

## CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES (CPS)

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 and Neglect Reports

Total reported incidents of suspected child abuse and neglect through the ChildLine Registry. (Number and rate per 1,000 children age 0-17)

2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			County % Change 2016 to 2020
County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	
555	7,327	44,359	574	7,873	47,485	524	7,317	44,063	532	7,095	42,252	466	5,924	32,919	-16.0%
22.0	18.0	15.9	22.8	19.3	17.0	20.8	18.0	15.8	21.1	17.4	15.1	18.5	14.5	11.8	

#### Child Abuse and Neglect Substantiations

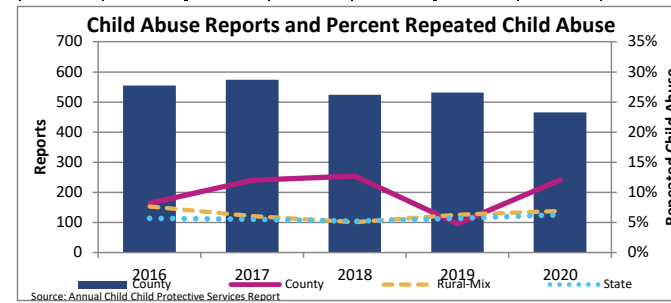
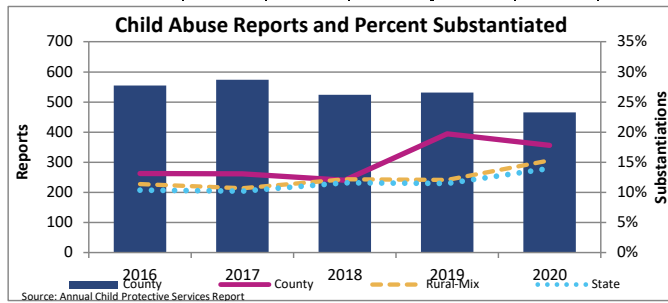
Founded or indicated reports of child abuse and/or neglect.

13.2%	11.4%	10.4%	13.1%	10.7%	10.2%	12.0%	12.2%	11.6%	19.7%	12.1%	11.5%	17.8%	15.3%	14.0%	35.4%
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#### Repeated Child Abuse and Neglect

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

8.2%	7.7%	5.7%	12.0%	6.1%	5.6%	12.7%	5.1%	5.2%	4.8%	6.3%	5.7%	12.0%	6.9%	6.2%	46.6%
1 in 12	1 in 13	1 in 18	1 in 8	1 in 16	1 in 18	1 in 8	1 in 20	1 in 19	1 in 21	1 in 16	1 in 18	1 in 8	1 in 14	1 in 16	



## GENERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICES (GPS)

Reports not alleging abuse of a child are categorized as general protective services (GPS) reports. Addressing concerns related to child safety and well-being before allegations of child abuse or severe neglect are made enables children to remain safely in their own homes while services are provided to the family to mitigate the risk of potential maltreatment.

### Indicator

#### GPS Reports

Total reported concerns of general neglect, not alleging child abuse.

2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			County % Change 2016 to 2020
County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	
1,597	26,826	151,087	1,648	28,044	163,852	1,760	29,067	169,723	1,791	31,053	178,124	1,549	27,270	152,478	-3.0%

#### Valid GPS Reports

Reports in which the allegations were found to have merit. Includes reports accepted for in-home services and reports referred out to community agencies for services.

32.1%	24.9%	20.9%	36.7%	27.9%	22.8%	39.9%	28.9%	23.6%	38.5%	28.8%	23.5%	39.4%	33.5%	25.6%	22.6%
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#### Children with Valid Allegations

Number of children with a valid GPS allegation by valid report. Children may be counted more than once if more than one report was found to have merit.

755	9,197	43,702	969	11,314	53,319	1,092	12,422	58,982	1,112	13,178	60,755	964	13,492	56,999	27.7%
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#### Unduplicated Number of Children Served

Children who received in-home services along with parents to address concerns related to child safety and well-being.

2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			County % Change 2016 to 2020
County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	
2,827	36,232	190,413	2,676	38,573	186,855	2,797	38,955	194,761	2,817	40,247	187,280	2,747	>34,972	>181,435	-2.8%

# State of Child Welfare 2021

# Mercer (Rural-Mix)

## 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)

Indicator	2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			County % Change 2016 to 2020
	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	
Unduplicated Number of Children Served	81	3,123	24,543	91	3,258	25,381	84	3,492	25,441	NA	3,307	24,665	77	2,928	21,689	-4.9%
	2.6	6.5	7.3	3.0	6.7	7.5	2.7	7.2	7.5	2.7	6.8	7.3	2.5	6.1	6.4	

#### By Age

Age Group	2016 County	2016 Rural-Mix	2016 State	2017 County	2017 Rural-Mix	2017 State	2018 County	2018 Rural-Mix	2018 State	2019 County	2019 Rural-Mix	2019 State	2020 County	2020 Rural-Mix	2020 State	County % Change 2016 to 2020
0-2	19.8%	23.8%	20.2%	18.7%	23.6%	20.3%	20.2%	22.1%	20.2%	27.7%	21.9%	20.2%	35.1%	23.6%	20.9%	77.5%
3-5	S	16.5%	17.0%	13.2%	18.3%	17.4%	13.1%	19.6%	17.9%	19.3%	19.2%	17.8%	19.5%	19.9%	17.8%	-
6-8	S	12.2%	13.0%	20.9%	12.6%	13.3%	22.6%	14.1%	13.4%	12.0%	14.5%	13.8%	S	12.9%	13.5%	-
9-11	S	9.9%	11.0%	S	9.8%	11.4%	S	10.8%	11.8%	7.2%	10.9%	11.7%	S	10.7%	11.7%	-
12-14	S	11.6%	11.2%	12.1%	11.5%	11.6%	S	10.9%	11.8%	10.8%	11.8%	12.3%	S	11.6%	12.6%	-
15-17	34.6%	21.0%	19.6%	29.7%	18.9%	18.6%	20.2%	17.7%	18.7%	16.9%	17.7%	18.5%	20.8%	17.5%	17.9%	-39.9%
18-20	S	5.0%	7.9%	S	5.2%	7.4%	S	5.0%	6.3%	6.0%	4.0%	5.6%	0.0%	3.8%	5.6%	-
Infants (age 0-1)	S	16.0%	12.8%	14.3%	14.6%	12.7%	13.1%	13.9%	12.7%	21.7%	13.6%	12.9%	26.0%	15.4%	13.2%	-
Youth (age 13+)	46.9%	34.6%	35.5%	42.9%	32.3%	34.0%	36.9%	30.0%	33.1%	32.5%	29.8%	32.6%	24.7%	29.3%	32.3%	-47.4%

