

The Committee on the Rights of the Child

List of issues prior to submission of the seventh periodic report of Norway¹

I New developments

Question 2

a)

1. Children's right to protection and the principle of the best interests of the child are a fundamental pillar in Norwegian law and in the work of the Child Welfare Service. A reform of the Child Welfare Service came into effect on 1 January 2022. The purpose of the reform is to increase the municipal authorities' responsibility for child welfare and help ensure that children and families get the help they need at an early stage. The new Child Welfare Act entered into force on 1 January 2023.
2. The Government is working on a new Children Act. In Official Norwegian Report NOU 2020:14 "New Children Act", the Children Act Committee proposes, among other things, an introductory chapter in the Children Act, stipulating children's rights. From 2022, the Children Act has been amended such that the Child Welfare Experts Commission must assess the quality of expert witness's reports in parental dispute cases before the courts can use them as evidence. The amendments are intended to strengthen the legal security of children and parents alike.
3. In 2018, an absolute minimum age limit of 18 years was introduced for entering into marriage. Statutory provisions have also been adopted that marriages entered into with minors under foreign law shall not, as a general rule, be recognised in Norway.
4. Requirements have been introduced for several professional groups that they must submit a criminal record certificate from the police, with a view to preventing violence and abuse of minors. This applies, among other things, to expert witnesses appointed by the State in cases pursuant to the Children Act and the Child Welfare Act, representatives of the child in cases pursuant to the Children Act, external mediators in cases pursuant to the Children Act and the Marriage Act, and employees at the Ombudsperson for Children and Family Counselling Offices.
5. In January 2024, the Government submitted a proposal to the Storting on inclusion in the Police Act of the principle that the best interests of the child must be a fundamental consideration when police actions affect, target or occur in the presence of children.
6. The new Education Act enters into force on 1 August 2024. The Education Act shall provide a solid framework that ensures everyone education and training of high-

¹ Adopted by the pre-sessional working group on 5 May 2023.

quality, a safe learning environment, and the right to participate in matters that affect them.

7. The Ministry of Children and Families established NASAK in 2022, which is a national Sami centre of competence aimed at ensuring more equitable services for the Sami population in the Child Welfare Service, the Family Counselling Service and crisis centres.

b)

8. In spring 2020, the Government implemented extensive measures to combat the spread of COVID-19. The measures had a major impact for all children and young people, with the closure of kindergartens, schools and recreational activities, and with reduced municipal services. The Government stated early on that priority would be given to children and young people, and that services for children and young people would be shielded as far as was possible and in compliance with the infection control guidelines.
9. During the pandemic, the Government presented various packages with compensatory measures for children and young people, including measures to increase participation in holiday and recreational activities, measures to catch up on missed learning, and measures to strengthen mental health and prevent substance abuse problems. In 2022, the Government strongly recommended that the municipalities should not close recreational clubs for children and young people. Special adaptations were introduced in sports and cultural activities for children and young people.
10. The Coronavirus Commission and the Coronavirus Special Committee both concluded that the infection control measures were particularly hard for children and young people. A report from the Norwegian Directorate for Education (2022) concludes that the pandemic had consequences for pupils' motivation, academic progress and learning.
11. Between 2020 and 2022, the Government allocated a total of NOK 621 million for compensatory measures in the municipalities to mitigate the negative effects of the pandemic on learning and social development in children and young people. In 2021, the Government appointed an expert committee to advise on how best to compensate for lost learning and social development (the Parr Committee).

c)

12. In 2024, NOK 10 million has been granted to establish an investigation system for cases related to violence, abuse and gross neglect of children. The main purpose is to identify shortcomings in the system, contribute to learning, strengthen preventive work, and improve collaboration across services.
13. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child has recommended that the State ensure that children are informed about their right to participate in mediation in connection with a breakdown in their parents' relationship. The Family Counselling

Service's skills in talking to children has been strengthened and information about mediation has been prepared for children.

14. The Government is planning to present a white paper called "Safe digital childhood" in autumn 2024 and a white paper on social mobility and social equality for children and young people and their families in spring 2025.

Question 3

15. All the ministries report on the following up on the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Statistics Norway has prepared national indicators to enable the Government to monitor progress in the various areas. Children and young people have been invited to participate in forums where follow-up of the work is discussed.

II. Rights under the Convention and the Optional Protocols thereto

A. General implementation measures

Legislation

Question 4

a)

16. Several of the rights arising from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child have been included in Article 104 of the Norwegian Constitution. This includes the right of children to be heard in questions affecting them, that their views must be given weight in accordance with their age and maturity, and that the best interests of the child must be a fundamental consideration. The Convention on the Rights of the Child has been implemented in Norwegian law through the Human Rights Act. It follows from this Act that the Convention applies as Norwegian law and shall prevail in the event of conflict with other legislation.
17. The Child Welfare Act provides the legal basis for invasive measures aimed at both children and adults. The Act builds on extensive human rights assessments, such as the best interests of the child, the child's right to participate, the child's right to care and family life, and respect for the child's cultural, linguistic and religious background.
18. In spring 2020, rules were enshrined in law in the Kindergarten Act on how kindergartens should work to ensure the children in the kindergarten a good, safe psychosocial kindergarten environment. It was also enshrined in law that the best interests of the child must be a fundamental consideration in all actions and decisions concerning children in the kindergarten.

19. A new Education Act enters into force on 1 August 2024 (cf. section 2a). The principle of the best interests of the child is stated in a separate section to clarify that this applies to all actions and decisions pursuant to the Education Act. A separate rule has also been defined in law on the pupils' right to participate in all matters that concern them, to express themselves freely and to be heard, and that the pupils' views must be given weight in accordance with their age and maturity. Similar rules are also enshrined in the Independent Schools Act.
- b)
20. The health legislation complies with the principles in the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the right of children to be heard, decisions in the best interests of the child, and children's right to respect for their private life. The Patient and User Rights Act nevertheless has a separate chapter on children's special rights in the health service. Children also have the right to a higher degree of participation and rights if their siblings are seriously ill or if a parent or sibling dies.
- c)
21. The guide to the Instructions for Official Studies and Reports ("*Utredningsinstruksen*") is currently being updated to ensure that consequences for children and their interests are specified and assessed in detail. These must be taken into account when considering public measures that may affect children, directly or indirectly. This applies to all public measures, including changes to regulations and allocations.
- d)
22. The Storting last addressed the question whether to ratify the third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on children's individual right to petition in 2022 in connection with a private member's proposal, and once again voted not to ratify the protocol. The Government is working on a national system to ensure children's opportunity to appeal and has implemented measures to improve information to children and young people about their right to appeal in individual cases and the options available to them (cf. section 8 b).

Comprehensive policy, strategy and coordination

Question 5

- a)
23. The local government sector is organised on the basis of the "generalist municipality principle". The principle entails that all citizens shall have access to the same public services, regardless of which municipality they live in.
24. Income in the local government sector consists of both flexible funding and earmarked funding. The flexible, unearmarked income comprises tax revenues and block transfers from the State, and accounts for approximately 70 per cent of the municipal sector's total income. The municipalities' unearmarked income is distributed

through the income system. The overarching goal of the income system is to level out the municipalities' financial situation, with a view to enabling equitable provision of services to people all over Norway. This does not mean that all municipalities are to have equal income, but rather that all municipalities must be able to provide the citizens with equitable services. One goal of the income system is to level out differences in expenses. Since there is a lot of variation in municipalities in terms of aspects such as geography, demographics and living conditions, the income is redistributed so that the municipalities are compensated for involuntary differences in costs and demand. The levelling out of differences in expenses in municipalities applies to the following sectors: compulsory schooling, nursing and care, social assistance, child welfare, kindergartens, agriculture, administration and the environment.

b)

25. The county governors have been tasked with assisting the municipal authorities in implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child to ensure good, comprehensive solutions for children and young people.
26. The Ministry of Children and Families coordinates the "Core group for vulnerable children and young people". This is an internal collaboration between seven ministries, to help ensure good coordination in the development and management of policies and services relating to children and young people. The relevant underlying agencies have established a structure for collaboration that supports the ministries' work for vulnerable children and young people.
27. In order to strengthen the follow-up of vulnerable children and young people and their families, amendments have been made to 14 welfare service laws in 2022, obligating the various services to collaborate with other parts of the public service system where this is necessary to provide the user with a cohesive and coordinated offer.

Allocation of resources

Question 6

a)

28. The rates for child benefit have increased several times since the previous report (cf. Article 27 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child). From 1 January 2024, the ordinary rate for children under the age of 6 years is NOK 1,766 a month and for children over the age of 6 years NOK 1,510 a month. Extended child benefit for single caregivers amounts to NOK 2,516 per month.
29. The lump-sum grant is a minimum guarantee for new parents who do not qualify for parental benefit and is intended to compensate for the expenses families incur when they have a child. The lump-sum grant has increased from NOK 46,000 in 2016 to NOK 92,648 in 2024.

30. The state guidelines for financial social assistance, including rates for childrens' living expenses, were increased by 10 per cent from 1 July 2023. From 1 September 2022, child benefit is not included when financial social assistance is determined.
31. Child supplements to work assessment allowance, qualification benefit and unemployment benefit has been increased and amounts to NOK 36 per child per day from 1 January 2024.
32. Municipal authorities, NGOs and other non-profit organisations receive grants through the "Grants for inclusion of children and young people" scheme to enable them to include vulnerable children and young people in cultural, holiday and leisure activities, courses of education, and summer and part-time jobs. The scheme was established in 2022, and in 2024 has a budget of NOK 758 million.
33. NOK 10 million has been allocated to an action plan for equal opportunities to participate in cultural, sporting and outdoor activities for children and young people in 2024. In 2023, an additional NOK 125 million was allocated for participation in sports teams; and grants for premises, measures to encourage a love of reading and voluntary cultural activities were increased.
34. NOK 1,7 billion was allocated for sports facilities in the municipalities in 2022 and 2023, and support for local community facilities in disadvantaged areas was increased.
35. It is a goal of the national library strategy 2020–2023 for libraries to reach new users with literature and reading, including children and young people. Arts and Culture Norway has established a pilot project whereby books are bought for school libraries to give children and young people better access to more new literature. The school library scheme will be made permanent from 2024.
36. The Ministry of Culture and Equality provides approx. NOK 2,5 billion in fixed operating grants to Norwegian museums. The Cultural School Bag (DKS) is a nationwide scheme that ensures that all school pupils in Norway experience professional art and culture each year.
37. Support is provided for the national and international work of voluntary organisations for children and young people through a grant scheme for basic support. In 2024 national basic support amounts to NOK 183,3 million.
38. The statistics and reporting tool KOSTRA makes it possible to monitor municipal priorities in the form of budget funding for municipal activities for children.
39. Norway wants to make kindergartens available to all children, regardless of the family's finances, through free core hours for children in low-income families, more affordable kindergartens, and grants both to support language development for

children from a minority background and to increase the number of qualified educational staff in disadvantaged areas. Free child care at school outside school hours (SFO) of 12 hours per week has been introduced for all pupils in Years 1 and 2. From 1 August 2024, this will be extended to also apply to pupils in Year 3. Free full-time kindergarten places have been introduced for all children in municipalities in the so-called action zone in Finnmark and Nord-Troms. A national scheme has also been introduced for families with three or more children in kindergarten at the same time, providing a free full-time place from the third child.

40. Children in reception centres for asylum seekers are not entitled to a place in a kindergarten, but there is a State grant providing children aged 1–5 years who live in a reception centre for asylum seekers with the opportunity to attend kindergarten, regardless of the status of their application for asylum.
41. In 2024, more than NOK 100 million has been allocated to measures in the escalation plan against violence and abuse of children and violence in close relationships.

b)

42. Municipal and county authorities are required by law to have a youth council or some other form of formal consultative body for young people, to provide input and comment on all matters concerning young people. This also applies to input on local budgets.
43. Children's and youth NGOs and representatives from the county youth councils provide input to the fiscal budget at the regular meetings with the Minister of Children and Families. Children's and youth organisations and organisations that work for and with children send written input regarding the fiscal budget to different ministries.
44. The Storting's standing committees conduct consultations with civil society in connection with their processing of the fiscal budget. Children's and youth organisations and organisations working for and with children can provide input on the budget.

Data collection

Question 7

a)

45. Statistics Norway does not produce statistics on people's ethnic background. Norway's official guidelines have long been that information about citizens' ethnicities should not be registered. On a general basis, Norway exercises great caution in producing statistics based on personal data that could be perceived as sensitive, or that might serve to stigmatise vulnerable groups in society (cf. the General Data Protection Regulation Article 9 (1)).

b)

46. The Equality and Anti-Discrimination Act, which came into force on 1 January 2018, expressly prohibits compound discrimination, i.e. discrimination on the basis of a combination of several different grounds of discrimination.

The research report “Children and young people’s experiences of racism and discrimination” was published in March 2024. The report provides new insight into the experiences of young Jews, Roma and Sami people and fills a knowledge gap in this area.

Independent monitoring

Question 8

a)

47. Norway’s fifth and sixth reports to the Committee on the Rights of the Child from 2016 stated that the Government has decided that the mandate for the Ombudsperson for Children is not to be expanded to apply to the processing of complaints and appeals in individual cases. Among other things, it was pointed out that the Ombudsperson for Children is independent and that an expansion of the mandate could diminish its important role as a driving force behind more fundamental questions concerning the protection of children’s interests. This is still Norway’s position today.

48. The same arguments apply with regard to the recommendation to mandate the Norwegian National Human Rights Institution (NIM) to deal with complaints and appeals from children. NIM is an independent public body, which reports directly to the Storting. It is pointed out further that complaints and appeals from children concern very many different areas, each requiring specific specialist expertise in the individual field.

b)

49. The ministries have recently mapped out children’s rights of complaint in all the sectors, and a number of important sectoral processes are under way in this area, both in terms of the right to complaint and the right of self-determination. Improved information aimed at children and young people about their right to complaint in individual cases and the rights to complaint and appeal that exist in general has recently been published on the public information channel for young people (ung.no).

50. Work has been carried out to improve information about children and young people’s rights of appeal in the Child Welfare Service, and an online, child-friendly complaints portal has been launched on the county governor websites where it is easy for children to find information and submit complaints and appeals. The county governors must give priority to complaints and appeals they receive from children. A proposal that children should be able to appeal a decision to move them out of a foster home, and a general strengthening of children’s legal rights as a party to the case in child welfare cases, has been circulated for consultation and comment.

51. The Parliamentary Ombud is the Storting's complaints management and resolution agency. The Ombud's main task is to safeguard the rights of individuals in their dealings with the public administration. The Parliamentary Ombud has improved its opportunities to assist children in complaints and appeal processes.

Dissemination, awareness-raising and training

Question 9

a)

52. The Regulation on national guidelines for Bachelor's degrees in child welfare and protection stipulates that programmes must ensure broad knowledge of the applicable Norwegian and international law relevant to the field of child welfare and protection. The Regulation on Master's degrees in child welfare and protection stipulates that students must acquire in-depth knowledge of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the European Convention on Human Rights, and the Hague Convention of 1996. All employees in child welfare institutions receive training in safety, security and trust.
53. Employees of the Norwegian Correctional Service and Norwegian Mediation Service receive training in the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Students at the Norwegian Police University College learn about the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. In law degrees, this field is incorporated into the training on human rights in general. The Convention on the Rights of the Child is also a topic on the introduction programme for new judges, as well as at individual seminars for judges, lawyers and psychologists.
54. Training materials and guidance have been prepared in order for the employees to take into account the interests of the children in the Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration (NAV).
55. Personnel in the health and care sector who have completed education in health and social care should have knowledge about children and young people, be able to meet their needs for treatment and/or services, and ensure their participation and rights. They should also possess knowledge of social and health problems, including neglect, violence, abuse, drugs and alcohol, and socio-economic problems, and be able to identify and follow up people facing such challenges.

b)

56. The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs has a special responsibility to raise awareness about issues covered by the Convention on the Rights of the Child and how it can be used to strengthen children's participation in different sectors and at different levels of the administration.

Children’s rights and the business sector

Question 10

57. The Transparency Act came into force on 1 July 2022 and shall ensure children access to information regarding how enterprises address adverse impacts on fundamental human rights and decent working conditions. Larger enterprises are required by law to carry out due diligence to identify, manage and mitigate adverse impacts on fundamental human rights in their own operations or via the supply chain or their business partners.
58. The Transparency Act does not cover environmental impacts. The Environmental Information Act requires all public and private undertakings to hold information about factors relating to their operations that may have an appreciable effect on the environment, and, with a few exceptions, to supply such information to anyone who requests it, including children.

B. General principles

Non-discrimination

Question 11

- a)
59. Funding has been granted for measures to combat anti-Sami behaviour through the grant scheme “Action against racism, discrimination and hate speech”. The Government is working on a dedicated plan of action to combat discrimination of the Sami people. The Government provides support for the Norwegian “Stop Hate Speech” movement.
60. The Government also provides support for the Sami advocacy scheme “Sami ofelačat”, whereby young Sami people travel round to schools in Norway to tell other young people about Sami life and to counteract anti-Sami behaviour.
- b)
61. The Government launched “Action plan against racism and discrimination – new efforts from 2024 to 2027” in November 2023. The action plan applies to all groups that can be subjected to racism and ethnic and religious discrimination. The measures target three main areas: working life, young people and local communities.
62. The Government will strengthen its efforts to combat anti-Semitism and hatred towards Muslims and will present new action plans in 2024.

63. Dembra (Democratic Preparedness Against Antisemitism and Racism) offers programmes for schools aiming to prevent hatred and exclusion by building democratic competence.
64. The National Police Directorate has prepared an action plan for the police's work on diversity, dialogue and trust for the period 2022–2025. In 2021, a national centre of expertise in the field of hate crime was established in Oslo Police District.
- c)
65. Various plans of action and strategies have measures that are aimed specifically at children and young people who face different forms of discrimination. Examples include the action plan for gender and sexual diversity (2023–2026), the action plan on racism and discrimination (2024–2027), the strategy for the equality of persons with disabilities (2020–2030), and the action plan for equality for persons with disabilities (2020–2025).
- d)
66. The Government has initiated work on a strategy for equality between women and men, which is due to be presented in 2024. The Government is also working on a white paper on sexual harassment, which includes children and young people.
- e)
67. Since the last report, a number of inquiries and studies have been conducted on the scope and causes of violence and abuse. These show that women are more exposed than men to severe and repeated violence in close relationships, and that inequality entails a risk of violence in close relationships. In addition, age, ethnicity, religion, functional ability, gender expression, gender identity and sexual orientation can all have an impact on the risk of subjection to violence.
68. As regards children and young people, research shows that young people who have grown up in families where there has been a breakdown of family relationships, that are struggling financially, where the parents have had difficulties with substance abuse or mental health are more likely to have experienced violence and abuse. The same applies to families with an immigrant background. Children with disabilities may also be at greater risk than other children. In recent years, a number of campaigns have been carried out to help increase public awareness and knowledge about violence and abuse, and where help can be sought.
69. From 1 January 2020, the public authorities' duty to work proactively for gender equality has been strengthened, for example through the public authorities' active duty to prevent harassment, sexual harassment and gender-based violence and to counter stereotyping (cf. Section 24 of the Equality and Anti-Discrimination Act).

Best interests of the child**Question 12**

a)

70. The best interests of the child are assessed individually in each specific case. Decision makers refer to guidelines and recommendations developed in both national and international law, such as statements from the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, which are published on the Government's website for ease of access. In order to safeguard the best interests of the child in parental disputes, the National Courts Administration has prepared practical recommendations based on children and young people's own experiences with the courts.

b)

71. The principle of the best interests of the child is enshrined in Norwegian law through Article 104 of the Norwegian Constitution. This principle has been incorporated into several Acts and regulations, including the Immigration Act. The overarching provision that the best interests of the child must be a fundamental consideration was introduced in the Child Welfare Act to clarify that this is the most important consideration and guiding principle in the Act. A ban on conversion therapies entered into force on 1 January 2024. The best interests of the child has been a fundamental consideration in the drafting of the bill.

Respect for the views of the child**Question 13**

a)

72. The new Child Welfare Act includes an overarching provision on children's right to participate in all matters concerning them. This statutory right applies to all children who are capable of forming their own opinions and at all stages of a child welfare case. The child has an independent and unconditional right, but is not obliged, to participate.

73. The child's views are given weight as one of several factors in an assessment of the best interests of the child in all types of cases within the field of immigration. The child's right to be heard and to state their opinion in asylum cases and family immigration cases is safeguarded by the fact that they must, as a general rule, be offered an interview. The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) also has separate guidelines for interviewing children in immigration cases in general and in cases regarding application for asylum/protection.

74. As a rule, in asylum cases, interviews are conducted with accompanying children over the age of 7. All unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors are offered an asylum

interview, either in person or online. In family immigration cases, children over the age of 7 are generally offered an interview.

Children affected by expulsion cases are covered by Section 17-3 of the Immigration Regulations, but are rarely offered an interview with UDI. Standard practice in these kinds of cases is to hear the child's opinions through a parent, lawyer, representative or others who speak on behalf of the child. This is generally done in writing. If the child wishes to have a direct, oral interview, this will be carried out by the local police district.

b)

75. All school pupils have the right to be heard. This is required by law in the Education Act. All primary schools must have a pupil council for pupils from Year 5 to Year 7, and all lower and upper secondary schools must have a pupil council. Pupil councils are a forum to promote the common interests of the pupils in the school and help create a good learning and school environment.

76. The School Student Union of Norway is a nationwide, politically independent organisation that represents pupils and apprentices in upper secondary education and in lower secondary school in Norway.

77. Children are represented in the national user council for social housing policy. The purpose of the user council is to provide the authorities with better knowledge about how housing policy affects the users.

c)

78. The Local Government Act states that all municipalities and counties shall have a youth council or other representative body for young people. This provision came into force in 2019. The members of the youth council must not have reached the age of 19 at the time of their election. The councils are advisory bodies for the municipal and county authorities and have the right to be heard in all matters concerning young people. There has been prepared guidelines for the youth councils.

79. There are several arenas where children and young people can voice their opinions and submit proposals on matters relating to them. Each year a "dialogue forum" is held between the county youth councils, affected ministries and the Minister of Children and Families. Regular bi-annual contact meetings are held between the Ministry and the three umbrella organisations for NGOs working with children and young people. A contact conference is held annually between the Minister of Children and Families and the children and young peoples' NGOs. Children and young people are also invited to provide input on policy development.

d)

80. The Framework Plan for the Content and Tasks of Kindergartens has a chapter dedicated to children's participation and co-determination. Kindergartens shall observe the children's right to participate by enabling and encouraging them to express their views on day-to-day life in kindergarten. They shall enable the children's

participation in ways suited to the children's age, experience, individual circumstances and needs. The youngest children and children who communicate by means other than speech are also entitled to express their views on their own terms.

81. The core curriculum on values and principles for primary and secondary education states that a democratic society is based on the idea that all citizens have equal rights and opportunities to participate in the decision-making processes. The indigenous people perspective is part of the pupils' education in democracy.
82. The school must be a venue where children and young people experience democracy in practice. The pupils must experience that they are heard in the day-to-day affairs in school, that they have genuine influence, and that they can have impact on matters that concern them. The dialogue between teacher and pupils, and between the school and the home, must be based on mutual respect. When the voices of the pupils are heard in school, they will experience how they can make their own considered choices.
83. In 2022, the Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDi) established a youth panel on integration. The purpose of the youth panel is to enable young people to participate in decision-making processes and participate as real contributors in the development of integration policy on a national level.

e)

84. The Convention on the Rights of the Child is a topic on the introduction programme for new judges, as well as at individual seminars for judges and lawyers. The National Courts Administration has prepared national guidelines on how parental disputes and child welfare cases should be handled in the courts. National guidelines for the police's dealings with children came into force on 1 January 2023 and apply to all police employees. The guidelines introduce principles for encounters involving children .
85. The Criminal Procedure Act contains special rules on the conduct of adapted questioning of children who are an aggrieved party and/or witness. The interviews are conducted in Children's Houses in accordance with the principles for encounters involving children. The Criminal Procedure Act also contains special provisions to ensure that the rights of children who are suspects or have been charged are safeguarded, e.g. through the right to a defence counsel and involvement of the Child Welfare Service. In 2023, the Director of Public Prosecution issued guidelines for police questioning of children and particularly vulnerable persons as suspects in criminal proceedings. From 2024, suspects under the age of 16 in sexual offense cases will also be questioned in Children's Houses. (Cf. section 17d).

C. Civil rights and freedoms

Nationality

Question 14

86. The Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion is going to review the rules on citizenship and, will consider the recommendation to include a definition of statelessness in the legislation on Norwegian nationality. In 2016, an instruction was issued to the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) on the interpretation of Section 16 of the Nationality Act, to ensure that cases concerning stateless children, born in Norway, are processed in accordance with our international obligations.

Right to privacy and access to appropriate information

Question 15

a)

87. In Official Norwegian Report NOU 2022:11, the Privacy Commission has investigated the overall situation for privacy in Norway and assessed how children and young people's privacy is safeguarded, especially in schools and kindergartens and in digital services where children act as consumers. The Privacy Commission has expressed strong concern about children's privacy in schools, highlighting the advertising pressure in the services schools use in teaching and the commercial exploitation of personal data relating to pupils.

88. The Ministry of Digitalisation and Public Governance is currently following up the report in collaboration with the Ministry of Children and Families and the Ministry of Education and Research. The work is being coordinated with the follow-up of recommendations from the expert group for digital learning analysis (Official Norwegian Report NOU 2023:19).

89. In 2014, a new provision was added to the Constitution: Article 102 on the right to respect of privacy. This provision protects children and adults alike and reads: "Everyone has the right to the respect of their privacy and family life, their home and their communication". The right to respect of privacy also applies to children. Pursuant to Article 104 of the Constitution, children also have the "right to protection of their personal integrity", which includes a right to respect of their privacy.

b)

90. The Marketing Control Act has a separate chapter on the protection of children. It is stipulated that particular care must be exercised with regard to the impressionability, lack of experience and natural credulity of children. Furthermore, account shall be taken of children's age, development and other factors that make children particularly vulnerable. The provisions are technology neutral and are also intended to protect children from harmful marketing in digital channels. The Consumer Authority monitors compliance with the Act. The Government has initiated a review of children's

consumer protection in digital media, and is also considering introducing an age limit for social media.

c)

91. The strategy for digital competence and infrastructure in kindergartens and schools 2023–2030 includes several measures to develop teacher competencies and strengthen good digital practice in kindergartens and schools. Digital competence is also a topic in the white paper “Safe digital childhood”. The Norwegian Directorate for Education has several training packages to promote work-related digital competence for teachers, and is also going to launch a research programme for and on digitalisation and digital competence.
92. The Directorate published a guide with a clear recommendation on regulation of the use of private mobile phones and smart watches in schools. The Directorate has previously published a guide on how schools can protect children against harmful content, and is collaborating with the Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS) on a broad, updated guide on access control on pupils’ digital devices.

D. Violence against children

Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

Question 16

a)

93. The National Police Directorate issued a new instruction on the use of police custody in November 2018. The instruction stipulates that minors must not be placed in a cell or other locked room unless it is absolutely necessary. Alternatives to cell placement should be considered and attempted, and the assessment and conclusion should be documented in the custody record. If the minor is placed in a cell, the duration of the stay should be as brief as possible. Particular consideration shall be given to the arrested minor at all times so that the burden of the detention in custody is minimised. The custody record must state what special adaptations have been made because the arrested person is a minor.
94. Minors in police custody must at all times have the possibility to access staff from the police custody facility or persons working in the health and care services or child welfare service who are on the premises. Minors are to be kept separate from adult detainees. Arrested minors must be transferred to prison at the first opportunity and no later than 24 hours after arrest. The detention in police custody may only exceed 24 hours in exceptional cases. If the detention in police custody exceeds 24 hours, the reason for this, including which alternative measures have been tried or considered, and the name of the person who has decided this, must be documented in the custody record.

95. The Child Welfare Act regulates a number of intrusive measures for children and families. Children in institutions constitute a particularly vulnerable group, and they rely on the care of the adults charged with looking after them. For this reason, there are extra strict requirements that the legal basis for the use of coercion and other interventions must be understandable and predictable. A number of rules on rights and use of coercion in institutions have now been codified in the new Child Welfare Act. A thorough review of the rules on rights and the use of coercion at institutions has been performed. This will be followed up in a bill that will be presented to the Storting in spring 2025.
96. Children have the same legal protection against abuse and disproportionate use of coercion as adults. Mechanical means of coercion that impede the patient's freedom of movement or short-term incarceration behind a locked or closed door without personnel present may not be used on patients under the age of 16. In the Norwegian Directorate of Health's circular on the Mental Health Care Act and the Mental Health Care Regulations, it is stressed that the use of coercion must be limited to what is strictly necessary and that the need for use of coercion must be assessed specifically in each individual case.
- b)
97. Decisions concerning the use of coercion or interference with the child's personal integrity pursuant to the specified provisions in the Child Welfare Act are individual administrative decisions, meaning they can be appealed. The decisions must be placed on record and presented to the County Governor as the supervisory authority.
98. Children who are victims of a serious criminal offence, or the child's survivors, may be entitled to compensation from the State (cf. Section 1 of the Compensation for Violent Crime Act).
99. The new Compensation for Violent Crime Act entered into force on 1 January 2023. According to the Act, claims for compensation should be dealt with by the courts during the criminal proceedings. As a rule, the child will be entitled to a court-appointed lawyer (counsel) in the criminal proceedings. If so, it is the responsibility of the counsel to bring the claim for compensation before the court. Once the judgment is final, the State pays the compensation almost automatically, and at the same time demands redress from the perpetrator. This ensures an efficient and fair processing of claims.
100. If the claim for compensation is not processed by the courts during the criminal proceedings, for example because the case was dismissed, the child's legal guardian can apply to the Compensation Authority for compensation for violent crime. However, the child must be heard and their views must be given weight in accordance with their age and maturity. Legal expenses may be covered if the scope or complexity of the case so requires. On 1 January 2024, the Regulations to the Compensation for Violent Crime Act entered into force, giving children who have

experienced violence against a close family member the right to compensation even if the perpetrator is not liable under general rules of compensation. All children have the right of co-determination in the areas where their guardian has the decision-making authority. The Guardianship Act has been amended to strengthen children's rights. The statutory age limit for when children must be consulted in matters over which their guardian has legal responsibility has been lowered from 12 to 7 years. There is also a duty to consult children over the age of 7 years in questions of whether a parent is to be deprived of their guardianship over the child. (Cf. sections 8 b and 23 f).

c)

101. The general right of the police to exercise force is sanctioned by law in Section 6 of the Police Act and Section 3-2 of the Police Instructions. The police can use force against children in the same way as for adults. A national guideline for the police's dealings with children specifies that a qualified proportionality rule nevertheless applies when using force against children. The use of force against children to be considered proportionate is higher than for adults. A stricter requirement for a proportionality assessment also has an impact on the types of means of force that the police can use against children, and the situations in which they can be used.

102. In January 2024, the Government submitted a proposal to the Storting on inclusion in the Police Act of the principle that the best interests of the child must be a fundamental consideration when police actions affect, target or occur in the presence of children. As a rule, force may only be used against children when it is strictly necessary, all other options have been tried and have proved insufficient and the purpose of the use of force is to prevent immediate harm to the child or others. The right to use force will depend in particular on the necessity of the use of force and the child's age, health situation and vulnerability in general.

103. The police have prepared an action plan to promote diversity, dialogue and trust, including in encounters with young people from minority communities. The police are going to assess and test various measures to prevent police checks of individuals from being perceived as unfair or discriminatory.

Violence, including sexual exploitation and abuse

Question 17

a)

104. In 2023 a new provision was introduced into the Dispute Act in connection with child welfare cases involving an undisclosed address. This provision gives the courts the opportunity to decide that a witness's name and other personal details shall not be stated in open court sessions, if this might serve to reveal the undisclosed address. The provision also applies correspondingly in cases being processed by the Child Welfare Tribunal.

105. Amendments were made to the Criminal Procedure Act in 2023 stating that the prosecution authority is allowed to impose electronic monitoring (a so-called “reverse violence alarm”) if there is suspicion of violation of a restraining order or a contact ban. In exceptional cases, electronic monitoring of restraining orders may also be imposed without any prior violation. It is highlighted in the preparatory works that cases that trigger the rules on restraining orders or contact bans often affect children – directly or indirectly. (Cf. section 16 b).

b)

106. National action plans and strategies have been important tools to strengthen and coordinate efforts to prevent violence against and sexual abuse of children across sectors. Several plans and strategies that specifically address violence against children have been launched in the past 10 years. The Norwegian Parliament adopted in May 2024 an Escalation plan against violence and abuse of children and violence in close relationships (2024 – 2028). Nine ministries have collaborated on the plan, which also addresses negative social control, honour-related violence and online child abuse.

107. The Government will strengthen efforts to combat violence against very young children and online child abuse. Priority will be given to attitude-shaping work aimed at general public, parental support measures and competence raising in the services. Furthermore, the Government is going to focus on children and young people who exhibit or are at risk of developing problematic or harmful sexual behaviour.

