- A Framework for Quality Assurance.
- Substance Abuse and Child Welfare.
- Involving Your Court and Legal System in the Review Process.
- Creating Innovative Partnerships to Drive Resource Development.

Print and Web Publications

- Implementing Concurrent Planning: A Handbook for Child Welfare Administrators.
- A Framework for Quality Assurance in Child Welfare.
- Financing Strategies to Support Comprehensive Community-Based Services for Children and Families.

Newsletters

- New Domestic Violence Guidelines for Public Child Welfare Agencies.
- Using Information Management to Support the Goals of Safety, Permanency, and Well-Being.
- Supervisors as Managers: Understanding and Using Outcome Data.
- Managing Care—New Child and Family Services Reviews.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: Muskie School—USM
P.O. Box 15010
400 Congress Street
Portland, ME 04112-5010

Phone: (800) HELP KID or (207) 780-5810

Fax: (207) 780-5817

E-Mail: clearing@usm.maine.edu

Web site: www.muskie.usm.maine.edu/helpkids

Contact: Kris Sahonchik, Director

National Child Welfare Resource Center on Legal and Judicial Issues

WHO WE ARE

The National Child Welfare Resource Center on Legal and Judicial Issues (RCLJI) provides expertise to State and Tribal agencies and courts on legal and judicial aspects of child welfare. The Resource Center is dedicated to achieving safety, permanence and well-being for abused and neglected children through improved laws and judicial decision-making. Areas of focus include: permanency decision-making, adherence to ASFA and other federal laws, the court's role in the CFSR and child welfare reform, high quality legal representation for all parties, judicial and attorney workloads, the impact of ASFA on youth in the juvenile justice system, education needs of children in foster care, legal ethics, and the interplay of domestic violence and child welfare

HOW WE CAN HELP

RCLJI offers States the following assistance with their Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSR):

Collecting and Analyzing Data

RCLJI can help coordinate focus groups as a method of collecting data from judges, lawyers, and other stakeholders for the CFSR. Staff can also help analyze data the State is collecting to determine how effectively the courts are achieving safety, permanence, and well-being for children.

Legal and Judicial Issue Analysis

RCLJI staff can help by reviewing CFSR Statewide Assessments, final reports, and Program Improvement Plans (PIPs); identifying legal barriers to best practice; and recommending strategies to overcome barriers. RCLJI can also meet with the agency and/or court to help pinpoint underlying factors of legal system issues.

Promoting Stakeholder Involvement

The courts need to feel they are part of the child welfare system, and the agency needs to be able to approach and work with the courts. RCLJI can assist in making these connections and fostering a team attitude. Staff can help States identify and engage all the most appropriate legal system participants—including representatives of the Court Improvement Project—and help ensure they will stay involved throughout the process, from Statewide Assessment through implementation of the PIP.

Action Planning

In coordination with the National Resource Center on Organizational Improvement, RCLJI staff can meet with the agency and/or court to help develop specific, realistic strategies to address issues identified in the final report, such as case planning and quality assurance. This can happen before or after the creation of the PIP.

PIP Implementation

The Resource Center offers training and technical assistance tailored to your needs as determined by the PIP. Examples include:

- Improving legal representation of the agency and other parties.
- Improving the timeliness of judicial decision-making.
- Developing judicial performance measurement and quality assurance.
- ASFA nuts and bolts implementation for judges
- Analysis of State statutes and court rules
- Analysis of judicial and attorney workloads with strategies for improvement.

Other Training and Technical Assistance

The Center has new workshops that may be helpful to States and Tribes in the CFSR process, including:

- Best Practices to Implement ASFA: Creative Strategies for Permanence.
- Making it Permanent: Efforts to Finalize Permanency Plans for Children in Foster Care.
- Meeting Educational Needs of Children in Foster Care.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 740 15th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005-1019

Phone: (800) 285-2221

Fax: (202) 662-1755

E-Mail: mark.hardin@staff.abanet.org

Web site: www.abanet.org/child/rclji

Contact: Mark Hardin, Director
Mimi Laver for TA requests
(202) 662-1736
laverm@staff.abanet.org

National Resource Center on Child Maltreatment

WHO WE ARE

The National Resource Center on Child Maltreatment provides expert consultation, technical assistance, training, and knowledge assimilation and development activities in the area of child protective services (CPS). The Center helps States, Tribes, and local CPS agencies build their capacity to respond effectively to maltreated children and their families.

The Center's objectives are to identify, develop, and promote the application of effective practice strategies and models; to identify and facilitate essential connections that promote a coordinated response to child maltreatment; and to bolster the capabilities of managers, supervisors, and caseworkers.

HOW WE CAN HELP

The Center can provide States participating in the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) process with technical assistance, consultation, and training in the areas of CPS, permanency attainment, and well-being for children and their families. By using a collaborative, solution-oriented approach, the Center helps States link policies and practices to outcome achievement. The Center's particular emphasis is on the following safety outcomes:

- Children are first and foremost protected from abuse and neglect.
- Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.

The Center can be particularly helpful to States at various points throughout the CFSR process, including self-assessment, development of the Program Improvement Plan (PIP), PIP implementation, and during activities associated with post-PIP monitoring and quality assurance. Assistance may include:

Analyzing Data

The Center can help States analyze outcome data and systemic factors related to child protection.

Evaluating Programs

The Center helps States design and support case readings, organizational culture inventories, and stakeholder relationship assessments. Center staff can also help States evaluate current CPS training programs, including their linkages to preferred outcomes, agency partners, and other programs working with maltreated children and their families.

Finally, the Center can help States conduct focused studies on those areas where compliance is an identified issue to determine causes and contributing factors. Staff can assist States with examining the relationship of safety and recidivism measures to statutes, policies, procedures, management, supervision, and case practice.

Strengthening Programs to Improve Outcomes

The Center staff has the expertise and experience to help States achieve safety outcomes by strengthening their strategies, approaches, and responses to the following data and performance indicators:

- Timeliness of initiating investigations on reports of child maltreatment.
- Recurrence of maltreatment.
- Incidence of child abuse and neglect in foster care.
- Services to families to protect children in their homes and to prevent removal.
- Risk of harm to children.

The Center can help States identify and implement program improvement strategies at intake, investigation, assessment, case disposition, and case planning. Staff can also assist with designing safety, risk, and family assessments and family reunification protocols for improved decision-making and outcome achievement.

