

## Facts About Children in Foster Care in North Dakota

**Total Population:** 1,416 children were in the foster care system in North Dakota on September 30, 2006<sup>i</sup>. Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

**Age:**<sup>i</sup> Average Age: 10.4 years

4%	< 1 year	30%	11-15 years
25%	1-5 years	21%	16-18 years
19%	6-10 years	0%	≥19 years

**Gender:**<sup>i</sup> Male: 54% Female: 46%

**Race and Ethnicity:**

<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> )	2%	1%
White ( <i>non-Hispanic</i> )	57%	87%
Hispanic	7%	2%
Am. Indian/Alaska Native ( <i>non-Hispanic</i> )	26%	8%
Asian/Pacific Islander ( <i>non-Hispanic</i> )	0%	1%
Unknown	0%	N/A
2 or More Races ( <i>non-Hispanic</i> )	6%	2%

**Length of Stay:** The average length of stay for children in care on September 30, 2006 was 19.3 months.<sup>i</sup>

**Reunified:** 51% of the young people leaving the system in FY 2006 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers.<sup>i</sup>

**Foster Homes:** In 2004, there were a total of 862 licensed non-relative foster homes in North Dakota<sup>iii</sup>. On September 30, 2006, 24% 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 2006, 87% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents and 2% were adopted by relatives.<sup>i</sup>

**To find out how to become a foster parent in North Dakota, please visit:**

<http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/childfamily/fostercare/>

**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:**

<sup>i</sup> Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for the FY 2006, 10/1/05 through 9/30/06, supplied by Children and Family Services, North Dakota Department of Human Services.

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

<sup>iii</sup> Child Welfare League of America - National Data Analysis System  
[http://ndas.cwla.org/data\\_stats/access/predefined/Report.asp?ReportID=127](http://ndas.cwla.org/data_stats/access/predefined/Report.asp?ReportID=127)