

Declarations of Contents, Child maintenance

0 Administrative Information about the Statistical Product

0.1 Name

Child maintenance

0.2 Heading

Social conditions, health and justice

0.3 Responsible Authority, Office, Person, etc.

Welfare

Anne Vibeke Jacobsen, tel. +45 39 17 30 18, e-mail: avj@dst.dk

Yvonne Nielsen, tel. +45 39 17 36 18, e-mail: yvn@dst.dk

0.4 Purpose and History

The purpose of the statistics on advance payments of child maintenance is to show the number of cases where the municipalities have paid advance child maintenance, disbursed and collected amounts, and local authority claims outstanding.

The first statistics on advance child maintenance payments were compiled in 1979. The statistics are compiled in accordance with the current legislation, and the statistics are published in: *Statistical News* appearing in the series *Social Conditions, health and justice*.

The most recent legislation is:

Act on Child Maintenance no. 352 of 15th May 2003 and act on child benefits and advance payment of child maintenance no. 439 of 14th may 2009

0.5 Users and Application

Users

- The Danish Pensions Agency
- The National Association of Local Authorities in Denmark
- Municipalities

Field of use

- For internal purposes in Statistics Denmark
- In evaluating the act on child benefits and advance on maintenance allowance for children (The Danish Pensions Agency)

0.6 Sources

Data are obtained from the the debtor/creditor statistics of The Danish Local Government Computing Centre, KMD A/S, cf under 0.8.

0.7 Legal Authority to Collect Data

Section 6 of the Act on Statistics Denmark, cf. Act no. 599 of 22 June 2000.

0.8 Response burden

Until 2004-05 response came from all 272 municipalities in Denmark, whereas from 2006 it will be the Danish Local Government Computing Centre, KMD A/S. During the interim period 2004-07 Statistics Denmark received material from both the municipalities and KMD A/S, since not all areas and all municipalities were transformed to the KMD A/S systems simultaneously. 2010 came the response only from the Danish Local Government Computing Centre, KMD child maintenance.

0.9 EU Regulation

Is irrelevant to the statistics.

1 Contents

1.1 Description of Contents

The municipality of residence pays in certain cases (e.g. according to agreement between the parents or when the payment is not on time) advance child maintenance to children born out of wedlock or to separated and divorced spouses children, when the entitled parent does not live together with the other of the child's parents. Advance child maintenance does not cover those payments, which are made on time without the intervention of the municipality authorities.

The purpose of the statistic is to show for each municipality the number of children in different age groups, the number of entitled parents, the amounts paid in advance and collected by the municipalities as well as the outstanding claims at the end of the year.

1.2 Statistical Concepts

The statistical units are the municipalities with sums for the number of children, entitled parents and amounts in DKK.

The statistical population consists of those families, who choose to let the municipality be a go-between for the entitled parents and the obliged contributors, which means that the municipality pays the normal child maintenance benefit in advance.

The statistical measures are the number of children, entitled parents, paid amounts, claimed amounts, and the amounts outstanding to the municipalities.

Groups:

Beneficiaries (number of children and parents entitled to benefits) by municipalities. The number of children by age groups 0-6 years, 7-15 years, 16-17 years and 18 years by municipalities.

Variables:

There are relatively few data recorded in the register, since the information is collected as sums per municipality without personal id number for the recipients. See also the publication *Statistical News* appearing in the series *Social conditions, health and justice* with the title *Forskudsvis udbetaling af*

børnebidrag (Advance payment of child maintenance). Only in Danish This means that there is no more available information than that, which is published. Information by municipalities is available in the primary material.

2 Time

2.1 Reference Period

The reference period for the amounts of advance payments of child maintenance is the calendar year. The age groups of children are compiled from their age by the end of the year.

2.2 Date of Publication

The statistics are published yearly. The statistics are published about 100 days after the period of reference.

2.3 Punctuality

The statistics are published without delay in relation to the scheduled date, but fluctuations may occur when completed forms are not duly returned by the municipalities.

2.4 Frequency

The statistics are published annually.

3 Accuracy

3.1 Overall accuracy

The overall accuracy is very high. The data material is subjected to data editing. Statistics Denmark makes enquiries to the individual municipalities, if the figures reported appear to be incorrect.

3.2 Sources of inaccuracy

Coverage

All municipalities are included. However not all children from divorced/separated families are included, but only those where the municipality pays advanced payments of child maintenance.

Quality of variables

The quality is very high. The variable "payment arrears" contains arrears for advance payments of child maintenance (the amount a municipality is entitled to disburse according to the current legislation) and also payments not paid out in advance: percentage supplements, education payments and alimony (these amounts cannot be disbursed by the municipality in accordance with current legislation). The amounts for advance payments of child maintenance cannot be distinguished separately.

3.3 Measures on accuracy

There are no sampling errors as the statistics are compiled on the basis of a census.

4 Comparability

4.1 Comparability over Time

The comparability is exceptionally high, as only minor changes have been made through time in the current legislation.

Figures are fully comparable, starting with the statistics compiled in 1979.

4.2 Comparability with other Statistics

Comparable statistics are not available.

4.3 Coherence between provisional and final statistics

Only final figures are published.

5 Accessibility

5.1 Forms of dissemination

Figures on advance payments of child maintenance are published in: *Statistical News* appearing in the series *Social conditions, health and justice* with the title *Forskudsvis udbetaling af børnebidrag* (advance payment of child maintenance). Only in Danish.

Yearly publications: *Statistical Yearbook* and *Social Protection in the Nordic Countries* ("*Social Tryghed i de nordiske lande*") published by NOSOSCO, see www.nom-nos.dk where the publication is on-line.

Københavns Statistiske Årbog (The Copenhagen Statistical Yearbook). See the latest edition on-line at www.sk.kk.dk Click publications.

Statbank (www.statistikbanken.dk) where the following matrixes are:

BIDRAG1: Advance payments of child maintenance (2000-2005)

BIDRAG2: Advance payments of child maintenance (2000-2005)

BIDRAG11: Advance payments of child maintenance (2006-2008)

BIDRAG22: Advance payments of child maintenance (2006-2008)

5.2 Basic material: Storage and usability

The primary data are kept by Statistics Denmark. Rules and regulations governing the register for advance payments of child maintenance have not been issued by the Danish National Archives.

5.3 Documentation

There is internal material (e.g. about registration and data editing), which documents the statistics. Each yearly article (only in Danish) published for *Statistical News* appearing in the series *Social conditions, health and justice* with the title *Forskudsvis udbetaling af børnebidrag* (advance payment of child maintenance) has information on the legal framework and possible legislative changes since the previous year.

5.4 Other Information

At The Danish Pensions Agency's web site, www.pensionsstyrelsen.dk, all current legislation about child maintenance payments can be found.