

AFCARS Assessment Review Case File Findings: Foster Care Data Elements
State: Arizona
Report Period Under Review: October 1, 2008 – March 31, 2009 (2009A)

AFCARS Element	Data In AFCARS Matches Case File	Data In AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File	Questionable	Not Found	Comments
#5 Most Recent Periodic Review Date	28	10	1	0	<p>In six error cases the reviewers found a later date than the one reported to AFCARS.</p> <p>In three error cases the AFCARS file was blank but the reviewer found a review date.</p> <p>In one error case the date reported in AFCARS was the date the child was discharged from foster care and was not a periodic review hearing.</p>
#6 Child Birth Date	39	0	0	0	
#7 Child Sex	39	0	0	0	
1 = Male 2 = Female					
#8 Child Race	38	1	0	0	In the error case the response should have been “Black or African American” instead of “unable to determine.”
a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine					

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0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply					
#9 Child Hispanic Origin 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine	37	2	0	0	In the error cases the response should have been “yes” instead of “no.”
#10 Has Child Been Diagnosed with Disability? 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Not Yet Determined	27	12	0	0	In five of the error cases the response should have been “no” instead of “not yet determined.” In two of the error cases the response should have been “yes” instead of “not yet determined.” In two of the error cases the response should have been “yes” instead of “no.” In three error cases the response should have been “no” instead of “yes.”
#11 Mental Retardation 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	38	1	0	0	In the error case the response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.”
#12 Visually/Hearing Impaired	25	14	0	0	In the error cases the response should have been “does not apply” instead of “apply.”

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0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply					
#13 Physically Disabled 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	37	2	0	0	In the error cases the response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.”
#14 Emotionally Disturbed 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	32	7	0	0	In six of the error cases the response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.” In one error case the response should have been “does not apply” instead of “apply.”
#15 Other Diagnosed Condition 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	27	12	0	0	In five of the error cases the response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.” In seven of the error cases the response should have been “does not apply” instead of “apply.”
#16 Has Child Ever Been Adopted? 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine	34	5	0	0	In one error case the response should have been “no” instead of “unable to determine.” In four error cases the response should have been “yes” instead of “no.”
#17 Age at Previous Adoption	35	4	0	0	In the error cases an age range should have been reported instead of “not applicable.”

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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					
#18 Date of First Removal from Home	33	4	0	2	In three error cases the child's first placement in the removal episode was a detention facility. In the other error case the child's first placement was a hospital. In two cases the files were incomplete and the reviewer could not verify the removal history.
#19 Total Number of Removals from Home	35	0	2	2	In two cases the files were incomplete and the reviewer could not verify the removal history.
#20 Date of Discharge from Previous Episode	34	1	2	2	In two cases the files were incomplete and the reviewer could not verify the removal history. Based on reviewers notes the child was discharged five months earlier than what was reported in AFCARS.
#21 Date of Latest Removal	30	8	1	0	In six error cases the child's first placement in the removal episode was a detention facility. In the other error cases the child's first placement was a

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					hospital.
#23 Date of Placement in Current Setting	25	13	0	1	<p>In one error case the date the child went on runaway status was not reported.</p> <p>In four error cases the date the child started a trial home visit was not reported.</p> <p>In one error case the child's discharge date was reported as a new placement date.</p> <p>In one error case the child moved into a supervised independent living facility. However, this was after the child turned 18 and was no longer in foster care.</p>
#24 Number of Previous Placement Settings in This Episode	19	15	1	4	<p>In 11 error cases fewer placement moves should have been reported.</p> <p>In four error cases the reviewers identified more placement moves than what is reported to AFCARS.</p>
#25 Manner of Removal From Home for This Episode	38	1	0	0	The error case should have been "court ordered" not "voluntary."
1 = Voluntary					

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2 = Court Ordered 3 = Not Yet Determined					
#26 Physical Abuse 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	38	1	0	0	In the error case the response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.”
#27 Sexual Abuse 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	38	1	0	0	In the error case the response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.”
#28 Neglect 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	36	3	0	0	In two of the error cases the response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.” In one of the error cases the response should have been “does not apply” instead of “apply.”
#29 Parent Alcohol Abuse 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	36	3	0	0	In one error case the response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.” In two of the error cases the response should have been “does not apply” instead of “apply.” In one case, it appears that the worker may have selected the option for the parent instead of the child.
#30 Parent Drug Abuse	34	5	0	0	In the error cases the response should have been “apply” instead of “does

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0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply					not apply.” In one case, it appears that the worker may have selected the option for the parent instead of the child.
#31 Child Alcohol Abuse 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	38	1	0	0	In the error case the response should have been “does not apply” instead of “apply.”
#32 Child Drug Abuse 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	38	1	0	0	In the error case the response should have been “does not apply” instead of “apply.”
#33 Child Disability 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	35	4	0	0	In the error cases the response should have been “does not apply” instead of “apply.”
#34 Child's Behavior Problem 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	35	2	0	0	In the error cases the response should have been “does not apply” instead of “apply.”
#35 Death of Parent 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	39	0	0	0	
#36 Incarceration of Parent 0 = Does not apply	34	5	0	0	In the error cases the response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.”

