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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
200 INDEPENDENCE AVE., SW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

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OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEGISLATION
HUMAN SERVICES LEGISLATION
ROOM 413 H HUMPHREY BUILDING

TO : Jen/Neera/Mcale FROM: ☒ MARY M. BOURDETTE
OFFICE : WH ☐ BARBARA P. CLARK
ROOM NO : ☐ GREG JONES
PHONE NO : ☐ PATRICIA BRAVO
FAX NO : 456-2878 ☐ AMY LOCKHART
☐ LAUREN GRIFFIN
☐ LULA BARNES

TOTAL PAGES 3
INCLUDING COVER) :

REMARKS:

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with them.

Thanks Mary

How Satisfied Are Parents With Their Child Care?

In a recent Harris poll,¹ a significant percentage of adults reported having problems finding affordable, quality child care.

- Among the quarter of all adults who say they or their spouses or partners have used or needed child care in the last five years, half (51 percent) say it was extremely difficult or very difficult to find affordable care.
- Forty-four percent found it extremely difficult or very difficult to find quality care.
- In addition, half of the respondents indicated that the lack of satisfactory care made it difficult to do a good job at work, and nearly as many (43 percent) said they could not take a job they had wanted because they did not have satisfactory child care.

In contrast to the Harris poll findings, research surveys have consistently reported parent satisfaction with child care arrangements to be very high. However, researchers have always noted that parent satisfaction is difficult to assess effectively for a number of reasons.²

- For example, in the most recent nationally representative survey, the 1990 National Child Care Survey, 96 percent of all parents--both employed and non-employed--responded either that they were "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with the current arrangement for their youngest child.³
- Yet, when these same parents were asked if they would prefer to change their arrangement, 26 percent indicated a preference for another arrangement.
- For families with an employed mother, 30 percent preferred another arrangement. For families with a non-employed mother, 19 percent wanted a change. The desire to change arrangements was greatest among employed single mothers (40 percent).⁴ The desire to change arrangements was not significantly affected by family income.

For those parents wanting an alternative care arrangement, the majority--both employed and non-employed parents--were seeking care with certain program-quality characteristics, most often those related to promoting children's cognitive, social, and emotional development.

- The most frequently named alternative care preferred for children between one and four years of age is center care; under age one, care by a relative is preferred as an alternative to the current arrangement.⁵ However, mothers with children under one often express a preference to stay at home.
- Family income does affect the kind of alternative care desired, with families with incomes below \$25,000 a year in 1990 much more likely to want center care instead of the current arrangement.

1. Harris Poll, January 28, 1998. Poll of 1,000 adults between January 14 and 16.
2. Anne Mitchell, Emily Cooperstein, and Mary Lerner. Child Care Choices, Consumer Education, and Low-Income Families. National Center for Children in Poverty, 1992. In addition to reflecting true satisfaction with a care arrangement, reported satisfaction may reflect relief in finding a suitable arrangement and/or a parent's realization of constraints in choice (availability of arrangements, price of care, etc.). A reported lack of satisfaction may reflect that a parent wants to change the arrangement to one more developmentally appropriate because the child is growing older or that the parent is either thinking of returning to work or increasing working hours.
3. Sandra L. Hofferth, April Brayfield, Sharon Deich, and Pamela Holcomb. National Child Care Survey, 1990. Urban Institute Press.
4. Sandra L. Hofferth. "Caring for Children at the Poverty Line." Children and Youth Services Review 17 (1/2), 1995, 1-21.
5. Hofferth. National Child Care Survey, 1990.

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**CHILD CARE ARRANGEMENTS OF FAMILIES WITH EMPLOYED
AND NON-EMPLOYED MOTHERS**

**CHILD CARE ARRANGEMENTS OF FAMILIES WITH EMPLOYED
AND NON-EMPLOYED MOTHERS**

- 1. "Child Care for Young Children: Demographics"** (National Child Care Information Center Fact Sheet)
- 2. "Out-of-School Time: School-Age Care"** (National Child Care Information Center Fact Sheet)
- 3. Child Care Arrangements by Age of Child and Maternal Employment Status -- Employed** (National Child Care Survey 1990)
- 4. Child Care Arrangements by Age of Child and Maternal Employment Status -- Non-Employed** (National Child Care Survey 1990)
- 5. Percentage of Preschool Children with Employed Mothers Enrolled in Center-Based Programs** (National Household Education Survey of 1991)
- 6. Percentage of Preschool Children with Non-employed Mothers Enrolled in Center-Based Programs** (National Household Education Survey of 1991)

Child Care for Young Children: Demographics

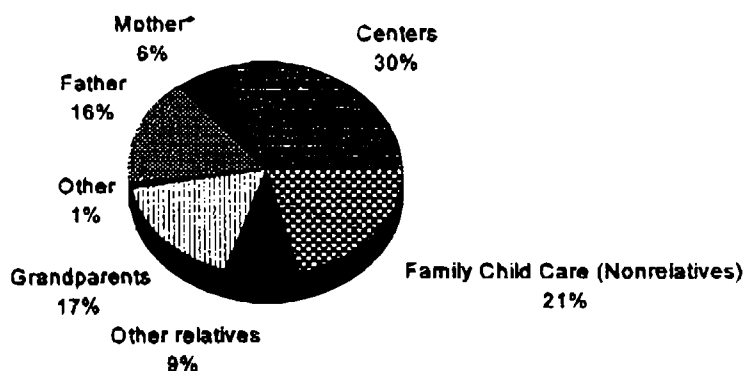
● According to the National Center for Education Statistics, in 1995 there were approximately 21 million infants, toddlers, and preschool children under the age of six in the U.S.; more than 12.9 million of these children were in child care.[†]

● While use of center-based care increased from 1988 to 1993, most young children are still in a home-based setting, including family child care.^{**}

● Forty-five percent of children under age one were in child care on a regular basis.[†]

Primary Child Care Arrangements Used by Families with Employed Mothers for Preschoolers: 1993

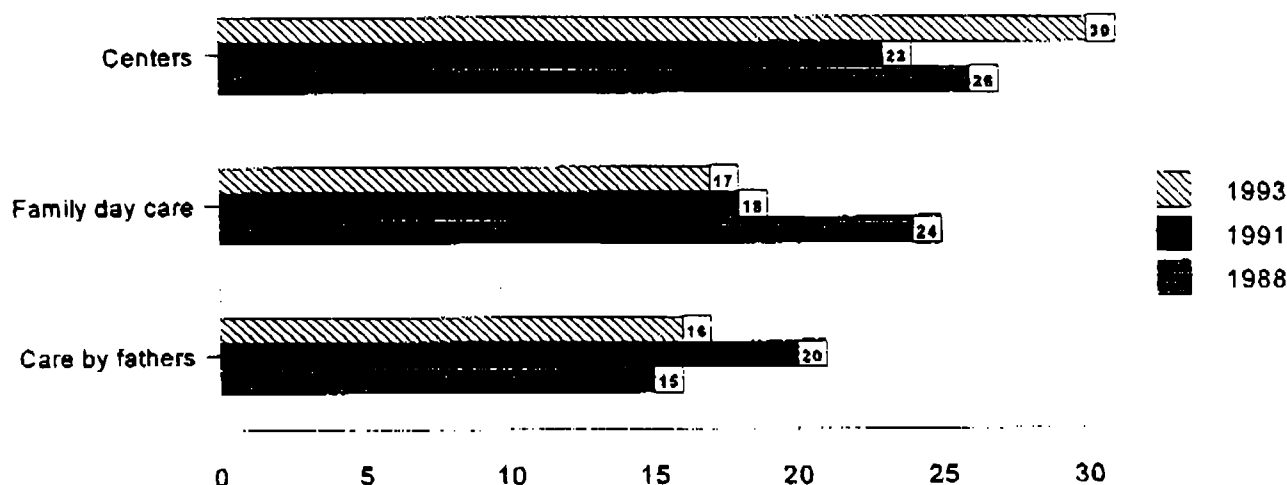
(Percent of preschoolers of working mothers in selected arrangements)



* Includes mothers working at home or away from home. Source: Casper, L.M. *Who's Minding Our Preschoolers?* U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, P-70, no. 53, Washington, DC 1996

Changes in Selected Child Care Arrangements: 1988 to 1993

(Percent of preschoolers of working mothers in selected arrangements)



Source: Casper, L.M. *Who's Minding Our Preschoolers?* U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, P-70, no. 53, Washington, DC 1996

This profile of child care demographics has been excerpted from information provided by the [†]National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education and the ^{**}U.S. Bureau of the Census.

For additional information, contact the National Child Care Information Center at (800) 616-2242 or visit the Web site at <http://ericps.crc.uiuc.edu/nccic/nccichome.html>

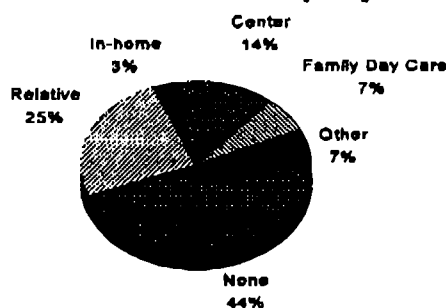
Out-of-School Time School-Age Care

According to the Bureau of the Census, in 1997 there were 38.8 million children between the ages of 5 and 14 years living in the U.S. There are approximately 24 million school-age children with parents in the workforce or pursuing education (based on 1993 SIPP data from the Bureau of the Census).

Care Arrangements of School-Age Children

- Experts estimate that nearly 5 million school-age children spend time as latchkey kids without adult supervision during a typical week.
- Approximately 1.7 million children in kindergarten through grade 8 were enrolled in 49,500 formal before- and/or after-school programs in 1991, according to the National Study of Before and After School Programs.
- In 1993-94, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, there were 18,111 before- or after-school programs in public schools--70% of public schools did not offer extended learning programs.
- School-age children are likely to spend time in many different care arrangements. According to the National Child Care Survey (1990), 76 percent of school-age children with an employed mother spend time in at least two child care arrangements during a typical week, in addition to their time in school.
- According to the National Child Care Survey, children aged 5 to 12 with employed mothers use the following types of supplemental care: 7% are in family day care, 14% are in centers, 3% are cared for by in-home providers, 25% are cared for by relatives and 44% do not use supplemental care.

