

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

Age:ⁱ

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

Gender:ⁱⁱ Male: 56% Female: 44%

Race and Ethnicity:

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

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

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

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

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.ⁱⁱ

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:

ⁱ Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth & Families. *Safety, Permanency, and Well-Being in Rhode Island: Child Welfare Outcomes Annual Report for FY2004*. <http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/stats.php>

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

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

^{iv} Child Welfare League of America - National Data Analysis System
http://ndas.cwla.org/data_stats/access/predefined/Report.asp?ReportID=127