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CHILDREN ACCOMMODATED IN SECURE CHILDREN'S HOMES AT 31 MARCH 2012: ENGLAND AND WALES

INTRODUCTION

This Statistical First Release (SFR) provides figures on the number of secure children's homes in England and Wales along with the number of places approved and number of children accommodated.

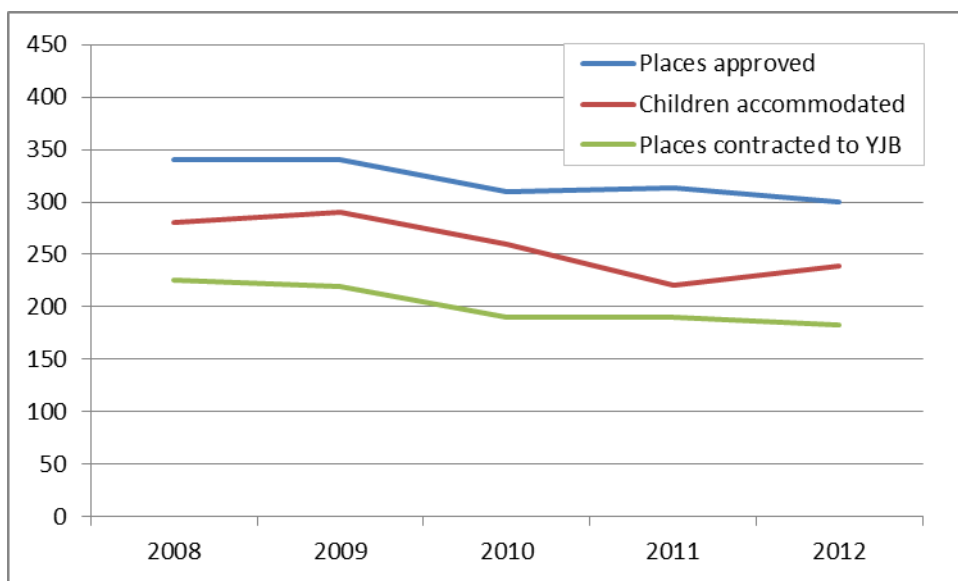
Secure children's homes are children's homes which provide a locked environment and restrict a young person's liberty. They provide care and accommodation to children and young people who have been detained or sentenced by the Youth Justice Board (YJB) and those who have been remanded to secure local authority (LA) accommodation. They also accommodate and care for children and young people who have been placed there on welfare grounds by LAs and the courts. Secure children's homes provide the young people with support tailored to their individual needs; to achieve this they have a high ratio of staff to young people and are generally small facilities.

The number of places approved for use has decreased from last year but the number of children accommodated has risen, resulting in a large increase in the occupancy rate. However, both numbers of places approved and children accommodated are small so even a small increase or decrease can result in a big change in occupancy rates.

KEY POINTS

- The number of secure children's homes open at 31 March 2012 in England and Wales was 17; no change from the previous year. There were 19 homes open at 31 March 2008.
- 239 children were accommodated in secure children's homes in England and Wales at 31 March 2012 – 221 in England and 18 in Wales. The total for England and Wales represents a rise of 8 per cent from 2011 but a 15 per cent decrease from 2008.
- At 31 March 2012, there were 300 approved places in England and Wales, a decrease of 4 per cent from the previous year. This represents a fall of 12 per cent from 31 March 2008.
- 183 approved places were contracted to the Youth Justice Board (YJB) (61 per cent of approved places), a decrease of 4 per cent from last year and a 19 per cent decrease from 2008. These numbers have decreased over the past five years.

Figure 1: Number of places approved, children accommodated and places contracted to the Youth Justice Board (YJB) from 2008 to 2012 in secure children’s homes in England and Wales



- 80 per cent of approved places in England and Wales were occupied, an increase of 10 percentage points from 2011. There was a large decrease in the occupancy rate between 2010 and 2011, from 83 per cent to 70 per cent. Therefore the large increase between 2011 and 2012 brings figures back in line with 2008 to 2010.

