

**CHILD WELFARE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

**SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT**

**FOR THE PERIOD OF**

**OCTOBER 1, 2000 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2001**

**ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES**

**[LAWS 1999, CHAPTER 37]**

**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY**

**DIVISION OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES**

**ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**S.B. 1229**  
**OCTOBER 1, 2000 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2001**

Arizona Revised Statute §8-526, as amended by Laws 1999, Chapter 37 requires the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) to compile information semi-annually and produce a report for the periods ending on March 31<sup>st</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup> of each year regarding the Child Welfare Service Program, including Child Protective Services (CPS). This semi-annual report, submitted in satisfaction of that mandate, is for the period of October 1, 2000 through March 31, 2001. It provides information about child abuse and neglect reports, investigations, substantiated investigations, type of services provided, shelter and foster home services, visitation compliance, children in out-of-home care, length of time in care, reason children have left care, children placed for adoption and Child Protective Services staff.

During this reporting period, Child Protective Services Central Intake received 16,394 reports of child abuse, neglect and abandonment. Of these reports, 99 were within the jurisdiction of military or tribal governments and were referred to those jurisdictions. The Department responded to 100% of the remaining 16,295 reports. This response rate has been maintained by the Division since January, 1998. During the reporting period, an additional 8,389 communications were received by Child Protective Services Central Intake that did not meet the criteria of a report.

During the reporting period, there were 1,281 substantiated findings of abuse or neglect. In-home services were received in 682 of these cases, out-of-home services were received in 545 of these cases, and 548 of these cases were closed after investigation because the children were not found to be at imminent risk of abuse. For those cases closed after investigation, the families may have received short-term support services through DES or through referrals to community agencies. These services may include, but are not limited to, child care, parent aide, parenting classes, substance abuse and mental health services.

On March 31, 2001, there were 6,254 children in out-of-home care in Arizona. Of the total number of children in out-of-home care, there were 1,503 children placed with relatives. One thousand seven hundred seventy-four (1,774) children of the 6,254 in out-of-home care had a case plan goal of adoption, and 1,230 of the children with a case plan goal of adoption were placed in an adoptive home but the adoption had not yet been finalized. Two thousand four hundred twenty-seven (2,427) children had a case plan goal of "Return to Family". Three thousand seven hundred sixty-six (3,766 or 60%) of the total number of children had been in out-of-home care for less than two years. For children who had been in out-of-home care longer than two years, each had a case plan goal developed to lead to permanency.

At the end of the reporting period, 2,722 children were in family foster home settings. There were 1,788 licensed foster homes this reporting period. The most common reason for foster home closure was due to the adoption of the foster child by the foster family. There were vacancies within these foster homes because not all of the spaces could be matched to the children needing foster home placements. There are many reasons why a child may not be able to use a particular

foster home, including the abilities and preferences of the foster family, the need to place the child near his or her family of origin for reunification purposes, and other special placement needs of the child.

A.R.S. §8-516 requires supervision of foster care providers. Visitation must be done by a foster home licensing case manager once a month for receiving foster homes, and once every three months (quarterly) for regular and special foster homes. The required visitation was received by 1,546 (86%) of 1,788 foster homes this reporting period.

A.R.S. §8-516 also requires supervision of children in foster care. During this reporting period, 6,254 children in out-of-home care required visitation by their Child Protective Services case manager. Visitation was accurately documented for 4,449 (71%) of these children.

During the reporting period, 2,337 children left the care, custody and control of DES. The following are the reasons and the number of children who left care: 1,598 of the children were reunified with their parents or primary caretaker, 153 of the children reached the age of majority, 14 children left due to a legal guardianship being established, 109 of the children were placed with other relatives, 8 of the children left due to continued runaway behavior and the Department's inability to locate these children. CPS cannot close a case of a child who is a ward of the court without approval from the Court for case dismissal. In addition, there were 455 children with finalized adoptions, which is an increase of 28 or 7% over the prior period.

## **CHILD WELFARE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Arizona Revised Statute §8-526, as amended by Laws 1999, Chapter 37 requires the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) to compile information and produce a semi-annual report for the periods ending on March 31<sup>st</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup> of each year regarding the Child Welfare Services program, including Child Protective Services (CPS). This report which is submitted in satisfaction of that mandate is for the semi-annual reporting period beginning on October 1, 2000 and ending on March 31, 2001. It provides information relative to child abuse and neglect reports, investigations, shelter and receiving home services, foster homes, length of time in care, and Child Protective Services staffing, adoption services and visitation compliance. The specific reporting requirements are as follows:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>r</b> Child Protective Services reports              | [A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(1)];                    |
| <b>r</b> Child Protective Services reports responded to | [A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(2), (A)(3)];            |
| <b>r</b> Child Protective Services case closures        | [A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(4)(a)(b)(c)];           |
| <b>r</b> Child Protective Services direct service staff | [A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(5)];                    |
| <b>r</b> Children in shelter or receiving homes         | [A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(6)];                    |
| <b>r</b> Foster home availability and activity          | [A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(7-10)];                 |
| <b>r</b> Length of time in foster care                  | [A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(11)];                   |
| <b>r</b> Case manager visitation compliance             | [A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(12)];                   |
| <b>r</b> Children leaving custody                       | [A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(13)](a)(b)(c)(d)];      |
| <b>r</b> Adoptive services                              | [A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(14-16)](a)b)(c)(d)(e)]. |

**CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES REPORTS****A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(1)**

**THE TOTAL NUMBER OF REPORTS RECEIVED, BY MAJOR CATEGORY AND BY RISK LEVEL. THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE A DESCRIPTION OF SOME OF THOSE INCOMING COMMUNICATIONS DETERMINED NOT TO MEET THE CRITERIA OF A REPORT AS CHOSEN BY A RANDOM SAMPLE.**

The categories of “child abuse or neglect” are defined in A.R.S. §8-201 and A.R.S. §13-3623(A). These definitions provide the major categories in this report.

Between October 1, 2000 and March 31, 2001, there were 16,394 incoming communications to the Child Abuse Hotline which met the criteria of a report of abuse or neglect. Of these, 99 were within the jurisdiction of military or tribal governments and were referred to those jurisdictions. This compares to 16,047 incoming communications received during the last reporting period which met the criteria of a report of abuse or neglect.

As illustrated in *Chart 1*, the period covering October 2000 through March 2001 shows 9,395 or 57% of the 16,394 reports of maltreatment were related to allegations of neglect, 5,668 or 35% of the reports were related to allegations of physical abuse, 952 or 6% of the reports were related to allegations of sexual abuse, and 379 or 2% of the reports were related to allegations of emotional abuse.

As illustrated in *Chart 1A*, the period covering April 2000 through September 2000 shows 9,441 or 59% of the 16,047 reports of maltreatment were related to allegations of neglect, 5,311 or 33% of the reports were related to allegations of physical abuse, 943 or 6% of the reports were related to allegations of sexual abuse, and 352 or 2% of the reports were related to allegations of emotional abuse.

*Chart 2* provides the number of reports received by report risk level for the October 1, 2000 through March 31, 2001 reporting period. Based on the type of maltreatment a risk level is assigned to reports of alleged abuse.

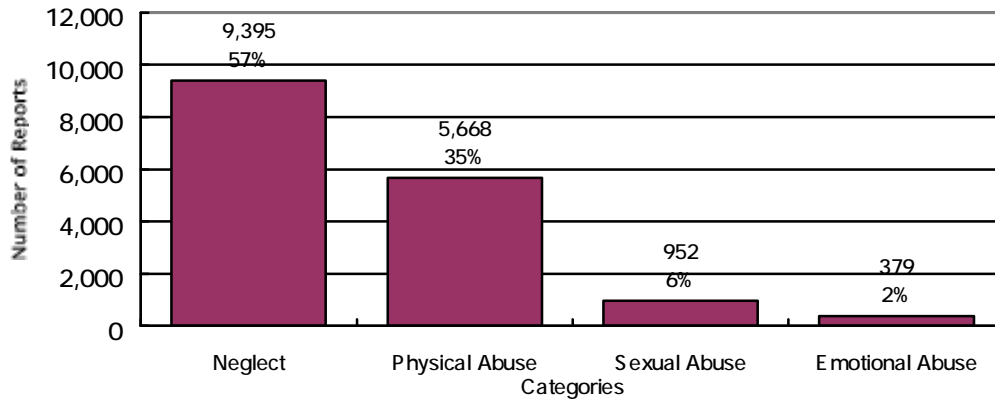
In addition to the 16,394 reports presented in *Chart 1*, the Child Abuse Hotline received 8,389 communications that did not meet the statutory criteria of a report of maltreatment. A random sample of these communications is contained in *Chart 3*.

