

Child Welfare Outcomes 2019: Report to Congress

Executive Summary

Safety · Permanency · Well-Being



The Child Welfare Outcomes Report is created by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to meet requirements of section 203(a) of the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (ASFA).¹ ASFA created section 479A of the Social Security Act (the Act), which requires HHS to issue an annual report that assesses state performance in operating child protection and child welfare programs under Titles IV-B and IV-E of the Act.² Child Welfare Outcomes 1998 was the first Report created in Child Welfare Outcomes series of Reports. The present Report, Child Welfare Outcomes 2019, is the 20th Report since the series' inception.

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Child Welfare Outcomes 2019 includes:

- Performance on the seven national outcome categories:
 - National performance in 2019
 - National and state performance over time Outcome-based data visualizations
 - State comments (if provided)
 - A discussion of data issues and key findings of the data analyses across states

The Child Welfare Outcomes Reports provide information on national performance as well as the performance of individual states in seven outcome categories.³ Prior to the first Report, the Children's Bureau within HHS' Administration for Children and Families identified these outcomes in close consultation with state and local child welfare agency administrators, child advocacy organizations, child welfare researchers, state legislators, and other experts in the child welfare field. The following are the seven national outcomes established by HHS through this consultation process:

Outcome 1: Reduce recurrence of child abuse and/or neglect

Outcome 2: Reduce the incidence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care

Outcome 3: Increase permanency for children in foster care

Outcome 4: Reduce time in foster care to reunification without increasing reentry

Outcome 5: Reduce time in foster care to adoption

Outcome 6: Increase placement stability

Outcome 7: Reduce placements of young children in group homes or institutions

These outcomes reflect the importance of performance objectives in child welfare practice in and around the time of ASFA's passage. In recent years, the Children's Bureau, Congress, and the child welfare field have begun to recognize and emphasize the critical importance of a full continuum of prevention services and approaches as essential child welfare practice. This may lead to HHS considering the creation and addition of prevention-oriented performance objectives in the future.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
Children's Bureau



In addition to detailing state performance in the current outcome categories, this Report also includes findings of analyses conducted across states and across time. Data for most of the measures in this Report come from two national child welfare reporting systems—the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) and the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS).

Contextual Factors

The Child Welfare Outcomes Report presents data on child welfare-related contextual factors relevant to understanding and interpreting state performance on the measures. The following is a summary of the 2019 data for these contextual factors.⁴

Foster care information overview

- Nationally, there were approximately 424,000 children in foster care on the last day of 2019. During that year, an estimated 251,000 children entered foster care, and 249,000 children exited foster care.⁵ Among the states, the foster care entry rate ranged from 1.4 children per 1,000 in a state's population to 14.0 children per 1,000 in a state's population.⁶
- The number of children in foster care on the last day of the year decreased from the prior year for both 2018 and 2019. The decrease observed from 2017 to 2019 was approximately 3 percent.⁷
- Of the children who entered foster care in 2019, the majority had a reason for removal that included neglect (either alone—24.7 percent— or in combination with another reason other than physical or sexual abuse—30.1 percent). Physical or sexual abuse (alone) accounted for 16.0 percent of the removals, and drug abuse (alone) accounted for 8.1 percent.

AFCARS data show that the number of children in care on the last day of the FY decreased for the last 2 years (2018 and 2019). The decrease from 2018 to 2019 was 2.5 percent.

Child victims' information overview

- During 2019, approximately 656,000 children were confirmed to be victims of maltreatment.^{8,9} The overall

national child victim rate was 8.9 child victims per 1,000 children in the population.¹⁰ State child victim rates varied dramatically, ranging from 1.8 child victims per 1,000 children to 20.1 child victims per 1,000 children.¹¹

State Performance on Outcome Measures

This Report includes a synopsis of key findings on the 12 measures established to assess performance on the seven national outcomes previously identified. These measures are described in detail in appendix B. For all measures, national performance is determined by median performance across states that meet data-quality thresholds. Table 1, at the end of the Executive Summary, displays these measures and their medians for 2015–2019.¹² Change in state performance over time was assessed by calculating a percentage change in performance on the measures.¹³ Consistent with HHS' historical approach to the analyses in these Reports, a percentage change of 5.0 or greater in either direction (i.e., positive or negative) was used as a general indicator that meaningful change in performance on the measures occurred. Therefore, for the purposes of the analyses presented in this Report, if the percentage change in performance from 2015 to 2019 was less than 5.0 in either direction, the determination was that there was no change in performance.

