

Office of Children's Services Children Out of Home

Data extracted Wednesday February 14, 2018 from Alaska's ORCARPT database.

Field definitions and information about the data in this report follow the tables below.

Click to view charts of Out Of Home data based on [months](#) or [years](#).

Count of Children in Out-of-Home Placement during each Reporting Period

Region	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Jul 2017	Aug 2017	Sep 2017	Oct 2017	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018
Anchorage	1,244	1,263	1,257	1,246	1,247	1,252	1,257	1,225	1,220	1,219	1,213	1,181
Northern	553	581	596	592	588	596	598	578	588	587	595	594
Southcentral	865	869	872	868	847	845	850	811	813	798	754	760
Southeast	183	180	179	178	183	188	188	186	179	171	179	177
Western	207	214	216	210	204	196	200	200	199	205	200	204
Alaska, unique count (includes children in Trial Home Visits)	3,052	3,107	3,120	3,094	3,069	3,077	3,093	3,000	2,999	2,980	2,941	2,916
Count in Trial Home Visits during period*	344	345	352	414	408	459	468	421	417	392	406	378
Percent in Trial Home Visits during period*	11.3 %	11.1 %	11.3 %	13.4 %	13.3 %	14.9 %	15.1 %	14.0 %	13.9 %	13.2 %	13.8 %	13.0 %
Removals during the period	93	126	134	95	108	107	126	89	108	98	93	101
Discharges * during the period	79	118	125	131	100	111	181	107	121	129	129	77

* 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.

OCS Out-of-Home Cases during each Reporting Period

Region	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Jul 2017	Aug 2017	Sep 2017	Oct 2017	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018
Anchorage	711	728	723	721	722	721	725	695	693	692	699	685
Northern	298	314	322	325	321	322	324	320	320	315	318	317
Southcentral	479	485	486	484	467	466	467	452	461	453	430	430
Southeast	116	112	111	111	115	116	114	113	106	101	107	107
Western	84	89	92	93	90	86	89	88	90	94	91	93
Alaska, unique count	1,688	1,728	1,733	1,734	1,715	1,711	1,719	1,668	1,670	1,655	1,645	1,632

Children OOH end of Period not on THV, not in a relative placement, not in a pre-adoptive setting, and not in a facility with a facility preference. By Child Native Status and by Home Provider Native Status (most recent period first)

Period	Child Native Status	Native_Provider	Non-native_Provider	Undetermined	Child Race Total
Jan 2018	Native Child	682	582	58	1,322
	Non-native Child	54	722	85	861
	Child Race Unknown	1	1	0	2
	Jan 2018 Provider Total:	737	1,305	143	2,185
Dec 2017	Native Child	686	555	51	1,292
	Non-native Child	56	716	87	859
	Child Race Unknown	0	1	0	1
	Dec 2017 Provider Total:	742	1,272	138	2,152
Nov 2017	Native Child	647	564	54	1,265
	Non-native Child	50	749	81	880
	Child Race Unknown	0	1	0	1
	Nov 2017 Provider Total:	697	1,314	135	2,146
Oct 2017	Native Child	620	563	53	1,236
	Non-native Child	49	749	79	877
	Child Race Unknown	0	1	0	1
	Oct 2017 Provider Total:	669	1,313	132	2,114
Sep 2017	Native Child	611	554	54	1,219
	Non-native Child	47	743	69	859
	Child Race Unknown	1	1	0	2
	Sep 2017 Provider Total:	659	1,298	123	2,080
Aug 2017	Native Child	628	538	54	1,220
	Non-native Child	50	746	62	858
	Child Race Unknown	1	3	0	4
	Aug 2017 Provider Total:	679	1,287	116	2,082
Jul 2017	Native Child	620	534	55	1,209
	Non-native Child	47	720	66	833
	Child Race Unknown	2	1	0	3
	Jul 2017 Provider Total:	669	1,255	121	2,045
Jun 2017	Native Child	617	537	46	1,200
	Non-native Child	46	725	66	837
	Child Race Unknown	1	1	0	2
	Jun 2017 Provider Total:	664	1,263	112	2,039
May 2017	Native Child	625	525	46	1,196
	Non-native Child	51	724	67	842
	Child Race Unknown	0	1	0	1
	May 2017 Provider Total:	676	1,250	113	2,039
Apr 2017	Native Child	628	531	38	1,197
	Non-native Child	49	735	65	849
	Child Race Unknown	0	1	0	1
	Apr 2017 Provider Total:	677	1,267	103	2,047
Mar 2017	Native Child	606	545	42	1,193
	Non-native Child	46	744	58	848
	Child Race Unknown	0	1	0	1
	Mar 2017 Provider Total:	652	1,290	100	2,042
Feb 2017	Native Child	603	526	46	1,175
	Non-native Child	48	733	54	835
	Child Race Unknown	1	1	0	2
	Feb 2017 Provider Total:	652	1,260	100	2,012

