

Quarterly Performance Report

*3rd Quarter
SFY 2011*

(January 2011 – March 2011)



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 the Division of Children and Family Services' (DCFS) managers and legislative committees dealing with children and youth. The QPR for the third quarter of State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2011, specifically January through March 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 third 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 third 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 third quarter, the QPR addresses six noteworthy areas, as shown below:

- **Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments**

The percentage of investigations initiated on time was **81 percent**, a decrease of four percentage points from the previous quarter (85 percent) and less than the goal of 95 percent compliance.

Four areas—specifically, Areas 5, 6, 7 and 10—met or exceeded the 95 percent compliance goal for Priority I initiations, and an additional four areas—Areas 1, 2, 3 and 9—came close to meeting the benchmark, with staff in those areas initiating more than 90 percent of their Priority I referrals on time. Meanwhile, only Area 5 met the 95 percent goal for Priority II initiations, although Areas 9 and 10 came close.

With compliance in several areas falling below the goal of 95 percent, the Division has established corrective action plans to help improve the timeliness of initiations. Corrective actions will include closer supervisory oversight of staff's workloads, including frequent staffings between investigation supervisors and their workers. Other corrective actions consist of assigning investigations sooner and making more effort to see the alleged victims immediately. Some areas, in particular Areas 1 and 2, expect that the timeliness of initiating child maltreatment assessments will improve once they are able to close out their respective backlog of overdue investigations.

- Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments

The percentage of investigations completed in a timely manner for the quarter was **55 percent**, a decrease of three percentage points from the previous quarter and below the goal of 90 percent.

Compliance with respect to the timely completion of investigations declined across both Priority I and Priority II referrals. Area 10 was the lone area to meet or exceed the compliance goal of 90 percent, doing so for both Priority I and II referrals. Aside from Area 10, only Area 5 came close to meeting the established compliance goals. Staff in Area 5 concluded investigations on time for 87 percent of Priority I and II referrals. Less than three-fourths of the investigations within the remaining eight areas were completed on time, with Areas 1 and 2 having the lowest levels of compliance.

Because compliance in nine of the ten areas fell below the goal of 90 percent, Area Directors have established corrective actions to improve compliance in future quarters. All areas are working under a directive from the Division's Central Office to complete and close out their backlog of overdue investigations prior to August 2011; as a result, investigations staff in several areas are being authorized to work overtime. Finally, most areas have implemented processes in which investigations staff will conference with their supervisors at pre-determined intervals during the first 30 days of a new investigation in order to update them on the status of the investigation.

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

Fifty-four percent of the children requiring a 24-hour initial health screening received the screening on time. This is the same as the previous quarter and below the goal of 95 percent.

During the quarter, **65 percent** of the children who required a 72-hour initial health screening received the service on time, a decrease of two percentage points from the previous quarter (67 percent) and below the goal of 95 percent.

None of the individual DCFS Service Areas met the 95 percent compliance goal for either the 24-hour or 72-hour initial health screenings. In fact, only Area 10 approached the compliance goal by completing 90 percent of its 24-hour screenings and 89 percent of its 72-hour screenings. On the other hand, less than two-thirds of the children coming into foster care in Areas 2, 3, 5, 6 and 9 who required either a 24-hour or 72-hour screening received the service on time. Area 6 struggled more than any other area, with just one-quarter of its incoming children receiving the needed 24-hour screening on time and one-third receiving a 72-hour screening on time.

Since overall compliance is below the goal of 95 percent, the Division has established corrective actions to help remedy the barriers that prevent timely health screenings. Several areas attributed their compliance figures to scheduling and availability problems between workers and health care providers. In addition, inclement weather was also reported as having an adverse affect on timely receipt of the health screenings. Despite these reported problems, Area Directors hope that more advanced planning, improved scheduling with providers, and greater supervisory oversight can improve these percentages in future quarters.

- Comprehensive Health Assessments

The percentage of timely completed comprehensive health assessments fell to **65 percent**, a decrease of 14 percentage points from the previous quarter (79 percent). Compliance remains below the goal of 95 percent.

Of the ten DCFS Service Areas, only Area 10 improved its compliance with respect to completing children’s comprehensive health assessments on time and met the compliance goal of 95 percent. In fact, compliance declined by at least nine percentage points in each of the other nine areas. Areas 1, 2, 5 and 9 completed less than two-thirds of the 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 112 new foster homes recruited during the quarter, a decrease from the 156 homes recruited during the previous quarter. DCFS staff recruited far more than the goal of 80 new homes for the quarter, which represents a compliance rate of **140 percent**.

The statewide recruitment of foster homes continues to exceed the Division’s expectations for quarterly recruitment, continuing a multi-year trend of exceeding the Division’s own goal. This sustained effort can be attributed to an increase in the promotion and frequency of foster family inquiry meetings. In addition, DCFS continues to maintain an advantageous relationship 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 since expanded into 19 additional counties. Presently, *The C.A.L.L.* has a presence in all ten DCFS Service Areas. Aside from the increased frequency of inquiry meetings and the expanding efforts of *The C.A.L.L.*, DCFS Central Office staff also anticipate that

the planned production of new information brochures will offer a boost to foster home recruitment across the state.

- Required Visits Made by Worker

During the third quarter, the percentage of children who received a required visit from their caseworker averaged **58 percent**, which was below the goal of 85 percent. The percentage of children who received visits for each of the months from January through March was 62 percent, 55 percent, and 57 percent, respectively.

Compliance regarding the completion of required visits declined in eight of the ten DCFS Service Areas when compared to the previous quarter. Furthermore, none of the individual DCFS Service Areas came close to meeting the compliance goal of 85 percent. Only caseworkers in Areas 4, 6 and 10 made at least 70 percent of their required visits. At the other end of the spectrum, DCFS staff in Areas 2 and 7 completed fewer than half of their required visits.

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. Several Area Directors indicated that the documentation of visits in CHRIS is often incomplete, and subsequently indicated that more concerted effort will be made to ensure that the visits are documented. Area Directors elsewhere intend to increase the number of completed monthly visits by holding more frequent case staffings between supervisors and their staff, with the expectation that doing so will ensure that the agency's children and families are visited with greater consistency.

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 third quarter.

PART I: PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

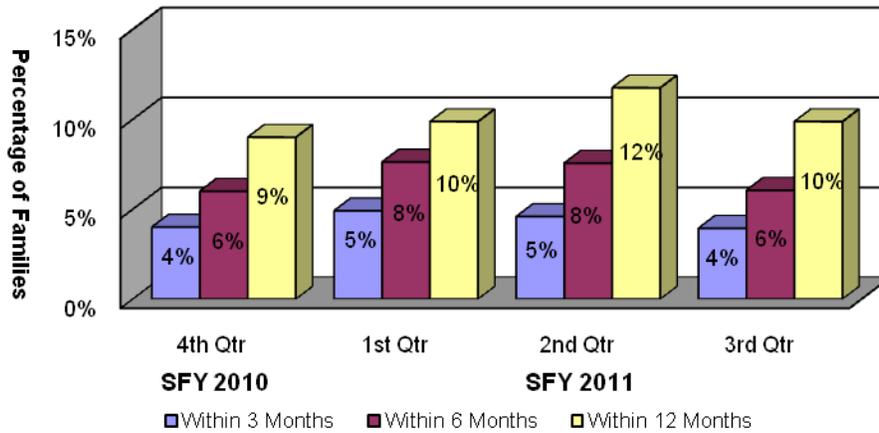
The Division has established nine performance measures to indicate achievement levels related to its major goals in child safety, family preservation and permanency:

- 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 2,512 children involved in true reports of maltreatment during the third quarter one year ago, only 10 percent (248) had a subsequent true report within 12 months.

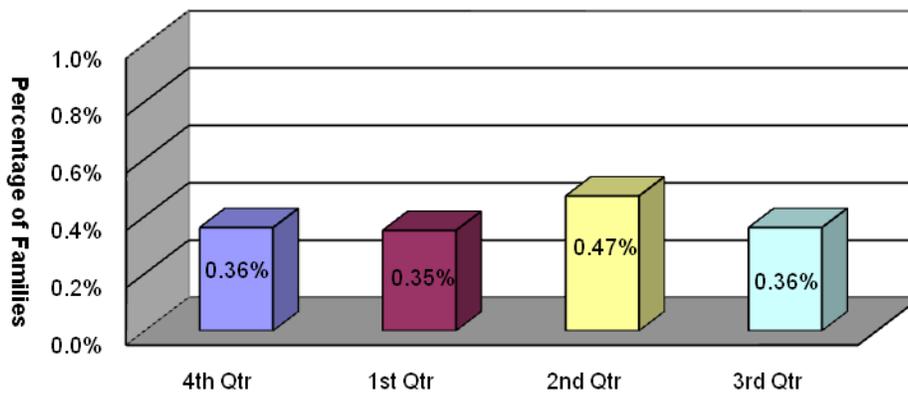
Chart 1: Recurrence of Maltreatment within 12 Months of Initial Report



Percentage of Foster Families with True Reports of Maltreatment

Of the 33 foster home maltreatment reports received during the third quarter in which foster parents were the alleged offenders, only six were determined to be true. Based on the 1,657 foster homes¹ active during the quarter, the percentage of foster families with a true report of maltreatment was 0.36 percent.

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

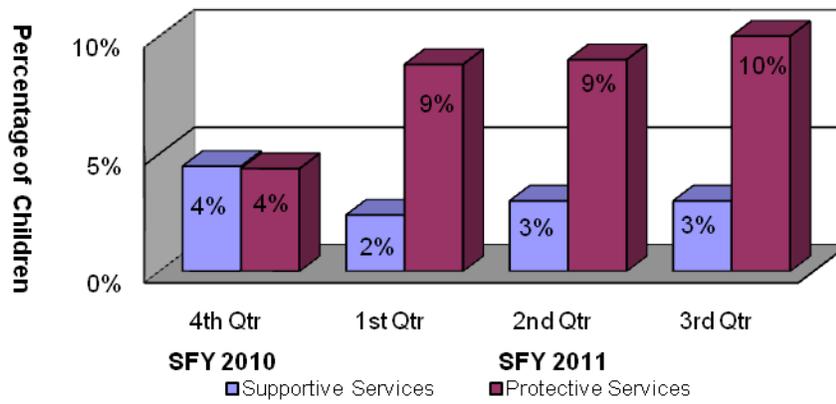


¹ This includes family and therapeutic foster homes.

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

Of the 562 children who began receiving Supportive Services during the third quarter one year ago, nineteen children (3%) experienced a true report of maltreatment within one year. Of the 3,138 children who began receiving Protective Services during the third quarter one year ago, 311 children (10%)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

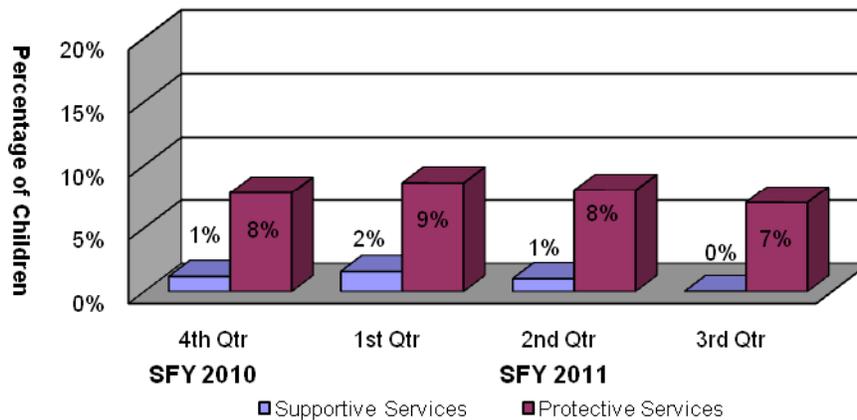


² Beginning with the first quarter of SFY 2011, a new methodology was utilized to measure this percentage. The population is now limited to in-home cases only.

