

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Child maltreatment is a serious problem that has grave and costly consequences for the child, his or her family and the community at-large. A child who has experienced abuse and neglect is more likely to have social, emotional and physical health problems and perform poorly in school.

Indicator

Child Abuse Reports

Reported incidents of suspected child abuse through the ChildLine and Abuse Registry. Does not include General Protective Services reports, which include less severe general neglect reports. (Number and rate per 1,000 children age 0-17)

State				
2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
25,342	24,615	24,378	26,664	26,944
9.1	8.8	8.7	9.5	9.6

**% Change
2009 to 2013**

6.3%

Child Abuse Substantiations

Founded or indicated reports of child abuse. Does not include the number of children determined to need General Protective Services.

15.6%	14.9%	14.0%	13.4%	12.7%
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

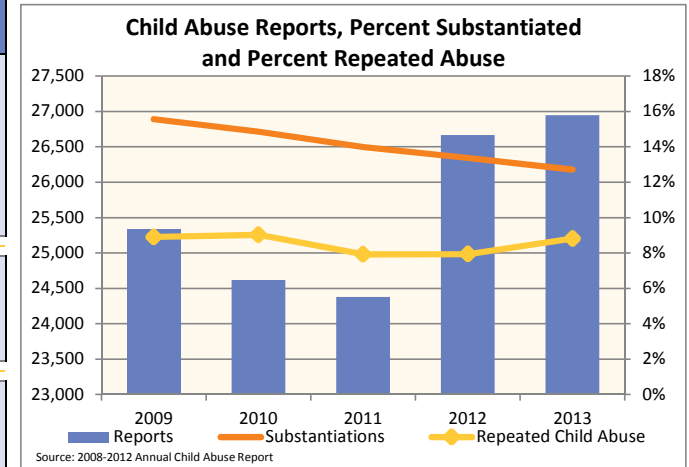
-18.3%

Repeated Child Abuse

Children with another substantiated incident of abuse following the first reported incident. (Data may be overstated.)

8.9%	9.0%	7.9%	7.9%	8.8%
1 in 11	1 in 11	1 in 13	1 in 13	1 in 11

-0.9%



IN-HOME SERVICES

In-home services are designed to strengthen families by addressing the root causes of abuse and neglect. The provision of in-home services helps a child to remain safely in his or her home.

Indicator

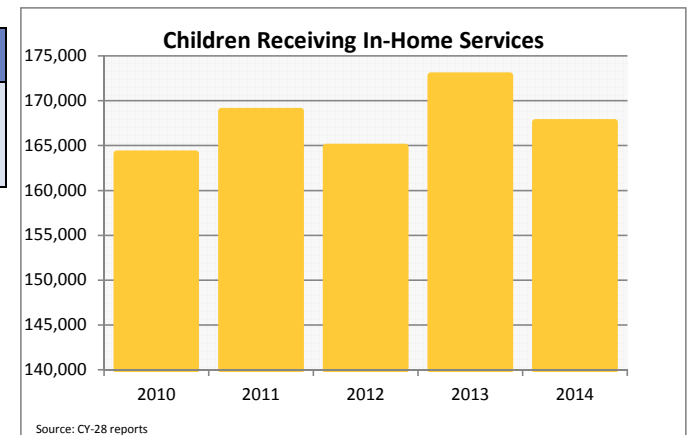
Unduplicated Number of Children Served

Children whose families received services in their homes to address concerns related to child safety and well-being during the year.

State				
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
164,099	168,821	164,842	172,807	167,582

**% Change
2010 to 2014**

2.1%



Statewide Findings

- The reports of suspected child abuse has increased again in 2013 - the highest number of reports recorded to date.
- Although a three percent decrease from last year, the number of children being served in their homes to prevent them from entering foster care continues to increase from 2010.

FOSTER CARE - SERVED

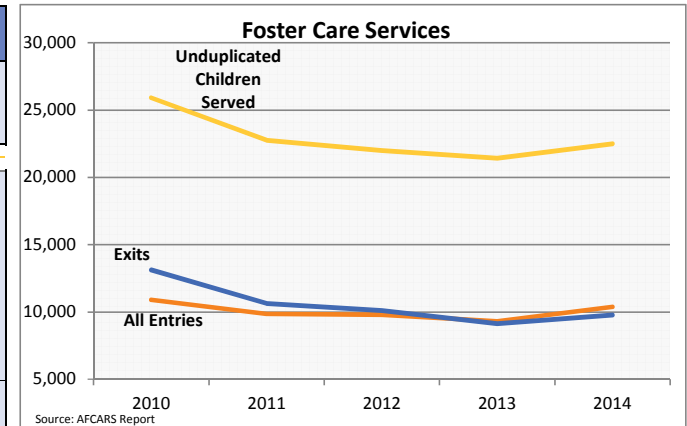
Foster care is meant to be a temporary intervention to assure the safety and well-being of a child. A child who spends long periods in foster care is more likely than other children to drop out of school, have mental health challenges, and experience unemployment and/or homeless as an adult. The following shows the past five years of data regarding children served in foster care during each federal fiscal year.