Outcome 1: Reduce recurrence of child abuse and/or neglect

- In 2019, state performance with regard to the percentage of child victims experiencing a recurrence of child maltreatment within a 6-month period (measure 1.1) was 5.1 percent.
- States with higher child victim rates tended to have higher maltreatment recurrence rates within a 6-month period (Pearson's $r=0.68$).¹⁴ Similarly, the percentage of children who were victims of neglect was moderately correlated with the percentage of maltreatment recurrence within a 6-month period (Pearson's $r=0.46$).
- National performance over time on the recurrence of child maltreatment declined between 2015 (median=5.0 percent) and 2019 (median=5.2 percent), with about as many states reporting an improvement in performance (21) as a decline in performance (20).

Outcome 2: Reduce the incidence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care

- In 2019, the national median performance with regard to the maltreatment of children in foster care (measure 2.1) was 0.27 percent and state performance ranged from 0.00 to 2.06 percent.¹⁵
- The national median performance regarding the percentage of children who experienced maltreatment while in foster care decreased from 0.29 percent in 2015 to 0.26 percent in 2019, reflecting a 10.3-percent decrease.

The percentage of all children in foster care who experienced maltreatment while in care decreased by 10.3 between 2015 and 2019.

Outcome 3: Increase permanency for children in foster care

- In 2019, states were mostly successful in achieving permanency (i.e., discharge to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship) for all children exiting foster care (measure 3.1), with a median performance of 90.3 percent.
- States were less successful in achieving permanent homes for children exiting foster care who had a diagnosed disability (measure 3.2, median= 82.7 percent) and for children who had entered care when they were older than age 12 (measure 3.3, median= 64.3 percent).¹⁶
- The median percentage of children who emancipated from foster care and who also were age 12 or younger when they entered care (measure 3.4) declined 19.4 percent since 2015, with 69 percent of states demonstrating improved performance on this measure.
- From 2015 to 2019, state performance declined for placing American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander children into permanent homes (measure 3.5). There was an increase in the median percentage of White children (from 90.4 to 91.4 percent), Black or African-American children (from 84.2 to 87.0 percent), and Hispanic children (from 90.6 to 90.7 percent) exiting care to permanent placements.

In 2019, 89.7 percent of all children who exited foster care during the year were discharged to a permanent home.

Outcome 4: Reduce time in foster care to reunification without increasing reentry

- In 43 states (83 percent), at least half of reunifications occurred within 12 months from the time of entry into foster care (measure 4.1). The median performance was 62.6 percent. National performance over time has declined consistently over the past 5 years, with a 7.1-percent decrease since 2015.
- Of all children who entered foster care during 2019, a median of 7.3 percent had reentered foster care within 12 months of a prior foster care episode (measure 4.2). The national median increased slightly from 7.3 percent in 2015 to 7.4 percent in 2019—an overall increase of 1.4 percent—with 21 states showing a greater proportion of children in the entry group having had a prior episode in care.

Outcome 5: Reduce time in foster care to adoption

- States continued to struggle with achieving timely adoptions in 2019, with a median of 3.1 percent of children discharged to a finalized adoption within 12 months of the latest removal (measure 5.1a). Additionally, more than half of states (59 percent) declined in performance between 2015 and 2019.
- For adoptions occurring at least 12 months but less than 24 months from entry into foster care (measure 5.1b), national performance declined 11.4 percent between 2015 and 2019, with more than half (59 percent) of states demonstrating a decline in performance.

The 2019 data indicate that achieving timely adoptions within 24 months of entering foster care remained a challenge for all but a few states.

