

Portugal

Distinctive Features: Increased interest in family policy measures, constrained by economic limitations, familism, low fertility.

Maternity / Parental Leave

Benefit	Maternity: cash benefit and job protected leave; Parental: job-protected leave.
Eligibility Criteria	Maternity: universal for working mothers; Paternity: universal; Parental: universal.
Duration of Leave	Maternity: 120 days with 30 days added per child after the first; Paternity: 5 days during first month and 2 weeks at end of maternity leave; Parental: up to 36 months (third child)
Compensation Rate	Maternity: 100% wage replacement; Parental: unpaid

Early Childhood Education and Care

Age Group Served	0-3 (12%), 3-6 (55%)
Locus of Care	Education Many closed during lunch

Family and Child Allowances

Benefit & Eligibility	Universal cash benefit for families with one or more children under age 16
Benefit Levels	Income-tested benefits are highest for the lowest income groups and vary by child's age and number of children. Lowest in the EU in 1993 study.

Child and Family Tax Benefits

Tax Deductions/Relief	Tax deductions for dependents and for school fees
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Other Child-Conditioned Income Transfers

Benefits	Survivor's benefits; means-tested employment assistance based on family size
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Child and Adolescent Health

Access to Coverage	Universal coverage through national health system; cash sickness benefits available to those covered by social insurance system.
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Housing Benefits

Benefit	Program to eliminate shanty towns by providing subsidies for home purchase or repair. Limited coverage.
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School-Age Children Policies

Compulsory School	6 – 14
School Hours	Generally 9:00 – 15:00, with significant differences between public and private and educational levels. After-school day care, 11%.