

**THE SURVEY OF INCOME AND
PROGRAM PARTICIPATION**

**WHERE'S PAPA? FATHERS'
ROLE IN CHILD CARE**

No. 181

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"Where's Papa?
Fathers' Role in Child Care"*

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INTRODUCTION

Changes in the economy affect the lives of families in many ways besides their immediate jobs and earnings. During adverse economic circumstances, the roles of husbands and wives as breadwinners and child care providers may be reversed. The loss of a job, a change in school hours, or a reduction in the number of hours worked can upset the delicate balance of family child care arrangements. In many cases, the principal income provider becomes the principal child care provider when it is the other spouse's turn to go to work.

Data collected from Census Bureau studies since 1988 suggest that families adjusted their child care arrangements during the recent recession as women with young children continued to join

the labor force, child care costs increased, and husband's lost their jobs or shifted to part-time work. Previous surveys conducted between 1977 and 1988 had noted a consistent proportion of preschoolers (children under 5 years old) cared for by their fathers while their mothers were at work (about 14 to 16 percent between 1977 and 1988). 1/ By 1991, this percentage increased to 20 percent.

This report will examine the role that the father played as a child care provider during the recent economic recession, and provide a historical perspective on fathers as child care providers from earlier surveys conducted by the Census Bureau in the 1960s and 1970s.

Because infants and toddlers are most vulnerable to changes in child care situations, preschoolers (children under 5 years old) will receive most of the attention in this report. The term "child care arrangement" used in this report describes how children were cared for during the time their mothers were at work. 2/ Although some parents may use more than one arrangement for each child, the figures shown in this report are only for the primary arrangement: that is, the arrangement used most often during a typical week as described by the parents.

FATHERS AS CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

The image of fathers acting solely as the primary income earner without contributing to the daily tasks of providing child care services is not now, nor has it been in the recent past, an accurate picture of the American family. As far back as the mid-1960s, fathers have been a mainstay of family child care arrangements during the hours mom was at work (table A).

Between 1965 and 1988, about one out of every seven preschoolers had their fathers serve as their primary child care providers. Fathers provided these services on an equivalent, if not greater scale than the children's grandparents or day care centers (table 1). During this period, major changes in child care arrangements occurred among preschoolers. Child care moved outside the home to organized child facilities such as day care centers and nursery schools.

But in the most recent Census Bureau survey conducted in fall 1991, a sharp increase occurred in the proportion of fathers acting as the primary child care provider. For the first time, one out of every 5 preschool-age children had their fathers at home with them while their mothers were at work. No increase occurred for grade school-age children 5 to 14 years old as the percentage of these children cared for by their fathers held steady between 6 and 7 percent since the mid-1980s (table A).

Increases in paternal child care arrangements were also noted for the children of unmarried or separated women (figure 1). Between 1977 and 1988, only 1-2 percent of preschool-age

children of unmarried mothers had their natural fathers providing primary child care services for them at home while their mothers were working. In fall 1991, 7 percent were in this arrangement: in addition, another 1 percent were being cared for in their father's own home.

These changes are quite remarkable considering the problems unmarried women often face in securing child support payments from absent fathers. In addition, about 4 out of every 10 absent fathers in 1990 had neither visitation privileges nor joint custody arrangements for their children with their ex-spouses, presenting additional legal barriers to fathers acting as child care providers. 3/

CHILD CARE ARRANGEMENTS: CHANGES AND COSTS

Reasons for changes. What do families offer as explanations for changing child care arrangements? Are economic reasons mentioned or are concerns about the quality of care most frequently cited? Reports by parents in table B indicate that for school-age children, almost two-thirds of changes in arrangements occurred because of changes in the child's school schedule. Less than 5 percent mentioned reasons such as reliability, quality or cost of child care for changing child care arrangements.

Parent's of younger children naturally have different concerns in choosing child care providers. Issues such as cost of care, availability, and location of provider are cited more frequently for younger than for older children. Preschoolers may require more supervision than grade-school age children who may be old enough to care for themselves after school for a few hours. Changes in mother's work schedule were also cited more frequently among women with younger children. Additionally, in one of every 6 cases, parents mentioned that their usual arrangements were no longer available, thereby requiring a change to another provider.

Child care costs. Although child care costs are cited as reasons for change in only 5 percent of the cases for all children under 15 years old, one cannot disregard the substantial amount of payments parents make for child care services in the U.S., especially for low income families. Among families paying for child care services in 1991, the average weekly cost to those families for all children under 15 years old was \$63 per week, up from \$40 per week in 1985 (figure 2 and table 2). At this level throughout the year, child care costs would amount to \$3,300 per year per family. Even after controlling for inflation, child care costs still would have increased by about \$11 per week since 1985. On an hourly basis, child care costs in 1991 were about \$2 per hour (table 3).

As a percentage of average monthly income, child care costs represented about 7.1 percent of the family's income, up slightly from 6.3 percent in 1985. Child care costs as a proportion of

family income was noticeably higher for lower income families (those with family incomes less than \$1,500 per month) than they were for families in higher income brackets (figure 3).

Families paying for child care who lived below the poverty level in 1991 also paid relatively more for these services, amounting to 27 percent of their family income, compared to 7 percent for families above the poverty level. In fact, among those paying for child care, actual weekly child care costs made by families living below poverty (payments of \$60 weekly) was not statistically lower than that reported by families above the poverty line (\$64 per week).

More families switching to fathers as child care providers may have contributed to the recent decline in the proportion of families paying for child care by 1991. The proportion of families paying for child care rose from 34 percent in 1985 to 40 percent in 1988, but fell back to 35 percent in 1991 (table 2).

Thirty-seven percent of families with monthly incomes of \$3,000 or more in 1991 paid for child care compared to 32 percent for families in lower income brackets. Although no difference was noted in weekly payments made by families living below or above the poverty line, relatively fewer families below the poverty level paid for child care (24 percent) compared to families above the poverty line (36 percent).

Child care costs and subjective responses as to why families switch providers do not adequately provide us with a complete picture of the underlying conditions which may have led to the increase in paternal child care for preschoolers between 1988 and 1991. A more productive line of inquiry may be found in examining the changing labor force characteristics of these families since 1988.

SHIFTS IN PARENTAL EMPLOYMENT STATUS

The unemployment picture. The labor force status, type of work shift and duration of parent's work schedules obviously play an important part in determining the availability of a father to provide child care services while his spouse is working. Table C provides a few summary indicators of the employment situation between 1984 and 1991 corresponding to survey dates of the child care surveys analyzed in this report.

Unemployment indicators deteriorated in all categories between 1988 and 1991, both for the general population and for married men. In addition, unemployment duration spells were also higher in 1991 than in 1988, when 28 percent of those unemployed were out of work for 15 or more weeks. However, unemployment indicators for 1991 were no worse than they were in 1985 when 16 percent of preschoolers were cared for by their fathers while their mothers were at work. Shifts to greater paternal child care participation, then, cannot be traced solely to increases in

the unemployment rate.

Family work schedules. Looking only at unemployment rates as indicators of paternal availability for child care duties masks the contribution of changes in family work schedules in accounting for increases in the proportion of children cared for by their fathers. Table D profiles both the changing parental work schedules of married-couple families with preschoolers between 1988 and 1991 and shows the frequency of father-provided child care by the employment status of the children's parents.

In this report, persons who usually worked 35 or more hours per week at their principal job were classified as full-time workers while those working fewer hours per week were part-time workers. A day shift work schedule is one where at least one-half of the hours worked were between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on a regular daytime basis. All other work schedules outside this time period were classified as nonday work shifts.

Changes in work schedules between 1988 and 1991 were in a direction favorable to greater utilization of fathers as child care providers during the hours mothers were at work. The proportion of children whose mothers worked at part-time jobs increased from 37 to 42 percent between 1988 and 1991; increases were also noted in the proportion of children whose fathers worked part time from 5 to 9 percent (table D).

Nonday work shifts also became more prevalent: 42 percent of preschoolers in 1991 had their mothers working nonday shifts compared to 37 percent in 1988. Nonday shift work among the fathers of preschoolers also increased from 27 to 30 percent by 1991 (figure 4). For spouses of employed wives, an additional category was included for husbands who had no job at all for at least 4 months before the survey. About 5 percent of preschoolers had fathers who experienced long-term unemployment in 1991. For these children, the unemployment situation would not only affect the employment demands placed on the wife (e.g., extending her work hours to bring in additional income to the family) but also the family's ability to pay for child care services. In turn, this financial concern could lead to a greater reliance on paternal child care arrangements in order to reduce family expenses.

With this simultaneous movement towards both more part-time work and nonday shift work, fewer children in dual earner families had both parents working full-time/day shift jobs. Of the 8 million preschoolers in 1991 of employed mothers, 2.4 million (30 percent) had both parents working similar day shift hours at a full-time work schedule. This compares to 34 percent in 1988.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILD CARE

As parental work schedules changed, more children found themselves in family situations where the father became the likely candidate as the principal child care provider. Part-time work schedules for fathers increase the number of hours in a day for which they may be available for child care services. Conversely, part-time schedules for mothers decrease the potential number of hours required for child care during the work day when mom is out of the home.

Children whose parents worked part time had a higher incidence of fathers as child care providers than did children whose parents worked full time. About 30 percent of children whose mother or father was a part-time worker in 1991 had fathers as their primary child care providers compared to less than 20 percent of children whose parents were full-time workers. Father care was also more common in 1988 among children with part-time working parents (table D).

Similarly, fathers acting as child care providers were more common among children whose parents worked non-day shifts as opposed to those who worked regular day shifts. In fact, children whose mothers worked non-day shifts in 1991 were about two and one-half times as likely to have their fathers act as their principal child care provider as children whose mothers worked day shifts (36 v. 14 percent, respectively).

