

APPENDIX B

Major Information Systems and Data Bases Utilized by Selected Programs in the Administration for Children and Families

Information System or Data Base	Page
1. Adoption and Foster Care Analysis System (AFCARS)	1
2. Automated Child Support Enforcement system (ACSES)	5
3. Children's Bureau Database on Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSR)	8
4. Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	11
5. National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS)	14
6. Office of Child Care Information System (OCCIS)	16
7. Public Assistance Reporting Information System (PARIS)	20
8. Quality Ratings and Improvement Systems (QRIS)	24
9. Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information Systems (SACWIS)	26
10. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) database	31

AFCARS (Adoption and Foster Care Analysis System)

Question	Responses	References
1. Who are the users?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public and private social workers involved in adoption assistance case management 	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/afcars/guide/guide.pdf
2. What program does the system support?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption Incentives program, Child Welfare Outcomes report, CFSR, Title IV-E Eligibility Reviews, Chafee Foster Care Independence Program AFCARS both supports business practices and acts as a reporting system 	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/afcars/guide/guide.pdf
3. How was the system conceived/funded?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1986, Congress amended title IV-E of the Social Security Act (the Act) by adding section 479, which requires the Federal government to institute a foster care and adoption data collection system. In response to the law, requirements for States to report adoption and foster care data to a Federal system were implemented under Federal regulations at 45 CFR 1355.40. On January 21, 1994 the Federal regulations, which implemented Section 479 of Title IV-E of the Social Security Act, became effective. Federal Regulations published on January 25, 2000 (65 FR 4019-4093) made technical changes to the race and ethnicity data elements in the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) Funding for AFCARS was provided by the Children’s Bureau, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. If states fail to re-submit data as required within 6 months, penalty of 1/6 of 1 percent of State’s title-IV-E foster care admin claims; if failure continues, penalty increases by 1/4 of 1 percent every 6 months 	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/afcars/fedguid.htm
4. What are the main functions?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> States required by law to collect data on children in foster care and those who have been adopted under state welfare agency, AFCARS collects and processes this data Data from AFCARS is used to determine and assess outcomes for children and families, respond to Congressional requests for current data on children in foster care, respond to questions and requests from other Federal departments and agencies, provide short and long-term budget projections, trend analyses and short and long-term planning, target areas for greater or potential technical assistance efforts 	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/afcars/guide/guide.pdf
5. Who manages the system?	<p>Children's Bureau, State/local agencies, AAR team, AFCARS sends case reports semi-annually to ACF</p>	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/afcars/guide/guide.pdf

<p>6. What are the interfaces of the system and the people? (Inputs/outputs)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SACWIS: States implementing SACWIS are required to interface with AFCARS data ● Title IV-E must include all children in foster care for whom the State title IV-B/IV-E agency has responsibility for placement, care, or supervision (45 CFR 1355.40(a)(2)) ● Title IV-D: Element 62 ● Title XIX: Element 63 ● Title IV-A: Element 61 	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/afcars/aar/ks/general_requirements.pdf</p> <p>http://www.dss.state.la.us/assets/docs/searchable/LRS/ACCESS/LaKids/DSD-SM07-AFCARS.PDF</p> <p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/afcars/aar/ak/element_ip.htm</p>
<p>7. How does the data support performance metrics?</p>	<p>7.1LT: One state will be in substantial conformity with "Children are first and foremost protected from abuse and neglect" by 2011, 9 by 2016</p> <p>7.2LT: One state will be in substantial conformity with: "Children have permanency and stability in their living situation" by 2011, 5 by 2016</p> <p>7.3LT: Three states will be in substantial conformity with "Case Review System" by 2011, twenty by 2016</p> <p>7.4LT: 1 state will be in substantial conformity with "Children are maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate by 2011, 9 by 2016</p> <p>7.5LT: 1 state will be in substantial conformity with "The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children" by 2011 and 10 by 2016</p> <p>7.6LT: 1 state will be in substantial conformity with "Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs" by 2011, 3 by 2016</p> <p>7.7LT: 10 states will be in substantial conformity with "Service Array" by 2011, 35 by 2016</p> <p>7.8LT and 7S: Increase adoption rate</p> <p>7.12LT and 7T: Decrease the gap between the % of children 9+ waiting to be adopted and those actually adopted</p> <p>7E: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "Children are first and foremost protected from abuse and neglect"</p> <p>7F: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "Children have permanency and stability in their living situation"</p>	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/olab/budget/2012/op_finalreport_2012.pdf</p>

<p>How does the data support performance metrics? (Cont)</p>	<p>7G: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "Case Review System"</p> <p>7H: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "Children are maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate"</p> <p>7I: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children"</p> <p>7J: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs"</p> <p>7K: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "Service Array"</p> <p>7L: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "Staff Training"</p> <p>7M: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment and Retention"</p> <p>7N: Reduce the time needed to approve state Child and Family Service Review Program Improve Plans</p> <p>7O: Increase percentage of children who exit foster care within 2 years of placement either through guardianship or adoption</p> <p>7P: For those children who have been in care less than 12 month, maintain percentage that has no more than 2 placement settings</p> <p>7Q: Decrease percentage of foster children in care 12 or more months with no case plan goal</p>	
<p>8. Are the info interfaces based on any standards?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) code guidelines • All files submitted must be submitted as described in 2nd link -> 	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/afcars/techbulletin/tb6.htm</p> <p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/afcars/techbulletin/tb2.htm</p> <p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/afcars/resources.htm</p>
<p>9. What technologies are used?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some states use CONNECT: Direct (mainframe to mainframe) for their electronic data file transfer, others use KERMIT (personal computer to mainframe) • Data file must be transmitted in ASCII, the following files must be concatenated: foster care delimiter, summary file, and detailed file, adoption aggregate delimiter and file, adoption delimiter, summary and detailed files, and optional explanatory footnotes • Technical assistance for states is provided with the State Data Compliance Utility, State Data Quality Utility, and State Frequency Utility, 	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/afcars/techbulletin/inde.htm</p>

<p>10. What is the status of the system? Upgrades planned? When and what?</p>	<p>No updates planned, system set</p>
<p>11. Observations or lessons learned</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different states and counties have different rules and regulations, makes it difficult to do cross-state comparisons • States reported that key AFCARS data elements are not clearly and consistently defined, resulting in inconsistent reporting • Caseworker priorities affect data collection and systems entry • Technical assistance is difficult to access <p>http://oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/oei-07-01-00660.pdf</p>

Automated Child Support Enforcement System (ACSES)

