

ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE ANALYSIS
AND REPORTING (AFCARS)

AFCARS FOSTER CARE
AB FILE

Code Book

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NATIONAL DATA ARCHIVE ON
CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

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#90	Total Days Stay in FC, All Episodes.....	108
#91	Age on the First Day of the Fiscal Year.....	109
#92	Age at Most Recent Removal/Entry into Foster Care.....	110
#93	Age of Child at the End of FFY, or at Exit.....	111
#94	Child was in FC at the Beginning of the FFY.....	112
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Introduction

The Code Book for the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) is produced by the 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.

To assist individuals, this code book includes information on the NDACAN distributed version of the AFCARS Foster Care (FC) Data File(s).

Translating AFCARS 2020 to AFCARS 1993

Beginning in FY 2023, states began collecting and reporting data aligned with the revised AFCARS rule published on May 12, 2020, commonly referred to as “AFCARS 2020.” As states continue to improve data quality and to maintain consistency between AFCARS 2020 data and data from prior reporting years, AFCARS 2020 data were converted to a format compatible with AFCARS 1993 data. Wherever possible, AFCARS 2020 elements were mapped to their corresponding elements in AFCARS 1993.

This codebook provides the variable names, labels, and definitions aligned with the AFCARS 1993 format. Notes are included where translation challenges arise such as discontinued elements, definition changes, or new element categories.

For detailed definitions of AFCARS 2020 elements, see AFCARS Technical Bulletin #20: <https://acf.gov/sites/default/files/documents/cb/afcars-tb-20.pdf>.

Terminology

This section defines terms used in the Table of Contents and throughout the code book.

Variable Number: The number assigned for each item of information in the NDACAN file, in the order they appear in the data file. There are 106 variables in the code book.

AFCARS Element: These are the elements States are required to submit according to 45 CFR1355.40. There are 66 required foster care elements.

Derived Variable: These are items added by CB or NDACAN that combine or use AFCARS elements. They are intended to make the data easier to work with, to reduce the workload on the user, and to assure consistent definition of terms across users of the data.

AFCARS Foster Care Variables

There are two tables that list the contents of the file, headed “AFCARS Foster Care Variables.” One is arranged by the order of the variables in the data, the other alphabetically by variable name. Both lists have the same columns.

Column “Var#” is the order of the variable in the data.

Column “Regulation” has the location of the variable in the federal regulation at [45 CFR 1355](#). The specific elements required by AFCARS are defined in [Appendix A](#) of CFR 1355.

Column “Element#” has the element number that the Children’s Bureau has assigned to the elements.

Codebook Entries

Each codebook entry has the following information:

- **Variable Order:** The order of the variable in the dataset
- **Name:** The variable name
- **Label:** The variable label as it appears in the SPSS, SAS, and Stata data file
- **Definition:** The definition of the variable (from 45 CFR 1355, or by NDACAN if derived)
- **Data Type:** Text, numeric, or date.
- **Source:** The source may be the element ID in the regulations or in the *Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review* (<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/policy-guidance/guide-afcars-assessment-review>). Variables labeled “Derived” are those calculated by NDACAN from the original elements. Derived elements are intended to make working with the data easier for researchers.
- **Guidance:** This is the guidance to States on how to work with that element; this comes from the *Guide*.
- **Note:** If applicable, this provides guidance for data users on how to interpret each variable, especially in the context of translating elements from the AFCARS 2020 format to the AFCARS 1993 format.

AFCARS FOSTER CARE VARIABLES – BY POSITION

Var#	Name	Variable Label	Regulation	Element	Page
1	FY	The Federal Fiscal Year of the Data	Derived	-	12
2	Version	Data release version	Derived	-	13
3	State	State FIPS Code	I.A	1	14
4	St	State Two-Character Code	Derived	-	15
5	RepDatYr	Reporting Period End Date: Year	I.B-y	2	16
6	RepDatMo	Reporting Period End Date: Month	I.B-m	2	17
7	FIPSCode	Local Agency FIPS Code	I.C	3	18
8	RecNumbr	Record Number (AFCARS ID)	I.D	4	19
9	Sex	Child Sex	II.B	7	20
10	AmlAKN	Child Race American Indian or Alaska Native	II.C.1.a	8	21
11	Asian	Child Race Asian	II.C.1.b	8	22
12	BlkAfrAm	Child Race Black or African American	II.C.1.c	8	23
13	HawaiiPI	Child Race Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	II.C.1.d	8	24
14	White	Child Race White	II.C.1.e	8	25
15	UnToDetm	Child Race Unable to Determine	II.C.1.f	8	26
16	HisOrgan	Child Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity	II.C.2	9	27
17	ClinDis	Child Has Been Clinically Diagnosed with Disability	II.D	10	28
18	MR	Mental Retardation	II.D.a	11	29
19	VisHear	Visually or Hearing Impaired	II.D.b	12	30
20	PhyDis	Physically Disabled	II.D.c	13	31
21	EmotDist	Emotionally Disturbed	II.D.d	14	32
22	OtherMed	Other Medically Diagnosed Condition Requiring Special Care	II.D.e	15	34
23	EverAdpt	Child Has Previously Been Adopted	II.E.1	16	36
24	AgeAdopt	Age on Date of Legal Adoption	II.E.2	17	37
25	TotalRem	Total Number of Removals from Home	III.A.2	19	38
26	NumPlep	Placement Settings in Current FC Episode	III.B.2	24	39
27	ManRem	Removal Manner	IV.A	25	40
28	PhyAbuse	Removal Reason-Physical Abuse	IV.B.01	26	41
29	SexAbuse	Removal Reason-Sexual Abuse	IV.B.02	27	42
30	Neglect	Removal Reason-Neglect	IV.B.03	28	43

Var#	Name	Variable Label	Regulation	Element	Page
31	AAParent	Removal Reason-Alcohol Abuse Parent	IV.B.04	29	44
32	DAParent	Removal Reason-Drug Abuse Parent	IV.B.05	30	45
33	AACHild	Removal Reason-Alcohol Abuse Child	IV.B.06	31	46
34	DACHild	Removal Reason-Drug Abuse Child	IV.B.07	32	47
35	ChilDis	Removal Reason-Child Disability	IV.B.08	33	48
36	ChBehPrb	Removal Reason-Child Behavior Problem	IV.B.09	34	49
37	PrtsDied	Removal Reason-Parent Death	IV.B.10	35	50
38	PrtsJail	Removal Reason-Parent Incarceration	IV.B.11	36	51
39	NoCope	Removal Reason-Caretaker Inability Cope	IV.B.12	37	52
40	Abandmnt	Removal Reason-Abandonment	IV.B.13	38	53
41	Relinqsh	Removal Reason-Relinquishment	IV.B.14	39	54
42	Housing	Removal Reason-Inadequate Housing	IV.B.15	40	55
43	CurPISet	Current Placement Setting	V.A	41	56
44	PlaceOut	The Current Placement Setting is Outside the State	V.B	42	58
45	CaseGoal	Most Recent Case Plan Goal	VI	43	59
46	CtkFamSt	Caretaker Family Structure	VII.A	44	61
47	CTK1YR	1st Principal Caretaker Year of Birth	VII.B.1	45	62
48	CTK2YR	2nd Principal Caretaker Year of Birth	VII.B.2	46	63
49	FosFamSt	Foster Family Structure	IX.A	49	64
50	FCCTK1YR	1st Foster Caretaker Year of Birth	IX.B.1	50	65
51	FCCTK2YR	2nd Foster Caretaker Year of Birth	IX.B.2	51	66
52	RF1AMAKN	1st Foster Caretaker Race American Indian or Alaska Native	IX.C.1.a	52	67
53	RF1ASIAN	1st Foster Caretaker Race Asian	IX.C.1.b	52	68
54	RF1BLKAA	1st Foster Caretaker Race Black or African American	IX.C.1.c	52	69
55	RF1NHOPH	1st Foster Caretaker Race Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	IX.C.1.d	52	70
56	RF1WHITE	1st Foster Caretaker Race White	IX.C.1.e	52	71
57	RF1UTOD	1st Foster Caretaker Race Unable to Determine	IX.C.1.f	52	72
58	HOFCTK1	1st Foster Caretaker Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity	IX.C.1.g	53	73
59	RF2AMAKN	2nd Foster Caretaker Race American Indian or Alaska Native	IX.C.2.a	54	74
60	RF2Asian	2nd Foster Caretaker Race Asian	IX.C.2.b	54	75
61	RF2BLKAA	2nd Foster Caretaker Race Black or African American	IX.C.2.c	54	76

