# VOLUNTARY COOPERATIVE INFORMATION SYSTEM (VCIS) MULTI-YEAR FILE (1982-1995)

## NDACAN Dataset Number 247
## CODEBOOK



National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect

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# Voluntary Cooperative Information System (VCIS) Multi-Year File (1982-1995)

## Original Data Collected by

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National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect

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# Preface

The data for *Voluntary Cooperative Information System (VCIS) Multi-Year File (1982-1995)* have been given to the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN) for public distribution by American Public Human Service Association (formerly American Public Welfare Association). Funding for the project was provided by Office of Human Development Services, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Award Number(s): Not applicable).

# Acknowledgement of Source

Authors should acknowledge the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN) and the original collector(s) of the data when publishing manuscripts that use data provided by the Archive. Users of these data are urged to follow some adaptation of the statement below.

> The data used in this publication were made available by the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, and have been used with permission. Data from *Voluntary Cooperative Information System (VCIS) Multi-Year File (1982-1995)* were originally collected by: American Public Human Service Association (formerly American Public Welfare Association (APWA)). Funding for the project was provided by Office of Human Development Services, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Award Number(s): Not applicable). The collector(s) of the original data, the funder(s), NDACAN, Cornell University and their agents or employees bear no responsibility for the analyses or interpretations presented here.

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# Publication Submission Requirement

In accordance with the terms of the *Data License* for this dataset, users of these data are required to notify the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect of any published work or report based wholly or in part on these data. A copy of any completed manuscript, thesis abstract, or reprint should be emailed to NDACANsupport@cornell.edu . Such copies will be used to provide our funding agency with essential information about the use of NDACAN resources and to facilitate the exchange of information about research activities among data users and contributors.

# Acronyms and Abbreviations

The following acronyms and abbreviations are used in this document:

| Acronym or Abbreviation | Definition or Expanded Meaning |
|---|---|
| APWA | American Public Welfare Association who is now known as the American Public Human Service Association |
| FIPS | Federal Information Processing Standards |
| NDACAN | National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect |
| U.S. | United States |
| VCIS | Voluntary Cooperative Information System |

# Codebook Notes

## Introduction

The Codebook for the Voluntary Cooperative Information System (VCIS) is a product of National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN). NDACAN is funded by the Children's Bureau, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services. NDACAN supports secondary analysis of its datasets by providing technical support.

This code book includes information on the NDACAN version of the VCIS data files to assist individuals in using VCIS data. The NDACAN data files differ from other versions of VCIS data that may be extant. See the User's Guide for details on NDACAN processing of VCIS data.

## Terminology

Variable: A Variable is a logical set of attributes (e.g. State FIPS Code or Number of Children in Care, White non-Hispanic) having specific values in each state–year (e.g. Minnesota 1989).

Source: A Source is a question on the VCIS data-gathering instrument, the response to which provides the information in a Variable. A Variable has a derived Source if it does not correspond directly to a question in the data-gathering instrument.

Variable Group: A Variable Group organizes Variables according to Sources, i.e. questions on the VCIS survey instrument. For example, all Variables in Variable Group 8: Children Entering Care, by Age have the same Source, Question 2b. Variable Groups generally include (i) a set of Variables corresponding to mutually exclusive and exhaustive responses to a survey instrument question, and (ii) a Variable representing the total of all these responses.

## Codebook Entry Guide

Codebook Entries correspond to Variable Groups. Each Entry contains the following information:

- Variable Group Number: Unique numeric value corresponding to Variable Group
- Variable Group Name: Unique descriptive name corresponding to Variable Group
- Variables Table: Table of Variables belonging to Variable Group
    - Variable Number: Unique numeric value corresponding to Variable
    - Variable Name: Unique descriptive name corresponding to Variable; used for identification of Variables (columns) in Data Files.
    - Variable Label: Unique full description of Variable.
- Details: Detailed information about Variables in the Variable Group, such as additional explanation of Variable meanings or cautionary notes about data limitations
- Source: Question in the data-gathering instrument generating information in the Variable Group

- Values Table: Table of possible Values that Variables in the Variable Group can take
    - Value: Possible value of Variable, i.e. contents of cells in Data File
    - Value Label: Full description of Value

# VCIS Variables by Position

| Variable Group Number | Variable Group Label | Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label | File(s) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | State FIPS Code | 1 | State | State FIPS Code | Both |
| 2 | State ICPSR Code | 2 | StateICPSR | State ICPSR Code | Both |
| 3 | State Name | 3 | StateName | State Name | Both |
| 4 | State Two-Character Code | 4 | St | State Two-Character Code | Both |
| 5 | Year | 5 | Year | Year | Both |
| 6 | Children in Care at Start of Reporting Period | 6 | InStart | Children in Care at Start of Reporting Period | Both |
| 7 | Children Entering Care During Reporting Period | 7 | En | Children Entering Care During Reporting Period | Both |
| 8 | Children Entering Care, by Age | 8 | EnAgeLt1 | Children Entering Care, Age <1 Year | Both |
| | | 9 | EnAge1to5 | Children Entering Care, Age 1-5 Years | Both |
| | | 10 | EnAge6to12 | Children Entering Care, Age 6-12 Years | Both |
| | | 11 | EnAge13to18 | Children Entering Care, Age 13-18 Years | Both |
| | | 12 | EnAge19to20 | Children Entering Care, Age 19-20 Years | Both |
| | | 13 | EnAgeUnk | Children Entering Care, Age Unknown | Both |
| | | 14 | EnAgeTot | Children Entering Care, Total of Age Categories | Both |
| 9 | Children Entering Care, by Race/Ethnicity | 15 | EnRacEthW | Children Entering Care, White non-Hispanic | Both |
| | | 16 | EnRacEthH | Children Entering Care, Hispanic | Both |
| | | 17 | EnRacEthB | Children Entering Care, Black non-Hispanic | Both |
| | | 18 | EnRacEthAPI | Children Entering Care, Asian/Pacific Islander non-Hispanic | Both |

