

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				
2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
24,615	24,378	26,664	26,944	29,273
8.8	8.7	9.5	9.6	10.5

**% Change
2010 to 2014**

18.9%

Child Abuse Substantiations

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

14.9%	14.0%	13.4%	12.7%	11.4%
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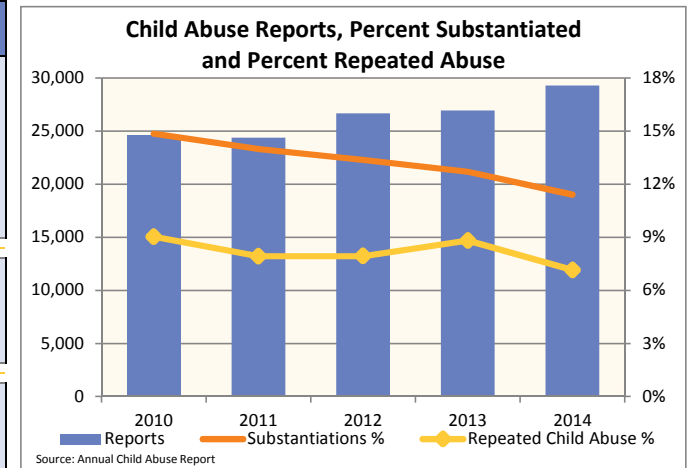
-23.2%

Repeated Child Abuse

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

9.0%	7.9%	7.9%	8.8%	7.2%
1 in 11	1 in 13	1 in 13	1 in 11	1 in 14

-20.7%



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 or return home.

Indicator

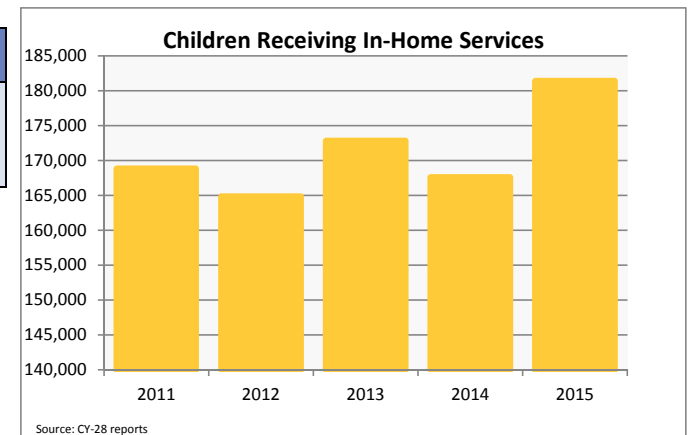
Unduplicated Number of Children Served

Children who received services provided to both parents and children to address concerns related to child safety and well-being to enable the children to remain safely in their own home. This includes children whose families were screened-in and/or accepted for services.

State				
2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
168,821	164,842	172,807	167,582	181,371

**% Change
2011 to 2015**

7.4%



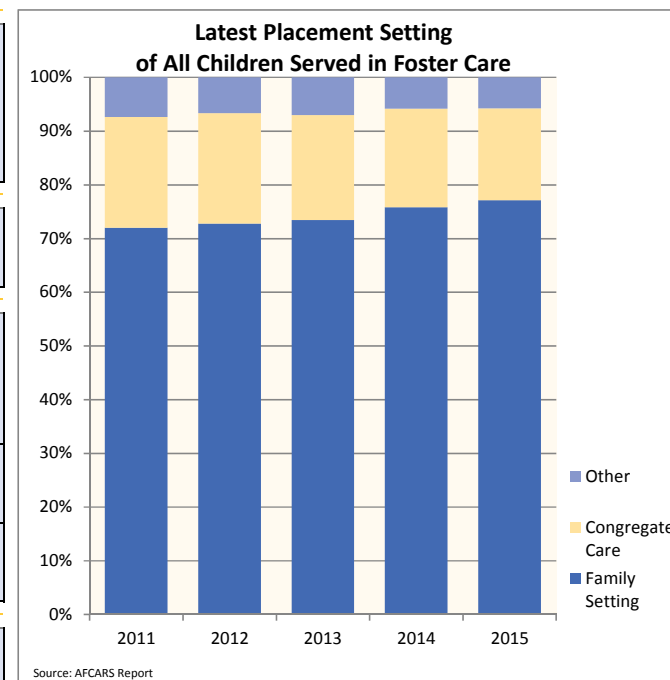
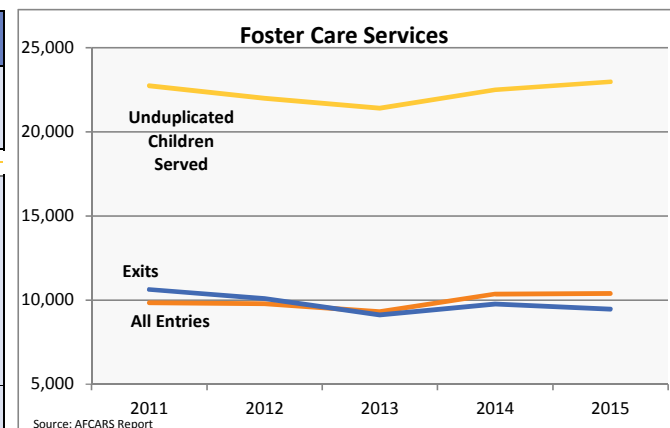
Statewide Findings

