

**Documentation of statistics for  
Children and Young People Receiving Social Benefits 2012**

## 1 Introduction

The purpose of the statistic on assistance to children and young people is to analyze relief measures to children and young people, who receive assistance according to the current legislation regarding special support to children and young people. The statistics have been compiled since April 1976. For the period 1st April-31st December 1976 the statistics are restricted to summary statistics. Starting from 1977 the statistics have been based on the register containing the accumulated number of children and young people over a period of time. This register has at the level of individual persons all case incidents since the establishment of the register. Starting from 1993 the statistics have been extended with aggregate figures at the family level for those preventive measures, which are targeted at the family. From 2012 those preventive measures, which are targeted at the family are also reported directly to individual persons. When the Danish Social Assistance Act came into force on 1st April 1976 and until 1st July 1998, the statistics were compiled in accordance with this Act. From 1st July 1998, the benefits are subjected to the Danish Social Service Act.

## 2 Statistical presentation

The statistics give information on relief measures to children and young people according to the Danish Social Service Act regarding families with children, who have special needs. The statistics comprise placements outside the home with or without the consent of the parents, and preventive measures. The data are distributed by age, sex, and type of measure, location of placement/discharge as well as duration. The data are also distributed by municipalities.

### 2.1 Data description

Register of children and young people supported by Social Services. They are placed outside the home and / or receive preventive measures. Support is defined as:

1. Granting assistance
2. Change in the law which the child receives assistance after
3. Moving to another type of placement (only with placement)
4. Both 2 and 3
5. End of assistance (including death)

Central variables in the register is: Personal identity number, Code for the section of the Act on Social Services support was granted after, Start time for each event, End time of each event, and type of institution (type of placement) as the child is placed on.

### 2.2 Classification system

- Municipalities,
- Country Parts (NUTS 3),
- Sex,
- Age groups.

### 2.3 Sector coverage

Not relevant for these statistics.

## **2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions**

**Beneficiary :** Beneficiary is the citizen (child / youth / parents / family) receiving measures (support)

**Handling Municipality:** The municipality, which decide on providing assistance or support under the Act on special support to children and young people.

**Indicator 01 - Preventive Assistance to vulnerable children and young people :**

**Indicator 02 - Cost related to giving Preventive Assistance to vulnerable children and young people :**

**Indicator 03 - The average length of placements outside the home for vulnerable children:**

**Indicator 04 - The reasons that the vulnerable child is removed from his own home:**

**Indicator 05 - Criminal acts performed by vulnerable children and young people:**

**Indicator 06 - Vulnerable children and young people who are receiving instruction in a class that correspond to their age:**

**Indicator 07 - The proportion of vulnerable children and young people who complete primary school / higher education:**

**Indicator 08 - Suicide among vulnerable children and young people:**

**Indicator 09 - Level of professional competence (skills) in Danish and mathematics among children and young people:**

**Indicator 10 - Vulnerable children's weight and height:**

**Indicator 11 - Abuse of alcohol and drugs (requiring treatment) among vulnerable children and young people:**

**Indicator 12 - Placements outside the home, which stops unplanned (breakdown of relationship between the child and the adult caring for the child):**

**Indicator 13 - The time from the authorities receive the first notification about a vulnerable child:**

**Indicator 14 - Vulnerable children and young people's absence without permission from school:**

**Indicator 15 - Vulnerable children and youth activities in their spare time:**

**Indicator 16 - Friendships and relationships for vulnerable children and young people:**

**Indicator 17 - Vulnerable children and young people's relationships and contact with adults:**

**Indicator 18 - Vulnerable children and young people's relationships and contact with their parents and siblings:**

**Indicator 19 - Overall well-being of vulnerable children and young people:**

**Measures (support):** Preventive measures, support or amounts granted a citizen (child / youth / parents / family). Support can in some cases be forced measure - e.g. to remove the child from his home without permission from the child's parents.

## **2.5 Statistical unit**

Number of measures granted to children and number of children receiving measures.

## **2.6 Statistical population**

Children and young people under 23 years, who receive assistance and support in accordance with the following articles of the Danish Law on Social Services (2012 and 2013): §52.3.5, §52.3.6, §52.3.8, §54a, §57b, §76.2, §76.3.2, §76.3.3, §76.3.4, §76.5, §76.6, §76.8

## **2.7 Reference area**

All children who receive assistance according to the specific paragraphs in the Act on Social Services, which defines the population - even if kids are not staying in Denmark.

## **2.8 Time coverage**

1980-

## **2.9 Base period**

Not relevant for these statistics.

