

Foster Care in Idaho



February 2019

Last year, 1,292 children entered foster care in Idaho. Most of these children (82 percent) entered care due to neglect, and 18 percent entered due to physical or sexual abuse.

A vast majority (92 percent) of children in foster care in Idaho are placed in a family setting, either with a foster family or with relatives. Last year, there were a total of 1,104 licensed foster families – only a three percent increase over the previous year.

Three-quarters of children in foster care were safely reunited with their birth parents or extended family, and 16 percent were adopted. Of the children returning home, 96 percent did not experience a repeat occurrence of maltreatment within six months.

Opportunities to Strengthen Child Welfare and Improve Outcomes in Idaho

Together, we must ensure that children who have been served by foster care grow up in supportive families and receive help to heal, build lasting relationships, and reach their full potential. We can work to:

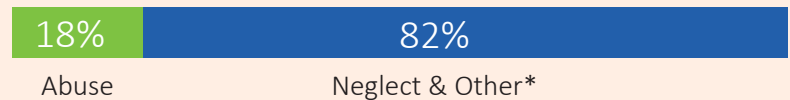
- **Protect Sibling Connections:** Idaho foster alumni cite the importance of preserving connections with siblings while in care, especially if placed in separate homes.
- **Support Foster Parents:** Foster parents provide an invaluable service for Idaho. Adequate support, training, and respite will ensure success in this crucial role.
- **Increase Quality of Care:** Case workers are the front lines of protecting kids. Adequate funding for staffing, resources, and professional development will result in higher-quality care and better outcomes.

At a Glance: Foster Care Statistics

Last year in Idaho:



Reasons Idaho children enter foster care:



**Other includes substance abuse, child behavior problems, parent death, parent incarceration, relinquishment or inadequate housing*

Idaho children exiting foster care:

