

Family benefits in 2019

30.09.2020

↑ 3.0%

Increase in the amount of family benefits paid

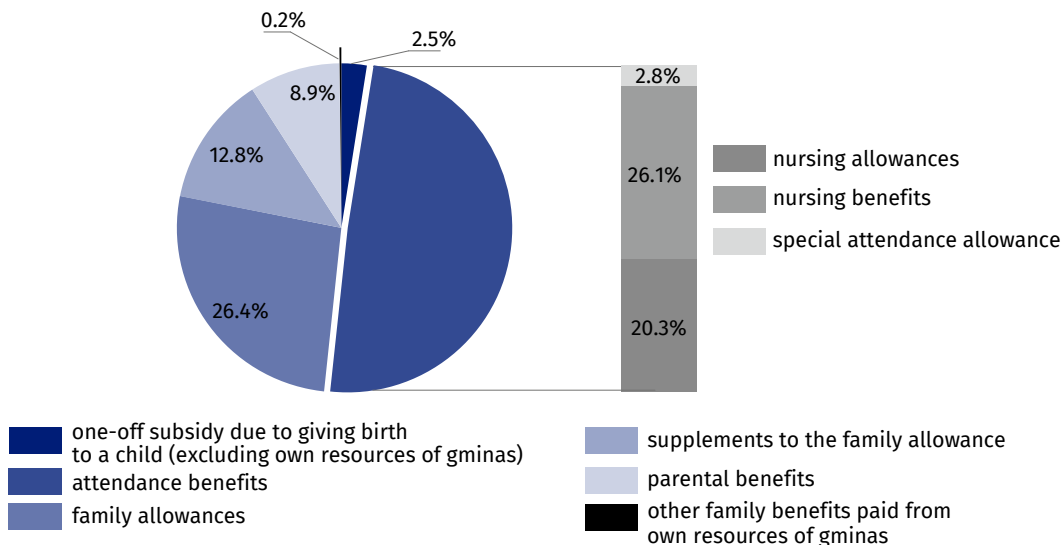
In 2019, PLN 10.3 billion was allocated to support families in Poland in the form of family benefits, and they were used on average by nearly 1.9 million beneficiaries monthly¹. Benefits from the alimony fund were paid in the total amount of PLN 1.1 billion. As part of the government programme "Family 500 plus" PLN 30.5 billion was spent on child-raising benefits.

Family benefits

In 2019, PLN 10.3 billion was allocated to family benefits aimed at providing financial support to families with children and people with disabilities. These benefits were used on average by 1.9 million beneficiaries monthly, and an average of 4.2 million benefits were paid during the month. Expenditure on family benefits was dominated by expenditure on assistance addressed to families with children, i.e. family allowances with supplements, subsidies due to giving birth to a child and parental benefits – 50.8% of the total amount of expenses. However, expenditure on assistance for the disabled, i.e. on attendance benefits, accounted for 49.2% of the total amount of expenditure.

PLN 10.3 billion was transferred to the beneficiaries of family benefits to support families with children and with disabled persons

Chart 1. Structure of expenditure on family benefits in 2019



Source: National Family Benefits Monitoring System, Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy.

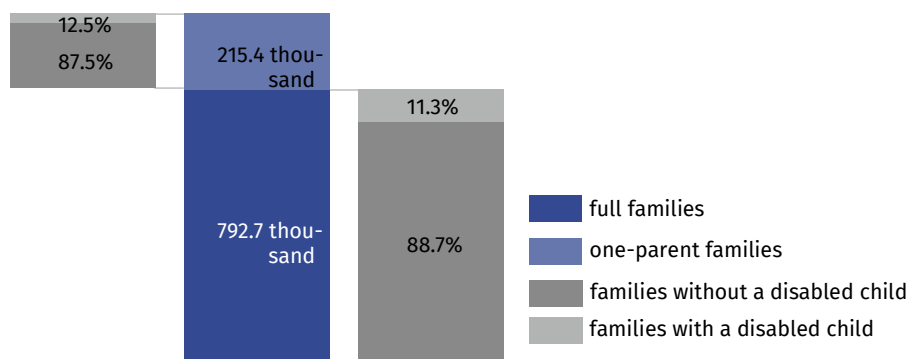
Family allowances

In 2019, family allowances were paid in the amount of PLN 2.7 billion, 8.7% less than in 2018. Family allowances were collected by an average of 1.0 million families, i.e. 9.7% less than in 2018. The most numerous group among the families receiving family allowances were families with two children entitled to the allowance (413.9 thousand families, i.e. 41.1% of eligible families). Families with one child entitled to the allowance (366.9 thousand families) accounted for 36.4% of eligible families. The smallest group were families with three or more children entitled to the allowance (227.3 thousand, i.e. 22.5% of families). Among families receiving family allowances, full families accounted for 78.6% (792.7 thousand families), the remaining 21.4% were single-parent families (215.4 thousand families). In 2019, 116.7 thousand families with a disabled child received the family allowance, which accounted for 11.6% of all families receiving the family allowance.

