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	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022*		Rural-Mix % Change 2018 to 2022*	State % Change 2018 to 2022*
	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State		
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)	7,317 30.1	44,063 16.6	7,095 29.2	42,252 15.9	5,924 24.3	32,919 12.4	6,701 27.5	38,013 14.3	4,830 19.8	39,093 14.8	-34.0%	-11.3%
Child Abuse and Neglect Substantiations Founded or indicated reports of child abuse and/or neglect.	12.2%	11.6%	12.1%	11.5%	15.3%	14.0%	15.3%	13.2%	14.1%	12.8%	15.7%	10.3%
Repeated Child Abuse and Neglect Children with another substantiated incident of abuse and/or neglect following the first reported incident. (Data may be overstated.)	5.1% 1 in 20	5.2% 1 in 19	6.3% 1 in 16	5.7% 1 in 18	6.9% 1 in 14	6.2% 1 in 16	8.6% 1 in 12	6.5% 1 in 15	9.0% 1 in 11	6.4% 1 in 16	77.4%	23.8%

Child Abuse Substantiations
Legend: Rural, Rural-Mix, Urban-Mix, Urban, State
Source: Annual Child Protective Services Report

Repeated Child Abuse
Legend: Rural, Rural-Mix, Urban-Mix, Urban, State
Source: Annual Child Protective Services Report
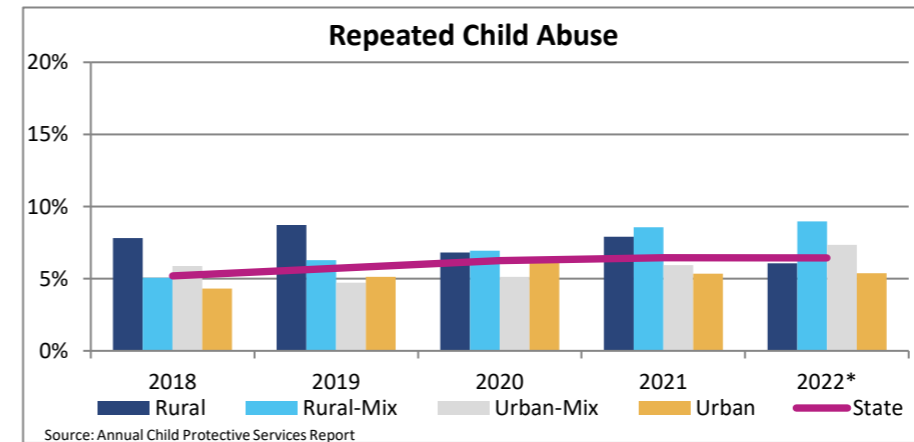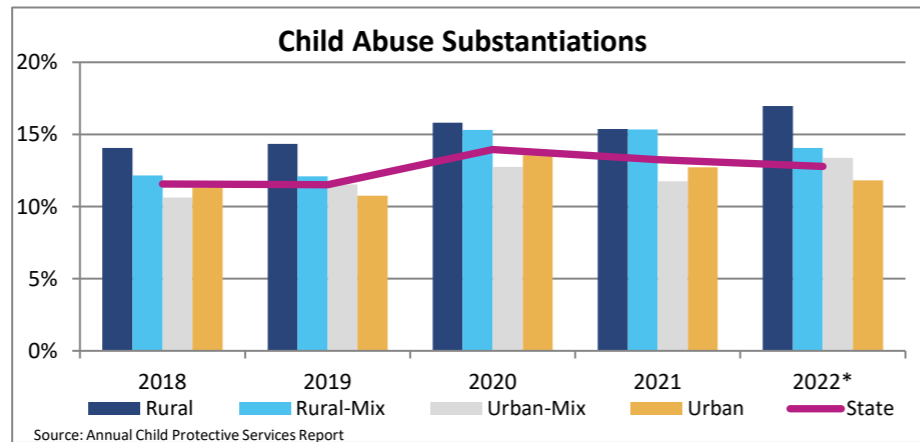
* County classifications were changed with the 2022 data.

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	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022*		Rural-Mix % Change 2018 to 2022*	State % Change 2018 to 2022*
	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State		
GPS Reports Total reported concerns of general neglect, not alleging child abuse.	29,067	169,723	31,053	178,124	27,270	152,478	28,819	161,709	20,997	165,295	-27.8%	-4.7%
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.	28.9%	23.6%	28.8%	23.5%	33.5%	25.6%	36.0%	27.1%	28.0%	24.2%	-3.0%	14.5%
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.	12,422	58,982	13,178	60,755	13,492	56,999	15,143	63,801	8,651	57,876	-30.4%	8.2%

Indicator	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		% Change 2018 to 2022	% Change 2018 to 2022
	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State		
Unduplicated Number of Children Served Children who received in-home services along with parents to address concerns related to child safety and well-being.	38,955	194,761	40,247	187,280	>34,972	>181,435	36,548	192,594	25,299	211,150	-35.1%	8.4%

