

**Documentation of statistics for
Children and young persons with preventive measures 2022**

1 Introduction

The purpose of the statistics is to highlight the number of preventive measures, which the 98 municipalities in Denmark grant to children and young people on the basis of actual legislation regarding special support for children and young people. The statistics are used in preparation of government policies, the public debate and for academic research. The statistics have been produced since the 1th of April 1976. Since the 1th of July 1998 and onwards, the services are granted on the basis of Articles stipulated in the Danish Act on Social Services. Since the 1th of January 2020, the statistics also contain collected data on services granted in accordance to the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act. In their current form, the statistics are comparable from year 2007 and onwards.

2 Statistical presentation

The statistics on preventive measures are published annually and updated every year. The statistics present information on relief measures, given to children, youth and families in need of special support, that are granted on basis of specific Articles of the Danish Act on Social Services and the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act. The statistics contain data on the number on measures and recipients. The data are distributed by age, sex, and type of measure. The data are also distributed by provinces and municipalities. The statistic is released in the StatBank Denmark and in the publication "Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik".

2.1 Data description

The statistics on preventive measures are published annually and present information on relief measures, which the Danish municipalities grant to children, youth and families in need of special support on the basis of specific Articles of the Danish Act on Social Services and the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act. The statistics distribute and present data on the number of preventive measures, the number of recipients and the number of initiated measures in a given reference year. The data are furthermore classified by region, municipality, type of measure, age and gender.

The data are distributed and published in 4 statistical tables, titled ISBU01-ISBU04. Furthermore, data on preventive measures are also published in two statistical tables, titled BU43 and BU04A, which also contain data on placements of children and young people in out-of-home care.

The tables are published in the StatBank Denmark in the section [Udsatte børn og unge](#) and consist of the following tables:

- [ISBU01](#): Preventive measures during the year by municipality and measure (2015-2022)
- [ISBU02](#): Children and young people with preventive measures during the year by municipality and measure (2015-2022)
- [ISBU03](#): Initiated measures and support during the year by province and measure (2015-2022)
- [ISBU04](#): Active measures and support per 31st of December by province, measure, age and sex (2015-2022)
- [BU04A](#): Support to children and young people per 31st December (net statement) by region, measure, age and sex (2011-2022)
- [BU43](#): Children and young people who receive support per 31st December (share of 0-22-year-olds) by region, measure and age (2015-2022)
- [BU28](#): Public net expenditures for exposed children and young people by measure (2002-2020)

All of the statistical tables are based on individuals (0-22 years old) registered in the Statistics Denmark's accumulated register of children and young people, who have received a preventive

measure or were/are placed in out-of-home care.

The table [BU28](#) contains data on public net expenditures in connection to support measures, granted to children and young people.

The statistical tables, presenting data on children and young people, who have received a preventive measure or were/are placed in out-of-home care, are classified by municipality or province and the type of measure/support, that has been granted. A child or a young person can receive several measures simultaneously, and can thus occur as both receiving one or several preventive measures and being placed in out-of-home care at the same time. Such cases will though be calculated as only one case in the summary of total figures of children and young people, receiving preventing measures.

If a child or a young person has received one or several preventive measures in several municipalities at the same time, in such cases the person/case will be listed under all of the municipalities, which have granted a measure to the individual in question. However, such cases will be calculated as only one case in the summary of total national figures of children and young people, receiving preventing measures.

The age is calculated per 31st of December of the reference year.

Besides the 7 statistical tables, the statistics are also published as a registry available to researchers and ministries and a NYT article, authored in Danish and published by Statistics Denmark.

Public net expenditures in connection to measures granted to children and young people

This statistical table contains data on the public net expenditures in connection to the disadvantaged children and youth. The data stems from the accounts of municipalities and are stated on a yearly level according to the municipal price- and wage development. The expenditures are classified by following functional levels: 5.25.17 (Special day-care offers and special clubs), 5.28.20 (Places etc. for children and youth), 5.28.21 (Preventive measures for children and youth), 5.28.22 (Foster care), 5.28.23 (24-hour care centers for children and youth), 5.28.24 (Secured 24-hour care centers for etc. children and youth) 5.28.25 (Special day-care offers and special clubs) and 5.28.26 (Decisions and rulings according to the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act).

