

Sweden

Total population: 9,5 million

The welfare system: Most of it is regulated in law on a state level, but the services are mostly provided by the municipalities.



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Abortion

30 000-45 000 Abortions are induced every year
An overwhelming majority, more than 95%, are induced during the 8th week or before that.

The number of teenage abortions decreases and has done so during the last years.

None of the 8 parties in the parliament are pushing the issue to ban abortion or even limit it.



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Single parents

5 % of the swedish households consists of a single mother with at least one child. 2 % of them of a single father with a child. 14% of the household is in a category named "others". This can mean that a child alternately lives with both their parents

Teenage parents – statistics hard to find.

The term used is "Alone-standing parents"



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Child care

The municipalities are responsible for child care and are obliged to offer this from the age of one.

Between the age 2-5, 95% of all children are enrolled in some sort of child care.

From the age of three, all children are entitled to 15 hours free child care every week.

A few years ago, some municipalities did not manage to offer child care, which led to some parents taking legal action



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Welfare system

All parents – independent of income – are entitled to child care support, approx 110 euro per month

Single parents are entitled to extra money for living

The parent who does not live with the child is entitled to alimony/maintenance from the other parent

Of the single parents, 23 % of the women and 8% of the men, receive subsidy because their income is considered too low.



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Issues/barriers faced by single parents

Four out of five of all single parents' children have shared parental responsibility.

Save the children Sweden – campaign against child poverty.

Discussion: Relative poverty vs Absolute poverty



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