Two Decades of Child Welfare System Contact in the Global North: Trends from 44 Countries

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Abstract

Child maltreatment and child welfare system contact are both associated with elevated risks of physical and mental morbidity and mortality in childhood, adolescence, and adulthood. Yet existing data on contextual variation in system contact is limited to only a small handful of countries, limiting knowledge in this area. We identified, collected, and harmonized administrative data on: investigated by child welfare agency; confirmed maltreatment occurrence; and being placed in out-of-home care for 44 countries in the Global North. There is considerable variation in levels of child welfare system contact across the Global North. The incidence of investigations and of confirmed maltreatments has broadly increased in the twenty-first century. Incidence and prevalence of out-of-home care have remained stable or decreased in the last several years. Cross-national variation in trends is generally less substantial than cross-national variation in levels of child welfare system contact. Cross-national variation in out-of-home care reflects, though is not reducible to, regional and sociocultural variation.

Introduction

Child maltreatment and child welfare system (CWS) or child protective services (CPS) involvement (we use the term CWS/CPS throughout) account for significant health and economic burdens in the Global North (Conti et al. 2021; Doyle and Aizer 2018; Fang et al. 2012, 2015; Gilbert et al. 2009; Habetha et al. 2012). Children who have experienced maltreatment or who have been exposed to CWS/CPS are significantly and often quite substantially more likely to have poor health and wellbeing across the life-course, including elevated risks of mortality, worse educational outcomes, higher risk of having a child as a teenager, higher rates of contact with the criminal justice system, and worse physical and mental health outcomes than similar children who had not experienced these events (Berger and Waldfogel 2004; Currie and Tekin 2012; Currie and Widom 2010; Doyle 2007, 2008; Fallesen 2021; Gruhn and Compas 2020; Norman et al. 2012) .

To the degree such evidence exists, evidence indicates that the effects of exposure to maltreatment and to CWS/CPS are relatively consistent across national and subnational contexts (Kokkalera et al. 2018). But dramatically less is known about how much rates of exposure to maltreatment and system contact vary across national and historical contexts (Degli Esposti et al. 2019; Gilbert et al. 2012; Stoltenborgh et al. 2015). This lack of evidence, driven partially by contextual differences in the definition of child maltreatment and partially by differences in how CWS/CPS responds to allegations of maltreatment, is pressing three reasons (Jud et al. 2013). First, and perhaps most importantly, they are relevant because both maltreatment and exposure to CWS/CPS are salient risk factors for poor mental and physical health for children, making our lack of knowledge about their relative levels an important gap in research. Second, both of these

events are highly unequally distributed by race/ethnicity and social class within countries (Fallesen et al. 2014; Kim et al. 2017; Magruder and Shaw 2008; Pierce et al. 2022; Rebbe et al. 2022; Rouland and Vaithianathan 2018; Sabol et al. 2004; Wildeman et al. 2014; Wildeman and Emanuel 2014) meaning that they have the capacity to exacerbate population-level health inequities and, in a similar vein, to dampen health disparities if minimized (in the case of maltreatment) or handled in health-promoting ways (in the case of system contact). Third, they display core differences in how countries respond to child maltreatment, with likely implications for variations in population health across national and subnational contexts.

In this article, we extend work by Gilbert and colleagues (Gilbert et al. 2012) by providing the most extensive information to date on how rates of contact with CWS/CPS—specifically, investigation rates, confirmed maltreatment rates, and out-of-home placement rates—vary across countries in the Global North. We focus on these three different levels of CWS/CPS contact because each of these three stages of CWS/CPS contact is a consequential intervention into family life and because capturing actual levels of maltreatment cross-nationally is virtually impossible on account of differing definitions of maltreatment and differential measurement error across contexts. In so doing, we expand our knowledge about how common state interventions in response to child maltreatment are and, as a result, how significant a role each may play in shaping population health and disparities therein. Last, we also introduce the new publicly available The ROCKWOOL-Duke global child welfare database as a future resource for the research community.[1]

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[1] The database is freely available through the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect, which is a collaboration between Cornell University and Duke University. Because the data are aggregate in nature and do not pose any disclosure risk for individual children exposed to CWS/CPS, they are available without IRB approval. Code for replicating the analysis is available on the Open Science Framework.

Methods and Data

Measures

Our outcomes were three types of contact with the child welfare system (CWS) or child protective services (CPS). Investigation was defined as an official inquiry by CWS/CPS personnel resulting from an allegation of children maltreatment. Investigations were counted multiple times if investigations involved multiple children. Countries varied in whether they reported investigations started or completed in a twelve-month period. Confirmed maltreatment was defined as an investigation resulting in the substantiation of alleged maltreatment. In the United States, indications of maltreatment were treated as confirmed maltreatment. Confirmed maltreatment in Canada and Germany included the substantiation of risk for future maltreatment. Out-of-home care was defined as living without parents under the auspices of a CWS/CPS agency.

As a result, the definition included foster care, kinship care, and various institutional care settings. We excluded children residing in criminal justice institutions, but because child behavioral issues cannot be easily separated from child maltreatment, we included children in out-of-home care administered by CWS/CPS even if the primary reason for placement was child behavioral issues.

For investigations and confirmed maltreatments we calculated the annual incidence (investigations/confirmed maltreatments per twelve-month period per 1,000 children) and the annual prevalence (distinct children experiencing investigation/confirmed maltreatment per

twelve-month period per 1,000 children). Due to the limited availability of prevalence data, the main analysis focuses on the incidence of investigation/maltreatment, but our findings are broadly consistent with analysis of the prevalence of investigation/confirmed maltreatment (figures S1 and S2). We calculated the annual incidence and annual prevalence of placement into out-of-home care (entrances into care per twelve-month period per 1,000 children and distinct children entering care per twelve-month period per 1,000 children). Due to the limited availability of incidence data, the main analysis here focuses on the prevalence of entrance into out-of-home care, but we report calculations of the annual incidence of entrance into out-of-home care (figure S3). Finally, we measured the point prevalence of children residing in out-of-home care (children in care per 1,000 children). Countries varied in the dates on which point-prevalence was measured.

Our exposures were country and year. For analysis of out-of-home care, we also organized countries into geographic and sociocultural groups using United Nations geographic regions and a group for Anglophone countries of the Global North.

Data collection

Data collection occurred between August 2021 and May 2022. We sought data from 64 countries in the Global North for the years 2000–2020 (table S1). For simplicity, we refer to Greenland and the constituent countries of the United Kingdom (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales) as countries. Our principal sources of data were tabulated data files and statistical reports published by national statistical agencies and national child welfare agencies, accessed through agency websites or national databases (table S2). If data were not publicly available, we accessed

data directly from relevant agencies. If no data could be accessed through national agencies, data from UNICEF's TransMonEE database and the Nordic Health and Welfare Statistics database were used. Where two data sources were available, we used national statistical data to cross-validated the data from UNICEF's TransMonEE database and the Nordic Health and Welfare Statistics. When multiple sources of data were discrepant, we investigated further to determine the correct figure, or removed data when a reliable figure could not be established. Agency personnel and subject-area experts provided support accessing, translating, and interpreting data.

We obtained data from 44 countries, including 104 country–year observations of rates of CWS/CPS investigations, 194 country–year observations of rates of CWS/CPS confirmations of maltreatment, 233 country–year observations of rates of children entering out-of-home care, and 402 country–year observations of children residing in out-of-home care at a point in time (Figure 1).[2]

[Figure 1 about here.]

Results

Investigation

Across 12 countries for which reliable data were available on CWS/CPS investigations for alleged maltreatment, incidence rates varied widely (figure 2A). In recent years, the United States had the highest rates of investigation, peaking at 58.37 investigations per 1,000 children in

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[2] With one exception, we limited data collection to administrative data on children aged 0–17. For Canada we used administrative survey data on children aged 0–15. Comparing data from Canada to peer countries such as the United States indicates that any bias resulting from differing age ranges is likely small (figure S4).

