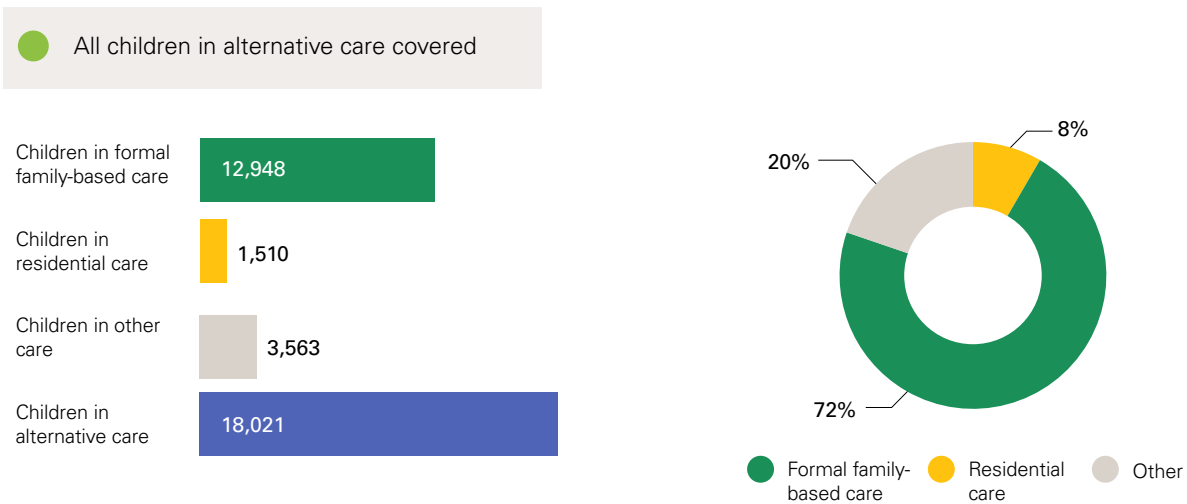


# UK-Scotland

<p><span style="color: red;">●</span> No</p> <p><span style="color: green;">●</span> Yes</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p><span style="color: green;">●</span> Children in formal family-based care</p> <p><span style="color: orange;">●</span> Children in residential care</p> <p><span style="color: grey;">●</span> Children in other care</p> <p><span style="color: blue;">●</span> Children in alternative care</p>
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## 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)	1,755
The rate of children aged 0-17 in residential care at a specific point in time (per 100,000)	147
The rate of children aged 0-17 in formal family-based care at a specific point in time (per 100,000)	1,261
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	8.4%

## 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

<input type="checkbox"/> Age	<input type="checkbox"/> Reason for entry into care
<input type="checkbox"/> Sex	<input type="checkbox"/> Placement decision maker
<input type="checkbox"/> Unaccompanied minor status	<input type="checkbox"/> Reintegrated with family
<input type="checkbox"/> Statelessness	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted
<input type="checkbox"/> Disability status	<input type="checkbox"/> Leaving care due to death
<input type="checkbox"/> Parental status	<input type="checkbox"/> Age on leaving care

## Residential care

<input type="checkbox"/> Official maximum number of places in a small group home
<input type="checkbox"/> Official maximum number of places in largest type of residential care facilities
<input type="checkbox"/> Data collected separately for small group homes and large institutions
<input type="checkbox"/> Data collected on length of stay in residential care
<input type="checkbox"/> Data collected on number of staff and their qualifications

### Helpful examples

Consistent data collection over the last 10 years that enables trends over time in the number, characteristics and placements of looked after children to be identified.

### Room for improvement

Scotland's data could be further optimised at national and local government levels with increased access provided to practitioners and managers and increased use made of data by decision makers/leaders regarding service delivery. Data officers may also have limited knowledge of day-to-day care practice, which then impacts on the quality of the data recording systems and the analysis derived from the data.

Source: The DataCare project, 2021.

### Endnotes

- 1 The data reference point is 31/07/2020. The data contain 'other' alternative care provisions that cannot be definitely said to be residential care or family-based care, or that are not considered alternative care in all countries. Source: [https://www.scra.gov.uk/resources\\_articles\\_category/official-statistics/](https://www.scra.gov.uk/resources_articles_category/official-statistics/).
- 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](https://data.unicef.org/resources/data_explorer/unicef_f?ag=UNICEF&df=DM&ver=1.0&dq=.DM_POP_U18...&startPeriod=2010&endPeriod=2020).