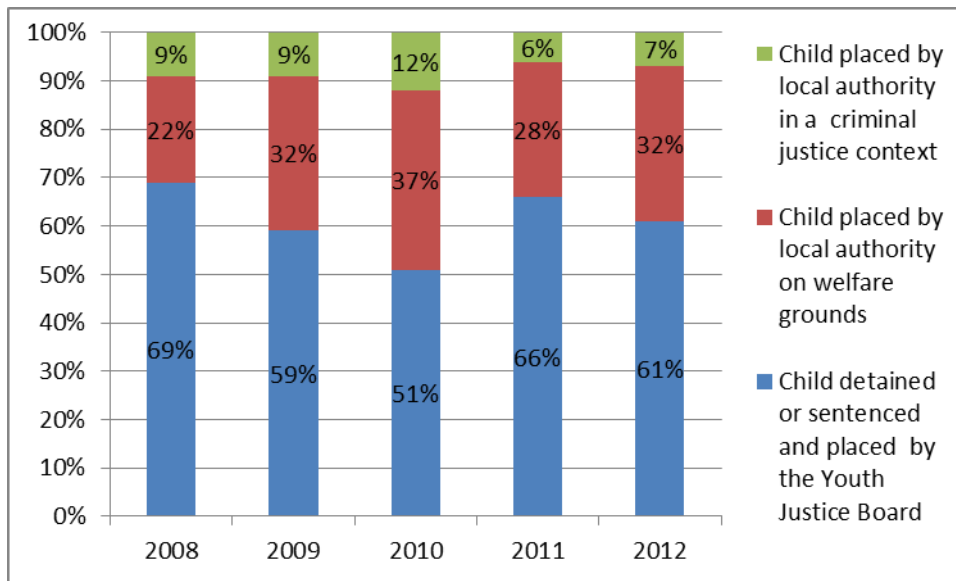
Table 1: Occupancy rates in secure children’s homes in England and Wales at 31 March, 2008 to 2012

Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Occupancy rate (%)	81	86	83	70	80

- Of the total number of children accommodated in England and Wales, 66 per cent were male and 34 per cent female (the same as in 2008), compared with 69 per cent and 31 per cent in 2011.
- There was an increase of 4 percentage points in children placed by the local authority on welfare grounds (child placed, under section 25 of the Children Act 1989, for the protection of himself and/or others¹), from 28 per cent of children accommodated in 2011, to 32 per cent in 2012. The figure for 2012 is similar to 2009 and 2010. However numbers are small so percentages are volatile.

¹ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/41/part/III/crossheading/secure-accommodation>

Figure 2: Percentage of children accommodated in secure children's homes in England and Wales from 2008 to 2012 by type of placement at 31 March



TABLES

Table	Title	Coverage	Years
1	Places approved and children accommodated in secure children's homes at 31 March by gender, age, length of stay and type of placement (numbers and percentages)	England and Wales	2008-2012
2	Places approved and available, and children accommodated at 31 March 2012 by individual secure children's homes (numbers and percentages)	Secure Home level, England and Wales	2012
3	Places approved and children accommodated in secure children's homes at 31 March by gender, age, length of stay and type of placement (numbers and percentages)	England	2008-2012

The tables are also available in Excel format on the Department's website:
<http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001078/index.shtml>

TECHNICAL NOTES

Background

1. In England and Wales there are three types of secure accommodation in which children and young people can be placed. These are secure training centres, young offender institutions and secure children's homes. This Statistical First Release provides figures on children accommodated in secure children's homes. Data on secure training centres and young offender institutions are published separately, see link under Related Publications.

2. Secure children's homes are children's homes which provide a locked environment and restrict a young person's liberty. They provide care and accommodation to children and young people who have been detained or sentenced by the Youth Justice Board (YJB) and those who have been remanded to secure local authority (LA) accommodation. They also accommodate and care for children and young people who have been placed there on welfare grounds by LAs and the courts. Secure children's homes provide the young people with support tailored to their individual needs; to achieve this they have a high ratio of staff to young people and are generally small facilities.

3. Information has been derived from statistical data reported to the Department by all secure children's homes in England and Wales that were open at 31 March 2012.

4. The Statistical First Release contains information for both England and Wales due to a long-standing agreement with the Welsh Government that DfE will report on the single secure children's home in Wales. The combined figures for England and Wales are presented as the main figures, as cross-border placements mean that Welsh children may be accommodated in English secure children's homes and vice versa. Figures for England are available separately in the Statistical First Release.

