



Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth & Families



Picture Source: Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families website ([Welcome | RI Department of Children, Youth & Families](#)),
State of Rhode Island Be an Anchor website ([Welcome | Be an Anchor](#))

Permanency & Re-entry:

FFY23 Entry & Exit Cohort

(October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023)

Data and Evaluation

April 2025

Section 1: Permanency in 12 Months

Children Achieving Permanency Within 12 Months of Entering Into Foster Care, FFY23 Entry Cohort

The data presented in this section mainly focus on children under 18 years old who entered Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families (RI DCYF) out-of-home placement between October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023 (FFY23 entry cohort) and achieved permanency within 12 months of the entry into foster care. The data in this section reflect Child and Family Service Reviews (CFSR) Round 4 inclusion and exclusion criteria: children who stayed for less than 8 days in out-of-home placement are excluded. Children who discharge at age 18 are included but not counted as achieving permanency. The definition of permanency is consistent with CFSR Round 4 measures and includes discharge from all out-of-home placements with reason of reunification with parents, adoption (including direct consent), living with a relative(s) or guardianship. Supportive reunification is when a child returns home to their family with the goal of discharging to reunification. For this report, a child in supportive reunification is still in state custody and considered in placement. It is not counted as permanency achieved. Also starting this year's report, Residential Intervention is replacing the term congregate care and includes the same placement settings.

Permanency Achieved in 12 Months of Entering RI DCYF Foster Care =

Numerator: Children who achieved permanency within 12 months of entering into DCYF out of home

Denominator: All children who entered into DCYF out of home placement during a federal fiscal year.

Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria:

- Children who stayed in care less than 8 days are excluded from the denominator and numerator.
- Permanency defined as discharged from all out of home placements to reunification, living with a relative, guardianship or adoption
- Children discharged to permanency at age 18 or older are not counted as achieving permanency.

Section 1 Data Source: RICHIST Report 460R as of 10/10/2024.

Section 1 Data Notes: If a child had multiple removals in a fiscal year, the first removal record was selected to analyze unduplicated count.

Stats at a Quick Glance

Table 1. Stats at a Quick Glance: 3-year trend data on permanency achieved within 12 months of entry.

	FFY21 entry cohort (Permanency achieved between FFY21-FFY22)	FFY22 entry cohort (Permanency achieved between FFY22-FFY23)	FFY23 entry cohort (Permanency achieved between FFY23-FFY24)
Number and percent achieved permanency	198 (25.6%)	178 (21.4%)	156 (21.2%)
Median age (years) at removal for children achieved permanency	3 years	5 years	6 years
Median length of time (days) in placement for children achieved permanency	231 days	265 days	276 days
Among children who entered into a first placement of Residential Intervention , percent who achieved permanency	17%	11%	17%
Among children who entered into a first placement of foster family homes or independent living , percent who achieved permanency	27%	23%	22%

Data Notes:

- Residential Intervention includes placement type of acute residential treatment, assessment and stabilization center, group homes, high end residential treatment, POS group homes, psych hospital, residential treatment, semi-independent living.

Rate of Permanency Achieved Within 12 Months by Demographics

Highlights:

Among FFY23 entry cohort:

- 156 (21.2%) children achieved permanency within 12 months of entry,
- 566 (77.0%) children remained in out-of-home placement longer than 12 months, and
- 13 (1.8%) children discharged within 12 months without permanency achieved.

Table 2 shows the rate of permanency achieved within 12 months by demographics. 13 children who discharged without permanency achieved (see data notes for definition) are not reflected in this table due to small number. Largest percent among this group was children aged 17 years old at the time of removal.

There was minimal difference in rate of achieving permanency within 12 months between female and male. Across racial and ethnic groups, Multiracial/other Non-Hispanic had the highest percent achieving permanency and Black Non-Hispanic had the lowest percent achieving permanency (see Figure 1). Across age groups, children ages 0-5 had higher percent achieving permanency within 12 months compared to older age groups.

Table 2. Rate of permanency achieved within 12 months of entry by demographics, FFY23 entry cohort.