2017. England had comparably high rates of investigation. In contrast, Singapore had extremely low rates of investigation, ranging from 0.16 to 1.51 investigations per 1,000 children between 2002 and 2020. As a result, observed rates of investigation in the Global North varied by a factor of 45.6 in 2019, and levels of investigation increased in most countries over the period for which data was obtained (figure 2A).[3]

[Figure 2 about here.]

Confirmed maltreatment

Data on incidents of maltreatment confirmed by CWS/CPS were gathered for 19 countries (figure 2B). Cross-national variation in rates of confirmed maltreatment was considerably less than cross-national variation in rates of investigation (figure 2A), with the majority of countries having rates of confirmed maltreatment in the range of 2.5 to 6.0 maltreatments per 1,000 children in recent years. Nevertheless, countries like Canada and New Zealand displayed very high (if decreasing) rates of confirmed maltreatment, while countries like Bulgaria and Tajikistan exhibited extremely low rates of confirmed maltreatment. South Korea had very low rates of confirmed maltreatment early in the twenty-first century, before converging with most other countries in recent years.

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[3] Rates of investigation increased steadily and substantially in the United States and Germany. Increases in rates of investigation accelerated in Japan between 2010 and 2019, accounting for a more than threefold increase over the decade. Uniquely, New Zealand experienced a marked decline in investigations in the mid-2010s. Data for Canada and Ireland were inadequate for evaluating trends.

Rates of confirmed maltreatment had steady, meaningful, and broad-based increases over the twenty-first century (figure 2B). There were, however, important exceptions to this trend. In 2013–2015 New Zealand experienced a sharp decline in its rate of confirmed maltreatment that coincided with the decline in its rate of investigation (figure 2A). Rates of confirmed maltreatment decreased in the United States between 2005 and 2010, remaining fairly stable thereafter. Australia experienced a dramatic drop in confirmed maltreatments in 2018, but rates of maltreatment returned to prior levels in 2019–2020.

Out-of-home care

Of the three points of child welfare system contact analyzed in this study, reliable data on out-of-home care was most widely available. Across fully 20 countries within the Global North, annual rates of children entering out-of-home care varied significantly (figure 3A), although nearly half of countries observed in 2020 had entrance rates between 2.0 and 3.0 children entering care per 1,000 children. In recent years, Sweden had the highest rate of entrance into out-of-home care, at 4.05 children entering care per 1,000 children in 2020. (Data for Sweden in 2014–2017 were not comparable due to administrative changes.) Albania had the lowest recorded rate of out-of-home care entrance, at 0.22 per 1,000 children in 2020. As a result, observed rates of foster care entry in the Global North varied by a factor of 18.3 in 2019.

[Figure 3 about here.]

Most countries exhibited stable rates of entry into out-of-home care. Two major exceptions were Sweden and Germany, which experienced dramatic peaks in entrances in the mid-2010s. Based

on limited data on the migrant status of children entering care, a substantial proportion of these increases appear to be attributable to large, temporary increases in the number of unaccompanied children who entered these countries and were placed into care (figures S3 and S5). Though varying in their timing, Russia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia all experienced significant declines from high rates of entry into care. A larger number of countries experienced more modest declines in entry rates between 2015 and 2020.

Data on children residing in out-of-home care on a specific date was available for 37 countries (figure 3B). Although data was only available for two years, rates of children's residence in out-of-home care in Greenland were grossly outlying, at 67.88 children in care per 1,000 children in 2006—or more than 1 in 15 children—and 53.91 children in care per 1,000 children in 2019—more than 1 in 19 children. In these years, rates of out-of-home care in Greenland were more than 2.5 and 3.3 times greater, respectively, than the next highest national rate of care.

Excluding Greenland from visualization helps interpret variation in out-of-home care among other countries (figure 3C). A majority of countries observed in 2020 had care rates between 5.0 and 10.0 children in care per 1,000 children, or between 0.5 and 1.0 percent of the child population. Russia exhibited the highest rates of out-of-home care, peaking at 28.42 in 2008, but data were unavailable after 2015. Comparing extrema in 2020—16.45 children in care per 1,000 children in Latvia and 1.27 children in care per 1,000 children in Singapore—rates of children in out-of-home care varied by a factor of nearly 13. Reflecting similar trends in entrances into out-of-home care (figure 3A), in recent years the point prevalence of residence in out-of-home care in many countries either ceased to grow or experienced modest declines.

Cross-national variation in rates of out-of-home care was partly a reflection of variation in care rates across geographic and cultural regions. Observed countries in Western, Central, Eastern, and South-eastern Asia (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Singapore, South Korea, Turkey, and Uzbekistan) exhibited many of the lowest rates of intake into care (figure 4A) and shares of children in care (figure 4B). Though geographically diverse, Anglophone countries (Australia, England, Ireland, Northern Ireland, United States, Scotland, and Wales) displayed very similar levels and trends in out-of-home care.

[Figure 4 about here.]

Rates of out-of-home care varied more widely within the European context. Eastern European countries(Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Moldova, Russia, and Slovakia) generally had much higher rates of care than Southern European countries (Albania, Croatia, and Montenegro). Reliable data for Western European countries was only obtained for Germany, which had relatively high rates of entrance into care, and for France, which had rates of residence in care that fell in the middle of the range of other European countries.

Among Northern European countries for which data were obtained, rates of entrance into out-of-home care were consistently among the highest observed in the Global North (figure 4A). However, the share of children in out-of-home care varied more widely among observed Northern European countries (figure 4B), with countries like Latvia and Lithuania having among

the highest rates of residence in care, and countries like Estonia and Iceland having among the lowest rates of residence in care.

Discussion

Our results demonstrate significant cross-national variation in child welfare system and child protective services (CWS/CPS) contact across the Global North. But they also show that rates of investigation, confirmed maltreatment, and out-of-home care are in most cases fairly stable, and that many trends in system contact are shared across many countries. Furthermore, countries within geographic regions and countries sharing social and legal institutions exhibit similarities in system contact. These facts support the conclusion that large-scale comparative research on child welfare system contact is both feasible and likely to be fruitful.

Our data are not adequate to directly evaluate qualitative differences in CWS/CPS across countries. But several comparisons offer suggestive evidence about qualitative variation. First, rates of investigation, confirmed maltreatment, and out-of-home care are not always consistent within countries: some countries display relatively high rates of some measures and relatively low rates of others. This suggests that countries vary in their transition probabilities from investigation to confirmation to our-of-home placement. Second, the incidence of entry into care and the point prevalence of care also diverge in several countries. This indicates that countries vary meaningfully in the duration that children spend in out-of-home care, another core area meriting future research using these data. Taken together, these two points of evidence suggest that countries in the Global North may differ meaningfully in the ways that they handle child maltreatment cases, conditional on children's initial contact with CWS/CPS.

Our data do come with limitations. We sought data from 64 countries and obtained data on at least one measure from 44 countries. Our inability to access data may be systematically related to levels of child maltreatment or CWS/CPS contact. Whereas it is possible to compare several countries across indicators, there are still many countries in the Global North where there is a dearth of publicly available knowledge about children's contact with CWS/CPS. Given the high individual and social cost of child maltreatment, it is paramount that countries secure and make available data on children's contact with CWS/CPS.

A key question that arises from our findings is the extent to which cross-national variation in child welfare system contact results from differences across countries in their underlying incidence of child abuse and neglect or in their child welfare policies and administrative personnel and procedures. Further research is needed to understand the relative importance of behavioral and institutional factors. As with virtually all research in this area, this represents a core challenge for researchers who are interested in child maltreatment and CWS/CPS contact. Because harmonized data on CWS/CPS contact as now broadly available through the The ROCKWOOL-Duke global child welfare database—introduced in this study—there are now valuable resources for understanding the various national factors that contribute to both levels and changes in levels of system contact.

