



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
1250 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

January 30, 2014

James M. Henry
Commissioner
Department of Children's Services
Cordell Hull Building
436 6th Avenue, 7th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

Dear Commissioner Henry:

The Children's Bureau, in collaboration with the Tennessee Department of Children Services (DCS), completed a review of Tennessee's Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data during the week of April 22, 2013. The final report on the AFCARS Assessment Review (AAR) is enclosed, which includes the AFCARS Improvement Plan (AIP).

We appreciate the amount of time and effort that your staff committed to the planning and implementation of the AFCARS Review. Every member of the State team was fully engaged during the review and ensured that the week went smoothly. We appreciate the work that each member put into preparing for the onsite review.

The AAR evaluates two areas: the AFCARS general requirements (reporting populations and technical standards) and the data elements (foster care and adoption). Information collected on these areas is combined and based on an analysis of the findings a rating factor is assigned to each of the general requirements and each data element. The rating factors are: "1," the information is not collected and/or is not transmitted to ACF; "2," technical corrections are required; "3," improvement in data quality is needed; and "4," the State fully meets the AFCARS standards. The enclosed report provides a more detailed explanation of each of the rating factors. The State team should carefully review all the findings in each document as there have been some changes from the onsite findings. Below are charts depicting the State's rating factors.

General Requirements (22)

Rating Factor	Foster Care (8)	Adoption (3)	Technical (9)	Data Quality (2)
4	4	2	6	1
3	1	1	1	1
2	3	0	2	0
1	0	0	0	0

Data Elements (103)

Rating Factor	Foster Care (66)	Adoption (37)	Total (103)
4	10 (15%)	9 (24%)	19 (18%)
3	29 (44%)	5 (14%)	34 (33%)
2	27 (41%)	23 (62%)	50 (49%)
1	0	0	0

The enclosed report identifies the most substantial areas the State needs to address in order to meet the AFCARS requirements. Tab A of the Report, contains detailed findings for the general requirements, data elements, and the case file review. The information provided by this AAR will enable the State to bring its data collection and AFCARS reporting into conformity with the AFCARS standards.

Due to corrections that are needed for the foster care elements, the State will have to resubmit AFCARS data for past report periods. The State and the Children’s Bureau will discuss which report periods will be required for resubmission. The agency is encouraged to incorporate a review of its AFCARS data, as well as other data, as part of the periodic reviews conducted for children in foster care. Also, the agency should incorporate a review and analysis of the data as part of its quality assurance process. It is important that the information being used not only for AFCARS reporting but for the agency’s own performance measures and other program evaluations is reliable, consistent, and accurate.

Within 30 calendar days after the receipt of this report, the State staff must submit the AIP electronically to the Children’s Bureau with estimated due dates for completing the tasks in the AIP. An electronic copy of the final matrices will be e-mailed to your staff. Once the Children’s Bureau and the State agree that the quality of the data has improved, and all tasks and revisions to the extraction code have been reviewed and approved, the State will receive a letter summarizing the final results of the review. Additionally, the State’s plan for implementing the changes to the system and for caseworker training must be included in the State’s title IV-B Child and Family Services Plan and Annual Progress and Services Report as part of the information required by 45 CFR 1357.15(t) and 45 CFR 1357.16(a)(5).

The Regional Office will work with the State to determine if technical assistance is needed, and available, to implement the AIP. The State may obtain technical assistance from the Children’s Bureau’s Network of Training and Technical Assistance Centers.

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In closing, I would again like to thank the staff who participated in the review for their hard work and their commitment to collecting accurate and reliable AFCARS data. If you have any questions regarding the report, please contact Angelina Palmiero at (202) 205-7240.

Sincerely,

/s/

JooYeun Chang
Associate Commissioner
Children's Bureau

Enclosures

cc: Bonnie Hommrich, Deputy Commissioner, TN DCS
Lee Gregory, Chief Information Officer, TN DCS
Joseph Huertas, Director of Application Management, TN DCS
Paul Kirisitz, Acting Regional Program Manager, Children's Bureau

**Tennessee
AFCARS
Assessment Review
Report**

January 2014

**Children's Bureau, Administration on Children, Youth and Families
Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**

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BACKGROUND

Federal law and regulations require title IV-E agencies operating programs under title IV-E of the Social Security Act (the Act) to submit data to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS). The data are to be collected on children in foster care and those who have been adopted with title IV-E agency involvement. Title IV-E agencies that fail to meet any of the standards set forth in 45 CFR 1355.40(a-d) are considered to be in substantial noncompliance (i.e., are lacking in substantial conformity) with the requirements of the title IV-E Plan.¹ Additionally, title IV-E agencies that received funding to develop, implement, and operate a Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS) or a Tribal Automated Child Welfare Information System (TACWIS) under Federal regulations at 45 CFR 1355.53 are to produce a comprehensive, effective, and efficient system to improve the program management and administration of titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act. At a minimum, the system must provide for effective management, tracking, and reporting by providing automated procedures and processes to, among other things, meet the adoption and foster care reporting requirements through the collection, maintenance, integrity checking, and electronic transmission of the data elements specified by the AFCARS requirements.

The Children's Bureau is committed to assisting title IV-E agencies to develop child welfare information systems and to collect quality data. To this end, SACWIS/TACWIS and AFCARS Assessment Reviews were developed to assure that the systems support the management of the programs under titles IV-B and IV-E and can produce accurate and reliable foster care and adoption data. All title IV-E agencies will undergo an AFCARS Assessment Review (AAR) regardless of whether an agency operates a SACWIS/TACWIS. The title IV-E agency's information system is assessed against the AFCARS requirements in the Federal regulations, policy issuances, and the AFCARS Technical Bulletins. The AAR evaluates the agency's information system's capability to collect, extract, and transmit the AFCARS data accurately to the Children's Bureau. A second focus of the AAR is to assess the accuracy of the collection and documentation of information related to the foster care and/or adoption case of a child.

The review process goes beyond the edit checks that must be met by a title IV-E agency in order to pass the AFCARS compliance error standards. The review also ascertains the extent to which a title IV-E agency meets all of the AFCARS requirements and examines the quality of its data. Additionally, while the review is an assessment of the title IV-E agency's collection and reporting of AFCARS data, it is also an opportunity for Federal staff to provide substantive technical assistance to agency staff.

Each AAR consists of a thorough analysis of the title IV-E agency's system technical documentation for the collection, extraction and reporting of the AFCARS data. In addition to this review of documentation, the Federal AFCARS team reviews each data element with the agency's team to gain a better understanding of the agency's child welfare practice and policy and agency staff's understanding of the data elements. The data are also compared against a small, randomly selected number of hard copy case files. Through this exercise, the accuracy of the agency's data conversion process (if applicable) and understanding of the information reported to AFCARS is tested.

¹ 45 CFR 1355.40(e)

RATING FACTORS

Two major areas are evaluated during an AFCARS assessment review: the AFCARS general requirements and the data elements. The general requirements include the population that is to be reported to AFCARS and the technical requirements for constructing a data file. The data elements are assessed for overall data quality, to determine whether the title IV-E agency is meeting the AFCARS definitions for the information required, and to determine whether the correct data are being entered and extracted.

AFCARS data submissions are subject to a minimal number of edit checks, as listed in Appendix E of 45 CFR Part 1355. Based on these edit checks, substantial compliance can be determined for the timely submission of the data files, the timely entry of certain data elements, and for whether the data meets a 90 percent level of tolerance for missing data and internal consistency checks. However, “substantial” compliance does not mean a title IV-E agency has fully implemented the requirements in the regulations. This explains why an agency formerly may have been “penalty-free,” and yet does not have accurate and reliable quality data. For example, edit checks of the data cannot determine whether the title IV-E agency submitted the correct foster care population required by the Federal regulations.

Information collected from each component of the assessment review is used to rate each data element. The general requirements are assessed and rated separately using the same scale. A scale of zero (the system is not collecting the AFCARS data elements and the data are not transmitted) to four (fully meets the AFCARS standards) is used to assign a rating factor. Exhibit 1 is a chart that lists the factors that were used for the analysis of the title IV-E agency’s AFCARS.

For data elements and general requirements that do not meet existing AFCARS standards (rating factors 0 through 3), the agency is required to make the corrections identified by the review team. It is possible that the problem with a data element is due both to system issues and to caseworker data entry issues. In such instances, the element will be rated a “2” to denote the need for modification to the system. Once the corrections are made to the system, the data will be re-analyzed. If problems related to caseworker training or data entry still exist, then a “3” will be assigned to the requirement. A rating factor of “4” (compliant) will not be given to the element until all system issues and/or data quality issues have been addressed.

The agency is required to make the changes to the information system and/or data entry in order to be compliant with the applicable requirements and standards. Since the AFCARS data are used for several significant activities at the Federal and State/Tribal levels, the title IV-E agency must implement the AFCARS Improvement Plan, under Tab B of this report, as a way to improve the quality of its data.

AFCARS Rating Factors

RATING FACTOR	DEFINITION
4	<p>All of the AFCARS requirements have been met and the agency has sustained a high level of quality data.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The agency’s methodology for collecting the AFCARS information meets the technical and definitional requirements. • The agency’s information system contains the necessary fields to collect the AFCARS data. • The information is being accurately collected and extracted. • There are quality assurance processes in place that are used on a regular basis to ensure the data are accurately entered into the system or on the data collection form. • The agency has a process in place to identify and resolve data quality issues and makes necessary corrections in a timely manner.
3	<p>There are data quality issues. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The data are underreported due to inconsistent data entry. • The system/form is capable of collecting data but the data are not being entered into the system or recorded on a form. • Data entry is unreliable due to incorrect or ambiguous instructions, definitions, and/or data entry screens or forms. • There are no supervisory controls for ensuring timely data entry, or accurate data entry. • There is incorrect data entry due to training or design issues. • There is missing or incomplete data due to conversion errors. • There are inconsistencies in the numbers between related data elements. • Fundamental data elements have missing data. These include, but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dates of removal from home, placement, and discharge (if applicable). ○ Placement location. ○ Removal and placement counts
2	<p>The technical requirements for AFCARS reporting are not fully met. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The title IV-E agency’s data collection method/information system has the capability to collect the data, but the program logic used to construct the AFCARS file has errors. • The title IV-E agency uses defaults for blank information. • Information is coming from the wrong module or field in the system. • Information is located in the wrong place on the system, e.g., it should be in foster care screens, not adoption screens. • The information system needs modification to encompass more information and/or conditions, e.g., disability information along with start/end dates. • The extraction code for the AFCARS report selects and reports incorrect data.
1	<p>An AFCARS requirement(s) has not been implemented in the methodology used to collect the data and/or in the information system. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The title IV-E agency’s data collection method/information system does not have the capability to collect the correct information (i.e., there is no data field on the screens or form). • There is no program logic to extract the information. • There is 100% missing data according to the frequency report or DCU/DQU reports.
0	<p>Title IV-E agencies operating an information system for which it received SACWIS/ TACWIS-level FFP were found to be using an external information system, or a tool (such as Excel or Access), and are not collecting and reporting the AFCARS data from the SACWIS/ TACWIS system.</p>

FINDINGS

During the week of April 22, 2013, the Children’s Bureau conducted an AAR of the Tennessee Department of Children Services (DCS). The State received funding for the development and implementation, as well as ongoing maintenance cost, of a statewide child welfare information system allowed under 45 CFR 1355.53 (SACWIS). The State’s information system is Tennessee Family and Children Tracking System (TFACTS).

This section contains a summary of the significant reporting and data quality issues found during the AAR. As part of the post-site visit analysis, the State’s documents, modified extraction code, data, case file review findings, and the onsite notes were assessed to make the final determination of findings. The State should carefully review all the findings in each document as there have been changes from the preliminary onsite findings. For additional information on specific issues for the general requirements and the data elements, please see the findings documents in Tab A. The charts below summarize the rating factors for the General Requirements and the Data Elements.

General Requirements (22)

Rating Factor	Foster Care (8)	Adoption (3)	Technical (9)	Data Quality (2)
4	4	2	6	1
3	1	1	1	1
2	3	0	2	0
1	0	0	0	0

Data Elements (103)

Rating Factor	Foster Care (66)	Adoption (37)	Total (103)
4	10 (15%)	9 (24%)	19 (18%)
3	29 (44%)	5 (14%)	34 (33%)
2	27 (41%)	23 (62%)	50 (49%)
1	0	0	0

General Requirements

The General Requirements refers to AFCARS standards related to the foster care and adoption reporting populations, the technical requirements of the AFCARS file, and data accuracy and integrity.

Foster Care Reporting Population

The designated title IV-B/E agency is the Department of Children’s Services (DCS). DCS includes the Divisions of Child Health, Child Programs, Child Safety, and Juvenile Justice. Children who are in the Department’s responsibility for placement and care (Child Programs and Juvenile Justice) are correctly included in the reporting population.

Title IV-E agencies are to include the records of children who are in foster care under the agency’s responsibility for placement and care, and who have been in foster care for more than

24 hours. The Tennessee AFCARS file incorrectly includes the records of some children who have been in foster care for 24 hours or less. The State appropriately excludes removal episodes that begin and end on the same day, but this does not fully meet the AFCARS requirement. The State needs to modify the system to identify and exclude from AFCARS reporting removal episodes that are 24 hours or less in duration, even when they begin on one day and end on the next. Two options the State and Federal team discussed were the addition of time fields or a checkbox.

The issue relating to removal episodes lasting last fewer than 24 hours also affects the reporting of the number of removals a child has experienced. If a child had been in out-of-home care for less than 24 hours and subsequently is removed from home and placed into foster care for more than 24 hours, the AFCARS record would reflect two removal episodes instead of one.

Adoption Reporting Population

The State is correctly including in its AFCARS reports the records of children adopted from the agency's foster care system. However, the agency is not including private agency adoptions in which there was public agency involvement. The title IV-E agency does provide adoption subsidy payments to families that adopt a child from a private adoption agency and these records are to be included in the AFCARS adoption file. The State team indicated that due to limitations with the application, Tennessee's practice has been not to enter private adoptions into the TFACTS, but to maintain the information elsewhere. The system will need some modifications made to it to allow data entry on the private agency adoptions.

Data Quality

The agency is encouraged to incorporate a review of its AFCARS data as well as other data as part of the periodic reviews conducted for children in foster care. Also, the agency should incorporate a review and analysis of the data as part of its quality assurance process. It is important that the information being used not only for AFCARS reporting but for the agency's own performance measures and other program evaluation is reliable, consistent and accurate. Accurate data collection and quality of data was addressed in the Children's Bureau's Information Memorandum (IM) on Continuous Quality Improvement in title IV-B and IV-E programs (ACYF-CB-IM-12-07) issued August 27, 2012. While the purpose of that IM was to provide State title IV-B and IV-E child welfare agencies with information on Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) systems as the Children's Bureau considers how to revise the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) process, the data quality component is applicable to all title IV-E and IV-B agencies. In order to demonstrate quality data collection, the agency needs to ensure it has accurate, complete and timely data that is consistent in definition and usage across the agency. The State must describe how it intends to ensure accurate AFCARS data quality on an ongoing basis in the General Requirements Improvement Plan under item #21.

Corrections needed for the foster care and adoption data elements require the State to resubmit AFCARS data for past report periods. The State and the Children's Bureau will discuss which reports will be required for resubmission. After the technical corrections are made to the system and the extraction code, the data will need to be further analyzed for accuracy and to assess the

need for additional monitoring and training. In addition to the technical corrections, many data elements need improvement in the quality of the data. The State will need to develop and implement a method to ensure accurate and timely entry of data into the systems. We encourage the agency to continue its work on ensuring that caseworkers understand the importance of entering this information, not only for federal reporting, but for DCF's own use for program evaluation, individual case reviews, and for assuring successful outcomes for children.

Data Elements

As noted in the chart above, the review identified several data elements which require some type of technical correction. Some of these errors apply to the same field but affect multiple data elements (e.g., race and Hispanic/Latino origin) and others affect a group of elements (e.g. circumstances associated with a child's removal from home).

Race and Ethnicity (Foster Care Data Elements #8, 9, 53 – 55 and Adoption Data Elements #7, 8, 25 – 28)

There is an issue with the design of the race and ethnicity fields on the Person Management Screen. The system has an "ethnicity" field that includes nationalities that are considered a race for the purpose of Federal reporting. The extraction code that constructs the AFCARS data file does not check for all applicable ethnicities that are considered a race for federal data reporting. This could result in underreporting a particular race or individuals who are multi-racial. Also, while the system does have a field for the caseworker to identify whether or not the individual is of Hispanic/Latino origin, there also are nationalities listed in the ancestry field that may be Hispanic/Latino. There is no edit check to flag instances in which a caseworker answered the Hispanic/Latino field as "no" but selected one of the Hispanic/Latino ethnicities in the ancestry field.

Also, there are issues related to the options for these fields. In particular, the system lacks an option to select in cases in which the race is not known because the parents declined to provide their race/ethnicity or that of their child, or because the child entered foster care under a "Safe Haven" program. The Federal team made several suggestions for possible options as noted in the enclosed findings documents. Also, the State needs to implement options that will map to the National Youth in Transition Database race and Hispanic/Latino fields. The State submitted proposed changes during the post-site visit phase and these are incorporated into the AIP along with additional comments.

Diagnosed Disability Information (Foster Care Data Elements #10 – 15)

Tennessee's 2012B AFCARS data indicated an underreporting of information relating to a child's diagnosed condition. The frequency report indicates that only 1,142 (10%) children were identified with a health/mental health condition that is reportable to AFCARS. There were 8,609 (77%) records reported as "not yet determined" for the question "has the child been diagnosed with a disability." This value in AFCARS "indicates that a clinical assessment of the child by a qualified professional has not been conducted."

The findings of the case file review indicated that the children had been seen by a health care professional. The sample for the case file review included 41 records with the response “not yet determined.” In 29 of those cases the reviewer found the child had been examined by a health care professional. In 24 of these cases, the response should have been “yes” and the other five “no.”

The primary issue with the data related to the child’s health status appears to be data entry and not that the agency is not obtaining health exams of the children. The state needs to implement a process quickly to ensure this information is entered into the system in a timely manner. There are issues related to the system that need to be addressed as well. Modifications are needed the diagnoses fields to include the start and end date of a diagnosis, there needs to be a means to determine whether the child has a diagnosed condition once they have been examined in order to correctly report a yes/no value to AFCARS, and there are diagnoses mapped to the wrong AFCARS category.

Removal Episode Information (Foster Care Data Elements #18 – 21)

As noted above in the section on foster care reporting population, there are issues with who is reported to AFCARS. Related corrections must be made to the noted foster care data elements in order to ensure the correct start date for a child’s removal episode if the first episode (element #18 and #20) was less than 24 hours.

The agency is also incorrectly including the records of children whose only placement in the removal episode, or prior to the end of the report period, is a hospital or a locked facility (e.g., detention). These records are not to be including the foster care reporting population.

Also, if the child enters the agency’s responsibility for placement and care but the initial setting is a hospital or a locked facility, then the date reported to AFCARS as the child’s removal date (element #21) is the start date of the foster care setting (i.e., a group home or a foster home).

Information related to the circumstances associated with a child’s removal from home and placement into foster care (foster care elements 26 – 40)

The circumstances associated with removal are underreported. The case file review findings indicate there were generally more conditions present that contributed to the child’s removal than what is being recorded in the system. Additional training and oversight is needed to ensure that all conditions, alleged or substantiated, are entered into the case management record.

Information related to determination of special needs (adoption elements 9 and 10)

There are significant issues with how information relating to special needs is identified and reported in the AFCARS adoption file. Based on the frequency report, there were 173 (42%) of 416 records that the agency had identified as being a child with special needs. Yet, there were 378 records (91%) reported as the child receiving a monthly adoption subsidy (element #35). Because only children identified as having special needs are eligible to receive an adoption subsidy, this suggests there is an issue in the reporting of special needs information in AFCARS.

The State needs to further evaluate how the extraction code is identifying records for adoption elements 9 and 10 as well as ensuring that the reasons for determining a child eligible for adoption subsidy or services are accurately included in the system and are being properly mapped to the AFCARS values.

Conclusion

As noted in the Background section of this report, the AAR ascertains the extent to which a title IV-E agency meets all of the AFCARS requirements and examines the quality of its data, as well as, the accuracy of the data related to the foster care and/or adoption case of a child. Title IV-E agencies that fail to meet any of the standards set forth in 45 CFR 1355.40(a-d) are considered not to be in substantial compliance (i.e., are lacking in substantial conformity) with the requirements of the title IV-E Plan².

This report identifies the most significant areas the State needs to address in order to meet the AFCARS requirements. In addition to the ones noted in the previous section, several other areas need improvement. Please refer to Tab A, Detailed Findings, for information related to the General Requirements, the Data Elements, and the Case File Review for additional findings. The information provided by this AAR will enable the State to bring its data collection and AFCARS reporting into conformity with the AFCARS standards.

The general requirements and elements that received a rating factor of “3” or lower are the items in the enclosed AFCARS Improvement Plan (AIP). Action items include program extraction code and/or screen modifications, modifications to data element mapping, system interface development, caseworker training, supervisory oversight, and development of an appropriate AFCARS quality assurance process. The AIP included with the report does not include due dates. As part of the post-site visit phase the State was to begin its own evaluation of the preliminary findings and determine what actions are needed to correct the identified problem and the time it will take to complete the tasks. Within 30 days of receipt of the final report, title IV-E agency staff must submit the initial AIP electronically to the Children’s Bureau with estimated dates for completing each action item. Additionally, the State’s plan for implementing the changes to the system and for caseworker training must be included in the State’s title IV-B Child and Family Services Plan and Annual Progress and Services Report as part of the information required by 45 CFR 1357.15(t) and 45 CFR 1357.16(a)(5).

All items in the improvement plan must have a rating of four before the AIP is considered completed. Once the AIP is completed and approved, a letter will be sent to the title IV-E agency from the Children’s Bureau’s acknowledging the completion of the AFCARS Improvement Plan.

The Children’s Bureau is committed to assisting title IV-E agencies to develop child welfare information systems and to collect quality data. The Regional Office will work with the State to determine if technical assistance is needed and available, to implement the AFCARS Improvement Plan (AIP).

² 45 CFR 1355.40(e)

Tab A

Detailed Findings

Section 1: General Requirements

Section 2: Foster Care and Adoption Elements

Section 3: Case File Review

INSTRUCTIONS

This section includes the final findings of the State's AFCARS Assessment Review. These findings include post-site visit analysis of the AFCARS general requirements, the foster care and adoption elements, and the case file review. The tables include the AFCARS data elements, the findings, and the rating factors. Some rating factors may differ from the factors given on the draft on-site findings matrices.

The findings include all notes and comments that the Federal review team received during the review. Not all comments address non-compliance issues. Some comments are notes on how the State conducts child welfare practice and are for reference purposes only. Frequency numbers are also provided in the "findings/notes" column for some elements.

It is possible that the problem with the data element and data are due to both system issues and case worker data entry issues. In this case, the element will be given a "2" to denote the need for technical changes. Once the technical corrections are made and approved, the data needs to be re-analyzed. If it appears problems related to caseworker training or data entry still exist, then a "3" will be assigned to the requirement. A finding of full compliance (a factor of "4") will not be given to the element until all system issues and/or data quality issues have been addressed.

When assessing the general requirements, all specifications for the requirement must be met in order for the requirement to be found in full compliance. If the issue is a programming logic problem, then a "2" will be assigned. If it appears the problem is due to data entry, then a "3" will be assigned to the requirement.

Some data elements have a direct relationship with each other. When this occurs, all related elements are given the same rating factor. This is because incorrect programming logic could affect the answers to all of the related data elements.

The State is required to make the changes to the information system and/or data entry in order to be found in compliance with applicable requirements and standards.

Section 1

General Requirements

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: General Requirements
State: Tennessee

No.	Requirement	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
Foster Care Population			
1	<p>For the purpose of foster care reporting, each data transmission must include all children in foster care for whom the title IV-E agency has responsibility for placement, care, or supervision. (45 CFR 1355.40(a)(2)).</p> <p>The [foster care] population to be included in this reporting system includes all children in foster care under the responsibility of the title IV-E agency administering or supervising the administration of the title IV-B Child and Family Services State plan and the title IV-E plan; that is, all children who are required to be provided the assurances of section 422(b)(8) of the Social Security Act. (Appendix A to Part 1355--Foster Care Data Elements, Section II--Definitions).</p>	<p>The designated title IV-B/E agency is the Department of Children's Services (DCS). DCS includes the Divisions of Child Health, Child Programs, Child Safety, and Juvenile Justice (Draft Org Chart 4/15/13). Children who are in the Department's responsibility for placement and care (Child Programs and Juvenile Justice) are correctly included in the reporting population.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> The program code extracts the records of children who have an active foster care placement at any time during the reporting period. The program code includes all children under the IV-E agency's responsibility for placement, care, or supervision regardless of payment status.</p> <p>Children whose only placement is a locked facility or hospital are not part of the AFCARS reporting population. It appears the State's selection logic is excluding records of children whose only placement is a locked facility but is including those that only have a hospital placement. Modify the program code to exclude these records.</p> <p>During the postsite period, the State corrected the program code to include records of children who are on runaway at the time the agency obtains responsibility for placement and care of the child.</p> <p>The Federal team clarified when an infant of a minor parent, who is in foster care with the infant, would or would not be in the reporting population. If the infant is never removed from the mother, then the infant is not included in the reporting population even if the agency has care and placement responsibility of the infant. The infant is only included in the population if the infant is removed from the mother and placed in a separate foster home.</p>	2
2	<p>[The AFCARS foster care reporting population] includes American Indian children covered under the assurances in section 422(b)(8) of the Act on the same basis as any other child (45 CFR 1355.40(a)(2)).</p>	<p>The AFCARS foster care reporting population includes American Indian children covered under the assurances in section 422(b)(8) of the Act on the same basis as any other child (45 CFR 1355.40(a)(2)).</p>	4
3	<p>For children in out-of-State/Tribal Service area placement, the title IV-E agency placing the child and making the foster care payment submits and continually updates the data. (45 CFR 1355.40(a)(2)).</p>	<p>DCS reports children who are in their placement and care responsibility and placed out-of-State and continually updates the data (45 CFR 1355.40(a)(2)). Children placed by another title IV-E agency in Tennessee are not included in DCS' AFCARS report.</p>	4

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: General Requirements
State: Tennessee

No.	Requirement	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
4	[The foster care] population includes all children supervised by or under the responsibility of another public agency with which the title IV-E agency has an agreement under title IV-E and on whose behalf the title IV-E agency makes title IV-E foster care maintenance payments (Appendix A to Part 1355--Foster Care Data Elements, Section II--Definitions).	The State agency does not have an interagency agreement with any other public agency for the purpose of making title IV-E payments. See GR1 regarding juvenile justice children.	4
5	The reporting system includes all children who have or had been in foster care at least 24 hours. (Appendix A to Part 1355--Foster Care Data Elements, Section II--Definitions).	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 200 - 203</u> The selection logic only excludes episodes that begin and end on the same day.</p> <p>The system needs to be modified to incorporate a method to determine if the removal is for 24 hours or less. Either add time fields associated with removal and return dates. Or, add a check box for a statement indicating the removal was 24 hours or less.</p>	2
6	<p>Foster care does not include children who are in their own homes under the responsibility of the title IV-E agency (Appendix A to Part 1355--Foster Care Data Elements, Section II--Definitions).</p> <p>A removal is either the physical act of a child being taken from his or her normal place of residence, by court order or a voluntary placement agreement and placed in a substitute care setting, or the removal of custody from the parent or relative guardian pursuant to a court order or voluntary placement agreement which permits the child to remain in a substitute care setting (CWPM, 1.2B.3 Question #4).</p>	<p><u>Program Code:</u> If the program code finds that the child's only living arrangement during the removal episode is "trial home visit," the record is excluded from the population. The State team indicated that the court will give DCS custody of the child but the child remains in their own home (biological/legal parents' home). Caseworkers enter the location of the child as "trial home visit." The "service type" list on the placement screen includes the options "in-home" and "trial home visit." Supervisors need to ensure that caseworkers are entering the correct living arrangement.</p> <p>If "trial home visit" is the only living arrangement, the child has never been in foster care but is instead in their own home, then the program code should exclude these records. There should be a report identifying these cases and sent to supervisors for correction.</p>	2 3
7	<p>[The foster care population] includes youth over the age of 18 if a payment is being made on behalf of the child (CWPM, 1.3).</p> <p>A title IV-E agency that exercises the option to extend assistance to youth age 18 or older must collect and report data to AFCARS on all youth receiving a title IV-E foster care maintenance payment. (ACYF-CB-PI-10-11, Issued July 9, 2010).</p>	<p>The State claims title IV-E funds for youth who are 18 and meet the requirements for title IV-E.</p> <p>The State exercised the option to extend assistance to youth age 18 or older. The State is to collect and report data to AFCARS on all youth receiving a title IV-E foster care maintenance payment. The effective date of the plan amendment is October 1, 2010.</p> <p>The selection logic needs to be modified to reflect the reporting population prior to as well as after October 1, 2010. Files submitted for prior report periods (subsequent files), the AFCARS reporting population must reflect the title IV-E program rules in</p>	2

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: General Requirements
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No.	Requirement	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
		<p>effect during that time frame. Prior to October 1, 2010 (2011A) the population is to only include 18 year olds who were receiving title IV-E funds. See foster care 56 and 58 for changes to the program code for youth who are receiving IV-E funds as of their 18th birthday and those that are not.</p> <p>The State's title IV-E plan allows youth who left foster care as of their 18th birthday to re-enter foster care and may be determined eligible for title IV-E. These youth are to be included in the reporting population. For additional information regarding the foster care elements can be found in the findings and improvement plan documents.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> The placement service code for independent living (70) was excluded from the program code. During the postsite phase this code was added to the selection logic. However, there is no logic to check if the child is receiving title IV-E or is only in foster care under state funds. Additionally, the program code must include the reference date of 10/1/10 for these cases as well as checking the child's age for cases prior to this date.</p>	
8	Include all children who are in the placement, care, or supervision responsibility of the title IV-B/E agency that are on "trial home visits" (CWPM 1.3).	The State is correctly including records of children who have been in foster care and are returned to their parents while still in the Department's responsibility for placement and care. The setting is recorded as a "trial home visit."	4
Adoption Population			
9	<p>For the purposes of adoption reporting, data are required to be transmitted by the title IV-E agency on all adopted children who were placed by the title IV-E agency. (45 CFR 1355.40(a)(3)).</p> <p>The title IV-E agency must report on all children who are adopted in the State or Tribal service area during the reporting period and in whose adoption the title IV-E agency has had any involvement.</p> <p>...reports on the following are mandated:</p> <p>(a) All children adopted who had been <u>in foster care</u> under the responsibility and care of the child welfare agency and who were subsequently adopted whether special needs or not and whether subsidies are provided or not; (Appendix B to Part 1355--Adoption Data Elements, Section II - Definitions).</p>	<p><u>Program Code:</u> The adoption reporting population comprises all children in adoption cases who are discharged during the reporting period with a discharge reason of "adoption."</p>	4

