

Quarterly Performance Report

*1st Quarter
SFY 2011*

(July 2010 – September 2010)



Produced for:
*Arkansas Department of Human Services
Division of Children and Family Services
Quality Assurance Unit*

Produced by:
Hornby Zeller Associates, Inc.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Quarterly Performance Report (QPR) is distributed to the Division of Children and Family Services' (DCFS) managers and legislative committees dealing with children and youth. The QPR for the first quarter of State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2011, specifically July through September 2010, consists of three parts:

1. **Performance Indicators**, which provide information on service outcomes, such as:
 - a. *Percentage of Children with True Allegations of Child Maltreatment Three Months, Six Months and One Year after a Previous True Report*
 - b. *Percentage of Siblings in Placement who are Placed Together*
 - c. *Percentage of Children Adopted Within One Year of Having Their Goal Changed to Adoption*

2. **Compliance Index**, which reports on the Division's compliance with requirements set by DCFS with guidance from the Arkansas legislative children and youth committees, such as:
 - a. *Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments*
 - b. *24- and 72-Hour Initial Health Screenings for Children Entering Foster Care*
 - c. *Foster Home Recruitment*

3. **Description of Population and Services**, which describes the children who were the subjects of maltreatment reports, were served in foster care and were provided adoption services, such as:
 - a. *Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care*
 - b. *Characteristics of Children in Pre-Adoptive Homes*

The QPR provides this information on a quarterly basis, showing trends over time. The report provides the agency with information on the populations it serves and on pertinent issues so the agency can improve performance and better target its efforts.

Part I: Performance Indicators

DCFS has established nine performance indicators to measure its progress with regard to its major goals of child safety, permanency and well-being. During the first quarter, DCFS continued its efforts toward meeting these goals. Overall, DCFS maintained a performance standard that mirrors past efforts and successes.

There were no noteworthy areas in this section during the first quarter.

Part II: Compliance Index

DCFS has set compliance measures with guidance from the House Committees on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military Affairs and the Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth. An index is compiled by reporting the level of compliance with the measures.

For the first quarter, the QPR addresses six noteworthy areas, as shown below:

- Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments

The percentage of investigations initiated on time was **87 percent**, a decrease of one percentage point from the previous quarter and less than the goal of 95 percent compliance.

Four of the ten DCFS Service Areas improved compliance with Priority I initiations over the previous quarter, but only three areas improved compliance with Priority II initiations, which make up the vast majority of all incoming referrals throughout the state. Despite the lack of improvement when compared to the previous quarter, six areas—specifically, Areas 1, 2, 5, 6, 8 and 9—met or exceeded the 95 percent compliance goal for Priority I initiations. Meanwhile, only Area 5 met the 95 percent goal for Priority II initiations.

With compliance in most areas falling below the goal of 95 percent for Priority II initiations, the Division is establishing corrective action plans to help improve the timeliness of such initiations, developing area-wide and county-specific plans to help increase staff's ability to initiate investigations in a timely manner. Corrective actions will include closer supervisory oversight of staff's workloads, including frequent staffings between investigation supervisors and their workers, and closely monitoring any investigation that approaches an overdue status. Other corrective actions consist of assigning incoming investigations to staff more efficiently and making more efforts to see the persons cited in the investigation immediately. Some areas, in particular Area 2, expect that the timeliness of initiating child maltreatment assessments will improve once they hire additional investigation staff and are better able to retain current staff responsible for completing the Area's investigations.

- Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments

The percentage of investigations completed in a timely manner for the quarter was **70 percent**, an increase of one percentage point from the previous quarter but still below the goal of 90 percent.

Six of the ten DCFS Service Areas improved compliance in the timely completion of Priority I referrals over the previous quarter; in addition, five areas improved compliance with respect to the timeliness of Priority II completions. Across both priority levels, Area 5 performed better than any other area, as its staff completed 94 percent of their Priority I investigations on time (just missing the 95 percent compliance goal) and 95 percent of their Priority II investigations (thus meeting the 95 percent goal). Of the remaining areas, only Area 6 came close to approaching the established compliance goals, with DCFS staff in Area 6 completing 86 percent of their Priority I and 84 percent of their Priority II investigations on time.

Despite the slight increase in compliance regarding the timely completion of investigations, compliance in nearly all areas continued to fall below the goal of 95 percent for both Priority I and Priority II completions. In response, areas have established corrective actions to increase compliance in future quarters. All areas reportedly plan to increase supervisors' involvement in overseeing and ensuring that investigations are completed in a timely manner and documented correctly. The Division has also held or arranged for several trainings for investigation staff and supervisors in recent quarters, which should lead to improved compliance. Several areas have also implemented processes in which investigations staff will conference with their supervisor several days before an investigation becomes overdue.

- 24-Hour and 72-Hour Initial Health Screenings (IHS) for Children Entering Foster Care

Fifty-two percent of the children requiring a 24-hour initial health screening received the screening on time, a decrease of seven percentage points from the previous quarter (59 percent) and below the goal of 95 percent.

During the quarter, **68 percent** of the children who required a 72-hour initial health screening received the service on time, a decrease of 11 percentage points from the previous quarter (79 percent) and below the goal of 95 percent.

No DCFS Service Areas met the 95 percent compliance goal for the 24-hour screenings, and only two areas—Areas 7 and 10—exceeded the compliance rate of 80 percent. Well under half of the children coming into foster care in Areas 3,

6 and 9 whose situation required a 24-hour initial health screening received such a screening.

For the 72-hour screenings, only Area 10 met the compliance goal of 95 percent, followed next by Area 1 (87 percent). Five areas—Areas 3, 4, 5, 6 and 9—had compliance rates of less than 80 percent.

Since overall compliance fell below the goal of 95 percent, the Division has established corrective actions to help remedy the barriers that prevent more timely health screenings. Several areas attributed their compliance figures to scheduling and availability problems between workers and health care providers, while other areas cited the holiday schedule and inclement weather for failing to meet compliance. Despite these reported problems, Area Directors hope that more advanced planning, improved scheduling with providers, and greater supervisory oversight can improve these percentages.

- Comprehensive Health Assessments

The percentage of timely completed comprehensive health assessments rose to **77 percent**, an increase of 13 percentage points from the previous quarter (64 percent). Despite this improvement, compliance remains below the goal of 95 percent.

Seven of the ten DCFS Service Areas improved compliance over the previous quarter, although no areas met the 95 percent goal. Only DCFS staff in Area 10 came close to ensuring that all children entering foster care received a comprehensive health assessment on time, doing so in 92 percent of cases. Of the remaining areas, only Areas 1, 4 and 7 completed less than two-thirds of the children's comprehensive health assessments on time. The same issues that negatively affected the timely completion of initial health screenings also adversely affected the percentage of children who did not have their comprehensive health assessments completed within 60 days of entering foster care. Area Directors hope that improved scheduling with providers can improve the situation.

- Foster Home Recruitment

There were 129 new foster homes recruited during the quarter, a decrease from the 134 homes recruited during the previous quarter. Despite this decrease, DCFS staff still recruited far more than the goal of 80 new homes for the quarter, which represents a compliance rate of **159 percent**.

The statewide recruitment of foster homes has again exceeded the Division's expectations for quarterly recruitment, continuing a multiyear trend of exceeding

the Division's own goal. This sustained effort can be attributed to an increase in the frequency of foster family inquiry meetings and other promotional efforts, as well as the agency's decision in 2008 to assign a dedicated staff person to manage and coordinate foster home recruitment statewide. Many individual areas continue to promote the need for new foster homes by recruiting at local organizations or civic groups. In addition, DCFS continues to maintain a strong partnership with *The C.A.L.L. (Children of Arkansas Loved for a Lifetime)*, a faith-based foster parent recruitment organization that began in Pulaski County in 2007 but has expanded into more than a dozen additional counties over the past year. Presently, *The C.A.L.L.* has a presence in six of the ten DCFS Service Areas.

- Required Visits Made by Worker

During the first quarter, the percentage of children who received a required visit from their caseworker averaged **62 percent**, which was below the goal of 85 percent. The percentage of children who received visits for each of the months from July through September was 59 percent, 63 percent, and 63 percent, respectively.

None of the DCFS Service Areas met the 85 percent compliance goal for required visits, although Areas 4 (76 percent), 6 (75 percent) and 3 (67 percent) came closest. Staff in the remaining seven areas made fewer than two-thirds of their required visits, with those in Areas 2 (37 percent) and 1 (47 percent) struggling to make visits more so than the other areas.

In order to increase the number of required worker visits, several areas have placed a greater focus on monitoring workers' visitation schedules. The Division has emphasized the need for its supervisors to ensure that workers manage their time efficiently. Area Directors intend to increase the number of completed monthly visits with the addition of new staff (the Division employs nine percent more caseworkers than was the case one year ago) and by holding more frequent case staffings between supervisors and their staff. The purpose of such efforts is to lower worker caseloads, so that staff have more time to devote to completing their required visits.

Part III: Description of Population and Services

The Description of Population and Services section describes the children who were subjects of maltreatment reports, were served in foster care and were provided with adoption services.

There were no noteworthy areas in this section for the first quarter.

PART I: PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

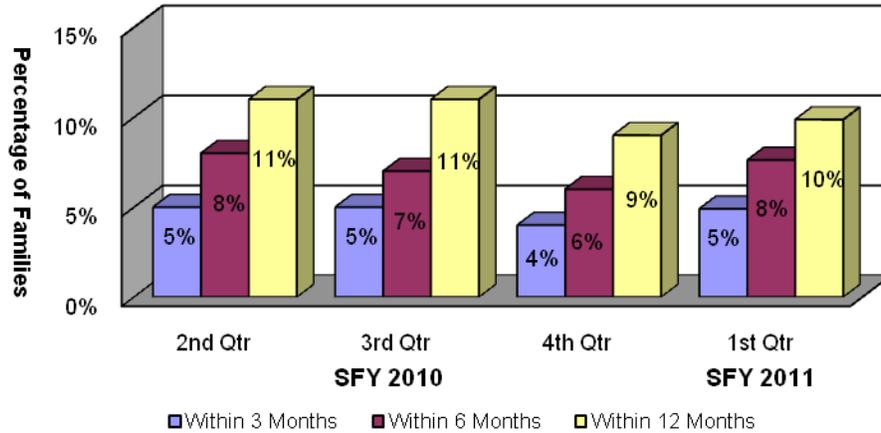
The Division has established nine performance measures to indicate achievement levels related to its major goals in child safety, family preservation and permanency:

- Percentage of children with true allegations of maltreatment three months, six months and one year after a previous true report;
- Percentage of foster families with true reports of maltreatment;
- Percentage of children receiving Supportive Services or Protective Services who were abused or neglected within one year of the initiation of services;
- Percentage of children receiving Supportive Services or Protective Services who entered foster care within one year of the initiation of services;
- Percentage of children in foster care who returned home within eighteen months;
- Percentage of children in foster care who have experienced two or fewer placements;
- Percentage of siblings in placement who are placed together;
- Percentage of children who were adopted within one year of having their goal changed to adoption; and
- Number of children placed in pre-adoptive homes whose adoptions were finalized within twelve months of entering pre-adoptive placements.

Percentage of Children with True Allegations of Child Maltreatment Three Months, Six Months and One Year after a Previous True Report

Of the 2,402 children involved in true reports of maltreatment during the first quarter one year ago, only 10 percent (237) had a subsequent true report within 12 months.

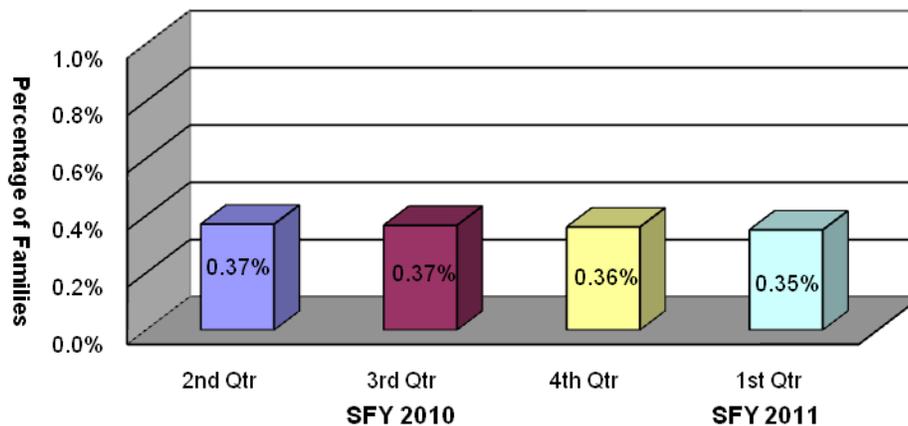
Chart 1: Recurrence of Maltreatment within 12 Months of Initial Report



Percentage of Foster Families with True Reports of Maltreatment

Of the 45 foster home maltreatment reports received during the first quarter in which foster parents were the alleged offenders, only six were found to be true. Based on the 1,698 foster homes¹ active during the quarter, the percentage of foster families with a true report of maltreatment was 0.35 percent.

Chart 2: Percentage of Foster Families with True Reports of Maltreatment

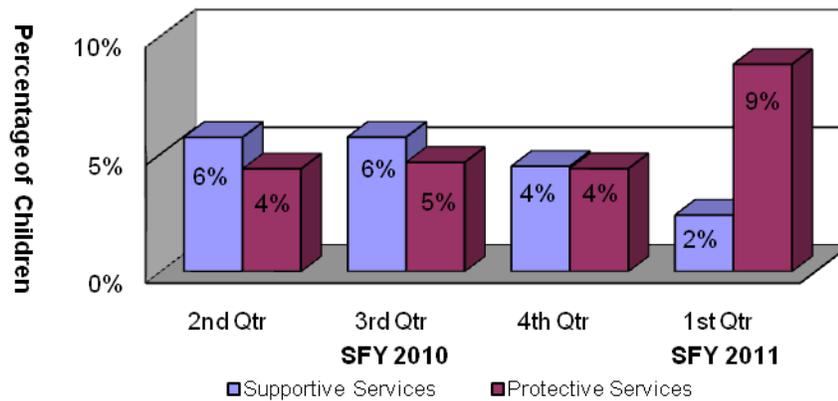


¹ This includes family and therapeutic foster homes.