**Use of Supplemental Care,
Children 5 to 12 with Employed Mothers**



The Effects of Out-of-School Time on Children

● Children under adult supervision in a formal program during after-school hours have demonstrated improved academic achievement and better attitudes toward school than their peers in self- or sibling care, Miller and Marx, 1990 in *Supplement of the National Assessment of Chapter 1*

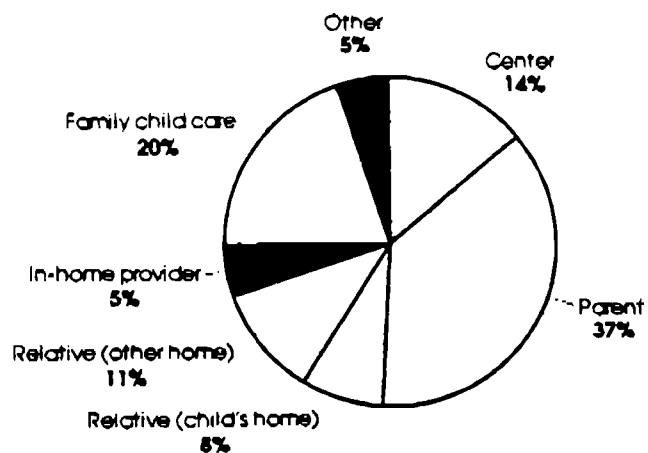
● Youth are at greatest risk of violence after the regular school day. Youth between the ages of 12 and 17 are most at-risk of committing violent acts or being victims between 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm—a time when they are not in school. *Fight Crime: Invest in Kids*, 1997

The most frequently mentioned barrier to participation is the parents' inability to pay the tuition and fees charged by programs. Other barriers include availability, quality of activities, inadequate facilities, transportation, high staff turnover, hours of the program and lack of resources.

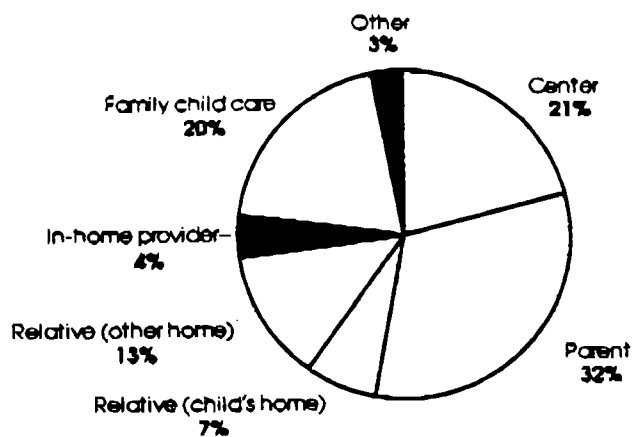
Components of Successful Before- and After-School Programs include: linkages between after-school and regular school programs, children's participation in age appropriate learning activities, hiring of qualified staff, low student-staff ratio, involvement of parents, program evaluation and coordination with the schools and other community organizations.

For information on what states and communities are doing to meet the need for school-age care, contact the National Institute on Out of School Time (formerly the School-Age Child Care Project), Center for Research on Women, Wellesley College at (617) 283-2547 or visit the World Wide Web site at: <http://www.wellesley.edu/WCW/CRW/SAC/>. For additional information on extended learning in after-school programs in schools, contact the U.S. Department of Education. Please call (800) USA-LEARN or visit the World Wide Web site at: <http://www.ed.gov/PFIE>.

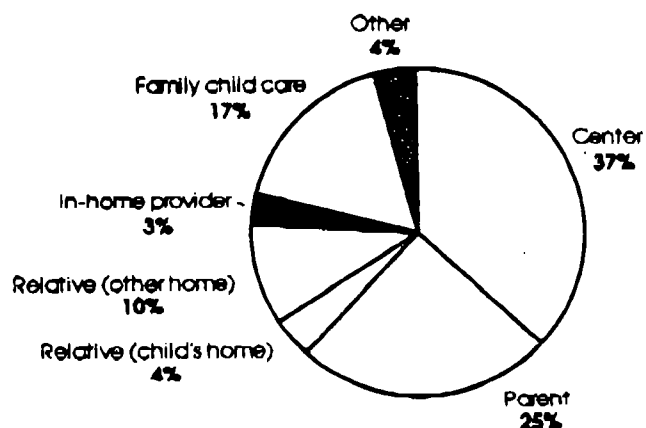
Child Care Arrangements by Age of Child and Maternal Employment Status, 1990



Employed mother, children under 1 year of age

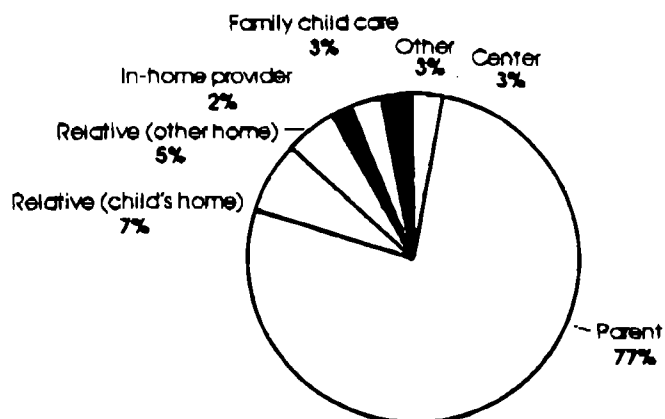


Employed mother, children 1 to 2 years of age

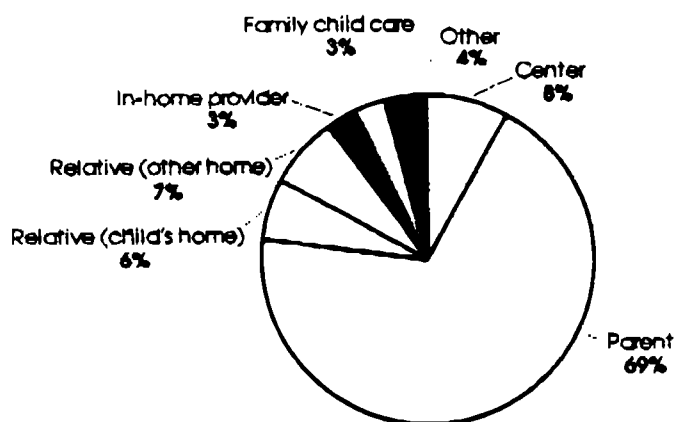


Employed mother, children 3 to 4 years of age

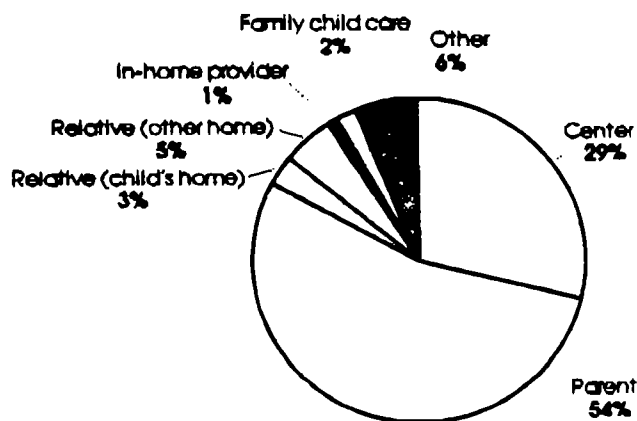
Child Care Arrangements by Age of Child and Maternal Employment Status, 1990



