# Wisconsin Out-of-Home Care (OHC) Report

# Calendar Year 2022



Released December 2023

The report is available on the internet at <u>https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/c</u> <u>wportal/reports/pdf/ohc.pdf</u>

Please email the DCF Child Welfare Research and Analytics Section at: <u>DCFCWRA@wisconsin.gov</u> with

any questions regarding this report.



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## About the Wisconsin Out-of-Home Care (OHC) Report



Additional Resources: For more information on current placements and placements at time of entry and exit, see the Wisconsin OHC Dashboard.

The Out of Home Care (OHC) Report provides an overview of children placed in OHC throughout the 2022 calendar year. This year's report is reflective of changes compared to the prior report to better represent the current landscape and trajectory experienced by children and youth while they are in Wisconsin's out-of-home care system.

The OHC Report provides information on children in OHC placements during calendar year (CY) 2022 and on December 31, 2022. This report includes information on demographics, trends in the OHC system, placement data, and outcomes data (stability, discharges, length of stay, etc.). Counts presented in this report may differ from other published information depending on data maturity, the scrape of data utilized, or the source.

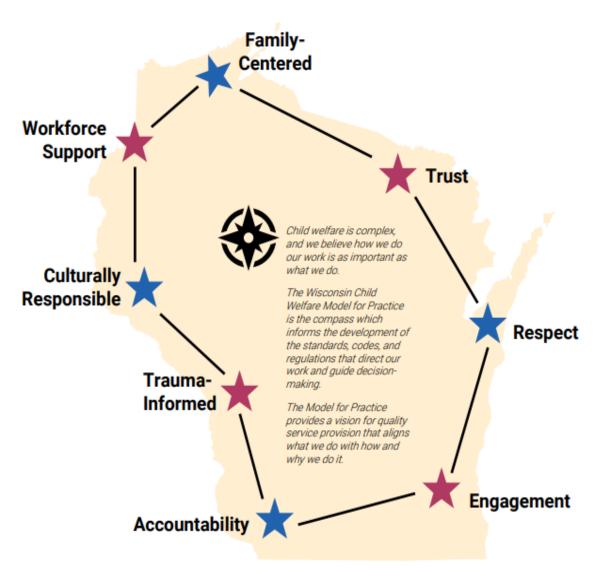
Wisconsin remains committed to continued strides in putting families first and reducing racial disproportionality throughout the system. Between 2018 and 2022, Wisconsin removed 4 fewer children per day and decreased the overall proportion of children served in OHC in that period of time by 28%.

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) thanks individuals with lived experience, local child welfare agencies, service providers, and placement providers for ensuring that all children are safe and loved members of thriving families and communities.



## **Wisconsin Child Welfare Model for Practice**

### **Putting Families First**

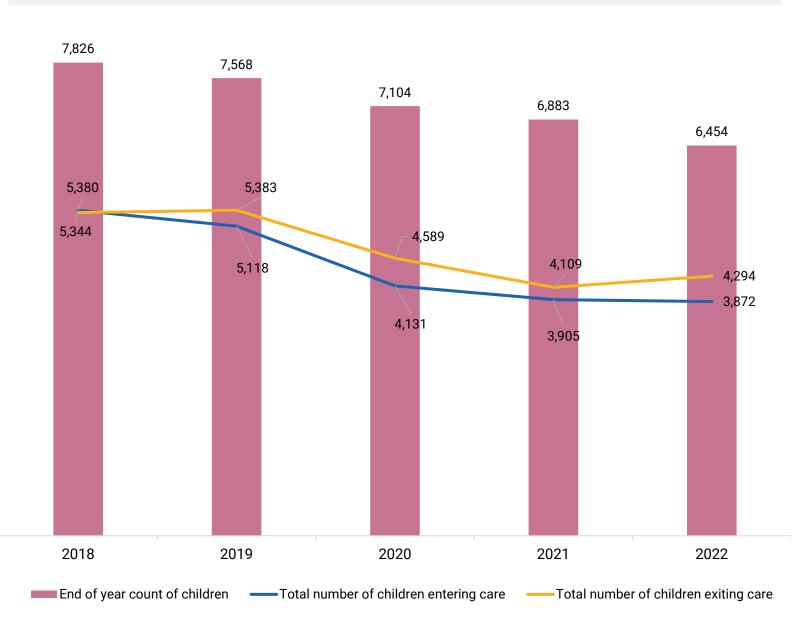


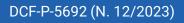
Wisconsin child welfare services help children thrive in safe environments and empower families to provide safe, permanent, and nurturing homes for their children. Local communities and their child welfare agencies and families, with the support and guidance from federal and state partners, do this by supporting children and youth in their own homes, families, tribes, and communities whenever possible. With a focus on family and community, we will engage with children, youth, and families to expand healthy connections in their communities and tribes and to bolster resiliency in families to help them thrive.



## Wisconsin's OHC Landscape

A total of **10,452** children were served in OHC in 2022. As the number of children served in OHC declines each year, there has been a **18%** reduction compared to a system peak in 2018. In this same time frame, Wisconsin has seen a **28%** decrease in children entering OHC. If Wisconsin continues this trend, the state should continue to see fewer children in OHC in the future.



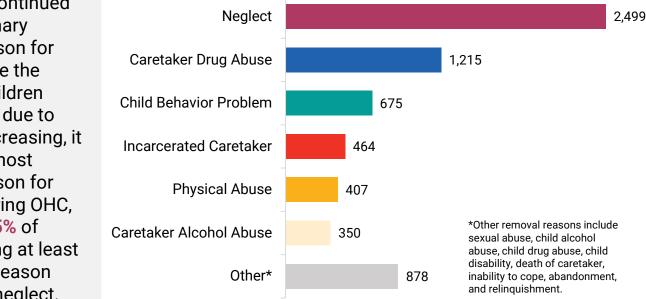




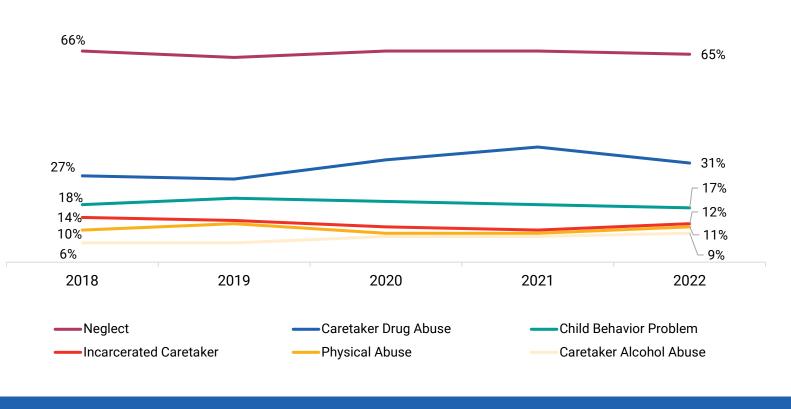
## Who is entering OHC?

Over the last decade, neglect has continued Neglect to be the primary identified reason for Caretaker Drug Abuse removal. While the number of children Child Behavior Problem entering OHC due to neglect is decreasing, it **Incarcerated Caretaker** remains the most prevalent reason for Physical Abuse children entering OHC, with nearly 65% of Caretaker Alcohol Abuse children having at least one removal reason Other\* identified as neglect.

Why are children entering into OHC?



