



The AFCARS Report:

New York

Preliminary FY¹ 2021 Estimates as of June 28, 2022 - No. 29

SOURCE: Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) FY 2021 data²

Numbers at a Glance: New York

Fiscal Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number in foster care on September 30 of the FY	17,345	16,591	16,086	15,497	14,657
Number entered foster care during the FY	9,428	8,600	8,337	6,576	6,353
Number exited foster care during the FY	8,971	8,400	7,968	6,478	7,040
Number served by the foster care system during the FY	26,316	24,991	24,054	21,975	21,697
Number waiting to be adopted on September 30 of the FY	4,578	4,233	3,806	3,605	3,570
Number waiting to be adopted for whom parental rights (for all living parents) were terminated as of the last day of the FY	2,243	2,134	1,756	1,569	1,495
Number adopted with public child welfare agency involvement during the FY	1,789	1,697	1,648	974	1,145

Children in Foster Care on September 30, 2021 - N=14,657

Age as of September 30th	Years	Sex	Percent	Number
Mean	7.9	Male	51%	7,472
Median	7.0	Female	49%	7,185

Age as of September 30th	Percent	Number	Most Recent Placement Setting	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	6%	819	Pre-Adoptive Home	6%	884
1 Year	8%	1,137	Foster Family Home (Relative)	32%	4,687
2 Years	8%	1,237	Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	44%	6,380
3 Years	8%	1,114	Group Home	2%	315
4 Years	7%	1,011	Institution	9%	1,259
5 Years	6%	836	Supervised Independent Living	0%	18
6 Years	5%	766	Runaway	2%	270
7 Years	5%	714	Trial Home Visit	5%	745
8 Years	4%	637			
9 Years	5%	667	Case Plan Goal	Percent	Number
10 Years	4%	635	Reunify with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s)	66%	9,410
11 Years	4%	582	Live with Other Relative(s)	3%	424
12 Years	4%	640	Adoption	24%	3,494
13 Years	4%	636	Long Term Foster Care	1%	179
14 Years	4%	651	Emancipation	1%	149
15 Years	5%	778	Guardianship	4%	619
16 Years	6%	825	Case Plan Goal Not Yet Established	0%	29
17 Years	6%	878			
18 Years	1%	91			
19 Years	0%	2			
20 Years	0%	1			

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

² 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%	22	Mean	27.4
Asian	1%	179	Median	21.5
Black or African American	37%	5,439		
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	2		
Hispanic (of any race)	27%	3,909		
White	27%	3,924		
Unknown/Unable to Determine	0%	42		
Two or More Races	8%	1,128		

Time in Care	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Month	4%	545
1 - 5 Months	15%	2,165
6 - 11 Months	14%	2,103
12 - 17 Months	10%	1,500
18 - 23 Months	12%	1,724
24 - 29 Months	10%	1,513
30 - 35 Months	8%	1,115
3 - 4 Years	18%	2,641
5 Years or More	9%	1,351

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

Children Entering Foster Care during FY 2021 - N=6,353

Age at Entry	Years	Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number
Mean	7.5	American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	13
Median	6.0	Asian	1%	85
		Black or African American	34%	2,132
		Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	2
		Hispanic (of any race)	27%	1,721
		White	30%	1,894
		Unknown/Unable to Determine	0%	22
		Two or More Races	8%	483

Age at Entry	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	20%	1,240
1 Year	7%	434
2 Years	5%	339
3 Years	5%	325
4 Years	5%	321
5 Years	4%	268
6 Years	4%	264
7 Years	4%	239
8 Years	3%	222
9 Years	4%	227
10 Years	3%	211
11 Years	3%	203
12 Years	3%	221
13 Years	4%	277
14 Years	5%	335
15 Years	5%	329
16 Years	5%	344
17 Years	5%	302
18 Years	2%	104
19 Years	1%	64
20 Years	1%	84

Circumstances Associated with Child's Removal	Percent	Number
Neglect	56%	3,538
Drug Abuse (Parent)	20%	1,278
Child Behavior Problem	9%	568
Physical Abuse	7%	429
Caretaker Inability To Cope	6%	384
Alcohol Abuse (Parent)	6%	370
Housing	6%	365
Sexual Abuse	2%	148
Abandonment	2%	138
Parent Incarceration	2%	104
Drug Abuse (Child)	1%	84
Parent Death	1%	52
Child Disability	1%	34
Alcohol Abuse (Child)	0%	28
Relinquishment	0%	15