- The reports of suspected child abuse has greatly increased in 2014 - the highest number of reports recorded to date. The rate of substantiations and reabuse are declining.
- In 2015, over 13,750 more children received in-home services to prevent them from entering foster care than in 2014.

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	State					% Change 2011 to 2015
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
Unduplicated Number of Children Served						
All Children in Foster Care During the Year	22,750	22,000	21,416	22,510	22,980	1.0%
(Rate per 1,000 children age 0-20)	6.7	6.5	6.4	6.7	6.8	
By Age						
0-2	18.2%	18.9%	19.2%	19.4%	19.9%	9.3%
3-5	15.1%	15.6%	15.9%	16.8%	17.1%	13.0%
6-8	10.5%	10.8%	11.5%	12.3%	12.9%	22.2%
9-11	8.9%	8.9%	8.9%	9.5%	10.0%	12.4%
12-14	12.1%	12.0%	11.4%	10.9%	11.4%	-5.4%
15-17	24.8%	23.3%	22.3%	21.4%	20.4%	-17.6%
18-20	10.4%	10.5%	10.7%	9.8%	8.3%	-20.3%
Infants (age 0-1)	11.7%	12.2%	11.9%	12.5%	12.8%	9.5%
Youth (age 13+)	44.2%	42.7%	41.5%	38.9%	36.7%	-17.0%
By Race and Ethnicity						
Non-Hispanic White	40.8%	43.3%	41.8%	42.3%	40.9%	0.2%
Non-Hispanic Black or African American	30.8%	34.9%	34.8%	35.2%	34.6%	12.4%
Non-Hispanic Other Race	14.9%	6.5%	7.0%	4.4%	5.9%	-60.7%
Non-Hispanic Two or More Races	1.9%	3.2%	3.9%	4.9%	5.3%	183.6%
Hispanic or Latino	11.6%	12.0%	12.5%	13.1%	13.4%	15.2%
By Gender						
Male	50.7%	50.5%	50.8%	50.8%	51.0%	0.8%
Female	49.3%	49.5%	49.2%	49.2%	49.0%	-0.8%
By Latest Placement Setting						
Family Setting	72.0%	72.8%	73.4%	75.8%	77.1%	7.2%
Pre-adoptive Home	3.9%	3.2%	3.4%	3.5%	3.1%	-20.9%
Foster Family Home – Relative	23.5%	24.4%	24.8%	29.6%	31.5%	33.9%
Foster Family Home – Non-Relative	44.5%	45.2%	45.2%	42.7%	42.5%	-4.5%
Congregate Care	20.6%	20.6%	19.6%	18.3%	17.1%	-17.2%
Group Home	11.7%	12.5%	12.1%	11.6%	10.5%	-10.5%
Institution	8.9%	8.0%	7.5%	6.8%	6.6%	-25.8%
Supervised Independent Living	2.2%	1.8%	2.0%	1.9%	1.7%	-25.6%
Runaway	2.0%	1.4%	1.8%	1.2%	1.3%	-38.3%
Trial Home Visit	3.1%	3.4%	3.2%	2.8%	2.9%	-8.3%
Children Entering Foster Care						
All Entries into Foster Care During the Year	9,849	9,793	9,306	10,364	10,387	5.5%



Statewide Findings

- The unduplicated number of children served in foster care is on the rise. The 2015 count is now higher than the total children served in 2011.
- The population of children served in foster care is young. In 2015, 3 in 5 children served in foster care were under 12 years.
- The number of children entering foster care continues to outpace the number of children exiting foster care.

