

Child Welfare Outcomes 2007–2010: Report to Congress Executive Summary



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- ❖ State data pages with:
 - Contextual data
 - Performance on original outcome measures
 - Performance on the CFSR composite measures
 - A State comment (if provided)
- ❖ A discussion of data issues and key findings of the data analyses across States

The Child Welfare Outcomes Reports are created by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (the Department) to meet requirements of section 203(a) of the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (ASFA).¹ ASFA amended section 479A of the Social Security Act (the Act) to require an annual report that assesses State performance in operating child protection and child welfare programs under titles IV-B and IV-E of the Act. *Child Welfare Outcomes 1998* was the first report created in the Child Welfare Outcomes series of reports. The present report, *Child Welfare Outcomes 2007–2010*, is the eleventh report since the series' inception.

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



CONTEXTUAL FACTORS

The Child Welfare Outcomes Report presents data on child welfare-related contextual factors relevant to understanding and interpreting State performance on the outcome measures.² Below is a summary of fiscal year (FY) 2010 data for these contextual factors.³

Characteristics of child victims

- In 2010, 754,000 children were confirmed to be victims of maltreatment.⁴ The overall national child victim rate was 10.0 child victims per 1,000 children in the population.⁵ State child victim rates varied dramatically, ranging from 1.3 child victims per 1,000 children to 24.6 child victims per 1,000 children.⁶
- The national child victim rate decreased from 10.4 child victims per 1,000 children in the population in FY 2007 to 10.0 in FY 2010. This is a continuation of a long-term, downward trend in the child victimization rate that began in the early 1990s.⁷

Longer range AFCARS data show that, between FYs 2002 and 2010, the number of children in care on the last day of the FY decreased by 22 percent.

Foster care information overview

- Nationally, there were approximately 415,000 children in foster care on the last day of FY 2010. During that year, an estimated 250,000 children entered foster care, and 248,000 children exited foster care. Among the States, the foster care entry rate ranged from 1.4 children per 1,000 to 7.5 children per 1,000 in a State's population.⁸
- Between FY 2002 and 2010, the number of children in care on the last day of the FY decreased by 22 percent. While currently it is not possible to determine the cause of the decrease in the number of children in foster care using the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) database, several States have made deliberate

efforts to safely reduce the number of children in care through various programmatic and policy initiatives.⁹

- Nationally, 213,000 children exited foster care to a permanent home in 2010 (i.e., were discharged to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship). Of these 213,000 children, 145,000 were discharged to reunification; 52,000 were discharged to adoption; and 16,000 were discharged to legal guardianship. In addition, 27,000 children were emancipated from foster care in 2010. There were approximately 7,000 children who exited care for reasons other than permanency or emancipation, such as transfer to another agency or to another State.
- Approximately 107,000 children were waiting for adoption in 2010.¹⁰

STATE PERFORMANCE ON OUTCOME MEASURES

The Child Welfare Outcomes Report presents data and analyses on seven outcome categories. A synopsis of key findings for these outcome areas is provided below. The measures relevant to these outcomes are described in detail in appendix B of the full report. Most of the outcome measures also are listed in tables 1 and 2 of this executive summary. Note that individual measures that are part of the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) permanency composites are preceded by a "C" to distinguish them from the original outcome measures. The original outcome measures were developed prior to the first Child Welfare Outcomes Report (1998) in close consultation with State representatives and other professionals in the field. The composite measures, developed in 2005 and adopted in 2006, were based on the same outcome goals, but were created in response to requests that the Department measure more detailed aspects of the original outcomes to allow a better understanding of State performance.

