



# Spain



## Total number of children in alternative care<sup>1</sup>



### Headline statistics<sup>2</sup>

The rate of children aged 0-17 in alternative care at a specific point in time (per 100,000)	500
The rate of children aged 0-17 in residential care at a specific point in time (per 100,000)	261
The rate of children aged 0-17 in formal family-based care at a specific point in time (per 100,000)	239
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	52%

Country system	Data system
Decentralised alternative care and data system	Recent or current reform of data system on children in alternative care
Data on alternative care published <sup>3</sup>	
Is the data system on children in alternative care	Data collected per individual child
covered in legislation?	Personal identification numbers used
Is the overarching term, in line with 'alternative care', used in legislation?	More than one agency mandated to collect data
	Data collected on quality of care and outcomes





#### 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

In the last 5-7 years, Spain has included much more detail in its profiles of children – age, migration status, asylum seekers etc. This has been discussed for 12 years, but implementation only began five years ago.

#### Room for improvement

Additional research is needed to explore the 19 autonomous communities, as some of them have very detailed data and very good systems, while other regions do not have more than the basics.

Source: The DataCare project, 2021.

#### Endnotes

- 1 Data for 31/12/2018. Source: Boletín de datos estadísticos de medidas de protección a la infancia Boletín número 21 Datos 2018.
- 2 Calculated by the DataCare project team using, where relevant, country-specific population statistics from the UNICEF Data Warehouse. Source: https://data.unicef.org/resources/data\_explorer/unicef\_f/?ag=UNICEF&df=DM&ver=1.0&dq=.DM\_POP\_U18...&startPeriod=2010&endPeriod=2020
- 3 Some data on children in alternative care were published until 2014. Since then, such data has had to be requested.