Var#	Name	Variable Label	Regulation	Element	Page
62	RF2NHOPI	2nd Foster Caretaker Race Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	IX.C.2.d	54	77
63	RF2WHITE	2nd Foster Caretaker Race White	IX.C.2.e	54	78
64	RF2UTOD	2nd Foster Caretaker Race Unable to Determine	IX.C.2.f	54	79
65	HOFCKTK2	2nd Foster Caretaker Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity	IX.C.2.g	55	80
66	DISREASN	Discharge Reason	X.B	58	81
67	IVEFC	Title IV-E Foster Care Payments	XI.1	59	82
68	IVEAA	Title IV-E Adoption Assistance	XI.2	60	83
69	IVAAFDC	Title IV-A TANF Payment	XI.3	61	84
70	IVDCHSUP	Title IV-D Child Support Funds	XI.4	62	88
71	XIXMEDCD	Title XIX Medicaid	XI.5	63	86
72	SSIOther	SSI or Social Security Act Benefits	XI.6	64	87
73	NOA	Only State or Other Support	XI.7	65	88
74	FCMntPay	Monthly Foster Care Payment	XII	66	89
75	DOB	Foster Child's Date of Birth	II.A	6	90
76	PedRevDt	Periodic Review Date	I.E	5	91
77	Rem1Dt	Date of First Removal	III.A.1	18	92
78	RemTrnDt	Removal Transaction Date	III.A.5	22	93
79	DLstFCDt	Discharge Date for Previous Removal	III.A.3	20	94
80	LatRemDt	Date of Latest Removal from Home	III.A.4	21	95
81	CurSetDt	Begin Date for Current Placement Setting	III.B.1	23	96
82	DoDFCDt	Date of Discharge from Foster Care	X.A.1	56	97
83	DoDTrnDt	Date that the Discharge was Recorded	X.A.2	57	98
84	TPRMomDt	Termination Date of Parental Rights– Mom	VIII.A	47	99
85	TPRDadDt	Termination Date of Parental Rights– Dad	VIII.B	48	100
86	TPRDate	Date of Parents Loss of Parental Rights	Derived	-	101
87	LatRemLOS	Length (Days) Since Latest Removal	Derived	-	102
88	SettingLOS	Length (Days) in Current Placement Setting	Derived	-	103
89	PreviousLOS	Length (Days) of Previous FC Stay	Derived	-	104
90	LifeLOS	Total Days Stay in FC, All Episodes	Derived	-	105
91	AgeAtStart	Age on the First Day of the Fiscal Year	Derived	-	106
92	AgeAtLatRem	Age at Most Recent Removal/Entry into FC	Derived	-	107
93	AgeAtEnd	Age of Child at the End of FFY, or at Exit	Derived	-	108

Var#	Name	Variable Label	Regulation	Element	Page
94	InAtStart	Child was in FC at the Beginning of the FFY	Derived	-	109
95	InAtEnd	Child was in FC at the End of the Fiscal Year	Derived	-	110
96	Entered	Entered Foster Care During the Fiscal Year	Derived	-	111
97	Exited	Child was Discharged from Foster Care During the Fiscal Year	Derived	-	112
98	Served	Child was in at Start or Entered FC During the FY	Derived	-	113
99	IsWaiting	Child is Waiting for Adoption	Derived	-	114
100	IsTPR	Parents Rights Have Been Terminated	Derived	-	115
101	AgedOut	Youth is No Longer Eligible for Foster Care Due to Age	Derived	-	116
102	RaceEthn	Derived Race and Ethnicity	Derived	-	117
103	Race	Derived Race	Derived	-	118
104	StFCID	State Foster Care Identifier	Derived	-	120
105	PeriodStart	The start of the reporting period.	Derived	-	121
106	PeriodEnd	The end of the reporting period.	Derived	-	122
107	RU13/RU23	Rural Urban Continuum Code	Derived	-	123

NDACAN AFCARS FOSTER CARE VARIABLES – ALPHABETICALLY

Var #	Name	Variable Label	Regulation	Element	Page
31	AAParent	Removal Reason-Alcohol Abuse Parent	IV.B.04	29	44
40	Abandmnt	Removal Reason-Abandonment	IV.B.13	38	53
24	AgeAdopt	Age on Date of Legal Adoption	II.E.2	17	37
93	AgeAtEnd	Age of Child at the End of FFY, or at Exit	Derived	-	108
92	AgeAtLatRem	Age at Most Recent Removal/Entry into FC	Derived	-	107
91	AgeAtStart	Age on the First Day of the Fiscal Year	Derived	-	106
101	AgedOut	Youth is No Longer Eligible for Foster Care Due to Age	Derived	-	116
10	AmlAKN	Child Race American Indian or Alaska Native	II.C.1.a	8	21
11	Asian	Child Race Asian	II.C.1.b	8	22
12	BlkAfrAm	Child Race Black or African American	II.C.1.c	8	23
45	CaseGoal	Most Recent Case Plan Goal	VI	43	59
36	ChBehPrb	Removal Reason-Child Behavior Problem	IV.B.09	34	49
35	ChilDis	Removal Reason-Child Disability	IV.B.08	33	48
17	ClinDis	Child Has Been Clinically Diagnosed with Disability	II.D	10	28
47	CTK1YR	1st Principal Caretaker Year of Birth	VII.B.1	45	62
48	CTK2YR	2nd Principal Caretaker Year of Birth	VII.B.2	46	63
46	CtkFamSt	Caretaker Family Structure	VII.A	44	61
43	CurPISet	Current Placement Setting	V.A	41	56
81	CurSetDt	Begin Date for Current Placement Setting	III.B.1	23	96
34	DACHild	Removal Reason-Drug Abuse Child	IV.B.07	32	47
32	DAParent	Removal Reason-Drug Abuse Parent	IV.B.05	30	45
66	DISREASN	Discharge Reason	X.B	58	81
79	DLstFCDt	Discharge Date for Previous Removal	III.A.3	20	94
75	DOB	Foster Child's Date of Birth	II.A	6	90
82	DoDFCDt	Date of Discharge from Foster Care	X.A.1	56	97
83	DoDTrnDt	Date that the Discharge was Recorded	X.A.2	57	98
21	EmotDist	Emotionally Disturbed	II.D.d	14	32
96	Entered	Entered Foster Care During the Fiscal Year	Derived	-	111
23	EverAdpt	Child Has Previously Been Adopted	II.E.1	16	36

97	Exited	Child was Discharged from Foster Care During the Fiscal Year	Derived	-	112
50	FCCTK1YR	1st Foster Caretaker Year of Birth	IX.B.1	50	65
51	FCCTK2YR	2nd Foster Caretaker Year of Birth	IX.B.2	51	66
74	FCMntPay	Monthly Foster Care Payment	XII	66	89
7	FIPSCode	Local Agency FIPS Code	I.C	3	18
49	FosFamSt	Foster Family Structure	IX.A	49	64
1	FY	The Federal Fiscal Year of the Data	Derived	-	12
13	HawaiiPI	Child Race Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	II.C.1.d	8	24
16	HisOrigin	Child Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity	II.C.2	9	27
58	HOFCTK1	1st Foster Caretaker Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity	IX.C.1.g	53	73
65	HOFCTK2	2nd Foster Caretaker Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity	IX.C.2.g	55	80
42	Housing	Removal Reason-Inadequate Housing	IV.B.15	40	55
95	InAtEnd	Child was in FC at the End of the Fiscal Year	Derived	-	110
94	InAtStart	Child was in FC at the Beginning of the FFY	Derived	-	109
100	IsTPR	Parents Rights Have Been Terminated	Derived	-	115
99	IsWaiting	Child is Waiting for Adoption	Derived	-	114
69	IVAAFDC	Title IV-A TANF Payment	XI.3	61	84
70	IVDCHSUP	Title IV-D Child Support Funds	XI.4	62	85
68	IVEAA	Title IV-E Adoption Assistance	XI.2	60	83
67	IVEFC	Title IV-E Foster Care Payments	XI.1	59	82
80	LatRemDt	Date of Latest Removal from Home	III.A.4	21	95
87	LatRemLOS	Length (Days) Since Latest Removal	Derived	-	102
90	LifeLOS	Total Days Stay in FC, All Episodes	Derived	-	105
27	ManRem	Removal Manner	IV.A	25	40
18	MR	Mental Retardation	II.D.a	11	29
30	Neglect	Removal Reason-Neglect	IV.B.03	28	43
73	NOA	Only State or Other Support	XI.7	65	88
39	NoCope	Removal Reason-Caretaker Inability Cope	IV.B.12	37	52
26	NumPlep	Placement Settings in Current FC Episode	III.B.2	24	39
22	OtherMed	Other Medically Diagnosed Condition Requiring Special Care	II.D.e	15	34
76	PedRevDt	Periodic Review Date	I.E	5	91
106	PeriodEnd	The end of the reporting period.	Derived	-	122
105	PeriodStart	The start of the reporting period.	Derived	-	121
28	PhyAbuse	Removal Reason-Physical Abuse	IV.B.01	26	41