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

One of the 562 children who began receiving Supportive Services during the third quarter one year ago, none entered foster care within one year of the initiation of these services; 234 of the 3,138 (7%) children who began receiving Protective Services during the same timeframe entered care within one year.

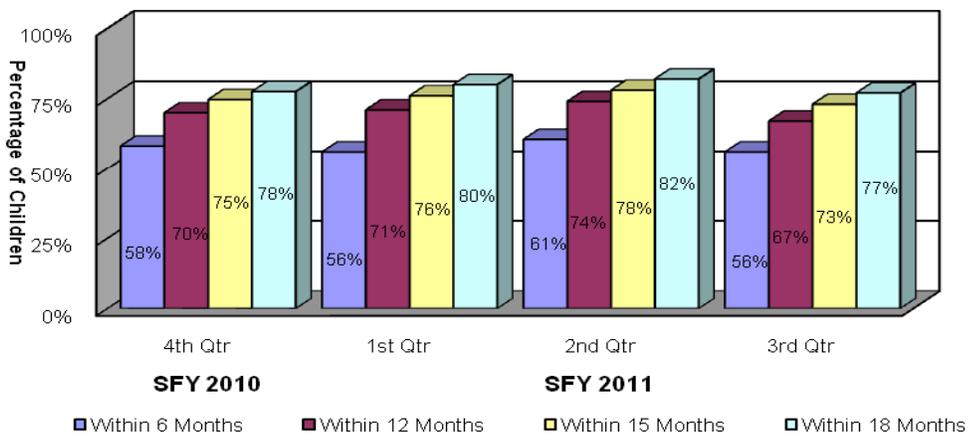
Chart 4: Children Receiving Supportive Services or Protective Services who Entered Foster Care within One Year of the Initiation of Services



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, 986 children entered foster care. Of those, 763 children (77%) returned home within 18 months. A lower percentage of children returned home within 18 months of entering care in comparison to the previous quarter. The percentage of children returning home within 12 months stood at 67 percent, higher than the national median of 48.4 percent.

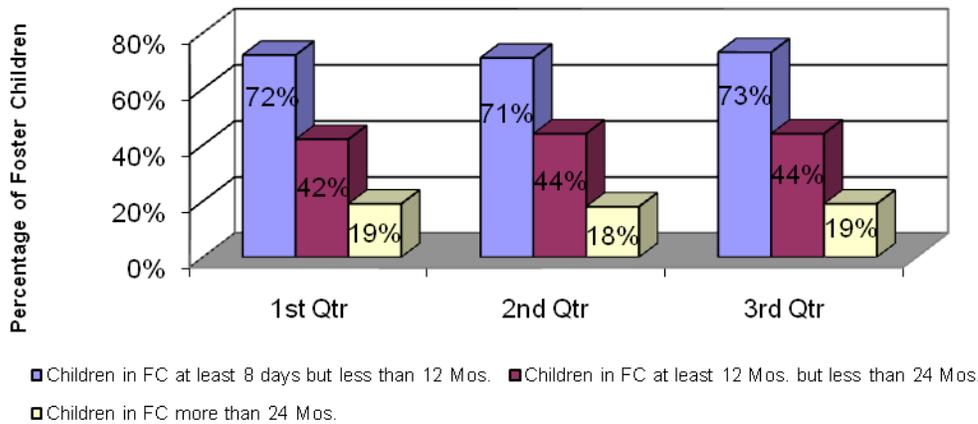
Chart 5: Children in Foster Care who Returned Home within Eighteen Months



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

Placement stability of children in foster care is measured by 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, 73 percent experienced two or fewer placements; the national standard is 86 percent. Of the children in foster care between 12 and 24 months, 44 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.

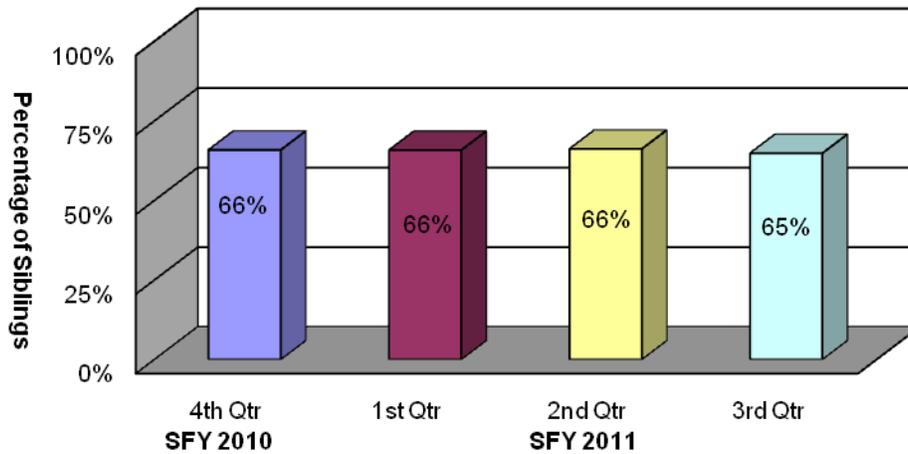
Chart 6: Children in Foster Care who have Experienced Two or Fewer Placements



Percentage of Siblings in Placement who are Placed Together

During the third quarter, there were 2,087 children with siblings in foster care. Of those children, 65 percent (1,353) were placed with at least one of their siblings. This was one percentage point lower than the previous three quarters. Of those same 2,087 children, 45 percent were placed with all of their siblings, which was two percentage points 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.

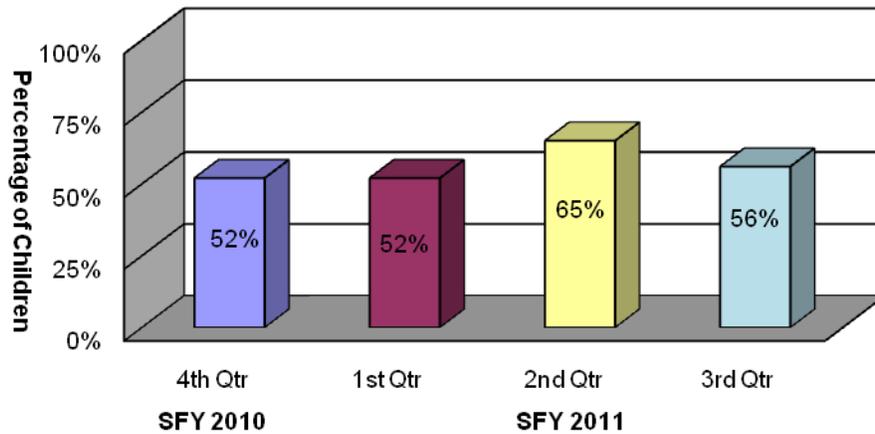
Chart 7: Siblings in Care who are Placed Together



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

Of the 169 children whose goals were changed to adoption during the quarter one year ago, 94 children (56%) were adopted within one year of the goal change. This represents a nine percentage point decrease from the previous quarter (65 percent).

Chart 8: Percentage of Children Who Were Adopted Within One Year of Having Goal Changed to Adoption



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

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

Eighty children were placed in a pre-adoptive home between January and March 2010. Of those children, 73 (91 percent) had their adoptions finalized within 12 months of the placement. This result remained consistent with that evidenced in the previous quarter.

Five children (6%), however, 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. Finalization of the adoption was still pending 12 months after the placement for three of the children.

**Table 1: Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes whose Adoptions were finalized within Twelve Months of Entering Pre-adoptive Placements
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

Adoption Status	Number of Children
Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes	80
Finalized Adoptions	73
Disrupted Adoptive Placements	5
Children with a Disruption who were Re-placed in Pre-adoptive Homes	1
Still Pending after Twelve Months	3

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.

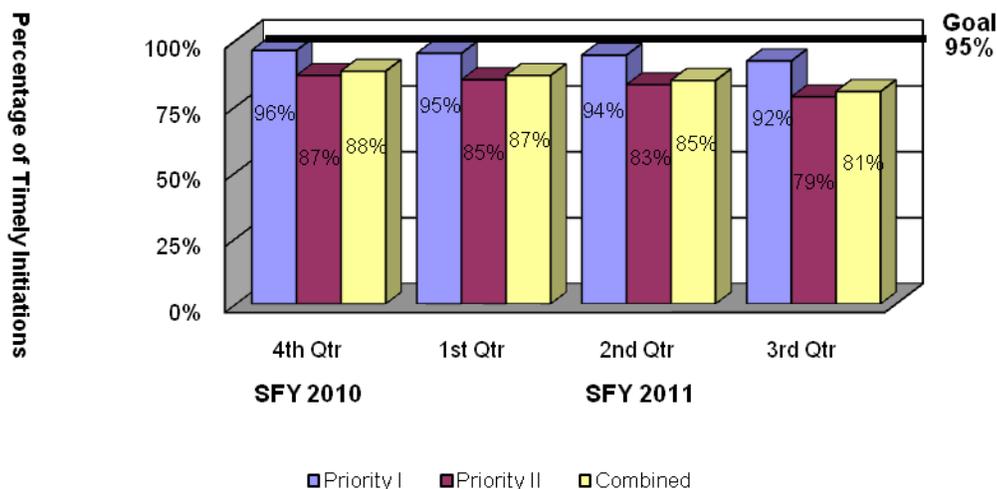
Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments

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 for Priority I referrals or within 72 hours for Priority II referrals. There were 7,768 referrals of child maltreatment during the quarter. Of those, 6,329 were assigned to DCFS for investigation—936 Priority I referrals and 5,393 Priority II referrals.

Of the DCFS assigned Priority I referrals, 862 (92%) were initiated within the required 24-hour period. Of the DCFS Priority II referrals, 4,232 (78%) were initiated within the required 72-hour period.⁴ Overall, 81 percent of the referrals were initiated within the required timeframe. The combined compliance rate was five percentage points lower than the rate for 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 1,439 of the 7,768 referrals that came in during the quarter, of which 1,304 were Priority I referrals and 135 were Priority II referrals. Of the Priority I referrals, 1,229 (94%) were initiated in a timely manner while 128 (95%) of the Priority II referrals were initiated in on time.

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

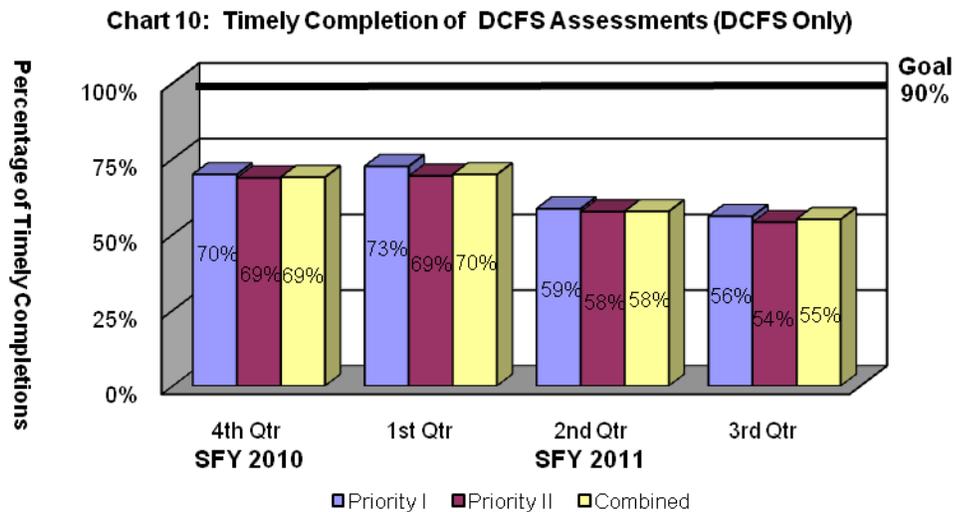


⁴ DCFS had 862 Priority I referrals and 4,232 Priority II referrals that were initiated in a timely manner. Of those, 138 Priority I (16%) and 1,184 Priority II referrals (28%) were considered compliant due to reasonable diligence. CACD had 1,229 Priority I referrals and 128 Priority II referrals that were initiated in a timely manner. Of those, 211 Priority I (17%) and 22 Priority II (20%) referrals were considered compliant due to reasonable diligence.

