

2013

Permanency Data Overview



Data Guide



**Office of Children
and Family Services**

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Permanency Data - Overview:

The source of the permanency data is Child Care Review Service (CCRS). CCRS is the system of record for foster care placement, legal events, and adoption activity. This data packet includes data that was input into CCRS by January 31, 2014. The CCRS data in this packet was accessed primarily through the Multi-State Foster Care Data Archive (State Data Center).

For the purpose of this data packet, CCRS data is processed to create child spells. A child spell is a continuous period of time in an out-of-home placement that is not interrupted by an absence or trial discharge of more than thirty days. A child's spell(s) is associated with the county that most recently had jurisdiction over the child's care. Only spells that are at least five days long are included.

At the request of local districts, the permanency data includes only children who have been in the custody of the LDSS for all or part of their foster care spell. The data contained in this report does not include in care youth who have been under the custody of OCFS during their entire foster care spell.

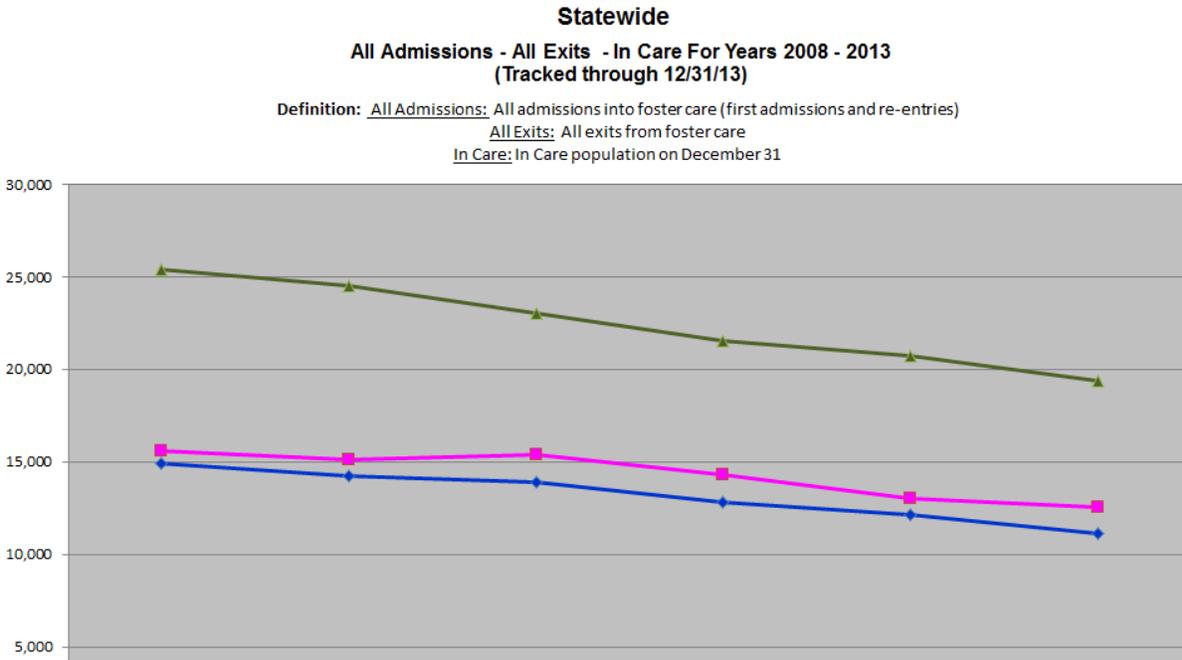
Frequently Asked Questions about the OCFS Permanency Data:

- Q:** What is the State Data Center?
- A:** Chapin Hall and the American Public Human Services Association established the Center for State Foster Care and Adoption Data in 2004 to support child welfare agencies using longitudinal data. The State Data Center is supported through fees paid by member states and the Annie E. Casey Foundation and Casey Family Programs.
- Q:** Our district maintains our own records and some of those counts are different than the data in this data packet. The data warehouse also reports different counts. Why?
- A:** There are three primary reasons that numbers in this packet differ from those that appear on other routine reports that are distributed by OCFS.
- 1) Data are taken from a database on different dates: CCRS data in this packet includes data input through January 31, 2014. Timely data entry at the local level creates more complete and accurate data.
 - 2) The data definitions differ: For the purpose of this data packet, CCRS data is processed to create child spells. A child spell is a continuous period of time in an out-of-home placement that is not interrupted by an absence or trial discharge of more than thirty days. A child's spell is associated with the county that most recently had jurisdiction over the child's care. Only spells that are at least five days long are included. Children are counted as exiting foster care if they have been absent (for example on runaway status or in a hospital absence) or on trial discharge for more than thirty days. If a child returns to foster care after thirty days, this is counted as a new admission. A child's spell in foster care continues if the time out of care is thirty days or less.
 - 3) The universe of children is different: All CCRS placement data is analyzed. However, only the records for children who were recorded to be in LDSS custody for their entire foster care stay or a portion of their foster care stay are included in this data packet. Children who were exclusively in OCFS custody for their entire foster care stay are excluded.
- Q:** Are all exit types included in the data or just the permanent (reunification, relatives, KinGAP, adoption) exits?
- A:** Types of exits from foster care are summarized in eight groups: reunification, relatives, KinGAP, adoption, reach majority, APPLA, runaway, and other exit. Children released to a primary resource person are included in the counts of relative exits. "Other" exits include any other exit code recorded in CCRS associated with an M950 or an M990 code. The most common types of "other" exits were SB (Hospital), SD (Sent to detention), 582 – To Enter OCFS Facility, 585 – Administrative Action.
- Q:** Has this data packet refreshed all the data since the previous data packet?
- A:** Yes. The numbers and percentages presented in this packet may differ from the data presented in the previous CFSR data packets. The data in previous data packets was pulled from CCRS or CONNECTIONS on different dates, and the data included in this packet has been refreshed and reflects additional data entry since the last data packet release.
- Q:** Our County's estimate of the number of children who reside in our county differs from the estimate contained in the data packet.
- A:** Age, race and ethnicity population estimates were obtained from Woods and Poole Economics Inc. The safety and permanency charts (including DMR data) base the youth population count on the Woods and Poole population estimates that were calculated in 2012 and the 2010 actual census data.
- Q:** We're a small county and some of our data have changed dramatically from one reporting period/year to the next. Why?
- A:** Sharp changes in performance should be treated with caution. A small base population or small child count in a particular measure may significantly change the rate or percentage.
- Q:** Why isn't there any data related to disproportionate minority representation in our county's data?
- A:** Small counties in particular should note that disparity ratios were not calculated in counties with less than 50 minority children under 18 years; and (2) counties with less than 6 minority children with SCR reports.

Questions regarding the content of this data overview guide may be directed to:
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All Admissions / All Exits / In Care at End of Year

Although outcome measures help identify performance toward outcomes, it is also important to understand the raw counts of children entering and exiting foster care, as well as the number of children in foster care each year. The data table, below, represents these trends. These are simply counts of children, not a rate or percent.



The corresponding data in each LDSS' Permanency Outcomes Data Packet provides additional detail for each year provided. Users can disaggregate "all admissions" to determine the number of first admissions and the number of re-admissions. Additional information related to "all exits" includes the exit type: reunification, exit to relative, exit to KinGAP, adoption, child reached majority, permanency resource (APPLA), child ran away, and other exit.

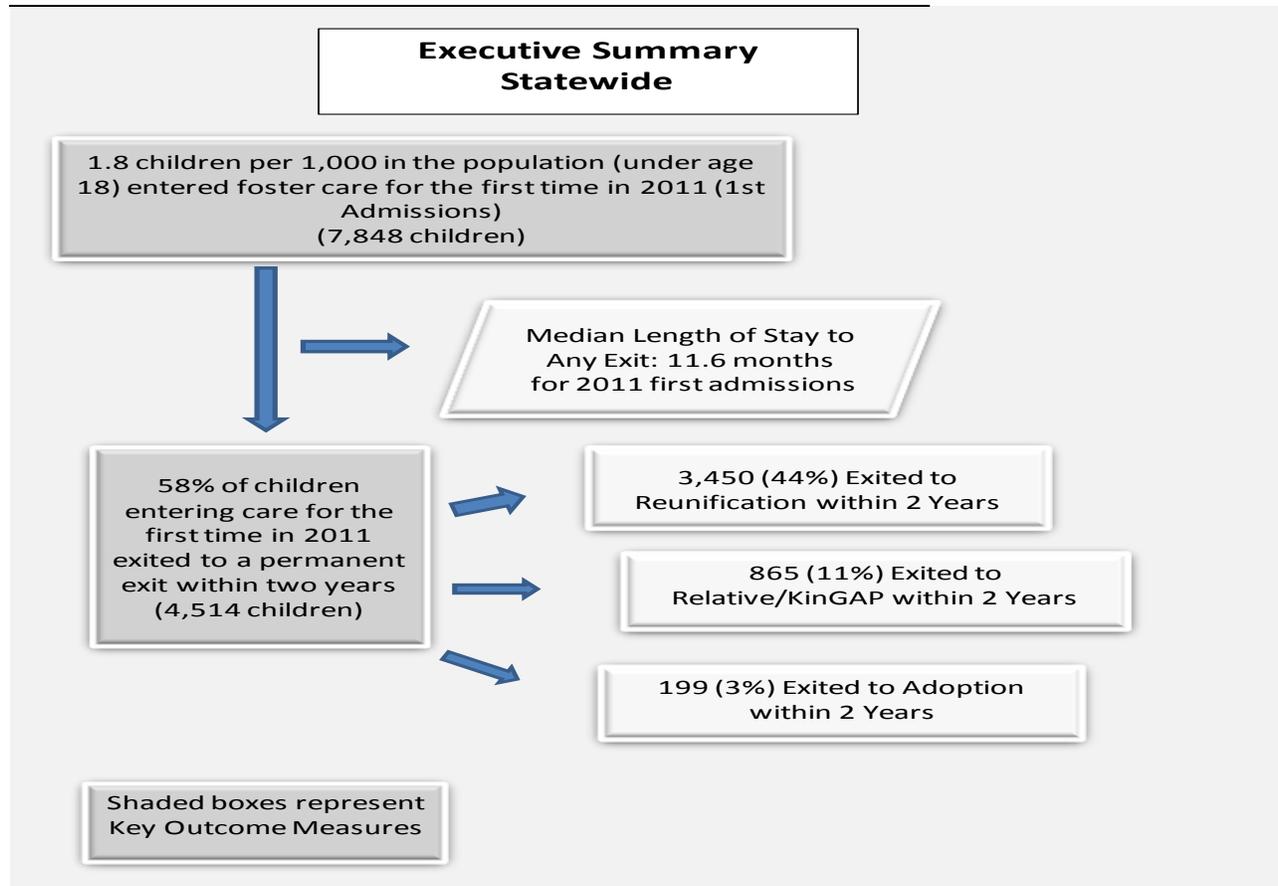
First Admissions Cohort:



First Admissions Cohort:

First Admissions Cohort: The first admissions cohort follows the children who entered care for the first time through a period of time. In order to understand children's *entire* foster care experience, start at the beginning of their foster care experience – their first admission.

First Admissions Cohort Data – Summary Statewide



Cohorts Explained

Several measures are presented from two perspectives:

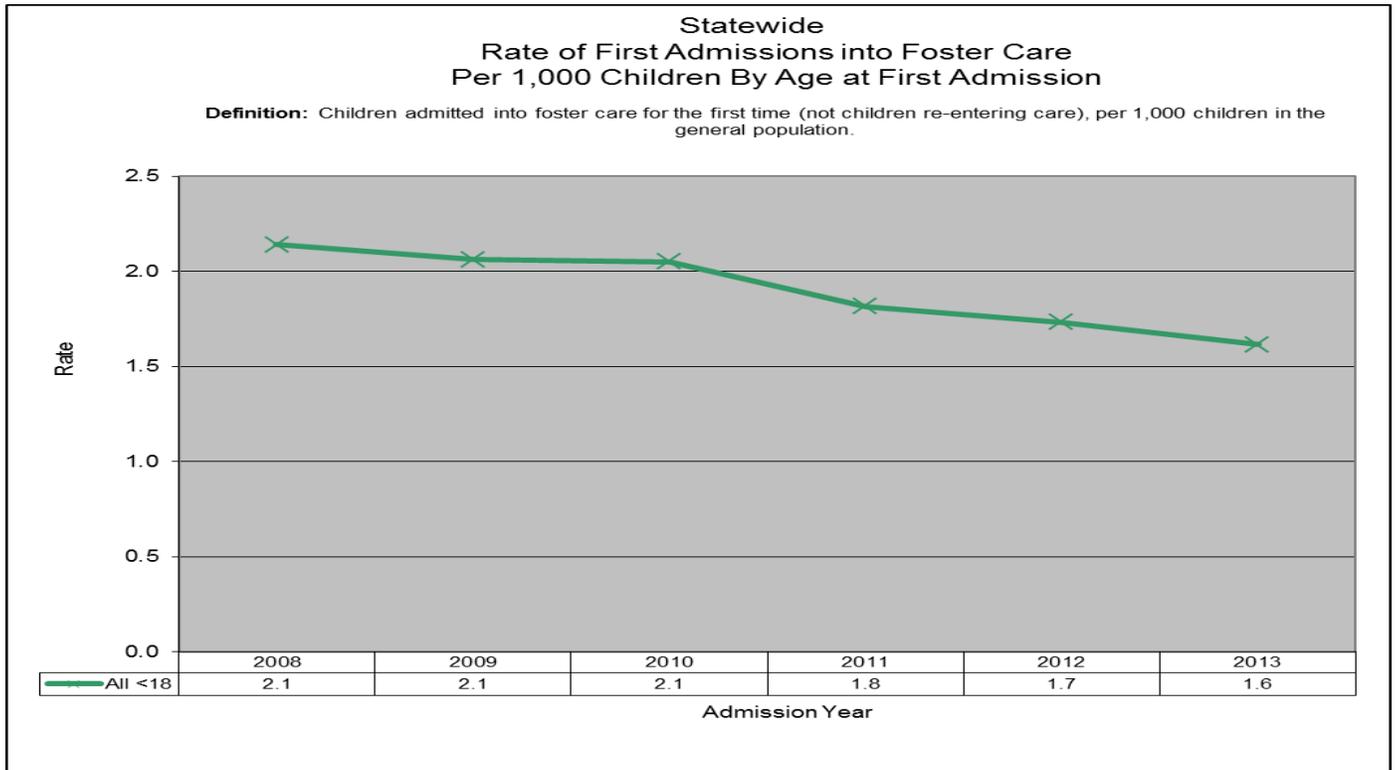
1. **First Admissions Cohort:** The first admissions cohort follows the children who entered care for the first time through a period of time. In order to understand children's *entire* foster care experience, it is best to start at the beginning of their foster care stay - their first admission. Key end outcomes are developed using the First Admissions Cohort.
2. **In-Care Population:** The in-care cohort tracks the children who were in care on the last day of the year. This cohort follows all children who entered care (first admissions and children who have re-entered care) during the year and children who entered in previous years and are still in care. Information from this perspective can be useful in identifying current service needs.