#### By Race and Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	2016 County	2016 Rural-Mix	2016 State	2017 County	2017 Rural-Mix	2017 State	2018 County	2018 Rural-Mix	2018 State	2019 County	2019 Rural-Mix	2019 State	2020 County	2020 Rural-Mix	2020 State	County % Change 2016 to 2020
Non-Hispanic White	70.4%	74.4%	42.5%	59.3%	73.0%	42.9%	72.6%	73.8%	43.7%	68.7%	73.9%	43.7%	53.2%	74.0%	44.2%	-24.3%
Non-Hispanic Black or African American	14.8%	10.7%	35.3%	23.1%	11.0%	34.9%	14.3%	9.6%	33.9%	15.7%	8.7%	33.0%	16.9%	8.1%	32.0%	14.0%
Non-Hispanic Other Race	0.0%	1.1%	3.3%	S	1.5%	2.9%	S	1.6%	2.3%	4.8%	1.9%	2.6%	S	3.0%	3.6%	-
Non-Hispanic Two or More Races	14.8%	7.0%	5.4%	14.3%	7.3%	6.2%	S	8.2%	7.1%	10.8%	8.3%	7.7%	22.1%	8.6%	8.0%	49.0%
Hispanic or Latino	0.0%	6.7%	13.4%	S	7.1%	13.2%	S	6.7%	13.0%	0.0%	7.1%	12.9%	S	6.4%	12.3%	-

#### By Gender

Gender	2016 County	2016 Rural-Mix	2016 State	2017 County	2017 Rural-Mix	2017 State	2018 County	2018 Rural-Mix	2018 State	2019 County	2019 Rural-Mix	2019 State	2020 County	2020 Rural-Mix	2020 State	County % Change 2016 to 2020
Male	49.4%	53.5%	51.2%	50.5%	54.2%	51.0%	46.4%	52.9%	50.8%	42.2%	52.5%	50.8%	48.1%	53.3%	50.6%	-2.7%
Female	50.6%	46.5%	48.8%	49.5%	45.8%	49.0%	53.6%	47.1%	49.2%	57.8%	47.5%	49.2%	51.9%	46.7%	49.4%	2.6%

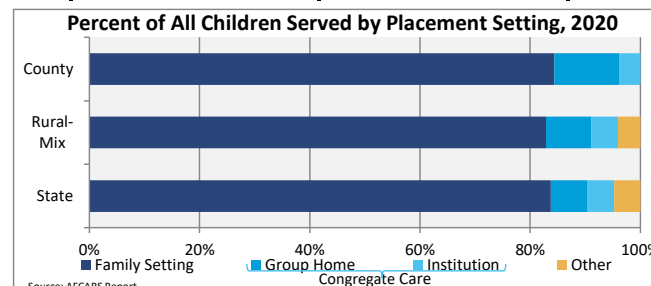
#### By Latest Placement Setting

Placement Setting	2016 County	2016 Rural-Mix	2016 State	2017 County	2017 Rural-Mix	2017 State	2018 County	2018 Rural-Mix	2018 State	2019 County	2019 Rural-Mix	2019 State	2020 County	2020 Rural-Mix	2020 State	County % Change 2016 to 2020
<b>Family Setting</b>	<b>&gt;69.0%</b>	<b>77.7%</b>	<b>79.0%</b>	<b>68.1%</b>	<b>78.7%</b>	<b>80.5%</b>	<b>82.1%</b>	<b>80.9%</b>	<b>81.6%</b>	<b>85.5%</b>	<b>81.4%</b>	<b>82.7%</b>	<b>84.4%</b>	<b>82.9%</b>	<b>83.8%</b>	<b>&lt;22.3%</b>
Pre-adoptive Home	0.0%	1.8%	4.5%	0.0%	1.6%	4.0%	0.0%	1.0%	4.5%	0.0%	1.0%	3.8%	0.0%	0.9%	2.9%	-
Foster Family Home – Relative	>20.9%	25.3%	34.1%	27.5%	27.3%	36.4%	44.0%	28.6%	37.1%	54.2%	30.0%	38.7%	53.2%	33.5%	40.8%	<154.8%
Foster Family Home – Non-Relative	48.1%	50.7%	40.5%	40.7%	49.8%	40.1%	38.1%	51.3%	40.1%	31.3%	50.4%	40.3%	31.2%	48.5%	40.1%	-35.3%
<b>Congregate Care Setting</b>	<b>&gt;25.9%</b>	<b>16.0%</b>	<b>15.8%</b>	<b>&gt;16.5%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>	<b>14.9%</b>	<b>&gt;14.2%</b>	<b>14.0%</b>	<b>14.0%</b>	<b>14.5%</b>	<b>14.2%</b>	<b>12.7%</b>	<b>15.6%</b>	<b>13.1%</b>	<b>11.5%</b>	<b>&lt;-39.8%</b>
Group Home	25.9%	10.0%	9.1%	16.5%	9.6%	8.8%	S	8.8%	8.5%	9.6%	8.6%	7.7%	S	8.2%	6.7%	-
Institution	S	6.1%	6.8%	S	5.9%	6.1%	S	5.2%	5.6%	4.8%	5.7%	5.0%	S	4.9%	4.8%	-
<b>Supervised Independent Living</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>-</b>
Runaway	0.0%	0.2%	1.4%	0.0%	0.4%	1.4%	0.0%	0.5%	1.4%	0.0%	0.4%	1.4%	0.0%	0.3%	1.9%	-
Trial Home Visit	0.0%	5.2%	2.2%	S	4.8%	1.7%	S	3.8%	1.4%	0.0%	3.0%	1.5%	0.0%	3.1%	1.6%	-

#### Children Entering Foster Care

All Entries into Foster Care During the Year

Indicator	2016 County	2016 Rural-Mix	2016 State	2017 County	2017 Rural-Mix	2017 State	2018 County	2018 Rural-Mix	2018 State	2019 County	2019 Rural-Mix	2019 State	2020 County	2020 Rural-Mix	2020 State	County % Change 2016 to 2020
Children Entering Foster Care	40	1,602	10,567	44	1,547	10,781	37	1,575	10,095	NA	1,381	9,448	40	1,208	7,286	0.0%



NA = Data not currently available  
S = rate suppressed due to count less than 11 persons

