

**Documentation of statistics for
Child Subsidy and Family Allowance 2023 Quarter 1**

1 Introduction

The purpose of the statistics about child benefit and family allowance is to illustrate the number of recipients of child benefit and family allowance plus the payments and the number of children they receive payments for. The statistics of child benefit has been published from the tax year 1957/58, but the current format dates back to 2017.

2 Statistical presentation

The statistics describe the number of people receiving child and youth benefit and family allowance and the benefit amount. Since 2017, the statistics are based on the paid amounts each quarter as opposed for the granted amount for a set period. The statistics are published in the Statbank. The statistics are aggregated i regards to benefit type and geographical area.

2.1 Data description

The payment of the child benefit and youth benefit has been shared between parents who live together since 2022, and it has also become possible for parents who do not live together to share the benefit between them.

Parents and caretakers of children under 18 years in Denmark are entitled to a tax-free benefit called **Child and Youth Benefit**. Since 2014, the benefit has been income-dependent and is reduced by 2 per cent. of the portion of income exceeding DKK 800,100 (top tax base in 2020) for each parent or caretaker. The child and youth benefit is differentiated according to the child's age.

In addition to the child and youth benefit, various child allowances exist. Child allowance is awarded to single parents, children of pensioners, children where the father has no obligation to contribute, children of widowed parents, children who have lost a parent, parents of children born simultaneously (twins etc.), and parents who are studying. Finally, a temporarily child subsidy (MBT) was introduced mid-2019 for families on reduced cash benefit. This was paid out for the first time in January of 2020.

Most family benefits are paid quarterly - however youth benefits and MBT is paid out monthly, these are aggregated for the relevant quarter in these statistics.

The statistics on Child and Youth Benefits are published annually and contain numbers for each quarter of the previous year.

2.2 Classification system

Data is aggregated on municipalities, gender of the recipient and the number of children that the recipient are getting benefits or allowances for as well as on family types and number of children in the family. Additional groupings can be made using research data and custom made tables can be ordered from DST-consulting.

2.3 Sector coverage

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Children and families: All children and families receiving child or youth benefit and/or child allowance.

Child benefit: A benefit paid to families with children under 15 years of age.

Youth benefit: A benefit paid to families with children between 15 - 17 years of age.

Ordinary child allowance: A child allowance for single caretaker, paid per child.

Child allowance supplement: A supplement for single caretakers. The amount is independent of the number of children.

Special child allowance: A special allowance paid if the father is unknown, at least one caretaker is retired or the child have lost a parent.

Temporarily child allowance: An allowance paid if the family receives reduced cash benefit.

2.5 Statistical unit

Receipients, children, paid amounts and families.

2.6 Statistical population

All children or families who receive child benefit and/or family allowance.

2.7 Reference area

Denmark.

2.8 Time coverage

The statistics covers back to 2017Q1 in its current format. The statbank contains data dating back to 1982.

2.9 Base period

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.10 Unit of measure

Children and families are measured in numbers and average payouts in DKK.

2.11 Reference period

01-01-2021 - 31-12-2021.

2.12 Frequency of dissemination

Yearly (the 4 quarters of the previous year are published simultaneously).

2.13 Legal acts and other agreements

The Law of Statistics Denmark §6, jf. Consolidated Act nr. 599 of 22nd June 2000. The Statistics are used as part of EU-SILC (Regulation (EC) No 1177/2003).

2.14 Cost and burden

The statistics is based on the register of child benefit and allowance payments in "ATP /Udbetaling Danmark". The IT-provider is NetCompany. The system is now up and running and in its current form the operational costs are assumed to be fairly small.

2.15 Comment

Find more information in Danish on Borger.dk.

For additional information contact Statistics Denmark.

3 Statistical processing

The statistics is collected directly from the IT systems paying out the family allowances at ATP via NetCompany. Data is validated by checking for duplicate amongst others. Data are aggregated by benefit or allowance type and geographical area.

3.1 Source data

Data on child benefit and family allowance for payment stems from ATP / Udbetaling Danmark

3.2 Frequency of data collection

Statistics Denmark receives data quarterly and publish annually.

3.3 Data collection

Data is transferred from ATP via Netcompany.

3.4 Data validation

Data validation is part of the data processing. To validate the data, it is ensured that paid child and adolescent benefits and child allowances are within the applicable rates or that they can be explained by re-adjustments due to errors in previous payments. During the data processing, continuous counts are formed, which are compared with similar counts for the previous year. In case of systematic errors, new data is supplied.

3.5 Data compilation

Duplicates and observations with invalid codes and/or numbers are rare. Duplicates and defective observations are excluded from data. In case of systematic errors, new data is supplied. The statistics are based on the date of payout as opposed to the period the amount is granted for.

3.6 Adjustment

There are not made any corrections, except what is already described under data validation and data processing.

4 Relevance

Users: Ministries, agencies, the Law Model, Local Government Denmark, municipalities and researchers. The statistics is used internally in Statistics Denmark. The statistics is not presented at any committees for users.

4.1 User Needs

Users:

- The Ministry of Social Affairs
- The Agency of Pension
- The Ministry of Tax
- The Local Government Denmark
- Municipalities
- Researchers

Scopes of application:

- Income statistics at Statistics Denmark
- Evaluation of the Law about family allowances and the Law of benefit to family allowance.
- EU-SILC

4.2 User Satisfaction

User satisfaction has not been measured. The statistics can be discussed on an annual user committee meeting.

4.3 Data completeness rate

Data quality adheres to legal requirements.

