

**AFCARS Assessment Review Case File Findings: Foster Care Data Elements**

**State: Illinois**

**Report Period Under Review: October 1, 2009 – March 31, 2010 (2010A)**

<b>AFCARS Element</b>	<b>Data In AFCARS Matches Case File</b>	<b>Data In AFCARS Does Not Match Paper File</b>	<b>Questionable</b>	<b>Not Found</b>	<b>Comments</b>
#3 Local FIPS Code	57	6	0	0	
#5 Most Recent Periodic Review Date	42	20	0	1	In six error cases, the AFCARS file was blank but the reviewers found dates. Also, the child had been in care for six months.  In nine error cases, the reviewers found later dates than what was reported to AFCARS.  In three error cases, the reviewers found earlier dates than what was reported to AFCARS.
#6 Child Birth Date	61	2	0	0	
#7 Child Sex  1 = Male 2 = Female	63	0	0	0	
#8 Child Race a. American Indian or Alaska Native	63	0	0	0	
b. Asian	63	0	0	0	
c. Black or African American	62	1	0	0	The response should have been “yes” instead of “no.”
d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	63	0	0	0	
e. White	60	3	0	0	The responses should have been “yes” instead of “no.”
f. Unable to Determine	61	2	0	0	The response should have been “no” instead of “yes.”

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#9 Child Hispanic Origin  1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine	50	12	1	0	In 10 error cases, the responses should have been “no” instead of “unable to determine.”  In one error case, the response should have been “yes” instead of “no.”  One case should have been “yes” instead of blank.
#10 Has Child Been Diagnosed with Disability?	52	11	0	0	In eight error cases, the response should have been “yes” instead of “no.”  In one error case, the response should have been “no” instead of “not yet determined.”  In one error case the response should have been “not yet determined” instead of “no.” The child had been in foster care for only two days.  In one error case the response should have been “no” instead of “yes.”
#11 Mental Retardation	61	2	0	0	The responses should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#12 Visually/Hearing Impaired	63	0	0	0	
#13 Physically Disabled	62	1	0	0	The response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.”
#14 Emotionally Disturbed	56	7	0	0	In six error cases, the responses should have been “applies” instead of “does not

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					apply.”  One error case should have been “does not apply” instead of “applies.”
#15 Other Diagnosed Condition	56	7	0	0	In six error cases, the responses should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.”  One error case should have been “does not apply” instead of “applies.”
#16 Has Child Ever Been Adopted?  1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine	63	0	0	0	
#17 Age at Previous Adoption  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	62	1	0	0	The age group should have been “less than 2 years old” instead of “2-5 years old.”
#18 Date of First Removal from Home	57	6	0	0	In four error cases, the reviewers found earlier dates.  In one error case the child was still with the legal parent at the time of the date reported.

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					In one error case the date found by the reviewer was later than the one reported to AFCARS.
#19 Total Number of Removals from Home	61	2	0	0	The AFCARS indicated the child had two removal episodes but the reviewers found that there was only one AFCARS removal episode.
#20 Date of Discharge from Previous Episode	59	4	0	0	In three error cases, the element should have been blank. The AFCARS indicated a date but it should have been blank because reviewers found the child only had one AFCARS removal episode.  In one error case, the date did not reflect the date in the file.
#21 Date of Latest Removal	59	4	0	0	In two of the cases the reviewers found earlier dates.
#23 Date of Placement in Current Setting	54	9	0	0	One record was reported as a child on a “trial home visit” but the reviewer found a later placement.  In two error cases, the reviewers found earlier dates.  In one case, the child was on runaway status but the date the child ran away was not reported.  In one error case, the date reflected a change from a foster home to a pre-adoptive home with the same provider.

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					One error case had a reported date that was after the discharge date in element #56.
#24 Number of Previous Placement Settings in This Episode	47	16	0	0	In six error cases, the reviewers found that the number of AFCARS placements was less than what was reported to AFCARS. In two of these cases it seems that a change in status of the foster home resulted in an increase number of placements. In ten error cases, the reviewers found that the number of AFCARS placements was more than what was reported to AFCARS.
#25 Manner of Removal From Home for This Episode  1 = Voluntary 2 = Court Ordered 3 = Not Yet Determined	62	1	0	0	The response should have been “not yet determined” instead of “court order.”
#26 Physical Abuse	58	5	0	0	The responses should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#27 Sexual Abuse	62	1	0	0	The response should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#28 Neglect	58	5			The responses should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#29 Parent Alcohol Abuse	56	7	0	0	The responses should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#30 Parent Drug Abuse	46	17	0	0	The responses should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#31 Child Alcohol Abuse	60	3	0	0	The response should have been “applies”

