



## Arkansas Department of Human Services

### Division of Children and Family Services

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April 11, 2012

The Honorable Stephanie Malone, Chair  
House Committee on Aging, Children,  
and Youth, Legislative and Military Affairs  
Arkansas Legislative Council  
315 State Capitol Building  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

The Honorable Missy Irvin, Chair  
Senate Committee on Children  
and Youth  
Arkansas Legislative Council  
315 State Capitol Building  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Representative Malone and Senator Irvin:

Act 1222 of 1995 mandates a quarterly evaluation of the performance of the Division of Children and Family Services. Attached is the Quarterly Performance Report (QPR) produced in compliance with that mandate. The report covers the 2nd quarter of SFY 2012 (October 2011 to December 2011).

Forty copies of the report along with an electronic version are attached for your convenience.

Should you have questions regarding this material, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Cecile Blucker  
Director

CB: fs

cc: John Selig, Director, Department and Human Services

Attachments (40)

# Quarterly Performance Report

*2nd Quarter  
SFY 2012*

*(October 2011 – December 2011)*



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

Produced by:  
*Hornby Zeller Associates, Inc.*



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Quarterly Performance Report (QPR) is distributed to the Division of Children and Family Services' (DCFS) managers and legislative committees dealing with children and youth. The QPR for the second quarter of State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2012, specifically October through December 2011, consists of three parts:

1. **Performance Indicators**, which provide information on service outcomes, such as:
  - a. *Percentage of Children with True Allegations of Child Maltreatment Three Months, Six Months and One Year after a Previous True Report*
  - b. *Percentage of Siblings in Placement who are Placed Together*
  - c. *Percentage of Children Adopted Within One Year of Having Their Goal Changed to Adoption*
2. **Compliance Index**, which reports on the Division's compliance with requirements set by DCFS with guidance from the Arkansas legislative children and youth committees, such as:
  - a. *Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments*
  - b. *24- and 72-Hour Initial Health Screenings for Children Entering Foster Care*
  - c. *Foster Home Recruitment*
3. **Description of Population and Services**, which describes the children who were the subjects of maltreatment reports, were served in foster care and were provided adoption services, such as:
  - a. *Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care*
  - b. *Characteristics of Children in Pre-Adoptive Homes*

The QPR provides this information on a quarterly basis, showing trends over time. The report provides the agency with information on the populations it serves and on pertinent issues so the agency can improve performance and better target its efforts.

## ***Part I: Performance Indicators***

DCFS has established nine performance indicators to measure its progress with regard to its major goals of child safety, permanency and well-being. During the second 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 second quarter.

## ***Part II: Compliance Index***

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

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

- **Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments**

DCFS initiated **87 percent** of its assigned investigations on time, an increase of three percentage points from the previous quarter (84 percent). Despite this improvement, compliance remains less than the compliance goal of 95 percent.

When compared to the previous quarter, compliance with respect to the timely initiation of both Priority I and Priority II referrals improved in several DCFS Service Areas. With respect to Priority I referrals, six of the ten areas met or exceeded the established goal of 95 percent, and nine areas initiated at least 90 percent of their Priority I referrals on time. Among Priority II referrals, only staff from Area 5 met the compliance goal of 95 percent, although two additional areas initiated at least 90 percent of their Priority II referrals on time. Only in Area 5 did DCFS staff meet compliance for both Priority I and Priority II referrals.

The Division has established corrective action plans to help improve the timeliness of initiations in the areas where performance fell short of the established goals. Corrective actions include setting up mandatory days and times during which caseworkers are required to enter documentation into DCFS' information system (CHRIS). Other corrective actions consist of assigning investigations to staff sooner, making more efforts to see the alleged victims immediately, and initiating investigations on time on weekends and holidays. Several areas—including Areas 3, 4, 7, 8 and 10—are emphasizing the need for closer supervisory oversight of staff's workloads. The hiring and training of additional investigators in Area 1—which has been severely short-handed in terms of investigations staff in recent quarters—will hopefully lead to further improvements in the timeliness of initiating investigations.



- Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments

The percentage of investigations completed in a timely manner for the quarter was **67 percent**, a decrease of four percentage points from the previous quarter (71 percent). Statewide compliance also fell further below the compliance goal of 90 percent.

Compliance with respect to the timely completion of referrals declined among most of DCFS' ten Service Areas. As a result, no areas met the compliance goal of 90 percent for Priority I referrals, and only Area 5 met the standard for Priority II referrals. Only in Areas 5 and 10 did staff complete at least 80 percent of both their Priority I and Priority II referrals on time.

Because compliance in nearly all areas remained below the goal of 90 percent, Area Directors have established corrective actions to improve compliance in future quarters. Several areas have implemented processes in which investigation staff will conference with their supervisors at pre-determined intervals during the first 30 days of a new investigation. Another corrective action being undertaken is to ensure that investigations staff document their activities into CHRIS in a timelier fashion. Staff in several areas are making more concerted efforts to close investigations before they become past due; and in Area 1, agency staff have been authorized to work overtime in an effort to continue reducing its backlog of overdue investigations. The expectation is that these practices will increase the timely completion rate for future quarters.

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

**Seventy-one percent** of the children requiring a 24-hour initial health screening received the screening on time. This represents an increase in compliance of seven percentage points when compared to the previous quarter (64 percent) but remains below the goal of 95 percent.

During the quarter, **81 percent** of the children who required a 72-hour initial health screening received the service on time, an increase of four percentage points from the previous quarter (77 percent) yet still below the goal of 95 percent.

No area met the 95 percent compliance goal for the 24-hour initial health screenings, although Areas 5, 6 and 10 came close. Moreover, only Area 6 met the compliance goal for the 72-hour initial health screenings, while Areas 5 and 10 again narrowly missed the goal. On the other hand, three-quarters or fewer of the children coming into foster care from four areas—Areas 1, 3, 8 and 9—who required either a 24-hour or 72-hour screening received the service on time. Staff from Area 8 struggled the most with just one-fourth of the Area's incoming



children receiving the needed 24-hour screening on time and just under two-thirds receiving a 72-hour screening on time.

Despite the overall improvement with respect to this measure, Area Directors acknowledge that further increases in compliance are still needed. Many areas have emphasized the need for caseworkers to schedule initial health screenings as soon as children come into foster care. Furthermore, once health screenings are complete caseworkers are being instructed to submit information to the agency's health service workers as soon as possible so that the relevant information can be promptly entered into CHRIS. Several areas continue to attribute their lower-than-expected compliance figures to scheduling and availability problems between workers and health care providers. Area Directors hope that more advanced planning, improved communication and scheduling with providers, and greater supervisory oversight can improve these percentages in future quarters.

- Comprehensive Health Assessments

The percentage of timely completed comprehensive health assessments was **82 percent**, which was the same as the previous quarter (82 percent). Compliance remains below the goal of 95 percent.

No DCFS Service Areas met the compliance goal of 95 percent with respect to completing children's comprehensive health assessments on time, although Areas 4, 6 and 8 came close to doing so. Meanwhile, the greatest struggles in completing timely assessments were observed in Areas 1, 5 and 7, where less than three-fourths of foster children received an assessment on time.

The Division has established corrective actions to help remedy the barriers that prevent the completion of timely health screenings. The same issues that served as barriers to the timely completion of initial health screenings also adversely affected the percentage of children who had their comprehensive health assessments completed within 60 days of entering foster care. Area Directors hope that improved communication among staff and scheduling with providers can improve performance.

- Foster Home Recruitment

There were 115 new foster homes recruited during the quarter, a decrease from the 140 homes recruited during the previous quarter. Even so, DCFS staff recruited far more than the goal of 80 new homes for the quarter, which represents a compliance rate of **144 percent**.

The statewide recruitment of foster homes continues to exceed the Division's expectations for quarterly recruitment, continuing a multi-year trend of exceeding the Division's own goal. This sustained effort can be attributed to an increase in



the promotion and frequency of foster family inquiry meetings. In addition, DCFS continues to maintain an advantageous relationship with *The C.A.L.L. (Children of Arkansas Loved for a Lifetime)*, a faith-based foster parent recruitment organization that began in Pulaski County in 2007 but has since expanded into more than 20 counties across the state. In fact, *The C.A.L.L.* now has a presence in all ten DCFS Service Areas and reportedly continues to attract dozens of prospective families through churches that would not have otherwise thought of becoming a foster family. The agency is also completing a study that it hopes will identify strategies and practices that will strengthen its efforts to support and retain existing foster families.

- Required Visits Made by Worker

During the second quarter, the percentage of foster children who received a required visit from their caseworker averaged **54 percent**, which was a decrease of four percentage points from the previous quarter (58 percent) and well below the goal of 85 percent. The percentage of children who received visits for each of the months from October through December was 57 percent, 56 percent, and 49 percent, respectively. In addition to visiting children in foster care, caseworkers are also required to make monthly visits to families involved with the agency through in-home protective services cases.<sup>1</sup> At any given time, there are at least 2,500 such cases across the state.

None of DCFS' Service Areas completed at least 85 percent of required visits to see children in foster care; and moreover, compliance on this item declined in seven of the ten areas when compared to the previous quarter. Agency staff in just two areas—Areas 3 and 10—made visits to at least two-thirds of their foster children during the quarter; as such, those areas came closer to meeting the compliance goal than did staff from the remaining eight areas. On the other hand, DCFS staff in Areas 1, 2 and 7 completed less than half of their required visits during the quarter.

In order to increase the number of required visits made by workers, several areas have placed a greater focus on monitoring workers' visitation schedules. The Division has emphasized the need for its supervisors to ensure that workers manage their time efficiently. The efficient use of time includes having staff schedule a greater number of visits in the late afternoon and evening when families are more likely to be at home. Several Area Directors also indicated that the documentation of visits in CHRIS is often incomplete, and subsequently indicated that they are implementing mandatory days and times during which staff must document any completed contacts. Additionally, the recent development of CHRIS-based reports—which are updated daily—allows staff to monitor compliance with visitation on a case-specific basis. Area Directors also intend to increase the number of completed monthly visits by holding more

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<sup>1</sup> In-home protective services cases are cases in which DCFS monitors the risk and safety issues within the family's home but they have not warranted the removal of children.

frequent case staffings between supervisors and caseworkers, with the expectation that doing so will ensure that the agency's children and families are visited with greater consistency.

### **Part III: Description of Population and Services**

The Description of Population and Services section describes the children who were subjects of maltreatment reports, were served in foster care and were provided with adoption services.

There were no noteworthy areas in this section for the second quarter.



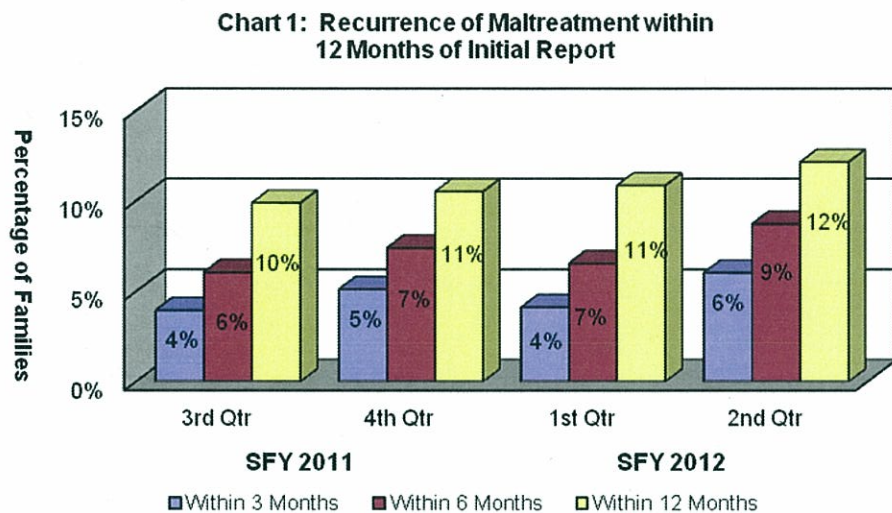
## **PART I: PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

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

- Percentage of children with true allegations of maltreatment three months, six months and one year after a previous true report;
- Percentage of foster families with true reports of maltreatment;
- Percentage of children receiving Supportive Services or Protective Services who were abused or neglected within one year of the initiation of services;
- Percentage of children receiving Supportive Services or Protective Services who entered foster care within one year of the initiation of services;
- Percentage of children in foster care who returned home within eighteen months;
- Percentage of children in foster care who have experienced two or fewer placements;
- Percentage of siblings in placement who are placed together;
- Percentage of children who were adopted within one year of having their goal changed to adoption; and
- Number of children placed in pre-adoptive homes whose adoptions were finalized within twelve months of entering pre-adoptive placements.

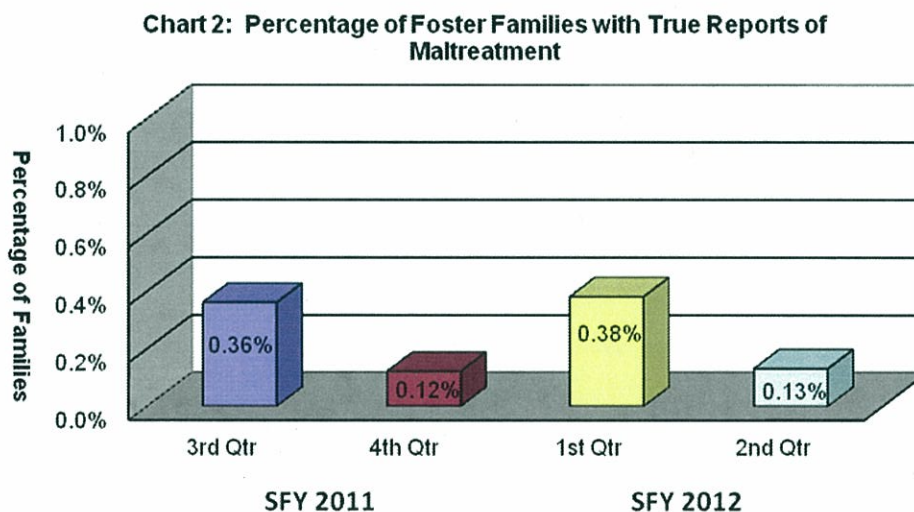
### ***Percentage of Children with True Allegations of Child Maltreatment Three Months, Six Months and One Year after a Previous True Report***

Of the 2,309 children involved in true reports of maltreatment during the second quarter one year ago, only 12 percent (280) had a subsequent true report within 12 months.



