

**Documentation of statistics for  
Cash Benefits 2016**

## 1 Introduction

The purpose of the statistics is to analyze the number of recipients and amounts of social assistance and related benefits paid each month in the quarter. The quarterly statistics started in the 2nd quarter of 1983. Up until 1993, the number of recipients was calculated in *families*, but from 1994 in *persons*. From 2007 the statistics is based on data from KMD-Aktiv and the corresponding system in the municipality of Herning.

## 2 Statistical presentation

The statistics contains information about cash benefits and other similar benefits, overall distributed on the variables *number of persons aged 16-64* and the *amount paid* in relation to the specific type of cash benefit.

### 2.1 Data description

The statistics can be distributed on nine types of benefit and one total count. The total count is called *Benefits, total* and contains a sum of all benefits. A person may receive more than one benefit a month why the total count is purged of duplicates on an individual persons-level. Persons receiving *Special support* on account 5.73.009 are included in the total count, but are not shown separately as a type of benefit.

The statistics contain the following types of benefit: *Recipients of social assistance total, Educational allowance total, Wage subsidies for persons receiving social assistance and educational allowance total, Social assistance and educational allowance under pre-rehabilitation total, Social assistance and integration benefits for foreigners and others total, Rehabilitation benefit total, Cash benefits total, Labour market allowance total, and Special educational allowance total.*

A more detailed distribution of the statistics is available from January 2016 onwards. From this period of time the statistics can be distributed on an account-code level of detail.

### 2.2 Classification system

The cash benefit statistics is distributed on [part of country](#) which is a classification of Statistics Denmark.

### 2.3 Sector coverage

The statistics covers all sectors.

## 2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Persons: Persons who receive any type of cash benefit. If the amount paid to a person is relatively low the person is not included in affected persons cf. the following rule. The amount paid must be greater than 1/31 of either the average of the amount paid related to the specific type of benefits \* or \* the median of the amount paid related to the specific type of benefits (the lowest of the two is chosen).

Family type: Click [here](#) for more information about the types of families.

Full-time equivalent: Full-time equivalent on an annual basis.

Ancestry: Ancestry has three categories; immigrants, descendants and Danish origin. Immigrants are born abroad, and none of the parents are Danish citizens and born in Denmark. Descendants are born in Denmark, and none of the parents are Danish citizens and born in Denmark. The rest of the population has Danish origin.

National origin: The categories in national origin is determined from a person's country of origin. Click [here](#) for more information on country of origin.

Amount: The amount paid, which are registered on a person. The amounts paid are distributed after the municipalities authorized account plan of the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Interior. The authorized account plan can be viewed [here](#).

Visitation category: The jobcentre carries out an assessment to place the unemployed person into one of four categories on the basis of the person's ability to work. The categories are *ready to work*, *Ready to participate in training programs*, *openly ready for education and training* and *ready for education and training*.

## 2.5 Statistical unit

Persons and amount.

## 2.6 Statistical population

Recipients of cash benefits and other similar benefits according to administrative registers.

## 2.7 Reference area

The statistics covers persons who have received cash benefits and other similar benefits in Denmark.

## 2.8 Time coverage

In the period of time from January 2007 onwards the statistics cover cash benefit on the main-groups of types of benefit. However, a more detailed distribution of cash benefit on the exact account codes is also available from January 2016 onwards. Detailed tables containing data before 2016 can be found in archived tables: KY05 shows the years 2014 and 2015, KONT1 and KONT2 shows the years from 2007 to 2013. The tables are not directly comparable due to major changes in types of cash benefits when comparing the three periods.

## **2.9 Base period**

Not relevant for these statistics.

## **2.10 Unit of measure**

The unit of measurement is persons and amount in DKK.

## **2.11 Reference period**

The time of reference is the month where the benefits cover.

## **2.12 Frequency of dissemination**

The statistics are published quarterly and distributed on months.

## **2.13 Legal acts and other agreements**

The Act on Statistics Denmark (Lov om Danmarks Statistik), Section 6, cf. Order no. 599 of 22 June 2000.

## **2.14 Cost and burden**

As the statistics from 2007 builds on micro-data from the administrative systems, there is no direct response burden. The main part of the data is collected from KMD-arkiv and the municipality of Herning. Data about labour market allowance is collected by the Labour Ministry for the register of public benefits.

## **2.15 Comment**

Other information can be requested.

## **3 Statistical processing**

The main part of the data is collected in Cemos and comes from KMD-Aktiv, while data from municipality of Herning is collected separately. Data regarding labour market allowance is collected through a FTP server and comes from RAM from The Danish Agency for Labour Market and Recruitment.

The data is adapted in a SAS-program, which is programmed according to the criteria of the definition on when a person should be counted as a person receiving cash-benefits. See *Affected persons* in section *Statistical concepts and definitions*.