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1 = Apply					
#37 Caretaker Inability to Cope 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	37	2	0	0	In the error cases the response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.”
#38 Abandonment 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	38	1	0	0	In the error case the response should have been “does not apply” instead of “apply.”
#39 Relinquishment 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	36	3	0	0	In one error case the response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.” In two of the error cases the response should have been “does not apply” instead of “apply.”
#40 Inadequate Housing 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	38	1	0	0	In the error case the response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.”
#41 Current Placement Setting 1 = Pre-Adoptive Home 2 = Foster Family Home (Relative) 3 = Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	30	8	0	1	In three of the error cases the current placement setting should have reflected “trial home visit.”

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4 = Group Home 5 = Institution 6 = Supervised Independent Living 7 = Runaway 8 = Trial Home Visit					
#42 Out of State Placement 1 = Yes (out-of-State) 2 = No (in-State placement)	39	0	0	0	
#43 Most Recent Case Plan Goal 1 = Reunify with Parent(s) or Principal Caretaker(s) 2 = Live with Other Relative(s) 3 = Adoption 4 = Long Term Foster Care 5 = Emancipation 6 = Guardianship 7 = Case Plan Goal Not Yet Established	34	5	0	0	In four of the error cases the information reported to AFCARS was “case plan not yet established” and the child had been in care for more than 60 days. In each case the reviewer did find a case plan goal. In one error case the goal should have been “emancipation” instead of “adoption.”
#44 Caretaker Family Structure 1 = Married Couple 2 = Unmarried Couple	33	5	0	1	In two error cases the response should have been “unmarried couple” instead of “single male.” In two error cases the response should

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3 = Single Female 4 = Single Male 5 = Unable to Determine					have been “married couple” instead of “single female.” In one error case the response should have been “single female” instead of “married couple.”
#45 1 st Primary Caretaker's Birth Year	34	5	0	0	
#46 2 nd Primary Caretaker's Birth Year	31	8	0	0	
#47 Mother's Date of TPR	39	0	0	0	
#48 Father's Date of TPR	39	0	0	0	
#49 Foster Family Structure 0 = Not Applicable 1 = Married Couple 2 = Unmarried Couple 3 = Single Female 4 = Single Male	22	16	0	1	The errors reflected the finding that “not applicable” is not reported for the foster family structure when the child is in a non-foster home placement setting. One error case should have been reported as “unmarried couple” instead of “married couple.”
#50 1 st Foster Caretaker's Birth Year	35	3	0	1	
#51 2 nd Foster Caretaker's Birth Year	37	1	0	1	
#52 1 st Foster Caretaker's Race a. American Indian or	37	1	0	1	

Number of cases in sample: 65
Number of cases reviewed: 49
Number of cases analyzed: 39

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Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply					
#53 1 st Foster Caretaker's Hispanic Origin [0 = Not Applicable] 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine	18	20	0	1	The errors reflected that “not applicable” is not being reported.
#54 2 nd Foster Caretaker's Race a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White	38	0	0	1	

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f. Unable to Determine 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply					
#55 2 nd Foster Caretaker's Hispanic Origin [0 = Not Applicable] 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine	15	23	0	1	The errors reflected that “not applicable” is not being reported. In one error case the response should have been “no” instead of “unable to determine.”
#56 Date of Discharge	32	7	0	0	In two error cases a later date should have been reported. In one of the cases, the child had been on a “trial home visit.” In one error case the element should have been left blank. In three error cases the element was blank but the date of the youth’s 18 th birthday should have been reported.
#58 Reason for Discharge 0 = Not Applicable 1 = Reunification with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s) 2 = Living with Other	34	5	0	0	In three of the cases the youth turned 18 during the report period and the discharge reason should have been “emancipation.” In one case the response should have been “not applicable” instead of

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Relative(s) 3 = Adoption 4 = Emancipation 5 = Guardianship 6 = Transfer to Another Agency 7 = Runaway 8 = Death of Child					“reunification.” In one case the element was blank but the discharge reason was “adoption.”
#59 Title IV-E Foster Care 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply					
#60 Title IV-E Adoption					
#61 Title IV-A AFDC					
#62 Title IV-D Child Support					
#63 Title XIX Medicaid					
#64 SSI					
#65 None of the Above					
#66 Monthly Amount					

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#4 State Agency Involvement 1 = Yes 2 = No	19	0	0	0	
#5 Child Date of Birth	19	0	0	0	
#6 Child Sex 1 = Male 2 = Female	19	0	0	0	
#7 Child Race 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply a. American Indian or Alaska Native	18	1	0	0	This was an additional race that should have been reported.
b. Asian	19	0	0	0	
c. Black or African American	19	0	0	0	
d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	19	0	0	0	
e. White	19	0	0	0	
f. Unable to Determine	19	0	0	0	
#8 Child Hispanic Origin 1 = Yes 2 = No	19	0	0	0	

