

# Who is eligible for parental leave in Croatia?

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Parental leave is granted to parents, usually after maternity and paternity leave, allowing mothers and fathers to take care of their young children without losing their jobs. Such a policy exists in all EU Member States and in Croatia it is called Roditeljski dopust. The policy design and eligibility rules vary across the EU, including in Croatia, and not all women and men in the EU are eligible for parental leave.

**Parental leave in Croatia is:**

- Free
- Compensation depends on previous earnings with a ceiling up to 80% of average salary
- 5 months
- Leave is an individual right, each parent has 4 months of leave. Only two months of total leave can be transferred from one parent to another.

**All women and men in employment are eligible for parental leave.**

This factsheet is based on an eligibility study of how many women and men (aged 20-49) would be eligible for parental leave if they had a child in 2017 and the reasons behind their non-eligibility (%). For Croatia, it is not possible to simulate all the conditions that apply due to data restrictions.

Parental leave in Croatia is available for all parents irrespective of their employment status in history. The access to parental leave benefits is restricted to parent contributions to health insurance, and permanent residency for 5 years. All parents living in Croatia, with the exception of asylum seekers, are eligible for parental leave.

To have access to parental leave benefit, parents must have at least 12 months of conditional insurance or 18 months of insurance with interruptions in the last two years. The benefit is based on the average earnings on which health care contributions were paid during the six months prior to the leave. A parent who does not meet these criteria receives the benefit as unemployed: 75 % of the statutory base rate of HRK 126 (€450.40) per month.

**Who is eligible for parental leave in Croatia?**

- ✓ Employees
- ✓ Self-employed
- ✓ Same-sex parents
- ✓ Non-citizens (1) (second spouse works in Croatia)

**In the EU-28 (2)**

- 15 countries restrict access to employees with short working durations before 20 in their country
- The self-employed are not eligible in 10 countries (not Croatia)
- 11 countries do not allow access for same-sex parents (not Croatia)
- 18 limit access to refugees or asylum seekers (including no access for asylum seekers in Croatia)

(1) Member states for which non-citizens, refugees and asylum seekers when they apply are included in the definitions of conditional insurance eligibility.  
 (2) Member states categories multidimensional and cover all EU-28 countries, the country residence, refugees and asylum seekers.  
 (3) The facts are detailed below in the chart on parental leave.

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## Read more

[Factsheet: Who is eligible for parental leave in the EU-28?](#)



[Factsheets: Eligibility for parental leave in EU Member States](#)



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