

Documentation of statistics for Shelters 2024

1 Introduction

The purpose of the statistics Shelters is to provide information about the users of the types of accommodation as prescribed by section 110 of the Social Services Act, which includes reception centers etc. The statistics were originally established by the National Board of Social Appeals in 1999. Until July 1st 2016, the Appeals Board managed the statistics, after which it was transferred to Statistics Denmark.

2 Statistical presentation

The statistics provides an annual statement on number of nights and number of persons who have spent the night on an accommodation established in accordance with section 110 of the Service Act. The statistics are distributed by age, sex, number of nights and number of stays.

2.1 Data description

The types of accommodation included in the statistics are those established and run as prescribed by section 110 of the Social Services Act. That is accommodation run by either the region or the municipality, independent and private accommodation facilities that engages in agreement with the region or the municipality as well as any residential institutions established and run as part of a special allocation project if the special allocation project is connected directly to an existing accommodation facility.

The statistics only include accommodation offering residential stays. This means that the statistics do not include drop-in centers and other social centers, which do not provide other forms of residential stays than emergency overnight accommodation.

Until July 1, 2024, men who have been victims of violence in an intimate relationship were included in the statistics under § 110. Starting from July 1, 2024, men will be treated equally with women under § 109 of the Social Services Act. This means that men who have been subjected to violence in an intimate relationship will, from now on, be included in the statistics for [crisis centers](#), which are established and operated according to § 109 of the Social Services Act.

2.2 Classification system

The statistics indicate partly the users distributed by sex, age, total duration of the stays and the number of stays, and partly characteristics of the stays distributed by sex, age and duration of the individual stays.

2.3 Sector coverage

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Shelters as prescribed by section 110 of the Danish Social Services Act: The municipal council shall provide temporary accommodation in shelters for persons with special problems who have no home or who cannot stay in their own home and who are in need of accommodation and activating support, care and subsequent assistance.

Duration of stay: For the persons who lived in a section 110 shelter at the beginning of the year, a technical check-in at 1 January has been made for the purpose of the statistics bank tables only. This check-in concerns persons who had not been checked out by the end of the previous year and accordingly were still living in an accommodation facility at the beginning of the year. For persons who stayed in a facility on 31 December, only overnight stays in the statistical year are included

Attachment period: For periods, some users use the shelter units in the facilities every night, (After 1 July 2022, stays at shelter units are no longer included in the statistics). Which means that the stays are of a long-term nature. These periods are added up to one stay (attachment period). This calculation method provides a more accurate picture of the actual duration of stays. If measured based on attachment period, there will be fewer stays of 24 hours and correspondingly the average length of stays nationwide will be longer.

2.5 Statistical unit

The statistics are calculated at individual level (persons) and at the number of stays.

2.6 Statistical population

Persons using a type of accommodation as prescribed by section 110 of the Danish Social Services Act.

2.7 Reference area

Denmark.

2.8 Time coverage

These statistics cover the period from 1999 and onwards.

2.9 Base period

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.10 Unit of measure

The unit of measure are the number of persons and the number of stays.

2.11 Reference period

01-01-2024 - 31-12-2024

2.12 Frequency of dissemination

Annual.

2.13 Legal acts and other agreements

Data is collected with the warrant in current [Executive Order on Data Transmission in the Social Policy Area](#). The Executive Order and the requirements to report the data are based upon sections 82 and 84 of the Consolidation Act on Legal Protection and Administration in Social Matters and Section 6 of the Act on Statistics Denmark.

The statistics are not subjected to EU regulations.

2.14 Cost and burden

The accommodation facilities covered by the statistics must be reported to Statistics Denmark on a quarterly basis. From 2017, the number of questions about the users of different types of accommodation has been reduced as the transfer of the statistics from the Appeals Board to Statistics Denmark has enabled pooling with other statistical registers. The accommodations must approve their data at a summarized level before publication. Data from 2017 and onwards has been approved, whereas data from 1999-2016 have not been through an approval process and thus have not been approved by the accommodations before publication.

2.15 Comment

You can request further information from Statistics Denmark or online at [emnesiden](#).

