



Facts About Children in Foster Care in South Carolina

To find out how to become a foster or adoptive parent in South Carolina, please call 1-888-227-3487 or visit: <http://www.dss.sc.gov>.

Total Population: 5,405 children were in the foster care system in South Carolina on June 30, 2008. Most children are placed temporarily in foster care due to parental abuse or neglect.

Age: Average age: 10.4 years

32.5%	0-5 years	36.7%	13-18 years
28.4%	6-12 years	2.3%	19-21 years

Gender: Error! Bookmark not defined. Male: 52.7% Female: 47.3%

Race and Ethnicity:	<u>Race/Ethnicity</u>	<u>In out-of-home care</u>
	Black	47.5%
	White	46.4%
	Hispanic	0%
	Other	5.7%

Length of Stay: The average length of stay for children in care on June 30, 2008 was 29.3 months.

Reunified: 45.52% of the young people leaving the system in fiscal year 2007-2008 were reunified with their birth parents or primary caregivers.

Foster Homes: On June 30, 2008, there were a total of 1,889 licensed non-relative foster homes in South Carolina

As of June 30, 2008, 7.2% of youth living in out-of-home care were residing with their relatives.

Adoption: In fiscal year 2007-2008, 515 foster care adoptions were finalized.

Sources:
South Carolina's SACWIS data system.