### ***Percentage of Foster Families with True Reports of Maltreatment***

Of the 27 foster home maltreatment reports received during the second quarter in which foster parents were the alleged offenders, only two were determined to be true. Based on the 1,564 foster homes<sup>2</sup> active during the quarter, the percentage of foster families with a true report of maltreatment was 0.13 percent.



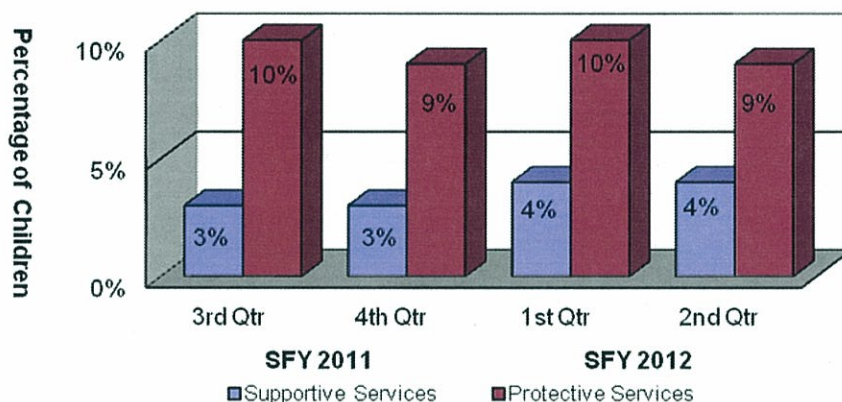
<sup>2</sup> This includes family and therapeutic foster homes.



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

Of the 458 children who began receiving Supportive Services during the second quarter one year ago, nineteen children (4 percent) experienced a true report of maltreatment within one year. Of the 3,270 children who began receiving Protective Services during the second quarter one year ago, 298 children (9 percent) were involved in a true report within one year.

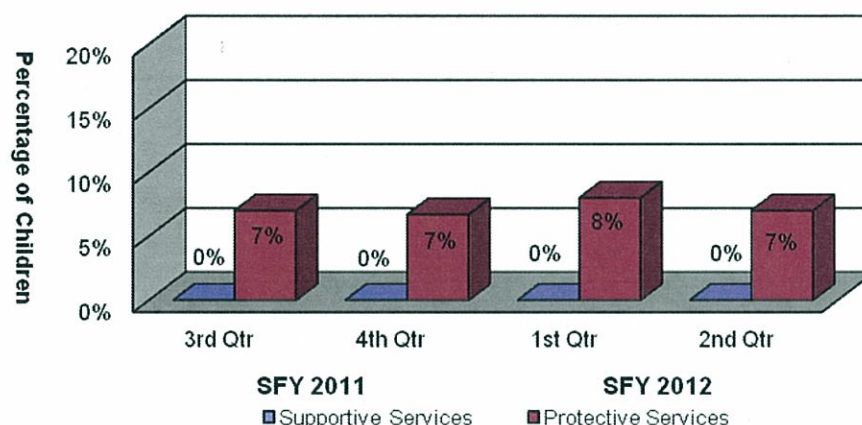
**Chart 3: Children Receiving Supportive Services and Protective Services who were Abused or Neglected within One Year of the Initiation of Services**



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

Of the 458 children who began receiving Supportive Services during the second quarter one year ago, none entered foster care within one year of the initiation of these services; 226 of the 3,270 (7 percent) children who began receiving Protective Services during the same timeframe entered care within one year.

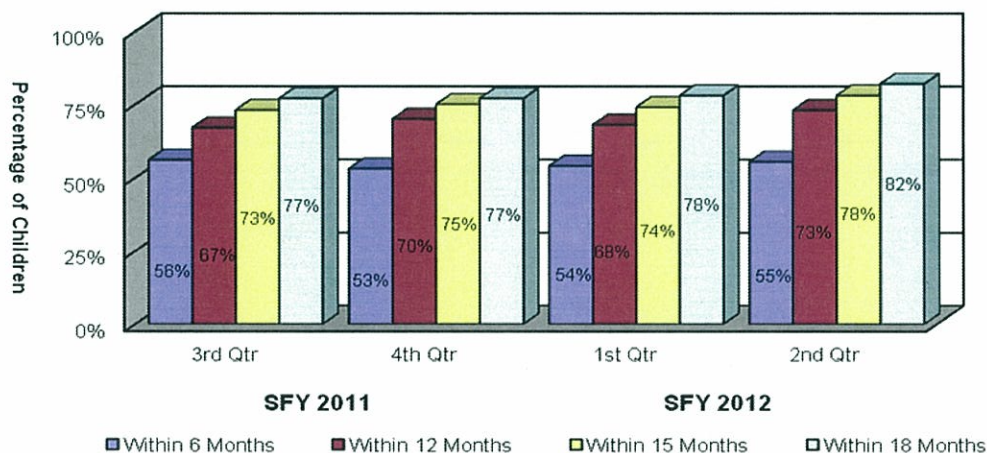
**Chart 4: Children Receiving Supportive Services or Protective Services who Entered Foster Care within One Year of the Initiation of Services**



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

During the quarter 18 months prior to the start of the current quarter, 1,047 children entered foster care. Of those, 863 children (82 percent) returned home within 18 months. This was about four percentage points higher than the previous quarter. The percentage of children returning home within 12 months stood at 73 percent, exceeding the national median of 48.4 percent.

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

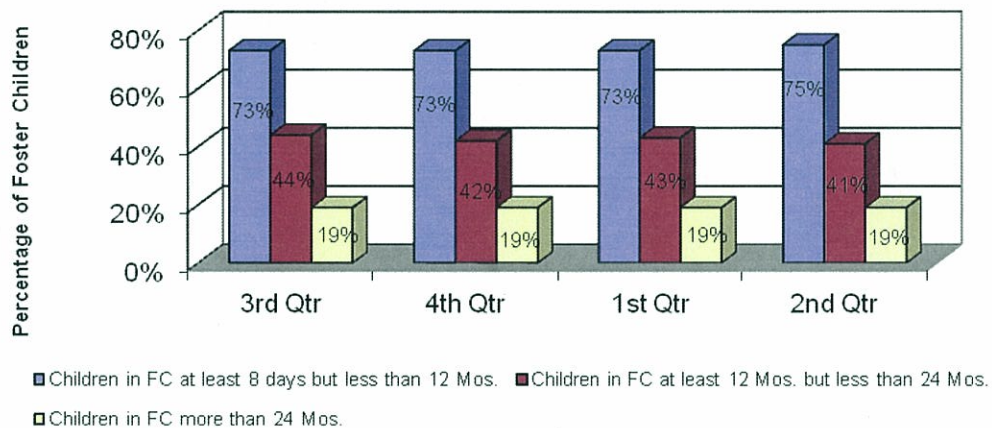




### ***Percentage of Children in Foster Care who have Experienced Two or Fewer Placements***

Placement stability of children in foster care is measured by the percentage of children with two or fewer placements who are in care for varying lengths of time. Of the children at the end of the quarter who were in foster care for less than 12 months, 75 percent experienced two or fewer placements; the national standard is 86 percent. Of the children in foster care between 12 and 24 months, 41 percent had two or fewer placements; the national standard for this population is 65.4 percent. Finally, of the children who were in foster care for over two years, only 19 percent experienced two or fewer placements during their stay in foster care, with the national standard for this population being 41.8 percent.

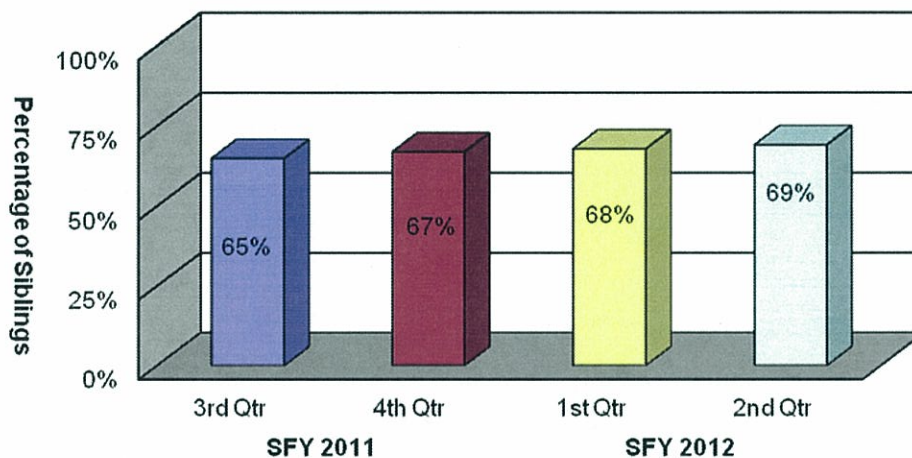
**Chart 6: Children in Foster Care who have Experienced Two or Fewer Placements**



### ***Percentage of Siblings in Placement who are Placed Together***

During the second quarter, there were 1,948 children with siblings in foster care. Of those children, 69 percent (1,345) were placed with at least one of their siblings. The success rate showed some improvement over the previous three quarters. Of those same 1,948 children, 48 percent were placed with all of their siblings, which was two percentage points lower than the previous quarter (50 percent). These figures do not exclude children who were placed separately for valid reasons such as safety issues or court orders.

**Chart7: Siblings in Care who are Placed Together**

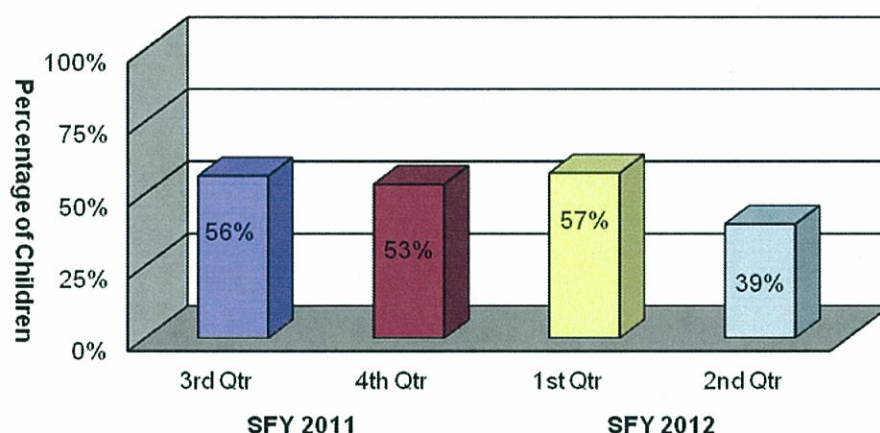




### ***Percentage of Children Who Were Adopted Within One Year of Having Their Goal Changed to Adoption***

Of the 127 children whose goals were changed to adoption during the quarter one year ago, 50 children (39 percent) were adopted within one year of the goal change. This represents an 18 percentage point decrease from the previous quarter (57 percent).

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



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

Between October and December 2010, 120 children were placed in pre-adoptive homes. Of those children, 100 (83 percent) had their adoptions finalized within 12 months of the placement.

Thirteen children (11 percent), however, experienced a disruption, which occurs when a child has been placed in a pre-adoptive home and the family or the child subsequently decides not to proceed with the adoption, resulting in the child leaving the home. Finalization of the adoption was still pending 12 months after the placement for 10 of the children.

**Table 1: Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes whose Adoptions were finalized within Twelve Months of Entering Pre-adoptive Placements  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

Adoption Status	Number of Children
Children Placed in Pre-adoptive Homes	120
Finalized Adoptions	100
Disrupted Adoptive Placements	13
Children with a Disruption who were Re-placed in Pre-adoptive Homes	3
Still Pending after Twelve Months	10

## 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.

<u>Goal</u>	<u>Compliance Measure</u>
-------------	---------------------------

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| 95% | <b><i>Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments.</i></b> 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% | <b><i>Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments.</i></b> Timely completion means a determination must be made regarding an allegation of child maltreatment within 30 days of receipt of the allegation.  |
| 95% | <b><i>24-Hour Initial Health Screenings.</i></b> 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% | <b><i>72-Hour Initial Health Screenings.</i></b> 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% | <b><i>Comprehensive Health Assessments.</i></b> 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  | <b><i>Foster Home Recruitment.</i></b> DCFS must ensure that a sufficient number and variety of foster homes that meet minimal standards and match the needs and characteristics of foster children are available. The goal is 80 homes for the quarter or 320 homes for the year.          |
| 95% | <b><i>Foster Home Re-evaluations.</i></b> DCFS must re-evaluate at least annually each foster home's ability to care for children.  |
| 85% | <b><i>Required Visits Made by Worker.</i></b> DCFS must provide data on the percentage of monthly visits made by DCFS workers to children in foster care.   |

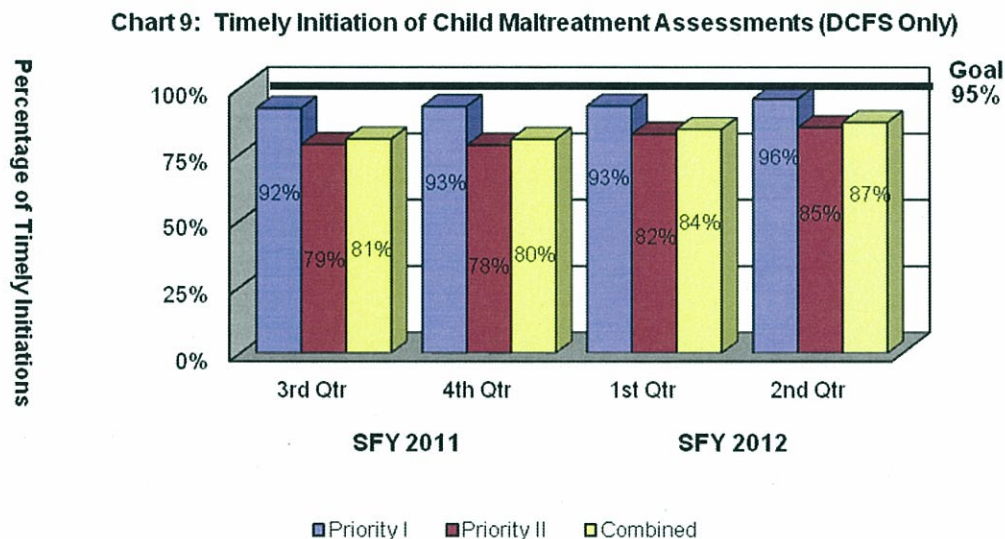


## ***Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments***

Whenever there is an allegation of child maltreatment, a Family Service Worker, a Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) staff member, or staff from another local law enforcement agency must interview or observe the victim child(ren) outside the presence of the alleged offender within 24 hours for Priority I referrals or within 72 hours for Priority II referrals. There were 9,120 referrals of child maltreatment during the quarter. Of those, 7,778 were assigned to DCFS for investigation—1,389 Priority I referrals and 6,389 Priority II referrals.

