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CHILDREN ACCOMMODATED IN SECURE CHILDREN'S HOMES AT 31 MARCH 2011: ENGLAND AND WALES

INTRODUCTION

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

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

Information has been derived from statistical data reported to the Department by all secure children's homes in England and Wales that were open at 31 March 2011.

KEY POINTS

- The number of secure children's homes open at 31 March 2011 in England and Wales is 17; unchanged from last year.
- 221 children were accommodated in secure children's homes in England and Wales at 31 March 2011 – 202 in England and 19 in Wales. This represents a fall of 15% from the 2010 total of 260. (For England only, there was a 16% fall on the 2010 total of 240.)
- At 31 March 2011, there were 314 approved places in England and Wales and 292 approved places in England only.
- 70% of approved places in England and Wales were occupied (69% in England), a large decrease on the previous years.
- Of the total number of children accommodated in England and Wales, 69% were male and 31% female, compared with 64% and 36% in 2010.

- Of the total number of children accommodated in England and Wales, 66% were detained or sentenced and placed by the YJB - an increase of 15 percentage points between 2010 and 2011.
- There was a decrease of 9 percentage points in children placed by the local authority on welfare grounds, from 37% of children accommodated in 2010, to 28% of children in 2011.

TABLES

Table	Title	Coverage	Years
1	Numbers and Percentages of Places approved and children accommodated in secure children's homes at 31 March by gender, age, length of stay and type of placement	England and Wales	2007-2011
2	Numbers of Places approved and available, and children accommodated at 31 March 2011 by individual secure children's home	Secure Home level, England and Wales	2011
3	Numbers of Places approved and children accommodated in secure children's homes at 31 March by gender, age, length of stay and type of placement	England	2002-2011
4	Percentages of Places approved and children accommodated in secure children's homes at 31 March by gender, age, length of stay and type of placement	England	2002-2011

The tables are also available in Excel format on the Department's website: <http://www.education.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/SFR/s001027/index.shtml>.

As part of a Government drive for data transparency in official publications, consideration was given to whether more information could be released with this publication at a secure home level. Due to the low numbers involved at home level and the sensitive nature of this data resulting in the need for rounding and suppression, the statistician responsible for this SFR has decided not to release any more information at a secure home level alongside this SFR.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Data Quality and Uses of Data

Completeness and coverage

1. The 2011 figures for children accommodated in secure children's homes are the latest in a regular series. Data are collected on the SA1 statistical return, which provides the Department for Education with aggregate data on children accommodated in secure children's homes in England and Wales.

2. The figures presented at 31 March 2011 are based on data reported by the 17 secure children's homes that were open at this time. Redbank children's home has four units (Vardy, Willow, Newton House North, and Newton House South) but is counted as a single home. Before 2004, each unit was counted in the total count of homes.

3. In addition to these figures on secure children's homes, the Ministry of Justice publishes monthly statistics on the population in custody of children and young people within secure children's homes, secure training centres (STCs) and young offender institutions (YOIs). These figures are available at:

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

Uses of the Data

4. The purpose of this publication is to provide the latest information on the number of children accommodated in secure children's homes and the number of places approved for use. Little is known of the uses made of these data outside the Department for Education. User consultation was recently carried out (see section 9) but no responses were received. We would be interested to hear from users of this publication – please see contact details in section 11 if you would like to get in touch.

Quality

5. There are no known quality issues with the data in this publication. The data collection which is the source for this publication is unchanged and has been stable for many years. Data at secure home level are checked for comparability with previous years.

Confidentiality

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

- Any numbers less than 6 (1 to 5 inclusive) have been suppressed and have been replaced by a 'x'. To protect the suppressed number, secondary suppression may be required in some cases.
- Percentages are displayed to the nearest whole number but where the numerator was five or less, they have been suppressed.
- Where any number is shown as zero (0), the original figure submitted was zero.
- A '.' represents data not available.
- A '-' represents less than 0.5%.