Outcome 6: Increase placement stability

- In 2019, the majority of children in foster care for less than 12 months demonstrated placement stability (i.e., having had two or fewer placement settings in a single foster care episode) (measure 6.1a), with a median performance of 83.0 percent.
- States were less successful in demonstrating placement stability the longer a child spent in foster care. The median across states for children who were in care between 12 and 24 months (measure 6.1b) was 64.9 percent, and for children in care at least 24 months (measure 6.1c), it was 40.6 percent.
- Between 2015 and 2019, states showed little change in demonstrating placement stability for children in care under 24 months. However, for children in care at least 24 months, the national median increased by 12.5 percent—from 35.9 to 40.4 percent—with nearly two-thirds (63 percent) of states demonstrating an improvement in performance.

National performance on achieving placement stability for children who have been in care for 24 months or longer improved by 12.5 percent between 2015 and 2019.

Outcome 7: Reduce placements of young children in group homes or institutions

- For half the states (50 percent), 2.9 percent or less of children entering foster care under the age of 12 were placed in group homes or institutions in 2019 (measure 7.1).
- Overall, states continued to demonstrate improvement on this measure, decreasing from 3.7 percent in 2015 to 2.9 percent in 2019—a 21.6-percent decline—with 32 states (63 percent) demonstrating an improvement in performance.

Between 2015 and 2019, the median percentage of children who were age 12 or younger when they entered care and were placed in group homes or institutions declined by 21.6 percent—63 percent of the states demonstrated an improvement in performance.

Conclusion and Recommendations for Further Investigation

In reviewing the key findings in all seven outcome areas, it is clear there are both areas of strength and areas in need of improvement with regard to achieving positive outcomes for children who come into contact with state child welfare systems. While AFCARS and NCANDS data provide some limited initial insight into many of these issues, all of these areas deserve additional investigation in order for the child welfare field to gain further understanding and move forward. Areas needing additional attention include the following:

- The number of children in foster care on the last day of the year decreased during the last 2 years (2018 and 2019). It will be important to monitor these numbers in future reports to see if this will become a sustained decrease that may be partially due to the availability of optional prevention funding¹⁷ and implementation efforts.
- While the national median performance in achieving permanency for all children and for children with a diagnosed disability remained high, state performance on finding permanent homes for older children continues to be a challenge. Agencies should review their data to consider what additional barriers may prevent older youth from achieving permanency.
- Despite reunifications constituting more than half of all exits from foster care, the national performance has mostly declined over the last 5 years, with over four times as many states demonstrating a decline in performance than showing an improvement. Agencies should identify and review specific barriers to achieving timely reunifications.
- When reunification is not in the best interest of the child, adoption should be pursued. However, data indicate that achieving timely adoptions still is a challenge for most states. Among children who were adopted, the proportion who were adopted less than 12 months from entry declined for a majority of states between 2015 and 2019—with 30 states showing a decline in improvement. Similarly, over half of states reported a decline in the proportion of adoptions that occurred between 12 and 24 months from entry.
- As previously noted, state performance on the proportion of children exiting to reunification and adoption has decreased. It will be important for states to monitor these outcomes as they strive to move children to timely permanency.

- States have been mostly successful in achieving stable placement settings for children in foster care less than 12 months and have shown strong improvement on this measure for children in care at least 24 months. States may want to examine the population of children in care between 12 and 24 months to identify possible barriers to improved performance specific to this population.
- Although the national percentage of young children placed in group homes or institutions has declined since 2015, it is important to note that 15 states declined in performance (i.e., more children were placed in congregate care). Therefore, it would be useful to determine what specific strategies may assist states that continue to struggle in this area.
- Table 2 displays the changes in performance for each state between 2015 and 2019 across the measures and select subcategories of measures. Seven states showed improvement in at least half (seven or more) of the measures, with states ranging from improving on one to nine measures. While many states are making progress on

these permanency and safety outcomes, it is important for states to continue to monitor ongoing practice efforts and identify which strategies may be associated with improved outcomes. They then may be able to determine whether they—or other states—can replicate those strategies to stem or reverse declining performance in any remaining outcomes.

Data and analyses presented throughout this Report offer additional details regarding the foster care population and overall national performance on the seven primary outcomes. Outcomes-based visuals in the Report display both single-year performance and state performance over time from 2015 to 2019.

