CHILD WELFARE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD OF

APRIL 1, 2001 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES [LAWS 2001, CHAPTER 223]

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY DIVISION OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY S.B. 1229 APRIL 1, 2001 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

Arizona Revised Statute §8-526, as amended by Laws 2001, Chapter 223 requires the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) to compile information semi-annually and produce a report for the periods ending on March 31st and September 30th 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 April 1, 2001 through September 30, 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 Hotline received 17,064 reports of child abuse, neglect and abandonment. Of these reports, 107 were within the jurisdiction of military or tribal governments and were referred to those jurisdictions. The Department and Family Builders contracted providers responded to 100% of the remaining 16,957 reports. This response rate has been maintained by the Division since January, 1998. During the reporting period, an additional 8,564 communications were received by Child Protective Services Central Intake that did not meet the criteria of a report.

During the reporting period, there were 1,496 substantiated findings of abuse or neglect. In-home services were received in 847 of these cases, out-of-home services were received in 695 of these cases, and 600 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. In addition, these reports are not mutually exclusive, and may simultaneously receive in home services, out-of-home services, as well as services through the community.

On September 30, 2001, there were 6,121 children in out-of-home care in Arizona. Of the total number of children in out-of-home care, there were 1,448 children placed with relatives. One thousand seven hundred fourteen (1,714) children of the 6,121 in out-of-home care had a case plan goal of adoption, and 1,122 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 three hundred fifty-eight (2,358) children had a case plan goal of "Return to Family". Three thousand eight hundred seventy-five (3,875 or 63%) 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, 2,549 children were in family foster home settings. There were 1,792 licensed foster homes this reporting period. 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 1,359 (76%) of 1,792 foster homes this reporting period.

A.R.S. §8-516 also requires supervision of children in foster care. During this reporting period, 6,121 children in out-of-home care required visitation by their Child Protective Services case manager. Visitation was accurately documented for 4,152 (68%) of these children.

During the reporting period, 2,394 children left the care, custody and control of DES. The following are the reasons and the number of children who left care: 1,294 of the children were reunified with their parents or primary caretaker, 182 of the children reached the age of majority, 237 children left due to a legal guardianship being established, 137 of the children were placed with other relatives, 59 of the children were transferred to another agency, and 13 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 467 children with finalized adoptions, which is an increase of 3% over the prior period.

A further analysis of the data in this report indicates that:

- r There has been a decline in the number of African American children in out-of-home care from 16%, in the October 1999 through March 2000 period, to 14% in the current period.
- **r** The number of children in out-of-home care greater than 24 months has declined 3% from 41% in the October 1999 through March 2000 period to 37% in the current period.
- **r** There has been an increase in the number of African American children adopted from 13%, in the April 2000 through September 2000 period, to 16% in the current period.
- **r** There has been a decrease this reporting period of 2% in the total number of children in out-of-home care from the last reporting period.
- **r** There has been an increase of 3% in the total number of finalized adoptions between this reporting period and the last reporting period.

CHILD WELFARE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Arizona Revised Statute §8-526, as amended by Laws 2001, Chapter 223 requires the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) to compile information and produce a semi-annual report for the periods ending on March 31st and September 30th 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 April 1, 2001 and ending on September 30, 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:

Child Protective Services reports	[A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(1)];
Child Protective Services reports responded to	[A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(2), (A)(3)];
Child Protective Services case closures	[A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(4)(a)(b)(c)];
Newborn Infants delivered to safe haven providers.	[A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(5)];
Child Protective Services direct service staff	[A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(6)];
Children in shelter or receiving homes	[A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(7)];
Foster home availability and activity	[A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(8-10)];
Length of time in foster care	[A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(11)];
Case manager visitation compliance	[A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(11)];
Children leaving custody	[A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(14)](a)(b)(c)(d)];
Adoptive services	$[A.R.S. \ \$8-526 \ (A)(15-16)](a))b)(c)(d)(e)].$
	Child Protective Services reports responded to Child Protective Services case closures Newborn Infants delivered to safe haven providers. Child Protective Services direct service staff Children in shelter or receiving homes Foster home availability and activity Length of time in foster care Case manager visitation compliance Children leaving custody

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 April 1, 2001 and September 30, 2001, there were 17,064 incoming communications to the Child Abuse Hotline which met the criteria of a report of abuse or neglect. Of these, 107 were within the jurisdiction of military or tribal governments and were referred to those jurisdictions. This compares to 16,394 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 April 2001 through September 2001 shows 10,319 or 60% of the 17,064 reports of maltreatment were related to allegations of neglect, 5,383 or 32% of the reports were related to allegations of physical abuse, 993 or 6% of the reports were related to allegations of sexual abuse, and 369 or 2% of the reports were related to allegations of emotional abuse.

