

SFY 2009

Quarterly Performance Report

4th Quarter
SFY 2009

(April 2009 – June 2009)



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

Produced by:
Hornby Zeller Associates, Inc.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Quarterly Performance Report (QPR) is distributed to Division of Children and Family Services' (DCFS) managers and legislative committees dealing with children and youth. The QPR for the fourth quarter of State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2009, specifically April through June 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.

There were no noteworthy areas in this section during the fourth 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 these measures.

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

- Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments

The percentage for timely initiations stood at **84 percent**, this was a decrease from the previous quarter (86%) 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 4, 7 and 8, all areas met or exceeded 90 percent compliance for Priority One initiations and 80 percent compliance for Priority Two initiations. Five areas 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, areas have established corrective action plans to help improve initiations' timelines. Corrective actions include closer immediate supervision and working overtime to initiate overdue investigations. Additionally, DCFS' Central Office has recently initiated a project that will complete and close out several of the more than 2,300 overdue investigations that have "bogged down" investigators' workloads in recent quarters, and this intensive project should lead to improved compliance as well.

- Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments

The percentage for timely completions stood at **47 percent**, a decrease of two percentage points from the previous quarter (49%) and below the goal of 90 percent.

Five of the ten DCFS Service Areas improved compliance with Priority One completions over the previous quarter, and four 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. Most areas intend to increase supervisors' involvement in overseeing and ensuring that investigations are completed timely and documented correctly, and other areas are aiming to increase compliance through a concentrated effort to further reduce a backlog of overdue investigations. Additionally, DCFS' Central Office has recently initiated a project that will complete and close out several of the more than 2,300 overdue investigations that have "bogged down" investigators' workloads in recent years, and this intensive project should lead to improved compliance as well.

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

The percentage for 24-hour initial health screenings stood at **86 percent**, an increase of four percentage points from the previous quarter (82%) but below the goal of 95 percent.

The percentage for 72-hour initial health screenings stood at **85 percent**, an increase of seven percentage points from the previous quarter (78%) but below the goal of 95 percent.

For the 24-hour screenings, five areas improved compliance over the previous quarter. All areas except Areas 3, 6 and 9 met at least 90 percent compliance, and four areas met or exceeded the 95 percent goal.

For the 72-hour screenings, seven areas improved compliance over the previous quarter, and two areas met or exceeded the 95 percent goal. Only three areas—Areas 3, 6 and 9—had compliance rates less than 85 percent.

Since overall compliance fell below the goal of 95 percent in most areas, corrective actions have been established 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, but Area Managers 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 **93 percent**, an increase of one percentage point from the previous quarter (92%) but below the goal of 95 percent.

Five of the ten DCFS Service Areas improved compliance over the previous quarter, and five areas met or exceeded the 95 percent goal. Furthermore, all but three areas—Areas 2, 5 and 9—met or exceeded 90 percent compliance.

- Foster Home Recruitment

There were 119 new foster homes recruited during the quarter, an increase from the 94 homes recruited during the previous quarter and well above the goal of 80 new homes. This represents a compliance rate of **149 percent** for the quarter.

The recruitment of foster homes has increased dramatically in recent quarters. This increase 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 last year 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. 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 fourth quarter, the percentage of children who received a visit averaged **66 percent**, which was below the goal of 85 percent. The percentage of children who received visits from April through June averaged 68 percent, 62 percent, and 67 percent respectively.

Four of the ten DCFS Service Areas increased compliance with required worker visits over the previous quarter. However, no areas met the 85 percent goal.

In order to further increase the number of required worker visits, several areas have placed a greater focus on monitoring workers' visitation schedule. Other areas also emphasized the need for their supervisors to monitor workers more closely to ensure that workers document their visits correctly and in a timely manner. Some Area Managers also noted the need to coordinate better with staff in other areas in order to visit children who have been placed outside of their home counties. In addition to these area-specific efforts, DCFS' Central Office has recently initiated a project to review approximately 1,000 Protective Services (PS) and Supportive Services (SS) cases statewide to pinpoint cases that no longer require DCFS intervention. This initiative should 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 no noteworthy areas in this section during the fourth quarter.

PART I: PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

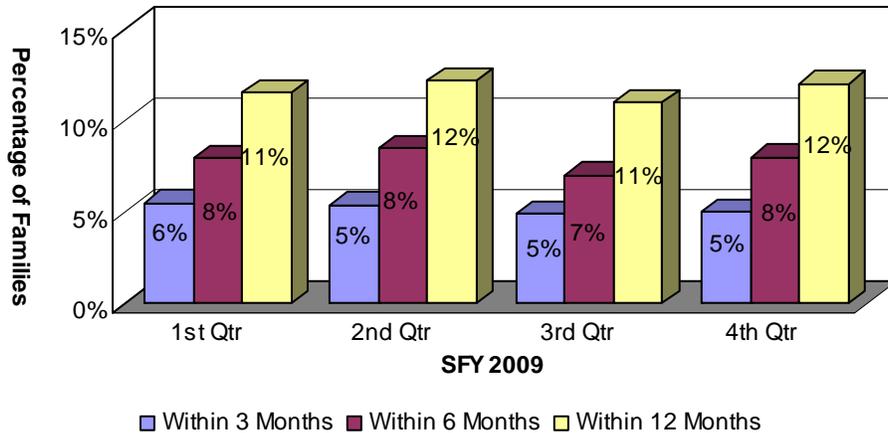
The Division has established nine performance measures to indicate achievement levels regarding its major goals in child safety, family preservation and permanency:

- 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 1,597 families involved in true reports of maltreatment during the fourth quarter one year ago, only 12 percent (191) had a subsequent true report within 12 months. Fifty-eight percent of the true reports involved both the same perpetrator and the same type of maltreatment as the initial report¹.

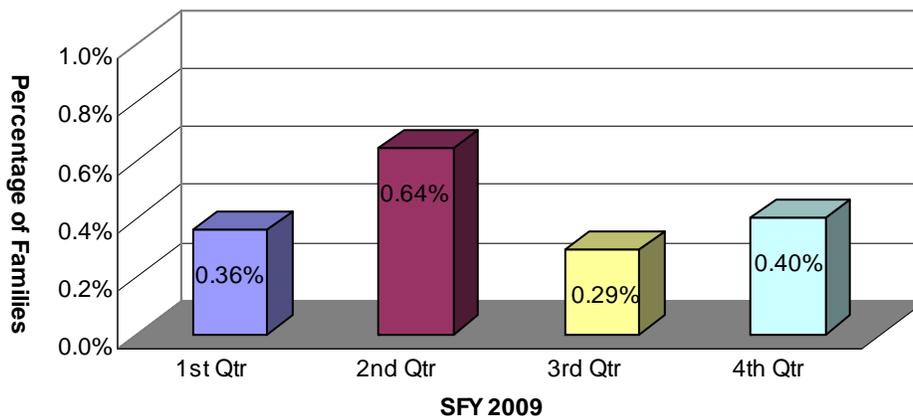
Chart 1: Recurrence of Maltreatment within 12 Months of Initial Report



Percentage of Foster Families with True Reports of Maltreatment

Of the 39 foster home maltreatment reports received during the fourth quarter, only six were found to be true. Based on the 1,486 foster homes² active during the quarter, the percentage of foster families with true reports of maltreatment was 0.40 percent.

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



¹ The remaining 42 percent of the subsequent reports were distributed as follows: No repetition of perpetrator or type of abuse – 18.32 percent; Same perpetrator only – 6.28 percent; Same type of abuse only – 17.80 percent.

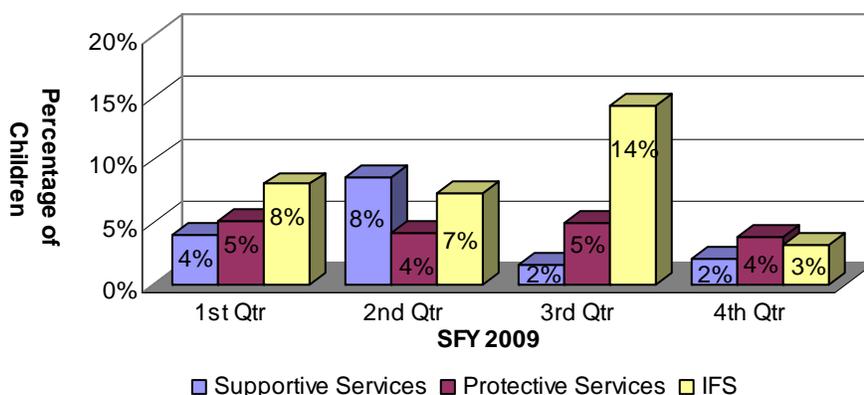
² This includes family and therapeutic foster homes.

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 249 children who began receiving Supportive Services between April and June 2008, five children (2%) experienced a true report of maltreatment within one year. Of the 3,102 children who began receiving Protective Services, 119 children (4%) were involved in a true report within one year. Of the 63 children who began receiving IFS, two children (3%) were involved in a true report within one year.

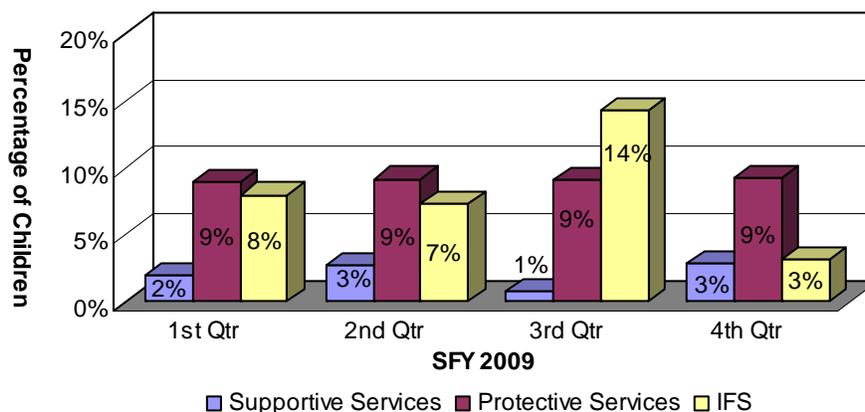
Chart 3: Children Receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or IFS who were Abused or Neglected within One Year of the Initiation of Services



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

Seven of the 249 (3%) children who began receiving Supportive Services between April and June 2008 entered foster care within one year of the initiation of these services; 287 of the 3,102 (9%) children who began receiving Protective Services entered care within one year; and two of the 63 (3%) children who began receiving IFS entered care within one year.

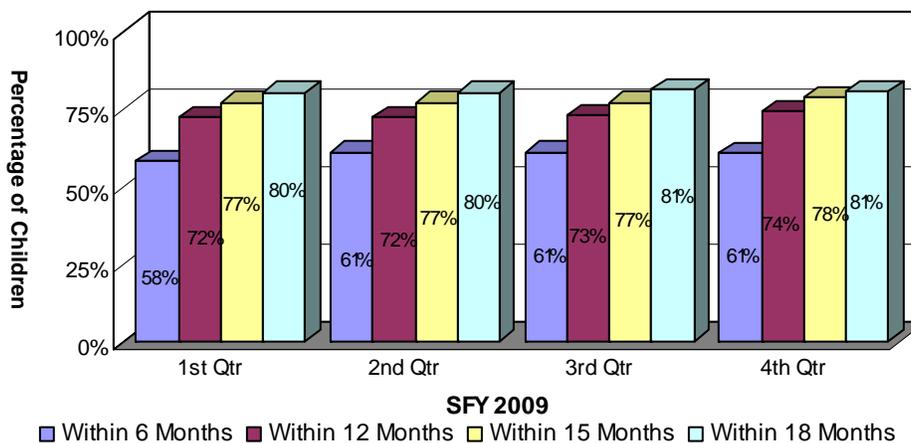
Chart 4: Children Receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or Intensive Family Services who Entered Foster Care within One Year of the Initiation of Services



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

During the quarter beginning 18 months prior to start of the current quarter, 888 children entered foster care. Of those, 715 children (81%) returned home within 18 months.

