



Facts About Children in Foster Care in the District of Columbia

To find out how to become a foster or adoptive parent in the District of Columbia, please call (202) 671-LOVE or visit: <http://cfsa.dc.gov/cfsa/cwp/view,a,3,q,519886.asp>

Total Population: 2,237 children were in the foster care system in the District of Columbia on January 31, 2009. Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

Age: Average Age: 12 years

2%	< 1 year	23%	11-15 years
19%	1-5 years	25%	16-18 years
15%	6-10 years	15%	≥19 years

Gender: Male: 52% Female: 48%

Race and Ethnicity:	<u>Race/Ethnicityⁱ</u>	<u>In out-of-home care</u>	<u>In state child population</u>
	Black (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	88%	68%
	White (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	2%	20%
	Hispanic	6%	10%
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	0%	0%
	Asian/Pacific Islander (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	0%	2%
	Unknown	10%	N/A
	2 or More Races (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	N/A	2%

Length of Stay: The average length of stay for children in care on January 31, 2009 was 45 months.

Reunified: 44% of the young people leaving the system on January 31, 2009 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers.

Foster Homes: As of January 31, 2009 the total number of licensed non-relative foster homes in the District of Columbia is 194.

Adoption: Of children with state agency involvement adopted in FY 2009, 94% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents and 6% were adopted by relatives.ⁱⁱ

Sources:

ⁱ Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 American Community Survey. <http://factfinder.census.gov>

ⁱⁱ Adoption data covers period from October 1, 2008 to present.