Very high rates of paternal child care were also noted among families whose fathers were not employed for at least 4 consecutive months. In both 1991 and 1988, about one-half of those children were cared for by their fathers (table D).

CHANGING FAMILY EMPLOYMENT SITUATIONS

Increasing numbers of children whose parents were in employment situations more favorable to father care only partly contributed to the overall increase in father provided child care between 1988 and 1991. These "distribution effects" alone would have accounted for a relatively small increase in the father care participation rate among children in married-couple families (to about 19 percent by 1991, table D).

More importantly, it was widespread increases occurring in father care participation across different parental employment categories that boosted the overall rate. In fact, paternal child care rates increased for children whose mothers or fathers were full time or day shift workers.

If the distribution of children by their parent's work schedules had not changed between 1988 and 1991, overall child care usage of fathers would have still risen to 22 percent ("rate effect", table D). In other words, increased participation by fathers as child care providers was not caused only by more parents being in part-time or non-day shift work situations. Families with full time workers began to rely more on fathers for

child care assistance, an important sphere of household activity usually reserved for paid child care providers outside of the child's immediate family.

WHERE'S POPPA?

What is the employment picture of the father's who are child care providers? If they are working, how do they juggle the time between their own jobs and child care activities compared to fathers who make other arrangements for their children?

Unfortunately, long-term joblessness plagued the fathers of about one out of every eight preschoolers who were cared by dad in 1991 (table 4). In comparison, only 3 percent of preschoolers cared for in organized child care facilities had their fathers out of work for at least 4 months.

In addition, only about one-half of the children receiving paternal child care services in 1991 had their fathers working at full-time day jobs. In comparison, almost three-quarters of preschoolers who used organized child care facilities had their fathers working similar daytime shifts (figure 5).

Which partner in the family makes adjustments in their job schedule to accommodate child care activities? Not the husband: only a very small percentage (2 percent) of employed fathers of preschool-age children in 1991 reported that child care related reasons influenced the choice of their work shift in their principal job (figure 6). Looking at children whose fathers provided child care, child care reasons for these fathers were noted in about 6 percent of the cases. Hardly any fathers at all (1 percent) changed or altered their work schedule for child care reasons if organized child care facilities provided child care services.

Apparently, the vast majority of all accommodations to parents' work schedules are made by the mother. Twenty percent of the mothers of preschoolers cited child care reasons for selecting their current work schedule. Even if the father was the provider, it is quite apparent that the mother worked around the fathers' schedule. Forty percent of these children had mothers saying they adjusted their work schedule for child care reasons; only 6 percent of the fathers of these children gave similar answers. In fact, when child care activities were provided by day care centers, 15 percent of employed mothers still had their job shift influenced by child care related-reasons.

These numbers probably understate the overall influence of child care arrangements on choosing one's work schedule. It's one thing to select among different shifts once you are hired: it's another to choose a job specifically because it's the only one available that conforms to the child care arrangements available to the family. About two-thirds of all mothers said

that their current work shift was inflexible: that it was a requirement of the job. It is likely that the hours offered by their current job was the original reason why many women originally selected that job.

These various employment and child care situations suggest that the daily acrobatics between work and family life are typically performed by the mother. While there are benefits to be derived from parental and child interaction in child care situations, they must be constantly balanced against the resulting negative economic and emotional effects for other family members if these arrangements are caused by spells of unemployment, or reduced or irregular work schedules.

The Family and Medical Leave Act recently signed by the President provides job security for employees for up to 12 weeks after childbirth if they choose to stay home to care for their child. This offers the potential for greater parental child care opportunities in the first few months after childbirth without causing any further economic uncertainties in the family during this usually hectic period in the life course of a family.

WHICH FATHERS ARE LIKELY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS?

Demographic factors. In addition to parental work schedules, family structure and household composition can affect the need for parental child care services. For example, families with several children may depend more on the father as a provider to reduce or eliminate potentially costly child care bills. On the other hand, families with other adults in the household have a potential in-house supply of child care providers, reducing the necessity for the father to act as the provider.

Figure 7 answers the question, "Which children living in married-couple families are most likely to have their fathers as child care providers?" Looking at all children under 15 years, about 13 percent have their fathers acting as their primary child care provider. In fact, in 1991, there were more children under 15 years old living in married-couple families who had fathers as primary child care providers (3.2 million) than the combined number of children in day care centers or nursery schools (2.2 million). Preschool age children were more likely to have fathers as child care providers (23 percent) than were children 5 to 14 years old (8 percent), an observation often made in other time use studies looking at father participation in household activities. 4/

The potential budgetary strain of having multiple children in the household requiring child care also made father child care participation more likely if there were two or more children in the family. Furthermore, fathers were twice as likely to be providers when there was no other adult over 18 years old in the family than if another family member was potentially available for child care duties (14 and 7 percent, respectively).

Neither race or ethnicity seemed to be a factor in child care participation. No statistical difference was found in the proportion of White, Black or Hispanic origin families that provided paternal child care services (table 5).

Work schedule considerations. Turning to the typical work schedules of parents over the four-month period prior to the survey, children whose mothers worked nonday rather than day shifts were three times more likely to use fathers as child care providers (24 v. 7 percent). The pattern of these differences was also found for both preschool and grade school age children (table 5).

Looking at the father's work schedule, father's who were out of work were the most likely candidates to provide child care assistance: overall, 3 out of every 10 children whose fathers were jobless for the entire 4 months had their fathers serve as their primary child care provider. Among preschool age children with jobless fathers, 56 percent of these children were cared for by their fathers; the corresponding rate for children 5 to 14 years old was 18 percent (table 5). Preschoolers were also more likely to have fathers as child care providers if they worked nonday rather than day shifts (15 v. 10 percent, respectively).

Paternal child care services were most often used in 1991 when children needed between 10 and 34 hours of care per week (2 to 7 hours per day). For child care needs exceeding this range, fathers may be less likely to be providers as this weekly requirement may create too many conflicts with their existing work schedule. For child care needs less than 10 hours a week, paternal child care services are also less likely: perhaps finding an alternative provider for this shorter duration is easier and well within the family budget.

The middle range of hourly needs, then, may characterize situations where outside providers are more difficult to find and, if found, may begin to draw heavily on family finances. Therefore, these situations may be prime candidates for securing in-home father child care services.

DIFFERENCES BY THE MOTHER'S MARITAL STATUS

Children growing up in households with absent fathers face a different set of problems in securing child care. Family finances are generally more limited in single parent situations which would reduce the child care options available to the mother. In households without spousal income support, less flexibility in job choice may also prevail: jobs are taken because they fit child care needs rather than fitting the woman's skills.

A statistical analysis was undertaken controlling for many of the previously mentioned factors. Separate analyses were done to contrast children living in married-couple families and

children living in families with their mothers but not their fathers. This latter situation could possibly include children living with both parents but who were not currently married to each other (e.g., mother and father currently divorced or unmarried but living with each other). In those instances, the child's biological parents may actually be living together as a family unit and be performing comparable parental roles as in a maritally sanctioned family but cannot be identified as such in the context of the present survey.

Children in married-couple families. The multivariate analysis shown in table E for children of married women confirms all of the previously reported findings. 5/ Again, higher child care rates for fathers were found when the mother worked a nonday shift and when the father experienced periods of joblessness during the month (as opposed to working the entire month at a day shift or even a nonday shift). 6/

In addition, a variable capturing the effects of joint mother-father work schedules indicates that the dual-employment situation most favorable for paternal child care occurs when the mother worked a nonday shift and the father worked a day shift. This finding suggests that the growth of flexitime and shift work jobs in the future could substantially increase the number of fathers providing child care services as complementary rather than conflicting work schedules become more common among American families.

Children of unmarried women. The analysis of child care probabilities for children of unmarried women provides some interesting contrasts in paternal child care patterns. While no father care differences are found by race among children of currently married women, among children of unmarried mothers, Blacks are less likely to have children cared for by their fathers than are children of other races.

This is somewhat surprising since recent studies have shown that Black absent fathers are more likely to maintain weekly contacts with their ex-partners and children than are Whites. 7/ We have no information concerning the work activity of fathers living away from their children nor even their proximity to their children so it is difficult to analyze the reasons for these differences. However, other studies may offer some clues for these observed differences.

First, studies have indicated that unemployed fathers are less likely to continue contacts with children, especially among children of unmarried teen mothers. 9/ Without providing controls for the father's employment status, the results in the present report which show lower child care probabilities for Blacks may be indicative of their higher unemployment rates rather than any differences by race in child care participation.

Second, fertility studies have traditionally shown that

Whites are more likely to marry than Blacks after an out-of-wedlock birth. 10/ In these instances, child care contacts among Whites may be more frequent than among Blacks if a future marriage is being planned. This may be especially true in the cases where the unmarried couple is living together prior to their marriage.

An additional finding from the multivariate analysis suggests that children of never-married women are more likely to have fathers as providers than are children of divorced or separated women. Several factors could account for this finding. Legal or informal divorce/separation agreements which restrict paternal visits may be responsible to some degree for these lower rates of child care participation. Divorce or separation may also result in geographical moves that make a father's child care services an impossibility. In addition, divorce or separation usually creates strained relationships which may not be conducive to frequent daily contacts between former spouses and their children.

Surprisingly, other factors which were significant for married women in determining father care--number of children in the family, hours of care needed, and mother's work shift schedule--were not significant in the regressions for children of unmarried women. It may be that these factors which jointly affect decisions about family budgets and husband-wife work schedules become less important once the father is in another household. The constraints and opportunities for child care faced by the former spouse in his new living arrangement, especially if he has remarried and is living with step children, may be the more operable factors in determining his ability or willingness to perform child care duties for his former family.

