

Child and Family Services Review State Data Profile Quick Reference (Round 4)

September 2025



NATIONAL
CHILD WELFARE CENTER
for INNOVATION and ADVANCEMENT

The Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) State data profile is a document produced by the Children's Bureau (CB) to provide States with performance information on child outcomes related to safety and permanency.

What Information Is Included in the CFSR Data Profile?

The CFSR State data profile includes information on a State's performance on seven statewide data indicators (SWDIs) related to children served by the child welfare system. Five of the indicators help you understand whether children have permanency and stability in their living situations. The other two indicators help you understand whether children are protected from abuse and neglect once they are involved with the child welfare system. The SWDIs measure the degree to which desired outcomes are achieved. The source file for the CFSR State data profile represents 10 consecutive 6-month Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) submissions and 4 consecutive 12-month National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) submissions.

The CFSR State data profiles present the following information:

- **Page 1 and 2: Risk-standardized performance (RSP) visualization:** RSP is the percentage or rate of children experiencing the outcome of interest, with risk adjustment. RSP is used to assess State performance compared to national performance on each SWDI. It accounts for some of the factors that influence performance on the SWDIs and that States have little control over (e.g. age of children upon entering care). The RSP visualization displays a high-level, graphic overview of a State's RSP over time on each SWDI.
- **Page 3: Footnotes (not included in this document):** The footnotes include definitions and clarifications. (Additional notes are also included on page 4.)
- **Page 4: Observed performance:** These values show how the State performed on each SWDI without risk adjustment.
- **Page 5: Data quality:** This section shows the results of the data quality checks performed and identifies problems that might affect the data performance calculations. CB calculates data checks on State submissions to the two national child welfare data systems that are the data sources for the SWDIs: [AFCARS](#) and [NCANDS](#).

Use this tip sheet to

- Understand the different parts of the CFSR State data profile
- Help interpret and discuss your State's data and performance

How Can States Use the CFSR Data Profiles?

State child welfare agencies and their partners can use the data profiles to identify strengths and areas for improvement. They can help assess progress on goals as part of strategic planning, reporting, and continuous quality improvement efforts. State agencies should use the data profiles and SWDI performance in the CFSR to inform the statewide assessment and assess improvements throughout Program Improvement Plan implementation and monitoring.

What Do the SWDIs Measure?

The table below presents the purpose of each of the seven SWDIs.

SWDI Purposes

Indicator	Purpose
Permanency in 12 months (entries)	Measures whether permanency is achieved (through reunification, adoption, guardianship, or living with a relative) within 12 months of children entering foster care
Permanency in 12 months (12–23 months)	Measures whether permanency is achieved (through reunification, adoption, guardianship, or living with a relative) if children have been in foster care for at least 12 months and not more than 23 months
Permanency in 12 months (24+ months)	Measures whether permanency is achieved (through reunification, adoption, guardianship, or living with a relative) if children have been in foster care for at least 24 months
Reentry to foster care	Measures whether children reenter foster care within 12 months of their discharge to permanency (excluding adoptions)
Placement stability	Measures whether children who were removed from their homes experience stability in their placement setting while they are in foster care
Maltreatment in care	Measures whether children experience abuse or neglect while in the State or local child welfare system's placement and care responsibility
Recurrence of maltreatment	Measures whether children who were the subject of a substantiated or indicated report of maltreatment experience subsequent maltreatment

Where Can You Find More Information?

Find detailed information on the SWDIs on the [CFSR Information Portal webpage](#). The [CFSR SWDI frequently asked questions document](#) offers answers to questions that range from the general use of CFSR SWDIs to the technical details of running related syntax files and understanding the results. For additional resources, visit the [National Child Welfare Center for Innovation and Advancement \(NCWCIA\) website](#). To request services tailored to your needs, email NCWCIA-Info@jbsinternational.com or contact your [NCWCIA innovation and advancement navigator](#).

What's Presented on Page 1 of the State Data Profile?