20	PhyDis	Physically Disabled	II.D.c	13	31
44	PlaceOut	The Current Placement Setting is Outside the State	V.B	42	58
89	PreviousLOS	Length (Days) of Previous FC Stay	Derived	-	104
37	PrtsDied	Removal Reason-Parent Death	IV.B.10	35	50
38	PrtsJail	Removal Reason-Parent Incarceration	IV.B.11	36	51
103	Race	Derived Race	Derived	-	118
102	RaceEthn	Derived Race and Ethnicity	Derived	-	117
8	RecNumbr	Record Number (AFCARS ID)	I.D	4	19
41	Relinqsh	Removal Reason-Relinquishment	IV.B.14	39	54
77	Rem1Dt	Date of First Removal	III.A.1	18	92
78	RemTrnDt	Removal Transaction Date	III.A.5	22	93
6	RepDatMo	Reporting Period End Date: Month	I.B-m	2	17
5	RepDatYr	Reporting Period End Date: Year	I.B-y	2	16
52	RF1AMAKN	1st Foster Caretaker Race American Indian or Alaska Native	IX.C.1.a	52	67
53	RF1ASIAN	1st Foster Caretaker Race Asian	IX.C.1.b	52	68
54	RF1BLKAA	1st Foster Caretaker Race Black or African American	IX.C.1.c	52	69
55	RF1NHOPI	1st Foster Caretaker Race Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	IX.C.1.d	52	70
57	RF1UTOD	1st Foster Caretaker Race Unable to Determine	IX.C.1.f	52	72
56	RF1WHITE	1st Foster Caretaker Race White	IX.C.1.e	52	71
59	RF2AMAKN	2nd Foster Caretaker Race American Indian or Alaska Native	IX.C.2.a	54	74
60	RF2Asian	2nd Foster Caretaker Race Asian	IX.C.2.b	54	75
61	RF2BLKAA	2nd Foster Caretaker Race Black or African American	IX.C.2.c	54	76
62	RF2NHOPI	2nd Foster Caretaker Race Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	IX.C.2.d	54	77
64	RF2UTOD	2nd Foster Caretaker Race Unable to Determine	IX.C.2.f	54	79
63	RF2WHITE	2nd Foster Caretaker Race White	IX.C.2.e	54	78
107	RU13/RU23	Rural Urban Continuum Code	Derived	-	123
98	Served	Child was in at Start or Entered FC During the FY	Derived	-	113
88	SettingLOS	Length (Days) in Current Placement Setting	Derived	-	103
9	Sex	Child Sex	II.B	7	20
29	SexAbuse	Removal Reason-Sexual Abuse	IV.B.02	27	42

72	SSIOther	SSI or Social Security Act Benefits	XI.6	64	87
4	St	State Two-Character Code	Derived	-	15
3	State	State FIPS Code	I.A	1	14
104	StFCID	State Foster Care Identifier	Derived	-	119
25	TotalRem	Total Number of Removals from Home	III.A.2	19	38
85	TPRDadDt	Termination Date of Parental Rights– Dad	VIII.B	48	100
86	TPRDate	Date of Parents Loss of Parental Rights	Derived	-	101
84	TPRMomDt	Termination Date of Parental Rights– Mom	VIII.A	47	99
15	UnToDetm	Child Race Unable to Determine	II.C.1.f	8	26
2	Version	Data release version	Derived	-	13
19	VisHear	Visually or Hearing Impaired	II.D.b	12	30
14	White	Child Race White	II.C.1.e	8	25
71	XIXMEDCD	Title XIX Medicaid	XI.5	63	86

AFCARS FOSTER CARE
AB FILE
Code Book

#1 **The Federal Fiscal Year of the Data**

Name: FY

Label: The Federal Fiscal Year of the Data

Definition: The federal fiscal year begins Oct 1 and ends Sep 30. This value will be constant within a Foster Care File. If you append one year to another, this field is useful.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 2-byte Integer

Source: Derived

#2 Dataset file version

Name: Version

Label: The version number for this dataset

Definition: The version of the data files as received and recorded by NDACAN.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 2-byte Integer

Source: Derived

#3 State FIPS Code

Name: State

Label: State FIPS Code

Definition: The 2-digit State FIPS Code.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: I.A

Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #1

Value	Value Label	Value	Value Label
1	Alabama	30	Montana
2	Alaska	31	Nebraska
4	Arizona	32	Nevada
5	Arkansas	33	New Hampshire
6	California	34	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
29	Missouri	72	Puerto Rico

#4 State Two-Character Code

Name: St

Label: State Two-Character Code

Definition: The U.S. Postal Service two-letter abbreviation for the state submitting the report.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Source: Derived

Data Type: NChar(2)

Value	Value Label	Value	Value Label
AK	Alaska	MT	Montana
AL	Alabama	NC	North Carolina
AR	Arkansas	ND	North Dakota
AZ	Arizona	NE	Nebraska
CA	California	NH	New Hampshire
CO	Colorado	NJ	New Jersey
CT	Connecticut	NM	New Mexico
DC	District of Columbia	NV	Nevada
DE	Delaware	NY	New York
FL	Florida	OH	Ohio
GA	Georgia	OK	Oklahoma
HI	Hawaii	OR	Oregon
IA	Iowa	PA	Pennsylvania
ID	Idaho	PR	Puerto Rico
IL	Illinois	RI	Rhode Island
IN	Indiana	SC	South Carolina
KS	Kansas	SD	South Dakota
KY	Kentucky	TN	Tennessee
LA	Louisiana	TX	Texas
MA	Massachusetts	UT	Utah
MD	Maryland	VA	Virginia
ME	Maine	VT	Vermont
MI	Michigan	WA	Washington
MN	Minnesota	WI	Wisconsin
MO	Missouri	WV	West Virginia
MS	Mississippi	WY	Wyoming

#5 Reporting Period End Date: Year

Name: RepDatYr

Label: Reporting Period End Date: Year

Definition: The Federal Fiscal Year of the reporting period.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: I.B-y
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #2

#6 Reporting Period End Date: Month

Name: RepDatMo

Label: Reporting Period End Date: Month

Definition: The last month of the reporting period. Reporting period end dates are either March or September of the Federal Fiscal Year (Oct 1 - Sep 30).

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: I.B-m
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #2

#7 Local Agency FIPS Code

Name: FIPSCode

Label: Local Agency FIPS Code

Definition: The 5-digit Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) of the county or equivalent unit which has responsibility for the case. This information is suppressed and recoded if the number of records in each FIPS code is less than 700.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 4-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: I.C

Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #3

Value Value Label

8 Fewer than 700 cases in the County

9 Missing/Unknown

#8 Record Number (AFCARS ID)

Name: RecNumbr

Label: Record Number (AFCARS ID)

Definition: The sequential number which the State title IV-E agency uses to transmit data to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) or a unique number which follows the child as long as he or she is in foster care.

Guidance: The same number is unique to the child and remains the child's number as long as the family/child resides within the same state.

Data Type NVarChar(12)

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: I.D
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #4

#9 Child Sex

Name: Sex

Label: Child Sex

Definition: The biological sex of the child as indicated.

Guidance: "Other" or "unknown" is mapped to missing/blank/null.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: II.B
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #7

Value	Value Label
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1	Male
---	------

2	Female
---	--------

#10 Child Race American Indian or Alaska Native

Name: AmlAKN

Label: Child Race American Indian or Alaska Native

Definition: Having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America) and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.

Guidance: This field indicates the child identifies himself or herself as a member of this race, or the parent identifies the child as a member of this race.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: II.C.1.a
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #8

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#11 Child Race Asian

Name: Asian

Label: Child Race Asian

Definition: 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.

Guidance: This field indicates the child identifies himself or herself as a member of this race, or the parent identifies the child as a member of this race.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: II.C.1.b
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #8

Value	Value Label
--------------	--------------------

0	Does Not Apply
---	----------------

1	Applies
---	---------

#12 Child Race Black or African American

Name: BlkAfrAm

Label: Child Race Black or African American

Definition: Having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa.

Guidance: This field indicates the child identifies himself or herself as a member of this race, or the parent identifies the child as a member of this race.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: II.C.1.c
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #8

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#13 **Child Race Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander**

Name: HawaiiPI

Label: Child Race Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Definition: Having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

Guidance: This field indicates the child identifies himself or herself as a member of this race, or the parent identifies the child as a member of this race.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: II.C.1.d
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #8

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#14 Child Race White

Name: White

Label: Child Race White

Definition: Having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

Guidance: This field indicates the child identifies himself or herself as a member of this race, or the parent identifies the child as a member of this race.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: II.C.1.e
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #8

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#15 Child Race Unable to Determine

Name: UnToDetm

Label: Child Race Unable to Determine

Definition: This item includes:

- 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 incapacitated or unwilling to identify the child’s race.

