



The AFCARS Report:

Rhode Island

Preliminary FY¹ 2021 Estimates as of June 28, 2022 - No. 29

SOURCE: Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) FY 2021 data²

Numbers at a Glance: Rhode Island

Fiscal Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number in foster care on September 30 of the FY	1,846	2,003	2,200	2,140	1,823
Number entered foster care during the FY	1,263	1,323	1,111	880	777
Number exited foster care during the FY	1,017	1,107	860	917	1,059
Number served by the foster care system during the FY	2,863	3,109	3,058	3,057	2,882
Number waiting to be adopted on September 30 of the FY	317	316	358	364	283
Number waiting to be adopted for whom parental rights (for all living parents) were terminated as of the last day of the FY	108	102	107	99	84
Number adopted with public child welfare agency involvement during the FY	250	254	184	152	231

Children in Foster Care on September 30, 2021 - N=1,823

Age as of September 30th	Years	Sex	Percent	Number
Mean	8.2	Male	54%	983
Median	8.0	Female	46%	840

Age as of September 30th	Percent	Number	Most Recent Placement Setting	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	6%	117	Pre-Adoptive Home	0%	0
1 Year	8%	142	Foster Family Home (Relative)	38%	684
2 Years	7%	134	Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	30%	546
3 Years	7%	132	Group Home	11%	194
4 Years	5%	98	Institution	2%	36
5 Years	5%	92	Supervised Independent Living	1%	19
6 Years	5%	85	Runaway	1%	11
7 Years	4%	77	Trial Home Visit	18%	333

Age as of September 30th	Percent	Number	Case Plan Goal	Percent	Number
9 Years	5%	87	Reunify with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s)	73%	1,290
10 Years	4%	74	Live with Other Relative(s)	0%	4
11 Years	4%	71	Adoption	16%	280
12 Years	5%	87	Long Term Foster Care	1%	26
13 Years	5%	91	Emancipation	2%	40
14 Years	5%	92	Guardianship	2%	29
15 Years	6%	105	Case Plan Goal Not Yet Established	6%	98
16 Years	7%	131			
17 Years	7%	123			
18 Years	0%	0			
19 Years	0%	2			
20 Years	0%	1			

¹ 'FY' refers to the Federal Fiscal Year, October 1st through September 30th.

² Data from both the regular and revised AFCARS file submissions received by June 28, 2022 are included in this report. Missing data are excluded from each table. Therefore, the totals within each distribution may not equal the total provided for that subpopulation (e.g. number in care on September 30th may not match the sum across ages for that group)

Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number	Time in Care	Months
American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	7	Mean	21.3
Asian	0%	9	Median	16.7
Black or African American	14%	259		
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	2		
Hispanic (of any race)	26%	474		
White	46%	843		
Unknown/Unable to Determine	0%	7		
Two or More Races	12%	222		

Time in Care	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Month	4%	71
1 - 5 Months	18%	329
6 - 11 Months	16%	299
12 - 17 Months	13%	242
18 - 23 Months	13%	238
24 - 29 Months	11%	198
30 - 35 Months	7%	124
3 - 4 Years	14%	248
5 Years or More	4%	74

NOTE: All races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Children of Hispanic ethnicity may be any race.

Children Entering Foster Care during FY 2021 - N=777

Age at Entry	Years	Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number
Mean	6.8	American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	3
Median	6.0	Asian	0%	0
		Black or African American	13%	99
		Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	0
		Hispanic (of any race)	24%	185
		White	50%	386
		Unknown/Unable to Determine	1%	5
		Two or More Races	13%	99

Age at Entry	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	22%	173
1 Year	7%	56
2 Years	6%	43
3 Years	5%	41
4 Years	4%	32
5 Years	6%	43
6 Years	4%	31
7 Years	3%	27
8 Years	3%	26
9 Years	4%	33
10 Years	3%	22
11 Years	3%	22
12 Years	3%	26
13 Years	5%	41
14 Years	5%	40
15 Years	6%	45
16 Years	6%	43
17 Years	4%	33
18 Years	0%	0
19 Years	0%	0
20 Years	0%	0