Training and Technical Assistance

The Center provides consultation and technical assistance focused on those particular systemic factors that influence outcome achievement. The Center collaborates with other technical assistance providers to promote an integrated, coordinated, and efficient consultation and technical assistance network.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 2494 South Sedalia Circle
Aurora, CO 80013

Phone: (518) 767-0182 or (303) 369-8008

Fax: (303) 369-8009

E-Mail: nrccm@gocwi.org

Web site: www.gocwi.org/nrccm

Contact: Barry Salovitz, Director
Reed Holder, TA Coordinator

National Resource Center for Foster Care and Permanency Planning

WHO WE ARE

The National Resource Center for Foster Care and Permanency Planning focuses on increasing the capacity and resources of State, Tribal, and other publicly supported child welfare agencies to achieve permanency for youth and children in out-of-home care. In particular, the Center helps States and Tribes respond to policy and systemic changes in child welfare brought about by implementation of the Federal Adoption and Safe Families Act, the Safe and Stable Families Act, the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Act, the Multi-Ethnic Placement Act, and the Indian Child Welfare Act. These changes encompass such issues as:

- Concurrent permanency planning.
- Recruitment and retention of resource families.
- Post-permanency services.
- Respite care.
- Maintaining family connections.
- Sibling issues.
- Appropriate child assessments.
- Engaging fathers.
- Diligent search for paternal resources.
- Placement stability.
- Family group conferencing.
- Kinship care as a permanency option.
- Youth permanency.
- Health and mental health care issues for children in foster care.

HOW WE CAN HELP

The Center is specifically focused on assisting States in response to the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) process by providing technical assistance, training, and information services in the area of permanency. Staff can help by:

Addressing the Continuum of Excellence in Child Welfare Practice

The Center works to help States and jurisdictions look critically at their systems and make systemic changes that will achieve better outcomes for children, youth, and families. To do this, the Center supports States in a mix of family centered and strengths/needs based approaches, community-based service delivery, cultural competency and respect for all families, open and inclusive practice, nonadversarial approaches to problem-solving and decision-making, and a major focus on concurrent rather than sequential consideration of all permanency options. The Center has posted a concurrent planning curriculum on its Web site in English and Spanish.

Promoting Stakeholder Involvement

The Center has experience bringing administrators, supervisors, front-line workers, and community stakeholders together with integrity and authority, guiding them through the process of conducting a needs and resources assessment, developing and implementing a plan, and evaluating its outcomes. In addition, Center staff have experience working with the court system to ensure that court reports and documents reflect true concurrent planning.

Building Capacity

When working with a State, the Center seeks to develop a full partnership between the Center, the State's training system, and the State's other collaborators, including other National Resource Centers. Center staff work toward strengthening the State's current training system. Most Center training sessions are "train the trainer" sessions to teach those in the State to teach their own colleagues, using Center resources, curricula, and tools.

Evaluating Outcomes

The Center can help States build a feedback loop mechanism into reform design to refine their efforts, deal with unintended consequences, and promote continuous quality improvement at every point in the process. Specifically, Center staff can help States evaluate their concurrent planning policies for their Program Improvement Plans (PIPs). Staff can help States develop ways to continuously monitor and make outcomes measurable, and implement the PIP (from rewriting legislation to retraining staff).

Providing Intensive Follow-up

Even intensive training may not result in systemic reform without regular follow-up—finding out what's working and addressing any challenges. A written report to the State, Tribe, or territory, as well as frequent telephone contact, is standard procedure.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: Hunter College School of Social Work
129 East 79th Street
8th Floor
New York, NY 10021

Phone: (212) 452-7043

Fax: (212) 452-7051

E-Mail: mrengmal@aol.com

Web site: www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcpp

Contact: Gerald P. Mallon, Executive Director

National Resource Center for Information Technology in Child Welfare

WHO WE ARE

The National Resource Center for Information Technology in Child Welfare helps State, local, and Tribal child welfare agencies and family and juvenile courts use automated information systems to improve outcomes in the child welfare system. The Center provides technical assistance in the collection of data (as required by Federal law) for the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), provides assistance regarding other Federal and State-level reports, and disseminates information on best practices related to Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information Systems. The Center also helps its clients use data to improve services to children, youth, and families; evaluate results; and make informed decisions about policies, programs, and practices.

HOW WE CAN HELP

The Center addresses a broad range of program and technical issues, including Tribal and court child welfare issues, in assisting States with their Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) process. Assistance may include:

Preparing Data

Center staff can help prepare the State Data Profile or, if applicable, help identify alternative data sources.

Understanding and Using State Data Profiles

The Center has prepared a *Toolkit for Understanding the State Data Profiles*. The toolkit is available free of charge as a CD-ROM, or it can be downloaded from www.nrcitcw.org.

Center staff also are available to review the draft and completed State Data Profiles to ensure that the profiles provide the most meaningful contribution possible to the State in the CFSR.

Addressing the Seven Outcome Measures

Center staff can help with addressing outcome measures in the Statewide Assessment in terms of the State's results, specific national standards, and data that can be used to evaluate the State's performance. This typically involves discussion of available data sources, data quality, and involvement of stakeholders in providing and interpreting data.

Evaluating Systemic Factors

The Center can address available data and how it can be used to evaluate the State's performance in the case review system and other systemic factors in the CFSR. Center staff have particular expertise in the first systemic factor—Statewide Information System Capacity.

Preparing for the Onsite Review

Center staff can help States address issues in data, research, sampling, or information systems regarding location and sample selection for the Onsite Review.

Measuring Progress

Center staff can help plan enhancements to statewide information systems to document changes in specific outcome measures outlined in Program Improvement Plans.

Training

The Center provides training on data use and data management at all levels.

Data Mapping

The Center can provide assistance with data mapping, focused on AFCARS and the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System, to ensure accurate and consistent reporting definitions.

Coordinating Peer Consultation

The Center can coordinate consultation among States with similar issues.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 50 F Street, NW
6th Floor
Washington, DC 20001-2085

Phone: (877) 672-4829 (toll free)

Fax: (202) 737-3687

E-Mail: nrcitcw@cwla.org

Web site: www.nrcitcw.org

Contact: Don Perry, Director
(480) 664-9209
Tom Hay, Project Manager
(202) 662-4285

National Resource Center for Special Needs Adoption

WHO WE ARE

The National Resource Center for Special Needs Adoption works with States, Tribes, and agencies to increase States' capacity in special needs adoption. We work to improve the effectiveness and quality of adoption and post-adoption services provided to children and their families.

