

Quarterly Performance Report

*2nd Quarter
SFY 2010*

(October 2009 – December 2009)



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

Produced by:
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Quarterly Performance Report (QPR) is distributed to Division of Children and Family Services' (DCFS) managers and legislative committees dealing with children and youth. The QPR for the second quarter of State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2010, specifically October through December 2009, consists of three parts:

1. **Performance Indicators**, which provide information on service outcomes, such as:
 - a. *Percentage of Families 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 Living with Adoptive Families within Twelve Months of the Termination of Parental Rights*

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 fourth quarter, DCFS continued its efforts toward meeting these goals. Overall, DCFS maintained a performance standard that mirrors past efforts and successes.

- The percentage of children in foster care who returned home within 18 months experienced an overall decline in timeliness.

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 these measures.

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

- Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments

The percentage for timely initiations stood at **85 percent**, the same as the previous quarter (85%) and below the goal of 95 percent compliance.

Four of the ten DCFS Service Areas improved compliance with Priority One initiations over the previous quarter, and five areas improved compliance with Priority Two initiations. Except for Areas 7 and 8, all areas met or exceeded 90 percent compliance for Priority One initiations; and except for Areas 4 and 7, all areas met or exceeded 80 percent compliance Priority Two initiations. Three areas—Areas 2, 5 and 6—exceeded the 95 percent goal for Priority One initiations, although only Area 5 met the 95 percent goal for Priority Two initiations.

With compliance in several areas below the goal of 95 percent for both Priority One and Priority Two initiations, the Division has established corrective action plans to help improve initiations' timelines. DCFS is developing area-wide and county-specific plans that should help increase staff's ability to initiate investigations in a timelier manner. With new Area Directors in place across the state, corrective actions include closer immediate supervision at both the supervisory and director levels. Some areas, for instance Area 1, are advocating for the hiring of new investigations staff to manage incoming referrals. Other areas are indicating that new investigations will be assigned to staff more promptly and more efforts will be made to document any attempt to see the persons cited in the investigation. In fact, many Area Directors are emphasizing

the importance of documenting all attempts to see the individuals involved in an open investigation, even if those attempts are unsuccessful.

- **Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments**

The percentage for timely completions stood at **44 percent**, a decrease of 11 percentage points from the previous quarter (55%) and below the goal of 90 percent.

Six of the ten DCFS Service Areas improved compliance with Priority One completions over the previous quarter, and two areas improved compliance with Priority Two completions. No areas met the 95 percent compliance goal for either Priority One or Priority Two completions.

Since compliance in all areas fell below the goal of 95 percent for both Priority One and Priority Two completions, areas have established corrective actions to increase compliance in future quarters. The Division's Area Directors intend to increase supervisors' involvement in overseeing and ensuring that investigations are completed timely and documented correctly. One particular topic of concern is the volume of overdue investigations found in several areas. A statewide directive from DCFS Central Office is requiring all Areas to significantly reduce their backlog of overdue investigations by April 15, 2010. Several areas are implementing processes in which investigations staff will conference with their supervisor several days before an investigation becomes overdue; and for any investigation that cannot be completed within the required 30-day timeframe, staff must explain why the investigation cannot be completed. In addition, the Division also held a mandatory training for Investigations staff and supervisors during the quarter, which should lead to improved compliance.

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

The percentage for 24-hour initial health screenings stood at **85 percent**, an increase of six percentage points from the previous quarter (79%) but still below the goal of 95 percent.

The percentage for 72-hour initial health screenings stood at **90 percent**, an increase of two percentage points from the previous quarter (88%), closer to the goal of 95 percent.

For the 24-hour screenings, five areas improved compliance over the previous quarter. Areas 5, 6 and 7 achieved perfect compliance, and thus exceeded the 95 percent goal. However, several other areas struggled during the quarter. In particular, Areas 2, 4 and 9 all had compliance figures of less than 80 percent.

For the 72-hour screenings, five areas improved compliance over the previous quarter, and four areas—Areas 4, 5, 7 and 10—met or exceeded the 95 percent goal. Only two areas—Areas 2 and 9—had compliance rates less than 90 percent.

Since overall compliance fell below the goal of 95 percent in several areas, 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. Despite this barrier, Area Directors hope that more advance planning, improved scheduling with providers, and greater supervisory oversight can improve these numbers.

- Comprehensive Health Assessments

The percentage for comprehensive health assessments stood at **78 percent**, a decrease of 11 percentage points from the previous quarter (89%) and below the goal of 95 percent.

Two of the ten DCFS Service Areas improved compliance over the previous quarter, and no areas met the 95 percent goal. In fact, six areas—Areas 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 10—had compliance rates of less than 80 percent. The same issues that plagued the timely completion of Initial Health Screenings also factored into the number of children who did not have their comprehensive health assessment 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 131 new foster homes recruited during the quarter, an increase from the 128 homes recruited during the previous quarter and well above the goal of 80 new homes. This represents a compliance rate of **164 percent** for the quarter.

The statewide recruitment of foster homes has again exceeded the Division's goal for quarterly recruitment. 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 several additional counties over the past year. Presently, *The C.A.L.L.* has a presence in six of the ten DCFS Service Areas statewide.

- **Required Visits Made by Worker**

During the second quarter, the percentage of children who received a visit averaged **56 percent**, which was below the goal of 85 percent. The percentage of children who received visits from October through December averaged 61 percent, 53 percent, and 53 percent, respectively.

Of the ten DCFS Service Areas, only Area 4 met the 85 percent compliance goal. Of the remaining areas, only Areas 3 (69 percent) and 10 (67 percent) made at least two-thirds of their required visits. Four areas—specifically, Areas 1, 7, 8 and 9—made less than half of their required visits during the quarter.

In order to increase the number of required worker visits, several areas have placed a greater focus on monitoring workers' visitation schedules. The Division also emphasized the need for their 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 ten percent more caseworkers than was the case one year ago) and by mandating that supervisors conduct frequent case reviews or staffings with their staff. During the quarter, DCFS held a mandatory training for staff which focused on enhancing supervisory oversight and reviewing cases diligently. When considered collectively, the hope is that these efforts will ultimately lead to lower worker caseloads, and thus staff should have more time to devote towards completing required monthly 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 decreases in children with TPR and available for adoption; meanwhile, finalized adoptions increased.

PART I: PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

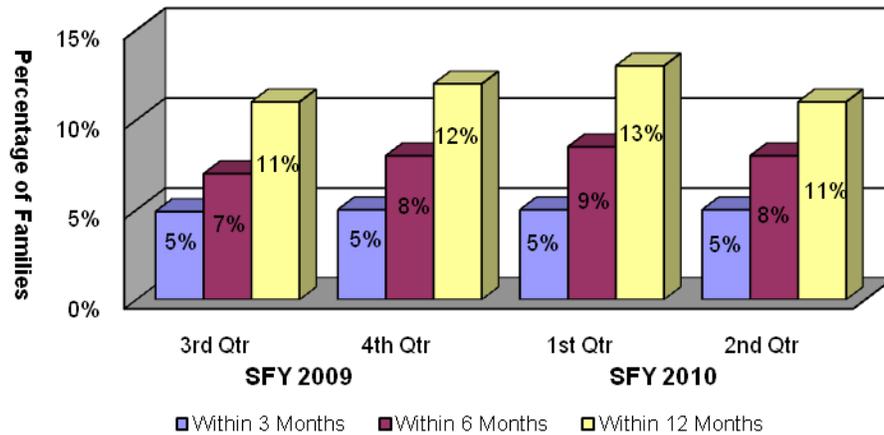
The Division has established nine performance measures to indicate achievement levels regarding its major goals in child safety, family preservation and permanency:

- Percentage of families with true allegations of child 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, Protective Services or Intensive Family Services (IFS) who were abused or neglected within one year of the initiation of services;
- Percentage of children receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or Intensive Family Services (IFS) 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 three or more placements within the past eighteen months;
- Percentage of siblings in placement who are placed together;
- Percentage of children living with adoptive families within twelve months of the termination of parental rights; and
- Number of children placed in pre-adoptive homes whose adoptions were finalized within twelve months of entering pre-adoptive placements.

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

Of the 1,521 families involved in true reports of maltreatment during the second quarter one year ago, only 11 percent (162) had a subsequent true report within 12 months. Fifty-nine percent of the true reports involved both the same perpetrator and the same type of maltreatment as the initial report.¹

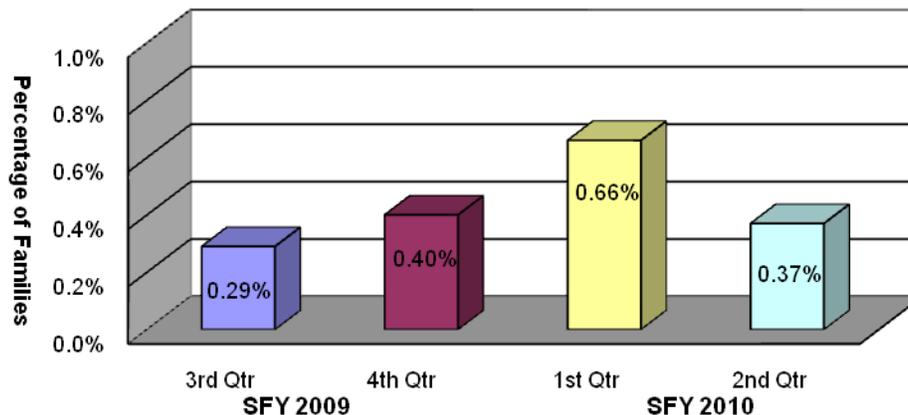
Chart 1: Recurrence of Maltreatment within 12 Months of Initial Report



Percentage of Foster Families with True Reports of Maltreatment

Of the 45 foster home maltreatment reports received during the second quarter, only six were found to be true. Based on the 1,618 foster homes² active during the quarter, the percentage of foster families with a true report of maltreatment was 0.37 percent.

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



¹ The remaining 41 percent of the subsequent reports were distributed as follows: No repetition of perpetrator or type of abuse – 17.9 percent; Same perpetrator only – 4.94 percent; Same type of abuse only – 18.52 percent.

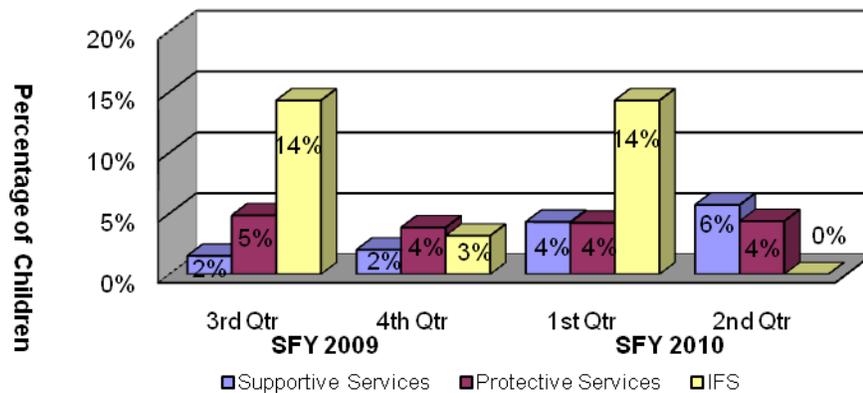
² This includes family and therapeutic foster homes.

Percentage of Children Receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or Intensive Family Services (IFS) who were Abused or Neglected within One Year of the Initiation of Services

Generally, families receiving Supportive Services have less severe problems. However, families receiving Intensive Family Services (IFS) are, by definition, at imminent risk of having one or more children placed in foster care or already have children in foster care. Families receiving Protective Services generally fall between those two extremes.

Of the 421 children who began receiving Supportive Services between October and December 2008, 24 children (6%) experienced a true report of maltreatment within one year. Of the 2,939 children who began receiving Protective Services, 128 children (4%) were involved in a true report within one year. None of the 16 children who began receiving IFS were involved in a true report within one year.

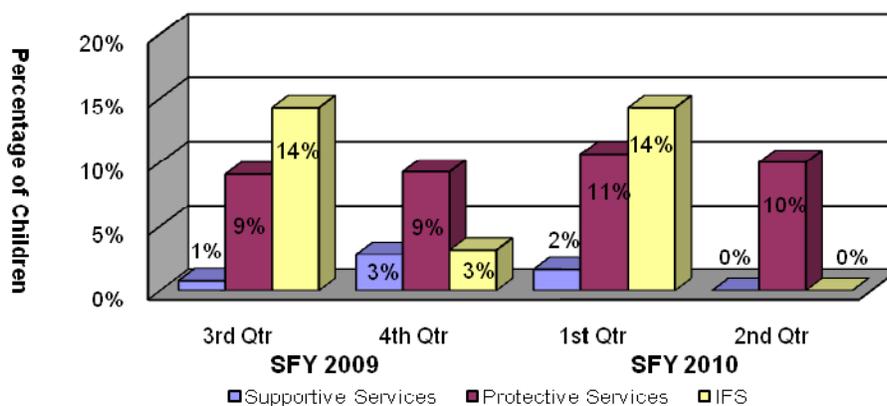
Chart 3: Children Receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or IFS who were Abused or Neglected within One Year of the Initiation of Services



Percentage of Children Receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or Intensive Family Services (IFS) who Entered Foster Care within One Year of the Initiation of Services

Two of the 421 children who began receiving Supportive Services between October and December 2008 entered foster care within one year of the initiation of these services; 293 of the 2,939 (10%) children who began receiving Protective Services entered care within one year; and none of the 16 children who began receiving IFS entered care within one year.

