

## Facts About Children in Foster Care in Wyoming

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

[www.wyomingfostercare.gov](http://www.wyomingfostercare.gov)

To learn more about adoption in Wyoming, please visit:

<http://dfsweb.state.wy.us/adoption.html>

**Total Population:** 1,174 children were in the foster care system in Wyoming on September 30, 2008. 560 of these children were in foster homes<sup>i</sup>. Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

**Age:**<sup>i</sup> Average Age: 11.5 years

24%	0-5 years
17%	6-11 years
58%	12-18 years
1%	≥ 19 years

**Gender:**<sup>i</sup> Male: 55.3% Female: 44.7%

<b>Race and Ethnicity:</b>	<u>Race/Ethnicity</u> <sup>i</sup>	<u>In out-of-home care</u>	<u>In state child population</u> <sup>ii</sup>
	Black ( <i>non-Hispanic</i> )	4.15%	1%
	White ( <i>non-Hispanic</i> )	64.92%	85%
	Hispanic	10.57%	9%
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native ( <i>non-Hispanic</i> )	14.65%	3%
	Asian/Pacific Islander ( <i>non-Hispanic</i> )	.08%	0%
	Unknown	5.63%	N/A

**Length of Stay:** The average length of stay for children that exited care during FY 2008 was 12 months.<sup>i</sup>

**Reunified:** 71% of the young people leaving the system in FY 2008 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers.<sup>i</sup>

**Foster Homes:** In 2008, there were a total of 420 certified foster homes in Wyoming.<sup>i</sup> On September 30, 2008, 30% 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 2008, 75% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents and 25% were adopted by relatives.<sup>i</sup>

### Sources:

<sup>i</sup> Wyoming SACWIS system - WYCAPS

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