



# The AFCARS Report:

## Louisiana

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: Louisiana

Fiscal Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number in foster care on September 30 of the FY	4,460	4,562	3,919	3,542	3,301
Number entered foster care during the FY	3,527	3,654	2,769	2,414	2,358
Number exited foster care during the FY	3,444	3,458	3,317	2,752	2,551
Number served by the foster care system during the FY	7,904	8,020	7,237	6,294	5,852
Number waiting to be adopted on September 30 of the FY	1,378	1,395	1,337	1,164	1,041
Number waiting to be adopted for whom parental rights (for all living parents) were terminated as of the last day of the FY	678	669	639	520	531
Number adopted with public child welfare agency involvement during the FY	766	905	895	749	602

### Children in Foster Care on September 30, 2021 - N=3,301

Age as of September 30th	Years	Sex	Percent	Number
Mean	6.8	Male	50%	1,662
Median	6.0	Female	50%	1,639

Age as of September 30th	Percent	Number	Most Recent Placement Setting	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	11%	373	Pre-Adoptive Home	6%	202
1 Year	11%	370	Foster Family Home (Relative)	32%	1,063
2 Years	9%	311	Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	50%	1,655
3 Years	7%	220	Group Home	2%	66
4 Years	6%	203	Institution	5%	179
5 Years	5%	157	Supervised Independent Living	0%	12
6 Years	5%	165	Runaway	1%	19
7 Years	5%	150	Trial Home Visit	3%	101
8 Years	4%	132			
9 Years	4%	122			
10 Years	3%	111			
11 Years	3%	108			
12 Years	4%	131			
13 Years	4%	147			
14 Years	4%	143			
15 Years	4%	145			
16 Years	5%	149			
17 Years	5%	164			
18 Years	0%	0			
19 Years	0%	0			
20 Years	0%	0			

Case Plan Goal	Percent	Number
Reunify with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s)	67%	2,223
Live with Other Relative(s)	1%	25
Adoption	29%	959
Long Term Foster Care	2%	82
Emancipation	0%	0
Guardianship	0%	12
Case Plan Goal Not Yet Established	0%	0

<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%	11	Mean	17.2
Asian	0%	4	Median	12.2
Black or African American	37%	1,234		
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	1		
Hispanic (of any race)	2%	81		
White	52%	1,733		
Unknown/Unable to Determine	2%	74		
Two or More Races	5%	163		
<b>NOTE:</b> All races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Children of Hispanic ethnicity may be any race.				
Time in Care	Percent	Number		
Less than 1 Month	6%	184		
1 - 5 Months	23%	758		
6 - 11 Months	21%	701		
12 - 17 Months	13%	422		
18 - 23 Months	13%	432		
24 - 29 Months	9%	292		
30 - 35 Months	4%	126		
3 - 4 Years	9%	299		
5 Years or More	3%	87		

### Children Entering Foster Care during FY 2021 - N=2,358

Age at Entry		Years	Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number	
Mean		6.3	American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	2	
Median		5.0	Asian	0%	2	
			Black or African American	42%	1,000	
			Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	1	
			Hispanic (of any race)	2%	58	
			White	47%	1,108	
			Unknown/Unable to Determine	3%	67	
			Two or More Races	5%	120	
<b>NOTE:</b> All races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Children of Hispanic ethnicity may be any race.						
Age at Entry		Percent	Number	Circumstances Associated with Child's Removal	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year		23%	553	Neglect	89%	2,093
1 Year		7%	162	Physical Abuse	5%	111
2 Years		7%	155	Child Behavior Problem	4%	97
3 Years		5%	123	Sexual Abuse	2%	53
4 Years		5%	119	Drug Abuse (Parent)	1%	25
5 Years		5%	111	Abandonment	1%	15
6 Years		5%	113	Drug Abuse (Child)	1%	12
7 Years		4%	95	Caretaker Inability To Cope	0%	8
8 Years		3%	81	Relinquishment	0%	5
9 Years		4%	95	Alcohol Abuse (Parent)	0%	3
10 Years		3%	78	Housing	0%	3
11 Years		4%	93	Parent Incarceration	0%	2
12 Years		4%	106	Alcohol Abuse (Child)	0%	0
13 Years		4%	99	Child Disability	0%	0
14 Years		4%	91	Parent Death	0%	0
15 Years		5%	111			
16 Years		4%	105			
17 Years		3%	68			
18 Years		0%	0			
19 Years		0%	0			
20 Years		0%	0			