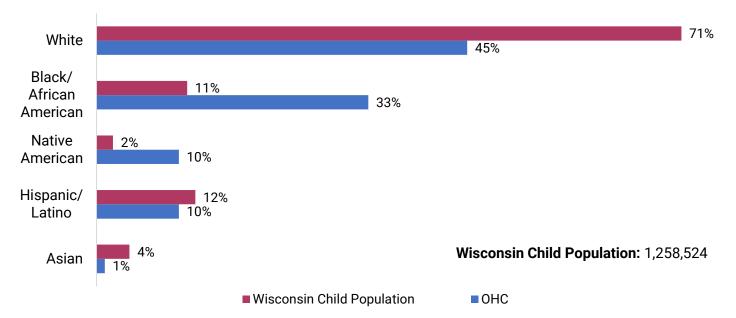
### Trends of the top six removal reason rates of the past 5 years



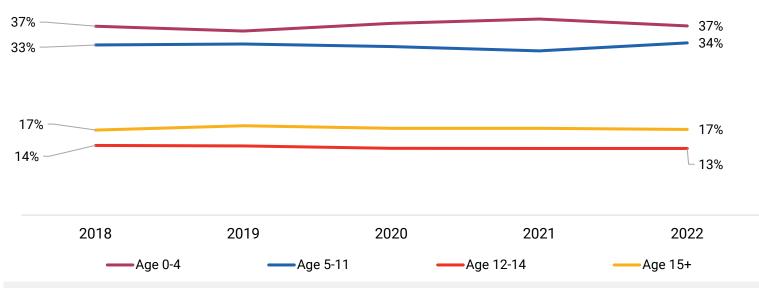


## Who is in OHC?

### Race and ethnicity of children in OHC compared with general population\*^



### Ages of children in OHC over the past 5 years



The data on this page are a count of 6,454 children residing in OHC on 12/31/2022.

The majority (71%) of children served in OHC were aged 0-11 years old. The proportions of age groups has remained constant over the past five years, even as the number of children in OHC decreased.

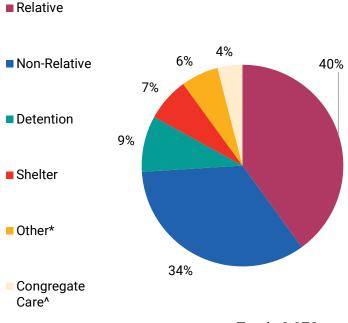
\*Count of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and Unknown children are not shown as they make up 0% (3) and 2% (105), respectively, of children in OHC.

^The Wisconsin Child Population is as of 2020 from the Office of Juvenile Justice Easy Access Population Profile.

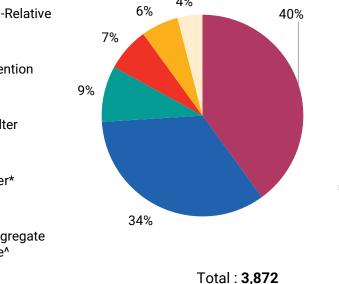


## Initial Placement Impacts Child's Experience in OHC

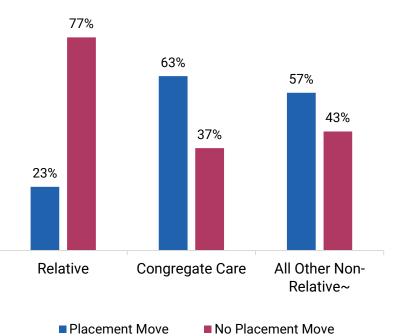
In 2022, 60% of children in Wisconsin were not placed with a relative when they first entered OHC. Children's initial placement matters as exposure to the child welfare system inflicts lasting trauma. If OHC is necessary, children should be placed with a relative, and only when that is not an option, should the next least restrictive setting be considered.



### Where are children placed when they first enter OHC?



### Children's stability in OHC impacted by initial placement



Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino children were less likely to be placed with a relative when entering OHC, with 63% of each group having initial placements with non-relatives.

\*Other placements include Institutions, Supervised Independent Living, and Missing from OHC placements.

^Congregate care placements include RCCs and Group Homes. ~ All other non-relative placements include children in a non-

When children are placed with their relative, they are less likely to experience subsequent placement moves. In 2022, children initially placed with a relative had an average of 0.4 placement moves while children placed with nonrelatives had an average of 0.8 placement moves. Children initially placed in congregate care fare worse, with an average of 1 placement move. While this may seem small, remember every move a child makes in OHC is a change to their structure and routine. DCF is continuing to implement strategies to improve a child's stability in OHC.

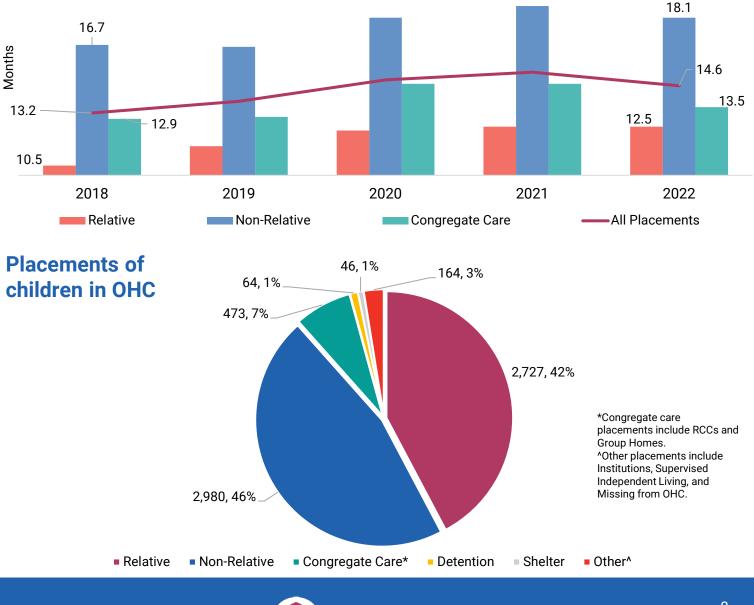


relative foster home, detention, shelter, and other placements.

## **Relative Placement is Best for Children**

If a child needs to placed in OHC, placing children with a family member is preferred as it is the best way to maintain family connections.

On 12/31/2022, placements in family-like settings made up a majority of OHC placements (88%), 42% of children placed with relatives and 46% with non-relatives. Seven percent of children were placed in congregate care, which was a 25% decrease in congregate care placements since 2018. Statewide, children in OHC on this date were in OHC for a median of 14.6 months. Children placed with a relative were in OHC for a median of 12.5 months, compared to children placed with non-relatives at 13.5 and congregate care at 18.1.

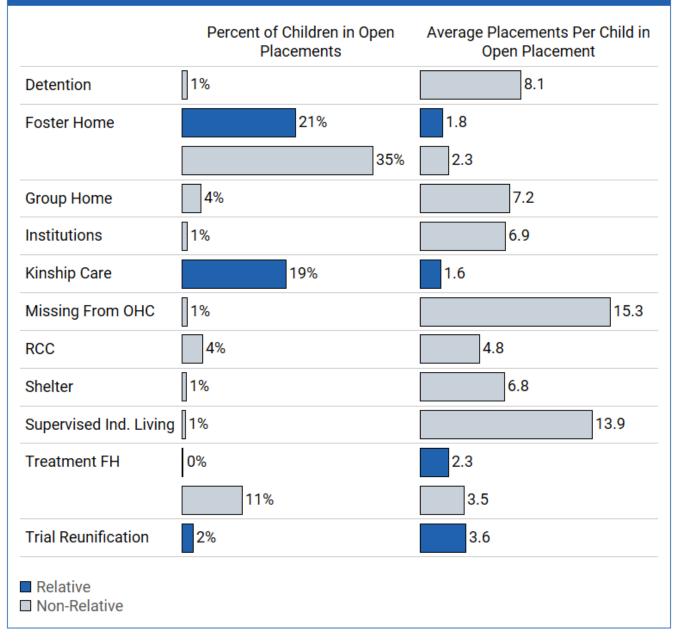


### Median length of stay by placement



## **Relative Placement is Best for Children**

### PLACEMENT PROPORTIONS AND AVERAGE MOVES



The benefits of placing children with a relative is prevalent throughout a child's experience in OHC. Children in relative settings experience fewer placement moves than children in non-relative settings. Of the children in OHC at the end of the year, those in relative foster homes experienced **1.8** placement moves in their current episode, compared to **4.8** in RCCs and **7.2** in group homes. When children were placed with relatives, they were more likely to return home to their family (**61%**) than when they were placed with a non-relative (**49%**).

