



Child Development Council Child Care Needs Assessment Parents' Survey Results

A report detailing the results of the Parents' Survey as part of the Child Development Council's Child Care Needs Assessment 2014.

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INTRODUCTION & METHODOLOGY

As part of their periodic needs assessment process, the Child Development Council contracted with Horn Research to conduct a survey of Tompkins and Cortland County parents to understand families' needs and priorities in finding, selecting and paying for child care.

To complete the Parent Survey element of the Child Care Needs Assessment, Horn Research implemented a standard survey methodology. The survey was developed based on previous versions of the Parent Survey and feedback from Child Development Council staff and included both quantitative and qualitative elements (see Appendix A.) It was designed to gather information from parents of children aged 12 and under. The survey was tested on a small sample of parents to ensure understandability and readability and revised accordingly.

Due to funding constraints, it was decided that the survey would be conducted online with a paper option distributed at various places parents congregate in Tompkins and Cortland County. The link to the online survey was distributed via email to a comprehensive list of child care providers, social service providers, parent teacher organizations, and youth development programs. In addition, the link was made available through various media outlets and posted on the Child Development Council's website. Reminder emails were sent mid-way through the data collection period.

Paper surveys and postcards with the link to the online survey were distributed to ten locations across Tompkins and Cortland counties including the waiting rooms of the county Departments of Social Services, doctors' offices, Head Start organizations, and youth services programs. The surveys were left in the offices' waiting rooms with a box for completed surveys. In addition, paper surveys were delivered to a handful of organizations and at the Ithaca Festival for facilitated completion by program staff.

Distribution of the survey link and paper surveys began on April 24, 2014 and ended July 17, 2014. A total of 381 surveys were completed.

RESULTS

Demographics

Overall, when comparing survey results with Census data, the survey data is not unerringly representative of the population as a whole, but is sufficiently representative to draw some qualified conclusions. We suggest keeping the following in mind when reviewing the rest of the survey results. The survey data is skewed toward high-income households and households with children under age 5. Tompkins County families were also more likely to complete the survey than Cortland County families as were two-parent households as opposed to one-parent households. (Complete demographic data are detailed in Appendix B.)

Child in Care

Surveyed respondents were initially asked whether they currently had a child in care. The majority of respondents (80.8%) said they currently have a child in care. To capture information about families who choose to not utilize child care, those who responded that they did not were routed around the questions regarding their current child care arrangement, but asked about searching for child care and where they get information on child care and parenting. Overall, no significant differences were found between respondents who have a child in care versus those who do not in their responses related to child care searches and sources of information on child care and parenting. However, higher income respondents were significantly more likely to have a child in care than low and middle income respondents and households where both parents work full-time were significantly more likely to have a child in care than households with only one parent working. (*Income categories: Low income = Household income less than \$34,999/year; Middle income = Household income \$35,000-\$64,999/year; High income = Household income more than \$65,000/year*)

Deciding on Child Care Arrangement

When asked to rank which factors were most important when they chose their child care arrangement, respondents ranked quality as the most important factor in making their decision with cost and location being the second and third most important factors (Table 1.) There were not any significant differences in factor ranking based on the age of the child other than parents with children age 5 and over were more likely to rank location with a slightly higher importance than parents with children under age 5.

Table 1. Rank Ordering of Importance of Factors in Child Care Arrangement Decision Making

	Mean rank (1 is most important)	N	Min.	Max.	Std. Deviation
Quality	1.7922	308	1	7	1.09589
Cost	3.4434	309	1	7	1.68093
Location	3.8669	308	1	7	1.61582
Caregiver/teacher	4.1100	309	1	7	1.85011
Recommendation from a trusted source	4.5372	309	1	7	2.00229
Full-time/Part-time	4.7055	309	1	7	1.79664
Flexible hours	5.5178	309	1	7	1.55959

Satisfaction with Current Child Care Arrangement

Overall, respondents reported being satisfied with their child care arrangements with only 3.1% saying they are dissatisfied (Figure 1.) Over two-thirds of respondents said they were very satisfied with their current child care arrangement. None of the respondents said they were very dissatisfied. No significant difference was found with satisfaction by age category, but middle-income respondents more frequently said they were less satisfied than low-income and high-income respondents (Figure 2.)