Percentage of Children Receiving Supportive Services or Protective Services who were Abused or Neglected within One Year of the Initiation of Services

Of the 380 children who began receiving Supportive Services between July and September 2009, nine children (2%) experienced a true report of maltreatment within one year. Of the 2,339 children who began receiving Protective Services between July and September 2009, 208 children (9%)² were involved in a true report within one year.

Chart 3: Children Receiving Supportive Services and Protective Services who were Abused or Neglected within One Year of the Initiation of Services

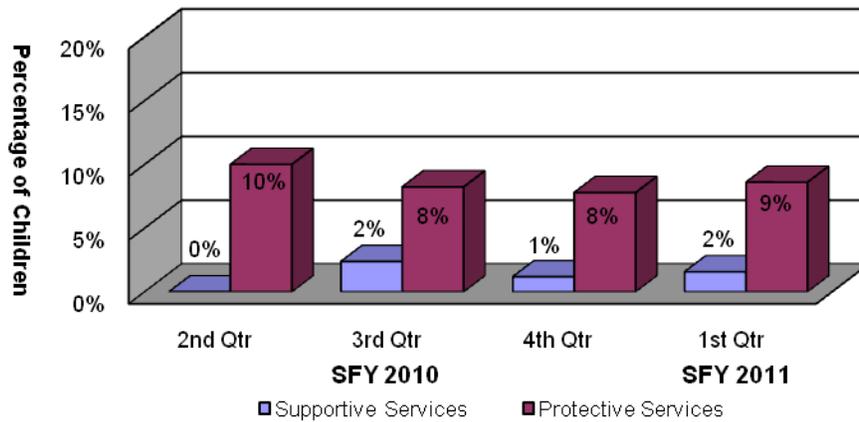


² Beginning with the first quarter of SFY 2011, a new methodology was utilized to measure this percentage. The population is now limited to in-home cases only.

Percentage of Children Receiving Supportive Services or Protective Services who Entered Foster Care within One Year of the Initiation of Services

Six of the 380 (2%) children who began receiving Supportive Services between July and September 2009 entered foster care within one year of the initiation of these services; 201 of the 2,339 (9%) children who began receiving Protective Services between July and September 2009 entered care within one year.

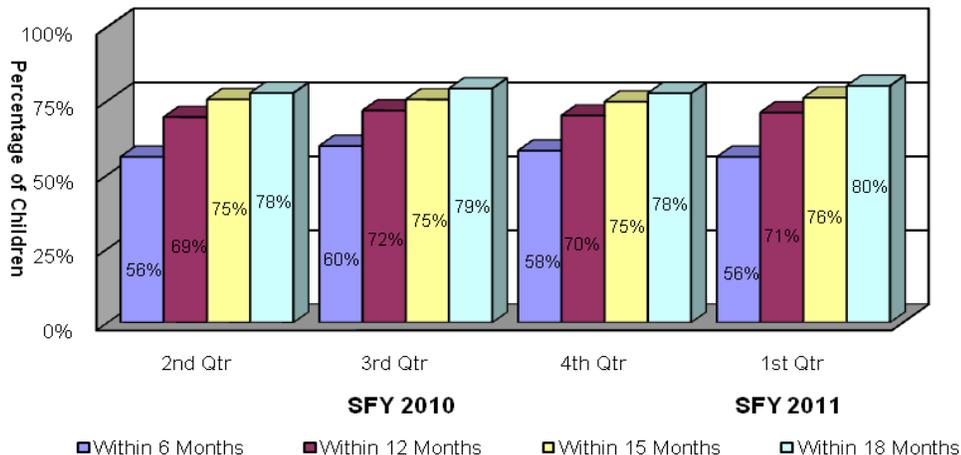
Chart 4: Children Receiving Supportive Services or Protective Services who Entered Foster Care within One Year of the Initiation of Services



Percentage of Children in Foster Care who Returned Home within Eighteen Months

During the quarter 18 months prior to the start of the current quarter, 1,017 children entered foster care. Of those, 814 children (80%) returned home within 18 months. The percentage of children who returned home within 18 months of entering care has increased from the last quarter. The percentage of children returning home within 12 months stood at 71 percent, higher than the national median of 48.4 percent.

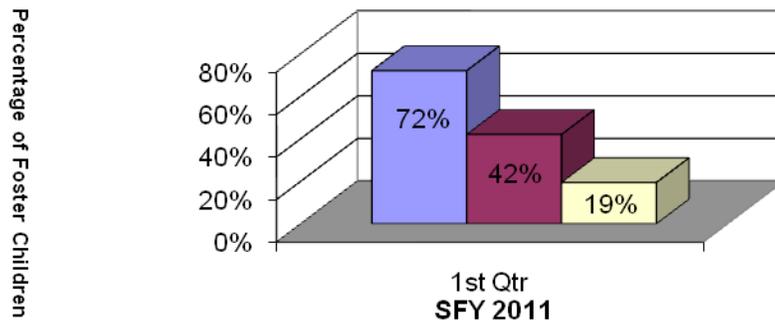
Chart 5: Children in Foster Care who Returned Home within Eighteen Months



Percentage of Children in Foster Care who have Experienced Two of Fewer Placements

Placement stability of children in foster care is measured based on the percentage of children with two or fewer placements who are in care for varying lengths of time. Of the children at the end of the quarter who were in foster care for less than 12 months, 72 percent experienced two or fewer placements; the national standard is 86 percent. Of the children in foster care between 12 and 24 months, 42 percent had two or fewer placements; the national standard for this population is 65.4 percent. Finally, of the children who were in foster care for over two years, only 19 percent experienced two or fewer placements during their stay in foster care, with the national standard for this population being 41.8 percent.

Chart 6: Children in Foster Care who have Experienced Two or Fewer Placements

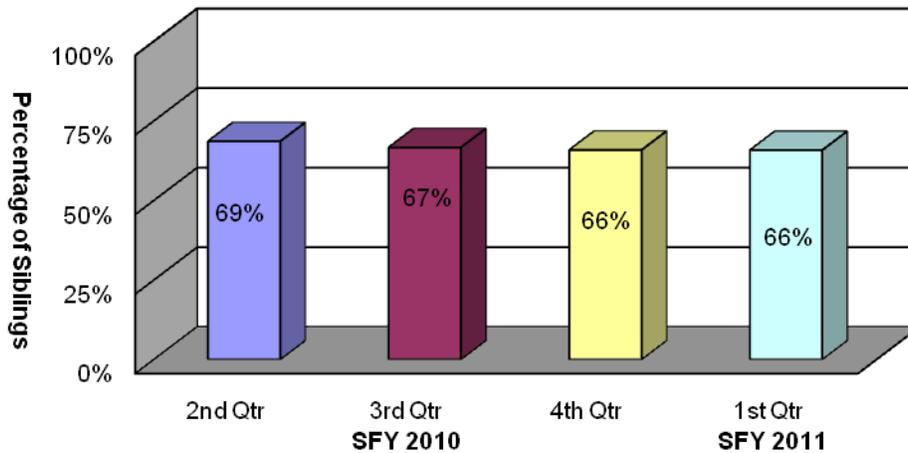


■ Children in FC less than 12 Mos. ■ Children in FC at least 12 Mos. but less than 24 Mos. ■ Children in FC more than 24 Mos.

Percentage of Siblings in Placement who are Placed Together

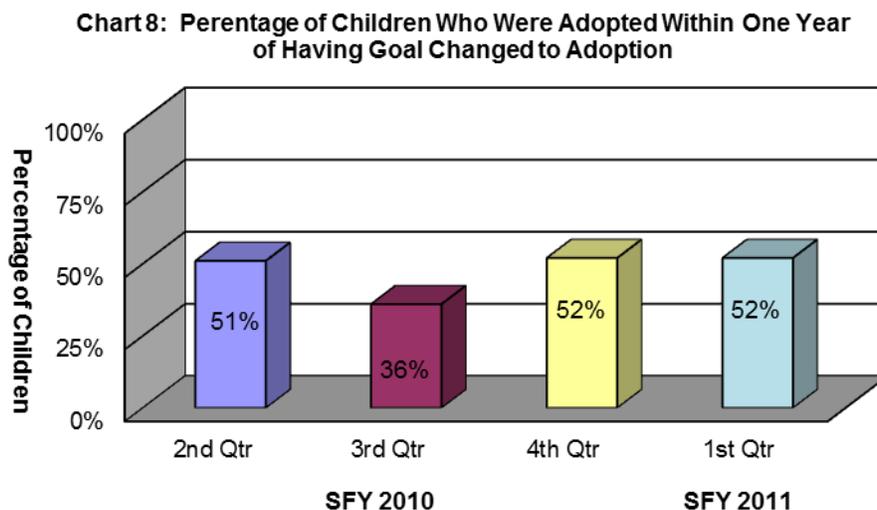
During the first quarter, there were 1,916 children with siblings in foster care. Of those children, 66 percent (1,261) were placed with at least one of their siblings. This percentage was the same as the previous quarter and lower than the quarter ending one year ago (67%). Of those same 1,916 children, 46 percent were placed with all of their siblings, which was one percentage point lower than the previous quarter. These figures do not exclude children who were placed separately for valid reasons such as safety issues or court orders.

Chart 7: Siblings in Care who are Placed Together



Percentage of Children Who Were Adopted Within One Year of Having Their Goal Changed to Adoption³

Of the 118 children whose goal was changed to adoption during the quarter one year ago, 61 children (52%) were adopted within one year.



Number of Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes whose Adoptions were Finalized within Twelve Months of Entering Pre-adoptive Placements

Eighty-three children were placed in a pre-adoptive home between July and September 2009. Of those, 73 children (88%) had their adoptions finalized within 12 months of being placed in a pre-adoptive home. This was four percentage points higher than the previous quarter and slightly higher than the same quarter one year ago (87%). Seven children (8%) experienced a disruption, which occurs when a child has been placed in a pre-adoptive home and the family or child subsequently decides not to proceed with the adoption, resulting in the child leaving the home. Six children still had their adoption pending finalization 12 months after their placement in a pre-adoptive home.

**Table 1: Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes whose Adoptions were finalized within Twelve Months of Entering Pre-adoptive Placements
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

Adoption Status	Number of Children
Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes	83
Finalized Adoptions	73
Disrupted Adoptive Placements	7
Children with a Disruption who were Re-placed in Pre-adoptive Homes	3
Still Pending after Twelve Months	6

³ This performance indicator is incorporated into the QPR beginning with the correct quarter. However, the results from the previous three quarters are also presented for comparison purposes.

PART II: COMPLIANCE INDEX

The Division has set compliance measures with guidance from the Joint Interim Committee on Children and Youth. An index is compiled by reporting the level of compliance in relation to these measures.

Goal Compliance Measure

- 95%** ***Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments.*** Timely initiation means the investigator interviews or observes the victim child outside the presence of the alleged offender within 24 hours of any report of alleged severe maltreatment or within 72 hours otherwise.

- 90%** ***Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments.*** Timely completion means a determination must be made regarding an allegation of child maltreatment within 30 days of receipt of the allegation.

- 95%** ***24-Hour Initial Health Screenings.*** This screening is conducted within 24 hours after removal from the home on children who enter foster care due to an allegation of severe maltreatment or if there is evidence of acute illness or injury.

- 95%** ***72-Hour Initial Health Screenings.*** This screening is conducted within 72 hours after removal from the home on all children who enter foster care who are not subject to the 24-hour screening.

- 95%** ***Comprehensive Health Assessments.*** The purpose of this assessment is to evaluate the physical and mental health status of all foster children and is to be completed within 60 days of a child entering foster care.

- 80** ***Foster Home Recruitment.*** DCFS must ensure that a sufficient number and variety of foster homes that meet minimal standards and match the needs and characteristics of foster children are available. The goal is 80 homes for the quarter or 320 homes for the year.

- 95%** ***Foster Home Re-evaluations.*** DCFS must re-evaluate at least annually each foster home's ability to care for children.

- 85%** ***Required Visits Made by Worker.*** DCFS must provide data on the percentage of monthly visits made by DCFS workers to children in foster care.

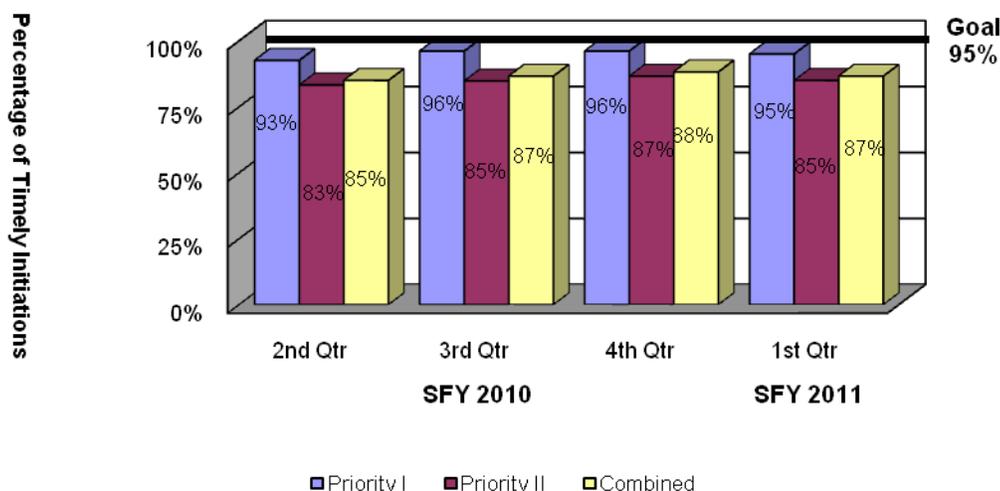
Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments

Whenever there is an allegation of child maltreatment, a Family Service Worker, a Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) staff member, or staff from another local law enforcement agency must interview or observe the victim child(ren) outside the presence of the alleged offender within 24 hours of Priority I referrals or within 72 hours of Priority II referrals. There were 7,913 referrals for a child maltreatment assessment during the quarter. Of those, 984 Priority I referrals and 5,262 Priority II referrals were assigned to DCFS for investigation.