## 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

Indicator	2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			County % Change 2016 to 2020
	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	
Children Entering for the First Time	29	1,291	8,082	37	1,235	8,438	26	1,252	7,626	NA	1,101	7,266	32	979	5,540	10.3%
First Time Entries During the Year (Rate per 1,000 children age 0-20)	0.9	2.7	2.4	1.2	2.6	2.5	0.8	2.6	2.3	1.1	2.3	2.2	1.0	2.0	1.6	
First Time Entries as Percent of All Entries	72.5%	80.6%	76.5%	84.1%	79.8%	78.3%	70.3%	79.5%	75.5%	77.3%	79.7%	76.9%	80.0%	81.0%	76.0%	10.3%

#### By Age

0-2  
3-5  
6-8  
9-11  
12-14  
15-20  
Infants (age 0-1)  
Youth (age 13+)

Age Group	2016 County	2016 Rural-Mix	2016 State	2017 County	2017 Rural-Mix	2017 State	2018 County	2018 Rural-Mix	2018 State	2019 County	2019 Rural-Mix	2019 State	2020 County	2020 Rural-Mix	2020 State	% Change
0-2	48.3%	36.3%	33.3%	S	33.5%	33.2%	S	33.1%	34.4%	52.9%	35.1%	35.1%	50.0%	38.3%	38.2%	3.6%
3-5	S	14.3%	14.7%	S	17.1%	15.3%	S	17.8%	15.4%	14.7%	14.5%	14.8%	S	16.8%	14.5%	-
6-8	S	11.9%	12.5%	S	10.9%	11.9%	S	12.1%	11.5%	2.9%	11.4%	11.8%	0.0%	9.2%	11.4%	-
9-11	0.0%	7.7%	9.6%	0.0%	8.7%	10.1%	S	10.7%	10.3%	5.9%	9.7%	10.7%	S	8.1%	9.7%	-
12-14	S	11.4%	12.6%	S	13.8%	13.1%	S	12.1%	12.8%	14.7%	13.4%	12.9%	S	12.6%	12.5%	-
15-20	S	18.6%	17.4%	S	16.0%	16.5%	S	14.1%	15.6%	8.8%	15.9%	14.6%	S	15.1%	13.7%	-
Infants (age 0-1)	S	29.0%	26.3%	S	26.2%	26.5%	S	26.4%	28.0%	44.1%	28.1%	29.1%	37.5%	32.3%	31.7%	-
Youth (age 13+)	S	27.2%	26.6%	40.5%	26.0%	26.0%	S	23.1%	24.7%	14.7%	21.7%	19.5%	S	24.2%	22.6%	-

#### By Race and Ethnicity

Non-Hispanic White  
Non-Hispanic Black or African American  
Non-Hispanic Other Race  
Non-Hispanic Two or More Races  
Hispanic or Latino

Race/Ethnicity	2016 County	2016 Rural-Mix	2016 State	2017 County	2017 Rural-Mix	2017 State	2018 County	2018 Rural-Mix	2018 State	2019 County	2019 Rural-Mix	2019 State	2020 County	2020 Rural-Mix	2020 State	% Change
Non-Hispanic White	62.1%	74.3%	49.4%	56.8%	70.5%	47.6%	76.9%	73.8%	48.3%	64.7%	74.2%	47.6%	46.9%	72.3%	49.7%	-24.5%
Non-Hispanic Black or African American	S	9.5%	28.6%	29.7%	13.4%	29.7%	S	9.7%	29.3%	17.6%	9.4%	28.4%	S	8.3%	25.2%	-
Non-Hispanic Other Race	0.0%	1.6%	4.1%	S	2.6%	3.4%	S	1.9%	2.7%	11.8%	3.2%	3.7%	S	4.5%	5.3%	-
Non-Hispanic Two or More Races	S	7.0%	5.4%	S	6.7%	6.3%	S	9.2%	7.7%	5.9%	6.5%	7.7%	S	7.8%	8.2%	-
Hispanic or Latino	0.0%	7.6%	12.6%	S	6.7%	13.0%	0.0%	5.4%	12.0%	0.0%	6.7%	12.6%	S	7.2%	11.6%	-

#### By Gender

Male  
Female

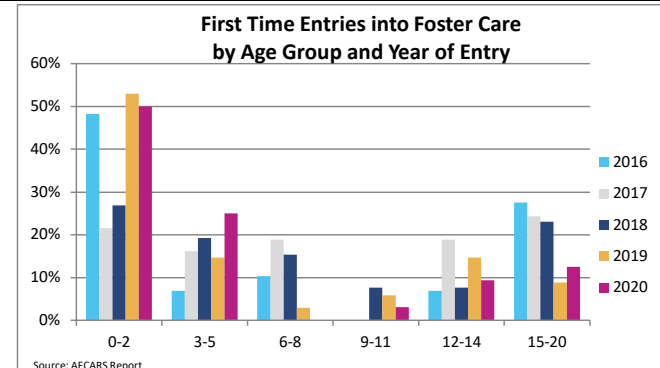
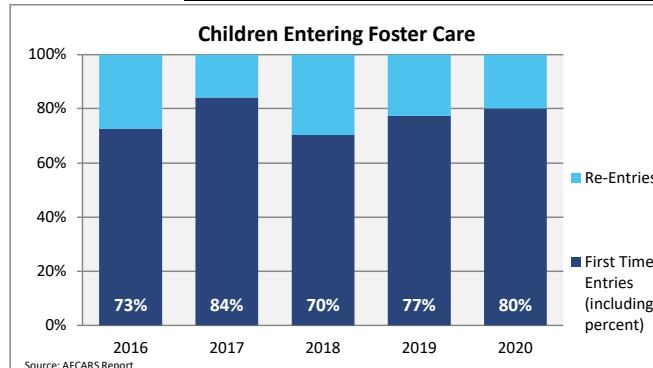
Gender	2016 County	2016 Rural-Mix	2016 State	2017 County	2017 Rural-Mix	2017 State	2018 County	2018 Rural-Mix	2018 State	2019 County	2019 Rural-Mix	2019 State	2020 County	2020 Rural-Mix	2020 State	% Change
Male	S	53.1%	50.8%	48.6%	54.0%	51.0%	53.8%	51.7%	50.7%	47.1%	52.5%	50.8%	56.3%	53.8%	50.5%	-
Female	>68.9%	46.9%	49.2%	51.4%	46.0%	49.0%	46.2%	48.3%	49.3%	52.9%	47.5%	49.2%	43.8%	46.2%	49.5%	<-36.5%

#### By First Reported Placement Setting

**Family Setting**  
Pre-adoptive Home  
Foster Family Home – Relative  
Foster Family Home – Non-Relative  
**Congregate Care Setting**  
Group Home  
Institution  
**Supervised Independent Living**  
Runaway  
Trial Home Visit