## **2.10 Unit of measure**

Number of Children who receive support in accordance with a specific paragraph in the Social Services Act. Number of support cases these children receive.

## **2.11 Reference period**

01-01-2013 - 31-12-2013

## **2.12 Frequency of dissemination**

Yearly.

## **2.13 Legal acts and other agreements**

The Act on Social Service (see Annex).

## **2.14 Cost and burden**

In the municipalities using Statistics Denmark web system for transmission of data, the municipality must spend extra time to report to Statistics Denmark. The municipalities - where data is pulled directly from of municipal support treatment system - do not use extra time

## **2.15 Comment**

Data and contents of the statistics are described in *Statistical News*. More information about the statistics for children and young people, please contact Statistics Denmark

## **3 Statistical processing**

The data reported from the municipalities for the current year is linked with "active measures" per. December 31 last year. For each child, will all the cases get updated with all new information received from the municipality about support given to the child in the current year. If it is not possible to link the information from the municipality to the preventive measures for the child in the register - then the case are printed on a error list, with are manually processed.

The input data for the preventive measures are validated regularly - while for all the other sources validation occurs annually. The validation consists among other things in comparison with previous years.

The indicators are generated by merging information from the primary register of disadvantaged children and young people with information from various internal and external registers.

### **3.1 Source data**

Data reported by the 98 municipalities in Denmark and from The Danish Social Appeals Board.

### **3.2 Frequency of data collection**

Data collection is ongoing through 12 months a year - but data is only linked, checked and published annually.

### **3.3 Data collection**

Data is transmitted by seven different system-to-system solutions

### **3.4 Data validation**

The input data for the preventive measures are validated regularly - while for all the other sources validation occurs annually. The validation consists among other things in comparison with previous years.

### 3.5 Data compilation

The data reported from the municipalities for the current year is linked with "active measures" per. December 31 last year. For each child, will all the cases get updated with all new information received from the municipality about support given to the child in the current year. If it is not possible to link the information from the municipality to the preventive measures for the child in the register - then the case are printed on a error list, with are manually processed.

The Indicators are generated on the basis of the following sources:

- Sources in Statistics Denmark:
- Children and young people register (preventive measures)
- Population Statistics Register
- Crime register
- Education Registry
- Income register

Other sources:

- Register for placement of children in care (Appeals Board)
- National Register of Alcoholic (NAB - National Board of Health)
- Register of drug users in treatment (SIB - National Board of Health)
- National Patient Register (NPR - National Board of Health)
- National tests in mathematics and Danish (UNI-C)

The input data for the preventive measures are validated regularly - while for all the other sources validation occurs annually. The validation consists among other things in comparison with previous years' supplies from the same source.

### 3.6 Adjustment

Anyone who receives measures, but which are 23 years or older are not included in the published statistics, and any duplicated reported from the municipalities are removed.

## 4 Relevance

The statistics are used by Municipalities, counties, ministries, the media, researchers and individual people for public planning and administration, research, public debate and educational purposes.

### 4.1 User Needs

The statistics are used by Municipalities, counties, ministries, the media, researchers and individual people. The statistics are used for public planning and administration, research, public debate and educational purposes.

### 4.2 User Satisfaction

Not in English.

### **4.3 Data completeness rate**

Data is considered to be complete.

## **5 Accuracy and reliability**

Data is generally regarded as reasonably reliable.

Differences in treatment and support among the country's municipalities, however, means that all the municipalities do not record data in a systematic and consistent manner. So what is in one municipality granted after a specific provision in the law - might in another municipality be registered under a different provision (Section) which is not reported to Statistics Denmark. It is not possible to estimate the magnitude of this source of error.

### **5.1 Overall accuracy**

Data in the register of vulnerable children and young people is considered at aggregate levels to be reliable. Statistics Denmark can not estimate the magnitude of the uncertainty. Differences in municipalities' use of law means that all municipalities do not record data uniformly. So what is in one municipality provided support under a provision of the law - might in another municipality, be registered under another clause that is not being reported to Statistics Denmark's register of vulnerable children and young people register.

### **5.2 Sampling error**

The statistics are a census why sampling uncertainty is zero. The uncertainty in the data is due to shortcomings and errors in municipalities reporting.

### **5.3 Non-sampling error**

Differences in municipalities' use of law means that all municipalities do not record data uniformly. So what is in one municipality provided support under a provision of the law - might in another municipality, be registered under another clause that is not being reported to Statistics Denmark's register of vulnerable children and young people register.

### **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 reasonably reliable.

Differences in treatment and support among the country's municipalities, however, means that all the municipalities do not record data in a systematic and consistent manner. So what is in one municipality granted after a specific provision in the law - might in another municipality be registered under a different provision (Section) which is not reported to Statistics Denmark. It is not possible to estimate the magnitude of this source of error.