¹ See appendix A for the current specifications of section 479A of the Social Security Act, as created by ASFA and amended by Pub. L. 109–288, Pub. L. 112–34, Pub. L. 113–183, and Pub. L. 115–123.

² Title IV-E has been amended on several occasions. Its funds support foster care; adoption assistance; kinship guardianship assistance; and, at the option of a state, kinship navigator programs and/or time-limited prevention services for candidates of foster care, pregnant or parenting foster youth, and the parents or kin caregivers of those children and youth. Title IV-B funds support preventative and protective services for children. For more information on policies and guidance provided to states, see <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/laws-policies/policy-program-issues>.

³ For the purposes of this Report, the designation of “state” includes the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Therefore, the Report provides information on a total of 52 states, depending on the number of states that submitted adequate data for a particular measure. Tribal Title IV-E agencies are not included in this Report. It is important to note, however, that states report information on all children for whom the state has responsibility for placement, care, and supervision, and in some cases these children may be tribal children. Currently, the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) does not have an indicator to distinguish which states are reporting tribal information or an identifier for tribal children.

⁴ Unless otherwise specified, the data used in this Report are for federal fiscal years (October 1–September 30). Additionally, unless otherwise specified, the data used in this Report are for federal fiscal year 2019.

⁵ These foster care entry and exit data were obtained from Trends in Foster Care and Adoption: FY 2010–FY 2019, which is available at <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>. They may differ with data presented in later sections of this Report because of differences in data-quality thresholds.

⁶ The foster care entry rate was calculated by dividing the total number of children entering foster care in a state by the total child population in that state and multiplying the resulting number by 1,000.

⁷ For more information, see *Trends in Foster Care and Adoption: FY 2010–FY 2019* on the Children’s Bureau website at <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>. The data used in that report were current as of June 2020.

⁸ This Report uses a unique count for child victims, which tallies a child only once regardless of the number of times the child was found to be a victim during the reporting year.

⁹ For the purposes of this Report, a “victim of child maltreatment” is defined as a child for whom an incident of abuse or neglect has been substantiated or indicated by an investigation or assessment. This includes a child who died of child abuse or neglect. Prior to 2015, children with dispositions of “alternative response victim” were also included as victims. It is important to note that the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports use the total reported number of child victims as opposed to a national estimate of child victims, which often is reported in the Child Maltreatment reports. The total number of child victims in this Report were rounded to the nearest 1,000.

¹⁰ The national child victim rate was calculated by dividing the total number of child victims (656,243) by the child population for all states that submitted NCANDS data (73,611,881) and multiplying the resulting number by 1,000. This calculation includes children under the age of 18.

¹¹ A state’s rate of child victims is defined as the number of child victims reported to NCANDS per 1,000 children in the state’s population.

¹² In this Report, two separate national medians were computed for each measure. In the 2019 Range of State Performance tables, national medians were calculated using data from all states that met the relevant data-quality thresholds in 2019 only. However, in the Median State Performance and Change in Performance Over Time tables, national medians were calculated using only data from the states that met the relevant data-quality thresholds for all the relevant FYs (2015–2019). This was done to provide a more accurate calculation of change over time. Unless stated otherwise, comparisons of medians between years used the latter calculation. Therefore, the number of states (N) included in each of these calculations may vary, and these two medians may vary slightly.

¹³ Percentage change was calculated by subtracting the “old” data from the “new” data, dividing that result by the old data, and multiplying it by 100. For example, median performance on measure 3.1 was 89.1 percent in 2015 and 90.2 percent in 2019, and so the resulting increase is 1.2 percent $\{[(90.2-89.1)/89.1] \times 100=1.2\}$.

¹⁴ The strength of relationships in the Child Welfare Outcomes Reports is assessed using correlation coefficients, specifically Pearson’s *r*, which can range in value from –1 to +1.

¹⁵ Due to the relatively few cases of child maltreatment in foster care, performance on this measure is presented using two decimal places to improve comparability.

¹⁶ For the purpose of AFCARS, a diagnosed disability includes mental retardation, visual or hearing impairment, physical disability, emotional disturbance, or other medically diagnosed conditions requiring special care. For more information on the definitions and requirements for a disability, see AFCARS Technical Bulletin #2: Disability Information (last revised February 2012) at <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/afcars-tb2>.

