
Statistics on social services for children and young people 2023

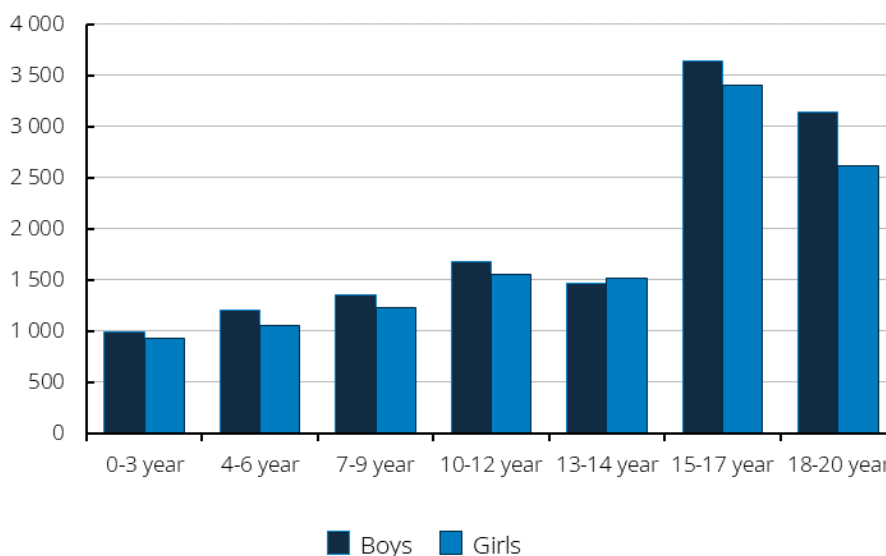
In 2023, 25,800 children and young people received 24-hour intervention at some point during the year, and on 1 November 2023, 34,800 individuals received at least one non-institutional intervention. During the time period 2018–2023, the number of children and young people with 24-hour care has decreased, while the number of individuals with non-institutional interventions has increased

Fewer children got 24-hour interventions

In 2023, 25,800 children and young people received a 24-hour intervention under the Social Services Act (SoL), or the Act on special provisions for the care of young people (LVU). There were just under 800 individuals fewer than in 2022. This corresponds to a reduction of around three percent. The decrease was somewhat more pronounced among those in the age groups 4–6 years and 15–17 years (five percent) compared to the three percent overall decrease. Just over half (52 percent) of all children and young people who received a 24-hour intervention were boys and 48 percent were girls.

Half of all children and young people with 24-hour care, 12,800 people, were 15 years or older.

Figure 1. Number of children and young people who received 24-hour interventions 2023 by age and sex



Source: National register of measures for children and young people, the National Board of Health and Welfare

Voluntary intervention most common

Interventions can be given voluntarily, with the support of chapter 4. § 1 of the Social Services Act (SoL), or non-voluntary, according to §§ 2, 3 or 6 of the Act with special provisions on care of young (LVU).

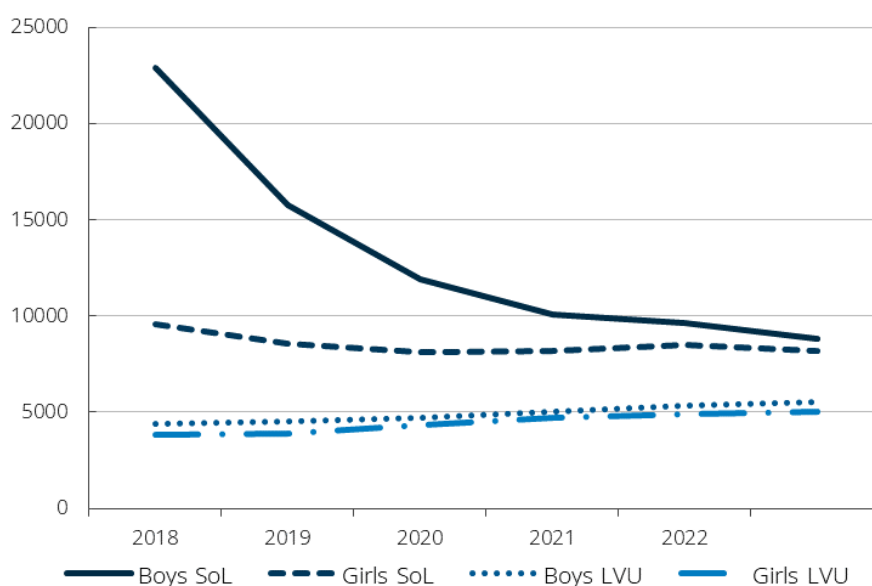
Two-thirds of the 24-hour interventions given to children and young people were decided according to chapter 4 § 1 SoL and 34 percent according to § 2 or 3 LVU alternatively § 6 LVU.

