

Swedish Family Policy

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Sweden

- A population of 9,6 million people
- 2 million of them are children

- Brief info about Sweden..

Family policy in Sweden consists of:

- Financial family policy; i.e. child- and family benefits, parental insurance and more
- Child care services, high quality day care system
- Public services such as care for expectant mothers, childcare, healthcare, dentalcare, medicine, education

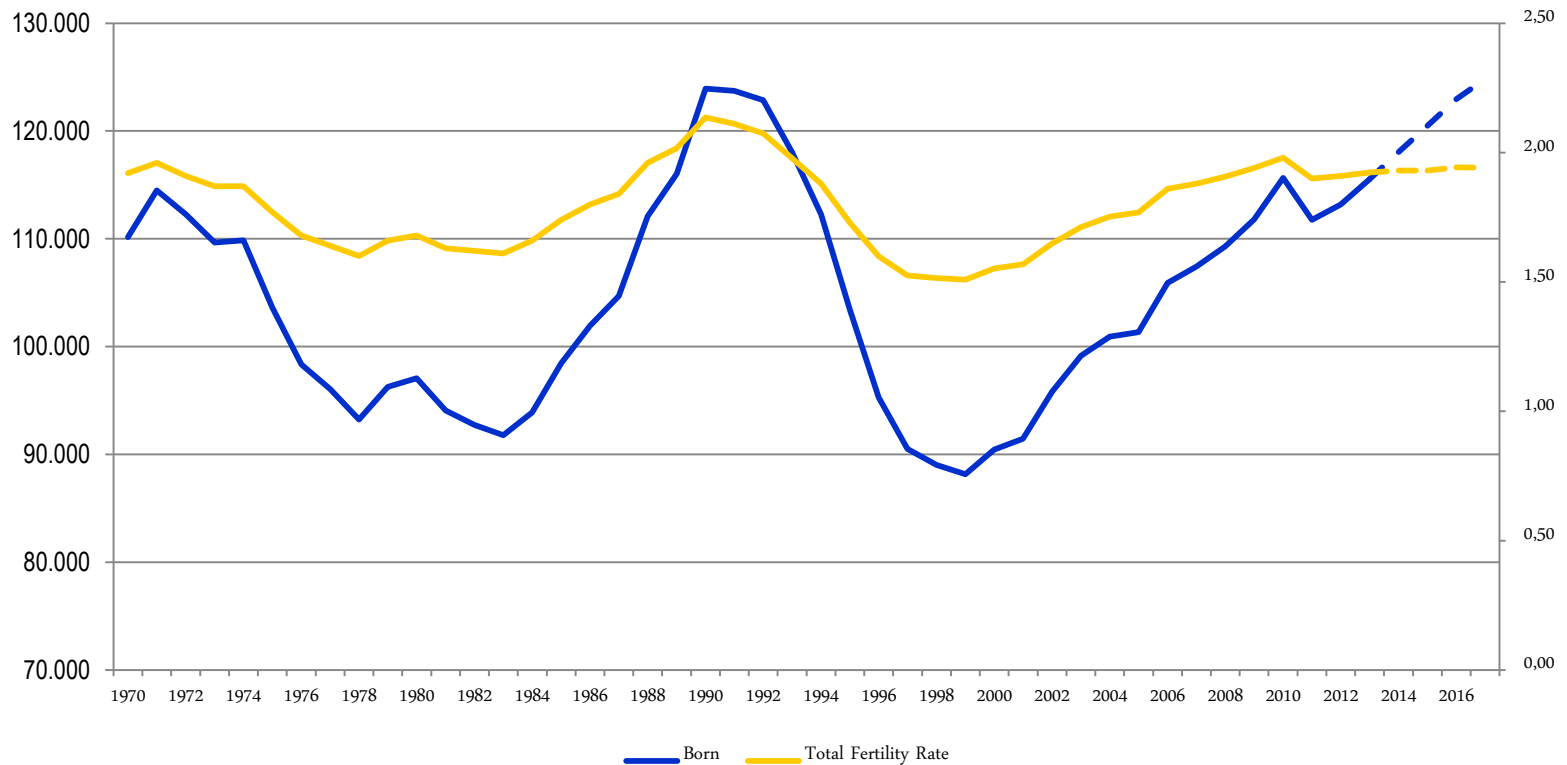
Government aim regarding financial family policy