As illustrated in *Chart 1A*, 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.

Chart 2 provides the number of reports received by report risk level for the April 1, 2001 through September 30, 2001 reporting period. Based on the type of maltreatment a risk level is assigned to reports of alleged abuse.

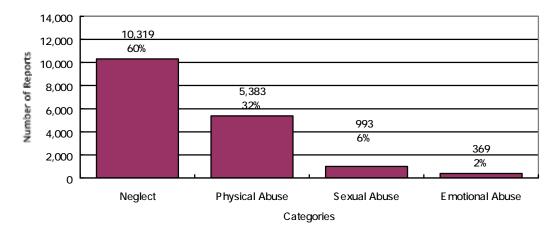
In addition to the 17,064 reports presented in *Chart 1*, the Child Abuse Hotline received 8,564 communications that did not meet the statutory criteria of a report of maltreatment. A random sample of these communications is contained in *Chart 3*.



NUMBER OF REPORTS RECEIVED BY MAJOR CATEGORY PERIOD APRIL 1, 2001 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

FOR

FOR

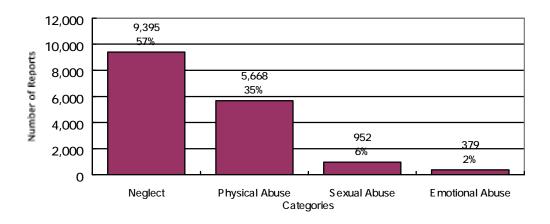


N= 17,064

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

Chart 1A

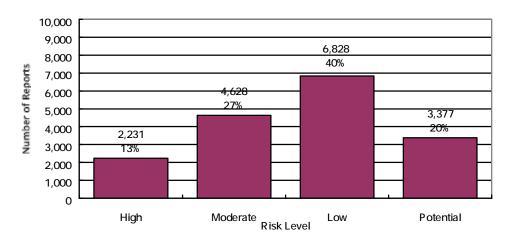
NUMBER OF REPORTS RECEIVED BY MAJOR CATEGORY PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2000 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2001



N= 16,394

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



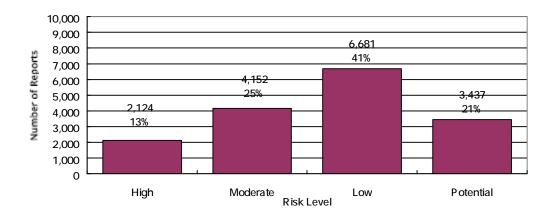


NUMBER OF REPORTS RECEIVED BY RISK LEVEL FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 2001 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

N=17,064 *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 OCTOBER 1, 2000 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2001

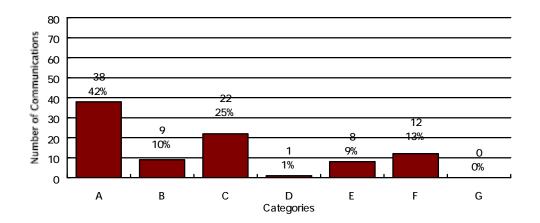


N= 16,394

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



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 Jurisdiction¹
- **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.

¹ The category "Call Appropriate for Law Enforcement Jurisdiction" 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 communitybased 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 16,957² reports deemed appropriate for investigation, CPS assigned 12,673 reports to CPS Specialists for an investigation. The Department referred 4,284 reports to Family Builders for response, which resulted in a combined response rate of 100% for the reporting period. One hundred seven reports were within the jurisdiction of the military or tribal governments and were referred to those jurisdictions for investigation.

² One hundred seven 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 April 1, 2001 through September 30, 2001, there were 12,673 CPS investigations, and 4,284 reports referred to Family Builders for 16,957 total responses³.

