



Facts About Children in Foster Care in Oklahoma

To find out how to become a foster parent in Oklahoma, please call 866-612-2565 or visit: <http://www.okdhs.org/fostercare/>

To learn more about adoption in Oklahoma, please visit: <http://www.okdhs.org/programsandservices/adopt/docs/faq.htm>

Total Population: 11,201 children were in the foster care system in Oklahoma on September 30, 2008ⁱ. Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

Age:ⁱ Average Age: 8.1 years

5%	< 1 year	20%	11-15 years
39%	1-5 years	11%	16-18 years
25%	6-10 years	0%	≥19 years

Gender:ⁱ Male: 50% Female: 50%

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>)	17%	9%
	White (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	39%	65%
	Hispanic	14%	8%
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	11%	11%
	Asian/Pacific Islander (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	0%	1%
	2 or More Races (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	19%	6%

Length of Stay: The average length of stay for children in care on September 30, 2008 was 22.7 months.ⁱ

Reunified: 63% of the young people leaving the system in FY 2008 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers.ⁱ

Foster Homes: In 2008, there were a total of 1,577 licensed non-relative foster homes in Oklahomaⁱⁱⁱ. There were 54% of youth living in out-of-home care residing with kin.ⁱⁱⁱ

Adoption: Of children with state agency involvement adopted in FY 2008, 33% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents and 48% were adopted by relatives.^{iv}

Sources:

ⁱ Oklahoma KIDS (Children's Information and Data System) report Time in OOHC, September 2008

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

ⁱⁱⁱ Oklahoma KIDS (Children's Information and Data System) Resource Database

^{iv} Oklahoma Adoption Database