

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 September 11, 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	293	4570
<i>Hotel</i>	128	176	144	193	188	129	235	240	161	157	190	47	1988
<i>Office</i>	0	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	45	790
<i>Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing</i>	131	152	179	148	182	66	125	130	163	182	133	201	1792
<i>Unknown</i>	0	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	208	4.6%
Region 4	1158	25.3%
Region 5	287	6.3%
Region 6	2908	63.6%

*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	122	34.1%
2 to 5 nights	109	30.4%
6 to 9 nights	26	7.3%
10 to 19 nights	37	10.3%
20 or more nights	64	17.9%

Child Gender/Sex***	Count	Percent
Female	149	41.6%
Male	189	52.8%
Transgender Female	2	0.6%
Transgender Male	6	1.7%
Other	12	3.4%

*** 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	50
Region 4	90
Region 5	32
Region 6	184
Total	358

Child Age	Count	Percent	Percent of Children in State Care**
0-4 years	32	8.9%	42.7%
5-9 years	79	22.1%	25.0%
10-14 years	124	34.6%	20.1%
15-17 years	123	34.4%	12.2%
Unknown	0	0.0%	--

Child Race and Ethnicity	Count	Percent	Percent of Children in State Care**
African American/Black	40	11.2%	9.0%
American Indian or Alaska Native	9	2.5%	4.5%
Asian or Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	7	2.0%	1.8%
Caucasian/White	211	58.9%	62.9%
Multi-Racial	83	23.2%	21.4%
Unknown	8	2.2%	--
Hispanic	55	15.4%	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															
	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															
	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	4			
April															
	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															
	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
August					
	Hotel	Office	Night-to-Night	Leased Facility/Region Transitional Housing	Region Total
Region 1					0
Region 2					0
Region 3			3		3
Region 4			6	136	142
Region 5			2		2
Region 6	47		34	65	146
Type Total	47	0	45	201	293

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	
Region 5		3			2										4
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
August															
	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	4		1	9									4
Region 5		2													
Region 6	5	2	3	3	9	6	2		3		1	1			1