Indicator

Unduplicated Number of Children Served

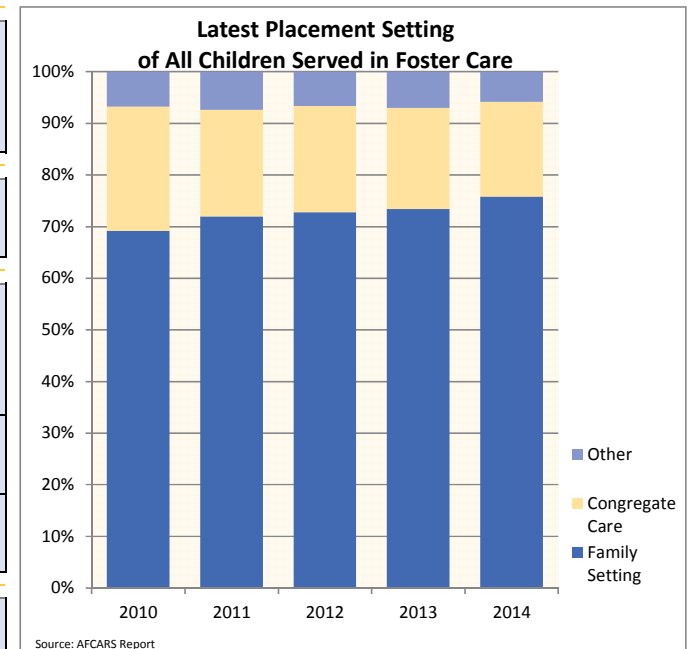
All Children in Foster Care During the Year
(Rate per 1,000 children age 0-20)

State					% Change 2010 to 2014
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
25,917	22,750	22,000	21,416	22,510	-13.1%
7.7	6.7	6.5	6.4	6.7	



By Age

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
0-2	16.8%	18.2%	18.9%	19.2%	19.4%	15.4%
3-5	13.9%	15.1%	15.6%	15.9%	16.8%	20.5%
6-8	10.3%	10.5%	10.8%	11.5%	12.3%	19.0%
9-11	8.9%	8.9%	8.9%	8.9%	9.5%	6.4%
12-14	11.9%	12.1%	12.0%	11.4%	10.9%	-8.3%
15-17	27.6%	24.8%	23.3%	22.3%	21.4%	-22.8%
18-20	10.5%	10.4%	10.5%	10.67%	9.8%	-6.5%
Infants (age 0-1)	10.5%	11.7%	12.2%	11.9%	12.5%	18.8%
Youth (age 13+)	46.9%	44.2%	42.7%	41.5%	38.9%	-16.9%



By Race and Ethnicity

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
White	49.3%	52.8%	56.4%	57.1%	58.4%	18.4%
Black or African American	47.4%	46.5%	44.1%	45.0%	44.8%	-5.5%
Other	4.4%	2.6%	2.9%	2.0%	2.0%	-54.7%
Hispanic or Latino	11.3%	11.6%	12.0%	12.5%	13.1%	16.6%

By Gender

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
Male	53.1%	50.7%	50.5%	50.8%	50.8%	-4.3%
Female	46.9%	49.3%	49.5%	49.2%	49.2%	4.9%

By Latest Placement Setting

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
Family Setting	69.2%	72.0%	72.8%	73.4%	75.8%	9.6%
Pre-adoptive Home	4.3%	3.9%	3.2%	3.4%	3.5%	-17.9%
Foster Family Home – Relative	22.2%	23.5%	24.4%	24.8%	29.6%	33.2%
Foster Family Home – Non-Relative	42.7%	44.5%	45.2%	45.2%	42.7%	0.0%
Congregate Care	24.0%	20.6%	20.6%	19.6%	18.3%	-23.7%
Group Home	12.2%	11.7%	12.5%	12.1%	11.6%	-4.8%
Institution	11.9%	8.9%	8.0%	7.5%	6.8%	-43.0%
Supervised Independent Living	2.0%	2.2%	1.8%	2.0%	1.9%	-4.7%
Runaway	2.1%	2.0%	1.4%	1.8%	1.2%	-43.5%
Trial Home Visit	2.7%	3.1%	3.4%	3.2%	2.8%	2.5%

Children Entering Foster Care

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
All Entries into Foster Care During the Year	10,898	9,849	9,793	9,306	10,364	-4.9%

Statewide Findings

- The unduplicated number of children served in foster care increased by 5 percent from 2013 to 2014.
- The population of children served in foster care is younger.
- The number of children entering foster care continues to outpace the number of children exiting foster care.

