

**Documentation of statistics for
Children and young adults in out-of-home care 2021**

1 Introduction

These statistics cover the the activities of municipal authorities' placements of children and young persons in out-of-home care (sections 52, 58, 75 and 76 of the Social Services Act, section 74 of the Criminal Code, section 78 of the Penal Code Enforcement Act, sections 765 of the Administration of Justice Act and section 36 of the Aliens Act and section 14 of the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act). These statistics are used to explain the extent of placement of children and young people outside their own homes. The figures are comparable from 2011 and onwards.

2 Statistical presentation

These statistics contain yearly estimates of the municipalities' initiated placements and placements of children and young persons in out-of-home care. The figures are divided into provinces, municipalities, type of measure, place of accommodation, cause of placement in out-of-home care, cause of change in placement of out-of-home care, sex and age groups. These statistics are published in the StatBank and NYT from Statistics Denmark.

2.1 Data description

These statistics contain information about incidents, events and the status of placements. Status is per 31.12 of the year in question. These statistics are calculated at the municipal level and by province - dependent on discretion needs.

These statistics are based on persons (0-22 year old) who are registered in Statistics Denmark's accumulated register of placements of children and young persons in out-of-home care. The statistics are compiled according to reporting municipality, type of measure (with and without consent), place of accommodation, cause of placement in out-of-home care, gender and age. Age is calculated at year-end. Municipalities are obligated to report each time a ruling/decision has been made that a child is to be placed in out-of-home care. This also applies in the case of reinstatement in out-of-home care after a repatriation/ termination. Municipalities often indicate several reasons for placement of a given child in out-of-home care.

The statistic is published annually as 10 separate statistical tables, 3 registers and a NYT article. Statistical tables contain information on the number of initiations and placements in out-of-home care divided by province/municipality, type of measure, place of accommodation, gender and age. The registers contain above-mentioned information on an individual level. Furthermore the registers contain information on changes in placement in out-of-home care, the cause of a termination of out-of-home care and the location of a child/young person after the termination of foster care.

In the period between the 1st of July 2019 and the 31st of December 2020, there has been a change in categorization of foster families. These have been changed to common, reinforced and specialized foster families. The information has been retrieved from the Danish Ministry of Social Affairs.

2.2 Classification system

These statistics are grouped geographically by [municipalities and provinces](#). In addition, the children and young persons placed outside own home are grouped by gender and age, and by:

Measure

- Decision/ruling by the administration with consent
- Committee for children and young people without requirement of consent

- Foreigners under the age of 15 years (Aliens Acts §36 and 37)
- Provisional decision/ruling (the chairman of the committee for children and young people)
- Sentence (juvenile sanction)
- Sentence (imprisonment)
- Surrogate custody
- The Social Appeals Board's own initiative/ruling
- Decision/ruling by the Board for Juvenile Delinquency with consent
- Decision/ruling by the Board for Juvenile Delinquency without requirement for consent
- Provisional decision, (the chairman of the committee for children and young people, juvenile delinquency)
- Not stated

Place of accommodation

- Foster family from the family network
- Ordinary foster family
- Municipal foster family
- Common foster family
- Reinforced foster family
- Specialized foster family
- Foster family according to section 76a (functionally impaired adolescents)
- Residential institution, general ward
- Partly closed residential institution or partly locked ward in open residential institution
- Residential institution, locked ward
- Residence for children and young persons
- Boarding school and/or continuation school
- Own room, student residence, facility similar to student residence
- Not stated

Cause of placement in out-of-home care

- Addictive behavior in a child/young person
- Criminal behavior of a child/young person
- School problems with a child/young person, e.g. absence
- Other behavior of a child/young person causing concern, e.g. aggressive behavior
- Considerably or permanent reduced physical or mental capacity in a child/young person
- Health conditions of a child/young person
- Molestation of a child/young person, e.g. sexual or violent
- Other types of neglect of a child/young person
- Addictive behavior on parents
- Criminal behavior in parents
- Other behavior of parents causing concern
- Considerably or permanently reduced physical or mental capacity in parents
- High level of conflict or violence in the home between adults
- Inadequate parental care and control
- Enforcement proceedings or eviction
- Other
- Not stated

2.3 Sector coverage

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Placement measure: The child or adolescent is placed outside the home, with or without the parents consent.

Handling Municipality: The municipality, who decide on providing assistance or support under the Act on Special Support to children and young people.

2.5 Statistical unit

Occurrences, stock of people (0-22 years) per 31.12 and sequences.