Nonemployed mother, children under 1 year of age

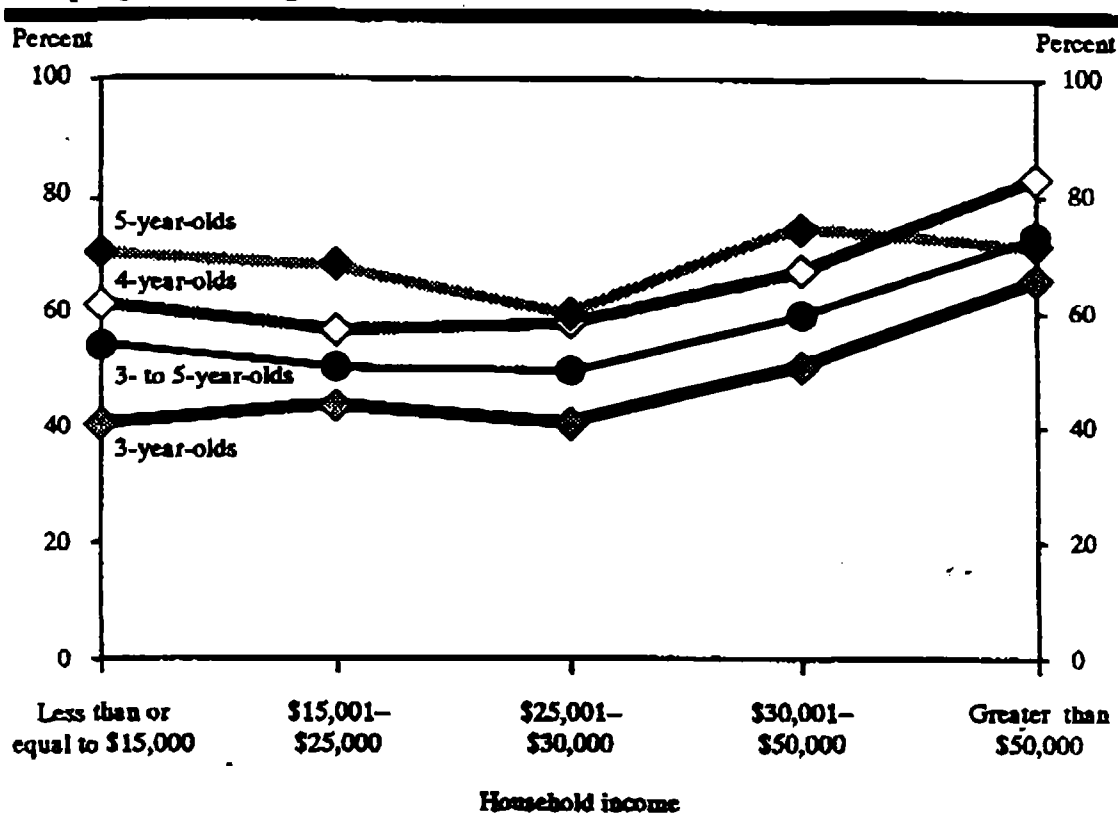


Nonemployed mother, children 1 to 2 years of age



Nonemployed mother, children 3 to 4 years of age

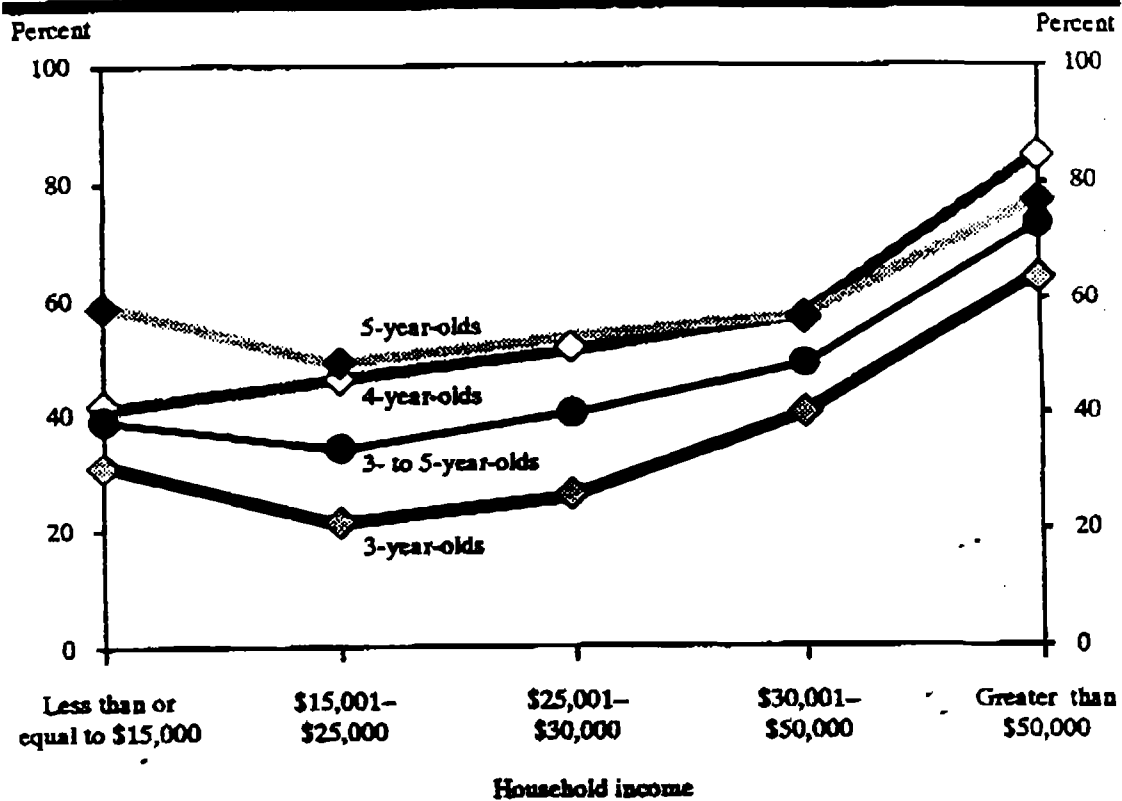
Percentage of preschool children with employed mothers enrolled in center-based programs, by age and household income: 1991



NOTE: For supporting data see appendix tables C4.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Household Education Survey of 1991 (NHES:91), Early Childhood Education (ECE) Component.

Percentage of preschool children with nonemployed mothers enrolled in center-based programs, by age and household income: 1991



NOTE: For supporting data see appendix tables C4.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Household Education Survey of 1991 (NHES:91), Early Childhood Education (ECE) Component.

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HOW DOES CHILD CARE AFFECT CHILDREN'S DEVELOPMENT:

FINDINGS FROM THE NICHD STUDY OF EARLY CHILD CARE

February 1998

What Are the Findings of the NICHD Study of Early Child Care?

In 1991, the NICHD Study of Early Child Care was launched to address key questions about whether child care has harmful effects on infants and toddlers. More than 1,300 children in ten sites were followed from one month old to three years old. The study sites included urban, rural, and suburban areas and sampled a diverse group of families in terms of race, maternal education, income, family structure, maternal employment status, type and quality of child care, and the number of hours that children spent in non-maternal care arrangements.

- Overall, the study found that a family's economic circumstances, maternal behavior toward the child, and characteristics of the family environment together are highly predictive of children's social, cognitive, and linguistic outcomes and are more predictive than child care factors.
- The study finds that even very young children who attend child care should be expected to develop good relationships with their mothers and to acquire appropriate social, cognitive, and linguistic competencies. In addition, better quality care is linked to better social, cognitive, and language development.
- Lesser quality care results in less optimal psychological outcomes for all children, including those whose families are experiencing significant emotional or financial stress.
- The more child care centers comply with commonly defined standards of quality, the better the cognitive and social outcomes of the children at 36 months of age. Standards of quality are staff-child ratio, group size, and provider education and training. These elements are all related to more positive staff-child interactions, a predictor of better outcomes for children.
- Mothers whose children are in child care for longer hours are slightly less sensitive to their children's signals. At the same time, increased family income is associated with more positive mother-child interaction.

How Does Child Care Affect Children's Development?

On the whole, children are affected by experiences in child care in much the same way that they are affected by experiences at home.

- A first concern is for children's health and safety. Avoidable injuries and illnesses can occur in either setting if conditions are hazardous, overcrowded, or unclean.
- Children also do best when their hearts and minds are nurtured. The key ingredients are good interactions with caring adults whom they know and trust, ample opportunities to play with other children in safe and supervised settings, and physical environments that invite exploration and discovery.

Concerns about the effects of child care on children's development are on the minds of parents and policy makers and have been studied extensively by researchers. Overall, research indicates that it is not whether children are in child care or home care that matters most. What matters in either setting is the quality of children's experiences and the safety of their environments.

The most recent research focuses on infants and toddlers. In 1991, the NICHD Study of Early Child Care was launched to address key questions about whether there are harmful effects of child care for infants when compared to exclusive care by mothers. The study was designed to go beyond global questions and examine how very young children are affected by different aspects of child care such as quality, quantity, and timing of entry. Researchers in ten sites have followed more than 1300 children from one month of age to three years of age. The study sites included urban, rural, and suburban areas and sampled families from a wide range of economic and social backgrounds.

The NICHD research indicates overall that:

- Family factors are the most important predictors of children's development. Child care does not diminish the importance of children's home experiences.
- Overall, the results show that even very young children who attend child care can be expected to develop good relationships with their mothers and to acquire appropriate cognitive, linguistic, and behavioral competencies. In addition, better quality care is linked to better outcomes for children.
- In most respects, children's relationship with mothers are unaffected by child care. For certain aspects and conditions, findings are more mixed. For example, mothers are slightly less sensitive to their children's signals when children have spent more time in child care. However, mothers' employment also contributes to family income, and income predicts more positive mother-child interaction.
- The more child care centers comply with commonly defined standards of quality, the better the cognitive and social outcomes of the children at 36 months of age. Standards of quality are staff-child ratio, group size, and provider education and training. These elements are all

related to more positive staff-child interactions, a predictor of better outcomes for children.

- Low quality care is likely to have special risks -- and high quality care is likely to have special benefits -- for children whose families are experiencing significant emotional or financial stress, consistent with findings from other studies.

There is evidence from other research that many child care programs do not offer children -- especially our youngest children -- the kinds of settings and experiences that are best for their development. However, we know what kinds of conditions are problematic and how to improve these conditions -- through states' tightening of regulations and monitoring efforts, training of providers, consumer education for parents, and other measures -- to better ensure that children are protected and nurtured.

Sources

Cost, Quality, and Child Outcomes Study Team. (1995) Cost, Quality and Child Outcomes in Child Care Centers: Public Report, Denver: University of Colorado at Denver.

Kontos, S., Howes, C., Sinn, M., and Galinsky. (1995) Quality in Family Child Care and Relative Care, New York: Teachers College Press.

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NICHD News Notes

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

National Institutes of Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Public Health Service

Child Care Does Not Affect Infant's Attachment to Mother, Unless Mother Insensitive to Infant's Needs

NICHD-supported scientists conducting a longitudinal study of the effects of child care on children's development through age seven have found that child care in and of itself neither adversely affects, nor promotes, the security of children's attachment to their mothers at the 15-month-age point. Low-quality care, more than 10 hours per week in care, and multiple child-care arrangements, however, adversely affected attachment when combined with maternal insensitivity to infant needs, cautioned the scientists who announced their findings today at the International Conference on Infant Studies in Providence, Rhode Island.

Behavioral scientists define attachment as an infant's comfortable sense of trust in his or her mother. For this study, the child-care arrangements evaluated in relationship to attachment security were diverse and included father care, grandparent care, care by a non-relative in the child's home, family day care, and center-based care.

