

Statistics on Care and Services for the Elderly 2017

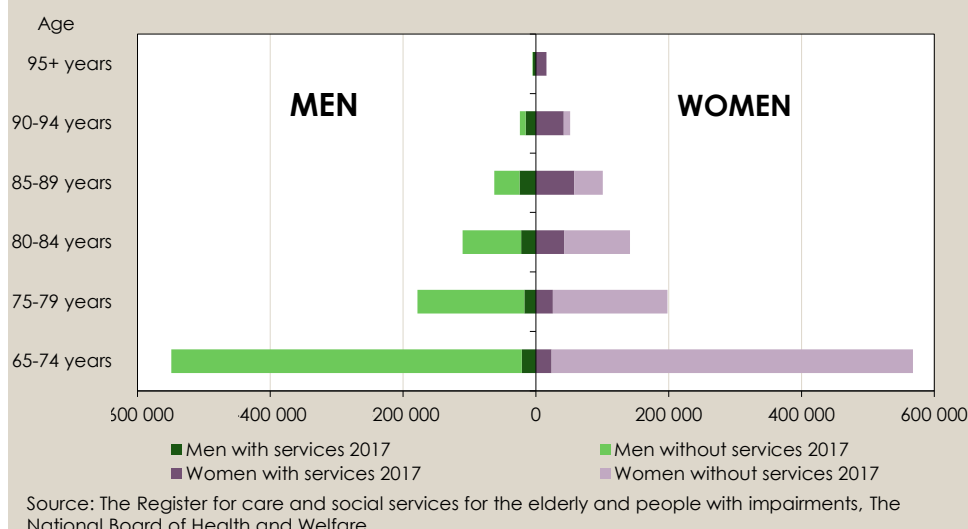
Security alarms and companion services were the services provided to the elderly in accordance with the Social Services Act, SoL, with the largest relative increase from 2016 to 2017. The services with the largest relative decrease were living support and other services. The most common services provided to the elderly in 2017 were security alarm, home help service, special housing and food distribution.

More than 313 000 elderly have social services

On the 31:st of October 2017, 313 000 elderly people had at least one social service in accordance with The Social Service Act (2001:453), SoL, which corresponds to 15,6 percent of the Swedish population aged 65 or above. The corresponding number in 2016 was 316 500 people, which was 16,0 percent of the population aged 65 or above. The social services for which statistics are presented are: home help services, special housing, short-term housing, security alarms, food distribution, companion services, daytime activities, contact family or person, living support, relief service in the home and other services.

Swedish women live on average about four years longer than men, that is 80,6 years for men and 84,1 years for women [1]. The majority of people aged 65 and more in Sweden are women (54 percent). One in three women aged 65 years or more received social services, whereas the corresponding figure for men was one in five (figure 1).

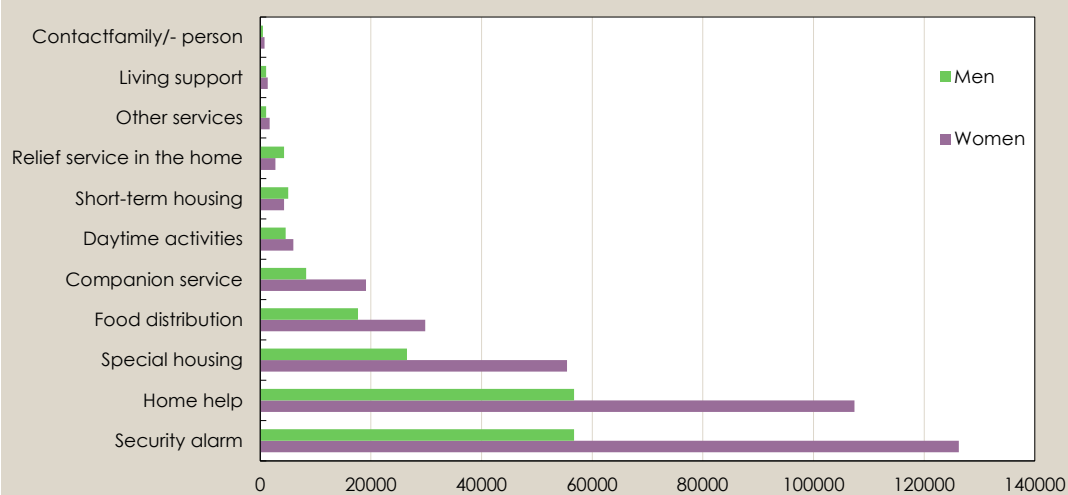
Figure 1. People with or without social service, 2017, men and women,



The most common social services in 2017 were security alarms, home help services, special housing, and food distribution (figure 2). The services were distributed similarly between the sexes. Women had relatively more security alarms than men. Men had relatively more services than women in the following areas: food distribution, short-term housing and relief service in the home.

Figure 2. Persons with social services, on 31st Oct. 2017

Social service according to Social Care Act



Source: The register for care and social services for the elderly and people with impairments. The National Board of Health and Welfare.

Security alarms and companion services increased; other services decreased

The services which had the largest relative increase from 2016 to 2017 were security alarms and companion services. On the 31st of October 2017 more than 183 000 people had security alarms, for 2016 this number was approximately 178 000. About 600 more people had companion services 2017, compared to the previous year.

Services with the largest relative decrease from 2016 to 2017 were contact family/- person, living support, other support and short-term housing (table 1). Number of persons with short-term housing decreased from 10 200 to 9 400.

With increasing age, more people live in homes with special services. Of those living in special housing, about 78 percent were 80 years or more. The majority (two out of three persons) living in special housing were women.

Table 1. Number of people with services 31 Oct. 2017 and change 2016–2017

Service	Women 2016	Men 2016	Women 2017	Men 2017	Change, percent women 2016/2017	Change, percent men 2016/2017	Change, percent to- tal 2016/2017
Home help	109 479	56 844	107 422	56 748	-1,9	-0,3	-1,3
Special housing	56 958	26 605	55 464	26 542	-2,8	-0,5	-1,9
Living support	1 674	1 200	1 337	1 055	-20,14	-11,5	-16,8
Security alarm	123 817	53 878	126 282	56 743	2	5,3	3,0
Food distribution	30 183	17 384	29 800	17 673	-1,3	1,7	-0,2
Companion service	18 767	8 071	19 106	8 319	1,8	3	2,2
Daytime activities	6 425	4 606	5 985	4 584	-6,9	-0,5	-4,2
Other services	2 032	1 275	1 676	1 062	-17,5	-16,7	-17,2
Short-term housing	4 849	5 340	4 314	5 072	-11	-5	-7,9
Relief service in the home	2 857	4 441	2 725	4 293	-4,5	-3,5	-3,8
Contactfamily/ -person	1 053	621	779	482	-26,2	-22,7	-24,7

Source: The register for care and social services for the elderly and persons with impairments. The National Board of Health and Welfare.

Home help services are a common form of service

164 170 people aged 65 years or more had home help services in their regular home on the 31st of Oct. 2017. This equals 8 percent of the population aged 65 years or more and 23 percent of the population aged 80 or more. Half of those having home help services had 23 hours or less help in their home per month. About 12 percent had 80 hours or more per month.

References

1. Folkhälsans utveckling. Årsrapport 2018. Stockholm: Folkhälsomyndigheten, 2018.

More information

You can find more tables, graphs and information in the following Excel file (in Swedish, but with English list of terms):

www.socialstyrelsen.se/publikationer2018/2018-11-6

If you want to use our statistical database: (in Swedish) www.socialstyrelsen.se/statistik/statistikdatabas/alldreomsorg

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