If one of the races is selected (coded as 1), this value should not be selected.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Note: The child race elements were revised in AFCARS 2020 to include unknown, abandoned, and declined. This element should be interpreted with caution, and researchers should confirm that the child lacks other racial identifiers (variables #10-14).

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: II.C.1.f
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #8

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#16 Child Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity

Name: HisOrigin

Label: Child Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity

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.

Guidance: “Unable to Determine” is used when the child is very young or is severely disabled and no person is available to determine whether the child is Hispanic or Latino. “Unable to determine” is also used if the parent, relative or guardian is unwilling to identify the child’s ethnicity.

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.

Origin can be viewed 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.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: II.C.2
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #9

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
2	No
3	Unable to Determine

#17 Child Has Been Clinically Diagnosed with Disability

Name: ClinDis

Label: Child Has Been Clinically Diagnosed with Disability

Definition: “Yes” indicates that a qualified professional has clinically diagnosed the child as having at least one of the disabilities listed in items #19 through #22.

“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.

Guidance: See AFCARS Technical Bulletin #2 for more information on this variable: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/afcars_tb2.pdf.

Note: This element is revised in AFCARS 2020 and termed Health Conditions. See AFCARS Technical Bulletin #20 page 24, element 23 (b)(10) for the full new definition.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: II.D
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #10

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
2	No
3	Not Yet Determined

#18 Mental Retardation

Name: MR

Label: Mental Retardation

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.

Guidance: See AFCARS Technical Bulletin #2. This item includes:

- Downs Syndrome
- Borderline Intellectual Functioning
- Hydrocephalus
- Microcephaly
- Mental Retardation (all degrees)

Note: This element is termed Intellectual Disability in AFCARS 2020. See AFCARS Technical Bulletin #20 page 26, element 24 (b)(10)(i) for the full new definition.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: II.D.a
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #11

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#19 Visually or Hearing Impaired

Name: VisHear

Label: Visually or Hearing Impaired

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.

Guidance: See AFCARS Technical Bulletin #20 Appendix B.

- 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

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: II.D.b
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #12

Note: This element is revised in AFCARS 2020. See Technical Bulletin #20, visual impairment and blindness (b)(10)(iii) and hearing impairment and deafness (b)(10)(iv), for new definitions.

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#20 Physically Disabled

Name: PhyDis

Label: Physically Disabled

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.

Guidance: See AFCARS Technical Bulletin #2. This item 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

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: II.D.c
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #13

Note: This element is revised in AFCARS 2020. See Technical Bulletin #20, Orthopedic impairment or other physical condition (b)(10)(v).

Value Value Label

0 Does Not Apply

1 Applies

#21 Emotionally Disturbed

Name: EmotDist

Label: Emotionally Disturbed

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-V.]

Guidance: See AFCARS Technical Bulletin #2. This item 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
 - Schizophreniform Disorder
 - Schizoaffective Disorder
- Somatoform Disorder
- Tourette Syndrome

Note: AFCARS 2020 is revised to include elements for mental/emotional disorders (b)(10)(vi), attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (b)(10)(vii), and serious mental disorders (b)(10)(viii); all of which are transformed to the AFCARS 1993 emotionally disturbed element.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: II.D.d
 Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #14

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#22 Other Medically Diagnosed Condition Requiring Special Care

Name: OtherMed

Label: Other Medically Diagnosed Condition Requiring Special Care

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.

Guidance: See AFCARS Technical Bulletin #2. This item includes:

- Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS)
- Aplastic Anemia
- Asthma
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder: Asperger's Syndrome
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder: Pervasive Developmental Disorders Not Otherwise Specified
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder: Autistic Disorder
- 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
- Klinefelter's syndrome
- Learning Disability
- Leukemia
- Liver disease
- Lupus
- Malignant Neoplasms (Malignant tumors)
- Misplaced facial feature
- Organic Brain Syndrome
- Pancreatic Disease
- Rett Disorder
- Sarcomas
- Seizure Disorder
- Sickle cell anemia
- Shaken Infant Syndrome
- Late Effects of Tuberculosis (ICD-9: 137)
- Nutritional deficiency

Note: AFCARS 2020 is revised to include elements for developmental delay (b)(10)(ix), developmental disability (b)(10)(x), and other diagnosed condition (b)(10)(xi); all of which are transformed to this AFCARS 1993 element.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: II.D.e
 Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #15

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#23 Child Has Previously Been Adopted

Name: EverAdpt

Label: Child Has Previously Been Adopted

Definition: Indicates that the child has previously been legally adopted.

Guidance: This value is “yes” only if a child has been adopted before the current/most recent removal episode.

“Unable to Determine”: the child has been abandoned, or the child’s parent(s) are otherwise not available to provide the information.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: II.E.1
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #16

Value	Value Label
1	Yes
2	No
3	Unable to Determine

#24 Age on Date of Legal Adoption

Name: AgeAdopt

Label: Age on Date of Legal Adoption

Definition: Category reflecting age at time of prior adoption.

Guidance: The response “not applicable” is only used if the child is known to have not been previously adopted (i.e., the response to variable 24 is “no”).

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: II.E.2
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #17

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

#25 Total Number of Removals from Home

Name: TotalRem

Label: Total Number of Removals from Home

Definition: The number of times the child was removed from home, including the current removal.

Guidance: Removal episodes that are less than 24-hours are never included in the removal count.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: III.A.2
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #19

#26 Number of Placement Settings in Current FC Episode

Name: NumPlep

Label: Number of Placement Settings in Current FC Episode

Definition: The number of places the child has lived, including the current setting, during the current removal episode.

Guidance: A new placement setting results when the foster care setting changes (for example, when a child moves from one foster family home to another or to a group home or institution).

There are certain temporary living conditions that are not placements but rather represent a temporary absence from the child's ongoing foster care placement. As such, the following temporary absences are not included in the calculation of the number of previous placement settings for foster care element #24:

- Visitation with a sibling, relative, or other caretaker (e.g., pre-placement visits with a subsequent foster care provider or pre-adoptive parents)
- Hospitalization for medical treatment, acute psychiatric episodes or diagnosis
- Respite care
- Day or summer camps
- Trial home visits
- Runaway episodes (CWPM, 1.2B.7, Question #21)
- Hospitalizations that exceed an established number of days (generally more than 15 days) are included in the placement count.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: III.B.2
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #24

#27 Removal Manner

Name: ManRem

Label: Removal Manner

Definition: Manner of removal from home for current episode

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.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Note: This element is not included in AFCARS 2020. As most states have begun data collection to comply with AFCARS 2020, this element will largely be missing.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IV.A
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #25

Value	Value Label
1	Voluntary
2	Court Ordered
3	Not Yet Determined

#28 Removal Reason-Physical Abuse

Name: PhyAbuse

Label: Removal Reason-Physical Abuse

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.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Note: This element is newly revised in AFCARS 2020, now termed Child and Family Circumstances at Removal – Physical Abuse (d)(4)(iii). In AFCARS 2020, all circumstances that were present at the time of the child's removal, including but not limited to the specific reason(s) that a child was removed, are included.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IV.B.01
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #26

Value	Value Label
0	Condition Does Not Apply
1	Condition Applies

#29 Removal Reason-Sexual Abuse

Name: SexAbuse

Label: Removal Reason-Sexual Abuse

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.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Note: This element is newly revised in AFCARS 2020, now termed Child and Family Circumstances at Removal – Sexual Abuse (d)(4)(iv). In AFCARS 2020, all circumstances that were present at the time of the child's removal, including but not limited to the specific reason(s) that a child was removed, are included.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IV.B.02
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #27

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#30 Removal Reason-Neglect

Name: Neglect

Label: Removal Reason-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.

Guidance: Domestic violence and mental/emotional abuse should be mapped to this element.

Note: This element is newly revised in AFCARS 2020, now termed Child and Family Circumstances at Removal - Neglect (d)(4)(vi). In AFCARS 2020, all circumstances that were present at the time of the child's removal, including but not limited to the specific reason(s) that a child was removed, are included.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IV.B.03
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #28

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#31 Removal Reason-Alcohol Abuse Parent

Name: AAParent

Label: Removal Reason-Alcohol Abuse Parent

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.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Note: This element is newly revised in AFCARS 2020, now termed Child and Family Circumstances at Removal – Caretaker’s Alcohol Use (d)(4)(xi). In AFCARS 2020, all circumstances that were present at the time of the child’s removal, including but not limited to the specific reason(s) that a child was removed, are included.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IV.B.04
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #29

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#32 Removal Reason-Drug Abuse Parent

Name: DAParent

Label: Removal Reason-Drug Abuse Parent

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.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Note: This element is newly revised in AFCARS 2020, now termed Child and Family Circumstances at Removal – Caretaker’s Drug Use (d)(4)(xii). In AFCARS 2020, all circumstances that were present at the time of the child’s removal, including but not limited to the specific reason(s) that a child was removed, are included.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IV.B.05
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #30

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#33 Removal Reason-Alcohol Abuse Child

Name: AACChild

Label: Removal Reason-Alcohol Abuse Child

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.

