

Department of Human Services – Child Welfare

Family Foster Care

The Department seeks out relatives as first priority of placement options for children needing a placement out of their family home. If relatives are not identified the practice is to request for others known to the child such as; neighbors, family friends, etc... who may be willing, able and have the capacity to care for the child. The Department will conduct a Child Specific Certification of a Foster Home for these relatives or friends of the family.

- On Sept. 30, 2015 there were 3,847 Certified families in Oregon 51% were Child Specific certifications
- On Sept. 30, 2015 of the children in care, 40.6% were placed with a relative

If the Department is unable to identify or certify a relative or someone known to the child a foster family who maintains a regular certification will be identified to care for the child.

- On Sept. 30, 2015 there were 3,847 certified families in Oregon 49% were Regular Certified foster families.
- In federal fiscal year 2015, a total of 11,238 children spent at least one day in some kind of foster care.

The primary service population for Family Foster Care is for children from 0-20 years old.

Age Group	Number	Percent
Age 0 - 5	4,328	38.5%
Age 6 - 12	3,714	33.0%
Age 13 - 17	2,318	20.6%
Age 18+	878	7.8%
Total	11,238	100.0%

Licensed Private Child Caring Agencies

Behavioral Rehabilitation Services (BRS) is a higher level of care that provides the skill development necessary for children with debilitating emotional and behavioral challenges to return home or move to a less intensive level of care and to ultimately achieve permanence.

More than 320 children in care per day receive these important services, including behavioral intervention, counseling and skill-building services in professional assessment and stabilization facilities, therapeutic foster care, and residential placement models.

These service programs are administered through contracts with licensed, private child caring agencies and may be in a Treatment Foster Home or facility based residential care setting.

The department currently contracts with approximately 25 Child Caring Agencies and is actively recruiting for additional contracted agencies.

Other Public Systems:

Intellectual/ Developmental Disabilities:

Foster care for children with developmental disabilities provides 24 hours of support and services in a family home, but not in the home of the parent or guardian.

Residential care consists of group homes in local communities providing 24-hour supports, supervision and training to children with developmental disabilities.

Oregon Health Authority Mental Health Services

Children in the state's custody whose mental health needs exceed or differ from the level or type of services provided by the BRS system may be served within the mental health services system in psychiatric residential placements or other mental health supported placements.

On any given day, 68 children in care are served in psychiatric residential treatment settings. These children are directly served by the Oregon Health Authority's Addictions and Mental Health Division.