

**Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)
Bubble Chart Data Packet:
2018 Congregate Care Entries and One Year Follow-Up
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(Released September 2020)**

The FFPSA Congregate Care Bubble Chart Data Packet is designed to support counties' efforts to: 1) assess and analyze congregate care (CC) practice in relation to FFPSA expectations and 2) analyze current CC population for opportunities/vulnerabilities under FFPSA. Every Local District of Social Services (LDSS) with children's movements into CC in 2018 will receive an individualized data packet.

This data packet is redesigned and different from last year's packet based on our developing understanding of the FFPSA provisions.

- Under FFPSA, all children entering a qualified residential treatment program, or QRTP, must be assessed by a qualified individual within 30 days of program admission. This packet estimates the potential number of 30-day assessments needed by county, based on 2018 movements into four types of NYS CC programs: Institution, Group Residence, Group Home, and Agency Operating Boarding Home (AOBH). While some CC programs may choose not to seek QRTP certification, including all movements involving these settings provides a high-end estimate useful for planning purposes. Movements into ACS' Children Center are not included, as the bed capacity for the Center exceeds the number allowable for a Title IVE setting.
- Last year's packet included two types of movements in a CC program—new admissions and step-ups. The new admission pathway captured children entering foster care for the first time/or starting a new foster care episode whose initial placement was to a CC setting. The step-up pathway included active foster care cases where a child was moved from a lower level of care (i.e., foster boarding or kinship foster home) into a CC program. This year's packet includes two additional pathways: lateral transfers and returns.
 - a. Lateral transfers: 30-day assessments are intended to assess both need for a QRTP level of care and the fit between a given child and a particular QRTP program. As such, children transferring into a QRTP from any level of care—including another QRTP, specified or non-specified CC setting must be assessed within 30 days of their admission. Statewide data suggest a substantial volume of movements between CC settings each year. We encourage you to examine this pathway closely; efforts to reduce lateral moves should improve both stability for children and reduce assessment requirements.
 - b. Returns: Children who exit and later return to the same CC program are tracked through the return pathway. Using Title IVE claiming rules as a guideline, any child who is absent from a QRTP for 14 days or more will need to re-assess upon their return to program.

The charts and tables in the data packets are organized by these four paths. You will find these three major components in your individualized data packet:

1. **FFPSA Bubble Chart**—Movements into Congregate Care in 2018 and Their 12-Month Follow Up (file name: [Name of LDSS]_Bubble.pdf)
 - a. Bubble Chart #1: Total Number of Movements into Congregate Care (CC) Programs and Movement Types in 2018—provides an overview of the number of movements into CC and the proportion of these movements moving into CC from each path.
 - b. Bubble Chart #2: New Admissions into Congregate Care (CC) Programs in 2018 and Their 12-Month Follow Up—movements into CC through new admissions to foster care only.
 - c. Bubble Chart #3: Step Ups into Congregate Care (CC) Programs in 2018 and Their 12-Month Follow Up—movements into CC through stepping up from a lower level of care (such as foster boarding homes) only.
 - d. Bubble Chart #4: Lateral Transfers into Congregate Care (CC) Programs in 2018 and Their 12-Month Follow Up—movements from one CC program to another only.
 - e. Bubble Chart #5: Return from Absence or Trial Discharge to the Congregate Care (CC) Programs in 2018 and Their 12-Month Follow Up—movements returning from absence or trial discharge to the same CC program for more than 14 days.

2. **Supplemental Tables** (file name: [Name of LDSS]_Tables.pdf)
 - a. Table 1: Number of unique children with movements into CC program in 2018 and their movement types—this table is an overview of the number of movements and unique children by movement types in each local district, New York State, New York City, and Rest of State.
 - b. Supplemental Tables 1 to 4: These tables share similar format and provide child’s demographics (sex, race/ethnicity, and age at entry). Each table corresponds to one of the four paths: New Admission, Step Up, Lateral Transfer, and Return from Absence/Trial Discharge. Information in these tables is broken out by the status at 1-year post CC entry: Remained in CC Program, Discharged from Custody, Stepped Down to Lower Level of Care, and Transferred to Another CC Program. Other data elements in these tables include foster care and CC history, facility type prior to movement into CC, length of time in foster care or previous facility, and outcome at 1-year post CC entry.
 - c. In addition, to assist counties to assess and understand your CC practice in a broader context, this file also includes the following:
 - Trend Table 1 and Figure 1: Movement into Congregate Care from 2016-2019
 - Trend Table 2 and Figure 2: Movement into Foster Homes from 2016-2019

3. Individual Child-Level File (file name: [Name of LDSS]_Child List.xls)

- a. Each LDSS will receive an excel file. This file will contain personal, demographic, and foster care information on every child who entered CC in 2018. This file will allow the user to identify the children who traveled down a specific path in the bubble chart or supplemental tables for deeper dives into the data.

4. Additional Resources

- a. Resource Guide
 - This is a short guide on all the FFPSA congregate care resources, including where they can be found.
- b. Guide for Bubble Charts
 - This is a one-page guide of questions to consider when looking through the bubble charts and supplemental tables. It contains a guide on where to find information to answer different questions.
- c. Data Dictionary
 - The data dictionary provides a definition for each column in your child-level file.

Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)

Congregate Care Data Resource Guide

This resource guide provides you with a quick overview of the data resources available to you as you analyze and assess your congregate care population. Please go to the NYS Family First Readiness website at: <https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/sppd/family-first.asp> for more information. If you have questions about any of these data resources, please e-mail FamilyFirstNY@ocfs.ny.gov with the subject heading “CC Data Question.”

Resource	Short Description	Location
FFPSA Bubble Charts	Visual representation of entries into CC in 2018 and one-year follow-up	Included in FFPSA Bubble Chart Data Packet
Supplemental Tables for FFPSA Bubble Charts	More detailed information on children in the bubble charts	Included in FFPSA Bubble Chart Data Packet
Individual Child-Level File for FFPSA Bubble Charts	Individual level data on the children in the bubble charts	Included in FFPSA Bubble Chart Data Packet
Guide for Bubble Charts	Guide with questions to consider when looking at the bubble charts, along with where to find the answers	Released in data packet and available on FFPSA website
FFPSA Data Warehouse Video	Short video showing how to access and use the new FFPSA data warehouse folder	Available on FFPSA website and Data Warehouse website
OCFS FFPSA Data and Resources Website	Website that includes tools, resources and county level data for FFPSA planning and implementation.	https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/sppd/family-first-data.php

Guide for Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)

Bubble Charts

What types of movements into CC are most common in my county?

- Look at bubble chart #1 to find out.
- Which path should I focus on first to have the most impact in reducing movements into CC?

How do pathways into CC vary by case type?

- Look at Row B in each bubble chart to find out.
- What percent of entries into CC were child welfare cases, versus JD/PINS? Should I consider coordinating with someone from probation about strategies to keep JD/PINS youth out of CC?

How many children remain in the same congregate care program for more than one year?

- Look in Row C in each bubble chart to find out.
- Could we implement strategies that would reduce extensions of stay so that children would remain in congregate care for the shortest appropriate amount of time?

How many CC entries result in a lateral move to another CC program within one year?

- Look in Row C of the bubble chart and the supplemental table to find out.
- Why are these children transferred to another congregate care program? What could be done to stabilize the initial placement?

How many children exit their CC placement within 60 days of entry? Why?

- Look in Row D of the bubble chart to find out.
- Why are these children entering CC for such a short length of time? Could we implement strategies to keep these children out of CC entirely?

Have entries to CC been increasing or decreasing over time?

- Look at Figure 1 to find out.
- Have my entries into congregate care been trending up, down, or have they remained the same? What has changed in my county over the past few years that might explain some of these changes?

How many of the children who moved into CC lived in institutions? How many lived in group homes or other settings?

- Look in the supplemental tables to find out.
- Could we implement strategies to help those children living in non-institutional settings be successful in a home based setting?

Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) Child List File: County Data Dictionary

This data dictionary provides you with definition of each column in your child-level file. The child-level file is an event-based file and a child may appear multiple times (e.g., same child appearing in multiple rows) depending on the number of congregate care (CC) entries in 2018. It includes all key indicators found in the bubble charts and the supplemental tables.

Column Name	Definition
LDSS	Name of the Local District of Social Services
CIN	Child's CIN number
CHILD_NM	Child's full name
Entry_CC_Date	Date when child entered congregate care (CC) program
Entry_Type	How child entered CC program—new admission, step up, lateral transfer, or return from absence/trial discharge
DOB	Child's date of birth
SEX	Child's sex (F-Female; M-Male)
RACE	Child's race / ethnicity
Age@Entry	Child's age at entry into CC program
Facility_Type@Entry	The type of CC facility (institution, group residence, group home, or AOBH) entered
Case_Type	The case type (Child-welfare, JD, or PINS) when child entered CC program
Prior_FosterCare_Experience	Child had been placed in foster care prior to the current foster care placement (Yes or No)
Prior_CC_Experience	Child had entered CC program prior to the current CC entry (Yes or No)
Prior_Facility	For step up, lateral transfer, or return from absence/trial discharge only —the facility type with which child was placed prior to CC entry
Prior_Facility_VID	For step up, lateral transfer, or return from absence/trial discharge only —the Vender ID of the facility with which child was placed prior to CC entry
Length_of_Time_in_FC	For step up, lateral transfer, or return from absence/trial discharge only —length of time (in months) child was in foster care prior to CC entry
Length_of_Time_in_Prior_Facility	For step up, lateral transfer, or return from absence/trial discharge only —the length of time (in months) the child was in the lower level-of-care facility (Prior_Facility) before CC entry
Status@366_day_follow_up	Child's status at the end of the one-year follow-up period. A child will be classified as "in CC" if the child remained in the same CC program. Children who left foster care entirely at CC exit will have one of these three outcomes: "Discharged to permanency", "Discharged to Adult Corrections/OCFS/other JD Placement", or "Discharged others". Children who exited CC to home-based care or trial discharge are categorized as "step-down transfer" or

Column Name	Definition
	“TD”. Children who transferred to another CC program will be labeled as “lateral transfer”.
Step_Down_Facility	Facility type into which child stepped down
Days_in_CC_before_Exit	Number of days child stayed in CC program before exit