# AFCARS FOSTER CARE FILE CODE BOOK

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# AFCARS FOSTER CARE CODE BOOK

# #1 Reporting Period End Date: Year

Name: RepDatYr

**Definition:** RepDatYr and RepDatMo tell which of the 3 possible submissions this

record comes from.

# #2 Reporting Period End Date: Month

Name: RepDatMo

**Definition:** 

# #3 State FIPS Code

Name: StFIPS

**Definition:** The 2-digit FIPS Code for the state reporting the record

Value	Value Label	29	Missouri
1	Alabama	30	Montana
2	Alaska	31	Nebraska
4	Arizona	32	Nevada
5	Arkansas	33	New Hampshire
6	California	34	New Hampsille New Jersey
8	Colorado	35	New Mexico
9	Connecticut	36	New York
10	Delaware	37	North Carolina
11	District of Columbia	38	North Dakota
12	Florida	39	Ohio
13	Georgia	40	Oklahoma
15	Hawaii	41	Oregon
16	Idaho	42	Pennsylvania
17	Illinois	44	Rhode Island
18	Indiana	45	South Carolina
19	Iowa	46	South Dakota
20	Kansas	47	Tennessee
21	Kentucky	48	Texas
22	Louisiana	49	Utah
23	Maine	50	Vermont
24	Maryland	51	Virginia
25	Massachusetts	53	Washington
26	Michigan	54	West Virginia
27	Minnesota	55	Wisconsin
28	Mississippi	56	Wyoming
	• •	72	Puerto Rico

# #4 State Two-Character Code

Name: St

**Definition:** United States Postal Service two-character code for state

**Data Type:** Char(2)

# #5 Record Number (AFCARS ID)

Name: RecNumbr

**Definition:** The child's AFCARS ID (encrypted by the state prior to submission).

For most states, but not all, this ID is consistent from year to year. Use this variable combined with the state ID to track a child across years. May be used to match AFCARSID in the NCANDS Child File,

depending on State.

**Data Type:** Char(12)

# #6 County FIPS Code

Name: FIPSCode

**Definition:** FIPS Code for the county that has responsibility for the case. This

may or may not be the county where the child lives. Only counties

with 1000 or more cases are identified in the Foster Care file.

**Data Type:** 4-byte Integer

Value Value Label

8 Fewer than 1000 cases in the County

# #7 Child Sex

Name: Sex

**Definition:** 

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

1 Male

2 Female

9 Unknown or Missing

# #8 Child Amer Indian/AK Native

Name: AmIAKN

**Definition:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and

South America (including Central America) and who maintains tribal

affiliation or community attachment.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No 1 Yes

#### #9 Child Asian

Name: Asian

**Definition:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East,

Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the

Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

# #10 Child Black/African American

Name: BlkAfrAm

**Definition:** A person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa.

16

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

1

# #11 Child Hawaiian/Pacif Islander

Name: HawaiiPI

**Definition:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii,

Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

#### #12 Child White

Name: White

**Definition:** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the

Middle East, or North Africa.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

# #13 Child Unable To Determine Race

Name: UnToDetm

**Definition:** The child is very young or severely disabled and no person is

available to determine the child's race. "Unable to Determine" is also used if the parent, relative, or guardian is unwilling to identify the

child's race.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

#### #14 Child Hispanic Origin

Name: HisOrgin

**Definition:** The child is of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South

American origin, or a person of other Spanish cultural origin.

Whether or not a person is Hispanic or Latino is determined by how they define themselves or by how others define them. In the case of

young children, parents determine the ethnicity of the child.

Origin can be view as the heritage, nationality group, lineage, or country of birth of the person or the person's parents or ancestors before their arrival in the United States. People who identify their origin as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino may be of any race. Thus, the percent Hispanic should not be added to percentages for racial

categories.

Value	Value Label
0	Not applicable
1	Yes
2	No
3	Unable to determine

#### #15 Diagnosed Disability

Name: ClinDis

**Definition:** Yes indicates that a qualified professional has clinically diagnosed

the child as having at least one of the disabilities listed below.  ${f No}$  indicates that a qualified professional has conducted a clinical assessment of the child and has determined that the child has no

disabilities.

