

**Documentation of statistics for
Disability services for children and young people 2024**

1 Introduction

The purpose of the statistics on disability compensation services for children and young people is to provide an overview of the support measures granted by Denmark's 98 municipalities to children and young people aged 0–17 with reduced mental or physical functional capacity.

The statistics are used, among other things, for policy preparation, public debate, and research. They are compiled annually and were first published in 2023 with data from 2022. They replace previous summary information from the statistics on social resources. In 2024, the statistics were adapted to the Child Act (Barnets Lov) and now cover selected provisions from it, while ongoing measures continue under the Social Services Act, cf. Section 213 of the Child Act.

2 Statistical presentation

The statistics provide an annual overview of disability compensation measures granted to children and young people with reduced physical or mental functional capacity, in accordance with the selected provisions of the Child's Act and, previously, the Social Services Act.

The statistics include information on the number of measures and the number of recipients. Data is presented by age, gender, and type of measure. It is also broken down by region and municipality.

The statistics are published in the Statistics Denmark database and in the publication NYT from Statistics Denmark.

2.1 Data description

The statistics on disability compensation measures provide an annual account of the initiatives that municipalities offer to children and young people who require special support and treatment in accordance with selected provisions of the Child Act and the former Social Services Act. Under the Social Services Act, these were §§ 32, 32a, 36, 44/83, 44/84.1, 44/86.2, and 45. From 1st of January 2024, with the Child Act, ongoing measures continue under the legal basis of the original decision and only transfer to the Child Act when a new decision is made under that Act, cf. Section 213 of the Child Act. In the transition to the Child Act, all provisions in the statistics have been adapted to the new legislation (§§ 82.1, 82.2, 82.3, 82.4, 90.1, 90.2, 90.3, and 89.1). From 2024, data are also collected on § 82.4, which covers other services under the Child Act or the Day Care Act.

The statistics have been published annually since 2023 with data for 2022. In 2023 and 2024, they were released as four statistical tables, an article titled NYT from Statistics Denmark, and a longitudinal register available for research and ministry purposes. From 2025, an additional longitudinal register is published for research and ministry purposes.

The original longitudinal register does not contain information on service providers, which according to the Act on Social Supervision must be listed in the Service Provider Portal (Tilbudsportalen). The new register, however, includes such information (P-number and department-UUID). This applies in these statistics to services provided under §§ 82.1 and 82.2 of the Child Act. The new longitudinal register makes it possible to track care facilities/departments in a child's or young person's intervention history. If the child has changed facility during the course of an intervention, they appear multiple times in this register, but only once in the original register.

Both the statistical tables and the article titled NYT Statistics Denmark are based on the longitudinal register without information on service providers.

The statistics are compiled both by the number of children and the number of interventions within a given year. Furthermore, data are broken down by municipality, region, intervention, age, and sex.

The four statistical tables, HANDBU01–HANDBU04, are based on children and young people (0–17 years) who are registered in Statistics Denmark's accumulated register of children and young people receiving disability compensation measures. The statistical tables and registers contain information on the number of disability compensation interventions initiated during the year, as well as those continuing from previous years. They also include data on the number of children receiving disability compensation interventions for the first time, as well as those continuing with one or more interventions. A child may be included with several simultaneous interventions. Age is calculated at the end of the year, and the statistics are compiled according to the administrative municipality (see definition in section "Concepts and Definitions").

2.2 Classification system

These statistics are grouped geographically by [Regions, Provinces and Municipalities] (<https://www.dst.dk/en/Statistik/dokumentation/nomenklaturer/regioner--landsdele-og-kommuner>).

In addition, the data are grouped by type of measure, relevant legal section, sex, and age (at year-end) in the age groups 0-5 years, 6-11 years, and 12-17 years.

2.3 Sector coverage

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Disability measure: Measure aimed at providing support to children and young people with physical or mental disabilities as well as to their parents or close relatives. The support may, for example, consist of practical assistance, maintenance training or respite care.

Administrative municipality: The municipality obligated to provide assistance or support, pursuant to regulations on special support for children and youth, as formulated in the Danish Consolidation Act on Social Services, the Child Act or the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act.

Beneficiary : A person (child or youth) who is the reason that a disability service is being granted to the child, a young person, the parents, or next of kin.