108. The national strategy for coordinated efforts against online abuse of children was launched in 2021. Measures have been implemented to ensure greater knowledge and competence, including among children and young people and their guardians. Collaboration with the private sector on combating this type of sexual abuse has been strengthened. Criminal prosecution of online abuse is a high priority for the police and the prosecution authority.

c)

109. The duty to avert a criminal offence entails an obligation to seek to avert certain serious criminal acts or the consequences thereof (cf. Section 196 of the Penal Code). The duty is individual and applies to all citizens and is fulfilled by reporting to the Child Welfare Service, the police or another appropriate public agency or service, or otherwise seeking to prevent the act or the consequences thereof. The basic condition is that it appears “certain or most likely” that the offence has been or will be committed. Examples of offences that people have a duty to seek to avert are aggravated physical assault, murder, rape, rape of children under the age of 14, and abuse in close relationships. The duty to avert a criminal offence supersedes any duty of confidentiality.

110. All public services, health professionals, employees covered by the Independent Schools Act, and certain other groups have a duty to notify the Child Welfare Service

pursuant to Section 13-2 of the Child Welfare Act. The duty to notify the Child Welfare Service includes cases where there are grounds to believe that a child is being or will be subjected to mistreatment, serious shortcomings in the daily care or other serious neglect and cases where a child exhibits serious behavioural problems. The duty to avert a criminal offence pursuant to Section 196 of the Penal Code entails an individual responsibility to report and applies irrespective of any duty of confidentiality.

111. In February 2023, the Ministry of Justice and Public Security issued a new guide on confidentiality, disclosure rights and the duty of disclosure in the public administration. The guide also deals with the duty to avert a criminal offence.

112. The police's efforts to prevent and combat violence and abuse have been significantly strengthened in recent years, both in terms of competence and capacity. The Children's Houses has been further developed and expanded over several years, and support centres for victims of crime have been established in all the police districts. Common national guidelines have been developed for interaction between the Child Welfare Service and the police. In recent years, the National Courts Administration has worked systematically on competence-raising measures in cases involving children.

113. The Government will take steps to improve the clear-up rate in cases of violence and abuse, and is working to improve the quality of criminal proceedings by strengthening the prosecution authority and enhancing investigation work. In 2024 research will be initiated to shed light on the reasons for the falling clear-up rates in priority categories of crime, including serious violence and abuse.

114. All the police districts have established "cyber patrols" that receive information and tips about online crime. The police have also introduced a secure chat service for children who are in a situation online where they may need to get in touch with the police. The Government is looking into introducing a duty for Norwegian service providers to report if they discover that their services are being used for unlawful storage or distribution of abuse material.

d)

115. The Children's Houses play a key role in the work to ensure that children's legal rights are safeguarded and the coordination of the help for children who have witnessed or been subjected to violence and/or sexual abuse, where the case has been reported to the police. Within the health service, the Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Outpatient Clinics (BUP) is an important partner. BUP investigate and treat trauma related to violence and abuse. In particularly severe cases, the child is referred to a specialist psychiatric department in a hospital.

116. The Government will follow up the evaluation of the Children's Houses, among other things, by working to strengthen the offer of medical examinations. The common guidelines for all Children's Houses are under review, and the Government will also consider introducing a separate Children's Houses Act. In 2024 Children's Houses

will be established in Finnmark Police District at three locations. The Children's House in Karasjok will be responsible for services aimed specifically at Sami children. The Government will also establish further Children's Houses in areas where long journeys still pose a challenge. In 2024, the Government will expand the target group of the Children's Houses to encompass suspects in sexual offence cases who are under the age of 16.

117. The State provides grants for the operation of the Stine Sofie Centre, which is a national centre for children who have been subjected to violence, their caregivers of trust and siblings. The Centre offers families a free six-day stay, where they can have fun and learn to better master their lives in safe surroundings.

e)

118. The Child Welfare Act applies to all children in Norway, regardless of their status and nationality. Unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors under the age of 15 receive an offer of accommodation and care under the State's regional child welfare authority (cf. Section 11-1 of the Child Welfare Act). The care centre will provide the child with good care and emotional security, as well as help them get the follow-up and treatment they need. Care centres have a statutory duty to assess the children who stay there.

119. The Directorate of Immigration (UDI) is responsible for the care of unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors between the ages of 15 and 18 who live in a reception centre for asylum seekers. The care provided must be of good quality and adapted to the individual's needs. The reception centres must provide trauma-sensitive, relationship-based care. UDI sets requirements and provides training and guidance for the reception centres. UDI has also developed its own "action cards" that provide guidance for the special reception centres for asylum seekers for sexual and gender minorities, as well as what to do if a resident reports being subjected to sexual assault, violence or harassment, child marriage, human trafficking or abuse in close relationships.

120. In 2022, an independent central supervisory authority was established for unaccompanied minors living in reception centres for asylum seekers. The supervisory authority shall ensure that unaccompanied minors who live in reception centres for asylum seekers are offered adequate accommodation and care. All unaccompanied minors are appointed a representative who will assist them during the asylum application process.

121. Children who have come to Norway after the granting of family immigration and where there is reason to believe that the parents or children have been abused in the family relationship or by other members of the same household (or by the family-in-law) must be granted a residence permit on an independent basis if the cohabitation has ended.

122. The Government is going to consider the establishment of a scheme in which the municipal authorities are notified by the immigrant authorities about family immigrants who will be settling in the municipality, so that the municipal authorities have the opportunity to actively investigate whether there is a risk of neglect or abuse in the home.

f)

123. The Norwegian Police University College plays a central role in the training of the police through the basic, further and continuing education it offers, including on violence and abuse of children. "Abuse in close relationships" and "Investigation of serious violence against children" are two of the studies offered as further and continuing education.

124. The Norwegian Police University College has entered into an interprofessional collaboration with the University of South-Eastern Norway, called SAMOT – Partnership against violence and abuse of children and young people.

125. Through the escalation plan against violence and abuse of children and violence in close relationships, the Government is aiming to increase the knowledge about violence and abuse among operative personnel in the police, increase police competence on negative social control and honour-related violence, and strengthen competence in the justice sector on online and internet-related abuse.

126. Knowledge about violence and abuse is included in the framework plan for kindergartens, the Education Act, various school curricula, the framework plan for child care at school outside school hours (SFO), and the plan for teacher education and all health and social science education.

127. A learning resource has been developed for use in kindergartens and schools on bullying, violence, abuse and children's rights (cf. jegvet.no). In addition, a knowledge and training portal has been developed on how to conduct difficult conversations with children and young people who may be at risk (cf. Snakkemedbarn.no). The target group is all employees in services that have dealings with children and young people.

g)

128. The Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Outpatient Clinic (BUP) has a responsibility to offer treatment to children and adolescents who exhibit harmful sexual behaviour. Individualised treatment is recommended. Many of children and young people who violate others have themselves been victims of serious incidents such as neglect and sexual abuse. Others may have cognitive impairments that contribute to their sexualised behaviour. There are various tools for assessing and treating these kinds of behavioural problems. There are also units in the specialist health service with expertise in harmful sexual behaviour.

Harmful practices

Question 18

- a)
129. The Government finances a range of attitude campaigns to prevent negative social control, honour-related violence, forced marriage (including child marriage) and female genital mutilation. In 2022, the Norwegian Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDi) developed new information measures aimed at parents and children aged 12–18 years. IMDi also supports a number of campaigns and information initiatives on these issues through the allocation of project funding to civil society organisations.
- b)
130. Forced marriage and female genital mutilation are criminal offences according to the Penal Code. A government-appointed expert commission is currently conducting an assessment of legal issues related to negative social control, honour-based violence, forced marriage, female genital mutilation, and psychological violence. The commission will submit its report in 2024.
131. Norway also has several special assistance services with expertise on negative social control, honour-related violence, forced marriage and female genital mutilation. One example is the national, cross-sectoral expert team on negative social control and honour-related violence. There are also diversity advisors at selected lower secondary and upper secondary schools in all the counties and four special envoys for integration issues at the foreign service missions in Ankara, Amman, Islamabad and Nairobi.
- c)
132. Treatment is only initiated when medically necessary. This concerns only a handful of children, who are followed up from the time they are born. The children are promptly referred to the specialist health service for examination and treatment. In some patients, surgery may be necessary, which is then done in consultation with the child's parents. Treatment practices in Norway are in line with those in the rest of Europe and follow international standards in the field.

E. Family environment and alternative care

Family environment

Question 19

- a)
133. The new Child Welfare Act attaches greater importance to prevention and early intervention. The municipal authorities' responsibility for preventing children and

young people from being subjected to neglect has been defined more clearly, and the municipal council has been made responsible for coordinating and drawing up a plan for this work. The child welfare reform also gave the municipal authorities greater autonomy in the practice of and financial responsibility for the child welfare services.

134. The Family Counselling Service is a free, low-threshold service for family relationships. The Family Counselling Service can advise and help families to manage challenges and find solutions. The service has a preventive approach. The Ministry of Children and Families is reviewing the Family Counselling Service Act.

135. Municipal authorities can apply for grants for parental support measures. This grant scheme has been strengthened in 2024 and now amounts to approximately NOK 51 million.

b)

136. The Children Act gives children the right to contact with both parents, even if the parents do not live together. It is nevertheless a problem that some children and parents are prevented from having contact with each other.

137. The Ministry of Children and Families is currently working on a new Children Act, and is considering amending the regulations to combat obstruction of contact between children and a parent. There is a particular focus on the rules concerning child maintenance, with a view to ensuring that there are no financial incentives to obstruct contact.

c)

138. The main purpose of the Child Welfare Service is to assist families, and it must adhere to the principle of least intervention. This means that home-based assistance measures are offered in most cases where children and families need assistance. Children are only taken into care and placed outside the home in cases of severe neglect, violence or abuse. It is the Child Welfare Tribunal that issues care orders.

139. The number of children who have been taken into care pursuant to the Child Welfare Act has decreased since 2013. The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs has initiated a research project on causes of the decline in the number of children taken into care from 2013 to 2022.

140. A family group conference is a meeting between the family's network and public agencies. The method makes use of the resources within the child's family and network. The goal is to come up with a plan to improve the child's and the family's situation. Family group conferences are mostly used in the Child Welfare Service, but in recent years have also been used in other services.

Children deprived of a family environment, and adoption

Question 20

a)

141. The principle of the best interests of the child will be a fundamental consideration in connection with a child being taken into care, determination of the extent of contact with the biological family, family reunification, and adoption pursuant to the Child Welfare Act. The new Act sets requirements for an explanation of the grounds for decisions, and it must be specified in administrative decisions issued by the Child Welfare Service and the Child Welfare Tribunal how the best interests of the child and respect for family ties have been assessed.

b)

142. Measures imposed by the Child Welfare Service must not be more intrusive than necessary. This principle has been stated more clearly in the new Act and is decisive in the application of all the provisions of the Act. There are strict conditions that must be met for the Child Welfare Service to take a child into care. The conditions have been enshrined in law. The Act also states that the Child Welfare Tribunal can only issue a care order if less invasive measures cannot create satisfactory conditions for the child and this is necessary based on the child's situation. Taking the child into care must be in the best interests of the child.

143. The Child Welfare Service has a statutory duty to follow up the child and the parents after a care order and must regularly assess whether there is a need to implement or change other measures pursuant to the Act. Moreover, care orders should normally be considered temporary and the Child Welfare Services must work to facilitate reunification where this is not precluded by the best interests of the child.

144. Children and young people with an ethnic minority background face the same challenges as children and young people in general, but they often also face some additional challenges. Cultural, religious, linguistic and other minority-related factors, living condition factors and refugee-specific factors all play a role in challenges that may result in a child being taken into care. However, there are no grounds to claim that the child's origins in themselves are grounds for a child to be taken into care. The basis for intervention by the Child Welfare Service is the best interests of the child, and the goal is to ensure that children and young people who live in conditions that may be detrimental to their health and development receive the necessary assistance. In practice, this often involves preventing violence, abuse and/or neglect within the family.

145. Forced placement of young people in institutions on the basis of the young person's own behaviour or actions is very invasive. In order to make the regulations clear and straightforward to apply, the rules on placement of young people in institutions are presented together in a separate chapter of the Act. The Child Welfare Tribunal must

approve the placement, and the conditions laid down in the Act on, among other things, the best interests of the child and the child's right to participation apply.

146. The Child Welfare Institution Committee delivered its report in 2023. The report provides a thorough review of the challenges faced by child welfare institutions and presents comprehensive proposals for changes to ensure that children at the child welfare institutions receive good care, developmental support, and the necessary health care. The proposals will be followed up through the white paper on quality that is scheduled to be presented to the Storting in spring 2025.
147. Like other child welfare institutions, all private and municipal care centres for unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors must be approved by the regional level of the Office for Children, Youth and Family Affairs (Bufetat) or the City of Oslo. Bufetat conducts annual checks on private and municipal care centres through ongoing internal control. The county governor has supervisory authority and makes sure that the care centres are operated in accordance with the applicable regulations and that the children receive proper care, treatment and follow-up in the centres.
148. The right of children and parents to respect for their family life is a fundamental human right. It is a clear starting point that it is best for children to grow up in their own families. Care orders should thus normally be considered temporary, and it is always a goal to reunite children and their families, unless the best interests of the child dictate otherwise. Follow-up of the child and its parents after a child has been taken into care and the extent and quality of contact between the child and the parents are important prerequisites for the child and parents to be reunited once the conditions for this are met. The new Child Welfare Act clarifies the rules on contact, and these must be assessed in the context of the introductory provision on the best interests of the child and the child's right to participation and co-determination. The Act expressly states that the Child Welfare Tribunal shall determine the extent of contact on the basis of a concrete assessment of the individual case.
149. In spring 2024, the Government is presenting a white paper on foster homes. A number of measures are going to be presented that will contribute to increased stability and better recruitment of foster homes. There is a particular focus on enabling a higher degree of placement within the child's family, network and local community. The central Child Welfare Service has a statutory duty to offer a child a foster home when this is requested by the municipality. Challenges linked to recruiting and retaining foster homes can result in breaches of the duty to provide assistance.
150. A revised version of the foster home regulations came into force on 1 January 2024. Here it is specified that the municipal authorities must strive to choose foster homes in the child's local environment, unless the best interests of the child dictate otherwise.

151. In 2023, the Government presented a plan of action for recruitment of foster homes. This plan will help recruit foster homes for the children who are currently on a waiting list, primarily by providing better support for foster parents. Many municipalities have important collaborative projects underway related to foster homes through the grant scheme for municipal learning networks. The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs is working to get more people to enrol in courses to become foster parents. In 2024, the Directorate has prepared detailed guidelines for how the child welfare services and the Office for Children, Youth and Family Affairs (Bufetat) are to prevent relocations that are not in the best interests of the child.

c)

152. In June 2023, the Government appointed a committee to conduct an official inquiry into international adoptions, in order to investigate whether the Norwegian authorities have exercised sufficient oversight and control over adoptions from overseas, and to uncover whether there have been any illegal and/or unethical circumstances in connection with adoptions from other countries to Norway. The committee has been mandated with assessing whether the existing system is sound and conducting a critical review of international adoption at the system level, with reviews of a sample of individual cases. The committee has also been tasked with assessing measures in the field of adoption and making recommendations on the adoption system. The committee will submit its report within two years from the start-up date and will also submit one or more sub-reports on the situation in individual countries or other appropriate topics.

153. The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs (Bufdir) is the Norwegian adoption authority and Norway's Central Authority pursuant to the 1993 Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption.

154. In 2023, Bufdir has established a number of post-adoption services for adoptees and their families. This includes assistance in connection with finding out about their biological origins and assistance in questions about illegalities in their own case. In addition, a special service has been established for adoptees and their families that provides individual guidance to adoptees and their families on post-adoption services and information and professional support on adoption-specific issues for use in the relevant services. From 2024, new courses are available for adoptive parents based on trauma-informed care as a method, where topics include racism and the experience of alienation. The aim is to provide good parental support and guidance on the services that are available, as well as provide an opportunity to develop networks.

d)

155. Children fleeing from Ukraine seeking protection in Norway can receive temporary collective protection. Collective protection means that the Norwegian immigration authorities do not assess the need for protection on an individual basis, but provide collective protection for people displaced from Ukraine and their family members. The

permit is limited and granted for one year at a time, for up to three years. Ukrainians who receive collective protection do not have refugee status and do not receive a travel document for refugees.

156. In order to improve the municipalities' ability to respond to the current refugee situation due to the war in Ukraine, some temporary legislative amendments have been implemented in the Kindergarten Act and the Education Act, making it easier to establish temporary kindergartens and giving the municipalities a period of up to three months to offer a full programme of education and training, among other things.

157. Anyone who is granted temporary collective protection will be offered housing with public assistance. All children are entitled to health care, education and a place at a kindergarten (after settlement).

Children of incarcerated parents

Question 21

158. The Norwegian Correctional Service must ensure that, as a general rule, all prisoners are able to receive visits in prison, unless safety considerations dictate otherwise. Weight must always be afforded to children's right to access to (i.e. contact with) their parents in connection with the execution of a sentence. Prisons must make arrangements to ensure that children's visits take place in the least harmful manner possible. Children under the age of 15 can only visit prisoners accompanied by an adult, preferably their own legal guardian or other relatives.

F. Children with disabilities

Question 22

a)

159. Everyone should be able to live their life freely, regardless of their functional ability. The Government maintains a policy that protects the rights of and actively assists marginalised groups, in order to ensure that individuals can master the challenges they face in life. In 2022, the Government presented a white paper on human rights for persons with intellectual disabilities.

160. Norwegian health legislation has the same overarching provisions concerning rights, which generally apply regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, disability, etc.

161. Norwegian municipalities provide health and care services to their citizens. The distribution of funds to the municipalities takes into account that each municipality is

different, and funds are distributed according to, for example, the number of children of school age and the number of elderly people. (Cf. section 5 a)

162. In addition, municipalities that have users who are very cost-intensive receive, upon application, reimbursement via the top-up financing scheme for resource-intensive services for these users, if the expenses exceed a given level. The county governor supervises the municipalities' health and care services and processes appeals across municipal boundaries.

b)

163. Families who have or are expecting a child with a serious illness, injury or disability, and who will need long-term and complex or coordinated health and care services and other welfare services, are entitled to a child coordinator pursuant to the Patient and User Rights Act. The municipality's duty to appoint a child coordinator is stipulated in the Health and Care Services Act.

164. Children who receive services in children's and respite homes often have multiple, complex needs for assistance. Many of these have developmental disabilities and impaired ability to communicate their needs. Children are entitled to necessary services during the respite period. It is also regarded as absolutely necessary to map the child's needs and wishes, so that the services are designed in line with what is important for the child. Follow-up of the offer therefore often requires comprehensive input from the health and care services in the municipalities where the children live.

165. The next-of-kin of children with special needs must be confident that the care and services their children receive in children's and respite homes are of good quality and adapted to the individual child's needs. In a recent nationwide inspection of children's and respite homes, the Norwegian Health Inspectorate detected a number of non-conformities. In cases where the non-conformity was in breach of the law, the county governor requests that the municipal authority draw up a plan for how the findings are to be followed up and sets a time limit for when the violation must be remedied.

c)

166. As part of the new escalation plan for mental health, the Government wants to improve services for children and young people with complex needs. Measures will include better coordination of the services that are available, continuation and improvement of the health offerings for children in the Child Welfare Service's care, and increasing competence in recognising and detecting early signs of neurodevelopmental disorders and their follow-up.

167. Measures to contribute to better services for children and young people with long-term and complex needs include continuing, renewing and improving health offerings in the Child Welfare Service. Furthermore, children in the Child Welfare Service's care who need health care must have as good access to health care as other children. A national pathway for child welfare has been established. This will help ensure that all children in the Child Welfare Service's care are screened and

assessed for any somatic health problems, mental health problems, substance abuse problems, sexual health problems, dental health problems, etc. such that they can receive the necessary health care. (Cf. 23 d and e).

G. Basic health and welfare

Health and health-care services, mental health and adolescent health

Question 23

- a)
168. See the presentation of the block funding of the municipalities in section 5 a) and 22 a).
- b)
169. One of the most important services for children and young people is the child health clinic and school health service. Almost all children and young people come into contact with this service through standard check-ups. The service also has same-day drop-in appointments. The Government has strengthened the child health clinic and school health service both professionally and financially. All children and young people have the right to be registered with a general practitioner (GP). The Government has implemented measures to increase the capacity and stability of the general practitioner system.
- c)
170. All refugees and asylum seekers have the same entitlement to health care as the rest of the population.
- d)
171. The Health and Care Services Act stipulates that the municipalities must ensure that all people who reside in the municipality are offered the necessary health and care services. The municipality's responsibility includes all patient and health care user groups, including people with mental health challenges and substance abuse problems. The municipality must offer health-promoting and preventive services, assessment, diagnosis and treatment, and social, psychosocial and medical habilitation and rehabilitation. Specialised treatment for mental health disorders takes place in the specialist health service.
172. Many people with mental health problems and disorders are in contact with their GP. The child health clinic and school health service can also fulfil this role for children and young people, pregnant and post-partum families. In addition, there are separate low-threshold services for mental health. A report from the Office of the Auditor General in 2021 showed that 75 per cent of municipalities had their own low-threshold mental health service that treats children and young people.

173. Municipal services, such as the child health clinic and school health service, educational-psychological service (PPT) and/or Child Welfare Service, also treat children and young people. From 1 January 2020, all Norwegian municipalities are required by law to have clinical psychologists available. In 2023, the Government presented the white paper Escalation plan for mental health. One of the goals of this plan is that people in all municipalities shall have access to knowledge-based, low-threshold offerings within mental health and substance abuse.

e)

174. One of the goals of the escalation plan for mental health is a 25 per cent reduction in the level of self-reported mental health symptoms among children and young people. The plan includes a number of measures both to address the causes of mental health problems among children and young people and to provide better assistance to individuals who need mental health services. Norway also has a national action plan for suicide prevention, which includes a zero vision for suicide.

175. The aim of the Government's action plan on gender and sexual diversity (2023–2026) is to improve queer people's quality of life, safeguard their rights, and contribute to greater acceptance of gender and sexual diversity. A grant scheme has been established to strengthen efforts to improve mental health among queer people.

176. The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration has separate guidelines for the identification and follow-up of vulnerable individuals both in reception centres for asylum seekers and in the asylum process.

f)

177. The age of majority in respect of health issues is 16, from which age children have access to the same complaints systems as adults. They can appeal decisions regarding examination and treatment made without their consent to the county governor. Decisions on the use of coercive means in mental health services can be appealed to the mental health review board. The mental health review board's decisions in cases concerning forced observation and establishment or maintenance of compulsory mental health care can be brought before the district court for review pursuant to the special rules in Chapter 36 of the Dispute Act.

178. For children who have reached the age of 12, examination and treatment that involves staying in an institution and consent to being subject to the rules on compulsory mental health care, can be brought before the mental health review board if the child does not agree with the measure.

g)

179. Diagnoses of ADHD among children in Norway are monitored through the Norwegian Patient Register, among others. Hyperkinetic disorder (ADHD) and attention deficit disorder are the most common issues among boys referred to the Mental Health Service for Children and Adolescents. There are professional

guidelines on the assessment and treatment of ADHD for children, adolescents and adults.

h)

180. Prevention of substance abuse requires coordinated efforts, and the responsibility is distributed across several ministries, underlying agencies and local authorities. For this reason, cross-sectoral work has been initiated under the auspices of the underlying directorates to ensure better cohesion and coordination of cross-sectoral efforts to prevent substance abuse aimed at children and young people.

181. The responsibility for the treatment of children and young people with serious substance abuse problems currently lies with the specialist health service. Many children and young people who have substance abuse and mental health challenges will not need specialised alcohol and substance abuse treatment, but will receive good help and follow-up from municipal services such as the child health clinic and school health service, their GP, special low-threshold services, and outreach services. The Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Outpatient Clinic (BUP) has broad experience in collaborating with, for example, school health services and the Child Welfare Service, and may therefore also constitute a good treatment option for young people who have developed a serious substance abuse problem. Children and young people with concurrent mental health and substance abuse disorders will in any case be referred to the Mental Health Service for Children and Adolescents (PHBU) for treatment. Some children and young people who are under the Child Welfare Service's care are treated for their substance abuse problems in the child welfare institution.

Impact of climate change on the rights of the child

Question 24

a)

182. Norway's enhanced climate targets under the Paris Agreement are to reduce emissions by at least 55 per cent by 2030 compared with 1990 levels. Norway wants to cut its greenhouse gas emissions in collaboration with the EU. The Climate Act stipulates Norway's enhanced climate targets for 2030 and the climate target for 2050. The Act forms the framework for Norway's climate policy and is intended to help the country transition to a low-emission society, with the goal of a 90–95 per cent reduction in emissions by 2050.

183. In October 2023, the Government presented its second status report and updated plan to meet the 2030 climate targets. This plan will be presented to the Storting each year in October together with the Government's proposal for a budget. The Government has initiated work on a new climate report for the period up to 2035.

184. The Petroleum Act stipulates that the petroleum resources must be managed in a long-term perspective for the benefit of the Norwegian society as a whole. The interests of future generations are a significant consideration in Norway's petroleum policy, and the petroleum resources have been and will continue to be managed for the benefit of society over several generations with respect to value creation, employment and development of the welfare society. There is comprehensive regulation of emissions to air from the sector, with obligatory quotas and CO₂ tax as the main instruments.

185. Organisations representing children must be heard at key milestones for the petroleum activities, such as when opening new areas for exploration and in connection with impact assessments of planned developments.

b)

186. Norway has the highest share of electricity produced from renewable sources and the lowest emissions from the power sector in Europe. Norway's ample access to renewable, emission-free electricity puts the country in a unique position globally. Norway's ambition is that by 2040, areas will have been allocated for 30,000 MW of offshore wind production. Environmental aspects and pollution considerations are adequately addressed through legal frameworks and other instruments.

c)

187. The Government is working to ensure that children and young people are involved in decision-making processes related to climate change. In 2023, the Ministry of Climate and Environment held a meeting with children and young people to discuss enhancing Norway's climate targets under the Paris Agreement. Meetings have also been held with UNICEF Norway, Save the Children Norway and the Norwegian Children and Youth Council (LNU) on how children and young people can contribute to the work on the new climate report. The Ombudsperson for Children has also been involved in one of these meetings.

188. Two youth delegates are part of the official Norwegian delegation to the UN climate negotiations and attend meetings under the UN climate framework. Two youth delegates have attended COP 26 in Glasgow, COP 27 in Sharm el-Sheikh and COP 28 in Dubai. The Children's Panel on Climate Change has also attended the climate conferences in Sharm el-Sheikh and Dubai. At the Dubai climate action summit, Norway was a driving force behind the agreement to hold an expert dialogue on children's particular vulnerability to climate change during the June 2024 climate talks in Bonn.

189. Norway signed the Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action at COP 26 in Glasgow. This declaration is intended to help strengthen children and young people's right to a healthy environment, including by recognising that children have an inalienable right to a healthy environment.

d)

190. Awareness and knowledge of issues related to sustainable development and climate change have long been embedded in the Norwegian educational system. Norway has committed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and UNESCO's Global Action Program on Education for Sustainable Development.

191. The Norwegian Kindergarten Act states that children must learn to take care of themselves, each other and nature. The Education Act states that pupils and apprentices must learn to think critically and act ethically and with environmental awareness.

192. In accordance with the Framework Plan for the Content and Tasks of Kindergartens, Kindergartens shall foster the children's ability to think critically, act ethically and show solidarity. Children shall be given opportunities to give care and to look after their surroundings and the natural environment. For Sami children, this means living in harmony with, making use of and reaping the land. Sustainable development is one of three interdisciplinary topics in the Norwegian national curriculum for basic education. The pupils shall develop competencies that enable them to make responsible choices and to act ethically and with environmental awareness.

e)

193. Norway has an ambitious chemicals policy, and it is a national goal that pollutants and other hazardous substances should not harm people or the environment. It is considered particularly important to protect vulnerable groups such as fetuses, children and young people.

194. The Norwegian authorities are actively working to stop the use and emissions of pollutants, and substances that give similar cause for concern. Effective regulations are important to protect children and young people from pollutants and other hazardous substances. Through the EEA Agreement, Norway adheres to EU regulations in the area of chemicals. Norway contributes actively to the development of the regulatory framework. For example, in collaboration with other European countries, Norway has worked to strengthen the regulations concerning toys. Norway is campaigning for several substances to be banned, including endocrine disruptors. Norway is also working actively at the global level to limit the use and emissions of hazardous substances.

Standard of living

Question 25

a)

195. Child benefit is paid for all children under the age of 18 resident in Norway, regardless of the family's income.

196. Financial social assistance is the last resort safety net in Norway's welfare system. The state guidelines for financial social assistance, including rates for the childrens' living expenses, have been raised. With effect from 1 September 2022 child benefit is not included when financial social assistance is determined. (Cf. section 6 a).
197. Through State grant schemes, funding is provided for affordable or free leisure activities that benefit children directly. Many of these are aimed at vulnerable children and young people, including children in low-income families.
198. Important policy measures to reduce poverty, also among families with children, are including more people into the labour market, universal welfare schemes, and fair and redistributive taxes.
199. In order for more youth to complete their education and get a job, a youth guarantee was introduced in the Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration (NAV) from 1 July 2023. The guarantee ensures young people between the age of 16 and 30 who need assistance to get into the labour market early, close and individual follow-up.
200. Since the last report, kindergarten prices have been reduced. Free part-time places have been introduced in child care at school outside school hours (SFO), and the grant for free or affordable recreational activities for children and young people has been increased. These are measures that benefit children in poor families directly. The cooperative strategy for children and young people in low-income families was launched in 2020 and expires in 2024.
201. In 2022, an expert group was set up to make recommendations on how public expenditure should be prioritised to improve the childhood conditions for children in low-income families and prevent poverty from being inherited. The expert group which submitted its recommendations to the Government in October 2023 included input from children and young people.
202. A separate expert group was set up to look at what changes ought to be made in the education system to reduce social differences, increase social mobility and contribute to more people completing education. The expert group submitted its report in February 2024.
203. Both expert group reports will be followed up through a white paper on levelling out social inequalities and social mobility, which is scheduled to be presented in spring 2025. The work on the report will be seen in the context of the work on social missions launched in the "Long-term plan for research and higher education 2023–2032", which aim to include more children and young people in education, employment and society through cross-sectoral, targeted efforts.
204. Families with low income and high housing expenses can apply for housing benefit, which has been increased in recent years. Municipal start-up loans help people who have long-term problems with getting a mortgage from an ordinary bank to buy or

make adaptations to their own home. Families with children are a priority group in the municipal start-up loan scheme. In spring 2024, the Government presented a white paper on a fully comprehensive and active housing policy.

b)

205. Statistics Norway (SSB) has investigated and recommended alternative poverty indicators to supplement persistent low income, which is the standard measure of poverty. The goal is to use indicators that provide a comprehensive and accurate picture of the situation of children in poor families, and which capture the impacts of different measures on the financial situation of families with children.

206. In 2021, a decline in the proportion and number of children growing up in families with persistent low-income was recorded for the first time since the last report. Statistics Norway points out that the increase in child benefit for children under 6 years of age has probably contributed significantly to this decline.

207. In 2024, the grant scheme Grants for inclusion of children and young people amounted to approximately NOK 758 million. The scheme is going to be evaluated. In 2022 approximately 430,000 people were reached directly with various free or affordable activities through grants from the scheme.

208. The Government also has broad support schemes for voluntary organisations. NOK 2 billion has been awarded in full VAT compensation over the past two years, electricity support amounting to NOK 1,3 billion, and allocations of NOK 1,7 billion for sports facilities. Religious and philosophical communities receive grants from the State, including for activities for children and young people, which contribute to inclusion and good childhood conditions for children and young people.

c)

209. In 2022, the Government, the municipal sector and a number of NGOs signed a renewed Declaration on Recreation. The declaration commits the signatories to working to enable children to participate in recreational activities. Grants for measures to include children and young people in recreational activities under the auspices of municipal authorities, NGOs and other State actors are an important instrument to realise the Declaration on Recreation. (Cf. section 4 a and c, and section 25 a).

H. Education, leisure and cultural activities

Education, including vocational training and guidance

Question 26

a)

210. The municipalities are responsible ensuring that pupils' rights are safeguarded and that school buildings comply with laws and regulations. "Boosting competencies in

special education and inclusive practice” is a programme to help ensure the municipal and county authorities have the competencies they need, enabling them to identify and follow up all children and pupils so that they get a well-adapted and inclusive educational offering in kindergarten and school. The programme started in 2020 and is still under development, until it becomes a permanent solution from 2025.

The Government has also enabled a major increase in continuing education in special education for kindergarten and school teachers.

211. The Government has a grant scheme for specially adapted teaching materials and aids. Norway has introduced strict rules for the universal design of ICT, which also encompasses universal design of digital learning tools. Statped – the national special education service – produces and adapts learning materials for blind and weak-sighted pupils and for deaf pupils/pupils who use sign languages.

b)

212. The proportion of pupils that complete upper secondary education has increased steadily over the past two decades. Since primary and lower secondary schooling is compulsory, almost all pupils complete these levels of education. There has nevertheless been an increase in the number of students who leave lower secondary school without complete academic qualifications (7.8 per cent in 2023). There has also been an increase in absence from school, an increase in reported cases of absence from school that gives rise for concern, and an increase in the proportion of pupils with persistent high absence (approximately 10 per cent absence or more).