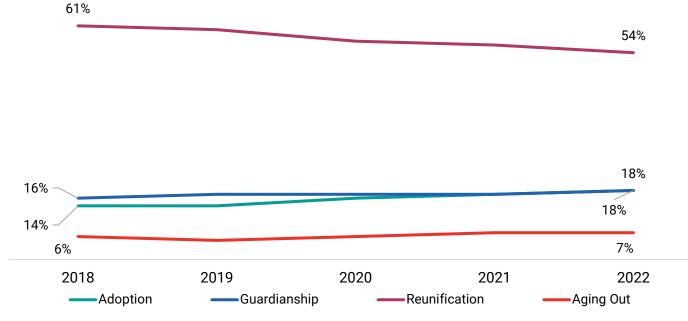


## **Supporting Children Leaving OHC**

Returning children to their families and known communities is the most desirable outcome for children leaving OHC. In 2022, **90%** of children who exited OHC achieved legal permanency. Over the past five years, while children who exited OHC due to adoption and guardianship slightly increased, reunification decreased.

**Discharges over time** 

<text>



**49%** of children exiting OHC were White, **29%** of children were Black/African American, **10%** of children Hispanic, **9%** of children were Native American, and **1%** of children were Asian.

In 2022, **61%** of the youth that aged out of OHC were in placements for **over 2 years**.

When reunification is not possible, adoption and guardianship are considered other options of legal permanency for the child. In 2022, **18%** of children were adopted and **19%** discharged to guardianship. Just **18%** of adopted children were adopted by a relative.

DCF-P-5692 (N. 12/2023)



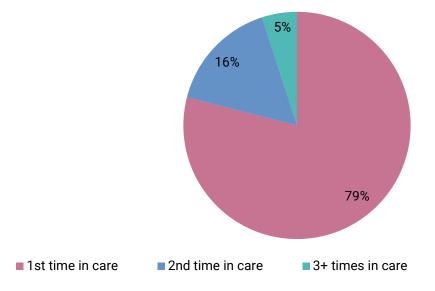
## **Supporting Children Leaving OHC**

More children exited out of home care (4,294) than entered (3,872) in 2022. This is a 4.5% increase of exits from 2021. Children have a better chance of thriving when they return to the safety and security of their life back with their families.

Length of stay in OHC has been increasing over the past five vears. In 2022, children who exited OHC spent a median of 16.6 months in OHC, while on average children spent 21.5 months in OHC. This means there are some children in OHC much longer than their peers. DCF has decreased the overall OHC population, and in doing so has also decreased children who stay in OHC for shorter lengths of time. This has impacted the overall median as there are more children in OHC staying for longer lengths of time.

## 16.6 14.5 15.4 12.6 12.8 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 Median length of stay in months

### How long do children stay in OHC?



### Children returning to OHC

21% of children in OHC as of December 31, 2022, have been in OHC multiple times throughout their childhood. While the <u>federal standard</u> for re-entry rate is 8.3%, Wisconsin's re-entry rate was 10.5% for children who reentered OHC within 12 months of returning home.



## **Racial Disparity in OHC**

DCF remains committed to using data to better understand racial disparity in our system. Data on disparity is used in evaluating programs and policies, utilizing and implementing program and policy initiatives to correct inequities and disproportionality for children and families of color in the child welfare system. The data supports that this commitment is critical as significant disproportionality persists throughout the OHC system for children and families of color. Though Wisconsin saw a **6% decrease** in children in OHC compared to 2021, significant racial disparities persist for Black/African American and Native American children.



### **OHC Disparities in 2022**

#### Black/African American children

- Black/African American children are consistently overrepresented by 30% in every facet of the child welfare system.
- Although more children have been leaving OHC, Black/African American children were the only group of children who exited OHC at a rate lower than the number of children that were in OHC. In 2022, while there were 33% Black/African American children in OHC, just 29% exited OHC.
- An overwhelming majority of children who went missing from a congregate care setting were **Black/African American girls (67%).**
- Black/African American children exiting OHC in 2022 had a median episode of **19.9 months**, while all children had a median of **16.6 months**.

#### Native American children

- Native American children's entry rate is **4x higher** and the OHC rate is **5x higher** than the Native American children living in the state.
- Nearly **30%** of Native American children had prior experience in OHC.

#### **Additional Disparity Data**

- Of the youth in OHC at the end of 2022, **525 (8%)** also had a youth justice referral in 2022. Of those, **49%** White children and **31%** Black/African American children.
- Though congregate care usage has decreased for all children compared to the prior year, when looking back five years, White children saw a 31% decrease, while Hispanic/Latino and Asian children saw an overall increase in congregate care settings.
- There was a 25% increase (17) of Asian children in OHC compared to the prior year.



## **Frequently Asked Data Points**

#### A total of 10,452 children were served in OHC for CY 2022

Children in OHC on 12/31/2022 Entry into OHC Total entries in 2022: 3,872 Children in OHC on 12/31/2022: 6,454 Total unique number of children entered in 2022: 3.709 Race/Ethnicitv: White: 2,897, (45%) | Black/African American: Race and Ethnicity: White: 1,761, (47%) | Black/African American: 1,155, 2,115, (33%) | Native American: 634, (10%) | (31%) | **Hispanic:** 333, (9%) | **Native American:** 319, (9%) Hispanic: 615, (10%) | Unknown: 105, (2%) | Asian: | Unknown: 76, (2%) | Asian: 61, (2%) | Native 85, (1%) | Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander: 3, Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander: 4, (0.1%) (0.1%)Gender/Sex: Gender/Sex: Female: 1,760 (47%) | Male: 1,949 (53%) **Female:** 3,094, (48%) | **Male:** 3,360, (52%) Aae: Aae: **0-4**: 1,475, (40%) | **5-11**: 1,092, (29%) | **12-14**: 549, **0-4**: 2,377, (37%) | **5-11**: 2,164, (34%) | **12-14**: 836, (13%) | 15+: 1,077, (17%) (15%) | **15+**: 604 (16%) **Removal Reasons: Disability:** Neglect: 2,499, (65% of total entries) | Caretaker Drug Total number of children: 1,022, 16% of total OHC Abuse: 1,215, (31%) | Child Behavior Problem: 675, population (17%) | Incarceration Caretaker: 464. (12%) | Physical Total number of disability records: 1,288 **Abuse:** 407, (11%) | **Caretaker Alcohol Abuse:** 350, (9%) **Emotionally Dysregulated:** 754, (59%) | Learning | Inadequate Housing: 253, (7%) | Inability to Cope: 191, Disability: 115, 9% | Mental Disability: 51, 4% | Other (5%) | Abandonment: 119, (3%) | Sexual Abuse: 98, (3%) Medically Diagnosed Disability: 327, 25% | Physical | Death of Caretaker: 59, (2%) | Relinguishment: 56, **Disability:** 40, 3% | **Visual/Hearing Impaired:** 1, 0% (1%) | Child Drug Abuse: 42. (1%) | Child Disability: 41. Median Length of Stay: 14.6 months (1%) | Child Alcohol Abuse: 19, (0.5%) Average Length of Stay: 20.7 months