The results vary widely based on the cohort of children, and therefore, may illustrate different service needs. For example:

- **Timely discharges:** Generally, a significantly higher percent of children included in the first admissions cohort leave foster care to a permanent exit than the in-care cohort of children.
 - 2010 Admissions Cohort: Statewide Percent of Permanent Exits within 2 Years: 60%
 - 12/31/10 In-Care Population: Statewide Percent of Permanent Exits within 2 Years: 45%

Admission – Rate of First Placement into Foster Care (key outcome measure)

Definition: Children placed in foster care for the first time (this does not include children re-entering care), per 1,000 children in the general population, by age.



The first admissions rate /1,000 for children of “all ages” continue to decrease slightly – from 2.1/1,000 to 1.6/1,000.

Statewide, babies (children under 1 year old), continue to have the highest first placement rate per 1,000 babies in the population. In 2013, 6.4 babies (per 1,000 babies in the population) entered foster care).

Admission rates by age are available in the data packet.

Note: Upon request, OCFS will provide Client Identification Numbers (CINs) and other demographic information (such as: age at admission, gender, and ethnicity), for this group of children. Additionally, if a LDSS is interested in reviewing the continuum of care, OCFS will provide the child’s PID. This information will enable a District to engage in a case-level analysis of the child’s experiences from their first SCR report through permanency outcomes.

County population numbers were provided by Woods and Poole Economics, Inc., 2013.

? Has your county experienced any significant changes in CPS reports, indications, or preventive services that may impact admissions?

Rate of First Placements - All Ages

The rate of children (ages 0 - 17) placed in foster care for the first time in 2013, per 1000 children in the general population.

		PERIOD COVERED BY THIS REPORT		Size Group Comparison		
		2013		Large	Medium	Small
Rank	District	Distribution of Scores (median=1.7)				
Fewer children are being placed	1	Rockland	0.4	Nass	Rock Sara	
	2	Saratoga	0.4			
	3	Nassau	0.4			
	4	Putnam	0.6			
	5	Oswego	0.7			
	6	Otsego	0.8			
	7	Tioga	0.9			
	8	Lewis	0.9			
	9	Westchester	0.9			
	10	Suffolk	1.1			
Within 0.5 Points of Median (1.2 - 2.2)	11	Montgomery	1.2	ROS	Ulst Rens	Mont Wayn Hami Fult Schu Sulli
	12	Wayne	1.2			
	13	Hamilton	1.3			
	14	Fulton	1.3			
	15	Schuyler	1.4			
	16	Ulster	1.4			
	17	Sullivan	1.4			
	18	Rensselaer	1.4			
	19	Rest of State	1.4			
	20	Ontario	1.5			
	21	Chemung	1.5			
	22	Essex	1.5			
	23	Monroe	1.5			
	24	Statewide	1.6			
	25	Chenango	1.6			
	26	Niagara	1.6			
	27	Onondaga	1.6			
	28	Madison	1.6			
	29	Washington	1.7			
	30	Erie	1.7			
	31	Orange	1.7			
	32	Dutchess	1.7			
	33	NYC	1.8			
	34	Wyoming	1.9			
	35	Cayuga	1.9			
	36	Albany	1.9			
	37	Livingston	1.9			
	38	Genesee	2.1			
	39	Franklin	2.1			
	40	Steuben	2.1			
More children are being placed	41	Jefferson	2.3	NYC	Dutc Broo	Wyom Cayu
	42	Orleans	2.3			
	43	Schoharie	2.3			
	44	Broome	2.4			
	45	Cattaraugus	2.4			
	46	Yates	2.6			
	47	Schenectady	2.7			
	48	Tompkins	2.8			
	49	Oneida	2.9			
	50	Clinton	2.9			
	51	Warren	3.1			
	52	Chautauqua	3.1			
	53	St. Lawrence	3.5			
	54	Greene	3.6			
	55	Columbia	3.8			
	56	Seneca	3.8			
	57	Herkimer	4.3			
	58	Allegany	4.3			
	59	Delaware	4.6			
	60	Cortland	4.8			
	St Regis*	*Census Data Unavailable				St.Reg

County Comparison Charts

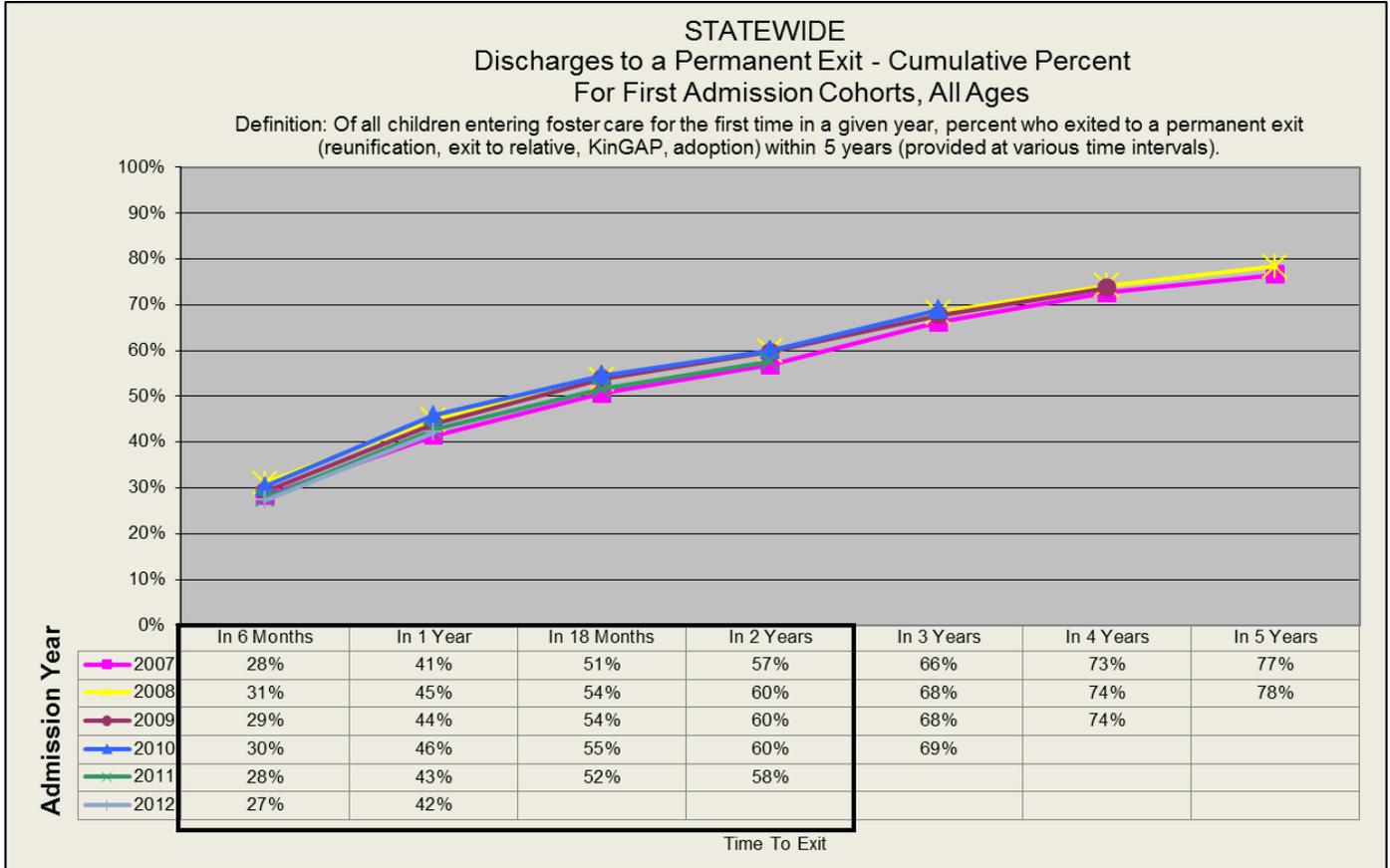
The LDSS Permanency Outcomes Data Packet provides charts and tables for users to compare their own district's performance over time, as illustrated in the chart on the previous page.

Additionally, performance measures, whenever possible, are presented in a manner that allows a district to compare their performance to other districts. Districts can then identify performance for similar districts based on county size or other criteria, leading to statewide learning opportunities.

County comparison charts are located in each LDSS Data Packet.

Time to Permanent Exit – First Admissions Cohort

Definition: Of all children entering care for the first time in a given year, percent who exited to a permanent exit (reunification, exit to relative, adoption) within five years (provided at various time intervals).



Note: Data for each permanent exit type (reunification, exit to relative, adoption) is charted on the following pages.

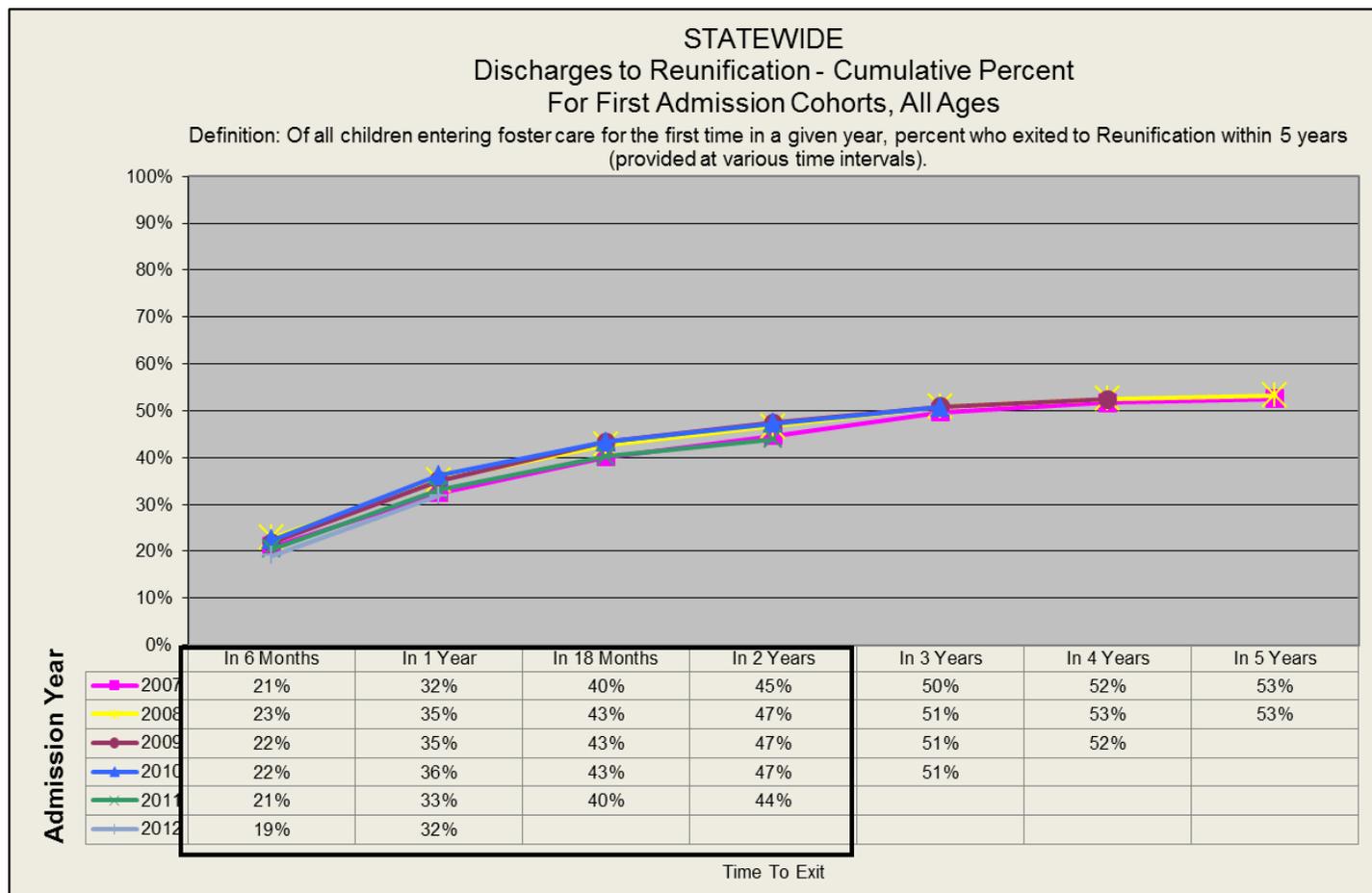
A key NYS CFSR permanency outcome is “permanent exits *within two years.*” The data for this measure is outlined in the above table. Note that of the children who entered care in 2011, 58% exited care to a permanent exit (reunification, exit to relative, adoption) within 2 years (by December 31, 2013). There has been very little performance change since 2007.