Not yet determined indicates that a clinical assessment of the child

by a qualified professional has not been conducted.

The conditions specified on the individual diagnoses are exhaustive

lists of all conditions that a State may be using in a State's

Information System.

See AFCARS Technical Bulletin #2 for more information on this

variable.

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/afcars\_tb2.pdf

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
2	No
3	Not yet determined

#### #16 Mental Retardation

Name: MR

**Definition:** Significantly subaverage general cognitive and motor functioning

existing concurrently with deficits in adaptive behavior manifested

during the developmental period that adversely affect a

child's/youth's socialization and learning. Includes ICD-9 Categories:

Downs Syndrome

• Borderline Intellectual Functioning

Hydrocephalus Microcephaly

• Mental Retardation (all degrees)

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

#### Value Value Label

0 No

# #17 Visually Or Hearing Impaired

Name: VisHear

**Definition:** Having a visual impairment that may significantly affect educational

performance or development; or a hearing impairment, whether permanent or fluctuating, that adversely affects educational

performance. Includes:

• Blindness and Low Vision (ICD-9: 369)

Cataracts

Congenital anomaly of the eye

Glaucoma

Diabetic Retinopathy

Retinal Detachment and Defects (ICD-9: 361)

• Visual Disturbances (ICD-9: 368)

Deaf Hearing Loss (ICD-9: 389)

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

#### Value Value Label

0 No

# #18 Physically Disabled

Name: PhyDis

**Definition:** A physical condition that adversely affects the child's day-to-day

motor functioning, such as cerebral palsy, spina bifida, multiple sclerosis, orthopedic impairments, and other physical disabilities.

Includes:

Arthritis

• Brittle Bones/Osteogenesis Imperfectus

Cerebral Palsy

Chronic Motor Tic Disorder

Club Foot

• Diplegia

Multiple Sclerosis

Muscular Dystrophy

Myasthenia Gravis

Paralysis - Paraplegic, Quadriplegic, Diplegic

Poliomyelitis

Rheumatoid arthritis (juvenile)

Spina bifida

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

#### #19 Emotionally Disturbed

Name: DSMIII

**Definition:** 

A condition exhibiting one or more of the following characteristics over a long period of time and to a marked degree: An inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships; inappropriate types of behavior or feelings under normal circumstances; a general pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression; or a tendency to develop physical symptoms or fears associated with personal problems. The term includes persons who are schizophrenic or autistic. The term does not include persons who are socially maladjusted, unless it is determined that they are also seriously emotionally disturbed. The diagnosis is based on the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders Third Edition) (DSM III) or the most recent edition." [Note: the current edition is DSM-IV.] Includes:

- Adjustment Disorders
- Attention Deficit and Disruptive Disorders: ADD ADHD; Conduct Disorder; Oppositional Defiant Disorder
- Anxiety Disorders: Agoraphobia; Obsessive Compulsive Disorder; Panic Disorder including Generalized Panic Disorder; Phobias; Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD); Separation Anxiety Disorder
- Eating Disorders: Anorexia Nervosa; Bulimia
- Impulse Control Disorder
- Mood Disorders: Bipolar Disorder; Cyclothymic Disorder; Depressive Disorders; Dysthymic Disorder
- Personality Disorders: Antisocial Personality Disorder; Avoidant Personality Disorder; Borderline Personality Disorder; Dependent Personality Disorder; Histrionic Personality Disorder; Obsessive Compulsive Personality Disorder; Paranoid Personality Disorder; Schizoid Personality Disorder; Schizotypal Personality Disorder
- Reactive Attachment Disorder
- Schizophrenic and Other Psychotic Disorders:
   Delusional Disorder; Psychotic Disorder; Schizophrenia;
   Schizophrenaform Disorder; Schizoaffective Disorder
- Somatoform Disorder
- Tourette Syndrome