HOW WE CAN HELP

The Center is available to partner with States, Tribes, and other National Resource Centers to work with staff and stakeholders in all phases of their Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) process. We help to identify strengths, needs, and actions that can be taken to improve outcomes for children. Assistance includes:

Analyzing Adoption and Permanency Options

The Center will review CFSR Statewide Assessments, Final Reports, and Program Improvement Plans (PIPs). The Center will also provide feedback on how it might provide technical assistance, training, tools, and materials to help States and Tribes plan and implement changes in practice, programs, policies, and systems to ensure timely adoption or other permanent family connections for children and youth.

Exploring Systemic Factors

The Center will assist States and Tribes in exploring how all systemic factors effect timely permanency, especially adoption.

Increasing Cultural Competence

Children of color are disproportionately represented in the child welfare system and among those waiting to be adopted. Center staff can help States reach out to communities of color to increase adoptions of children from those communities. Using a community-based approach, the Center will help States design programs to build relationships in communities to better address the needs of children and families of color.

The Center also has experience helping States work to fully implement the Multi-Ethnic Placement Act and Interethnic Placement Act and achieve adoptions in the context of Tribal traditions and the Indian Child Welfare Act.

Promoting Stakeholder Involvement

The Center can help States and Tribes work more effectively with other teams and systems of service (child protective services, intake, foster care, mental health, schools, etc.) to achieve timely adoptions.

Training and Technical Assistance

The Center can provide training and technical assistance at any point in the CFSR process to enhance practice, knowledge, skills, and abilities and improve adoption program planning. Some areas of technical assistance include:
Program planning to achieve timely adoption outcomes.
Utilization of information systems for adoption program planning.

- Developing and sustaining adoption support and preservation services including adoption assistance programs.
- Collaborative planning among child welfare teams to achieve timely adoptions.
- Working with other systems of service to facilitate adoption and adoption support and preservation.
- Preparing, assessing, and retaining foster, kin, and adoptive families.
- Preparing and assessing children and youth for adoption, including those with developmental disabilities.
- Making adoption an option for older children and youth.
- Finding and engaging fathers and their families in adoption planning.

Curricula are available on assessment and preparation of children and families for adoption, cultural competency in child welfare, and adoption support and preservation services.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 16250 Northland Drive
Suite 120
Southfield, MI 48075
Phone: (248) 443-0306
Fax: (248) 443-7099
E-Mail: nrc@nrcadoption.org
Web site: www.nrcadoption.org
Contact: Natalie Lyons, Director

National Resource Center for Youth Development

WHO WE ARE

The National Resource Center for Youth Development (NRCYD) increases the capacity and resources of States and Tribes to help youth in care establish permanent connections and achieve successful transitions to adulthood. The Center can help States incorporate youth into all areas of programs and services, implement services that address legislative requirements, and prepare for Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) and Program Improvement Plan (PIP) development and implementation. The Center bases its technical assistance and training around four core principles: youth development, collaboration, cultural competence, and permanent connections.

HOW WE CAN HELP

Center staff can provide States with the following assistance in their CFSRs:

Promoting Stakeholder Involvement

NRCYD has worked successfully with both States and Tribes to bring stakeholders together in an environment that promotes constructive dialogue. NRCYD can:

- Facilitate diverse groups for strategic planning, collaboration, and consensus building.
- Work with States to draw youth into all three stages of the CFSR in order to benefit from their unique contributions and perspectives.
- Work with States to engage Tribes as stakeholders.
- Facilitate planning sessions during development, implementation, and evaluation of the PIP.
- Evaluate Statewide Assessments, final CFSR reports, and PIPs with a dual focus on improving services for youth and highlighting opportunities to engage youth in planning and implementation.
- Work with States and Tribes to recognize barriers and identify solutions for successful inclusion of youth and families in case planning and services.

Technical Assistance and Training

The Center facilitates systemic change by providing technical assistance (TA) prior to and concurrent with training activities. TA sessions include the administrative staff ultimately responsible for managing the necessary change.

Technical assistance activities may include:

- Work groups and committees
- Strategic planning sessions (initial and ongoing)
- Action planning sessions

The NRCYD offers a variety of trainings that focus on both organizational and skill development. The Center can modify training to meet an organization's needs in any of the following areas:

- Positive Youth Development
- Youth/Adult Partnership Building
- Permanency Planning
- Cultural Diversity
- Collaboration
- Strength-Based Assessment and Case Planning
- Ethnographic Interviewing
- Conflict Resolution
- Family Group Decision Making
- Youth Leadership Development
- Life Skills Assessment and Transition Planning
- Life Skills Instruction Preparation
- Permanency Planning for Adolescents
- Permanency and Concurrent Planning
- Working with Native American Youth
- Preparing Youth for Transition
- Foster and Adoptive Parent Training
- Managing Aggressive Behavior
- Residential Child Care Programming
- Working with Runaway and Homeless Youth

Information Services

NRCYD regularly gathers, analyzes, and disseminates information on services and practices relevant to youth. NRCYD communicates with State Independent Living Coordinators and other professionals to stay current with trends and policies. Resources include:

- A Web site providing the most current information on Federal, State, and Tribal policies and practices affecting youth and their families.
- Web-based, State-specific fact sheets highlighting CFSR, PIP, and Chafee activities.
- Newsletters and publications containing best practices and current trends in youth work, published with collaboration from nationally recognized leaders in the field of child welfare.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 4502 East 41st Street
Building 4W
Tulsa, OK 74135

Phone: (918) 660-3700

Fax: (918) 660-3737

E-Mail: pcorreia@ou.edu

Web site: www.nrcys.ou.edu/nrcyd.htm

Contact: Peter R. Correia III, Director

The Collaboration to AdoptUSKids

WHO WE ARE

The Children's Bureau's **AdoptUSKids** initiative is designed to find and support foster and adoptive families for waiting children by providing new and enhanced recruitment tools and training and technical assistance (T/TA) to States and Tribes.

HOW WE CAN HELP

AdoptUSKids provides T/TA to States and Tribes in connection with the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) on issues that pertain to the development and implementation of quality recruitment and retention services for foster and adoptive families.

AdoptUSKids works in collaboration with the Administration for Children and Families Federal Regional Offices and the Children's Bureau to provide the following assistance:

Supporting the CFSR Process

Providing individualized assessments of recruitment and retention needs.

- Exploring and disseminating information about established, effective recruitment activities and initiatives.
- Offering access to a database of national experts for consultation and training on recruitment and retention issues.
- Working strategically with child welfare agencies and Tribes to tailor T/TA services in the area of recruitment and retention.
- Producing definitive booklets for caseworkers and prospective families on best practices in achieving interjurisdictional placements.