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Figure 1: Range of data on (A) child protective services investigations, (B) cases of confirmed maltreatment, and (C) out-of-home care for 44 countries in the Global North, 2000-2020.
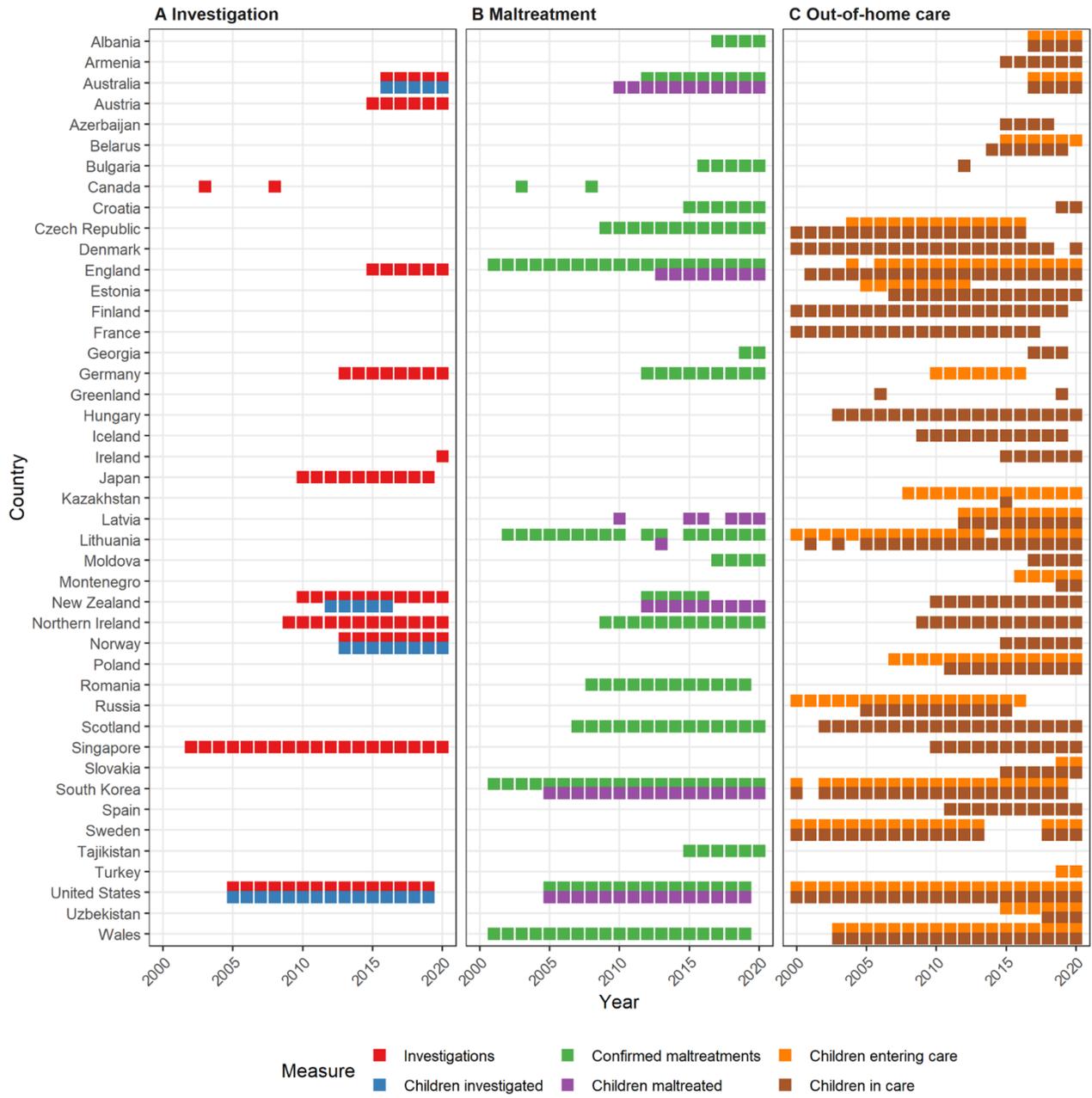
Source: The ROCKWOOL-Duke global child welfare database

Figure 2: Annual incidence of (A) child protective services investigations and (B) maltreatments confirmed by child protective services.
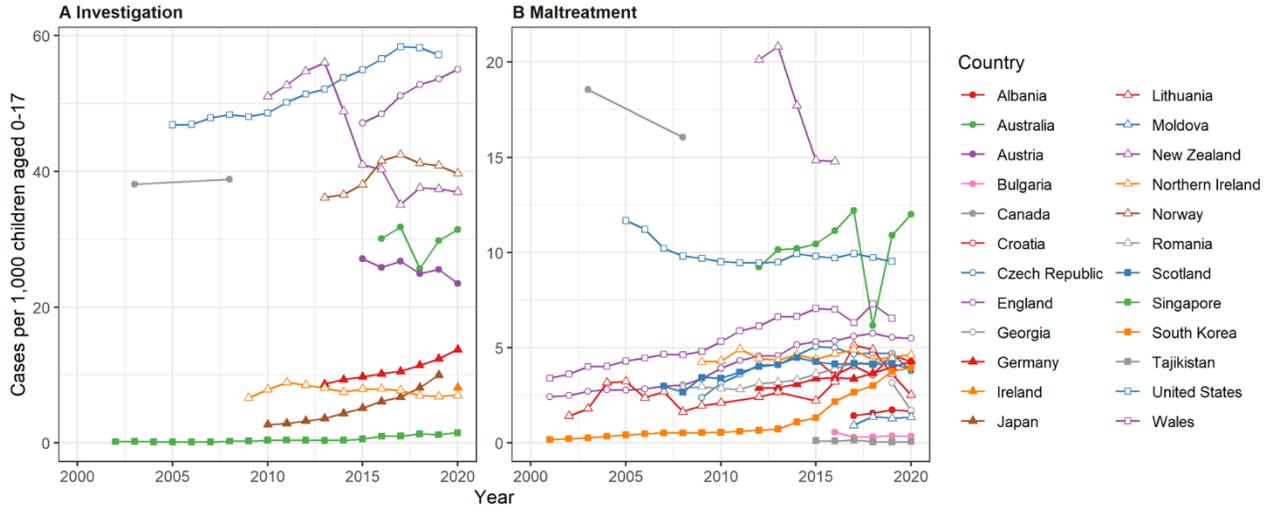
Source: The ROCKWOOL-Duke global child welfare database