Table 1

NUMBER OF REPORTS RESPONDED TO BY RISK LEVEL AND COUNTY FOR PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 2001 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

COUNTY	HIGH	MODERATE	LOW	POTENTIAL	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	13	25	29	16	83	<1%
COCHISE	70	141	233	143	587	3%
COCONINO	79	126	161	56	422	2%
GILA	23	56	101	42	222	1%
GRAHAM	13	32	28	4	77	<1%
GREENLEE	1	11	4	1	17	<1%
LA PAZ	8	16	29	13	66	<1%
MARICOPA	1,339	2,720	3,725	1,801	9,585	56%
MOHAVE	77	168	257	101	603	4%
NAVAJO	35	28	43	14	120	1%
PIMA	329	793	1,329	689	3,140	18%
PINAL	83	206	295	129	713	4%
SANTA CRUZ	16	14	21	3	54	<1%
YAVAPAI	84	181	413	293	971	6%
YUMA	61	111	160	72	404	2%
STATEWIDE	2,231	4,628	6,828	3,377	17,064	100%
% OF TOTAL	13%	27%	40%	20%	100%	

³ One hundred seven 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 1A⁴

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%	

⁴ 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 2⁵

NUMBER OF REPORTS RESPONDED TO BY MAJOR CATEGORY AND COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 2001 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

COUNTY	EMOTIONAL	NEGLECT	PHYSICAL	SEXUAL	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
	ABUSE		ABUSE	ABUSE		
APACHE	3	45	29	6	83	<1%
COCHISE	14	360	180	33	587	3%
COCONINO	13	211	152	46	422	2%
GILA	3	148	58	13	222	1%
GRAHAM	1	43	27	6	77	<1%
GREENLEE	1	9	5	2	17	<1%
LA PAZ	1	51	11	3	66	<1%
MARICOPA	178	5781	3.064	562	9,585	56%
MOHAVE	12	374	179	38	603	4%
NAVAJO	6	81	28	5	120	1%
PIMA	70	1,877	1,020	173	3,140	18%
PINAL	17	441	211	44	713	4%
SANTA CRUZ	1	21	27	5	54	<1%
YAVAPAI	38	640	256	37	971	6%
YUMA	11	237	136	20	404	2%
STATEWIDE	369	10,319	5,383	993	17.064	100%
% OF TOTAL	2%	60%	32%	6%	100%	

Table 2A⁶

NUMBER OF REPORTS RESPONDED TO BY MAJOR CATEGORY AND COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2000 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2001

COUNTY	EMOTIONAL	NEGLECT	PHYSICAL	SEXUAL	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
	ABUSE		ABUSE	ABUSE		
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%	

⁵ One hundred-seven reports were classified as no jurisdiction and are included in Table 2.

⁶ Ninety-nine 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 11,367 reports were investigated and subject to substantiation, with 1,496 or 13% of the reports resulting in a substantiated finding of child abuse or neglect.⁷ This compares to a revised substantiation rate of 17%, or 1,850 reports, for the period of October 2000 through March 2001.

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 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 13% substantiation rate for this period will be revised in the next report.

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

Table 3⁸

NUMBER OF REPORTS WITH SUBSTANTIATED FINDINGS IN WHICH THE CASE WAS CLOSED AFTER INVESTIGATION BY RISK LEVEL AND COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 2001 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

COUNTY	HIGH	MODERATE	LOW	POTENTIAL	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	1	0	0	1	<1%
COCHISE	4	14	6	0	24	4%
COCONINO	2	1	5	0	8	1%
GILA	0	5	3	0	8	1%
GRAHAM	0	0	1	0	1	<1%
GREENLEE	0	0	1	0	1	<1%
LA PAZ	1	1	0	0	2	<1%
MARICOPA	56	200	110	0	366	61%
MOHAVE	2	7	3	0	12	2%
NAVAJO	2	3	1	0	6	1%
PIMA	10	46	48	0	104	17%
PINAL	4	20	17	0	41	7%
SANTA CRUZ	1	0	2	0	3	1%
YAVAPAI	4	4	3	0	11	2%
YUMA	2	5	5	0	12	2%
STATEWIDE	88	307	205	0	600	100%
% OF TOTAL	15%	51%	34%	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 services⁹; 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.

⁸ 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.

⁹ 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 APRIL 1, 2001 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

COUNTY	HIGH	MODERATE	LOW	POTENTIAL	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	0	2	1	0	3	<1%
COCHISE	18	14	8	0	40	5%
COCONINO	8	6	4	0	18	2%
GILA	0	1	3	0	4	<1%
GRAHAM	4	4	1	0	9	1%
GREENLEE	0	0	1	0	1	<1%
LA PAZ	1	0	0	0	1	<1%
MARICOPA	140	164	97	0	401	47%
MOHAVE	13	4	3	0	20	2%
NAVAJO	3	0	2	0	5	1%
PIMA	93	105	77	0	275	32%
PINAL	9	10	8	0	27	3%
SANTA CRUZ	0	2	2	0	4	<1%
YAVAPAI	6	5	6	0	17	2%
YUMA	9	5	8	0	22	3%
STATEWIDE	304	322	221	0	847	100%
% OF TOTAL	36%	38%	26%	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 APRIL 1, 2001 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

