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.

### Finland

#### Total number of children in alternative care¹

- **Children in formal family-based care**: 6,298
- **Children in residential care**: 5,690
- **Children in other care**: 131
- **Children in alternative care**: 12,119

#### Groups of children excluded: Children with disabilities and unaccompanied minors

- **Formal family-based care**: 52%
- **Residential care**: 47%
- **Other**: 1%

#### Headline statistics²

- **The rate of children aged 0-17 in alternative care at a specific point in time (per 100,000)**: 1,141
- **The rate of children aged 0-17 in residential care at a specific point in time (per 100,000)**: 536
- **The rate of children aged 0-17 in formal family-based care at a specific point in time (per 100,000)**: 593
- **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**: 47%

#### 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

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¹ Total number of children in alternative care includes children in formal family-based care, residential care, other care, and alternative care.

² Headline statistics refer to specific rates and percentages at a particular point in time.
**Variables collected on**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Reason for entry into care</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<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**

- Official maximum number of places in a small group home: 7
- 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

**Room for improvement**

The data collected are insufficient. For example, data on the reason for entering alternative care are not gathered.

Source: The DataCare project, 2021.

**Endnotes**

1 Contains ‘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: Official Statistics Finland – Finnish Institute for health and welfare.