Circumstances Associated with Child's Removal	Percent	Number
Neglect	58%	451
Drug Abuse (Parent)	30%	231
Caretaker Inability To Cope	29%	226
Alcohol Abuse (Parent)	14%	110
Child Behavior Problem	14%	108
Housing	12%	97
Physical Abuse	10%	78
Abandonment	4%	30
Child Disability	4%	30
Parent Incarceration	3%	24
Sexual Abuse	3%	23
Parent Death	2%	19
Drug Abuse (Child)	2%	17
Relinquishment	1%	8
Alcohol Abuse (Child)	0%	3

NOTE: All races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Children of Hispanic ethnicity may be any race.

NOTE: These categories are not mutually exclusive, so percentages will total more than 100% and counts will be more than the total number of entries.

Children Exiting Foster Care during FY 2021 - N=1,059

Age at Exit	Years	Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number	
Mean	8.8	American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	0	
Median	8.0	Asian	1%	6	
		Black or African American	14%	148	
		Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	4	
		Hispanic (of any race)	26%	280	
		White	48%	504	
		Unknown/Unable to Determine	0%	5	
		Two or More Races	11%	112	
NOTE: All races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Children of Hispanic ethnicity may be any race.					
Age at Exit	Percent	Number	Reason for Discharge	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	4%	40	Reunification with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s)	54%	569
1 Year	8%	84	Living with Other Relative(s)	1%	9
2 Years	8%	90	Adoption	22%	231
3 Years	8%	83	Emancipation	10%	107
4 Years	6%	63	Guardianship	12%	131
5 Years	4%	44	Transfer to Another Agency	0%	4
6 Years	5%	58	Runaway	1%	7
7 Years	3%	36	Death of Child	0%	1
8 Years	5%	51			
9 Years	4%	44			
10 Years	4%	38			
11 Years	4%	42			
12 Years	4%	41			
13 Years	3%	34			
14 Years	4%	42			
15 Years	4%	47			
16 Years	3%	36			
17 Years	5%	57			
18 Years	12%	128			
19 Years	0%	0			
20 Years	0%	1			
Time in Care	Months				
Mean	26.6				
Median	23.2				
Time in Care	Percent	Number			
Less than 1 Month	0%	5			
1 - 5 Months	7%	70			
6 - 11 Months	12%	132			
12 - 17 Months	17%	176			
18 - 23 Months	17%	175			
24 - 29 Months	12%	129			
30 - 35 Months	13%	139			
3 - 4 Years	17%	185			
5 Years or More	5%	48			

Children Waiting to be Adopted³ on September 30, 2021 - N=283

Age as of September 30th	Years	Age at Entry into Foster Care	Years
Mean	7.4	Mean	4.0
Median	7.0	Median	3.0

Age as of September 30th	Percent	Number	Age at Entry into Foster Care	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	1%	3	Less than 1 Year	33%	93
1 Year	5%	15	1 Year	7%	19
2 Years	11%	32	2 Years	6%	17
3 Years	12%	33	3 Years	6%	17
4 Years	8%	22	4 Years	8%	24
5 Years	7%	19	5 Years	7%	20
6 Years	4%	12	6 Years	6%	18
7 Years	6%	18	7 Years	6%	16
8 Years	5%	14	8 Years	5%	14
9 Years	5%	13	9 Years	4%	10
10 Years	6%	17	10 Years	4%	12
11 Years	3%	8	11 Years	3%	9
12 Years	7%	21	12 Years	2%	6
13 Years	8%	23	13 Years	1%	4
14 Years	4%	11	14 Years	1%	3
15 Years	3%	8	15 Years	0%	1
16 Years	2%	7	16 Years	0%	0
17 Years	2%	7	17 Years	0%	0

Placement Type	Percent	Number	Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number
Pre-Adoptive Home	0%	0	American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	0
Foster Family Home (Relative)	36%	101	Asian	0%	1
Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	51%	144	Black or African American	14%	40
Group Home	8%	24	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	1
Institution	0%	1	Hispanic (of any race)	30%	85
Supervised Independent Living	0%	1	White	40%	112
Runaway	0%	1	Unknown/Unable to Determine	0%	0
Trial Home Visit	4%	11	Two or More Races	16%	44

Sex	Percent	Number
Male	51%	144
Female	49%	139

NOTE: All races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Children of Hispanic ethnicity may be any race.