Providing Training to Support Agencies

Current areas of specific training expertise include:

- Recruiting families (general, targeted and child specific).
- Placing children across interjurisdictional boundaries.
- Using the national Web listing for waiting children.
- Writing child profiles.
- Developing and sustaining community-based partnerships.
- Benchmarking to develop and implement effective, outcome-based recruitment plans.

Maintaining a Web Site and Photolisting

The partnership also maintains the **AdoptUSKids** Web site (www.adoptuskids.org). The Web site is the first Federal online photolisting.

Additional Components of AdoptUSKids

- Supporting critical research on barriers to adoption.
- Identifying family factors that support long-term success in special needs adoption.
- Establishing joint trainings and meetings with adoption and foster care managers.
- Developing and supporting a network of adoptive parent organizations.
- Implementing a national campaign to recruit new adoptive and foster families for waiting children.
- Implementing Recruitment Response Teams to assist States in responding to national, State, and local recruitment campaigns.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 8015 Corporate Drive
Suite C
Baltimore, MD 21236

Phone: (888) 200-4005 or (410) 933-5700

Fax: (410) 933-5716

E-Mail: info@adoptuskids.org

Web site: www.adoptuskids.org

Contact: Barbara Holtan, Project Director
Melody Roe, T/TA Coordinator

National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare

WHO WE ARE

The National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare (NCSACW) is a service of the Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment and the Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau's Office on Child Abuse and Neglect.

HOW WE CAN HELP

NCSACW works to develop knowledge and provide technical assistance (TA) to Federal, State and local agencies and Tribes to improve outcomes for families with substance use disorders in the child welfare and family court systems.

Technical Assistance

NCSACW helps develop cross-system partnerships and practice changes to address the issues of substance use disorders among families in the child welfare system. Areas of TA include:

- Connecting individuals with materials and other resources, including publications, journal articles, research, and statistics.
- Presenting at conferences that include representatives of the three fields involved in the project.
- Facilitating clinical and policy workgroups of substance abuse and child welfare staff and judicial officers.
- Assisting in the development of interagency protocols and strategic plans.
- Assisting States in preparing for their Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) and developing their Program Improvement Plans (PIPs).
- Answering questions and making referrals to other experts in the field.
- In-depth TA is provided to a limited number of sites selected through a solicitation process.

Information Gathering and Dissemination

NCSACW staff maintain an extensive library of resources on the intersection of alcohol and other drug, child welfare/Tribal child welfare, and family court systems.

Materials Development

NCSACW staff develop and disseminate issue briefs, fact sheets, newsletters, and monographs. Examples of materials include:

- Compendium of training materials and curricula.
- Compilation of State and local policy instruments.
- The basics of alcohol and drug services for child welfare practice.
- Confidentiality and communication protocol guidelines.
- Guidance on screening, assessment, and engagement and retention strategies for working with families based on the severity of the substance use disorder.

Web-Based Tutorials

NCSACW will develop four online tutorials. Audiences will include:

- Child welfare workers
- Substance abuse counselors
- Court and judicial officers
- State legislators

Conferences and Meetings

NCSACW will conduct two to three special topic meetings per year and a national conference every other year. The first National Conference on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare will be held in Baltimore on July 14 and 15, 2004.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 4940 Irvine Boulevard
Suite 202
Irvine, CA 92620

Phone: (714) 505-3525

Fax: (714) 505-3626

E-Mail: ncsacw@samhsa.gov

Web site: www.ncsacw.samhsa.gov

Contact: Nancy Young, Director

National Abandoned Infants Assistance Resource Center

WHO WE ARE

The National Abandoned Infants Assistance Resource Center's mission is to enhance the quality of social and health services delivered to families and their children who are abandoned or at risk of abandonment due to the presence of drugs or HIV in the family.

HOW WE CAN HELP

The Resource Center provides training and information to professionals on a wide range of issues, particularly as they relate to the safety, well-being, and permanence of children.

Training

The Center sponsors an annual telephone seminar series on child welfare issues. These are structured, interactive phone conferences with guest presenters. Recent seminars include:

- Working with Women Survivors of Trauma
- Issues for Relative Care Providers
- Mental Health Needs of HIV-Infected Children and Adolescents
- Treatment and Program Development for Women with Multiple Disorders

Conferences

The Resource Center hosts annual national conferences. Recent topics include:

- Spirituality: A Powerful Force in Women's Recovery (2003)
- Raising Kin: The Psychosocial Well-being of Substance-affected Children in Relative Care (2004)

Online Database of Trainers

The Center provides an online database of trainers who specialize in topics such as:

- Child abuse and neglect
- Substance abuse and treatment
- Women and addiction
- HIV-affected families and children
- Detailed information is available for each trainer (e.g., bios, vitae, contact information, and areas of expertise).

Online Database of Conferences

The Center provides an online database of national child welfare conferences.

Materials Development

The Resource Center disseminates a biannual theme-based newsletter, fact sheets, videos, and directories. Examples include:

Newsletter – *The Source*:

- Case Management for Substance Abusing Parents and Their Children
- Building Upon the Unique Strengths of Peer Workers

Fact Sheets:

- Women and Children with HIV/AIDS
- Recreational Programs for HIV-affected Children and Families
- Boarder Babies, Abandoned Infants, and Discarded Infants

Research and Resource Development

The Center examines emerging issues and explores practice and policy implications by conducting research and consulting with technical expert groups. Results are released in the form of monographs. Topics include:

- From the Child's Perspective: A Qualitative Analysis of Kinship Care
- Establishing Permanent Futures for Children: Recommendations for Improving Future Care and Custody Planning
- AIA Best Practices: Lessons Learned from a Decade of Service to Children and Families Affected by HIV and Substance Abuse
- Expediting Permanency for Abandoned Infants
- Partners' Influence on Women's Addiction and Recovery

Individualized Information Searches

The Center provides links to literature, statistics, and relevant referrals on a broad variety of topics related to its mission.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: University of California, Berkeley
Family Welfare Research Group
1950 Addison Street
Suite 104 # 7402
Berkeley, CA 94720-7402

Phone: (510) 643-8390

Fax: (510) 643-7019

E-Mail: aia@uclink.berkeley.edu

Web site: <http://aia.berkeley.edu>

Contact: Jeanne Pietrzak, Director
May Espeña, Training Coordinator

National Resource Center for Community-Based Family Resource and Support Programs (FRIENDS)

WHO WE ARE

The National Resource Center for Community-Based Family Resource and Support Programs (FRIENDS) is a service of the Children's Bureau, Office on Child Abuse and Neglect. FRIENDS provides technical assistance to Federal grantee agencies implementing the Community-Based Grants for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, under the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003.

