

Office of Children's Services Children Out of Home

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Reporting period is the most recently completed twelve months.

To protect privacy, Region breakouts may not show for elements with low counts.

Charts, information about the data in this report, and field definitions follow the tables below.

Count of Children in Out-of-Home Placement during each reporting period

Reporting Period	Nov 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019	Oct 2019
Anchorage	1,234	1,251	1,244	1,250	1,265	1,279	1,297	1,287	1,266	1,270	1,239	1,243
Northern	595	586	575	565	580	592	614	622	622	647	636	644
Southcentral	808	807	787	782	772	768	776	776	823	831	835	843
Southeast	186	187	195	202	199	203	211	196	203	202	194	201
Western	201	198	208	203	194	188	193	186	200	205	217	229
Alaska, unique count (includes children in Trial Home Visits)	3,024	3,029	3,009	3,002	3,010	3,030	3,091	3,067	3,114	3,155	3,121	3,160
Native Children	1,901	1,920	1,922	1,921	1,919	1,941	1,998	1,972	2,016	2,025	1,997	2,016
Non-Native Children	1,123	1,109	1,087	1,081	1,091	1,089	1,093	1,095	1,098	1,130	1,124	1,144
Count in Trial Home Visits during period*	399	406	401	396	374	361	359	347	340	380	341	371
Percent in Trial Home Visits during period*	13.2%	13.4%	13.3%	13.2%	12.4%	11.9%	11.6%	11.3%	10.9%	12.0%	10.9%	11.7%
Removals during the period	101	104	113	106	138	151	162	100	167	161	101	127
Discharges * during the period	101	134	112	131	130	105	125	118	125	136	88	68

* Due to administrative processing, there may be a significant lag for entry of discharge data into ORCA, which may affect reporting accuracy for recent periods. All data will be refreshed in subsequent reports. Future documentation of discharges may increase reporting for Discharges while decreasing reporting for Out-Of-Home and Trial Home Visit.

Detail Counts for OCS Children Out of Home during each reporting period

Reporting Period	Nov 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019	Oct 2019
First Day	2,925	2,927	2,897	2,904	2,874	2,882	2,937	2,967	2,963	2,997	3,020	3,037
ARO First Day	1,191	1,202	1,203	1,200	1,203	1,207	1,235	1,249	1,218	1,204	1,207	1,206
NRO First Day	574	572	559	555	547	559	581	605	593	603	619	625
SCRO First Day	786	775	757	759	736	744	734	740	776	794	799	801
SERO First Day	179	180	181	190	198	191	199	192	194	199	188	191
WRO First Day	195	198	197	200	190	181	188	181	182	197	207	214
Last Day	2,924	2,902	2,899	2,878	2,880	2,928	2,969	2,949	2,999	3,019	3,036	3,098
ARO Last Day	1,201	1,204	1,199	1,205	1,204	1,228	1,248	1,220	1,205	1,211	1,195	1,217
NRO Last Day	573	561	556	545	557	580	598	593	604	620	625	634
SCRO Last Day	775	759	756	741	747	737	750	762	794	798	816	826
SERO Last Day	179	181	189	198	191	199	193	194	199	188	191	195
WRO Last Day	196	197	199	189	181	184	180	180	197	202	209	226
Out-of-Home	3,024	3,029	3,009	3,002	3,010	3,030	3,091	3,067	3,114	3,155	3,121	3,160
ARO OOH during	1,234	1,251	1,244	1,250	1,265	1,279	1,297	1,287	1,266	1,270	1,239	1,243
NRO OOH during	595	586	575	565	580	592	614	622	622	647	636	644
SCRO OOH during	808	807	787	782	772	768	776	776	823	831	835	843
SERO OOH during	186	187	195	202	199	203	211	196	203	202	194	201
WRO OOH during	201	198	208	203	194	188	193	186	200	205	217	229
Cases During	1,669	1,665	1,652	1,645	1,660	1,671	1,703	1,688	1,716	1,712	1,686	1,694
ARO Cases during	703	705	709	703	714	722	735	733	731	725	702	696
NRO Cases during	329	322	319	317	324	331	339	338	337	342	337	342
SCRO Cases during	437	438	419	420	420	414	420	422	442	438	437	440
SERO Cases during	110	111	115	116	114	116	120	110	115	115	112	113
WRO Cases during	90	89	90	89	88	88	89	85	91	92	98	103
Removed During	101	104	113	106	138	151	162	100	167	161	101	127
Discharged During	101	134	112	131	130	105	125	118	125	136	88	68