State

Child and Family Services Review (CFSR 4) Data Profile
AFCARS and NCANDS submissions as of 8-3-25

RSP visualizations help you observe how each SWDI changed over time. They offer a summary of the RSP data presented on the next page of the data profile.

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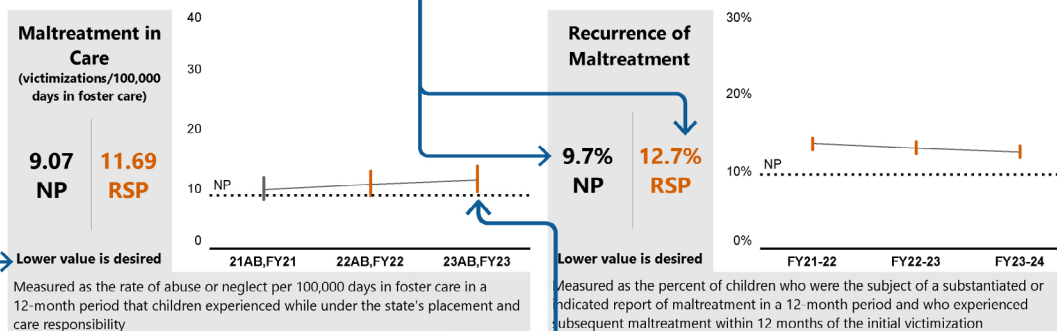
RSP Visualization

RSP is the percentage or rate of children experiencing the outcome of interest, with risk adjustment. The vertical bars in the line graph represent the lower RSP and upper RSP of the 95 percent RSP (confidence) interval, and NP is the dotted black line.

Compare your State's RSP with the NP. For some indicators, a higher value is desired, and for others, a lower value is desired. It is not the same for every indicator.

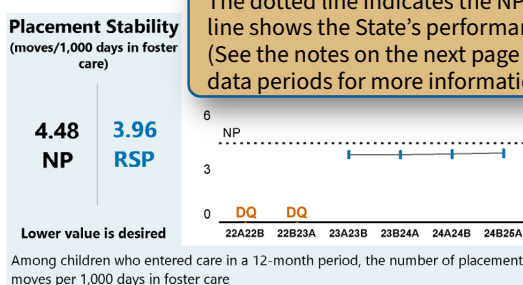
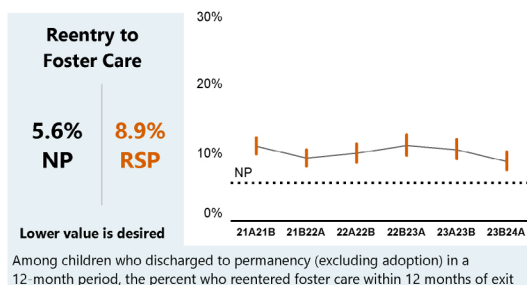
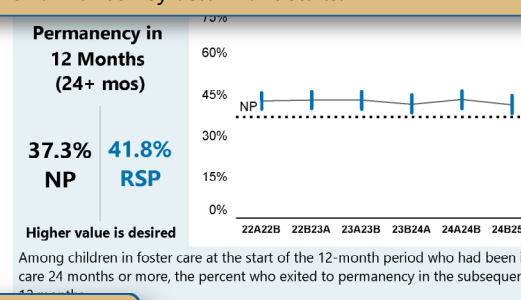
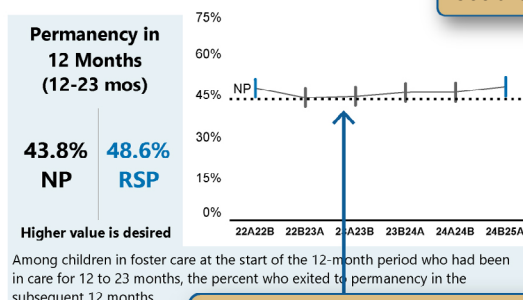
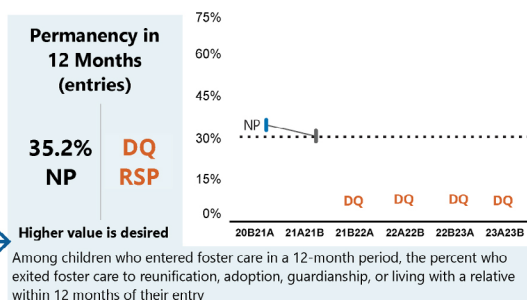
The numbers in the box to the left of the graphic represent a State's RSP for the latest period compared to national performance (NP), which will remain fixed for all of CFSR Round 4.