¹⁷ The Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) (Pub. L. 115–123), which was enacted in 2018 and amended Titles IV-B and IV-E of the Act, provides prevention funding for states. For more information on FFPSA, see <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/laws-policies/whats-new>.

Table 1. Median State Performance on Outcome Measures, 2015–2019

Outcome measures	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Measure 1.1: Of all children who were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and/or neglect during the first 6 months of the year, what percentage had another substantiated or indicated report within a 6-month period? (N=51) ^a	5.0%	5.1%	5.3%	5.5%	5.2%
Measure 2.1: Of all children who were in foster care during the year, what percentage were the subject of substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff? (N=47) ^a	0.29%	0.20%	0.27%	0.26%	0.26%
Measure 3.1: Of all children who exited foster care during the year, what percentage left to either reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=51)	89.1%	89.0%	90.3%	90.3%	90.2%
Measure 3.2: Of all children who exited foster care during the year and were identified as having a diagnosed disability, what percentage left to either reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=44)	79.8%	82.1%	81.5%	82.2%	83.2%
Measure 3.3: Of all children who exited foster care during the year and were older than age 12 at the time of their most recent entry into care, what percentage left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship (i.e., were discharged to a permanent home)? (N=51)	66.0%	65.2%	64.0%	62.7%	64.0%
Measure 3.4: Of all children exiting foster care during the year to emancipation, what percentage were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into care? (N=51) ^a	18.6%	16.9%	16.9%	15.8%	15.0%
Measure 4.1: Of all children reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care during the year, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the time of entry into foster care? (N=51)	67.8%	66.1%	64.6%	63.8%	63.0%
Measure 4.2: Of all children who entered foster care during the year, what percentage reentered care within 12 months of a prior foster care episode? (N=51) ^a	7.3%	7.1%	7.3%	6.9%	7.4%
Measure 5.1a: Of all children discharged from foster care during the year to a finalized adoption, what percentage exited care in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (N=51)	3.3%	3.7%	3.4%	2.7%	3.1%
Measure 5.1b: Of all children discharged from care during the year to a finalized adoption, what percentage exited care at least 12 months but less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home? (N=51)	30.8%	29.1%	29.4%	28.7%	27.3%
Measure 6.1a: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for less than 12 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=51)	84.8%	84.0%	84.4%	83.5%	83.0%
Measure 6.1b: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=51)	63.3%	65.1%	65.8%	65.8%	64.8%
Measure 6.1c: Of all children served in foster care during the year who were in care for at least 24 months, what percentage had no more than two placement settings? (N=51)	35.9%	39.0%	41.1%	41.1%	40.4%
Measure 7.1: Of all children who entered foster care during the year and were age 12 or younger at the time of their most recent placement, what percentage were placed in a group home or an institution? (N=51) ^a	3.7%	3.2%	3.0%	3.1%	2.9%

^a For these measures, a lower number indicates better performance.

Note.— Data for this table include all states that met the relevant data-quality criteria for all years. Data for measure 3.5 are presented separately in table III–5 in the Report.

