UK-Northern Ireland

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.

Total number of children in alternative care¹

- All children in alternative care covered
- Children in formal family-based care
- Children in residential care
- Children in alternative care

Headline statistics⁵

The rate of children aged 0-17 in alternative care at a specific point in time (per 100,000) ¹,048
The rate of children aged 0-17 in residential care at a specific point in time (per 100,000) 311
The rate of children aged 0-17 in formal family-based care at a specific point in time (per 100,000) 658
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 29.6%

Country system

- Decentralised alternative care and data system
- Data on alternative care published
- Is the data system on children in alternative care covered in legislation?
- Is the overarching term, in line with ‘alternative care’, used in legislation?
- Formal kinship care is a subdivision of foster care

Data system

- Recent or current reform of data system on children in alternative care
- Data collected per individual child
- Personal identification numbers used
- More than one agency mandated to collect data
- Data collected on quality of care and outcomes
### Variables collected on

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Reason for entry into care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex</td>
<td>Placement decision maker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unaccompanied minor status</td>
<td>Reintegrated with family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statelessness</td>
<td>Adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability status</td>
<td>Leaving care due to death</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parental status</td>
<td>Age on leaving care</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Residential care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data collected separately for small group homes and large institutions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data collected on length of stay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data collected on number of staff and their qualifications</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: The DataCare project, 2021.

### Endnotes

2. Does not include pre-adoptive foster care and specialised foster care.
3. Does not include supported accommodation.
4. Does not include unregulated placements.