Placement Setting	2016 County	2016 Rural-Mix	2016 State	2017 County	2017 Rural-Mix	2017 State	2018 County	2018 Rural-Mix	2018 State	2019 County	2019 Rural-Mix	2019 State	2020 County	2020 Rural-Mix	2020 State	% Change
<b>Family Setting</b>	>44.8%	82.3%	82.3%	83.8%	>83.6%	83.6%	>49.9%	83.4%	83.8%	85.3%	81.4%	85.7%	>65.5%	85.5%	>87.5%	-
Pre-adoptive Home	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	S	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	S	-
Foster Family Home – Relative	S	37.5%	37.5%	35.1%	31.9%	39.1%	>49.9%	32.3%	39.9%	41.2%	30.6%	41.6%	>65.5%	38.3%	44.3%	-
Foster Family Home – Non-Relative	44.8%	44.6%	44.6%	48.6%	51.7%	44.2%	S	51.0%	43.7%	44.1%	50.8%	43.7%	S	47.2%	43.1%	-
<b>Congregate Care Setting</b>	>0.0%	15.9%	15.9%	16.2%	14.7%	15.0%	>0.0%	14.1%	14.3%	14.7%	17.2%	12.7%	>12.4%	13.2%	10.6%	-
Group Home	S	9.7%	9.7%	S	8.7%	9.1%	S	9.7%	9.4%	11.8%	10.3%	8.5%	S	8.7%	7.2%	-
Institution	0.0%	6.2%	6.2%	S	6.0%	5.9%	0.0%	4.4%	4.9%	2.9%	6.9%	4.2%	S	4.5%	3.4%	-
<b>Supervised Independent Living</b>	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	S	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	S	-
Runaway	0.0%	0.6%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	S	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%	-
Trial Home Visit	0.0%	1.0%	1.0%	0.0%	<1.6%	0.8%	0.0%	<2.3%	1.1%	0.0%	<1.4%	0.6%	0.0%	1.3%	0.9%	-

NA = Data not currently available  
S = rate suppressed due to count less than 11 persons



## 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 and out of the system. Others can experience large spans of time between foster care episodes, which is why the age of children who re-enter is typically older.

### Indicator

#### Children Re-Entering Foster Care

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

County	2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			County % Change 2016 to 2020
	Rural-Mix	State		Rural-Mix	State		Rural-Mix	State		Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State			
11	311	2,485	S	312	2,343	S	323	2,469	NA	280	2,182	S	229	1,746	-	
27.5%	19.4%	23.5%	S	20.2%	21.7%	S	29.7%	20.5%	24.5%	22.7%	20.3%	23.1%	S	19.0%	24.0%	-

#### By Age

Age Group	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County % Change 2016 to 2020
0-2	0.0%	9.3%	11.2%	0.0%	14.7%	11.4%	S	9.6%	10.8%	0.0%	8.6%	11.9%	S	11.4%	10.5%	-
3-5	S	10.3%	9.7%	0.0%	14.4%	11.1%	S	13.0%	12.6%	20.0%	19.3%	12.7%	0.0%	10.0%	10.9%	-
6-8	0.0%	10.6%	10.1%	0.0%	15.7%	11.7%	S	14.9%	12.1%	20.0%	13.6%	11.9%	S	17.0%	11.0%	-
9-11	0.0%	11.6%	9.6%	0.0%	8.7%	10.6%	S	12.4%	11.5%	0.0%	10.7%	10.4%	0.0%	12.2%	12.0%	-
12-14	S	22.2%	18.5%	S	12.8%	17.2%	S	18.3%	17.7%	20.0%	20.7%	18.7%	S	16.6%	17.7%	-
15-20	S	36.0%	40.9%	S	33.7%	38.2%	S	31.9%	35.4%	40.0%	27.1%	34.4%	S	32.8%	37.9%	-
Infants (age 0-1)	0.0%	7.1%	7.4%	0.0%	9.0%	6.6%	0.0%	5.0%	6.4%	0.0%	5.7%	6.9%	S	8.7%	7.3%	-
Youth (age 13+)	S	51.8%	55.3%	S	42.6%	51.1%	S	44.3%	48.6%	60.0%	43.2%	48.7%	S	44.1%	51.1%	-

#### By Race and Ethnicity

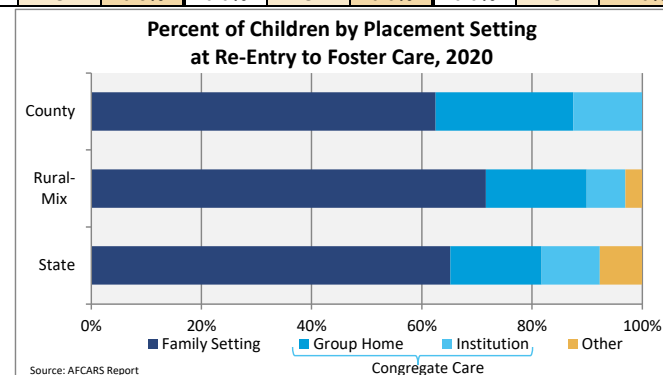
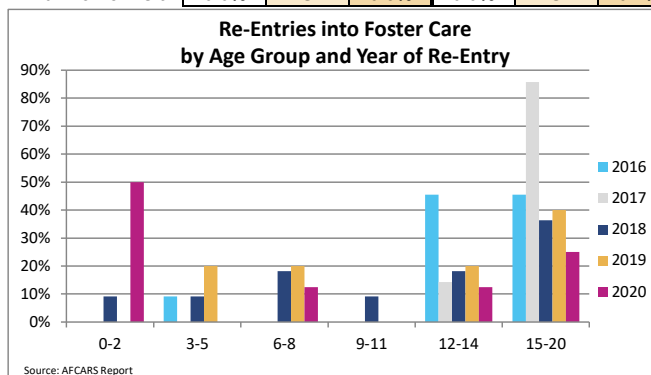
Race/Ethnicity	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County % Change 2016 to 2020
Non-Hispanic White	S	69.8%	39.5%	S	69.6%	40.6%	S	74.9%	39.6%	50.0%	75.4%	40.6%	S	74.7%	39.1%	-
Non-Hispanic Black or African American	S	13.2%	40.1%	S	10.9%	39.4%	S	8.0%	40.5%	20.0%	9.3%	37.7%	S	7.4%	38.8%	-
Non-Hispanic Other Race	0.0%	0.3%	3.1%	0.0%	2.2%	1.7%	0.0%	0.9%	1.8%	0.0%	1.8%	1.5%	0.0%	2.2%	3.4%	-
Non-Hispanic Two or More Races	S	8.4%	5.8%	S	6.4%	6.3%	S	9.0%	7.1%	30.0%	9.3%	8.6%	S	9.2%	6.8%	-
Hispanic or Latino	0.0%	8.4%	11.6%	S	10.9%	11.9%	0.0%	7.1%	11.1%	0.0%	4.3%	11.5%	0.0%	6.6%	12.0%	-

