

Facts About Children in Foster Care in Colorado

To find out how to become a foster or adoptive parent in Colorado, please visit:

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

Total Population: 8,754 children were in the foster care system in Colorado on September 30, 2003.ⁱ
Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

Age:ⁱ Average Age: 11.2 years

5%	< 1 year	30%	11-15 years
20%	1-5 years	24%	16-18 years
17%	6-10 years	4%	≥19 years

Gender:ⁱ Male: 58% Female: 42%

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>)	12%	4%
	White (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	50%	66%
	Hispanic	33%	24%
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	1%	1%
	Asian/Pacific Islander (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	1%	2%
	Unknown	0%	N/A
	2 or More Races (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	7%	3%

Length of Stay: The average length of stay for children in care on September 30, 2003 was 24 months.ⁱ

Reunified: 58% of the young people leaving the system in FY 2003 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers.ⁱ

Foster Homes: In 2002, there were a total of 3,641 licensed non-relative foster homes in Coloradoⁱⁱⁱ.

On September 30, 2003, 14% 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, 58% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents and 31% were adopted by relatives.ⁱ

Sources:

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

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

ⁱⁱⁱ Child Welfare League of America - National Data Analysis System
http://ndas.cwla.org/data_stats/access/predefined/Report.asp?ReportID=127