Figure 3: (A) Annual prevalence of children entering out-of-home care and (B, C) point prevalence of children's residence in out-of-home care. The detail panel (C) excludes Greenland. Point prevalence is measured at different dates in different countries.
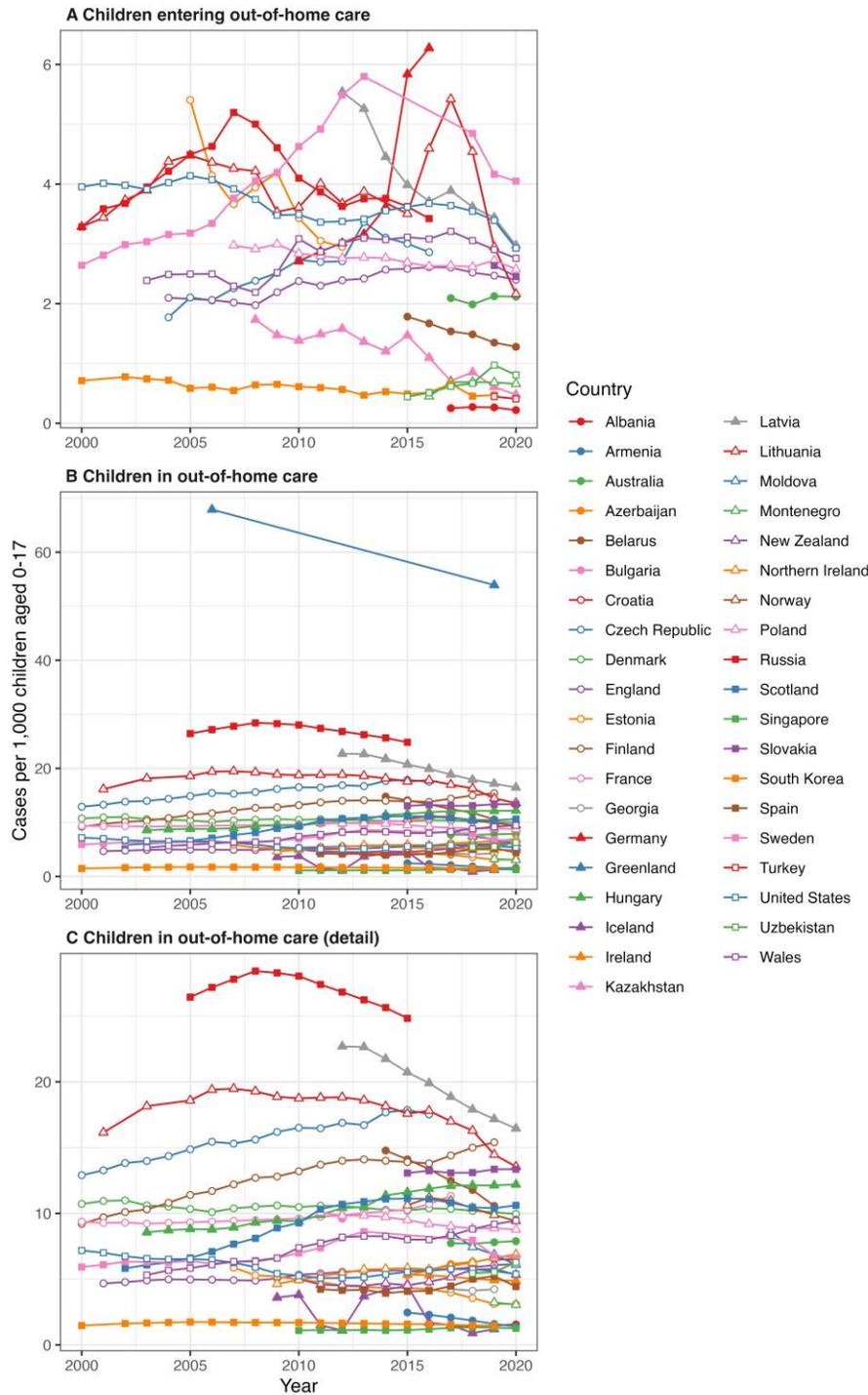
Source: The ROCKWOOL-Duke global child welfare database

Figure 4: (A) Annual prevalence of children entering out-of-home care and (B) point prevalence of children's residence in out-of-home care in four regions of the Global North. For visualization, the figure excludes Greenland.
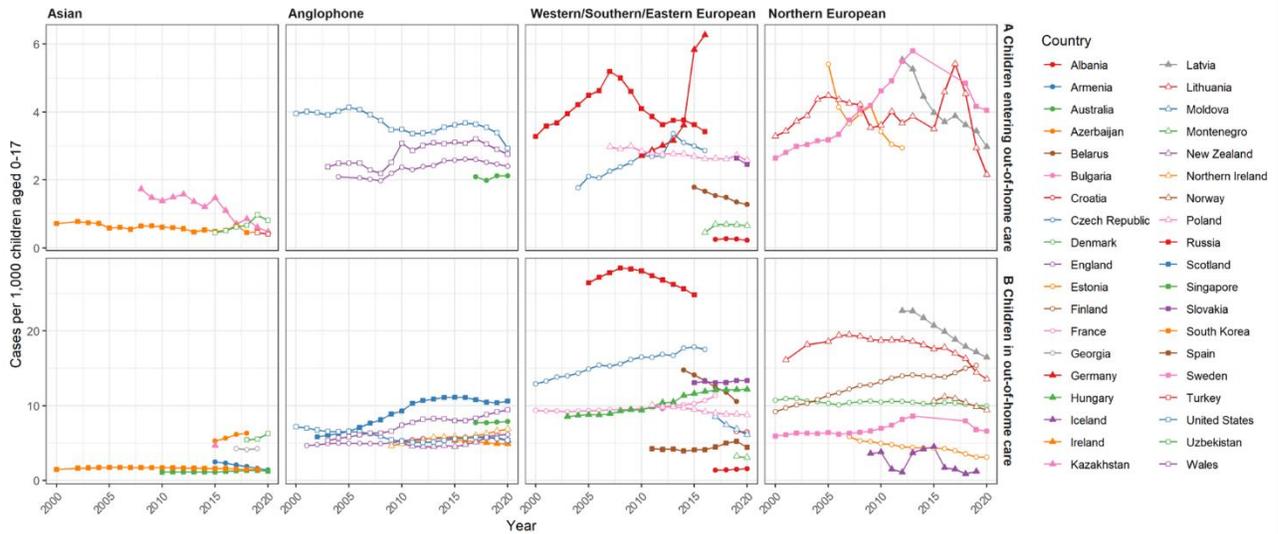
Source: The ROCKWOOL-Duke global child welfare database

Online Appendix: Supplementary methods and results

This appendix provides further methodological details and supplementary results for "Two Decades of Child Welfare System Contact in the Global North: Trends from 44 Countries."

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A Sensitivity analysis

Our main results report the annual incidence of child welfare system (CWS) or child protective services (CPS) investigation for alleged child maltreatment and the annual incidence of CWS/CPS confirmation of maltreatment. Annual incidences represent the number of investigations or confirmed maltreatments occuring in a 12-month period, divided by the child population at a point in time during that period. As a result, children receiving multiple investigations or having multiple cases of confirmed maltreatment will be counted multiple times in the calculation of annual incidences. By contrast, the annual prevalence of investigation/confirmed maltreatment measures the number of distinct children experiencing investigation/confirmed maltreatment in a 12-month period, divided by the child population at a point in time during that period. In this measure, children experiencing multiple cases of confirmed maltreatment will be counted only once. Countries may differ in the incidence of investigation/confirmed maltreatment relative to the prevalence of investigation/confirmed maltreatment, with larger discrepancies indicating that children were more likely to re-experience CWS/CPS system contact within a 12-month period. To examine this possibility, for eight countries for which data on both annual incidence and annual prevalence is available, we compare these two measures of investigation and maltreatment (figures S1 and S2). Some countries exhibited large discrepancies between annual incidence and prevalence measures, such as with investigations in the United States. Other countries exhibited negligible differences between annual incidence and prevalence measures, such as with confirmed maltreatment in England. Nevertheless, on the whole, cross-national variation in levels and trends in investigation and confirmed maltreatment are broadly consistent across annual incidence and annual prevalence measures.