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	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022*		Rural-Mix % Change 2018 to 2022*	State % Change 2018 to 2022*
	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State		
Unduplicated Number of Children Served												
All Children in Foster Care During the Year	3,492	25,441	3,307	24,665	2,928	21,689	3,077	20,490	2,123	19,287	-39.2%	-24.2%
(Rate per 1,000 children age 0-20)	11.9	8.0	11.3	7.7	10.0	6.8	10.5	6.4	7.2	6.0		
By Age												
0-2	22.1%	20.2%	21.9%	20.2%	23.6%	20.9%	24.9%	21.5%	23.5%	21.1%	6.4%	4.9%
3-5	19.6%	17.9%	19.2%	17.8%	19.9%	17.8%	19.9%	18.2%	17.2%	18.2%	-11.9%	1.8%
6-8	14.1%	13.4%	14.5%	13.8%	12.9%	13.5%	13.6%	13.7%	14.1%	13.7%	0.0%	2.4%
9-11	10.8%	11.8%	10.9%	11.7%	10.7%	11.7%	10.2%	11.3%	10.2%	11.2%	-5.5%	-4.8%
12-14	10.9%	11.8%	11.8%	12.3%	11.6%	12.6%	11.8%	12.6%	12.5%	12.8%	15.0%	8.8%
15-17	17.7%	18.7%	17.7%	18.5%	17.5%	17.9%	15.3%	16.4%	20.5%	18.1%	15.6%	-3.5%
18-20	5.0%	6.3%	4.0%	5.6%	3.8%	5.6%	4.4%	6.4%	2.1%	4.9%	-58.2%	-23.0%
Infants (age 0-1)	13.9%	12.7%	13.6%	12.9%	15.4%	13.2%	16.4%	13.7%	15.5%	13.3%	11.6%	4.8%
Youth (age 13+)	30.0%	33.1%	29.8%	32.6%	29.3%	32.3%	27.8%	31.3%	31.9%	32.0%	6.2%	-3.1%
By Race and Ethnicity												
Non-Hispanic White	73.8%	43.7%	73.9%	43.7%	74.0%	44.2%	71.7%	44.3%	80.1%	45.0%	8.6%	2.9%
Non-Hispanic Black or African American	9.6%	33.9%	8.7%	33.0%	8.1%	32.0%	9.2%	30.7%	5.5%	29.8%	-43.2%	-12.2%
Non-Hispanic Other Race	1.6%	2.3%	1.9%	2.6%	3.0%	3.6%	3.6%	4.2%	3.9%	4.8%	136.6%	107.6%
Non-Hispanic Two or More Races	8.2%	7.1%	8.3%	7.7%	8.6%	8.0%	9.4%	8.4%	6.1%	8.2%	-26.3%	15.5%
Hispanic or Latino	6.7%	13.0%	7.1%	12.9%	6.4%	12.3%	6.1%	12.3%	4.5%	12.2%	-33.2%	-5.5%
By Sex												
Male	52.9%	50.8%	52.5%	50.8%	53.3%	50.6%	52.0%	50.5%	53.1%	50.3%	0.5%	-1.1%
Female	47.1%	49.2%	47.5%	49.2%	46.7%	49.4%	48.0%	49.5%	46.9%	49.7%	-0.5%	1.1%
By Latest Placement Setting												
Family Setting	**80.9%**	**81.6%**	**81.4%**	**82.7%**	**82.9%**	**83.8%**	**85.7%**	**84.8%**	**82.7%**	**84.9%**	**2.2%**	**4.1%**
Pre-adoptive Home	1.0%	4.5%	1.0%	3.8%	0.9%	2.9%	1.8%	2.3%	0.5%	3.5%	-49.7%	-21.6%
Foster Family Home – Relative	28.6%	37.1%	30.0%	38.7%	33.5%	40.8%	37.4%	42.0%	41.8%	42.1%	46.3%	13.7%
Foster Family Home – Non-Relative	51.3%	40.1%	50.4%	40.3%	48.5%	40.1%	46.5%	40.5%	40.4%	39.3%	-21.2%	-1.9%
Congregate Care Setting	**14.0%**	**14.0%**	**14.2%**	**12.7%**	**13.1%**	**11.5%**	**10.2%**	**10.5%**	**13.5%**	**10.4%**	**-3.5%**	**-25.6%**
Group Home	8.8%	8.5%	8.6%	7.7%	8.2%	6.7%	6.8%	6.4%	10.3%	6.3%	17.2%	-25.4%
Institution	5.2%	5.6%	5.7%	5.0%	4.9%	4.8%	3.4%	4.2%	3.3%	4.1%	-38.0%	-25.9%
Supervised Independent Living	**0.8%**	**1.5%**	**0.9%**	**1.6%**	**<0.7%**	**1.3%**	**0.5%**	**1.2%**	**<0.7%**	**1.4%**	**<-12.7%**	**-10.2%**
Runaway	**0.5%**	**1.4%**	**0.4%**	**1.4%**	**S**	**1.9%**	**0.4%**	**1.7%**	**S**	**1.5%**	**-**	**5.7%**
Trial Home Visit	**3.8%**	**1.4%**	**3.0%**	**1.5%**	**3.1%**	**1.6%**	**3.3%**	**1.8%**	**<3.2%**	**1.7%**	**<-99.1%**	**23.8%**
Children Entering Foster Care												
All Entries into Foster Care During the Year	1,575	10,095	1,381	9,448	1,208	7,286	1,386	7,316	957	7,307	-39.2%	-27.6%
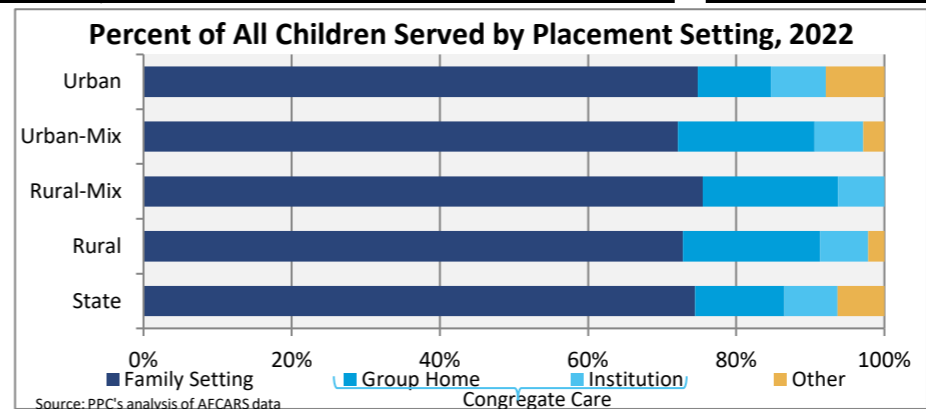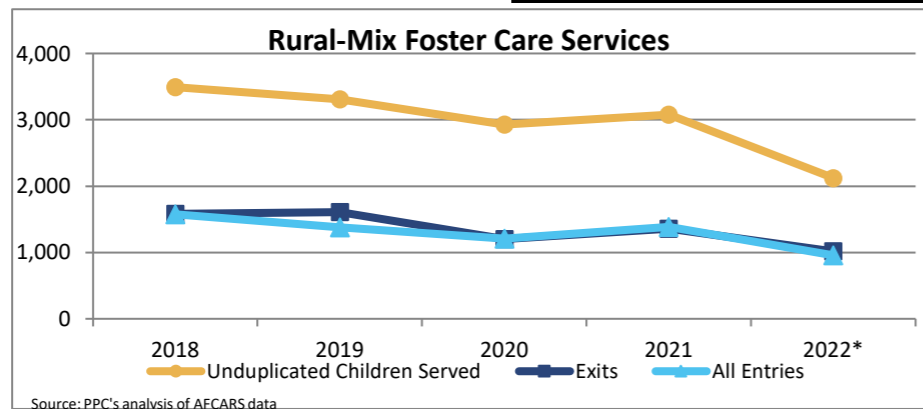
S = rate suppressed due to count less than 11 persons

* County classifications changed with the 2022 data.

