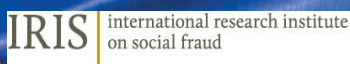




Maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash

Reference year 2023

Frederic De Wispelaere, Lynn De Smedt & Jozef Pacolet – HIVA-KU Leuven
November 2024



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Glossary

Basic Regulation: Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the coordination of social security systems.

Implementing Regulation: Regulation (EC) No 987/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 September 2009 laying down the procedure for implementing Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 on the coordination of social security systems.

Competent Member State: The Member State in which the institution with which the person concerned is insured or from which the person is entitled to benefits is situated.

Cross-border work: working in a Member State other than the Member State of residence.

EU-27: Belgium (BE), Bulgaria (BG), Czechia (CZ), Denmark (DK), Germany (DE), Estonia (EE), Ireland (IE), Greece (EL), Spain (ES), France (FR), Croatia (HR), Italy (IT), Cyprus (CY), Latvia (LV), Lithuania (LT), Luxembourg (LU), Hungary (HU), Malta (MT), the Netherlands (NL), Austria (AT), Poland (PL), Portugal (PT), Romania (RO), Slovenia (SI), Slovakia (SK), Finland (FI), and Sweden (SE).

EFTA countries: Iceland (IS), Liechtenstein (LI), Norway (NO), and Switzerland (CH).

Maternity and equivalent paternity benefit: maternity and equivalent paternity benefits are provided to the mother or the father during the first months of a new-born child's life.

Summary of the main findings

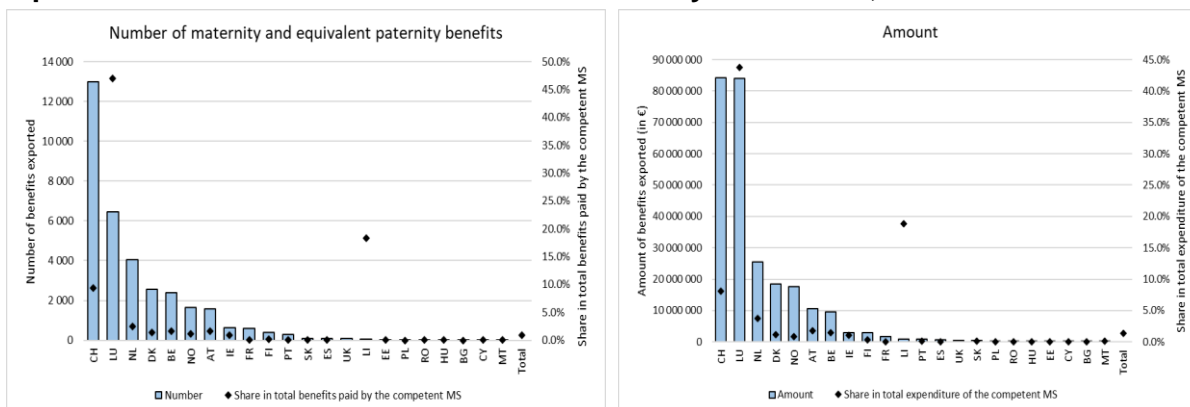
Following the Social Security Coordination Regulations, parents residing in a Member State other than the Member State¹ where they are insured (i.e., competent Member State), are entitled to maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash provided by the competent Member State (i.e., export of maternity and equivalent paternity allowances). As a rule, these benefits are paid according to the legislation of the competent Member State, regardless of the Member State of residence.²

Data collected on reference year 2023 show that the 23 reporting Member States exported around 34 000 maternity and equivalent paternity benefits to another Member State, for an amount of EUR 261 million. However, figures for Germany, the main receiving country of cross-border workers, are missing.

Two Member States clearly stand out when it comes to the export of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits, and they have consistently been the top two exporters over time. Both Switzerland and Luxembourg exported EUR 84 million or more maternity and equivalent paternity benefits to another Member State in 2023. This is not a surprising observation since both Member States are characterised by a substantial number of incoming cross-border workers. Most of these benefits for both Luxembourg and Switzerland are exported to their neighbouring countries, especially to France. Furthermore, Denmark, the Netherlands, Austria, and Norway each exported more than EUR 10 million of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in 2023.

The budgetary impact of the export of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits can be analysed by comparing it to the total spending by Member States on these benefits. For all reporting Member States, the weighted average share is 0.9 % for the total number of benefits and 1.3 % for total expenditure. However, for most of the reporting Member States, the impact is rather small (less than 0.5 % of their total spending), namely for Bulgaria, Estonia, Greece, Spain, France, Cyprus, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, and Finland. In some other Member States, the share lies between 0.5 % and 2.0 %, namely in Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Austria, and Norway, while in the Netherlands 2.5 % of benefits were exported and 3.8 % of expenditure. Finally, the share of the expenditure paid to persons residing in a Member State other than the competent one is highest in Luxembourg (43.8 %), Liechtenstein (18.8 %), and Switzerland (8.1 %). These high shares are mainly due to these Member States' large number of frontier workers.

Number of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits and amount paid (in €) to persons who reside in another EU/EFTA country and the UK, 2023



* CY: data concern 2017. RO: total data concern 2022.

Source: Questionnaire on maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash 2024

¹ The term "Member State" is used in this report to indicate the 27 countries belonging to the European Union (EU) in reference year 2023, the European Economic Area (EEA), Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

² Article 21 (1) of the Basic Regulation.

Introduction

In the context of cross-border social security in the EU, maternity and paternity benefits in cash can be exported to persons residing or staying in a Member State other than the competent Member State. This report presents data on this topic for reference year 2023. Although maternity and equivalent paternity benefits can also be in kind, these data are not collected. The report has been compiled based on the data submitted by Member States. However, it is not always clear whether all the benefits mentioned therein fall under the scope of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits.³

The coordination of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits follows the same rules as those which apply to sickness benefits (and not, as one could expect, the provisions on family benefits). Therefore, cash benefits are provided in accordance with the legislation of the competent Member State and at its expense, regardless of where the person is residing or staying.⁴ An example is the maternity allowance paid during maternity leave in the period immediately preceding and following childbirth.

In *section 1*, data are provided on the **total** number of maternity and equivalents paternity benefits paid by the competent Member State, independently of the place of residence of the beneficiary. *Section 2* discusses the figures on the number of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits paid to persons who reside in a Member State other than the competent Member State. In *section 3*, the evolution from 2022 to 2023 is analysed. The share of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits paid under the Coordination Regulations in total is discussed in *section 4*, and finally cases of fraud and error are discussed in *section 5*.

In total, 22 Member States provided data for reference year 2023 on the **export** of maternity and equivalent maternity benefits.⁵ In some instances, no or limited data were reported by Member States compared to previous years. In such situations, the latest data reported by the relevant Member State were used, to provide a better picture of the situation at EU level.⁶ Consequently, data on the **export** of maternity and paternity benefits are available for 23 Member States. Whenever such data from previous reporting periods are used, it is clearly indicated in the report.

³ See recital 19 of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 according to which maternity and equivalent paternity benefits are paid “during the first months of a new-born child’s life”.

⁴ Article 21 (1) of the Basic Regulation.

⁵ BE, BG, DK, EE, IE, EL, ES, FR, LU, HU, MT, NL, AT, PL, PT, RO, SK, FI, LI, NO, CH, and UK. The remaining reporting Member States (CZ, DE, HR, LV, LT, SI, and IS) could only report data on the total number of maternity and equivalents paternity benefits paid by the competent Member State. Sweden could not report any data, as since 2019 the parental benefit has been classified as a family benefit.

⁶ CY and IT did not report any data for reference year 2023. For these Member States, data from previous reference years are used when available. However, IT did not provide data on the export of maternity benefits and equivalent paternity benefits in previous years.

1. General overview

A brief description of the maternity and equivalent paternity benefits reported by the Member States is provided in *Annex I*. However, this overview can be incomplete. Therefore, it is worth noting that MISSOC (EU's Mutual Information System on Social Protection)⁷ provides complete and more detailed information on the different types of maternity and paternity benefits applicable in Member States as well as their characteristics. The maternity and equivalent paternity benefits show considerable differences among Member States in terms of eligibility criteria, design, and level of benefits. As a result, the average annual spending per person who receives a maternity or equivalent paternity benefit varies markedly between Member States.

In *Table 1*, the **total** number of persons who received a maternity or equivalent paternity benefit as well as the total related expenditure for each of the reporting Member States are presented for reference year 2023.⁸ In *section 4*, these total numbers are used as a nominator to determine the relative budgetary impact of the coordination rules.

In most Member States, average annual spending per maternity benefit is higher in comparison with equivalent paternity benefits or other similar allowances. The average amounts are largely influenced by the time that the beneficiary is entitled to a benefit, which is often shorter for paternity benefits than for maternity benefits. Furthermore, high levels of spending per benefit (higher than EUR 8 000) are observed for some benefits in Denmark, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland. Similar average amounts per benefit should also be exportable abroad. This will be further examined in *section 2* of the report. On the contrary, the average annual amount per benefit can also be rather low. For instance, the average annual amount is lower than EUR 500 for some benefits in Bulgaria and Czechia.

Table 1 – Total number of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash paid by the competent Member State and total related expenditure (in €), 2023

| | Total number of benefits | Total expenditure (in €) | Average annual amount per benefit (in €) |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Belgium | | | |
| * Maternity allowance | 94 435 | 559 542 495 | 5 925 |
| * Replacement income for father or co-parent | 53 951 | 101 764 903 | 1 886 |
| Bulgaria | | | |
| * Benefits in cash in case of pregnancy and baby delivery under art. 50 and 51 Bulgarian Social Security Code [Pregnancy and delivery] | 76 412 | 292 062 637 | 3 822 |
| * Paternity benefit in cash under art. 50 par. 6 Social Security Code [Paternity] | 22 151 | 8 169 445 | 369 |
| * Maternity benefit in cash under art. 50 par. 7 Social Security Code [Maternity] | 408 | 1 210 239 | 2 966 |
| * Maternity benefits under art. 50a Social Security Code [Maternity] | 839 | 998 315 | 1 190 |
| * Cash benefit under art. 53 Social Security Code [Child raising] | 68 786 | 155 458 712 | 2 260 |
| * Benefit under art. 54 Social Security Code for unused part of leave for raising a child up to 2 years of age. [Child raising] | 15 263 | 10 888 998 | 713 |
| * Benefit under art. 53c Social Security Code [Adoption] | 429 | 1 689 619 | 3 939 |
| * Benefit under art. 53d Social Security Code [Adoption] | 63 | 82 153 | 1 304 |
| * Benefit under art. 53g Social Security Code [Paternity] | 3 501 | 2 128 076 | 608 |
| Czechia | | | |
| * Maternity benefit in cash | 487 331 | 432 811 212 | 888 |
| * Compensatory benefit in pregnancy and maternity | 1 021 | 412 201 | 404 |

⁷ <https://www.missoc.org/>

⁸ Figures from OECD (*Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development*) and ESSPROS (*European system of integrated social protection statistics*) could also be consulted for additional information on the maternity and paternity benefits expenditures. However, recent data are not always available and detailed spending by type of benefit is not always provided by both sources.

Maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash

| | Total number of benefits | Total expenditure (in €) | Average annual amount per benefit (in €) |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| * Paternity benefit (Fathers Post-Natal-Care Benefit) | 43 193 | 23 907 667 | 554 |
| Denmark | | | |
| * Parental benefit | 187 363 | 1 609 734 315 | 8 592 |
| Germany | | | |
| * Mutterschaftsgeld | 446 717 | 661 340 734 | 1 480 |
| Estonia | | | |
| * Maternity benefit | 12 316 | 37 398 245 | 3 037 |
| * Paternity benefit | 10 964 | 14 173 923 | 1 293 |
| * Adoptive parental benefit | 38 | 98 692 | 2 597 |
| Ireland | | | |
| * Maternity Benefit | 40 657 | 269 263 716 | 6 623 |
| * Paternity Benefit | 27 111 | 14 219 146 | 524 |
| * Adoptive Benefit | 25 | 164 558 | 6 582 |
| * Health and Safety Benefit | 190 | 394 702 | 2 077 |
| Greece* | | | |
| * Maternity benefit | 23 736 | 26 514 982 | 1 117 |
| * Supplementary Maternity Allowance | 21 299 | 128 478 338 | 6 032 |
| * Special Maternity Protection Allowance | 12 100 | 11 192 928 | 925 |
| * Maternity benefit seafarers women | 26 | 201 087 | 7 734 |
| Spain | | | |
| * Birth and childcare benefit | 469 682 | 3 435 581 277 | 7 315 |
| France | | | |
| * Maternity allowances | 544 396 | 3 036 941 979 | 5 579 |
| * Paternity allowance | 393 193 | 551 891 365 | 1 404 |
| Croatia | | | |
| * Maternity/paternity benefit for employed/ self-employed | 68 402 | 162 473 257 | 2 375 |
| * Parental benefit for employed/ self-employed | 58 579 | 162 161 353 | 2 768 |
| * Special leave or part time work for parents whose child has severe difficulties in development due to health reasons | 14 448 | 68 008 472 | 4 707 |
| * Maternity/paternity benefit for non-active persons | 24 851 | 39 938 937 | 1 607 |
| * Adoptive leave | 213 | 857 765 | 4 027 |
| Italy* | | | |
| * Maternity/paternity benefit (congedo di maternità/paternità) | 203 168 | 2 038 200 000 | |
| * Optional supplementary parental leave (Congedo parentale facoltativo) | 306 583 | | |
| * Paternity leave (congedo di paternità) | 155 845 | 149 200 000 | 957 |
| * State maternity allowance | 928 | 2 000 000 | 2 155 |
| Cyprus* | | | |
| * Maternity benefit | 6 146 | 22 040 691 | 3 586 |
| * Paternity benefit | 1 235 | 621 604 | 503 |
| * Maternity grant | 7 873 | 4 405 207 | 560 |
| Latvia** | | | |
| * Maternity benefit | 12 875 | 56 388 058 | 4 380 |
| * Paternity benefit | 11 188 | 6 937 314 | 620 |
| Lithuania | | | |
| * Maternity benefit | 17 300 | 99 100 000 | 5 728 |
| * Paternity benefit | 15 700 | 22 300 000 | 1 420 |
| * Childcare benefit | 36 600 | 316 400 000 | 8 645 |
| Luxembourg | | | |
| * Maternity leave | 9 580 | 144 759 389 | 15 111 |
| * Exemption from work for pregnant workers | 4 124 | 46 819 687 | 11 353 |
| * Adoption leave | <35 | 416 324 | |
| Hungary | | | |
| * Csecsemőgondozási díj (infant care allowance) | 83 950 | 404 323 192 | 4 816 |
| Malta | | | |
| * Maternity Benefit | 879 | 1 395 693 | 1 588 |
| * Maternity Leave Benefit | 2 422 | 1 836 436 | 758 |

Maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash

| | Total number of benefits | Total expenditure (in €) | Average annual amount per benefit (in €) |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| The Netherlands | | | |
| * Pregnancy and maternity leave (WAZO - employees) | 131 654 | 1 480 000 000 | 11 242 |
| * Act introducing paternity leave (WAZO - WIEG) | 75 733 | 232 000 000 | 3 063 |
| * Paid parental leave act (WAZO - Wbo) | 146 769 | 578 000 000 | 3 938 |
| * Self-employed and Pregnant scheme (WAZO - ZEZ) | 13 101 | 94 000 000 | 7 175 |
| Austria | | | |
| * Wochengeld | 85 930 | 605 240 957 | 7 043 |
| * Familienzeitbonus für Väter (Family time bonus for fathers) | 11 209 | 10 662 675 | 951 |
| Poland | | | |
| * Maternity allowance (paid by Social Insurance Institution ZUS) | 609 829 | 2 193 720 501 | 3 597 |
| * Maternity or equivalent paternity benefit (paid by Agricultural Social Insurance Fund KRUS) | 19 344 | 26 927 274 | 1 392 |
| Portugal | | | |
| * Initial parental allowance | 163 083 | 449 418 874 | 2 756 |
| * Extended parental allowance | 17 835 | 17 233 881 | 966 |
| * Allowance for adoption | 272 | 1 239 979 | 4 559 |
| * Extended allowance for adoption | 17 | 22 417 | 1 319 |
| * Allowance for clinical risk during pregnancy | 69 606 | 252 631 396 | 3 629 |
| * Allowance for termination of pregnancy | 8 204 | 8 403 772 | 1 024 |
| * Specific risks allowance | 1 204 | 5 156 834 | 4 283 |
| Romania* | | | |
| * Maternity leave | 78 301 | 431 920 871 | 5 516 |
| Slovenia | | | |
| * Maternity leave | 18 063 | | |
| * Paternity leave | 16 425 | | |
| * Parental benefit | 24 720 | | |
| Total | 59 208 | 390 000 000 | 6 587 |
| Slovakia | | | |
| * Materské - matka (Maternity benefits for mother) | 57 069 | 262 326 950 | 4 597 |
| * Materské - otec (Maternity benefits for father) | 32 247 | 87 679 774 | 2 719 |
| Finland | | | |
| * Pregnancy allowance (including special pregnancy allowance and maternity benefits under the old law) | 45 997 | 158 950 646 | 3 456 |
| * Paternity benefit | 27 917 | 72 480 685 | 2 596 |
| * Parental allowance (including parental benefit under the old law) | 109 004 | 759 234 582 | 6 965 |
| Sweden | | | |
| Iceland | | | |
| * Parental benefits to parents who are active in the labour market | 14 302 | 147 964 897 | 10 346 |
| * Maternity/paternity Grants | 932 | 3 189 596 | 3 422 |
| Liechtenstein | | | |
| * Maternity benefits | 359 | 4 640 840 | 12 927 |
| Norway | | | |
| * Parental benefit | 146 265 | 2 144 997 316 | 14 665 |
| Switzerland | | | |
| * Maternity leave (Allocation en cas de maternité dans le cadre des allocations pour pertes de gains (APG)) | 78 830 | 893 451 000 | 11 334 |
| * Paternity benefit | 60 080 | 149 057 000 | 2 481 |
| United Kingdom | | | |
| * Maternity allowance | | | |

* EL: data 2022 for supplementary maternity allowance, special maternity protection allowance, and parental leave benefit. IT: data 2022. CY: data 2017. RO: data 2022.

** LV: Paternity benefit is excluding cases of adoption. In 2023, recalculations made for the period starting from August 2022 due to changes in the calculation of the benefit amount were paid out.

Source: Questionnaire on maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash 2024

2. Export of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits

In this section, data relating to the **export** of maternity and the equivalent paternity benefits by applying the coordination rules are discussed. It must be kept in mind that the image presented is incomplete due to missing data from several Member States.⁹ Furthermore, for Cyprus, data from reference year 2017 are used. Therefore, this information is only available for 23 Member States, which is not without consequence for the overall conclusions.

Table 2 shows the total numbers and amount, while *Annex II* provides a more detailed breakdown by Member States of residence, both for the number of benefits (*Table A2.1*) and the amount exported (*Table A2.2*). In addition, *Figure 1* visualises the amount paid with a breakdown by Member State of residence. This shows the importance of proximity when exporting maternity and equivalent paternity benefits, as most Member States export these benefits to neighbouring Member States.

In total, the 23 reporting Member States exported around 34 000 maternity and equivalent paternity benefits to another Member State in 2023, for an amount of EUR 261 million (*Table 2*). Nevertheless, this is a (strong) underestimation of the real size, as figures for Germany, the main receiving country of cross-border workers, are missing. In general, the average annual amount per person equals EUR 7 655.

Two Member States in particular stand out and have been the frontrunners in the export of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in previous years as well. It concerns Luxembourg and Switzerland. This is not a surprising observation since both Member States are characterised by a substantial number of cross-border workers (i.e., frontier workers).

Switzerland exported the highest number of maternity or equivalent paternity benefits, namely 12 990, for an amount of EUR 84.2 million. As a result, the average annual amount per benefit equals EUR 6 481. The main receiving Member State of the exported benefits from Switzerland is France, as it received more than 61 % of the expenditure for paternity leave and 70 % of maternity allowance (APG). Furthermore, 19 % of paternity benefits and 13 % of maternity allowance was exported to Germany, and 15 % of paternity benefits and of maternity allowance to Italy (see also *Figure 1* and *Table A2.2* in *Annex II*).

Luxembourg exported the second highest number of maternity or equivalent paternity benefits, namely 6 462, for an amount of EUR 84.0 million. This means that the average annual amount per persons is EUR 13 001. Regarding the export of maternity leave allowance, more than 53 % of the amount is exported to France, 25 % to Belgium, and over 21 % to Germany (see also *Figure 1* and *Table A2.2* in *Annex II*). Concerning the benefit “Exemption from work for pregnant workers”, over 56 % is exported to France, 23 % goes to Belgium, and approximately 20 % is exported to Germany. For the adoption leave, more than 58 % is exported to Belgium, and over 35 % goes to France. This clearly illustrates the importance of proximity regarding the export of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits.

Compared to Luxembourg and Switzerland, all other Member States’ figures follow at a distance. Nevertheless, Denmark, the Netherlands, Austria, and Norway each exported more than EUR 10 million of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in 2023, which is considerable as well. Moreover, Belgium exported EUR 9.5 million of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits.

⁹ No data were reported by CZ, DE, HR, IT, LV, LT, SI, and IS. SE could not report any data, as since 2019 the parental benefit has been classified as a family benefit.

Denmark exported approximately 2 600 maternity and equivalent paternity benefits for around EUR 18.5 million. A breakdown by receiving Member State was not available, so data in *Figure 1* as well as *Table A2.1* and *Table A2.2* in *Annex II* concern the nationality. It can be seen that a considerable amount of benefits are exported by Denmark to persons with the Swedish (25 %), Polish (11 %), and German (9 %) nationality.

In total, the Netherlands exported 4 057 maternity and equivalent paternity benefits, and paid an amount of EUR 25.4 million. Neighbouring Member States are the most important receiving Member States, as 52 % of the benefits were exported to Belgium, and 34 % to Germany. Furthermore, 8 % were exported to Poland.

Some 1 400 maternity allowances (*Wochengeld*) were exported by Austria, while almost 120 persons residing abroad received a family time bonus for fathers. Once more, proximity plays an important role, as its neighbouring Member States are the ones to which most maternity and paternity benefits were exported (for maternity allowance: Germany 31 %, Hungary 29 %, Slovenia 11 %, and Slovakia 10 % (see *Figure 1*), and for paternity allowance: Germany 52 %, Slovenia: 20 %, and Hungary 13 % (see *Table A2.2* in *Annex 2*)).

Norway exported around EUR 17.5 million for 1 653 parental benefits, which brings the average annual amount per person to EUR 10 605. Most of these parental benefits are exported to Sweden (31 %), Poland (25 %), and Lithuania (13 %) (see *Figure 1*).

On the contrary, there are Member States that hardly export any maternity or equivalent paternity benefits. Member States that exported less than EUR 1 million in benefits abroad are Bulgaria, Estonia, Greece, Spain, Cyprus (data 2017), Hungary, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Liechtenstein, and the United Kingdom. Finally, three Member States belong to an 'in-between category' as they exported over EUR 1 million in 2023, but less than EUR 3 million. This category consists of Ireland, France, and Finland.

Table 2 – Number of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash exported to another EU/EFTA country or the UK and total related expenditure (in €), 2023

| | Total number of benefits | Total expenditure (in €) | Average annual amount per benefit |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| EU-27* | 19 303 | 157 745 422 | 8 172 |
| EFTA* | 14 709 | 102 588 964 | 6 975 |
| Total* | 34 089 | 260 805 936 | 7 651 |
| Belgium | | | |
| Maternity allowance | 1 171 | 7 176 710 | 6 129 |
| Paternity/birth allowance (Replacement income for father or co-parent) | 1 233 | 2 290 097 | 1 857 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>2 404</i> | <i>9 466 807</i> | <i>3 938</i> |
| Bulgaria | | | |
| Pregnancy delivery benefit | <5 | 6 705 | 2 235 |
| Paternity | <5 | 1 319 | 440 |
| Child raising | <5 | 645 | 323 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>8</i> | <i>8 669</i> | <i>1 084</i> |
| Czechia | | | |
| Denmark | | | |
| Parental benefit | 2 567 | 18 511 095 | 7 211 |
| Germany | | | |
| Estonia | | | |
| Maternity benefit for a non-working mother (EU) | <5 | 3 474 | 3 474 |
| Maternity benefit for a working mother (EU) | 0 | 0 | |
| Parental benefit from the birth of the child (EU) | 14 | 16 115 | 1 151 |
| Parental benefit before the birth of the child (EU) | <5 | 1 118 | 1 118 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>16</i> | <i>20 707</i> | <i>1 294</i> |
| Ireland | | | |
| Maternity Benefit | 428 | 2 887 645 | 6 747 |
| Paternity Benefit | 187 | 96 229 | 515 |
| Adoptive Benefit | 0 | 0 | |
| Health and Safety Benefit | 2 | 4 327 | 2 163 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>617</i> | <i>2 988 201</i> | <i>4 843</i> |
| Greece | | | |
| | 0 | 0 | |

Maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash

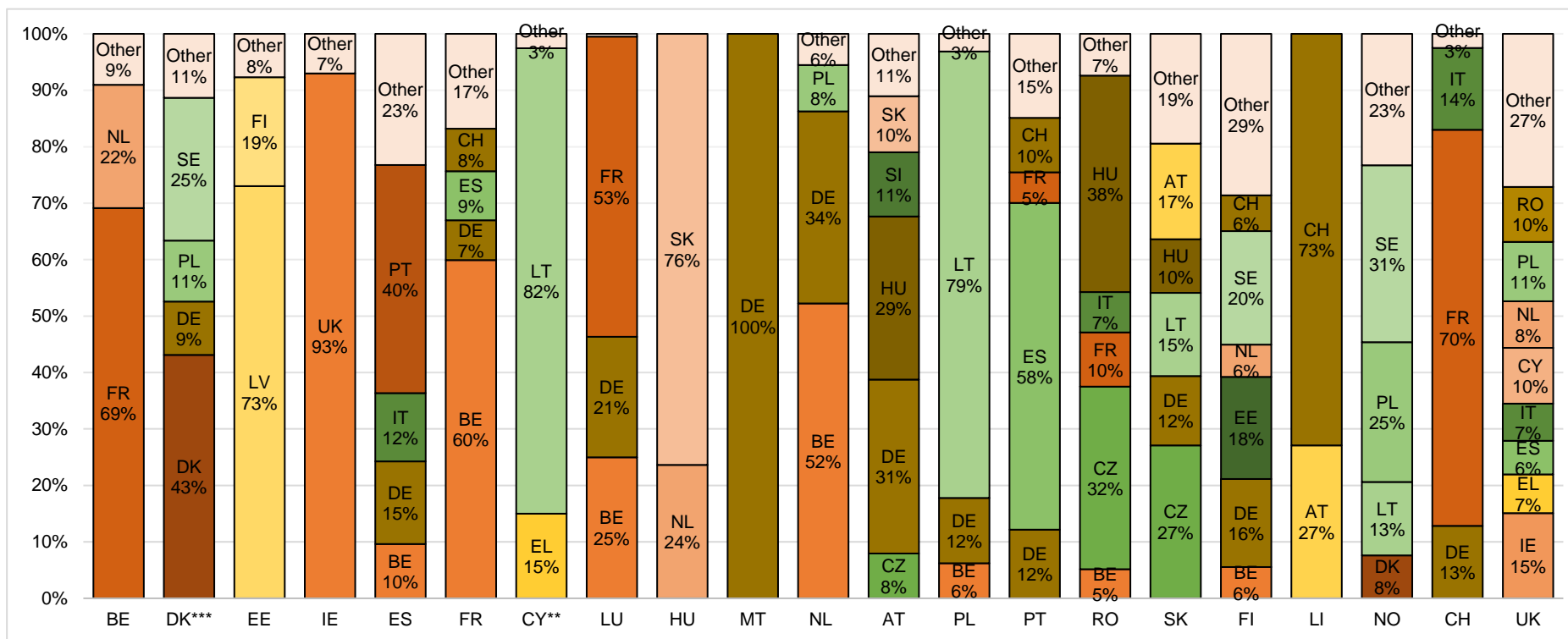
| | Total number of benefits | Total expenditure (in €) | Average annual amount per benefit |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Spain | | | |
| Birth and childcare benefit | 81 | 585 229 | 7 225 |
| France | | | |
| Maternity allowance | 421 | 1 513 119 | 3 594 |
| Paternity allowance | 165 | 234 178 | 1 419 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>586</i> | <i>1 747 297</i> | <i>2 982</i> |
| Croatia | | | |
| Italy | | | |
| Cyprus** | | | |
| Maternity allowance | <5 | 15 986 | 3 997 |
| Maternity grant (lump sum) | <5 | 2 176 | 1 088 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>6</i> | <i>18 162</i> | <i>3 027</i> |
| Latvia | | | |
| Lithuania | | | |
| Luxembourg | | | |
| Maternity leave | 4 374 | 60 433 459 | 13 817 |
| Exemption from work for pregnant workers | 2070 | 23 423 639 | |
| Adoption leave | <19 | 156 399 | |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>6 462</i> | <i>84 013 497</i> | <i>13 001</i> |
| Hungary | | | |
| Infant care allowance | 14 | 47 225 | 3 373 |
| Malta | | | |
| Maternity benefit | <5 | 1 557 | 1 557 |
| Maternity leave benefit | <5 | 731 | 731 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i><5</i> | <i>2 289</i> | <i>1 144</i> |
| The Netherlands | | | |
| WAZO (Wet arbeid en Zorg - Work and Care Act) | 4 057 | 25 392 927 | 6 259 |
| Austria | | | |
| Wochengeld | 1 446 | 10 553 248 | 7 298 |
| Family time bonus for fathers | 119 | 109 654 | 921 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>1 565</i> | <i>10 662 902</i> | <i>6 813</i> |
| Poland | | | |
| Maternity or equivalent paternity benefit (paid by ZUS) | 16 | 101 494 | 6 343 |
| Portugal | | | |
| Initial parental allowance | 202 | 607 422 | 3 007 |
| Extended parental allowance | 21 | 48 368 | 2 303 |
| Allowance for adoption | 0 | 0 | |
| Extended allowance for adoption | 0 | 0 | |
| Allowance for clinical risk during pregnancy | 45 | 130 717 | 2 905 |
| Allowance for termination of pregnancy | <5 | 8 040 | 2 010 |
| Specific risks allowance | 5 | 28 289 | 5 658 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>277</i> | <i>822 837</i> | <i>2 971</i> |
| Romania | | | |
| Maternity leave | 16 | 47 885 | 2 993 |
| Slovenia | | | |
| Slovakia | | | |
| Maternity benefits for mother | 63 | 309 115 | 4 907 |
| Maternity benefits for father | 36 | 95 847 | 2 662 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>99</i> | <i>404 961</i> | <i>4 091</i> |
| Finland | | | |
| Pregnancy allowance (including special pregnancy allowance and maternity benefits under the old law) | 107 | 375 808 | 3 512 |
| Paternity benefit | 95 | 251 921 | 2 652 |
| Parental allowance (including parental benefit under the old law) | 308 | 2 275 508 | 7 388 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>399</i> | <i>2 903 238</i> | <i>7 276</i> |
| Sweden | | | |
| Iceland | | | |
| Liechtenstein | | | |
| Maternity allowance | 66 | 873 345 | 13 232 |
| Norway | | | |
| Parental benefit | 1 653 | 17 529 619 | 10 605 |
| Switzerland | | | |
| Maternity leave (Allocation en cas de maternité dans le cadre des allocations pour pertes de gains (APG)) | 5 960 | 68 305 000 | 11 461 |
| Paternity leave | 7 030 | 15 881 000 | 2 259 |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>12 990</i> | <i>84 186 000</i> | <i>6 481</i> |
| United Kingdom | | | |
| Maternity allowance | 77 | 471 550 | 6 124 |

* Missing data for CZ, DE, HR, IT, LV, LT, SI, SE, and IS.

** CY: data 2017.

Source: Questionnaire on maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash 2024

Figure 1 – Export of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits, by amount paid, breakdown by Member State of residence, 2023



* This figure was constructed based on the breakdown by Member State of residence for the amount exported of the benefit with the highest amount.

** CY: data 2017.

*** DK: the data provided show the number of EU/EEA-citizens by nationality - not by Member State of residence - while receiving Danish maternity/paternity allowance. However, it is assumed that the majority stays in their homeland.

Source: Questionnaire on maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash 2024

3. Evolution of the export of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits

In this section the evolution of the export of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits is looked at. *Table 3* gives an overview of the export of benefits from 2020 until 2023. Nevertheless, the focus in this section is on the evolution from 2022 to 2023. In total, from 2022 to 2023, the number of persons decreased by 0.4 % while the expenditure increased by 1.9 %. The totals reported in *Table 3* only include those Member States which were able to provide data for both reference year 2022 and 2023. This means that only 18 Member States¹⁰ are included in the totals, and thus in the total evolution. In these 18 Member States, the export of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits has generally remained stable from 2022 to 2023.

In Poland and Slovakia, a growth of over 100 % is noted. However, in Poland it concerns the expenditure for less than 20 benefits and in Slovakia it concerns a growth from 16 to 36 benefits, making these increases less significant. Norway reports an increase of 42 % in terms of number of persons and 27 % for the expenditure.

Strong decreases can be noted for some benefits in Estonia and Ireland, but seeing that it concerns less than five benefits, these are again less remarkable. In France, a decrease is noted for both benefits, in terms of number of persons and expenditure of more than 24 %. In Hungary as well, a considerable decrease is seen, from 56 benefits in 2022 to 14 in 2023.

In Romania, a mixed picture can be seen. While the number of benefits increased by 78 %, the expenditure decreased by 62 %. However, as it concerns less than 20 benefits, this evolution is not alarming in absolute terms. Additionally, in Finland there is an increase for some benefits and a decrease for others.

Special attention can be paid to Luxembourg and Switzerland, the two main exporting Member States which came forward in *section 2*. In Luxembourg, the evolution of the maternity leave and the exemption from work for pregnant workers from 2022 to 2023 shows a small decrease. Only the adoption leave shows a considerable increase in terms of the expenditure (+59 %). Nevertheless, the total number of benefits is not considerable (less than 20 in 2023). In Switzerland, the maternity leave also shows a small decrease (-4 % number of persons and -0.3 % expenditure). However, the export of the paternity leave has increase by 4 % regarding the number of persons and 9 % regarding the expenditure.

¹⁰ It concerns BE, DK, EE, IE, ES, FR, LU, HU, MT, AT, PL, RO, SK, FI, LI, NO, CH, UK (only number of persons).

Table 3 – Evolution of the number of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash exported to another EU/EFTA country or the UK and total related expenditure (in €), 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023

| | 2020 | | 2021 | | 2022 | | 2023 | | Evolution 2022-2023 | |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Total number of persons | Total expenditure (in €) | Total number of persons | Total expenditure (in €) | Total number of persons | Total expenditure (in €) | Total number of persons | Total expenditure (in €) | % change number of persons | % change total expenditure |
| Total* | 22 145 | 191 626 203 | 22 833 | 198 516 185 | 29 849 | 229 816 221 | 29 741 | 234 091 791 | -0.4 % | 1.9 % |
| Belgium | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maternity allowance | 1 058 | 5 452 374 | 1 128 | 5 928 523 | 1 127 | 6 483 455 | 1 171 | 7 176 710 | 3.9 % | 10.7 % |
| Paternity/birth allowance (Replacement income for father or co-parent) | 1 046 | 773 213 | 1 167 | 1 347 207 | 1 223 | 1 603 507 | 1 233 | 2 290 097 | 0.8 % | 42.8 % |
| Bulgaria | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pregnancy and delivery benefit | | | | | | | <5 | 6 705 | | |
| Paternity | | | | | | | <5 | 1 319 | | |
| Child raising | | | | | | | <5 | 645 | | |
| Czechia | | | | | | | | | | |
| Denmark | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maternity benefit | 2 465 | 18 216 432 | 2 347 | 17 649 802 | 2 521 | 18 691 484 | 2 567 | 18 511 095 | 1.8 % | -1.0 % |
| Germany | | | | | | | | | | |
| Estonia | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maternity benefit | | | 11 | 54 697 | | | | | | |
| Maternity benefit for a non-working mother (EU) | | | | | <5 | 1 433 | <5 | 3 474 | -50.0 % | 142.5 % |
| Maternity benefit for a working mother (EU) | | | | | <5 | 8 883 | 0 | 0 | -100.0 % | -100.0 % |
| Parental benefit from the birth of the child (EU) | | | | | 9 | 10 283 | 14 | 16 115 | 55.6 % | 56.7 % |
| Parental benefit before the birth of the child (EU) | | | | | <5 | 1 911 | <5 | 1 118 | -50.0 % | -41.5 % |
| Ireland | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maternity Benefit | 276 | 1 263 386 | 498 | 3 443 160 | 463 | 2 982 752 | 428 | 2 887 645 | -7.6 % | -3.2 % |
| Paternity Benefit | 119 | 56 134 | 179 | 86 022 | 175 | 84 886 | 187 | 96 229 | 6.9 % | 13.4 % |
| Adoptive Benefit | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 6 000 | 0 | 0 | -100.0 % | -100.0 % |
| Health and Safety Benefit | 8 | 27 304 | <5 | 4 398 | <5 | 2 606 | <5 | 4 327 | 100.0 % | 66.0 % |
| Greece | | | | | | | | | | |
| Spain | | | | | | | | | | |
| Birth and childcare benefit | 64 | 356 491 | 88 | 535 796 | 74 | 457 529 | 81 | 585 229 | 9.5 % | 27.9 % |
| France | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maternity allowance | 541 | 1 768 975 | 601 | 1 948 338 | 616 | 1 994 838 | 421 | 1 513 119 | -31.7 % | -24.1 % |
| Paternity allowance | 190 | 127 993 | 206 | 191 939 | 240 | 314 488 | 165 | 234 178 | -31.3% | -25.5 % |
| Croatia | | | | | | | | | | |
| Italy | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cyprus | | | | | | | | | | |
| Latvia | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lithuania | | | | | | | | | | |
| Luxembourg | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maternity leave | 4 510 | 54 710 651 | 4 566 | 54 380 647 | 4 687 | 61 478 390 | 4 374 | 60 433 459 | -6.7 % | -1.7 % |
| Exemption from work for pregnant workers | 2 154 | 19 010 189 | 2 261 | 23 495 073 | 2 192 | 23 990 274 | 2 070 | 23 423 639 | -5.6 % | -2.4 % |
| Adoption leave | 9 | 98 698 | 5 | 38 927 | <10 | 98 275 | 18 | 156 399 | | 59.1 % |
| Hungary | | | | | | | | | | |
| Infant care allowance | 88 | 123 222 | 49 | 156 202 | 56 | 248 917 | 14 | 47 225 | -75.0 % | -81.0 % |