Data Type: 1-byte IntegerValue Value Label0 No1 Yes

#### #20 Other Diagnosed Condition

Name: OtherMed

**Definition:** Conditions other than those noted above which require special

medical care such as chronic illnesses. Included are children

diagnosed as HIV positive or with AIDS. May Include:

Aplastic Anemia

Asperger's Syndrome Asthma

Autistic Disorder

 Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS)

• Blood disorder that required hospitalization once a month

Cancers

 Childhood Disintegrative Disorder (Pervasive Developmental Disorder)

• Chronic Granulomatous Disease

• Cleft palate

Coagulation Defects

Congenital cystic lung

Congenital heart anomaly

Crohn's disease

Cushing's syndrome

Cystic Fibrosis

Diabetes

• Disorders Involving The Immune Mechanism (code 279)

Encephalopathy

Epilepsy

• Fetal alcohol syndrome

Fetal drug addiction

 Heart murmur, vigorous activity curtailed

Heart disease

Hemophilia

Hypertension

Human Immunodeficiency

Disease (HIV)

Human T-Cell Lymphotropic

Virus-III

 Other Human T-Cell Lymphotropic Virus-III

Immunodeficiency

Kidney Disease

Klienefelter's syndrome

Learning Disability

Leukemia

Liver disease

Lupus

 Malignant Neoplasms (Malignant tumors)

Misplaced facial feature

Nutritional deficiency

Organic Brain Syndrome

• Pancreatic Disease

 Pervasive Developmental Disorders Not Otherwise Specified

Dath Diameter (

Rett Disorder Sarcomas

Seizure Disorder

• Sickle cell anemia

Shaken Infant Syndrome

Late Effects of Tuberculosis

(ICD-9: 137)

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

# Value Value Label 0 No 1 Yes

# #21 Child Ever Adopted

Name: EverAdpt

**Definition:** Has the child ever been legally adopted?

Value	Value Label
0	Not applicable
1	Yes, child has been legally adopted
2	No, has never been legally adopted
3	Unable to determine

# #22 Age At Adoption

Name: AgeAdopt

**Definition:** If a child in the foster care system has previously been adopted, the

child's age in years, actual or estimated, at the time of the legalized adoption. If Child Ever Adopted (element 16) is yes then Age At Adoption (element 17) field must have a value of 1 through 5.

Value	Value Label
0	Not applicable
1	Less than 2 years old
2	2-5 years old
3	6-12 years old
4	13 years or older
5	Unable to determine

### #23 Total Number of Removals

Name: TotalRem

**Definition:** The number of times the child was removed from home, including

the current removal.

# #24 Placement Settings in Current FC Episode

Name: NumPlep

**Definition:** The number of places the child has lived, including the current

setting, during the current removal episode. Do not include trial

home visits as a placement setting.

#### #25 Removal Manner

Name: ManRem

**Definition:** For the current placement episode for children in foster care, indicate

whether the current placement agreement was voluntary, court ordered, or not yet determined. If Date of Most Recent Periodic Review (element 5) is not blank then Removal Manner (element 25)

cannot have a Value of "3."

1 = Voluntary (An official voluntary placement agreement has been executed between the caretaker and the agency. The placement remains voluntary even if a subsequent court order is issued to continue the child in foster care).

2 = Court ordered (The court has issued an order which is the basis of the child's removal).

3 = Not yet determined (A voluntary placement agreement has not been signed or a court order has not been issued. This will mostly occur in very short-term cases. When either a voluntary placement agreement is signed or a court order issued, the record should be updated to reflect the manner of removal at that time).