### **Children Exiting OHC**

Total exits in 2022: **4,294** Total unique number of children exited in 2022: **4,185** 

#### Race and Ethnicity:

White: 2,051, (49%) | Black/African American: 1,223, (29%) | Hispanic: 397, (9%) | Native American: 387, (9%) | Unknown: 77, (2%) | Asian: 43, (1%) | Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander: 7, (0.2%) *Gender/Sex:* Female: 1,928 (46%) | Male: 2,257 (54%) *Age:* 0-4 : 1,303, (31%) | 5-11: 1,321, (32%) | 12-14: 544, (13%) | 15+: 1,023 (24%) *Discharge Reason:* Reunification: 2,237, (53%) | Guardianship: 782, (19%) | Adoption: 772, (18%) | Aging Out: 294, (7%) | Transfer to Another Agency: Licensed Private, Mental Health, Other Public, Private, Tribal Title IV-E, Youth Justice, and Indian Tribe/Non-IV-E: 42, (1%) | Living With Other Relatives: 39, (1%) | Missing from OHC: 17, (0.4%) | Custody Transfer to DHS/Other Institution: 16, (0.4%) | Death of Child: 7, (0.2%)

To compare data from prior years, please see the archived list of OHC Reports on the Child Welfare Reports and Dashboard page.



#### Appendix A

#### **Out-of-Home Care Provider Types**

In Wisconsin, there are a variety of placement settings which can be used to best meet the needs of a given child or youth. These settings are addressed in this report and include the following:

**Foster Family Homes:** Foster family homes can include both the home of a relative (e.g. voluntary, court-ordered or long-term kinship care) and unrelated individuals. Foster family homes are licensed by local child welfare agencies based on state statutes. Receiving homes are licensed foster homes that take children on emergency placements/short term placements.

**Treatment Foster Homes:** Treatment foster homes are licensed by child placing agencies, either through a county or a private agency. Private child placing agencies are licensed by Department of Children and Families (DCF). Treatment foster homes serve children with more intensive service needs that require specialized care.

**Pre-Adoptive Homes:** Pre-adoptive foster homes are licensed by a county or public adoptions. Children are placed in pre-adoptive homes with the intention of permanency being met by adoption in the near future. Adoptions occur with both relatives or non-relatives.

Group Homes: A group home is a facility operated by a person licensed by DCF to provide 24 hour care for 5-8 residents.

**Residential Care Centers (RCCs):** RCCs are residential facilities that are operated by local child welfare agencies licensed pursuant to section 48.60 of Wisconsin Statutes for the care and maintenance of children. Children placed in a RCC have significant needs that cannot be addressed in a family setting.

Shelter Care Facilities (SC): Shelter care facilities provide short-term (not to exceed a total of 60 days), non-secure residential care and physical custody to children pending court action or voluntary placements for under 20 days or crisis stabilization services for up to 5 days.

**Detention:** A detention facility under certain circumstances can be used as an out-of-home care placement when being used as or becomes a primary physical placement of the child.

Hospital/Mental Health Facility: Hospital/mental health facility could be used as an out-of-home care placement when the child subsequently enters into one of the placement settings listed above or when the hospital or inpatient facility placement takes place within a current placement episode.

Youth/Adult Correctional Facilities: Youth/adult correctional facilities are secured facilities operated by the Department of Corrections.

#### Appendix B

#### Child Age Range by County Count and Percent of Children in Out-of-Home Care

#### December 31, 2022

	0 - 4 Years 5 - 11 Years 12 - 14 Years 15 and above Gra										
County State Total	0 - 4 2,377	Years 36.8%	2,164	33.5%	836	4 Years 13.0%	1,077	1 above 16.7%	6,454	d Total 100.0%	
Adams	4	66.7%	2,104	16.7%	1	16.7%	0	0.0%	6	100.0%	
Ashland	9	21.4%	11	26.2%	8	19.0%	14	33.3%	42	100.0%	
Barron	24	36.9%	19	29.2%	7	10.8%	15	23.1%	65	100.0%	
Bayfield	8	22.2%	17	47.2%	3	8.3%	8	22.2%	36	100.0%	
Brown	118	41.4%	105	36.8%	26	9.1%	36	12.6%	285	100.0%	
Buffalo	3	27.3%	5	45.5%	3	27.3%	0	0.0%	11	100.0%	
Burnett	5	38.5%	3	23.1%	2	15.4%	3	23.1%	13	100.0%	
Calumet	3	21.4%	3	21.4%	5	35.7%	3	21.4%	14	100.0%	
Chippewa	40	41.2%	29	29.9%	17	17.5%	11	11.3%	97	100.0%	
Clark	8	28.6%	9	32.1%	5	17.9%	6	21.4%	28	100.0%	
Columbia	9	31.0%	12	41.4%	2	6.9%	6	20.7%	29	100.0%	
Crawford	7	50.0%	5	35.7%	1	7.1%	1	7.1%	14	100.0%	
Dane	72	34.3%	46	21.9%	34	16.2%	58	27.6%	210	100.0%	
Dodge	26	32.1%	30	37.0%	12	14.8%	13	16.0%	81	100.0%	
Door	6	35.3%	6	35.3%	3	17.6%	2	11.8%	17	100.0%	
Douglas	30	27.0%	39	35.1%	29	26.1%	13	11.7%	111	100.0%	
Dunn	14	32.6%	16	37.2%	6	14.0%	7	16.3%	43	100.0%	
Eau Claire	35	34.3%	27	26.5%	19	18.6%	21	20.6%	102	100.0%	
Florence	4	50.0%	2	25.0%	1	12.5%	1	12.5%	8	100.0%	
Fond Du Lac	51	31.1%	60	36.6%	22	13.4%	31	18.9%	164	100.0%	
Forest	8	38.1%	8	38.1%	4	19.0%	1	4.8%	21	100.0%	
Grant	14	35.0%	18	45.0%	5	12.5%	3	7.5%	40	100.0%	
Green	4	33.3%	4	33.3%	1	8.3%	3	25.0%	12	100.0%	
Green Lake	7	41.2%	8	47.1%	1	5.9%	1	5.9%	17	100.0%	
Iron	0	0.0%	5	50.0%	2	20.0%	3	30.0%	10	100.0%	
Jackson	23	33.8%	21	30.9%	11	16.2%	13	19.1%	68	100.0%	
Jefferson	19	36.5%	18	34.6%	9	17.3%	6	11.5%	52	100.0%	
Juneau	17	45.9%	9	24.3%	4	10.8%	7	18.9%	37	100.0%	
Kenosha	118	38.9%	120	39.6%	36	11.9%	29	9.6%	303	100.0%	
Kewaunee	11	45.8%	9	37.5%	1	4.2%	3	12.5%	24	100.0%	
La Crosse	40	47.6%	22	26.2%	7	8.3%	15	17.9%	84	100.0%	
Lafayette	6	35.3%	4	23.5%	1	5.9%	6	35.3%	17	100.0%	
Langlade	22	37.3%	24	40.7%	7	11.9%	6	10.2%	59	100.0%	
Lincoln	16	47.1%	7	20.6%	4	11.8%	7	20.6%	34	100.0%	
Manitowoc	53	34.0%	61	39.1%	19	12.2%	23	14.7%	156	100.0%	
Marathon	66	45.2%	40	27.4%	18	12.3%	22	15.1%	146	100.0%	
Marinette	15	33.3%	17	37.8%	4	8.9%	9	20.0%	45	100.0%	
Marquette	4	50.0%	2	25.0%	0	0.0%	2	25.0%	8	100.0%	
Menominee	5	33.3%	8	53.3%	1	6.7%	1	6.7%	15	100.0%	
Milwaukee	673	37.3%	576	31.9%	225	12.5%	330	18.3%	1,804	100.0%	
Monroe	7	20.0%	13 14	37.1%	4	11.4%	11	31.4%	35	100.0%	
Oconto		36.8%		36.8%	2	5.3%	8	21.1%	38	100.0%	
Oneida	22	37.3%	23	39.0%	6	10.2%	8	13.6%	59	100.0%	
Outagamie	74 12	31.1%	103	43.3%	28	11.8% 3.3%	33 5	13.9%	238	100.0%	
Ozaukee	•=	40.0%	12	40.0%	1		-	16.7%	30	100.0%	
Pepin	2 14	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%	
Pierce	4	43.8%	10	31.3%	5	15.6% 31.6%	3		32		
Polk Portage	4 51	21.1% 47.2%	7 38	36.8% 35.2%	6 10	9.3%	2 9	10.5% 8.3%	19 108	100.0%	
Portage Price	4	36.4%	38	27.3%	10	9.3%	3	8.3% 27.3%	108	100.0%	
Racine	4	36.2%	3	27.3%	18	9.1%	26	27.3%	127	100.0%	
Richland	46 9	50.0%	5	29.1%	18	14.2%	26	20.5%	127	100.0%	
Rock	37	36.3%	28	27.8%	2	19.6%	17	16.7%	102	100.0%	
Rusk	37 6	54.5%	28	18.2%	3	27.3%	0	0.0%	102	100.0%	
Saint Croix	36	35.0%	34	33.0%	15	14.6%	18	17.5%	103	100.0%	
Sauk	21	35.6%	17	28.8%	10	14.0%	10	17.5%	59	100.0%	
Sawyer	11	35.6%	17	40.6%	5	15.6%	3	9.4%	32	100.0%	
Shawano	23	52.3%	13	27.3%	2	4.5%	7	9.4%	44	100.0%	
Sheboygan	41	30.8%	40	30.1%	2	16.5%	30	22.6%	133	100.0%	
State	115	37.0%	145	46.6%	37	11.9%	14	4.5%	311	100.0%	
Taylor	9	37.0%	9	31.0%	4	13.8%	7	24.1%	29	100.0%	
Trempealeau	4	19.0%	10	47.6%	0	0.0%	7	33.3%	29	100.0%	
Vernon	12	40.0%	7	23.3%	4	13.3%	7	23.3%	30	100.0%	
Vilas	12	31.0%	20	34.5%	8	13.8%	12	20.7%	58	100.0%	
Walworth	14	33.3%	12	28.6%	5	11.9%	12	26.2%	42	100.0%	
Washburn	5	35.7%	3	28.0%	0	0.0%	6	42.9%	14	100.0%	
Washington	35	44.3%	18	21.4%	9	11.4%	17	21.5%	79	100.0%	
washington	33	44.3 %	10	22.0%	9	11.4%	17	21.3%	19	100.0%	