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					instead of “does not apply.”
#32 Child Drug Abuse	58	5	0	0	The responses should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#33 Child Disability	63	0	0	0	
#34 Child's Behavior Problem	60	3	0	0	The response should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#35 Death of Parent	63	0	0	0	
#36 Incarceration of Parent	57	6	0	0	The response should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#37 Caretaker Inability to Cope	57	6	0	0	The responses should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#38 Abandonment	62	1	0	0	The response should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#39 Relinquishment	63	0	0	0	
#40 Inadequate Housing	61	2	0	0	
#41 Current Placement Setting  1 = Pre-Adoptive Home 2 = Foster Family Home (Relative) 3 = Foster Family Home (Non-Relative) 4 = Group Home 5 = Institution 6 = Supervised Independent Living 7 = Runaway 8 = Trial Home Visit	54	9	0	0	In one error case, the response should have been “institution” (child was in detention) instead of “foster family home (relative).  In two error cases, the response should have been “foster family home (non-relative)” instead of “trial home visit.”  In one error case, the response should have been “foster family home (relative)” instead of “trial home visit.”  In one error case, the response should

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					<p>have been “runaway” instead of “foster family home (non-relative).”</p> <p>In one error case, the response should have been “pre-adoptive home” instead of “foster family home (non-relative).”</p> <p>In one error case, the response should have been “foster family home (non-relative) instead of “foster family home (relative).”</p> <p>In one error case, the response should have been “group home” instead of a foster home.</p> <p>In one error case, the response should have been “foster family home (non-relative) instead of “trial home visit.”</p>								
#42 Out of State Placement	52	11	0	0	<p>Seven responses should have been “no” instead of “yes.”</p> <p>One response should have been “no” instead of blank.</p>								
<p>#43 Most Recent Case Plan Goal</p> <p>1 = Reunify with Parent(s) or Principal Caretaker(s)</p> <p>2 = Live with Other Relative(s)</p> <p>3 = Adoption</p> <p>4 = Long Term Foster Care</p>	46	17	0	0	<p>In the error cases, the reviewers found:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1493 1084 1976 1357"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="1493 1084 1738 1154">Reported as:</th> <th data-bbox="1738 1084 1976 1154">Reviewer found:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1493 1154 1738 1224">Not yet established</td> <td data-bbox="1738 1154 1976 1224">Reunify (7)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1493 1224 1738 1294">Not yet established</td> <td data-bbox="1738 1224 1976 1294">Adoption (2)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1493 1294 1738 1357">Not yet established</td> <td data-bbox="1738 1294 1976 1357">Guardianship (1)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Reported as:	Reviewer found:	Not yet established	Reunify (7)	Not yet established	Adoption (2)	Not yet established	Guardianship (1)
Reported as:	Reviewer found:												
Not yet established	Reunify (7)												
Not yet established	Adoption (2)												
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5 = Emancipation 6 = Guardianship 7 = Case Plan Goal Not Yet Established					<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="1493 280 1738 345">Not yet established</td> <td data-bbox="1738 280 1992 345">Long-term FC (1)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1493 345 1738 516">Not yet Established</td> <td data-bbox="1738 345 1992 516">Court not yet determined (State's value when there is a TPR) (2)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1493 516 1738 548">Reunify</td> <td data-bbox="1738 516 1992 548">Emancipation (2)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1493 548 1738 618">Emancipation</td> <td data-bbox="1738 548 1992 618">Long-term FC (2)</td> </tr> </table>	Not yet established	Long-term FC (1)	Not yet Established	Court not yet determined (State's value when there is a TPR) (2)	Reunify	Emancipation (2)	Emancipation	Long-term FC (2)
Not yet established	Long-term FC (1)												
Not yet Established	Court not yet determined (State's value when there is a TPR) (2)												
Reunify	Emancipation (2)												
Emancipation	Long-term FC (2)												
#44 Caretaker Family Structure  1 = Married Couple 2 = Unmarried Couple 3 = Single Female 4 = Single Male 5 = Unable to Determine	26	37	0	0	<p>In 17 of the error cases, the response should have been "single female" instead of "unable to determine."</p> <p>In seven error cases, the response should have been "married couple" instead of "unable to determine."</p> <p>In seven error cases, the response should have been "unmarried couple" instead of "unable to determine."</p> <p>In one error case, the AFCARS file indicated "unable to determine." The reviewer was not able to find the family structure but was able to determine that the child had not been abandoned.</p>								
#45 1 <sup>st</sup> Primary Caretaker's Birth Year	45	18	0	0	<p>In 15 error cases, a date was found and the AFCARS file was blank.</p> <p>In two error cases the AFCARS was blank but the child had not been</p>								