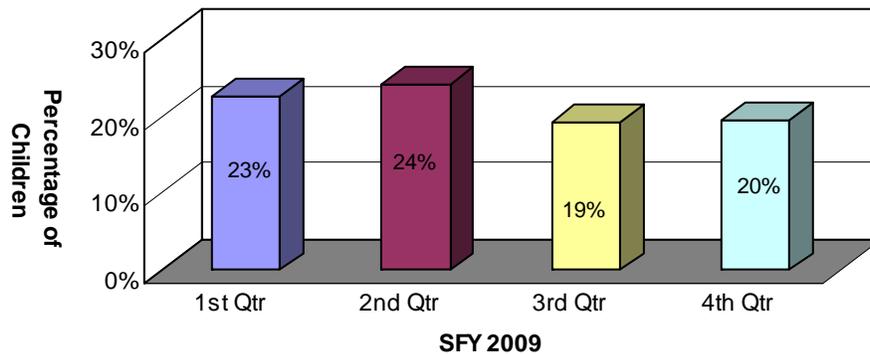
Chart 5: Children in Foster Care who Returned Home within Eighteen Months



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

Of the 943 children who entered foster care during the quarter beginning 18 months prior to the start of the current quarter, 185 children (20%) experienced three or more placements within 18 months. This was one percentage point higher than the previous quarter. Of those same 943 children, 142 (15%) experienced three or more placements within 15 months of entering foster care.

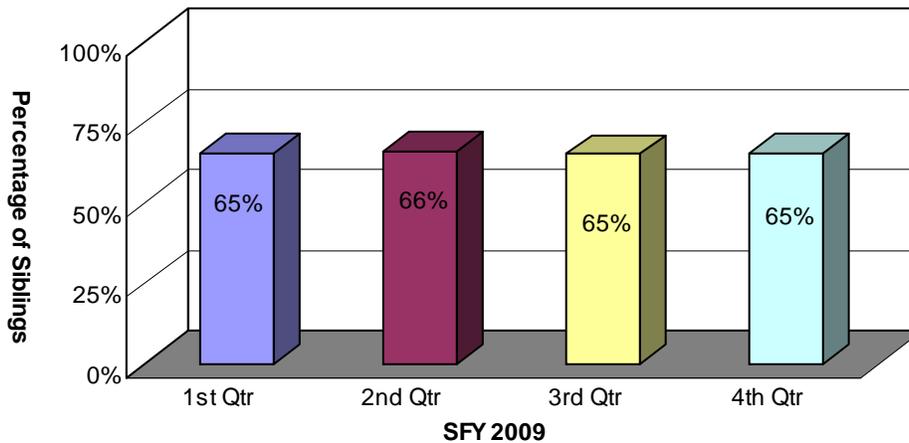
Chart 6: Children in Foster Care who have Experienced Three or More Placements within the Past Eighteen Months



Percentage of Siblings in Placement who are Placed Together

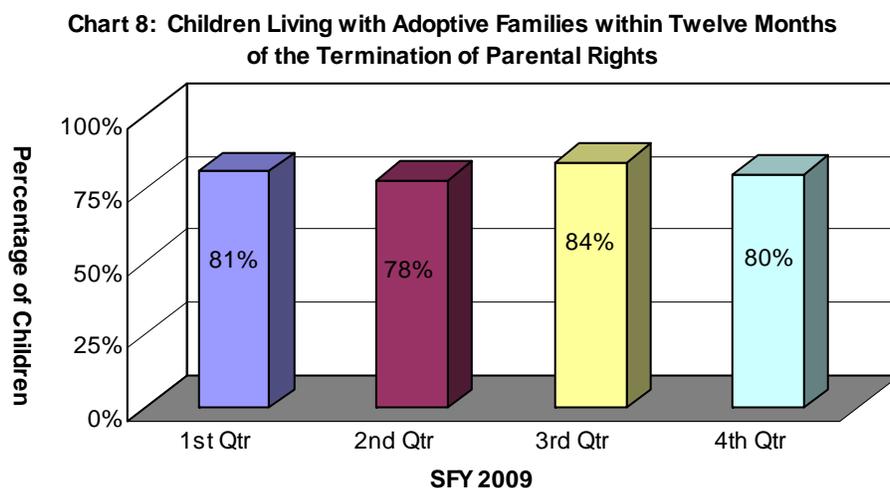
During the fourth quarter, there were 1,929 children with siblings in foster care. Of those children, 65 percent (1,261) were placed with at least one of their siblings. This percentage was the same for the previous quarter and similar to the fourth quarter ending one year ago (66%). Of those same 1,929 children, 854 (44%) were placed with all of their siblings, which was one percentage point higher than the previous quarter (43%). 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 87 children whose parents had their parental rights terminated between April and June 2008, 70 children (80%) were placed in adoptive homes within 12 months of the termination of parental rights. This was four percentage points lower than the previous quarter (84%).



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

One hundred and thirty-seven children were placed in a pre-adoptive home between April and June 2008. Of those, 113 children (82%) had their adoptions finalized within 12 months of being placed in a pre-adoptive home. This was two percentage points higher than the previous quarter, but lower than the same quarter one year ago (84%). Nine 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. Eighteen children still had adoptions pending finalization 12 months after a 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
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

Adoption Status	Number of Children
Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes	137
Finalized Adoptions	113
Disrupted Adoptive Placements	9
Children with a Disruption who were Re-placed in Pre-adoptive Homes	3
Still Pending after Twelve Months	18

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

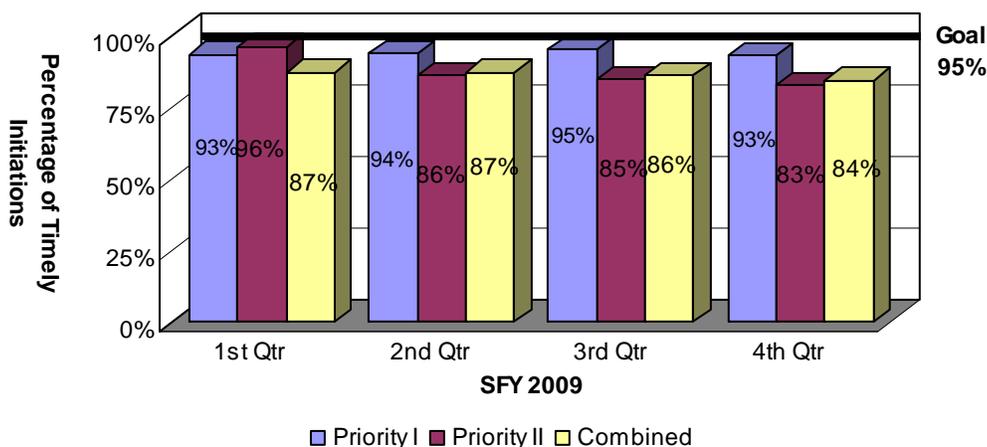
- 95%** ***Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments.*** Timely initiation means the investigator interviews or observes the victim child outside the presence of the alleged offender within 24 hours of any report of alleged severe maltreatment or within 72 hours otherwise.
- 90%** ***Timely 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 8,803 referrals for child maltreatment assessments during the quarter. Of that number, 1,064 Priority I referrals and 5,948 Priority II referrals were assigned to DCFS for investigation. Of the DCFS Priority I referrals, 990 assessments were initiated within the required 24-hour period. Of the DCFS Priority II referrals, 4,918 assessments were initiated within the required 72-hour period.³ The 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 84 percent. The combined compliance rate was two percentage points lower than the previous quarter.

As noted previously, the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) of the Arkansas State Police is also responsible for handling child abuse assessments. CACD was responsible for 1,791 of the 8,803 referrals that came in during the quarter, of which 1,616 were Priority I referrals and 175 were Priority II referrals. Of the Priority I referrals, 1,604 assessments (99%) were initiated in a timely manner. Of the Priority II referrals, 173 assessments (99%) were initiated in a timely manner.

Chart 9: Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments

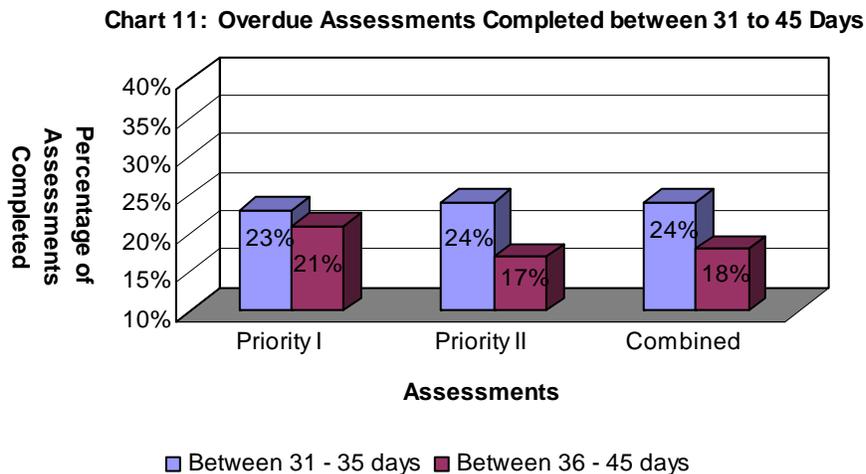
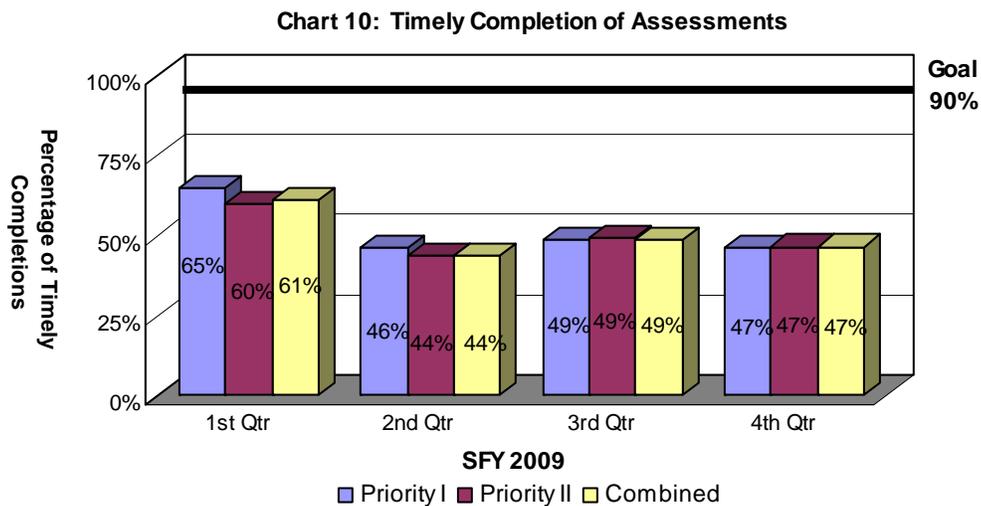


³ DCFS had 990 Priority I referrals and 4,918 Priority II referrals that were initiated in a timely manner. Of those, 162 Priority I (16%) and 1,234 Priority II referrals (25%) were considered compliant due to reasonable diligence. CACD had 1,604 Priority I referrals and 173 Priority II referrals that were initiated in a timely manner. Of those, 254 Priority I (16%) and 30 Priority II (17%) referrals were considered compliant due to reasonable diligence.

Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments

Of the 1,064 DCFS Priority I assessments initiated, 495 (47%) were completed within the required 30-day period. Of the 5,948 DCFS Priority II assessments initiated, 2,773 (47%) were completed within the required 30-day period. Of the total 7,012 assessments assigned to DCFS, 3,268 were completed in a timely fashion. These completions resulted in a compliance rate of 47 percent, which was two percentage points lower than the third quarter and below the goal of 90 percent. (See plan of action in the Executive Summary.)

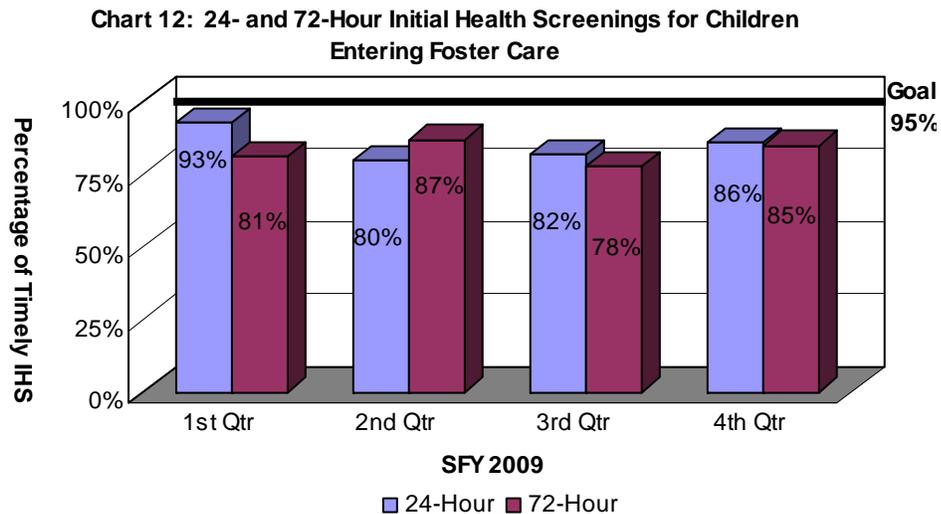
As referenced earlier, the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) of the Arkansas State Police was responsible for 1,791 of the 8,803 incoming referrals during the quarter. Of that number, 1,616 were Priority I referrals and 175 were Priority II referrals. Of the Priority I assessments, 1,353 (84%) were completed timely. Of the Priority II assessments, 134 (77%) were completed timely.



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 195 children who required the 24-hour health screening during the fourth quarter, 167 children (86%) received the screening in a timely manner. The compliance rate was four percentage points higher than the previous quarter but did not meet the goal of 95 percent.

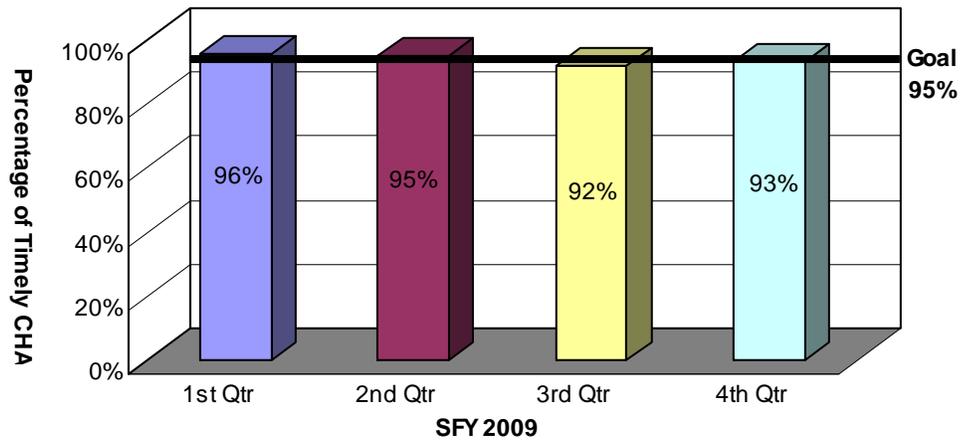
All children entering foster care who do not require the initial 24-hour health screening must still undergo an initial health screening within 72 hours of their removal. Of the 857 children who required the 72-hour health screening, 730 (85%) received their screenings in a timely manner, which was seven percentage points higher than the previous quarter but still 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 that evaluates their physical and mental health status within 60 days of entering foster care. Between January 31, 2009, and April 2, 2009, 420 children entered foster care who remained in care for at least 60 days. Of those children, 391 received their comprehensive health assessment within 60 days after entering care. The resulting compliance rate was 93 percent, which was one percentage point higher than the previous quarter but did not meet the goal of 95 percent.

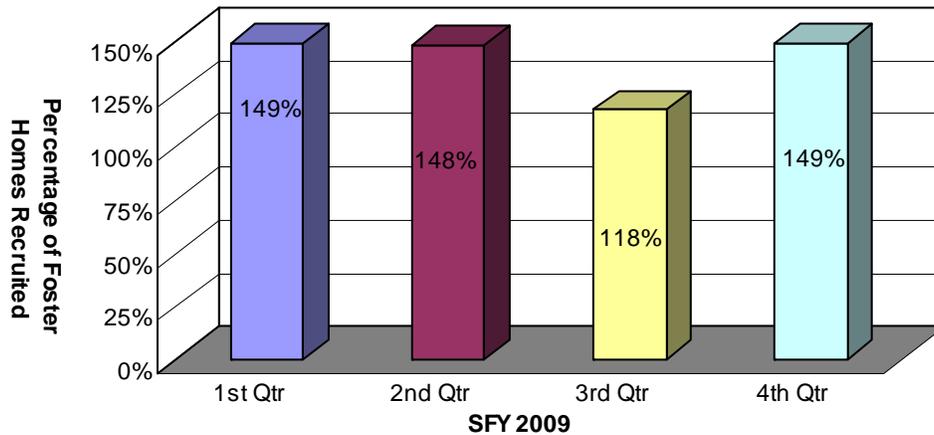
Chart 13: Comprehensive Health Assessments



Foster Home Recruitment

DCFS recruited 119 new foster homes during the fourth quarter, higher than the goal of 80 new homes. The 149 percent compliance rate was 31 percentage points higher than the previous quarter (118%).

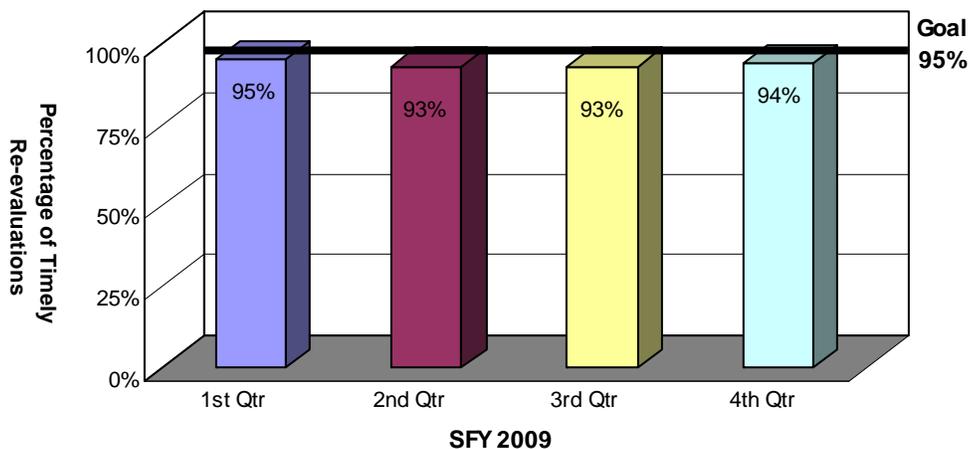
Chart 14: Foster Home Recruitment



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 1,077 foster homes active during the fourth quarter, staff completed current re-evaluations for 1,013 homes. The resulting 94 percent compliance rate was higher than the previous quarter but just below the goal of 95 percent compliance.

Chart 15: Foster Home Re-evaluations

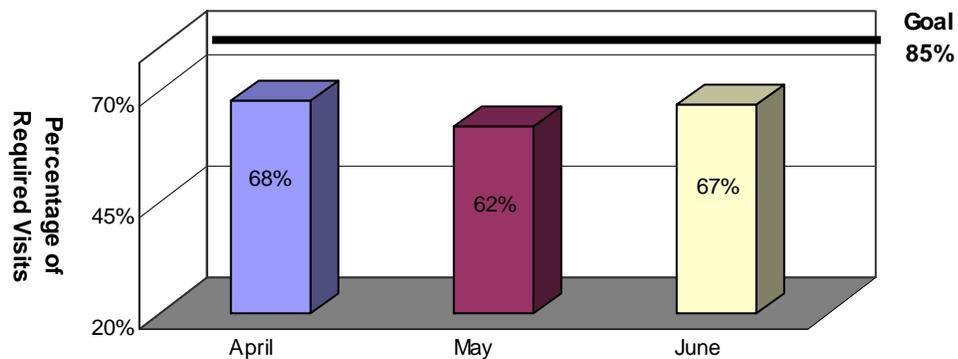


Required Visits Made by Worker

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 fourth quarter, the percentage of children who received a monthly visit averaged 66 percent from April to June , a decrease of one percentage point from the previous quarter and below the goal of 85 percent. (See plan of action in the Executive Summary.)

Chart 16: Required Foster Care Monthly Visits Made by Worker



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

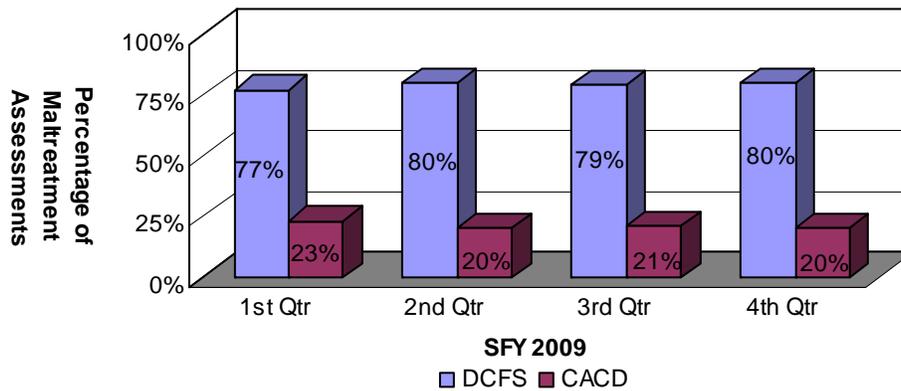
Section I: True Child Maltreatment Reports

Child Maltreatment Assessments

During the fourth quarter, 8,803 maltreatment assessments were assigned between DCFS and CACD. Of those assessments, 7,012 (80%) were assigned to DCFS. This figure represented an increase in the number of assessments assigned to DCFS from the previous quarter (7,120), and an increase assigned from the same quarter ending one year ago (6,001). This signifies a 17 percent increase in assessments assigned to DCFS compared to the quarter ending one year ago.