The table is published in the StatBank Denmark in the section [Udsatte børn og unge](#) as following: - [BU28](#): Public net expenditures for disadvantaged children and young people classified by type of measure

For more information on the statistics, regarding the budgets and accounts of municipalities and regions, see [Statistikdokumentation](#)

2.2 Classification system

These statistics are grouped geographically by [Regions, Provinces and Municipalities](#). In addition, the data are distributed by sex and following age groups: In ISBU04 and BU04A, following age groups are presented; 0-5 years of age, 6-11 years of age, 12-17 years of age and 18 years of age or older. I BU43 following age groups are presented; 0-17 years of age and 18-22 years of age.

Furthermore, the presented preventive measures are grouped on the basis of specific articles and paragraphs of the Danish Act on Social Services and the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act. These are grouped under following categories:

Early preventive measures Act on Social Services: § 11, stk. 3, 4, 6-8

Preventive measures granted on the basis of the Act on Social Services (Act on Social Service:s § 52, stk. 3, nr. 1-6, 8-9; §52.a, stk. 1; § 54; § 54a; §55, stk. 2; § 57a - § 57c; § 76, stk. 2, stk. 3, nr. 2-4, stk. 5, stk. 6, stk. 8)

Preventive measures granted on the basis of the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act (Act on Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency: § 12; § 13, stk. 1)

2.3 Sector coverage

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Support measure: Social support given as actions or amounts granted to disadvantaged children and youth and their families.

Recipient of a measure: The person (a child or a young person) who is the cause of the given measure.

Preventive measure: Preventive effort in own environment, within family framework, given to prevent placement in out-of-home care.

Acting Municipality: The municipality, which rules/decides on providing assistance or support according to the Danish Act on Social Service.

2.5 Statistical unit

Active and initiated measures for persons (0-22 years), granted or active during the year, or active measures per 31st of December of the reference year.

2.6 Statistical population

Children and adolescent (0-22 year) receiving supportive measures in accordance to the Danish Act on Social Service and the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act - including children, who live outside of Denmark.

2.7 Reference area

These statistics cover all children and youth, who have received measures in accordance to specific Articles of the Danish Act on Social Service and the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act.

2.8 Time coverage

All of the statistical tables contain updated data for the period 2015-2022, except for BU04A, which contains updated data for the period 2011-2022.

2.9 Base period

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.10 Unit of measure

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

- Number of persons
- Number of measures
- Percentage
- Share in percent.
- Expenditures calculated in DKK million

2.11 Reference period

31th of December each year

2.12 Frequency of dissemination

Yearly.

2.13 Legal acts and other agreements

Section 6 of the Danish Statistics Act. In addition, specific announcements relating to the individual registers used for the formation of the indicators. The statistics are not subject to EU regulation.

2.14 Cost and burden

These statistics are based on administrative data. There is thus no direct reporting burden in relation to the compilation of these statistics. Municipalities who supplement their records with manual reports do have a non-estimated report burden. Among other, the data are reported by providers such as KOMBIT, CGI and KMD.

All of the municipalities experience a degree of work burden connected to the yearly process of data validation.

2.15 Comment

For further information, contact Statistics Denmark. For more information, see [emneside](#).

3 Statistical processing

Data for these statistics are collected from the 98 municipalities, from their IT-systems, or by using a web-based register system, provided by Statistics Denmark. The collected data from the municipalities are then linked with active measures, already found in the register. Each child or young person in the registry is updated with data, which have been reported during the course of the relevant year. All of the data are subsequently gathered in a register, containing all persons, who, at some point during their first 23 years of life, have received support according to the Danish Act on Social Services and the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act. The reported information is validated in close collaboration with the municipalities, and are subsequently aggregated and supplemented with data from Statistics Denmark's population statistics.

