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CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER STATISTICS 2009-10

23 February 2011



Scotland's Chief Statistician today published [Children Looked After Statistics 2009-10](#). This publication contains statistics on children who were looked after by or eligible for aftercare services from local authorities between 1 August 2009 and 31 July 2010.

The main findings are:

- At 31 July 2010 there were 15,892 children looked after by local authorities, an increase of 4 per cent since 31 March 2009. The number of children looked after has increased every year since 2001, and is at its highest since 1982. (Table 1.1, Chart 1).
- Of the 15,892 children looked after on 31 July 2010, 14,999 (94 per cent) of them had a current care plan (Table 1.2).
- There were 4,859 children who started to be looked after during 1 August 2009 to 31 July 2010, a decrease of 7 per cent compared with 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009. (Table 1.3).
- There were 4,504 children who ceased being looked after during 1 August 2009 to 31 July 2010, an increase of 3 per cent compared with 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009. (Table 1.4).
- Fifty one per cent of young people ceasing to be looked after above school leaving age during 1 August 2009 and 31 July 2010 had a pathway plan on the date they were discharged, and 69 per cent had a pathway coordinator. (Table 1.5).
- There were 3,918 young people reported to be eligible for aftercare services on 31 July 2010. Thirty seven per cent of those receiving aftercare and who had a known economic activity were in education, training or employment, an increase of 2 percentage points on 31 March 2009. (Table 1.6).
- At 31 July 2010 there were 1,757 children being looked after on a current planned series of short term placements. Sixty three per cent of all these were looked after in residential establishments. (Table 1.7).

The following charts are available:

Chart 1: Children looked after per 1,000 of 0-18 population by type of placement, 31 March 1987-2009 and 31 July 2010

The following tables are available:

Table 1.1: Number of children looked after by accommodation, 1971-2010

Table 1.2: Children looked after at 31 July 2010 with and without a current care plan

Table 1.3: Number of children starting to be looked after 2001-2010 by age and gender

Table 1.4: Number of children ceasing to be looked after, by length of time looked after and age, 2001-2010

Table 1.5: Young people ceasing to be looked after during 1 August 2009 to 31 July 2010 who were beyond minimum school-leaving age on date they ceased to be looked after - with a pathway plan, and with a nominated pathway co-ordinator

Table 1.6: Young people eligible for aftercare services on 31 July 2010, by age and economic activity

Table 1.7: All children with a current planned series of short term placements at 31 July 2010 by type of placement

REVISIONS TO 2008-09 DATA

1. East Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, Midlothian and Moray all made some revisions to parts of their 2008-09 looked after and/or their young persons eligible for aftercare services data. These revisions have all been incorporated into these published tables (including the additional tables also available).
2. Revisions to previously published statistics are carried out in accordance with the Scottish Government Corporate Policy Statement on Revisions and Corrections. This statement is available at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/About/NatStats> .

Chart 1 and Table 1.1 shows the number of looked after children, and the rate per 1,000 population aged 0-18 years, by type of placement for the years 1987 to 2010.

At 31 July 2010, there were 15,892 children being looked after by local authorities. This represents 14.3 per 1,000 children of the 0-18 year old population. The number of, and rate per 1,000 population aged 0-18 years, has been increasing every year since 2001.

The number of looked after children at 31 July 2010 is at its highest level since 1982.

The number of looked after children by placement type shows that the increase over the past 10 years is due to a general increasing number of children being looked after in community settings (i.e. at home, with foster carers/prospective adopters, with friends/relatives and other community settings), whereas the number of looked after children for children in residential care, which was on a decline throughout the late 1980s and 1990s, but remained fairly static between the years 2000 to 2007, has started to decline again since 2007.

The number of children being looked after by foster carers/prospective adopters or in other community placements (including with friends/relatives) are at their highest levels on record, whilst the number of children being looked after in residential care is at its lowest level on record.

