

8. SOCIAL PROTECTION

Methodological notes

Social protection is defined as all interventions from public or private bodies intended to relieve households and individuals of the burden of a defined set of risks or needs. For the comparison of the EU countries is used „European system of social protection statistics“ (ESSPROS) in compliance with regulations (EC) No 458/2007, No 1322/2007 and No 10/2008 and regulations (EU) No 110/2011 and No 263/2011.

In this publication, social protection is represented by the social insurance, state social benefits and social assistance.

Pension insurance according to the Act No 461/2003 Coll. on Social Insurance consists of the **old-age insurance** for securing income at old-age and in case of death and **invalidity insurance** in case of decline ability carry out gainful activity in consequence of long-term unfavourable health condition of insured person and in case of death. Employees, employers, mandatory pension insured self-employed, voluntary pension insured persons and state participate on financing of the pension insurance. Social insurance of armed forces is determined by the Act No 328/2002 Coll. on Social Security for Policemen and Soldiers and on amendments and supplements of certain acts.

Pension insurance system includes an old-age and early pensions, invalidity pensions, widow's, widower's and orphan's pensions. Invalidity from youth, wife's pensions, social pensions, increase of pension in case of disability and increase of pension as the sole source of income are state benefits refunded by government.

Benefits of **sickness insurance** include four systematic benefits: sickness benefits, benefit for sick relative care, maternity benefit and equalization benefit. Employee obtains sickness entitlement refunded by the Social Insurance Agency from 11th day of temporary incapacity from work. Employer refunds the first ten days. Self-employed persons obtained sickness entitlement from 1st day of temporary incapacity for work.

Accident insurance is insurance in case health damage or death as a result of working accident and occupational disease.

Guarantee insurance is insurance in case of employer's insolvency for employee claim satisfaction.

Insurance in unemployment is insurance of employee for ensuring of income in case of income loss from employee activity in consequence of loss of work.

Social security benefits include **state social benefits** such as child benefit, parental allowance, funeral grant, birth grant, child care benefit and substitute child care support benefits.

Services of social assistance and material needs benefit are given to the persons for reducing and getting over material need with their active participation. Services of social assistance are provided according to the Act No 195/1998 Coll. on Social Assistance. Expenditures on social assistance are classified according to the Budgetary Classification valid for particular year. Material needs benefit is offered according to the Act No 417/2013 Coll.

Benefits for compensation of disabled persons are intended for compensation of the social consequences of severe disability. The payment is regulated by the Act No 447/2008 Coll. on Financial Benefits for Compensation of Disabled Persons and on amendments and supplements to certain acts.

Social care in the facilities of social services is provided according to the Act No 448/2008

Coll. on Social Services and on amendments and supplements of the Act No 455/1991 Coll. Trade Licensing Act and on amendments and supplements of certain acts.

Definitions

Old-age pension is the fundamental benefit of pension insurance. Insured person has entitlement for old-age pension, when was insured at least 15 years and reached pension age.

Insured person has entitlement for **early pension**, when was insured at least 15 years, needs maximum two years to the reaching of age of old pension and the sum of early pension by the day by which pension awarded is higher than 1.2 times the subsistence level sum for one full-aged natural person.

Invalidity pension is allocated for insured person, who became disabled and obtained necessary number of pension insurance years and on the invalidity formation day didn't realized conditions of demand for old-age pension and was not him award early pension.

Orphan's pension is allocated to the dependent children due to death of a parent or adoptive parent. Full orphan pension is allocated to children whose parents (or adoptive parents) both died. These pensions do not depend on employment duration.

Widow's pension is allocated as the partial replacement of deceased husband's income.

Widower's pension is allocated as the partial replacement of deceased wife's income.

Parental pension is a pension benefit, which, with the consent of the insured person, is provided to the person who brought him up and to whom old-age material security is provided, as part of the tax paid or part of the payment made by the insured person in connection with participation in an adequate old-age material security scheme.

Social pension is allocated to person without subsistence who does not qualify for pension.

Invalidity pension from youth is allocated for person who became disabled in childhood. This pension is granted since reached 18 years of age.

Increase of pension in case of immobility is the allowance for replacement of increased costs relating to the need of serving and taking care of him/her by another person.

Increase of pension in case of sole source of income is the state benefit of pension security granted in case that, old-age, invalidity, widow's, widower's or full orphan's pension is the only income source and not reached 1.1 times the subsistence level.

Pensions lower than minimal pension are increased **on level of minimal pension** when a pensioner reaches retirement age according to the Section 82b of the Act No 461/2003 Coll. on Social Insurance.

The 13th pension is benefit refunded from the state budget and granted to the pension receivers according to the Act No 296/2020 Coll. on 13th pension on amendments and supplements to certain acts. Benefit is paid from 2020.