The purpose of FRIENDS' work is to build the capacity of States and communities to prevent child abuse and neglect and strengthen families.

HOW WE CAN HELP

FRIENDS' current areas of expertise that may be of use to States in the course of their Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) process include:

- Enhancing a State's array of services by promoting interagency collaboration and supporting the establishment of family support programs and networks.
- Promoting program best practices including inclusion of fathers, strengthening families and family relationships, working with diverse populations, promoting parent involvement and leadership, respite care, and other community-based and strengths-based practices.
- Promoting a continuum of participatory evaluation strategies including self-assessment, peer review, and outcome accountability.
- Addressing issues related to prevention systems.
- Assisting with message development.

Onsite and Telephone Technical Assistance

As they strive to improve child welfare systems, States are using family support strategies to improve family functioning and keep families from entering the child welfare system in the first place. FRIENDS offers knowledge and expertise in the implementation of family support strategies in a variety of settings and for many purposes. FRIENDS staff can provide State lead agencies with assistance in the following areas as they implement their Program Improvement Plans:

- Child and family well-being and family support.
- Enhancing family capacity.

- Creating models of shared leadership.
- Vision, mission, and strategic planning of long-term systemic reform with particular emphasis on prevention strategies.
- Organizational culture change.
- Overview of the CFSR process.
- Community assessment.
- Consensus building.
- Engaging families in case planning.
- Family self-advocacy skills.
- Asset-based approaches.
- Maximizing funding.
- Building respectful relationships with colleagues and families.

Promoting Stakeholder Involvement and Investment in the Public Child Welfare System

Community and consumer consultation is necessary to assess the needs, capacities, gaps, and service development approaches needed within diverse communities. FRIENDS has developed successful strategies and tools to work with parents and can assist States in identifying successful practices for community consultation. From the CFSR Statewide Assessment, to the Onsite Review and the ensuing Program Improvement Plan, FRIENDS can assist States in utilizing their CBFRS statewide child abuse prevention networks, comprised of service providers, parents, advocacy groups, and consumers of services, to carry out ongoing consultation with stakeholders of the child welfare system at all stages of the CFSR process.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 20 North Wacker Drive
Suite 1100
Chicago, IL 60606

Phone: (312) 338-0900

Fax: (312) 338-1522

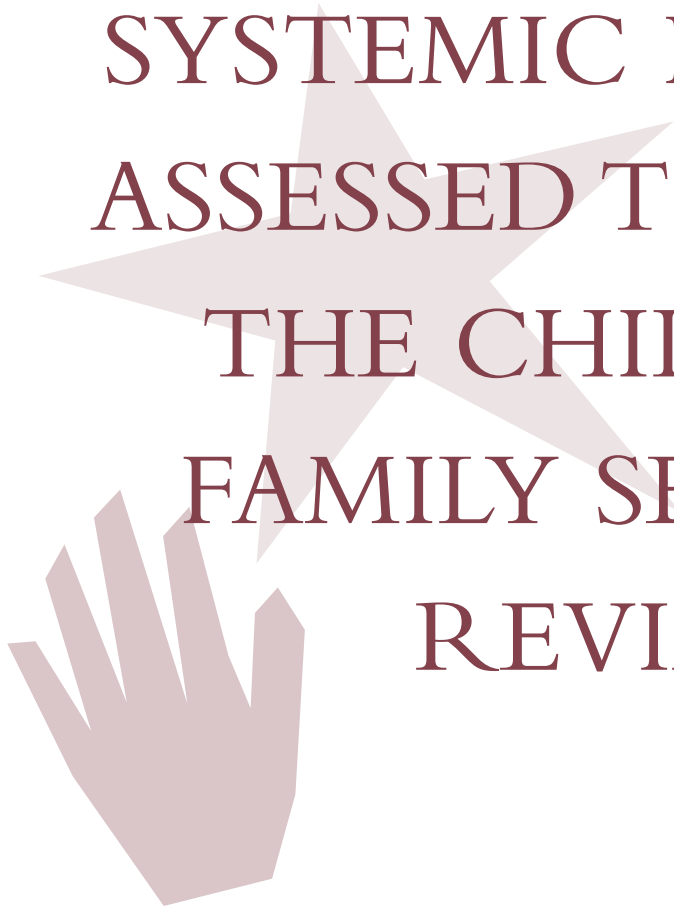
E-Mail: svelazquez@familysupportamerica.org

Web site: www.friendsnrc.org

Contact: Sonia Velazquez, Project Director,
(312) 338-0900 Extension 119

Appendix G

OUTCOMES AND
SYSTEMIC FACTORS
ASSESSED THROUGH
THE CHILD AND
FAMILY SERVICES
REVIEW



OUTCOMES AND SYSTEMIC FACTORS ASSESSED THROUGH THE CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW

Child and Family Outcomes

Safety Outcome 1: Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.

Safety Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.

Permanency Outcome 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.

Permanency Outcome 2: The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.

Child and Family Well-being Outcome 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.

Child and Family Well-being Outcome 2: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.

Child and Family Well-being Outcome 3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

Systemic Factors

Statewide Information System

Case Review System

Quality Assurance System

Training (for child welfare agency staff and foster and adoptive parents)

Service Array

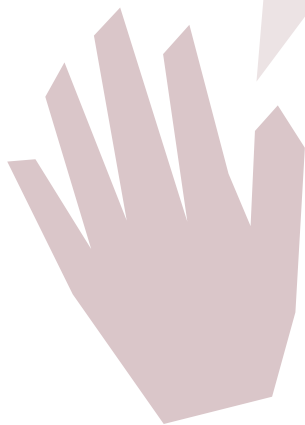
Agency Responsiveness to the Community

Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment, and Retention

Appendix H

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR THE CHILD AND
FAMILY SERVICES REVIEWS



<h1>ACF</h1> <p>Administration for Children and Families</p>	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES Administration on Children, Youth and Families	
	1. Log No: ACYF-CB-IM-01-07	2. Issuance Date: August 16, 2001
	3. Originating Office: Children's Bureau	
	4. Key Words: National Standards, Program Improvement Plans, Child and Family Services (CFS) Reviews	

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

TO: State and Territorial Agencies Administering or Supervising the Administration of Titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act, ACF Regional Administrators and Hub Directors

SUBJECT: Updated National Standards for the Child and Family Service Reviews and Guidance on Program Improvement Plans

LEGAL AND RELATED REFERENCES: Titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act, the Social Security Act Amendments of 1994 (Public Law 103-432), 45 CFR 1355.34(a) and (b), 45 CFR 1355.35(a) and (e), 45 CFR 1355.36(d), ACYF-CB-IM-00-11, and ACYF-CB-IM-01-01

PURPOSE: The purposes of this information memorandum (IM) are: (1) to provide updated information on the national standards that are used to determine, in part, whether or not States are operating in substantial conformity with State plan requirements, and; (2) to provide guidance for use by States and Regional Offices in negotiating the amount of improvement necessary toward meeting the national standards through an approved program improvement plan (PIP).