- The aim of financial family policy
 - contribute to improved economic living conditions
 - increase freedom of choice for parents
 - strengthen influence and power over their lives

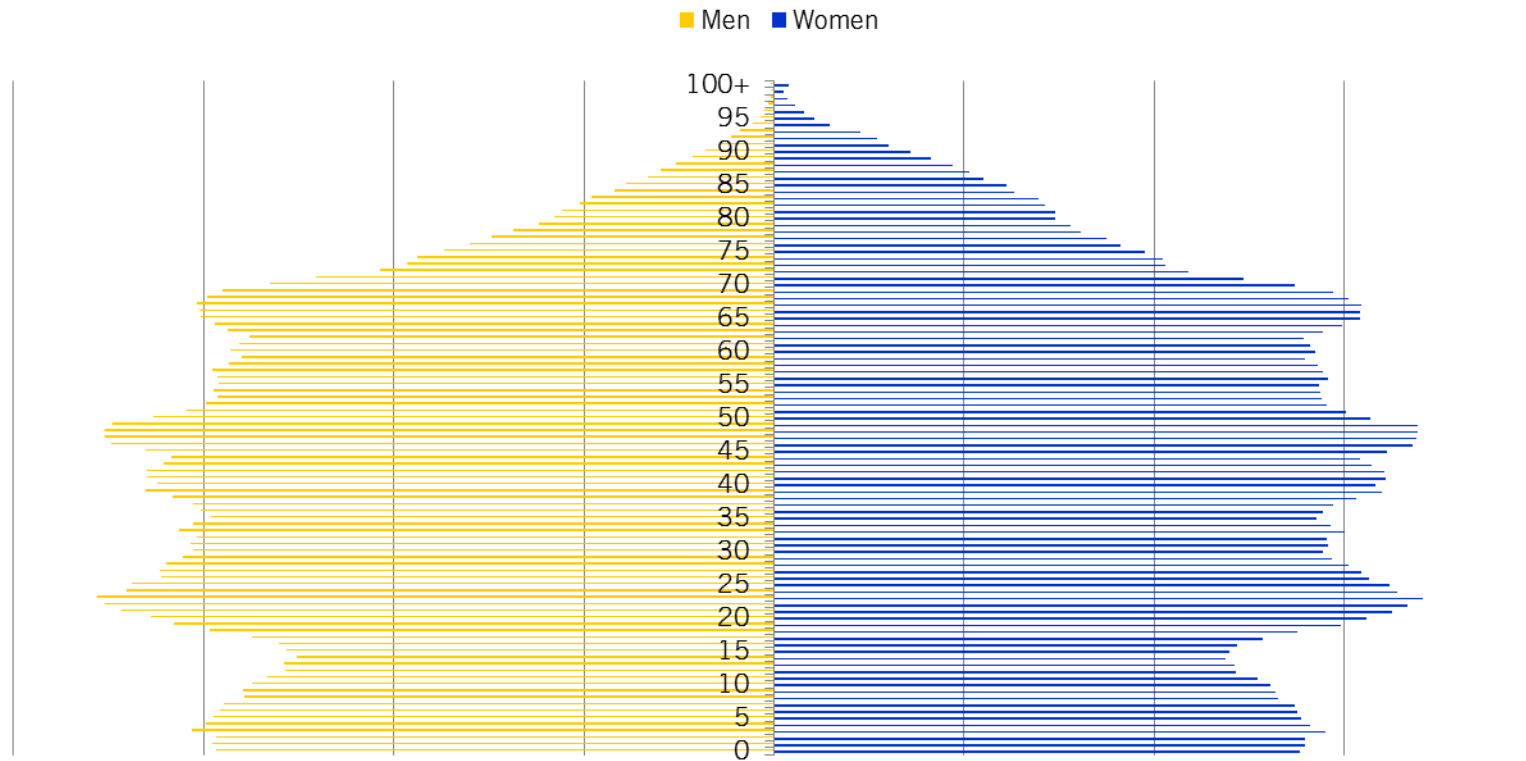
Parental benefit in connection with childbirth or adoption

