

WHAT'S NEW WITH KIDS?

March 2015

Child Welfare Outcomes Report and Custom Report Builder

The Children's Bureau, an Office of the Administration for Children & Families in the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, maintains a website titled Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data. It features the annual, mandatory *Child Welfare Outcomes* report.¹ Currently posted on the site is the *Child Welfare Outcome 2009-2012 Report to Congress*, which is the Department's 13th annual report. The report provides state and national data on seven child welfare outcome categories, which allows for assessment of state child protection and child welfare programs.²

Also on the website is the Custom Report Builder, which allows the user to query state and regional data that are featured in the *Child Welfare Outcomes* report, as well as updated report data.

This *Newsletter* provides two types of data available in the Custom Report Builder—child welfare-related contextual data and child welfare outcomes data. The data are from the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS). Only Nevada data are presented here.

Context Data

Contextual data help to interpret states' performance on child welfare outcomes. An example is characteristics of children waiting to be adopted.

Data retrieved from the Custom Report Builder show that in 2013, 1,471 children and youth ages 17 and under in Nevada were waiting for adoption. Table 1. Since 2010, the number of children waiting for adoption declined by 30 percent, from 2,100 children to 1,471 children. In 2013, 90 percent of the children waiting for adoption were white (39.9 percent), black (African American) (26.6 percent), and Hispanic (of any race) (23.5 percent).

Table 1. Race/Ethnicity of Children and Youth Waiting for Adoption, Nevada: 2010-2013

Racial/Ethnic Group	2010 Percent	2011 Percent	2012 Percent	2013 Percent
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.8	0.8	0.7	1.0
Asian	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.4
Black (African American)	24.4	25.7	28.0	26.6
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.5
White	39.5	39.3	40.4	39.9
Hispanic (of any race)	26.1	25.5	22.2	23.5
Two or more races	8.0	7.0	7.1	7.0
Unknown	<.1	0.0	<.1	0.1
Number	2,100	1,978	1,899	1,471

In 2013, 726 children and youth ages 17 and under in Nevada were adopted. Slightly more than 92 percent of the adoptees were white (45.0 percent), black (African American) (24.1 percent), and Hispanic (of any race) (23.1 percent) (Table 2).

Table 2. Race/Ethnicity of Children and Youth Adopted, Nevada: 2010-2013

Racial/Ethnic Group	2010 Percent	2011 Percent	2012 Percent	2013 Percent
Alaska Native/American Indian	0.6	0.5	1.2	0.4
Asian	1.2	0.4	0.3	0.8
Black (African American)	21.6	22.0	20.1	24.1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.1
White	42.1	39.6	44.3	45.0
Hispanic (of any race)	25.9	30.3	25.8	23.1
Two or more races	8.1	7.1	7.7	6.2
Unknown	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.1
Number	644	821	766	726

Source: Children’s Bureau, Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data website, Custom Report Builder query, AFCARS Foster Care File, <http://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/data/overview>, as of 3/4/15.

Child Welfare Outcomes Data

The seven child welfare outcome categories identified earlier “reflect widely accepted performance objectives for child welfare practice.”³ Data for two of the outcome categories for Nevada are presented.

Outcome: Reduce time in foster care to adoption

In 2013, 2.0 percent of the adoptions in Nevada occurred in less than a year from a child’s entry into foster care. Table 3. The percentage of adoptions occurring in less than 24 months was 25.8.

From 2010 to 2013, the number of months that children and youth waited in foster care 36 months or more prior to adoption decreased from 50.6 percent to 31.8 percent.

Table 3. Time Children and Youth in Foster Care Wait to Be Adopted, Nevada: 2010-2013

Time to Adopt	2010 Percent	2011 Percent	2012 Percent	2013 Percent
Less than 12 months	2.0	1.2	2.0	2.0
At least 12 months but less than 24 months	12.6	16.8	23.3	25.8
At least 24 months but less than 35 months	34.8	34.3	40.9	40.3
At least 36 months but less than 48 months	23.3	25.2	17.2	17.6
48 or more months	27.3	22.5	16.5	14.2
Number	644	814	750	709

Source: Children’s Bureau, Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data, website, Custom Report Builder query, AFCARS Foster Care File, <http://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/data/overview>, as of 3/12/15.

Outcome: Reduce placements of young children in group homes or institutions

The percentage of children age 11 and under who entered foster care and were placed in group homes declined from 0.5 percent in 2010 to 0.2 percent in 2013. Table 4. The percentage of children placed in institutions fluctuated during that time—5.2 percent in 2010, 6.0 percent in 2011, 5.0 percent in 2012, and 6.0 percent in 2013.

Table 4. Most Recent Placement Settings of Children Who Entered Care During the Fiscal Year and Were Age 12 at the Time of This Placement, Nevada: 2010-2013

Placement Setting	2010 Percent	2011 Percent	2012 Percent	2013 Percent
Group homes	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.2
Institutions	5.2	6.0	5.0	6.0
Other settings	94.3	93.2	94.6	93.8
Number	2,361	2,275	2,601	2,833

Source: Children’s Bureau, Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data, website, Custom Report Builder query, AFCARS Foster Care File, <http://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/data/overview>, as of 3/12/15.

To view all of Nevada and other state child welfare-related context and child welfare outcome data, visit the Children’s Bureau Child Welfare Outcome Report Data website at: <http://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/data/overview>.

Endnotes

¹The report “meets the requirements of section 203(a) of the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (ASFA). ASFA amended section 479A of the Social Security Act to require an annual report of state performance.” Children’s Bureau website, <http://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/data/overview>, as of 3/5/15.

²“Outcome 1: Reduce recurrence of child abuse and/or neglect
Outcome 2: Reduce the incidence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care
Outcome 3: Increase permanency for children in foster care
Outcome 4: Reduce time in foster care to reunification without increasing reentry
Outcome 5: Reduce time in foster care to adoption
Outcome 6: Increase placement stability
Outcome 7: Reduce placements of young children in group homes or institutions”

³“About the Child Welfare Outcomes Report,” Children’s Bureau, Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data, website, <http://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/data/overview>, as of 3/5/15.

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The views expressed in this publication are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas or the Nevada System of Higher Education.