

Facts About Children in Foster Care in Delaware

To find out how to become a foster parent in Delaware, please call (800) 464-4357 or visit:
<http://www.state.de.us/kids/fs/fostercare.shtml>

To learn more about adoption in Delaware, please visit:
<http://kids.delaware.gov/information/adoption.shtml>

Total Population:	899 children were in the foster care system in September 30, 2008 ⁱ . Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.		
Age: ⁱ	Average Age: 9.5 years		
	5%	< 1 year	28%
	27%	1-5 years	21%
	19%	6-10 years	0%
			≥19 years
Gender: ⁱ	Male: 53% Female: 47%		
Race and Ethnicity:	<u>Race/Ethnicity</u> ^j	<u>In out-of-home care</u> FFY06	<u>In state child population</u> FFY06 ⁱⁱ
	Black (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	56%	26%
	White (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	35%	69%
	Hispanic	8%	4%
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	.4%	0%
	Asian/Pacific Islander (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	0%	1%
	Unknown	0%	N/A
	2 or More Races (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	1%	1%
Length of Stay:	The medium average length of stay for children in care on September 30, 2008 was 15.1 months. ⁱ		
Reunified:	45.8% of the young people leaving the system in SFY 2008 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers. ⁱ		
Foster Homes:	In 2008, there were a total of 450 licensed non-relative foster homes in Delaware ⁱⁱⁱ . On September 30, 2008, 12% of youth living in out-of-home care were residing with their relatives. ⁱ		
Adoption:	Of children with state agency involvement adopted in SFY 2008, 63% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents, 24% by non relatives and 13% were adopted by relatives. ⁱ		

Sources:

ⁱ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for the FY 2008, 10/1/07 through 9/30/08.

ⁱⁱ Kid Count Delaware 2007. *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

Note: The number of foster homes in Delaware listed here includes private agency approved foster homes (which were not included in some previous figures).