FOSTER CARE - FIRST TIME ENTRIES

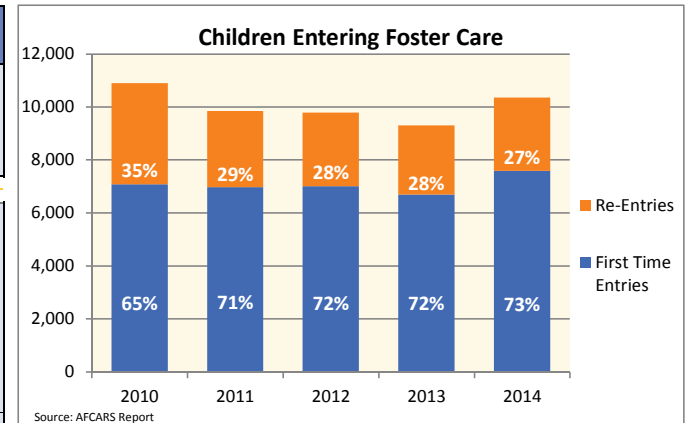
Data on first time entries provides information on children who have just begun their foster care experience during the past federal fiscal year. How the child welfare system is serving them may say something about current system practice and decision making.

Indicator

Children Entering for the First Time

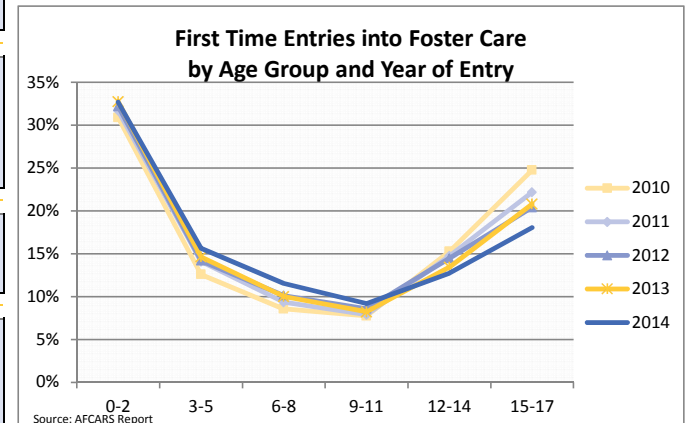
First Time Entries During the Year
(Rate per 1,000 children age 0-20)
First Time Entries as Percent of All Entries

State					% Change 2010 to 2014
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
7,083	6,979	7,018	6,698	7,592	7.2%
2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.3	
65.0%	70.9%	71.7%	72.0%	73.3%	12.7%



By Age

Age Group	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
0-2	30.9%	31.7%	32.2%	32.8%	32.7%	5.8%
3-5	12.6%	14.1%	14.2%	14.6%	15.7%	24.5%
6-8	8.6%	9.3%	10.1%	10.0%	11.5%	34.9%
9-11	7.8%	7.9%	8.6%	8.2%	9.2%	18.6%
12-14	15.3%	14.7%	14.4%	13.5%	12.7%	-16.6%
15-17	24.8%	22.2%	20.4%	20.8%	18.0%	-27.1%
18-20	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.07%	0.1%	-28.2%
Infants (age 0-1)	25.1%	25.7%	26.2%	26.4%	26.3%	4.7%
Youth (age 13+)	36.8%	33.8%	31.2%	31.4%	27.6%	-24.9%



By Race and Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
White	56.2%	59.2%	62.0%	62.1%	64.0%	13.7%
Black or African American	41.3%	40.4%	37.7%	39.2%	39.0%	-5.5%
Other	4.0%	2.3%	3.4%	2.6%	2.3%	-43.5%
Hispanic or Latino	12.8%	12.4%	11.7%	13.0%	13.9%	8.4%

By Gender

Gender	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
Male	51.4%	49.6%	49.9%	50.1%	50.9%	-0.9%
Female	48.6%	50.4%	50.1%	49.9%	49.1%	0.9%

