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, 2006. Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

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

**Gender:**
- Male: 54%
- Female: 46%

**Race and Ethnicity:**
- Black (non-Hispanic): 4% 1%
- White (non-Hispanic): 81% 93%
- Hispanic: 6% 3%
- Am. Indian/Alaska Native (non-Hispanic): <1% 0%
- Asian/Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic): 0% 1%
- Unknown: 5% N/A
- 2 or More Races (non-Hispanic): 4% 2%

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

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

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

**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.

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](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](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](http://www.nfpainc.org)

Sources:
- 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.
- NH Division for Children, Youth & Families, monthly reporting.
- New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services.