

Facts about Children in Foster Care in New Mexico

To find out how to become a foster or adoptive parent in New Mexico, please call 1-800-432-2075 or visit: <http://www.cyfd.org>

Total Population of Children/Youth in Foster Care:

1,776 children were in the foster care system in New Mexico on 12/31/10. Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

Average Age of Children/Youth in Care: 7.9 years

Age of Children and Youth in Care

| | | | |
|------------|-----|-------------|-----|
| < 1 year | 5% | 12-15 years | 20% |
| 1-5 years | 37% | 16-18 years | 9% |
| 6-11 years | 29% | ≥19 years | 0% |

Gender of Children/Youth in Care: Female = 49.1% Male = 50.9%

Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin

| | In out-of-home care ¹ | In state child population ² |
|--|----------------------------------|--|
| One Race | | % |
| Two or More Races | | % |
| White | 79% | 79% |
| Black or African American | 6% | 4% |
| American Indian and Alaska Native | 12% | 12% |
| Asian | 0% | 1% |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander | 0% | 0% |
| Some other race | | |
| Hispanic or Latino Origin (of any race) | 58% | 51% |

Length of Stay:

The average length of stay for children in care on December 31, 2010 was 18.6 months

Reunification:

69.6% of the children leaving the system as of during Calendar Year 2010 were reunified with their birth parent(s) or primary caregiver(s).

Foster Homes:

As of December 31, 2010 there were a total of 797 licensed non-relative foster homes in New Mexico.

As of December 31, 2010, 25.5% children and youth living in out-of-home care were residing with kin.

Adoption:

In Calendar Year 2010, 373 children and youth with state agency involvement were adopted. On December 31, 2010 there were an additional 381 children who were available for adoption.

Sources:

1. New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department
2. U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000. *American FACTFINDER*. <http://factfinder.census.gov>