By First Placement Setting

Placement Setting	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
Family Setting	71.6%	74.8%	76.4%	76.7%	80.7%	12.8%
Pre-adoptive Home	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	88.9%
Foster Family Home – Relative	24.1%	25.0%	25.8%	27.2%	33.1%	37.2%
Foster Family Home – Non-Relative	47.3%	49.5%	50.4%	49.3%	47.5%	0.2%
Congregate Care	26.2%	22.4%	21.1%	21.0%	17.5%	-33.1%
Group Home	16.3%	14.8%	14.7%	15.0%	12.1%	-25.8%
Institution	9.9%	7.6%	6.4%	6.0%	5.4%	-45.1%
Supervised Independent Living	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	-56.7%
Runaway	0.8%	0.7%	0.4%	0.6%	0.4%	-44.0%
Trial Home Visit	1.1%	1.9%	1.9%	1.5%	1.2%	1.5%

Statewide Findings

- The proportion of children entering foster care as first time entries has increased over the past five years.
- The majority of children entering foster care as first time entries are age 0-2. The proportion of children entering foster care as first time entries has increased over the past five years for children age 0-11.
- In 2014, four in five children entering foster care as first time entries were placed in family settings. Of those children, only 40 percent are placed with a relative.

FOSTER CARE - RE-ENTRIES

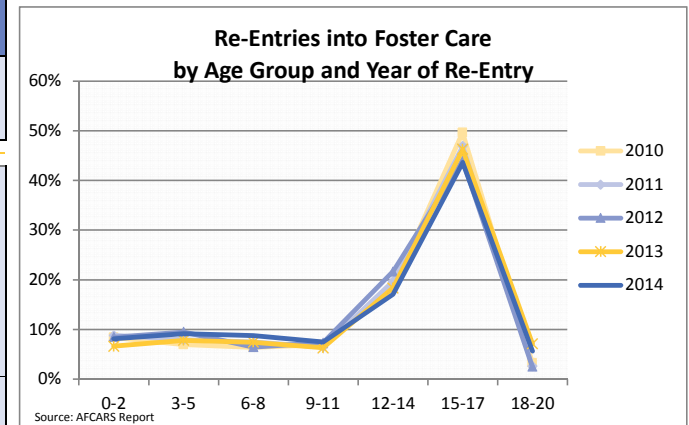
Data on re-entries provides information on children who come back into foster care because of new or continuing challenges at home. Some children experience numerous foster care episodes or cycle in an out of the system. Others can experience large spans of time between foster care episodes, which is why the age of children who typically re-enter is older.

Indicator

Children Re-Entering Foster Care

Re-Entries During the Year
Re-Entries as Percent of All Entries

State					% Change 2010 to 2014
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
3,815	2,870	2,775	2,608	2,772	-27.3%
35.0%	29.1%	28.3%	28.0%	26.7%	-23.6%



By Age

Age Group	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
0-2	8.4%	8.8%	8.5%	6.6%	8.2%	-3.1%
3-5	6.9%	7.9%	9.5%	7.8%	9.2%	31.9%
6-8	6.4%	7.5%	6.5%	7.4%	8.8%	36.5%
9-11	6.9%	6.5%	7.4%	6.3%	7.5%	8.0%
12-14	18.3%	19.7%	21.7%	18.4%	17.1%	-6.8%
15-17	49.6%	46.9%	44.1%	46.3%	43.7%	-12.0%
18-20	3.3%	2.6%	2.5%	7.1%	5.7%	71.5%
Infants (age 0-1)	5.1%	5.6%	4.9%	3.8%	5.2%	1.6%
Youth (age 13+)	68.3%	65.2%	64.3%	68.6%	63.5%	-7.1%

By Race and Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
White	37.6%	45.3%	47.4%	47.3%	50.5%	34.4%
Black or African American	58.3%	54.0%	53.7%	54.7%	52.3%	-10.3%
Other	5.1%	2.2%	2.2%	1.6%	1.8%	-63.8%
Hispanic or Latino	11.4%	10.7%	11.3%	11.4%	12.2%	7.3%

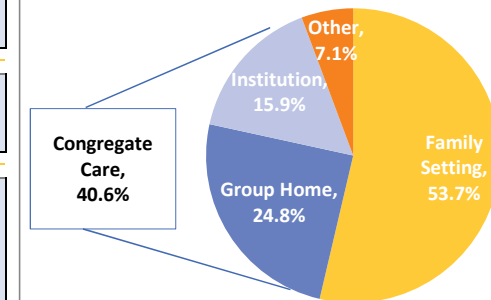
By Gender

Gender	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
Male	53.8%	47.0%	47.6%	48.1%	50.6%	-5.9%
Female	46.2%	53.0%	52.4%	51.9%	49.4%	6.9%