Safety Outcomes



Permanency Outcomes

The vertical dashes on each graph represent RSP intervals. The colors of the dashes reflect whether performance is better or worse than NP. See the Performance Key below for details.



The dotted line indicates the NP. The solid line shows the State's performance over time. (See the notes on the next page related to data periods for more information.)

Performance Key

- State's performance (using RSP interval) is statistically better than national performance.
- State's performance (using RSP interval) is statistically no different than national performance.
- State's performance (using RSP interval) is statistically worse than national performance.
- DQ Performance was not calculated due to exceeding the data quality limit on one or more data quality (DQ) checks done for the indicator. See data notes for more information.
- DQ* Performance was not calculated due to data quality issues beyond the DQ checks.

Data quality checks (as indicated by a "DQ") are performed on AFCARS and NCANDS submissions prior to calculating indicator performance. Please see page 6 for more information.

What's Presented on Page 2 of the State Data Profile?



State

Child and Family Services Review (CFSR 4) Data Profile
AFCARS and NCANDS submissions as of 8-3-25

The data presented here use AFCARS and NCANDS submissions received by this date.

August 2025

Risk-Standardized Performance

RSP is used to compare State performance to the NP. RSP calculations adjust for some factors that the State has little control over (e.g., age of children upon entering care).

The left side of the table shows the SWDIs. See page 2 of this resource for the purpose of each indicator.

The column headings show the AFCARS data periods corresponding to the 12-month reporting period. The numbers and letters relate to the 6-month AFCARS Federal fiscal year reporting period (A=October–March, B=April–September).

National Performance		20B21A	21A21B	21B22A	22A22B	22B23A	23A23B	23B24A	24A24B	24B25A
Permanency in 12 months (entries)	RSP	38.0%	34.0%	DQ	DQ	DQ	DQ			
	RSP interval	35.2% ▲	35.9%-40.0% ¹	32.0%-36.1% ²						
Permanency in 12 months (12-23 mos)	RSP	43.8% ▲								
	RSP interval									
Permanency in 12 months (24+ mos)	RSP	37.3% ▲								
	RSP interval									
Reentry to foster care	RSP	5.6% ▼								
	RSP interval									
Placement stability (moves/1,000 days in foster care)	RSP	4.48 ▼								
	RSP interval									
Maltreatment in care (victimizations/100,000 days in foster care)	RSP	9.07 ▼								
	RSP interval									
Recurrence of maltreatment	RSP	9.7% ▼								
	RSP interval									

Data used show the AFCARS data submissions used to calculate performance for that permanency indicator. Different data periods are used to calculate different indicators.

NP is listed for comparison to the State's RSP interval. The interval provides a range of values that includes the State's RSP performance. If the NP is outside the RSP interval, then the State's performance is statistically different from the NP.

Performance Key

- State's performance (using RSP interval) is statistically better than national performance.
- State's performance (using RSP interval) is statistically no different than national performance.
- State's performance (using RSP interval) is statistically worse than national performance.

RSP results are color coded to show the State's performance compared with the NP. If a State's performance is better than the NP, the results are color coded in blue, while areas needing attention and further exploration are colored orange.

DQ Performance was not calculated due to exceeding the data quality limit on one or more data quality (DQ) checks done for the indicator. See data notes for more information.