Chart 1: Children looked after per 1,000 of 0-18 population by type of placement, 31 March 1987-2009 and 31 July 2010

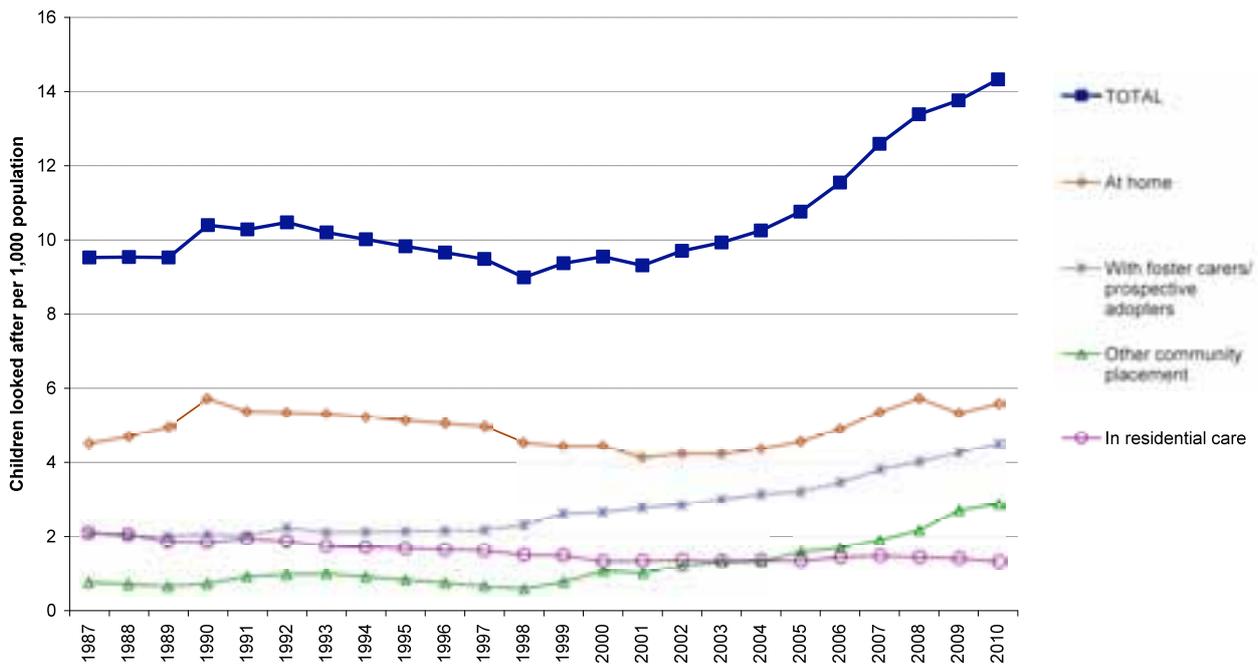


Table 1.1: Number of children looked after by accommodation, 1971-2010

Year	Accommodation type				All children looked after
	At home	With foster carers or prospective adopters	Other community placement	In residential care	
1971	-	-	-	-	14,788
1972	-	-	-	-	19,166
1973	-	-	-	-	20,703
1974	-	-	-	-	20,553
1975	-	-	-	-	18,936
1976	5,883	3,763	1,430	6,242	17,318
1977	5,593	3,733	1,337	6,209	16,872
1978	-	-	-	-	17,107
1979	-	-	-	-	16,887
1980	-	-	-	-	16,845
1981	-	-	-	-	17,045
1982	-	-	-	-	16,084
1983	-	-	-	-	15,529
1984	-	-	-	-	13,783
1985	-	-	-	-	13,261
1986	-	-	-	-	13,319
1987	5,949	2,759	1,025	2,784	12,517
1988	6,064	2,620	939	2,664	12,287
1989	6,262	2,560	851	2,364	12,037
1990	7,128	2,593	928	2,313	12,962
1991	6,625	2,492	1,147	2,401	12,665
1992	6,527	2,746	1,200	2,298	12,771
1993	6,447	2,574	1,221	2,124	12,371
1994	6,335	2,589	1,121	2,083	12,128
1995	6,224	2,605	1,021	2,042	11,891
1996	6,112	2,620	920	2,001	11,653
1997	6,000	2,635	820	1,960	11,415
1998	5,455	2,794	738	1,817	10,804
1999	5,309	3,155	943	1,784	11,191
2000	5,270	3,181	1,274	1,585	11,309
2001	4,842	3,280	1,195	1,582	10,897
2002	4,909	3,328	1,409	1,595	11,241
2003	4,851	3,468	1,518	1,550	11,388
2004	4,982	3,608	1,518	1,567	11,675
2005	5,179	3,660	1,807	1,539	12,185
2006	5,517	3,915	1,912	1,638	12,982
2007	5,986	4,275	2,138	1,661	14,060
2008	6,360	4,480	2,435	1,613	14,888
2009	5,924	4,741	3,042	1,580	15,287
2010	6,193	4,996	3,223	1,480	15,892

Notes: Table excludes planned series of short term placements.

