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Dörfler, Sonja; Städtner, Karin

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EUROPEAN FAMILY POLICY DATABASE

Database on Specific Family-Policy Measures in 16 European Countries

Draft Manual
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Sonja Dörfler
Karin Städtner
THE FAMILY POLICY DATABASE

Manual

Introduction

The European Family Policy Database provides comparative and country-specific data and information on family policies in 16 European countries. For the purpose of the database, family policies are defined as public policies explicitly targeted at families or policies that expressly consider families in their institutional regulations. The aim of the database is to facilitate comparative family-policy analyses by providing data on the lowest possible aggregation level, by utilizing standardized variables and by accurately indicating institutional regulations.

Two versions of the database are available:

- the European Family Policy Database under MS Access, which is described in this manual, and
- the browser-based version containing all data files, the documentation related to the time series, the overviews of family-policy fields available and some basic information on countries and specific policies. This version has not been updated and maintained.

This manual wants to help potential users to navigate through the database and to find the desired information. The target audience are interested researchers who want to compare family policies across different European countries.

The manual is divided into seven sections: Chapter 1 provides a comprehensive overview of the contents. Chapter 2 focuses on the coverage of particular countries. In chapter 3, you will find a quick-tour that helps you install the CD-Rom and guides you through the database. Chapter 4 offers a detailed description of the two different search methods, and explains the retrieval sequence by means of an example. Chapter 5 explains the sophisticated coding system utilized within the database. Chapter 6 discusses the numerous types of variables embedded in the database and indicates where they can be found. Chapter 7 contains a brief overview of the data sources and of the technical terms used in this database. In the annex, you will find tips on installation and a schematic description of the search methods.

The Austrian Institute for Family Studies (ÖIF) has updated the Austrian data and administers the European-wide distribution. Moreover, it is in charge of technical maintenance and offers training in the use of the database.

For more information on the European Family Policy Database, please go to the ÖIF’s homepage: www.oif.ac.at

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1 The term ‘family’ also refers to family members and familial relationships.
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1. Overview

The Family Policy Database was conceptualized and created at the Mannheim Center for European Social Research (MZES) as part of the international research project *Family Changes and Family Policies in the West*. It is now maintained and updated at the Austrian Institute for Family Studies (ÖIF), co-ordinator of the European Observatory on the Social Situation, Demography and Family. The database was created to make similar family measures in different countries comparable.

The database provides quantitative and qualitative information on family policies in 16 European countries, all Member States of the European Union (EU) as of 2000 except Luxembourg, plus Norway and Poland. It covers six main areas of family policy:

1) allowances for families in general,
2) allowances especially for one-parent families,
3) subsistence minimum (family dimension),
4) allowances for caring for family/household members in need of short-term or long-term care,
5) child-care services, and
6) entitlements to time-off (time-rights) in order to care for family/household members.

The database is available in a browser-based version and under MS Access. The version of the Family Policy Database under MS Access provides information on institutional regulations and comparative classifications of family-policy measures. Moreover, it permits more sophisticated procedures of data retrieval and selection, which may also be combined, and lets you search by variables.

The core of the database are quantitative time series provided in standardized form across all countries. To broaden the information basis, they are supplemented by country-specific data and institutional information. The time series include data on beneficiaries, benefit rates, the structure of expenditures and of finance for each individual family-policy measure at the lowest possible aggregation level. They cover family policies from their origins or from the time data are available up to the present time. The time series are documented and the sources for each variable are indicated. Data are provided on an annual basis in absolute numbers (basic units). Financial data are stated in national currencies at current prices. In some cases, the database includes processed data, for example calculated national totals summing up a number of schemes or regions within a country. The time-series data are not integrated into the database. They are stored in 'external' MS Excel files. This means that it is not possible to run queries extracting time-series data for specific measures and listing them in columns, i.e. the database does not allow to view time series or information of two or more individual family-policy measures at the same time. Therefore we recommend to download or print the relevant data (e.g. Excel files) or to copy them from the CD-ROM for statistical analysis.

In principle, the database contains standardized Access sheets on major institutional regulations (and their development over time) as well as comparative classifications for each individual measure documented in the time series. However, due to lacking information, not all sheets are complete. The focus is on institutional regulations concerning entitlement conditions for benefits (or conditions of access to services) and main benefit regulations. Comparative classifications aim at grouping individual family-policy measures by criteria concerning the character/purpose of benefits/services. Terms used in other languages than English have been translated into English.
2. Coverage

In the present version, the degree of completeness varies widely for the countries covered in the database. This naturally limits its value for comparative studies. The figure below summarizes the result of a first evaluation regarding completeness of data on the EU Member States covered by the database. The overall quality and completeness was found to be reasonably good for five Member States, namely France, Ireland, Germany, Austria (data updated until 2001) and Sweden. The first five columns relate to time-series data, while the last column summarizes the extent to which measures are listed in the database irrespective of the availability of time-series data for these family-policy measures.

Table 1: Coverage of EU Member States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Cash benefits for families in general</th>
<th>Cash benefits especially for lone parents</th>
<th>Subsistence minimum (family dimension)</th>
<th>Child-care services</th>
<th>Cash benefits and time-off entitlements (time-rights) relating to parenting and caring for children</th>
<th>Measures listed in database</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>*****</td>
<td>****</td>
<td>***</td>
<td>****</td>
<td>*****</td>
<td>*****</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
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<td>Germany</td>
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<td>Austria</td>
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<td>Finland</td>
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<td>Denmark</td>
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<td>Portugal</td>
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<td>Netherlands</td>
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<td>Belgium</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>***</td>
<td></td>
<td>**</td>
<td>**</td>
<td></td>
<td>**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The classification into five groups of measures corresponds to the categories used in the browser-based version of the database.

For a comprehensive overview and a detailed evaluation of the data on all countries included in the database please refer to the Annex.

Menu item 3 (‘Availability of specific measures of family policy with time series’) on the starting page (‘Overview’) lists all family measures included in the database for which time-series data can be found by country (as of 10 October 2000).
3. Installation and Navigation

This chapter describes how to navigate through the database. By way of example, it describes a typical data retrieval, and explains the search procedure step by step. It will tell you how to install the CD-Rom, how to enter the database and how to proceed to get the desired information.

Quick Tour

Step 1:
After having inserted the CD-Rom, open the disk drive (D:) in the Windows explorer. There you will find two folders labeled fpdb and FPDB_cd. For downloading the Access-Version of the European Family Policy Database, copy folder fpdb to your harddisk.

Step 2:
Open the database by double-clicking the folder and selecting the application fpdb_acc2000. Before entering the database, remove the writing protection by pressing the right mouse button, choosing the option properties and clicking the corresponding item. Having done that, open the first window of the database by double-clicking.

Figure 1: Overview

[Image of the overview window]

Entering the database automatically opens the overview window.
To search for a specific policy measure (for demonstration purposes, we’ll search for ‘parental leave in Austria’), select navigation and search.