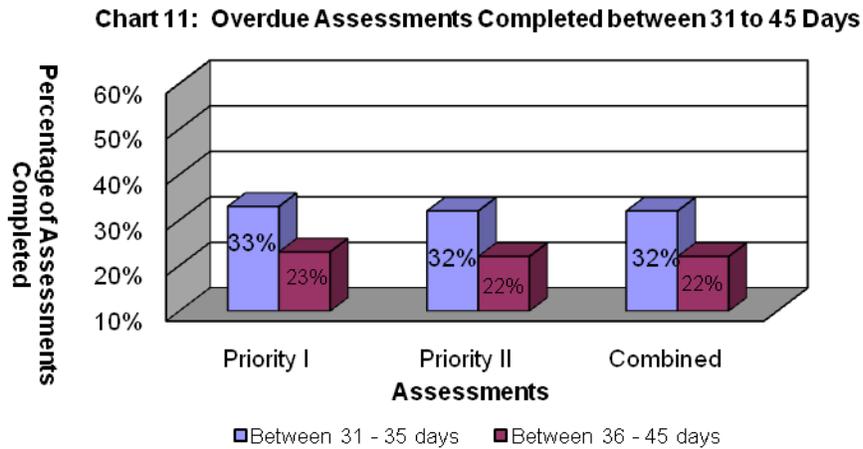
Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments

Of the 936 Priority I assessments assigned to DCFS, 524 (56%) were completed within the required 30-day period. Of the 5,393 DCFS Priority II assessments, 2,931 (54%) were completed within the required 30-day period. The completions resulted in an overall compliance rate of 55 percent, which was three percentage points lower than the previous quarter. Compliance continues to be 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 1,439 of the incoming referrals received during the quarter. Of the Priority I assessments, 928 (71%) were completed on time while 80 (59%) of the Priority II assessments were completed on time.



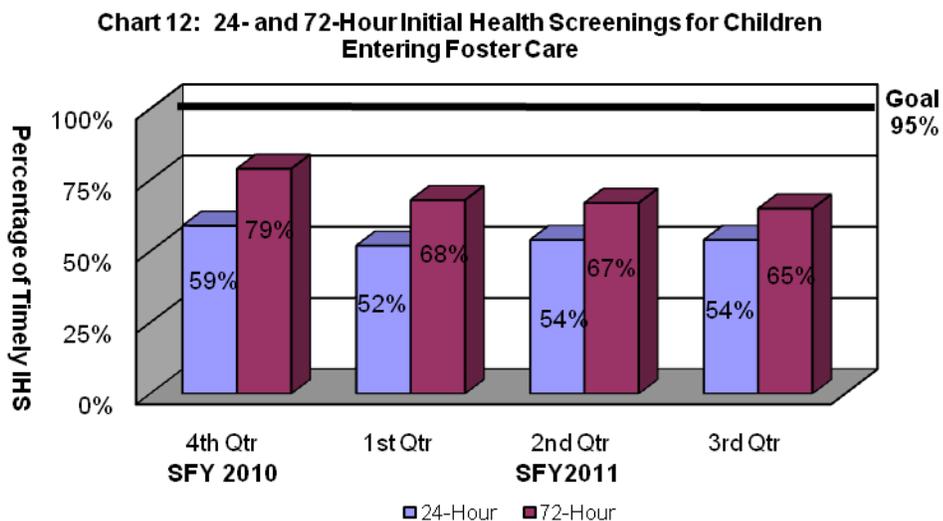
Of the 2,874 DCFS-assigned investigations that became overdue anytime during the quarter, 924 (32 percent) were completed within 31 to 35 days after the referral date and another 631 (22 percent) were completed within 36 to 45 days after the referral. Overall, 54 percent of the overdue investigations were completed within 15 days of being overdue (Chart 11).



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 315 children who required the 24-hour health screening during the third quarter, 171 children (54%) received the screening in a timely manner. The compliance rate was the same as the previous quarter and short of the goal of 95 percent.

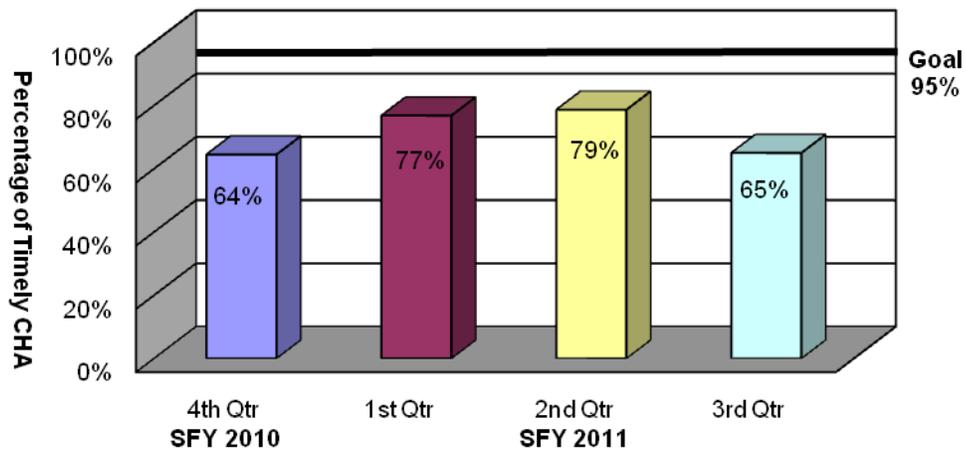
All children entering foster care who do not require the initial 24-hour health screening must still undergo an initial health screening within 72 hours of their removal. Of the 576 children who required the 72-hour health screening, 376 (65%) received their screenings on time, which was two percentage points lower than the previous quarter and short of the goal of 95 percent (See plan of action in the Executive Summary).



Comprehensive Health Assessments

All children entering foster care must receive a comprehensive health assessment as well to evaluate their physical and mental health status; the assessment is to be completed within 60 days of entering foster care. Between November 10, 2010 and January 31, 2011, 490 children entered foster care who remained in care for at least 60 days. Of those children, 319 received their comprehensive health assessment in a timely manner. The resulting compliance rate was 65 percent, which was 14 percentage points lower than the previous quarter and below the goal of 95 percent.

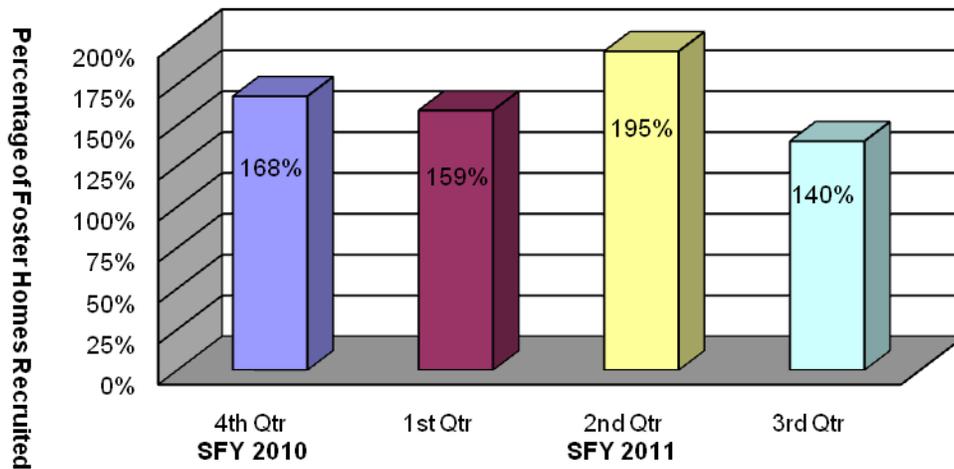
Chart 13: Comprehensive Health Assessments



Foster Home Recruitment

DCFS recruited 112 new foster homes during the third quarter, an achievement which continues to be well above the goal of 80 new homes. At the same time, 125 foster homes were closed resulting in a net loss of 13 foster homes for the quarter.

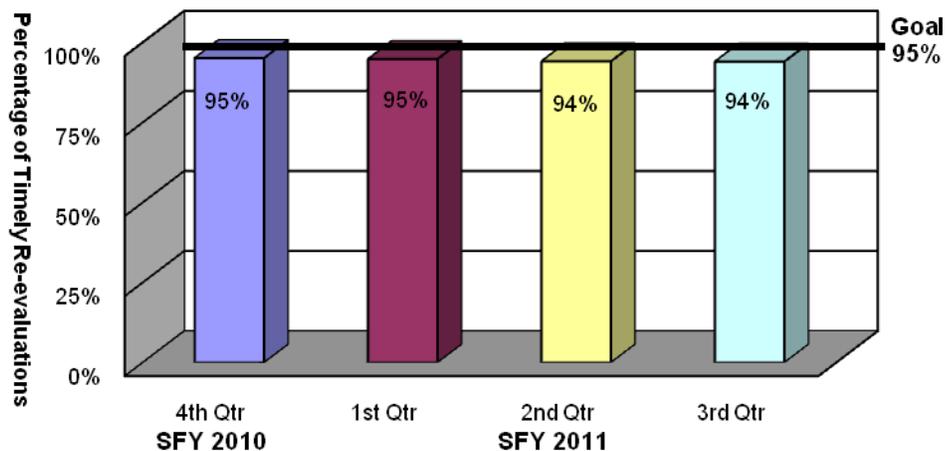
Chart 14: Foster Home Recruitment



Foster Home Re-evaluations

On an annual basis, at a minimum, DCFS is responsible to conduct re-evaluations of each foster home’s ability to care for children. Of the 1,131 foster homes active during the third quarter, a current re-evaluation was available for 1,063 homes. The resulting 94 percent compliance rate was the same as the previous quarter and just slightly below the goal of 95 percent.

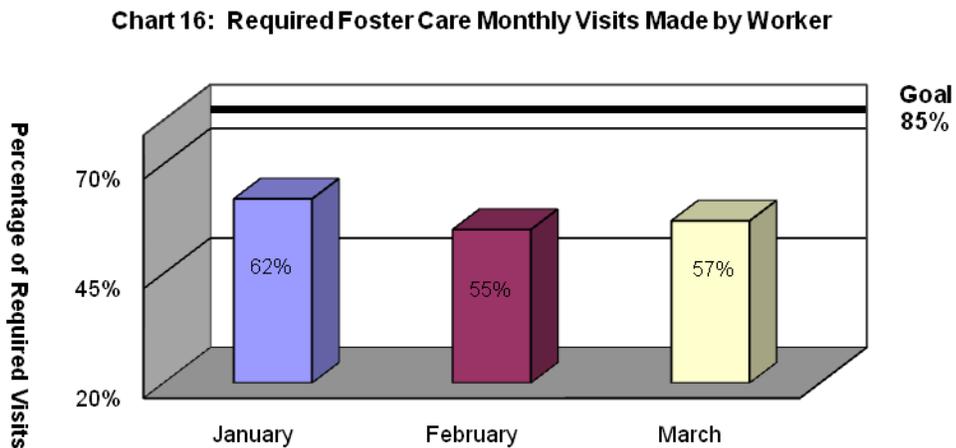
Chart 15: Foster Home Re-evaluations



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 third quarter, an average of 58 percent of children in foster care received a monthly visit. This result was nine percentage points lower than 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 compares 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

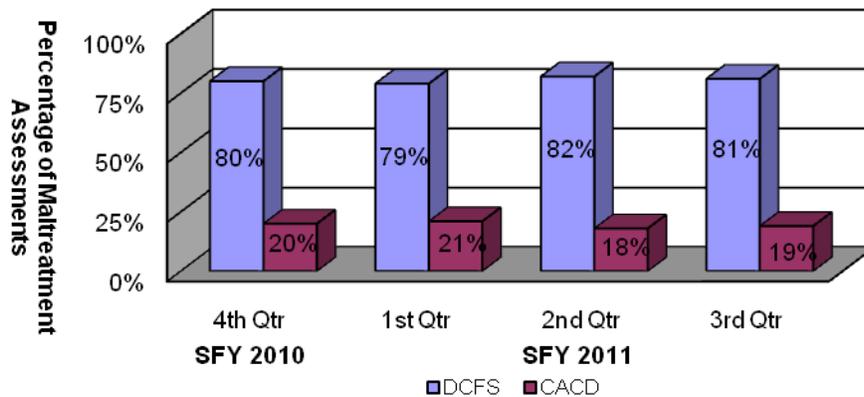
Section I: True Child Maltreatment Reports

Child Maltreatment Assessments

During the third quarter, 7,768 maltreatment assessments were assigned for investigation. Of those assessments, 6,329 (81%) were assigned to DCFS. This figure represents a 14 percent decrease in the number of assessments assigned to DCFS from the previous quarter (7,365) and a five percent increase in assigned assessments from the same quarter ending one year ago (6,042).