In 1991, the NICHD Study of Early Child Care enrolled more than 1,300 families and their children from 10 locales throughout the country. The children, who were one month old or less at enrollment, their families, and their child-care arrangements are being followed through the child's seventh year of life. The families are diverse in terms of race, maternal education, family income, family structure (single-parent families are included), maternal employment status, type and quality of child care, and the number of hours that children spend in non-maternal care arrangements.

Initiated by the NICHD and conducted by investigators at the NICHD and 14 universities nationwide, the study was spurred by the increase in the use of early child care over the past decade, and questions about its effects on children. In 1980, 38 percent of mothers ages 18-44 with infants under one year old worked outside the home. Ten years later, this percentage had climbed to 53. Since most of these mothers return to work in their child's first three to five months of life, their children spend much of their early lives in various kinds of child-care situations.

This increase in the use of child care has led to many questions from parents, developmental psychologists, and policy makers about the effects of such early child care on children's development. One of their core interests is how early child care affects a child's attachment to his or her mother. Psychologists have linked insecure attachment to the mother to compromised developmental and social adjustment at older ages, including difficult interactions and relationships with peers, parents, and other adults.

"The NICHD Study of Early Child Care is unprecedented in several ways," said Dr. Sarah Friedman, NICHD coordinator of the study and one of its investigators. "An important feature of the study is the great diversity of the infants and of the child-care settings that were studied. It is also important that we could measure the effects of child care after taking into account family influences on security of attachment. In many other studies of child care it was not possible to do so, and, therefore, what were

considered to be child-care effects might have been, at least in part, family effects."

To assess the security of infants' attachment to their mothers, investigators used a laboratory measure, known as the "strange situation" procedure, designed to expose infants to mild stress by separating them from their mothers for a few minutes. Secure infants reestablish positive contact with their mothers following these brief separations, while insecure infants either ignore and avoid their mother, or are not reassured by her return.

Using this measure, the investigators observed, in a laboratory setting, the infants' attachment security at age 15 months. They also evaluated the different aspects of child care experienced by each child, including type of care, quality of care, its amount (i.e., number of hours per week), stability (number of child-care arrangements experienced), and age of entry into care. When family characteristics were taken into account, the investigators found that no single child-care aspect, in and of itself, affected attachment security.

Certain child-care conditions in combination with certain home environments, however, did increase the proportion of insecurely attached infants. Infants who received either poor quality of care, more than 10 hours per week of care, or were in several child-care settings in the first fifteen months of life were more likely to be insecurely attached when their mothers were low in sensitivity and relatively unresponsive to their needs. Infants who fit into one of these three "dual-risk" categories were more likely to be insecurely attached to their mothers. In addition, boys who spent more than 30 hours per week in child care had a somewhat increased risk for insecure attachment compared with other boys, whereas girls with fewer than 10 hours per week in care were at a somewhat increased risk for insecurity.

While experts have evidence showing that insecure attachment often leads to difficulties in social adjustment, they recognize that, because human development is an ongoing process affected by many experiences beyond infancy, not every insecure infant develops such problems. By continuing to evaluate the social, cognitive, linguistic, and health development of the children in this study, investigators hope to be able to identify the conditions that predict enhanced or compromised development in relation to child care as children grow older.

Copies of the full report on the study are available from the NICHD's Public Information and Communications Branch at (301) 496-5133.

The NICHD is part of the National Institutes of Health, the biomedical research arm of the Federal government. Since its inception in 1962, the Institute has become a world leader in promoting research on development before and after birth; maternal, child, and family health; reproductive biology and population issues; and medical rehabilitation.





NIH NEWS ALERT

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

National Institute of Child Health
and Human DevelopmentEmbargoed until April 3, 1997
6 p.m. E.S.T.Contact: Robin Peth-Pierce
(301) 496-5136**Results of NICHD Study of Early Child Care
Reported at Society for Research in Child Development Meeting**

New research being released this week indicates that the quality of child care for very young children does matter for their cognitive development and their use of language. In addition, quality child care in the early years, meaning care with a high degree of positive interaction between caregivers and children, can also lead to better mother-child interaction, the study finds.

The findings come from a longitudinal study on the effects of early child care supported by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD). They will be presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development on April 4, 1997, at 4:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Washington Hotel in Washington, D.C.

"The most striking aspect of these results from the early child care study is that children are not being placed at a disadvantage in terms of cognitive development if they have high quality day care in their first three years," said NICHD's Director, Duane Alexander, M.D. "It's very important to study these issues as they are of such importance to American families."

A major way in which the NICHD Study of Early Child Care contributes to understanding the effects of child care is by moving beyond the global questions about whether child care is good or bad for children. Instead, it focuses on how the different aspects of child care, such as quantity and quality of care, are associated with children's cognitive and language development and mother-child interaction patterns over the first three years of life.

Just as important, the NICHD Study of Early Child Care examines effects of child care after taking into consideration other factors that shape children's development and their relationships with their mothers. These factors include family economic status, mother's psychological well being and intelligence, child sex and infant temperament. This study design makes it more likely that the effects discerned are truly due to child care, and not a function of other factors.

The study is clarifying the association between child care and children's cognitive development, as well as the association between child care and the mother-child relationship, two issues that are of deep concern to the over 50 million working mothers and their families in this country. Child care is becoming an ever increasing fact of life as more women stay in the work force after pregnancy and many more women are single parents. In 1980, according to U.S. census data, 38% of mothers, ages 18-44, with infants under one year of age, worked outside the home. By 1990, this percentage climbed to 50, a rate close to where it stands now. Most of these women return to work in their child's first three to five months.

Evidence is emerging from the study that across a wide range of child care settings, quality child care, as defined by positive caregiving and language stimulation given in the child care environment, are positively related to early cognitive and language development. While the quality of child care had a small but statistically significant relation to children's cognitive and linguistic outcomes, the combination of family income, maternal vocabulary, home environment, and maternal cognitive stimulation were stronger predictors of children's cognitive development.

"In this study, we found that the amount of language that is directed at the child in child care is an important component of quality provider-child interaction," said Dr. Sarah Friedman, NICHD coordinator of the study and one of its investigators. "This language input is predictive of children's acquisition of cognitive and language skills, which are the bedrock of school readiness."

Language stimulation was assessed by measuring how often caregivers spoke to children, asked them questions, and responded to their vocalizations. To assess children's cognitive development, researchers used standardized tests, including the Bayley Scales of Infant Development, the Bracken-Scale-of-Basic-Concepts school-readiness subtest, the MacArthur Communicative Development Inventory, and the Reynell Developmental Language Scale.

The small but consistent findings indicate that the higher the quality of child care in the first three years of life the greater the child's language abilities at 15, 24, and 36 months, the better the child's performance on the Bayley Scales of Infant Development at age two, and the more school readiness the child showed at age three.

Among children in care for more than 10 hours per week, those in center care, and to a lesser extent, those in child care homes, performed better on cognitive and language measures when the quality of the caregiver-child interaction was taken into account.

In addition to the cognitive findings, researchers also found that quality and amount of child care had a small but statistically significant association with the quality of the mother-child interaction. Again, a combination of other variables, including family environment, maternal education, and family income, were more influential in determining the quality of the mother-child interaction.

Researchers found that the amount of nonmaternal child care was weakly associated with less sensitive and engaged mother-child interactions. The more time infants and toddlers spent in non-maternal child-care arrangements, the less sensitive and positively involved were mothers with their infants at 6 months of age, the more negative they were with them at 15 months of age, the less positively affectionate the child was toward the mother at 24 and 36 months of age, and the less sensitive mothers were to their toddlers at the 36 month point.

Where effects of quality on mother-child interaction were found, higher quality of provider-child interaction in the child care setting predicted greater maternal involvement-sensitivity (at 15 and 36 months) and greater child positive engagement at 36 months.

Mother-child interaction was evaluated by videotaping mother and child together during play and observing mother's behavior toward the child to see how attentive, responsive, positively affectionate or restrictive the mother was when faced with multiple competing tasks (i.e., monitoring child, talking with interviewer).

In sum, what is happening at home and in families appears to be a powerful predictor of both cognitive outcomes and mother-child interaction. Still, with the family, maternal, and child care characteristics considered, the child care variables studied provided additional, significant prediction of children's cognitive and language outcomes and mother-child interaction.

In 1991, the NICHD Study of Early Child Care enrolled more than 1,300 families and their children from 10 locales throughout the country. The children, who were one month old or less at enrollment, their families, and their child-care arrangements are being followed through the child's seventh year of life. The families are diverse in terms of race, maternal education, family income, family structure (single-parent families are included), maternal employment status, type and quality of child care, and the number of hours that children spend in non-maternal care arrangements. Arrangements included father care, grandparent care, care by a non-relative in the child's home, child care homes, and center-based care.

The child care variables used in the analysis included information about the type of care, the amount of care, and the quality of care. Higher quality care was defined in terms of the interactions of child care providers with the study children. Interactions expected to promote positive affect, better social adjustment and greater cognitive and language skill were considered of higher quality.

Initiated and conducted by NICHD and investigators at 14 universities

nationwide, the study was spurred by many questions from parents, developmental psychologists, and policy makers about the effects of early child care on children's development. Among the investigators' core interests have been how these child-care experiences affect children's cognitive and language development and the way in which parents relate to children who are in child care. These are important study foci because early cognitive and language development predicts future school achievement and performance on intelligence tests and because patterns of mother-child interaction predict future social, emotional, and cognitive development.

Last April, study investigators released data which evaluated the infants up to the 15 month point. They found that child care, in and of itself, neither adversely affects, nor promotes, the security of children's attachment to their mothers at the 15 month age point, provided the children were already receiving relatively sensitive care from their mothers.

For more information about the study, contact NICHD's Public Information and Communications Branch at (301) 496-5133. The NICHD is part of the National Institutes of Health, the biomedical research arm of the Federal government. Since its inception in 1962, the Institute has become a world leader in promoting research on development before and after birth; maternal, child, and family health; reproductive biology and population issues; and medical rehabilitation.