Figure S1. Comparison of annual incidence and annual prevalence of investigations for child maltreatment.
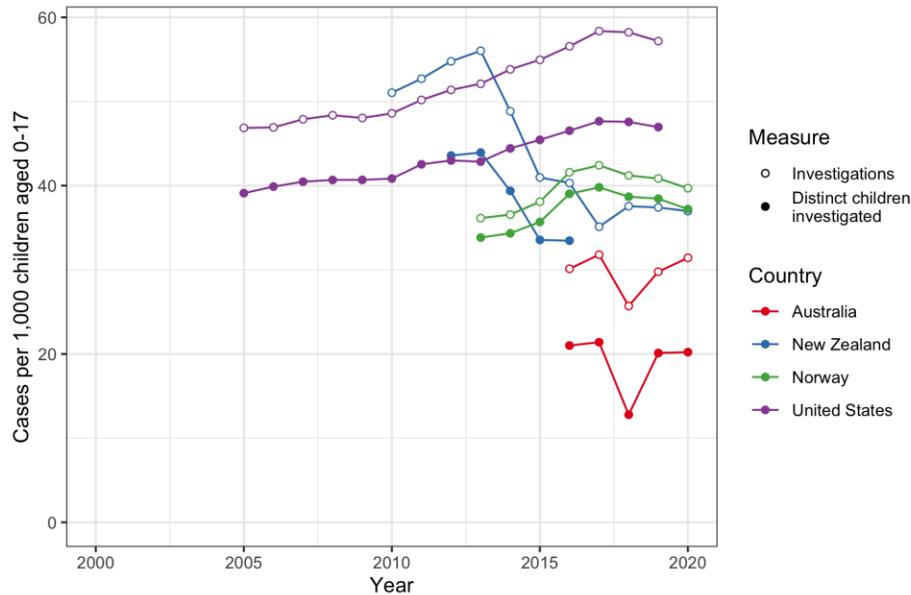
Figure S2. Comparison of annual incidence and annual prevalence of confirmed maltreatment.
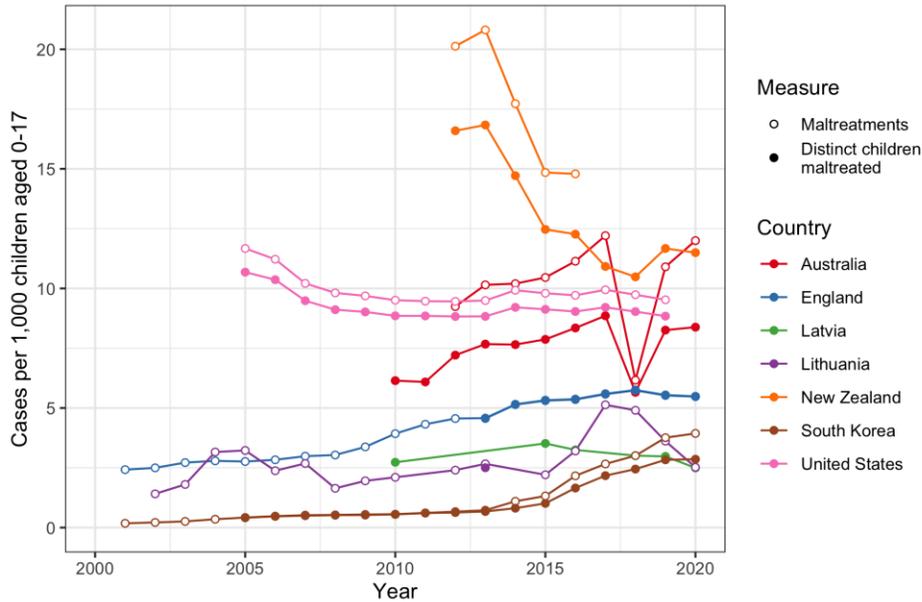
Our main results report the annual prevalence of entrance into out-of-home care. As with investigations and maltreatments, countries may differ in the incidence of entrances into care relative to the prevalence of entrances into care, with larger discrepancies indicating that children were more likely to re-enter care within a 12-month period. Differently than for investigations and maltreatments, no data on the incidence and prevalence of entrances into care were available in the same country-year. As a result, the direct comparisons made in figures S1 and S2 are not possible for entrances into out-of-home care. However, figure S3 presents calculations of the annual incidence of entrances into out-of-home care. Trend lines for Germany align closely with trend lines for the prevalence of entrances (figure 3A). Cross-national variation in the incidence of entrances into out-of-home care is broadly consistent with regional patterns in the prevalence of entrances into care (figure 4A).

Figure S3. Annual incidence of entrances into out-of-home care.
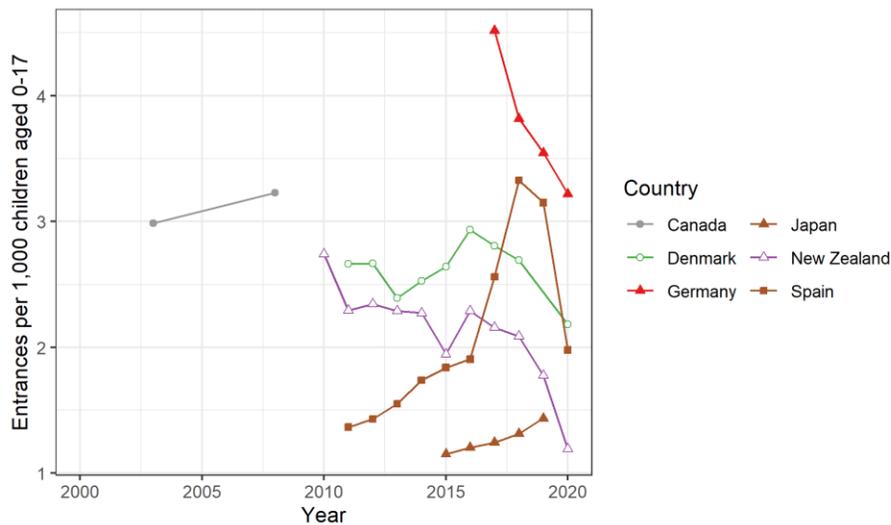
We limited our analysis to children aged less than 18 years. We made one exception to this criterion, namely Canada, for which data on investigations, confirmed maltreatment, and children entering care was only available for children aged less than 16 years, through the Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect. Rates of CWS/CPS contact vary by children's age, and so differences between incidences observed in Canada and other countries may partly reflect the confounding influence of age. To help evaluate such confounding, we compare Canadian data on the incidence of investigations, confirmed maltreatment, and children entering care to data from countries for which we can calculate incidences among children aged less than 18 years and less than 16 years (figure S4A, S4B, and S4C). Discrepancies across age ranges in the United States are generally small. In Germany, discrepancies are larger and variable in size, but also in the opposite direction, with rates of entry being greater among children aged less than 18 years than among children aged less than 16 years. However, this likely reflects Germany's unique experience receiving a large number of unaccompanied minors aged 16 or 17 during the 2015 European migrant crisis (see below).

Figure S4. Comparison of incidence of (A) investigations, (B) confirmed maltreatment, and (C) out-of-home care among children ages 0-15 and 0-17.
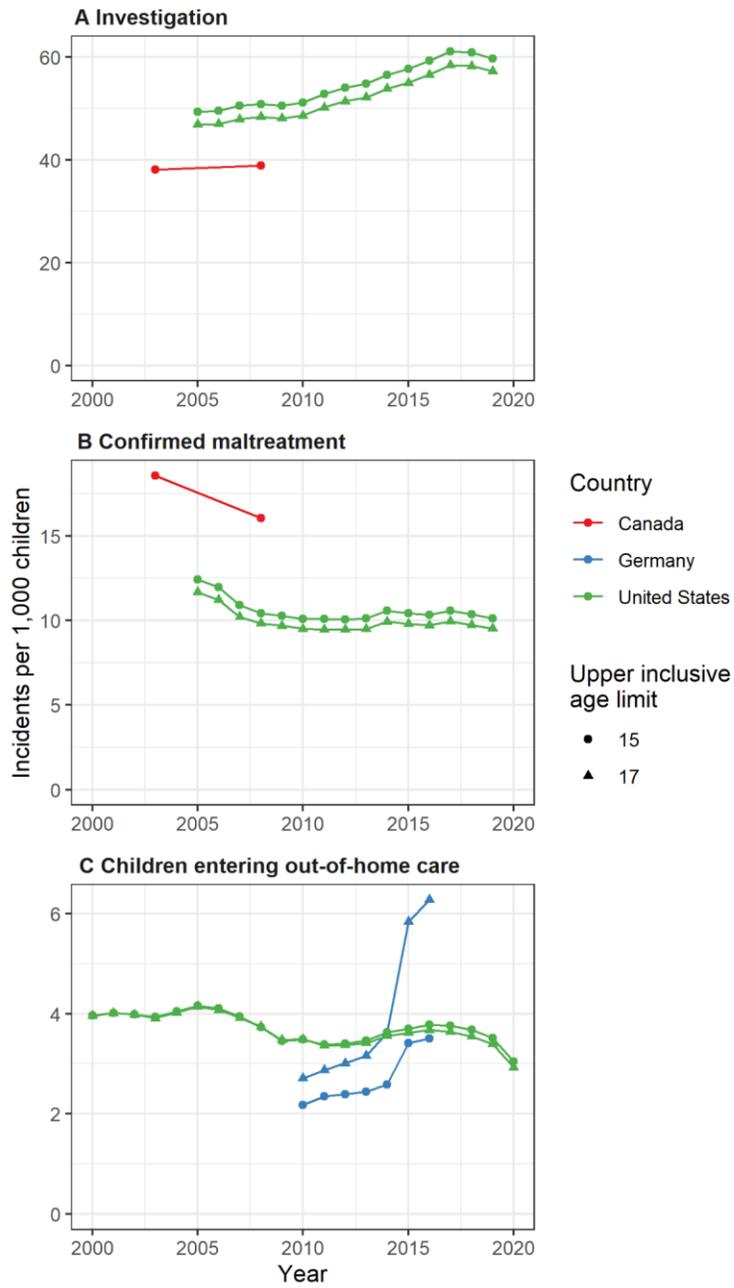
Two countries in our analysis—Germany and Sweden—exhibited very large increases and subsequent decreases in the 2010s in rates of children entering out-of-home care (figures 3a and 4a). These countries also received a large number of migrants during the coinciding European migrant crisis, and administered services to unaccompanied minor migrants through their child welfare systems. Fortunately, Germany and Sweden, as well as Denmark, made available limited data on children entering and in out-of-home care that included and excluded unaccompanied minor children. Comparing trends in care including and excluding migrants reveals that changes in the number of migrant children experiencing child welfare system contact are likely to have contributed meaningfully to levels and trends in total entrances into out-of-home care in Germany and Sweden (figure S5A) and perhaps also to the number of children in out-of-home care in Sweden (Figure S5B). In contrast, unaccompanied minor children did not meaningfully affect levels or trends in out-of-home care in Denmark.