213. The Norwegian Directorate for Education has investigated the scope of school absence among pupils and recommended a number of measures, including a new national system for collecting absence data for all school years and national guidelines for sharing “best practices”.

214. The Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development finances the City of Oslo’s Roma Mediator Service “Skolelostjenesten”. This service aims to strengthen learning outcomes, reduce absence from school, and increase the likelihood of pupils with a Roma background completing compulsory schooling.

c)

215. Children under the age of 16 have the right and a duty to compulsory education. This also applies to children who are asylum seekers. The municipality where the child lives is responsible for providing compulsory primary and lower secondary education.

216. Children living in reception centres for asylum seekers are not entitled to a place in kindergarten. These children can get a place when they are granted a residence permit, are settled in a municipality, and meet the other conditions specified in the Kindergarten Act. However, municipalities can offer places in kindergarten to children living in reception centres for asylum seekers. The UDI then pays a grant to the municipality.

d)

217. The Directorate for Education has developed a guide with a clear recommendation on regulation of the use of private mobile phones in schools. The goal is to promote the development of local regulations, increase concentration, improve the learning environment and reduce cyberbullying.

218. A zero tolerance attitude towards bullying at schools has been enshrined in law, and schools are required to ensure that students have a good, safe school environment. There is a variety of measures that can help schools in this work, such as guidance and various online courses for competence raising. The Directorate is coordinating the measures that support efforts to develop good, inclusive and safe school environments, and assess what competencies schools currently need to develop a good, safe school environment.

e)

219. The Education Act and the Independent Schools Act do not contain any rules on when an employee can intervene physically with pupils, even though situations arise where school employees use physical force. In May 2023, the Ministry of Education and Research submitted a proposal for new rules in the Education Act and the Independent Schools Act on the prevention of injuries and use of physical intervention. The proposal includes legislating that schools must work preventatively to avoid situations that involve physical interventions with pupils and that employees in the school can intervene physically with pupils to prevent injuries or significant damage to property. The bill was submitted to the Storting in spring 2024 and will come into force on 1 August 2024.

f)

220. In spring 2023, the Government presented a white paper on Sami language, culture and society – Competence and recruitment in kindergartens, schools and higher education. This will be followed up in cooperation with the Sami Parliament of Norway.

221. In the new Education Act it is a statutory duty for municipal and county authorities to offer parts of the teaching in Sami in Sami-speaking environments if this is necessary for the training to be pedagogically sound. Furthermore, the right to training in Sami at the upper secondary school level has been extended to also apply to non-Sami students who have been taught in Sami or learned Sami in primary and lower secondary school.

g)

222. The curriculum from 2020 has Regulation status and sets parameters for the teaching. The framework plans for teacher education programmes must be based on the Education Act and applicable curricula for primary and secondary education and training. The core curriculum for primary and secondary education states that

the education and training given must comply with human rights, and the pupils must also acquire knowledge about these rights.

Rest, leisure, recreation and cultural and artistic activities

Question 27

223. Children and young people are priority target groups in the Government's policy for sports and the voluntary sector. Recruitment and inclusion of underrepresented groups is a priority task.

224. Music and performing arts institutions that receive funding via the fiscal budget are encouraged to work strategically and with a long-term perspective to lower thresholds for participation and to keep user payments down. They have also been tasked with facilitating music and performing arts offerings that are accessible to a broad and diverse audience. (Cf. section 25 c).

225. The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs manages the grant scheme "Grants for holiday and recreational activities for people with disabilities". The aim of this grant scheme is to give civil society, i.e. NGOs and foundations, the opportunity to arrange good holiday and recreational activities for people with disabilities. In 2023, NOK 25,7 million was allocated to the scheme.

226. The Norwegian Library of Talking Books and Braille is a State library that produces and lends out adapted literature to people with difficulties to read printed text. Information, recruitment and dissemination work aimed at children and young people has been a priority during the period.

227. A public committee has assessed the situation for Norwegian sign language. The right of hearing-impaired children and young people to be taught sign language and to be taught in sign language and have access to sign language environments are key topics in the committee's report . The report is under review. (Cf. section 6 a).

I. Special protection mechanisms

Asylum-seeking, refugee and migrant children, including unaccompanied children

Question 28

a)

228. The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) and the Norwegian Immigration Appeals Board (UNE) must ensure quick, efficient case processing that ensures the due process of law, i.e. the fair treatment and protection of the rights of the individual, and avoids putting children's lives on hold. Minor asylum seekers shall be given

priority by both UDI and UNE in the processing of cases. This prioritisation applies to both unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors and families with children.

229. Foreigners who have a well-founded fear of being persecuted or being subjected to inhuman or degrading treatment in their country of origin, must, upon application, be recognised as a refugee and be granted a residence permit in Norway (cf. Section 28 of the Immigration Act). If the applicant is a child, this must be taken into account, and the threshold for what is regarded as persecution or degrading treatment may be lower for children than for adults.
230. The Immigration Act has special rules on the detention of families with children and unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors. A minor foreign national may only be arrested when dictated by special circumstances and may only be detained in extraordinary situations. The best interests of the child must always be a fundamental consideration in cases concerning arrest and detention, and it must always be assessed whether alternative measures can be implemented instead.
231. In decisions that affect a child, the child is a party, and it must be explained how the best interests of the child and the options for alternative measures have been considered.
232. If the arrested foreigner is under the age of 18, they should not normally be held longer than the day after the arrest. If the police want to detain the arrested minor, they must be brought to court as soon as possible, and no later than the day after arrest. The best interests of the child must be a fundamental consideration in this assessment.
233. There have been some changes to the provisions on the detention of minors since Norway's last report in 2016. The previous 24-hour time limit meant that the removal of families with children had to be carried out in a rush, limiting the ability to ensure the children concerned were treated with due consideration. The time limit has now been extended to the "day after" the arrest, enabling better implementation of removal in cases where children are involved.
234. In UDI's administrative decisions regarding a limited residence permit for unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors under the age of 18, information is provided that the permit will expire when the young person turns 18 and that the person in question is in principle obliged to leave Norway at that time. The decision also contains information about the right to appeal and the right to stay in Norway until the appeal has been processed, also after they have turned 18. No special information is given to foreigners who are granted a limited residence permit for unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors under the age of 18 that they can apply for a residence permit on another basis, beyond the information that is publicly available on UDI's website udi.no aimed at all applicants. This is regarded as sufficient information, also for this group of applicants. Limited residence permits are only granted to unaccompanied minor asylum seekers who have no other basis for residence other than that the

Norwegian authorities deem that the applicant would be without proper care if they were returned. Limiting the duration of the residence permit, so that it applies until the foreigner turns 18 years of age is also regarded as complying with the best interests of the child.

235. Norway has an age-adapted care service for unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors. This means that UDI is responsible for offering accommodation to unaccompanied minors between the ages of 15 and 18 at special reception centres for asylum seekers or departments that are adapted to their needs. In 2022, an independent supervisory authority was established to monitor the care of unaccompanied minors living in reception centres for asylum seekers. The purpose is to ensure that the individuals' legal rights are protected and to make sure that unaccompanied minors receive proper follow-up during their stay in a reception centre.

236. In cases where unaccompanied minors disappear from a reception centre, UDI has procedures for follow-up, which entail, among other things, that the Child Welfare Service, the individual's representative (guardian), their lawyer and the police are notified. It is the police that investigates any criminal acts, while UDI and the reception centres can help through preventive work and by cooperating with the police. In 2023, a major project was carried out to strengthen the police's investigation of cases where unaccompanied minors disappear from reception centres. The routines for notification between the police and the reception centres have been revised, and a new notification form has been introduced. The statistics have been amended to provide a better overview of the number of disappearances. New guidelines are now being prepared on investigation of disappearances.

b)

237. Norway is not legally obliged to have a "reasonableness condition", since this cannot be derived from the Refugee Convention or international case law. Moreover, no one can be returned if they face a real risk of being subjected to persecution, the death penalty, torture, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

238. The Norwegian authorities must always assess whether a residence permit can be granted pursuant to Section 38 of the Immigration Act in cases of internal flight. It will then be assessed whether strong humanitarian considerations or a particular connection with Norway can indicate that a residence permit should nevertheless be granted. The considerations that were previously assessed under the reasonableness condition are now assessed pursuant to Section 38.

c)

239. Some of the unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors who arrive in Norway do not present identity documents, and there will often also be doubt as to the age of the applicant. The purpose of age determination procedures is to ensure that children are not erroneously assessed as adults, and similarly that adults are not erroneously assessed as children. Whether an applicant is an adult or a child may have an impact

on the outcome of the asylum case. It is also important for the placement in a reception centre for asylum seekers, as there are separate reception centres for asylum seekers under the age of 18 years.

240. It is important that the best methods for age determination at any given time are used, and that the quality of the examinations is improved where possible. The Department of Forensic Medicine at Oslo University Hospital has the national scientific responsibility for assessing the age of unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors, and has developed an age prediction tool called BioAlder, which is based on statistical modelling. The method uses X-rays of the applicant's hand and/or teeth. Researchers are working in parallel on developing a method for age estimation using DNA methylation. The methods available to us today do not indicate the individual's exact age and must therefore be considered in combination with the other information in the case. If there is any doubt, the applicant will be deemed to be under the age of 18.

Children belonging to minority or Indigenous groups

Question 29

a)

241. The Government is working on a dedicated plan of action to combat discrimination of the Sami people (cf. section 11 a). Funding has been granted for measures to combat anti-Sami behaviour through the grant scheme "Action against racism, discrimination and hate speech". Hate speech against Sami people is addressed by the Stop Hate Speech movement.

242. The learning resource "Jeg vet" [I know] for use in kindergartens and school years 1–4 has been translated into Northern Sami, Southern Sami and Lule Sami. Work has been initiated to ensure that the knowledge and training portal "snakkemedbarn.no" [Talk to children] is relevant to the Sami population, with subtitling and translation into Northern, Southern and Lule Sami.

243. The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs administers a grant scheme that aims to help prevent and combat violence and abuse in close relationships and safeguard adults and children who have been subjected to violence. One of the goals of the grant scheme is to ensure that indigenous peoples, as well as national and other ethnic minorities, have access to linguistically and culturally adapted offerings.

244. The Government's new escalation plan against violence and abuse of children and violence in close relations (2024–2028) contains a separate chapter on violence and abuse in Sami communities. The measures in the escalation plan are intended to pave the way for better prevention and combatting of violence and abuse in Sami

communities. This involves enabling employees in relevant services to gain knowledge and skills in Sami languages, culture and social relations. An important part of the work will be disseminating knowledge to children and young people and attitude-shaping campaigns aimed at the general public.

245. See also the discussion of bullying in section 26 d) and the discussion of the various action plans and strategies targeting different forms of discrimination in section 11 b) – e).

b)

246. The Framework Plan for the Content and Tasks of Kindergartens requires that all kindergartens must contribute to children becoming aware that the Sami people are the Indigenous people of Norway and learning about Sami culture.

247. It is established in the core curriculum for primary and secondary education that Sami cultural heritage is part of Norway's cultural heritage and that Norwegian and the Sami languages have equal standing in Norway. The core curriculum for primary and secondary education also mentions the national minorities: Jews, Kvens/Norwegian Finns, Forest Finns, Roma and Romani people/Tater as groups with long-standing ties to Norway. These groups status as national minorities are in accordance with our international obligations, that they have contributed to Norway's cultural heritage, and that teaching and training must impart knowledge about these groups. Pupils must learn about the Sami people and the national minorities in multiple subjects, and these topics are included in various curricula.

c)

248. In its judgment of October 2021, the Supreme Court of Norway ruled that the granting of licences for the development of windfarms in Storheia and Roan violates the rights of Sami reindeer herders to enjoy their own culture. In December 2021, the Ministry of Energy notified the parties that it would assess how to remedy this situation. In April 2023, the Minister of Energy initiated a mediation process between the parties in the Fosen case, to which all the parties agreed. The mediation between Sør-Fosen sijte and Fosen Vind DA resulted in an amicable agreement between the parties. Nord-Fosen siida and Roan Vind DA signed an agreement on 6 March 2024. The reindeer herding communities contributed to and have approved to the content of the agreements and the outcome of the case. Both parties agree that the agreements comply with the protection of reindeer husbandry pursuant to Article 27 of the UN Convention on Civil and Political Rights, and safeguard the rights of reindeer herders from a generational perspective. Against this backdrop, the Ministry has discontinued the process on reversal of the licensing decisions.

Trafficking

Question 30

a)

249. Border crossing is not a requirement for a case to be defined as human trafficking. When it comes to underage victims, it is also not a prerequisite that coercion has been used, as is the case for adults. The Coordination Unit for Victims of Human Trafficking published a guide on identifying possible victims of human trafficking in July 2023. The guide is intended for anyone who through their work or voluntary work comes into contact with vulnerable people and is concerned that they may have been or may be at risk of being exploited in human trafficking. The guide provides information about concepts, indicators and victims' rights, advice on how to facilitate identification and follow-up, and an overview of whom to refer people to for assistance and protection, and who can provide guidance.

b)

250. It is the definition of human trafficking in the Penal Code that determines what is to be considered human trafficking pursuant to the Child Welfare Act. It is difficult to map the exact extent of underage victims of human trafficking in Norway. The Coordination Unit for Victims of Human Trafficking also publishes an annual status report, providing an overview of the scope and nature of human trafficking in Norway. In cases where children and young people may be vulnerable to human trafficking, it is especially important to act quickly to prevent the child from disappearing and/or being subjected to (more) abuse.

251. The situation can be very unclear when a child comes to Norway either alone or in the company of an adult who claims to be responsible for the care of the child without having any documentation to prove this. It is necessary to clarify how this responsibility is to be understood not only in terms of the law, but also from the perspective of the best interests of the child. The immigration authorities and the child welfare authorities collaborate in this area. The central authority for the 1996 Hague Convention provides assistance in obtaining information from foreign authorities, including ascertaining who has parental responsibility for the child.

252. The Child Welfare Act allows children to be placed in an institution, even against the child's will, if there is a risk of human trafficking. This provision regulates both ordinary administrative decisions and interim emergency orders.

Administration of child justice

Question 31

a)

253. In 2023, the Director of Public Prosecution issued guidelines for police questioning of children and particularly vulnerable persons who are suspects in criminal proceedings. The guidelines are intended to help ensure compliance with the rules that apply in connection with police questioning of children and particularly vulnerable persons who are suspects, including safeguarding procedural rights such as

protection against self-incrimination and the right to counsel. The guidelines are also intended to help ensure that the interviews are of good quality and that children are treated with consideration.

254. In 2023, the Storting adopted a number of amendments to the penal sanctions for juvenile offenders: “youth punishment” and “youth follow-up” (see also the response to 31 b)). Among other things, the sanctions system is being simplified to a two-track system, whereby “youth punishment” is imposed by the courts, while “youth follow-up” is decided in the prosecution track as an out-of-court sanction.

255. The purpose of the proposal to simplify “youth follow-up” to a sanction that does not require judicial proceedings is to ensure better compliance with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the recommendations of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child to implement interventions for the treatment of children who are in conflict with the law, without having to resort to judicial proceedings, so-called “diversion”. In addition, the right of complaint is also being introduced for young people. Young people’s right to participate, cf. Article 12, during the execution of “youth punishment” and “youth follow-up” sentences has also been codified in several provisions.

256. In the new Compensation for Violent Crime Act, the rights of the alleged perpetrator have been strengthened by making them a party to the case in cases for compensation for violent crime. This will strengthen the child’s rights where the alleged perpetrator is a child. Alleged perpetrators have the right to be notified and the right to make a statement in the case, as well as the right to request access to the case documents.

b)

257. Several of the improvements introduced by Act no. 110 of 20 December 2023 (cf. section 31 a) are aimed at reducing the time between the offence and the reaction. Some of the changes will also pave the way for better collaboration across sectors. However, the legislative amendments have not resolved all the challenges, and the ministries are now working systematically on ensuring good quality in the execution of sentences.

258. The condition that the offender must “reside in Norway” in order to be handed down a sentence of “youth punishment” is being maintained. The reason for this is the activities that the young person must do during the execution of the sentence, as well as the follow-up and monitoring that must be carried out during the execution of the sentence. In the preparatory works to the Act, the Ministry has clarified that this condition should be interpreted on the basis of a specific assessment of the concrete circumstances of the individual case, and not automatically on the basis of the young person’s formal residence status alone. The decisive factor will be whether it can be assumed that the young person will be in Norway for long enough for a “youth punishment” sentence to be executed as intended. This will require a specific assessment of the individual case. If there is any doubt, decisive importance should

be attached to the best interests of the child. The purpose of this specification is to ensure that the condition is practised in accordance with the prohibition of discrimination in Article 98 of the Norwegian Constitution and Article 2 (1) of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

c)

259. A person charged who was under the age of 18 at the time of the offence may only be sentenced to preventive detention if there are “altogether extraordinary circumstances”. In the preparatory works, the Ministry specified that this provision ought virtually never to be used, but that exceptional cases may conceivably occur where preventive detention will be the correct reaction. Unfortunately, there are cases where there are no alternative ways to safeguard public security. In light of the recommendation of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the Ministry is monitoring developments in the use of preventive detention for children.

d)

260. The Criminal Procedure Act regulates the conditions for when a person charged in a criminal case should undergo forensic psychiatric evaluation. The rules are largely general and apply regardless of whether the person to undergo evaluation is an adult or a child. The Act's guarantees concerning protection of the individual's legal rights include that the forensic psychiatric expert witnesses must be appointed by the court and work on the basis of a written mandate determined by the court. The parties, including any legal guardian, have the right to express their views before the expert is appointed and the mandate is approved. As a general rule, the expert witnesses' opinions must be presented in a written report, which is submitted to a national board of forensic medicine. The board reviews the report and makes the court aware of any material shortcomings.

261. The Criminal Procedure Act was amended in 2019 to strengthen the requirements regarding the impartiality and competence of forensic psychiatric expert witnesses. Section 165 a of the Criminal Procedure Act now stipulates that as a general rule two expert witnesses should be appointed, unless the court finds that one expert witness is sufficient or that the case requires more than two expert witnesses. In accordance with the Act, forensic psychiatric expert witnesses are subject to the same impartiality rules as judges.

262. The requirements that apply to expert witnesses are further regulated in Regulation on forensic psychiatric examinations and expert witnesses. Expert witnesses must be a qualified doctor or psychologist and must be licensed in accordance with the Norwegian Health Personnel Act. Moreover, the expert (or at least one of the experts in cases where there are several expert witnesses) must be an approved specialist in a field relevant to the forensic psychiatric examination that the expert is to perform. For example, if the person charged is a minor, the expert could be a specialist in child and adolescent psychiatry.

e)

263. Children who are sentenced to unconditional prison sentences, as a general rule, serve their sentence at one of the Norwegian Correctional Service's two juvenile facilities – until they turn the age of 18. Juvenile correctional facilities must meet the special needs of children during deprivation of freedom and ensure that children are not incarcerated with adult prisoners. The average number of prisoners under the age of 18 years was 5.6 in 2017, and 5.2 in 2023. In addition to the juvenile facilities, the Eidsberg Unit of Indre Østfold Prison, which is an ordinary high-security men's prison, has three places for minors that can be used if necessary. In order to ensure sufficient capacity in the juvenile facilities, approximately NOK 11 million has been allocated in 2024 to expand the juvenile unit in Eidsvoll with two new places. As regards immigration cases, no minors or families with children have been detained at Trandum immigration detention centre since 2018. Instead they stay at Haraldvangen – a specially converted house with a more homely feel where the guards do not wear uniforms.

f)

264. Norway defines solitary confinement as exclusion from the company of other prisoners. Exclusion may occur if the court has decided that this form of restriction must be imposed, or if there are incidents/situations in the unit that indicate that the child should be excluded from the company of the other prisoners. The Norwegian Criminal Services has separate rules for the use of exclusion for children. Prisoners at the juvenile facilities have access to extensive contact with the other inmates during the daytime in connection with work, education, programmes and other measures, and in their spare time, as far as this is practicable. Each juvenile facility must have established a general schedule in advance.

265. Two juvenile correctional facilities have been established. In 2024, the capacity of the juvenile facilities will be expanded by two more places, bringing the total capacity to ten places. The juvenile facilities are staffed by a variety of different professionals and also have an interdisciplinary team consisting of a psychologist, an educational adviser and a child welfare counsellor. This means that there are resources available to implement preventive and conflict-mitigating measures to avoid incidents escalating such that exclusion from the company of the other prisoners needs to be implemented. All children who are incarcerated in the juvenile correctional facilities are unlocked for 10 hours a day during which time they have access to their fellow inmates and a range of activities.

J. Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

Question 32

a)

266. The sale of children has been a criminal offence under Norwegian law since 2003. Pursuant to the Penal Code, any person who exploits a person who is under the age of 18 for prostitution or other sexual services, forced labour or forced services, or into consenting to the removal of internal organs shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding six years. The same penalty shall be applied to any person who provides payment or any other advantage to obtain consent for such a course of action from a person who has authority over the aggrieved person, or who receives such payment or advantage. If the offence is aggravated, it is punishable by imprisonment for a term not exceeding 10 years. In determining whether the violation is aggravated, particular weight is given to whether the person subjected to the act was under 18 years of age, whether severe violence or force was used and whether the act generated significant proceeds.

b)

267. The Freedom of Speech Commission refers to ongoing legislative work in the EU, and proposes prioritising efforts to incorporate the Digital Services Act (DSA) into the EEA Agreement and Norwegian law. This – and any supplementary national legislation – will then ensure effective and coordinated monitoring of the digital platforms. Particular importance is attached to protecting children and young people from harmful content and exploitation of children’s vulnerabilities. The Government is reviewing the EU’s Digital Services Act.

268. In 2022, the European Commission presented a proposal for a Regulation to prevent and combat sexual assault of children. Among other things, the proposal requires relevant online service providers to detect, report, block and remove child sexual abuse material from their services. The Government is assessing introducing a duty for Norwegian service providers to report if they discover that their services are being used for criminal storage or distribution of abuse material.

c)

269. Section 257 of the Penal Code on human trafficking, Section 309 on the purchase of sexual services from minors, and Section 311 on the depiction of sexual abuse of children or depiction which sexualises children also apply to acts committed abroad when the perpetrator is a Norwegian national or domiciled in Norway.. Section 257 of the Penal Code on human trafficking also applies to acts committed abroad by foreigners when the aggrieved person is a Norwegian national or domiciled in Norway.

d)

270. We assume that the question of whether compensation can be claimed pursuant to the Compensatory Damages Act in the type of cases mentioned must be understood as referring to claims directed against a Norwegian national. In these kinds of cases, Norwegian courts are assumed to have jurisdiction under the rules of the Lugano Convention (cf. Article 2 and Article 5 (3)). Questions about choice of law in these kinds of cases will thus depend on an interpretation of non-statutory rules in Norwegian international private law. In decisions on choice of law issues, the

Supreme Court of Norway has attached importance to the solutions in Regulation (EC) no. 593/2008 (Rome I) and Regulation (EC) no. 864/2007 (Rome II). According to the Rome II Regulation, the general starting point in cases of compensation outside of contractual relationships is that the law at the place where the event giving rise to damage occurs shall be applied – “lex locus delicti” (cf. Article 4 (1) of the regulation. However, depending on the circumstances, a Norwegian court could apply the Norwegian Compensatory Damages Act based on an interpretation of the rules in Articles 16 and 26 of the Rome II Regulation, i.e. if the court finds that not doing so would be contrary to internationally peremptory rules in Norway or the principle of *ordre public*. If the Norwegian Compensatory Damages Act can be applied in cases where the event giving rise to damage occurs somewhere other than Norway, it will thus depend on a more detailed assessment of the individual case.

271. Pursuant to the Compensation for Violent Crime Act, children and other persons who have been subjected to a criminal offence committed abroad can apply for compensation if they were resident in Norway at the time of the offence and the criminal case has been heard by a Norwegian court.

K. Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict

Question 33

a)

272. The minimum age for doing compulsory military service in the Armed Forces or being employed in a military position in the Armed Forces is 19 years. The Home Guard has a voluntary youth organisation that is open to young people between the ages of 15 years and six months and 21. This organisation has no affiliation with the Norwegian defence structure as such. Membership in the youth organisation does not affect the likelihood of being conscripted for compulsory military service at the age of 19.

b)

273. Children who have participated in acts of war and who come to Norway as refugees and asylum seekers need to feel safe and to receive good, adapted care. The child health clinic, the school, the Child Welfare Service, the reception centre for asylum seekers, the religious community and the family all play a role in the care of the children. Some of the children will also need treatment for trauma. Five regional resource centres on violence, traumatic stress and suicide prevention have a special responsibility for expertise in psychosocial assistance for refugees.

274. The Armed Forces conduct courses for their personnel who are deployed to war and conflict zones. The training includes case studies, with relevant issues related to various conventions. In recent years, there has been a particular focus on sexual abuse and sexual exploitation.

c)

275. As part of the mapping in connection with applications for protection from unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors, the applicants are asked about recruitment and any acts that have been committed in or outside their country of origin. In addition, searches are conducted in open sources. The main purpose of these inquiries is Norway's national security. The UDI notifies the Police Security Service (PST) about children and young people who have been identified in accordance with applicable indicator lists and instructions. The ordinary duty to notify the Child Welfare Service also applies.

276. The municipality is responsible for providing the necessary health care to newly arrived asylum seekers and refugees. The Norwegian Directorate of Health has prepared templates that the health service can use to detect incipient health needs for people over and under the age of 18. For people under the age of 18, a distinction is drawn between those who do and those do not have a caregiver.

277. The Norwegian Directorate of Health's guide on health services for asylum seekers, refugees and reunited family members (IS-1022) states that the municipal authority must assess the need for the presence of health personnel who can follow up the individual's need for necessary health care and who can contact the police to prioritise individuals who need prompt health care and who need to be prioritised in the queue for registration and allocation of D-numbers.

d)

278. All Norwegian nationals abroad can request consular assistance from the Norwegian Foreign Service. Consular assistance is provided on an individual basis and after individual assessment of the specific case. Requesting consular assistance and accepting any offers of consular assistance are voluntary. Parents who have parental responsibility for children have the right and a duty to make decisions for their children. With regard to the Norwegian citizens who have requested consular assistance from the Norwegian authorities to travel to Norway from refugee camps in Syria, the Norwegian Foreign Service has processed each case individually.

279. After individual assessments of the specific cases, assistance has been provided to travel to Norway. This is based on consideration for the life and health of children in what have been extraordinary cases. The Norwegian authorities are aware that there is currently one Norwegian child left in a camp in Syria. The child is with its mother, who has the parental responsibility. The woman has so far chosen not to accept an offer on consular assistance to travel to Norway

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A. General measures of implementation (arts. 4, 42 and 44 (6))

36. Please provide information on the budget lines regarding children and the social services sectors, indicating the amount allocated to each budget line and its proportion in terms of the total national budget.

Table A.36.1: Amount allocated to each budget line regarding children and the social services sectors, in billion NOK. 2016-2023.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
(a) Family and/or child allowances, conditional cash transfer systems ¹	39,3	39,2	38,7	40,2	41,9	44,3	45,6	49,3
(b) Health services, in particular primary health services ²	3,5	3,9	4,3	4,7	4,7	5,4	5,8	6,5
(c) Early childhood development (care and education) ³	42,7	44,4	46,4	48,7	49,5	52,6	54,7	61
(d) Primary education ⁴	78,9	82,4	86,1	89,7	87,7	94,1	99,5	109,2
(d) Secondary education (upper secondary, excluding vocational education/training and special education) ⁴	19,9	20,2	20,8	21,6	21	22,2	23,6	25,9
(d) Vocational education and training	12,6	13,1	13,6	14,5	14,7	15,6	16,2	17,8
(d) Special education (only in upper secondary education, in lower levels special education is not separated out)	2,9	2,9	3,0	3,2	3,0	3,1	3,2	3,6
(e) Child protection measures, including prevention of violence, child labour and sexual exploitation, and rehabilitation programmes ⁵	17,8	18,6	18,9	19,2	18,9	19,3	21,3	NA

Source: Statistics Norway (2024).

Table A.36.2: Amount allocated to each budget line regarding children and the social services sectors, in percentages of GDP (in percentages of general government total expenditure). 2016-2023.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
(a) Family and/or child allowances, conditional cash transfer systems ¹	1,3 (2,5)	1,2 (2,4)	1,1 (2,3)	1,1 (2,2)	1,2 (2,1)	1,0 (2,2)	0,8 (2,1)	1,0 (2,1)
(b) Health services, in particular primary health services ²	0,1 (0,2)	0,1 (0,2)	0,1 (0,3)	0,1 (0,3)	0,1 (0,2)	0,1 (0,3)	0,1 (0,3)	0,1 (0,3)
(c) Early childhood development (care and education) ³	1,4 (2,7)	1,3 (2,7)	1,3 (2,7)	1,4 (2,7)	1,4 (2,5)	1,2 (2,6)	1,0 (2,5)	1,2 (2,6)

¹ Sum of what is classified as parental benefits and support for dependents (child benefit, cash-for-care benefit, single-parent support, and adoption support).

² Gross operating expenses for public health services and school health services.

³ Net operating expenses for childcare facilities. The reason for using net (rather than gross) operating expenses here is that there is parental contribution included, which is eliminated by using the net figure.

⁴ Vocational education and special education have been separated from the total for secondary education. Special education cannot be separated in primary education, as this is not specified in the data.

⁵ Sum of gross operating expenses for municipal child welfare services and operating expenses for child welfare institutions. We have included all ownerships of institutions because regardless of whether they are public or private, they are financed by the public.

(d) Primary education ⁴	2,5 (5,0)	2,5 (0,5)	2,4 (5,0)	2,5 (5,0)	2,5 (4,5)	2,2 (4,7)	1,7 (4,6)	2,1 (4,6)
(d) Secondary education (upper secondary, excluding vocational education/training and special education)	0,6 (1,3)	0,6 (1,2)	0,6 (1,2)	0,6 (1,2)	0,6 (1,1)	0,5 (1,1)	0,4 (1,1)	0,5 (1,1)
(d) Vocational education and training	0,4 (0,8)	0,4 (0,8)	0,4 (0,8)	0,4 (0,8)	0,4 (0,7)	0,4 (0,8)	0,3 (0,8)	0,3 (0,8)
(d) Special education (only in upper secondary education, in lower levels special education is not separated out)	0,1 (0,2)	0,1 (0,2)	0,1 (0,2)	0,1 (0,2)	0,1 (0,2)	0,1 (0,2)	0,1 (0,1)	0,1 (0,2)
(e) Child protection measures, including prevention of violence, child labour and sexual exploitation, and rehabilitation programmes ⁵	0,6 (1,1)	0,6 (1,1)	0,5 (1,1)	0,5 (1,1)	0,5 (1,0)	0,4 (1,0)	0,4 (1,0)	NA

The oil and gas prices significantly influence Norway's GDP and will result in notable variations in the proportions reported. Thus, it is more relevant to look at the share of total government expenditure and not the share of GDP. This will provide a more accurate picture of the degree to which these services are prioritised compared to other services.

Source: Statistics Norway (2024).

B. General Principles (arts. 2-3, 6 and 12)

37. Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 34 above, on cases of discrimination affecting children, prosecutions brought before the courts under legislation governing non-discrimination, and sanctions imposed on perpetrators.

1. Victims of hate speech or discrimination reported to the Police

The table below shows the number of individuals who have reported hate speech or discrimination to the Norwegian Police Authorities. There has been an increase in reported cases between 2016 and 2022, with a peak in 2021. Available statistics do not separate hate speech cases from discrimination cases. Therefore, an increase in the total number, may be due to an increase in reported cases on hate speech. The numbers should not be used to give an indication on the prevalence of hate speech and discrimination towards children in Norway. A rise or decline in the number of cases can indicate a lower/higher threshold to report incidents to the Police. It can also be affected by knowledge about hate speech and discrimination and a heightened awareness in the general population. There is no available statistic that disaggregates by age, as well as sex, geography, socioeconomic status, nationality, or ethnicity. The newest available statistic is from 2022.

Table B.37.1: Victims of reported hate speech or discrimination reported to the Police, by age. 2016-2022.

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total, 0-19 years	26	17	27	33	52	57	52
0-4 years	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
5-9 years	3	0	1	0	0	4	2
10-14 years	9	6	12	18	15	22	17
15-19 years	14	11	14	15	37	30	33

Source: Statistics Norway, table 08637 (2024).

2. Cases of discrimination received by The Anti-Discrimination Tribunal

There is no available data on prosecutions brought before the courts under legislation governing non-discrimination, and sanctions imposed on perpetrators.

The Equality and Anti-Discrimination Ombud offer guidance to individuals who believe to have been discriminated against, as well as employers and organisations who seek guidance on how to prevent harassment or discrimination. The Ombud works with cases revolving discrimination based on gender, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and age. The Ombud does not register the age of individuals who enter in contact regarding discrimination.

The Anti-Discrimination Tribunal is an independent administrative body who processes complaints on discrimination, harassment, retaliation, and sexual harassment pursuant to the Gender equality and Anti-Discrimination Act. The Tribunal is an alternative to judicial proceedings in cases of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.