###

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TOTAL PAGES
INCLUDING COVER) : 14

REMARKS:

This is the packet of materials we've prepared in response to the request for info. I've cleared them internally and need to get them to ~~the people~~ people who've requested them ASAP. Unless I hear otherwise from you today, I'll so

write them.

Thanks Mary

**FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN
WITH EMPLOYED AND NON-EMPLOYED MOTHERS**

Data from the March 1997 Current Population Survey

Families with Children with Working and Non-Working Mothers

- I. Thirty-two million families have children under age 14. Of these families, 69 percent have a mother who worked sometime during the past year. This includes 65 percent of the nearly 18 million families with at least one child under age 6. (Note that a small percent of families had no mother present so numbers will not all add exactly.)
- II. 26 percent of these families had a mother who did not work at all during the past year. This includes 30 percent of families with at least one child under age 6. These percentages include some poor single-mother families receiving welfare where the mother will be subject to work requirements.
- III. Of the 14 million families with children under age 14 with total annual family incomes under \$30,000, 35 percent have mothers who did not work at all during the past year. For those families with total income of \$30,000 or more, 19 percent have a mother who did not work at all during the past year.
- IV. Of the 22 million married-couple families with children under age 14, 73 percent have a mother who worked during the past year; 27 percent have a mother who did not work at all during the past year.
- V. Of the nearly 9 million single-mother families with children under age 14, 73 percent have a mother who worked during the past year; 27 percent have a mother who did not work at all during the past year.
- VI. Of the nearly 15 million families with at least one child under age 14 but no children under age 6, 74 percent have a mother who worked during the past year; 20 percent have a mother who did not work during the past year.

Table 1. Total Number of Families with at least One Child Under Age Six with a Working Mother¹ (in millions)

	Total Number of Families with a Working Mother	Total Number of Married-Couple Families with a Working Mother	Total Number of Single-Parent Families with a Working Mother
Total Family Income:			
Under 10,000	1.32	.11	1.21
>= 10,000 and < 20,000	1.52	.48	1.04
>= 20,000 and < 30,000	1.44	.95	.49
>= 30,000 and < 40,000	1.38	1.18	.20
>= 40,000 and < 50,000	1.31	1.21	.10
>= 50,000 and < 75,000	2.43	2.38	.05
75,000 +	2.00	1.96	.04
All Incomes	11.43	8.29	3.14
Poverty Status:			
Poor	2.10	.43	1.67
Not Poor	9.33	7.86	1.47

¹ Working mothers are defined as those who worked for any amount of time during the past year.

Source: 1997 March Current Population Survey

Table 2. Total Number of Families with Children Under Age Fourteen but No Children Under Age Six with a Working Mother¹ (in millions)

	Total Number of Families with a Working Mother	Total Number of Married-Couple Families with a Working Mother	Total Number of Single-Parent Families with a Working Mother
Total Family Income:			
Under 10,000	.66	.07	.59
>= 10,000 and < 20,000	1.30	.30	1.00
>= 20,000 and < 30,000	1.38	.65	.73
>= 30,000 and < 40,000	1.44	.96	.48
>= 40,000 and < 50,000	1.26	1.03	.23
>= 50,000 and < 75,000	2.62	2.45	.17
75,000 +	2.31	2.25	.06
All Incomes	10.97	7.71	3.26
Poverty Status:			
Poor	1.19	.24	.95
Not Poor	9.78	7.47	2.31

¹ Working mothers are defined as those who worked for any amount of time during the past year.

Source: 1997 March Current Population Survey

Table 3. Total Number of Families with Children Under Age Fourteen with a Working Mother ¹ (in millions)			
	Total Number of Families with a Working Mother	Total Number of Married-Couple Families with a Working Mother	Total Number of Single-Parent Families with a Working Mother
Total Family Income:			
Under 10,000	2.00	.19	1.81
>= 10,000 and < 20,000	2.82	.78	2.04
>= 20,000 and < 30,000	2.81	1.59	1.22
>= 30,000 and < 40,000	1.81	2.14	.67
>= 40,000 and < 50,000	2.56	2.24	.32
>= 50,000 and < 75,000	5.07	4.84	.23
75,000 +	4.33	4.22	.11
All Incomes	22.40	16.00	6.40
Poverty Status:			
Poor	3.29	.67	2.62
Not Poor	19.11	15.33	3.78

¹ Working mothers are defined as those who worked for any amount of time during the past year.

Source: 1997 March Current Population Survey

Table 4. Total Number of Families with at least One Child Under Age Six with a Working Mother ¹ by Work Status ² (in millions)						
	Total Number of Families with a Working Mother		Total Number of Married-Couple Families with a Working Mother		Total Number of Single-Parent Families with a Working Mother	
	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time
Total Family Income:						
Under 10,000	.64	.62	.03	.02	.61	.60
>= 10,000 and < 20,000	.28	.92	.07	.09	.21	.83
>= 20,000 and < 30,000	.15	.59	.11	.15	.04	.45
>= 30,000 and < 40,000	.10	.39	.09	.20	.01	.18
>= 40,000 and < 50,000	.08	.27	.08	.17	.001	.09
>= 50,000 and < 75,000	.20	.41	.20	.36	.01	.05
75,000 +	.15	.36	.14	.32	.003	.04
All Incomes	1.60	3.55	.71	1.30	.89	2.25
Poverty Status:						
Poor	.81	1.03	.08	.09	.73	.94
Not Poor	.79	2.52	.63	1.21	.16	1.31

¹ Working mothers are defined as those who worked for any amount of time during the past year.

² Full-time work status is defined as usually working 35 or more hours per week during the past year and part-time work status is defined as usually working less than 35 hours per week during the past year.

Source: 1997 March Current Population Survey

Table 5. Total Number of Families with Children Under Age Fourteen but No Children Under Age Six with a Working Mother¹ by Work Status² (in millions)

	Total Number of Families with a Working Mother		Total Number of Married-Couple Families with a Working Mother		Total Number of Single-Parent Families with a Working Mother	
	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time
Total Family Income:						
Under 10,000	.32	.30	.02	.01	.30	.29
>= 10,000 and < 20,000	.25	.85	.04	.06	.21	.79
>= 20,000 and < 30,000	.16	.75	.07	.11	.08	.65
>= 30,000 and < 40,000	.10	.58	.06	.14	.03	.44
>= 40,000 and < 50,000	.08	.36	.06	.15	.02	.21
>= 50,000 and < 75,000	.16	.52	.15	.36	.01	.17
75,000 +	.15	.34	.14	.29	.01	.06
All Incomes	1.21	3.71	.55	1.11	.65	2.60
Poverty Status:						
Poor	.42	.61	.03	.05	.39	.56
Not Poor	.78	3.10	.52	1.05	.26	2.05

¹ Working mothers are defined as those who worked for any amount of time during the past year.

² Full-time work status is defined as usually working 35 or more hours per week during the past year and part-time work status is defined as usually working less than 35 hours per week during the past year.

Source: 1997 March Current Population Survey

Table 6. Total Number of Families with Children Under Age Fourteen with a Working Mother ¹ by Work Status ² (in millions)						
	Total Number of Families with a Working Mother		Total Number of Married-Couple Families with a Working Mother		Total Number of Single-Parent Families with a Working Mother	
	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time
Total Family Income:						
Under 10,000	.96	.92	.05	.02	.91	.90
>= 10,000 and < 20,000	.53	1.77	.11	.15	.43	1.62
>= 20,000 and < 30,000	.30	1.35	.18	.25	.12	1.10
>= 30,000 and < 40,000	.20	.97	.15	.34	.05	.63
>= 40,000 and < 50,000	.17	.63	.15	.32	.02	.30
>= 50,000 and < 75,000	.36	.93	.35	.72	.01	.21
75,000 +	.29	.70	.28	.60	.01	.10
All Incomes	2.81	7.26	1.27	2.41	1.54	4.85
Poverty Status:						
Poor	1.24	1.63	.11	.14	1.12	1.50
Not Poor	1.57	5.63	1.15	2.27	.42	3.36

¹ Working mothers are defined as those who worked for any amount of time during the past year.

² Full-time work status is defined as usually working 35 or more hours per week during the past year and part-time work status is defined as usually working less than 35 hours per week during the past year.

Source: 1997 March Current Population Survey

Table 7. Total Number of Families with Children Under Age 14 with a Mother who did not Work in the Past Year (in millions)			
	Total Number of Families with a Non-Employed Mother	Total Number of Married-Couple Families with a Non-Employed Mother	Total Number of Single-Parent Families with a Non-Employed Mother
Total Family Income:			
Under 10,000	2.4	.51	1.91
>= 10,000 and < 20,000	1.33	1.01	.32
>= 20,000 and < 30,000	1.07	1.01	.06
>= 30,000 and < 40,000	.89	.87	.02
>= 40,000 and < 50,000	.69	.67	.02
>= 50,000 and < 75,000	.98	.96	.02
75,000 +	.94	.94	.002
All Incomes	8.32	5.96	2.36
Poverty Status:			
Poor	3.38	1.29	2.09
Not Poor	4.95	4.67	.28

Source: 1997 March Current Population Survey

Table 8. Total Number of Families with at least One Child Under Age Six with a Mother who did not Work in the Past Year (in millions)

	Total Number of Families with a Non-Employed Mother	Total Number of Married-Couple Families with a Non-Employed Mother	Total Number of Single-Parent Families with a Non-Employed Mother
Total Family Income:			
Under 10,000	1.61	.34	1.27
>= 10,000 and < 20,000	.86	.70	.16
>= 20,000 and < 30,000	.71	.69	.02
>= 30,000 and < 40,000	.56	.55	.01
>= 40,000 and < 50,000	.44	.43	.01
>= 50,000 and < 75,000	.57	.56	.01
75,000 +	.54	.54	.002
All Incomes	5.31	3.83	1.48
Poverty Status:			
Poor	2.26	.90	1.36
Not Poor	3.05	2.93	.12

Source: 1997 March Current Population Survey

Table 9. Total Number of Families with Children Under Age Fourteen but No Children Under Age Six with a Mother who did not Work in the Past Year (in millions)

	Total Number of Families with a Non-Employed Mother	Total Number of Married-Couple Families with a Non-Employed Mother	Total Number of Single-Parent Families with a Non-Employed Mother
Total Family Income:			
Under 10,000	.81	.17	.64
>= 10,000 and < 20,000	.47	.31	.16
>= 20,000 and < 30,000	.35	.31	.04
>= 30,000 and < 40,000	.32	.31	.01
>= 40,000 and < 50,000	.25	.24	.01
>= 50,000 and < 75,000	.42	.40	.02
75,000 +	.40	.40	*
All Incomes	3.01	2.13	.88
Poverty Status:			
Poor	1.11	.39	.72
Not Poor	1.89	1.73	.16

Source: 1997 March Current Population Survey

* Very few such families in the survey.