DQ* Performance was not calculated due to data quality issues beyond the DQ checks. Page 2/5

The two safety indicators use NCANDS data reported annually for fiscal years. The maltreatment in care indicator uses both AFCARS (A/B) and NCANDS data.

▲ For this indicator, a higher RSP value is desirable. ▼ For this indicator, a lower RSP value is desirable.

See page 6 for more information about data quality checks.

What's Presented on Page 4 of the Data Profile?

CB produces the CFSR data profiles twice each year, typically in February and August.

→ August 2025



State

Child and Family Services Review (CFSR 4) Data Profile
AFCARS and NCANDS submissions as of 8-3-25

Observed Performance

Observed performance is the percent or rate of numerator over denominator for each statewide data indicator.

Observed performance describes how a State performed on an indicator for a specific 12-month period using the State's data without risk adjustment. The data reflect the actual counts that determine a State's unadjusted performance.

A **DQ** on the observed performance or RSP page indicates that there is a data quality issue and performance was not calculated. A DQ for a single data submission may prevent performance calculation for multiple years. See the Data Quality section on page 5 of the data profile for details.

		20B21A	21A21B	21B22A	22A22B	22B23A	23A23B	23B24A	24A24B	24B25A
Permanency in 12 months (entries)	Denominator	2,240	2,153	DQ	DQ	DQ	DQ			
	Numerator	813	695	DQ	DQ	DQ	DQ			
	Observed performance	36.3%	32.3%	DQ	DQ	DQ	DQ			
Permanency in 12 months (12-23 mos)	Denominator			861	832	835		838	804	838
	Numerator			423	377	382		401	385	413
	Observed performance			49.1%	45.3%	45.7%		47.9%	47.9%	49.3%
Permanency in 12 months (24+ mos)	Denominator			859	795	721		667	685	671
	Numerator			397	372	337		302	325	303
	Observed performance			46.2%	46.8%	46.7%		45.3%	47.4%	45.2%
Reentry to foster care	Denominator		2,666	2,355	1,998	1,765	1,794	1,819		
	Numerator		286	214	197	194	186	157		
	Observed performance		10.7%	9.1%	9.9%	11.0%	10.4%	8.6%		
Placement stability (moves/1,000 days in foster care)	Denominator				DQ	DQ	390,435	373,895	348,864	366,750
	Numerator				DQ	DQ	1,591	1,502	1,419	1,519
	Observed performance				DQ	DQ	4.07	4.02	4.07	4.14
		21AB,FY21	22AB,FY22	23AB,FY23	FY21-22	FY22-23	FY23-24			
Maltreatment in care (victimizations/100,000 days in foster care)	Denominator	1,480,661	1,313,230	1,277,287						
	Numerator	112	108	113						
	Observed performance	7.56	8.22	8.85						
Recurrence of maltreatment	Denominator				11,011	9,822	9,663			
	Numerator				1,151	985	929			
	Observed performance				10.5%	10.0%	9.6%			

Performance is presented for the most recent six periods. Older periods and those without enough data are left blank.

DQ = Performance was not calculated due to the state exceeding the data quality limit on one or more data quality (DQ) checks done for the indicator, or missing AFCARS and/or NCANDS submission(s). Exceeding a limit on a DQ check for an AFCARS and/or NCANDS submission(s) will result in performance not being calculated on the associated indicator(s) that require the affected submission(s) to calculate performance. A DQ flag will likely affect multiple measurement periods. See the data quality table for details.

DQ* = Performance was not calculated due to data quality issues beyond the DQ checks.

Denominator: For Placement stability and Maltreatment in care = number of days in care. For all other indicators = number of children.

Numerator: For Placement stability = number of moves. For Maltreatment in care = number of victimizations. For all other indicators = number of children.

Percentage or rate: For Placement stability = moves per 1,000 days in foster care. For Maltreatment in care = victimizations per 100,000 days in foster care. For all other indicators = percentage of children experiencing the outcome.