- Parental benefit can be received for a period of 480 days per child and is divided equally between parents with joint custody
- Parents can give days to each other, except 60 days each that constitute the so called mum's and dad's months.
- Flexible: Can be used until the child is twelve years old, compensation can be given for parts of a day
- 30 days can be used by the mother and father at the same time during the child's first year.

Fertility rates in Sweden



Swedens inhabitants today



Working parents

	Married/cohabiting		Single	
Age of the youngest child	Fathers	Mothers	Fathers	Mothers
0-6	92,0	80,3	85,7	65,1
7-18	92,8	89,8	88,0	79,2

Total population	Men	Women
20-64 years	82,2	77,2

Reconciliation

- Generous and flexible support for families through social security and high quality and affordable pre-school/day-care
- Focus on gender equality – in the labour market as well as shared parenting responsibilities
- After school services, free school meals
- Positive approach from employers
- High female employment rates as well as high fertility rates

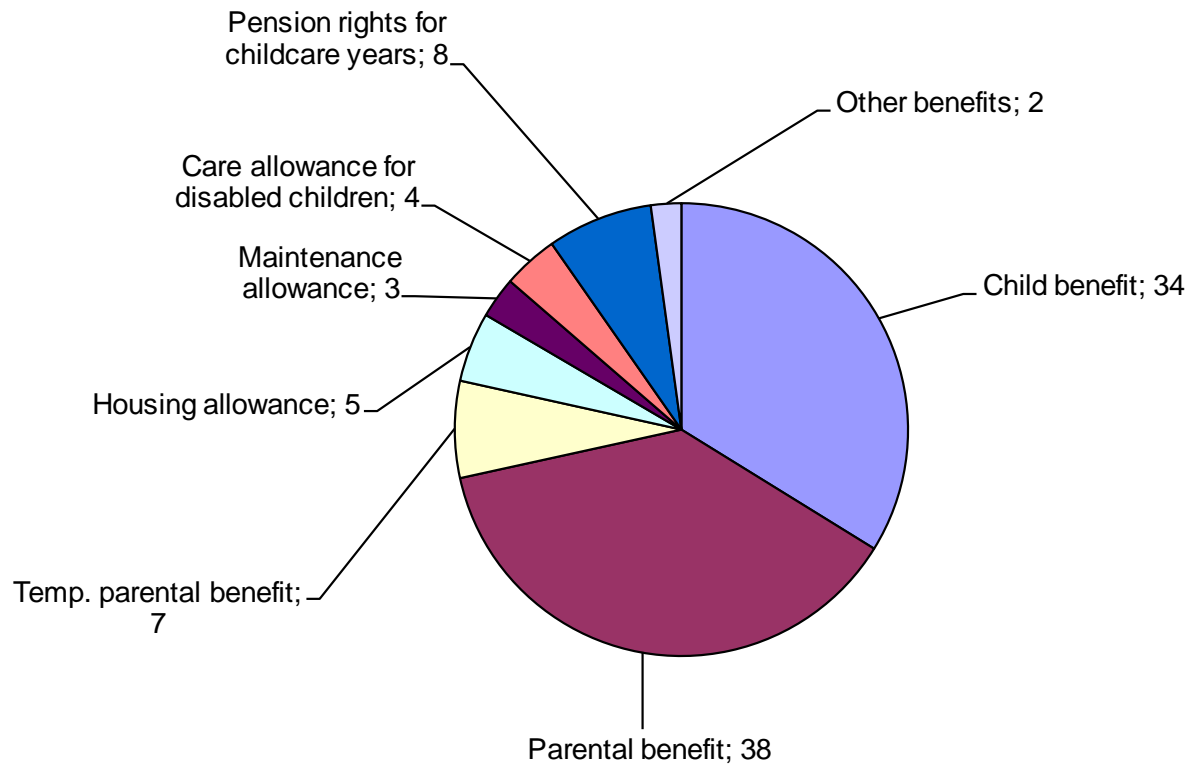
Child care

- Childcare facilities are well integrated into the Swedish welfare state
- distinguished by high standards of quality and by the principle of universal availability and affordability.
- It gives parents a chance to reconcile employment with family life.
- The fees are subsidized by the government and related to income, a maximum fee has been introduced.
- In 2010, about 98% of all 4-5 year olds were enrolled in pre-school