| Variable Group Number | Variable Group Label | Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label | File(s) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 19 | EnRacEthAIAN | Children Entering Care, American Indian/Alaska Native non-Hispanic | Both |
| | | 20 | EnRacEthOth | Children Entering Care, Other Race/Ethnicity | Both |
| | | 21 | EnRacEthUnk | Children Entering Care, Race/Ethnicity Unknown/Unreported | Both |
| | | 22 | EnRacEthTot | Children Entering Care, Total of Race/Ethnicity Categories | Both |
| 10 | Children Entering Care, by Reason | 23 | EnReasProt | Children Entering Care, Reason: Protective Service | Both |
| | | 24 | EnReasStatOff | Children Entering Care, Reason: Status Offense | Raw Only |
| | | 25 | EnReasDelinq | Children Entering Care, Reason: Delinquent Behavior | Raw Only |
| | | 26 | EnReasDisab | Children Entering Care, Reason: Child Disability/Handicap | Raw Only |
| | | 27 | EnReasParCond | Children Entering Care, Reason: Parent Condition/Absence | Raw Only |
| | | 28 | EnReasParRights | Children Entering Care, Reason: Relinquishment of Parental Rights | Raw Only |
| | | 29 | EnReasOth | Children Entering Care, Reason: Other | Both |
| | | 30 | EnReasUnk | Children Entering Care, Reason: Unknown/Unreported | Both |
| | | 31 | EnReasTot | Children Entering Care, Reason: Total of Categories | Both |
| 11 | Children Entering Care During Reporting Period, New Entrants | 32 | EnNew | Children Entering Care During Reporting Period, New Entrants | Both |
| 12 | Children Exiting Care | 33 | Ex | Children Exiting Care During Reporting Period | Both |

| Variable Group Number | Variable Group Label | Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label | File(s) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 13 | Children Exiting Care, by Reason | 34 | ExReasReun | Children Exiting Care, Reason: Reunified/Placed with Parent | Both |
| | | 35 | ExReasAdopt | Children Exiting Care, Reason: Finalized Adoption | Both |
| | | 36 | ExReasAge | Children Exiting Care, Reason: Reached Age of Majority | Raw Only |
| | | 37 | ExReasRun | Children Exiting Care, Reason: Ran Away from Placement | Raw Only |
| | | 38 | ExReasDisch | Children Exiting Care, Reason: Discharged to Other Agency | Raw Only |
| | | 39 | ExReasOth | Children Exiting Care, Reason: Other | Both |
| | | 40 | ExReasUnk | Children Exiting Care, Reason: Unknown/Unreported | Both |
| | | 41 | ExReasTot | Children Exiting Care, Reason: Total of Categories | Both |
| 14 | Children Exiting Care, by Age | 42 | ExAgeLt1 | Children Exiting Care, Age <1 Year | Both |
| | | 43 | ExAge1to5 | Children Exiting Care, Age 1-5 Years | Both |
| | | 44 | ExAge6to12 | Children Exiting Care, Age 6-12 Years | Both |
| | | 45 | ExAge13to18 | Children Exiting Care, Age 13-18 Years | Both |
| | | 46 | ExAge19to20 | Children Exiting Care, Age 19-20 Years | Both |
| | | 47 | ExAgeUnk | Children Exiting Care, Age Unknown | Both |
| | | 48 | ExAgeTot | Children Exiting Care, Total of Age Categories | Both |
| 15 | Children Exiting Care, by Race/Ethnicity | 49 | ExRacEthW | Children Exiting Care, White non-Hispanic | Both |

| Variable Group Number | Variable Group Label | Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label | File(s) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 50 | ExRacEthH | Children Exiting Care, Hispanic | Both |
| | | 51 | ExRacEthB | Children Exiting Care, Black non-Hispanic | Both |
| | | 52 | ExRacEthAPI | Children Exiting Care, Asian/Pacific Islander non-Hispanic | Both |
| | | 53 | ExRacEthAIAN | Children Exiting Care, American Indian/Alaska Native non-Hispanic | Both |
| | | 54 | ExRacEthOth | Children Exiting Care, Other Race/Ethnicity | Both |
| | | 55 | ExRacEthUnk | Children Exiting Care, Race/Ethnicity Unknown/Unreported | Both |
| | | 56 | ExRacEthTot | Children Exiting Care, Total of Race/Ethnicity Categories | Both |
| 16 | Children Exiting Care, by Duration in Care | 57 | ExDurLt6Mo | Children Exiting Care After Duration: Less Than 6 Months | Both |
| | | 58 | ExDur6to12Mo | Children Exiting Care After Duration: 6-12 Months | Both |
| | | 59 | ExDur1Yr | Children Exiting Care After Duration: 1 Year | Both |
| | | 60 | ExDur2Yr | Children Exiting Care After Duration: 2 Years | Both |
| | | 61 | ExDur3to4Yr | Children Exiting Care After Duration: 3-4 Years | Both |
| | | 62 | ExDur5PlusYr | Children Exiting Care After Duration: 5 Years or More | Both |
| | | 63 | ExDurUnk | Children Exiting Care After Duration: Unknown/Unreported | Both |
| | | 64 | ExDurTot | Children Exiting Care After Duration: Total of Categories | Both |