All national medians for outcome measures referenced in this executive summary include only those States for which adequate data are available for FY 2007 through FY 2010. Tables of these medians can be found at the end of this executive summary.¹¹

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

- In 2010, State performance varied considerably with regard to the percentage of child victims experiencing a recurrence of child maltreatment within a 6-month period (measure 1.1) (range = 1.2 to 12.3 percent; median = 4.8 percent).
- States with higher victim rates tended to have higher maltreatment recurrence rates within a 6-month period (Pearson's $r = .64$).¹² In addition, consistent with previous Child Welfare Outcomes Reports, States with a relatively high percentage of children who were victims of neglect (as opposed to other forms of maltreatment) also had some tendency to have a relatively high percentage of maltreatment recurrence within a 6-month period (Pearson's $r = .47$).
- Between 2007 and 2010, 63 percent of States demonstrated improved performance with regard to the measure of recurrence of child maltreatment (measure 1.1). In addition, the median across States for this measure changed from 5.3 percent in 2007 to 4.6 percent in 2010. Given that a lower recurrence rate is desirable, this demonstrates an overall improvement in performance (a -13.2 percent change in the median State).¹³

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

- In 2010, State performance regarding the maltreatment of children while in foster

care (measure 2.1) ranged from 0.00 to 2.33 percent, with a median of 0.35 percent.

- Between 2007 and 2010, 60 percent of States demonstrated improved performance. However, the median performance for this measure improved only slightly, from 0.35 percent in 2007 to 0.34 percent in 2010.

Outcome 3: Increase permanency for children in foster care

- In 2010, States were fairly successful in achieving a permanent home for all children exiting foster care (measure 3.1, median = 86.8 percent). However, States were less successful in achieving permanent homes for children exiting foster care who had a diagnosed disability (measure 3.2, median = 77.0 percent), and even less successful in finding permanent homes for children exiting foster care who entered care when they were older than age 12 (measure 3.3, median = 67.3 percent).
- For children who had been in foster care for long periods of time (measure C3.1), defined at 24 months or longer, only 30.2 percent (median) of these children had permanent homes by the end of 2010. Between 2007 and 2010, 69 percent of States exhibited an improvement in performance, and the national median for this measure increased from 26.4 percent to 30.2 percent.
- States that were successful in achieving permanency for children at the time of exit from foster care (measure 3.1) also were successful in achieving permanency for children who are in foster care for long periods of time (measure C3.1). This is demonstrated by the fact that there is a strong positive correlation (Pearson's $r = .70$) between these two measures.

In many States, a large percentage of children who were emancipated from foster care in 2010 were in foster care for long periods of time before they were emancipated.

- In many States, a considerable percentage of children who were emancipated from foster care in 2010 were in foster care for long periods of time before they were emancipated (measures 3.4 and C3.3). In about one-half of the States, 25 percent or more of the children who were emancipated from foster care were age 12 or younger when they entered foster care (measure 3.4), and 44 percent or more of the children emancipated from foster care, or who turned age 18 while in care, were in care for 3 years or longer (measure C3.3). However, it is encouraging to note that between 2007 and 2010, 54 percent of States showed improved performance on measure 3.4, and 52 percent of States showed improvement on measure C3.3.

Many States with a relatively high percentage of children entering foster care who were age 12 or older at the time of entry also had a relatively high percentage of children reentering foster care (Pearson's $r = .70$).

While more States improved than declined on this measure between 2007 and 2010, overall national performance remains quite static.

- Many States with a relatively high percentage of children entering foster care who were age 13 or older at the time of entry also had a relatively high percentage of children reentering foster care (measure C1.4) (Pearson's $r = .70$). Conversely, many States with a relatively high percentage of children entering foster care at age 12 or younger also had a relatively low percentage of children reentering foster care (Pearson's $r = -.52$).

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

- The 2010 data suggest that, in many States, a majority of children discharged to reunification were reunified in a timely manner. Across States, the median percentage of reunifications occurring in less than 12 months was between 67 and 69 percent (measures 4.1 and C1.1).
- A longitudinal view of children from the time of entry into foster care (i.e., an entry cohort) until the time of discharge indicates that most States are not reunifying children in a timely manner. Measure C1.3 focuses on children entering care for the first time during the last 6 months of the prior year and follows them for 12 months to determine the percentage that reunified within this time period. In 2010, the median across States was only 42.9 percent, and the 75th percentile was 48.0 percent. Therefore, in at least 75 percent of the States, the majority of children who entered foster care *for the first time* in the last 6 months of 2009 were still in foster care 12 months later.