2.5 Statistical unit

Disability measures for children and youth (0-17 years) that have been implemented.

2.6 Statistical population

The statistics are based on children and young people (aged 0–17) who receive disability compensation measures under the following provisions of the Child's Act:

- § 82.1: Special day-care services for children
- § 82.2: Special club services for older children and young people
- § 82.3: Home-based training for children
- § 82.4: Other services under the Child's Act or the Day-Care Act
- § 89.1: Companion schemes for children and young people aged 12–18 who cannot move about on their own
- § 90.1: Personal and practical assistance
- § 90.2: Relief or respite care for parents or close relatives
- § 90.3: Maintenance training, including assistance in maintaining physical or mental abilities

Before the introduction of the Child's Act on 1 January 2024, the statistics for 2022 and 2023 were based on disability compensation measures under Sections 32, 32a, 36, 44, and 45 of the Social Services Act. These measures continue under the legal basis on which the original decision was made. A measure is only transferred to the Child's Act when a new decision is made based on its provisions, cf. Section 213 of the Child's Act.

In the population, no distinction is made between whether a measure is based on the Social Services Act or the Child's Act. This means that the variable describing the legal basis (`indsats_kode`) uses the same code both before and after the Child's Act entered into force. For example, `indsats_kode = 001` applies whether the legal basis at the time of decision is Section 32 of the Social Services Act or Section 82(1)(1) of the Child's Act.

A new code, 008, has been added to represent *Other services under the Child's Act or the Day-Care Act*.

2.7 Reference area

Denmark.

2.8 Time coverage

The statistics cover the period from 1 January 2022 onwards. In this 2024 release, the statistical tables in the Statistics Denmark database are updated with data for the new statistical year as well as revisions for the two preceding years.

2.9 Base period

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.10 Unit of measure

Two measurement units are used in the compilation of the indicators, including:

- Number of persons
- Number of measures

2.11 Reference period

Calendar year

2.12 Frequency of dissemination

Yearly

2.13 Legal acts and other agreements

Data is collected by Statistics Denmark pursuant to Section 6 of the Act on Statistics Denmark. Municipalities report disability compensation measures for children and young people under Sections 82.1, 82.2, 82.3, 82.4, 89.1, 90.1, 90.2, and 90.3 of the Child's Act, and previously under provisions of the Social Services Act (see Section 1).

Reporting is carried out in accordance with Sections 82 and 84 of the Act on Legal Protection and Administration in Social Matters. The reporting and data collection process is governed by [the applicable Executive Order on Data Reporting in the Social Field] (<https://sm.dk/lovstof/bekendtgoerelse-om-dataindberetninger-paa-socialomraadet>) (referred to hereafter as the Data Executive Order).

The statistics are not subject to any EU-regulation.

2.14 Cost and burden

The statistics are based on the municipalities' administrative systems. Consequently, there is no direct reporting burden for municipalities that use systems capable of sending data directly to Statistics Denmark, which is the case for the vast majority of municipalities. Municipalities that supplement with manual reporting, however, bear a reporting burden that has not been further estimated.

All municipalities experience a workload associated with the annual validation of data.

2.15 Comment

For further information, contact Statistics Denmark, or see the subject page of the statistics [Handicapområdet](#),

3 Statistical processing

Data are collected on an ongoing basis from the municipalities' systems or via web reporting (IDEP). The submissions continuously update the existing information in the registers. For each child or young person, cases are linked and updated with the year's reports. The data are compiled in two longitudinal registers, covering all children and young people aged 0–17 who have received one or more disability compensation measures under the Child Act or the former Social Services Act. Municipalities validate and approve the data annually. After validation, the aggregated data are supplemented with information from Statistics Denmark's population register.

3.1 Source data

Municipalities report data on disability compensation measures for children and young people to Statistics Denmark, which acts as data processor on behalf of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Housing.

Data is reported either through system-to-system solutions from the municipalities' administrative specialist systems or via the web reporting solution, IDEP.

Municipalities can access the reported data through the web reporting interface for the statistics, available via Virk.dk: [webindberetningsløsning](#).

3.2 Frequency of data collection

Data are collected continuously from the 98 municipalities in Denmark. In some few cases, the data are collected on a monthly or yearly basis.

