

## Facts About Children in Foster Care in Nebraska

**Total Population:** 5,148 children were in the foster care system in Nebraska on September 30, 2003.<sup>i</sup> Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

**Age:**<sup>i</sup> Average Age: 11.3 years

3%	< 1 year	29%	11-15 years
21%	1-5 years	29%	16-18 years
17%	6-10 years	0%	≥19 years

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

<b>Race and Ethnicity:</b>	<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> )	16%	5%
	White ( <i>non-Hispanic</i> )	66%	82%
	Hispanic	8%	8%
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native ( <i>non-Hispanic</i> )	8%	1%
	Asian/Pacific Islander ( <i>non-Hispanic</i> )	0%	1%
	Unknown	2%	N/A
	2 or More Races ( <i>non-Hispanic</i> )	1%	2%

**Length of Stay:** The average length of stay for children in care on September 30, 2003 was 21 months.<sup>i</sup>

**Reunified:** 71% of the young people leaving the system in FY 2003 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers.<sup>i</sup>

**Foster Homes:** In 2004, there were a total of 3,750 licensed non-relative foster homes in Nebraska.<sup>iii</sup> On September 30, 2003, 15% 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 2003, 51% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents and 20% were adopted by relatives.<sup>i</sup>

**To find out how to become a foster parent in Nebraska, please call 1-800-7PARENT (1-800-772-7368) or visit <http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/foc/focindex.htm>**

**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 2003, 10/1/02 through 9/30/03.

<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)