



Facts About Children in Foster Care in California

To find out how to become a foster parent in California, please call 1-800-KIDS-4-US or visit:

<http://www.childsworld.ca.gov/PG1347.htm>

To learn more about adoption in California, please visit:

<http://www.childsworld.ca.gov/PG1302.htm>

Total Population:	78,278 children were in the foster care system in California on July 1, 2006 ⁱ . Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.		
Age: ⁱ	Average Age: N/A		
	6%	< 1 year	30%
	25%	1-5 years	17%
	21%	6-10 years	1%
			≥19 years
Gender: ⁱ	Male: 50% Female: 50%		
Race and Ethnicity:	<u>Race/Ethnicity</u> ⁱ	<u>In out-of-home care</u>	<u>In state child population</u> ⁱⁱ
	Black (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	28%	7%
	White (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	26%	35%
	Hispanic	42%	44%
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	1%	1%
	Asian/Pacific Islander (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	2%	10%
	Unknown	0%	N/A
	2 or More Races (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	N/A	4%
Length of Stay:	The average length of stay for children in care on September 30, 2003 was 39 months. ⁱⁱⁱ		
Reunified:	62% of the young people leaving the system in FY 2003 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers. ⁱⁱⁱ		
Foster Homes:	In 2004, there were a total of 12,160 licensed non-relative foster homes in California ^{iv} .		
	On July 1, 2006, 37% of youth living in out-of-home care were residing with their relatives. ⁱ		
Adoption:	Of children with state agency involvement adopted in FY 2003, 51% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents and 45% were adopted by relatives. ⁱ		

Sources:

ⁱ Child Welfare Research Center. *Child Welfare Services Reports for California*.

<http://cssr.berkeley.edu/cwscmsreports/Pointintime/fostercare/childwel/ageandethnic.asp>

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

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

^{iv} Child Welfare League of America - National Data Analysis System

http://ndas.cwla.org/data_stats/access/predefined/Report.asp?ReportID=127