Questions	Responses	References
<p>1. Who are the users?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State, Tribal, and local Child Support Enforcement agencies; • Courts, law enforcement agencies, and other entities operating under cooperative agreements with child support enforcement agencies; • The Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement, including the Administration for Children and Families Regional Offices; • Employers, financial institutions, hospitals, the insurance community, program contractors; • Other components of Federal, State, and local government such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF/Title IV-A), Medicaid (Title XIX), State Child Health Insurance Program (SCHIP/Title XXI), child welfare (including Title IV-E and Indian Child Welfare Act) agencies, and non-IV-D State and Tribal agencies that provide Child Support Enforcement services, Bureaus of Vital Records, Departments of Corrections; and • Related Federal government agencies that work on particular aspects of the program such as the Departments of Labor, State, Treasury, and the Social Security Administration. 	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cse/pubs/2004/strategic_plan_fy2005-2009.html</p>
<p>2. What program does the system support?</p>	<p>ACF, Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Worker's Compensation, Unemployment Compensation, Department of Motor Vehicles, (DMV), the IRS and the Federal Parent Locator Services (FPLS) Social Security Administration (SSA), Department of Veteran Affairs (VA), Department of Defense (DOD), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Veterans Administration, the National Personnel Records Center, and State Employment Security Agencies</p>	<p>https://childsupport.state.co.us/siteuser/do/vfs/Read?file=/cm:Publications/cm:Reports/cm:Model_x0020_Office_x0020_Project_x0020_Grant/cm:LOCATE.pdf</p> <p>http://www.dhr.state.md.us/csea/state/federlcr.htm</p> <p>http://www.policyalmanac.org/social_welfare/archive/child_support_02.shtml</p>

<p>3. How was the system conceived/funded?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congress passed the “Family Support Act of 1988” (“FSA88;” Public Law (P.L.) 100-485, enacted October 13, 1988) mandating the implementation of automated Child Support Enforcement systems (CSES) in every State; requiring that such systems be fully operational not later than October 1, 1995; and rescinded EFP for Child Support Enforcement systems development and equipment costs effective September 30, 1995. P.L. 104-35 (enacted October 12, 1995) extended to October 1, 1997 the deadline for implementing the automation requirements of FSA88. • The “Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996” (“PRWORA;” P.L. 104-193), enacted August 22, 1996, reinstated Federal financial participation (FFP) at the 90 percent rate, with limits, retroactive to October 1, 1995, and through September 30, 1997 to enable States to complete the development and implementation of a CSES that meets the requirements of FSA 88. PRWORA also provided FFP at an enhanced rate of 80 percent (capped at \$400 million Federal share) for system development and implementation costs related to Automated Data Processing (ADP) requirements of FSA88 as well as the system requirements specified in PRWORA • Public Law (P.L.) 96-265 provided for EFP in the establishment and implementation of comprehensive, automated, statewide management information systems supporting the Child Support Enforcement (CSE) program. The Child Support Enforcement Amendments of 1984 (P.L. 98-378) extended to States enhanced Federal funding for wage withholding activities and hardware 	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cse/stsys/cert/2009_cert_guide_FINAL_12302009.pdf</p> <p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cse/pol/AT/1999/at-9906.htm</p>
<p>4. What are the main functions?</p>	<p>The goal of the child support program is to combine these Federal and State responsibilities and activities into an efficient machine that provides seven basic functions: locating absent parents, establishing paternity, establishing child support orders, reviewing and modifying orders, promoting medical support, collecting and distributing support, and enforcing child support across State lines.</p>	<p>http://www.policymanac.org/social_welfare/archive/child_support_02.shtml</p>
<p>5. Who manages the system?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families (ACF) provides national leadership and direction in planning, managing, and coordinating the nationwide administration and financing of a broad range of comprehensive and supportive programs for children and families, including Child Support Enforcement. • Each State is required to designate a single and separate organizational unit of State government to administer its child support program. Earlier child support legislation, enacted in 1967, had required that the program be administered by the welfare agency. The 1975 act deleted this requirement in order to give each State the opportunity to select the most effective administrative mechanism 	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cse/stsys/automation/case_closure.pdf</p> <p>http://www.policymanac.org/social_welfare/archive/child_support_01.shtml</p>
<p>6. What are the interfaces</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Support Enforcement (CSE) interfaces with the Automated Collections and Tracking System (ACTS) - ACTS stores information for 	<p>http://info.dhhs.state.nc.us/olm/manuals/dss/cse</p>

<p>of the system and the people? (Inputs/outputs)</p>	<p>cases and participants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interfaces with TANF, Unemployment Compensation, Department of Revenue, the Department of Motor Vehicles, the credit bureau, the State and Federal Directories of New Hires, the state disbursement unit and the professional license bureau, professional license bureau, Department of Revenue; State and Federal New Hires Directories; Social Security Administration 	<p>/man/CSEcG-05.htm#P595_51804 http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/07/CSE-enhancement/d ata/report.pdf</p>
<p>7. How does the data support performance metrics?</p>	<p>20.10LT, 20.2 LT, 20A-20E</p>	
<p>8. Are the info interfaces based on any standards?</p>	<p>A number of federal regulations and standards</p>	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/sacwis/federal.htm</p>
<p>9. What technologies are used?</p>	<p>Many states use different technologies</p>	
<p>10. What is the status of the system? Upgrades planned? When and what?</p>	<p>No updates planned, system set</p>	
<p>11. Observations or lessons learned</p>	<p>Different states and counties have different rules and regulations, makes it difficult to do cross-state comparisons. However, Implementation delays resulted from problems with various program elements, such as ACF's requirements that States share their technology, short timeframe for developing and implementing the systems, and ineffective State and contractor working relationships.</p>	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cse/stsys/cs_elessn.htm</p>

Children’s Bureau Database on Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSR)

Questions	Responses	References
<p>1. Who are the users?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Child Welfare Specialist Team supports the Children's Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, in administering the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) and other State child welfare program monitoring activities. The team is responsible for conducting CFSRs, negotiating and monitoring PIPs, coordinating Court Improvement Program Collaborative, interpreting and articulating state and national data and measurement of PIP process, identify station, region and national policy and practice trends and cross-cutting strategies Contents from the reviews are used by states to improve their systems, as well as by legislative and executive branches of government in order to track the system 	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cw_monitoring/general_info/fact_sheets/programssupportfactsheet.htm</p>
<p>2. What program does the system support?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The system supports programs relating to Child Welfare Systems, Providing Safe and Stable Families, and Foster Care, CFSRs Act as primarily a reporting mechanism 	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/olab/budget/2012/op_final_report_2012.pdf</p>
<p>3. How was the system conceived/funded?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The regulations at 45 CFR 1355.31-37, set forth the requirements for the child and family service reviews, including the establishment of national standards for certain statewide data indicators that will be used, in part, to determine a State's substantial conformity under titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act. On January 25, 2000, the HHS published a final rule in the Federal Register to establish a new approach to monitoring State child welfare programs. Under the rule, which became effective March 25, 2000, States are assessed for substantial conformity with certain Federal requirements for child protective, foster care, adoption, family preservation and family support, and independent living services. Titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act (the Act) are the primary sources of Federal funds for State child welfare services, foster care and adoption assistance. The Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980 (Pub. L. 96-272), amended Title IV-B child welfare services to institute financial incentives for States to provide certain protections for children in foster care under section 427 of the Act. Public Law 96-272 also established Part E of title IV of the Act, "Federal Payments for Foster Care and Adoption Assistance." 	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cw_monitoring/legislation/background.htm http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/laws_policies/cblaws/fed_reg/fr012500.htm</p>