Of the DCFS assigned Priority I referrals, 1,328 (96 percent) were initiated within the required 24-hour period. Of the DCFS Priority II referrals, 5,426 (85 percent) were initiated within the required 72-hour period.<sup>3</sup> Overall, 87 percent of the referrals were initiated within the required timeframe. The combined compliance rate was three percentage points higher than the rate for the previous quarter.

As noted previously, the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) of the Arkansas State Police is also responsible for handling child abuse assessments. CACD was responsible for 1,342 of the 9,120 referrals that came in during the quarter, of which 1,213 were Priority I referrals and 129 were Priority II referrals. Of the Priority I referrals, 1,149 (95 percent) were initiated in a timely manner while 120 (93 percent) of the Priority II referrals were initiated in on time.

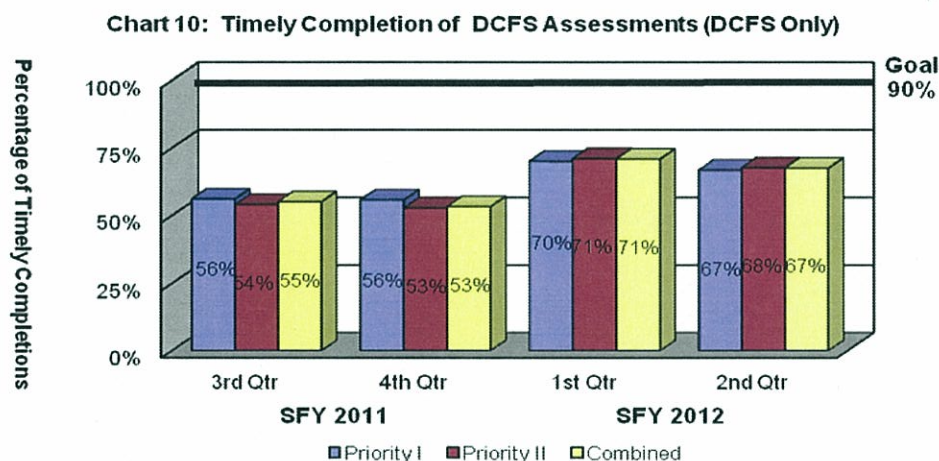


<sup>3</sup> DCFS had 1,328 Priority I referrals and 5,426 Priority II referrals that were initiated in a timely manner. Of those, 249 Priority I (19 percent) and 1,431 Priority II referrals (26 percent) were considered compliant due to reasonable diligence. CACD had 1,149 Priority I referrals and 120 Priority II referrals that were initiated in a timely manner. Of those, 162 Priority I (14 percent) and 28 Priority II (23 percent) referrals were considered compliant due to reasonable diligence.

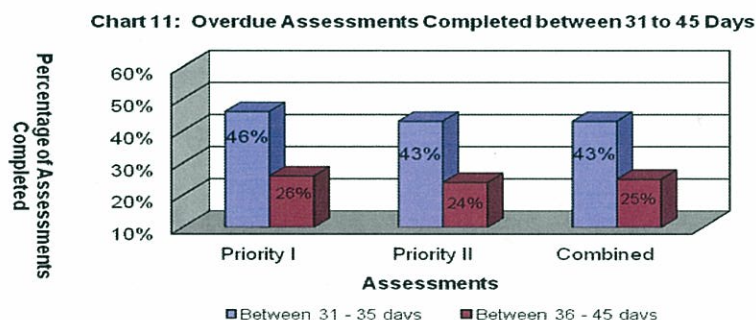
## Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments

Of the 1,389 Priority I assessments assigned to DCFS, 927 (67 percent) were completed within the required 30-day period. Of the 6,389 DCFS Priority II assessments, 4,317 (68 percent) were completed within the required 30-day period. The completions resulted in an overall compliance rate of 67 percent, which was four percentage points lower than the previous quarter. Compliance continues to be below the goal of 90 percent (See plan of action in the Executive Summary).

As referenced earlier, the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) of the Arkansas State Police was responsible for 1,342 of the incoming referrals received during the quarter—1,213 Priority I assessments and 129 Priority II assessments. Of the Priority I assessments, 847 (70 percent) were completed on time while 80 (62 percent) of the Priority II assessments were completed on time.



Of the 2,534 DCFS-assigned investigations that became overdue anytime during the quarter, 1,102 (43 percent) were completed within 31 to 35 days after the referral date and another 621 (25 percent) were completed within 36 to 45 days after the referral. Overall, 68 percent of the overdue investigations were completed within 15 days of being overdue (Chart 11).

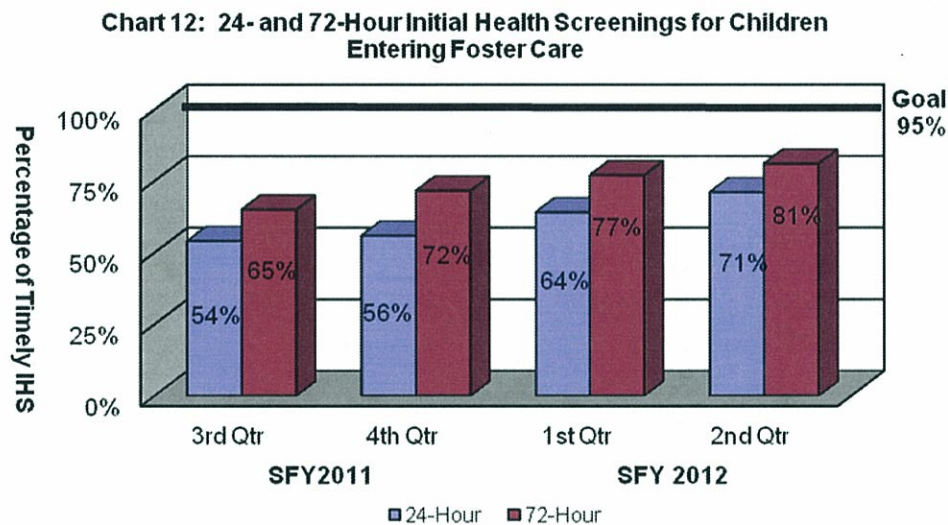




## 24- and 72-Hour Initial Health Screenings for Children Entering Foster Care

When a child enters foster care due to an allegation of severe maltreatment or if there is evidence of acute illness or injury, DCFS must conduct an initial health screening within 24 hours of the child's removal from the home. Of the 262 children who required the 24-hour health screening during the second quarter, 185 children (71 percent) received the screening in a timely manner. The compliance rate was seven percentage points higher than the previous quarter but short of the goal of 95 percent.

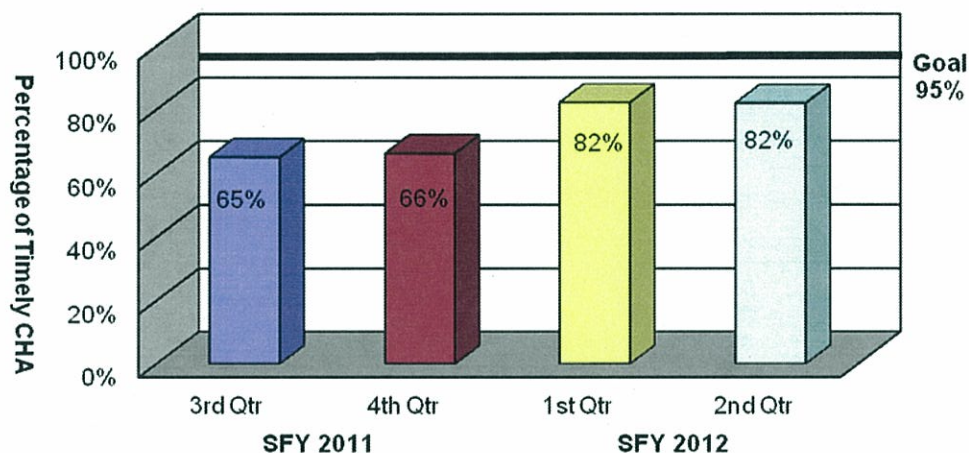
All children entering foster care who do not require the initial 24-hour health screening must still undergo an initial health screening within 72 hours of their removal. Of the 637 children who required the 72-hour health screening, 513 (81 percent) received their screenings on time, which was four percentage points higher than the previous quarter and short of the goal of 95 percent (See plan of action in the Executive Summary).



## Comprehensive Health Assessments

All children entering foster care must receive a comprehensive health assessment as well to evaluate their physical and mental health status; the assessment is to be completed within 60 days of entering foster care. Between August 2, 2011 and November 1, 2011, 581 children entered foster care who remained in care for at least 60 days. Of those children, 476 received their comprehensive health assessment in a timely manner. The resulting compliance rate was 82 percent, which was the same percentage as the previous quarter and below the goal of 95 percent.

Chart 13: Comprehensive Health Assessments

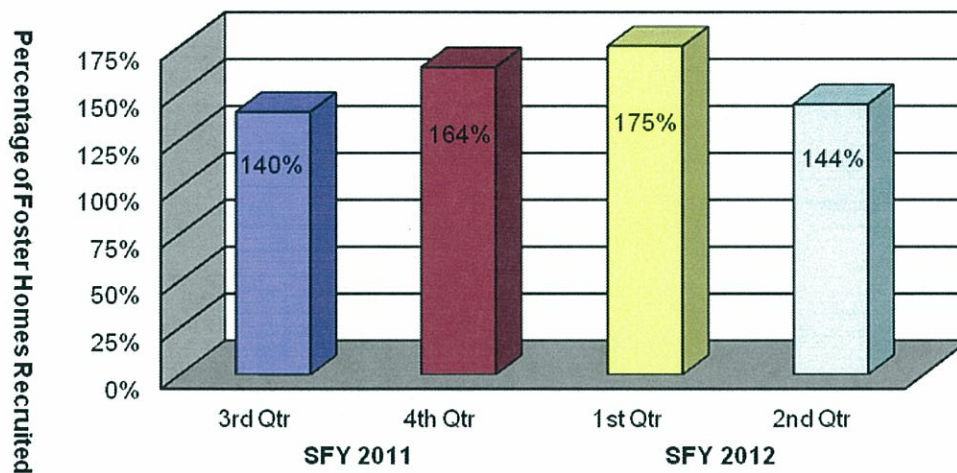




## ***Foster Home Recruitment***

DCFS recruited 115 new foster homes during the second quarter, an achievement which continues to be well above the goal of 80 new homes. At the same time, 114 foster homes were closed resulting in a net gain of one foster home for the quarter.

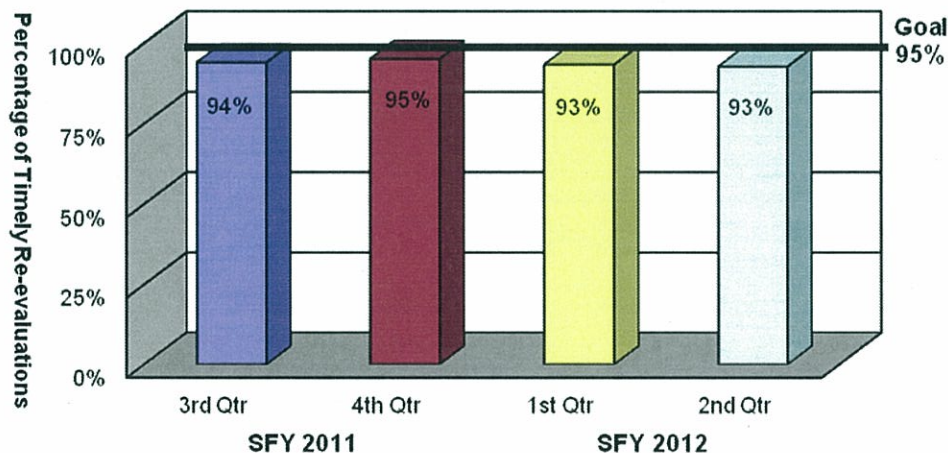
**Chart 14: Foster Home Recruitment**



## ***Foster Home Re-evaluations***

On an annual basis, at a minimum, DCFS is responsible to conduct re-evaluations of each foster home's ability to care for children. Of the 1,166 foster homes active at the end of the second quarter, a current re-evaluation was available for 1,081 homes. The resulting 93 percent compliance rate was the same as the previous quarter and short of the compliance goal of 95 percent.