| Variable Group Number | Variable Group Label | Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label | File(s) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 17 | Children In Care at End of Reporting Period | 65 | InEnd | Children In Care at End of Reporting Period | Both |
| 18 | Children In Care, by Age | 66 | InAgeLt1 | Children In Care, Age <1 Year | Both |
| | | 67 | InAge1to5 | Children In Care, Age 1-5 Years | Both |
| | | 68 | InAge6to12 | Children In Care, Age 6-12 Years | Both |
| | | 69 | InAge13to18 | Children In Care, Age 13-18 Years | Both |
| | | 70 | InAge19to20 | Children In Care, Age 19-20 Years | Both |
| | | 71 | InAgeUnk | Children In Care, Age Unknown | Both |
| | | 72 | InAgeTot | Children In Care, Total of Age Categories | Both |
| 19 | Children in Care, by Sex | 73 | InSexM | Children In Care, Male | Both |
| | | 74 | InSexF | Children In Care, Female | Both |
| | | 75 | InSexUnk | Children In Care, Sex Unknown/Unreported | Both |
| | | 76 | InSexTot | Children In Care, Total of Sex Categories | Both |
| 20 | Children in Care, by Race/Ethnicity | 77 | InRacEthW | Children In Care, White non-Hispanic | Both |
| | | 78 | InRacEthH | Children In Care, Hispanic | Both |
| | | 79 | InRacEthB | Children In Care, Black non-Hispanic | Both |
| | | 80 | InRacEthAPI | Children In Care, Asian/Pacific Islander non-Hispanic | Both |
| | | 81 | InRacEthAIAN | Children In Care, American Indian/Alaska Native non-Hispanic | Both |
| | | 82 | InRacEthOth | Children In Care, Other Race/Ethnicity | Both |

| Variable Group Number | Variable Group Label | Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label | File(s) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 83 | InRacEthUnk | Children In Care, Race/Ethnicity Unknown/Unreported | Both |
| | | 84 | InRacEthTot | Children In Care, Total of Race/Ethnicity Categories | Both |
| 21 | Children in Care, by Residence | 85 | InResFoster | Children In Care, Residence: Foster Family (Relative and Non-Relative) | Both |
| | | 86 | InResNonFinAdopt | Children In Care, Residence: Non-Finalized Adoptive Home | Raw Only |
| | | 87 | InResGroup | Children In Care, Residence: Group Home | Raw Only |
| | | 88 | InResEmer | Children In Care, Residence: Emergency Shelter | Raw Only |
| | | 89 | InResCareFac | Children In Care, Residence: Child Care Facility | Raw Only |
| | | 90 | InResIndep | Children In Care, Residence: Independent Living Arrangement | Raw Only |
| | | 91 | InResOth | Children In Care, Residence: Other | Both |
| | | 92 | InResUnk | Children In Care, Residence: Unknown/Unreported | Both |
| | | 93 | InResTot | Children In Care, Residence: Total of Residence Categories | Both |
| | | 94 | InResUnlic | Children In Care, Residence: Unlicensed Home | Raw Only |
| 22 | Children Receiving Post-Placement Supervision | 95 | PostPlace | Children Receiving Post-Placement Supervision | Both |
| 23 | Children in Care, by Parental Rights Status | 96 | InRightsTerm | Children In Care, Parental Rights: Terminated | Raw Only |

| Variable Group Number | Variable Group Label | Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label | File(s) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 97 | InRightsRelinq | Children In Care, Parental Rights: Relinquished | Raw Only |
| | | 98 | InRightsRetain | Children In Care, Parental Rights: Retained | Raw Only |
| | | 99 | InRightsOth | Children In Care, Parental Rights: Other Status | Raw Only |
| | | 100 | InRightsUnk | Children In Care, Parental Rights: Status Unknown/Unreported | Raw Only |
| | | 101 | InRightsTot | Children In Care, Parental Rights: Total of Categories | Raw Only |
| 24 | Children in Care, by Disability Status | 102 | InDisabYes | Children In Care, Disability: One or More | Both |
| | | 103 | InDisabNo | Children In Care, Disability: None | Both |
| | | 104 | InDisabUnk | Children In Care, Disability: Unknown/Unreported | Both |
| | | 105 | InDisabTot | Children In Care, Disability: Total of Categories | Both |
| 25 | Children in Care, by Continuous Duration of Care | 106 | InDurLt6Mo | Children In Care, Continuous Duration: Less Than 6 Months | Both |
| | | 107 | InDur6to12Mo | Children In Care, Continuous Duration: 6-12 Months | Both |
| | | 108 | InDur1Yr | Children In Care, Continuous Duration: 1 Year | Both |
| | | 109 | InDur2Yr | Children In Care, Continuous Duration: 2 Years | Both |
| | | 110 | InDur3to4Yr | Children In Care, Continuous Duration: 3-4 Years | Both |

