WHO’S IN AMERICA’S FOSTER CARE SYSTEM?

427,910 now in foster care
269,509 enter in a given year
52% boys
48% girls

10 top reasons kids enter care:
61% Neglect
32% Parental drug abuse
14% Caretaker inability to cope
13% Physical abuse
11% Unable to manage child behavior
10% Inadequate housing
8% Parent Incarceration
6% Parent alcohol abuse
5% Abandonment
4% Sexual abuse

35% of children experience two or more placements

8.6 average age

Where kids are placed:
45% Foster family home
30% Kinship (relative)
13% Group home or institution
11% Trial home visit
5% Pre-adoptive home

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How children leave foster care:
51% reunify with family
22% adoption
9% guardianship
111,820 children and youth waiting to be adopted

20.4 months average time spent in care
20,789 youth age out each year
63% stay in care less than 18 months

Learn more about foster care and hear real stories at www.fosterclub.org

Source: AFCARS #23. 2016. www.acf.hhs.gov/cb. Some numbers have been rounded.

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