

NORWAY

REPORT

for the period ending 30 June 2016 made by the Government of Norway, in accordance with article 22 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation, on the measures taken to give effect to the provisions of the

CONVENTION (NO. 130) CONCERNING MEDICAL CARE AND SICKNESS BENEFITS, 1969

ratification of which was registered on 15 February 1972.

Part I – General provisions

Reference is made to previous reports.

Sickness benefit

Reference is made to previous reports.

Benefits in case of children's illness

Reference is made to previous reports.

By an act of 19 December 2014, in effect from 1 July 2015, sections 9-5, 9-6, 9-7 and 9-9 of the National Insurance Act was amended, so that self-employed persons and freelancers may (after a waiting period of 10 days) receive daily cash benefits in the case of absence from work due to care for a sick child, to the same extent as employees. Prior to the amendment, self-employed persons and freelancers were not entitled to this benefit.

By an act of 19 December 2014, in effect from 1 January 2015, section 9-16 of the National Insurance Act – daily cash benefits in the case of care for a child suffering from a serious or potentially fatal disease or a hospitalised child – was amended, so that self-employed persons are entitled to a benefit compensating for 100 per cent of the pensionable income (up to a ceiling of 6 times the Basic amount (B.a.)). Prior to the amendment, the benefits to self-employed persons compensated for only 65 per cent of the pensionable income.

Benefits in case of home care during the terminal phase

By an act of 19 October 2012, in effect from 1 January 2013, section 9-12 of the National Insurance Act was amended. Prior to the amendment, full daily cash benefits was granted an insured occupationally active person taking care of close relatives at home, during their terminal phase, for a period of up to 60 days for each patient. The amendment extended the coverage to also include care for close friends and neighbours (people without relatives).

Part II – Medical Care

Article 9

Reference is made to previous reports.

Article 10

1. Recourse is had to subparagraph 10 C.
2. With the exception of embassy personnel and other posted workers, who remain covered by the national insurance schemes of the posting state, all persons residing in Norway are protected.

3.C. (a) (i) Number of protected residents:

Year	Number of residents
2011	4 920 305
2012	4 985 870
2013	5 051 275
2014	5 109 056
2015	5 165 802
2016	5 213 985

(b) The persons registered as resident in Norway – the number of residents on 1 January of each respective year:

Year	Number of residents
2011	4 920 305
2012	4 985 870
2013	5 051 275
2014	5 109 056
2015	5 165 802
2016	5 213 985

(c) $a:b \times 100 = 100$ per cent

4. The statistical data used under 3 C have been issued by Statistics Norway.

Article 12

Reference is made to previous reports.

Article 13

Reference is made to previous reports.

Subparagraph a: Present rates – in force from 1 January 2016:

Consultation	Expenses covered by the patient
Consultation by a GP - with evening, night or weekend surcharge	NOK 141 NOK 238
Home visit by a GP - with evening, night or weekend surcharge	NOK 190 NOK 304
Consultation or home visit by a specialist	NOK 320

Children under the age of 12 are completely exempted from cost-sharing for health services. Children under the age of 16 are exempted from cost-sharing for health services covered by cost-sharing ceiling 1, cf. information provided under Article 17. Children under the age of 18 are exempted from cost-sharing for psychotherapy and dental treatment.

Subparagraph c: Cost-sharing for important medicines is calculated as a percentage of the expenses: 38 per cent of each prescription. The maximum cost-sharing amount for each prescription is presently set to NOK 520.

For children under the age of 16, all important prescribed medicines are free.

There are several exemptions from cost-sharing, in addition to children under the age of 12/16 as already mentioned. Reference is also made to information provided under Article 17.

Subparagraph d: All insured persons are granted free accommodation and treatment, including medicines, in hospitals. This follows from the provisions of the Act on Specialist Health Care and the Act on Mental Health Care. In the case of treatment given outside hospitals, the provisions of the Act on Municipal Health Care and the National Insurance Act apply.

Subparagraph e: For persons under 18 years of age, all necessary dental treatment, except orthodontic treatment, is free. Youth 19-21 pay 25 per cent of costs. For others, treatment of dental diseases and necessary operations are covered according to fixed rates.

Subparagraph f: Reference is made to previous reports. The National Insurance basic benefit, rate 3, amounts to NOK 16 104 as of 2016.

Article 17

There is a cost-sharing ceiling for expenses related to treatment by physicians and psychologists, important drugs and transportation expenses related to examination and treatment (ceiling 1). After the ceiling has been reached, a card is issued giving entitlement to free treatment and benefits as mentioned for the rest of the calendar year. The ceiling is fixed

by the Parliament on a yearly basis. For 2016, the amount is NOK 2 185.

Ceiling 2 includes physical therapy, some forms of dental treatment that is subject to reimbursement and accommodation fees at rehabilitation centres and treatment abroad. The ceiling is fixed by the Parliament on a yearly basis. For 2016, the amount is NOK 2 670.

Part III - Sickness benefit

Article 19

1. Recourse is had to subparagraph b)

2. All persons with an income corresponding to an annual income of at least 50 per cent of the basic amount. (Basic amount as from 1 May 2016: NOK 92 576.)

Daily cash benefits during unemployment, sickness, maternity and adoption are regarded as equal with income from work.

3. B.

(a) (i) All persons with an income of at least 50 per cent of the average basic amount in 2014:
2 604 000

(b) All occupationally active persons (employees and self-employed) in 2014 (annual average):
2 650 000

c) The figures given above are not comparable and only attempt to show the approximate range of figures.

4. Reference is made to previous reports.

Article 21

1. Article 22 paragraph 6 (a).
2. Recourse is had to Article 22.

Article 22

Reference is made to the previous report.

Title I (Article 21 (a))

Reference is made to paragraph 3 of article 22

A. Sickness benefit is not granted for that part of a person's income which exceeds 6 times the basic amount. During the report period the basic amount has been changed as follows:

Year	Period	Amount (NOK)
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2011	1 Jan – 30 Apr	75 641
	1 May – 31 Dec	79 216
	<i>Annual average</i>	78 024
2012	1 Jan – 30 Apr	79 216
	1 May – 31 Dec	82 122
	<i>Annual average</i>	81 153
2013	1 Jan – 30 Apr	82 122
	1 May – 31 Dec	85 245
	<i>Annual average</i>	84 204
2014	1 Jan – 30 Apr	85 245
	1 May – 31 Dec	88 370
	<i>Annual average</i>	87 328
2015	1 Jan – 30 Apr	88 370
	1 May – 31 Dec	90 068
	<i>Annual average</i>	89 502
2016	1 Jan – 30 Apr	90 068
	1 May – 31 Dec	92 576
	<i>Annual average</i>	91 740

Sickness benefit is paid for 5 days a week (260 days a year).

B. Recourse is had to paragraph 6 (b).

2. We find the highest number of men employed in the industry Wholesale and retail trade (193 000 persons in 2015, LFS).

The average annual pay in 2015 for a male worker with an occupation in the category Crafts and related trades workers in the industry Wholesale and retail trade was NOK 422 400. This follows the guidelines of cross-tabulating ISIC rev. 4 and ISCO-08/major group 7.

The pay is based on payment for normal working hours, 7,5 hours a day, 5 days a week, 260 days per year. It does not include pay for overtime, but covers basic salaries, variable additional allowances and bonuses.

(The basis should be the yearly wage of the previous year. However, in our examples the allowance is calculated from the same year's wage).

The amount of family allowance used is the rate for two children in the third quarter of the respective years.

C. The gross annual wage of the standard beneficiary, computed on the bases of wage per hour, excluding payment for overtime and shift work, amounted to:

Year	Amount (NOK)
2011	380 400
2012	396 000
2013	402 000

2014	415 200
2015	422 400

Title II

The sickness allowance equals the gross wage. The sickness allowance is paid for five days a week and is taxed as earned income.

