

# Germany - 2024 Biennial report on the implementation of the Child Guarantee

*This summary provides key highlights from the first Biennial report on the Child Guarantee implementation in Germany. It is not exhaustive or evaluative.*

## Roll-out of key services

**Early childhood education and care:** To boost participation in ECEC, the *Act on the Further Development of Quality and Participation in Child Daycare* was adopted.

**Education and school-based activities:** Measures include the *Startchancen* programme (*Equal opportunities*), supporting 4,000 schools, and the federal-state initiative *Schule macht stark* (*School as a source of empowerment*). The *Act on All-day Support for Children of Primary School Age (GaFöG)* supports children aged 6 to 10 from the 2026/27 school year onwards.

**Healthy nutrition:** The *National Strategy for the Promotion of Breastfeeding*, along with other initiatives to encourage healthy eating, targets families from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

**Healthcare:** The federal government is promoting support for children and young people from families affected by addiction and mental health challenges. The *children's health portal* offers comprehensive health and prevention information for parents, paediatricians, and educators.

**Adequate housing:** Measures focus on ensuring affordable housing, tackling housing exclusion, and enhancing local infrastructure. A *National Action Plan* has been adopted to tackle housing exclusion. Federal states are obliged to establish and maintain the necessary reception facilities for the accommodation of asylum seekers.

**Social inclusion:** *Child benefit* and the *child supplement* have been significantly increased.

## Resources

- [Full Biennial Report on the implementation of the Child Guarantee](#)
- [Germany's Child Guarantee National Action Plan – An overview – Eurochild](#)
- [Eurochild Germany Country Profile 2024](#)

## Monitoring and Evaluation

The *NAP Committee* consists of around 50 members, including representatives from the federal government, federal states, municipalities, civil society and academia. A statement by civil society organisations, including some Eurochild members, is featured in the biennial report. The *Institut für Jugendhilfe und Kommunalberatung (IJK)*, in cooperation with *Servi-KiD*, ensures the participation of children, families, and professionals in the implementation of the NAP.

## Funding to implement the Child Guarantee

The report includes a detailed table of activities, and the budget allocated for each of them. The European Social Fund (ESF+) also supports several activities.

## Target groups

The target groups have been listed in the National Action Plan and Eurochild's overview.

## Lessons learnt and further development

While the report includes disaggregated data, it also highlights significant gaps in reliable and up-to-date information on children and young people facing specific disadvantages. Many figures are based on rough or outdated estimates. The report calls for the expansion of municipal poverty prevention strategies, stronger cross-sector collaboration, and simplified, less bureaucratic access to benefits.

## Relevant trends

- Childcare attendance for children under three increased from 17.6% in 2008 to 36.4% in 2023, with a participation rate of 43% among children of parents born in Germany, compared to 22% of children whose at least one parent was born abroad.
- After primary school, 78.6% of pupils from high socio-economic backgrounds move to a *Gymnasium*, while only 26.6% from low socio-economic backgrounds do so.
- The school dropout rate rose from 5.7% in 2013 to 6.9% in 2022.
- In 2023, households with dependent children in Germany spent an average of 24% of their disposable income on housing costs. Households with children at risk of poverty spent an average of 42.6%.