

Who is eligible for parental leave in Sweden?

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 Sweden it is called **Föräldraförsäkring**. The policy design and eligibility rules vary across the EU, including in Sweden, and not all women and men in the EU are eligible for parental leave.

Parental leave in Sweden is:



Paid. Compensation depends on previous earnings with an upper ceiling of SEK 447,783 per year [EUR45,852]



36 months



Leave is partly an individual right and partly transferable to the other parent

Almost 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 ⁽¹⁾. For Sweden, it is not possible to simulate all the conditions that apply due to data restrictions.

All parents living in Sweden, with the exception of those without a residence or work permit, are eligible for leave – which is paid at a flat rate.

For parents eligible for wage-related benefit, 195 days of leave are paid at the level of 77.6 % of earnings, up to an earnings ceiling of SEK 447,783 [€45,852] per year; the remaining 45 days are paid at a flat-rate payment of SEK 180 [€18] a day. Parents who are not eligible for the wage-related leave receive a flat rate of SEK 250 [€25.60] a day for 195 days and for the last 45 days, they also receive SEK 180 [€18] a day.

Who is eligible for parental leave in Sweden?

✓ **Employees**

✓ **Self-employed**

✓ **Same-sex parents**

✓ **Non-citizens ⁽²⁾**
(except asylum seekers)

In the EU-28 ⁽³⁾:

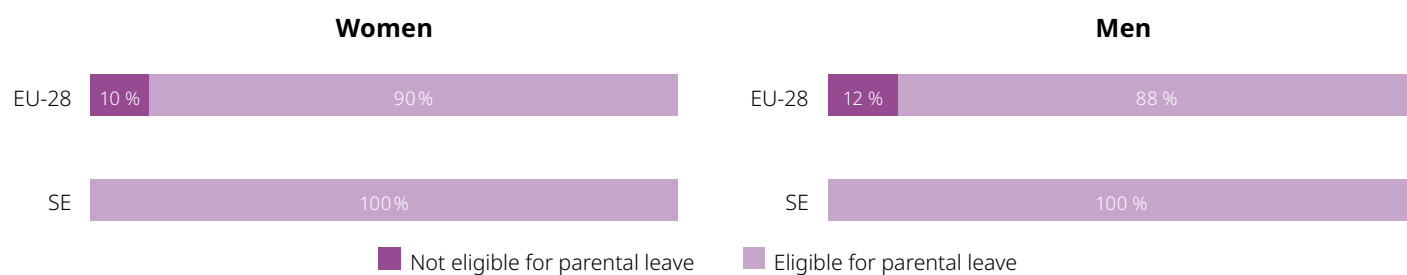
- **15** countries restrict access to employees with short working duration before birth (not Sweden)
- The self-employed are not eligible in 10 countries (not Sweden)
- **11** countries do not allow access for same-sex parents (not Sweden)
- **19** limit access to refugees or asylum seekers (including no access for asylum seekers in Sweden)

⁽¹⁾ Restrictions for same-sex couples, refugees and asylum seekers where they apply are not included in the simulations, so underestimates non-eligibility.

⁽²⁾ The non-citizens category is multidimensional and cover other EU-28 citizens, 3rd country nationals, refugees and asylum seekers.

⁽³⁾ The data was collected before the UK left the European Union.

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



Source: Eurostat – EU LFS, EU-SILC, 2017. EIGE's calculations based on annual reviews on leave policies by the International Network on Leave Policies and Research.

Note: EU-28, weighted average (population age 20-49, EU LFS 2017, (lfsa_pganws)).

European Institute for Gender Equality

The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) is the EU knowledge centre on gender equality. EIGE supports policymakers and all relevant institutions in their efforts to make equality between women and men a reality for all Europeans by providing them with specific expertise and comparable and reliable data on gender equality in Europe.

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