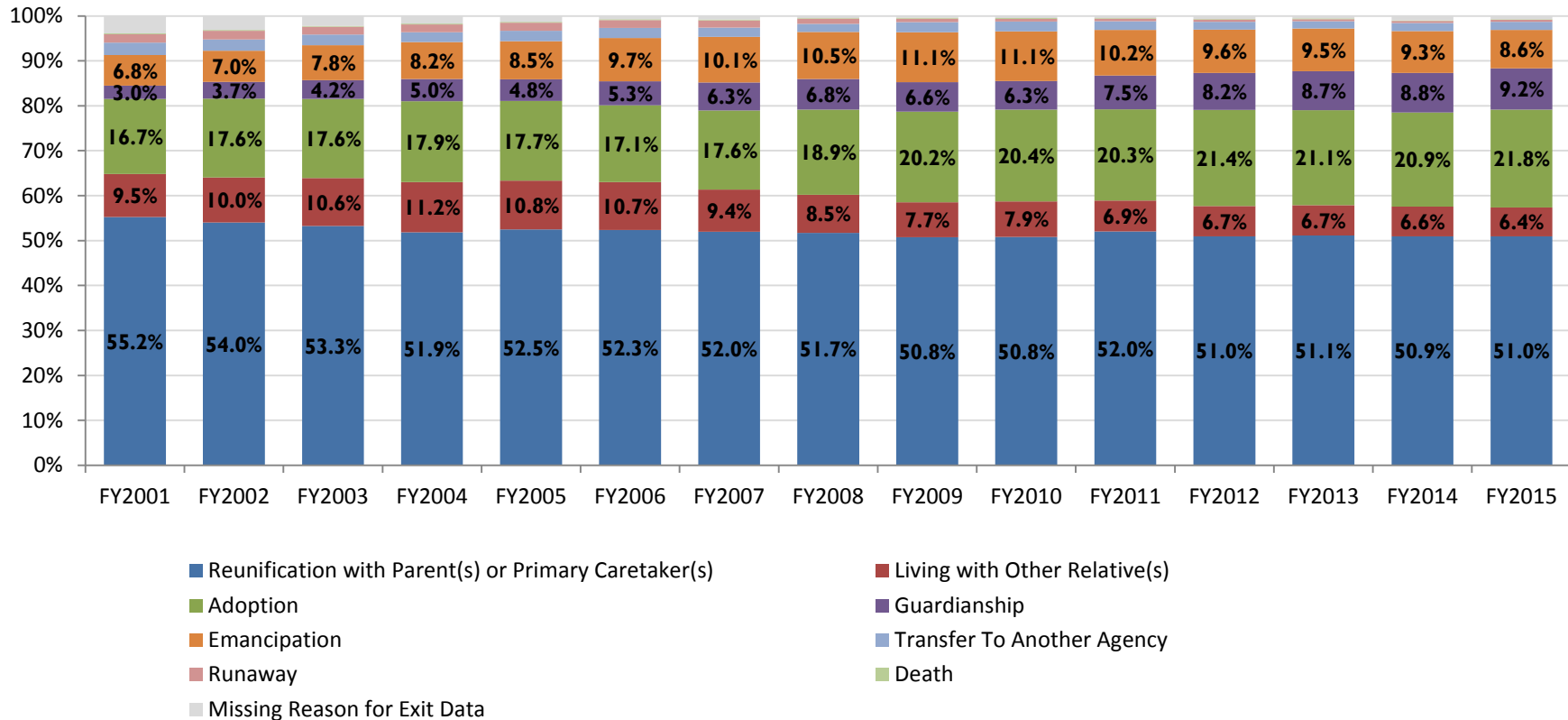


Figure 11-12. Share of Children Exiting Foster Care by Reason for Exit, FY2001-FY2015

Most children leave foster care to a permanent family home through reunification with a parent/caretaker, going to live with another relative, or through adoption or legal guardianship -- between 85% and 88% in each of the years shown below. Exits to adoption or legal guardianship represent a growing share of those permanency exits (31% in FY2015, compared to about 26% in FY2008 and 20% in FY2001) The share of children who “age out” of care without a permanent family (“emancipation”) peaked at more than 11% in FY 2009 and FY2010. It has since declined to less than 9% of exits.



Source: Figure prepared by CRS on December 8, 2016 for the 2016 version of the House Ways and Means Committee Green Book. Based on AFCARS data provided by HHS, ACF, ACYF, Children’s Bureau, and as reported by the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico as of January 2009 for FY2001-FY2003, as of July 2014 for FY2004-FY2010, and as of June 2016 for all remaining fiscal years.