INFORMATION:

Background

In accordance with 45 CFR 1355.34(a) and (b), a State must, in part, meet national standards for certain statewide data indicators and achieve certain outcomes for children and families to be determined in substantial conformity in a child and family services review. In ACYF-CB-IM-

00-11¹ we transmitted national standards for the six statewide data indicators used, in part, to determine if States are operating in substantial conformity with titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act (the Act). We have updated the national standards because of corrected State data that form the basis for the standards and a number of improved procedural measures that we describe below.

In addition, if a State is determined not to be in substantial conformity because the State's data did not meet the national standards, the State is required to develop a PIP (45 CFR 1355.35(a)) that sets forth the amount of progress the State will make toward meeting the national standards for the statewide data indicator(s). In addition to updating the national standards, we are providing guidance for use by States and Regional Offices in determining the amount of improvement that States must make toward meeting the standards through the implementation of a PIP. We note that a PIP is required of States determined not to be in substantial conformity on any of the outcomes and systemic factors examined as a part of the child and family services reviews. A State may be determined not to be in substantial conformity for reasons other than failure to meet the national standards, such as the failure of a sufficient number of cases reviewed onsite to be rated as substantially achieved. This Information Memorandum addresses the extent of improvement that will be required of States through a PIP due to determinations that States are not operating in substantial conformity based in whole or in part on the failure of the State to meet the national standards, and does not address States' failure to achieve substantial conformity due to other reasons.

Updated National Standards

The updated national standards reflect changes in four areas:

- The use of corrected State data submitted to AFCARS and NCANDS for the time periods used to calculate the standards;
- The application of new rules that disregard skewed data points in calculating the national standards;
- The inclusion of a sampling error associated with each national standard; and
- The rounding of the national standards to one decimal point.

We discuss each of these changes below.

Corrected State data. In preparing for the CFS reviews, a number of States examined their data submissions to AFCARS and NCANDS in previous years and re-submitted their data for purposes of the CFS reviews. We encouraged States to analyze their data critically so that the reviews would reflect the most accurate picture available of outcomes for children and families. Therefore, we have incorporated the corrected data into the national standards.

¹ ACYF-CB-IM-00-11 was later amended by ACYF-CB-IM-01-01 due to a typographical error in describing our methodology for calculating the national standard for the statewide data indicator, "foster care re-entries." We are rescinding both ACYF-CB-IM-00-11 and ACYF-CB-IM-01-01 due to the revisions in the national standards and are placing a background paper on the Children's Bureau website that includes relevant information from the two Information Memoranda noted above.

New rules for disregarding extreme data points. When recalculating the national standards, we applied new rules that disregarded extreme data points in individual States' data that were used to calculate the national standards. We excluded State data indicators that were 0% and 100% from the data points used to determine the standards, believing that such extreme values were unlikely to be accurate and would skew the standards in one direction or another.

Inclusion of sampling error in the standards. In calculating the new national standards, we included the sampling error associated with each data indicator as part of the actual standard. Even with the use of more accurate data to calculate the national standards, we realize that there is a certain range within which a State's data can be considered to meet the standard statistically. We chose to incorporate the sampling error into the standards because we do not believe it is appropriate to subject a State to a potential penalty if the State is within a statistically acceptable range of the national standard.

Rounding of the national standards. When we updated the national standards to incorporate sampling errors, we believed that the full benefits to the States of including the sampling error in the standard would be best applied by rounding the standards using decimal points. We chose to round the standards to only one decimal point because we do not believe it is appropriate to attempt to measure State performance to the degree of precision implied by two decimal places. The exception to this rounding procedure is the incidence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care and has been rounded to two decimal points due to the small number of such incidents reported by States.

Determining a State's Achievement of the National Standard

In determining whether or not a State meets the national standard for a particular statewide data indicator, we will compare the State's data used in its CFS review to the updated national standards below. We will round the State's data for individual indicators using the same rationale described above for rounding the national standards, i.e., rounding to one decimal point for each of the six indicators except the incidence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care, which will be rounded to two decimal points. As shown in the chart below, each of the updated national standards works to the advantage of the States in meeting the standards. For States that have already undergone CFS reviews in FY 2001, we will apply the updated national standards retroactively to decisions regarding substantial conformity.

Our methodology for calculating the updated national standards and for determining whether a State's data meet the national standards are indicated in the chart below:

Data Indicator	75th Percentile	Sampling Error	Updated National Standard*	Old National Standard (For comparison only)	Method of Determining if State Meets National Standard
Recurrence of maltreatment	5.15%	0.90%	6.1%	5%	A State will be determined to meet the national standard if its data on this indicator are equal to, or less than, the updated national standard.

Data Indicator	75 th Percentile	Sampling Error	Updated National Standard*	Old National Standard (For comparison only)	Method of Determining if State Meets National Standard
Incidence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care	0.4247%	0.1439%	0.57%	0.4%	A State will be determined to meet the national standard if its data on this indicator are equal to, or less than, the updated national standard .
Foster care re-entries	7.23%	1.35%	8.6%	6%	A State will be determined to meet the national standard if its data on this indicator are equal to, or less than, the updated national standard.
Stability of foster care placements	88.58%	1.90%	86.7%	89%	A State will be determined to meet the national standard if its data on this indicator are equal to, or greater than, the updated national standard.
Length of time to achieve reunification	78.62%	2.42%	76.2%	78%	A State will be determined to meet the national standard if its data on this indicator are equal to, or greater than, the updated national standard.
Length of time to achieve adoption	34.89%	2.90%	32.0%	36%	A State will be determined to meet the national standard if its data on this indicator are equal to, or greater than, the updated national standard.