The table below shows the total number of cases The Anti-Discrimination Tribunal has received on behalf of children⁶ since it was established in 2018. The table also shows the status and results of proceedings. Some of the results of the proceedings have more than one label⁷, therefore one may not summarize them. There has been an increase in the number of cases based on discrimination of children since the establishment of The Tribunal. A rise in number of cases received by The Tribunal may be a result of better knowledge in the public about its existence of The Tribunal and a lower threshold to report cases of discrimination. The numbers should not be used to give an indication on the prevalence of discrimination towards children in Norway.

Table B.37.2: Total number of cases of discrimination received by The Anti-Discrimination Tribunal, by status and result of process, per 2019-2023.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Cases received	4	4	6	9	11
Closed	4	1	2	0	1
Dropped	0	1	2	4	1
Rejected	0	1	0	3	0
No breach	0	1	1	3	0
Breach	0	0	1	2	0
Under process	0	0	0	0	9

Source: The Anti-Discrimination Tribunal (2024).

3. Cases of discrimination received by the Anti-Discrimination Tribunal, by grounds of discrimination and area of discrimination

The table below shows the total number of cases received by The Tribunal between 2019 and 2023, by grounds of discrimination and area where the discrimination has happened. One case may involve more than one grounds of discrimination. The grounds of discrimination that is most often included in complaints regarding children is disability, followed by individual adaptation for disability. The area where The Tribunal has received the most complaints about children since its establishment is regarding schooling and education. The numbers should not be used to give an indication on the prevalence of discrimination towards children in Norway.

Table B.37.3: Number of cases of discrimination received by The Anti-Discrimination Tribunal, by grounds of discrimination and area of discrimination between 2019-2023 in total.

Years	Education	Public administration	Goods and services	Community life	Other	Total
Disability	13	6	1	0	1	21
Gender	0	2	0	0	0	2
Age	0	2	1	0	0	3
Individual adaption for disabilities	9	2	0	0	0	11
Care tasks	1	5	0	0	0	6
Lifestance	0	0	1	0	0	1
Universal Design - IT	0	0	1	0	0	1
Ethnicity	4	2	1	2	0	9

⁶ Where the child has been discriminated against.

⁷ E.g., a single case can be rejected and found to have no breach.

Retaliation after report	1	1	0	0	0	2
Content of learning resources og education	1	0	0	0	0	1
Political view	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total	29	21	5	2	1	58

Source: The Anti-Discrimination Tribunal (2024).

C. Civil rights and freedoms (arts. 7-8 and 13-17)

38. Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 34 above, on:

a) Stateless children.

There has been no development of the legal situation for stateless children in Norway since the instruction G-08/2016 that ensures that applications for citizenship from stateless applicants born in Norway are processed in accordance with international conventions. The legal situation for stateless children born in Norway is regulated in G-08/2016. The instruction appoints flexible requirements for the acquisition of citizenship for this group. Stateless children born in Norway are exempt from the requirement for residence time on certain conditions. Alternatively, there is a requirement that they have been permanently resident in Norway for three consecutive years prior to the application or the time of decision, depending on which is more favourable. The stay does not have to be legal. No other requirements than this can be made. From a legal perspective, there has been a lack of legal development for this group that their rights are still only regulated in an instruction and not elevated to the level of law. For stateless children born abroad, the right to citizenship is regulated in Section 16 of the Citizenship Act. It makes an exception to the Citizenship Act's main rule that self-excluded applicants must have reached the age of twelve. There is also no requirement for length of stay. However, the main rule's other conditions must be met⁸.

Table C.38.1: Number of stateless children, by sex, and age group. 2016-2023.

Sex	Age group	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Males	0-19 years	456	620	594	461	336	228	181	209
	0-5 years	126	150	154	129	107	59	50	75
	6-12 years	165	233	230	170	116	84	70	72
	13-15 years	68	107	66	60	40	32	26	28
	16-19 years	97	130	144	102	73	53	35	34
Females	0-19 years	360	513	546	449	337	235	197	217
	0-5 years	115	162	163	126	89	62	39	53
	6-12 years	142	201	220	170	126	75	71	89
	13-15 years	44	65	74	64	45	38	31	28
	16-19 years	59	85	89	89	77	60	56	47
Both sexes	0-19 years	816	1 133	1 140	910	673	463	378	426
	0-5 years	241	312	317	255	196	121	89	128
	6-12 years	307	434	450	340	242	159	141	161
	13-15 years	112	172	140	124	85	70	57	56
	16-19 years	156	215	233	191	150	113	91	81

Source: Statistics Norway, table 05196 (2024).

⁸ Comment from the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (2024).

b) Information and communications technology-related violations of children's rights and cases that have been investigated and prosecuted.

No statistics available.

E. Violence against children (arts. 19, 24 (3), 28 (2), 34, 37 (a) and 39)

39. Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 34 above, on:

a) Children who have been victims of violence, including abuse, neglect, and sexual exploitation in and outside the home, in schools and in alternative care settings, the cases that have been reported to the authorities, investigated and prosecuted and the sanctions that have been imposed on perpetrators, disaggregated by type of offence.

1. Cases of children where the Child Welfare Services have taken measures

The table below show statistics on the number of cases where the Child Welfare Services have taken measures and for what reason. This will give an indication of the prevalence of reported cases of abuse and neglect. Note that the statistics count number of reasons for taking measures, and not number of children. Measures may be put in place for several reasons; hence the total number of reasons for measures is higher than the number of children for whom the measures have been put in place. See table E.39.a.2 for an overview of total number of children who receive measures from the Child Welfare Service. The numbers are not available disaggregated by sex, ethnic origin, national origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status.

Table E.39.a.1: Number of reasons for measures from the Child Welfare Services for new children, during the year, by age group, and reason for measure. 2016-2022.

Age	Reason for measures	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Years, total	Total measures	27 382	28 305	27 042	25 864	25 254	24 020	22 153
	Parents' somatic illness	454	413	462	371	345	373	321
	Parents' mental health problems	2 395	2 231	2 257	2 070	2 015	2 061	1 581
	Parent's substance abuse	1 528	1 415	1 392	1 297	1 368	1 191	1 215
	Parent's lack of parenting skills (-2020)	5 327	5 993	6 021	6 142	5 924	.	.
	Parents' criminality	209	186	184	187	167	129	133
	High degree of conflict at home	3 058	3 356	3 334	3 118	3 335	2 908	2 136
	Domestic violence / the child is witness to domestic violence	2 157	2 342	2 177	2 033	2 110	1 776	1 498
	The child is subjected to neglect	111	114	107	91	111	285	239
	The child is subjected to physical abuse	704	756	692	648	574	825	883
	The child is subjected to mental abuse	356	439	400	391	333	505	639
	The child is the victim of sexual abuse/incest	152	158	141	135	112	129	90
	The child has no one to care for him / her	533	273	127	112	103	97	206
	The child has disabilities (-2020)	292	241	214	211	219	.	.
	The child's mental health problems	1 131	1 235	1 235	1 301	1 145	1 295	972
	The child's substance abuse	159	229	296	287	223	203	211

	The child's behaviour / criminality (-2020)	1 223	1 504	1 397	1 401	1 362	.	.
	The child's relationship difficulties	716	818	755	740	671	729	580
	Other aspects of the parents / family	2 480	2 433	2 324	2 001	1 787	1 990	1 580
	Other aspects of the child's situation	2 184	1 868	1 527	1 326	1 273	1 158	921
	Parents' lack of protection of the child (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	566	465
	Parents' failure to stimulate and regulate the child (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	1 340	1 317
	Parents' lack of sensitivity and emotional availability for the child (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	1 998	2 002
	Parents' lack of follow-up of the child's needs for kindergarten, school and educational services (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	421	548
	Conflict between parents who do not live together (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	1 030	1 484
	The child's behavior (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	1 101	1 343
	The child's criminal acts (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	158	194
	The child exposed to human trafficking (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
	Parents' lack of follow-up of the child's need of health care (2022-)	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
	Unknown	2 858	2 866	2 601	2 522	2 535	2 207	2 126
0-2 years	Total	3 679	3 630	3 338	3 116	2 783	2 738	2 657
	Parents' somatic illness	58	56	56	39	49	63	57
	Parents' mental health problems	561	551	505	461	424	442	370
	Parent's substance abuse	354	337	331	268	271	223	219
	Parent's lack of parenting skills (-2020)	907	919	832	804	691	.	.
	Parents' criminality	50	40	60	62	45	37	39
	High degree of conflict at home	273	298	306	296	265	241	178
	Domestic violence / the child is witness to domestic violence	246	264	242	247	207	218	170
	The child is subjected to neglect	17	23	14	12	16	39	54
	The child is subjected to physical abuse	31	46	32	18	20	25	39
	The child is subjected to mental abuse	13	19	20	12	14	20	26
	The child is the victim of sexual abuse/incest	3	5	.	1	2	.	3
	The child has no one to care for him / her	7	5	9	7	3	9	5
	The child has disabilities (-2020)	14	12	13	9	12	.	.
	The child's mental health problems	1	4	4	5	7	6	4
	The child's substance abuse	1	.	.	.	.	.	1
	The child's behaviour / criminality (-2020)	4	7	5	5	10	.	.
	The child's relationship difficulties	24	21	11	13	12	20	6
	Other aspects of the parents / family	361	322	311	252	197	281	228
	Other aspects of the child's situation	119	101	88	79	68	61	56
	Parents' lack of protection of the child (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	87	90

	Parents' failure to stimulate and regulate the child (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	193	220
	Parents' lack of sensitivity and emotional availability for the child (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	237	282
	Parents' lack of follow-up of the child's needs for kindergarten, school and educational services (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	26	45
	Conflict between parents who do not live together (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	93	127
	The child's behavior (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	4	11
	The child's criminal acts (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	The child exposed to human trafficking (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	Parents' lack of follow-up of the child's need of health care (2022-)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	Unknown	635	600	499	526	470	413	427
3-5 years	Total	4 192	4 267	4 108	3 761	3 663	3 529	3 129
	Parents' somatic illness	80	69	73	66	56	71	56
	Parents' mental health problems	454	388	452	363	355	397	301
	Parent's substance abuse	270	245	230	212	222	190	198
	Parent's lack of parenting skills (-2020)	975	1 055	1 035	1 036	933	.	.
	Parents' criminality	44	34	35	32	30	23	26
	High degree of conflict at home	386	441	420	431	478	374	249
	Domestic violence / the child is witness to domestic violence	420	416	426	368	413	354	285
	The child is subjected to neglect	24	20	27	17	23	53	40
	The child is subjected to physical abuse	118	118	121	94	85	138	116
	The child is subjected to mental abuse	45	45	49	38	33	62	75
	The child is the victim of sexual abuse/incest	16	21	21	8	16	6	6
	The child has no one to care for him / her	10	4	10	6	8	8	7
	The child has disabilities (-2020)	37	42	38	34	41	.	.
	The child's mental health problems	28	28	26	28	21	25	16
	The child's substance abuse	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
	The child's behaviour / criminality (-2020)	88	103	78	84	68	.	.
	The child's relationship difficulties	69	88	74	55	55	51	34
	Other aspects of the parents / family	427	452	397	329	302	336	268
	Other aspects of the child's situation	229	206	173	140	130	131	86
	Parents' lack of protection of the child (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	74	76
	Parents' failure to stimulate and regulate the child (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	271	261
	Parents' lack of sensitivity and emotional availability for the child (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	271	278
	Parents' lack of follow-up of the child's needs for kindergarten, school and educational services (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	57	83
	Conflict between parents who do not live together (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	187	248

	The child's behavior (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	77	78
	The child's criminal acts (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	The child exposed to human trafficking (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
	Parents' lack of follow-up of the child's need of health care (2022-)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	Unknown	472	492	423	420	394	372	340
6-12 years	Total	11 053	11 832	11 426	11 128	11 153	10 319	9 260
	Parents' somatic illness	219	181	201	187	142	157	126
	Parents' mental health problems	903	828	865	833	842	810	595
	Parent's substance abuse	560	524	520	521	555	482	509
	Parent's lack of parenting skills (-2020)	2 262	2 639	2 696	2 765	2 781	.	.
	Parents' criminality	85	81	73	66	64	41	44
	High degree of conflict at home	1 289	1 467	1 476	1 337	1 474	1 269	846
	Domestic violence / the child is witness to domestic violence	1 085	1 212	1 077	1 037	1 089	858	730
	The child is subjected to neglect	52	51	45	37	52	125	98
	The child is subjected to physical abuse	409	434	396	368	343	488	508
	The child is subjected to mental abuse	172	206	176	183	162	230	296
	The child is the victim of sexual abuse/incest	68	54	60	62	51	48	40
	The child has no one to care for him / her	28	31	28	20	20	12	31
	The child has disabilities (-2020)	112	96	87	88	93	.	.
	The child's mental health problems	297	336	326	387	324	309	241
	The child's substance abuse	.	.	1	.	1	3	1
	The child's behaviour / criminality (-2020)	445	591	514	520	493	.	.
	The child's relationship difficulties	316	364	328	343	285	314	224
	Other aspects of the parents / family	1 070	1 055	1 041	879	840	860	674
	Other aspects of the child's situation	678	722	603	591	545	498	364
	Parents' lack of protection of the child (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	250	174
	Parents' failure to stimulate and regulate the child (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	614	597
	Parents' lack of sensitivity and emotional availability for the child (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	919	852
	Parents' lack of follow-up of the child's needs for kindergarten, school and educational services (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	206	233
	Conflict between parents who do not live together (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	532	801
	The child's behavior (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	463	529
	The child's criminal acts (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	9	6
	The child exposed to human trafficking (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	Parents' lack of follow-up of the child's need of health care (2022-)	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
	Unknown	1 003	960	913	904	997	822	740
13-17 years	Total	8 458	8 576	8 170	7 859	7 655	7 434	7 107

	Parents' somatic illness	94	104	122	76	91	77	79
	Parents' mental health problems	447	442	403	390	378	396	294
	Parent's substance abuse	327	287	296	273	305	277	267
	Parent's lack of parenting skills (-2020)	1 115	1 330	1 390	1 471	1 451	.	.
	Parents' criminality	30	30	15	25	25	28	23
	High degree of conflict at home	1 046	1 069	1 055	994	1 053	967	792
	Domestic violence / the child is witness to domestic violence	390	429	404	361	380	322	298
	The child is subjected to neglect	16	19	20	23	18	62	45
	The child is subjected to physical abuse	136	150	131	160	121	165	207
	The child is subjected to mental abuse	113	153	141	144	113	181	226
	The child is the victim of sexual abuse/incest	61	72	60	60	41	73	39
	The child has no one to care for him / her	415	198	53	65	57	58	117
	The child has disabilities (-2020)	122	85	71	74	68	.	.
	The child's mental health problems	750	792	816	814	728	877	646
	The child's substance abuse	126	204	245	240	195	178	188
	The child's behaviour / criminality (-2020)	645	773	749	755	760	.	.
	The child's relationship difficulties	294	328	322	313	306	328	298
	Other aspects of the parents / family	595	587	551	512	423	483	379
	Other aspects of the child's situation	1 036	762	600	472	493	423	367
	Parents' lack of protection of the child (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	150	119
	Parents' failure to stimulate and regulate the child (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	254	231
	Parents' lack of sensitivity and emotional availability for the child (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	545	555
	Parents' lack of follow-up of the child's needs for kindergarten, school and educational services (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	124	175
	Conflict between parents who do not live together (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	215	301
	The child's behavior (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	536	696
	The child's criminal acts (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	141	177
	The child exposed to human trafficking (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	Parents' lack of follow-up of the child's need of health care (2022-)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	Unknown	700	762	726	637	649	574	588

. = Category not applicable. Figures do not exist at this time, because the category was not in use when the figures were collected.

Source: Statistics Norway, table 10663 (2024).

2. Number of children with measures from the Child Welfare Services

The two tables below (E.39.a.2.1, E.39.a.2.2) show total number of children with measures from the Child Welfare Service, disaggregated by sex, age and geographical location. As portrayed in table E.39.a.1 above, measures may be put in place for several reasons. The tables below show total number of children who receive measures from the Child Welfare Services, regardless of the reason

for measure. Therefore, these numbers may be inaccurate with regards to showing the number of children who have been victims of violence, including abuse, neglect, and sexual exploitation, as there may be other reasons for why the child has received measure(S). However, this can give an indication of the prevalence of reported abuse and neglect. The numbers are not available disaggregated by ethnic origin, national origin, type of disability, or socioeconomic status.

Table E.39.a.2.1: Number of children with measures from the Child Welfare Services, per 31 December, by sex and age. 2016-2022.

Sex	Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total sex	Years, total	34 742	34 860	33 970	32 504	31 263	29 226	26 628
	0 years	527	494	479	424	338	332	301
	1 year	851	800	739	693	637	528	473
	2 years	1 100	1 108	952	941	822	733	615
	3 years	1 330	1 261	1 225	1 082	1 020	906	824
	4 years	1 568	1 525	1 402	1 358	1 268	1 104	957
	5 years	1 782	1 774	1 700	1 562	1 544	1 383	1 156
	6 years	1 965	1 885	1 874	1 716	1 610	1 548	1 312
	7 years	2 157	2 130	1 959	1 967	1 857	1 693	1 530
	8 years	2 206	2 232	2 223	1 980	2 013	1 863	1 622
	9 years	2 183	2 304	2 287	2 213	2 086	1 914	1 731
	10 years	2 180	2 250	2 350	2 310	2 191	1 955	1 782
	11 years	2 107	2 276	2 232	2 264	2 266	2 077	1 792
	12 years	2 108	2 168	2 256	2 196	2 284	2 202	1 933
	13 years	2 232	2 157	2 209	2 224	2 084	2 215	2 015
	14 years	2 355	2 495	2 364	2 289	2 340	2 159	2 233
	15 years	2 774	2 619	2 641	2 496	2 441	2 379	2 184
	16 years	2 700	2 727	2 570	2 422	2 261	2 181	2 153
	17 years	2 617	2 655	2 508	2 367	2 201	2 054	2 015
Boys	Years, total	19 272	19 374	18 803	17 916	17 031	15 605	14 203
	0 years	275	268	267	222	179	173	159
	1 year	446	423	394	384	358	268	263
	2 years	559	607	508	526	462	391	311
	3 years	714	652	672	603	562	513	445
	4 years	848	843	758	732	691	633	554
	5 years	924	954	921	847	847	767	648
	6 years	1 087	978	1 045	933	863	849	729
	7 years	1 186	1 199	1 052	1 077	1 024	934	837
	8 years	1 226	1 250	1 262	1 088	1 112	1 025	890
	9 years	1 214	1 282	1 293	1 269	1 151	1 068	956
	10 years	1 235	1 282	1 310	1 313	1 249	1 086	1 005
	11 years	1 218	1 294	1 289	1 269	1 255	1 144	969
	12 years	1 180	1 264	1 273	1 291	1 243	1 201	1 065
	13 years	1 271	1 190	1 252	1 211	1 160	1 147	1 059
	14 years	1 280	1 359	1 266	1 265	1 202	1 120	1 118
	15 years	1 592	1 400	1 417	1 324	1 307	1 149	1 143

	16 years	1 519	1 604	1 353	1 308	1 186	1 093	1 036
	17 years	1 498	1 525	1 471	1 254	1 180	1 044	1 016
Girls	Years, total	15 470	15 486	15 167	14 588	14 232	13 621	12 425
	0 years	252	226	212	202	159	159	142
	1 year	405	377	345	309	279	260	210
	2 years	541	501	444	415	360	342	304
	3 years	616	609	553	479	458	393	379
	4 years	720	682	644	626	577	471	403
	5 years	858	820	779	715	697	616	508
	6 years	878	907	829	783	747	699	583
	7 years	971	931	907	890	833	759	693
	8 years	980	982	961	892	901	838	732
	9 years	969	1 022	994	944	935	846	775
	10 years	945	968	1 040	997	942	869	777
	11 years	889	982	943	995	1 011	933	823
	12 years	928	904	983	905	1 041	1 001	868
	13 years	961	967	957	1 013	924	1 068	956
	14 years	1 075	1 136	1 098	1 024	1 138	1 039	1 115
	15 years	1 182	1 219	1 224	1 172	1 134	1 230	1 041
	16 years	1 181	1 123	1 217	1 114	1 075	1 088	1 117
	17 years	1 119	1 130	1 037	1 113	1 021	1 010	999

Source: Statistics Norway, table 09050 (2024).

Table E.39.a.2.2: Number of children with measures from the Child Welfare Services, per 31 December, by groups of counties and sex. 2016-2022.

Groups of counties	Sex	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Oslo and Akershus (-2019)	Total sex	6 682	6 836	6 743	6 474	.	.	.
	Boys	3 761	3 862	3 760	3 609	.	.	.
	Girls	2 921	2 974	2 983	2 865	.	.	.
Hedmark and Oppland (-2019)	Total sex	2 825	2 925	2 647	2 542	.	.	.
	Boys	1 571	1 627	1 475	1 405	.	.	.
	Girls	1 254	1 298	1 172	1 137	.	.	.
Østfold, Buskerud, Vestfold and Telemark (-2019)	Total sex	7 182	6 953	6 868	6 517	.	.	.
	Boys	3 965	3 853	3 814	3 628	.	.	.
	Girls	3 217	3 100	3 054	2 889	.	.	.
Aust-Agder, Vest-Agder and Rogaland (-2019)	Total sex	5 509	5 676	5 339	5 151	.	.	.
	Boys	3 019	3 088	2 889	2 754	.	.	.
	Girls	2 490	2 588	2 450	2 397	.	.	.
Hordaland, Sogn og Fjordane and Møre og Romsdal (-2019)	Total sex	5 830	5 872	5 981	5 794	.	.	.
	Boys	3 237	3 274	3 359	3 247	.	.	.
	Girls	2 593	2 598	2 622	2 547	.	.	.
Sør-Trøndelag and Nord-Trøndelag (-2019)	Total sex	2 918	2 976	2 902	2 852	.	.	.
	Boys	1 609	1 670	1 609	1 527	.	.	.

	Girls	1 309	1 306	1 293	1 325	.	.	.
Nordland, Troms, Finnmark and other Norwegian area (-2019)	Total sex	3 796	3 622	3 490	3 174	.	.	.
	Boys	2 110	2 000	1 897	1 746	.	.	.
	Girls	1 686	1 622	1 593	1 428	.	.	.
Oslo and Viken (2020-)	Total sex	.	.	.	.	10 292	9 565	9 102
	Boys	.	.	.	.	5 666	5 121	4 807
	Girls	.	.	.	.	4 626	4 444	4 295
Innlandet (2020-)	Total sex	.	.	.	.	2 202	2 117	2 021
	Boys	.	.	.	.	1 175	1 158	1 135
	Girls	.	.	.	.	1 027	959	886
Agder and South Eastern Norway (2020-)	Total sex	.	.	.	.	4 263	4 031	3 664
	Boys	.	.	.	.	2 296	2 137	1 966
	Girls	.	.	.	.	1 967	1 894	1 698
Western Norway (2020-)	Total sex	.	.	.	.	8 399	7 689	6 548
	Boys	.	.	.	.	4 567	4 106	3 507
	Girls	.	.	.	.	3 832	3 583	3 041
Trøndelag (2020-)	Total sex	.	.	.	.	3 005	2 910	2 631
	Boys	.	.	.	.	1 621	1 546	1 387
	Girls	.	.	.	.	1 384	1 364	1 244
Northern Norway (2020-)	Total sex	.	.	.	.	3 102	2 914	2 662
	Boys	.	.	.	.	1 706	1 537	1 401
	Girls	.	.	.	.	1 396	1 377	1 261

. = Category not applicable. Figures do not exist at this time, because the category was not in use when the figures were collected. This is due to new division of counties in Norway in 2020.

Source: Statistics Norway, table 09050 (2024).

Table E.39.a.2.3: Number of children with measures from the Child Welfare Services, per 31 December, by geographical location and age group. 2016-2022.

Groups of counties	Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020*	2021	2022
Oslo and Akershus (-2019)	Total age	6 682	6 836	6 743	6 474	.	.	.
	0-2 years	481	442	400	395	.	.	.
	3-5 years	830	877	847	805	.	.	.
	6-12 years	2 935	2 968	2 932	2 823	.	.	.
	13-17 years	2 436	2 549	2 564	2 451	.	.	.
Hedmark and Oppland (-2019)	Total age	2 825	2 925	2 647	2 542	.	.	.
	0-2 years	183	194	173	156	.	.	.
	3-5 years	371	385	353	307	.	.	.
	6-12 years	1 241	1 291	1 185	1 185	.	.	.
	13-17 years	1 030	1 055	936	894	.	.	.
Østfold, Buskerud, Vestfold and Telemark (-2019)	Total age	7 182	6 953	6 868	6 517	.	.	.
	0-2 years	494	509	451	430	.	.	.
	3-5 years	956	862	809	737	.	.	.
	6-12 years	3 087	3 025	3 063	2 926	.	.	.

	13-17 years	2 645	2 557	2 545	2 424	.	.	.
Aust-Agder, Vest-Agder and Rogaland (-2019)	Total age	5 509	5 676	5 339	5 151	.	.	.
	0-2 years	445	429	385	366	.	.	.
	3-5 years	827	795	764	704	.	.	.
	6-12 years	2 348	2 455	2 395	2 336	.	.	.
	13-17 years	1 889	1 997	1 795	1 745	.	.	.
Hordaland, Sogn og Fjordane and Møre og Romsdal (-2019)	Total age	5 830	5 872	5 981	5 794	.	.	.
	0-2 years	388	381	342	310	.	.	.
	3-5 years	783	751	743	705	.	.	.
	6-12 years	2 507	2 640	2 728	2 650	.	.	.
	13-17 years	2 152	2 100	2 168	2 129	.	.	.
Sør-Trøndelag and Nord-Trøndelag (-2019)	Total age	2 918	2 976	2 902	2 852	.	.	.
	0-2 years	215	225	210	202	.	.	.
	3-5 years	395	386	355	344	.	.	.
	6-12 years	1 247	1 305	1 338	1 320	.	.	.
	13-17 years	1 061	1 060	999	986	.	.	.
Nordland, Troms, Finnmark and other Norwegian area (-2019)	Total age	3 796	3 622	3 490	3 174	.	.	.
	0-2 years	272	222	209	199	.	.	.
	3-5 years	518	504	456	400	.	.	.
	6-12 years	1 541	1 561	1 540	1 406	.	.	.
	13-17 years	1 465	1 335	1 285	1 169	.	.	.
Oslo and Viken (2020-)	Total age	.	.	.	.	10 292	9 565	9 102
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	578	532	470
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	1 231	1 095	1 024
	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	4 671	4 317	3 930
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	3 812	3 621	3 678
Innlandet (2020-)	Total age	.	.	.	.	2 202	2 117	2 021
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	122	118	125
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	243	219	216
	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	1 032	968	916
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	805	812	764
Agder and South Eastern Norway (2020-)	Total age	.	.	.	.	4 263	4 031	3 664
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	274	228	191
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	492	494	410
	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	1 947	1 776	1 600
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	1 550	1 533	1 463
Western Norway (2020-)	Total age	.	.	.	.	8 399	7 689	6 548
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	451	412	338
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	1 050	868	704

	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	3 873	3 534	2 889
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	3 025	2 875	2 617
Trøndelag (2020-)	Total age	.	.	.	.	3 005	2 910	2 631
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	193	162	150
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	417	363	284
	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	1 398	1 344	1 151
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	997	1 041	1 046
Northern Norway (2020-)	Total age	.	.	.	.	3 102	2 914	2 662
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	179	141	115
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	399	354	299
	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	1 386	1 313	1 216
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	1 138	1 106	1 032

. = Category not applicable. Figures do not exist at this time, because the category was not in use when the figures were collected. This is due to new division of counties in Norway in 2020.

Source: Statistics Norway, table 09050 (2024).

3. Notes of concern to the Child Welfare Services

The tables below show statistics on the number of notes of concern to the Child Welfare Services that led to further investigation, and the reason for notification. Around 80 percent of the notes of concern lead to further investigation by the Child Welfare Services⁹. The numbers are not available disaggregated by ethnic origin, type of disability, or socioeconomic status. This gives an indication of the prevalence of reported violence, abuse, and neglect. Several notes of concern may be submitted for the same child; hence the total number of notes of concern is higher than the number of children for whom the notification applies (see table E.39.a.3, E.39.a.3.1 and E.39.a.3.2 below for an overview of number of children with notification).

Table E.39.a.3.1: Number of notes of concern to the Child Welfare Services that led to further investigation, during the year, by reason for notification and age group, 2016-2022.

Reason for notification	Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total	Years, total	47 914	48 775	47 322	46 885	45 502	41 944	37 939
	0-2 years	6 220	5 965	5 615	5 248	4 919	4 631	4 038
	3-5 years	7 963	8 130	7 820	7 572	7 303	6 761	5 986
	6-12 years	19 179	19 961	19 790	19 776	19 293	17 691	16 021
	13-17 years	13 588	13 834	13 275	13 457	13 236	12 087	11 199
Parents' somatic illness	Years, total	766	900	751	750	833	811	715
	0-2 years	134	147	106	121	103	126	103
	3-5 years	133	144	119	132	132	131	121
	6-12 years	323	367	323	301	351	318	310

⁹ Statistics Norway (2024). 10674: Notifications to the Child Welfare Services, by conclusions, reason of notification, who reported the case, age, contents and year. Retrieved April 09 2024, from <https://www.ssb.no/en/statbank/table/10674/tableViewLayout1/>.