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=7,040

Age at Exit		Years	Race/Ethnicity		Percent	Number	
Mean		10.2	American Indian/Alaska Native		0%	31	
Median		10.0	Asian		1%	90	
			Black or African American		38%	2,691	
			Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander		0%	2	
			Hispanic (of any race)		26%	1,805	
			White		27%	1,874	
			Unknown/Unable to Determine		0%	15	
			Two or More Races		8%	531	
NOTE: 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		3%	241	Reunification with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s)		41%	2,896
1 Year		4%	298	Living with Other Relative(s)		10%	683
2 Years		6%	448	Adoption		16%	1,145
3 Years		7%	464	Emancipation		22%	1,525
4 Years		6%	400	Guardianship		10%	678
5 Years		5%	350	Transfer to Another Agency		1%	77
6 Years		5%	321	Runaway		0%	9
7 Years		5%	350	Death of Child		0%	10
8 Years		4%	272				
9 Years		4%	257				
10 Years		4%	257				
11 Years		4%	278				
12 Years		3%	217				
13 Years		3%	243				
14 Years		4%	266				
15 Years		4%	305				
16 Years		5%	318				
17 Years		4%	276				
18 Years		15%	1,024				
19 Years		3%	187				
20 Years		4%	268				
Time in Care		Months					
Mean		26.2					
Median		19.8					
Time in Care		Percent	Number				
Less than 1 Month		8%	591				
1 - 5 Months		12%	855				
6 - 11 Months		13%	910				
12 - 17 Months		12%	872				
18 - 23 Months		11%	747				
24 - 29 Months		9%	666				
30 - 35 Months		8%	534				
3 - 4 Years		17%	1,197				
5 Years or More		9%	640				

Children Waiting to be Adopted³ on September 30, 2021 - N=3,570

Age as of September 30th		Years	Age at Entry into Foster Care		Years
Mean		7.6	Mean		3.6
Median		7.0	Median		2.0

Age as of September 30th	Percent	Number	Age at Entry into Foster Care	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	1%	29	Less than 1 Year	38%	1,341
1 Year	5%	187	1 Year	9%	321
2 Years	10%	348	2 Years	7%	237
3 Years	11%	375	3 Years	6%	210
4 Years	9%	327	4 Years	5%	189
5 Years	8%	281	5 Years	6%	208
6 Years	6%	229	6 Years	5%	185
7 Years	6%	202	7 Years	5%	177
8 Years	5%	162	8 Years	4%	131
9 Years	5%	193	9 Years	4%	136
10 Years	5%	170	10 Years	3%	124
11 Years	4%	155	11 Years	3%	98
12 Years	4%	157	12 Years	2%	72
13 Years	5%	172	13 Years	2%	82
14 Years	4%	130	14 Years	1%	34
15 Years	5%	176	15 Years	0%	15
16 Years	4%	153	16 Years	0%	8
17 Years	3%	124	17 Years	0%	2

Placement Type	Percent	Number	Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number
Pre-Adoptive Home	24%	852	American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	6
Foster Family Home (Relative)	16%	584	Asian	1%	35
Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	52%	1,849	Black or African American	35%	1,261
Group Home	1%	44	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	0
Institution	4%	159	Hispanic (of any race)	26%	915
Supervised Independent Living	0%	2	White	29%	1,043
Runaway	1%	34	Unknown/Unable to Determine	0%	6
Trial Home Visit	0%	16	Two or More Races	9%	304

Sex	Percent	Number
Male	51%	1,836
Female	49%	1,734

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

³ 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=1,495), Time Elapsed since Termination of Parental Rights as of September 30, 2021		
Mean		49.0			
Median		42.8			
Time in Care		Percent	Number	Time Since TPR	Months
Less than 1 Month		0%	5	Mean	20.3
1 - 5 Months		1%	40	Median	12.0
6 - 11 Months		2%	77		
12 - 17 Months		4%	138		
18 - 23 Months		8%	286		
24 - 29 Months		11%	396		
30 - 35 Months		11%	382		
3 - 4 Years		37%	1,335		
5 Years or More		26%	911		

Children Adopted with Public Agency Involvement in FY 2021⁴ - N=1,145

Age at Adoption		Years	Time Elapsed from Termination of Parental Rights to Adoption			Months	
Mean		6.8	Mean			18.3	
Median		6.0	Median			16.5	
Age at Adoption		Percent	Number	Time Elapsed from Termination of Parental Rights to Adoption		Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year		0%	3	Less than 1 Month		0%	0
1 Year		4%	45	1 - 5 Months		11%	107
2 Years		12%	136	6 - 11 Months		21%	201
3 Years		12%	135	12 - 17 Months		26%	249
4 Years		12%	133	18 - 23 Months		19%	180
5 Years		9%	107	24 - 29 Months		12%	113
6 Years		7%	75	30 - 35 Months		5%	47
7 Years		7%	83	3 - 4 Years		6%	57
8 Years		6%	69	5 Years or More		1%	9
9 Years		5%	53				
10 Years		5%	54				
11 Years		5%	58				
12 Years		4%	50				
13 Years		4%	41				
14 Years		3%	34				
15 Years		3%	33				
16 Years		1%	15				
17 Years		2%	19				
18 Years		0%	2				
19 Years		0%	0				
20 Years		0%	0				
Race/Ethnicity		Percent	Number				
American Indian/Alaska Native		0%	1				
Asian		1%	7				
Black or African American		31%	352				
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander		0%	0				
Hispanic (of any race)		21%	242				
White		38%	436				
Unknown/Unable to Determine		0%	1				
Two or More Races		9%	106				
NOTE: All races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Children of Hispanic ethnicity may be any race.							

⁴ 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	52%	540	Male	52%	598
Unmarried Couple	5%	51	Female	48%	547
Single Female	41%	425			
Single Male	2%	16			
Relationship of Adoptive Parents to Child Prior to Adoption	Percent	Number	Receive Adoption Subsidy	Percent	Number
Non-Relative	0%	0	Yes	100%	1,126
Foster Parent	100%	2	No	0%	0
Stepparent	0%	0			
Other Relative	0%	0			

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>