COUNTY	HIGH	MODERATE	LOW	POTENTIAL	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
APACHE	1	1	0	0	2	<1%
COCHISE	17	11	4	0	32	5%
COCONINO	12	4	3	0	19	3%
GILA	2	1	1	0	4	1%
GRAHAM	4	4	0	0	8	1%
GREENLEE	0	0	0	0	0	0%
LA PAZ	1	0	0	0	1	<1%
MARICOPA	133	98	59	0	290	42%
MOHAVE	14	3	2	0	19	3%
NAVAJO	4	0	3	0	7	1%
PIMA	95	99	66	0	260	37%
PINAL	7	9	8	0	24	3%
SANTA CRUZ	0	0	1	0	1	<1%
YAVAPAI	4	5	5	0	14	2%
YUMA	8	3	3	0	14	2%
STATEWIDE	302	238	155	0	695	100%
% OF TOTAL	43%	34%	22%	0%	100%	

ABANDONED NEWBORNS A.R.S. §8-526(A)(5)

THE NUMBER OF NEWBORN INFANTS DELIVERED TO SAFE HAVEN PROVIDERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 13-3623.01.

There were no newborn infants delivered to safe haven providers during the April 2001-September 2001 reporting period.

CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES DIRECT SERVICE STAFF A.R.S. §8-526(A)(6)

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

The Department had a 21.58% annualized turnover rate for state fiscal year 2001. There were 39 authorized Child Protective Services Specialist positions vacant on September 30, 2001.

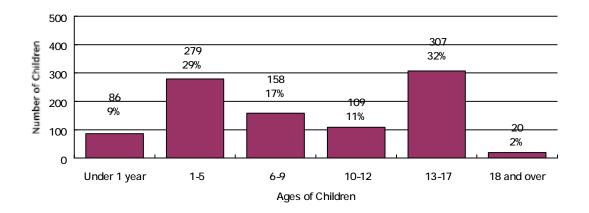
CHILDREN IN SHELTER OR RECEIVING HOMES A.R.S. §8-526(A)(7)

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, 959 children remained in a shelter or receiving home for more than 21 consecutive days. (See Chart 4) For the period of April 2001 through September 2001, 594 or 62% 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 APRIL 1, 2001 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2001



N=959

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

THE NUMBER AND TYPE OF LICENSED FOSTER HOMES AND THE NUMBER OF LICENSED AND AVAILABLE SPACES IN THOSE HOMES.

As of September 30, 2001, there were 1,792 licensed foster homes with 4,211 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 September 30, 2001 there were 925 unused spaces within these foster homes. Approximately 245 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)(9)

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

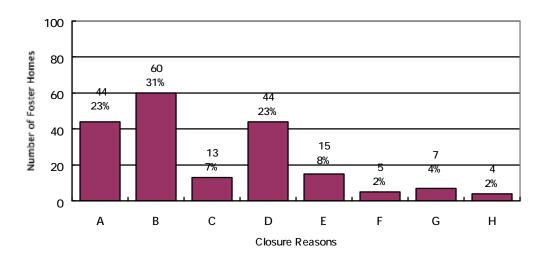
During the reporting period, 196 new homes were licensed to provide foster care and 192 homes left the system. This compares to 182 new homes being licensed and 204 homes leaving the system for the period covering October 2000 through March 2001.

Chart 5 gives the reasons for foster home closures for the period of April 1, 2001 through September 30, 2001.

Chart 5

REASON FOR FOSTER HOME CLOSURE FOR THE PERIOD OF 2001 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

APRIL 1,



N=192

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

WHO

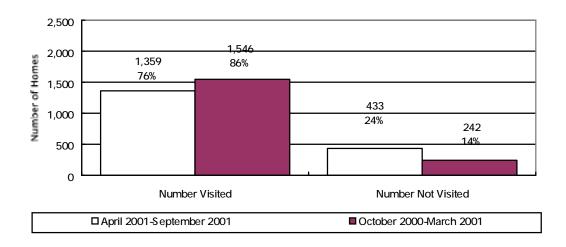
FOSTER HOME ACTIVITY-VISITATION(Cont.) A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(10)

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 1,792 foster homes that required visitation. Of those homes 1,359 or 76% received the required visitation. This compares to 1,546 or 86% of the foster homes that received the required visitation for the period October 2000 through March 2001. The Department believes that more foster homes received the required visitation than is indicated in Chart 6. The under reporting of foster home visitation is attributable to the lack of automation being used in reporting the foster home visitation process. The Department recognizes this as a problem and is working to correct this issue.

