Portugal

Red indicates that the variable is not collected or the statement not true, green that it is. If no information was found about any of the points in the overview for the particular country, the points are removed on the page for that country.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country system</th>
<th>Data system</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Decentralised alternative care and data system</td>
<td>Recent or current reform of data system on children in alternative care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data on alternative care published</td>
<td>Data collected per individual child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the data system on children in alternative care covered in legislation?</td>
<td>Personal identification numbers used</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the overarching term, in line with ‘alternative care’, used in legislation?</td>
<td>More than one agency mandated to collect data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formal kinship care is a subdivision of foster care</td>
<td>Data collected on quality of care and outcomes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total number of children in alternative care

- All children in alternative care covered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Care</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children in formal family-based care</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children in residential care</td>
<td>5,638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children in other care</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children in alternative care</td>
<td>5,952</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Headline statistics

- The rate of children aged 0-17 in alternative care at a specific point in time (per 100,000) | 356
- The rate of children aged 0-17 in residential care at a specific point in time (per 100,000) | 337
- The rate of children aged 0-17 in formal family-based care at a specific point in time (per 100,000) | 9
- The percentage of children aged 0-17 in residential care (of the total number of children in alternative care) at a specific point in time | 94.7%
Better data for better child protection systems in Europe

Variables collected on

- Age
- Reason for entry into care
- Sex
- Placement decision maker
- Unaccompanied minor status
- Reintegrated with family
- Statelessness
- Adopted
- Disability status
- Leaving care due to death
- Parental status
- Age on leaving care

Residential care

- Official maximum number of places in a small group home
- Official maximum number of places in largest type of residential care facilities
- Data collected separately for small group homes and large institutions
- Data collected on length of stay
- Data collected on number of staff and their qualifications

Helpful examples

All children and young people in alternative care are included in the census.

Room for improvement

Children’s views on the care they receive are completely absent from the current set of data. There is a lack of transparent information on the data system and the use of the data.

Source: The DataCare project, 2021.

Endnotes


2 Here data is split between data for 0-17s and 0-21s+ as reported in the CASA 2019 report. Data for 0-17s includes generic residential care (acolhimento residencial generalista), specialised residential care (lar de infância e juventude especializado) & semi-independent living (apartamento/ lar autonomização), totalling for 5,284. Data for 0-21s+ includes residential home (lar residencial), support homes (lar de apoio), insertion community (comunidade de inserção), therapeutic community (comunidade terapêutica) & mental health units for continuous integrated care (Unidades e equipas prestadoras de cuidados continuados integrados de saúde mental; Note no data available), totalling for 354).

3 Most of the data are for those aged 0-21.