PATERNAL CHILD CARE AND THE CHANGING ECONOMY

Looking ahead, what shifts in the economy are projected which could influence child care choices in the coming years? Jobs in the service sector of the economy are projected to be a principal source of new openings in the future. Recent Bureau of Labor Statistics projections indicate that of the 23 million wage and salary jobs that will be created between 1990 and 2005, about one-half (11.5 million) are expected to be in the service sector; no growth at all is expected in the manufacturing sector (table F).

Almost two-thirds of the jobs in the services sector of the economy in 1991 were held by women. This sector also contained a higher than average proportion of persons working flexitime, part time, and nonday shifts. As previously shown, these work schedules are the most likely settings for fathers to serve as child care providers (table F).

Regardless of the way the economy grows in the future, increases in child care costs and in the proportion of women

returning to work after childbirth will continue to exert pressure on fathers to provide child care services if the supply of affordable arrangements does not expand. After pausing at the 50 percent level between 1986 and 1988, the proportion of women with infants in the labor force rose to 54 percent by 1992. 10/ All of these potential factors, both social and economic could play an important role in altering the child care provider roles of American families.

A ONCE OR FUTURE TREND?

Is this increase in paternal child care the beginning of a new trend towards greater participation by fathers in traditional household activities or simply a one time reaction to an economic downturn? A review of studies by Gershuny and Robinson in the United States and the United Kingdom since the 1960s on the amount of time husbands spent on domestic and child care activities provides mixed evidence to this question.

Although observing increases in the time men spent on routine domestic work increased in both countries, "Time spent in child care [activities] seems to be increasing in the U.K. but decreasing in the U.S." 11/ Their studies, however, do not extend into the 1980s for the analysis of child care activities for men in the U.S. They offer little explanation for these patterns but only suggest that changes in child care norms in the U.K., along with growing concerns of parents for accidents and violent crimes, seem to demand more parental supervision of children.

Occasionally, adverse stories are reported by the news media in the U.S. concerning the type of care provided by unlicensed or unregulated providers. Whether this publicity has heightened parents' concerns in their usage of providers outside their own home, or if the availability or the costs of these particular child care services were contributing factors to this change are questions which cannot be accurately measured from these surveys.

Interesting enough, the increase in paternal supervision of preschoolers of married parents in the U.S. since 1988 was offset by a sharp decline in the proportion of children cared for in a nonrelative's home (a family day-care provider). Previously, family day-care providers accounted for 22 to 24 percent of the primary care arrangements for these preschoolers between 1977 and 1988 (table 1). This figure declined to 17 percent in 1991 from 24 percent in 1988.

Whether the recent observed changes in arrangements signal a new trend is difficult ascertain. But we do know that paternal child care participation increased since 1988 for families with and without fathers present, and for both fathers and others who were full time or day shift workers. Up until now, all data point to mothers--not fathers--making most of the daily adjustments for child care activities. So while changes in the

economy may have moved families into situations more amenable to father provided child care, increased participation by the father in this crucial family activity also occurred in those employment categories where father care was traditionally least expected.

Will the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 further increase the likelihood of fathers acting as caregivers? Perhaps this new law will engender a more equitable distribution of household activities. But in order to do so, basic family relationships concerning the division of labor of household activities will probably be required to institutionalize many of the changes that have recently occurred.

FOOTNOTES

1/ Martin O'Connell and Amara Bachu, "Who's Minding the Kids? Child Care Arrangements: Fall 1988," Current Population Reports, P70-30 (August 1992).

2/ The principal data source for the child care information in this report consists of child care surveys conducted by the Census Bureau in the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP). The data shown in this report are for the three youngest children under 15 years old of employed mothers. The interviews were conducted over a four month period and refer to the arrangements used during September to December, 1991 (fall 1991). There were 2,770 employed women in the sample reporting on child care characteristics for 4,631 children. Data shown in the report have been weighted to represent national level estimates.

3/ Gordon Lester, "Child Support and Alimony: 1989," Current Population Reports, Series P-60, No. 173.

4/ W. Keith Bryant and Cathleen Zick, "Are We Investing Less in the Next Generation? Historical Trends in Time Spent Caring for Children." Paper presented at the 1993 American Statistical Association Winter Conference, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., Jan 3-5, 1993.

5/ The coefficients in the regression indicate whether the variables are associated with an increased (positive coefficient) or a reduced (negative coefficient) likelihood of the child being cared for by his or her father.

6/ For the analysis of the children of married women, father's work activity for the actual month the child care data were collected was used since it more accurately estimated father care availability for the time period under discussion.

7/ Frank Mott, "When Is a Father Really Gone? Paternal-Child Contact in Father-Absent Homes," Demography, Vol. 27, No. 4 (November 1990), pp. 499-517.

8/ Sandra Danzinger and Norma Radin, "Absent Does Not Equal Uninvolved: Predictors of Fathering in Teen Mother Families," Journal of Marriage and the Family, Vol. 52 (August 1990), pp. 636-642.

9/ Amara Bachu, "Fertility of American Women: June 1990," Current Population Reports, Series P-20, No. 454.

10/ Amara Bachu, "Fertility of American Women: June 1992," Current Population Reports (forthcoming, 1993).

11/ Jonathan Gershuny and John P. Robinson, "Historical Changes

in the Household Division of Labor," *Demography*, Vol. 25, No. 4
(November 1988), pp. 537-552.

Fig. 1 Children Under 5 With Fathers as Care Providers: 1977 to 1991

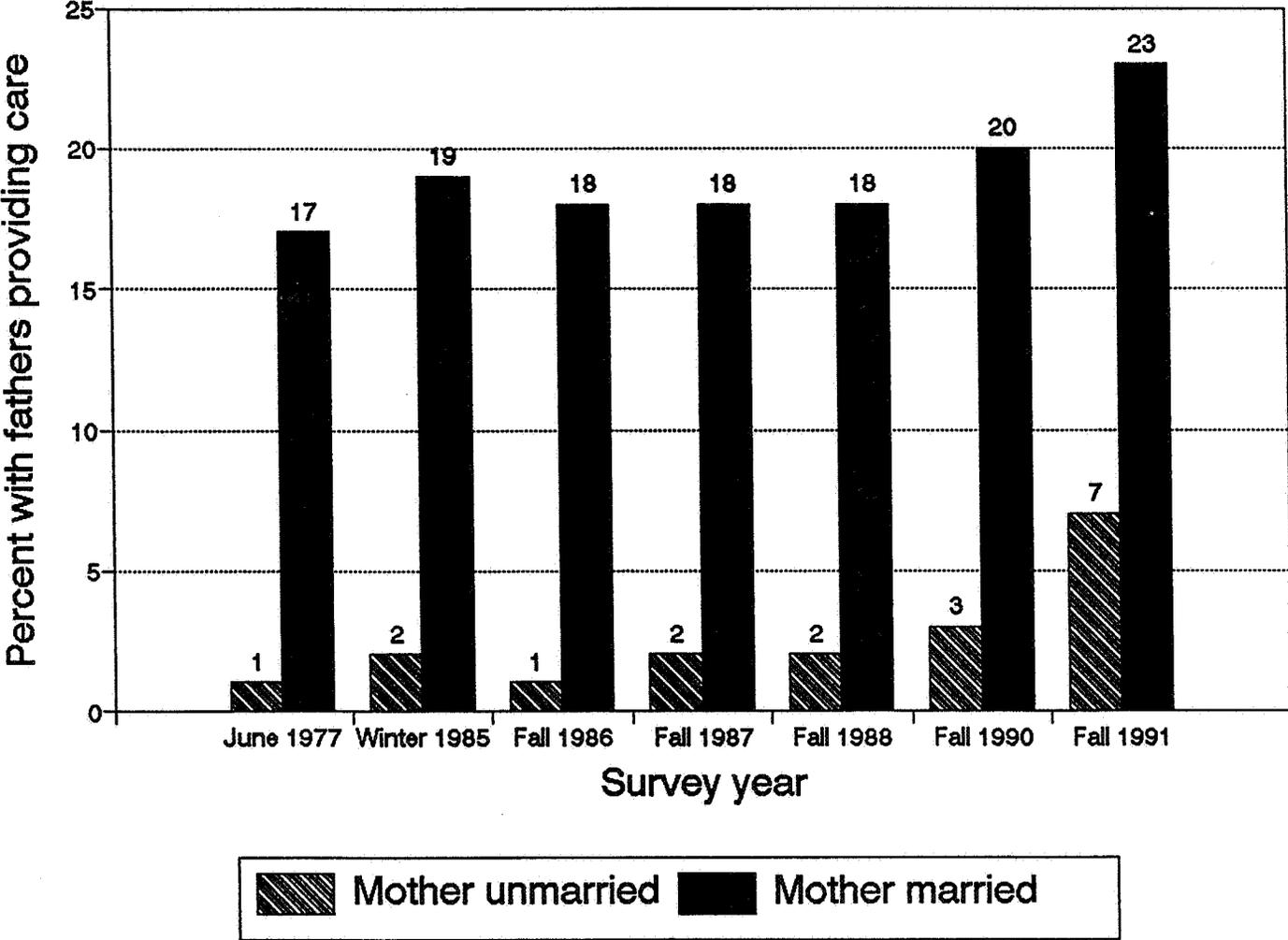


Fig. 2 Weekly Child Care Costs Per Family: 1985 to 1991

(Limited to families paying for child care)