³ Waiting children are identified as children who have a goal of adoption and/or whose parents' parental rights have been terminated. Children 16 years old and older whose parents' parental rights have been terminated and who have a goal of emancipation have been excluded from the estimate.

Time in Care	Months	Of Children Waiting for Adoption whose Parents' Parental Rights have been Terminated (N=84), Time Elapsed since Termination of Parental Rights as of September 30, 2021
Mean	42.7	
Median	38.5	

Time in Care	Percent	Number	Time Since TPR	Months
Less than 1 Month	0%	0	Mean	18.6
1 - 5 Months	0%	1	Median	6.0
6 - 11 Months	2%	6		
12 - 17 Months	5%	13		
18 - 23 Months	6%	16		
24 - 29 Months	20%	56		
30 - 35 Months	12%	35		
3 - 4 Years	39%	109		
5 Years or More	17%	47		

Children Adopted with Public Agency Involvement in FY 2021⁴ - N=231

Age at Adoption	Years	Time Elapsed from Termination of Parental Rights to Adoption	Months
Mean	5.9	Mean	3.7
Median	4.0	Median	0.0

Age at Adoption	Percent	Number	Time Elapsed from Termination of Parental Rights to Adoption	Percent	Number
Less than 1 Year	1%	2	Less than 1 Month	65%	150
1 Year	12%	28	1 - 5 Months	23%	53
2 Years	13%	31	6 - 11 Months	4%	9
3 Years	16%	38	12 - 17 Months	4%	10
4 Years	11%	25	18 - 23 Months	0%	0
5 Years	6%	13	24 - 29 Months	2%	4
6 Years	6%	15	30 - 35 Months	0%	1
7 Years	2%	5	3 - 4 Years	0%	0
8 Years	5%	12	5 Years or More	1%	3
9 Years	3%	7			
10 Years	4%	10			
11 Years	3%	8			
12 Years	6%	13			
13 Years	2%	5			
14 Years	2%	5			
15 Years	2%	4			
16 Years	2%	4			
17 Years	2%	5			
18 Years	0%	0			
19 Years	0%	0			
20 Years	0%	1			

Race/Ethnicity	Percent	Number
American Indian/Alaska Native	0%	0
Asian	0%	0
Black or African American	11%	26
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	1%	3
Hispanic (of any race)	23%	54
White	51%	117
Unknown/Unable to Determine	0%	1
Two or More Races	13%	30

NOTE: All races exclude children of Hispanic origin. Children of Hispanic ethnicity may be any race.

⁴ Note that the adoption data reported in this section are from the AFCARS Adoption file. Therefore, the number of adoptions reported here may not equal the number reported as discharges to adoption from foster care.

Adoptive Family Structure	Percent	Number	Sex	Percent	Number
Married Couple	52%	119	Male	50%	116
Unmarried Couple	15%	35	Female	50%	115
Single Female	27%	62			
Single Male	6%	15			
Relationship of Adoptive Parents to Child Prior to Adoption			Receive Adoption Subsidy		
	Percent	Number		Percent	Number
Non-Relative	2%	2	Yes	100%	231
Foster Parent	53%	49	No	0%	0
Stepparent	0%	0			
Other Relative	45%	42			

FY 2021 AFCARS Foster Care Data Release

Definitions and additional supporting information relevant to the populations presented in this report can be found by clicking on the tabs above the area chart displayed when using this link:

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/trends-in-foster-care-and-adoption>