

OFFICE OF THE FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S OMBUDS



DCYF Use of Hotels and Offices as Placement

2021 Report

OFCO tracks the Department of Children, Youth, and Families' (DCYF) use of hotels and/or Department offices as emergency placements for children under DCYF care. These are also referred to as "placement exceptions".

The source of this data is notifications from DCYF's Administrative Incident Reporting System (AIRS).

The OFCO 2021 Reporting Year runs September 1, 2020 - August 31, 2021.

www.ofco.wa.gov

Last updated September 9, 2021

Count of Placement Exceptions	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Annual Total
2021 Reporting Year	183	233	171	142	165	186	183	151	194	260	352	315	2535
2020 Reporting Year	78	56	116	107	198	183	188	151	188	161	227	210	1863
2019 Reporting Year	83	66	89	113	125	95	151	148	165	153	101	225	1514
2018 Reporting Year	63	59	82	74	70	38	104	145	187	62	139	67	1090

This data summarizes placement exceptions from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021. There have been 256 children over this period who have spent at least one night in a hotel or office.

Placement Exceptions By DCYF Region ¹	Count	Percent
Region 1	76	3.0%
Region 2	0	0.0%
Region 3	87	3.4%
Region 4	1499	59.1%
Region 5	10	0.4%
Region 6	863	34.0%

¹ For a map of DCYF Regions, see <https://dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/DCYFMap-offices.pdf>

Child Gender/Sex	Count	Percent
Female	100	39.1%
Male	156	60.9%

Child Age	Count	Percent	Percent of Children in State Care ²
0-4 years	8	3.1%	41.4%
5-9 years	44	17.2%	25.0%
10-14 years	88	34.4%	21.0%
15-17 years	115	44.9%	12.6%
Unknown	1	0.4%	--

² Partners for Our Children Data Portal Team. (2020). Children in Out-of-Home Care (Count).

Number of Placement Exceptions Per Child	Count	Percent
Only 1	94	36.7%
2 to 5	73	28.5%
6 to 9	25	9.8%
10 to 19	40	15.6%
20 or more	24	9.4%

Child Race and Ethnicity	Count	Percent	Percent of Children in State Care ²
African American or Black	28	10.9%	9.5%
American Indian or Alaska Native	8	3.1%	4.5%
Asian or Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	2	0.8%	2.3%
Caucasian	152	59.4%	62.9%
Multi-Racial	65	25.4%	20.7%
Unknown	1	0.4%	--
Hispanic	40	15.6%	20.3%

Placement Exceptions Occurring in a DCYF Office			
Region	DCYF Office Location	July	Aug
Region 1		--	
Region 2		--	
Region 3		--	
Region 4		--	
Region 5	Lakewood Office	5	2
Region 6	Centralia Office	2	
	Kelso Office	4	
	Vancouver Office	74	
Total		85	2

Night to Night Placements	
Region	August
Region 1	
Region 2	
Region 3	
Region 4	
Region 5	27 (7 children)
Region 6	1 (1 child)