<p>4. What are the main functions?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CFSRs enable the Children's Bureau to ensure conformity with Federal child welfare requirements, determine what is actually happening to children and families as they are engaged in child welfare services and assist States to enhance their capacity to help children and families achieve positive outcomes. • The goal of the reviews is to help States improve child welfare services and achieve the following outcomes for families and children who receive services: safety, permanence, family and child wellbeing 	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cw_monitoring/recruit/cfsfactsheet.htm</p>
<p>5. Who manages the system?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSFRs are completed by the Child Welfare Specialist Team, which work for the Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, and the Department of Health and Human Services. • Information from the reviews is used by the states in order to improve the quality and outcomes of the children and family they support 	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cw_monitoring/general_info/fact_sheets/programssupportfactsheet.htm</p>
<p>6. What are the interfaces of the system and the people? (Inputs/outputs)</p>	<p>State data from AFCARS, case data from NCANDS used to assess state on 7 outcomes and 7 systematic factors</p>	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cw_monitoring/legislation/fed_reg.htm</p>
<p>7. How does the data support performance metrics?</p>	<p>7.1LT-7.7L, 7E-7M</p>	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/olab/budget/2012/op_final_report_2012.pdf</p>
<p>8. Are the info interfaces based on any standards?</p>	<p>Interfaces are used to help provide case data, not based on specific standards</p>	
<p>9. What technologies are used?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information for each CFSR came from the following sources: (1) the Statewide Assessment, (2) case-level reviews conducted by a team of Federal and State reviewers, (3) interviews with key stakeholders, and (4) State data from the Foster Care File of the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and the Child File of the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS), or an alternative data source approved by the Children's Bureau. Prior to development of the Statewide Assessment for the CFSR, each State will receive a State Data Profile • Statewide Assessment Instrument: General information, data profiles for safety and permanency outcomes, assessment of seven outcomes areas, welfare agency characteristics, strengths and challenges • Onsite Review Instrument: organized into a Face Sheet and three sections, face sheet provides general case info, three sections 	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cw_monitoring/tools_guide/statewide.htm http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/cw_monitoring/legislation/index.htm http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/laws_policies/policy/im/2007/im0708.pdf</p>

	<p>focus on the outcome domains that form the basis of the CFSRs: safety, permanency, and child and family well-being. For each outcome, reviewers collect information on a number of "items" related to that outcome, provide rating, documentation and reason for rating</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PIPs: State summarizes broad strategy approaches that address concerns from the review and serve as a framework for goals/negotiated measures, bench marks and action steps, key concerns, and TA resources needed, encouraged to use PIP Matrix Form (includes Strategy Measurement Plan, National Standards Measurement Plan, Item Specific and Quantitative Measurement Plan)
<p>10. What is the status of the system? Upgrades planned? When and what?</p>	<p>Case reviews are set, while PIPs are highly dependent on state CFSRs.</p>
<p>11. Observations or lessons learned</p>	<p>Sample size: most systems have thousands of children, CFSRs looked at 50 cases in each state in the first round; sampling isn't entirely random,</p> <p>http://www.youthlaw.org/fileadmin/ncyl/youthlaw/publications/yln/2003/issue_1/03_yln_1_grimm_cfs_reviews_1.pdf</p>

LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program)

Questions	Responses	References
What is the purpose of the program?	<p>To assist low income households, particularly those with the lowest incomes who pay a high proportion of household income for home energy, primarily in meeting their immediate home energy needs. Home energy is defined by statute as a source of heating or cooling in residential dwellings.</p> <p>The authorization provides that an eligible household's income must not exceed 150 percent of the poverty level or 60 percent of the State median income (In FY 2009, 75 percent of the State median income). Grantees may not set income eligibility standards below 110 percent of the poverty level, but they may give priority to those households with the highest home energy costs or needs in relation to income.</p>	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/liheap/about/factsheet.html
Who are the users?	<p>All fifty States, the District of Columbia, five territories, and about 140 Tribes and Tribal organizations receive LIHEAP grants each year. State and federally recognized Tribes (including Alaska native villages) may apply for direct LIHEAP funding.</p>	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/liheap/about/factsheet.html
What program(s) does the system support?	<p>Low Income Home Energy Assistance Programs (LIHEAP) and Weatherization Assistance Programs (WAP)</p>	
Are these systems used as part of human service business processes or are they primarily reporting mechanisms?	<p>Not applicable</p>	
If they are reporting mechanisms, who are the users of the reports?	<p>Not applicable</p>	
How was the system conceived and funded?	<p>Title XXVI of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 (Public Law 97-35)</p>	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/liheap/about/factsheet.html
What are the main functions of the system?	<p>The mission of the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is to assist low income households, particularly those with the lowest incomes that pay a high proportion of household income for home</p>	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/liheap/about/factsheet.html

	<p>energy, primarily in meeting their immediate home energy needs. There are four major funding avenues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Block Grant</i>: States, territories, and Indian tribes and tribal organizations that wish to assist low income households in meeting the costs of home energy may apply for a LIHEAP block grant. • <i>Leveraging Incentive Program</i>: The law authorizes supplemental LIHEAP funding for grantees that acquired non-federal leveraged resources for their LIHEAP programs in the preceding fiscal year. • <i>Residential Energy Assistance Challenge Program (REACH)</i>: The law authorizes supplemental LIHEAP funding for grantees to receive competitive grants for implementation through local community-based agencies of innovative plans to help LIHEAP eligible households reduce their energy vulnerability. • <i>Contingency Funds</i>: The President may release these funds to assist with the home energy needs arising from an emergency situation. They may be allocated to one or more grantees, or to all grantees, based on criteria appropriate to the nature of the emergency.
Who manages the system?	US Department of Health and Human Services but administration of the program is left up to state, territorial or tribal government
What are the interfaces (inputs and outputs) – for systems and for people? Can you characterize the information handled by the interface?	Not applicable as some private companies like Hancock Software Company offers online LIHEAP software which is used as an online interface by some states but this is by no means generalizable
How do those data support performance metrics? Are the information interfaces based on any standards (e.g., data models like NIEM, HL-7 standards, etc.)?	Not applicable
What	Not applicable

technologies are used?

What is the status of the system? Are major upgrades planned? If so, when and what?

Observations or lessons learned. Did the system achieve objectives?

The President released his budget for FY2012, which included recommendations to slash the LIHEAP program from \$5.1 billion to \$2.57 billion, a 50% reduction. This request would roll the program's funding back to its 2008 levels.

