

**Table 10.3 Parental Leave and Child Care Provisions
in Sixteen OECD Countries, 1994**

Countries ranked by social-transfer share of GDP in 1995	Leave provisions (weeks)		Child care subsidies and family costs	
	Parental leave	Separate maternal leave	Gov't payments for formal infant care as a % of care as % of GDP	Family's cost of care as a % of female earnings
<i>Countries with high social-transfer budgets</i>				
Sweden	62		1.36	7
Finland	26 to 156	17.5	1.08	7
Denmark	10 to 52	18	1.21	8
Norway	52		0.91	13
Belgium	130	15	0.08	0
France	0 to 156	16	0.24	0
<i>Countries with intermediate transfer budgets</i>				
W. Germany	156	14	0.27	3
Italy	26	22	0.10	7
United Kingdom	(none)	14 to 40	0.35	28
Austria	112	16	n.a.	11
<i>Countries with low transfer budgets</i>				
Switzerland 1988	8 to 12	8 to 12	n.a.	n.a.
New Zealand	52		0.04	20
Canada	10	17	0	n.a.
Australia	52	52	0.19	6
United States	(unpaid) 12		0.01	22
Japan	52	14	0	n.a.

Notes and sources to Table 10.3:

The infant care subsidies, from all levels of government, consist mainly of formal day care, excluding kindergartens. Some of these percentages refer to earlier years because of reporting changes: The France percentage is for 1989, and those for Italy

and West Germany are for 1990.

The family cost of child care is the private cost of for one child age 2 years 11 months, here divided by the average earnings for a single (lone) mother. There was no tax relief for such care costs in Britain, and limited relief in the United States.

The care facilities used in Britain and the United States were primarily privately run. The sources on family leave provisions and the family cost of infant care are Waldfogel (1998, 141) and Joshi et al. (1998, 10). The shares of infant care subsidies as percentages of GDP are from the OECD's CD-ROM (1999).