

SFY 2008

Quarterly Performance Report

3rd Quarter
SFY 2008

(January 2008 – March 2008)



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

Produced by:
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Quarterly Performance Report (QPR) is distributed to Division of Children and Family Services' (DCFS) managers and legislative committees dealing with children and youth. The QPR for the third quarter of State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2008, specifically January through March 2008, 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 first quarter, DCFS continued its efforts toward meeting these goals. Overall, DCFS maintained a performance standard that mirrors past efforts and successes.

There were no noteworthy areas in this section during the third quarter.

Part II: Compliance Index

DCFS has set compliance measures with guidance from the House Committees on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military Affairs and the Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth. An index is compiled by reporting the level of compliance with these measures.

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

- Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments

The percentage for timely initiations stood at **88 percent**, an increase of three percentage points from the previous quarter (85%) but below the 95 percent compliance goal.

Five of the ten DCFS Service Areas improved compliance with Priority One initiations, and seven areas improved compliance with Priority Two initiations. All areas met or exceeded 89 percent compliance for Priority One initiations, and six areas met or exceeded the 95 percent goal. For Priority Two initiations, all but one area met or exceeded 80 percent compliance, although no Areas met the 95 percent goal.

With compliance in several areas falling 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.

- Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments

The percentage for timely completions stood at **62 percent**, an increase of three percentage points from the previous quarter (59%) and below the goal of 90 percent.

No areas met the 95 percent goal for timely completions. Five areas increased compliance for Priority I completions, and six areas increased compliance for Priority II 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 not only completed timely, but also documented correctly and promptly. Some areas struggle with sustaining continuity with investigations and general casework when a staff member takes an extended leave of absence. Area 5 expects to observe a dramatic improvement in compliance over the next quarter due to the recent completion of the area's overdue investigations

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

The percentage for 24-hour initial health screenings stood at **97 percent**, an increase of 11 percentage points from the previous quarter (86%) and above the goal of 95 percent.

The percentage for 72-hour initial health screenings stood at **86 percent**, an increase of five percentage points from the previous quarter (81%) but still below the goal of 95 percent.

For the 24-hour screenings, Areas 1, 7 and 10 maintained 100 percent compliance from the previous quarter. Two other areas improved compliance over the previous quarter, only one area struggled with compliance. That area developed a new system to handle Initial Health Screenings. Overall, seven areas achieved 100 percent compliance for the 24-hour screenings.

For the 72-hour screenings, seven areas improved compliance over the previous quarter. Areas 7 and 10 exceeded the 95 percent goal, and six additional areas achieved a compliance rate that exceeded 80 percent.

Although compliance fell below the goal of 95 percent, areas have established corrective actions to help remedy the barriers that prevent more timely health screenings. Several areas attributed their compliance figures to scheduling problems between workers and health care providers, but Area Managers hope that advanced planning and scheduling can improve these numbers.

- Comprehensive Health Assessments

The percentage for comprehensive health assessments stood at **91 percent**, a decrease of three percentage points from the previous quarter and just below the goal of 95 percent. Three areas improved compliance over the previous quarter.

While compliance fell below the goal of 95 percent, areas have established corrective actions to help remedy the barriers that prevent more timely health

assessments. Several areas attributed their compliance figures to scheduling problems between workers and health care providers, but Area Managers hope that advanced planning and scheduling can improve these numbers. The only area with less than 85% compliance committed to closer coordination between the assessment unit and health service workers.

- Foster Home Recruitment

There were 52 new foster homes recruited during the quarter, an increase from the 36 homes recruited during the previous quarter and below the goal of 80 new homes. This represents a compliance rate of **65 percent** for the quarter.

In order to increase foster home recruitment statewide, corrective actions include increasing the frequency of foster family inquiry meetings and other promotional efforts. Many areas have promoted the need for new foster homes by recruiting a local community organizations or civic groups. Furthermore, DCFS recently assigned a staff person to coordinate foster home recruitment statewide. 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 presently operating in Pulaski and Lonoke counties.

- Required Visits Made by Worker

During the third quarter, the percentage of children who received a visit averaged **67 percent**, which was below the goal of 85 percent. The percentage of children who received visits from January through March averaged 74 percent, 69 percent, and 58 percent respectively.

All ten areas decreased compliance with required worker visits over the previous quarter. Only Area 4 met or exceeded the 85 percent goal.

In order to further increase the number of required worker visits, most areas have placed a greater focus on monitoring workers' visitation schedule. Several areas also emphasized the need for their supervisors to monitor workers more closely to ensure that they document their visits. Additionally, the demand on existing workers continues to increase due to the growing volume of children and families requiring care.

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 third quarter.

PART I: PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

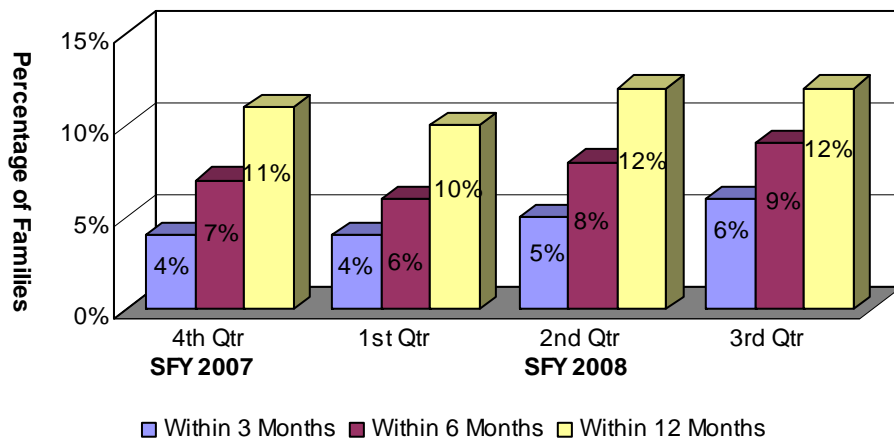
The Division has established nine performance measures to indicate achievement levels regarding its major goals in child safety, family preservation and permanency:

- 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 1,875 families involved in true reports of maltreatment during the third quarter one year ago, only 12 percent (219) had a subsequent true report within 12 months. Sixty-two percent of true reports involved both the same perpetrator and the same type of maltreatment as the initial report¹.

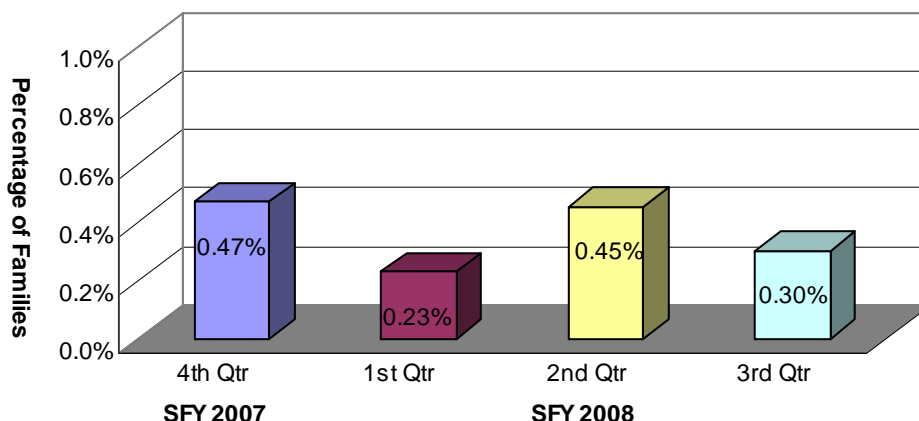
Chart 1: Recurrence of Maltreatment within 12 Months of Initial Report



Percentage of Foster Families with True Reports of Maltreatment

Of the 33 foster home maltreatment reports received during the third quarter, only three were found to be true. Based on the 1,346 foster homes² active during the quarter, the percentage of foster families with true reports of maltreatment was 0.30 percent.

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



¹ The remaining 38 percent of the subsequent reports were distributed as follows: No repetition of perpetrator or type of abuse – 11.42 percent; Same perpetrator only – 4.11 percent; Same type of abuse only – 22.37 percent.

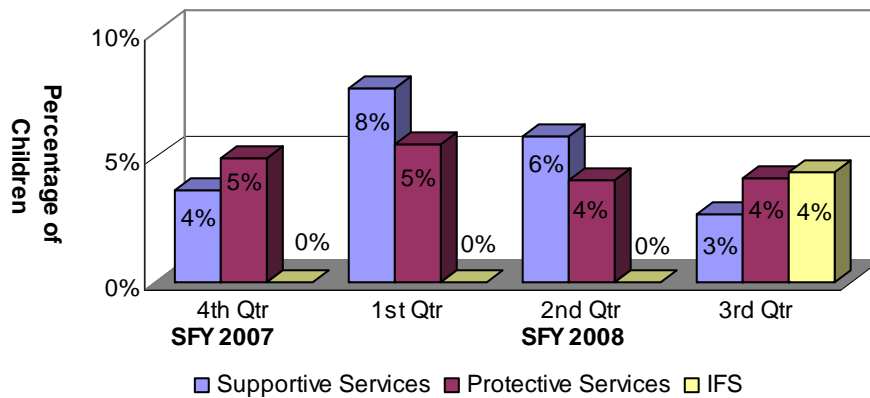
² This includes family and therapeutic foster homes.

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 185 children who began receiving Supportive Services between January and March 2007, 5 children (3%) experienced a true report of maltreatment within one year. Of the 3,310 children who began receiving Protective Services, 136 children (4%) were involved in a true report within one year. Of the 23 children who began receiving IFS, one child (4%) was involved in a true report within one year.

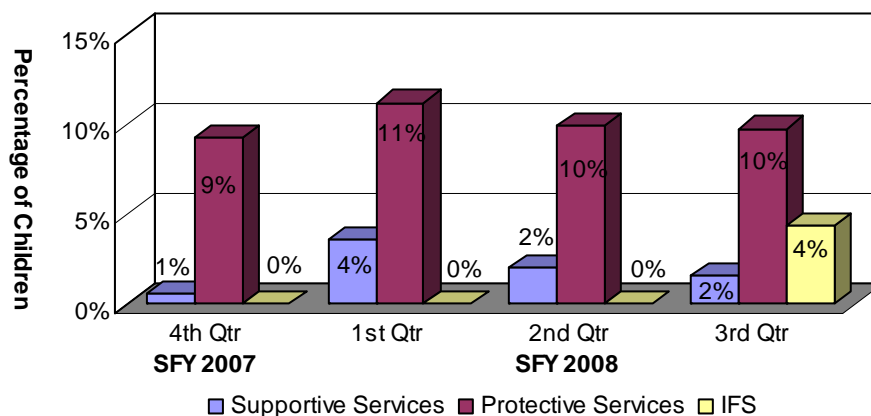
Chart 3: Children Receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or IFS who were Abused or Neglected within One Year of the Initiation of Services



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

Between January and March 2007, three of the 185 (2%) children who began receiving Supportive Services entered foster care within one year of the initiation of these services; 324 of the 3,310 (10%) children who began receiving Protective Services entered care within one year; and one of the 23 children who began receiving IFS entered care within one year.