Figure 1. Satisfaction with Child Care Arrangement

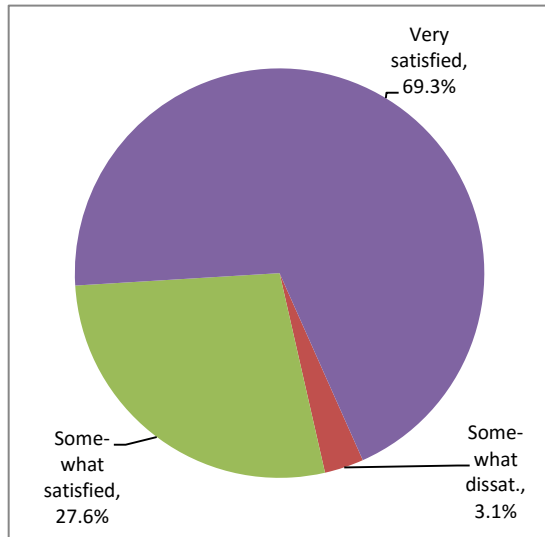
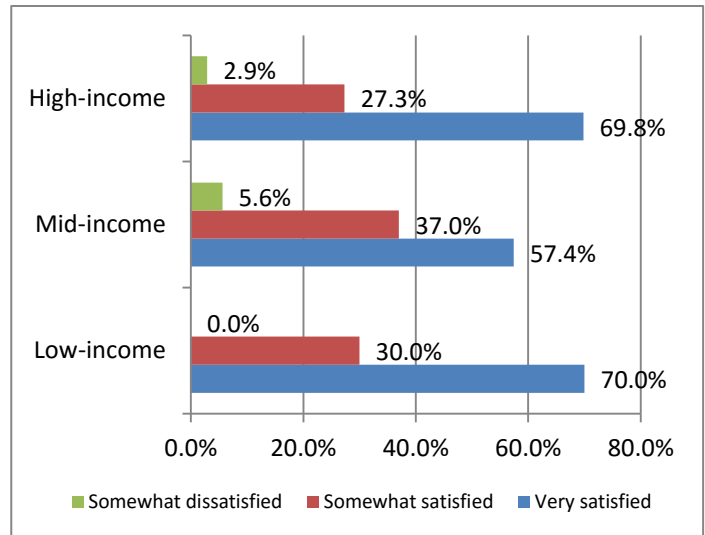


Figure 2. Satisfaction with Care by Income Level



Overall, quality of care was identified as the main criteria associated with both respondents' satisfaction and dissatisfaction with current child care arrangements (Table 2.) Nearly 80% said that the quality of care was a reason why they were dissatisfied with their arrangement. On the other hand, nearly 92% of respondents said that the quality of care was a main reason they were very satisfied. Parents of children under 5 were more likely to identify quality of care as being a main reason for their satisfaction while parents of children 5 and over were more likely to identify location as a main reason.

Table 2. Criteria Associated with Satisfaction with Child Care Arrangement

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied
Quality of Care	91.6%	46.9%	77.8%
Cost	41.9%	42.0%	11.1%
Hours	62.6%	56.8%	22.2%
Location	62.6%	55.6%	0.0%

In general, the vast majority respondents (95.9%) agree that they are happy with their child care arrangements (Table 3.) Respondents most frequently reported having trouble affording child care (48.6%) and having difficulty needing care for their child when s/he is sick (48.3%). They also said they need care that is more flexible (23.5%) and have trouble finding care that meets their hours (21.3%). Qualitative information from respondents supported these findings with most respondents commenting on the high cost of care as being a concern for their households. One parent said, "The main issue for my family is cost. We would love another child but daycare costs are so high. With two kids in day care, the cost is more than our house mortgage." Other parents noted that they wish they received better communication from their child care provider. A respondent said, "I would like more feedback regarding

my child and more exchanges in order to help her in her development.” Others noted they would prefer a more enriched environment for their children in their current child care arrangement suggesting they would like their children to have more educational stimulation, physical movement, and socialization. Some parents noted quality concerns with their current child care arrangements. Several said they have concerns about negative influences of older children in the care environment.

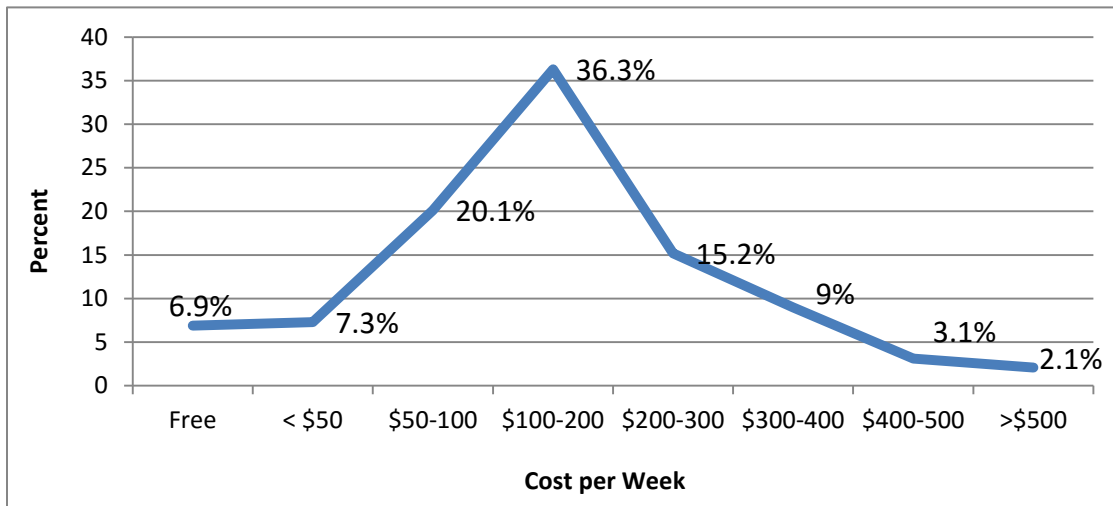
Table 3. Agreement with Statements about Current Child Care Arrangement

