

It includes:

- Paid sick leave: flat-rate or earnings-related payments intended to compensate the protected person in full or in part for the loss of earnings caused by temporary inability to work due to sickness or injury. These benefits may be paid by autonomous social protection schemes, but they may also be provided by the employer in form of a continued payment of wages and salaries during the period of sickness.
- Paid leave in case of sickness or injury of a dependent child.
- Other cash benefits: miscellaneous payments made to protected people in connection with sickness or injury.

It excludes:

- Cash benefits that replace the loss of earnings during a temporary inability to work in the case of pregnancy (these benefits are included under 'family/children related allowance (HY050G)').
- Cash benefits that replace loss of earnings during temporary inability to work in the case of disability (these benefits are included under 'disability benefits' (PY130G)).
- Payments made for employers to an employee in lieu of wages and salaries through a social insurance scheme when unable to work due to sickness, where such payment cannot be separately and clearly identified as social benefits (these payments are included under 'gross employee cash or near cash income' (PY010G)).
- Additional payments made by employers to an employee to supplement the sickness leave pay entitlement from a social insurance scheme, where such payments cannot be separately and clearly identified as social benefits (those payments are included under 'gross employee cash or near cash income' (PY010G)).

The "contributory" and "means-tested" definitions are the same as applied in ESSPROS.

Contributory schemes are social protection schemes that require the payment of contributions, by the protected persons or by other parties on their behalf, in order to secure individual entitlement to benefits.

Contributory schemes are sometimes referred to as social insurance schemes. By convention, all non-autonomous schemes that employers run in favour of their employees, former employees and their dependants are classified as contributory schemes.

Means-tested social benefits are social benefits which are explicitly or implicitly conditional on the beneficiary's income and/or wealth falling below a specified level.