



# The AFCARS Report:

## Minnesota

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: Minnesota

Fiscal Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number in foster care on September 30 of the FY	9,651	9,271	8,400	7,763	6,870
Number entered foster care during the FY	7,408	6,743	6,045	5,007	4,552
Number exited foster care during the FY	6,225	6,771	6,614	5,429	5,214
Number served by the foster care system during the FY	15,876	16,042	15,014	13,192	12,084
Number waiting to be adopted on September 30 of the FY	1,990	2,026	1,951	1,869	1,818
Number waiting to be adopted for whom parental rights (for all living parents) were terminated as of the last day of the FY	1,848	1,852	1,812	1,694	1,661
Number adopted with public child welfare agency involvement during the FY	946	1,284	1,347	1,043	1,001

### Children in Foster Care on September 30, 2021 - N=6,870

Age as of September 30th	Years	Sex	Percent	Number
Mean	8.4	Male	51%	3,529
Median	8.0	Female	49%	3,341

Age as of September 30th	Percent	Number	Most Recent Placement Setting	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	7%	472	Pre-Adoptive Home	14%	982
1 Year	7%	488	Foster Family Home (Relative)	40%	2,726
2 Years	7%	456	Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	25%	1,729
3 Years	6%	434	Group Home	6%	387
4 Years	6%	409	Institution	6%	445
5 Years	5%	368	Supervised Independent Living	2%	126
6 Years	5%	321	Runaway	1%	86
7 Years	5%	345	Trial Home Visit	6%	383
8 Years	4%	294			
9 Years	4%	296			
10 Years	4%	289			
11 Years	4%	289			
12 Years	5%	335			
13 Years	5%	349			
14 Years	6%	392			
15 Years	5%	376			
16 Years	6%	394			
17 Years	6%	398			
18 Years	1%	69			
19 Years	1%	43			
20 Years	1%	53			

Case Plan Goal	Percent	Number
Reunify with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s)	72%	4,856
Live with Other Relative(s)	4%	244
Adoption	19%	1,295
Long Term Foster Care	0%	1
Emancipation	1%	81
Guardianship	0%	2
Case Plan Goal Not Yet Established	3%	224

<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	19%	1,338	Mean	20.6
Asian	2%	115	Median	13.3
Black or African American	13%	893		
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	3		
Hispanic (of any race)	10%	708		
White	33%	2,299		
Unknown/Unable to Determine	1%	71		
Two or More Races	21%	1,438		

**NOTE:** 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%	383
1 - 5 Months	21%	1,466
6 - 11 Months	20%	1,382
12 - 17 Months	13%	905
18 - 23 Months	11%	760
24 - 29 Months	8%	537
30 - 35 Months	5%	319
3 - 4 Years	10%	679
5 Years or More	6%	439

### Children Entering Foster Care during FY 2021 - N=4,552

Age at Entry	Years	Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number
Mean	7.5	American Indian/Alaska Native	14%	632
Median	7.0	Asian	2%	84
		Black or African American	12%	550
		Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	0
		Hispanic (of any race)	10%	476
		White	39%	1,779
		Unknown/Unable to Determine	2%	73
		Two or More Races	21%	953

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

Age at Entry	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	16%	709
1 Year	7%	310
2 Years	5%	247
3 Years	6%	254
4 Years	5%	236
5 Years	5%	208
6 Years	4%	199
7 Years	4%	193
8 Years	4%	180
9 Years	4%	189
10 Years	4%	176
11 Years	4%	198
12 Years	5%	236
13 Years	5%	248
14 Years	6%	279
15 Years	5%	246
16 Years	6%	259
17 Years	4%	185
18 Years	0%	0
19 Years	0%	0
20 Years	0%	0

Circumstances Associated with Child's Removal	Percent	Number
Drug Abuse (Parent)	46%	2,084
Neglect	32%	1,476
Child Disability	13%	586
Physical Abuse	11%	491
Caretaker Inability To Cope	10%	472
Child Behavior Problem	9%	417
Alcohol Abuse (Parent)	8%	375
Parent Incarceration	5%	220
Sexual Abuse	4%	189
Housing	4%	178
Abandonment	3%	147
Drug Abuse (Child)	2%	85
Parent Death	1%	67
Relinquishment	1%	36
Alcohol Abuse (Child)	0%	14

**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=5,214

Age at Exit		Years	Race/Ethnicity		Percent	Number
Mean		8.7	American Indian/Alaska Native		16%	822
Median		8.0	Asian		1%	56
			Black or African American		14%	735
			Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander		0%	1
			Hispanic (of any race)		10%	530
			White		38%	1,982
			Unknown/Unable to Determine		1%	65
			Two or More Races		20%	1,023
<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)		53%	2,739
			Living with Other Relative(s)		5%	247
			Adoption		19%	1,008
			Emancipation		7%	365
			Guardianship		15%	762
			Transfer to Another Agency		1%	65
			Runaway		0%	25
			Death of Child		0%	3