OCS Children Out of Home during January 2018

Unique OOH Counts for the Month	
OOH children first day of the month	2,815
OOH children last day of the month	2,847
OOH children during month	2,916
OOH cases during month	1,632
Children removed during month	101
Children discharged during month	77

Reason for Discharges during the Month	
Adoption	11
Child Aged Out	6
Guardianship	4
Reunification	52
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	4

OOH Placement Setting on Last Day of the Month	
Group Home	105
Institution	101
Non-Relative Home	865
Other	19
Pending Discharge	41
Pre-Adoptive	100
Relative Home	1,250
Runaway	16
Supervised Independent Living	9
Trial Home Visit	341

OOH Demographics for Last Day of the Month	
Male Child	1,420
Female Child	1,427
Child Age 0-2	616
Child Age 3-5	560
Child Age 6-8	486
Child Age 9-11	457
Child Age 12-14	330
Child Age 15+	398
Native Child	1,729
Non-native Child	1,116
Child Race Unknown	2

OCS Children Out of Home during December 2017

Unique OOH Counts for the Month	
OOH children first day of the month	2,855
OOH children last day of the month	2,816
OOH children during month	2,941
OOH cases during month	1,645
Children removed during month	93
Children discharged during month	129

Reason for Discharges during the Month	
Adoption	53
Child Aged Out	6
Custody Released to Relative	1
Guardianship	1
Reunification	65
Runaway - Custody Released	2
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	1

OOH Placement Setting on Last Day of the Month	
Group Home	92
Institution	97
Non-Relative Home	849
Other	17
Pending Discharge	39
Pre-Adoptive	106
Relative Home	1,239
Runaway	13
Supervised Independent Living	9
Trial Home Visit	355

OOH Demographics for Last Day of the Month	
Male Child	1,407
Female Child	1,409
Child Age 0-2	612
Child Age 3-5	545
Child Age 6-8	480
Child Age 9-11	454
Child Age 12-14	331
Child Age 15+	394
Native Child	1,700
Non-native Child	1,115
Child Race Unknown	1

OCS Children Out of Home during November 2017

Unique OOH Counts for the Month	
OOH children first day of the month	2,888
OOH children last day of the month	2,852
OOH children during month	2,980
OOH cases during month	1,655
Children removed during month	98
Children discharged during month	129

Reason for Discharges during the Month	
Adoption	55
Child Aged Out	7
Custody Released to Relative	3
Guardianship	5
Reunification	53
Transfer to DJJ	1
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	5

OOH Placement Setting on Last Day of the Month	
Group Home	96
Institution	97
Non-Relative Home	870
Other	26
Pending Discharge	71
Pre-Adoptive	105
Relative Home	1,204
Runaway	19
Supervised Independent Living	9
Trial Home Visit	355

OOH Demographics for Last Day of the Month	
Male Child	1,420
Female Child	1,432
Child Age 0-2	617
Child Age 3-5	557
Child Age 6-8	488
Child Age 9-11	462
Child Age 12-14	334
Child Age 15+	394
Native Child	1,719
Non-native Child	1,132
Child Race Unknown	1

OCS Children Out of Home during October 2017

Unique OOH Counts for the Month	
OOH children first day of the month	2,894
OOH children last day of the month	2,883
OOH children during month	2,999
OOH cases during month	1,670
Children removed during month	108
Children discharged during month	121

Reason for Discharges during the Month	
Adoption	29
Child Aged Out	8
Custody Released to Relative	1
Guardianship	4
Reunification	75
Runaway - Custody Released	1
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	3

OOH Placement Setting on Last Day of the Month	
Group Home	96
Institution	94
Non-Relative Home	894
Other	21
Pending Discharge	92
Pre-Adoptive	115
Relative Home	1,172
Runaway	23
Supervised Independent Living	10
Trial Home Visit	366