Of those same 7,768 assessments, 1,439 (19%) were assigned to CACD. This figure represents a 12 percent decrease in the number of assessments assigned to CACD from the previous quarter (1,633) as well as a five percent decrease from the same quarter ending one year ago (1,518).

Chart 17: Child Maltreatment Assessments



Of the 7,768 maltreatment assessments assigned during the third quarter of SFY 2011, 1,921 reports (25%) were found to be true, a rate which was the same as the quarter ending one year ago (25%). The national percentage is 25 percent.⁵ There were 2,743 victim children involved in the 1,921 true reports for the quarter, which represents a four percent decrease in the number of victim children reported during the same quarter ending one year ago (2,845).

Table 2: Child Maltreatment Assessments

	Total Assessments	True Assessments	Percent True
4th Qtr SFY 2010	9,295	2,240	24%
1st Qtr SFY 2011	7,913	2,056	26%
2nd Qtr SFY 2011	8,998	2,316	26%
3rd Qtr SFY 2011	7,768	1,921	25%

	DCFS			CACD		
	Total Assessments	True Assessments	Percent True	Total Assessments	True Assessments	Percent True
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%
2nd Qtr SFY 2011	7,365	1,648	22%	1,633	668	41%
3rd Qtr SFY 2011	6,329	1,326	21%	1,439	595	41%

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, 2,743 victim children were involved in true reports of maltreatment during the third quarter. The table below outlines the demographic information for these victim children.⁶

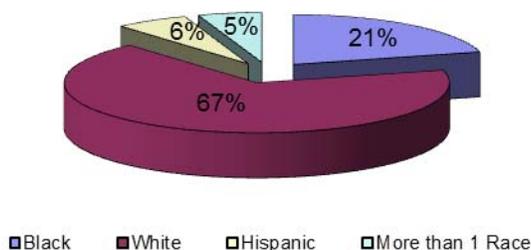
**Table 3: Characteristics of Children in True Maltreatment Reports
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	89	27	0	0	0	6	11	133
	Male	99	44	0	0	1	8	8	160
2 to 5	Female	218	72	0	0	0	16	14	320
	Male	194	69	0	0	0	22	27	312
6 to 11	Female	316	86	1	0	0	34	28	465
	Male	310	89	2	1	1	24	21	448
12 to 15	Female	245	85	2	1	0	31	16	380
	Male	140	37	0	0	0	7	8	192
16 to 18	Female	126	39	0	1	0	11	7	184
	Male	78	16	0	1	0	6	4	105
18+	Female	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total*		1,818	564	5	4	2	165	144	2,702

*Demographic data have not been entered into CHRIS for 41 children.

Of the children involved in true maltreatment reports, 67 percent were white and 21 percent were black.

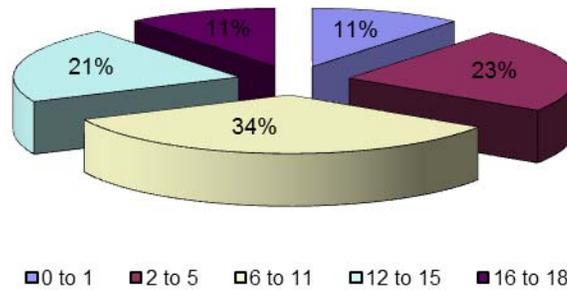
Chart 18a: Race/Ethnicity of Children in True Reports



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).

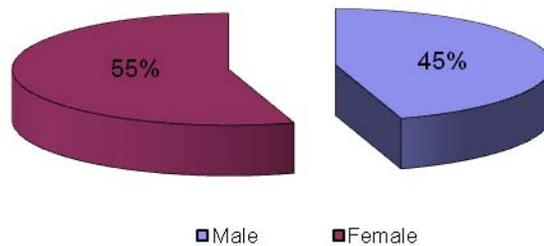
Children ages six to 11 represent the largest group of children involved in true maltreatment reports (34%) followed by children ages two to five (23%). These percentages are similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 18b: Ages of Children in True Reports



More female children (55%) than male (45%) were involved in true maltreatment reports.

Chart 18c: Gender of Children in True Reports



Children Involved in Allegations of True Maltreatment Reports

During the quarter, the majority of the 2,743 children involved in true maltreatment reports were involved in allegations of neglect (86%), followed by allegations of physical abuse (42%) and sexual abuse (29%).⁷

**Table 4: Percentage of Children Involved in True Allegations of Maltreatment
2nd Quarter SFY 2011 – 3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

	2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter	
Neglect	2,805	84%	2,346	86%
Physical Abuse	1,376	41%	1,162	42%
Sexual Abuse	866	26%	795	29%

Child Maltreatment Reports Involving Fatalities or Near Fatalities

During the third quarter of SFY 2011, there were seven investigations of a child fatality and three investigations of a near child fatality. A finding of True resulted for six of the ten incidents, with two investigations unsubstantiated and two pending. 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	4	2
Unsubstantiated	1	1
Pending	2	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 third quarter, 5,055 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.

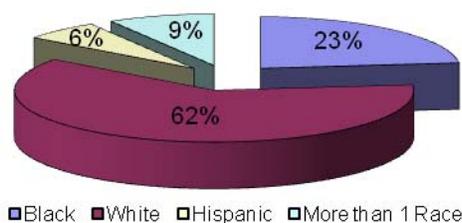
Table 6: Characteristics of Children in Foster Care During the Quarter
3rd Quarter SFY 2011

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	227	88	1	0	2	20	32	370
	Male	261	107	0	0	1	23	32	424
2 to 5	Female	393	123	1	0	0	22	62	601
	Male	412	152	2	0	0	51	62	679
6 to 11	Female	433	131	2	0	0	46	45	657
	Male	398	137	2	0	0	48	74	659
12 to 15	Female	250	91	0	0	0	25	27	393
	Male	239	99	0	1	1	24	40	404
16 to 18	Female	180	76	0	0	0	18	23	297
	Male	150	75	1	1	0	20	19	266
18+	Female	70	49	0	0	0	7	7	133
	Male	96	41	0	0	0	7	9	153
Total*		3,109	1,169	9	2	4	311	432	5,036

*Demographic information have not been entered into CHRIS for 19 children.

The chart below shows that 62 percent of the children in foster care during the quarter were white and 23 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

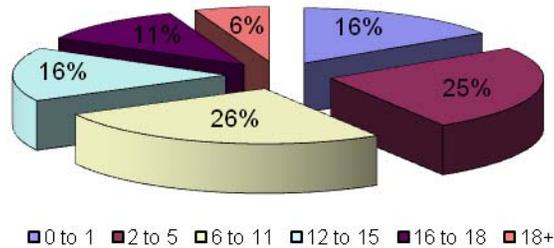
Chart 19a: Race/Ethnicity of Children in Care During the Quarter



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.

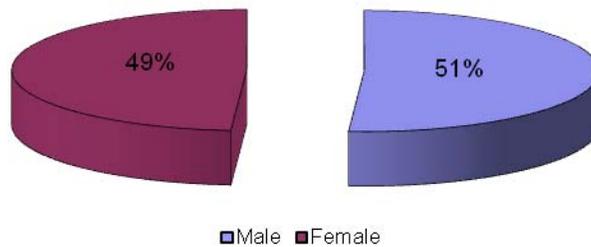
Children ages six to 11 (26%) represent the largest group of children who were in care during the quarter, followed closely by those ages two to five. This was similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 19b: 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 19c: Gender of Children in Foster Care During the Quarter



At the end of the quarter, 4,223 children were in foster care, an increase from the 4,072 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.

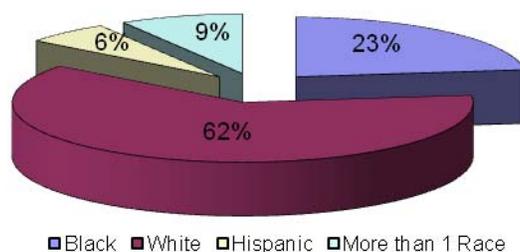
**Table 7: Characteristics of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	189	74	1	0	2	16	28	310
	Male	223	82	0	0	1	18	28	352
2 to 5	Female	328	98	1	0	0	16	52	495
	Male	333	121	2	0	0	37	48	541
6 to 11	Female	353	104	2	0	0	39	34	532
	Male	337	112	2	0	0	38	65	554
12 to 15	Female	209	80	0	0	0	20	21	330
	Male	210	81	0	1	1	19	36	348
16 to 18	Female	161	67	0	0	0	16	20	264
	Male	137	70	1	1	0	18	18	245
18+	Female	54	43	0	0	0	7	6	110
	Male	76	36	0	0	0	7	6	125
Total*		2,610	968	9	2	4	251	362	4,206

*Demographic information have not been entered into CHRIS for 17 children.

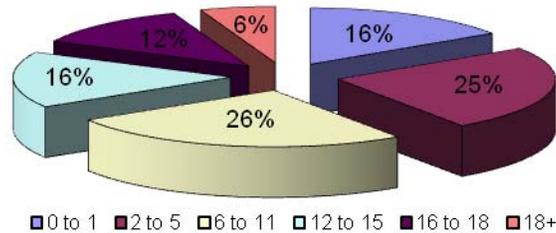
The chart below shows that 62 percent of the children in foster care at the end of the quarter were white, while 23 percent of the children were black. These percentages are consistent with the previous four quarters.

Chart 20a: Race/Ethnicity of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter



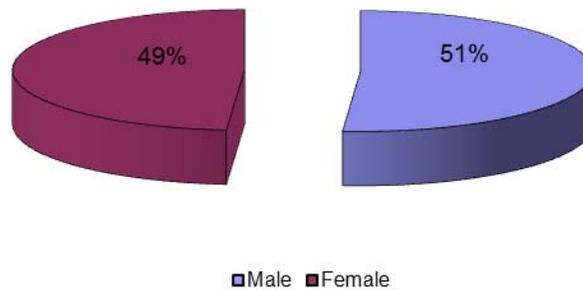
Children between the ages of six and 11 (26%) represent the largest group of children who were in care at the end of the quarter, followed closely by children between the ages of two and five (25%).

Chart 20b: Ages of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter



Fifty-one percent of the children in foster care at the end of the quarter were male and 49 percent were female.

Chart 20c: Gender of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter



Entries into Foster Care

During the third quarter, 1,089 children entered foster care, an increase from the previous quarter (1,040).