Notice that if we wait five years from a first admissions year of 2008, we see that 78% of the children first admitted into care have since exited to a permanent exit. (Five years have occurred when a child entered care on 12/31/2008 and exited by 12/31/2013.)

Additional detail is found in each LDSS Permanency Outcomes Data Packet.

Time to Reunification – First Admissions Cohort

58% of the children who entered care [for the first time] in 2011 exited to any permanent exit within 24 months. What percent exited to reunification?



Note: The table shows the State wide number of reunifications for children who entered care in 2011 - 531 of the 1,763 babies admitted to care in 2011 are reunified (30%). This table is found on the "Exits within 2 yrs-1st Admits" tab.

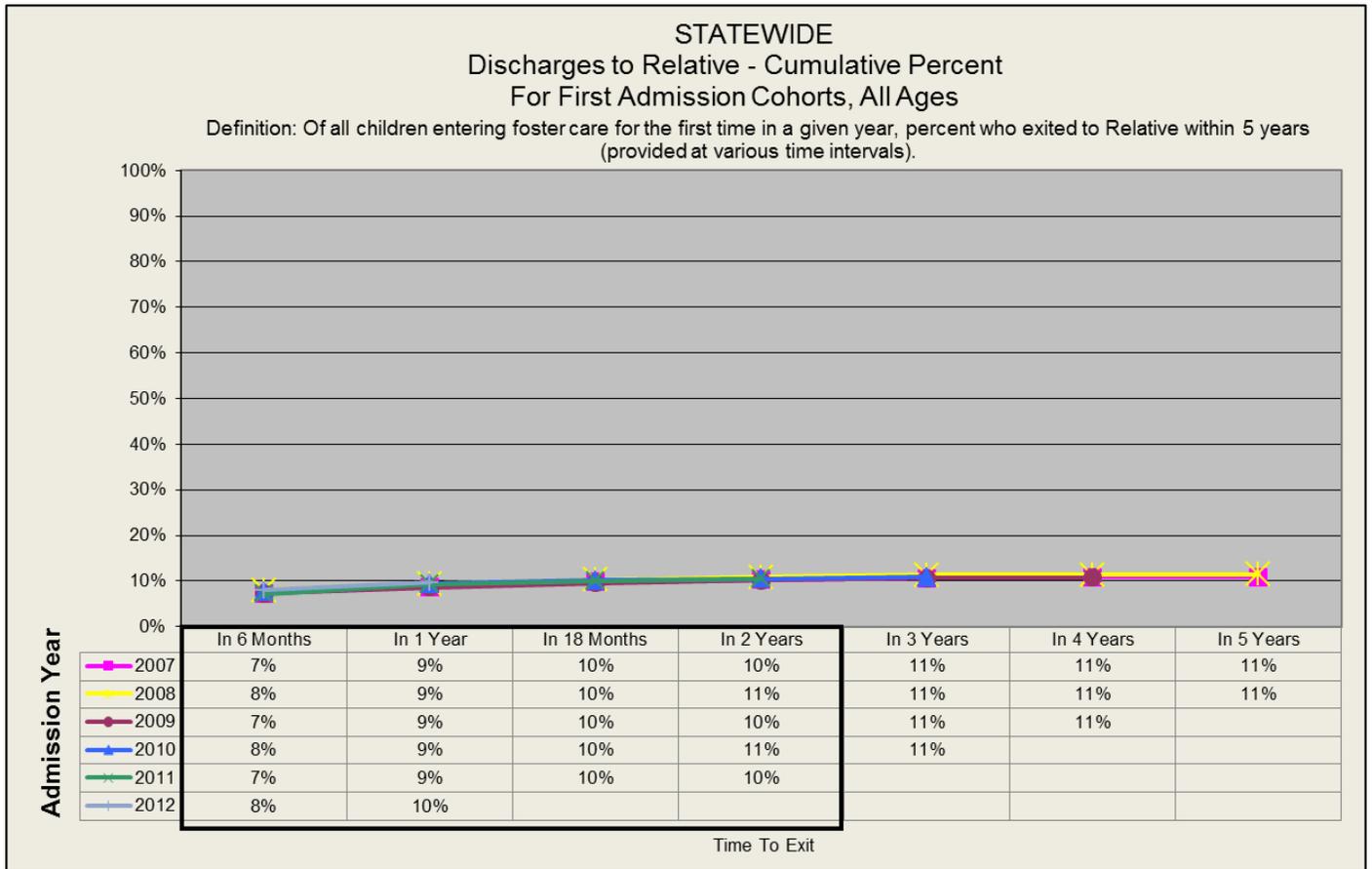
	Age at First Admission	**ALL Admissions	Reunification	Reunification
1st Placement in 2011 and Exited within Two Years	Under 1 Year Old	1,763	531	30%
	Ages 1-5	2,055	937	46%
	Ages 6-9	984	491	50%
	Ages 10-13	1,045	497	48%
	Ages 14-17	2,001	994	50%
	Total <18	7,848	3,450	44%

In ROS, in two years, 45% of the children who entered care in 2007 are reunified within 2 years of their admission date (by the end of 2009). This percent has remained relatively static for four years. Within 5 years, just over 50% of the 2007 cohort was reunified.

Given the range of service provided to families of children entering foster care, what is your county's anticipated rate of reunification?
 Are there particular age groups/developmental stages that warrant a priority focus and improved service?
 Are you implementing a family engagement strategy – aimed at improving timely reunification?

Time to Exit to Relative - First Admission Cohort

**58% of the children who entered care in 2011 exited to a permanent exit within 24 months.
What percent exited to relative?**



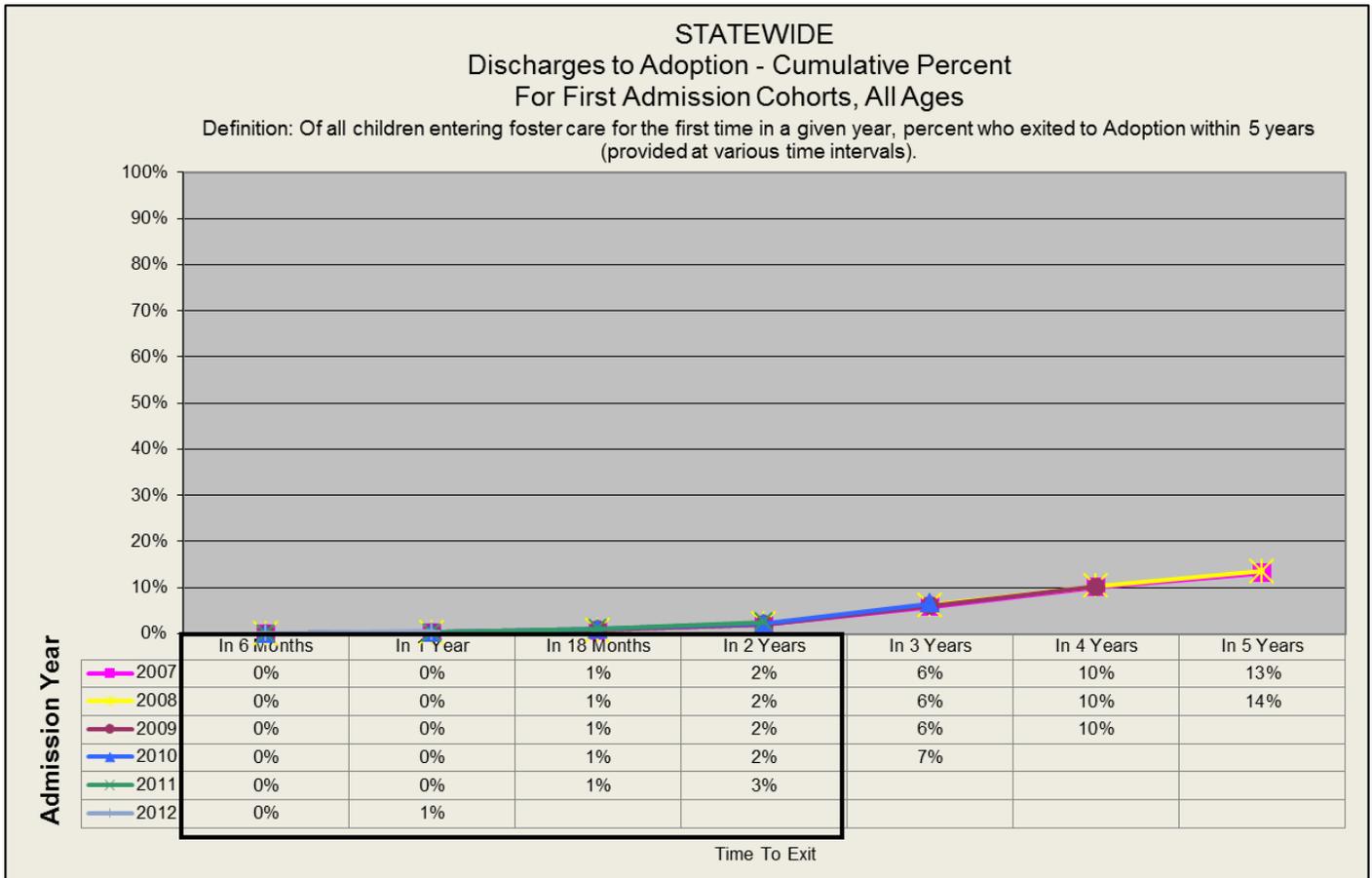
In contrast to a 44% *reunification* rate within two years for children of all ages (see previous page), only 10% of children (all ages) exit to a relative. If a child has not exited to a relative within the first six months of placement, it is not likely that they will experience a permanent exit to a relative.

Reunification and Exit to Relative Practice Questions to Consider:

- The agency's policy for returning children home and discharge planning.
- The relationship between the timeliness with which children return home and the rate at which children re-enter foster care. (Re-entry chart can be found later in this data packet.)
- Any correlation between the number, type, and length of services provided prior to placement and the achievement of early reunification.
- The availability of identified services to support reunification (e.g., trial home visits).
- Whether the agency assists the families with contingency planning and securing services after reunification.
- Any correlation between the availability, accessibility, and appropriateness of services offered to children and families prior to and/or during their involvement with the agency and the achievement of early reunification.
- County-specific factors affecting reunification (i.e., availability of housing, court practices that affect the ability to meet this outcome).
- County's practice of locating fathers and extended family members to be considered permanency resources.

Time to Adoption - First Admission Cohort:

58% of the children who entered care in 2011 exited to a permanent exit within 24 months.
What percent exited to adoption?



Statewide, 3% of all the permanent exits within 2 years of first admission are exits to adoptions.