Data Quality and Uses of Data

5. Information on data quality issues and the uses made of the data on children accommodated in secure children's homes is available in a separate document available here: <http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001078/index.shtml>

Methodology

6. A detailed account of the methods used to collect and calculate the data used in this publication is available here: <http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001078/index.shtml>

Confidentiality

7. In order to ensure confidentiality of children, the following suppression conventions have been used in this statistical release:

- Any numbers less than 6 (1 to 5 inclusive) have been suppressed and have been replaced by an 'x'. It has been necessary to suppress other figures whenever it would be possible to calculate the value of a suppressed number by means of simple arithmetic. The rule applied in these circumstances has been to suppress the next smallest data item.
- Percentages are displayed to the nearest whole number but where the numerator between 1 and 5 inclusive, they have been suppressed.
- Where any number is shown as zero (0), the original figure submitted was zero.
- A '.' represents data not applicable.

National Statistics

8. This is a National Statistics publication. National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference.

Related Publications

9. The Ministry of Justice publishes monthly statistics on children and young people within secure children's homes, secure training centres (STCs) and young offender institutions (YOIs). These figures are available at:

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/statistics-and-data/youth-justice/custody-data.htm>

10. Figures on the number of children accommodated in secure children's homes in Scotland are available here: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2012/02/7586/0>. Northern Ireland does not produce statistics relating specifically to secure accommodation.

Consultation and Queries

User Consultation

11. In 2011 users were invited to comment on the format and content of this publication via the DfE Research and Statistics Gateway, available at:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/onlinesurveys.shtml>

No responses were received so the format and content of this publication remains unchanged from previous years.

12. If you would like to be involved in future consultations, please get in touch (contact details can be found in the next section).

Queries

13. Any queries or comments on the statistics in this publication should be addressed to:

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Table 1: Places approved and children accommodated in secure children's homes at 31 March by gender, age, length of stay and type of placement (numbers and percentages)
Year: 2008 - 2012

Coverage: ENGLAND and WALES

At 31 March	numbers					percentages				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of secure children's homes	19	19	17	17	17	.	.	.	.	.
Places approved	340	340	310	314	300	.	.	.	.	.
Children accommodated	280	290	260	221	239	.	.	.	.	.
Occupancy rate¹ (%)	.	.	.	.	.	81	86	83	70	80
Places contracted to Youth Justice Board¹	225	220	190	190	183	65	65	61	61	61
Gender²										
Male	185	190	165	152	157	66	65	64	69	66
Female	95	100	95	69	82	34	35	36	31	34
Age²										
Aged under 12	x	0	x	0	x	x	0	x	0	x
Aged 12	x	x	5	x	x	x	x	3	x	x
Aged 13	35	30	30	22	22	13	10	12	10	9
Aged 14	95	100	70	45	62	34	34	27	20	26
Aged 15	90	90	90	70	72	33	31	34	32	30
Aged 16	45	50	45	65	62	15	18	17	29	26
Aged 17	10	15	15	x	11	3	5	6	x	5
Aged 18 and over	0	0	0	0	x	0	0	0	0	x
Length of stay²										
Under 1 month	65	70	50	49	49	23	23	20	22	21
1 to < 3 months	110	100	90	76	85	39	34	34	34	36
3 to < 6 months	50	70	50	51	56	18	24	20	23	23
6 to < 12 months	40	45	45	29	36	15	15	17	13	15
12 to < 24 months	10	10	15	x	x	4	4	7	x	x
24 months or more	x	0	x	x	x	x	0	x	x	x
Type of Placement²										
Child detained or sentenced and placed by the Youth Justice Board	190	170	130	146	146	69	59	51	66	61
Child placed by local authority in a criminal justice context	25	25	30	13	17	9	9	12	6	7
Child placed by local authority on welfare grounds	60	95	95	62	76	22	32	37	28	32

Source: DfE SA1 Survey

(1) Percentages are based on the number of approved places. Percentages for 2008 to 2010 are based on unrounded figures.

