



# The AFCARS Report:

## Connecticut

Preliminary FY<sup>1</sup> 2021 Estimates as of June 28, 2022 - No. 29

**SOURCE:** Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) FY 2021 data<sup>2</sup>

### Numbers at a Glance: Connecticut

Fiscal Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number in foster care on September 30 of the FY	4,135	4,228	4,352	4,034	3,488
Number entered foster care during the FY	2,002	2,076	2,050	1,345	1,168
Number exited foster care during the FY	1,527	1,560	1,794	1,397	1,553
Number served by the foster care system during the FY	5,662	5,788	6,145	5,430	5,041
Number waiting to be adopted on September 30 of the FY	1,157	1,248	1,556	1,398	1,137
Number waiting to be adopted for whom parental rights (for all living parents) were terminated as of the last day of the FY	363	381	491	393	392
Number adopted with public child welfare agency involvement during the FY	488	497	661	450	460

### Children in Foster Care on September 30, 2021 - N=3,488

Age as of September 30th	Years	Sex	Percent	Number
Mean	9.2	Male	51%	1,762
Median	9.0	Female	49%	1,726

  

Age as of September 30th	Percent	Number	Most Recent Placement Setting	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	6%	210	Pre-Adoptive Home	8%	291
1 Year	9%	326	Foster Family Home (Relative)	37%	1,274
2 Years	8%	270	Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	41%	1,427
3 Years	6%	217	Group Home	4%	155
4 Years	5%	177	Institution	3%	105
5 Years	4%	132	Supervised Independent Living	5%	158
6 Years	4%	137	Runaway	0%	0
7 Years	3%	119	Trial Home Visit	2%	78

  

Case Plan Goal	Percent	Number
Reunify with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s)	32%	1,097
Live with Other Relative(s)	11%	386
Adoption	32%	1,127
Long Term Foster Care	0%	0
Emancipation	19%	655
Guardianship	4%	147
Case Plan Goal Not Yet Established	2%	56

  

Age as of September 30th	Percent	Number
8 Years	4%	121
9 Years	3%	108
10 Years	4%	127
11 Years	3%	115
12 Years	3%	117
13 Years	4%	141
14 Years	4%	124
15 Years	4%	144
16 Years	5%	181
17 Years	5%	182
18 Years	5%	187
19 Years	5%	178
20 Years	4%	136

<sup>1</sup> 'FY' refers to the Federal Fiscal Year, October 1st through September 30th.

<sup>2</sup> Data from both the regular and revised AFCARS file submissions received by June 28, 2022 are included in this report. Missing data are excluded from each table. Therefore, the totals within each distribution may not equal the total provided for that subpopulation (e.g. number in care on September 30th may not match the sum across ages for that group)

Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number	Time in Care	Months
American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	3	Mean	31.0
Asian	0%	11	Median	23.9
Black or African American	24%	836		
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	0		
Hispanic (of any race)	34%	1,189		
White	33%	1,145		
Unknown/Unable to Determine	1%	27		
Two or More Races	8%	277		

  

Time in Care	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Month	2%	78
1 - 5 Months	12%	420
6 - 11 Months	14%	494
12 - 17 Months	10%	365
18 - 23 Months	11%	401
24 - 29 Months	12%	424
30 - 35 Months	9%	326
3 - 4 Years	17%	581
5 Years or More	11%	399

**NOTE:** All races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Children of Hispanic ethnicity may be any race.

### Children Entering Foster Care during FY 2021 - N=1,168

Age at Entry	Years	Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number
Mean	6.2	American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	0
Median	5.0	Asian	0%	3
		Black or African American	20%	234
		Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	0
		Hispanic (of any race)	35%	408
		White	36%	419
		Unknown/Unable to Determine	1%	15
		Two or More Races	8%	89

  