Guidance: Includes children exposed in utero to alcohol.

Note: This element is newly revised in AFCARS 2020, now termed Child and Family Circumstances at Removal – Child Alcohol Use (d)(4)(xiii). In AFCARS 2020, all circumstances that were present at the time of the child’s removal, including but not limited to the specific reason(s) that a child was removed, are included.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IV.B.06
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #31

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#34 Removal Reason-Drug Abuse Child

Name: DACHild

Label: Removal Reason-Drug Abuse Child

Definition: As a condition associated with a child's removal from home and contact with the foster care system, the child's use of drugs that is not of a temporary nature. Includes infants exposed to drugs during pregnancy.

Guidance: Includes children exposed in utero to harmful drugs. This is not limited to narcotics.

Note: This element is newly revised in AFCARS 2020, now termed Child and Family Circumstances at Removal – Child Drug Use (d)(4)(xiv). In AFCARS 2020, all circumstances that were present at the time of the child's removal, including but not limited to the specific reason(s) that a child was removed, are included.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IV.B.07
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #32

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#35 Removal Reason-Child Disability

Name: ChilDis

Label: Removal Reason-Child Disability

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.

Guidance: Include only if the disability was one of the factors which led to the child's removal.

Note: This element is newly revised in AFCARS 2020, now termed Child and Family Circumstances at Removal - Diagnosed Condition (d)(4)(xvii). In AFCARS 2020, all circumstances that were present at the time of the child's removal, including but not limited to the specific reason(s) that a child was removed, are included. **Data Type:** 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IV.B.08
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #33

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#36 Removal Reason-Child Behavior Problem

Name: ChBehPrb

Label: Removal Reason-Child Behavior Problem

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 another placement.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Note: This element is newly revised in AFCARS 2020, now termed Child and Family Circumstances at Removal – Child Behavior Problem (d)(4)(xx). In AFCARS 2020, all circumstances that were present at the time of the child's removal, including but not limited to the specific reason(s) that a child was removed, are included.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IV.B.09
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #34

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#37 Removal Reason-Parent Death

Name: PrtsDied

Label: Removal Reason-Parent Death

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.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Note: This element is newly revised in AFCARS 2020, now termed Child and Family Circumstances at Removal – Death of a Caretaker (d)(4)(xx). In AFCARS 2020, all circumstances that were present at the time of the child's removal, including but not limited to the specific reason(s) that a child was removed, are included.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IV.B.10
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #35

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#38 Removal Reason-Parent Incarceration

Name: PrtsJail

Label: Removal Reason-Parent Incarceration

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.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Note: This element is newly revised in AFCARS 2020, now termed Child and Family Circumstances at Removal – Incarceration of Caretaker (d)(4)(xxii). In AFCARS 2020, all circumstances that were present at the time of the child's removal, including but not limited to the specific reason(s) that a child was removed, are included.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IV.B.11
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #36

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#39 Removal Reason-Caretaker Inability Cope

Name: NoCope

Label: Removal Reason-Caretaker Inability Cope

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.

Guidance: Can be marked “applies” if none of the other conditions apply.

Note: This element is newly revised in AFCARS 2020, now termed Child and Family Circumstances at Removal. In AFCARS 2020, all circumstances that were present at the time of the child’s removal, including but not limited to the specific reason(s) that a child was removed, are included. AFCARS 2020 includes two new elements that are mapped to this element: Caretaker’s Significant Impairment – Physical/Emotional (d)(4)(xxiii) and Caretaker’s Significant Impairment – Cognitive (d)(4)(xxiv).

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IV.B.12
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #37

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#40 Removal Reason-Abandonment

Name: Abandmnt

Label: Removal Reason-Abandonment

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 known.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Note: This element is newly revised in AFCARS 2020, now termed Child and Family Circumstances at Removal –Abandonment (d)(4)(ix). In AFCARS 2020, all circumstances that were present at the time of the child’s removal, including but not limited to the specific reason(s) that a child was removed, are included.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IV.B.13
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #38

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#41 Removal Reason-Relinquishment

Name: Relinqsh

Label: Removal Reason-Relinquishment

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.

Guidance: Includes children entering under a “Safe Haven” program.

Note: This element is newly revised in AFCARS 2020, now termed Child and Family Circumstances at Removal – Voluntary Relinquishment for Adoption (d)(4)(xxvi). In AFCARS 2020, all circumstances that were present at the time of the child’s removal, including but not limited to the specific reason(s) that a child was removed, are included.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IV.B.14
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #39

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#42 Removal Reason-Inadequate Housing

Name: Housing

Label: Removal Reason-Inadequate 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.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Note: This element is newly revised in AFCARS 2020, now termed Child and Family Circumstances at Removal – Inadequate housing (d)(4)(xxv). In AFCARS 2020, all circumstances that were present at the time of the child's removal, including but not limited to the specific reason(s) that a child was removed, are included.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IV.B.15
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #40

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#43 Current Placement Setting

Name: CurPISet

Label: Current Placement Setting

Definition: The type of setting in which the child currently lives.

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, even if there is no payment.

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 childcare 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: childcare institutions; residential treatment facilities; maternity homes; etc. An institution is larger than a group home, caring for more than 12 children.

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 but, under State agency supervision, has been returned to the principal caretaker for a limited and specified period of time.

Guidance: If, at the time the agency obtains responsibility for care and placement of the child, the child is on runaway status and remains a runaway as of the end of the report period, then “runaway” is reported for this element.

Note: The responses to this element are revised and expanded in AFCARS 2020, living arrangement types (e)(4).

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: V.A
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #41

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

#44 The Current Placement Setting is Outside the State

Name: PlaceOut

Label: The Current Placement Setting is Outside the State

Definition: “Yes” indicates that the current placement setting is located outside of the State title IV–E agency making the report.

“No” indicates that the child continues to reside within the title IV–E agency making the report.

Guidance: Only the State with the placement and care responsibility for the child should include the child in the AFCARS reporting system.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: V.B
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #42

Value	Value Label
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1	Yes
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2	No
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#45 Most Recent Case Plan Goal

Name: CaseGoal

Label: Most Recent Case Plan Goal

Definition: The most recent case plan goal for the child based on the latest review of the child's case plan—whether a court review or an administrative review:

1. **Reunify with Parents or Principal Caretaker(s)**—The goal is to keep the child in foster care for a limited time to enable the agency to work with the family with whom the child had been living prior to entering foster care in order to reestablish a stable family environment.
2. **Live with Other Relatives**—The goal is to have the child live permanently with a relative or relatives other than the ones from whom the child was removed. This could include guardianship by a relative(s).
3. **Adoption**—The goal is to facilitate the child's adoption by relatives, foster parents or other unrelated individuals.
4. **Long Term Foster Care**—Because of specific factors or conditions, it is not appropriate or possible to return the child home or place her or him for adoption, and the goal is to maintain the child in a long-term foster care placement.
5. **Emancipation**—Because of specific factors or conditions, it is not appropriate or possible to return the child home, have a child live permanently with a relative or have the child be adopted; therefore, the goal is to maintain the child in a foster care setting until the child reaches the age of majority.
6. **Guardianship**—The goal is to facilitate the child's placement with an agency or unrelated caretaker, with whom he or she was not living prior to entering foster care, and whom a court of competent jurisdiction has designated as legal guardian.
7. **Case Plan Goal Not Yet Established**—No case plan goal has yet been established other than the care and protection of the child.

Guidance: "Reunification" includes the return of the child to a non-custodial parent. If the youth will be in foster care until the age of 18 and no other goal is currently applicable, and the youth is at least 14 years of age, and has a permanent connection with an adult, this is reported as a goal of "emancipation." If there is no adult with a permanent connection to the child, this is reported as a goal of "long-term foster care."

If there is no case plan goal documented within 60 days of removal, this element is reported as blank.

Goals for relatives to obtain guardianship are reported as "live with other relative(s)."

Note: The responses for this element, now termed permanency plan (f)(1), are revised in AFCARS 2020.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: VI
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #43

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

#46 Caretaker Family Structure

Name: CtkFamSt

Label: Caretaker Family Structure

Definition: The type of adult caretaker from whom the child was removed.