Rural-Mix Foster Care Services

Legend: Unduplicated Children Served, Exits, All Entries

Source: PPC's analysis of AFCARS data

Percent of All Children Served by Placement Setting, 2022

Categories: Urban, Urban-Mix, Rural-Mix, Rural, State

Legend: Family Setting, Group Home, Institution, Congregate Care, Other

Source: PPC's analysis of AFCARS data

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	2018 Rural-Mix	2018 State	2019 Rural-Mix	2019 State	2020 Rural-Mix	2020 State	2021 Rural-Mix	2021 State	2022* Rural-Mix	2022* State	Rural-Mix % Change 2018 to 2022*	State % Change 2018 to 2022*
Children Entering for the First Time												
First Time Entries During the Year	1,252	7,626	1,101	7,266	979	5,540	1,121	5,635	798	5,394	-36.3%	-29.3%
(Rate per 1,000 children age 0-20)	4.3	2.4	3.7	2.3	3.3	1.7	3.8	1.8	2.7	1.7		
First Time Entries as Percent of All Entries	79.5%	75.5%	79.7%	76.9%	81.0%	76.0%	80.9%	77.0%	83.4%	73.8%	4.9%	-2.3%
By Age												
0-2	33.1%	34.4%	35.1%	35.1%	38.3%	38.2%	37.5%	38.5%	32.6%	36.2%	-1.7%	4.9%
3-5	17.8%	15.4%	14.5%	14.8%	16.8%	14.5%	16.5%	14.7%	15.2%	14.2%	-14.9%	-7.8%
6-8	12.1%	11.5%	11.4%	11.8%	9.2%	11.4%	11.5%	11.3%	14.4%	11.7%	18.7%	2.2%
9-11	10.7%	10.3%	9.7%	10.7%	8.1%	9.7%	8.5%	9.3%	10.0%	9.5%	-6.3%	-8.4%
12-14	12.1%	12.8%	13.4%	12.9%	12.6%	12.5%	12.7%	12.6%	12.8%	13.0%	5.3%	2.0%
15-20	14.1%	15.6%	15.9%	14.6%	15.1%	13.7%	13.4%	13.7%	15.0%	15.4%	7.0%	-0.9%
Infants (age 0-1)	26.4%	28.0%	28.1%	29.1%	32.3%	31.7%	30.1%	32.3%	26.8%	29.7%	1.7%	6.0%
Youth (age 13+)	23.1%	24.7%	21.7%	19.5%	24.2%	22.6%	22.2%	22.5%	25.3%	25.2%	9.7%	2.0%
By Race and Ethnicity												
Non-Hispanic White	73.8%	48.3%	74.2%	47.6%	72.3%	49.7%	70.0%	50.0%	78.4%	50.1%	6.3%	3.8%
Non-Hispanic Black or African American	9.7%	29.3%	9.4%	28.4%	8.3%	25.2%	11.5%	23.6%	6.3%	23.9%	-35.7%	-18.4%
Non-Hispanic Other Race	1.9%	2.7%	3.2%	3.7%	4.5%	5.3%	4.5%	5.8%	5.4%	6.1%	181.1%	126.6%
Non-Hispanic Two or More Races	9.2%	7.7%	6.5%	7.7%	7.8%	8.2%	7.9%	8.4%	5.5%	8.0%	-40.0%	4.2%
Hispanic or Latino	5.4%	12.0%	6.7%	12.6%	7.2%	11.6%	6.2%	12.1%	4.4%	11.9%	-18.0%	-1.2%
By Sex												
Male	51.7%	50.7%	52.5%	50.8%	53.8%	50.5%	49.3%	49.7%	54.1%	50.4%	4.8%	-0.5%
Female	48.3%	49.3%	47.5%	49.2%	46.2%	49.5%	50.7%	50.3%	45.9%	49.6%	-5.1%	0.5%
By First Reported Placement Setting												
Family Setting	**83.4%**	**83.8%**	**81.4%**	**85.7%**	**85.5%**	**>87.5%**	**>88.7%**	**>87.5%**	**87.3%**	**86.9%**	**4.7%**	**3.8%**
Pre-adoptive Home	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	S	S	S	0.0%	0.2%	-	3.6%
Foster Family Home – Relative	32.3%	39.9%	30.6%	41.6%	38.3%	44.3%	43.1%	45.8%	51.3%	46.6%	58.4%	17.0%
Foster Family Home – Non-Relative	51.0%	43.7%	50.8%	43.7%	47.2%	43.1%	45.6%	41.7%	36.1%	40.1%	-29.3%	-8.3%
Congregate Care Setting	**14.1%**	**14.3%**	**17.2%**	**12.7%**	**13.2%**	**10.6%**	**9.5%**	**10.4%**	**11.0%**	**11.1%**	**-21.6%**	**-22.1%**
Group Home	9.7%	9.4%	10.3%	8.5%	8.7%	7.2%	7.3%	7.4%	8.0%	7.2%	-17.0%	-23.6%
Institution	4.4%	4.9%	6.9%	4.2%	4.5%	3.4%	2.2%	3.0%	3.0%	4.0%	-31.5%	-19.4%
Supervised Independent Living	**0.0%**	**0.2%**	**S**	**0.2%**	**0.0%**	**S**	**S**	**0.2%**	**S**	**0.2%**	**-**	**53.1%**
Runaway	**S**	**0.7%**	**0.0%**	**0.8%**	**0.0%**	**0.8%**	**0.0%**	**0.7%**	**0.0%**	**0.8%**	**-**	**24.3%**
Trial Home Visit	**<2.3%**	**1.1%**	**<1.4%**	**0.6%**	**1.3%**	**0.9%**	**1.5%**	**<1.2%**	**<1.6%**	**0.9%**	**<-30.4%**	**-19.5%**
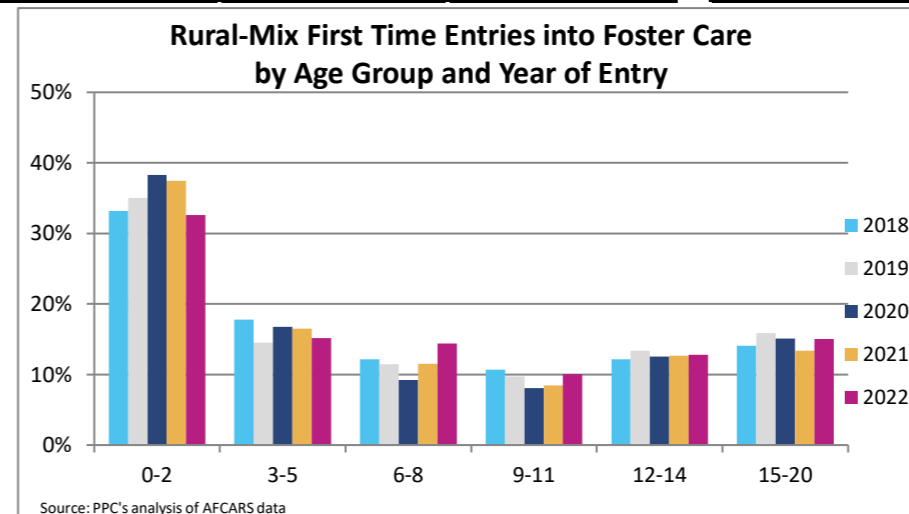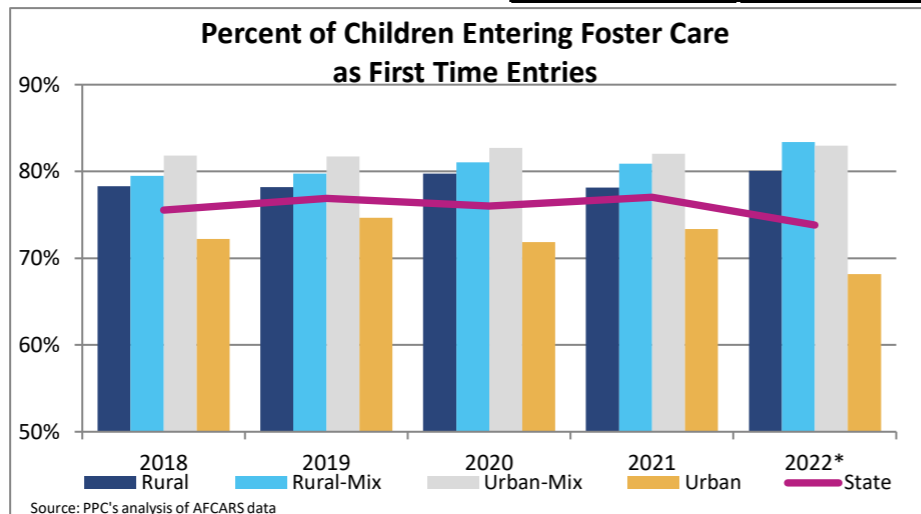
S = rate suppressed due to count less than 11 persons

* County classifications changed with the 2022 data.

Percent of Children Entering Foster Care as First Time Entries

Source: PPC's analysis of AFCARS data

(Legend: 2018 Rural, 2019 Rural-Mix, 2020 Urban-Mix, 2021 Urban, State)

Rural-Mix First Time Entries into Foster Care by Age Group and Year of Entry

Source: PPC's analysis of AFCARS data

(Legend: 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022*)