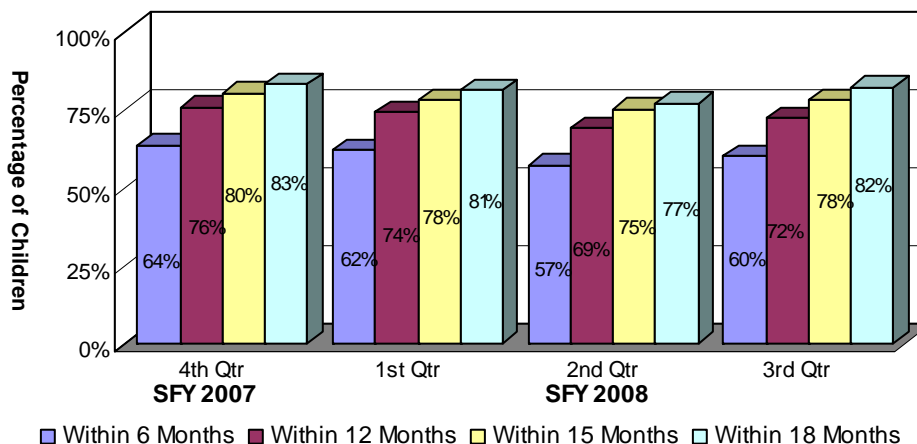
Chart 4: Children Receiving Supportive Services, Protective Services or Intensive Family Services who Entered Foster Care within One Year of the Initiation of Services



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

During the quarter 18 months prior to the current quarter, 1,014 children entered foster care. Of those, 835 children (82%) returned home within 18 months.

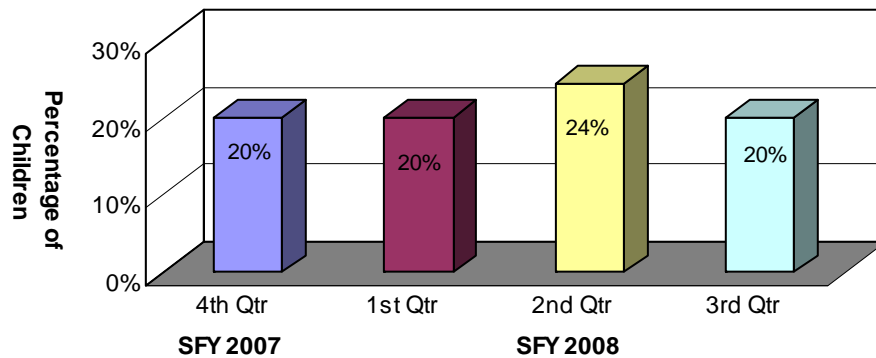
Chart 5: Children in Foster Care who Returned Home within Eighteen Months



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

Of the 1,087 children who entered foster care during the quarter 18 months prior to the current quarter, 219 children (20%) experienced three or more placements within 18 months. This was four percentage points lower than the previous quarter. Of those same 1,087 children, 173 (16%) experienced three or more placements within 15 months of entering foster care.

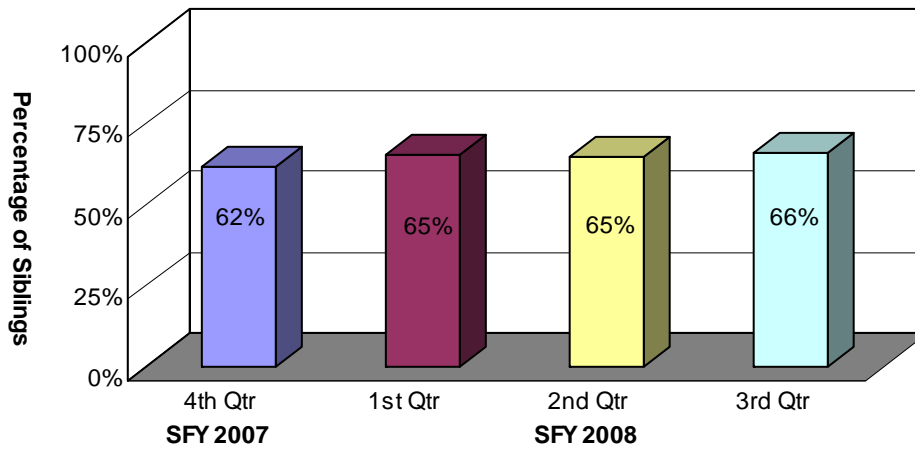
Chart 6: Children in Foster Care who have Experienced Three or More Placements within the Past Eighteen Months



Percentage of Siblings in Placement who are Placed Together

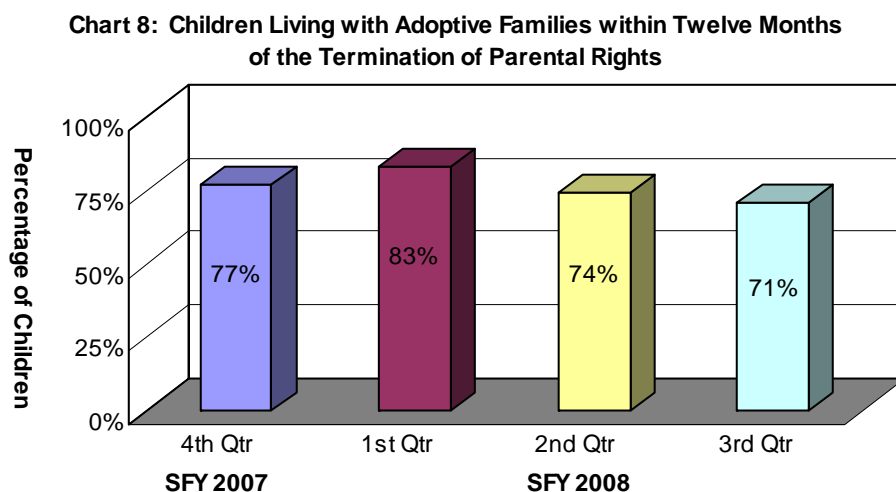
During the third quarter, there were 1,796 children with siblings in foster care. Sixty-six percent of those children (1,185 children) were placed with at least one of their siblings. This was one percentage point higher than the previous quarter (65%) and higher than the same quarter ending one year ago (65%). Of those same 1,796 children, 818 (46%) were placed with all of their siblings, which was higher than the previous quarter. These figures do not exclude children who were placed separately for valid reasons such as safety issues or court orders.

Chart 7: Siblings in Care who are Placed Together



Percentage of Children Living with Adoptive Families within Twelve Months of the Termination of Parental Rights

Of the 96 children whose parents had their parental rights terminated between January and March 2007, 68 children (71%) were placed in adoptive homes within 12 months of the termination of parental rights. This was three percentage points lower than the previous quarter.



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

Sixty-two children were placed in a pre-adoptive home between January and March 2007. Of those, 53 children (85%) had their adoptions finalized within 12 months of being placed in a pre-adoptive home. This was one percentage point higher than the previous quarter and higher than the same quarter one year ago (71%). Three children (5%) experienced disruptions, which occur 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. Eight 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
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

Adoption Status	Number of Children
Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes	62
Finalized Adoption	53
Disrupted Adoptive Placements	3
Children with a Disruption who were Re-placed in Pre-adoptive Homes	2
Still Pending after Twelve Months	8

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

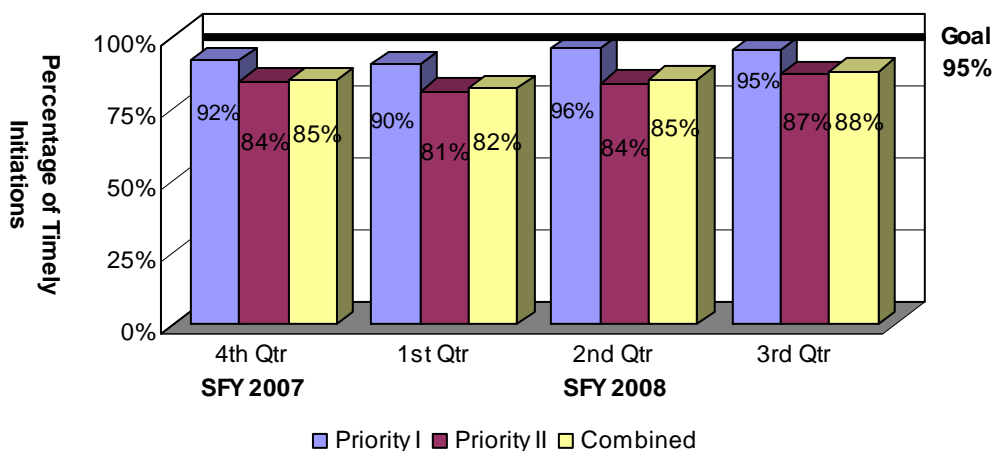
- 95%** ***Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments.*** Timely initiation means the investigator interviews or observes the victim child outside the presence of the alleged offender within 24 hours of any report of alleged severe maltreatment or within 72 hours otherwise.
- 90%** ***Timely 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 6,407 referrals for child maltreatment assessments during the quarter. Of that number, 586 Priority I referrals and 4,384 Priority II referrals were assigned to DCFS for investigation. Of the DCFS Priority I referrals, 558 assessments were initiated within the required 24-hour period. Of the DCFS Priority II referrals, 3,802 assessments were initiated within the required 72-hour period.³ The compliance rate was 95 percent for DCFS Priority I initiations and 87 percent for Priority II initiations, which resulted in a combined compliance rate of 88 percent. The combined compliance rate was three percentage points higher 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 1,437 of the 6,407 referrals that came in during the quarter, of which 1,287 were Priority I referrals and 150 were Priority II referrals. Of the Priority I referrals, 1,265 assessments (98%) were initiated in a timely manner. Of the Priority II referrals, 143 assessments (95%) were initiated in a timely manner.

Chart 9: Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments

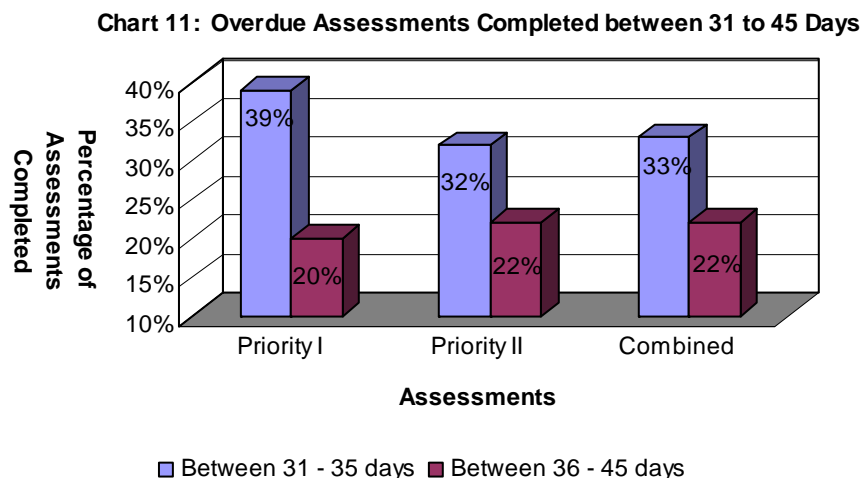
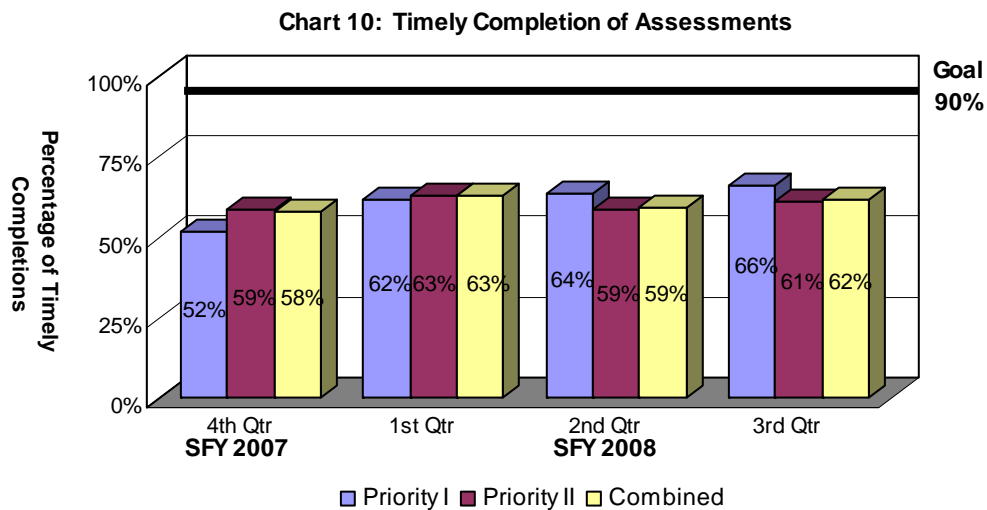


³ DCFS had 558 Priority I referrals and 3,802 Priority II referrals that were initiated in a timely manner. Of those, 81 Priority I (15%) and 980 Priority II referrals (26%) were considered compliant due to reasonable diligence. CACD had 1,265 Priority I referrals and 143 Priority II referrals that were initiated in a timely manner. Of those, 206 Priority I (16%) and 24 Priority II (17%) referrals were considered compliant due to reasonable diligence.

Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments

Of the 586 DCFS Priority I assessments initiated, 389 (66%) were completed within the required 30-day period. Of the 4,384 DCFS Priority II assessments initiated, 2,684 (61%) were completed within the required 30-day period. Of the total 4,970 assessments assigned to DCFS, 3,073 were completed in a timely fashion. These completions resulted in a compliance rate of 62 percent, which was three percentage points higher than the second quarter and below the goal of 90 percent. (See plan of action in the Executive Summary.)

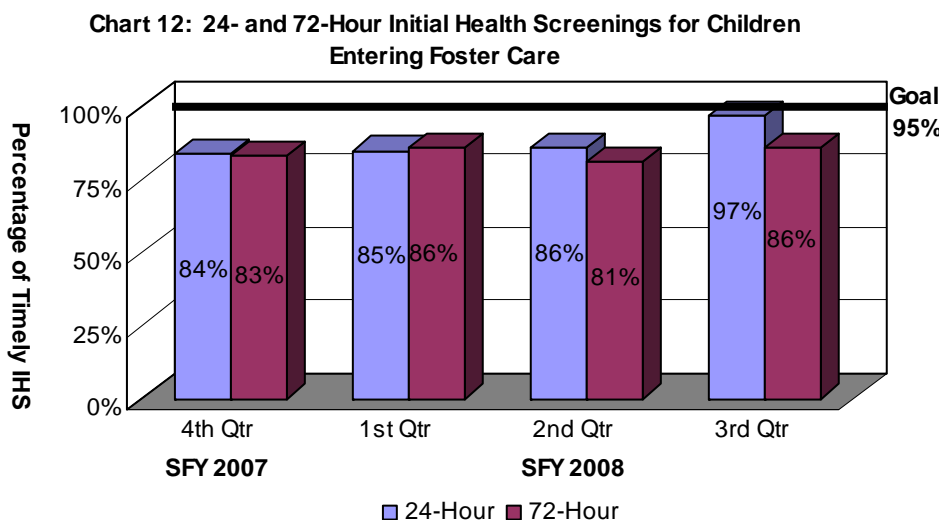
As referenced earlier, the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) of the Arkansas State Police was responsible for 1,437 of the 6,407 incoming referrals during the quarter. Of that number, 1,287 were Priority I referrals and 150 were Priority II referrals. Of the Priority I assessments, 1,016 (79%) were completed timely. Of the Priority II assessments, 112 (75%) 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 136 children who required the 24-hour health screening during the third quarter, 132 children (97%) received the screening in a timely manner. The compliance rate was eleven percentage points higher than the previous quarter and met the goal of 95 percent.

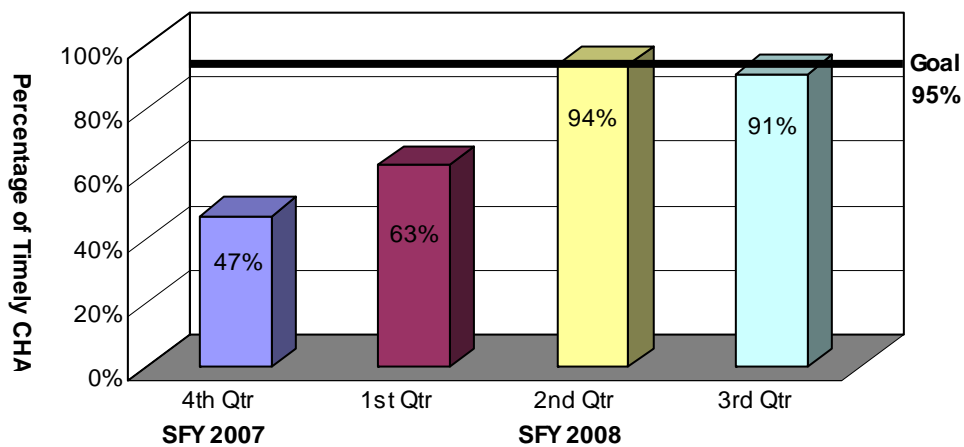
All children entering foster care who do not require the initial 24-hour health screening must still undergo an initial health screening within 72 hours of their removal. Of the 709 children who required the 72-hour health screening, 612 (86%) received their screenings in a timely manner, which was five percentage points higher than the previous quarter but did not meet 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 November 2, 2007, and January 2, 2008, 226 children entered foster care who remained in care for at least 60 days. Of those children, 206 received their comprehensive health assessment within 60 days after entering care. The resulting compliance rate was 91 percent, which was three percentage points lower than the previous quarter but below the goal of 95 percent. (See plan of action in the Executive Summary.)

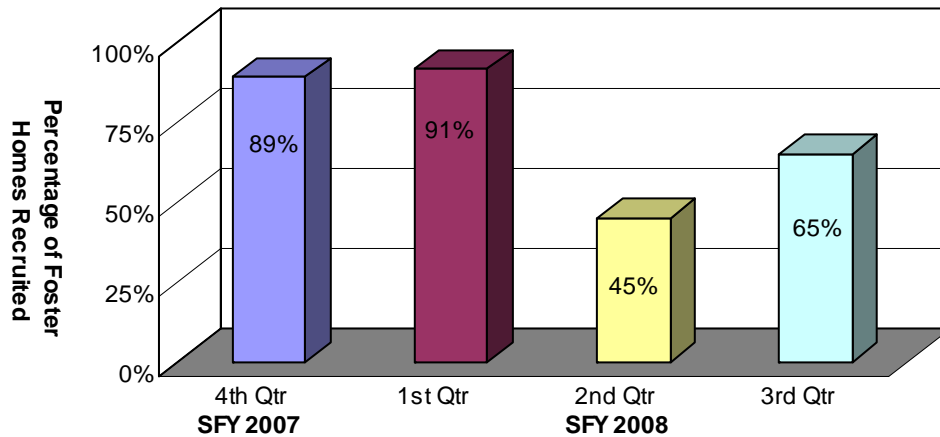
Chart 13: Comprehensive Health Assessments



Foster Home Recruitment

DCFS recruited 52 new foster homes during the third quarter, fewer than the goal of 80 new homes. The 65 percent compliance rate was 20 percentage points higher than the previous quarter (45%).

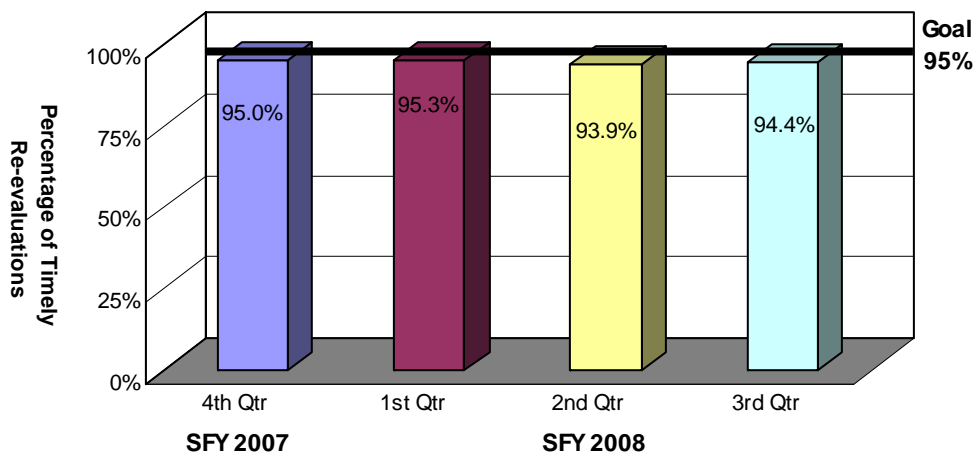
Chart 14: Foster Home Recruitment



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 1,025 foster homes active during the third quarter, staff completed current re-evaluations for 968 homes. The resulting 94.4 percent compliance rate was higher than the previous quarter but did not meet the goal of 95 percent compliance.

Chart 15: Foster Home Re-evaluations

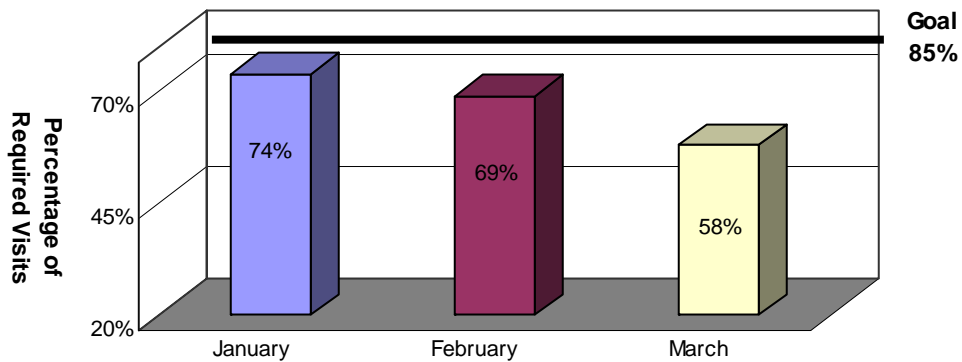


Required Visits Made by Worker

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 third quarter, the percentage of children who received a monthly visit averaged 67 percent from January to March, a decrease of seven percentage points from the previous quarter. (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

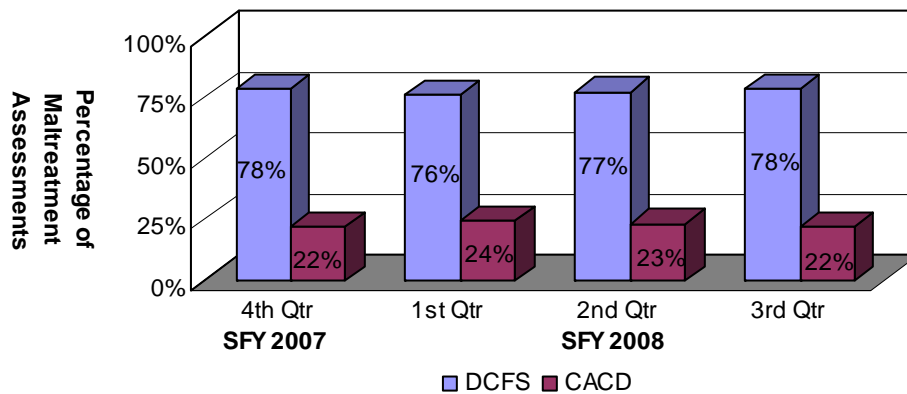
Section I: True Child Maltreatment Reports

Child Maltreatment Assessments

During the third quarter, 6,407 maltreatment assessments were assigned between DCFS and CACD. Of those assessments, 4,970 (78%) were assigned to DCFS. This figure represented a decrease in the number of assessments assigned to DCFS from the previous quarter (5,475), and an increase in the number assigned from the same quarter ending one year ago (4,896). This has been a steady trend over the past three years.

