

Child Care Questions From 8 National Surveys

- Survey on Income and Program Participation (SIPP)
- revised SIPP with revised child care questions (SIPP 96)
- Survey on Program Dynamic (SPD) – follow-up to SIPP
- National Household Education Survey (NHES)
- Current Population Survey (CPS)
- Panel Survey of Income Dynamics (PSID)
- National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)
- Urban Institute's National Survey of American Families (NSAF)

Survey	SIPP 93, Wave3 (Similar to SIPP 92)	SIPP 96, Wave 4	Survey of Program Dynamics (SPD)	National Household Education Survey (NHES)
Source	Census Bureau	Census Bureau	Census Bureau	National Center on Education Statics (ED)
Web Site	http://www.sipp.census.gov/sipp/	http://www.sipp.census.gov/sipp	http://www.census.gov/apsd/www/spdmenu.htm	http://www.ed.gov/nces
Available now:	85-90, Fall 91, Fall 93, Fall 94, Fall 95data	no	no	1991, 1995
Future avail.:	Working Paper on Fall 95 data	Spring 97, Spring 99, Fall 01, Fall 03 (Spring 97 available sometime in year 2000)	1998 (available late 1999); 1999 (available in 2001)	Center-based only in 99, informal in 01, all in 03
Sample Size	14,000-36,700 in-person interviews	36,700 in-person interviews	17,500 in-person interviews	14,064 telephone interviews
Focal child(ren)	3 youngest children < 15 (<6, some waves) of mothers in labor force or school (all mothers in Fall 95 & future SIPP data)	All children < 15 of all mothers	All children < 15 of all mothers	Children<=10 who were not yet in 4 th grade, with 2 children sampled per hh.
Covered arrangements	Primary arrangement (most hours while <mom> worked in typical week) and secondary arrangement (most of the other hours while <mom> worked) (Switches to any arrangements in Fall 95 data)	Any arrangements used on regular basis (at least once a week during past month)	Any arrangements used on regular basis (at least once a week during past month) between January 98 and May 99	Up to 4 different arrangements for each of 4 types of child care received on a regular basis – does not include occasional babysitting or backup care providers. Q. on most and 2 nd most hours.
Choices of arrangements	During <last mnth> what was < > usually doing or how was < > usually cared for during most of the hours that <mom> worked/school/looking for work? Other parent? Brother/sister Grandparent? Other relative? Non-relative Day/group care center? Nursery/preschool? Organized school-based activities (before/after) Kindergarten/elementary/secondary school? Child cares for self <mom> works at home <mom> cares for child at work/school/job hunt	During typical week last mnth, please tell if used any of following arrangements on regular basis: Other parent? Mom? Brother/sister>=15? Brother/sister<15? Grandparent? Other relative? Family day care outside home? Child care or day care center? Nursery or preschool? Fed. Head start? Non-relative such as friend, neighbor, sitter, nanny, or aupair? For school-age, add: Organized sports? Lessons? Clubs? Before or after school?	Please tell which if any, arrangements used on regular basis between January 98 and May 99: Other parent? Mom? Brother/sister? Sibling<15? Grandparent? Other relative? Family day care (2+ kids providers home) Non-relative such as friend, neighbor, sitter or nanny Child/day care cntr or nursery/preschool? Fed Head start? Before or after school? Child cares for self Any other arrangement No regular arrangement used	Is <> now receiving care from a <relative> on a regular basis including care provided before or after school? Has < > ever received such care? How many regular care arrangements with relatives (1-4)? How old was child when first received care from any relative? Age when started in care with this relative? Repeat question for 4 types of care: 1) Relative may include grandparents, brothers, sisters or any relative other than parents. Asks about type of relative, age of sibling, 2) Non-relatives in private home including home child care providers, regular sitters or neighbors 3) Head Start 4) Center-based programs, including school-based. Day care center, nursery school, preschool or prekindergarten other than HS