## **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**

Data are revised annually. Data are revised back for two years, after which they are considered final.

# **6 Timeliness and punctuality**

The statistics have been published with a lag in recent years. This is due to pooling of municipalities in Denmark, and thereafter because of the reorganization of municipalities reporting systems.

## **6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results**

The statistics are published yearly. The statistics are published about a year after the end of the reference period.

## **6.2 Punctuality**

The statistics are usually published without delay in relation to the scheduled date. The statistics have been published with a lag in recent years. This is due to pooling of municipalities in Denmark, and thereafter because of the reorganization of municipalities reporting systems.



## **7 Comparability**

The statistics have been compiled since 1977, but due to legislative changes in 1985 and 1993, the statistics are not strictly comparable over the years. After changes in the Danish Social Assistance Act as of 1 January 1985, placements outside the home, according to the act on "recommendations and impositions", were left out. Since then, the legal provisions for all round-the-clock placements are included in the paragraphs regarding ordinary placements, i.e. placement outside the home either with or without the parents' consent. From January 1993, the change in legislation meant that certain types of assistance, which were previously considered as placement outside the home, were transferred to the group of preventive measures. At the same time, a number of new measures were introduced.

### **7.1 Comparability - geographical**

Many countries compile statistics on disadvantaged children and young people who are placed in institutions or foster family - but there are no international comparisons or studies.

### **7.2 Comparability over time**

The statistics have been compiled since 1977, but due to legislative changes in 1985 and 1993, the statistics are not strictly comparable over the years. After changes in the Danish Social Assistance Act as of 1 January 1985, placements outside the home, according to the act on "recommendations and impositions", were left out. Since then, the legal provisions for all round-the-clock placements are included in the paragraphs regarding ordinary placements, i.e. placement outside the home either with or without the parents' consent. From January 1993, the change in legislation meant that certain types of assistance, which were previously considered as placement outside the home, were transferred to the group of preventive measures. At the same time, a number of new measures were introduced.

### **7.3 Coherence - cross domain**

The register contains person numbers (see 1.2), which makes it possible to link data with other statistics. Comparable statistics are not available.

### **7.4 Coherence - internal**

When the first error check is completed, provisional figures are published in *News from Statistics Denmark*. The differences between the provisional and final figures range about 1 pct.

## 8 Accessibility and clarity

The statistics are published in:

- *News from Statistics Denmark. see [www.dst.dk/statistik](http://www.dst.dk/statistik) - click assistance to children and young people* under the subject *Social conditions, health and justice*. Only in Danish.
- *Social conditions, health and justice* appearing in the series \*Statistical News.
- Yearly publications\*: *Statistical Yearbook* and *Statistical Ten-Year Review*.
- Figures are also accessible from *StatBank Denmark* ([www.statistikbanken.dk](http://www.statistikbanken.dk)).

The most detailed national totals are published in *Statistical News*, Statistics Denmark forwards to each municipality a table containing national totals and a table with the municipality's own figures.

### 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 9:00 a.m. at the day announced in the release calendar. No one outside of Statistics Denmark can access the statistics before they are published. Theme publications etc. may be published at other times of the day. The National Statistician can decide that such publications may be released before their official publication time, e.g. to the media and other stakeholders.

### 8.4 News release

Article "Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik" are annually published on the website of Statistics Denmark. The article is only available in Danish.

### 8.5 Publications

There are no published studies or books in English.

### 8.6 On-line database

Statistics Banks matrices are located: Living conditions/Social benefits/ Support for disadvantaged children and young people.

- [Preventive measures](#)
- [Children and young persons placed outside of own home](#)

## **8.7 Micro-data access**

In the register with accumulated data on children and young people, all case incidents are registered at the level of individuals. In the statistics register, information is also accessible at the level of individuals, but the register only contains children and young people with an active case in the year of reference. The information in both registers gives the possibility of preparing more detailed figures.

## **8.8 Other**

People in the statistics are anonymous and are available for both Statistics Denmark Research Service and Customer Center.

## **8.9 Confidentiality - policy**

Confidentiality policy means that certain tables in Statbank only published on the provinces (NUTS 3) rather than the municipalities, and the figures are only published by age groups.

## **8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment**

Data published in several matrices in the statistics bank only in age groups and provinces because of the confidentiality.

## **8.11 Documentation on methodology**

The statistic of assistance to children and young people are documented in Statistics Denmark's newest electronic data processing tools.

## **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 this statistics is in the division of Welfare. The persons responsible are:

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Statistics Denmark

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