Of those same 8,803 assessments, 1,791 (20%) were assigned to CACD. This figure represented an increase in the number of assessments assigned to CACD from the previous quarter (1,489), and an increase in the number assigned from the same quarter ending one year ago (1,698). This signifies a five percent increase in assessments assigned to CACD compared to the quarter ending one year ago.

Chart 17a: Child Maltreatment Assessments



Of the 8,803 maltreatment assessments assigned during the fourth quarter of SFY 2009, 1,862 reports (21%) were found to be true, which was the same percentage reported during the same quarter one year ago (21%). The national percentage is 25 percent⁴. There were 2,841 victim children involved in the 1,862 true reports during the quarter, which represented an increase in the number of victim children reported during the same quarter one year ago (2,346).

Table 2: Child Maltreatment Assessments

	Total Assessments	True Assessments	Percent True
1st Qtr SFY 2009	6,659	1,435	22%
2nd Qtr SFY 2009	7,614	1,498	20%
3rd Qtr SFY 2009	7,120	1,533	22%
4th Qtr SFY 2009	8,803	1,862	21%

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, 2,841 victim children were involved in true reports during the fourth quarter. The table below outlines the demographic information for these victim children⁵.

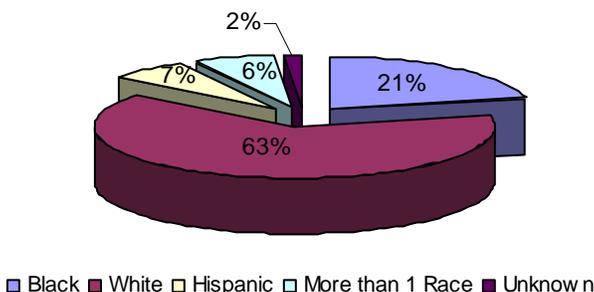
**Table 3: Characteristics of Children in True Maltreatment Reports
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	80	28	0	0	0	5	11	124
	Male	106	28	0	0	0	6	13	153
2 to 5	Female	218	73	1	0	0	19	25	336
	Male	213	64	0	0	1	25	24	327
6 to 11	Female	301	120	1	2	1	37	35	497
	Male	293	83	3	0	2	32	34	447
12 to 15	Female	257	94	0	1	1	32	20	405
	Male	143	52	0	1	1	13	12	222
16 to 18	Female	135	36	2	0	0	15	8	196
	Male	56	31	0	0	0	2	0	89
18+	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total*		1,804	609	7	4	6	186	182	2,798

*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for 43 children.

Of the children involved in true maltreatment reports, 63 percent were white and 21 percent were black.

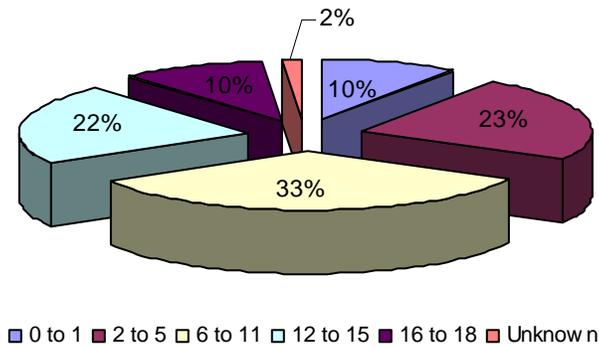
Chart 17b: Ethnicity of Children in True Reports



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).

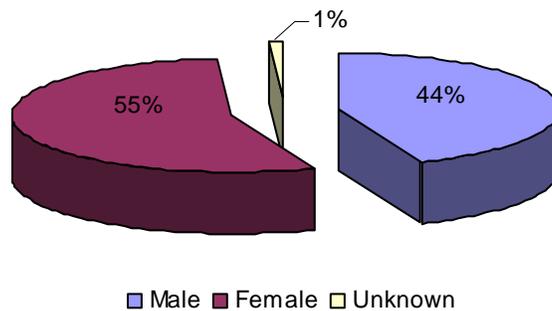
Children between the ages of 6 and 11 represent the largest group of children involved in true maltreatment reports (33%). These percentages were similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 17c: Ages of Children in True Reports



More female children (55%) than male children (44%) were involved in true maltreatment reports. These percentages were also similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 17d: Gender of Children in True Reports



Children Involved in Allegations of True Maltreatment Reports

During the quarter, the majority of the 2,841 children involved in true maltreatment reports were involved in neglect allegations (79%), followed by physical abuse allegations (41%) and sexual abuse allegations (31%)⁶.

**Table 4: Percentage of Children Involved in True Allegations of Maltreatment
3rd Quarter SFY 2009 – 4th Quarter SFY 2009**

	3rd Quarter		4th Quarter	
Neglect	1,833	80%	2,232	79%
Physical Abuse	861	38%	1,163	41%
Sexual Abuse	715	33%	894	31%

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 quarter, 4,818 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.

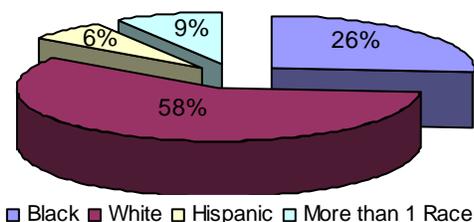
Table 5: Characteristics of Children in Foster Care During the Quarter
4th Quarter SFY 2009

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	217	96	1	1	0	23	28	366
	Male	217	102	1	0	1	21	32	374
2 to 5	Female	328	130	1	0	0	42	57	558
	Male	350	155	2	2	0	43	54	606
6 to 11	Female	335	139	1	0	0	26	40	541
	Male	360	146	0	1	0	43	61	611
12 to 15	Female	245	123	1	0	0	36	40	445
	Male	236	111	2	1	2	28	36	416
16 to 18	Female	201	106	2	0	0	27	24	360
	Male	166	72	0	0	0	11	24	273
18+	Female	71	39	1	0	0	6	7	124
	Male	81	32	0	0	1	4	8	126
Total*		2,807	1,251	12	5	4	310	411	4,800

*Demographic information had not been entered into CHRIS for 18 children.

The chart below shows that 58 percent of the children in foster care during the quarter were white and 26 percent were black. National data reveal that only 40 percent of the children in the national foster care system were white, while 32 percent of the children were black⁷.

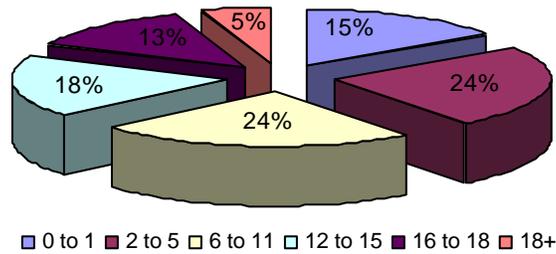
Chart 18a: Ethnicity of Children in Care During the Quarter



⁷ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2005 and 9/30/2006 as of January 2008.

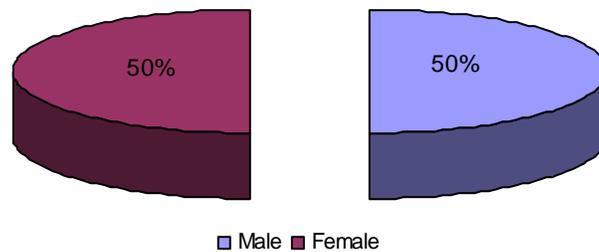
The following chart shows that children between the ages of 2 to 5 (24%) and 6 to 11 (24%) represent the largest groups of children who were in care during the quarter. These percentages are similar to the previous quarter.

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



The following chart shows that 50 percent of the children in foster care during the quarter were female and 50 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, 3,856 children were in foster care, an increase from the 3,761 children in care at the end of the third quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of the children in foster care at the end of the fourth quarter.

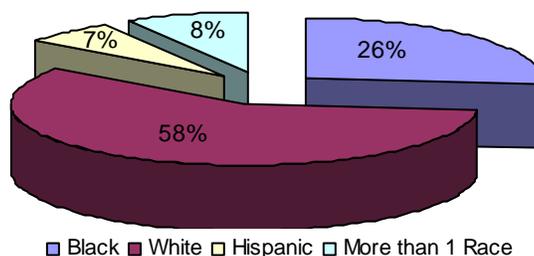
**Table 6: Characteristics of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	171	79	1	0	0	22	22	295
	Male	170	87	1	0	1	15	24	298
2 to 5	Female	240	100	1	0	0	35	42	418
	Male	269	118	2	2	0	29	41	461
6 to 11	Female	259	113	0	0	0	23	28	423
	Male	300	117	0	1	0	37	46	501
12 to 15	Female	193	94	1	0	0	26	35	349
	Male	198	95	2	1	2	24	34	356
16 to 18	Female	167	93	1	0	0	21	21	303
	Male	151	63	0	0	0	11	21	246
18+	Female	61	30	1	0	0	5	6	103
	Male	60	24	0	0	1	3	6	94
Total*		2,239	1,013	10	4	4	251	326	3,847

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

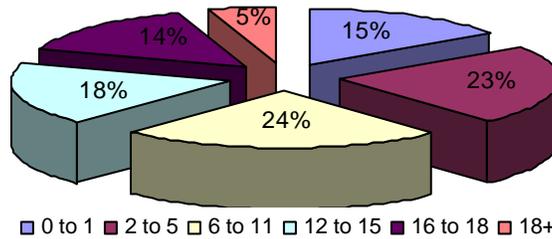
The chart below shows that 58 percent of the children in foster care at the end of the quarter were white, while 26 percent of the children were black. These percentages are consistent with the previous four quarters.

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



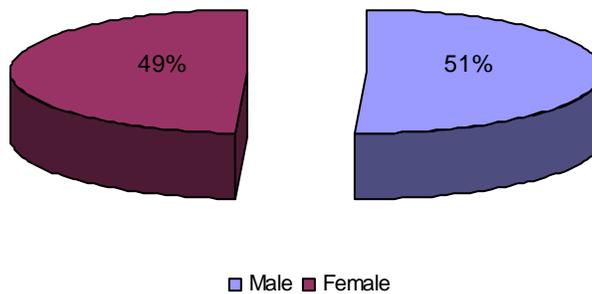
The following chart shows that children between the ages of 6 to 11 (24%) represent the largest group of children who were in care at the end of the quarter.

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 1,144 children entered foster care during the fourth quarter, a slight increase from the previous quarter (1,110).

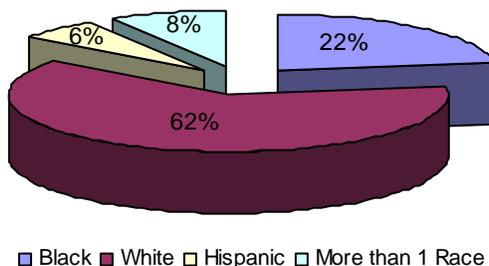
**Table 7: Characteristics of Children Entering Foster Care During the Quarter
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	75	31	1	0	0	8	10	125
	Male	76	27	0	0	0	5	15	123
2 to 5	Female	85	30	0	0	0	6	11	132
	Male	100	28	0	0	0	13	15	156
6 to 11	Female	82	33	1	0	0	5	12	133
	Male	91	34	1	0	0	9	18	153
12 to 15	Female	71	30	0	0	0	14	10	125
	Male	51	17	0	0	2	6	3	79
16 to 18	Female	47	16	1	0	0	4	0	68
	Male	30	10	0	0	0	2	2	44
Total*		708	256	4	0	2	72	96	1,138

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

The chart below shows that 62 percent of the children who entered foster care during the quarter were white, while 22 percent were black. National data indicate that 45 percent of the children who enter care are white, 26 percent are black and 19 percent are Hispanic⁸.