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Self care	Under regular arrangements, one response is "child cares for self" Note that Census Bureau will be issuing report on self care ages 6-14 in next few months (based on Fall 95 data i think)	Sometimes difficult to arrange care. During a typical week last month, did <> care for self for even a small amount of time? Hrs/week?	Sometimes difficult to arrange care. During a typical week last month, did <> care for self for even a small amount of time? Hrs/week?	Sometimes children spend time caring for selves, either at home or somewhere else, without adult or older child responsible for them. Does <> spend time caring for self on a regular basis? At least once/week? Once/month? Wks/month, days/week and Hrs/week
Location of care	Was <> usually cared for at his/her home, at someone's home, or at some other place?	Was <> usually cared for at child's home, other home, someplace else?	During May, did <> care for child in your home, some other home or someplace else?	Is care provided in our own home or in another home? Own home, other home, both/varies HS/Center: Where is program located, church, community center, own building, etc? Also location of your job? Also location of kids' school? Distance of care from home <10 min, 10-20, 20-30, 30+
Time	About how many hours per week was <> usually cared for in the arrangement while <mom> worked/school/job hunt last month?	How many hours per week did <> usually care for <>? Of these hours per week, how many of them were while you were working/school?	During May, how many hours per week did <> usually care for <>? Of those _ hours, how many of them were while <you> were at work/school/training/looking for work?	Schooldays/weekends/both? Regular (once a week)? How many days per week? How many hours per day? Weeks/month? For centr-based: Before sch! after? both?
Pay	Was any money payment usually made for this arrangement? Does <> pay for child X's child care separately, or does the payment cover another child also? How much for child X? Also, considering ALL kids < 6, how much did family pay for all kids for all arrangements used in typical week last month?	How much did you or your family pay _____ to care for _____? (asks respondents to split between multiple kids)	How much did you pay for <arrangement>? For May? \$____, nothing, non-cash arrangement. Per hr/day/week/2week/month/year? From Jan to Dec, what is the total amount you paid for ALL cc arrangements for <> in that year?	Is there any charge or fee for the care <> receives from <>, paid either by you or someone else? How much does your household pay for <this specific arrangement>? Does this amount for <child> only or does it include other kids in your hh? How many kids, including <child>?
Subsidy	None.	Did anyone help you pay for all or part of cost? Govt, other parent, employer, other?	Does anyone else pay for part of all of the cost of this child care? Govt, other parent, employer, other? (Repeat subsidy question for total amount paid over the last year) Are you aware of a govt program that helps pay for child care? Why didn't you receive financial assistance from govt program to help cover child care costs? Not elig? Waiting list? Program out of money? Couldn't choose provider I wanted/ benefits not worth paperwork, Didn't know last year? Other?	Do any of following help pay for <ask for each specific arrangement> Relative? Social service or welfare agency? Employer? Someone else?

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Changes in arrangements, multiple arrangements	Not counting school, how many different arrangements did <> use in last 12 months/ Last month, were any changes made in cc arrangement used for any kids < 6 because your usual child care provider was n.a.? (Wave 3: changes for 1 week or more, Wave 6: changes of 1 day) What reasons change?	During past 12 months, how many other arrangements, if any, did you use for <> which lasted for 1 or more weeks? Last month, were any changes made in cc arrangements used for < >, even for less than a day, because usual cc provider not available?	During which months was child cared for in this arrangement(Jan 98 to May 99)? How many times between Jan & Dec has <> changed from one provider to another?	How many child care arrangements or programs have you used for <> on a regular basis since this past September (not counting lessons, or current arrangement) What was most recent arrangement? When did start and end? Main reason arrangement ended? Second most recent arrangement?
Sick care				R/NR When child is sick, does <> still care for him? HS/CTR: Does center offer sick child care? Also asks Qs about child health and disability including learning disability, and centr/HS services for disability
Characteristics/ quality of care			# of groups, # of kids in child's group, # of adults caring for group, licensed/regulate?	All: Language of provider, Has <> received ed/training specifically related to young children, such as in early childhood ed or child psych? Non-rel, HS: # kids cared for together in same group at same time, counting <child>, #adults usually care for child, How did you learn about provider? HS/Centr: public or private? Run by govt agency such as school district? Does encourage parent to contribute hours? Policy council? Services such as hearing, physical, dental, testing, HS: Full-day, part-day? Does time at Head Start include cc before/after program?
Parental preferences				Do you think the following are very important, somewhat important, not important in selecting cc? (Training, sick, close to home, reasonable cost, small group size, English)
Parent-child int				Have you read to child? Told story? Gone to library?
Employment-Related child care, Shift Work	When these changes occurred did <you> or <spouse> lose any time from work(school/job hunt), even for part of the day?	How much time if any was lost in total from < > last month because of failures in cc arrangements or because you could not find a cc provider?	Last year, did you <or spouse> lose any time from work because usual cc provider was unable to care for <>? Because couldn't find provider for <>? How much time? At any time between Jan and Dec did you have to do any of the following because of child care: Quit or leave job, quit lookng fr wrk, quit training/schol? At any time Jan-Dec were you unable to take/start job? Start lookng fr wrk? Start train/schl?	
Lab Force Stat	Detailed LF status for everyone >15 over last 4 months	See left	Detailed LF status for everyone >15 over year	For parents only asks LF status & hours/week of work

