

The AFCARS Report

Preliminary FY 2007 Estimates as of October 2009 (15)

SOURCE: Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) FY 2007 data (October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007).

NOTES: Data from both the regular and revised foster care file submissions received by October 9, 2009, and data from adoption file submissions received by July 1, 2009, are included in the information below. Missing data are not used in the calculation of percentages.

How many children were in foster care on September 30, 2007? 491,000

What were the ages of the children in foster care?

Mean Age	9.7	
Median Age	9.9	
Less than 1 Year	6%	29,384
1 Year	7%	34,438
2 Years	6%	30,887
3 Years	5%	26,889
4 Years	5%	24,015
5 Years	5%	22,238
6 Years	4%	21,162
7 Years	4%	20,215
8 Years	4%	19,350
9 Years	4%	18,692
10 Years	4%	18,086
11 Years	4%	18,336
12 Years	4%	19,779
13 Years	5%	22,993
14 Years	6%	28,947
15 Years	7%	35,340
16 Years	8%	41,333
17 Years	8%	39,859
18 Years	2%	12,198
19 Years	1%	4,065
20 Years	1%	2,794

What were the lengths of stay of children in foster care?

Mean Months	27.5
Median Months	15.5
Less than 1 Month	4% 21,743
1 - 5 Months	19% 94,556
6 - 11 Months	18% 88,726
12 - 17 Months	13% 65,140
18 - 23 Months	9% 46,353
24 - 29 Months	7% 35,896
30 - 35 Months	5% 24,990
3 - 4 Years	11% 54,354
5 Years or More	12% 59,241

What were the placement settings of children in foster care?

Pre-Adoptive Home	4%	19,007
Foster Family Home (Relative)	25%	123,760
Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	46%	225,138
Group Home	7%	32,066
Institution	10%	48,167
Supervised Independent Living	1%	5,468
Runaway	2%	10,769
Trial Home Visit	5%	26,624

Children in Foster Care on September 30, 2007 (continued)

What were the case goals of the children in foster care?

Reunify with Parent(s) or Principal Caretaker(s)	48%	235,655
Live with Other Relative(s)	4%	19,058
Adoption	24%	118,867
Long Term Foster Care	8%	40,871
Emancipation	6%	31,906
Guardianship	4%	21,447
Case Plan Goal Not Yet Established	5%	23,197

What was the gender of the children in foster care?

Male	52%	257,438
Female	48%	233,562

What was the race/ethnicity of the children in foster care?

Alaska Native/American Indian	2%	9,214
Asian	1%	2,779
Black	31%	152,293
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	976
Hispanic (of any race)	20%	96,581
White	40%	196,397
Unknown/Unable to Determine	2%	11,144
Two or more races	4%	21,615

NOTE: Using U.S. Bureau of the Census standards, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Beginning in FY 2000, children could be identified with more than one race designation.

How many children entered foster care during FY 2007? 293,000

What were the ages of the children who entered care during FY 2007?

Mean Age	8.0	
Median Age	7.2	
Less than 1 Year	16%	48,058
1 Year	7%	20,617
2 Years	6%	17,840
3 Years	5%	15,777
4 Years	5%	14,233
5 Years	5%	13,533
6 Years	4%	12,769
7 Years	4%	11,779
8 Years	4%	10,950
9 Years	3%	10,043
10 Years	3%	9,563
11 Years	3%	9,627
12 Years	4%	10,972
13 Years	5%	13,757
14 Years	6%	17,816
15 Years	7%	21,402
16 Years	7%	20,773
17 Years	4%	12,717
18 Years	0%	627
19 Years	0%	113
20 Years	0%	36

What was the race/ethnicity of the children who entered care during FY 2007?

Alaska Native/American Indian	2%	5,897
Asian	1%	2,363
Black	26%	75,397
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	735
Hispanic (of any race)	20%	58,567
White	44%	129,808
Unknown/Unable to Determine	3%	7,671
Two or more races	4%	12,562

NOTE: Using U.S. Bureau of the Census standards, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Beginning in FY 2000, children could be identified with more than one race designation.

