

Supplemental Tables

Who Cares? The Child Care Choices of Working Mothers

By Heather Boushey¹

May 6, 2003

Please cite as: Heather Boushey, 2003. "Who Cares? The Child Care Choices of Working Mothers: Supplemental Tables," Center for Economic and Policy Research, Data Brief No. 1. www.cepr.net/supdata2.pdf

¹ Heather Boushey is an Economist at the Center for Economic and Policy Research.

Table 1: Primary child care arrangement for children under age six (Percent)

	1997*						1999					
	Parent	Relative	Young Sibling	Family Daycare	Nanny or Sitter	Formal Daycare	Parent	Relative	Young Sibling	Family Daycare	Nanny or Sitter	Formal Daycare
All**	35.4	29.6	0.8	18.8	3.4	29.3	33.2	30.9	0.8	19.1	3.6	29.7
Mother's Education												
Less than high-school	33.2	38.9	2.9	15.9	4.1	18.0	28.8	48.5	0.3	13.5	3.8	19.5
High-school	35.2	34.4	0.6	15.8	1.9	27.4	34.2	36.3	1.1	14.6	2.4	24.6
Some college	35.0	29.3	0.4	18.4	3.0	29.7	31.5	31.2	1.0	21.6	3.9	29.5
College degree	36.9	21.0	1.0	23.8	5.6	34.9	35.9	18.5	0.4	22.8	4.4	39.2
Mother's Race												
White	39.6	24.8	0.7	19.9	3.6	30.0	36.0	25.7	0.7	21.6	3.8	30.9
African American	20.6	41.5	0.7	13.4	1.6	36.4	21.9	35.8	1.8	13.9	2.8	36.7
Hispanic	29.4	40.2	1.5	20.4	4.7	17.2	31.3	46.3	0.2	15.4	3.8	18.1
Other	39.9	30.7	1.3	16.1	3.9	28.2	39.9	43.1	0.8	10.3	1.9	21.9
Household composition												
Married couple	42.3	25.0	0.7	19.5	3.6	29.0	39.1	26.9	0.6	20.1	3.4	30.0
Cohabiting	37.9	33.1	0.6	20.1	3.9	21.1	30.7	29.6	2.0	22.9	2.5	23.2
Single mother:												
Living alone	13.9	38.3	1.4	17.5	2.8	35.3	17.7	35.1	1.3	21.4	4.5	33.6
Living with family	9.5	53.8	0.7	12.1	1.8	28.7	13.6	53.2	1.3	9.0	2.1	28.2
Living with other adults	28.0	30.5	2.0	24.8	8.6	20.4	32.9	31.2	1.1	13.5	10.6	17.3
Mother's usual weekly hours of work												
0 - 20	51.3	23.0	2.8	8.4	3.7	25.1	48.9	25.3	1.1	10.0	2.6	28.9
20 - 29	47.0	33.8	0.1	15.3	3.9	17.6	51.4	30.2	0.2	12.9	5.4	18.5
30 - 39	36.5	31.0	0.6	22.8	3.1	22.6	29.0	34.6	0.7	19.7	3.5	28.4
40 - 49	29.4	29.8	0.7	19.7	3.4	34.1	28.2	31.6	1.0	21.0	3.3	32.5
50 or more	32.8	27.6	0.6	21.7	3.4	35.8	29.0	28.0	0.0	23.9	3.5	32.2
Household income												
Bottom 20%	24.5	39.6	1.1	18.8	1.9	27.8	19.9	46.6	0.0	14.9	4.8	27.5
20 - 40%	35.1	30.8	1.7	13.2	3.8	25.4	33.3	36.9	0.5	14.8	4.1	23.7
40 - 60%	38.3	32.8	0.7	16.4	2.9	24.3	36.9	31.9	1.7	18.9	2.7	23.8
60 - 80%	38.5	27.6	0.6	20.8	1.9	29.4	34.2	30.0	0.8	20.6	2.6	30.2
Top 20%	32.8	25.7	0.6	21.8	5.6	35.8	33.4	22.8	0.4	21.4	4.5	38.1

* 1997 refers to March to June of 1997 and 1999 refers to March to June of 1999.

** Rows do not sum to 100% because mother's may have multiple children who can be in various kinds of care. In both 1997 and 1999 16% of mothers using child care used more than one kind of arrangement for their children under age six.