Of the DCFS Priority I referrals, 935 assessments (95%) were initiated within the required 24-hour period. Of the DCFS Priority II referrals, 4,472 assessments (85%) were initiated within the required 72-hour period.⁴ Regardless of the assigned Priority, 87 percent of the referrals were initiated within the required time frame. The combined compliance rate was one percentage point lower than the previous quarter.

As noted previously, the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) of the Arkansas State Police is also responsible for handling child abuse assessments. CACD was responsible for 1,667 of the 7,913 referrals that came in during the quarter, of which 1,512 were Priority I referrals and 155 were Priority II referrals. Of the Priority I referrals, 1,436 assessments (95%) were initiated in a timely manner and 143 assessments (92%) of the Priority II referrals were initiated in a timely manner.

Chart 9: Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments (DCFS Only)



⁴ DCFS had 935 Priority I referrals and 4,472 Priority II referrals that were initiated in a timely manner. Of those, 181 Priority I (19%) and 1,453 Priority II referrals (32%) were considered compliant due to reasonable diligence. CACD had 1,436 Priority I referrals and 143 Priority II referrals that were initiated in a timely manner. Of those, 272 Priority I (19%) and 21 Priority II (15%) referrals were considered compliant due to reasonable diligence.

Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments

Of the 984 Priority I assessments assigned to DCFS, 713 (73%) were completed within the required 30-day period. Of the 5,262 DCFS Priority II assessments, 3,649 (69%) were completed within the required 30-day period. Overall, 4,362 of the total 6,246 assessments assigned to DCFS were completed on time. These completions resulted in a compliance rate of 70 percent, which was one percentage point higher than the previous quarter but below the goal of 90 percent (See plan of action in the Executive Summary).

As referenced earlier, the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) of the Arkansas State Police was responsible for 1,667 of the 7,913 incoming referrals during the quarter. Of the Priority I assessments, 1,227 (81%) were completed on time while 118 (76%) of the Priority II assessments were completed on time.

Chart 10: Timely Completion of DCFS Assessments (DCFS Only)

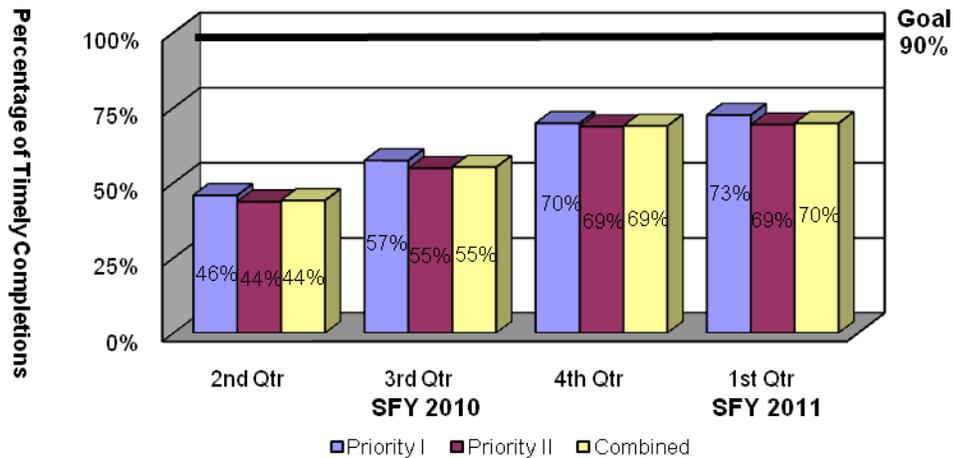
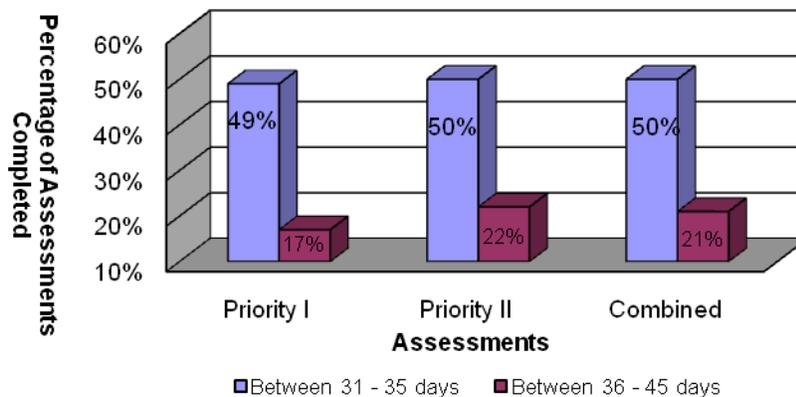


Chart 11: Overdue Assessments Completed between 31 to 45 Days

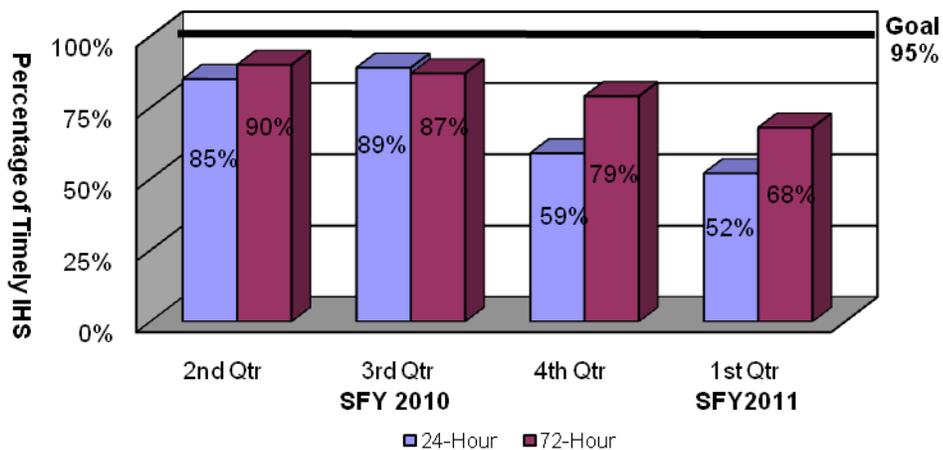


24- and 72-Hour Initial Health Screenings for Children Entering Foster Care

When a child enters foster care due to an allegation of severe maltreatment or if there is evidence of acute illness or injury, DCFS must conduct an initial health screening within 24 hours of the child’s removal from the home. Of the 326 children who required the 24-hour health screening during the first quarter, 170 children (52%) received the screening in a timely manner. The compliance rate was seven percentage points lower than the previous quarter and short of the goal of 95 percent.

All children entering foster care who do not require the initial 24-hour health screening must still undergo an initial health screening within 72 hours of their removal. Of the 616 children who required the 72-hour health screening, 421 (68%) received their screenings on time, which was eleven percentage points lower than the previous quarter, and short of the goal of 95 percent (See plan of action in the Executive Summary).

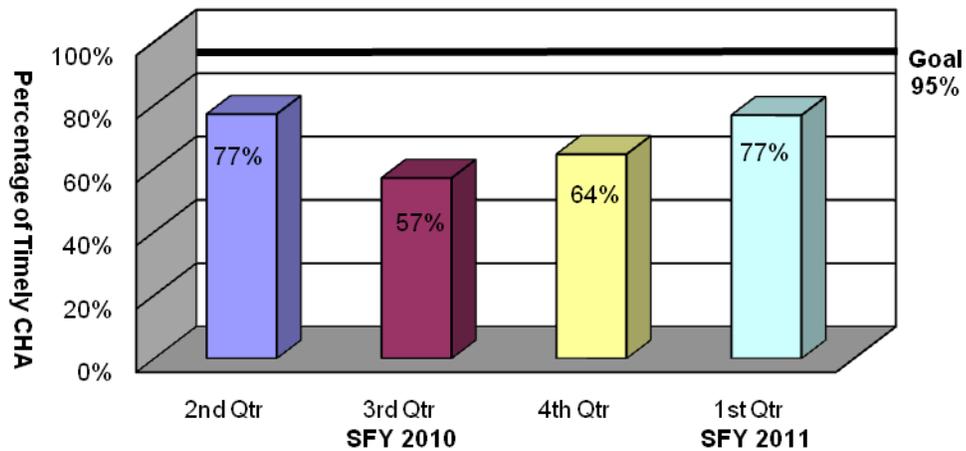
Chart 12: 24- and 72-Hour Initial Health Screenings for Children Entering Foster Care



Comprehensive Health Assessments

All children entering foster care must receive a comprehensive health assessment that evaluates their physical and mental health status within 60 days of entering foster care. Between May 2, 2010, and July 3, 2010, 454 children entered foster care who remained in care for at least 60 days. Of those children, 388 received their comprehensive health assessment within 60 days after entering care. The resulting compliance rate was 77 percent, which was thirteen percentage points higher than the previous quarter but still below the goal of 95 percent.

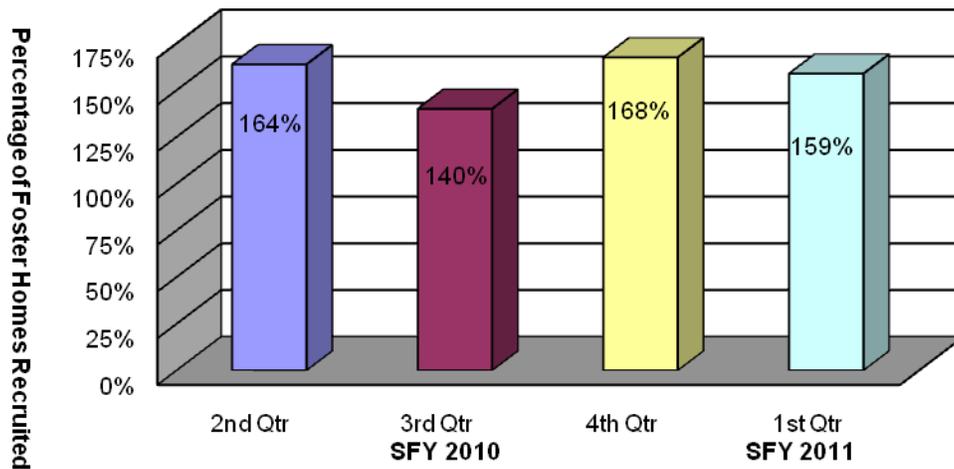
Chart 13: Comprehensive Health Assessments



Foster Home Recruitment

DCFS recruited 129 new foster homes during the first quarter, an achievement well above the goal of 80 new homes. This increase occurred at the same time 137 foster homes were closed, resulting in a net loss of eight foster homes for the quarter.

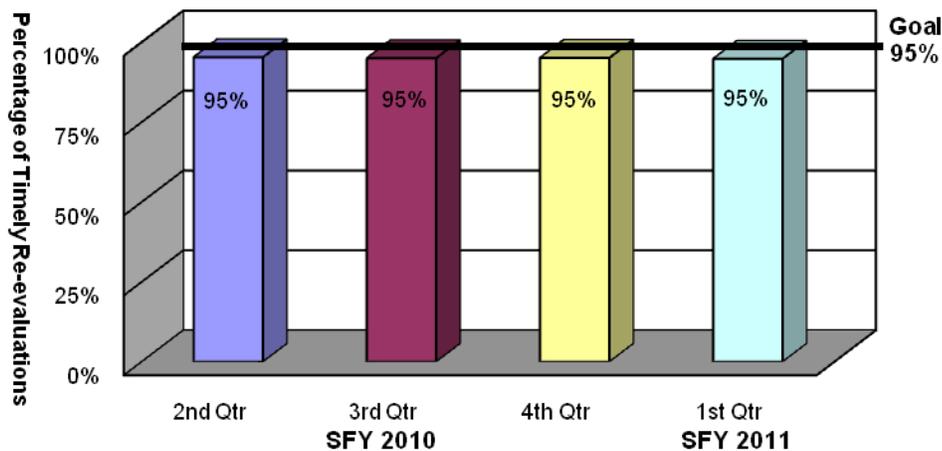
Chart 14: Foster Home Recruitment



Foster Home Re-evaluations

On an annual basis, at a minimum, DCFS conducts required re-evaluations of each foster home’s ability to care for children. Of the 1,220 foster homes active during the first quarter, a current re-evaluation was available for 1,156 homes. The resulting 95 percent compliance rate was the same as the previous quarter, continuing to meet the goal of 95 percent.