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No.	Requirement	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
10	For a child adopted out-of-State, the title IV-E agency which placed the child submits the data. Similarly, the Tribal title IV-E agency which placed the child outside of the Tribal service area for adoption submits the data.(45 CFR 1355.40(a)(3) I - Definitions).	<p><u>Program Code:</u> The program code checks for out-of-state adoption as well as in-state (based on provider address) but only children who are in the agency’s foster care system are reported.</p>	4
11	<p>For the purposes of adoption reporting, data are required to be transmitted by the title IV-E agency ... on all adopted children for whom the agency is providing adoption assistance (either ongoing or for nonrecurring expenses), care or services directly or by contract or agreement with other private or public agencies. (45 CFR 1355.40(a)(3)).</p> <p>The title IV-E agency must report on all children who are adopted in the State or Tribal service area during the reporting period and in whose adoption the title IV-E agency has had any involvement. ...reports on the following are mandated: (b) All special needs children who were adopted in the State or Tribal service area, whether or not they were in the public foster care system prior to their adoption and for whom non-recurring expenses were reimbursed; and (c) All children adopted for whom an adoption assistance payment or service is being provided based on arrangements made by or through the title IV-E agency. (Appendix B to Part 1355--Adoption Data Elements, Section I).</p>	<p>The State team indicated that due to limitations with the application, Tennessee’s practice has been to not enter private adoptions into the SACWIS, but to maintain that information elsewhere. We recognize and expect that this matter will need to be rectified following the AFCARS Assessment review.</p> <p>The State does not enter into an adoption agreement with a family who resides in the state but is adopting a special needs child through a private agency that is located out-of-state.</p> <p>The State team indicates they only enter into adoption agreements with families adopting a title IV-E eligible special needs child from a private agency that is in Tennessee.</p> <p><u>Program Code:</u> The program checks a public agency switch to verify the adoption as public agency and by default assumes if the switch is not set the adoption is through a private agency.</p> <p>This element was rated a 3 because the State has not been entering the private agency adoptions into TFACTS. Modifications are needed to address specific data elements. The State may need to reassess the selection logic once modifications are made to the data element components to ensure that the program code will select the private agency adoptions.</p>	4 3
Technical Requirements			
12	<p>The data must be extracted from the data system as of the last day of the reporting period (45 CFR 1355.40(b)(1)):</p> <p><u>For foster care information</u>, the child-specific data to be transmitted must reflect the data in the information system when the data are extracted. (45 CFR 1355.40(b)(2)).</p>	<p><u>Program Code:</u> The reporting population is selected based on report period end date. If information is entered after the end of the report period, and prior to when the agency extracts the date, then this “future” information will not be included in the regular file. In general, data in the regular file is correctly reflecting the report period time frame.</p> <p>As noted in certain data elements, if data was not entered into the system it is</p>	4

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: General Requirements
State: Tennessee

No.	Requirement	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>Report the status of all children in foster care as of the last day of the reporting period.</p> <p>Also, provide data for all children who were discharged from foster care at any time during the reporting period, or in the previous reporting period, if not previously reported (Appendix D, 45 CFR 1355 Foster Care and Adoption Record Layouts Section A.1.b(5)); (AFCARS Technical Bulletin #6, Data Extraction).</p> <p><u>For Regular Files:</u> The file should not include information or dates that occur after the end of a regular report period. The data must be reflective of the child's circumstances for the report period being submitted. If data are missing, the extraction code does not insert a valid value into the file.</p>	<p>incorrectly set to a default AFCARS value. Also see General Requirements #21.</p>	
13	<p>The data must be extracted from the data system as of the last day of the reporting period (45 CFR 1355.40(b)(1)):</p> <p><u>For foster care information,</u> the child-specific data to be transmitted must reflect the data in the information system when the data are extracted (45 CFR 1355.40(b)(2)).</p> <p>Report the status of all children in foster care as of the last day of the reporting period (AFCARS Technical Bulletin #6, Data Extraction).</p> <p><u>For Subsequent Files:</u> The data must be reflective of the child's circumstances for the report period being submitted. Example: The title IV-E agency is extracting the 2011B report period on June 8, 2012 for submission to the Children's Bureau. Data in the 2011B file must reflect the child's circumstances as of September 30, 2011. If a diagnosis has changed or a case plan goal since September 30, 2011, the new information is not to be included in the 2011B file.</p>	<p><u>Program Code:</u> The report period is a date parameter that can be set based on the report period the agency wants to extract and transmit.</p> <p>There are data fields that do not have a date associated with them, e.g., the child's health characteristics do not have start and end dates. If the data file is resubmitted, then current data not information for the prior report period will be reported.</p> <p>Aside from what has been noted previously related to the diagnosed health conditions, the data are maintained in history tables with the appropriate associated dates.</p>	3
14	<p>The data must be extracted from the data system as of the last day of the reporting period. (45 CFR 1355.40(b)(1)):</p>	<p><u>Program Code:</u> For selection in the reporting population, the program code checks if there is a discharge from an adoption case with a discharge reason of "adoption" that occurs</p>	4 2

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: General Requirements
State: Tennessee

No.	Requirement	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p><u>Adoption data</u> are to be reported during the reporting period in which the adoption is legalized or, at the title IV-E agency's option, in the following reporting period if the adoption is legalized within the last 60 days of the reporting period. For a semi-annual period in which no adoptions have been legalized, the title IV-E agency must report such an occurrence.(45 CFR 1355.40(b)(3)).</p>	<p>during the reporting period.</p> <p>The program code appears to only report records with an adoption finalization date that occurs in the report period being extracted. If an adoption date is entered after the end of the report period (i.e., the adoption occurred on March 15th but was not entered into the system until April 15th), this adoption record would never be reported. The agency must develop a method to identify records which have not been included in the AFCARS report.</p>	
15	<p>The title IV-E agency extracts all records based on the transaction date of discharge (foster care element #57) or the date of latest removal (foster care element #21), if the child has not been discharged. (ACYF-PI-CB-95-09, Reissued May 23, 1995 and Technical Bulletin #6, AFCARS Data Extraction)</p>	<p><u>Program Code:</u> The program code does not select the foster care based on transaction dates.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3 2</p>
16	<p>A summary file of the semi-annual data transmission must be submitted and will be used to verify the completeness of the title IV-E agency's detailed submission for the reporting period. (45 CFR 1355.40(b)(4)).</p> <p>The values for these data elements are generated by processing all records in the semi-annual detailed data transmission and computing the summary values for Elements #1 and #3-22. Element #2 is the semi-annual report period ending date. In calculating the age range for the child, the last day of the reporting period is to be used. (Appendix D, 45 CFR 1355 Foster Care and Adoption Record Layouts Sections A.2 and B.2).</p>	<p><u>Program Code:</u> This is done correctly.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p>
17	<p>[Files] must be submitted in electronic form as described in appendix C to Part 1355 and in record layouts as delineated in appendix D to Part 135545 CFR 1355.40(b)(1) Records must be written using ASCII standard character format. (Appendix C, 45 CFR 1355 Electronic Data Transmission Format).</p>	<p><u>Program Code:</u> This is done correctly.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p>
18	<p>[Files] must be submitted in electronic form as described in appendix C to Part 1355 and in record layouts as delineated in appendix D to Part 135545 CFR 1355.40(b)(1) (2) All</p>	<p><u>Program Code:</u> This is done correctly.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p>

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: General Requirements
State: Tennessee

No.	Requirement	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	elements must be comprised of integer (numeric) value(s). (Appendix C, 45 CFR 1355 Electronic Data Transmission Format).		
19	<p>[Files] must be submitted in electronic form as described in appendix C to Part 1355 and in record layouts as delineated in appendix D to Part 1355.(45 CFR 1355.40(b)(1)).</p> <p>All records must be a fixed length. The Foster Care Detailed Data Elements Record is 150 characters long and the Adoption Detailed Data Elements Record is 72 characters long. The Foster Care Summary Data Elements Record and the Adoption Summary Data Elements Record are each 172 characters long. (Appendix C, 45 CFR 1355 Electronic Data Transmission Format).</p>	<p><u>Program Code:</u> This is done correctly.</p>	4
20	The title IV-E agency must use correct file name for transmission. (Technical Bulletin #2, File Format).	<p><u>Program Code:</u> This is done correctly.</p>	4
Data Quality			
21	<p>General Data Quality For data to be considered "quality" it must be accurate, complete, timely, and consistent in definition and usage across the entire IV-E agency and State/Tribal service area. The quality of the AFCARS data is assessed by the agency on a regular and continuous basis in order to sustain a high level of quality data. The agency incorporates AFCARS data into its quality assurance/continuous quality improvement plan. The agency involves staff from every level of the organization, and other stakeholders from outside of the agency.</p>	<p>As noted above in item 12, there are some elements that contain default settings in the extraction code.</p> <p>There are several areas identified in the AAR that need additional training for staff and supervisory oversight for data entry.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Periodic Review: There were several records with an old review date. > Race/Ethnicity - ensure the information is self-reported and reflects all identified races. > Diagnosed conditions: The State needs to ensure that no diagnosed information is recorded in the text field without also being entered in the fields for diagnosed conditions. If the child receives an evaluation by the school or other entities this information is not sent to the Health Unit and consequently, it is never entered into the system. Develop a method to ensure this information is entered into TFACTS. > Relinquishment: This element is to be selected for infants entering foster care under Safe Haven. The State may want to make this a separate option on the screen. > Trial Home Visit: There were records where the child was removed from a parent, placed in foster care, and then placed with a relative. These were entered as a trial home visit. The State needs to provide better oversight on the entry of living arrangements and create a monthly (or more frequently) identifying records with a 	3

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State: Tennessee

No.	Requirement	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
		<p>living arrangement of “trial home visit” and have supervisors verify its accuracy.</p> <p>> Termination of Parental Rights: Ensure consistent entry of these dates. For parents who surrender their rights, the date of the surrender is to be recorded and reported to AFCARS.</p> <p>> Use of unable to determine: The State should replace this language with more accurate and reflective reasons for why the information was not known. Supervisors should monitor the use of this value to ensure to determine if the worker actually did not gather the information.</p> <p>The State needs to increase its use of the frequency report as a monitoring tool to review accuracy, consistency, and quality data.</p> <p>There are a total of 50 (49%) data elements rated a two and 34 (33%) elements rated a three.</p>	
22	<p>Data Conversion</p> <p>The information system has the capability of recording historical information, as applicable. This primarily applies to closed cases, if the agency did not convert all cases (open and closed), that re-open after conversion, and these cases must be entered into the system.</p> <p>The title IV-E agency transfers historical information on open cases. Specifically, it includes information on: date of first removal, total number of removals, and whether the child’s mother was married at the time of the child’s birth. If the case was open at the time of conversion, information on the number of placement settings is included.</p>	<p>There was initially a payment system with some data tracking. There was the TNKids system that was operating prior to TFACTS.</p> <p>There does not appear to be a significant issue related to data conversion. There are issues that may be related to conversion for cases that have been open for several years and data may not have been in the older system(s) and it was never addressed as part of data clean up. For example, parent years of birth.</p>	4

Section 2

Foster Care and Adoption Elements

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Foster Care Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
1. Title IV-E Agency	<u>Program Code</u> The Tennessee State FIPS code of "47" is hard coded in the extraction code.	4
2. Report Period Ending Date		4
3. Local Agency (FIPS Code)	<u>Program Code</u> The program code selects the county code of the agency responsible for the case from the most recent "case agency link" record that is active within the reporting period.	4
4. Record Number	<u>Program Code</u> The program code sets this element based on the child's person number. The child's person number is encrypted.	4
5. Date of Most Recent Periodic Review (if applicable)	<p><u>Screen: Case-Court</u> Hearing Section: There is a drop-down list for the field "Hearing Type." The options include, but are not limited to, Adjudicatory/Dispositional, Annual Permanency Hearing, Dispositional, Foster Care Review Board, Judicial Review, and Permanency Plan Ratification. There is a date field for the "date order filed with court clerk."</p> <p>Hearing Segment Details: Fields for hearing begin and end dates.</p> <p>The State does have Foster Care Review Boards (FCRB). They are an arm of the court and not all jurisdictions operate a FCRB. At a minimum the agency conducts periodic reviews every six months. Depending on circumstances and jurisdiction, the review may be conducted more frequently.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> There are records with review dates between 2003 and 2010 (306 (3%)). There are 827 (7%) records with a review date in 2011. There are 3,076 (28%) records reported as blank. The State needs to identify the records with the old review dates and determine if these are actually closed foster care cases that were never entered as discharges on the system, or if there is another contributing factor causing the old dates.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 19 (30%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. There were errors associated with the date reported for this element that were from prior removal episodes; the date was prior to element 21. This is a data inconsistency. Also, there were cases that a periodic review was completed in a timely manner, but the AFCARS field was blank; the child had been in foster care for at least six months. In other cases, there had been a permanency review but the date reported to AFCARS did not include this date. In these cases, the date reported to AFCARS was more than a year prior to the end of the report period. In some cases though, the child was in care for more than six months up to two years and the AFCARS field was blank.</p> <p>The data will be re-evaluated based on the corrections made below in light of the issues identified during the case file review.</p>	2 3

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Foster Care Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p><u>Program Code</u> The program code selects the most recent hearing date that is prior to the end of the report period; regardless of the length of time the child has been in foster care. The hearing types checked are: annual permanency hearing, judicial review, a foster care review board hearing, "other" court hearing, or a TPR hearing. If none of these hearing types are found, the field is left blank.</p> <p>The program code does not check if the date of the review occurred after the date of the latest removal (FC21). Modify the program code to only check for a periodic review for the current removal episode. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> Logic has been added to ensure that the hearing date is after the date of the latest removal from home (FC21).</p> <p>Based on discussions with the State team, the values "other" and "judicial review" do not meet the requirements of a periodic review in section 422(b)(8)(ii) and 475(5)(B) of the Social Security Act (SSA) and are to be removed from the program code. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The hearing types "judicial review" and "other court hearing" have been commented out of the program code.</p> <p>The value "permanency plan ratification" does meet the requirements for a periodic review and needs to be included in this element. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> This has been added to the selection and will now be reported.</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> Additionally, the program code was modified by removing "legal base identifier" and the report period start date as arguments that determines the periodic review date.</p>	
6. Date of Birth	<p><u>Screen:</u> Person Profile/Basic Tab There are fields for an estimated age; in days, months and year(s).</p> <p>There are fields to indicate where the person was born. Additionally, there are fields to indicate if the person is a resident of Tennessee and/or the US, as well as, the legal alien status. There is a field for a deceased date on the demographic tab.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> There is one record indicating the child is 41, one indicating the child is 27, one is 24, five are 20, 130 are 19. The years of birth should only reflect youth up to the age of 19. The State has amended its title IV-E plan to extend the definition of a child up to the age of 21 but this report period data should not be reflecting these youth yet as the State has not yet made all the modifications needed for the information system. Once changes are made to the system and the program code, the State will have to resubmit (at a minimum) the data for the FFYs 2011, 2012, and 2013 in order for the data to accurately reflect the program as of October 1, 2010.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> The program code selects the child's date of birth from their person record.</p>	3

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Foster Care Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
<p>7. Sex</p> <p>1 = Male 2 = Female</p>	<p><u>Screen:</u> Person Profile/Basic Tab The field for gender has a drop-down list; male or female.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> The program code selects the child's gender code from their person record and decodes it as "male" is "1" and "female" is "2."</p>	4
<p>8. Child's Race</p> <p>0=No 1=Yes</p> <p>a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine</p>	<p><u>Screen:</u> Person Profile/Demographics The screen has checkbox fields for each of the Federal identified races, including the AFCARS administrative value "unable to determine." Since the use of "unable to determine" in AFCARS has a specific definition, which includes "declined," the State should replace it with plain language that has each of the reasons race may not be known. This could be "parent incapacitated/child not age appropriate," "declined," and/or replace it with "Safe Haven" or other similar language.</p> <p>The National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD) administrative values are not listed on the screen. These include "declined" and a value to represent "unknown" (multi-racial, one race unknown). See NYTD Question and Answers for how to map NYTD values to AFCARS values.</p> <p>The State needs to verify if the system will allow the entry of a race and "unable to determine" (or options that will be added to replace the administrative value for "unable to determine"). A caseworker should not be allowed to enter a race plus "unable to determine" (or a race and declined).</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Case File Review Findings:</i> 5 (8%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. There were four records reported as unable to determine but a race should have been reported – there was no indication the parents had refused to identify the child's race and the child was not a Safe Haven Infant. In one case, the child was bi-racial and only one race was reported.</p> <p>There is a need for additional training and supervisory oversight to ensure this data is entered and reflective of a child's race.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> The program code checks for a race and if one is found, maps it to "yes" and maps all others to "no." It will identify and map the first race it finds. If more than one race is entered into TFACTS, the program code will not include it in the mapping. Modify the program code to report all races that were entered into the system. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The program code was modified to check for and report all selected races.</p> <p>Missing data are incorrectly mapped to "unable to determine." Missing data must be mapped to blank. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> If no race or ethnicity values are found the field is set to blank.</p>	2

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Foster Care Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	The program is not checking the ancestry field and mapping applicable ethnicities to the appropriate race category if one is selected. Modify the program code to check the ancestry field for any race values that may have been selected and map the value to the appropriate race value in element #8. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> A new common function has been added that checks the ancestry field for a race. There is no ethnicity mapping for several of the ethnic groups that are also considered races for Federal reporting purposes. For instance, Arabic, German, Somali are just a few. This is based on the list used in the Ohio system. Tennessee needs to send the Federal team screen shots showing the options for the ancestry field.	
9. Child's Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine	<p><u>Screen:</u> Person Profile/Demographics Tab There is an area "Ethnicity/Ancestry" with two fields for recording ethnic information. One field is labeled "Hispanic/Latino" and has a dropdown options list; the options are yes, no, and unknown. The ancestry field allows the worker to select all that would apply. The options for ancestry include values that are also races. See notes in foster care element #8 regarding the inclusion of these for the race of the child.</p> <p>The NYTD value "declined" is not listed on the screen.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report (n=11,161):</i> Yes = 583 (5%); No = 9,950 (89%); Unable to determine = 514 (5%); Not reported = 114 (1%)</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings:</i> There was one record incorrectly entered/reported as "unable to determine." The response should have been "no."</p> <p><u>Program Code:</u> LNs 100 – 254 The program code checks the field "Hispanic/Latino" and maps the State's values ("yes," "no," and "unknown") to the applicable AFCARS value. Missing data or values that aren't valid codes are left blank.</p> <p>The program code is not checking the ancestry field and mapping applicable Hispanic/Latino ethnicities to this element. Modify the program code to check the ancestry field for any ethnicities that may have been selected and map this element to "yes" even if the value in the Hispanic field is "no." <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> A new routine checks the ethnicity/ancestry codes. The ethnicity codes are mapped as follows. If any ethnicity code is "Central American," "Cuban," "Hispanic," "Latino," "Mexican," "Puerto Rican," or "South American," then this element is set to "yes."</p>	2 3
General Information for elements 10 – 15	The State's policy is that a child receives an exam within 30 days of entering foster care. There is a Health Unit in each Region of the State. The Health Unit staff (nurses, psychiatrists, etc.) are the only staff who have access to enter information on the Health Module. The nurses enter the information from the EPSTDT, annual exams, etc. There is an issue regarding the timely entry of examinations, tests, etc. that are originated outside of the Health Unit. While the Health Unit staff have access to the exams they are responsible for scheduling, if the child receives an evaluation by schools or other entities this information is not sent to the Health Unit and consequently, it is never entered into the system. The State needs to review its	

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Foster Care Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>communication flow process to ensure this data are entered.</p> <p><u>Screen:</u> Medical History/Health Services Tab Fields: Category, Types, Begin Date, End Date, Provider Name, Address, Results of Service (text box), Weight, Medical Treatment Information. A type of service is selected from a list that relates to the category selected. Dates are entered for category/type. While there are date fields, it is not clear what the dates are referencing - the start and end of a diagnosis (group of diagnoses) or the exam.</p> <p>In the section Medical Treatment Information, there are the fields: special needs, medications, and immunizations. The Health Service Record has to be created and saved in order to enter the information into this section. The nurse selects the appropriate category from the drop list for special needs and clicks the 'Add Special Need' action button. The options on the list are: Allergies, Diet, DSM, and Medical. The State may want to reconsider how these fields are labeled and move away from terminology such as "disability" or "special need."</p> <p>If DSM is selected, additional fields are enabled and staff can either enter a name or the DSM number to search for the condition. If nothing is entered, the complete list appears. Once a selection is made, the condition appears in the field "Selected DSM Diagnosis Codes." This field also contains Axis III, IV, and V.</p> <p>At the bottom of this section there are fields to record who made the diagnosis. There also is a checkbox for "diagnosed." It is this field and the diagnosed conditions that the program code uses to determine the results for FC10.</p> <p>If "medical" is selected from the special needs field, there is another list for this category. Once selected these conditions will appear in a history field for selected special needs.</p> <p>There is a text box that the Health Unit staff can enter "results of service." In the example provided, "diagnosed as legally blind" was entered. If diagnosed conditions are entered here, they will not be in the database and reports cannot be generated on the information, including extracting the data for AFCARS. The State needs to ensure that no diagnosed information is recorded here without also being entered in the fields for diagnosed conditions.</p> <p>The State needs to provide a copy of a "completed" screen without the dropdown boxes.</p>	
<p>10. Has the Child Been Clinically Diagnosed with a Disability(ies)?</p> <p>1 = Yes 2 = No</p>	<p><u>Screen</u> See notes above. Also, the State needs to add selection options on the screen that reflect if the child has been seen by a health care professional and has no diagnosed conditions. Also, add a selection that identifies that the child has not yet been seen by a health care professional. The program code would then be modified to check these options and map each to the AFCARS value for "no" and "not yet determined" accordingly.</p>	2

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
3 = Not Yet Determined	<p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=11,161): Yes = 1,142 (10%); No = 1,410 (13%); Not yet determined = 8,609 (77%); Not reported = 0</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 46 (73%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. The majority of the errors were due to the AFCARS response being “not yet determined” but the child had received health exams. In 24 of the cases, the response should have been “yes,” and in 17 cases “no.”</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> This element’s response is derived from the results for FC11-15 and the logic is complicated. The program code pulls in those diagnosed conditions that were identified as ones to be reported to AFCARS and have the checkbox “diagnosed” selected (translated to a yes flag in the code), then the condition is mapped to one of FC11 - 15 (see mapping notes for each category). FC10 is set “yes.” If a condition is found, but the diagnosed box is not selected then the element is set “no.” If nothing is found, then the element is set to “not yet determined.”</p> <p>As noted both from the case file reviews and the frequency report there are issues with not only data entry but with the program code logic. For instance, there is logic in the program code to set this element to “not yet determined” if the child has been in foster care for 30 days or less. However, this function does not seem to operate correctly based on the logic in lines 2970 – 3344. Also, if the child has been in care for 30 days and no information is entered, this element is to be set to blank.</p>	
11. Mental Retardation 0 = Condition Does Not Apply 1 = Condition Applies	<p><u>Program Code: LN 3019 – 3039</u> If the clinically diagnosed code is “yes” and the associated characteristic code in the mapping, mental retardation is set to “condition applies.”</p> <p>If the diagnosed code is “no,” mental retardation is set to “condition does not apply.” If it is neither “yes” or “no,” element #11 is mapped to “3,” an invalid value that is remapped “condition does not apply” after processing all logic for elements #11 through #15.</p> <p>The State’s program code includes the DSM number associated with a condition. The State needs to provide a list with the DSM number and condition. Also, there are DSM numbers listed in the mapping document for FC11 that are not included in the extraction code.</p> <p>The program code does not check for the start and end date of a diagnosis. Once start and end dates are added for each diagnosed condition, the element needs to be extracted based on these dates and the report period being extracted. If a diagnosed condition has an end date in the report period being submitted, then it would be set to “does not apply.”</p>	2
12. Visually or Hearing Impaired	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 3040 – 3060</u> If the clinically diagnosed code is “yes” and the associated characteristic code in the mapping, visually and hearing impaired is</p>	2

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
<p>0 = Condition Does Not Apply 1 = Condition Applies</p>	<p>set to “condition applies.”</p> <p>If the diagnosed code is “no,” visually or hearing impaired is set to “condition does not apply.” If it is neither “yes” or “no,” element #12 is mapped to “3,” an invalid value that is remapped “condition does not apply” after processing all logic for elements #11 through #15.</p> <p>There are ICD-9 codes listed in the mapping document for FC12 that are not included in the extraction code.</p> <p>The program code does not check for the start and end date of a diagnosis. Once start and end dates are added for each diagnosed condition, the element needs to be extracted based on these dates and the report period being extracted. If a diagnosed condition has an end date in the report period being submitted, then it would be set to “does not apply.”</p>	
<p>13. Physically Disabled (Child)</p> <p>0 = Condition Does Not Apply 1 = Condition Applies</p>	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 3061 – 3084</u></p> <p>If the clinically diagnosed code is “yes” and the associated characteristic code in the mapping, physically disabled is set to “condition applies.”</p> <p>If the diagnosed code is “no,” this element is set to “condition does not apply.” If it is neither “yes” or “no,” element #13 is mapped to “3,” an invalid value that is remapped “condition does not apply” after processing all logic for elements #11 through #15.</p> <p>The program code does not check for the start and end date of a diagnosis. Once start and end dates are added for each diagnosed condition, the element needs to be extracted based on these dates and the report period being extracted. If a diagnosed condition has an end date in the report period being submitted, then it would be set to “does not apply.”</p>	2
<p>14. Emotionally Disturbed (DSM- IV)</p>	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 3085 – 3196</u></p> <p>If the clinically diagnosed code is “yes” and the associated characteristic code in the mapping, emotionally disturbed is set to “condition applies.”</p> <p>If the diagnosed code is “no,” this element is set to “condition does not apply.” If it is neither “yes” or “no,” element #14 is mapped to “3,” an invalid value that is remapped “condition does not apply” after processing all logic for elements #11 through #15.</p> <p>There are DSM codes in the extraction code that were not included in the data dictionary provided by the State.</p>	2
<p>15. Other Medically Diagnosed Conditions Requiring Special Care</p> <p>0 = Condition Does Not Apply</p>	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 3197 – 3255</u></p> <p>If the clinically diagnosed code is “yes” and the associated characteristic code in the mapping, other medically diagnosed conditions is set to “condition applies.”</p> <p>If the diagnosed code is “no,” other medically diagnosed conditions is set to “condition does not apply.” If it is neither “yes” or</p>	2

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
1 = Condition Applies	<p>“no,” element #15 is mapped to “3,” an invalid value that is remapped “condition does not apply” after processing all logic for elements #11 through #15.</p> <p>The State’s program code includes the DSM number associated with a condition. The State needs to provide a list with the DSM number and condition. Also, there are DSM numbers listed in the mapping document for FC15 that are not included in the extraction code.</p> <p>The program code does not check for the start and end date of a diagnosis. Once start and end dates are added for each diagnosed condition, the element needs to be extracted based on these dates and the report period being extracted. If a diagnosed condition has an end date in the report period being submitted, then it would be set to “does not apply.”</p>	
<p>16. Has this Child Ever Been Adopted?</p> <p>1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine</p>	<p><u>Screen:</u> Person Profile/Additional Tab</p> <p>There is a section “Miscellaneous Information.” This includes if the child had been previously adopted, date of adoption decree, age of adoption, was the child’s mother married at the time of the child’s birth, and information on absent and non-custodial parents.</p> <p>The selection options for “Previously Adopted” are “No,” “Unable to determine,” and “Yes.” As noted previously, more descriptive terms should be used as the options for caseworkers to select. The State should replace “unable to determine” with Safe Haven, abandoned, and/or parent incapacitated.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report (n=11,161):</i> Yes = 828 (7%); No = 9,444 (85%); Unable to determine = 516 (5%); Not reported = 373 (3%)</p> <p><u>Case File Review Findings</u> 7 (12%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. There were errors where this element indicated yes and the child had not been previously adopted. The outcome of the current removal episode though was adoption.</p> <p>The system does not have the capacity to collect the information that must be reported under section 422(b)(12) of the Act. This section of the Act relates to inter-country adoptions and requires title IV-E agencies to identify the number of children who were adopted from other countries and entered into custody of the title IV-E agency, the reasons for the disruptions or dissolutions, the permanency plan for the children, and identify the agencies that handled the placement or adoption. Title IV-E/B agencies are currently required to provide this information in the Five-Year Child and Family Services plan, and annually in the Annual Progress and Services Report.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 100 – 254</u> The program code extracts this information from the child’s person record and maps the values to the appropriate AFCARS</p>	<p>2 3</p>