Value	Value Label
1	Voluntary
2	Court ordered
3	Not yet determined

# #26 Removal Reason-Physical Abuse

Name: PhyAbuse

**Definition:** As a condition associated with a child's removal from home and

contact with the foster care system, alleged or substantiated physical abuse, injury or maltreatment of the child by a person responsible

for the child's welfare.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

#### #27 Removal Reason-Sexual Abuse

Name: SexAbuse

**Definition:** As a condition associated with a child's removal from home and

contact with the foster care system, alleged or substantiated sexual abuse or exploitation of a child by a person who is responsible for the

child's welfare.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

# #28 Removal Reason-Neglect

Name: Neglect

**Definition:** As a condition associated with a child's removal from home and

contact with the foster care system, alleged or substantiated negligent treatment or maltreatment, including failure to provide

adequate food, clothing, shelter or care.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

#### #29 Removal Reason-Alcohol Abuse Parent

Name: AAParent

**Definition:** As a condition associated with a child's removal from home and

contact with the foster care system, the principal caretaker's compulsive use of alcohol that is not of a temporary nature.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No1 Yes

## #30 Removal Reason-Drug Abuse Parent

Name: DAParent

**Definition:** As a condition associated with a child's removal from home and

contact with the foster care system, the principal caretaker's compulsive use of drugs that is not of a temporary nature.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No 1 Yes

#### #31 Removal Reason-Alcohol Abuse Child

Name: AAChild

**Definition:** As a condition associated with a child's removal from home and

contact with the foster care system, the child's compulsive use of or need for alcohol. This element should include infants addicted at

birth.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

## #32 Removal Reason-Drug Abuse Child

Name: DAChild

**Definition:** As a condition associated with a child's removal from home and

contact with the foster care system, the child's compulsive use of or need for narcotics. This element should include infants addicted at

birth.

Yes

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

1

## #33 Removal Reason-Child Disability

Name: ChilDis

**Definition:** As a condition associated with a child's removal from home and

contact with the foster care system, a clinical diagnosis by a qualified professional of one or more of the following: mental retardation; emotional disturbance; specific learning disability; hearing, speech or sight impairment; physical disability; or other clinically diagnosed handicap. Include only if the disability(ies) was at least one of the

factors which led to the child's removal.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No 1 Yes

#### #34 Removal Reason-Child Behavior Problem

Name: ChBehPrb

**Definition:** As a condition associated with a child's removal from home and

contact with the foster care system, child's behavior in the school and/or community that adversely affects socialization, learning, growth and moral development. These may include adjudicated or non-adjudicated child behavior problems. This would include the

child's running away from home or other placement.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

Yes

0 No

1

#### #35 Removal Reason-Parent Death

Name: PrtsDied

**Definition:** As a condition associated with a child's removal from home and

contact with the foster care system, family stress or inability to care

for child due to death of a parent or caretaker.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No 1 Yes

#### #36 Removal Reason-Parent Incarceration

Name: PrtsJail

**Definition:** As a condition associated with a child's removal from home and

contact with the foster care system, temporary or permanent

placement of a parent or caretaker in jail that adversely affects care

for the child.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

## #37 Removal Reason-Caretaker Inability Cope

Name: NoCope

**Definition:** As a condition associated with a child's removal from home and

contact with the foster care system, physical or emotional illness or disabling condition adversely affecting the caretaker's ability to care

for the child.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

#### #38 Removal Reason-Abandonment

Name: Abandmnt

**Definition:** As a condition associated with a child's removal from home and

contact with the foster care system, the child has been left alone or

with others; caretaker did not return or make whereabouts

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No1 Yes

## #39 Removal Reason-Relinquishment

Name: Relinqsh

**Definition:** As a condition associated with a child's removal from home and

contact with the foster care system, parent(s), in writing, assigned the physical and legal custody of the child to the agency for the

purpose of having the child adopted.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

## #40 Removal Reason-Inadequate Housing

Name: Housing

**Definition:** As a condition associated with a child's removal from home and

contact with the foster care system, housing facilities were

substandard, overcrowded, unsafe or otherwise inadequate resulting in their not being appropriate for the parents and child to reside

together. Also includes homelessness.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label
0 No

#### #41 Current Placement Setting

Name: CurPlSet

**Definition:** 

The type of setting in which the child currently lives. If Current Placement Setting (element 41) is a Value that indicates that the child is not in a foster family or a pre-adoptive home, then elements 49 through 55 must be "0."