3 Statistical processing

The received data are reviewed for obvious errors, such as date format and incorrect time periods. The received data are processed with the aim to gather data into one dataset. When all datasets are combined, duplicates, missing departure dates, etc. are validated. Data are linked to the population register in Statistics Denmark for further information about the users.

3.1 Source data

Each quarter, the individual accommodation reports data concerning the users who are enrolled or discharged from the accommodation facility. The statistics include all registered stays of a user during the year.

Data are collected from 117 shelters in 2024 (There are 117 unique propositions within section 110 in 2024 cf. Tilbudsportalen). Accommodations that are covered by the statistics must report enrollment and discharges. In addition, at the enrollment information is obtained on where the user stayed lately, and what type of stay it was according to shelters by section 110. In regards to the discharge, question about how the discharge took place and where the user was discharged to is asked. The collected data are linked to information from the population register in Statistics Denmark.

3.2 Frequency of data collection

Data are collected on a quarterly basis.

3.3 Data collection

Data are submitted to Statistics Denmark via an upload solution at <http://www.virk.dk>. Data can be reported by using either a system-generated txt file or a spreadsheet, which Statistics Denmark sends digitally to the accommodation. The spreadsheet is updated by manual inputs by the accommodation and submitted to Statistics Denmark every quarter through a safe upload solution at virk.dk. The accommodation is notified by email when it is time to report data to Statistics Denmark. If data are not received, the accommodation will be reminded. The accommodation will be reminded twice by email, after which they will be reminded by telephone.

The accommodations who submits data using the spreadsheet from Statistics Denmark, continues inputting their data into the same spreadsheet, until Statistics Denmark digitally sends a new. When the accommodations receive a spreadsheet from Statistics Denmark, the accommodation manually inputs cpr-numbers (ID), enrollment date, type of stay as well as the type of stay for the people, who already are enrolled at the shelter.

3.4 Data validation

The statistics cover the period 1999-2024. Since 2020, shelters and homeless shelters, have been asked to approve their data at a summary level for a 3-year period before publication. Statistics Denmark sends out a data summary to the individual shelters with different tables. The first tables contain the number of average enrolled individuals per year and month, so the shelter can assess whether the development appears as expected. In addition, there are records of citizens who have two concurrent stays, stays where the enrollment date is after the discharge date, and stays that have lasted more than one year. The shelter must assess whether these are registration errors and then either re-report or confirm that the stays are correctly registered.

For the statistical year 2024, shelters have thus been asked to approve data for the period 2022-2024 (however, they have only reported data that has been active during 2024). There is a variable indicating whether the data has been approved by the shelter for the respective year or rejected. Since data is approved at a summary level per year, a stay that spans multiple years may have a period approved in one year while another period of the same stay may be rejected. However, there are few shelters that reject data. In 2024, there are one shelter that have not approved data because it closed and therefore did not have the opportunity to approve data.

3.5 Data compilation

When the shelters have approved data, Statistics Denmark also validates the data. Checks are made for duplicates, whether the reported CPR numbers are valid, the discharge date is adjusted if the citizen is registered with a date of death in the middle of a stay at a shelter, and further information is retrieved, with the citizen being cross-referenced with the population register at Statistics Denmark. Additionally, overlap processing is performed if there are two or more stays for the same citizen in the same time period.

Some shelters have a night café where users are enrolled in the evening and discharged in the morning. If these stays are directly consecutive without interruption at the same shelter, the stays are converted into one stay. Note that stays at night cafes do not need to be reported to the statistics from July 1, 2022.

In cases where a question about how the user was referred, how the discharge was conducted, or where the user was discharged to is not answered, the observation will be filled with the value code corresponding to unspecified.

If there for a user at the same shelter are either two enrollments or discharges consecutively, an enrollment or discharge will be inserted the day after the first registration, so that the stay lasts for one day. This enumeration rule means that the statistics likely overestimate the number of stays of 1 day's duration.