The level and the development of the statistics is compared with the previous three months for every account. Furthermore it is analyzed on how large an update, there has been in the previous period.

### **3.1 Source data**

The statistics are based on data from all municipalities in Denmark and the unemployment funds.

### **3.2 Frequency of data collection**

Data is collected monthly.

### **3.3 Data collection**

The main part of the data is collected in Cemos and comes from KMD-Aktiv, while the municipality of Herning is collected separately. Data regarding labour market allowance is collected through a FTP server and comes from RAM from The Danish Agency for Labour Market and Recruitment.

### **3.4 Data validation**

The level and the development of the statistics is compared with the previous three months for every account code. Furthermore, it is analyzed on how large an update, there has been in the previous period.

### **3.5 Data compilation**

The data is adapted in a SAS-program, which is programmed according to the criteria of the definition on when a person should be counted as a person receiving cash-benefits. See *Affected persons* in section *Statistical concepts and definitions*.

### **3.6 Adjustment**

The series is not adjusted.

## **4 Relevance**

Users: Ministries (especially the Ministry of Social Affairs), municipalities and counties, organizations, education institutions, research institutions, the media and private persons.

Application: Public planning, budgeting in the municipalities, education, research and public debate.

### **4.1 User Needs**

- *Users:* Ministries (especially the Ministry of Social Affairs), municipalities and counties, organizations, education institutions, research institutions, the media and private persons.
- *Application:* Public planning, budgeting in the municipalities, education, research and public debate.

### **4.2 User Satisfaction**

There is not collected any knowledge about the user satisfaction.

### **4.3 Data completeness rate**

In theory the statistics are completely since it is a full census based on KMD-aktiv and the RAM register. However, there may be lacking, e.g. in the form of various types of accounting errors etc.

## **5 Accuracy and reliability**

The coverage of the statistics is very high.

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

### **5.1 Overall accuracy**

The level of accuracy is considered to be high. The main information are registered in KMD-Aktiv or the similar in municipality of Herning according to the authorized account plan made by the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Interior. The municipalities have an economic incentive to make a proper registration because the reimbursement is based on the authorized account plan. Information about the labour market allowance comes from the Danish Agency for Labour Market and Recruitment.

### **5.2 Sampling error**

The sampling error is zero, as it is a full sample.

### **5.3 Non-sampling error**

There is no systematic error, as it is a full sample.

### **5.4 Quality management**

Statistics Denmark follows the recommendations on organisation and management of quality given in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and the implementation guidelines given in the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF). A Working Group on Quality and a central quality assurance function have been established to continuously carry through control of products and processes.

### **5.5 Quality assurance**

Statistics Denmark follows the principles in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and uses the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF) for the implementation of the principles. This involves continuous decentralized and central control of products and processes based on documentation following international standards. The central quality assurance function reports to the Working Group on Quality. Reports include suggestions for improvement that are assessed, decided and subsequently implemented.

## 5.6 Quality assessment

In general the quality of the statistics is valued to be high, as the statistics is register based and because of that e.g. there is no sampling error. However the statistics counts the number of affected persons in a month which means that a person can receive different benefits in a month with equal weight.

## 5.7 Data revision - policy

Statistics Denmark revises published figures in accordance with the [Revision Policy for Statistics Denmark](#). The common procedures and principles of the Revision Policy are for some statistics supplemented by a specific revision practice.

## 5.8 Data revision practice

The quarterly statistics can be considered some how as the provisional figures of the yearly statistics. When new figures are published, the figures of the previous quarter are updated.

## 6 Timeliness and punctuality

The statistic is published quarterly and is published 2.5 month after the end of the reference period.

### 6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

The release dates are set a year in advance and can be found in the timetable [Scheduled Releases](#) under the subject *living conditions*. The publication date is approximately 75 days from the last day of the reference period. The previous quarter is updated in each publication.

### 6.2 Punctuality

The statistics are usually published without delay in relation to the scheduled date.

## 7 Comparability

Comparability over time is divided in to three periods:

- 1983 Quarter 2 - 1993 Quarter 4 - Number of families.
- 1994 Quarter 1 - 2006 Quarter 4 - Number of persons.
- 2007 Quarter 1 - present - Number of persons. New source and counting.

It is difficult to compare the statistics directly internationally, as other countries do not have the corresponding benefits and rules.

### 7.1 Comparability - geographical

It is difficult to compare the statistics directly internationally, as other countries do not have the corresponding benefits.

## 7.2 Comparability over time

From 2007 a new data source is used which means that the data is not totally comparable with data from previous years and a new way of counting recipients of cash benefits was introduced. The counting unit was changed in 1994 from families to persons.