Figure 2 Navigation and Search

[Image of the navigation and search window]

For searching via the navigator, select the first menu item of the sheet (‘Search and selection of specific measure(s) of family policy via the navigator’).
In principle, the Navigator permits various ways of searching. The simplest way of retrieval is by selecting one country/several countries and/or a family policy measure(s). Mark Austria as well as the function child raising and child care, as shown in Figure 3. Pressing the button ‘Activate selection’ lists all measures that match the description.

Figure 4 presents the search results. As we want to obtain information about parental leave allowances, we select the respective measure. Selecting a specific measure brings you to the sheet 'national level', as shown in Figure 5.

Besides the name of the particular measure and its duration, this window lists existing differentiations by scheme or region. For more information, select the respective button at the bottom of the page.
Figure 6: Specific Measure

Figure 6 provides useful information in the form of time-series data, institutional regulation and classification. To access the time-series pertaining to a specific measure, select the option ‘go to data’. This immediately brings up the Excel sheet as shown in Figure 7.

Figure 7: Excel Sheet
4. Search Runs

This chapter offers a more detailed navigation tour, explaining the search run on the basis of a commented example. The aim of the search described in this chapter is to find information on child/family allowance in Austria.

You can find relevant information and data using the navigation system. The standard selection procedure starts from the page entitled ‘Overview’ depicted in Figure 8, which opens automatically as you enter the database.

Figure 8: Family Policy Database – Overview: Information on Project

From there, you have two possibilities for searching for information on individual family policies:
- via the navigator, and
- via variable-based queries.

Both methods are described below.

4.1 Search via Navigator

As already mentioned, when searching for data via the Navigator select the first menu item of the register sheet ‘Navigation and Search’ shown in Figure 9. This will directly lead you to the navigator sheet shown in Figure 10.
The navigator offers two different search methods:

- The first method requires selection of one or more family policies by country and/or function; the typical way is to select both. If you only choose the option ‘country’, all family policies in the selected country(ies) are shown. If you only select ‘function’, you will get a list of family-policy measures in all countries. In Figure 10, ‘Austria’ was chosen as the country of interest along with the family-policy function ‘financial assistance to families in...’
Pressing the button 'Activate selection' yields a list of family policies that meet the search criteria. The results of this inquiry are presented in a new sheet titled 'Navigator: Results' and depicted in Figure 13.

Alternatively, you may use the MZES code developed for classification purposes. It allows you to search individual policies in a step-wise process. After clicking on the button 'Select MZES-Code' – see arrow in Figure 12 – select all four levels of the classification system. The selection procedure is shown in Figure 12. Once you have chosen the desired measure, the respective code becomes visible at the right side of the screen. To improve the retrieval, you may opt for one or more specific countries as well as for time limits in the 'Navigator' sheet.

Figure 11: Select MZES-Code
As both methods give you the results in the form depicted in Figure 13, both of them can be continued in the same way.

All the measures displayed in the list match the requirements previously defined by the user. Choosing one specific measure from the list of policies opens a new form, which provides general information on the selected policy at the national level. Figure 14 shows this form (‘Measure: National level’).
The form states the name of the particular family measure in its original language and in English, as well as its duration. If sub-national data are available, either regional or in separate schemes, these data can be accessed by selecting one of those sub-national levels. To do so, click on the buttons to the left of the respective measure and codes (see arrows in Figure 14). In our example of child/family allowance in Austria, there are three different schemes. For demonstration purposes, we select the one for workers, employees and self-employed persons. If you only see ‘No differentiation by scheme or region for this measure’ under heading ‘Same measure in other schemes/regions’, this indicates that data on the sub-national level do not exist or have not been made available. In this case, you may directly go to the specific measure on the national level by pressing the button ‘Specific measure’ at the bottom of the screen.
Figure 15: Sub-national Level

The next form which opens provides general information on the sub-national level. The number 9999 in the 'discontinuation'-field indicates that the measure is still valid. To obtain detailed information on the particular scheme, click on the 'Specific measure' button.

Figure 16 shows the orange-colored 'Specific Measure'-sheet from which you can directly access measure-specific time-series data, institutional regulations and classifications.
From this sheet, you can access time-series data by selecting the option ‘Go to data’. Clicking on this button starts MS Excel and opens the file for the family-policy measure of your choice. The Excel sheet coming up for our enquiry is shown in Figure 17.

Figure 17: Excel Sheet
The main headings used in the Excel sheets are benefit rates, beneficiaries, structure of financing and structure of expenditure. Data on beneficiaries or institutions are given in the basic unit. The same holds for financial data which are always inserted in national currency at current prices. For more information regarding the time-series data in the Excel sheets see Box 1 below.

Box 1: Explanation of Variables Used in Excel Sheets

In the Excel files, the missing value ‘-1’ indicates that a given variable category does not fit/is not applicable, whereas missing value ‘-2’ means that the information is not/has not been available, i.e. has not been published or not included in the publications used by the MZES Family Policy Database team. The database includes five types of time series data, which are explained in more detail in chapter 5 of the manual: standard variables, country-specific variables, sub-scheme-specific data, agency-specific data or regional data and additional variables. The different data types are stored in separate sheets in the same file for a given family-policy measure. The variable category is indicated by name of the sheet in the Excel files.

Information on institutional regulations and comparative classifications is available for most of the measures covered by the time series data. Both of them are provided in standard forms under MS Access and can be accessed via the form ‘Specific measure’ (Figure 16). Two important notes need to be made here. First, institutional information and classifications refer to a specific level of data. If, for example, a country has different benefit regulations for different target groups, then institutional regulations as well as classifications refer to the sub-national levels. No information can be provided for the national level, and there is no form for the national level. Second, both institutional information and classifications refer to distinct time periods for which the given information is valid. Major changes in institutional regulations and with regard to the classification variables are documented. Technically speaking, a new period is determined if (at least) one variable category of at least one variable has to be redefined according to new regulations or if another classification applies. The entries for different periods of time can be displayed separately. In order to access them, press the button ‘Go to period’. If more than one period has been defined, you can scroll them by clicking on the buttons headed ‘Navigate over periods’. You can also open a report on changes over time by clicking the respective buttons.
You can get more information on institutional regulations and classifications via the ‘Specific Measure’ form as shown in Figure 16. To do so, select the respective items. Figure 18 shows the form for the child/family allowances in Austria. Institutional regulations focus on legislation, administration, financing, entitlement conditions and benefit and tax regulations regarding the specific family measure, while the variable categories depend on the particular benefit, service or time-right. The institutional regulations reflect social legislation and thus help to better understand the time-series data.

Figure 18: Institutional Regulations
Figure 19: Classifications

Figure 19 shows the form ‘Classification’ which can also be accessed via the ‘Specific Measure’ form. The classification sheet provides detailed information on the policy instrument, its function, characteristics of the target group and benefit characteristics. As opposed to institutional regulations, classification focuses mainly on measure-related characteristics or categorizations, and all variables contain information that characterize a particular family-policy measure in detail.

Within each query, you may navigate back and forth and switch between qualitative and quantitative data for each individual family-policy programme. All information is available in the MS Access version, with the exception of quantitative time series, which are only available as Excel-files.