	Total Number	Permanency achieved within 12 months		Not discharged within 12 months	
		N	Row %	N	Row %
Gender					
Female	341	73	21%	268	79%
Male	381	83	22%	298	78%
Race and Ethnicity					
Black Non-Hispanic	96	16	17%	80	83%
Hispanic	231	53	23%	178	77%
Multiracial/other Non-Hispanic	91	22	24%	69	76%
White Non-Hispanic	302	64	21%	238	79%
Unknown/Missing	*	*	*	*	*
Age at Removal					
0-5 years	320	76	24%	244	76%
6-11 years	156	33	21%	123	79%
12-17 years	246	47	19%	199	81%

* = Due to small population size, all numbers were suppressed for FFY23 entry cohort if less than 6.

Data Notes:

- 13 children who discharged within 12 months without permanency achieved are excluded from the table.
- Discharge without permanency includes children discharged with reasons of Emancipation, AWOL, Death of child, Detained at RITS, Subsidy ended, TCP revoked and Transfer to another agency. Children discharged at 18 or older are counted as discharged without achieving permanency.

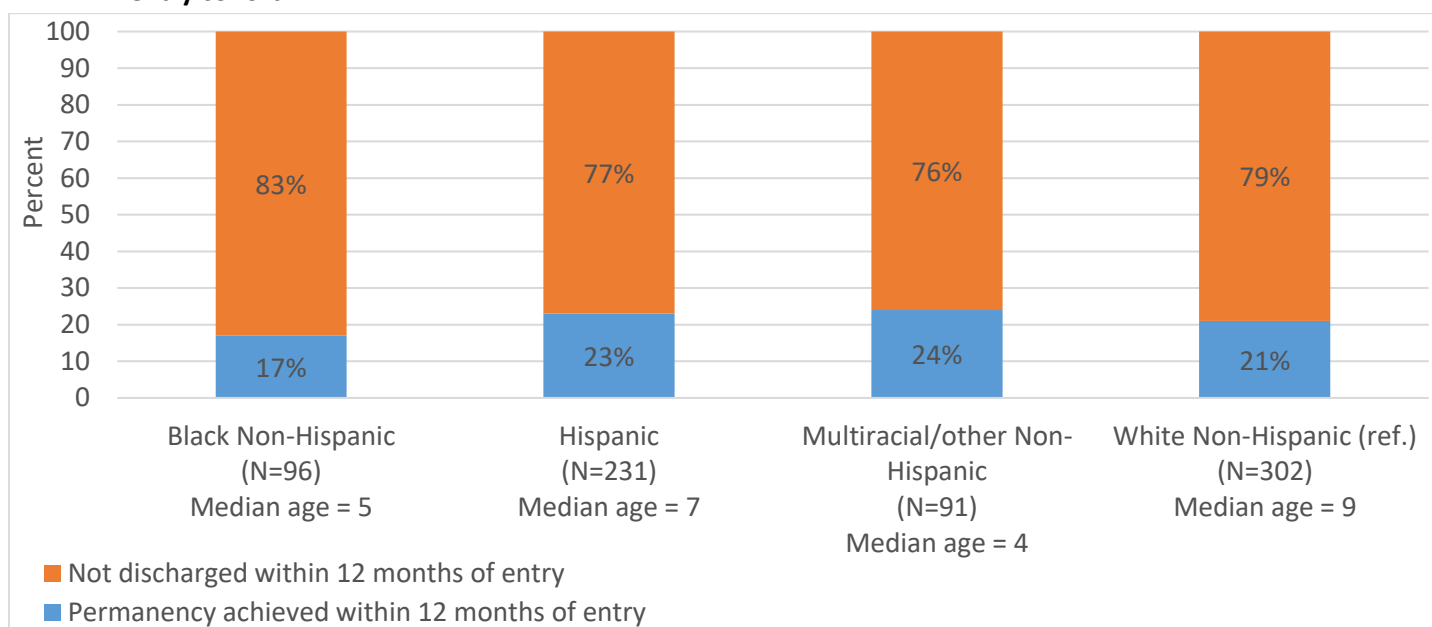
Disproportionality in Permanency Achieved in 12 Months by Race and Ethnicity

Highlights:

The rate of permanency achieved within 12 months was calculated excluding 13 children who discharged within 12 months without achieving permanency due to small number. The largest percent of this group was Multiracial/other Non-Hispanic children.