Table 10. Total Number of Families with Children Under Age Fourteen (in millions)			
	Total Number of Families	Total Number of Married-Couple Families	Total Number of Single-Parent Families ¹
Total Family Income:			
Under 10,000	4.76	.70	4.06
>= 10,000 and < 20,000	4.57	1.79	2.78
>= 20,000 and < 30,000	4.23	2.60	1.63
>= 30,000 and < 40,000	3.94	3.01	.93
>= 40,000 and < 50,000	3.36	2.91	.45
>= 50,000 and < 75,000	6.18	5.79	.39
75,000 +	5.33	5.16	.17
All Incomes	32.36	21.96	10.40
Poverty Status:			
Poor	7.15	1.96	5.19
Not Poor	25.20	20.00	5.20

¹ While most single-parent families are headed by a single mother, a small number have no mother present.

Source: 1997 March Current Population Survey

Table 11. Total Number of Families with at least One Child Under Age Six (in millions)			
	Total Number of Families	Total Number of Married-Couple Families	Total Number of Single-Parent Families ¹
Total Family Income:			
Under 10,000	3.15	.45	2.70
>= 10,000 and < 20,000	2.63	1.19	1.44
>= 20,000 and < 30,000	2.32	1.64	.68
>= 30,000 and < 40,000	2.05	1.74	.31
>= 40,000 and < 50,000	1.80	1.65	.15
>= 50,000 and < 75,000	3.06	2.95	.11
75,000 +	2.58	2.51	.07
All Incomes	17.58	12.12	5.46
Poverty Status:			
Poor	4.65	1.32	3.33
Not Poor	12.92	10.79	2.13

¹ While most single-parent families are headed by a single mother, a small number have no mother present.

Source: 1997 March Current Population Survey

**Please Help Us
Tell The White House About Your Child Care Needs**

Dear Parent:

You are among a special sample of 1,000 parents who have been chosen to represent the opinions of families in America today on the subject of child care. Parents magazine is the sponsor of this study and is planning to present the findings at a White House conference exclusively about child care that is being held in October. This is your opportunity to tell the White House about your needs.

Your personal answers to these questions will be kept strictly confidential. Please take a few moments to tell us about your child care concerns, and mail this back as soon as possible. If you would like, we will send you a copy of the results. There is a place on the last page to write in your name and address.

If you are not the parent or primary caregiver of a child who is 12 years old or younger, please give this survey to the appropriate person in your household.

Thank you very much for your help with this important study.

*Ann Pleshette Murphy
Editor-in-Chief, Parents Magazine*

CHILD CARE SURVEY

5-1

1. Do you think that most politicians are well-informed about the types of child care issues that normal American families face every day?

Yes - well informed . . . ☐ 6-1
 No - not well informed . . . ☐ -2

2. At what age do you feel that the "typical" child can be left alone for at least 2 hours without any type of child care or supervision?

8 years old or less . . . ☐ 7-1 10 years old . . . ☐ -3 12 years old . . . ☐ -5
 9 years old . . . ☐ -2 11 years old . . . ☐ -4 13 years old or more . . . ☐ -6

3. At what age do you feel that your children will be left alone for at least 2 hours?

8 years old or less . . . ☐ 8-1 10 years old . . . ☐ -3 12 years old . . . ☐ -5
 9 years old . . . ☐ -2 11 years old . . . ☐ -4 13 years old or more . . . ☐ -6

- 4a. Which, if any, of these child care options are simply not available to you at any cost because they don't exist near enough to your home or workplace? (Check in col. Q.4a below.)

- 4b. Which exist near enough to you, but you have ruled them out because you consider them to be unsatisfactory for some reason other than cost? (Check in col. Q.4b below.)

- 4c. Which exist near you but just cost too much to be an option at this time in your life? (Check in col. Q.4c below.)

	Q.4a Not Available At Any Cost	Q.4b Available But Not Satisfactory	Q.4c Available But Too Expensive
Family or friends (no charge to you)	☐ 9-1	☐ 10-1	☐ 11-1
Paid in-home nannies or baby-sitters (includes family/friends)	☐ -2	☐ -2	☐ -2
Nursery or preschool	☐ -3	☐ -3	☐ -3
Day-care center	☐ -4	☐ -4	☐ -4
Family day-care (in the caregiver's home)	☐ -5	☐ -5	☐ -5
After-school care	☐ -6	☐ -6	☐ -6
Employer day-care center	☐ -7	☐ -7	☐ -7

5. Which of the following is true in your family? (Please check all that apply.)

Currently use some type of child care
 (including occasional baby-sitters) ☐ 12-1
 Have used child care in the past, but not right now ☐ -2
 Have never used any child care at all ☐ -3 ➔ (Please skip to Q.20)

6. Where do you look for information and guidance about child care, and which one source have you relied on most heavily?

	Refer To Ever	Rely On Most
Books about being a parent	☐ 13-1	☐ 14-1
Magazines	☐ -2	☐ -2
Coworkers	☐ -3	☐ -3
Spouse or partner	☐ -4	☐ -4
Parents, in-laws, grandparents	☐ -5	☐ -5
Other family members	☐ -6	☐ -6
Friends	☐ -7	☐ -7
Psychologists, psychiatrists	☐ -8	☐ -8
Social workers	☐ -9	☐ -9
Medical doctors	☐ -0	☐ -0
Child care providers/agencies	☐ -X	☐ -X
Government agencies (local, state, federal)	☐ -Y	☐ -Y

7. Many families have different caregivers for different children. Please answer the questions below using the two answer grids that follow. Fill out the first grid for your youngest child and the second grid for your next-youngest child (if you have more than one child).

COLUMN "a": Check if you have used this type of child care for this child at least once in the past 12 months. If you pay family or friends to baby-sit for you, then check "paid baby-sitters" instead of "family or friends." For all checked items, please fill in columns "b" through "d" as instructed below.

COLUMN "b": In a typical week, how many hours does this child spend with this type of caregiver?

COLUMN "c": Approximately, how much does this type of child care typically cost you per week?

COLUMN "d": Using a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is *totally unacceptable* and 5 is *quite acceptable* and 10 is *extraordinary*, how would you rate this child care provider?

Type Child Care	Youngest child's age: _____ years and _____ months				Next youngest child's age: _____ years and _____ months			
	(a) If Used in the Past Year	(b) # of Hours in a Typical Week	(c) Typical Weekly Cost	(d) Overall Quality Rating	(a) If Used in the Past Year	(b) # of Hours in a Typical Week	(c) Typical Weekly Cost	(d) Overall Quality Rating
Family or friends (no charge to you)	☐ 15-1	_____ (16,17)	No Charge	_____ (38)	☐ 43-1	_____ (44,45)	No Charge	_____ (66)
In-home nanny or paid sitter	☐ -2	_____ (18,19)	\$ _____ (26-28)	_____ (39)	☐ -2	_____ (46,47)	\$ _____ (54-56)	_____ (67)
In-center care (nursery school, preschool, or day-care center)	☐ -3	_____ (20,21)	\$ _____ (29-31)	_____ (40)	☐ -3	_____ (48,49)	\$ _____ (57-59)	_____ (68)
Family day-care (in caregiver's home)	☐ -4	_____ (22,23)	\$ _____ (32-34)	_____ (41)	☐ -4	_____ (50,51)	\$ _____ (60-62)	_____ (69)
After-school care	☐ -5	_____ (24,25)	\$ _____ (35-37)	_____ (42)	☐ -5	_____ (52,53)	\$ _____ (63-65)	_____ (70)

8. To check in with child care providers, do you or your spouse/partner... (Please check all that apply.)

Make daily calls from work ☐ 71-1
 Call at least once if out in the evening ☐ -2
 Speak to your caregiver when you arrive or leave ☐ -3
 Drop in unannounced ☐ -4
 Call when you suspect the child might be having problems ☐ -5
 Regularly meet with the provider to discuss your child's progress ☐ -6

9. Have you ever been surprised by a wonderfully positive experience that your child has had with a child care provider?

Yes ☐ 72-1 No ☐ -2 → (Skip to Q. 10)

Please tell us about the experience in the space below. You may continue onto the back of this page if you'd like.

Type of Provider	Description of Good Experience
_____ 6-	_____ 7-
	_____ 8-
	_____ 9-
_____ 10-	_____ 11-
	_____ 12-
	_____ 13-
_____ 14-	_____ 15-
	_____ 16-
	_____ 17-

13. Some parents don't have any worries about their child care providers ... some parents worry occasionally about "worst case" scenarios ... and some have many concerns. How often do **you** worry that your child is...? (Please check only one answer for each concern.)