Going back to the original list of selected measures (i.e. form 'Navigator: Results') will terminate the search for data and information on a specific programme. From there, you may start a new query by selecting another individual measure from the list or go back to the main navigator menu. The current list of measures remains activated until the query based on the criteria defined in the navigator is actively cancelled. If you want to run a new selection, you must reformulate your query in the navigator.

4.2 Variable-based Query

The database does not only give you access to data on individual family policies via the navigator. Alternatively, you may also define your own queries on common or divergent institutional regulations and characteristics of specific family policy measures. Whereas the queries made via the navigator are based on a common classification regarding field/function and/or country, it is also possible to take each variable (to be more precise: its categories) as a starting point and search for different family policies with the same properties. This option
can be accessed via the register sheet ‘Analysis and output’: select ‘Query building on common properties of institutional regulations or classifications’.

In the form that opens (Figure 20), you have to decide which family policy instrument (classifications) or family policy field (institutional regulations) you are interested in. Based on one or more variable categories and/or countries, the search procedure will then apply the criteria formulated to all entries across countries (with institutional regulations related to one of the six defined fields of family policy) or across all countries and fields of family policy (with classifications, referring to a specific instrument of family policy). This will give you a list of family policies which meet the defined criteria.

As a rule, each variable category may serve as criterion for a user-defined query. For a ‘comprehensive list of all standard variables defined in the database see ‘Variable lists’ in the register sheet ‘Documentation and classification’. However, it is advisable to focus on the qualitative information on institutional regulations or classifications. One may, for example, search for all family policies that are employment-related, only give entitlement based on income or a means test or can be classified as ‘crèche’, ‘kindergarten’, ‘pre-primary schooling’ or ‘occasional care’.

In Annex, Section A.2. you will find a graphic summary of the navigation procedures.

**Figure 20: Query Building on Common Properties of Institutional Regulations or Classifications**
5. Classification

The European Family Policy Database uses a sophisticated classification system that allows for an international comparative classification of all family measures in various fields. The main categories are by family-policy instruments, target groups and family-policy functions. The classification scheme is listed in detail below:

Family-policy instruments
1) cash benefit
2) tax benefit
3) personal social service
4) benefit in kind
5) time right

Target groups
1) families (as a whole)
2) children
3) spouses/partners
4) mothers/fathers/parents
5) surviving family members

Family-policy functions
1) financial assistance to families in general
2) financial assistance especially to one-parent families
3) financial assistance to spouses/cohabiting partners
4) financial assistance to pregnant women/mothers
5) financial assistance to surviving family members
6) supplements/modifications of benefits in social security (family dimension)
7) guaranteeing sufficient resources (family dimension)
8) saving/wealth creation (family dimension)
9) fiscal treatment of intra-familial income transfers
10) fiscal treatment of intergenerational property transmission
11) child raising and childcare
12) long-term care and home help (family dimension)
13) child and youth welfare
14) counseling on marriage/family/children or maternity-abortion
15) health (family dimension)
16) education (family dimension)
17) housing (family dimension)
18) transportation (family dimension)

The classification system of benefits, services and time-rights – i.e. the MZES-Code – is divided into four levels. The first level distinguishes the family policy instruments, the second level breaks them down for the five target groups. Functional differences play a decisive role in the third-level subdivision. The differentiations on the fourth level follow purely pragmatic considerations so that each family-policy measure becomes unambiguously attributable within the classification scheme. Table 2 below presents the hierarchical classification system.
Table 2: Classification System of Benefits, Services and Time Rights (MZES-Code)

1. CASH BENEFITS
   1.1. family-and child-related cash benefits
      1.1.1. allowances for families in general
         1.1.1.1. allowances for children
         1.1.1.2. allowances for other dependants
      1.1.2. allowances especially for one-parent families
         1.1.2.1. allowances irrespective of civil status of single parent
         1.1.2.2. allowances depending on civil status of single parent
      1.1.3. supplements to or modifications of benefits in social security (family dimension)
         1.1.3.1. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of sickness
         1.1.3.2. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of employment injuries/occupational diseases
         1.1.3.3. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of invalidity
         1.1.3.4. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of retirement
         1.1.3.5. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of unemployment
      1.1.4. existence minimum (family dimension)
         1.1.4.1. minimum income in non-contributory schemes (family dimension)
         1.1.4.2. minimum income in contributory schemes (family dimension)
      1.1.5. allowances for caring for family/household members in need of short-term or long-term care
         1.1.5.1. allowances for caring for children
         1.1.5.2. allowances for caring for adult handicapped or elderly family/household members
      1.1.6. benefits for children in education
         1.1.6.1. educational allowances
         1.1.6.2. educational grants
         1.1.6.3. educational loans
      1.1.7. benefits for housing (family dimension)
         1.1.7.1. housing allowances (family dimension)
         1.1.7.2. housing loans (family dimension)
         1.1.7.3. benefits facilitating the acquisition of housing property (family dimension)
   1.2. couple-related cash benefits
      1.2.1. benefits for marriage or household formation
         1.2.1.1. marriage or household formation grants
         1.2.1.2. marriage or household formation loans
      1.2.2. allowances for (present/former) spouse/cohabiting partner
         1.2.2.1. allowances where no distinction is made between spouse and cohabiting partner
         1.2.2.2. allowances only for spouse
      1.2.3. supplements to or modifications of benefits in social security (family dimension)
         1.2.3.1. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of sickness
         1.2.3.2. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of employment injuries/occupational diseases
         1.2.3.3. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of invalidity
         1.2.3.4. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of retirement
         1.2.3.5. supplements to or modifications of benefits in case of unemployment
   1.3. maternity- and childbirth-related cash benefits
      1.3.1. benefits during pregnancy, after childbirth, related to adoption
         1.3.1.1. maternity, birth and adoption allowances
         1.3.1.2. maternity, birth and adoption birth grants
   1.4. cash benefits related to surviving family/household members
      1.4.1. benefits for widows/widowers
         1.4.1.1. pensions or allowances for widows/widowers
         1.4.1.2. lump-sum payments to widows/widowers
      1.4.2. benefits for (full- or half-)orphans
         1.4.2.1. pensions or allowances for (full- or half-)orphans
         1.4.2.2. lump-sum payments to (full- or half-)orphans
Table 2 (continued)

2. TAX BENEFITS
  2.1. family- and child related tax benefits
    2.1.1. tax reliefs for families in general
      2.1.1.1. tax reliefs for children
    2.1.1.2. tax reliefs for other dependants
  2.1.2. tax reliefs especially for one-parent families
    2.1.2.1. tax reliefs irrespective of civil status of single parent
    2.1.2.2. tax reliefs depending on civil status of single parent
  2.1.3. tax reliefs for parents after separation or divorce
  2.1.4. tax-exempt existence minimum (family dimension)
  2.1.5. tax reliefs for caring for family/household members in need of short-term or long-term care
    2.1.5.1. tax reliefs for caring for children
    2.1.5.2. tax reliefs for caring for adult handicapped or elderly family/household members
  2.1.6. tax reliefs for children in education
  2.1.7. tax reliefs for housing (family dimension)
  2.1.8. tax reliefs for saving/wealth creation (family dimension)
  2.2. couple-related tax benefits
    2.2.1. tax reliefs for spouses/cohabiting partners
    2.2.2. tax reliefs for (former) spouses after separation or divorce
  2.3. maternity- and childbirth-related tax benefits
    2.3.1. tax reliefs during pregnancy, after childbirth, related to adoption
  2.4. tax benefits related to intergenerational property transmission
    2.4.1. tax reliefs related to donations/lifetime gifts
    2.4.2. tax reliefs related to inheritance/property transmission after death

3. PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES
  3.1. family-related social services
    3.1.1. health services for families
    3.1.2. family/home help services
    3.1.3. services caring for family/household members in need of short-term or long-term care
      3.1.3.1. caring for children
      3.1.3.2. caring for adult handicapped or elderly family/household members
    3.1.4. counseling on marriage, family and children
  3.2. child-related social services
    3.2.1. health services for children
      3.2.1.1. school health services
      3.2.1.2. child health services outside the education system
    3.2.2. child and youth welfare services
      3.2.2.1. family-based child and youth welfare
      3.2.2.2. center-based child and youth welfare
    3.2.3. child-care services
      3.2.3.1. family-based child care
      3.2.3.2. center-based child care
    3.2.4. services for children in education
    3.2.5. counseling on education and socialization
  3.3. maternity- and childbirth-related social services
    3.3.1. health services for pregnant women and mothers
    3.3.2. childbirth services
      3.3.2.1. childbirth services by midwives
      3.3.2.2. childbirth services in hospitals
    3.3.3. counseling on maternity and abortion

4. BENEFITS IN KIND
  4.1. family-related benefits in kind
    4.1.1. benefits related to increased expenditures for families in general
    4.1.2. benefits for housing (family dimension)
4.1.3. transportation (family dimension)

Table 2 (continued)

4.2. child-related benefits in kind
   4.2.1. benefits for children in education
4.3. maternity- and childbirth-related benefits in kind
   4.3.1. benefits during pregnancy, after childbirth, related to adoption

5. TIME RIGHTS
   5.1. family- and child-related time rights
      5.1.1. time rights for taking care of or for caring for family/household members
             5.1.1.1. time rights for child raising and child care
             5.1.1.2. time rights for caring for adult handicapped or elderly family/household members
      5.2. childbirth- and maternity-related time rights
             5.2.1. time rights during pregnancy, after childbirth, related to adoption

When comparing similar policy measures that are classified, users have to be aware that concepts often are not homogeneous and that even congruent terms do not always relate to the same phenomenon in different countries.
6. Types of Variables and Variable Search

The European Family Policy Database includes various types of variables for the construction of time-series. They are briefly described in Table 3.

Table 3: Types of Variables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard variables</td>
<td>Standardized, permit cross-country comparison.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country-specific variables</td>
<td>Inserted in case the standard variables cannot be used because of country-specific regulations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-scheme-specific data</td>
<td>Provide details on the internal structure of the scheme governing the benefit or service.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agency-specific data</td>
<td>Provide information on the agency with budgetary and/or administrative responsibility.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional data</td>
<td>Yield information about the regional differentiation of family policies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional variable</td>
<td>Variables not attributable to any of the defined categories.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the Excel files, the missing value ‘-1’ indicates that a given variable category does not fit/is not applicable, whereas missing value ‘-2’ means that the information has not been available, i.e. has neither been published nor included in the publications used by the MZES Family Policy Database team.

By activating the option ‘Lookup of time-series variables, institutional regulations and classifications’ (‘Navigation and search’), you can look up all standardized and non-standardized variables contained in the European Family Policy Database. In principle, there are three options:
- looking up standardized time-series variables (default option),
- looking up standardized variables for institutional regulations or classifications,
- looking up non-standardized time-series variables.

You can search for all variables, variable categories and headings included in the standard tables (for all fields of family policies) and standard forms (for all fields of family policies and instruments of family policy covered). The request is carried out in three steps; pressing the relevant button will load the respective list of alphabetically sorted variables from which you may select (see Figure 21).

The query yields a report listing the database component (time-series data; institutional regulations; classifications) and type of information (heading; variable; variable category) for the selected search key. The table exclusively serves documentary purposes, i.e. you do not have direct access to the selected variables from the report. To start another search after having returned to this form from the report click on the report’s ‘Close’ button.
Figure 21: Lookup of Variables

[Image of a computer screen showing a database interface for the European Family Policy Database, specifically a screenshot of the lookup feature for variables.]
7. Documentation and Sources of Time-series Data

The documentation specifies the sources used for compiling the time-series datasets and/or for entering institutional regulations and classifications and technical terms for each country. They are listed alphabetically for each country and can be looked up by selecting the first option in the register sheet ‘Documentation and classification’ (see Figure 22).

Figure 22: Classification and Documentation

All data are taken from published sources and data sources are always indicated. With the exception of the data on the Scandinavian countries, all data are from national sources. The footnotes to each each variable (i.e. column in the Excel files) list the source codes. The sources can be looked up by clicking on ‘Classification and documentation’ and selecting ‘Sources for data and information’.

As English is the main language of the database, each term had to be translated into English from its original language. By selecting ‘Technical terms’ you can look up the original expression for every term used in the database.

Data sources and technical terms are supplemented by tables with all standard variables, variables used for classificational purposes (including the respective codes). The comprehensive variable lists are stored in ‘external’ Excel files in the register sheet ‘Codes and variable lists’, which can be accessed via the form ‘Documentation and classification’.

All data are taken from published sources and data sources are always indicated. With the exception of the data on the Scandinavian countries, all data are from national sources. The footnotes to each each variable (i.e. column in the Excel files) list the source codes. The sources can be looked up by clicking on ‘Classification and documentation’ and selecting ‘Sources for data and information’.

As English is the main language of the database, each term had to be translated into English from its original language. By selecting ‘Technical terms’ you can look up the original expression for every term used in the database.

Data sources and technical terms are supplemented by tables with all standard variables, variables used for classificational purposes (including the respective codes). The comprehensive variable lists are stored in ‘external’ Excel files in the register sheet ‘Codes and variable lists’, which can be accessed via the form ‘Documentation and classification’.
8. Annex

A.1. Hints for Installation and Usage

1.) Browser-based Version of the ÖIF European Family Policy Database

Inserting the CD-ROM automatically starts a viewer installation tool. If you do not need the Acrobat Reader, the Excel viewer or Netscape, you can continue by clicking on the button ‘No, navigation through the CD-ROM’. You are then transferred to the database’s start page.

You can either use Netscape or the Microsoft Internet Explorer to browse through the CD-ROM. If you want to work intensively with the time-series data, you are advised to opt for the Microsoft Internet Explorer. The Microsoft Internet Explorer closes Excel. You also quit Excel when returning to the database from Excel files by closing the Excel window. However, this is not the case when using Netscape where you also have to close a window launched by Netscape.