Age at Entry	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	28%	329
1 Year	6%	72
2 Years	7%	77
3 Years	6%	65
4 Years	3%	32
5 Years	4%	45
6 Years	4%	51
7 Years	3%	39
8 Years	4%	42
9 Years	3%	36
10 Years	3%	39
11 Years	3%	39
12 Years	4%	42
13 Years	5%	57
14 Years	3%	38
15 Years	5%	57
16 Years	5%	63
17 Years	4%	43
18 Years	0%	2
19 Years	0%	0
20 Years	0%	0

  

Circumstances Associated with Child's Removal	Percent	Number
Neglect	64%	744
Drug Abuse (Parent)	38%	442
Alcohol Abuse (Parent)	19%	225
Caretaker Inability To Cope	14%	163
Housing	12%	143
Abandonment	10%	118
Physical Abuse	9%	107
Child Disability	9%	105
Child Behavior Problem	7%	86
Parent Incarceration	6%	67
Sexual Abuse	4%	44
Parent Death	3%	35
Drug Abuse (Child)	3%	34
Relinquishment	1%	16
Alcohol Abuse (Child)	0%	4

**NOTE:** All races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Children of Hispanic ethnicity may be any race.

**NOTE:** These categories are not mutually exclusive, so percentages will total more than 100% and counts will be more than the total number of entries.

### Children Exiting Foster Care during FY 2021 - N=1,553

Age at Exit	Years	Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number	
Mean	7.4	American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	1	
Median	6.0	Asian	0%	5	
		Black or African American	22%	334	
		Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	1	
		Hispanic (of any race)	36%	557	
		White	35%	538	
		Unknown/Unable to Determine	1%	15	
		Two or More Races	7%	102	
<b>NOTE:</b> All races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Children of Hispanic ethnicity may be any race.					
Age at Exit	Percent	Number	Reason for Discharge	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	4%	55	Reunification with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s)	36%	560
1 Year	8%	120	Living with Other Relative(s)	1%	20
2 Years	10%	160	Adoption	28%	437
3 Years	9%	142	Emancipation	5%	70
4 Years	8%	118	Guardianship	26%	408
5 Years	7%	108	Transfer to Another Agency	3%	43
6 Years	6%	93	Runaway	1%	9
7 Years	5%	72	Death of Child	0%	6
8 Years	5%	76			
9 Years	5%	70			
10 Years	4%	69			
11 Years	4%	67			
12 Years	4%	60			
13 Years	4%	60			
14 Years	4%	61			
15 Years	4%	57			
16 Years	3%	49			
17 Years	3%	49			
18 Years	1%	17			
19 Years	1%	23			
20 Years	1%	11			
Time in Care	Months				
Mean	28.1				
Median	24.6				
Time in Care	Percent	Number			
Less than 1 Month	4%	69			
1 - 5 Months	7%	103			
6 - 11 Months	9%	133			
12 - 17 Months	12%	184			
18 - 23 Months	17%	259			
24 - 29 Months	15%	235			
30 - 35 Months	13%	198			
3 - 4 Years	18%	283			
5 Years or More	6%	89			

### Children Waiting to be Adopted<sup>3</sup> on September 30, 2021 - N=1,137

Age as of September 30th	Years	Age at Entry into Foster Care	Years
Mean	6.3	Mean	3.6
Median	5.0	Median	2.0

Age as of September 30th	Percent	Number	Age at Entry into Foster Care	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	4%	44	Less than 1 Year	38%	431
1 Year	14%	154	1 Year	9%	104
2 Years	13%	149	2 Years	7%	77
3 Years	9%	107	3 Years	6%	69
4 Years	8%	91	4 Years	5%	60
5 Years	5%	60	5 Years	4%	50
6 Years	6%	64	6 Years	6%	65
7 Years	4%	44	7 Years	4%	51
8 Years	4%	49	8 Years	4%	49
9 Years	4%	47	9 Years	4%	41
10 Years	5%	55	10 Years	4%	43
11 Years	4%	42	11 Years	2%	27
12 Years	4%	45	12 Years	2%	24
13 Years	5%	54	13 Years	2%	24
14 Years	4%	44	14 Years	1%	16
15 Years	4%	45	15 Years	0%	4
16 Years	3%	30	16 Years	0%	1
17 Years	1%	13	17 Years	0%	1