**Chart 1**

**NUMBER OF REPORTS RECEIVED BY MAJOR CATEGORY**

**FOR**

**PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2000 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2001**



N= 16,394

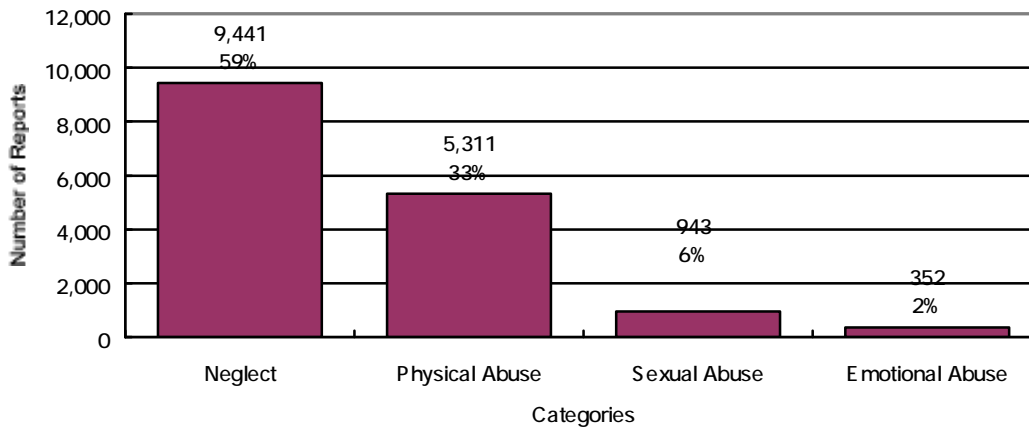
\*Reports that are categorized as No Jurisdiction are included in the total for reports received .

**Chart 1A**

**NUMBER OF REPORTS RECEIVED BY MAJOR CATEGORY**

**FOR**

**PERIOD APRIL 1, 2000 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2000**

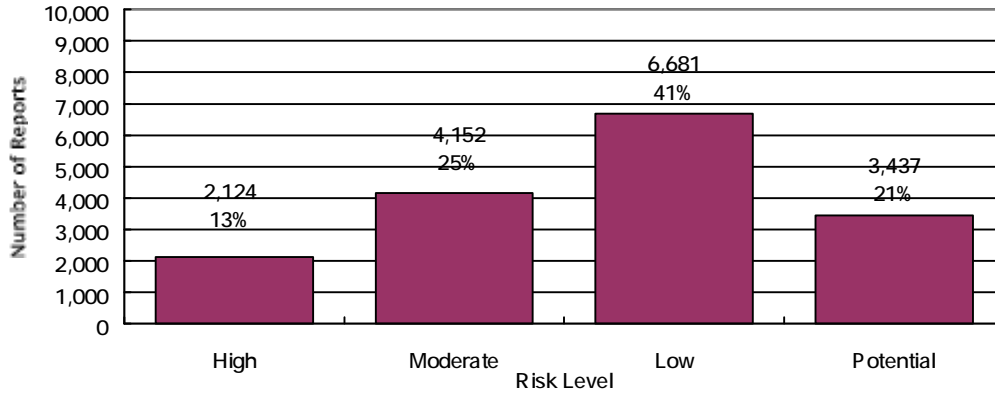


N= 16,047

\*Reports that are categorized as No Jurisdiction are included in the total for reports received .

**Chart 2**

**NUMBER OF REPORTS RECEIVED BY RISK LEVEL FOR THE PERIOD  
OCTOBER 1, 2000 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2001**

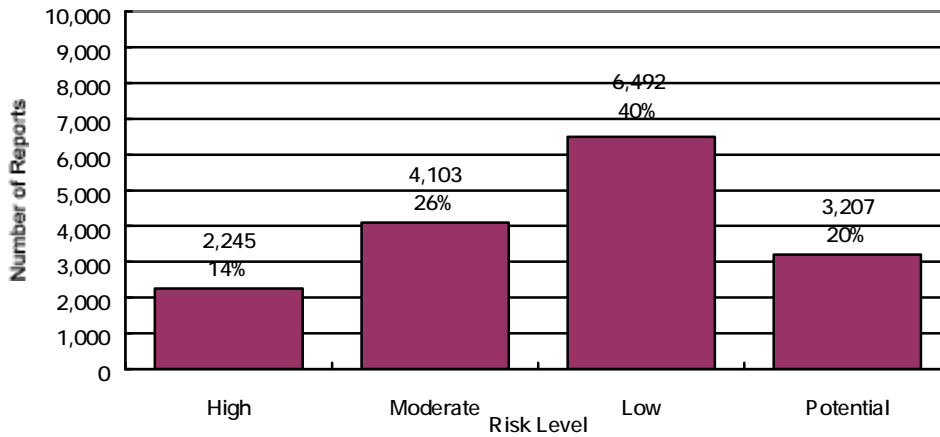


N= 16,394

\*Reports that are categorized as No Jurisdiction are included in the total for reports received.

**Chart 2A**

**NUMBER OF REPORTS RECEIVED BY RISK LEVEL FOR THE PERIOD  
APRIL 1, 2000 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2000**

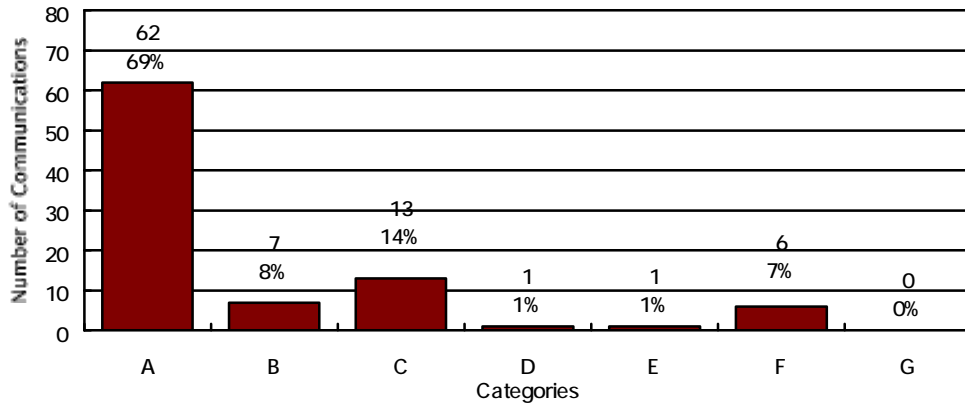


N=16,047

\*Reports that are categorized as No Jurisdiction are included in the total for reports received.

**Chart 3**

**SAMPLE OF COMMUNICATIONS TO THE CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE THAT DO NOT MEET THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS OF A REPORT OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT**



N=90

- A = Concern Only/No Allegation of Child Abuse or Neglect**
- B = Out of CPS Jurisdiction**
- C = Call Appropriate for Law Enforcement Jurisdiction<sup>1</sup>**
- D = Non-Caretaker Neglect/Child No Longer at Risk**
- E = Insufficient Information**
- F = Truancy/Custody Issues**
- G = Current Case Questions or Referrals**

All communications that do not meet the statutory requirements for a field investigation of abuse or neglect are reviewed within forty-eight (48) hours by DES Quality Assurance staff.

<sup>1</sup> The category "Call Appropriate for Law Enforcement" refers to a situation where the alleged perpetrator is not a parent or primary caretaker and the allegations, if true, would constitute a crime.



**CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES INVESTIGATIONS**  
**A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(2)**

**THE NUMBER OF REPORTS NOT RESPONDED TO BY RISK LEVEL, BY COUNTY, AND STATEWIDE. THE REPORT SHALL INCLUDE A DESCRIPTION OF SOME OF THESE CASES CHOSEN BY RANDOM SAMPLE.**

On January 1, 1998, the Department implemented the Family Builders Program, a community-based program operating in Maricopa and Pima counties, designed to provide services to families who are the subject of selected low risk and potential risk reports. On October 4, 1999, Yavapai, Coconino, Navajo, and Apache counties implemented the Family Builders program. On November 17, 1999 Graham, Greenlee, Cochise, and Santa Cruz counties implemented the Family Builders program. Of the 16,295<sup>2</sup> reports deemed appropriate for investigation, CPS assigned 12,123 reports to CPS Specialists for an investigation. The Department referred 4,172 reports to Family Builders for response, which resulted in a combined response rate of 100% for the reporting period. Ninety-nine reports were within the jurisdiction of the military or tribal governments and were referred to those jurisdictions for investigation.

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<sup>2</sup> Ninety-nine reports falling within the jurisdiction of military or tribal governments are excluded from this number.

**CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES INVESTIGATIONS (Cont.)****A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(3)****THE NUMBER OF REPORTS RESPONDED TO BY RISK LEVEL, BY MAJOR CATEGORY, BY COUNTY, AND STATEWIDE.**

As shown in *Tables 1 and 1A*, and *Tables 2 and 2A* by report risk level, between October 1, 2000 through March 31, 2001, there were 12,123 CPS investigations, and 4,172 reports referred to Family Builders for 16,295 total responses<sup>3</sup>.