Table 2. State Percentage Change in Performance by Outcome Measure, 2015–2019

State	1.1	2.1	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.4	4.1	4.2	5.1a	5.1b	6.1a	6.1b	6.1c	7.1
Alabama	59.7%	326.5%	0.6%	0.5%	–4.9%	–35.6%	–7.1%	–3.5%	–10.7%	15.2%	–1.8%	2.5%	16.8%	–50.3%
Alaska	–9.0%	104.6%	–0.6%	–0.2%	8.0%	31.3%	–13.8%	86.8%	–59.5%	–26.5%	–3.2%	3.5%	18.1%	–47.3%
Arizona	–4.3%	99.9%	–0.3%	–6.1%	–1.4%	–1.6%	–3.9%	–8.0%	53.4%	–4.9%	0.5%	–4.0%	–8.4%	–27.4%
Arkansas	3.3%	–37.9%	–1.1%	0.3%	–7.2%	–27.4%	–9.2%	–12.9%	16.4%	–17.2%	5.4%	18.7%	–6.4%	–65.3%
California	–4.4%	–11.5%	4.4%	6.4%	–7.8%	–11.3%	–1.4%	–13.7%	–20.0%	–8.4%	4.4%	8.8%	13.4%	–32.9%
Colorado	19.1%	–18.2%	–1.1%	DQ	–5.1%	–37.3%	–0.8%	–4.2%	–3.6%	–16.5%	–1.5%	–1.0%	9.3%	–51.2%
Connecticut	5.8%	–67.2%	29.5%	22.8%	16.3%	12.5%	–2.5%	30.1%	170.7%	10.0%	–6.3%	–11.0%	7.0%	–61.2%
Delaware	–75.4%	N/A	4.5%	18.9%	–10.2%	–51.2%	4.5%	–0.4%	–34.7%	–7.1%	–2.5%	–6.6%	–3.2%	40.5%
District of Columbia	42.6%	22.0%	8.2%	78.8%	13.6%	–62.7%	6.1%	30.5%	N/A	–36.8%	–18.0%	–8.6%	22.8%	N/A
Florida	–15.3%	–58.8%	1.7%	–2.7%	0.1%	–50.1%	–13.3%	41.4%	–31.2%	–9.9%	–3.7%	–2.8%	16.6%	–29.2%
Georgia	–60.4%	DQ	–0.3%	0.6%	–13.3%	11.2%	–29.6%	–6.6%	–37.4%	–40.8%	9.6%	23.0%	18.5%	–54.6%
Hawaii	125.1%	–34.2%	–1.1%	1.6%	–11.3%	–72.6%	–6.4%	–3.1%	–68.9%	–3.7%	0.2%	7.6%	9.7%	23.9%
Idaho	–41.6%	DQ	–0.6%	7.8%	–10.7%	–53.9%	–0.4%	–30.0%	230.6%	–25.0%	–6.0%	–8.1%	42.1%	–18.2%