2.) ÖIF European Family Policy Database under Access

If you want to use the MS Access version of the ÖIF European Family Policy Database, please copy the complete folder ‘fpdb’ from the CD-ROM to your harddisk. In this way, you will not only copy the database in file ‘fpdb.mdb’, but also all other MS Excel and MS Word files needed for your work. However, before starting to copy, make sure that there is no directory with the name ‘fpdb’ on your harddisk.

Once you have copied the complete folder ‘fpdb’ from the CD-ROM to your harddisk, the directory structure as listed below is reproduced on your harddisk or network drive:

- [harddisk/network drive]\fpdb\fpdb.mdb => MS Access database (version: ACCESS 2000 SR-2)
- [harddisk/network drive]\fpdb\Excel files => variable lists; codes; tables
- [harddisk/network drive]\fpdb\Word documents => synopses; descriptions
- [harddisk/network drive]\fpdb\[country]\pdf\[name of file] => overviews of fields of family policy
- [harddisk/network drive]\fpdb\[country]\xls\[name of file = measure code] => time-series data

Now, please follow these steps:

- Remove the write protection of file ‘fpdb.mdb’ in the newly created directory ‘fpdb’ in the Windows Explorer.
- Start MS Access and open the database ‘fpdb’ or simply double click on the file ‘fpdb.mdb’ in the Windows Explorer.
- The MS Access database ‘fpdb.mdb’ is stored under version ‘Microsoft ACCESS 2000 SR-2’.

---

2 This web-based version of the database is not updated and maintained.
A.2. Schematic Description of Search Methods

Figure 23: Various Navigation Methods

[Diagram showing various navigation methods and search processes, including:
- Time-series
- Institutional regulations
- Classification
- Specific Measure
- Measure: National level
- Navigator: Results
- Family Policy Function
- Navigator
- Navigation and search
- Analysis and output]

Selected measures according to applied category(ies)

Query building on common properties...

Variable-based query

MZES-Code

Family Policy Function

Navigator

Navigation and search

Overview

Analysis and output

Solicited measures according to applied category(ies)
### A.3. Evaluation of Country Coverage

#### Table 4: Evaluation Tables for all 16 Countries Included in the Family Policy Database

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Cash benefits for families in general</th>
<th>2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families</th>
<th>3. Existence minimum (family dimension)</th>
<th>4. Child-care services</th>
<th>5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children</th>
<th>Other measures listed in the database</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>AUSTRIA</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time-series data available</td>
<td>nutrition allowance; child allowance/family allowance; mother’s allowance</td>
<td>advance payment of child maintenance</td>
<td>social assistance</td>
<td>kindergarten; day nursery for children of school age; crèche</td>
<td>maternità leave/parental leave; parental leave allowance; childcare allowance, long-term care allowance, parental leave assistance, special parental leave allowance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rows (years)</td>
<td>Data till 2000, regarding measures for civil servants many entries are missing</td>
<td>Data till 2000; some years but are not always continuous</td>
<td>Data till 2000, well provided</td>
<td>Data till 2000, very well provided</td>
<td>Data till 2000; regarding measures for civil servants many entries are missing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columns</td>
<td>variables missing: nutrition allowance, family allowance, civil servants</td>
<td>most columns well provided</td>
<td>good: especially federal data</td>
<td>very well provided, except for data on expenditures</td>
<td>columns for civil servants are missing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region / scheme</td>
<td>workers, employees, civil servants</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>differentiated according to federal states</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>workers, employees, employers, civil servants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overviews of family-policy areas</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>no overview available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlights</td>
<td>All data updated; child-care services, social assistance, family allowance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Cash benefits for families in general</td>
<td>2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families</td>
<td>3. Existence minimum (family dimension)</td>
<td>4. Child-care services</td>
<td>5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children</td>
<td>Other measures listed in the database</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family allowance</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Approved day nursing in private households; age integrated institutions; kindergarten; leisure time centers; playschools; school care schemes; day nurseries</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Obligation to join a family allowance fund</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BELGIUM**