	13-17 years	176	242	203	196	247	236	181
Parents' mental health problems	Years, total	5 520	5 673	5 487	5 398	5 628	5 470	5 026
	0-2 years	1 255	1 275	1 173	1 141	1 088	1 157	1 001
	3-5 years	1 040	1 036	996	1 042	975	1 049	933
	6-12 years	2 108	2 156	2 143	2 132	2 347	2 146	2 003
	13-17 years	1 117	1 206	1 175	1 083	1 218	1 118	1 089
	0-2 years	1 413	1 232	1 272	1 095	1 151	1 038	976
	3-5 years	1 319	1 297	1 215	1 227	1 306	1 161	1 162
	6-12 years	2 952	2 849	2 956	2 942	3 163	3 003	2 971
	13-17 years	1 643	1 577	1 613	1 554	1 829	1 733	1 694
Parent's lack of parenting skills (-2020)	Years, total	10 839	12 157	12 936	13 471	13 164	0	0
	3-5 years	2 376	2 527	2 631	2 752	2 578	0	0
	6-12 years	5 462	6 153	6 620	6 904	6 756	0	0
	13-17 years	3 001	3 477	3 685	3 815	3 830	0	0
Parents' criminality	Years, total	1 420	1 291	1 263	1 290	1 256	1 386	1 334
	0-2 years	319	245	268	260	225	246	231
	3-5 years	281	279	274	232	233	275	266
	6-12 years	584	528	504	566	541	552	571
	13-17 years	236	239	217	232	257	313	266
High degree of conflict at home	Years, total	6 724	7 709	7 627	7 722	8 019	7 043	5 587
	0-2 years	840	875	890	912	843	818	707
	3-5 years	1 031	1 209	1 186	1 205	1 271	1 090	867
	6-12 years	2 844	3 356	3 356	3 291	3 561	2 972	2 243
	13-17 years	2 009	2 269	2 195	2 314	2 344	2 163	1 770
Domestic violence / the child is witness to domestic violence	Years, total	8 804	9 718	9 599	9 592	9 674	8 500	7 667
	0-2 years	1 177	1 250	1 235	1 132	1 196	1 110	984
	3-5 years	1 930	2 063	2 050	2 060	2 038	1 793	1 591
	6-12 years	4 009	4 476	4 520	4 598	4 643	3 961	3 515
	13-17 years	1 688	1 929	1 794	1 802	1 797	1 636	1 577
The child is subjected to neglect	Years, total	990	958	1 042	782	849	1 529	1 456
	0-2 years	129	127	112	91	83	208	192
	3-5 years	220	183	224	164	181	295	304
	6-12 years	472	468	507	401	410	733	653
	13-17 years	169	180	199	126	175	293	307

The child is subjected to physical abuse	Years, total	4 267	4 562	4 536	4 525	4 555	5 335	5 458
	0-2 years	313	314	282	266	278	274	264
	3-5 years	916	976	1 006	929	963	1 103	1 029
	6-12 years	2 263	2 435	2 395	2 498	2 495	2 929	3 016
	13-17 years	775	837	853	832	819	1 029	1 149
The child is subjected to mental abuse	Years, total	1 606	1 953	2 117	2 094	2 125	2 848	2 931
	0-2 years	97	114	107	122	109	135	167
	3-5 years	243	302	289	303	314	394	368
	6-12 years	760	917	1 056	1 012	1 080	1 434	1 439
	13-17 years	506	620	665	657	622	885	957
The child is the victim of sexual abuse/incest	Years, total	1 372	1 459	1 335	1 313	1 210	1 165	967
	0-2 years	60	57	62	46	57	47	44
	3-5 years	284	326	283	261	238	199	181
	6-12 years	682	725	694	680	605	554	482
	13-17 years	346	351	296	326	310	365	260
The child has no one to care for him / her	Years, total	659	405	273	280	303	321	432
	0-2 years	26	22	9	16	17	26	24
	3-5 years	33	18	29	20	31	41	35
	6-12 years	118	92	80	85	117	103	125
	13-17 years	482	273	155	159	138	151	248
The child has disabilities (-2020)	Years, total	331	358	304	307	289	0	0
	0-2 years	23	29	27	24	23	0	0
	3-5 years	65	56	52	48	42	0	0
	6-12 years	109	145	127	118	120	0	0
	13-17 years	134	128	98	117	104	0	0
The child's mental health problems	Years, total	2 241	2 405	2 527	2 611	2 503	2 615	2 120
	0-2 years	11	11	13	7	11	12	8
	3-5 years	54	52	73	51	39	66	48
	6-12 years	597	652	747	789	731	677	562
	13-17 years	1 579	1 690	1 694	1 764	1 722	1 860	1 502
The child's substance abuse	Years, total	796	1 026	1 129	1 277	1 098	894	868
	0-2 years	2	0	0	0	0	3	1
	3-5 years	2	1	1	2	0	1	3
	6-12 years	11	8	15	12	12	16	15
	13-17 years	781	1 017	1 113	1 263	1 086	874	849

The child's behaviour / criminality (-2020)	Years, total	3 898	4 447	3 979	4 312	3 963	0	0
	0-2 years	38	34	20	30	21	0	0
	3-5 years	262	297	228	202	159	0	0
	6-12 years	1 327	1 507	1 348	1 443	1 172	0	0
	13-17 years	2 271	2 609	2 383	2 637	2 611	0	0
The child's relationship difficulties	Years, total	821	896	942	906	791	858	569
	0-2 years	31	22	20	25	19	17	11
	3-5 years	133	123	110	108	74	97	55
	6-12 years	376	436	461	468	393	419	274
	13-17 years	281	315	351	305	305	325	229
Other aspects of the parents / family	Years, total	6 274	6 231	5 695	5 359	4 725	5 309	5 276
	0-2 years	1 028	987	854	763	626	749	798
	3-5 years	1 155	1 132	1 020	909	834	886	884
	6-12 years	2 698	2 684	2 442	2 348	2 074	2 297	2 272
	13-17 years	1 393	1 428	1 379	1 339	1 191	1 377	1 322
Other aspects of the child's situation	Years, total	6 352	6 135	5 743	5 372	4 796	4 378	3 905
	0-2 years	490	459	430	353	353	353	281
	3-5 years	799	826	730	719	662	514	501
	6-12 years	2 314	2 457	2 417	2 224	2 016	1 834	1 631
	13-17 years	2 749	2 393	2 166	2 076	1 765	1 677	1 492
Parents' lack of protection of the child (2021-)	Years, total	0	0	0	0	0	2 836	3 069
	0-2 years	0	0	0	0	0	367	434
	3-5 years	0	0	0	0	0	515	546
	6-12 years	0	0	0	0	0	1 290	1 300
	13-17 years	0	0	0	0	0	664	789
Parents' failure to stimulate and regulate the child (2021-)	Years, total	0	0	0	0	0	2 291	1 900
	0-2 years	0	0	0	0	0	323	330
	3-5 years	0	0	0	0	0	426	369
	6-12 years	0	0	0	0	0	1 020	814
	13-17 years	0	0	0	0	0	522	387
Parents' lack of sensitivity and emotional availability for the child (2021-)	Years, total	0	0	0	0	0	4 097	3 621
	0-2 years	0	0	0	0	0	544	513
	3-5 years	0	0	0	0	0	667	550
	6-12 years	0	0	0	0	0	1 838	1 553

	13-17 years	0	0	0	0	0	1 048	1 005
Parents' lack of follow-up of the child's needs for kindergarten, school and educational services (2021-)	Years, total	0	0	0	0	0	1 336	1 453
	0-2 years	0	0	0	0	0	65	71
	3-5 years	0	0	0	0	0	209	189
	6-12 years	0	0	0	0	0	636	669
	13-17 years	0	0	0	0	0	426	524
Conflict between parents who do not live together (2021-)	Years, total	0	0	0	0	0	1 879	2 659
	0-2 years	0	0	0	0	0	173	265
	3-5 years	0	0	0	0	0	328	456
	6-12 years	0	0	0	0	0	996	1 359
	13-17 years	0	0	0	0	0	382	579
The child's behavior (2021-)	Years, total	0	0	0	0	0	5 010	5 455
	0-2 years	0	0	0	0	0	29	23
	3-5 years	0	0	0	0	0	183	215
	6-12 years	0	0	0	0	0	1 262	1 389
	13-17 years	0	0	0	0	0	1 698	1 866
The child's criminal acts (2021-)	Years, total	0	0	0	0	0	930	1 011
	0-2 years	0	0	0	0	0	2	1
	3-5 years	0	0	0	0	0	1	6
	6-12 years	0	0	0	0	0	110	98
	13-17 years	0	0	0	0	0	795	846
The child exposed to human trafficking (2021-)	Years, total	0	0	0	0	0	11	35
	0-2 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3-5 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	6-12 years	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
	13-17 years	0	0	0	0	0	10	21
Parents' lack of follow-up of the child's need of health care (2022-)	Years, total	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
	0-2 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3-5 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	6-12 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	13-17 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

Note: The Child Welfare can continue measures until the age of 25 years. Until 2021, the upper age limit was 23 years. However, children above 18 years old are excluded in this table, as well as those registered with "unknown age" and

“unknown reason for notification”. Thus, the total numbers may diverge from the sum of the numbers provided in the table.
Source: Statistics Norway, table 10674 (2024).

Table E.39.a.3.2: Number of notes of concern to the Child Welfare Services that led to further investigation, during the year, by reason for notification and sex. 2016-2022.

Reason for notification	Sex	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total	Total sex	47 914	48 775	47 322	46 885	45 502	41 944	37 939
	Boys	25 992	26 255	25 079	25 147	24 089	21 762	19 893
	Girls	21 919	22 520	22 243	21 738	21 413	20 181	18 046
Parents' somatic illness	Total sex	778	910	765	761	844	828	720
	Boys	412	474	376	366	419	404	404
	Girls	366	436	389	395	425	424	316
Parents' mental health problems	Total sex	5 580	5 737	5 556	5 455	5 690	5 537	5 085
	Boys	2 808	2 964	2 775	2 813	2 869	2 771	2 633
	Girls	2 772	2 773	2 781	2 642	2 821	2 765	2 452
Parent's substance abuse	Total sex	7 415	7 038	7 144	6 914	7 533	7 041	6 895
	Boys	3 762	3 641	3 629	3 481	3 875	3 506	3 495
	Girls	3 653	3 397	3 515	3 433	3 658	3 535	3 400
Parent's lack of parenting skills (-2020)	Total sex	13 156	14 514	15 164	15 764	15 216	0	0
	Boys	6 976	7 694	7 947	8 258	7 903	0	0
	Girls	6 180	6 820	7 217	7 506	7 313	0	0
Parents' criminality	Total sex	1 433	1 302	1 277	1 300	1 263	1 403	1 346
	Boys	741	654	677	667	620	702	716
	Girls	692	648	600	633	643	701	630
High degree of conflict at home	Total sex	6 862	7 822	7 743	7 847	8 141	7 176	5 712
	Boys	3 395	3 915	3 789	3 942	3 944	3 494	2 703
	Girls	3 467	3 907	3 954	3 905	4 197	3 682	3 009
Domestic violence / the child is witness to domestic violence	Total sex	8 898	9 812	9 693	9 673	9 752	8 584	7 743
	Boys	4 714	5 063	5 052	5 110	5 047	4 388	3 905
	Girls	4 184	4 749	4 641	4 563	4 705	4 196	3 838
The child is subjected to neglect	Total sex	995	973	1 049	788	852	1 549	1 474
	Boys	501	501	517	426	430	807	732
	Girls	494	472	532	362	422	742	742
The child is subjected to physical abuse	Total sex	4 304	4 608	4 583	4 565	4 585	5 390	5 516
	Boys	2 342	2 501	2 463	2 527	2 462	2 879	2 898
	Girls	1 962	2 107	2 120	2 038	2 123	2 511	2 618
The child is subjected to mental abuse	Total sex	1 638	1 998	2 152	2 141	2 157	2 906	2 997
	Boys	771	939	1 036	1 037	984	1 364	1 370
	Girls	867	1 059	1 116	1 104	1 173	1 542	1 627
The child is the victim of sexual abuse/incest	Total sex	1 388	1 482	1 343	1 328	1 221	1 180	974
	Boys	518	575	466	454	422	386	342

	Girls	870	907	877	874	799	794	632
The child has no one to care for him / her	Total sex	732	464	314	304	323	344	498
	Boys	532	306	177	171	164	187	283
	Girls	199	158	137	133	159	157	215
The child has disabilities (-2020)	Total sex	340	364	309	317	299	0	0
	Boys	213	245	206	214	188	0	0
	Girls	127	119	103	103	111	0	0
The child's mental health problems	Total sex	2 380	2 546	2 655	2 733	2 627	2 760	2 254
	Boys	1 046	1 142	1 168	1 262	1 094	1 089	876
	Girls	1 334	1 404	1 487	1 471	1 533	1 671	1 378
The child's substance abuse	Total sex	927	1 152	1 267	1 463	1 235	1 013	961
	Boys	601	796	870	1 012	781	588	584
	Girls	325	356	397	451	454	425	377
The child's behaviour / criminality (-2020)	Total sex	4 024	4 593	4 106	4 474	4 126	0	0
	Boys	2 934	3 436	3 058	3 384	3 069	0	0
	Girls	1 090	1 157	1 048	1 090	1 057	0	0
The child's relationship difficulties	Total sex	841	909	950	920	800	874	582
	Boys	498	560	610	565	479	504	334
	Girls	343	349	340	355	321	370	248
Other aspects of the parents / family	Total sex	6 363	6 296	5 759	5 420	4 777	5 376	5 328
	Boys	3 402	3 335	2 973	2 782	2 479	2 726	2 720
	Girls	2 961	2 961	2 786	2 638	2 298	2 650	2 608
Other aspects of the child's situation	Total sex	6 600	6 333	5 899	5 509	4 912	4 507	4 025
	Boys	3 817	3 433	3 196	2 854	2 574	2 310	2 041
	Girls	2 781	2 900	2 703	2 655	2 338	2 197	1 984
Parents' lack of protection of the child (2021-)	Total sex	0	0	0	0	0	2 865	3 112
	Boys	0	0	0	0	0	1 448	1 582
	Girls	0	0	0	0	0	1 417	1 530
Parents' failure to stimulate and regulate the child (2021-)	Total sex	0	0	0	0	0	2 317	1 916
	Boys	0	0	0	0	0	1 315	1 073
	Girls	0	0	0	0	0	1 002	843
Parents' lack of sensitivity and emotional availability for the child (2021-)	Total sex	0	0	0	0	0	4 144	3 683
	Boys	0	0	0	0	0	2 029	1 769
	Girls	0	0	0	0	0	2 115	1 914
Parents' lack of follow-up of the child's needs for kindergarten, school and educational services (2021-)	Total sex	0	0	0	0	0	1 349	1 482
	Boys	0	0	0	0	0	712	798

	Girls	0	0	0	0	0	637	684
Conflict between parents who do not live together (2021-)	Total sex	0	0	0	0	0	1 887	2 672
	Boys	0	0	0	0	0	944	1 407
	Girls	0	0	0	0	0	943	1 265
The child's behavior (2021-)	Total sex	0	0	0	0	0	3 257	3 575
	Boys	0	0	0	0	0	2 299	2 515
	Girls	0	0	0	0	0	958	1 060
The child's criminal acts (2021-)	Total sex	0	0	0	0	0	973	1 014
	Boys	0	0	0	0	0	833	884
	Girls	0	0	0	0	0	140	130
The child exposed to human trafficking (2021-)	Total sex	0	0	0	0	0	11	28
	Boys	0	0	0	0	0	8	9
	Girls	0	0	0	0	0	3	19
Parents' lack of follow-up of the child's need of health care (2022-)	Total sex	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
	Boys	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Girls	0	0	0	0	0	0	4

Note: The variables "unknown sex" and "unknown reason for notification" are excluded due to low numbers. Thus, the total numbers may diverge from the sum of the numbers provided in the table.

Source: Statistics Norway, table 10675 (2024).

4. Children with notes of concern

The tables below show statistics on number of children for whom the Child Welfare Service has received a note of concern. The numbers are not available disaggregated by ethnic origin, type of disability or socioeconomic status. The numbers include all reason of notification. Several notes of concern may apply to the same child; thus, the total number of children with a note of concern is lower than the total number of notes of concern. This gives an indication of the prevalence of children who are victims of violence, abuse, and neglect.

Table E.39.a.4.1: Number of children with note(s) of concern, by sex and age group. 2016-2022.

Sex	Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total sex	Years, total	56 835	57 185	55 727	56 793	55 657	52 205	48 724
	0-2 years	7 271	6 956	6 537	6 292	5 969	5 580	5 031
	3-5 years	9 478	9 494	9 111	9 032	8 850	8 286	7 531
	6-12 years	23 023	23 386	23 385	24 008	23 615	22 117	20 666
	13-17 years	17 063	17 349	16 694	17 461	17 223	16 222	15 496
Boys	Years, total	31 690	31 809	30 495	31 241	30 287	27 916	26 327
	0-2 years	3 910	3 752	3 538	3 388	3 161	2 893	2 672
	3-5 years	5 047	5 013	4 805	4 743	4 701	4 370	4 042
	6-12 years	12 530	12 750	12 477	12 995	12 731	11 862	11 101
	13-17 years	9 400	9 430	8 922	9 388	9 057	8 084	7 941
Girls	Years, total	26 557	26 771	26 518	26 747	26 515	25 551	23 450

	0-2 years	3 361	3 204	2 999	2 904	2 808	2 687	2 359
	3-5 years	4 431	4 481	4 306	4 289	4 149	3 916	3 489
	6-12 years	10 493	10 636	10 908	11 013	10 884	10 255	9 565
	13-17 years	7 663	7 919	7 772	8 073	8 166	8 138	7 555

Note: The variables "unknown sex" and "unknown age" are excluded from the table due to low numbers.

Source: Statistics Norway, table 10760 (2024).

Table E.39.a.4.2: Number of children with note(s) of concern, by age group and counties. 2016-2022.

County	Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Oslo	Years, total	6 410	6 299	6 219	5 960	5 766	5 421	4 922
	0-2 years	815	769	738	664	616	624	540
	3-5 years	1 023	1 102	1 058	1 000	972	925	771
	6-12 years	2 579	2 516	2 465	2 321	2 248	2 168	2 017
	13-17 years	1 832	1 748	1 790	1 835	1 777	1 551	1 453
Rogaland	Years, total	4 876	4 929	4 891	4 773	4 571	4 439	4 317
	0-2 years	581	543	560	505	500	449	404
	3-5 years	817	802	783	722	691	661	664
	6-12 years	1 954	1 982	2 007	2 082	1 927	1 854	1 866
	13-17 years	1 401	1 508	1 451	1 375	1 373	1 363	1 288
Møre og Romsdal	Years, total	2 267	2 318	2 139	2 128	2 191	2 001	1 812
	0-2 years	284	285	233	212	227	192	160
	3-5 years	386	374	380	334	317	280	258
	6-12 years	871	960	850	907	899	861	751
	13-17 years	671	640	628	627	703	614	595
Nordland - Nordlånnda	Years, total	2 655	2 666	2 476	2 589	2 591	2 564	2 270
	0-2 years	337	310	269	274	238	245	216
	3-5 years	401	437	383	396	423	362	322
	6-12 years	977	1 027	969	1 046	1 092	1 113	982
	13-17 years	851	800	799	805	768	782	702
Østfold (-2019)	Years, total	3 093	3 021	3 179	3 224	.	.	.
	0-2 years	435	385	378	385	.	.	.
	3-5 years	516	479	531	516	.	.	.
	6-12 years	1 247	1 225	1 327	1 343	.	.	.
	13-17 years	822	866	869	919	.	.	.
Akershus (-2019)	Years, total	5 963	6 235	6 312	6 294	.	.	.
	0-2 years	676	699	630	567	.	.	.
	3-5 years	915	965	1 028	988	.	.	.
	6-12 years	2 385	2 483	2 650	2 634	.	.	.
	13-17 years	1 820	1 953	1 853	1 963	.	.	.
Hedmark (-2019)	Years, total	1 965	2 105	1 906	2 038	.	.	.
	0-2 years	235	296	223	216	.	.	.
	3-5 years	300	312	308	303	.	.	.
	6-12 years	749	843	777	842	.	.	.
	13-17 years	606	614	557	635	.	.	.

Oppland (-2019)	Years, total	1 998	1 962	1 822	1 873	.	.	.
	0-2 years	210	215	182	180	.	.	.
	3-5 years	302	314	273	281	.	.	.
	6-12 years	806	767	777	766	.	.	.
	13-17 years	635	613	539	595	.	.	.
Buskerud (-2019)	Years, total	3 006	3 080	2 650	2 663	.	.	.
	0-2 years	345	364	306	281	.	.	.
	3-5 years	541	468	395	401	.	.	.
	6-12 years	1 182	1 262	1 112	1 112	.	.	.
	13-17 years	858	899	771	814	.	.	.
Vestfold (-2019)	Years, total	2 927	2 612	2 685	2 845	.	.	.
	0-2 years	368	309	305	284	.	.	.
	3-5 years	497	480	421	455	.	.	.
	6-12 years	1 231	1046	1 189	1 198	.	.	.
	13-17 years	776	729	727	838	.	.	.
Telemark (-2019)	Years, total	1 798	1 627	1 574	1 433	.	.	.
	0-2 years	260	185	195	171	.	.	.
	3-5 years	284	276	243	238	.	.	.
	6-12 years	680	646	608	557	.	.	.
	13-17 years	537	486	487	433	.	.	.
Aust-Agder (-2019)	Years, total	1 378	1 279	1 195	1 344	.	.	.
	0-2 years	176	175	165	168	.	.	.
	3-5 years	246	194	201	191	.	.	.
	6-12 years	528	504	514	593	.	.	.
	13-17 years	397	375	291	362	.	.	.
Vest-Agder (-2019)	Years, total	1 954	2 068	1 942	1 971	.	.	.
	0-2 years	254	246	237	206	.	.	.
	3-5 years	339	342	338	316	.	.	.
	6-12 years	756	843	830	881	.	.	.
	13-17 years	553	571	499	540	.	.	.
Hordaland (-2019)	Years, total	4 463	4 840	4 656	4 667	.	.	.
	0-2 years	538	566	494	468	.	.	.
	3-5 years	734	784	781	760	.	.	.
	6-12 years	1 781	1931	1 937	2 032	.	.	.
	13-17 years	1 324	1454	1 337	1 326	.	.	.
Sogn og Fjordane (-2019)	Years, total	820	859	861	792	.	.	.
	0-2 years	96	81	95	75	.	.	.
	3-5 years	143	133	132	117	.	.	.
	6-12 years	323	346	359	336	.	.	.
	13-17 years	232	269	249	253	.	.	.
Sør-Trøndelag (-2017)	Years, total	2 393	2 537	.	.	.	.	.
	0-2 years	296	288	.	.	.	.	.
	3-5 years	407	414	.	.	.	.	.

	6-12 years	946	1 058	.	.	.	.	.
	13-17 years	684	729	.	.	.	.	.
Nord-Trøndelag (-2017)	Years, total	1 418	1 435	.	.	.	.	.
	0-2 years	180	179	.	.	.	.	.
	3-5 years	224	221	.	.	.	.	.
	6-12 years	569	590	.	.	.	.	.
	13-17 years	406	399	.	.	.	.	.
Troms - Romsa (-2019)	Years, total	1 690	1 796	1 690	1 774	.	.	.
	0-2 years	206	200	188	192	.	.	.
	3-5 years	268	281	232	267	.	.	.
	6-12 years	676	722	698	697	.	.	.
	13-17 years	510	529	518	574	.	.	.
Finnmark - Finnmarku (-2019)	Years, total	1 053	921	1 046	955	.	.	.
	0-2 years	120	91	110	95	.	.	.
	3-5 years	189	150	160	152	.	.	.
	6-12 years	415	384	408	380	.	.	.
	13-17 years	303	275	348	310	.	.	.
Troms og Finnmark - Romsa ja Finnmarku (2020-2023)	Years, total	.	.	.	.	2 666	2613	2313
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	243	239	200
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	409	389	370
	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	1 060	1070	949
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	898	851	747
Viken (2020-2023)	Years, total	.	.	.	.	12 113	11470	10899
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	1 253	1169	1124
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	1 827	1769	1684
	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	5 074	4706	4438
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	3 690	3556	3450
Innlandet	Years, total	.	.	.	.	3 476	3381	3069
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	338	380	364
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	507	499	428
	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	1 507	1409	1282
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	1 053	1008	934
Vestfold og Telemark (2020-2023)	Years, total	.	.	.	.	4 097	4046	3633
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	420	401	338
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	624	598	576
	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	1 746	1704	1558
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	1 231	1252	1084
Agder	Years, total	.	.	.	.	2 934	2628	2165
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	334	269	222
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	487	423	311

	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	1243	1 081	907
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	823	791	675
Vestland	Years, total	.	.	.	.	5 191	4 804	4 513
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	498	467	404
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	843	771	667
	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	2 228	2 084	1 949
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	1 534	1 384	1 405
Trøndelag - Trööndelage (2018-)	Years, total	.	.	3 670	3 843	4 118	3 978	3 610
	0-2 years	.	.	453	465	460	429	354
	3-5 years	.	.	566	602	679	636	535
	6-12 years	.	.	1 584	1 669	1 773	1 648	1 455
	13-17 years	.	.	994	1 028	1 142	1 180	1 175

. = Category not applicable. Figures do not exist at this time, because the category was not in use when the figures were collected. This is due to new division of counties in Norway in 2018 and 2020.

Note: The Child Welfare can continue measures until the age of 25 years. Until 2021, the upper age limit was 23 years. However, children above 18 years old are excluded in this table, as well as the variable "unknown age". Thus, the total numbers may diverge from the sum of the numbers provided in the table.

Source: Statistics Norway, table 10760 (2024).

Table E.39.a.4.3: Number of children with note(s) of concern, during the year, by country background, and age group. 2016-2022.

Country background*	Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Nordic countries except Norway, EU/EFTA, UK, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand	Years, total	2 608	2 722	2 771	2 787	2 923	2 768	2 633
	0-2 years	252	276	253	225	261	266	249
	3-5 years	453	494	483	476	469	512	463
	6-12 years	1 107	1 146	1 167	1 198	1 249	1 150	1 107
	13-17 years	742	763	813	819	874	783	774
Europe except EU/EFTA and UK, Africa, Asia, America except USA and Canada, Oceania except Australia and New Zealand, polar regions	Years, total	11 566	12 316	11 794	11 754	11 414	11 040	10 901
	0-2 years	1 306	1 404	1 285	1 210	1 171	1 107	909
	3-5 years	1 939	2 050	2 094	2 075	1 933	1 901	1 760
	6-12 years	4 315	4 803	4 796	4 747	4 588	4 489	4 506
	13-17 years	3 636	3 634	3 253	3 449	3 446	3 262	3 402
Children are dependents without immigrant-background	Years, total	36 220	36 392	35 543	35 954	34 860	33 034	29 304
	0-2 years	4 413	4 112	3 886	3 691	3 434	3 248	2 927
	3-5 years	5 937	5 869	5 565	5 424	5 336	4 863	4 291
	6-12 years	14 854	14 942	14 920	15 269	14 839	13 939	12 359
	13-17 years	10 246	10 757	10 454	10 833	10 593	10 206	9 159

Unknown	Years, total	1 733	1 159	805	671	517	503	685
	0-2 years	441	394	337	282	261	243	241
	3-5 years	203	115	71	64	41	37	72
	6-12 years	379	244	178	182	121	120	182
	13-17 years	594	303	187	131	79	81	173

*The numbers include all children, that is immigrants, Norwegian-born to immigrant parents, the rest of the children in the population, and children with unknown immigration background.

Note: The Child Welfare can continue measures until the age of 25 years. Until 2021, the upper age limit was 23 years. However, children above 18 years old are excluded in this table, as well as the variable "unknown age". Thus, the total numbers may diverge from the sum of the numbers provided in the table.

Source: Statistics Norway, table 11292 (2024).

5. Victims of violence and abuse – survey data

The three tables below (table E.39.a.5.1-5.3) show results from a survey exploring the prevalence of violence and abuse throughout the upbringing among pupils in upper secondary schools. The sample consists of 15 409 pupils between the ages of 16 and 19. This will give an indication of the prevalence of violence and abuse among children and young people.

Table E.39.a.5.1: Percentage of pupils in upper secondary school who have reported that they have been exposed to violence from caregivers, broken down into different groups. 2023.

	Serious physical violence(1)(2)	Milder physical violence(3)(4)	Mental violence only(6)	None	Total
Both sexes	7	9	8	76	100
Female	8	10	11	71	100
Male	6	8	5	81	100
Socioeconomic status: Lowest	10	9	9	72	100
Socioeconomic status: Low	8	10	8	74	100
Socioeconomic status: Middle	7	9	8	76	100
Socioeconomic status: High	5	9	7	79	100
Socioeconomic status, Highest	4	7	8	80	99
Parents country background: Norway and other Nordic countries	6	9	8	77	100
Parents country background: Rest of Europe, North America and Oceania	10	12	6	71	99
Parents country background: The rest of the world	15	9	7	69	100
Functional impairments: None	6	8	8	78	100
Functional impairments: At least one	11	13	11	66	101
Sexual orientation: Heterosexual	5	8	78	78	169
Sexual orientation: Other sexual orientation	14	14	66	60	154
Living conditions growing up: Non problems	4	7	6	83	100
Living conditions growing up: One problem	13	15	14	58	100
Living conditions growing up: Two or more problems (6)	25	16	16	43	100

Source: Frøyland, L.R, Lid, S., Schwencke, E.O. & Stefansen, K. (2023). Vold og overgrep mot barn og unge. Omfang og utviklingstrekk 2007–2023. NOVA Rapport 11/23

Footnotes: 1) may include cases of milder physical and mental violence, 2) serious physical violence means punching with fist, hitting with an object, beating or something else (seriously) violent, 3) may include cases of mental violence, 4) milder physical violence means being pushed, violently shaken, shoved, slapped or hit with a flat hand, 5) mental violence is defined as being insulted, hurt and humiliated on purpose or being threatened with physical violence, 6) living conditions problems are defined as challenges such as drug addiction, mental disorders and other living conditions problems in the family.

Table E.39.a.5.2: Percentage of pupils in upper secondary school who have reported that they have been exposed to physical violence and threats of violence from a peer, broken down into different groups. 2023.

	Serious physical violence (1)	Threats of violence	None	Total
Both sexes	18	6	76	100
Female	14	4	82	100
Male	23	7	70	100
Socioeconomic status: Lowest	20	6	75	101
Socioeconomic status: Low	20	6	74	100
Socioeconomic status: Middle	18	5	77	100
Socioeconomic status: High	17	6	77	100
Socioeconomic status, Highest	16	5	79	100
Parents country background: Norway and other Nordic countries	18	6	76	100
Parents country background: Rest of Europe, North America and Oceania	20	6	74	100
Parents country background: The rest of the world	15	5	80	100
Functional impairments: None	17	5	78	100
Functional impairments: At least one	27	7	66	100
Sexual orientation: Heterosexual	17	5	78	100
Sexual orientation: Other sexual orientation	29	7	64	100
Living conditions growing up: Non problems	14	5	80	99
Living conditions growing up: One problem	27	7	66	100
Living conditions growing up: Two or more problems (2)	37	9	54	100

Source: Frøyland, L.R, Lid, S., Schwencke, E.O. & Stefansen, K. (2023). Vold og overgrep mot barn og unge. Omfang og utviklingstrekk 2007–2023. NOVA Rapport 11/23.

Footnotes: 1) serious physical violence means punching with fist, hitting with an object, beating or something else (seriously) violent, 2) living conditions problems are defined as challenges such as drug addiction, mental disorders and other living conditions problems in the family.

Table E.39.a.5.3: Percentage of pupils in upper secondary school who have reported that they have been exposed to sexual violence while growing up, by gender, socioeconomic status, parents' country background, functional impairment, and sexual orientation. 2023.

	Serious sexual violence(1)(2)	Milder sexual violence only(3)	None	Total
Both sexes	16	10	74	100
Female	25	14	61	100
Male	6	5	89	100
Socioeconomic status: Lowest	18	8	74	100

Socioeconomic status: Low	18	9	73	100
Socioeconomic status: Middle	16	11	73	100
Socioeconomic status: High	15	10	75	100
Socioeconomic status, Higest	14	11	75	100
Parents country background: Norway and other Nordic countries	17	10	73	100
Parents country background: Rest of Europe, North America and Oceania	19	9	72	100
Parents country background: The rest of the world	12	9	79	100
Functional impairments: None	15	9	76	100
Functional impairments: At least one	24	13	63	100
Sexual orientation: Heterosexual	15	9	76	100
Sexual orientation: Other sexual orientation	26	16	58	100
Living conditions growing up: Non problems	12	9	79	100
Living conditions growing up: One problem	26	13	61	100
Living conditions growing up: Two or more problems (4)	38	12	50	100

Source: Frøyland, L.R, Lid, S., Schwencke, E.O. & Stefansen, K. (2023). *Vold og overgrep mot barn og unge. Omfang og utviklingstrekk 2007–2023. NOVA Rapport 11/23.*

Footnotes: 1) may include milder sexual violence in combination with serious sexual violence, 2) serious sexual violence is being tried to be forced or threatened into various forms of sex, or to be subjected to various forms of rape, against one's will or while one is asleep or intoxicated, 3) milder sexual violence is defined as being affected in a sexual way against one's will or being forced or threatened to affect another in the same way, 4) living conditions problems are defined as challenges such as drug addiction, mental disorders and other living conditions problems in the family.

6. Victims of violence and abuse - cases reported to the police, and sanctions

6.1. Victims of violence and abuse – cases reported to the police

The table shows the total number of victims reported to the police in the years 2016 to 2022, as well as the numbers of victims of violence and abuse in the age groups 0-9 years and 10-19 years during the same period. The statistics are not available disaggregated by sex, ethnic origin, national origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status.

We would also like to draw your attention to Statistics Norway's report issued in June 2020: "Fra overgrep til straff" ("From abuse to penal sanction"). Statistics Norway wanted to answer the question: What happens in the judicial system once domestic violence or child abuse is reported to the police? Statistics Norway developed statistics on the criminal justice chain and defined two new types of offences: domestic violent offences and offences against children under 16. In the report Statistics Norway describes the offences reported in 2010 and how the police, prosecuting authorities and courts have dealt with different types of domestic violence and offences against children in the period 2010–2017. These statistics include 7 079 reported domestic violent offences, of which 2 447 relate to maltreatment in close relations, and 6 879 reported offences against children under the age of 16, of which 4 605 relate to violent or sexual offences. The review shows considerable variations both within and between the different types of domestic violence and offences against children. The report has an English summary¹⁰.

¹⁰ Stene, J. (2020). *Fra overgrep til straff*. Statistics Norway report 2020/22. Retrieved 08 May 2024 from <https://www.ssb.no/sosiale-forhold-og-kriminalitet/artikler-og-publikasjoner/attachment/422695?ts=1736c11aec8>.

Table E.39.a.6.1: Victims of violence and abuse, reported cases to the police, by age group. 2016-2022.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total	30 699	32 199	32 840	32 948	32 223	31 890	34 450
0-9 years	3 122	3 480	3 307	2 990	2 963	2 948	2 749
10-19 years	5 020	5 647	5 740	5 767	5 719	5 700	6 232

Source: Statistics Norway (2024).

6.2. Rape and aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age – penal sanctions and criminal counts

When it comes to the number and percentage of reported cases that resulted in sanctions or other forms of follow-up for perpetrators, Statistics Norway have figures on rape of children under the age of 14. The table shows penal sanctions against persons who have committed rape or aggravated rape of children under 14 years of age for the period from 2019 and 2022. The statistics are not available disaggregated by sex, ethnic origin, national origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status.

Table E.39.a.6.2: Rape and aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age: Penal sanctions and criminal counts, by type of sanction, type of principal offence. 2019-2022.

Type of sanction	Type of principal offence	2019	2020	2021	2022
All types of sanctions	Rape, children under 14 years of age	126	146	139	120
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	11	14	19	17
Settled in mediation service	Rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
Waiver of prosecution without conditions	Rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
Conditional waiver of prosecution	Rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	5	:
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
On the spot fine	Rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
Ticket fine	Rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
Fine	Rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
Community sentence	Rape, children under 14 years of age	6	5	6	:
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
Community sentence only	Rape, children under 14 years of age	6	5	6	:
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
Community sentence and fine	Rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
Conditional imprisonment	Rape, children under 14 years of age	8	6	:	:
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
Conditional imprisonment only	Rape, children under 14 years of age	8	6	:	:

	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
Conditional imprisonment and fine	Rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
Unconditional imprisonment	Rape, children under 14 years of age	92	114	104	94
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	8	10	15	15
Unconditional imprisonment only	Rape, children under 14 years of age	80	91	88	77
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	7	9	14	14
Unconditional and conditional imprisonment	Rape, children under 14 years of age	10	23	16	17
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age (from 1.10.2015)	:	:	:	:
Unconditional imprisonment and other	Rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
Special sanction or other type of sanction	Rape, children under 14 years of age	19	21	21	21
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
Preventive detention	Rape, children under 14 years of age	5	:	:	:
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
Compulsory mental health care sentence	Rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
Compulsory care sentence	Rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
Youth sentence	Rape, children under 14 years of age	14	17	18	17
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
Other sanction	Rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:
	Aggravated rape, children under 14 years of age	:	:	:	:

Source: Statistics Norway (2024).

b) Children who have had access to protective measures and multidisciplinary remedies for children who are victims and witnesses of violence.