#### By Gender

Gender	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County % Change 2016 to 2020
Male	S	55.0%	50.3%	S	55.8%	49.6%	S	50.5%	49.1%	40.0%	49.3%	51.2%	S	53.7%	49.0%	-
Female	S	45.0%	49.7%	S	44.2%	50.4%	S	49.5%	50.9%	60.0%	50.7%	48.8%	S	46.3%	51.0%	-

#### By Placement Setting at Re-Entry

Placement Setting	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County % Change 2016 to 2020
<b>Family Setting</b>	<b>27.3%</b>	<b>67.2%</b>	<b>61.7%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>66.3%</b>	<b>63.9%</b>	<b>54.5%</b>	<b>70.0%</b>	<b>66.7%</b>	<b>50.0%</b>	<b>68.2%</b>	<b>68.5%</b>	<b>&gt;0.0%</b>	<b>71.6%</b>	<b>&gt;65.0%</b>	<b>&gt;-100.0%</b>
Pre-adoptive Home	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	S	-
Foster Family Home – Relative	S	16.7%	26.3%	0.0%	21.8%	30.7%	S	18.3%	28.3%	30.0%	26.4%	32.5%	S	32.8%	34.8%	-
Foster Family Home – Non-Relative	S	50.5%	34.6%	0.0%	44.6%	32.6%	S	51.7%	37.9%	20.0%	41.8%	35.3%	0.0%	38.9%	30.1%	-
<b>Congregate Care Setting</b>	<b>72.7%</b>	<b>30.5%</b>	<b>34.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>30.1%</b>	<b>31.2%</b>	<b>45.5%</b>	<b>26.9%</b>	<b>28.0%</b>	<b>50.0%</b>	<b>27.5%</b>	<b>25.8%</b>	<b>&gt;37.4%</b>	<b>25.3%</b>	<b>27.1%</b>	-
Group Home	S	18.6%	19.3%	S	22.1%	19.9%	S	18.6%	18.4%	30.0%	17.9%	16.6%	S	18.3%	16.5%	-
Institution	S	11.9%	14.8%	S	8.0%	11.3%	S	8.4%	9.6%	20.0%	9.6%	9.2%	S	7.0%	10.6%	-
<b>Supervised Independent Living</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	-
Runaway	0.0%	S	2.5%	0.0%	S	2.5%	0.0%	S	2.7%	0.0%	S	3.6%	0.0%	S	5.4%	-
Trial Home Visit	0.0%	S	0.5%	0.0%	S	0.7%	0.0%	S	0.8%	0.0%	S	0.6%	0.0%	S	<1.0%	-



NA = Data not currently available  
S = rate suppressed due to count less than 11 persons

## 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. In addition to the court-ordered 'primary' goal, a 'concurrent' goal is put in place to ensure permanency is achieved if for some reason the primary goal cannot be met. This data provides information on the most recent primary goal for every child served in foster care during the federal fiscal year.

### Indicator

#### Percent of Children by Case Plan Goal

Indicator	2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			County % Change 2016 to 2020
	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	
<b>Family-Based Permanency Goals</b>	<b>94.9%</b>	<b>97.0%</b>	<b>95.0%</b>	<b>98.9%</b>	<b>97.7%</b>	<b>94.0%</b>	<b>&gt;87.8%</b>	<b>98.2%</b>	<b>95.1%</b>	<b>95.1%</b>	<b>98.1%</b>	<b>95.5%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>99.0%</b>	<b>96.4%</b>	<b>5.3%</b>
Reunify With Parent(s) or Principal Caretaker(s)	79.7%	75.0%	69.8%	84.6%	74.5%	66.7%	68.3%	73.0%	65.3%	74.4%	66.8%	63.7%	77.9%	68.3%	65.8%	-2.3%
Adoption	S	15.8%	19.5%	S	16.8%	21.2%	S	18.2%	23.6%	12.2%	23.6%	24.5%	S	24.0%	23.7%	-
Guardianship	S	4.4%	4.3%	S	5.0%	4.8%	19.5%	5.5%	5.1%	8.5%	6.4%	5.9%	S	5.9%	5.4%	-
Live with Relative(s)	0.0%	1.8%	1.5%	0.0%	1.4%	1.3%	0.0%	1.6%	1.2%	0.0%	1.3%	1.5%	S	0.9%	1.4%	-
<b>Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA)</b>	<b>&gt;0.0%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>&gt;0.0%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>&gt;0.0%</b>	<b>&gt;1.6%</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>4.5%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>3.6%</b>	<b>-</b>
Long Term Foster Care	0.0%	0.9%	1.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.7%	0.0%	S	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	-
Emancipation	S	2.1%	4.0%	S	1.8%	5.3%	S	1.6%	4.3%	4.9%	1.9%	4.4%	0.0%	1.0%	3.1%	-

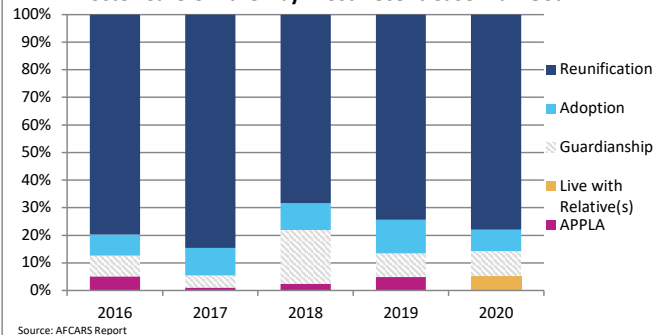
#### APPLA By Age as % of Age Group Served

Age Group	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County % Change 2016 to 2020
0-15	0.0%	S	0.2%	0.0%	S	1.0%	0.0%	S	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	S	0.0%	S	S	-
16-20	S	20.3%	21.6%	S	12.2%	25.1%	S	12.2%	25.1%	28.6%	1.9%	23.5%	0.0%	5.9%	19.6%	-