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Income	Detailed income, by source, by hh member, earnings by hh member, pov status, prog part.	See left	See left	Only asks about total hh income, by income range, except more detail for low-income to help calculate pov status.
Other Parent characteristics	SIPP also collects detailed information on demographics, family structure, household relationships, etc.	See left	See left	Also asks marital status, age at birth of child, language, country of origin, education,

Survey	Current Population Survey (CPS)	Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID)	National Health Interviews Survey (NHIS) -1995 Q.	National Survey of America's Families (NSAF)
Source	Census Bureau	Survey research Center, U. of Michigan (NSF)	National Center for Health Statistics, DHHS	Urban Institute
Web page	http://www.bls.census.gov/cps	http://www.isr.umich.edu/src/psid/	www.cdc.gov/nchswww/about/major/nhis/nhis.htm	http://newfederalism.urban.org
Available now:	1998 March supplement, 1997 school enroll	a little from 1997 supplement on Child Development	annually through 1995	No.
Future avail.:	Annual	more from 97 supplement	Note 1997 was substantially revised. Child care questions appears to have been dropped from core.	1997 (available soon?); 1999 follow-up
Sample Size	50,000 telephone/in-person interviews, not sure how many in ed. supplement	7000 (1997) families, in-person interviews. (1997 Child Dev Study on 3,586 kids in 2,394 hhs)	43,000 households	48,000 telephone interviews Over sample below 200%
Focal child(ren)	Focus is on school enrollment of children	Children <13		1 focal child <6, 1 child 6-12
Covered arrangements	Nursery school (defined to include pre-school, pre-kindergarten)	Any arrangement since birth, up to 9 arrngmnts. How old was <> when s/he was first cared for by someone other than you or spouse on reg basis (once a week for a month). Which arrangement is used NOW (check all that apply). Most hrs, next most, next.	Care most often while at work	Separate versions for school-year and summer child care. Time when not with you during last month, at least once a week during the last month. Also asks if <> has been in school, center or babysitting arrangement on regular basis while worked, lookd for job, in schl (y/n)
Choices of arrangements	Is she/he attending or enrolled in nursery school, kindergarten, or elementary school?	What type of program or arrangement was that? Which used NOW? Relative in child's home (how related to child) Non-relative in child's home (sitter) care in relative's home care in non-relative's home (FDC provider) Head Start program pre-k, nursery, preschool or cc center before or after school program child cares for self alone other type of child care (please specify) none, one parent always cares for child	Not counting <> regular school hours, who took care of child most often when you were at work during past month? Mother/father Child cares for self Other relative (how related to child) unrelated babysitter care provided at school day care center day camp other	Did <Child1> attend Head Start? Day or group care center, nursery, preschool, or pre-k Before or after school care program outside home? Child care or babysitting in home (Age>18? Relationship to child? Live with you?) child care or babysitting in someone else's home Kindergarten/elementary school Summer versions asks about whether child was away from home in past 4 weeks, and whether: with parent, with another relative, at camp. Also asks similar child care questions, with addition of: organized summer program such as rec program or summer day camp.