**Rows (years)**

- Only few missing data

**Columns**

- Good provided

- A lot of data missing

**Region / scheme**

- NO

**Overviews of family-policy areas**

- Overview available

- NO

**Highlights**

- Cash benefits for families in general
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Cash benefits for families in general</th>
<th>2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families</th>
<th>3. Existence minimum (family dimension)</th>
<th>4. Child-care services</th>
<th>5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children</th>
<th>Other measures listed in the database</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DENMARK</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time-series data available</strong></td>
<td>ordinary child benefit/ family benefits; child benefit; multiple child allowance; increased child benefit/ normal child allowance; youth benefit</td>
<td>advanced payment of child maintenance</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>approved day nursing in private households; age integrated institutions; kindergarten; leisure time centers; playschools; school care schemes; day nurseries</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rows (years)</strong></td>
<td>until 1998 good provided</td>
<td>many years are provided</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>many years missing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Columns</strong></td>
<td>only a few empty columns (structure of financing)</td>
<td>in many columns (e.g. financing, expenditures) data are missing</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>many variables missing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Region / scheme</strong></td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overviews of family-policy areas</strong></td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Highlights</strong></td>
<td>cash benefits for families in general</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Cash benefits for families in general</strong></td>
<td><strong>2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families</strong></td>
<td><strong>3. Existence minimum (family dimension)</strong></td>
<td><strong>4. Child-care services</strong></td>
<td><strong>5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children</strong></td>
<td><strong>Other measures listed in the database</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time-series data available</td>
<td>special child allowance; child allowance; family allowance</td>
<td>maintenance advance allowance</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>nursery/pre-primary school; leisure time centers; holiday camps; kindergarten; family day-care center</td>
<td>maternity grant, maternity allowance+paternity allowance+parental allowance, special child allowance, home care allowance, partial home care allowance, treatment and rehabilitation allowance for invalid children/special care allowance, private care allowance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rows (years)</td>
<td>Data available from the beginning of the measure till the end (except for a few years)</td>
<td>Data provided from 1985–1997</td>
<td>Data available for a few years only, with the exception: structure of financing and expenditure: here all entries contain valid values</td>
<td>Data provided quite good</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columns</td>
<td>special child allowance: structure of financing and expenditure, 50% of the years are missing; family allowance: some columns completely empty; columns regarding child allowance are satisfactory</td>
<td>many columns completely empty, but data are available for structure of financing and expenditure</td>
<td>Up to now columns (except financing and expenditure) do not have any value for leisure time centers, holiday camps, and nursery/pre-primary school</td>
<td>data are available for about 50% of the columns</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region / scheme</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>values missing for most columns in the public and the agricultural sectors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overviews of family-policy areas</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlights</td>
<td>time series data on families in general, especially: time series regarding child allowance, which are well established</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Cash benefits for families in general</td>
<td>2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families</td>
<td>3. Existence minimum (family dimension)</td>
<td>4. Child-care services</td>
<td>5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children</td>
<td>Other measures listed in the database</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FRANCE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time-series data available</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housewife's allowance/one salary allowance; family allowances; family complement; family-related remuneration supplement/family allowances</td>
<td>one-parent allowance; family support allowance; orphans' allowance</td>
<td>reinsertion/relocation assistance; family income supplement</td>
<td>kindergarten; crèche; preschool; (registered)</td>
<td>financial support to families for the employment of a registered childminder; prenatal and postnatal allowance; home-care allowance for children; parental leave allowance;</td>
<td>back to school allowance; special care allowance; special care allowance for handicapped minors; care allowance for handicapped minors; maternity allowance/sickness benefit for mothers; prenatal allowance; attribution of whole part for children of third and consecutive rank; early childhood center; maternity leave; parental leave (1+2); deductibility of child maintenance payments; deductibility of child rearing/caring expenses; deductibility of expenses for the employment of a childminder; outside school hours care;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rows (years)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family allowance, housewife's allowance, family complement and family-related remuneration supplement; time series data are available from 1953 till the last year. Data about one salary allowance include some missing years.</td>
<td>one parent allowance and family support allowance: data available from the beginning to 1996, except public service 1983-96 and agricultural scheme until 1983; orphan's allowance: data are provided from the beginning to the end</td>
<td>reinsertion/relocation assistance: from two years after the beginning until 1996 data are available; family income supplement: data are available from the beginning to the end (with some gaps)</td>
<td>Data are very incomplete from the 80s onwards, due to lack of appropriate data sources; for some columns data on pre-school go back until 1875</td>
<td>data are available from the beginning to the mid 90s</td>
<td>data are available from the beginning to the end (with some gaps)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Columns</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data about the structure of financing are completely missing</td>
<td>one-parent family allowance and family support allowance: only covers the structure of financing, rank of children in family is missing. Orphan's allowance: data for many columns are missing</td>
<td>reinsertion/relocation assistance: values for 2 columns completely missing; i.e. number of children and structure of financing; Regarding family income supplement, values are missing in many columns</td>
<td>Almost all values for the structure of expenditure and financing are missing; data on childminders are missing</td>
<td>some columns (e.g. structure of financing) are completely missing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Region / scheme</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For the public scheme, data columns are very incomplete, except for the values of expenditure</td>
<td>public and agricultural scheme: values in some columns (especially the ones for orphan's allowance) completely missing</td>
<td>the public scheme for family income supplement is provided unsatisfactory</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>in the public and the agricultural sector many columns are incomplete</td>
<td>compensation allowance; special allowance to families for the employment of a registered childminder; family tax deduction; tax free allowance for family members; family wage supplement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overviews of family-policy areas</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Highlights</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time-series data on all measures for families in general, but also on all other fields of family policies are very good; the number of registered measures is high</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Cash benefits for families in general</td>
<td>2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families</td>
<td>3. Existence minimum (family dimension)</td>
<td>4. Child-care services</td>
<td>5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children</td>
<td>Other measures listed in the database</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time-series data available</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>child benefit; family supplement/child benefit for public service employees</td>
<td>advance payment of child maintenance</td>
<td>social assistance</td>
<td>kindergarten; day-care centers for primary-school aged children; crèche; school kindergarten; playgroups; preschool classes</td>
<td>child-rearing allowance</td>
<td>child-relating allowance; tax-free allowance for children (I); tax-free allowance (II); differentiation of tax rates and tax allowances according to civil status; differentiation of tax-free existence minimum according to number of children; child-rearing leave; housing allowance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rows (years)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>child benefit: data available from 1957 (beginning: 1954) until 1998: almost all years are covered; benefit for public service: data available from 1957–1998, but many gaps</td>
<td>one third of the years covered (until 1997)</td>
<td>very good coverage from the beginning till 1998</td>
<td>kindergarten, day-care centers for primary-school aged children and crèche: data available from 1951–1982; from 1982–1994 there are only 4 years covered; for school kindergarten and preschool classes: from 1974 (beg. 1970) to 1996 good provided</td>
<td>data from the beginning (1986) till 1996</td>
<td>data on different Länder are available: data on around 50% of the services are well prepared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columns</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>child benefit: almost all columns are completely covered, except for the structure of financing; child benefit for the public sector: some columns almost completely empty: number of families, structure of financing, etc.</td>
<td>many empty columns</td>
<td>almost all columns are complete</td>
<td>kindergarten, day-care centers for primary-school aged children and crèche: in a few columns all values are missing; e.g. structure of expenditure and financing, number of personnel; school kindergarten; playgroups; preschool classes: values in many columns missing</td>
<td>many empty, some half empty columns; data about the structure of expenditure and financing are well provided</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region / scheme</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>time-series data on child benefit are really well provided; some gaps in time data on benefit for the public sector</td>
<td>data available separately for former GDR and FRG</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td></td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overviews of family-policy areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td></td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlights</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>time-series data exist for all family-policy areas, 2. time-series data on social assistance and child benefit are very comprehensive</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Cash benefits for families in general</td>
<td>2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families</td>
<td>3. Existence minimum (family dimension)</td>
<td>4. Child care services</td>
<td>5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children</td>
<td>Other measures listed in the database</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GREECE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time-series data available</td>
<td>allowance for mothers of many children; allowance for large families; allowance for the third child; lifetime pension for mothers of many children; family allowance</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>national rural nursery schools/national rural children centers; national children centers; nursery schools</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rows (years)</td>
<td>measures for large families and family allowance for the public sector: data are available from the beginning to 1994(88); family allowance (private sector): data cover the 60s–1996</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>national rural nursery schools and the national children centers: data are available for 1950–1980 (last year of the measure: 1984), but not continuous; data for nursery schools are available for all years between 1955 and 1993</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columns</td>
<td>measures for large families: most columns are covered comprehensively, only few contain missing variables (e.g. structure of financing, child's rank in family, number of families); regarding family allowance (public sector): in many columns values are completely missing</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>In some columns values are completely missing</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region / scheme</td>
<td>family allowance is subdivided (public and private sector)</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td></td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overviews of family-policy areas</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlights</td>
<td>cash benefit for families in general: especially time series on measures for large families and nursery schools; comprehensive documentation of measures listed in the database without time series</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Cash benefits for families in general</td>
<td>2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families</td>
<td>3. Existence minimum (family dimension)</td>
<td>4. Child-care services</td>
<td>5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children</td>
<td>Other measures listed in the database</td>
</tr>
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<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
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<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Child's dependant allowance (I-Vb); child tax allowance; day-care centers/day nurseries; prescribed relatives allowance; preschools for traveler's children; workplace nurseries/workplace nurseries/creches</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Infant classes/earlier primary education; Gaelic/Irish language playgroups; playgroups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Family income supplement; home assistance; supplementary welfare allowance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Carer's allowance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Rows (years)</td>
<td>child allowance/ child benefit deserted husband allowance; deserted wife allowance; deserted wife's benefit; lone parent's allowance; prisoner's wife allowance; unmarried mother's allowance; widower's allowance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time-series data available</td>
<td>the rows cover the span from 1944–98 (except for the structure of financing (1980–1996))</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columns</td>
<td>nearly all columns are covered from the first year to the last, except for the rank of children in the family where no data are available</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>altogether quite a good coverage for most of the columns; often missing: rank of child in family; structure of financing; expenditure for administration</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>columns with only missing values are: supplements for special needs, number of households etc., many columns are covered completely</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region / scheme</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overviews of family-policy areas</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlights</td>
<td>time-series data on child allowance/child benefit; existence minimum, cash benefit for one-parent families</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Cash benefits for families in general
2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families
3. Existence minimum (family dimension)
4. Child-care services
5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children
Other measures listed in the database