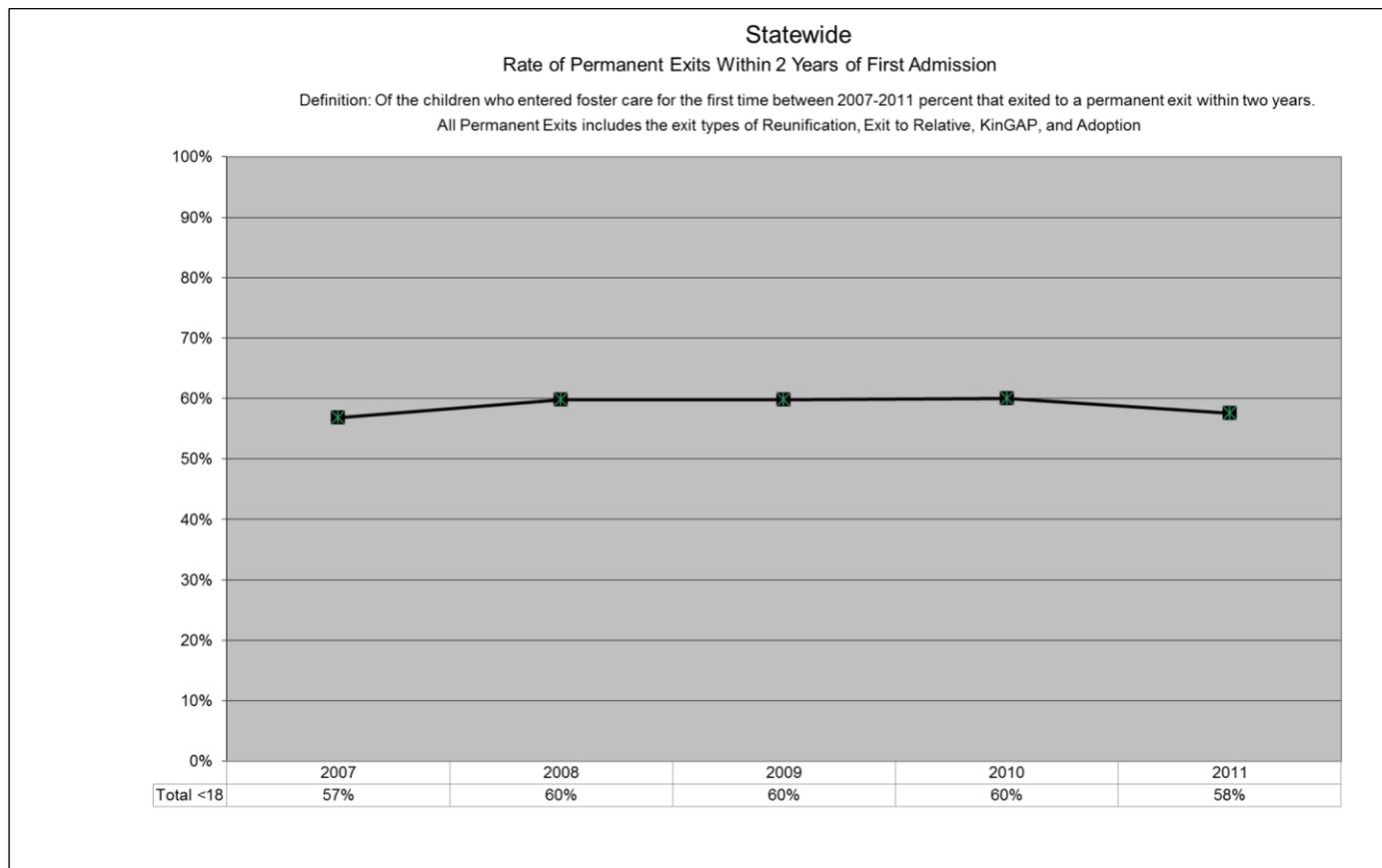
Note: In the data packet, users can find the actual number of exits to adoption for children who entered care in 2011. Example, Statewide, of all the 1,763 babies admitted to care in 2011, 8% (134 out of 1,763) exited to adoption. That percent of adoptions significantly decreases for children who older than one year old when they entered foster care for the first time.

Exit to Adoption Practice Questions to Consider:

- Does the county have concurrent planning protocols in place and a description of those protocols? When do adoption planning and/or services begin for a child?
- Does the county integrate permanency planning early in the case planning and in training of foster parents to support permanency for children?
- What is the county's practice for terminating parental rights if an adoptive home is not identified?
- What is the county and court's practice for approving a TPR petition? How does that affect time to adoption? (e.g.: time between placement and TPR petition filing, time between original TPR petition filing to disposition of the TPR; time between fact finding to disposition of the TPR.)
- How does the availability of resources (e.g., adoptive homes and post-adoption services) impact this outcome?

Permanent Exits within Two Years of First Admission into Care

Definition: Of the children who entered care (for the first time) in given calendar year, percent that exited to a permanent exit within two years of entry. Note that the year given is the year of first admission.



Overall, State wide performance in this area has been relatively stable: 57% - 60% of the children who entered care exited to a permanent exit within 2 years.

NOTE: Age level can be found in the data packet. It is located in the data packet on the same tab as the graph.

Note: Be aware that the most recent year listed, 2011, is the year that the children entered care.

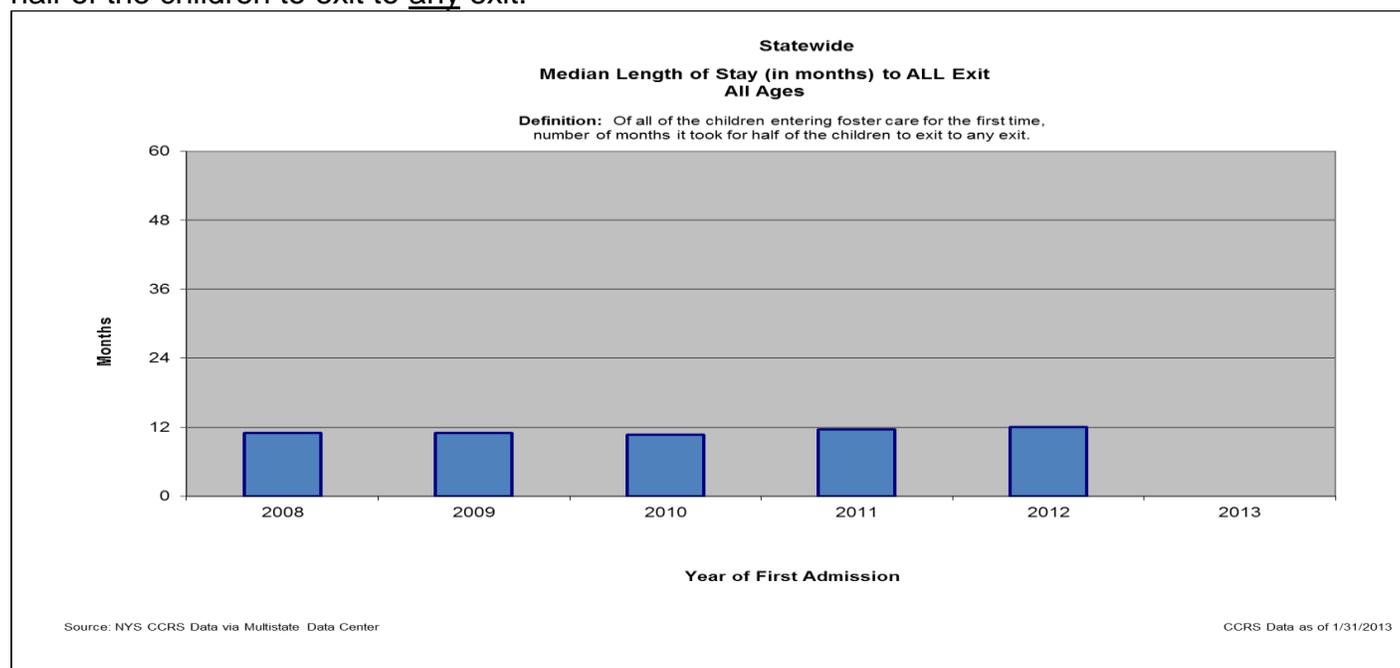
If a child entered care on December 31, 2011, and they exited care [to a permanent exit] on December 31, 2013, they exited in two years.

Of all the children that entered care for the first time in 2011, 58% of them exited to a permanent exit within 2 years of placement (by 2013); 30% are still in care, 1% aged out, 1% were discharged to a permanency resource, 3% were on runaway status for at least 30 days, and 5% experienced another type of exit (represented by physically in another setting for more than 30 days (i.e.: hospital)). **The data for these additional exit types can be found on the data table located in each LDSS Permanency Outcomes Data Packet.**

- What are the potential barriers that keep children in care for more than 2 years?
- If a child did not exit to a permanent exit, are they still in care or did they exit to another type of exit?

Median Length of Stay to Any Exit

Definition: Of all of the children entering foster care for the first time, number of months it took for half of the children to exit to any exit.



Statewide			
2007 - 2012 Median Length of Stay to Any Exit for Children Entering Care for the First Time			
For All Ages at First Admission			
	Median Length of Stay in Days	Median Length of Stay in Months (30.5 Days in a month)	Number of First Admissions
Admission Year	All Ages	All Ages	All Ages
2008	336	11.0	9,498
2009	336	11.0	9,058
2010	326	10.7	8,874
2011	354	11.6	7,848
2012	365	12.0	7,485
2013	N/A	N/A	6,989

For 2013, the median length of stay is not available because half of the children who entered care in 2013 had not yet been recorded as a permanent exit (by the date the data was run, 1/31/2014).

Median explained: We know that 7,485 children aged 0 - 17 entered care for the first time in 2012 (see Rate of First Admissions data). Half of those children (3,743), left care to any exit within 12 months of their first admission. The other half stayed in care longer than 12 months; some will remain in care for years. (“Median” is a better measure for length of stay than “average.”)

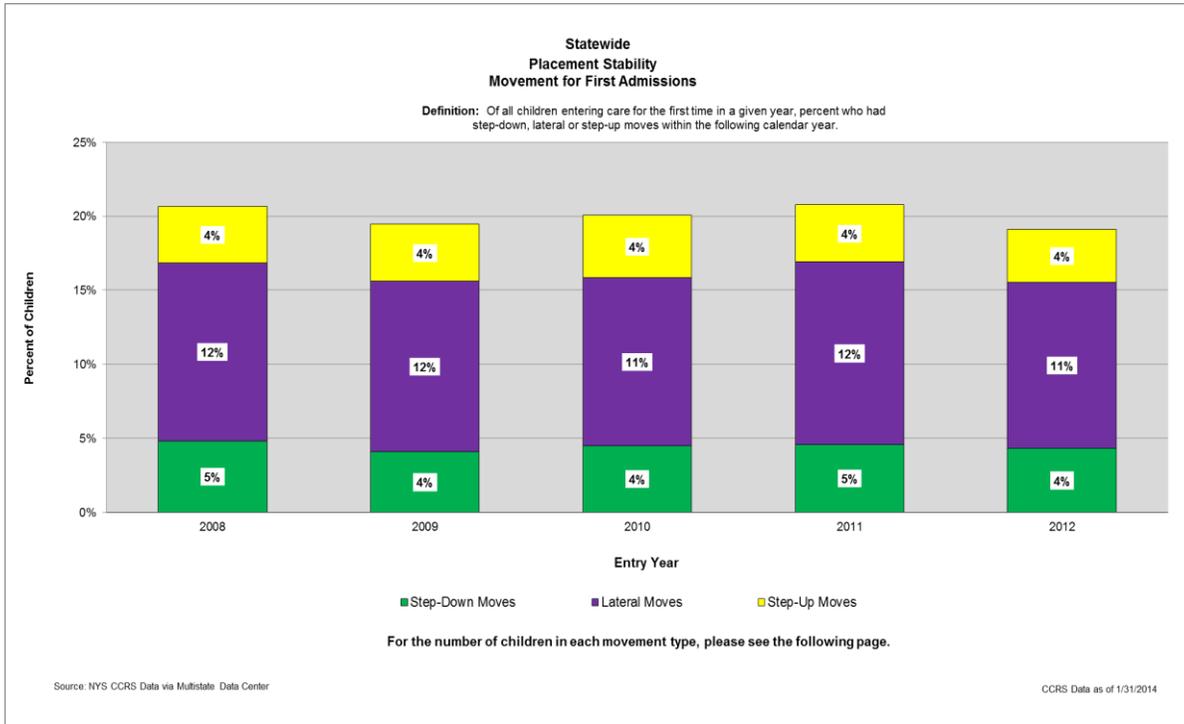
Note: The cells (in the above data table) will be empty if half of the children for that particular age group have not yet left care. When the 2013 median length of stay is available for any county, that data is included in the county-specific chart. County comparison charts provide 2012 data to allow enough time for half of the children in most counties to exit care. Cells could also be empty for the following reason: OCFS has determined that when the number of first admissions is small, summary statistics may not be reliable or meaningful. Therefore, if the number of first admissions is less than 10, the median length of stay is not reported.

While there are few districts whose total first admissions is less than 10, there are more who, by age group, would have fewer than 10 admissions. It is for this reason that the median length of stay chart and table only report for total admissions. **If a LDSS would like to receive data by age group, please contact your Regional Office representative.**

Moves (Lateral, Step Up, Step Down Moves) – First Admission Cohort

What percent of children move within the foster care system in a given year?

Definition: Of all children entering care for the first time in a given year, percent who had step-down, lateral or step-up moves within the following calendar year.



For the children who entered care in 2012, 19% of them experienced some type of move within their first year in foster care. Notice that lateral moves represent the largest number of moves for this population of children.

Although a stable foster care placement is preferable, it is important to note that certain types of moves, for specific reasons are often considered desirable (a lateral move to reunite siblings, for example). The table, below, identifies the various placement types and associated move types.

Mapping of Placement Types for Step Ups, downs, and Lateral Intra-Agency moves and Inter-Agency Transfers:

From	Description	To								
		Family-Based Care Level 1	Family-Based Care Level 2	Congregate Care (Residential) Level 1			Congregate Care (Residential) Level 2		Congregate Care (Residential) Level 3	
		PKC	PFC	PAO	PGH	PIL	PGR	PIN	PRT	POT
Family-Based Care Level 1:										
PKC	Kinship Care	Lateral	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up
Family-Based Care Level 2:										
PFC	Foster Boarding Home	Step Down	Lateral	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up
Congregate Care (Residential) Level 1:										
PAO	Agency Operated Boarding Home	Step Down	Step Down	Lateral	Lateral	Lateral	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up
PGH	Group Home	Step Down	Step Down	Lateral	Lateral	Lateral	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up
PIL	Independent Living	Step Down	Step Down	Lateral	Lateral	Lateral	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up
Congregate Care (Residential) Level 2:										
PGR	Group Residence	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Lateral	Lateral	Step Up	Step Up
PIN	Institution	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Lateral	Lateral	Step Up	Step Up
Congregate Care (Residential) Level 3:										
PRT	Residential Treatment	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Lateral	Lateral
POT	All other factype codes	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Lateral	Lateral

*Intra-agency moves are captured by a change in facility type (factype) in CCRS.