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.
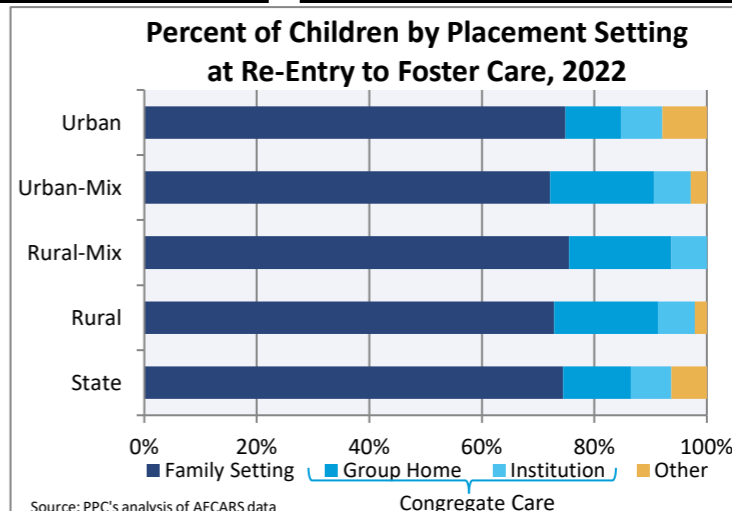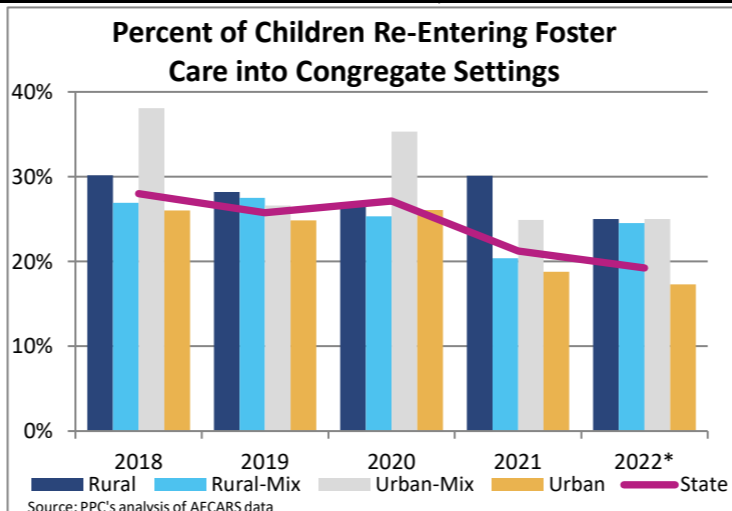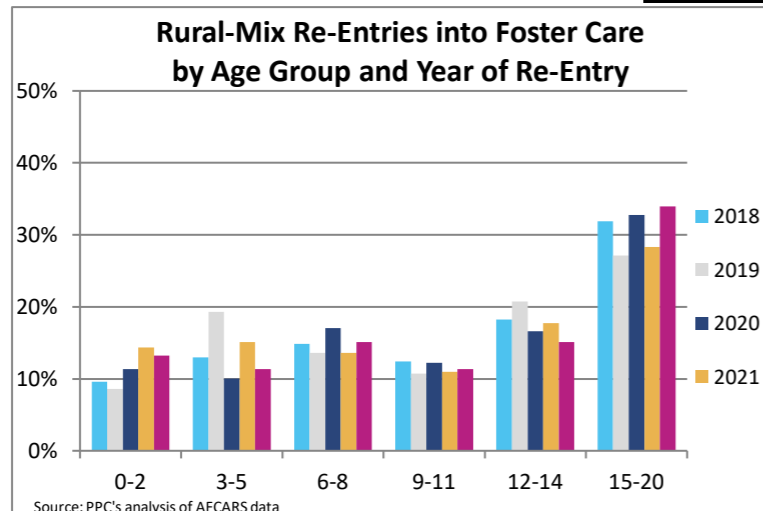
Indicator	2018 Rural-Mix	2018 State	2019 Rural-Mix	2019 State	2020 Rural-Mix	2020 State	2021 Rural-Mix	2021 State	2022* Rural-Mix	2022* State	Rural-Mix % Change 2018 to 2022*	State % Change 2018 to 2022*
Children Re-Entering Foster Care												
Re-Entries During the Year	323	2,469	280	2,182	229	1,746	265	1,681	159	1,913	-50.8%	-22.5%
Re-Entries as Percent of All Entries	20.5%	24.5%	20.3%	23.1%	19.0%	24.0%	19.1%	23.0%	16.6%	26.2%	-19.0%	7.0%
By Age												
0-2	9.6%	10.8%	8.6%	11.9%	11.4%	10.5%	14.3%	12.3%	13.2%	11.9%	37.6%	10.6%
3-5	13.0%	12.6%	19.3%	12.7%	10.0%	10.9%	15.1%	12.8%	11.3%	12.3%	-12.9%	-1.7%
6-8	14.9%	12.1%	13.6%	11.9%	17.0%	11.0%	13.6%	10.9%	15.1%	12.2%	1.6%	1.0%
9-11	12.4%	11.5%	10.7%	10.4%	12.2%	12.0%	10.9%	11.0%	11.3%	11.0%	-8.6%	-4.6%
12-14	18.3%	17.7%	20.7%	18.7%	16.6%	17.7%	17.7%	20.2%	15.1%	19.9%	-17.4%	12.8%
15-20	31.9%	35.4%	27.1%	34.4%	32.8%	37.9%	28.3%	32.7%	34.0%	32.6%	6.5%	-7.9%
Infants (age 0-1)	5.0%	6.4%	5.7%	6.9%	8.7%	7.3%	S	9.2%	10.1%	8.3%	103.1%	29.1%
Youth (age 13+)	44.3%	48.6%	43.2%	48.7%	44.1%	51.1%	35.5%	47.7%	46.5%	47.4%	5.1%	-2.6%
By Race and Ethnicity												
Non-Hispanic White	74.9%	39.6%	75.4%	52.7%	74.7%	31.3%	72.1%	42.8%	84.9%	35.7%	13.3%	-9.9%
Non-Hispanic Black or African American	8.0%	40.5%	9.3%	49.0%	7.4%	31.0%	9.1%	35.2%	S	42.6%	-	5.1%
Non-Hispanic Other Race	S	1.8%	S	2.0%	S	2.7%	S	3.9%	S	3.9%	-	120.0%
Non-Hispanic Two or More Races	<9.2%	7.1%	9.3%	11.2%	9.2%	5.4%	<9.3%	6.5%	S	7.8%	-	9.9%
Hispanic or Latino	7.1%	11.1%	S	15.0%	S	9.6%	7.9%	11.6%	S	10.1%	-	-8.8%
By Sex												
Male	50.5%	49.1%	49.3%	51.2%	53.7%	49.0%	49.4%	48.4%	46.5%	46.1%	-7.8%	-6.1%
Female	49.5%	50.9%	50.7%	48.8%	46.3%	51.0%	50.6%	51.6%	53.5%	53.9%	7.9%	5.9%
By Placement Setting at Re-Entry												
Family Setting	**70.0%**	**66.7%**	**68.2%**	**68.5%**	**71.6%**	**>65.0%**	**77.0%**	**>71.1%**	**75.5%**	**74.4%**	**7.9%**	**11.6%**
Pre-adoptive Home	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	S	0.0%	S	0.0%	0.6%	-	29.0%
Foster Family Home – Relative	18.3%	28.3%	26.4%	32.5%	32.8%	34.8%	31.3%	36.4%	34.6%	37.1%	89.4%	30.9%
Foster Family Home – Non-Relative	51.7%	37.9%	41.8%	35.3%	38.9%	30.1%	45.7%	34.7%	40.9%	36.8%	-20.9%	-3.0%
Congregate Care Setting	**26.9%**	**28.0%**	**27.5%**	**25.8%**	**25.3%**	**27.1%**	**20.4%**	**21.2%**	**>18.2%**	**19.2%**	**>-32.3%**	**-31.3%**
Group Home	18.6%	18.4%	17.9%	16.6%	18.3%	16.5%	14.7%	13.9%	18.2%	12.1%	-1.8%	-34.2%
Institution	8.4%	9.6%	9.6%	9.2%	7.0%	10.6%	5.7%	7.3%	S	7.2%	-	-25.7%
Supervised Independent Living	**S**	**1.8%**	**S**	**1.6%**	**S**	**1.4%**	**S**	**2.2%**	**0.0%**	**<1.2%**	**-**	**<-32.7%**
Runaway	**S**	**2.7%**	**S**	**3.6%**	**S**	**5.4%**	**S**	**4.2%**	**0.0%**	**4.8%**	**-**	**75.2%**
Trial Home Visit	**S**	**0.8%**	**S**	**0.6%**	**S**	**<1.0%**	**S**	**<1.3%**	**<0.1%**	**S**	**-**	**-**

Rural-Mix Re-Entries into Foster Care by Age Group and Year of Re-Entry

Source: PPC's analysis of AFCARS data

Percent of Children Re-Entering Foster Care into Congregate Settings

Source: PPC's analysis of AFCARS data

Percent of Children by Placement Setting at Re-Entry to Foster Care, 2022

Source: PPC's analysis of AFCARS data

FOSTER CARE - PLACEMENT REASONS

County child welfare agencies are required to report the reasons in which a child experiences a placement episode. There are 15 factors defined by the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) technical bulletin issued by the Administration for Children and Families which are federally required data elements that the state must track and report.

