## OFFICE OF THE FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S OMBUDS



## DCYF Placement Exceptions

2025 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 2025 reporting year runs September 1, 2024 - August 31, 2025. This data summarizes placement exceptions during this period.

Placement Exceptions by DCYF Region*	Count	Percent
Region 1	67	9.6%
Region 2	0	0.0%
Region 3	75	10.8%
Region 4	215	30.8%
Region 5	299	42.9%
Region 6	41	5.9%

Sept

173

8

5

160

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437

296

298

Hotel

Night-to-Night

Leased Facility

DCYF Office

Oct

29

2

0

27

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324

378

353

Nov

62

3

0

59

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297

356

213

Dec

58

3

0

55

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209

381

254

Jan

106

8

1

94

3

180

411

394

Feb

81

7

8

66

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170

220

334

Mar

69

20

2

47

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215

468

436

Apr

119

25

96

1

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111

452

406

May

159

469

547

June

196

477

487

July

186

369

529

Aug

139

293

431

**Annual Total** 

697

76

112

509

3

2623

4570

4682

\*For a map of DCYF Regions, see https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/pubs/COMM\_0008.pdf

Placement Exceptions

2025 Reporting Year

2024 Reporting Year

2023 Reporting Year

2022 Reporting Year

Number of Placement Exceptions per Child	Count	Percent
Only 1 night	25	34.2%
2 to 5 nights	21	28.8%
6 to 9 nights	8	11.0%
10 to 19 nights	7	9.6%
20 or more nights	12	16.4%

Child Gender/Sex***	Count	Percent
Female	24	32.9%
Male	43	58.9%
Transgender Female	1	1.4%
Transgender Male	0	0.0%
Other	5	6.8%

\*\*\* 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	4
Region 2	0
Region 3	13
Region 4	26
Region 5	23
Region 6	7
Total	73

Child Age	Count	Percent	Percent of Children in State Care**
0-4 years	8	11.0%	47.6%
5-9 years	13	17.8%	23.3%
10-14 years	13	17.8%	19.1%
15-17 years	39	53.4%	10.0%

\*\* Department of Children, Youth, and Families. Number and Percent of Children/Youth Who Experienced Out-of-Home Care, by Age, SFY 2023 . https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/practice/oiaa/agency-performance/cw?page=1

Child Race and Ethnicity ****	Count	Percent	Percent of Children in State Care*****
American Indian/Alaska Native	15	20.5%	17.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	3	4.1%	3.0%
Black/African American	21	28.8%	15.0%
Hispanic/Latino	3	4.1%	17.0%
White/Caucasian	31	42.5%	46.0%
Unknown	0	0.0%	

\*\*\*\* WSRDAC/M: American Indian/Alaska Native, Multiracial has been combined with American Indian/Alaska Native; Black/African American, Multiracial has been combined with Black/African American; and Asian/Pacific Islander, Multiracial combined with Asian/Pacific Islander.

\*\*\*\*\* Department of Children, Youth, and Families. *Children in Care by Race/Ethnicity, Last Day of SFY 2016-2023.* https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/practice/oiaa/agency-performance/cw?page=1