By Placement Setting at Re-Entry

Placement Setting	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
Family Setting	45.6%	50.9%	50.5%	48.5%	53.7%	17.8%
Pre-adoptive Home	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%	4.3%
Foster Family Home – Relative	16.6%	17.2%	16.5%	14.9%	20.2%	21.5%
Foster Family Home – Non-Relative	28.8%	33.3%	33.5%	33.3%	33.3%	15.8%
Congregate Care	47.9%	42.7%	45.3%	44.4%	40.6%	-15.1%
Group Home	24.0%	23.8%	26.0%	26.7%	24.8%	3.3%
Institution	23.9%	18.9%	19.2%	17.7%	15.9%	-33.5%
Supervised Independent Living	1.3%	1.6%	0.8%	1.6%	1.6%	22.4%
Runaway	4.4%	4.2%	2.5%	4.3%	3.3%	-24.2%
Trial Home Visit	0.9%	0.7%	1.0%	1.2%	0.8%	-14.1%

Percent of Children by Placement Setting at Re-Entry to Foster Care, 2014



Statewide Findings

- The proportion of children re-entering foster care has decreased over the past five years.
- The majority of re-entries are youth age 12-20, specifically children age 15-17.
- In 2014, over half of the children re-entering foster care were placed in family settings. Of those children, 62 percent were placed in a non-relative foster home.

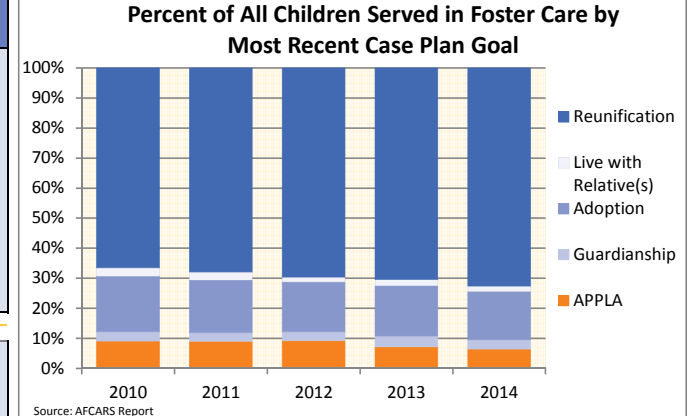
FOSTER CARE - GOALS

All children in foster care have a court-ordered permanency goal, which directs the efforts of the child welfare agency toward a certain family outcome for each child. This data provides information on the most recent goal for every child served in foster care during the federal fiscal year.

Indicator

Percent of Children by Case Plan Goal

Indicator	State					% Change 2010 to 2014
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Permanency Goals	90.9%	91.0%	90.9%	92.8%	93.6%	2.9%
Reunify With Parent(s) or Principal Caretaker(s)	66.6%	68.0%	69.6%	70.5%	72.6%	9.1%
Adoption	18.5%	17.6%	16.6%	16.7%	16.1%	-13.3%
Guardianship	3.1%	2.8%	3.1%	3.6%	3.1%	-2.2%
Live with Relative(s)	2.7%	2.7%	1.6%	2.1%	1.8%	-33.1%
Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA)	9.1%	9.0%	9.1%	7.2%	6.4%	-29.0%
Long Term Foster Care	3.2%	3.4%	3.2%	2.1%	1.8%	-43.1%
Emancipation	5.9%	5.5%	5.9%	5.1%	4.6%	-21.4%

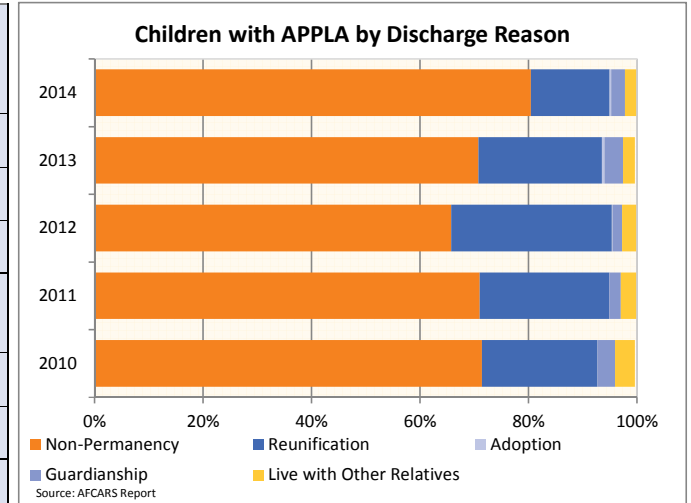


APPLA By Age

Age Group	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
0-15	2.0%	1.6%	1.7%	1.1%	0.8%	-62.1%
16-20	24.4%	27.0%	28.4%	23.6%	23.1%	-5.5%