How many children exited foster care during FY 2007? 293,000

What were the ages of the children who exited care during FY 2007?

Mean Age	9.7	
Median Age	9.3	
Less than 1 Year	5%	14,307
1 Year	7%	21,218
2 Years	7%	21,084
3 Years	6%	18,374
4 Years	6%	16,126
5 Years	5%	14,538
6 Years	5%	13,723
7 Years	4%	12,530
8 Years	4%	11,845
9 Years	4%	10,842
10 Years	3%	9,920
11 Years	3%	9,484
12 Years	3%	9,701
13 Years	4%	10,562
14 Years	4%	12,616
15 Years	5%	15,808
16 Years	6%	18,238
17 Years	10%	30,469
18 Years	5%	15,929
19 Years	1%	3,201
20 Years	1%	2,485

What were the outcomes for the children exiting foster care during FY 2007?

Reunification with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s)	53%	153,868
Living with Other Relative(s)	9%	27,720
Adoption	18%	52,235
Emancipation	10%	29,730
Guardianship	6%	18,158
Transfer to Another Agency	2%	6,118
Runaway	2%	4,697
Death of Child	0%	473

NOTE: Deaths are attributable to a variety of causes, including medical conditions, accidents, and homicide.

What were the lengths of stay of the children who exited foster care during FY 2007?

Mean Months	21.3
Median Months	12.6
Less than 1 Month	14% 41,567
1 - 5 Months	16% 46,376
6 - 11 Months	18% 53,343
12 - 17 Months	14% 41,322
18 - 23 Months	10% 28,983
24 - 29 Months	7% 19,931
30 - 35 Months	5% 13,928
3 - 4 Years	9% 26,688
5 Years or More	7% 20,862

What was the race/ethnicity of the children who exited care during FY 2007?

Alaska Native/American Indian	2%	5,854
Asian	1%	2,337
Black	27%	78,642
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	765
Hispanic (of any race)	19%	55,668
White	45%	130,926
Unknown/Unable to Determine	2%	6,938
Two or more races	4%	11,870

NOTE: Using U.S. Bureau of the Census standards, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Beginning in FY 2000, children could be identified with more than one race designation.

How many children were waiting to be adopted on September 30, 2007? 132,000

NOTES: Waiting children are identified as children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parental rights have been terminated. Children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the estimate.

What is the gender distribution of the waiting children?			How old were the waiting children when they were removed from their parents or caretakers?		
Male	53%	69,565	Mean Age	4.9	
Female	47%	62,435	Median Age	4.1	
How many months have the waiting children been in continuous foster care?			Less than 1 Year	25%	33,420
Mean Months	37.9		1 Year	9%	11,606
Median Months	28.2		2 Years	8%	10,197
Less than 1 Month	1%	1,003	3 Years	7%	9,481
1 - 5 Months	5%	7,017	4 Years	7%	8,942
6 - 11 Months	8%	10,643	5 Years	7%	8,661
12 - 17 Months	13%	16,813	6 Years	6%	8,240
18 - 23 Months	14%	18,168	7 Years	6%	7,757
24 - 29 Months	13%	17,117	8 Years	5%	6,993
30 - 35 Months	9%	12,365	9 Years	5%	6,209
36 - 59 Months	20%	26,107	10 Years	4%	5,459
60 or more Months	17%	22,766	11 Years	4%	4,649
What is the racial/ethnic distribution of the waiting children?			12 Years	3%	3,844
Alaska Native/American Indian	2%	2,190	13 Years	2%	2,916
Asian	1%	679	14 Years	2%	1,997
Black	30%	40,160	15 Years	1%	1,092
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	301	16 Years	0%	455
Hispanic (of any race)	21%	27,944	17 Years	0%	82
White	38%	50,659			
Unknown/Unable to Determine	2%	3,092			
Two or more races	5%	6,975			

NOTE: Using U.S. Bureau of the Census standards, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Beginning in FY 2000, children could be identified with more than one race designation.