If a user is registered with overlapping stays at the same shelter or at different shelters, these stays are treated in according to a number of rules. Read more about these rules in [Treatment of Overlap on Residence] (<http://colectica:25233/File/2688a6c5-8b12-4736-81b2-96c6277f2648>) in compiling these statistics.

3.6 Adjustment

Only totals on a national level are published in the tables, as the units becomes too sparse if published at institutional or municipal levels. The shelters have approved or rejected data before publication. Between 0 and 5 per cent of the total population have rejected data.

The national totals is therefore enumerated to take into account the institutions that have rejected data. This is done on the basis of how many people the institutions have had enrolled per day in average during the year.

4 Relevance

The statistic is relevant for authorities, analysts and scientists, who wants knowledge about the demand and capacity of shelters.

4.1 User Needs

The statistics is established and is under ongoing development in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Housing. The statistics are relevant to everyone holding an interest in social conditions and vulnerable citizens.

4.2 User Satisfaction

In the autumn 2018, the statistics were presented at a meeting for users at the welfare area in Statistics Denmark.

4.3 Data completeness rate

Not relevant for these statistics.

5 Accuracy and reliability

Submitting data is required by law. The number of persons who use a type of accommodation as prescribed by section 110 of the Social Services during the year is measured fairly accurately. In some cases, completion is lacking in categories such as where the citizen is referred from, how the discharge has been taken place and where the user has been discharged to. In these cases, "unknown" is used in regard to the validation.

5.1 Overall accuracy

It is mandatory to report data concerning persons and overnight stays. The number of undisclosed values is more prominent in some variables than others, which is, for example, due to citizen not being asked or being able to answer the questions. In addition, missing check-in and check-out dates may potentially affect the accuracy of overall statistics.

5.2 Sampling error

The statistics are a total statement for all citizens covered by section 110 of the Service Act. Hereby, there is no sample uncertainty.

5.3 Non-sampling error

The duration of stay may be overrated for the latest statistical year and must be taken with reservations due to data insecurity, e.g. missing registration of check-out date which is not ascertained until later. The institutions' use of "unknown" may also impact the accuracy of the statistics. If there are two subsequent check-ins or check-outs for an user at the same accommodation facility, a check-in or check-out date will be inserted for the day after the first registration so that the stay will be registered as lasting one day. This means that the statistics probably overestimate the number of stays lasting one day. Stays that are not reported to Statistic Denmark may also impact the statistics.

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 statistic is based on mandatory, quarterly reports from all shelters who have stays by Section 110, and the statistic is therefore considered to have a high coverage. Data validation is done by the reporters themselves and by Statistics Denmark, and mistakes such as overlaps, missing enrollment or discharge dates are corrected systematically. A part of data is registered with “Unspecified”, especially information about how the user was referred and discharged. The rate of uncertainty is estimated to be <5 per cent for the duration of stays and the use of “Unspecified” in some of the categories. The precision of the statistics can for example be affected by missing discharged dates or mistakes in relation to stays in a night café or aftercare. However, to reduce uncertainty, validation reports are being sent out to the shelters, for example if stays that last more than a year do not have a discharge date.

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

All stays that have been active during the counting year have had the opportunity for revision by the shelter. This includes stays that, for example, started in the year preceding the counting year but did not yet have a discharge date. If the shelter has revisions for stays that ended within the last three years but were not active in the counting year, they should contact Statistics Denmark so it can be corrected. If the stay ended more than 3 years ago, it will be individually assessed whether the adjustment is significant. Once data for each year is generated, the dataset can be compared to previous submissions, and it can be assessed whether the statistics need to be revised.

6 Timeliness and punctuality

The statistics are published approx. 6 months after the end of the reference period. The statistics for 2024 has been published without delay in relation to the planned time of publication.

6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

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

6.2 Punctuality

These statistics are published without delay with reference to the announced time of publication in the release calendar.

7 Comparability

The Statistics has been maintained since 1999, but is comparable in its current form since 2021. Because of a data breach in 2021, data before and after 2021 should be compared with reservations. Men who have a stay at a crisis center by section 109 will no longer be included in the statistic by July 1, 2024. They will be included in the section 109 statistics. In addition, there has been removed and included new variables, why data breach will occur in these informations.