Child care arrangements:

Parental care is care by the child's parent, guardian, or stepparent, either at work or at home.

Relative care is care by a relative of the child (including siblings 15 years or older), either in the child's home or someplace else.

Family daycare is care by a family daycare provider or by someone who is not a relative of the child away from the child's home.

Nanny or sitter care is care by someone who is not a relative of the child in the child's own home.

Formal daycare is care in a child or day care center, nursery or preschool, or Head Start program.

Young sibling is that the child either cares for his or herself or is cared for by a sibling under age 15.

Table 2: Primary child care arrangement for children under age four
(Percent)

	1997*						1999*					
	Parent	Relative	Young Sibling	Family Daycare	Nanny or Sitter	Formal Daycare	Parent	Relative	Young Sibling	Family Daycare	Nanny or Sitter	Formal Daycare
All	36.5	31.2	0.5	20.5	3.8	27.7	34.6	32.4	0.9	20.5	3.3	27.2
Mother's Education												
Less than high-school	33.0	40.2	2.6	17.3	3.9	19.8	24.4	54.1	0.4	16.3	1.5	19.2
High-school	36.5	35.4	0.2	18.0	2.2	24.2	34.1	38.8	0.8	14.9	2.1	22.2
Some college	36.3	31.6	0.4	18.8	3.0	28.4	35.2	31.5	1.5	23.2	3.9	25.9
College degree	37.7	23.6	0.1	26.0	6.2	33.0	38.2	19.3	0.3	24.4	4.6	36.3
Mother's Race												
White	41.3	25.8	0.3	21.6	3.7	28.6	37.4	27.3	0.5	22.7	3.5	29.1
African American	18.5	45.4	0.4	14.7	1.8	35.7	24.1	35.6	2.8	18.3	3.2	31.7
Hispanic	29.0	43.7	0.8	20.7	6.1	15.3	31.6	47.3	0.3	16.3	3.2	16.6
Other	46.9	29.6	2.1	22.4	4.5	22.3	39.1	48.1	1.4	7.6	1.9	19.1
Household composition												
Married couple	42.8	26.4	0.3	21.8	4.2	27.8	40.4	28.3	0.8	21.2	3.0	28.1
Cohabiting	39.4	32.3	0.9	25.3	0.0	16.3	29.4	36.9	1.4	28.3	4.2	7.6
Single mother:												
Living alone	13.1	44.2	1.4	16.3	2.5	33.7	13.4	38.1	0.0	24.9	5.1	34.2
Living with family	9.3	57.9	0.3	9.6	2.6	27.2	17.5	54.4	2.2	10.8	1.4	23.0
Living with other adults	34.9	28.2	0.9	27.1	8.3	18.2	36.6	29.4	0.0	9.9	11.4	18.2
Mother's usual weekly hours of work												
0 - 20	50.4	25.8	1.3	8.8	4.2	25.6	58.0	23.4	1.6	7.6	2.1	26.4
20 - 29	47.3	34.5	0.0	15.9	2.7	17.8	54.7	30.1	0.4	12.2	4.7	17.2
30 - 39	38.2	31.9	0.4	23.5	2.8	22.7	27.7	38.0	0.3	21.8	2.9	27.8
40 - 49	29.8	31.8	0.5	21.9	4.2	31.7	27.2	33.7	1.2	24.7	3.5	28.4
50 or more	36.5	28.7	0.0	26.1	4.0	32.4	31.3	28.9	0.0	22.0	2.7	34.9
Household income												
Bottom 20%	24.9	41.7	1.7	19.3	1.6	24.9	18.6	46.2	0.0	19.0	3.0	31.7
20 - 40%	37.6	33.4	0.9	13.8	3.6	24.0	34.6	40.8	0.0	15.4	3.5	19.3
40 - 60%	39.8	32.9	0.6	18.8	3.0	22.7	38.4	33.9	1.8	19.4	3.1	22.2
60 - 80%	38.2	29.7	0.2	22.8	1.8	27.5	34.7	31.1	1.0	23.0	2.7	25.9
Top 20%	34.2	27.7	0.1	23.3	6.8	34.5	35.8	24.3	0.7	22.0	4.2	35.5

* 1997 refers to March to June of 1997 and 1999 refers to March to June of 1999.