Hispanic children had a slightly higher percent achieving permanency within 12 months compared to other racial and ethnic groups. Black Non-Hispanic children had lowest percent of achieving permanency within 12 months. There was no statistically significant difference across racial/ethnic groups, controlling for age. However, it is important to note that there may be practical significance.

Figure 1. Permanency achieved within 12 months of entering out-of-home placement, by race and ethnicity, FFY23 entry cohort.



Data Notes:

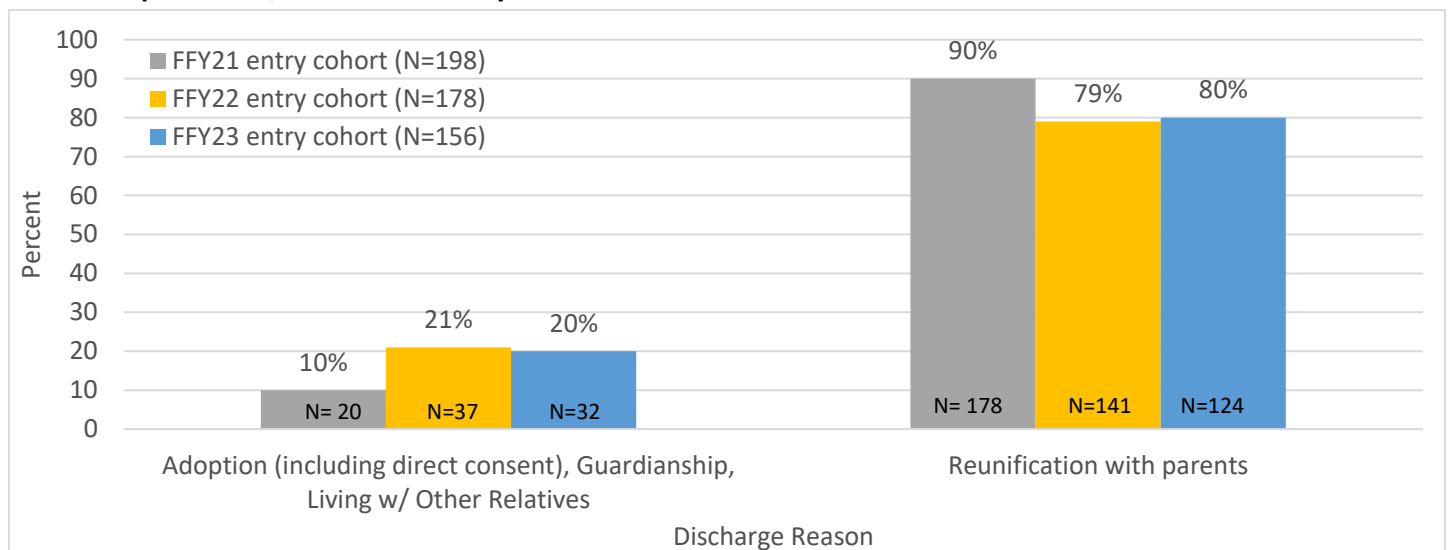
- Denominator is all children in a given race/ethnicity. Numerator presents percent achieved permanency among the given race/ethnicity.
- Multiracial/other includes Multiracial Non-Hispanic, Asian, American Indian and Pacific Islander.
- Discharge without permanency includes children discharged with reasons of Emancipation, AWOL, Death of child, Detained at RITS, Subsidy ended, TCP revoked and Transfer to another agency. Children who discharged at 18 or older are counted as not achieving permanency.

