

Comparing the availability of paid parental leave for same-sex and different-sex couples in 34 OECD countries ^[1]

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AVAILABILITY

[Access abstract online](#) ^[2]

Abstract

The availability of paid family leave has been widely researched in the context of a two-parent household with one mother and one father, yet few studies have explored whether households with same-sex parents have access to equal benefits. Expanding on previous cross-country comparisons of parental leave policies, this study examines parental leave policies in 34 OECD countries to compare the total duration of paid parental leave available to same-sex and different-sex parent families within a country. We find that same-sex female and different-sex couples receive equal durations of leave in the majority of countries. However, same-sex male couples often receive shorter durations of paid parental leave compared to both different-sex and same-sex female couples. In addition to addressing the implications of laws and policies surrounding same-sex marriage and same-sex adoption on parental leave availability, we highlight specific aspects of paid leave policies that may explain the unequal durations of paid leave between same-sex and different-sex couples

Related link: [Same-sex male couples losing out on paid parental leave](#) ^[3]

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[1] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/research-policy-practice/19/09/comparing-availability-paid-parental-leave-same-sex-and>

[2] <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/journal-of-social-policy/article/comparing-the-availability-of-paid-parental-leave-for-samesex-and-differentsex-couples-in-34-oecd-countries/B75BB517748AD2A99C8C1BF67D55EF1E>

[3] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/child-care-news/19/09/same-sex-male-couples-losing-out-paid-parental-leave>

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