**Table 1**

**NUMBER OF REPORTS RESPONDED TO BY RISK LEVEL AND COUNTY  
FOR PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2000 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2001**

COUNTY	HIGH	MODERATE	LOW	POTENTIAL	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	14	24	32	11	81	<1%
COCHISE	61	112	230	122	525	3%
COCONINO	87	128	180	37	432	3%
GILA	26	51	89	41	207	1%
GRAHAM	6	21	36	8	71	<1%
GREENLEE	3	6	8	1	18	<1%
LA PAZ	4	18	20	13	55	<1%
MARICOPA	1,296	2,463	3,719	1,923	9,401	57%
MOHAVE	53	141	255	123	572	3%
NAVAJO	41	32	55	12	140	1%
PIMA	320	755	1,303	682	3,060	19%
PINAL	78	185	267	125	655	4%
SANTA CRUZ	12	15	24	1	52	<1%
YAVAPAI	59	132	302	265	758	5%
YUMA	64	69	161	73	367	2%
STATEWIDE	2,124	4,152	6,681	3,437	16,394	100%
% OF TOTAL	13%	25%	41%	21%	100%	

<sup>3</sup> Ninety-nine reports falling within the jurisdiction of military or tribal governments were referred to those jurisdictions for investigation and were excluded from the calculation of the investigation rate, but are included in Table 1.

**Table 1A<sup>4</sup>****NUMBER OF REPORTS RESPONDED TO BY RISK LEVEL AND COUNTY  
FOR PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 2000 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2000**

COUNTY	HIGH	MODERATE	LOW	POTENTIAL	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	19	23	23	13	78	<1%
COCHISE	89	106	177	113	485	3%
COCONINO	91	115	210	28	444	3%
GILA	56	113	194	93	456	3%
GRAHAM	19	23	50	14	106	1%
GREENLEE	1	4	5	0	10	<1%
LA PAZ	7	12	32	9	60	<1%
MARICOPA	1,337	2,385	3,543	1,804	9,069	57%
MOHAVE	66	147	272	120	605	4%
NAVAJO	31	34	80	9	154	1%
PIMA	319	744	1,261	587	2,911	18%
PINAL	59	139	193	80	471	3%
SANTA CRUZ	19	10	37	3	69	<1%
YAVAPAI	76	134	241	262	713	4%
YUMA	56	114	174	72	416	3%
STATEWIDE	2,245	4,103	6,492	3,207	16,047	100%
% OF TOTAL	14%	26%	40%	20%	100%	

<sup>4</sup> One hundred-one reports falling within the jurisdiction of military or tribal governments were referred to those jurisdictions for investigation and were excluded from the calculation of the investigation rate, but are included in Table 1A.

**Table 2<sup>5</sup>****NUMBER OF REPORTS RESPONDED TO BY MAJOR CATEGORY AND COUNTY  
FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2000 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2001**

COUNTY	EMOTIONAL ABUSE	NEGLECT	PHYSICAL ABUSE	SEXUAL ABUSE	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	5	37	29	10	81	<1%
COCHISE	18	319	161	27	525	3%
COCONINO	15	246	141	30	432	3%
GILA	4	127	69	7	207	1%
GRAHAM	0	32	33	6	71	<1%
GREENLEE	0	8	5	5	18	<1%
LA PAZ	0	39	13	3	55	<1%
MARICOPA	198	5,367	3,284	552	9,401	57%
MOHAVE	14	333	197	28	572	3%
NAVAJO	2	94	38	6	140	1%
PIMA	75	1,710	1,107	168	3,060	19%
PINAL	14	377	217	47	655	4%
SANTA CRUZ	1	25	19	7	52	<1%
YAVAPAI	23	457	246	32	758	5%
YUMA	10	224	109	24	367	2%
STATEWIDE	379	9,395	5,668	952	16,394	100%
% OF TOTAL	2%	57%	35%	6%	100%	

**Table 2A<sup>6</sup>****NUMBER OF REPORTS RESPONDED TO BY MAJOR CATEGORY AND COUNTY  
FOR THE PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 2000 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2000**

COUNTY	EMOTIONAL ABUSE	NEGLECT	PHYSICAL ABUSE	SEXUAL ABUSE	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	3	50	20	5	78	<1%
COCHISE	13	285	168	19	485	3%
COCONINO	19	264	125	36	444	3%
GILA	8	270	143	35	456	3%
GRAHAM	2	70	25	9	106	1%
GREENLEE	0	2	4	4	10	<1%
LA PAZ	2	35	20	3	60	<1%
MARICOPA	173	5,341	3,026	529	9,069	57%
MOHAVE	15	346	204	40	605	4%
NAVAJO	4	95	44	11	154	1%
PIMA	74	1,717	958	162	2,911	18%
PINAL	14	298	132	27	471	3%
SANTA CRUZ	1	40	28	0	69	<1%
YAVAPAI	12	389	270	42	713	4%
YUMA	12	239	144	21	416	3%
STATEWIDE	352	9,441	5,311	943	16,047	100%
% OF TOTAL	2%	59%	33%	6%	100%	

<sup>5</sup> Ninety-nine reports were classified as no jurisdiction and are included in Table 2.<sup>6</sup> One hundred-one reports were classified as no jurisdiction and are included in Table 2A.

**SUBSTANTIATED AFTER INVESTIGATION FINDINGS****A.R.S. §8-526(A)(4)(a)(b)(c)****THE NUMBER OF REPORTS WITH A SUBSTANTIATED FINDING AFTER INVESTIGATION, BY RISK LEVEL, BY COUNTY, AND STATEWIDE THAT RESULTED IN:**

- (a) THE CASE BEING CLOSED AFTER AN INVESTIGATION.**
- (b) IN-HOME SERVICES BEING PROVIDED AFTER AN INVESTIGATION.**
- (c) OUT-OF-HOME SERVICES BEING PROVIDED AFTER AN INVESTIGATION.**

During the reporting period 10,826 reports were investigated and subject to substantiation, with 1,281 or 12% of the reports resulting in a substantiated finding of child abuse or neglect.<sup>7</sup> This compares to a revised substantiation rate of 16% to 20%, or 2,195 reports, for the period of April 2000 through September 2000.

The substantiation rate is revised to take into account the increase in substantiated reports that have cleared the appeals process, as well as the change in the substantiation methodology. The new substantiation methodology is calculated by dividing the number of substantiated reports by the total number of reports. Reports categorized as “potential”, reports referred to the Family Builders program and reports in the “no jurisdiction” category are not calculated into the substantiation rate.

Since the appeals process delays the substantiation of reports, revisions to the substantiation rate for the prior reporting period will occur with every semi-annual report produced. Therefore, the 12% substantiation rate for this period will be revised in the next report.

<sup>7</sup> As of January 25, 1999 the Department does not substantiate potential risk reports.

**Table 3<sup>8</sup>**

**NUMBER OF REPORTS WITH SUBSTANTIATED FINDINGS IN  
WHICH THE CASE WAS CLOSED AFTER INVESTIGATION  
BY RISK LEVEL AND COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD OF  
OCTOBER 1, 2000 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2001**

COUNTY	HIGH	MODERATE	LOW	POTENTIAL	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	0	0	0	0	0%
COCHISE	4	10	7	0	21	4%
COCONINO	4	3	0	0	7	1%
GILA	5	5	4	0	14	3%
GRAHAM	0	1	1	0	2	<1%
GREENLEE	0	0	1	0	1	<1%
LA PAZ	0	0	0	0	0	0%
MARICOPA	47	189	111	0	347	63%
MOHAVE	0	5	4	0	9	2%
NAVAJO	0	0	0	0	0	0%
PIMA	11	46	48	0	105	19%
PINAL	4	14	13	0	31	6%
SANTA CRUZ	0	3	1	0	4	1%
YAVAPAI	0	1	0	0	1	<1%
YUMA	2	2	2	0	6	1%
STATEWIDE	77	279	192	0	548	100%
% OF TOTAL	14%	51%	35%	0%	100%	

Of the reports with substantiated findings that were closed after investigation, one or more of the following actions took place: the parent(s) refused services<sup>9</sup>; appropriate referrals to community providers were made; or short-term services, such as child care, parent aide, parenting classes, substance abuse treatment or mental health services, were provided. The report risk level is determined by the highest risk level allegation in a report, in which at least one allegation is substantiated. However, this does not necessarily reflect the risk level of the substantiated allegation.

<sup>8</sup> The reports in Tables 3 through 5 are not mutually exclusive. The reports may simultaneously receive in-home services, out-of-home services, as well as services through the community.

<sup>9</sup> A.R.S. §8-803 provides that the Department has "no legal authority to compel the family to cooperate with the investigation or to receive protective services offered pursuant to the investigation."