- Many States with a relatively high percentage of children reunified in less than 12 months (measure C1.1) also had a relatively high percentage of children reentering foster care in less than 12 months (measure C1.4) (Pearson's $r = .45$).

- Several States with relatively high foster care entry rates also had relatively high percentages of reunifications occurring in less than 12 months (measure C1.1) (Pearson's $r = .44$) and relatively low median lengths of stay (measure C1.2) (Pearson's $r = -.43$).

Outcome 5: Reduce time in foster care to adoption

- In 2010, it was unusual in most States for adoptions to occur in less than 12 months from the child's entry into foster care. The national median for the corresponding measure (5.1a) was only 3.9 percent. In addition, the percentage of adoptions occurring in less than 24 months from a child's entry into foster care was fairly low (measure C2.1, median = 33.1 percent).
- Fifty-two percent of the States experienced improved performance between 2007 and

2010 in the percentage of adoptions occurring in less than 12 months (5.1b), and the national median for this measure improved from 3.1 percent in 2007 to 3.9 percent in 2010 (a 25.8 percent change).

- Seventy-five percent of States showed improved performance in the percentage of children in foster care for 17 months or longer on the first day of the year who were adopted by the end of the year (measure C2.3). Consistent with this finding, the national median for this measure increased from 21.1 percent in 2007 to 24.9 percent in 2010 (an 18.0 percent change).
- Many States (50 percent) showed improvement in the percentage of children in foster care for 17 months or longer on the first day of the year who became legally free for adoption in the first 6 months of the year (measure C2.4). In addition, the national median for this measure improved from 11.1 percent in 2007 to 11.8 percent in 2010 (a 6.3 percent change).
- Seventy-four percent of States showed improved performance in the percentage of children who were legally free for adoption who were adopted within 12 months of becoming legally free (measure C2.5). In addition, the national median for this measure improved from 51.5 percent in 2007 to 60.0 percent in 2010 (a 16.5 percent change).

Seventy-five percent of States showed improved performance between 2007 and 2010 in the percentage of children in foster care for 17 months or longer on the first day of the year who were adopted by the end of the year.

for longer periods of time. The median across States declined from 85.1 percent for children in foster care for less than 12 months to 62.2 percent for children in foster care for 12 to 24 months, and then declined even further to 33.0 percent for children in foster care for 24 months or longer.

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

- In about one-half of the States, 4.5 percent or less of children entering foster care under the age of 12 were placed in group homes or institutions. However, in seven States, between 10 percent and 21 percent of young children were placed in group homes or institutions, indicating that this is still an important issue in several States.
- Between 2007 and 2010, 67 percent of States showed improved performance in the percentage of children entering foster care when they were age 12 or younger who were placed in a group home or institution (measure 7.1). The national median for this measure also declined from 5.7 percent in 2007 to 4.5 percent in 2010 (a -21.1 percent change).

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION

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

Outcome 6: Increase placement stability

- In this report, adequate placement stability is defined as limiting the number of placement settings for a child to no more than two for a single foster care episode. Although most States appeared to be reasonably successful in achieving this placement stability goal for children in foster care for less than 12 months, States tended to be far less successful in meeting this goal for children in foster care

provide insight into many of these issues, but they are presented here for the purpose of encouraging the field to further review and address the issues. These areas include the following:

- While national performance for recurrence of maltreatment improved between 2007 and 2010, there was only minimal improvement for maltreatment in foster care. For both of these safety measures, it is important to keep in mind that, while the percentages of maltreatment may be numerically small, these events have serious implications for the safety and well-being of children. States should continue to monitor this performance and work to build on their efforts to ensure that children remain safe.
- States experienced challenges finding permanent homes for children with disabilities and for children who entered foster care when they were older than age 12. This has been a consistent finding of the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports, and it suggests that special efforts are still needed to eliminate some of the disparities in the achievement of permanency for these two groups of children. Agencies should continue to review their data and current practice to consider whether there are ways to increase placing these older youth and children with disabilities in permanent homes.
- States that were successful in achieving permanency for children at the time of exit from foster care also were successful in achieving permanency for children who are in foster care for long periods of time. Understanding the practices of successful States could provide useful guidance to States that are striving to improve performance in these areas.
- There was a reduction in the number of children emancipating from foster care who entered foster care at age 12 or younger. Historically, many States have struggled in these areas. It is encouraging to note that many States are making progress in their efforts to find permanent homes for children in care for longer periods of time. It would be useful to determine the drivers that were behind States' successes in this area.
- There was considerable variation across States regarding the percentage of children exiting foster care with a discharge reason of emancipation. While it might be expected that States that take more adolescents and older youth into foster care would have proportionally more exits to emancipation, this was not the case. More information needs to be gathered from these States with a high percentage of youth exiting foster care to emancipation in order to determine strategies that may be implemented to reduce exits to emancipation and increase exits to permanency.
- States with a relatively high percentage of foster care reentries also had a relatively high percentage of children entering foster care who were adolescents (age 13 or older). The challenges that these youth present to State child welfare systems with regard to meeting the reunification needs of the children and their families may be quite different from those encountered in working with younger children and their families, and States with large numbers of youth in their foster care populations would benefit from developing strategies that target the needs of these youth.
- Many States that have a high percentage of reunifications occurring in less than 12 months from the child's entry into foster care also have a high percentage of children who reenter foster care in less than 12 months from the time of reunification. This is an important finding because it raises the possibility that not all of the problems that resulted in the child's initial entry into foster care were resolved adequately at the time of reunification, or that new problems arose at the point of reunification that were not addressed sufficiently by the agency.

- Overall, national performance on timeliness of adoptions has improved, but it continues to be a significant challenge for most States. It is important to note that there may be a variety of factors that contribute to lower performance on these measures, and these factors may vary considerably between States. However, for those States that struggle in this area, a careful review of specific barriers would be beneficial.
- Placement setting stability for children in foster care longer than 12 months consistently has been an area of difficulty for many States, and overall performance remained stagnant between 2007 and 2010. More work is needed on how States can prevent children from remaining in care for long periods of time and

increase placement setting stability for children who have been in care for long periods of time.

- States continue to make steady progress in reducing the percentage of young children placed in group homes or institutions. It would be useful to determine what strategies may have contributed to this continued success so that these advancements can be shared with other States working to make improvements.

Data and analysis presented throughout the full Child Welfare Outcomes Report offer additional details regarding overall national performance. In addition, State Data Pages provide a profile of individual State performance between 2007 and 2010.

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

² In this report, the designation of "State" includes the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Therefore, the report provides information on a total of 52 States.

³ Unless otherwise specified, the data used in this report are for Federal fiscal year 2010 (October 1, 2009–September 30, 2010).

⁴ For the purposes of this report, a victim of child maltreatment is defined as a child for whom an incident of abuse or neglect has been substantiated or indicated by an investigation or assessment. A State may include some children with alternative dispositions as victims (see *Child Maltreatment 2010*). It is important to distinguish that the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports use the total reported number of child victims as opposed to a national estimate of child victims, which often is reported in *Child Maltreatment*. The total number of victims reported in this report is rounded to the nearest 1,000.

⁵ The national child victim rate is calculated by dividing the total number of child victims (753,655) by the child population for all States that submitted NCANDS data (75,512,062), and multiplying by 1,000. Note that 2009 child population data was used for 2010 calculations because the 2010 data were not yet available.