**Chart 15: Foster Home Re-evaluations**

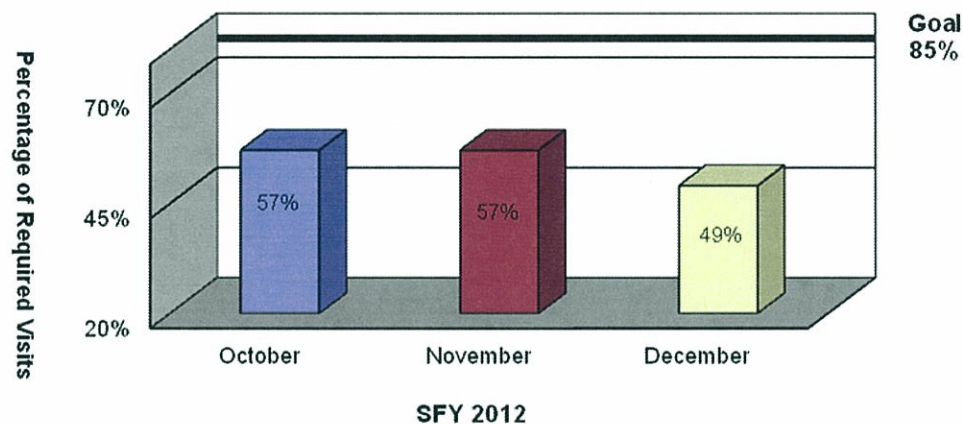


### ***Required Visits Made by Worker***

DCFS acknowledges the importance of worker contact with children in foster care and believes that these visits should be conducted face-to-face in the children’s placement setting, at least once per month.

During the second quarter, an average of 54 percent of children in foster care received a monthly visit. This result was four percentage points lower than the previous quarter, and still below the goal of 85 percent (See plan of action in the Executive Summary).

**Chart 16: Required Foster Care Monthly Visits Made by Worker**





### **PART III: DESCRIPTION OF POPULATION AND SERVICES**

This section describes the number and status of maltreatment assessments, children who were served in foster care and children who were provided adoption services.

Section I outlines characteristics of children in true maltreatment reports such as age, gender and ethnicity, and also compares state ethnicity data to national data. Additionally, this section defines the types of allegations in maltreatment reports.

Section II describes the foster care population. Specifically, it describes the characteristics of children in foster care, entries and exits of children in foster care, reasons children come into care, lengths of stay for children in foster care as well as children in relative care, placements of children in foster care and the number of placements children experience while in care.

Section III reports adoption data such as the characteristics of children available for adoption, current placement of those children, characteristics of children placed in adoptive homes, children whose parents have terminated their parental rights but have not been placed in adoptive homes, finalized adoptions and adoption subsidies.

## Part III: Description of Population and Services

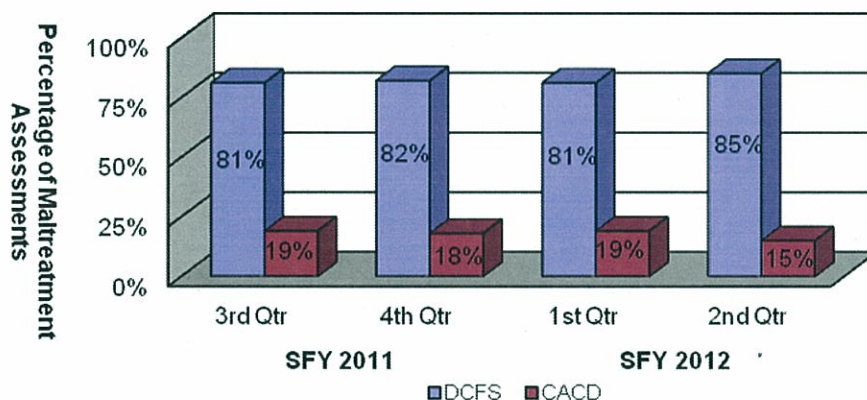
### Section I: True Child Maltreatment Reports

#### *Child Maltreatment Assessments*

During the second quarter, 9,120 maltreatment reports were received and assigned for investigation. Of those, 7,778 (85 percent) were assigned to DCFS. This figure represents a 19 percent increase in the number of reports assigned to DCFS from the previous quarter (6,557) and a six percent increase from the same quarter ending one year ago (7,365).

Of those same 9,120 reports, 1,342 (15 percent) were assigned to CACD. This figure represents a 12 percent decrease in the number of reports assigned to CACD from the previous quarter (1,523) as well as an 18 percent decrease from the same quarter ending one year ago (1,633).

Chart 17: Child Maltreatment Assessments





Of the 9,120 maltreatment reports received during the second quarter of SFY 2012, 1,893 reports (21 percent) were found to be true, a rate which was five percentage points lower than the quarter ending one year ago (26 percent). The national percentage is 22 percent.<sup>4</sup> There were 2,705 victim children involved in the 1,893 true reports for the quarter, which represents a 19 percent decrease in the number of victim children reported during the same quarter ending one year ago (3,346).

**Table 2: Child Maltreatment Assessments**

	<b>Total Assessments</b>	<b>True Assessments</b>	<b>Percent True</b>
<b>3rd Qtr SFY 2011</b>	7,768	1,921	25%
<b>4th Qtr SFY 2011</b>	9,175	2,113	23%
<b>1st Qtr SFY 2012</b>	8,080	1,792	22%
<b>2nd Qtr SFY 2012</b>	9,120	1,893	21%

	<b>DCFS</b>			<b>CACD</b>		
	<b>Total Assessments</b>	<b>True Assessments</b>	<b>Percent True</b>	<b>Total Assessments</b>	<b>True Assessments</b>	<b>Percent True</b>
<b>3rd Qtr SFY 2011</b>	6,329	1,326	21%	1,439	595	41%
<b>4th Qtr SFY 2011</b>	7,535	1,516	20%	1,640	597	36%
<b>1st Qtr SFY 2012</b>	6,557	1,251	19%	1,523	541	36%
<b>2nd Qtr SFY 2012</b>	7,778	1,428	18%	1,342	465	35%

<sup>4</sup> Source: Child Maltreatment 2010, 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, 2,705 victim children were involved in true reports of maltreatment during the second quarter. The table below outlines the demographic information for these victim children.<sup>5</sup>

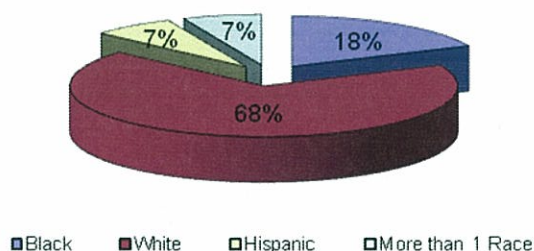
**Table 3: Characteristics of Children in True Maltreatment Reports  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	84	25	0	0	0	7	15	131
	Male	99	32	1	0	1	8	11	152
2 to 5	Female	220	56	0	0	0	32	28	336
	Male	234	63	1	0	2	33	24	357
6 to 11	Female	329	77	0	0	0	29	24	459
	Male	294	79	1	0	1	33	35	443
12 to 15	Female	238	69	0	1	4	16	17	345
	Male	140	37	0	0	2	11	9	199
16 to 18	Female	109	29	0	0	1	8	5	152
	Male	73	20	0	0	1	5	7	106
18+	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total*		1,820	487	3	1	12	182	175	2,680

\*Demographic data have not been entered into CHRIS for 25 children.

Of the children involved in true maltreatment reports, 68 percent were white and 18 percent were black.

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

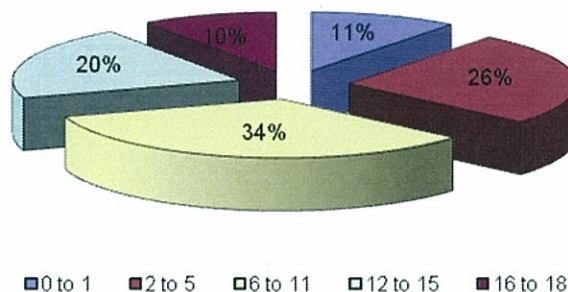


<sup>5</sup> Table three, and each subsequent demographic table, divides up "other" races and ethnicities into the following categories: "Hispanic," "More than One Race," "Asian" (includes Indonesian, Cambodian, Hmong and Vietnamese), "AIAN" (includes Native American, Alaskan Native and American Indian)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



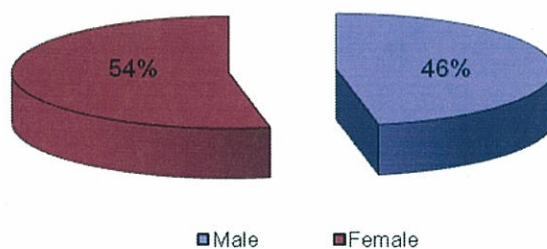
Children ages six to 11 represent the largest group of children involved in true maltreatment reports (34 percent) followed by children ages two to five (26 percent).

**Chart 18b: Ages of Children in True Reports**



More female children (54 percent) than male children (46 percent) were involved in true maltreatment reports.

**Chart 18c: Gender of Children in True Reports**



### ***Children Involved in Allegations of True Maltreatment Reports***

During the quarter, the majority of the 2,705 children involved in true maltreatment reports were involved in allegations of neglect (86 percent), followed by allegations of physical abuse (43 percent) and sexual abuse (25 percent).<sup>6</sup>

**Table 4: Percentage of Children Involved in True Allegations of Maltreatment  
1st Quarter SFY 2012 – 2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

	1st Quarter		2nd Quarter	
<b>Neglect</b>	2,088	84%	2,316	86%
<b>Physical Abuse</b>	1,049	42%	1,150	43%
<b>Sexual Abuse</b>	689	28%	672	25%

### ***Child Maltreatment Reports Involving Fatalities or Near Fatalities***

During the second quarter of SFY 2012, there were five investigations of a child fatality and one investigation of a near child fatality. A finding of True resulted for three of the six incidents, with one investigation unsubstantiated and two pending. Table 5 summarizes the findings of the reports involving the fatality or near fatality of a child. Appendix A provides a summary of each report involving a child fatality and Appendix B provides a summary of those involving a near fatality.

**Table 5: Findings of Maltreatment Reports  
Involving Fatalities or Near Fatalities**

<b>Finding</b>	<b>Child Fatality</b>	<b>Near Child Fatality</b>
<b>True</b>	2	1
<b>Unsubstantiated</b>	1	0
<b>Pending</b>	2	0

<sup>6</sup> 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 second quarter, 4,840 children spent time in foster care. This number includes children who remained in care from previous quarters as well as children who came into care during the quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of the children who were in care during the quarter.

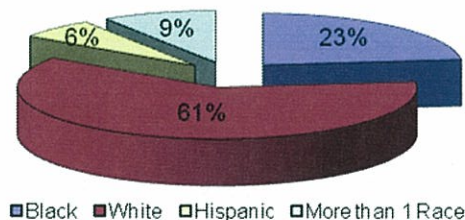
**Table 6: Characteristics of Children in Foster Care During the Quarter**  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	216	80	0	0	0	17	35	348
	Male	249	91	1	0	1	22	41	405
2 to 5	Female	399	119	1	0	1	40	63	623
	Male	419	143	1	0	1	43	56	663
6 to 11	Female	407	140	0	0	0	35	53	635
	Male	372	128	1	0	0	41	76	618
12 to 15	Female	225	92	0	0	1	23	30	371
	Male	221	92	0	1	0	22	35	371
16 to 18	Female	161	62	0	0	0	19	16	258
	Male	147	78	0	1	1	17	16	260
18+	Female	58	50	0	0	0	14	12	134
	Male	78	45	1	0	0	7	9	140
<b>Total*</b>		<b>2,952</b>	<b>1,120</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>4,826</b>

\*Demographic information have not been entered into CHRIS for 14 children.

The chart below shows that 61 percent of the children in foster care during the quarter were white and 23 percent were black. National data reveal that only 41 percent of the children in the national foster care system were white, while 29 percent of the children were black.<sup>7</sup>

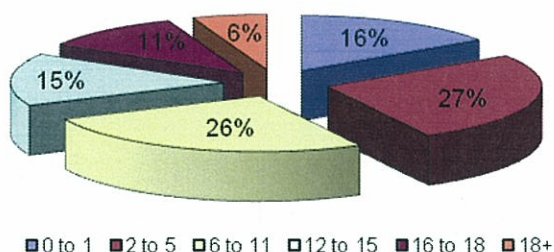
**Chart 19a: Race/Ethnicity of Children in Care During the Quarter**



<sup>7</sup> Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2009 and 9/30/2010 as of June 2010.

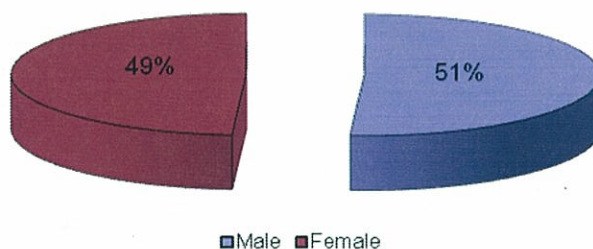
Children ages two to five (27 percent) and six to 11 (26 percent) represent the largest group of the children who were in care during the quarter. This pattern was similar to the previous quarter.

**Chart 19b: Ages of Children in Foster Care During the Quarter**



The following chart shows that 49 percent of the children in foster care during the quarter were female and 51 percent were male. These percentages are also similar to the previous quarter.

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





At the end of the quarter, 4,002 children were in foster care, a slight decrease from the 4,011 children in care at the end of the previous quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of the children in foster care at the end of the second quarter.