| | 2020 | | 2021 | | 2022 | | 2023 | | Evolution 2022-2023 | |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Total number of persons | Total expenditure (in €) | Total number of persons | Total expenditure (in €) | Total number of persons | Total expenditure (in €) | Total number of persons | Total expenditure (in €) | % change number of persons | % change total expenditure |
| Malta | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maternity benefit | <5 | 2 865 | <5 | 791 | <5 | 1 419 | <5 | 1 557 | 0.0 % | 9.8 % |
| Maternity leave benefit | | | | | <5 | 724 | <5 | 731 | 0.0 % | 1.0 % |
| The Netherlands | | | | | | | | | | |
| WAZO (Wet arbeid en Zorg - Work and Care Act) & WIEG (Wet Invoering Extra Geboorteverlof - Act introducing paternity leave – from 2020) & Wbo (Wet betaald ouderschapsverlof) WAZO | 2 059 | 13 478 461 | 2 887 | 15 536 563 | 2 837 | 16 256 409 | 4 057 | 25 392 927 | | |
| Austria | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wochengeld | 1 744 | 12 652 807 | 1 688 | 11 563 143 | 1 458 | 10 094 248 | 1 446 | 10 553 248 | -0.8 % | 4.5 % |
| Family time bonus for fathers | 46 | 29 494 | 79 | 50 558 | 95 | 62 761 | 119 | 109 654 | 25.3 % | 74.7 % |
| Poland | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maternity or equivalent paternity benefit (paid by ZUS) | 7 | 38 368 | 11 | 49 984 | 12 | 43 508 | 16 | 101 494 | 33.3 % | 133.3 % |
| Portugal | | | | | | | | | | |
| Initial parental allowance | 146 | 416 310 | 145 | 463 089 | | | 202 | 607 422 | | |
| Extended parental allowance | 10 | 14 177 | 11 | 9 569 | | | 21 | 48 368 | | |
| Allowance for adoption | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | |
| Extended allowance for adoption | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | |
| Allowance for clinical risk during pregnancy | 0 | 0 | 18 | 135 726 | | | 45 | 130 717 | | |
| Allowance for termination of pregnancy | 0 | 0 | 6 | 10 465 | | | <5 | 8 040 | | |
| Specific risks allowance | <5 | 5 785 | <5 | 16 344 | | | 5 | 28 289 | | |
| Romania | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maternity leave | 13 | 45 794 | <5 | 7 363 | 9 | 126 234 | 16 | 47 885 | 77.8 % | -62.1 % |
| Slovenia | | | | | | | | | | |
| Slovakia | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maternity benefits for mother | 61 | 285 168 | 55 | 215 912 | 51 | 269 924 | 63 | 309 115 | 23.5 % | 14.5 % |
| Maternity benefits for father | 6 | 37 086 | 7 | 36 454 | 16 | 104 113 | 36 | 95 847 | 125.0 % | -7.9 % |
| Finland | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maternity allowance | 104 | 814 249 | 102 | 718 068 | 103 | 602 143 | 107 | 375 808 | 3.9 % | -37.6 % |
| Paternity allowance | 202 | 452 551 | 173 | 372 005 | 203 | 459 221 | 95 | 251 921 | -53.2 % | -45.1 % |
| Parental allowance | 211 | 1 548 407 | 202 | 1 458 513 | 240 | 1 608 965 | 308 | 2 275 508 | 28.3 % | 41.4 % |
| Sweden | | | | | | | | | | |
| Iceland | | | | | | | | | | |
| Liechtenstein | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maternity or equivalent paternity benefit | 80 | 923 450 | 74 | 169 580 | 76 | 1 088 950 | 66 | 873 345 | -13.2 % | -19.8 % |
| Norway | | | | | | | | | | |
| Parental benefit | 1 210 | 13 870 903 | 1 201 | 13 684 779 | 1 167 | 13 771 098 | 1 653 | 17 529 619 | 41.6 % | 27.3 % |
| Switzerland | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allocation en cas de maternité dans le cadre des allocations pour pertes de gains (APG) | 5 930 | 58 940 000 | 6 140 | 60 983 000 | 6 200 | 68 517 000 | 5 960 | 68 305 000 | -3.9 % | -0.3 % |
| Paternity leave | | | | | 6 740 | 14 606 000 | 7 030 | 15 881 000 | 4.3 % | 8.7 % |
| United Kingdom | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maternity allowance | | | | | 76 | | 77 | 471 550 | 1.3 % | |

* These totals are only calculated for Member States that have data available for 2022 and 2023. This means that BG, CZ, DE, EL, HR, IT, CY, LV, LT, NL, PT, SI, SE, IS, and UK (only expenditure) are excluded.

Source: Questionnaire on maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash 2021 - 2024

4. Share of export in total maternity and equivalent paternity benefits

When comparing Member States, it is often more useful to look at relative shares. Therefore, this section focuses on the share of export in the total number of maternity and equivalent maternity benefits paid.

In total, the weighted average for the 22 reporting Member States shows that only 0.9 % of the maternity and equivalent paternity benefits are exported to another EU/EFTA country or the UK (*Table 4*). The total share of the benefits paid to persons residing in a Member State other than the competent one amounts to 1.3 % of total expenditure. These shares lie much higher in the EFTA Member States (excluding Iceland) with 5.2 % of benefits exported and 3.2 % of the total expenditure. The shares are almost identical to the shares in 2022, as in that year 0.8 % of benefits were exported while 1.2 % of expenditure was exported in total. This indicates that the export of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits has remained at a similar level.

For most reporting Member States, the share of exported maternity and equivalent paternity benefits is less than 0.5 % of total spending (BG, EE, EL, ES, FR, CY, HU, MT, PL, PT, RO, SK, and FI) (*Table 4*). In some other Member States, the share lies between 0.5 % and 2.0 % (BE, DK, IE, AT, and NO). In the Netherlands, 2.5 % of benefits were exported and 3.8 % of expenditure.

In only three Member States, the shares lie considerably higher. In Switzerland, 9.4 % of benefits are exported and 8.1 % of expenditure. Liechtenstein shows considerable shares as well with 18.4 % of benefits and 18.8% of expenditure. This lies in line with previous reference years (2020: 20.8 % of benefits and 21.1% of expenditure; 2021: 25.8 % of benefits and 8.0 % of expenditure). Finally, in Luxembourg, the shares are particularly high with 47.0 % of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits being exported abroad in 2023, equalling 43.8 % of expenditure. The high number of cross-border workers certainly plays a role in these high shares.

Table 4 – Share of the number of benefits exported to another EU/EFTA country or the UK in total number of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash paid by the competent Member State, 2023

| Benefit | Total number of benefits | Total expenditure |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------|
| EU-27* | 0.5 % | 1.0 % |
| EFTA* | 5.2 % | 3.2 % |
| Total* | 0.9 % | 1.3 % |
| Belgium | | |
| Maternity allowance | 1.2 % | 1.3 % |
| Paternity/birth allowance | 2.3 % | 2.3 % |
| <i>Total</i> | 1.6 % | 1.4 % |
| Bulgaria | | |
| Benefits in cash in case of pregnancy and baby delivery under art. 50 and 51 Bulgarian Social Security Code [Pregnancy and delivery] | 0.004 % | 0.002 % |
| Paternity benefit in cash under art. 50 par. 6 Social Security Code [Paternity] | 0.01 % | 0.02 % |
| Cash benefit under art. 53 Social Security Code [Child raising] | 0.003 % | 0.0004 % |
| <i>Total</i> | 0.005 % | 0.002 % |
| Czechia | | |
| Denmark | | |
| Maternity benefit | 1.4 % | 1.1 % |
| Germany | | |
| Estonia | | |
| Maternity benefit | 0.1 % | 0.04 % |
| Ireland | | |
| Maternity Benefit | 1.1 % | 1.1 % |
| Paternity Benefit | 0.7 % | 0.7 % |
| Adoptive Benefit | 0.0 % | 0.0 % |
| Health and Safety Benefit | 1.1 % | 1.1 % |
| <i>Total</i> | 0.9 % | 1.1 % |

Maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash

| Benefit | Total number of benefits | Total expenditure |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Greece | | |
| Maternity benefit seafarers women | 0.0 % | 0.0 % |
| Spain | | |
| Birth and childcare benefit | 0.02 % | 0.02 % |
| France | | |
| Maternity daily allowances | 0.1 % | 0.05 % |
| Paternity daily allowances | 0.04 % | 0.04 % |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>0.1 %</i> | <i>0.05 %</i> |
| Croatia | | |
| Italy | | |
| Cyprus** | | |
| Maternity benefit | 0.1 % | 0.1 % |
| Maternity grant | 0.03 % | 0.05 % |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>0.04 %</i> | <i>0.1 %</i> |
| Latvia | | |
| Lithuania | | |
| Luxembourg | | |
| Maternity benefits | 45.7 % | 41.7 % |
| Exemption from work for pregnant and breastfeeding women | 50.2 % | 50.0 % |
| Adoption leave | 52.9 % | 37.6 % |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>47.0 %</i> | <i>43.8 %</i> |
| Hungary | | |
| Infant care allowance | 0.02 % | 0.01 % |
| Malta | | |
| Maternity benefit | 0.1 % | 0.0 % |
| Maternity leave benefit | 0.04 % | 0.04 % |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>0.1 %</i> | <i>0.1 %</i> |
| The Netherlands | | |
| WAZO (Wet arbeid en Zorg - Work and Care Act) | 2.5 % | 3.8 % |
| Austria | | |
| Wochengeld (Maternity benefit) | 1.7 % | 1.7 % |
| Familienzeitbonus für Väter (Family time bonus for fathers) | 1.1 % | 1.0 % |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>1.6 %</i> | <i>1.7 %</i> |
| Poland | | |
| Maternity allowance (paid by Social Insurance Institution ZUS) | 0.003 % | 0.005 % |
| Portugal | | |
| Initial parental allowance | 0.1 % | 0.1 % |
| Extended parental allowance | 0.1 % | 0.3 % |
| Allowance for adoption | | |
| Extended allowance for adoption | | |
| Allowance for clinical risk during pregnancy | 0.1 % | 0.1 % |
| Allowance for termination of pregnancy | 0.05 % | 0.1 % |
| Specific risk allowance | 0.4 % | 0.5 % |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>0.1 %</i> | <i>0.1 %</i> |
| Romania** | | |
| Maternity leave | 0.01 % | 0.02 % |
| Slovenia | | |
| Slovakia | | |
| Maternity benefits | 0.1 % | 0.1 % |
| Paternity benefits | 0.1 % | 0.1 % |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>0.1 %</i> | <i>0.1 %</i> |
| Finland | | |
| Maternity allowance | 0.2 % | 0.2 % |
| Paternity allowance | 0.3 % | 0.3 % |
| Parental allowance | 0.3 % | 0.3 % |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>0.2 %</i> | <i>0.3 %</i> |
| Sweden | | |
| Iceland | | |
| Liechtenstein | | |
| Maternity benefits | 18.4 % | 18.8 % |
| Norway | | |
| Parental benefit | 1.1 % | 0.8 % |
| Switzerland | | |
| Allocation en cas de maternité dans le cadre des allocations pour pertes de gains (APG) | 7.6 % | 7.6 % |
| Paternity leave | 11.7 % | 10.7 % |
| <i>Total</i> | <i>9.4 %</i> | <i>8.1 %</i> |
| United Kingdom | | |

* Missing data for CZ, DE, HR, IT, LV, LT, SI, SE, IS, and UK. The total averages concern the weighted average. The total unweighted average amounts to 3.8 % concerning the total number of persons and 3.7 % concerning the total expenditure.

** CY: data 2017. RO: total data concern 2022.

Source: Questionnaire on maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash 2024

5. Fraud and error

A final question in the questionnaire asks whether Member States are aware of cases of fraud or error regarding the provisions on the coordination of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash. Unfortunately, many Member States leave this question unanswered or mention that no such data are available¹¹. Several other Member States reported that no cases of fraud and error were found (EL, HR, LT, MT, RO, and FI).

Only France indicated that inappropriate use was detected in 2023. *Table 5* shows the quantification of these cases. The total of 39 cases consisted of 23 fraud cases and 16 error cases. The amount involved (EUR 538 819) mainly concerned error cases (EUR 403 422). A list of types of fraud and error were provided, of which affiliate fraud (13 fraud cases and 4 error cases) and performing an activity during a stoppage (7 fraud cases and 5 error cases) are the main ones. The methodology used by France is internal fraud reporting by looking at unduly paid benefits or benefits which should have been paid.

While Finland did not find any case of fraud and error, one investigation was conducted. Suspected fraud cases are first sent to investigation inside Kela (social insurance institution) and then to the police authorities who either confirm or decline the suspected case.

Table 5 – Cases of fraud and error in case of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits, 2023

| | Type of inappropriate use | Cases | Amount involved (in €) |
|----|---|-----------|------------------------|
| FR | Fraud: * Provision of false and/or falsified documents * Performing an activity during a stoppage * Affiliate fraud | 23 | 135 397 |
| | Error: * Performing an activity during a stoppage * Failure to declare a change in circumstances modifying the conditions for payment of the benefit * Failure to comply with the nomenclature * Affiliate fraud * Failure to comply with the prior agreement (request or decision) * Failure to comply with a ban or restriction on practice following a criminal or professional order | 16 | 403 422 |
| | Total | 39 | 538 819 |
| | | | |

* FR reported a total number of cases of 38, but this does not equal the sum of 39.