- 1 = Pre-adoptive home: A home in which the family intends to adopt the child. The family may or may not be receiving a foster care payment or an adoption subsidy on behalf of the child.
- 2 = Foster family home, relative: A licensed or unlicensed home of the child's relatives regarded by the state as a foster care living arrangement for the child.
- 3 = Foster family home, non-relative: A licensed foster family home regarded by the state as a foster care living arrangement.
- 4 = Group home: A licensed or approved home providing 24-hour care for children in a small group setting that generally has from seven to twelve children.
- 5 = Institution: A child care facility operated by a public or private agency and providing 24-hour care and/or treatment for children who require separation from their own homes and group living experience. These facilities may include: child care institutions; residential treatment facilities; maternity homes; etc.
- 6 = Supervised independent living: An alternative traditional living arrangement where the child is under the supervision of the agency but without 24-hour adult supervision, is receiving financial support from the child welfare agency, and is in a setting which provides the opportunity for increased responsibility for self care.
- 7 = Runaway: The child has run away from the foster care setting.
- 8 = Trial home visit: The child has been in a foster care placement

Value	Value Label
1	Pre-adoptive home
2	Foster home, relative
3	Foster home, non-relative
4	Group home
5	Institution
6	Supervised independent living
7	Runaway
8	Trial home visit
99	Missing

#### #42 Out of State Placement

Name: PlaceOut

**Definition:** The type of setting in which the child currently lives is located in

another state. Note: Only the state with the placement and care responsibility for the child should include the child in the AFCARS

reporting system.

Value	Value Label
0	Not applicable
1	Yes
2	No
3	Unable to determine

#### #43 Most Recent Case Plan Goal

Name: CaseGoal

**Definition:** Permanency goals are 1,2,3,6

Value	Value Label
1	Reunify with parent, principal caretaker
2	Live with other relative(s)
3	Adoption
4	Long-term foster care
5	Emancipation
6	Guardianship
7	Case plan goal not yet established
99	Missing

## #44 Principal Caretaker Family Structure

Name: StkFamSt

**Definition:** The type of adult caretaker (parents or others) from whom the child

was removed for the current foster care episode.

Value	Value Label
0	Not applicable
1	Married couple
2	Unmarried couple
3	Single female
4	Single male
5	Unable to determine

# #45 1st Principal Caretaker Year of Birth

Name: CTK1YR

**Definition:** This is the person from whose custody the child was removed.

# #46 2nd Principal Caretaker Year of Birth

Name: CTK2YR

**Definition:** This is the person from whose custody the child was removed.

# #47 Foster Family Structure

Name: FosFamSt

**Definition:** 

Value	Value Label
0	Not applicable
1	Married couple
2	Unmarried couple
3	Single female
4	Single male
5	Unable to determine