**ITALY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time-series data available</th>
<th>family allowance and household allowance</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>day nursery; summer campsites; summer camps with overnight stay; day summer camps; nursery schools</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>maternity allowances; supplementary family allowances; birth grant; optional parental leave; maternity leave; family wage supplements; family counselling centers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rows (years)</td>
<td>family allowance: good coverage: 1940-1973; for expenditures for measure the coverage reaches only till 1960; household allowance: most of the data for 1988 (first year) only</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>day nursery: coverage from the beginning of the 70s to 1993 – in some cases 1937; nursery schools: coverage back to the mid 40s; all kinds of summer camps: 1950–93 (with many gaps)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columns</td>
<td>family allowance: some specific variables like the rank of the children in family, benefit rate for the second child, etc. are missing. Very detailed information on the sources of financing, very good coverage</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>nursery schools and day nursery have comprehensive coverage with data for most of the columns, only the structure of financing and expenditure are insufficient; data on summer camps are provided unsatisfactorily</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region / scheme</td>
<td>family allowance: very detailed information on the development and changes of different occupational schemes within the Excel files; time series for all schemes, except for the agricultural scheme</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>NO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overviews of family-policy areas</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlights</td>
<td>good information on occupational schemes, time-series data on family allowance, nursery schools and day nursery</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Cash benefits for families in general</td>
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<td>3. Existence minimum (family dimension)</td>
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<td>Other measures listed in the database</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>-----------------------------------------</td>
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<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>general family allowances; family allowances; family allowance for wage earners; family allowance for pensioners</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>in-company day-care centers; out-of-school facilities; childminder; half-day-care centers; day-care centers; nursery schools; playgroups</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rows (years)</td>
<td>the main part of the rows is covered, some values missing only for the years before 1970, especially for measures no longer in force, e.g. family allowance for wage earners and for pensioners</td>
<td>poor sufficiency of time-series data for all services except for nursery schools: here the available data go back till 1900 and earlier</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columns</td>
<td>columns are almost complete till 1996, most of the columns are covered in some way but the structure of financing never includes sufficient data</td>
<td>a lot of values missing for all services except for nursery schools: here many columns are covered</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region / scheme</td>
<td>data are available for occupational schemes: self employed; wage earners, pensioners</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overviews of family-policy areas</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlights</td>
<td>Good coverage of time series for family allowance and nursery schools.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NETHERLANDS**

**Highlights**

Good coverage of time series for family allowance and nursery schools.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Cash benefits for families in general</th>
<th>2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families</th>
<th>3. Existence minimum (family dimension)</th>
<th>4. Child-care services</th>
<th>5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children</th>
<th>Other measures listed in the database</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time-series data available</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>NORWAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child benefit</td>
<td>Advance payment of child maintenance; survivor’s benefit for children/child pension; mother’s pension; mother’s pension/transitional allowance</td>
<td>Social assistance; public/social assistance</td>
<td>Kindergarten; children’s park; family daycare/childminder; holiday camps; leisure-time center; leisure-time schemes; educational programs for six-year olds</td>
<td>Maternity/parental allowance; time account scheme</td>
<td>Maternity/parental allowance; adoption grant for families adopting children from abroad; psychiatric polyclinics for children and adolescents; children’s home/youth home; orphan’s pension (municipality/country); orphan’s pension (state); child supplement (to old age pension I+II, to unemployment benefit, to sickness benefit); confinement/maternity allowance; funeral grant/allowance for funeral expenses; spouse supplement to old-age insurance; spouse supplement to sickness benefit; adoption grant; birth grant (in case of delivery at home); widows pension (I+II+III); tax credit for single parents/providers; family carers; special tax class deduction for children and other persons; family advisory center/family counseling service; parental leave; parent's deduction; provider's support/deduction; provider's allowance/tax credit for single parents; recreation schools (for children at risk for tuberculosis); attendance allowance; health station/clinic for mother and child; home nursing; housewife substitute service; wife’s deduction; cash benefit scheme related to child care; basic personal tax allowance; sick benefit for parent's with (children suffering, with ill children, staying together with children); tax allowance for providers; daddy days/welfare leave for fathers; sickness benefit for persons suffering from a serious or potentially..; provider allowance/tax credit for providers; special supplement to advanced payment of child maintenance; education/study allowance for students in secondary (tertiary) education; pregnancy allowance related to work in dangerous work environment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Rows (years)**                       |                                               |                                 |                     |                                               |                                 |
| Data complete from the 40s (beginning) till 1999. There are only few entries missing for the 1940s and 1950s. | Data till 1999; the advanced payment of child maintenance has only data for the 1990s except for the structure of financing and expenditure; here the years are almost complete | Data till 1996; social assistance is very well covered on additional variables, the standard variables of public assistance are not so well covered | Kindergarten and educational programs for six-year olds are quite good provided, the years covered go up to 1996; coverage of the other services is less satisfactory because of lacking data | For maternity/parental allowance data are available up to 1998 and show quite a good coverage; the time-account scheme reveals little information | For ALL MEASURES: the structure of financing and expenditures are very good provided, advance payment for child maintenance and survivor’s benefit are less satisfactory |

| **Columns**                            |                                               |                                 |                     |                                               |                                 |
| Most of the columns contain valid values. Only the structure of financing is missing | FOR ALL MEASURES: the structure of financing and expenditures are very good provided, advance payment for child maintenance and survivor’s benefit are less satisfactory | Structure of expenditure and financing are the highlights: these variables are nearly complete but data on social assistance are good provided too | For kindergarten and the educational programs for six-year olds many columns are covered, columns on the other services are mainly empty | Maternity/parental allowance: the structure of expenditure is shown in detail within county-specific variables, only one third of the columns are totally empty; the time-account scheme has only two columns with valid values | For maternity/parental allowance data are available up to 1998 and show quite a good coverage; the time-account scheme reveals little information |

| **Region / scheme**                     |                                               |                                 |                     |                                               |                                 |
| NO                                    |                                               |                                 |                     |                                               | Differentiation by people working in the private and in the public sector |

| **Overviews of family-policy areas**    |                                               |                                 |                     |                                               |                                 |
| Child benefit and cash benefits for one-parent families; structure of expenditure and financing, large number of measures listed in the database |                                               |                                 |                     |                                               |                                 |