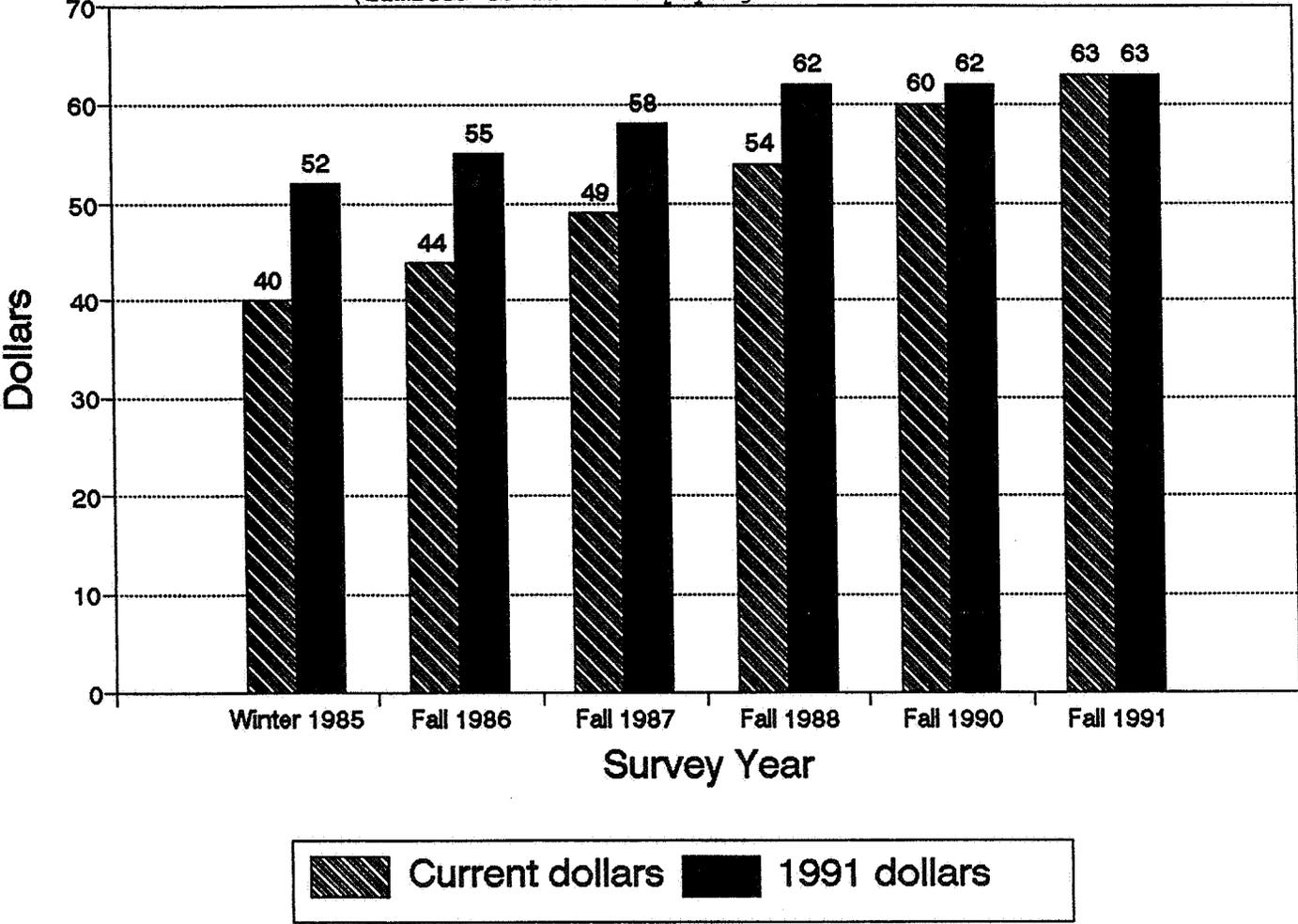
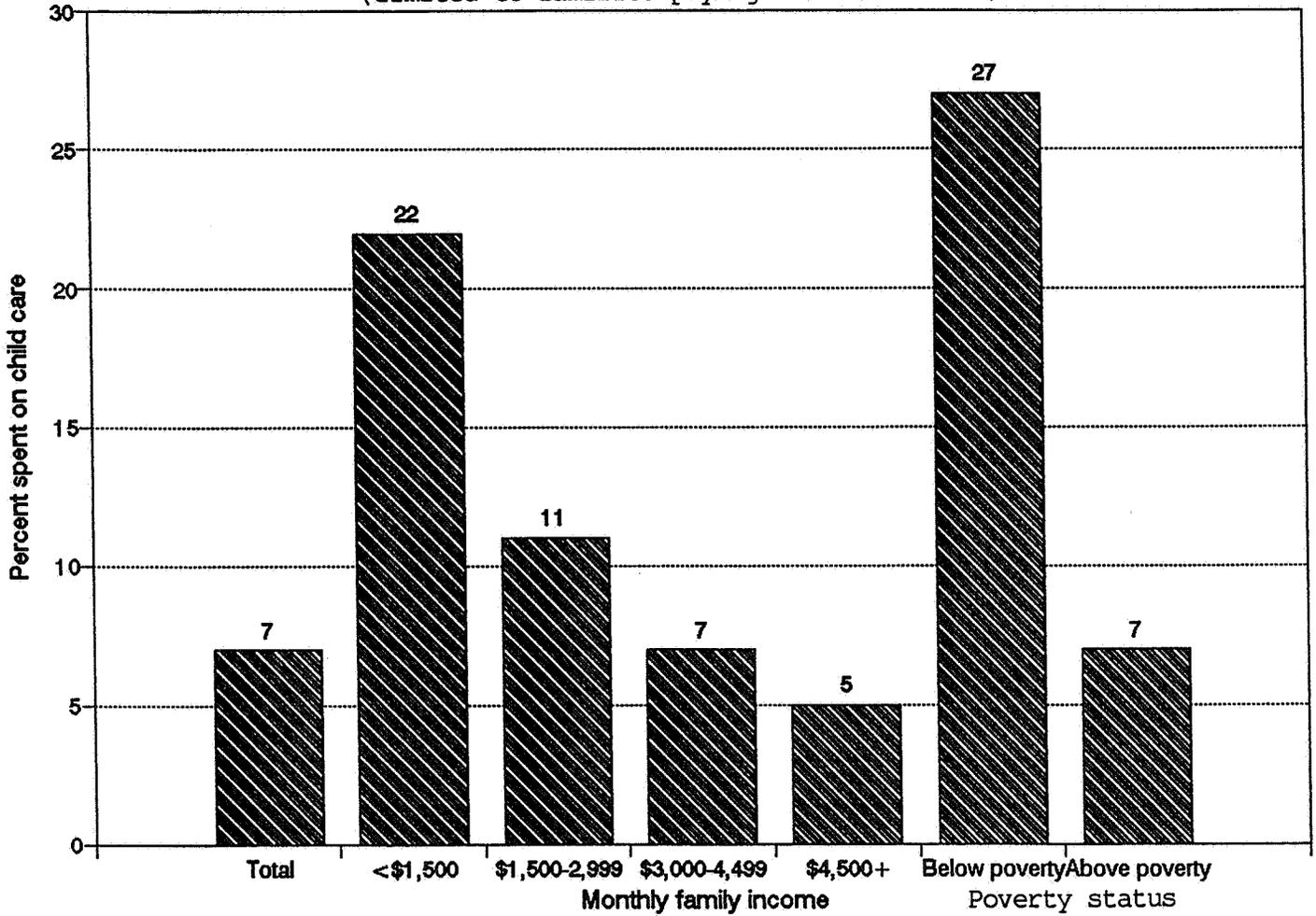


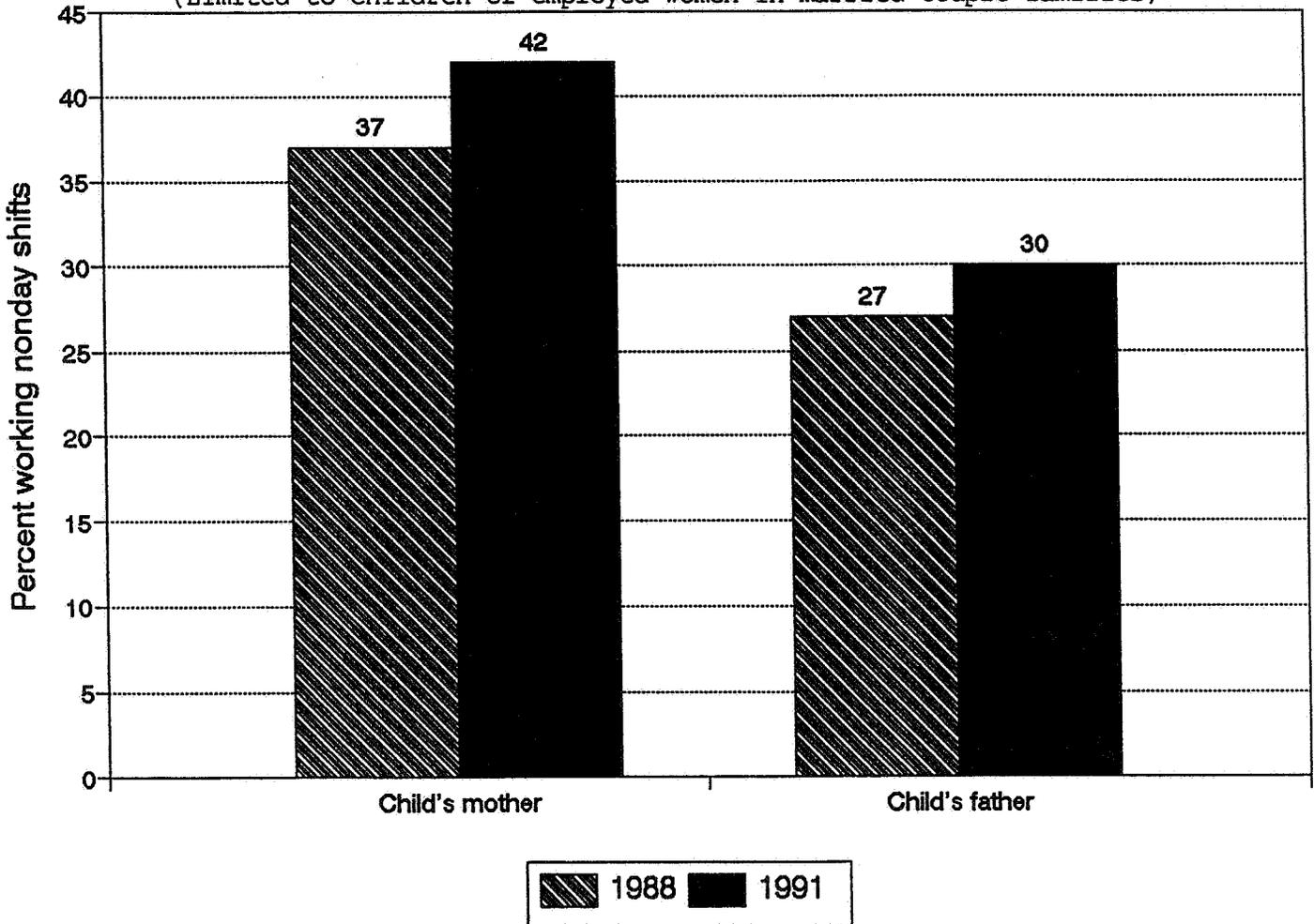
Fig. 3 Percent of Monthly Family Income Spent on Child Care: Fall 1991