3.3 Data collection

Data are transmitted primarily through the computerized administrative systems of the municipalities, which transmit data directly to Statistics Denmark. As an alternative, the municipalities can use a web-based platform, provided by Statistics Denmark: [webindberetningsløsning, IDEP] (<https://www.dst.dk/da/Indberet/oplysningssider/handicapydelse-til-boern-og-unge>) can be accessed via the link or Virk.dk.

All reported data is collected daily in a web-based database provided by Statistics Denmark, which is also accessible to the municipalities.

3.4 Data validation

Data in the statistics is validated annually in cooperation with the municipalities. At the start of the validation process, Statistics Denmark produces municipality-specific lists showing counts of children and young people by each type of measure, as well as the number of disability compensation measures broken down by type, based on the longitudinal register without provider information.

These lists are used by each municipality to verify and approve that the reported data corresponds to the municipality's actual situation. Municipalities have daily access to these lists via the web reporting system, IDEP.

If a municipality rejects the accuracy of the lists, Statistics Denmark and the municipality engage in dialogue and work to resolve discrepancies until both parties approve the data.

As a general rule, data that has not been approved is included in the publication but accompanied by a note identifying which municipalities have not approved their data. If discrepancies are substantial, it may be decided to exclude data from the relevant municipality in the publication.

If a municipality cannot approve the data before publication, a collaboration begins after publication to achieve data consistency before the next release.

The validation process focuses particularly on ensuring that municipalities have reported all disability compensation measures granted to children and young people across the municipality.

3.5 Data compilation

The validated data, both from the municipal specialist systems and from reports submitted via Statistics Denmark's web reporting system, are integrated. Across the different reporting solutions, all submissions must comply with the requirements set out in the Data Executive Order. Standardization according to these requirements enables straightforward integration of data into a core dataset.

The core data from the registers are linked into individual case sequences (forløb), which are supplemented with information from Statistics Denmark's population register. Errors in personal identification numbers are recorded in an error list, and duplicate records are checked before the data is prepared for publication.

Municipalities have varying registration practices: some register one continuous intervention, while others register many short consecutive interventions. To standardize these reports, Statistics Denmark applies overlap processing to form the basis of the longitudinal registers. This overlap processing consists of forming sequences when a child or young person receives the same intervention with overlapping time periods within the same municipality. As well as forming sequences when the same intervention is provided within the same municipality with 14 days or less between two interventions.

In these cases, the earliest start date and the latest end date from the submissions will apply.

With the release of the 2024 data, a new longitudinal dataset has been created that includes the variables production number and department_uuid. In this dataset, intervention sequences are also generated based on the same rules as above, but with the addition of the two new variables.

Sequences are generated in cases where a child or young person receives the same intervention in the same municipality and at the same physical location, provided that there are 15 days or fewer between the two interventions. This means that if a child or young person receives the same intervention in the same municipality with 15 days or fewer between two identical interventions, but the production number and/or department_uuid differ, a sequence will not be generated. Consequently, this new longitudinal dataset contains more observations than the original.

3.6 Adjustment

No corrections are made besides those corrections described in the chapters on data validation and data processing.

4 Relevance

The statistics are relevant for researchers, journalists, social authorities (including the ministries and municipalities) and other interested in disability services granted to children and youth.

4.1 User Needs

The statistics are primarily used by researchers, journalists, and social authorities. (including relevant ministries, provinces and municipalities). The statistics are used for policy planning, administration, academic research, science, public debate and education.

4.2 User Satisfaction

No systematic survey of user satisfaction has been conducted. However, Statistics Denmark is in continuous dialogue with users of the statistics in regards to user needs and wishes.

4.3 Data completeness rate

Not relevant for these statistics, since the statistics are not EU-regulated.

5 Accuracy and reliability

Disability compensation services for children and youth may be granted by various departments within municipalities. Due to the use of different digital systems for data reporting and transmission by municipalities, the data are not systematically and uniformly registered. Municipalities administer cases and provide services differently, which can result in the same case or measure being registered under different sections and subsections of the legislation. The full extent of this practice is not known.

