

COUNTY OF ORANGE CALIFORNIA  
**Social Services Agency**  
*Our Community, Our Commitment*  
**Children & Family Services**  
**In Costa Mesa**



Calendar Year 2017

Produced Agency on November 19, 2018

**Population<sup>1,2</sup>**

- **Costa Mesa** is the 8th most populous city in **Orange County**: 112,439.
  - Ethnic breakdown: Asian 9.3%, Black 1.7%, Hispanic 36.0%, White 50.1%, Native American 0.1%, Other 2.8%.
  - Has the 8th greatest youth (under 18) population when compared to other cities: 23,218.
  - Median Family Income: \$76,851.

**Social Services<sup>3</sup>**

- Costa Mesa children receiving financial assistance through CalWORKs: 757.

**Child Abuse and Referral Details**

- Number of referrals<sup>4</sup> for abuse and neglect in Costa Mesa was 1,770.
  - 9.8% of referrals were made by a non-mandated reporter.
  - 90.2% of referrals were made by the following mandated reporters:
    - Counselor/Therapist (25.0%), School Personnel/Teachers (20.9%), Other Professionals combined (32.8%), Law Enforcement (15.6%), and SSA, Probation, other Government Agency (5.7%).

- The 1,770 referrals<sup>4</sup> represent 1,179 distinct children in Costa Mesa identified below by Sex at Birth & Age:

<b>Sex at Birth<sup>5</sup></b>				<b>Age in Years<sup>5</sup></b>				
	Male	Female	Unknown	Under 1	1 to 5	6 to 12	13 & Up	Unknown
Count	558	619	*	82	259	504	334	0
Percent	47.3%	52.5%	*	7.0%	22.0%	42.7%	28.3%	0.0%

- Characteristics of Children brought into Protective Custody (PC) between 01/01/2017 and 12/31/2017.

**Abuse Allegations<sup>6, 7</sup>**

	Physical	Sexual	Emotional	Exploitation	General Neglect	Severe Neglect	Law Violation	Caretaker Absence / Incapacity	Status Offense
Count	3	0	0	0	37	7	0	4	0
Percent	5.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	72.5%	13.7%	0.0%	7.8%	0.0%

<b>Sex at Birth<sup>5</sup></b>			<b>Age in Years<sup>5</sup></b>			
	Male	Female	Under 1	1 to 5	6 to 12	13 & Up
Count	21	30	12	11	15	13
Percent	41.2%	58.8%	23.5%	21.6%	29.4%	25.5%

<b>Ethnicity<sup>5</sup></b>						
	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	Native American	Other
Count	*	*	23	24	*	0
Percent	*	*	45.1%	47.1%	*	0.0%

- Characteristics of Children placed in Out of Home Care in Costa Mesa as of 12/31/2017.

### Placement Type

	Relative	Non-Relative	Guardian	Foster	Small Family	Foster Family Agency	Court Specified	Congregate Care
Count	32	3	2	5	0	0	1	19
Percent	51.6%	4.8%	3.2%	8.1%	0.0%	0.0%	1.6%	30.6%

### Sex at Birth<sup>5</sup>

	Male	Female
Count	33	29
Percent	53.2%	46.8%

### Age in Years<sup>5</sup>

	Under 1	1 to 5	6 to 12	13 & Up
Count	*	16	25	17
Percent	*	25.8%	40.3%	27.4%

### Ethnicity<sup>5</sup>

	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	Native American	Other
Count	0	15	30	17	0	0
Percent	0.0%	24.2%	48.4%	27.4%	0.0%	0.0%

- Children brought into Protective Custody (PC) and placed in Out of Home Care within that same community<sup>5</sup>.

Area	PC	Placed Back	Placements by PC (Removal) Area
Costa Mesa	51	15	29.4%

### Extended Foster Care (EFC) Program: Non-Minor Dependents<sup>5</sup>

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 12 non-minor dependents residing within Costa Mesa as of 12/31/2017.

### 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](http://www.oc4kids.com)

Based on received feedback, changes have been made to the 2017 City by City report. Inquiries and/or suggestions for continued improvements of this report is encouraged. Please submit email to: [CWSReports@ssa.ocgov.com](mailto:CWSReports@ssa.ocgov.com)

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

<sup>2</sup> CA Dept. of Finance [2012-2016 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates].

<sup>3</sup> 24th Annual Conditions of Children in Orange County.

<sup>4</sup> Youth can have more than one referral within the calendar year.

<sup>5</sup> When the count is less than 5, then an \* will be shown to protect the identity.

<sup>6</sup> A hierarchy is used to record the most 'severe' allegation for youth with multiple allegations.

<sup>7</sup> Youth can have more than one Abuse Allegation within the calendar year.