

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	Oct 2018	Nov 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019
Anchorage	1,237	1,234	1,251	1,244	1,250	1,265	1,279	1,297	1,287	1,266	1,270	1,243
Northern	599	595	586	575	565	580	592	614	622	622	646	638
Southcentral	814	810	809	787	782	772	768	776	776	823	831	836
Southeast	186	186	187	195	202	199	203	211	196	203	202	194
Western	196	201	198	208	203	194	188	193	186	200	205	214
Alaska, unique count (includes children in Trial Home Visits)	3,032	3,026	3,031	3,009	3,002	3,010	3,030	3,091	3,067	3,114	3,154	3,125
Native Children	1,906	1,903	1,922	1,924	1,923	1,921	1,942	1,999	1,973	2,017	2,025	1,998
Non-Native Children	1,126	1,123	1,109	1,085	1,079	1,089	1,088	1,092	1,094	1,097	1,129	1,127
Count in Trial Home Visits during period*	410	399	406	401	399	377	365	363	351	344	375	332
Percent in Trial Home Visits during period*	13.5%	13.2%	13.4%	13.3%	13.3%	12.5%	12.0%	11.7%	11.4%	11.0%	11.9%	10.6%
Removals during the period	116	101	104	113	106	138	151	162	100	167	160	101
Discharges * during the period	108	101	136	112	131	130	105	125	118	125	131	81

* 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	Oct 2018	Nov 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019
First Day	2,921	2,927	2,929	2,897	2,904	2,874	2,882	2,937	2,967	2,963	2,997	3,024
ARO First Day	1,184	1,191	1,202	1,203	1,200	1,203	1,207	1,235	1,249	1,218	1,204	1,210
NRO First Day	587	574	572	559	555	547	559	581	605	593	603	621
SCRO First Day	782	788	777	757	759	736	744	734	740	776	794	800
SERO First Day	174	179	180	181	190	198	191	199	192	194	199	188
WRO First Day	194	195	198	197	200	190	181	188	181	182	197	205
Last Day	2,933	2,926	2,902	2,899	2,878	2,880	2,928	2,969	2,949	2,999	3,023	3,045
ARO Last Day	1,191	1,201	1,204	1,199	1,205	1,204	1,228	1,248	1,220	1,205	1,214	1,200
NRO Last Day	575	573	561	556	545	557	580	598	593	604	620	627
SCRO Last Day	793	777	759	756	741	747	737	750	762	794	799	820
SERO Last Day	182	179	181	189	198	191	199	193	194	199	188	191
WRO Last Day	192	196	197	199	189	181	184	180	180	197	202	207
Out-of-Home	3,032	3,026	3,031	3,009	3,002	3,010	3,030	3,091	3,067	3,114	3,154	3,125
ARO OOH during	1,237	1,234	1,251	1,244	1,250	1,265	1,279	1,297	1,287	1,266	1,270	1,243
NRO OOH during	599	595	586	575	565	580	592	614	622	622	646	638
SCRO OOH during	814	810	809	787	782	772	768	776	776	823	831	836
SERO OOH during	186	186	187	195	202	199	203	211	196	203	202	194
WRO OOH during	196	201	198	208	203	194	188	193	186	200	205	214
Cases During	1,670	1,670	1,666	1,652	1,645	1,660	1,671	1,703	1,688	1,716	1,712	1,687
ARO Cases during	699	703	705	709	703	714	722	735	733	731	725	703
NRO Cases during	330	329	322	319	317	324	331	339	338	337	342	339
SCRO Cases during	440	438	439	419	420	420	414	420	422	442	438	437
SERO Cases during	113	110	111	115	116	114	116	120	110	115	115	112
WRO Cases during	89	90	89	90	89	88	88	89	85	91	92	96
Removed During	116	101	104	113	106	138	151	162	100	167	160	101
Discharged During	108	101	136	112	131	130	105	125	118	125	131	81

