

Spain

Distinctive Features: No explicit family policy; decentralization through regional structures; extremely low fertility rate; movement towards gender equality and benefit improvements but constrained by country relative poverty.

Maternity / Parental Leave

Benefit	Maternity & Paternity: cash benefit, job-protected; Parental: unpaid, job-protected
Eligibility Criteria	Maternity, Paternity, and Parental Leave: universal for working parents
Duration of Leave	Maternity: 16 weeks; Paternity: 2 days; Parental: until child is 3
Compensation Rate	Maternity & Paternity: 100% wage replacement; Parental: unpaid

Early Childhood Education and Care

Age Group Served	Child care: 0 – 3; Preschool: 3 – 6
Eligibility Criteria	Child care: working parents; Preschool: universal
Fees	Child care: income-related fees, up to 20% of costs; Preschool: free
Locus of Care	Child care: centers; Preschool: preschools
Funding Strategies	Child care: Govt. and parent fees; Preschool: Govt.
Access/Coverage (%)	Ages 0 – 3 (5%); Ages 3 – 6 (84%)

Family and Child Allowances

Benefit & Eligibility	Universal cash benefits through either contributory or non-contributory systems for children under age 18, the latter for those not in the social security system.
Benefit Levels	Income-tested, with increases for child disability; allowance is relatively minimal.

Child Support

Benefit	Maintenance payments not guaranteed; no maintenance program has been enacted.
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Child and Family Tax Benefits

Tax Deductions/Relief	Child tax deduction; differentiated by birth order, rising with the third child Childcare tax deduction for children under 3.
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Other Child-Conditioned Income Transfers

Benefits	Survivor's benefits; unemployment insurance supplements for dependent children.
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Child and Adolescent Health

Access to Coverage	Universal access through publicly-financed system, mostly contracted out.
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School-Age Children Policies

Compulsory School	6 – 16
School Hours	9:00 – 12:00 and 3:00 – 5:00