Figures for 2010 are provisional and may be revised in 2010-11.

Figures for 2009 are revised

Prior to 2008, table includes estimates wherever local authorities were not able to provide data.

Young people aged 18-21 are included from 2006 onwards, and figures for 2009 include a small number of over 21yr olds.

Table includes rounded estimates for local authorities not able to provide information in all years up to 2004. For this reason, the total for all children looked after may not exactly equal the sum of its component parts.

For cells shown as "-", figures are not available.

Figures are estimates for 1975, 1994, 1995 and 1996.

"Other community placement" includes "with friends/relatives" as well as "in other community".

Table 1.2 shows the number of children being looked after at 31 July 2010 who had, or did not have, a current care plan.

When children become looked after, a care plan should be produced. The care plan should include detailed information about the child's care, education and health needs, as well as the responsibilities of the local authority, the parents and the child. Other aspects will include details of the child's living arrangements and the involvement (if any) of the child's parents in decisions that may affect the child. The plan should also indicate how long the arrangement is expected to last, how it will come to an end and what will happen at the end. A care plan is considered 'current' if it has been produced or reviewed in the past 12 months.

At 31 July 2010, of the 15,892 children who were being looked after, 14,999 (94 per cent) of them had a current care plan. A slightly higher proportion of children who were being looked after away from home had a current care plan than those who were being looked after at home.

Table 1.2: Children looked after at 31st July 2010 with and without a current care plan

	Looked after at home	Looked after away from home	Total
With a current care plan	5,805	9,194	14,999
Without a current care plan	388	505	893
Total	6,193	9,699	15,892

Note: Figures are provisional and may be revised in 2010-11

Table 1.3 shows the number of children who started being looked after between 2000-01 to 2009-10. Please note that a child will be counted more than once if they started being looked after more than once during the reporting year.

There were 4,859 children who started to be looked after during 1 August 2009 to 31 July 2010. This was a decrease of 7 per cent compared with the period 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009 and is its lowest level since 2005-06.

This decrease was largely as a result of a large fall in the number of children aged 12-15 years of age starting to be looked after during 1 August 2009 to 31 July 2010 compared with previous years.

The number of children aged under 5 years at the time of starting to be looked after has increased every year since 2004-05.

Table 1.3: Number of children starting to be looked after 2001-2010 by age and gender

Age/gender	Children starting to be looked after in year ending										Percentage of 2010 total
	31st March...									31st July	
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	
Male											
Under 1	127	139	146	179	218	220	207	280	323	335	13
1-4	444	516	457	483	433	523	593	600	580	596	23
5-11	737	702	783	732	666	748	864	834	830	792	31
12-15	1,220	1,070	1,021	949	949	986	1,043	932	995	816	32
16-17	192	210	163	142	100	140	164	133	33	32	1
18-21						9	7	2	3	0	0
Not known					1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2,720	2,637	2,570	2,485	2,367	2,626	2,878	2,781	2,764	2,571	100
Female											
Under 1	107	120	123	187	182	195	205	222	318	315	14
1-4	377	427	393	417	424	470	564	532	558	550	24
5-11	578	583	568	626	589	545	649	703	733	671	29
12-15	782	781	753	750	695	810	835	826	805	739	32
16-17	130	130	108	100	74	79	110	92	22	13	1
18-21						8	4	3	1	0	0
Not known					1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,974	2,042	1,943	2,079	1,965	2,107	2,367	2,378	2,437	2,288	100
All people											
Under 1	234	259	268	366	400	415	412	502	641	650	13
1-4	821	943	850	900	857	993	1,157	1,132	1,138	1,146	24
5-11	1,315	1,285	1,350	1,357	1,255	1,293	1,513	1,537	1,563	1,463	30
12-15	2,002	1,852	1,773	1,699	1,644	1,796	1,878	1,758	1,800	1,555	32
16-17	322	340	271	242	175	219	274	225	55	45	1
18-21						17	11	5	4	0	0
Not known					2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	4,694	4,678	4,513	4,564	4,333	4,733	5,245	5,159	5,201	4,859	100

Notes: Table excludes planned series of short term placements.