## #48 1st Foster Caretaker Year of Birth

Name: FCCTK1YR

**Definition:** 

## #49 2nd Foster Caretaker Year of Birth

Name: FCCTK2YR

**Definition:** 

# #50 1st Foster Caretaker Am Indian/AK Native

Name: RF1AMAKN

**Definition:** 

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

## #51 1st Foster Caretaker Asian

Name: RF1ASIAN

**Definition:** 

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

# #52 1st Foster Caretaker Black/African American

Name: RF1BLKAA

**Definition:** 

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

# #53 1st Foster Caretaker Hawaii/Pacific Islander

Name: RF1NHOPI

**Definition:** 

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

## #54 1st Foster Caretaker White

Name: RF1WHITE

**Definition:** 

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

#### #55 1st Foster Caretaker Unable To Determine

Race

Name: RF1UTOD

**Definition:** 

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

# #56 1st Foster Caretaker Hispanic Origin

Name: HOFCCTK1

**Definition:** 

Value	Value Label
0	Not applicable
1	Yes
2	No
3	Unable to determine

# #57 2nd Foster Caretaker Am Indian/AK Native

Name: RF2AMAKN

**Definition:** 

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

#### #58 2nd Foster Caretaker Asian

Name: RF2Asian

**Definition:** 

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

# #59 2nd Foster Caretaker Black/African

American

Name: RF2BLKAA

**Definition:** 

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

# #60 2nd Foster Caretaker Hawaii/Pacific Islander

Name: RF2NHOPI

**Definition:** 

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

#### #61 2nd Foster Caretaker White

Name: RF2WHITE

**Definition:** 

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

## #62 2nd Foster Caretaker Unable To Determine

Race

Name: RF2UTOD

**Definition:** 

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

# #63 2nd Foster Caretaker Hispanic Origin

Name: HOFCCTK2

**Definition:** 

Value	<b>Value Label</b>
0	Not applicable
1	Yes
2	No
3	Unable to determine

#### #64 Discharge Reason

Name: DISREASN

**Definition:** From "Child Welfare Outcomes" page B-2:

- The Department (HHS) considers children as discharged from foster care to reunification if the reason for discharge reported to AFCARS is either "reunification with parent or primary caretaker" (Value 1) or "living with other relative" (Value 2).
- It is important to note that the discharge reason of living with other relatives only applies to children discharged from foster care to the care of a relative. It does not apply to children in the foster care system in out-of-home placements with relatives, and it does not apply to children discharged from foster care to a legal guardian, even if the legal guardian is a relative.
- Values 1, 2, 3, & 5 are considered "Permanence" by the Children's Bureau i.e. reunification, living with relatives, adoption, and guardianship

Value	Value Label
0	Not applicable
1	Reunified with parent, primary caretaker
2	Living with other relative(s)
3	Adoption
4	Emancipation
5	Guardianship
6	Transfer to another agency
7	Runaway
8	Death of child
99	Missing

#### #65 Title IV-E Foster Care Payments

Name: IVEFC

**Definition:** Title IV-E foster care maintenance payments are being paid on behalf

of the child. At least one of elements 59 through 65 must have a Value of "1." Authorized under title IV-E of the Social Security Act, as amended, the Foster Care Maintenance Payments Program provides Federal matching funds of 50 to 83 percent, depending on the state's per capita income. Funds are available for: monthly maintenance payments to eligible foster care providers; administrative costs to manage the program; training staff and foster parents; foster parent

recruitment; and other related expenses.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No 1 Yes

#### #66 Title IV-E Adoption Assistance

Name: IVEAA

**Definition:** Title IV-E adoption subsidy is being paid on behalf of the child who is

in an adoptive home, but the adoption has not been legalized.

At least one of elements 59 through 65 must have a Value of "1."

Adoption assistance from the Federal government is administered under the Federal Title IV-E adoption assistance program. Payments to the parents of an eligible child with special needs can take the form of either one-time (nonrecurring) adoption assistance or ongoing (recurring) adoption assistance. These funds are paid through the State agency or through another public or nonprofit private agency and are available for children being adopted from foster care.

#### **Non-Recurring Adoption Assistance**

Nonrecurring adoption assistance is paid or reimbursed for one- time reasonable and necessary expenses directly related to the legal adoption of a child with special needs that have not been reimbursed from other sources or funds. These reimbursable expenses may include the home study fees, attorney fees, replacement of the birth certificate, and travel for visits to the child (including mileage, lodging, and meals). The Federal maximum for this type of assistance is \$2,000 for each adoptive placement.3 Some expenses in excess of this amount may be tax deductible.

#### **Recurring Adoption Assistance**

Ongoing adoption assistance provides funds that may be used for any identifiable need of the child. These usually take the form of monthly payments to the parents of eligible children. The maximum payment amount may not exceed the amount that would have been paid for maintenance if the child had remained in a foster home in that State. Payments can continue until the child reaches age 18 (or until age 21 where the State determines that the child has a physical, mental, or emotional disability), and these payments continue even if the family moves to another State. While adoption assistance is not taxable, portions could be taxed if the family cannot prove that the amount spent on the child's support was more than the amount of assistance received.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label
0 No

1 Yes

## #67 Title IV-A AFDC Payment

Name: IVAAFDC

**Definition:** Child is living with relative(s) whose source of support is an AFDC

payment for the child. At least one of elements 59 through 65 must

have a Value of "1."