5.1 Overall accuracy

Statistics Denmark provides guidance to municipalities on correct practices for data reporting. However, they do not possess the necessary knowledge to assess the variations in municipal procedures concerning disability services provided to children and youth. Due to municipalities using different digital systems for data reporting and transmission, the data are not consistently and uniformly registered.

For example, one municipality may categorize a specific measure under a legislative section included in the statistics, whereas another municipality may categorize the same measure under a different section not included in the statistics.

To ensure uniformity in data transmission and reporting, municipalities are obligated to implement and adhere to the regulations outlined in the [bekendtgørelse om dataindberetninger](#) (i.e. The Executive Order on Data Transmission in the Social Policy Area).

The statistics include data from 98 municipalities, and the number of granted disability services reported and approved by these municipalities is considered complete.

5.2 Sampling error

Not relevant for these statistics since the statistic's method is complete enumeration.

5.3 Non-sampling error

All reports from the country's 98 municipalities are included in the population. Municipalities approve the data at an aggregated level. There may be measurement errors in the reporting of the intervention period. For example, a possible error could occur if a municipality records the date when the intervention is granted as the start date instead of the actual date when the intervention is implemented, which is the correct date to report for the statistics.

Municipalities have different referral practices and internal services. If the need for support, treatment, etc., for children and young people with significant and permanent reduced physical or mental functional capacity cannot be met through the municipality's general daycare, leisure, and club offers, services are established under provisions in the Child's Act and previously under the Social Services Act. What one municipality records under one paragraph of the statistics may be recorded under a different paragraph in another municipality, which may not be reported as part of the statistics.

The work with disability-compensating services can take place across several municipal departments, which poses a risk of missing reports. However, due to intensive validation in cooperation with the municipalities, the uncertainty is assessed to be low.

Municipalities are expected to report all disability-compensating measures they grant to children and young people under the Child's Act and previously under the Social Services Act. It is assumed that some cases may be overlooked in reporting, but validation and annual meetings minimize this source of error.

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 of the statistics on Disability-compensating measures for children and young people, issued no later than six months after the end of the reference period, which ensures that users receive current and relevant information about municipal disability-compensating interventions.

The division into the statistical bank tables HANDBU01, HANDBU02, HANDBU03, and HANDBU04 enables users to answer relevant questions about disability-compensating measures for children and young people.

The publication of an article titled 'Nyt' on disability measures for children and young people, along with the statistical tables and this documentation, makes the statistics accessible to users. The registers provide researchers and the ministry with the opportunity to examine more complex questions about both the measures themselves and the relationships between measures and other factors.

The statistics are accurate and reliable, as they are based on a complete count (total enumeration) and the overall uncertainty is assessed as low. Quality is ensured, among other things, through the annual validation process with the municipalities, where all 98 municipalities receive a validation report with key figures from Statistics Denmark. Following dialogue and clarification, several municipalities have received additional information. The municipalities themselves assess the quality and approve the reported data.

The statistics include data from all 98 municipalities in the country. All 98 municipalities contribute data for the entire period from January 1, 2022, through December 31 of the respective year in which data have most recently been collected.

When comparing municipalities, there may be considerable variation in the number of individual measures, even after adjusting for population size. This can, among other things, be due to differences in the municipalities' internal services and referral practices.

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 based on a longitudinal register that is updated annually and does not contain information on service providers, cf. the Content Description. In the 2024 release, the statistical tables have been updated with data for the new year and the two preceding years. Once the statistics have been published for more than five years, updates will cover the four most recent years.

Revisions for previous years are carried out when a new statistical year is compiled. Since the registers contain longitudinal data, revisions may occur several years back.

Reporters can daily make corrections to already reported data or add new information, and these changes will be included in the next statistical calculation.

Relatively few revisions are expected for past years.

6 Timeliness and punctuality

The statistics are published approximately 6 months after the end of the reference period and are released without delay according to the scheduled publication date.

6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

The statistics are published approximately 6 months after the end of the reference period and are released without delay according to the scheduled publication date. Preliminary numbers are not published.

6.2 Punctuality

The statistics are published without delay according to the scheduled publish date.

7 Comparability

The statistics on disability services are most comparable with data previously collected and published in the statistics on social resources. Direct international comparisons cannot be made due to differences in data collection methods and reporting practices.

