

**AFCARS ASSESSMENT REVIEW CASE FILE FINDINGS: Foster Care Data Elements**

**State: Indiana**

**Report Period Under Review: April 1, 2007 - September 30, 2007 (2007B)**

<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	0	0	0	
#5 Most Recent Periodic Review Date	38	17	0	2	<p>In two error cases the AFCARS field was blank. In each case the child had been in care for more than six months, and the reviewer did find a recent periodic review date.</p> <p>In four error cases the periodic review date reported in AFCARS was the child's discharge date, which was not a periodic review.</p> <p>In the other instances, the reviewers found periodic review dates that did not match the date found in AFCARS. It is likely this is due to the incorrect logic in the extraction code. (See foster care element findings.)</p>
#6 Child Birth Date	55	2	0	0	
#7 Child Sex  1 = Male 2 = Female	57	0	0	0	
#8 Child Race  a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian	57	0	0	0	

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c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine					
#9 Child Hispanic Origin  1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine	57	0	0	0	
#10 Has Child Been Diagnosed with Disability?	34	23	0	0	In all of the error cases the response should have been "yes" instead of "no."
#11 Mental Retardation	52	5	0	0	The responses should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
#12 Visually/Hearing Impaired	56	1	0	0	A child was diagnosed as legally blind and the AFCARS indicated no diagnosed disability. It was clear from the case record that this condition was worsening and the child would eventually be blind.
#13 Physically Disabled	57	0	0	0	
#14 Emotionally Disturbed	38	19	0	0	The responses should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
#15 Other Diagnosed Condition	54	3	0	0	The responses should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
#16 Has Child Ever Been Adopted?  1 = Yes	57	0	0	0	

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2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine					
#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	57	0	0	0	
#18 Date of First Removal from Home	34	3	0	20	<p>Two cases were found in error because the child was initially in a hospital at the time the agency obtained responsibility for care and placement. The date reported in AFCARS reflected the date the child was placed in the hospital.</p> <p>In one error case the reviewer found an earlier date for the child's first removal from home than what was reported.</p> <p>In the cases where the reviewers were not able to verify the information it was generally due to having incomplete files sent to the Central Office for the case file review. In general though the data reported in AFCARS reflected dates of first removal that were prior to the</p>

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					implementation of the State's SACWIS.
#19 Total Number of Removals from Home	34	2	1	20	<p>In the error cases the reviewers found more removal episodes than what was reported to AFCARS.</p> <p>In general though the data reported in AFCARS reflected dates of first removal that were prior to the implementation of the State's SACWIS.</p>
#20 Date of Discharge from Previous Episode	33	3	1	20	<p>In two of the error cases the AFCARS field was blank, but the reviewer had found additional removal episodes.</p> <p>In one error case the date extracted to AFCARS was incorrect.</p> <p>In general though the data reported in AFCARS reflected dates of first removal that were prior to the implementation of the State's SACWIS.</p>
#21 Date of Latest Removal	46	5	3	3	<p>Two cases were found in error because the child was initially placed in a hospital at the time the agency obtained responsibility for care and placement. The date reported in AFCARS reflected the date the child was placed in the hospital.</p> <p>In two error cases the reviewers found</p>

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					an additional removal episode.
#23 Date of Placement in Current Setting	52	3	1	1	
#24 Number of Previous Placement Settings in This Episode	44	11	1	1	In seven of the error cases, there were fewer placements than what was reported to AFCARS. In four of these cases, the first placement was a hospital.  In four of the error cases, there were more placements than what were reported to AFCARS. In two situations it appears that an emergency placement may not have been entered into the information system, or was not included in the logic for counting placements in the extraction code.
#25 Manner of Removal From Home for This Episode  1 = Voluntary 2 = Court Ordered 3 = Not Yet Determined	57	0	0	0	
#26 Physical Abuse	55	2	0	0	
#27 Sexual Abuse	56	1	0	0	
#28 Neglect	57	0	0	0	
#29 Parent Alcohol Abuse	56	1	0	0	