	Strongly agree		Agree		Disagree		Strongly disagree	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
I am happy with current child care arrangement	177	60.6%	103	35.3%	11	3.8%	1	0.3%
I have trouble affording my child care	37	12.8%	103	35.8%	109	37.8%	39	10.2%
I have trouble finding care that meets my hours	17	5.9%	44	15.4%	145	50.7%	80	28.0%
I have trouble with the location of my care	3	1.1%	18	6.3%	137	48.1%	127	44.6%
I have concerns about the child care environment	6	2.1%	25	8.8%	112	39.4%	141	49.6%
I need care for my child when s/he is sick	32	11.2%	106	37.1%	103	36.0%	45	15.7%
I need care that is more flexible	11	3.9%	55	19.6%	142	50.5%	73	26.0%
I am concerned about the quality of the care	7	2.4%	38	13.2%	108	37.6%	134	46.7%
I need care that is more consistent	4	1.4%	30	10.5%	123	43.2%	128	44.9%
I have concerns about having to use too many different caregivers in a week	6	2.1%	14	4.9%	123	43.2%	142	49.8%
I need care for a child with special needs	7	2.5%	8	2.8%	97	34.4%	170	60.3%

Paying for Child Care

As shown in Figure 3, the single most frequent weekly cost of care reported by respondents was between \$100-200 per week (36.3%). A little over half of respondents (56.4%) pay between fifty and two hundred dollars per week for child care for their youngest child (Figure 4) while approximately a quarter of respondents pay between \$200-400 per week. Only 5% of respondents pay more than \$400 per week for care and 14.2% report paying less than \$50 per week. Assuming an even distribution within cost categories, survey respondents pay on average \$166 per week for their youngest child's child care arrangement. As a yearly cost, this represents 17% of Tompkins County's median household income (\$50,539) and 18% of Cortland County's median household income (\$47,497).

Figure 3. Cost of Care per Week Detailed



The majority of respondents (58.6%) said their youngest child is in full-time care (including full-time plus before or after school care), 21.1% have their child in part-time care, and 20.4% in only before-school or after-school care.

When comparing cost of care by the type of care (Figure 5), we find a wide range of cost for all types of care. The greatest number of respondents (30.7%) reported paying between \$50-200 per week for full-time care and 20% said they paid between \$200-400 per week for full-time care.

Figure 5. Cost of Child Care per Week

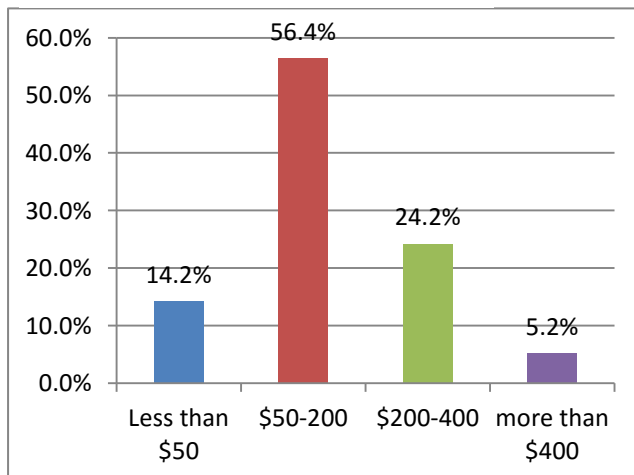


Figure 4. Cost of Care by Type of Care



As shown in Figure 6, low-income households are much more likely to pay lower amounts for care for their youngest child than middle or high-income households. However, a significant portion of low (12.9%) and middle-income (23.7%) households are paying more than \$200 per week for care.

Figure 6. Cost of Care by Household Income



As Table 4 below shows, respondents most frequently said they use family income as their main child care payment source (60.6%).

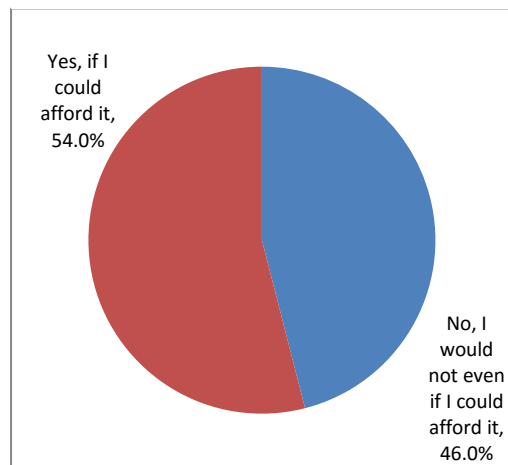
Table 4. How Respondents Pay for Child Care

	Frequency	Percent
Family income	231	60.6%
Pretax set aside	67	17.6%
Cornell Child Care grant	67	17.6%
DSS subsidy	14	3.7%
Child support	4	1.0%
Free program	16	4.2%
Exchange with others	3	0.8%

The majority of respondents (52.2%) said they exclusively use family income to pay for their child’s care. About 30% of respondents said they use more than one source to pay for their child’s care with the most frequent combination being family income plus Cornell child care grant and family income plus pre-tax set aside.

Respondents were nearly evenly split when asked whether they would pay more for child care for their youngest child if there were more/different options available (Figure 7.)