**Table 4**

**NUMBER OF REPORTS WITH SUBSTANTIATED FINDINGS AFTER  
INVESTIGATION IN WHICH IN-HOME SERVICES WERE PROVIDED  
BY RISK LEVEL AND BY COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD OF  
OCTOBER 1, 2000 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2001**

COUNTY	HIGH	MODERATE	LOW	POTENTIAL	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	1	0	0	0	1	<1%
COCHISE	10	21	18	0	49	7%
COCONINO	0	0	1	0	1	<1%
GILA	1	4	5	0	10	1%
GRAHAM	2	3	6	0	11	2%
GREENLEE	1	0	1	0	2	<1%
LA PAZ	0	0	0	0	0	0%
MARICOPA	118	129	70	0	317	46%
MOHAVE	3	3	3	0	9	1%
NAVAJO	0	0	0	0	0	0%
PIMA	87	94	52	0	233	34%
PINAL	11	12	13	0	36	5%
SANTA CRUZ	1	0	1	0	2	<1%
YAVAPAI	0	0	0	0	0	0%
YUMA	4	5	2	0	11	2%
STATEWIDE	239	271	172	0	682	100%
% OF TOTAL	35%	40%	25%	0%	100%	

**Table 5**

**NUMBER OF REPORTS WITH SUBSTANTIATED FINDINGS IN WHICH OUT-OF-HOME  
SERVICES WERE PROVIDED BY RISK LEVEL  
AND BY COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD OF  
OCTOBER 1, 2000 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2001**

COUNTY	HIGH	MODERATE	LOW	POTENTIAL	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	1	0	0	0	1	<1%
COCHISE	14	11	8	0	33	6%
COCONINO	1	0	1	0	2	<1%
GILA	2	3	2	0	7	1%
GRAHAM	2	3	2	0	7	1%
GREENLEE	1	0	1	0	2	<1%
LA PAZ	0	0	0	0	0	0%
MARICOPA	112	62	52	0	226	41%
MOHAVE	3	3	3	0	9	2%
NAVAJO	0	0	0	0	0	0%
PIMA	91	81	44	0	216	40%
PINAL	11	10	11	0	32	6%
SANTA CRUZ	2	0	0	0	2	<1%
YAVAPAI	0	0	0	0	0	0%
YUMA	3	4	1	0	8	1%
STATEWIDE	243	177	125	0	545	100%
% OF TOTAL	45%	32%	23%	0%	100%	

**CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES DIRECT SERVICE STAFF**

**A.R.S. §8-526(A)(5)**

**THE NUMBER OF DIRECT CLIENT SERVICE POSITIONS THAT ARE VACANT AT THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD.**

The Department has a 22.42% annualized turnover rate. There were 4 authorized Child Protective Services Specialist positions vacant on March 31, 2001.



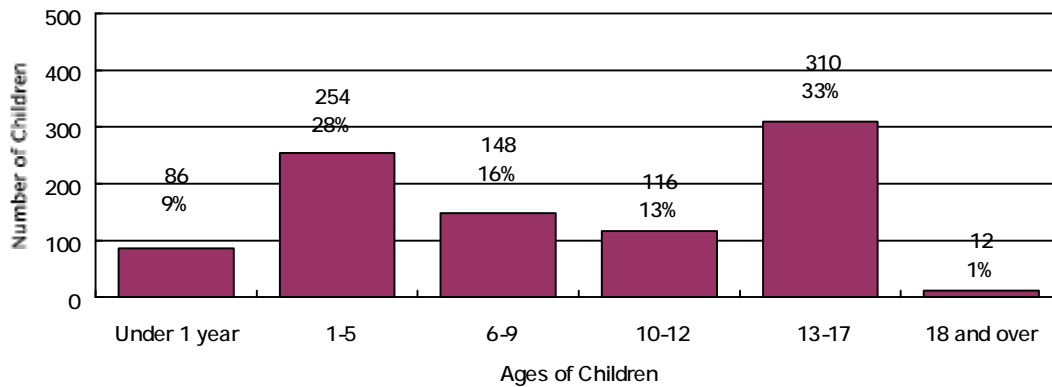
**CHILDREN IN SHELTER OR RECEIVING HOMES  
A.R.S. §8-526(A)(6)**

**THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE REMAINED IN A SHELTER OR RECEIVING HOME FOR MORE THAN TWENTY-ONE CONSECUTIVE DAYS, BY THE CHILD'S AGE GROUP.**

During the reporting period, 926 children remained in a shelter or receiving home for more than 21 consecutive days. (See Chart 4) For the period of October 2000 through March 2001, 586 or 63% of the children were six years of age or older. In addition, 86 or 9% of the children were under one year.

**Chart 4**

**NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN IN SHELTER OR RECEIVING HOMES FOR MORE THAN 21 CONSECUTIVE DAYS BY AGE OF CHILD FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2000 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2001**



N=926

**FOSTER HOME AVAILABILITY****A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(7)****THE NUMBER AND TYPE OF LICENSED FOSTER HOMES AND THE NUMBER OF LICENSED AND AVAILABLE SPACES IN THOSE HOMES.**

As of March 31, 2001, there were 1,788 licensed foster homes with 4,272 spaces available for Administration for Children, Youth, and Families (ACYF) placements. Licensed foster homes include family foster homes, professional family foster homes, respite foster homes, and receiving foster homes.

Foster home licenses specify the age range, gender and maximum number of children that can be placed in a home. Foster parents, in consultation with the licensing worker, decide the type of physical, behavioral and psychological needs of children they can effectively parent based upon their own skill level, experiences and desires.

As of March 31, 2001 there were 834 unused spaces within these foster homes. Approximately 255 additional spaces were unavailable or set aside for receiving and respite care services. Of the unused spaces, a match between the available spaces and children's needs was not possible.

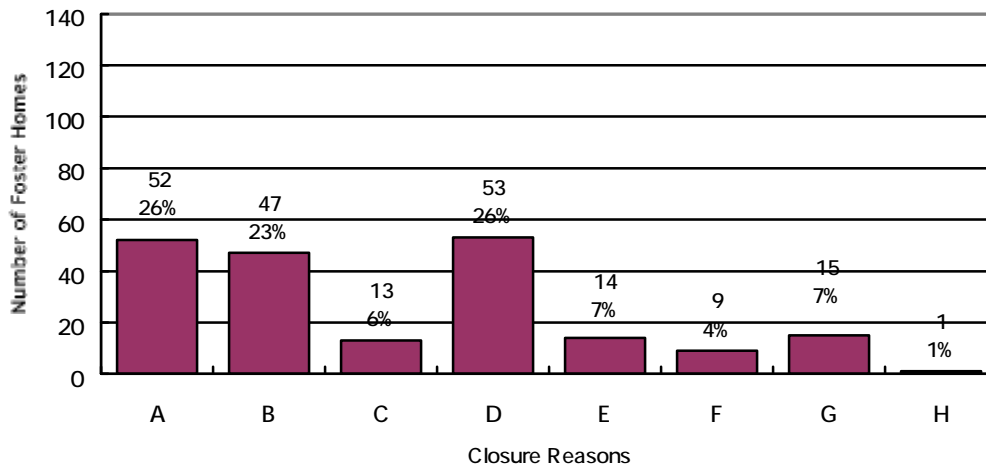
**FOSTER HOME ACTIVITY**  
**A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(8)**

**THE NUMBER AND TYPE OF LICENSED FOSTER HOMES THAT LEAVE THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM AND THE REASON FOR THE EXIT.**

During the reporting period, 182 new homes were licensed to provide foster care and 204 homes left the system. This compares to 217 new homes being licensed and 236 homes leaving the system for the period covering April 2000 through September 2000.

*Chart 5* gives the reasons for foster home closures for the period of October 1, 2000 through March 31, 2001.

**Chart 5**  
**REASON FOR FOSTER HOME CLOSURE FOR THE PERIOD OF**  
**OCTOBER 1, 2000 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2001**



N= 204

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <b>A = Personal or Family Issues or Problems</b>       | <b>E = Family Relocation</b>          |
| <b>B = Other or Foster Parent Did Not State Reason</b> | <b>F = Child Left Care</b>            |
| <b>C = Non-Compliance with Licensing Requirements</b>  | <b>G = Philosophical Disagreement</b> |
| <b>D = Adoption of Foster Child</b>                    | <b>H = Behavior of Child</b>          |

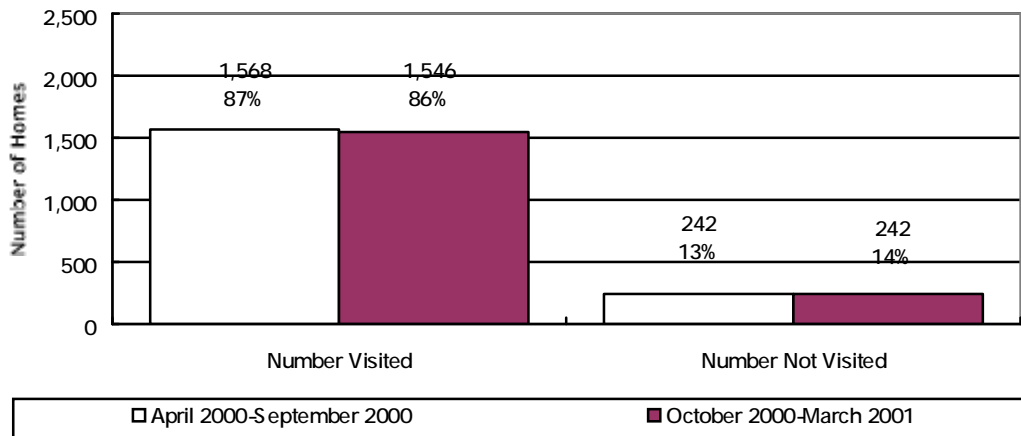
**FOSTER HOME ACTIVITY-VISITATION(Cont.)  
A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(9)**

**THE NUMBER OF LICENSED FOSTER HOMES THAT RECEIVE THE REQUIRED VISITATION BY CASE MANAGERS PURSUANT TO SECTION §8-516.**

During the reporting period there were 1,788 foster homes that required visitation. Of those homes 1,546 or 86% received the required visitation. This compares to 1,568 or 87% of the foster homes that received the required visitation for the period April 2000 through September 2000.

