



Facts About Children in Foster Care in Arkansas

To find out how to become a foster parent in Arkansas, please visit:

<http://www.fosterarkansas.org/>

To learn more about adoption in Arkansas, please visit:

<http://www.state.ar.us/dhs/adoption/adoption.html>

Total Population:	3,694 children were in the foster care system in Arkansas on June 30, 2008 ⁱ . Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.		
Age:ⁱ	Average Age: 10.1 years		
	15%	< 1 year	18%
	25%	2-5 years	12%
	25%	6-11 years	5%
			12-15 years
			16-18 years
			≥19 years
Gender:ⁱ	Male: 50% Female: 50%		
Race and Ethnicity:	<u>Race/Ethnicityⁱ</u>	<u>In out-of-home care</u>	<u>In state child populationⁱⁱ¹</u>
	Black (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	28%	3%
	White (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	57%	50%
	Hispanic	6%	36%
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	0%	7%
	Asian/Pacific Islander (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	0%	2%
	Unknown	0%	N/A
	2 or More Races (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	9%	2%
Length of Stay:	The average length of stay for children in care on June 30, 2008 was less than one year.		
Reunified:	42% of the young people leaving the system as of June 30, 2008 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers. ⁱ		
Foster Homes:	In 2008, there were a total of 1,045 licensed non-relative foster homes in Arkansas. ¹		
Adoption:	There were 449 children whose adoption was finalized as of June 30, 2008. ¹		

Sources:

ⁱ Arkansas Division of Children and Family Services SFY 2008 Annual Report Card

² Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for the FY 2003, 10/1/02 through 9/30/03.

U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000. *American FactFinder*. <http://factfinder.census.gov>