A child can have more than one placement reason.

Indicator

Top Five Placement Reasons
Of All Children in Foster Care
During the Year

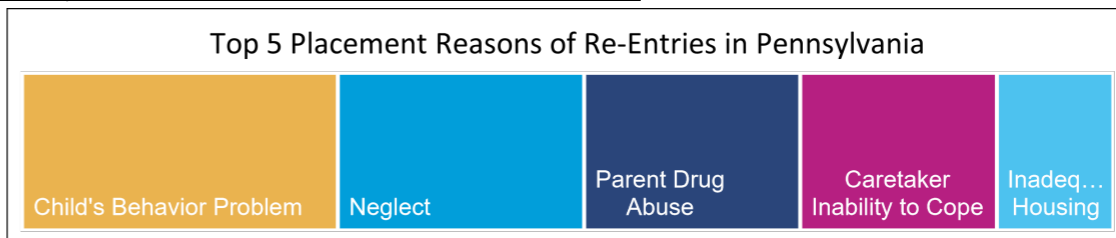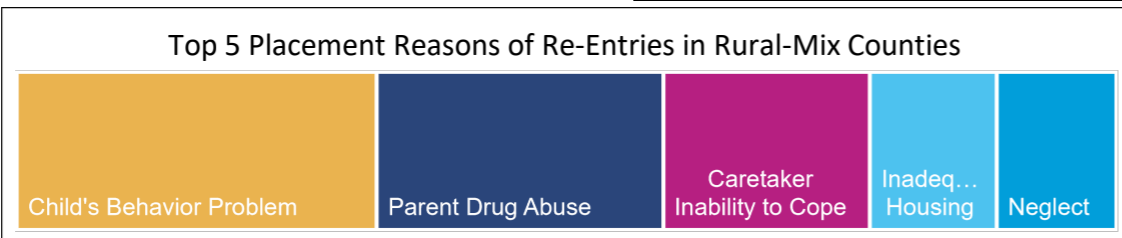| 2022	
Rural-Mix	**State**
38.7% Parent Drug Abuse	34.9% Parent Drug Abuse
20.6% Caretaker Inability to Cope	25.6% Neglect
19.6% Inadequate Housing	22.5% Caretaker Inability to Cope
19.0% Child's Behavior Problem	16.2% Inadequate Housing
14.7% Neglect	13.6% Child's Behavior Problem

Top 5 Placement Reasons of All Children in Foster Care in Rural-Mix Counties

| Parent Drug Abuse | Caretaker Inability to Cope | Inadequate Housing | Child's Behavior Problem | Neglect |

Top 5 Placement Reasons of All Children in Foster Care in Pennsylvania

| Parent Drug Abuse | Neglect | Caretaker Inability to Cope | Inadequate Housing | Child's Behavior Problem |
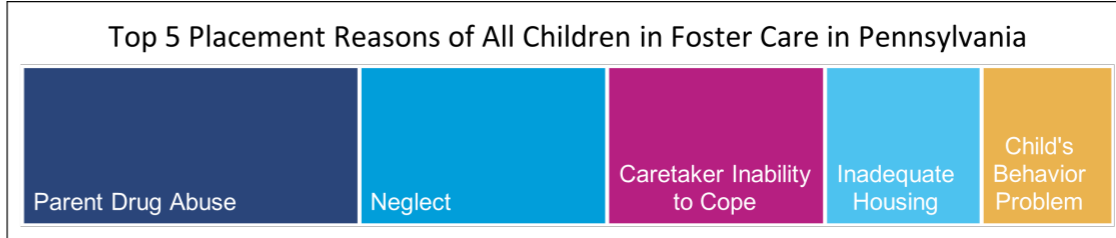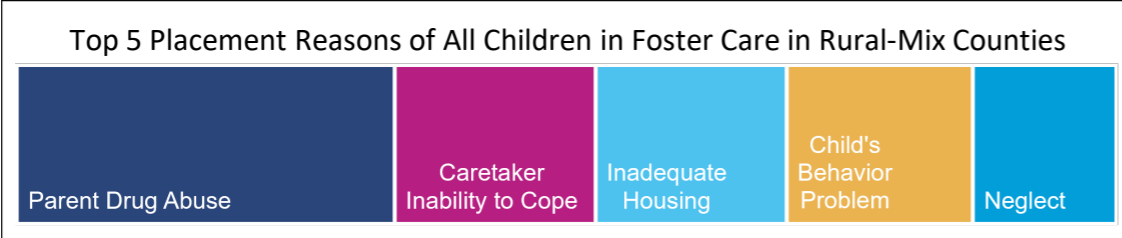
Of First-Time Entries into Foster Care

40.2% Parent Drug Abuse	35.9% Parent Drug Abuse
23.2% Inadequate Housing	25.7% Neglect
17.9% Neglect	22.0% Caretaker Inability to Cope
16.7% Caretaker Inability to Cope	17.2% Inadequate Housing
16.3% Child's Behavior Problem	12.6% Child's Behavior Problem

Top 5 Placement Reasons of First-Time Entries in Rural-Mix Counties

| Parent Drug Abuse | Inadequate Housing | Neglect | Caretaker Inability to Cope | Child's Behavior Problem |

Top 5 Placement Reasons of First-Time Entries in Pennsylvania

| Parent Drug Abuse | Neglect | Caretaker Inability to Cope | Inadequate Housing | Child's Behavior Problem |
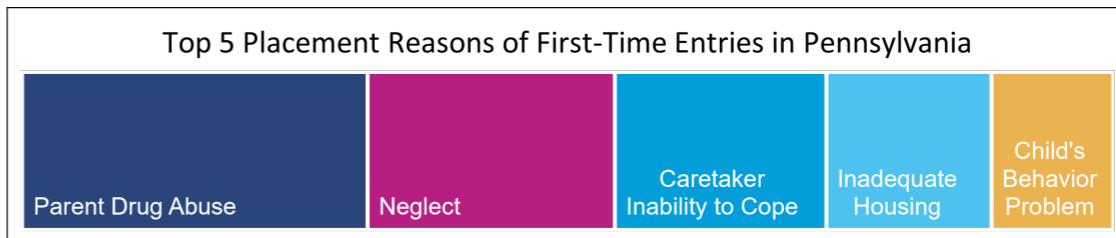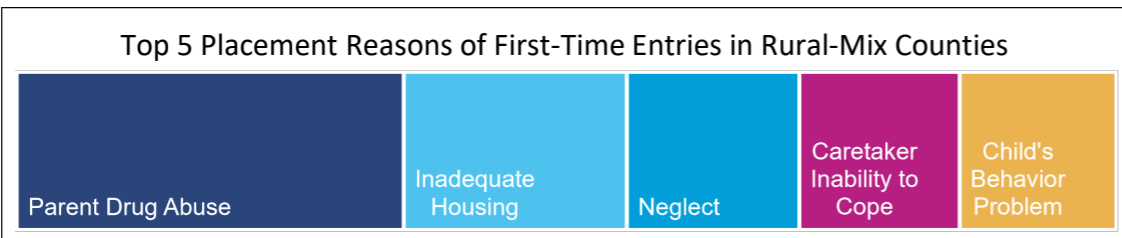
Of Re-Entries into Foster Care

34.0% Child's Behavior Problem	29.2% Child's Behavior Problem
27.0% Parent Drug Abuse	22.8% Neglect
19.5% Caretaker Inability to Cope	20.0% Parent Drug Abuse
11.9% Inadequate Housing	18.2% Caretaker Inability to Cope
11.3% Neglect	10.8% Inadequate Housing

Top 5 Placement Reasons of Re-Entries in Rural-Mix Counties

| Child's Behavior Problem | Parent Drug Abuse | Caretaker Inability to Cope | Inadeq... Housing | Neglect |

Top 5 Placement Reasons of Re-Entries in Pennsylvania

| Child's Behavior Problem | Neglect | Parent Drug Abuse | Caretaker Inability to Cope | Inadeq... Housing |

A child can have more than one placement reason. Placement reasons include abandonment, caretaker inability to cope due to illness or other reasons, child alcohol abuse, child disability, child drug abuse, child's behavior problem, death of parent(s), incarceration of parent(s), inadequate housing, neglect, parent alcohol abuse, parent drug abuse, physical abuse, relinquishment, sexual abuse.