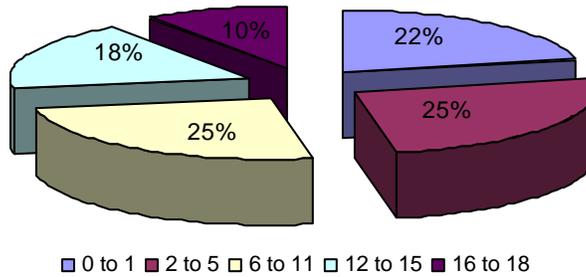
Chart 20a: Ethnicity of Children who Entered Care



⁸ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2005 and 9/30/2006 as of January 2008.

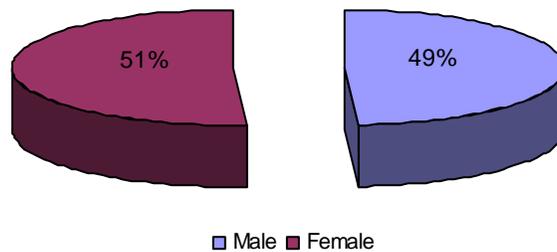
The following chart shows that children between the ages of 2 to 5 (25%) and 6 to 11 (25%) represent the largest groups of children who entered foster care during the quarter.

Chart 20b: Ages of Children who Entered Care



The following chart shows the gender of the children who entered foster care during the fourth quarter. Of the 1,144 children who entered care, 49 percent of the children were male and 51 percent were female.

Chart 20c: Gender of Children who Entered Care



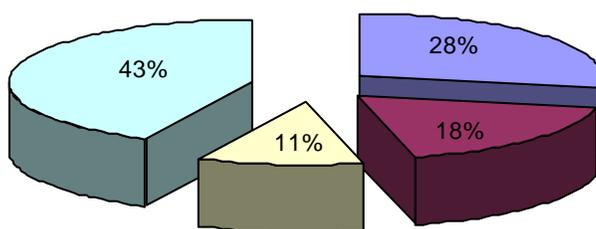
The reasons for entry into foster care during the quarter (Table 8) remained very similar to the reasons for children’s entry into care at the end of the quarter (Table 9). Neglect and substance abuse⁹ were the most prevalent reasons for children’s entry into care.

**Table 8: Reasons Children were Placed in Foster Care During the Quarter by Age
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	18+	Total
Neglect	510	589	674	446	124	2	2,345
Substance Abuse	431	401	370	269	95	0	1,566
Parent Incarceration	197	252	255	171	47	0	922
Physical Abuse	171	205	237	202	75	0	890
Child’s Behavior	0	0	83	223	114	1	421
Abandonment	44	55	87	97	66	0	349
Inadequate Housing	132	143	190	124	36	0	625
Caretaker Illness	109	95	121	129	57	1	512
Sexual Abuse	13	69	150	164	48	0	444
Truancy	0	0	40	69	26	1	136
Child’s Disability	5	8	17	16	2	1	49
Parent Death	6	6	10	14	13	0	49
Sex Offender	0	0	12	20	10	0	42
Relinquishment	4	1	4	5	3	0	17
Adoption	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Managed Mental Health	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Other	2	2	16	9	1	0	30
Teen Parent in Care	61	4	0	0	1	0	66
Total*	1,685	1,830	2,267	1,959	718	6	8,465

*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 in Care During the Quarter
were Placed in Foster Care**



■ Neglect ■ Substance Abuse ■ Incarceration of Parent(s) ■ All Other Reasons

⁹ Of the 1,566 reasons for entry attributed to substance abuse, substance abuse by children accounted for 71 reasons for entry (5%), while substance abuse by parents accounted for 1,495 reasons for entry (95%).

**Table 9: Reasons Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter were Placed in Care
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	His-panic	More Than 1 Race	Total
Neglect	1,207	441	3	1	1	114	165	1,932
Substance Abuse	824	268	1	2	0	70	104	1,269
Parent Incarceration	435	152	0	2	0	65	65	719
Physical Abuse	376	202	1	1	0	46	55	681
Child's Behavior	243	82	2	1	0	14	36	378
Abandonment	139	101	0	0	1	19	28	288
Inadequate Housing	332	133	0	0	0	20	49	534
Caretaker Illness	271	99	4	2	0	20	38	434
Sexual Abuse	210	72	3	0	2	31	17	335
Truancy	86	24	0	0	0	9	17	136
Child's Disability	29	11	0	0	0	2	1	43
Parent Death	18	9	1	0	0	3	4	35
Sex Offender	30	5	0	0	0	2	4	41
Relinquishment	7	6	0	0	0	0	3	16
Adoption	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Managed Mental Health	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other	11	14	0	0	0	0	3	28
Teen Parent in Care	14	28	0	0	0	8	4	54
Total*	4,233	1,648	15	9	4	423	593	6,925

*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, 1,022 children left foster care, which was an increase from the previous quarter (930).

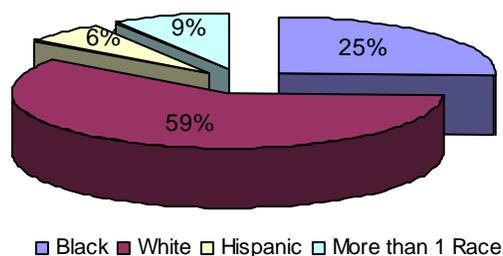
**Table 10: Characteristics of Children Exiting Foster Care During the Quarter
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	48	18	0	1	0	1	7	75
	Male	50	15	0	0	0	6	9	80
2 to 5	Female	93	35	0	0	0	9	16	153
	Male	89	40	0	0	0	14	14	157
6 to 11	Female	77	30	1	0	0	3	12	123
	Male	61	31	0	0	0	7	15	114
12 to 15	Female	55	31	0	0	0	10	5	101
	Male	41	16	0	0	0	4	2	63
16 to 18	Female	45	25	1	0	0	7	4	82
	Male	36	15	0	0	0	0	5	56
18+	Female	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	5
	Male	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	4
Total*		599	259	2	1	0	62	90	1,013

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

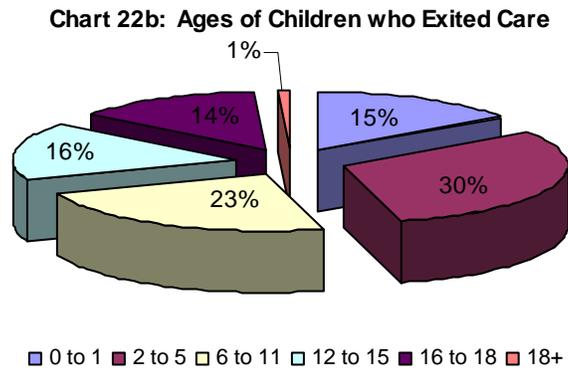
Of the 1,022 children who exited foster care, 59 percent were white and 25 percent were black. National data indicate that 46 percent of the children who leave foster care are white and 27 percent are black¹⁰. During the same quarter one year ago, 55 percent of the children who exited foster care were white, whereas 33 percent were black.

Chart 22a: Ethnicity of Children who Exited Care

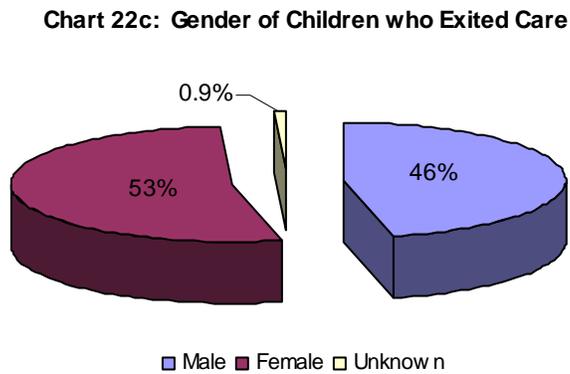


¹⁰ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2005 and 9/30/2006 as of January 2008.

The following chart shows that children between the ages of 2 to 5 (30%) represent the largest group of children who left foster care during the quarter.



Of the children who left care during the quarter, 53 percent were female and 46 percent were male.



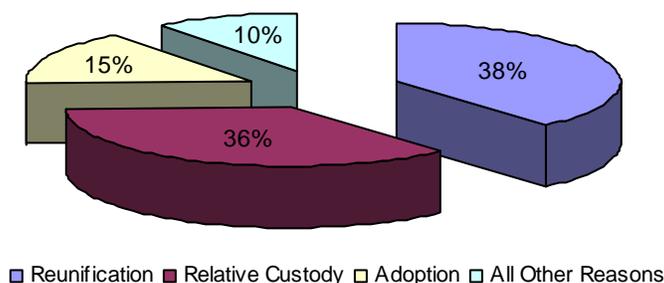
**Table 11: Reasons Children Exited Foster Care by Age
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

Reason	Age						Total
	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	18+	
Reunification	59	108	91	81	49	0	388
Relative Custody	73	104	96	63	33	0	369
Adoption	17	81	39	11	5	0	153
Child Aged Out	0	0	0	0	45	9	54
Non-Relative Custody	4	15	11	8	4	0	42
Custody Transfer	2	2	0	1	1	0	6
Emancipation	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total*	155	310	237	164	138	9	1,013

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

The most prevalent reason that children left foster care during the quarter was reunification (38%). The second most prevalent reason was relative custody (36%). National data indicate that the three most prevalent reasons children left care are reunification (53%), adoption (17%) and relative care (11%)¹¹.

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 10/1/2005 and 9/30/2006 as of January 2008.

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 fourth quarter, returning home remained the most prevalent goal among children in foster care at 52 percent. National data reveal very similar figures to the numbers shown here¹².

**Table 12: Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care
3rd Quarter SFY 2009 – 4th Quarter SFY 2009**

	3rd Quarter		4th Quarter		National
Return Home	1,898	51%	2,012	52%	49%
Adoption	838	22%	802	21%	23%
APPLA	566	15%	560	15%	N/A
Remain at Home	149	4%	156	4%	N/A
Relative Care	88	2%	75	2%	4%
Guardianship	20	0.5%	24	0.6%	4%
Emancipation	0	0%	0	0%	6%
Long Term Care	0	0%	0	0%	9%
Not Yet Established	202	5%	227	6%	6%
Total*	3,761	100%	3,856	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 10/1/2005 and 9/30/2006 as of January 2008.

Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care

For the 4,818 children in foster care during the quarter, 57 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 time¹³.