5 Accuracy and reliability

The statistics are based on a register that covers all recipients of child benefits and grants, as well as the children the benefits are provided for. The data also includes correction due to errors in previous payments.

5.1 Overall accuracy

The statistics are based on an administrative register covering the entire population. Statistics Denmark receives data from ATP after the end of each quarter. This is 3 months after the payment of most benefits and allowances. In cases where Udbetaling Danmark has not paid the correct amount, a subsequent correction is made and included in the register when the correction is effectuated. Hence, the data in the statistics are not revised back in time. Also note that temporary child benefits are paid out 2 months later than the period they have been granted for. They are accounted for in the month they are paid out.

5.2 Sampling error

Not relevant for these statistics.

5.3 Non-sampling error

The statistics show the number of people who have received or in some cases returned benefits or allowances. The register has full coverage, and amounts in the register are coherent with the benefit and allowance rates. Therefore, the accuracy of the statistics is considered to be good. Rarely, benefits or allowances are paid to the wrong parent or the paid amount is wrong. In these cases, a correction is made, which is included in the statistics when the correction is effectuated. This means that individuals can be included in the statistics with negative amounts if benefits are returned or larger amounts than the legislation indicates if they receive benefits covering earlier periods.

5.4 Quality management

Statistics Denmark follows the recommendations on organisation and management of quality given in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and the implementation guidelines given in the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF). A Working Group on Quality and a central quality assurance function have been established to continuously carry through control of products and processes.

5.5 Quality assurance

Statistics Denmark follows the principles in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and uses the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF) for the implementation of the principles. This involves continuous decentralized and central control of products and processes based on documentation following international standards. The central quality assurance function reports to the Working Group on Quality. Reports include suggestions for improvement that are assessed, decided and subsequently implemented.

5.6 Quality assessment

Full population coverage. From 2017Q1 data includes adjustments made due to erroneous payouts in the preceding quarters. Prior to 2017 this was not included.

5.7 Data revision - policy

Statistics Denmark revises published figures in accordance with the [Revision Policy for Statistics Denmark](#). The common procedures and principles of the Revision Policy are for some statistics supplemented by a specific revision practice.

5.8 Data revision practice

Only final figures are published.

6 Timeliness and punctuality

Normally the statistics is published 4 months after the end of the 4th quarter.

6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

The statistics is published 4 months after the end of the 4th quarter with final figures.

6.2 Punctuality

Normally the statistics is published without delay according to the advertised date.

7 Comparability

In it's current form data is fully comparable from 2017 Q1. Prior to 2017 adjustments made to payouts due to errors in preceding quarters was not included in the data.

7.1 Comparability - geographical

There are no international standards or statistics published of international organizations, which at first can be compared with this statistics.

7.2 Comparability over time

The statistics have been published in the current format since 2017. The difference between the data before and after 2017 is that as of 2017, data includes all correction payments. The StatBank has data from 1982 onwards. There are publications of the statistics dating back to 1957 in newsletter and year books. When comparing over time, one should be aware of changes in legislation and the risk of data breaks.

Since the first quarter of 2022, child benefit and youth benefit have been divided between between all parents that live together and a lot of parents that lives apart from each other. This means that the number of people receiving child benefit and youth benefit has almost doubled and the average benefit paid has almost halved compared to the previous years. The total payment at national level is stable.

In the first quarter of 2023, up to 660 DKK more were paid out to recipients of child benefit and youth benefit.

7.3 Coherence - cross domain

The statistics are the data source on child benefits and allowances in the income statistics and SILC. Therefore, there is internal consistency although the results may differ slightly as the income statistics and SILC are not published with full population. For instance, in the published income statistics, only people who have lived in Denmark all year are considered.

7.4 Coherence - internal

Data is consistent internally.

8 Accessibility and clarity

The statistics is published in the StatBank [Børnetilskud og børnefamilieydelse](#). See more [here](#).

8.1 Release calendar

The publication date appears in the release calendar. The date is confirmed in the weeks before.

8.3 User access

Statistics are always published at 8:00 a.m. at the day announced in the release calendar. No one outside of Statistics Denmark can access the statistics before they are published.

8.2 Release calendar access

The Release Calendar can be accessed on our English website: [Release Calendar](#).

8.4 News release

The statistics are no longer published as a Newsletter, but previous annual publications in that format can be found here: [News from Danmarks Statistik](<https://www.dst.dk/nytserie/1366>).

8.5 Publications

These statistics feature in the [Statistical Yearbook](#).

8.6 On-line database

The statistics are published in the StatBank under the subject in the following tables:

- [BTS101](#): Recipients of family benefits and grants by region, type of grants, sex, number of children and unit
- [BTS102](#): Recipients of family benefits and grants by grant type, family type, number of children and unit

8.7 Micro-data access

Researchers and other analysts from authorized research institutions, can be granted access to the underlying micro data by contacting [Research Services](#).

8.8 Other

DST Consulting [Customized solutions](#)

8.9 Confidentiality - policy

[Data Confidentiality Policy](#) at Statistics Denmark.

8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment

No measures are supplied for treating the data with regard to statistical confidentiality. No payouts are disseminated for groups consisting of less than 5 persons.

8.11 Documentation on methodology

Not relevant for these statistics.

8.12 Quality documentation

Results from the quality evaluation of products and selected processes are available in detail for each statistics and in summary reports for the Working Group on Quality.

9 Contact

The administrative placement of these statistics is in the division of Labour Market, Social Statistics. The contact person is Morten Steenbjerg Kristensen, tel.: + 45 2040 3873, and e-mail: MRT@dst.dk.