⁶ A State's rate of child victims is defined as the number of child victims reported to NCANDS per 1,000 children in the State's population. Children with more than one report of substantiated or indicated maltreatment may be counted more than once.

⁷ Finkelhor, D., Jones, L., & Shattuck, A. (2009). Updated trends in child maltreatment, 2009. Durham, NH: Crimes Against Children Research Center.

⁸ Rate of entry is calculated by dividing the total number of children entering foster care in a State by the total child population in that State and multiplying by 1,000 [(N entering FC/child population) x 1,000]. Note that 2009 child population data was used for 2010 calculations because the 2010 data were not yet available.

⁹ See the following for examples: (1) Freundlich, M. (2010). Legislative strategies to safely reduce the number of children in foster care. National Conference of State Legislatures. Retrieved from http://www.ncsl.org/documents/cyf/strategies_reducing_the_number_of_children_in_foster_care.pdf and (2) National Governors Association Center for Best Practices. (2010). State efforts to safely reduce the number of children in foster care. Retrieved from <http://www.nga.org/cms/home/nga-center-for-best-practices/center-publications/page-ehsw-publications/col2-content/main-content-list/state-efforts-to-safely-reduce-t.html>

¹⁰ There is no Federal definition for a "child waiting to be adopted." The definition used in the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports includes children and youth through age 17 who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. It excludes children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation. A State's own definition may differ from that used here.

¹¹ In the Child Welfare Outcomes Report, two separate national medians are computed for each measure for FY 2010. In the 2010 "Range of State Performance" tables, national medians are calculated using all States that had adequate data available for FY 2010 only. However, when looking at performance over time, a separate FY 2010 national median is calculated that includes only the States that had adequate data available for all the relevant years (FY 2007 through FY 2010). This is done to provide a more accurate calculation of change over time. Therefore, the number of States (N) included in each of these calculations may vary, and these two medians may vary slightly. For consistency, the medians used in this executive summary are those that include States that had adequate data available for all relevant years.

¹² The strength of relationships in the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports is assessed using correlation coefficients, specifically Pearson's *r*, which can range in value from -1 to +1.

¹³ Percent change is calculated by subtracting "old" data from "new" data, dividing that result by old data, and multiplying it by 100. For example, maltreatment recurrence was 5.3 percent in 2007 and 4.6 percent in 2010, so the formula is $[(4.6-5.3)/5.3] \times 100 = -13.2$ percent change.

Table 1. Median State Performance, 2007-2010, Original Outcome Measures

Outcome Measures ¹⁴	Median Performance by Year			
	2007	2008	2009	2010
*Measure 1.1: Of all children who were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and/or neglect during the first 6 months of the year, what percentage had another substantiated or indicated report within a 6-month period? (N=51 States)	5.3%	5.2%	5.6%	4.6%
*Measure 2.1: Of all children who were in foster care during the year, what percentage were the subject of substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member? (N=48 States)	0.35	0.33	0.34	0.34
Measure 3.1: Of all children who exited foster care during the year, what percentage left to either reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=48 States)	86.8	87.7	87.6	86.8
Measure 3.2: Of all children who exited foster care during the year and were identified as having a diagnosed disability, what percentage left to either reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=40 States)	77.9	78.0	77.8	77.9
Measure 3.3: Of all children who exited foster care during the year and were older than age 12 at the time of their most recent entry into care, what percentage left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=48 States)	68.4	67.6	67.2	67.3
*Measure 3.4: Of all children exiting foster care in the year to emancipation, what percentage were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into care? (N=48 States)	26.6	25.6	25.7	24.8
Measure 4.1: Of all children reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care during the year, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the time of entry into foster care? (N=48 States)	68.5	67.9	68.1	69.1
Measure 5.1a: Of all children discharged from care during the year to a finalized adoption, what percentage were discharged in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (N=48 States)	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.9
Measure 6.1a: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for less than 12 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=49 States)	85.1	84.7	85.3	85.1
Measure 6.1b: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in foster care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=49 States)	61.2	60.9	60.6	62.2
Measure 6.1c: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in foster care for at least 24 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=49 States)	32.0	31.5	30.5	33.0
*Measure 7.1: Of all children who entered foster care during the year and were age 12 or younger at the time of their most recent placement, what percentage were placed in a group home or institution? (N=49 States)	5.7	5.1	4.4	4.5

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

¹⁴ Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available.