Of those same 6,407 assessments, 1,437 (22%) were assigned to CACD. This figure represented a decrease in the number of assessments assigned to CACD from the previous quarter (1,659), and a decrease in the number assigned from the same quarter ending one year ago (1,442).

Chart 17a: Child Maltreatment Assessments



Of the 6,407 maltreatment assessments assigned during the third quarter of SFY 2008, 1,401 reports (22%) were found to be true, which was three percentage points lower than the same quarter one year ago (25%). The national percentage is 25 percent⁴. There were 2,064 victim children involved in the 1,401 true reports during the quarter, which represented a decrease in the number of victim children reported during the same quarter one year ago (2,356).

Table 2: Child Maltreatment Assessments

	Total Assessments	True Assessments	Percent True
4th Qtr SFY 2007	7,689	1,914	25%
1st Qtr SFY 2008	6,440	1,508	23%
2nd Qtr SFY 2008	7,134	1,595	22%
3rd Qtr SFY 2008	6,407	1,401	22%

⁴ Source: Child Maltreatment 2005, 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, 2,064 victim children were involved in true reports during the third quarter. The table below outlines the demographic information for these victim children⁵.

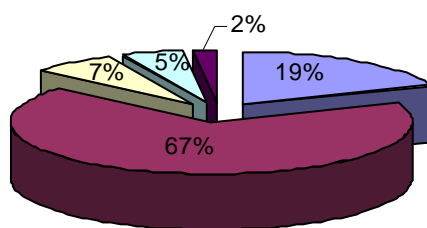
**Table 3: Characteristics of Children in True Maltreatment Reports
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	77	20	0	0	0	8	4	109
	Male	65	22	0	1	0	11	6	105
2 to 5	Female	145	27	0	0	0	12	14	198
	Male	156	38	0	0	1	20	11	226
6 to 11	Female	275	69	1	0	2	23	17	387
	Male	222	70	4	0	0	20	18	334
12 to 15	Female	197	61	2	0	2	23	22	307
	Male	112	36	2	1	0	9	4	164
16 to 18	Female	87	37	1	0	0	6	4	135
	Male	39	13	1	0	0	3	2	58
18+	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total*		1,375	393	11	2	5	135	102	2,023

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

Of the children involved in true maltreatment reports, 67 percent were white and 19 percent were black.

Chart 17a: Ethnicity of Children in True Reports

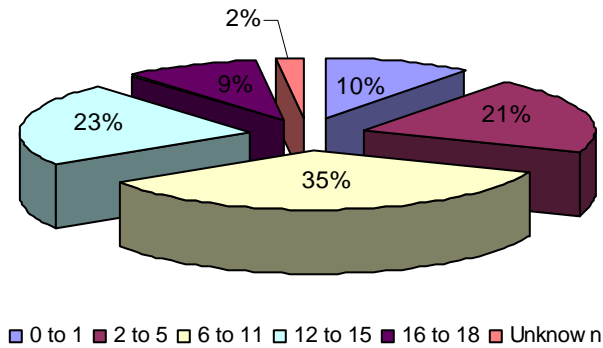


■ Black ■ White □ Hispanic □ More than 1 Race ■ Unknown

⁵ Table three, and each subsequent demographic table, divides up “other” races and ethnicities into the following categories: “Hispanic,” “More than One Race,” “Asian” (includes Indonesian, Cambodian, Hmong and Vietnamese), “AIAN” (includes Native American, Alaskan Native and American Indian) and “NAPI” (includes Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders).

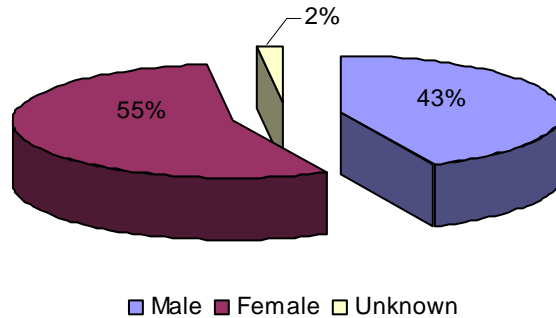
Children between the ages of 6 and 11 represented the largest group of children involved in true maltreatment reports (35%). These percentages were similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 17b: Ages of Children in True Reports



More female children (55%) than male children (43%) were involved in true maltreatment reports. These percentages were also similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 17c: Gender of Children in True Reports



Children Involved in Allegations of True Maltreatment Reports

During the quarter, the majority of the 2,064 children involved in true maltreatment reports were involved in neglect allegations (78%), followed by physical abuse allegations (36%) and sexual abuse allegations (32%)⁶.

**Table 4: Percentage of Children Involved in True Allegations of Maltreatment
2nd Quarter SFY 2008 – 3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

	2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter	
Neglect	1,704	74%	1,600	78%
Physical Abuse	822	36%	735	36%
Sexual Abuse	774	34%	665	32%

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, 4,423 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 children who were in care during the quarter.

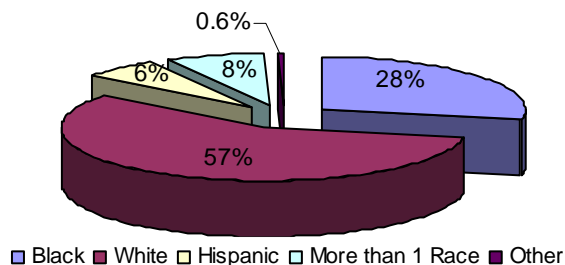
Table 5: Characteristics of Children in Foster Care During the Quarter
3rd Quarter SFY 2008

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	170	91	0	3	0	29	22	315
	Male	168	93	0	2	0	24	31	318
2 to 5	Female	296	144	1	0	0	29	44	514
	Male	312	141	0	4	0	45	58	560
6 to 11	Female	302	129	2	0	0	39	24	496
	Male	327	154	3	1	0	40	43	568
12 to 15	Female	253	122	1	1	0	26	31	434
	Male	215	111	2	1	0	11	36	376
16 to 18	Female	219	97	3	0	0	16	23	358
	Male	164	81	0	1	0	12	17	275
18+	Female	63	39	0	0	0	1	6	109
	Male	51	33	2	0	1	0	2	89
Total*		2,540	1,235	14	13	1	272	337	4,412

*Demographic information had not been entered into CHRIS for 11 children.

The chart below shows that 57 percent of the children in foster care during the quarter were white and 28 percent were black. National data reveal that only 41 percent of the children in the national foster care system were white, while 32 percent of the children were black⁷.

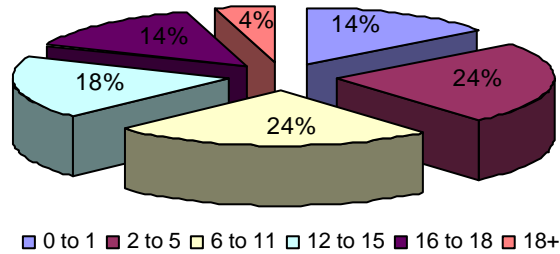
Chart 18a: Ethnicity of Children in Care During the Quarter



⁷ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2004 and 9/30/2005 as of September 2006.

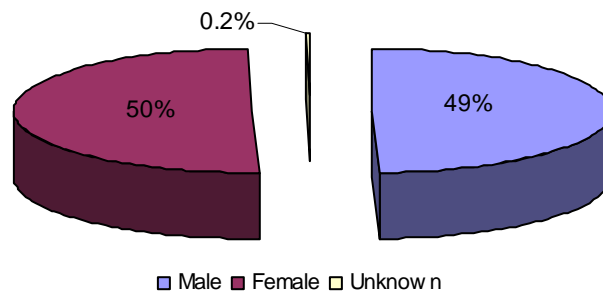
The following chart shows that children between the ages of 2 to 5 and 6 to 11 (24% each) represented the largest groups of children who were in care during the quarter. These percentages were similar to the previous quarter.

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 49 percent were male. These percentages were also similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 18c: Gender of Children in Foster Care During the Quarter



At the end of the quarter, 3,679 children were in foster care, an increase from the 3,632 children in care at the end of the second quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of the children in foster care at the end of the third quarter.

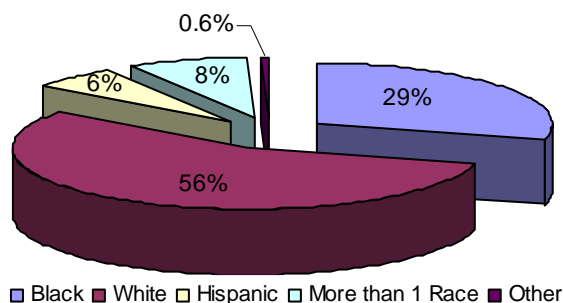
**Table 6: Characteristics of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	238	75	0	3	0	21	22	259
	Male	129	76	0	2	0	17	28	252
2 to 5	Female	233	116	0	0	0	26	42	417
	Male	243	119	0	4	0	29	44	439
6 to 11	Female	244	113	0	0	0	27	21	405
	Male	265	127	0	1	0	32	40	465
12 to 15	Female	213	109	1	1	0	23	27	374
	Male	187	102	1	1	0	10	36	337
16 to 18	Female	178	89	3	0	0	15	20	305
	Male	147	76	0	1	0	10	16	250
18+	Female	50	32	0	0	0	1	6	89
	Male	44	28	2	0	1	0	2	77
Total*		2,071	1,062	7	13	1	211	304	3,669

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

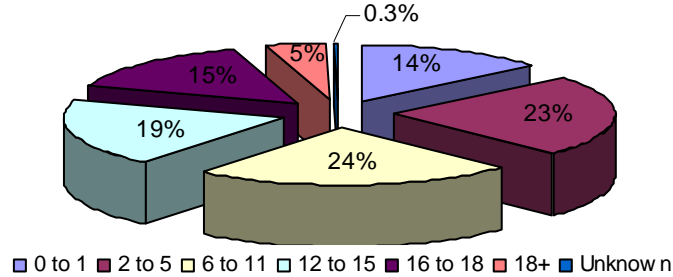
The chart below shows that 56 percent of the children in foster care at the end of the quarter were white, while 29 percent of the children were black. These percentages were consistent with the previous four quarters.

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



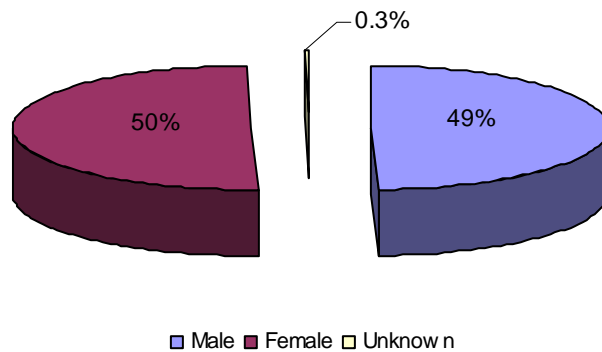
The following chart shows that children between the ages of 6 to 11 (24%) represented the largest group of children who were in care at the end of the quarter.

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



The following chart shows that 50 percent of the children in foster care at the end of the quarter were female and 49 percent were male. These percentages were also 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 904 children entered foster care during the third quarter, a decrease from the second quarter (929).