<p>| <strong>Highlights</strong>                          |                                               |                                 |                     |                                               |                                 |
| Child benefit and cash benefits for one-parent families; structure of expenditure and financing, large number of measures listed in the database |                                               |                                 |                     |                                               |                                 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Cash benefits for families in general</th>
<th>2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families</th>
<th>3. Existence minimum (family dimension)</th>
<th>4. Child-care services</th>
<th>5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children</th>
<th>Other measures listed in the database</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time-series data available</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>NONE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family pension; family allowance; family allowance and child-care allowance.</td>
<td>Disability welfare pension; maternity-care benefits (maternity protection); guaranteed temporary benefit.</td>
<td>Kindergarten; crèche.</td>
<td>Maternity allowance; nursing allowance; child care allowance; nutrition allowance; child birth one-off allowance.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rows (years)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Data from the start of the measures till 1999.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data are often available from the beginning till 2000.</td>
<td>Only the structure of expenditure and financing are well documented, data on all other measures are unsatisfactory.</td>
<td>Data till 2000, include new measures.</td>
<td>Data are available from the 1920s till 1999.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columns</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure of financing and expenditure satisfactory, data on family allowance good provided in many columns.</td>
<td>Only the structure of expenditure and financing are good provided. No data concerning all other measures.</td>
<td>Best provided variables: structure of financing and expenditures, most other columns contain invalid data.</td>
<td>Very good coverage, only a few missing columns.</td>
<td>Nursing allowance and nutrition allowance are not very good provided; only the structure of financing and expenditure are well covered; all other measures show a good coverage in most of the columns.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region / scheme</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divided into farmers and other employed persons</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Divided into farmers and other employed for maternity allowance.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overviews of family-policy areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO. Only some kind of background information.</td>
<td>NO. Only some kind of background information.</td>
<td>NO. Only some kind of background information.</td>
<td>NO. Only some kind of background information.</td>
<td>NO. Only some kind of background information.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlights</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Structure of financing and expenditures for all measures, up-to-date data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time-series data available</td>
<td>PORTUGAL</td>
<td>Rows (years)</td>
<td>Columns</td>
<td>Region / scheme</td>
<td>Overviews of family-policy areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
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<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family allowance: time series exist for all schemes.</td>
<td>Family allowance; time series for agricultural workers; general scheme for social protection and family benefits; non-contributory scheme.</td>
<td>Data before 1978 are often missing; latest update: 1998</td>
<td>Services: kindergarten/preschool education.</td>
<td>Regional data are only available from the 1960s to the early 1990s.</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services: kindergarten/preschool education.</td>
<td>Regional information is available.</td>
<td>In most cases, data are available from 1967–1996.</td>
<td>Special education allowance: time series for agricultural workers; general scheme for social protection and family benefits; non-contributory scheme.</td>
<td>The time series of the different schemes are poorly filled and no regional data are available.</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special education allowance: time series for agricultural workers; general scheme for social protection and family benefits; non-contributory scheme.</td>
<td>Only sporadic data entries.</td>
<td>Very incomplete data.</td>
<td>Childminder; leisure-time center; children’s center; crèche; family crèche; paternity leave; parental leave; maternity/paternity leave; supplementary allowance for handicapped children and adolescents; adoption grant; breast feeding grant; marriage grant; funeral grant; death grant; birth grant; maternity benefit; paternity benefit; allowance for assistance by third party.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Cash benefits for families in general</td>
<td>2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families</td>
<td>3. Existence minimum (family dimension)</td>
<td>4. Child-care services</td>
<td>5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time-series data available</td>
<td>3 measures described: allowance for families with many children; benefit for families with dependent children, family allowance.</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rows (years)</td>
<td>Data before 1978 are often missing; latest update: 1998.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columns</td>
<td>Mostly missing: structure of financing and expenditure, age supplements, number of households, rank of children in families; many other columns are available from the late 1970s to the end of the 1990s.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region / scheme</td>
<td>Regional data are only available from the 1960s to the early 1990s.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overviews of family-policy areas</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlights</td>
<td>Cash benefits for families in general.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Cash benefits for families in general</td>
<td>2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families</td>
<td>3. Existence minimum (family dimension)</td>
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<td>Other measures listed in the database</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Cash benefits for families in general</td>
<td>2. Cash benefits especially for one parent families</td>
<td>3. Existence minimum (family dimension)</td>
<td>4. Child-care services</td>
<td>5. Cash benefits and time rights for parents caring for their children</td>
<td>Other measures listed in the database</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWEDEN</td>
<td>Only measure described: child benefit.</td>
<td>Description of two measures: advances of child support/maintenance allowance and special child allowance for widows and invalids.</td>
<td>Poor relief and social assistance.</td>
<td>Time series for 6 different services: children's summer camps/holiday programs; day-care centers; childminders; after-school services; family day-care centers; day nursery/part-time day-care centers; there are no time-series data for pre-primary schooling for 6-year olds.</td>
<td>Time-series data for 4 measures: parental leave, parental leave allowance, special parental leave allowance, temporary parental leave allowance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time-series data available</td>
<td>Rows (years)</td>
<td>Data often exist till the end of the 1990s, many rows are almost complete.</td>
<td>Data are available till the mid 1990s, but there are some gaps in the years before the 1970s.</td>
<td>Data for poor relief are mostly available from the 1940s till the last year of the measure; data for social assistance are available from the first year to the end of the 1990s.</td>
<td>The data are available at best until the mid 1990s, but the rows are often empty from the mid 1980s onwards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columns</td>
<td>Only a few columns are unsatisfactory, very comprehensive time-series data.</td>
<td>Structure of expenditure and financing is good provided, some columns are missing, e.g. the rank of children in families.</td>
<td>Columns for some specific variables are completely empty.</td>
<td>Many columns are incomplete, some are empty.</td>
<td>In most cases, data on the structure of financing and the sources of financing are not available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region / scheme</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overviews of family-policy areas</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlights</td>
<td>Very comprehensive time-series data for cash benefits and child care services.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time-series data available</td>
<td>Family allowance/child benefit; guardian's allowance.</td>
<td>Child interim benefit/child benefit increase/one-parent benefit and child's special allowance.</td>
<td>Family credit, family income supplement, income support, national assistance, supplementary benefit.</td>
<td>Childminders, day nurseries, nursery classes, nursery schools, playgroups.</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Rows (years)</td>
<td>From about 1995 till 2000 the rows are empty, family allowance/child benefit is better provided than the guardian's allowance.</td>
<td>Valid data are available from about the beginning of the 1970s until the mid of the 1990s.</td>
<td>Data are available till the mid 1990s.</td>
<td>Many rows before 1970 are empty, data exist till the early 90s.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columns</td>
<td>Often missing: structure of expenditure, of financing and the child's rank in family.</td>
<td>Data on the structure of expenditure and financing are completely missing.</td>
<td>Many empty columns.</td>
<td>Many columns are completely empty, especially for nursery classes.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region / scheme</td>
<td>For Northern Ireland and Scotland a lot of data are missing.</td>
<td>For Northern Ireland and Scotland a lot of data are missing.</td>
<td>Data for Northern Ireland, Scotland and specially for Wales are very incomplete.</td>
<td>Data for Wales and Northern Ireland are very incomplete.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overviews of family-policy areas</td>
<td>Available for family allowance/child benefit and guardian's allowance.</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>A very comprehensive overview is available.</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlights</td>
<td>Good overviews, cash benefits.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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