**Chart 6**

**THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF FOSTER HOMES WHO RECEIVED THE REQUIRED VISITATION\***



N= 1,810 April 2000 - September 2000

N= 1,788 October 2000 - March 2001

\*Required visitations to foster homes, for license monitoring purposes, are performed by licensing case managers.

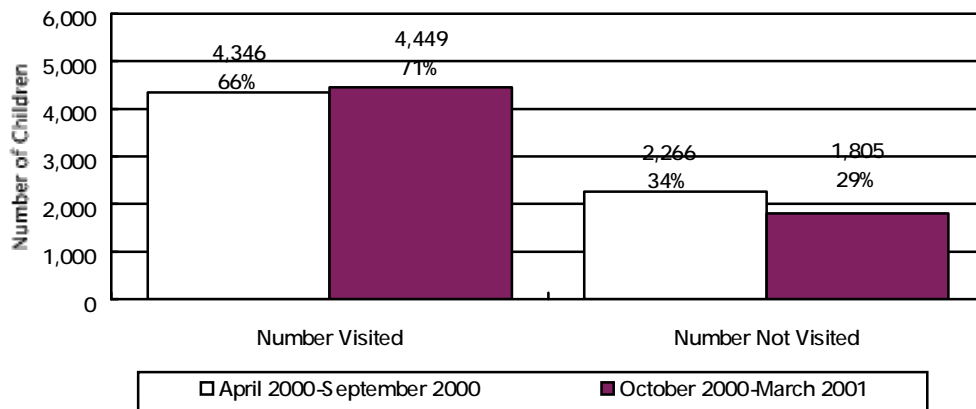
**FOSTER HOME ACTIVITY-CHILD VISITATION(Cont.)  
A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(10)**

**THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN PLACED IN THE CARE, CUSTODY AND CONTROL OF THE DEPARTMENT AT THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD AND THE NUMBER OF THESE CHILDREN WHO RECEIVE THE REQUIRED VISITATION BY CASE MANAGERS PURSUANT TO SECTION §8-516.**

At the end of the reporting period there were 6,254 children in out-of-home care who required visitation. Of these children, visitation was accurately documented in the automated system for 4,449 children or 71%. The Department has verified that more children received the required visitation than is indicated in Chart 7. This information is clearly documented in the automated case notes. However, the Department is unable to compile and tabulate data based solely upon case note text. We continue to issue instructions to all direct service staff regarding the system requirements for capturing all visitations. A child was deemed to have received the required visitation if the child received the visitation during the last month of the reporting period.

**Chart 7**

**THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED THE REQUIRED VISITATION<sup>10</sup>**



N= 6,612 April 2000-September 2000

N= 6,254 October 2000-March 2001

<sup>10</sup> Required visitation is performed monthly by DES case managers, contracted case managers, and/or other professionals as approved by supervisor or as established by policy.

**OUT-OF-HOME CARE**

**A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(11)(a)(b)(c)(d)(e)**

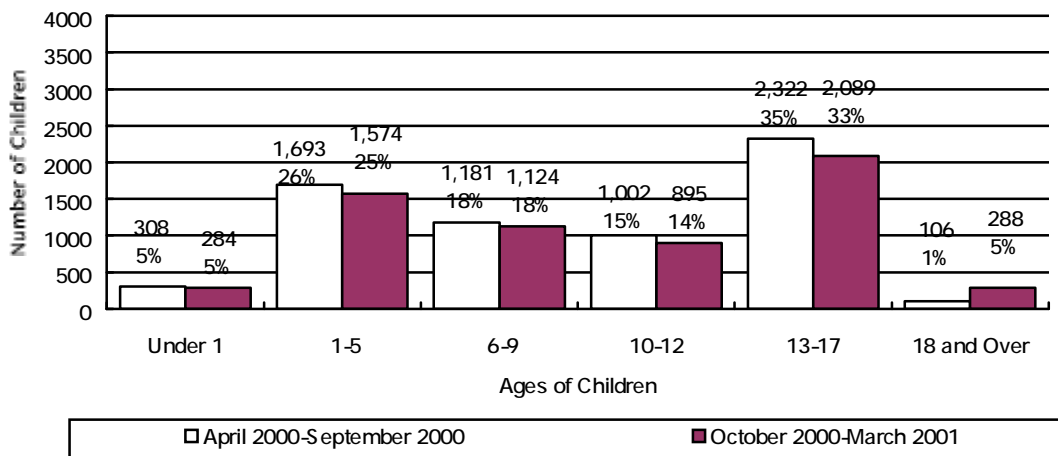
**THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WHO ARE IN THE CARE, CUSTODY AND CONTROL OF THE DEPARTMENT AT THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD WHO ARE IN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT AND AS CATEGORIZED BY:**

- (a) AGE.**
- (b) ETHNICITY.**
- (c) CASE PLAN GOAL.**
- (d) TYPE OF OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT.**
- (e) LENGTH OF TIME IN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT OF LESS THAN THIRTY DAYS, THIRTY-ONE DAYS TO TWELVE CONSECUTIVE MONTHS, TWELVE TO TWENTY-FOUR CONSECUTIVE MONTHS AND MORE THAN TWENTY-FOUR CONSECUTIVE MONTHS.**

On March 31, 2001, there were 6,254 children in out-of-home care. During the reporting period of October 1, 2000 through March 31, 2001, there were 2,191 children removed from their home for some period of time.