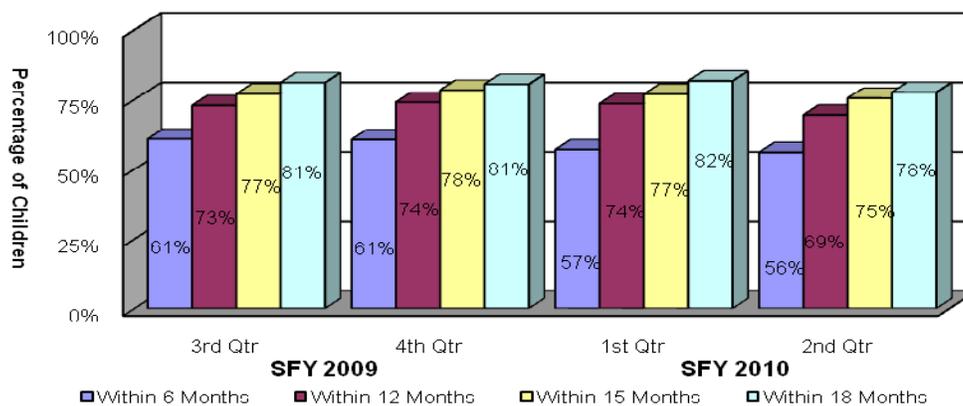
Chart 4: Children Receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or Intensive Family Services who Entered Foster Care within One Year of the Initiation of Services



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, 933 children entered foster care. Of those, 724 children (78%) returned home within 18 months. Overall, the percentage of children who entered care 18 months ago and returned home declined, regardless of how long they had been in care.

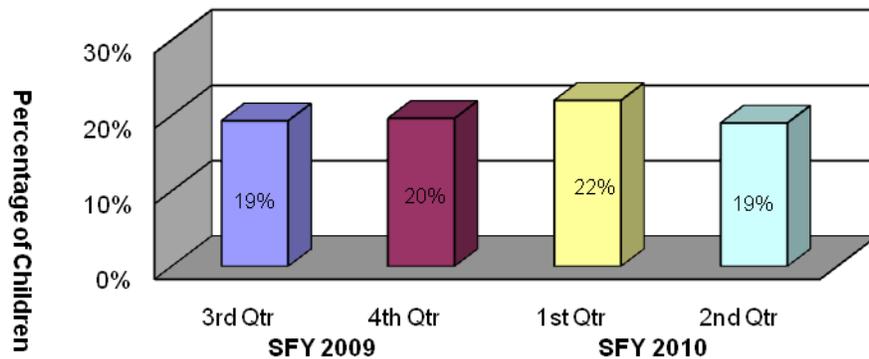
Chart 5: Children In Foster Care who Returned Home within Eighteen Months



Percentage of Children in Foster Care who have Experienced Three or more Placements within the Past Eighteen Months

Of the 993 children who entered foster care during the quarter beginning 18 months prior to the start of the current quarter, 184 children (19%) experienced three or more placements within 18 months. This was three percentage points lower than the previous quarter. Of those same 993 children, 148 (15%) experienced three or more placements within 15 months of entering foster care.

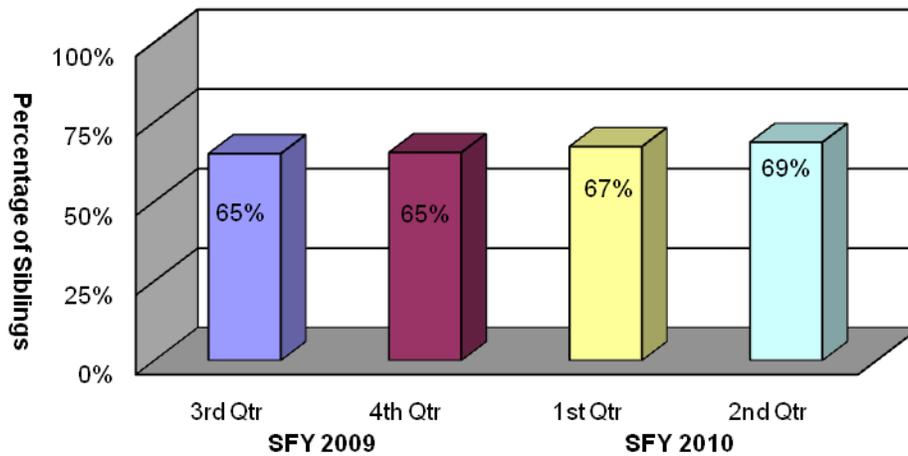
Chart 6: Children in Foster Care who have Experienced Three or More Placements within the Past Eighteen Months



Percentage of Siblings in Placement who are Placed Together

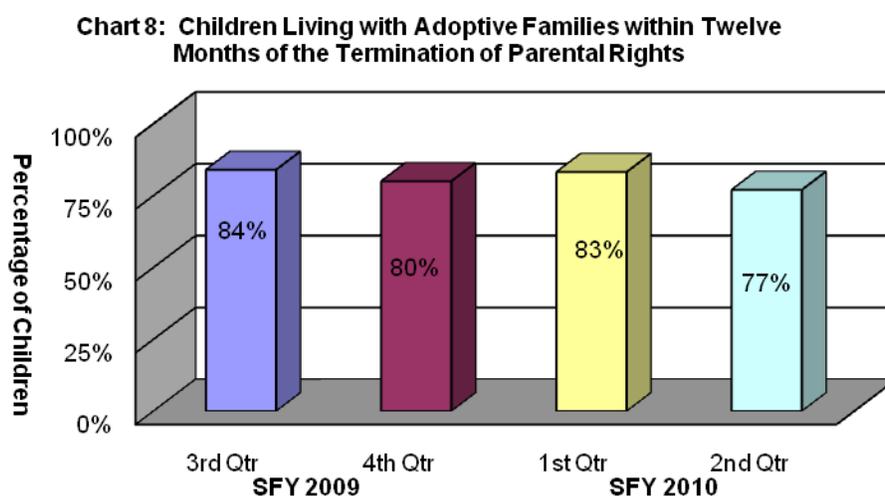
During the second quarter, there were 1,900 children with siblings in foster care. Of those children, 69 percent (1,303) were placed with at least one of their siblings. This percentage was two percentage points higher than the previous quarter and higher than the quarter ending one year ago (66%). Of those same 1,900 children, 49 percent were placed with all of their siblings, which was two percentage points higher than the previous quarter (47%). 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 Living with Adoptive Families within Twelve Months of the Termination of Parental Rights

Of the 100 children whose parents had their parental rights terminated between October and December 2008, 77 children (77%) were placed in adoptive homes within 12 months of the termination of parental rights. This was six percentage points lower than the previous quarter (83%).



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

One hundred and two children were placed in a pre-adoptive home between October and December 2008. Of those, 90 children (88%) had their adoptions finalized within 12 months of being placed in a pre-adoptive home. This was one percentage point higher than the previous quarter but lower than the same quarter ending one year ago (89%). Seven children (7%) experienced a disruption, which occurs when a child has been placed in a pre-adoptive home and the family or the child subsequently decides not to proceed with the adoption, resulting in the child leaving the home. Ten children still had their adoption pending finalization 12 months after placement in an adoptive home.

**Table 1: Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes whose Adoptions were finalized within Twelve Months of Entering Pre-adoptive Placements
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Adoption Status	Number of Children
Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes	102
Finalized Adoptions	90
Disrupted Adoptive Placements	7
Children with a Disruption who were Re-placed in Pre-adoptive Homes	5
Still Pending after Twelve Months	10

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 homes variety of foster homes meeting minimal standards and matched to 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.

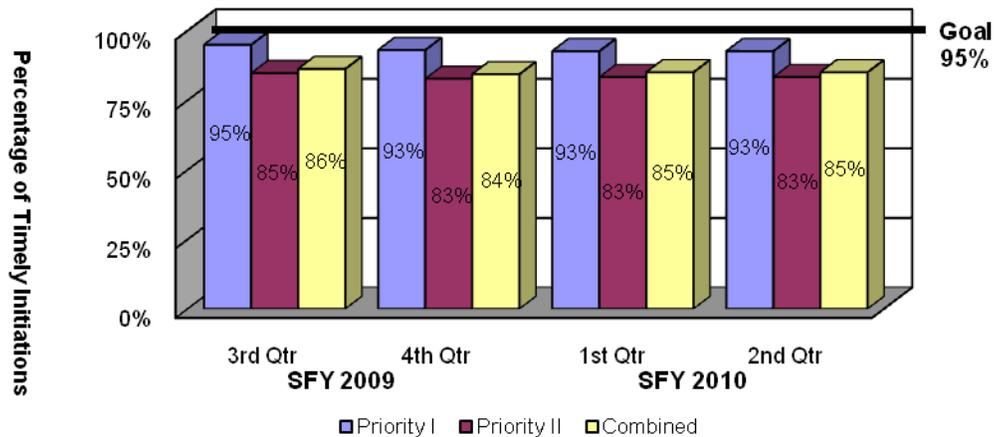
- 85%** ***Required Visits Made by Worker.*** DCFS must provide data on the percentage of monthly visits made by DCFS workers to children in foster care.

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 outside the presence of the alleged offender within 72 hours of the report (Priority II), unless there is an allegation of severe maltreatment, in which case the interview or observation must occur within 24 hours of the report (Priority I). There were 8,250 referrals for a child maltreatment assessment during the quarter. Of that number, 1,121 Priority I referrals and 5,515 Priority II referrals were assigned to DCFS for investigation. Of the DCFS Priority I referrals, 1,038 assessments were initiated within the required 24-hour period. Of the DCFS Priority II referrals, 4,580 assessments were initiated within the required 72-hour period.³ The resulting compliance rate was 93 percent for DCFS Priority I initiations and 83 percent for Priority II initiations, which resulted in a combined compliance rate of 85 percent. The combined compliance rate was the same as 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 1,614 of the 8,250 referrals that came in during the quarter, of which 1,465 were Priority I referrals and 149 were Priority II referrals. Of the Priority I referrals, 1,448 assessments (99%) were initiated in a timely manner. Of the Priority II referrals, 145 assessments (97%) were initiated in a timely manner.

Chart 9: Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments



³ DCFS had 1,038 Priority I referrals and 4,580 Priority II referrals that were initiated in a timely manner. Of those, 179 Priority I (17%) and 1,252 Priority II referrals (27%) were considered compliant due to reasonable diligence. CACD had 1,448 Priority I referrals and 145 Priority II referrals that were initiated in a timely manner. Of those, 204 Priority I (14%) and 20 Priority II (14%) referrals were considered compliant due to reasonable diligence.

Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments

Of the 1,121 Priority I assessments initiated by DCFS, 513 (46%) were completed within the required 30-day period. Of the 5,515 DCFS Priority II assessments initiated, 2,412 (44%) were completed within the required 30-day period. Of the total 6,636 assessments assigned to DCFS, 2,925 were completed in a timely fashion. These completions resulted in a compliance rate of 44 percent, which was 11 percentage points lower than the first quarter and 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 1,614 of the 8,250 incoming referrals during the quarter. Of that number, 1,465 were Priority I referrals and 149 were Priority II referrals. Of the Priority I assessments, 1,202 (82%) were completed on time. Of the Priority II assessments, 106 (71%) were completed on time.