Discharge Reasons for Permanency Achieved in 12 Months

Highlights:

Across three FFYs, reunification with parents was the most prevalent discharge reason among children who achieved permanency within 12 months of entry. Permanency achieved via adoption (including direct consent), guardianship and living with other relatives doubled over the three FFYs, from 10% to about 20%.

Figure 2. Discharge reasons among children who achieved permanency within 12 months of entering out-of-home placement, FFY21-FFY23 entry cohorts.



Data Notes:

- There are 13 children in FFY21 entry cohort, 17 children in FFY22 entry cohort, and 13 children in FFY23 entry cohort who discharged without achieving permanency.
- Discharge without permanency includes children discharged with reasons of Emancipation, AWOL, Death of child, Detained at RITS, Subsidy ended, TCP revoked, Transfer to another agency, and Supportive Reunification. Children who discharged at 18 or older are counted as not achieving permanency

Section 2: Re-entry in 12 Months

Children Re-entering Into Foster Care Within 12 Months of Permanency Achieved, FFY23 Exit Cohort

The data presented in this section mainly focus on children under 18 years old who re-enter RI DCYF out-of-home placement within 12 months of their discharge to reunification, living with a relative(s) or guardianship between October 1, 2022 - September 30, 2023 (FFY23 exit cohort). The methodology used to calculate re-entry is consistent with the Children's Bureau observed re-entry. Starting this year's report, Residential Intervention is replacing the term congregate care and includes the same placement settings.

Re-entry in 12 Months Among Children Who Achieved Permanency =

Numerator: Children who re-enter into DCYF foster care within 12 months of achieving permanency

Denominator: All children who achieved permanency during a federal fiscal year

Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria:

- Achieving permanency includes reunification, guardianship or living with a relative(s). Permanency achieved via adoption is excluded from the denominator.
- Excluding children 18 who enter or exit care at age 18 or older.

Stats at a Quick Glance

Table 3. Stats at a Quick Glance: 3-year trend data on re-entry into foster care within 12 months of permanency achieved.

	FFY21 exit cohort (Re-entry between FFY21-FFY22)	FFY22 exit cohort (Re-entry between FFY22-FFY23)	FFY23 exit cohort (Re-entry between FFY23-FFY24)
Number and percent re-entered	50 (4.4%)	56 (5.6%)	39 (6.3%)
Median age (years) at re-entry	6 years	8 years	7 years
Median length of time (days) between permanency achieved and re-entry	160 days	209 days	237 days

Data Notes:

- Percentages in this section are unadjusted for age and number of entries. Children's Bureau adjusts for age and number of entries.

Re-entry in 12-Months:

Rate of Re-entry Within 12 Months by Demographics

Highlights:

Among FFY23 exit cohort:

- 39 (6.3%) children re-entered DCYF out-of-home placement within 12 months of permanency achieved, and
- 580 (93.7%) sustained permanency within 12 months.

There was minimal difference in rate of achieving permanency within 12 months between female and male. Across racial and ethnic groups, Black Non-Hispanic had the highest percent re-entering and White Non-Hispanic had the lowest percent re-entering (see Figure 3). Across age groups, older children ages 12-17 had slightly lower percent re-entering compared to younger children.

Table 4. Rate of re-entering within 12 months of permanency achieved by demographics, FFY23 exit cohort.

	Total Number	Re-entered within 12 months of permanency achieved		Permanency sustained within 12 months	
		N	Row %	N	Row %
Gender					
Female	274	14	5%	260	95%
Male	345	25	7%	320	93%
Race and ethnicity					
Black Non-Hispanic	68	7	10%	61	90%
Hispanic	176	11	6%	165	94%
Multiracial/other Non-Hispanic	81	6	7%	75	93%
White Non-Hispanic	293	15	5%	278	95%
Unknown/Missing	*	*	*	*	*
Age at permanency achieved					
0-5 years	232	16	7%	216	93%
6-11 years	198	13	7%	185	93%
12-17 years	189	10	5%	179	95%

* = Due to small population size, all numbers were suppressed for FFY23 entry cohort if less than 6.

