

OFFICE OF THE FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S OMBUDS



DCYF Use of Hotels and Offices as Placement

2023 Report

OFCO tracks the Department of Children, Youth, and Families' (DCYF) use of hotels, Department offices, and/or night to night foster care placements 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 2023 Reporting Year runs September 1, 2022 - August 31, 2023. This data summarizes placement exceptions during this period.

www.ofco.wa.gov

Last updated February 2, 2023

Placement Exceptions	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Annual Total
2023 Reporting Year	296	378	356	381	409								1820
<i>Hotel</i>	128	176	144	193	188								829
<i>Office</i>	0	0	0	0	0								0
<i>Night to Night</i>	37	50	33	40	41								201
<i>Region Transitional Housing</i>	131	152	179	148	180								790
<i>Unknown</i>	0	0	0	0	0								0
2022 Reporting Year	298	353	213	254	394	334	436	406	547	487	529	431	4682
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

Number of children over this period who have experienced at least one placement exception: 135

Placement Exceptions by DCYF Region*	Count	Percent
Region 1	0	0.0%
Region 2	0	0.0%
Region 3	108	5.9%
Region 4	420	23.1%
Region 5	183	10.1%
Region 6	1109	60.9%

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

Number of Placement Exceptions Per Child	Count	Percent
Only 1 night	52	38.5%
2 to 5 nights	30	22.2%
6 to 9 nights	11	8.1%
10 to 19 nights	13	9.6%
20 or more nights	29	21.5%

Child Gender/Sex***	Count	Percent
Female	47	34.8%
Male	76	56.3%
Transgender Female	1	0.7%
Transgender Male	4	3.0%
Other	7	5.2%

*** While DCYF documents the reported pronouns and gender identity of the child, some children may not feel comfortable sharing this information.

Child Age	Count	Percent	Percent of Children in State Care**
0-4 years	5	3.7%	42.7%
5-9 years	10	7.4%	25.0%
10-14 years	54	40.0%	20.1%
15-17 years	66	48.9%	12.2%
Unknown	0	0.0%	--

Child Race and Ethnicity	Count	Percent	Percent of Children in State Care**
African American/Black	14	10.4%	9.0%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0.0%	4.5%
Asian or Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	4	3.0%	1.8%
Caucasian/White	88	65.2%	62.9%
Multi-Racial	28	20.7%	21.4%
Unknown	1	0.7%	--
Hispanic	18	13.3%	20.6%

** Partners for Our Children Data Portal Team. (2021). Children in Out-of-Home (Count).