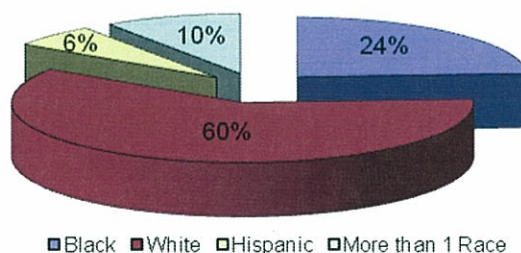
**Table 7: Characteristics of Children in Foster Care at the End of the Quarter  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	174	70	0	0	0	13	29	286
	Male	192	76	1	0	1	16	36	322
2 to 5	Female	305	102	1	0	1	28	48	485
	Male	330	117	0	0	1	34	43	525
6 to 11	Female	340	117	0	0	0	29	48	534
	Male	316	111	0	0	0	33	69	529
12 to 15	Female	189	80	0	0	1	20	30	320
	Male	183	84	0	1	0	21	33	322
16 to 18	Female	139	54	0	0	0	16	15	224
	Male	133	68	0	1	0	15	14	231
18+	Female	39	41	0	0	0	11	9	100
	Male	60	40	1	0	0	5	7	113
<b>Total*</b>		<b>2,400</b>	<b>960</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>3,991</b>

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

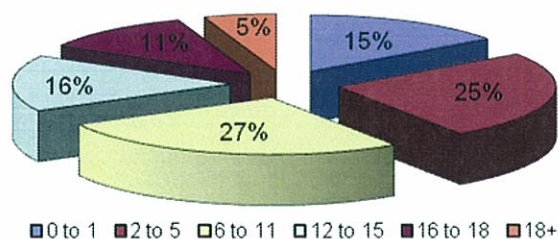
The chart below shows that 60 percent of the children in foster care at the end of the quarter were white, while 24 percent of the children were black. These percentages are consistent with the previous quarter.

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



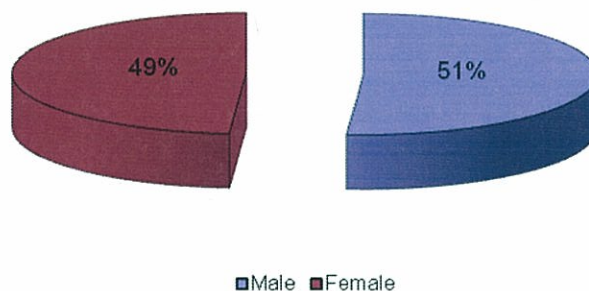
Children between the ages of six and 11 (27 percent) represent the largest group of children who were in care at the end of the quarter, followed closely by children between the ages of two and five (25 percent).

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



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

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





## Entries into Foster Care

During the second quarter, 897 children entered foster care, a decrease from the previous quarter (933).

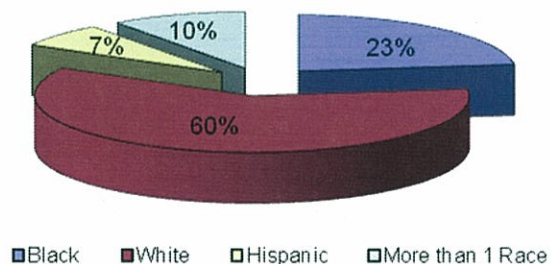
**Table 8: Characteristics of Children Entering Foster Care During the Quarter  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	His-panic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	56	19	0	0	0	5	11	91
	Male	59	19	0	0	0	9	16	103
2 to 5	Female	71	27	0	0	0	12	15	125
	Male	74	20	0	0	0	11	8	113
6 to 11	Female	88	39	0	0	0	8	10	145
	Male	65	26	0	0	0	6	16	113
12 to 15	Female	46	22	0	0	0	1	7	76
	Male	43	17	0	0	0	3	4	67
16 to 18	Female	16	8	0	0	0	3	0	27
	Male	18	9	0	0	1	3	3	34
18+	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total*</b>		<b>536</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>894</b>

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

The chart below shows that 60 percent of the children who entered foster care during the quarter were white, while 23 percent were black. National data indicate that 45 percent of the children who enter care are white, 24 percent are black and 21 percent are Hispanic.<sup>8</sup>

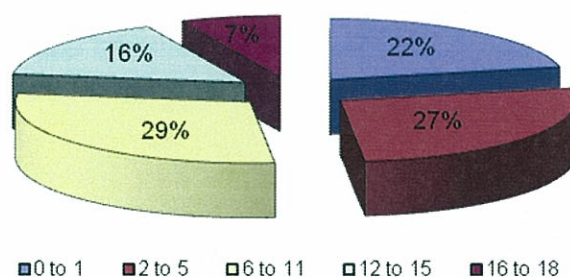
**Chart 21a: Race/Ethnicity of Children who Entered Care**



<sup>8</sup> Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2009 and 9/30/2010 as of June 2011.

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

**Chart 21b: Ages of Children who Entered Care**



Of the 897 children who entered care, 52 percent of the children were female and 48 percent were male.

**Chart 21c: Gender of Children who Entered Care**

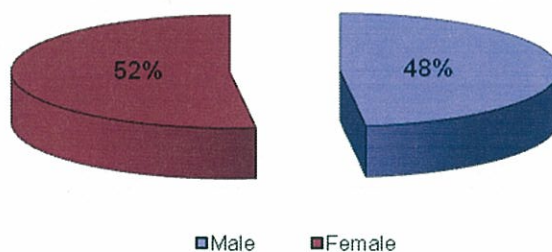




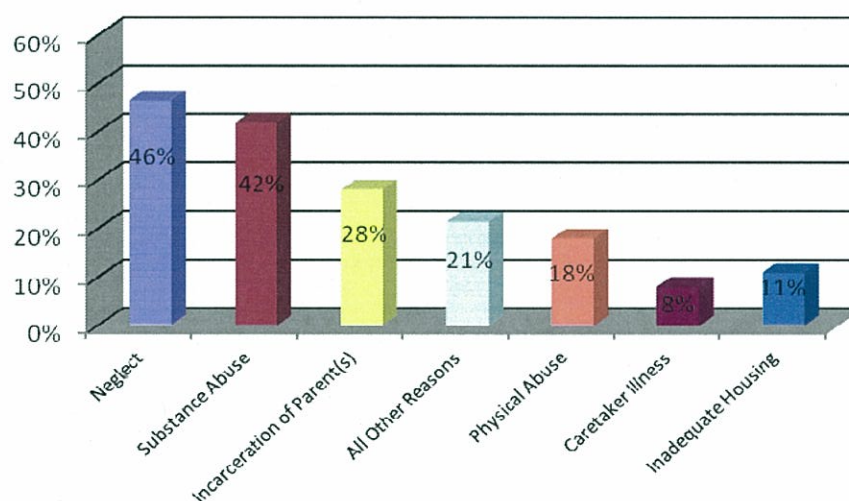
Table 9 displays the reasons for the entry into foster care for the 897 children who entered during the quarter. Neglect and substance abuse<sup>9</sup> were the most prevalent reasons for the children's entry into care.

**Table 9: Reasons Children Who Entered Foster Care During the Quarter  
Were Placed in Foster Care  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

Placement Reason	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	18+	Total
Neglect	82	97	136	71	31	0	417
Substance Abuse	99	101	111	43	21	0	375
Parent Incarceration	47	70	77	42	15	0	251
Physical Abuse	31	41	42	31	16	0	161
Child's Behavior	0	0	3	23	9	0	35
Abandonment	4	2	4	13	9	0	32
Inadequate Housing	17	31	28	15	7	0	98
Caretaker Illness	9	22	22	13	6	0	72
Sexual Abuse	4	13	34	18	12	0	81
Truancy	0	0	7	9	3	0	19
Child's Disability	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Parent Death	1	1	2	2	1	0	7
Sex Offender	0	0	3	7	1	0	11
Relinquishment	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Teen Parent in Care	3	2	0	0	0	0	5
<b>Total*</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,567</b>

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

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



<sup>9</sup> Of the 375 reasons for entry attributed to substance abuse, substance abuse by children accounted for 12 reasons for entry (3 percent), while substance abuse by parents accounted for 363 reasons for entry (97 percent).

### Exits from Foster Care

During the quarter, 852 children left foster care, which was a decrease from the previous quarter (924).

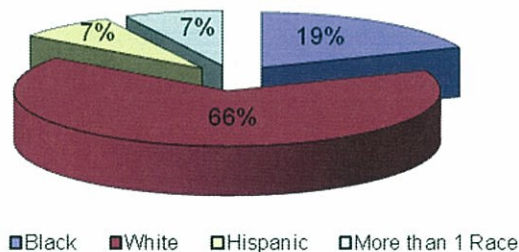
**Table 10: Characteristics of Children Exiting Foster Care During the Quarter  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	His-panic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	43	10	0	0	0	4	6	63
	Male	57	15	0	0	0	7	5	84
2 to 5	Female	96	17	0	0	0	14	16	143
	Male	90	26	1	0	0	9	13	139
6 to 11	Female	68	23	0	0	0	6	5	102
	Male	57	17	1	0	0	8	8	91
12 to 15	Female	36	12	0	0	0	3	0	51
	Male	39	8	0	0	0	1	2	50
16 to 18	Female	34	14	0	0	0	6	4	58
	Male	24	14	0	0	1	4	3	46
18+	Female	7	4	0	0	0	0	0	11
	Male	8	1	0	0	0	1	1	11
<b>Total*</b>		<b>559</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>849</b>

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

Of the children who exited foster care, 66 percent were white and 19 percent were black. National data indicate that 43 percent of the children who leave foster care are white and 27 percent are black.<sup>10</sup>

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

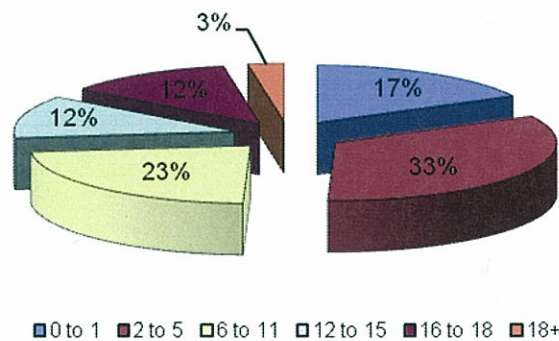


<sup>10</sup> Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2009 and 9/30/2010 as of June 2011.



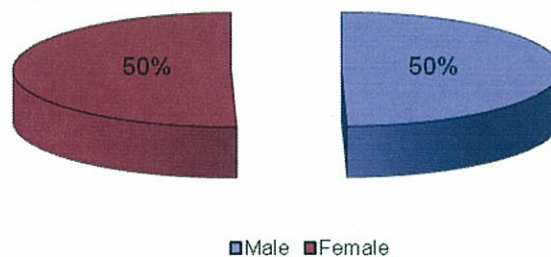
Children between the ages of two and 11 make up more than half (56 percent) of the children who left foster care during the quarter.

**Chart 23b: Ages of Children who Exited Care**



The same percentage of female (50 percent) children exited foster care during the quarter as male (50 percent) children.

**Chart 23c: Gender of Children who Exited Care**



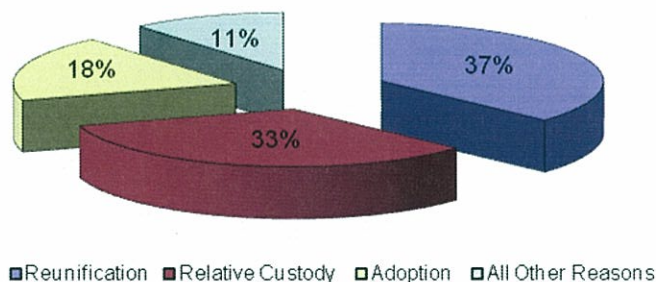
**Table 11: Reasons Children Exited Foster Care by Age  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

Reason	Age						Total
	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	18+	
Reunification	62	109	73	42	27	0	313
Relative Custody	55	92	75	35	27	0	284
Adoption	23	78	35	18	3	0	157
Child Aged Out	0	0	0	0	41	18	59
Non-Relative Custody	6	2	7	6	5	3	29
Custody Transfer	0	0	3	0	1	1	5
Tribal Jurisdiction	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Total*</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>849</b>

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

The most prevalent reason that children left foster care during the quarter was reunification (37 percent). The second leading reason was relative custody (33 percent). National data indicate that the three most prevalent reasons children leave care are reunification (51 percent), adoption (21 percent) and relative care (8 percent).<sup>11</sup> In addition to the percentage of Arkansas' children exiting to reunification being lower than that seen nationally, the percentage exiting to adoption (18 percent) is also lower; however, Arkansas continues to have a significantly higher proportion of children exiting to relative custody.

**Chart 24: Most Prevalent Reasons Children Left Care**



<sup>11</sup> Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2009 and 9/30/2010 as of June 2011.



## ***Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care***

The Division maintains two primary goals for children in foster care: safety and permanency. The second of these concerns is expressed by setting a permanency goal for each child in foster care within 30 days of the child entering care. Of the 4,002 children in foster care at the end of the quarter, 3,768 children had been in care for at least 30 days. Reunification (returning home) remained the most prevalent goal (56 percent) among the children in foster care.

**Table 12: Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care  
1st Quarter SFY 2012 – 2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

	1st Quarter		2nd Quarter		National <sup>12</sup>
<b>Return Home</b>	2,044	54%	2,108	56%	51%
<b>Adoption</b>	800	21%	856	23%	25%
<b>APPLA</b>	449	12%	442	12%	N/A
<b>Relative Care</b>	108	3%	114	3%	4%
<b>Guardianship</b>	29	1%	35	1%	4%
<b>Emancipation</b>	0	0%	0	0%	6%
<b>Long Term Care</b>	0	0%	0	0%	6%
<b>Not Yet Established</b>	329	9%	213	6%	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,759</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3,768</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

<sup>12</sup> Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) preliminary data submitted for children in foster care between 10/1/2009 and 9/30/2010 as of June 2011.