Family allowance was received on average by 1.0 million families per month

¹ Beneficiaries of family benefits are families receiving family benefits for dependent children and adults entitled to benefits for themselves.

Chart 2. Structure of families receiving the family allowance in 2019

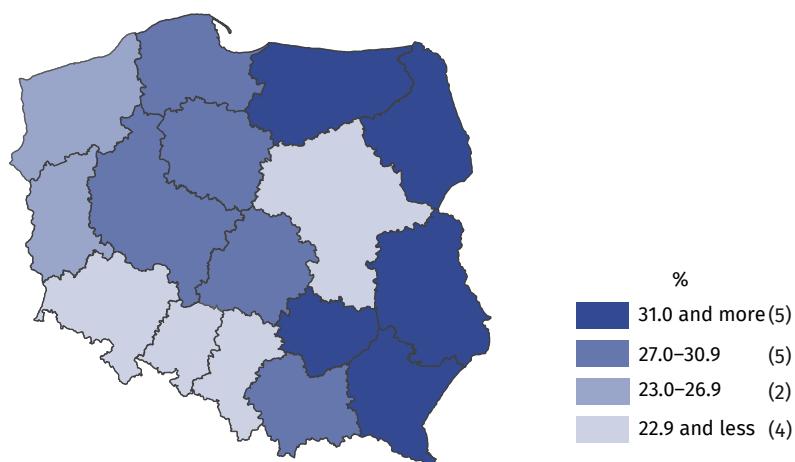


Source: National Family Benefits Monitoring System, Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy.

Family allowances were paid on average for 2 010.9 thousand children monthly, wherein the largest group was constituted by children aged 6–12 (772.5 thousand – 38.4% of the total number of children entitled to allowance). Children under the age of 6 (641.7 thousand children) accounted for 31.9% of the total number of children entitled to allowance. In the remaining age groups, the shares were lower. Children aged 13–15 accounted for 14.0%, aged 16–17 years – 8.8%, and those aged 18 and more who were dependent mainly due to education – 6.8% of the total number of children entitled to allowance. The share of children under the age of 18 for whom parents received family allowances in the total number of children at this age was 27.0% and was higher by 2.4 pp compared to 2018.

Parents received family allowances for 27.0% of children under the age of 18

Map 1. Share of children under the age of 18 for whom parents received the family allowance in the total number of children at this age in 2019



Source: National Family Benefits Monitoring System, Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy.

The indicator presented in map 1 showed significant territorial differentiation, reaching the lowest value in Dolnośląskie Voivodship (21.1%) and the highest in Świętokrzyskie Voivodship (34.4%).

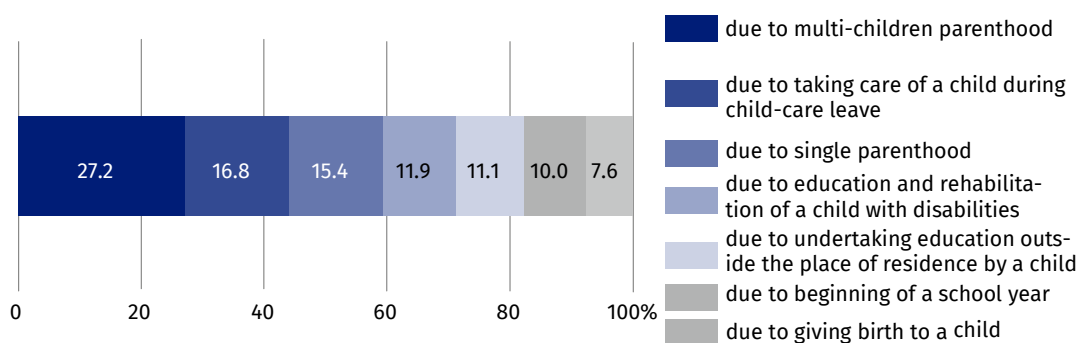
Families benefiting from supplements to family allowances

In 2019, persons receiving family allowances received supplements to allowances in the amount of PLN 1.3 billion, which constituted 12.8% of the total amount of family benefits.

In 2019, an average monthly amount of PLN 978.1 thousand was paid out as supplements to family allowances, i.e. 4.7% less than in 2018. Expenditure on supplements to family allowances was financed from the state budget, and additionally, gminas from their own funds (in accordance with Article 15 of the Act on Family Benefits) spent PLN 12.2 million to increase these amounts. Among the expenses on supplements to family allowances, the largest amount – PLN 359.8 million was paid due to multi-children parenthood, and the smallest – PLN 100.3 million due to giving birth to a child.