<http://liheap.org>
/

2010 Appropriation: *Block Grant*: \$5.1 billion, *Contingency*: \$490 million

NCANDS (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System)

Questions	Responses	References
1. Who are the users?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal officers of child welfare services Members of Congress Academic research community 	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/stats_research/index.htm#cw
2. What program does the system support?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Welfare Research for Child Welfare Outcomes Reports include NCANDS data 	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/index.htm#ncands
3. How was the system conceived/funded?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (Public Law 93-247) 	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/index.htm#ncands
4. What are the main functions?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) is a federally sponsored national data collection effort created for the purpose of tracking the volume and nature of child maltreatment reporting each year within the United States. The NCANDS Child File consists of child-specific data of all investigated reports of maltreatment to state child protective service agencies. Child File data are collected annually through the voluntary participation of states. Participating states submit their data after going through a process in which the state's administrative data system is mapped to the NCANDS data structure. 	http://healthindicators.gov/Resources/DataSources/NCANDS_81/Profile
5. Who manages the system?	Administration for Children and Families through Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/index.htm#ncands http://www.ndacan.cornell.edu/
6. What are the interfaces of the system and the people? (Inputs/outputs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NCANDS case-level data are collected from states through the Child File data submission. States that submit a Child File also submit an Agency File, which collects state-level data for areas not covered in the Child file (e.g., preventive services and screened-out referrals). Child File data are aggregated to the state level by key variables and then combined with data from the Agency File to create the Combined Aggregate File, which is available for analysis. 	http://healthindicators.gov/Resources/DataSources/NCANDS_81/Profile
7. How does the data support performance metrics?	Supports 7.1-7.8LT 7.12LT, 7A, B, C, E-Q, S	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/olab/budget/2012/op_finalreport_2012.pdf
8. Are the info interfaces based on any standards?	A national standard based upon the 75th percentile of all state's performance over a three-year period of time.	http://www.michigan.gov/dhs/0,1607,7-124-5458_7701_13733-26622--,00.html

<p>9. What technologies are used?</p>	<p>(KIDS, CHRIS, Bridges, FACTS, OASIS, Trails, FACES, CHESSIE) (LINK, RICHIST, FACTS, WiSACWIS, SICStA, OR-KIDS, NJ SPIRIT, ORCA, FSFN, FamLink) (CAPS, Connections, IMPACT, Shines) (ICWIS, MACWIS) (CWIS, CAPS) (CHILDS, UNITY) (SACWIS, TFACTS) All final data files in Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) format</p>	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/stsChart.htm http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/logic/readme1st.txt</p>
<p>10. What is the status of the system? Upgrades planned? When and what?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forty-four states and DC voluntarily submitted data to the NCANDS Child File for 2004. States that did not submit data for 2004 are Alaska, Alabama, Georgia, North Dakota, Oregon, and Wisconsin. • In 2003, only twenty-two states and DC agreed to archive their NCANDS Child File data with the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN). States that submitted data in 2003 are Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Maine, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, North Carolina, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington, and Wyoming. 	<p>http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/06/catalog-ai-and-na/NCANDS.htm</p>
<p>11. Observations or lessons learned</p>	<p>Issues of data compatibility in 2001 which have since been resolved</p>	<p>http://oig.hhs.gov/oas/reports/region5/50100084.pdf</p>

Office of Child Care Information Systems (OCCIS)

Questions	Responses	References
1. Who are the users?	Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Administrators and other key stakeholders. Information from the website can also be used by the general public, and can provide helpful information for families seeking care	http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/
2. What program does the system support?	The web portal provides support for Child Care and Development Fund, which is a part of the Child Care Development Block Grant, acts as business feature, not reporting location	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/olab/budget/2012/op_finalreport_2012.pdf
3. How was the system conceived/funded?	In 1990, the Congress established the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG). The CCDBG Act was the Federal government’s effort to meet low income families’ growing need and demand for child care. The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) was authorized by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996. PRWORA reauthorized the CCDB Act, eliminating the separate Title IV-A programs and consolidated Federal child care subsidy funding. ACF selected the name CCDF to signify the unification of the CCDBG and new child care subsidy funding under the Social Security Act. The CCDF provided increased Federal funding for child care over past programs. The preponderance of the funds is distributed to States to operate child care subsidy programs and improve the quality and availability of child care. All children receiving CCDF services benefit from the health and safety requirements, consumer education, parental choice, and other provisions of the CCDBG statute. The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) made available \$5 billion to States, Territories, and Tribes in Fiscal Year (FY) 2011. CCDF is authorized by the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act and Section 418 of the Social Security Act. NCCIC, as a part of CCDF, authorized by the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act, and Section 418 of the Social Security Act, assists low-income families, families receiving temporary public assistance, and those transitioning from public assistance in obtaining child care so they can work or attend training/education.	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/occ/ccdf/index.htm http://ccdf.acf.hhs.gov/cgi-bin/ccdf.cfg/php/enduser/std_adp.php?p_faqid=1514&p_created=1090353404&p_sid=B-1sqJyk&p_accessibility=0&p_redirect=&p_lva=&p_sp=cF9zcmNoPSZwX3NvcnRfYnk9JnBfZ3JpZHNVcnQ9JnBfcm93X2NudD0yMiwYMiZwX3Byb2RzPSZwX2Nhdm9JnBfcHY9JnBfy3Y9JnBfc2VhcmNoX3R5cGU9YW5zd2Vycy5zZWYy2hfbmwmcF9wYWdlPTEl&p_li=&p_topview=1
4. What are the main functions?	The National Child Care Information and Technical Assistance Center (NCCIC), a service of the Office of Child Care, is a national clearinghouse and technical assistance (TA) center that provides comprehensive child care information resources and TA services. Information is available on CCDF administration, child care arrangement, early learning, family engagement, financing strategies, health and safety, licensing, Quality Improvement Systems, Service Coordination and Improvement, special needs and	http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/about-nccic

