



# Equality Act 2010

## 2010 CHAPTER 15

### PART 16 **E+W+S**

#### GENERAL AND MISCELLANEOUS

##### *Interpretation*

#### **213** References to maternity leave, etc. **E+W+S**

- (1) This section applies for the purposes of this Act.
- (2) A reference to a woman on maternity leave is a reference to a woman on—
  - (a) compulsory maternity leave,
  - (b) ordinary maternity leave, or
  - (c) additional maternity leave.
- (3) A reference to a woman on compulsory maternity leave is a reference to a woman absent from work because she satisfies the conditions prescribed for the purposes of section 72(1) of the Employment Rights Act 1996.
- (4) A reference to a woman on ordinary maternity leave is a reference to a woman absent from work because she is exercising the right to ordinary maternity leave.
- (5) A reference to the right to ordinary maternity leave is a reference to the right conferred by section 71(1) of the Employment Rights Act 1996.
- (6) A reference to a woman on additional maternity leave is a reference to a woman absent from work because she is exercising the right to additional maternity leave.
- (7) A reference to the right to additional maternity leave is a reference to the right conferred by section 73(1) of the Employment Rights Act 1996.
- (8) “Additional maternity leave period” has the meaning given in section 73(2) of that Act.

**Changes to legislation:**

Equality Act 2010, Section 213 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 18 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 40A inserted by [2023 c. 51 s. 1](#)
- s. 120(9) inserted by [2023 c. 51 s. 2\(b\)](#)
- s. 124A inserted by [2023 c. 51 s. 3](#)