(Limited to families paying for child care)



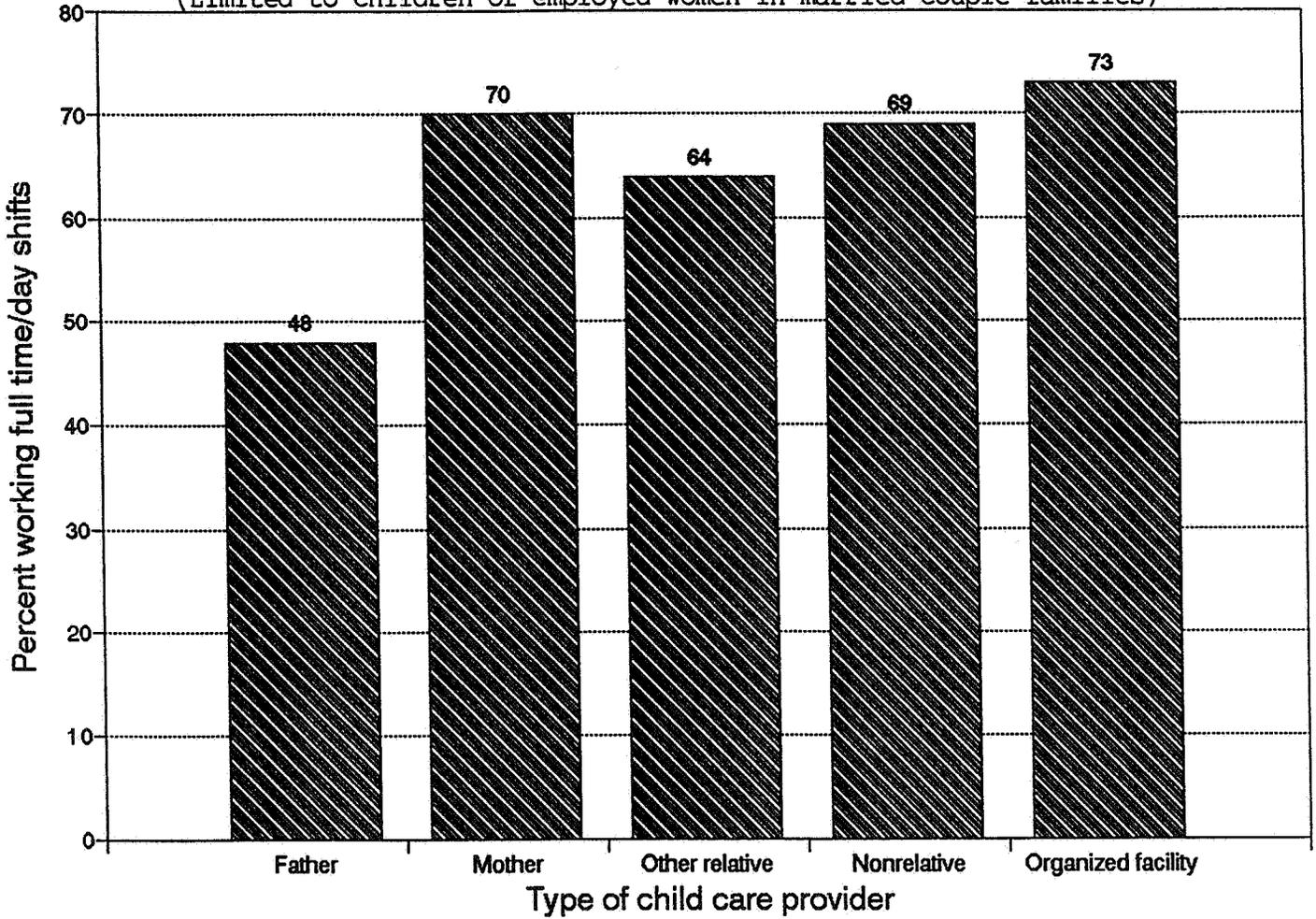
**Fig. 4 Children Under 5 With Parents
Working Nonday Shifts: 1988-1991**

(Limited to children of employed women in married-couple families)



**Fig. 5 Children Under 5 With Fathers
Working Full Time/Day Shifts: 1991**

(Limited to children of employed women in married-couple families)



**Fig. 6 Preschooler's Parents Citing
Child Care Reasons for Work Shift: 1991**

(Limited to children of employed women in married-couple families)

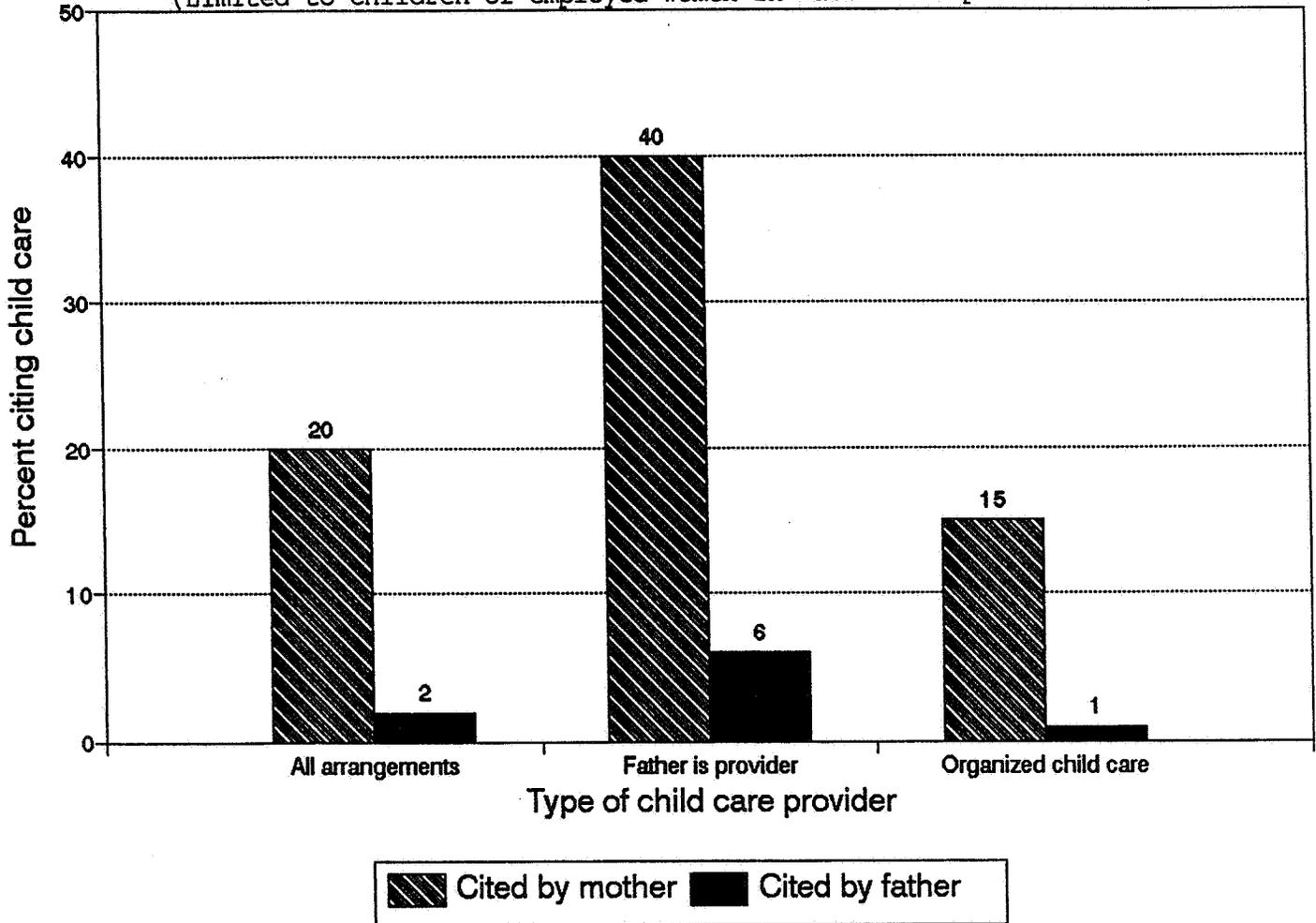


Fig. 7 Children Under 15 With Fathers As Child Care Providers: Fall 1991

(Limited to children of employed women in married-couple families)