FOSTER CARE - FIRST TIME ENTRIES

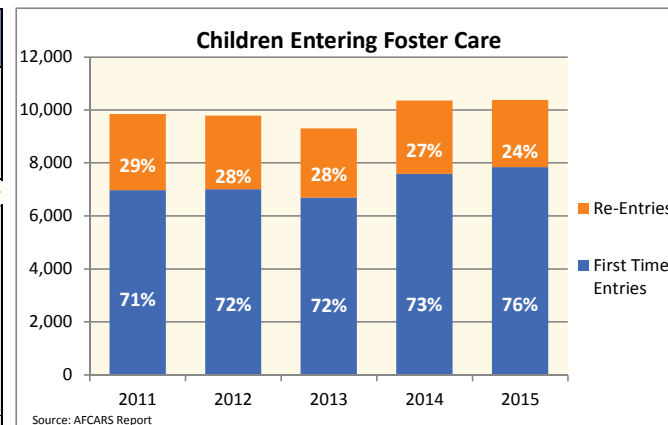
Data on first time entries provides information on children who have just begun their foster care experience during the past federal fiscal year. How the child welfare system is serving them may say something about current system practice and decision making.

Indicator

Children Entering for the First Time

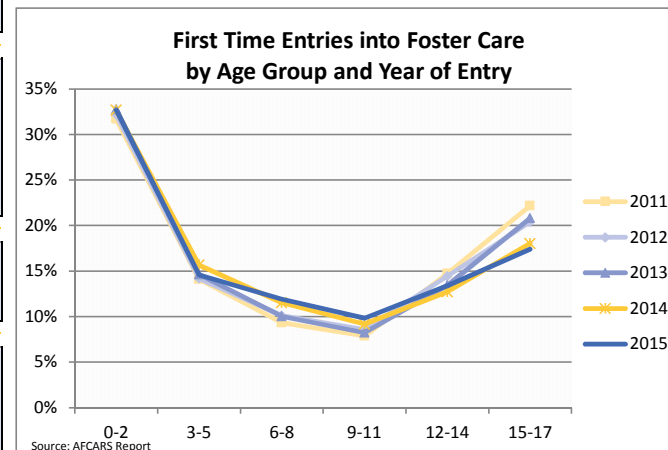
First Time Entries During the Year
(Rate per 1,000 children age 0-20)
First Time Entries as Percent of All Entries

State					% Change 2011 to 2015
2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
6,979	7,018	6,698	7,592	7,843	12.4%
2.1	2.1	2.0	2.3	2.3	6.6%



By Age

Age Group	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change 2011 to 2015
0-2	31.7%	32.2%	32.8%	32.7%	32.7%	3.2%
3-5	14.1%	14.2%	14.6%	15.7%	14.6%	3.5%
6-8	9.3%	10.1%	10.0%	11.5%	11.9%	27.9%
9-11	7.9%	8.6%	8.2%	9.2%	9.8%	24.7%
12-14	14.7%	14.4%	13.5%	12.7%	13.4%	-9.1%
15-17	22.2%	20.4%	20.8%	18.0%	17.4%	-21.5%
18-20	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.13%	0.1%	100.2%
Infants (age 0-1)	25.7%	26.2%	26.4%	26.3%	26.2%	1.9%
Youth (age 13+)	33.8%	31.2%	31.4%	27.6%	27.5%	-18.5%



By Race and Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change 2011 to 2015
Non-Hispanic White	46.1%	49.3%	45.7%	46.9%	42.7%	-7.4%
Non-Hispanic Black or African American	27.4%	31.9%	29.6%	29.2%	29.1%	6.1%
Non-Hispanic Other Race	12.2%	4.1%	7.9%	5.1%	8.7%	-28.6%
Non-Hispanic Two or More Races	1.9%	3.0%	3.9%	4.9%	5.6%	185.3%
Hispanic or Latino	12.4%	11.7%	13.0%	13.9%	14.0%	13.0%

