



Department of Children and Youth Affairs

Inventory of Data Sources on Children's Lives

A18i Childcare Activity and Performance Measures

Data owner	Child and Family Agency (www.tusla.ie)
Brief description	The Child and Family Agency (Tusla) is responsible for the collection and collation of statistical information on services for child welfare and protection, alternative care (fostering, residential), adoption, homelessness and family support services. The data collected include information on outcomes of child abuse reports, numbers availing of family support services, numbers and categories of children in care, numbers availing of youth homelessness services, and services for separated children seeking asylum.
Primary function of data	Data is compiled from all Child and Family Agency's social work departments, as well as from some funded agencies (e.g. Family Support Services etc). Data used to inform service planning and development, and to prepare Child and Family Agency reports, such as Performance Assurance Report (PAR – previously know and the Performance Report) and the Management Data Report (MDR – previously known as the Supplementary Report). The information gathered is also used for Freedom of Information enquiries, and media and Parliamentary questions.
Key classificatory variables	ID Other; Geog Sub County; Geog Other; Disability; Marital Status
Themes/domains	Health
Unit of observation	Social work services; foster care services; residential care services; family support services
Start date of data collection	Metrics began to be collected at various timelines since 2005
Frequency of data collection	Monthly, quarterly, bi-annually and annually
Data format	Aggregated data. This data can be viewed by 17 Area Offices, 4 x Regional Director of Services, and on a national basis.
Method of data collection	Paper-based and computerised
Access/further information	Child and Family Agency: www.tusla.ie Publications available at: www.tusla.ie/publications
Note	Other information is collected for childcare services, which is not published in current reports but is available for information for media queries, Parliamentary questions, etc.