

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, leased facilities, 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 March 10, 2023

Placement Exceptions	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Annual Total
2023 Reporting Year	296	378	356	381	411	219							2041
<i>Hotel</i>	128	176	144	193	188	129							958
<i>Office</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0							0
<i>Night-to-Night</i>	37	50	33	40	41	24							225
<i>Region Transitional Housing</i>	131	152	179	148	182	66							858
<i>Unknown</i>	0	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

Placement Exceptions by DCYF Region*	Count	Percent
Region 1	0	0.0%
Region 2	0	0.0%
Region 3	109	5.3%
Region 4	445	21.8%
Region 5	202	9.9%
Region 6	1285	63.0%

*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	60	39.5%
2 to 5 nights	32	21.1%
6 to 9 nights	12	7.9%
10 to 19 nights	16	10.5%
20 or more nights	32	21.1%

Child Gender/Sex***	Count	Percent
Female	55	36.2%
Male	85	55.9%
Transgender Female	1	0.7%
Transgender Male	4	2.6%
Other	7	4.6%

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

Number of Children Over This Period Who Have Experienced At Least One Placement Exception	
Region 1	0
Region 2	0
Region 3	20
Region 4	29
Region 5	19
Region 6	84
Total	152

Child Age	Count	Percent	Percent of Children in State Care**
0-4 years	6	3.9%	42.7%
5-9 years	15	9.9%	25.0%
10-14 years	60	39.5%	20.1%
15-17 years	71	46.7%	12.2%
Unknown	0	0.0%	--

Child Race and Ethnicity	Count	Percent	Percent of Children in State Care**
African American/Black	18	11.8%	9.0%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0.0%	4.5%
Asian or Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	4	2.6%	1.8%
Caucasian/White	99	65.1%	62.9%
Multi-Racial	30	19.7%	21.4%
Unknown	1	0.7%	--
Hispanic	20	13.2%	20.6%

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

Placement Exceptions by Region and Type					
January					
	Hotel	Office	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing	Region Total
Region 1					0
Region 2					0
Region 3	16				16
Region 4				96	96
Region 5	3		31		34
Region 6	169		10	86	265
Type Total	188	0	41	182	411
February					
	Hotel	Office	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing	Region Total
Region 1					0
Region 2					0
Region 3	1				1
Region 4			1	23	24
Region 5	4		15		19
Region 6	124		8	43	175
Type Total	129	0	24	66	219

Number of Placement Exceptions per Child by Region, Length of Stay, and Type															
January															
	Only 1 night			2 to 5 nights			6 to 9 nights			10 to 19 nights			20 or more nights		
	Hotel	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing	Hotel	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing	Hotel	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing	Hotel	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing	Hotel	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing
Region 1															
Region 2															
Region 3	1							2							
Region 4					5					1					3
Region 5	3	1						3							1
Region 6	5	10					8		1			2		1	4
February															
	Only 1 night			2 to 5 nights			6 to 9 nights			10 to 19 nights			20 or more nights		
	Hotel	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing	Hotel	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing	Hotel	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing	Hotel	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing	Hotel	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing
Region 1															
Region 2															
Region 3	1														
Region 4															
Region 5		1													
Region 6	1						1	3				1			
Region 6	6	6	1				5	1				1		4	3