Statistics on social services for children and young people 2018

In 2016, 38,800 children and young people received care during the year concerning 24-hours measures according to SoL (Social Services Act) or measures under LVU (Care of Young Persons (Special Provisions) Act. The most common type of placement was foster home. Of the children that received a measure 2018 30 percent were unaccompanied children. The most common type of placement for unaccompanied children was care home (HVB) followed by and foster home.

Asylum seekers are included in the statistics

As of 2018, asylum seekers are also included in the statistics. Since these were not included earlier, the statistics for 2018 cannot be compared with previous years.

Information regarding if the child was an unaccompanied child is now also collected.

15–20 year olds receive most measures

About 70 percent of all children and young persons with 24-hour measures in 2018 were between 15–20 years old. For the group unaccompanied children and young persons, over 90 percent were 15–20 years old.

Figure 1. Number of children and young persons who received 24-hour measures sometimes during 2018

Source: The register concerning measures for children and young people, the National Board of Health and Welfare
Foster homes are the most common type of placement

Children and young people who receive 24-hour measures are usually placed in foster homes. Of the children and young persons who received a measure during 2018, 23,100 (48%) were placed in foster homes. More than 60 percent of those placed in family homes were boys and 40 percent girls.

The second most common group of placement (30%) was care home (HVB). About 77 percent of those placed at HVB were boys and 23 percent girls.

Boys are in the majority in all placements types. The largest percentage difference regarding placement and sex was found at the type of placement support housing where the proportion for boys was 86 percent.

For the unaccompanied children HVB was the most common form of placement. During 2018 was 37 percent, at some time, placed at HVB. Foster homes are the second most common form of placement for the unaccompanied children, 32 percent were placed in foster home during 2018.
Voluntary measures in majority

The majority (77 %) of the measures that was given to children and young persons during 2018 were decided in accordance with Chapter 4, § 1 under the Social Services Act (SoL) and 23 percent were LVU measures (Care of Young Persons (Special Provisions) Act) according to § 2 or 3 § LVU (LVU care) or an immediate custody under the LVU according to § 6 LVU.

Foster homes are the most common type of placement regardless of type of measure. Of those who had a measure according to SoL was 46 percent placed in foster homes, the corresponding proportion for LVU care was 55 percent and with immediate custody 52 percent.

Figure 3. Number of children and young persons who received 24-hour measures sometimes during 2018

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32,600 children received a non-institutional measure

On November 1, 2018, just under 32,600 children and young people had at least one non-institutional measure, which is an increase of just over 1,200 people since 2017. In relation to the population, this means an increase of 0.1 percent. However the non-institutional measures varies over time.
Children and young people who received measures in the form of structured non-institutional programs increased throughout the period, from just under 8,600 to just over 17,100. Even those who received personal support increased, from 22,800 to 34,397. However, the number of children and young people with back-up person/family decreased from 21,800 to 16,000.

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/statistik-och-data/statistik

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