By Gender

Gender	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change 2011 to 2015
Male	49.6%	49.9%	50.1%	50.9%	50.9%	2.5%
Female	50.4%	50.1%	49.9%	49.1%	49.1%	-2.4%

By First Placement Setting

Placement Setting	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change 2011 to 2015
Family Setting	74.8%	76.4%	76.7%	80.7%	80.9%	8.2%
Pre-adoptive Home	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%	-41.9%
Foster Family Home – Relative	25.0%	25.8%	27.2%	33.1%	33.6%	34.1%
Foster Family Home – Non-Relative	49.5%	50.4%	49.3%	47.5%	47.2%	-4.7%
Congregate Care	22.4%	21.1%	21.0%	17.5%	17.0%	-23.9%
Group Home	14.8%	14.7%	15.0%	12.1%	10.7%	-27.4%
Institution	7.6%	6.4%	6.0%	5.4%	6.3%	-17.0%
Supervised Independent Living	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	-46.6%
Runaway	0.7%	0.4%	0.6%	0.4%	0.4%	-35.2%
Trial Home Visit	1.9%	1.9%	1.5%	1.2%	1.5%	-20.8%

Statewide Findings

- The proportion of children entering foster care as first time entries has increased over the past five years. Three in four entries are first time entries.
- 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 2015, four in five children entering foster care as first time entries were placed in family settings. Of those children, nearly 42 percent are placed with a relative.

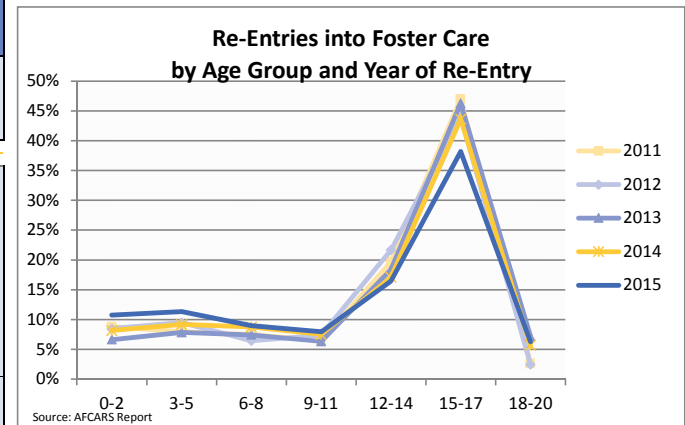
FOSTER CARE - RE-ENTRIES

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

	State					% Change 2011 to 2015
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
Re-Entries During the Year	2,870	2,775	2,608	2,772	2,544	-11.4%
Re-Entries as Percent of All Entries	29.1%	28.3%	28.0%	26.7%	24.5%	-16.0%



By Age

Age Group	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change 2011 to 2015
0-2	8.8%	8.5%	6.6%	8.2%	10.8%	22.2%
3-5	7.9%	9.5%	7.8%	9.2%	11.4%	43.0%
6-8	7.5%	6.5%	7.4%	8.8%	9.0%	19.6%
9-11	6.5%	7.4%	6.3%	7.5%	7.9%	22.5%
12-14	19.7%	21.7%	18.4%	17.1%	16.5%	-16.3%
15-17	46.9%	44.1%	46.3%	43.7%	38.2%	-18.6%
18-20	2.6%	2.5%	7.1%	5.7%	6.3%	137.5%
Infants (age 0-1)	5.6%	4.9%	3.8%	5.2%	6.5%	15.6%
Youth (age 13+)	65.2%	64.3%	68.6%	63.5%	57.9%	-11.1%

By Race and Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change 2011 to 2015
Non-Hispanic White	34.5%	35.7%	34.3%	35.8%	34.7%	0.5%
Non-Hispanic Black or African American	34.9%	45.5%	44.2%	43.3%	40.4%	15.7%
Non-Hispanic Other Race	18.5%	4.1%	6.7%	4.1%	7.8%	-57.9%
Non-Hispanic Two or More Races	1.4%	3.3%	3.4%	4.5%	4.9%	261.6%
Hispanic or Latino	10.7%	11.3%	11.4%	12.2%	12.2%	13.5%