OOH Demographics for Last Day of the Month	
Male Child	1,441
Female Child	1,442
Child Age 0-2	620
Child Age 3-5	576
Child Age 6-8	496
Child Age 9-11	460
Child Age 12-14	338
Child Age 15+	393
Native Child	1,727
Non-native Child	1,155
Child Race Unknown	1

OCS Children Out of Home during September 2017

Unique OOH Counts for the Month	
OOH children first day of the month	2,913
OOH children last day of the month	2,894
OOH children during month	3,000
OOH cases during month	1,668
Children removed during month	89
Children discharged during month	107

Reason for Discharges during the Month	
Adoption	23
Child Aged Out	9
Custody Released to Relative	2
Death Of Child	1
Guardianship	3
Reunification	68
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	1

OOH Placement Setting on Last Day of the Month	
Group Home	93
Institution	97
Non-Relative Home	914
Other	20
Pending Discharge	65
Pre-Adoptive	125
Relative Home	1,177
Runaway	26
Supervised Independent Living	9
Trial Home Visit	368

OOH Demographics for Last Day of the Month	
Male Child	1,446
Female Child	1,448
Child Age 0-2	621
Child Age 3-5	585
Child Age 6-8	503
Child Age 9-11	454
Child Age 12-14	339
Child Age 15+	392
Native Child	1,721
Non-native Child	1,172
Child Race Unknown	1

OCS Children Out of Home during August 2017

Unique OOH Counts for the Month	
OOH children first day of the month	2,971
OOH children last day of the month	2,927
OOH children during month	3,093
OOH cases during month	1,719
Children removed during month	126
Children discharged during month	181

Reason for Discharges during the Month	
Adoption	49
Child Aged Out	8
Custody Released to Relative	6
Guardianship	6
Reunification	108
Runaway - Custody Released	1
Transfer To Another Agency	2
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	1

OOH Placement Setting on Last Day of the Month	
Group Home	93
Institution	96
Non-Relative Home	912
Other	34
Pending Discharge	72
Pre-Adoptive	118
Relative Home	1,176
Runaway	28
Supervised Independent Living	9
Trial Home Visit	389

OOH Demographics for Last Day of the Month	
Male Child	1,468
Female Child	1,459
Child Age 0-2	640
Child Age 3-5	585
Child Age 6-8	511
Child Age 9-11	447
Child Age 12-14	347
Child Age 15+	397
Native Child	1,741
Non-native Child	1,184
Child Race Unknown	2

OCS Children Out of Home during July 2017

Unique OOH Counts for the Month	
OOH children first day of the month	2,972
OOH children last day of the month	2,974
OOH children during month	3,077
OOH cases during month	1,711
Children removed during month	107
Children discharged during month	111

Reason for Discharges during the Month	
Adoption	26
Child Aged Out	6
Custody Released to Relative	5
Guardianship	3
Reunification	57
Runaway - Custody Released	4
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	10

OOH Placement Setting on Last Day of the Month	
Group Home	100
Institution	97
Non-Relative Home	907
Other	19
Pending Discharge	88
Pre-Adoptive	124
Relative Home	1,181
Runaway	28
Supervised Independent Living	6
Trial Home Visit	424

OOH Demographics for Last Day of the Month	
Male Child	1,491
Female Child	1,483
Child Age 0-2	647
Child Age 3-5	602
Child Age 6-8	525
Child Age 9-11	442
Child Age 12-14	356
Child Age 15+	402
Native Child	1,763
Non-native Child	1,210
Child Race Unknown	1

OCS Children Out of Home during June 2017

Unique OOH Counts for the Month	
OOH children first day of the month	2,966
OOH children last day of the month	2,971
OOH children during month	3,069
OOH cases during month	1,715
Children removed during month	108
Children discharged during month	100

Reason for Discharges during the Month	
Adoption	23
Child Aged Out	5
Custody Released to Relative	6
Death Of Child	1
Guardianship	3
Reunification	58
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	4

OOH Placement Setting on Last Day of the Month	
Group Home	102
Institution	96
Non-Relative Home	943
Other	19
Pending Discharge	73
Pre-Adoptive	127
Relative Home	1,206
Runaway	26
Supervised Independent Living	5
Trial Home Visit	374