Chart 10: Timely Completion of Assessments

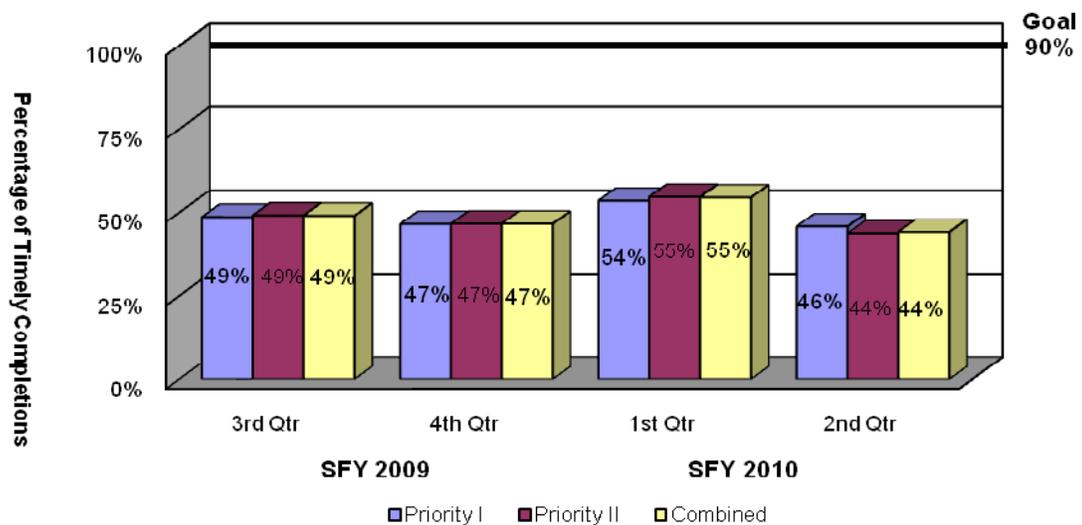
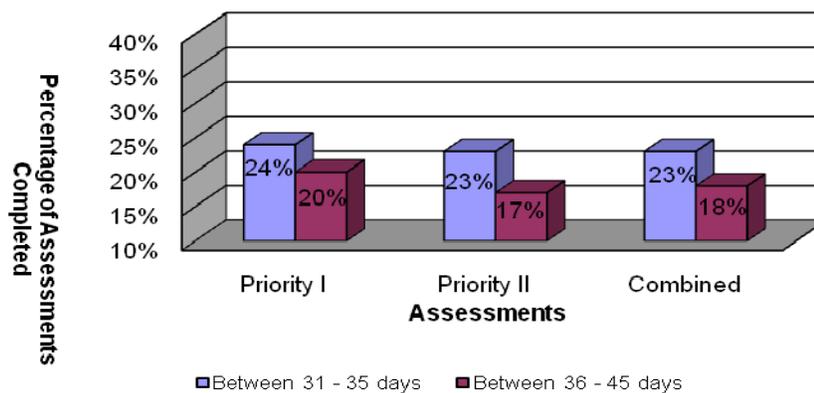


Chart 11: Overdue Assessments Completed between 31 to 45 Days

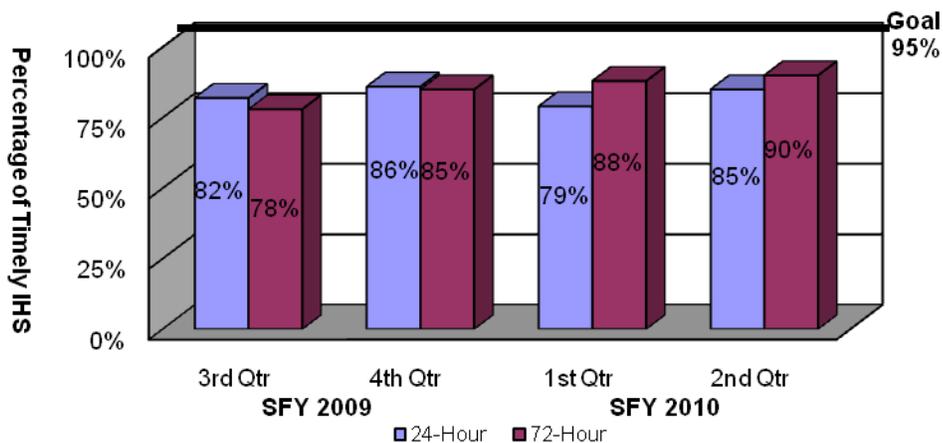


24- and 72-Hour Initial Health Screenings for Children Entering Foster Care

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 144 children who required the 24-hour health screening during the second quarter, 123 children (85%) received the screening in a timely manner. The compliance rate was six percentage points higher than the previous quarter but still 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 747 children who required the 72-hour health screening, 673 (90%) received their screenings in a timely manner, which was two percentage points higher than the previous quarter, closer to the goal of 95 percent (See plan of action in the Executive Summary).

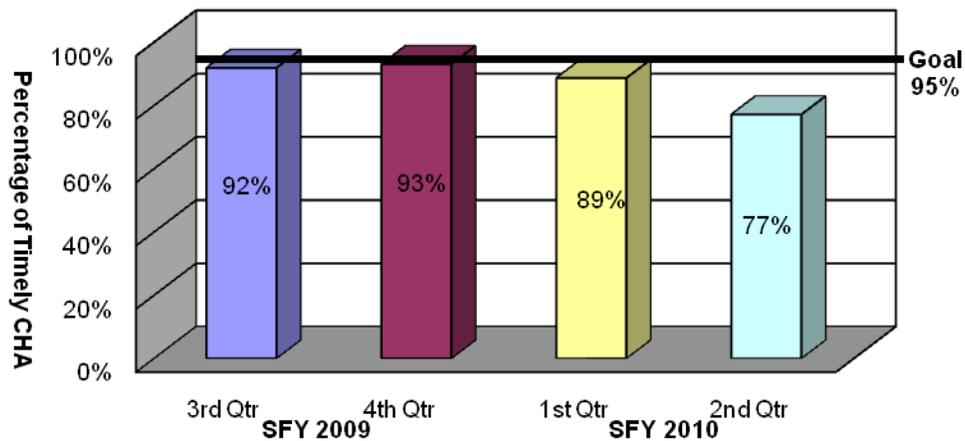
Chart 12: 24- and 72-Hour Initial Health Screenings for Children Entering Foster Care



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 August 2, 2009, and November 1, 2009, 551 children entered foster care who remained in care for at least 60 days. Of those children, 429 received their comprehensive health assessment within 60 days after entering care. The resulting compliance rate was 77 percent, which was 11 percentage points lower than the previous quarter and below the goal of 95 percent.

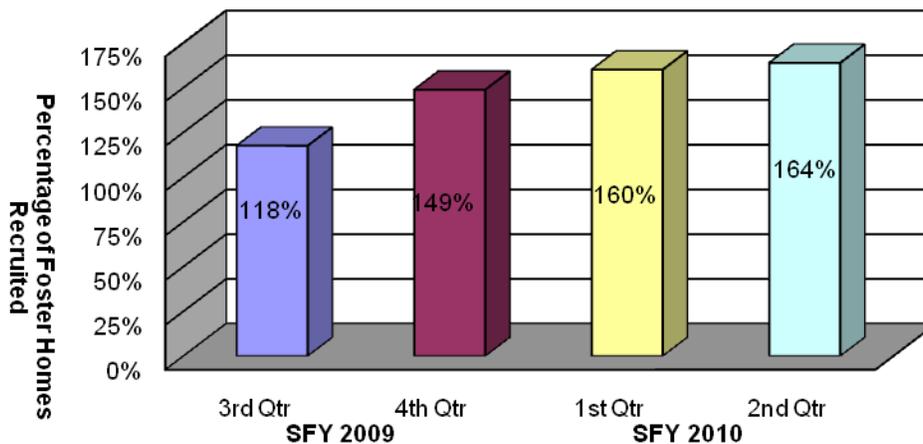
Chart 13: Comprehensive Health Assessments



Foster Home Recruitment

DCFS recruited 131 new foster homes during the second quarter, an achievement well above the goal of 80 new homes. The 164 percent compliance rate was four percentage points higher than the previous quarter (160%).

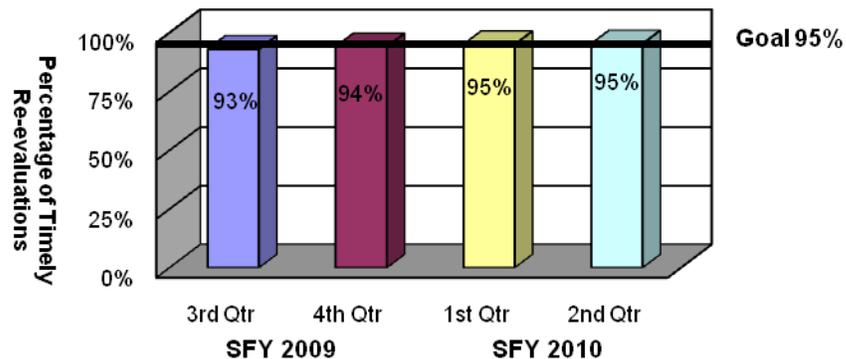
Chart 14: Foster Home Recruitment



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 1,196 foster homes active during the second quarter, a current re-evaluation was available for 1,140 homes. The resulting 95 percent compliance rate was the same as the previous quarter, meeting the goal of 95 percent.

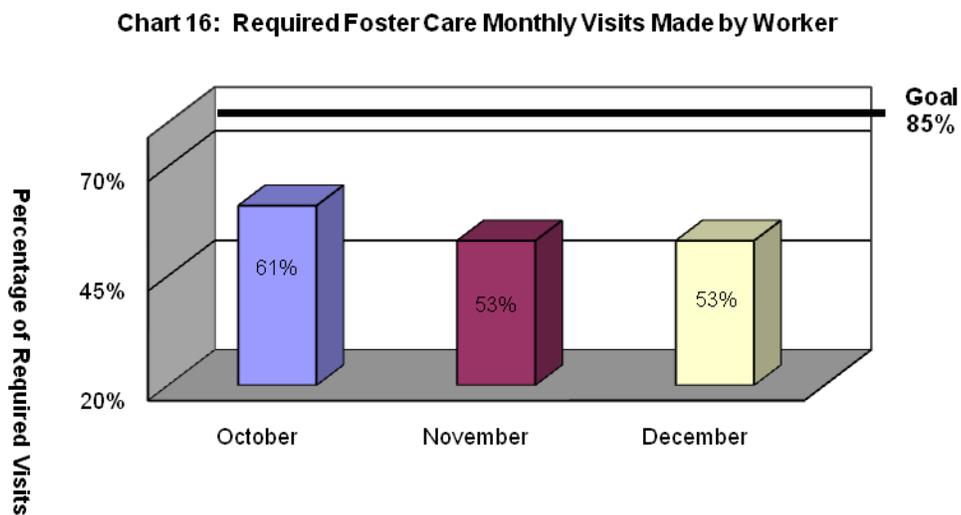
Chart 15: Foster Home Re-evaluations



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 in the home as often as possible. However, DCFS also recognizes that face-to-face visits in other locations can also meet good practice objectives. Consequently, the measurement of required monthly visits with children in care considers face-to-face visits in any setting as compliant.

During the second quarter, the percentage of children who received a monthly visit averaged 56 percent from October to December 2009, a decrease of nine percentage points from the previous quarter and 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.

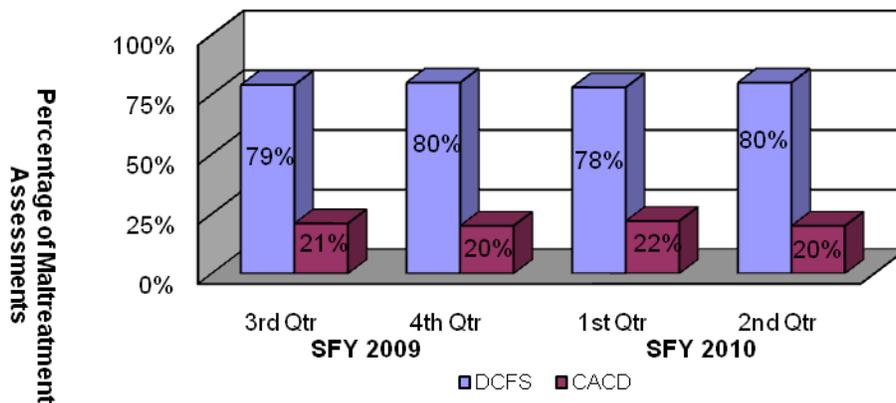
Part III: Description of Population and Services
Section I: True Child Maltreatment Reports

Child Maltreatment Assessments

During the second quarter, 8,250 maltreatment assessments were assigned between DCFS and CACD. Of those assessments, 6,636 (80%) were assigned to DCFS. This figure represented an increase in the number of assessments assigned to DCFS from the previous quarter (6,078) as well as an increase in assigned assessments from the same quarter ending one year ago (6,062). This signifies a nine percent increase in assessments assigned to DCFS compared to the quarter ending one year ago.

Of those same 8,250 assessments, 1,614 (20%) were assigned to CACD. This figure represented a decrease in the number of assessments assigned to CACD from the previous quarter (1,741), but still signified an increase in the number assigned from the same quarter ending one year ago (1,552). This signifies a four percent increase in assessments assigned to CACD compared to the quarter ending one year ago.

Chart 17a: Child Maltreatment Assessments



Of the 8,250 maltreatment assessments assigned during the second quarter of SFY 2010, 1,688 reports (21%) were found to be true, which was one percentage point lower than those determined to be true for the same quarter one year ago (22%). The national percentage is 25 percent.⁴ There were 2,553 victim children involved in the 1,688 true reports during the quarter, which represents a 14 percent increase in the number of victim children reported during the same quarter one year ago (2,234).