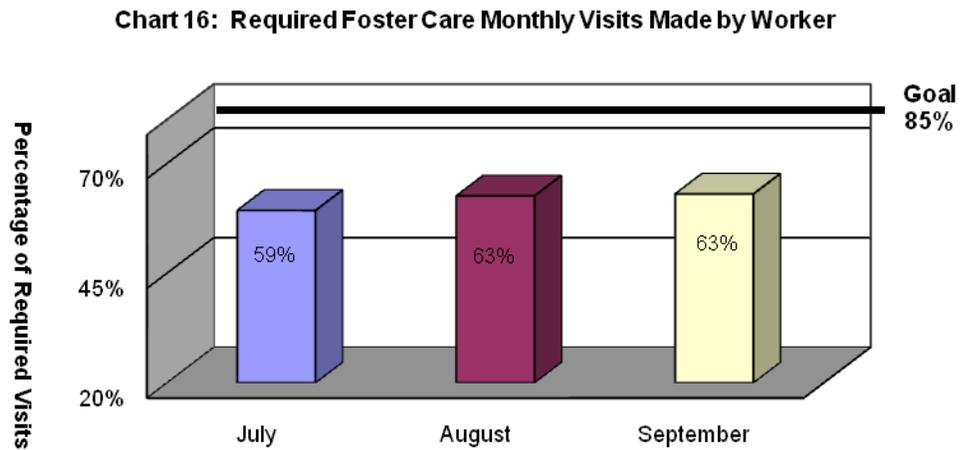
Chart 15: Foster Home Re-evaluations



Required Visits Made by Worker

DCFS acknowledges the importance of worker contact with children in foster care and believes that these visits should be conducted face-to-face in the children’s placement setting, at least once per month.

During the first quarter, the percentage of children who received a monthly visit averaged 62 percent. This was the same as the previous quarter and still below the goal of 85 percent (See plan of action in the Executive Summary).



PART III: DESCRIPTION OF POPULATION AND SERVICES

This section describes the number and status of maltreatment assessments; children who were served in foster care; and children who were provided adoption services.

Section I outlines characteristics of children in true maltreatment reports such as age, gender and ethnicity, and specifically compare state ethnicity data to national data. Additionally, this section defines the types of allegations in maltreatment reports.

Section II describes the foster care population. Specifically, it describes the characteristics of children in foster care; entries and exits of children in foster care; reasons children come into care; lengths of stay for children in foster care as well as children in relative care; placements of children in foster care; and the number of placements children experience while in care.

Section III reports adoption data such as the characteristics of children available for adoption; current placement of those children; characteristics of children placed in adoptive homes; children whose parents have terminated their parental rights but have not been placed in adoptive homes; finalized adoptions; and adoption subsidies.

Part III: Description of Population and Services

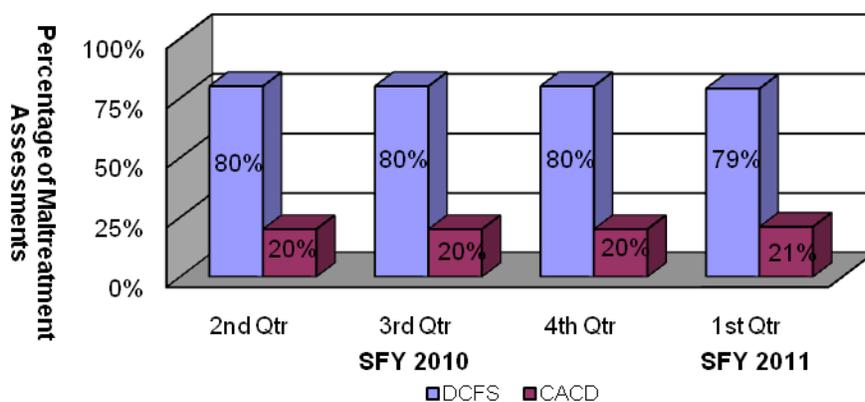
Section I: True Child Maltreatment Reports

Child Maltreatment Assessments

During the first quarter, 7,913 maltreatment assessments were assigned for investigation. Of those assessments, 6,246 (79%) were assigned to DCFS. This figure represented a decrease in the number of assessments assigned to DCFS from the previous quarter (7,468), but a three percent increase in assigned assessments from the same quarter ending one year ago (6,078).

Of those same 7,913 assessments, 1,667 (21%) were assigned to CACD. This figure represented a decrease in the number of assessments assigned to CACD from the previous quarter (1,827), and also a four percent decrease in the number of CACD assignments from the same quarter ending one year ago (1,741).

Chart 17a: Child Maltreatment Assessments



Of the 7,913 maltreatment assessments assigned during the first quarter of SFY 2011, 2,056 reports (26%) were found to be true, which was five percentage points higher than those determined to be true for the same quarter ending one year ago (21%). The national percentage is 25 percent.⁵ There were 2,944 victim children involved in the 2,056 true reports during the quarter, which represents a 19 percent increase in the number of victim children reported during the same quarter ending one year ago (2,474).

Table 2: Child Maltreatment Assessments

	Total Assessments	True Assessments	Percent True
2nd Qtr SFY 2010	8,250	1,688	20%
3rd Qtr SFY 2010	7,560	1,854	25%
4th Qtr SFY 2010	9,295	2,240	24%
1st Qtr SFY 2011	7,913	2,056	26%

	DCFS			CACD		
	Total Assessments	True Assessments	Percent True	Total Assessments	True Assessments	Percent True
2nd Qtr SFY 2010	6,636	1,069	16%	1,614	619	38%
3rd Qtr SFY 2010	6,042	1,231	20%	1,518	623	41%
4th Qtr SFY 2010	7,468	1,548	21%	1,827	692	38%
1st Qtr SFY 2011	6,246	1,336	21%	1,667	720	43%

⁵ Source: Child Maltreatment 2007, Reports from the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau.

Characteristics of Children in True Maltreatment Reports

As referenced previously, 2,944 victim children were involved in true reports of maltreatment during the first quarter. The table below outlines the demographic information for these victim children.⁶

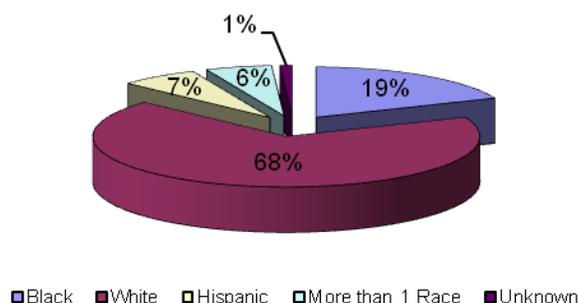
**Table 3: Characteristics of Children in True Maltreatment Reports
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	118	35	0	1	1	12	12	179
	Male	121	35	0	1	1	15	14	187
2 to 5	Female	289	74	1	0	0	24	30	418
	Male	300	96	0	0	2	37	26	461
6 to 11	Female	313	84	0	0	1	29	22	449
	Male	301	68	1	0	0	35	23	428
12 to 15	Female	277	69	1	0	0	26	14	387
	Male	141	42	0	0	0	3	12	198
16 to 18	Female	83	29	0	0	0	8	5	125
	Male	55	18	0	1	0	4	4	82
18+	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total*		1,998	550	3	3	5	193	162	2,914

*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for 30 children.

Of the children involved in the true maltreatment reports, 68 percent were white and 19 percent were black.

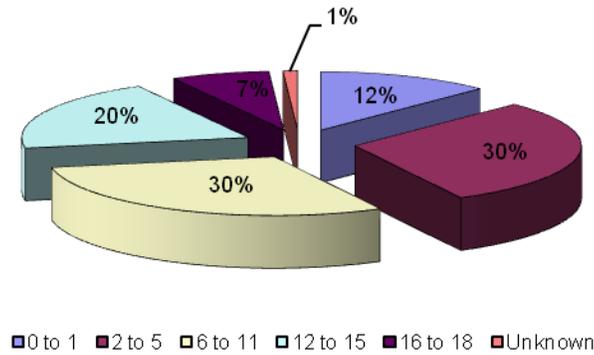
Chart 17a: Race/Ethnicity of Children in True Reports



⁶ Table three, and each subsequent demographic table, divides up “other” races and ethnicities into the following categories: “Hispanic,” “More than One Race,” “Asian” (includes Indonesian, Cambodian, Hmong and Vietnamese), “AIAN” (includes Native American, Alaskan Native and American Indian) and “NAPI” (includes Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders).

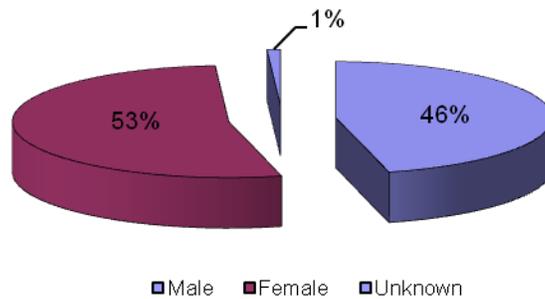
Children ages two to five and six to 11 represent the largest group of children involved in true maltreatment reports (30% each). These percentages are similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 17b: Ages of Children in True Reports



More female children (53%) than male (46%) were involved in true maltreatment reports. These percentages are also similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 17c: Gender of Children in True Reports



Children Involved in Allegations of True Maltreatment Reports

During the quarter, the majority of the 2,944 children involved in true maltreatment reports were involved in allegations of neglect (78%), followed by allegations of physical abuse (39%) and sexual abuse (29%).⁷

**Table 4: Percentage of Children Involved in True Allegations of Maltreatment
4th Quarter SFY 2010 – 1st Quarter SFY 2011**

	4th Quarter		1st Quarter	
Neglect	2,303	85%	2,311	78%
Physical Abuse	1,388	40%	1,147	39%
Sexual Abuse	895	26%	854	29%

Child Maltreatment Reports Involving Fatalities or Near Fatalities

During the first quarter of SFY 2011, there were 11 investigations of child fatalities but no investigation of near child fatality across the state. A finding of True resulted for eight of the eleven incidents while two incidents were unsubstantiated and one was pending. All of the children involved were three years of age or younger. Table 5 summarizes the findings for reports involving the fatality or near fatality of a child. Appendix A provides a summary of each report involving a child fatality.

**Table 5: Findings of Maltreatment Reports
Involving Fatalities or Near Fatalities**

Finding	Child Fatality	Near Child Fatality
True	8	0
Unsubstantiated	2	0
Pending	1	0

⁷ The total number of children represented will outnumber the total children involved in true maltreatment reports because a child can be involved in more than one allegation. Therefore, the sum of percentages of children involved in maltreatment reports will be greater than 100 percent.

Part III: Description of Population and Services

Section II: Foster Care

Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

During the first quarter, 5,043 children spent time in foster care. This number includes children who remained in care from previous quarters as well as children who came into care during the quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of the children who were in care during the quarter.

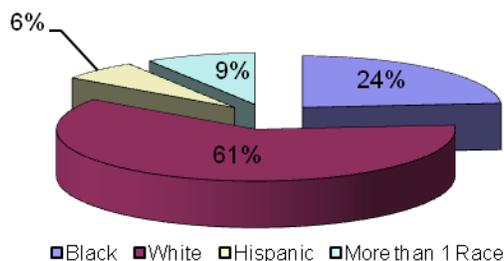
Table 6: Characteristics of Children in Foster Care During the Quarter
1st Quarter SFY 2011

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	231	92	1	0	2	22	32	380
	Male	291	106	0	0	0	25	32	454
2 to 5	Female	389	126	0	1	1	25	71	613
	Male	408	132	0	1	0	55	58	654
6 to 11	Female	372	142	1	0	0	46	41	602
	Male	375	147	0	1	1	42	74	640
12 to 15	Female	236	90	0	0	0	21	34	381
	Male	261	99	0	1	0	30	37	428
16 to 18	Female	182	88	0	0	0	19	25	314
	Male	147	82	1	0	0	15	18	263
18+	Female	84	45	0	0	0	10	14	153
	Male	90	39	0	0	1	5	11	146
Total*		3,066	1,188	3	4	5	315	447	5,028

*Demographic information had not been entered into CHRIS for 15 children.

The chart below shows that 61 percent of the children in foster care during the quarter were white and 24 percent were black. National data reveal that only 40 percent of the children in the national foster care system were white, while 31 percent of the children were black.⁸

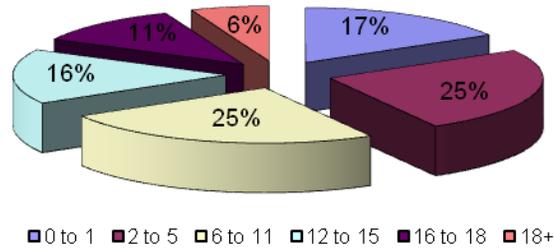
Chart 18a: Race/Ethnicity of Children in Care During the Quarter



⁸ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2007 and 9/30/2008 as of October 2009.

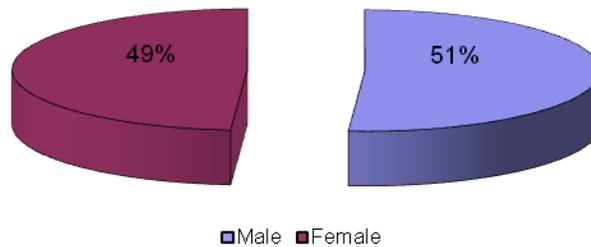
The following chart shows that children between the ages of two to five and six to 11 (25% each) represent the largest group of children who were in care during the quarter. These percentages are similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 18b: Ages of Children in Foster Care During the Quarter



The following chart shows that 49 percent of the children in foster care during the quarter were female and 51 percent were male. These percentages are also similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 18c: Gender of Children in Foster Care During the Quarter



At the end of the quarter, 4,074 children were in foster care, a decrease from the 4,118 children in care at the end of the previous quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of the children in foster care at the end of the third quarter.