Table 2. Median State Performance, 2007–2010, Composite Measures

Composite Measures ¹⁵	Median Performance by Year			
	2007	2008	2009	2010
Measure C1.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment) (N=47 States)	67.5	68.6	67.9	67.9
*Measure C1.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification? (Includes trial home visit adjustment) (N=47 States)	7.7 mos.	7.9 mos.	8.0 mos.	7.6 mos.
Measure C1.3: Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the 6-month period just prior to the year shown, and who remained in care for 8 days or longer, what percentage were discharged from foster care to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (Includes trial home visit adjustment) (N=47 States)	41.9	43.4	41.7	42.9
Measure C1.4: Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage reentered care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge? (N=48 States)	12.5	13.4	12.7	12.4
Measure C2.1: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what percentage were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (N=48 States) ¹⁶	31.1	29.3	32.9	33.1
*Measure C2.2: Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay in care (in months) from the date of latest removal from home to the date of discharge to adoption? (N=48 States)	30.2 mos.	30.8 mos.	30.2 mos.	29.4 mos.
Measure C2.3: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in care for 17 continuous months or longer, what percentage was discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption by the last day of the year? (N=48 States) ¹⁷	21.1	23.2	24.8	24.9
Measure C2.4: Of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in foster care for 17 continuous months or longer, and who were not legally free for adoption prior to that day, what percentage became legally free for adoption during the first 6 months of the year? (N=46 States) ¹⁸	11.1	11.9	12.3	11.8
Measure C2.5: Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the 12-month period prior to the year shown, what percentage were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months from the date of becoming legally free? (N=46 States)	51.5	55.0	55.3	60.0
Measure C3.1: Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the year, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the year? (N=48 States)	26.4	29.5	30.2	30.2
Measure C3.2: Of all children who were discharged from foster care during the year, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge, what percentage were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday? (N=46 States) ¹⁹	94.1	93.8	94.7	95.5
*Measure C3.3: Of all children who, during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, what percentage were in foster care for 3 years or longer? (N=48 States)	44.9	44.9	45.1	44.1

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

¹⁵ Data for this table include all States for which adequate data are available. Numbers are expressed as percentages except when measured by months, as noted. Individual measures developed for Composite 4: Placement stability are not shown in this table because the measures are nearly identical to the original measures of placement stability incorporated into measure 6.1 (see table 1).

¹⁶ Although measure C2.1 is calculated exactly the same way as original measure 5.1b, the results can vary slightly because the source files are different for the composite measures. In the source files for measure C2.1, all children are excluded who were not age 17 for at least 1 day. No such exclusion exists for measure 5.1b. In addition, composites are calculated at the county level and then are aggregated to the State level, which also could influence slightly performance on C2.1 compared to 5.1b. In this instance, there is the added possible impact of using only 49 States for C2.1, while 50 States were used for 5.1b.

¹⁷ The denominator for this measure excludes children who, by the last day of the year, were discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification with parents or primary caretakers, living with relatives, or guardianship.

¹⁸ A child is considered to be "legally free" for adoption if there is a date for parental rights termination reported to AFCARS for both mother and father. Also, the denominator for this measure excludes children who, during the first 6 months of the year, were discharged from foster care with a discharge reason of reunification with parents or primary caretakers, living with other relatives, or guardianship.

¹⁹ A child is considered to be "legally free" for adoption if there is a date for the parental rights termination reported to AFCARS for both mother and father.

CHILD WELFARE OUTCOMES REPORT DATA SITE

The Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data Site provides users with the latest data from the State Data Pages of the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports and allows for significantly faster release of these data. The site features the latest Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) data that have been reviewed and approved by the States. Data updates to the site occur annually.