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					abandoned.
#46 2 <sup>nd</sup> Primary Caretaker's Birth Year	54	9	0	0	In five error cases, a date should have been reported.  In two error cases a date was reported but it should have been blank.  In one error case the “family structure” was reported as “single female. The reviewer found that it should have been “unmarried couple” and found a date of birth.
#47 Mother's Date of TPR	61	2	0	0	The mother’s deceased date was not reported.  The reviewer found a TPR date. The mother had relinquished her parental rights.
#48 Father's Date of TPR	60	3	0	0	In two error cases, the father’s deceased date should have been reported.  The reviewer found a TPR date in one error case. The father had relinquished his parental rights.
#49 Foster Family Structure  0 = Not Applicable 1 = Married Couple 2 = Unmarried Couple 3 = Single Female 4 = Single Male	56	7	0	0	In one error case, the response should have been “single female” instead of “single male.”  In four error cases, the AFCARS was blank and it should have been reported as “single female.”

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					In one error case, the AFCARS was blank instead of “married couple.”  In one error case the AFCARS was blank but the child was placed with a relative.
#50 1 <sup>st</sup> Foster Caretaker's Birth Year	57	6	0	1	In three cases the child was living with a relative and this information was reported as blank.  In three error cases, the AFCARS file was blank but the reviewer found a date.
#51 2 <sup>nd</sup> Foster Caretaker's Birth Year	62	1	0	0	The AFCARS file was blank but the reviewer found a date.
#52 1 <sup>st</sup> Foster Caretaker's Race	61	2	0	0	This element was blank but the child was living with a relative.
a. American Indian or Alaska Native					
b. Asian	61	2	0	0	This element was blank but the child was living with a relative.
c. Black or African American	60	3	0	0	In two error cases, this element was blank but the child was living with a relative.  In the other error case, the response was “no” and it should have been “yes.”
d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	61	2	0	0	This element was blank but the child was living with a relative.
e. White	58	5	0	0	This element was blank but the child was living with a relative in two error cases.  The responses for three error cases should have been “yes” instead of “no.”

Number of cases in sample: 80  
Number of cases reviewed: 70  
Number of cases analyzed: 63

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f. Unable to Determine	61	2	0	0	This element was blank but the child was living with a relative.
#53 1 <sup>st</sup> Foster Caretaker's Hispanic Origin	21	41	0	1	In 36 error cases, this element was reported as “unable to determine” instead of “no.”  In two error cases, the response should have been “no” instead of blank.  In three error cases, this element was blank but the child was living with a relative.
#54 2 <sup>nd</sup> Foster Caretaker's Race	63	0	0	0	
a. American Indian or Alaska Native					
b. Asian	63	0	0	0	
c. Black or African American	63	0	0	0	
d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	63	0	0	0	
e. White	62	1	0	0	The response should have been “yes” instead of “no.”
f. Unable to Determine	63	0	0	0	
#55 2 <sup>nd</sup> Foster Caretaker's Hispanic Origin	52	11	0	0	In 10 error cases, the response should have been “no” instead of “unable to determine.”  In one error case, the response should have “no” instead of blank.

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#56 Date of Discharge	57	6	0	0	A date was reported but the reviewers noted the child was actually still in foster care in two error cases.  In three error cases, the reviewers noted the discharge date was later than the one reported.
#58 Reason for Discharge 0 = Not Applicable 1 = Reunification with Parent(s) or Primary Caretaker(s) 2 = Living with Other Relative(s) 3 = Adoption 4 = Emancipation 5 = Guardianship 6 = Transfer to Another Agency 7 = Runaway 8 = Death of Child	60	3	0	0	In two error cases, a discharge reason (reunification) was reported but the reviewer noted the child was actually still in foster care and on a “trial home visit.”  In the other error case, the element was blank but it should have been “emancipation.”
#59 Title IV-E Foster Care	53	8	0	2	In seven of the error cases, the response should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”  In one error case, the response should have been “does not apply” instead of “applies.”
#60 Title IV-E Adoption	59	2	0	2	The error case should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”

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#61 Title IV-A AFDC	61	0	0	2	
#62 Title IV-D Child Support	61	0	0	2	
#63 Title XIX Medicaid	44	19	0	0	The error cases should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#64 SSI	60	1	0	2	
#65 None of the Above	53	10	0	0	The error cases should have been “does not apply” instead of “applies.”
#66 Monthly Amount	44	19	0	0	