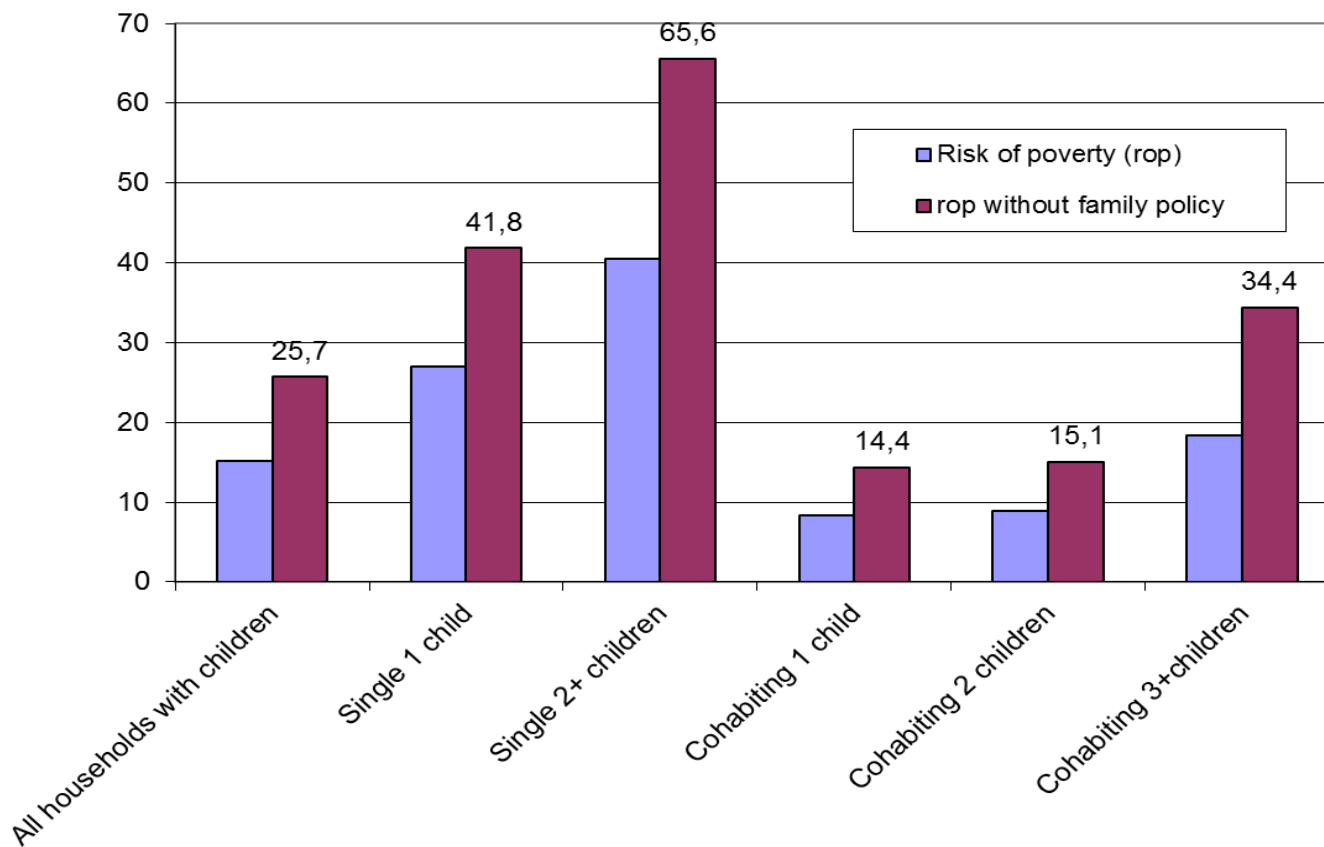
Different kinds of family benefits

- **General:** Child allowance, Adoption allowance
- **Insurances:** Parental benefit, Temporary parental benefit, Pregnancy benefit, Pension rights for child care years and more...
- **Need-tested:** Housing allowance, maintenance support and more...
- **Other benefits:** Gender equality bonus and child raising allowance

Expenditure, total of SEK 78 billion in 2013 (8,3 billion EUR)

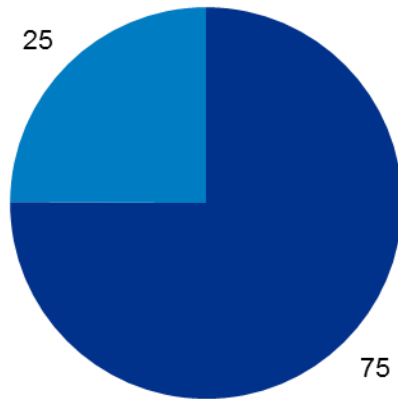


Financial family policy and at risk of poverty



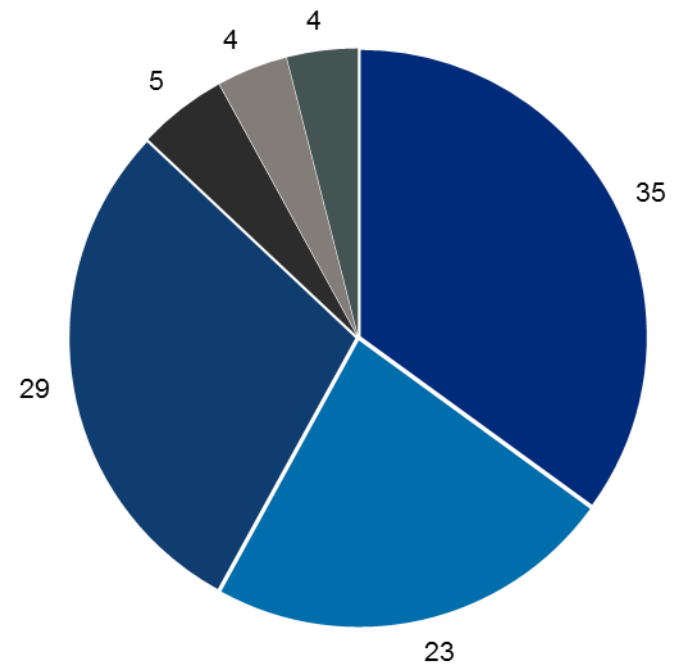
Different family types with children

All children



■ with both parents ■ living apart from at least one of their parents

Children living apart from at least one of their parents



■ shared residence ■ mostly with mother ■ only with mother
■ mostly with father ■ only with father ■ other

Recent reforms 2013/2014

- Raise in parental benefit for parents who do not have a wage-related benefit
- New rules regarding use of parental benefit, the main part must be used before the child turns 4, the rest can be used until the child turns 12
- Raise in housing allowance in 2012 and 2014 of totally 1.7 billion SEK, 48%, (192 million EUR)
- Child allowance will be split between parents as a main rule