Reduction of 24-hour care

During the period 2018–2023, the number of children and young people who have received 24-hour interventions according to SoL decreased by 47 percent, from just under 32,000 to just under 17,000 children and young people in 2023. The number of boys who were voluntarily placed according to SoL decreased from just under 23,000 to around 8,800. The number of girls placed according to SoL decreased from just under 9,600 to just under 8,100. It is primarily among unaccompanied boys that there has been a decrease during the time period, from roughly 10,000 in 2018 to just under 1,100 in 2023.

For 24-hour care according to LVU, the development looks different – during the referred time period, non-voluntary care increased, but from a significantly lower level. The number of children and young people in 24-hour care according to LVU increased by 28 percent during the time period, from just over 8,200 in 2018 to just over 10,500 in 2023. The gender distribution was relatively even between boys and girls referring to non-voluntary care according to LVU.

Figure 2. Number of children and young people who received 24-hour interventions 2018–2023 by sex and intervention



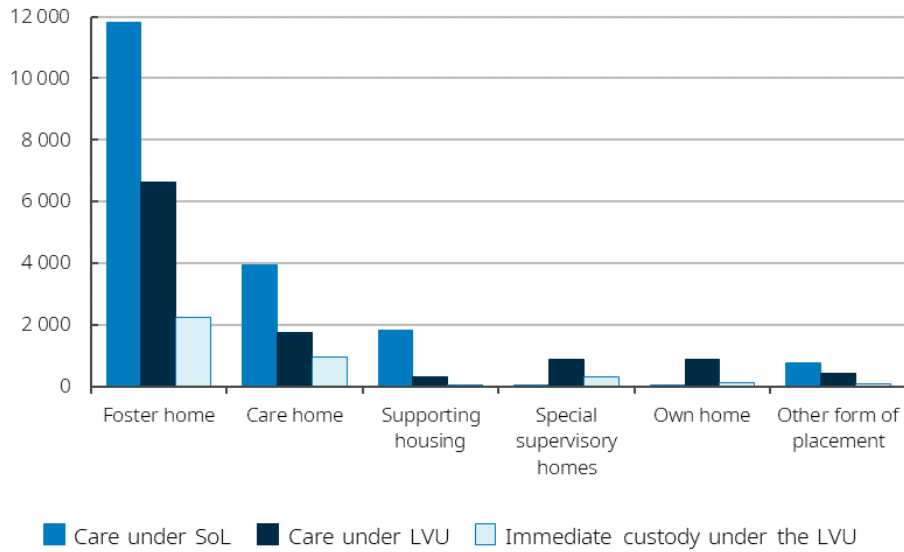
Source: National register of measures for children and young people, the National Board of Health and Welfare

Foster home most common

In 2023, 18,800 children and young people were placed in family homes, which was a decrease of two percent compared to 2022. Just under three quarters of all placements were family home placements, which were roughly as common among girls as among boys.

The second most common form of placement was in homes for care or living (HVB). 5,800 children and young people who were placed at a HVB institution in 2023, which corresponds to 23 percent of all placed children and young people. Of the children placed at HVB, 57 percent were boys and 43 percent were girls.

Figure 3. Number of children and young people who received 24-hour interventions 2023, by intervention and placement



Source: National register of measures for children and young people, the National Board of Health and Welfare

Supported housing was the third most common form of placement, with 2,100 children and young people placed (eight percent of all children). In the same way as for placements in family homes, the gender distribution was even, 52 percent were boys and 48 percent were girls.

Just over 1,000 children and young people were placed in a special youth home according to § 12 LVU, a decrease of six percent compared to the year 2022. Among these, 68 percent were boys and 32 percent were girls. The gender distribution has not changed significantly since 2022.