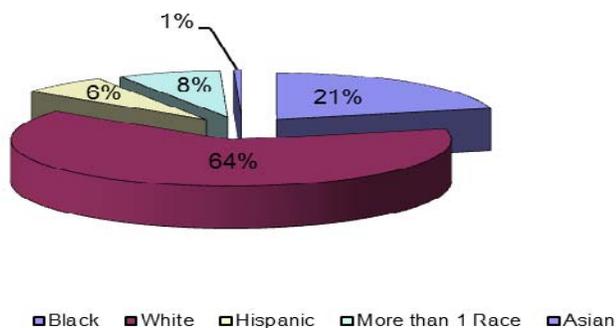
**Table 8: Characteristics of Children Entering Foster Care During the Quarter
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	67	23	0	0	0	3	14	107
	Male	78	38	0	0	0	4	11	131
2 to 5	Female	87	26	1	0	0	4	8	126
	Male	89	41	2	0	0	10	12	154
6 to 11	Female	110	22	1	0	0	19	8	160
	Male	97	33	2	0	0	7	12	151
12 to 15	Female	62	16	0	0	0	10	5	93
	Male	49	15	0	0	1	6	7	78
16 to 18	Female	31	12	0	0	0	1	4	48
	Male	23	4	0	0	0	6	1	34
18+	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total*		693	230	6	0	1	70	82	1,082

*Demographic data have not been entered into CHRIS for seven children.

The chart below shows that 64 percent of the children who entered foster care during the quarter were white, while 21 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

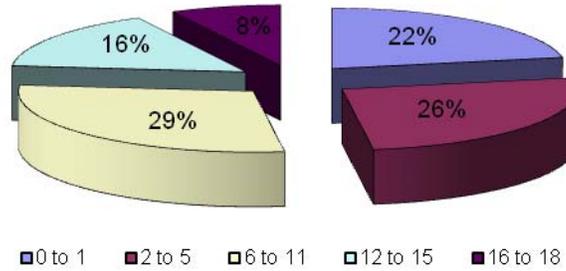
Chart 21a: Race/Ethnicity of Children who Entered Care



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.

Over three quarters of the children who entered foster care during the quarter were no older than 11 years of age.

Chart 21b: Ages of Children who Entered Care



Of the 1,089 children who entered care, 49 percent of the children were female and 51 percent were male.

Chart 21c: Gender of Children who Entered Care

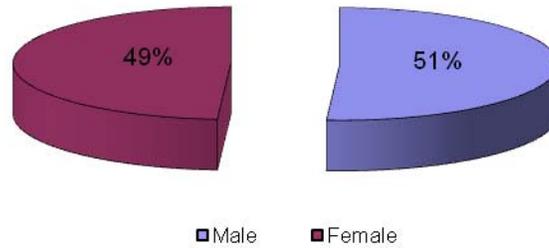


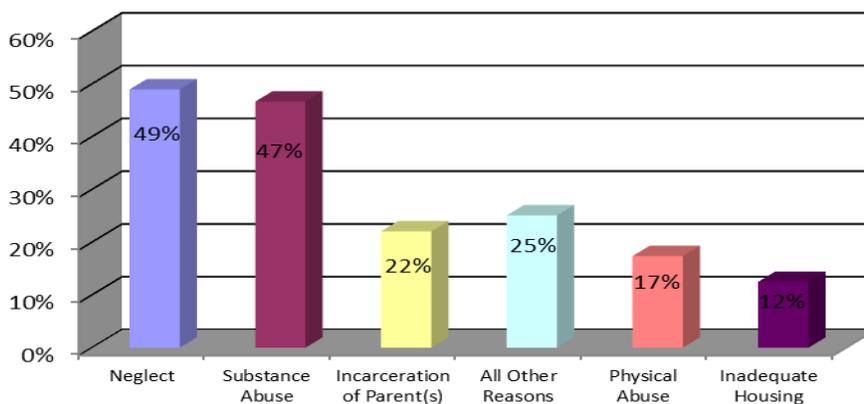
Table 9 displays the reasons for the entry into foster care for the 1,089 children who entered during the quarter. Neglect and substance abuse¹⁰ were the most prevalent reasons for the children’s entry into care.

**Table 9: Reasons Children Who Entered Foster Care During the Quarter That Were Placed in Foster Care
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

Placement Reason	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	18+	Total
Neglect	112	147	157	82	35	0	533
Substance Abuse	120	145	146	70	27	0	508
Parent Incarceration	34	64	81	35	25	1	240
Physical Abuse	36	40	60	41	11	1	189
Child’s Behavior	0	0	11	21	20	0	52
Abandonment	7	9	8	13	8	0	45
Inadequate Housing	25	47	37	22	5	0	136
Caretaker Illness	12	13	18	16	13	0	72
Sexual Abuse	1	9	25	19	9	0	63
Truancy	0	0	7	3	3	0	13
Child’s Disability	1	0	5	1	1	0	8
Parent Death	1	1	1	3	0	0	6
Sex Offender	0	0	1	1	1	0	3
Relinquishment	1	2	1	1	0	0	5
Adoption	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Managed Mental Health	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Teen Parent in Care	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
Total*	354	477	558	329	159	2	1,879

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

Chart 22: Reasons Children Who Entered Care During the Quarter were Placed in Foster Care



¹⁰ Of the 508 reasons for entry attributed to substance abuse, substance abuse by children accounted for 11 reasons for entry (2%), while substance abuse by parents accounted for 497 reasons for entry (98%).

Exits from Foster Care

During the quarter, 858 children left foster care, which was a decrease from the previous quarter (975).

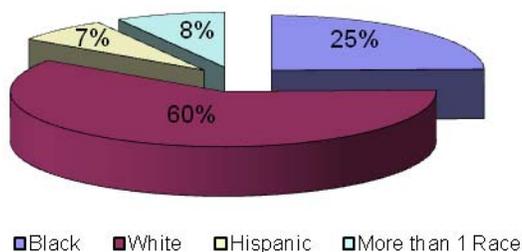
**Table 10: Characteristics of Children Exiting Foster Care During the Quarter
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	39	27	0	0	0	5	4	75
	Male	39	16	0	0	0	4	4	63
2 to 5	Female	82	32	0	0	0	15	15	144
	Male	66	27	0	0	0	6	10	109
6 to 11	Female	62	25	0	0	0	10	9	106
	Male	83	27	0	0	0	7	11	128
12 to 15	Female	30	18	0	0	0	5	4	57
	Male	42	11	0	0	0	5	6	64
16 to 18	Female	27	7	0	0	0	2	4	40
	Male	30	16	0	0	0	2	3	51
18+	Female	8	3	0	0	0	0	0	11
	Male	5	2	0	0	0	0	1	8
Total*		513	211	0	0	0	61	71	856

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

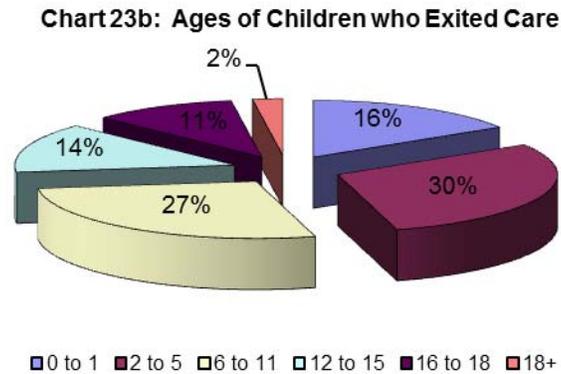
Of the children who exited foster care, 60 percent were white and 25 percent were black. National data indicate that 44 percent of the children who leave foster care are white and 26 percent are black.¹¹

Chart 23a: Race/Ethnicity of Children who Exited Care

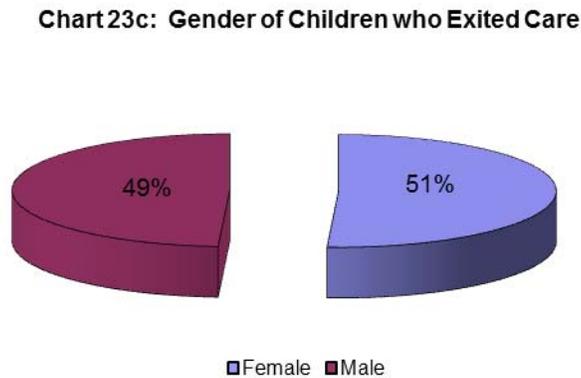


¹¹ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2007 and 9/30/2008 as of October 2009.

Children between the ages of two and five (30%) represent the largest group of children who left foster care during the quarter, followed closely by the six to 11 age group (27%).



There were more female (51%) children that exited foster care during the quarter than male (49%) children.



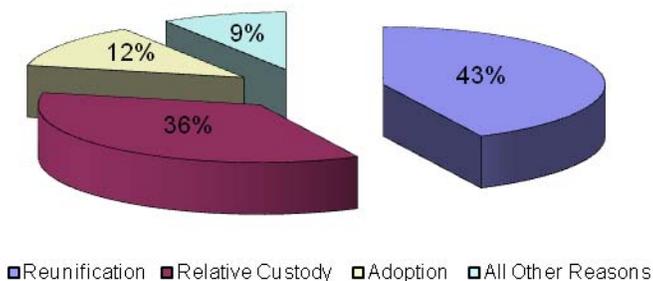
**Table 11: Reasons Children Exited Foster Care by Age
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

Reason	Age						Total
	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	18+	
Reunification	63	99	113	59	32	0	366
Relative Custody	53	104	79	44	24	1	305
Adoption	16	44	34	11	2	0	107
Child Aged Out	0	0	0	0	30	14	44
Non-Relative Custody	4	6	8	7	2	0	27
Custody Transfer	1	0	0	0	1	2	4
Emancipation	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Death of Child	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total*	138	253	234	121	91	19	856

*Demographic data have 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 (36%). National data indicate that the three most prevalent reasons children left care are reunification (52%), adoption (19%) and relative care (8%).¹² In addition to the percentage of Arkansas' children exiting to reunification being lower, the percentage exiting to adoption (12%) is also lower than that seen nationally; however, Arkansas has a significantly higher proportion of children that exit to relative custody.

Chart 24: 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 4,223 children in foster care at the end of the quarter, 3,870 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.

For the 355 children who lacked a permanency goal, the median number of days since their entry into foster care was 86 days.

**Table 12: Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

	3rd Quarter		National ¹³
Return Home	2,134	55%	49%
Adoption	766	20%	24%
APPLA	488	13%	N/A
Relative Care	105	3%	4%
Guardianship	22	0.6%	4%
Emancipation	0	0%	6%
Long Term Care	0	0%	8%
Not Yet Established	355	9%	5%
Total	3,870	100%	100%

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

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 5,055 children in foster care anytime during the quarter, 56 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)
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

	Number	Percentage	National
Less than 30 days	574	11%	5%
30-90 Days	601	12%	20%
3-6 Months	701	14%	
6-12 Months	969	19%	17%
12-24 Months	1,049	21%	23%
24-36 Months	461	9%	12%
36+ Months	700	14%	24%
Total	5,055	100%	100%

**Table 13b: Length of Stay in Foster Care of Children in Relative Care
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 days	44	6%
30-90 Days	102	14%
3-6 Months	149	21%
6-12 Months	179	25%
12-24 Months	153	21%
24-36 Months	61	9%
36+ Months	24	3%
Total*	712	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.

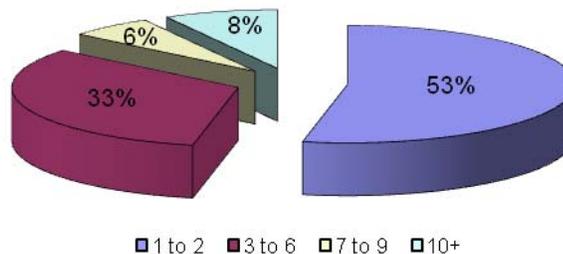
Number of Placements of Children in Foster Care

Overall, 53 percent of the children in care at the end of the third quarter experienced two or fewer placements. The result is similar to that of the previous quarter. It is not surprising that the likelihood of multiple placements increases the longer children remain in foster care.