**Chart 8**

**THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY AGE**

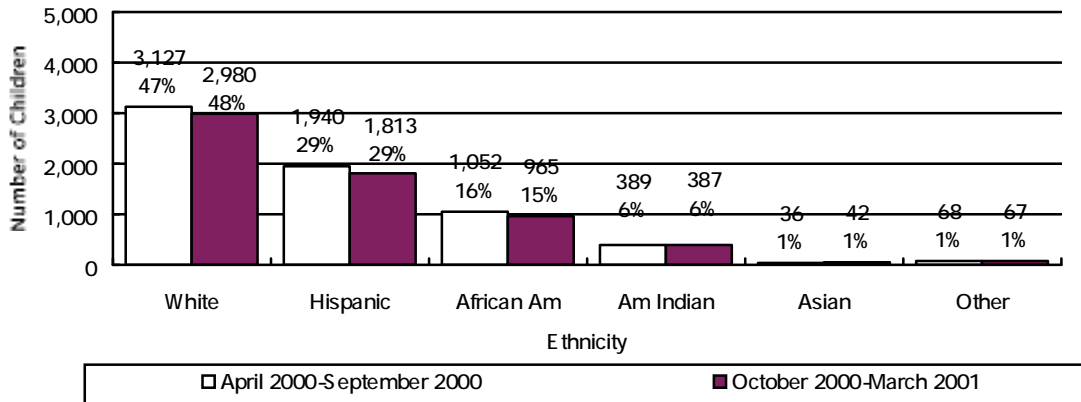


N= 6,612 April 2000-September 2000

N= 6,254 October 2000-March 2001

**Chart 9**

**THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY ETHNICITY**

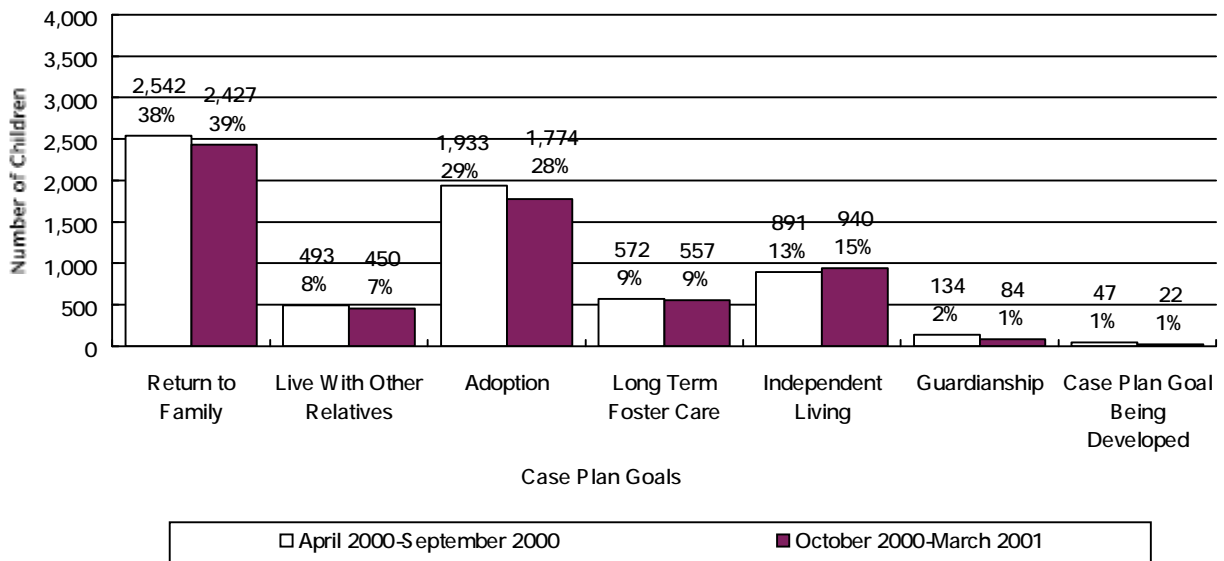


N= 6,612 April 2000-September 2000

N= 6,254 October 2000-March 2001

**Chart 10**

**THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY CASE PLAN GOAL**

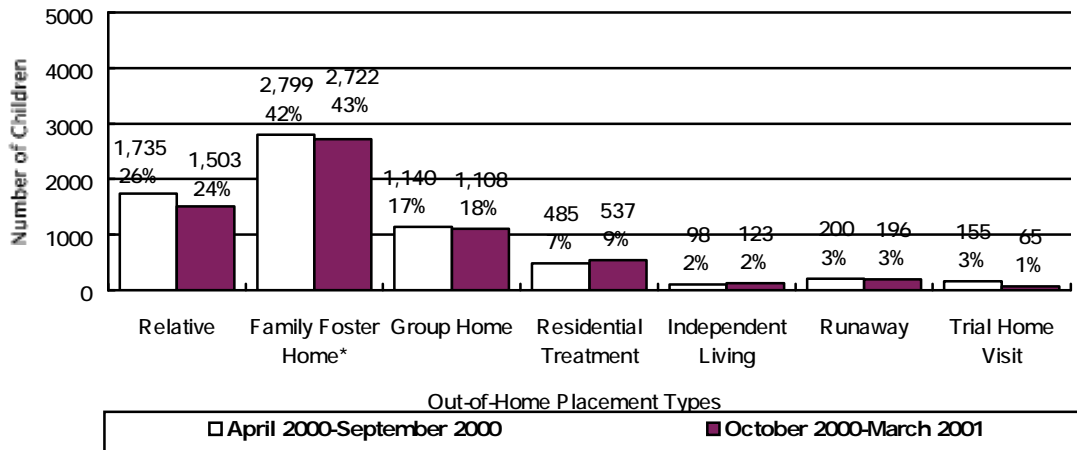


N= 6,612 April 2000-September 2000

N= 6,254 October 2000-March 2001

**Chart 11**

**THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN CARE BY PLACEMENT TYPE**



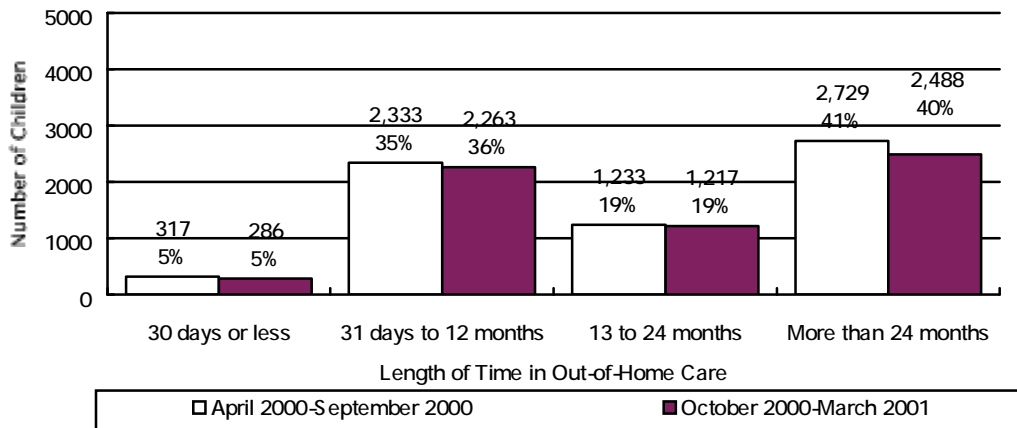
N= 6,612 April 2000-September 2000

N= 6,254 October 2000-March 2001

\* Category includes some relative placements.

**Chart 12**

**THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY LENGTH OF TIME IN CARE**



N= 6,612 April 2000-September 2000

N= 6,254 October 2000-March 2001



**A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(12)****IF THE CASE PLAN IS TO RETURN THE CHILD TO THE PARENT, THE PERCENTAGE OF PARENTS WHO RECEIVE THE REQUIRED CONTACT BY CASE MANAGERS.**

According to ACYF policy, case managers shall have face-to-face contact with all parents at least once a month, including any alleged parents and parents residing outside of the child's home where the case plan goal is family reunification or remain with family. During the reporting period there were 1,093 parents who had a child with the case plan goal of return home. Of those parents requiring the visitation, 665 or 60% received the required visitation. The 60% visitation rate does not reflect attempted visitation where contact did not take place.

**REASON FOR LEAVING DES CUSTODY****A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(13)(a)(b)(c)(d)**

**THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WHO LEFT THE CUSTODY OF THE DEPARTMENT DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD BY REASON FOR LEAVING CARE AND AS CATEGORIZED BY:**

- (a) AGE.**
- (b) ETHNICITY.**
- (c) NUMBER OF PLACEMENTS.**
- (d) AVERAGE LENGTH OF TIME IN FOSTER CARE.**

During the reporting period 2,337 children left the custody of the Department. Tables 6 through 13 depict the reasons the child left custody, their age, their ethnicity, the number of placements each child had, and the average length of time in foster care.

The reason for leaving care is based on information entered for a termination reason. If there is no data indicating a termination reason, the reason for leaving care will default to "Reunification with Parents". This process may result in an over reporting of the number of children leaving for reason of "Reunification with Parents" and an under reporting of the other categories.

**Table 6**  
**TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN LEAVING DES CUSTODY FOR THE END OF THE**  
**REPORTING PERIOD ENDING ON MARCH 31, 2001**

<b>By Age</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Under 1	103	4%
Ages 1 - 5	691	30%
Ages 6 - 9	424	19%
Ages 10 - 12	312	13%
Ages 13 - 17	632	27%
18 and Over	175	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,337</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
White	1,074	46%
Hispanic	708	30%
African American	298	13%
American Indian	193	8%
Asian	11	1%
Other	53	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,337</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>By Number of Placements</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
One	1,132	48%
Two	520	22%
Three	243	11%
Four	150	7%
Five	90	4%
More than Five	202	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,337</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>By Length of Time in Care</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Less than 30 Days	711	30%
31 Days to 12 Months	610	26%
13 to 24 Months	349	15%
More than 24 Months	667	29%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,337</b>	<b>100%</b>

	<b>Median</b>	<b>Average</b>
<b>By Age</b>	9.56	10.65
<b>By Number of Placements</b>	2	2.60
<b>By Months of Time in Care</b>	9.2	22.10

**Table 7**  
**NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN LEAVING DES CUSTODY**  
**FOR REASON OF "REUNIFICATION WITH PARENTS OR PRIMARY CARETAKER" FOR**  
**THE REPORTING PERIOD ENDING MARCH 31, 2001**

<b>By Age</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Under 1	101	6%
Ages 1 - 5	441	28%
Ages 6 - 9	287	18%
Ages 10 - 12	213	13%
Ages 13 - 17	501	31%
18 and Over	56	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,599</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
White	765	48%
Hispanic	455	28%
African American	174	11%
American Indian	147	9%
Asian	8	1%
Other	50	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,599</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>By Number of Placements</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
One	997	61%
Two	313	20%
Three	113	8%
Four	70	4%
Five	31	2%
More than Five	75	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,599</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>By Length of Time in Care</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Less than 30 Days	697	42%
31 Days to 12 Months	543	32%
13 to 24 Months	205	13%
More than 24 Months	154	13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,599</b>	<b>100%</b>

	<b>Median</b>	<b>Average</b>
<b>By Age</b>	9.59	9.41
<b>By Number of Placements</b>	1	1.90
<b>By Months of Time in Care</b>	1.9	8.67

**Table 8**  
**NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN LEAVING DES CUSTODY**  
**FOR REASON OF "LIVING WITH OTHER RELATIVES" FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD**  
**ENDING MARCH 31, 2001**

<b>By Age</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Under 1	1	1%
Ages 1 - 5	25	23%
Ages 6 - 9	27	25%
Ages 10 - 12	20	18%
Ages 13 - 17	33	30%
18 and Over	3	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
White	31	28%
Hispanic	51	47%
African American	21	19%
American Indian	4	4%
Asian	1	1%
Other	1	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>By Number of Placements</b>		
<b>By Number of Placements</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
One	43	40%
Two	28	26%
Three	16	15%
Four	7	6%
Five	8	7%
More than Five	7	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>By Length of Time in Care</b>		
<b>By Length of Time in Care</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Less than 30 Days	3	2%
31 Days to 12 Months	18	17%
13 to 24 Months	47	43%
More than 24 Months	41	38%
<b>Total</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>100%</b>