** Rows do not sum to 100% because mother's may have multiple children who can be in various kinds of care. In both 1997 and 1999, 18% of mothers using child care used more than one kind of arrangement for their children under age four.

Child care arrangements:

Parental care is care by the child's parent, guardian, or stepparent, either at work or at home.

Relative care is care by a relative of the child (including siblings 15 years or older), either in the child's home or someplace else.

Family daycare is care by a family daycare provider or by someone who is not a relative of the child away from the child's home.

Nanny or sitter care is care by someone who is not a relative of the child in the child's own home.

Formal daycare is care in a child or day care center, nursery or preschool, or Head Start program.

Young sibling is that the child either cares for his or herself or is cared for by a sibling under age 15.

Source: Author's analysis of the Survey of Income and Program Participation 1996 panel.

Table 4: Payment for primary child care arrangement for children under age six

	1997*				1999			
	Relative	Family Daycare	Nanny or Sitter	Formal Daycare	Relative	Family Daycare	Nanny or Sitter	Formal Daycare
Percent who paid for care	26.7%	91.6%	81.9%	87.0%	24.7%	92.5%	75.3%	88.4%
Percent who received any help paying for care	7.0%	7.0%	13.0%	11.0%	1.0%	7.0%	9.0%	11.0%
Average payment per week per child (2000\$)**								
All	\$49.91	\$63.25	\$70.46	\$81.22	\$46.75	\$63.79	\$72.48	\$78.23
Mother's Education								
Less than high-school	39.37	46.47	44.66	62.33	43.64	60.91	54.27	60.89
High-school	47.96	63.08	39.23	69.81	41.29	60.62	35.33	65.78
Some college	46.98	59.29	50.46	75.00	49.42	54.99	67.36	75.59
College degree	66.40	72.69	92.67	92.77	54.71	74.50	86.88	89.83
Mother's Race								
White	55.26	65.56	74.98	80.54	43.89	67.71	75.81	79.33
African American	33.71	63.11	25.30	66.04	48.13	52.23	57.05	65.39
Hispanic	49.30	54.73	46.97	78.36	47.61	56.98	49.58	84.98
Other	76.61	55.04	73.67	97.19	66.80	28.61	55.06	91.81
Household composition								
Married couple	51.70	62.21	70.85	81.65	48.11	63.62	61.59	82.06
Cohabiting	44.09	63.61	35.38	76.48	49.67	67.04		72.43
Single mother:								
Living alone	47.07	69.41	65.52	66.60	40.45	58.37	106.04	70.54
Living with family	42.13	45.87	47.05	70.24	48.98	49.72	38.80	61.26
Living with other adults	77.82	56.26	34.67	77.24	34.65	68.99	116.63	55.75
Mother's usual weekly hours of work								
0 - 20	54.62	48.73	45.45	42.76	13.84	43.73	46.33	44.06
20 - 29	29.61	50.31	53.14	73.33	26.34	67.38	72.98	62.35
30 - 39	44.75	62.37	65.98	77.45	45.13	62.99	45.49	76.05
40 - 49	52.19	62.74	63.13	81.03	51.10	62.25	68.37	84.15
50 or more	60.35	75.29	120.51	92.71	43.73	66.68	108.42	83.13
Household income								
Bottom 20%	30.49	61.19	21.58	60.07	49.45	55.53	47.57	48.76
20 - 40%	41.59	58.29	48.83	63.07	39.31	51.51	40.81	66.82
40 - 60%	47.37	53.59	56.85	63.47	50.28	57.72	72.53	72.52
60 - 80%	50.73	59.57	79.72	79.38	42.09	66.49	61.05	74.86
Top 20%	69.56	74.45	75.30	93.64	54.22	68.13	82.52	90.90

* 1997 refers to March to June of 1997 and 1999 refers to March to June of 1999.

** Average child care payments are per-child and exclude mother's who did not pay for child care.

Child care arrangements:

Relative care is care by a relative of the child (including siblings 15 years or older), either in the child's home or someplace else.

Family daycare is care by a family daycare provider or by someone who is not a relative of the child away from the child's home.

Nanny or sitter care is care by someone who is not a relative of the child in the child's own home.

Formal daycare is care in a child or day care center, nursery or preschool, or Head Start program.

Source: Author's analysis of the Survey of Income and Program Participation 1996 panel.