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

Reporting Period	Oct 2018	Nov 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019
Group Home	113	117	121	118	121	137	139	141	140	131	129	143
Independent Living	1	1						1	1	1		1
Institution	98	97	100	109	113	111	112	112	106	108	118	111
Non-Relative Home	765	782	792	816	828	858	895	898	914	935	953	960
ARO Non-Relative Home	313	320	313	332	338	358	363	370	374	378	393	403
NRO Non-Relative Home	158	167	163	164	166	173	190	193	194	196	205	193
SCRO Non-Relative Home	201	199	233	234	233	240	253	250	257	266	255	257
SERO Non-Relative Home	52	53	43	50	53	51	51	46	46	47	46	53
WRO Non-Relative Home	41	43	40	36	38	36	38	39	43	48	54	54
Pending Discharge	94	95	67	64	71	57	61	80	78	73	84	84
Pre-Adoptive	410	389	379	356	323	301	275	232	202	184	155	139
Relative Home	1,049	1,048	1,047	1,041	1,035	1,063	1,086	1,159	1,180	1,224	1,237	1,270
ARO Relative Home	430	421	425	403	415	429	455	495	503	503	503	498
NRO Relative Home	187	189	182	177	163	175	183	194	203	214	218	226
SCRO Relative Home	275	280	270	283	266	272	262	287	294	320	338	360
SERO Relative Home	64	69	75	81	85	89	96	96	93	91	82	89
WRO Relative Home	93	89	95	97	106	98	90	87	87	96	96	97
Runaway	19	25	25	24	19	20	18	13	18	18	19	18
Supervised Independent Living	8	7	6	8	7	5	4	4	4	3	5	6
Trial Home Visit	365	352	352	342	343	320	312	313	285	295	305	294
Other	11	13	13	21	18	8	26	16	21	27	18	19
All OOH on Last Day	2,933	2,926	2,902	2,899	2,878	2,880	2,928	2,969	2,949	2,999	3,023	3,045

Discharge Reasons by Child Count

Reporting Period	Oct 2018	Nov 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019
Adoption	33	27	59	26	33	30	22	31	32	38	30	23
Child Aged Out	8	4	5	5	5	4	6	11	7	9	7	2
Custody Released to Relative	0	2	2	0	2	0	5	2	5	4	0	6
Death Of Child	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	0
Guardianship	6	2	8	11	13	4	9	12	6	9	12	5
Released Self/Emancipation	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	2
Reunification	57	60	58	61	62	80	55	58	65	58	75	36
Runaway - Custody Released	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	1
Transfer to DJJ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	3	5	2	8	15	8	8	7	2	5	5	6
All OOH on Last Day	108	101	136	112	131	130	105	125	118	125	131	81

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

Reporting Period	Oct 2018	Nov 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019
Native Child	1,837	1,847	1,857	1,844	1,851	1,844	1,886	1,918	1,904	1,936	1,940	1,943
ARO Native Child	735	746	752	742	754	756	766	782	766	752	746	729
NRO Native Child	403	405	405	402	399	404	419	430	428	436	442	445
SCRO Native Child	370	362	362	356	354	354	361	372	375	390	397	411
SERO Native Child	137	138	141	145	155	149	156	154	155	161	153	151
WRO Native Child	192	196	197	199	189	181	184	180	180	197	202	207
Non-native Child	1,095	1,079	1,045	1,055	1,027	1,035	1,042	1,051	1,045	1,063	1,082	1,101
ARO Non-native Child	455	455	452	457	451	447	462	466	454	453	468	471
NRO Non-native Child	172	168	156	154	146	153	161	168	165	168	178	182
SCRO Non-native Child	423	415	397	400	387	393	376	378	387	404	401	408
SERO Non-native Child	45	41	40	44	43	42	43	39	39	38	35	40
Child Race Unknown	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
All OOH on Last Day	2,933	2,926	2,902	2,899	2,878	2,880	2,928	2,969	2,949	2,999	3,023	3,045