More than 1/4 of expenses on supplements to family allowances were supplements due to multi-children parenthood

Chart 3. Structure of supplements to the family allowance in 2019



Source: National Family Benefits Monitoring System, Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy.

Attendance benefits

In the total amount of family benefits paid in 2019, PLN 5.1 billion, i.e. 49.2%, were attendance benefits for people with disabilities. Compared to 2018, the amount of these benefits increased by 17.7%. More than a half of the amount was allocated to nursing benefits (PLN 2.7 billion). The remaining part is nursing allowances (PLN 2.1 billion) and special attendance allowances (PLN 287.1 million). Nursing allowances were paid on average monthly for 923.8 thousand persons, i.e. by 1.4% more than in 2018. In the structure of nursing allowances, the highest share – 74.4% had benefits paid to disabled persons aged 16–74 years. Benefits for disabled children under the age of 16 accounted for 23.3%, however for persons aged 75 and more – 2.3%. In the discussed year, nursing allowances were paid on average monthly for 216.2 thousand children under the age of 16. The share of disabled children for whom parents received a nursing allowance in the total number of children at this age was 3.5%. In 2019, a nursing benefit² was granted on average monthly to 142.7 thousand people, and a special attendance allowance for 39.1 thousand people.

PLN 5.1 billion was allocated to attendance benefits for people with disabilities

One-off subsidies due to giving birth to a child

In 2019, one-off subsidies due to giving birth to a child, the so-called "baby bonus" were directed to parents of 252.4 thousand children, which constituted 67.3% of the total number of children born. Expenditure on the payment of the "baby bonus" financed from the state budget amounted to PLN 252.4 million and was lower by 9.6% compared to 2018. Among the families receiving one-off subsidies due to giving birth to a child, families with one child constituted the most, i.e. 42.8%, families with two children – 38.4%, and multi-children families (with three children or more) – 18.8% of the analysed group. In 2019, over 11 thousand subsidies due to giving birth to a child were paid out additionally from own funds of gminas in the total amount of PLN 9.2 million.

Parents of 252.4 thousand children received subsidies due to giving birth to a child ("baby bonus")

Parental benefits

The parental benefit³, introduced from 1 January 2016, is granted to persons who gave birth to a child and who do not receive maternity allowance. In 2019, expenditure on parental benefits amounted to PLN 920.2 million and accounted for 8.9% of all expenditure on family benefits, and was collected on average by 84.3 thousand people per month. Compared to the previous year, both the amount and the average monthly number of paid parental benefits decreased by nearly 8%.

On average 84.3 thousand people collected parental benefits

Social and health security contributions

In 2019, PLN 565.3 million was spent on retirement and other pension contributions. These contributions are paid by the competent authority together with the payment of the nursing benefit or a special attendance allowance. On average, these contributions were paid for 135.8 thousand beneficiaries monthly. PLN 112.7 million was spent on health insurance contributions, and they were paid on average for 82.3 thousand beneficiaries per month.

² It is granted to parents, actual guardians resigning from employment to care for a disabled child or for an adult whose disability, in accordance with the changes in force from 1 January 2013, has arisen no later than up to the age of 18 or during education, but no later than up to the age of 25.

³ Art. 17c of the Act of 28 November 2003 on Family Benefits (Journal of Laws of 2016, item 1518, with later amendments).

Alimony fund benefits

The alimony fund may be used by a person entitled to receive alimony from a parent on the basis of an enforceable title originating from or approved by the court, if the execution against the parent has proved unsuccessful. In 2019, 2.8 million benefits were paid from the alimony fund, i.e. 9.9% less than in 2018. These benefits were paid in the total amount of PLN 1 136.1 million, by 8.2% less than in the previous year. On average, 233.1 thousand benefits were paid monthly, and their average amount was PLN 406.2.