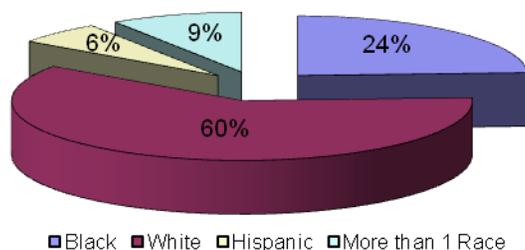
**Table 7: Characteristics of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	187	77	1	0	2	15	29	311
	Male	225	89	0	0	0	20	24	358
2 to 5	Female	309	99	0	1	1	14	58	482
	Male	315	106	0	1	0	42	46	510
6 to 11	Female	299	116	1	0	0	34	34	484
	Male	302	119	0	1	0	39	72	533
12 to 15	Female	200	75	0	0	0	13	30	318
	Male	204	85	0	1	0	25	33	348
16 to 18	Female	153	74	0	0	0	16	17	260
	Male	119	76	1	0	0	14	16	226
18+	Female	63	32	0	0	0	8	8	111
	Male	74	34	0	0	0	5	7	120
Total*		2,450	982	3	4	3	245	374	4,061

*Demographic information had not been entered into CHRIS for 13 children.

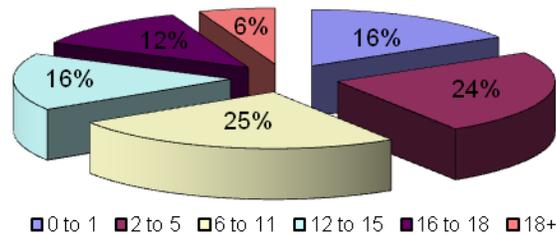
The chart below shows that 60 percent of the children in foster care at the end of the quarter were white, while 24 percent of the children were black. These percentages are consistent with the previous four quarters.

Chart 19a: Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter



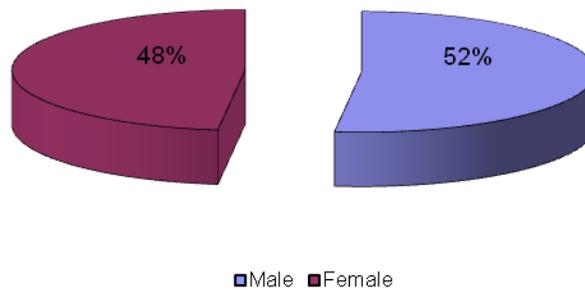
The following chart shows that children between the ages of six and 11 (25%) represent the largest group of children who were in care at the end of the quarter, followed closely by children between the ages of two and five (24%).

Chart 19b: Ages of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter



The following chart shows that 48 percent of the children in foster care at the end of the quarter were female and 52 percent were male. These percentages are similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 19c: Gender of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter



Entries into Foster Care

During the first quarter, 1,054 children entered foster care, a decrease from the previous quarter (1,099).

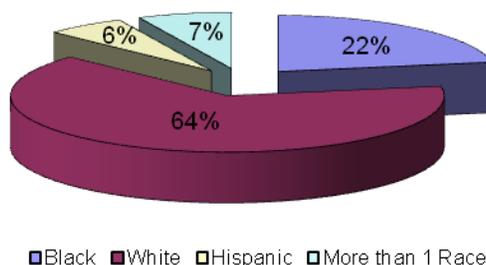
**Table 8: Characteristics of Children Entering Foster Care During the Quarter
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	83	28	0	0	2	8	8	129
	Male	100	33	0	0	0	11	13	157
2 to 5	Female	106	31	0	1	1	3	13	155
	Male	85	31	0	0	0	11	11	138
6 to 11	Female	76	26	0	0	0	8	7	117
	Male	79	19	0	0	0	9	11	118
12 to 15	Female	52	20	0	0	0	6	1	79
	Male	50	17	0	0	0	3	4	74
16 to 18	Female	29	14	0	0	0	3	3	49
	Male	16	14	0	0	0	0	2	32
18+	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total*		676	233	0	1	3	62	73	1,048

*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for six children.

The chart below shows that 64 percent of the children who entered foster care during the quarter were white, while 22 percent were black. National data indicate that 44 percent of the children who enter care are white, 26 percent are black and 20 percent are Hispanic.⁹

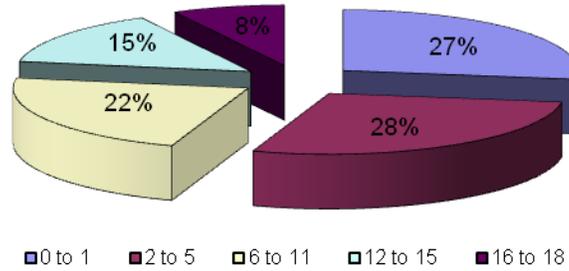
Chart 20a: Race/Ethnicity of Children who Entered Care



⁹ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2007 and 9/30/2008 as of October 2009.

The following chart shows that 77 percent of the children who entered foster care during the quarter were no older than 11 years of age.

Chart 20b: Ages of Children who Entered Care



The following chart shows the gender of the children who entered foster care during the third quarter. Of the 1,054 children who entered care, 50 percent of the children were male and 50 percent were female.

Chart 20c: Gender of Children who Entered Care

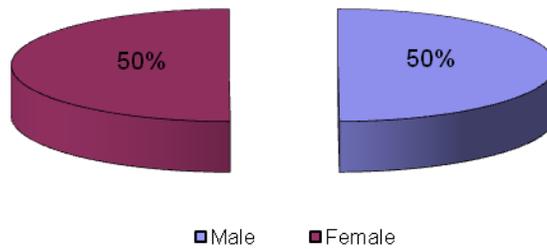


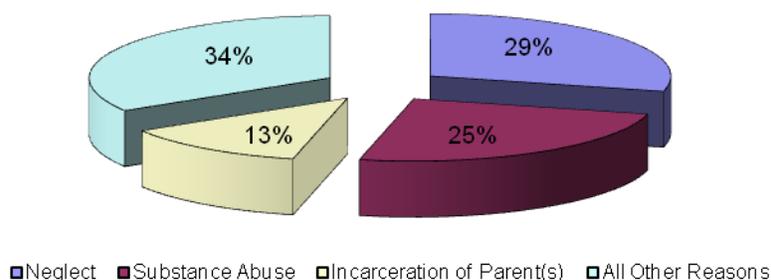
Table 9 displays the reasons the 1,054 children entered foster care during the quarter. Neglect and substance abuse¹⁰ were the most prevalent reasons for the children’s entry into care.

**Table 9: Reasons Children Entered Foster Care During the Quarter
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

Placement Reason	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	18+	Total
Neglect	143	151	121	66	38	2	521
Substance Abuse	124	127	113	54	25	0	443
Parent Incarceration	47	80	53	31	13	2	226
Physical Abuse	44	56	38	36	20	2	196
Child’s Behavior	0	0	1	24	21	1	47
Abandonment	15	12	10	10	9	1	57
Inadequate Housing	28	35	32	18	8	0	121
Caretaker Illness	17	14	16	12	7	0	66
Sexual Abuse	4	18	26	27	10	0	85
Truancy	0	0	1	2	6	0	9
Child’s Disability	0	0	3	1	0	0	4
Parent Death	0	1	3	0	1	0	5
Sex Offender	0	0	2	3	1	1	7
Relinquishment	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Adoption	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Managed Mental Health	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	4	1	0	5
Teen Parent in Care	5	0	0	0	0	0	5
Total*	428	494	419	288	160	9	1798

*There are more reasons for entry than children who entered care because a child may have more than one reason for entry.

Chart 21: Reasons Children Entered Foster Care During the Quarter



¹⁰ Of the 443 reasons for entry attributed to substance abuse, substance abuse by children accounted for 17 reasons for entry (4%), while substance abuse by parents accounted for 426 reasons for entry (96%).

Exits from Foster Care

During the quarter, 1,015 children left foster care, which was an increase from the previous quarter (985).

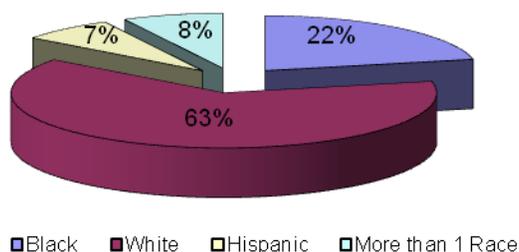
**Table 10: Characteristics of Children Exiting Foster Care During the Quarter
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	44	17	0	0	0	7	3	71
	Male	69	19	0	0	0	5	9	102
2 to 5	Female	82	27	0	0	0	11	14	134
	Male	96	28	0	0	0	13	12	149
6 to 11	Female	75	27	0	0	0	12	8	122
	Male	79	29	0	0	1	3	3	115
12 to 15	Female	40	15	0	0	0	8	4	67
	Male	61	15	0	0	0	5	4	85
16 to 18	Female	44	25	0	0	0	5	13	87
	Male	41	13	0	0	0	2	5	61
18+	Female	9	3	0	0	0	1	1	14
	Male	3	1	0	0	1	0	1	6
Total*		643	219	0	0	2	72	77	1,013

*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for two children.

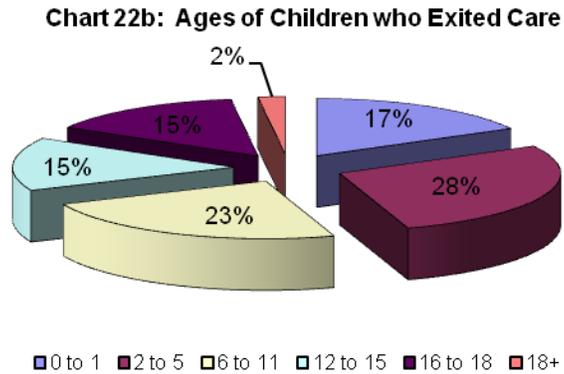
Of the 1,015 children who exited foster care, 63 percent were white and 22 percent were black. During the same quarter ending one year ago, 62 percent of the children who exited foster care were white and 24 percent were black. National data indicate that 44 percent of the children who leave foster care are white and 26 percent are black.¹¹

Chart 22a: Race/Ethnicity of Children who Exited Care

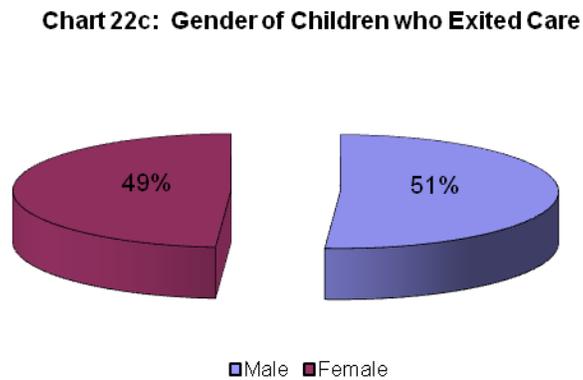


¹¹ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2007 and 9/30/2008 as of October 2009.

The following chart shows that children between the ages of two and five (28%) represent the largest group of children who left foster care during the quarter.



Of the children who left care during the quarter, 49 percent were female and 51 percent were male.



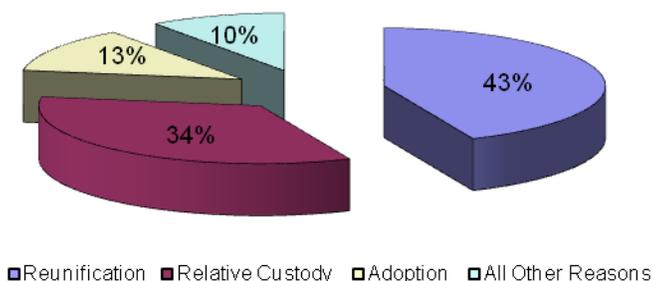
**Table 11: Reasons Children Exited Foster Care by Age
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

Reason	Age						Total
	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	18+	
Reunification	81	127	106	73	53	0	440
Relative Custody	64	96	90	65	30	0	345
Adoption	23	53	37	12	3	0	128
Child Aged Out	0	0	0	0	52	18	70
Non-Relative Custody	2	5	4	2	8	0	21
Custody Transfer	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Emancipation	0	0	0	0	2	2	4
Death of Child	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
Total*	173	283	237	152	148	20	1,013

*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for two children.

The most prevalent reason that children left foster care during the quarter was reunification (43%). The second leading reason was relative custody (34%). National data indicate that the three most prevalent reasons children left care are reunification (52%), adoption (19%) and relative care (8%).¹² The percentage of Arkansas' children exiting care to adoption (12%) is lower than that seen nationally; however, Arkansas has significantly more children that exit to relative custody.

Chart 23: Most Prevalent Reasons Children Left Care



¹² Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2007 and 9/30/2008 as of October 2009.

Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care

The Division maintains two primary goals for children in foster care: safety and permanency. The second of these concerns is expressed by setting a permanency goal for each child in foster care within 30 days of the child entering care. Of the 4,074 children in foster care at the end of the quarter, 3,734 children had been in care for at least 30 days. Reunification (returning home) remained the most prevalent goal among children in foster care at 55 percent. National data reveal similar figures to the proportions shown here.¹³

**Table 12: Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

	1st Quarter		National
Return Home	2,072	55%	49%
Adoption	776	20%	24%
APPLA	509	14%	N/A
Relative Care	115	3%	4%
Guardianship	18	0.5%	4%
Emancipation	0	0%	6%
Long Term Care	0	0%	8%
Not Yet Established	244	7%	5%
Total*	3,734	100%	100%

¹³ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2007 and 9/30/2008 as of October 2009.

Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care

For the 5,043 children in foster care anytime during the quarter, 55 percent were in care for less than one year. A comparison to national data indicates that children in the state’s foster care system remain in care a decidedly shorter amount of time than do children nationwide.¹⁴

**Table 13a: Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care (Including Relative Care)
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

	Number	Percentage	National
Less than 30 days	579	11%	5%
30-90 Days	577	11%	20%
3-6 Months	670	13%	
6-12 Months	956	19%	17%
12-24 Months	1,095	22%	23%
24-36 Months	443	9%	12%
36+ Months	723	14%	24%
Total	5,043	100%	100%

*Sum of individual percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

**Table 13b: Length of Stay in Foster Care of Children in Relative Care
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 days	41	6%
30-90 Days	95	14%
3-6 Months	135	20%
6-12 Months	173	25%
12-24 Months	173	25%
24-36 Months	40	6%
36+ Months	20	3%
Total*	677	100%

¹⁴ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2007 and 9/30/2008 as of October 2009.

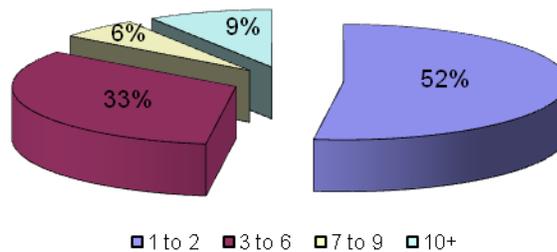
Number of Placements of Children in Foster Care

For children in care at the end of the 1st quarter, 52 percent experienced two or fewer placements.

**Table 14: Number of Placements of Children in Foster Care
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

	Children in FC Less Than 12 Months		Children in FC 12 and 24 Months		Children in FC More Than 24 Months		Total	
1-2 Placements	1,530	72%	382	42%	199	19%	2,111	52%
3-6 Placements	571	27%	435	48%	341	33%	1,347	33%
7-9 Placements	35	2%	53	6%	167	16%	255	6%
10+ Placements	3	0%	40	4%	318	31%	361	9%
Total*	2,139	100%	910	100%	1,025	100%	4,074	100%

**Chart 24: Number of Placements for Children in
Care at the End of the Quarter**



Characteristics of Children who Experienced Three or More Placements

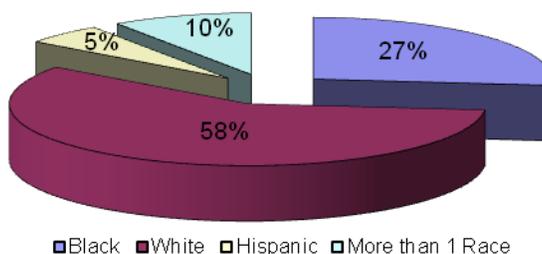
At the end of the first quarter, 4,074 children were in foster care. Of those, 1,963 children (48%) experienced three or more placements while in care.

**Table 15: Characteristics of Children who Experienced Three or More Placements
1st Quarter SFY 2010**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	31	22	0	0	0	0	12	65
	Male	49	20	0	0	0	2	5	76
2 to 5	Female	119	35	0	0	0	9	20	183
	Male	134	42	0	0	0	12	15	203
6 to 11	Female	136	64	0	0	0	15	19	234
	Male	155	74	0	1	0	20	41	291
12 to 15	Female	112	46	0	0	0	4	18	180
	Male	125	66	0	1	0	14	23	229
16 to 18	Female	123	62	0	0	0	15	12	212
	Male	118	63	0	0	0	11	17	209
18+	Female	21	11	0	0	0	2	3	37
	Male	24	17	0	0	0	1	2	44
Total		1,147	522	0	2	0	105	187	1963

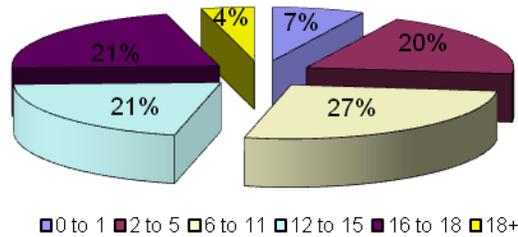
Of the 1,963 children who experienced three or more placements, 58 percent were white and 27 percent were black.

Chart 25a: Race/Ethnicity of Children who Experienced Three or More Placements



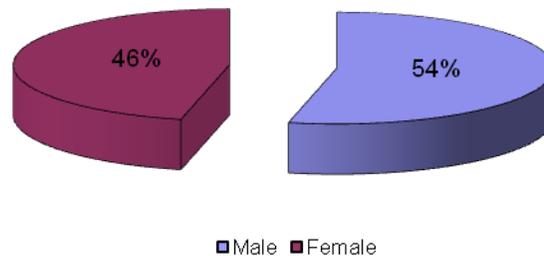
Children between the ages of six and 11 (27%) represented the largest group of children who experienced three or more placements, followed by those between the ages of 16 and 18 (21%).

Chart 25b: Ages of Children who Experienced Three or More Placements



More male children (54%) than female children (46%) experienced three or more placements.

Chart 25c: Gender of Children who Experienced Three or More Placements



Current Placement of Children in Foster Care

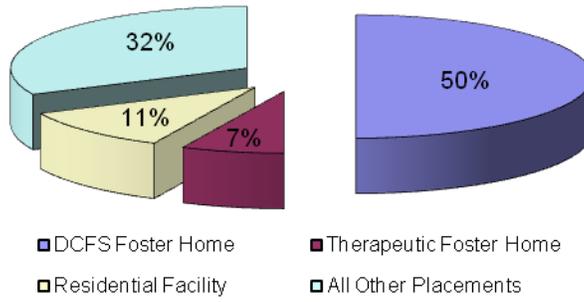
More children in foster care at the end of the first quarter were placed in DCFS foster homes (50%) than in any other type of out-of-home setting.

Table 16: Current Placement of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter

Placement	Age						Total
	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	Over 18	
DCFS Foster Home (Non-Relative)	447	555	423	173	117	39	1,754
DCFS Foster Home (Relative)	41	103	75	25	14	5	263
Provisional Relative Care	60	96	62	24	9	0	251
Therapeutic Foster Home	7	36	126	68	28	10	275
Pre-Adoptive Home (Non-Relative)	45	59	52	14	3	1	174
Pre-Adoptive Home (Relative)	1	5	5	2	0	0	13
Emergency Shelter	7	19	49	46	40	3	164
Residential Facility	23	26	84	140	125	41	439
Youth Services	0	0	0	8	13	3	24
Runaway	0	2	1	7	25	2	37
Trial Home Visit	21	64	62	22	16	2	187
Hospital/Medical	7	2	11	10	5	0	35
ASAP CRT	0	0	0	7	6	0	13
Independent Living	0	0	0	0	4	116	120
Incarceration	0	0	0	7	8	0	15
Temporary Placement	11	23	31	23	9	2	99
Sub-Acute CRT	0	1	29	63	45	0	138
Acute CRT	0	0	10	15	8	2	35
ASAP Residential Treatment	0	0	0	6	6	3	15
ASAP Therapeutic Foster Care	0	0	0	5	4	3	12
DDS Placement	0	0	0	2	1	1	4
Unknown*	4	3	0	0	0	0	7
Total	674	994	1,020	667	486	233	4,074

*Unknown due to data entry after data was collected for the report.

Chart 26: Current Placement of Children in Foster Care

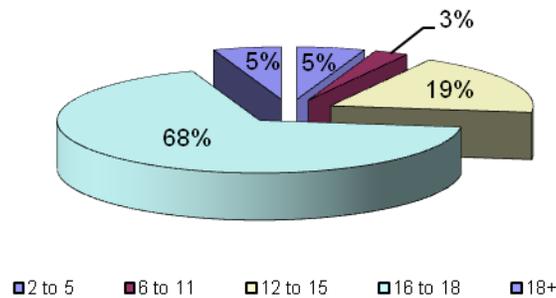


Characteristics of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Quarter

Thirty-seven children were on runaway status at the end of the first quarter. This is a decrease from the previous quarter (50).

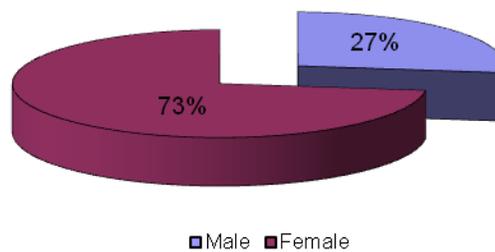
The majority of the children on runaway status (68%) were between the ages of 16 and 18.

Chart 27b: Ages of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Quarter



More female children (73%) than male children (27%) were on runaway status at the end of the quarter. These percentages were similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 27c: Gender of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Quarter



Characteristics of Children in Relative Care

During the first quarter, 677 children were placed in relative care¹⁵, an increase from the previous quarter (537). This number includes children who remained in relative care from previous quarters as well as children who came into relative care during the current quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of children residing in relative care.

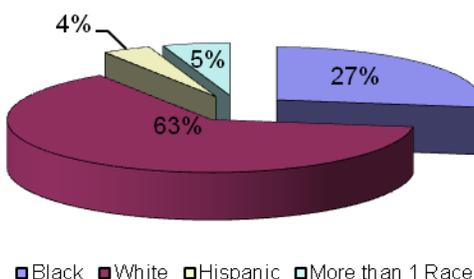
**Table 17: Characteristics of Children in Relative Care
3rd Quarter SFY 2010**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	40	16	0	0	1	0	5	62
	Male	50	15	0	0	0	2	2	69
2 to 5	Female	80	31	0	0	0	1	8	120
	Male	95	28	0	0	0	6	7	136
6 to 11	Female	48	27	0	0	0	5	5	85
	Male	61	29	0	0	0	3	6	99
12 to 15	Female	24	9	0	0	0	4	1	38
	Male	16	10	0	0	0	2	2	30
16 to 18	Female	8	7	0	0	0	1	0	16
	Male	8	11	0	0	0	2	0	21
Over 18	Female	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		430	184	0	0	1	26	36	677

*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for one child.

White children represent the highest percentage of children in relative care during the first quarter at 63 percent.

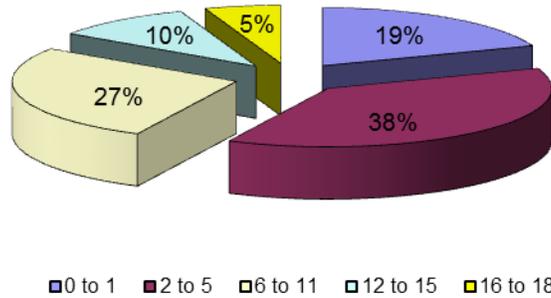
Chart 28a: Race/Ethnicity of Children in Relative Care



¹⁵ Relative care includes both Provisional (Relative) placements and Licensed Foster Family Homes who served relative children during the quarter.

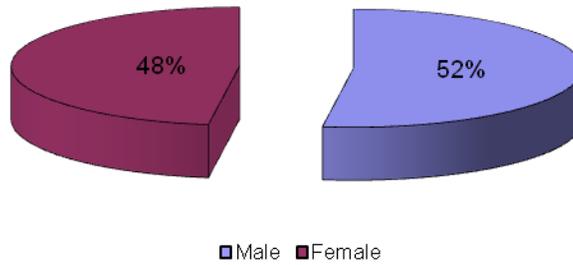
Children between the ages of two and five (38%) represent the largest age group of children in relative care, followed by children between the ages of six and 11 (27%).

Chart 28b: Ages of Children in Relative Care



Of the 677 children in relative care during the quarter, 52 percent were male and 48 percent were female.

Chart 28c: Gender of Children in Relative Care



Part III: Description of Population and Services
Section III: Adoption

Characteristics of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter

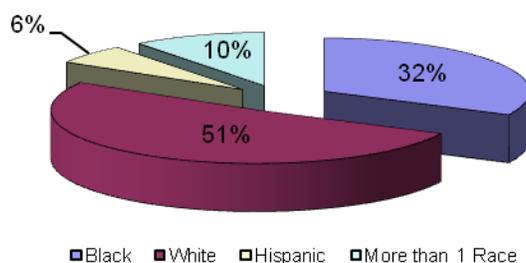
There were 776 children in care at the end of the quarter with a permanency goal of adoption. The table below outlines those children’s characteristics.

Table 18: Characteristics of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter
1st Quarter SFY 2011

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	16	8	0	0	0	4	0	28
	Male	22	19	0	0	0	1	1	43
2 to 5	Female	40	30	0	0	0	3	9	82
	Male	57	34	0	0	0	6	7	104
6 to 11	Female	64	47	0	0	0	6	10	127
	Male	70	46	0	0	0	7	24	147
12 to 15	Female	47	19	0	0	0	3	9	78
	Male	50	27	0	0	0	10	16	103
16 to 18	Female	18	6	0	0	0	4	2	30
	Male	13	12	1	0	0	2	3	31
Over 18	Female	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total		398	250	1	0	0	46	81	776

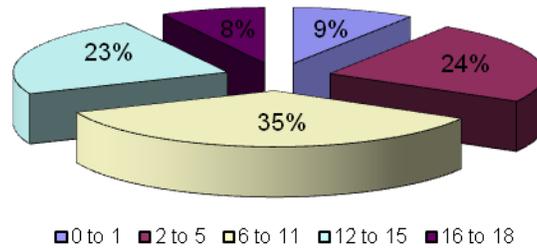
Of the children in care with a permanency goal of adoption at the end of the quarter, 51percent were white, 32 percent were black, and 10 percent were multiracial. These percentages are similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 30a: Race/Ethnicity of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter



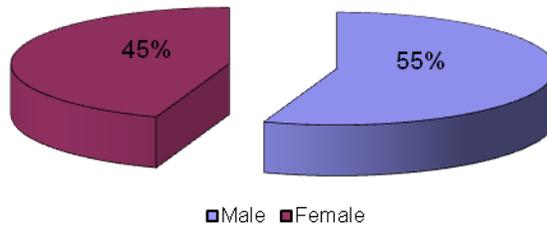
At the end of the quarter, children between the ages of six and 11 (35%) continued to represent the largest age group with a permanency goal of adoption.