Figures for 2009-10 are provisional and may be revised in 2010-11.

Falkirk did not provide information on children starting to be looked after in 2007-08.

Figures for 2009 are revised.

Prior to 2008, table includes rounded estimates wherever local authorities were not able to provide information.

Prior to 2005 'unknowns' were allocated to a category rather than being reported as unknown. For this reason, totals do not always exactly equal the sum of their parts, due to rounding.

The number of looked after children aged 18+ was not asked for prior to 2006.

A child may start to be looked after more than once in a year and so may be counted more than once.

Changes between 2003-04 and 2004-05 are partly due to improved recording.

The 18-21 category in this table may include a small number of looked after young people who were over 21yrs

Due to rounding, the percentage totals may not equal the sum of their parts

The number of children starting to be looked after during 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010 was 5,191.

Table 1.4 shows the number of children who ceased being looked after between 2000-01 to 2009-10. Please note that a child will be counted more than once if they ceased being looked after more than once during the reporting year.

There were 4,504 children who ceased being looked after during 1 August 2009 to 31 July 2010. This was an increase of 3 per cent compared with the period 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009.

The number of children who had been looked after for 1 year or more at the time of ceasing to be looked after has increased every year since 2004-05, whereas the number of children who had been looked after for less than 1 year at the time of ceasing to be looked after fell for the second consecutive year.

Table 1.4: Number of children ceasing to be looked after, by length of time looked after and age, 2001-2010

Age	Children ceasing to be looked after in year ending										Percentage of 2010 totals
	31 March...									31 July	
Length of time looked after	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	
Under 1											
Under 6 weeks	27	42	26	72	56	39	55	46	63	52	48
6 weeks to under 6 months	31	25	26	25	28	44	29	33	42	43	39
6 months to under 1 year	20	11	17	9	9	19	13	21	30	14	13
Not known								1	0	0	0
Total	78	78	70	107	93	102	97	101	135	109	100
1-4											
Under 6 weeks	76	193	86	167	126	96	87	119	102	86	11
6 weeks to under 6 months	89	90	56	116	56	67	80	119	70	75	10
6 months to under 1 year	158	92	133	120	93	120	136	119	115	132	17
1 year to under 3 years	234	211	244	184	195	235	254	255	395	381	49
3 years to under 5 years	42	49	54	38	26	48	54	66	82	110	14
Not known								16	0	0	0
Total	600	635	573	625	496	566	611	694	764	784	100
5-11											
Under 6 weeks	155	229	144	169	145	97	105	141	132	99	9
6 weeks to under 6 months	184	144	92	140	80	86	112	96	68	89	8
6 months to under 1 year	271	146	190	189	161	157	185	173	182	208	19
1 year to under 3 years	390	276	385	269	317	400	351	343	382	401	36
3 years to under 5 years	94	110	143	162	114	162	190	206	212	207	19
5 years and over	30	39	61	51	71	84	86	102	103	106	10
Not known								26	0	0	0
Total	1,124	943	1,015	979	888	986	1,029	1,087	1,079	1,110	100
12-15											
Under 6 weeks	200	306	151	182	182	140	130	127	103	102	10
6 weeks to under 6 months	229	213	155	180	143	154	146	149	98	109	10
6 months to under 1 year	349	228	217	215	170	164	204	216	244	221	21
1 year to under 3 years	440	388	430	321	285	336	304	337	379	427	41
3 years to under 5 years	111	91	109	120	86	81	82	134	108	107	10
5 years and over	64	56	40	46	41	65	58	79	84	87	8
Not known								20	0	0	0
Total	1,393	1,281	1,102	1,065	907	940	924	1,062	1,016	1,053	100
16+											
Under 6 weeks	48	90	33	50	68	18	21	27	9	3	0
6 weeks to under 6 months	91	84	92	121	83	54	104	107	55	33	2
6 months to under 1 year	280	176	175	179	184	194	267	274	196	189	13
1 year to under 3 years	727	535	613	543	510	553	606	656	562	602	42
3 years to under 5 years	248	236	198	223	169	243	243	247	250	248	17
5 years and over	151	143	163	129	166	229	242	233	328	373	26
Not known								25	0	0	0
Total	1,545	1,264	1,274	1,245	1,180	1,291	1,483	1,569	1,400	1,448	100
TOTAL											
Under 6 weeks	506	861	440	640	578	390	398	460	409	342	8
6 weeks to under 6 months	625	556	421	583	390	405	471	504	333	349	8
6 months to under 1 year	1,078	652	732	713	617	654	805	803	767	764	17
1 year to under 3 years	1,791	1,410	1,672	1,317	1,308	1,524	1,515	1,591	1,718	1,811	40
3 years to under 5 years	496	485	504	543	395	534	569	653	652	672	15
5 years and over	245	237	264	225	278	378	386	414	515	566	13
Not known								88	0	0	0
Total	4,740	4,202	4,034	4,021	3,566	3,885	4,144	4,513	4,394	4,504	100