*Rounded as noted above

Determining a State's Improvement with regard to the National Standards

In situations where a State does not meet a national standard, the regulations require that the PIP, which is jointly developed by the Regional Office and the State, set forth the amount of progress the statewide data will make toward meeting the national standards. (45 CFR 1355.35(a)(1)(i),(iv)). The PIP must also specify a period in which ACF can measure a State's progress in achieving the negotiated improvement (45 CFR 1355.5(e)(1)). We will consider the sampling error for each indicator as a minimum percentage of improvement for a State to make over the course of a PIP. For example, if a State's recurrence of child maltreatment is 10% at the time of the review, at a minimum we would expect the State to improve by at least .90% on this indicator as part of an approved PIP, thus reducing the incidence of recurrent maltreatment to 9.1%, in order to consider that improvement has been made. We believe that using the sampling error as a framework is appropriate because where a State's improvement exceeds the sampling error, we can conclude that a statistically significant improvement has been made.²

² In situations where the amount of a State's improvement on an indicator exceeds the sampling error, we can determine that improvement has occurred in a statistical sense, since exceeding the sampling error will indicate a statistically significant difference (improvement) between the State's performance on the period under review and the subsequent evaluation period specified in the PIP.

In addition to the sampling error, the Regional Office may also consider other programmatic factors in negotiating the amount of improvement States are required to make in a PIP. Such programmatic factors may include the extent to which a State's data fall below or exceed the national standard, the factors affecting the State's lack of substantial conformity, the difficulty and time involved in program improvement efforts in achieving overall improvement, whether the area needing improvement is an egregious area affecting child safety, and the amount of performance improvement the State may have already achieved subsequent to generating the original data profiles used in the reviews.

Evaluating a State's Improvement in Meeting the National Standards

To determine the amount of progress a State has made toward meeting the national standard, we will compute the difference between the State's data as indicated in the original data profile and the subsequent period specified in the PIP. For example, if a State fails to meet a national standard based on data from Federal fiscal year 1999, and the PIP includes the negotiated provision that we use data from Federal fiscal year 2003 to gauge the State's progress toward meeting the national standard, we will compute the difference between the data from those two time periods.

If the difference indicates a level of improvement that meets or exceeds the approved amount of improvement specified in the PIP, we will determine that the State has successfully completed that portion of the PIP and the associated penalties will be rescinded (section 1355.36(d)). If the State does not meet or exceed the approved amount of improvement specified in the PIP, the associated penalties will be withheld as specified in 45 CFR 1355.36. States that do not achieve the updated national standard in subsequent reviews will again be determined out of substantial conformity and be required to establish new benchmarks of improvement to be made toward attainment of the national standard, using the same procedures described in this Information Memorandum³ and subject to the penalty provisions in 45 CFR 1355.36.

INQUIRIES TO: ACF Regional Offices

James A. Harrell
Acting Commissioner
Administration on Children, Youth and Families

³ More information on developing program improvement plans can be found in chapter 7 of the CFS review procedures manual.

Appendix I

SCHEDULE OF STATE CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICE REVIEWS



SCHEDULE OF STATE CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICE REVIEWS

Region	State	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004
I	New Hampshire			X	
	Rhode Island				X
	Maine			X	
	Connecticut		X		
	Massachusetts	X			
	Vermont	X			
II	New Jersey				X
	Puerto Rico			X	
	New York	X			
III	Delaware	X			
	District of Columbia				
	Maryland				X
	Pennsylvania		X		
	West Virginia		X		
	Virginia			X	
IV	Alabama		X		
	Tennessee		X		
	Mississippi				X
	South Carolina			X	
	Kentucky			X	
	Florida	X			
	Georgia	X			
	North Carolina	X			
V	Illinois			X	
	Michigan		X		
	Ohio		X		
	Wisconsin			X	
	Indiana	X			
	Minnesota	X			
VI	Louisiana			X	
	Oklahoma		X		
	Texas		X		
	New Mexico	X			
	Arkansas	X			
VII	Iowa			X	
	Missouri				X
	Nebraska		X		
	Kansas	X			
VIII	Colorado		X		
	Utah			X	
	Wyoming		X		
	Montana		X		
	North Dakota	X			
	South Dakota	X			
IX	California		X		
	Nevada				X
	Hawaii			X	
	Arizona	X			
X	Washington				X
	Alaska		X		
	Idaho			X	
	Oregon	X			
Totals		17	15	13	7

Appendix J

CLARIFICATION NOTES



This appendix provides additional clarification of selected data items in this report. The following items are discussed: Key Context Statistics from the Census Bureau; Child Maltreatment Victims; Child Fatalities; Race/Ethnicity; Foster Care Counts, Median Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care; Children Waiting to be Adopted; Children Adopted; Recurrence of Maltreatment; Group Homes and Institutions; and Child Welfare and the Juvenile Justice Population.

Census Bureau Definitions

The data provided in Table A, Context Data, are from the U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. The data pertaining to children residing in poverty provides the percentage of children living in families whose income is at or below the Federal poverty level established for that year. The income established as the poverty level varies depending upon the size of the household. The designation of “metropolitan area” is based on definitions based on standards established in 2000. Each metropolitan statistical area must have at least one urbanized area of 50,000 or more inhabitants.

Child Maltreatment Victims

In the NCANDS, a victim is defined as a child who has been found by the child protective services agency to have been the subject of a substantiated or indicated report of maltreatment. If a child is the subject of more than one substantiated or indicated report, he or she may be counted more than once as a victim.

A “substantiated report” is one in which the allegation of maltreatment or risk of maltreatment was supported or founded according to State law or State policy. An “indicated report” is one in which there was reason to suspect maltreatment, but maltreatment was unable to be founded under State law or State policy.

Child Fatalities

The numbers of child fatalities reported by State child welfare agencies are based on information that is available to the State child protective services agency. These numbers are influenced by the specific State and local policies and protocols for investigating child deaths, including suspicious deaths, such as deaths due to drowning or car accidents, which could be either accidental or due to neglect.

Investigations of child deaths are conducted by local law enforcement agencies, coroner’s offices, fatality review boards, and courts. The State statistics on child fatalities due to maltreatment may undercount the actual number of such deaths if the results of these investigations are not provided to the State agency or if suspicious child deaths are not fully investigated.

Race/Ethnicity

Because the NCANDS Summary Data Component collects aggregate data, it has not always been possible to eliminate the duplicated counting of child victims as being of Hispanic ethnicity and of a certain race. Therefore, the total shown for the race/ethnicity of child victims in Context Data: Section B is greater than 100 percent for some States, indicating that Hispanic children are counted both by Hispanic ethnicity and by race.