OOH Demographics for Last Day of the Month	
Male Child	1,491
Female Child	1,480
Child Age 0-2	636
Child Age 3-5	617
Child Age 6-8	527
Child Age 9-11	442
Child Age 12-14	347
Child Age 15+	402
Native Child	1,739
Non-native Child	1,231
Child Race Unknown	1

OCS Children Out of Home during May 2017

Unique OOH Counts for the Month	
OOH children first day of the month	3,003
OOH children last day of the month	2,969
OOH children during month	3,094
OOH cases during month	1,734
Children removed during month	95
Children discharged during month	131

Reason for Discharges during the Month	
Adoption	34
Child Aged Out	13
Custody Released to Relative	6
Death Of Child	1
Guardianship	3
Reunification	61
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	13

OOH Placement Setting on Last Day of the Month	
Group Home	102
Institution	94
Non-Relative Home	949
Other	25
Pending Discharge	73
Pre-Adoptive	119
Relative Home	1,206
Runaway	30
Supervised Independent Living	3
Trial Home Visit	368

OOH Demographics for Last Day of the Month	
Male Child	1,487
Female Child	1,482
Child Age 0-2	627
Child Age 3-5	631
Child Age 6-8	514
Child Age 9-11	447
Child Age 12-14	347
Child Age 15+	403
Native Child	1,734
Non-native Child	1,234
Child Race Unknown	1

OCS Children Out of Home during April 2017

Unique OOH Counts for the Month	
OOH children first day of the month	2,990
OOH children last day of the month	3,003
OOH children during month	3,120
OOH cases during month	1,733
Children removed during month	134
Children discharged during month	125

Reason for Discharges during the Month	
Adoption	21
Child Aged Out	3
Custody Released to Relative	6
Guardianship	10
Reunification	68
Runaway - Custody Released	3
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	14

OOH Placement Setting on Last Day of the Month	
Group Home	103
Institution	103
Non-Relative Home	1,005
Other	28
Pending Discharge	63
Pre-Adoptive	120
Relative Home	1,241
Runaway	21
Supervised Independent Living	7
Trial Home Visit	312

OOH Demographics for Last Day of the Month	
Male Child	1,518
Female Child	1,485
Child Age 0-2	642
Child Age 3-5	627
Child Age 6-8	517
Child Age 9-11	459
Child Age 12-14	357
Child Age 15+	401
Native Child	1,748
Non-native Child	1,254
Child Race Unknown	1

OCS Children Out of Home during March 2017

Unique OOH Counts for the Month	
OOH children first day of the month	2,986
OOH children last day of the month	2,995
OOH children during month	3,107
OOH cases during month	1,728
Children removed during month	126
Children discharged during month	118

Reason for Discharges during the Month	
Adoption	42
Child Aged Out	2
Custody Released to Relative	1
Guardianship	2
Reunification	58
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	13

OOH Placement Setting on Last Day of the Month	
Group Home	97
Institution	102
Non-Relative Home	1,024
Other	13
Pending Discharge	73
Pre-Adoptive	113
Relative Home	1,251
Runaway	17
Supervised Independent Living	7
Trial Home Visit	298

OOH Demographics for Last Day of the Month	
Male Child	1,520
Female Child	1,475
Child Age 0-2	636
Child Age 3-5	633
Child Age 6-8	529
Child Age 9-11	446
Child Age 12-14	361
Child Age 15+	390
Native Child	1,743
Non-native Child	1,251
Child Race Unknown	1

OCS Children Out of Home during February 2017

Unique OOH Counts for the Month	
OOH children first day of the month	2,963
OOH children last day of the month	2,977
OOH children during month	3,052
OOH cases during month	1,688
Children removed during month	93
Children discharged during month	79

Reason for Discharges during the Month	
Adoption	13
Child Aged Out	4
Death Of Child	1
Guardianship	4
Reunification	54
Tribe Assumed Jurisdiction	3

OOH Placement Setting on Last Day of the Month	
Group Home	90
Institution	99
Non-Relative Home	1,035
Other	14
Pending Discharge	88
Pre-Adoptive	107
Relative Home	1,215
Runaway	20
Supervised Independent Living	7
Trial Home Visit	302

OOH Demographics for Last Day of the Month	
Male Child	1,513
Female Child	1,464
Child Age 0-2	631
Child Age 3-5	628
Child Age 6-8	538
Child Age 9-11	444
Child Age 12-14	352
Child Age 15+	384
Native Child	1,741
Non-native Child	1,233
Child Race Unknown	3

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.