Facts About Children in Foster Care in Rhode Island

Total Population: 2,531 children were in the foster care system in Rhode Island on September 30, 2004. Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

Age:

- 5% < 1 year
- 16% 1-5 years
- 12% 6-10 years
- 31% 11-15 years
- 29% 16-18 years
- 6% > 19 years

Gender: Male: 56%  Female: 44%

Race and Ethnicity:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>In out-of-home care</th>
<th>In state child population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Am. Indian/Alaska Native (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 or More Races (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Length of Stay: The median length of stay for children in care on September 30, 2004 was 15 months.

Reunified: 66% of the young people leaving the system in FY 2004 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers.

Foster Homes: In 2004, there was a total of 674 licensed non-relative foster homes in Rhode Island. On September 30, 2003, 24% of youth living in out-of-home care were residing with their relatives.

Adoption: Of children with state agency involvement adopted in FY 2003, 63% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents and 28% were adopted by relatives.

To find out how to become a foster parent in Rhode Island, please visit http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/foster/index.php

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

Sources:

- Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) data submitted for the FY 2003, 10/1/02 through 9/30/03.