3.1 Source data

Data reported by the 98 municipalities in Denmark. Concerning preventive measures, the municipalities can choose to use a computerized system, which directly transmits data to Statistics Denmark. The municipalities can also choose to report data by using a web-based platform, provided by Statistics Denmark.

3.2 Frequency of data collection

Reports on preventive measures from the 98 municipalities are collected continuously from most of the municipalities. In some few cases, the data are collected on a monthly basis.

3.3 Data collection

Data are transmitted via different system-to-system solutions and/or by using a web-based platform, provided by Statistics Denmark.

3.4 Data validation

The statistical data are validated in cooperation with the municipalities on a yearly basis. Each municipality receives a compilation of relevant number of children and youth, classified by the type of received measure, as well as the total amount of preventive measures classified by type, found in the registry of Statistics Denmark. The compilation is sent to each municipality for validation and approval.

The statistics can contain data or sections of data, which have not been approved by the municipalities. In such cases a note will be issued in the Statbank and relevant documentation, describing the scope and nature of the irregularity. If the irregularities are too large, Statistics Denmark can choose to remove data of the municipality in question, upon the publication of the statistics. If a municipality cannot approve the reported data, a process is initiated, whereby Statistics Denmark and relevant ministries work with the municipality to correct the underlying issues, before the next year's publication of the statistics.

3.5 Data compilation

The validated data, which stems from the municipal IT- systems and the web-based platform of Statistics Denmark, is integrated. All of the collected data must comply with the regulations stated in the Executive Order on data transmission in the field of social policy. The principles defined in the Executive Order allow for an effective integration of collected new data into the base dataset.

The data reported from the municipalities for the current year is linked with "active measures" per December 31st of the last year. Each child or adolescent in the registry is updated with data, which have been collected during the course of the current year. In cases where it is not possible to link the information from the municipalities to the preventive measures for a given child in the register, an error list is printed and such cases are processed manually.

Some of the preventive measures can be granted to the parents of the child or a young person. The general rule in such cases is that the measure is registered with a child's or young person's CPR number (social security number), even if the measure was granted to the parent. If a municipality cannot register such a case with a child's or young person's CPR-number, the measure is then registered with a CPR number of a parent. An example of such practice can occur, for instance, if a pregnant parent has received a preventive measure, or, in such instances, where a parent resides in a different municipality than the child. Such instances are usually connected to the cases, granted on the basis of Article 54 of the Danish Act on Social Services. Cases, which are registered with the parent's CPR number, are not presented in the StatBank tables. They are however included in the registry itself. Data on Article 54, presented in StatBank, is therefore slightly underestimated, compared to the data, contained in the registry.

3.6 Adjustment

No corrections are made besides those corrections, described in the chapters dealing with data validation and data processing.

4 Relevance

The statistics are used by citizens, researchers, municipalities, government authorities and organizations, which use the data for analysis, research, public debate etc. The statistics are also presented yearly to Statistics Denmark's user committee.

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 for educational purposes.

4.2 User Satisfaction

The statistics can annually be discussed at the user committee for Welfare statistics.

4.3 Data completeness rate

Not relevant for these statistics.

5 Accuracy and reliability

As the municipalities use different digital systems for data reporting and transmission, the data regarding preventive measures are not registered systematically and uniformly. Municipalities can register the same case/measure on different articles or paragraphs. The extent of such practice is not known. Data regarding paragraphs 57a, 57b and 57c of the Social Service Act are underestimated as these are not reported directly in all of the digital systems, used by the municipalities.