#### Appendix B

#### Child Age Range by County Count and Percent of Children in Out-of-Home Care

#### December 31, 2022

County	0 - 4	Years	5 - 11	Years	12 - 14	4 Years	15 and	above	Grand	d Total
Waukesha	34	43.6%	23	29.5%	8	10.3%	13	16.7%	78	100.0%
Waupaca	21	43.8%	13	27.1%	5	10.4%	9	18.8%	48	100.0%
Waushara	11	39.3%	9	32.1%	3	10.7%	5	17.9%	28	100.0%
Winnebago	21	32.8%	24	37.5%	7	10.9%	12	18.8%	64	100.0%
Wood	47	38.2%	34	27.6%	20	16.3%	22	17.9%	123	100.0%

#### Appendix C

#### Child Race by County Count and Percent of Children in Out-of-Home Care

#### December 31, 2022

County	White	Black/African American	Native American	Asian	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Hispanic/Latino	Unknown	Grand Total
State Total	2, 897	2, 115	634	85	*	615	105	6, 454
Adams	*	0	*	0	0	0 *	0	*
Ashland Barron	11 51	*	27	0	0	*	*	42 65
Bayfield	*	*	33	0	0	0	0	36
Brown	91	60	97	*	0	28	*	285
Buffalo	*	0	0	0	0	*	0	11
Burnett	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	13
Calumet	*	*	*	0	0	*	0	14
Chippewa	80	*	*	*	0	*	*	97 28
Clark Columbia	23 18	*	0	0	0	*	0	28
Crawford	13	0	*	0	0	0	0	14
Dane	57	119	*	*	0	23	0	210
Dodge	56	14	*	0	0	10	0	81
Door	10	*	*	0	0	*	*	17
Douglas	67	18	17	0	0	*	*	111
Dunn	33	*	0 *	*	0	0 *	*	43
Eau Claire Florence	61	25 0	*	0	0	× 0	*	102
Forence Fond Du Lac	93	37	12	*	0	20	*	164
Forest	*	0	12	0	0	0	*	21
Grant	38	0	*	0	0	0	0	40
Green	*	*	*	0	0	0	0	12
Green Lake	15	*	0	0	0	0	*	17
Iron	*	0	*	0	0	0	0	10
Jackson	31	*	31	0	0	*	*	68
Jefferson Juneau	45 31	*	0	0	0	*	*	52 37
Kenosha	93	138	*	*	0	60	*	303
Kewaunee	19	0	*	0	0	*	*	24
La Crosse	51	19	11	*	0	*	0	84
Lafayette	13	*	0	0	0	*	0	17
Langlade	38	*	*	0	0	*	*	59
Lincoln	25	*	*	0 *	0	*	*	34
Manitowoc Marathon	103 100	24	*	18	0	19	0	156 146
Marinette	35	*	*	0	0	*	*	45
Marquette	*	*	*	0	0	0	*	*
Menominee	0	0	13	0	0	0	*	15
Milwaukee	238	1, 247	63	23	*	197	34	1, 804
Monroe	18	0	*	0	*	*	0	35
Oconto	28	*	*	*	0	*	0 *	38
Oneida Outagamie	49 126	45	46	0	0	21	0	59 238
Ozaukee	120	*	*	*	0	*	*	30
Pepin	*	0	0	0	0	*	0	*
Pierce	24	*	*	0	0	*	0	32
Polk	14	*	*	0	0	0	0	19
Portage	81	*	*	*	0	*	*	108
Price	11	0	0 *	0	0	0	0	11
Racine Richland	34 16	74	* 0	0	0	15	0	127 18
Rock	72	20	*	0	0	*	0	102
Rusk	*	*	0	0	0	*	0	11
Saint Croix	80	*	*	0	0	*	*	103
Sauk	36	*	*	0	0	*	*	59
Sawyer	*	*	23	*	0	0	0	32
Shawano	19	0	23	0	0	*	0 *	44
Sheboygan State	53	24		10	0	35	*	133
State Taylor	181 20	73	20	0	0	31	*	311 29
Trempealeau	19	0	*	0	0	*	0	29
Vernon	25	*	0	0	0	*	0	30
Vilas	15	0	43	0	0	0	0	58
Walworth	33	*	0	0	0	*	*	42

\*Non-zero counts representing fewer than 10 children are suppressed in order to protect the identities of the children in those subgroups.

#### Appendix C

#### Child Race by County Count and Percent of Children in Out-of-Home Care

#### December 31, 2022

County	White	Black/African American	Native American	Asian	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	Hispanic/Latino	Unknown	Grand Total
Washburn	11	0	*	0	0	*	0	14
Washington	67	*	*	0	0	*	*	79
Waukesha	46	18	*	*	0	*	*	78
Waupaca	41	*	*	0	0	*	*	48
Waushara	17	0	0	0	0	11	0	28
Winnebago	40	16	0	0	0	*	0	64
Wood	93	19	*	0	0	*	*	123

\*Non-zero counts representing fewer than 10 children are suppressed in order to protect the identities of the children in those subgroups.