Take advantage of the data site's increased capabilities

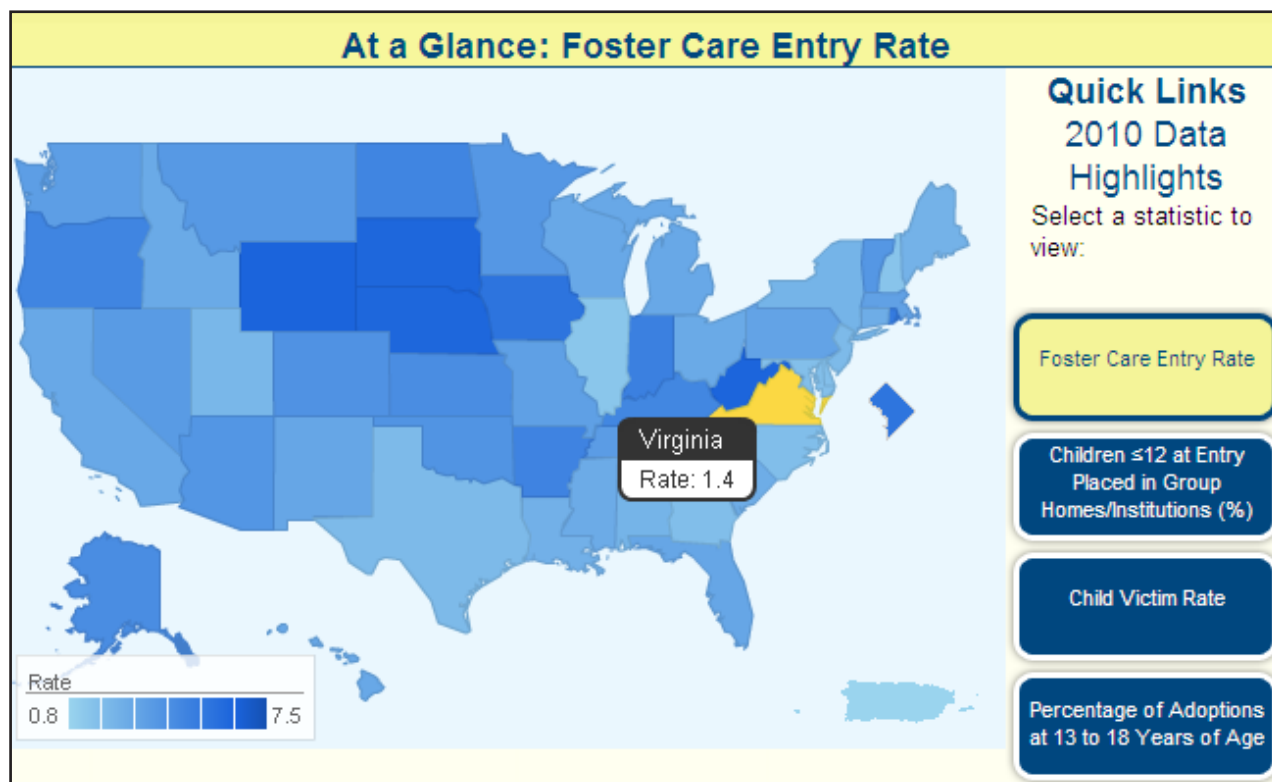
With the data site, you have the ability to:

- View one State's data or simultaneously compare data outputs for multiple States
- Create data outputs by ACF Region
- Isolate a specific State's context (including demographic) data and outcome variables
- Compare data across years or view data from one particular year
- Choose from a variety of data display formats, including map, graph, or table
- Get instant access to the State data tables from the full Reports