5.1 Overall accuracy

Statistics Denmark counsels and advises municipalities on correct data reporting practice. However, Statistics Denmark does not have the necessary knowledge to assess the differences in municipal proceedings regarding preventive measures given to children and youth. In order to ensure that transmission of data and reporting are done in a most uniform manner, the municipalities are obliged to implement and adhere to the criteria stipulated in the [Databekendtgørelsen](#) (ie. The Executive Order on Data Transition in the Field of Social Policy)

Municipalities use different systems for registration of cases and measures. As a result, the registration procedure can differ and is not uniform. For instance, one municipality can post a given measure under a paragraph, included in the registry of disadvantaged children and young people, while another municipality can charge the same measure under a different paragraph, not included in the registry. Data regarding paragraphs 57a, 57b and 57c of the Social Service Act are underestimated as these are not reported directly in all of the digital systems used by the municipalities.

5.2 Sampling error

Not relevant for these statistics.

5.3 Non-sampling error

The statistics contain data from all of the 98 municipalities in Denmark. The data, which the municipalities approve, are summarized.

Differences in the municipalities' digital systems, used for reporting, can result in the fact that not all municipalities register cases uniformly. What is posted in one municipality under a section, that is included in the register of disadvantaged children and youth, may in another municipality be registered under another section that is not reported.

Municipalities should report all measures, granted to disadvantaged children and young people, but it must be assumed that there are missing cases. Validation process and yearly meetings with the municipalities minimize such errors.

There may be some measurement errors in the period variable for the given measures. Some municipalities tend to set the start date of a measure as being the date when it is granted, while other municipalities correctly specify the start date as being the time when the measure actually takes effect.

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

Data is generally regarded as reliable. The quality of data on specific paragraphs can be less accurate.

The statistics are published annually, no later than 9 months after the end of the reference period. This ensures that users have actual knowledge of municipal preventive measures and thus an illustration of the scope and the character of support that children and youth at risk receive. The number of measures and children, who receive one or more measures is more accurate than the quality of specific paragraphs. The reason for this is that municipalities have differing procedures in registration of measures to specific paragraphs. Yearly validation process ensures that the data is precise, but can also contribute to minor fluctuations, as data for previous years can on occasions be corrected. In general, such fluctuations are considered as minor, and therefore the statistics are considered to be reliable.

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 register is a progress register, which is updated yearly. Generally, the statistics contain updated data for the last 5 year period. Upon the 2022 publication, 4 new statistical tables were created and published (ISBU01, ISBU02, ISBU03, ISBU04). These tables contain updated data for the period from year 2015 to 2022. Furthermore, in 2022, Statistics Denmark has updated and changed the manner in which the number of children and young people is calculated. A child or a young person can now occur in several municipalities or provinces in the same reference year. Therefore, the data on specific municipalities or provinces can be higher than previously, since there is a possibility of more cases occurring. Due to this fact, Statistics Denmark has chosen to update the data in tables BU43 and BU04A for the period 2011-2022.

6 Timeliness and punctuality

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

6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

The statistics are published 6 month after the end of the reference period. Preliminary numbers are not published.

6.2 Punctuality

The statistics are published without delay according to the scheduled release date. In recent years, the statistics were published with some delays, partly because of reorganization or replacement of the registration systems in the majority of municipalities.

7 Comparability

The statistics have been published since 1977, but due to large changes in legislation in 1985, 1993 and 2006, the statistics are not directly comparable throughout the whole period.

7.1 Comparability - geographical

The statistics cannot be compared directly internationally.

7.2 Comparability over time

These statistics have been compiled since 1977, but due to legislative changes in 1985 and 1993, the statistics are not strictly comparable over the years. Since January 1993 changes in legislation resulted in that certain measures, previously considered as placement in out-of-home care, were transferred to the preventive measures area. At the same time, a number of new preventive measures were introduced.

Many simultaneous legislation changes in 2006, resulted in a significant data breach and contributed to reduction in quality of reporting. 2006-data is not comparable on several areas with previous years and furthermore, the data is not unconditionally comparable to the following year, 2007, due to the same reasons. Since January 2020, data on services, given on the basis of the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act (LBU), are collected. LBU Articles and paragraphs have no influence on the other articles, presented in the statistics. Since the 1th of July 2020, the statistics contain data on several paragraphs of Article 11 of the Danish Act on Social Services. The statistics have had a significant increase in size due to the addition of Article 11 data.