**Table 13a: Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care (Including Relative Care)
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

	Number	Percentage*	National
Less than 30 days	639	13%	5%
30-90 Days	637	13%	19%
3-6 Months	647	13%	
6-12 Months	833	17%	18%
12-24 Months	868	18%	22%
24-36 Months	487	1%	12%
36+ Months	707	15%	24%
Total	4,818	100%	100%

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

**Table 13b: Length of Stay of Children in Relative Care
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 days	24	5%
30-90 Days	74	14%
3-6 Months	104	20%
6-12 Months	132	26%
12-24 Months	94	18%
24-36 Months	55	11%
36+ Months	30	6%
Total*	513	100%

**Table 13c: Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care (Excluding Relative Care)
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

	Number	Percentage*
Less than 30 days	615	14%
30-90 Days	563	13%
3-6 Months	543	13%
6-12 Months	701	16%
12-24 Months	774	18%
24-36 Months	432	10%
36+ Months	677	16%
Total	4,305	100%

¹³ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2005 and 9/30/2006 as of January 2008.

Number of Placements of Children in Foster Care

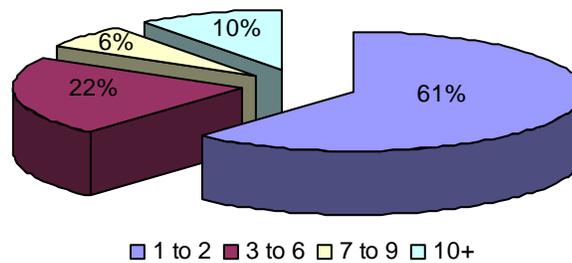
For children in care at the end of the fourth quarter, 61 percent experienced two or fewer placements, which is the same as the previous quarter.

**Table 14: Number of Placements of Children in Foster Care
3rd Quarter SFY 2009 – 4th Quarter SFY 2009**

	3rd Quarter		4th Quarter	
1-2 Placements	2,295	61%	2,367	61%
3-6 Placements	824	22%	847	22%
7-9 Placements	239	6%	250	6%
10+ Placements	403	11%	392	10%
Total*	3,761	100%	3,856	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 fourth quarter, 3,856 children were in foster care. Of those children, 2,096 experienced two or more placements while in care.

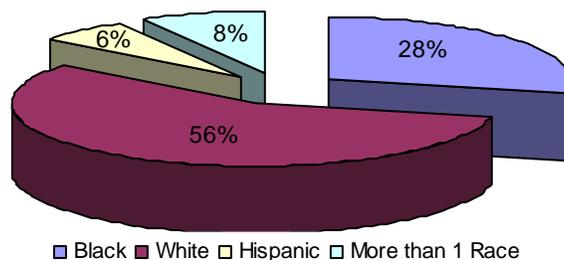
**Table 15: Characteristics of Children who Experienced Two or More Placements
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	43	16	0	0	0	7	3	69
	Male	48	25	1	0	1	3	9	87
2 to 5	Female	96	46	1	0	0	17	15	175
	Male	122	54	0	1	0	11	18	206
6 to 11	Female	140	68	0	0	0	9	15	232
	Male	171	74	0	1	0	23	25	294
12 to 15	Female	112	66	0	0	0	12	21	211
	Male	139	76	1	1	0	15	31	263
16 to 18	Female	158	98	2	0	0	18	16	292
	Male	154	73	0	0	1	10	23	261
18+	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		1,183	596	5	3	2	125	176	2,090

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

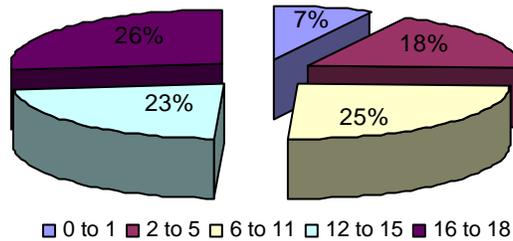
Of the 2,096 children who experienced two or more placements, 56 percent were white and 28 percent were black. These percentages are similar to the previous quarter.

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



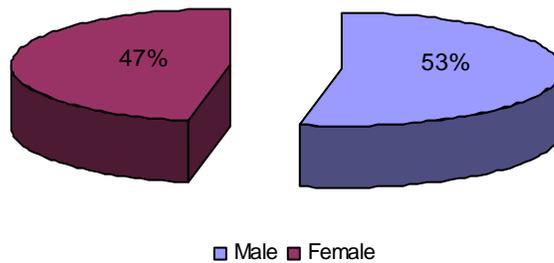
Children between the ages of 16 and 18 (26%) represented the largest group of children who experienced two or more placements.

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



More male children (53%) than female children (47%) 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

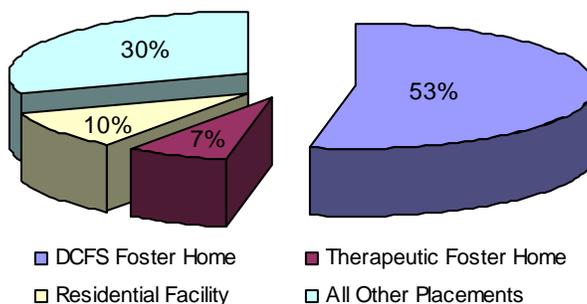
More children in foster care at the end of the fourth quarter were placed in DCFS foster homes (53%) than in any other type of out-of-home setting.

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

Placement	Age						Total
	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	Over 18	
DCFS Foster Home	442	634	459	259	172	59	2,025
Relative Care	57	77	46	26	15	5	226
Therapeutic Foster Home	1	27	122	67	40	4	261
Pre-Adoptive Home	30	50	53	18	2	1	154
Emergency Shelter	7	19	42	49	31	0	148
Residential Facility	12	20	78	120	130	31	391
Youth Services	0	0	0	10	17	5	32
Runaway	2	1	0	8	40	6	57
Trial Home Visit	34	42	74	32	17	3	202
Hospital/Medical	3	0	10	7	5	2	27
ASAP CRT	0	0	3	11	3	1	18
Independent Living	0	0	0	0	3	73	76
Incarceration	0	0	0	4	12	1	17
Temporary Placement	5	10	10	12	5	2	44
Sub-Acute CRT	0	0	24	62	38	1	125
Acute CRT	0	1	4	12	6	0	23
ASAP Residential Treatment	0	0	0	6	8	2	16
ASAP Therapeutic Foster Care	0	0	0	4	6	2	12
Unknown*	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
Total	594	881	926	707	550	198	3,856

*Unknown due to data entry after data were 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

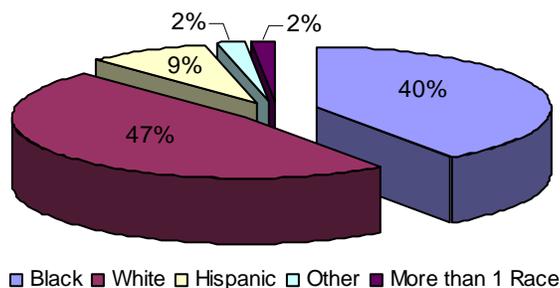
Fifty-seven children were on runaway status at the end of the fourth quarter. This is the same as the previous quarter (57).

**Table 17: Characteristics of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Quarter
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
2 to 5	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	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	3	1	0	0	1	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
16 to 18	Female	10	12	0	0	0	3	0	25
	Male	10	4	0	0	0	1	0	15
18+	Female	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	4
	Male	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Total		27	23	1	0	0	5	1	57

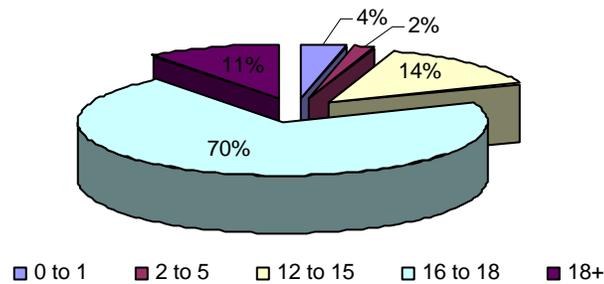
Of the children on runaway status at the end of the quarter, 47 percent were white and 40 percent were black.

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



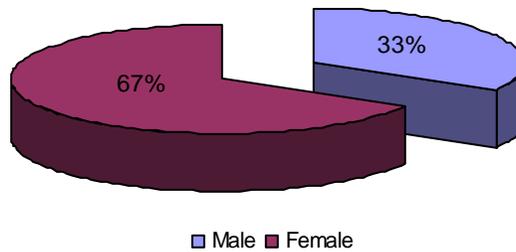
At the end of the quarter, 70 percent of the children on runaway status were between the ages of 16 and 18.

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



More female children (67%) than male children (33%) were on runaway status at the end of the quarter. These percentages differ from the end of the third quarter, when 61 percent were female and 39 percent were male.

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



Characteristics of Children in Relative Care

During the fourth quarter, 513 children were in relative care, an increase from the previous quarter (451). 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 in relative care.

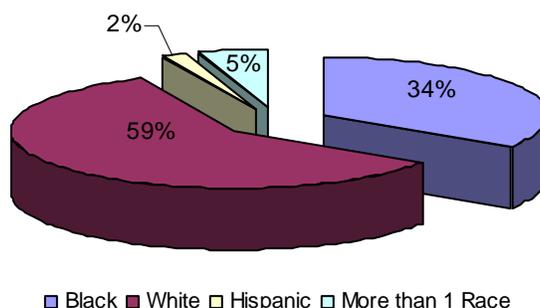
**Table 18: Characteristics of Children in Relative Care
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	34	19	0	0	0	2	3	58
	Male	31	17	0	0	0	1	6	55
2 to 5	Female	53	28	0	0	0	2	4	87
	Male	48	27	0	0	0	3	6	84
6 to 11	Female	36	27	0	0	0	1	4	68
	Male	43	17	0	0	0	0	1	61
12 to 15	Female	18	13	0	0	0	0	0	31
	Male	16	10	0	0	0	0	1	27
16 to 18	Female	14	12	0	0	0	0	0	26
	Male	6	4	0	0	0	0	1	11
Over 18	Female	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total		301	175	0	0	0	9	26	511

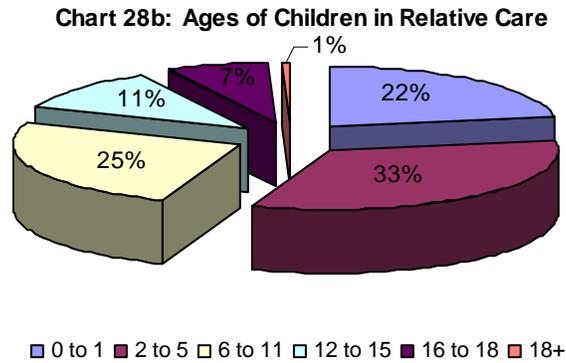
*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for two children.

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

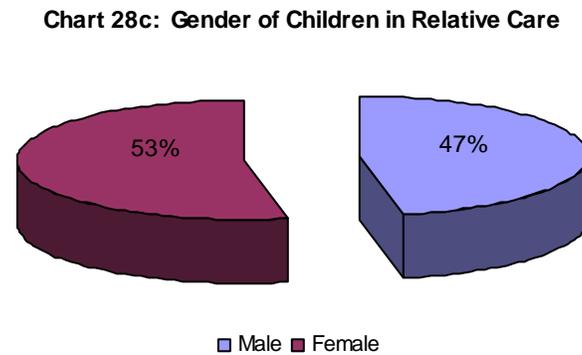
Chart 28a: Ethnicity of Children in Relative Care



Children between the ages of 2 and 5 (33%) represent the largest age group of children in relative care, followed by children between the ages of 6 and 11 (25%).



Of the 513 children in relative care during the quarter, 53 percent were female and 47 percent were male, percentages which are similar to the previous quarter.