| Variable Group Number | Variable Group Label | Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label | File(s) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 111 | InDur5PlusYr | Children In Care, Continuous Duration: 5 Years or More | Both |
| | | 112 | InDurUnk | Children In Care, Continuous Duration: Unknown/Unreported | Both |
| | | 113 | InDurTot | Children In Care, Continuous Duration: Total of Categories | Both |
| 26 | Children in Care, by Number of Placements | 114 | InPlace1 | Children In Care, Number of Placements: 1 | Both |
| | | 115 | InPlace2 | Children In Care, Number of Placements: 2 | Both |
| | | 116 | InPlace3to5 | Children In Care, Number of Placements: 3-5 | Both |
| | | 117 | InPlace6Plus | Children In Care, Number of Placements: 6 or More | Both |
| | | 118 | InPlaceUnk | Children In Care, Number of Placements: Unknown/Unreported | Both |
| | | 119 | InPlaceTot | Children In Care, Number of Placements: Total of Categories | Both |
| 27 | Children in Care, by Permanency Plan | 120 | InPlanReun | Children In Care, Permanency Plan: Parental Reunification | Both |
| | | 121 | InPlanAdopt | Children In Care, Permanency Plan: Adoption | Both |
| | | 122 | InPlanIndep | Children In Care, Permanency Plan: Independent Living Arrangement | Both |
| | | 123 | InPlanFoster | Children In Care, Permanency Plan: Long-Term Forster Family | Both |
| | | 124 | InPlanNone | Children In Care, Permanency Plan: None | Both |
| | | 125 | InPlanGuard | Children In Care, Permanency Plan: Guardianship | Both |

| Variable Group Number | Variable Group Label | Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label | File(s) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 126 | InPlanUnk | Children In Care, Permanency Plan: Unknown/Unreported | Both |
| | | 127 | InPlanTot | Children In Care, Permanency Plan: Total of Categories | Both |

# Codebook Entries

## Variable Group 1: State FIPS Code

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | State | State FIPS Code |

**Details:** FIPS state numeric code.

**Source:** Derived.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 1 | Alabama |
| 2 | Alaska |
| 4 | Arizona |
| 5 | Arkansas |
| 6 | California |
| 8 | Colorado |
| 9 | Connecticut |
| 10 | Delaware |
| 11 | District of Columbia |
| 12 | Florida |
| 13 | Georgia |
| 15 | Hawaii |
| 16 | Idaho |
| 17 | Illinois |
| 18 | Indiana |
| 19 | Iowa |

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 20 | Kansas |
| 21 | Kentucky |
| 22 | Louisiana |
| 23 | Maine |
| 24 | Maryland |
| 25 | Massachusetts |
| 26 | Michigan |
| 27 | Minnesota |
| 28 | Mississippi |
| 29 | Missouri |
| 30 | Montana |
| 31 | Nebraska |
| 32 | Nevada |
| 33 | New Hampshire |
| 34 | New Jersey |
| 35 | New Mexico |
| 36 | New York |
| 37 | North Carolina |
| 38 | North dakota |
| 39 | Ohio |
| 40 | Oklahoma |
| 41 | Oregon |
| 42 | Pennsylvania |
| 44 | Rhode Island |
| 45 | South Carolina |
| 46 | South Dakota |

| Value | Value Label |
| --- | --- |
| 47 | Tennessee |
| 48 | Texas |
| 49 | Utah |
| 50 | Vermont |
| 51 | Virginia |
| 53 | Washington |
| 54 | West Virginia |
| 55 | Wisconsin |
| 56 | Wyoming |
| 72 | Puerto Rico |
| 78 | U.S. Virgin Islands |

# Variable Group 2: State ICPSR Code

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 2 | StateICPSR | State ICPSR Code |

**Details:** ICPSR state numeric code.

**Source:** Derived.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 1 | Connecticut |
| 2 | Maine |
| 3 | Massachusetts |
| 4 | New Hampshire |
| 5 | Rhode Island |
| 6 | Vermont |
| 11 | Delaware |
| 12 | New Jersey |
| 13 | New York |
| 14 | Pennsylvania |
| 21 | Illinois |

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 22 | Indiana |
| 23 | Michigan |
| 24 | Ohio |
| 25 | Wisconsin |
| 31 | Iowa |
| 32 | Kansas |
| 33 | Minnesota |
| 34 | Missouri |
| 35 | Nebraska |
| 36 | North Dakota |
| 37 | South Dakota |
| 40 | Virginia |
| 41 | Alabama |
| 42 | Arkansas |
| 43 | Florida |
| 44 | Georgia |
| 45 | Louisiana |
| 46 | Mississippi |

