



Calendar Year 2018

Produced on October 4, 2019

Population^{1,2}

- **Costa Mesa** is the 8th most populous city in **Orange County**: 112,930.
 - Ethnic breakdown: Asian 9.4%, Black 1.6%, Hispanic 36.5%, White 49.4%, Native American 0.2%, Other 2.9%.
 - Has the 8th greatest youth (under 18) population when compared to other cities: 22,918.
 - Median Family Income: \$80,110.

Social Services³

- Costa Mesa children receiving financial assistance through CalWORKs: 617.

Child Abuse and Referral Details

- Number of referrals⁴ for abuse and neglect in Costa Mesa was 1,721.
 - 8.2% of referrals were made by a non-mandated reporter.
 - 91.8% of referrals were made by the following mandated reporters:
 - Counselor/Therapist (25.5%), School Personnel/Teachers (26.3%), Other Professionals combined (29.9%), Law Enforcement (13.2%), and SSA, Probation, other Government Agency (5.1%).

- The 1,721 referrals⁴ represent 1,154 distinct children in Costa Mesa identified below by Sex at Birth & Age:

Sex at Birth⁵

	Male	Female	Unknown
Count	557	596	*
Percent	48.3%	51.6%	*

Age in Years⁵

	Under 1	1 to 5	6 to 12	13 & Up	Unknown
Count	78	279	485	312	0
Percent	6.8%	24.2%	42.0%	27.0%	0.0%

Abuse Allegations^{6,7}

Characteristics of Children brought into Protective Custody (PC) between 01/01/2018 and 12/31/2018.

	Physical	Sexual	Emotional	Exploitation	General Neglect	Severe Neglect	Law Violation	Caretaker Absence / Incapacity	Status Offense
Count	2	0	0	0	27	6	0	4	0
Percent	5.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	69.2%	15.4%	0.0%	10.3%	0.0%

Sex at Birth⁵

	Male	Female
Count	16	23
Percent	41.0%	59.0%

Age in Years⁵

	Under 1	1 to 5	6 to 12	13 & Up
Count	11	8	12	8
Percent	28.2%	20.5%	30.8%	20.5%

Ethnicity⁵

	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	Native American	Other
Count	0	*	17	19	0	*
Percent	0.0%	*	43.6%	48.7%	0.0%	*

Placement Type

Characteristics of Children placed in Out of Home Care in Costa Mesa as of 12/31/2018.

	Relative	Non-Relative	Guardian	Foster	Small Family	Foster Family Agency	Court Specified	Congregate Care
Count	21	2	1	9	0	2	1	24
Percent	35.0%	3.3%	1.7%	15.0%	0.0%	3.3%	1.7%	40.0%

Sex at Birth⁵

	Male	Female
Count	28	32
Percent	46.7%	53.3%

Age in Years⁵

	Under 1	1 to 5	6 to 12	13 & Up
Count	5	16	22	17
Percent	8.3%	26.7%	36.7%	28.3%

Ethnicity⁵

	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	Native American	Other
Count	*	9	30	20	0	0
Percent	*	15.0%	50.0%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%

- Children brought into Protective Custody (PC) and placed in Out of Home Care within that same community⁵.

Area	PC	Placed Back	Placements by PC (Removal) Area
Costa Mesa	39	12	30.8%

Extended Foster Care (EFC) Program: Non-Minor Dependents⁵

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 13 non-minor dependents residing within Costa Mesa as of 12/31/2018.

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

Inquiries and/or suggestions for continued improvements of this report is encouraged. Please submit email to: CWSReports@ssa.ocgov.com

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

² CA Dept. of Finance [2013-2017 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates].

³ SSA Research Analyst Team.

⁴ Youth can have more than one referral within the calendar year.

⁵ When the count is less than 5, then an * will be shown to protect the identity.

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

⁷ Youth can have more than one Abuse Allegation within the calendar year.