2.6 Statistical population

Decisions and other cases concerning the placement of children and young persons outside the home pursuant to section 52 (2). 1, cf. 3 (7), § 58 (2). 1-3, section 75 (1) and section 76 (3) cf. 1 of the Social Services Act, § 74 a of the Criminal Code, § 78 (2). 2 of the Act on the Enforcement of Punishment, etc., § 765 of the Administration of Justice Act, § 36 of the Aliens Act and § 14 of the Action against Youth Crime Act.

2.7 Reference area

Denmark.

2.8 Time coverage

The statistics cover the time period from 2011 and onwards.

2.9 Base period

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.10 Unit of measure

Number.

2.11 Reference period

Calendar year.

2.12 Frequency of dissemination

Yearly.

2.13 Legal acts and other agreements

Data about municipal authorities' placements of children and young persons outside the home (sections 52, 58, 75 and 76 of the Social Services Act, section 74 of the Criminal Code, section 78 of the Penal Code Enforcement Act, sections 765 of the Administration of Justice Act, section 36 of the Aliens Act and section 14 of the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act) is collected with warrant in: Executive Order on Data Reporting in the Social Area (current). The Order and the requirements to report the data are based upon sections 82 and 84 of the Legal Rights and Administration Act and Section 6 of the Danish Statistics Act.

The statistic is not subjected to EU regulations.

2.14 Cost and burden

These statistics are primarily based on administrative data. There is thus no direct response burden in relation to the compilation of these statistics. This is the case for approx.. 80 of the municipalities. Those municipalities, who supplement with manual reporting, do have a non-specific report burden. The statistic does include a process of municipal approval of reported data. Report burden of the municipalities in connection to this, is not estimated.

2.15 Comment

Further information can be found at the Subject page of the statistics: [Udsatte børn og unge – anbringelser](#), or by contacting Statistics Denmark directly.

3 Statistical processing

Data for these statistics are continually collected from the 98 municipalities. The collected data is then subjected to a meticulous validation process in cooperation with the municipalities. All of the municipalities receive feedback sheets, representing the scope and nature of the reported data, which need to be approved by the municipalities.

3.1 Source data

Data stems from municipalities' digital systems used for administration of cases regarding children and young. In addition, can upload data through a web platform, provided by Statistics Denmark. Between 2006-2016 the data collection was rooted in Ankestyrelsen, The Danish Social Appeals Board.

3.2 Frequency of data collection

Data from the 98 municipalities are collected continuously. It is possible to report on a daily basis.

3.3 Data collection

Data are transmitted via four different system-to-system solutions DUBU, DXC, SBSYS and KMDNEXUS. Municipalities can also upload data through a web platform, provided by Statistics Denmark.

3.4 Data validation

Data are validated yearly in cooperation with the municipalities.

For each municipality a CPR based list is extracted from the database, which is then sent to the municipality to control if the data corresponds with their activity and records. The municipalities have assessed and approved following key figures: initiations and placements in out-of home care. Placement in out of home care with consents and placement in foster family care.

Reports are sent each quarter to the municipalities in order to correct errors and issues with missing or misleading data.

As a general rule, only validated and approved data is published, with a note if or which municipalities have incomplete data.

If a municipality cannot approve the validity of data before the publication of the statistic, a cooperative effort is initiated subsequently to correct the errors, so the data is in compliance before the next publication.

3.5 Data compilation

When the municipalities have approved their reports, data are published a process/sequence register, incident/occurrences register and a status/stock register.

Different systems used for dataeorting, need to comply with the requirements stated in the Executive Order on Data Reporting in the Social Area.

Age is calculated at year-end.

3.6 Adjustment

Not relevant for these statistics.

4 Relevance

The statistics are used by municipalities, regions, ministries, the media, researchers and private individuals. The statistics are used for public planning and administration, research, public debate and education.

4.1 User Needs

These statistics are used by municipalities, counties, ministries, the media and researchers for public planning and administration, research, public debate and educational purposes.

4.2 User Satisfaction

User needs will be treated in Statistic Denmark's [User Committee for Welfare Statistics](#) and [User Committee for Municipalities and Regions](#).

4.3 Data completeness rate

Before publishing the municipalities must approve data. All the municipalities have approved data for 2011-2020.

The data for Lejre in 2016-2020 is incomplete, but the extent is not known.

5 Accuracy and reliability

The statistics showcase all placements of children and young persons in out-of-home care. There can be few observations with missing age and sex.

5.1 Overall accuracy

Statistics Denmark does instruct and guide the municipalities on correct procedures of data reporting. [The Executive Order on Data Reporting](#) in the Social Area also ensures uniformity in data reporting.

5.2 Sampling error

Not relevant for these statistics.

