

Facts About Children in Foster Care in New Hampshire

Total Population: 1,146 children were in the foster care system in New Hampshire on September 30, 2006ⁱ. Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

Age:ⁱ Average Age: 11 years

3%	< 1 year	35%	11-15 years
20%	1-5 years	22%	16-18 years
19%	6-10 years	2%	≥19 years

Gender:ⁱ Male: 54% Female: 46%

Race and Ethnicity:	<u>Race/Ethnicity</u> ⁱ	<u>In out-of-home care</u>	<u>In state child population</u> ⁱⁱ
	Black (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	4%	1%
	White (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	81%	93%
	Hispanic	6%	3%
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	<1%	0%
	Asian/Pacific Islander (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	0%	1%
	Unknown	5%	N/A
	2 or More Races (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	4%	2%

Length of Stay: The median length of stay for children in care on September 30, 2006 was 23.4 monthsⁱ.

Reunified: 53% of the young people leaving the system in FY 2006 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers.ⁱ

Foster Homes: In 2006, there were an estimated total of 919 licensed foster homes in New Hampshireⁱⁱⁱ. On November 30, 2007, 13% of youth living in out-of-home care were residing with their relatives.^{iv}

Adoption: Of children with state agency involvement adopted in FY 2005, 77% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents and 19% were adopted by relatives.ⁱ

To find out how to become a foster parent in New Hampshire, please call your local Department of Health & Human Services office. Visit:

<http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/FCADOPTION/CONTACT+INFO/default.htm>

Training for foster parents is provided by the Granite State College Education and Training Partnership. To learn more, visit <http://www.granite.edu/etp>

To learn about foster parenting, please call the National Foster Parent Association at 1-800-557-5238 or visit www.nfpainc.org

Sources:

ⁱ Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for the FY 2006, 10/1/05 through 9/30/06. This includes all children in out-of-home placements through the Division for Children, Youth & Families (Child Protection) as well as those children placed through the Juvenile Justice system who are in foster homes or group homes and are IV-E eligible

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

ⁱⁱⁱ NH Division for Children, Youth & Families, monthly reporting

^{iv} New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services