The comparability over time is divided in to three periods:

- 1983 Quarter 2 - 1993 Quarter 4 - Number of families.
- 1994 Quarter 1 - 2006 Quarter 4 - Number of persons.
- 2007 Quarter 1 - present - Number of persons. New source and counting.

Due to the ongoing amendments to the relevant legislation in the form of new benefits and changes to existing benefits it can be difficult to make comparisons inside each of these three time periods.

**Unemployment benefits reform (July 2010):** Three different temporary benefits has been introduced as a consequence of a shorter benefit period from 4 to 2 years. The benefits are targeted at persons who no longer are entitled to unemployment benefits. The benefits are *Special educational allowance* (January 2013), *Labour market allowance* (January 2014) and *Cash benefits allowance* (October 2015). Special educational allowance and Cash benefits allowance are administered by the municipalities, while Labour market allowance is administered by the unemployment insurance funds.

**Cash benefits reform (January 2014):** Educational allowance were introduced in 2014 aiming persons under 30 years. The jobcentre has to make an assessment to put the unemployed person into one of four categories on the basis of the persons ability to work. These categories were changed as a consequence of the reform. In the statistics the changes has been implemented back to 2007.

**New reimbursement model (January 2016):** The model for the state financed reimbursement to municipalities has been changed with effect January 2016 onwards. The reimbursement is now time-based rather than being based on the type of benefits and activation. The authorized account plan made by the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Interior has therefore been changed. This statistics is made on the basis that the municipalities follow the authorized account plan and therefore the changes affects this statistics. E.g. it is no longer possible to distinguish between activated and passive recipients of cash benefits. The changes are implemented in the statistics per January 2016 and as far as possible transferred back to 2007. The old matrices based on the old account plan before 2016 remains in archive in the [StatBank](#).

## 7.3 Coherence - cross domain

There are no other monthly statistics on cash benefits. However the statistics of people receiving public benefits are quarterly where the cash benefits also are included. In the statistics of people receiving public benefits the figures are a volume measure and counts number of full-time recipients and internal overlap is removed. Removing of internal overlap means that a person can not receive different benefits for more than 37 hours each week. In the cash benefit statistics the number of affected persons are counted and overlap is not removed. These differences make the two statistics not directly comparable.

## 7.4 Coherence - internal

The number of persons receiving cash benefit and other benefits differ from the sum of every single unit. This is due to two matters. Firstly, Some recipients may have received different benefits within the same period. Therefore, by combining two or more types of cash benefits there is a risk of double counting. The total Social assistance benefits is purged of duplicates on a personal level to avoid double counting. Secondly, Special support (a specific type of cash benefit) is not shown as a separate type of benefits. This is because that special support is often given in addition to other types of cash benefits. Special support is included in Social assistance benefits, total.

## 8 Accessibility and clarity

The statistics are published as a written document called 'Nyt fra Danmarks Statistik', and via StatBank Denmark on [www.Statbank.dk](http://www.Statbank.dk). The tables are called KY01, KY12, KY13, KY04, KY15 and KY16.

### 8.1 Release calendar

The publication date appears in the release calendar. The date is confirmed in the weeks before.

### 8.2 Release calendar access

The Release Calendar can be accessed on our English website: [Release Calendar](#).

### 8.3 User access

Statistics are always published at 8:00 a.m. at the day announced in the release calendar. No one outside of Statistics Denmark can access the statistics before they are published.

### 8.4 News release

[Kontanthjælpsydelse](#). Choose the subject *Levevilkår*. (only in Danish)

### 8.5 Publications

The quarterly statistics is only published in News from Statistics Denmark and in StatBank Denmark.

### 8.6 On-line database

The annual and quarterly tables are published in [StatBank Denmark](#). Completed historical tables is given under *Archive* in the same menu.

### 8.7 Micro-data access

The reports are stored as final quarterly statistics with information's on municipality- and benefit level. From 2007 the data is stored on micro level, yearly. For more information on micro-data in Statistics Denmark view the document [Access to micro data at Statistics Denmark](#).

## **8.8 Other**

Not accessible for these statistics.

## **8.9 Confidentiality - policy**

See Statistics Denmark [Data Confidentiality Policy](#) for more information about discretion policy.

## **8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment**

If there are 1-3 observations in a combination from the StatBank the cell is marked with two dots ( .. ). Indicating that the observation fall under the limit of discretion.

## **8.11 Documentation on methodology**

No other documentation exists.

## **8.12 Quality documentation**

Results from the quality evaluation of products and selected processes are available in detail for each statistics and in summary reports for the Working Group on Quality.

## **9 Contact**

The administrative placement of these statistics are in the division of Labour Market. The person responsible is Anders Eeg, tel. +45 39 17 30 49, e-mail: [aeg@dst.dk](mailto:aeg@dst.dk)

### **9.1 Contact organisation**

Statistics Denmark

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