Out-of-Home Placement Setting on the Last Day, by Child Count

Reporting Period	Nov 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019	Oct 2019
Group Home	117	121	118	121	137	139	141	140	134	128	142	154
Independent Living	1						1	1	1		1	1
Institution	97	100	109	113	111	112	112	106	108	118	110	113
Non-Relative Home	767	778	801	813	843	879	881	897	919	938	938	933
ARO Non-Relative Home	316	309	327	333	353	357	364	368	372	387	394	386
NRO Non-Relative Home	161	157	158	160	167	184	187	188	190	199	184	180
SCRO Non-Relative Home	194	229	230	229	236	249	245	252	261	250	251	251
SERO Non-Relative Home	53	43	50	53	51	51	46	46	48	47	55	56
WRO Non-Relative Home	43	40	36	38	36	38	39	43	48	55	54	60
Pending Discharge	95	67	64	74	60	65	84	82	74	77	87	93
Pre-Adoptive	408	400	379	346	324	299	256	226	209	181	151	137
Relative Home	1,042	1,040	1,033	1,027	1,055	1,078	1,152	1,173	1,216	1,229	1,260	1,279
ARO Relative Home	416	420	398	410	424	450	490	498	497	496	490	502
NRO Relative Home	188	181	176	162	174	182	193	202	213	218	225	222
SCRO Relative Home	280	269	281	264	270	260	286	293	319	337	359	366
SERO Relative Home	69	75	81	85	89	96	96	93	91	82	86	92
WRO Relative Home	89	95	97	106	98	90	87	87	96	96	100	97
Runaway	25	25	24	19	20	18	13	18	17	18	17	17
Supervised Independent Living	7	6	8	7	5	4	4	4	3	5	6	7
Trial Home Visit	352	352	342	340	317	308	309	281	294	307	302	337
Other	13	13	21	18	8	26	16	21	24	18	22	27
All OOH on Last Day	2,924	2,902	2,899	2,878	2,880	2,928	2,969	2,949	2,999	3,019	3,036	3,098

Discharge Reasons by Child Count

Reporting Period	Nov 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019	Oct 2019
Adoption	27	59	26	33	30	22	31	32	38	33	27	12
Child Aged Out	4	4	5	5	4	6	11	7	9	7	2	2
Custody Released to Relative	2	2	0	2	0	5	2	5	4	0	6	4
Death Of Child	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Guardianship	2	7	11	13	4	9	12	6	9	12	5	4
Released Self/Emancipation	0	1	1	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	2	0
Reunification	60	58	61	62	80	55	58	65	58	77	39	45
Runaway - Custody Released	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	1	0
Transfer to DJJ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	5	2	8	15	8	8	7	2	5	5	6	1
All OOH on Last Day	101	134	112	131	130	105	125	118	125	136	88	68

Native Status of Children Out-Of-Home on the Last Day, by Child Count

Reporting Period	Nov 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019	Oct 2019
Native Child	1,845	1,855	1,842	1,849	1,842	1,885	1,917	1,903	1,935	1,938	1,940	1,983
ARO Native Child	746	752	742	754	756	766	782	766	752	746	729	743
NRO Native Child	405	405	402	399	404	420	431	429	437	443	444	449
SCRO Native Child	360	360	354	352	352	359	370	373	388	394	407	411
SERO Native Child	138	141	145	155	149	156	154	155	161	153	151	154
WRO Native Child	196	197	199	189	181	184	180	180	197	202	209	226
Non-native Child	1,079	1,047	1,057	1,029	1,037	1,043	1,052	1,046	1,064	1,081	1,096	1,115
ARO Non-native Child	455	452	457	451	447	462	466	454	453	465	466	474
NRO Non-native Child	168	156	154	146	153	160	167	164	167	177	181	185
SCRO Non-native Child	415	399	402	389	395	378	380	389	406	404	409	415
SERO Non-native Child	41	40	44	43	42	43	39	39	38	35	40	41
Child Race Unknown	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All OOH on Last Day	2,924	2,902	2,899	2,878	2,880	2,928	2,969	2,949	2,999	3,019	3,036	3,098

