

Facts About Children in Foster Care in Pennsylvania

Total Population: 20,925 children were in the foster care system in Pennsylvania on September 30, 2005.ⁱ Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

Age:ⁱ Average Age: 11.0 years

9%	< 1 year	34%	11-15 years
18%	1-5 years	20%	16-18 years
14%	6-10 years	6%	≥19 years

Gender:ⁱ Male: 53% Female: 48%

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>)	48%	13%
	White (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	47%	78%
	Hispanic	9%	5%
	Am. Indian/Alaska Native (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	N/A	0%
	Asian/Pacific Islander (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	N/A	2%
	Unknown	5%	N/A
	2 or More Races (<i>non-Hispanic</i>)	N/A	2%

Length of Stay: The average length of stay for children in care on September 30, 2005 was 15 months.ⁱ

Reunified: 60% of the young people leaving the system in FY 2005 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers.ⁱ

Foster Homes: On September 30, 2005, 20% of youth living in out-of-home care were residing with their relatives.ⁱ

Adoption: Of children with state agency involvement adopted in FY 2005, 56% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents and 12% were adopted by relatives.ⁱ

To find out how to become a foster parent in Pennsylvania, please visit

<http://www.adoptpakids.org/paeFosterParenting.asp>

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 2005, 10/1/04 through 9/30/05.

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