Case-level data from the AFCARS are used in reporting the race and ethnicity of children in foster care and who are adopted. A child’s race/ethnicity is counted as Hispanic if his/her Hispanic Origin is indicated to be “Yes,” regardless of race, including those children whose race has been identified in AFCARS as “Unable to Determine” or for whom the race data are missing. A child is identified by his/her reported race, if “Hispanic Origin” has been coded as “No” or “Unable to Determine,” or the Hispanic Origin data are missing. A child’s race/ethnicity is identified as “Unknown,” in the following instances: (1) if a child’s race is indicated as “Unable to Determine” and Hispanic Origin is “No” or missing, (2) if a child’s race is missing and Hispanic Origin is “No” or “Unable to Determine,” or (3) if data on both race and Hispanic Origin are missing. In legacy child welfare information systems, data may not be collected for each child on both Hispanic ethnicity and race and therefore the number of children reported as being of Hispanic ethnicity may be an undercount.

This year’s report reflects changes in the year 2000 decennial Census race question. The Context A race/ethnicity table utilizing Census data includes two new categories: (1) two or more races, and (2) other. AFCARS and NCANDS also have added a “two or more races” category and as a result, tables throughout the report include information on the number of children of two or more races. NCANDS data on “two or more races” of child victims of maltreatment are presented beginning with the year 2000 since

comparable data for previous years are not available. In contrast, data contained in the race tables in Sections Context C, Context D, Context E, and Outcome 3.5 for “two or more races” may have been provided for 1998 and 1999 because of States’ resubmissions. However, data for 1998 and 1999 may not capture all children of “two or more races” and therefore may not be comparable to 2000 data pertaining to two or more races.

Foster Care Counts

In several States there are many more children in foster care on the last day of one fiscal year than on the first day of the next fiscal year. The difference may result from the State’s extraction process. AFCARS uses a computer-generated transaction date (Foster Care #57) for Date of Discharge (Foster Care #56) that occurs within the six-month report period. As a result, even if a child was discharged in Fiscal Year (FY) 1999, the State will report that child’s record with the discharge date in the first 2000 AFCARS report, because the transaction date indicates that the discharge date was not entered into the system until after the FY 1999 period ended.

Unless the State’s AFCARS extraction process uses transaction dates, a child discharged from foster care late in one six-month period may never be reported to AFCARS as discharged from care. When the State’s AFCARS extraction process uses the computer-generated transaction date of all records with a discharge date, then the State’s next AFCARS report will correctly report children discharged in earlier periods, even though these discharges were not entered into the system and reported before. It is important to note that there will always be a slight undercount of the number of children in care on the first day of the report year, because of the way the annual file is constructed from the six-month AFCARS submissions.

Median Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care

The median is the score of the middle case, when the scores for all cases are arranged in order. For example, if data on 125 children are ordered from the shortest length of stay to the longest length of stay, the length of stay of the 63rd child (the child in the middle of the distribution) is the median length of stay.

Children Waiting to be Adopted

The term “waiting children” is defined for analytical purposes as those children who have a case plan of adoption regardless of whether parents’ rights have been terminated, and those children under 16 years of age whose parents’ rights have been terminated, even if their case goal is “independent living” rather than adoption.

Children Adopted

Adoption is defined as the establishment of a legal relationship of parent and child between persons who are not so related by birth, with the same mutual rights and obligations that exist between children and their birth parents. The completion of the legal process marks the achievement of adoption. Because adoptions finalized in any fiscal year can be reported to AFCARS without penalties in any subsequent year, the data in this report may reflect some degree of undercount of the total number of children who were adopted during FYs 1998 and 1999.

The data submitted to AFCARS on adoption of children may include children who were adopted without the involvement of the State child welfare system. However, only children who have been designated to have had “state agency involvement” are reported as adopted children in the Context Data, Section E. Adoptions taking place with “state agency involvement” include adoptions of (1) children who were placed for adoption by the child welfare agency; (2) special needs children for whom non-recurring expenses were reimbursed and who were adopted in the State, whether or not they were in the public foster care system prior to the adoption; and (3) children for whom an adoption assistance payment or service is being provided based on arrangements made by or through the State agency.

For some States, there are inconsistencies between the number of adoptions reported in Context Data, Section E and the numbers reported for outcome measure 5.1 assessing time to adoption. Most of these inconsistencies are due to fewer children being reported as exiting care to adoption on the AFCARS Foster Care Database than are reported as having finalized adoptions on the AFCARS Adoption Database. One possible reason for this disparity is that adoption is not being used consistently as a “discharge reason” on State reports to the AFCARS Foster Care Database. Some States in their comment letters suggested that this might be due to staff concerns about confidentiality when a child is discharged to adoption, or to the State’s use of a “discharge code” that is not AFCARS

compliant when an adoptive placement is made and the child is discharged from foster care. Another possible reason for the discrepancy is that this outcome refers only to those children who have been in foster care and have been adopted, while the context data refer to all children who were classified as having been adopted with “State agency involvement.” However, an analysis conducted on these data indicated that private adoptions occurring with “state agency involvement,” account for only a small percentage of the discrepancy.

The numbers of adoptions reported in Context Data: Section E may differ from those associated with the Adoption Incentive Program because adoptions reported for that program are identified through a different AFCARS data element and must qualify in other ways to be counted toward the award of incentive funds.

Group Homes and Institutions

For measure 7.1, which assesses placements of young children in group homes or institutions, the category of “group home” is defined as a licensed or approved home providing 24-hour care for children in a small group setting that generally has 7 to 12 children. (Some States may include settings with fewer than seven children as group homes.) “Institution” is defined as a child care facility operated by a public or private agency and providing 24-hour care and/or treatment for children who require being separated from their own homes and a group living experience. These facilities may include child-care institutions, residential treatment facilities, maternity homes, long term hospital care, and juvenile justice facilities. In some instances, children may live in a group home in a campus setting, classified as an institution. The category of “other settings” includes pre-adoptive homes, relative foster family homes, non-relative foster family homes, supervised independent living, and trial home visits.

Several States indicated in their comments that they use short-term emergency shelter placements for young children when there is concern for their safety. Because these shelters meet the AFCARS definitions for group home or institution based on the number of children that can be cared for in the shelter, the States code their emergency shelter placements as either group homes or institutions in their AFCARS files.

Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Population

Some States include children who are in the State’s juvenile justice system in their child welfare foster care populations. Some of these children were already in foster care when they became involved with the juvenile justice system. Other children became involved with the juvenile justice system and then were placed in an eligible title IV–E reimbursable foster care setting. Both of these groups of children are considered children in foster care for whom the State has placement, care, or supervision responsibility, and therefore are reported on AFCARS. The proportion of juvenile justice system children in individual State foster care populations varies extensively.