



Department  
for Education

# **Children accommodated in secure children's homes, 2021**

**Metadata guidance document**

**May 2021**

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## Description

This document describes the data included in the 'Children accommodated in secure children's homes, 2021' National Statistics release's underlying data files. This data is released under the terms of the [Open Government License](#) and is intended to meet at least 3 stars for [Open Data](#).

The publication methodology document should be referenced alongside this data. It provides information on the data sources, their coverage and quality as well as explaining methodology used in producing the data.

## Coverage

This release includes information on the numbers of children accommodated in secure children's homes in England and Wales.

It includes information on:

- numbers of places approved for and available for use
- numbers of children accommodated
- age
- gender
- length of stay
- placement type
- ethnicity.

The information is based on aggregate data collected from each secure children's home.

## File format and conventions

### Conventions

The following conventions are used throughout the underlying data:

'c' figure suppressed. This dataset has suppression applied to protect confidentiality. There may be some secondary suppression.

'z' not applicable

**Please note: Users are advised to be cautious if pivoting the csv tables in Excel – suppressed and not applicable cells may be represented as '0' (zero).**

## Data files

This statistical release includes the following underlying data files in csv format:

<b>File name</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Geographical levels</b>	<b>Years</b>
sa2020_national	Numbers of secure children's homes, places approved and available for use, children accommodated, places contracted to the MoJ and as percentage of approved places, availability and occupancy rates, number of YCS placements	England, England and Wales	2010 to 2021
sa2020_characteristics	Numbers of children accommodated by gender, age of child, length of stay, placement type, ethnicity	England, England and Wales	2010 to 2021
sa2020_individual_home	Number of places approved and available for use, number of children accommodated, occupancy rate	Secure home level	2010 to 2021

## Annex A: Variable listing and descriptions

Variable names and descriptions included across the underlying data files are provided below.

<b>Variable name</b>	<b>Variable description</b>
time_period	The year/s covered
time_identifier	The type of time period covered
geographic_level	The geographic level of the data
country_code	9 digit country code
country_name	Country name(s)
number_of_secure_homes	Number of secure children's homes
places_approved	Number of places approved for use
places_available	Number of places available for use
children_accommodated	Number of children accommodated
MoJ_places	Number of places contracted to the Ministry of Justice
availability_rate	Percentage of approved places available (availability rate)
occupancy_rate	Percentage of approved places occupied (occupancy rate)
perc_approved_MoJ	Percentage of approved places contracted to the Ministry of Justice
children_placed_YCS	Number of children placed by the Youth Custody Service (YCS)
Gender	Gender of children accommodated
Age of children	Age of children accommodated
Length of stay	Length of stay at the secure home
Placement type	Type of placement
Ethnicity of child	Ethnicity of children accommodated
percentage_children_accommodated	Percentage (of a characteristic)
secure_home	Name of the secure children's home

# Annex B: Secure accommodation data collection form (SA1)

## Department for Education

Children Accommodated in Secure Children's Homes 31 March 2021

Secure Accommodation Return (SA1)

Each item of this return refers to the position at 31 March 2021

1. Number of places approved for use	<input type="text"/>	1	This cell cannot be blank
2. Number of places in use or available for use	<input type="text"/>	2	This cell cannot be blank
3. Number of approved places contracted to Youth Justice Board	<input type="text"/>	3	This cell cannot be blank
4. Number of children accommodated	<input type="text"/>	4	This cell cannot be blank
5. Sex of children accommodated			
Number of males accommodated	<input type="text"/>	5a	This cell cannot be blank
Number of females accommodated	<input type="text"/>	5b	This cell cannot be blank
6. Age of children accommodated			
Number aged under 12	<input type="text"/>	6a	This cell cannot be blank
12	<input type="text"/>	6b	This cell cannot be blank
13	<input type="text"/>	6c	This cell cannot be blank
14	<input type="text"/>	6d	This cell cannot be blank
15	<input type="text"/>	6e	This cell cannot be blank
16	<input type="text"/>	6f	This cell cannot be blank
17	<input type="text"/>	6g	This cell cannot be blank
18 and over	<input type="text"/>	6h	This cell cannot be blank
7. Length of stay (as at 31 March) of children accommodated			
Number accommodated for less than 1 month	<input type="text"/>	7a	This cell cannot be blank
1 month or more but less than 3 months	<input type="text"/>	7b	This cell cannot be blank
3 months or more but less than 6 months	<input type="text"/>	7c	This cell cannot be blank
6 months or more but less than 12 months	<input type="text"/>	7d	This cell cannot be blank
12 months or more but less than 24 months	<input type="text"/>	7e	This cell cannot be blank
24 months or more	<input type="text"/>	7f	This cell cannot be blank
8. Type of placement*			
Child detained or sentenced and placed by the Youth Justice Board	<input type="text"/>	8a	This cell cannot be blank
Child placed by local authority in a criminal justice context	<input type="text"/>	8b	This cell cannot be blank
Child placed by local authority on welfare grounds	<input type="text"/>	8c	This cell cannot be blank

\*Please record the basis that applies at 31 March 2021, **not** on entry.

9. Ethnicity of children accommodated

White	<input type="text"/>	9a	This cell cannot be blank
Black or British Black	<input type="text"/>	9b	This cell cannot be blank
Asian or Asian British	<input type="text"/>	9c	This cell cannot be blank
Mixed	<input type="text"/>	9d	This cell cannot be blank
Other ethnic groups	<input type="text"/>	9e	This cell cannot be blank
Unknown	<input type="text"/>	9f	This cell cannot be blank



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