Source: Administrative data Questionnaire on maternity and equivalent paternity benefits 2024

¹¹ BE, BG, CZ, DK, DE, EE, IE, ES, LV, LU, HU, NL, AT, PL, PT, SI, SK, SE, IS, LI, NO, CH, and UK. CY and IT did not reply to the questionnaire.

Annex I Brief description of the reported benefits

| Benefit | Brief description of the benefit |
|--|---|
| Belgium | |
| Maternity allowance Replacement income for father or co-parent Adoption allowance Replacement income granted in case of measure of work removal due to working conditions for pregnancy Replacement income granted in case of measure of work removal due to working conditions for breastfeeding | Replacement income during maternity leave Replacement income for father or co-parent Replacement income granted in case of measure of work removal due to working conditions hazardous for pregnancy Replacement income granted in case of measure of work removal due to working conditions hazardous for breastfeeding |
| Bulgaria | |
| Benefits in cash in case of pregnancy and baby delivery under art. 50 and 51 Bulgarian Social Security Code Paternity benefit in cash under art. 50 par. 6 Social Security Code Maternity benefit in cash under art. 50 par. 7 Social Security Code Maternity benefits under art. 50a Social Security Code Cash benefit under art. 53 Social Security Code Benefit under art. 54 Social Security Code for unused part of leave for raising a child up to 2 years of age. Benefit under art. 53c Social Security Code Benefit under art. 53d Social Security Code Benefit under art. 53g Social Security Code | The insured mother is entitled to a cash benefit in case of pregnancy and baby delivery for the total period of 410 calendar days, 45 of which are before delivery. The periods of payments are divided into several subperiods: 1. from the 45th before delivery up to 135th day 2. after the 135th day up to remainder of the total period. The insured father is entitled to a cash benefit for the period of 15 days after delivery. Maternity/paternity benefit in cash for the period after 6 months of child's age up to 410 calendar days. The entitlement depends on whether the person /mother or father/ acquired 12 months of insurance period as insured for sickness and maternity. A benefit that compensates unused maternity leave or a part of it. The amount of this type of benefit is 50 % of the whole amount of maternity benefit the mother is entitled to. A benefit for raising a child up to 2 years of age /after the period of first 410 calendar days including 45 days before delivery. When mother does not use the leave for raising a child up to 2 years of age, she is entitled to 50 % of the amount of the benefit she would be entitled to if she uses the leave for raising a child up to its 2 years. The insured persons are entitled to a cash benefit when adopting a child less than 5 years of age A benefit for person who adopted a child under 5 years of age and who does not use a leave or interrupts its usage The insured father is entitled to a cash benefit up to 8 years of the child |
| Czechia | |
| Maternity benefit in cash Compensatory benefit in pregnancy and maternity Paternity Benefit (Fathers Post-Natal-Care Benefit) | Benefit pertains to an employee (self-employed person) during the time of so-called maternity leave. Employee must acquire 270 days of insurance within last two years before the day of starting the benefit (=usually start of 6-8th week before expected day of delivery). Supporting period is 28 weeks (37 weeks for women who gave birth to two or more children). Benefit range is 70% of the daily basis of assessment. In specified cases it is provided to men. Benefit is provided over the period of transfer of a pregnant employee or mother (till the end of the ninth month after childbirth) to a different work for reasons provided by law. The objective is to compensate for income drop due to the transfer. Supporting period continues over the period of transfer. Benefit range is determined as the difference between daily basis of assessment before the transfer and an average income achieved after this transfer. Entitled to paternity benefit is any insured father who cares for his child or any insured person (both men and women) who cares as a foster parent for a child based on a decision of a competent authority, providing that the child is younger than seven years of age as of the date their foster care begins. Benefit is paid for two weeks, beginning from the first day of paternity leave. Paternity leave begins on the date as determined by the insured person within six weeks of the date of birth of the child or of the date the foster care begins. |
| Denmark | |
| Parental benefit | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 weeks before expected confinement • 14 weeks after confinement for the mother, and in this period 2 continuous weeks for the father • 32 weeks in all for the parents after the 14th week. This period can be split up or postponed but must be taken before the 9th birthday of the child. If the mother and father return to part-time work, the leave can be extended proportionally. |
| Germany | |
| Mutterschaftsgeld | Employees who are members of a statutory health insurance fund receive maternity benefit during the maternity protection period and for the day of delivery in the amount of the average net wage received in the last three calendar months before the start of the protection period, but not more than 13 euros per calendar day (maternity benefit according to Section 24i SGB V/Section 14 KVLG 1989). |
| Estonia | |
| Maternity benefit Paternity benefit Adoption benefit | Maternity benefit is paid by the Estonian Social Insurance Board. Reference wage is paid during maternity leave for up to 100 days. No ceiling. The minimum benefit for the person working is the monthly minimum wage. For insured mothers who did not work during the reference year, the maternity benefit is equal to the monthly minimum wage which was applicable in the previous calendar month. The reference year is 12 months preceding the beginning of the pregnancy. Adoption benefit is paid by the Estonian Social Insurance Board. 100% of the reference wage paid during adoption leave for up to 70 days. The reference salary for each person getting the benefit is the average amount of the 12 calendar months. The calculation of the period begins three calendar months before the birth of the child or calendar month of the adoption. |
| Ireland | |
| Maternity Benefit Paternity Benefit | Maternity Benefit is a social security payment for insured pregnant employees and self-employed people who qualify for maternity leave. The payment is made for the 26-week period of statutory maternity leave. Additional leave/benefit may be granted in the event of a premature birth. Paternity Benefit is a social security payment for insured employed and self-employed people who qualify for paternity leave. The payment is made for the 2-week period of statutory paternity leave. You can start Paternity leave at any time within the first 26 weeks after the birth or adoption. |

Maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash

| Benefit | Brief description of the benefit |
|--|--|
| Adoptive Benefit | Adoptive Benefit is a social security payment to adopting parents, who are either insurable employed or insurable self-employed, to support them during a period of adoptive leave. It provides for a weekly payment to be made to persons who qualify for Adoptive Leave and who satisfy certain social insurance contribution conditions. It is paid for a continuous period of 24 weeks from the date of placement of the child. |
| Health and Safety Benefit | Health and Safety Benefit is a social security payment for insured employed women who are pregnant or breastfeeding and who qualify for health and safety leave. |
| Greece | |
| Maternity benefit | It is granted to working mothers who are qualified for the Maternity Benefit by e-EFKA and have a valid working contract, after the childbirth. The amount paid is equal to the difference (if any) between the wage paid by the employer and the Maternity Benefit, and it is granted in a lump sum for as long the Maternity Benefit is paid (119 days). |
| Supplementary Maternity Allowance | It is granted to working mothers during the 9-month Special Maternity Leave, that is optional leave to mothers who have exhausted the regular maternity leave period (119 days) and possibly the Childcare leave of reduced working hours if taken in one single block. Necessary conditions for the subsidy are to have benefited from the maternity leave and have a valid working contract. The amount paid per month is equal to the statutory minimum pay, as well as the proportion of holiday benefits and leave benefits according to the minimum wage. |
| Special Maternity Protection Allowance | It is granted to working parents for the first 2 months of the 4-month Parental Leave, which can be used until the child reaches the age of 8 years. The amount paid per month is equal to the statutory minimum pay, as well as the proportion of holiday benefits and leave benefits according to the minimum wage. |
| Maternity benefit for seafarers women | The maternity benefit is provided to seafarer's women who are direct members of oikos naftou. It concerns the trimester before date of birth (pregnancy) and the trimester after date of birth (postpartum). It is calculated on the basis of collective agreements (seafarers' status and type of ship at her last dismissal). |
| Spain | |
| Birth and childcare benefit | The Birth and Childcare benefit replaces and unifies in a single modality the maternity and paternity benefits since April 2019. It protects the periods of rest and leave derived from the birth of a child or adoption or custody for adoption purposes and foster care. It includes amounts paid to both parents, where appropriate. |
| France | |
| Maternity benefit | Maternity IJ paid to the mother to compensate for her pre- and post-natal parental leave, the duration of which varies depending on the number of children the insured person has. Maternity allowance paid to women exposed to occupational risks during their pregnancy The data take into account both types of compensation |
| Paternity benefit | Daily paternity allowance paid to the father to compensate for his postnatal parental leave |
| Croatia | |
| Maternity/paternity benefit for employed/self-employed | Paid to employed/self-employed because of childbirth, usually in duration of 6 months |
| Parental benefit for employed/self-employed | Paid to employed/self-employed parents after first 6 months of the age of a child |
| Special leave or part time work for parents whose child has severe difficulties in development due to health reasons | Paid to parents who are either not working, or are working part time, to be able to take care of a child with developmental issues. |
| Maternity/paternity benefit for non-active persons | Paid to parents who are outside of the working market (unemployed, pensioners etc.) |
| Adoptive leave | Paid to adoptive parents upon the adoption of a child |
| Italy | |
| Maternity/paternity benefit (congedo di maternità/paternità) | Five-month compulsory paid leave: one- to two-month leave prior to confinement and three- to four-month leave after delivery (depending on the duration chosen for the prenatal leave). Continued payment of wages by the employer on behalf of the National Institute for Social Security (Istituto Nazionale della previdenza sociale, INPS). The amount of the wages paid is then deducted from the owed contributions. Maternity/paternity benefit (indennità di maternità/paternità): 80% of earnings for the compulsory period. No ceiling. |
| Optional supplementary parental leave (Congedo parentale facoltativo) | After expiry of the compulsory leave, a reduced paid leave may be claimed by either the mother or the father for a six-month period altogether till the child reaches the age of three (or within three years after the child's adoption). Besides the 6-month leave, this benefit can be claimed for further 5 months, at most, till the child is 12 of age, but the relevant cash benefit can only be paid upon condition that the claimant parent's salary does not exceed twice and a half times the minimum pension as established by law for the current year. Once the maternity leave has ended and within the 11 following months, as an alternative to the parental leave, vouchers are granted in order to purchase baby-sitting or public child-minders' services for a maximum period of six months and up to an amount of €600 per month. Payment during Optional supplementary parental leave (congedo parentale facoltativo): 30% if the child is under 3, unpaid if the child is 3-12 years old (with some exceptions). In the public sector it is paid at 100% of previous earnings during the first 30 days of leave. No ceiling. |
| Paternity leave (congedo di paternità) | Ten days compulsory paid leave for the father (to be claimed within five months after the child's birth) to be granted at the same time as the maternity paid leave, plus one day of paid leave if the mother agrees to transfer it from her maternity leave. Furthermore, the father may claim for a paid leave of up to three months after the child's birth in case the mother does not claim for it, or if he has the sole charge of the child. Same benefits in case of adoption. |
| State maternity allowance | A State assistance benefit provided and granted directly by the INPS, in case of atypical employment or gaps which do not provide sufficient coverage |
| Cyprus | |
| Maternity benefit | Paid to women who meet the social insurance contribution criteria and are expecting or have adopted a child. From 1/8/2017 it can be paid also to women who are expecting a child through a surrogate mother. It is paid for 18 weeks provided the woman does not receive any employment income. It may be extended in cases of multiple births and hospitalisation of the child after premature birth. |
| Paternity benefit | It was introduced on 1 August 2017. It is paid to fathers on birth or adoption of a child for 2 weeks during the first 16 weeks of the child's life, provided they meet the contribution criteria. |
| Maternity grant | It is paid on the birth of a child to the mother provided she or her husband meet the contribution criteria. It is a lump sum one off payment of 544 euro. |
| Latvia | |
| Maternity benefit | Maternity benefit paid before and after childbirth, can be requested by expectant mothers who: are employed and receive a salary, are self-employed or are spouses of a self-employed person and have voluntarily joined the social insurance. During the postnatal period, maternity benefit can also be obtained by the child's father or another person who takes care of the newborn at home, but no later than until the child's 70th day of life. This applies to cases where: •The child's mother is unable to take care of the baby until the 42nd postnatal day due to sickness; •The child's mother has refused to take care of the child; •The child's mother has died during childbirth or before the 42nd postnatal day; •The child is a foundling. |

Maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash

| Benefit | Brief description of the benefit |
|---|---|
| Paternity benefit | <p>Paternity benefit paid to the employee or self-employed person in the following cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to the child's father for 10 calendar days' leave granted in relation to the child's birth. This leave must be used until the child is six months old; one of the parents who have adopted a child under out-of-family care up to 18 years of age and to whom the employer has granted 10 calendar days' leave due to adoption of the child. another person if there is no written father in birth certificate, for example, grandparents |
| Lithuania | |
| Maternity benefit | It is social insurance contributory benefit. The maternity benefit for women, who gave birth after 30 weeks of pregnancy and later, is paid for 126 calendar days. In cases of complicated childbirth and if more than one child was born, the benefit is paid for additional 14 calendar days. The amount of a maternity benefit during a pregnancy and childbirth leave period shall make 77,58 % of the beneficiary's compensatory wage. This size is calculated according to the personal insurable income received in 12 consecutive calendar months until the calendar month preceding the month when the right to maternity benefit appeared. |
| Paternity benefit | It is social insurance contributory benefit. Paternity benefits shall be paid for the duration of the paternity leave. After the birth of a child, eligible employees are entitled to 30 calendar days of paternity leave, which can be divided into up to two parts. This leave can be granted at any time until the child reaches the age of one year. The amount of a paternity benefit during a paternity leave period shall make 77,58 % of the beneficiary's compensatory wage. This size is calculated according to the personal insurable income received in 12 consecutive calendar months until the calendar month preceding the month when the right to paternity benefit appeared. |
| Childcare benefit | <p>It is social insurance contributory benefit. Parents can choose whether they want to look after their child and receive the childcare benefit until the child reaches 18 months or until the child reaches 24 months of age. Of these, each parent (adoptive or foster parent) can look after the child for 2 non-transferable months (for a total of 4 months - two for mum, two for dad), while the rest of the time the child can be looked after and the benefit paid to both mum and dad, or to the adoptive or foster parents. If the child is raised by only one parent, he/she is entitled to 2 months of non-transferable parental leave and is entitled to receive parental benefit for the additional 2 months of parental leave. This amount is calculated on the basis of the person's insured income received during the 12 consecutive months before the month preceding the payment entitlement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If person chooses to look after the child until he or she is 18 months old, the benefit is 60% of salary. If person chooses to look after the child until he or she reaches 24 months, the benefit is 45% of the salary in the first year of care and 30% in the second. For both the first and the second option, during the non-transferable months of parental leave, the rate of parental benefit is 78% of the salary. |
| Luxembourg | |
| Maternity leave | 8 weeks pre-natal leave + 12 weeks postnatal leave |
| Exemption from work for pregnant workers | Granted in case of hazardous work (physical or biological danger) |
| Adoption leave | 12 weeks for adopting parents |
| Hungary | |
| Csecsemőgondozási díj (infant care allowance) | Infant care allowance is primarily for the mother, for the father (or other person) exceptionally. Infant care allowance is an employment-based benefit, which requires 365 days of insurance before the child is born. This benefit is for the duration of maternity leave, up to the 168th day following the birth of the child. The amount of infant care allowance is 100% of the daily gross earnings. The amount depends primarily on the gross earnings in the previous 180-day period but may in some cases be different. |
| Malta | |
| Maternity Benefit | A 14-week flat-rate benefit based on universal entitlement payable to ordinary residents or partner to a citizen, or persons who were last insured under the Maltese scheme prior to giving birth or adopting, and are self-employed, self-occupied or unemployed. |
| Maternity Leave Benefit | A 4-week flat rate benefit payable to employees and self-occupied persons alike, following the expiry of the 14 weeks paid Maternity Leave from the employer or Maternity Benefit in case of self-occupied persons, and is conditional upon the return to work of the person following the expiry of the maternity leave period. |
| The Netherlands | |
| Pregnancy and maternity leave (Wet Arbeid en Zorg - Work and Care Act WAZO - employees) | When a person is pregnant and they are working for an employer or they are receiving benefits, they are entitled to pregnancy leave and maternity leave. They will get pregnancy leave in the period before they give birth and maternity benefit in the period after they have given birth. Pregnancy and maternity leave last for a minimum period of 16 week in total. This benefit includes adoption or foster care leave. |
| Act introducing paternity leave (WAZO - WIEG) | <p>Since July 2020 there has been a legislative change (Act introducing paternity leave), the so called 'Wet Invoering Extra Geboorteverlof' (WIEG) (in correlation with EU-Guidance line 2019/1158) to insure a balanced sharing of tasks between the two parents of the newborn child and to make the connection stronger between the child and the partner of the mother. The Act introduces a voluntary additional paid paternity leave for the male or female partner of the mother of a newborn child. This Act is covered by Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 as of 1 July 2020. Partners can take a maximum of 5 weeks (5 times the number of working hours per week) of additional birth leave. During the leave, the partner does not receive a salary, but a benefit from UWV.</p> |
| Paid parental leave act (WAZO - Wbo) | From 2 August 2022, parents can receive a benefit from UWV for 9 weeks of parental leave. The benefit is 70% of their daily wage (up to 70% of the maximum daily wage). The condition is that they take these 9 weeks in the child's first year of life. This gives parents more time to get used to the new family situation. And to make conscious choices together about the division of work and care. Only parents who are employed are entitled to partially paid parental leave. If two parents are employed, both parents are entitled to partially paid parental leave. |
| Self-employed and Pregnant scheme (WAZO - ZEZ) | <p>A self-employed person is entitled to a benefit for at least 16 weeks during and after their pregnancy. This benefit is called the Self-employed and Pregnant scheme (ZEZ). Someone is eligible for a ZEZ if they meet one of the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The person is self-employed. The person is an independent professional, for example a freelancer, artist, general practitioner, home help or private household help. The person is a cooperating wife/partner of a self-employed person. <p>The ZEZ benefit lasts at least 16 weeks. The payment starts between 6 weeks and 4 weeks before the day after the due date. The person decides within this period on which day they want the benefit to start. After giving birth, they are entitled to benefit for at least 10 weeks.</p> |
| Austria | |
| Wochengeld | Maternity allowance is a cash benefit from the insured event of maternity and is intended to fully replace the lost earnings from work. It is usually paid for 8 weeks before the expected date of delivery, on the day of delivery and 8 weeks after delivery. |
| Familienzeitbonus für Väter (Family time bonus for fathers) | Working fathers who intensively and exclusively take care of their families directly after the birth of a child und are thereby off work without their income, are entitled to the "family time bonus" (Familienzeitbonus) amounting to Euro 23,91 for children born until 31.07.2023 and Euro 47,82 for children born from 01.08.2023 per day. This bonus must be taken within a specified period of 91 days from the birth of the child, lasting at least 28 days and at most 31 days without interruption |

Maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash

| Benefit | Brief description of the benefit |
|--|--|
| Poland | |
| Maternity allowance (paid by Social Insurance Institution ZUS) | Benefits paid by Social Insurance Institution (ZUS) Maternity allowance is a cash benefit which is payable to both mother and a father of a child. Maternity allowance is payable to the child's insured mother who during the insurance period gave birth, took a child of the age of 14 to raise and applied to the guardianship court regarding his adoption or she adopted for upbringing within a foster family, with the exception of a professional foster family, a child up to 7 years of age, and in the case of a child for whom a decision was made to postpone compulsory schooling - up to 10 years of age. Maternity allowance is granted for the period determined by the provisions of the Labor Code as the period of maternity leave, leave under the terms of maternity leave, parental leave and paternity leave. |
| Maternity or equivalent paternity benefit (paid by Agricultural Social Insurance Fund KRUS) | Benefits paid by Agricultural Social Insurance Fund (KRUS) The maternity allowance is granted to an insured person who is covered - by law or upon request - by accident, sickness, maternity and pension insurance, or by pension insurance only, and who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is a mother or father of a child; • has adopted a child - in the case of taking custody of a child under the age of 14; • has taken guardianship over a child and has applied to the guardianship court to initiate proceedings to adopt this child - in the case of taking custody of a child under the age of 14; • has taken guardianship over a child up to the age of 7 as a foster family, except for a professional foster family, or - in the case of a child for whom a postponement of compulsory education has been decided - has taken guardianship over a child up to the age of 10. The maternity allowance is granted to the insured father of a child only if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the period of the maternity allowance payable to the mother has been shortened upon her request after she had been receiving it for at least 14 weeks since the date of the childbirth; • the mother of this child has died; • the child has been abandoned by their mother. The maternity allowance is payable as of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the childbirth, • the adoption of a child, no longer than until the child turns 14 - in the case of a person who has adopted a child; • taking guardianship over a child, no longer than until the child turns 14 - in the case of a person who has taken guardianship over a child and has applied to the guardianship court to initiate proceedings to adopt this child; • taking guardianship over a child, no longer than until the child turns 7, and, in the case of a child for whom a postponement of compulsory education has been decided, no longer than until the child turns 10 - in the case of a person who has taken a guardianship over a child as a foster family, except for a professional foster family. The maternity allowance is granted to an insured father of a child for a period of 9 weeks unless he is entitled to maternity allowance in the following cases: the period of the maternity allowance payable to the mother has been shortened upon her request, she died or abandoned the child. Maternity benefit shall be valid for a period of time of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 52 weeks - if one child is born during one birth, one child is adopted or one child is fostered, • 65 weeks - if two children are born during one birth, two children are adopted or two children are fostered, • 67 weeks - if three children are born during one birth, three children are adopted or three children are fostered, • 69 weeks - if four children are born during one birth, four children are adopted or four children are fostered, • 71 weeks - if five or more children are born during one birth, five or more children are adopted or five or more children are fostered. |
| Portugal | |
| Initial parental allowance | Maternity/paternity benefit - from 120 to 150 consecutive days. |
| Extended parental allowance | Supplementary maternity/paternity benefit – up to 3 months. |
| Allowance for adoption | Idem initial parental allowance. |
| Extended allowance for adoption | Idem extended parental allowance. |
| Allowance for clinical risk during pregnancy | Granted for as long as considered necessary to prevent the risk, insofar as the employer is unable to give another task to the woman in risk. |
| Allowance for termination of pregnancy | Granted for a period of 14 to 30 days. |
| Specific risks allowance | Granted to pregnant, parturient, or nursing women pursuing night shift activity or that are exposed to agents, processes or conditions at work that may be considered as clinical risks for their health and safety. |
| Romania | |
| Maternity leave | Medical leave (prenatal and post-natal) |
| Slovenia | |
| Maternity leave | The mother starts maternity leave 28 days before the anticipated date of birth, which is specified by a gynaecologist. Maternity leave lasts 105 days and must be used in a single block of time in the form of complete absence from work. |
| Paternity leave | Paternity leave is intended for fathers to be able share with the mother the child's care and protection during the child's most sensitive period. This right is not transferable. Paternity leave lasts 15 days and must be taken in the first three months from childbirth. |
| Parental benefit | Each parent has the right to 160 days of parental leave, 60 days is non-transferable for each parent. Parental leave follows immediately after maternity leave and is intended for the further care and protection of the child. Parental leave shall be used in a continuous series in the form of full or partial absence from work. Each parent can take 60 days until the child is 8 years old. |
| Slovakia | |
| Materské - matka (Maternity benefits for mother) | Mother receives maternity benefit generally for 34 weeks in amount of 75 % of her average salary. Maternity benefit begins at least six weeks before expected date of childbirth. |
| Materské - otec (Maternity benefits for father) | Father receives maternity benefit for taking care of a child under 3 years of age, generally for 28 weeks, in amount of 75 % of his average salary. Father is entitled to 2 weeks (14 calendar days) of maternity benefit from the birth of the child until the 6th week of the child's age. The receipt of this 2 weeks of maternity benefit is deducted from the 28-week entitlement. |
| Finland | |
| Pregnancy allowance (including special pregnancy allowance and maternity benefits under the old law) | A new Act reforming parental benefits came into effect on 1 August 2022. The following parental allowances are available under the new law: pregnancy allowance, special pregnancy allowance and parental allowance. These are paid if the estimated date of birth of the baby was on or after 4 September 2022. Parental allowances under the old law are maternity benefit, special maternity benefit, paternity benefit and parental benefit. Entitlement to pregnancy leave starts 30 working days before the estimated due date of the baby. You can also agree with your employer to start your pregnancy leave later, but no later than 14 working days before the estimated due date. If you are not employed, you can choose to start your pregnancy leave 14 to 30 working days before the estimated due date. Kela pays pregnancy allowance for 40 working days. |
| Paternity benefit | Fathers can receive paternity benefit if the estimated due date of baby was before 4 September 2022. Paternity benefit is payable during the paternity leave for 54 working days. You can take the benefit in several periods until the time when the child reaches the age of 2. |

Maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash

| Benefit | Brief description of the benefit |
|--|---|
| Parental allowance (including parental benefit under the old law) | According to the new law parental allowance is paid by Kela for a total of 320 working days. If a child has two parents, the days are divided equally between both parents. You can give up and turn over a maximum of 63 working days of your quota of 160 parental allowance days to another person who is caring for the child. Parental benefit under the old law is paid for 158 working days. Parents can split the parental leave, or only one parent can go on leave. |
| Sweden | |
| Iceland | |
| Parental benefits to parents who are active in the labour market | Payments from the Maternity/Paternity Leave Fund to parents working in the domestic labour market, both employed by others or those who are self-employed. |
| Maternity/paternity Grants | Maternity/paternity grants to parents who are not active in the labour market. |
| Liechtenstein | |
| Maternity benefits | |
| Norway | |
| Parental benefit | Insured parents who have been in paid employment etc. for six out of ten months preceding the beginning of the period of paid leave, are entitled to parental benefits in case of birth, or adoption of a child below the age of 15. The parental benefit period is 49 weeks with 100 per cent compensation (full rate) or 59 weeks with 80 per cent compensation (reduced rate). In case of adoption, the benefit period is 46 or 56 weeks respectively. Parental benefits are calculated in the same way as cash benefits in case of sickness. Three weeks immediately prior to birth and six weeks immediately after the birth are reserved for the mother. In case of adoption, this rule does not apply. At full rate, 15 weeks of the benefit period are reserved for the father 24 (father's quota), 15 weeks are reserved for the mother (mother's quota) and 16 weeks may be shared between the parents. At reduced rate, 19 weeks are reserved for each of the parents and 18 weeks may be shared between them. The father may only make use of the common parental benefit period if the mother is occupationally active, takes a publicly approved full-time education, combines work and approved education to give a full time total, is unable to take care of the child because of illness or injury, is admitted to a health institution or takes part in either an introduction programme or a qualification programme on full time basis. When having twins, parents will get 17/21 extra weeks of parental benefits. When having three or more children in the same birth, they get a full extra period of parental benefits (46/56 extra weeks). Parental benefits may be combined with reduced working hours. A written agreement with the employer concerning the extent and duration of the part-time work is required. The parental benefit is reduced correspondingly, but the benefit period is extended. The parental benefit period may be postponed if the parent works full-time. A written agreement with the employer must be presented to the Labour and Welfare Service before the start of the postponement. For parents with children born after 1 October 2021, postponing the parental benefit period is no longer conditioned on working full-time and there are no application needed. The parental benefit must be used within three years of the birth or adoption. Lump sum maternity and adoption grants: Women who do not qualify for parental benefit, are entitled to receive a lump sum grant of NOK 90 300. Fathers who adopt alone or who, under 25 certain circumstances, take over the care for the child, may also be entitled to this grant. |
| Switzerland | |
| Maternity allowance (Allocation en cas de maternité dans le cadre des allocations pour pertes de gains (APG)) | Maternity benefits within the framework of the loss of earnings compensation scheme (LEC). The numbers show how many persons received a benefit for at least one day in the reference year. It therefore also includes mothers who gave birth in the previous year, but whose leave extended to the reference year. Only compensated days in the reference year are considered in "Total expenditure". The cut-off date for registry entries taken into account is April 30 of the year following the reference year. Registry entries relating to the reference year but made after April 30 of the following year are not taken into account. |
| Paternity leave | Paternity benefits within the framework of the loss of earnings compensation scheme (LEC). The numbers show how many persons received a benefit for at least one day in the reference year. It therefore also includes fathers whose child was born in the previous year, but whose leave extended to the reference year. Only compensated days in the reference year are considered in "Total expenditure". The cut-off date for registry entries taken into account is April 30 of the year following the reference year. Registry entries relating to the reference year but made after April 30 of the following year are not taken into account. |
| United Kingdom | |
| Maternity allowance | |

Source: Questionnaire on maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash 2024 and earlier reference years

Annex II Cross-country tables

Table A1 – Number of maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash exported to another EU/EFTA country, by Member State of residence, 2023

| | BE | | BG** | CZ | DK*** | DE | EE | | | | IE | | | | EL | ES | FR | | HR | IT | CY* | | LV | LT | LU**** | | | HU |
|-------|---------------------|---------------------|--|----|------------------|----|---|---|---|---|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------------|----|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----|----|-------------------|-----------------|----|----|-----------------|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| | Maternity allowance | Paternity allowance | Benefits in cash in case of pregnancy and baby | | Parental benefit | | Maternity benefit for a non-working mother (EU) | Maternity benefit for a working mother (EU) | Parental benefit from the birth of the child (EU) | Parental benefit before the birth of the child (EU) | Maternity Benefit | Paternity Benefit | Adoptive Benefit | Health and Safety Benefit | | Birth and childcare benefit | Maternity allowance | Paternity allowance | | | Maternity benefit | Maternity grant | | | Maternity leave | Exemption for pregnant women | Adoption leave | Infant care allowance |
| BE | | | | | 5 | | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 226 | 75 | | | 0 | <5 | | | 1 057 | 470 | 7 | 0 |
| BG | <5 | <5 | | | 14 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CZ | <5 | 0 | | | <5 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | <5 | | | 0 | 0 | | | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| DK | <5 | <5 | | | 987 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| DE | 17 | 18 | | | 279 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 29 | 11 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 849 | 346 | <5 | 0 |
| EE | 0 | 0 | | | 6 | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| IE | <5 | <5 | | | <5 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| EL | 0 | <5 | | | 11 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | <5 | | | <5 | <5 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| ES | 15 | 5 | | | 25 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 42 | 19 | | | 0 | 0 | | | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| FR | 831 | 966 | | | 15 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | | 0 | 0 | | | 2 448 | 1 248 | 7 | 0 |
| HR | 0 | 0 | | | 12 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | | | 0 | 0 | | | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| IT | <5 | 5 | | | 21 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 38 | 16 | | | 0 | 0 | | | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CY | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| LV | <5 | 0 | | | 16 | | 0 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| LT | <5 | <5 | | | 25 | | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | <5 | <5 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | <5 | 0 | | | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| LU | 21 | 5 | | | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 5 | <5 | | | 0 | 0 | | | | | | 0 |
| HU | <5 | 0 | | | 5 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MT | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NL | 249 | 196 | | | 17 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | <5 | | | 0 | 0 | | | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 |
| AT | <5 | <5 | | | 5 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| PL | <5 | 6 | | | 414 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | <5 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 6 | <5 | 0 | 0 |
| PT | <5 | <5 | | | 13 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 42 | 16 | 10 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| RO | 5 | 11 | | | 51 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | <5 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 |
| SI | 0 | 0 | | | <5 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SK | 0 | 0 | | | 7 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | | | 0 | 0 | | | <5 | 0 | 0 | 13 |
| FI | 0 | 0 | | | 9 | | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | <5 | | | 0 | 0 | | | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SE | <5 | <5 | | | 570 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| IS | 0 | 0 | | | 23 | | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| LI | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NO | 0 | 0 | | | 29 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CH | 6 | 0 | | | <5 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 38 | 16 | | | 0 | 0 | | | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| UK | 7 | 5 | | | <5 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 397 | 181 | 0 | <5 | 0 | <5 | <5 | <5 | | | <5 | 0 | | | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 1 171 | 1 233 | 8 | | 2 567 | | <5 | 0 | 14 | <5 | 428 | 187 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 81 | 421 | 165 | | | <5 | <5 | | | 4 374 | 2 070 | 18 | 14 |

| | MT | | NL | AT | | PL | PT | | | | | | | RO | SI | SK | | FI | | | SE | IS | LI | NO | CH**** | | | UK |
|-------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------|------------|---|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------|-----------------|----|---|--|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----|----|--------------------|------------------|--------|-----------------|---------------------|----|
| | Maternity benefit | Maternity leave benefit | WAZO | Wochengeld | Familienzeitbonu s für Väter (Family time bonus for fathers) | Maternity allowance (paid by Social Insurance Institution ZUS) | Initial parental allowance | Extended parental allowance | Allowance for adoption | Extended allowance for adoption | Allowance for clinical risk during pregnancy | Allowance for termination of pregnancy | Specific risk allowance | Maternity leave | | materské - matka (Maternity benefits for mother) | materské - otec (Maternity benefits for father) | Maternity allowance | Paternity allowance | Parental allowance | | | Maternity benefits | Parental benefit | APG | Paternity leave | Maternity allowance | |
| BE | 0 | 0 | 1 894 | <5 | 0 | <5 | 5 | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | <5 | <5 | | <5 | <5 | 6 | <5 | 14 | | | 0 | 16 | 0 | 0 | <5 | |
| BG | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | | | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 | |
| CZ | 0 | 0 | <5 | 127 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | | 19 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 13 | 0 | 0 | <5 | |
| DK | 0 | 0 | 6 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | <5 | 5 | 11 | | | 0 | 111 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| DE | <5 | 0 | 1 456 | 379 | 62 | <5 | 17 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | | 6 | <5 | 17 | 6 | 34 | | | 0 | 44 | 720 | 1 130 | <5 | |
| EE | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 14 | 34 | 82 | | | 0 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| IE | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | <5 | | | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 10 | |
| EL | 0 | <5 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | | | 0 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 5 | |
| ES | 0 | 0 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 115 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 31 | <5 | <5 | 0 | | <5 | <5 | 6 | <5 | 15 | | | 0 | 40 | 0 | 0 | 7 | |
| FR | 0 | 0 | 18 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | 0 | <5 | | <5 | <5 | 6 | 5 | 10 | | | 0 | 15 | 3 890 | 4 230 | <5 | |
| HR | 0 | 0 | <5 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | | | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| IT | 0 | 0 | 12 | 31 | <5 | 0 | <5 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 5 | | | 0 | 10 | 1 170 | 1 260 | <5 | |
| CY | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | |
| LV | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | <5 | 0 | <5 | 6 | | | 0 | 39 | 0 | 0 | <5 | |
| LT | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 10 | <5 | 0 | <5 | 5 | | | 0 | 252 | 0 | 0 | <5 | |
| LU | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| HU | 0 | 0 | <5 | 504 | 14 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | | 10 | <5 | 0 | <5 | <5 | | | 0 | 5 | 0 | 20 | <5 | |
| MT | | | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| NL | 0 | 0 | | <5 | <5 | <5 | 6 | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 15 | | | 0 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 5 | |
| AT | 0 | 0 | 7 | | | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | | 7 | <5 | <5 | <5 | <5 | | | 17 | <5 | 80 | 190 | 0 | |
| PL | 0 | 0 | 463 | 11 | 7 | | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | <5 | <5 | 0 | <5 | 0 | | | 0 | 425 | 0 | 20 | 9 | |
| PT | 0 | 0 | 19 | <5 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | | | 0 | 19 | 0 | 50 | <5 | |
| RO | 0 | 0 | 69 | 51 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | <5 | 9 | 0 | <5 | 0 | | | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 6 | |
| SI | 0 | 0 | 0 | 152 | 23 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| SK | 0 | 0 | 7 | 134 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 13 | 0 | 20 | 0 | |
| FI | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | | | | | | 0 | 26 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| SE | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 29 | 9 | 60 | | | 0 | 503 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| IS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | | | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| LI | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 60 | 40 | 0 | | |
| NO | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | <5 | <5 | 17 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | <5 | | |
| CH | 0 | 0 | 6 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 5 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 7 | <5 | 11 | | | 49 | 14 | | | 0 | |
| UK | 0 | 0 | 17 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 8 | <5 | 0 | 0 | <5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | <5 | 5 | 12 | | | 0 | 41 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Total | <5 | <5 | 4 057 | 1 446 | 119 | 16 | 202 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 45 | <5 | 5 | 16 | | 63 | 36 | 107 | 95 | 308 | | | 66 | 1 653 | 5 960 | 7 030 | 77 | |

* CY: data 2017.

** BG was not able to provide a breakdown by Member State.

*** DK: the data provided show the number of EU/EEA-citizens by nationality - not by Member State of residence - while receiving Danish maternity/paternity allowance. However, it is assumed that the majority stays in their homeland. The total reported (2 567) does not match the sum (2 563) as cells with 2 or less cases have been anonymised.

**** LU: reported <5 itself. Therefore, the totals reported do not match the sum.

***** CH: the totals reported do not match the sum of the breakdown, as there are some isolated cases in other countries which are not displayed due to confidentiality reasons but which are included in the total.