(2) Percentages are based on the number of children accommodated. Percentages for 2008 to 2010 are based on unrounded figures.

. Not Applicable

For 2010 and earlier:

x represents a number between 1 and 5 inclusive, or a percentage based on a numerator between 1 and 5 inclusive. Numbers have been rounded to the nearest 5.

For 2011 and 2012:

x represents a number between 1 and 5 inclusive, or a percentage based on a numerator between 1 and 5 inclusive. To protect the suppressed number, secondary suppression may be required in some cases.

**Table 2: Places approved and available, and children accommodated at 31 March 2012 by individual secure children's homes (numbers and percentages)
Year: 2012**

Coverage: ENGLAND and WALES

Secure children's home	Number of places approved	Number of places available	Number of children accommodated	Occupancy rate (%) ¹
				numbers and percentages
All Secure Homes	300	288	239	80
Beechfield	x	x	x	x
St Catherines	12	12	x	x
Atkinson Unit	14	10	9	64
Swanwick Lodge	16	16	14	88
Clare Lodge	16	16	10	63
Leverton Hall	16	12	11	69
Lansdowne	x	x	x	x
Aldine House	8	8	8	100
Lincolnshire	12	12	11	92
Redbank ²	29	29	22	76
Barton Moss	20	20	17	85
Kyloe House	12	12	10	83
Clayfields House	18	18	14	78
Vinney Green	24	24	24	100
Aycliffe Centre	42	38	32	76
East Moor	27	27	25	93
Neath Hillside ³	22	22	18	82

Source: DiE SA1 Survey

(1) Percentages are based on the number of places approved.

(2) Redbank includes secure children's homes Newton House North, Newton House South, Vardy House and Willows House.

(3) Secure children's home in Wales.

x represents a number between 1 and 5 inclusive, or a percentage based on a numerator between 1 and 5 inclusive.

To protect the suppressed number, secondary suppression may be required in some cases.

Table 3: Places approved and children accommodated in secure children's homes at 31 March by gender, age, length of stay and type of placement (numbers and percentages)

Year: 2008 - 2012

Coverage: ENGLAND ONLY

At 31 March	numbers					percentages				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of secure children's homes	18	18	16	16	16	.	.	.	.	.
Places approved	325	320	295	292	278	.	.	.	.	.
Children accommodated	265	275	240	202	221	.	.	.	.	.
Occupancy rate (%)¹	.	.	.	.	.	81	85	82	69	79
Places contracted to Youth Justice Board¹	210	205	175	173	166	65	64	60	59	60
Gender²										
Male	175	175	145	134	145	66	64	61	66	66
Female	90	100	95	68	76	34	36	39	34	34
Age²										
Aged under 12	x	0	x	0	x	x	0	x	0	x
Aged 12	x	5	5	x	x	x	2	3	x	x
Aged 13	35	30	30	19	21	13	11	13	9	10
Aged 14	90	95	65	43	57	34	36	28	21	26
Aged 15	90	80	85	68	65	34	30	35	34	29
Aged 16	40	45	35	56	58	14	16	15	28	26
Aged 17	10	15	15	x	10	3	5	6	x	5
Aged 18 and over	0	0	0	0	x	0	0	0	0	x
Length of stay²										
Under 1 month	60	65	50	41	46	22	23	22	20	21
1 to < 3 months	105	95	80	71	78	39	34	33	35	35
3 to < 6 months	50	65	50	47	49	19	25	20	23	22
6 to < 12 months	40	40	45	28	35	16	14	18	14	16
12 to < 24 months	10	10	15	x	x	4	4	5	x	x
24 months or more	x	0	x	x	x	x	0	x	x	x
Type of Placement²										
Child detained or sentenced and placed by the Youth Justice Board	180	160	115	129	131	69	58	48	64	59
Child placed by local authority in a criminal justice context	20	25	30	13	17	8	9	13	6	8
Child placed by local authority on welfare grounds	60	90	95	60	73	23	33	39	30	33

Source: DfE SA1 Survey

(1) Percentages are based on the number of approved places. Percentages for 2008 to 2010 are based on unrounded figures.

(2) Percentages are based on the number of children accommodated. Percentages for 2008 to 2010 are based on unrounded figures.

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