5.3 Non-sampling error

Only approved data from the municipalities are published. The municipalities approve data on a summarized level. There are variables not included in the approval procedure. Therefore, some uncertainty can occur on a more detailed level, for instance the causes or changes in placement in out-of-home care or in instances where the child or young person relocates after the termination of out-of-home care.

In 2020, the municipality of Copenhagen has changed its digital system for data reporting. As a consequence there is deficiency in data for 2019 concerning the initiations, consent and decisive causes of placement in out-of-home care.

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

All 98 municipalities have received a validation report with key figures. In subsequent dialogue and investigation, a number of municipalities have received further information. The municipalities themselves assess the quality and approve the reported data.

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

Revisions for previous years are implemented when compiling results for a new year. Respondents can make corrections to already reported data or additions of new information daily as the register is an occurrence register. These changes will be included in the next publication. Only few revisions are expected for earlier years. Published data in the StatBank are revised from 2011 and forward.

6 Timeliness and punctuality

These statistics are published 6 months after the end of the reference period.

6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

These statistics are published 6 months after the end of the reference period. These statistics are published without delay, with reference to the announced time of publication in the release calendar. Temporary data/statistics are not published.

6.2 Punctuality

These statistics are published on time, as stated in the release calendar.

7 Comparability

The statistics are comparable from 2011 and forward.

7.1 Comparability - geographical

Similar statistics are compiled in many other countries. However, the statistics are not subject to any EU regulation or compiled in accordance with other international guidelines. Therefore, these statistics cannot necessarily be directly compared internationally.

7.2 Comparability over time

The statistics have existed since 1977, but due to legislative changes in 1985, 1993, 2006 and 2019, respectively, the statistic is not directly comparable throughout the years. Since 1st of January 2018, the statistics and the collection of data are based on the Executive Order on Data Reporting in the Social Area (current). The Executive order is updated every half year, and thus changes can occur every half year. From medio 2019 and forward new grouping of foster families has been implemented. From primo 2020 and forward data regarding juvenile delinquency will also be gathered.

7.3 Coherence - cross domain

The statistics are related to statistics about preventive measures given to children and young people, as the family and the child/young person must be offered relief measures, before the municipality initiates a procedure to place the child in out-of-home care. The statistics are also related to statistics on Notifications of concern for children and young people, as a notification can occur before a child is placed in out-of-home care.

7.4 Coherence - internal

Reported data from different sources usually follow the same reporting forms. Changes in the forms may result in differences as a result of the suppliers not being able to implement the changes at the same time. During these transition periods, the response categories from the old forms will be mapped to the new categories.

8 Accessibility and clarity

These statistics are published in a Danish press release. In the StatBank, the figures are published under [Disadvantaged children and young people](#).

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 yearly in a Danish press release.

8.5 Publications

Not relevant for these statistics.

8.6 On-line database

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

- [ANBAAR2](#): Children and young persons placed outside of own home per 31st december by measure, age, sex and time
- [ANBAAR8](#): Initiated placement outside of own home of children and young persons by part of the country, measure, age, sex and time
- [ANBAAR9](#): Children and young persons placed outside of own home per 31st december by administrative municipality, age and time
- [ANBAAR14](#): Initiated placement outside of own home of children and young persons by administrative municipality, age and time
- [ANBAAR10](#): Decisive causes related to initiated placement outside own home by part of the country, cause for placement outside the home, age, sex and time
- [ANBAAR17](#): Initiated placement outside of own home of children and young persons by part of the country, place of accommodation, age, sex and time
- [ANBAAR16](#): Children and young persons placed outside of own home per 31st december by part of the country, place of accommodation, measure, age, sex and time
- [ANBAAR12](#): Children and young persons placed outside of own home per 31st december by administrative municipality, place of accommodation and time
- [ANBAAR15](#): Children and young persons placed outside of own home per 31st december by place of accommodation, age, sex and time
- [ANBAAR13](#): Children and young persons placed outside of own home per 31st december by administrative municipality, measure 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

Not relevant for these statistics.

8.9 Confidentiality - policy

[Data Confidentiality Policy](#) for Statistics Denmark.

8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment

In the disseminated statistics, persons are grouped in age groups to avoid identification. In addition, the more detailed figures are published at the level of provinces rather than municipalities.

8.11 Documentation on methodology

There are no separate documentation on methodology 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. The person responsible is Annesofie Thorup Olesen, tel.: + 45 3917 3038, e-mail: aft@dst.dk.

9.1 Contact organisation

Statistics Denmark

9.2 Contact organisation unit

Welfare and Health, Social Statistics.

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N/A