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 47 | North Carolina |
| 48 | South Carolina |
| 49 | Texas |
| 51 | Kentucky |
| 52 | Maryland |
| 53 | Oklahoma |
| 54 | Tennessee |
| 56 | West Virginia |
| 61 | Arizona |
| 62 | Colorado |
| 63 | Idaho |
| 64 | Montana |
| 65 | Nevada |
| 66 | New Mexico |
| 67 | Utah |
| 68 | Wyoming |
| 71 | California |
| 72 | Oregon |

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 73 | Washington |
| 81 | Alaska |
| 82 | Hawaii |
| 83 | Puerto Rico |
| 84 | U.S. Virgin Islands |
| 98 | District of Columbia |

## Variable Group 3: State Name

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 3 | StateName | State Name |

**Details:** State name.

**Source:** Derived.

## Variable Group 4: State Two-Character Code

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 4 | St | State Two-Character Code |

**Details:** United States Postal Service state two-character code.

**Source:** Derived.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| AK | Alabama |
| AL | Alabama |
| AR | Arkansas |
| AZ | Arizona |
| CA | California |
| CO | Colorado |
| CT | Connecticut |
| DC | District of Columbia |
| DE | Delaware |
| FL | Florida |
| GA | Georgia |

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| HI | Hawaii |
| IA | Iowa |
| ID | Idaho |
| IL | Illinois |
| IN | Indiana |
| KS | Kansas |
| KY | Kentucky |
| LA | Louisiana |
| MA | Massachusetts |
| MD | Maryland |
| ME | Maine |
| MI | Michigan |
| MN | Minnesota |
| MO | Missouri |
| MS | Mississippi |
| MT | Montana |
| NC | North Carolina |
| ND | North Dakota |

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| NE | Nebraska |
| NH | New Hampshire |
| NJ | New Jersey |
| NM | New Mexico |
| NV | Nevada |
| NY | New York |
| OH | Ohio |
| OK | Oklahoma |
| OR | Oregon |
| PA | Pennsylvania |
| PR | Puerto Rico |
| RI | Rhode Island |
| SC | South Carolina |
| SD | South Dakota |
| TN | Tennessee |
| TX | Texas |
| UT | Utah |
| VA | Virginia |

| Value | Value Label |
|-------|-------------|
| VI | U.S. Virgin Islands |
| VT | Vermont |
| WA | Washington |
| WI | Wisconsin |
| WV | West Virginia |
| WY | Wyoming |

## Variable Group 5: Year

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 5 | Year | Year |

**Details:** Year of the reporting period. The VCIS survey instrument encouraged the use of a reporting period of October 1 through September 30, corresponding to the federal fiscal year. However, states frequently employed alternative reporting periods, such as the state fiscal year (typically July 1 through June 30) or the calendar year (January 1 through December 31). Sometimes states changed reporting periods over the period of the study. Therefore, users should exercise caution in making comparisons across specific states or years, as well as in linking VCIS data to other sources. See Related Publications and Reports for additional details.

**Source:** Derived.

## Variable Group 6: Children in Care at Start of Reporting Period

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 6 | InStart | Children in Care at Start of Reporting Period |

**Details:** Number of children in substitute care at the start of the reporting period.

**Source:** Question 1.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |

## Variable Group 7: Children Entering Care During Reporting Period

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 7 | En | Children Entering Care During Reporting Period |

**Details:** Number of children entering substitute care during the reporting period.

**Source:** Question 2.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |

## Variable Group 8: Children Entering Care, by Age

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 8 | EnAgeLt1 | Children Entering Care, Age <1 Year |
| 9 | EnAge1to5 | Children Entering Care, Age 1-5 Years |
| 10 | EnAge6to12 | Children Entering Care, Age 6-12 Years |
| 11 | EnAge13to18 | Children Entering Care, Age 13-18 Years |
| 12 | EnAge19to20 | Children Entering Care, Age 19-20 Years |
| 13 | EnAgeUnk | Children Entering Care, Age Unknown |
| 14 | EnAgeTot | Children Entering Care, Total of Age Categories |

**Details:** Number of children entering substitute care during the reporting period, by age.

**Source:** Question 2b.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |

# Variable Group 9: Children Entering Care, by Race/Ethnicity

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 15 | EnRacEthW | Children Entering Care, White non-Hispanic |
| 16 | EnRacEthH | Children Entering Care, Hispanic |
| 17 | EnRacEthB | Children Entering Care, Black non-Hispanic |
| 18 | EnRacEthAPI | Children Entering Care, Asian/Pacific Islander non-Hispanic |
| 19 | EnRacEthAIAN | Children Entering Care, American Indian/Alaska Native non-Hispanic |
| 20 | EnRacEthOth | Children Entering Care, Other Race/Ethnicity |
| 21 | EnRacEthUnk | Children Entering Care, Race/Ethnicity Unknown/Unreported |
| 22 | EnRacEthTot | Children Entering Care, Total of Race/Ethnicity Categories |

**Details:** Number of children entering substitute care during the reporting period, by race and ethnicity. Some states excluded certain ethnoracial categories in certain years. Where values corresponding to categories could not be derived, values were suppressed. The VCIS survey instrument did not specify how reporting states should categorize multiracial children, so caution should be used in interpreting ethnoracial data and comparing them to other sources.