**Table 14: Number of Placements of Children in Foster Care
3rd 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	1,635	73%	408	44%	204	19%	2,247	53%
3-6 Placements	566	25%	428	46%	386	37%	1,380	33%
7-9 Placements	37	2%	65	7%	151	14%	253	6%
10+ Placements	4	0%	35	4%	314	30%	353	8%
Total*	2,242	100%	926	100%	1,055	100%	4,223	100%

Chart 25: 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 third quarter, 4,223 children were in foster care. Of those, 1,986 children (47%) experienced three or more placements while in care.

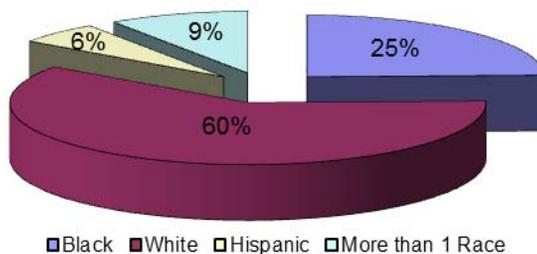
**Table 15: Characteristics of Children who Experienced Three or More Placements
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	34	15	0	0	0	2	4	55
	Male	55	20	0	0	0	2	9	86
2 to 5	Female	129	39	0	0	0	6	21	195
	Male	145	43	1	0	0	11	16	216
6 to 11	Female	145	51	0	0	0	16	16	228
	Male	166	58	2	0	0	21	37	284
12 to 15	Female	120	46	0	0	0	7	17	190
	Male	132	59	0	1	0	13	24	229
16 to 18	Female	108	56	0	0	0	15	18	197
	Male	108	69	0	1	0	14	21	213
18+	Female	17	13	0	0	0	2	3	35
	Male	24	14	0	0	0	2	1	41
Total		1,183	483	3	2	0	111	187	1,969

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

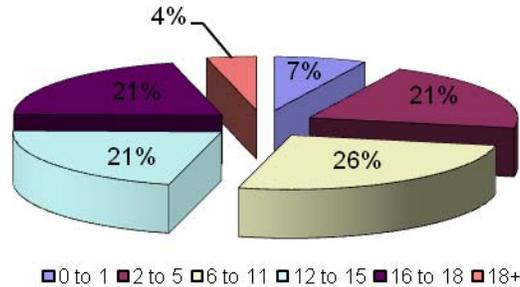
Of the children who experienced three or more placements, 60 percent were white and 25 percent were black.

Chart 26a: Race/Ethnicity of Children who Experienced Three or More Placements



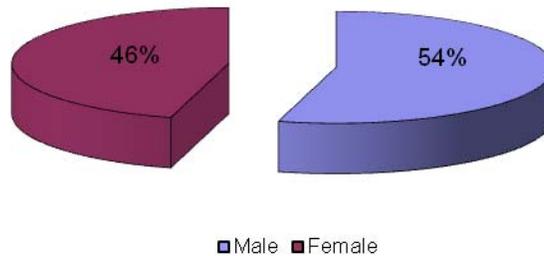
Children between the ages of six and 11 (26%) represented the largest group of children who experienced three or more placements.

Chart 26b: Ages of Children who Experienced Three or More Placements



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

Chart 26c: Gender of Children who Experienced Three or More Placements



Current Placement of Children in Foster Care

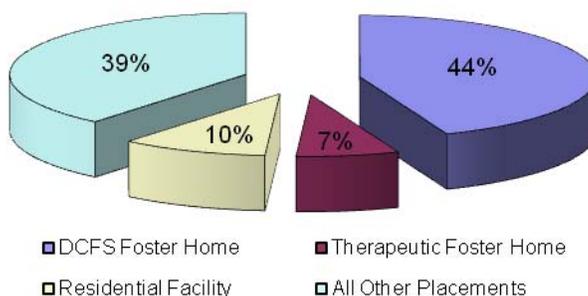
Fifty-one percent of the children in foster care at the end of the third quarter were placed in either a non-relative or relative DCFS foster home.

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)	453	594	444	188	125	39	1,843
DCFS Foster Home (Relative)	39	111	85	32	19	4	290
Provisional Relative Care	56	96	102	28	10	1	293
Therapeutic Foster Home	2	46	133	73	27	8	289
Pre-Adoptive Home (Non-Relative)	50	59	55	11	4	1	180
Pre-Adoptive Home (Relative)	0	7	7	4	0	0	18
Emergency Shelter	4	14	45	53	28	0	144
Residential Facility	17	14	71	133	134	48	417
Youth Services	0	0	0	5	15	2	22
Runaway	0	0	1	4	30	2	37
Trial Home Visit	25	76	75	33	16	2	227
Hospital/Medical	7	1	8	7	7	1	31
ASAP CRT	0	0	0	9	3	0	12
Independent Living	0	0	0	0	4	111	115
Incarceration	0	0	0	4	6	4	14
Temporary Placement	9	21	29	18	11	2	90
Sub-Acute CRT	0	0	29	61	38	2	130
Acute CRT	0	0	4	6	15	0	25
ASAP Residential Treatment	0	0	0	4	10	5	19
ASAP Therapeutic Foster Care	0	0	0	4	5	4	13
DDS Placement	0	0	0	2	1	0	3
DYS Aftercare	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Unknown*	3	3	1	2	1	0	10
Total	665	1,042	1,089	681	510	236	4,223

*Unknown due to missing placement types.

Chart 27: Current Placement of Children in Foster Care

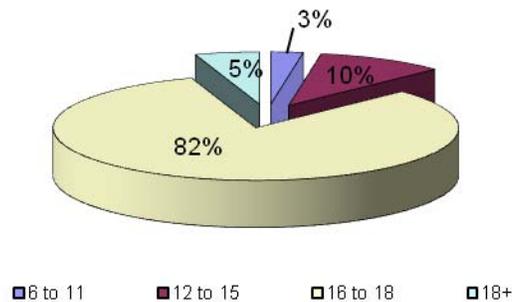


Characteristics of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Quarter

Thirty-nine children were on runaway status at the end of the third quarter. This is a decrease from the previous quarter (52).

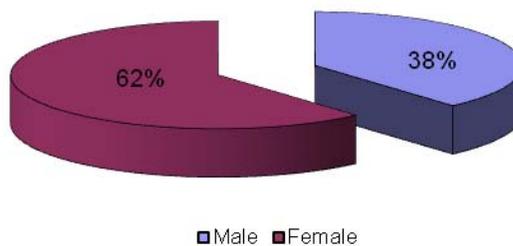
The majority of the children on runaway status (82%) were between the ages of 16 and 18.

Chart 28a: Ages of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Quarter



More female children (62%) than male children (38%) were on runaway status at the end of the quarter. These percentages differ from the previous quarter when 67 percent of those on runaway status were females and 33 percent were males.

Chart 28b: Gender of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Quarter



Characteristics of Children in Relative Care

During the third quarter, 712 children were placed in relative care,¹⁵ a decrease from the previous quarter (723). 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.

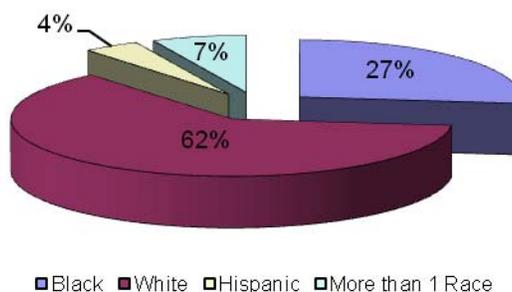
**Table 17: Characteristics of Children in Relative Care
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	29	14	0	0	1	0	7	51
	Male	43	17	0	0	0	2	2	64
2 to 5	Female	76	30	0	0	0	2	9	117
	Male	81	24	0	0	0	5	14	124
6 to 11	Female	70	33	0	0	0	6	4	113
	Male	66	31	0	0	0	5	9	111
12 to 15	Female	35	9	0	0	0	4	2	50
	Male	19	14	0	0	0	1	1	35
16 to 18	Female	13	6	0	0	0	1	1	21
	Male	7	11	0	0	0	3	0	21
18+	Female	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total		441	190	0	0	1	29	49	710

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

White children represent the highest percentage of children in relative care during the third quarter (62%).

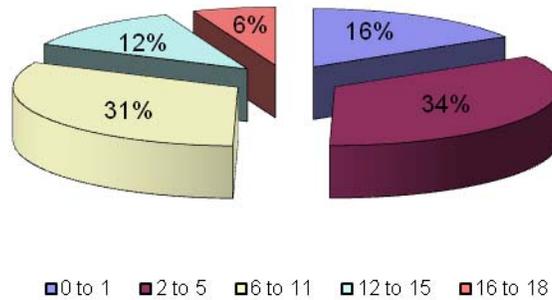
Chart 29a: Race/Ethnicity of Children in Relative Care



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

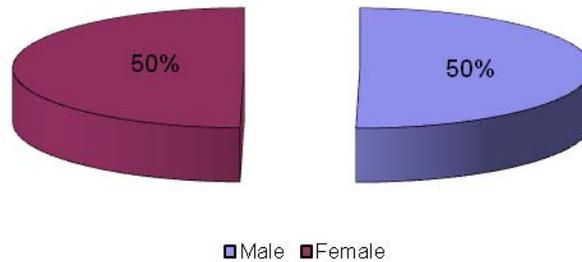
Children between the ages of two and five (34%) represent the largest age group of children in relative care, followed by children between the ages of six and 11 (31%).

Chart 29b: Ages of Children in Relative Care



Fifty percent of the children in relative care were male and 50 percent were female.

Chart 29c: 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 766 children in care at the end of the quarter with a permanency goal of adoption. The table below outlines those children’s characteristics.

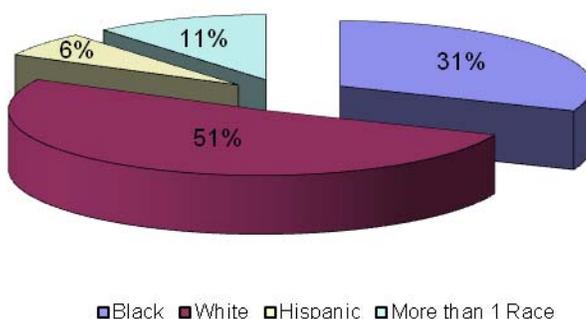
**Table 18: Characteristics of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter
 3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	13	11	0	0	0	4	3	31
	Male	26	10	0	0	0	2	3	41
2 to 5	Female	43	25	0	0	0	3	12	83
	Male	45	31	0	0	0	3	6	85
6 to 11	Female	67	42	0	0	0	7	13	129
	Male	65	44	0	0	0	7	20	136
12 to 15	Female	48	24	0	0	0	5	7	84
	Male	48	28	0	0	0	8	16	100
16 to 18	Female	22	11	0	0	0	4	2	39
	Male	16	11	1	0	0	3	3	34
18+	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total		393	238	1	0	0	47	85	764

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

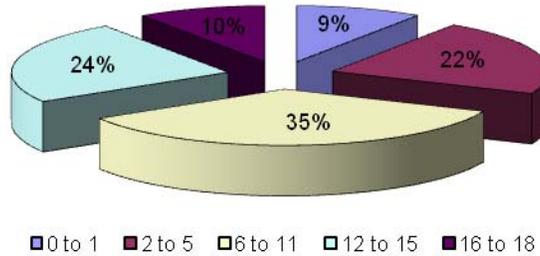
Of the children in care with a permanency goal of adoption at the end of the quarter, 51 percent were white, 31 percent were black, and 11 percent were multiracial. These percentages are similar to the previous quarter.

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



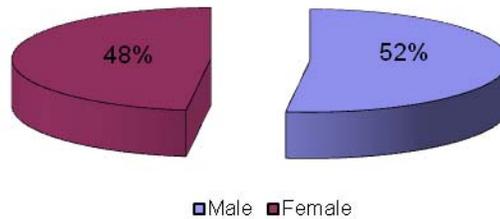
Children between the ages of six and 11 (35%) continue to represent the largest age group with a permanency goal of adoption.

