

TOP 12 INDICATOR

Outcome 3 Citywide Low Replacements

ACS adopted a set of Placement Principles in September 1999. A central tenet of these principles is that all children in foster care deserve stable placements. Reducing the incidence of transfers (replacements) in foster care, i.e. children moving from one home or facility to another, is a critical indicator of the system's success at placement and permanency.

This outcome report provides a measure of the foster care system's success at providing stable placements for children while they are in foster care. **To illustrate the magnitude of foster care movements, the percent of children who have been in care at least one day and who have had at least one transfer from one facility to another during a given month or year is shown.**

The following report provides information on the transfer that occurred based on two critical questions: (1) how much disruption is the child experiencing while in care, and (2) did the transfer improve the child's environment.

The first section examines the issue of disruption by considering: (1) whether the transfer resulted in a move from one agency to another, and (2) whether it was the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd or more transfer to occur in a given child's spell in foster care.

Definitions used in this section of the report:

- **% Intra-agency transfers** is the percent of transfers in which a child is moved from a facility managed by a given agency to another managed by that same agency.
- **% Inter-agency transfers** is the percent of transfers in which a child is moved from one agency's facility to a different agency's facility.
- A **spell** is the time between a foster care entry and discharge. A child's first spell is his/her first episode in which he/she is placed into a foster home setting. Subsequent episodes in foster care are higher-order spells (2nd spell, 3rd spell...).
- **% 1st/2nd/3rd or more transfers in spell** are the percent of transfers that represents the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd or more transfer for a child in his/her current spell.
- **Calendar-year-to-date (CYTD)** refers to the time period from January to the most current month on the report.

Summary of Citywide Transfers

	JAN 2009	FEB 2009	MAR 2009	CYTD 2009	CYTD 2008
NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN CARE AT LEAST ONE DAY	17,331	17,343	17,506	18,861	18,860
NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH AT LEAST ONE TRANSFER	768	862	925	2,205	2,182
% transferred	4.4%	5.0%	5.3%	11.7%	11.6%
NUMBER OF TRANSFERS	932	1,092	1,132	3,156	3,038
% intra-agency	88.3%	87.4%	86.1%	87.2%	87.9%
% inter-agency	11.7%	12.6%	13.9%	12.8%	12.1%
% that are the 1 st transfer in current spell	22.0%	27.6%	26.0%	25.3%	28.4%
% that are the 2 nd transfer in current spell	16.6%	15.1%	15.8%	15.8%	18.2%
% that are the 3 rd or more transfer in current spell	61.4%	57.3%	58.2%	58.8%	53.4%

Shaded rows highlight critical measures for this Top 12 indicator.

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Outcome 3 Citywide

Low Replacements

The rest of the report considers the potentially positive impact transfers may have on the child's foster care environment.

Some movements in foster care can reflect positive transfers, which can enhance the quality and stability of the new placement for the child in care. In particular, movements from a non-kinship home setting to a kinship-home setting, movements that return a child to his/her CD of origin, and movements that reunite siblings are generally considered to improve the quality of the placement. The charts and tables that follow summarize the effect that the transfers had on these three areas.

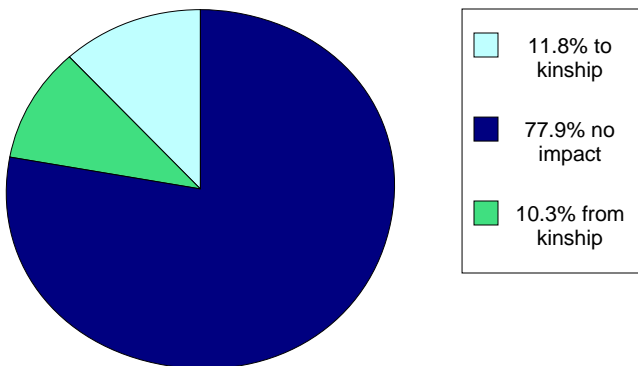
Definitions used in this section of the report:

- **Kinship placements** refer to placements with relative(s) up to the third degree.
- **Neighborhood based placements** refers to placements within a child's home neighborhood, represented here by the home community district (CD).
- A group of two or more full and/or half-siblings constitutes a **sibling group**.
- **Fully intact** refers to sibling groups placed together in the same foster home or facility.
- **Partially intact** refers to sibling groups with three or more children in which some, but not all, of the children are together in the same home or facility.
- **Separated** refers to sibling groups in which all siblings are placed in different homes.
- **Calendar-year-to-date (CYTD)** refers to the time period from January to the most current month of the report.