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#30 Parent Drug Abuse	54	3	0	0	
#31 Child Alcohol Abuse	57	0	0	0	
#32 Child Drug Abuse	57	0	0	0	
#33 Child Disability	55	2	0	0	The responses should have been “does not apply” instead of “applies.”
#34 Child's Behavior Problem	53	3	0	0	In two of the error cases, the response should have been “does not apply” instead of “applies.”  In one error case, the response should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#35 Death of Parent	57	0	0	0	
#36 Incarceration of Parent	54	3	0	0	
#37 Caretaker Inability to Cope	55	2	0	0	The responses should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#38 Abandonment	56	1	0	0	The response should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#39 Relinquishment	57	0	0	0	
#40 Inadequate Housing	54	3	0	0	The responses should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#41 Current Placement Setting	54	3	0	0	In two error cases, the responses should have been “pre-adoptive home.”  In one error case, the response should have been “group home” instead of

1 = Pre-Adoptive Home  
2 = Foster Family Home

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(Relative) 3 = Foster Family Home (Non-Relative) 4 = Group Home 5 = Institution 6 = Supervised Independent Living 7 = Runaway 8 = Trial Home Visit					“institution.”
#42 Out of State Placement	56	1	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	52	4	0	1	The error cases were reported as “case plan goal not yet established.” In one situation the child was in care for four months and the reviewer did identify a case plan goal. In one case the child had been in foster care for two years. In each case the goal should have been “reunification.”
#44 Caretaker Family Structure  1 = Married Couple 2 = Unmarried Couple	50	7	0	0	In two error cases, the AFCARS data indicated “single female,” but the reviewers indicated “married couple.” In one situation, the couple was separated at the time of the child’s

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3 = Single Female 4 = Single Male 5 = Unable to Determine					removal from home.  In three error cases, the AFCARS data indicated "single female," but the reviewers indicated "unmarried couple."  In two error cases, the AFCARS data indicated "married couple," but the reviewers indicated "single female."
#45 1 <sup>st</sup> Primary Caretaker's Birth Year	56	1	0	0	
#46 2 <sup>nd</sup> Primary Caretaker's Birth Year	51	6	0	0	In five error cases, this field was blank, but reviewers found element #44 as "married couple" or "unmarried couple." Also, the reviewers found dates of birth for the second caretaker.
#47 Mother's Date of TPR	55	2	0	0	The error cases were reported as blank, but the reviewers found TPR dates.
#48 Father's Date of TPR	54	3			The error cases were reported as blank, but the reviewers found TPR dates.
#49 Foster Family Structure  0 = Not Applicable 1 = Married Couple 2 = Unmarried Couple 3 = Single Female 4 = Single Male	55	2	0		In the error cases, the reviewers found that the family structure was "married couple" instead of "single female."

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#50 1 <sup>st</sup> Foster Caretaker's Birth Year	50	4	0	3	The error cases were reported as blanks and the reviewers found the dates of birth for the first foster caretaker.
#51 2 <sup>nd</sup> Foster Caretaker's Birth Year	51	4	0	2	The records were reported with blanks, but element #44 indicated a "married couple."
#52 1 <sup>st</sup> 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 f. Unable to Determine	50	4	0	3	The error cases were reported as blanks and the child was placed in a foster home.
#53 1 <sup>st</sup> Foster Caretaker's Hispanic Origin	51	4	0	3	The error cases were reported as blanks and the child was placed in a foster home.
#54 2 <sup>nd</sup> Foster Caretaker's Race  a. American Indian or Alaska Native b. Asian c. Black or African American d. Native Hawaiian or Other	51	4	0	2	The error cases were reported as blanks and the child was placed in a foster home. Additionally, element #49 reflected "married couple."

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Pacific Islander e. White f. Unable to Determine					
#55 2 <sup>nd</sup> Foster Caretaker's Hispanic Origin	51	4	0	2	The error cases were reported as blanks and the child was placed in a foster home. Additionally, element #49 reflected "married couple."
#56 Date of Discharge	55	2	0	0	In the error cases the child was discharged, but it was not entered into the system.
#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	55	2	0	0	In both of the error cases "not applicable" was reported, but the child was discharged due "guardianship."
#59 Title IV-E Foster Care		1			<b>Note:</b> For elements #59 - 66 this information could not be conclusively verified by documentation in the case file. Therefore, only instances in which

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					the reviewer did find information that did not match what was reported are included in the analysis.  In the error case the response should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#60 Title IV-E Adoption					
#61 Title IV-A AFDC					
#62 Title IV-D Child Support		1			The response should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#63 Title XIX Medicaid		5			The responses should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#64 SSI					
#65 None of the Above					
#66 Monthly Amount					

