

## Facts About Children in Foster Care in Michigan

To find out how to become a foster parent in Michigan, please visit:

[http://www.michigan.gov/dhs/0,1607,7-124-5452\\_7117-16476--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/dhs/0,1607,7-124-5452_7117-16476--,00.html)

To learn more about adoption in Michigan, please visit: <http://www.mare.org/AdoptInfo.html>

**Total Population:** 16,944 children were in the foster care system in Michigan on September 30, 2005<sup>i</sup>. Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

**Age:**<sup>ii</sup> Average Age of children in care on September 30, 2003: 9.9 years

5%	< 1 year	29%	11-15 years
26%	1-5 years	19%	16-18 years
22%	6-10 years	0%	≥19 years

**Gender:**<sup>ii</sup> Male: 54% Female: 46%

<b>Race and Ethnicity:</b>	<u>Race/Ethnicity</u> <sup>ii</sup>	<u>In out-of-home care</u>	<u>In state child population</u> <sup>iii</sup>
	Black ( <i>non-Hispanic</i> )	75%	32%
	White ( <i>non-Hispanic</i> )	20%	56%
	Hispanic	2%	5%
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native ( <i>non-Hispanic</i> )	0%	0%
	Asian/Pacific Islander ( <i>non-Hispanic</i> )	0%	4%
	Unknown	1%	N/A
	2 or More Races ( <i>non-Hispanic</i> )	1%	3%

**Length of Stay:** The average length of stay for children in care on September 30, 2003 was 48 months.<sup>ii</sup>

**Reunified:** 41% of the young people leaving the system in FY 2003 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers.<sup>i</sup>

**Foster Homes:** In June, 2006, there were a total of 7,569 licensed non-relative foster homes in Michigan.<sup>i</sup>

On September 30, 2005, 40% of youth living in out-of-home care were residing with their relatives.<sup>i</sup>

**Adoption:** Of children with state agency involvement adopted in FY 2003, 54% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents and 40% were adopted by relatives.<sup>ii</sup>

### Sources:

<sup>i</sup> Michigan Department of Human Services. *Foster Care Fact Sheet*.

[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/DHS-FosterCare-FactSheet\\_131252\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/DHS-FosterCare-FactSheet_131252_7.pdf)

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

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