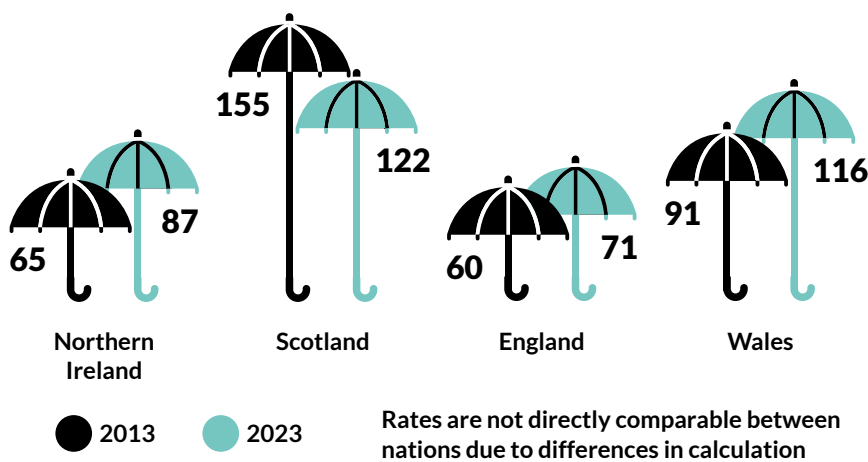


# Care experienced children and young people: admin data in focus

**Care experienced:** a person with experience of being in care, regardless of placement length, type or age. They may still be in care, or have left care

## Rates of children in care per 10,000 (2013 and 2023)

Source: Scottish Government, 2024



## In the 8 years after leaving school, care experienced children had different outcomes to the general population [England]

25% had never been in employment or education, compared to 4% among all school leavers



77% had received benefits at some point in those 8 years, compared to 21% among all school leavers



These statistics refer to a person's main activity in the Longitudinal Educational Outcomes dataset. Department for Education (2022). Post-16 educational and employment outcomes of children in need. Research report.

## In England, placement stability improved for children aged 1-4

38% born in 1992 had more than one placement

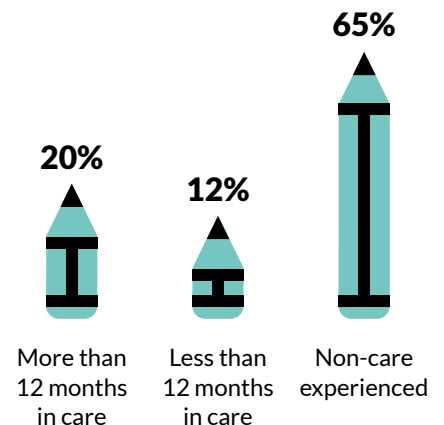


14% born in 2008 had more than one placement



Grath-Lone, L. M., Dearden, L., Nasim, B., Harron, K., & Gilbert, R. (2015). Changes in first entry to out-of-home care from 1992 to 2012 among children in England: Analysis of Administrative Data. *The Lancet*, 386. doi:10.1016/s0140-6736(15)00893-4.

## Academic attainment of care experienced young people at Key Stage 4 [England]



Percentage of children achieving Grade 4 or above in English and Maths at KS4. Figures from 2023, care experienced status based on 31st March 2023.

Source: Department for Education, 2024.

## Kinship caring arrangements in Scotland

9000 children in Scotland who are not looked after are currently cared for by a family member or a friend



At least an additional 4000 are cared for in a formal kinship care setting



1 in 10 kinship care arrangements last for less than a month

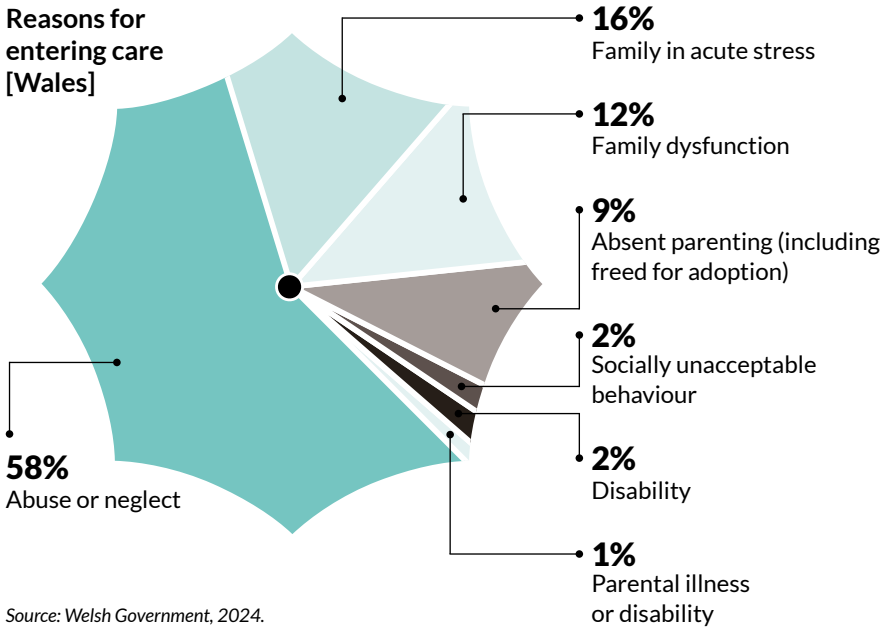


1.6 in 10 kinship care arrangements last over 5 years



Soraghan, J., & Porter, R. (2024). Growing up in kinship care. CELCIS, University of Strathclyde, Scottish Centre for Administrative Data Research (SCADR).

## Reasons for entering care [Wales]



Source: Welsh Government, 2024.

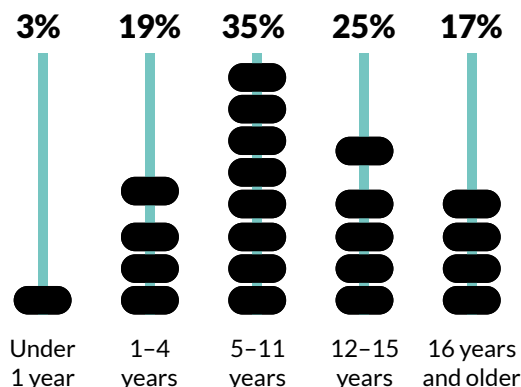
## Premature mortality [England]

The risk of premature mortality is 62% higher for care experienced people



Sacker, A., Murray, E., Lacey, R., & Maughan, B. (2021). The lifelong health and wellbeing trajectories of people who have been in care. Findings from the Looked-after Children Grown up Project. University College London.

## Ages of children and young people in care [Northern Ireland]



Source: Roger and Kinghan, 2024.

Administrative data reflects the use of all public services across the UK. Every interaction with a public sector service produces records from which we can extract information and meaning. Rather than collect new data from scratch, these administrative records – de-identified data representing the whole population of everyone who has used the service over time – enable research at a pace and scale that would simply not be possible through other methods.

Researchers and policymakers alike know that poor outcomes are not inevitable with the right resources. A key strength of administrative data is the ability to produce data-driven insights to identify where more support is needed, plug evidence gaps and pinpoint examples of success. Embedding administrative data and this linkage of different data sources into research and policy development will have real-world implications for care experienced children to ensure they all can thrive.

Find out more