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

Characteristics of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption During the Quarter

There were 911 children with a permanency goal of adoption during the quarter. This is a decrease from the previous quarter (928). The table below outlines those children’s characteristics.

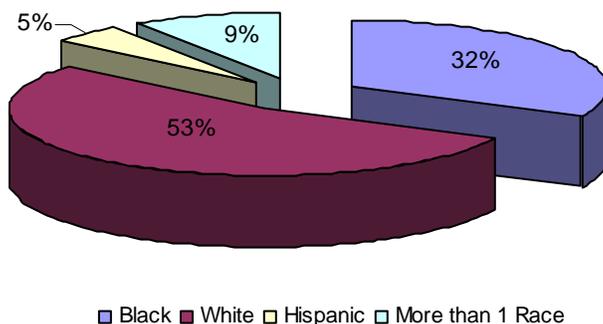
**Table 19: Characteristics of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption During the Quarter
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	16	15	0	0	0	3	3	37
	Male	20	19	0	0	0	0	3	42
2 to 5	Female	52	33	0	0	0	10	9	104
	Male	67	61	0	1	0	4	8	141
6 to 11	Female	81	40	0	0	0	3	11	135
	Male	112	47	0	0	0	11	18	188
12 to 15	Female	42	31	0	0	0	3	10	86
	Male	61	32	1	0	0	5	16	115
16 to 18	Female	20	5	0	0	0	2	3	30
	Male	15	10	0	0	0	1	4	30
Over 18	Female	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		487	293	1	1	0	42	85	909

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

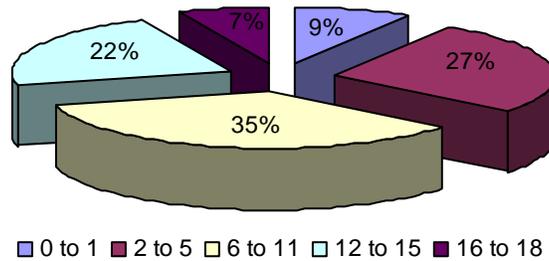
Of the 911 children with a permanency goal of adoption during the quarter, 53 percent were white, 32 percent were black and 5 percent were Hispanic. These numbers are similar to the previous quarter.

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



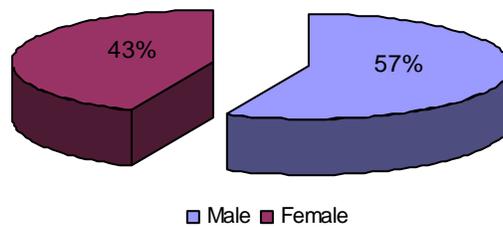
Children between the ages of 6 and 11 (35%) represented the largest group of children with a permanency goal of adoption. The age composition is similar to the previous quarter.

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



Of the 911 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 802 children with a permanency goal of adoption at the end of the quarter. The table below outlines those children’s characteristics.

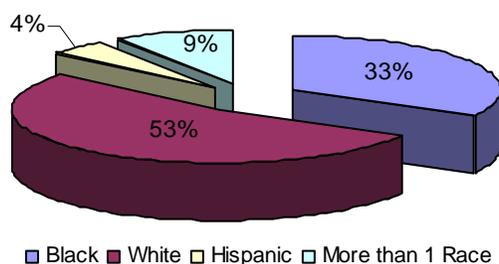
**Table 20: Characteristics of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	15	14	0	0	0	3	3	35
	Male	18	17	0	0	0	0	3	38
2 to 5	Female	39	28	0	0	0	9	7	83
	Male	51	48	0	1	0	1	5	106
6 to 11	Female	67	38	0	0	0	2	9	116
	Male	101	44	0	0	0	10	17	172
12 to 15	Female	40	29	0	0	0	3	9	81
	Male	60	31	1	0	0	5	16	113
16 to 18	Female	18	5	0	0	0	1	2	26
	Male	15	10	0	0	0	1	4	30
Over 18	Female	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total		801	264	1	1	0	35	75	801

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

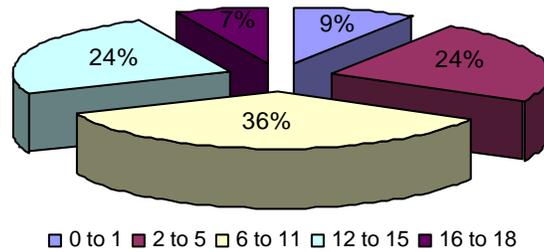
Of the 802 children with a permanency goal of adoption at the end of the quarter, 53 percent were white, 33 percent were black and nine percent were of more than one race. These percentages are similar to the previous quarter.

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



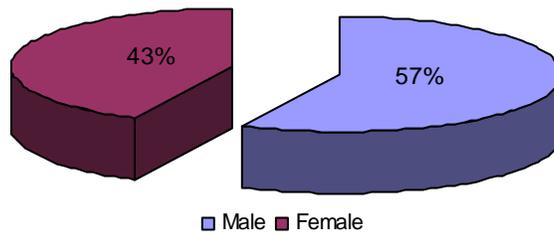
At the end of the quarter, children between the ages of 6 and 11 (36%) continued to represent the largest age group with a permanency goal of adoption.

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%) had a permanency goal of adoption at the end of the fourth quarter, 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

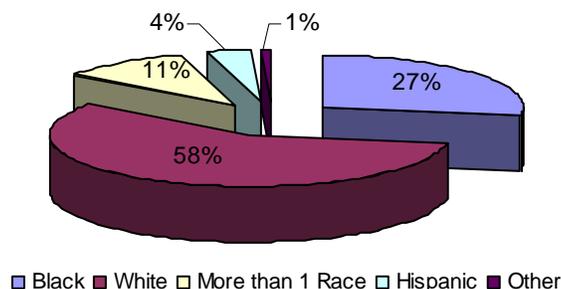
There were 113 children whose parents had their parental rights terminated during the fourth quarter. This was an increase from the third quarter (60). The table below outlines the characteristics of those children.

**Table 21: Characteristics of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated During the Quarter
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	8	3	0	0	0	0	0	11
	Male	6	1	0	0	0	0	1	8
2 to 5	Female	12	3	0	0	0	2	4	21
	Male	12	7	0	1	0	0	3	23
6 to 11	Female	9	6	0	0	0	0	1	16
	Male	11	9	0	0	0	1	0	21
12 to 15	Female	4	1	0	0	0	1	3	9
	Male	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
16 to 18	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total		65	31	0	1	0	4	12	113

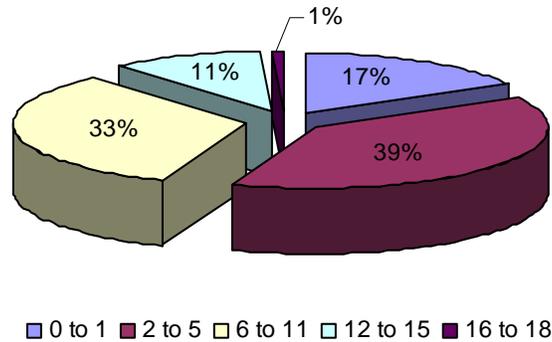
During the quarter, 58 percent of the children whose parents had their parental rights terminated during the quarter were white, 27 percent were black, four percent were Hispanic and 11 percent were of more than one race.

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



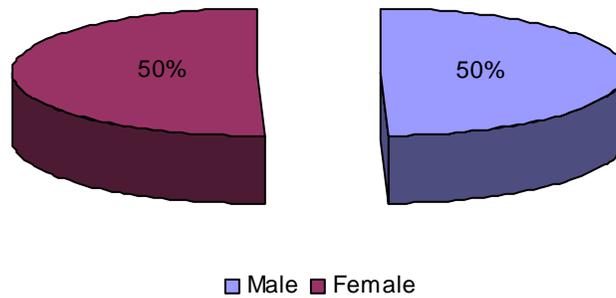
Children between the ages of 0 and 1 (33%) represent the largest group of children whose parents' parental rights were terminated during the quarter.

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



Of the 113 children that had parental rights terminated during the quarter, 50 percent of the children were male and 50 percent of the children 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 fourth quarter, 516 children were available for adoption, a decrease from the previous quarter (526). Demographic information for children available for adoption, shown in the table below, is very similar to previous quarters.

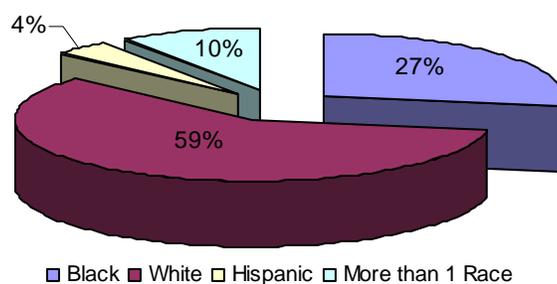
**Table 22: Characteristics of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	8	7	0	0	0	0	1	16
	Male	8	7	0	0	0	0	2	17
2 to 5	Female	22	16	0	0	0	4	5	47
	Male	37	21	0	1	0	1	3	63
6 to 11	Female	55	23	0	0	0	1	5	84
	Male	72	20	0	0	0	6	9	107
12 to 15	Female	30	18	0	0	0	2	6	56
	Male	48	20	1	0	0	3	13	85
16 to 18	Female	13	4	0	0	0	1	2	20
	Male	10	5	0	0	0	1	4	20
Total		303	141	1	1	0	19	50	515

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

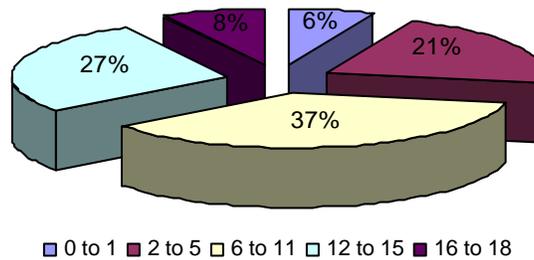
Of the children available for adoption, 59 percent were white and 27 percent were black. These percentages are similar to the previous quarter.

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



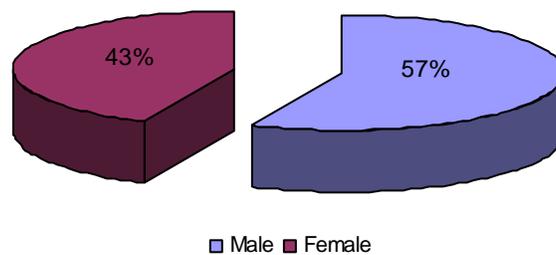
At the end of the quarter, more children between the ages of 6 and 11 (37%) were available for adoption than any other age group.

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



At the end of the quarter, more male children (57%) than female children (43%) were available for adoption. These percentages are similar to the third 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 fourth quarter, more children who were available for adoption were placed in DCFS foster homes (40%) than in any other type of placement, followed by pre-adoptive homes (17%). These results are similar to the previous quarter.