Chart 30b: Ages of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter



More male children (55%) than female children (45%) in care at the end of the quarter had a permanency goal of adoption, similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 30c: Gender of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter



Characteristics of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated at the end of the Quarter

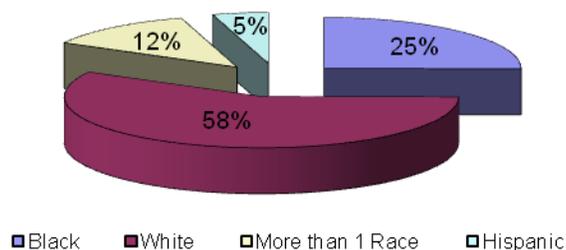
There were 482 children whose parents had their parental rights terminated¹⁶ at the end of the first quarter. The table below outlines the characteristics of those children.

**Table 19: Characteristics of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated at the end of the Quarter
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	10	3	0	0	0	1	2	16
	Male	10	4	0	0	0	0	1	15
2 to 5	Female	24	11	0	0	0	1	8	44
	Male	28	18	0	0	0	1	5	52
6 to 11	Female	41	22	0	0	0	4	3	70
	Male	41	20	0	0	0	5	14	80
12 to 15	Female	31	13	0	0	0	0	8	52
	Male	43	15	0	0	0	2	12	72
16 to 18	Female	19	3	0	0	0	2	1	25
	Male	16	8	1	0	0	4	4	33
Over 18	Female	7	2	0	0	0	1	1	11
	Male	8	2	0	0	0	1	1	12
Total		278	121	1	0	0	22	60	482

Fifty-eight percent of the children whose parents had their parental rights terminated during the quarter were white, 25 percent were black, five percent were Hispanic, and 12 percent were multiracial.

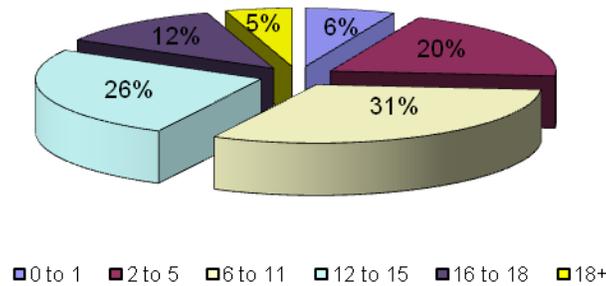
Chart 31a: Race/Ethnicity of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated



¹⁶ Both parents' parental rights must be terminated for the child to be counted.

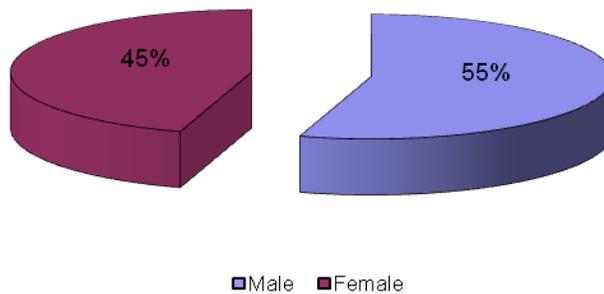
Children between the ages of six and 11 (31%) represent the largest group of children whose parents' parental rights were terminated during the quarter.

Chart 31b: Ages of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated



Of the 482 children whose parents' parental rights were terminated during the quarter, 55 percent were male and 45 percent were female.

Chart 31c: Gender of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated



Characteristics of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter

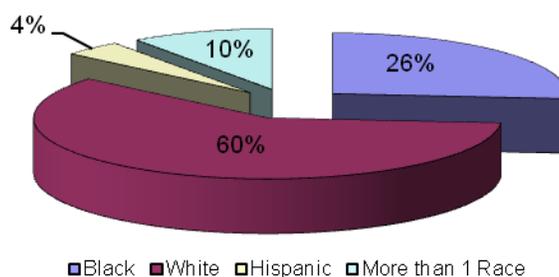
At the end of the first quarter, 347 children were available for adoption.¹⁷ Demographic information for children available for adoption, shown in the table below, is very similar to previous quarters.

**Table 20: Characteristics of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	8	3	0	0	0	1	0	12
	Male	8	2	0	0	0	0	1	11
2 to 5	Female	18	8	0	0	0	1	4	31
	Male	22	16	0	0	0	1	3	42
6 to 11	Female	36	20	0	0	0	2	1	59
	Male	36	17	0	0	0	5	9	67
12 to 15	Female	28	11	0	0	0	0	4	43
	Male	34	10	0	0	0	1	10	55
16 to 18	Female	11	1	0	0	0	2	0	14
	Male	6	3	1	0	0	1	2	13
Total		207	91	1	0	0	14	34	347

Of the children available for adoption, 60 percent were white and 26 percent were black.

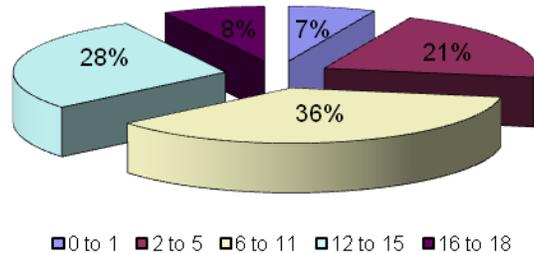
Chart 32a: Race/Ethnicity of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter



¹⁷ Children available for adoption is defined as children who have had two TPR's and a goal of adoption as of the end of the quarter.

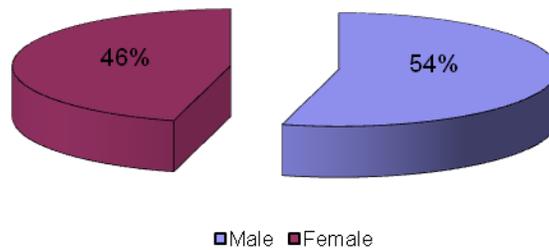
More of the children available for adoption at the end of the quarter were between the ages of six and 11 (36%) in comparison to any other age group.

Chart 32b: Ages of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter



At the end of the quarter, more male children (54%) than female children (46%) were available for adoption. These percentages are similar to the fourth quarter.

Chart 32c: Gender of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter



Current Placements of Children Available for Adoption

At the end of the third quarter, more children who were available for adoption were placed in DCFS foster homes (35%) than in any other type of placement, followed by pre-adoptive homes (22%). These results are similar to the previous quarter.

**Table 21: Current Placements of Children Available for Adoption
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

Placement	Number of Children	Percentage*
DCFS Foster Home	121	35%
Pre-Adoptive Home	77	22%
Therapeutic Foster Home	62	18%
Residential Facility	46	13%
Hospital/Medical	5	1%
Emergency Shelter	1	0.3%
Temporary Placement	3	1%
Sub-Acute CRT	21	6%
ASAP CRT	2	0.6%
ASAP Residential Treatment	2	0.6%
ASAP Therapeutic Foster Care	1	0.3%
Youth Services	1	0.3%
Acute CRT	3	1%
ILP Sponsor	1	0.3%
DDS Placement	1	0.3%
Total*	347	100%

*The sum of individual percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Characteristics of Children in Pre-adoptive Placements

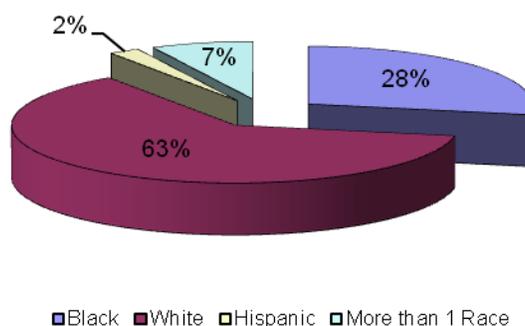
During the first quarter, 136 children were in pre-adoptive homes. This number includes children who entered a pre-adoptive home during previous quarters as well as children who were newly placed in a pre-adoptive home during the current quarter.

**Table 22: Characteristics of Children in Pre-adoptive Placements
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	9
	Male	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	9
2 to 5	Female	12	7	0	0	0	1	0	20
	Male	20	12	0	0	0	0	5	37
6 to 11	Female	16	8	0	0	0	1	0	25
	Male	13	3	0	0	0	0	1	17
12 to 15	Female	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	6
	Male	7	1	0	0	0	1	2	11
16 to 18	Female	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		85	38	0	0	0	3	10	136

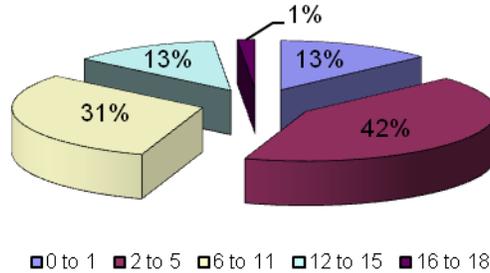
Of the 136 children in pre-adoptive homes during the quarter, 63 percent were white and 28 percent were black.

Chart 33a: Race/Ethnicity of Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes During the Quarter



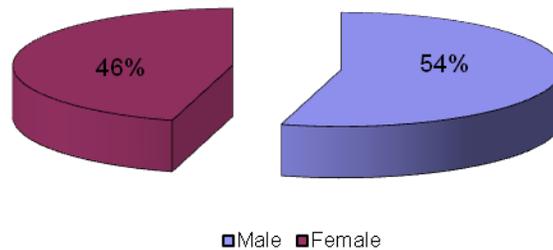
Children between the ages of two and five (42%) represent the largest age group of children placed in pre-adoptive homes.

33b: Ages of Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes During the Quarter



Of the 136 children in pre-adoptive homes during the quarter, 54 percent were male and 46 percent were female. These percentages differ from the fourth quarter, when 59 percent were male and 41 percent were female.

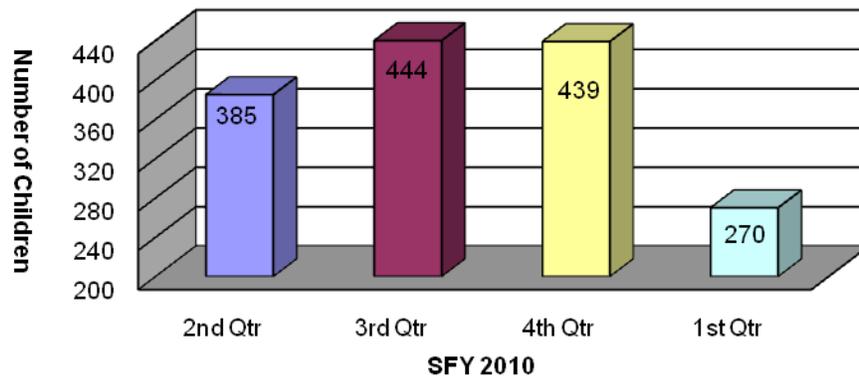
33c: Gender of Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes During the Quarter



Children not Placed in Adoptive Homes whose Parents have had their Parental Rights Terminated

During the first quarter, there were 270 children whose parents had their parental rights terminated but were not placed in adoptive homes, a decrease from the previous quarter (439). This statistic was derived by subtracting the number of children placed in adoptive homes at the end of the quarter (77) from the number of children available for adoption at the end of the quarter (347).

Chart 34: Children not Placed in Adoptive Homes whose Parents have had their Parental Rights Terminated



Children with Special Needs

Children with special needs are defined as:

- Caucasian and over the age of nine;
- African- American and two years of age or older;
- Members of a sibling group;
- Children who have severe medical or psychological needs that require ongoing treatment; or
- Children at high risk for the development of serious physical, mental or emotional conditions may be considered special needs if documentation is provided by a medical professional specializing in the area of the condition for which the child is considered at risk.

During the first quarter, 83 children with special needs were in pre-adoptive placements.¹⁸

**Table 23: Children with Special Needs who were Placed in Pre-Adoptive Homes
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

Special Needs Condition	Number of Children
Race	82
Age	71
Member of sibling group	47

Characteristics of Children with Finalized Adoptions

During the quarter, 135 children had their adoptions finalized, a decrease from the previous quarter (181). The following table outlines the characteristics of the children with finalized adoptions.

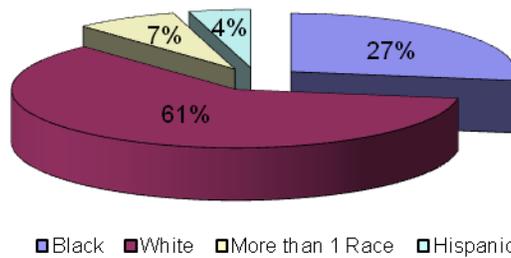
¹⁸ This number does not take into account children with severe medical and psychological needs. As enhancements are made to the data system to capture this information, it will be provided in future reports.

**Table 24: Characteristics of Children with Finalized Adoptions
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	His-panic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	<i>Female</i>	5	1	0	0	0	1	1	8
	<i>Male</i>	7	5	0	0	0	2	2	16
2 to 5	<i>Female</i>	12	6	0	0	0	2	2	22
	<i>Male</i>	21	8	0	0	0	1	4	34
6 to 11	<i>Female</i>	17	8	0	0	0	0	0	25
	<i>Male</i>	10	3	0	0	0	0	1	14
12 to 15	<i>Female</i>	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	8
	<i>Male</i>	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	6
16 to 18	<i>Female</i>	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	<i>Male</i>	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total		82	37	0	0	0	6	10	135

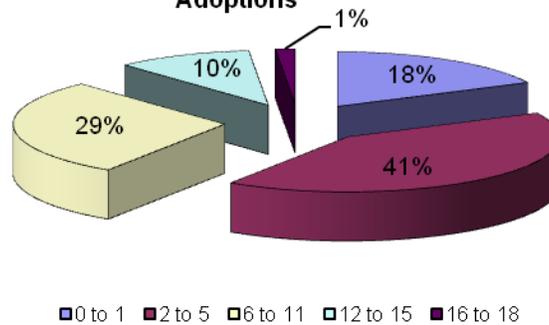
Of the 135 finalized adoptions during the first quarter, 61 percent of the adopted children were white and 27 percent were black.