Figure S5. Comparison of incidence of (A) children entering out-of-home care and prevalence of (B) children in out-of-home care, including and excluding unaccompanied migrant children. .
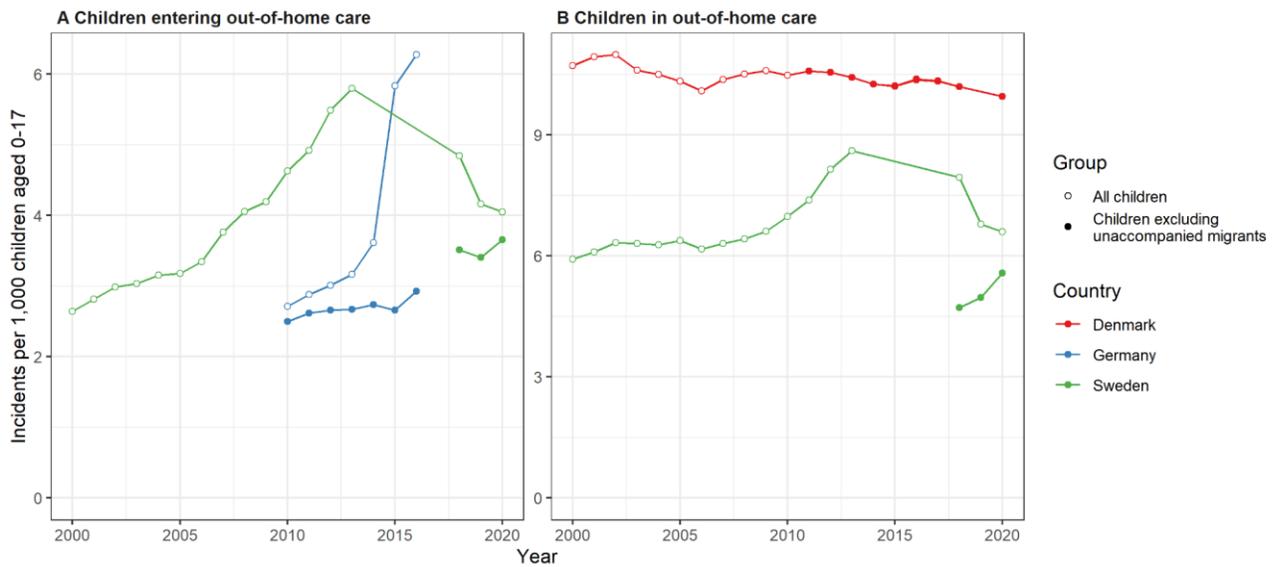
B Child welfare system contact data collection process

Our process for collecting child welfare system contact data to build the ROCKWOOL-Duke Global Child Welfare Database included three successive phases. We carried out this process for 64 countries in the Global North (table S1). Each phase was undertaken if the prior phase was unsuccessful. For each phase, we collected data for as many years as possible going back to the year 2000.

Table S1. Countries in the Global North for which data was sought.

Country		
Albania	Hungary	Portugal
Armenia	Iceland	Romania
Australia	Ireland	Russia
Austria	Israel	Serbia
Azerbaijan	Italy	Scotland
Belarus	Japan	Singapore
Belgium	Kazakhstan	Slovakia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Kosovo	Slovenia
Bulgaria	Latvia	South Korea
Canada	Liechtenstein	Spain
Croatia	Lithuania	Sweden
Cyprus	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Czech Republic	Malta	Tajikistan
Denmark	Moldova	Turkey
England	Montenegro	Turkmenistan
Estonia	Netherlands	Taiwan
Finland	New Zealand	Ukraine
France	North Ireland	United States
Georgia	North Macedonia	Uzbekistan
Germany	Norway	Wales
Greece	Philippines	
Greenland	Poland	

First, we collected child maltreatment data that were publicly available through the websites of national statistical agencies and/or national child welfare agencies. These data included tabulated data as well as data in annual reports. Data published in languages other than English were translated by the authors, using the DeepL Translate algorithm, and/or with consultation from native speakers with subject-area expertise. To identify and interpret national sources we relied on web-based searches as well as sources including: reports by non-governmental, national governmental, and multinational governmental organizations; academic research; and subject-area experts.

Second, if data were not identified through web-based search or were identified only for a limited historical range, we contacted personnel in national statistical agencies and/or national child welfare agencies, who helped identify public data or directly provided non-public data. Agency personnel also clarified the interpretation of publicly available data. Restricted data for the United States and Denmark were accessed directly by the authors.

Third, we used data from two multinational child welfare datasets: UNICEF's Transforming Monitoring for Enhanced Equity (TransMonEE) database and the Nordic Health and Welfare Statistics (NHWSTAT) database. In both cases, included data were reported directly by national statistical agencies and/or national child welfare agencies to multinational organizations.

We compared data collected for each country across these three phases to help identify unreliable data. Data from multiple countries was rejected on account of discrepancies across sources. We used data from multinational databases only where data from national statistical agencies and/or national child welfare agencies could not be identified or was determined to be unreliable.

To avoid threats to validity and reliability arising from self-reported data, we limited our analysis to administrative data, excluding data relying on surveys of respondents. In one case (Canada) we relied on a survey of administrative records. We excluded data that included information on people 18 years or older or for which the age range of children included in the data could not be determined. We included data for which the beginning- and end-points of annual periods could not be determined, or for which the date of point-prevalence measures could not be determined (table S2).