Figure 7. Pay More if Different/More Options Available



Finding Child Care

Survey respondents said they rely on recommendations from friends and family and the internet when selecting child care providers and finding information about parenting. When asked where they found their current child care provider for their youngest child, respondents most frequently said from a friend or neighbor or a coworker or employer (Figure 8.) This is further supported in Figure 9 which shows that parents most frequently get their information about child care options by word of mouth and on the internet. This data was reinforced by qualitative information gathered from respondents. When asked to describe their child care search, the primary challenges respondents most frequently mentioned were finding affordable care, the lack of available open spots, and the difficulty with the hours centers were open. The majority of respondents said their child care search took a few to several months to complete.

Figure 8. Where Respondents Found Current Child Care Provider

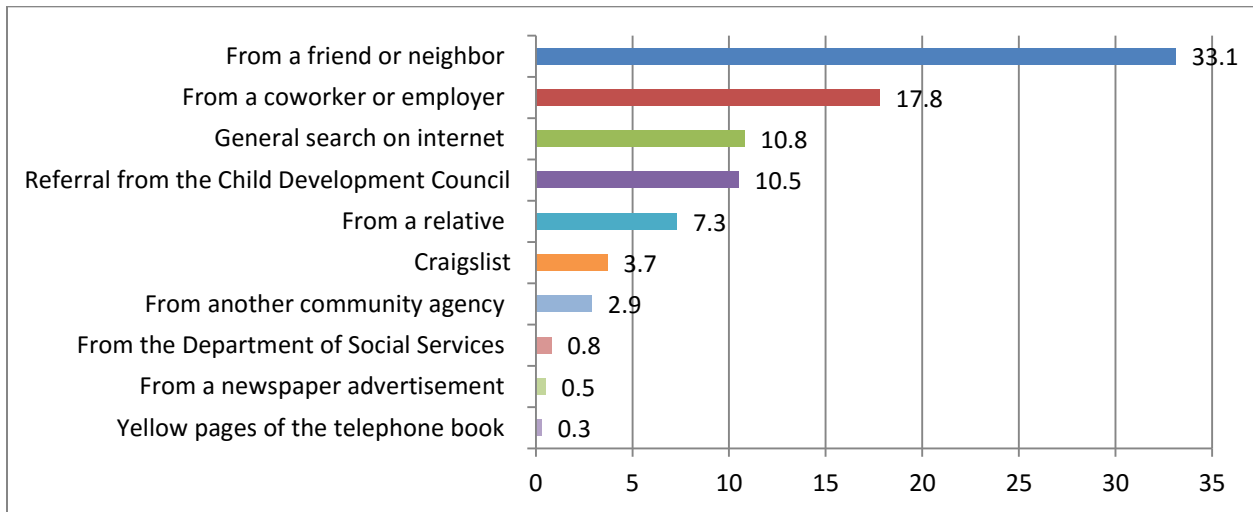
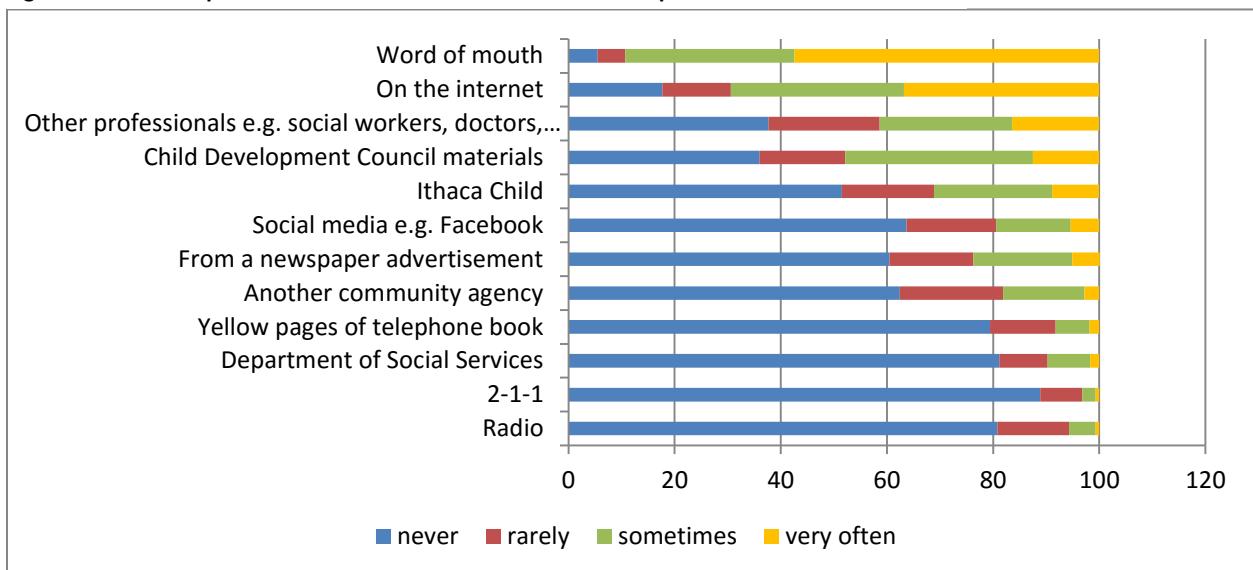