Table 2. State Percentage Change in Performance by Outcome Measure, 2015–2019

State	1.1	2.1	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.4	4.1	4.2	5.1a	5.1b	6.1a	6.1b	6.1c	7.1
Illinois	27.4%	25.8%	–4.3%	–26.5%	–18.6%	–19.2%	12.2%	–25.5%	204.3%	72.2%	17.6%	13.9%	7.1%	–28.2%
Indiana	17.5%	64.0%	1.0%	2.7%	2.0%	37.4%	–7.8%	57.0%	–24.6%	–24.1%	–0.4%	1.8%	7.4%	5.3%
Iowa	40.5%	6.1%	3.6%	5.3%	–5.1%	23.3%	–7.7%	–21.7%	–34.6%	–2.8%	4.4%	17.4%	51.7%	2.2%
Kansas	–5.4%	–15.0%	1.1%	1.2%	–1.7%	–20.8%	–5.9%	32.6%	–40.2%	–30.3%	–6.0%	–7.8%	–2.6%	156.0%
Kentucky	–4.5%	–78.8%	1.1%	2.5%	–2.7%	–5.8%	0.3%	–18.7%	–2.0%	15.9%	–2.6%	1.9%	7.0%	–26.7%
Louisiana	–41.0%	DQ*	–2.0%	1.3%	–13.9%	–10.6%	–8.9%	–7.1%	–15.2%	–18.1%	–3.7%	–4.7%	–3.2%	–18.7%
Maine	70.0%	76.0%	2.8%	14.1%	16.9%	10.1%	31.4%	25.6%	39.1%	28.9%	–2.9%	–2.8%	–2.5%	61.6%
Maryland	–2.7%	29.5%	2.2%	10.9%	–7.2%	–33.9%	–6.5%	–20.6%	–37.1%	–40.9%	–3.3%	–2.6%	9.6%	21.2%
Massachusetts	–7.2%	–1.0%	2.9%	DQ*	–1.2%	–19.8%	–10.6%	15.5%	–25.5%	–47.1%	–1.7%	–10.5%	–8.3%	–7.0%
Michigan	25.2%	62.6%	7.8%	79.0%	11.5%	–28.5%	14.3%	60.5%	–36.0%	–11.4%	–0.5%	0.4%	13.4%	73.1%
Minnesota	–27.2%	–10.4%	2.2%	0.4%	–5.4%	–31.8%	–15.3%	7.0%	–16.3%	–14.2%	1.2%	11.4%	9.3%	–9.3%
Mississippi	10.2%	60.8%	3.8%	–0.9%	4.4%	31.3%	–13.2%	1.6%	–50.1%	–8.1%	4.8%	10.0%	27.7%	–53.2%
Missouri	–41.4%	63.2%	0.5%	–2.9%	–0.4%	–6.1%	–8.9%	–16.4%	–20.2%	6.4%	–1.5%	4.7%	0.3%	–16.0%
Montana	39.0%	77.6%	1.2%	DQ	3.4%	–52.7%	–2.6%	26.2%	N/A	13.7%	0.3%	6.4%	14.2%	–37.6%
Nebraska	–46.3%	80.9%	1.3%	5.3%	–1.0%	–26.5%	–2.5%	20.6%	53.1%	–9.4%	–1.9%	–5.1%	12.6%	–38.6%
Nevada	3.1%	147.2%	–0.2%	11.9%	–4.0%	–27.4%	2.9%	–41.5%	–26.8%	–16.2%	0.5%	5.9%	4.5%	–30.7%
New Hampshire	–1.3%	N/A	7.0%	DQ	3.1%	–57.1%	20.2%	55.5%	N/A	56.0%	1.7%	10.0%	25.1%	20.6%
New Jersey	–28.7%	93.7%	0.1%	3.3%	–2.5%	10.0%	–8.1%	2.7%	–8.1%	–0.9%	0.2%	0.1%	–2.9%	34.4%
New Mexico	13.6%	–88.3%	0.7%	0.3%	–0.8%	–7.4%	–1.5%	–8.5%	–45.9%	–32.5%	–0.5%	–3.8%	28.3%	–42.7%
New York	2.7%	98.0%	–4.4%	–11.0%	–21.5%	–1.8%	0.2%	–3.3%	–0.2%	13.2%	–3.1%	–3.6%	–2.3%	64.2%
North Carolina	–67.0%	DQ*	5.7%	12.0%	22.1%	98.9%	–8.1%	161.5%	1.9%	–15.5%	–2.2%	–4.2%	3.8%	28.3%
North Dakota	–42.1%	177.8%	0.9%	2.1%	–10.1%	–14.7%	3.3%	56.9%	–88.5%	–30.7%	–0.9%	7.8%	12.1%	–45.1%
Ohio	10.7%	20.9%	0.2%	–1.3%	–9.5%	–46.2%	–9.2%	22.8%	–27.2%	7.7%	1.5%	6.0%	22.4%	6.8%
Oklahoma	–1.8%	–55.9%	1.7%	1.9%	14.1%	17.1%	2.1%	0.5%	90.2%	31.2%	10.2%	17.5%	13.3%	–53.5%
Oregon	25.2%	23.0%	3.1%	–16.0%	–2.7%	–29.2%	–16.3%	–19.4%	–46.3%	–24.0%	–3.8%	–3.1%	8.4%	–9.7%
Pennsylvania	–9.2%	53.0%	3.4%	DQ	–12.0%	–48.7%	–6.0%	–22.2%	–28.1%	–18.8%	0.7%	5.5%	5.9%	–21.4%
Rhode Island	–23.2%	51.8%	–4.0%	–20.8%	–28.7%	0.0%	–22.2%	–35.6%	81.2%	6.9%	1.1%	2.3%	4.8%	–56.6%
South Carolina	40.0%	105.9%	–1.3%	DQ	–6.7%	–48.9%	–4.0%	26.3%	–50.3%	–42.3%	–7.8%	–7.3%	–6.7%	–70.1%
South Dakota	79.4%	458.1%	–0.4%	DQ	5.5%	–16.0%	0.0%	12.1%	N/A	–15.9%	–7.7%	–2.6%	24.1%	1.8%
Tennessee	–27.3%	–45.0%	0.0%	19.2%	–0.8%	346.9%	–4.7%	–4.2%	49.9%	3.5%	–2.8%	–5.2%	–6.9%	20.9%
Texas	7.3%	–18.3%	0.6%	2.3%	–0.1%	–22.2%	–3.0%	34.3%	–33.0%	4.5%	–1.5%	–2.8%	–5.0%	–27.5%
Utah	–18.7%	235.3%	3.7%	6.9%	2.9%	–18.4%	–7.0%	–10.6%	–18.2%	1.7%	1.8%	13.7%	38.1%	–40.2%
Vermont	–25.8%	N/A	0.4%	–36.4%	0.4%	72.2%	–14.6%	0.1%	13.9%	–12.1%	–3.7%	0.3%	34.2%	2.6%
Virginia	3.5%	–1.7%	0.2%	–6.1%	–14.8%	–43.3%	–4.5%	65.2%	9.1%	–5.3%	–3.9%	–3.0%	–2.7%	–10.1%
Washington	18.1%	–45.8%	1.8%	2.4%	4.3%	–21.1%	–2.0%	–10.6%	–53.8%	–42.4%	0.1%	–0.9%	–3.1%	172.7%
West Virginia	166.1%	–55.9%	0.8%	–2.1%	0.1%	100.5%	–9.3%	–6.2%	0.9%	5.5%	1.3%	10.3%	27.2%	–40.9%
Wisconsin	–10.2%	21.2%	–0.4%	0.9%	–7.1%	–21.7%	–7.0%	–2.1%	–46.7%	–15.7%	–10.1%	–28.0%	–47.3%	–28.6%
Wyoming	–34.0%	–100.0%	1.7%	0.7%	1.7%	–45.5%	5.6%	30.5%	–19.1%	9.9%	0.4%	2.3%	11.3%	21.0%
Puerto Rico	DQ	DQ	DQ	DQ	DQ	DQ	DQ	DQ	DQ	DQ	DQ	DQ	DQ	DQ