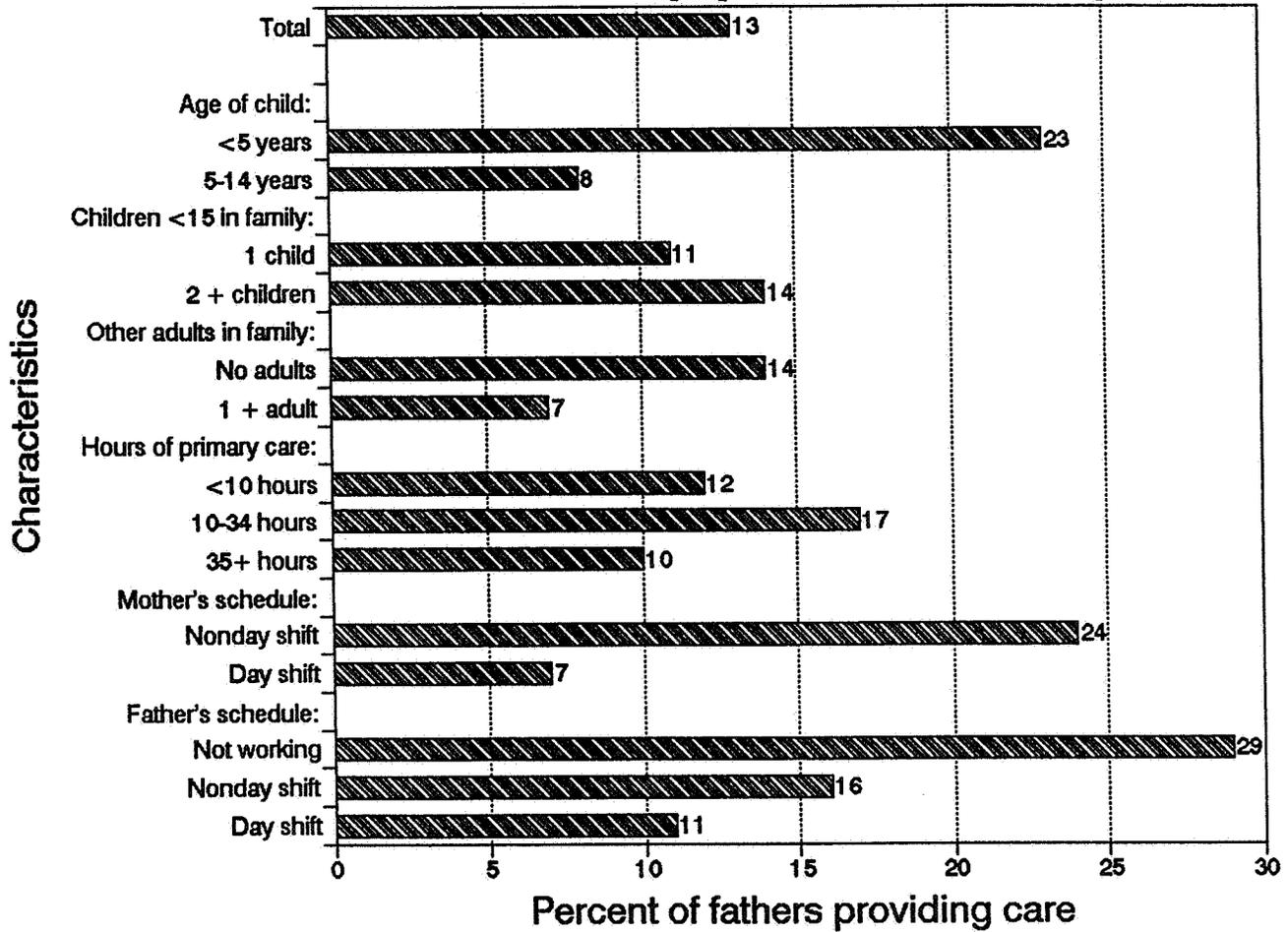


Table A. Fathers As Primary Child Care Providers for Children Under 15 Years: 1965 to 1991

(Numbers in thousands. Limited to children of employed mothers)

Period	All Children		Children under 5 years		Children 5 to 14 years	
	Number	Percent with father as care provider	Number	Percent with father as care provider	Number	Percent with father as care provider
Fall 1991	31,074	10.9	9,854	20.0	21,220	6.6
Fall 1990	30,889	10.1	9,629	16.5	21,261	7.3
Fall 1988	30,287	9.6	9,483	15.1	20,804	7.1
Fall 1987	28,842	9.4	9,124	15.3	19,718	6.7
Fall 1986	28,541	9.5	8,849	14.5	19,692	7.2
Winter 1985	26,455	9.4	8,168	15.7	18,287	6.6
June 1977 1/	NA	NA	4,370	14.4	NA	NA
Feb. 1965 2/	NA	NA	3,794	14.4	NA	NA

NA Not available.

1/ Data only for the two youngest children under 5 years.

2/ Children under age 6 of ever-married women.

Table B. Reasons for Changing Child Care Arrangements in the Last 12 Months: Fall 1991

(Numbers in thousands)

Reasons for changing	All children	Children under 5 years	Children 5 to 14 years
Total	31,074	9,854	21,220
Made a change	7,062	1,728	5,334
Reason for change (percent)	100.0	100.0	100.0
Child's school schedule	51.4	11.5	64.4
Mother's work schedule	5.9	11.3	4.2
Mother's school schedule	3.5	2.5	3.8
Cost of care	4.5	8.3	3.2
Availability of provider	7.7	15.8	5.1
Reliability of provider	2.4	4.8	1.6
Quality of care	1.7	4.6	0.8
Location of provider	3.4	7.3	2.2
Better/less expensive/more convenient provider	4.7	8.6	3.5
Never had a regular provide	1.3	2.2	1.0
Child outgrew arrangement	2.0	1.1	2.3
Arrangement no longer available	6.4	16.7	3.0
All other reasons	25.0	34.7	21.8

Note: Percentages total to more than 100.0 because of multiple answers.

Table C. Unemployment Rate Measures - Summary: 1984 to 1991

(Annual averages. All measures are in percent)

Calendar year	Total Population	All men	Married men, wife present	Percent of unemployed without work for 15 or more weeks
1991	6.7	7.0	4.4	27.5
1990	5.5	5.6	3.4	21.9
1989	5.3	5.2	3.0	21.1
1988	5.5	5.5	3.3	24.1
1987	6.2	6.2	3.9	26.7
1986	7.0	6.9	4.4	27.1
1985	7.2	7.0	4.3	27.7
1984	7.5	7.4	4.6	32.0

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings, October 1992, and monthly January issues for 1985-1992.

Table D. Distribution of Children Under 5 Years of Employed Mothers Living in Married-Couple Families, and Percent of Children with Fathers Providing Primary Child Care Services, by Employment Status and Type of Work Shift of Parents' Principal Job: Fall 1988 and 1991

(Numbers in thousands. Refers to principal job held in last 4 months)

Characteristics	Mother's employment status		Father's employment status	
	1991	1988	1991	1988
DISTRIBUTION OF CHILDREN				
Number	8,048	7,855	8,048	7,855
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Works full time	57.9	62.7	85.8	91.2
Day shift	43.7	48.3	63.6	68.5
Nonday shift	14.2	14.4	22.1	22.7
Works part time	42.1	37.3	9.3	5.4
Day shift	14.6	14.3	1.1	1.3
Nonday shift	27.4	22.9	8.2	4.1
No work in last 4 months	(X)	(X)	4.9	3.4
All day shift workers	58.4	62.6	64.7	69.8
All nonday shift workers	41.6	37.4	30.3	26.8
PERCENT FATHER CARE				
Total	22.9	17.9	22.9	17.9
Works full time	17.0	10.6	20.3	16.4
Day shift	12.1	6.8	17.3	14.1
Nonday shift	32.1	23.0	29.1	23.3
Works part time	31.1	30.3	29.6	23.8
Day shift	17.6	19.0	(B)	(B)
Nonday shift	38.3	37.3	31.5	21.9
No work in last 4 months	(X)	(X)	55.5	48.7
All day shift workers	13.5	9.6	17.3	14.4
All nonday shift workers	36.2	31.8	29.7	23.1
Adjusted 1991 Totals:				
Rate effect 1/	21.8	(X)	21.8	(X)
Distribution effect 2/	19.2	(X)	18.6	(X)

(B) Base too small to show derived measure.

(X) Not applicable.

1/ Percent using father care in 1991 if employment/shift status distributions in 1991 were the same as in 1988.

2/ Percent using father care in 1991 if usage rates in 1991 were the same as in 1988.

Note: Population based for percentages in this table are found in table 7.

Table E. Loglinear Regression for Likelihood of Children Having Their Fathers as Primary Child Care Providers, By Marital Status of Mother: Fall 1991

Characteristic	Married, spouse present		All other statuses 1/	
	Coefficient	Standard error	Coefficient	Standard error
Constant	-1.878*	0.147	-5.139*	0.713
Child under 5 years	0.593*	0.063	1.020*	0.307
Black	0.097	0.106	-1.150*	0.529
2+ children under 15 years	0.159*	0.074	-0.014	0.262
No other adult in family	0.367*	0.116	0.917*	0.492
Mother never married	(X)	(X)	0.663*	0.271
Weekly hours in care:				
<10 hours	0.030	0.098	-0.255	0.475
10-34 hours	0.207*	0.083	0.107	0.360
Mother worked nonday shift	0.730*	0.071	0.412	0.264
Father worked:				
Less than entire month	0.814*	0.112	(X)	(X)
Entire month, day shift	-0.729*	0.092	(X)	(X)
Mother worked nonday, father worked:				
Less than entire month 2/	0.130	0.111	(X)	(X)
Entire month, day shift	0.385*	0.092	(X)	(X)
Number of observations	3,694		937	
-2 Log Likelihood	2,345		174	
D.F.	276		183	

(X) Not included in regression.

* Significant at the 0.10 level.

1/ Includes married, spouse absent, separated, widowed, divorced, and never married.

2/ Includes those not working at all.