Chart 35a: Race/Ethnicity of Children with Finalized Adoptions



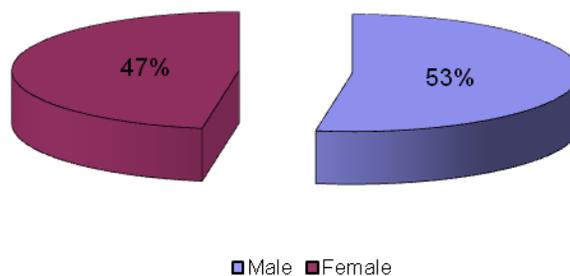
Children between the ages of two and five (41%) represented the largest age group of children whose adoptions were finalized during the quarter.

Chart 35b: Ages of Children with Finalized Adoptions



During the quarter, 47 percent of the children whose adoptions were finalized were female and 53 percent were male.

Chart 35c: Gender of Children with Finalized Adoptions



Subsidized Adoptions

During the first quarter, 110 children began receiving adoption subsidies. Of those, 96 children received federally-funded subsidies and 14 received state-funded subsidies.

Characteristics of Children who Received Adoption Subsidies

During the first quarter, 4,056 children received adoption subsidies. The following table outlines the demographics of those children.

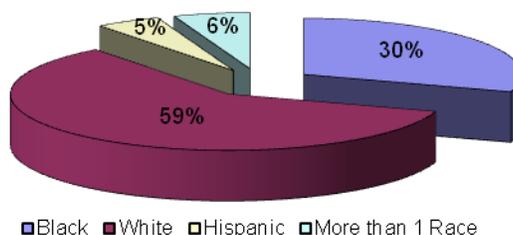
**Table 25: Characteristics of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	17	7	0	0	0	2	3	29
	Male	14	17	0	0	0	3	2	36
2 to 5	Female	247	93	2	1	0	25	35	403
	Male	241	109	2	1	0	24	29	406
6 to 11	Female	448	239	2	0	0	38	53	780
	Male	464	223	3	1	1	47	48	787
12 to 15	Female	292	178	1	4	0	23	26	524
	Male	327	157	0	1	1	16	15	517
16 to 18	Female	141	81	0	0	0	11	8	241
	Male	136	70	0	0	0	4	7	217
18+	Female	29	20	0	0	0	0	1	50
	Male	36	13	0	0	0	0	1	50
Total*		2,392	1,207	10	8	2	193	228	4,040

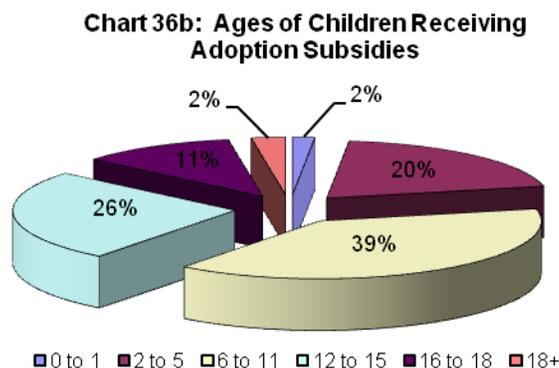
*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for 16 children.

Fifty-nine percent of the children who received adoption subsidies were white and 30 percent were black, similar to the previous quarter.

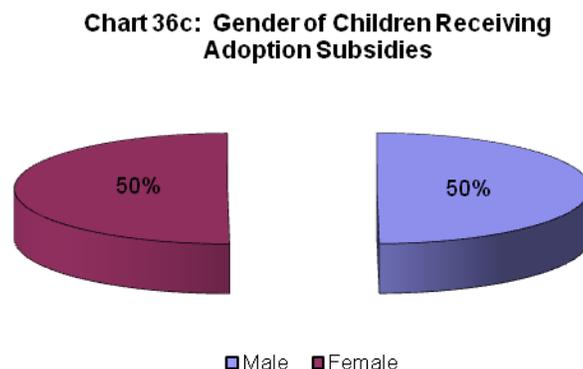
Chart 36a: Race/Ethnicity of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies



The majority of the children receiving adoption subsidies during the quarter were between the ages of six and 11 (39%).



Of the children receiving adoption subsidies, 50 percent were male and 50 percent were female.



Pre-Adoptive Homes

At the beginning of the first quarter, 624 pre-adoptive homes were available; at the end of the quarter, 586 pre-adoptive homes were available.

**Table 26: Pre-Adoptive Homes
1st Quarter SFY 2010**

	Total Adoptive Homes	Non-Foster Adoptive Homes	Foster Adoptive Homes
Homes available for children at beginning of quarter	624	260	364
Newly available homes	112	53	59
Homes that had children placed during the quarter	102	53	49
Homes that experienced a disruption	2	2	0
Homes that closed without a placement	50	23	27
Homes available at the end of the quarter	586	239	347

Appendix A: Child Fatality

True Fatality Reports

Child	County	Age	Race	Gender	Date of Death	Allegations or Preliminary Cause of Death	Placement at the Time of Incident	Relationship of Alleged Offender to the Child	Agency Conducting the Investigation	Legal Action By the Department	Services Provided Prior to the Incident	Services Provided After the Incident
Dominick Doss	Washington	2	Multi-Ethnic	Male	07/18/2010	Physical Abuse	In-Home	Family Member	CACD	None	Prior Investigation	Foster Care Case
Glen Hunter	Pulaski	2	White	Male	08/06/2010	Physical Abuse	In-Home	Family Member	CACD	None	None	None
Madison Martin	Lonoke	3	White	Female	08/11/2010	Inadequate Supervision	In-Home	Family Member	CACD	None	None	Foster Care Case
Demarrius Thomas	Jackson	2	Black	Male	08/28/2010	Physical Abuse	In-Home	Family Member	CACD	None	None	None
Carsyn Reaves	Benton	1	Black	Female	08/14/2010	Inadequate Supervision	In-Home	Family Member	CACD	None	None	None
Lane Drake	Benton	<1	White	Male	08/31/2010	Inadequate Supervision/ Physical Abuse	In-Home	Family Member	CACD	None	Prior Investigation	Foster Care Case
Savannah Houser	Crawford	3	White	Female	09/12/2010	Inadequate Supervision	In-Home	Child's Guardians	CACD	None	Prior Investigation/ Prior PS Case	Foster Care Case
Carter Shaw	Pope	<1	White	Male	07/25/2010	Physical Abuse	In-Home	Mother's Boyfriend	CACD	None	None	None

Unsubstantiated Fatality Reports

Child	County	Age	Race	Gender	Date of Death	Allegations or Preliminary Cause of Death	Placement at the Time of Incident	Relationship of Alleged Offender to the Child	Agency Conducting the Investigation	Legal Action By the Department	Services Provided Prior to the Incident	Services Provided After the Incident
Nicholas Sanders	Pope	<1	White	Male	09/18/2010	Inadequate Supervision	In-Home	Unknown	CACD	None	Prior Investigation/ Prior PS Case	Foster Care Case
Justin Weddenford	Sebastian	<1	White	Male	08/03/2010	Inadequate Supervision	In-Home	Family Member	CACD	None	None	None

Pending Fatality Reports

Child	County	Age	Race	Gender	Date of Death	Allegations or Preliminary Cause of Death	Placement at the Time of Incident	Relationship of Alleged Offender to the Child	Agency Conducting the Investigation	Legal Action By the Department	Services Provided Prior to the Incident	Services Provided After the Incident
Brayson James	Benton	<1	White	Male	09/17/2010	Physical Abuse	In-Home	Family Member	CACD	None	Prior Investigation/ Prior PS Case	None

Appendix B: Near Fatality

True Near Fatality Reports

There were no true near fatality reports during first quarter SFY 2011.

Unsubstantiated Near Fatality Reports

There were no unsubstantiated near fatality reports during first quarter SFY 2011.

Pending Near Fatality Reports

There were no pending near fatality reports during first quarter SFY 2011.

Appendix C: Fatalities of Children in Foster Care Who Did Not Receive a Maltreatment Investigation

There were no foster child fatalities which did not receive a maltreatment investigation during first quarter SFY 2011.

Appendix D: Summary of Foster Care Maltreatment Reports

Foster Care Maltreatment Reports

**Characteristics of Children in Foster Care Involved in Allegations of Maltreatment
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

One hundred and eleven reports of alleged maltreatment, involving 129 children in foster care¹⁹, were received by the hotline during the 1st quarter of SYF 2011.

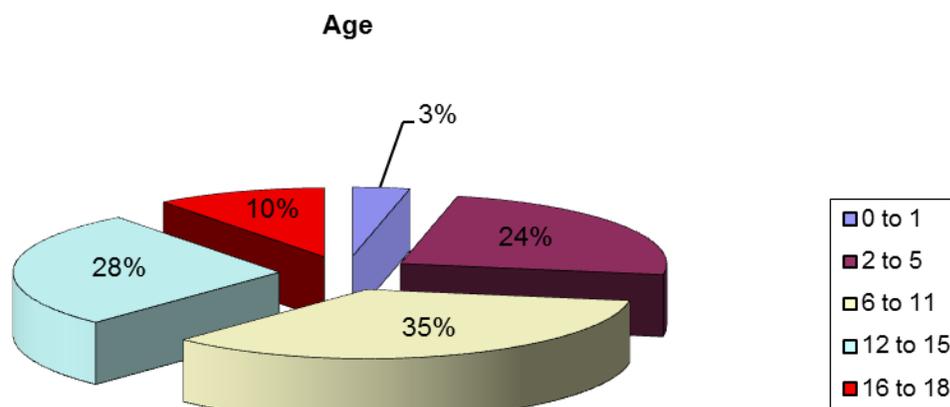
In 23 reports, involving 29 children, foster parents were identified as the alleged offenders. As displayed by the following chart, only three of those reports were found to be true and two of the three homes were subsequently closed. The home that was not closed is contracted through a therapeutic foster care provider and is not currently in use.

**Foster Home Maltreatment Reports
1st Quarter SFY 2011**

True	Unsubstantiated	Inactive (Unable to Locate)
3	20	0

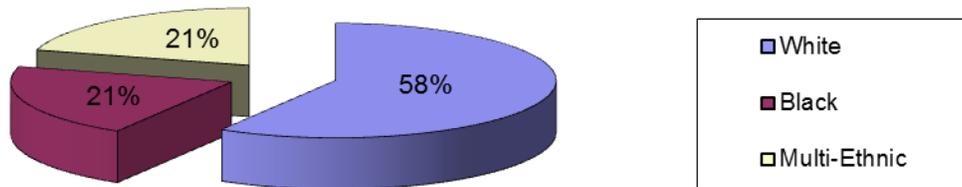
All allegations of maltreatment concerning foster homes are investigated by the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) of the Arkansas State Police. DCFS staff do not actively participate in the investigation of these reports. Furthermore, all allegations of maltreatment regarding foster homes require the agency to assess the safety of all children residing in the home.

The following charts describe the 29 foster children involved in allegations of maltreatment—with foster parents as alleged offenders—by age, race, gender, allegations, and location.

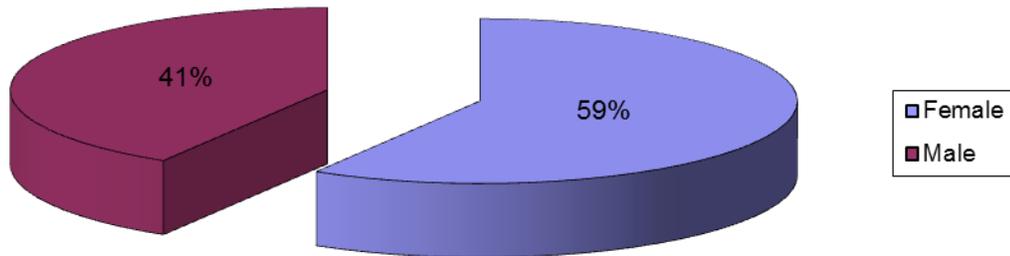


¹⁹ A maltreatment report can include more than one child.

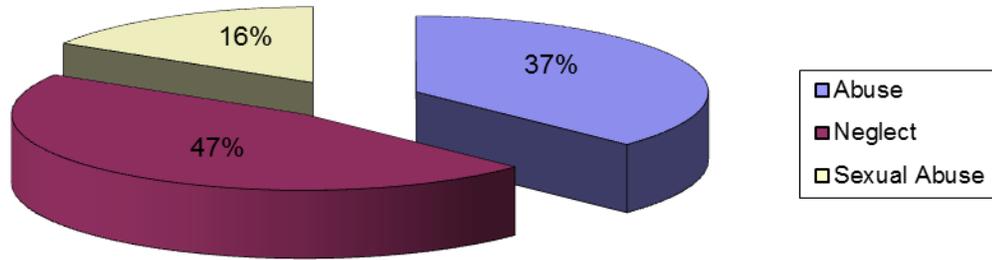
Race



Gender



Allegation



County

County	Number of Children Involved in Maltreatment Report	County	Number of Children Involved in Maltreatment Report
Benton	5	Pope	2
Pulaski	5	Crawford	1
Sebastian	4	Crittenden	1
Washington	3	Garland	1
Lonoke	3	Marion	1
Mississippi	2	Philips	1