

Permanency in 12 Months for Children in Care 12 to 23 Months



Capacity Building
CENTER FOR STATES

CFSR Round 4 Statewide Data Indicator Series

The Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) are a partnership between federal and state staff. The CFSR process enables the Children's Bureau to ensure conformity with federal child welfare requirements, determine what is happening to children and families receiving child welfare services, and assist states in enhancing their capacity to help children and families achieve positive outcomes related to safety, permanency, and well-being.

Statewide data indicators are used in the CFSR Round 4 process to evaluate state performance on safety and permanency outcomes. Performance on the indicators helps identify strengths and improvement needs. The Statewide Data Indicator Series presents detailed information on each statewide data indicator, including measure definitions, calculation specifications, data requirements, and national performance values for CFSR Round 4.



CFSR Permanency Outcome 1

Performance on this indicator is used to evaluate CFSR Permanency Outcome 1—children have permanency and stability in their living situations. This indicator measures whether permanency is achieved if children have been in foster care for at least 12 months and not more than 23 months.

Definition

Of all children in foster care on the first day of a 12-month period who had been in foster care continuously between 12 and 23 months, what percentage were discharged to permanency within 12 months of the first day?

Risk Adjustment

Performance is risk adjusted by age of child on the first day of a 12-month period and by state. Adjusting by age controls for the fact that children of different ages have different likelihoods of experiencing the outcome, regardless of the quality of care a state provides. Adjusting by state accounts for the underlying risk of experiencing the outcome in that particular state.

National Performance



43.8 PERCENT

(A higher value is desirable)

Numerator

Number of children in the denominator who discharged to permanency within 12 months of the first day of the 12-month period

Denominator

Number of children in foster care on the first day of a 12-month period who had been in foster care continuously between 12 and 23 months

Examining Equity

The Children's Bureau provides observed performance data disaggregated by age, race/ethnicity, and locality to states in the supplemental context data sent with the CFSR State Data Profile. State teams can use these data to help identify variations in the experiences and outcomes of different populations, including potential evidence of disproportionality and disparity.



Data Quality Checks Performed

- ✓ Dropped records (greater than 10%)
- ✓ AFCARS IDs do not match from one period to the next (greater than 40%)
- ✓ Missing date of birth (greater than 5%)
- ✓ Missing date of latest removal (greater than 5%)
- ✓ Date of birth after date of entry (greater than 5%)
- ✓ Date of birth after date of exit (greater than 5%)
- ✓ Enters and exits care the same day (greater than 5%)
- ✓ Exit date is prior to the removal date (greater than 5%)
- ✓ Missing discharge reason (exit date exists) (greater than 10%)
- ✓ Percentage of children on first removal (greater than 95%)

Data Periods Used to Calculate the National Performance

AFCARS 21A, 21B

Primary Data Elements Required for Calculation

AFCARS Foster Care Element #1:	Title IV-E agency
AFCARS Foster Care Element #4:	Record number
AFCARS Foster Care Element #6:	Child's date of birth
AFCARS Foster Care Element #20:	Date of discharge from last foster care episode
AFCARS Foster Care Element #21:	Date of latest removal
AFCARS Foster Care Element #56:	Date of discharge from foster care
AFCARS Foster Care Element #58:	Reason for discharge

Notes

The trial home visit adjustment is not applied to this indicator.

Inclusions

Permanency includes discharges from foster care to reunification with the child's parents or primary caregivers, living with a relative, guardianship, or adoption. Youth entering at age 17 who turn 18 while in foster care or discharge at age 18 are not counted as achieving permanency.

Exclusions

The following are excluded:

- Youth who are age 18 or older
- Children who do not have a discharge reason
- Children who reenter foster care within the same reporting period due to AFCARS reporting structure not including discharge reason for the first episode

For more information: [CFSR Statewide Data Indicators webpage \(Center for States\)](#)

Updated August 2022

This product was created by the Capacity Building Center for States under Contract No. HHSP2332015000711, funded by the Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