National Statistics

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

Related Publications

8. Related publications can be found at:

Scotland: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/09/27113315/0>

Northern Ireland does not produce statistics relating specifically to secure accommodation

Consultation and Queries

User Consultation

9. Users were invited to comment on the format and content of this publication via the DfE Research and Statistics Gateway, available at:

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

The consultation closed on 26 July 2011. No responses were received so the format and content of this publication remains unchanged from previous years.

10. If you would like to be involved in future consultations, please contact the statistician for this publication (contact details can be found in the next section).

Queries

11. Any queries of comments on the statistics in this publication should be addressed to:

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Table 1: Places approved, and children accommodated in secure children's homes at 31 March by gender, age, length of stay and type of placement (numbers and percentages)
Year: 2007 - 2011

Coverage: ENGLAND and WALES

At 31 March	numbers					percentages				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Places approved	390	340	340	310	314	.	.	.	.	.
Children accommodated	305	280	290	260	221	100	100	100	100	100
Occupancy rate (%)	.	.	.	.	.	78	81	86	83	70
Places contracted to Youth Justice Board¹	235	225	220	190	190	61	65	65	61	61
Gender²										
Male	205	185	190	165	152	68	66	65	64	69
Female	95	95	100	95	69	32	34	35	36	31
Age²										
Aged under 12	x	x	0	x	0	x	x	0	x	0
Aged 12	x	x	x	5	x	x	x	x	3	x
Aged 13	35	35	30	30	22	12	13	10	12	10
Aged 14	100	95	100	70	45	33	34	34	27	20
Aged 15	95	90	90	90	70	31	33	31	34	32
Aged 16	60	45	50	45	65	19	15	18	17	29
Aged 17	10	10	15	15	x	3	3	5	6	x
Aged 18 and over	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Length of stay²										
Under 1 month	90	65	70	50	49	30	23	23	20	22
1 to < 3 months	95	110	100	90	76	31	39	34	34	34
3 to < 6 months	65	50	70	50	51	22	18	24	20	23
6 to < 12 months	40	40	45	45	29	13	15	15	17	13
12 to < 24 months	15	10	10	15	x	5	4	4	7	x
24 months or more	x	x	0	x	x	x	x	0	x	x
Type of Placement²										
Child detained or sentenced and placed by the Youth Justice Board	190	190	170	130	146	63	69	59	51	66
Child placed by local authority in a criminal justice context	30	25	25	30	13	10	9	9	12	6
Child placed by local authority on welfare grounds	80	60	95	95	62	27	22	32	37	28

Source: DfE SA1 Survey

¹ Percentages are based on the number of approved places

² Percentages are based on the the number of children accommodated

. Not Applicable

For 2010 and earlier:

x represents less than or equal to 5 or a percentage based on a numerator less than or equal to five

Numbers have been rounded to the nearest 5

For 2011:

x represents a number between 1 and 5 inclusive, or a percentage based on a numerator less than or equal to five

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

Table 2: Places approved and available, and children accommodated at 31 March 2011 by individual secure children's homes (numbers and percentages)
Year: 2011

Coverage: ENGLAND and WALES

numbers, percentages				
Secure children's home	Number of places approved	Number of places available	Number of children accommodated	Occupancy rate (%)
All Units	314	291	221	70
Beechfield	x	x	x	x
St Catherines	12	12	9	75
Atkinson Unit	16	10	7	44
Swanwick Lodge	16	16	14	88
Clare Lodge / Salters	16	11	5	31
Leverton Hall	16	16	11	69
Lansdowne	x	x	x	x
Aldine House	8	8	7	88
Lincolnshire	12	12	11	92
Redbank ¹	29	29	25	86
Barton Moss	20	18	18	90
Kyloe House	12	12	x	x
Clayfields House	18	16	16	89
Vinney Green	24	24	23	96
Aycliffe Centre	43	38	19	44
East Moor	36	36	27	75
Neath Hillside	22	22	19	86

Source: DfE SA1 Survey

¹ Redbank includes secure children's homes Newton House North, Newton House South, Vardy House and Willows House

x represents a number between 1 and 5 inclusive, or a percentage based on a numerator less than or equal to five

Note: Atkinson unit number of places available and occupancy rate corrected on 07/09/2011