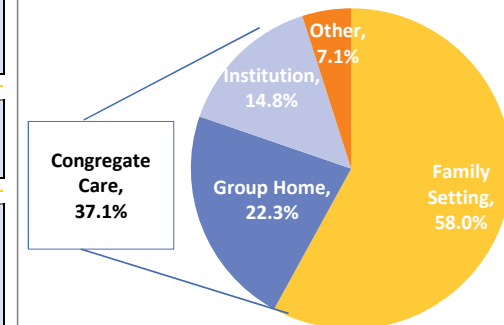
By Gender

Gender	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change 2011 to 2015
Male	47.0%	47.6%	48.1%	50.6%	50.5%	7.4%
Female	53.0%	52.4%	51.9%	49.4%	49.5%	-6.5%

By Placement Setting at Re-Entry

Placement Setting	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change 2011 to 2015
Family Setting	50.9%	50.5%	48.5%	53.7%	58.0%	14.0%
Pre-adoptive Home	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%	0.6%	61.0%
Foster Family Home – Relative	17.2%	16.5%	14.9%	20.2%	24.3%	41.6%
Foster Family Home – Non-Relative	33.3%	33.5%	33.3%	33.3%	33.1%	-0.7%
Congregate Care	42.7%	45.3%	44.4%	40.6%	37.1%	-13.1%
Group Home	23.8%	26.0%	26.7%	24.8%	22.3%	-6.5%
Institution	18.9%	19.2%	17.7%	15.9%	14.8%	-21.5%
Supervised Independent Living	1.6%	0.8%	1.6%	1.6%	1.7%	9.9%
Runaway	4.2%	2.5%	4.3%	3.3%	2.4%	-43.9%
Trial Home Visit	0.7%	1.0%	1.2%	0.8%	0.8%	27.1%

Percent of Children by Placement Setting at Re-Entry to Foster Care, 2015



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 2015, nearly 3 in 5 of the children re-entering foster care were placed in family settings. Of those children, 47 percent were placed in a non-relative foster home.

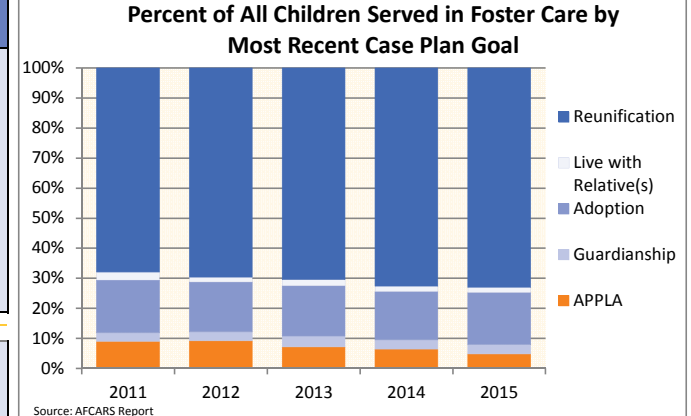
FOSTER CARE - GOALS

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 2011 to 2015
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
Permanency Goals	91.0%	90.9%	92.8%	93.6%	95.2%	4.5%
Reunify With Parent(s) or Principal Caretaker(s)	68.0%	69.6%	70.5%	72.6%	73.1%	7.5%
Adoption	17.6%	16.6%	16.7%	16.1%	17.4%	-1.2%
Guardianship	2.8%	3.1%	3.6%	3.1%	3.0%	6.7%
Live with Relative(s)	2.7%	1.6%	2.1%	1.8%	1.7%	-35.9%
Another Planned Permanent Arrangement (APPLA)	9.0%	9.1%	7.2%	6.4%	4.8%	-46.1%
Long Term Foster Care	3.4%	3.2%	2.1%	1.8%	1.2%	-64.8%
Emancipation	5.5%	5.9%	5.1%	4.6%	3.6%	-34.5%