1. Children with measures from the Child Welfare Services

Kindly see statistics provided in table E.39.a.1, which shows new cases of children where the Child Welfare Services have taken measures. In this table, ten of the given reasons for measures to be put in place is high degree of conflict at home, domestic violence/the child is witness to domestic violence, the child is subjected to neglect, the child is subjected to physical abuse, the child is subjected to mental abuse, the child is the victim of sexual abuse/incest, parents' lack of protection of the child, conflict between parents who do not live together, the child exposed to human trafficking, and parents' lack of follow-up of the child's need of health care. The table below shows the number of new cases of children where measures have been imposed during the year, disaggregated by the abovementioned reasons for measures, and age group. The statistics refer to cases where measures have been imposed, not individuals. Therefore, these numbers are inaccurate with regards to showing the number of children who have had access to protective measures and multidisciplinary remedies for children who are victims and witnesses of violence.

Table E.39.b.1: New cases of children with measures from the Child Welfare Services, during the year, per year, by age group and reason for measure, 2016-2022.

	Reason for measure	Years, total	0-2 years	3-5 years	6-12 years	13-17 years	18-22 years	18-24 years
2016	High degree of conflict at home	3 058	273	386	1 289	1 046	64	.
2016	Domestic violence / the child is witness to domestic violence	2 157	246	420	1 085	390	16	.
2016	The child is subjected to neglect	111	17	24	52	16	2	.
2016	The child is subjected to physical abuse	704	31	118	409	136	10	.
2016	The child is subjected to mental abuse	356	13	45	172	113	13	.
2016	The child is the victim of sexual abuse/incest	152	3	16	68	61	4	.
2016	Parents' lack of protection of the child (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
2016	Conflict between parents who do not live together (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
2016	The child exposed to human trafficking (2021-)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
2016	Parents' lack of follow-up of the child's need of health care (2022-)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
2017	High degree of conflict at home	3 356	298	441	1 467	1 069	81	.
2017	Domestic violence / the child is witness to domestic violence	2 342	264	416	1 212	429	21	.
2017	The child is subjected to neglect	114	23	20	51	19	1	.
2017	The child is subjected to physical abuse	756	46	118	434	150	8	.
2017	The child is subjected to mental abuse	439	19	45	206	153	16	.
2017	The child is the victim of sexual abuse/incest	158	5	21	54	72	6	.
2018	High degree of conflict at home	3 334	306	420	1 476	1 055	77	.
2018	Domestic violence / the child is witness to domestic violence	2 177	242	426	1 077	404	28	.
2018	The child is subjected to neglect	107	14	27	45	20	1	.
2018	The child is subjected to physical abuse	692	32	121	396	131	12	.
2018	The child is subjected to mental abuse	400	20	49	176	141	14	.
2018	The child is the victim of sexual abuse/incest	141	.	21	60	60	.	.
2019	High degree of conflict at home	3 118	296	431	1 337	994	60	.
2019	Domestic violence / the child is witness to domestic violence	2 033	247	368	1 037	361	20	.
2019	The child is subjected to neglect	91	12	17	37	23	2	.
2019	The child is subjected to physical abuse	648	18	94	368	160	8	.
2019	The child is subjected to mental abuse	391	12	38	183	144	14	.
2019	The child is the victim of sexual abuse/incest	135	1	8	62	60	4	.
2020	High degree of conflict at home	3 335	265	478	1 474	1 053	65	.
2020	Domestic violence / the child is witness to domestic violence	2 110	207	413	1 089	380	21	.
2020	The child is subjected to neglect	111	16	23	52	18	2	.

2020	The child is subjected to physical abuse	574	20	85	343	121	5	.
2020	The child is subjected to mental abuse	333	14	33	162	113	11	.
2020	The child is the victim of sexual abuse/incest	112	2	16	51	41	2	.
2021	High degree of conflict at home	2 908	241	374	1 269	967	.	57
2021	Domestic violence / the child is witness to domestic violence	1 776	218	354	858	322	.	24
2021	The child is subjected to neglect	285	39	53	125	62	.	6
2021	The child is subjected to physical abuse	825	25	138	488	165	.	9
2021	The child is subjected to mental abuse	505	20	62	230	181	.	12
2021	The child is the victim of sexual abuse/incest	129	.	6	48	73	.	2
2021	Parents' lack of protection of the child (2021-)	566	87	74	250	150	.	5
2021	Conflict between parents who do not live together (2021-)	1 030	93	187	532	215	.	3
2021	The child exposed to human trafficking (2021-)	1	.	1	.	.	.	.
2022	High degree of conflict at home	2 136	178	249	846	792	.	71
2022	Domestic violence / the child is witness to domestic violence	1 498	170	285	730	298	.	15
2022	The child is subjected to neglect	239	54	40	98	45	.	2
2022	The child is subjected to physical abuse	883	39	116	508	207	.	13
2022	The child is subjected to mental abuse	639	26	75	296	226	.	16
2022	The child is the victim of sexual abuse/incest	90	3	6	40	39	.	2
2022	Parents' lack of protection of the child (2021-)	465	90	76	174	119	.	6
2022	Conflict between parents who do not live together (2021-)	1 484	127	248	801	301	.	7
2022	The child exposed to human trafficking (2021-)	1	.	1	.	.	.	.
2022	Parents' lack of follow-up of the child's need of health care (2022-)	1	.	.	1	.	.	.

. = Category not applicable. Figures do not exist at this time, because the category was not in use when the figures were collected.

From 2021 the Child Welfare Services can continue measures until the age of 25 years. Earlier the upper age limit was 23 years.

Source: Statistics Norway, table 10663 (2024).

2. Children with address protection

Address protection is a measure that can be implemented to protect people exposed to threats, meaning that the person is particularly in danger of being exposed to severe crime aimed at hurting the child's life, health, or freedom. There are two types of address protection, Confidential and Strictly confidential. Confidential addresses are not released to private individuals; however, the address information is available to all public authorities that have access to information from the national population registry. Strictly confidential addresses are not available to any users of the

national population registry¹¹. The statistics below show the number of children living with address protection, including both types of measures mentioned above. The numbers are not available disaggregated by age, sex, ethnic origin, national origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status.

Table E.39.b.2: Number of children with address protection, per. 1st of January, 2016-2023.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of children with address protection	785	743	757	670	597	515	434	372

Source: The Norwegian Tax Administration (2024).

3. Children at crisis shelters

The crisis shelter service has particular expertise in providing protection, security, advice and guidance to women, men and children who are exposed to violence in close relations. The crisis shelters offer a safe place to stay for a limited time, counselling, help with contacting health and support services, information about rights and opportunities, advice and guidance, counselling groups and activities, as well as follow-ups¹². Every local authority is required by law to provide a crisis shelter service. In Norway there are 43 crisis shelters distributed throughout the country.

3.1. Number of children at crisis shelters

The table below (table E.39.b.3.1) provides an overview of the total number of children (0 to 18 years) who were staying at crisis shelters per year from 2014 to 2022. The number of children staying at crisis shelters has been stable in this period, with a peak in 2015. These numbers show how many children, that are victims or witnesses of violence in close relations, that have used crisis shelters as a protective measure. The numbers should not be used to give an indication on the prevalence of violence against children in Norway.

Table E.39.b.3.1: Number of children staying at crisis shelters. 2014-2022.

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of children *	1 507	1 570	1 490	1 483	1 452	1 450	1 258	1 442	1 482

*Before 2021, it was not registered whether the stay was the child's first stay that year, if the child's carer wanted to reserve the child against registration. This was changed in 2021 in order to register whether the stay was the child's first stay that year or not for all stays. Because of this, comparisons must be done with precautions. Source: The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs.

3.2. Number of children at crisis shelters, by age

The table below (table E.39.b.3.2) shows the age distribution of children who were staying at crisis shelters per year from 2014 to 2022¹³. In this period, about 50 percent of the children were between

¹¹ National Police Directorate (2023) *Behandling av opplysning om personer med adressesperre – veileder*. Retrieved May 2, 2024, from <https://www.politiet.no/globalassets/rad-og-veiledning/vold-i-nare-relasjoner/veiledning-behandling-av-opplysninger-om-personer-med-adressesperre.pdf>.

¹² The Norwegian national guide to help services, information and expertise on rape, other sexual abuse and violence in close relationships. (2024). *What is a crisis shelter?* Downloaded 06.05.2024 from dinutvei.no

¹³ Childrens age at first stay.

0 to 5 years old, while about 30 percent were between 6 to 10 years old. In 2022 the mean age of children at crisis shelters was 6 years.

Table E.39.b.3.2: Age distribution of children staying at crisis shelters. In percentages. 2014-2022.

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
0-2 yrs	27	27	24	21	25	26	23	24	25
3-5 yrs	23	25	23	25	22	25	25	25	24
6-10 yrs	29	27	32	31	30	28	29	29	29
11-15 yrs	16	16	17	17	18	15	18	17	17
16 yrs or older	5	5	5	6	4	5	4	5	5

Source: The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs.

3.3 Number of children at crisis shelters, by immigrant background

The table below (table E.39.b.3.3) shows the number and percentage of children staying at crisis shelters who had immigrant background per year from 2018 to 2022. There has been a stable number of children with immigrant background in this period. In 2022, 57 percent of the children had immigrant background.

Table E.39.b.3.3: Children with immigrant background staying at crisis shelters. Number of children and in percentages. 2018-2022.

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Number of children					
Immigrant background	883	832	720	800	780
Not immigrant background	538	589	524	510	593
Percentages					
Immigrant background	62,1	58,6	57,7	61,1	56,8
Not immigrant background	37,9	41,4	42,3	38,9	43,2

Source: The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs.

3.4 Children with disabilities at crisis shelters

Table below (table E.39.b.3.4) shows the percentage of children at crisis shelters with disabilities, by type of disability between 2016 and 2022. The most common type of disability among children at crisis shelters was mental disorders (with or without diagnosis), followed by chronic disease(s). The most common form of physical disability was impaired hearing. About one third of children with disabilities had other disabilities than the disabilities listed below. In total, 8 percent of all children at crisis shelters had one or more disabilities in 2022.

Table E.39.b.3.4: Disabilities among children staying at crisis shelters. In percentages of children with disabilities. 2016-2022.

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Impaired mobility	11	7	11	6	2	12	6
Impaired vision	7	3	6	4	6	0	2
Impaired hearing	4	2	5	4	7	4	7
Developmental disability	.	.	.	.	19	25	9
Mental disorders (with or without diagnosis)	.	.	.	.	36	26	39
Chronic disease(s)	18	15	22	20	13	26	19
Other disability	35	39	39	30	21	27	34

Source: The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs.

4. Children at centers for victims of incest and sexual abuse and Nok. centers

Centers for victims of incest and sexual abuse and Nok. Centers offer support to persons who have been subjected to sexual abuse. The centers are primarily a self-help service for adults who have been subjected to incest, sexual abuse or rape, as well as their relatives. The centers provide a free service and function as a supplement to the state-run support systems¹⁴.

1. Children at centres for victims of incest and sexual abuse, by age and gender

The table below (table E.39.b.4.1) provides an overview of distribution of age and gender among children and young adults using centers for victims of incest and sexual abuse and Nok. Centers per year from 2014 to 2022. Over time, there has been a decrease in children under 18 years using the centers and an increase in the age group 18 to 23 years. These numbers should not be used to give an indication of prevalence of sexual abuse among children and young adults. As mentioned, the centers are primarily an offer for adults. Also, there might be a large number of children who have experienced sexual abuse that do not report the abuse to the authorities or seek help.

Table E.39.b.4.1: Number of children and young adults using centers for victims of incest and sexual abuse and Nok. Centers, by age group and gender. In percentages. 2014-2022.

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total									
Under 18 yrs	14	7	7	6	5	5	6	6	6
18-23 yrs	16	18	18	20	20	21	24	24	22
Boys/ men									
Under 18 yrs	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
18-23 yrs	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7
Girls/women									
Under 18 yrs	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7
18-23 yrs	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	25

Source: The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs.

2. Children with disabilities at centers for victims of incest and sexual abuse, by type of disability

The table below (table E.39.b.4.2) shows disabilities among children and young adults who has been exposed to sexual abuse and using centers for victims of incest and sexual abuse and Nok. centers. The most common type of disability for both age groups in 2022 were mental disorders (with or without diagnosis). Over 50 percent in both age groups report no disability.

Table E.39.b.4.2: Children and young adults using centers for victims of incest and sexual abuse and Nok. Centers, by type of disability. In percentages. 2022.

Disability	Impaired mobility	Impaired vision	Impaired hearing	Chronic disease(s)	Mental disorders (with or without diagnosis)	Developmental disability	Other disability	No disability
Under 18 yrs	1	0	0	2	38	0	3	57
18-23 yrs	1	2	1	8	44	1	2	52

Source: The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs.

¹⁴ The Norwegian national guide to help services, information and expertise on rape, other sexual abuse and violence in close relationships. (2024). *What is a Nok. center or SMISO center?* Downloaded 06.05.2024 from dinutvei.no

5. Children with measures from the family counselling services

The family counselling services are a free service that provides mediation and therapy to families. They register the number of cases with violence both for clinical cases and for mediation cases. Mediation is mandatory for all couples with children under the age of 16 who move apart. Clinical cases are voluntary and open for all families, though families with children are prioritised and make up the majority of cases.

The numbers are not available for the years prior to 2019 because the family counselling services started registering the cases in these categories in 2019.

The table below shows the number of cases where the therapist or mediator has registered that the case had some issues connected with violence. For the clinical cases, the therapist can register the case in none, one or both of the two categories “violence in the relationship between parents and children” and “violence in the relationship between adults”. For mediation cases, the mediator can register the case as either with or without problems with violence.

Table E.39.b.4.5: Number of cases with violence in the family counselling services. 2019-2023.

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Region Mid					
Number of concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services - violence in the relationship between parents and children	271	255	216	184	171
Number of concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services - violence in the relationship between adults	381	316	296	280	284
Number of concluded mediation cases in the family counselling services - problems with violence	276	230	213	247	247
Number of total concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services	4 822	4 732	4 574	4 429	4 464
Number of total concluded mediation cases in the family counselling services	2 198	1 972	1 953	1 986	1 964
Region North					
Number of concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services - violence in the relationship between parents and children	254	198	172	162	173
Number of concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services - violence in the relationship between adults	488	340	315	282	294
Number of concluded mediation cases in the family counselling services - problems with violence	257	174	219	184	221
Number of total concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services	4 985	4 518	4 599	4 738	4 561
Number of total concluded mediation cases in the family counselling services	1 965	1 645	1 755	1 815	1 785
Region South					
Number of concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services - violence in the relationship between parents and children	454	351	334	329	328

Number of concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services - violence in the relationship between adults	768	574	545	566	555
Number of concluded mediation cases in the family counselling services - problems with violence	490	414	385	385	417
Number of total concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services	7 325	6 556	6 465	6 965	7 125
Number of total concluded mediation cases in the family counselling services	3 295	2 984	2 784	2 782	2 875
Region West					
Number of concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services - violence in the relationship between parents and children	310	260	238	242	227
Number of concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services - violence in the relationship between adults	513	471	416	448	388
Number of concluded mediation cases in the family counselling services - problems with violence	392	419	430	417	445
Number of total concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services	6 347	6 083	6 052	6 079	6 297
Number of total concluded mediation cases in the family counselling services	3 454	3 336	3 337	3 248	3 335
Region East					
Number of concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services - violence in the relationship between parents and children	534	412	387	336	318
Number of concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services - violence in the relationship between adults	973	683	640	625	636
Number of concluded mediation cases in the family counselling services - problems with violence	777	541	610	659	731
Number of total concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services	12 709	11 838	11 694	11 812	11 912
Number of total concluded mediation cases in the family counselling services	5 753	4 581	4 629	5 121	5 346
All regions					
Number of concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services - violence in the relationship between parents and children	1 823	1 476	1 347	1 253	1 217
Number of concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services - violence in the relationship between adults	3 123	2 384	2 212	2 201	2 157
Number of concluded mediation cases in the family counselling services - problems with violence	2 192	1 778	1 857	1 892	2 061
Number of total concluded clinical cases in the family counselling services	36 188	33 727	33 384	34 023	34 359
Number of total concluded mediation cases in the family counselling services	16 665	14 518	14 458	14 952	15 305

Source: Data from the family counselling services IT system "FADO", extracted 12.4.2024

6. Interviews at Children's Houses

The Norwegian government has established a nationwide scheme of Children's houses. The Children's houses arrange interviews and medical and dental health examinations of children who have been exposed to violence and abuse, offer follow-up and in some cases treatment, as well as coordinate interdisciplinary and inter-agency follow-up. The interviews conducted in connection with criminal investigations are performed by qualified police personnel specially trained in interviewing children. There are Children's Houses in all Police Districts in Norway. The numbers are not available disaggregated by sex, ethnic origin, national origin, socioeconomic status, or type of disability.

Table E.39.b.6.1: Number of interviews at Children's Houses, disaggregated by geographical location of Children's House (city and police district), 2017-2022.

Geographical location of Children's House (city)	Police District	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Kristiansand	Agder	412	359	362	320	286	266
Hamar	Innlandet	459	238	337	323	342	309
Ålesund	Møre og Romsdal	378	294	250	253	237	213
Bodø	Nordland	435	369	359	381	341	252
Oslo	Oslo	1 051	758	619	706	827	692
Stavanger	Sør-Vest	639	624	521	507	411	349
Sandefjord	Sør-Øst	811	741	530	588	585	557
Tromsø	Troms og Finnmark	372	372	355	331	309	278
Trondheim	Trøndelag	633	569	578	548	536	362
Bergen	Vest	435	492	572	567	566	457
Moss	Øst	818	850	640	604	563	600
Total	Total	6 443	5 666	5 123	5 128	5 003	4 355

Source: Annual Reports Children's Houses (Statens barnehus).

Table E.39.b.6.2: Number of interviews at Children's Houses, disaggregated by age group, 2017-2022.

Age	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
< 6 years	942	820	650	582	499	395
6-11 years	2 759	2 427	2 136	1 980	1 911	1 602
12-15 years	2 341	2 121	1 998	2 258	2 259	2 029
16-17 years	304	125	121	122	156	126
> 18 years	186	170	211	186	178	183
Total	6 443	5 666	5 123	5 128	5 003	4 355

Source: Annual Reports Children's Houses (Statens barnehus).

Table E.39.b.6.3: Number of medical examinations disaggregated by geographical location of Children's House (city) and type of medical examination, 2017-2022.

Geographical location of Children's House (city)	Forensic medical examinations			Medical examinations			Total number of examinations		
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
Kristiansand	128	45	55	4	0	7	132	52	62
Hamar	38	61	24	3	2	15	41	63	39
Ålesund	21	0	21	0	1	0	21	1	21

Bodø	27	28	32	1	0	0	28	28	32
Oslo	239	261	249	0	0	0	239	261	249
Stavanger	98	80	49	0	0	3	98	80	52
Sandefjord	31	65	76	0	0	2	31	65	78
Tromsø	128	129	95	2	7	5	130	136	100
Trondheim	110	45	85	51	21	27	161	66	112
Bergen	127	107	101	0	5	9	127	112	110
Moss	202	97	95	0	0	0	202	97	95
Total	1 149	918	882	61	36	68	1 210	954	950

Source: Annual Reports Children's Houses (Statens barnehus).

Table E.39.b.6.4: Number of dental health examinations disaggregated by geographical location of children's house (city and police district), 2020-2022.

Geographical location of Children's house (city)	Police district	2020	2021	2022
Kristiansand	Agder	110	38	53
Hamar	Innlandet	2	2	3
Ålesund	Møre og Romsdal	0	0	1
Bodø	Nordland	2	2	0
Oslo	Oslo	41	25	50
Stavanger	Sør-Vest	35	23	21
Sandefjord	Sør-Øst	0	6	1
Tromsø	Troms og Finnmark	48	30	18
Trondheim	Trøndelag	80	33	56
Bergen	Vest	94	79	64
Moss	Øst	135	87	73
Total		547	325	396

Source: Annual reports Children's houses (Statens barnehus).

F. Family environment and alternative care (arts. 5, 9–11, 18 (1)–(2), 20–21, 25 and 27 (4))

40. Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 34 above, on:

a) Children of separated parents who are not in direct contact with both parents, and the reasons for the lack of contact with one parent;

1. Number of new cases by minimum of instances of contact the Child Welfare Tribunal decided on

There are no available data on the number of children of separated parents who are not in direct contact with both parents and the reason for the lack of contact with one parent. However, there are available statistics on care orders following court decision. The table below shows statistics on the number of new cases sorted by how many instances of physical contact the Child Welfare Tribunal decided on as a minimum. Note that several children may be part of one case. All decisions on care orders are decided by the Child Welfare Tribunal.

The vast majority of children with care order are in contact with their parents. In cases where care orders are decided upon, the Child Welfare Tribunal decides a minimum frequency for how often the parent(s) are allowed to be in contact with the child. The municipal Child Welfare Service may later decide that a higher frequency is warranted.

Table F.40.a.1: New cases by minimum instances of contact decided by the Child Welfare Tribunal. 2020-2023.

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Mother				
0 instances of physical contact with mother per year	14	14	10	7
1-3 instances of physical contact with mother per year	11	12	16	13
4-6 instances of physical contact with mother per year	106	101	73	61
7-10 instances of physical contact with mother per year	78	61	80	74
One instance of physical contact with mother per month	184	156	183	235
Two instances of physical contact with mother per month	43	56	85	84
One instance of physical contact with mother per week	11	16	15	25
More than one instance of physical contact with mother per week	11	11	12	8
Number of instances of contact with mother not decided	19	24	22	13
Father				
0 instances of physical contact with father per year	12	14	8	12
1-3 instances of physical contact with father per year	41	37	37	25
4-6 instances of physical contact with father per year	97	102	97	93
7-10 instances of physical contact with father per year	44	31	45	67
One instance of physical contact with father per month	79	94	104	110
Two instances of physical contact with father per month	9	16	24	37
One instance of physical contact with father per week	4	10	4	12
More than one instance of physical contact with father per week	5	4	2	3
Number of instances of contact with father not decided	17	11	23	7
Both parents				
0 instances of physical contact with both parents per year	5	2	5	1
1-3 instances of physical contact with both parents per year	3	6	2	5
4-6 instances of physical contact with both parents per year	26	9	13	9
7-10 instances of physical contact with both parents per year	15	13	18	14
One instance of physical contact with both parents per month	58	38	30	25
Two instances of physical contact with both parents per month	12	14	12	30
One instance of physical contact with both parents per week	0	2	5	2
More than one instance of physical contact with both parents per week	3	3	1	0
Number of instances of contact with both parents not decided	11	10	5	2

Source: Statistics from the Child Welfare Tribunal IT system "ProSak", data sent from the Child Welfare Tribunal Central Unit to The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs in April 2024.

b) Children in child welfare and mental health institutions, the number of such institutions and their size and the length of stay.

1. Number of children in child welfare institutions

The tables below show statistics on number of children in child welfare institutions. The numbers are not available disaggregated by ethnic origin, national origin, type of disability or socioeconomic background. However, the numbers are available disaggregated by immigrant background (see table F.40.b.1.3).

Table F.40.b.1.1: Number of children in child welfare institutions, per 31. December, by groups of counties, and age group. 2016-2022.

Group of counties	Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Oslo and Viken	Years, total	.	.	.	.	356	333	328
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	.	..	..
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	2	..	..
	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	34	32	33
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	263	251	260
Innlandet	Years, total	.	.	.	.	82	74	74
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	0	2	..
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	2	3	3
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	64	62	46
Agder and South Eastern Norway	Years, total	.	.	.	.	142	118	142
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	0	.	.
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	0	.	.
	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	6	7	6
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	118	96	123
Western Norway	Years, total	.	.	.	.	299	265	258
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	1	1	.
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	1	..	.
	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	25	15	12
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	212	204	197
Trøndelag	Years, total	.	.	.	.	88	88	94
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	0	.	.
	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	8	8	11
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	67	68	72
Northern Norway	Years, total	.	.	.	.	114	93	94
	0-2 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	3-5 years	.	.	.	.	0	.	..
	6-12 years	.	.	.	.	5	5	8
	13-17 years	.	.	.	.	99	80	80
Oslo and Akershus (-2019)	Years, total	310	324	248	240	.	.	.
	0-2 years	2	..	3	1	.	.	.
	3-5 years	5	6	3	1	.	.	.
	6-12 years	43	38	23	22	.	.	.
	13-17 years	206	226	177	176	.	.	.
Hedmark and Oppland (-2019)	Years, total	64	64	72	77	.	.	.
	0-2 years	..	..	1	1	.	.	.
	3-5 years	1	..	.	.	.	.	.
	6-12 years	1	2	3	2	.	.	.
	13-17 years	52	51	56	58	.	.	.
Østfold, Buskerud, Vestfold and Telemark (-2019)	Years, total	231	230	224	230	.	.	.

	0-2 years	5	..	2	1	.	.	.
	3-5 years	..	..	1	..	.	.	.
	6-12 years	8	15	14	21	.	.	.
	13-17 years	183	167	169	173	.	.	.
Aust-Agder, Vest-Agder and Rogaland (-2019)	Years, total	166	188	179	179	.	.	.
	0-2 years	..	.	.	.	.	.	.
	3-5 years	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
	6-12 years	3	7	5	10	.	.	.
	13-17 years	124	140	142	122	.	.	.
Hordaland, Sogn og Fjordane and Møre og Romsdal (-2019)	Years, total	208	214	225	225	.	.	.
	0-2 years	2	..	..	1	.	.	.
	3-5 years	..	2	2	.	.	.	.
	6-12 years	13	13	14	14	.	.	.
	13-17 years	158	173	178	166	.	.	.
Sør-Trøndelag and Nord-Trøndelag (-2019)	Years, total	119	107	99	81	.	.	.
	0-2 years	..	1	.	.	.	.	.
	3-5 years	..	..	..	1	.	.	.
	6-12 years	11	6	10	9	.	.	.
	13-17 years	99	91	75	61	.	.	.
Nordland, Troms, Finnmark and other Norwegian area* (-2019)	Years, total	114	115	107	114	.	.	.
	0-2 years	..	..	..	..	.	.	.
	3-5 years	.	2	..	.	.	.	.
	6-12 years	10	11	5	8	.	.	.
	13-17 years	98	93	91	94	.	.	.

. = Category not applicable. Figures do not exist at this time, because the category was not in use when the figures were collected. This is due to new division of counties in Norway in 2020.

.. = Data not available. Figures have not been entered into our databases or are too unreliable to be published.

* Other Norwegian area = Svalbard, Jan Mayen and the Norwegian continental shelf.

Source: Statistics Norway, table 10661 (2024).

Table F.40.b.1.2: Number of children (0-17 years) in child welfare institutions, per December 31, by region, and sex. 2016-2022.

Groups of counties	Sex	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Oslo and Viken	Total sex	.	.	.	.	356	333	328
	Boys	.	.	.	.	194	155	174
	Girls	.	.	.	.	162	178	154
Innlandet	Total sex	.	.	.	.	82	74	74
	Boys	.	.	.	.	43	38	41
	Girls	.	.	.	.	39	36	33
Agder and South Eastern Norway	Total sex	.	.	.	.	142	118	142
	Boys	.	.	.	.	81	63	75
	Girls	.	.	.	.	61	55	67

Western Norway	Total sex	.	.	.	.	299	265	258
	Boys	.	.	.	.	174	153	135
	Girls	.	.	.	.	125	112	123
Trøndelag	Total sex	.	.	.	.	88	88	94
	Boys	.	.	.	.	59	53	57
	Girls	.	.	.	.	29	35	37
Northern Norway	Total sex	.	.	.	.	114	93	94
	Boys	.	.	.	.	73	51	51
	Girls	.	.	.	.	41	42	43
Oslo and Akershus (-2019)	Total sex	310	324	248	240	.	.	.
	Boys	182	188	139	138	.	.	.
	Girls	128	136	109	102	.	.	.
Hedmark and Oppland (-2019)	Total sex	64	64	72	77	.	.	.
	Boys	42	41	41	43	.	.	.
	Girls	22	23	31	34	.	.	.
Østfold, Buskerud, Vestfold and Telemark (-2019)	Total sex	231	230	224	230	.	.	.
	Boys	119	123	128	130	.	.	.
	Girls	112	107	96	100	.	.	.
Aust-Agder, Vest-Agder and Rogaland (-2019)	Total sex	166	188	179	179	.	.	.
	Boys	97	120	112	105	.	.	.
	Girls	69	68	67	74	.	.	.
Hordaland, Sogn og Fjordane and Møre og Romsdal (-2019)	Total sex	208	214	225	225	.	.	.
	Boys	127	132	138	146	.	.	.
	Girls	81	82	87	79	.	.	.
Sør-Trøndelag and Nord-Trøndelag (-2019)	Total sex	119	107	99	81	.	.	.
	Boys	71	62	54	55	.	.	.
	Girls	48	45	45	26	.	.	.
Nordland, Troms, Finnmark and other Norwegian area (-2019)	Total sex	114	115	107	114	.	.	.
	Boys	73	68	64	76	.	.	.
	Girls	41	47	43	38	.	.	.

. = Category not applicable. Figures do not exist at this time, because the category was not in use when the figures were collected. This is due to new division of counties in Norway in 2020.

*Other Norwegian territories= Svalbard, Jan Mayen and the Norwegian continental shelf.

Source: Statistics Norway, table 10662 (2024).

Table F.40.b.1.3: Number of children (0-17 years) in child welfare institutions, per 31. December, by immigrant background. 2016-2022.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Children without an immigrant background	530	564	549	493	496	461	461
Children who have immigrated	285	274	247	244	223	176	177

Norwegian-born children with two immigrant parents	81	92	69	92	93	103	108
Norwegian-born children with one foreign-born parent	115	98	102	105	92	92	101

Source: The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs (2024).

2. Number of child welfare institutions

The child welfare institutions in Norway are organized very differently. Some consist of only one department, while others have several. The departments can be co-located or with some geographical distance. The terms “institution” and “department” are often used interchangeably. This means that the number of institutions varies in different sources, and it is better to use number of departments or number of places. Kindly see information below.

3.1 Size of child welfare institutions, average number of places per institution

A typical Norwegian child welfare institution is located in an ordinary residential building and has room for around four children. The mean value in the departments is 3,7 places. In recent years, some larger ones and more specialized institutions have also been built. An institution with space for five to seven children there at the same time is considered large in Norwegian terms¹⁵. In January 2024 there are about 350 institution departments.

3.2 Size of child welfare institutions, number of places per region

The table below shows statistics on number of places in child welfare institutions, by region.

The Office for Children, Youth and Family Affairs (Bufetat) is responsible for matters relating to state-funded child welfare services, such as the child welfare institutions. Bufetat is organized in five regions. Oslo is not included in Bufetat’s regions, and the municipality of Oslo have the corresponding responsibility for its inhabitants.

Table F.40.b.3: Number of places in child welfare institutions, per 31. December, by region. 2016-2022.

Region	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
The whole country	1 656	1 960	1 868	1 702	1 670	1 554	1 398
North	115	130	128	128	111	107	98
Mid-Norway	228	247	243	222	203	202	173
West	312	318	317	300	300	289	272
South	302	398	372	339	343	341	291
East	595	742	690	598	608	522	504
Oslo municipality	104	125	118	115	105	93	60

Source: Statistics Norway, table 11363 (2024).

4. Length of stay in child welfare institutions

The tables below show the average and median number of days per children by the end of their stay in child welfare institutions, per year and region. The statistics are not available disaggregated by age, sex, national origin, ethnic origin, type of disability, or socioeconomic status.

¹⁵ Norwegian Official Report 2023:24 (2023). *Med barnet hele veien*. Ministry of Children and Families.

Table F.40.b.4: Average and median number of days per children in child welfare institutions, by the end of their stay, by geographical location (region). 2016-2023.

		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
The whole country	Average number of days	215	204	200	220	218	228	204	220
The whole country	Median number of days	79	74	79	92	87	96	85	88
Region South	Average number of days	222	208	185	244	222	257	211	254
Region South	Median number of days	77	79	72	104	114	108	94	131
Region North	Average number of days	191	216	212	175	219	191	188	201
Region North	Median number of days	101	85	107	68	92	89	107	86
Region Middle	Average number of days	254	209	201	252	220	258	212	211
Region Middle	Median number of days	83	71	68	111	76	99	85	92
Region West	Average number of days	255	176	200	197	236	206	197	209
Region West	Median number of days	95	60	66	83	82	78	86	66
Region East	Average number of days	167	219	206	221	198	233	206	221
Region East	Median number of days	72	84	88	94	82	110	76	87

Source: Statistics from the Child Welfare Services' IT system "BiRK", data sent from the Child Welfare Service to The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs (2024).

5. Inpatients in mental health care

The table below shows inpatients pr 1 000 inhabitants 0-17 years old in mental health care. The numbers are not available disaggregated by age, ethnic origin, national origin, type of disability, or socioeconomic status.