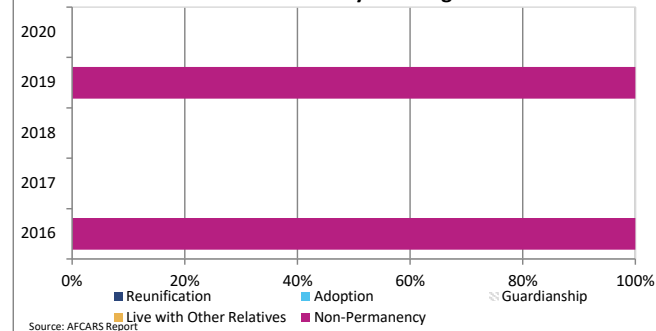
#### APPLA By Discharge Reason

Discharge Reason	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County % Change 2016 to 2020
<b>Exit to Permanent Arrangements</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>20.3%</b>	<b>32.1%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>&gt;0.0%</b>	<b>22.7%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>19.5%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>16.4%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>&gt;0.0%</b>	<b>24.1%</b>	<b>-</b>
Reunification	0.0%	S	27.0%	0.0%	S	17.3%	0.0%	0.0%	16.9%	0.0%	0.0%	15.0%	0.0%	S	23.0%	-
(number of months until reunification)	0.0	39.9	30.4	0.0	12.8	11.8	0.0	0.0	18.6	0.0	0.0	19.2	0.0	22.3	25.1	-
Adoption	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-
(number of months until adoption)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-
Guardianship	0.0%	0.0%	4.2%	0.0%	0.0%	4.9%	0.0%	0.0%	2.3%	0.0%	0.0%	S	0.0%	0.0%	S	-
(number of month until guardianship)	0.0	0.0	32.0	0.0	0.0	23.6	0.0	0.0	25.6	0.0	0.0	23.8	0.0	0.0	32.5	-
Live with Other Relatives	0.0%	S	S	0.0%	0.0%	S	0.0%	0.0%	S	0.0%	0.0%	S	0.0%	0.0%	S	-
(number of months until living with relatives)	0.0	39.8	39.8	0.0	0.0	21.4	0.0	0.0	32.9	0.0	0.0	49.6	0.0	0.0	61.6	-
<b>Exit to Non-Permanent Arrangements</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>&gt;76.3%</b>	<b>67.7%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>88.2%</b>	<b>76.8%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>&gt;97.7%</b>	<b>80.5%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>&gt;97.8%</b>	<b>83.5%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>93.8%</b>	<b>75.6%</b>	<b>-100.0%</b>
Emancipation	S	76.3%	61.3%	0.0%	88.2%	66.7%	0.0%	97.7%	72.1%	100.0%	97.8%	74.3%	0.0%	93.8%	68.0%	-
(number of months until emancipation)	38.7	36.0	30.6	0.0	31.5	26.2	0.0	35.3	27.6	21.0	38.6	30.7	0.0	31.8	26.1	-100.0%
Transfer to Another Agency	0.0%	S	5.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.2%	0.0%	S	5.3%	0.0%	S	7.1%	0.0%	0.0%	6.1%	-
(number of months until transfer)	0.0	52.4	27.6	0.0	0.0	3.7	0.0	33.4	19.4	0.0	74.7	17.9	0.0	0.0	16.0	-
Runaway	0.0%	0.0%	S	0.0%	0.0%	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	3.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.1%	0.0%	0.0%	S	-
(number of months until running away)	0.0	0.0	14.1	0.0	0.0	32.0	0.0	0.0	22.4	0.0	0.0	26.9	0.0	0.0	22.8	-
<b>Death of Child</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>-</b>
(number of months until death of a child)	0.0	0.0	143.7	0.0	199.5	62.6	0.0	0.0	62.6	0.0	0.0	5.7	0.0	0.0	115.9	-

Foster Care Children by Most Recent Case Plan Goal



Children with APPLA by Discharge Reason



NA = Data not currently available  
S = rate suppressed due to count less than 11 persons

## 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 ensure every child has the lifelong support of a permanent family.

### Indicator

#### Children Exiting Foster Care

Total Children Leaving Foster Care  
Percent of Children Leaving Foster Care  
(number of months until leaving)

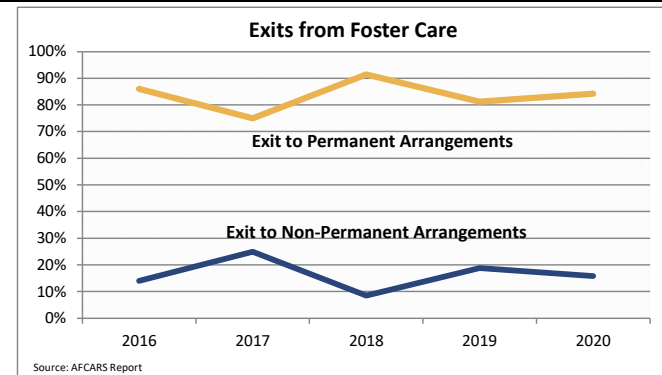
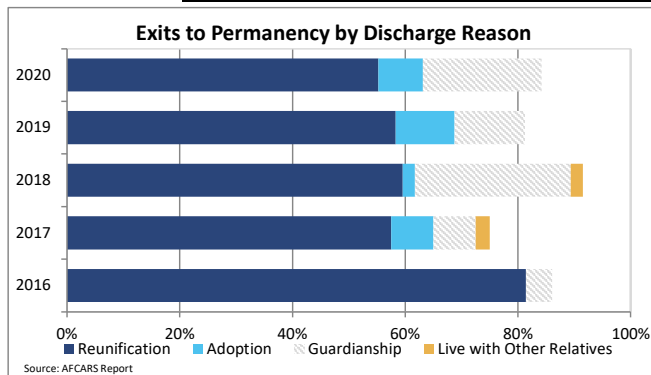
Indicator	2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			County % Change 2016 to 2020
	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	
Total Children Leaving Foster Care	43	1,405	10,635	40	1,328	10,276	47	1,585	10,694	NA	1,608	10,801	38	1,201	8,712	-11.6%
Percent of Children Leaving Foster Care	53.1%	45.0%	43.3%	44.0%	40.8%	40.5%	56.0%	45.4%	42.0%	57.8%	48.6%	43.8%	49.4%	41.0%	40.2%	-7.0%
(number of months until leaving)	7.5	7.8	11.7	10.7	10.0	11.9	11.6	9.3	13.0	5.9	11.3	15.9	11.1	12.2	15.4	47.8%

#### By Discharge Reason

**Exit to Permanent Arrangements**  
Reunification  
(number of months until reunification)  
Adoption  
(number of months until adoption)  
Guardianship  
(number of month until guardianship)  
Live with Other Relatives  
(number of months until living with relatives)  
**Exit to Non-Permanent Arrangements**  
Emancipation  
(number of months until emancipation)  
Transfer to Another Agency  
(number of months until transfer)  
Runaway  
(number of months until running away)  
**Death of Child**  
(number of months until death of a child)