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

Reporting Period	Oct 2018	Nov 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019
Male Child	1,470	1,460	1,458	1,462	1,451	1,462	1,460	1,479	1,472	1,515	1,515	1,529
ARO Male Child	607	612	612	608	608	615	613	628	621	611	611	610
NRO Male Child	265	261	255	252	249	258	266	269	267	279	289	293
SCRO Male Child	410	402	404	409	400	403	390	399	401	426	423	430
SERO Male Child	85	86	87	93	99	95	98	93	95	99	93	93
WRO Male Child	103	99	100	100	95	91	93	90	88	100	99	103
Female Child	1,463	1,466	1,444	1,437	1,427	1,418	1,468	1,490	1,477	1,484	1,508	1,516
ARO Female Child	584	589	592	591	597	589	615	620	599	594	603	590
NRO Female Child	310	312	306	304	296	299	314	329	326	325	331	334
SCRO Female Child	383	375	355	347	341	344	347	351	361	368	376	390
SERO Female Child	97	93	94	96	99	96	101	100	99	100	95	98
WRO Female Child	89	97	97	99	94	90	91	90	92	97	103	104
All OOH on Last Day	2,933	2,926	2,902	2,899	2,878	2,880	2,928	2,969	2,949	2,999	3,023	3,045

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

Reporting Period	Oct 2018	Nov 2018	Dec 2018	Jan 2019	Feb 2019	Mar 2019	Apr 2019	May 2019	Jun 2019	Jul 2019	Aug 2019	Sep 2019
Child Age 0-2	640	635	633	634	631	631	626	639	634	645	656	664
ARO Child Age 0-2	292	299	299	299	303	305	297	298	300	289	290	283
NRO Child Age 0-2	108	108	107	109	106	110	112	117	112	118	125	128
SCRO Child Age 0-2	184	174	172	170	165	164	163	170	169	177	183	192
SERO Child Age 0-2	31	30	32	33	34	32	31	33	32	35	32	32
WRO Child Age 0-2	25	24	23	23	23	20	23	21	21	26	26	29
Child Age 3-5	557	561	548	546	552	552	562	571	572	580	591	589
ARO Child Age 3-5	225	229	232	231	234	232	235	248	242	240	248	245
NRO Child Age 3-5	106	108	103	104	103	109	117	116	112	112	111	112
SCRO Child Age 3-5	159	156	147	144	146	145	143	140	147	152	158	157
SERO Child Age 3-5	33	35	32	34	37	35	38	37	39	40	39	40
WRO Child Age 3-5	34	33	34	33	32	31	29	30	32	36	35	35
Child Age 6-8	485	483	485	476	462	471	485	490	490	489	497	503
ARO Child Age 6-8	202	201	205	198	199	207	219	220	211	207	212	213
NRO Child Age 6-8	87	88	89	83	78	76	76	81	87	88	94	93
SCRO Child Age 6-8	129	127	125	127	122	129	126	126	129	129	130	130
SERO Child Age 6-8	32	31	31	32	32	30	32	32	33	32	29	31
WRO Child Age 6-8	35	36	35	36	31	29	32	31	30	33	32	36
Child Age 9-11	466	470	464	465	454	447	465	489	478	495	493	496
ARO Child Age 9-11	176	179	171	176	169	167	177	191	187	189	188	187
NRO Child Age 9-11	95	94	93	94	91	96	99	102	100	100	104	104
SCRO Child Age 9-11	111	108	109	106	103	103	105	114	114	129	127	134
SERO Child Age 9-11	41	43	44	43	45	40	43	39	36	35	30	30
WRO Child Age 9-11	43	46	47	46	46	41	41	43	41	42	44	41
Child Age 12-14	362	358	361	363	370	365	371	369	367	374	375	377
ARO Child Age 12-14	120	119	130	125	134	128	134	127	120	123	118	112
NRO Child Age 12-14	89	85	77	77	76	74	78	82	86	85	88	91
SCRO Child Age 12-14	100	102	98	103	101	99	95	101	101	103	102	107
SERO Child Age 12-14	25	22	25	28	30	32	32	29	31	33	32	32
WRO Child Age 12-14	28	30	31	30	29	32	32	30	29	30	35	35
Child Age 15+	423	419	411	415	409	414	419	411	408	416	411	416
ARO Child Age 15+	176	174	167	170	166	165	166	164	160	157	158	160
NRO Child Age 15+	90	90	92	89	91	92	98	100	96	101	98	99
SCRO Child Age 15+	110	110	108	106	104	107	105	99	102	104	99	100
SERO Child Age 15+	20	18	17	19	20	22	23	23	23	24	26	26
WRO Child Age 15+	27	27	27	31	28	28	27	25	27	30	30	31
All OOH on Last Day	2,933	2,926	2,902	2,899	2,878	2,880	2,928	2,969	2,949	2,999	3,023	3,045

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.