APPLA By Discharge Reason

Discharge Reason	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
Exit to Permanent Arrangements	28.2%	28.8%	34.1%	28.9%	19.4%	-31.2%
Reunification	21.3%	23.9%	29.6%	22.8%	14.5%	-31.9%
(number of months until reunification)	32.5	36.2	37.2	27.8	36.2	11.5%
Adoption	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.5%	0.3%	-
(number of months until adoption)	0.0	0.0	76.0	41.1	149.3	-
Guardianship	3.2%	2.1%	1.7%	3.4%	2.5%	-21.5%
(number of month until guardianship)	41.0	38.7	35.3	32.0	27.8	-32.1%
Live with Other Relatives	3.7%	2.8%	2.6%	2.2%	2.1%	-44.4%
(number of months until living with relatives)	47.7	30.8	25.8	30.6	15.9	-66.7%
Exit to Non-Permanent Arrangements	71.4%	71.0%	65.8%	70.8%	80.4%	12.6%
Emancipation	63.9%	63.8%	60.5%	64.2%	73.0%	14.2%
(number of months until emancipation)	37.5	40.4	40.6	33.1	33.5	-10.6%
Transfer to Another Agency	4.6%	4.4%	3.6%	3.6%	5.5%	18.9%
(number of months until transfer)	20.5	80.7	51.5	46.4	13.0	-36.8%
Runaway	2.9%	2.8%	1.6%	3.1%	1.9%	-33.8%
(number of months until running away)	27.2	37.9	8.9	26.5	16.3	-40.0%
Death of Child	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	-55.8%
(number of months until death of a child)	29.7	142.5	42.8	92.4	129.8	337.1%



Statewide Findings

- Far too often the permanency goal of APPLA results in youth leaving foster care without a permanent family to rely on – more than 80 percent of the time.
- In 2014, more than 20 percent of older youth had this goal of APPLA.

FOSTER CARE - EXITS

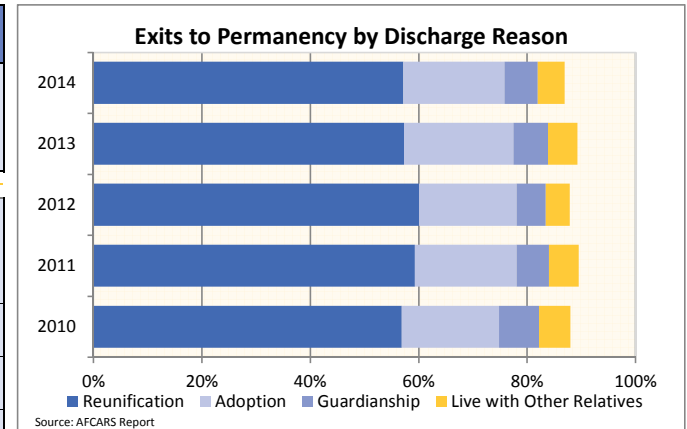
Data on foster care exits provides information on children who left foster care during the federal fiscal year, where they went when they left and how long their most recent episode of foster care was. A paramount goal of the foster care system is to assure every child has the lifelong support of a permanent family.

Indicator

Children Exiting Foster Care

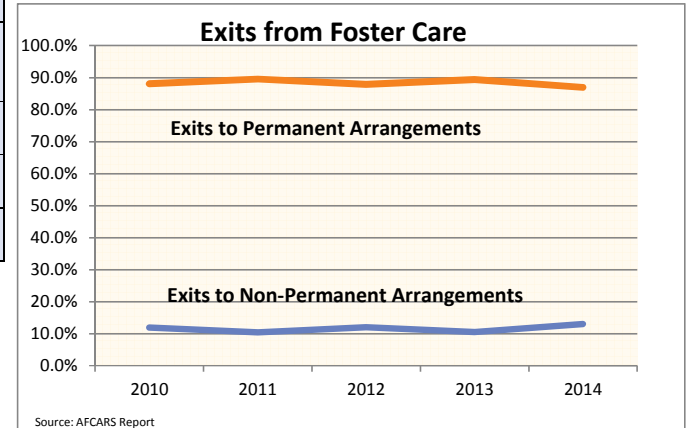
	State				
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total Children Leaving Foster Care	13,119	10,630	10,098	9,123	9,769
Percent of Children Leaving Foster Care	50.6%	46.7%	45.9%	42.6%	43.4%
(number of months until leaving)	11.5	11.7	11.9	11.9	10.7

