



Facts About Children in Foster Care in Nebraska

To find out how to become a foster parent in Nebraska, please call 1-800-7PARENT (1-800-772-7368) or visit: <http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/foc/focindex.htm>

To learn more about adoption in Nebraska, please visit: <http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/adoption/>

Total Population: 5,148 children were in the foster care system in Nebraska on September 30, 2003ⁱ. Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

Age:ⁱ

Average Age:	11.3 years		
	3% < 1 year	29%	11-15 years
	21% 1-5 years	29%	16-18 years
	17% 6-10 years	0%	≥19 years

Gender:ⁱ Male: 54% Female: 46%

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>)	16%	5%
	White (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	66%	82%
	Hispanic	8%	8%
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	8%	1%
	Asian/Pacific Islander (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	0%	1%
	Unknown	2%	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 21 months.ⁱ

Reunified: 71% of the young people leaving the system in FY 2003 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers.ⁱ

Foster Homes: In 2004, there were a total of 3,750 licensed non-relative foster homes in Nebraskaⁱⁱⁱ.

On September 30, 2003, 15% 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, 51% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents and 20% 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