



HOMES FOR MEDICO-SOCIAL CARE FOR CHILDREN IN 2013

By the end of 2013 there were 29 Homes for medico-social care for children with total capacity of 2 258 places. The process of deinstitutionalization of children was continued. 1 204 children were accommodated in them as of 31.12.2013. 670 of them were boys and 534 - girls.

1. CHILDREN IN THE HOMES FOR MEDICO-SOCIAL CARE FOR CHILDREN DURING THE PERIOD 2008 - 2013

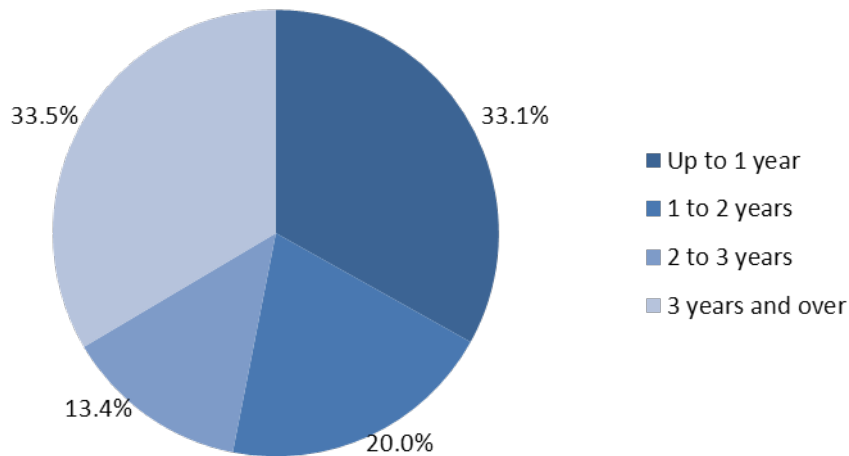
	(Number)					
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013 ¹
Accommodated as of 31.12.	2771	2681	2455	2319	2087	1204

¹ Excl. children in daily centres of the Homes for medico-social care for children (non-resident care).

The Homes for medico-social care are intended for children aged from 0 to 3 years, but according to the legislation in force some exceptions to the rule are possible as children above 3 years can be accommodated in them.

The distribution of children accommodated in the Homes for medico-social care by age as of 31.12.2013 shows, that the highest was the number of children aged 3 years and over - 403 or 33.5% and these up to 1 year - 398 children or 33.1%. The number of children aged from 1 to 2 years was 241 (20.0%) of total number of children, as well as the age group 2 - 3 years covered 162 children (13.4)%.

Figure 1. CHILDREN IN THE HOMES FOR MEDICO-SOCIAL CARE FOR CHILDREN AS OF 31.12.2013 BY AGE



1 190 children were entered in the Homes for medico-social care for children in 2013. 82.6% of them were up to 1 year, 8.2% - belong to age group from 1 to 2 years, 4.1% - from 2 to 3 years and 5.1% - 3 and over.

(Table 2).

2. CHILDREN NEW ENTRANTS IN THE HOMES FOR MEDICO-SOCIAL CARE FOR CHILDREN IN 2013 BY AGE

Entrants during the year	Number	Structure %
Total	1190	100.0
Up to 1 year	983	82.6
From 1 to 2 years	98	8.2
From 2 to 3 years	49	4.1
From 3 years and over	60	5.1

Practically, all accommodated children had at least one parent, and by the end of 2013, 1 163 children, or 96.6% of the accommodated children had one or two parents. Complete orphans and foundlings were 41 children only, which represents 3.4% of the total number of accommodated children at the end of the year.