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



More male children (52%) than female children (48%) had a permanency goal of adoption, similar to the previous quarter.

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



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

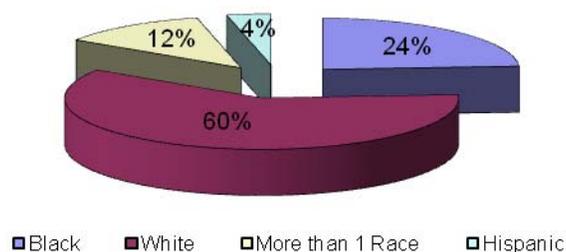
There were 501 children whose parents had their parental rights terminated¹⁶ as of the end of the third quarter. The table below outlines the characteristics of those children.

**Table 19: Characteristics of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated at the end of the Quarter
3rd 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	1	13
	Male	12	2	0	0	0	0	1	15
2 to 5	Female	28	8	0	0	0	1	9	46
	Male	31	13	0	0	0	0	5	49
6 to 11	Female	41	19	0	0	0	1	4	65
	Male	46	23	0	0	0	6	16	91
12 to 15	Female	37	14	0	0	0	1	6	58
	Male	52	17	0	0	0	1	12	82
16 to 18	Female	19	4	0	0	0	2	3	28
	Male	20	12	1	0	0	2	4	39
18+	Female	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	6
	Male	4	2	0	0	0	3	0	9
Total		301	120	1	0	0	18	61	501

Sixty percent of the children whose parents had their parental rights terminated at the end of the quarter were white, 24 percent were black, four percent were Hispanic, and 12 percent were multiracial.

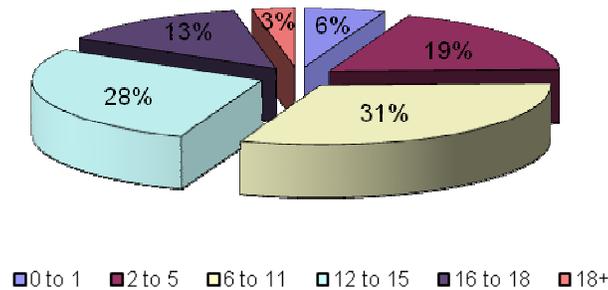
Chart 31a: Race/Ethnicity of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated



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

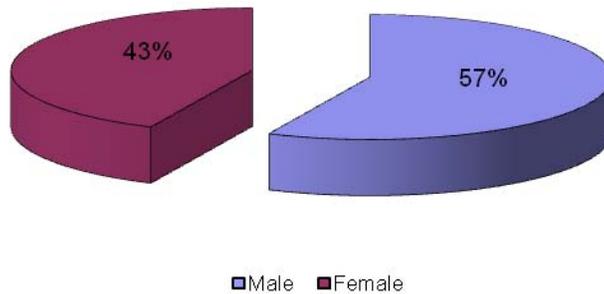
Children between the ages of six and 11 (31%) represent the largest group of children whose parents' parental rights were terminated followed by those between the ages of 12 and 15 years of age.

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



Of the children whose parents' parental rights were terminated, 57 percent were male and 43 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

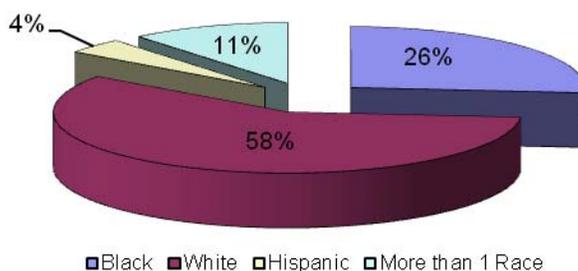
At the end of the third quarter, 346 children were available for adoption.¹⁷ Demographic information for children available for adoption, shown in the table below, is very similar to previous quarters.

**Table 20: Characteristics of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	4	1	0	0	0	1	0	6
	Male	5	1	0	0	0	0	1	7
2 to 5	Female	18	7	0	0	0	1	6	32
	Male	18	13	0	0	0	0	2	33
6 to 11	Female	33	16	0	0	0	1	1	51
	Male	35	21	0	0	0	6	10	72
12 to 15	Female	31	13	0	0	0	1	5	50
	Male	37	12	0	0	0	1	10	60
16 to 18	Female	12	2	0	0	0	2	0	16
	Male	9	5	1	0	0	1	3	19
Total		202	91	1	0	0	14	38	346

Of the children available for adoption, 58 percent were white and 26 percent were black.

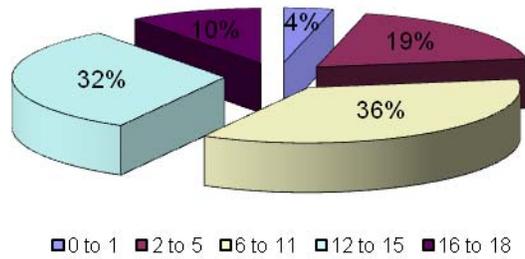
Chart 32a: Race/Ethnicity of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter



¹⁷ Children available for adoption are defined as children who have two TPR's and a goal of adoption.

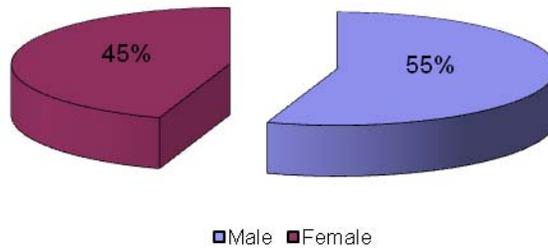
More of the children available for adoption at the end of the quarter were between the ages of six and 11 (36%) in comparison to any other age group.

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



More male children (55%) than female children (45%) were available for adoption.

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



Current Placements of Children Available for Adoption

More children who were available for adoption at the end of the second quarter were placed in DCFS foster homes (29%) than in any other type of placement, followed by placement in a pre-adoptive home (23%). These results are similar to the previous quarter.

**Table 21: Current Placements of Children Available for Adoption
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

Placement	Number of Children	Percentage*
DCFS Foster Home	99	29%
Pre-Adoptive Home	78	23%
Therapeutic Foster Home	74	21%
Residential Facility	47	14%
Hospital/Medical	4	1%
Emergency Shelter	6	2%
Temporary Placement	5	1%
Sub-Acute CRT	25	7%
ASAP Therapeutic Foster Care	2	0.6%
Youth Services	1	0.3%
Acute CRT	1	0.3%
ILP Sponsor	2	0.6%
DDS Placement	1	0.3%
Runaway	1	0.3%
Total*	346	100%

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

Characteristics of Children in Pre-adoptive Placements

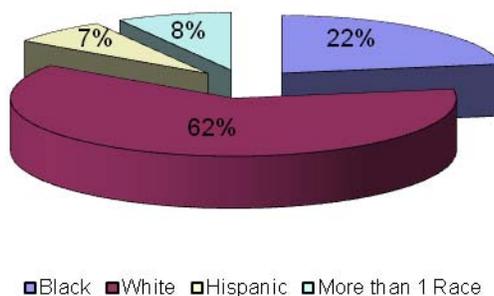
During the third quarter, 156 children were in pre-adoptive homes. This number includes children who entered a pre-adoptive home during previous quarters as well as children who were newly placed in a pre-adoptive home during the current quarter.

**Table 22: Characteristics of Children in Pre-adoptive Placements
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	6	1	0	0	0	1	0	8
	Male	6	2	0	0	0	0	1	9
2 to 5	Female	10	6	0	0	0	3	3	22
	Male	20	11	0	0	0	1	1	33
6 to 11	Female	18	7	0	0	0	1	2	28
	Male	19	5	0	0	0	5	3	32
12 to 15	Female	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	11
	Male	6	1	0	0	0	0	1	8
16 to 18	Female	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
	Male	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	3
Total		97	35	0	0	0	11	13	156

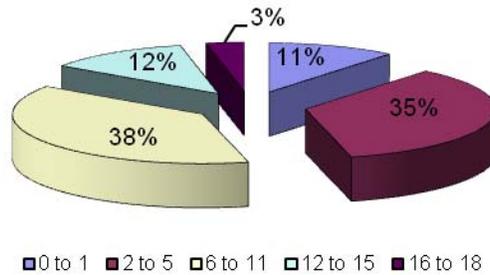
Of the children in pre-adoptive homes during the quarter, 62 percent were white and 22 percent were black.

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



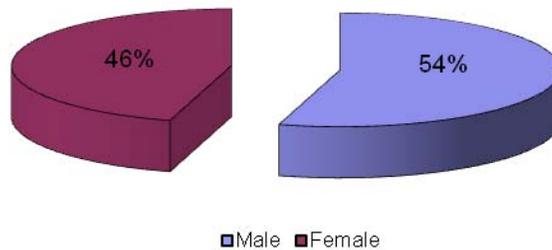
Children between the ages of six and 11 (38%) represent the largest age group of children placed in pre-adoptive homes followed by those between two and five years of age.

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



Fifty-four percent of the children in pre-adoptive homes were male and 46 percent were female. These percentages differ from the second quarter when 60 percent were male and 40 percent were female.

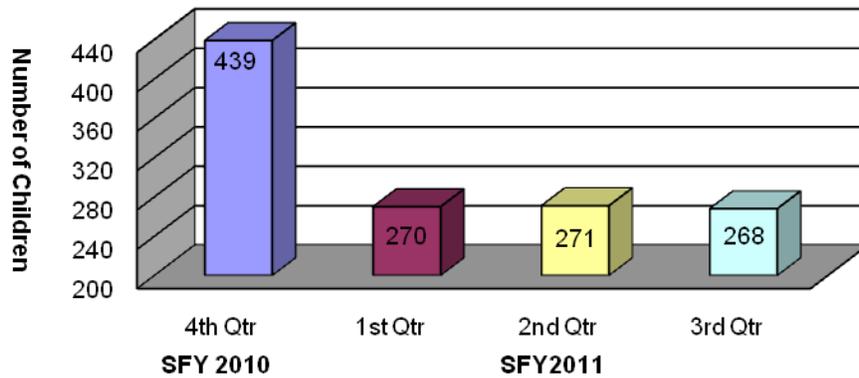
33c: Gender of Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes During the Quarter



Children not Placed in Pre-Adoptive Homes who are Available for Adoption

At the end of the quarter, there were 268 children who were available for adoption but who were not placed in pre-adoptive homes, a slight decrease from the previous quarter (271). This statistic was derived by subtracting the number of children placed in pre-adoptive homes at the end of the quarter (78) from the number of children available for adoption at the end of the quarter (346).

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 where documentation is provided by a medical professional specializing in the area of the condition for which the child is considered at risk.

During the third quarter, 98 children with special needs were in pre-adoptive placements.¹⁸

**Table 23: Children with Special Needs who were Placed in Pre-Adoptive Homes
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

Special Needs Condition	Number of Children
Race	98
Age	89
Member of sibling group	58

Characteristics of Children with Finalized Adoptions

During the quarter, 112 children had their adoptions finalized, a decrease from the previous quarter (133). The following table outlines the characteristics of the children with finalized adoptions.

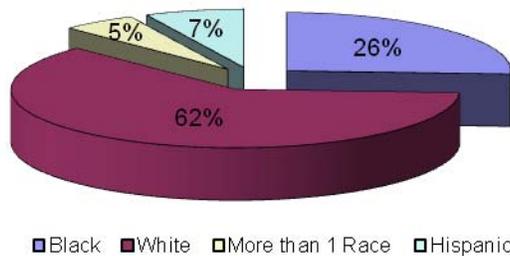
¹⁸ This number does not take into account children with severe medical and psychological needs. As enhancements are made to the data system to capture this information, it will be provided in future reports.