7.1 Comparability - geographical

The statistics on disability measures are not governed by any EU regulation or compiled according to other international guidelines. The data included in these statistics are defined based on Danish legislation, making direct international comparisons unfeasible. Similar statistics are compiled in many other countries.

7.2 Comparability over time

The statistics have been compiled in 2023 for the first time with data from 2022. Data for 2022 and 2023 were based on the Social Services Act (serviceloven). From January 1, 2024, the initiation of new interventions is reported under the Child's Act (barnets lov). Ongoing interventions continue under the legal basis of the original decision and only transition to the Child's Act when a decision is made with the legal basis under the Child's Act, cf. § 213 of the Child's Act.

The time series is best compared with previously published data in the disability area. These data can be found in the tables [RESHJMTR](#) and [RESLED](#), which are available in StatBank Denmark.

These tables are based on summarized information reported annually by the municipalities.

However, it should be noted that there is effectively a data break in some time series. There is a data break between The Social Resource Accounts (Den Sociale Ressourceopgørelse) and the present publication due to differences in calculation methods. The most significant difference is that the data in the present disability statistics are compiled at the personal identification number (CPR) level. Another difference is that data for the statistics on disability compensating measures given to children and young people are reported by the municipality responsible for the individual measures (administrative municipality), and not the paying municipality, as is the case in The Social Resource Accounts. This may cause differences in the number of measures reported for each municipality.

7.3 Coherence - cross domain

These statistics on disability services for children and youth can be linked to statistics on "Services to adults with disability and marginalized adults". This connection arises because children and youth with chronic or long-term physical or mental disabilities may transition into adulthood and be eligible for selected services typically provided to disabled or marginalized adults.

7.4 Coherence - internal

Data reported from various sources typically adhere to standardized reporting forms. However, when changes are made to these forms, discrepancies can arise because IT suppliers may not implement the changes simultaneously. During transitional periods, responses from the old reporting forms are often "mapped" to correspond with new categories. This mapping process helps maintain consistency and continuity in the reported data despite changes in reporting formats.

8 Accessibility and clarity

The statistics are published in [Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik](#), a Danish-language press release by Statistics Denmark.

Data are also accessible in Statbank Denmark, under the disability section: [Handicapområdet](#). For additional details, refer to the [subject page](#) of the statistics.

8.1 Release calendar

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

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.

8.2 Release calendar access

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

8.4 News release

The statistics are presented in a press release authored in Danish by Statistics Denmark, titled [Handicapindsatser til børn og unge](#).

8.5 Publications

Not relevant for these statistics.

8.6 On-line database

The statistics are published in StatBank Denmark in following tables:

- [HANDBU01](#): Disability measures for children and young people aged 0-17 by municipality and gender. Period 2022-2024. Each child is counted once in the national total, even if they have received multiple interventions during the year. The child is assigned only to the municipality with the lowest municipality code, even if interventions occurred in multiple municipalities.
- [HANDBU02](#): Disability measures for children and young people aged 0-17 by municipality and age. Period 2022-2024. Each child is counted once in the national total, even if they have received multiple interventions during the year. The child is assigned only to the municipality with the lowest municipality code, even if interventions occurred in multiple municipalities.
- [HANDBU03](#): Disability measures for children between 0-17 years by province and measure. Period 2022-2024. Each child appears only once in the national total, assigned to the region where the municipality with the lowest municipality code is located, even if the child has received interventions in municipalities across different regions.
- [HANDBU04](#): Disability measures for children between 0-17 years by measure, age and sex. Period 2022-2024.

8.7 Micro-data access

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

8.8 Other

The underlying anonymized micro-data from these statistics are available for specific service tasks upon payment. You can learn more about these [Customized Solutions](#) or obtain further information by contacting [DST Consulting](#).

8.9 Confidentiality - policy

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

8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment

To ensure confidentiality, individuals are grouped into age categories. Additionally, specific tables in the StatBank are published at the provincial level rather than the municipal level. For more details on classifications, including regions, provinces, and municipalities, you can visit the classification page [Regions, Provinces and 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 Personal Finances and Welfare, Social Statistics. The contact person is Cecilie Katholm, tel.: + 45 2058 4240, and e-mail: CEK@dst.dk.