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No1 Yes

## #68 Title IV-D Child Support Funds

Name: IVDCHSUP

**Definition:** Title IV-D child support funds are being paid to the state agency on

behalf of the child by assignment from the receiving parent. At least

one of elements 59 through 65 must have a Value of "1."

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No 1 Yes

#### #69 Title XIX Medicaid

Name: XIXMEDCD

**Definition:** Child is eligible for and may be receiving assistance under title XIX.

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No

1 Yes

## #70 SSI Or Social Security Act Benefits

Name: SSIOther

**Definition:** Child is receiving support under title XVI or other Social Security Act

titles not included in elements 59-63. At least one of elements 59

through 65 must have a Value of "1."

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No1 Yes

## #71 Only State Or Other Support

Name: NOA

**Definition:** The child is receiving support only from the state or from some other

source (federal or non-federal) that is not included in elements 59-64. At least one of elements 59 through 65 must have a Value of "1."

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No1 Yes

#### #72 Monthly FC Payment

Name: FCMntPay

**Definition:** The payment amount should be for a full calendar month and not a

pro-rated or partial payment. Ideally, the amount should also reflect the child's current living arrangement as of the end of the report period (foster care element #41). If the child's living arrangement changes from one type of setting to another (i.e., from a group home to a foster home) in the last month of the report period, then this element should be zeroes. And it should reflect all payments made on behalf of the child that represent the foster care maintenance payment (i.e., Federal, State, county, municipality, tribal, and

private payments).

As for the general reliability of the variable, the Children's Bureau has serious concerns about its accuracy for many states. Frequency

distributions often have questionable results.

**Data Type:** 4-byte Integer

#### #73 Date of Birth of the Foster Child

Name: DOB

**Definition:** To help protect child confidentialty, date of birth is set to the nearest

month. The day part is always the 15th.

#### #74 Date of First Removal

Name: Rem1Dt

**Definition:** Date of the child's initial entry into the state's foster care system.

## #75 Discharge Date For Previous Removal

Name: DLstFCDt

**Definition:** The ending date of the previous foster care episode

#### #76 Date of Latest Removal

Name: LatRemDt

**Definition:** The day the child was removed from his/her home and entered the

## #77 Begin Date for Current Placement Setting

Name: CurSetDt

**Definition:** There may be more than one placement setting within a foster care

episode. See the variable "CurPISet" for a list of setting types.

## #78 Date of Discharge from Foster Care

Name: DoDFCDt

**Definition:** The date the agency no longer has legal responsibility for care and

placement of the child, i.e. exited the foster care system.

## #79 Termination Date Of Parental Rights - Mom

Name: TPRMomDt

**Definition:** Date of the mother's termination of parental rights. If this date is

after the end of the current FY, the parents cannot be considered as

having lost parental rights during that year.

## #80 Termination Date of Parental Rights - Dad

Name: TPRDadDt

**Definition:** Date of the father's termination of parental rights. If this date is after

the end of the current FY, the parents cannot be considered as

having lost parental rights during that year.

## #81 Date of All Parents Loss of Parental Rights

Name: TPRDate

**Definition:** If both parents have a TPR date that is prior to the end of the fiscal

year, this is the later of the two. If one of the TPR dates is after the

end of the FY, TPRDate is Null

#### #82 Periodic Review Date

Name: PedRevDt

**Definition:** Most recent periodic review date. May be left blank if child has been

in care less than nine months.