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#4 State Agency Involvement  1 = Yes 2 = No	18	0	0	0	
#5 Child Date of Birth	18	0	0	0	
#6 Child Sex  1 = Male 2 = Female	18	0	0	0	
#7 Child Race  a. American Indian or Alaska Native	14	0	0	4	
b. Asian	14	0	0	4	
c. Black or African American	14	0	0	4	
d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	14	0	0	4	
e. White	13	1	0	4	The reviewer found that the child was bi-racial and this race was not selected.
f. Unable to Determine	14	0	0	4	
#8 Child Hispanic Origin  1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine	14	0	0	4	

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#9 Has Agency Determined Special Needs	6	11	0	1	The error records indicated “no” instead of “yes.” In 10 cases there was a payment reported.
#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	13	4	0	1	In one error case, it should have been reported as “membership in a sibling group” instead of “other.”  In one error case, it should have been “not applicable” instead of “other.”  In one error case, it should have been “medical conditions or mental, physical or emotional disabilities” instead of “age.”  In one error case, it should have been “medical conditions or mental, physical or emotional disabilities” instead of “other.”
#11 Mental Retardation	18	0	0	0	
#12 Visually/Hearing Impaired	18	0	0	0	
#13 Physically Disabled	17	1	0	0	The error case should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”
#14 Emotionally Disturbed	16	2	0	0	One error case should have been “applies” instead of “does not apply.”  The other error case should have been “does not apply” instead of “applies.” The primary basis for special needs

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					was "membership in a sibling group."
#15 Other Diagnosed Condition	18	0	0	0	
#16 Mother's Birth Year	15	0	0	3	
#17 Father's Birth Year	13	2	0	3	One record indicated a birth year of 1901.
#18 Mother Married at Time of Birth  1 = Yes 2 = No 3 = Unable to Determine	9	2	0	7	In one error case the field was blank, but the reviewer found that the mother had been married at the time of the child's birth.  In one error case it should have been "no" instead of "unable to determine."
#19 Date of Mother's TPR	14	3	1	0	Both later and earlier dates were found by the reviews than what was reported in AFCARS.
#20 Date of Father's TPR	15	3	0	0	Both later and earlier dates were found by the reviews than what was reported in AFCARS.
#21 Date Adoption Legalized	18	0	0	0	
#22 Adoptive Family Structure  1 = Married Couple 2 = Unmarried Couple 3 = Single Female 4 = Single Male	18	0	0	0	
#23 Adoptive Mother's	17	1	0	0	

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Year of Birth					
#24 Adoptive Father's Year of Birth	17	1	0	0	
#25 Adoptive Mother's Race	17	1	0	0	For the error case in each of the race fields, the response should have been blank instead of "no" (child was adopted by a single male.)
a. American Indian or Alaska Native					
b. Asian	17	1	0	0	
c. Black or African American	17	1	0	0	
d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	17	1	0	0	
e. White	17	1	0	0	
f. Unable to Determine	17	1	0	0	
#26 Adoptive Mother's Hispanic Origin	18	0	0	0	
#27 Adoptive Father's Race	16	2	0	0	For the error cases in each of the race fields, the response should have been blank instead of "no" (child was adopted by a single female.)
a. American Indian or Alaska Native					
b. Asian	16	2	0	0	
c. Black or African American	16	2	0	0	
d. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	16	2	0	0	
e. White	16	2	0	0	
f. Unable to Determine	16	2	0	0	

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#28 Adoptive Father's Hispanic Origin	18	0	0	0	
#29 Relationship of Adoptive Parent to Child - Stepparent	18	0	0	0	
#30 Relationship of Adoptive Parent to Child - Other Relative	17	1	0	0	The response should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
#31 Relationship of Adoptive Parent to Child - Foster Parent	9	9	0	0	The responses should have been "applies" instead of "does not apply."
#32 Relationship of Adoptive Parent to Child - Other Non-Relative	13	5	0	0	In four 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."
#33 Child Was Placed from  1 = Within State 2 = Another State 3 = Another Country	18	0	0	0	
#34 Child Was Placed by  1 = Public Agency 2 = Private Agency 3 = Tribal Agency	18	0	0	0	

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4 = Independent Person 5 = Birth Parent					
#35 Receiving Monthly Subsidy	12	4	0	2	In three error cases the responses should have been “yes” instead of “no.”  In one error case the response should have been “no” instead of “yes.”
#36 Monthly Amount	6	9	1	2	In six of the error cases an amount should have been reported.
#37 Adoption Assistance	8	5	0	5	The reviewers found that the response to this element should have been “no” instead of “yes.”