Guidance: "Unable to Determine": the child has been abandoned, or the child's caretakers are otherwise unknown.

"Married" includes separated.

Note: This element is no longer collected under AFCARS 2020. As most states have begun data collection to comply with AFCARS 2020, this element will largely be missing.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: VII.A
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #44

Value	Value Label
1	Married Couple
2	Unmarried Couple
3	Single Female
4	Single Male
5	Unable to Determine

#47 1st Principal Caretaker Year of Birth

Name: CTK1YR

Label: 1st Principal Caretaker Year of Birth

Definition: The year of birth for the 1st Principal Caretaker.

Note: Elements 47-48, year of birth, are revised in AFCARS 2020 to change from reporting on the primary caretaker in AFCARS 1993 to the parent or legal guardian.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 2-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: VII.B.1
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #45

#48 2nd Principal Caretaker Year of Birth

Name: CTK2YR

Label: 2nd Principal Caretaker Year of Birth

Definition: The year of birth for the 2nd Principal Caretaker (if any).

Note: Elements 47-48, year of birth, are revised in AFCARS 2020 to change from reporting on the primary caretaker in AFCARS 1993 to the parent or legal guardian.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 2-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: VII.B.2
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #46

#49 Foster Family Structure

Name: FosFamSt

Label: Foster Family Structure

Definition: The category that best describes the nature of the foster parents with whom the child is living in the current foster care episode.

Guidance: Not applicable is reported when the child is in a non-foster home setting.

Note: Responses to this element are revised in AFCARS 2020.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IX.A
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #49

Value	Value Label
0	Not Applicable
1	Married Couple
2	Unmarried Couple
3	Single Female
4	Single Male

#50 1st Foster Caretaker Year of Birth

Name: FCCTK1YR

Label: 1st Foster Caretaker Year of Birth

Definition: The year of birth for the first foster parent.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 2-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IX.B.1
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #50

#51 2nd Foster Caretaker Year of Birth

Name: FCCTK2YR

Label: 2nd Foster Caretaker Year of Birth

Definition: The year of birth for the second foster parent.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 2-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IX.B.2
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #51

#52 1st Foster Caretaker Race American Indian or Alaska Native

Name: RF1AMAKN

Label: 1st Foster Caretaker Race American Indian or Alaska Native

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.

Guidance: In general, a person's race is determined by how they define themselves or by how others define them. More than one race can be reported.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IX.C.1.A
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #52

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#53 1st Foster Caretaker Race Asian

Name: RF1ASIAN

Label: 1st Foster Caretaker Race 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.

Guidance: In general, a person's race is determined by how they define themselves or by how others define them. More than one race can be reported.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IX.C.1.b
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #52

Value	Value Label
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0	Does Not Apply
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1	Applies
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#54 1st Foster Caretaker Race Black or African American

Name: RF1BLKAA

Label: 1st Foster Caretaker Race Black or African American

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

Guidance: In general, a person's race is determined by how they define themselves or by how others define them. More than one race can be reported.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IX.C.1.c
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #52

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#55 1st Foster Caretaker Race Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Name: RF1NHOP1

Label: 1st Foster Caretaker Race Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Definition: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

Guidance: In general, a person's race is determined by how they define themselves or by how others define them. More than one race can be reported.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IX.C.1.d
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #52

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#56 1st Foster Caretaker Race White

Name: RF1WHITE

Label: 1st Foster Caretaker Race White

Definition: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

Guidance: In general, a person's race is determined by how they define themselves or by how others define them. More than one race can be reported.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IX.C.1.e
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #52

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#57 1st Foster Caretaker Race Unable to Determine

Name: RF1UTOD

Label: 1st Foster Caretaker Race Unable to Determine

Definition: “Unable to Determine” is used only when a foster parent is unwilling to identify his or her race.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IX.C.1.f
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #52

Value Value Label

0	No
1	Yes

#58 1st Foster Caretaker Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity

Name: HOFCKTK1

Label: 1st Foster Caretaker Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity

Definition: The ethnicity for the first foster parent. 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.

Guidance: Use "Unable to Determine" only when a foster parent is unwilling to identify his or her ethnicity.

Not applicable is reported when the child is in a non-foster home setting.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IX.C.1.g
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #53

Value	Value Label
0	Not Applicable
1	Yes
2	No
3	Unable to Determine

#59 2nd Foster Caretaker Race American Indian or Alaska Native

Name: RF2AMAKN

Label: 2nd Foster Caretaker Race American Indian or Alaska Native

Definition: The race for the second foster parent (if applicable). 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.

Guidance: In general, a person's race is determined by how they define themselves or by how others define them. More than one race can be reported.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IX.C.2.A
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #54

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#60 2nd Foster Caretaker Race Asian

Name: RF2ASIAN

Label: 2nd Foster Caretaker Race Asian

Definition: The race for the second foster parent (if applicable). 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.

Guidance: In general, a person's race is determined by how they define themselves or by how others define them. More than one race can be reported.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IX.C.2.b
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #54

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#61 2nd Foster Caretaker Race Black or African American

Name: RF2BLKAA

Label: 2nd Foster Caretaker Race Black or African American

Definition: The race for the second foster parent (if applicable). A person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa.

Guidance: In general, a person's race is determined by how they define themselves or by how others define them. More than one race can be reported.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IX.C.2.c
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #54

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#62 2nd Foster Caretaker Race Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Name: RF2NHOP1

Label: 2nd Foster Caretaker Race Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Definition: The race for the second foster parent (if applicable). A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

Guidance: In general, a person's race is determined by how they define themselves or by how others define them. More than one race can be reported.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IX.C.2.d
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #54

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#63 2nd Foster Caretaker Race White

Name: RF2WHITE

Label: 2nd Foster Caretaker Race White

Definition: The race for the second foster parent (if applicable). A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa.

Guidance: In general, a person's race is determined by how they define themselves or by how others define them. More than one race can be reported.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IX.C.2.e
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #54

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#64 2nd Foster Caretaker Race Unable to Determine

Name: RF2UTOD

Label: 2nd Foster Caretaker Race Unable to Determine

Definition: “Unable to Determine” is used only when a foster parent is unwilling to identify his or her race.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IX.C.2.f
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #54

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#65 2nd Foster Caretaker Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity

Name: HOFCKTK2

Label: 2nd Foster Caretaker Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity

Definition: The ethnicity for the second foster parent, if applicable. 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.

Guidance: Use "Unable to Determine" only when a foster parent is unwilling to identify his or her ethnicity.

Not applicable is reported when the child is in a non-foster home setting.

Not applicable is also reported when the child is placed in a foster home of a single parent.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: IX.C.2.g
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #55

Value	Value Label
0	Not Applicable
1	Yes
2	No
3	Unable to Determine

#66 Discharge Reason

Name: DISREASN

Label: Discharge Reason

Definition: This item includes:

1. **Reunification with Parents or Primary Caretakers:** The child was returned to his or her principal caretaker(s)' home.
2. **Living with Other Relatives:** The child went to live with a relative other than the one from whose home he or she was removed.
3. **Adoption:** The child was legally adopted.
4. **Emancipation:** The child reached majority according to the law by virtue of age, marriage, etc.
5. **Guardianship:** Permanent custody of the child was awarded to an individual. Includes both relative and non-relative guardianships.
6. **Transfer to Another Agency:** Responsibility for the care of the child was awarded to another agency: either in or outside of the State or Tribal service area.
7. **Runaway:** The child ran away from the foster care placement.
8. **Death of Child:** The child died while in foster care.

Guidance: "Runaway" is only indicated if the agency has been dismissed of responsibility for care and placement.

Note: This element was revised in AFCARS 2020 and is now termed exit reason. The definition for **Reunify with parent(s)/ legal guardian(s)** has changed to now include reunification with the parent or legal guardian from whom the child was **not removed**.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: X.B
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #58

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

#67 Title IV-E Foster Care Payments

Name: IVEFC

Label: Title IV-E Foster Care Payments

Definition: Title IV-E foster care maintenance payments are being paid on behalf of the child.

Guidance: Included if at any time during the six-month reporting period IV-E payments were made.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: XI.1
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #59

Value	Value Label
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0	Condition Does Not Apply
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1	Condition Applies
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#68 Title IV-E Adoption Assistance

Name: IVEAA

Label: Title IV-E Adoption Assistance

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.

Guidance: Included if at any time during the six-month reporting period IV-E adoption assistance payments were made.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: XI.2
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #60

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#69 Title IV-A TANF Payment

Name: IVAAFDC

Label: Title IV-A TANF Payment

Definition: Child is living with relative(s) whose source of support is a Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) payment for the child.