Figure 9. Where Respondents Get Information about Child Care Options



Most respondents noted that the primary challenge in finding child care was the high cost. Some respondents decided that child care was too expensive for more than one child and decided to have a parent stay home or have a family member care for the children. One parent said, *“We selected a couple of local daycares and went on a couple of tours of their facilities but ultimately decided we couldn't afford either place. Monthly it was double our mortgage and we just couldn't do it.”* Another noted, *“When they were babies and in pre-school, it was extremely difficult and incredibly expensive. The year that both my kids were in full time care, I paid over \$2,000 a month. This is difficult even for families like mine with higher incomes who don't qualify for sliding scales or subsidies. I also struggled to find quality care when the kids were small. I changed care providers several times before finally getting them into (the care I wanted) when my daughter was 18 mo. and my son was 4. I had also elected to stay home off and on for a total of three years because quality care was hard to find and hard to afford.”*

As noted in Table 5, respondents most frequently (19.5%) said they settled for inconvenient care or paid more for care if they couldn't find the care they wanted for their child under age 3.

Table 5. What Respondents Did if Didn't Find Care They Wanted If They Have Child Under Age 3

	Frequency	Percent
Negotiated a longer leave	11	5.9%
Resigned my job	23	12.4%
Found a different job	15	8.1%
Settled for inconvenient care	36	19.5%
Paid more for care	36	19.5%
Changed work schedule/switched to part-time	18	9.7%
Stayed home/worked from home	13	7.0%
Had family/friend care for child in interim	15	8.1%

Many respondents commented on the lack of availability of child care and the long wait lists for getting a spot in a child care center. A respondent described the process as long and taxing. She said, *“I was on several wait lists for years. I hounded the daycare I wanted until we were admitted.”* The lack of availability for infant care was remarked upon by several respondents. Many said they began looking early for child care options right after getting pregnant and got on several wait lists right away. They frequently still had to wait several weeks to months after the child was born before a spot was open. Respondents were also faced with challenges finding care that accommodated their work hours. Several respondents said child care options were not available that allowed them to work early morning shifts or after 5:30pm. Others noted challenges finding child care that had flexible hours or were willing to accommodate part-time hours.

Many respondents shared their stress with having to make trade-offs between the affordability and the quality of child care options. One respondent said, *“It was a several months' long process. I was very sad and frustrated that I might have to choose low quality care because of our household budget. I FINALLY found a provider with quality we were satisfied with and a price we could afford in a location that was reasonable.”* Another commented on the trade-off between affordability and hours available, *“I have been out of work for over a year because I am unable to find a position that doesn't require either early mornings, evenings and/or weekends- I haven't been able to find affordable care during these hours. It doesn't make sense to pay \$10/hour for a sitter to make \$8-10/hour.”*

Respondents ranked the child care environment, the relationship with the provider, and the experience of the provider as the most important child care quality indicators in their search for child care (Table 6.)

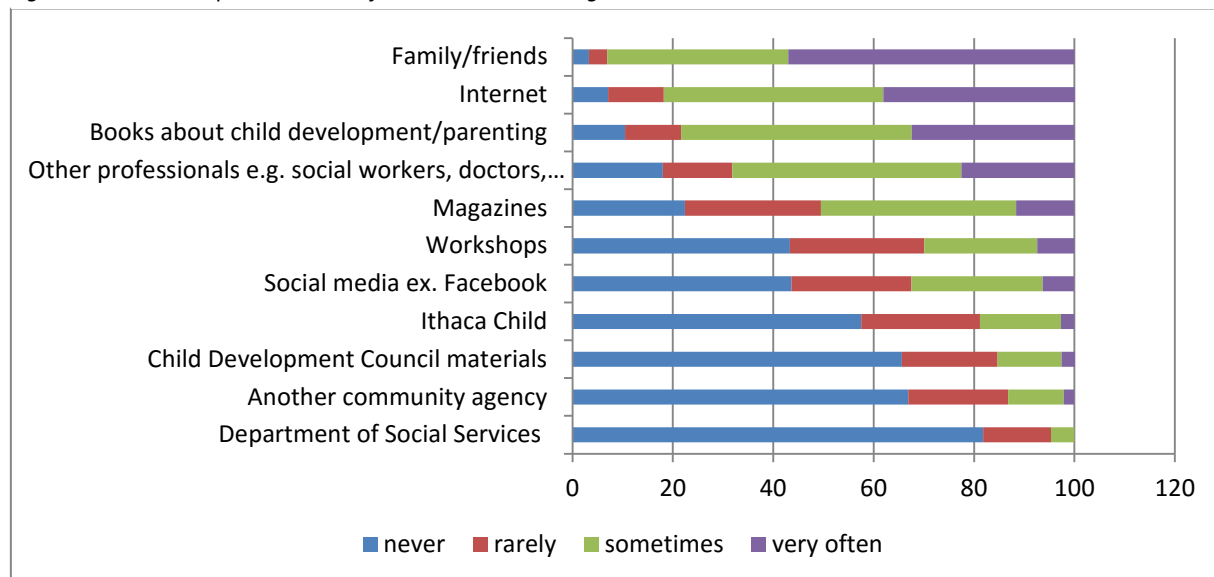
Table 6. Importance of Child Care Quality Indicators (1-most important, 5-not at all important)