% Change 2010 to 2014
-25.5%
-14.3%
-6.9%



By Discharge Reason

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
Exit to Permanent Arrangements	88.0%	89.5%	87.9%	89.3%	86.9%	-1.3%
Reunification	56.9%	59.3%	60.1%	57.3%	57.2%	0.5%
(number of months until reunification)	6.1	5.9	6.1	6.0	5.5	-9.2%
Adoption	17.9%	18.8%	18.0%	20.2%	18.6%	3.9%
(number of months until adoption)	31.1	29.6	27.6	26.7	27.4	-12.0%
Guardianship	7.4%	6.0%	5.4%	6.4%	6.1%	-17.2%
(number of month until guardianship)	23.3	22.2	20.4	21.2	20.8	-10.7%
Live with Other Relatives	5.8%	5.4%	4.4%	5.5%	5.0%	-14.3%
(number of months until living with relatives)	3.6	2.7	2.7	2.6	1.0	-71.8%
Exit to Non-Permanent Arrangements	11.9%	10.4%	12.0%	10.5%	13.0%	9.7%
Emancipation	6.7%	7.8%	8.0%	8.1%	7.7%	15.1%
(number of months until emancipation)	33.6	36.8	37.4	31.4	29.6	-11.8%
Transfer to Another Agency	4.1%	2.2%	1.6%	2.0%	4.3%	2.7%
(number of months until transfer)	4.4	5.9	5.3	6.0	5.0	13.4%
Runaway	1.1%	0.5%	2.4%	0.5%	1.1%	3.4%
(number of months until running away)	9.6	18.6	4.8	14.9	13.2	37.3%
Death of Child	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	-37.3%
(number of months until death of a child)	4.7	12.7	4.7	11.9	30.9	558.0%



Statewide Findings

- Children are exiting foster care faster - on average, less than 11 months from their entry into the system.
- Reunification and adoption remain the two most common reasons for children exiting foster care.

FOSTER CARE - REMAINING IN CARE

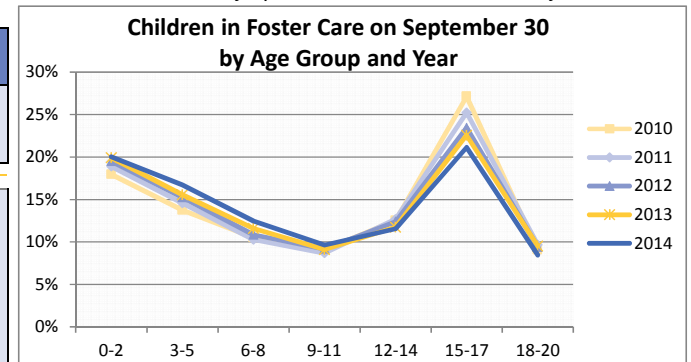
Data on children remaining in foster care provides information on children who did not leave foster care during the year but are still in foster care on the last day of the federal fiscal year. This data includes all children in foster care on September 30. Some of these children may have just entered foster care days prior to the end of the fiscal year and others may have been in foster care for many years.

Indicator

Children Remaining in Foster Care

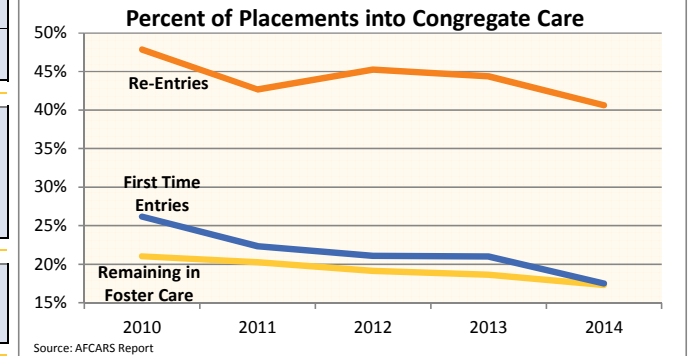
Children in Foster Care on Last Day
(number of months children have been in care)

State					% Change 2010 to 2014
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
14,826	13,701	13,566	13,697	14,162	-4.5%
14.2	13.6	13.0	13.1	12.6	-11.6%



