

Conventionally agreed category of social needs and risks that individuals and households may face at different stages in their life. The classification of [social benefits](#) by function thus indicates the primary purpose for which the [social protection](#) is provided, irrespective of legislative or institutional provisions. Eight functions of social protection are distinguished in the ESSPROS:

- [Sickness/Health care](#)
- [Disability](#)
- [Old age](#)
- [Survivors](#)
- [Family/children](#)
- [Unemployment](#)
- [Housing](#)
- [Social exclusion not elsewhere classified](#) .

Further information

[European system of integrated social protection statistics — ESSPROS Manual and User guidelines. 2019 edition](#)

Statistical data

[Social protection statistics - Family and children benefits](#)

[Social protection statistics - Unemployment benefits](#)