Notes.

–This table excludes measure 3.5. State-level information on this measure can be found on the Child Welfare Outcomes data site (<https://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/cwodatasite/>), and national performance is included in chapter III of the Report.

–A change of +/-5.0 percent is considered a change in performance. Values shaded in dark teal indicate an improvement in performance, values shaded in light teal indicate a decline in performance, and values with no shading indicate no change in performance.

–Percentage change calculations were done without rounding.

–Cells marked with “DQ” were excluded from analyses due to incomplete data or data-quality issues.

Child Welfare Outcomes Data Site

Additional child welfare-related context data and state data regarding the seven national measures are available on the Child Welfare Outcomes data site, which is available at <https://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/cwodatasite/>. The Child Welfare Outcomes data site allows for significantly faster release of these data than is possible via the publication of the full Report. The data site features AFCARS and NCANDS data that have been reviewed and approved by the states for inclusion in the Report and that are updated annually.

VISIT THE CHILD WELFARE OUTCOMES DATA SITE!

The data site features the latest AFCARS and NCANDS data that have been reviewed and approved by the states for inclusion in the Report. In addition, the data site provides additional child welfare-related context data regarding the seven national outcome measures.

With the data site, users have the ability to conduct the following activities:

- The latest AFCARS and NCANDS data
- A custom report builder
- *Quick Links* to important indicators
- Flexible data outputs formats

Visit the data website: <https://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/cwodatasite/>

With the data site, users have the ability to conduct the following activities:

- View one state's data or simultaneously compare data for multiple states, including by Administration for Children and Families region
- Compare data for a single state across multiple years
- View state context, demographic, and outcome data in tables grouped by type of data
- View additional context and demographic data for states not included in the Report, including two distinct breakdowns of race and ethnicity data
- Choose to view data in a table or graph
- Export the data into a variety of formats, including copying or printing customized data directly from the site, exporting data into Excel, and saving data as a PDF or CSV file
- Search for data by topic of interest
- View static state data pages previously included in the full Reports

- Safety
- Permanency
- Well-Being

For questions or more information about the Child Welfare Outcomes data site, please contact the Children's Bureau at CBDataTeam@acf.hhs.gov.



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