	<b>Median</b>	<b>Average</b>
<b>By Age</b>	10.47	9.34
<b>By Number of Placements</b>	2	2.41
<b>By Months of Time in Care</b>	18.7	28.17

**Table 9**  
**NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN LEAVING DES**  
**CUSTODY FOR REASON OF "ADOPTION" FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD**  
**ENDING MARCH 31, 2001**

<b>By Age</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Under 1	1	<1%
Ages 1 - 5	225	50%
Ages 6 - 9	108	23%
Ages 10 - 12	76	17%
Ages 13 - 17	43	9%
18 and Over	2	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
White	188	40%
Hispanic	161	37%
African American	78	16%
American Indian	28	7%
Asian	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>By Number of Placements</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
One	64	11%
Two	158	35%
Three	95	21%
Four	54	13%
Five	35	8%
More than Five	49	12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>By Length of Time in Care</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Less than 30 Days	0	0%
31 Days to 12 Months	13	3%
13 to 24 Months	69	17%
More than 24 Months	373	80%
<b>Total</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>100%</b>

	<b>Median</b>	<b>Average</b>
<b>By Age</b>	6.06	7.12
<b>By Number of Placements</b>	3	3.05
<b>By Months of Time in Care</b>	33.63	38.46

**Table 10**  
**NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN LEAVING DES CUSTODY**  
**FOR REASONS OF “REACHING AGE OF MAJORITY” FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD**  
**ENDING MARCH 31, 2001**

<b>By Age</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Under 1	0	0%
Ages 1 - 5	0	0%
Ages 6 - 9	0	0%
Ages 10 - 12	0	0%
Ages 13 - 17	40	26%
18 and Over	112	74%
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
White	76	50%
Hispanic	37	25%
African American	24	16%
American Indian	11	7%
Asian	2	1%
Other	2	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>By Number of Placements</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
One	16	10%
Two	17	12%
Three	17	11%
Four	19	12%
Five	15	10%
More than Five	68	45%
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>By Length of Time in Care</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Less than 30 Days	5	3%
31 Days to 12 Months	32	22%
13 to 24 Months	23	15%
More than 24 Months	92	60%
<b>Total</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>100%</b>

	<b>Median</b>	<b>Average</b>
<b>By Age</b>	18.26	18.05
<b>By Number of Placements</b>	5	6.31
<b>By Months of Time in Care</b>	30.66	40.97

**Table 11**  
**NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN LEAVING DES CUSTODY**  
**FOR REASON OF “GUARDIANSHIP” FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD**  
**ENDING MARCH 31, 2001**

<b>By Age</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Under 1	0	0%
Ages 1 - 5	0	0%
Ages 6 - 9	2	14%
Ages 10 - 12	3	22%
Ages 13 - 17	8	57%
18 and Over	1	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
White	9	64%
Hispanic	1	7%
African American	1	7%
American Indian	3	22%
Asian	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>By Number of Placements</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
One	5	36%
Two	4	28%
Three	2	14%
Four	0	0%
Five	0	0%
More than Five	3	22%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>By Length of Time in Care</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Less than 30 Days	0	0%
31 Days to 12 Months	3	22%
13 to 24 Months	5	36%
More than 24 Months	6	42%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>100%</b>

	<b>Median</b>	<b>Average</b>
<b>By Age</b>	13.58	13.02
<b>By Number of Placements</b>	2	2.85
<b>By Months of Time in Care</b>	21.93	30.84



**Table 12  
 NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN LEAVING DES CUSTODY  
 FOR REASON OF "RUNAWAY" FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD  
 ENDING MARCH 31, 2001**

<b>By Age</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Under 1	0	0%
Ages 1 - 5	0	0%
Ages 6 - 9	0	0%
Ages 10 - 12	0	0%
Ages 13 - 17	7	88%
18 and Over	1	12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
White	5	63%
Hispanic	3	37%
African American	0	0%
American Indian	0	0%
Asian	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>By Number of Placements</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
One	7	88%
Two	0	0%
Three	0	0%
Four	0	0%
Five	1	12%
More than Five	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>By Length of Time in Care</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Less than 30 Days	6	76%
31 Days to 12 Months	1	12%
13 to 24 Months	0	0%
More than 24 Months	1	12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100%</b>

	<b>Median</b>	<b>Average</b>
<b>By Age</b>	16.44	16.44
<b>By Number of Placements</b>	1	1.5
<b>By Months of Time in Care</b>	.08	6.62

**Table 13**  
**NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN LEAVING DES CUSTODY**  
**FOR REASON OF "DEATH OF CHILD" FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD ENDING**  
**MARCH 31, 2001**

<b>By Age</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Under 1	0	0%
Ages 1 - 5	0	0%
Ages 6 - 9	0	0%
Ages 10 - 12	0	0%
Ages 13 - 17	0	0%
18 and Over	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
White	0	0%
Hispanic	0	0%
African American	0	0%
American Indian	0	0%
Asian	0	0%
Other	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>By Number of Placements</b>		
<b>By Number of Placements</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
One	0	0%
Two	0	0%
Three	0	0%
Four	0	0%
Five	0	0%
More than Five	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>By Length of Time in Care</b>		
<b>By Length of Time in Care</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Less than 30 Days	0	0%
31 Days to 12 Months	0	0%
13 to 24 Months	0	0%
More than 24 Months	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>

	<b>Median</b>	<b>Average</b>
<b>By Age</b>	0	0
<b>By Number of Placements</b>	0	0
<b>By Months of Time in Care</b>	0	0

**ADOPTIVE CASE PLAN GOALS**

**A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(14) & (15)**

**THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION AND WHO ARE NOT PLACED IN AN ADOPTIVE HOME AT THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD.**

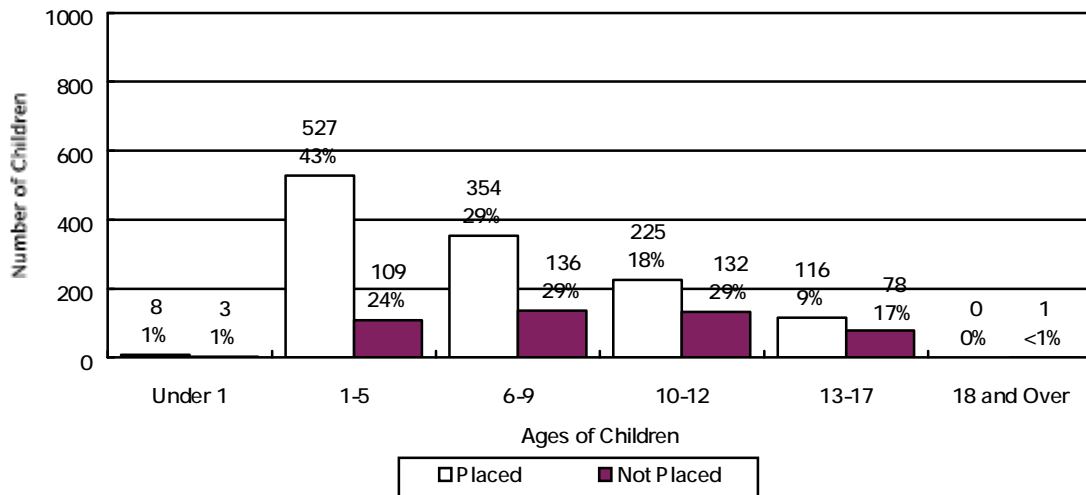
**THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION AND WHO ARE PLACED IN AN ADOPTIVE HOME AT THE END OF THE REPORT PERIOD AND AS CATEGORIZED BY:**

- (a) AGE.
- (b) ETHNICITY.
- (c) AVERAGE LENGTH OF TIME IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE.
- (d) LEGAL STATUS.
- (15)(d) LENGTH OF TIME FROM CHANGE OF CASE PLAN GOAL TO ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT.

The average length of time that a child with a case plan goal of “adoption” has spent in out-of-home care is 2 years, 8 months.

