

Denmark

Distinctive Features: Universalism; generous and comprehensive cash benefits (which keeps poverty low) and early childhood education and care (ECEC) services; gender equality and reconciling work and family life; child orientation. Strong municipal role.

Maternity / Parental Leave

Benefit	Cash benefit and job-protected leave, includes adoption
Eligibility Criteria	Maternity Leave: all women; Parental Leave: all working parents
Duration of Leave	Maternity Leave: 28 weeks; Parental Leave: 12 months
Compensation Rate	Maternity Leave: 60% wage replacement. Parental Leave: 60% of Unemployment Insurance Benefit rate

Early Childhood Education and Care

Age Group Served	6 months to 7 years
Eligibility Criteria	Universal: Working Parents (6 months to 5 years); all children (5 – 7)
Locus of Care	Preschool, Centers, Family Day-Care Homes
Fees	Ages 5-7: Free; Ages 6 months to 5 years: Income-related parent fees
Funding Strategies	Mix of govt. (national and local) spending and parent fees.
Access/Coverage (%)	64% 1 – 3 year olds; 91% 3 – 6 year olds.

Family and Child Allowances

Benefit & Eligibility	Universal cash benefit for residents with one or more children under age 18.
Benefit Level	Varies by age of child. Generous benefits are higher for younger children.

Child Support

Benefit	Guaranteed minimum child support advanced by government agency.
Maintenance Rate	

Other Child-Conditioned Income Transfers

Benefits	Survivor's Benefits; social assistance.
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Child and Adolescent Health

Access to Coverage	Universal coverage, provided by national health service; municipality-based health care delivery system; exemplary home health visiting service.
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School-Age Children Policies

Compulsory School	Ages 7 – 16
School Hours	8:00 – 15:00

Youth Policies

Distinctive Features	Local authorities provide extensive after-school programs and centers, as mandated by legislation.
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Housing Benefits

Benefit	No national policy; if necessary, local efforts to find and subsidize housing.
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