Child Care in the 21st Century

C-SPAN
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Child Care in the United States

- In 2010, 12.2 million children under the age of 5 were in some type of child care arrangement.

- The demand for and supply of non-parental child care has grown over the last three decades.

- Grandparents and fathers continue to play an important role in the care of preschool-age children.

- Families in poverty spend a greater proportion of their monthly income on child care.
The Child Care Decision Process

- Cost
- Access
- Quality
- Employment Characteristics
- Household Demographics
- Child Characteristics
Percentage of Employed Women by Age of Children: 1985 – 2010


Child Care Facilities per 1,000 Children: 1987

Facilities per 1,000 children:
- 0 to 19
- 20 to 29
- 30 to 39
- 40 or more

U.S. Average: 15 facilities per 1,000 children

Child Care Facilities per 1,000 Children: 2007

Facilities per 1,000 children:
- 0 to 19
- 20 to 29
- 30 to 39
- 40 or more

U.S. Average: 35 facilities per 1,000 children

Definitions

• **Relatives** – mothers, fathers, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc.

• **Nonrelatives** – in-home babysitters, neighbors, friends

• **Family day care** – providers who care for two or more children outside of children’s home.

• **Organized Care** – day care or child care centers, nursery schools, preschools, and Head Start.

• **Primary Child Care** – the arrangement that is used for the most hours per week.
Definitions

- **Preschooler** – a child between the ages of 0 and 4

- **Grade-schooler** – a child between the ages of 5 and 14
Percentage of Preschoolers Cared for by Their Fathers: 1985-2010
(Primary Child Care Arrangement)

Percentage of Preschoolers Cared for by Relatives: 1985-2010
(Primary Child Care Arrangement)

Percentage of Preschoolers Cared for by Organized Care: 1985-2010
(Primary Child Care Arrangement)

Percentage of Preschoolers Cared for by Family Day Care: 1985-2010
(Primary Child Care Arrangement)

Percentage of Preschoolers in Multiple Child Care Arrangements by Employment Status of Mother: 2010

- Grandparents: 56% (Mother employed) 37% (Mother not employed)
- Organized care: 35% (Mother employed) 34% (Mother not employed)
- Nonrelative: 54% (Mother employed) 57% (Mother not employed)
- Family day care: 42% (Mother employed) 44% (Mother not employed)

Source: U.S Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2008 Panel
Percentage of Preschoolers with Employed Mothers in Multiple Child Care Arrangements: 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child Care Arrangement</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family day care</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonrelative</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organized care</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandparents</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2008 Panel
Average Hours, Per Week, Preschoolers Spent in Child Care by Employment Status of Mother: 2010

- Any arrangement
  - Mother employed: 36 hours
  - Mother not employed: 20 hours

- Grandparents
  - Mother employed: 23 hours
  - Mother not employed: 15 hours

- Organized care
  - Mother employed: 33 hours
  - Mother not employed: 25 hours

- Nonrelative in child's home
  - Mother employed: 24 hours
  - Mother not employed: 16 hours

- Family day care
  - Mother employed: 24 hours
  - Mother not employed: 12 hours

Source: U.S Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2008 Panel
Average Hours, Per Week, Preschoolers with Employed Mothers
Spent in Child Care: 2010

- Any arrangement: 36 hours per week
- Grandparents: 23 hours per week
- Organized care: 33 hours per week
- Nonrelative in child's home: 24 hours per week
- Family day care: 24 hours per week

Source: U.S Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2008 Panel
Percentage of Preschoolers in Organized Care by Race/Hispanic Origin: 2010

- White Non-Hispanic: 34%
- Black: 36%
- Asian: 34%
- Hispanic: 27%

Source: U.S Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2008 Panel
Percentage of Preschoolers in Grandparent Care by Race/Hispanic Origin: 2010

- White Non-Hispanic: 29%
- Black: 29%
- Asian: 26%
- Hispanic: 35%

Source: U.S Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2008 Panel
Percentage Preschoolers in Father Care by Race/Hispanic Origin: 2010

- White Non-Hispanic: 30%
- Black: 22%
- Asian: 31%
- Hispanic: 29%

Source: U.S Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2008 Panel
Percentage of Preschoolers in Child Care by Poverty Status: 2010

- Fathers: 26% Above Poverty, 29% Below Poverty
- Grandparents: 29% Above Poverty, 35% Below Poverty
- Organized care: 25% Above Poverty, 35% Below Poverty
- Family day care: 5% Above Poverty, 8% Below Poverty

Source: U.S Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2008 Panel
Percentage of Grade-schoolers in Child Care by Employment Status of Mothers: 2010

- **Grandparents**: 17% (Mother employed), 8% (Mother not employed)
- **Enrichment activities**: 18% (Mother employed), 9% (Mother not employed)
- **School care programs**: 8% (Mother employed), 2% (Mother not employed)

Source: U.S Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2008 Panel
Percentage of Grade-schoolers in Enrichment Activities by Employment Status of Mother: 2010

- Enrichment activities: 18% (Mother employed, 9%; Mother not employed, 9%)
- Sports: 7% (Mother employed, 4%; Mother not employed, 4%)
- Lessons: 5% (Mother employed, 3%; Mother not employed, 3%)
- Clubs: 4% (Mother employed, 3%; Mother not employed, 3%)

Source: U.S Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2008 Panel
Definitions

• **Self Care** – includes only children who were identified as taking care of themselves, even for a small amount of time, in a typical week. Excludes any care provided by older siblings.
Percentage of Grade-schoolers in Self-Care by Employment Status of Mother: 2010

- 5 to 8 years
  - Mother employed: 2%
  - Mother not employed: 1%
- 9 to 11 years
  - Mother employed: 11%
  - Mother not employed: 5%
- 12 to 14 years
  - Mother employed: 36%
  - Mother not employed: 19%

Source: U.S Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2008 Panel
Average Hours, Per Week, in Self Care by Age: 2010

Source: U.S Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2008 Panel
Average Hours, Per Week, Grade-schoolers Spent in Child Care: Spring 2005 and Summer 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Spring 2005</th>
<th>Summer 2006</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grandparent</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>Organized Care</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Day Care</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self Care</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2004 Panel
Weekly Child Care Costs Paid by Families: 1985-2010
(In constant 2010 dollars)

Average Weekly Child Care Costs by Age of Children: 2010

Source: U.S Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2008 Panel
Percentage of Monthly Income Spent on Child Care by Poverty Status: 2010

- 40% of monthly income spent for those below poverty
- 7% of monthly income spent for those above poverty

Source: U.S Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2008 Panel
Percentage of Fathers Who are the Primary Child Care Provider for Their Children, by Father’s Employment Status: 2010

Employed: 17%
- Children Under 5: 6%
- Children 5 to 14: 11%

Not employed: 54%
- Children Under 5: 16%
- Children 5 to 14: 38%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2008 Panel
Percentage of Fathers Who are the Primary Child Care Provider for Their Children, by Father’s Work Shift: 2010

- Day shift employee:
  - Children Under 5: 14%
  - Children 5 to 14: 5%
- Nonday shift employee:
  - Children Under 5: 28%
  - Children 5 to 14: 8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2008 Panel
Percentage of Fathers Who are the Primary Child Care Provider for Their Children, by Father’s Hours Worked: 2010

- Full time:
  - Children Under 5: 16%
  - Children 5 to 14: 6%

- Part time:
  - Children Under 5: 5%
  - Children 5 to 14: 34%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, 2008 Panel