**Source:** Question 2c.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |

| Value | Value Label |
|-------|-------------|
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |

## Variable Group 10: Children Entering Care, by Reason

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 23 | EnReasProt | Children Entering Care, Reason: Protective Service |
| 24 | EnReasStatOff | Children Entering Care, Reason: Status Offense |
| 25 | EnReasDelinq | Children Entering Care, Reason: Delinquent Behavior |
| 26 | EnReasDisab | Children Entering Care, Reason: Child Disability/Handicap |
| 27 | EnReasParCond | Children Entering Care, Reason: Parent Condition/Absence |
| 28 | EnReasParRights | Children Entering Care, Reason: Relinquishment of Parental Rights |
| 29 | EnReasOthRaw/ EnReasOthClean | Children Entering Care, Reason: Other |
| 30 | EnReasUnk | Children Entering Care, Reason: Unknown/Unreported |
| 31 | EnReasTot | Children Entering Care, Reason: Total of Categories |

**Details:** Number of children entering substitute care during the reporting period, by reason for entering care. Other than for Variable 23 (Protective Service) and Variable 30 (Unknown), the categorization of reasons for entering care is highly unreliable across states and years. The Raw File reports all Variables in this Group as given by the VCIS. Variable 29 EnReasOthRaw therefore includes reasons other than those in Variables 23–28 and 30. The Clean File assigns -2, Category suppressed to Variables 24–28 and assigns their combined values to Variable 29 (Other). EnReasOthClean therefore represents reasons other than Variables 23 (Protective Service) and 30 (Unknown/Unreported). Because Variables EnReasOthRaw and EnReasOthClean have different meanings, their values will differ significantly.

**Source:** Question 2d.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|-------|-------------|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |
| -2 | Category suppressed |

## Variable Group 11: Children Entering Care During Reporting Period, New Entrants

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 32 | EnNew | Children Entering Care During Reporting Period, New Entrants |

**Details:** Number of children entering substitute care during the reporting period who have not previously entered substitute care.

**Source:** Question 3.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |

## Variable Group 12: Children Exiting Care

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 33 | Ex | Children Exiting Care During Reporting Period |

**Details**: Number of children exiting substitute care during the reporting period.

**Source:** Question 4.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |

## Variable Group 13: Children Exiting Care, by Reason

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 34 | ExReasReun | Children Exiting Care, Reason: Reunified/Placed with Parent |
| 35 | ExReasAdopt | Children Exiting Care, Reason: Finalized Adoption |
| 36 | ExReasAge | Children Exiting Care, Reason: Reached Age of Majority |
| 37 | ExReasRun | Children Exiting Care, Reason: Ran Away from Placement |
| 38 | ExReasDisch | Children Exiting Care, Reason: Discharged to Other Agency |
| 39 | ExReasOthRaw/ ExReasOthClean | Children Exiting Care, Reason: Other |
| 40 | ExReasUnk | Children Exiting Care, Reason: Unknown/Unreported |
| 41 | ExReasTot | Children Exiting Care, Reason: Total of Categories |

**Details:** Number of children entering substitute care during the reporting period, by reason for entering care. Other than for Variables 34 (Reunified/Placed with Parent), 35 (Finalized Adoption), and 40 (Unknown), the categorization of reasons for exiting care is highly unreliable across states and years. The Raw File reports all Variables in this Group as given by the VCIS. Variable 39 ExReasOthRaw therefore includes reasons other than those in Variables 34–38 and 40. The Clean File assigns -2, Category suppressed to Variables 36–38 and assigns their combined values to Variable 39 (Other). ExReasOthClean therefore represents reasons other than Variables 34 (Reunified/Placed with Parent), 35 (Finalized Adoption), and 40 (Unknown). Because Variables ExReasOthRaw and ExReasOthClean have different meanings, their values will differ significantly.

**Source:** Question 4b.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|-------|-------------|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |
| -2 | Category suppressed |

## Variable Group 14: Children Exiting Care, by Age

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 42 | ExAgeLt1 | Children Exiting Care, Age <1 Year |
| 43 | ExAge1to5 | Children Exiting Care, Age 1-5 Years |
| 44 | ExAge6to12 | Children Exiting Care, Age 6-12 Years |
| 45 | ExAge13to18 | Children Exiting Care, Age 13-18 Years |
| 46 | ExAge19to20 | Children Exiting Care, Age 19-20 Years |
| 47 | ExAgeUnk | Children Exiting Care, Age Unknown |
| 48 | ExAgeTot | Children Exiting Care, Total of Age Categories |

**Details:** Children exiting substitute care during the reporting period, by age.

**Source:** Question 4c.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |

## Variable Group 15: Children Exiting Care, by Race/Ethnicity

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 49 | ExRacEthW | Children Exiting Care, White non-Hispanic |
| 50 | ExRacEthH | Children Exiting Care, Hispanic |
| 51 | ExRacEthB | Children Exiting Care, Black non-Hispanic |
| 52 | ExRacEthAPI | Children Exiting Care, Asian/Pacific Islander non-Hispanic |
| 53 | ExRacEthAIAN | Children Exiting Care, American Indian/Alaska Native non-Hispanic |
| 54 | ExRacEthOth | Children Exiting Care, Other Race/Ethnicity |
| 55 | ExRacEthUnk | Children Exiting Care, Race/Ethnicity Unknown/Unreported |
| 56 | ExRacEthTot | Children Exiting Care, Total of Race/Ethnicity Categories |

**Details:** Number of children exiting substitute care during the reporting period, by race and ethnicity. Some states excluded certain ethnoracial categories in certain years. Where values corresponding to categories could not be derived, values were suppressed. The VCIS survey instrument did not specify how reporting states should categorize multiracial children, so caution should be used in interpreting ethnoracial data and comparing them to other sources.