What's Presented on Page 5 of the Data Profile?



State

Child and Family Services Review (CFSR 4) Data Profile
AFCARS and NCANDS summary

August 2025

Data Quality

Data quality checks are performed prior to calculating each indicator. State data must pass data quality checks to calculate performance.

The left side of the table shows which data quality checks are performed for AFCARS and NCANDS data. See the *CFSR Statewide Data Indicator Data Dictionary* for more information on each data quality check.

Data quality checks are performed prior to calculating each indicator. If the percentage of records failing the data quality check exceeds the limit, the SWDI is not calculated and instead receives a DQ.

Each data quality check applies to specific indicators. See the key below for more information on which indicators are included in each set of checks.

AFCARS Data Quality Checks

	Limit	MFC	Perm	PS	20A	20B	21A	21B	22A	22B	23A	23B	24A	24B
AFCARS IDs don't match from one period to next	> 40%	•	•	•	25.6%	23.1%	21.2%	22.5%	22.7%	25.5%	35.4%	25.2%	24.0%	
Date of birth after date of entry	> 5%								0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Date of birth after date of exit	> 5%								0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Dropped records	> 10%								0.0%	0.5%	11.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Enters and exits care the same day	> 5%								0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Exit date is prior to removal date	> 5%	•	•	•	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Missing date of birth	> 5%	•	•	•	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Missing date of latest removal	> 5%	•	•	•	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Missing discharge reason (exit date exists)	> 10%										0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Missing number of placement settings	> 5%										0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Percentage of children on 1st removal	> 95%	•									1.3%	83.3%	81.9%	

Data quality checks look for missing or inconsistent data. For example, a child's date of birth should be prior to their date of exit from care.

If the percentage of records failing the data quality check exceeds the limit, the SWDI is not calculated and instead receives a DQ. For example, if more than 10 percent of AFCARS records are missing discharge reasons, the Permanency SWDIs that use that data period (e.g., 23A) are not calculated and instead receive a DQ.

If the data quality check is performed and the results exceed the data quality limit, the percentage will appear in orange text. A single data quality check can have a cascading effect that can cause performance on multiple SWDIs—and across multiple 12-month periods—to not be calculated.

A "dropped record" occurs when a child is reported as being in care for one period with no date of discharge but is not included in the subsequent submission.

NCANDS Data Quality Checks

	Limit	MFC	RM	20-21	21-22	22-23	2020	2021	2022
Child IDs for victims match across years	< 1%	•		4.9%	4.6%	3.7%			
Child IDs for victims match across years, but dates of birth/ age and sex do not	> 5%	•							
Missing age for victims	> 5%	•	•				0.7%	0.5%	0.4%
Some victims should have AFCARS IDs in child file	< 1%	•					100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Some victims with AFCARS IDs should match IDs in AFCARS files	> 0	•					Y	Y	Y

See the key below for the definitions of these abbreviations.

MFC = Maltreatment in foster care, PS = Placement stability, RM = Recurrence of maltreatment, Perm = Permanency indicators (Permanency in 12 months for children entering care, in care 12-23 months, in care 24 months or more, and Reentry to care in 12 months)

This key describes the abbreviations used above for the indicators.

If AFCARS and/or NCANDS files are missing or have underlying data quality issues such that the data quality checks cannot be performed, the check will appear as an orange DQ, and the corresponding indicator(s) will not be calculated.

Performance Key

- ☐ A blank cell indicates there were no data quality checks assessed for that data period because it relies on a subsequent period of data that is not yet available.
- ☒ Indicates that data quality check results exceed the data quality limit.
- DQ** Indicates the data quality check was not performed due to data quality issues, or missing AFCARS and/or NCANDS submission(s). For example, there were underlying data quality issues with the AFCARS or NCANDS data set such as AFCARS IDs not being included or a DQ limit exceeded on a related data quality check. "DQ" is displayed on the RSP and Observed Performance pages when performance could not be calculated due to data quality issues.

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