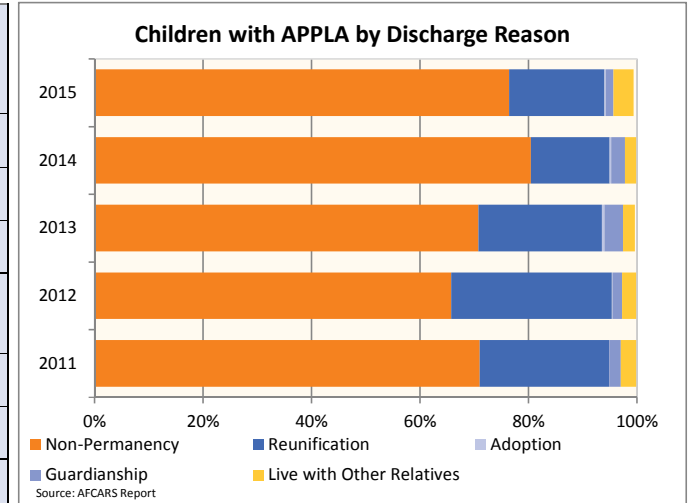


APPLA By Age as % of Age Group Served

Age Group	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change 2011 to 2015
0-15	1.6%	1.7%	1.1%	0.8%	0.4%	-75.2%
16-20	27.0%	28.4%	23.6%	23.1%	19.4%	-28.1%

APPLA By Discharge Reason

Discharge Reason	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change 2011 to 2015
Exit to Permanent Arrangements	28.8%	34.1%	28.9%	19.4%	23.0%	-20.3%
Reunification	23.9%	29.6%	22.8%	14.5%	17.6%	-26.2%
(number of months until reunification)	36.2	37.2	27.8	36.2	27.5	-23.9%
Adoption	0.0%	0.1%	0.5%	0.3%	0.2%	-
(number of months until adoption)	0.0	76.0	41.1	149.3	31.2	-
Guardianship	2.1%	1.7%	3.4%	2.5%	1.4%	-32.3%
(number of month until guardianship)	38.7	35.3	32.0	27.8	18.0	-53.5%
Live with Other Relatives	2.8%	2.6%	2.2%	2.1%	3.7%	30.6%
(number of months until living with relatives)	30.8	25.8	30.6	15.9	37.1	20.3%
Exit to Non-Permanent Arrangements	71.0%	65.8%	70.8%	80.4%	76.4%	7.6%
Emancipation	63.8%	60.5%	64.2%	73.0%	71.7%	12.3%
(number of months until emancipation)	40.4	40.6	33.1	33.5	34.3	-15.0%
Transfer to Another Agency	4.4%	3.6%	3.6%	5.5%	2.7%	-39.2%
(number of months until transfer)	80.7	51.5	46.4	13.0	40.7	-49.6%
Runaway	2.8%	1.6%	3.1%	1.9%	2.0%	-27.5%
(number of months until running away)	37.9	8.9	26.5	16.3	23.4	-38.2%
Death of Child	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.6%	335.2%
(number of months until death of a child)	142.5	42.8	92.4	129.8	9.0	-93.7%



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 76 percent of the time.
- In 2015, over 19 percent of older youth had the goal of APPLA.

FOSTER CARE - EXITS

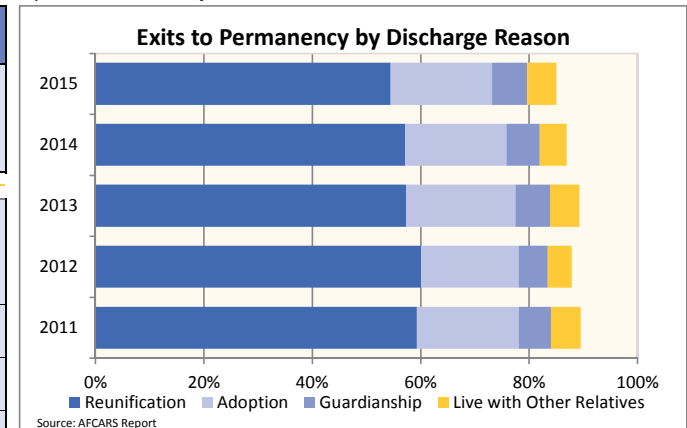
Data on foster care exits provides information on children who left foster care during the federal fiscal year, where they went when they left and how long their most recent episode of foster care was. A paramount goal of the foster care system is to assure every child has the lifelong support of a permanent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