**Source:** Question 4d.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |

| Value | Value Label |
|-------|-------------|
| -1 | Value suppressed |

## Variable Group 16: Children Exiting Care, by Duration in Care

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 57 | ExDurLt6Mo | Children Exiting Care After Duration: Less Than 6 Months |
| 58 | ExDur6to12Mo | Children Exiting Care After Duration: 6-12 Months |
| 59 | ExDur1Yr | Children Exiting Care After Duration: 1 Year |
| 60 | ExDur2Yr | Children Exiting Care After Duration: 2 Years |
| 61 | ExDur3to4Yr | Children Exiting Care After Duration: 3-4 Years |
| 62 | ExDur5PlusYr | ExDur5PlusYr |
| 63 | ExDurUnk | Children Exiting Care After Duration: Unknown/Unreported |
| 64 | ExDurTot | Children Exiting Care After Duration: Total of Categories |

**Details:** Number of children exiting substitute care during the reporting period, by continuous duration in substitute care.

**Source:** Question 4e.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |

## Variable Group 17: Children In Care at End of Reporting Period

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 65 | InEnd | Children In Care at End of Reporting Period |

**Details:** Number of children in substitute care at the end of the reporting period.

**Source:** Question 5.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |

## Variable Group 18: Children In Care, by Age

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 66 | InAgeLt1 | Children In Care, Age <1 Year |
| 67 | InAge1to5 | Children In Care, Age 1-5 Years |
| 68 | InAge6to12 | Children In Care, Age 6-12 Years |
| 69 | InAge13to18 | Children In Care, Age 13-18 Years |
| 70 | InAge19to20 | Children In Care, Age 19-20 Years |
| 71 | InAgeUnk | Children In Care, Age Unknown |
| 72 | InAgeTot | Children In Care, Total of Age Categories |

**Details:** Number of children in substitute care at the end of the reporting period, by age.

**Source:** Question 6.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |

## Variable Group 19: Children In Care, by Sex

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 73 | InSexM | Children In Care, Male |
| 74 | InSexF | Children In Care, Female |
| 75 | InSexUnk | Children In Care, Sex Unknown/Unreported |
| 76 | InSexTot | Children In Care, Total of Sex Categories |

**Details:** Number of children in substitute care at the end of the reporting period, by sex.

**Source:** Question 7.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |

## Variable Group 20: Children In Care, by Race/Ethnicity

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 77 | InRacEthW | Children In Care, White non-Hispanic |
| 78 | InRacEthH | Children In Care, Hispanic |
| 79 | InRacEthB | Children In Care, Black non-Hispanic |
| 80 | InRacEthAPI | Children In Care, Asian/Pacific Islander non-Hispanic |
| 81 | InRacEthAIAN | Children In Care, American Indian/Alaska Native non-Hispanic |
| 82 | InRacEthOth | Children In Care, Other Race/Ethnicity |
| 83 | InRacEthUnk | Children In Care, Race/Ethnicity Unknown/Unreported |
| 84 | InRacEthTot | Children In Care, Total of Race/Ethnicity Categories |

**Details:** Number of children in substitute care at the end of the reporting period, by race and ethnicity. Some states excluded certain ethnoracial categories in certain years. Where values corresponding to categories could not be derived, values were suppressed. The VCIS survey instrument did not specify how reporting states should categorize multiracial children, so caution should be used in interpreting ethnoracial data and comparing them to other sources.

**Source:** Question 8.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |

| Value | Value Label |
|-------|-------------|
| -1 | Value suppressed |

## Variable Group 21: Children In Care, by Residence

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 85 | InResFoster | Children In Care, Residence: Foster Family (Relative and Non-Relative) |
| 86 | InResNonFinAdopt | Children In Care, Residence: Non-Finalized Adoptive Home |
| 87 | InResGroup | Children In Care, Residence: Group Home |
| 88 | InResEmer | Children In Care, Residence: Emergency Shelter |
| 89 | InResCareFac | Children In Care, Residence: Child Care Facility |
| 90 | InResIndep | Children In Care, Residence: Independent Living Arrangement |
| 91 | InResOth | Children In Care, Residence: Other |
| 92 | InResUnk | Children In Care, Residence: Unknown/Unreported |
| 93 | InResTot | Children In Care, Residence: Total of Residence Categories |
| 94 | InResUnlic | Children In Care, Residence: Unlicensed Home |

**Details:** Number of children in substitute care at the end of the reporting period, by type of residence. Other than for Variables 85 (Foster Family) and 92 (Unknown), the categorization of residences is highly unreliable across states and years. The Raw File reports all Variables in this Group as given by the VCIS. Variable 91 InResOthRaw therefore includes residential settings other than those in Variables 85–90 and 92. The Clean File assigns -2, Category suppressed to Variables 86–90 and assigns their combined values to Variable 91 (Other). InResOthClean therefore represents residences other than Variables 85 (Foster Family) and 92 (Unknown). Because Variables InResOthRaw and InResOthClean have different meanings, their values will differ significantly. Variable 94 InResUnlic is not mutually exclusive with the

other categories. It is included in the Raw File but suppressed in the Clean File. Its values are not included in InResOthClean.