Table S2. Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Albania							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	UNICEF TransMonEE Database
Years	2017–2020	..	..	2017–2020	..	..	2017–2020	2017–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	Child victims of violence registered by child/social welfare authorities	..	..	Children entering formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)	Children in formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Armenia							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	..	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database
Years	2015–2020	..	..	..	..	..	..	2015–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	..	..	Children in formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Australia							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	..	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Years	2010–2020	2016–2020	2016–2020	2012–2020	2010–2020	..	2017–2020	2010–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	Investigations	Child subjects of investigations	Substantiations of notifications	Children and young people subjects of substantiations	..	Children admitted to out of home care	Children and young people in out of home care
Notes	..	Includes finalized, in process, and closed investigations.		..		In 2018–19, all states and territories adopted a national definition of out-of-home care and the out-of-home care data have been back-cast to 2016–17 with the national definition. Children admitted to out-of-home care more than once during the year were counted only at the first admission.		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Austria							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	Statistik Austria	..	..	..	..	..	..
Years	2015–2020	2015–2020	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	Risk assessments initiated	..	..	..	..	..	..
Notes	..	..				..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Azerbaijan							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	..	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database
Years	2015–2018	..	..	..	..	..	..	2015–2018
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	..	..	Children in formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Belarus							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	UNICEF TransMonEE Database
Years	2014–2020	..	..	..	..	..	2015–2020	2014–2019
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	..	Children entering formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)	Children in formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Bulgaria							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	..	..	..	Republic of Bulgaria Council of Ministers State Agency for Child Protection
Years	2012, 2016–2020	..	..	2016–2020	..	..	..	2012
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	Child victims of violence registered by child/social welfare authorities	..	..	..	Children in kinship, foster, or institutional care
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Canada							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	Public Health Agency of Canada	..	Public Health Agency of Canada	..	Public Health Agency of Canada	..	..
Years	2003, 2008	2003, 2008	..	2003, 2008	..	2003, 2008	..	..
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–15	Child maltreatment investigations	..	Substantiated maltreatments	..	Children in informal kinship care, foster care, group home care, and residential/secure treatment	..	..
Notes	..	In 2008, this measure includes investigations for risk of future maltreatment, which were not broken out in previous years but which were at least partially, if implicitly, included based on a validation study (see p. 24 of the CIS 2008 report). Values are estimated from a sample of administrative cases; confidence intervals are available from the source.		Excludes "suspected" risk of future maltreatment and includes "confirmed" risk of future maltreatment. Values are estimated from a sample of administrative cases; confidence intervals are available from the source.		Excludes placement status of "child remained at home." Values are estimated from a sample of administrative cases; confidence intervals are available from the source.		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Croatia							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	..	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database
Years	2015–2020	..	..	2015–2020	..	..	..	2019–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	Child victims of violence registered by child/social welfare authorities	..	..	..	Children in formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Czech Republic							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	UNICEF TransMonEE Database
Years	2000–2020	..	..	2009–2020	..	..	2004–2016	2000–2016
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	Identified cases of abused and neglected children	..	..	Children entering formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)	Children in formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Denmark							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	..	Danmarks Statistik	..	Danmarks Statistik
Years	2000–2020	..	..	..	..	2011–2020	..	2000–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	Children and young people beginning out of home placement	..	Children and young persons placed outside of own home
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	England							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	Office for National Statistics	Department for Education	..	Department for Education	Department for Education	..	Department for Education	Department for Education
Years	2001–2020	2015–2020	..	2001–2020	2013–2020	..	2004–2020	2001–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	Child protection investigative assessments completed	..	Child protection plans started	Distinct children starting child protection plans	..	Children starting to be looked after (excluding those placed for/in adoption or with parents or person with parental responsibility)	Children looked after (excluding those placed for/in adoption or with parents or person with parental responsibility)
Notes	..	..		..		For entrances, adoptive placements are suppressed for confidentiality. Upward bias is assumed to be no greater than 5 entrances.		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Estonia							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	Statistics Estonia
Years	2000–2021	..	..	..	..	..	2005–2012	2007–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	..	Children entering formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)	Children in alternative care service institutions
Notes	..	..		..		Children in care: institutions include substitute homes and family houses.		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Finland							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	..	..	..	NHWSTAT
Years	2000–2019	..	..	..	..	..	..	2000–2019
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	..	..	Children and adolescents taken into care outside the home
Notes	..	..		..		..		

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Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	France							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	..	..	..	Direction de la recherche, des études, de l'évaluation et des statistiques
Years	2000–2017	..	..	..	..	..	..	2000–2017
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	..	..	Placement measures
Notes	..	..		..		Calculated by subtracting from all children in care ("total des enfant accueillis") children 18 or older ("jeunes majeurs").		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Georgia							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	..	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database
Years	2017–2020	..	..	2019–2020	..	..	..	2017–2019
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	Child victims of violence registered by child/social welfare authorities	..	..	..	Children in formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Germany							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	Statistisches bundesamt	..	Statistisches bundesamt	..	Statistisches bundesamt	Statistisches bundesamt	..
Years	2010–2020	2013–2020	..	2012–2020	..	2017-2020	2010-2016	..
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	Procedures for assessing the danger to a child's best interests	..	Acute and latent danger to child's best interests	..	Children and adolescents in accommodation during temporary protective measures	Children and adolescents in accommodation during temporary protective measures	..
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Greenland							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	StatBank Greenland	..	..	..	..	..	..	Data obtained from government-requested reports.
Years	2006, 2019	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Measure	Population on January 1 aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Notes	..	..		..		Data obtained from government-requested reports.		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Hungary							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	..	..	..	Hungarian Central Statistical Office
Years	2003–2020	..	..	2016–2020	..	..	..	2003–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	Child victims of violence registered by child/social welfare authorities	..	..	..	Minors and young adults placed in children's home or with foster parents
Notes	..	..		..		Includes children in temporary placements, taken into care, receiving after-care provision, and in short-term care.		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Iceland							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	..	..	..	NHWSTAT (Nordic Health and Welfare Statistics)
Years	2009–2019	..	..	..	..	..	..	2009–2019
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	..	..	Children placed out of home
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Ireland							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	Tusla (Child and Family Agency)	..	..	..	..	..	Tusla (Child and Family Agency)
Years	2015–2020	2020	..	..	..	..	..	2015–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	Referrals requiring an initial assessment	..	..	..	..	..	Number of children in care
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Japan							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	e-Stat: Portal Site for Official Statistics of Japan	..	..	..	Statistics Japan: Statistics Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications	..	..
Years	2010–2019	2010–2019	..	..	..	2015–2019	..	..
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	Child abuse consultation cases	..	..	..	Children placed into temporary protective custody	..	..
Notes	..	..		..		Includes "cases of children placed into temporary protective custody" and "handled cases" rather than just "accepted cases"; includes children "returned to home."		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