Notes: Table excludes children who are on a planned series of short term placements.

Figures for 2010 are provisional and may be revised in 2010-11.

Fife did not provide information on children ceasing to be looked after in 2007-08. Fife's figures from 2006-07 have been incorporated into this table for 2007-08.

Falkirk did not provide information on length of time looked after for children ceasing to be looked after in 2007-08. The total numbers of children ceasing to be looked after in this local authority for 2007-08 have been included as "not known".

Prior to 2008, table includes estimates wherever local authorities were not able to provide data.

In 2000 to 2004 some totals do not exactly equal the sum of their component parts due to the effects of rounding estimated figures.

A child may cease to be looked after more than once during the year and will be counted once for each episode of care ending.

Some totals do not exactly equal the sum of their component parts due to the effects of rounding.

Figures for 2009 are revised.

The number of children ceasing to be looked after during 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010 was 4,625.

Table 1.5 shows the number of children who were beyond their minimum school leaving age on the date they ceased being looked after during 2009-10. Please note that a child will be counted more than once if they ceased being looked after more than once during the reporting year.

Fifty one per cent of young people ceasing to be looked after above their minimum school leaving age during 1 August 2009 and 31 July 2010 had a pathway plan on the date they were discharged, and 69 per cent had a pathway coordinator.

If a young person's final placement type was 'at home' then only 43 per cent of them had a pathway plan on the date of discharge, compared with 60 per cent of those whose final placement type was 'away from home'.

Similarly, if a young person's final placement type was 'at home', then only 62 per cent of them had a pathway co-ordinator, compared with 77 per cent of those whose final placement type was 'away from home'.

Table 1.5: Young people ceasing to be looked after during 1 August 2009 to 31 July 2010 who were beyond minimum school-leaving age on date they ceased to be looked after - with a pathway plan, and with a nominated pathway co-ordinator

	Number			Percentage		
	Looked after at home	Looked after away from home	Total	Looked after at home	Looked after away from home	Total
With a pathway plan on date of discharge	325	420	745	43	60	51
Without a pathway plan on date of discharge	429	276	705	57	40	49
With a nominated pathway co-ordinator on date of discharge	467	533	1,000	62	77	69
Without a nominated pathway co-ordinator on date of discharge	287	163	450	38	23	31
Total	754	696	1,450	100	100	100

Notes:

Figures are provisional and may be revised in 2010-11.

Figures include all episodes of ceasing to be looked after beyond minimum school leaving age (i.e. a child may be counted more than once).

The number of children ceasing to be looked after during 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010 who were beyond minimum school leaving age on date they ceased to be looked after was 1,451.

Table 1.6 shows the number of young people eligible for aftercare services on 31 July 2010, by age and economic activity.

There were 3,918 young people reported to be eligible for aftercare services on 31 July 2010. Thirty seven per cent of those receiving aftercare and who had a known economic activity were in education, training or employment, an increase of 2 percentage points on 31 March 2009.

The percentage of those young people receiving aftercare with a known economic activity who were in education, training or employment decreased by age of the young person, from 41 per cent for those aged 16 years and under to 34 per cent for those aged 19 and over.