#### Appendix D

#### Placement Setting Occurrences Count and Percent of Children in Out-of-Home Care

#### December 31, 2022

	Placement Setting	Count	Percent
	Kinship Care - Court-Ordered	1,227	19.0%
	Foster Family Home - Relative	773	12.0%
Relative Foster	Relative - Unlicensed	584	9.0%
Care/Kinship	Trial Reunification	128	2.0%
	Treatment Foster Home - Relative	15	0.2%
	Total	2,727	42.3%
	Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	2,088	32.4%
	Treatment Foster Home - Non-Relative	718	11.1%
Non-Relative	Non-Relative-Unlicensed	99	1.5%
Foster Care	Pre-Adoptive Home	70	1.1%
	Receiving Home	5	0.1%
	Total	2,980	46.2%
	RCC - QRTP	186	2.9%
<b>.</b> .	Group Home	151	2.3%
Congregate Care	GH - QRTP	74	1.1%
Care	RCC	62	1.0%
	Total	473	7.3%
	Missing From Out-of-Home Care	65	1.0%
	Detention	61	0.9%
	Juvenile Correctional Facility	42	0.7%
	Shelter	40	0.6%
Oth an	Supervised Independent Living	39	0.6%
Other	Hospital	16	0.2%
	Reception Center - Shelter	6	0.1%
	Reception Center - Detention	3	0.0%
	Adult Corrections	2	0.0%
	Total	274	4.2%
State Total		6,454	100.0%

#### Appendix E

#### Placement Setting by County Count and Percent of Children in Out-of-Home Care

#### December 31, 2022

County	Relative Foster Care/Kinship		Non-Relativ	e Foster Care	Congre	gate Care	01	ther	Gran	d Total
State Total	2,727	42.3%	2.980	46.2%	473	7.3%	274	4.2%	6.454	100.0%
Adams	1	16.7%	5	83.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	100.0%
Ashland	18	42.9%	16	38.1%	8	19.0%	0	0.0%	42	100.0%
Barron	28	43.1%	29	44.6%	7	10.8%	1	1.5%	65	100.0%
Bayfield	24	66.7%	10	27.8%	1	2.8%	1	2.8%	36	100.0%
Brown	128	44.9%	136	47.7%	9	3.2%	12	4.2%	285	100.0%
Buffalo	3	27.3%	8	72.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	11	100.0%
	4	30.8%	7	53.8%	0	0.0%	2	15.4%	13	100.0%
Burnett	4 7		-		-		1			
Calumet		50.0%	6	42.9%	0	0.0%		7.1%	14	100.0%
Chippewa	41	42.3%	46	47.4%	8	8.2%	2	2.1%	97	100.0%
Clark	13	46.4%	13	46.4%	2	7.1%	0	0.0%	28	100.0%
Columbia	14	48.3%	14	48.3%	0	0.0%	1	3.4%	29	100.0%
Crawford	10	71.4%	3	21.4%	1	7.1%	0	0.0%	14	100.0%
Dane	71	33.8%	110	52.4%	17	8.1%	12	5.7%	210	100.0%
Dodge	24	29.6%	49	60.5%	7	8.6%	1	1.2%	81	100.0%
Door	3	17.6%	13	76.5%	1	5.9%	0	0.0%	17	100.0%
Douglas	57	51.4%	40	36.0%	9	8.1%	5	4.5%	111	100.0%
Dunn	17	39.5%	24	55.8%	0	0.0%	2	4.7%	43	100.0%
Eau Claire	30	29.4%	60	58.8%	9	8.8%	3	2.9%	102	100.0%
Florence	6	75.0%	2	25.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	100.0%
Fond Du Lac	76	46.3%	73	44.5%	7	4.3%	8	4.9%	164	100.0%
Forest	15	71.4%	4	19.0%	2	9.5%	0	0.0%	21	100.0%
Grant	15	35.0%	22	55.0%	4	9.5%	0	0.0%	40	100.0%
							-			
Green	3	25.0%	7	58.3%	1	8.3%	1	8.3%	12	100.0%
Green Lake	13	76.5%	4	23.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	17	100.0%
ron	1	10.0%	8	80.0%	1	10.0%	0	0.0%	10	100.0%
Jackson	43	63.2%	20	29.4%	4	5.9%	1	1.5%	68	100.0%
Jefferson	21	40.4%	28	53.8%	2	3.8%	1	1.9%	52	100.0%
Juneau	7	18.9%	28	75.7%	2	5.4%	0	0.0%	37	100.0%
Kenosha	133	43.9%	137	45.2%	13	4.3%	20	6.6%	303	100.0%
Kewaunee	14	58.3%	7	29.2%	3	12.5%	0	0.0%	24	100.0%
_a Crosse	44	52.4%	30	35.7%	5	6.0%	5	6.0%	84	100.0%
afayette	9	52.9%	3	17.6%	4	23.5%	1	5.9%	17	100.0%
Langlade	20	33.9%	35	59.3%	3	5.1%	1	1.7%	59	100.0%
Lincoln	23	67.6%	8	23.5%	2	5.9%	1	2.9%	34	100.0%
Manitowoc	79	50.6%	68	43.6%	8	5.1%	1	0.6%	156	100.0%
Marathon	66	45.2%	72	49.3%	6	4.1%	2	1.4%	130	100.0%
	14	45.2 <i>%</i> 31.1%	25	55.6%	6		0	0.0%	45	
Marinette						13.3%				100.0%
Marquette	3	37.5%	3	37.5%	2	25.0%	0	0.0%	8	100.0%
Menominee	13	86.7%	2	13.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	15	100.0%
Milwaukee	767	42.5%	776	43.0%	152	8.4%	109	6.0%	1,804	100.0%
Monroe	11	31.4%	12	34.3%	10	28.6%	2	5.7%	35	100.0%
Oconto	17	44.7%	16	42.1%	2	5.3%	3	7.9%	38	100.0%
Dneida	34	57.6%	20	33.9%	2	3.4%	3	5.1%	59	100.0%
Dutagamie	104	43.7%	113	47.5%	13	5.5%	8	3.4%	238	100.0%
Dzaukee	11	36.7%	13	43.3%	6	20.0%	0	0.0%	30	100.0%
Pepin	2	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	100.0%
Pierce	14	43.8%	17	53.1%	1	3.1%	0	0.0%	32	100.0%
Polk	10	52.6%	4	21.1%	5	26.3%	0	0.0%	19	100.0%
Portage	58	53.7%	46	42.6%	3	2.8%	1	0.0%	108	100.0%
Price	5	45.5%	40	36.4%	2	18.2%	0	0.9%	108	100.0%
	58	45.5%	51	40.2%	5	3.9%	13	10.2%	127	100.0%
Racine										
Richland	8	44.4%	7	38.9%	3	16.7%	0	0.0%	18	100.0%
Rock	36	35.3%	42	41.2%	11	10.8%	13	12.7%	102	100.0%
Rusk	6	54.5%	4	36.4%	1	9.1%	0	0.0%	11	100.0%
Saint Croix	59	57.3%	32	31.1%	5	4.9%	7	6.8%	103	100.0%
Sauk	30	50.8%	22	37.3%	5	8.5%	2	3.4%	59	100.0%
Sawyer	14	43.8%	12	37.5%	6	18.8%	0	0.0%	32	100.0%
Shawano	28	63.6%	15	34.1%	1	2.3%	0	0.0%	44	100.0%
Sheboygan	44	33.1%	70	52.6%	14	10.5%	5	3.8%	133	100.0%

Note: Below are the placement settings included in different categories-

> Relative FC/Kinship: Foster Family Home (Relative), Kinship care-court ordered, relative-unlicensed, trial reunification, treatment foster home - relative.

