

Statistics on the Health and Medical Services of Municipalities 2018

In 2018 there were over 410 000 patients that received care from the Municipal health and medical services. Over 40 percent of these individuals received care every month of the year. The majority of the patients are 65 years or older.

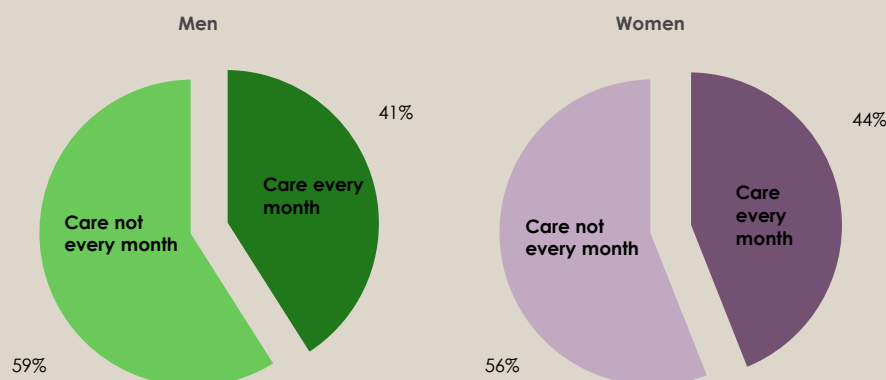
Municipal health and medical care

Municipal health and medical care refers to the health and medical care for which the municipalities are responsible. The municipalities have a responsibility for health and medical care in special forms of housing, day-to-day activities and home care in ordinary housing. Responsibility for home care in ordinary housing and in so-called aid-assessed security housing requires that the municipality has agreed with the county council to take over such responsibility (accordance with the Health and Medical Service Act - Hälso- och sjukvårdslagen (2017:30) in Swedish).

High proportion receive continuous care

Over 40 percent received care from the Municipal health and medical services every month of the year during 2018. These individuals are highly likely to be in need of continuous and regular care. The proportion of individuals who receive continuous care are slightly higher for women than men, se figure 1.

Figure 1. Proportion of people with care actions every month of 2018, by sex



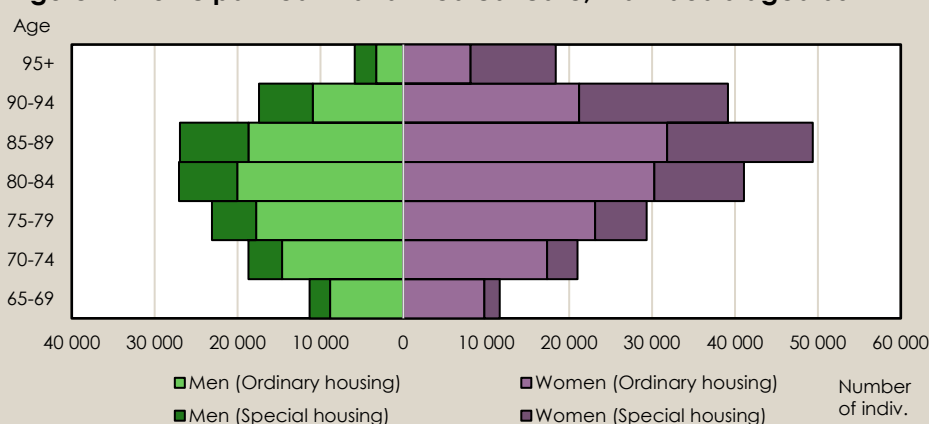
Source: The register for care actions in Municipal health and medical care, The National Board of Health and Welfare

Elderly are the most common group

Almost 410 000 people received care from the Municipal health and medical services in 2018, in accordance with the Health and Medical Service Act.

Just over 340 000 of the patients are in the age of 65 years or older, of whom 60 percent are women and 40 percent are men. Municipal health and medical services is most commonly given in ordinary housing and a certain part is given in special housing forms. One third of the women 65 years or older live in special housing, whereas 30 percent of the men in the same age group live in special housing. In summation, there are more women than men in age 65 years or older that receive municipal health and medical care and the proportion that lives in special housing are larger for women, see figure 2.

Figure 2. Municipal health and medical care, individuals aged 65+



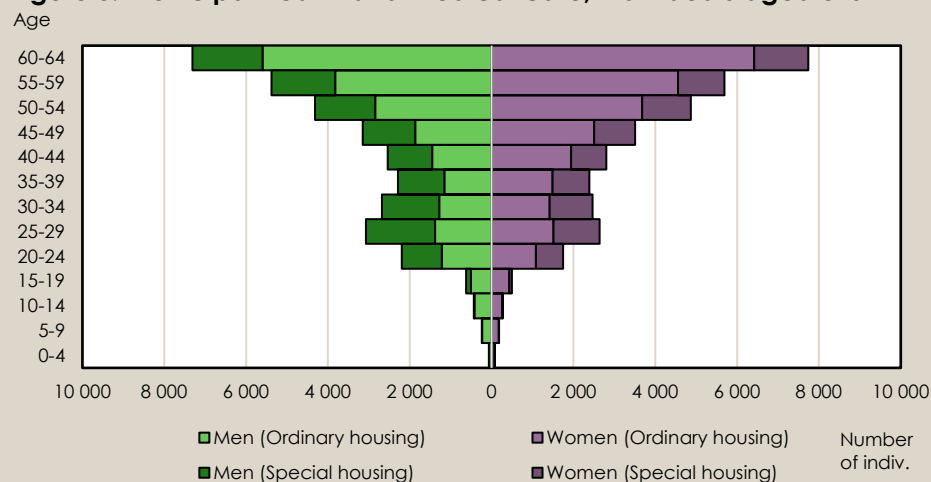
The difference in the proportion of individuals receiving care between men and women aged 65 years or older is because there are more elderly women than elderly men in the country. In addition, the proportion of elderly women who receives services are larger than the proportion of elderly men who receive services. The amount of care fluctuates very little between every month. There is, however, a considerable difference between the sexes as there are, in average, 56 000 more older women per month who receives care compared to older men. This difference remains when controlling for the demographic structure.

Figure 3 shows municipal health and medical care for patients younger than 65 years. There is an even distribution between the sexes: 34 900 women and 34 300 men received care at least once in 2018. Of those who received municipal care, a larger proportion of men compared to women live in special housing (36 percent compared to 27 percent). This means that a larger proportion of men than women, 0–64 years of age, received care in special housing.

The statistics show that there are few individuals under 20 years that receive municipal health and medical care. An explanation for this could be that care for children often is provided as self-care by, for example, the caregiver or staff at

pre-school or school. In addition, local agreements between the county council and the municipalities regulate how the responsibility for care in ordinary housing is divided between the two parties. In some regions, the local agreements state that the county council, and not the municipality, is responsible for care of children and youth in ordinary housing.

Figure 3. Municipal health and medical care, individuals aged 0–64



Source: The register for care actions in Municipal health and medical care, the register for care and social services for the elderly and people with impairments and the LSS register, The National Board of Health and Welfare

In conclusion, the statistics shows that the amount and proportion of individuals that receives municipal health and medical care, in general, increases with age. The proportion of the population that receives care and also those who live in special housing are stable across time (from 2014 onwards).

Time series and regional differences

The scope of the statistics has varied over time. The register was founded 2007 and in the beginning the National Board of Health and Welfare only received information about care provided to individuals in special housing and individuals with Daytime activities. Since Ädelreformen (1992), municipalities have gradually taken over the county council-funded home care services which mean that the scope of the register has increased. In addition, it can be assumed that demographic changes with increased longevity and medical progress have also increased the scope of the register.

It is therefore natural that the number of people receiving care by the municipalities has increased over time.

At the time of this publication, only the municipalities in Stockholm County (except the municipality Norrtälje) do not have that responsibility.

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/publikationer2019/2019-5-22

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