CFSR Permanency Outcome 1
Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.

Definition
Of all children who enter foster care in a 12-month period, what is the rate of placement moves per 1,000 days of foster care?

National Performance

(A lower value is desirable.)

Of the children in the denominator, the total number of placement moves during the 12-month period

Among the children who enter foster care in a 12-month period, the total number of days these children were in foster care as of the end of the 12-month period

Risk is adjusted on age of child at entry and by state.

Adjusting on age controls for the fact that children of different ages have different likelihoods of experiencing the outcome, regardless of the quality of care that a state provides.

Additionally, every indicator is adjusted based on the multilevel statistical modeling approach that accounts for the underlying risk of experiencing the outcome in a state after accounting for a child’s specific risk.

This measure is expressed as a rate per 1,000 days in care. The result of the numerator divided by the denominator is multiplied by 1,000 to produce larger numbers that are easier to understand.
**Data Quality Checks Performed**

- Dropped records (greater than 10%)
- AFCARS IDs do not match (greater than 40%)
- Missing date of birth (greater than 5%)
- Missing date of latest removal (greater than 5%)
- Date of birth after date of entry (greater than 5%)
- Date of birth after date of discharge from last foster care episode (greater than 5%)
- Missing number of placement settings (greater than 5%)
- Total number of removals from home to date (greater than 95%)
- Date of placement in current foster care setting
- Total number of placements during this removal episode

**Data Periods Used to Calculate the National Performance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AFCARS 1814A</th>
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**Primary Data Elements Required for Calculation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AFCARS Foster Care Element #</th>
<th>Title IV Agency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFCARS Foster Care Element #:</td>
<td>Record number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFCARS Foster Care Element #:</td>
<td>Child's date of birth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFCARS Foster Care Element #:</td>
<td>Total number of removals from home to date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFCARS Foster Care Element #:</td>
<td>Date of discharge from last foster care episode</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFCARS Foster Care Element #:</td>
<td>Reason for discharge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFCARS Foster Care Element #:</td>
<td>Date of placement in current foster care setting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFCARS Foster Care Element #:</td>
<td>Number of placement settings during this removal episode</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFCARS Foster Care Element #:</td>
<td>Date of discharge from foster care</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Data Elements Required for Risk-Adjusted Analysis**

| AFCARS Foster Care Element #: | Child's date of birth |

**Notes**

- **Inclusion**: Only placement settings that are required to be counted in the AFCARS file are used for this indicator. If the child is moved to a living arrangement or setting that would not result in the state increasing the number of placement settings reported in AFCARS, those moves are not included in this indicator (e.g., trial home visit episodes; runaway episodes; respite care and changes in a single foster family licensing change from a foster care home to a home dually licensed for adoption).

- This measure counts only the days in care within the 12-month period. The days in care and moves during the placement episodes are cumulative across episodes reported in the same year.

- **Exclusion**: Children in care for less than 8 days are excluded. Children who enter care at age 18 or older are excluded. For youth who enter care at age 17 and turn 18 during the period, an adjustment is made for time in foster care beyond the 18th birthday, and placement changes after that date.

- Days in care for which the AFCARS file does not have placement information are excluded.

For more information: [https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/monitoring/child-family-services-reviews/round3](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/monitoring/child-family-services-reviews/round3)