<p>5. Who manages the system?</p>	<p>disabilities, and workforce development. Also provided are the CCDF final report of State and territory plans, issue briefs, and data summaries. NCCIC provides a variety of products, including child care bulletins, a professional development toolkit, QRIS cost Estimation Model, FitSource, and QRIS Resource Guide</p> <p>NCCIC Staff manage the NCCIC web portal, have in-office and technical assistance staff throughout the US, submission of state data is the responsibility of Child Care administrators/State lead agencies, state data is compiled by ACF</p>	<p>http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/nccic-staff http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/general/rsla.htm</p>
<p>6. What are the interfaces of the system and the people? (Inputs/outputs)</p>	<p>Survey of Income and Program Participation: provides info on type of care, cost, who provides it for how long, where care is provided</p> <p>National Household Education Survey: conducted by National Center on Education Statistics, info on educational activities for US population and conditions of education across the country</p> <p>National Survey of America's Family: 42,000 households in 13 states, measures of child well-being, including child care arrangements</p> <p>National Study of Child Care Supply and Demand: will provide design for first national survey of child care supply and demand in US</p> <p>State by State Profiles of Child Care in US: (NACCRRA) demonstrations for 50 states</p> <p>2008 Child Care Capacity</p> <p>CA: 2007 Child Care Portfolio, Understanding Child Care Demand and Supply Issues: new lessons from LA</p> <p>CT: Status of Child Care in Conn</p> <p>GA: Child Care Supply and Demand Report</p> <p>IL: Child Care in Cook County, Elements of Child Care Supply and Demand, Early Childhood Programs Supply and Demand</p> <p>MD: Child Care Demos 2009 Maryland Report</p> <p>OK: 2008 OK Child Care and Early Education Portfolio</p> <p>OR: Child Care and Education in Oregon and Its Counties: 2004</p> <p>UT: 2007 Utah Child Care Needs Assessment</p> <p>WA: Child Care in Washington State</p> <p>Common Core of Data: comprehensive, annual national statistical database</p> <p>S4101: School Enrollment by Level of School for the Population 3 Years and Over</p> <p>Child Care and Development Fund Statistics, Head-start Statistical Fact Sheets, State of Preschool: 2008 State Preschool Yearbook, State-by-state profiles of child care in US (NACCRRA)</p> <p>TANF Financial Data Tables, Social Services Block Grant Annual Report on Expenditures and Recipients</p> <p>National Data Statistics provides a compilation of information from a vast number of other sources, can be seen in link</p>	<p>http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/files/resources/2851012_Statistics_Resource_Guide.pdf http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/poptopics/nationaloverview.html</p>

<p>7. How does the data support performance metrics?</p>	<p>CCDF State Plans and National Reports provide information for the following metrics: 2C: Increase number of states that implement professional development systems that meet benchmarks for providing a career path for early care and afterschool educators 2D: Increase the number of states that have implemented state early learning guidelines in literacy, language, pre-reading and numeracy for children aged 3-5 that align with state K-12 standards and are linked to the education and training of caregivers, preschool teachers, and administrators 2E: Increase the number or percentage of low-income children receiving CCDF subsidies who enroll in high quality care settings</p>	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/olab/budget/2012/op_finalreport_2012.pdf</p>
<p>8. Are the info interfaces based on any standards?</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	
<p>9. What technologies are used?</p>	<p>Child Care and Development Fund Report of State and Territory Plans summarize information in the biennial plans submitted by States and Territories (Lead Agencies) and approved by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF). States are required to submit one plan (biennial) and three reports (ACF118, 696, 800, 801).</p> <p>When submitting the required ACF-801 report, States have the option to submit either a sample or the complete population of children receiving federal child care subsidies. States also have the option to submit data monthly or quarterly (3 months at once) Forms are provided on ACF website and are based in Excel, data is summarized from state reports and presented as full data reports in web-based portal. Summary of state plans also available on ACF website, and final reports to Congress are reported on ACF website</p>	<p>http://ccdf.acf.hhs.gov/cgi-bin/ccdf.cfg/php/enduser/std_adp.php?p_faqid=1529&p_created=1090407046&p_sid=B-1sqJyk&p_accessibility=0&p_redirect=&p_lva=&p_sp=cF9zcmNoPSZwX3NvcnRfYnk9JnBfZ3JpZHNvcnQ9JnBfcm93X2NudD0yMiwYMiZwX3Byb2RzPSZwX2NhdHM9JnBfcHY9JnBfy3Y9JnBfc2VhcmNoX3R5cGU9YW5zd2Vycy5zZWYy2hfbmwmcF9wYWdlPTEl&p_li=&p_topview=1</p>
<p>10. What is the status of the system? Upgrades planned? When and what?</p>	<p>The Office of Child Care will launch a redesigned Child Care Technical Assistance Network in the fall of 2011. NCCIC will end on August 31, 2011</p> <p>The Child Care Bureau will be developing a Federal Child Care Information System which allows States to submit either a full population or small (approximately 200 families) monthly samples of subsidized child care recipients each quarter (Form ACF-801) and population values for all families and children in care annually (Form ACF-800), for federal reporting purposes.</p>	<p>http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/about-nccic http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/report/formhelp/techbull/tb02.htm</p>

**11. Observations
or lessons
learned**

Population reporting is less burdensome for child care workers. the least burdensome manner of reporting on the monthly subsidized child care caseload is to write a single program to extract required data elements on all program participants. This program creates an electronic file that can then be relayed electronically to the ACF computer which houses the national child care database.

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/report/formhelp/techbull/tb02.htm>

By submitting population data, States contribute to a growing National Child Care Data Set of subsidized child care information. It is in the State's interest to participate in a national data set for many reasons, including the ability to move increasingly toward data-based decision making, form useful partnerships with other States and researchers, and take advantage of technical innovations in data management.

PARIS (Public Assistance Reporting Information System)

Questions	Responses	References
<p>What is the purpose of the program?</p>	<p>Public Assistance Reporting Information System (PARIS) is an information sharing system, operated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, which allows states and federal agencies to verify public assistance client circumstances. It is a computer matching process by which the Social Security Numbers of public assistance recipients are matched against various Federal databases and participating States. The PARIS system includes three different data matches:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PARIS-Interstate Match - allows states to compare beneficiary information with other states. 2. PARIS-Veterans Match - allows states to compare beneficiary information with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (including Medicare). 3. PARIS-Federal Match - allows states to compare beneficiary information with the U.S. Department of Defense and the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. 	<p>http://www.sccgov.org/ssa/medical/updates2010/mc10-21.upd.pdf</p> <p>http://www.mmiscconference.org/mmi-presentations07/Thursday/TPL%20Fraud%20Detection%20and%20IT/July2007PARISMMISConference.pdf</p> <p>http://regulations.delaware.gov/register/november2010/proposed/14%20DE%20Reg%20360%201-01-10.htm</p>
<p>Who are the users?</p>	<p>Focuses on 5 Programs: TANF, Medicaid, Food Stamps, Child Care and Workers Compensation. Matches are offered quarterly - February, May, August and November</p>	<p>http://www.mmiscconference.org/mmi-presentations07/Thursday/TPL%20Fraud%20Detection%20and%20IT/July2007PARISMMISConference.pdf</p> <p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/paris/reports/cba_exec_summary.pdf</p>
<p>What program(s) does the system support?</p>	<p>States decide on PARIS participation based on voluntary involvement (No unfunded mandates) but it is mandated for Medicaid. All State data have to be submitted from the same source</p> <p>The project allows participating SPAAs to exchange their previous quarter's eligibility files for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Medicaid programs. Federal agencies such as the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) have likewise signed agreements to participate in PARIS.</p>	<p>http://www.mmiscconference.org/mmi-presentations07/Thursday/TPL%20Fraud%20Detection%20and%20IT/July2007PARISMMISConference.pdf</p> <p>http://www.nasuad.org/documentation/policy_priorities/MDLs/PARIS.pdf</p>
<p>Are these systems used as part of human service business</p>	<p>The former, as PARIS is a set of computer matches which enables State public assistance agencies (SPAAs) and Federal agencies to share information about applicants for and recipients of certain benefits</p>	<p>http://www.nasuad.org/documentation/policy_priorities/MDLs/PARIS.pdf</p>

