

Statistics: References

Updated April 2021

1. England: **30,970**. Department for Education. 2020. *Children looked after in England including adoptions*. Available [online](#).
Scotland: **3,490**. Scottish Government. 2021. *Children's Social Work Statistics Scotland, 2019-20*. Available [online](#).
Wales: **1,967**. Welsh Government. 2021. *Children looked after by local authorities: April 2019 to March 2020*. Available [online](#).
Northern Ireland: **896**. Department of Health. 2021. *Children's Social Care Statistics for Northern Ireland 2019/20*. Available [online](#).
TOTAL: 37,323.
2. England: **80,080**. Department for Education. 2020. *Children looked after in England including adoptions*. Available [online](#).
Scotland: **10,895**. Scottish Government. 2021. *Children's Social Work Statistics Scotland, 2019-20*. Available [online](#).
Wales: **7,172**. Welsh Government. 2021. *Children looked after by local authorities: April 2019 to March 2020*. Available [online](#).
Northern Ireland: **3,383**. Department of Health. 2021. *Children's Social Care Statistics for Northern Ireland 2019/20*. Available [online](#).
TOTAL: 101,530.
3. England: **57,380** children in foster care and **44,500** fostering households. Department for Education. 2020. *Children looked after in England including adoptions*. Available [online](#). / Ofsted. 2020. *Fostering in England 2019 to 2020: main findings*. Available [online](#).
Scotland: **4,744** children in foster care and **3,800** fostering households. Scottish Government. 2021. *Children's Social Work Statistics Scotland, 2019-20*. Available [online](#). / The Fostering Network. 2020. *Fostering statistics*. Available [online](#).
Wales: **4,989** children in foster care and **3,700** fostering households. Welsh Government. 2021. *Children looked after by local authorities: April 2019 to March 2020*. Available [online](#). / The Fostering Network. 2020. *Fostering statistics*. Available [online](#).
Northern Ireland: **2,664** children in foster care and **2,500** fostering households. Department of Health. 2021. *Children's Social Care Statistics for Northern Ireland 2019/20*. Available [online](#). / The Fostering Network. 2020. *Fostering statistics*. Available [online](#).
TOTAL: 69,777 children in foster care and **54,500** fostering households.
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20. Ibid. Note: A child may start to be looked after more than once in a year and so may be counted more than once.
21. Ibid.
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