### ***Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care***

The children in foster care anytime during the quarter were less likely to stay in care after 12 months when placed with a relative (35 percent) as compared to foster care overall (45 percent).

**Table 13a: Length of Stay of Children in Foster Care (Including Relative Care)  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

	Number	Percentage	National
<b>Less than 30 days</b>	380	8%	5%
<b>30-90 Days</b>	620	13%	20%
<b>3-6 Months</b>	610	13%	
<b>6-12 Months</b>	1,057	22%	17%
<b>12-24 Months</b>	1,030	21%	23%
<b>24-36 Months</b>	471	10%	12%
<b>36+ Months</b>	672	14%	24%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,840</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

**Table 13b: Length of Stay in Foster Care of Children in Relative Care  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

	Number	Percentage
<b>Less than 30 days</b>	21	3%
<b>30-90 Days</b>	90	11%
<b>3-6 Months</b>	117	15%
<b>6-12 Months</b>	282	36%
<b>12-24 Months</b>	178	23%
<b>24-36 Months</b>	64	8%
<b>36+ Months</b>	36	5%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>100%</b>

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



### ***Number of Placements of Children in Foster Care***

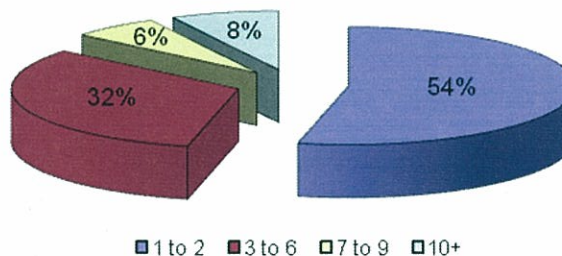
Overall, 54 percent of the children in care at the end of the second quarter experienced two or fewer placements. The result is similar to that of the previous quarter. It is not surprising that the likelihood of multiple placements increases the longer children remain in foster care.

**Table 14: Number of Placements of Children in Foster Care  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

	Children in FC Less Than 12 Months		Children in FC 12 and 24 Months		Children in FC More Than 24 Months		Total	
<b>1-2 Placements</b>	1,603	75%	355	41%	187	19%	2,145	54%
<b>3-6 Placements</b>	509	24%	396	46%	395	40%	1,300	32%
<b>7-9 Placements</b>	17	1%	91	10%	141	14%	249	6%
<b>10+ Placements</b>	6	0%	25	3%	277	28%	308	8%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>2,135</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4,002</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

**Chart 25: Number of Placements for Children in  
Care at the End of the Quarter**



### ***Characteristics of Children who Experienced Three or More Placements***

At the end of the second quarter, 4,002 children were in foster care. Of those, 1,857 children (46 percent) experienced three or more placements while in care.

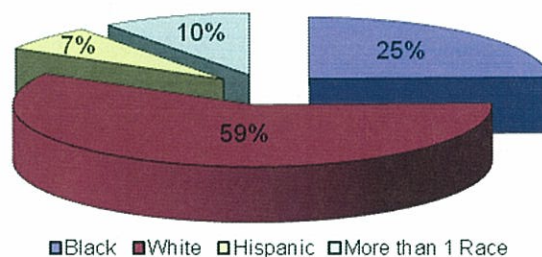
**Table 15: Characteristics of Children who Experienced Three or More Placements  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	28	11	0	0	0	4	5	48
	Male	43	17	0	0	0	5	8	73
2 to 5	Female	107	38	0	0	0	8	23	176
	Male	135	42	0	0	0	13	22	212
6 to 11	Female	152	43	0	0	0	18	21	234
	Male	176	58	0	0	0	19	37	290
12 to 15	Female	106	47	0	0	0	14	14	181
	Male	116	55	0	1	0	13	23	208
16 to 18	Female	96	49	0	0	0	14	13	172
	Male	97	75	1	1	0	12	13	199
18+	Female	9	10	0	0	0	3	4	26
	Male	20	11	0	0	0	0	2	33
<b>Total*</b>		<b>1,085</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>1,852</b>

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

Of the children who experienced three or more placements, 59 percent were white and 25 percent were black.

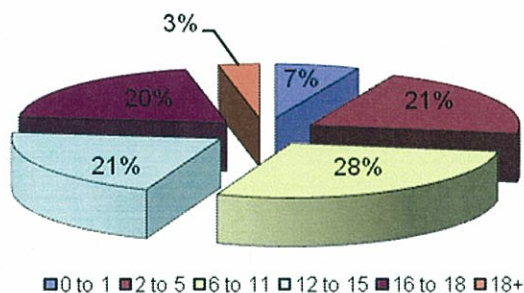
**Chart 26a: Race/Ethnicity of Children who Experienced Three or More Placements**





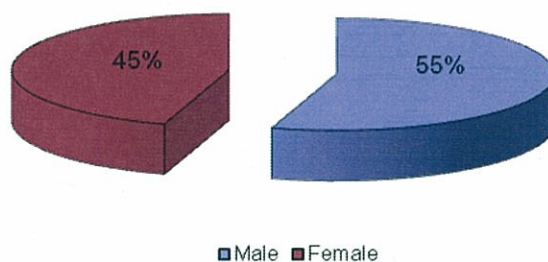
Children between the ages of six and 11 (28 percent) represented the largest group of children who experienced three or more placements followed by children 12 to 15 and two to five (21 percent each).

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



More male children (55 percent) than female children (45 percent) experienced three or more placements.

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



## Current Placement of Children in Foster Care

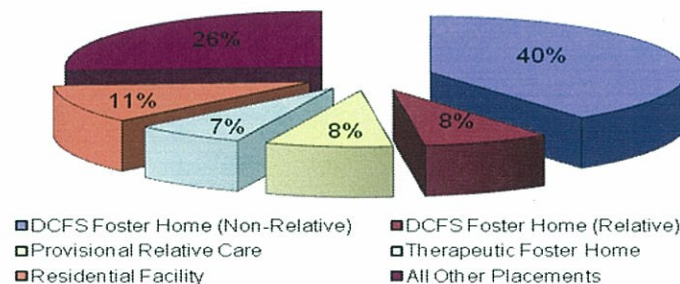
Forty-eight percent of the children in foster care at the end of the second quarter were placed in either a non-relative or relative DCFS foster home.

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

Placement	Age						Total
	0 to 1	2 to 5	6 to 11	12 to 15	16 to 18	Over 18	
DCFS Foster Home (Non-Relative)	393	542	373	148	107	31	1,594
DCFS Foster Home (Relative)	50	114	105	33	16	7	325
Provisional Relative Care	69	89	96	34	10	3	301
Therapeutic Foster Home	2	39	133	81	26	6	287
Pre-Adoptive Home (Non-Relative)	38	81	57	19	2	0	197
Pre-Adoptive Home (Relative)	0	3	2	5	0	0	10
Emergency Shelter	6	18	64	45	24	1	158
Residential Facility	11	33	92	139	136	49	460
Youth Services	0	0	0	3	10	4	17
Runaway	0	0	0	3	21	3	27
Trial Home Visit	22	73	67	16	19	1	198
Hospital/Medical	7	1	7	5	4	0	24
SRP CRT	0	0	1	6	7	0	14
Independent Living	0	0	0	0	3	95	98
Incarceration	0	0	0	2	8	2	12
Temporary Placement	12	18	24	18	6	1	79
Sub-Acute CRT	0	0	39	62	37	1	139
Acute CRT	0	0	5	8	5	1	19
ASAP Residential Treatment	0	0	0	2	7	2	11
ASAP Therapeutic Foster Care	0	0	0	5	3	4	12
DDS Placement	0	0	0	2	4	2	8
DDS Service	0	0	1	4	0	1	6
DYS Aftercare	0	0	0	3	0	0	3
Unknown*	0	2	0	0	1	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>1,066</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>4,002</b>

\*Unknown due to missing placement types.

Chart 27: Current Placement of Children in Foster Care



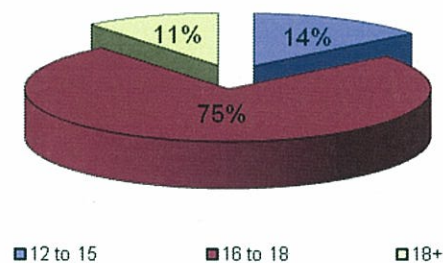


### ***Characteristics of Children on Runaway Status at the End of the Quarter***

Twenty-eight children were on runaway status at the end of the second quarter. This is a decrease from the previous quarter (37).

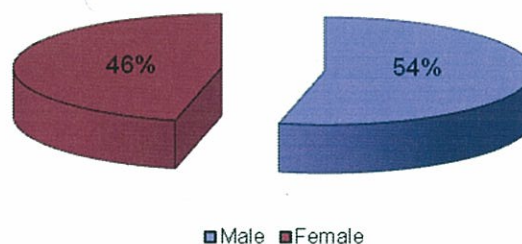
The majority of the children on runaway status (75 percent) were between the ages of 16 and 18.

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



More male children (54 percent) than female children (46 percent) were on runaway status at the end of the quarter. These percentages differed from the previous quarter when 57 percent were female and 43 percent were male.

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



## Characteristics of Children in Relative Care

During the second quarter, 788 children were placed in relative care,<sup>13</sup> a decrease from the previous quarter (807). This number includes children who remained in relative care from previous quarters as well as children who came into relative care during the current quarter. The following table outlines the characteristics of children residing in relative care.

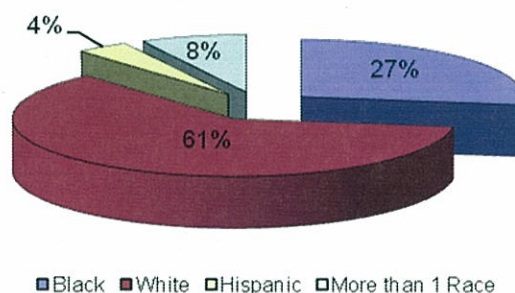
**Table 17: Characteristics of Children in Relative Care  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	44	19	0	0	0	3	10	76
	Male	46	27	0	0	0	1	4	78
2 to 5	Female	72	30	0	0	1	3	14	120
	Male	90	32	0	0	0	2	10	134
6 to 11	Female	82	28	0	0	0	4	5	119
	Male	76	34	0	0	0	6	10	126
12 to 15	Female	33	15	0	0	0	4	4	56
	Male	20	11	0	0	0	2	3	36
16 to 18	Female	11	7	0	0	0	1	1	20
	Male	5	9	0	0	0	4	0	18
18+	Female	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	3
	Male	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Total*</b>		<b>481</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>787</b>

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

White children represent the highest percentage of children in relative care during the second quarter (61 percent).

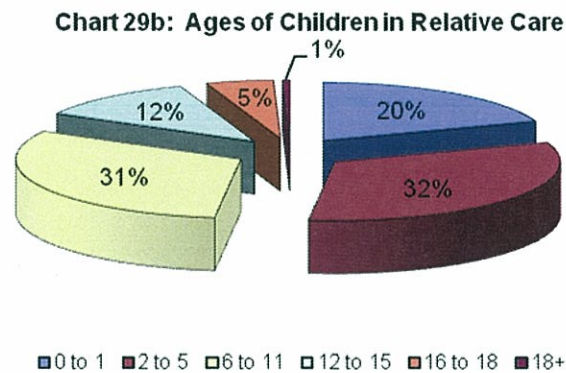
**Chart 29a: Race/Ethnicity of Children in Relative Care**



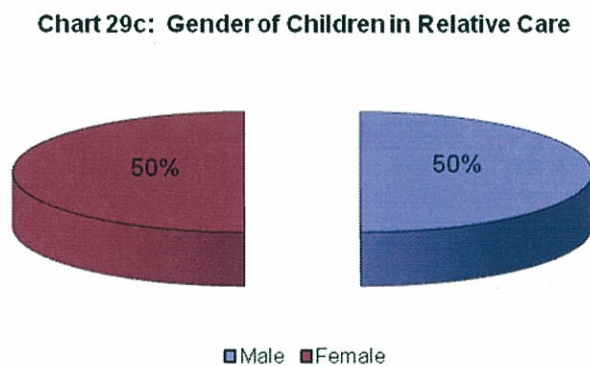
<sup>13</sup> Relative care includes both Provisional (Relative) placements and Licensed Foster Family Homes who served relative children during the quarter.



Children between the ages of two and five (32 percent) represent the largest age group of children in relative care, followed by children between the ages of six and 11 (31 percent).



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



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

***Characteristics of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter***

There were 856 children in care at the end of the quarter with a permanency goal of adoption. The table below outlines those children's characteristics.

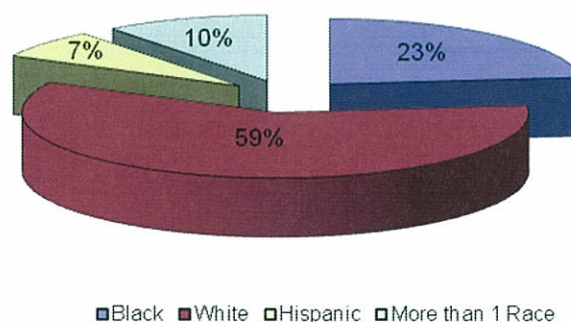
**Table 18: Characteristics of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption at the End of the Quarter**  
**2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	27	6	0	0	0	3	4	40
	Male	26	8	1	0	0	3	4	42
2 to 5	Female	55	17	1	0	0	6	10	89
	Male	75	23	0	0	0	8	10	116
6 to 11	Female	82	31	0	0	0	3	12	128
	Male	90	35	0	0	0	11	19	155
12 to 15	Female	57	28	0	0	0	9	9	103
	Male	55	25	0	0	0	11	15	106
16 to 18	Female	18	17	0	0	0	3	4	42
	Male	19	8	0	0	0	2	2	31
18+	Female	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Male	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
<b>Total*</b>		<b>505</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>855</b>

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

Of the children in care with a permanency goal of adoption at the end of the quarter, 59 percent were white, 23 percent were black, and 10 percent were multiracial. These percentages are similar to the previous quarter.