**Table 23: Current Placements of Children Available for Adoption
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

Placement	Number of Children	Percentage
DCFS Foster Home	206	40%
Pre-Adoptive Home	86	17%
Therapeutic Foster Home	102	20%
Residential Facility	65	13%
Hospital/Medical	3	0.6%
Emergency Shelter	10	2%
Temporary Placement	4	0.8%
Sub-Acute CRT	22	4%
ASAP CRT	4	0.8%
Kinship Care	4	0.8%
ASAP Residential Treatment	2	0.4%
ASAP Therapeutic Foster Care	2	0.4%
Youth Services	3	0.6%
Runaway	2	0.4%
Pre-Adoptive – Foster Parent	1	0.2%
Total*	516	100%

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

Characteristics of Children in Pre-adoptive Placements

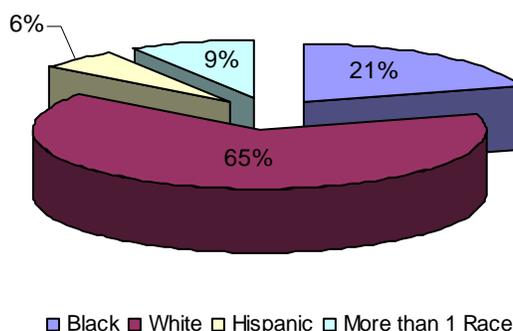
During the fourth quarter, 156 children were in pre-adoptive homes. This number includes children who could have entered pre-adoptive homes during previous quarters as well as children who were placed in pre-adoptive homes during the current quarter.

**Table 24: Characteristics of Children in Pre-adoptive Placements
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
	Male	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	6
2 to 5	Female	13	5	0	0	0	2	4	24
	Male	21	13	0	0	0	3	2	39
6 to 11	Female	23	6	0	0	0	1	3	33
	Male	21	2	0	0	0	3	2	28
12 to 15	Female	6	1	0	0	0	0	2	9
	Male	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	10
16 to 18	Female	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		101	32	0	0	0	9	14	156

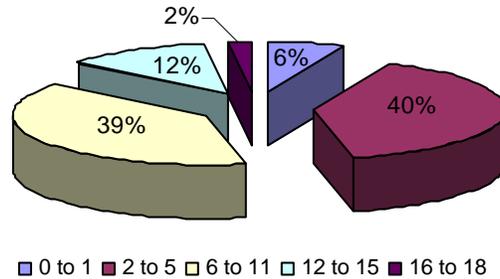
Of the 156 children in pre-adoptive homes during the quarter, 65 percent were white and 21 percent were black. These percentages are similar to the third quarter.

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



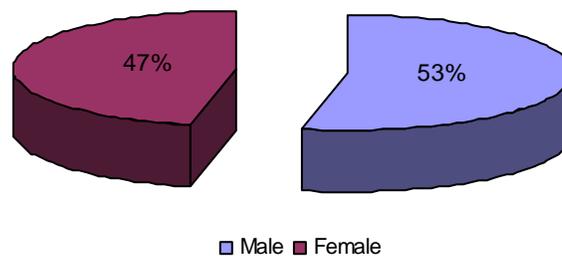
Children between the ages of 2 and 5 (40%) represented the largest group of children placed in pre-adoptive homes.

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



Of the 156 children placed in pre-adoptive homes during the quarter, 53 percent were male and 47 percent were female. These percentages differ from the third quarter when 49 percent were male and 51 percent were female.

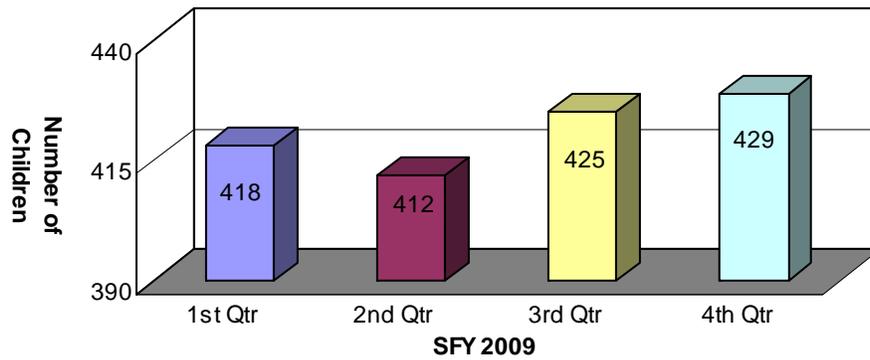
33c: Gender of Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes During the Quarter



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

During the fourth quarter, there were 429 children whose parents had their parental rights terminated but were not placed in adoptive homes, an increase from the previous quarter (425). This statistic was derived by subtracting the number of children placed in adoptive homes at the end of the quarter (87) from the number of children available for adoption at the end of the quarter (516).

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



Children with Special Needs

During the fourth quarter, 116 children with special needs were in pre-adoptive placements¹⁴. 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 25: Children with Special Needs who were Placed in Adoptive Homes
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

Special Needs Condition	Number of Children
Race	113
Age	107
Member of sibling group	72

Characteristics of Children with Finalized Adoptions

During the quarter, 170 children had their adoptions finalized, an increase from the previous quarter (116). The following table outlines the characteristics of the children with finalized adoptions.

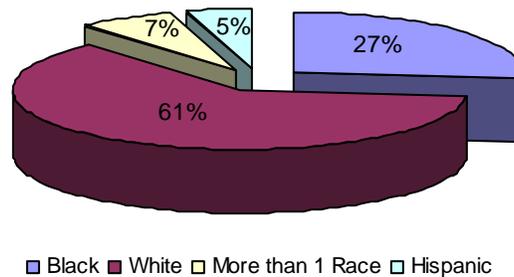
**Table 26: Characteristics of Children with Finalized Adoptions
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	5	2	0	0	0	0	3	10
	Male	4	1	0	0	0	2	1	8
2 to 5	Female	25	13	0	0	0	2	2	42
	Male	26	13	0	0	0	3	4	46
6 to 11	Female	17	8	0	0	0	0	0	25
	Male	14	6	0	0	0	0	1	21
12 to 15	Female	4	2	0	0	0	1	0	7
	Male	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
16 to 18	Female	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	5
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		104	46	0	0	0	8	12	170

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.

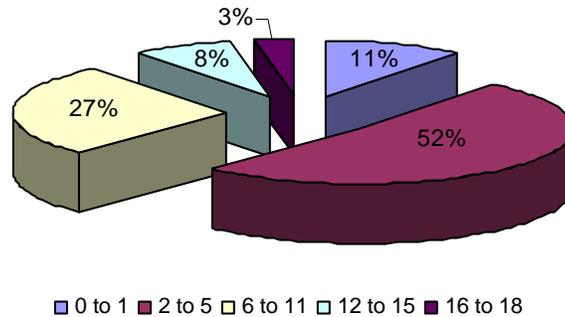
Of the 170 finalized adoptions during the fourth quarter, 61 percent of the adopted children were white and 27 percent were black.

Chart 35a: Ethnicity of Children with Finalized Adoptions



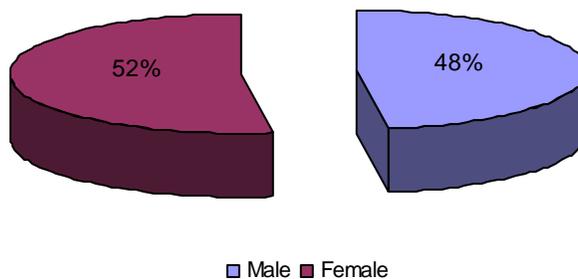
Children between the ages of 2 and 5 (52%) represented the largest group of children whose adoptions were finalized during the quarter.

Chart 35b: Ages of Children with Finalized Adoptions



During the quarter, 52 percent of the children whose adoptions were finalized were female and 48 percent were male.

Chart 35c: Gender of Children with Finalized Adoptions



Subsidized Adoptions

During the fourth quarter, 119 children began receiving adoption subsidies. Of those, 98 children received federally-funded subsidies and 21 received state-funded subsidies.

Characteristics of Children who Received Adoption Subsidies

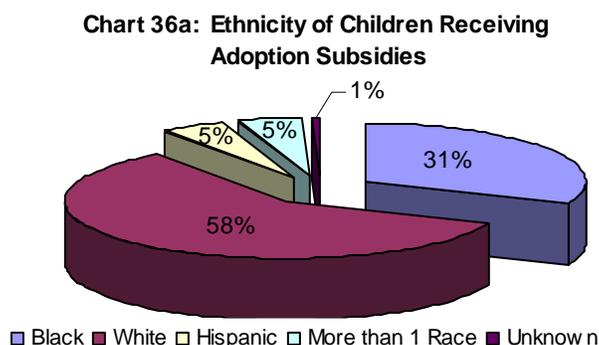
During the fourth quarter, 3,594 children received adoption subsidies. The following table outlines the demographics of those children.

**Table 27: Characteristics of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

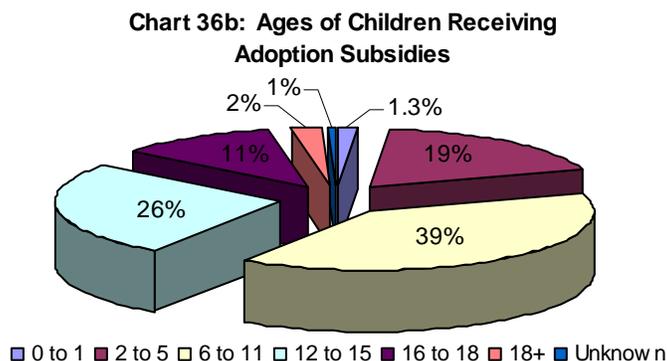
Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	14	3	0	0	0	1	4	22
	Male	12	6	0	0	0	4	4	26
2 to 5	Female	200	83	2	0	0	18	24	327
	Male	197	105	2	1	0	23	18	346
6 to 11	Female	406	233	1	2	0	39	50	731
	Male	399	204	1	0	1	43	38	686
12 to 15	Female	253	168	1	2	0	19	15	458
	Male	310	158	0	1	1	7	12	489
16 to 18	Female	130	74	1	0	0	6	5	216
	Male	129	63	0	0	0	2	3	197
18+	Female	20	13	0	0	0	2	0	35
	Male	28	14	0	0	0	1	0	43
Total*		2,098	1,124	8	6	6	165	173	3,576

*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for 18 children.

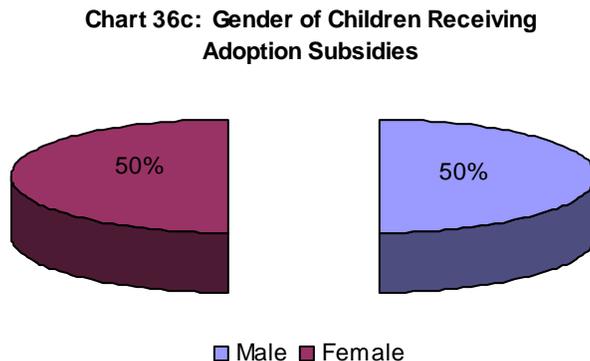
Fifty-eight percent of the children who received adoption subsidies were white and 31 percent were black, similar to the previous quarter.



The majority of the children receiving adoption subsidies during the quarter were between the ages of 6 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 fourth quarter, 656 adoptive homes were available; at the end of the quarter, 589 adoptive homes were available.

**Table 28: Adoptive Homes
4th Quarter SFY 2009**

	Total Adoptive Homes	Non-Foster Adoptive Homes	Foster Adoptive Homes
Homes available for children at beginning of quarter	656	286	370
Newly available homes	104	43	61
Homes that had children placed during the quarter	80	33	47
Homes that experienced a disruption	4	2	2
Homes that closed without a placement	95	51	44
Homes available at the end of the quarter	589	247	342