Source: Questionnaire on maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash 2024

Table A2 – Related expenditure to persons who received maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash residing in a Member State other than the competent Member State (in €), 2023

| | BE | | BG** | CZ | DK*** | DE | EE | | | | IE | | | | EL | ES | FR | | HR | IT | CY* | | LV | LT | LU | | | HU |
|-------|---------------------|---------------------|---|----|------------------|----|---|---|---|---|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------------|----|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----|----|-------------------|-----------------|----|----|-----------------|------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| | Maternity allowance | Paternity allowance | Benefits in cash in case of pregnancy and baby delivery | | Parental benefit | | Maternity benefit for a non-working mother (EU) | Maternity benefit for a working mother (EU) | Parental benefit from the birth of the child (EU) | Parental benefit before the birth of the child (EU) | Maternity Benefit | Paternity Benefit | Adoptive Benefit | Health and Safety Benefit | | Birth and childcare benefit | Maternity daily allowances | Paternity daily allowances | | | Maternity benefit | Maternity grant | | | Maternity leave | Exemption for pregnant women | Adoption leave | Infant care allowance |
| BE | | | | | 22 816 | | 0 | 0 | 654 | 0 | 0 | 524 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 56 435 | 906 701 | 107 311 | | | 0 | 544 | | | 15 104 819 | 5 333 109 | 92 095 | 0 |
| BG | 3 039 | 1 563 | | | 134 451 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 18 241 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CZ | 13 553 | 0 | | | < | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 746 | 0 | 1 335 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 14 278 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| DK | 9 980 | 5 711 | | | 7 960 535 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 590 | 8 810 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| DE | 140 836 | 38 804 | | | 1 742 886 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 826 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 85 618 | 106 455 | 17 116 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 12 883 470 | 4 721 650 | 9 242 | 0 |
| EE | 0 | 0 | | | 11 377 | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 131 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| IE | 20 983 | 3 801 | | | 21 225 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | | 0 | 10 183 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| EL | 0 | 2 089 | | | 66 992 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 690 | | | 2 397 | 544 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| ES | 123 242 | 10 672 | | | 152 211 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 40 653 | 524 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 131 892 | 24 865 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 21 633 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| FR | 4 962 071 | 1 717 971 | | | 110 171 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 908 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 32 155 761 | 13 310 635 | 55 062 | 0 |
| HR | 0 | 0 | | | 101 105 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 788 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 861 | 1 506 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 10 078 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| IT | 14 039 | 9 316 | | | 143 951 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 70 594 | 74 018 | 20 254 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 22 914 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CY | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 894 | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| LV | 12 926 | 0 | | | 102 868 | | 0 | 0 | 11 764 | 0 | 0 | 524 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| LT | 5 473 | 1 720 | | | 199 880 | | 0 | 0 | 581 | 0 | 20 436 | 528 | 0 | 3 080 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 13 179 | 1 088 | | | 21 178 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| LU | 129 221 | 8 724 | | | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 294 | 28 286 | 2 380 | | | 0 | 0 | | | | | | 0 |
| HU | 6 145 | 0 | | | 38 256 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 335 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MT | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NL | 1 567 261 | 440 089 | | | 118 510 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 438 | 20 879 | 3 613 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 12 901 | 0 | 0 | 11 159 |
| AT | 12 703 | 673 | | | 43 186 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21 844 | 8 444 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 12 674 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| PL | 7 500 | 10 183 | | | 1 992 061 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 98 759 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 014 | 9 712 | 3 741 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 59 444 | 45 458 | 0 | 0 |
| PT | 22 671 | 7 556 | | | 97 421 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 812 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 236 597 | 27 119 | 11 218 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| RO | 33 263 | 17 355 | | | 268 522 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 812 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 216 | 0 | 4 490 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 12 787 | 0 | 0 |
| SI | 0 | 0 | | | < | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SK | 0 | 0 | | | 68 604 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 680 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 605 | 3 531 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 9 652 | 0 | 0 | 36 066 |
| FI | 0 | 0 | | | 58 918 | | 0 | 0 | 3 115 | 1 118 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 26 500 | 4 663 | 1 999 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 14 980 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SE | 25 031 | 5 993 | | | 4 673 009 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 524 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 29 882 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| IS | 0 | 0 | | | 166 405 | | 3 474 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| LI | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NO | 0 | 0 | | | 164 485 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 524 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 051 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| CH | 20 057 | 0 | | | < | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 867 | 113 889 | 24 721 | | | 0 | 0 | | | 46 060 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| UK | 46 714 | 7 879 | | | < | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 684 970 | 93 081 | 0 | 1 247 | 0 | 9 291 | 13 721 | 2 179 | | | 410 | 0 | | | 25 377 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 7 176 710 | 2 290 097 | 6 705 | | 18 511 095 | | 3 474 | 0 | 16 115 | 1 118 | 2 887 645 | 96 229 | 0 | 4 327 | 0 | 585 229 | 1 513 119 | 234 178 | | | 15 986 | 2 176 | | | 60 433 459 | 23 423 639 | 156 399 | 47 225 |

| | MT | NL | AT | PL | PT | | | | | | | | RO | SI | SK | | FI | | | SE | IS | LI | NO | CH**** | | UK |
|-------|--|------------|---|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------|-----------------|----|--|---|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--|----|---------------------|------------------|------------|-----------------|---------------------|----|
| | Maternity benefit Maternity leave benefit | WAZO | Wochengeld Familienzeitbonus für Väter (Family time bonus for fathers) | Maternity allowance (paid by Social Insurance Institution ZUS) | Initial parental allowance | Extended parental allowance | Allowance for adoption | Extended allowance for adoption | Allowance for clinical risk during pregnancy | Allowance for termination of pregnancy | Specific risk allowance | Maternity leave | | materské - matka (Maternity benefits for mother) | materské - otec (Maternity benefits for father) | Maternity allowance | Paternity allowance | Parental allowance | | | Maternity allowance | Parental benefit | APG | Paternity leave | Maternity allowance | |
| BE | 0 0 0 | 13 259 398 | 16 215 0 | 6 300 | 7 194 | 1 607 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 3 767 | 0 | 8 249 | 2 476 | | 8 260 | 836 | 29 364 | 8 762 | 126 413 | | | 0 | 213 710 | 0 | 0 | 7 774 | |
| BG | 0 0 0 | 31 873 | 0 0 0 | 0 | 3 073 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 4 548 | 3 258 | 1 287 | 4 091 | | | 0 | 36 688 | 0 | 0 | 10 208 | |
| CZ | 0 0 0 | 16 048 | 840 478 3 658 | 0 | 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 473 | | 83 694 | 27 265 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 69 844 | 0 | 0 | 10 208 | |
| DK | 0 0 0 | 29 981 | 5 131 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 15 777 | 11 434 | 103 781 | | | 0 | 1 336 934 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| DE | 1 557 0 | 8 641 143 | 3 250 960 57 129 | 11 757 | 73 914 | 19 296 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 876 | | 38 094 | 7 518 | 63 625 | 12 506 | 354 626 | | | 0 | 349 316 | 8 704 000 | 2 981 000 | 10 208 | |
| EE | 0 0 0 | 26 778 | 0 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 37 364 | 77 414 | 411 364 | | | 0 | 178 841 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| IE | 0 0 0 | 62 751 | 0 0 0 | 0 | 6 110 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 1 276 | 0 | 5 118 | | | 0 | 56 576 | 0 | 0 | 71 124 | |
| EL | 0 731 | 52 300 | 0 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 22 850 | | | 0 | 85 507 | 0 | 0 | 32 314 | |
| ES | 0 0 0 | 205 786 | 0 0 0 | 0 | 351 507 | 7 415 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 98 217 | 3 955 | 20 040 | 0 | | 3 932 | 8 381 | 18 223 | 10 172 | 75 196 | | | 0 | 462 135 | 0 | 0 | 28 108 | |
| FR | 0 0 0 | 97 827 | 17 999 0 | 0 | 32 857 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 3 997 | 2 630 | 0 | 4 606 | | 1 453 | 621 | 19 559 | 16 171 | 65 972 | | | 0 | 259 195 | 47 655 000 | 9 695 000 | 11 425 | |
| HR | 0 0 0 | 15 974 | 27 237 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 5 613 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 444 | | | 0 | 18 418 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| IT | 0 0 0 | 64 975 | 262 657 717 | 0 | 11 616 | 3 716 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 432 | | 11 198 | 0 | 0 | 3 539 | 55 937 | | | 0 | 70 962 | 9 846 000 | 2 294 000 | 31 097 | |
| CY | 0 0 0 | 0 | 0 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 46 646 | |
| LV | 0 0 0 | 34 309 | 0 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 725 | 0 | 6 625 | 44 819 | | | 0 | 508 029 | 0 | 0 | 7 061 | |
| LT | 0 0 0 | 28 248 | 0 0 0 | 80 256 | 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 45 412 | 8 735 | 0 | 2 598 | 26 266 | | | 0 | 2 276 867 | 0 | 0 | 16 566 | |
| LU | 0 0 0 | 16 018 | 0 0 0 | 0 | 18 787 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 4 495 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 12 125 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 5 862 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| HU | 0 0 0 | 22 162 | 3 048 349 14 609 | 2 609 | 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 18 357 | | 29 446 | 836 | 0 | 5 926 | 3 948 | | | 0 | 44 737 | 0 | 31 000 | 23 323 | |
| MT | | 15 484 | 0 0 0 | 0 | 8 500 | 2 149 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| NL | 0 0 0 | | 23 322 789 | 573 | 16 981 | 1 391 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 7 143 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 29 835 | 0 | 130 698 | | | 0 | 112 959 | 0 | 0 | 38 872 | |
| AT | 0 0 0 | 44 643 | | 0 | 1 177 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 665 | | 52 429 | 8 007 | 5 333 | 811 | 25 441 | | | 236 592 | 55 764 | 981 000 | 484 000 | 0 | |
| PL | 0 0 0 | 2 086 607 | 107 761 6 791 | | 2 960 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 2 989 | 1 844 | 0 | 7 465 | 0 | | | 0 | 4 337 170 | 0 | 39 000 | 49 584 | |
| PT | 0 0 0 | 88 664 | 2 175 0 | 0 | | | | | | | | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 135 | | | 0 | 128 078 | 0 | 91 000 | 15 549 | |
| RO | 0 0 0 | 271 486 | 365 428 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 14 472 | 26 532 | 0 | 3 936 | 0 | | | 0 | 204 319 | 0 | 0 | 45 933 | |
| SI | 0 0 0 | 0 | 1 197 216 22 088 | 0 | 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 731 | 1 456 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 38 249 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| SK | 0 0 0 | 43 676 | 1 051 416 3 873 | 0 | 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | 0 | 100 614 | 0 | 40 000 | 0 | |
| FI | 0 0 0 | 0 | 0 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | | | | | | 0 | 311 975 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| SE | 0 0 0 | 15 322 | 0 0 0 | 0 | 876 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 88 451 | 27 641 | 457 032 | | | 0 | 5 497 289 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| IS | 0 0 0 | 0 | 0 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 742 | 4 405 | | | 0 | 66 671 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| LI | 0 0 0 | 0 | 56 397 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | 0 | 732 000 | 108 000 | 0 | |
| NO | 0 0 0 | 12 158 | 7 996 0 | 0 | 740 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 13 477 | 6 156 | 106 688 | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 549 | 0 | |
| CH | 0 0 0 | 69 049 | 266 336 0 | 0 | 58 763 | 12 218 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 11 655 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 36 575 | 26 793 | 143 912 | | | 636 753 | 163 728 | | | 0 | |
| UK | 0 0 0 | 140 267 | 6 175 0 | 0 | 12 367 | 577 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 711 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 13 693 | 18 946 | 100 372 | | | 0 | 539 179 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Total | 1 557 731 | 25 392 927 | 10 553 248 109 654 | 101 494 | 607 422 | 48 368 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 130 717 | 8 040 | 28 289 | 47 885 | | 309 115 | 95 847 | 375 808 | 251 921 | 2 275 508 | | | 873 345 | 17 529 619 | 68 305 000 | 15 881 000 | 471 550 | |

* CY: data 2017.

** BG was not able to provide a breakdown by Member State.

*** DK: the data provided show the number of EU/EEA-citizens by nationality - not by Member State of residence - while receiving Danish maternity/paternity allowance. However, it is assumed that the majority stays in their homeland. The total reported (EUR 18 511 095) does not match the sum (EUR 18 459 845) as the cells with 2 cases or less were anonymised (indicated by '<').

**** CH: the totals reported do not match the sum of the breakdown, as there are some isolated cases in other countries which are not displayed due to confidentiality reasons, but which are included in the total.

Source: Questionnaire on maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash 2024

Annex III Questionnaire on maternity and equivalent paternity benefits in cash

- 1) **Total** number of persons who received a maternity or equivalent paternity benefit in cash paid by the competent Member State and total related expenditure (in €)

Name of the maternity or equivalent paternity benefit:

Brief description of the benefit:

| Total number of persons | Total expenditure (in €) |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| | |

If more maternity or equivalent paternity benefits in cash exist, please replicate the above table.

- 2) Concerning **persons who received maternity or equivalent paternity benefits in cash residing in a Member State other than the competent Member State**, please indicate the number of cases and amount paid (in €) by your authorities during the calendar year 2023, specifying the name of the benefit(s) which exist under your legislation - in the field 'name of the cash benefit'.

| Member State of residence | Name of the cash benefit: | | Name of the cash benefit: | | Name of the cash benefit: | | Total | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| | Number of cases | Amount paid (in €) | Number of cases | Amount paid (in €) | Number of cases | Amount paid (in €) | Number of cases | Amount paid (in €) |
| Belgium | | | | | | | | |
| Bulgaria | | | | | | | | |
| Czech Republic | | | | | | | | |
| Denmark | | | | | | | | |
| Germany | | | | | | | | |
| Estonia | | | | | | | | |
| Ireland | | | | | | | | |
| Greece | | | | | | | | |
| Spain | | | | | | | | |
| France | | | | | | | | |
| Croatia | | | | | | | | |
| Italy | | | | | | | | |
| Cyprus | | | | | | | | |
| Latvia | | | | | | | | |
| Lithuania | | | | | | | | |
| Luxembourg | | | | | | | | |
| Hungary | | | | | | | | |
| Malta | | | | | | | | |
| Netherlands | | | | | | | | |
| Austria | | | | | | | | |
| Poland | | | | | | | | |
| Portugal | | | | | | | | |
| Romania | | | | | | | | |
| Slovenia | | | | | | | | |
| Slovakia | | | | | | | | |
| Finland | | | | | | | | |
| Sweden | | | | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | | | | | | | | |
| Iceland | | | | | | | | |
| Liechtenstein | | | | | | | | |
| Norway | | | | | | | | |
| Switzerland | | | | | | | | |
| Total | | | | | | | | |

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