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>values. Missing information is mapped to blank. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The program code was modified to correct for reporting the current and not just the prior adoption. If the previously adopted flag is “yes” the new logic will check the adoption history table to verify that there was a prior adoption. If a prior adoption is not found, FC16 is set to “no.” Otherwise, it is set to the value found on the person record.</p> <p>This last statement suggests that the data entered into the system is incorrect. Instead of creating a workaround in the program code, the agency needs to ensure caseworkers are entering this information correctly in the first place.</p>	
<p>17. If Yes, How Old was the Child when Adoption was Legalized?</p> <p>0 = Not Applicable 1=less than 2 years old 2=2-5 years old 3=6 to 12 years old 4=13 years or older 5 = Unable to Determine</p>	<p><u>Screen:</u> Person Profile/Additional Tab; Miscellaneous information: age of adoption There are fields for both the date of the adoption decree and the age of the child at the time of the adoption. The two fields do not appear to be linked. It is possible the worker may enter the adoption decree date but not enter the age of adoption.</p> <p>“Unable to determine” is listed on the drop-down list for “age adopted.” The age categories are: 0-2, 2-5, 6-12, 13 plus. There is not an option for “not applicable.”</p> <p>If “yes” is selected for previous adoption, then “unable to determine” should not be a value the worker can select.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=11,161): Not applicable = 9,444; Unable to determine = 583 (5%); Age categories = 482; Not reported = 373 (3%) It appears that if the caseworker does not know the child’s age, but the child had been previously adopted, they are incorrectly entering “unable to determine.” This field should be left blank.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> The program code extracts the information from the age adopted field and maps the selection to the related AFCARS field. If the response to FC16 is “yes,” then the selected age category on the screen is mapped to the applicable AFCARS value. If an age category was not selected, the program code defaults this element to “unable to determine.” <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The program has been changed to set element #17 to blank if the child was previously adopted but no age is found.</p> <p>If the response to FC16 was “no,” this element is mapped to “not applicable.” If the value of #16 is “unable to determine,” the age at adoption is also set to “unable to determine.” Otherwise, if FC16 and 17 are blank, this element is also set to blank.</p> <p>The program code does not check the field for the date of the adoption decree. A routine should be added to calculate the child’s age of adoption from this field if the field for the age category is blank.</p>	2
Removal Episodes	<p><u>Screen</u> A history of removals can be viewed from the Case Workload/Case tab screen. From this screen, the caseworker selects</p>	

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>“Add Removal Record.”</p> <p>The screen references initial removal. There are fields to enter the custody removal date. Information is populated from a legal screen to the “legal status at removal” field. The legal status has to be entered before a removal date can be entered.</p> <p>This screen also has the responses regarding the mother’s marital status at the time of the child’s birth populated into this screen, as well as whether the child had been previously adopted.</p>	
18. Date of First Removal from Home	<p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Case File Review Findings</i></p> <p>10 (16%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. There were errors related to a child’s initial placement of either a hospital or a locked facility; a child removed from a custodial parent and placed with a non-custodial parent; prior removal episode(s) not included in the AFCARS data; and, cases where the child had previously been in the State’s foster care system and then was adopted but re-entered foster care and the prior episodes were not included.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1571 – 1716</u></p> <p>The program code retrieves all removal records for the child that occurred prior to the end of the reporting period. The first removal from home is set to the earliest removed date found.</p> <p>It appears that the program code checks if the initial placement in the first removal episode is a locked facility but not a hospital. Consequently, the date reported to AFCARS is the date the agency received custody of the child. If the initial placement in the child’s first removal episode is a hospital and the child subsequently enters a foster care setting within the scope of title IV-E, the date of the foster care placement is to always be the first removal from home date.</p> <p>If a child was adopted from the agency’s foster care system and subsequently re-enters foster care, the date of the child’s first ever removal episode must be reported for this element. Currently, the program code is only including removal episodes that occurred after the child’s adoption.</p> <p>See findings for GR #1. If the child’s first removal from home began with a runaway status and the agency had placement and care responsibility, and as of the end of the report period that is the only “placement,” the program code incorrectly does not include the date of care and placement as the date of the first removal episode. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The initial selection logic no longer excludes runaways. If the child’s first removal episode is one that began with a runaway at the time the agency obtained responsibility for placement and care, the date of the agency’s custody will be reported for FC18.</p> <p>If the first-ever removal from home is an episode that was 24-hours or less in duration, the program code incorrectly includes it in this element (see GR #5). The date of the 24 hour episode is never included as a first removal date.</p>	2
19. Total Number of Removals	<u>Data Quality</u>	2

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
from Home To Date	<p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 5 (8%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. See notes in FC18 and the document Case File Findings.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> The program code retrieves all removal records for the child that occurred prior to the end of the reporting period and adds +1 to the total number of removals for each one it finds.</p> <p>The program code is incorrectly counting removal episodes that are 24-hours or less in the number of removals.</p> <p>In instances where the child's only living arrangement is a hospital or detention (locked facility) at the time the title IV-B/IV-E agency obtains responsibility for placement and care, the program code incorrectly includes them in the number of removal episodes.</p>	
20. Date Child was Discharged from Last Foster Care Episode	<p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Case File Review Findings</i> 4 (7%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. See notes in FC18 and the document Case File Findings.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1571 – 1716</u> If the program code finds more than one removal episode, it uses the discharge date of the previous removal episode for this element.</p> <p>If there was a prior removal episode that was 24-hours or less, and the child later re-enters foster care, the end date of the previous 24-hour episode is incorrectly reported for this element.</p> <p>If the child's prior removal episode only contained a placement that was a hospital or detention (locked) facility, the end date of this episode is incorrectly reported for this element.</p>	2
21. Date of Latest Removal from Home	<p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Case File Review Findings</i> 9 (14%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. See notes in FC18 and the document Case File Findings.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1571 – 1716</u> The program code identifies the latest removal date and sets this element to that date.</p> <p>It appears that the program code checks if the initial placement in the removal episode is a locked facility but not a hospital.</p>	2

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>Consequently, if this is the case the date reported to AFCARS as the date of removal from home is incorrect. If the child's first placement was a detention (locked) facility or a hospital and then the child enters a foster care setting within the scope of title IV-E, the date of removal is the start date of this placement.</p> <p>If a child is on runaway status at the time the IV-B/IV-E agency obtains responsibility for placement and care, the child is to be included in the AFCARS reporting population. If at the end of the report period the child is still on runaway status, the date of removal and placement date (foster care element #23) will be the same, element #41 will reflect "runaway," and the number of placements will be zero. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The selection logic no longer excludes runaways. If the child's placement is runaway at the time the agency obtained responsibility for placement and care, the date of the agency's custody will be reported for this element.</p>	
22. Removal Transaction Date	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 1571 – 1716</u> The removal transaction date is set to the date of creation of the latest removal record.</p>	4
General Information on Placement Information	<p><u>Screen: Placement</u> There are fields for "service type," "AFCARS Setting," the start and end dates of the placement, placement end reason, intent to adopt date, and intent to obtain guardianship [date].</p> <p>The AFCARS setting is a system generated field and is not completed by the caseworker. The State needs to provide the complete mapping of placement settings that is used in the system to translate the options in the field "service type" to the AFCARS setting field. The table provided by the State "Ref-Value Placement Services" needs to include a column for the AFCARS value each of these is mapped to. It may also be necessary to include in that table all the fields used in the system to make the AFCARS determination for placement.</p>	
23. Date of Placement in Current Foster Care Setting	<p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> There is one record missing a date of placement.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 12 (19%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. See the document Case File Findings for detailed information. In the majority of these cases, an earlier date should have been reported to AFCARS. The errors were either due to a change in the status of the setting (and not a change in placements) or the child returned to the same setting from which he/she either ran away from or had returned from a trial home visit. In a couple of the cases the date reported to AFCARS may have been actually dates of discharge from the AFCARS reporting population.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1718 – 1861</u> The program code extracts the placement setting begin date.</p> <p>Because the State is not including records of youth who were on runaway at the time the agency obtained placement and care</p>	2

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>responsibility (or immediately ran away), the date the child is placed in a foster care setting is incorrectly reported for this element. The program code is to set the date of placement as the initial “removal date” and not the date the child was placed in the foster care setting.</p> <p>There is no logic in the program code to address hospitalizations. The program code would correctly report the date of a non-acute care hospitalization (hospital stays 30 days or more) but would incorrectly include the date of an acute care length of stay.</p> <p>The initial analysis seemed to support that the extraction code is correctly reporting the start date of a “trial home visit,” “pre-adoptive home,” and the start date of when a child runs away from their foster care setting. However, based on the analysis of the case file review there appears to be some issues related to these dates as well as other placement dates. As noted onsite the state team indicated that if runaway is entered as a placement the date will be reported but if it is entered as a temporary break in placement, the date will not be reported. The program code needs to check both sections of the system for the start date of a runaway. Also, dates are being reported that are changes in the status of a setting. If the program code is only checking the date on the placement screen “placement begin date” then it should not be picking up a status change (since the setting is the same). Once the Federal team receives the system mapping of the service type field The program code is to report the start date of the placement not any change in status. Also, the State will need to verify and correct if the caseworkers are changing the date in this field when a change in status occurs for the home/facility.</p> <p>When a child returns to the same foster home they were in prior to a trial home visit, the program code incorrectly reports the placement date as the date they went back to the foster home instead of the day that foster care setting started.</p> <p>Once modifications are made to account for placements in “cottages” on a campus as being group homes, make sure that the date of placements does not get incremented when the child moves from setting type on the campus to another. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The values for runaway, trial home visit, and supervised independent living were added to the selection criteria for placement date. It is not clear if the change will also address if the child returns to the setting he/she was in prior to a runaway or a trial home visit. If the child returns to the same setting, the placement date is to revert back to when that placement started.</p> <p>It appears that the program code was modified to address the number of placements for those moves between “cottages” on the same “campus.” However, there is no logic to address the date field.</p>	
<p>24. Number of Previous Placement Settings During this Removal Episode</p>	<p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> There are 13 records with a placement count of zero.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i></p>	<p>2</p>

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>16 (27%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. There were several errors that appear to be an over-count of the number of placement settings. In some of these cases, the error was related to the incorrect reporting of records where the initial placement was a hospital or a locked facility. This lowered the number of placements the child actually had for AFCARS reporting. In two error cases, the child had more placements than what was reported to AFCARS. In one, it appears the initial emergency placement may not have been entered into the system or included in the program logic for counting placements.</p> <p>For one record the reviewer's note indicated "level 2 (or 3) Continuum for 18 of the 19 placements. The AFCARS record indicated the child had 19 placement moves so this record was marked correct. The current living arrangement reported to AFCARS (FC41) was "foster family home non-relative." However, since the program code is incorrectly counting placement moves on a campus as individual placements and counting status changes, it may be that the number of placements that should be reported to AFCARS is less for this record.</p> <p>Also, based on the reviewer's notes, dates of placements, etc., there were a couple cases where it appears that the number of placements included those from a prior removal episode.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1863 – 1980</u> The program code counts the number of "completed" placement settings for the child in the current removal episode. The logic excludes trial home visits, runaways, and hospital stays of less than 30 days. The State and Federal team need to further explore whether 30 days is correct.</p> <p>The placement count correctly does not include the return to the same foster care placement setting from a "trial home visit."</p> <p>The placement count correctly does not include return from runaway status and entry to the same placement setting. If a child's only "placement" in the removal episode is as a "runaway," the placement count must be zero. Since the State is not including these records in the reporting population, this change needs to be added. The program code for this field must be initialized to blank. The use of zero for placement count is only valid for those records that have the only setting as a "runaway."</p> <p>Once modifications are made to account for placements in "cottages" on a campus as being group homes, make sure that the number of placements does not get incremented. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> It appears that the program code was modified to address the number of placements for those moves between "cottages" on the same "campus." However, there is no logic to address the date field.</p> <p>While the program code indicates that a hospitalization that is 30 days or less would not be counted, there was a test case of a child that was in the hospital for two days and the stay was included in the placement count. Because of the method used to record placements, the Federal team could not fully assess the State's methodology for counting placements. Placements are</p>	

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>assessed using a table that maps what is considered an AFCARS setting. If this table is also used to determine the placement count than the Federal team will need to assess it for this element as well.</p> <p>The State needs to ensure this element is reported correctly once changes are made to excluding records from the population that only contained a placement of a hospital or a locked facility.</p>	
<p>25. Manner of Removal from Home for Current Removal Episode</p> <p>1 = Voluntary 2 = Court Ordered 3 = Not Yet Determined</p>	<p><u>Screen:</u> Case/Workload/Case/Removal There is a field "legal status at removal" that appears to be a drop down list.</p> <p><u>Frequency Report</u> (n=11,161): Voluntary = 42 (.38%); Court Ordered = 11,119 (99.62%); Not Yet Determined = 0; Not reported = 0</p> <p>The State allows for voluntary placement agreements (VPA) up to 180 days. The State team indicated they rarely have VPAs.</p> <p>For youth over 18 that re-enter foster care (under the new program), these records are to be entered/reported as a VPA; unless the agency is given legal custody through a court order. This element is rated a 4 based on the findings of the AAR. Because there are changes needed to ensure the correct reporting of this information for prior report periods, the element is rated a 2 in the AIP.</p> <p><u>Program Code:</u> LNs 2308 – 2327 The program code looks at the legal status associated with the most current removal and sets the manner of removal to "voluntary" if the status code is "DCSCUSTVA."</p> <p>This element is set to "court ordered" if the status code is any of the following: "ADULTPOSTCUSTODY," "DCSCUSTOCO," "DCSCUSTER," "DCSFG," or "DCSPGS."</p>	4
<p>Actions or Conditions Associated With Child's Removal</p> <p>0=Does not Apply 1=Applies</p>	<p><u>Screen:</u> Removal Record Detail There is a field "available removal reasons." The list is alphabetical.</p> <p>The State may want to consider adding conditions that reflect other reasons, or more detailed reasons, for why children are entering foster care. Also, the State may want to consider conditions that will reflect youth who left foster care at 18 and why they returned to foster care.</p> <p><u>Case File Review Findings</u> There were several records with errors and there were errors for all of these elements. Also, there were several records reported with only one contributing factor for the child's removal and placement into foster care. See the detailed findings in the document Case File Findings.</p>	

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 1982 – 2142</u> The program code reads all the removal reason codes associated with the child’s most current removal and sets the related AFCARS element value to “applies” for all that match. If no value is found for an element it is set to “does not apply.”</p> <p>This element is rated a 3 based on the findings of the AAR. Because there are changes needed to ensure the correct reporting of this information for prior report periods, the element is rated a 2 in the AIP.</p>	
26. Physical Abuse (alleged/reported)	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 1982 – 2142</u> If a removal code of “PHYSICALABUSE” is found this element is set to “applies.”</p>	3
27. Sexual Abuse (alleged/reported)	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 1982 – 2142</u> If a removal code of “SEXUALABUSE” is found this element is set to “applies.”</p>	3
28. Neglect (alleged/reported)	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 1982 – 2142</u> If a removal code of “NEGLECT” is found this element is set to “applies.”</p>	3
29. Alcohol Abuse (parent)	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 1982 – 2142</u> If a removal code of “ALCOHOLABUSEPARENT” is found this element is set to “applies.”</p>	3
30. Drug Abuse (parent)	<p>There is a field for whether exposure to a methamphetamine manufacturing a contributing factor.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1982 – 2142</u> If a removal code of “DRUGABUSEPARENT” is found this element is set to “applies.”</p>	3
31. Alcohol Abuse (child)	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 1982 – 2142</u> If a removal code of “ALCOHOLABUSECHILD” is found this element is set to “applies.”</p> <p>Training: This element is to reflect infants exposed in-utero.</p>	3
32. Drug Abuse (child)	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 1982 – 2142</u> If a removal code of “DRUGABUSECHILD” is found this element is set to “applies.”</p> <p>Training: This element is to reflect infants exposed in-utero.</p>	3
33. Child's Disability	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 1982 – 2142</u> If a removal code of “CHILDDISABILITY” is found this element is set to “applies.”</p>	3
34. Child's Behavior Problem	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 1982 – 2142</u> If a removal code of “TRUANCY” or “CHILDBEHAVIORALPROBLEM” is found this element is set to “applies.”</p>	3
35. Death of Parent(s)	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 1982 – 2142</u> If a removal code of “DEATHOFPARENTS” is found this element is set to “applies.”</p>	3
36. Incarceration of Parent(s)	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 1982 – 2142</u></p>	3

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	If a removal code of "INCARERATIONOFFPARENTS" is found this element is set to "applies."	
37. Caretaker's Inability to Cope Due to Illness or Other Reason	<u>Program Code: LNs 1982 – 2142</u> If a removal code of "CARTAKERSINABILITYTOCOPE" is found this element is set to "applies."	3
38. Abandonment	<u>Program Code: LNs 1982 – 2142</u> If a removal code of "ABANDONMENT" is found this element is set to "applies."	3
39. Relinquishment	<u>Program Code: LNs 1982 – 2142</u> If a removal code of "RELINQUISHMENT" is found this element is set to "applies." Training: This element is to be selected for infants entering foster care under Safe Haven. The State may want to make this a separate option on the screen.	3
40. Inadequate Housing	<u>Program Code: LNs 1982 – 2142</u> If a removal code of "INADEQUATEHOUSING" is found this element is set to "applies."	3
41. Current Placement Setting 1 = Pre-Adoptive Home 2 = Foster Family Home (Relative) 3 = Foster Family Home (Non-Relative) 4 = Group Home 5 = Institution 6 = Supervised Independent Living 7 = Runaway 8 = Trial Home Visit	<u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report (n=11,161):</i> Pre-Adoptive Home = 618 (6%); Foster Family Home (Relative) = 1,438 (13%); Foster Family Home (Non-Relative) = 5,190 (47%); Group Home = 764 (7%); Institution = 831 (8%); Supervised Independent Living = 0; Runaway = 159 (1%); Trial Home Visit = 2,156 (19%); Not reported = 5 <u>Case File Review Findings</u> 12 (19%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. There were settings identified by the reviewers as being group homes but the AFCARS data indicated the child was placed in an institution. Again, this may be related to the methodology used to map the service type field to an AFCARS value. Once the mapping table is reviewed by the federal team, additional feedback will be provided to the State. There were records reported as a living arrangement of "trial home visit" but the child was placed with a relative. The State team indicated there are children who were removed from a relative and who returned to the same relative. The State is entering these as a "trial home visit" until it is determined the child is no longer in the agency's responsibility for placement and care. This is entered correctly. There were records where the child was removed from a parent, placed in foster care, and then placed with a relative. These were also entered as a "trial home visit." This is incorrect and the State team indicated this is something they need to discuss further and believe there is a need for training and policy clarification as to how these should be recorded. These need to be entered/reported as a foster family home – relative. <u>Program Code</u> The program code indicates "TYPE place_sett IS TABLE OF place_set;" indicating that the program code is using a table	2

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>function that determines what placement setting type is reported for FC41. This table maps the information from the fields: service type, intent to adopt date, the resource information of the relationship of the foster parent to the child, and the facility information entered for licensing/payment.</p> <p>The program code uses the results of this table to map to the AFCARS value for FC41. Without this mapping, the federal team cannot determine if the agency is correctly reporting the current living arrangement. As noted in the case file review there appears to be errors that could be related to mapping.</p> <p>Also, group homes are to be reported based on size. AFCARS defines a group home as being between seven and twelve beds. Based on discussion with the state team, campuses are incorrectly reported as an institution instead of the actual cottage as a group home. The state team indicated they need to review the settings and make modifications to ensure that they are coded correctly for AFCARS.</p> <p>There is no allowance in the program code for the length of stay in a hospital.</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The program code has changes that incorporate the provider record in order to determine the type of institution/ group home and a temporary fix for the missing supervised independent living placements. These are identified by a service code of "70."</p>	
<p>42. Is Current Placement Setting Outside of the State or Tribal Service Area?</p> <p>1 = yes 2 = no</p>	<p><u>Frequency Report</u> (n=11,161): Yes = 0; No = 11,160 (99.9%); Not reported = 1</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1815 – 1820</u> The program code checks the State code of the provider address record associated with the placement. If it is "TN," the value is set to "no." Otherwise it is set to "yes."</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> Changes were made to include the provider's address in checking for the child's address and placement as being in- or out-of-State.</p>	<p>2 3</p>
<p>43. Most Recent Case Plan Goal</p> <p>1 = Reunify with Parent(s) or Principal caretaker(s) 2 = Live with Other Relative(s) 3 = Adoption 4 = Long-term Foster Care 5 = Emancipation 6 = Guardianship 7 = Case Plan Goal Not Yet</p>	<p><u>Screen: Case/Workload</u> There is a selection button for adding a permanency goal. There are two fields for permanency goals. The State does concurrent planning and both goals are entered as a permanency goal. The State needs a way to identify the "primary" permanency plan for this element. See case file review findings.</p> <p>The options include: adoption (custody); several related to the child remaining with the parent (with and without custody) or caretaker/relative (with and without custody); child will need change in location (non-custody); exit custody with kin (custody); exit custody with relative (custody); maintain community and youth safety (probation and aftercare); several related to planned permanent living arrangement (PPLA); permanent guardianship (custody); and, return to parent (custody).</p>	<p>2</p>

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Established	<p>The State's policy is that a case plan goal must be established within 30 days of the child entering foster care.</p> <p>Within the transition plan, it is identified if the child has a permanent connection to an adult.</p> <p>The State team indicated that if the plan is to place (return) a child to a non-custodial parent, it is entered as "return to parent."</p> <p>For youth who re-enter foster care after the age of 18, enter the appropriate case plan goal.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report (n=11,161):</i> Reunify = 3,609 (32%); Live With Other Relative(s) = 3,221 (29%); Adoption = 2,993 (27%); Long-Term Foster Care = 60 (.54%); Emancipation = 0; Guardianship = 310 (3%); Case Plan Goal Not Yet Established = 967 (9%); Not reported = 1</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 16 (25%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. The errors for this element appear to be the concurrent goal and not the "primary" goal being reported to AFCARS.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs789 – 791 and 2146 – 2202</u> The program code gets the goal type from the most current permanency goal record with a status of "ACTIVE" or "EXPIRED" within the reporting period, a domain code of "Permanency Goal Type" and a parental reference code of "CUSTODY."</p> <p>Mapping: "Return to parent" is "reunification," "exit custody relative" is "live with relative," and "adoption" is "adoption."</p> <p>There is no logic to set the value to "emancipation." All of the goals that are "PPLA" are set to "long-term foster care." There is no check if the child has a permanent connection to an adult. Modify the code to check for whether the child has a permanent connection to an adult. If a child does not have a permanent connection to an adult, map the goal to "long-term foster care." If the child does have a connection, then map the goal to "emancipation."</p> <p>The goal "exit custody with kin (custody)" is incorrectly mapped to "live with relative." Only individuals who are related by blood or marriage are considered relatives for AFCARS reporting. If the intent is that these individuals will obtain legal guardianship, then this goal is to be mapped to "guardianship."</p> <p>The goal "permanent guardianship" is mapped to "guardianship." It is not clear if this goal would also be used for relatives who will receive legal guardianship. If so, then relatives are to be mapped to "live with relative." Permanent guardianship should only reflect those individual not related to the child.</p>	

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	<p>If a goal is not entered or is one not listed in the mapping section, then this element is set to blank.</p> <p>There is a routine that will “update” if the child’s date of removal subtracted from the end of the report period is 31 days or less. However, it is not clear that this logic is executed. There is also logic after the section in the program code that sets the goals that if the count is zero, the element is set to “not yet established.”</p> <p>Also, since the State’s policy is that a case plan goal is to be established within 30 days of the child entering foster care, the program code should use the date in element 21 + 30 days. If the child has been in care for more than 30 days, the element is to be set to blank.</p>	
<p>44. Caretaker Family Structure</p> <p>1 = Married Couple 2 = Unmarried Couple 3 = Single Female 4 = Single Male 5 = Unable to Determine</p>	<p><u>Screen:</u> Removal Record Detail There is a section on this screen “Child Removal from Home Information.” The options for the field “caretaker structure” are the same as the AFCARS values.</p> <p>For youth over age 18 who re-enter foster care, enter/report their marital status.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=11,161): Married Couple = 2,265 (20%); Unmarried Couple = 1,109 (10%); Single Female = 5,918 (53%); Single Male = 641 (6%); Unable to Determine = 1,228 (11%); Not reported = 0</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 11 (18%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In the majority of error cases (10) the response in AFCARS was “unable to determine” but the reviewers found a marital status.</p> <p><u>Program Code:</u> LNs 1653 – 1648 This code is a text version of the AFCARS equivalents. Any other value is set to “5.” Modify the program code to map missing information to blank. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The program has been changed to set element #44 to blank if no caretaker code is found.</p> <p>This element is rated a 3 based on the findings of the AAR. Because there are changes needed to ensure the correct reporting of this information for prior report periods, the element is rated a 2 in the AIP.</p>	<p>2 3</p>
<p>45. Year of Birth (1st Principal Caretaker)</p>	<p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> There are three records with a year of birth of 2012; three for 2011, three for 2010; two for 2009, six for 2008, four for 2007, three for 2006, two for 2005, one for 2004, and two for 2003.</p> <p>There is one record with an invalid year of 1111.</p>	<p>3</p>

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	<p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 10 (16%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In seven error cases, the AFCARS field was blank (FC44 was UTD) and the reviewer found a birth year.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> If the principal caretaker's identifier on the placement episode record is "0" the year of birth is set to blank, otherwise the program code uses the birth date associated with the caretaker identifier to extract the year of birth.</p> <p>If the caretaker structure in element 44 was "unable to determine," then this element was set to blank. However, there were cases reviewed with a year of birth even though the response to FC44 was "unable to determine." <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The code has been changed to remove checking caretaker type as a condition in the selection logic for element #45.</p> <p>This element is rated a 3 based on the findings of the AAR. Because there are changes needed to ensure the correct reporting of this information for prior report periods, the element is rated a 2 in the AIP.</p>	
<p>46. Year of Birth (2nd Principal Caretaker - if applicable)</p>	<p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> There are five records with a year of birth of 2011, one for 2010, five for 2009, one for 2008, two for 2007, one for 2006, and three for 2003.</p> <p>There are 3,374 records reported in element #44 with a family structure of married and unmarried couple. There are 3,312 records reported for this element with a year of birth (including the ones noted above).</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 8 (13%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In four error cases, the AFCARS field was blank (FC44 was unable to determine) and the reviewer found a birth year.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1660 - 1669</u> If the secondary caretaker's identifier on the placement episode record is "0" the year of birth is set to blank, otherwise the program code uses the birth date associated with the caretaker id to extract the year of birth.</p> <p>If the caretaker structure in element 44 was "unable to determine," then this element was set to blank. However, there were cases reviewed with a year of birth even though the response to FC44 was "unable to determine." <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The code has been changed to remove checking caretaker type as a condition in the selection logic for element #46.</p> <p>This element is rated a 3 based on the findings of the AAR. Because there are changes needed to ensure the correct</p>	3

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	reporting of this information for prior report periods, the element is rated a 2 in the AIP.	
47. Date of Mother's Parental Rights Termination (if applicable)	<p><u>Screen:</u> Case-Court</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Case File Review Findings</i> 5 (8%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. There was a case where the parent surrendered their rights but the date was reported as 10 days later than the date the parent surrendered. The date the parent surrendered their rights should be entered and reported to AFCARS. In regard to dates of TPR, the Children's Bureau's guidance for AFCARS reporting has in general been to report the date of the hearing if a judgment was made at that time. While dates reflective of the hearing, signature and filed may be recorded in States' information system, the agency must ensure that staff are entering dates correctly and consistently.</p> <p><u>Program Code:</u> LNs 2365 – 2401 The program code selects the most recent court finding date prior to the end of the report period where the court order type is "TPR," "voluntary surrender," "certification of death," or "waiver of interest and notice" and where the adjudication disposition person is female.</p> <p>If no date is found for these conditions the logic looks for a legal status record of "DCSFG" (full guardianship) with a court finding date prior to the end of the report period.</p> <p>If a date is not found, the field is left blank.</p>	2
48. Date of Legal or Putative Father's Parental Rights Termination (if applicable)	<p><u>Screen:</u> Case-Court</p> <p><u>Case File Review Findings</u> 4 (7%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p> <p><u>Program Code:</u> LNs 2404 – 2419 The program code selects the most recent court finding date prior to the end of the report period where the court order type is "TPR," "voluntary surrender," "certification of death," or "waiver of interest and notice" and where the adjudication disposition person is male. If more than one date is found for these conditions the logic performs the same select routine with the addition of specifying that the relationship code is "BIODAD," "LEGALFATHER," "ADOPTFATHER," or "PUTATIVEFATHER."</p> <p>If no value is found, the program uses the adoption finalization date if present.</p> <p>The program code should extract the latest TPR date for the father (or a second legal parent regardless of gender) regardless of the relationship of the person to the child. The TPR dates reported in FC47 and 48 are to reflect the latest TPR judgment</p>	2

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>for parent 1 and 2 (if applicable). In the event there is no TPR date for the second parent, then FC48 is to be left blank. The date of the adoption is not to be used unless the judge orders the rights of the parent (either parent 1 or 2) as terminated during the adoption hearing. Examples of when there may not be a date of parental rights termination include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child was previously adopted by a single parent. • The adoption was a tribal customary adoption. <p>If there is no adoption finalization date, the field is left blank.</p>	
<p>49. Foster Family Structure</p> <p>0 = Not Applicable 1 = Married Couple 2 = Unmarried Couple 3 = Single Female 4 = Single Male</p>	<p><u>Screen:</u> Resource/Provider/Basic and Person Profile/Basic Tab</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=11,161): Not applicable = 2,839 (25%); Married Couple = 3,051 (27%); Unmarried Couple = 76 (1%); Single Female = 1,177 (11%); Single Male = 103 (1%); Not reported = 3,915 (35%)</p> <p>There are 3,910 records reported in element #41 as being a non-foster home setting. The number of responses for “not applicable” for this element does not reflect this number. See case file review notes for additional issues identified with this element.</p> <p><u>Case File Review Findings</u> 35 (57%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In 10 error cases, the AFCARS response was “not applicable.” In each case, the response in FC41 was a foster home setting. There were 24 records reported as blank instead of “not applicable” for placement settings institution, group home, trial home visit, and runaway.</p> <p>In one correct case, this element indicated “not applicable” in AFCARS even though element 41 indicated a foster home. The child was not actually placed in a foster home (FC41 was incorrect.).</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> FC49 - 55 are initialized after the initial selection of fields used for these elements. FC49 is set to zero. The program code selects the marital status code for the provider participant with a role of “resource parent” or “resource co-parent” whose effective date is less than or equal to the report period end date.</p> <p>A code of “married” is set to “1” and “unmarried” to “2.” Codes of “single,” “divorced,” “separated,” and “widowed” use the provider’s gender code and females are set to “single female” and males to “single male.” Modify the program code to map “separated” to “married couple.” <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The program code was modified to correctly map “separated” to “married.”</p> <p>A code of “unable to determine” or any other value is mapped to “not applicable.” “Unable to determine” is not a valid option</p>	<p>2 3</p>