Table 2: Child Maltreatment Assessments

	Total Assessments	True Assessments	Percent True
3rd Qtr SFY 2009	7,120	1,533	22%
4th Qtr SFY 2009	8,803	1,862	21%
1st Qtr SFY 2010	7,819	1,612	21%
2nd Qtr SFY 2010	8,250	1,688	21%

	DCFS			CACD		
	Total Assessments	True Assessments	Percent True	Total Assessments	True Assessments	Percent True
3rd Qtr SFY 2009	5,631	977	17%	1,489	556	37%
4th Qtr SFY 2009	7,012	1,164	17%	1,791	698	39%
1st Qtr SFY 2010	6,078	945	16%	1,741	667	38%
2nd Qtr SFY 2010	6,636	1,069	16%	1,614	619	38%

⁴ 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, 2,553 victim children were involved in true reports during the second quarter. The table below outlines the demographic information for these victim children.⁵

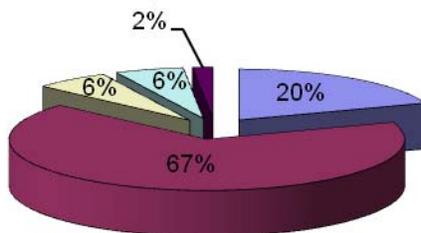
**Table 3: Characteristics of Children in True Maltreatment Reports
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	84	28	0	0	0	7	14	133
	Male	119	40	0	0	0	13	8	180
2 to 5	Female	198	48	0	0	0	13	22	281
	Male	209	64	0	0	1	30	26	330
6 to 11	Female	257	58	0	1	0	20	17	353
	Male	259	77	1	1	1	30	20	389
12 to 15	Female	282	74	1	1	0	19	24	401
	Male	128	41	0	0	0	9	7	185
16 to 18	Female	99	46	2	0	0	11	2	160
	Male	69	22	0	0	0	4	2	97
18+	Female	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total*		1,706	498	4	3	2	156	142	2,511

*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for 42 children.

Of the children involved in true maltreatment reports, 67 percent were white and 20 percent were black.

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

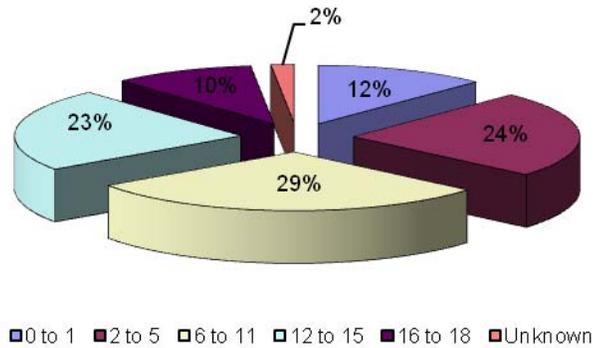


■ Black ■ White ■ Hispanic ■ More than 1 Race ■ Unknown

⁵ 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).

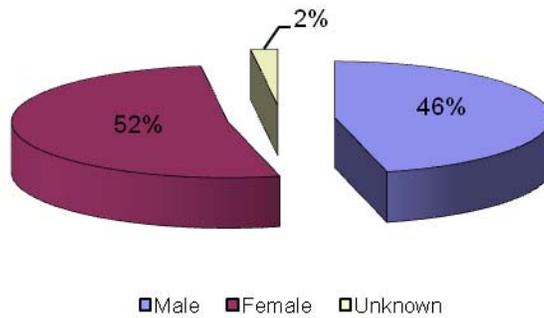
Children between the ages of six and 11 represent the largest group of children involved in true maltreatment reports (29%). These percentages were similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 17b: Ages of Children in True Reports



More female children (52%) than male children (46%) were involved in true maltreatment reports. These percentages were 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 2,553 children involved in true maltreatment reports were involved in allegations of neglect (80%), followed by allegations of physical abuse (42%) and sexual abuse (30%).⁶

**Table 4: Percentage of Children Involved in True Allegations of Maltreatment
1st Quarter SFY 2010 – 2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

	1st Quarter		2nd Quarter	
Neglect	1,905	77%	2,033	80%
Physical Abuse	898	36%	1,083	42%
Sexual Abuse	808	33%	761	30%

Child Maltreatment Reports Involving Fatalities or Near Fatalities

During the second quarter of the state fiscal year, there were eight child fatalities and two near child fatalities across the state. A finding of True resulted for eight of the ten incidents while the remaining two incidents were unsubstantiated. 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 and Appendix B provides a summary of those involving a near fatality.

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

Finding	Child Fatality	Near Child Fatality
True	6	2
Unsubstantiated	2	0
Pending	0	0

⁶ 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 second quarter, 4,750 children were 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.

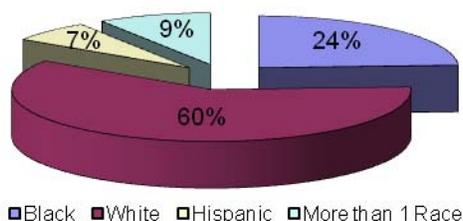
**Table 6: Characteristics of Children in Foster Care During the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	213	87	1	0	0	22	28	351
	Male	239	103	0	0	0	19	31	392
2 to 5	Female	334	117	0	0	1	38	70	560
	Male	367	115	2	3	1	48	61	597
6 to 11	Female	315	130	1	0	0	31	38	515
	Male	363	146	3	1	0	52	68	633
12 to 15	Female	248	92	2	0	1	26	46	415
	Male	238	106	1	2	0	21	31	399
16 to 18	Female	183	96	0	0	0	21	18	318
	Male	176	72	1	0	0	18	21	288
18+	Female	78	49	0	0	0	9	13	149
	Male	80	30	0	0	1	5	7	123
Total*		2,834	1,143	11	6	4	310	432	4,740

*Demographic information had not been entered into CHRIS for 10 children.

The chart below shows that 60 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.⁷

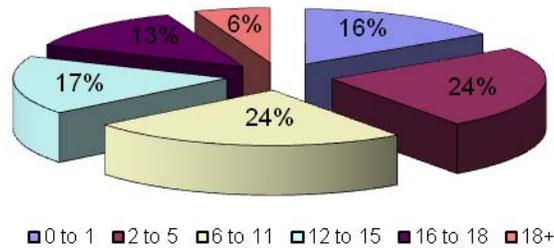
**Chart 18a: Race/Ethnicity of Children in Care
During the Quarter**



⁷ 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.

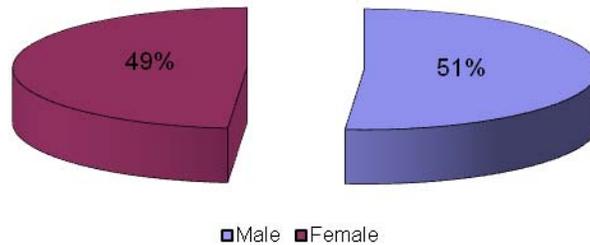
The following chart shows that children between the ages of two to five (24%) and six to 11 (24%) represent the largest groups of children who were in care during the quarter. These percentages are similar to the previous quarter.

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, 3,924 children were in foster care, an increase from the 3,861 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 second quarter.

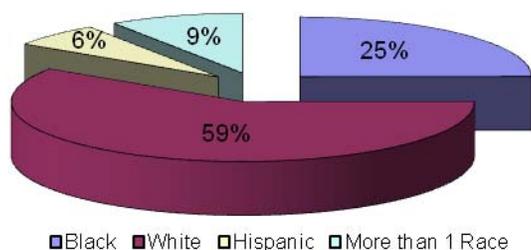
**Table 7: Characteristics of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	174	66	1	0	0	16	23	280
	Male	207	86	0	0	0	15	28	336
2 to 5	Female	271	100	0	0	1	30	57	459
	Male	270	96	2	2	0	38	48	456
6 to 11	Female	256	115	1	0	0	26	31	429
	Male	291	123	3	1	0	39	54	511
12 to 15	Female	194	83	1	0	1	20	40	339
	Male	297	89	1	1	0	18	28	334
16 to 18	Female	163	86	0	0	0	19	18	286
	Male	130	60	1	0	0	15	21	257
18+	Female	67	40	0	0	0	8	12	127
	Male	63	27	0	0	1	5	5	101
Total*		2,313	971	10	4	3	249	365	3,915

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

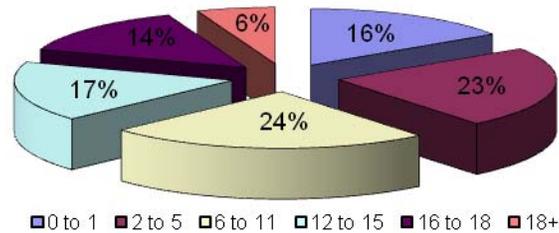
The chart below shows that 59 percent of the children in foster care at the end of the quarter were white, while 25 percent of the children were black. These percentages are consistent with the previous four quarters.

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



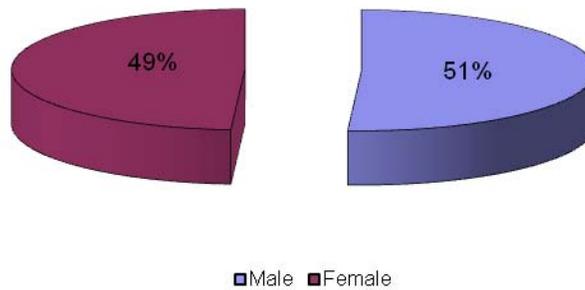
The following chart shows that children between the ages of six and 11 (24%) represent the largest group of children who were in care at the end of the quarter, followed closely by children between the ages of two and five (23%).

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



The following chart shows that 49 percent of the children in foster care at the end of the quarter were female and 51 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

The data show that 984 children entered foster care during the second quarter, a decrease from the previous quarter (1,050).

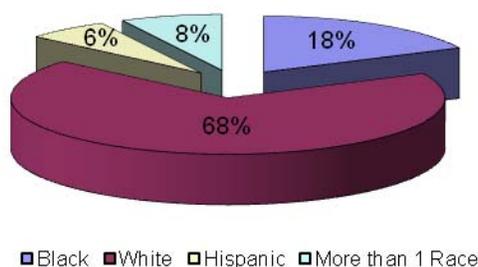
**Table 8: Characteristics of Children Entering Foster Care During the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	68	22	0	0	0	5	13	108
	Male	85	28	0	0	0	10	8	131
2 to 5	Female	78	16	0	0	0	6	13	113
	Male	94	20	0	1	0	14	8	137
6 to 11	Female	74	17	0	0	0	1	10	102
	Male	87	23	1	0	0	12	9	132
12 to 15	Female	74	13	1	0	1	3	8	100
	Male	56	16	0	1	0	2	3	78
16 to 18	Female	23	13	0	0	0	3	1	40
	Male	26	6	0	0	0	4	1	37
18+	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total*		666	174	2	2	1	60	74	979

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

The chart below shows that 68 percent of the children who entered foster care during the quarter were white, while 18 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.⁸

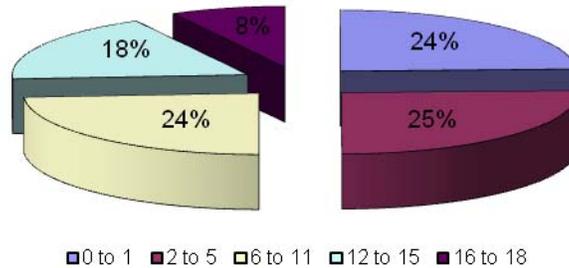
Chart 20a: Race/Ethnicity of Children who Entered Care



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.

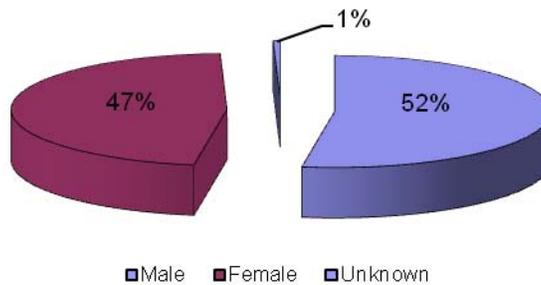
The following chart shows that nearly 75 percent of the children who entered foster care during the quarter were no older than 11 years of age.

Chart 20b: Ages of Children who Entered Care



The following chart shows the gender of the children who entered foster care during the second quarter. Of the 984 children who entered care, 52 percent of the children were male and 47 percent were female.

Chart 20c: Gender of Children who Entered Care



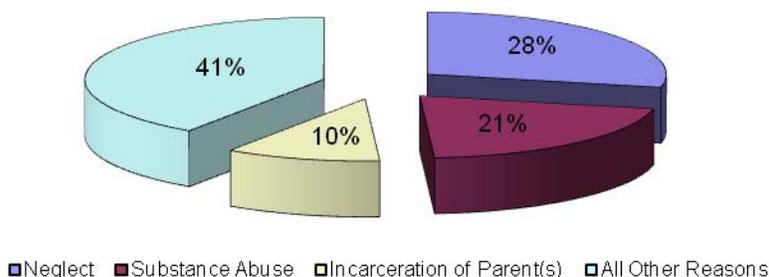
The distribution of the reasons children entered foster care were the same regardless if the children entered during the quarter (Table 9) or were in care at the end of the quarter (Table 10). Neglect and substance abuse⁹ were the most prevalent reasons for children’s entry into care.