Table 1.6: Young people eligible for aftercare services on 31st July 2010, by age and economic activity

Economic activity on 31 July 2010	Age on 31 July 2010				Total	Percentage of all young people eligible for aftercare	Percentage of young people receiving aftercare with known economic activity
	15-16	17	18	19-21			
In education, training or employment							
In higher education	16	29	23	35	103	3	5
In education other than HE	46	59	54	55	214	5	10
In training or employment	52	103	149	151	455	12	22
Not in education, training or employment							
- due to short term illness	6	*	*	13	29	1	1
- due to long term illness or disability	10	*	*	30	61	2	3
- due to looking after family	14	15	52	69	150	4	7
- due to other circumstances	133	253	315	362	1,063	27	51
Not known	67	86	123	193	469	12	
Not receiving aftercare	273	455	494	152	1,374	35	
Total	617	1,018	1,223	1,060	3,918	100	100
Percentage in employment, education or training							
<i>As percentage of all young people eligible for aftercare</i>	18	19	18	23	20		
<i>As percentage of young people receiving aftercare with known economic activity</i>	41	40	37	34	37		

Notes:

Figures are provisional and may be revised in 2010-11.

Cells containing * represent numbers that are suppressed to maintain confidentiality.

Due to rounding, the totals for percentages may not equal the sum of their parts

Table 1.7 shows the number of children on a current planned series of short-term placements on 31 July 2010, by type of placement.

At 31 July 2010 there were 1,757 children being looked after on a current planned series of short term placements. Sixty three per cent of all these were looked after in residential establishments and 30 per cent were in foster placements.

Table 1.7: All children with a current planned series of short term placements at 31st July 2010 by type of placement

Type of placement	Number of children	Percentage
Residential establishment	1,115	63
Hospital	8	0
Foster placement	529	30
Other placement	105	6
Total	1,757	100

Note: Figures are provisional and may be revised in 2010-11.

BACKGROUND NOTES

- 1 A child becomes looked after by a local authority as a result of either being provided with accommodation by a local authority under section 25 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 (where either no one has parental responsibility for them, they are lost or abandoned, or the person who has been caring for them is prevented from providing suitable care), through a children's hearing leading to a supervision requirement, or where the child is subject to an order, authorisation or warrant. (Children who are subject to respite care are not included in the looked after section of these statistics). Children who are looked after will either be looked after at home (where the child or young person continues to live in their normal place of residence), or looked after away from home (away from their normal place of residence).
- 2 All children and young people who are looked after at home will have appeared at a children's hearing which has resulted in the child or young person becoming looked after, with the aim of promoting beneficial changes to the child or young person's life whilst they remain at home. For children and young people who are looked after away from home, it has been decided that it is not appropriate for them to remain at home and either the local authority, children's hearing or sometimes the court will consider alternative placements. These alternative placements can include foster care or residential care.
- 3 Most children and young people become looked after for care and protection reasons. These can include (although this list is not exhaustive) neglect, mental, physical or emotional abuse, parental substance misuse or poor parenting skills, or a child or young person may have become involved in the youth justice system. The length of time a child or young person is looked after for can vary. Some return home, some become adopted, and some children and young people remain looked after until they reach adulthood.
- 4 The data used for Children Looked After Statistics 2009-10 were collected at an individual child level from all 32 local authorities for the second time. Statistics published in years prior to 2008-09 used data supplied by local authorities aggregated at a local authority level. Since 2008-09, local authorities are reporting significant improvements in the quality of their data reporting as a result of the new individualised collection methodology. This should be borne in mind when performing cross-year comparisons.
- 5 The individualised looked after children data collected information on the characteristics of each child or young person that was looked after at any time during the reporting period. Statistics were collected on all children/ young people who had an open looked after episode within the reporting period, every episode which was open at some point in the reporting period, every placement that took place during these entire episodes and every (main) legal reason for which a child was being looked after. The survey forms, data specification and guidance notes for data presented in this publication, and previous years' publications, can be seen at www.scotland.gov.uk/childrenstats .
- 6 The new individualised collection methodology provides a much richer source of information on children looked after statistics. In particular, the individual level data allows analysis to be performed at any period in time, unlike previous years datasets which were snapshots of local authority level aggregate totals. If you would like to find out more about the new collection methodology, please contact Gary Sutton (see background note 16 below for contact details).