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>for this element. It should be removed from the choices for the foster parent marital status. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The program code was modified to correctly map “unable to determine” to blank.</p> <p>If no information is found, this element is incorrectly defaulted to “unable to determine.” Missing data and invalid values are to be mapped to blank. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The program code was modified to set this element to blank if no information is found.</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The initial selection logic to identify the fields/information for foster parents has been rewritten. This includes the effective date as well. The logic pulls the latest effective date or the latest created date. The second change is in the section that initialized FC49 - 55. The code now uses the value found in FC41 to determine how to initialize this element. If FC41 is blank, elements 49 - 55 are set to blank. If FC41 is a value for a non-foster home setting, then FC49 is set to zero.</p>	
50. Year of Birth (1 st Foster Caretaker)	<p><u>Screen:</u> Resource/Provider/Basic and Person Profile/Basic Tab</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=11,161): There were 4,407 records reported in FC49 with a marital status. There were 4,448 years of birth reported for this element.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 11 (18%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> This element is initialized to blank. The 1st foster caretaker’s year of birth is extracted from the provider’s person record where the participant role code is “resource parent.” Missing data is set to blank.</p>	3
51. Year of Birth (2 nd Foster Caretaker)	<p><u>Screen:</u> Resource/Provider/Basic and Person Profile/Basic Tab</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=11,161): There are 3,127 records reported in element #49 as married and unmarried couple. There are only 3,054 records reported with a year of birth for this element.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 7 (12%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 2917 – 2941</u> This element is initialized to blank. The 2nd foster caretaker’s year of birth is extracted from the provider’s person record where the participant role code is “resource co-parent.”</p>	3

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
<p>52. Race of 1st Foster Caretaker</p> <p>a. American Indian or Alaska Native</p> <p>b. Asian</p> <p>c. Black or African American</p> <p>d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander</p> <p>e. White</p> <p>f. Unable to Determine</p>	<p><u>Screen:</u> Resource/Provider/Basic and Person Profile/Basic Tab See findings in FC8.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 13 (21%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. There were 11 error cases that the AFCARS fields indicated “no” for each race. The response in FC41 indicated the child was in a foster home setting. In one error case, this element was blank and the information reported in FC 41 was “trial home visit.” The reviewer found that the child was actually placed with a relative. In one error case, the reviewer found an additional race that should have been indicated as “yes” (American Indian).</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 2917 – 2941</u> FC49 - 55 are initialized after the initial selection of fields used for these elements. FC52 is set to zeroes for each race. The program code checks if the marital status (FC49) for the first provider is zero, and if so FC52 is incorrectly set to zeroes. If a marital status was found, then it sets these elements to the race found in the system. The 1st foster caretaker’s race is extracted from the provider’s person record where the participant role code is “resource parent.” The mapping is the same as for element #8. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> As noted in FC49, the initialization logic was modified during the postsite corrective period. If FC41 is blank, then this element is set to blank. If the placement setting in FC41 is not a foster home, then this element is set to blank.</p> <p>The program is not checking the ancestry field and mapping applicable ethnicities to the appropriate race category if one is selected. Modify the program code to check the ancestry field for any race values that may have been selected and map the value to the appropriate race value in element #8. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> A new common function has been added that checks the ancestry field for a race. There is no ethnicity mapping for several of the ethnic groups that are also considered races for Federal reporting purposes.</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>53. Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity of 1st Foster Caretaker</p> <p>0 = Not Applicable</p> <p>1 = Yes</p> <p>2 = No</p> <p>3 = Unable to Determine</p>	<p><u>Screen:</u> Resource/Provider/Basic and Person Profile/Basic Tab See findings in FC9</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report (n=11,161):</i> Not Applicable = 2,791 (25%); Yes = 38 (.34%); No = 4,224 (38%); Unable to determine = 193 (2%); Not reported = 3,915 (35%) There are 3,910 records reported in element #41 as being a non-foster home setting. The number of responses for “not applicable” for this element does not reflect this number.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 34 (57%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In eight error cases, the AFCARS response was “not applicable” and the response in FC41 was a foster home setting (“pre-adoptive home” and non-relative foster home).</p>	<p>2</p> <p>3</p>

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>In one error case, the response should have been “no” instead of “unable to determine.” In one error case, this element was blank (FC 41 was reported as THV) but the reviewer found that the child was placed with a relative. In another error case, this element was blank and FC 41 was reported as a “trial home visit.”</p> <p>In 24 error cases, this element was reported as blank instead of “not applicable” for placement settings institution, group home, trial home visit, and runaway.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 2917 – 2941</u> FC49 - 55 are initialized after the initial selection of fields used for these elements. FC53 is initialized to zero. After setting the marital status, the program code checks if the marital status for the first provider is zero and will set FC 53 to zero. If a marital status was found then it sets this element to the ethnicity found in the system. The 1st foster caretaker’s Hispanic or Latino origin is extracted from the provider’s person record where the participant role code is “resource parent.” The mapping is the same as for element #9.</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> As noted in FC49, the initialization logic was modified during the postsite corrective period. If #41 is blank then this element is set to blank. If the living arrangement in FC41 is not a foster home, then this element is set to “not applicable.” If the setting is a foster home, then this element is initialized to blanks. If no information is entered for the 1st Foster Caretaker’s Hispanic/Latino ethnicity using the new function noted below, then the element will remain blank.</p> <p>The program code is not checking the ancestry field and mapping applicable Hispanic/Latino ethnicities to this element. Modify the program code to check the ancestry field for any ethnicities that may have been selected and map this element to “yes” even if the value in the Hispanic field is “no.” <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> A new routine checks the ethnicity/ancestry codes. The ethnicity codes are mapped as follows. If any ethnicity code is “Central American,” “Cuban,” “Hispanic,” “Latino,” “Mexican,” “Puerto Rican,” or “South American,” then this element is set to “yes.”</p>	
<p>54. Race of 2nd Foster Caretaker (if applicable)</p> <p>a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine</p>	<p><u>Screen:</u> Resource/Provider/Basic and Person Profile/Basic Tab</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 13 (27%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In nine error cases, the response to each race was “no” and the child was reported to be living in a foster home setting. In three error cases, the fields should have been blank instead of indicating “no.” The child was placed with a single foster parent. In one error case, the race should have been reported as “white” instead of “unable to determine.”</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 2917 – 2941</u> FC49 - 55 are initialized after the initial selection of fields used for these elements. FC54 are set to zeroes. After setting the marital status for FC49, the program code checks if the marital status for the provider is zero and will set FC54 to zeroes. If a marital status was found, then it sets these elements to the race found in the system. The 2nd foster caretaker’s race is</p>	2

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>extracted from the provider's person record where the participant role code is "resource co-parent."</p> <p>The program is not checking the ancestry field and mapping applicable ethnicities to the appropriate race category if one is selected. Modify the program code to check the ancestry field for any race values that may have been selected and map the value to the appropriate race value in element #8. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> A new common function has been added that checks the ancestry field for a race. There is no ethnicity mapping for several of the ethnic groups that are also considered races for Federal reporting purposes.</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> As noted in FC49, the initialization logic was modified during the postsite corrective period. If FC41 is blank, then this element is set to blank. If #41 is anything other than a foster home (#41 > "3") then this element is set to blank.</p>	
<p>55. Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity of 2nd Foster Caretaker (if applicable)</p> <p>0 = Not Applicable 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine</p>	<p><u>Screen:</u> Resource/Provider/Basic and Person Profile/Basic Tab</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report (n=11,161):</i> Not Applicable = 4,151 (37%); Yes = 63 (.56%); No = 2,867 (26%); Unable to determine = 165 (2%); Not reported = 3,915 (35%)</p> <p>There are 3,910 records reported in element #41 as being a non-foster home setting. Additionally, there are 1,280 records reported in FC49 as a single foster parent. The number of responses for "not applicable" for this element does not reflect this number.</p> <p><u>Case File Review Findings</u> 29 (49%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In eight error cases, the AFCARS response was "not applicable" and the response in FC41 was a foster home setting ("pre-adoptive home" and non-relative foster home). In one error case, the response should have been "no" instead of "unable to determine." In one error case, this element was blank (FC 41 was reported as THV) but the reviewer found that the child was placed with a relative. In another error case, this element was blank and FC 41 was reported as a "trial home visit."</p> <p>In 24 error cases, this element was reported as blank instead of "not applicable" for placement settings institution, group home, trial home visit, and runaway.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 2917 – 2941</u> FC49 - 55 are initialized after the initial selection of fields used for these elements. FC 53 and 55 are initialized to zero. After setting the marital status, the program code checks if the marital status for the first provider is zero and will set FC 55 to zero. If a marital status was found then it sets this element to the ethnicity found in the system. If FC49 is either a single female or a single male, nothing is done to the race and ethnicity values.</p>	2

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Foster Care Elements
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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>The 2nd foster caretaker's race is extracted from the provider's person record where the participant role code is "resource co-parent." The mapping is the same as for element #9.</p> <p>The program code is not checking the ancestry field and mapping applicable Hispanic/Latino ethnicities to this element. Modify the program code to check the ancestry field for any ethnicities that may have been selected and map this element to "yes" even if the value in the Hispanic field is "no." <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> A new routine checks the ethnicity/ancestry codes. The ethnicity codes are mapped as follows. If any ethnicity code is "Central American," "Cuban," "Hispanic," "Latino," "Mexican," "Puerto Rican," or "South American," then this element is set to "yes."</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> As noted in FC49, the initialization logic was modified during the postsite corrective period. If #41 is blank then this element is set to blank. If the living arrangement in FC41 is not a foster home, then this element is set to "not applicable." If FC41 is a foster home setting, then FC55 is initialized zero otherwise it will be set to blank. The program code is not checking the marital status in FC49 in addition to the living arrangement in FC41. If the response in FC49 is either a single female or male, then FC55 is to be set to "not applicable."</p>	
56. Date of Discharge from Foster Care	<p><u>Screen:</u> Court There are fields for termination date and reason.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 6 (10%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In three records the youth turned 18 and was not receiving title IV-E foster care funds.</p> <p><u>Program Code:</u> LNs 1571 – 1716 The discharge date is selected by cycling through all placement episode records for the child and taking the last discharge date found that is prior to or equal to the report period end date. If the final placement episode does not have a discharge date the field is set to blank.</p> <p>The program code does not check if the youth is 18 years old and not receiving title IV-E funds. The State exercised the option to extend assistance to youth age 18 or older. The effective date of the plan amendment is October 1, 2010. The extraction code must be modified to reflect the AFCARS reporting population for report periods prior to 2011A (October 1, 2010). The State needs to clarify if the caseworker enters a value into the system to show a change in service codes for non-IV-E youth who turn 18 but may still be receiving services under state or Chaffee funds.</p> <p>> For report periods prior to 2011A (10/1/2010):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the youth is 18 and not eligible for title IV-E funds but remains in foster care under State funds, report the youth as discharged from the AFCARS reporting population as of his/her 18th birthday. • If the youth is 18 and eligible for title IV-E funds, report the child discharged from the AFCARS reporting population 	<p>3 2</p>

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Foster Care Elements
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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	as of the date he/she is no longer eligible for title IV-E.	
57. Foster Care Discharge Transaction Date	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 1571 – 1716</u> The discharge transaction date is set to the last modification date of the current placement episode record if a discharge date is present.</p>	4
58. Reason for Discharge 0 = Not Applicable 1 = Reunification with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s) 2 = Living with Other Relative(s) 3 = Adoption 4 = Emancipation 5 = Guardianship 6 = Transfer to Another Agency 7 = Runaway 8 = Death of Child	<p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> (n=11,161): Not Applicable = 0; Reunification = 1,726 (15%); Living with Other Relative(s) = 556 (5%); Adoption = 418 (4%); Emancipation = 260 (2%); Guardianship = 186 (2%); Transfer to Another Agency = 39 (.35%); Runaway = 22 (.20%); Death of Child = 7 (.06%); Not reported = 7,947 (71%)</p> <p><u>Case File Review Findings</u> 40 (64%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. There were 34 records reported as blank instead of “not applicable.” The child was still in foster care. In three records the youth turned 18 and was not receiving title IV-E foster care funds.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1571 – 1716</u> The reason for discharge is set based on the discharge reason code in the current placement episode if there is a date of discharge. The mapping is “reunification with parents” and “return to parents” are “1,” “living with relatives kin” is “2,” “adoption” and “adoption finalized” are “3,” “age” and “emancipation” are “4,” “permanent guardianship” is “5,” “transfer to another agency” is “6,” “runaway” is “7,” “death of child” is “8” and anything else is set to blank. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The discharge reasons of “return to parents,” “age” and “adoption finalized” were removed from the program code. The State needs to clarify why these were removed.</p> <p>Records where there is no discharge are incorrectly set to blank rather than to “0” (not applicable). <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The code was changed to set the value of element #58 to “not applicable” if the child has not been discharged.</p> <p>See notes in FC56 regarding youth who turn 18 and are not eligible for title IV-E; those who are; as well as changes related to the IV-E plan modifications. Youth who are 18 or older and are discharged from foster care are to be reported as “emancipation.”</p>	2
Source(s) of Federal Financial Support/assistance for Child 59. Title IV-E (Foster Care) 0-Does not apply 1-Applies	<p><u>Screen:</u> Financial/Eligibility; Fields: Program Eligibility Based on information provided on the screen shots, the system generates a pending title IV-E eligibility record when a child enters foster care. The Eligibility worker selects the pending record to complete actions to determine if the child is eligible for title IV-E. This brings up a screen with three tabs: the Summary Tab, Requirements 1 - 6, and Requirement 7 - 9. On the Summary Tab, certain fields are pre-populated from other sources in the system. On the tab for requirements 1 - 6 information on the child’s U.S. citizenship is derived from other information and displayed here. Once determination of eligibility is made, the information is displayed on the Eligibility screen. There is also a field “Program Reimbursability.” The program eligibility section indicates the custody date (court order date), determination type, status, IV-E eligibility (yes/no),</p>	4

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Foster Care Elements
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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>effective date, termination date, and created in error. The Program Reimbursability section includes custody date, reimbursability type, status, IV-E Reimbursable (yes/no), effective date, and end date.</p> <p>Providers are paid every two weeks for the prior two weeks.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> (n=11,161): Does not apply = 6,678 (60%); Applies = 4,483 (40%); Not Reported = 0</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 2204 – 2292</u> Instead of checking the eligibility screen and if the child has a line for being in a reimbursable setting anytime during the report period the program code checks the payment detail record. This element is set to “applies” if a payment detail record is found with a non-zero warrant amount, a warrant date within the reporting period, and a warrant status of “paid,” which has a related grant fund source record with fund name of “IV-E foster care maintenance federal,” “IV-E foster care maintenance State,” or “IV-E foster care maintenance stimulus.” If these conditions are not found, element #59 is set to “does not apply.”</p> <p>The approach used in the program code will correctly report the majority of the cases. However, if the child is determined eligible (reimbursable) during the last month of the report period but a payment has not been made, it is possible that the record would be incorrectly reported. The state team indicated they determine eligibility quickly, and since the agency pays the providers every two weeks, the number of records missed by the current approach is most likely very small. The State is encouraged to monitor the results for this element regularly to ensure its accuracy.</p>	
60. Title IV-E (Adoption Assistance)	<p><u>Screen:</u> See Adoption Element #9.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> (n=11,161): Does not apply = 10,745 (96%); Applies = 416 (4%); Not Reported = 0</p> <p>The State indicated they do not pay (claim) title IV-E AA prior to the finalized adoption. The number reported for “applies” is almost the same as the number of records reported with an outcome of adoption in FC58. See notes below regarding how this data are extracted.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 2682 – 2705</u> If the child has an approved adoption subsidy record where the effective date is within the reporting period, a related adoption subsidy record of type “AA” or “non-recurring AA,” this element is set to “applies.” If not, the element is set to “does not apply.”</p> <p>Based on the frequency report and the above logic, the program code checks adoption records and not foster care records. Also, this element is not to include payments to an adoptive parent for the non-recurring fees. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The logic for this element has been commented out and now the program code will only set this element to “does</p>	2 3

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Foster Care Elements
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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	not apply.” If the State modifies its title IV-E plan and begins claiming of IV-E Adoption Assistance funds prior to finalization of the adoption, the program code must be modified.	
61. Title IV-A	<p><u>Screen:</u> Person Overview/Income For the “Type” there is a drop-down option list. There are date fields for “from” and “to.”</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> (n=11,161): Does not apply = 11,161 (100%); Applies = 0; Not Reported = 0</p> <p><u>Program Code:</u> LNs 2612 – 2636 This element is set to “applies” if there is a person income record related to the child with an income type of “OWF” and there are fewer than 12 months between the income effective date and the end of the reporting period. It is not clear why the program code uses this logic. If there is a title IV-A payment made on behalf of the child in foster care, and the payment occurred during the report period, it is to be reported. Also, this is to be payments that occurred after the child entered foster care and not include payments made to the family the child was removed from. The State team indicated that there are children in foster care who are placed with a relative that is not receiving a foster care payment. The relative applies for TANF funding for the foster care child. In these instances, this element is to be reported as “applies.” The State is currently not entering this data.</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The program code was modified and “OWF” is commented out. It was replaced with “families first check tanf.”</p>	2
62. Title IV-D (Child Support)	<p><u>Screen:</u> Financial/Benefits There is a drop-down list for the field “Benefit Account Type.” There is a system generated field “Interface reference #.” Other fields include: effective date, expected amount, account balance, and pending balance.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> (n=11,161): Does not apply = 11,161 (100%); Applies = 0; Not Reported = 0 The State team indicated there are children in foster care and the agency receives child support payments but it is not currently being entered for each child. The information must be entered and document for each child in foster care and reported in this element.</p> <p><u>Program Code:</u> LNs 2639 – 2679 Title IV-D applies if the child has a client benefit and related benefit account record with benefit type of “child support” and a transaction type of “deposit” where the pay begin date is less than or equal to the report period end date. If no match is returned, the logic checks for a person income record with a type of “child support” where there are less than 12 months between the income effective date and the report period end date. If neither situation is satisfied the value is set to “does not apply.” The State needs to clarify the purpose of the function to check if there is less than 12 months between the income</p>	2

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Foster Care Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	effective date and the report period end date.	
63. Title XIX (Medicaid)	<p><u>Screen:</u> Financial/Eligibility; Fields: Medicaid Eligibility History This information is uploaded into TFACTS through an interface with TennCare (Tennessee’s managed care Medicaid program).</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> (n=11,161): Does not apply = 301 (3%); Applies = 10,860 (97%); Not Reported = 0</p> <p><u>Program Code:</u> LNs2565 – 2608 Title XIX applies if the child has an active or terminated Medicaid eligibility record where the effective date is less than or equal to the report period end date and the Medicaid termination date is either null or after the beginning of the report period. If no record satisfies these conditions the medicate application record is checked for a status of “application sent” with a requested effective date that is null or prior to the end of the reporting period. If neither search is satisfied the element is set to “does not apply.”</p>	4
64. SSI or Other Social Security Benefits	<p><u>Screen:</u> Financial/Benefits There is a drop-down list for the field “Benefit Account Type.” There is a system generated field “Interface reference #.” Other fields include: effective date, expected amount, account balance, and pending balance.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> (n=11,161): Does not apply = 9,389 (84%); Applies = 1,772 (16%); Not Reported = 0</p> <p><u>Program Code:</u> LNs 2754 – 2806 SSI is set to applies if the child has a benefit account record of type “SSA,” “SSI,” “VA Benefits,” “SSI lump sum” or “SSI dedicated” with fewer than 12 months between the pay begin date and the report period end date. If no match is found the personal income record is checked for an income type of “social security,” “SSI” or “veteran’s pension” where there are fewer than 12 months between the paid to date and the end of the report period. If neither search is satisfied the element is set to “does not apply.”</p> <p>VA Benefits and veteran’s pension are not to be reported for this element. Instead they should be reported in element #65. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> “Veterans pension” has been commented out and is no longer included for element #64.</p>	2
65. None of the Above	<p><u>Screen:</u> Financial/Benefits There is a drop-down list for the field “Benefit Account Type.” There are options on this list that should be reported to this element.</p> <p><u>Program Code:</u> LNs 657 – 666 None of the above applies if none of the financial elements #59 through #64 applies. If any do it is set to “does not apply.”</p>	2

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Foster Care Elements
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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>VA and Veteran's Benefits are to be mapped to this element not FC64.</p> <p>The program code should also set this element to "applies" if there are other sources of income that are not include in the above elements.</p>	
66. Amount of Monthly Foster Care Payment	<p><u>Screen:</u> Financial/Claims</p> <p><u>Program Code:</u> LNs 2707 – 2752</p> <p>The amount of the monthly foster care payment is set equal to the paid amount found on the most recent payment request record where the claim end date is within the reporting period and the service category is "placement." If no value is found the amount is set to zero.</p> <p>The amount reported for this element should be a full monthly amount paid to a provider and the setting the child is in for a full month prior to the end of the report period. If the child changes placement in the last month of the report period, and it is a different setting or service level, then this element could be reported as zeros.</p>	3

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Adoption Elements
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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
1. Title IV-E Agency	<u>Program Code: LNs 1687</u> The State FIPS code of "47" is hard coded in the program code.	4
2. Report Period Ending Date	<u>Program Code: LNs 1688 - 1689</u> The report period end date is set when the extraction routine is executed.	4
3. Record number	<u>Program Code: LNs 1580 – 1604</u> The child's person number is encrypted.	4
4. Did the title IV-E Agency have any involvement in this adoption? 1=Yes 2=No	<u>Program Code: LNs 1176 – 1187 and 1434 – 1438</u> If the public agency flag on the agency record associated with the child's adoption case is "1," then title IV-E agency involvement is set to "yes." Otherwise it is set to "no."	4
5. Child's Date of Birth	<u>Screen: Person Profile/Basic Tab</u> <u>Program Code: LNs 1749</u> The child's date of birth is taken from their person record.	4
6. Sex 1=Male 2=Female	<u>Screen: Person Profile/Basic Tab</u> <u>Program Code: LNs 447 - 557</u> The child's sex is obtained from the person record and mapped as is foster care element #7.	4
7. Child's Race 0=No 1=Yes a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine	<u>Screen: Person Profile/Demographics Tab</u> See foster care element #8 for the findings regarding the collection of the race information. <i>Case File Review Findings</i> 2 (7%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In the error cases, the reviewer found the child was bi-racial and "black or African American" should have been reported. <u>Program Code: LNs 391 – 432</u> See foster care element #8 for mapping logic.	2
8. Child's Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity	<u>Screen: Person Profile/Demographics Tab</u> See foster care element #9 for the findings regarding the collection of the Hispanic ethnicity information.	2 3

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State: Tennessee

Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
1=Yes 2=No 3=Unable to determine	<u>Program Code: LNs 434 – 445</u> The child's Hispanic or Latino ethnicity is taken from the Hispanic code on their person record and mapped the same as foster care element #9.	
9. Has the title IV-E agency determined that the child has special needs? 1=Yes 2=No	<p><u>Screen:</u> Financial/Eligibility; <u>Fields:</u> Subsidy Determination/Subsidy Type</p> <p>The options for subsidy type are: AA, SPG, non-recurring AA, and non-recurring SPG. When the Subsidy worker selects "add subsidy" they get a screen with tabs: Summary, Special Needs Criteria, and Eligibility Requirements. The worker enters some information on the summary screen and other fields are pre-filled from other sources in the system. Other fields that display within the summary screen are entered in the Special Needs Criteria and Eligibility Requirements tabs.</p> <p>On the Special Needs Criteria screen there are three categories of information: Special Needs Criteria, Age Qualifications, and Reasonable Efforts to Place without Subsidy. Once information is entered on the Special Needs Criteria Tab and the Eligibility Requirements Tab the information populates the Summary Tab with the selected information. From this screen the worker who is determining eligibility selects the "Determine Eligibility" button and the system determines eligibility based on criteria entered. The caseworker can agree or if the results are not accurate, can go back and make corrections.</p> <p>The options on the Special Needs Criteria screen/Special Needs Criteria are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Caucasian, age 9 or over; > Child is of minority heritage, age 2 or over; > Child is part of sibling group of 2 or more placed together in one family, at the same time for the purpose of adoption; > Child's life experiences includes three or more years in TN DCS state custody; > Child's life experiences includes neglect, physical abuse, and/or sexual abuse which rise to the level of severe abuse; > Moderate to severe medical, physical, or psychological condition diagnosed by a licensed physician, psychologist, or licensed mental health professional and requires treatment; > Not applicable. <p>The options on the Special Needs Criteria screen/Reasonable Efforts to Place without Subsidy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Child listed with REACT, ADOPT US-KIDS, or other exchanges; > Placed twelve months and emotionally attached to resource parents; > Relative adopting; > Sibling already adopted by same adoptive parents; > Full disclosure of the child's history is presented to new resource family. A specific factor or condition prevents the adoption without adoption subsidy and it's in the child's best interest. <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=416): Yes = 173 (42%); No = 243 (58%); Not reported = 0 NOTE: There are 378 records reported in element #35 indicating the child is receiving a monthly subsidy. There are more</p>	2

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>children determined eligible for an adoption subsidy that what this element indicates.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 16 (57%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. The records were all reported as “no” and the response to AD35, is the child receiving a monthly subsidy, was reported as “yes.”</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 877 – 912</u> This element is set to “yes” if any of the following values are selected: “minority heritage 2 over,” “Caucasian 9 over,” “sibling group placed together,” life experience abuse,” “life experience custody” or “other.” There is not an option on the screen of “other.” If it is “not applicable,” any other value, or missing data the element is set to “no.”</p> <p>There are a couple issues with the way this element is selected in the program code. There are conditions on the screen that are not checked. Also, the question is has the agency determined that has special needs [for the purpose of an adoption agreement for services or subsidy]. There are fields on the Eligibility/Subsidy Determination screen “Subsidy Type,” “Eligibility Determination” and “Approval Status.” The field “Eligibility Determination” indicates if the child is eligible or not (i.e., Yes - AA IV-E Eligible). This information combined with the approval status would be better indicators for this element. Also, on the screen “Case Overview /Placement/Finalization/Case Closure,” once completed has a section for Adoption Information and the child’s subsidy determination is displayed here as well.</p>	
<p>10. Primary Factor or Condition for Special Needs</p> <p>0=Not applicable 1=Racial/Ethnic Background 2=Age 3=Membership in a Sibling Group 4=Medical conditions or Mental, Physical or Emotional Disabilities 5=Other</p>	<p><u>Screen:</u> Case Overview /Placement/Finalization/Case Closure</p> <p>In addition to the screens used to determine a child’s eligibility (see notes for AD9) this screen is completed when an adoption is finalized and the case is being closed. There is a section “Finalization Checklist.” In this section is a question “Adoption Assistance Agreement Signed?” - yes/no, as well as a drop down list for “primary factor for special needs determination.” This list is similar to the criteria on the Special Needs Criteria screen but not exact. There are options on that screen that are not listed here. The options are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Caucasian, age 9 or over; > Child has medically diagnosed disability which substantially limits major life activities, requires profession treatment, and assistance in self-care; > Child is part of sibling group of 2 or more placed together in one family, at the same time for the purpose of adoption; > Child is diagnosed to be mentally retarded by a qualified professional; > Child is diagnosed with a behavior/emotional disorder characterized by inappropriate behavior or interferes with functioning; > Child is of minority heritage, age 2 or over; > Child’s life experiences includes neglect, physical abuse, and/or sexual abuse which rise to the level of severe abuse; > Child’s life experiences includes three or more years in TN DCS state custody; > Child meets definition of deferred subsidy; > Moderate to severe medical, physical, or psychological condition diagnosed by a licensed physician, psychologist, or 	2

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>licensed mental health professional and requires treatment; > Not applicable.</p> <p>There is no connection between this screen and the eligibility screen described in AD9. It is possible that a primary basis criterion could be selected that was not one of the criteria used to determine eligibility. The State transferred its system from Ohio. Staff may want to review the findings for the Ohio AAR regarding its method for linking these screens.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=416): Not applicable = 243 (58%); Race/Original Background = 0; Age = 0; Sibling group = 173 (42%); Medical, etc. = 0; Other = 0; Not reported = 0</p> <p><u>Case File Review Findings</u> 16 (57%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. The primary basis appears to be: > Race - 2 > Age - 4 > Sibling group - 1 > Medical, etc. - 5. > Other - 2. There are two cases that may have been "other." The reviewer did not note any additional information and the children were white males under the age of 7.</p> <p>In the cases marked correct, 10 of the records were "sibling group" and one was correctly reported as "not applicable."</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 877 – 912</u> The program code selects this information from the "primary basis" field on the case closure screen. The State's mapping is as follows: > "Minority heritage 2 over" is set to "racial/ethnic background." > "Caucasian 9 over" is set to "age." > "Sibling group placed together" is set to "membership in a sibling group." > "Severe condition diagnosed" is set to "medical conditions or mental, physical or emotional disabilities." > "Life experience abuse," "life experience custody," or "other" is set to "other." There is not an option "other" on the screen. > "Not applicable" or any other value is set to "not applicable." Only the option on the screen of "not applicable" should be mapped to the AFCARS value for "not applicable."</p> <p>The options "child has a medically diagnosed condition which substantially limits one or more major life activities, requires professional treatment, and assistance in self-care," "child is diagnosed to be mentally retarded by a qualified professional," "child is diagnosed with a behavior/emotional disorder characterized by inappropriate behavior or interferes with functioning,"</p>	