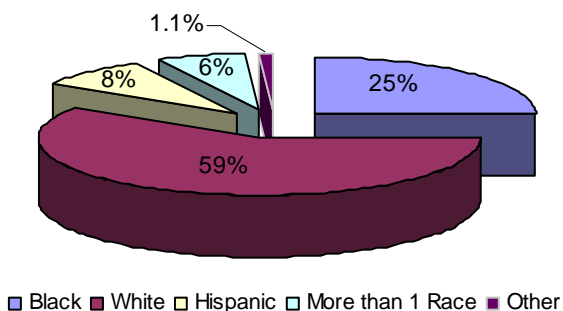
**Table 7: Characteristics of Children Entering Foster Care During the Quarter
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	65	34	0	1	0	14	4	118
	Male	53	27	0	1	0	13	14	108
2 to 5	Female	69	26	0	0	0	5	10	110
	Male	69	26	0	0	0	14	14	123
6 to 11	Female	72	24	1	0	0	10	2	109
	Male	63	25	3	0	0	3	1	95
12 to 15	Female	53	27	1	0	0	6	5	92
	Male	30	14	1	1	0	4	3	53
16 to 18	Female	37	12	1	0	0	3	4	57
	Male	21	10	0	0	0	2	1	34
Total*		532	225	7	3	0	74	58	899

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

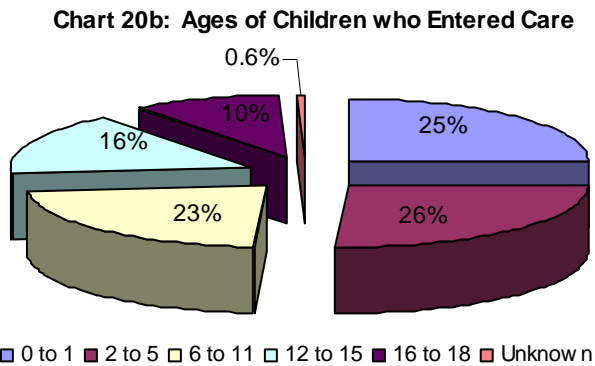
The chart below shows that 59 percent of the children who entered foster care during the quarter were white, while 25 percent of the children were black. National data indicate that 47 percent of the children who entered care were white, 26 percent were black and 18 percent were Hispanic⁸.

Chart 20a: Ethnicity of Children who Entered Care

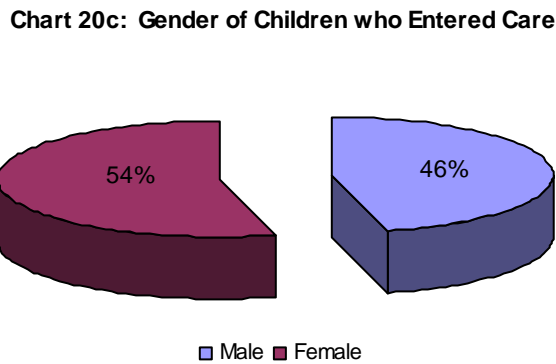


⁸ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2004 and 9/30/2005 as of September 2006.

The following chart shows that children between the ages of 2 and 5 (26%) represented the largest group of children who entered foster care during the quarter.



The following chart shows the gender of the children who entered foster care during the third quarter. Of the 904 children who entered care, 50 percent of the children were female and 46 percent were male.



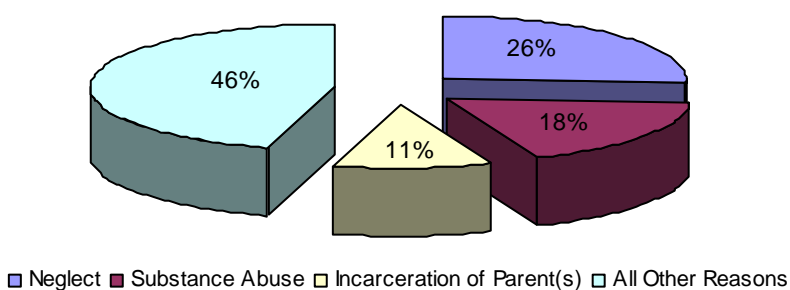
The reasons for entry into foster care during the quarter (Table 8) remained very similar to the reasons for children’s entry into care at the end of the quarter (Table 9). Neglect and substance abuse⁹ were the most prevalent reasons for children’s entry into care.

**Table 8: Reasons Children were Placed in Foster Care During the Quarter by Age
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	18+	Total
Neglect	434	543	596	387	125	2	2,087
Substance Abuse	393	354	347	247	83	0	1,424
Parent Incarceration	176	234	240	152	42	0	844
Physical Abuse	155	194	195	170	61	0	775
Child’s Behavior	4	19	87	229	109	1	449
Abandonment	42	60	107	117	67	0	393
Inadequate Housing	116	155	196	123	27	0	617
Caretaker Illness	82	107	130	137	58	2	516
Sexual Abuse	27	87	150	141	41	0	446
Truancy	3	15	41	66	25	1	151
Child’s Disability	11	13	19	17	1	1	62
Parent Death	3	4	18	12	11	0	48
Sex Offender	4	7	12	26	4	1	54
Relinquishment	1	4	6	8	2	0	21
Adoption	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Managed Mental Health	0	0	1	1	1	0	3
Other	2	3	23	7	1	0	36
Teen Parent in Care	61	9	0	0	2	0	72
Total*	1,514	1,808	2,168	1,842	660	8	8,000

*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



⁹ Of the 1,424 reasons for entry attributed to substance abuse, substance abuse by children accounted for 96 reasons for entry (7%), while substance abuse by parents accounted for 1,328 reasons for entry (93%).

**Table 9: Reasons Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter were Placed in Care
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	His-panic	More Than 1 Race	Total
Neglect	1,043	487	4	7	1	106	143	1,791
Substance Abuse	716	279	2	5	0	59	96	1,157
Parent Incarceration	397	181	0	5	0	60	65	397
Physical Abuse	340	210	3	1	0	36	51	641
Child's Behavior	252	92	2	1	0	13	30	390
Abandonment	165	124	0	0	0	21	29	339
Inadequate Housing	304	170	0	1	0	25	48	548
Caretaker Illness	282	91	1	5	0	18	45	442
Sexual Abuse	225	91	2	0	0	20	23	361
Truancy	80	29	0	0	0	6	15	130
Child's Disability	43	10	0	0	0	2	3	58
Parent Death	29	7	0	1	0	0	7	44
Sex Offender	30	8	0	0	0	0	3	41
Relinquishment	11	6	0	0	0	0	3	20
Adoption	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Managed Mental Health	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Other	11	18	0	0	0	0	2	31
Teen Parent in Care	21	29	0	0	0	6	4	60
Total*	3,952	1,834	14	26	1	372	567	6,766

*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, 789 children left foster care, which was a decrease from the previous quarter (988).

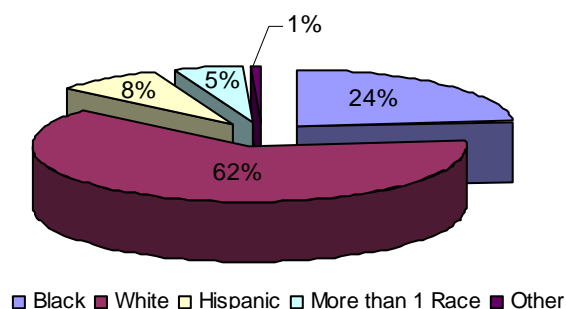
**Table 10: Characteristics of Children Exiting Foster Care During the Quarter
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	33	17	0	0	0	8	0	58
	Male	39	17	0	0	0	7	3	66
2 to 5	Female	63	30	1	0	0	6	2	102
	Male	71	27	0	0	0	16	15	129
6 to 11	Female	62	19	2	0	0	12	4	99
	Male	67	27	3	0	0	9	3	109
12 to 15	Female	41	13	0	0	0	3	5	62
	Male	30	10	1	0	0	1	0	42
16 to 18	Female	52	13	0	0	0	1	4	70
	Male	26	9	0	0	0	2	2	39
18+	Female	6	4	0	0	0	0	0	10
	Male	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total*		491	187	7	0	0	65	38	788

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

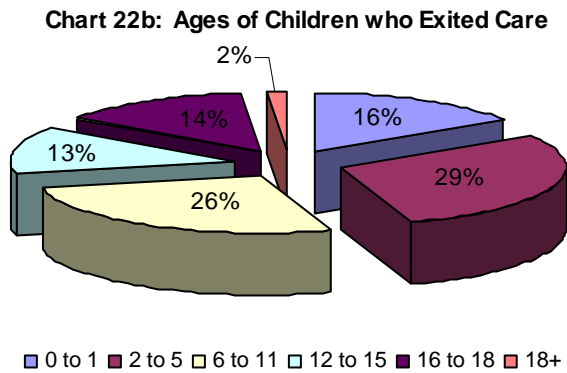
Of the 789 children who exited foster care, 62 percent were white and 24 percent were black. National data indicate that 45 percent of the children who left foster care were white and 28 percent were black¹⁰. During the same quarter one year ago, 60 percent of the children who exited foster care were white, whereas 25 percent were black.

Chart 22a: Ethnicity of Children who Exited Care

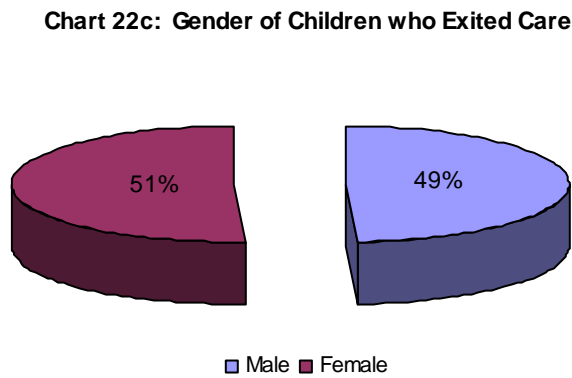


¹⁰ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2004 and 9/30/2005 as of September 2006.

The following chart shows that children between the ages of 2 and 5 (29%) represented the largest group of children who left foster care during the quarter.



Of the children who left care during the quarter, 51 percent were female and 49 percent were male.



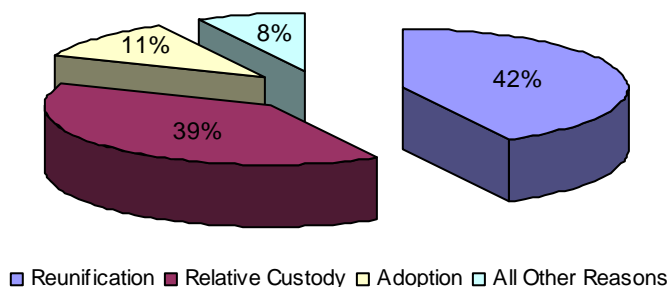
**Table 11: Reasons Children Exited Foster Care by Age
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

Reason	Age						Total
	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	18+	
Reunification	59	101	89	42	42	0	333
Relative Custody	57	83	82	49	35	0	306
Adoption	8	40	30	9	0	0	87
Child Aged Out	0	0	0	0	25	10	35
Non-Relative Custody	0	6	7	4	6	0	23
Custody Transfer	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Emancipation	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
Death of Child	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total*	124	231	208	104	109	12	788

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

The most prevalent reason that children left foster care during the quarter was reunification (42%). The second most prevalent reason was relative custody (39%). National data indicate that the three most prevalent reasons children left care were reunification (54%), adoption (18%) 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 10/1/2004 and 9/30/2005 as of September 2006.

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 third quarter, returning home remained the most prevalent goal among children in foster care at 47 percent. National data reveal very similar figures to the numbers shown here¹².

**Table 12: Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care
2nd Quarter SFY 2008 – 3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

	2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter		National
Return Home	1,895	50%	1,726	47%	51%
Adoption	680	18%	877	24%	20%
Independence	395	11%	585	16%	n/a
Remain at Home	335	9%	120	3%	n/a
Relative Care	158	4%	131	4%	4%
Guardianship	15	.4%	22	.6%	3%
Emancipation	0	0%	2	.05%	6%
Long Term Care	0	0%	0	0%	7%
Not Yet Established	283	8%	216	6%	8%
Total*	3,761	100%	3,679	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 10/1/2004 and 9/30/2005 as of September 2006.

Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care

For the 4,423 children in foster care during the quarter, 51 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)
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

	Number	Percentage*	National
Less than 30 days	457	10%	5%
30-90 Days	530	12%	20%
3-6 Months	501	11%	
6-12 Months	781	18%	17%
12-24 Months	1,010	23%	21%
24-36 Months	439	10%	12%
36+ Months	705	16%	25%
Total	4,423	100%	100%

**Table 13b: Length of Stay of Children in Relative Care
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

	Number	Percentage*
Less than 30 days	12	3%
30-90 Days	41	9%
3-6 Months	50	11%
6-12 Months	110	24%
12-24 Months	146	32%
24-36 Months	47	10%
36+ Months	47	10%
Total*	453	100%

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

**Table 13c: Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care (Excluding Relative Care)
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 days	445	11%
30-90 Days	489	12%
3-6 Months	451	11%
6-12 Months	671	17%
12-24 Months	864	22%
24-36 Months	392	10%
36+ Months	658	17%
Total	3,970	100%

¹³ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2004 and 9/30/2005 as of September 2006.

Number of Placements of Children in Foster Care

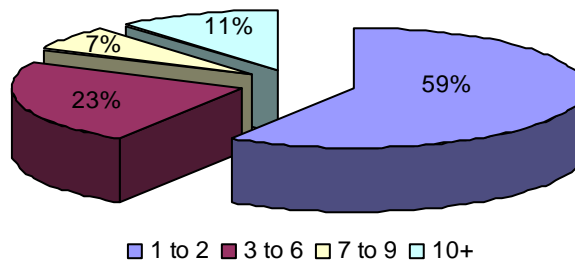
At the end of the third quarter, 59 percent of children in care experienced two or fewer placements, which was the same as the previous quarter.

**Table 14: Number of Placements of Children in Foster Care
2nd Quarter SFY 2008 – 3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

	2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter	
1-2 Placements	2,126	59%	2,169	59%
3-6 Placements	857	24%	850	23%
7-9 Placements	254	7%	242	7%
10+ Placements	395	11%	418	11%
Total*	3,632	100%	3,679	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 third quarter, 3,679 children were in foster care. Of those children, 2,072 experienced two or more placements while in care.

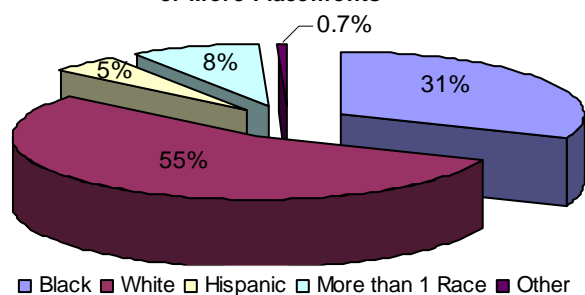
**Table 15: Characteristics of Children who Experienced Two or More Placements
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	26	14	0	2	0	7	7	56
	Male	37	23	0	2	0	3	10	74
2 to 5	Female	109	56	0	0	0	11	17	193
	Male	114	53	0	4	0	11	16	198
6 to 11	Female	107	78	0	0	0	14	15	214
	Male	170	83	0	1	0	19	30	303
12 to 15	Female	135	73	0	1	0	13	20	242
	Male	138	79	1	0	0	6	26	250
16 to 18	Female	167	101	1	0	0	8	20	297
	Male	138	83	1	1	1	6	13	243
18+	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		1,141	643	3	10	1	98	174	2,070

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

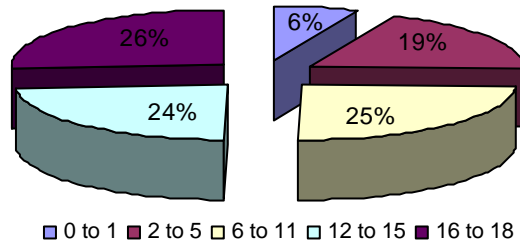
Of the 2,072 children who experienced two or more placements, 55 percent were white and 31 percent were black. These percentages were similar to the previous quarter.

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



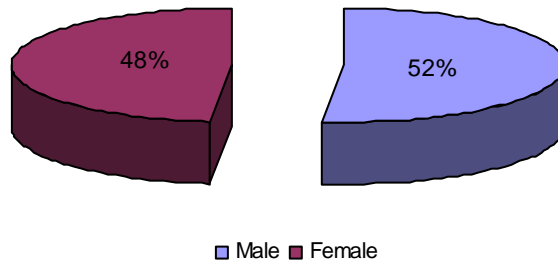
Children between the ages of 16 and 18 (26%) represented the largest group of children who experienced two or more placements.

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



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

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



Current Placement of Children in Foster Care

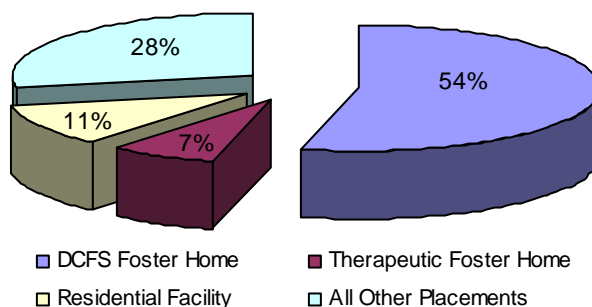
More children in foster care were placed in DCFS foster homes (54%) at the end of the third quarter than in any other type of foster care placement.

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	406	619	460	278	179	53	1,995
Relative Care	34	37	34	25	7	2	139
Therapeutic Foster Home	1	33	139	60	34	3	270
Pre-Adoptive Home	17	66	51	10	3	0	147
Emergency Shelter	5	13	32	45	35	0	130
Residential Facility	23	22	64	130	120	37	396
Youth Services	0	0	0	9	20	1	30
Runaway	0	0	2	12	61	1	76
Trial Home Visit	24	58	46	21	9	1	159
Hospital/Medical	5	1	5	11	3	2	27
ASAP CRT	0	0	2	6	4	2	14
Independent Living	0	0	0	1	10	59	70
Incarceration	0	0	0	5	12	1	18
Temporary Placement	0	7	4	7	5	2	25
Sub-Acute CRT	0	0	27	58	27	1	113
Acute CRT	0	0	5	18	13	0	36
High Risk Emergency Crisis Center	0	0	1	3	2	0	6
ASAP Residential Treatment	0	0	0	5	7	1	13
ASAP Therapeutic Foster Care	0	0	0	5	5	0	10
Unknown*	0	1	2	2	0	0	5
Total	515	857	874	711	556	166	3,679

*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

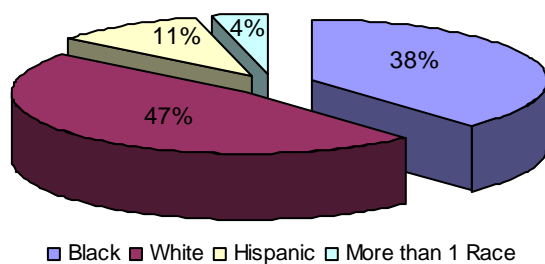
Seventy-six children were on runaway status at the end of the third quarter. This number represented an increase from the previous quarter (66).

**Table 17: Characteristics of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Quarter
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 to 5	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 to 11	Female	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
12 to 15	Female	3	3	0	0	0	2	0	8
	Male	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	5
16 to 18	Female	19	14	0	0	0	3	1	37
	Male	10	10	0	0	0	2	2	24
18+	Female	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		36	29	0	0	0	8	3	76

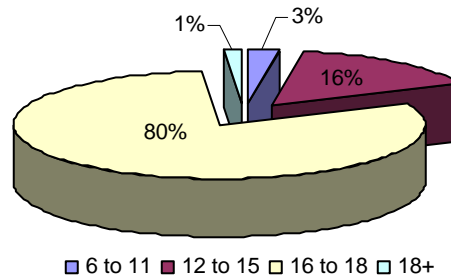
Of the children on runaway status at the end of the quarter, 47 percent were white and 38 percent were black. These percentages differed from the end of the second quarter, when 48 percent were white and 44 percent were black.

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



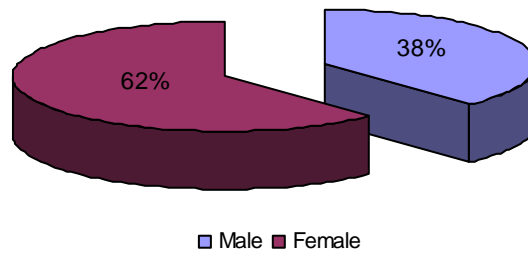
At the end of the quarter, 80 percent of the children on runaway status were between the ages of 16 and 18, which was a nine percentage point increase over the previous quarter (71%).

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



More female children (62%) than male children (38%) were on runaway status at the end of the quarter. This was similar to the previous quarter.

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



Characteristics of Children in Relative Care

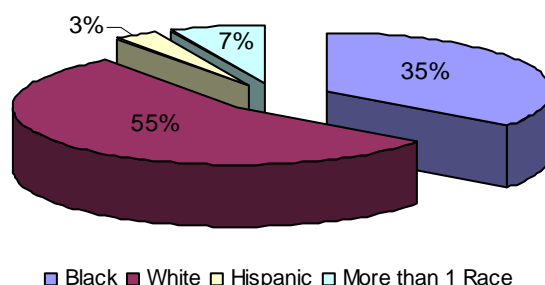
During the third quarter, 453 children were in relative care, an increase from the previous quarter (447). This number includes children who remained in relative care from previous quarters as well as children who came into relative care during the third quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of children in relative care.

**Table 18: Characteristics of Children in Relative Care
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	19	10	0	0	0	1	3	33
	Male	17	11	0	0	0	3	3	34
2 to 5	Female	39	24	0	0	0	3	3	69
	Male	50	27	0	0	0	5	3	85
6 to 11	Female	31	23	0	0	0	1	4	59
	Male	28	18	0	0	0	0	5	51
12 to 15	Female	28	12	0	0	0	0	3	43
	Male	15	12	0	0	0	0	6	33
16 to 18	Female	14	10	0	0	0	1	1	26
	Male	5	8	1	0	0	0	0	14
Over 18	Female	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	5
	Male	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total		248	159	1	0	0	14	31	453

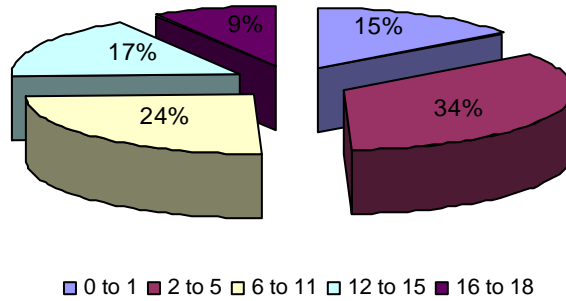
White children represented the highest percentage of children in relative care for the third quarter at 55 percent, similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 28a: Ethnicity of Children in Relative Care



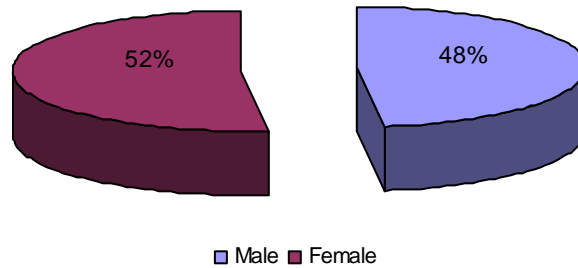
Children between the ages of 2 and 5 (34%) represented the largest age group of children in relative care, followed by children between the ages of 6 and 11 (24%).