Chart 6

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



N= 1,792 April 2001 - September 2001

N= 1,788 October 2000 - March 2001

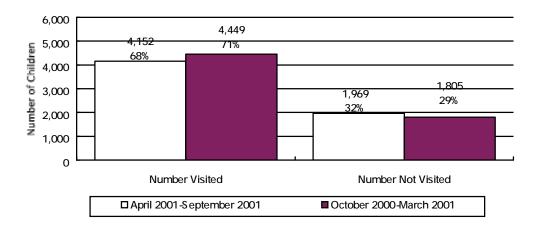
*Required visitations to foster homes, for license monitoring purposes, are performed by licensing case managers.

FOSTER HOME ACTIVITY-CHILD VISITATION(Cont.) A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(11)

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 6,121 children in out-of-home care who required visitation. Of these children, visitation was accurately documented in the automated system for 4,152 children or 68%. 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 VISITATION¹⁰

N= 6,121 April 2001-September 2001

N= 6,254 October 2000-March 2001

¹⁰ 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)(12)(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 September 30, 2001, there were 6,121 children in out-of-home care. During the reporting period of April 1, 2001 through September 30, 2001, there were 2,387 children removed from their home for some period of time.

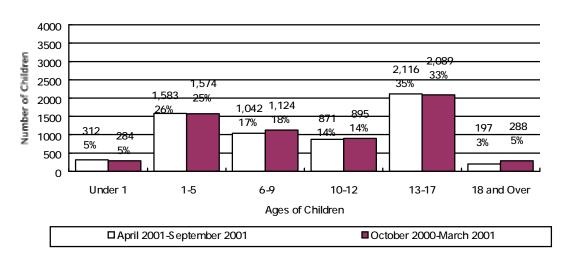


Chart 8

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

N= 6,121 April 2001-September 2001

N= 6,254 October 2000-March 2001

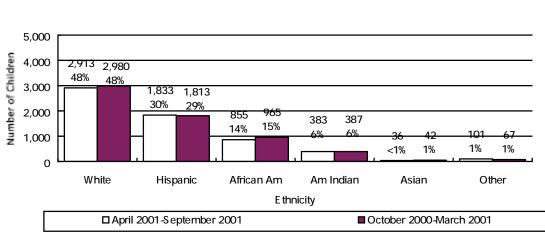


Chart 9

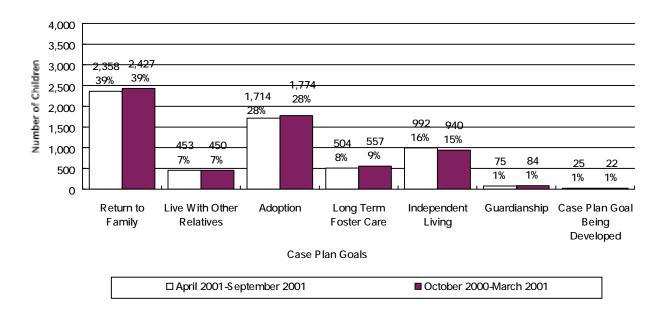
THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE BY ETHNICITY

N= 6,121 April 2001-September 2001

N= 6,254 October 2000-March 2001

Chart 10

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



N= 6,121 April 2001-September 2001

N= 6,254 October 2000-March 2001

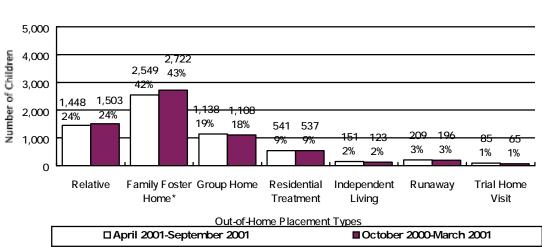


Chart 11

THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN CARE BY PLACEMENT TYPE

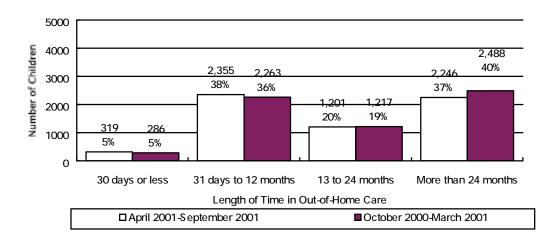
N= 6,121 April 2001-September 2001

N= 6,254 October 2000-March 2001

* Category includes some relative placements.