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3 = Unable to Determine					
#9 Has Agency Determined Special Needs	18	1	0	0	
#10 Primary Basis for Determining Special Needs 0 = Not Applicable 1 = Racial/Original Background 2 = Age 3 = Membership in a Sibling Group 4 = Medical Conditions or Mental, Physical or Emotional Disabilities 5 = Other	12	7	0	0	In three error cases, the reviewer noted that “sibling group” should have been reported instead of “medical conditions or mental, physical or emotional disabilities.” In three error cases, the reviewer noted the response should have been “age” instead of “medical conditions or mental, physical or emotional disabilities.” In one error case, the reviewer noted that “sibling group” should have been reported instead of “not applicable.”
#11 Mental Retardation 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	18	1	0	0	The error case should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.”
#12 Visually/Hearing Impaired	9	10	0	0	In each of the cases the child wore glasses and there was no other visual impairment.
#13 Physically Disabled	19	0	0	0	
#14 Emotionally Disturbed	16	3	0	0	In the error cases the response should have been “apply” instead of does not

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					apply.”
#15 Other Diagnosed Condition	14	5	0	0	In four error cases the response should have been “does not apply” instead of “apply.” In one error case the response should have been “apply” instead of does not apply.”
#16 Mother's Birth Year	19	0	0	0	
#17 Father's Birth Year	18	1	0	0	
#18 Mother Married at Time of Birth 1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine	15	3	0	1	In two cases the response should have been “no” instead of “unable to determine.” In one case the response should have been “yes” instead of “unable to determine.”
#19 Date of Mother's TPR	15	4	0	0	In three cases the date the reviewers found was later than the one reported. In one case the date found was earlier than what was reported.
#20 Date of Father's TPR	15	4	0	0	In three cases the date the reviewers found was later than the one reported. In one case the date found was earlier than what was reported.
#21 Date Adoption Legalized	18	1	0	0	The date found was later than the date reported.
#22 Adoptive Family Structure	17	1	0	1	The response should have been “married couple” instead of blank.

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1 = Married Couple 2 = Unmarried Couple 3 = Single Female 4 = Single Male					
#23 Adoptive Mother's Year of Birth	16	2	0	1	In one case the reviewer found a date and the AFCARS was reported with missing information. The other error case was an incorrect year.
#24 Adoptive Father's Year of Birth	15	3	0	1	The error cases were reported as blank but the reviewers found a date. In two of the cases the AFCARS data indicated a "married couple" in element #22.
#25 Adoptive Mother's Race 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply a. American Indian or Alaska Native	15	1	0	3	The response should have been "no" instead of blank.
b. Asian	15	1	0	3	The response should have been "no" instead of blank.
c. Black or African American	14	2	0	3	In one error case the response should have been "yes" instead of "no." In one error case the response should have been "no" instead of blank.

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d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	15	1	0	3	The response should have been “no” instead of blank.
e. White	14	2	0	3	In one error case the response should have been “no” instead of “yes.” In one error case the response should have been “yes” instead of blank.
f. Unable to Determine	15	1	0	3	The response should have been “no” instead of blank.
#26 Adoptive Mother's Hispanic Origin	15	1		3	The response should have been “no” instead of blank.
#27 Adoptive Father's Race	13	3	0	3	The response should have been “no” instead of blank.
0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply					
a. American Indian or Alaska Native					
b. Asian	13	3	0	3	The response should have been “no” instead of blank.
c. Black or African American	13	3	0	3	The response should have been “no” instead of blank.
d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	13	3	0	3	The response should have been “no” instead of blank.
e. White	13	3	0	3	The response should have been “yes” instead of blank.
f. Unable to Determine	13	3	0	3	The response should have been “no” instead of blank.
#28 Adoptive Father's Hispanic Origin	7	9	0	3	In six error cases response should have been “not applicable” instead of

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					blank. In two error cases the response should have been “yes” instead of blank. In one error case the response should have been “no” instead of blank.
#29 Relationship of Adoptive Parent to Child - Stepparent 0 = Does not apply 1 = Apply	19	0	0	0	
#30 Relationship of Adoptive Parent to Child - Other Relative	18	1	0	0	
#31 Relationship of Adoptive Parent to Child - Foster Parent	6	13	0	0	In each case the response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.”
#32 Relationship of Adoptive Parent to Child - Other Non-Relative	15	4	0	0	In each case the response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.”
#33 Child Was Placed from 1 = Within State 2 = Another State 3 = Another Country	19	0	0	0	

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#34 Child Was Placed by 1 = Public Agency 2 = Private Agency 3 = Tribal Agency 4 = Independent Person 5 = Birth Parent	19	0	0	0	
#35 Receiving Monthly Subsidy	18	1	0	0	The response should have been “yes” instead of “no.”
#36 Monthly Amount	10	9	0	0	There should have been an amount reported instead of zeroes.
#37 Adoption Assistance	19	0	0	0	