

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 August 3, 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	220	468	452	469	477	369		4277
<i>Hotel</i>	128	176	144	193	188	129	235	240	161	157	190		1941
<i>Office</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
<i>Night-to-Night</i>	37	50	33	40	41	25	108	82	145	138	46		745
<i>Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing</i>	131	152	179	148	182	66	125	130	163	182	133		1591
<i>Unknown</i>	0	0	0	0	0	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	9	0.2%
Region 2	0	0.0%
Region 3	205	4.8%
Region 4	1016	23.8%
Region 5	284	6.6%
Region 6	2763	64.6%

*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	120	36.0%
2 to 5 nights	94	28.2%
6 to 9 nights	25	7.5%
10 to 19 nights	33	9.9%
20 or more nights	61	18.3%

Child Gender/Sex***	Count	Percent
Female	141	42.3%
Male	172	51.7%
Transgender Female	2	0.6%
Transgender Male	6	1.8%
Other	12	3.6%

*** 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	2
Region 2	0
Region 3	49
Region 4	79
Region 5	30
Region 6	173
Total	333

Child Age	Count	Percent	Percent of Children in State Care**
0-4 years	27	8.1%	42.7%
5-9 years	67	20.1%	25.0%
10-14 years	120	36.0%	20.1%
15-17 years	119	35.7%	12.2%
Unknown	0	0.0%	--

Child Race and Ethnicity	Count	Percent	Percent of Children in State Care**
African American/Black	39	11.7%	9.0%
American Indian or Alaska Native	9	2.7%	4.5%
Asian or Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	7	2.1%	1.8%
Caucasian/White	198	59.5%	62.9%
Multi-Racial	73	21.9%	21.4%
Unknown	7	2.1%	--
Hispanic	51	15.3%	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		2
Region 4			1	23	24
Region 5	4		15		19
Region 6	124		8	43	175
Type Total	129	0	25	66	220
March					
	Hotel	Office	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing	Region Total
Region 1					0
Region 2					0
Region 3	4		11		15
Region 4			2	60	62
Region 5	2		22		24
Region 6	229		73	65	367
Type Total	235	0	108	125	468
April					
	Hotel	Office	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing	Region Total
Region 1					0
Region 2					0
Region 3	4		5		9
Region 4	1			79	80
Region 5	5		11		16
Region 6	230		66	51	347
Type Total	240	0	82	130	452
May					
	Hotel	Office	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing	Region Total
Region 1					0
Region 2					0
Region 3	9		18		27
Region 4	8		11	110	129
Region 5	4		26		30
Region 6	140		90	53	283
Type Total	161	0	145	163	469

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	4		1	
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	1													
Region 4		1	3			2					1				
Region 5	1			1	3			1							
Region 6	6	6	1	5	1			1	4		3	2			
March															
	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	2	3		1	4										
Region 4			1		1			3			1				
Region 5	1			1	2						1				
Region 6	10	8		6	12	1	2	4	5		4	4			
April															
	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	4	1			1										
Region 4	1		2			4					3			1	
Region 5		3		1				1							
Region 6	8	5		4	6	1	2	1	2	4	1	2	5	1	
May															
	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	4	2		2	6										
Region 4	8	3	6		3	5					4			1	
Region 5	1	1		1	4						1				
Region 6	6	8		4	10		1	4	3	2	4	3			

Placement Exceptions by Region and Type					
June					
	Hotel	Office	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing	Region Total
Region 1	3				3
Region 2					0
Region 3	15		11		26
Region 4	2		22	161	185
Region 5			8		8
Region 6	137		97	21	255
Type Total	157	0	138	182	477
July					
	Hotel	Office	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing	Region Total
Region 1	6				6
Region 2					0
Region 3	7		4	6	17
Region 4			9	107	116
Region 5			4		4
Region 6	177		29	20	226
Type Total	190	0	46	133	369

Number of Placement Exceptions per Child by Region, Length of Stay, and Type															
June															
	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	1			1											
Region 2															
Region 3	2			1			1	1							
Region 4	2	6	5			6		2	3				2		4
Region 5		3			2										
Region 6	5	6	2	7	5	1	2	4	2	5	3			1	
July															
	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							1								
Region 2															
Region 3	2	2	2	1	1	1									
Region 4		1	2		2	3			1				4		1
Region 5		1			1										
Region 6	4	7	1	3	4	3	1	1	1	4				4	