*21 Day Rule: Intra-agency movements that last 21 days or less are not counted as any kind of move (lateral, step up, or step down).



Questions to consider when analyzing placement stability and level of care:

Is the county's process for matching foster families with children based on children's needs and provider capability? How are caregiver needs considered in case planning?

Does the county work to place children in the least restrictive placement in proximity to the parents?

Are appropriate placements available? (This leads to additional questions about the practice related to recruitment and retention of foster boarding homes, identification of kinship foster home opportunities, etc.)

Are moves planned and appropriate (for example, moving a child with a drug problem to a residential treatment facility) or do moves tend to be a result of an inappropriate match?

To what extent are children coming into care routinely placed with relatives?

What are the characteristics (age, gender, race/ethnicity, etc.) of children most likely to be placed in congregate care?

What are the characteristics of hard-to-place children?

Cohorts Explained

Several measures are presented from two perspectives:

1. **First Admissions Cohort:** The first admissions cohort follows the children who entered care for the first time through a period of time. In order to understand children's *entire* foster care experience, it is best to start at the beginning of their foster care stay - their first admission. Key end outcomes are developed using the First Admissions Cohort.
2. **In-Care Population:** The in-care cohort tracks the children who were in care on the last day of the year. This cohort follows all children who entered care (first admissions and children who have re-entered care) during the year and children who entered in previous years and are still in care. Information from this perspective can be useful in identifying current service needs.

The results vary widely based on the cohort of children, and therefore, may illustrate different service needs. For example:

- **Timely discharges:** Generally, a significantly higher percent of children included in the first admissions cohort leave foster care to a permanent exit than the in-care cohort of children.
 - 2011 Admissions Cohort: Statewide Percent of Permanent Exits within 2 Years: 58%
 - 12/31/11 In-Care Population: Statewide Percent of Permanent Exits within 2 Years: 44%

In Care Population



In Care Population Data

In-Care Population: The “in-care cohort” charts track the group of children who were in foster care as of the last day of a given year (December 31).

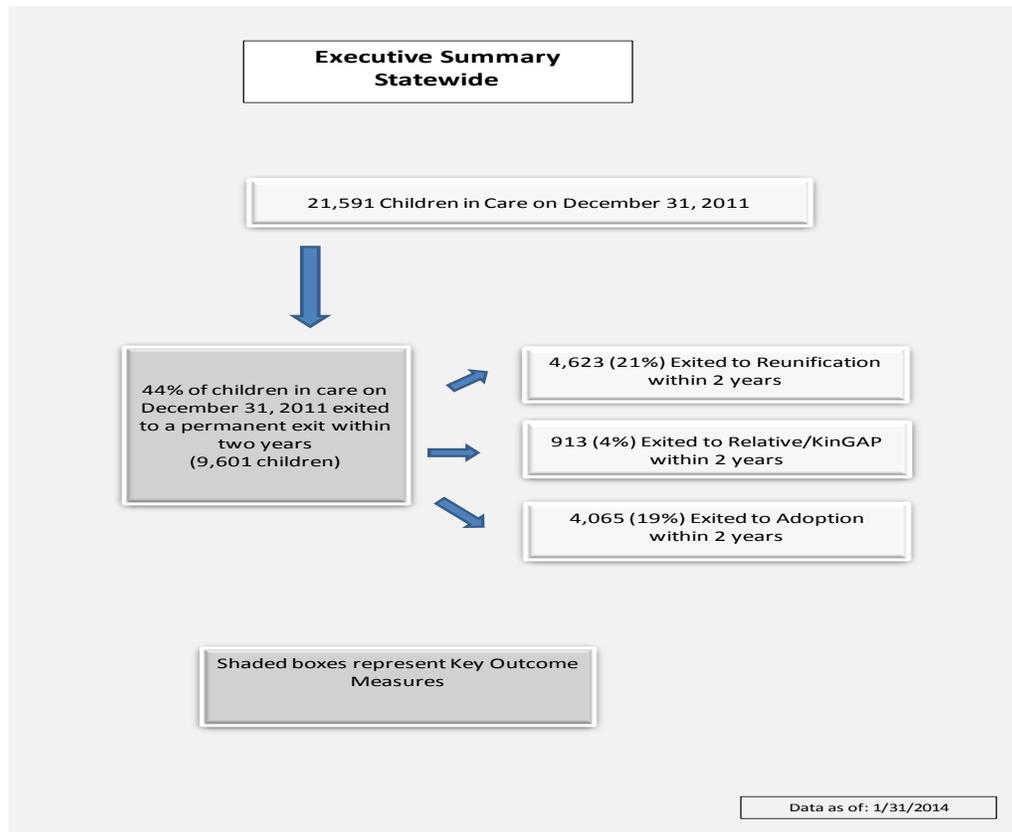
The distinction between first admissions and children in-care is an important one. The in-care population is the total population of children in foster care on a given date. The population includes children placed for the first time that year, children who re-entered foster care that year, and children who are still in foster care from previous years. Some of these children may have been in care for long periods of time.

Generally, a significantly lower percent of children who are included in the in-care cohort exit to a permanent exit than the first admissions cohort of children.

Example:

- In-Care Cohort: Statewide Percent of Permanent Exits within 2 Years: 45%
- Admissions Cohort: Statewide Percent of Permanent Exits within 2 Years: 60%

In Care Population Data Statewide



Cohorts Explained

Several measures are presented from two perspectives:

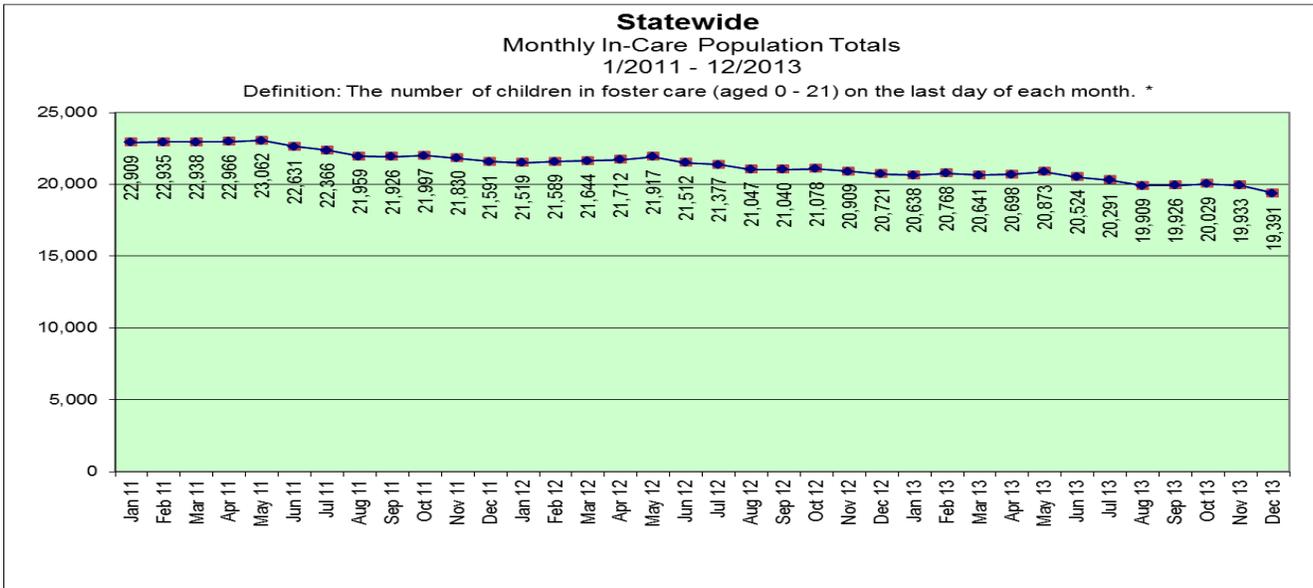
- First Admissions Cohort: The first admissions cohort follows the children who entered care for the first time through a period of time. In order to understand children's *entire* foster care experience, it is best to start at the beginning of their foster care stay - their first admission. Key end outcomes are developed using the First Admissions Cohort.
- In-Care Population: The in-care cohort tracks the children who were in care on the last day of the year. This cohort follows all children who entered care (first admissions and children who have re-entered care) during the year and children who entered in previous years and are still in care. Information from this perspective can be useful in identifying current service needs.

The results vary widely based on the cohort of children, and therefore, may illustrate different service needs. For example:

- Timely discharges: Generally, a significantly higher percent of children included in the first admissions cohort leave foster care to a permanent exit than the in-care cohort of children.
 - 2010 Admissions Cohort: Statewide Percent of Permanent Exits within 2 Years: 60%
 - 12/31/10 In-Care Population: Statewide Percent of Permanent Exits within 2 Years: 45%

Permanent Exits for the In-Care Cohort Population Foster Care Population

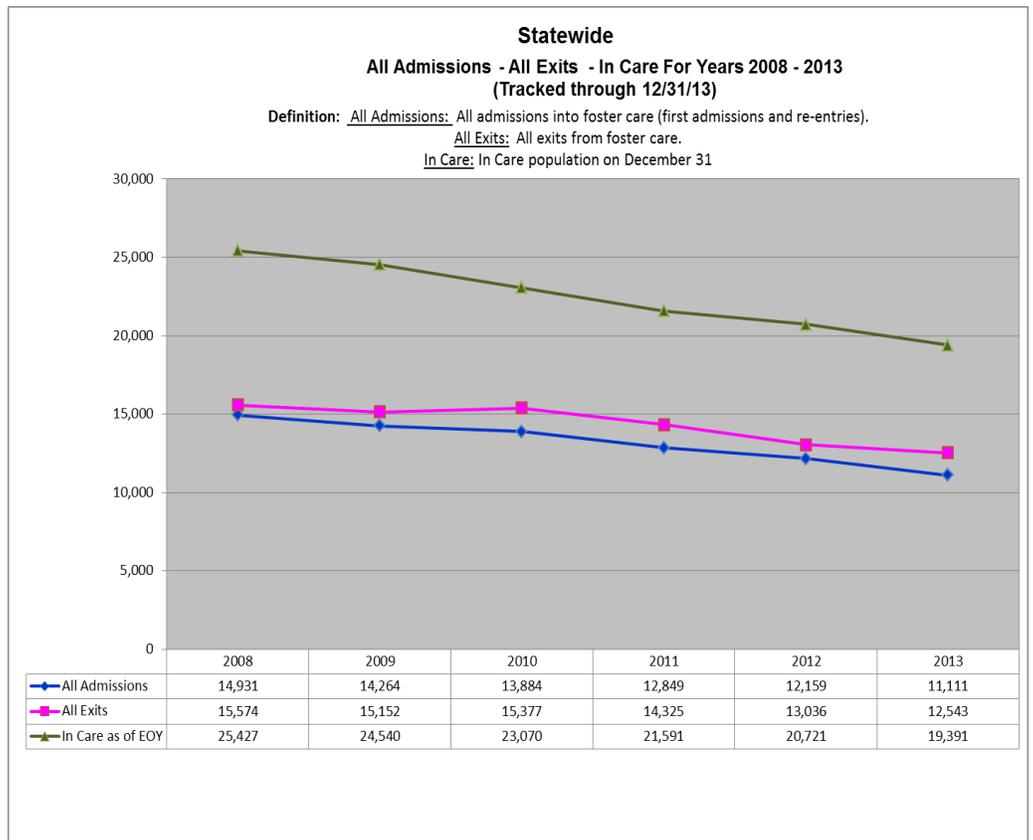
Definition: The number of children in foster care (aged 0-21) on the last day each month. This data is presented in a monthly time frame to show the seasonal fluctuations of the in-care population.



Note: *The counts of children in the above tables (and throughout the LDSS Permanency Outcome Data Packet) exclude children who have been in OCFS custody for their entire foster care spell.

In spite of seasonal increases, the overall trend for the in-care population Statewide has decreased (by approximately 15%) between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2013.

The chart to the right suggests that the decreasing foster care population is due to a decrease in admissions, rather than an increase in exits.



Characteristics of Children in Care in Statewide on December 31, 2013
(For explanations for the headings, please refer to the following page.)

Statewide												
Characteristics of Children In Care on December 31, 2013												
Age on 12/31/2013	Custody	Designation	Total In Care	Gender		Race / Ethnicity						
				Female	Male	Asian and Pacific	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	Native American	White (Non-Hispanic)	Other	Unknown
All Ages	LDSS	JD for Entire Spell	479	102	377	1	202	46	3	183	31	13
		JD for Portion of Spell	28	4	24	0	9	2	0	16	0	1
		CW/PINS for Entire Spell	18,809	9,337	9,472	48	5,757	2,370	48	3,860	1,360	5,366
	LDSS for Portion of Spell	JD for Entire Spell	34	5	29	0	13	5	0	10	3	3
		JD for Portion of Spell	41	5	36	0	18	2	0	16	3	2
		CW/PINS for Entire Spell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Demographic Totals			19,391	9,453	9,938	49	5,999	2,425	51	4,085	1,397	5,385

Note: The shaded areas of the tables (which are youth in LDSS and Mixed custody - regardless of their JD designation) represent the children counted in the following in-care cohort and population charts.