Table F.40.b.5: Inpatients pr 1 000 inhabitants 0-17 years old in mental health care, by region of residence and sex. 2018-2022.

Region of residence	Sex	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total	Total	1,7	1,7	1,7	2	1,9
Total	Girls	2,1	2,2	2,4	2,9	2,8
Total	Boys	1,3	1,2	1,1	1,1	1,1
South-East	Total	1,3	1,3	1,3	1,6	1,5
South-East	Girls	1,7	1,8	1,8	2,2	2,2
South-East	Boys	0,9	0,9	0,9	1	0,9

West	Total	1,9	1,9	2	2,2	2
West	Girls	2,3	2,5	2,7	3,3	3
West	Boys	1,5	1,4	1,3	1,1	1,1
Mid-Norway	Total	2	2	2,1	2,5	2,4
Mid-Norway	Girls	2,4	2,3	3	3,8	3,6
Mid-Norway	Boys	1,6	1,7	1,3	1,4	1,2
North	Total	3,1	3,4	2,9	3,5	3,4
North	Girls	3,7	4,2	4,5	5,1	5
North	Boys	2,5	2,6	1,5	2	2

Source: SAMDATA, The Norwegian Directorate of Health (2024).

c) Children adopted domestically and internationally

1. Children adopted domestically

The statistics below show number of children adopted domestically, by type of domestic adoption. The numbers are not available disaggregated by age, sex, national origin, ethnic origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status.

Table F.40.c.1: Number of children adopted domestically, by type of domestic adoption. 2016-2022.

Domestic adoptions	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Stepchildren	150	181	206	181	152	191	149
Foster children	61	60	65	45	36	38	35
Other adoptions*	12	10	7	12	9	8	3
Total number of registered domestic adoptions	223	251	278	238	197	237	187

*Adoption of infants and adoption of specific children are included in the group other adoptions. We provide full copy of the central adoption register to Statistics Norway once every year in order to produce the annual statistics. The figures show the numbers of registered adoptions each year and not number of completed adoptions.

Source: Statistics Norway, table 06683 (2024).

2. Children adopted internationally

The statistics below show number of children adopted internationally (intercountry adoptions), by the child's state of origin. The numbers are not available disaggregated by age, sex, ethnic origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status.

Table F.40.c.2: Number of intercountry adoptions, by state of origin. 2016-2023.

State of origin	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Bulgaria	1	3	6	2	1	1		
Burkina Faso				3				
Chile	3							
China	7	8						
Colombia	38	28	23	21	16	13	18	9
Estonia	1				1			
India	1							

Hungary	12	17	10	6	7	7	3	5
Madagascar	2	3	1	3	1		3	2
Peru	2	3	2	1	2	1	1	1
Poland				1				
Romania						2		
South Africa	12	14	14	21	3	12	8	6
South Korea	24	22	20	13	5	8	5	5
Taiwan	5	8	4	9	3	2	2	3
Thailand	10	6	8	5	1	12	4	5
The Philippines	8	10	5	6		2	1	
Vietnam	2	4	2		1	2		1
Total number of completed intercountry adoptions	128	126	95	91	41	62	45	37

Source: The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs (2024).

G. Children with disabilities (arts. 23)

41. Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 34 above, on children with disabilities:

a) Receiving support services

No available statistics.

b) Living with their families

No available statistics.

c) Living in residential care and the length of stay.

There are no available statistics on children with disabilities living in residential care and the length of stay. However, The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs have statistics on numbers of new cases of children where the Child Welfare Services have taken measures and for what reason. These statistics are reported in table E.39.a.1. In this table, two of the given reasons for measures to be put in place is the child's disabilities and the child's mental health problems. The statistics refer to cases where measures have been imposed, not individuals. Furthermore, a child may have disabilities or mental health problems without this being the reason for the child to receive measures from the Child Welfare Services, and the measures may include all types of measures, not solely residential care/institutions. Therefore, these numbers are inaccurate with regards to showing the number of children with disabilities living in residential care.

Table G.41.c: New cases of children where the Child Welfare Services have taken measures, during the year, by reason for measures, and age group. 2016-2022.

Reason for measures	Age group	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
The child has disabilities (-2020)	Years, total	292	241	214	211	219	.	.
	0-2 years	14	12	13	9	12	.	.
	3-5 years	37	42	38	34	41	.	.
	6-12 years	112	96	87	88	93	.	.
	13-17 years	122	85	71	74	68	.	.
	18-22 years	7	6	5	6	5	.	.
	18-24 years	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
The child's mental health problems	Years, total	1 131	1 235	1 235	1 301	1 145	1 295	972
	0-2 years	1	4	4	5	7	6	4
	3-5 years	28	28	26	28	21	25	16
	6-12 years	297	336	326	387	324	309	241
	13-17 years	750	792	816	814	728	877	646
	18-22 years	55	75	63	67	65	.	.
	18-24 years	.	.	.	.	.	78	65

Source: Statistics Norway, table 10663 (2024).

d) Attending regular schools and separate schools.

1. Children in special education

Below is statistics on proportion of pupils in primary schools with special education. Percentage is calculated by dividing the number of girls having special education by the total number of girls. The same calculation applies for boys. There are no available statistics on secondary education. The statistics are not available disaggregated by age, ethnic origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status.

In the school year 2023-24, 4 800 pupils go to a special school or in a permanent department for special education. 91 percent of the pupils who receive special education are connected to an ordinary class. The other 9 percent are associated with a permanent department for special education. These are often students with extensive needs for special education or adaptation. In 2023-24, 394 schools had permanent departments for special education. In 51 of these schools, all pupils receive special education. The number of pupils in permanent special education departments has been relatively stable over the past five years. There are significantly fewer pupils who receive special education in upper secondary than there are in the 10th year of lower secondary school. A total of around 4.700 pupils received special education in upper secondary education in 2020-21, which corresponds to 2.5 per cent of the pupils¹⁶.

Table G.41.d.1: Proportion of pupils in primary school (1-10th) with special education, by gender.

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Girls	5,2	5,2	5,2	5,1	5,1	5,2	5,3	5,6
Boys	10,4	10,4	10,7	10,1	10,1	10,2	10,2	10,4
Total	7,8	7,9	7,8	7,7	7,7	7,8	7,8	8,1

Source: The Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training (2024).

e) Reporting violence and abuse, including sexual violence, the number of investigations and prosecutions carried out and the sentences imposed on perpetrators.

1. Number of children with disabilities reporting violence and abuse

Disabilities/functional impairment is not registered in the criminal case register. Thus, there are no available register-based statistics on the number of children with disabilities that have reported being victim to violence and abuse, including sexual violence, the number of investigations and prosecutions and the sentences imposed on perpetrators. The table below (table G.41.e.1) shows the results from the national survey on adolescents' experiences with violence and abuse, based on a representative sample of 9 240 respondents aged 13-16, for the year 2019. The results illustrate the clear association between disability on the one hand and violence and abuse on the other. A larger share of children with disability, especially, mobility impairment, report that they have been exposed to different types of violence and abuse.

¹⁶ The Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training (2024).

Table G.41.e.1: Percentage of children aged 13-16 reporting that they have been subjected to violence or abuse, per type of violence/abuse and type of disability, 2019.

Children aged 13-16 reporting violence and abuse, per type of disability and type of violence and abuse, year 2019 (in percent)	Children with hearing loss	Children with visual impairment	Children with mobility impairment	Children without any disabilities
Severe physical violence	9	7	12	3
Less severe physical violence	22	19	26	13
Psychological violence	30	26	39	15
Neglect	20	18	26	13
Witnessed domestic abuse subjected to their mother	26	23	31	16
Witnessed domestic abuse subjected to their father	22	18	26	12
Sexually abused by an adult	10	10	15	5
Sexually abused by someone the same age	29	32	34	20

Source: G. S. Hafstad and E-M. Augusti (2019), "Ungdoms erfaringer med vold og overgrep i oppveksten», Norwegian Centre for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies, Norway, NKVTS report 2019-04¹⁷.

¹⁷ Available at: https://www.nkvts.no/content/uploads/2019/10/Rapport_4_19_UEVO.pdf. Retrieved 6 June 2024.

H. Basic health and welfare (arts. 6, 18 (3), 24, 26, 27 (1)-(3) and 33)

42. Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 34 above, on:

a) Children diagnosed with a mental illness

1. Children in mental health care

The table below shows patients 0-17 years old pr 1 000 inhabitants in mental health care. The numbers are not available disaggregated by age, ethnic origin, national origin, type of disability, or socioeconomic status.

Table H.42.a: Patients (inpatients¹⁸ and outpatients¹⁹) 0-17 years old pr 1 000 inhabitants in mental health care, disaggregated by region of residence and sex. 2018-2022.

Region of residence	Sex	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total	Total	46,9	47,1	47,7	54,5	57,2
Total	Girls	43,1	43,8	45,5	55,4	58,5
Total	Boys	50,5	50,2	49,8	53,6	55,7
South-East	Total	43,9	44,2	44,5	50,5	53,5
South-East	Girls	40,6	41,9	43,1	52,1	55,5
South-East	Boys	46,9	46,3	45,7	48,9	51,5
West	Total	49,5	50,3	51,1	58,1	60,7
West	Girls	44	44,6	47	57,2	60,4
West	Boys	54,8	55,6	55,1	58,9	60,7
Mid-Norway	Total	49,3	47,3	48,1	55,4	58,7
Mid-Norway	Girls	45	43,7	45,8	55,9	60,2
Mid-Norway	Boys	53,1	50,8	50,3	54,9	56,8
North	Total	55,8	57,2	59,4	69,8	69,5
North	Girls	53,1	54,1	57,1	71,1	70,6
North	Boys	58,3	60,1	61,5	68,5	68,8

Source: SAMDATA, The Norwegian Directorate for Health (2024).

2. Patients with a psychiatric diagnosis at GPs and in Municipal Emergency Services

The table below shows number of patients with a psychiatric diagnosis at GPs, in Municipal Emergency Services, disaggregated by age group and gender. The numbers are not available disaggregated by ethnic origin, national origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status.

Table H.42.a.4: Number of patients with a psychiatric diagnosis at GPs and in Municipal Emergency Services, disaggregated by age group and gender. 2019-2023.

Health service	Age	Gender	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
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¹⁸ Inpatients are patients who have been admitted to an inpatient unit within mental health care during the year in question.

¹⁹ Outpatients are patients who have been in outpatient or day-based contact in mental health care during the year in question.

GPs	0-19 years	Total	40 875	42 237	47 131	48 425	52 216
	0-5 years	Girls	329	352	415	431	480
		Boys	863	984	1 067	1 119	1 136
	6-9 years	Girls	1 248	1 282	1 472	1 695	1 927
		Boys	2 978	3 230	3 616	3 989	4 467
	10-14 years	Girls	4 444	5 072	6 012	6 097	6 767
		Boys	8 201	8 429	9 062	9 672	10 697
	15-19 years	Girls	12 123	12 406	14 501	14 234	15 104
		Boys	10 689	10 482	10 986	11 188	11 637
Municipal Emergency Services	0-19 years	Total	2 562	2 437	2 803	2 725	2 622
	0-5 years	Girls	9	11	8	5	16
		Boys	20	20	16	27	25
	6-9 years	Girls	13	17	19	46	35
		Boys	54	51	70	65	70
	10-14 years	Girls	212	241	360	326	295
		Boys	175	163	220	200	214
	15-19 years	Girls	1 292	1 194	1 431	1 367	1 308
		Boys	787	740	679	689	658
Total	0-19 years	Total	43 437	44 674	49 934	51 150	54 838
	0-5 years	Girls	338	363	423	436	496
		Boys	883	1 004	1 083	1 146	1 161
	6-9 years	Girls	1 261	1 299	1 491	1 741	1 962
		Boys	3 032	3 281	3 686	4 054	4 537
	10-14 years	Girls	4 656	5 313	6 372	6 423	7 062
		Boys	8 376	8 592	9 282	9 872	10 911
	15-19 years	Girls	13 415	13 600	15 932	15 601	16 412
		Boys	11 476	11 222	11 665	11 877	12 295

Source: SAMDATA, The Norwegian Directorate for Health (2024).

b) Children who attempted or completed suicide

No available statistics.

c) Drug abuse among children

There are no available statistics on drug abuse among children. However, the Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs have available statistics on number of children in child welfare institutions for children with drug addiction.

1. Number of children in Child Welfare Institutions for children with drug addiction

Norway has established own child welfare institutions for children with drug addiction, where children can get help and treatment for their drug problems (regulated in the child welfare act section 6-1 and 6-2). The table below shows statistics on number of children in such institutions. The

statistics are not available disaggregated by age, sex, ethnic origin, national origin, type of disability, or socioeconomic status.

Table H.42.c.1: Number of children in Child Welfare Institutions for children with drug addiction, during the year, by geographical location (region). 2016-2023.

Region	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Region East	50	45	49	34	28	30	32	32
Region South	56	46	36	43	37	26	35	39
Region West	48	38	54	69	67	51	40	44
Region Mid-Norway	19	21	18	19	17	20	15	20
Region North	6	10	20	23	31	20	10	15
Total	178	160	177	188	179	147	132	150

Note that children resident in Oslo are not included in these statistics, as it only includes children resident in Bufetat's regions.

Source: Statistics from the Child Welfare Services' IT system "BiRK", data sent from the Child Welfare Service to The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs (2024).

d) Children living below the poverty line

1. Development in persistent low income, by region

In the following section we use the persistent low-income over a three-year period. The low-income threshold is set to 60 per cent of the average median during the same time period²⁰.

Table H.43.d.1.1: Percentage of people with persistent low income (three-year period), 0-17 years, by geographical location (counties). 2014-2022.

Counties	2014-2016	2015-2017	2016-2018	2017-2019	2018-2020	2019-2021	2020-2022
Viken (2020-2023)	.	.	.	.	12	11	11
Østfold (-2019)	15	15	16	16	.	.	.
Akershus (-2019)	8	8	8	9	.	.	.
Oslo	18	18	18	18	17	16	15
Innlandet	.	.	.	.	13	13	12
Hedmark (-2019)	12	13	13	14	.	.	.
Oppland (-2019)	11	12	12	12	.	.	.
Buskerud	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Buskerud (-2019)	12	12	12	13	.	.	.
Vestfold og Telemark (2020-2023)	.	.	.	.	14	14	13
Vestfold (-2019)	11	12	12	13	.	.	.
Telemark (-2019)	14	15	15	16	.	.	.
Agder	.	.	.	.	14	13	13
Aust-Agder (-2019)	12	12	13	14	.	.	.
Vest-Agder (-2019)	11	12	13	14	.	.	.
Rogaland	7	8	9	9	10	9	9
Vestland	.	.	.	.	10	10	9
Hordaland (-2019)	8	9	10	10	.	.	.
Sogn og Fjordane (-2019)	8	8	9	10	.	.	.
Møre og Romsdal	7	8	9	9	9	9	8
Trøndelag - Tröndelage	.	.	9	9	10	9	8
Sør-Trøndelag (-2017)	8	8	.	.	.	.	.
Nord-Trøndelag (-2017)	10	10	.	.	.	.	.
Nordland - Nordlännda	9	9	10	10	9	9	8
Troms og Finnmark - Romsa ja Finnmárku (2020-2023)	.	.	.	.	9	9	8
Troms - Romsa (-2019)	7	8	8	9	.	.	.
Finnmark - Finnmárku (-2019)	9	9	10	10	.	.	.

. = Category not applicable. Figures do not exist at this time, because the category was not in use when the figures were collected. This is due to new division of counties in Norway in 2020.

Source: Statistics Norway, table 12944 (2024).

²⁰ Source: Statistics Norway (2024). The definition of persistent low income follows the EU-scale. The annual low-income threshold is set to 50 or 60 per cent of the median after-tax income per consumption unit. When calculating persistent low-income over a three year-period, the low-income threshold is set to 50 or 60 per cent of the average median during the same time period.

Table H.43.d.1.2: Number of people with persistent low income (three-year period), 0-17 years, by geographical location (counties). 2014-2022.

Counties	2014-2016	2015-2017	2016-2018	2017-2019	2018-2020	2019-2021	2020-2022
Viken (2020-2023)	.	.	.	.	3 236	3 087	2 697
Østfold (-2019)	1 149	1 202	1 349	1 447	.	.	.
Akershus (-2019)	737	786	883	975	.	.	.
Oslo	3 344	3 452	3 508	3 503	3 327	3 006	2 575
Innlandet	.	.	.	.	1 017	963	818
Hedmark (-2019)	501	542	576	635	.	.	.
Oppland (-2019)	409	428	440	462	.	.	.
Buskerud	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Buskerud (-2019)	737	743	777	849	.	.	.
Vestfold og Telemark (2020-2023)	.	.	.	.	1 449	1 373	1 250
Vestfold (-2019)	570	622	646	721	.	.	.
Telemark (-2019)	567	649	684	743	.	.	.
Agder	.	.	.	.	1 104	1 053	928
Aust-Agder (-2019)	300	325	387	424	.	.	.
Vest-Agder (-2019)	454	525	610	677	.	.	.
Rogaland	523	644	760	858	895	839	722
Vestland	.	.	.	.	1 196	1 097	955
Hordaland (-2019)	702	790	902	977	.	.	.
Sogn og Fjordane (-2019)	124	135	174	193	.	.	.
Møre og Romsdal	278	345	386	426	415	350	332
Trøndelag - Tröndelage	.	.	642	722	764	685	558
Sør-Trøndelag (-2017)	325	336	.	.	.	.	.
Nord-Trøndelag (-2017)	249	241	.	.	.	.	.
Nordland - Nordlännda	336	370	402	404	366	324	273
Troms og Finnmark - Romsa ja Finnmárku (2020-2023)	.	.	.	.	343	294	241
Troms - Romsa (-2019)	158	174	206	218	.	.	.
Finnmark - Finnmárku (-2019)	105	113	132	124	.	.	.

. = Category not applicable. Figures do not exist at this time, because the category was not in use when the figures were collected. This is due to new classifications of counties in Norway in 2020.

Source: Statistics Norway, table 12944 (2024).

2. Development in persistent low-income, by immigration category/country background, age, and sex

Table H.43.d.2.1: Percentage of people with persistent low income²¹ (three-year period), by immigration category/country background, age, and sex. 2016-2022.

Immigration category / country background	Age	Sex	2016-2018	2017-2019	2018-2020	2019-2021	2020-2022
Total	0-17 years	Both sexes	11	12	12	11	11
		Males	11	12	12	11	11
		Females	11	12	12	11	11

²¹ EU scale 60 per cent.

	0-5 years	Both sexes	12	13	13	12	10
		Males	12	13	12	12	10
		Females	12	13	13	12	11
	6-12 years	Both sexes	11	12	12	12	11
		Males	11	12	12	12	11
		Females	12	12	12	12	11
	13-17 years	Both sexes	10	11	11	11	10
		Males	10	11	11	11	10
		Females	10	11	11	11	10
Immigrants	0-17 years	Both sexes	48	49	48	47	44
		Males	48	49	48	47	44
		Females	48	50	49	47	43
	0-5 years	Both sexes	60	62	57	52	47
		Males	61	62	57	52	47
		Females	60	62	57	52	47
	6-12 years	Both sexes	49	52	52	50	47
		Males	49	52	52	51	48
		Females	49	52	51	50	47
	13-17 years	Both sexes	44	45	44	43	40
		Males	44	45	44	43	40
		Females	44	45	44	43	40
Immigrants from the EU/EEA, USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand	0-17 years	Both sexes	28	27	25	23	21
		Males	28	27	25	23	21
		Females	28	27	25	23	21
	0-5 years	Both sexes	41	42	39	37	32
		Males	40	43	38	35	32
		Females	41	40	41	39	33
	6-12 years	Both sexes	29	28	26	25	23
		Males	29	28	26	25	23
		Females	28	28	26	24	23
	13-17 years	Both sexes	25	24	22	20	18
		Males	25	24	21	20	18
		Females	25	24	22	21	18
Immigrants from Asia, Africa, Latin America, Oceania except Australia and New Zealand, and Europe except the EU/EEA	0-17 years	Both sexes	63	65	64	61	57
		Males	63	65	64	62	58
		Females	63	65	63	61	57
	0-5 years	Both sexes	75	74	70	65	59
		Males	77	74	71	66	60
		Females	73	74	69	63	58
	6-12 years	Both sexes	66	69	67	64	60
		Males	67	69	68	65	61

		Females	66	68	67	64	59
	13-17 years	Both sexes	57	59	59	58	55
		Males	56	59	59	58	55
		Females	58	59	59	58	55
Norwegian-born to immigrant parents	0-17 years	Both sexes	34	34	33	31	29
		Males	34	33	33	31	28
		Females	34	34	34	32	29
	0-5 years	Both sexes	36	36	35	33	30
		Males	35	35	35	32	29
		Females	36	36	36	34	30
	6-12 years	Both sexes	33	33	32	30	28
		Males	33	32	32	29	28
		Females	34	34	32	30	28
	13-17 years	Both sexes	33	33	32	30	28
		Males	32	32	32	30	28
		Females	33	33	33	31	28
Norwegian-born to immigrant parents from the EU/EEA, USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand	0-17 years	Both sexes	17	17	16	15	13
		Males	17	16	16	14	13
		Females	18	17	17	15	13
	0-5 years	Both sexes	20	19	18	16	14
		Males	20	19	18	16	14
		Females	21	19	19	17	15
	6-12 years	Both sexes	15	15	15	14	13
		Males	15	15	15	14	13
		Females	15	16	16	15	13
	13-17 years	Both sexes	10	10	11	10	10
		Males	11	11	11	10	10
		Females	9	10	10	10	10
Norwegian-born to immigrant parents from Asia, Africa, Latin America, Oceania except Australia and New Zealand, and Europe except the EU/EEA	0-17 years	Both sexes	39	40	39	37	34
		Males	39	39	39	37	34
		Females	40	40	40	38	35
	0-5 years	Both sexes	43	44	44	42	37
		Males	43	44	44	41	37
		Females	44	44	45	42	38
	6-12 years	Both sexes	39	39	38	36	34
		Males	38	38	38	36	34
		Females	39	39	38	36	35
	13-17 years	Both sexes	35	35	35	33	31
		Males	34	34	34	32	31

		Females	35	36	36	34	32
Others	0-17 years	Both sexes	6	6	6	6	5
		Males	6	6	6	6	5
		Females	6	6	6	6	5
	0-5 years	Both sexes	6	6	6	6	5
		Males	6	6	6	6	5
		Females	6	6	6	6	5
	6-12 years	Both sexes	6	6	6	6	6
		Males	6	6	6	6	6
		Females	6	6	6	6	6
	13-17 years	Both sexes	5	5	5	5	5
		Males	5	5	5	5	5
		Females	5	5	5	5	5

Source: Statistics Norway, table 12903 (2024).

Table H.43.d.2.2: Number of people with persistent low income²² (three-year period), by immigration category/country background, age and sex. 2016-2022.

Immigration category / country background	Age	Sex	2016-2018	2017-2019	2018-2020	2019-2021	2020-2022
Total	0-17 years	Both sexes	111 182	115 287	115 112	110 683	102 877
		Males	56 478	58 617	58 572	56 329	52 329
		Females	54 199	56 165	56 514	54 328	50 050
	0-5 years	Both sexes	29 229	29 708	28 965	26 586	22 721
		Males	15 012	15 171	14 690	13 470	11 566
		Females	14 217	14 531	14 261	12 993	11 149
	6-12 years	Both sexes	50 461	52 631	52 893	50 654	47 354
		Males	25 666	26 761	26 675	25 753	24 088
		Females	24 783	26 074	25 980	24 890	23 255
	13-17 years	Both sexes	31 166	32 462	33 514	33 339	32 479
		Males	15 763	16 603	17 163	17 102	16 675
		Females	15 248	15 859	16 350	16 237	15 961
Immigrants	0-17 years	Both sexes	27 023	29 123	28 433	27 078	23 972
		Males	13 731	14 815	14 501	13 872	12 283
		Females	13 263	14 307	13 931	13 208	11 691
	0-5 years	Both sexes	2 647	2 797	2 253	1 942	1 379
		Males	1 367	1 446	1 166	1 002	714
		Females	1 283	1 351	1 087	938	664
	6-12 years	Both sexes	13 344	14 282	13 815	12 793	10 973
		Males	6 780	7 220	7 000	6 546	5 657
		Females	6 551	7 075	6 802	6 249	5 330
	13-17 years	Both sexes	11 000	12 025	12 376	12 370	11 633
		Males	5 594	6 151	6 340	6 337	5 925

²² EU scale 60 per cent.

		Females	5 416	5 872	6 034	6 032	5 708
Immigrants from the EU/EEA, USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand	0-17 years	Both sexes	6 855	6 410	5 806	5 106	4 253
		Males	3 543	3 290	2 960	2 583	2 202
		Females	3 313	3 120	2 845	2 511	2 052
	0-5 years	Both sexes	767	742	672	599	434
		Males	404	411	351	303	228
		Females	363	331	322	296	207
	6-12 years	Both sexes	3 557	3 122	2 690	2 202	1 809
		Males	1 846	1 594	1 368	1 135	937
		Females	1 706	1 528	1 327	1 071	869
	13-17 years	Both sexes	2 548	2 544	2 430	2 289	2 018
		Males	1 292	1 286	1 235	1 146	1 038
		Females	1 251	1 263	1 199	1 148	980
Immigrants from Asia, Africa, Latin America, Oceania except Australia and New Zealand, and Europe except the EU/EEA	0-17 years	Both sexes	20 129	22 691	22 650	22 017	19 732
		Males	10 204	11 529	11 551	11 293	10 083
		Females	9 941	11 180	11 082	10 709	9 650
	0-5 years	Both sexes	1 881	2 054	1 580	1 343	943
		Males	963	1 034	815	699	486
		Females	919	1 020	765	643	457
	6-12 years	Both sexes	9 779	11 162	11 116	10 593	9 173
		Males	4 938	5 625	5 634	5 405	4 716
		Females	4 848	5 545	5 482	5 180	4 459
	13-17 years	Both sexes	8 470	9 477	9 952	10 066	9 620
		Males	4 294	4 864	5 108	5 194	4 884
		Females	4 173	4 612	4 842	4 880	4 735
Norwegian-born to immigrant parents	0-17 years	Both sexes	36 325	38 528	39 895	38 745	36 803
		Males	18 341	19 449	20 069	19 477	18 564
		Females	17 975	19 125	19 814	19 316	18 226
	0-5 years	Both sexes	14 389	15 087	15 377	14 308	12 533
		Males	7 296	7 660	7 710	7 155	6 309
		Females	7 071	7 425	7 683	7 168	6 219
	6-12 years	Both sexes	15 361	16 406	17 083	17 093	16 805
		Males	7 709	8 215	8 637	8 561	8 434
		Females	7 624	8 185	8 470	8 499	8 367
	13-17 years	Both sexes	6 652	7 067	7 409	7 377	7 476
		Males	3 347	3 549	3 741	3 747	3 806
		Females	3 291	3 514	3 676	3 639	3 654

Norwegian-born to immigrant parents from the EU/EEA, USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand	0-17 years	Both sexes	4 535	4 769	5 061	4 909	4 710
		Males	2 308	2 394	2 528	2 433	2 381
		Females	2 226	2 387	2 546	2 471	2 310
	0-5 years	Both sexes	2 808	2 644	2 620	2 298	1 981
		Males	1 417	1 338	1 302	1 142	1 001
		Females	1 397	1 313	1 323	1 154	979
	6-12 years	Both sexes	1 547	1 915	2 177	2 282	2 267
		Males	790	947	1 080	1 121	1 156
		Females	756	971	1 102	1 158	1 118
	13-17 years	Both sexes	179	206	260	323	438
		Males	99	107	138	170	225
		Females	80	98	121	155	216
Norwegian-born to immigrant parents from Asia, Africa, Latin America, Oceania except Australia and New Zealand, and Europe except the EU/EEA	0-17 years	Both sexes	31 788	33 764	34 871	33 895	32 147
		Males	16 066	17 026	17 565	17 009	16 188
		Females	15 755	16 729	17 297	16 830	15 950
	0-5 years	Both sexes	11 568	12 421	12 773	12 017	10 544
		Males	5 888	6 326	6 418	6 024	5 309
		Females	5 679	6 108	6 351	6 003	5 231
	6-12 years	Both sexes	13 796	14 492	14 938	14 796	14 548
		Males	6 914	7 273	7 548	7 431	7 291
		Females	6 878	7 198	7 369	7 343	7 254
	13-17 years	Both sexes	6 468	6 872	7 155	7 068	7 026
		Males	3 248	3 450	3 597	3 571	3 587
		Females	3 208	3 418	3 554	3 483	3 446
Others	0-17 years	Both sexes	47 573	47 120	46 687	44 605	41 681
		Males	24 403	24 188	23 985	22 928	21 426
		Females	23 170	22 932	22 702	21 677	20 255
	0-5 years	Both sexes	12 217	11 781	11 314	10 345	8 840
		Males	6 285	6 074	5 844	5 343	4 547
		Females	5 840	5 707	5 470	4 916	4 292
	6-12 years	Both sexes	21 786	22 252	21 980	20 890	19 433
		Males	11 196	11 245	11 109	10 733	9 994
		Females	10 769	10 820	10 686	10 158	9 439
	13-17 years	Both sexes	13 524	13 292	13 631	13 469	13 570
		Males	6 904	6 927	7 109	7 042	6 969
		Females	6 493	6 372	6 657	6 563	6 472

Source: Statistics Norway, table 12903 (2024).

I. Education, leisure and cultural activities (arts. 28–31)

43. Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 34 above, on:

a) Dropout and absentee rates in secondary education

The table below shows statistics on completion five years after starting for students who started on a university preparatory course and after six years for students who started on a vocational course. The last cohort for which we have figures is the one that began in 2016.

- 81 percent of students who started upper secondary school in 2016 completed within five/six years, up 9 percentage points from the 2006 cohort.
- 85 percent of girls completed within five/six years, compared to 77 percent of boys.
- 80 percent of Norwegians born to immigrant parents and 65 percent of immigrants completed within five/six years, compared to 83 percent of majority students.
- There are still significant social differences within upper secondary education in Norway, but the gaps have decreased over the past decade. Among students with parents whose highest education is primary school, 61 percent completed, up 13 percentage points from the 2006 cohort.
- Completion rates are lowest in the three northernmost counties: Nordland (74 percent), Troms (78 percent), and Finnmark (71 percent)²³.

Table I.43.a: Completion rates in upper secondary education, by type of course. 2006-2022.

	2006-2012	2007-2013	2008-2014	2009-2015	2010-2016	2011-2017	2012-2018	2013-2019	2014-2020	2015-2021	2016-2022
Total	72,0	72,3	73,6	73,9	75,8	76,2	77,6	78,1	79,5	80,4	81,0
University-preparatory	83,0	82,8	83,4	83,1	85,8	85,9	87,5	87,5	89,1	89,4	89,5
Vocational subjects	60,5	61,5	63,5	64,4	65,3	65,9	67,0	67,5	68,3	70,0	69,7

Source: Statistics Norway, table 13012 (2024).

b) Bullying, sexual harassment and violence in schools.

The table below shows the proportion of pupils experiencing bullying from other pupils in schools, per grade level. Compared to the results from 2022, there is an increase of 2,3–2,6 percentage points at the middle level, and 1,8–2,7 percentage points at the junior level in 2023. The statistics are not available disaggregated by age, sex, national origin, ethnic origin, geographical location, type of disability or socioeconomic status. There are no available statistics on the prevalence of sexual harassment and violence in schools.

Table I.43.b: Proportion of pupils experiencing bullying from other pupils in school, in percentages, per grade level. 2018-2023.

Grade level	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
5th grade	8,7	9,1	9,7	9,2	12,5	14,0

²³ Source: Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training (2024).

6th grade	6,6	6,8	8,1	8,1	9,6	11,8
7th grade	5,9	5,9	6,6	6,5	8,3	10,5
8th grade	4,8	4,8	4,9	4,8	6,1	8,7
9th grade	4,8	4,7	3,9	4,8	5,4	8,4
10th grade	4,5	4,3	3,8	4,0	5,3	6,8

Source: Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training (2024). The Directorate publishes statistics from the Pupil Survey at www.udir.no. Participation in the Pupil Survey is voluntary.

J. Special protection measures (arts. 22, 30, 32–33, 35–36, 37 (b)–(d) and 38–40)

44. Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 34 above, and further disaggregated by accompanied or unaccompanied status, on:

a) Asylum-seeking and refugee children who have resettled in the State Party

1. Asylum-seeking children granted asylum

Below is statistics on asylum-seeking children who have been granted asylum in Norway. The numbers are not available disaggregated by ethnic origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status.

Table J.44.a.1.1: Number of children below the age of 18 who have been granted asylum, by nationality. 2016-2023.

Nationality	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Syrian Arab Republic	1 929	519	146	128	77	150	96	238	3 283
Afghanistan	1 083	319	55	73	35	75	112	220	1 972
Eritrea	323	135	111	44	36	44	33	18	744
The Republic of Türkiye	3	50	26	284	83	14	14	58	532
Stateless	156	70	20	21	11	4	8	10	300
Iraq	77	127	14	15	7	2	2	3	247
Iran	117	51	9	4	2	1	3	6	193
Somalia	42	32	19	18	13	9	20	14	167
Ethiopia	35	19	12	13	8	2	4	7	100
Yemen	5	19	2	4	7	9		1	47
Sudan	25	4	2	6	2	2	1	1	43
Colombia				1	6		17	13	37
Others	57	39	16	28	18	20	15	17	210
Total	3 852	1 384	432	639	305	332	325	606	7 875

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table J.44.a.1.2: Number of children below the age of 18 who have been granted asylum, by gender. 2016-2023.