Chart 28b: Ages of Children in Relative Care



Of the 453 children in relative care during the quarter, 52 percent were female and 48 percent were male, which were similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 28c: Gender of Children in Relative Care



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

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

There were 933 children with a permanency goal of adoption during the quarter. This was an increase from the previous quarter (746). The table below outlines those children’s characteristics.

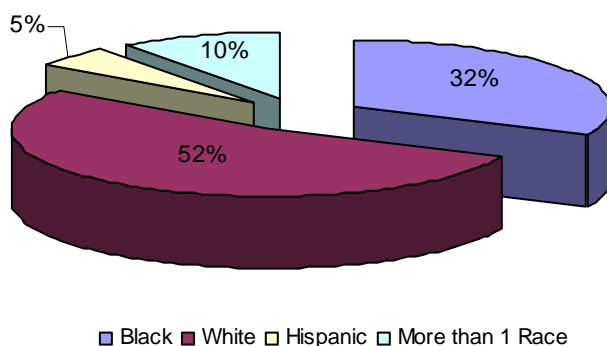
**Table 19: Characteristics of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption During the Quarter
 3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	22	12	0	0	0	0	4	38
	Male	17	17	0	0	0	0	3	37
2 to 5	Female	67	50	1	0	0	4	13	135
	Male	73	45	0	1	0	8	18	145
6 to 11	Female	78	45	1	0	0	12	10	146
	Male	103	42	0	0	0	13	19	177
12 to 15	Female	49	33	0	1	0	5	12	100
	Male	53	35	1	0	0	2	13	104
16 to 18	Female	15	7	0	0	0	1	3	26
	Male	12	10	0	0	0	0	0	22
Over 18	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total		489	297	3	2	0	45	95	931

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

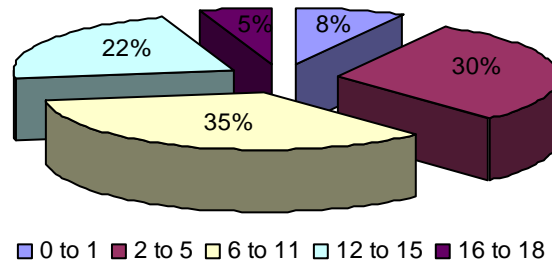
Of the 933 children with a permanency goal of adoption during the quarter, 52 percent were white, 32 percent were black and 5 percent were Hispanic. These numbers were similar to the previous quarter.

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



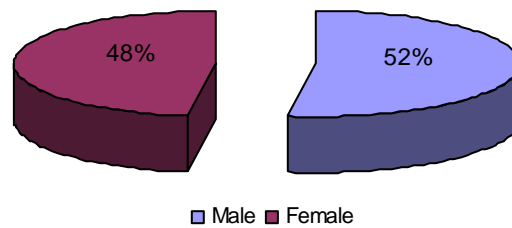
Children between the ages of 6 and 11 (35%) represented the largest group of children with a permanency goal of adoption. The age composition was similar to the previous quarter.

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



Of the 933 children with a permanency goal of adoption, 52 percent were male and 48 percent were female. These percentages were similar to the previous quarter.

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

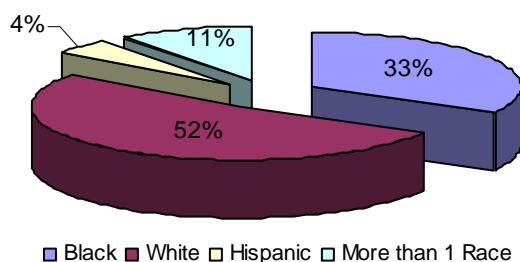
**Table 20: Characteristics of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	17	12	0	0	0	0	4	33
	Male	15	16	0	0	0	0	3	34
2 to 5	Female	61	46	0	0	0	4	13	124
	Male	66	43	0	1	0	5	17	132
6 to 11	Female	75	44	0	0	0	10	10	139
	Male	97	41	0	0	0	12	19	169
12 to 15	Female	45	33	0	1	0	5	11	95
	Male	49	35	1	0	0	2	13	100
16 to 18	Female	15	7	0	0	0	1	3	26
	Male	12	10	0	0	0	0	0	22
Over 18	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total		452	288	1	2	0	39	93	875

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

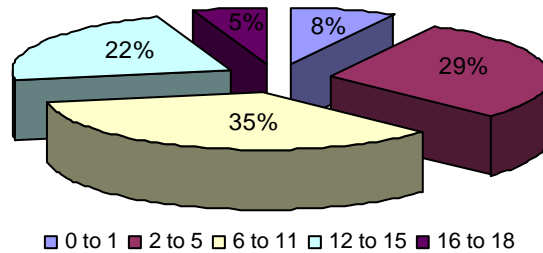
Of the 877 children with a permanency goal of adoption at the end of the quarter, 52 percent were white, 33 percent were black and 11 percent were of more than one race. These percentages were similar to the previous quarter.

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



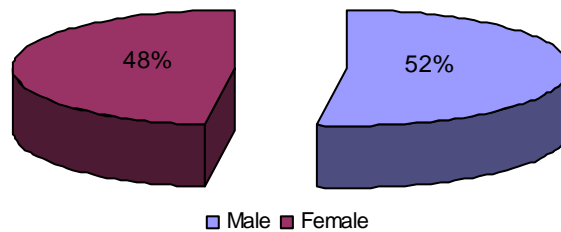
At the end of the quarter, children between the ages of 6 and 11 (35%) continued to represent the largest age group with a permanency goal of adoption, and children between the ages of 2 and 5 (29%) represented the second largest group.

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



More male children (52%) than female children (48%) set a permanency goal of adoption at the end of the third 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

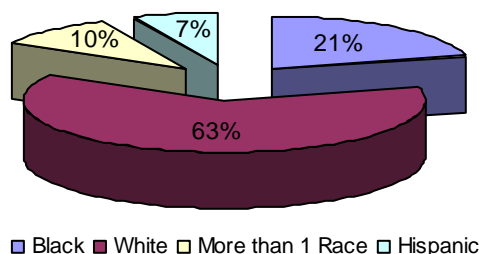
There were 72 children whose parents had their parental rights terminated during the third quarter. This was an increase from the second quarter (67). The table below outlines the characteristics of those children.

**Table 21: Characteristics of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated During the Quarter
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

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	5	4	0	0	0	0	2	11
2 to 5	Female	10	2	0	0	0	2	0	14
	Male	8	2	0	0	0	1	2	13
6 to 11	Female	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	8
	Male	8	2	0	0	0	1	0	11
12 to 15	Female	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
	Male	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
16 to 18	Female	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		45	15	0	0	0	5	7	72

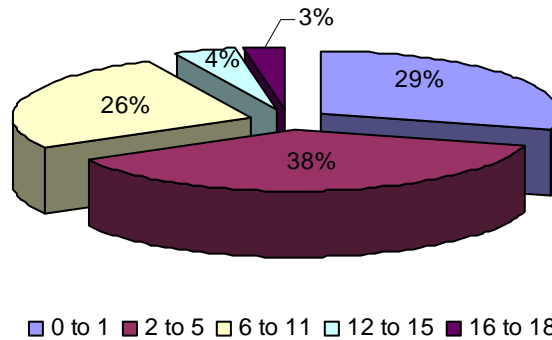
During the quarter, 63 percent of the children whose parents had their parental rights terminated during the quarter were white, 21 percent were black, 7 percent were Hispanic and 10 percent were of more than one race.

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



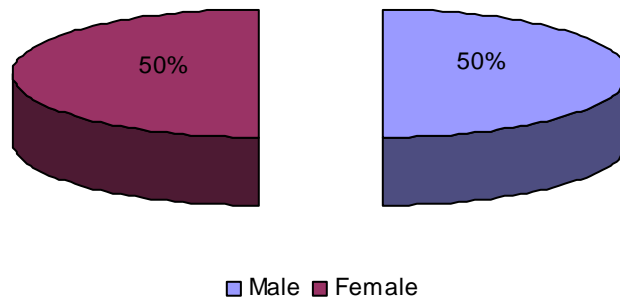
Children between the ages of 2 and 5 (38%) represented the largest group of children whose parents' parental rights were terminated during the quarter.

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



An equal percentage of male children (50%) and female children (50%) had parents whose parental rights were terminated during the quarter.

Chart 31c: Gender of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated



Characteristics of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter

At the end of the third quarter, 481 children were available for adoption, an increase from the previous quarter (397). Demographic information for children available for adoption, shown in the table below, was very similar to previous quarters.

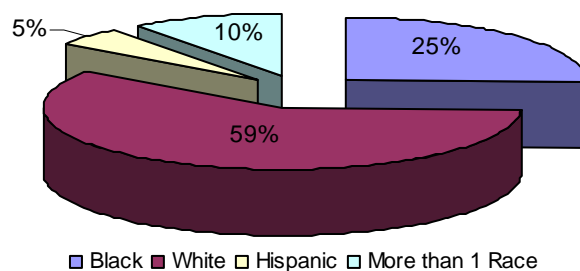
**Table 22: Characteristics of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	9	6	0	0	0	0	3	18
	Male	7	3	0	0	0	0	1	11
2 to 5	Female	30	18	0	0	0	3	6	57
	Male	33	19	0	1	0	2	5	60
6 to 11	Female	49	19	0	0	0	5	5	78
	Male	63	15	0	0	0	8	12	98
12 to 15	Female	33	16	0	1	0	5	7	62
	Male	37	18	0	0	0	0	7	62
16 to 18	Female	12	3	0	0	0	0	3	18
	Male	10	5	0	0	0	0	0	15
Total		283	122	0	2	0	23	49	479

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

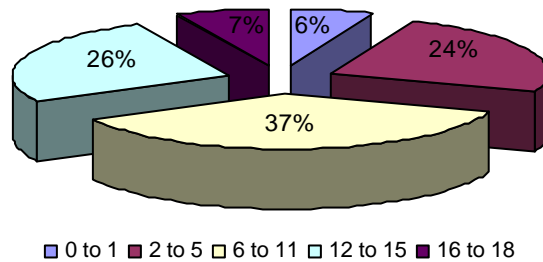
Of the children available for adoption, 59 percent were white and 25 percent were black. These percentages were similar to the previous quarter.

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



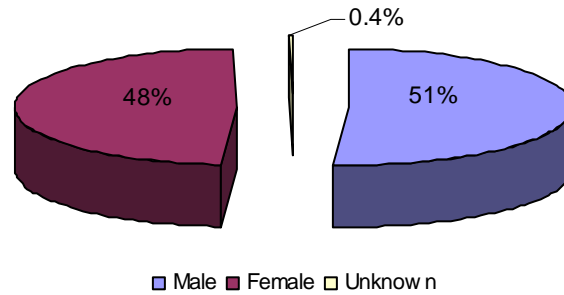
At the end of the quarter, more children between the ages of 6 and 11 (37%) were available for adoption than any other age group.

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



At the end of the quarter, more male children (51%) than female children (48%) were available for adoption. These percentages were similar to the second 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 third quarter, more children who were available for adoption were placed in DCFS foster homes (45%) than in any other type of placement, followed by therapeutic foster homes (18%). These results were similar to the previous quarter.