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	2018 Rural-Mix	2018 State	2019 Rural-Mix	2019 State	2020 Rural-Mix	2020 State	2021 Rural-Mix	2021 State	2022* Rural-Mix	2022* State	Rural-Mix % Change 2018 to 2022*	State % Change 2018 to 2022*
Percent of Children by Case Plan Goal												
Family-Based Permanency Goals	**98.2%**	**95.1%**	**98.1%**	**95.5%**	**99.0%**	**96.4%**	**99.2%**	**96.8%**	**90.3%**	**92.1%**	**-8.0%**	**-3.2%**
Reunify With Parent(s) or Principal Caretaker(s)	73.0%	65.3%	66.8%	63.7%	68.3%	65.8%	70.4%	65.6%	70.2%	65.1%	-3.7%	-0.3%
Adoption	18.2%	23.6%	23.6%	24.5%	24.0%	23.7%	21.8%	25.0%	19.3%	25.0%	6.0%	6.2%
Guardianship	5.5%	5.1%	6.4%	5.9%	5.9%	5.4%	6.1%	5.3%	0.0%	0.5%	-100.0%	-89.6%
Live with Relative(s)	1.6%	1.2%	1.3%	1.5%	0.9%	1.4%	0.9%	1.0%	0.8%	1.4%	-46.3%	18.1%
Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA)	**>1.6%**	**4.9%**	**1.9%**	**4.5%**	**1.0%**	**3.6%**	**0.8%**	**3.2%**	**9.7%**	**7.9%**	**>503.5%**	**62.2%**
Long Term Foster Care	S	0.6%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%	0.8%	2.5%	-	352.4%
Emancipation	1.6%	4.3%	1.9%	4.4%	1.0%	3.1%	0.8%	2.7%	8.9%	5.4%	450.8%	24.9%
APPLA By Age as % of Age Group Served												
0-15	S	1.0%	0.0%	S	S	S	0.0%	S	0.0%	0.1%	-	-94.9%
16-20	12.2%	25.1%	1.9%	23.5%	5.9%	19.6%	5.2%	17.5%	5.2%	17.5%	-57.2%	-30.0%
APPLA By Discharge Reason												
Exit to Permanent Arrangements	**>0.0%**	**19.5%**	**>0.0%**	**16.4%**	**>0.0%**	**24.1%**	**>0.0%**	**19.6%**	**0.0%**	**21.3%**	**-**	**8.9%**
Reunification	0.0%	16.9%	0.0%	15.0%	S	23.0%	S	18.5%	0.0%	18.3%	-	7.9%
(number of months until reunification)	0.0	18.6	0.0	19.2	22.3	25.1	15.7	34.1	0.0	42.9	-	131.0%
Adoption	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	-	-
Guardianship	0.0%	2.3%	0.0%	S	0.0%	S	0.0%	S	0.0%	S	-	-
(number of month until guardianship)	0.0	25.6	0.0	23.8	0.0	32.5	0.0	42.9	0.0	24.0	-	-6.2%
Live with Other Relatives	0.0%	S	0.0%	S	0.0%	S	0.0%	S	0.0%	S	-	-
(number of months until living with relatives)	0.0	32.9	0.0	49.6	0.0	61.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.0	-	-63.7%
Exit to Non-Permanent Arrangements	**>97.7%**	**80.5%**	**>97.8%**	**83.5%**	**93.8%**	**75.6%**	**91.7%**	**80.4%**	**100.0%**	**78.8%**	**<2.4%**	**-2.2%**
Emancipation	97.7%	72.1%	97.8%	74.3%	93.8%	68.0%	91.7%	68.2%	100.0%	70.8%	2.4%	-1.9%
(number of months until emancipation)	35.3	27.6	38.6	30.7	31.8	26.1	36.2	30.9	30.6	34.1	-13.3%	23.5%
Transfer to Another Agency	S	5.3%	S	7.1%	0.0%	6.1%	0.0%	7.5%	0.0%	5.8%	-	7.8%
(number of months until transfer)	33.4	19.4	74.7	17.9	0.0	16.0	0.0	22.4	0.0	7.2	-100.0%	-63.2%
Runaway	0.0%	3.0%	0.0%	2.1%	0.0%	S	0.0%	4.7%	0.0%	S	-	-
(number of months until running away)	0.0	22.4	0.0	26.9	0.0	22.8	0.0	36.1	0.0	10.4	-	-53.4%
Death of Child	**0.0%**	**0.0%**	**0.0%**	**S**	**0.0%**	**S**	**0.0%**	**0.0%**	**0.0%**	**0.0%**	**-**	**0.0%**
(number of months until death of a child)	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.7	0.0	115.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	0.0%
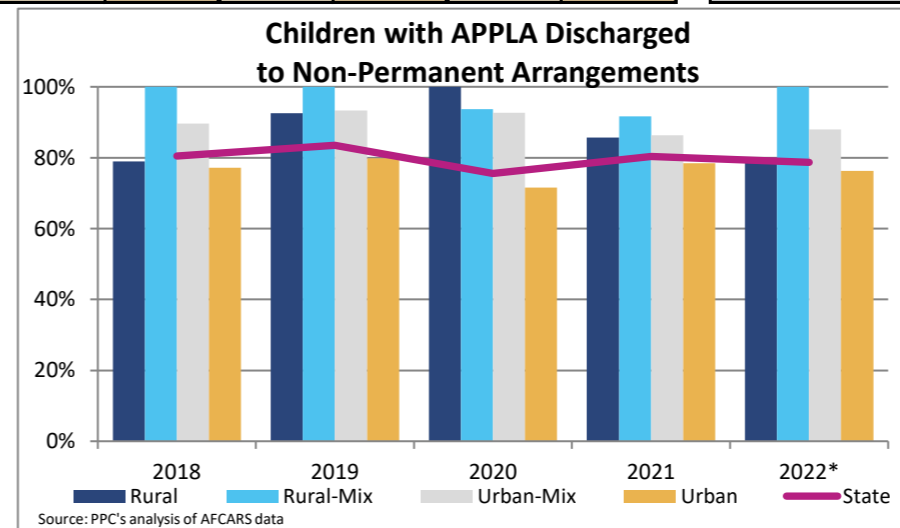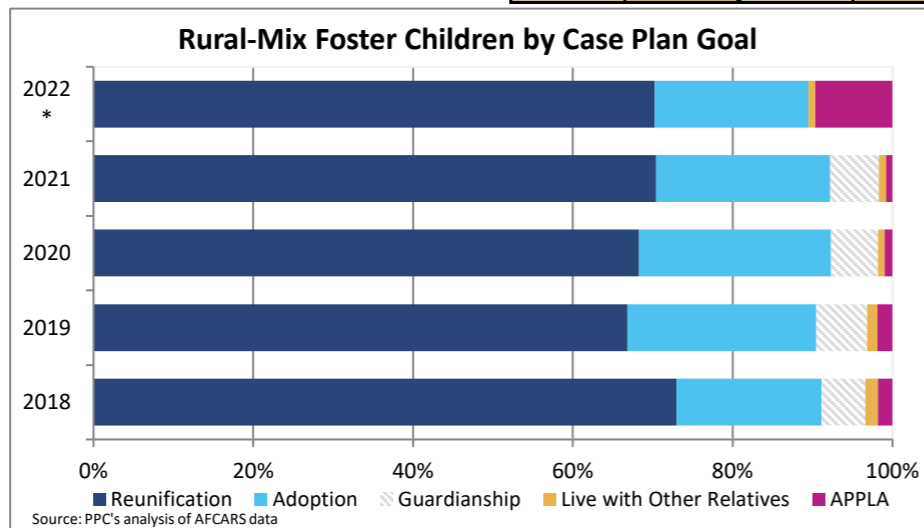
S = rate suppressed due to count less than 11 persons

* County classifications changed with the 2022 data.