Gender of Children Out-Of-Home on the Last Day, by Child Count

Reporting Period	Nov 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019	Oct 2019
Male Child	1,459	1,458	1,462	1,451	1,462	1,460	1,479	1,472	1,515	1,514	1,524	1,547
ARO Male Child	612	612	608	608	615	613	628	621	611	609	607	614
NRO Male Child	261	255	252	249	258	266	269	267	279	290	292	294
SCRO Male Child	401	404	409	400	403	390	399	401	426	423	427	432
SERO Male Child	86	87	93	99	95	98	93	95	99	93	93	94
WRO Male Child	99	100	100	95	91	93	90	88	100	99	105	113
Female Child	1,465	1,444	1,437	1,427	1,418	1,468	1,490	1,477	1,484	1,505	1,512	1,551
ARO Female Child	589	592	591	597	589	615	620	599	594	602	588	603
NRO Female Child	312	306	304	296	299	314	329	326	325	330	333	340
SCRO Female Child	374	355	347	341	344	347	351	361	368	375	389	394
SERO Female Child	93	94	96	99	96	101	100	99	100	95	98	101
WRO Female Child	97	97	99	94	90	91	90	92	97	103	104	113
All OOH on Last Day	2,924	2,902	2,899	2,878	2,880	2,928	2,969	2,949	2,999	3,019	3,036	3,098

Age of Children Out-Of-Home on the Last Day, by Child Count

Reporting Period	Nov 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019	Oct 2019
Child Age 0-2	635	633	634	631	631	626	639	634	645	655	659	662
ARO Child Age 0-2	299	299	299	303	305	297	298	300	289	290	282	283
NRO Child Age 0-2	108	107	109	106	110	112	117	112	118	125	128	126
SCRO Child Age 0-2	174	172	170	165	164	163	170	169	177	182	188	189
SERO Child Age 0-2	30	32	33	34	32	31	33	32	35	32	32	33
WRO Child Age 0-2	24	23	23	23	20	23	21	21	26	26	29	31
Child Age 3-5	561	548	546	552	552	562	571	572	580	589	586	591
ARO Child Age 3-5	229	232	231	234	232	235	248	242	240	246	242	241
NRO Child Age 3-5	108	103	104	103	109	117	116	112	112	111	111	111
SCRO Child Age 3-5	156	147	144	146	145	143	140	147	152	158	157	163
SERO Child Age 3-5	35	32	34	37	35	38	37	39	40	39	40	39
WRO Child Age 3-5	33	34	33	32	31	29	30	32	36	35	36	37
Child Age 6-8	483	485	476	462	471	485	490	490	489	497	503	525
ARO Child Age 6-8	201	205	198	199	207	219	220	211	207	212	213	218
NRO Child Age 6-8	88	89	83	78	76	76	81	87	88	94	92	97
SCRO Child Age 6-8	127	125	127	122	129	126	126	129	129	130	130	137
SERO Child Age 6-8	31	31	32	32	30	32	32	33	32	29	31	30
WRO Child Age 6-8	36	35	36	31	29	32	31	30	33	32	37	43
Child Age 9-11	470	464	465	454	447	465	489	478	495	492	495	499
ARO Child Age 9-11	179	171	176	169	167	177	191	187	189	187	186	189
NRO Child Age 9-11	94	93	94	91	96	99	102	100	100	104	104	105
SCRO Child Age 9-11	108	109	106	103	103	105	114	114	129	127	134	130
SERO Child Age 9-11	43	44	43	45	40	43	39	36	35	30	30	31
WRO Child Age 9-11	46	47	46	46	41	41	43	41	42	44	41	44
Child Age 12-14	357	361	363	370	365	371	369	367	374	375	377	386
ARO Child Age 12-14	119	130	125	134	128	134	127	120	123	118	112	119
NRO Child Age 12-14	85	77	77	76	74	78	82	86	85	88	91	92
SCRO Child Age 12-14	101	98	103	101	99	95	101	101	103	102	107	106
SERO Child Age 12-14	22	25	28	30	32	32	29	31	33	32	32	32
WRO Child Age 12-14	30	31	30	29	32	32	30	29	30	35	35	37
Child Age 15+	418	411	415	409	414	419	411	408	416	411	416	435
ARO Child Age 15+	174	167	170	166	165	166	164	160	157	158	160	167
NRO Child Age 15+	90	92	89	91	92	98	100	96	101	98	99	103
SCRO Child Age 15+	109	108	106	104	107	105	99	102	104	99	100	101
SERO Child Age 15+	18	17	19	20	22	23	23	23	24	26	26	30
WRO Child Age 15+	27	27	31	28	28	27	25	27	30	30	31	34
All OOH on Last Day	2,924	2,902	2,899	2,878	2,880	2,928	2,969	2,949	2,999	3,019	3,036	3,098