**Table 9: Reasons Children Entered Foster Care During the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Placement Reason	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	18+	Total
Neglect	528	599	679	458	122	1	2,387
Substance Abuse	474	461	413	295	88	0	1,731
Parent Incarceration	180	255	249	154	42	0	880
Physical Abuse	160	190	231	191	63	0	835
Child’s Behavior	0	0	90	205	116	0	411
Abandonment	43	45	74	99	59	0	320
Inadequate Housing	137	137	182	107	32	0	595
Caretaker Illness	83	85	131	128	63	1	491
Sexual Abuse	16	56	121	149	41	0	383
Truancy	0	0	37	59	26	1	123
Child’s Disability	6	7	17	20	5	1	56
Parent Death	4	3	7	14	12	0	40
Sex Offender	0	0	14	16	12	0	42
Relinquishment	6	1	5	4	2	0	18
Adoption	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Managed Mental Health	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Other	1	1	14	8	2	0	26
Teen Parent in Care	56	3	0	0	2	0	61
Total*	1,694	1,843	2,265	1,908	687	4	8,401

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

Chart 21: Reasons Children Entered Foster Care During the Quarter



⁹ Of the 1,731 reasons for entry attributed to substance abuse, substance abuse by children accounted for 72 reasons for entry (4%), while substance abuse by parents accounted for 1,659 reasons for entry (96%).

**Table 10: Reasons Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter were Placed in Care
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Placement Reason	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	His-panic	More Than 1 Race	Total
Neglect	1,245	451	3	2	1	120	185	2,007
Substance Abuse	934	289	1	1	1	79	140	1,445
Parent Incarceration	445	143	0	1	1	50	71	711
Physical Abuse	350	192	2	2	0	58	59	663
Child's Behavior	243	83	0	1	0	19	36	382
Abandonment	151	86	0	0	0	22	26	285
Inadequate Housing	306	117	0	1	0	24	53	501
Caretaker Illness	267	94	4	1	0	17	42	425
Sexual Abuse	201	62	1	0	1	26	18	309
Truancy	87	16	0	0	0	6	15	124
Child's Disability	35	11	0	1	0	2	1	50
Parent Death	20	9	1	0	0	0	4	34
Sex Offender	34	6	0	0	0	2	3	45
Relinquishment	8	5	0	0	0	0	4	17
Adoption	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Managed Mental Health	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other	8	14	0	0	0	1	2	25
Teen Parent in Care	15	28	0	0	0	10	1	54
Total*	4,350	1,607	12	10	4	436	660	7,079

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

Exits from Foster Care

During the quarter, 888 children left foster care, which was a decrease from the previous quarter (975).

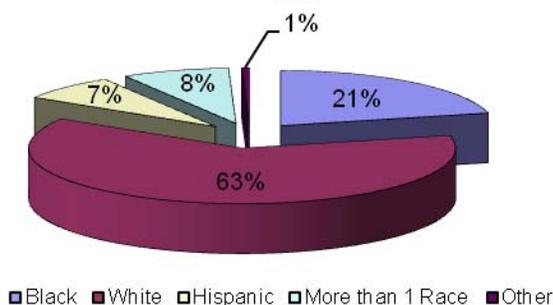
**Table 11: Characteristics of Children Exiting Foster Care During the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	41	21	0	0	0	6	6	74
	Male	35	18	0	0	0	4	3	60
2 to 5	Female	68	18	0	0	0	9	14	109
	Male	107	24	0	2	1	10	13	157
6 to 11	Female	61	19	0	0	0	5	7	92
	Male	78	24	0	0	0	13	14	129
12 to 15	Female	56	10	1	0	0	6	7	80
	Male	42	17	0	1	0	4	3	67
16 to 18	Female	29	18	0	0	0	5	2	54
	Male	330	15	0	0	0	4	2	51
18+	Female	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	5
	Male	6	2	0	0	0	0	1	9
Total*		555	189	1	3	1	66	72	887

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

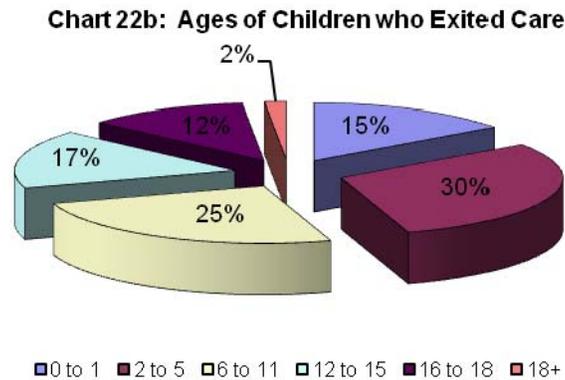
Of the 888 children who exited foster care, 63 percent were white and 21 percent were black. National data indicate that 44 percent of the children who leave foster care are white and 26 percent are black.¹⁰ During the same quarter one year ago, 55 percent of the children who exited foster care were white, whereas 33 percent were black.

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

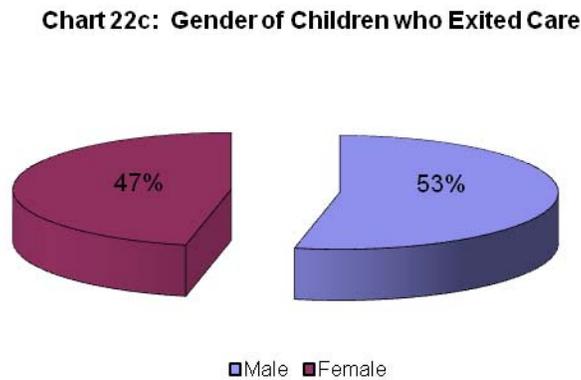


¹⁰ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2007 and 9/30/2008 as of October 2009.

The following chart shows that children between the ages of two to five (30%) represent the largest group of children who left foster care during the quarter.



Of the children who left care during the quarter, 47 percent were female and 53 percent were male.



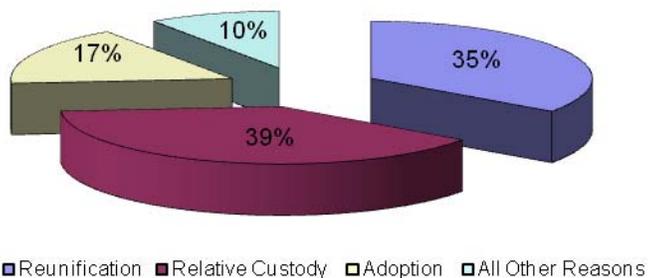
**Table 12: Reasons Children Exited Foster Care by Age
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Reason	Age						Total
	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	18+	
Reunification	47	87	84	63	28	0	309
Relative Custody	57	103	94	65	24	2	345
Adoption	23	72	37	10	6	0	148
Child Aged Out	0	0	0	0	36	11	47
Non-Relative Custody	6	4	5	9	7	0	31
Custody Transfer	0	0	1	0	2	1	4
Emancipation	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Death of Child	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total*	134	266	221	147	105	14	887

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

The most prevalent reason that children left foster care during the quarter was relative custody (39%). The second most prevalent reason was reunification (35%). National data indicate that the three most prevalent reasons children left care are reunification (52%), adoption (19%) and relative care (8%).¹¹ The percentage of Arkansas' children exiting to adoption (17%) is close to that seen nationally.

Chart 23: Most Prevalent Reasons Children Left 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.

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. For the second quarter, returning home remained the most prevalent goal among children in foster care at 54 percent. National data reveal very similar figures to the numbers shown here.¹²

**Table 13: Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care
1st Quarter SFY 2010 – 2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

	1st Quarter		2nd Quarter		National
Return Home	1,986	51%	2,118	54%	49%
Adoption	772	20%	729	19%	24%
APPLA	576	15%	561	14%	N/A
Remain at Home	173	4%	152	4%	N/A
Relative Care	109	3%	108	3%	4%
Guardianship	14	0.4%	17	0.4%	4%
Emancipation	0	0%	0	0%	6%
Long Term Care	0	0%	0	0%	8%
Not Yet Established	231	6%	239	6%	5%
Total*	3,861	100%	3,924	100%	100%

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

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.

Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care

For the 4,750 children in foster care during the quarter, 55 percent were in care 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.¹³

**Table 14a: Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care (Including Relative Care)
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

	Number	Percentage*	National
Less than 30 days	529	11%	5%
30-90 Days	566	12%	20%
3-6 Months	599	13%	
6-12 Months	933	20%	17%
12-24 Months	939	20%	23%
24-36 Months	453	10%	12%
36+ Months	731	15%	24%
Total	4,750	100%	100%

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

**Table 14b: Length of Stay of Children in Relative Care
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 days	18	3%
30-90 Days	69	13%
3-6 Months	85	16%
6-12 Months	167	31%
12-24 Months	127	24%
24-36 Months	47	9%
36+ Months	24	4%
Total*	537	100%

**Table 14c: Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care (Excluding Relative Care)
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 days	511	12%
30-90 Days	497	12%
3-6 Months	514	12%
6-12 Months	766	18%
12-24 Months	812	19%
24-36 Months	406	10%
36+ Months	707	17%
Total	4,213	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.

Number of Placements of Children in Foster Care

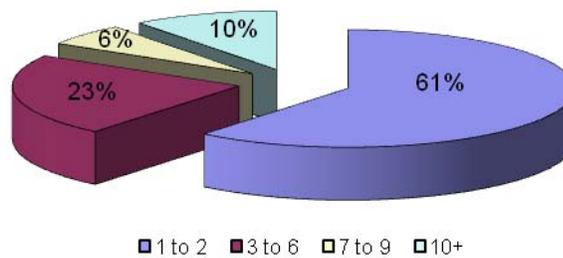
For children in care at the end of the second quarter, 61 percent experienced two or fewer placements, which is one percentage point higher than the previous quarter.

**Table 15: Number of Placements of Children in Foster Care
1st Quarter SFY 2010 – 2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

	1st Quarter		2nd Quarter	
1-2 Placements	2,333	60%	2,390	61%
3-6 Placements	904	23%	891	23%
7-9 Placements	232	6%	236	6%
10+ Placements	392	10%	407	10%
Total*	3,861	100%	3,924	100%

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

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



Characteristics of Children who Experienced Two or More Placements

At the end of the second quarter, 3,924 children were in foster care. Of those, 2,160 children (55%) experienced two or more placements while in care.

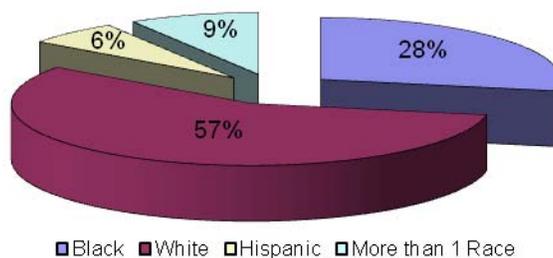
**Table 16: Characteristics of Children who Experienced Two or More Placements
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	46	17	1	0	0	4	6	74
	Male	52	31	0	0	0	2	6	91
2 to 5	Female	443	50	0	0	0	14	20	197
	Male	420	51	1	0	0	15	17	204
6 to 11	Female	137	69	1	0	0	17	10	234
	Male	175	77	2	1	0	25	35	315
12 to 15	Female	111	57	1	0	0	10	29	208
	Male	135	69	1	0	0	14	22	242
16 to 18	Female	170	102	0	0	0	21	22	315
	Male	163	77	1	0	1	13	21	276
Total		1,222	600	8	2	1	135	188	2,156

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

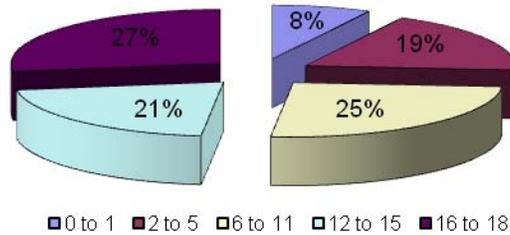
Of the 2,160 children who experienced two or more placements, 57 percent were white and 28 percent were black. These percentages are similar to the previous quarter.

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



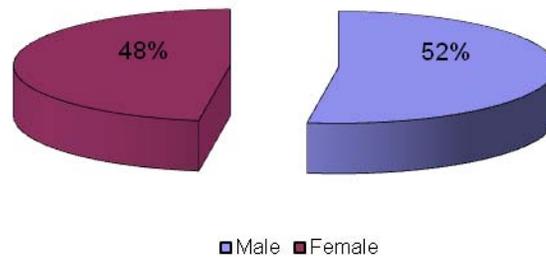
Children between the ages of 16 and 18 (27%) represented the largest group of children who experienced two or more placements, followed closely by those between the age of six and 11 (25%).

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



More male children (52%) than female children (48%) experienced two or more placements, similar to the previous quarter.

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



Current Placement of Children in Foster Care

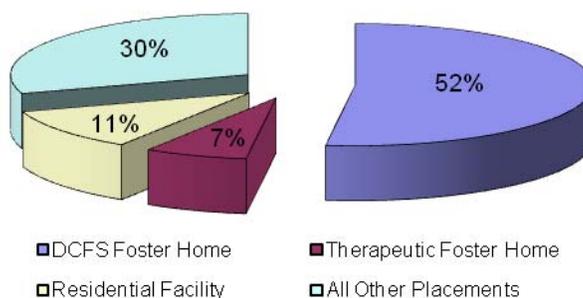
More children in foster care at the end of the second quarter were placed in DCFS foster homes (52%) than in any other type of out-of-home setting.