The amount of family allowance used is the rate for two children in the third quarter of the respective years.

D. The sickness benefit of the standard beneficiary amounted to:

Year	Amount per year (NOK)	Amount per day (NOK)
2011	380 400	1 463
2012	396 000	1 523
2013	402 000	1 546
2014	415 200	1 597
2015	422 400	1 625

E and F.

Reference is made to the previous reports.

G. Please note that the standard beneficiary belongs to a different category than of the last report, so the amounts are not fully comparable to those of the previous reports.

Year		C: Wage per year (NOK)	D: Sickness benefit per year (NOK)	E=F: Family allowance per year (NOK)	Total per year (NOK)	Percentage: $\frac{(D+F) \times 100}{(C+E)}$
2011	D+F		380 400	23 280	403 680	100
	C+E	380 400			403 680	
2012	D+F		396 000	23 280	419 280	100
	C+E	396 000			419 280	
2013	D+F		402 000	23 280	425 280	100
	C+E	402 000			425 280	
2014	D+F		415 200	23 280	438 480	100
	C+E	415 200			438 480	
2015	D+F		422 400	23 280	445 680	100
	C+E	422 400			445 680	

Article 25

As a main rule, employment or self-employment must have lasted for at least four weeks before one is entitled to sickness benefit. (This does not, however, apply in cases of occupational injury.)

Article 26

1. Sickness benefit is paid for 5 days per week, 52 weeks per year = 260 days.

3. Reference is made to the previous reports.

Article 27

Reference is made to the previous reports.

A means-tested lump-sum of maximum NOK 22 723 may be granted by the National Insurance Scheme in the case of death, to cover expenses in connection with the funeral.

Part IV - Common provisions

Article 28

Recourse is had to subparagraph (f) of this article.

Reference is made to previous reports.

Articles 29, 30 and 32

Reference is made to previous reports.

Article 33

1. Reference is made to previous reports.

2. A. The expenditure of the National Insurance Scheme in respect of benefits in kind in case of illness amounted to:

Year	Amount (mill. NOK)
2011	22,735
2012	23,990
2013	24,877
2014	27,057
2015	29,546

Expenditure on sickness benefit (excluding maternity benefits in cash) amounted to:

Year	Amount (mill. NOK)
2011	34,748
2012	34,824
2013	36,617
2014	38,371
2015	39,534

Expenditure on Work-assessment allowance amounted to:

Year	Amount (mill. NOK)
2011	35 531
2012	35,470
2013	35,730
2014	34,822
2015	34,313

C. The national income during the report period was:

Year	Amount (mill. NOK)
2011	2,342,615
2012	2,491,468
2013	2,574,840
2014	2,727,028
2015	2,697,316

Source: Statistics Norway

D. $A/C = 100$ per cent

Benefits in kind (including maternity benefits in kind) as percentage of national income:

Year	Per cent
2011	1.0
2012	1.0
2013	1.0
2014	1.0
2015	1.1

Sickness benefits (excluding maternity benefits in cash) as percentage of national income:

Year	Per cent
2011	1.5
2012	1.4
2013	1.4
2014	1.4
2015	1.5

Work Assessment Allowance as percentage of national income:

Year	Per cent
2011	1.5
2012	1.4
2013	1.4
2014	1.3
2015	1.3

F. (a) and (b): All persons resident in Norway are entitled to medical care.

Reference is made to paragraph 3 of article 10, where the statistical data concerning the resident population in the years 2011–2016 are given.

G. See statement under article 17.

III

Reference is made to previous reports.

IV

There have been no decisions by the Courts involving questions of principle concerning the application of the Convention.

V

Reference is made to previous reports.

VI

This report has been communicated to the members of the Norwegian Tripartite ILO Committee and we have received no comments to the report.

Oslo, June 2016