Indicator

Children Exiting Foster Care

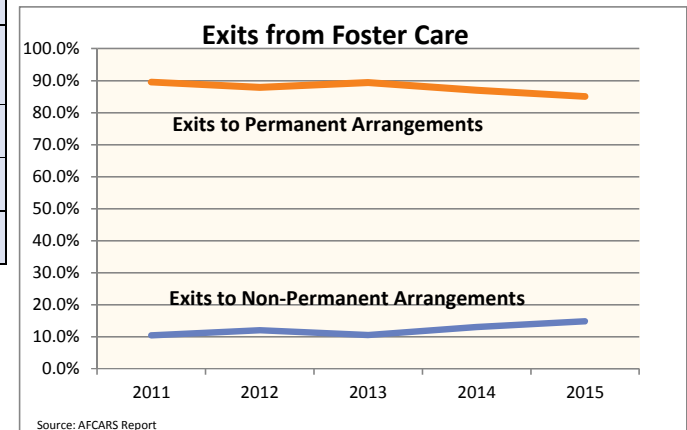
	State				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total Children Leaving Foster Care	10,630	10,098	9,123	9,769	9,471
Percent of Children Leaving Foster Care (number of months until leaving)	46.7%	45.9%	42.6%	43.4%	41.2%
	11.7	11.9	11.9	10.7	11.4

% Change 2011 to 2015
-10.9%
-11.8%
-3.1%



By Discharge Reason

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change
Exit to Permanent Arrangements	89.5%	87.9%	89.3%	86.9%	85.0%	-5.0%
Reunification (number of months until reunification)	59.3%	60.1%	57.3%	57.2%	54.5%	-8.2%
Adoption (number of months until adoption)	18.8%	18.0%	20.2%	18.6%	18.7%	-0.4%
Guardianship (number of month until guardianship)	6.0%	5.4%	6.4%	6.1%	6.5%	8.4%
Live with Other Relatives (number of months until living with relatives)	5.4%	4.4%	5.5%	5.0%	5.4%	-1.1%
Exit to Non-Permanent Arrangements	10.4%	12.0%	10.5%	13.0%	14.8%	41.9%
Emancipation (number of months until emancipation)	7.8%	8.0%	8.1%	7.7%	7.8%	-0.6%
Transfer to Another Agency (number of months until transfer)	2.2%	1.6%	2.0%	4.3%	5.8%	166.9%
Runaway (number of months until running away)	0.5%	2.4%	0.5%	1.1%	1.3%	174.9%
Death of Child	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	161.9%
	12.7	4.7	11.9	30.9	4.9	-61.2%



Statewide Findings

- On average, children will remain in foster care 11.4 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.

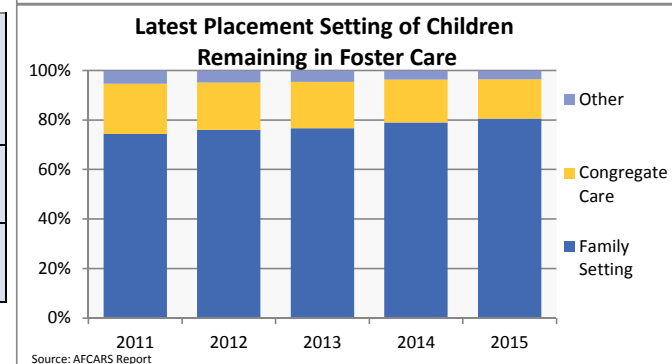
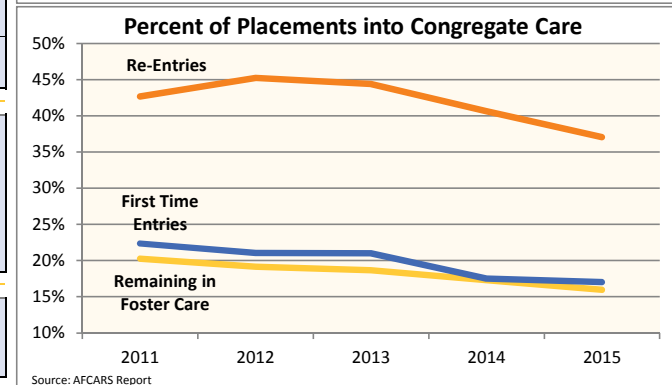
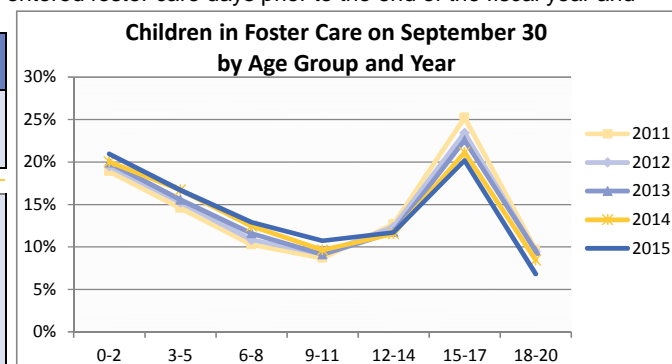
Indicator	State					% Change 2011 to 2015
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
Children Remaining in Foster Care						
Children in Foster Care on Last Day	13,701	13,566	13,697	14,162	14,859	8.5%
(number of months children have been in care)	13.6	13.0	13.1	12.6	12.5	-8.2%

