**Foster Care Children In Care - Children/Youth 0-21 years**

number and rate/1,000 children/youth ages birth-21 years (2019)

**Why This Matters:**
Children and Youth in Foster Care presents a "point in time" number of children in the care and custody of the Commissioner of the local Department of Social Services on December 31 of a given year and the rate per 1,000 children 0 through 21 years in the general population.

Children are placed into foster care for a wide variety of reasons including: safety issues, their families are at least temporarily unable to care for them, specialized care or treatment is needed or behavioral problems have lead to a placement.

Regardless of the type of placement a child is in, placement in foster care presents children with change and loss, (e.g., loss of parents, siblings, school, friends and community). Many children face multiple placements, which call upon children to enter and leave multiple relationships at a time in their development when consistency and stability are paramount.

**Data Provider:**
NYS Office of Children and Family Services

**Data Source:**
NYS Office of Children and Family Services; Child Care Review Service
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