Rural-Mix Foster Children by Case Plan Goal

Legend: Reunification, Adoption, Guardianship, Live with Other Relatives, APPLA
Source: PPC's analysis of AFCARS data

Children with APPLA Discharged to Non-Permanent Arrangements

Legend: Rural, Rural-Mix, Urban-Mix, Urban, State
Source: PPC's analysis of AFCARS data

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	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022*		Rural-Mix % Change 2018 to 2022*	State % Change 2018 to 2022*
	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State		
Children Exiting Foster Care												
Total Children Leaving Foster Care	1,585	10,694	1,608	10,801	1,201	8,712	1,361	8,439	1,016	8,850	-35.9%	-17.2%
Percent of Children Leaving Foster Care	45.4%	42.0%	52.3%	43.8%	41.0%	40.2%	44.2%	41.2%	47.9%	45.9%	5.4%	9.2%
(number of months until leaving)	9.3	13.0	11.3	15.9	12.2	15.4	10.5	33.2	12.3	15.7	31.4%	21.3%
By Discharge Reason												
Exit to Permanent Arrangements	**92.6%**	**88.6%**	**90.8%**	**86.6%**	**89.9%**	**86.2%**	**92.9%**	**87.1%**	**93.2%**	**86.3%**	**0.6%**	**-2.6%**
Reunification	56.0%	52.5%	53.3%	49.8%	51.7%	50.8%	54.7%	49.8%	53.1%	50.8%	-5.1%	-3.1%
(number of months until reunification)	6.2	6.4	6.6	7.4	6.6	8.4	6.6	9.0	5.9	8.3	-4.7%	29.1%
Adoption	16.5%	23.9%	21.9%	25.2%	24.7%	23.5%	22.0%	25.4%	20.7%	23.0%	25.0%	-3.7%
(number of months until adoption)	27.1	30.5	30.9	31.0	32.0	29.8	31.0	32.2	26.0	32.7	-4.1%	7.2%
Guardianship	10.2%	7.5%	8.1%	7.6%	7.9%	7.7%	8.5%	7.6%	11.8%	7.8%	16.3%	3.7%
(number of month until guardianship)	16.1	19.4	18.3	22.8	20.3	22.3	20.4	23.5	22.0	23.7	36.6%	22.0%
Live with Other Relatives	9.9%	4.6%	7.5%	4.1%	5.6%	4.1%	7.6%	4.3%	7.6%	4.6%	-23.5%	-0.8%
(number of months until living with relatives)	3.1	2.1	3.4	2.5	15.1	2.4	6.7	2.0	9.0	4.0	194.1%	89.8%
Exit to Non-Permanent Arrangements	**>7.1%**	**11.4%**	**9.1%**	**13.2%**	**9.7%**	**13.7%**	**>7.1%**	**12.8%**	**6.7%**	**13.5%**	**<-5.7%**	**19.1%**
Emancipation	5.8%	7.3%	8.3%	9.3%	8.5%	9.5%	6.2%	7.9%	5.7%	7.6%	-1.6%	5.1%
(number of months until emancipation)	25.2	23.7	23.2	26.2	18.0	22.9	24.8	24.3	30.1	24.1	19.5%	1.8%
Transfer to Another Agency	1.3%	3.5%	0.9%	3.5%	1.2%	3.7%	0.8%	4.1%	S	5.3%	-	53.7%
(number of months until transfer)	13.3	7.9	4.7	5.5	10.8	6.6	5.6	8.0	2.6	4.2	-80.2%	-47.5%
Runaway	S	0.6%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.4%	S	0.8%	S	0.6%	-	-9.8%
(number of months until running away)	9.7	14.0	0.0	14.1	0.0	11.4	9.1	17.8	28.9	10.4	197.0%	-25.8%
Death of Child	**S**	**S**	**S**	**0.1%**	**S**	**0.2%**	**0.0%**	**0.1%**	**S**	**0.2%**	**-**	**-**
(number of months until death of a child)	3.8	5.5	0.2	12.6	4.6	6.1	0.0	5.9	0.3	15.3	-91.4%	177.4%

Percent of Children Discharged to Permanent Arrangements

Legend: Rural, Rural-Mix, Urban-Mix, Urban, State
Source: PPC's analysis of AFCARS data

Rural-Mix Exits to Permanency by Reason

Legend: Reunification, Adoption, Guardianship, Live with Other Relatives
Source: PPC's analysis of AFCARS data

Rural-Mix Exits from Foster Care

Exits to Permanent Arrangements

Exits to Non-Permanent Arrangements

Source: PPC's analysis of AFCARS data

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.
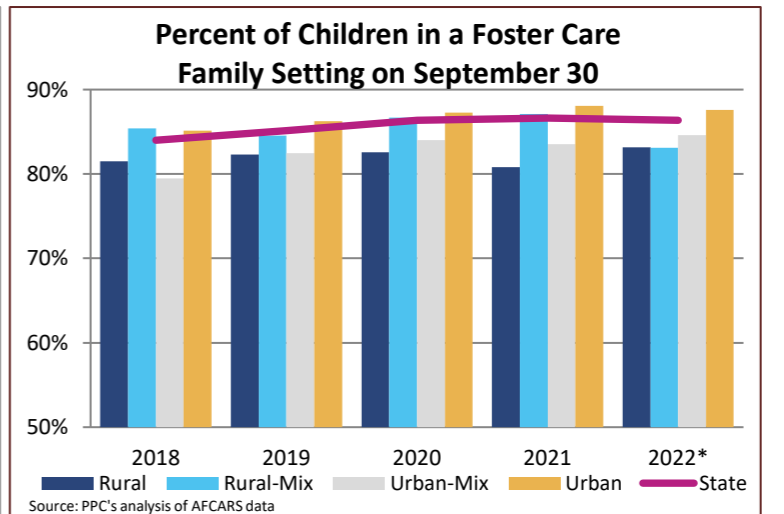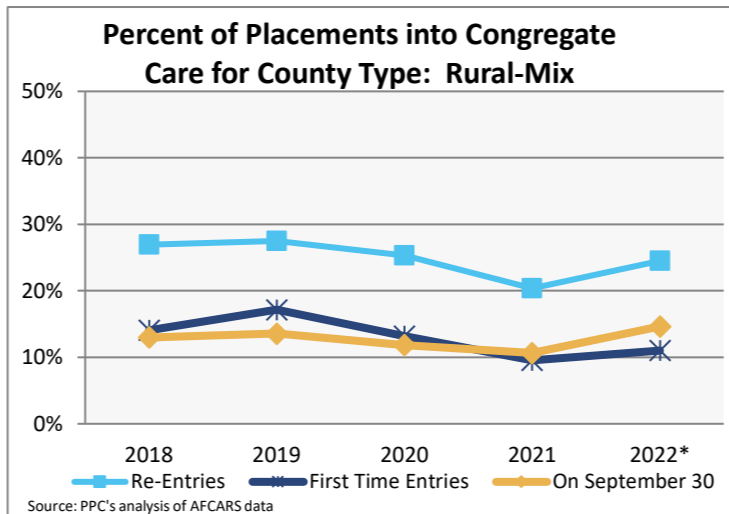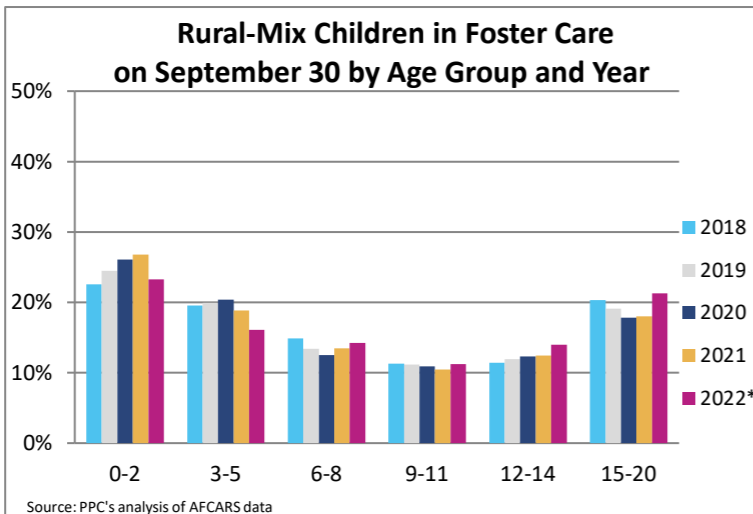
Indicator	2018 Rural-Mix	2018 State	2019 Rural-Mix	2019 State	2020 Rural-Mix	2020 State	2021 Rural-Mix	2021 State	2022* Rural-Mix	2022* State	Rural-Mix % Change 2018 to 2022*	State % Change 2018 to 2022*
Children Remaining in Foster Care												
Children in Foster Care on Last Day	2,038	16,074	1,805	15,082	1,793	13,949	1,820	13,033	1,161	11,866	-43.0%	-26.2%
(number of months children have been in care)	11.0	14.2	11.4	14.0	11.7	16.4	11.3	16.8	10.7	15.2	-2.8%	6.9%
By Age												
0-2	22.6%	21.0%	24.5%	21.6%	26.1%	22.2%	26.8%	23.0%	23.3%	22.8%	3.0%	8.5%
3-5	19.5%	17.5%	19.9%	17.7%	20.4%	18.0%	18.8%	17.9%	16.1%	17.8%	-17.5%	2.0%
6-8	14.9%	13.6%	13.4%	13.8%	12.5%	13.9%	13.5%	13.6%	14.2%	13.4%	-4.4%	-1.3%
9-11	11.3%	12.2%	11.1%	12.1%	10.9%	12.1%	10.4%	11.5%	11.2%	11.4%	-0.8%	-6.7%
12-14	11.4%	12.3%	11.9%	13.3%	12.3%	13.1%	12.5%	13.0%	14.0%	13.4%	22.0%	9.2%
15-20	20.3%	23.5%	19.1%	21.5%	17.8%	20.8%	18.0%	21.0%	21.3%	21.2%	4.7%	-9.7%
Infants (age 0-1)	14.9%	13.7%	15.6%	14.4%	18.0%	14.5%	18.3%	15.0%	15.6%	14.8%	4.9%	8.3%
Youth (age 13+)	28.3%	31.9%	31.0%	34.8%	26.0%	29.9%	27.0%	29.7%	32.0%	30.8%	13.4%	-3.6%
By Race and Ethnicity												
Non-Hispanic White	74.2%	42.2%	74.6%	42.3%	73.2%	41.8%	71.9%	43.1%	79.7%	43.5%	7.3%	3.0%
Non-Hispanic Black or African American	8.6%	35.4%	8.3%	34.4%	7.6%	33.7%	9.1%	32.2%	5.3%	31.2%	-38.2%	-11.9%
Non-Hispanic Other Race	1.4%	2.3%	2.4%	2.6%	3.7%	3.7%	3.7%	4.5%	4.6%	4.9%	232.3%	114.1%
Non-Hispanic Two or More Races	8.4%	7.1%	8.7%	7.8%	9.5%	8.3%	9.2%	8.0%	5.6%	8.0%	-33.3%	12.3%
Hispanic or Latino	7.4%	13.0%	6.0%	13.0%	6.0%	12.5%	6.0%	12.2%	4.8%	12.5%	-34.5%	-4.0%
By Sex												
Male	52.7%	50.9%	52.7%	50.6%	54.3%	50.8%	52.1%	50.2%	53.6%	50.7%	1.7%	-0.4%
Female	47.3%	49.1%	47.3%	49.4%	45.7%	49.2%	47.9%	49.8%	46.4%	49.3%	-1.9%	0.4%
By Latest Placement Setting												
Family Setting	**>85.0%**	**84.0%**	**>84.0%**	**85.1%**	**>86.3%**	**86.3%**	**>86.5%**	**86.6%**	**>82.6%**	**86.4%**	**-**	**2.8%**
Pre-adoptive Home	S	4.0%	S	3.2%	S	2.7%	S	1.3%	S	3.5%	-	-12.4%
Foster Family Home – Relative	28.4%	37.8%	28.8%	39.4%	33.9%	41.5%	36.6%	43.0%	40.0%	40.7%	40.7%	7.9%
Foster Family Home – Non-Relative	56.6%	42.2%	55.2%	42.5%	52.5%	42.2%	49.9%	42.4%	42.6%	42.1%	-24.7%	-0.3%
Congregate Care Setting	**13.0%**	**13.2%**	**13.6%**	**11.9%**	**11.8%**	**10.7%**	**10.7%**	**10.4%**	**14.6%**	**10.8%**	**12.6%**	**-17.8%**
Group Home	7.9%	7.9%	8.0%	7.0%	6.9%	5.9%	7.3%	6.4%	11.3%	6.4%	42.8%	-18.9%
Institution	5.1%	5.3%	5.5%	4.9%	5.0%	4.8%	3.4%	4.1%	3.4%	4.4%	-34.2%	-16.0%
Supervised Independent Living	**0.6%**	**1.5%**	**0.7%**	**1.3%**	**S**	**1.0%**	**S**	**1.2%**	**S**	**1.1%**	**-**	**-25.4%**
Runaway	**S**	**0.9%**	**S**	**1.2%**	**S**	**1.5%**	**S**	**1.1%**	**0.0%**	**1.1%**	**-**	**17.8%**
Trial Home Visit	**0.9%**	**0.4%**	**1.0%**	**0.5%**	**0.9%**	**0.4%**	**1.6%**	**0.7%**	**1.7%**	**0.6%**	**95.0%**	**50.5%**

Rural-Mix Children in Foster Care on September 30 by Age Group and Year

Source: PPC's analysis of AFCARS data

Percent of Placements into Congregate Care for County Type: Rural-Mix

Re-Entries | First Time Entries | On September 30

Source: PPC's analysis of AFCARS data

Percent of Children in a Foster Care Family Setting on September 30

Rural | Rural-Mix | Urban-Mix | Urban | State

Source: PPC's analysis of AFCARS data

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	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022*		Rural-Mix % Change 2018 to 2022*	State % Change 2018 to 2022*
	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State		
Foster Care Placement Stability Children who were in foster care for 12 to 23 months and had three or more placement settings.	30.3%	31.8%	27.5%	31.1%	27.2%	28.4%	25.8%	25.6%	29.9%	25.2%	-1.2%	-20.8%

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.

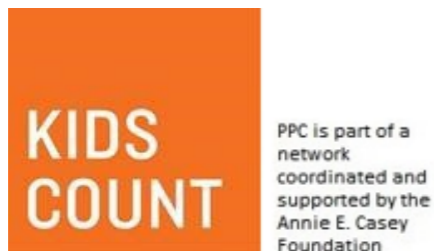| Indicator	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022*		Rural-Mix % Change 2018 to 2022*	State % Change 2018 to 2022*
	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State		
Timely Reunification with Parents or Relatives Children who entered foster care for the first time who were reunified with their parents or discharged to relatives within the next 12 months.	41.0%	37.3%	47.5%	38.7%	42.0%	36.8%	41.7%	36.6%	46.1%	37.8%	12.3%	1.1%

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	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022*		Rural-Mix % Change 2018 to 2022*	State % Change 2018 to 2022*
	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State	Rural-Mix	State		
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.)	20.0%	21.4%	14.0%	22.3%	16.0%	20.2%	14.9%	18.1%	14.5%	19.1%	-27.2%	-11.0%