<p>processes or are they primarily reporting mechanisms? If they are reporting mechanisms, who are the users of the reports?</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	
<p>How was the system conceived and funded?</p>	<p>Section 3 of the Qualifying Individual (QI) Program Supplemental Funding Act of 2008 (the QI Funding Act) amended section 1903(r) of the Social Security Act (the Act) to require that States have eligibility determination systems that provide for data matching through the Public Assistance Reporting Information System (PARIS) project or any successor system. PARIS is a system for matching data from certain public assistance programs, including State Medicaid programs, with selected Federal and State data for purposes of facilitating appropriate enrollment and retention in public programs. This provision took effect on October 1, 2009.</p> <p>Based on the provisions of the QI Funding Act, all States are required to sign an agreement to participate in PARIS as a condition of receiving Medicaid funding for automated data systems (including the Medicaid Management Information System). Prior to passage of the QI Funding Act, participation in the PARIS project was voluntary. PARIS is still a voluntary program with respect to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Temporary Assistance For Needy Families (TANF).</p> <p>The first interstate match was done in 1999; same year the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) joined the program- this is where encrypted data is received and matching is done</p>	<p>http://regulations.delaware.gov/register/november2010/proposed/14%20DE%20Reg%20360%201-01-10.htm</p> <p>http://www.mmisc.onference.org/mmi/presentations07/Thursday/TPL%20Fraud%20Detection%20and%20IT/July2007PARISMISConference.pdf</p>
<p>What are the main functions of the system?</p>	<p>States can use the PARIS data match to ensure that individuals enrolled in Medicaid or other public assistance benefits in one State are not receiving duplicate benefits based on simultaneous enrollment in the Medicaid program or other public benefit programs in another State. In certain circumstances, PARIS may also be used as a tool to identify individuals who have not applied for Medicaid coverage, but who may be eligible based on their income.</p>	<p>http://www.nasud.org/documentation/policy_priorities/SMDLs/PARIS.pdf</p>
<p>Who manages the system?</p>	<p>PARIS is operated under the auspices of the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services</p>	<p>http://www.mmisc.onference.org/mmi/presentations07/Thursday/TPL%20Fraud%20Detection%20and%20IT/July2007PARISMISConference.pdf</p>

<p>What are the interfaces (inputs and outputs) – for systems and for people? Can you characterize the information handled by the interface?</p>	<p>A file is sent from the States to the Federal Government which contains public assistance clients which have satisfied specific criteria. In the 10th month, a response is given from PARIS to the State agency which then disseminates to local counties and tribal agencies.</p> <p>A PARIS interstate match may occur because of any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Client error: Client error occurs when an individual receiving benefits in one state moves to another state and fails to report the move to program authorities. • Agency error: Agency error occurs when an eligibility worker is informed that a client is moving, or has moved out of state and fails to update the program record. • Fraud: PARIS may also help to detect client fraud that might not be detected through regular case maintenance activities. <p>For more information on alerts, see this link: http://www.dshs.wa.gov/manuals/aces/sections/Interface/PARIS.shtml</p> <p>Interface screen-shot: http://www.dshs.wa.gov/manuals/aces/screens/welcomeback.shtml</p>	<p>ud%20Detection%20and%20IT/July2007PARISMMISConference.pdf</p> <p>http://hcopub.dhs.state.mn.us/29_20.htm</p>
<p>How do those data support performance metrics? Are the information interfaces based on any standards (e.g., data models like NIEM, HL-7 standards, etc.)?</p>	<p>Medicaid Management Information Systems (MMIS) and Eligibility Determination Systems Certification Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148)</p>	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/paris/report/s/cms_patt_pp.html</p>
<p>What technologies are used?</p>	<p>Electronic file transmission is similar to FTP. The Social Security Administration has purchased the software and the appropriate licenses for State agencies to ease the file transfers between SSA and the various states. The -Connect Direct product-electronic file transmission will encrypt the data during the file transfer if the Secure+ software is implemented. Secure+ is a built in part of -Connect Direct-electronic file transmission, but it must be licensed and set up to be able to encrypt the data. If secure+ isn't available, then a VPN (Virtual Private Network) can</p>	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/paris/state_info/ConnectDirectInstructions.html</p>

<p>What is the status of the system? Are major upgrades planned? If so, when and what?</p>	<p>be used to encrypt the data and then sent with -Connect direct-electronic file transmission.</p> <p>Data transmission and matching report are provided at no cost to participating jurisdictions but State programming, data preparation, and resulting match analysis costs are borne by States</p> <p>Next matching will be done on August 12, 2011</p>	<p>http://www.mmisc.onference.org/mmi presentations07/Thursday/TPL%20Fraud%20Detection%20and%20IT/July2007PARISMMISConference.pdf</p> <p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/paris/</p>
<p>Observations or lessons learned. Did the system achieve objectives?</p>	<p>Matched cases need review which increases the time investment needed by 0.5 to 2.5 hours per case as client has to be contacted for verification, there may be overpayment or sanction processing and the collection or correction process may be instituted.</p> <p>States can choose from which programs (SNAP, TANF, Medicaid) they submit data. Of the three primary programs, there is significant variation as to which data are submitted</p> <p>States do not have to submit data for all of the PARIS matches. Some States submit for all three matches, while others only submit for the Interstate match, and do not submit for the Veteran or Federal match</p> <p>States must conduct follow-up activities to obtain the benefits of participating in PARIS</p>	<p>http://www.mmisc.onference.org/mmi presentations07/Thursday/TPL%20Fraud%20Detection%20and%20IT/July2007PARISMMISConference.pdf</p> <p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/paris/reports/cba_exec_summary.pdf</p>

QRIS (Quality Rating and Improvement Systems)

Questions	Responses	References
1. Who are the users?	QRISs are used to assess and improve quality of care. They are used by States in an effort to evaluate their early and school-aged programs. Different states have different systems and different people running their programs. Information from QRIS can be used by parents and caregivers. QRIS can provide both training and evaluation for child care settings	http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=edumodulechunk&L=4&L0=Home&L1=Pre+K++Grade+12&L2=Early+Education+and+Care&L3=QRIS&sid=Eoedu&b=terminalcontent&f=EEC_qris_20110119_qpm&csid=Eoedu
2. What program does the system support?	Child Care Development Block Grant, CCDF	
3. How was the system conceived/funded?	<p>Since 1996, the Child Care Bureau has worked with States to support administration of the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) to further quality improvement. Increasing the accessibility and availability of quality child care reflects the Child Care Bureau's mission to ensure parental choice from a range of care settings, from center-based programs to family child care homes.</p> <p>Since 2002, the Child Care Bureau has partnered with States to implement Good Start, Grow Smart, President Bush's initiative to help States and local communities strengthen early learning for young children to enhance school readiness.</p> <p>Including QRIS in statutes depend upon states; States increasingly use CCDF funds to create QRIS or elements of QRIS.</p>	http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/files/resources/issue32.pdf
4. What are the main functions?	A quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) is a systemic approach to assess, improve, and communicate the level of quality in early and school-age care and education programs. QRIS are composed of five common elements: (1) standards; (2) accountability measures; (3) program and practitioner outreach and support; (4) financial incentives; and (5) parent/consumer education efforts.	http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/topics/highest-qris.html
5. Who manages the system?	NCCIC, as a member of the Children's Bureau, and the Administration of Children and Families, manages QRIS data for all states, each state has its own QRIS management Administrative support may come from staff in State agencies, privately funded state or community groups, such as the United Way, or from business leaders	http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/qrisresourceguide/files/100602_QRIS_ResourceGuide.pdf
6. What are the interfaces of the system and the people? (Inputs/outputs)	Licensing, Pre-K, Head Start, Subsidy, Infant/Toddler/School-age, scholarships, resource and referral, early learning guidelines, professional development system, licensing	http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/qrisresourceguide/files/100602_QRIS_ResourceGuide.pdf