By Age		State					% Change 2011 to 2015
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
0-2		18.9%	19.5%	19.9%	20.0%	21.0%	10.8%
3-5		14.6%	15.3%	15.6%	16.7%	16.7%	14.6%
6-8		10.3%	10.9%	11.6%	12.4%	12.9%	26.0%
9-11		8.7%	9.2%	9.1%	9.6%	10.7%	23.6%
12-14		12.7%	12.4%	11.7%	11.5%	11.7%	-7.8%
15-17		25.2%	23.4%	22.6%	21.1%	20.2%	-19.9%
18-20		9.7%	9.4%	9.5%	8.4%	6.8%	-29.6%
Infants (age 0-1)		12.6%	13.2%	12.7%	13.2%	13.9%	10.5%
Youth (age 13+)		44.4%	41.9%	40.7%	37.8%	35.2%	-20.6%

By Race and Ethnicity		State					% Change 2011 to 2015
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
Non-Hispanic White		39.4%	40.9%	38.7%	40.1%	37.9%	-3.8%
Non-Hispanic Black or African American		31.0%	37.5%	37.1%	38.3%	36.9%	19.1%
Non-Hispanic Other Race		15.9%	6.0%	7.8%	3.9%	6.0%	-62.5%
Non-Hispanic Two or More Races		2.0%	3.3%	3.7%	4.7%	4.9%	141.7%
Hispanic or Latino		11.7%	12.2%	12.7%	13.0%	14.3%	23.0%

By Gender		State					% Change 2011 to 2015
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
Male		50.7%	50.8%	50.7%	50.9%	51.3%	1.1%
Female		49.3%	49.2%	49.3%	49.1%	48.7%	-1.1%

By Latest Placement Setting		State					% Change 2011 to 2015
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
Family Setting		74.4%	76.1%	76.8%	79.0%	80.6%	8.3%
Pre-adoptive Home		3.5%	3.0%	3.2%	3.9%	3.2%	-8.4%
Foster Family Home – Relative		23.6%	25.2%	25.7%	30.0%	32.8%	39.2%
Foster Family Home – Non-Relative		47.3%	47.9%	47.9%	45.1%	44.5%	-5.9%
Congregate Care		20.3%	19.2%	18.7%	17.3%	16.0%	-21.3%
Group Home		10.7%	11.0%	10.8%	10.6%	9.0%	-16.5%
Institution		9.5%	8.2%	7.8%	6.7%	7.0%	-26.7%
Supervised Independent Living		2.2%	1.9%	2.1%	1.7%	1.4%	-37.9%
Runaway		1.8%	1.8%	1.4%	1.1%	1.1%	-39.9%
Trial Home Visit		1.2%	1.1%	1.0%	0.8%	1.0%	-21.0%



Statewide Findings

- The majority of children remaining in foster care are less than 9 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 foster care within a congregate setting has decreased since 2011.

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 2011 to 2015
2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
36.1%	36.9%	34.1%	32.7%	32.8%	-9.3%

Statewide Findings

From 2011 to 2015, stability for children in foster care has improved.

FOSTER CARE - TIMELY REUNIFICATION

A child's separation 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 2011 to 2015
2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
48.2%	44.6%	41.3%	39.7%	39.0%	-19.0%

Statewide Findings

The percentage of children reunified with their parents or relatives within 12 months of entering foster care continues to decline.

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 2011 to 2015
2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
27.7%	26.3%	26.4%	26.9%	24.1%	-12.9%

Statewide Findings

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



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