Christmas bonus for pensioners is a benefit financed from the state budget determined for pension receivers with low pension.

Sickness benefits temporarily compensate to insured person for loss of income due to sickness or accident. Employee obtains sickness entitlement from 11th day of temporary incapacity.

Benefit for sick relative care is claimed when caring for a sick child under the age of 10 or caring for another sick member of the family when the provision of such care by another person is necessary.

Maternity benefit compensates to woman for loss of income in last period of pregnancy and after delivery in accordance with valid legislation.

Equalization benefit is paid during pregnancy and until the end of the nine-month from delivery to a woman who was transferred to a different job because her original work was dangerous

or threatened her pregnancy or maternity.

Child benefit provides to all dependent children at the same amount regardless of children age and income of family members according to the law.

Parental allowance is repeated benefit entitled to the parent or person for permanent personal and proper care of at least one child up to the age of 3 years or up to the age of 6 years for child recognized as suffering from long-term severe health impairment.

Annual benefit for multiple birth is paid to parents of which together born three or more children or which during two years frequently born twins. It is state social benefits which state once a year contribute on increased expenditures associated with care on together born children.

Birth grant is a single benefit given to the mother who gave birth to the child or is given to the father of the child or to another person meeting the conditions according to the law.

Substitute child care benefits are a one-off or recurring benefits paid to the children and substitute parents.

Funeral grant is a single benefit given as the partial replacement of expenditure for the funeral of a person under the social security.

Benefit in material need is a single or repeated benefit allocated to the person in material destitution to provide basic living condition of this person.

Revenues from premium collection on sickness insurance, old-age and invalidity insurance, accident insurance, unemployment insurance, guarantee insurance, collection of contributions to solidarity reserve fund represent payments of payers according to valid acts.

Other payments include incomes of the Social Insurance Agency from outstanding premium, fines, penalties, requital of submitted claim, gifts and payment from government assets, respectively state budget. Financial assistance (transfers from other funds of the Social Insurance Agency to basic fund of old-age insurance) is not included.

Sickness insurance benefits (sickness benefits, benefit for sick relative care, equalization allowance and maternity benefits) are provided **from sickness insurance**.

Pension benefits are provided from **pension insurance**, which is divided into **old-age insurance** (old-age pension, early pension, orphan's pensions, widow's pension, widower's pension) and from **invalidity insurance** (invalidity pension, orphan's pension, widow's, widower's pension).

Accident benefits (injury surcharge benefit, injury annuity benefit, one-off redemption benefit, surviving annuity, one-off settlement benefit, rehabilitation benefit, retraining benefit, compensation for pain, compensation for reduced social opportunities, compensation of cost joint to cure, compensation of cost joint to funeral) are provided from **accident insurance**.

Guarantee insurance benefits are provided from **guarantee insurance**.

Unemployment benefits are provided from **insurance in unemployment**.

Social security benefits paid by state include wife's pension, social pensions, invalidity pension from youth, increase of pension in case of sole source income, increase of pension in case of disability, increase of pension in case of fight against fascism and rehabilitation, compensation of employment injuries and occupational diseases cancelled employers, which a founder was the government or the National Property Fund of the Slovak Republic and accident allowances to persons according to valid acts.

Social service facilities are residential or outpatient facilities that provide to clients professional (e.g. social counselling, help with self-care, nursing care), service (e.g. accommodation or food), other (e.g. hobbies) or other activities. The founder of a social service facility can be a self-governing region, a municipality or other non-public (private) providers (church or other legal person, as well as natural person). These include supported housing facilities, senior facilities, attendance service facilities, rehabilitation centres, social service homes, specialized facilities,

day care centres, facilities for temporary child care, reception centres, shelters, half-way homes and emergency housing facilities.

Social services are one of the forms of social assistance for people in an unfavourable social situation. Through these services, the state supports the social inclusion of persons in an unfavourable social situation and the fulfilment of their social needs.

Social services are focused on:

- preventing the occurrence, solving or reducing the unfavourable social situation of an individual, family or community,
- preservation, restoration or development of an ability of an individual to lead an independent life,
- support for the integration of an individual into society,
- prevention of social exclusion,
- solving of the crisis social situation of an individual and a family.

Source

Data on incomes and expenditures of the Social Insurance Agency are acquired from the information system of the Social Insurance Agency.

Published data on social insurance benefits and state social benefits are taken from the informative system of the Social Insurance Agency, from the Central Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the SR and from statistical surveys of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the SR.

Published data on social services facilities are taken from the social service information system of the Ministry of the Labour, Social Affairs and Family.

More detailed information can be obtained on the Statistical Office of the SR website in the section Statistics – Demography and social statistics – Social protection, in the public database of the Statistical Office of the SR DATAcube as well as in the Social Insurance Agency, in the Central Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family or in the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the SR.