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Female	1 148	550	189	268	131	121	105	144	2 656
Male	2 704	834	243	371	174	211	220	462	5 219
Total	3 852	1 384	432	639	305	332	325	606	7 875

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table J.44.a.1.3: Number of children below the age of 18 who have been granted asylum, by age. 2016-2023.

Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Under 1	274	145	57	36	25	20	8	17	582
1	206	98	51	33	25	12	14	13	452
2	177	70	30	42	11	14	4	9	357
3	181	66	13	40	20	15	10	11	356
4	166	72	22	34	14	15	7	24	354
5	177	78	17	39	20	11	11	11	364
6	129	53	16	34	12	16	5	23	288
7	133	61	16	31	15	13	10	33	312
8	133	54	9	26	12	8	7	22	271
9	114	57	12	27	15	13	8	13	259
10	108	38	19	32	10	14	11	12	244
11	116	47	12	29	12	9	9	27	261
12	126	36	16	29	18	9	13	30	277
13	202	52	24	29	11	20	18	30	386
14	331	49	18	38	19	18	30	59	562
15	439	108	26	46	21	31	48	76	795
16	418	154	40	39	23	42	62	81	859
17	422	146	34	55	22	52	50	115	896
Total	3 852	1 384	432	639	305	332	325	606	7 875

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table J.44.a.1.4: Number of children below the age of 18 who have been granted asylum, by accompanied or unaccompanied status. 2016-2023.

Category	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Accompanied*	2 240	988	321	494	246	237	157	231	4 914
Unaccompanied**	1 612	396	111	145	59	95	168	375	2 961
Total	3 852	1 384	432	639	305	332	325	606	7 875

* Child in family.

** Unaccompanied minor under 18 years old at decision.

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

2. Asylum-seeking children granted temporary protection

Below is statistics on asylum-seeking children who have been granted temporary protection in Norway. The numbers are not available disaggregated by ethnic origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status. Temporary protection according to the Norwegian Immigration Act entered into force at 11th of March 2022, and therefore no children were granted temporary protection in the years 2016-2021.

Table J.44.a.2.1: Number of children below the age of 18 who have been granted temporary protection, by nationality. 2022-2023.

Nationality	2022	2023	Total
Ukraine	10 700	9 973	20 673
Russia	38	17	55
Total	10 738	9 990	20 728

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table J.44.a.2.2: Number of children below the age of 18 who have been granted temporary protection, by gender. 2022-2023.

Gender	2022	2023	Total
Female	5 159	4 517	9 676
Male	5 579	5 473	11 052
Total	10 738	9 990	20 728

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table J.44.a.2.3: Number of children below the age of 18 who have been granted temporary protection, by age. 2022-2023.

Age	2022	2023	Total
Under 1	395	551	946
1	448	422	870
2	489	460	949
3	472	465	937
4	576	472	1 048
5	610	515	1 125
6	607	496	1 103
7	716	539	1 255
8	666	560	1 226
9	661	601	1 262
10	650	651	1 301
11	643	604	1 247
12	641	561	1 202
13	734	536	1 270
14	656	591	1 247
15	615	540	1 155
16	542	613	1 155
17	617	813	1 430
Total	10 738	9 990	20 728

No children were granted temporary protection in the years 2016-2021.

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table J.44.a.2.4: Number of children below the age of 18 who have been granted temporary protection, by accompanied or unaccompanied status. 2022-2023.

Category	2022	2023	Total
Accompanied*	10 287	9 427	19 714
Unaccompanied**	451	563	1 014
Total	10 738	9 990	20 728

* Child in family.

** Unaccompanied minor under 18 years old at decision.

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

b) Unaccompanied children in asylum reception centres, care centres and child welfare institutions.

1. Number of unaccompanied children in asylum reception centres and care centres

The statistics below show number of unaccompanied minor asylum-seekers below the age of 18 in asylum reception centres and care centres. The statistics are not available disaggregated by ethnic origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status.

Table J.44.b.1.1: Number of unaccompanied children below the age of 18 in asylum reception centres and care centres, per 31 December, by nationality. 2016-2023.

Nationality	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Afghanistan	1 476	258	43	22	13	76	277	207
Syria	123	24	23	17	14	36	211	273
The Ukraine	1		1				64	187
Eritrea	44	42	16	4		2	21	36
Ethiopia	31	7	6	1	1	3	5	12
Somalia	35	7	1	3		1	2	3
Iraq	28	10	4	1		1		2
Stateless	16	7	4	1		1		1
Iran	19	5	1	2	2			
Pakistan	11	4	2	1			1	
Sudan		1				1	1	13
Albania	6	1	1	1	1			
Others	14	5	8	7	2	2	9	14
Total	1 804	371	110	60	33	123	591	748

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table J.44.b.1.2: Number of unaccompanied children below the age of 18 in asylum reception centres and care centres, per 31 December, by gender. 2016-2023.

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Girl	90	34	23	11	4	11	48	76
Boy	1 714	337	87	49	29	112	543	672
Total	1 804	371	110	60	33	123	591	748

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table J.44.b.1.3: Number of unaccompanied minors in asylum reception centres and care centres, per 31 December, by age. 2016-2023.

Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
1	1						1	
2								1
3	1							
4	1	1					1	2
5							1	2
6	1						3	2
7	4		1	1		1	1	6
8	5	1		1		2	6	3
9		2	2	1		2	5	7
10	9	1	1	1	1	2	9	12
11	15	2		2		3	12	17
12	19	8	3	1		2	26	22
13	58	15	8	4	2	9	24	36
14	109	20	11	10	1	16	51	64
15	207	37	21	16	7	34	178	116
16	722	71	29	8	11	25	149	199
17	652	213	34	15	11	27	124	259
Total	1 804	371	110	60	33	123	591	748

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

2. Number of unaccompanied children in asylum reception centres

The statistics below show number of unaccompanied asylum-seekers below the age of 18 in asylum reception centres. The statistics are not available disaggregated by ethnic origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status.

Table J.44.b.2.1: Number of unaccompanied minors in asylum reception centres, per 31 December, by nationality. 2016-2023.

Nationality	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Afghanistan	1202	212	19	10	10	48	222	131
Syria	105	22	21	9	12	30	177	196
The Ukraine	1		1				61	187
Eritrea	38	38	14	4		2	18	36
Ethiopia	23	4	3			2	3	10
Iraq	28	8	4	1		1		
Somalia	28	6		2		1	2	1
Stateless	14	6	4	1		1		1
Iran	17	5		1	1			
Sudan		1				1	1	13
Pakistan	10	3	1					
Albania	6	1	1	1	1			
Jemen	3			2	1			1
China	3	1						

Colombia							2	2
Others	5	2	5	3	1	2	5	9
Totalsum	1483	309	73	34	26	88	491	587

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table J.44.b.2.2: Number of unaccompanied minors in asylum reception centres, per 31 December, by gender. 2016-2023.

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Girl	76	28	18	7	2	8	45	68
Boy	1407	281	55	27	24	80	446	519
Total	1483	309	73	34	26	88	491	587

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table J.44.b.2.3: Number of unaccompanied minors in asylum reception centres, per 31 December, by age. 2016-2023.

Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
1	1						1	
2								1
3	1							
4	1	1					1	1
5							1	2
6	1						2	1
7	4						1	4
8	4	1				2	5	3
9						2	5	6
10	7			1		2	4	6
11	5	1					7	6
12	8	2					10	9
13	13	3				1	8	12
14	16	3	2				15	8
15	89	27	17	14	6	32	163	82
16	692	61	25	6	9	24	145	191
17	641	210	29	13	11	25	123	255
Total	1483	309	73	34	26	88	491	587

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

3. Number of children in care centres for minors

Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers below the age of 15 and accompanying siblings under 18 years old are offered to live in a state or private care centre for minors while the asylum application is processed. It is the Office for Children, Youth and Family Affairs (Bufetat) who have the responsibility to follow up and protect unaccompanied minor asylum-seekers below the age of 15. The tables below show number of children in care centres for minors, disaggregated by geographical location, nationality, gender, and age. The numbers are not available disaggregated by ethnic origin, type of disability or socioeconomic status.

Table J.44.b.3.1: Number of children in care centres for minors, during the year, by geographical location (region), and age group. 2016-2023.

Region	Age group	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
The whole country	Total, all ages	481	282	36	36	23	30	66	56
Region East	Total, all ages	172	106	14	15	9	16	36	32
Region East	0-2 years old	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0
Region East	3-5 years old	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Region East	6-12 years old	24	10	2	5	2	8	4	5
Region East	13-17 years old	148	94	12	10	7	6	31	27
Region South	Total, all ages	137	55	11	8	10	7	12	8
Region South	6-12 years old	18	5	2	1	2	2	7	3
Region South	13-17 years old	119	50	9	7	8	5	5	5
Region West	Total, all ages	77	59	6	4	2	2	6	7
Region West	6-12 years old	12	5	1	2	1	0	1	1
Region West	13-17 years old	65	54	5	2	1	2	5	6
Region Mid-Norway	Total, all ages	55	29	3	6	2	5	12	9
Region Mid-Norway	6-12 years old	15	3	0	1	1	2	2	3
Region Mid-Norway	13-17 years old	40	26	3	5	1	3	10	6
Region North	Total, all ages	40	33	2	3	0	0	0	0
Region North	6-12 years old	5	2	0	1	0	0	0	0
Region North	13-17 years old	35	31	2	2	0	0	0	0

The age is measured per 1st of January each year, while the number of children in care centres are measured during the year. Hence, the children could be up to one year older than what this table portrays.

Source: Statistics from the Child Welfare Services' IT system "BiRK", data sent from the Child Welfare Service to The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs (2024).

Table J.44.b.3.2: Unaccompanied minors in care centres for minors, at the end of the year, by nationality. 2016-2023.

Nationality	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Afghanistan	274	46	24	12	3	28	55	76
Syria	18	2	2	8	2	6	34	77
Ethiopia	8	3	3	1	1	1	2	2
Eritrea	6	4	2				3	
Somalia	7	1	1	1				2
Sri Lanka	3	2						
Iran	2		1	1	1			
Pakistan	1	1	1	1			1	
Iraq		2						2
The Ukraine							3	
Morocco			1	2				
Stateless	2	1						
Jemen							1	1
Russia			2					
The Republic of Türkiye							1	1
Total	321	62	37	26	7	35	100	161

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table J.44.b.3.3: Unaccompanied minors in care centres for minors, at the end of the year, by gender. 2016-2023.

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Girl	14	6	5	4	2	3	3	8
Boy	307	56	32	22	5	32	97	153
Total	321	62	37	26	7	35	100	161

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table J.44.b.3.4: Unaccompanied minors in care centres for minors, at the end of the year, by age. 2016-2023.

Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
1								
2								
3								
4								1
6							1	1
7			1	1		1		2
8	1			1			1	
9		2	2	1				1
10	2	1	1		1		5	6
11	10	1		2		3	5	11
12	11	6	3	1		2	16	13
13	45	12	8	4	2	8	16	24
14	93	17	9	10	1	16	36	56
15	118	10	4	2	1	2	15	34
16	30	10	4	2	2	1	4	8
17	11	3	5	2		2	1	4
Totalsum	321	62	37	26	7	35	100	161

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

3. Number of unaccompanied children in child welfare institutions

The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs does not have complete statistics on the number of unaccompanied children who have measures in institutions. The statistics only include children who are placed in institutions directly from care centres. We do not have an overview of the number of children who have measures at an institution and who have previously lived in an asylum reception centre. The real figures can therefore be significantly higher than what is stated in the table below.

Table J.44.b.3: Number of unaccompanied children in child welfare institutions. 2018-2023.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Unaccompanied children in welfare institutions*	43	32	27	22	10	9

**Unaccompanied children placed in institutions directly from care centers.*

Source: Statistics from the Child Welfare Services' IT system "BiRK", data sent from the Child Welfare Service to The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs (2024).

c) Children who have disappeared from asylum reception centres.

In 2023, the police introduced new statistical codes for investigation cases of children that are reported missing from asylum reception centres. The first case was registered in April 2023. The table below shows number of children reported missing from asylum reception centres in the period April 2023 to April 2024. Due to few incidents and risk of identification, we are unable to present the data further disaggregated by age, sex, ethnic origin, national origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status. Note that missing children from asylum reception centres may have been registered under the regular missing persons statistics groups, and the statistics may be incomplete.

Table J.44.c: Number of children reported missing from asylum reception centres. April 2023-April 2024.

	Missing single minor asylum seekers
Total	13

Source: National Police Directorate (2024).

45. Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 34 above, and further disaggregated by types of violation reported, on:

a) Reported cases of children involved in trafficking, and cases that have resulted in sanctions, with information on the country of origin of the perpetrator and the nature of the penalties imposed.

1. Reported cases of children involved in trafficking

Below is statistics on number of minor victims in reported THB²⁴-cases. The figures are not available disaggregated by age, sex, national origin, ethnic origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status.

Table J.45.a.1: Total number of victims below the age of 18 in reported THB-cases. 2016-2023.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total number of minor victims in the reported THB-cases	6	7	8	3	15	10	1	13

Source: Reports from the Coordinating Unit for Victims of Trafficking, National Police Directorate (2024).

2. Cases of children involved in trafficking that have resulted in sanctions

Below is statistics on number of THB-cases of minor victims that have resulted in sanctions. The figures show total number of cases per year, with information on number of victims, number of

²⁴ Trafficking in human beings.

perpetrators and nature of the penalties imposed. The figures are not available disaggregated by age, ethnic origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status.

Table J.45.a.2: Number of THB-cases that have resulted in sanctions (final court decisions), per year, by number of victims, number of perpetrators, nature of penalties, by sex of victims, country of origin of victims, and country of origin of perpetrators. 2016-2023.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Cases resulted in sanctions	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Victims: total number and gender	4 girls 3 boys	4 girls	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victims: country of origin and number	The Philippines (7)	Romania (2) Croatia (2)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Perpetrators: country of origin and number	Norway (1)	Romania (2) Croatia (2)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nature of the penalties	Prison 8 years (several offences)	Prison (between 1 year and one month and 2 years and 8 months)						

Source: The Coordination Unit against Human Trafficking, National Police Directorate (2024).

b) Child victims of trafficking who have been provided with access to rehabilitation programmes.

1. Protection and care of minor victims of trafficking

The Child Welfare Service's responsibility for children identified as victims of trafficking is regulated by the Child Welfare Act. To enable the Child Welfare Service to carry out its tasks, public authorities have a statutory duty to report to the Child Welfare Service when there is a reason to believe that a child is or will be exploited for human trafficking (Section 13-2 of the Child Welfare Act). The duty to inform is an independent, personal responsibility and takes precedence over the statutory duty of confidentiality.

Table J.45.b.1: Children identified as presumed victims of trafficking that received care measures according to provisions in the Child Welfare Act, by age group. 2016-2023.

Age group	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
0-5 years								
5-10 years								
10-15 years								7
15-17 years			8	3		1	2	9
Gender	No information	5 girls 5 boys	7 girls 1 boy	2 girls 1 boy		1 girl	2 girls	8 girls 8 boys
Total	5*	10**	8	3	0	1	2	16

* No information about age or gender.

** No information about age.

Source: Annual reports on trafficking in persons from The Coordinating Unit for Victims of Human Trafficking, National Police Directorate (2024).

46. Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 34 above, and further disaggregated by type of crime, on:

a. Children in pre-detention and detention facilities and length of stay.

1. Children in pre-trial detention and detention facilities

Below is statistics on number of children in pre-trial detention and detention facilities, disaggregated by type of imprisonment and sex. The statistics are not available disaggregated by type of crime, age, ethnic origin, national origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status. There are no available statistics on length of stay for children in pre-detention and detention facilities. There has been an increase in the number of children in imprisonment from 2022 to 2023. At the same time, the average number of children in the juvenile unit is low compared to previous year. This indicates many but short stays. Most of imprisonments are pretrial detention, and the vast majority are boys.

Table J.46.a.1: Number of children in pre-trial detention and detention facilities, by type of imprisonment, and by sex. 2016-2023.

Type of imprisonment	Sex	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
All types of imprisonment	Total sex	39	29	32	42	33	28	29	58
All types of imprisonment	Boys	36	28	30	40	32	26	29	55
All types of imprisonment	Girls	3	1	2	2	1	2	0	3
Detention	Total sex	4	3	3	2	2	4	2	4
Pre-trial detention	Total sex	35	26	29	42	31	24	27	54

The figures from 2016-2019 should be read with care as there are some uncertainties regarding the age of imprisoned young foreign nationals.

Source: The Directorate of Correctional Service (2024).

b. Children referred to diversion and non-custodial sentencing options.

1. Children referred to diversion and non-custodial sentencing options

Below is statistics on number of children aged 15-17 years old²⁵ who are referred to diversion and non-custodial sentencing, by type of sanctions and type of offence. The figures are not available disaggregated by age, sex, ethnic origin, national origin, type of disability, geographical location and socioeconomic status. Figures are not available for the years prior to 2019 due to change in registration in 2019, which means the figures are not comparable with previous years. This is because the sanctions “settled in mediation service” and “waiver of prosecutions without conditions” were added in the statistics for the first time in 2019.

Table J.46.b.1: Number of children aged 15-17 years old who are referred to diversion and non-custodial sentencing, per year, by type of sanctions and type of offence. 2019-2022.

Type of sanctions	Type of offence	2019	2020	2021	2022
All types of sanctions (including imprisonment)	All groups of offences	5 289	5 206	5 374	4 777
	Property theft	1 038	1 025	1 081	1 172

²⁵ The age of criminal responsibility below which a child cannot be prosecuted is 15 years old in Norway.

	Other offences for profit	135	94	88	116
	Criminal damage	259	250	235	186
	Violence and maltreatment	806	840	905	767
	Sexual offences	159	170	162	161
	Drug and alcohol offences	1 091	929	686	444
	Public order and integrity violations	535	473	438	412
	Traffic offences	1 244	1 404	1 654	1 486
	Other offences	22	21	125	33
Settled in mediation service	All groups of offences	736	664	682	639
	Property theft	232	201	234	262
	Other offences for profit	12	21	11	24
	Criminal damage	130	115	113	83
	Violence and maltreatment	185	142	153	164
	Sexual offences	26	15	25	10
	Drug and alcohol offences	64	74	57	24
	Public order and integrity violations	49	78	68	42
	Traffic offences	32	16	18	19
	Other offences	6	:	:	11
Waiver of prosecution without conditions	All groups of offences	339	345	433	673
	Property theft	167	178	231	437
	Other offences for profit	5	:	6	:
	Criminal damage	11	8	13	17
	Violence and maltreatment	21	27	32	32
	Sexual offences	:	8	:	9
	Drug and alcohol offences	43	42	56	76
	Public order and integrity violations	53	48	43	51
	Traffic offences	32	32	45	49
	Other offences	:	:	:	:
Conditional waiver of prosecution	All groups of offences	2 062	1 986	1 852	1 363
	Property theft	547	570	553	410
	Other offences for profit	35	42	27	38
	Criminal damage	82	97	79	56
	Violence and maltreatment	248	302	339	245
	Sexual offences	45	54	53	66
	Drug and alcohol offences	709	566	394	189
	Public order and integrity violations	250	209	215	197
	Traffic offences	142	140	182	153
	Other offences	:	6	10	9
On the spot fine	All groups of offences	589	655	734	680
	Property theft	:	:	:	:
	Other offences for profit	55	12	13	5
	Criminal damage	:	:	:	:
	Violence and maltreatment	:	:	:	:
	Sexual offences	:	:	:	:

	Drug and alcohol offences	:	:	:	:
	Public order and integrity violations	:	:	:	:
	Traffic offences	534	643	721	675
	Other offences	:	:	:	:
Ticket fine	All groups of offences	1 093	1 061	1 178	998
	Property theft	73	63	53	55
	Other offences for profit	22	14	20	38
	Criminal damage	26	21	22	22
	Violence and maltreatment	100	98	93	91
	Sexual offences	15	22	17	17
	Drug and alcohol offences	204	173	123	83
	Public order and integrity violations	155	125	98	113
	Traffic offences	492	534	644	567
	Other offences	6	11	108	12
Fine	All groups of offences	20	22	20	15
	Property theft	:	:	:	:
	Other offences for profit	:	:	:	:
	Criminal damage	:	:	:	:
	Violence and maltreatment	:	:	5	:
	Sexual offences	5	:	:	:
	Drug and alcohol offences	:	:	:	:
	Public order and integrity violations	11	:	:	:
	Traffic offences	:	11	11	9
	Other offences	:	:	:	:
Community sentence	All groups of offences	120	148	119	99
	Property theft	7	:	:	:
	Other offences for profit	:	:	:	:
	Criminal damage	:	:	:	:
	Violence and maltreatment	88	102	80	69
	Sexual offences	7	15	14	9
	Drug and alcohol offences	10	21	8	11
	Public order and integrity violations	:	:	:	:
	Traffic offences	:	:	9	:
	Other offences	:	:	:	:
Youth sentence	All groups of offences	72	65	95	76
	Property theft	:	:	:	:
	Other offences for profit	:	:	:	:
	Criminal damage	:	:	:	:
	Violence and maltreatment	41	40	63	47
	Sexual offences	24	24	24	23
	Drug and alcohol offences	:	:	:	:
	Public order and integrity violations	:	:	:	:
	Traffic offences	:	:	:	:
	Other offences	:	:	:	:

: = Confidential. Figures are not published to avoid identifying persons.
 Source: Statistics Norway, table 13580 (2024).

c) Preventive detention sentences to young people for offences committed before they turned 18 years of age.

1. Number of children who received preventive detention sentences before they turned 18 years of age

Since 2016 only one child has received preventive detention sentence while the person still was a minor. However, a total of four people have received preventive detention for crimes committed while they were minors but convicted after reaching the age of 18. All of the above occurred in the period 2016 to 2020²⁶.

d) Children detained together with adults

1. Children detained together with adults

Below is statistics on number of children detained together with adults, by type of imprisonment and juvenile unit. The statistics are not available disaggregated by age, sex, ethnic origin, national origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status. It is important to point out that imprisonment in ordinary prisons is of a shorter nature and are usually in connection with main proceedings or verdict, as well as pending transfer to juvenile unit. Minors who are imprisoned must be kept separate from adults, unless the opposite is considered to be the case the best for the child. The numbers from 2016 to 2019 should be read with care as there are some uncertainties regarding the age of imprisoned young foreign nationals.

Table J.46.d.1: Number of children detained together with adults, by type of imprisonment and juvenile unit. 2016-2023.

Type of imprisonment	Juvenile unit	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
All types of imprisonment		39	29	32	42	33	28	29	58
Juvenile unit	Total	10	12	16	16	13	24	22	35
	Juvenile Unit West	7	2	5	7	5	9	10	15
	Juvenile Unit East	3	10	11	9	8	15	12	20
Ordinary prison		29	17	16	26	20	4	7	23

Source: The Directorate of Correctional Services (2024).

²⁶ Source: The Directorate of Correctional Services (2024).

K. Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

47. Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 34 above, on:

a) Cases of the sale of children and child sexual abuse material that have been reported, investigated, prosecuted and sanctioned.

1. Reported offenses and cases involving abuse material and representations that sexualize children decided by prosecutions, including indictments and confession sentences

The statistics below show number of reported offences and cases involving abuse material and representations that sexualize children, decided by prosecutions, including indictments and confession sentences. The figures are not available disaggregated by age, sex, ethnic origin, national origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status.

Table K.47.a.1: Reported offenses and cases decided by prosecution, including indictments and confession sentences. 2016-2023.

Abuse material and representations that sexualize children	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Reported offences	848	1 539	1 779	961	1 107	1 540	1495	1569
Prosecution-settled cases	645	1 013	1 638	1 573	1 179	1 383	1356	1483
Prosecution decision	261	537	763	665	415	419	291	299
Confession sentence	118	110	204	397	149	98	134	216

Source: *The Criminal Case Registry, National Police Directorate (2024)*.

2. Convictions for abuse material and representations that sexualize children

The statistics below show number of convictions for abuse material and representations that sexualize children, including number of unique convicted persons. The figures are not available disaggregated by age, sex, ethnic origin, national origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status.

Table K.47.a.2: Number of convictions for abuse material and representations that sexualize children, including number of unique convicted persons. 2018-2023.

Convictions for abuse material etc.	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of cases	563	536	597	407	366	398
Unique convicted persons	203	249	288	278	252	258

Source: *Reaksjonsregisteret (SSP)*.

b) Child victims of such crimes who have been provided with recovery assistance or compensation.

1. Compensation in cases involving online abuse towards children

The Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority does not have accurate statistics on the penalties that are assumed to be relevant in the requested material. The Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority does not register human trafficking as a specific felony for extracting statistics. This is because compensation for violent crimes is rarely required or applied for on the basis of human trafficking. When it comes to “child prostitution” and “child pornography”, these terms are not in use in the Norwegian Penal Code, and no such statistics on compensation exists. However, cases involving certain *online abuse towards children*, are registered. The registrations do not distinguish between online abuse that takes place online only between the perpetrator and the victim, and online abuse that is downloaded and/or forwarded to others. It is therefore not given that these figures are relevant. The new Act on Compensation for Violent Crimes was put into force 1. Jan. 2023, and on that occasion The Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority is working on facilitating a broader and more accurate basis for the collection of statistics.

Table K.47.b.1.1: Number of compensations for cases involving online abuse towards children by compensation status (refusal or granted). 2017-2023.

Compensation status	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Refusal	4	9	146	76	11	5	6
Granted	117	40	101	177	37	37	16
Total	121	49	247	253	48	42	22

Source: Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (2024).

Table K.47.b.1.2: Total amount of granted compensation for cases involving online abuse towards children in NOK. 2017-2023.

Compensation status	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total amount of granted compensation (NOK)	9 800 000	4 870 000	9 971 560	22 845 000	3 535 000	3 245 000	2 003 425

Source: Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (2024).

L. Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict

48. Please provide data, disaggregated as described in paragraph 34 above, on:

a) Asylum-seeking, refugee children and migrant children entering the State party from areas where children may have been recruited or used in hostilities.

1. Asylum applications from children

Below is statistics on number of asylum applications from children disaggregated by nationality. This will give an overview of the number of children entering Norway from countries where children may have been recruited or used in hostilities. Statistics on number of asylum applications are also presented disaggregated by sex, age, and accompanied or unaccompanied status in separate tables respectively. The figures are not available disaggregated by ethnic origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status.

Table L.48.a.1.1. Number of asylum applications from children, by nationality. 2016-2023.

Nationality	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Syria	286	376	110	134	125	155	322	356	1 864
Afghanistan	207	79	176	53	34	141	372	171	1 233
The Republic of Türkiye	25	66	275	106	17	17	38	130	674
Eritrea	116	177	76	51	42	42	79	62	645
Iraq	78	65	38	18	8	10	3	15	235
Stateless	59	38	36	46	16	2	17	16	230
The Ukraine	5	5	8	6	2		96	103	225
Russia	21	8	14	28	11	5	53	53	193
Somalia	59	30	22	14	6	5	23	32	191
Ethiopia	59	30	16	16	10	8	9	19	167
Iran	43	20	27	7	9	5	8	11	130
Colombia	2	3	2	8	7	14	37	47	120
Albania	35	19	18	20	5	5	8	6	116
Sudan	14	12	11	3	2	2	4	15	63
Venezuela	1		2	4	4	4	20	21	56
Morocco	21	11	3	5	3	1	2	1	47
Serbia	10	5	8	9	3		2	5	42
Pakistan	5	2	16	4	6		3	4	40
Nigeria	4	11	3	4	2	5	9	2	40
Jemen	7	1	3	12	5	3	4	4	39
Others	117	117	59	69	33	24	72	109	600
Total	1 174	1 075	923	617	350	448	1 181	1 182	6 950

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table L.48.a.1.2. Number of asylum applications from children, by gender. 2016-2023.

Gender	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Girl	489	495	330	281	131	152	307	409	2 594
Boy	685	580	593	336	219	296	874	773	4 356
Total	1 174	1 075	923	617	350	448	1 181	1 182	6 950

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table L.48.1.3 Number of asylum applications from children, per year, by age. 2016-2023.

Age	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Under 1	519	255	133	89	50	30	54	68	1 198
1	39	60	40	26	17	19	38	38	277
2	29	47	45	29	14	15	31	37	247
3	36	50	40	37	16	19	27	45	270
4	38	56	51	31	14	20	21	40	271
5	28	50	45	30	17	16	35	49	270
6	24	43	36	30	14	20	28	58	253
7	30	47	33	29	12	16	35	61	263
8	16	53	38	26	13	10	32	37	225
9	19	50	28	16	13	16	28	49	219
10	24	37	37	34	10	10	50	40	242
11	22	36	29	26	12	8	37	66	236
12	25	35	32	18	15	16	52	51	244
13	31	38	37	28	15	23	50	59	281
14	57	39	26	30	18	35	114	101	420
15	81	62	47	44	27	63	228	126	678
16	94	56	59	44	39	56	175	152	675
17	62	61	167	50	34	56	146	105	681
Total	1 174	1 075	923	617	350	448	1 181	1 182	6 950

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table L.48.a.1.4 Number of asylum applications from children, per year, by accompanied or unaccompanied status. 2016-2023.

Category	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Accompanied*	901	899	664	493	272	273	533	715	4 750
Unaccompanied**	273	176	259	124	78	175	648	467	2 200
Total	1 174	1 075	923	617	350	448	1 181	1 182	6 950

* Child in family.

** Unaccompanied minor under 18.

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

2. Applications for temporary protection from children

Below is statistics on number of applications for temporary protection from children disaggregated by nationality. Temporary protection according to the Norwegian Immigration Act entered into force at 11th of March 2022, and therefore no children were granted temporary protection in the years

2016-2021. In addition to the statistics presented above on number of asylum applications, this will give a further overview of the number of children entering Norway from countries where children may have been recruited or used in hostilities. Statistics on number of applications for temporary protection are also presented disaggregated by sex, age, and accompanied or unaccompanied status in separate tables respectively. The figures are not available disaggregated by ethnic origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status.

Table L.48.a.2.1. Number of applications for temporary protection from children, by nationality. 2022-2023.

Nationality	2022	2023	Total
The Ukraine	11 141	10 740	21 881
Others	44	21	65
Total	11 185	10 761	21 946

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table L.48.a.2.2. Number of applications for temporary protection from children, by gender. 2022-2023.

Gender	2022	2023	Total
Girl	5 373	4 857	10 230
Boy	5 812	5 904	11 716
Total	11 185	10 761	21 946

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table L.48.a.2.3. Number of applications for temporary protection from children, by age. 2022-2023.

Age	2022	2023	Total
Under 1	427	628	1 055
1	469	457	926
2	518	512	1 030
3	488	507	995
4	604	524	1 128
5	625	561	1 186
6	638	540	1 178
7	725	581	1 306
8	683	586	1 269
9	691	643	1 334
10	676	676	1 352
11	661	640	1 301
12	681	595	1 276
13	753	576	1 329
14	677	626	1 303
15	641	577	1 218
16	579	648	1 227
17	649	884	1 533
Total	11 185	10 761	21 946

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table L.48.a.2.4. Number of applications for temporary protection from children, by accompanied or unaccompanied status. 2022-2023.

Category	2022	2023	Total
Accompanied*	10 655	10 131	20 786
Unaccompanied**	530	630	1 160
Total	11 185	10 761	21 946

* Child in family.

** Unaccompanied minor under 18.

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

b) Children within the State party's jurisdiction who have been recruited or used in hostilities abroad.

1. Children recruited to hostilities abroad and attempted recruitment

Below is statistics on number of minors who have been forcibly recruited to hostilities abroad and attempted recruitment. The statistics are not available disaggregated by ethnic origin, type of disability, geographical location, or socioeconomic status. In the period 2016-2023 The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration has identified 11 cases where children applied on grounds of being recruited or attempted recruited to hostilities abroad. The overview of forcibly recruited minors is given with the notification that these are only cases that have been identified and manually registered in the asylum procedure. There may be larger numbers of unidentified cases.”

Table L.48.b.1.1: Children recruited to hostilities abroad and attempted recruitment, per year. 2016-2023.

2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022	2023	Total
0	0	4	2	1	2	2	11

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table L.48.b.1.2: Children recruited to hostilities abroad and attempted recruitment, by gender. 2016-2023.

Gender	Number
Male	11
Female	0
Total	11

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table L.48.b.1.3: Children recruited to hostilities abroad and attempted recruitment, by nationality. 2016-2023.

Nationality	Number
Afghanistan	5
Syria	5
Other	1
Total	11

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table L.48.b.1.4: Children recruited to hostilities abroad and attempted recruitment, by age at time of application. 2016-2023.

Age	Number
12	1
13	1
14	2
15	4
16	1
17	2
Total	11

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).

Table L.48.b.1.5: Children recruited to hostilities abroad and attempted recruitment, by age at time of application. 2016-2023.

Type	Number
Recruitment	9
Attempted recruitment	2
Total	11

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (2024).