Table 3a: Numbers of places approved and children accommodated in secure children's homes at 31 March by gender, age, length of stay, and type of placement
Year: 2002 - 2011

Coverage: ENGLAND ONLY

numbers

At 31 March	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of places approved	425	425	435	385	370	370	325	320	295	292
Number of children accommodated	395	400	400	345	300	290	265	275	240	202
Occupancy rate (%)	93	94	92	90	80	78	81	85	80	69
Number of places contracted to Youth Justice Board	235	230	270	220	220	220	210	205	175	173
Gender										
Male	285	275	270	215	190	195	175	175	145	134
Female	115	125	130	130	105	90	90	100	95	68
Age										
Aged under 12	x	x	5	10	x	x	x	0	x	0
Aged 12	x	15	25	20	10	x	x	5	5	x
Aged 13	65	65	60	40	40	35	35	30	30	19
Aged 14	105	120	130	120	100	95	90	95	65	43
Aged 15	125	125	100	100	90	90	90	80	85	68
Aged 16	70	65	60	50	45	55	40	45	35	56
Aged 17	20	x	15	5	10	5	10	15	15	x
Aged 18 and over	0	0	0	x	0	0	0	0	0	0
Length of stay										
Under 1 month	90	100	90	90	85	85	60	65	50	41
1 to < 3 months	130	120	130	115	85	90	105	95	80	71
3 to < 6 months	90	65	110	85	70	65	50	65	50	47
6 to < 12 months	65	90	50	45	45	35	40	40	45	28
12 to < 24 months	x	x	20	15	10	15	10	10	15	x
24 months or more	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0	x	x
Type of Placement										
Child detained or sentenced and placed by the Youth Justice Board	..	..	..	..	..	180	180	160	115	129
Child placed by local authority in a criminal justice context	..	..	..	..	..	30	20	25	30	13
Child placed by local authority on welfare grounds	..	..	..	..	..	75	60	90	95	60

Source: DfE SA1 Survey

.. Unavailable. Collected for the first time in 2007

For 2010 and earlier:

x represents less than or equal to 5

Numbers have been rounded to the nearest 5

For 2011:

x represents a number between 1 and 5 inclusive

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

Table 3b: Percentage of places approved and children accommodated in secure children's homes at 31 March by gender, age, length of stay, and type of placement
Year: 2002 - 2011

Coverage: ENGLAND ONLY

	percentages									
At 31 March	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Percentage of places contracted to Youth Justice Board¹	55	54	62	58	59	60	65	64	60	59
Gender²										
Male	71	69	67	63	64	68	66	64	61	66
Female	29	31	33	37	36	32	34	36	39	34
Age²										
Aged under 12	x	x	2	3	x	x	x	0	x	0
Aged 12	x	4	6	5	3	x	x	2	3	x
Aged 13	16	16	15	12	14	12	13	11	13	9
Aged 14	27	30	33	35	34	33	34	36	28	21
Aged 15	32	31	25	29	29	31	34	30	35	34
Aged 16	17	16	15	14	15	18	14	16	15	28
Aged 17	5	x	4	2	4	2	3	5	6	x
Aged 18 and over	0	0	0	x	0	0	0	0	0	0
Length of stay²										
Under 1 month	22	25	22	25	29	29	22	23	22	20
1 to < 3 months	32	30	33	33	28	30	39	34	33	35
3 to < 6 months	22	16	27	24	23	23	19	25	20	23
6 to < 12 months	17	22	12	13	15	12	16	14	18	14
12 to < 24 months	x	x	5	5	4	5	4	4	5	x
24 months or more	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0	x	x
Type of Placement²										
Child detained or sentenced and placed by the Youth Justice Board	..	..	..	..	..	63	69	58	48	64
Child placed by local authority in a criminal justice context	..	..	..	..	..	11	8	9	13	6
Child placed by local authority on welfare grounds	..	..	..	..	..	27	23	33	39	30

Source: DfE SA1 Survey

¹ Percentages are based on the number of approved places

² Percentages are based on the the number of children accommodated

. Not Applicable

.. Unavailable. Collected for the first time in 2007

x A percentage based on a numerator less than or equal to five

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