7.3 Coherence - cross domain

The statistics are linked to the statistics on children and young persons placed in out-of-home care, due to the fact that a municipality is obliged to provide a child, young person or the family preventive measures, before a ruling is made to place a person in out-of-home care. Furthermore, some preventive measures can only be granted in connection to a placement in out-of-home care or after. Micro-data of the Statistics contain social security numbers, which makes it possible to link the data with other statistics.

7.4 Coherence - internal

Data reported from different sources usually follow the same reporting forms. If changes in the reporting forms are made, differences can occur, as the IT suppliers cannot implement the changes simultaneously. During these periods of transition, the reply categories from the old reporting forms will be "mapped" to new categories.

8 Accessibility and clarity

These statistics are published yearly in a press release on support to the children and young at risk: [Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik](#) om *Støtte til udsatte børn og unge*. At the same time the statistical tables are updated in the StatBank: [Children and youth at risk](#). For further information, see [subject page](#).

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: [Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik](#) i *Støtte til udsatte børn og unge*.

8.5 Publications

These statistics feature in the [Statistical Yearbook](#) and in [Statistical ten year overview](#).

8.6 On-line database

Statistics are published in the StatBank Denmark in the section [Udsatte børn og unge](#) (Children and youth at risk) in the following tables (Please note that the terms effort and measure are identical in the following description):

Preventive measures - [ISBU01](#): Total number of active measures in a given reference year, classified by municipality and type of measure. Period 2015-2022 - [ISBU02](#): Children and young people, who have received one or several measures, during a given reference year, classified by municipality and type of measure. Period 2015-2022. Each child or a young person is calculated as only one case in the summary of total national figures, even though a child, or a young person, can receive one or several preventive measures, during the year. A person can also appear in several municipalities and several measures simultaneously - such cases are presented as only one case per municipality and per type of measure.

- [ISBU03](#): Initiated measures, during a given reference year, classified by province and group of measure. Period 2015-2022. - [ISBU04](#): Active measures per 31th of December of a reference year, classified by province, group of measure, age and sex. Period 2015-2022.

Preventive measures have previously been published in the statistical table BUFF01, which has been discontinued. The new table, ISBU04, is most similar to the discontinued BUFO1 table.

Preventive measures and placements in out-of-home care

- [BU04A](#): Support to children and young people per 31st December (net statement) by region, measure, age and sex. Period 2011-2022.
- [BU43](#): Children and young people who receive support per 31st December (share of 0-22-year-olds) by region, measure, age and sex. Period 2015-2022. Each child or a young person is listed as only one case in the total category (total number of disadvantaged children and young people). Furthermore, in the calculation of this statistical table, the same criteria, described for ISBU02, has been used regarding the number of persons/cases, with preventive measures.

Public expenditures in connection to preventive measures for children and young people

The indicator is published in StatBank [Udsatte børn og unge](#) in the table - [BU28](#): Public net expenditures for disadvantaged children and young people classified by type of measure

8.7 Micro-data access

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

8.8 Other

These statistics underlying anonymized Micro-data are made available for service tasks against payment. Read more about [Customized Solutions](#) or get more information by contacting [DST Consulting](#).

8.9 Confidentiality - policy

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

8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment

Due to discretion, persons are grouped into age groups. In addition, certain tables in the StatBank are published only for provinces rather than municipalities. See more on the classification page for [Regions, Provinces and Municipalities](#).

8.11 Documentation on methodology

Not relevant for these statistics. [Støtte til udsatte børn og unge](#) is documented in [Høj kvalitetsvariable](#).

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 location of these statistics is in the office for Welfare and Health statistics. The person responsible is Anne Morsing, tlf.: 39 17 31 97, e-mail: AEM@dst.dk.

9.1 Contact organisation

Statistics Denmark

9.2 Contact organisation unit

Welfare and Health, Social Statistics

9.3 Contact name

Anne Morsing

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Responsible for the statistics

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