Table 17: 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	453	645	485	209	176	53	2,021
Relative Care	51	67	56	30	8	5	217
Therapeutic Foster Home	2	31	122	76	37	6	274
Pre-Adoptive Home	40	51	53	7	3	0	154
Emergency Shelter	3	20	33	39	33	1	129
Residential Facility	19	24	83	142	117	37	422
Youth Services	0	0	0	7	12	6	25
Runaway	0	2	0	7	34	7	50
Trial Home Visit	35	57	58	34	15	1	200
Hospital/Medical	7	2	5	7	8	0	29
ASAP CRT	0	0	1	8	5	0	14
Independent Living	0	0	0	0	3	106	109
Incarceration	0	0	0	4	10	1	15
Temporary Placement	6	13	12	8	12	1	52
Sub-Acute CRT	0	1	24	67	45	1	138
Acute CRT	0	0	4	15	7	0	26
ASAP Residential Treatment	0	0	0	3	10	4	17
ASAP Therapeutic Foster Care	0	0	0	5	7	0	12
Unknown*	5	3	5	5	2	0	20
Total	621	916	941	673	544	229	3,924

*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

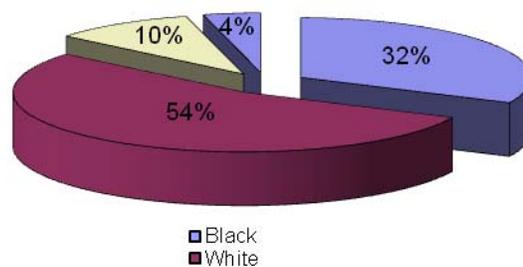
Fifty children were on runaway status at the end of the second quarter. This is an increase from the previous quarter (49).

**Table 18: Characteristics of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 to 5	Female	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
6 to 11	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12 to 15	Female	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	5
	Male	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
16 to 18	Female	11	7	0	0	0	2	0	20
	Male	6	4	0	0	0	3	1	14
18+	Female	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	6
	Male	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total		27	16	0	0	0	5	2	50

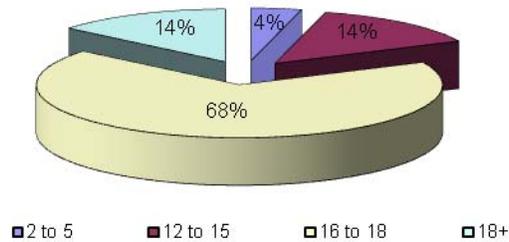
Of the children on runaway status at the end of the quarter, 54 percent were white and 32 percent were black.

Chart 27a: Race/Ethnicity of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Quarter



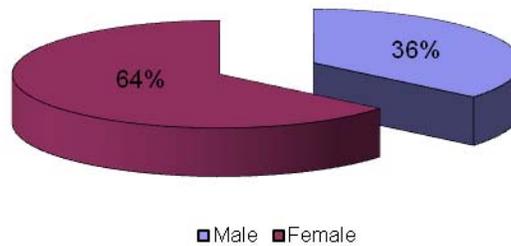
At the end of the quarter, the majority of children on runaway status (68%) were between the ages of 16 and 18.

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



More female children (64%) than male children (36%) 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

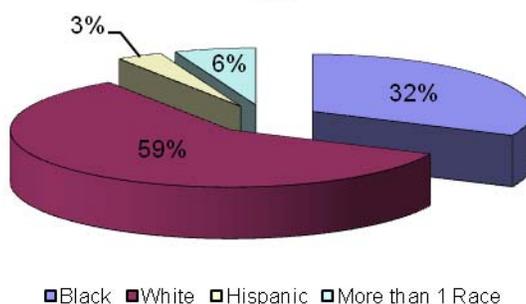
During the second quarter, 537 children were in relative care, a decrease from the previous quarter (554). This number includes children who remained in relative care from previous quarters as well as children who came into relative care during the current quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of children residing in relative care.

**Table 19: Characteristics of Children in Relative Care
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

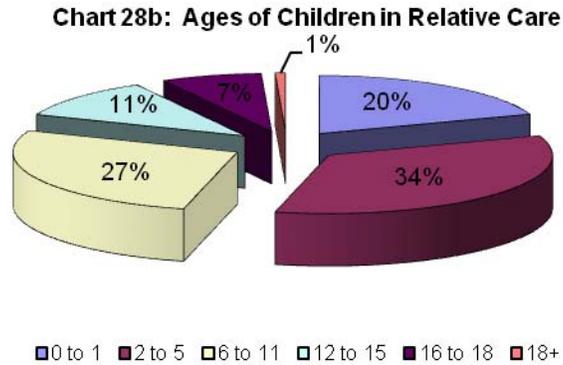
Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	33	15	0	0	0	0	3	51
	Male	37	13	0	0	0	2	2	54
2 to 5	Female	58	34	0	0	0	3	8	103
	Male	54	14	0	0	0	6	7	81
6 to 11	Female	42	26	0	0	0	2	5	75
	Male	43	21	0	0	0	2	5	71
12 to 15	Female	16	14	0	0	0	1	0	31
	Male	12	12	1	0	0	1	2	28
16 to 18	Female	6	16	0	0	0	1	0	23
	Male	11	5	0	0	0	0	0	16
Over 18	Female	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Male	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total		315	171	1	0	0	18	32	537

White children represent the highest percentage of children in relative care during the second quarter at 59 percent, similar to the previous quarter.

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

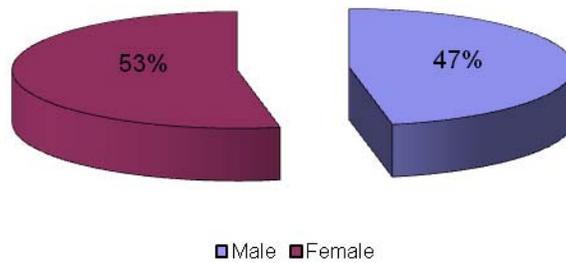


Children between the ages of two and five (34%) represent the largest age group of children in relative care, followed by children between the ages of six and 11 (27%).



Of the 537 children in relative care during the quarter, 53 percent were female and 47 percent were male; percentages which are similar to the previous quarter.

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 During the Quarter

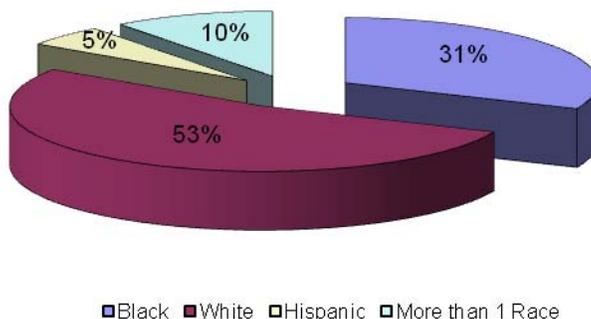
There were 847 children served during the quarter with a permanency goal of adoption. This is a decrease from the previous quarter (860). The table below outlines those children’s characteristics.

**Table 20: Characteristics of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption During the Quarter
 2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	17	12	0	0	0	3	2	34
	Male	19	18	0	0	0	2	5	44
2 to 5	Female	49	25	0	0	0	8	12	94
	Male	67	39	0	1	1	6	11	125
6 to 11	Female	70	42	0	0	0	4	7	123
	Male	94	52	0	0	0	10	20	176
12 to 15	Female	38	26	0	0	0	2	9	75
	Male	63	27	0	0	0	5	14	109
16 to 18	Female	19	12	0	0	0	2	2	35
	Male	11	12	1	0	0	2	5	31
Over 18	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total		447	266	1	1	1	44	87	847

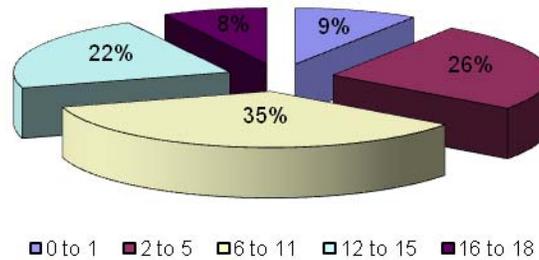
Of the 847 children with a permanency goal of adoption served during the quarter, 53 percent were white, 31 percent were black and five percent were Hispanic. These numbers are similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 29a: Race/Ethnicity of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption During the Quarter



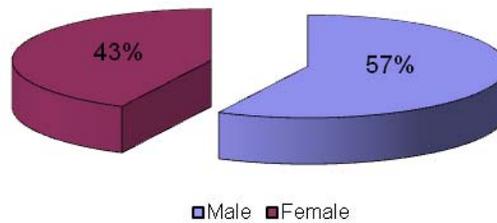
Children between the ages of six and 11 (35%) represent the largest group of children with a permanency goal of adoption. The age composition for children with a goal of adoption is similar to that of the previous quarter.

Chart 29b: Ages of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption During the Quarter



Of the 847 children with a permanency goal of adoption, 57 percent were male and 43 percent were female.

Chart 29c: Gender of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption During the Quarter



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

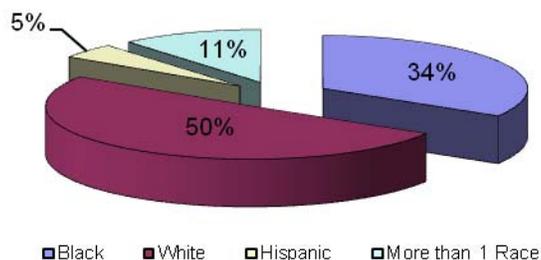
There were 729 children in care at the end of the quarter with a permanency goal of adoption. The table below outlines those children’s characteristics.

**Table 21: Characteristics of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	11	9	0	0	0	1	2	23
	Male	15	14	0	0	0	2	5	36
2 to 5	Female	38	22	0	0	0	5	7	72
	Male	41	34	0	1	0	4	11	91
6 to 11	Female	61	41	0	0	0	3	6	111
	Male	81	50	0	0	0	8	20	159
12 to 15	Female	35	25	0	0	0	2	9	71
	Male	59	27	0	0	0	4	14	104
16 to 18	Female	18	12	0	0	0	2	2	34
	Male	9	10	1	0	0	2	5	27
Over 18	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total		368	245	1	1	0	33	81	729

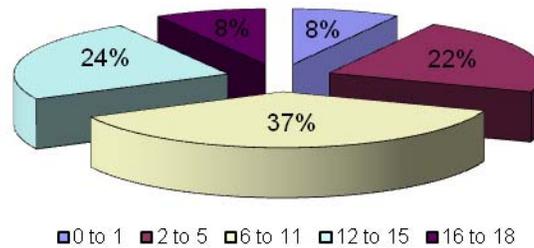
Of the 729 children in care with a permanency goal of adoption at the end of the quarter, 50 percent were white, 34 percent were black and 11 percent were multiracial. These percentages are similar to the previous quarter.

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



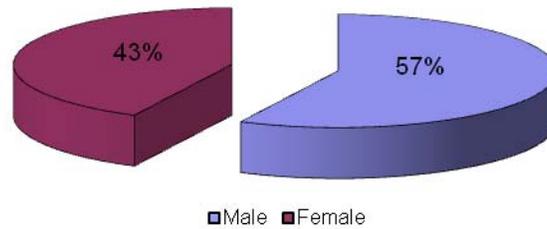
At the end of the quarter, children between the ages of six and 11 (37%) continued to represent the largest age group with a permanency goal of adoption.

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



More male children (57%) than female children (43%) 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 During the Quarter

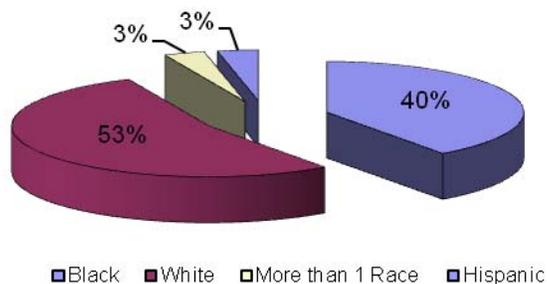
There were 60 children whose parents had their parental rights terminated during the second quarter. This was a decrease from the first quarter (73). The table below outlines the characteristics of those children.

**Table 22: Characteristics of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated During the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	8	5	0	0	0	0	0	13
	Male	4	7	0	0	0	0	1	12
2 to 5	Female	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	6
	Male	6	2	0	0	0	1	0	9
6 to 11	Female	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	5
	Male	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	7
12 to 15	Female	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Male	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	4
16 to 18	Female	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		32	24	0	0	0	2	2	60

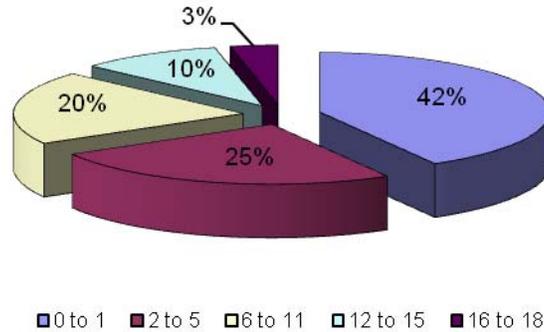
Fifty-three percent of the children whose parents had their parental rights terminated during the quarter were white, 40 percent were black, three percent were Hispanic, and three percent were multiracial.