**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=2,551

Age at Exit		Years	Race/Ethnicity		Percent	Number
Mean		8.1	American Indian/Alaska Native		0%	11
Median		7.0	Asian		0%	0
			Black or African American		44%	1,122
			Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander		0%	2
			Hispanic (of any race)		3%	89
			White		45%	1,155
			Unknown/Unable to Determine		2%	58
			Two or More Races		4%	114
<b>NOTE:</b> All races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Children of Hispanic ethnicity may be any race.						
			Reason for Discharge		Percent	Number
			Reunification with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s)		41%	1,018
			Living with Other Relative(s)		11%	273
			Adoption		25%	612
			Emancipation		6%	145
			Guardianship		16%	392
			Transfer to Another Agency		1%	13
			Runaway		0%	4
			Death of Child		0%	4

### Children Waiting to be Adopted<sup>3</sup> on September 30, 2021 - N=1,041

Age as of September 30th	Years	Age at Entry into Foster Care	Years
Mean	7.3	Mean	4.8
Median	6.0	Median	3.0

Age as of September 30th	Percent	Number	Age at Entry into Foster Care	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	2%	22	Less than 1 Year	30%	309
1 Year	13%	135	1 Year	7%	71
2 Years	12%	122	2 Years	8%	80
3 Years	7%	73	3 Years	6%	63
4 Years	7%	71	4 Years	5%	49
5 Years	6%	66	5 Years	4%	46
6 Years	5%	54	6 Years	5%	56
7 Years	4%	45	7 Years	6%	59
8 Years	4%	45	8 Years	4%	46
9 Years	4%	42	9 Years	5%	53
10 Years	4%	39	10 Years	4%	37
11 Years	3%	35	11 Years	5%	49
12 Years	5%	47	12 Years	4%	41
13 Years	4%	46	13 Years	4%	41
14 Years	6%	66	14 Years	2%	21
15 Years	4%	45	15 Years	1%	14
16 Years	5%	50	16 Years	0%	4
17 Years	4%	38	17 Years	0%	2

Placement Type	Percent	Number	Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number
Pre-Adoptive Home	19%	197	American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	4
Foster Family Home (Relative)	20%	207	Asian	0%	2
Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	52%	536	Black or African American	38%	391
Group Home	3%	26	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	1
Institution	5%	57	Hispanic (of any race)	2%	25
Supervised Independent Living	0%	5	White	52%	543
Runaway	0%	2	Unknown/Unable to Determine	2%	19
Trial Home Visit	1%	10	Two or More Races	5%	56

Sex	Percent	Number
Male	49%	510
Female	51%	531

**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=531), Time Elapsed since Termination of Parental Rights as of September 30, 2021		
Mean		31.1			
Median		26.2			
Time in Care		Percent	Number	Time Since TPR	Months
Less than 1 Month		0%	4	Mean	23.5
1 - 5 Months		1%	13	Median	7.0
6 - 11 Months		6%	65		
12 - 17 Months		14%	141		
18 - 23 Months		21%	219		
24 - 29 Months		20%	208		
30 - 35 Months		8%	87		
3 - 4 Years		22%	231		
5 Years or More		7%	73		

### Children Adopted with Public Agency Involvement in FY 2021<sup>4</sup> - N=602

Age at Adoption		Years	Time Elapsed from Termination of Parental Rights to Adoption			Months	
Mean		5.3	Mean		9.2		
Median		4.0	Median		6.3		
Age at Adoption		Percent	Number	Time Elapsed from Termination of Parental Rights to Adoption		Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year		1%	5	Less than 1 Month		0%	0
1 Year		11%	69	1 - 5 Months		47%	283
2 Years		20%	121	6 - 11 Months		37%	221
3 Years		12%	74	12 - 17 Months		7%	40
4 Years		10%	62	18 - 23 Months		4%	23
5 Years		8%	46	24 - 29 Months		2%	11
6 Years		7%	42	30 - 35 Months		0%	3
7 Years		5%	32	3 - 4 Years		3%	18
8 Years		4%	24	5 Years or More		0%	3
9 Years		3%	18				
10 Years		4%	24				
11 Years		3%	19				
12 Years		3%	16				
13 Years		3%	19				
14 Years		2%	10				
15 Years		1%	7				
16 Years		0%	3				
17 Years		2%	11				
18 Years		0%	0				
19 Years		0%	0				
20 Years		0%	0				
				Race/Ethnicity		Percent	Number
				American Indian/Alaska Native		1%	5
				Asian		0%	0
				Black or African American		29%	175
				Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander		0%	0
				Hispanic (of any race)		3%	18
				White		60%	362
				Unknown/Unable to Determine		0%	3
				Two or More Races		6%	39
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.

Adoptive Family Structure	Percent	Number	Sex	Percent	Number
Married Couple	74%	444	Male	51%	307
Unmarried Couple	1%	6	Female	49%	295
Single Female	24%	145			
Single Male	1%	7			
Relationship of Adoptive Parents to Child Prior to Adoption	Percent	Number	Receive Adoption Subsidy	Percent	Number
Non-Relative	6%	30	Yes	98%	592
Foster Parent	67%	335	No	2%	10
Stepparent	0%	0			
Other Relative	27%	136			

### 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>