### Children Waiting to be Adopted<sup>3</sup> on September 30, 2021 - N=1,818

Age as of September 30th		Years	Age at Entry into Foster Care		Years
Mean		8.2	Mean		5.6
Median		8.0	Median		5.0

  

Age as of September 30th	Percent	Number	Age at Entry into Foster Care	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	4%	64	Less than 1 Year	22%	402
1 Year	7%	133	1 Year	7%	125
2 Years	7%	133	2 Years	7%	123
3 Years	7%	135	3 Years	7%	124
4 Years	7%	125	4 Years	6%	103
5 Years	6%	109	5 Years	5%	90
6 Years	6%	100	6 Years	6%	107
7 Years	6%	100	7 Years	6%	100
8 Years	5%	82	8 Years	5%	83
9 Years	4%	78	9 Years	5%	93
10 Years	5%	82	10 Years	6%	101
11 Years	4%	78	11 Years	6%	102
12 Years	6%	103	12 Years	4%	81
13 Years	5%	93	13 Years	5%	88
14 Years	6%	101	14 Years	2%	42
15 Years	6%	109	15 Years	2%	36
16 Years	6%	100	16 Years	1%	15
17 Years	5%	93	17 Years	0%	3

  

Placement Type	Percent	Number	Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number
Pre-Adoptive Home	53%	968	American Indian/Alaska Native	7%	131
Foster Family Home (Relative)	18%	327	Asian	2%	41
Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	18%	322	Black or African American	19%	349
Group Home	5%	90	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	1
Institution	4%	79	Hispanic (of any race)	11%	202
Supervised Independent Living	0%	0	White	36%	646
Runaway	1%	24	Unknown/Unable to Determine	1%	10
Trial Home Visit	0%	8	Two or More Races	24%	438

  

Sex	Percent	Number
Male	53%	962
Female	47%	856

**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=1,661), Time Elapsed since Termination of Parental Rights as of September 30, 2021			
Mean		32.3				
Median		25.6				
Time in Care		Percent	Number	Time Since TPR		Months
Less than 1 Month		0%	6	Mean		19.0
1 - 5 Months		3%	57	Median		11.0
6 - 11 Months		9%	165			
12 - 17 Months		13%	244			
18 - 23 Months		18%	335			
24 - 29 Months		16%	286			
30 - 35 Months		10%	174			
3 - 4 Years		20%	356			
5 Years or More		11%	195			

### Children Adopted with Public Agency Involvement in FY 2021<sup>4</sup> - N=1,001

Age at Adoption		Years	Time Elapsed from Termination of Parental Rights to Adoption			Months	
Mean		6.2	Mean			18.0	
Median		5.0	Median			13.8	
Age at Adoption		Percent	Number	Time Elapsed from Termination of Parental Rights to Adoption		Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year		1%	14	Less than 1 Month		0%	0
1 Year		13%	126	1 - 5 Months		10%	45
2 Years		14%	137	6 - 11 Months		35%	166
3 Years		10%	105	12 - 17 Months		19%	88
4 Years		8%	77	18 - 23 Months		14%	68
5 Years		5%	54	24 - 29 Months		9%	43
6 Years		8%	83	30 - 35 Months		4%	20
7 Years		5%	55	3 - 4 Years		6%	28
8 Years		5%	53	5 Years or More		2%	11
9 Years		4%	45	Race/Ethnicity		Percent	Number
10 Years		5%	51	American Indian/Alaska Native		7%	74
11 Years		4%	43	Asian		2%	19
12 Years		3%	34	Black or African American		16%	160
13 Years		3%	33	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander		0%	0
14 Years		3%	28	Hispanic (of any race)		13%	126
15 Years		2%	18	White		38%	378
16 Years		2%	24	Unknown/Unable to Determine		0%	3
17 Years		2%	21	Two or More Races		24%	241
18 Years		0%	0	NOTE: All races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Children of Hispanic ethnicity may be any race.			
19 Years		0%	0				
20 Years		0%	0				

<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	62%	620	Male	52%	520
Unmarried Couple	5%	47	Female	48%	481
Single Female	31%	307			
Single Male	2%	23			
Relationship of Adoptive Parents to Child Prior to Adoption	Percent	Number	Receive Adoption Subsidy	Percent	Number
Non-Relative	15%	153	Yes	87%	873
Foster Parent	28%	276	No	13%	128
Stepparent	0%	0			
Other Relative	57%	562			

### 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>