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Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	and “child meets definition for a deferred subsidy” are not included in the mapping for this element or are all incorrectly mapped to “not applicable.” The diagnosed conditions are to be mapped to the value “4” and the deferred option is to be mapped to “other.”	
Elements #11 – 15 0=Does not Apply 1=Yes, applies	<p><u>Frequency Report</u> There are no records reported with a diagnosed condition. On one hand, this is consistent with what was reported in element #10. On the other hand, it is most unlikely.</p> <p>The characteristic codes used for adoption elements #11 – 15 are the same as those for foster care. The method of identifying and reporting them is done differently from the foster care extraction. The adoption code is a straightforward extraction.</p> <p>The program code only reports adoption elements #11 through 15 if the primary basis in element #10 is “4” (medical conditions).</p>	
11. Type of Disability-Mental Retardation	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 674 – 686</u> If the clinically diagnosed code is “yes” and the associated characteristic code is any of the following, mental retardation is set to “condition applies,” otherwise it is set to “does not apply”.</p>	2
12. Type of Disability-Visually or Hearing Impaired	<p><u>Case File Review Findings</u> 1 (3%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 687 - 698</u> If the clinically diagnosed code is “yes” and the associated characteristic code is any of the following, visually and hearing impaired is set to “condition applies,” otherwise it is set to “does not apply.”</p>	2
13. Type of Disability-Physically Disabled	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 699 - 712</u> If the clinically diagnosed code is “yes” and the associated characteristic code is any of the following, physically disabled is set to “condition applies,” otherwise it is set to “does not apply.”</p>	2
14. Type of Disability-Emotionally Disturbed	<p><u>Case File Review Findings</u> 3 (11%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 713 - 815</u> If the clinically diagnosed code is “yes” and the associated characteristic code is any of the following, emotionally disturbed is set to “condition applies,” otherwise it is set to “does not apply.”</p>	2
15. Type of Disability-Other Medically Diagnosed Condition Requiring Special Care	<p><u>Case File Review Findings</u> 4 (14%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 816 - 870</u></p>	2

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Adoption Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	If the clinically diagnosed code is “yes” and the associated characteristic code is any of the following, mental retardation is set to “condition applies,” otherwise it is set to “does not apply.”	
16. Mother’s Year of Birth	<p><u>Screen:</u> Person Profile/Basic Tab</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=416): There are 291 records reported as blank.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 22 (79%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In all of the error records the reviewers were able to find a year of birth. The AFCARS field was reported as blank.</p> <p><u>Program Code:</u> LNs 1268 – 1285 The mother’s year of birth is extracted from the person screen for the parent associated with the adopted child.</p>	3
17. Father’s Year of Birth	<p><u>Screen:</u> Person Profile/Basic Tab</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=416): There are 127 records reported as blank.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 6 (21%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In six error cases, the AFCARS field was blank but the reviewers found a year of birth for the father. Note that in 20 of the cases found correct, a year of birth was reported for the father. Only two were cases of an unknown father.</p> <p><u>Program Code:</u> LNs 1268 – 1285 The father’s year of birth is extracted from the person screen for the parent associated with the adopted child.</p>	3
18. Was the Mother married at the time of the child's birth? 1=Yes 2=No 3=Unable to determine	<p><u>Screen:</u> Person Profile/Additional Tab There is a field for miscellaneous information. It includes whether the child’s mother was married at the time of the child’s birth.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=416): Yes = 89 (21%); No = 187 (45%); Unable to determine = 140 (34%); Not reported = 0</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 5 (18%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In one error case, the response should have been “yes” instead of “unable to determine.” In one error case, the response should have been “no” instead of “unable to determine.” In three error cases, the response in AFCARS was “unable to determine.” The reviewer did not indicate the</p>	2

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Adoption Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p>cases were Safe Haven and in each they were able to find a year of birth.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1769 – 1775</u> This information is extracted from the person record associated with the child and the field on the miscellaneous screen. It is mapped as “yes” to “1” (yes), “no” to “2” (not) and anything else is “3” (unable to determine). Modify the program code to map missing information to blank.</p>	
19. Date of Mother’s Termination of Parental Rights	<p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 5 (18%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. There were several errors where the date reported to AFCARS was later than the one the reviewers found.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 922 – 1134</u> See notes for foster care element #47.</p>	2
20. Date of Father’s Termination of Parental Rights	<p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 5 (18%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. There were several errors where the date reported to AFCARS was later than the one the reviewers found.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 922 – 1134</u> See notes for foster care element #48.</p>	2
21. Date Adoption Legalized	<p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 1 (3%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In the error case the reviewer found that the adoption was finalized a month earlier than what was reported to AFCARS.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1613 – 1638 and 1785</u> The date the adoption was legalized is set equal to the discharge date on the child’s placement episode record where the discharge reason is “Adoption,” the “is adoption case” flag is “1,” and the date falls within the reporting period.</p>	4
22. Adoptive Parents’ Family Structure	<p><u>Screen: Resource/Provider/Basic and Person Profile/Basic Tab</u></p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report (n=416):</i> Married Couple = 329 (79%); Unmarried Couple = 2 (.48%); Single Female = 59 (14%); Single Male = 12 (3%); Not reported = 14 (3%)</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 1 (3%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In the error case the reviewer found the marital status was “married couple” instead of “single female.”</p>	2

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Adoption Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 1855 – 1891</u> See notes for foster care element #49. Separated is incorrectly mapped to single. Unable to determine is incorrectly included as in foster family structure. If nothing is entered, then this element is reported as blank.</p>	
23. Adoptive Mother's Year of Birth	<p><u>Screen:</u> Resource/Provider/Basic and Person Profile/Basic Tab</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1893 – 1907</u> The adoptive mother's year of birth is taken from her person record.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> There were 26 records reported as blank.</p>	3
24. Adoptive Father's Year of Birth	<p><u>Screen:</u> Resource/Provider/Basic and Person Profile/Basic Tab</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> There were 73 records reported as blank.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 2 (7%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1893 – 1907</u> The adoptive father's year of birth is taken from his person record.</p>	3
25. Adoptive Mother's Race a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine	<p><u>Screen:</u> Resource/Provider/Basic and Person Profile/Basic Tab</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> There were no records reported as blank. There were 12 records reported as "single male" in AD22. Additionally, there were 14 records reported as blank in AD22.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 1 (3%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In the error case, the race fields should have been blank because the child was adopted by a single male.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1893 – 1907</u> The adoptive mother's race is taken from her person record and mapped the same as foster care element #8 and adoption element #7.</p> <p>The program is not checking the ancestry field and mapping applicable ethnicities to the appropriate race category if one is selected.</p>	2

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Adoption Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
	The program code does not set this element to blank if the child is adopted by a single male.	
26. Adoptive Mother's Hispanic Origin 0=Not Applicable 1=Yes 2=No 3=Unable to determine	<p><u>Screen:</u> Resource/Provider/Basic and Person Profile/Basic Tab</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report (n= 416):</i> Not Applicable = 26 (6%); Yes = 1 (.24%); No = 384 (92%); Unable to determine = 5 (1%); Not reported = 0</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1893 – 1907</u> The adoptive mother's Hispanic origin is taken from her person record and mapped the same as foster care element #9 adoption element #8.</p> <p>The program code does not check the marital status reported in AD22. All records, including those with missing information, is incorrectly reported as "not applicable." The program code is to map this element to "not applicable" if the child is adopted by a single male. Missing data are to be reported as blanks.</p> <p>The program code is not checking the ancestry field and mapping applicable Hispanic/Latino ethnicities to this element. Modify the program code to check the ancestry field for any ethnicities that may have been selected and map this element to "yes" even if the value in the Hispanic field is "no."</p>	2
27. Adoptive Father's Race a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine	<p><u>Screen:</u> Resource/Provider/Basic and Person Profile/Basic Tab</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> There were no records reported as blank. There were 59 records reported as "single female" in AD22. Additionally, there were 14 records reported as blank in AD22.</p> <p><u>Case File Review Findings</u> 2 (7%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In one error case, the reviewer found race information. "White" should have been reported as "yes" instead of "no." In one error case, the race fields should have been blank because the child was adopted by a single female.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1893 – 1907</u> The adoptive father's race is taken from his person record and mapped the same as foster care element 8.</p> <p>The program is not checking the ancestry field and mapping applicable ethnicities to the appropriate race category if one is selected.</p> <p>The program code does not set this element to blank if the child is adopted by a single male.</p>	2

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Adoption Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
<p>28. Adoptive Father's Hispanic Origin</p> <p>0=Not Applicable 1=Yes 2=No 3=Unable to determine</p>	<p><u>Screen:</u> Resource/Provider/Basic and Person Profile/Basic Tab</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report (n= 416):</i> Not Applicable = 73 (18%); Yes = 0; No = 340 (82%); Unable to determine = 3 (1%); Not reported = 0</p> <p><u>Case File Review Findings</u> 1 (3%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In one error case, the reviewer found ethnicity information. The response should have been "no" instead of "not applicable."</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1893 – 1907</u> The adoptive father's Hispanic origin is taken from his person record and mapped the same as in FC9.</p> <p>The program code does not check the marital status reported in AD22. All records, including those with missing information, is incorrectly reported as "not applicable." The program code is to map this element to "not applicable" if the child is adopted by a single female. Missing data are to be reported as blanks.</p> <p>The program code is not checking the ancestry field and mapping applicable Hispanic/Latino ethnicities to this element. Modify the program code to check the ancestry field for any ethnicities that may have been selected and map this element to "yes" even if the value in the Hispanic field is "no."</p>	2
Elements #29 –32	<p><u>Screen:</u> Case/Case Overview/Case Information/Relationship Tab This field is not a multi-select field.</p>	
<p>29. Relationship to Adoptive Parent - Stepparent</p> <p>0=Does not apply 1=Yes, Applies</p>	<p><u>Frequency Report (n=416):</u> Does not apply = 416; Applies = 0</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1471 – 1472:</u> If the placement setting relationship code is "STEPPARENT" element #29 is "applies." Otherwise it is "does not apply."</p>	4
<p>30. Relationship to Adoptive Parent - Other Relative</p> <p>0=Does not apply 1=Yes, Applies</p>	<p><u>Frequency Report (n=416):</u> Does not apply = 360; Applies = 56</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1473 – 1474:</u> If the placement setting relationship code is "relative" or "legal parent" element #30 is "applies." Otherwise, this element is set to "does not apply."</p> <p>Need clarification regarding the use of legal parent.</p>	2
31. Relationship to Adoptive	<p><u>Frequency Report (n=416):</u> Does not apply = 56; Applies = 360</p>	2

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Adoption Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
Parent -Foster Parent 0=Does not apply 1=Yes, Applies	<u>Program Code: LNs 1475 – 1485</u> When the placement setting relationship is “friend,” “church member,” “godparent,” “minister,” “neighbor,” “teacher,” “resource parent,” or “resource co-parent” element #31 is “applies.” Otherwise it is “does not apply.” Clarify why the program code is checking for values “friend,” “church member,” “godparent,” “minister,” “neighbor,” “teacher.” Unless these individuals are foster parents they should not be mapped to this element. This element is to reflect only if the child was adopted by a foster parent. Identify whether the child was adopted by a non-relative in AD32.	
32. Relationship to Adoptive Parent -Other Non-relative 0=Does not apply 1=Yes, Applies	<u>Frequency Report (n=416):</u> Does not apply = 56; Applies = 360 <u>Program Code: LNs 1470 – 1488:</u> When the placement setting relationship is “friend,” “church member,” “godparent,” “minister,” “neighbor,” “teacher,” “resource parent,” or “resource co-parent” element #31 is “applies.” Otherwise it is “does not apply.” Clarify why the values “resource parent,” or “resource co-parent” are used for this element. If these reflect foster parents, then the value is only applicable to AD31.	2
33. Child was placed from 1=Within State or Tribal Service Area 2=Another State or Tribal Service Area 3=Another Country	<u>Program Code: LNs 1136 – 1166</u> The program code determines where the child was placed from by reading the court information and ruling records related to the adoption where the ruling court order type is “ADOPTIONFINALIZED.” If the court type is international, element #33 is set to “another country.” Otherwise, if the State associated with the adoption is anything other than “TN” it is set to “another State or Tribal service area.” Everything else is mapped to “within State or Tribal service area.”	4
34. Child was placed by 1=Public agency 2=Private agency 3=Tribal Agency 4=Independent person 5=Birth parent	<u>Program Code: LNs 1168 – 1190</u> The program code looks for the public agency flag on the agency record associated with the adoption case and if it is a “1,” the program code sets the value of element #34 to “public agency.” The value is initialized to “2” (private agency) so if the public agency flag with a “1” is not found “private agency” will be reported. There is no logic to map to “Tribal Agency,” “independent person” or “birth parent” The program code bypasses this logic if element #33 is set to “another country.” The system does not have the capacity for the entry of information on private agency adoptions. Once the system has been modified, the program code for this element will need to be re-evaluated and possibly re-written.	2
35. Is the Child Receiving a Monthly Subsidy? 1=Yes	<u>Program Code: LNs 1361 – 1440</u> The program code finds that the child is receiving a monthly subsidy if the amount calculated for monthly amount is greater than zero. The field is initialized to “no.” So if “yes” is not set based on the amount, the value will remain “no.”	2

AFCARS Assessment Review Findings: Adoption Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Findings/Notes	Rating Factor
2=No	The program code is incorrectly setting this element for those adoptions in which the only subsidy is Medicaid.	
36. Monthly Amount	<p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 5 (18%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1361 – 1440</u> The monthly amount is obtained from the child’s most recent payment request record with an approved adoption subsidy record with subsidy type of “AA” (adoption assistance) or “non-recurring AA” with an associated adoption eligibility type “yes AA IVE eligible” or “yes AA state eligible.” When found, the monthly amount is set to the paid amount of the payment request record. If no paid amount meeting these criteria is found the field is left as zero.</p> <p>The program code is to be modified to only check for a subsidy amount and not the amount of a non-recurring payment.</p>	2
37. Is the Child receiving a title IV-E adoption subsidy? 1=Yes 2=No	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 1361 – 1440</u> If the child has an approved adoption subsidy record with subsidy type of “AA” (adoption assistance) or “NONRECURRINGAA” and an associated adoption eligibility record of eligibility type “yesaaiveeligible” active within the reporting period then element #37 is set to “yes.” Otherwise it is set to “no.”</p> <p>This element is not to include the non-recurring payment.</p>	2

Section 3

Case File Review

Case File Summary Report State: Tennessee

Background

The purpose of the case file review is to assess the accuracy of the data reported to AFCARS by comparing what was reported to what is found in the child's paper file. A sample of 80 foster care records and 30 adoption records is selected from the most recent AFCARS report period prior to the onsite review. The AFCARS data submitted to the Children's Bureau for each record is then compared to information found in the paper case file. The process involved all members of the State and Federal teams, technical and program. Additionally, the State incorporated field staff, including supervisors and staff from training units, etc., as part of the State team for the purpose of reviewing cases.

For States that have converted from an older information system (or a paper recordkeeping method) to a new electronic case file, the case file review process identifies any issues with the accuracy of the data due to conversion. The information that is submitted to AFCARS should reflect what is in the paper case records. The case file review is the only means for the Federal team to assess the accuracy and the level of completeness of the State's conversion process from a paper or legacy system to its new information system.

The Children's Bureau recognizes for those States that chose to implement a statewide case management system (both SACWIS and non-SACWIS models) there will be far less data in the paper file since the electronic case management system is the official record. However, there are some documents that may not be part of the State's information system, such as medical reports, court reports, home studies, etc. These documents usually provide a significant amount of the information for the case file reviewers. Additionally, this process identifies issues related to timely data entry as well as how well the system is being used to record information on each case.

The Children's Bureau has found that while there may be challenges to identifying the information in the paper file, the process provides very valuable information to the review teams. The findings often provide additional information that increases the Federal team's understanding of the data reported to AFCARS. Also, this process allows the review team to assess how well records are being kept up-to-date, the accuracy of the AFCARS data, and usage of the State's information system. Typically, this process does not identify new problems, but confirms findings from the other components of the AAR.

Since the case file review is the only means to assess conversion, the cases selected for the review were primarily those in which the most recent removal date, or the first removal date, precedes the date the State's system went operational. If the State phased in its operational status, then the sample may reflect these dates.

Summary

This summary report provides information on the number of cases selected in the sample, the number of cases reviewed, and any relevant general information regarding the analysis of the results. The matrices that follow provide detailed findings. There are six columns in the matrices, they are:

**Case File Summary Report
State: Tennessee**

- AFCARS Element - This is the name of each AFCARS element with the corresponding values.
- Data in AFCARS Matches Paper File - The number of records in which the reviewer found that the data submitted to AFCARS matched what was found in the paper file.
- Data in AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File - The number of records in which the reviewer found that the data submitted to AFCARS did not match what was found in the paper file.
- Questionable - The number of records where either the reviewer was not sure whether the data were the correct or based on final analysis there was some type of inconsistency between what was reported and what was noted by the reviewer. Comments are provided in the comment column for these situations.
- Not Found - Indicates that the reviewer was not able to locate the information pertaining to the element in the paper file. This can either be due to a missing file or sections of the file, or the data are now only recorded in the information system and there are no paper documents with the data. This is not considered a negative finding.
- Comments - This column includes findings regarding the errors that were identified in the column “Data in AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File” as well as any other pertinent information pertaining to the element and the findings.

Foster Care

Number of Cases in Sample	80
Number of Cases Reviewed	64
Number of Cases Analyzed	63

One record was removed from analysis because it appears the child’s only placement in the removal episode, and as of the end of the report period, was a hospital setting.

There was one record that the reviewer indicated the child’s first removal episode had only one placement, detention. The AFCARS data included this episode and incorrectly reflected the child had two removal episodes instead of one.

There were several elements that had errors in cases where the goal was adoption or living arrangement was either pre-adoptive home or a trial home visit. This raises the question if the system delinks the case or if the program code does not check the records for these circumstances.

Element 5: Date of the Periodic Review

There were several errors associated with this element. In two cases, the date reported for this element was prior to the current removal date. This is a data inconsistency. Dates reported for this element are to be reflective of the current removal episode and not a previous episode. Also, there were cases that a periodic review was completed in a timely manner, but the AFCARS field was blank; the child had been in foster care for at least six months. In other cases, the reviewer found a later date than the one reported to AFCARS. In general, these appear to have been the

Case File Summary Report
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permanency hearing. The child had been in foster care for a year or more and the date reported to AFCARS often was a year old (based on the end of the report period reviewed).

Element 10 - 15: Child's Diagnosed Conditions

There were several records (41) reported as “not yet determined” but the child had been in care for more than 30 days. There were several records where the child had been in foster care for a year or more (14 records). Breakdown of length of time in care for records reported as “not yet determined”:

- 2 through 5 months = 6 cases;
- 6 through 11 months = 5 cases;
- 1 year or more = 14 cases.

Elements 16 and 17: Previous Adoption Information

There were six cases, three known to be in error and three questionable cases, where the information reported for these elements reflects the outcome of the current removal episode and not that of an adoption that occurred prior to the current removal episode. The three that are marked as questionable are most likely error cases but this could not be confirmed because the reviewer did not provide enough information. In two of the questionable cases, the child had not yet been discharged but the current goal was adoption and the placement was a pre-adoptive home. The age reported to AFCARS reflects the child's current age.

It also seems that the reviewers believed that the discharge of adoption from the current removal was to be recorded for these elements.

Elements 18 through 21: Removal Information

There were several errors for these elements. There were errors related to a child's initial placement of either a hospital or a locked facility; a child removed from a custodial parent and placed with a non-custodial parent; prior removal episode(s) not included in the AFCARS data; and, cases where the child had previously been in the State's foster care system and then was adopted but re-entered foster care and the prior episodes were not included.

Elements 23 and 24: Date of Placement and Number of Placements

There were 12 error cases for the date of the current placement setting. In the majority of these cases, an earlier date should have been reported to AFCARS. The errors were either due to a change in the status of the setting (and not a change in placements) or the child returned to the same setting from which he/she either ran away from or had returned from a trial home visit. In a couple of the cases the date reported to AFCARS may have been actually dates of discharge from the AFCARS reporting population.

There were several errors that appear to be an over-count of the number of placement settings. In some of these cases, the error was related to the incorrect reporting of records where the initial

**Case File Summary Report
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placement was a hospital or a locked facility. This lowered the number of placements the child actually had for AFCARS reporting. In two error cases, the child had more placements than what was reported to AFCARS. In one, it appears the initial emergency placement may not have been entered into the system or included in the program logic for counting placements.

Also, based on the reviewer's notes, dates of placements, etc., there were a couple cases where it appears the number of placements included those from a prior removal episode.

Elements 49 - 55: Foster Family Information

In 10 error cases, the AFCARS response was "not applicable." In each case, the response in FC41 was a foster home setting. In addition to the errors noted, this element was reported as blank instead of "not applicable" for placement settings institution, group home, trial home visit, and runaway (total of 24 cases).

In one correct case, this element indicated NA in AFCARS even though element 41 indicated a foster home. The child was not actually placed in a foster home (FC41 was incorrect.)

There were 20 error cases that the AFCARS fields indicated "no" for each race. The response in FC41 indicated the child was in a foster home setting. In one error case, this element was blank and the information reported in FC 41 was "trial home visit." The reviewer found that the child was actually placed with a relative.

In three error cases, the fields for FC54 should have been blank instead of indicating "no." The child was placed with a single foster parent.

In one error case for FC54, the race should have been reported as "white" instead of "unable to determine."

In eight error cases, the AFCARS response for FC55 was "not applicable" and the response in FC41 was a foster home setting ("pre-adoptive home" and non-relative foster home). In one error case for FC55, the response should have been "no" instead of "unable to determine."

FC55 was blank instead of "not applicable" for placement settings institution, group home, trial home visit, and runaway for 24 cases.

Adoption

Number of Cases in Sample	30
Number of Cases Reviewed	28
Number of Cases in Analyzed	28

The most significant issue identified with the adoption cases related to whether the agency had determined a child eligible for special needs assistance (AD9). The records were all reported as "no" but the response to AD35, is the child receiving a monthly subsidy, was reported as "yes."

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For records reported correctly that the agency had determined the child was special needs, the primary basis in all of the cases was “sibling group.” In cases that the reviewer found the child was eligible for adoption assistance, the primary basis appears to be:

- > Race - 2
- > Age - 4
- > Sibling group - 1
- > Medical, etc. - 5.
- > Other - 2.

There are two that may have been “other.” The reviewer did not note any additional information and the children were white males under the age of 7.

AFCARS Assessment Review Case File Findings: Foster Care Elements

State: Tennessee

Report Period Reviewed: April 1, 2012 - September 30, 2012

Data Element	Data In AFCARS Matches Case File	Data In AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File	Not Found	Questionable	Notes
5. Date of Most Recent Periodic Review (if applicable)	44	19	0	0	<p>In two error cases, the date reported to AFCARS was from the prior removal episode. In one case, the child had only been in foster care four months. In the other, less than a month.</p> <p>In six error cases, the reviewer found a date but the AFCARS field was blank. The child had been in foster care between six months and a year, and in one case the child had been in foster care for almost two years. (The AFCARS file indicates the child's case plan goal is Live with other relatives, placement is THV, and a discharge reason of reunification.)</p> <p>In seven error cases, the reviewer found a date later than the one reported in AFCARS. In one case the review date was 10 months later than the one reported to AFCARS. In two cases, a permanency hearing should have been reported. Note also that the goal is adoption (2 cases). (In two cases, the child is living in a pre-adoptive home, was adopted during the report period, but the date of the review reported to AFCARS occurred in the summer of the previous year, a year earlier.)</p> <p>In two error cases the date found by the reviewer was earlier than the one reported to AFCARS. In one, the date was a month earlier and in the other was two weeks earlier.</p> <p>In two error case the date reported to AFCARS did not reflect a periodic review. The field should have been blank.</p>

AFCARS Assessment Review Case File Findings: Foster Care Elements

State: Tennessee

Report Period Reviewed: April 1, 2012 - September 30, 2012

Data Element	Data In AFCARS Matches Case File	Data In AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File	Not Found	Questionable	Notes
6. Date of Birth	63	0	0	0	
7. Sex 1 = Male 2 = Female	63	0	0	0	
8. Child's Race 0=No 1=Yes a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine	61	5	0	0	In three error case, "black or African American" should have been reported instead of "unable to determine." In one error case, the response should have been "white" instead of "unable to determine." In one error case, the reviewer noted the child was bi-racial but did not include the second race category.
9. Child's Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine	62	1	0	0	In one error case, the response should have been "no" instead of "unable to determine."
10. Has the Child Been Clinically Diagnosed with a Disability(ies)? 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Not Yet Determined	17	46	0	0	There were 41 error cases where the response was "not yet determined." In 24 cases, the response should have been "yes." In one case, the child had multiple health conditions (4 out of 5 categories) In 17 cases, the response should have been "no." In five error cases, the response should have been "yes" instead of "no."

Number of cases in sample: 80
Number of cases reviewed: 64
Number of cases analyzed: 63

AFCARS Assessment Review Case File Findings: Foster Care Elements

State: Tennessee

Report Period Reviewed: April 1, 2012 - September 30, 2012

Data Element	Data In AFCARS Matches Case File	Data In AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File	Not Found	Questionable	Notes
11. Mental Retardation 0 = Condition Does Not Apply 1 = Condition Applies	60	3	0	0	The responses should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
12. Visually or Hearing Impaired 0 = Condition Does Not Apply 1 = Condition Applies	61	2	0	0	The responses should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
13. Physically Disabled (Child) 0 = Condition Does Not Apply 1 = Condition Applies	62	1	0	0	The responses should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
14. Emotionally Disturbed (DSM-IV)	38	25	0	0	The responses should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
15. Other Medically Diagnosed Conditions Requiring Special Care 0 = Condition Does Not Apply 1 = Condition Applies	57	6	0	0	The responses should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
16. Has this Child Ever Been Adopted? 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine	53	7	0	3	In four error case, the response should have been “no” instead of “unable to determine.” In three error cases, the response should have been “no” instead of “yes.” In one of these cases the reviewer confirmed that the child had never been adopted prior to the current removal episode. The child was adopted during the current report period. The age category reported reflects the age of the child at the time of the current adoption. Questionable cases: In one, the child’s current episode

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					outcome was an adoption and the age reported to AFCARS for the child is the current (as of the adoption) age of the child. In two other the child had not yet been discharged but the current goal was adoption and the placement was a pre-adoptive home. The age reported to AFCARS reflects the child's current age.
17. If Yes, How Old was the Child when Adoption was Legalized? 0 = Not Applicable 1=less than 2 years old 2=2-5 years old 3=6 to 12 years old 4=13 years or older 5 = Unable to Determine	53	7	0	3	In four error cases, the response should have been "not applicable" instead of "unable to determine." In three error cases, the response should have been "no" instead of "yes." In one case, the reviewer confirmed the child had never been adopted prior to the current removal episode. The outcome of the current removal is adoption. The age category reported reflects the age of the child at the time of the current adoption. Questionable cases: In one, the child's current episode outcome was an adoption and the age reported to AFCARS for the child is the current (as of the adoption) age of the child. In the other two cases, the child had not yet been discharged but the current goal was adoption and the placement was a pre-adoptive home. The age reported to AFCARS reflects the child's current age.
18. Date of First Removal from Home	52	10	0	1	The date reported in one record reflected an earlier episode in which the only placement was a locked facility. The date reported for this element should have been the current removal episode. In two error cases, the child's initial placement was a hospital.

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					<p>In two error cases, the child's initial placement was a detention.</p> <p>In two error case, the child had been previously adopted from State's foster care system but the date reported for FC was the current removal episode.</p> <p>In one error case, the date the child was actually removed from her home was two days earlier.</p> <p>In one error case the date reported to AFCARS reflects the date the child was placed with a non-custodial parent. The actual date of first removal should have reflected the date the child was removed from this parent and placed in a foster care setting.</p> <p>In one error case the reviewer found that the child had been previously placed in foster care but this information was not included in the AFCARS report.</p> <p>Questionable case: The AFCARS date, and the reviewer's notes, indicate the child had been previously adopted. If this is the case, the date reported for FC18 is incorrect because it reflects the current removal episode and not the first removal from home.</p>
19. Total Number of Removals from Home To Date	57	5	0	1	<p>There were three cases incorrectly reported as having two instead of one removal episodes. In one, the first episode only included a placement in a locked facility.</p> <p>In two error case, the child had been adopted from State's foster care system but the State only reported one removal episode.</p>

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					Questionable case: The AFCARS date, and the reviewer's notes, indicate the child had been previously adopted. If this is the case, the date reported for FC18 is incorrect because it reflects the current removal episode and not the first removal from home.
20. Date Child was Discharged from Last Foster Care Episode	58	4	0	1	<p>There was one error reflecting a date when the element should have been blank. The child's first removal episode was a placement in detention and the child was not placed in foster care.</p> <p>In two error cases, the child had been adopted from State's foster care system but this element was blank instead of the date of the discharge from the prior removal episode.</p> <p>This element was blank and the child's record reflected a prior removal episode.</p> <p>Questionable case: The AFCARS date, and the reviewer's notes, indicate the child had been previously adopted. If this is the case, the date reported for FC18 is incorrect because it reflects the current removal episode and not the first removal from home.</p>
21. Date of Latest Removal from Home	54	9	0	0	<p>In one error case, the date the child was actually removed from her home was two days earlier.</p> <p>In one error case, the date the child was actually removed from her home was a day earlier.</p> <p>In three error cases, the child's initial placement was a detention facility.</p>

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Data Element	Data In AFCARS Matches Case File	Data In AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File	Not Found	Questionable	Notes
					<p>In two error cases, the child's initial placement was a hospital.</p> <p>In one error case the date reported to AFCARS reflects the date the child was placed with a non-custodial parent. The actual date of first removal should have reflected the date the child was removed from this parent and placed in a foster care setting.</p> <p>In one error case the child was found to have two removal episodes instead of one. The date reported in this element was the same date reported for FC18. Also, in the second episode the child's was initially in a locked facility.</p>
23. Date of Placement in Current Foster Care Setting	50	12	0	1	<p>In one error record, the child's placement was "trial home visit with services" and it appears that when the in-home services stopped, the date of placement changed.</p> <p>In four error cases, the reviewers found an earlier date for the placement than what was reported to AFCARS. In one case, the date reported to AFCARS was one day later than the removal date, but the number of placements reported was three. It appears the child was placed on a THV with the grandmother from whom he was removed and this date should have been reported. In another case, the date the child was actually removed from her home was a day earlier. In one case the child had run away from foster care and then was placed with his non-custodial parent once he was found. The date reported reflected the date the child was placed with the non-custodial parent. This</p>

AFCARS Assessment Review Case File Findings: Foster Care Elements

State: Tennessee

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Data Element	Data In AFCARS Matches Case File	Data In AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File	Not Found	Questionable	Notes
					<p>should be the discharge date and the date the child ran away reported for FC23. In the last case, the response should have been an earlier date than the one reported to AFCARS. The child had been placed with the grandparents while in foster care but the date reported reflects the date the child was discharged to the grandparent's custody.</p> <p>In five additional error cases where the reviewers found an earlier placement date, the issue was related to changes in the status of the setting. Also note that in one of the cases, the placement count reported to AFCARS was one, which was correct. In another case, the child returned to the same foster home after a trial home visit. The date should have been the initial date the child was placed in the foster home.</p> <p>In one error case, the child appears to have only one placement based on the reviewer's notes. The date reported for this element may have been a change in the status of the home.</p> <p>In one case the date reported is also the child's 18th birthday, and the child is not eligible for title IV-E, the reviewer did not find a placement that reflected this date.</p> <p>In the questionable case, the AFCARS and the reviewer's notes indicate the child had only one placement. However, the date reported for this element was six months later than the removal date. This may be an example of the child returning to the same placement after a runaway or some other temporary</p>

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AFCARS Assessment Review Case File Findings: Foster Care Elements

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Data Element	Data In AFCARS Matches Case File	Data In AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File	Not Found	Questionable	Notes
					absence.
24. Number of Previous Placement Settings During this Removal Episode	43	16	2	2	<p>In 14 error cases, there were fewer placement than what was reported to AFCARS. In three of the error cases, the child's initial placement in a locked facility was included in the placement count. In another the initial placement was a hospital. In one case, the child had been in two different detention facilities prior to being placed in a foster care setting.</p> <p>In two error cases, the child had more placements than what was reported to AFCARS. In one, it appears the initial emergency placement may not have been entered into the system.</p> <p>One case was marked questionable because the reviewer did not indicate the dates of the other placements. It appears that the child may have had two fewer placements than what was reported to AFCARS.</p> <p>One record was marked questionable because the AFCARS file indicated three placements but the reviewer did not write any information after the first placement in the removal episode.</p>
25. Manner of Removal from Home for Current Removal Episode 1 = Voluntary 2 = Court Ordered 3 = Not Yet Determined	63	0	0	0	
26. Physical Abuse (alleged/reported)	62	1	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."