Table F. Industry Characteristics, 1991 and Industry Employment Projection, 1990-2005

(Numbers in thousands)

Industry	1991 1/				Projected % change in number of jobs, 1990-2005
	Wage and salary workers	Percent female	Percent on flexitime schedule	Percent working part time or nonday shift	
Total 2/	99,163	47	16	34	20
Construction	4,708	9	12	13	18
Manufacturing	18,814	33	12	24	-3
Transportation and utilities	5,802	31	16	31	15
Wholesale and retail	19,718	48	16	49	24
Finance and related industries	6,431	61	23	20	21
Services	23,650	64	19	41	42
Government	17,742	55	14	29	17

1/ Number of wage and salary workers in May 1991. Refers to industry group of principal job.

2/ Includes other industries not shown.

Source: 1991 characteristics from the May 1991 Current Population Survey based on tabulations provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics; projections for 1990-2005 are from Max Carey and James Franklin, "Industry Output and Job Growth Continues Slow Into Next Century," Monthly Labor Review, Vol. 114, No. 11 (November 1992), pp. 45-63.

Table 1. Primary Child Care Arrangements Used by Employed Mothers for Children Under 5 Years:
Selected Periods, 1977 to 1991

(Numbers in thousands)

Type of arrangement	Fall 1991	Fall 1990	Fall 1988	Fall 1987	Fall 1986	Winter 1985	June 1977 1/
ALL MARITAL STATUSES							
Number of children	9,854	9,629	9,483	9,124	8,849	8,168	4,370
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Care in child's home	35.7	29.7	28.2	29.9	28.7	31.0	33.9
By father	20.0	16.5	15.1	15.3	14.5	15.7	14.4
By grandparent	7.2	5.2	5.7	5.1	5.2	5.7	NA
By other relative	3.2	2.9	2.2	3.3	3.4	3.7	12.6 4/
By nonrelative	5.4	5.0	5.3	6.2	5.5	5.9	7.0
Care in another home	31.0	35.1	36.8	35.6	40.7	37.0	40.7
By grandparent	8.6	9.1	8.2	8.7	10.2	10.2	NA
By relative	4.5	5.9	5.0	4.6	6.5	4.5	18.3 4/
By nonrelative	17.9	20.1	23.6	22.3	24.0	22.3	22.4
Organized child care facilities	23.0	27.5	25.8	24.4	22.4	23.1	13.0
Day/group care center	15.8	20.6	16.6	16.1	14.9	14.0	NA
Nursery school/preschool	7.3	6.9	9.2	8.3	7.5	9.1	NA
Child cares for self	-	0.1	0.1	0.3	-	-	0.4
Mother cares for child at work 2/	8.7	6.4	7.6	8.9	7.4	8.1	11.4
Other arrangements 3/	1.6	1.2	1.5	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.6
MARRIED, HUSBAND PRESENT							
Number of children	8,048	7,711	7,846	7,474	7,029	6,637	3,618
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Care in child's home	36.6	29.7	28.2	30.0	29.7	31.3	34.4
By father	22.9	19.8	17.9	18.2	17.9	18.8	17.1
By grandparent	5.6	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.5	3.3	NA
By other relative	2.5	2.3	1.1	2.2	2.7	2.6	10.1 4/
By nonrelative	5.5	4.0	5.5	6.0	5.6	6.5	7.2
Care in another home	29.5	34.3	36.2	35.4	41.2	36.5	40.1
By grandparent	8.1	9.3	8.2	8.5	10.6	10.6	NA
By relative	4.2	5.3	4.3	4.7	6.1	4.1	17.6 4/
By nonrelative	17.1	19.7	23.7	22.2	24.4	21.8	22.6
Organized child care facilities	22.7	26.8	25.4	23.4	20.3	22.3	11.6
Day/group care center	15.6	20.1	16.1	15.4	12.8	12.7	NA
Nursery school/preschool	7.1	6.7	9.4	8.0	7.5	9.6	NA
Child cares for self	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-	0.3
Mother cares for child at work 2/	9.8	7.8	8.7	10.1	8.3	9.2	12.9
Other arrangements 3/	1.4	1.3	1.3	0.9	0.5	0.8	0.6
ALL OTHER MARITAL STATUSES							
Number of children	1,806	1,917	1,637	1,650	1,820	1,531	753
Percent	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Care in child's home	31.7	29.5	28.3	29.2	25.1	30.0	31.3
By father	7.1	3.2	1.5	2.3	1.4	2.2	0.8
By grandparent	14.1	11.5	15.6	11.3	11.7	16.2	NA
By other relative	6.1	5.6	7.1	8.1	6.5	8.6	24.8 4/
By nonrelative	4.5	9.3	4.0	7.6	5.5	2.9	5.7
Care in another home	37.6	38.2	39.5	36.5	39.0	39.1	43.4
By grandparent	10.7	8.5	8.3	9.5	8.6	8.3	NA
By relative	5.6	8.2	8.3	4.7	8.0	6.4	21.6 4/

By nonrelative	21.3	21.4	22.8	22.3	22.4	24.4	21.8
Organized child care facilities	24.5	30.4	27.8	28.3	30.2	26.7	19.1
Day/group care center	16.4	22.9	19.2	18.9	23.0	19.6	NA
Nursery school/preschool	8.2	7.5	8.6	9.4	7.2	7.1	NA
Child cares for self	-	-	-	1.1	-	-	0.7
Mother cares for child at work 2/	3.7	0.7	2.4	3.4	3.8	3.5	4.4
Other arrangements 3/	2.5	1.3	2.1	1.4	1.9	0.6	0.9

NA Not available

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.
- 1/ Data are only for the two youngest children under 5 years old.
- 2/ Includes mothers working at home or away from home.
- 3/ Includes children in kindergarten/grade school and other school-based activities.
- 4/ Data for 1977 include grandparents in other relative category.

Table 2. Weekly Child Care Costs Paid by Families With Employed Mothers: Selected Periods, 1984-85 to 1991

(Numbers in thousands. Excludes persons with no report of family income in last 4 months)

Period	Number of parents	Weekly child care expenses						Income spent on child care per month	
		Making payments		Current dollars		Constant dollars		Percent	Standard error
		Number	Percent	Mean 1/	Standard error	Mean 1/	Standard error		
Sept. to Dec. 1991	19,180	6,616	34.5	63.3	2.4	63.3	2.4	7.1	0.3
Monthly family income:									
Less than \$1,500	2,914	926	31.8	51.1	4.8	51.1	4.8	21.7	5.2
\$1,500 to \$2,999	5,885	1,871	31.8	57.9	5.5	57.9	5.5	11.0	3.8
\$3,000 to \$4,499	4,994	1,842	36.9	62.2	3.9	62.2	3.9	7.3	1.7
\$4,500 and over	5,387	1,977	36.7	75.1	4.5	75.1	4.5	4.8	0.2
Below poverty level	1,642	396	24.1	59.5	9.8	59.5	9.8	26.6	3.0
Above poverty level	17,537	6,220	35.5	63.5	2.5	63.5	2.5	6.9	0.3
Sept. to Dec. 1990	18,938	7,202	38.0	59.7	1.3	61.5	1.3	6.9	0.2
Sept. to Dec. 1988	18,843	7,520	39.9	54.0	1.2	61.8	1.4	6.8	0.2
Sept. to Nov. 1987	18,501	6,168	33.3	48.5	1.8	57.9	2.1	6.6	0.3
Sept. to Nov. 1986	18,305	5,742	31.4	44.3	1.4	55.2	1.7	6.3	0.3
Dec. 1984 to March 1985	15,706	5,299	33.7	40.3	1.1	52.4	1.4	NA	NA

NA Not available.

1/ Mean expenditures per week among persons making child care payments.

2/ Percent is ratio of average monthly child care payments (prorated from weekly averages) to the average monthly income.

Note: Constant dollars are in 1991 dollars.

Table 3. Hourly Child Care Costs for Children of Employed Mothers, by Type of Child Care Arrangement: Fall 1991

(Numbers in thousands. Limited to arrangements used for 10 or more hours per week by children of employed mothers)

Age of child and type of arrangement	Payments made separately			Payments shared with others		
	Number of arrangements	Cost per hour		Number of arrangement groups	Cost per hour	
		Mean 1/	Standard error		Mean 1/	Standard error
ALL CHILDREN						
Total 2/	4,586	\$2.07	\$0.09	1,326	\$1.97	\$0.27
By relative	607	1.88	0.27	228	1.09	0.19
By non-relative	1,805	2.07	0.12	687	1.93	0.28
In child's home	304	2.73	0.42	278	1.98	0.54
In another home	1,501	1.93	0.17	409	1.90	0.29
Organized child care facilities	1,893	2.15	0.09	360	2.17	0.41
CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS 3/						
Total 2/	3,262	2.06	0.10	939	1.88	0.24
By relative	503	1.84	0.29	173	(B)	(B)
By non-relative	1,368	2.11	0.20	482	2.06	0.37
In child's home	230	3.11	0.49	188	(B)	(B)
In another home	1,138	1.91	0.22	293	2.13	0.38
Organized child care facilities	1,377	2.08	0.12	284	2.00	0.47
CHILDREN 5 TO 14 YEARS 3/						
Total 2/	1,324	2.11	0.12	387	2.17	0.73
By relative	104	(B)	(B)	55	(B)	(B)
By non-relative	437	1.92	0.17	205	(B)	(B)
In child's home	75	(B)	(B)	90	(B)	(B)
In another home	363	1.99	0.18	115	(B)	(B)
Organized child care facilities	516	2.32	0.18	76	(B)	(B)

(B) Base too small to show derived measure.

1/ Mean cost per hour per child.

2/ Includes all other arrangements not shown separately.

3/ Refers to age of youngest child for children in shared arrangements.