	Never	Few Times A Year	Few Times A Month	Once A Month	Every Week	Every Day	
Adjusting well to the arrangement	☐ -1	☐ -2	☐ -3	☐ -4	☐ -5	☐ -6	(60)
Getting enough one-on-one attention	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(61)
Becoming more attached to the caregiver than to you	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(62)
Catching an illness from other children	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(63)
Watching too much TV	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(64)
Eating well	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(65)
Making friends	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(66)
Gaining important skills	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(67)
Being stimulated enough	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(68)
Being disciplined too harshly	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(69)
Not being disciplined enough	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(70)
With other children who are too aggressive	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(71)
Being sexually abused by the caregivers	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(72)
Being physically abused by the caregivers	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(73)
Being emotionally abused by the caregivers	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(74)

14. How strongly do you agree with the following statements? (Please check one answer for each statement.)

5-3

	Agree Strongly 1	Agree A Little 2	Not Sure 3	Disagree A Little 4	Disagree Strongly 5	
I have a very accurate picture of my child's typical day in child care	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(6)
My child receives the best care available at any price	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(7)
My child receives the best care that I can afford	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(8)
I want to spend more time with my children	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(9)
I need more time alone	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(10)
My child's care is not as good as I would like	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(11)

15. Some parents have said that they would be willing to take a cut in pay if their employer would offer help with child care.

How much of a cut in weekly household pay would you be willing to take if either your employer or your partner's employer were to offer the following services? (If your employer already offers a service, please specify "Have".)

	Have	\$0	Under \$25	\$26- 50	\$51- 100	\$100+	
On-site child care programs	☐ -1	☐ -2	☐ -3	☐ -4	☐ -5	☐ -6	(12)
Flexible scheduling or job sharing	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(13)
Part-time employment	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(14)
Telecommuting	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(15)
Bringing children to work	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(16)
Dependent care spending accounts	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(17)
Extended family leave (3 months)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(18)
Reimbursement to meet sick/emergency	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(19)
Child care needs	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(20)

16. How confident are you that 6 months from now, your child care arrangements will be exactly the same as they are today?

Definitely will be the same	☐ 21-1	Probably will be different	☐ -4
Probably will be the same	☐ -2	Definitely will be different	☐ -5
Might change, might not	☐ -3		

17. Do any of your child care providers charge an extra fee when children are picked up later than scheduled?

Yes ☐ 22-1 No ☐ -2 ➔ (Skip to Q.20)

18. What is the extra fee amount charged for late pickup?

\$ _____ per _____ minutes OR \$ _____ per _____ hour
 (23,24) (25,26) (27,28) (29,30)

19. In a typical year, approximately how much does your family spend on these fees because you (or your spouse) was late leaving work?

Total \$ for a year: _____ (31-34)

20. Are you currently employed outside the home?

Yes ☐ 35-1 No ☐ -2 ➡ (Skip to Q.23)

21. How many hours do you typically work per week?

0 to 5 hours ☐ 36-1 21 to 40 hours ☐ -4
 6 to 10 hours ☐ -2 Over 40 hours ☐ -5
 11 to 20 hours ☐ -3

22. In the past 3 months, how many times have you done the following in dealing with a child's illness or other needs?

	None	1-2 Times	3-4 Times	5-6 Times	7 or More Times	
Left early from work	☐ -1	☐ -2	☐ -3	☐ -4	☐ -5	(37)
Arrived late to work	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(38)
Took time off in the middle of day	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(39)
Missed a day or more of work	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(40)
Lied about a child care crisis at work	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(41)

23. If you live with a spouse/partner, is she/he employed outside the home?

Yes ☐ 42-1 No ☐ -2 ➡ (Skip to Q.26)

24. How many hours does she/he typically work per week?

0 to 5 hours ☐ 43-1 21 to 40 hours ☐ -4
 6 to 10 hours ☐ -2 Over 40 hours ☐ -5
 11 to 20 hours ☐ -3

25. In the past 3 months, how many times has she/he done the following in dealing with a child's illness or other needs?

	None	1-2 Times	3-4 Times	5-6 Times	7 or More Times	
Left early from work	☐ -1	☐ -2	☐ -3	☐ -4	☐ -5	(44)
Arrived late to work	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(45)
Took time off in the middle of day	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(46)
Missed a day or more of work	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(47)
Lied about a child care crisis at work	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	(48)

26. Some people feel that parents should be fully responsible for all child care expenses, and others think that the government or employers should pay at least part. What do you think would be the most fair allocation of every \$100 in child care expense that a family incurs? (If, for example, you feel that the family should cover all the expense, then write in \$100 next to "Family" and \$0 in each of the other spaces).

Family (49,50)
 Local government (51,52)
 State government (53,54)
 Federal government (55,56)
 Employer (57,58)
TOTAL \$100

**PLEASE DOUBLE-CHECK THAT THESE
NUMBERS TOTAL \$100**

27. In your opinion, who should regulate the child care industry? (Please check all that apply.)

State government ☐ 59-1
 Federal government ☐ -2
 Independent organization ☐ -3
 No regulation necessary ☐ -4

*White
CNC*

Child Care

This is an important electorate with the new base of the Democratic Party. Right now the gender gap is 42/30 in favor of the Democrats among women. Once given the message including child care, that increases to 57/30. This is an issue that counts with our growing women's constituency.

Americans support expanding child care to help working families to better afford it and because so many parents are now forced to put their kids into unregistered and inadequate facilities.

69% / 27% support expanding child care

The major theme for the next event should be making childcare more affordable for working families, which is heavily favored by Democrats and independents.

Some people say that we need to pass legislation to regulate and expand child care. Which of the following is the best reason to pass legislation to expand child care?	Tot	D	R	I
Better education and child development programs for our kids	14	9	30	9
Current child care options are inadequate and do not meet our needs	24	21	19	26
To make child care more affordable for working families	38	49	29	37
To improve the safety of the nation's child care facilities	12	20	7	10

Which of the following is the best reason to pass legislation expanding child care?	Tot	D	R	I
60% of mothers with children under 6 work outside the home	26	27	22	24
45% of kids under 1 are in child care	2	1	2	3
5 million children are left unattended after school	22	28	21	18
Only 1 in 7 child care facilities provides good care	9	11	8	8
Only 13% of child care facilities are registered and 50% of the unregistered facilities do not provide adequate care.	26	29	27	25

Which of the following is the most important issue that should be addressed by Congress in crafting child care legislation?	Tot	D	R	I
Safety	28	13	47	28
Quality of instruction to ensure that children are prepared to learn when they start school	19	16	17	23
Availability of child care	18	21	18	16
Affordability	29	46	16	20

Which of the following is the best reason not to pass child care legislation?	Tot	D	R	I
More parents should stay home to take care of their children	19	15	24	18
A big federal program is not the way to fix whatever problems there are with our existing child care system	30	19	25	47
The states have adequate resources to fix child care without the federal government getting involved	39	50	40	25

Need to address the last point – indicating that states do not have and are not dedicating the resources for childcare.

Corporate Power

The theme of large companies getting even bigger in the information age – a topic which we have not addressed but have previously polled and identified as an issue got a huge boost in salience with the megabank mergers. CNN poll shows 8-point jump to 76% agree that too much power is concentrated in the hands of too few companies. 54% say they are bad for consumers.

Now is the time to begin an extensive policy process on reviewing the merger laws for the 21st century economy. This would no longer be about software companies, but about the most classic of trust – banks and other industries. This would be a major, lasting legacy undertaking.

MIT Speech

Topic has gained more salience with the New York Times front page story "Racial Divide Found on the Information Highway" showing that 73% of white college and high school students have access to a home computer, compared to 31% of blacks.

Should center on the four challenges of the Information age:

See FYI Jan

Child Care**Role of Federal Government In Improving Child Care**

33% think it is more important for the federal government to help parents afford quality childcare

59% think it is more important for the federal government to make it easier for at least one parent to stay home while their child is very young

Ranked by Strongly Support

Now I am going to tell you about some proposals that the federal government may undertake to make it easier for a parent to care for young children. For each one, please tell me if you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose this proposal, and if you think this would be very effective, somewhat effective, not very effective or not effective at all in making it easier for parents to care for their children.	Strongly Support	Support/ Oppose	Very Effective	Effective/ Ineffective
Giving parents who would be eligible for the same child care tax credit as those who pay for child care if they choose to stay at home to care for a child under 2 years old.	47	77/21	41	87/13
Eliminating the marriage penalty in the tax code so married couples- those most likely to have children- do not pay more in taxes than they would individually as singles.	44	83/11	35	78/18
Expanding the Family and Medical leave act to cover employers with fewer than 50 employees.	39	69/36 12	38	76/21
Creating paid parental leave by requiring employers to pay employees during leave when a child is born.	35	65/21	40	70/27
Creating paid parental leave by providing federal government subsidies to employees for leave when a child is born.	27	60/36	33	67/30
Giving parents who would be eligible for the same child care tax credit as those who pay for child care if they choose to stay at home to care for a child under 2 years old even if it cost billions of dollars.	28	58/34	25	66/26

① DTL
②

DETERMINED TO BE AN
ADMINISTRATIVE MARKING
INITIALS: W DATE: 05/06/15



TOTALLY CONFIDENTIAL

Children's Defense Fund

Memorandum

To: Hillary
Fr: Marian
Dt: October 22, 1997

Thanks for coming to CDF's 25th Anniversary in New York. You were wonderful. I wanted to give you some very preliminary findings from our focus groups. A final summary will be available in the next couple of weeks. However, it is clear that we have an enormous opportunity to educate the public as we did with health care on the importance of child care, especially for babies and school-age children. When people understand the facts about child care, they support a variety of strategies for helping working families.