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27. Sexual Abuse (alleged/reported)	62	1	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
28. Neglect (alleged/reported)	55	8	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
29. Alcohol Abuse (parent)	61	2	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
30. Drug Abuse (parent)	59	4	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
31. Alcohol Abuse (child)	62	1	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
32. Drug Abuse (child)	59	4	0	0	The 3 response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply." One was an infant exposed to drugs in utero. In one error case, the response should have been "does not apply" instead of "applies."
33. Child's Disability	62	1	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
34. Child's Behavior Problem	60	3	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
35. Death of Parent(s)	62	1	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
36. Incarceration of Parent(s)	62	1	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
37. Caretaker's Inability to Cope Due to Illness or Other Reason	57	6	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
38. Abandonment	61	2	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
39. Relinquishment	62	1	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of

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					"does not apply."
40. Inadequate Housing	62	1	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
41. Current Placement Setting 1 = Pre-Adoptive Home 2 = Foster Family Home (Relative) 3 = Foster Family Home (Non-Relative) 4 = Group Home 5 = Institution 6 = Supervised Independent Living 7 = Runaway 8 = Trial Home Visit	51	12	0	0	<p>In one error case, the response should have been "foster family home (relative)" instead of "trial home visit."</p> <p>In one error case, the response should have been "trial home visit" instead of "group home." Child placed with grandma.</p> <p>In two error cases, the response should have been "foster family home (relative)" instead of "foster family home (non-relative)."</p> <p>In two error cases, the living arrangement should have been "pre-adoptive home" instead of "foster home-non-relative."</p> <p>In one error case, the response should have either been group home or institution instead of foster home.</p> <p>In four error cases, the response should have been "group home" instead of "institution."</p> <p>In one error case, the response should have been "runaway" instead of "trial home visit." The child had run away from foster care and then was placed with his non-custodial parent once he was found.</p>
42. Is Current Placement Setting Outside of the State or Tribal Service Area?	63	0	0	0	

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Data Element	Data In AFCARS Matches Case File	Data In AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File	Not Found	Questionable	Notes
1 = yes 2 = no					
43. Most Recent Case Plan Goal 1 = Reunify with Parent(s) or Principal caretaker(s) 2 = Live with Other Relative(s) 3 = Adoption 4 = Long-term Foster Care 5 = Emancipation 6 = Guardianship 7 = Case Plan Goal Not Yet Established	47	16	0	0	<p>In seven error cases, the goal should have been "reunification" instead of "adoption." Adoption was the concurrent goal.</p> <p>In seven error cases, the goal should have been "reunification" instead of "live with other relatives." In two cases, the reviewer noted that the concurrent goal was live with relatives. In one case, the reviewer noted the concurrent goal was adoption.</p> <p>In one error case, the goal should have been "live with other relative" instead of "adoption." Adoption was the concurrent goal.</p> <p>In one error case, the goal should have been "adoption" instead of "live with other relatives."</p> <p>In one error case the child had been in foster care for five months (as of the end of the report period) and the response in AFCARS was incorrectly reported as "not yet established." The reviewer confirmed a goal had been established, live with relatives.</p>
44. Caretaker Family Structure 1 = Married Couple 2 = Unmarried Couple 3 = Single Female 4 = Single Male 5 = Unable to Determine	52	11	0	0	<p>In one error record the response should have been "married couple" instead of "unmarried couple."</p> <p>There were 10 errors where the response in AFCARS was "unable to determine" but the reviewers found a marital status. Three should have been "single female," one "single male," three "married couple," and three "unmarried couple."</p>
45. Year of Birth (1 st Principal	53	10	0	0	In seven error cases, the AFCARS field was blank

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Caretaker)					<p>(FC44 was unable to determine) and the reviewer found a birth year.</p> <p>In one error case, the reviewer found that the caretaker family structure was “unmarried couple” instead of “unable to determine.” This field was blank.</p> <p>In two error cases, the year reported was incorrect.</p>
46. Year of Birth (2 nd Principal Caretaker - if applicable)	55	8	0	0	<p>In four error cases, the AFCARS field was blank (FC44 was unable to determine) and the reviewer found a birth year.</p> <p>In one error case, the reviewer found that the caretaker family structure was “unmarried couple” instead of “unable to determine.” This field was blank.</p> <p>In two error cases, a year was reported and the field should have been blank. The child was removed from a single female.</p> <p>In one error case, the wrong year was reported.</p>
47. Date of Mother's Parental Rights Termination (if applicable)	57	5	0	1	<p>In one case, the mother’s deceased date was not reported. The date reported was the same date as the TPR date for the father.</p> <p>In one error case the AFCARS field was blank, but the mother was deceased.</p> <p>In two error cases, the field was blank but the reviewer found a TPR date.</p> <p>In one error case, the reviewer found an earlier date</p>

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Data Element	Data In AFCARS Matches Case File	Data In AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File	Not Found	Questionable	Notes
					than the one reported to AFCARS (relinquishment date). In the questionable case, the AFCARS field was blank and the reviewer wrote that the mother surrendered her rights.
48. Date of Legal or Putative Father's Parental Rights Termination (if applicable)	58	4	0	1	In one error case the AFCARS field was blank, but the father was deceased. In two error cases, the field was blank but the reviewer found a TPR date. In one error case, the reviewer found an earlier date than the one reported to AFCARS (relinquishment date).
49. Foster Family Structure 0=Not Applicable 1 = Married Couple 2 = Unmarried Couple 3 = Single Female 4 = Single Male	26	35	2	0	In 24 error cases, this element was reported as blank instead of "not applicable" for placement settings institution, group home, trial home visit, and runaway. In one of the marked error cases, the response reported for FC41 was THV and this element was blank. However, the reviewer noted the child's placement was a relative foster home not a trial home visit. In 10 error cases, the AFCARS response was "not applicable." In seven of the cases, the response in FC41 was a non-relative foster home. In one, the response in FC41 was a "pre-adoptive home. In another case, the response was non-relative foster home but it should have been a pre-adoptive home. In one case, the child was actually placed with a relative and not a non-relative as reported (single male). In one correct case, this element indicated NA in

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					AFCARS even though element 41 indicated a foster home. The child was not actually placed in a foster home (FC41 was incorrect.)
50. Year of Birth (1 st Foster Caretaker)	50	11	2	0	<p>In one error case, this element was blank, (FC 41 was reported as THV) but the reviewer found that the child was placed with a relative.</p> <p>In seven error cases, the AFCARS response was blank but the response in FC41 was a "non-relative foster home."</p> <p>In one error case the field was blank but the child was placed with a single male relative.</p> <p>In one error case, the AFCARS response was blank but the response in FC41 was "pre-adoptive home."</p> <p>In one error case, the AFCARS response was blank but the response in FC41 was "non-relative foster home" and the foster parent marital status was married couple.</p>
51. Year of Birth (2 nd Foster Caretaker)	53	7	2	1	<p>One record listed as questionable because this element was blank, (FC 41 was reported as THV) but the reviewer found that the child was placed with a relative.</p> <p>In the error cases, the AFCARS response was blank but the response in FC41 was a foster home setting and in two, the reviewer found the foster parent marital status was "married couple."</p>
52. Race of 1 st Foster Caretaker a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian	48	13	2	0	In one error case, this element was blank, (FC 41 was incorrectly reported as THV) but the reviewer found that the child was placed with a relative.

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c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine					<p>In one error case, the AFCARS fields indicated “no” but the child was placed with a single male relative.</p> <p>In one error case, the AFCARS fields indicated “no” but the child was placed with a single foster parent.</p> <p>In eight error cases, the AFCARS responses were “no” but the response in FC41 was a non-relative foster home.</p> <p>In one error case, the AFCARS response was “no” but the response in FC41 was “pre-adoptive home.”</p> <p>In one error case, the reviewer found an additional race that should have been indicated as “yes” (American Indian).</p> <p>In one correct case, this element indicated “no” for the race fields in AFCARS even though element 41 indicated a foster home. The child was not in a foster home (FC41 was incorrect.)</p>
53. Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity of 1 st Foster Caretaker 0 = Not Applicable 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine	25	34	3	1	<p>In 24 error cases, this element was reported as blank instead of “not applicable” for placement settings institution, group home, trial home visit, and runaway.</p> <p>In eight error cases, the AFCARS response was “not applicable” and the response in FC41 was a foster home setting (“pre-adoptive home” and non-relative foster home).</p> <p>In one error case, the response should have been “no” instead of “unable to determine.”</p>

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					<p>In one error case, this element was blank, (FC 41 was reported as THV) but the reviewer found that the child was placed with a relative.</p> <p>In one correct case, this element indicated NA in AFCARS even though element 41 indicated a foster home. The child was not in a foster home (FC41 was incorrect.)</p> <p>In the questionable case, the AFCARS report indicated "unable to determine" but the reviewer did not note if the foster parent had declined to provide the information.</p>
<p>54. Race of 2nd Foster Caretaker (if applicable)</p> <p>a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine</p>	48	13	1	1	<p>In nine error cases, the response to each race was "no" and the child was reported to be living in a foster home setting.</p> <p>In three error cases, the fields should have been blank instead of indicating "no." The child was placed with a single foster parent.</p> <p>In one error case, the race should have been reported as "white" instead of "unable to determine."</p> <p>One record listed as questionable because this element was blank, (FC 41 was reported as THV) but the reviewer found that the child was placed with a relative.</p>
<p>55. Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity of 2nd Foster Caretaker (if applicable)</p> <p>0 = Not Applicable 1 = Yes 2 = No</p>	30	29	2	2	<p>In 24 error cases, this element was reported as blank instead of "not applicable" for placement settings institution, group home, trial home visit, and runaway. In four error cases, the AFCARS response was "not applicable" and the response in FC41 was a foster home setting.</p>

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3 = Unable to Determine					<p>One records listed as questionable because this element was blank (FC 41 was reported as THV) but the reviewer found that the child was placed with a relative.</p> <p>In one questionable case, the AFCARS report indicated "unable to determine" but the reviewer did not note if the foster parent had declined to provide the information.</p> <p>In one correct case, this element indicated NA in AFCARS even though element 41 indicated a foster home. The child was not in a foster home (FC41 was incorrect.)</p> <p>In one correct case, this element indicated NA in AFCARS and the child was placed with a single male relative.</p>
56. Date of Discharge from Foster Care	57	6	0	0	<p>There were three error cases in which the youth turned 18 and is not IV-E eligible but the record was reported as blank instead of the child's 18th birthday.</p> <p>In one error case the court order date of the adoption was a month later than what was reported. Also, it occurred in the next report period.</p> <p>In one error case the response should have been an earlier date than the one reported to AFCARS. The child had run away from foster care and then was placed with his non-custodial parent once he was found.</p> <p>In one error case, the child was discharged to the custody of his grandparents.</p>
58. Reason for Discharge	23	40	0	0	There were 34 records reported as blank instead of "not

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0 = Not Applicable 1 = Reunification with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s) 2 = Living with Other Relative(s) 3 = Adoption 4 = Emancipation 5 = Guardianship 6 = Transfer to Another Agency 7 = Runaway 8 = Death of Child					applicable." The child was still in foster care. In one error case, the response in AFCARS was "reunification" but the reviewer found that the child was discharged to the custody of a relative. In three error cases the child was not eligible for title IV-E and turned 18 during the report period. The response should have been "emancipation." In one error case the court order date of the adoption was a month later and in the next report period. In one error case, the response should have been "live with relatives" instead of blank.
Source(s) of Federal Financial Support/assistance for Child 0-Does not apply 1-Applies 59. Title IV-E (Foster Care)	56	2	5	0	In the error cases, the response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
60. Title IV-E (Adoption Assistance)	53	5	5	0	In the error cases, the response should have been "does not apply" instead of "applies."
61. Title IV-A	58	0	5	0	
62. Title IV-D (Child Support)	58	0	5	0	
63. Title XIX (Medicaid)	58	0	5	0	
64. SSI or Other Social Security Benefits	58	0	5	0	
65. None of the Above	58	0	5	0	

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Data Element	Data In AFCARS Matches Case File	Data In AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File	Not Found	Questionable	Notes
66. Amount of Monthly Foster Care Payment	14	1	48	0	

AFCARS Assessment Review Case File Findings: Adoption Elements
State: Tennessee
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Data Element	Data In AFCARS Matches Case File	Data In AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File	Not Found	Questionable	Notes
5. Child's Date of Birth	27	1	0	0	The year found by the reviewer was a year earlier.
6. Sex 1=Male 2=Female	28	0	0	0	
7. Child's Race 0=No 1=Yes a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine	26	2	0	0	In the error cases, the reviewer found the child was bi-racial and "black or African American" should have been reported.
8. Child's Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity 1=Yes 2=No 3=Unable to determine	26	0	0	2	The cases marked as questionable were due to the AFCARS data indicating "unable to determine" but there was no indication that the parents had refused to provide the race information.
9. Has the title IV-E agency determined that the child has special needs? 1=Yes 2=No	12	16	0	0	The errors all were reported as "no" but the response should have been "yes." In all cases, the response in AD35 (is child receiving a monthly subsidy) was "yes."
10. Primary Factor or Condition for Special Needs	12	16	0	0	The primary basis appears to be: > Race - 2

AFCARS Assessment Review Case File Findings: Adoption Elements

State: Tennessee

Report Period Under Review: April 1, 2012 - September 30, 2012

Data Element	Data In AFCARS Matches Case File	Data In AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File	Not Found	Questionable	Notes
0=Not applicable 1=Racial/Ethnic Background 2=Age 3=Membership in a Sibling Group 4=Medical conditions or Mental, Physical or Emotional Disabilities 5=Other					> Age - 4 > Sibling group - 1 > Medical, etc. - 5. > Other - 2. There are two that may have been "other." The reviewer did not note any additional information and the children were white males under the age of 7. In the cases marked correct, 10 of the records were "sibling group" and one was correctly reported as "not applicable."
11. Type of Disability-Mental Retardation	28	0	0	0	
12. Type of Disability-Visually or Hearing Impaired	27	1	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
13. Type of Disability-Physically Disabled	28	0	0	0	
14. Type of Disability-Emotionally Disturbed	25	3	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
15. Type of Disability-Other Medically Diagnosed Condition Requiring Special Care	24	4	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
16. Mother's Year of Birth	6	22	0	0	In all of the error records the reviewers were able to find a year of birth. The AFCARS field was reported as blank.
17. Father's Year of Birth	22	6	0	0	In six error cases, the AFCARS field was blank but the reviewers found a year of birth for the father. Note that in 20 of the cases found correct, a year of birth was reported for the father. Only two were cases of an unknown father.
18. Was the Mother married at the	23	5	0	0	In one error case, the response should have been

AFCARS Assessment Review Case File Findings: Adoption Elements

State: Tennessee

Report Period Under Review: April 1, 2012 - September 30, 2012

Data Element	Data In AFCARS Matches Case File	Data In AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File	Not Found	Questionable	Notes
time of the child's birth? 1=Yes 2=No 3-Unable to determine					"yes" instead of "unable to determine." In one error case, the response should have been "no" instead of "unable to determine." In three error cases, the response in AFCARS was "unable to determine." The reviewer did not indicate the cases were Safe Haven and in each they were able to find a year of birth.
19. Date of Mother's Termination of Parental Rights	23	5	0	0	In one error case, the reviewer found the TPR date was seven months earlier. In one error case, the reviewer found the TPR date was three weeks earlier. In two error case, the reviewer found the TPR date was two weeks earlier. In one error case, the reviewer found multiple TPR dates. The one reported to AFCARS was an earlier date and not the latest.
20. Date of Father's Termination of Parental Rights	23	5	0	0	In one error case, the reviewer found that the TPR date was a month earlier. The date reported was the same date as the mother's TPR date. In one error case, the reviewer found the TPR date was six weeks earlier. In two error case, the reviewer found the TPR date was two weeks earlier. In one error case, the reviewer found multiple TPR dates. The one reported to AFCARS was an earlier

AFCARS Assessment Review Case File Findings: Adoption Elements
State: Tennessee
Report Period Under Review: April 1, 2012 - September 30, 2012

Data Element	Data In AFCARS Matches Case File	Data In AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File	Not Found	Questionable	Notes
					date and not the latest.
21. Date Adoption Legalized	27	1	0	0	In the error case the reviewer found that the adoption was finalized a month earlier than what was reported to AFCARS.
22. Adoptive Parents' Family Structure 1=Married couple 2=Unmarried couple 3=Single female 4=Single male	25	1	0	0	In the error case the reviewer found the marital status was "married couple" instead of "single female."
23. Adoptive Mother's Year of Birth	28	0	0	0	
24. Adoptive Father's Year of Birth	26	2	0	0	In one error case the wrong year was entered/reported. In the other error case, the reviewer found a year of birth and the AFCARS field was blank.
25. Adoptive Mother's Race a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine	27	1	0	0	In the error case, the race fields should have been blank because the child was adopted by a single male.
26. Adoptive Mother's Hispanic Origin 0=Not Applicable 1=Yes	28	0	0	0	

AFCARS Assessment Review Case File Findings: Adoption Elements
State: Tennessee
Report Period Under Review: April 1, 2012 - September 30, 2012

Data Element	Data In AFCARS Matches Case File	Data In AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File	Not Found	Questionable	Notes
2=No 3=Unable to determine					
27. Adoptive Father's Race a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine	26	2	0	0	In one error case, the reviewer found race information. "White" should have been reported as "yes" instead of "no." In one error case, the race fields should have been blank because the child was adopted by a single female.
28. Adoptive Father's Hispanic Origin 0=Not Applicable 1=Yes 2=No 3=Unable to determine	27	1	0	0	In one error case, the reviewer found ethnicity information. The response should have been "no" instead of "not applicable."
29. Relationship to Adoptive Parent-Stepparent 0=Does not apply 1=Yes, Applies	28	0	0	0	
30. Relationship to Adoptive Parent - Other Relative 0=Does not apply 1=Yes, Applies	28	0	0	0	
31. Relationship to Adoptive Parent - Foster Parent 0=Does not apply	28	0	0	0	

AFCARS Assessment Review Case File Findings: Adoption Elements
State: Tennessee
Report Period Under Review: April 1, 2012 - September 30, 2012

Data Element	Data In AFCARS Matches Case File	Data In AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File	Not Found	Questionable	Notes
1=Yes, Applies					
32. Relationship to Adoptive Parent - Other Non-relative 0=Does not apply 1=Yes, Applies	28	0	0	0	
33. Child was placed from 1=Within State or Tribal Service Area 2=Another State or Tribal Service Area 3=Another Country	28	0	0	0	
34. Child was placed by 1=Public agency 2=Private agency 3=Tribal Agency 4=Independent person 5=Birth parent	28	0	0	0	
35. Is the Child Receiving a Monthly Subsidy? 1=Yes 2=No	28	0	0	0	
36. Monthly Amount	23	5	0	0	
37. Is the Child receiving a title IV-E adoption subsidy? 1=Yes 2=No	28	0	0	0	

Tab B

AFCARS Improvement Plan

Section 1: General Requirements

Section 2: Foster Care and Adoption Elements

IMPROVEMENT PLAN INSTRUCTIONS

The Improvement Plan is the working document for recording progress on each task by the State, comments, and the Children's Bureau's response. It is to reflect the history of the improvement plan phase with all related notes, approvals, questions, etc. An electronic copy of the document will be e-mailed to the State once it has received the hard copy of the report.

The State is to provide its initial estimated completion dates for each task within 30 days of receiving the report. The document is then to be emailed to the Federal review team.

In the foster care and adoption data element matrices, the data elements have been organized by rating factors, with data elements receiving a "1" listed first. Elements that received a "4" are not included on the corrective action workplans. However, the State should review the findings document (see Tab A). The data element may contain notes that the State may want to consider in order to more efficiently collect the AFCARS data. Additionally, elements that are related are grouped together in one row, since a change in one element will result in a change to the related elements. In the case where both a system problem (factor #2) and a possible worker entry problem (factor #3) exist, the lower rating factor will be given to the data element. If the system error is corrected, but the worker entry problem still exists, the element will be re-evaluated and given a "3" by the Federal Regional Office. In order for the element to be determined to be in compliance, it must meet the criteria in factor #4.

Each task is numbered. Dates and any comments are to be numbered according to the corresponding task. If a date changes, do not delete it. Instead, use the strike-through function and type in the new date.

The Improvement Plan contains five columns:

Element/Requirement: This column lists every AFCARS adoption and foster care data element, and general requirement with a rating factor of a 1, 2, or 3.

Rating Factor: This is the final rating factor based on the findings for the data element/general requirements.

Findings: This column includes the findings that need corrections.

Tasks: This column includes the actions that must be taken in order to bring the data element/general requirement into compliance with the AFCARS requirements. Some task items may include suggestions for changes and are, therefore, optional items for the State to consider implementing. Each task is numbered.

Estimated/Completed Date: This column is to be used by the State to list the dates by which it intends to complete each action item, and is updated by the State to reflect the actual completion date. The corresponding task number should be included with the date. The State should use "strikethrough" of the old dates when updating information. Once ACF has reviewed changes made by the State, it will list the approval date in this column.

Notes: This column may be used either by the State or the Federal staff to record follow-up notes, etc. This column may also contain follow-up questions of the Federal review team based on post-site visit analysis. The corresponding task number should be included with the note.

Sample

Data Element	Rating Factor	Findings	Tasks	Estimated & Completion Date	Notes
#, element	2	1) Finding	1) Task	1) m/day/yr	1) <u>CB, m/yr</u> : This is a blank example. <u>ST, m/yr</u> : The State made the modifications to the program code at line/section number.

Section 1

General Requirements

AFCARS Assessment Review Improvement Plan: General Requirements
State: Tennessee

No.	Requirement	Rating Factor	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
Foster Care Reporting Population						
1	<p>For the purpose of foster care reporting, each data transmission must include all children in foster care for whom the title IV-E agency has responsibility for placement, care, or supervision. (45 CFR 1355.40(a)(2)).</p> <p>The [foster care] population to be included in this reporting system includes all children in foster care under the responsibility of the title IV-E agency administering or supervising the administration of the title IV-B Child and Family Services State plan and the title IV-E plan; that is, all children who are required to be provided the assurances of section 422(b)(8) of the Social Security Act. (Appendix A to Part 1355--Foster Care Data Elements, Section II--Definitions).</p>	2	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) The selection logic incorrectly includes records of children whose only placement is a hospital setting.</p> <p>During the postsite period, the State corrected the program code to include records of children who are on runaway at the time the agency obtains responsibility for placement and care of the child.</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) Modify the selection logic to exclude records where the only placement in the episode is a hospital setting.</p>		
5	<p>The reporting system includes all children who have or had been in foster care at least 24 hours. (Appendix A to Part 1355--Foster Care Data Elements, Section II—Definitions).</p>	2	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 200 - 203</u> The selection logic only excludes episodes that begin and end on the same day.</p>	<p>Modify the system with a method that allows a caseworker to identify if the removal episode was 24 hours or less. Options include adding time fields or a checkbox.</p>		

AFCARS Assessment Review Improvement Plan: General Requirements
State: Tennessee

No.	Requirement	Rating Factor	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
6	<p>Foster care does not include children who are in their own homes under the responsibility of the title IV-E agency. (Appendix A to Part 1355-- Foster Care Data Elements, Section II—Definitions).</p> <p>A removal is either the physical act of a child being taken from his or her normal place of residence, by court order or a voluntary placement agreement and placed in a substitute care setting, or the removal of custody from the parent or relative guardian pursuant to a court order or voluntary placement agreement which permits the child to remain in a substitute care setting. (CWPM, 1.2B.3 Question #4).</p>	3	Caseworkers are incorrectly entering the location of the child as “trial home visit” in instances in which the child remains in their own home and the family is receiving services.	The “service type” list on the placement screen includes the options “in-home” and “trial home visit.” Supervisors need to ensure that caseworkers are entering the correct living arrangement.		
7	<p>[The foster care population] includes youth over the age of 18 if a payment is being made on behalf of the child (CWPM, 1.3).</p> <p>A title IV-E agency that exercises the option to extend assistance to youth age 18 or older must collect and report data to AFCARS</p>	2	The State exercised the option to extend assistance to youth age 18 or older. The State is to collect and report data to AFCARS on all youth receiving a title IV-E foster care maintenance payment. The effective date of the plan amendment is October 1, 2010.	<p>1) Modify the extraction code with logic that will correctly identify records of youth that meet the title IV-E requirements prior to 2011A (October 1, 2010).</p> <p>1a) Prior to 10/1/10 (up through 9/30/2010) the data should only include 18 year olds that receive title IV-E.</p>		

AFCARS Assessment Review Improvement Plan: General Requirements
State: Tennessee

No.	Requirement	Rating Factor	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
	on all youth receiving a title IV-E foster care maintenance payment. (ACYF-CB-PI-10-11, Issued July 9, 2010).			<p>1b) FC56 and 58 address the discharge of youth who are 18 were not receiving title IV-E funds. The selection logic is not to include these youth for report periods prior to 2011A.</p> <p>1c) FC56 and 58 address the discharge of youth who are 18 and were receiving title IV-E funds and how to report the records as discharged when the child is no longer eligible for title IV-E.</p> <p>2) Report periods on or after October 1, 2010 (11A) are to include youth over the age of 18 through age 21 if they are receiving title IV-E foster care maintenance funds.</p> <p>2a) See foster care elements 56 and 58 for reporting these youth's discharge information.</p>		
Adoption Population						
11	For the purposes of adoption reporting, data are required to be transmitted by the title IV-E agency ... on all adopted children for whom the agency is providing adoption assistance (either ongoing or for nonrecurring expenses), care or services directly or by contract or agreement with other private	3	The State has not been entering private agency adoptions into TFACTS. Modifications are needed to address specific data elements.	The State may need to reassess the selection logic once modifications are made to the data element components to ensure the program code will select the private agency adoptions.		

