Table 6. Weekly Child Care Costs Paid by Families: Fall 1988

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

Characteristic	Number	No payments made	Payments made		Weekly child care expenses		Hours worked per week		Monthly family income		Income spent on child care per month	
			Number	Percent	Mean[1]	Standard error	Mean[2]	Standard error	Mean[3]	Standard error	Percent[4]	Standard error
ALL PARENTS												
Total	21,108	13,009	8,099	38.4	$53.4	1.17	36.1	0.34	$3,371	92	6.9	0.2
Employed mothers	18,843	11,323	7,520	39.9	54.0	1.23	36.7	0.32	3,460	95	6.8	0.2
Unemployed mothers	740	658	82	11.1	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Mothers enrolled in school	794	547	246	31.0	40.0	5.16	20.6	2.14	2,139	306	8.1	1.2
All fathers	732	481	251	34.2	52.7	6.64	43.7	1.87	2,525	352	9.0	1.3
EMPLOYED MOTHERS												
Race:												
White	15,497	9,216	6,281	40.5	$54.8	1.32	36.2	0.35	$3,578	107	6.6	0.2
Black	2,677	1,631	1,046	39.1	47.6	3.13	38.5	0.85	2,616	157	7.9	0.5
Hispanic origin:												
Hispanic	1,428	797	631	44.2	50.9	4.90	36.8	1.02	2,668	192	8.3	0.6
Not Hispanic	17,415	10,526	6,889	39.6	54.3	1.26	36.6	0.34	3,532	102	6.7	0.2
Marital status:												
Married, spouse present	14,237	8,520	5,718	40.2	56.3	1.44	36.0	0.37	3,918	116	6.2	0.2
All other marital statuses[5]	4,605	2,803	1,802	39.1	46.7	2.14	38.7	0.58	2,005	104	10.1	0.5
Age of youngest child:												
Under 5 years	8,083	2,563	5,520	68.3	59.2	1.47	35.9	0.37	3,497	110	7.3	0.2
Less than 1 year	1,452	491	961	66.2	65.3	4.14	36.0	0.92	3,292	212	8.6	0.6
1 and 2 years	3,754	1,231	2,523	67.2	61.1	2.32	35.8	0.53	3,548	152	7.5	0.3
3 and 4 years	2,877	842	2,035	70.7	54.0	1.96	36.0	0.67	3,531	206	6.6	0.4
5 to 14 years	10,760	8,760	2,000	18.6	39.7	1.91	38.8	0.61	3,357	197	5.1	0.3
Number of children:												
One child	9,185	5,825	3,360	36.6	46.8	1.30	37.7	0.46	3,351	107	6.1	0.2
Two children	6,941	4,014	2,927	42.2	60.8	2.21	36.1	0.53	3,612	183	7.3	0.4
Three or more children	2,717	1,484	1,233	45.4	57.7	3.62	35.1	0.85	3,396	250	7.4	0.5
Educational attainment:												
Less than high school	2,252	1,576	676	30.0	41.8	3.55	36.9	0.84	2,152	147	8.4	0.6
High school	8,146	5,180	2,966	36.4	47.9	1.52	36.9	0.48	2,873	120	7.2	0.3
College, 1 to 3 years	4,600	2,580	2,020	43.9	53.0	2.08	36.2	0.67	3,260	114	7.0	0.3
College, 4 or more years	3,845	1,986	1,859	48.3	69.4	3.24	36.4	0.72	5,088	284	5.9	0.3
Employment status:												
Full time	12,518	6,919	5,599	44.7	57.4	1.44	41.5	0.21	3,449	101	7.2	0.2
Part time	6,324	4,404	1,921	30.4	44.2	2.17	22.4	0.49	3,490	235	5.5	0.4
Occupation:[6]												
Managerial-professional	4,736	2,554	2,182	46.1	65.9	2.92	37.3	0.62	4,331	168	6.6	0.3
Technical, sales, and administrative support	8,054	4,720	3,334	41.4	52.3	1.48	36.6	0.46	3,404	172	6.7	0.3
Service occupations	3,436	2,444	992	28.9	40.0	2.40	33.1	1.02	2,450	132	7.1	0.4
Farming, forestry, and fishing	184	141	43	23.4	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Precision production, craft, and repair	424	271	153	36.1	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)	(B)
Operators, fabricators, and laborers	1,965	1,188	777	39.6	46.5	3.06	38.6	0.85	2,720	156	7.4	0.4
Monthly family income:												
Less than $1,500	3,395	2,258	1,136	33.5	41.8	2.66	35.1	0.80	990	28	18.3	0.5
$1,500 to $2,999	6,688	4,033	2,654	39.7	46.3	1.52	36.5	0.55	2,297	23	8.7	0.1
$3,000 to $4,499	5,044	2,868	2,175	43.1	54.6	1.95	37.4	0.62	3,696	25	6.4	0.1
$4,500 and over	3,716	2,162	1,554	41.8	75.4	3.68	37.1	0.68	6,919	346	4.7	0.2

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 6. **Weekly Child Care Costs Paid by Families: Fall 1988**—Continued

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

Characteristic	Number	No payments made	Payments made		Weekly child care expenses		Hours worked per week		Monthly family income		Income spent on child care per month	
			Number	Percent	Mean[1]	Standard error	Mean[2]	Standard error	Mean[3]	Standard error	Percent[4]	Standard error
Poverty level:												
Below poverty level	1,581	1,106	474	30.0	42.2	4.91	32.7	1.19	879	88	20.8	2.1
Above poverty level	17,262	10,216	7,046	40.8	54.8	1.26	36.9	0.34	3,633	99	6.5	0.2
Region of residence:												
Northeast	3,366	2,178	1,188	35.3	63.8	4.32	35.3	0.84	3,651	199	7.6	0.4
Midwest	5,020	2,963	2,057	41.0	50.6	1.97	35.9	0.59	3,463	215	6.3	0.4
South	6,725	4,062	2,663	39.6	49.8	1.75	37.7	0.53	3,274	134	6.6	0.3
West	3,731	2,119	1,612	43.2	58.1	2.71	36.9	0.75	3,620	228	7.0	0.4
Metropolitan residence:												
Metropolitan	14,177	8,451	5,726	40.4	57.2	1.50	36.7	0.37	3,592	103	6.9	0.2
Central cities	5,355	3,094	2,261	42.2	56.0	2.50	36.3	0.52	3,300	148	7.4	0.3
Outside central cities	8,822	5,358	3,465	39.3	57.9	1.86	36.3	0.52	3,783	139	6.6	0.2
Non-metropolitan	4,665	2,871	1,794	38.5	44.0	1.84	36.4	0.66	3,038	227	6.3	0.5

B Base less than 200,000.

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

[2]Mean number of hours usually worked per week in last 4 months among persons making child care payments. For persons enrolled in school or unemployed, hours per week represents time spent in these activities.

[3]Mean monthly income for last 4 months among persons making child care payments.

[4]Percent is ratio of average monthly child care payments (prorated from weekly averages) to the average monthly family income for each of the categories shown in the table.

[5]Includes married, husband absent (including separated), widowed, divorced and never-married women.

[6]Excludes persons in the Armed Forces.