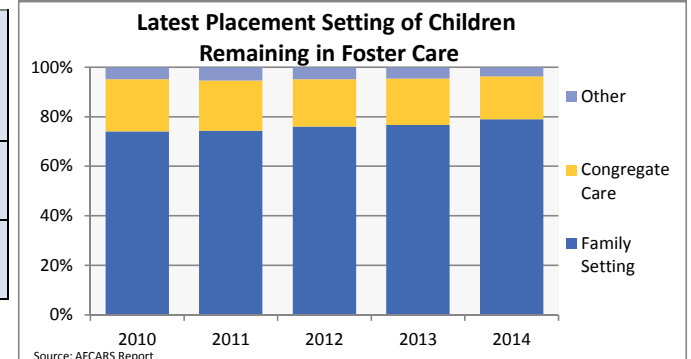
By Age

Age Group	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
0-2	17.9%	18.9%	19.5%	19.9%	20.0%	11.7%
3-5	13.7%	14.6%	15.3%	15.6%	16.7%	21.9%
6-8	10.5%	10.3%	10.9%	11.6%	12.4%	18.6%
9-11	9.1%	8.7%	9.2%	9.1%	9.6%	6.4%
12-14	12.5%	12.7%	12.4%	11.7%	11.5%	-7.9%
15-17	27.1%	25.2%	23.4%	22.6%	21.1%	-22.1%
18-20	9.1%	9.7%	9.4%	9.5%	8.4%	-7.0%
Infants (age 0-1)	11.7%	12.6%	13.2%	12.7%	13.2%	13.2%
Youth (age 13+)	45.3%	44.4%	41.9%	40.7%	37.8%	-16.5%



By Race and Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
White	48.3%	51.8%	54.2%	54.2%	55.5%	15.1%
Black or African American	48.9%	48.0%	46.6%	47.9%	47.4%	-3.2%
Other	4.2%	2.3%	2.7%	1.9%	2.0%	-52.7%
Hispanic or Latino	11.2%	11.7%	12.2%	12.7%	13.0%	16.3%



By Gender

Gender	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
Male	52.0%	50.7%	50.8%	50.7%	50.9%	-2.1%
Female	48.0%	49.3%	49.2%	49.3%	49.1%	2.3%

By Latest Placement Setting

Placement Setting	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 2010 to 2014
Family Setting	74.2%	74.4%	76.1%	76.8%	79.0%	6.6%
Pre-adoptive Home	3.9%	3.5%	3.0%	3.2%	3.9%	2.3%
Foster Family Home – Relative	23.0%	23.6%	25.2%	25.7%	30.0%	30.7%
Foster Family Home – Non-Relative	47.4%	47.3%	47.9%	47.9%	45.1%	-4.7%
Congregate Care	21.0%	20.3%	19.2%	18.7%	17.3%	-17.7%
Group Home	10.6%	10.7%	11.0%	10.8%	10.6%	0.7%
Institution	10.5%	9.5%	8.2%	7.8%	6.7%	-36.3%
Supervised Independent Living	2.0%	2.2%	1.9%	2.1%	1.7%	-14.9%
Runaway	1.9%	1.8%	1.8%	1.4%	1.1%	-39.2%
Trial Home Visit	0.9%	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%	0.8%	-14.1%

Statewide Findings

- Almost 60 percent of the children remaining in foster care are less than 12 years old.
- The majority of children remaining in foster care are placed in a non-relative foster family home.
- The proportion of children remaining in care in an institution has decreased since 2010.

FOSTER CARE - STABILITY

Every time a child moves, the trauma caused by separation and lack of continuity grows. A child who faces multiple placements struggles to build and maintain healthy relationships and faces academic challenges due to school changes.

Indicator

Foster Care Placement Stability

Children who were in foster care for 12 to 23 months and had three or more placement settings.

State					% Change 2010 to 2014
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
37.4%	36.1%	36.9%	34.1%	32.7%	-12.7%

Statewide Findings

From 2010 to 2014, stability for children in foster care has improved.

FOSTER CARE - TIMELY REUNIFICATION

A child's separation from his or her parents or relatives is traumatic for all involved. Minimizing the time a child spends in foster care without compromising safety is key to healthy child development.

Indicator

Timely Reunification with Parents or Relatives

Children who entered foster care for the first time who were reunified with their parents or discharged to relatives within the next 12 months.

State					% Change 2010 to 2014
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
46.8%	48.2%	44.6%	41.3%	39.7%	-15.3%

Statewide Findings

In 2014, about 2 in 5 children were reunified with their parents or relatives within 12 months of entering foster care. This is down from almost 50 percent of children in 2011.

FOSTER CARE - FAILED REUNIFICATION

A child re-entering foster care following a return to his or her family signals a breakdown in the family and a potential failure on the part of the child welfare system to appropriately address family needs.

Indicator

Failed 1-Year Reunification (Re-entry)

Children who re-entered foster care in fewer than 12 months following reunification with parents or relatives. (Data may be overstated.)

State					% Change 2010 to 2014
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
25.8%	27.7%	26.3%	26.4%	26.9%	4.1%

Statewide Findings

The rate of failed reunification has increased over the past five years. Pennsylvania maintains the highest rate in the country.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of The Annie E. Casey Foundation's KIDS COUNT project, The Heinz Endowments, PNC Financial Services Group and the Richard King Mellon Foundation.



The Porch Light Project
 Pennsylvania Partnerships for Children
 116 Pine Street, Suite 430
 Harrisburg, PA • 17101-1244
porchlightproject.org
 717.236.5680 • 800.257.2030