Cautionary Note: The above race/ethnicity counts and percentages do not represent disparity rates. The disparity ratio is a key measure that is used to determine the magnitude and direction of disparities across racial/ethnic groups with the child welfare system. The disparity ratio is the ratio of rate per 1,000 black children (or Hispanic children) relative to rate for white children. The in-care disparity ratio shows the rate of black children in foster care (per 1,000 black children in the population) compared to the rate of white children in foster care (per 1,000 white children in the population). The disparity ratio can answer key questions such as: “How much more likely are black children to enter foster care than white children?”

Children In-Care on the Last Day of Year **Characteristics of Children in Care Definitions**

Custody:

- LDSS Custody: Youth in the custody of an LDSS on 12/31/13 and for the entirety of the current foster care spell.
- Mixed Custody: Youth in LDSS custody for a portion of their current foster care spell.
- OCFS Custody: Youth in the custody of OCFS for the entirety of their current foster care spell. Identified by a CCRS Legal Modifier Code, “72- Care and Custody to OCFS Commissioner.”

Note: The child records that are included in this data packet are all children in “LDSS custody” and all children in “Mixed Custody,” regardless of JD designation.

Designation:

- JD for the Entire Spell: Youth in care on 12/31/13 that were coded as a JD for their entire current stay in care.
- JD for Portion of Spell: Youth in care on 12/31/13 that were coded as a JD for a portion of their current stay in care.
- CW/PINS for Entire Spell: Youth in care on 12/31/13 that were coded as Article 10- Abuse/Neglect, Article 7- PINS, or Voluntary.

JD Technical Specifications:

JD Definition: A legal hearing (activity code L300) with an event type Article 3 JD (activity modifier A = 07) or Article 7 (activity modifier A = 06) and a disposition of JD (If Placed, Placement Cannot Exceed 12 Months), JD (Initial Placement Exceeds 12 Months) or Care and Custody to OCFS Commissioner (activity modifier b or c = 34, 71, 72) that is active during the time period.

Extension of Placement: A legal hearing (activity code L300) with an event type Article 3 JD, Article 7, 355.5 JD 12 Month Permanency Hearing, 355.3 JD Initial Extension of Placement Hearing, 355.3 JD Subsequent Permanency/Extension of Placement Hearing, Permanency Review (activity modifier A = 07, 06, 15, 19, 20, 21) and a disposition of JD (If Placed, Placement Cannot Exceed 12 Months), JD (Initial Placement Exceeds 12 Months) or Care and Custody to OCFS Commissioner, Foster Care Placement to Continue (activity modifier b or c = 34, 71, 72, 44) that is active during the time period.

Time in Care:

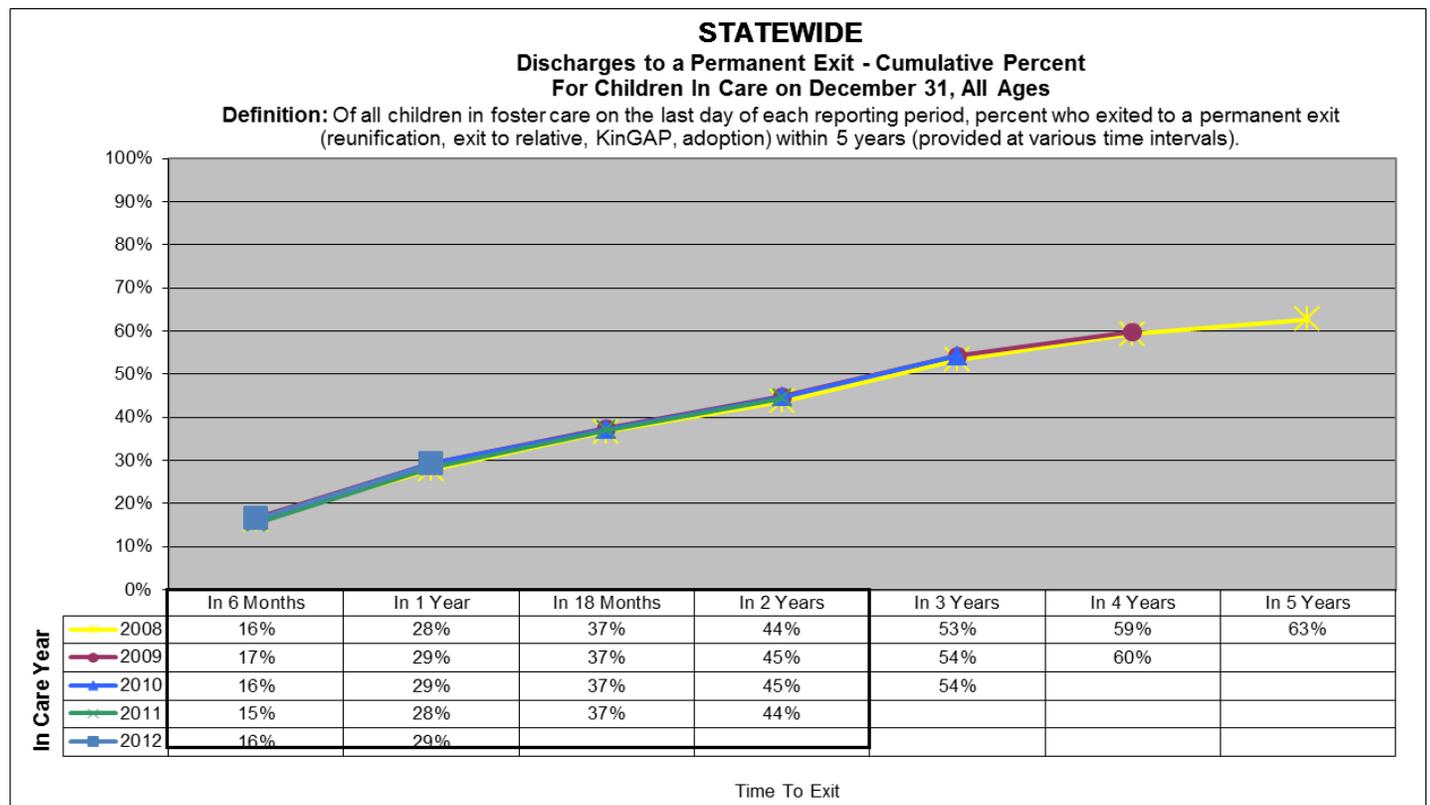
- In Care 2 Years or Less: Youth in Care on 12/31/13 who have been in their current foster care spell for 730 or fewer days.
- In Care More than 2 Years: Youth in Care on 12/31/13 who have been in their current foster care spell for 731 or more days.

Gender, Race, Ethnicity:

- As identified in CCRS.
- Note that Chapin Hall maps CCRS Race/Ethnicity codes into more summarized codes. Many, like W-White (Not Hispanic), I-American Indian/Alaskan Native, B-Black, and Y-Unknown are one-to-one. Others are coded from multiple CCRS codes. Hispanic is coded from H-Other Hispanic, P-Puerto Rican, and Q-Cuban. Asian and Pacific is coded from C-Cambodian, O-Asian, U-Laotian, and V-Vietnamese. The “Other” category is coded from A-Interracial Black/White, D-Interracial Asian/White, E-Interracial Asian/Black, F-Interracial Puerto Rican/White, G-Interracial Puerto Rican/Black, J-Interracial Puerto Rican/Asian, K-Interracial Puerto Rican/Other Hispanic, L-Interracial Other, S-Ethiopian, T-Haitian, and X-Other.

Time to Permanent Exit - In-Care Cohort

Definition: Of the children in care on 12/31 (2008-2012), percent that exited to a permanent exit (reunification, exit to relative, adoption) within five years (provided at various time intervals).



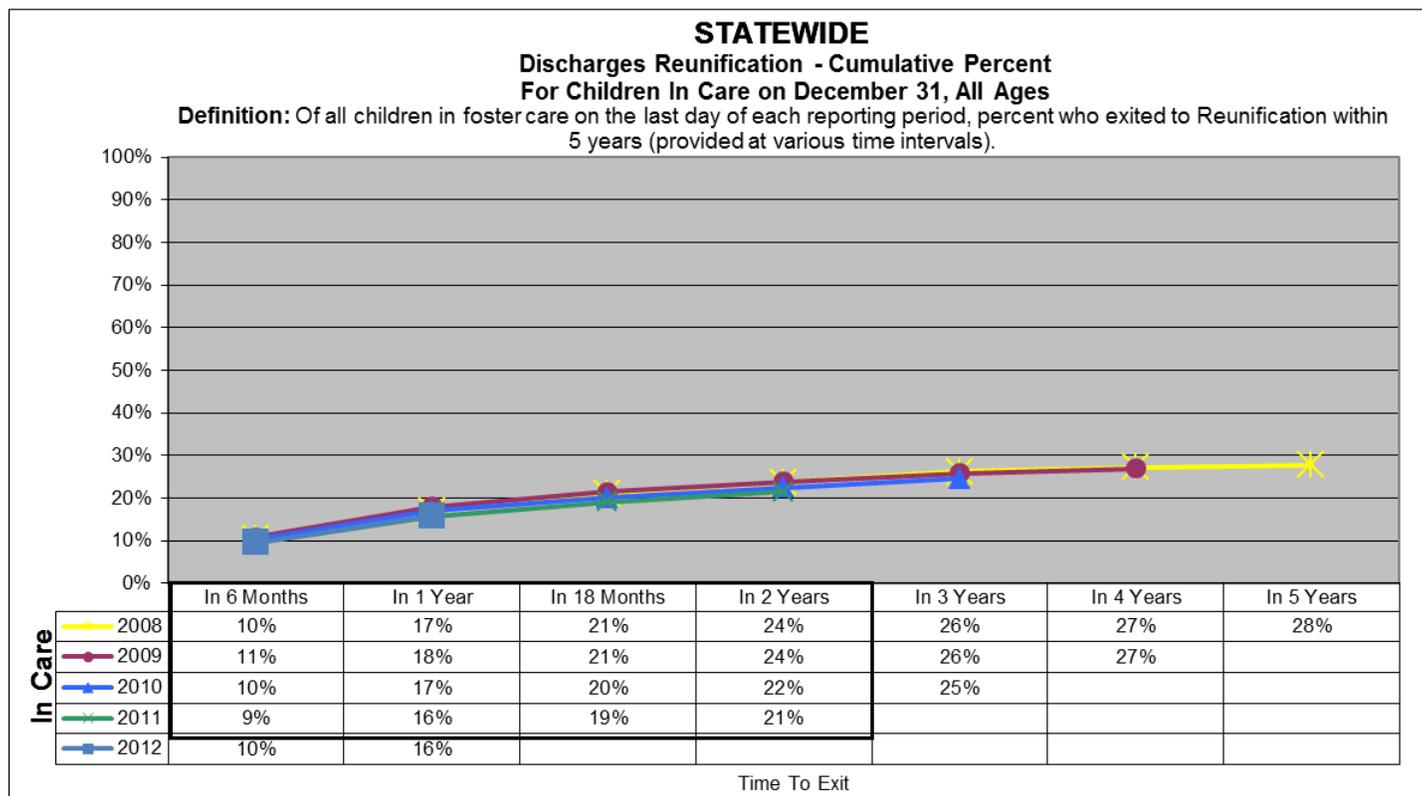
Note: The table below, found in your LDSS data packet, provides data on the number and percent of children, by age, who exited to any type of exit (e.g. runaway, other, or reached majority) within 2 years. Common “other” exits were: hospital, sent to detention facility, administrative action. See an excerpt of the table, below. (The entire table provides this information for the 2008-2012 In Care Population.)

Note that the above table indicates that within two years (12/31/10-12/31/12), 56% exited to a permanent exit, 10% reached majority, 1% were discharged to a permanency resource, 2% ran away, 4% exited to “other,” therefore, approximately 27% are still in care. It is important to analyze other types of exits that are not considered permanent exits, such as aging out of care (reached majority or permanency resource), runaway, and “other.”

The exit rate has remained quite stable; approximately 44% of the children in care at the end of the year exit to a permanent exit within two years. Statewide, only 67% and 69% of all children in care at the EOY 2006 & 2007 exited to a permanent exit within five years.

Rest of State																				
2009 Permanent Exits Within 2 Years from In Care Year																				
		Exit Counts by Year and Exit Type *										Exit Percentages by Year and Exit Type								
	Age on 12/31	Total In Care on 12/31 *	Reunification	Exit to Relative	KinGAP	Adoption	Total Permanent exits	Reach Majority	Permanency Resource	Run Away	Other Exit	Reunification	Exit to Relative	KinGAP	Adoption	All Permanent Exits	Reach Majority	Permanency Resource	Run Away	Other Exit
In Care on 12/31/10 and Exited by 12/31/12	Under 1 Year Old	373	77	29	0	147	253	0	3	0	1	21%	8%	0%	39%	68%	0%	1%	0%	0%
	Ages 1-5	2,044	479	83	14	912	1,488	0	7	0	12	23%	4%	1%	45%	73%	0%	0%	0%	1%
	Ages 6-9	1,073	271	48	6	398	723	0	5	0	20	25%	4%	1%	37%	67%	0%	0%	0%	2%
	Ages 10-13	1,192	341	66	9	261	677	0	7	14	54	29%	6%	1%	22%	57%	0%	1%	1%	5%
	Ages 14-17	2,806	1,109	157	6	117	1,389	272	33	176	228	40%	6%	0%	4%	50%	10%	1%	6%	8%
	Ages 18 & Older	803	49	13	0	15	77	519	14	17	43	6%	2%	0%	2%	10%	65%	2%	2%	5%
	All Ages	8,291	2,326	396	35	1,850	4,607	791	69	207	358	28%	5%	0%	22%	56%	10%	1%	2%	4%

Time to Reunification for Children In-Care on December 31 of Given Years
44% of the children in-care in Statewide on December 31, 2010 exited to any permanent exit within 2 years. What percent of them exited to reunification?