About the data in this report

This report summarizes statistics for children who were in Alaska's Office of Children's Services (OCS) Out of Home (OOH) removals during all or part of each period being reported.

Removal for OOH placement is the last option considered when reasonable efforts to protect a child in his or her own home have been exhausted by OCS. The first preference considered in all out-of-home placements for a child or youth is a relative's home. When it is not possible to place a child with a relative it is necessary to place the child in a licensed foster home. Residential care facilities may offer short-term emergency shelter as well as more long-term residential treatment.

"Unique count" indicates that each child (or case, for case counts) is counted only once per reported category. However, some out of home individuals may have moved between regions during the reporting period. Therefore, regional demographic counts may not add to statewide Alaska totals.

Children removed on the first day of reporting period are included in counts for OOH on the first day of the period. Children discharged on the last day of reporting period are included in counts and demographics for OOH on the last day of the period. Therefore, last day counts will not equal the sum of first day counts plus removals and minus discharges during the period.

Child age is calculated based on discharge date if the child was discharged during the reporting period, otherwise child age calculation is based on the end of the reporting period.

Native Status is determined by reported race of either Alaskan Native or Native American.

To protect the privacy of individuals in low-count groups, regional breakouts are not included for monthly reports and for some yearly summary tables.

Subsequent reports covering the same reporting periods will contain updated statistics.

OCS Out of Home Web Report Field Definitions

Adoption - Transfer of the legal relation of parent to a person not related to the child by birth, with the same mutual rights and obligations that existed between the child and his or her birth parents.

Case - A household unit included in one or more Initial Assessment.

Day - For purposes of Foster Care a day is midnight to midnight. This report counts a child as Out of Home on the day of Removal but not on the day of Discharge. Therefore, children discharged on the first day of the reporting period will not be included in counts for the start of that reporting period.

Discharge - The point in time when a child is no longer in Out of Home Care.

Guardianship - A person outside of the child's household fulfills some of the responsibilities of a legal parent while the courts or birthparents may continue to hold other legal responsibilities for the child. Guardianship is subject to ongoing supervision by the court and ends by court order or when the child reaches the age of majority. Guardianship may be used as an alternative to Adoption in some kinship care situations in which a child's relative is assuming a parental role but prefers not to adopt. Guardians may be entitled to the same benefits as Foster or Adoptive parents.

Native Child - Any mention of Alaska Native or American Indian race.

Office of Children's Services (OCS) - A division of Alaska's Department of Health and Social Services.

ORCA - Online Resources for the Children of Alaska, OCS's main database.

Out-of-Home Placement (OOH or OOHP) / Removal - Placing the child in the physical care of someone other than the child's Caregiver. Removal may include situations in which the child is living in the same residence as the Caregiver, but the Caregiver's ability to exercise physical care and control of the child. Only includes children who remained out of home for at least one night.

Placement - The physical setting in which a child resides after Removal; that is, the resultant Foster Care setting. A new Placement setting results when the Foster Care setting changes, for example, when a child moves from one Foster family home to another or to a Group Home or Institution.

Region, as used in this Out of Home report - One of areas of five Alaska, based on the office of the primary OCS worker responsible for the Case at Discharge or, if not Discharged during the period, at the end of the reporting period.