Discharge Reason	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	County % Change 2016 to 2020										
<b>Exit to Permanent Arrangements</b>	<b>&gt;81.4%</b>	<b>92.7%</b>	<b>84.5%</b>	<b>75.0%</b>	<b>91.7%</b>	<b>87.2%</b>	<b>91.5%</b>	<b>92.6%</b>	<b>88.6%</b>	<b>81.3%</b>	<b>90.8%</b>	<b>86.6%</b>	<b>84.2%</b>	<b>89.9%</b>	<b>86.2%</b>	<b>&lt;3.5%</b>
Reunification	81.4%	60.1%	54.5%	57.5%	54.7%	55.1%	59.6%	56.0%	52.5%	58.3%	53.3%	49.8%	55.3%	51.7%	50.8%	-32.1%
(number of months until reunification)	6.2	4.0	6.7	11.4	6.0	6.6	10.2	6.2	6.4	5.6	6.6	7.4	5.8	6.6	8.4	-6.4%
Adoption	0.0%	15.6%	18.7%	S	18.2%	20.2%	S	16.5%	23.9%	10.4%	21.9%	25.2%	S	24.7%	23.5%	-
(number of months until adoption)	0.0	27.5	28.7	22.4	27.5	29.2	25.5	27.1	30.5	34.5	30.9	31.0	30.3	32.0	29.8	-
Guardianship	S	8.0%	6.6%	S	10.8%	6.7%	27.7%	10.2%	7.5%	12.5%	8.1%	7.6%	S	7.9%	7.7%	-
(number of month until guardianship)	9.3	17.0	19.4	19.8	16.2	20.1	21.6	16.1	19.4	17.5	18.3	22.8	16.1	20.3	22.3	73.3%
Live with Other Relatives	0.0%	9.0%	4.7%	S	7.9%	5.1%	S	9.9%	4.6%	0.0%	7.5%	4.1%	0.0%	5.6%	4.1%	-
(number of months until living with relatives)	0.0	5.5	2.2	0.4	3.4	2.2	1.9	3.1	2.1	0.0	3.4	2.5	0.0	15.1	2.4	-
<b>Exit to Non-Permanent Arrangements</b>	<b>14.0%</b>	<b>&gt;7.0%</b>	<b>15.4%</b>	<b>25.0%</b>	<b>&gt;8.1%</b>	<b>12.7%</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>&gt;7.1%</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>18.8%</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>15.8%</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>13.7%</b>	<b>13.2%</b>
Emancipation	S	5.8%	6.8%	S	6.3%	7.9%	S	5.8%	7.3%	12.5%	8.3%	9.3%	S	8.5%	9.5%	-
(number of months until emancipation)	38.7	25.8	23.4	9.6	31.2	22.0	13.3	25.2	23.7	20.3	23.2	26.2	7.0	18.0	22.9	-82.0%
Transfer to Another Agency	S	1.3%	7.9%	S	1.8%	4.3%	S	1.3%	3.5%	6.3%	0.9%	3.5%	S	1.2%	3.7%	-
(number of months until transfer)	6.9	14.8	7.6	3.2	8.2	6.9	20.0	13.3	7.9	5.7	4.7	5.5	2.4	10.8	6.6	-65.5%
Runaway	0.0%	S	0.7%	0.0%	S	0.5%	0.0%	S	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	-
(number of months until running away)	0.0	6.6	11.2	0.0	10.0	19.4	0.0	9.7	14.0	0.0	0.0	14.1	0.0	0.0	11.4	-
<b>Death of Child</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	-
(number of months until death of a child)	0.0	0.0	13.2	0.0	106.4	18.8	0.0	3.8	5.5	0.0	0.2	12.6	0.0	4.6	6.1	-

NA = Data not currently available  
S = rate suppressed due to count less than 11 persons



## 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)

County	2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			County % Change 2016 to 2020
	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State		
	46	1,842	15,382	51	2,049	16,381	42	2,038	16,074	NA	1,805	15,082	40	1,793	13,949	-13.0%
	9.1	10.2	13.2	10.0	10.3	13.4	5.2	11.0	14.2	8.0	11.4	14.0	10.3	11.7	16.4	13.6%

#### By Age

0-2  
3-5  
6-8  
9-11  
12-14  
15-20  
Infants (age 0-1)  
Youth (age 13+)

County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County % Change 2016 to 2020
30.4%	26.7%	21.3%	25.5%	25.4%	21.5%	S	22.6%	21.0%	24.3%	24.5%	21.6%	37.5%	26.1%	22.2%	23.2%
S	16.6%	17.0%	S	18.1%	17.5%	S	19.5%	17.5%	18.9%	19.9%	17.7%	S	20.4%	18.0%	-
S	11.7%	13.2%	25.5%	14.1%	13.7%	S	14.9%	13.6%	16.2%	13.4%	13.8%	S	12.5%	13.9%	-
S	10.2%	11.6%	0.0%	9.7%	11.8%	S	11.3%	12.2%	10.8%	11.1%	12.1%	S	10.9%	12.1%	-
S	11.5%	12.0%	S	11.4%	12.1%	S	11.4%	12.3%	13.5%	11.9%	13.3%	S	12.3%	13.1%	-
30.4%	23.4%	19.6%	21.6%	21.4%	18.2%	31.0%	20.3%	18.3%	16.2%	19.1%	17.7%	S	17.8%	17.2%	-
S	18.4%	13.8%	S	16.0%	13.8%	S	14.9%	13.7%	21.6%	15.6%	14.4%	S	18.0%	14.5%	-
39.1%	32.1%	33.5%	37.3%	29.5%	31.9%	38.1%	28.3%	31.9%	29.7%	31.0%	34.8%	25.0%	26.0%	29.9%	-36.1%

#### By Race and Ethnicity

Non-Hispanic White  
Non-Hispanic Black or African American  
Non-Hispanic Other Race  
Non-Hispanic Two or More Races  
Hispanic or Latino

County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County % Change 2016 to 2020
69.6%	75.1%	41.0%	68.6%	73.8%	42.1%	76.2%	74.2%	42.2%	64.9%	74.6%	42.3%	52.5%	73.2%	41.8%	-24.5%
S	9.9%	37.0%	S	9.9%	35.8%	S	8.6%	35.4%	10.8%	8.3%	34.4%	S	7.6%	33.7%	-
0.0%	0.8%	2.9%	S	1.5%	2.7%	S	1.4%	2.3%	8.1%	2.4%	2.6%	S	3.7%	3.7%	-
S	7.6%	5.5%	S	7.3%	6.1%	S	8.4%	7.1%	16.2%	8.7%	7.8%	S	9.5%	8.3%	-
0.0%	6.7%	13.6%	S	7.5%	13.2%	0.0%	7.4%	13.0%	0.0%	6.0%	13.0%	S	6.0%	12.5%	-