21% of all children in care on 12/31/11 were reunified within two years (by 12/31/13). The table (below) shows that teens (ages 14-17) are the most likely in-care population to be reunified (40% are re-unified within two years). The table below is an excerpt of the table located in the data packet on the same tab as this graph.

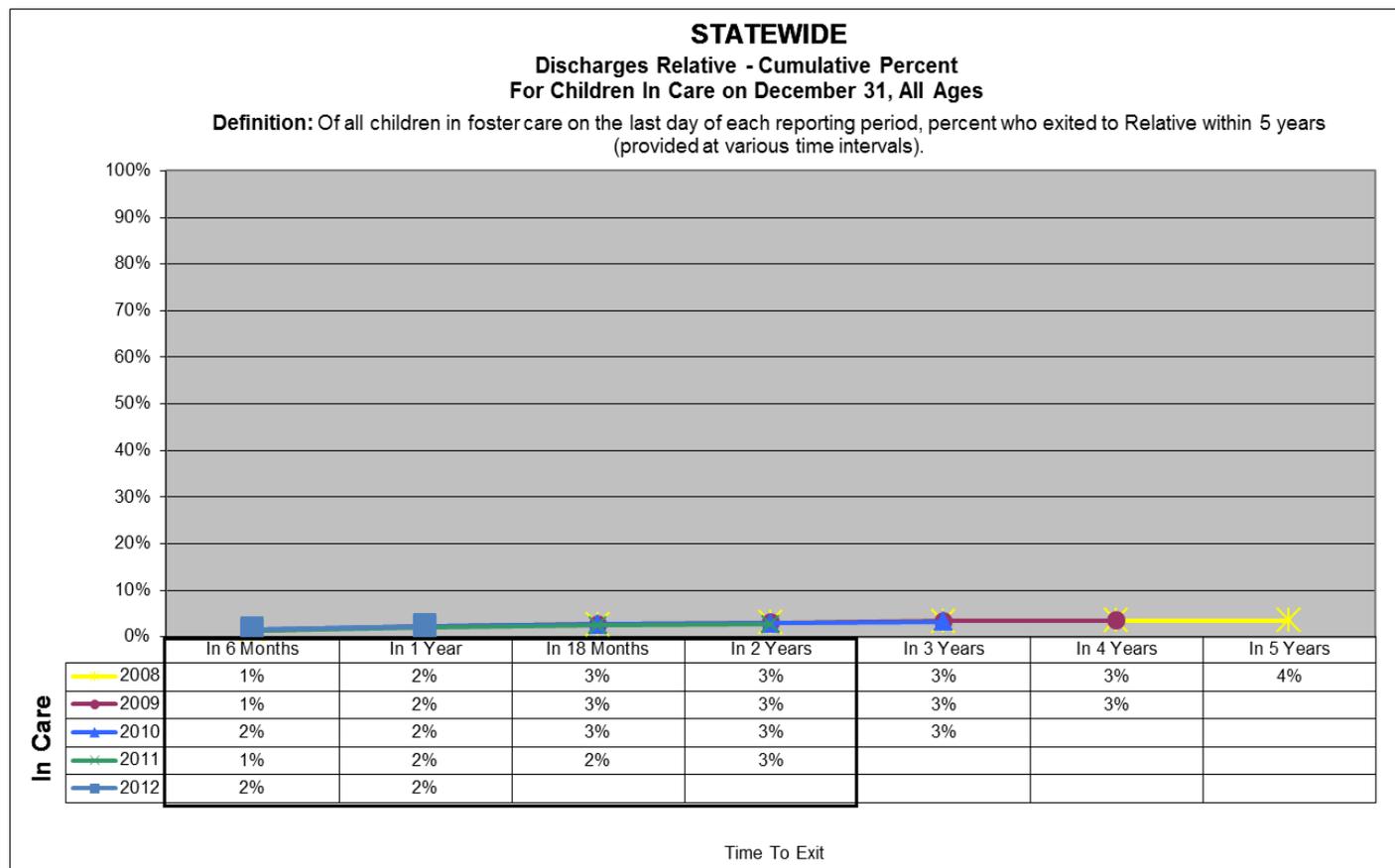
Note: Child identifiers (CINs, name, and other identifiers are available through the State Data Center website (please contact OCFS for more information) or by contacting your OCFS Regional Office.

? Is your county's reunification rate as expected, given the range of services provided to families of children entering foster care?
 Do family engagement strategies continue throughout the entire foster care experience?
 Are developmentally appropriate family reunification services available for children and families who are least likely to exit to reunification?
 Have both parents been identified, located and engaged?

Time to Exit to Relative for Children In-Care on December 31 (of Given Year)

44% of the children in-care on December 31, 2010 exited to any permanent exit within 2 years.

What percent exited to relatives?



In contrast to a 21% *reunification* rate for all children (see previous page), only 3% of children exit to a relative within 24 months (based on CCRS data input by 1/31/2014). Babies (see table below) are the most likely age group to exit to relatives within 2 years of in-care date.

Additionally, note that if a child does not exit to a relative within the first 12 months of placement, their likelihood of an exit to a relative increases at a much slower rate than reunification.

As the chart above shows, 3% of the children exit to a relative in two years of a 12/31/11 in-care date. In contrast, 10% of the children who are first admitted in 2011 to foster care exit to relative within two years. It is worth noting that many of the babies under one year old are in the first admissions cohort. (See first admissions cohort data.)

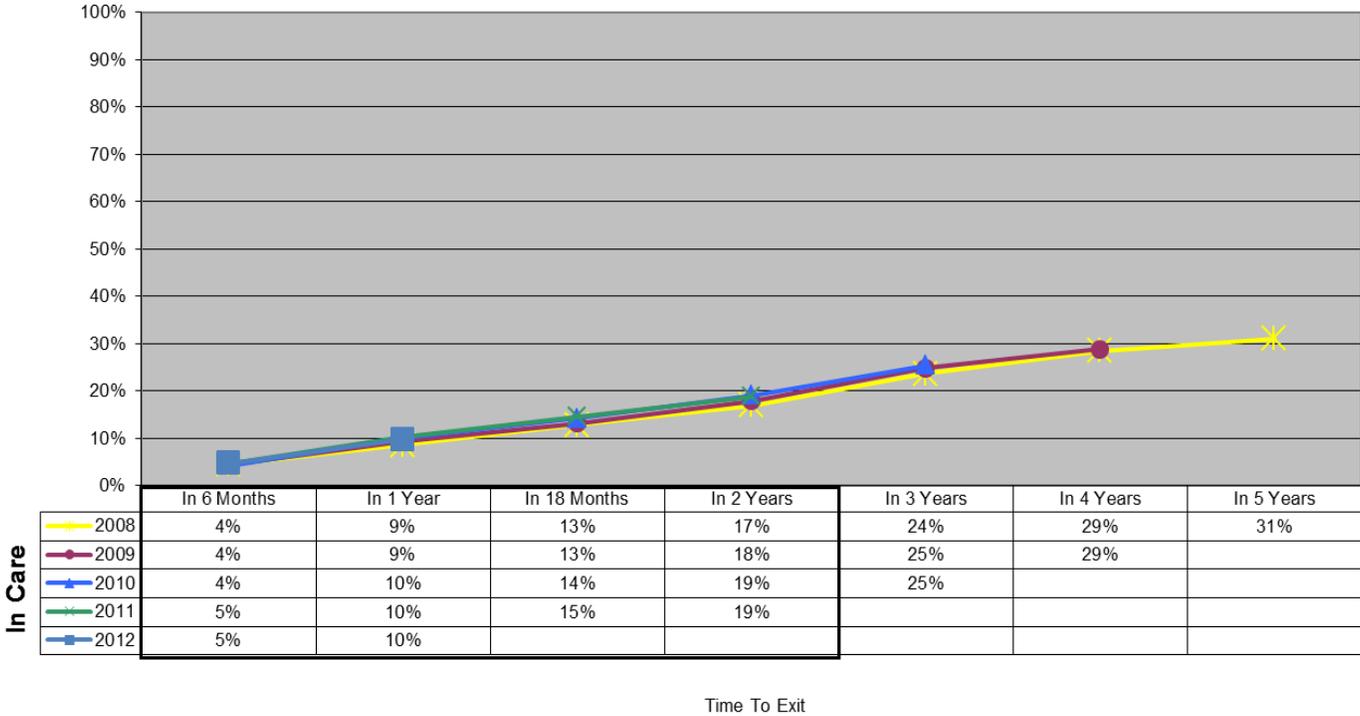
What is the local practice related to kinship foster care?

Do caseworkers and supervisors continue to locate and involve extended families throughout a child's stay in foster care?

In a case analysis, how many absent fathers are located? How many family meetings are held? Who typically attends?

**STATEWIDE
Discharges Adoption - Cumulative Percent
For Children In Care on December 31, All Ages**

Definition: Of all children in foster care on the last day of each reporting period, percent who exited to Adoption within 5 years (provided at various time intervals).



Through the use of concurrent planning, could the number of adoptions finalized *early* in the child's foster care experience be achieved?

Are other court actions needed (such as: TPR appeal, best interest hearing)?

Are there foster parent issues that present a barrier?
Are fathers identified early in the case?

Are there any issues related to siblings that are impeding a child's adoption?

Are necessary post-adoptive services available?

Are Bridges to Health services accessed, if appropriate?

19% of all children who were in-care at the end of 2011 were adopted within two years (by December 31, 2013).

Permanent Exits within Two Years of In-Care Date (key outcome measure) What percent of children exit care within two years of a given date (end of each year)?

Definition: Of the children in care on 12/31 (of given year), percent that exited to a permanent exit (reunification, exit to relative, adoption) within 2 years.



For children of all ages in care on 12/31/11, 44% exited by 12/31/13. This exit rate has remained fairly constant in recent years. Age groups exit at a different rate, please refer to the table in the data packet for age groupings (this table is located on the same tab).

Note: An in-care cohort includes children who may have been in-care for short or long periods of time. Referencing the table, "Characteristics of Children in Care..." it can be noted that about 2/3 of the children in care, have been in-care 2 years or less.

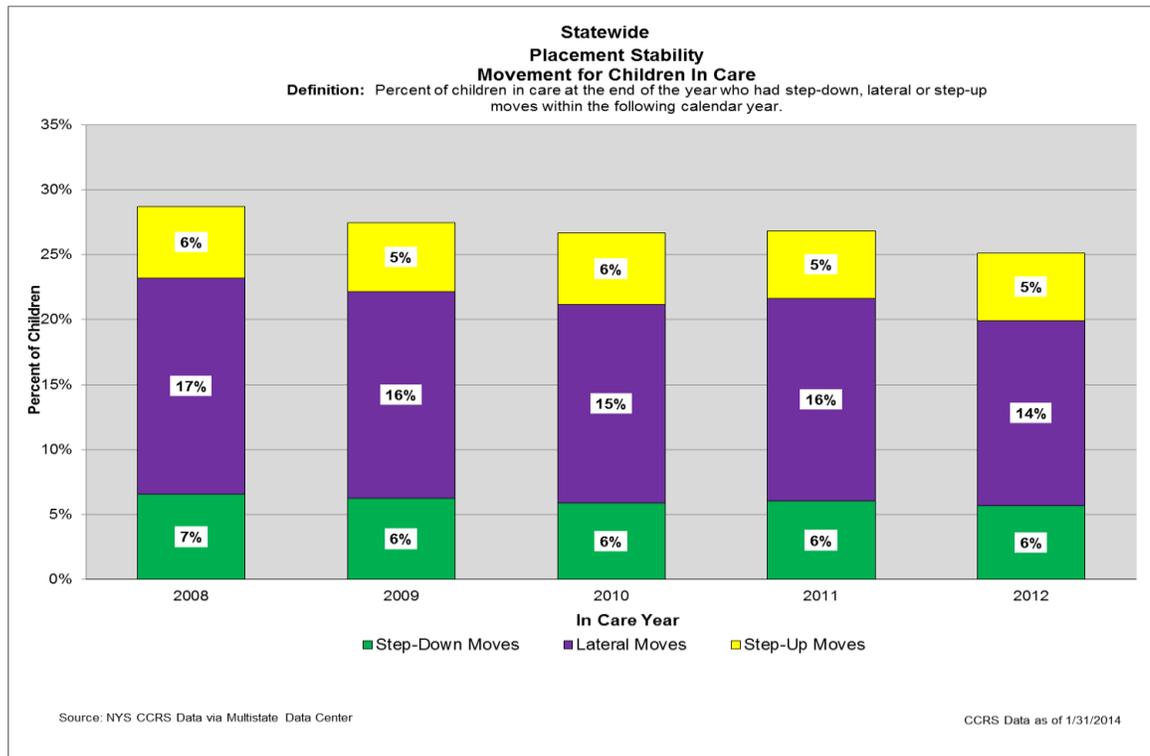


Statewide, 58% of children admitted for the first time (first admissions) in 2011, exited within two years (see previous section) while only 44% of all the children in care on the last day of the year exited within two years. *Why?*

Are the characteristics of the children in care on a certain date different than those admitted to care in a given year? Are they older or younger? Are there disabilities that might impact their permanency? What are some other reasons for the differences in exit rates?