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



N= 6,121 April 2001-September 2001

N= 6,254 October 2000-March 2001

A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(13)

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 1,143 parents who had a child with the case plan goal of return home. Of those parents requiring the visitation, 639 or 56% received the required visitation. The 56% visitation rate does not reflect attempted visitation where contact did not take place.

REASON FOR LEAVING DES CUSTODY A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(14)(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 2,394 children left the custody of the Department. Tables 6 through 14 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 automated system has been enhanced to reflect discharge reasons more accurately. The default of "Reunification with Parents" has been eliminated and this change is reflected in this reporting period.

Table 6TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN LEAVING DES CUSTODY FOR THE END OF THE
REPORTING PERIOD ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	97	4%
Ages 1 - 5	711	30%
Ages 6 - 9	445	19%
Ages 10 - 12	320	13%
Ages 13 - 17	631	26%
18 and Over	190	8%
Total	2,394	100%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
White	1,144	48%
Hispanic	656	27%
African American	350	15%
American Indian	180	8%
Asian	17	<1%
Other	47	2%
Total	2,394	100%
By Number of Placements	Number	Percentage
One	1,128	47%
Two	477	20%
Three	263	11%
Four	160	7%
Five	98	4%
More than Five	268	11%
Total	2,394	100%
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 Days	741	31%
31 Days to 12 Months	610	25%
13 to 24 Months	369	16%
More than 24 Months	674	28%
Total	2,394	100%

	Median	Average
By Age	9.36	9.60
By Number of Placements	2	2.62
By Months of Time in Care	9.42	17.65

Table 7NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN LEAVING DES CUSTODYFOR REASON OF "REUNIFICATION WITH PARENTS OR PRIMARY CARETAKER" FOR
THE REPORTING PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	81	6%
Ages 1 - 5	340	26%
Ages 6 - 9	225	18%
Ages 10 - 12	167	13%
Ages 13 - 17	456	35%
18 and Over	25	2%
Total	1,294	100%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
White	621	48%
Hispanic	356	28%
African American	166	13%
American Indian	102	8%
Asian	11	<1%
Other	38	3%
Total	1,294	100%
By Number of Placements	Number	Percentage
One	827	64%
Two	239	18%
Three	85	7%
Four	48	4%
Five	26	2%
More than Five	69	5%
Total	1,294	100%
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 Days	597	46%
31 Days to 12 Months	467	36%
13 to 24 Months	136	11%
More than 24 Months	94	7%
Total	1,294	100%

	Median	Average
By Age	10.01	9.61
By Number of Placements	1	1.87
By Months of Time in Care	1.6	7.23

Table 8

NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN LEAVING DES CUSTODY FOR REASON OF "LIVING WITH OTHER RELATIVES" FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	6	4%
Ages 1 - 5	50	37%
Ages 6 - 9	33	24%
Ages 10 - 12	21	15%
Ages 13 - 17	26	19%
18 and Over	1	1%
Total	137	100%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
White	69	50%
Hispanic	30	22%
African American	19	14%
American Indian	14	10%
Asian	1	1%
Other	4	3%
Total	137	100%
Pr Number of Discoments	Number	Demonstrage
By Number of Placements One	106	Percentage 77%
Two	22	16%
Three	4	3%
Four	3	2%
Five	0	0%
More than Five	2	2%
Total	137	100%
Total	137	100 /8
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 Days	85	62%
31 Days to 12 Months	24	18%
13 to 24 Months	17	12%
More than 24 Months	11	8%
Total	137	100%

	Median	Average
By Age	7.24	8.12
By Number of Placements	1	1.35
By Months of Time in Care	.16	6.41

Table 9NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN LEAVING DESCUSTODY FOR REASON OF "ADOPTION" FOR THE REPORTING PERIODENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	2	<1%
Ages 1 - 5	235	50%
Ages 6 - 9	123	26%
Ages 10 - 12	73	16%
Ages 13 - 17	33	7%
18 and Over	1	<1%
Total	467	100%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
White	208	45%
Hispanic	160	34%
African American	76	16%
American Indian	19	4%
Asian	2	<1%
Other	2	<1%
Total	467	100%
By Number of Placements	Number	Percentage
One	43	9%
Two	125	27%
Three	121	26%
Four	69	15%
Five	35	7%
More than Five	74	16%
Total	467	100%
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 Days	3	<1%
31 Days to 12 Months	8	1%
13 to 24 Months	92	20%
More than 24 Months	364	78%
Total	467	100%

	Median	Average
By Age	5.90	6.66
By Number of Placements	3	3.51
By Months of Time in Care	32.24	36.46