Use Quick Links to view data on key child welfare indicators

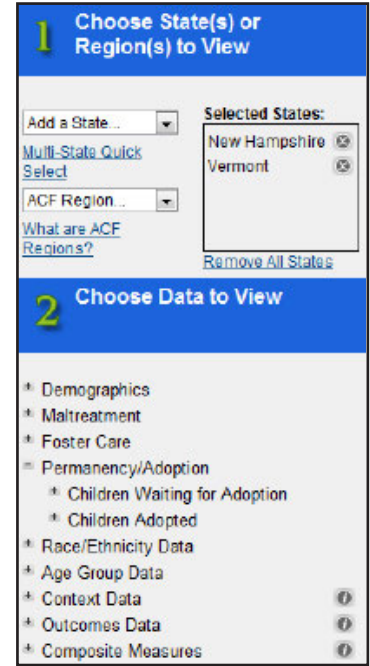
Quick Links, on the site homepage, features indicators of particular importance in the modern child welfare climate. See the example below for the types of Quick Links featured on the site and the kind of information available when selecting a particular Quick Link option (in this case, Foster Care Entry Rate).

The Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data Site can be accessed at <http://www.cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/data>



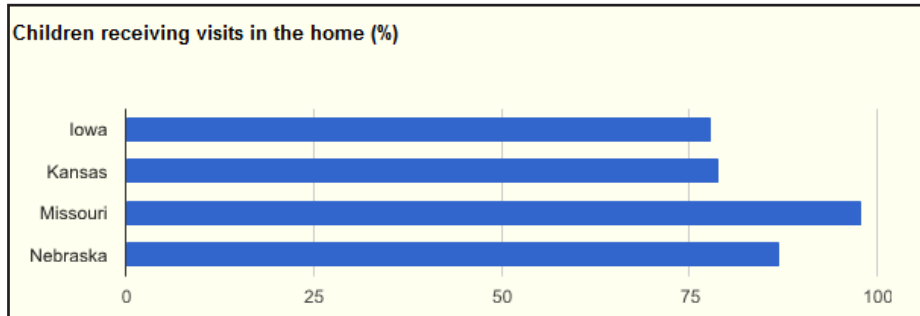
The Custom Report Builder allows you to adapt your data outputs to fit your research needs

The *Custom Report Builder* gives you the capability of viewing data from a specific State, comparing data across States of your choosing, and even comparing data from States within a particular ACF Region. After the State(s) or Region(s) is selected, you can choose the variables for viewing. Use the *Custom Report Builder's* drop-down data selection menu to change States and/or data elements. Once the initial outputs are created, you can isolate specific data years.



Choose from a variety of data output formats for presenting your data

You can choose to view your data in table, graph, or map format. The graph and map options are particularly useful when viewing data from multiple States, as these formats provide good visual representations for making comparisons.



The table and graph options are ideal for looking at a State's data fluctuations over time.

1.1 Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months (%)				
Hawaii: 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010				
3 Choose Year(s)		Choose Format		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2008	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2009	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2010	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Table <input type="radio"/> Graph <input type="radio"/> Map
	2007	2008	2009	2010
Children without a recurrence	96.4	96.7	96.1	97.6
Children with one or more recurrences	3.6	3.3	3.9	2.4
Number	937	943	942	1,018

Planned enhancements to the data site

The data site continues to be updated and improved. Planned future enhancements include:

- Downloadable data outputs in Excel
- Printer-friendly data outputs
- New ways to view race/ethnicity data

For questions or more information about the Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data Site, please contact the Children's Bureau Data Team: CBDataTeam@acf.hhs.gov

Child Welfare Outcomes 2007–2010: Report to Congress

Executive Summary



VISIT THE CHILD WELFARE OUTCOMES DATA SITE

The Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data Site provides users with the latest data from the State Data Pages of the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports. CWO data for 2007 through 2010 are currently available. Features of the site include:

- The latest AFCARS and NCANDS data
- A custom report builder
- Quick Links to important indicators
- Flexible data output formats

Visit the data website: <http://www.cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/data>

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Use your mobile phone to access the data site



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