Preliminary Summary of Child Care Focus Groups

- Participants worry about drugs, safety, sex, and peer pressure for their school age children. These voters volunteer the need for after school activities which are available and affordable for all children. They worry about kids who roam the streets and the malls. They want a place for these children to go.
- They want to see structured activities provided for children and teens either through the schools or at a center (to which transportation is provided). Most participants react to the fact that juvenile crime rates peak between the hours of 3:00 and 7:00 pm, and it triples between the hours of 2 and 3. They also see a greater need for structured activities when they hear that most pregnancies occur between the hours of 3 and 5. The major concern with child care today is quality and cost. Quality is a real concern, with voters continuously bringing it up. Most feel the quality of care most children receive is fair to poor.
- People think placing children in a day care situation can be good for them. They mention the socialization skills they gain, the ability to play with other children, and learning in a structured environment.
- There was increased awareness of the need for quality, well-trained and better paid providers. People strongly believe and volunteered that providers need to be educated and receive on-going training. They want to see them paid as professionals.
- The fact that 13 million children spend all or some of their day being cared for by someone other than their parent points out the need to ensure these children receive quality care. Concern is elevated when combined with the poor quality of care most children receive-- "a recently released national study found that child care at most centers in the United States is poor to mediocre, with almost half of the infants and toddlers in rooms having less than minimal quality. It found that fully 40 percent of the rooms serving infants in centers provided care that was of such poor quality as to jeopardize children's health, safety, or development." This fact bothers participants and they worry about children being placed in poor to mediocre care.
- When given the option of staying home full-time or working part-time, many mothers, even homemakers, say they would work at least part-time. They say they would want to work because of their sanity and because they think it is good for children to "get used to other kids" and to not "stay with them 24 hours a day." These mothers also think they need to continue to have a skill, so when their children are older they would be able to find a job.
- They believe that recent changes in welfare will put more demand on current child care resources.

- Participants like the concept behind vouchers, although they resist the idea of handing out "cash." They strongly favor people paying on a sliding scale. They feel it is a good idea to provide help to those families making under \$35,000, but some feel help should be provided up to \$50,000.
- The expense of care also needs to be highlighted. People who use child care know the cost, people who don't use child care or don't have grandchildren who participate in child care are unfamiliar with the price families pay. People were persuaded by the message "even with the new increase in minimum wage, a parent working full time would earn only \$10,700 and could easily spend between \$4,000 and \$7,000 for care. Even middle class families are affected by this expense-- half of all families earn less than \$40,000 and spend \$4,000 to \$7,000 on care."
- Respondents are well aware that caring for babies and toddlers presents unique problems which are different from caring for school age children. They feel this age group requires more supervision, "have to be on your toes for medical reasons," and you "need to start stimulating at an early age." Respondents think it is more difficult to find quality care for this group.
- There needs to be continuing massive public education about the importance of the first three years of life.
- Most people believe that it is in the best interest for children to have one parent at home. This could lead to support for paid parental leave and flex-time.
- The best messages focus on the projected surplus and putting that surplus money into child care services. While they did not like increased taxes, respondents did support taxes on products such as tobacco and alcohol. They respond to a message which says that many women are essential in helping support their families financially. This message addresses the perception that many women work out of choice, not necessity. They also like a pay now, pay later message-- investing in child care today will save money down the road by preventing juvenile crime, gangs, and improving worker productivity. They like this message because it addresses their concerns about juvenile crime.
- When presented with the facts, most believe that government should expand it's role in safety inspections, that government should provide more help to low-income families, and that employers should dramatically increase their role in helping families with child care.

Economic Surplus

Longer-term concerns show the public split on what to do with the possibility of additional money in the budget – 48% new programs (education/infrastructure as an example); 51% reducing the debt and cutting taxes. One bill already suggests a split like this, though specific programs in specific areas will probably be sustainable if they are attractive. The polling however does illustrate the advantages of issues such as education and health over highways as a preference.

Due to the good economy, the government may have an extra \$15 billion next year above what was expected. Should this extra money go primarily to:	First Choice	Second Choice
New programs in areas such as education and health	42	22
Reducing the U.S. debt	35	22
Reduced taxes	16	27
Improving our infrastructure with new investments in transportation, highways or other structures	6	27

The Child Care Conference

The original research showed that people do not believe that child care is safe, available or affordable, and these are the three themes for expansion of child care.

Do you think that the Child Care in this country is adequate or inadequate?	Adequate	Inadequate
Child Care	29	64

What is the biggest priority?

	Total	Democrats	Republicans	Independents
Improving quality and safety	31	31	28	35
Increasing the availability of child care	22	27	23	17
Making it more affordable	39	39	42	16

All of the ideas tested on child care meet widespread public approval, starting with background checks, and improving safety standards.

The data again underscores that voters want an incentive for an employer to provide child care at their place of work. This is the class-neutral way to expand the availability of child care – rather than targeted just to poor families or to taking people off of welfare. 84% want help making it available where they work. They want work and family to go together, not be separated.

All of these add up to a major initiative to expand the safety, availability and affordability of child care. While parts of it can begin with the Child Conference, expanding quality child care would be a major initiative that could be fought for, even as a priority item with any new monies from a budget surplus.

I am going to read you some proposals for improving the quality of day care nationally. For each one, please tell me if you would strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose this proposal.	Strongly Support	Total Support	Total Oppose
Require background checks on all child care workers	88	92	3
Requiring any states that receive funds for child care to meet set safety regulations for their facilities	73	89	7
Provide a tax-credit for businesses that provide child care for their employees	63	84	13
Creating a commission of business people to make recommendations on how they can do a better job of providing child care for their employees and community members	60	83	13
Give funding to each state to use for expanding child care, including child care for low income families and after school programs for school-age children	59	81	15
Providing financial incentives, such as scholarships and loan forgiveness to qualified child care workers	47	74	20
Using 4 billion dollars per year from the federal budget to provide child care for one million children while their parents work, and after school programs for another million children	45	70	23

69% think that public schools should be kept open after hours with programs for children so that no after school child care would be necessary.

“Suppose President Clinton announced a \$5 billion program to broaden the availability of child care, making it available at low cost to the children in 1 million low income families who otherwise could not afford it and also providing funds to keep open more schools with after hours programs. Would you support or oppose this?”

71% support; 25% oppose
61/26 more/less favorable

But there are limits and the attack of big government is always possible if these are structured as anything but our conventional formula which is 1) rules to tighten safety and quality 2) helping those in need and 3) a middle class initiative (Kohl tax credit).

47% say that child care is the responsibility of parents and the role of the government in it should be kept very limited; 49% say that child care has become so important as 70% of all mothers are now in the workforce, that the government has to play a role in making quality child care much more available or these children will lose out.

Care for Aged – Some surprising findings

In many ways we are not looking at the Medicare reforms process in the same way we looked at the balanced budget – the reform commission should not just be an opportunity to trim and contain Medicare with HMOs and CPI adjustments, but an opportunity to refocus its priorities to deal with the emerging problems of the 21st Century. And of the original list of issues identified years ago, increased, not decreased long-term care is so far the only one not addressed.

And most voters, particularly older voters, an eroding base of the Democratic party, put this at the top of their list of issues, it is even more important than the child care problem.

In many ways addressing these two issues together – doing right for both our children and our parents makes sense.

Do you think that the long-term care for our aged in this country is adequate or inadequate?	Adequate	Inadequate
Long Term Care	20	69

Which is a Greater Priority?	Child Care	Care for Aged
Total	42	45
Democrats	42	47
Republicans	42	56
Independents	44	32
Congressional Vote		
Dem	45	42
GOP	39	52
Don't Know	43	36
Likelihood to Vote		
Absolutely Certain	36	51
Very Likely	46	40
Possibly	56	33
18-24	76	17
25-34	41	42
35-49	50	37
50-64	23	61
65+	37	53

And safety, availability and affordability are the same three issues that again are part of the problem – the answer society has now is to impoverish any senior citizen to make them qualify the long-term care or to take away virtually everything they have built up is a hard one. And the public attitudes on this are quite strong – and can be mobilized in an electorally potent way as part of Medicare reform.

The numbers are astounding:

Do you think that Medicare should provide long-term care, either at home or in a nursing home for every senior citizen who cannot take care of him or herself?

Yes	88%
No	8%
DK	5%

If they cannot afford it? 91%

Do you think the government does that now?

Yes	26%
No	68%
Dk	6

Only 28% believes we do that now.

Suggest that this issue be reviewed as part of the reforms of Medicare and its financial stability or is this too impractical to consider?

Consider	81%
Impractical	12%

And while child care is considered a responsibility of the family, long term care of senior citizens is not – 16% say it is the responsibility of families, 80% say that government has a role in making the care available.

The point is that electorally we have moved over to the children, but we are letting go of senior citizens (we lose male senior citizens) and the oldest baby boomers.

And we have two major phenomena of the 21st Century affecting lifestyles – the growth of both single parent families and two career couples that created the need for child care, and the greater longevity of our population, creating the expanded need for senior nursing and home care. We should have clear proposals for both of those areas as part of reforms so that we continue to reorient the priorities of our government to solve the problems of the next century.

Misc. Issues

84% would support requiring country of origin labels on all fruits and vegetables sold in the United States.

82% support eliminating religious discrimination in the workplace by allowing all employees to practice their religion as long as it does not disturb others.

But needle exchanges are on the opposite end –

70% oppose and 25% support the availability of **needle exchanges** where drug addicts can receive free, sterile needles.

61% oppose and 34% support the **sale of hypodermic needles** at pharmacies (one alternative would be just to make needles available over the counter - their cost is insignificant compared to the cost of drugs).

This is seen by the public as totally inconsistent with a tough drug policy.

Presidential Message Schedule

Date	Event
Saturday, October 11	Radio Address (Taped)
Sunday, October 12 – Sunday, October 19	Foreign Travel
Wednesday, October 22	Volunteer event
Thursday, October 23	WH Conference on Child Care
Friday, October 24	Foreign Policy Speech
Thursday, October 30	STARBRIGHT Foundation Event
Friday, October 31	Education Event