**Table 23: Current Placements of Children Available for Adoption
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

Placement	Number of Children	Percentage
DCFS Foster Home	217	45%
Pre-Adoptive Home	71	15%
Therapeutic Foster Home	88	18%
Acute CRT	5	1%
Residential Facility	59	12%
Hospital/Medical	1	.2%
Emergency Shelter	6	1.2%
Youth Services	1	.2%
Independent Living	1	.2%
Temporary Placement	5	1%
Sub-Acute CRT	17	4%
ASAP CRT	2	.4%
Kinship Care	2	.4%
ASAP Residential Treatment	1	.2%
High Risk Emergency Crisis Center	2	.4%
Runaway	3	.6%
Total*	481	100%

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

Characteristics of Children in Pre-adoptive Placements

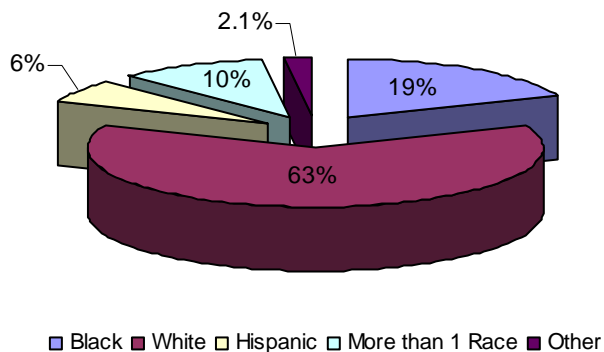
During the third quarter, 96 children were in pre-adoptive homes. This number includes children who could have entered pre-adoptive homes during previous quarters as well as children who were placed in pre-adoptive homes during the current quarter.

**Table 24: Characteristics of Children in Pre-adoptive Placements
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	7
	Male	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
2 to 5	Female	10	4	1	0	0	0	2	17
	Male	12	6	0	0	0	1	3	22
6 to 11	Female	15	3	1	0	0	3	0	22
	Male	11	1	0	0	0	2	1	15
12 to 15	Female	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
	Male	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	4
16 to 18	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		60	18	2	0	0	6	10	96

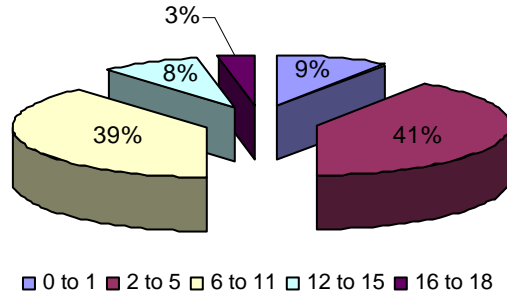
Of the 96 children in pre-adoptive homes during the quarter, 63 percent were white and 19 percent were black. These percentages were similar to the previous quarter.

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



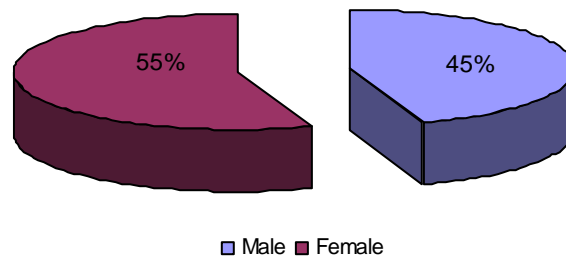
Children between the ages of 2 and 5 (41%) represented the largest group of children placed in pre-adoptive homes.

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



Of the 96 children placed in pre-adoptive homes during the quarter, 45 percent were male and 55 percent were female. During the previous quarter, 58 percent were male and 42 percent were female.

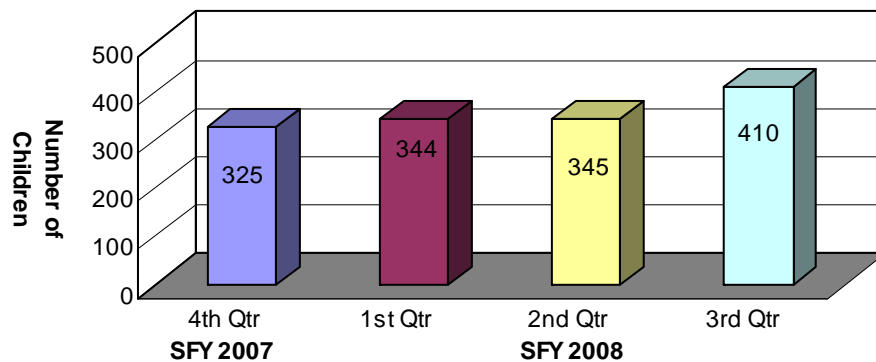
33c: Gender of Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes During the Quarter



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

During the third quarter, there were 410 children whose parents had their parental rights terminated but were not placed in adoptive homes, an increase from the previous quarter (345). This statistic was derived by subtracting the number of children placed in adoptive homes at the end of the quarter (71) from the number of children available for adoption at the end of the quarter (481).

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



Children with Special Needs

During the third quarter, 52 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 children over the age of nine, African American children at age two years or older; or children who are members of a sibling group of three or more who are to be placed together.

**Table 25: Children with Special Needs who were Placed in Adoptive Homes
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

Special Needs Condition	Number of Children
Race	52
Age	47
Member of sibling group	18

Characteristics of Children with Finalized Adoptions

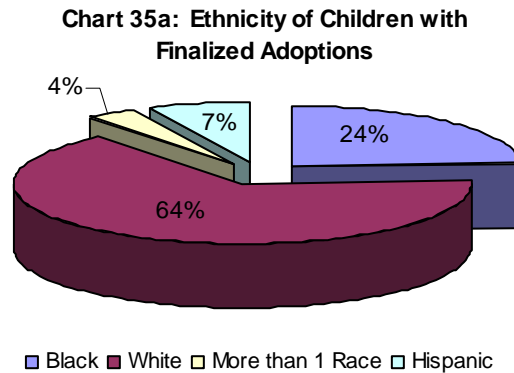
During the quarter, 84 children had their adoptions finalized, a decrease from the previous quarter (105). The following table outlines the characteristics of the children with finalized adoptions.

**Table 26: Characteristics of Children with Finalized Adoptions
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

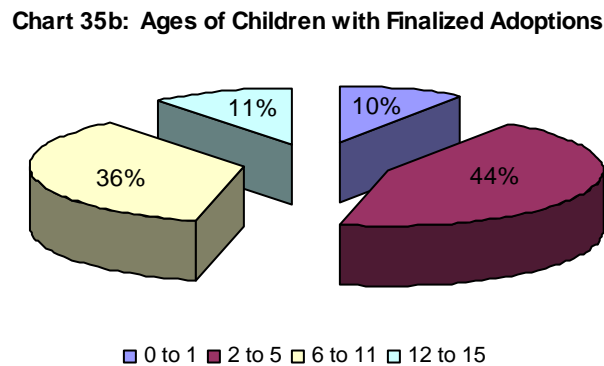
Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
	Male	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
2 to 5	Female	7	6	0	0	0	2	0	15
	Male	13	5	0	0	0	2	2	22
6 to 11	Female	9	6	0	1	0	1	1	18
	Male	10	1	0	0	0	1	0	12
12 to 15	Female	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	5
	Male	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
16 to 18	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		54	20	0	1	0	6	3	84

¹⁴ This number does not take into account children with severe medical and psychological needs because this data is not available in CHRIS (AR 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.

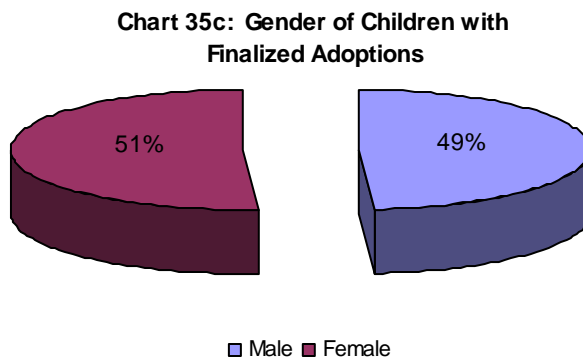
Of the 84 finalized adoptions during the third quarter, 64 percent of the adopted children were white and 24 percent were black.



Children between the ages of 2 and 5 (44%) represented the largest group of children whose adoptions were finalized during the quarter.



During the quarter, 51 percent of the children whose adoptions were finalized were female and 49 percent were male.



Subsidized Adoptions

During the third quarter, 79 children began receiving adoption subsidies. Of those, 57 children received federally-funded subsidies and 22 received state-funded subsidies.

Characteristics of Children who Received Adoption Subsidies

During the third quarter, 3,094 children received adoption subsidies. The following table outlines the demographics of those children.

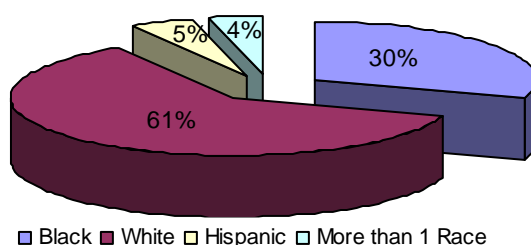
**Table 27: Characteristics of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	11	6	1	0	0	0	1	19
	Male	11	5	0	0	0	0	0	16
2 to 5	Female	128	52	1	0	0	16	14	211
	Male	144	69	2	0	0	21	13	249
6 to 11	Female	373	211	2	3	0	33	42	664
	Male	376	188	0	0	0	36	26	626
12 to 15	Female	233	143	0	0	0	16	7	399
	Male	268	140	0	1	0	4	8	421
16 to 18	Female	124	70	1	0	0	8	1	204
	Male	119	84	0	0	0	4	1	208
18+	Female	19	10	0	0	0	0	2	31
	Male	15	11	0	0	0	1	0	27
Total*		1,821	989	7	4	0	139	115	3,075

*Demographic data had not been entered into CHRIS for 19 children.

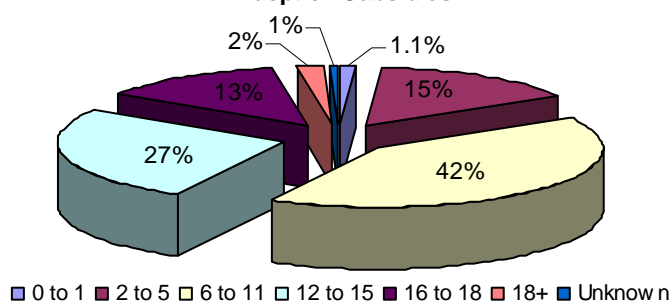
Sixty-one percent of the children who received adoption subsidies were white and 30 percent were black, similar to the previous quarter.

Chart 36a: Ethnicity of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies



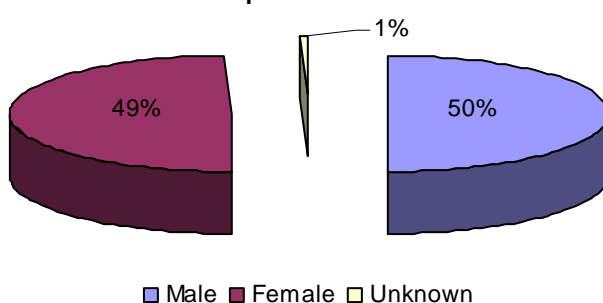
The majority of the children receiving adoption subsidies during the quarter were between the ages of 6 and 11 (42%).

Chart 36b: Ages of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies



Of the children receiving adoption subsidies, 50 percent were male and 49 percent were female.

Chart 36c: Gender of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies



Adoptive Homes

At the beginning of the third quarter, 561 adoptive homes were available; at the end of the third quarter, 518 adoptive homes were available.

**Table 28: Adoptive Homes
3rd Quarter SFY 2008**

	Total Adoptive Homes	Non-Foster Adoptive Homes	Foster Adoptive Homes
Homes available for children at beginning of quarter	561	239	322
Newly available homes	31	21	10
Homes that had children placed during the quarter	53	26	27
Home that experienced a disruption	4	3	1
Homes that closed without a placement	25	16	9
Homes available at the end of the quarter	518	221	297