Data Notes:

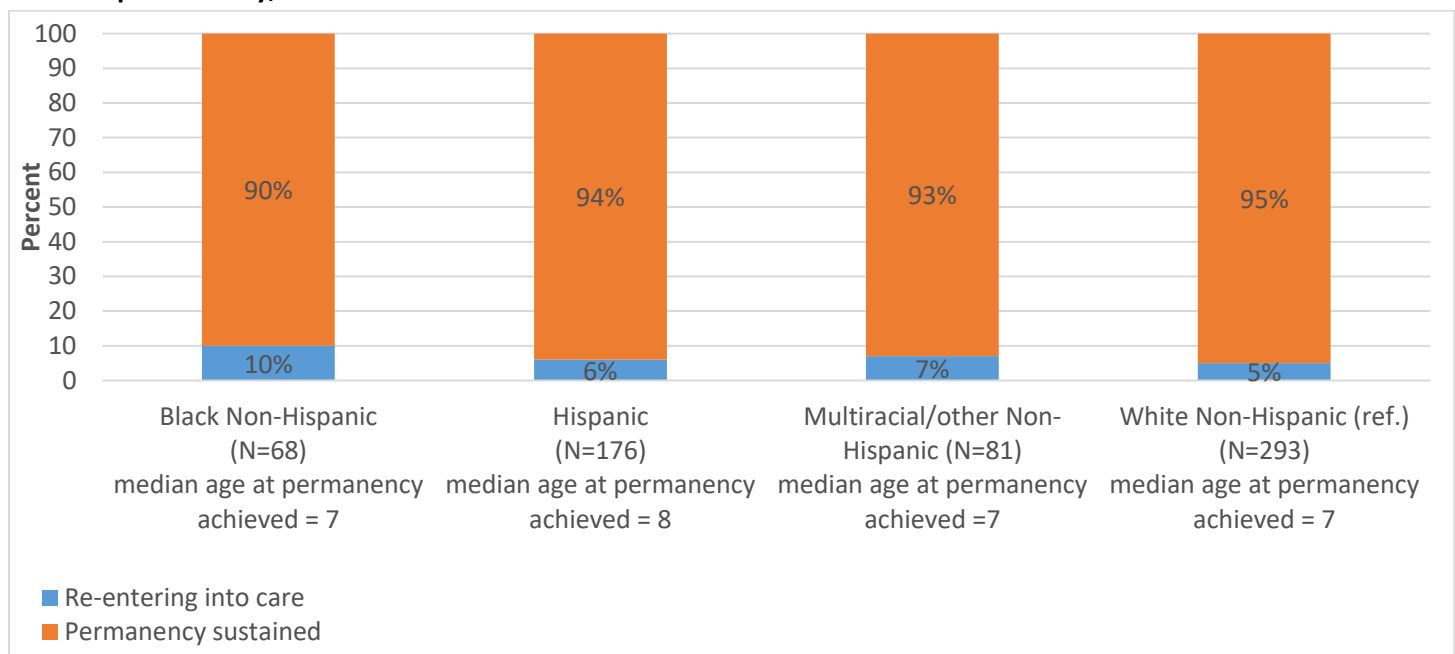
- Multiracial/other includes Multiracial Non-Hispanic, Asian, American Indian and Pacific Islander.

Disproportionality in Re-entry Within 12 Months by Race and Ethnicity

Highlights:

Among FFY23 exit cohort, there was no statistically significant difference in the percent re-entering across all racial and ethnic groups compared to White Non-Hispanic, controlling for age. Although, Black Non-Hispanic children did not have statistically significant difference in re-entering compared to White Non-Hispanic children, it is important to note that there may be practical significance.

Figure 3. Disproportionality in children re-entering out-of-home placement within 12 months of achieving permanency, FFY23 exit cohort



Data Notes:

- Multiracial/other includes Multiracial Non-Hispanic, Asian, American Indian and Pacific Islander.
- Denominator is all children in a given race and ethnicity. Numerator presents percent re-entering into out-of-home placement among the given race and ethnicity.
- Children with unknown race and ethnicity are excluded.