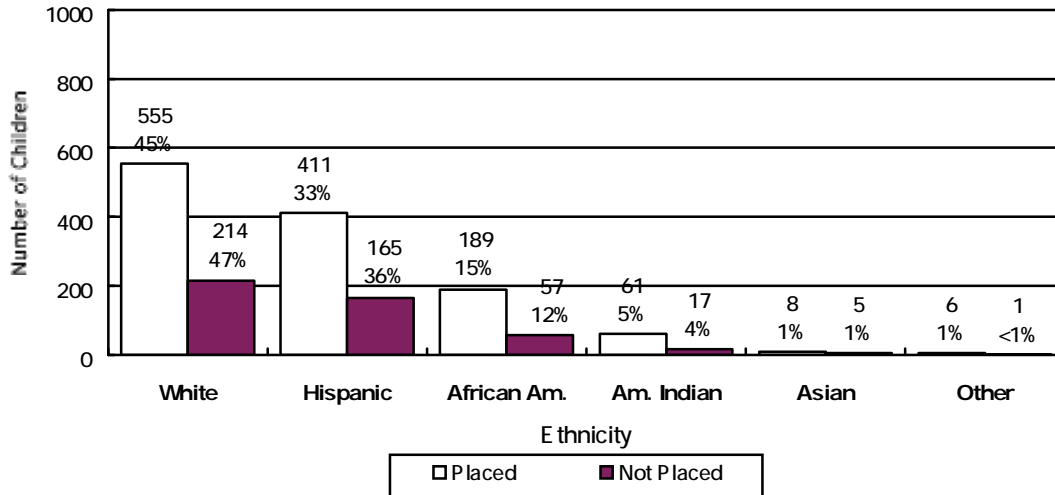
**Chart 13**

**THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION BY AGE**



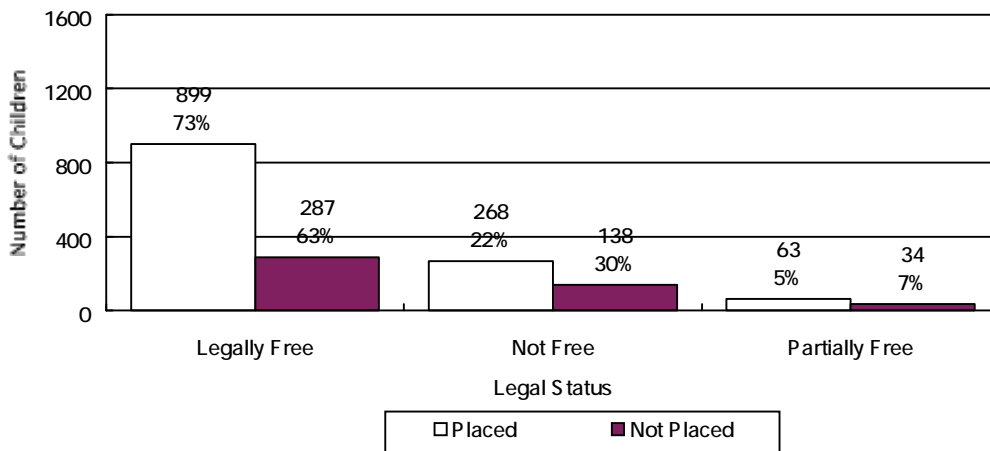
N= 1,230 Placed    N= 459 Not Placed

**Chart 14**  
**THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION BY ETHNICITY**



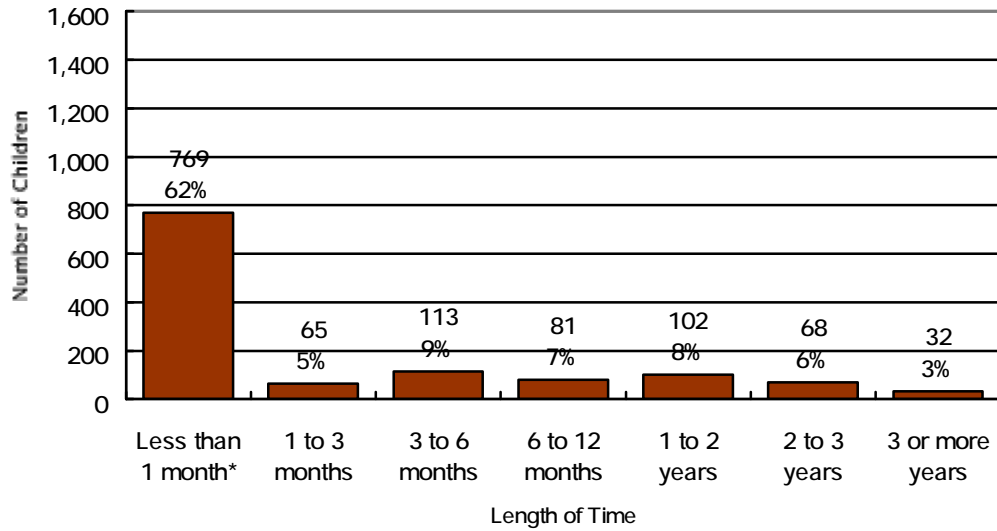
N= 1,230 Placed    N= 459 Not Placed

**Chart 15**  
**THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION BY LEGAL STATUS**



N= 1,230 Placed    N= 459 Not Placed  
 Partially free refers to a situation where only one of the parent's rights has been severed.

**Chart 16**  
**THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN BY LENGTH OF TIME FROM CHANGE**  
**OF CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION TO ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT**



N= 1,230 Placed

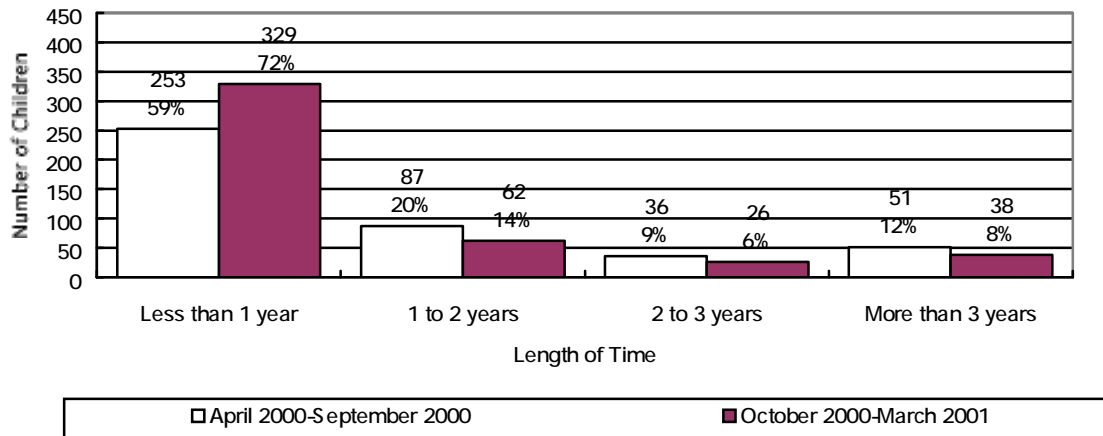
\*About 70% of children are adopted by relatives or their foster parents and are already in their prospective adoptive placement at the time the case plan goal changes to adoption.

**ADOPTION SERVICES**  
**A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(16)(a)(b)**  
**THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHOSE ADOPTIONS WERE FINALIZED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD AND AS CATEGORIZED BY:**

(a) **AVERAGE LENGTH OF TIME IN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT BEFORE ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT.**  
 (b) **AVERAGE LENGTH OF TIME IN ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT BEFORE THE FINAL ORDER OF ADOPTION.**

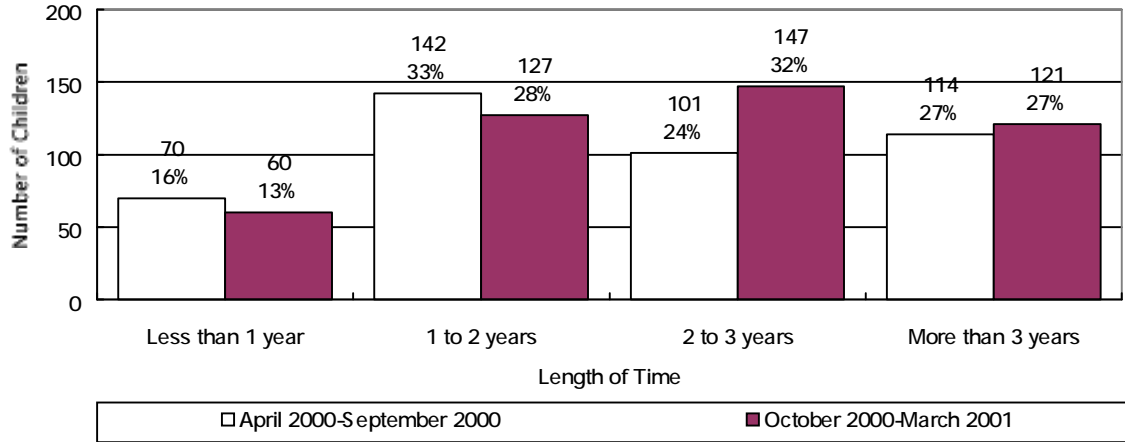
There were 455 children with a finalized adoption during the reporting period. *Chart 17* displays the number of children with a finalized adoption during the reporting period by the average length of time in out-of-home placement before adoptive placement. *Chart 18* displays the number of children with a finalized adoption by average length of time in adoptive placement before the final order of adoption.

**Chart 17**  
**THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WITH A FINALIZED ADOPTION BY AVERAGE LENGTH OF TIME IN OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT BEFORE ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT**



N= 427 April 2000 - September 2000  
 N= 455 October 2000 - March 2001

**THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WITH A FINALIZED ADOPTION BY AVERAGE LENGTH OF TIME IN ADOPTIVE PLACEMENT BEFORE THE FINAL ORDER OF ADOPTION**



N=427 April 2000-September 2000

N=455 October 2000-March 2001

\*About 70% of children are adopted by relatives or their foster parents and are already in their prospective adoptive placement at the time the case plan goal changes to adoption.