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Report: Number Of Pa. Kids In Foster Care Declines

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) —

A new study shows the number of Pennsylvania children living in foster care, and the number of children entering the foster care system, are both down by double digits percentages.

The Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children report released Tuesday said the foster care ranks dropped by 12 percent over the past year, to just under 28,000. About 10,000 children entered foster care, a 16 percentage-point drop from last year's figure.

The report says substantiated cases of child abuse and re-entry into the foster system both remained stable, suggesting the decline in foster care isn't being achieved at the expense of children's safety.

The study also finds an 11 percent increase in children reunifying with their birth families.

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Online: http://www.porchlightproject.org/reports_and_media_socw10.shtml

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