



# The AFCARS Report:

## Missouri

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: Missouri

Fiscal Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number in foster care on September 30 of the FY	12,390	12,659	12,685	12,650	13,194
Number entered foster care during the FY	6,774	6,963	6,889	6,499	6,819
Number exited foster care during the FY	6,640	6,559	6,642	6,394	6,146
Number served by the foster care system during the FY	19,030	19,218	19,327	19,044	19,340
Number waiting to be adopted on September 30 of the FY	2,825	2,783	2,745	2,583	2,677
Number waiting to be adopted for whom parental rights (for all living parents) were terminated as of the last day of the FY	840	864	895	813	854
Number adopted with public child welfare agency involvement during the FY	1,541	1,798	1,820	1,652	1,419

### Children in Foster Care on September 30, 2021 - N=13,194

Age as of September 30th	Years	Sex	Percent	Number
Mean	7.9	Male	52%	6,821
Median	7.0	Female	48%	6,373

Age as of September 30th	Percent	Number	Most Recent Placement Setting	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	8%	1,041	Pre-Adoptive Home	16%	2,052
1 Year	9%	1,161	Foster Family Home (Relative)	40%	5,336
2 Years	7%	977	Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	29%	3,841
3 Years	6%	856	Group Home	1%	98
4 Years	6%	745	Institution	6%	757
5 Years	5%	659	Supervised Independent Living	0%	59
6 Years	5%	641	Runaway	1%	85
7 Years	5%	618	Trial Home Visit	7%	966
8 Years	4%	572			
9 Years	4%	561			
10 Years	4%	524			
11 Years	4%	568			
12 Years	5%	598			
13 Years	5%	672			
14 Years	6%	733			
15 Years	6%	775			
16 Years	6%	802			
17 Years	5%	675			
18 Years	0%	15			
19 Years	0%	1			
20 Years	0%	0			

Case Plan Goal	Percent	Number
Reunify with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s)	63%	8,043
Live with Other Relative(s)	1%	161
Adoption	20%	2,541
Long Term Foster Care	2%	244
Emancipation	2%	193
Guardianship	11%	1,421
Case Plan Goal Not Yet Established	2%	246

<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%	50	Mean	18.8
Asian	0%	25	Median	13.4
Black or African American	18%	2,313		
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	9		
Hispanic (of any race)	8%	1,034		
White	65%	8,532		
Unknown/Unable to Determine	8%	1,003		
Two or More Races	2%	228		

**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	5%	658
1 - 5 Months	21%	2,727
6 - 11 Months	20%	2,595
12 - 17 Months	15%	1,929
18 - 23 Months	13%	1,750
24 - 29 Months	9%	1,142
30 - 35 Months	5%	664
3 - 4 Years	9%	1,178
5 Years or More	4%	551

### Children Entering Foster Care during FY 2021 - N=6,819

Age at Entry	Years	Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number
Mean	6.6	American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	24
Median	6.0	Asian	0%	16
		Black or African American	15%	1,054
		Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	6
		Hispanic (of any race)	8%	522
		White	66%	4,473
		Unknown/Unable to Determine	9%	620
		Two or More Races	2%	104

**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	20%	1,397
1 Year	7%	476
2 Years	6%	418
3 Years	6%	380
4 Years	5%	355
5 Years	5%	333
6 Years	4%	301
7 Years	4%	281
8 Years	4%	290
9 Years	4%	262
10 Years	4%	287
11 Years	4%	283
12 Years	4%	291
13 Years	5%	320
14 Years	5%	344
15 Years	5%	371
16 Years	4%	302
17 Years	2%	128
18 Years	0%	0
19 Years	0%	0
20 Years	0%	0

Circumstances Associated with Child's Removal	Percent	Number
Drug Abuse (Parent)	50%	3,437
Neglect	41%	2,790
Housing	20%	1,358
Physical Abuse	14%	948
Caretaker Inability To Cope	14%	936
Child Behavior Problem	8%	541
Abandonment	7%	491
Parent Incarceration	6%	434
Alcohol Abuse (Parent)	5%	369
Sexual Abuse	5%	343
Drug Abuse (Child)	3%	186
Parent Death	2%	116
Relinquishment	2%	104
Child Disability	1%	56
Alcohol Abuse (Child)	0%	17

