Facts About Children in Foster Care in Delaware

**Total Population:**
1009 children were in the foster care system in September 30, 2007.
Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

**Age:**
- Average Age: 9.2 years
- 6% < 1 year
- 26% 11-15 years
- 27% 1-5 years
- 21% 16-18 years
- 20% 6-10 years
- 0% >19 years

**Gender:**
- Male: 50%
- Female: 50%

**Race and Ethnicity:**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>In out-of-home careFFY06</th>
<th>In state child populationFFY06</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Am. Indian/Alaska Native (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>.4%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 or More Races (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Length of Stay:**
The average length of stay for children in care on September 30, 2007 was 11.4 months.

**Reunified:**
45.8% of the young people leaving the system in FFY 2007 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers.

**Foster Homes:**
In 2007, there were a total of 272 licensed non-relative foster homes in Delaware.
On September 30, 2007, 12% of youth living in out-of-home care were residing with their relatives.

**Adoption:**
Of children with state agency involvement adopted in FY 2007, 73% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents and 27% were adopted by relatives.

To find out how to become a foster parent in Delaware, please call (800) 464-4357 or visit: [http://www.state.de.us/kids/fs/fostercare.shtml](http://www.state.de.us/kids/fs/fostercare.shtml)

To learn about foster parenting, please call the National Foster Parent Association at 1-800-557-5238 or visit [www.nfpainc.org](http://www.nfpainc.org)

**Sources:**
1 Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for the FY 2007, 10/1/06 through 9/30/07.
3 Delaware Services for Children, Youth and Their Families