**Source:** Question 9.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|-------|-------------|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |
| -2 | Category suppressed |

## Variable Group 22: Children Receiving Post-Placement Supervision

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 95 | PostPlace | Children Receiving Post-Placement Supervision |

**Details:** Children receiving post-placement supervision by child welfare agency.

**Source:** Question 9a.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |

## Variable Group 23: Children in Care, by Parental Rights Status

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 96 | InRightsTerm | Children In Care, Parental Rights: Terminated |
| 97 | InRightsRelinq | Children In Care, Parental Rights: Relinquished |
| 98 | InRightsRetain | Children In Care, Parental Rights: Retained |
| 99 | InRightsOth | Children In Care, Parental Rights: Other Status |
| 100 | InRightsUnk | Children In Care, Parental Rights: Status Unknown/Unreported |
| 101 | InRightsTot | Children In Care, Parental Rights: Total of Categories |

**Details:** Number of children in substitute care at the end of the reporting period, by parental rights status. The categorization of parental rights statuses is highly unreliable across states and years. As a result, the Clean file assigns -3, Variable group suppressed to all Variables in Variable Group 23.

**Source:** Question 10.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |
| -3 | Variable group suppressed |

## Variable Group 24: Children in Care, by Disability Status

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 102 | InDisabYes | Children In Care, Disability: One or More |
| 103 | InDisabNo | Children In Care, Disability: None |
| 104 | InDisabUnk | Children In Care, Disability: Unknown/Unreported |
| 105 | InDisabTot | Children In Care, Disability: Total of Categories |

**Details:** Number of children in substitute care at the end of the reporting period, by disability status.

**Source:** Question 11.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |

## Variable Group 25: Children in Care, by Continuous Duration of Care

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 106 | InDurLt6Mo | Children In Care, Continuous Duration: Less Than 6 Months |
| 107 | InDur6to12Mo | Children In Care, Continuous Duration: 6-12 Months |
| 108 | InDur1Yr | Children In Care, Continuous Duration: 1 Year |
| 109 | InDur2Yr | Children In Care, Continuous Duration: 2 Years |
| 110 | InDur3to4Yr | Children In Care, Continuous Duration: 3-4 Years |
| 111 | InDur5PlusYr | Children In Care, Continuous Duration: 5 Years or More |
| 112 | InDurUnk | Children In Care, Continuous Duration: Unknown/Unreported |
| 113 | InDurTot | Children In Care, Continuous Duration: Total of Categories |

**Details:** Number of children in substitute care at the end of the reporting period, by continuous duration of care.

**Source:** Question 12.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |

| Value | Value Label |
|-------|-------------|
| -1 | Value suppressed |

## Variable Group 26: Children in Care, by Number of Placements

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 114 | InPlace1 | Children In Care, Number of Placements: 1 |
| 115 | InPlace2 | Children In Care, Number of Placements: 2 |
| 116 | InPlace3to5 | Children In Care, Number of Placements: 3-5 |
| 117 | InPlace6Plus | Children In Care, Number of Placements: 6 or More |
| 118 | InPlaceUnk | Children In Care, Number of Placements: Unknown/Unreported |
| 119 | InPlaceTot | Children In Care, Number of Placements: Total of Categories |

**Details:** Number of children in substitute care at the end of the reporting period, by continuous duration of care.

**Source:** Question 13.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |
| -1 | Value suppressed |

# Variable Group 27: Children in Care, by Permanency Plan

**Variables:**

| Variable Number | Variable Name | Variable Label |
|---|---|---|
| 120 | InPlanReun | Children In Care, Permanency Plan: Parental Reunification |
| 121 | InPlanAdopt | Children In Care, Permanency Plan: Adoption |
| 122 | InPlanIndep | Children In Care, Permanency Plan: Independent Living Arrangement |
| 123 | InPlanFoster | Children In Care, Permanency Plan: Long-Term Forster Family |
| 124 | InPlanNone | Children In Care, Permanency Plan: None |
| 125 | InPlanGuard | Children In Care, Permanency Plan: Guardianship |
| 126 | InPlanUnk | Children In Care, Permanency Plan: Unknown/Unreported |
| 127 | InPlanTot | Children In Care, Permanency Plan: Total of Categories |

**Details:** Number of children in substitute care at the end of the reporting period, by permanency plan.

**Source:** Question 14.

**Values:**

| Value | Value Label |
|---|---|
| 0-Inf. | Number of children |
| Blank | Unreported |

| Value | Value Label |
|-------|-------------|
| -1 | Value suppressed |

**Technical support for this dataset is provided by NDACAN.**
**Please send your inquiries to NDACANsupport@cornell.edu**