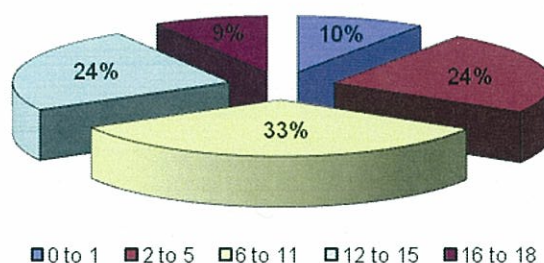
**Chart 30a: Race/Ethnicity of Children with a Permanency Goal of Adoption During the Quarter**





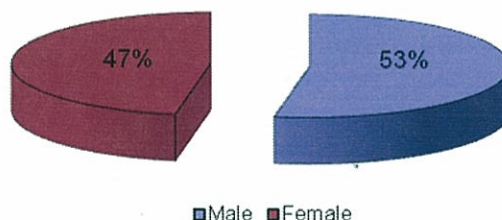
Children between the ages of six and 11 (33 percent) continue to represent the largest age group with a permanency goal of adoption.

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



More male children (53 percent) than female children (47 percent) had a permanency goal of adoption, similar to the previous quarter.

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



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

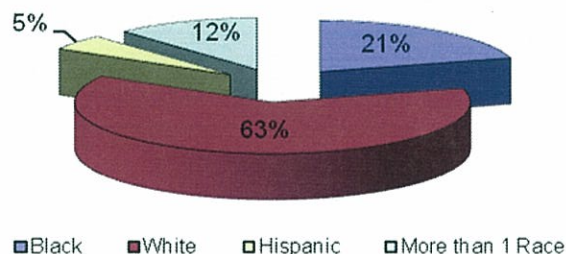
There were 538 children whose parents had their parental rights terminated<sup>14</sup> as of the end of the second quarter. The table below outlines the characteristics of those children.

**Table 19: Characteristics of Children whose Parents have had Parental Rights Terminated at the end of the Quarter  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	12	1	0	0	0	0	2	15
	Male	12	4	0	0	0	2	2	20
2 to 5	Female	35	4	0	0	0	4	7	50
	Male	37	9	0	0	0	2	7	55
6 to 11	Female	52	13	0	0	0	1	7	73
	Male	49	20	0	0	0	9	13	91
12 to 15	Female	38	17	0	0	0	2	6	63
	Male	48	19	0	0	0	4	12	83
16 to 18	Female	19	9	0	0	0	0	3	31
	Male	26	8	0	0	0	1	2	37
18+	Female	5	2	0	0	0	1	1	9
	Male	4	5	1	0	0	0	1	11
<b>Total</b>		<b>337</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>538</b>

Sixty-three percent of the children whose parents had their parental rights terminated at the end of the quarter were white, 21 percent were black, five percent were Hispanic, and 12 percent were multiracial.

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

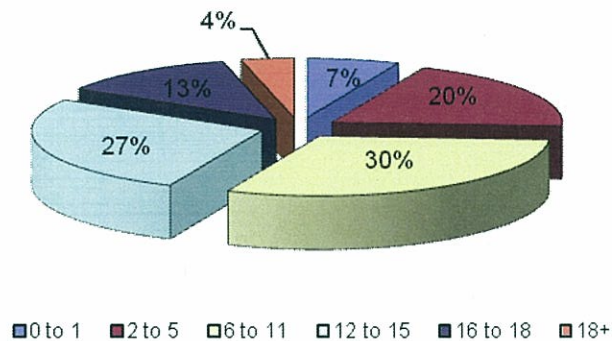


<sup>14</sup> Both parents' parental rights must be terminated for the child to be counted.



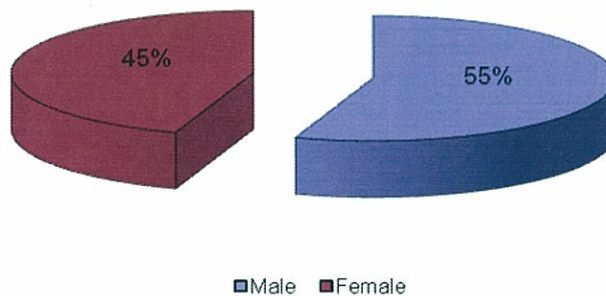
Children between the ages of six and 11 (30 percent) represent the largest group of children whose parents' parental rights were terminated followed by those between the ages of 12 and 15 years of age (27 percent).

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



Of the children whose parents' rights were terminated, 55 percent were male and 45 percent were female.

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



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

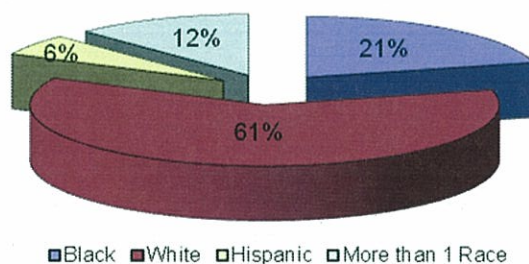
At the end of the second quarter, 432 children were available for adoption.<sup>15</sup> Demographic information for children available for adoption, shown in the table below, is very similar to previous quarters.

**Table 20: Characteristics of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	12	1	0	0	0	0	2	15
	Male	10	3	0	0	0	2	1	16
2 to 5	Female	30	4	0	0	0	4	6	44
	Male	29	9	0	0	0	2	6	46
6 to 11	Female	40	13	0	0	0	1	6	60
	Male	44	19	0	0	0	9	10	82
12 to 15	Female	35	17	0	0	0	2	6	60
	Male	38	17	0	0	0	4	11	70
16 to 18	Female	13	6	0	0	0	0	3	22
	Male	13	2	0	0	0	0	2	17
<b>Total</b>		<b>264</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>432</b>

Of the children available for adoption, 61 percent were white and 21 percent were black.

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

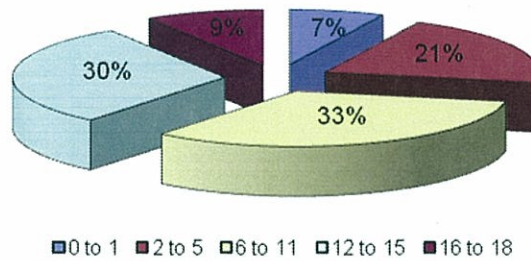


<sup>15</sup> Children available for adoption are defined as children who have two TPR's and a goal of adoption.



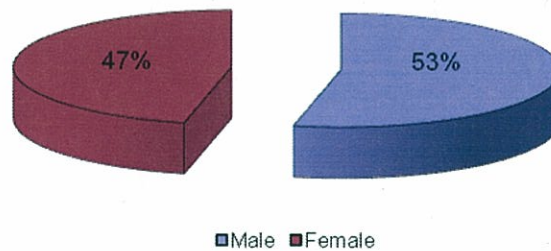
Children between the ages of six and 11 (33 percent) and 12 to 15 (30 percent) represented the largest groups of children available for adoption at the end of the quarter.

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



More male children (53 percent) than female children (47 percent) were available for adoption.

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



### ***Current Placements of Children Available for Adoption***

More children who were available for adoption at the end of the second quarter were placed in DCFS foster homes (29 percent) than in any other type of placement, followed by placement in pre-adoptive homes and therapeutic foster homes (21 percent each). These results are similar to the previous quarter.

**Table 21: Current Placements of Children Available for Adoption  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

Placement	Number of Children	Percentage*
DCFS Foster Home	126	29%
Pre-Adoptive Home	92	21%
Therapeutic Foster Home	90	21%
Residential Facility	60	14%
Hospital/Medical	5	1%
Emergency Shelter	4	1%
Temporary Placement	5	1%
Sub-Acute CRT	32	7%
SRP Therapeutic Foster Care	2	0.5%
SRP CRT	2	0.5%
Incarceration	2	0.5%
Acute CRT	4	1%
ILP Sponsor	1	0.2%
DDS Service	2	0.5%
DDS Supportive Living	3	0.7%
DYS After Care	1	0.2%
Trial Home Visit	1	0.2%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>100%</b>

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



### ***Characteristics of Children in Pre-adoptive Placements***

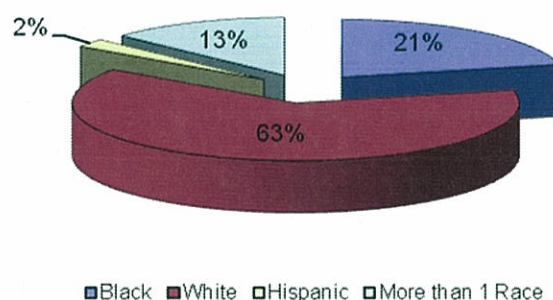
During the second quarter, 177 children were in pre-adoptive homes. This number includes children who entered a pre-adoptive home during previous quarters as well as children who were newly placed in a pre-adoptive home during the current quarter.

**Table 22: Characteristics of Children in Pre-adoptive Placements  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	8	1	0	0	0	0	1	10
	Male	10	3	0	0	0	0	2	15
2 to 5	Female	28	3	0	0	0	1	7	39
	Male	25	13	0	0	0	1	3	42
6 to 11	Female	17	8	0	0	0	1	3	29
	Male	12	2	0	0	0	1	3	18
12 to 15	Female	7	3	0	0	0	0	2	12
	Male	3	5	0	0	0	0	2	10
16 to 18	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>112</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>177</b>

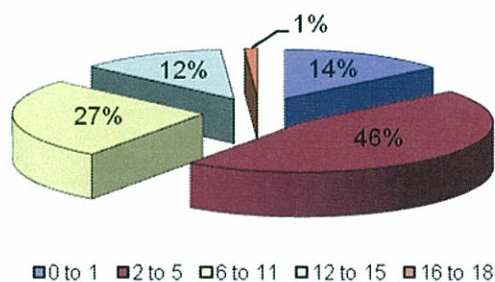
Of the children in pre-adoptive homes during the quarter, 63 percent were white and 21 percent were black.

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



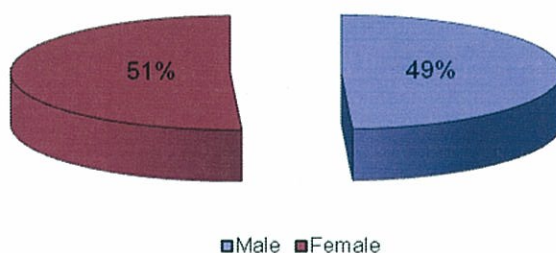
Children between the ages of two and five (46 percent) represent the largest age group of children placed in pre-adoptive homes followed by those between six and 11 years of age (27 percent).

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



Fifty-one percent of the children in pre-adoptive homes were female and 49 percent were male.

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

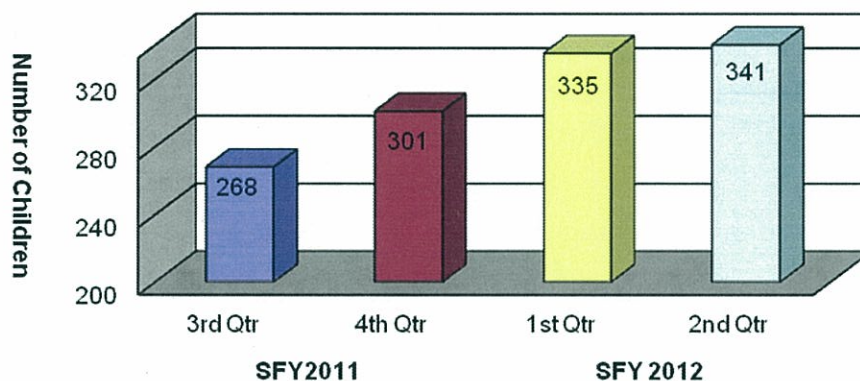




***Children not Placed in Pre-Adoptive Homes who are Available for Adoption***

At the end of the quarter, there were 341 children who were available for adoption but who were not placed in pre-adoptive homes, an increase from the previous quarter (335). This statistic was derived by subtracting the number of children placed in pre-adoptive homes at the end of the quarter (91) from the number of children available for adoption at the end of the quarter (432).

**Chart 34: Children not Placed in Pre-Adoptive Homes who are Available for Adoption**



## ***Children with Special Needs***

Children with special needs are defined as:

- Caucasian and over the age of nine;
- African- American and two years of age or older;
- Members of a sibling group;
- Children who have severe medical or psychological needs that require ongoing treatment; or
- Children at high risk for the development of serious physical, mental or emotional conditions where documentation is provided by a medical professional specializing in the area of the condition for which the child is considered at risk.

During the second quarter, 104 children with special needs were in pre-adoptive placements.<sup>16</sup>

**Table 23: Children with Special Needs who were Placed in Pre-Adoptive Homes  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

Special Needs Condition	Number of Children
Race	104
Age	91
Member of sibling group	55

<sup>16</sup> This number does not take into account children with severe medical and psychological needs. As enhancements are made to the data system to capture this information, it will be provided in future reports.



### Characteristics of Children with Finalized Adoptions

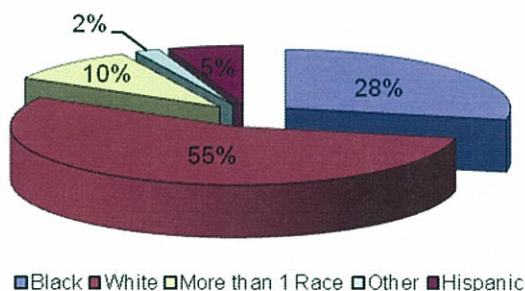
During the quarter, 167 children had their adoptions finalized, an increase from the previous quarter (120). The following table outlines the characteristics of the children with finalized adoptions.