Guidance: Included if at any time during the six-month reporting period IV-A TANF payments were made.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: XI.3
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #61

Value Value Label

0 Does Not Apply

1 Applies

#70 Title IV-D Child Support Funds

Name: IVDChSup

Label: Title IV-D Child Support Funds

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.

Guidance: Included if at any time during the six-month reporting period IV-D Child Support payments were made.

Note: In AFCARS 2020, title IV-D child support funds are categorized as other financial support. As most states have begun data collection to comply with AFCARS 2020, this element will largely be missing.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: XI.4
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #62

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#71 Title XIX Medicaid

Name: XIXMedcd

Label: Title XIX Medicaid

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

Guidance: Included if at any time during the six-month reporting period if the child is eligible for Medicaid.

Note: In AFCARS 2020, title XIX Medicaid funds are categorized as other financial support. As most states have begun data collection to comply with AFCARS 2020, this element will largely be missing.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: XI.5
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #63

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#72 SSI or Social Security Act Benefits

Name: SSIOther

Label: SSI or Social Security Act Benefits

Definition: Child is receiving support under Title XVI or other Social Security Act titles not included in this section.

Guidance: Included if at any time during the six-month reporting period, the child is eligible for SSI benefits.

Note: In AFCARS 2020, SSI and social security benefits are categorized as other financial support. As most states have begun data collection to comply with AFCARS 2020, this element will largely be missing.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: XI.6
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #64

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#73 Only State or Other Support

Name: NOA

Label: Only State or Other Support

Definition: The child is receiving support only from the Title IV-E Agency, or from some other source (federal or non-federal) that is not included in the previously listed payments.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Note: In AFCARS 2020, types of financial assistance elements are revised. As most states have begun data collection to comply with AFCARS 2020, this element will largely be missing.

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: XI.7
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #65

Value	Value Label
0	Does Not Apply
1	Applies

#74 Monthly Foster Care Payment

Name: FCMntPay

Label: Monthly Foster Care Payment

Definition: The monthly payment paid on behalf of the child regardless of source (i.e., Federal, State, county, municipality, tribal, and private payments). If title IV–E is paid on behalf of the child, the amount indicated should be the total computable amount. If the payment made on behalf of the child is not the same each month, indicate the amount of the last full monthly payment made during the reporting period. If no monthly payment has been made during the period, the value should be all zeros.

Guidance: This item includes:

- The amount of the last full monthly payment paid in the AFCARS report period.
- A blank in this field indicates that the title IV-E agency does not have the information for this foster care element or that a payment was not made.
- Ideally, the amount should also reflect the child’s current living arrangement as of the end of the report period ("CurPISet"). 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.
- The payment 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).

Note: This element is no longer included in AFCARS 2020. As most states have begun data collection to comply with AFCARS 2020, this element will largely be missing.

Data Type: 4-byte Integer

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: XII
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #66

#75 Child's Date of Birth

Name: DOB

Label: Child's Date of Birth

Definition: Month, day, and year of the child's birth.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: Date/Time

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: II.A
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #6

#76 Periodic Review Date

Name: PedRevDt

Label: Periodic Review Date

Definition: Date of most recent periodic review (if applicable).

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: Date/Time

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: I.E
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #5

#77 **Date of First Removal**

Name: Rem1Dt

Label: Date of First Removal

Definition: Month, day and year the child was removed from home for the first time for purpose of placement in a foster care setting.

Guidance: If a child is on runaway status at the time the agency obtained responsibility for placement and care and is still on runaway status at the end of the report period, then this date is the date the State gained responsibility.

If the first-ever removal from home is an episode that was 24-hours or less in duration, the date of that episode is never included as a first removal date.

If in the first-ever removal the child's first placement was a detention facility or a hospital and the child subsequently enters a foster care setting within the scope of title IV-E, the date of the foster care placement is the date for the first removal from home.

Data Type: Date/Time

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: III.A.1
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #18

#78 Removal Transaction Date

Name: RemTrnDt

Label: Removal Transaction Date

Definition: A computer-generated date which accurately indicates the month, day and year the response to “Date of Latest Removal from Home” was entered into the information system.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: Date/Time

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: III.A.5
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #22

#79 Discharge Date for Previous Removal

Name: DLstFCDt

Label: Discharge Date for Previous Removal

Definition: For children with prior removals, this is the month, day and year they were discharged from care for the episode immediately prior to the current episode.

Guidance: The date of discharge is the date the agency no longer has care, placement, or supervision of the child.

If there was a prior removal episode that was 24-hours or less, and the child later re-enters foster care, the end date of the previous 24-hour episode is not reported for this element.

Data Type: Date/Time

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: III.A.3
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #20

#80 Date of Latest Removal from Home

Name: LatRemDt

Label: Date of Latest Removal from Home

Definition: Month, day and year the child was last removed (current removal) from his/her home for the purpose of being placed in foster care.

Guidance: If a child is on runaway status at the time the agency obtains responsibility for placement and care, the child is to be included in the AFCARS reporting population. If at the end of the report period the child is still on runaway status, the date of removal is the date the agency obtained placement and care responsibility.

Data Type: Date/Time

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: III.A.4
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #21

#81 Begin Date for Current Placement Setting

Name: CurSetDt

Label: Begin Date for Current Placement Setting

Definition: Month, day and year the child moved into the current foster home, facility, residence, shelter, institution, etc. for purposes of continued foster care.

Guidance: The date does not change when there is a change in status of the same placement setting (e.g., a foster home that becomes a pre-adoptive home).

If the child's only "placement" is as a runaway, then the date of removal and placement date will be the same.

Data Type: Date/Time

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: III.B.1
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #23

#82 Date of Discharge from Foster Care

Name: DoDFCDt

Label: Date of Discharge from Foster Care

Definition: The month, day and year the child was discharged from foster care. If the child has not been discharged from care, the value will be blank.

Guidance A discharge represents that point in time when the child is no longer in foster care under the care and responsibility or supervision of the title IV-E agency.

For those title IV-E agencies that exercise the option to extend assistance to youth aged 18 or older: The AFCARS foster care removal episode does not end until the youth is no longer receiving a title IV-E foster care maintenance payment.

Data Type: Date/Time

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: X.A.1
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #56

#83 Date that the Discharge Was Recorded

Name: DoDTrnDt

Label: Date that the Discharge Was Recorded

Definition: Date that the discharge was recorded. The date is a system generated date.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: Date/Time

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: X.A.2
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #57

#84 Termination Date of Parental Rights-Mom

- Name:** TPRMomDt
- Label:** Termination Date of Parental Rights-Mom
- Definition:** The month, day and year that the court terminated the mother's parental rights, also known as the termination of parental rights (TPR) date. If the mother is known to be deceased, this is the date of death.
- Guidance:** If the parent was the legal mother as a result of having adopted the child, the legal mother's TPR date is reported.
- Data Type:** Date/Time
- Source:** 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: VIII.A
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #47

#85 Termination Date of Parental Rights-Dad

Name: TPRDadDt

Label: Termination Date of Parental Rights-Dad

Definition: The month, day and year that the court terminated the father's parental rights, also known as the termination of parental rights (TPR) date. If the father is known to be deceased, this is the date of death.

Guidance: If the parent was the legal father as a result of having adopted the child, the legal father's TPR date is reported.

Data Type: Date/Time

Source: 45 CFR 1355, Appendix A Element: VIII.A
Guide to an AFCARS Assessment Review, Appendix C: #48

#86 Date of Parents Loss of Parental Rights

Name: TPRDate

Label: Date of Parents Loss of Parental Rights

Definition: The month, day and year that the court terminated all parental rights, also known as the termination of parental rights (TPR) date. If the parents are known to be deceased, this is the date of death.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: Date/Time

Source: Derived

#87 Length (Days) Since Latest Removal

Name: LatRemLOS

Label: Length (Days) Since Latest Removal

Definition: If child is InAtEnd then this is the LOS as of the last day of the fiscal year (Sep 30).

If the child Exited, then this is the LOS on the Date of Discharge (DoDFCDt).

If this LOS > 7670 days (21 years), it is recoded to "Null."

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 4-byte Integer

Source: Derived

#88 Length (Days) in Current Placement Setting

Name: SettingLOS

Label: Length (Days) in Current Placement Setting

Definition: For children who are in FC at the end of the year, the number of days between the date of placement in the most recent setting and the end of the FY.

SettingLOS = 9/30/FY - CurSetDt

For children who exited, the number of days between their current setting date and the date they exited foster care.