7. How does the data support performance metrics?	2B	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/olab/budget/2012/op_finalreport_2012.pdf
8. Are the info interfaces based on any standards?	Most likely not as QRIS is optional and different states use QRIS in different ways	
9. What technologies are used?	Qualistar Rating System (CO) STARS for KIDS NOW Child Care Quality Rating System(KY) North Carolina Star Rated License (NC) Child Care and Evaluation Report Card Program and Star-Quality Child Care Program (TN)Better Beginnings (AK) Iowa Child Care Quality Rating System, Quality Start (LA) Star Quality Rating System (MT) Reaching for the Stars (OK)	http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/pubs/grs-statute.html
10. What is the status of the system? Upgrades planned? When and what?	25 States have a statewide QRIS with all five elements: AR, CO, DE, DC, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, ME,MD, MA, MS, MT, NH, NM, NC, OH, OK, RI, TN, VT, WI. More than 20 States are developing a QRIS or other quality improvement initiative	http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/potopics/quickfact_QRIS.html
11. Observations or lessons learned	<p>Cost issues strongly affect choice of components and component measures. Many states struggled with standard-setting. States invested substantial resources and developed a range of financial incentives for system participation and program improvement, but funding remains an issue for most states, providers tend to be wary of rating process</p> <p>Suggestions: Obtain adequate funding in advance, decide how it will be spent, garner political support, conduct pilot work before adopted statewide, limit changes to system after implementation, minimize use of self-reported data, integrate licensing, use ERSs flexibility, do not include accreditation as a mandatory system component, ensure multiple levels, create robust QI process, separate raters and QI support personnel, institute public awareness campaigns, support research on systems that identify best practices in QRIS</p>	http://www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/2008/RAND_RB9377.pdf

SACWIS (Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System)

Questions	Response	References
1. Who are the users?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public and private social workers involved in foster care and adoptions assistance case management Other human service professionals (such as family courts, schools, medical providers, and providers of services to stabilize families and ensure child well-being) Other parts of the Department of Human Services, other state agencies, and departments, including self-sufficiency programs, programs for persons with disabilities, juvenile corrections, child support programs, Medicaid, Social security Administration, sex offender registry 	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/sacwis/about.htm http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/abuse/publications/children/sacwis_2003.pdf
2. What program does the system support?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By law, SACWIS is required to support the reporting of data to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis Reporting System (AFCARS) and the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS). Furthermore, SACWIS is expected to have bi-directional interfaces with a State's Title IV-A (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, TANF), Title XIX (Medicaid), and Title IV-D (Child Support) systems. SACWIS both reports and manages business practices, reports used mostly by case workers and supervisors 	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/sacwis/about.htm
3. How was the system conceived/funded?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Congress amended Title IV-E of the Social Security Act in 1986 by adding section 479 which requires the Federal government to institute a foster care and adoption data collection system. Federal regulations at 45 CFR 1355.40 (Code of Federal Regulations) set forth the requirements for the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS). Created as a result of Title XIII, Section 13713, ENHANCED MATCH FOR AUTOMATED DATA SYSTEMS, of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1993. It provided states with the opportunity to obtain 75 percent enhanced funding through the Title IV-E program of the Social Security Act to plan, design, develop, and implement a SACWIS Title V, Section 502 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act extended the SACWIS enhanced funding through Federal fiscal year 1997. Additionally, the legislation provided an enhanced SACWIS cost allocation to States so that Title IV-E would absorb all SACWIS costs for foster and adopted children, without regard to their Title IV-E eligibility 	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/sacwis/about.htm http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/sacwis/federal.htm

4. What are the main functions?

- Intake management: Provide for the administration of the processes necessary to ensure that the child welfare services agency can respond to those who need assistance through the proper identification of the individuals and provision of appropriate assessment procedures
- Eligibility: To provide efficient and effective automated system support for the identification and qualification of children for program funding
- Case management: To provide system support for the efficient and effective administration and tracking of the processes necessary to ensure that the child welfare agency identifies, communicates, evaluates, and monitors the services which will improve the conditions that necessitated agency involvement and ensure the safety, permanency and well-being of children
- Resource management: To provide system support for the efficient, economical, and effective administration of the processes involved in the determination of appropriate service providers and/or placement resources necessary to accomplish the goals of the service/case plan Collect intake and record intake, referral and contact information and search for prior history of persons/ incidents
- Court processing: To ensure the automated support of the accurate and timely production of appropriate court related documents
- Financial management: To support through automation, the effective, economical, and efficient management of the processes necessary to ensure the accurate and timely authorization, processing, and reconciliation of financial records and transactions
- Administration: To provide reliable and accurate information, through automation, for the efficient, economical, and effective management of personnel, mandated reporting and system administration
- Interfaces: To provide for the effective, economical, and efficient transfer of information between SACWIS and other automated systems.
- Quality assurance: To provide for the review of case files for accuracy, completeness, and compliance with Federal requirements and State standards

http://dcf.wi.gov/wisacwis/knowledge_web/administration/eWAG/ewag/Federal_SACWIS_Functional_Requirements.pdf