#### By Gender

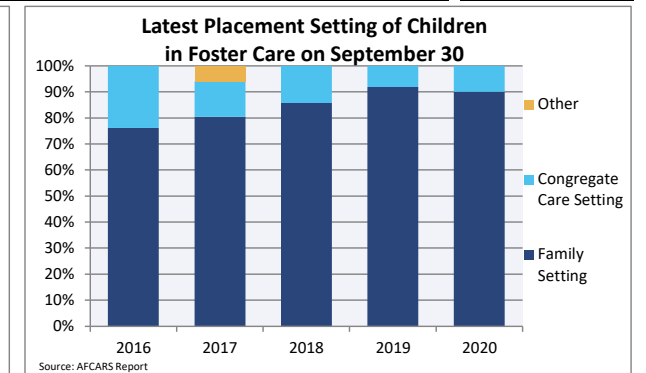
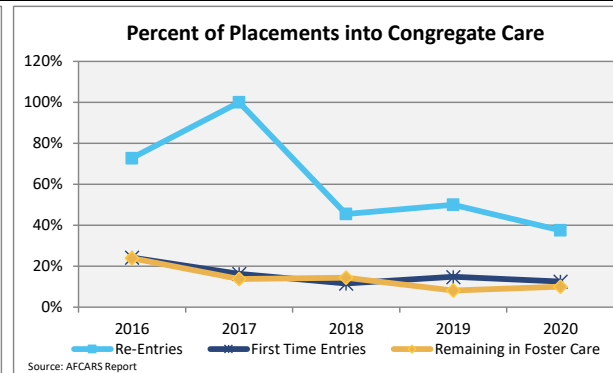
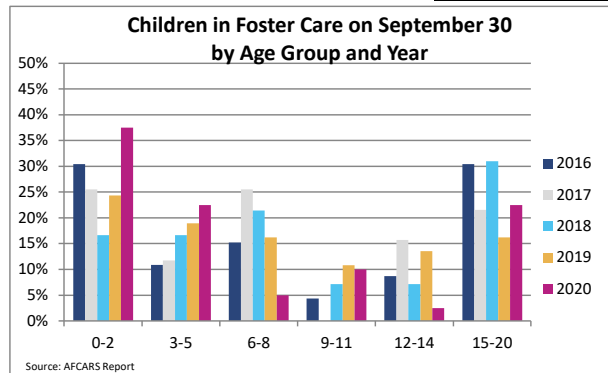
Male  
Female

County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County % Change 2016 to 2020
47.8%	53.9%	51.2%	47.1%	53.9%	51.2%	40.5%	52.7%	50.9%	40.5%	52.7%	50.6%	40.0%	54.3%	50.8%	-16.4%
52.2%	46.1%	48.8%	52.9%	46.1%	48.8%	59.5%	47.3%	49.1%	59.5%	47.3%	49.4%	60.0%	45.7%	49.2%	15.0%

#### By Latest Placement Setting

**Family Setting**  
Pre-adoptive Home  
Foster Family Home – Relative  
Foster Family Home – Non-Relative  
**Congregate Care Setting**  
Group Home  
Institution  
**Supervised Independent Living**  
Runaway  
Trial Home Visit

County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County % Change 2016 to 2020
>56.5%	82.6%	82.5%	80.4%	>82.8%	83.4%	85.7%	>85.0%	84.0%	91.9%	>84.0%	85.1%	90.0%	>86.3%	86.3%	<59.3%
0.0%	1.9%	5.3%	0.0%	S	4.1%	0.0%	S	4.0%	0.0%	S	3.2%	0.0%	S	2.7%	-
S	25.2%	35.1%	31.4%	28.1%	37.9%	50.0%	28.4%	37.8%	51.4%	28.8%	39.4%	62.5%	33.9%	41.5%	-
56.5%	55.5%	42.1%	49.0%	54.8%	41.4%	35.7%	56.6%	42.2%	40.5%	55.2%	42.5%	27.5%	52.5%	42.2%	-51.3%
>23.8%	14.8%	14.7%	>13.6%	13.9%	13.7%	14.3%	13.0%	13.2%	8.1%	13.6%	11.9%	10.0%	11.8%	10.7%	<-58.0%
S	8.7%	8.4%	S	8.3%	8.2%	S	7.9%	7.9%	2.7%	8.0%	7.0%	S	6.9%	5.9%	-
S	6.1%	6.3%	S	5.6%	5.5%	S	5.1%	5.3%	5.4%	5.5%	4.9%	S	5.0%	4.8%	-
0.0%	<0.7%	1.3%	0.0%	0.8%	1.5%	0.0%	0.6%	1.5%	0.0%	0.7%	1.3%	0.0%	S	1.0%	-
0.0%	S	0.7%	0.0%	S	0.8%	0.0%	S	0.9%	0.0%	S	1.2%	0.0%	S	1.5%	-
0.0%	1.9%	0.7%	S	1.8%	0.6%	0.0%	0.9%	0.4%	0.0%	1.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.9%	0.4%	-



## 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 confront 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.

2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			County % Change 2016 to 2020
County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	
19.5%	30.2%	33.6%	32.6%	28.8%	32.2%	53.3%	30.2%	31.2%	26.1%	27.3%	31.1%	23.1%	ND	ND	18.3%

## 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.

2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			County % Change 2016 to 2020
County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	
42.1%	42.6%	36.0%	31.0%	43.5%	39.2%	54.1%	41.2%	37.4%	47.8%	47.5%	38.7%	51.6%	ND	ND	22.6%

## 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.

2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			County % Change 2016 to 2020
County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	County	Rural-Mix	State	
18.8%	20.0%	24.8%	18.8%	17.1%	23.0%	4.2%	20.0%	21.4%	11.1%	14.0%	22.3%	S	ND	ND	-

ND = PA DHS did not provide data  
S = rate suppressed due to count less than 11 persons

**KIDS  
COUNT**

PPC is part of a network coordinated and supported by the Annie E. Casey Foundation

We gratefully acknowledge the support of Alliance for Early Success, The Annie E. Casey Foundation's KIDS COUNT Project, The Heinz Endowments and PNC Financial Services Group.



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October 2021