- 7 Although all local authorities supplied data, some were unable to provide information for every table. The larger omissions are listed below:
- Glasgow were unable to provide any information on legal reasons relating to children looked after during the 2009-10 reporting period.
 - Also, in 2008-09, local authorities were to supply the primary legal reason. However, in 2009-10, some local authorities provided information on the all legal reasons (i.e. a child may have more than one legal reason at any given time). The intention is that from the 2011-12 reporting period, all legal reasons will be provided by all local authorities. However, during this transitional period, information on legal reasons is not contained in this publication (due to the inconsistency in reporting) but is available on request.
- 8 Figures previously published for 2008-09 have been revised to include amendments that a few local authorities provided after the 2008-09 publication.
- 9 Table 1.6 show young people eligible for aftercare services. Local authorities have a duty to provide advice, guidance and assistance for young people who have ceased to be looked after over minimum school leaving age. A young person is eligible to aftercare services if they are being compulsorily supported (over minimum school leaving age but under 19 years of age) or discretionarily supported (where a young person is aged 19 and 20 years of age and the local authority has agreed to support them until their 21st birthday). For full details of young people's eligibility for aftercare, see regulations and guidance at:
- <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2004/03/19113/34719>.
- 10 Table 1.7 show children and young people looked after in a planned series of short term placements. Where, for the purposes of respite, a child stays away from home for a continuous period of more than 24hrs, he or she is being provided with accommodation and the local authority has additional duties towards him or her as a child who is looked after by them. In order to safeguard and promote the welfare of children while they are placed for respite away from their own homes, a series of short planned placements which include overnight stays may be treated as a single placement for the purposed of the Arrangements to Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 1996. This includes any children who were aged under 18 year on 31 July 2010 who had a current plan, even if they were not actually accommodated on 31 July 2010.
- 11 A list of the placement categories and classifications is shown in Annex A.
- 12 In September 2009 the New Reporting Framework for the Educational Outcomes of Scotland's Looked After Children and Young People was published. A copy can be found by following this link: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/284726/0086480.pdf> . This new framework will report on the educational attainment of looked after children and will contain information on attendance, exclusions, qualifications and school leaver destinations. The first report containing this information is planned to be published in June 2011, and will contain statistics on the educational outcomes of looked after children relating to the 2009-10 academic year.

- 13 Work has been undertaken between the Scottish Government and administrations from England, Wales and Northern Ireland to document clearly the differences between each administration's Looked After Children Statistics and to scope out the feasibility and need for a comparable dataset. Further developments from this work have been published on the Scottish Government Children's Statistics web site at:
www.scotland.gov.uk/childrenstats.
- 14 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. For more information on National Statistics and the National Statistics Code of Practice please visit:
<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/> .
- 15 Children Looked After Statistics was confirmed by the UK Statistics Authority as National Statistics following assessment in 2009, subject to the requirements set out in the assessment report. The report (Assessment Report 14) can be found at:
<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment-reports/index.html> .
- 16 Public enquiries (**non-media**) about the information contained in this Publication Notice should be addressed to Gary Sutton at:
- The Scottish Government,
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- 17 **Media** enquiries about the information in this Statistics Publication Notice should be addressed to Ashley Duff on 0131 244 3070.
- 18 If you would like to be consulted about new or existing statistical collections or receive notification of forthcoming statistical publications, please register your interest on the Scottish Government ScotStat website at
www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/scotstat .

PLACEMENT TYPES WHILST BEING LOOKED AFTER

At home with parent(s)

At home with parent(s) or 'relevant person(s)' as defined in Sec. 93(2)(b) of the Children's (Scotland) Act 1995.

With friends / relatives

Placed with friends or relatives who are not approved foster carers.

With foster carers provided by the local authority

Placed with approved foster carers provide by the local authority.

With foster carers purchased by the local authority

Placed with approved foster carers purchased by the local authority.

With prospective adopters

Placed with prospective adopters.

Other community

A known community setting, but does not fit with one of the above. For example, supported accommodation.

Local authority home

Placed in local authority children's home/hostel, local authority home/hostel for children with learning disabilities, local authority home/hostel for physically disabled children.

Voluntary home

Placed in voluntary children's home/hostel, in voluntary home/hostel for children with learning disabilities, in voluntary home/hostel for physically disabled children.

Residential school

Placed in local authority residential school (home/hostel), in voluntary residential school (home/hostel), in private school, in independent school.

Secure accommodation

Placed in secure accommodation.

Crisis Care:

For example: in women's refuge, in local authority hostel for offenders, in voluntary hostel for offenders, in local authority hostel for drug/alcohol abusers, in voluntary hostel for drug/alcohol abusers.

Other residential

Placed in a known residential setting but does not fit with one of the above.

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