

Indiana

state fact sheet



From 2008 to 2013, Casey Family Programs will have invested **\$2.5 million** in Indiana to support the work of the child welfare system, courts, tribes, policymakers and other organizations to build communities of hope that safely reduce the need for foster care and support strong, lifelong families for all children.

Congress has a critical role to play in transforming how our nation responds to child abuse and neglect and builds hope for young lives. There is no time to lose.

Each year, approximately 3 million children across the country are involved in investigations of maltreatment or other issues. About 382,400 under 18 are currently living in foster care.

Today, almost all of the federal government's dedicated child welfare funding can be spent by states only on foster care-related services. Casey Family Programs believes that all states should be able to make smarter investments in services and interventions that are shown to better protect children, improve outcomes and strengthen families.

We talk about a “foster care system,” but in fact the vast majority of children who come to the attention of child welfare officials are not placed in foster care. In **Indiana** – and around the nation – the goal is to help **all** vulnerable children grow up in safe, stable and loving families.

Each year in **Indiana** approximately:



Foster care is a response to abuse and neglect, not a solution. Yet the bulk of the \$7.6 billion in dedicated federal child welfare spending can only be used by states for foster care-related services. To truly transform the child welfare system in America, **all states** should be able to make smarter investments of federal dollars in programs that ultimately reduce the need for foster care and produce better outcomes for children.

How federal funding is aligned with need in **Indiana**:

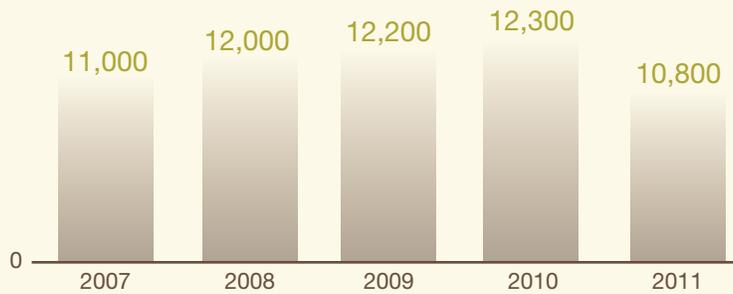


Safety and effective response go hand-in-hand. Most children enter foster care due to neglect and other reasons – not because of physical or sexual abuse. In **Indiana**, providing targeted and effective interventions as soon as possible can safely prevent the need for foster care and better ensure that children who suffer any kind of maltreatment are not harmed again.

Reasons children enter foster care



Children 18 and younger living in foster care (As of September 30, 2011)

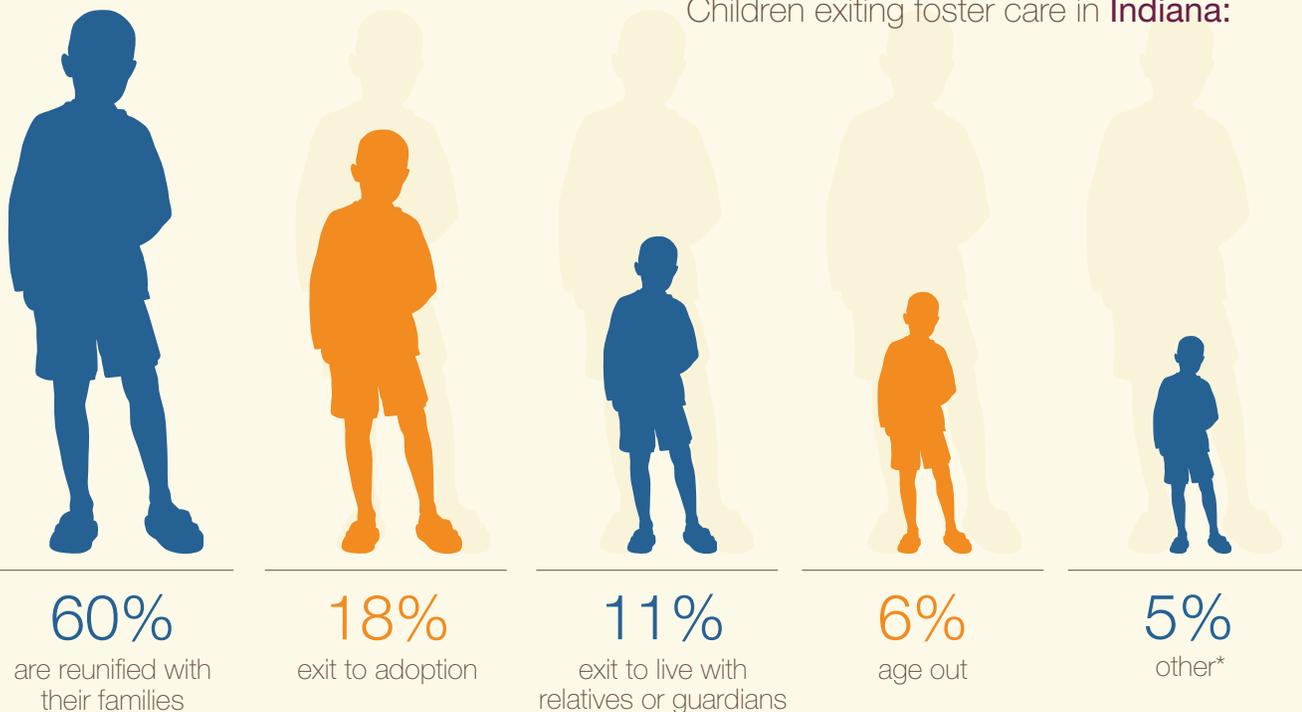


*Other includes: Parental substance abuse, child substance abuse, child disability, child behavior problems, parent death, parent incarceration, caretaker inability to cope, relinquishment, inadequate housing

93% of children do not experience a repeat occurrence of maltreatment within six months

What happens to children who end up in foster care? Most are safely reunited with their own parent or extended family. A significant number are adopted. Communities across America have shown they can help more children to grow up in safe, stable families by providing appropriate and timely services after they return home.

Children exiting foster care in **Indiana**:



*Other includes: transferred to another agency, ran away or passed away

keeping children safe

everyone deserves a lifelong family

Progress in Indiana

Casey Family Programs will invest \$1 billion nationally by the end of the decade to support the work of states such as **Indiana** to keep children safe, make families strong and build communities of hope.

We partner with public child welfare systems, courts, policymakers, families, businesses, faith-based organizations and others to help better prevent abuse and neglect and support stable, lifelong families for all children.

In **Indiana**, the work includes:

- Ensuring more children have a safe, life-long family as soon as possible
- Developing new and better approaches for keeping vulnerable children safe from harm

We believe this work is making a meaningful improvement to the lives of the state's children and families. Congress and the federal government have a role to play in making sure the state can make smarter investments that effectively address the needs of the community's vulnerable children and their families.

Updated: April 2013

This report is based on 2011 data made available by the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect Data (NDACAN):

- Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS)
- National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS)

Check with state officials for the most up-to-date data.



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