	Mean	N	Minimum	Maximum	Std. Deviation
Environment	1.31	337	1	4	.617
Relationship with provider/teacher	1.34	337	1	5	.657
Experience of provider/teacher	1.45	337	1	5	.755
Group size	2.3457	188	2.00	4.00	.52999
Program philosophy	2.3602	161	2.00	4.00	.57612
Level of education of provider/teacher	2.5202	198	2.00	4.00	.65848
Cultural similarities	3.41	330	1	5	1.205

Finding Information on Parenting

Respondents rely most heavily on friends and family and the internet when looking for information about parenting in general (Figure 10.) Less than 10% of respondents said there was information about parenting they need, but don't know where to get it. Most respondents said they were interested in information on developmentally appropriate behaviors and how to manage them effectively. In particular, respondents said they would like more information on teenagers and tweens as well as for children with special needs. One respondent noted that she would like more support identifying high-

Figure 10. Where Respondents Get Information on Parenting



quality information. She said, "There is a lot of parenting advice out there (books, blogs, etc.) but I don't know which are the highest quality or most widely recommended. I don't have time to sort through all the crazies and philosophy-based parenting to find answers to simple questions. For example, my son has a peanut allergy, but I don't know where I can go for evidence-based, level-headed advice on how to deal with this. Ditto on discipline for a two year old, or potty training or discipline. I am overwhelmed with information but I don't know how to choose which resources to use." Another parent noted that there are workshops available, but that the timing is difficult for her work schedule. She said, "I work full-time and have 2 kids under 5....I need more help but besides browsing the internet for a few minutes every so

often I don't have a lot of time to get the information I need. Some recent workshops have been offered for parenting skills but I am unable to attend due to my schedule. It would be nice to have workshops provided via WebEx in the late evenings when it's the only time I have to myself, even if they were recorded sessions." Other parents said they would like more information on new and emerging options for child care and services.

Expanded Hours in UPK

Respondents were asked how likely they would be to use extended hours of care (up to 10 hours total) if they were offered within a Universal Pre-K (UPK) program for an additional fee (Table 7.) The majority of respondents said they would be very likely or somewhat likely to take advantage of these extra hours of care. Respondents were more likely to want this care in a school setting in a community setting.

Table 7. Likelihood of Using Expanded UPK Hours

	In a school setting		In a community setting	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Not at all likely	16	6.8%	20	8.5%
Not very likely	20	8.5%	34	14.5%
Somewhat likely	65	27.5%	77	32.9%
Very likely	135	57.2%	103	44.0%

CONCLUSION

Overall, survey respondents reported being satisfied with their child care arrangements. While quality was noted the top criteria parents focused on when deciding on child care and was the main driver of satisfaction with care, cost and hours were the most commonly noted problems associated with child care in general. Many parents commented on challenges they faced balancing the quality, cost, location, and hours of available child care options. In particular, finding care for infants, managing high costs of care for multiple children in the household, and finding care that met their work schedule were noted as particular difficulties for survey respondents. The majority of respondents said they would be interested in extended hours if they were available through Universal Pre-K programs.

Paying for child care is an expensive proposition for most families as demonstrated by the average weekly cost for child care paid by survey respondents. Many respondents reported that the cost of child care was prohibitive enough that it wasn't worth working or that they decided not to have another child.

Most survey respondents said they rely on word of mouth and recommendations from friends and family when searching for child care as well as for parenting advice and information. Overall, survey respondents said their search for child care took a great deal of time and effort. Survey respondents suggested they would like access to comprehensive, accurate information on child care options which provides quality indicators, information on program philosophy, and the availability of openings and wait list times. Survey respondents also would like access to parenting resources that have already been reviewed for quality and appropriateness. In addition, to meet the needs of busy families, parents suggested making resources available through other formats such as online workshops or seminars.

Child Care Needs Assessment Parent Survey 2014



The Child Development Council is conducting a survey of Tompkins and Cortland County parents to understand families' needs and priorities in finding, selecting and paying for child care. The results from the survey will help the Child Development Council advocate for and support child care improvements in the future. All the information you provide will be kept completely confidential and will only take about 10 minutes to complete. Thank you for your help!

Your Current Child Care Arrangements

First, we have some questions about your current child care arrangements for **your youngest child who is currently in child care.** If you do not have any children in child care, please skip to Question 11.

1. Thinking back to when you were **first** choosing your child care arrangement for your **youngest child**, which of the following factors were important in making your decision? (Rank in order with 1 as most important.)