**Table 24: Characteristics of Children with Finalized Adoptions
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

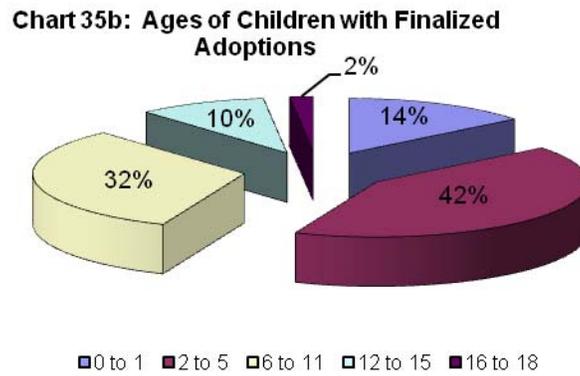
Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	4	1	0	0	0	0	2	7
	Male	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	9
2 to 5	Female	12	4	0	0	0	1	2	19
	Male	20	7	0	0	0	1	0	28
6 to 11	Female	11	6	0	0	0	3	1	21
	Male	7	5	0	0	0	2	1	15
12 to 15	Female	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	8
	Male	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
16 to 18	Female	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total		69	29	0	0	0	8	6	112

Of the 112 finalized adoptions during the third quarter, 62 percent of the adopted children were white and 26 percent were black.

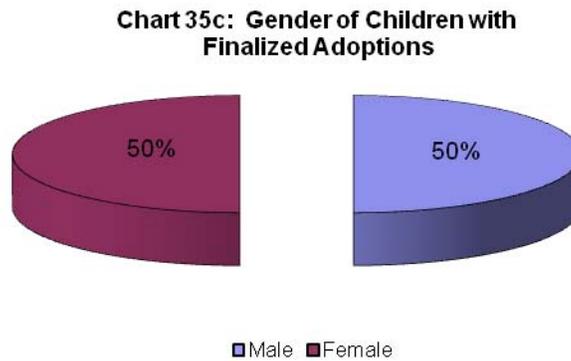
Chart 35a: Race/Ethnicity of Children with Finalized Adoptions



Children between the ages of two and five (42%) represented the largest age group of children whose adoptions were finalized during the quarter.



Of the children whose adoptions were finalized during the quarter, 50 percent were female and 50 percent were male.



Subsidized Adoptions

During the third quarter, 98 children began receiving adoption subsidies. Of those, 85 children received federally-funded subsidies and 13 received state-funded subsidies.

Characteristics of Children who Received Adoption Subsidies

During the third quarter, 4,197 children received adoption subsidies. The following table outlines the demographics of those children.

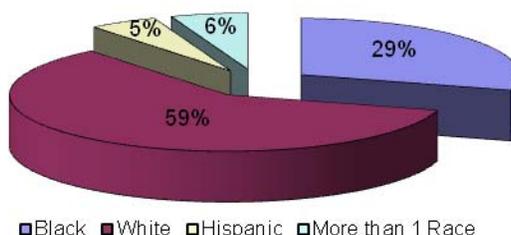
**Table 25: Characteristics of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	21	5	0	0	0	1	5	32
	Male	17	12	0	0	0	2	1	32
2 to 5	Female	251	91	2	1	0	24	37	406
	Male	258	117	2	1	0	28	31	437
6 to 11	Female	460	232	2	0	0	45	60	799
	Male	488	236	3	1	1	54	50	833
12 to 15	Female	309	194	1	4	0	23	25	556
	Male	336	155	0	0	1	19	13	524
16 to 18	Female	136	76	0	0	0	10	7	229
	Male	139	79	0	1	0	2	8	229
18+	Female	38	18	0	0	0	3	1	60
	Male	36	11	0	0	0	0	0	47
Total*		2,489	1,226	10	8	2	211	238	4,184

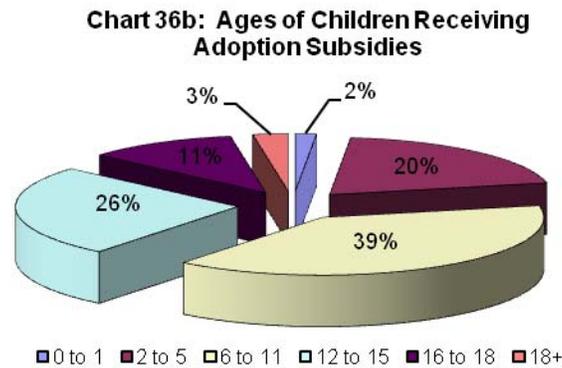
*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for 13 children.

Fifty-nine percent of the children who received adoption subsidies were white and 29 percent were black, similar to the previous quarter.

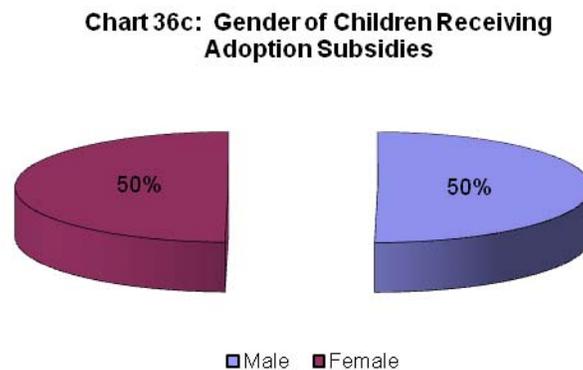
Chart 36a: Race/Ethnicity of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies



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



The gender distribution of the children was evenly split.



Pre-Adoptive Homes

At the beginning of the third quarter, 675 pre-adoptive homes were available; by the end of the quarter, 609 pre-adoptive homes were available. Fifty-nine percent of the homes available at the end of the quarter were approved to also serve as foster homes.

**Table 26: Pre-Adoptive Homes
3rd Quarter SFY 2011**

	Total Adoptive Homes	Non-Foster Adoptive Homes	Foster Adoptive Homes
Homes available for children at beginning of quarter	675	266	409
Newly available homes	86	47	39
Homes that had children placed during the quarter	82	32	50
Homes that experienced a disruption	3	2	1
Homes that closed without a placement	73	32	41
Homes available at the end of the quarter	609	251	358

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
Joshua Goff	White	1<	White	Male	1/1/2011	Physical Abuse	In Home	Family Member	CACD	None	None	None
Anna Hobbs	Lonoke	1<	Multi-Ethnic	Female	1/1/2011	Inadequate Supervision	In Home	Family Member	CACD	72-Hour Hold	Prior PS Case	FC Case
Demere Barton	Pulaski	8	Black	Male	1/29/2011	Threat of Harm	In Home	Family Member	CACD	None	None	FC Case
Ridley Bostian	Drew	1<	White	Male	2/16/2011	Physical Abuse	In Home	Family Member	CACD	None	None	PS 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
Brenden Poe	Benton	5	White	Male	2/14/2011	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
Brennon A. Morley	Fulton	3	White	Male	2/26/2011	Physical Abuse	In Home	Family Member	CACD	None	None	None
Kason Smith	Sevier	<1	White	Male	12/30/2010	Physical Abuse	In Home	Unknown	CACD	None	Prior FC Case	FC Case

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	Craighead	1<	Multi-Ethnic	Female	1/22/2011	Inadequate Supervision/Physical Abuse	In Home	Unknown	CACD	72-Hour Hold	None	Current FC Case
Child #2	Benton	1	White	Female	2/3/2011	Inadequate Supervision/Physical Abuse	In Home	Family Member	DCFS	None	None	FC Case

Unsubstantiated 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	Craighead	4	White	Male	3/13/2011	Inadequate Supervision	In Home	Family Member	DCFS	None	Prior Investigation/Prior PS Case	None

Pending Near Fatality Reports

There were no pending near fatality reports during the third quarter of 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 Third 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
Third Quarter SFY 2011**

One hundred and eighteen reports of alleged maltreatment, involving 142 children in foster care¹⁹, were received by the hotline during the third quarter of SYF 2011.

In 33 reports, involving 43 children, foster parents²⁰ were identified as the alleged offenders. As displayed by the following chart, only six of those reports were found to be true. Five of the six homes were subsequently closed and one remained open due to a court order.

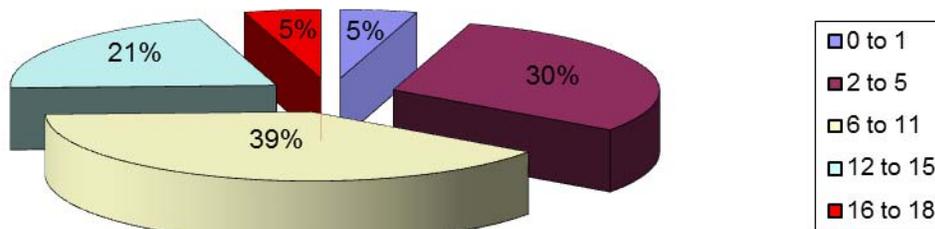
**Foster Home Maltreatment Reports
Third Quarter SFY 2011**

True	Unsubstantiated	Pending
6	27	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 43 foster children involved in allegations of maltreatment—with foster parents as alleged offenders—by age, race, gender, allegations, and location.

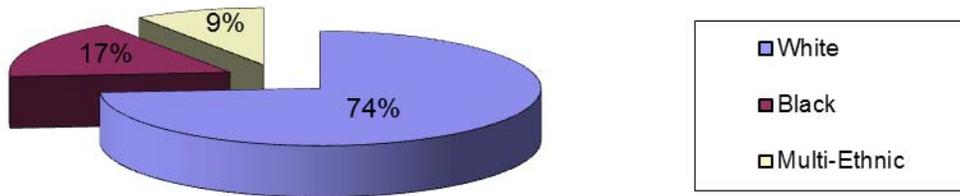
Reports by Age



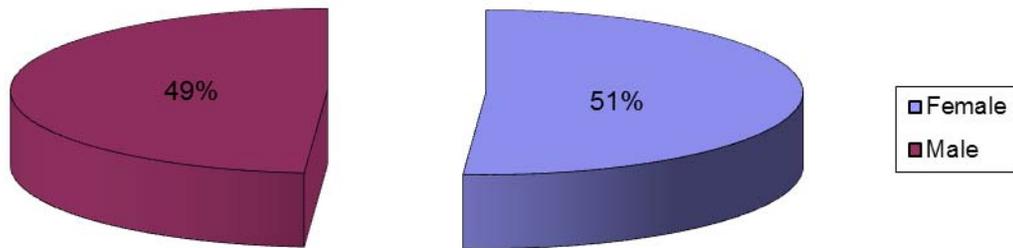
¹⁹ A maltreatment report can include more than one child.

²⁰ This includes foster family homes and therapeutic foster homes

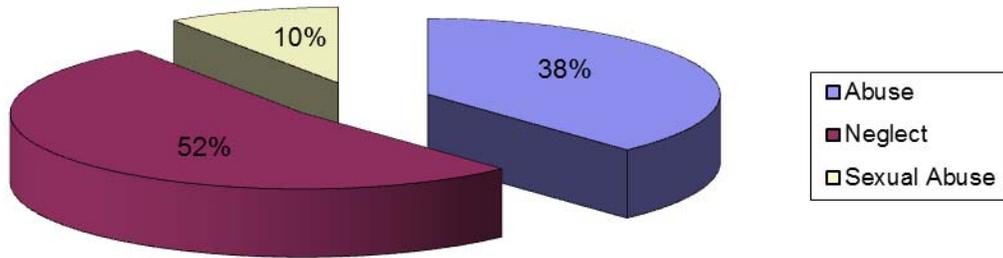
Reports by Race



Reports by Gender



Reports by Allegation



County

County	Number of Children Involved in Maltreatment Report	County	Number of Children Involved in Maltreatment Report
Pulaski	11	Saline	1
Lonoke	5	Prairie	1
Lafayette	5	Garland	1
Washington	4	Franklin	1
Polk	3	Craighead	1
Johnson	3	Faulkner	1
White	1	Columbia	1
Sharp	1	Clay	1
Scott	1	Benton	1