



Facts About Children in Foster Care in Alabama

To find out how to become a foster parent in Alabama, please call 1-866-4-AL-KIDS or visit: <http://www.dhr.state.al.us/page.asp?pageid=483>

To learn more about adoption in Alabama, please visit: <http://www.adoptuskids.org/states/al/index.aspx>

Total Population: 6,079 children were in the foster care system in Alabama on September 30, 2003ⁱ. Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

Age:ⁱ Average Age: 10.9 years

4%	< 1 year	32%	11-15 years
21%	1-5 years	20%	16-18 years
20%	6-10 years	3%	≥19 years

Gender:ⁱ Male: 51% Female: 49%

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>)	50%	32%
	White (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	48%	63%
	Hispanic	2%	2%
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	0%	1%
	Asian/Pacific Islander (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	0%	1%
	Unknown	0%	N/A
	2 or More Races (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	1%	1%

Length of Stay: The average length of stay for children in care on September 30, 2003 was 34 months.ⁱ

Reunified: 46% 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 2,681 licensed non-relative foster homes in Alabamaⁱⁱⁱ. On September 30, 2003, 13% 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, 50% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents and 2% 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