

## WORKING MOTHERS AND CHILD CARE

In 2010, 70.8 percent of women with children under 18 years of age were in the labor force (either employed or looking for work), and 64.4 percent were employed. Among men with children, 93.7 percent were in the labor force and 86.6 percent were employed. Employment among women varied by a number of factors. Of mothers with children from birth through age 5, 63.9 percent were in the labor force and 57.0 percent were employed. Of women whose youngest child was aged 6–17 years, 76.5 percent were in the labor force and 70.5 percent were employed. Employed mothers with children birth to age five were more

likely to be employed part-time than mothers with older children (28.9 versus 24.6 percent, data not shown).

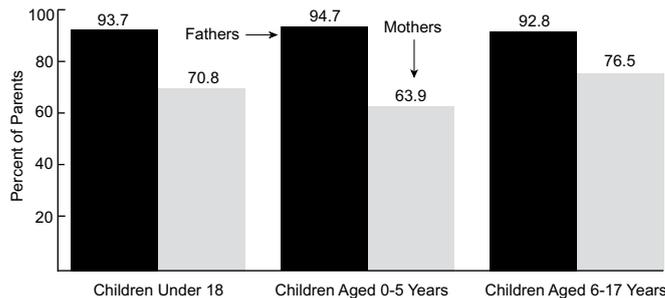
Although the proportion of mothers with children under the age of 18 who were employed was similar regardless of marital status (64.6 percent of married women versus 64.0 percent of those who were never married, separated, widowed, or divorced), the unemployment rate among those who were married with a spouse present was lower (6.3 percent) than that among mothers of other marital statuses (14.6 percent). Unemployment rates, which count individuals who are not employed but are available for and actively looking for work, increased between 2009 and 2010 for mothers of

all marital statuses (data not shown).

In 2010, 48.2 percent of pre-school aged children were cared for by their mother, father, grandparent or some other relative while their mother worked. About one-quarter (23.7 percent) were cared for in a center-based setting, e.g., day care, and 13.5 percent were care for by a non-relative in a home-based setting, such as a family day care provider or nanny. Primary child care arrangements varied by poverty status. Among children with household incomes below the Federal poverty level, 15.4 percent were cared for in a center, compared to 25.6 percent of children with household incomes above poverty (data not shown).

### Parents' Labor Force\* Participation Rate, by Age of Youngest Child,\*\* 2010

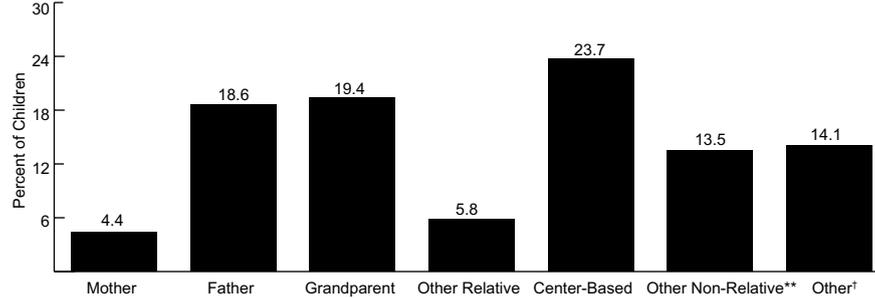
Source (I.10): US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics



\*Includes people who are employed and those who are actively seeking work.  
\*\*Children include sons, daughters, step-children, and adopted children.

### Primary Childcare Arrangements\* for Children Aged 0-4 Years with Employed Mothers, 2010

Source (I.11): U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation



\*The arrangement used for the greatest number of hours per week while the mother worked. \*\*Includes family day care providers, in-home babysitters, and other nonrelatives providing care in either the child's or provider's home.  
†Includes children in kindergarten or grade school, self-care, and with no regular arrangement; does not include school-based activities.