	Rank
Cost	_____
Quality	_____
Location	_____
Full-time/part-time	_____
Flexible hours	_____
Caregiver/teacher	_____
Recommendation from a trusted source	_____

2. Overall, how satisfied are you with your current child care arrangement for your **youngest child**?

- Very satisfied
 Somewhat satisfied
 Somewhat dissatisfied
 Very dissatisfied

3. Thinking about the **current state** of your child care arrangement for your **youngest child**, which of the following factors are the **main** reasons you are satisfied or dissatisfied? (Please check all that apply)

- High quality care
- Affordable price
- Hours which meet my needs
- Convenient location
- Cost is too high
- Inconvenient hours that do not work for my schedule
- Quality of care that is lower than I want
- Inconvenient location
- Other (please specify) _____

4. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements as they relate to your current child care arrangement for your **youngest child**.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
I am happy with current child care arrangement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have trouble affording my child care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have trouble finding care that meets my hours	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have trouble with the location of my care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have concerns about the child care environment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I need care for my child when s/he is sick	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I need care that is more flexible	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I am concerned about the quality of the care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I need care that is more consistent	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have concerns about having to use too many different caregivers in a week	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I need care for a child with special needs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. Do you have any other concerns or comments about your current child care arrangements for your **youngest child**?

Paying for Child Care

Next we have some questions about the process of paying for child care. Again, please respond for your **youngest child**.

6. How much are you paying for your child care for your **youngest child**?

- Free program
- less than \$50 per week
- \$50 to \$100 per week
- \$100 to \$200 per week
- \$200 to \$300 per week
- \$300 to \$400 per week
- \$400 to \$500 per week
- more than \$500 per week

7. Does this include: (Please check all that apply)

- After-school care
- Before-school care
- Full-day care
- Part-time care (How many hours/wk _____)
- Other _____

8. How is your child care for your **youngest child** paid for? (Please check all that apply)

- Family income only
- Pretax set aside
- Cornell Child Care grant
- DSS subsidy
- Child support
- Free program
- Exchange with others
- Other _____

9. Would you pay more for your child care for your **youngest child** if there were more/different choices available?

- Yes, if I could afford it
- No, I would not even if I could afford it

Finding Child Care

Next we have some questions about the process of finding child care. For these questions, please respond for **all your children.**

10. How did you find your current child care provider(s)? (Please check all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Referral from the Child Development Council | <input type="checkbox"/> From a newspaper advertisement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> From the Department of Social Services | <input type="checkbox"/> From a relative |
| <input type="checkbox"/> From another community agency | <input type="checkbox"/> From a coworker or employer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow pages of the telephone book | <input type="checkbox"/> From a friend or neighbor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General search the internet | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Craigslist | |

11. Describe your experience with your child care search (even if you ultimately decided not to have your children in child care). How long did it take? What were the challenges?

12. If you have a child under the age of three, what did you do if you didn't find the care you wanted? (Please check all that apply)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Negotiated a longer leave | <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced to part-time work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resigned my job | <input type="checkbox"/> Paid more for care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Found a different job | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Settled for inconvenient care | <input type="checkbox"/> No child under age 3 |

13. Where do you get your information about child care options?

	Very often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Child Development Council materials	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Department of Social Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Another community agency	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Yellow pages of telephone book	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
On the internet	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
From a newspaper advertisement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Word of mouth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ithaca Child	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other professionals e.g. social workers, doctors, teachers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Radio	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2-1-1	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social media e.g. Facebook	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

14. Which of the following child care quality indicators are most important to you?	Very important				Not at all important
Environment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cultural similarities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Group size	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Level of education of provider/teacher	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Relationship with provider/teacher	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Experience of provider/teacher	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Program philosophy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

15. Where do you usually get information about parenting?	Very often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Child Development Council materials	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Department of Social Services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Another community agency	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ithaca Child	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Family/friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Internet	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Workshops	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other professionals e.g. social workers, doctors, teachers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social media ex. Facebook	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Books about child development/parenting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Magazines	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

16. Is there any information about parenting that you need, but you don't know where to get it?

- No Yes

Please describe the types of information you'd like access to:

17. If Universal Pre-K (UPK) offered additional hours of care for 4-year-olds (up to 10 total hours) for an additional fee, how likely would you be to use it?

	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Not very likely	Not at all likely
In a school setting...	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
In a community setting.....	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

No children eligible for UPK.

Demographics

Finally we have just a few questions about you and your household.

18. How many children do you have in child care for each age category below?

	Total # children	Children in child care		Total # children	Children in child care
Under 6 mos	_____	_____	2-3 yrs	_____	_____
6-12 mos	_____	_____	4 yrs	_____	_____
12-18 mos	_____	_____	5-9	_____	_____
18 mos -2 yrs	_____	_____	10-14	_____	_____

19. Where do you live?

<p>Tompkins County, which township?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Caroline</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Danby</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Dryden</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Enfield</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Groton</p> <p><input type="radio"/> City of Ithaca</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Town of Ithaca</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Lansing</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Newfield</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Ulysses</p>	<p>Cortland County which township?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Cortland</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Fabius</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Homer</p> <p><input type="radio"/> McGraw</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Truxton</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Marathon</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Willet</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Preble</p>	<p>Outside Tompkins & Cortland County Which county?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Cayuga County</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Chemung County</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Seneca County</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Schuyler County</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Tioga County</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Other (please specify)</p>
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20. Are you (and your spouse/partner) **currently** working or going to school? (Check all that apply)

<p>Self</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Working full time</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Working part time</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Going to school part time</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Going to school full time</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Neither working or going to school</p>	<p>Spouse/Partner</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Working full time</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Working part time</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Going to school part time</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Going to school full time</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Neither working or going to school</p>
---	---