Table 4. Distribution of Children Under 5 Years by Employment Status of Child's Father and Primary Child Care Arrangement: Fall 1991

(Numbers in thousands. Limited to children in married-couple families with employed mothers. Employment status refers to principal job in last 4 months)

Type of child care arrangement	Number of children		Did not work in last 4 months	Works full time		Works part time	
	Total			Day shift	Nonday shift	Day shift	Nonday shift
Total 1/	8,048	100.0	4.9	63.6	22.1	1.1	8.2
Care in child's home	2,949	100.0	8.4	54.6	25.1	1.5	10.3
By father	1,847	100.0	12.0	48.0	28.0	0.8	11.2
By other relative	657	100.0	4.1	68.3	18.4	2.0	7.3
By nonrelative	445	100.0	-	62.0	22.9	4.0	11.2
Care in another home	2,373	100.0	3.0	66.9	21.2	0.3	8.5
By relative	994	100.0	3.5	61.8	24.0	0.8	9.8
By nonrelative	1,379	100.0	2.6	70.6	19.2	-	7.6
Organized child care facilities	1,825	100.0	3.2	72.5	20.3	-	4.0
Mother cares for child at work	789	100.0	-	70.1	18.5	3.8	7.6

- Zero or rounds to zero.

1/ Total includes arrangements not shown separately.

Table 5. Children with Fathers As Primary Child Care Providers, By Selected Characteristics: Fall 1991

(Numbers in thousands. Limited to children of employed mothers in married-couple families.)

Characteristic	All children		Children under 5 years		Children 5 to 14 years	
	Number	Percent with father as care provider	Number	Percent with father as care provider	Number	Percent with father as care provider
Total	24,674	13.1	8,048	22.9	16,625	8.4
Race:						
White	21,013	13.5	6,872	23.8	14,141	8.5
Black	2,389	12.9	738	21.7	1,651	8.9
Hispanic origin:						
Not Hispanic	22,693	13.0	7,328	23.0	15,365	8.2
Hispanic	1,981	15.0	721	22.3	1,260	10.8
Children under 15 years:						
One child	6,554	10.9	2,468	19.4	4,087	5.8
Two or more children	18,119	14.0	5,581	24.5	12,539	9.3
Other adults in family: 1/						
No other adults	21,480	14.1	7,412	23.4	14,068	9.1
One or more other adults	3,194	7.0	637	18.2	2,557	4.3
Hours of primary care:						
Less than 10 hours	6,455	11.7	1,498	22.8	4,958	8.3
10 to 34 hours	10,025	17.0	3,470	29.5	6,555	10.3
35 or more hours	8,193	9.6	3,081	15.6	5,112	6.0
Mother's work schedule: 2/						
Worked nonday shift	9,255	24.3	3,150	36.2	5,905	17.5
Worked day shift	15,419	6.5	4,698	13.5	10,721	3.4
Father's work schedule, last 4 months: 2/						
No work last 4 months	1,304	29.2	398	55.5	906	17.7
Worked nonday shift	6,689	15.8	2,439	29.7	4,250	7.8
Worked day shift	16,681	10.8	5,211	17.3	11,470	7.9
Father's work schedule, last month: 3/						
Did not work entire month	2,630	26.2	900	44.9	1,730	16.7
Worked nonday shift	6,383	15.4	2,276	28.9	4,107	7.9
Worked day shift	15,660	10.0	4,872	16.2	10,789	7.2

1/ Presence of family members 18 years and over excluding parents of children.

2/ Refers to principal job in last 4 months.

3/ First named category includes fathers who either worked no weeks or only some weeks in reference month for child care arrangement. If worked entire month, latter two categories refer to shift of principal job held.

Table 6. Primary Child Care Arrangements Used by Employed Mothers for Children Under 15 Years, by Marital and Employment Status of Mothers:
Fall 1991

Age of child and type of arrangement	All children				Children under 5 years				Children 5 to 14 years			
	Employed		Employed		Employed		Employed		Employed		Employed	
	Total	full time	part time	Total	full time	part time	Total	full time	part time	Total	full time	part time
ALL MARITAL STATUSES												
Total	31,074	20,834	10,240	9,854	6,188	3,666	21,220	14,646	6,574	2,263	1,254	1,009
Care in child's home	5,785	3,107	2,678	3,522	1,853	1,669	1,411	606	805	1,974	1,061	20
By father	3,384	1,519	1,865	1,974	913	1,061	263	243	164	303	396	21
By grandparent	971	648	323	708	405	303	396	233	164	140	172	218
By other relative	709	405	304	313	172	140	193	172	58	165	539	73
By nonrelative	720	534	186	527	362	165	757	539	190	886	291	87
Care in another home	3,809	2,705	1,104	3,052	2,166	886	249	190	58	291	106	218
By grandparent	1,095	746	349	846	555	291	203	130	73	106	130	73
By other relative	645	466	179	443	337	106	305	218	87	337	305	87
By nonrelative	2,069	1,492	576	1,763	1,274	489	405	331	75	1,274	489	75
Organized child care facilities	2,673	2,052	621	2,268	1,722	546	299	259	40	1,722	546	40
Day/group care center	1,852	1,456	396	1,553	1,197	356	106	72	34	1,197	356	34
Nursery school/preschool	822	597	225	716	525	191	638	466	172	525	191	172
School-based activity	689	506	184	52	40	12	18	11,485	4,691	40	12	167
Kindergarten/grade school	16,281	11,572	4,709	105	87	18	566	399	167	16,176	11,485	4,691
Child cares for self	566	399	167	-	-	-	416	173	243	-	-	-
Mother cares for child at work 1/	1,271	493	778	855	320	535	416	173	243	855	320	535
MARRIED, HUSBAND PRESENT												
Total	24,674	15,893	8,781	8,048	4,917	3,131	16,625	10,975	5,650	4,819	2,949	901
Care in child's home	4,819	2,424	2,395	2,949	1,456	1,493	1,870	968	789	3,242	1,013	789
By father	3,242	1,439	1,802	1,847	834	1,013	1,395	606	466	610	199	466
By grandparent	610	411	199	454	255	199	156	156	105	411	199	105
By other relative	438	204	234	203	75	129	234	129	7	204	129	7
By nonrelative	529	370	159	445	292	153	84	78	114	370	153	114
Care in another home	2,788	2,005	783	2,373	1,704	669	415	301	26	803	206	26
By grandparent	803	571	232	652	446	206	151	125	30	571	206	30
By other relative	440	342	99	342	273	69	99	69	58	342	69	58
By nonrelative	1,544	1,092	452	1,379	985	394	165	107	48	1,092	394	48
Organized child care facilities	2,152	1,643	509	1,825	1,364	461	327	279	48	2,152	1,643	48

Day/group care center	1,503	1,200	303	1,257	973	284	246	226	19
Nursery school/preschool	649	443	206	568	391	178	81	52	29
School-based activity	589	446	144	46	40	6	544	406	138
Kindergarten/grade school	12,789	8,657	4,132	66	54	12	12,723	8,603	4,120
Child cares for self	332	245	87	-	-	-	332	245	87
Mother cares for child at work 1/	1,205	473	732	789	300	489	416	173	243
ALL OTHER MARITAL STATUSES 2/									
Total	6,401	4,941	1,459	1,806	1,270	536	4,595	3,671	924
Care in child's home	966	683	283	573	397	176	393	286	107
By father	143	80	63	127	80	48	15	-	15
By grandparent	361	237	125	254	150	104	107	87	20
By other relative	271	202	70	109	98	12	162	104	58
By nonrelative	191	164	26	82	70	12	109	95	14
Care in another home	1,021	700	321	679	462	217	342	237	104
By grandparent	292	175	117	194	109	84	98	65	33
By other relative	205	125	80	101	64	37	104	61	43
By nonrelative	524	400	124	384	289	95	140	111	29
Organized child care facilities	521	410	111	443	358	85	78	52	27
Day/group care center	349	256	93	295	224	72	53	32	21
Nursery school/preschool	173	154	19	147	134	13	25	19	6
School-based activity	100	60	40	6	-	6	94	60	34
Kindergarten/grade school	3,492	2,915	577	39	33	6	3,453	2,882	571
Child cares for self	234	154	80	-	-	-	234	154	80
Mother cares for child at work 1/	66	20	46	66	20	46	-	-	-

- Represents zero or rounds to zero.

1/ Includes mothers working at home or away from home.

2/ Includes married, husband absent (including separated), widowed, divorced, and never-married mothers.

Table 7. Distribution of Children in Married-Couple Families, by Employment Status of Children's Parents: Fall 1988 and 1991

(Numbers in thousands. Employment status refers to characteristics of principal job held in last 4 months)

Survey period, age of child and employment status of mother	Total	Did not work in last 4 months	Employment status of father			
			Works full time		Works part time	
			Day shift	Nonday shift	Day shift	Nonday shift
FALL 1991						
Children under 5 years	8,048	398	5,122	1,781	89	658
Full time/Day shift	3,520	179	2,411	684	53	193
Full time/Nonday shift	1,144	68	611	366	13	87
Part time/Day shift	1,179	28	753	314	11	74
Part time/Nonday shift	2,206	124	1,348	418	12	304
Children 5 to 14	16,625	906	11,242	3,142	228	1,108
Full time/Day shift	8,403	513	5,856	1,565	107	363
Full time/Nonday shift	2,375	239	1,485	507	36	108
Part time/Day shift	2,317	58	1,653	415	45	146
Part time/Nonday shift	3,529	97	2,247	655	39	491
FALL 1988						
Children under 5 years	7,855	269	5,378	1,784	104	320
Full time/Day shift	3,791	130	2,646	812	42	160
Full time/Nonday shift	1,137	44	802	254	3	34
Part time/Day shift	1,125	54	737	276	18	40
Part time/Nonday shift	1,802	40	1,193	442	41	86
Children 5 to 14 years	16,040	691	11,342	3,173	240	594
Full time/Day shift	7,627	367	5,529	1,335	127	270
Full time/Nonday shift	2,330	121	1,461	659	10	79
Part time/Day shift	2,399	59	1,760	469	62	50
Part time/Nonday shift	3,684	144	2,593	710	42	195