Children waiting to be adopted in FY 2007 (continued)

Where were the waiting children living on September 30, 2007?

Pre-Adoptive Home	13%	17,116
Foster Family Home (Relative)	24%	31,200
Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	52%	68,962
Group Home	4%	4,878
Institution	6%	7,778
Supervised Independent Living	0%	158
Runaway	1%	944
Trial Home Visit	1%	964

How old were the waiting children on September 30, 2007?

Mean Age	8.1
Median Age	7.4
Less than 1 Year	4% 5,724
1 Year	9% 11,321
2 Years	9% 11,518
3 Years	8% 9,928
4 Years	7% 8,773
5 Years	6% 7,968
6 Years	6% 7,624
7 Years	5% 7,092
8 Years	5% 6,830
9 Years	5% 6,612
10 Years	5% 6,264
11 Years	5% 6,107
12 Years	5% 6,117
13 Years	5% 6,290
14 Years	5% 6,781
15 Years	5% 6,958
16 Years	4% 5,773
17 Years	3% 4,318

How many children in foster care had their parental rights terminated for all living parents? 81,000

As of September 30, 2007, how many months had elapsed since the parental rights of these foster children were terminated?

Mean Months	24.6
Median Months	13.0

How many children were adopted with public agency involvement in FY 2007? 52,000

SOURCE: Adoptions can be reported to the AFCARS adoption database at any time after the adoption has been finalized. This report includes adoptions finalized in FY 2007 reported in regular and revised submissions by July of 2009.

NOTES: The number of adoptions reported here do not equal the number of adoption discharges reported under foster care exits because the adoptions reported here include adoptions of some children who were not in foster care but received other support from the public agency. Missing data are not used in the calculation of the percentages.

What is the gender distribution of the children adopted from the public foster care system?

Male	51%	26,410
Female	49%	25,590

How old were the children when they were adopted from the public foster care system?

Mean Age	6.4
Median Age	5.2

Less than 1 Year	2%	1,071
1 Year	12%	6,144
2 Years	14%	7,183
3 Years	11%	5,950
4 Years	9%	4,667
5 Years	8%	3,953
6 Years	7%	3,553
7 Years	6%	3,040
8 Years	5%	2,750
9 Years	5%	2,476
10 Years	4%	2,148
11 Years	4%	1,838
12 Years	3%	1,780
13 Years	3%	1,520
14 Years	2%	1,242
15 Years	2%	1,037
16 Years	2%	854
17 Years	1%	627
18 Years	0%	143
19 Years	0%	20
20 Years	0%	5

What percentage of the children adopted receive an adoption subsidy?

Yes	89%	46,268
No	11%	5,732

What is the racial/ethnic distribution of the children adopted from the public foster care system?

Alaska Native/American Indian	1%	722
Asian	1%	297
Black	25%	13,078
Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	85
Hispanic (of any race)	20%	10,564
White	45%	23,472
Unknown/Unable to Determine	2%	1,093
Two or more races	5%	2,689

NOTE: Using U.S. Bureau of the Census standards, all races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Beginning in FY 2000, children could be identified with more than one race designation.

How many months did it take after termination of parental rights for the children to be adopted?

Mean Months	14.1	
Median Months	10.3	
Less than 1 Month	3%	1,311
1 - 5 Months	24%	12,314
6 - 11 Months	32%	16,567
12 - 17 Months	19%	9,675
18 - 23 Months	10%	5,047
24 - 29 Months	5%	2,527
30 - 35 Months	3%	1,430
3 - 4 Years	4%	2,137
5 Years or More	2%	992

Children Adopted in FY 2007 (continued)

What is the family structure of the child's adoptive family?

Married Couple	68%	35,461
Unmarried Couple	2%	1,037
Single Female	27%	14,017
Single Male	3%	1,485

What was the relationship of the adoptive parents to the child prior to the adoption?

Non-Relative	14%	7,528
Foster Parent	57%	29,767
Stepparent	0%	39
Other Relative	28%	14,666