www.ofco.wa.gov

Last updated May 19, 2025

Р	lacemen	t Exceptions by Re	egion and Ty	pe					Number of Placement E	Exceptions	per Child by Region, Length of	Stay, and T	уре		
		September									September				
				De des Tetel			Only 1 night		2 to 5 nights		6 to 9 nights		10 to 19 nights		20 or more nights
	Hotel	Night-to-Night L	eased Facility	Region Total		Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility
Region 1			33	33		notet	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	потег	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotet	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotet	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	HULEL	Night-to-Night Leased Facility
Region 2				0	Region 1						1				1
Region 3		1		1	Region 2										
Region 4		1	77	78	Region 3		1								
Region 5		3	31	34	Region 4		1				3				2
Region 6	8		19	27	Region 5				1 2						1
Type Total	8	5	160	173	Region 6	1				1			1		
		October									October				
	Hotel	Night-to-Night L		Dogion Total			Only 1 night		2 to 5 nights		6 to 9 nights		10 to 19 nights		20 or more nights
	потег	Night-to-Night L	eased Facility	Region Total		Lintal	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hadal	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Untel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	listel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility
Region 1			6	6		Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotel	NIght-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility
Region 2				0	Region 1						1				
Region 3			1	1	Region 2										
Region 4	2		1	3	Region 3		1								
Region 5			19	19	Region 4		1	1							
Region 6				0	Region 5						1		1		
Type Total	2	0	27	29	Region 6										
		November					1				November				
							Only 1 night		2 to 5 nights		6 to 9 nights		10 to 19 nights		20 or more nights
	Hotel	Night-to-Night L	eased Facility	Region Total											
Region 1			16	16		Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility
Region 2				0	Region 1								1		
Region 3				0	Region 2										
Region 4	3			3	Region 3										
Region 5			40	40	Region 4	3									
Region 6			3	3	Region 5								1		1
Type Total	3	0	59	62	Region 6				1						
		December									December				
							Only 1 night		2 to 5 nights		6 to 9 nights		10 to 19 nights		20 or more nights
	Hotel	Night-to-Night L	eased Facility	Region Total					-		_		-		-
Region 1			3	3		Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to-Night Leased Facility
Region 2				0	Region 1				1						
Region 3				0	Region 2										
Region 4	3		30	33	Region 3										
Region 5			22	22	Region 4		1		1						1
Region 6				0	Region 5				1				1		
Type Total	3	0	55	58	Region 6										
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	Placemei	nt Exception	s by Regior	n and Type								
		Janı										
	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Office	Region Total							
Region 1					0							
Region 2					0							
Region 3			29		29							
Region 4	8		10		18							
Region 5		1	55	3	59							
Region 6					0							
Type Total	8	1	94	3	106							
		Febr	uary									
	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Office	Regior Total							
Region 1					0							
Region 2					0							
Region 3	7		26		33							
Region 4		1	1		2							
Region 5		7	30		37							
Region 6			9		9							
Type Total	7	8	66	0	81							
		Ma	rch									
	Total 7 8 66 0 March Hotel Night-to- Leased Office											
	потег	Night	Facility	Unice	Total							
Region 1					0							
Region 2					0							
Region 3		1	7		8							
Region 4	20	1	17		38							
Region 5			23		23							
Region 6					0							
Type Total	20	2	47	0	69							
		Ар	ril									
	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Office	Regior Total							
Region 1			9		9							
Region 2					0							
Region 3	1		2		3							
Region 4	23	1	16		40							
Region 5	1		64		65							
Region 6			2		2							
Type Total	25	1	93	0	119							

				١	lumber of	Placement I	Exceptions	per Child	by Region, L	ength of St	ay, and Ty	ре				
		Quilia						January	01.0		4		•			4.4.
		Only 1 night			2 to 5 nights 6 to 9 nights						1	LO to 19 nigh	ts	20	or more nig	nts
	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Office	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility
Region 1																
Region 2																
Region 3			1				1									1
Region 4	2						1	1		1						
Region 5		1		3			1									2
Region 6																
					•			February	1					•		
	Only 1 night					2 to 5 nights	5		6 to 9 night	S	1	LO to 19 nigh	ts	20	or more nig	hts
	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Office	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility
Region 1																
Region 2																
Region 3	3				1											1
Region 4		1	1													
Region 5		2	1			1	1			1			1			
Region 6							2									
								March						•		
		Only 1	night			2 to 5 nights	S		6 to 9 night	S	1	LO to 19 nigh	ts	20	or more nig	hts
	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Office	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility
Region 1																
Region 2																
Region 3		1								1						
Region 4	1	1			1		1				1		1			
Region 5										1			1			
Region 6																
								April								
	Only 1 night					2 to 5 nights	S	6 to 9 nights			1	LO to 19 nigh	ts	20	or more nig	hts
	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Office	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Leased Facility	Hotel	Night-to- Night	Lease Facilit
Region 1										1						
Region 2																
Region 3	1		2													
Region 4		1			3		1				1		1			
Region 5	1						1						1			2
Region 6					l		1	İ			1			İ		