SettingLOS = DoDFCDt - CurSetDt

SettingLOS is set to NULL if the calculation result is greater than 21 years, or greater than the child's age, or less than zero.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 4-byte Integer

Source: Derived

#89 Length (Days) of Previous FC Stay

Name: PreviousLOS

Label: Length (Days) of Previous FC Stay

Definition: Applies only to children who have exactly 2 foster care episodes, as these are the only children for which the beginning and end dates of the previous episode are recorded in the data.

PreviousLOS = DLstFCDt - Rem1Dt

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 4-byte Integer

Source: Derived

#90 Total Days Stay in FC, All Episodes

Name: LifeLOS

Label: Total Days Stay in FC, All Episodes

Definition: Can only be computed for kids who have 1 or 2 removals (TotRem).

If TotalRem = 1, LifeLOS = LatRemLOS

If TotalRem = 2, LifeLOS = LatRemLOS + PreviousLOS

If TotalRem > 2 or TotalRem is Null, LifeLOS is Null

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 4-byte Integer

Source: Derived

#91 Age on the First Day of the Fiscal Year

Name: AgeAtStart

Label: Age on the First Day of the Fiscal Year

Definition: Regardless of whether child was in foster care at the time.

Ages are computed from the child's actual DOB. Computing from the DOB in this dataset may yield a different age, because all birth dates are set to the 15th in the publicly available data files.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 2-byte Integer

Source: Derived

#92 Age at Most Recent Removal/Entry into Foster Care

Name: AgeAtLatRem

Label: Age at Most Recent Removal/Entry into Foster Care

Definition: Child's age on the date of the most recent removal (LatRemDt); Age at entry into foster care.

Ages are computed from the child's actual DOB. Computing from the DOB in this dataset may yield a different age, because all birth dates are set to the 15th in the publicly available data files.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 2-byte Integer

Source: Derived

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

Name: AgeAtEnd

Label: Age of Child at the End of FFY, or at Exit

Definition: For 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).
- Ages are computed from the child's actual DOB. Computing from the DOB in this dataset may yield a different age, because all birth dates are set to the 15th in the publicly available data files.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 2-byte Integer

Source: Derived

#94 Child was in FC at the Beginning of the FFY

Name: InAtStart

Label: Child was in FC at the Beginning of the FFY

Definition: This item includes:

- 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.
- 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 of FY)

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

THEN InAtStart = 1

ELSE InAtStart = 0

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: Derived

Value Value Label

0 No

1 Yes

#95 Child was in FC at the End of the Fiscal Year

Name: InAtEnd

Label: Child was in FC at the End of the Fiscal Year

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 of FY)
 AND (DoDFCDt Missing OR DoDFCDt > Sep 30 of FY)
 THEN InAtEnd = 1
 ELSE InAtEnd = 0*

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: Derived

Value **Value Label**

0	No
1	Yes

#96 Entered Foster Care During the Fiscal Year

Name: Entered

Label: Entered Foster Care During the Fiscal Year

Definition: Child's date of most recent removal (LatRemDt) is between the beginning and the end of the fiscal year.

*IF LatRemDt >= (Oct 1 of FY)
 AND LatRemDt <= (Sep 30 of FY)
 THEN Entered = 1
 ELSE Entered = 0*

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: Derived

Value **Value Label**

0	No
1	Yes

#97 **Child was Discharged from Foster Care During the Fiscal Year**

Name: Exited

Label: Child was Discharged from Foster Care During the Fiscal Year

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

IF DoDFCDt >= (Oct 1 of FY)

AND DoDFCDt <= (Sep 30 of FY)

THEN Exited = 1

ELSE Exited = 0

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: Derived

Value **Value Label**

0 No

1 Yes

#98 Child was in at Start or Entered FC During the FY

Name: Served

Label: Child was in at Start or Entered FC During the FY

Definition: Child was in the foster care system at some point during the FY.

IF InAtStart = 1 OR Entered = 1 THEN

Served = 1

ELSE

Served = 0

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: Derived `

Value Value Label

0 No

1 Yes

#99 Child is Waiting for Adoption

Name: IsWaiting

Label: Child is Waiting for Adoption

Definition: Child is waiting for adoption if they are between 0 and 17 years old and their parents have lost parental rights, or the child's case goal is adoption and they are in the foster care system at the end of the FY, excepting kids 16 or 17 years old whose parents have lost parental rights and their case goal is emancipation.

*IF (IsTPR = 1 OR CaseGoal = 3)
 AND AgeAtEnd between 0 and 17
 AND InatEnd = 1
 AND Not (AgeAtEnd between 16 and 17
 AND IsTPR=1 AND CaseGoal = 5)
THEN IsWaiting = 1
ELSE IsWaiting = 0*

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: Derived

Value	Value Label
0	No
1	Yes

#100 Parents Rights Have Been Terminated

Name: IsTPR

Label: Parents Rights Have Been Terminated

Definition: Both parents have a termination of parental rights (TPR) date that is prior to the end of the fiscal year.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: Derived

Value	Value Label
--------------	--------------------

0	No
---	----

1	Yes
---	-----

#101 Youth is No Longer Eligible for Foster Care Due to Age

Name: AgedOut

Label: Youth is No Longer Eligible for Foster Care Due to Age

Definition: Aged Out is not the same as emancipated. Emancipated just means DisReasn = 4. To age out, a child must be age 17 or 18 at the time of discharge, or older than 18 and receiving Title IV-E foster care payments when discharged.

```
IF Exited = 1  
    AND DisReasn = 4 (Emancipated)  
    AND (  
        AgeAtEnd Between 17 and 18  
    OR  
        (AgeAtEnd>18 AND IVEFC=1)  
    )  
    THEN AgedOut = 1  
    ELSE AgedOut = 0
```

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: Derived

Value **Value Label**

0 No

1 Yes

#102 Derived Child Race and Ethnicity

Name: RaceEthn

Label: Derived Child Race and Ethnicity

Definition: This variable is derived from the five variables for the child's race and the one variable for the child's ethnicity (HisOrigin).

If the HisOrigin variable is "1" (Yes) for Hispanic or Latino ethnicity, then it's "Hispanic or Latino."

If only one race is "1" (Yes), and HisOrigin is "2" (No), then it's "Non-Hispanic" and that race.

If more than one race is "1" (Yes) and HisOrigin is "2" (No), then this field is "Non-Hispanic More than One Race."

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: Derived

Value	Value Label
1	Non-Hispanic, White
2	Non-Hispanic, Black or African American
3	Non-Hispanic, American Indian or Native Alaskan
4	Non-Hispanic, Asian
5	Non-Hispanic, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
6	Non-Hispanic, More than One Race
7	Hispanic or Latino
99	Missing or Unknown

#103 Derived Race

Name: Race

Label: Derived Child Race without Ethnicity

Definition: Derived by NDACAN from the five race variables.

This variable is derived using the five variables for the child's race.

If only one race is "1" (Yes), then it is that race.

If more than one race is "1" (Yes), then it's "More than One Race."

This variable ignores the child's ethnicity variable (HisOrgin).

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: Derived

Value	Value Label
1	White
2	Black or African American
3	American Indian or Native Alaskan
4	Asian
5	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
6	More than One Race
99	Missing or Unknown

#104 State Foster Care ID

Name: StFCID

Label: State Foster Care ID

Definition: The purpose of this variable is to aid in linking files by providing one consistently named variable across NDACAN administrative datasets. The StFCID is the combination of the variables "St" (the state 2-character code) and "RecNumbr", the encrypted child's AFCARS identifier. This same variable can be found in the NYTD Outcomes File, the AFCARS Foster Care File, and the NCANDS Child File.

This variable is also the easiest way to distinguish individual children, since a *RecNumbr* can possibly duplicated in some other state, one would have to include *St* along with *RecNumbr* in any process that involves distinct children (e.g., counting, selecting, grouping, etc.).

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: NVarChar(14)

Source: Derived

Note: This variable is exclusive to the AFCARS Foster Care 6-month files.

#105 Start of the reporting period

Name: PeriodStart

Label: First day of the federal fiscal year

Definition: Date of the first day of the federal fiscal year.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: Date

Source: Derived

Note: This variable is exclusive to the AFCARS Foster Care 6-month files.

#106 End of the reporting period

Name: PeriodEnd

Label: Last day of the federal fiscal year

Definition: Date of the last day of the federal fiscal year.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: Date

Source: Derived

#107 Rural Urban Continuum Code

Name: RU13/RU23

Label: Rural Urban Continuum Code

Definition: USDA Rural Urban Continuum Code version 2023 (See: <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/rural-urban-continuum-codes/documentation/>). The variable name is consistent across all fiscal years for consistency. However, the actual classification system used varies by year. Years since FY2022 use the 2023 Rural Urban Continuum Codes and years prior to FY2022 use the 2013 Rural Urban Continuum Codes.

Guidance: Not Applicable

Data Type: 1-byte Integer

Source: Derived

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