Most Frequent Removal Reasons for Re-entry Within 12 Months

Highlights:

Due to small numbers, the figure below shows most frequent removal reasons of re-entry for all ages and all racial and ethnic groups combined. Neglect was the most common removal reason of re-entry for FFY23 exit cohort, 67%, followed by parent drug/alcohol abuse, 46%.

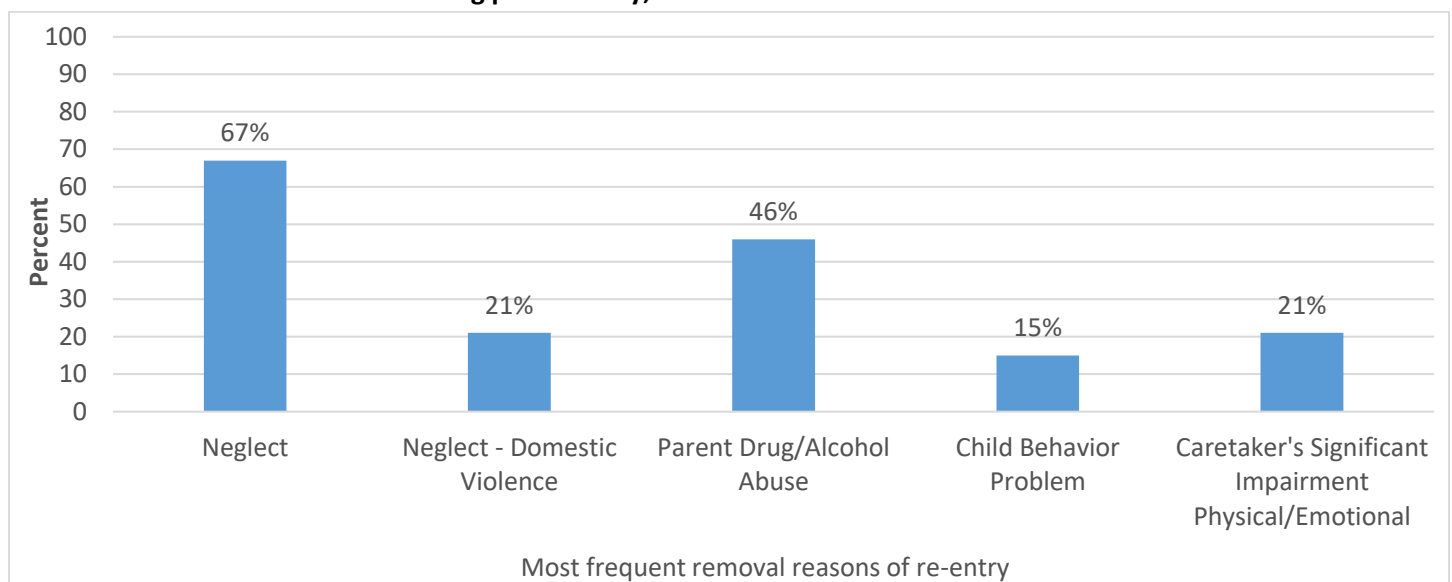
By age group:

- Neglect and parent drug/alcohol abuse were the most common removal reason of re-entry for children who achieved permanency between ages 0-11.
- Neglect and child behavior problem were the most common removal reason of re-entry for children who achieved permanency between ages 12-17.

By race and ethnicity:

- Neglect was the most common removal reason of re-entry, greater than 50%, across all racial and ethnic groups. The median age at permanency achieved for Black Non-Hispanic children who re-entered into foster care was 14 years old, compared to 4 years old for Hispanic, 6 years old for Multiracial/other Non-Hispanic and 7 years old for White Non-Hispanic.

Figure 4. Most frequent removal reasons for re-entry among children re-entering into out-of-home placement within 12 months of achieving permanency, FFY23 exit cohort.



Data Notes:

- Percentages may add up to over 100% because a youth may have multiple removal reasons.
- Only the most frequent removal reasons are shown. Removals reasons that are less than 6 are not presented in the figure.