



Child welfare 2022

A child welfare notification filed about more and more children

MAIN FINDINGS

- A total of 17,885 children and young people aged under 18 were placed outside the home in 2022. By coincidence, the figure is exactly the same as in 2021.
- 1.6 per cent of children were placed outside the home during the year.
- During the year, 0.4 per cent of children were subject to the emergency placement of a child.
- 1.1 per cent of children were placed in care during the year.
- In 2022, 3.6 per cent of children were child welfare clients in open care
- A child welfare notification was submitted for 9.1 per cent of children.

In 2022, a child welfare notification was filed about 98,634 children, which is 9.1 per cent of all children. The number of children subject to a notification increased by 5 per cent from the previous year. The number of children subject to a child welfare notification has already been growing steadily for years while the other child welfare indicators have remained stable.

The number of children subject to a child welfare notification has grown the most in the age group of 13–15-year-olds – during the year, a child welfare notification was filed about almost 14 per cent of teenagers. In addition to the number of children subject to notifications, the number of notifications (184,685) also grew by 11,219 notifications (+7 %) from the previous year.

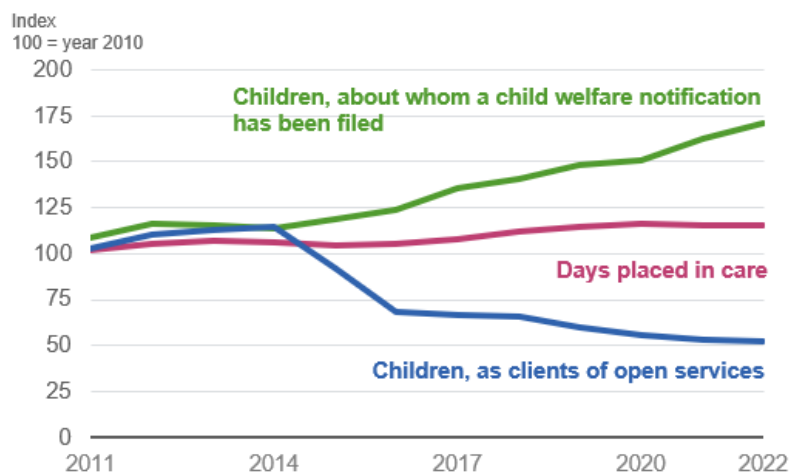
In 2022, 36,996 children were child welfare clients in open care. Their number remained at the same level as the previous year (-1 %). The number of open care clients has decreased since 2015, when a legislative amendment emphasised the role of other social welfare services for families with children.

The number of children taken into care (11,477) remained at the same level as the previous year (-1 %). The number of new placements in care was 1,652, which also corresponds to the level of the past few years.

The number of urgent placements increased slightly from the previous year. In 2022, 4,498 children were subject to an emergency placement (+3 %).

The amendment to the Child Welfare Act, which entered into force in 2020, enabled after-care services for former child welfare clients aged 21 to 24. Compared to 2020, the number of open care clients aged over 18 (13,033) has almost doubled (+4,057; +45 %). During 2022, a total of 1,397 (+5 %) young people aged 18 or over were placed in care.

Figure 1. Development of the main key figures in child welfare since 2010.



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