Stability/Moves (Lateral, Step Up, Step Down Moves): In-Care Population

What percent of children in care, experience placement moves?



For the children who were in care at the EOY, 2012, 25% of them experienced some type of move within the following year (2013).

Notice that lateral moves represent the largest number of moves for this population of children.

Why?

What constitutes a lateral, a step down or a step up move?

OCFS has identified five placement levels. Family-Based Care has two levels (kinship care and foster boarding home). Note that therapeutic foster homes are included in family-based care level 2. Congregate (Residential) Care consists of three levels.

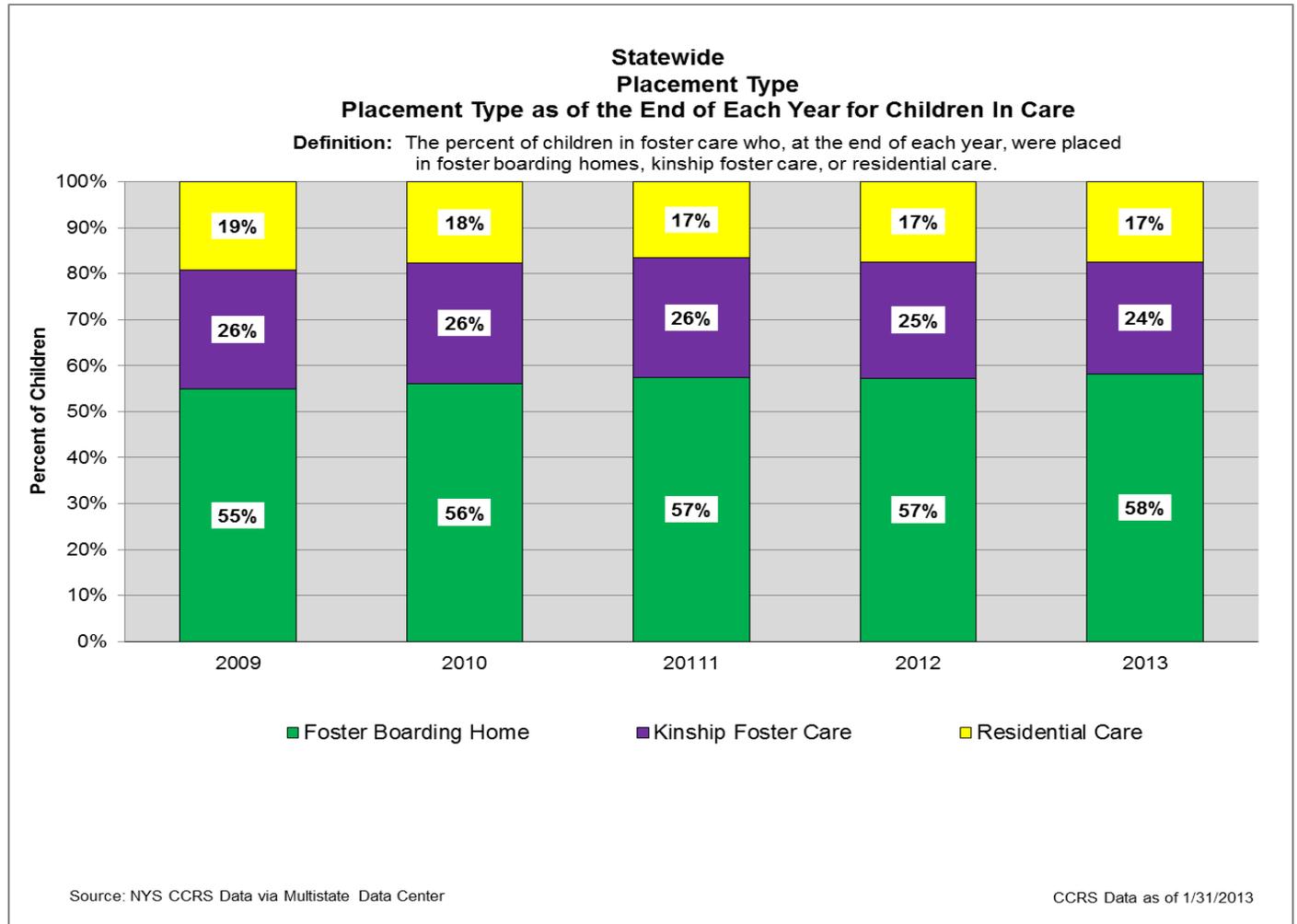
The “mapping of placement types” table, below, maps the classification type for each move.

Mapping of Placement Types for Step Ups, downs, and Lateral Intra-Agency moves and Inter-Agency Transfers:										
From	Description	To								
		Family-Based Care Level 1	Family-Based Care Level 2	Congregate Care (Residential) Level 1			Congregate Care (Residential) Level 2		Congregate Care (Residential) Level 3	
		PKC	PFC	PAO	PGH	PIL	PGR	PIN	PRT	POT
Family-Based Care Level 1:										
PKC	Kinship Care	Lateral	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up
Family-Based Care Level 2:										
PFC	Foster Boarding Home	Step Down	Lateral	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up
Congregate Care (Residential) Level 1:										
PAO	Agency Operated Boarding Home	Step Down	Step Down	Lateral	Lateral	Lateral	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up
PGH	Group Home	Step Down	Step Down	Lateral	Lateral	Lateral	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up
PIL	Independent Living	Step Down	Step Down	Lateral	Lateral	Lateral	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up	Step Up
Congregate Care (Residential) Level 2:										
PGR	Group Residence	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Lateral	Lateral	Step Up	Step Up
PIN	Institution	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Lateral	Lateral	Step Up	Step Up
Congregate Care (Residential) Level 3:										
PRT	Residential Treatment	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Lateral	Lateral
POT	All other factype codes	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Step Down	Lateral	Lateral

*Intra-agency moves are captured by a change in facility type (factype) in CCRS.
 *21 Day Rule: Intra-agency movements that last 21 days or less are not counted as any kind of move (lateral, step up, or step down).

Placement Type (Level of Care) Foster Boarding Home, Kinship Foster Care, Congregate Care

Definition: The percent of children in foster care who, at the end of each year, were placed in foster boarding homes, kinship foster care, or residential care.



For the children in care on 12/31/13, this chart shows that 58% were placed in a foster boarding home at the end of the year, 24% were placed with a kinship foster home, and 17% were placed in residential care. These percentages are consistent with previous years.

However, there is often large variation among local districts. What percent of children were placed in kinship care in your county?



How might relatives be identified, engaged and supported throughout the process, thereby encouraging more kinship foster care placements and fewer residential care and foster boarding home placements?

Re-entry



Re-entry Rate by Discharge Destination*

*The table below is a companion to the Re-entry chart on the previous page and provides the number and percent of children who exited to relative/reunification/KinGAP and re-entered from a discharge to a relative/reunification/KinGAP.

Are children who are reunified more or less likely to re-enter care than children who exit to a relative?

**Rest of State Re-Entries to Foster Care for
Children who Exited in 2012 to Reunification/Relative/KinGAP and Re-Entered within 365 days**

Statewide

2008 - 2012

Re-Entry within 1 Year after Exit to Reunification, Relative or KinGAP

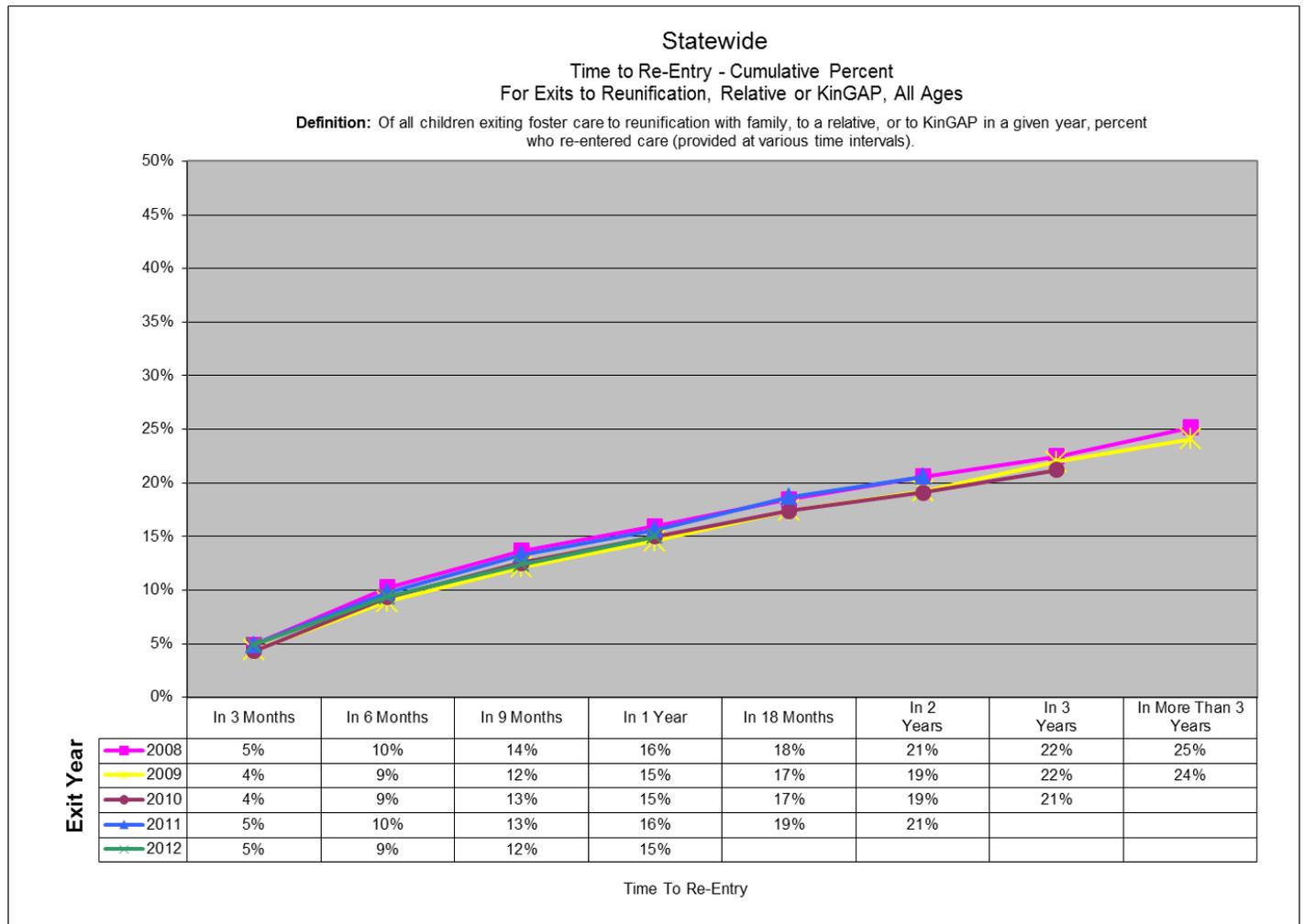
All Exits by Exit Year and Age at Exit *

		Exit to Reunification			Exit to Relative			Exit to KinGAP			Combined		
Year	Age	Re-entered within 1 Year	Total Exits	Percent ReEntered	Re-entered within 1 Year	Total Exits	Percent ReEntered	Re-entered within 1 Year	Total Exits	Percent ReEntered	Re-entered within 1 Year	Total Exits	Percent ReEntered
2012	Under 1 year	48	278	17%	19	145	13%	0	0	-	67	423	16%
	1 to 5 years	217	1,464	15%	52	364	14%	0	27	0%	269	1,855	15%
	6 to 9 years	116	916	13%	23	173	13%	0	21	0%	139	1,110	13%
	10 to 13 years	127	778	16%	32	160	20%	0	21	0%	159	959	17%
	14 to 17 years	284	1,763	16%	41	236	17%	0	17	0%	325	2,016	16%
	18+ years	22	167	13%	5	38	13%	0	2	0%	27	207	13%
	All Ages	814	5,366	15%	172	1,116	15%	0	88	0%	986	6,570	15%

Statewide, 15% of the children who were reunified, or exited to families re-entered care within one year. Age does not appear to be a variable in the statewide re-entry rate. What does your district's data say?

Time to Re-entry

Definition: Of all children exiting foster care to reunification with family or to a relative or to KinGAP in a given year, percent that re-entered care (provided at various time intervals).



Statewide, within three years of exit to family, about 20% of all the children have re-entered care. Many children re-enter within six to nine months. Do services to prevent re-entry have a waiting list or are those services immediately available to assist the family with the transition of children into the home?

The federal re-entry rate measure captures re-entries only through 12 months; however, the percent of children who re-enter continues to climb steadily beyond one year.