

PAID LEAVE FOLLOWING CHILDBIRTH IN LITHUANIA

DURATION OF PAID LEAVE

Leave periods available	Months
Paid Maternity Leave	4-5
Paid Paternity Leave	1
Paid Parental Leave	24

ELIGIBILITY

Group	Maternity Leave	Paternity Leave	Parental Leave
Employed	+	+	+
Self-employed	+	+	+
Student	-	-	-
Unemployed	-	-	-
Adoptive parent	+	+	+
Grandparent	-	-	-
Migrant	-	-	-

TAKE-UP RATES

Leave type	%
Maternity Leave (% of pregnant/young mothers)	100
Paternity Leave (% of fathers)	10
Parental Leave (% of mothers)	76
Parental Leave (% of fathers)	24

RESPONSIBILITIES

Maternity Leave

Funded from the Social Insurance Fund Board (SODRA), from contributions of employers and employees

Paternity Leave

Funded from the Social Insurance Fund Board, e.g.

Parental Leave

Funded from the Social Insurance Fund Board, e.g.



History of leave policy and recent changes

- Paid maternity leave, which was prolonged continuously to reach three years by 1989 (6 months in 1959; one year in 1982)
- Over the years: new types of leave; fathers and adoptive parents getting access to parental leaves; self-employed receiving maternity, paternity and parental leave
- Recent developments: cuts in all benefits (maternity, paternity and parental leave) during and after the crisis in 2009, 2010 and 2011. Since 2011 ceilings introduced. Since 2011 for parental leave parents can choose between two options: 100% previous salary for 12 months or 70% previous salary for 12 months and 40% for next 12 months

DEFINITIONS

MATERNITY LEAVE

Leave generally available to mothers only. It is usually understood to be a health and welfare measure, intended to protect the health of the mother and newborn child, to be taken just before, during and immediately after childbirth.

PATERNITY LEAVE

Leave generally available to fathers only, usually to be taken soon after the birth of a child and intended to enable the father to spend time with his partner, new child and older children.

PARENTAL LEAVE

Leave available equally to mothers and fathers, either as a non-transferable individual right, an individual right that can be transferred to the other parent, or a family right that parents can divide between themselves as they choose.

INTRODUCING THE NETWORK ON LEAVE POLICIES AND RESEARCH

The international network on leave policies and research, consists of over 60 members, all of whom are experts on leave issues and who come from 43 countries across the world. Members bring not only expertise to the network, but great commitment and enthusiasm, enabling the group to grow and flourish without any regular source of external funding and to provide a unique forum for exchange, dialogue and collaboration on issues of care, employment and gender.

Detailed Country Notes, Cross-country tables and definitions of leave policies are available at

www.leavenetwork.org/leave-policies-research/

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Braziene, R., Vysniauskiene, S. (2019). Evaluation of Paid Leave Policies in Lithuania. Public Policy and Administration. FORTHCOMING.

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