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



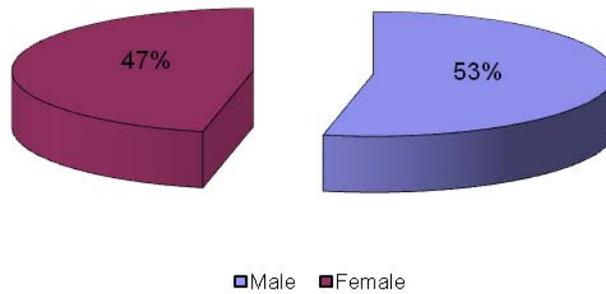
Children between the ages of zero and one (42%) represent the largest group of children whose parents' parental rights were terminated during the quarter.

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



Of the 60 children that had parental rights terminated during the quarter, 53 percent of the children were male and 47 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

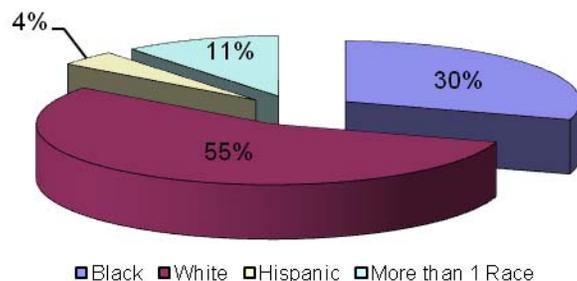
At the end of the second quarter, 447 children were available for adoption, a decrease from the previous quarter (472). Demographic information for children available for adoption, shown in the table below, is very similar to previous quarters.

**Table 23: Characteristics of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	10
	Male	5	5	0	0	0	0	4	14
2 to 5	Female	16	11	0	0	0	0	3	30
	Male	19	18	0	0	0	2	5	44
6 to 11	Female	45	23	0	0	0	3	3	74
	Male	62	24	0	0	0	5	10	101
12 to 15	Female	28	14	0	0	0	2	6	50
	Male	47	17	0	0	0	3	11	78
16 to 18	Female	14	8	0	0	0	1	2	25
	Male	7	7	1	0	0	2	4	21
Total		247	133	1	0	0	18	48	447

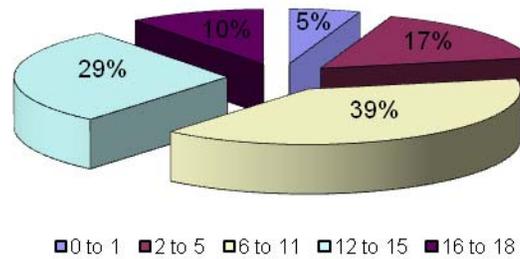
Of the children available for adoption, 55 percent were white and 30 percent were black. These percentages are similar to the previous quarter.

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



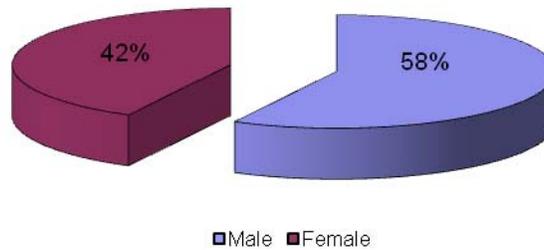
More children available for adoption at the end of the quarter were between the ages of six and 11 (39%) than any other age group.

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



At the end of the quarter, more male children (58%) than female children (42%) were available for adoption. These percentages are similar to the first 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 second quarter, more children who were available for adoption were placed in DCFS foster homes (37%) than in any other type of placement, followed by Therapeutic Foster homes (21%). These results are similar to the previous quarter.

**Table 24: Current Placements of Children Available for Adoption
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Placement	Number of Children	Percentage
DCFS Foster Home	167	37%
Pre-Adoptive Home	62	14%
Therapeutic Foster Home	94	21%
Residential Facility	69	15%
Hospital/Medical	3	0.7%
Emergency Shelter	3	0.7%
Temporary Placement	3	0.7%
Sub-Acute CRT	24	5%
ASAP CRT	3	0.7%
Kinship Care	5	1%
ASAP Residential Treatment	1	0.2%
ASAP Therapeutic Foster Care	2	0.4%
Youth Services	3	0.7%
Acute CRT	5	1%
Incarceration	2	0.4%
Runaway	1	0.2%
Total*	447	100%

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

Characteristics of Children in Pre-adoptive Placements

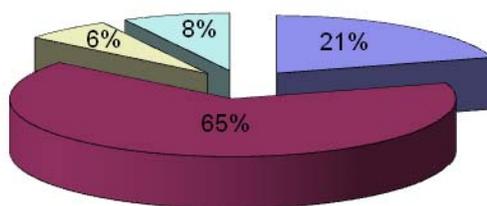
During the second quarter, 141 children were in pre-adoptive homes. This number includes children who entered a pre-adoptive home during previous quarters as well as children who were placed in a pre-adoptive home during the current quarter.

**Table 25: Characteristics of Children in Pre-adoptive Placements
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	5	6	0	0	0	2	0	13
	Male	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	9
2 to 5	Female	12	3	0	0	0	2	3	20
	Male	25	7	0	0	0	2	1	35
6 to 11	Female	17	2	0	0	0	2	2	23
	Male	19	5	0	0	0	1	2	27
12 to 15	Female	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	6
	Male	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	5
16 to 18	Female	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
	Male	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total		92	29	0	0	0	9	11	141

Of the 141 children in pre-adoptive homes during the quarter, 65 percent were white and 21 percent were black. These percentages are similar to the previous quarter.

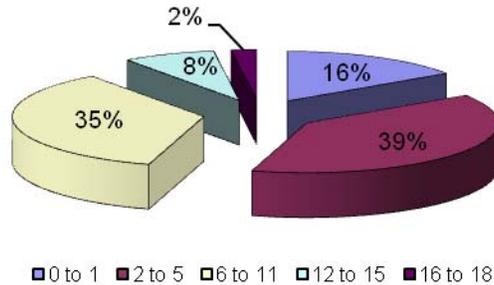
Chart 33a: Race/Ethnicity of Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes During the Quarter



■ Black ■ White ■ Hispanic ■ More than 1 Race

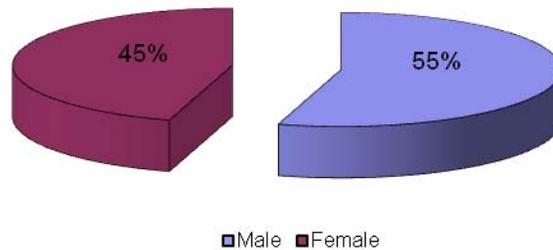
Children between the ages of two and five (39%) represented the largest group of children placed in pre-adoptive homes.

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



Of the 141 children in a pre-adoptive home setting during the quarter, 55 percent were male and 45 percent were female. These percentages differ from the first quarter when 47 percent were male and 53 percent were female.

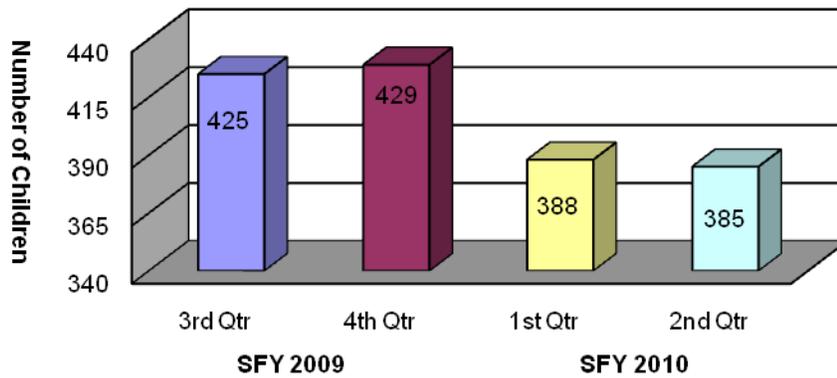
33c: Gender of Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes During the Quarter



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

During the second quarter, there were 385 children whose parents had their parental rights terminated but were not placed in adoptive homes, a decrease from the previous quarter (388). This statistic was derived by subtracting the number of children placed in adoptive homes at the end of the quarter (62) from the number of children available for adoption at the end of the quarter (447).

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



Children with Special Needs

During the second quarter, 97 children with special needs were in pre-adoptive placements.¹⁴ Children with special needs are defined as children who have severe medical or psychological needs that require ongoing treatment. 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. Other children may be considered special needs if they are Caucasian and over the age of nine; African American and two years of age or older; or members of a sibling group of three or more who are to be placed together, regardless of race or ethnicity.

**Table 26: Children with Special Needs who were Placed in Adoptive Homes
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Special Needs Condition	Number of Children
Race	95
Age	84
Member of sibling group	58

Characteristics of Children with Finalized Adoptions

During the quarter, 145 children had their adoptions finalized, an increase from the previous quarter (130). The following table outlines the characteristics of the children with finalized adoptions.

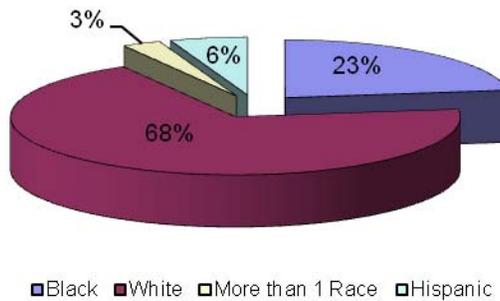
**Table 27: Characteristics of Children with Finalized Adoptions
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	8	4	0	0	0	2	0	14
	Male	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	8
2 to 5	Female	18	6	0	0	0	1	2	27
	Male	33	7	0	1	0	2	2	45
6 to 11	Female	13	6	0	0	0	1	0	20
	Male	12	3	0	0	0	2	0	17
12 to 15	Female	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
	Male	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
16 to 18	Female	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
	Male	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total		99	33	0	1	0	8	4	145

¹⁴ This number does not take into account children with severe medical and psychological needs because this data is not available in CHRIS (Arkansas' Children's Reporting and Information System). As enhancements are made to the data system to capture this information, it will be provided in future reports.

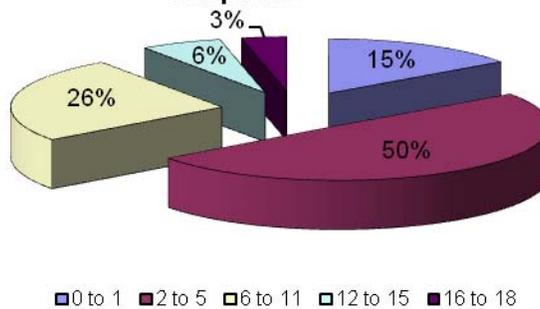
Of the 145 finalized adoptions during the second quarter, 68 percent of the adopted children were white and 23 percent were black.

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



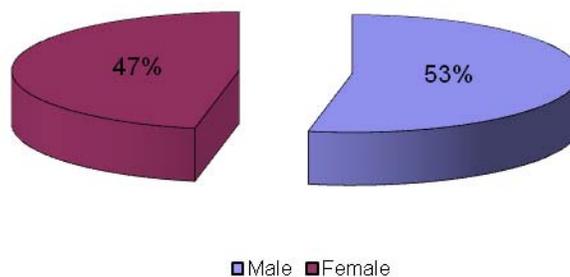
Children between the ages of two and five (50%) represented the largest group of children whose adoptions were finalized during the quarter.

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 second quarter, 125 children began receiving adoption subsidies. Of those, 102 children received federally-funded subsidies and 23 received state-funded subsidies.

Characteristics of Children who Received Adoption Subsidies

During the second quarter, 3,759 children received adoption subsidies. The following table outlines the demographics of those children.

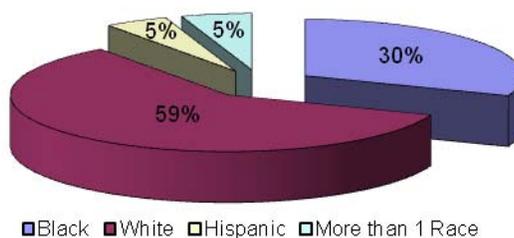
**Table 28: Characteristics of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	21	7	0	0	0	3	0	31
	Male	12	7	0	0	0	3	1	23
2 to 5	Female	216	84	2	0	0	18	34	354
	Male	211	119	1	2	0	19	23	375
6 to 11	Female	412	234	1	2	0	40	53	742
	Male	428	196	2	0	1	51	39	717
12 to 15	Female	273	170	1	2	0	20	19	485
	Male	319	163	0	1	1	11	15	510
16 to 18	Female	129	76	1	0	0	8	5	219
	Male	137	64	0	0	0	2	5	208
18+	Female	24	13	0	0	0	1	1	39
	Male	26	13	0	0	0	0	0	39
Total*		2,208	1,146	8	7	2	176	195	3,742

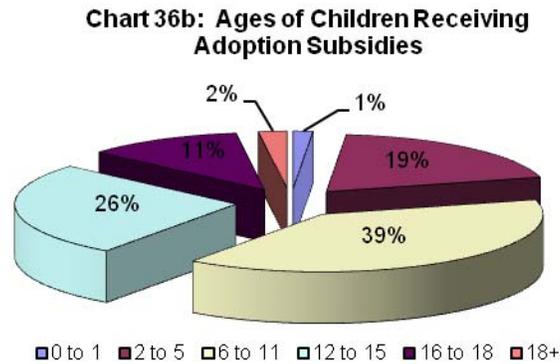
*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for 17 children.