Placement Type	Percent	Number	Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number
Pre-Adoptive Home	22%	252	American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	1
Foster Family Home (Relative)	30%	345	Asian	0%	0
Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	45%	508	Black or African American	22%	252
Group Home	1%	10	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	0
Institution	2%	21	Hispanic (of any race)	31%	356
Supervised Independent Living	0%	0	White	36%	406
Runaway	0%	0	Unknown/Unable to Determine	1%	7
Trial Home Visit	0%	1	Two or More Races	10%	115

Sex	Percent	Number
Male	53%	601
Female	47%	536

**NOTE:** All races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Children of Hispanic ethnicity may be any race.

<sup>3</sup> Waiting children are identified as children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. Children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the estimate.

Time in Care	Months	Of Children Waiting for Adoption whose Parents' Parental Rights have been Terminated (N=392), Time Elapsed since Termination of Parental Rights as of September 30, 2021
Mean	34.0	
Median	28.5	

Time in Care	Percent	Number	Time Since TPR	Months
Less than 1 Month	0%	3	Mean	20.6
1 - 5 Months	1%	13	Median	6.0
6 - 11 Months	9%	97		
12 - 17 Months	11%	130		
18 - 23 Months	14%	160		
24 - 29 Months	18%	210		
30 - 35 Months	14%	162		
3 - 4 Years	22%	252		
5 Years or More	10%	110		

**Children Adopted with Public Agency Involvement in FY 2021<sup>4</sup> - N=460**

Age at Adoption	Years	Time Elapsed from Termination of Parental Rights to Adoption	Months
Mean	5.8	Mean	11.9
Median	5.0	Median	7.6

Age at Adoption	Percent	Number	Time Elapsed from Termination of Parental Rights to Adoption	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	7%	31	Less than 1 Month	2%	10
1 Year	8%	35	1 - 5 Months	41%	183
2 Years	16%	72	6 - 11 Months	21%	92
3 Years	10%	47	12 - 17 Months	15%	65
4 Years	9%	43	18 - 23 Months	9%	41
5 Years	7%	31	24 - 29 Months	4%	19
6 Years	7%	31	30 - 35 Months	3%	14
7 Years	5%	21	3 - 4 Years	3%	13
8 Years	4%	19	5 Years or More	1%	6
9 Years	7%	30			
10 Years	4%	18			
11 Years	4%	19			
12 Years	3%	12			
13 Years	2%	9			
14 Years	5%	21			
15 Years	1%	6			
16 Years	1%	5			
17 Years	2%	7			
18 Years	0%	1			
19 Years	0%	0			
20 Years	0%	0			

Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number
American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	1
Asian	0%	0
Black or African American	17%	78
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	0
Hispanic (of any race)	35%	163
White	41%	189
Unknown/Unable to Determine	2%	7
Two or More Races	5%	22

**NOTE:** All races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Children of Hispanic ethnicity may be any race.

<sup>4</sup> Note that the adoption data reported in this section are from the AFCARS Adoption file. Therefore, the number of adoptions reported here may not equal the number reported as discharges to adoption from foster care.

<b>Adoptive Family Structure</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Sex</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>
Married Couple	65%	300	Male	50%	228
Unmarried Couple	7%	30	Female	50%	225
Single Female	27%	123			
Single Male	2%	7			
<b>Relationship of Adoptive Parents to Child Prior to Adoption</b>			<b>Receive Adoption Subsidy</b>		
	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>		<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>
Non-Relative	22%	101	Yes	38%	177
Foster Parent	36%	167	No	62%	283
Stepparent	14%	65			
Other Relative	28%	127			

### FY 2021 AFCARS Foster Care Data Release

Definitions and additional supporting information relevant to the populations presented in this report can be found by clicking on the tabs above the area chart displayed when using this link:

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>