

**Documentation of statistics for
Notifications of concern for children and young people 2020**

1 Introduction

It is possible to report any concern for a child or young person to the municipality, whether you are working with children or not. The purpose of this statistics is to monitor progress and identify patterns in the reports received by the municipalities. This development can be followed at national and municipal level. Through notification statistics, each municipality will also be able to compare themselves with other municipalities. The statistic started in 2015 led by Ankestyrelsen and since 2016 Statistics Denmark.

2 Statistical presentation

The statistics contain information on the notifications municipalities receive concerning children below 18 years of age. The statistics are disseminated annually with data from all municipalities. The statistics include data about the number of notifications, the child's age and gender, date of the notification, the reporter's relation to the child (who is notifying), the background for the notification (what caused the notification) and which municipality received the notification. The statistics is communicated through an article (News from Statistics Denmark) in Danish and the StatBank.

2.1 Data description

The purpose of a notification is to make the municipality aware of a concern for a child of 0-17 years or an unborn child's well-being or development. In Denmark, all citizens have a duty to notify worries and suspicions. Since 2010, professionals working with children have had a stricter duty to notify. When receiving a notification, it is the municipality's responsibility to investigate the matter and if necessary provide support for the child. The purpose of the notification is to be able to provide support to the child before the problem grows.

The statistics are published annually since 2015 and contain 3 tables in the StatBank, a register for researchers and ministries and an article in Danish (Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik). The tables in the StatBank contain data on the amount of notifications, amount of children, age and gender of the child, date of notification, notifier, cause and municipality. Unborn children are registered through the expectant mothers. Broadly speaking, the StatBank tables answer the questions of how many notifications? (UND1), how many children? (UND2) and how many causes? (UND3).

2.2 Classification system

Municipalities, gender, age, reporter (who is notifying), cause of notification, and number of notification per child within the year. Read more about Statistic Denmark's classification [municipalities](#) (v1:2007-). UND1 and UND2 in Stat Bank uses age intervals of one year, whilst UND3 uses 5 year age intervals.

2.3 Sector coverage

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Responsible municipality: The municipality that receives the notification and needs to decide which measures, if any, should be taken as a follow-up to the notification. Also called administration municipality.

Notification: A notification to a municipality sent by a citizen or a professional working with children under 18 years of age. The purpose of a notification is to make the municipality aware of a concern for a child of 0-17 years or an unborn child's well-being or development.

2.5 Statistical unit

Notifications.

2.6 Statistical population

All notifications received by municipalities in Denmark concerning children's well-being and development. Children refers to 0-17 year olds or unborn.

2.7 Reference area

All municipalities in Denmark (not including Greenland and the Faroe Islands).

2.8 Time coverage

These statistics cover the time period from 2015 and onwards.

2.9 Base period

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.10 Unit of measure

Number.

2.11 Reference period

01.01.2020 to 31.12.2020.

2.12 Frequency of dissemination

Yearly.

2.13 Legal acts and other agreements

Data collection is based on §6 in "Lov om Danmarks Statistik" (Law about Statistics Denmark). The municipalities register notifications based on §§ 152, 153 and 154 in "Serviceloven" (Act of Service). Data collection is regulated by the "Bekendtgørelse om dataindsamlinger på socialområdet" (Order of data collection on social issues). These statistics are not EU regulated.

2.14 Cost and burden

These statistics are based on the municipalities' administrative register systems. Therefore, there is no direct respondent burden. However, the municipalities have a workload in regards to the annual data validation.

2.15 Comment

Further information can be found at [the subject page](#) or by contacting Statistics Denmark directly.

3 Statistical processing

The municipalities send data about notifications to Statistics Denmark daily through different digital sources. Data is validated annually in cooperation with the municipalities.

3.1 Source data

Data about notifications are received from 98 municipalities. Data is reported either directly from the IT systems in the municipalities or via manual reporting in Statistics Denmark's [web solution](#) available from the [website](#).

3.2 Frequency of data collection

Data is usually sent daily, but a few municipalities send data for longer periods of time.

3.3 Data collection

Data is reported either directly from the IT systems in the municipalities or via manual reporting in Statistics Denmark's web solution on the website. Some municipalities have reported data to the FTP-server or via a parser in order to overcome issues with direct reportings from the IT systems.

3.4 Data validation

Data is validated annually in cooperation with the municipalities. Statistics Denmark send a list of the registered data to the municipalities. If the municipality find their data correct, they confirm it. If not, Statistics Denmark and the municipality cooperate in order to correct the errors. If errors are not corrected in time before the publication date, Statistics Denmark publish the data with a note that states which municipalities have not confirmed their data. Furthermore, Statistics Denmark and the municipality will work on correcting the errors before next publication.

3.5 Data compilation

Data from the new year are combined with previous notifications from the register. Data is recoded so that the categories are converted to the grouping that applies after the reorganization of the statistics in 2017, where the reporter and cause categories were reduced from respectively 16 to 11 and 29 to 16 categories.

3.6 Adjustment

Correction is not applied.

4 Relevance

The statistics are relevant to researchers, journalists, social authorities (including ministries and municipalities) and others who are interested in vulnerable children.

4.1 User Needs

The statistics are primarily used by researchers, journalists and social authorities (including ministries and municipalities).

4.2 User Satisfaction

Nothing to note.

4.3 Data completeness rate

Not relevant for these statistics; these statistics are not EU-regulated.

5 Accuracy and reliability

The accuracy and reliability of these statistics is high.

The numbers are revised two years back in time. The revisions consists of minor corrections and thus do not change the overall picture of the statistics.

5.1 Overall accuracy

The accuracy of the statistics is high.

