

Definition of Terminology in the Ad hoc Survey on Reconciliation Between Work and Family Life, 2005

Time off from work for family sickness or emergencies”(Q3) includes the cases of sickness of child/relative (even not serious like a cold) or accident of a child/relative but also other family emergencies (childminder ill or having own urgent reasons, nursery closed because of flu epidemic, house burning, ...). Most of the time, it refers to unplanned situations but it can also be planned in advance in some cases of sickness for example (e.g. operation of a family member, ...). Own sickness or accident are excluded.

Main type of childcare used for own/spouse’s children up to 14 while person is working(Q4) “While person is working” means during his/her working hours.

The reference period is a current and normal week outside :

- * holidays (parents, children, services, ...)
- * other particular arrangements (sick child or other problems).

If the person can not decide because childcare changes from one week to another, the reference period should be the reference week if not distorted or the first week before the reference week that is not distorted.

Children concerned : own (including adopted) or spouse/partner up to 14 living in the same household that the person interviewed. Children aged 14 years old should be included.

Main organisation outside compulsory school hours if only school-going children. Besides, as existence and definition of pre-school vary from one country to another, pre-school is coded in the same code as childcare services (including free pre-school).

As sometimes persons are using several childcare arrangements for a child or different childcare arrangements from one child to another, the carer (codes 1 to 3) who spends the highest number of hours/week caring for one or several children should be coded. If it is impossible to choose, the first code that applies in the order of the list should be recorded.

Person takes regularly care of other children up to 14 (Q9) Carers are defined as people who look after or provide regular help -on a fixed pattern- to children (personal care, homework, playing games, reading, taking out, surveillance etc.). The carer has to be responsible for the care.

“Other children” correspond to other than (own/spouse’s children living in the household) that is to say to :

- * own/spouse’s children living outside the household
- * other children (not own/spouse’s) living inside or outside the household

Children aged 14 should be included.

“Regularly” is defined as on a fixed pattern (every day, every week, ...). The reference period is the current situation.

Care as a job should be excluded (it means that care done in a professional capacity is excluded)

Person takes regularly care of ill, disabled, elderly relatives/friends aged 15 or more in need of care (Q12). Examples of caring tasks: personal care (e.g. dressing, washing) ; physical help

(e.g. walking) ; helping with paperwork or financial matters ; domestic help (e.g. housework, laundry) ; company, talking, visiting

The dependant adults helped can live inside or outside the household.

If the care consists only of financial support or if the care is a volunteer work for a charity or for an other organisation, then it should not be considered as care.

Care as a job should be excluded (it means that care done in a professional capacity is excluded).

Care for children aged 15 or more who are not ill/disabled is out of the scope.

APPENDIX

Child-care benefits

Child-care fee

Entitlements: for those parents who care for child at home under age 2 and has 180 insured days in last two years before childbearing.

Duration: after pregnancy and confinement benefit (which is 168 days, at least 28 days before the childbirth) until the 2nd birthday of a child.

Child-care allowance

Entitlements: for those parents who care for child at home under age 3 (under age 10 for disabled child).

Duration: until the 3rd birthday of a child.

Child raising benefit

Entitlements: universal for those parents, who have 3 or more children.

Duration: maximum 5 years, between 3-8 years of the youngest child (until the beginning of his/her general education).