	Population	Investigations	Children Investigated	Maltreatments	Children Maltreated	Entrances Into Care	Children Entering Care	Children In Care
Country	Kazakhstan							
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	UNICEF TransMonEE Database
Years	2008–2020	..	..	..	..	..	2008–2020	2015
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	..	Children entering formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)	Children in formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Kosovo							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	..	..	..	..
Years	2015	..	..	2015	..	..	..	..
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	Child victims of violence registered by child/social welfare authorities	..	..	..	..
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Latvia							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia	..	National Statistical System of Latvia	National Statistical System of Latvia
Years	2010, 2012–2020	..	..	..	2010, 2015, 2016, 2018–2020	..	2012–2020	2012–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	Child victims of violence consulted at residence	..	Children placed in out-of-family care	Children in out-of-family care
Notes	..	..		Includes physical, sexual, and emotional violence and neglect.		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Lithuania							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	Ministry of Social Security and Labour (2002–2010, 2012, 2013); UNICEF TransMonEE Database (2015–2020)	Ministry of Social Security and Labour	..	Ministry of Social Security and Labour (2000–2013, 2015); UNICEF TransMonEE Database (2016–2020)	Ministry of Social Security and Labour (2001, 2003, 2005–2016); UNICEF TransMonEE Database (2017–2020)
Years	2000–2020	..	..	2002–2010, 2012, 2013, 2015–2020	2013	..	2000–2013, 2015–2020	2001, 2003, 2005–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	Cases of violence recorded by municipal agencies for protection of children's rights (2002–2013); Child victims of violence registered by child/social welfare authorities (2015–2020)	Children that experienced violence	..	Children placed into child care residential institutions, foster families, and foster family type homes and children placed under guardianship (2000–2015); Children entering formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other) (2016–2020)	Children in child care institutions, family-type care homes and individual families and children under guardianship (2001, 2003, 2005–2016); Children in formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other) (2017–2020)
Notes	..	..		Violence includes sexual abuse, physical violence, and psychological violence.		Slightly different wording is used to describe substitute care in reports from different years.		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Moldova							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..		..	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database
Years	2017–2020	..	..		..	..	..	2017–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..		..	..	..	Children in formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Montenegro							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	UNICEF TransMonEE Database
Years	2016–2020	..	..	..	..	..	2016–2020	2019, 2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	..	Children entering formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)	Children in formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	New Zealand							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	Ministry for Children	Ministry of Social Development	Ministry of Social Development	Ministry for Children	Ministry for Children	..	Ministry for Children
Years	2010–2020	2010–2020	2012–2016	2012–2016	2012–2020	2010–2020	..	2010–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	Reports of concern referred for assessment or investigation	Distinct children and young people with reports of concern requiring further action	Substantiated abuse findings	Children with a substantiated abuse and neglect finding	Children that entered care	..	Children in care
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Northern Ireland							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	Office of National Statistics	Department of Health	..	Department of Health	..	..	..	Department of Health
Years	2009–2021	2009–2021	..	2009–2021	..	..	..	2009–2021
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	Child protection investigations	..	Child protection registrations	..	..	..	Children looked after
Notes	..	..		..		Reported numbers are "children looked after" minus children "placed at home with parents."		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Norway							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	Statistics Norway	Statistics Norway	..	..	..	..	Statistics Norway
Years	2012–2020	2013–2020	2013–2020	..	..	..	..	2015–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	Investigations started by the Child Welfare Services	Children under investigation started by the Child Welfare Services	..	..	..	..	Children with placement measures from the Child Welfare Services
Notes	..	..		..		Placement measures from the Child Welfare Services comprises "child welfare institutions," "foster homes", "emergency shelter homes", "housing with support (including home share)", and "unknown placement measure."		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Poland							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	Statistics Poland
Years	2007–2020	..	..	..	..	..	2007–2020	2011–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	..	Children entering formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)	Residents of institutional foster care and children in family foster care
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Romania							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	Ministerul Muncii și Protecției Sociale Autoritatea Națională pentru Drepturile Persoanelor cu Dizabilități, Copii și Adopții	..	..	..	..
Years	2008–2019	..	..	2008–2019	..	..	..	..
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	Cases of abuse, neglect, and exploitation	..	..	..	..
Notes	..	..		Cases for children over the age of 18 were subtracted out.	..			

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Russia							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	UNICEF TransMonEE Database
Years	2000–2016	..	..	..	..	..	2000–2016	2005–2015
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	..	Children entering formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)	Children in formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Scotland							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	Office of National Statistics	..	..	Scottish Government	..	..	..	Scottish Government
Years	2002–2021	..	..	2007–2021	..	..	..	2002–2021
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	Registrations following an initial, pre-birth or transfer-in case conference	..			Children looked after
Notes	..	..		..		Calculated by subtracting "children placed at home with parents" from "children looked after."		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Singapore							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	Ministry of Social and Family Development	..	..	..	..	..	Ministry of Social and Family Development
Years	2002–2020	2002–2020	..	..	..	..	..	2010–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	New child abuse cases investigated	..	..	..	..	..	Children in foster and residential care
Notes	..	..		..		Excludes residential care for "Conflict with the Law."		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Slovakia							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	UNICEF TransMonEE Database
Years	2015–2020	..	..	..	..	..	2019, 2020	2015–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	..	Children entering formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)	Children in formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	South Korea							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	보건복지부「전국아동학대현황보고서」	보건복지부「전국아동학대현황보고서」	..	Korean Statistical Information Service	Korean Statistical Information Service
Years	2000–2020	..	..	2001–2020	2005–2020	..	2000, 2002–2019	2000, 2002–2019
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	Cases of child abuse victim protection	Child protection victims	..	Persons entered into facilities for children welfare	Inmates in facilities for children welfare
Notes	..	..		Instances of abuse are counted multiple times if one child is abused by more than one abuser.		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Spain							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	..	Observatorio de la infancia	..	Observatorio de la infancia
Years	2011–2020	..	..	..	..	2011–2020	..	2011–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	Registrations during the year	..	Children in residential and family care
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Sweden							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	..	..	Socialstryrelsen	Socialstryrelsen
Years	2000–2020	..	..	..	..	..	2000–2020	2000–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	..	Cases of 24-hour measures started within the year	Children with 24-hour measures on November 1
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

	Population	Investigations	Children Investigated	Maltreatments	Children Maltreated	Entrances Into Care	Children Entering Care	Children In Care
Country	Tajikistan							
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	..	..	..	..
Years	2015–2020	..	..	2015–2020	..	..	..	..
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	Child victims of violence registered by child/social welfare authorities	..	..	..	..
Notes	..	..		..		..		

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Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Turkey							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	..
Years	2019, 2020	..	..	..	..	..	2019, 2020	..
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	..	Children entering formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)	..
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	United States							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program	Children's Bureau	Children's Bureau	Children's Bureau	Children's Bureau	..	Children's Bureau	Children's Bureau
Years	2000–2021	2005–2019	2005–2019	2005–2019	2005–2019	..	2000–2020	2000–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	Screened-in reports with a disposition, including alternative responses	Distinct children with a screened-in report with a disposition, including alternative responses	Screened-in reports with a disposition of "substantiated" or "indicated"	Distinct children with a screened-in report with a disposition of "substantiated" or "indicated"	..	Children entering foster care	Children in foster care
Notes	Investigation/ maltreatment data are missing for some states in 2005–2011, so subnational population data are used to calculate subnational rates.	Year reflects report year, not submission year. 2019 data include 2020 submissions. Calculated from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data Sytem child files (microdata). NCANDS is a voluntary system, and as a result, not all states report data each year. We exclude data before 2005, when a larger number of states did not participate in NCANDS. From 2005 onward, data are missing from Oregon (2005–2011), North Dakota (2005–2009), Maryland (2006) and Michigan (2007). We calculated rates of investigation for 2005–2011 by excluding the child populations of state–years with missing maltreatment data from population denominators.		Year reflects report year, not submission year. 2019 data include 2020 submissions. Calculated from the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data Sytem child files (microdata). NCANDS is a voluntary system, and as a result, not all states report data each year. We exclude data before 2005, when a larger number of states did not participate in NCANDS. From 2005 onward, data are missing from Oregon (2005–2011), North Dakota (2005–2009), Maryland (2006) and Michigan (2007). We calculated rates of maltreatment for 2005–2011 by excluding the child populations of state–years with missing maltreatment data from population denominators.		Calculated from the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (microdata).		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Uzbekistan							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Dynamics	..	..	..	..	..	UNICEF TransMonEE Database	UNICEF TransMonEE Database
Years	2015–2020	..	..	..	..	..	2015–2020	2018–2020
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	..	..	..	Children entering formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)	Children in formal residential or family-based care (foster, kinship, or other)
Notes	..	..		..		..		

Table S2 (continued). Data sources and measures, by country.

Country	Wales							
	Population	**Investigations**	**Children Investigated**	**Maltreatments**	**Children Maltreated**	**Entrances Into Care**	**Children Entering Care**	**Children In Care**
Source(s)	Office of National Statistics	..	..	iCoverT, StatsWales	..	..	StatsWales	StatsWales
Years	2001–2021	..	..	2001–2016	..	..	2003–2021	2003–2021
Measure	Midyear population aged 0–17	..	..	Children added to the child protection register	..	..	Children starting to be looked after	Children looked after
Notes	..	..		Excludes temporary registrations.		Includes "children looked after" minus those placed with "parents or other person with parental responsibility." Excludes children looked after in short-term placements. Where a child had multiple periods of care, only the first period is counted.		