AFCARS Assessment Review Improvement Plan: General Requirements
State: Tennessee

No.	Requirement	Rating Factor	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
	<p>or public agencies. (45 CFR 1355.40(a)(3)).</p> <p>The title IV-E agency must report on all children who are adopted in the State or Tribal service area during the reporting period and in whose adoption the title IV-E agency has had any involvement. ...reports on the following are mandated:</p> <p>(b) All special needs children who were adopted in the State or Tribal service area, whether or not they were in the public foster care system prior to their adoption and for whom non-recurring expenses were reimbursed; and</p> <p>(c) All children adopted for whom an adoption assistance payment or service is being provided based on arrangements made by or through the title IV-E agency. (Appendix B to Part 1355--Adoption Data Elements, Section I).</p>					
Technical Standards						
13	The data must be extracted from the data system as of the last day of the reporting period (45 CFR 1355.40(b)(1)):	3	<p><u>For subsequent files</u> There are data fields that do not have a date associated with them, e.g., the child's health characteristics do not have start and end dates. If the data</p>	<p>See foster care elements for related technical corrections.</p> <p>See GR21 for related data quality tasks.</p>		

AFCARS Assessment Review Improvement Plan: General Requirements
State: Tennessee

No.	Requirement	Rating Factor	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
	<p><u>For foster care information [subsequent files]</u>, the child-specific data to be transmitted must reflect the data in the information system when the data are extracted. (45 CFR 1355.40(b)(2)).</p> <p>Report the status of all children in foster care as of the last day of the reporting period. (AFCARS Technical Bulletin #6, Data Extraction)</p>		<p>file is resubmitted, then current data not information for the prior report period will be reported.</p>			
14	<p>The data must be extracted from the data system as of the last day of the reporting period. (45 CFR 1355.40(b)(1)):</p> <p><u>Adoption data</u> are to be reported during the reporting period in which the adoption is legalized or, at the title IV-E agency's option, in the following reporting period if the adoption is legalized within the last 60 days of the reporting period. For a semi-annual period in which no adoptions have been legalized, the title IV-E agency must report such an occurrence.(45 CFR 1355.40(b)(3)).</p>	2	<p><u>Program Code:</u> The program code appears to only report records with an adoption finalization date that occurs in the report period being extracted. If an adoption date is entered after the end of the report period (i.e., the adoption occurred on March 15th but was not entered into the system until April 15th), this adoption record would never be reported.</p>	<p>Develop a method to identify records which have not been included in the AFCARS report.</p>		

AFCARS Assessment Review Improvement Plan: General Requirements
State: Tennessee

No.	Requirement	Rating Factor	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
15	The title IV-E agency extracts all records based on the transaction date of discharge (foster care element #57) or the date of latest removal (foster care element #21), if the child has not been discharged. (ACYF-PI-CB-95-09, Reissued May 23, 1995 and Technical Bulletin #6, AFCARS Data Extraction)	2	<u>Program Code:</u> The program code does not select based on transaction dates.	Modify the program code to include the use of transaction dates in conjunction with the exclusionary items listed in TB #6.		
Data Quality						
21	<p>General Data Quality</p> <p>For data to be considered “quality” it must be accurate, complete, timely, and consistent in definition and usage across the entire IV-E agency and State/Tribal service area. The quality of the AFCARS data is assessed by the agency on a regular and continuous basis in order to sustain a high level of quality data. The agency incorporates AFCARS data into its quality assurance/continuous quality improvement plan. The agency involves staff from every level of the organization, and other stakeholders from outside of the agency.</p>	3	<p>There are a total of 50 (49%) data elements rated a two and 34 (33%) elements rated a three.</p> <p>As noted above in item 12, there are some elements that contain default settings in the extraction code.</p> <p>The State needs to increase its use of the frequency report, as well as other reports, as a monitoring tool to review accuracy, consistency, and quality data.</p> <p>There are several areas identified in the AAR that need additional training for staff and supervisory oversight for data entry.</p> <p>> Periodic Review: There were several records with an old review date.</p> <p>> Race/Ethnicity - ensure the information is self-reported and</p>	<p>1) Describe, develop, and implement a method to ensure the accurate and timely entry of the AFCARS data; including but not limited to supervisory oversight and management reports.</p> <p>1a) In the above plan, address how supervisors ensure accurate data entry.</p> <p>2) Describe how the agency will monitor the accuracy of AFCARS data, including completeness of the data and timely entry of the data, over time.</p> <p>3) Describe how the title IV-E agency utilizes management reports and the data in its analyses. Provide brief examples.</p> <p>4) Describe how the agency will</p>		

AFCARS Assessment Review Improvement Plan: General Requirements
State: Tennessee

No.	Requirement	Rating Factor	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
			<p>reflects all identified races.</p> <p>> Diagnosed conditions: The State needs to ensure that no diagnosed information is recorded in the text field without also being entered in the fields for diagnosed conditions. If the child receives an evaluation by the school or other entities this information is not sent to the Health Unit and consequently, it is never entered into the system. Develop a method to ensure this information is entered into TFACTS.</p> <p>> Relinquishment: This element is to be selected for infants entering foster care under Safe Haven. The State may want to make this a separate option on the screen.</p> <p>> Trial Home Visit: There were records where the child was removed from a parent, placed in foster care, and then placed with a relative. These were entered as a trial home visit. The State needs to provide better oversight on the entry of living arrangements and create a monthly (or more frequently) identifying records with a living arrangement of "trial home visit" and have supervisors verify its accuracy.</p> <p>> Termination of Parental Rights: Ensure consistent entry of these dates. For parents who surrender their rights, the date of the surrender is to be recorded and reported to AFCARS.</p>	<p>incorporate the information collected in AFCARS as part of its monitoring and quality assurance process in order to ensure accuracy of the data.</p> <p>5) Include system and importance of data quality training in the agency's training for staff and include in the State's training plan (in the State's title IV-B, Child and Family Services Plan and Annual Progress and Services Report).</p> <p>5a) What ongoing training exists for caseworkers regarding the information system?</p>		

AFCARS Assessment Review Improvement Plan: General Requirements
State: Tennessee

No.	Requirement	Rating Factor	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
			<p>> Use of unable to determine: The State should replace this language with more accurate and reflective reasons for why the information was not known. Supervisors should monitor the use of this value to ensure to determine if the worker actually did not gather the information.</p>			

Section 2

Foster Care and Adoption Elements

AFCARS Assessment Review Improvement Plan: Foster Care Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
5. Date of Most Recent Periodic Review (if applicable)	3	<p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> There are records with review dates between 2003 and 2010 (306 (3%)). There are 827 (7%) records with a review date in 2011. There are 3,076 (28%) records reported as blank.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 19 (30%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p>	<p>CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.</p> <p>The State needs to identify the records with the old review dates and determine if these are actually closed foster care cases that were never entered as discharges on the system, or if there is another contributing factor causing the old dates.</p>		
6. Date of Birth	3	<p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> There is one record indicating the child is 41, one indicating the child is 27, one is 24, five are 20, 130 are 19.</p>	<p>CB will continue to evaluate the data.</p> <p>Once corrections are completed to address the reporting population for youth 18 and older, the State will have to resubmit (at a minimum) the data for the FFYs 2011, 2012, and 2013 in order for the data to accurately reflect the program as of October 1, 2010.</p>		
8. Child's Race 0=No 1=Yes a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White	2	<p><u>Screen: Person Profile/ Demographics</u> Since the use of "unable to determine" in AFCARS has a specific definition, which includes "declined," the State should replace it with plain language that has each of the reasons race may not be known. This could be "parent incapacitated/child not age appropriate," "declined," and/or replace it with "Safe Haven" or other similar language.</p>	<p><u>Screen</u> 1) Verify if the system will allow the entry of a race and "unable to determine" (or options that will be added to replace the administrative value for "unable to determine").</p> <p>- See NYTD Question and Answers for how to map NYTD values to AFCARS values.</p>		

AFCARS Assessment Review Improvement Plan: Foster Care Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
f. Unable to Determine		<p>The National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD) administrative values are not listed on the screen. These include “declined” and a value to represent “unknown” (multi-racial, one race unknown).</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> A new common function was added that checks the ancestry field for a race; this was only partially completed. There is no ethnicity mapping for several of the ethnic groups that are also considered races for Federal reporting purposes.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Case File Review Findings:</i> 5 (8%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) Modify the program code to check the ancestry field for <i>any</i> race values that may have been selected and map the value to the appropriate race value in element #8.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.</p>		
<p>9. Child’s Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity</p> <p>1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine</p>	3	<p><u>Screen: Person Profile/ Demographics Tab</u> The NYTD value “declined” is not listed on the screen.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report (n=11,161):</i> Yes = 583 (5%); No = 9,950 (89%); Unable to determine = 514 (5%); Not reported = 114 (1%)</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings:</i> There was one record incorrectly entered/reported as “unable to determine.” The response should</p>	CB will continue to evaluate the data.		

AFCARS Assessment Review Improvement Plan: Foster Care Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
<p>10. Has the Child Been Clinically Diagnosed with a Disability(ies)?</p> <p>1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Not Yet Determined</p>		<p>have been “no.”</p> <p><u>Screen: Medical History/Health Services Tab</u> There are date fields, it is not clear what the dates are referencing - the start and end of a diagnosis (group of diagnoses) or the exam.</p> <p>The State may want to reconsider how these fields are labeled and move away from terminology such as “disability” or “special need.”</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> 1) This element’s response is derived from the results for FC11-15 and the logic is complicated.</p> <p>2) There is logic in the program code to set this element to “not yet determined” if the child has been in foster care for 30 days or less. However, this function does not seem to operate correctly.</p>	<p><u>Screen:</u> 1) Clarify what the date fields reflect.</p> <p>2) The State needs to provide a copy of a “completed” screen without the dropdown boxes.</p> <p>3) The State needs to add selection options on the screen that reflect if the child has been seen by a health care professional and has no diagnosed conditions.</p> <p>4) Add a selection that identifies that the child has not yet been seen by a health care professional.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> 1) Once modifications are made to the screen to better identify if a child has received a health assessment and does or does not have any health conditions, modify the program code accordingly.</p> <p>2) Check the logic for setting this element to “not yet determined” if the child has been in foster care for 30 days or less.</p> <p>2a) If the child has been in foster care for more than 30 days, and no information is entered into the</p>		

AFCARS Assessment Review Improvement Plan: Foster Care Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=11,161): Yes = 1,142 (10%); No = 1,410 (13%); Not yet determined = 8,609 (77%); Not reported = 0</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 46 (73%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p>	<p>system set this element to blank.</p>		
<p>11. Mental Retardation</p> <p>0 = Condition Does Not Apply 1 = Condition Applies</p>	<p>2</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) The State's program code includes the DSM number associated with a condition.</p> <p>2) There are DSM numbers listed in the mapping document for FC11 that are not included in the extraction code.</p> <p>3) The program code does not check for the start and end date of a diagnosis.</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) Provide a list with the DSM number and condition.</p> <p>2) Modify the program code to include all relevant conditions for this element.</p> <p>3) Once start and end dates are added for each diagnosed condition, the element needs to be extracted based on these dates and the report period being extracted. If a diagnosed condition has an end date in the report period being submitted, then it would be set to "does not apply."</p> <p>4) Once modifications are made to the screen to better identify if a child has received a health assessment and does or does not have any health conditions, modify</p>		

AFCARS Assessment Review Improvement Plan: Foster Care Elements
State: Tennessee

Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
			<p>the program code accordingly.</p> <p>5) Check the logic for setting this element to “does not apply” if the child has been in foster care for 30 days or less.</p> <p>5a) If the child has been in foster care for more than 30 days, and no information is entered into the system set this element to blank.</p>		
<p>12. Visually or Hearing Impaired</p> <p>0 = Condition Does Not Apply 1 = Condition Applies</p>	<p>2</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u></p> <p>1) There are ICD-9 codes listed in the mapping document for FC12 that are not included in the extraction code.</p> <p>2) The program code does not check for the start and end date of a diagnosis.</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u></p> <p>1) Provide a list with the ICD/DSM number and condition.</p> <p>1a) Modify the program code to include all relevant conditions for this element.</p> <p>2) Once start and end dates are added for each diagnosed condition, the element needs to be extracted based on these dates and the report period being extracted. If a diagnosed condition has an end date in the report period being submitted, then it would be set to “does not apply.”</p> <p>3) Once modifications are made to the screen to better identify if a child has received a health assessment and does or does not have any health conditions, modify the program code accordingly.</p>		

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			<p>4) Check the logic for setting this element to “does not apply” if the child has been in foster care for 30 days or less.</p> <p>4a) If the child has been in foster care for more than 30 days, and no information is entered into the system set this element to blank.</p>		
<p>13. Physically Disabled (Child)</p> <p>0 = Condition Does Not Apply 1 = Condition Applies</p>	2	<p><u>Program Code</u></p>	<p><u>Program Code</u></p> <p>1) Verify that all relevant conditions are included for this element.</p> <p>2) Once start and end dates are added for each diagnosed condition, the element needs to be extracted based on these dates and the report period being extracted. If a diagnosed condition has an end date in the report period being submitted, then it would be set to “does not apply.”</p> <p>3) Once modifications are made to the screen to better identify if a child has received a health assessment and does or does not have any health conditions, modify the program code accordingly.</p> <p>4) Check the logic for setting this element to “does not apply” if the child has been in foster care for 30 days or less.</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
			4a) If the child has been in foster care for more than 30 days, and no information is entered into the system set this element to blank.		
14. Emotionally Disturbed (DSM- IV)	2	<p><u>Program Code:</u> There are DSM codes in the extraction code that were not included in the data dictionary provided by the State.</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) Provide a list with the DSM number and condition.</p> <p>2) Modify the program code to include all relevant conditions for this element.</p> <p>3) Once start and end dates are added for each diagnosed condition, the element needs to be extracted based on these dates and the report period being extracted. If a diagnosed condition has an end date in the report period being submitted, then it would be set to “does not apply.”</p> <p>4) Once modifications are made to the screen to better identify if a child has received a health assessment and does or does not have any health conditions, modify the program code accordingly.</p> <p>5) Check the logic for setting this element to “does not apply” if the child has been in foster care for 30 days or less.</p> <p>5a) If the child has been in foster</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
			care for more than 30 days, and no information is entered into the system set this element to blank.		
<p>15. Other Medically Diagnosed Conditions Requiring Special Care</p> <p>0 = Condition Does Not Apply 1 = Condition Applies</p>	2	<p><u>Program Code</u></p> <p>1) The State's program code includes the DSM number associated with a condition.</p> <p>2) There are DSM numbers listed in the mapping document for FC15 that are not included in the extraction code.</p> <p>3) The program code does not check for the start and end date of a diagnosis.</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u></p> <p>1) Provide a list with the DSM number and condition.</p> <p>2) Modify the program code to include all relevant conditions for this element.</p> <p>3) Once start and end dates are added for each diagnosed condition, the element needs to be extracted based on these dates and the report period being extracted. If a diagnosed condition has an end date in the report period being submitted, then it would be set to "does not apply."</p> <p>4) Once modifications are made to the screen to better identify if a child has received a health assessment and does or does not have any health conditions, modify the program code accordingly.</p> <p>5) Check the logic for setting this element to "does not apply" if the child has been in foster care for 30 days or less.</p> <p>5a) If the child has been in foster</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
			care for more than 30 days, and no information is entered into the system set this element to blank.		
<p>16. Has this Child Ever Been Adopted?</p> <p>1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine</p>	2	<p><u>Screen/Program Code</u> <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The program code was modified to correct for reporting the current and not just the prior adoption. If the previously adopted flag is “yes” the new logic will check the adoption history table to verify that there was a prior adoption. If a prior adoption is not found, FC16 is set to “no.” Otherwise, it is set to the value found on the person record.</p> <p>This last statement suggests that the data entered into the system is incorrect. Instead of creating a workaround in the program code, the agency needs to ensure caseworkers are entering this information correctly in the first place.</p> <p>As noted previously, more descriptive terms should be used as the options for caseworkers to select. The State should replace “unable to determine” with Safe Haven, abandoned, and/or parent incapacitated.</p> <p>The system does not have the capacity to collect the information that must be reported under section</p>	<p><u>Screen/Program Code</u> 1) See GR21 regarding training. Caseworkers need to enter this information into the system for an adoption that occurred prior to the child entering foster care.</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<p>422(b)(12) of the Act. This section of the Act relates to inter-country adoptions and requires title IV-E agencies to identify the number of children who were adopted from other countries and entered into custody of the title IV-E agency, the reasons for the disruptions or dissolutions, the permanency plan for the children, and identify the agencies that handled the placement or adoption. Title IV-E/B agencies are currently required to provide this information in the Five-Year Child and Family Services plan, and annually in the Annual Progress and Services Report.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report (n=11,161):</i> Yes = 828 (7%); No = 9,444 (85%); Unable to determine = 516 (5%); Not reported = 373 (3%)</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 7 (12%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p>			
<p>17. If Yes, How Old was the Child when Adoption was Legalized?</p> <p>0 = Not Applicable 1=less than 2 years old 2=2-5 years old</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">2</p>	<p><u>Screen:</u> Person Profile/Additional Tab; Miscellaneous information: age of adoption 1) There are fields for both the date of the adoption decree and the age of the child at the time of the adoption. The two fields do not appear to be linked.</p>	<p><u>Screen</u> 1) It is possible the worker may enter the adoption decree date but does not enter the age of adoption?</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
3=6 to 12 years old 4=13 years or older 5 = Unable to Determine		<p>2) "Unable to determine" is listed on the drop-down list for "age adopted." It appears that if the caseworker does not know the child's age, but the child had been previously adopted, they are incorrectly entering "unable to determine."</p> <p><u>Postsite Program Code Changes:</u> The program was changed to set element #17 to blank if the child was previously adopted but no age is found.</p> <p>3) There is not an option for "not applicable."</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> The program code does not check the field for the date of the adoption decree.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=11,161): Not applicable = 9,444; Unable to determine = 583 (5%); Age categories = 482; Not reported = 373 (3%)</p>	<p>2) Modify the system to disable the option "unable to determine" if the child had been previously adopted. (This is an example of why the wording needs to be changed.)</p> <p>3) Consider adding an option "not applicable."</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> 1) A routine should be added to calculate the child's age of adoption from this field if the field for the age category is blank.</p>		
18. Date of First Removal from Home	2	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) The program code does not check if the initial placement in the first removal episode is a hospital.</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1a) Modify the program code to set this element to the date the child entered a foster home after being placed in a hospital.</p> <p>1b) Confirm/verify that the program code sets this element to the date the child entered a foster home</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<p>2) If a child was adopted from the agency's foster care system and subsequently re-enters foster care, the program code is only including removal episodes that occurred after the child's adoption.</p> <p>3) If the first-ever removal from home is an episode that was 24-hours or less in duration, the program code incorrectly includes it in this element (see GR #5).</p> <p>4) Effective October 1, 2010 the State's title IV-E plan defines a child up to the age of 21.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Case File Review Findings</i> 10 (16%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The initial selection logic no longer excludes runaways. If the child's first removal episode is one that began with a runaway at the time the agency obtained responsibility for</p>	<p>after being placed in a locked facility.</p> <p>1c) If in the first-ever removal the child's only placement was a hospital or a locked facility, this episode date is never to be selected as the first removal date.</p> <p>2) Modify the program code to extract the child's first ever entry into foster care.</p> <p>3) Modify the program code to never report an episode that is 24 hours or less if it was the first episode.</p> <p>4) For 18 plus year olds who re-enter foster care after October 1, 2010 who had been discharged prior to October 1, 2010, the program code is to report the youth's first removal episode date per all AFCARS requirements.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		placement and care, the date of the agency's custody will be reported for FC18.			
19. Total Number of Removals from Home To Date	2	<p><u>Program Code</u></p> <p>1) The program code is incorrectly counting removal episodes that are 24-hours or less in the number of removals.</p> <p>2) In instances where the child's only living arrangement is a hospital or detention (locked facility) at the time the title IV-B/IV-E agency obtains responsibility for placement and care, the program code incorrectly includes them in the number of removal episodes.</p> <p>3) Effective October 1, 2010 the State's title IV-E plan defines a child up to the age of 21.</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u></p> <p>1) Modify the program code to exclude all removal episodes marked as 24 hours or less.</p> <p>2) Modify the program code to exclude from the number of removals those that only have a placement setting of hospital or locked facility.</p> <p>3a) For 18 plus year olds who re-enter foster care after October 1, 2010 who had been discharged prior to October 1, 2010, modify the program code to ensure that the new removal is counted and increments the total count by one.</p> <p>3b) For youth who were reported as discharged to AFCARS because they turned 19, or title IV-E ended per the rules prior to approval of the amendment, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • who remained in foster care under the State program; and, • for whom the new program applies and the State claimed title IV-E funds - 		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Case File Review Findings</i> 5 (8%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. See notes in FC18 and the document Case File Findings.</p>	<p>make modifications to the program code accordingly to not increment the removal count and to show the youth in the same removal episode.</p> <p>3c) For 18 plus year olds who re-enter foster care on or after October 1, 2010 who had been discharged (no longer included in the AFCARS reporting population) prior to October 1, 2010, modify the program code to ensure that the new removal is counted and increments the total count by one.</p> <p>4) Resubmit data files from 2011A through when changes to the program code are implemented.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.</p>		
20. Date Child was Discharged from Last Foster Care Episode	2	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) If there was a prior removal episode that was 24-hours or less, and the child later re-enters foster care, the end date of the previous 24-hour episode is incorrectly reported for this element.</p> <p>2) If the child's prior removal episode only contained a placement that was a hospital or detention (locked) facility, the end date of this episode</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) Modify the program code - if the prior episode was one that only include a removal that was 24 hours or less, check for a discharge date prior to this one.</p> <p>2) Modify the program code - if the prior episode was one that only include a placement of a hospital or a locked facility, check for a discharge date prior to this one.</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<p>is incorrectly reported for this element.</p> <p>3) Effective October 1, 2010 the State's title IV-E plan defines a child up to the age of 21.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Case File Review Findings</i></p>	<p>3) For element #20 report the youth's prior discharge date.</p> <p>3a) For youth who were reported as discharged to AFCARS because they turned 19, or title IV-E ended per the rules prior to approval of the amendment, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • who remained in foster care under the State program and • for whom the new program applies and the State claimed title IV-E funds, <p>make modifications to the program code accordingly to show the youth in the same removal episode.</p> <p>3b) For 18 plus year olds who re-enter foster care on or after October 1, 2010 who had been discharged (or no longer included in the AFCARS reporting population) prior to October 1, 2010, modify the program code to ensure that the new removal is reported and this element reflects the discharge from the prior removal episode.</p> <p>4) Resubmit data files from 2011A through when changes to the program code are implemented.</p>		

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		4 (7%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. See notes in FC18 and the document Case File Findings.	<u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.		
21. Date of Latest Removal from Home	2	<p><u>Program Code</u></p> <p>1) The program code does not check if the initial placement in the removal episode is a hospital.</p> <p>2) Effective October 1, 2010 the State's title IV-E plan defines a child up to the age of 21.</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u></p> <p>1a) Modify the program code to set this element to the date the child entered a foster home after being placed in a hospital.</p> <p>1b) Confirm/verify that the program code sets this element to the date the child entered a foster home after being placed in a locked facility.</p> <p>2) For 18 plus year olds who re-enter foster care after October 1, 2010 who had been discharged prior to October 1, 2010, the program code is to report the youth's removal date that reflects either the court order or voluntary service/placement agreement date.</p> <p>2a) Modify the program code to correctly report 18 year youth under the old program. All submissions for 2010B and older must reflect the State's program of only claiming title IV-E funds for 18 year olds.</p> <p>2b) For 18 plus year olds who re-enter foster care after October 1,</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Case File Review Findings</i> 9 (14%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. See notes in FC18 and the document Case File Findings.</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The selection logic no longer excludes runaways. If the child's placement is runaway at the time the agency obtained responsibility for placement and care, the date of the agency's custody will be reported for this element.</p>	<p>2010 who had been discharged prior to October 1, 2010 (or no longer included in the AFCARS reporting population), the program code is to report the youth's removal date that reflects either the court order or voluntary service/placement agreement date.</p> <p>2c) For youth who were reported as discharged to AFCARS because they turned 19, or title IV-E ended per the rules prior to approval of the amendment, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • who remained in foster care under the State program and • for whom the new program applies and the State claimed title IV-E funds, <p>make modifications to the program code accordingly to show the youth in the same removal episode.</p> <p>3) Resubmit data files from 2011A through when changes to the program code are implemented.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.</p>		
General Information on Placement Information		<p><u>Screen:</u> Placement The AFCARS setting is a system generated field and is not completed</p>	The State needs to provide the complete mapping of placement settings that is used in the system		

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		<p>by the caseworker.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> The logic excludes hospital stays of less than 30 days.</p>	<p>to translate the options in the field “service type” to the AFCARS setting field. The table provided by the State “Ref-Value Placement Services” needs to include a column for the AFCARS value each of these is mapped to. It may also be necessary to include in that table all the fields used in the system to make the AFCARS determination for placement.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> The State and Federal team need to further explore whether 30 days is correct.</p>		
23. Date of Placement in Current Foster Care Setting	2	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 1718 – 1861</u></p> <p>1) The program code does not correctly set the date of placement for records of children on runaway status at the time the agency receives placement and care responsibility.</p> <p>2) There is no logic in the program code to address hospitalizations. The program code would correctly report the date of a non-acute care hospitalization (hospital stays 30 days or more) but would incorrectly include the date of an acute care length of stay.</p> <p>3) If runaway is entered as a placement the date will be reported</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u></p> <p>1) For children whose only “placement” is runaway as of the end of the report period, modify the program code to set the placement date as the same date the agency received custody of the child.</p> <p>2) Modify the program code to check the start and end date of a hospital stay. If the stay is 30 days or less, the date will not change.</p> <p>3) Modify the program code to check both sections of the system</p>		

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		<p>but if it is entered as a temporary break in placement, the date will not be reported.</p> <p>4) Dates are reported that are changes in the status of a setting. If the program code is only checking the date on the placement screen "placement begin date" then it should not be picking up a status change (since the setting is the same).</p> <p>5) When a child returns to the same foster home they were in prior to a trial home visit, the program code incorrectly reports the placement date as the date they went back to the foster home instead of the day that foster care setting started. <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The values for runaway, trial home visit, and supervised independent living were added to the selection criteria for placement date. It is not clear if the change will also address if the child returns to the setting he/she was in prior to a runaway or a trial home visit.</p> <p>6) <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> It appears that the program code was modified to address the number of placements for those moves between "cottages" on the same "campus." However, there is no</p>	<p>for the start date of a runaway.</p> <p>4) Make modifications to ensure that the date a change in the status of a placement is not reported.</p> <p>4a) Verify and correct if the caseworkers are changing the date in this field when a change in status occurs for the home/facility.</p> <p>5) Confirm the purpose of the changes made to the program code during the postsite phase. (If the child returns to the same setting, the placement date is to revert back to when that placement started.)</p> <p>6) Modify the program code to not change the placement date when a child moves from one cottage to another on the same campus.</p>		