7.1 Comparability - geographical

To the best of our knowledge, there are no directly similar comparable statistics in the EU or internationally with regard to the target group in these statistics, which is people with a stay in a shelter by Section 110. This is because of different laws, definitions of target groups, and type of registrations across countries.

7.2 Comparability over time

The statistics were originally established by the National Board of Social Appeals in 1999, where it was managed until July 1st 2016. The statistics were then transferred to Statistics Denmark. In 2021 a data breach have been made, and therefore should one be careful to compare data from before and after 2021. The data breach is caused by a registration made from 2021 on one of three types of stay:

1. Shelters by section 110 of the Social Service Act
2. Shelter units (cancelled from July 1, 2022)
3. Aftercare by section 110 of the Social Service Act (cancelled from July 1, 2024)

However, not all accommodations have earlier registered on all types, but some have. Prior to 2021, the stays will therefore exist of a blend of all three types of stays, but it is not possible to determine which. Since 2021, it has been possible to determine due to the registration of type of stay. There has been established three new tables in the statistical bank from 2021 (HERFOR1-3), where only the stays in a shelter by section 110 is included.

In 2017, following information have been restored: referral method, relocation and where the citizen moves after termination. Some data variables have been cancelled and others added. This gives a data breach for these data.

In 2021, information on where the user moves after termination is collected, this variable replaces referral, and data breach therefore occurs in this information.

There is a change in the number of stays in 2023 when data from 2023 is compared with data from 2024. The removal of a number of incorrectly registered stays causes this change, as these stays were registered as stays in a shelter by section 110 but should have been registered as stays at a night café. Therefore, the largest change will be among the shortest stays. However, there will also be a change in longer lasting stays, as consecutive stays of one day will be overlap treated and included as one longer lasting stay.

After the expansion of section 109 of the Social Service Act, men have the right to stay at a crisis shelter on an equal footing with women from July 1, 2024. This may result in less men having a stay in a shelter by section 110 after July 1, 2024, as they have the opportunity to stay in a crisis center by section 109. In the period from July 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024, this concerns between 130 and 200 men who have moved from a stay in a shelter by section 110 to a stay in a shelter by section 109.

7.3 Coherence - cross domain

The statistics are the only one at the field and is not immediately comparable with other sets of statistics in terms of contents.

7.4 Coherence - internal

Not relevant for these statistics.

8 Accessibility and clarity

These statistics are published yearly in a Danish press release, at the same time as the tables are updated in the StatBank. In the StatBank, these statistics can be found under the subject [Shelters and care homes](#). For further information, go to the [subject page](#).

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

A NYT article is published once a year in [News from Statistics Denmark](#) under the topic 'Social conditions'.

8.5 Publications

These statistics are not included in any publications by Statistics Denmark. The statistics were originally established by the National Board of Social Appeals and until July 1st 2016, the [Appeals Board managed the statistics](#), after which it was transferred to Statistics Denmark.

8.6 On-line database

The statistics are published in the StatBank under the subject [Shelters and care homes](#) in the following tables:

- [HERFOR1](#): Persons in shelters by age, accommodation and sex (2021-2024)
- [HERFOR2](#): Persons in shelters by age, residence and sex (2021-2024)
- [HERFOR3](#): Stay in accommodation by accommodation, age and sex (2021-2024)

Archive in StatBank. - [BOF11A](#): Persons in shelters by age, accommodation and sex - [BOF11B](#): Persons in shelters by age, residence and sex - [BOF12](#): Stay in accommodation by accommodation, age and sex

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

These statistics are made available for service tasks against payment. For further information, visit our web page on [customized solutions](#) or contact DST Consulting.

8.9 Confidentiality - policy

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

8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment

Initially, publication is not made at accommodation level or municipal level, but only at a national level. At present, the data is estimated to be too sparse to be made public at accommodation level or municipal level.

8.11 Documentation on methodology

[Documentation on methodology](#).

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 Chris Cornelia Friis Christiansen, tel.: + 45 2313 0591, and e-mail: CCC@dst.dk.