> Non-Relative FC: Foster family home (non-relative), non-relative-unlicensed, pre-adoptive home, receiving home, treatment foster home - non relative.

> Congregate Care: Group home, GH - QRTP, RCC, and RCC - QRTP.

> Other: Adult corrections, detention, hospital, juvenile correctional facility, missing from out-of-home care, reception center detention, supervised independent living, reception center shelter, and shelter.

#### Appendix E

#### Placement Setting by County Count and Percent of Children in Out-of-Home Care

#### December 31, 2022

County		e Foster Kinship	Non-Relative	e Foster Care	Congreg	ate Care	Ot	her	Grand	d Total
State	59	19.0%	245	78.8%	7	2.3%	0	0.0%	311	100.0%
Taylor	17	58.6%	8	27.6%	2	6.9%	2	6.9%	29	100.0%
Trempealeau	11	52.4%	7	33.3%	2	9.5%	1	4.8%	21	100.0%
Vernon	11	36.7%	12	40.0%	6	20.0%	1	3.3%	30	100.0%
Vilas	17	29.3%	34	58.6%	6	10.3%	1	1.7%	58	100.0%
Walworth	16	38.1%	19	45.2%	3	7.1%	4	9.5%	42	100.0%
Washburn	9	64.3%	3	21.4%	2	14.3%	0	0.0%	14	100.0%
Washington	21	26.6%	40	50.6%	16	20.3%	2	2.5%	79	100.0%
Waukesha	39	50.0%	33	42.3%	3	3.8%	3	3.8%	78	100.0%
Waupaca	25	52.1%	19	39.6%	1	2.1%	3	6.3%	48	100.0%
Waushara	12	42.9%	10	35.7%	4	14.3%	2	7.1%	28	100.0%
Winnebago	21	32.8%	32	50.0%	8	12.5%	3	4.7%	64	100.0%
Wood	43	35.0%	67	54.5%	12	9.8%	1	0.8%	123	100.0%

Note: Below are the placement settings included in different categories-

> Relative FC/Kinship: Foster Family Home (Relative), Kinship care-court ordered, relative-unlicensed, trial reunification, treatment foster home - relative.

> Non-Relative FC: Foster family home (non-relative), non-relative-unlicensed, pre-adoptive home, receiving home, treatment foster home - non relative.
> Congregate Care: Group home, GH - QRTP, RCC, and RCC - QRTP.

> Other: Adult corrections, detention, hospital, juvenile correctional facility, missing from out-of-home care, reception center detention, supervised independent living, reception center shelter, and shelter.

#### Appendix F

## Placement Setting Occurrences by Race/Ethnicity

	Placement Setting	White	Black/African American	Native American	Hispanic/ Latino	Asian	Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	Unknown	Grand Total
	Kinship Care - Court-Ordered	507	424	126	116	32	0	22	1,227
	Foster Family Home - Relative	372	195	108	81	4	0	13	773
Relative Foster	Relative - Unlicensed	288	169	58	53	8	1	7	584
Care/Kinship	Trial Reunification	75	28	14	7	0	0	4	128
oure, ranomp	Treatment Foster Home - Relative	2	11	2	0	0	0	0	15
	Total	1,244	827	308	257	44	1	46	2,727
	Foster Family Home (Non-Relative)	1,024	594	189	207	29	2	43	2,088
	Treatment Foster Home - Non-Relative	240	323	71	74	4	0	6	718
Non-Relative	Non-Relative-Unlicensed	45	35	14	3	1	0	1	99
Foster Care	Pre-Adoptive Home	44	17	2	4	0	0	3	70
	Receiving Home	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	5
	Total	1,353	974	276	288	34	2	53	2,980
	RCC - QRTP	124	29	15	13	3	0	2	186
0	Group Home	42	82	8	16	3	0	0	151
Congregate Care	GH - QRTP	28	30	4	10	1	0	1	74
Cale	RCC	27	26	4	4	0	0	1	62
	Total	221	167	31	43	7	0	4	473
	Missing From Out-of-Home Care	11	50	0	4	0	0	0	65
	Detention	21	25	6	7	0	0	2	61
	Juvenile Correctional Facility	13	17	6	6	0	0	0	42
	Shelter	18	15	4	3	0	0	0	40
Other	Supervised Independent Living	6	28	1	4	0	0	0	39
Other	Hospital	8	4	2	2	0	0	0	16
	Reception Center - Shelter	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	6
	Reception Center - Detention	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	3
	Adult Corrections	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Total	79	147	19	27	0	0	2	274
State Total		2,897	2,115	634	615	85	3	105	6,454

#### Appendix G

## Entry Rate per 1,000 Children by County Rate of child population entering into Out-of-Home Care

CY 2022

County	Estimated 2020 WI Child Population, ages 0-17	Children Entering	Entries Per 1000 Children
Statewide	1,258,524	3,709	2.9
Adams	2,832	2	0.7
Ashland	3,345	26	7.8
Barron	9,654	47	4.9
Bayfield	2,630	16	6.1
Brown	61,790	236	3.8
Buffalo	2,614	10	3.8
Burnett	2,621	15	5.7
Calumet	11,463	6	0.5
Chippewa	14,021	47	3.4
Clark	10,259	18	1.8
Columbia	12,003	19	1.6
Crawford	3,188	10	3.1
Dane	110,215	187	1.7
Dodge	16,898	33	2.0
Door	4,496	21	4.7
Douglas	8,437	78	9.2
Dunn	8,723	51	5.8
Eau Claire	21,076	74	3.5
Florence	613	1	1.6
Fond Du Lac	21,669	89	4.1
Forest	1,718	14	8.1
Grant	10,676	36	3.4
Green	7,930	11	1.4
Green Lake	4,127	19	4.6
lowa	5,205	0	0.0
Iron	869	1	1.2
Jackson	4,420	45	10.2
Jefferson	17,317	33	1.9
Juneau	5,353	26	4.9
Kenosha	37,450	222	5.9
Kewaunee	4,235	17	4.0
La Crosse	23,103	39	1.7
Lafayette	3,993	9	2.3
Langlade	3,709	38	10.2
Lincoln	4,959	<u>26</u> 74	5.2
Manitowoc	16,015		4.6
Marathon Marinette	<u>30,696</u> 7,613	<u>    66                               </u>	2.2 3.2
Marquette		10	3.2
Menominee	2,961 1,511	0	0.0
Milwaukee	224,058	809	3.6
Monroe	11,677	20	1.7
Oconto	7,689	25	3.3
Oneida	6,099	45	7.4
Outagamie	43,675	90	2.1
Ozaukee	18,941	36	1.9
Pepin	1,571	6	3.8
Pierce	8,682	26	3.0
Polk	8,856	37	4.2
Portage	13,439	55	4.2
Price	2,339	12	5.1
Racine	44,587	109	2.4
Richland	3,680	11	3.0
Rock	36,951	73	2.0
Rusk	2,824	10	3.5
Sauk	14,555	42	2.9
Sawyer	3,180	17	5.3
Shawano	8,665	29	3.3
Sheboygan	25,049	60	2.4
St. Croix	22,212	97	4.4
Taylor	4,646	26	5.6
Trempealeau	7,485	13	1.7
Vernon	7,990	20	2.5
Vilas	3,717	25	6.7
Walworth	20,805	28	1.3
Washburn	2,873	12	4.2
	29,082	58	2.0
Washington			
	85,747 10,278	48 38	0.6 3.7

**Note**: Children are counted only once per year even if they entered OHC multiple times. Per capita measures in the 2022 report use data from the 2020 Office of Juvenile Justice 2020 Easy Access Population Profile as the denominator.