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		<p>logic to address the date field.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> There is one record missing a date of placement.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 12 (19%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p>	<p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.</p>		
<p>24. Number of Previous Placement Settings During this Removal Episode</p>	<p>2</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) If a child's only "placement" in the removal episode is as a "runaway," the placement count must be zero.</p> <p>2) Because of the method used to record placements, the Federal team could not fully assess the State's methodology for counting placements. If this table is also used to determine the placement count than the Federal team will need to assess it for this element as well.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> There are 13 records with a placement count of zero.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 16 (27%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) Modify the program code to initialize this element to blank.</p> <p>1a) Modify the program code to set this element to zero for records that have the only setting as a "runaway."</p> <p>2) Federal team to further evaluate.</p> <p>3) The State needs to ensure this element is reported correctly once changes are made to excluding records from the population that only contained a placement of a hospital or a locked facility.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> It appears that the program code was modified to address the number of placements for those moves between "cottages" on the same "campus."			
<p>25. Manner of Removal from Home for Current Removal Episode</p> <p>1 = Voluntary 2 = Court Ordered 3 = Not Yet Determined</p>	2	<p>Effective October 1, 2010 the State's title IV-E plan defines a child up to the age of 21.</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u></p> <p>1) Ensure that the program code correctly extracts the manner of removal of 18 plus year olds who re-enter foster care.</p> <p>1a) Modify the program code to correctly report 18 year olds under the old program. All submissions for 2010B and older must reflect the State's program of only claiming title IV-E funds for 18 year olds.</p> <p>2) Ensure that the program code correctly extracts the manner of removal of 18 plus year olds who re-enter foster care.</p> <p>3) For youth who were reported as discharged to AFCARS because they turned 19, or title IV-E ended per the rules prior to approval of the amendment, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • who remained in foster care under the State program and • for whom the new program applies and the State claimed title IV-E funds, <p>make modifications to the program</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
			code accordingly to show the youth in the same removal episode. 4) Resubmit data files from 2011A through when changes to the program code are implemented.		
<p>Actions or Conditions Associated With Child's Removal</p> <p>0=Does not Apply 1=Applies</p> <p>#26 Physical Abuse #27 Sexual Abuse #28 Neglect #29 Parent Alcohol Abuse #30 Parent Drug Abuse #31 Child Alcohol Abuse #32 Child Drug Abuse #33 Child Disability #34 Child's Behavior Problem #35 Death of Parent #36 Incarceration of Parent #37 Caretaker Inability to Cope Due to Illness or Other Reasons #38 Abandonment #39 Relinquishment #40 Inadequate Housing</p>	2	<p>Effective October 1, 2010 the State's title IV-E plan defines a child up to the age of 21.</p> <p><u>Screen:</u> The State may want to consider adding conditions that reflect other reasons, or more detailed reasons, for why children are entering foster care. Also, the State may want to consider conditions that will reflect youth who left foster care at 18 and why they returned to foster care.</p>	<p><u>Screen</u> Ensure there are applicable reasons listed for youth who re-enter foster care after they turned 18.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> Modify the program to ensure that the information is reported on youth over the age of 18.</p> <p>1) Modify the program code to correctly report 18 year youth under the old program. All submissions for 2010B and older must reflect the State's program of only claiming title IV-E funds for 18 year olds.</p> <p>2) For youth who were reported as discharged to AFCARS because they turned 19, or title IV-E ended per the rules prior to approval of the amendment, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • who remained in foster care under the State program and • for whom the new program applies and the State claimed 		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<p><u>Case File Review Findings</u> There were several records with errors and there were errors for all of these elements. Also, there were several records reported with only one contributing factor for the child's removal and placement into foster care. See the detailed findings in the document Case File Findings.</p>	<p>title IV-E funds, make modifications to the program code accordingly to report the conditions that had brought the child into foster care originally for the latest removal episode.</p> <p>3) For 18 plus year olds who re-enter foster care on or after October 1, 2010 who had been discharged (or no longer included in the AFCARS reporting population) prior to October 1, 2010, the program code is to report the circumstances that brought the youth back to foster care.</p> <p>4) Resubmit data files from 2011A through when changes to the program code are implemented.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.</p>		
<p>41. Current Placement Setting</p> <p>1 = Pre-Adoptive Home 2 = Foster Family Home (Relative) 3 = Foster Family Home (Non-Relative) 4 = Group Home 5 = Institution 6 = Supervised</p>	<p>2</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u> <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The program code has a temporary fix for the missing supervised independent living placements. These are identified by a service code of "70."</p> <p>2) The program code uses a table function that determines what placement setting type is reported for</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u></p> <p>1) Identify if a permanent change is done to the program code.</p> <p>2) Once the mapping table is reviewed by the federal team, additional feedback will be provided to the State.</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
<p>Independent Living 7 = Runaway 8 = Trial Home Visit</p>		<p>FC41. This table maps the information from the fields: service type, intent to adopt date, the resource information of the relationship of the foster parent to the child, and the facility information entered for licensing/payment.</p> <p>3) There is no allowance in the program code for the length of stay in a hospital.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report (n=11,161):</i> Pre-Adoptive Home = 618 (6%); Foster Family Home (Relative) = 1,438 (13%); Foster Family Home (Non-Relative) = 5,190 (47%); Group Home = 764 (7%); Institution = 831 (8%); Supervised Independent Living = 0; Runaway = 159 (1%); Trial Home Visit = 2,156 (19%); Not reported = 5</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 12 (19%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. There were records where the child was removed from a parent, placed in foster care, and then placed with a relative. These were also entered as a "trial home visit." These need to be entered/reported as a foster family home – relative.</p>	<p>3) Modify the program code to check for the length of a hospital stay.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The program code has changes that incorporate the provider record in order to determine the type of institution/ group home and a temporary fix for the missing supervised independent living placements. These are identified by a service code of "70."			
42. Is Current Placement Setting Outside of the State or Tribal Service Area? 1 = yes 2 = no	3	<u>Frequency Report</u> (n=11,161): Yes = 0; No = 11,160 (99.9%); Not reported = 1 <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> Changes were made to include the provider's address in checking for the child's address and placement as being in- or out-of-State.	<u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.		
43. Most Recent Case Plan Goal 1 = Reunify with Parent(s) or Principal caretaker(s) 2 = Live with Other Relative(s) 3 = Adoption 4 = Long-term Foster Care 5 = Emancipation 6 = Guardianship 7 = Case Plan Goal Not Yet Established	2	<u>Screen: Case/Workload</u> 1) The State needs a way to identify the "primary" permanency plan for this element. 2) There is a goal "permanent guardianship." <u>Program Code</u> 1) There is no logic to set the value to "emancipation." All of the goals that are "PPLA" are set to "long-term foster care." Within the transition plan, it is identified if the child has a permanent connection to an adult.	<u>Screen</u> 1) Modify the names of the fields to identify a concurrent goal. 2) If the goal is that a relative will obtain guardianship, the options need to be modified to include guardianship/relative and guardianship/non-relative. <u>Program Code</u> 1) Modify the program code to check if the child has a permanent connection to an adult. a) If a child does not have a permanent connection to an adult, map the goal to "long-term foster care."		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<p>2) The goal “exit custody with kin (custody)” is incorrectly mapped to “live with relative.” Only individuals who are related by blood or marriage are considered relatives for AFCARS reporting.</p> <p>3) The goal “permanent guardianship” is mapped to “guardianship.”</p> <p>4) There is a routine that will “update” if the child’s date of removal subtracted from the end of the report period is 31 days or less. However, it is not clear that this logic is executed.</p> <p>4a) There is logic after the section in the program code that sets the goals that if the count is zero, the element is set to “not yet established.”</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report (n=11,161):</i> Reunify = 3,609 (32%); Live With Other Relative(s) = 3,221 (29%); Adoption = 2,993 (27%); Long-Term Foster Care = 60 (.54%); Emancipation = 0; Guardianship = 310 (3%); Case Plan Goal Not Yet Established = 967 (9%); Not reported = 1</p>	<p>b) If the child does have a connection, then map the goal to “emancipation.”</p> <p>2) Map goals to “live with relative” to include only relatives.</p> <p>3) A goal of guardianship is to only include those who are not related to the child.</p> <p>4a) Check the extraction logic to ensure these routines are executed correctly.</p> <p>4b) Modify the program code to check the date of removal plus 30 days, if no goal is established set the element to blank.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 16 (25%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p>			
<p>44. Caretaker Family Structure</p> <p>1 = Married Couple 2 = Unmarried Couple 3 = Single Female 4 = Single Male 5 = Unable to Determine</p>	2	<p><u>Screen</u>: Removal Record Detail Effective October 1, 2010 the State's title IV-E plan defines a child up to the age of 21.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=11,161): Married Couple = 2,265 (20%); Unmarried Couple = 1,109 (10%); Single Female = 5,918 (53%); Single Male = 641 (6%); Unable to Determine = 1,228 (11%); Not reported = 0</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 11 (18%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The program has been changed to set element #44 to blank if no caretaker code is found.</p>	<p><u>Screen</u></p> <p>1) Does the system allow caseworkers to enter caretaker information on youth re-entering foster care?</p> <p>2) Train caseworkers to enter the marital status on youth who are for 18+ year olds re-entering foster care.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u></p> <p>1) Modify the program code to check for the marital status of youth over 18 who re-enter foster care.</p> <p>2) Modify the program code to correctly report 18+ year old youth under the old program. All submissions for 2010B and older must reflect the State's program of only claiming title IV-E funds for 18 year olds. The child's caretaker's marital status is to be reported.</p> <p>3) For youth who were reported as discharged to AFCARS because they turned 19, or title IV-E ended per the rules prior to approval of the amendment, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • who remained in foster care 		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
			<p>under the State program and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for whom the new program applies and the State claimed title IV-E funds, <p>make modifications to the program code accordingly to report the family structure of the caretakers the child/youth was removed from for the “current” episode.</p> <p>4) Make modifications as appropriate to ensure the program code checks for the marital status of youth over 18 who re-enter foster care.</p> <p>5) Resubmit data files from 2011A through when changes to the program code are implemented.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.</p>		
<p>#45 1st Primary Caretaker’s Birth Year</p> <p>#46 2nd Primary Caretaker’s Birth Year (if applicable)</p>	2	<p>Effective October 1, 2010 the State’s title IV-E plan defines a child up to the age of 21.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> There are three records with a year of birth of 2012;</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u></p> <p>1) Modify the program code to check the youth’s year of birth for the 18+ year olds who re-enter foster care.</p> <p>1a) If the youth is married or has a significant other, report that person’s year of birth for FC46.</p> <p>2) Modify the program code to correctly report 18 year youth</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<p>three for 2011, three for 2010; two for 2009, six for 2008, four for 2007, three for 2006, two for 2005, one for 2004, and two for 2003.</p> <p>There is one record with an invalid year of 1111.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 10 (16%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The code has been changed to remove checking caretaker type as a condition in the selection logic for element #45.</p> <p><u>FC46 - Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> There are five records with a year of birth of 2011, one for 2010, five for 2009, one for 2008, two for 2007, one for 2006, and three for 2003.</p> <p>There are 3,374 records reported in element #44 with a family structure of married and unmarried couple. There are 3,312 records reported for this element with a year of birth (including the ones noted above).</p> <p><i>FC46 -Case File Review Findings</i> 8 (13%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p>	<p>under the old program. All submissions for 2010B and older must reflect the State's program of only claiming title IV-E funds for 18 year olds.</p> <p>2a) For youth who were reported as discharged to AFCARS because they turned 19, or title IV-E ended per the rules prior to approval of the amendment, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • who remained in foster care under the State program and • for whom the new program applies and the State claimed title IV-E funds, <p>make modifications to the program code accordingly to report the year of birth of the caretakers the child/youth was removed from for the "current" episode.</p> <p>3) Make modifications as appropriate to ensure the program code extracts the youth's year of birth for those youth over 18 who re-enter foster care.</p> <p>5) Resubmit data files from 2011A through when changes to the program code are implemented.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<i>FC46 -Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The code has been changed to remove checking caretaker type as a condition in the selection logic for element #46.			
47. Date of Mother's Parental Rights Termination (if applicable)	2	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) If the program code does not find a date for a court order type "TPR," "voluntary surrender," "certification of death," or "waiver of interest and notice" for a female, it will use a legal status of "DCSFG" (full guardianship).</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 5 (8%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. There was a case where the parent surrendered their rights but the date was reported as 10 days later than the date the parent surrendered. The date the parent surrendered their rights should be entered and reported to AFCARS.</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) Clarify why "full guardianship" is used. 2) Ensure that the program code is extracting the date entered into the system for the surrender of rights as well as termination of rights.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> 1a) Workers should enter the actual date the parent surrendered their rights and not the last day they have to rescind their surrender. 1b) Workers should enter the date parental rights are terminated. 2) Ensure the caseworkers are consistently using the same dates. CB will continue to evaluate the data.</p>		
48. Date of Legal or Putative Father's Parental Rights Termination (if applicable)	2	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) If more than one date is found for "TPR," "voluntary surrender," "certification of death," or "waiver of interest and notice," the logic performs the same select routine with the addition of specifying that</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) Modify the program code to report the most recent TPR date prior to the end of the report period regardless of whose TPR date is found.</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<p>the relationship code is "BIODAD," "LEGALFATHER," "ADOPTFATHER," or "PUTATIVEFATHER."</p> <p>2) If no value is found, the program uses the adoption finalization date if present.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 4 (7%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p>	<p>2) Modify the program code to not use the adoption finalization date.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.</p>		
<p>49. Foster Family Structure</p> <p>0 = Not Applicable 1 = Married Couple 2 = Unmarried Couple 3 = Single Female 4 = Single Male</p>	<p>3</p>	<p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=11,161): Not applicable = 2,839 (25%); Married Couple = 3,051 (27%); Unmarried Couple = 76 (1%); Single Female = 1,177 (11%); Single Male = 103 (1%); Not reported = 3,915 (35%)</p> <p>There are 3,910 records reported in element #41 as being a non-foster home setting. The number of responses for "not applicable" for this element does not reflect this number. See case file review notes for additional issues identified with this element.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 35 (57%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i></p>	<p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<p>> The program code was modified to correctly map "separated" to "married" and "unable to determine" to blank.</p> <p>> The program code now uses the value found in FC41 to determine how to initialize this element.</p> <p>> If FC41 is blank, element 49 is set to blank.</p> <p>> If FC41 is a value for a non-foster home setting, then FC49 is set to zero.</p>			
<p>50. Year of Birth (1st Foster Caretaker)</p> <p>51. Year of Birth (2nd Foster Caretaker)</p>	3	<p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=11,161): There were 4,407 records reported in FC49 with a marital status. There were 4,448 years of birth reported for this element.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 11 (18%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p> <p><i>FC51 - Frequency Report</i> (n=11,161): There are 3,127 records reported in element #49 as married and unmarried couple. There are only 3,054 records reported with a year of birth for this element.</p> <p><i>FC51 - Case File Review Findings</i> 7 (12%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p>	<p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.</p>		
52. Race of 1 st Foster	2	<u>Screen</u> : Resource/Provider/Basic	<u>Screen</u>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
<p>Caretaker</p> <p>54. Race of 2nd Foster Caretaker (if applicable)</p> <p>a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine</p>		<p>and Person Profile/Basic Tab</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> 1) A new common function was added that checks the ancestry field for a race; this was only partially completed. There is no ethnicity mapping for several of the ethnic groups that are also considered races for Federal reporting purposes.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>FC52 - Case File Review Findings</i> 13 (21%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. <i>FC54 - Case File Review Findings</i> 13 (27%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> As noted in FC49, the initialization logic was modified during the postsite corrective period. If FC41 is blank, then this element is set to blank. If the placement setting in FC41 is not a foster home, then this element is set to blank.</p>	<p>See findings in FC8.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> 1) Modify the program code to check the ancestry field for any race values that may have been selected and map the value to the appropriate race value in element #52</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.</p>		
<p>53. Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity of 1st Foster Caretaker</p> <p>0 = Not Applicable 1 = Yes 2 = No</p>	3	<p><u>Screen:</u> Resource/Provider/Basic and Person Profile/Basic Tab</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report (n=11,161):</i> Not Applicable = 2,791 (25%); Yes = 38 (.34%); No = 4,224 (38%); Unable to</p>			

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
3 = Unable to Determine		<p>determine = 193 (2%); Not reported = 3,915 (35%) There are 3,910 records reported in element #41 as being a non-foster home setting. The number of responses for “not applicable” for this element does not reflect this number.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 34 (57%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> As noted in FC49, the initialization logic was modified during the postsite corrective period. If #41 is blank then this element is set to blank. If #41 is anything other than a foster home (#41 > “3”), then this element is set to “not applicable.” If the setting is a foster home, then this element is initialized to blanks.</p>			
<p>55. Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity of 2nd Foster Caretaker (if applicable)</p> <p>0 = Not Applicable 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine</p>	2	<p><u>Screen: Resource/Provider/Basic and Person Profile/Basic Tab</u></p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 2917 – 2941</u> 1) The program code is not checking the marital status in FC49 in addition to the living arrangement in FC41.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report (n=11,161):</i> Not Applicable = 4,151 (37%); Yes = 63 (.56%); No = 2,867 (26%); Unable to determine = 165 (2%); Not reported</p>	<p><u>Screen</u> See findings in FC9.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> 1) Modify the program code to set this element to “not applicable” if the response in FC49 is either a single female or male.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<p>= 3,915 (35%)</p> <p>There are 3,910 records reported in element #41 as being a non-foster home setting. Additionally, there are 1,280 records reported in FC49 as a single foster parent. The number of responses for "not applicable" for this element does not reflect this number.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 29 (49%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In 24 error cases, this element was reported as blank instead of "not applicable" for placement settings institution, group home, trial home visit, and runaway.</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> A new routine checks the ethnicity/ancestry codes. The ethnicity codes are mapped as follows. If any ethnicity code is "Central American," "Cuban," "Hispanic," "Latino," "Mexican," "Puerto Rican," or "South American," then this element is set to "yes."</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> As noted in FC49, the initialization logic was modified during the postsite corrective period. If #41 is blank then this element is set to blank. If the living arrangement in FC41 is not a foster home, then this element is set to "not applicable." If</p>			

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		FC41 is a foster home setting, then FC55 is initialized zero otherwise it will be set to blank.			
56. Date of Discharge from Foster Care	2	<p><u>Screen: Court</u> There are fields for termination date and reason.</p> <p><u>Program Code: LNs 1571 – 1716</u> The program code does not check if the youth is 18 years old and not receiving title IV-E funds.</p> <p>Effective October 1, 2010 the State's title IV-E plan defines a child up to the age of 21.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Case File Review Findings</i> 6 (10%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In three records the youth turned 18 and was not receiving title IV-E foster care funds.</p>	<p><u>Screen</u> 1) Can caseworkers enter a discharge date for those youth who continue to receive services beyond their 18th birthday but are not eligible for title IV-E?</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> 1) Modify the program code to report as discharged youth who are 18 and not eligible for title IV-E funds. - If Screen item 1 is no, then have the program code use the youth's 18th birthday for the discharge date.</p> <p>2) Modify the program code to correctly report 18 year youth under the old program. For report periods prior to 2011A (10/1/2010): a) Report youth as discharged as of the 18th birthday who are not eligible for title IV-E. b) For youth who are 18, report the date they are no longer eligible for title IV-E funds.</p> <p>3) For report periods beginning October 1, 2010 (2011A): a) For youth who are 18 or older, report the date they are no longer</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
			<p>eligible for title IV-E funds.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.</p>		
<p>58. Reason for Discharge</p> <p>0 = Not Applicable 1 = Reunification with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s) 2 = Living with Other Relative(s) 3 = Adoption 4 = Emancipation 5 = Guardianship 6 = Transfer to Another Agency 7 = Runaway 8 = Death of Child</p>	<p>2</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) <i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The discharge reasons of "return to parents," "age" and "adoption finalized" were removed from the program code.</p> <p>2) The program code does not account for youth 18 or older who are receiving services but who are not eligible for title IV-E.</p> <p>Effective October 1, 2010 the State's title IV-E plan defines a child up to the age of 21.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report:</i> (n=11,161): Not Applicable = 0; Reunification = 1,726 (15%); Living with Other Relative(s) = 556 (5%); Adoption = 418 (4%); Emancipation = 260 (2%); Guardianship = 186 (2%); Transfer to Another Agency = 39 (.35%); Runaway = 22 (.20%); Death of Child = 7 (.06%); Not reported = 7,947 (71%)</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 40 (64%) of the records analyzed did</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) Clarify why these were removed.</p> <p>2) Modify the program code to report as discharged youth who are 18 and not eligible for title IV-E funds as "emancipation."</p> <p>3) Modify the program code to correctly report 18 year youth under the old program. For report periods prior to 2011A (10/1/2010): a) Report youth as discharged as of the 18th birthday who are not eligible for title IV-E "emancipation." b) For youth who are 18, report them as discharged when they are no longer eligible for title IV-E funds.</p> <p>4) For report periods beginning October 1, 2010 (2011A): a) For youth who are 18 or older, report them as discharged when they are no longer eligible for title IV-E funds.</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<p>not match what was reported in AFCARS. There were 34 records reported as blank instead of "not applicable." The child was still in foster care. In three records the youth turned 18 and was not receiving title IV-E foster care funds.</p> <p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> The code was changed to set the value of element #58 to "not applicable" if the child has not been discharged.</p>	<p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.</p>		
<p>Source(s) of Federal Financial Support/assistance for Child</p> <p>60. Title IV-E (Adoption Assistance)</p>	3	<p><i>Postsite Program Code Changes:</i> It appears that the logic for this element has been commented out and now the program code will only set this element to "does not apply."</p>	<p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.</p>		
<p>Source(s) of Federal Financial Support/assistance for Child</p> <p>61. Title IV-A</p> <p>62. Title IV-D (Child Support)</p> <p>64. SSI or Other Social Security Benefits</p>	2	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 2612 – 2636</u></p> <p>1) The logic checks for a person income record with a type of: - "families first check tanf," - "child support," or - benefit account record of type "SSA," "SSI," "VA Benefits," "SSI lump sum" or "SSI dedicated," and where there are less than 12 months between the income effective date and the report period end date.</p> <p>2) The State team indicated that there are children in foster care who are placed with a relative that is not receiving a foster care payment.</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u></p> <p>1) Explain the purpose of checking for 12 months.</p> <p>1a) If there is a TANF payment made on behalf of the child in foster, it is to be reported.</p> <p>1b) Ensure that the program code checks for a IV-A payment for the child after the child's removal date.</p> <p>2) Ensure that this data is entered or received through the interface with the IV-A system, child support, and SSI benefits are</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks	Date	Notes
		<p>The State is currently not entering this data.</p> <p>There are children with child support payments but it is not currently being entered for each child and consequently it is not reported.</p> <p>3) The program code includes VA Benefits in element #64.</p>	<p>entered.</p> <p>3) Modify the code to report VA Benefits to element 65 and not element 64.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.</p>		
<p>Source(s) of Federal Financial Support/assistance for Child</p> <p>65. None of the Above</p>	2	<p><u>Program Code</u></p>	<p>VA Benefits and Veteran's pension are to be mapped to this element instead of FC64.</p>		
<p>66. Amount of Monthly Foster Care Payment</p>	3	<p><u>Program Code</u></p> <p>The amount reported for this element should be a full monthly amount paid to a provider and the setting the child is in for a full month prior to the end of the report period. If the child changes placement in the last month of the report period, and it is a different setting or service level, then this element could be reported as zeros.</p>	<p><u>Data Quality</u></p> <p>CB will continue to evaluate the data.</p>		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks ¹	Date	Notes
<p>7. Child's Race</p> <p>0=No 1=Yes</p> <p>a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine</p>	2	<p><u>Screen:</u> Person Profile/Demographics Tab</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 2 (7%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. In the error cases, the reviewer found the child was bi-racial and "black or African American" should have been reported.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> See foster care element #8.</p>	<p><u>Screen</u> See foster care element #8 for the findings regarding the collection of the race information.</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> 1) Modify the program code to check the ancestry field for <i>any</i> race values that may have been selected and map the value to the appropriate race value in element #8.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.</p>		
<p>8. Child's Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity</p> <p>1=Yes 2=No 3=Unable to determine</p>	3	<p><u>Screen:</u> Person Profile/Demographics Tab</p>	<p><u>Screen</u> See foster care element #9.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.</p>		
<p>9. Has the title IV-E agency determined that the child has special needs?</p> <p>1=Yes 2=No</p>		<p><u>Screen:</u> Financial/Eligibility</p> <p><u>Program Code</u> 1) There are conditions on the screen that are not checked when setting this element to "yes." If one of the options are checked, this element includes them in the response "no." 2) Missing information is set to "no."</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) Modify the program code to check for the other options listed on the screen in the logic for setting this element to "yes." 2) Map missing information to blank.</p>		

¹ Additional task may be added once it is determined what modifications to the system are necessary to allow the entry of private agency adoptions.

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks ¹	Date	Notes
		<p>3) The program code is not checking the financial/eligibility screen for the results of determination of eligibility. The information on this screen would be better indicators for this element. This information is also on the screen "Case Overview /Placement/Finalization/Case Closure."</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=416): Yes = 173 (42%); No = 243 (58%); Not reported = 0 There are 378 records reported in element #35 indicating the child is receiving a monthly subsidy.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 16 (57%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. The records were all reported as "no" and the response to AD35, is the child receiving a monthly subsidy, was reported as "yes."</p>	<p>3) Re-evaluate how this data is selected and consider modifying the program code to check the fields indicating eligibility.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.</p>		
<p>10. Primary Factor or Condition for Special Needs</p> <p>0=Not applicable 1=Racial/Ethnic Background 2=Age 3=Membership in a</p>	<p>2</p>	<p><u>Screen:</u> Case Overview /Placement/ Finalization/Case Closure 1) This screen is completed in addition to the eligibility screen. The options for "primary basis" is not identical to the options for eligibility. Also, there is no linkage between the two fields so information could be different.</p>	<p><u>Screen</u> 1) The State needs to consider a method to link the screens so that information remains consistent. See Ohio's AAR findings.</p> <p>1a) Add other options that are applicable from the eligibility screens to this list.</p>		

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<p>Sibling Group 4=Medical conditions or Mental, Physical or Emotional Disabilities 5=Other</p>		<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) The program code maps “not applicable” or any other value to “not applicable.” 2) The options “child has a medically diagnosed condition which substantially limits one or more major life activities, requires professional treatment, and assistance in self-care,” “child is diagnosed to be mentally retarded by a qualified professional,” “child is diagnosed with a behavior/emotional disorder characterized by inappropriate behavior or interferes with functioning” are incorrectly mapped to “not applicable.” 3) The option “child meets definition for a deferred subsidy” is incorrectly mapped to “not applicable.” 4) The program code maps “other” to the AFCARS value “other” but there is no option for this on the screen.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=416): Not applicable = 243 (58%); Race/Original Background = 0; Age = 0; Sibling group = 173 (42%); Medical, etc. = 0; Other = 0; Not reported = 0</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i> 16 (57%) of the records analyzed did</p>	<p><u>Program Code</u> 1) Modify the program code to only map the value “not applicable” to the AFCARS value for “not applicable.” 2) Modify the program code to map these options to medical conditions, etc. (4). 3) Modify the program code to map this option to “other.” 4) Modify the program code to remove “other.”</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.</p>		

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		not match what was reported in AFCARS.			
Elements #11 – 15 0=Does not Apply 1=Yes, applies	2	The characteristic codes used for adoption elements #11 – 15 are the same as those for foster care. The method of identifying and reporting them is done differently from the foster care extraction.	See foster care elements 11 - 15 for tasks. <u>Data Quality</u> CB will re-evaluate the data based on the corrections made to the extraction code.		
16. Mother's Year of Birth	3	<u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=416): There are 291 records reported as blank. <i>Case File Review Findings</i> 22 (79%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.	<u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.		
17. Father's Year of Birth	3	<u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=416): There are 127 records reported as blank. <i>Case File Review Findings</i> 6 (21%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.	<u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.		
18. Was the Mother married at the time of the child's birth? 1=Yes 2=No 3=Unable to determine	2	<u>Program Code</u> : LNs 1769 – 1775 Missing data are mapped to "unable to determine." <u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report</i> (n=416): Yes = 89 (21%); No = 187 (45%); Unable to determine = 140 (34%); Not reported = 0	Modify the program code to map missing information to blank. <u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks'	Date	Notes
		<i>Case File Review Findings</i> 5 (18%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.			
19. Date of Mother's Termination of Parental Rights 20. Date of Father's Termination of Parental Rights	2	<u>Program Code</u> See notes for foster care elements #47 and 48. <i>AD19 - Case File Review Findings</i> 5 (18%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. There were several errors where the date reported to AFCARS was later than the one the reviewers found. <i>AD20 - Case File Review Findings</i> 5 (18%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. There were several errors where the date reported to AFCARS was later than the one the reviewers found.	<u>Program Code</u> 1) The program code should report the last parental rights termination date for the mother, or parent 1. 2) The program code should report the last parental rights termination date for the father, or parent 2. <u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.		
22. Adoptive Parents' Family Structure 1=Married couple 2=Unmarried couple 3=Single female 4=Single male	2	<u>Program Code</u> 1) Separated is incorrectly mapped to single. 2) Unable to determine is incorrectly included as in foster family structure. <u>Data Quality</u> <i>Frequency Report (n=416):</i> Married Couple = 329 (79%); Unmarried Couple = 2 (.48%); Single Female = 59 (14%); Single Male = 12 (3%); Not reported = 14 (3%)	<u>Program Code</u> 1) Map separated to single. 2) Remove the logic for "unable to determine." <u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.		

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		<i>Case File Review Findings</i> 1 (3%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.			
23. Adoptive Mother's Year of Birth 24. Adoptive Father's Year of Birth	3	<u>Data Quality</u> <i>AD23 - Frequency Report:</i> There were 26 records reported as blank. <i>AD24 - Frequency Report:</i> There were 73 records reported as blank. <i>AD24 - Case File Review Findings</i> 2 (7%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.	<u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.		
25. Adoptive Mother's Race 27. Adoptive Father's Race a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine	2	<u>Program Code</u> 1) The program is not checking the ancestry field and mapping applicable ethnicities to the appropriate race category if one is selected. 2) The program code does not set AD25 to blank if the child is adopted by a single male. 3) The program code does not set AD27 to blank if the child is adopted by a single male. <u>Data Quality</u> <i>AD25 - Frequency Report:</i> There were no records reported as blank. <i>AD25 - Case File Review Findings</i> 1 (3%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS. <i>AD27 - Frequency Report:</i> There	<u>Program Code</u> 1) Modify the program code to check the ancestry field for any race values that may have been selected and map the value to the appropriate race value. 2) Modify the program code to set AD25 to blank when the child is adopted by a single male. 3) Modify the program code to set AD27 to blank when the child is adopted by a single female. <u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.		

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		were no records reported as blank. There were 59 records reported as "single female" in AD22. Additionally, there were 14 records reported as blank in AD22. <i>AD27 - Case File Review Findings</i> 2 (7%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.			
26. Adoptive Mother's Hispanic Origin 28. Adoptive Father's Hispanic Origin 0=Not Applicable 1=Yes 2=No 3=Unable to determine	2	<u>Program Code: LNs 1893 – 1907</u> 1) The program code does not check the marital status reported in AD22. All records, including those with missing information, are incorrectly reported as "not applicable." 2) The program code is not checking the ancestry field and mapping applicable Hispanic/Latino ethnicities to this element. <u>Data Quality</u> <i>AD26 - Frequency Report (n= 416):</i> Not Applicable = 26 (6%); Yes = 1 (.24%); No = 384 (92%); Unable to determine = 5 (1%); Not reported = 0 <i>AD28 - Frequency Report (n= 416):</i> Not Applicable = 73 (18%); Yes = 0; No = 340 (82%); Unable to	1a) Modify the program code to set AD27 to "not applicable" when the child is adopted by a single male. 1b) Modify the program code to set AD28 to "not applicable" when the child is adopted by a single female. 1c) Modify the program code to map missing information to blank. 2) Modify the program code to check the ancestry field for applicable Hispanic/Latino ethnicities. <u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.		

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Data Element	Rating	Findings	Tasks ¹	Date	Notes
		determine = 3 (1%); Not reported = 0 <i>AD28 - Case File Review Findings</i> 1 (3%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.			
30. Relationship to Adoptive Parent - Other Relative 0=Does not apply 1=Yes, Applies	2	<u>Program Code</u> If the placement setting relationship code is "relative" or "legal parent" element #30 is "applies." Otherwise, this element is set to "does not apply." <u>Frequency Report</u> (n=416): Does not apply = 360; Applies = 56	1) Provide clarification regarding the use of legal parent. <u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.		
31. Relationship to Adoptive Parent -Foster Parent 0=Does not apply 1=Yes, Applies	2	<u>Program Code</u> When the placement setting relationship is "friend," "church member," "godparent," "minister," "neighbor," "teacher," "resource parent," or "resource co-parent" element #31 is "applies." Otherwise it is "does not apply." <u>Frequency Report</u> (n=416): Does not apply = 56; Applies = 360	1) Clarify why the program code is checking for values "friend," "church member," "godparent," "minister," "neighbor," "teacher." <u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.		
32. Relationship to Adoptive Parent -Other Non-relative 0=Does not apply 1=Yes, Applies	2	<u>Program Code</u> When the placement setting relationship is "friend," "church member," "godparent," "minister," "neighbor," "teacher," "resource parent," or "resource co-parent" element #31 is "applies." Otherwise it is "does not apply." <u>Frequency Report</u> (n=416): Does not apply = 56; Applies = 360	1) Clarify why the values "resource parent," or "resource co-parent" are used for this element. <u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.		

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34. Child was placed by 1=Public agency 2=Private agency 3=Tribal Agency 4=Independent person 5=Birth parent	2	<p><u>Program Code</u> The program code looks for the public agency flag on the agency record associated with the adoption case and if it is a "1," the program code sets the value of element #34 to "public agency." The value was initialized to "2" (private agency) so if the public agency flag with a "1" is not found "private agency" will be reported.</p> <p>There is no logic to map to "Tribal Agency," "independent person" or "birth parent" The program code bypasses this logic if element #33 is set to "another country."</p> <p>The system does not have the capacity for the entry of information on private agency adoptions.</p>	<p>Once the system has been modified, the program code for this element will need to be re-evaluated and possibly re-written.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.</p>		
35. Is the Child Receiving a Monthly Subsidy? 1=Yes 2=No	2	<p><u>Program Code</u> The field is initialized to "no." So if "yes" is not set based on the amount, the value will remain "no."</p> <p>The program code is incorrectly setting this element for those adoptions in which the only subsidy is Medicaid.</p>	<p>Modify the program code to check for adoption agreements for Medicaid only services.</p> <p><u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.</p>		
36. Monthly Amount	2	<p><u>Program Code: LNs 1361 – 1440</u> The program code is including the amount that is for the non-recurring expenses.</p> <p><i>Case File Review Findings</i></p>	<p>1) Modify the program code to check for a subsidy amount and not the amount of a non-recurring payment.</p> <p>2) Modify the program code to</p>		

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		5 (18%) of the records analyzed did not match what was reported in AFCARS.	map this element to zeroes when the agreement is only for the non-recurring expenses. <u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.		
37. Is the Child receiving a title IV-E adoption subsidy? 1=Yes 2=No	2	<u>Program Code: LNs 1361 – 1440</u> The program code also checks for non-recurring expenses.	Modify the program to exclude non-recurring payments. <u>Data Quality</u> CB will continue to evaluate the data.		