#### #83 Removal Transaction Date

**Name:** RemTrnDt

**Definition:** Date the state recorded the removal

## #84 Date that the Discharge Was Recorded

Name: DoDTrnDt

**Definition:** Date that the state recorded the Discharge

#### #85 Age on the First Day of the Fiscal Year

Name: AgeAtStart

**Definition:** Regardless of whether child was in Foster Care at the time. Purpose:

Kids who are 18 or older at the beginning of the FY are excluded from some measures for the CFSR (see Child Welfare Outcomes.pdf,

page B-2)

**Data Type:** 2-byte Integer

**Value Value Label**<br/>99 DOB Missing

## #86 Age at Most Recent Removal

Name: AgeAtLatRem

**Definition:** Child's age on the date of the most recent removal [LatRemDt]; Age

at entry into foster care

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

99 DOB Missing

## #87 Age of Child at the End of FFY, or at Exit

Name: AgeAtEnd

**Definition:** Child's Age: If InAtEnd then this is the age on the last day of the FY

If Exited then this is the age on the date of discharge [DoDFCDt]

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

99 DOB Missing

#### #88 In FC at the Beginning of the FFY

Name: InAtStart

**Definition:** Child is InAtStart if the date of the most recent removal is prior to

the start of the current FY and the date of exit from FC is either

missing or is after the start of the FY.

NOTE: A child who was in Foster Care at the beginning of the FY, is discharged during the year, then re-enters, would not be classified as

InAtStart.

IF LatRemDt < Oct 1, FY

AND (DoDFCDt Missing OR DoDFCDt >= Oct 1, FY)

THEN InAtStart = 1 ELSE InAtStart = 0

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label
0 No

1 Yes

#### #89 In FC at the End of the Fiscal Year

Name: InAtEnd

**Definition:** Child is InAtEnd if entered FC prior to the end of the FY, but did not

exit before that date.

IF LatRemDt <= Sep 30, FY

AND (DoDFCDt Missing OR DoDFCDt > Sep 30, FY)

THEN InAtEnd = 1 ELSE InAtEnd = 0

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label
0 No
1 Yes

#### #90 Entered FC During the Fiscal Year

Name: Entered

**Definition:** Child's date of most recent removal (LatRemDt) is between the

beginning and the end of the fiscal year.

IF LatRemDt >= Oct 1, FY AND LatRemDt <= Sep 30, FY

THEN Entered = 1 ELSE Entered = 0

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

# Value Value Label 0 No

1 Yes

## #91 Discharged from FC During FFY

Name: Exited

**Definition:** Child has a discharge date (DoDFCDt) that falls within the fiscal year.

IF DoDFCDt >= Oct 1, FY AND DoDFCDt <= Sep 30, FY

THEN Exited = 1 ELSE Exited = 0

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value Value Label

0 No1 Yes

## #92 Derived Race/Ethnicity Variable

Name: RaceEthn

**Definition:** Derived from Race variables.

If only one race is chosen, then that race. If more than one race is chosen, then Value 6

If Hispanic ethnicity is chosen, then 7 (regardless of races chosen)

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value	Value Label
1	Non-Hispanic (NH), White Alone
2	NH, Black or African American Alone
3	NH, American Indian or Alaska Native Alone
4	NH, Asian Alone
5	NH, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Alone
6	NH, Two or More Races
7	Hispanic (Any Race)
99	Race/Ethnicity Unknown

#### #93 Derived Race Variable

Name: Race

**Definition:** Derived from five Race variables.

If only one race is chosen, then that race. If more than one race is chosen, then Value 6 A person of any race can be of Hispanic ethnicity

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value	Value Label
1	White Alone
2	Black or African American Alone
3	American Indian or Alaska Native Alone
4	Asian Alone
5	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Alone
6	Two or More Races
99	Race/Ethnicity Unknown

#### #94 Rural Urban Continuum Code

Name: RU13

**Definition:** USDA Rural Urban Continuum Code version 2013 See

http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/rural-urban-continuum-

codes/documentation.aspx

**Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Value	Value Label
1	Metro: > 1 million population
2	Metro: 250K to 1 million population
3	Metro: < 250K population
4	NonMetro: Urban > 20K pop; Adjacent
5	NonMetro: Urban >20K pop; Non-adjacent
6	NonMetro: Urban 2.5K to 20K; Adjacent
7	NonMetro; Urban 2.5 to 20K; Non-adjacent
8	Rural or < 2.5K population; Adjacent
9	Rural or < 2.5K population; Non-adjacent