



Statistics on family law 2018

Statistics on family law for 2018 shows that the number of implemented decisions regarding supervised visitations increases, while the number of home study investigations continues to decrease. Mediations talks and retrieval of rapid information is increasing somewhat, while the number of paternity inquiries and investigations regarding custody, residence and access remains unchanged.

Facts

Paternity inquiries are performed by the social welfare board in order to determine paternity for children born to unmarried mothers. Paternity can be established through confirmation, in other words, the father confirms paternity or through a judgement.

Mediation talks are talks held by professionals in order to reach consensus in issues concerning custody, residence, access and financial support.

Retrieval of rapid information includes information, as stated in chapter 6 section 20 of the Parental Code. That the court receives from the Social Welfare Board before an interim decision is made concerning custody, residence or access.

Custody, residence and access investigations are investigations that will provide the court with basis for decision concerning custody, residence or access.

Implemented decisions on supervised visitations means that a special appointed person is present when the child meets the visiting parent (in accordance with the court's decision) or is present when the child is being picked up or left in connection to the visitation.

Home study investigations are investigations that are conducted for the purpose of giving the Social Welfare Board a basis for a decision on consent for a private home to receive another's person's child for permanent care and nurture.

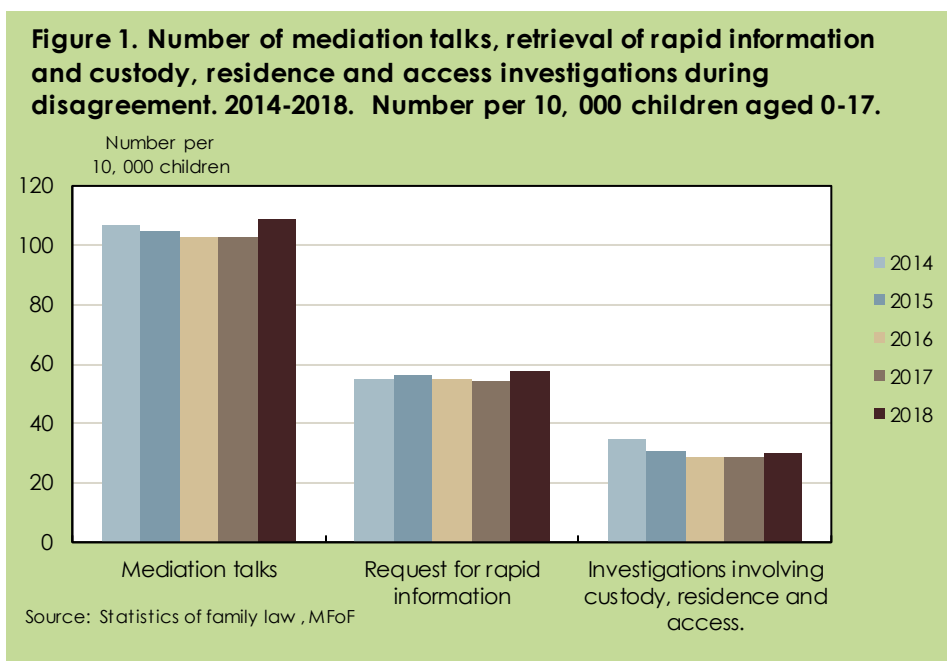
The number of paternity investigations remains unchanged

In 2018, were 76 005 paternity investigations in progress. The share of ongoing paternity investigations of the number of children born has basically remained unchanged since 2009.

The number of investigations involving custody, residence and access are on the same level as the previous years while retrieval of information is increasing somewhat.

In 2018, 6,243 children aged 0-17 were the subject of an investigation of custody, residence or access. This corresponds to approximately 30 children per 10,000 in this age group (figure 1.)

