

Facts About Children in Foster Care in Maine

To find out how to become a foster or adoptive parent in Maine, please call 1-877-505-0545 or visit: <http://www.afamilyforme.org/>

Total Population: 3,013 children were in the foster care system in Maine on September 30, 2003ⁱ. Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

Age:ⁱ Average Age: 10.8 years

4%	< 1 year	32%	11-15 years
22%	1-5 years	20%	16-18 years
19%	6-10 years	3%	≥19 years

Gender:ⁱ Male: 54% Female: 47%

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>)	2%	1%
White (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	83%	95%
Hispanic	3%	1%
Am. Indian/Alaska Native (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	1%	1%
Asian/Pacific Islander (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	0%	1%
Unknown	10%	N/A
2 or More Races (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	1%	2%

Length of Stay: The average length of stay for children in care on September 30, 2003 was 38 months.ⁱ

Reunified: 39% 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 1,329 licensed kinship and non-relative foster homes in Maineⁱⁱⁱ.

On September 30, 2003, 13% of youth living in out-of-home care were residing with their 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