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Self care		Under regular arrangements, one response is "child care for self alone"	Approximately how many hours did <> take care of himself last week	Sometimes it is difficult to make arrangemnts to look after childrn all the time. During the last mnth did <> take care of self or stay alone with brother/sister <13 on a reg basis for even a small amount of time? How many hrs per week does <> care for self (sibling care)?
Location of care		included	Where was child cared for most often, at home or somewhere else?	
Time	Is nursery school half-day or full-day?	Days/week and hours/week	Approximately how many hours was <> cared for by <> while you worked/went to school last week?	In last month, about how many hours per week was < > cared for in Head Start center/ preschool/ babysitting/ school etc? Were you working, looking for a job or in school in any of these hours?
Pay	What is the amount being paid for tuition and fees at school this year?	How much did your household pay for this program or arrangement? Was that per hour, per day, per week, every 2 weeks, every month, every year, other? Was that amount for < > only, or did it cover other children in the household/ How many other children did it cover? (Repeat questions for 2 nd , 3 rd & 4 th most frequent care)	Do you pay for this child care?	Now think about all cc arrangements you use regularly for <all kids < 13> while you worked, were in schl, or lookd for wrk. How much did you pay for all cc arrangemnts used in last month? (Report \$ per month, or \$ per week if easier). Is the amount of money you are charged for the cc of <any kids <13> determined by how much \$ you earn (i.e., sliding fee amount)
Subsidy				Does anyone else pay for all or part of the cost of the care for any of your children under 13? By this I mean a govt agency, your employer, or someone outside your hh: (Code all that apply: Welfare or social services, employer, non-custodial parent, other).
Changes in arrangements, multiple arrangements		What was the main reason you started using this program or arrangement at that time? (Started/returned work, increased/changed hours, started looking for work, started school, started other activity, child needs playmates/activities, other). What was the reason that prog or arr. ended? Did you use any other prog or arr. before <> entered school that you have not told me about? <Loop back>		During the last 12 months, how many child care providers have cared for <> on a regular basis while you worked, looked for job, or were in school? This includes different babysitters who cared for <> or different places or programs s/he attended.

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Sick care/Disab.		Child disability status. Early intervention.	Child disability status. Early intervention. Also, asks about injuries and place of injury (including child care center or preschool as 1 of 18 locations)	
Characteristics/ quality of care	Is he/she enrolled in public or private school? Is school he/she attends church-related? Is it Catholic?	Note that a separate instrument administered to child care providers.		About how many children are usually in <> room or group at this center or program? About how many adults usually supervise children in <>'s room or group? Not counting <> how many other children under age 13 does this person regularly care for at the same time? Does this person have any other adults helping to care for your child/ren on a regular basis? How many adults?
Parental preferences			How satisfied are you with this child care? Are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?	
Parent/child int		Tons of child well-being questions.		
Employment- Related child care problems & shift work	From basic labor force questionnaire: What was main reason <you/he/she> was/were <absent from work> <working part-time>? Child care problems is one of a dozen responses.	No. (Note, it does ask whether it is difficult for you to be involved in child's school activities because of ____ problems (child care one choice)		Nothing on cc problems. Does ask: Do <you/spouse> mostly work bet 6 a.m. & 6 p.m.? During 1st mnth did you and <spouse/prtnr> work dif hrs so that could take turns cring for child whle other wrked?
Labor force status	Detailed LF status, current & past year, for all adults in household	Detailed LF status, current & past year, for all adults in hh.	In 1995, asked hours usually worked per week, hours of school usually attended. Asked of mom only?	Detailed work status (current & last year) of mom & dad (hrs/week, weeks worked, industry, etc). Also combined earnings of other hh members (but not LF status of each hh member).
Income	Detailed income, by source, for each member, poverty status, earnings, welfare, etc.	Detailed income by source for each member, incl pov status, earnings, welfare, etc.	Combined family income, by source.	Detailed income by source, inc. earnings of each parent
Other Parent characteristics	Also, age, sex race, marital status, educational attainment, household relationships.	Also, family structure & demographics, housework time, housing, geographic mobility, socioeconomic background, health	Lots of detailed questions about health limitations, access to health care, etc.	Detailed data on parents, including age, race, education,