Before a court makes an interim decision in a case involving custody, residence or access rights, the court has the right to gather information, also called retrieval of rapid information, from the Social Welfare Board. During 2018, information of this nature was requested for 12 193 children, which corresponds to 58 children per 10,000 children in this age group (figure 1.) While the number of requests for rapid information has risen with seven percent compared with 2017, the number has been close to the same level between 2014-2017 (figure 1.)



The number of mediation talks has increased somewhat compared with 2017

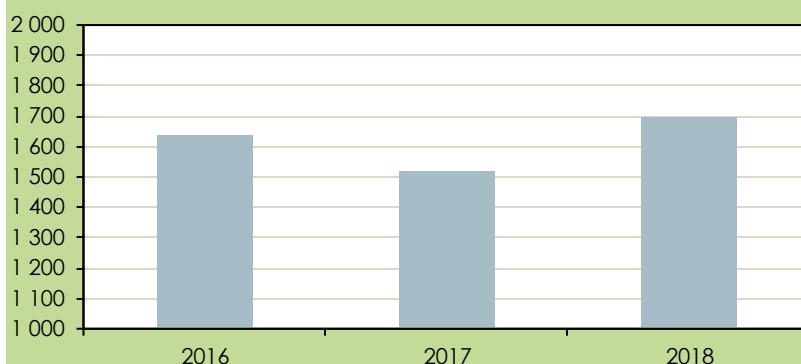
The purpose of mediation talks is for the parents to agree on issues concerning a child's custody, residence and access. Mediation talks can be held at the request of one or both parents or be initiated by the court. In 2018, parents of 22 783 children aged 0-17 participated in mediation talks. This corresponds to 107 children and adolescents per 10,000 in this age group.

The number of decisions of supervised visitation is increasing

During 2018, 1 699 decisions from the court regarding supervised visitation was executed (figure 2.) During the years 2017-2018 this type of court decisions has increased by 12 percent, from 1 521 to 1 699 (figure 2.)

Due to the short period of time it is difficult to draw any conclusions.

Figure 2. Supervised visitation, number of executed decisions 2016-2018

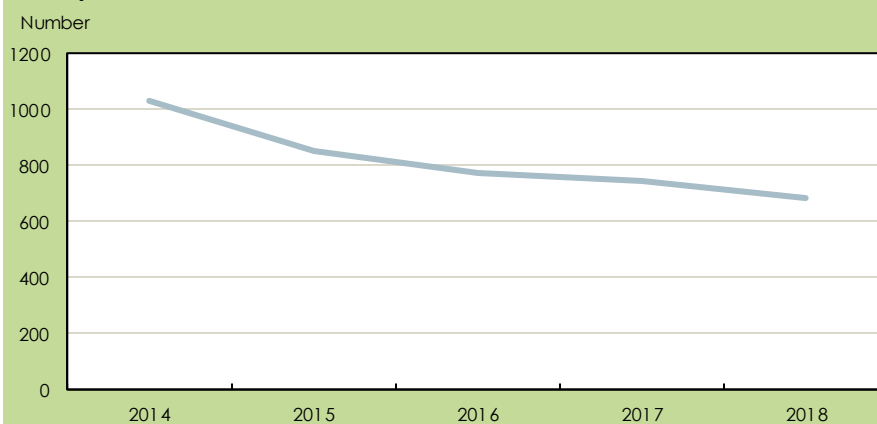


Source: Statistics of family law , MFoF

The number of home study investigations is decreasing

In 2018, 683 home study investigations were carried out in connection with international adoptions. Home study investigations are performed by the municipality in connection with adoption. During the period of 2014-2018 this types of investigation has decreased by 34 percent, from 1 030 to 683 (figure 3.)

Figure 3. The number of home study investigations for international adoptions 2014-2018



Source: Statistics of family law , MFoF

One explanation for why home study investigations associated with international adoptions have decreased the last couple of years could be that in greater occurrence people find alternative ways to become parents.

More information

You will find more tables, diagrams and other information in the Excel file:

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