

AFCARS 2.0 is a complete rewrite of AFCARS 1.0. Even the remaining foster care elements will require recoding.

The level of detail required for each placement/living arrangement/foster parent within each removal is a major undertaking both from a coding as well as a data validation standpoint. Some elements listed in AFCARS 2.0 do not exist in our system and are not currently being collected. Given the workforce issues that we are currently experiencing below are our suggestions for what would help eliminate some of the burden.

- Move the ICWA elements completely out of AFCARS 2.0 for this round.
- Allow states that have no recognized tribal association such as ours to auto populate the ICWA related elements with a negative or null response.
- Suspend the level of detail required for each placement/living arrangement/foster parent(s)/guardian within each removal for this round.
- Leave the disability conditions categories as they appear in AFCARS 1.0. Add diagnosis codes such as Autism to already existing disability categories for this round rather than re-categorize.