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

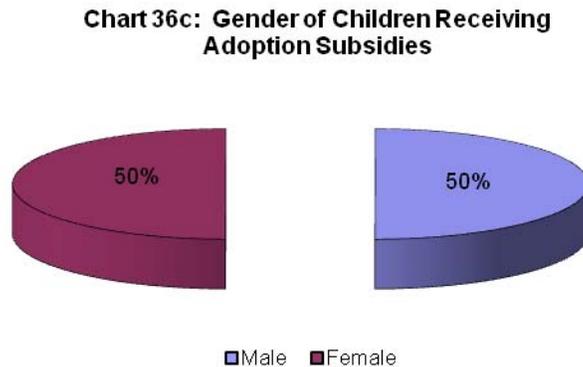
Chart 36a: Race/Ethnicity of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies



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.



Adoptive Homes

At the beginning of the second quarter, 679 adoptive homes were available; at the end of the quarter, 668 adoptive homes were available.

**Table 29: Adoptive Homes
2nd Quarter SFY 2010**

	Total Adoptive Homes	Non-Foster Adoptive Homes	Foster Adoptive Homes
Homes available for children at beginning of quarter	679	281	398
Newly available homes	109	56	53
Homes that had children placed during the quarter	70	36	34
Homes that experienced a disruption	3	1	2
Homes that closed without a placement	53	25	28
Homes available at the end of the quarter	668	277	391

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
Alexis Shores Evans	Crawford	1	White	Female	10/12/2009	Physical Abuse	In home	Family Member	CACD	None	None	None
Annabelle Wines	Columbia	<1	White	Female	10/13/2009	Threat of Harm / Inadequate Supervision	In home	Family Member	CACD	None	Prior Investigation / Prior FC Case	None
Caitlynn Clements	Cross	2	White	Female	11/01/2009	Poison / Noxious Substances	In home	Family Member	CACD	None	Prior Investigation	Open FC Case
Cameron Clements	Cross	3	White	Male	11/01/2009	Poison / Noxious Substances	In home	Family Member	CACD	None	Prior Investigation	Open FC Case
Katherine Trent	Garland	<1	White	Female	10/12/2009	Physical Abuse / Failure to Protect	In home	Family Member	CACD	72-Hour Hold	None	Open FC Case
Matthew Hurt	Nevada	2	White	Male	10/28/2009	Inadequate Supervision	In home	Family Member	CACD	72-Hour Hold	None	Open FC Case

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
Jada McCrae	Ouachita	<1	Multi-Ethnic	Female	10/20/2009	Child was not breathing	In-Home	Unknown	CACD	None	None	Open FC Case
Jaydan Mutter	Garland	<1	White	Male	11/23/2009	Inadequate Supervision	In-Home	Family Member	CACD	None	None	None

Pending Fatality Reports

There were no pending fatality reports during 2nd Quarter SFY 2010

Appendix B: Near Fatality

True Near Fatality Reports

Child	County	Age	Race	Gender	Date of Near Fatality	Allegations or Preliminary Cause of Near Fatality	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
Child #1	Benton	<1	White	Male	10/24/2009	Physical Abuse	In-Home	Family Member	CACD	None	None	Current FC Case
Child #2	Pulaski	<1	Black	Female	12/04/2009	Physical Abuse	In-Home	Family Member	CACD	None	None	Current FC Case

Unsubstantiated Near Fatality Reports

There were no unsubstantiated near fatality reports during 2nd Quarter SFY 2010

Pending Near Fatality Reports

There was no pending near fatality reports during 2nd Quarter SFY 2010

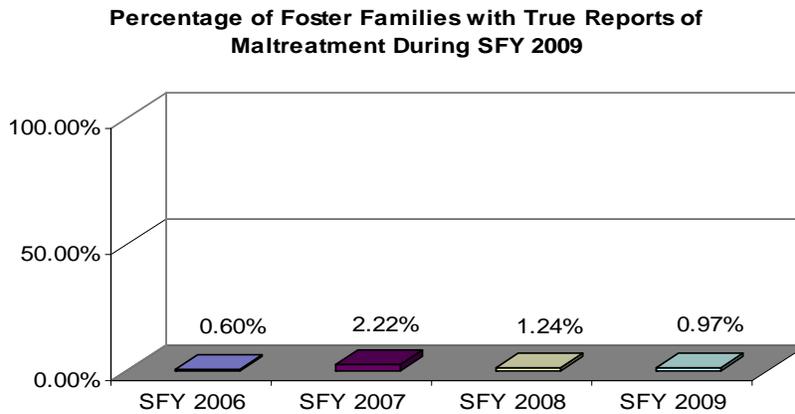
Appendix C: Fatalities of Children in Foster Care Who Did Not Receive a Maltreatment Investigation

Child	County	Age	Race	Gender	Date of Death	Preliminary Cause of Death	Placement at the Time of Incident	Legal Action By the Department	Services Provided Prior to the Incident	Services Provided After the Incident
Child #1	Pulaski	<1	Black	Male	10/07/2009	Medical Conditions	Foster Care	None	Foster Care	None

Appendix D: Summary of Foster Care Maltreatment Reports

Foster Care Maltreatment Reports

There were 162 foster home maltreatment reports received during SFY 2009. Of those, 18 were found to be true. Based on the 1,850 DCFS foster homes¹⁵ open during the year, the percentage of foster families with a true report of maltreatment was 0.97 percent. This is down 0.27 percentage points from SFY 2008 (1.24%).

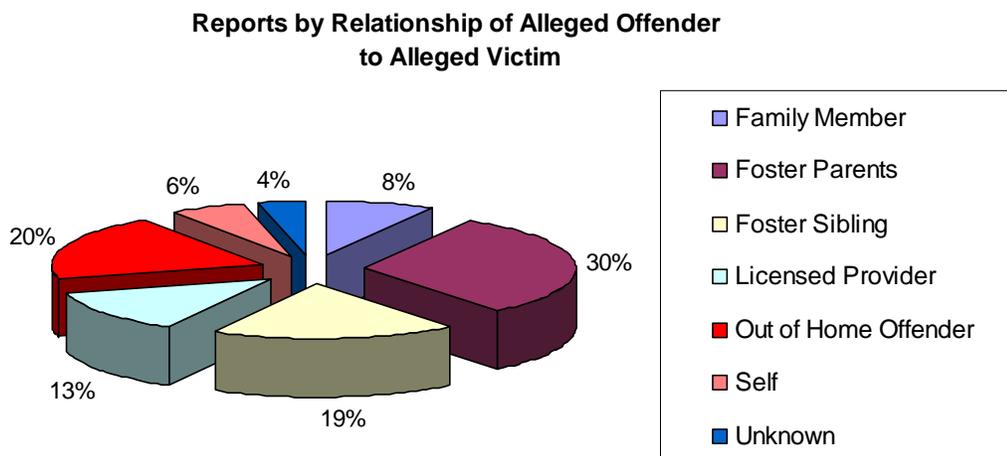


¹⁵ This includes family and therapeutic foster homes.

**Characteristics of Children in Foster Care Involved in Allegations of Maltreatment
2nd Quarter of SFY 2010**

Ninety-Five reports of alleged maltreatment, involving 118 children in foster care¹⁶, were received by the hotline during the second quarter of SYF 2010. Of those, 84 reports, involving 107 children, cited incidents that occurred while the child was in foster care.¹⁷

In 25 reports, involving 33 children, foster parents were identified as the alleged offenders. The following chart displays the relationship of alleged offenders to the 107 foster children involved in reports of maltreatment.



The following chart displays the 25 maltreatment reports that originated in foster homes –with foster parents as alleged offenders– by disposition. Only two were found to be true, and both of those homes were subsequently closed.

**Foster Home Maltreatment Reports During
2nd Quarter of SFY 2010**

True	Unsubstantiated	Inactive (Unable to Locate)	Pending
2	22	1	0

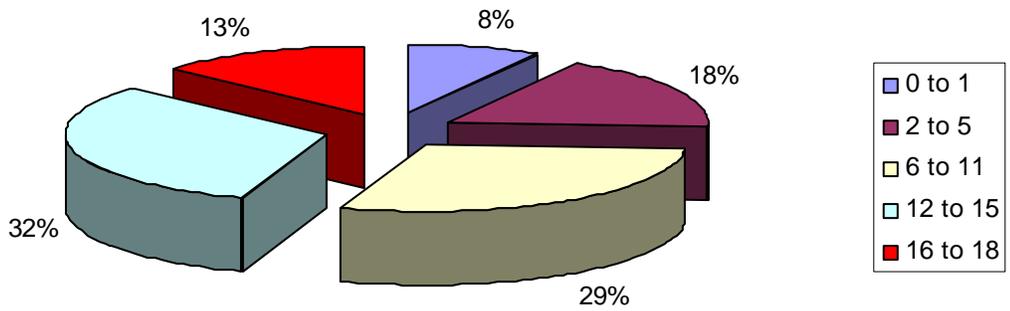
All allegations of maltreatment concerning foster homes are investigated by the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) of the Arkansas State Police. DCFS staff do not actively participate in the investigation of these reports. Furthermore, all allegations of maltreatment regarding foster homes require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

The following charts describe the 107 foster children involved in allegations of maltreatment by age, race, gender, allegations, and location.

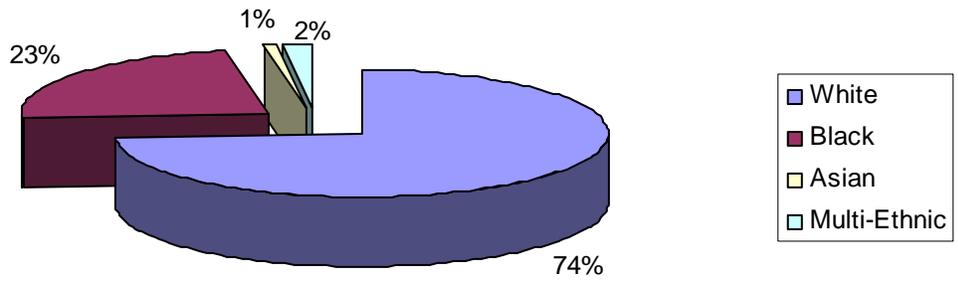
¹⁶ A maltreatment report can include more than one child.

¹⁷ The remaining 11 children were victims of an alleged incident that occurred prior to the child entering foster care. Those 11 children disclosed the alleged incident after entering care.

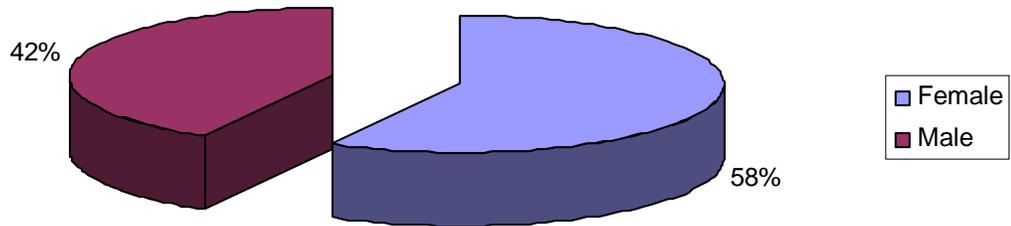
Reports by Age



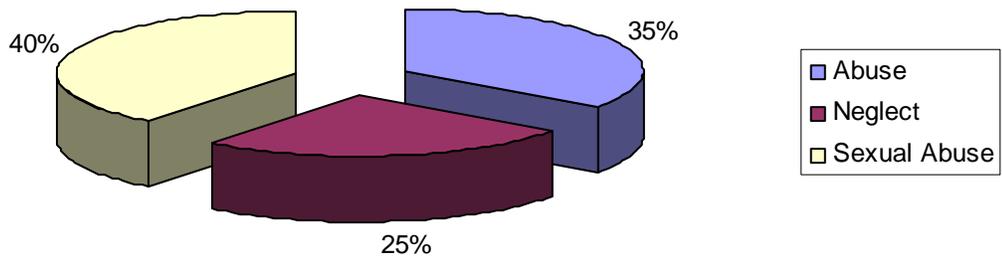
Reports by Race



Reports by Gender



Reports by Allegation



Reports by County

County	Number of Children Involved in Maltreatment Report	County	Number of Children Involved in Maltreatment Report
Pulaski	32	Pope	2
Craighead	8	Sebastian	2
Benton	7	Sharp	1
Jefferson	6	Clay	1
Drew	5	Columbia	1
Saline	5	Scott	1
Washington	5	Crawford	1
Carroll	3	Cross	1
St. Francis	3	Dallas	1
Mississippi	3	Lee	1
Howard	2	Perry	1
Jackson	2	Greene	1
Lonoke	2	Hempstead	1
White	2	Independence	1
Garland	2	Arkansas	1
Polk	2	Faulkner	1