



Facts about Children in Foster Care in New Jersey

To find out how to become a foster parent in New Jersey, please call 1-877-NJFOSTER or visit: <http://www.state.nj.us/njfoστεrcare/>

To learn more about adoption in New Jersey, please visit:

<http://www.state.nj.us/njfoστεradopt/adoption/>

Total Population: Approximately 7,900 children were in the foster care system in New Jersey as of December 31, 2009. Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

Age:

26%	Up to 2 years	12%	13-15 years
16%	3-5 years	13%	16-17 years
14%	6-9 years	8%	18 and older
10%	10-12 years		

Gender: Male: 52% Female: 48%

Race and Ethnicity:

<u>Race/Ethnicity</u>	<u>In out-of-home care</u>
Black or African American	52%
White	32%
Am. Indian/Alaska Native	.04%
Asian	.4%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	.1%
Unknown	14%
Multiple Races	2%

Length of Stay: As of 2007, the average length of stay for children in care, according to age:

Under 1 year old	17.9 months in care
1-5 years old	10.6 months in care
6-12 years old	8.5 months in care
13-17 years old	6.4 months in care

Reunified: Approximately 80% of children in foster care are reunified with their birth families.

Foster Homes: Approximately 6,500 licensed resource families.

Source: The Department of Children and Families.