5. Who manages the system?

ACF works with States, Division of State Systems, Children's Bureau

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/sacwis/manager.htm>

<p>6. What are the interfaces of the system and the people? (Inputs/outputs)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title IV-A System (TANF): Must allow for automatic exchange of common/relevant data, accept and process updated or new case data, identify duplicate payments • Title IV-D System: Must provide for exchange of data to establish child support case, accurately record collections, identify potential resources for child, allow for automatic exchange of common/relevant data, accept and process new data, capture if funds are being paid to the State on behalf of the child), provide info about current foster care maintenance payment • Title XIX System: exchange info in order to calculate and track Medicaid eligibility, allow for automatic exchange of common/relevant data, capture data about eligibility for Medicaid assistance • NCANDS: allow for exchange of common/relevant data • Title IV-E Eligibility 	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/sacwis/bulletin1.htm http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/sacwis/at98.htm</p>
<p>7. How does the data support performance metrics?</p>	<p>7.1LT: One state will be in substantial conformity with "Children are first and foremost protected from abuse and neglect" by 2011, 9 by 2016 7.2LT: One state will be in substantial conformity with: "Children have permanency and stability in their living situation" by 2011, 5 by 2016 7.3LT: Three states will be in substantial conformity with "Case Review System" by 2011, twenty by 2016 7.4LT: 1 state will be in substantial conformity with "Children are maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate by 2011, 9 by 2016 7.5LT: 1 state will be in substantial conformity with "The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children" by 2011 and 10 by 2016 7.6LT: 1 state will be in substantial conformity with "Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs" by 2011, 3 by 2016 7.7LT: 10 states will be in substantial conformity with "Service Array" by 2011, 35 by 2016 7.8LT and 7S: Increase adoption rate 7.12LT and 7T: Decrease the gap between the % of children 9+ waiting to be adopted and those actually adopted</p>	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/olab/budget/2012/op_finalreport_2012.pdf</p>

<p>How does the data support performance metrics? (Cont)</p>	<p>7A: Decrease rate of first-time victims per 1,000 children</p> <p>7B: Decrease percentage of children with substantiated or indicated reports of maltreatment that have a repeated report of maltreatment within 6 months</p> <p>7C: Improve states' average response time between maltreatment report and investigation</p> <p>7E: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "Children are first and foremost protected from abuse and neglect"</p> <p>7F: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "Children have permanency and stability in their living situation"</p> <p>7G: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "Case Review System"</p> <p>7H: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "Children are maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate"</p> <p>7I: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children"</p> <p>7J: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs"</p> <p>7K: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "Service Array"</p> <p>7L: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "Staff Training"</p> <p>7M: Each fiscal year, an increasing number of states with a closed out PIP will by penalty free on "Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment and Retention"</p> <p>7N: Reduce the time needed to approve state Child and Family Service Review Program Improve Plans</p> <p>7O: Increase percentage of children who exit foster care within 2 years of placement either through guardianship or adoption</p> <p>7P: For those children who have been in care less than 12 month, maintain percentage that has no more than 2 placement settings</p> <p>7Q: Decrease percentage of foster children in care 12 or more months with no case plan goal</p>	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/olab/budget/2012/op_finalreport_2012.pdf</p>
<p>8. Are the info interfaces based on any standards?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mainly based on Federal legislative standards but has close relationship with the NIEM, MITA, HHS, Enterprise Architecture, etc ACF evaluates compliance with the federal functional requirements delineated in Action Transmittal ACF-OISM-001 (issued: 2/24/1995) by comparing system functionality with the federal SACWIS requirements and approved Advance Planning Document 	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/sacwis/bulletin1.pdf</p> <p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/sacwis/federal_guidance.htm</p>

<p>9. What technologies are used?</p>	<p>State programs: (KIDS, CHRIS, Bridges, FACTS, OASIS, Trails, FACES, CHESSIE) (LINK, RICHI, FACTS, WiSACWIS, SICStA, OR-KIDS, NJ SPIRIT, ORCA, FSFN, FamLink) (CAPS, Connections, IMPACT, Shines) (ICWIS, MACWIS) (CWIS, CAPS) (CHILDS, UNITY) (SACWIS, TFACTS).</p> <p>Software- Includes but not limited to: Application: Object Studio, Delphi, SQL Server Enterprise, InstallShield, DB Artisan, Erwin, PVCS, Beyond Compare, Internet Explorer, Wspell DLL, Rich Text Edit DLL, ReportBuilder, Component Developer's Kit, InfoPower, Tcompress, TopGrid, Calendar ActiveX Control Network: Netware (Token Ring/Ethernet), Netware, Routers Desktop: Windows NT, Windows 2000, GroupWise v5.5, Host Explorer v6.0, Delphi EXE and Database Engine</p>	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/stsChart.htm http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/abuse/publications/children/sacwis_2003.pdf</p>
<p>10. What is the status of the system? Upgrades planned? When and what?</p>	<p>Systems in development: Oregon, California, Michigan, Louisiana, Non-SACWIS: North Dakota, Kansas, Mississippi, Illinois, North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, Hawaii, Puerto Rico Operational Systems: Remaining States</p>	<p>http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/systems/sacwis/statestatus.htm</p>
<p>11. Observations or lessons learned</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrictions on Modifying Information: Several states report that restrictions on modifying data have caused unanticipated problems, because user errors could not be corrected. Some states were forced to adopt cumbersome workarounds to address associated problems • Assignments of Vendors: Excluding some transfer solutions, state SACWIS projects have involved up to three vendors, because firms differ in methodology and approach, the validation effort is likely to generate many proposed design changes. Some may be real corrections to minor design flaws, while others are likely to reflect different vendor preferences. This may be more expensive • Duplication of data: Both generic and SACWIS specific problems are associated with duplication of data • Reports: Many states were dissatisfied with management reports as initially designed. Interfaces: Many states reported that interfaces proved to be more difficult than expected due to coordination with other state agencies. • Testing: Too often, delays earlier in a project cause time available for testing to be compressed, resulting in less than optimal testing. 	<p>http://www.dss.state.la.us/assets/docs/searchable/LRS/ACCESS/LaKids/Analysis_of_Other_SACWIS_Projects.pdf</p>
<p>12. Additional Optional Interfaces</p>	<p>CAN, SSA, state financial system, state licensing system, vital statistics, court system, juvenile justice, mental health and retardation</p>	

TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) Database

Questions	Responses	References
1. Who are the users?	ACF, Legislators, researchers, including agencies within DHHS, relevant agencies across the Federal, State, local, and Tribal governments, and non-governmental organizations at the Federal, State, and local levels.	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/tanf/about.html#top
2. What program does the system support?	The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/tanf/about.html#top
3. How was the system conceived/funded?	Titles IV-A and XVI of the Social Security Act	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/tanf/about.html#history
4. What are the main functions?	Administrative Support for the TANF program	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/tanf/about.html#top
5. Who manages the system?	the TANF Bureau within the Office of Family Assistance - ACF	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/tanf/about.html#history
6. What are the interfaces of the system and the people? (Inputs/outputs)	The TANF Bureau: 1) develops legislative, regulatory, and budgetary proposals; 2) presents operational planning objectives and initiatives related to welfare reform to the Director; 3) oversees the progress of approved activities; 4) provides leadership and coordination for welfare reform within ACF; and 5) provides leadership and linkages with other agencies on welfare reform issues.	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/tanf/about.html#top
7. How does the data support performance metrics?	22.1LT 22A	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/olab/budget/2012/op_finalreport_2012.pdf
8. Are the info interfaces based on any standards?	Data are validated via single state audits.	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/olab/budget/2012/op_finalreport_2012.pdf
9. What technologies are used?	Extensive - See reference	http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/polquest/
10. What is the status of the system? Upgrades planned? When and what?	Not applicable	
11. Observations or lessons learned		