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#4 State Agency Involvement	24	0	0	0	
#5 Child Date of Birth	24	0	0	0	
#6 Child Sex	23	1	0	0	The reviewer noted the child as female instead of male.
#7 Child Race	22	0	2	0	In two cases, the AFCARS report indicated “no” for all the races and “yes” for “unable to determine.” The reviewer did not find race information and there was no indication the child had been abandoned or that the parent had refused to provide the information.
a. American Indian or Alaska Native					
b. Asian	22	0	2	0	
c. Black or African American	21	1	2	0	In the error case, the response should have been “yes” instead of “no.”
d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	22	0	2	0	
e. White	21	1	2	0	In the error case, the response should have been “yes” instead of “no.”
f. Unable to Determine	21	1	2	0	In the error cases, the response should have been “no” instead of “yes.”
#8 Child Hispanic Origin	15	9	0	0	In six error cases the response should have been “no” instead of “unable to determine.”  In one error case the e response should have been “yes” instead of “unable to determine.”  In two error cases the response should have been “yes” instead of “no.”
#9 Has Agency Determined Special Needs	24	0	0	0	

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#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	14	10	0	0	In eight error cases the AFCARS report indicated “age” but the reviewers noted the primary basis should have been “membership in a sibling group.”  In two error cases the reviewers noted that the child’s primary basis for special needs was “medical conditions or mental, physical or emotional disabilities.”
#11 Mental Retardation	23	1	0	0	The response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.”
#12 Visually/Hearing Impaired	23	1	0	0	The response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.”
#13 Physically Disabled	23	1	0	0	The response should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.”
#14 Emotionally Disturbed	24	0	0	0	
#15 Other Diagnosed Condition	22	2	0	0	The responses should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.”
#16 Mother's Birth Year	19	4	0	1	The AFCARS file was blank but the reviewers found dates.
#17 Father's Birth Year	17	6	0	1	The AFCARS file was blank but the reviewers found dates.
#18 Mother Married at Time of Birth  1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine	0	23	0	1	In 18 records the response should have been “no” instead of “unable to determine.”  In four records the response should have been “yes” instead of “unable to

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					determine.”
#19 Date of Mother's TPR	23	1	0	0	The reviewer found an earlier date than the one reported to AFCARS.
#20 Date of Father's TPR	23	1	0	0	The reviewer found an earlier date than the one reported to AFCARS.
#21 Date Adoption Legalized	22	2	0	0	The reviewers found an earlier date than the one reported to AFCARS.
#22 Adoptive Family Structure  1 = Married Couple 2 = Unmarried Couple 3 = Single Female 4 = Single Male	24	0	0	0	
#23 Adoptive Mother's Year of Birth	22	0	0	2	
#24 Adoptive Father's Year of Birth	22	0	0	2	
#25 Adoptive Mother's Race	20	0	2	2	In two cases, the AFCARS report indicated “no” for all the races and “yes” for “unable to determine.” The reviewer did not find race information and there was no indication the person had refused to provide the information.
#26 Adoptive Mother's Hispanic Origin	22	0	0	2	
#27 Adoptive Father's Race	20	0	2	2	In two cases, the AFCARS report indicated “no” for all the races and “yes” for “unable to determine.” The reviewer did not find race information and there was no indication the person had refused to provide the information.

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e. White	18	2	2	2	In the error case, the response should have been “yes” instead of “no.”
f. Unable to Determine	18	2	2	2	In the error cases, the response should have been “no” instead of “yes.”
#28 Adoptive Father's Hispanic Origin	22	0	0	2	
#29 Relationship of Adoptive Parent to Child - Stepparent	24	0	0	0	
#30 Relationship of Adoptive Parent to Child - Other Relative	13	11	0	0	The responses should have been “apply” instead of “does not apply.”
#31 Relationship of Adoptive Parent to Child - Foster Parent	24	0	0	0	
#32 Relationship of Adoptive Parent to Child - Other Non-Relative	13	11	0	0	The response should have been “does not apply” instead of “apply.”
#33 Child Was Placed from  1 = Within State 2 = Another State 3 = Another Country	24	0	0	0	
#34 Child Was Placed by  1 = Public Agency 2 = Private Agency 3 = Tribal Agency 4 = Independent Person 5 = Birth Parent	24	0	0	0	
#35 Receiving Monthly Subsidy	24	0	0	0	

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#36 Monthly Amount	24	0	0	0	
#37 Adoption Assistance	18	4	0	2	In three error cases, the response should have been “yes” instead of “no.”  In one error case, the response should have been “no” instead of “yes.”