Table 10

NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN LEAVING DES CUSTODY FOR REASON OF "GUARDIANSHIP" FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	2	<1%
Ages 1 - 5	72	30%
Ages 6 - 9	54	23%
Ages 10 - 12	49	21%
Ages 13 - 17	60	25%
18 and Over	0	0%
Total	237	100%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
White	120	51%
Hispanic	56	24%
African American	39	16%
American Indian	19	8%
Asian	2	<1%
Other	1	<1%
Total	237	100%
By Number of Placements	Number	Percentage
One	97	41%
Two	62	26%
Three	25	11%
Four	16	7%
Five	20	8%
More than Five	17	7%
Total	237	100%
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 Days	21	9%
31 Days to 12 Months	64	27%
13 to 24 Months	88	37%
More than 24 Months	64	27%
Total	237	100%

	Median	Average
By Age	9.17	9.19
By Number of Placements	2	2.46
By Months of Time in Care	17.83	20.57

Table 11NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN LEAVING DES CUSTODYFOR REASONS OF "REACHING AGE OF MAJORITY" FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD
ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	0	0%
Ages 1 - 5	0	0%
Ages 6 - 9	0	0%
Ages 10 - 12	0	0%
Ages 13 - 17	20	11%
18 and Over	162	89%
Total	182	100%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
White	97	53%
Hispanic	31	17%
African American	41	22%
American Indian	12	7%
Asian	1	<1%
Other	0	<1%
Total	182	100%
By Number of Placements	Number	Percentage
One	13	8%
Two	16	9%
Three	20	11%
Four	19	10%
Five	17	9%
More than Five	97	53%
Total	182	100%
		-
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 Days	4	2%
31 Days to 12 Months	20	11%
13 to 24 Months	29	16%
More than 24 Months	129	71%
Total	182	100%

	Median	Average
By Age	18.01	18.13
By Number of Placements	6	6.91
By Months of Time in Care	40.30	50.84

Table 12NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN LEAVING DES CUSTODYFOR REASON OF "TRANSFER TO ANOTHER AGENCY" FOR THE REPORTING PERIODENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	5	8%
Ages 1 - 5	12	20%
Ages 6 - 9	10	17%
Ages 10 - 12	8	14%
Ages 13 - 17	23	39%
18 and Over	1	2%
Total	59	100%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
White	17	29%
Hispanic	19	32%
African American	7	12%
American Indian	14	24%
Asian	0	0%
Other	2	3%
Total	59	100%
By Number of Placements	Number	Percentage
One	28	47%
Two	12	20%
Three	6	10%
Four	5	9%
Five	0	0%
More than Five	8	14%
Total	59	100%
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 Days	20	34%
31 Days to 12 Months	24	41%
13 to 24 Months	6	10%
More than 24 Months	9	15%
Total	59	100%

	Median	Average
By Age	11.16	9.96
By Number of Placements	2	2.83
By Months of Time in Care	2.99	12.40

Table 13NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN LEAVING DES CUSTODYFOR REASON OF "RUNAWAY" FOR THE REPORTING PERIODENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

By Age	Number	Percentage
Under 1	0	0%
Ages 1 - 5	0	0%
Ages 6 - 9	0	0%
Ages 10 - 12	1	8%
Ages 13 - 17	12	92%
18 and Over	0	0%
Total	13	100%
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
White	9	69%
Hispanic	3	23%
African American	1	8%
American Indian	0	0%
Asian	0	0%
Other	0	0%
Total	13	100%
By Number of Placements	Number	Percentage
One	12	92%
Two	0	0%
Three	0	0%
Four	0	0%
Five	0	0%
More than Five	1	8%
Total	13	100%
		D
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage
Less than 30 Days	10	77%
31 Days to 12 Months	2	15%
13 to 24 Months	1	8%
More than 24 Months	0	0%
Total	13	100%

	Median	Average
By Age	16.54	16.29
By Number of Placements	1	1.31
By Months of Time in Care	.13	1.44

Table 14 NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN LEAVING DES CUSTODY FOR REASON OF "DEATH OF CHILD" FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2001

By Age	Number	Percentage	
Under 1	1	20%	
Ages 1 - 5	2	40%	
Ages 6 - 9	0	0%	
Ages 10 - 12	1	20%	
Ages 13 - 17	1	20%	
18 and Over	0	0%	
Total	5	100%	
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage	
White	3	60%	
Hispanic	1	20%	
African American	1	20%	
American Indian	0	0%	
Asian	0	0%	
Other	0	0%	
Total	5	100%	
By Number of Placements	Number	Percentage	
One	2	40%	
Two	1	20%	
Three	2	40%	
Four	0	0%	
Five	0	0%	
More than Five	0	0%	
Total	5	100%	
By Length of Time in Care	Number	Percentage	
Less than 30 Days	1	20%	
31 Days to 12 Months	1	20%	
13 to 24 Months	0	0%	
More than 24 Months	3	60%	
Total	5	100%	