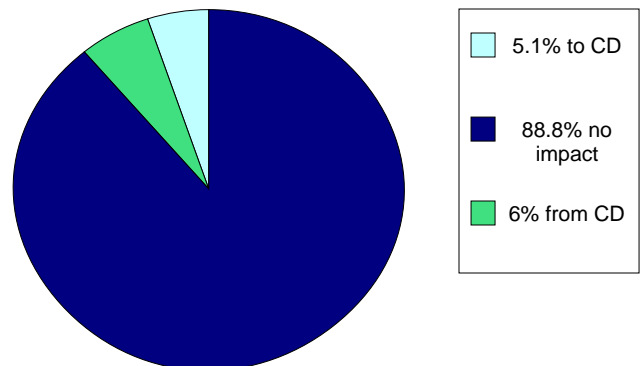
Transfers Impact on Kinship and Neighborhood Based Placements

	JAN 2009	FEB 2009	MAR 2009	CYTD 2009	CYTD 2008
NUMBER OF TRANSFERS	932	1,092	1,132	3,156	3,038
TRANSFERS TO AND FROM KINSHIP PLACEMENTS					
% of transfers that involve a move to kinship	11.8%	12.5%	11.2%	11.8%	13.3%
% of transfers that involve a move from kinship	10.6%	9.5%	10.9%	10.3%	9.3%
TRANSFERS TO AND FROM CD OF ORIGIN					
% of transfers that reflects a move to CD of origin	5.0%	4.8%	5.6%	5.1%	5.3%
% of transfers that reflects a move from CD of origin	5.8%	6.2%	6.0%	6.0%	4.6%

Impact on Kinship Status CYTD 2009



Impact on In-CD Status CYTD 2009



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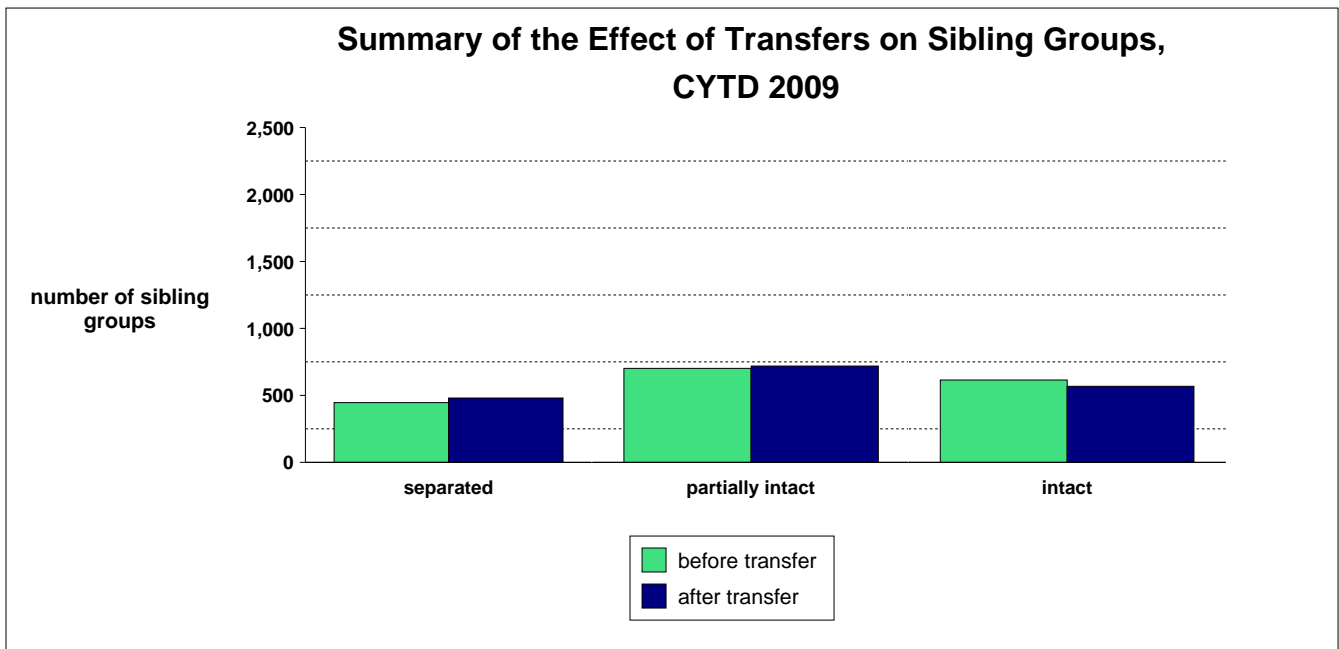
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Outcome 3 Citywide Low Replacements

ACS emphasizes the importance of placing children with their siblings in order to maintain family ties. When a child's needs suggest that he/she should be separated from his/her sibling(s), effort is made to place the children close together to help ensure required visitation and communication between them.

Summary of Transfers Involving Siblings

	JAN 2009	FEB 2009	MAR 2009	CYTD 2009	CYTD 2008
TRANSFERS INVOLVING SIBLINGS					
NUMBER OF TRANSFERS OF SIBLINGS THAT WERE INITIALLY SEPARATED	128	132	186	446	448
% Transfers of siblings who were initially separated to fully intact	10.2%	12.1%	12.4%	11.7%	17.9%
% Transfers of siblings who were initially separated to partially intact	6.3%	9.8%	12.4%	9.9%	7.6%
NUMBER OF TRANSFERS OF SIBLINGS WHO WERE INITIALLY PARTIALLY INTACT	212	251	239	702	651
% Transfer of siblings who were initially partially intact to fully intact	9.4%	16.3%	10.9%	12.4%	13.5%
% Transfers of siblings who were initially partially intact to separated	9.4%	4.8%	12.1%	8.7%	6.9%
NUMBER OF TRANSFERS OF SIBLINGS THAT WERE INITIALLY INTACT	163	225	227	615	581
% Transfer of sibling initially intact to partially intact	19.0%	22.2%	17.2%	19.5%	15.3%
% Transfers of siblings who were initially intact to separated	13.5%	10.2%	10.6%	11.2%	10.3%



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