Facts About Children in Foster Care in Texas

Total Population: 31,398 children were in the substitute care system in Texas on August 31, 2006. Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

Age:
- 22% < 3 years
- 15% 3-5 years
- 18% 6-19 years
- 18% 10-13 years
- 25% 14-17 years
- 3% >18 years

Gender: Male: 53% Female: 47%

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>28%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Am. Indian/Alaska Native (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic)</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown/Other</td>
<td>2%</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 average length of stay for children in care on September 30, 2003 was 25 months.

Reunified: 37% of the young people leaving the system in FY 2006 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers.

Foster Homes: On August 31, 2006, there were a total of 2,761 Department of Family and Protective Services verified foster homes in Texas. Note: This does not include Texas Private Child Placing Agency verified home.

Kinship: On August 31, 2006, 26% of youth living in out-of-home care were residing with their non-verified relatives.

Adoption: Of children with state agency involvement adopted in FY 2003, 48% were adopted by their non-relative foster parents and 27% were adopted by relatives.

To find out how to become a foster parent in Texas, please call 1-800-233-3405 or visit: http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Adoption_and_Foster_Care/About_TARE/Foster_Care/default.asp

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

Sources:

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