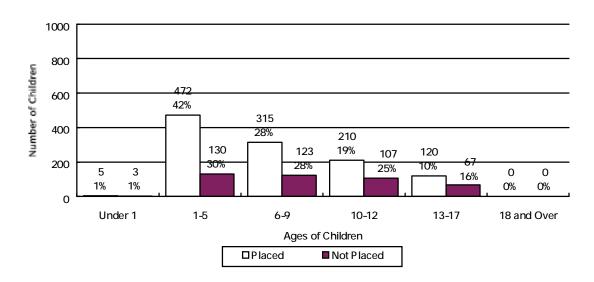
	Median	Average
By Age	4.73	7.29
By Number of Placements	2	2
By Months of Time in Care	29.28	21.26

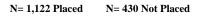
ADOPTIVE CASE PLAN GOALS
A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(15) & (16)
THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION AND WHO ARE NOT PLACED IN AN ADOPTIVE HOME AT THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD.
THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION AND WHO ARE PLACED IN AN 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, 7 months.

Chart 13







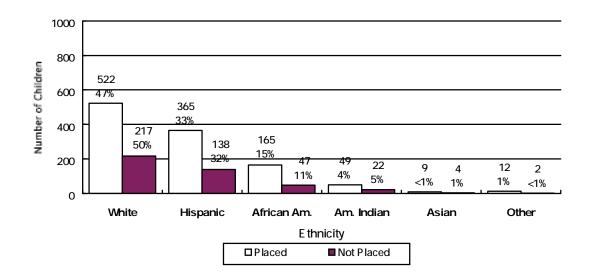
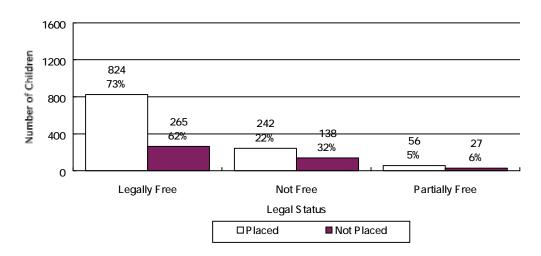


Chart 14 THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION BY ETHNICITY

N= 1,122 Placed N= 430 Not Placed

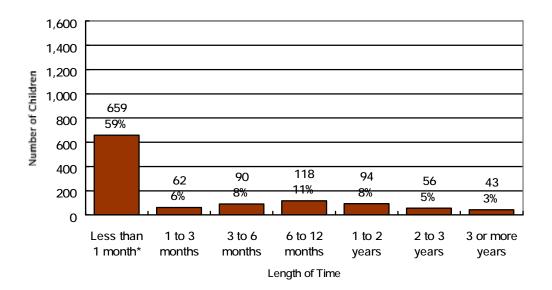
Chart 15 THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH A CASE PLAN GOAL OF ADOPTION BY LEGAL STATUS



N= 1,122 Placed N= 430 Not Placed

Partially free refers to a situation where only one of the parent's rights has been severed.





N= 1,122 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

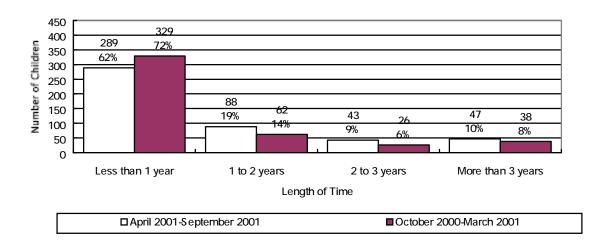
A.R.S. §8-526 (A)(17)(a)(b)

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 467 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.

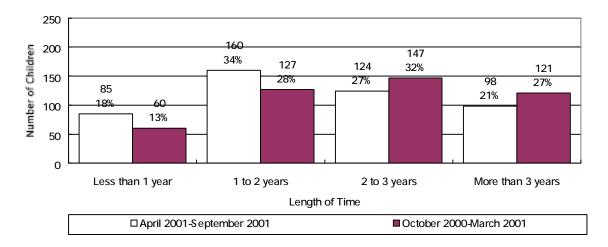




N= 467 April 2001 - September 2001 N= 455 October 2000 - March 2001

Chart 18

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=467 April 2001-September 2001

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.