Notes: Percentages are not displayed in the figure for any category representing less than three percent of the total exits in a given year (i.e., runaway, transfer to another agency, and death, as well as for children for whom their reasons for exit from care were not reported. For these percentages, as well as the number of children in each category, see Table 11-12.

Table 11-12. Children Exiting Foster Care During FY2001-FY2015, by Reason for Exit

Number

Fiscal Year	Reunite with Parents or Primary Caretakers	Live with Other Relative	Adoption	Guardianship	Emancipation	Transfer To Another Agency	Run-away	Death	Missing Reason for Exit Data	Total
2001	148,712	25,698	44,984	8,006	18,306	7,471	4,982	524	10,489	269,172
2002	150,473	27,829	48,988	10,300	19,367	6,997	5,239	522	8,739	278,454
2003	148,291	29,620	49,110	11,653	21,639	6,493	4,837	555	6,217	278,415
2004	145,596	31,388	50,375	13,952	23,024	6,248	4,803	480	4,816	280,682
2005	150,365	30,990	50,806	13,784	24,330	6,635	5,136	499	3,791	286,336
2006	154,422	31,468	50,551	15,645	28,518	6,482	5,201	503	2,252	295,042
2007	153,252	27,704	51,968	18,462	29,914	6,064	4,749	467	2,411	294,991
2008	149,414	24,478	54,679	19,590	30,342	5,152	3,295	438	1,390	288,778
2009	140,958	21,456	56,028	18,193	30,854	6,336	2,155	412	1,214	277,606
2010	131,056	20,332	52,697	16,295	28,534	5,684	1,552	342	1,314	257,806
2011	128,750	17,093	50,197	18,648	25,150	4,811	1,325	361	1,180	247,543
2012	122,088	16,131	51,258	19,723	22,965	4,255	1,226	331	1,545	239,535
2013	122,186	16,113	50,461	20,744	22,701	3,878	1,122	363	1,344	238,930
2014	120,978	15,770	49,724	21,007	22,125	4,163	1,140	330	2,298	237,554
2015	123,894	15,621	52,931	22,303	20,789	4,363	985	336	1,828	243,060

Percentage

Fiscal Year	Reunite with Parents or Primary Caretakers	Living with Other Relative	Adoption	Guardianship	Emancipation	Transfer To Another Agency	Run-away	Death	Missing Reason for Exit Data	Total
2001	55.2%	9.5%	16.7%	3.0%	6.8%	2.8%	1.9%	0.2%	3.9%	100.0%
2002	54.0%	10.0%	17.6%	3.7%	7.0%	2.5%	1.9%	0.2%	3.1%	100.0%
2003	53.3%	10.6%	17.6%	4.2%	7.8%	2.3%	1.7%	0.2%	2.2%	100.0%
2004	51.9%	11.2%	17.9%	5.0%	8.2%	2.2%	1.7%	0.2%	1.7%	100.0%
2005	52.5%	10.8%	17.7%	4.8%	8.5%	2.3%	1.8%	0.2%	1.3%	100.0%
2006	52.3%	10.7%	17.1%	5.3%	9.7%	2.2%	1.8%	0.2%	0.8%	100.0%
2007	52.0%	9.4%	17.6%	6.3%	10.1%	2.1%	1.6%	0.2%	0.8%	100.0%
2008	51.7%	8.5%	18.9%	6.8%	10.5%	1.8%	1.1%	0.2%	0.5%	100.0%
2009	50.8%	7.7%	20.2%	6.6%	11.1%	2.3%	0.8%	0.1%	0.4%	100.0%
2010	50.8%	7.9%	20.4%	6.3%	11.1%	2.2%	0.6%	0.1%	0.5%	100.0%
2011	52.0%	6.9%	20.3%	7.5%	10.2%	1.9%	0.5%	0.1%	0.5%	100.0%
2012	51.0%	6.7%	21.4%	8.2%	9.6%	1.8%	0.5%	0.1%	0.6%	100.0%
2013	51.1%	6.7%	21.1%	8.7%	9.5%	1.6%	0.5%	0.2%	0.6%	100.0%
2014	50.9%	6.6%	20.9%	8.8%	9.3%	1.8%	0.5%	0.1%	1.0%	100.0%
2015	51.0%	6.4%	21.8%	9.2%	8.6%	1.8%	0.4%	0.1%	0.8%	100.0%

Source: Table prepared by CRS on December 8, 2016 for the 2016 version of the House Ways and Means Committee Green Book. Based on AFCARS data provided by HHS, ACF,ACYF, Children’s Bureau, and as reported by the 50 states, DC, and PR as of January 2009 for FY2001-FY2003, as of July 2014 for FY2004-FY2010 and as of June 2016 for all remaining fiscal years.

Note: Some data may vary from previous versions of this table because foster care data are revised if states submit corrections.