**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=6,146

Age at Exit		Years	Race/Ethnicity		Percent	Number
Mean		8.6	American Indian/Alaska Native		1%	34
Median		8.0	Asian		0%	17
			Black or African American		16%	976
			Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander		0%	7
			Hispanic (of any race)		9%	573
			White		66%	4,063
			Unknown/Unable to Determine		6%	370
			Two or More Races		2%	106
<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)		45%	2,782
			Living with Other Relative(s)		1%	76
			Adoption		22%	1,346
			Emancipation		10%	601
			Guardianship		21%	1,263
			Transfer to Another Agency		1%	31
			Runaway		0%	16
			Death of Child		0%	15

### Children Waiting to be Adopted<sup>3</sup> on September 30, 2021 - N=2,677

Age as of September 30th			Years	Age at Entry into Foster Care			Years
Mean			7.6	Mean			4.7
Median			7.0	Median			4.0

  

Age as of September 30th	Percent	Number	Age at Entry into Foster Care	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	3%	68	Less than 1 Year	26%	698
1 Year	10%	281	1 Year	8%	214
2 Years	9%	246	2 Years	7%	192
3 Years	9%	228	3 Years	6%	164
4 Years	6%	169	4 Years	7%	177
5 Years	5%	130	5 Years	7%	176
6 Years	6%	152	6 Years	5%	141
7 Years	6%	155	7 Years	6%	156
8 Years	5%	133	8 Years	5%	130
9 Years	5%	124	9 Years	6%	152
10 Years	4%	104	10 Years	5%	134
11 Years	5%	124	11 Years	4%	111
12 Years	6%	152	12 Years	3%	83
13 Years	5%	136	13 Years	3%	73
14 Years	5%	128	14 Years	2%	41
15 Years	5%	146	15 Years	1%	24
16 Years	4%	120	16 Years	0%	11
17 Years	3%	81	17 Years	0%	0

  

Placement Type	Percent	Number	Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number
Pre-Adoptive Home	37%	982	American Indian/Alaska Native	1%	14
Foster Family Home (Relative)	22%	585	Asian	0%	3
Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	35%	943	Black or African American	19%	498
Group Home	0%	12	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	3
Institution	5%	130	Hispanic (of any race)	7%	180
Supervised Independent Living	0%	3	White	65%	1,739
Runaway	0%	10	Unknown/Unable to Determine	7%	192
Trial Home Visit	0%	12	Two or More Races	2%	48

  

Sex	Percent	Number
Male	52%	1,392
Female	48%	1,285

**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=854), Time Elapsed since Termination of Parental Rights as of September 30, 2021
Mean		34.9	
Median		28.8	

  

Time in Care	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Month	0%	6
1 - 5 Months	2%	41
6 - 11 Months	6%	152
12 - 17 Months	12%	311
18 - 23 Months	18%	486
24 - 29 Months	17%	446
30 - 35 Months	11%	287
3 - 4 Years	23%	616
5 Years or More	12%	332

  

Time Since TPR		Months
Mean		20.9
Median		10.0

### Children Adopted with Public Agency Involvement in FY 2021<sup>4</sup> - N=1,419

Age at Adoption		Years	Time Elapsed from Termination of Parental Rights to Adoption		Months
Mean		6.0	Mean		6.2
Median		5.0	Median		3.4

  

Age at Adoption	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	2%	23
1 Year	14%	195
2 Years	16%	222
3 Years	10%	140
4 Years	8%	115
5 Years	7%	97
6 Years	7%	98
7 Years	6%	79
8 Years	5%	76
9 Years	3%	47
10 Years	4%	53
11 Years	3%	47
12 Years	3%	44
13 Years	3%	49
14 Years	3%	39
15 Years	2%	32
16 Years	3%	37
17 Years	2%	23
18 Years	0%	3
19 Years	0%	0
20 Years	0%	0

  

Time Elapsed from Termination of Parental Rights to Adoption	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Month	21%	294
1 - 5 Months	49%	679
6 - 11 Months	18%	248
12 - 17 Months	6%	77
18 - 23 Months	3%	43
24 - 29 Months	2%	23
30 - 35 Months	1%	9
3 - 4 Years	1%	20
5 Years or More	1%	7

  

Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number
American Indian/Alaska Native	1%	9
Asian	0%	6
Black or African American	13%	190
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	2
Hispanic (of any race)	8%	115
White	69%	984
Unknown/Unable to Determine	7%	99
Two or More Races	1%	14

**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%	1,042	Male	54%	762
Unmarried Couple	2%	35	Female	46%	657
Single Female	21%	300			
Single Male	3%	36			
Relationship of Adoptive Parents to Child Prior to Adoption	Percent	Number	Receive Adoption Subsidy	Percent	Number
Non-Relative	10%	135	Yes	76%	1,077
Foster Parent	51%	719	No	24%	342
Stepparent	0%	2			
Other Relative	39%	550			

### 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>