The value of benefits paid from the alimony fund amounted to PLN 2.8 million

Child-raising benefits

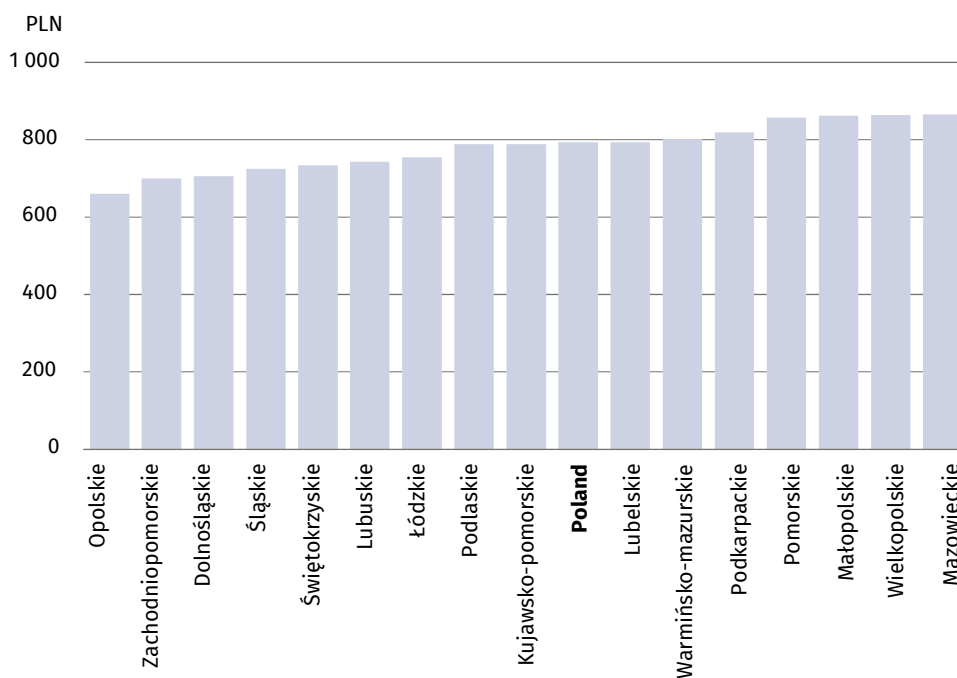
In 2019, there were changes in the rules for paying the child-raising benefit under the government programme "Family 500 plus".

In the first half of 2019, the benefit was paid for the second and subsequent children (up to the age of 18) regardless of income, and for the first child, if the net income per person in the family did not exceed PLN 800 or PLN 1 200 for families with a disabled child. From 1 July 2019, the child-raising benefit was granted to all children up to the age of 18, regardless of the family's income. The value of child-raising benefits paid in the period January – June 2019 was PLN 11.1 billion, and the average monthly benefit was paid to 3.6 million children, while from 1 July to the end of 2019, the expenditure on child-raising benefits amounted to PLN 19.4 million and were paid on average per month for 6.1 million children.

In total, expenditure on child-raising benefits in 2019 amounted to PLN 30.5 billion and was by 37.4% higher than in 2018. Calculating per capita, expenditure on child-raising benefits in 2019 amounted to – PLN 794.7, reaching the lowest value in Opolskie Voivodship (PLN 661.8), and the highest in Mazowieckie Voivodship (PLN 866.7).

PLN 30.5 billion was paid under the government programme "Family 500 plus"

Chart 4. Expenditure on child-raising benefits per capita in 2019



Source: Central Statistical Application – the area of Child-raising Benefit of the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy.

Table 1. Amounts of family benefits paid by voivodships in 2019

SPECIFICATION	Amount of family benefits paid	Amount of benefits paid from the alimony fund	Amount of child-raising benefits paid from the "Family 500 plus" programme
	in million PLN		
Poland	10 317.7	1 136.1	30 505.2
Dolnośląskie	645.7	96.5	2 050.5
Kujawsko-pomorskie	637.9	78.3	1 638.9
Lubelskie	622.4	71.5	1 679.6
Lubuskie	316.1	35.6	753.7
Łódzkie	607.4	67.4	1 859,6
Małopolskie	879.5	67,4	2 941.1
Mazowieckie	1 239.9	134.1	4 690.3
Opolskie	209.2	26.4	651.4
Podkarpackie	732.0	46.7	1 746.1
Podlaskie	320.7	29.3	931.6
Pomorskie	780.1	85.9	2 008.5
Śląskie	1 014.8	133.8	3 285.2
Świętokrzyskie	406.8	36.0	909.5
Warmińsko-mazurskie	473.7	63.6	1 144.8
Wielkopolskie	995.7	95.1	3 024.3
Zachodniopomorskie	435.7	68.5	1 190.2

Source: National Family Benefits Monitoring System, Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy and Central Statistical Application – the area of Child-raising Benefit of the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy.

In the case of quoting data from the Statistics Poland, please provide information: "Statistics Poland data source", and in the case of publishing calculations made on data published by the Statistics Poland, please provide information: "Own study based on Statistics Poland data".

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[Social assistance, child and family services in 2018](#)

Availability in databases

[Database Local Data Bank – HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL WELFARE](#)

Terms used in official statistics

[Beneficiaries from family benefits](#)

[Alimony fund benefits](#)

[Benefits within the "Family 500+" Programme](#)