

ADOPTION STATISTICS

These adoption statistics have been gathered by BraveLove from various data sources to help communicate the positive benefits associated with adoption today for all those in the adoption triad – the adopted child, birth parents, and adoptive parents. Most of these are related to openness in adoption.

DID YOU KNOW:

- Most participants in open adoptions report positive experiences, and greater openness is associated with greater satisfaction with the adoption process.⁴
- Birthmothers who have ongoing contact with their children report less grief, regret and worry, as well as more peace of mind, than do those who do not have contact.³
- Adopted children do well in school and show high levels of self-esteem, optimism, social competency, feelings of security.²
- Adopted children are less likely to be depressed, use alcohol, and engage in vandalism, theft, group fighting and use weapons.²
- Adoptive parents in open adoptions report greater empathy and more positive attitudes about their children's birthparents.⁵
- 90% of adopted children ages 5 and older have positive feelings about their adoption.¹
- 9 out of every 10 adoptive couples said the relationship they share with their adopted child is "very close."¹
- Over 50% of all adopted children eat dinner with their families at least six days per week.¹
- 100% of all birthmothers have the right to choose the amount of openness in the adoptive relationship.¹
- 99% of adopted children (ages 5 and older) know that they were adopted.¹
- Nearly 3 out of every 4 adopted children ages 0-5 are read to or sang to every day.¹
- 9 out of every 10 people said they would "definitely" make the same decision to adopt again.¹

Sources: ¹ *Adoption USA: A Chartbook Based on the 2007 National Survey of Adoptive Parents*, ² *A literature synthesis by Patrick Fagan, of the Marriage & Religion Research Institute, in an 11/29/10 report "Adoption Works Well"*, ³ *Cushman, Kalmuss & Namerow, 1997; Henney, Ayers-Lopez, McRoy & Grotevant, 2007* and http://adoptioninstitute.org/old/publications/2012_03_OpennessInAdoption.pdf, ⁴ *Grotevant & McRoy, 1998; Grotevant, Perry, & McRoy, 2005; Ge, et al., 2008* and http://adoptioninstitute.org/old/publications/2012_03_OpennessInAdoption.pdf, ⁵ http://adoptioninstitute.org/old/publications/2012_03_OpennessInAdoption.pdf

Updated: November 2016

BRAVELOVE

Visit BraveLove.org | 2633 McKinney Ave. #130-266, Dallas, TX 75204 | Follow @JoinBravelove