Custody transfers for placed children

A custody transfer means that custody is transferred to the parents or the parent in the family home the child lives in. The number of custody transfers to family home parents in 2023 has increased by 71 percent since 2019. See table 7 in the table appendix for more information.

Table 1. Number of custody transfers to in foster parents home 2019-2023, by gender

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Boys and girls	349	338	450	548	597
Boys	183	165	214	277	304
Girls	166	173	236	271	293

Source: National register of measures for children and young people, the National Board of Health and Welfare

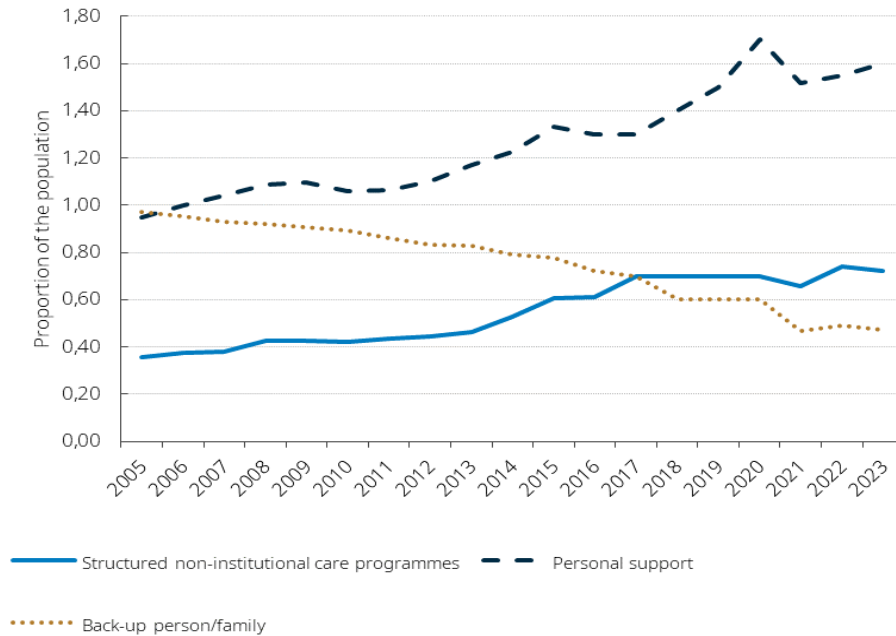
Increase in received non-institutional interventions

On November 1, 2023, just under 34,900 children and young people had at least one needs-tested non-institutional measure according to SoL, which is an increase of approx. 1,600 individuals since 2022. The proportion of children and young people with referred interventions in relation to the population has also increased. Among children and young people with non-institutional services, the proportion of boys was slightly higher, just under 53 percent, than the proportion of girls, 47 percent.

A closer examination of the three most common non-institutional interventions shows that the development of the interventions differs over time. The number of children and young people who have received personal support and structured non-institutional care programs both increased almost every year since 2005, while the opposite was true for the contact back-up person/family.

Figur 4. Children and young people with non-institutional interventions under the SoL during 2005–2023, as percentage of the population

Structured non-institutional care programmes, personal support and back-up personal/family



Source: Statistics Children and young people, the National Board of Health and Welfare.

Intervention

Intervention refers to an 24-hour intervention and/or a non-institutional intervention. Please note that an individual can receive several interventions during a year, both as 24-hour and non-institutional interventions.

Non response

For data on *24-hour care*, the following municipalities had not reported data: Boxholm, Perstorp, Höganäs, Öckerö, Sunne, and Degerfors.

For *non-institutional interventions*, the following municipalities had not reported data: Upplands Väsby, Flen, Mjölby, Aneby, Tranås, Vellinge, Sjöbo, Åstorp, Höganäs, Öckerö, Grästorp, Eda, Forshaga, Lekeberg, Laxå, Askersund, Timrå, Arjeplog, Kalix, Övertorneå and Gällivare

More information

You can find more tables, graphs and information here:
www.socialstyrelsen.se/statistik-och-data/statistik/alla-statistikamnen/barn-och-unga (in Swedish, but with English list of terms).

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