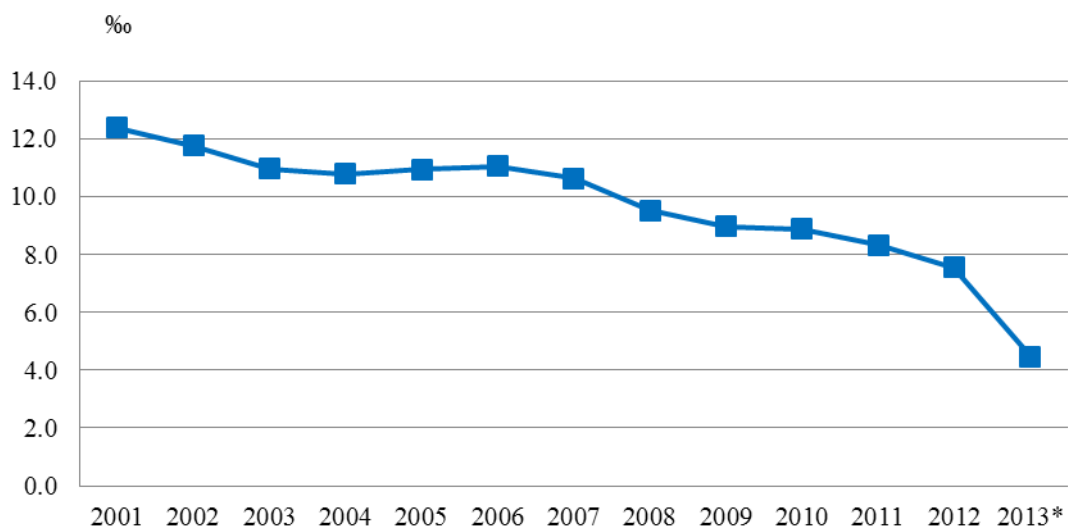
3. CHILDREN IN THE HOMES FOR MEDICO-SOCIAL CARE FOR CHILDREN AT THE END OF 2013

(Number)

	Total	Boys	Girls
Total	1204	670	534
Complete orphans – two parents deceased	6	4	2
Foundlings	35	18	17
With parents	1163	648	515
of which:			
Children with one parent	716	367	349
Children with two parents	447	281	166

As a result of the measures undertaken for deinstitutionalization of children in 2013, the decrease of the coefficient of institutionalization of children was significant. The coefficient was expressed by ratio of the number of children accommodated in the Homes for medico-social care for children per 1 000 of children of the age group from 0 to 3 completed years of the total population. That coefficient was 4.5 per 1 000 as of 31.12.2013.

**Figure 2. CHILDREN IN THE HOMES FOR MEDICO-SOCIAL CARE FOR CHILDREN
PER 1 000 OF TOTAL POPULATION AGED UP TO 3 COMPLETED YEARS**



* Preliminary data on population were used for 2013 coefficient calculation.



The medical care and the attendance of children accommodated in Homes for medico-social care for children in 2013 were provided by personnel of 2 183 persons, working on a basic labour contract, 116 of which were physicians, 947 were medical specialists on health cares, and 1 120 - other non-medical personnel (table 4).

4. PERSONNEL IN HOMES FOR MEDICO-SOCIAL CARE FOR CHILDREN BY CATEGORIES AT THE END OF 2013

Personnel	Number
Total	2183
Physicians	116
of which: Pediatricians	97
Medical specialists on Health cares	947
of which:	
Nurses	852
Physiotherapists	55
Other non-medical personnel	1120



METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The survey on Homes for medico-social care for children is an exhaustive survey carried out annually by the National Statistical Institute.

Sources of statistical data are homes for medico-social care for children. Data on personnel, beds, distribution of children by main health and social categories are collected.

In accordance with the Law for Health Establishments, the Homes for medico-social care for children are registered as "other health establishments" where medical and other specialists carry out continuous medical observation and provide specific care for children up to 3 years of age with chronic diseases and medico-social problems.

In accordance with the Law for Child Protection the accommodation of children in specialised institutions is implemented only in the cases when the opportunities for accommodation of the children in family environment have been exhausted.

According to the Regulation for organization and activity of homes for medico-social care for children in addition to cases of accommodation in accordance with the Law on Child Protection, children with low weight due to premature birth can be admitted based on their parents or guardian consent. The number of these children is included in the total number of institutionalized children for the period of stay in the homes.

The Homes for medico-social care for children have permission and can open daily centres for disabled children, grown up at home by parents in family environment (non-resident care). Admittance of children in daily centres is in accordance with the Regulation for implementing the Law on Child Protection. Their number is not included in the total number of children, accommodated for institutionalized care as of 31.12.2013.

Additional information and data on homes for medico-social care for children can be provided through the NSI's web site, "Statistical data" Rubric, theme "Health" – www.nsi.bg.