



Social Services in Costa Mesa



City of Costa Mesa
Orange County, California

Produced by the Orange County (OC) Social Services Agency – September 3, 2015

Population¹

- Costa Mesa is the 8th most populous city in Orange County: 109,960
- Costa Mesa has the 8th greatest youth (0-17) population when compared to other OC cities: 23,682
- Ethnic breakdown: 51.8% White; 35.8% Hispanic; 7.7% Asian; 1.2% Black; 3.4% Other
- Median Family Income: \$74,201 ([Orange County: \$85,009] [U.S. Census Bureau: 2011 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates])

Social Services

- Costa Mesa children receiving financial assistance through CalWORKs²: 1,387
 - Representing 2.98% of the 46,429 child recipients county-wide (12/1/2011)
- Child Abuse and neglect reports on children received from Costa Mesa in 2014: 1,729
 - Representing 3.8% of the 46,069 reports received county-wide

Child Abuse and Neglect Report Details

- The majority of the 1,729 reports came from mandated professions (88%); Counselor/Therapist (25%), School Personnel/Teachers (21%), Other Professionals combined (29%), Law Enforcement (12%), and SSA, Probation, other Government Agency (13%). Non-mandated but concerned parties (including relatives) made 209 reports, equal to 12% of the total.
- The 1,729 report-allegations represent 1,170 distinct children³ in Costa Mesa, by Gender & Age:

Gender	Male	Female	Unk	Age	Under 1	1-5	6-12	13 & Up	Total ⁴
Count	579	591	0	Count	63	280	489	338	1,170
Percent	49%	51%	0%	Percent	5%	24%	42%	29%	100%

- Characteristics of Children Brought into Protective Custody from Costa Mesa (Between 01/01/2014 and 12/31/2014: 36)

Reason-Abuse Allegation	Physical	Sexual	Emotional	Exploitation	General Neglect	Severe Neglect	Law Violation	Caretaker Absence/Incapacity	Total ⁴
Count	5	0	0	0	25	3	0	3	36
Percent	14%	0%	0%	0%	69%	8%	0%	8%	100%

Gender	Male	Female	Age	Under 1	1-5	6-12	13 & Up	Total ⁴
Count	23	13	Count	14	13	6	3	36
Percent	64%	36%	Percent	39%	36%	17%	8%	100%

Ethnicity	Asian/Pac. Isl.	Black	Latino	White	Other	Total ⁴
Count	0	2	18	16	0	36
Percent	0%	6%	50%	44%	0%	100%

¹ Population figures based upon U.S. Census Bureau: 2010 Demographic Profile.

² CalWORKs: California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids Program

³ Children may be reported more than once and/or have multiple allegations, i.e., physical abuse and general neglect

⁴ Percentages may not always total to 100% due to rounding

■ Characteristics of Children Placed in Relative/Foster Care in Costa Mesa (as of December 31, 2014: 61)⁵

Placement Type	Group Home	Foster Family Agency Home	Foster Family / Small Family Home	Relative / Guardian	Total ⁶
Count	16	5	7	33	61
Percent	26%	8%	11%	54%	100%

Gender	Male	Female	Age	Under 1	1-5	6-12	13 & Up	Total ⁶
Count	30	31	Count	5	19	23	14	61
Percent	49%	51%	Percent	8%	31%	38%	23%	100%

Ethnicity	Asian/Pac. Isl.	Black	Latino	White	Other	Total ⁶
Count	6	7	31	16	1	61
Percent	10%	11%	51%	26%	2%	100%

■ Children Brought into Protective Custody and Placed back into the same City/Community⁷

Area	Protective Custody (PC)	Placed Back	Placements by PC (Removal) Area
Costa Mesa	36	10	28%
All Other OC Cities/Communities	848	305	36%

Extended Foster Care (EFC) Program: Non-Minor Dependents

- The EFC Program, created by Assembly Bill 12 in January, 2012, allows foster youth to receive foster care benefits and services after age 18 and up to age 21. These young adults remain under the jurisdiction of the court and supervision of the county as they transition to independence.
- There are 7 Non-Minor Dependents residing within the city of Costa Mesa as of 12/31/2014

How can the Costa Mesa Community help to Preserve and Reunite their Children and Families?

- Support community-based responses to protect children and preserve families
- Become a resource family and encourage others to do so (short or longer term foster care)
- Participate in team decision making meetings that bring together people to help children at risk
- Provide space for foster care orientation, training or family visitation
- Help with community mentoring for birth parents working towards reunification



Interested in Getting More Involved with Children in Your Community?

- To find out more information about becoming a resource family, foster or adoptive parent: Call 1-888-871-kids (5437) or visit us at www.oc4kids.com

⁵ Children brought into protective custody from Costa Mesa (residents) and children placed there (includes children whose primary residence is in other cities): different time-frames and reflecting different groups of children.

⁶ Percentages may not always total to 100% due to rounding

⁷ Any child placed into protective custody between 01/01/2014 and 12/31/2014 and placed back into the same city/community within 6 months.