In 2020 and 2019, all 98 municipalities confirmed their data. In 2018, 94 municipalities confirmed their data. In 2017, 97 municipalities confirmed their data.

5.2 Sampling error

The sampling error is zero since the statistic's method is complete enumeration.

5.3 Non-sampling error

The statistics cover all 98 municipalities, but data reported to Ankestyrelsen are not part of the population.

Notifications pursuant to section 152 of the Service Act (inter-municipal notices) may be partially regarded as duplicates - and are removed in the total counts of notifications.

The large number of notifications means that there is a risk that the municipalities have failed reporting all notifications, and that the total number therefore is underestimated.

5.4 Quality management

Statistics Denmark follows the recommendations on organisation and management of quality given in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and the implementation guidelines given in the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF). A Working Group on Quality and a central quality assurance function have been established to continuously carry through control of products and processes.

5.5 Quality assurance

Statistics Denmark follows the principles in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and uses the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF) for the implementation of the principles. This involves continuous decentralized and central control of products and processes based on documentation following international standards. The central quality assurance function reports to the Working Group on Quality. Reports include suggestions for improvement that are assessed, decided and subsequently implemented.

5.6 Quality assessment

The annual publication no later than 9 months after the survey reference period ensures the users current and relevant knowledge on the subject.

The statistics is accurate and reliable since it is a complete enumeration and due to the high quality of data. The data quality is ensured through the extensive validation process and annual revisions of earlier published data. This makes data comparable to earlier years, even though the first years data quality was lower than now, and when you take into account the reorganization in 2017 (see section 3.5). Data is also comparable to similar statistics about disadvantaged children in Statistics Denmark as well as corresponding statistics from other countries. For more information, see chapter 7.

5.7 Data revision - policy

Statistics Denmark revises published figures in accordance with the [Revision Policy for Statistics Denmark](#). The common procedures and principles of the Revision Policy are for some statistics supplemented by a specific revision practice.

5.8 Data revision practice

The statistics are revised annually two years back in time. The changes are not substantial.

6 Timeliness and punctuality

The statistics are published no later than 9 months after the period of reference.

The statistics for 2020 were scheduled to be published June 22, 2021 but were delayed until August 16, 2021.

6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

The final numbers for these statistics are published no later than 9 months after the period of reference. Preliminary numbers are not published.

6.2 Punctuality

The statistics for 2020 are published with delay. The statistics were scheduled to be published June 22, 2021 with reference to the announced time of publication in the release calendar but were published August 16, 2021. The delay is due to significant difficulties in providing data for some municipalities and IT-systems.

7 Comparability

These statistics has been compiled since 2015 and is comparable throughout the whole period - when taken into account the reorganization in 2017 and a generally higher quality of data, especially from 2016 to 2017.

The statistics deal with notifications during the year. The other two statistics about disadvantaged children are status per 31st of December.

The statistics are comparable to corresponding statistics for Sweden, Norway and in some degree Finland.

7.1 Comparability - geographical

The statistics are comparable to corresponding statistics for [Sweden](#) (Anmälningar till socialtjänsten om barn och unga), [Norway](#) (Bekymringsmeldinger til barnevernet) and in some degree [Finland](#) (lastensuojeluilmoituksen).

7.2 Comparability over time

Data are available from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2020. The statistics is comparable throughout the whole period when taken into account the reorganization in 2017 and a generally higher quality of data, especially from 2016 and 2017. The quality of data has increased as a consequence of intensified validation.

7.3 Coherence - cross domain

This statistics deal with notifications during the year. The other two statistics about disadvantaged children are status per 31th of December.

7.4 Coherence - internal

Not relevant for these statistics.

8 Accessibility and clarity

These statistics are published annually in a Danish press release, at the same time as the tables are updated in the StatBank. The numbers can be found in the StatBank as tables [UND1](#), [UND2](#) and [UND3](#). For further information, go to the [subject page on disadvantaged children and young people](#). Contact DST Consulting for access to micro-data.

8.1 Release calendar

The publication date appears in the release calendar. The date is confirmed in the weeks before.

8.2 Release calendar access

The Release Calendar can be accessed on our English website: [Release Calendar](#).

8.3 User access

Statistics are always published at 8:00 a.m. at the day announced in the release calendar. No one outside of Statistics Denmark can access the statistics before they are published.

8.4 News release

These statistics are published annually in a Danish press release.

8.5 Publications

Not relevant for this statistic.

8.6 On-line database

The statistics are published in the StatBank under the subjects in the following tables:

- [UND1](#): Notifications of concern for children by administrative municipality, reporter (who is notifying), age, sex and time
- [UND2](#): Children who there are received notifications of concern about by administrative municipality, notifications of concern, age, sex and time
- [UND3](#): Causes for notifications of concern for children by administrative municipality, cause, reporter (who is notifying), age, sex and time

8.7 Micro-data access

Researchers and other analysts from authorized research institutions, can be granted access to the underlying micro-data by contacting [Research Services](#).

8.8 Other

Contact the Research Office in Statistics Denmark.

8.9 Confidentiality - policy

[Data Confidentiality Policy](#) at Statistics Denmark is applied.

8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment

Discretion is not necessary for this statistics.

8.11 Documentation on methodology

There are no separate method descriptions for these statistics.

8.12 Quality documentation

Results from the quality evaluation of products and selected processes are available in detail for each statistics and in summary reports for the Working Group on Quality.

9 Contact

The administrative placement of these statistics is in the division of Welfare and Health, Social Statistics. The person responsible is Rebecca Beatrix Clarke, phone +45 39 17 39 74 , e-mail: rbc@dst.dk

9.1 Contact organisation

Statistics Denmark

9.2 Contact organisation unit

Welfare and Health, Social Statistics

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N/A