**Table 24: Characteristics of Children with Finalized Adoptions  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	4	4	0	1	0	0	0	9
	Male	10	1	0	0	0	2	2	15
2 to 5	Female	24	8	0	1	0	4	4	41
	Male	25	9	0	0	0	1	6	41
6 to 11	Female	13	11	0	0	0	1	3	28
	Male	6	5	0	0	0	1	1	13
12 to 15	Female	6	4	0	0	1	0	0	11
	Male	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	6
16 to 18	Female	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Male	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total		92	47	0	2	1	9	16	167

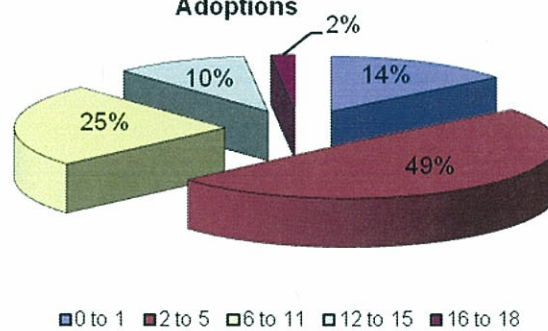
Of the 167 finalized adoptions during the second quarter, 55 percent of the adopted children were white and 28 percent were black.

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



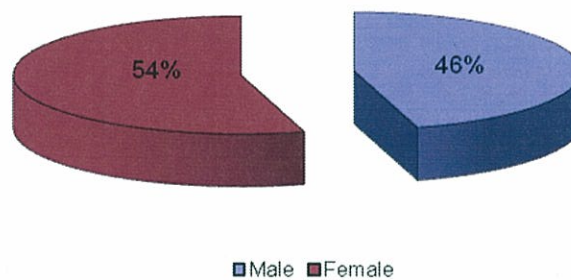
Nearly half of the children whose adoptions were finalized during the quarter were between the ages of two and five (49 percent).

**Chart 35b: Ages of Children with Finalized Adoptions**



Of the children whose adoptions were finalized during the quarter, 46 percent were male and 54 percent were female.

**Chart 35c: Gender of Children with Finalized Adoptions**





## Subsidized Adoptions

During the second quarter, 147 children began receiving adoption subsidies. Of those, 114 children received federally-funded subsidies and 33 received state-funded subsidies.

## Characteristics of Children who Received Adoption Subsidies

During the second quarter, 4,526 children received adoption subsidies. The following table outlines the demographics of those children.

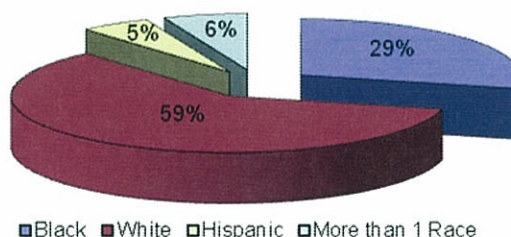
**Table 25: Characteristics of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

Age	Gender	White	Black	Asian	AIAN	NAPI	Hispanic	More Than 1 Race	Total
0 to 1	Female	15	7	0	1	0	3	3	29
	Male	24	5	0	0	0	2	3	34
2 to 5	Female	278	111	1	4	0	26	45	465
	Male	273	122	1	0	0	28	42	466
6 to 11	Female	503	232	3	0	0	51	66	855
	Male	527	249	4	3	1	59	57	900
12 to 15	Female	332	202	1	4	1	25	27	592
	Male	353	161	0	0	1	27	15	557
16 to 18	Female	144	79	0	0	0	9	10	242
	Male	152	85	0	1	0	2	9	249
18+	Female	39	26	0	0	0	1	1	67
	Male	47	12	0	0	0	0	1	60
<b>Total*</b>		<b>2,687</b>	<b>1,291</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>4,516</b>

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

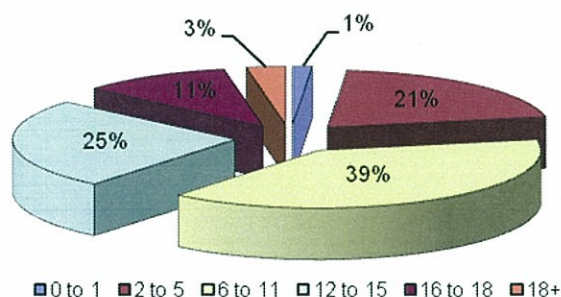
Fifty-nine percent of the children who received adoption subsidies were white and 29 percent were black, similar to the previous quarter.

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



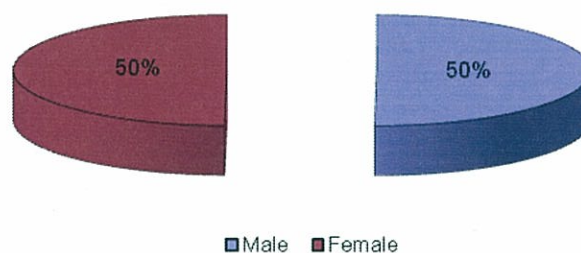
The majority of the children receiving adoption subsidies during the quarter were between the ages of six and 11 (39 percent).

**Chart 36b: Ages of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies**



The gender distribution of the children was even.

**Chart 36c: Gender of Children Receiving Adoption Subsidies**



### ***Pre-Adoptive Homes***

At the beginning of the second quarter, 656 pre-adoptive homes were available; by the end of the quarter, 560 pre-adoptive homes were available. Sixty percent of the homes available at the end of the quarter were approved to also serve as foster homes.

**Table 26: Pre-Adoptive Homes  
2nd Quarter SFY 2012**

	Total Adoptive Homes	Non-Foster Adoptive Homes	Foster Adoptive Homes
Homes available for children at beginning of quarter	656	250	406
Newly available homes	121	54	67
Homes that had children placed during the quarter	111	35	76
Homes that experienced a disruption	6	2	4
Homes that closed without a placement	112	48	64
Homes available at the end of the quarter	560	223	337



**Appendix A: Child Fatality**

**True Fatality Reports**

Child	County	Age	Race	Gender	Date of Death	Allegations or Preliminary Cause of Death	Placement at the Time of Incident	Relationship of Alleged Offender to the Child	Agency Conducting the Investigation	Legal Action By the Department	Services Provided Prior to the Incident	Services Provided After the Incident
Erica Kelley	Mississippi	1	White	Female	2/5/08	Inadequate Supervision	In-Home	Family Member	CACD	None	None	PS Case
Bentley Tyler	Greene	<1	White	Male	12/3/11	Inadequate Supervision	In-Home	Family Member	CACD	None	None	PS Case

**Unsubstantiated Fatality Reports**

Child	County	Age	Race	Gender	Date of Death	Allegations or Preliminary Cause of Death	Placement at the Time of Incident	Relationship of Alleged Offender to the Child	Agency Conducting the Investigation	Legal Action By the Department	Services Provided Prior to the Incident	Services Provided After the Incident
Jeremy Colt Lattin	Conway	<1	White	Male	12/17/11	Inadequate Supervision	In-Home	Family Member	CACD	None	None	SS Case

**Pending Fatality Reports**

Child	County	Age	Race	Gender	Date of Death	Allegations or Preliminary Cause of Death	Placement at the Time of Incident	Relationship of Alleged Offender to the Child	Agency Conducting the Investigation	Legal Action By the Department	Services Provided Prior to the Incident	Services Provided After the Incident
Kirstyn Ellis	Pulaski	<1	Black	Female	10/25/11	Inadequate Supervision	In-Home	Out of Home Offender	CACD	None	None	PS Case
Terrance Roberts, Jr.	Pulaski	<1	Black	Male	12/26/11	Inadequate Supervision	In-Home	Family Member	CACD	None	None	PS Case



**Appendix B: Near Fatality**

**True Near Fatality Reports**

Child	County	Age	Race	Gender	Date of Near Fatality	Allegations or Preliminary Cause of Near Fatality	Placement at the Time of Incident	Relationship of Alleged Offender to the Child	Agency Conducting the Investigation	Legal Action By the Department	Services Provided Prior to the Incident	Services Provided After the Incident
Child #1	Mississippi	<1	Black	Male	10/25/11	Physical Abuse	In-Home	Out of Home Offender	CACD	None	None	FC Case

**Unsubstantiated Near Fatality Reports**

There were no unsubstantiated near child fatality reports during the second quarter of SFY 2012.

**Pending Near Fatality Reports**

There were no pending near child fatality reports during the second quarter of SFY 2012.

**Appendix C: Fatalities of Children in Foster Care Who Did Not Receive a Maltreatment Investigation**

Child	County	Age	Race	Gender	Date of Death	Preliminary Cause of Death	Placement at the Time of Incident	Legal Action By the Department	Services Provided Prior to the Incident	Services Provided After the Incident
Child #1	Sebastian	<1	White	Male	12/8/2011	SIDS	In Home	None	Prior Investigation	None
Child #2	Sebastian	1	White	Male	12/13/2011	Natural Causes	In Home	None	ICPC	None
Child #3	Washington	<1	White	Female	12/20/2011	Natural Causes	In Home	None	PS Case	PS Case
Child #4	Desha	<1	Black	Female	12/23/2011	Natural Causes	In Home	None	SS Case	SS Case
Child #5	Ouachita	1	Black	Male	12/31/2011	Unknown	In Home	None	Prior Investigation	None



## Appendix D: Summary of Foster Care Maltreatment Reports

### Foster Care Maltreatment Reports

#### Characteristics of Children in Foster Care Involved in Allegations of Maltreatment Second Quarter SFY 2012

One hundred and five reports of alleged maltreatment, involving 111 children in foster care,<sup>17</sup> were received by the hotline during the second quarter of SFY 2012.

In 27 reports involving 35 children, foster parents<sup>18</sup> were identified as the alleged offenders. As displayed by the following chart, only two of those reports were found to be true and both homes were subsequently closed.

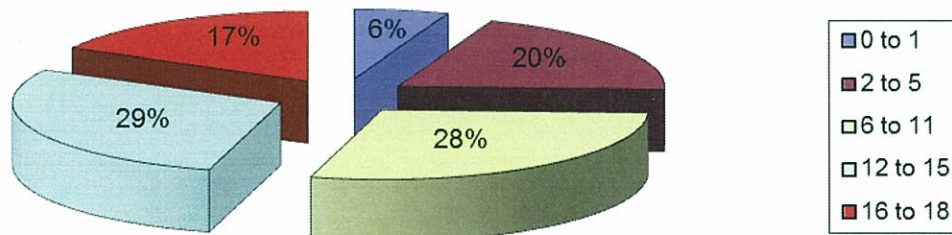
#### Foster Home Maltreatment Reports Second Quarter SFY 2012

True	Unsubstantiated	Pending
2	25	0

All allegations of maltreatment concerning foster homes are investigated by the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) of the Arkansas State Police. DCFS staff do not actively participate in the investigation of these reports. Allegations of maltreatment regarding foster homes require the agency to assess the safety of all children residing in the home.

The following charts describe the characteristics of the 35 foster children involved in allegations of maltreatment—with foster parents as the alleged offenders.

#### Reports by Age



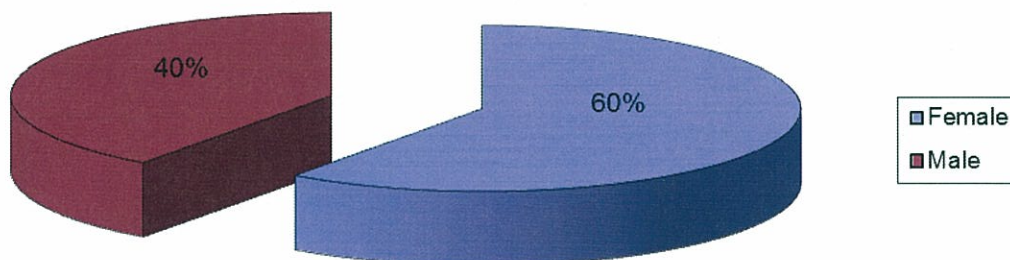
<sup>17</sup> A maltreatment report can include more than one child.

<sup>18</sup> This includes foster family homes and therapeutic foster homes

**Reports by Race**

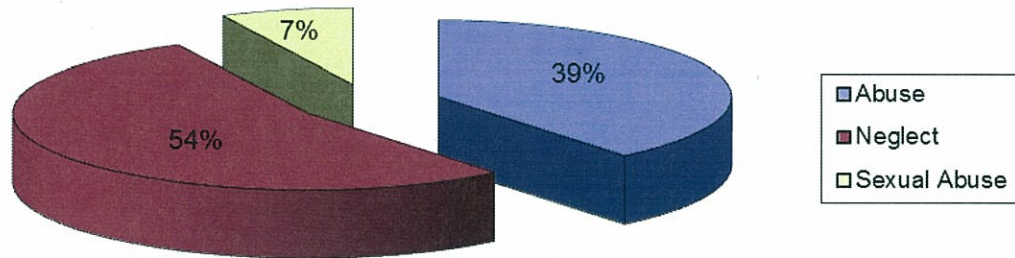


**Reports by Gender**





**Reports by Allegation**



**County**

County	Number of Children Involved in Maltreatment Report	County	Number of Children Involved in Maltreatment Report
Scott	5	Crawford	1
Benton	4	Faulkner	1
Jefferson	4	Fulton	1
St. Francis	2	Garland	1
Sebastian	2	Logan	1
Craighead	2	Washington	1
Cross	2	Mississippi	1
Pulaski	2	Poinsett	1
Miller	1	Randolph	1
Columbia	1	Lee	1