Removal - The physical act of a child being taken from his or her normal place of residence, by court order or a voluntary placement agreement, and placed in a substitute care setting, or the removal of Custody from the parent or relative Guardian pursuant to a court order or voluntary placement agreement which permits the child to remain in a substitute care setting.

Reporting Period - Complete month or calendar year, as specified in the report. Owing to Unique Counts, data reported on a monthly basis will not necessarily sum to annual figures.

Unique Count - An unduplicated count within the Reporting Period; that is, each person, ID, or combination of person or ID with other factors is counted only once regardless of the number of times represented within the reported group during the reporting period. For example, a child out of home in two regions during a reporting period will be counted once for each region where region is being reported, but only once where count for all of Alaska is being reported. Therefore total of all regions may not equal statewide count.

Discharge Reasons

Adoption - Termination of all legal relationships between the adopted person and the natural parents and other relatives of the adopted person, so that the adopted person thereafter is a stranger to the former relatives for all purposes; to create the relationship of parent and child between petitioner and the adopted person, as if the adopted person were a legitimate blood descendant of the petitioner, for all purposes.

Child Aged Out - Child between 18-21 exited OCS custody based on their age. Child may enter an independent living arrangement. .

Custody Released to Relative - Legal responsibility for care and maintenance of a child has been transferred to a relative of the child.

Death of Child - The child has died, not necessarily as a result of maltreatment.

Guardianship - A legal arrangement where a person or institution is appointed as a guardian to make decisions for an incapacitated person - decisions about housing, medical care, legal issues, and services.

Reunification - Discharge from Out of Home Placement to reunite child and family.

THV Expired - Custody Retained - A trial home visit exceeded six months or a time period ordered by a court. If a trial home visit exceeds this time limit, or if a child is placed at home and custody lapses and the child is placed in out-of-home care again, it is considered a second removal from home.

Transfer to another Agency - Transfer of child Legal responsibility for care and maintenance of a child to a tribe or other non-OCS entity.

Transfer to DJJ - Transfer of Legal responsibility for care and maintenance of a child to Alaska's Department of Juvenile Justice, an agency is in the same Department as OCS. DJJ has a different database of record, but OCS is responsible for paying Foster Care for these children.

Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction - Legal responsibility for care and maintenance of a child was transferred to a Native tribe.

Placement Settings

Foster Home - An OCS approved home in which an adult head of the household provides 24-hour care on a continuing basis to one or more children who are apart from their principal Caregiver. The adult may be a Relative or Non-Relative. Non-relative Foster Homes must be licensed by OCS.

Group Home - A home that cares for more than three, but no more than eight, children unrelated to the Foster parent.

Institution - A child care facility operated by a public or private agency and providing 24-hour care and/or treatment for children who require separation from their own homes and group living experience. These facilities may include: child care institutions, residential treatment facilities, maternity homes, nursing homes, hospitals, etc.

Missing Documentation - A placement was ended but insufficient information was entered into ORCA to determine subsequent placement setting.

Pending Discharge - Foster Care placement has ended for reasons such as Adoption, Guardianship, Aging-Out, Emancipation, Death of Child, or other reason to release State legal responsibility for care and maintenance of a child, but Discharge paperwork had not been completed at the end of the Reporting Period.

Pre-Adoptive - A home in which a child is placed with a family with the understanding that the family plans to adopt the child.

Runaway - A child who left the Provider he/she was placed with, whose whereabouts are either currently unknown or who is staying in an unapproved setting, and for whom the State retains legal responsibility for care and maintenance of a child.

Supervised Independent Living - A type of voluntary extended Foster Care placement where young adults can live on their own, while still getting casework and support services to help them become independent and self-sufficient.

Trial Home Visit (THV) - The child has been in a Foster Care placement, but, under continuing OCS supervision, is returned to the child's principal Caregiver for a limited period of time. If the THV is successful legal responsibility for care and maintenance of a child may be returned to the principal Caregiver.

Region Abbreviations

ARO - Anchorage Regional Office

NRO - Northern Regional Office

SCRO - Southcentral Regional Office

SERO - Southeast Regional Office

WRO - Western Regional Office

For a map of OCS Regions and Offices see our [Contact](#) page.