

**TABLE 11-16. NUMBER OF CHILDREN WAITING TO BE ADOPTED AND THEIR
MEDIAN AND AVERAGE AGE AS OF THE LAST DAY OF THE FISCAL YEAR,
FY2001-FY2011**

Fiscal Year	Number of Waiting Children	Median Age in Years	Average Age in Years
2001	130,115	8.2	8.2
2002	133,894	8.3	8.3
2003	130,640	8.3	8.4
2004	130,354	8.0	8.3
2005	130,668	7.9	8.3
2006	135,352	7.5	8.0
2007	133,682	7.3	8.0
2008	125,742	7.3	8.0
2009	114,450	7.5	8.1
2010	109,474	7.2	8.0
2011	104,235	7.2	8.0

Source: Table prepared by the Congressional Research Service on November 4, 2012 for the 2012 version of the House Ways and Means Committee Green Book. Based on data provided by HHS, ACF,ACYF, Children’s Bureau and as reported by the 50 states, DC and Puerto Rico (as of January 2009 for FY2001-FY2003 and as of August 2012 for all remaining years shown).

Note: In general, HHS identifies a child as “waiting to be adopted” if the child has a case plan goal of adoption and/or the rights of his/her parents have been terminated. However, it excludes from the count any child who is 16 years of age or older and whose parents’ parental rights have been terminated if that child has a case plan goal of “emancipation.”