#### Appendix G

## Entry Rate per 1,000 Children by County Rate of child population entering into Out-of-Home Care

#### CY 2022

County	Estimated 2020 WI Child Population, ages 0-17	Children Entering	Entries Per 1000 Children
Winnebago	34,759	41	1.2
Wood	15,684	83	5.3

**Note**: Children are counted only once per year even if they entered OHC multiple times. Per capita measures in the 2022 report use data from the 2020 Office of Juvenile Justice 2020 Easy Access Population Profile as the denominator.

#### Appendix H

#### Entries and Exits Children Entering and Exiting from Out-of-Home Care by County

#### CY 2022

Country	Children Entering	Obildren Eviting	Difference
County	Children Entering	Children Exiting	Difference
Statewide Adams	3,872	4,294	(422)
	2	3	(1)
Ashland	27	23	4
Barron	47	50	(3)
Bayfield	16	29	(13)
Brown	262	285	(23)
Buffalo	16	15	1
Burnett	15	12	3
Calumet	6	11	(5)
Chippewa	47	56	(9)
Clark	18	12	6
Columbia	22	26	(4)
Crawford	11	11	0
Dane	211	189	22
Dodge	33	36	(3)
Door	21	18	3
Douglas	81	50	31
Dunn	52	36	16
Eau Claire	79	83	(4)
Florence	1	1	0
Fond Du Lac	92	67	25
Forest	14	14	0
Grant	37	24	13
Green	12	9	3
Green Lake	19	13	6
lowa	0	4	(4)
Iron	1	6	(5)
Jackson	46	24	22
Jefferson	33	39	(6)
Juneau	26	17	9
Kenosha	228	122	106
Kewaunee	17	15	2
La Crosse	39	39	0
Lafayette	9	6	3
Langlade	39	40	(1)
Lincoln	27	55	(1)
Manitowoc	81	94	(13)
Marathon	66	99	(33)
Marinette	26	22	4
Marquette	15	14	1
Menominee	0	6	(6)
Milwaukee	821	868	(47)
Monroe	20	31	(47)
Oconto	20	31	
			(2)
Oneida	49	46	3
Outagamie	91	105	(14)
Ozaukee	36	27	9
Pepin	6	9	(3)
Pierce	27	26	1
Polk	40	54	(14)
Portage	59	36	23
Price	12	20	(8)
Racine	110	106	4
Richland	13	11	2
Rock	78	89	(11)
Rusk	11	28	(17)
Saint Croix	104	80	24
Sauk	44	32	12
Sawyer	17	15	2
Shawano	30	27	3
Sheboygan	61	64	(3)
State	0	518	(518)
Taylor	26	11	15
Trempealeau	13	14	(1)

Note: This appendix counts the number of episodes a child entered and exited OHC in 2022. If a child entered and exited care more than once during 2022, they will be counted for each entry and exit.

#### Appendix H

#### Entries and Exits Children Entering and Exiting from Out-of-Home Care by County

#### CY 2022

County	Children Entering	Children Exiting	Difference
Vernon	20	12	8
Vilas	25	18	7
Walworth	28	30	(2)
Washburn	13	15	(2)
Washington	58	51	7
Waukesha	54	61	(7)
Waupaca	40	31	9
Waushara	14	13	1
Winnebago	43	77	(34)
Wood	86	63	23

Note: This appendix counts the number of episodes a child entered and exited OHC in 2022. If a child entered and exited care more than once during 2022, they will be counted for each entry and exit.

#### Appendix I

#### **ICWA and Native American Status**

A child's and provider's Native American status is determined based on race, ethnicity, or ICWA status. Below are the eWiSACWIS documentation guidelines for ICWA and Native American status:

#### ICWA (Indian Child Welfare Act)

In eWiSACWIS, there are up to three Tribal Membership statuses documented for a child/provider. ICWA status for a child/provider is determined based on these statuses, as identified below –

- ICWA Child/Provider status is set to 'Yes', when the Tribal Membership status is any of the following
  - (a) Member
  - (b) Eligible for membership, not a member
  - (c) Pending
- ICWA Child/Provider status is set to 'No', when any of the Tribal Membership status is 'Not eligible for membership'
- ICWA Child/Provider status is set to 'Unknown', when there is no information documented for a child for Tribal Membership status. In absence of any information, the status cannot be identified and is set to 'Unknown'.

#### Native American

In eWiSACWIS, there are up to five different races documented for a child. Native American status for a child/provider is determined based on race, ethnicity or ICWA status for a child/provider, as identified below –

Native American child/provider status is set to 'Yes', when any of the following is true -

- Child/Provider race is 'American Indian/Alaska Native' (across all five races) or
- Child/Provider ethnicity is 'Native American' or
- Child/Provider ICWA status is 'Yes'. (Refer to the explanation above on how to determine ICWA child)

Native American child/provider status is set to 'No', when child/provider's race, ethnicity and ICWA status do not match the required information as outlined above.

#### Appendix J

#### **Key Definitions**

Child: Term used to address both children and youth served by county child welfare agencies, county youth justice agencies, DMCPS, and public adoptions.

**Discharge:** A child's placement episode ends with the date a child is discharged from OHC. The discharge date represents the date the child achieves a permanent outcome, which is reunification, adoption, or guardianship.

Placement: The use of a facility or home provider for the physical placement of the child who has been removed from their family home.

**Placement Episode:** A placement episode starts with a child's removal from home and ends with a discharge from OHC to a permanent home or to independent living. A child may be placed in multiple placement settings within a placement episode.

**Placement Settings:** Child welfare agencies attempt to have a child stay in only one setting during their OHC episode. However, in some cases a child may be placed with multiple providers or in different placement facilities during a single placement episode. These changes may be due to actions initiated by the agency, the provider, the child, the parent, or the court. Placement settings include:

- Foster homes, including receiving homes, foster family homes of all levels and pre-adoptive foster homes
- Unlicensed relative and non-relative homes
- Group homes
- Residential care centers (RCCs)
- Court Ordered Kinship Care
- Shelter care
- Detention
- Trial reunification
- Supervised independent living
- Hospital/Mental Health facility
- Missing from OHC

A child or youth is considered Missing from OHC when they are under the placement and care responsibility of the department or a county agency, living in an OHC setting, and any of the following criteria are met:

- The child or youth has been missing for 8 hours or for a period of time that cannot reasonably be justified by the child or youth's
- age, maturity, or emotional capacity as well as documenting the child's or youth's missing episode in eWiSACWIS within 24 hours.
- When efforts to locate the child or youth have been unsuccessful.
- When it is known or suspected that a child or youth has been taken by force or coercion.
- When the child or youth is in the company of an unauthorized person or located in an unauthorized place.

**Removal:** A child's placement episode begins with the date of the child's removal from their home. The child is taken into physical custody and enters into OHC under a court order or via a formal voluntary placement agreement among the agency, the parents, and the placement provider. Information regarding the types of out-of-home care providers used can be found in Appendix B.

**Use of Average vs. Median:** The OHC report uses both calculations of average and median. While similar, each formula can provide a different perspective. An average provides a number that represents the entire dataset, including outliers. When outliers exist in a dataset, they can bring an average up or down. For example, if a child has been in OHC for many years, that long episode will make the average length of stay for the entire dataset longer. A median provides the value of the middle of the dataset. For example, if a majority of children in OHC are in placement for 13 months, the median would be 13 months, regardless of any outliers of children with particularly long episodes.