21. Where do you (and your spouse/partner) **currently** go to school?

<p>Self</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Cornell University</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Ithaca College</p> <p><input type="radio"/> TC3</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Elmira College</p> <p><input type="radio"/> SUNY Cortland</p> <p><input type="radio"/> High School</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Other _____</p>	<p>Spouse/Partner</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Cornell University</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Ithaca College</p> <p><input type="radio"/> TC3</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Elmira College</p> <p><input type="radio"/> SUNY Cortland</p> <p><input type="radio"/> High School</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Other _____</p>
--	--

22. Who is your (and your spouse/partner's) **current** employer?

Self

- Cornell University
- Ithaca College
- SUNY Cortland
- Tompkins Cortland Community College (TC3)
- Borg Warner
- Pall Trinity
- Marietta Corporation
- Cayuga Medical Center
- Cortland Regional Medical Center
- Ithaca City School District
- Cortland School District
- Tompkins County
- Cortland County
- City of Ithaca
- Other employer (please specify _____)

Spouse/Partner

- Cornell University
- Ithaca College
- SUNY Cortland
- Tompkins Cortland Community College (TC3)
- Borg Warner
- Pall Trinity
- Marietta Corporation
- Cayuga Medical Center
- Cortland Regional Medical Center
- Ithaca City School District
- Cortland School District
- Tompkins County
- Cortland County
- City of Ithaca
- Other employer (please specify _____)

23. Which shift(s) do you (and your spouse/partner) work? *(Please check all that apply)*

Self

- Day
- Evening
- Night
- Rotating
- Weekends

Spouse/Partner

- Day
- Evening
- Night
- Rotating
- Weekends

24. What is your annual gross household income? Please include all sources of income including child support from all household members.

- \$0- 14,999
- \$15-24,999
- \$25-34,999
- \$35-44,999
- \$45-54,999
- \$55-64,999
- \$65-74,999
- \$75-84,999
- \$85-94,999
- \$95,000 plus

25. What is your relationship to the child(ren) in your household?

- Mother
- Father
- Custodial grandparent
- Foster parent
- Other Relationship (please specify) : _____

26. What is your (and your spouse/partner's) race and ethnicity?

Self

- Caucasian
- African American
- Asian
- Hispanic, white
- Hispanic, nonwhite
- Multiracial
- Other _____

Spouse/Partner

- Caucasian
- African American
- Asian
- Hispanic, white
- Hispanic, nonwhite
- Multiracial
- Other _____

27. Additional Comments:

Thank you for your help!

If you would like a Child Development Council staff person to follow-up with you to provide information and resources, please provide your name and contact information before. Your name and information **will not** be associated with your survey responses in any way and will never be publicly released.

Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

APPENDIX B. DEMOGRAPHIC DETAILS

Age of Youngest Child

In order to reduce the burden on survey respondents, the survey was designed to gather information about only the youngest child currently in child care. This methodology allowed for fewer questions to be asked and was hoped to result in a relatively representative sample. However, results indicate that respondents with children under age 5 were over-represented in the findings whereas respondents with children between the ages of 10-14 were under-represented. It is important to take these figures into consideration when examining the rest of the survey data.

Table 8. Age of Youngest Child in Care

	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Under 6 mos	9	3.3%	7,033	32.3%
6-12 mos	17	6.3%		
12-18 mos	9	3.3%		
18 mos-2yrs	23	8.5%		
2-3 yrs	89	33.0%		
4 yrs	39	14.4%		
5-9 yrs	73	27.0%	7,199	33.1%
10-14	11	4.1%	7,516	34.6%
	270	100.0%	21,748	

Residence

The majority of respondents live in Tompkins County (73.3%) 152,028 with 22.1% living in Cortland County (Table 9.). Another 4.6% reported living in another nearby county (Table 12.) The survey sample is somewhat over-representative of Tompkins County compared to 2010 Census data as noted below.

Table 9. Respondent County Residence

	Survey Respondents		Total Population of Families with Children under 18	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Tompkins	222	73.3%	8,806	63.5%
Cortland	67	22.1%	5,060	36.5%
Other county	14	4.6%	-	
Total	303		13,866	

Table 10. Tompkins County Township Residence

	Frequency	Percent
Caroline	11	5.0%
City of Ithaca	57	25.7%
Danby	8	3.6%
Dryden	19	8.6%
Enfield	7	3.2%
Groton	6	2.7%
Lansing	21	9.5%
Newfield	11	5.0%
Town of Ithaca	73	32.9%
Ulysses	9	4.1%
Total	222	100.0%

Table 11. Cortland County Township Residence

	Frequency	Percent
Cortland	49	73.1%
Homer	9	13.4%
Marathon	2	3.0%
McGraw	3	4.5%
Preble	2	3.0%
Truxton	1	1.5%
Willet	1	1.5%
Total	67	100.0%

Table 12. Other County Residence

	Frequency	Percent
Cayuga County	2	14.3%
Chemung County	1	7.1%
Schuyler County	3	21.4%
Seneca County	4	28.6%
Tioga County	4	28.6%
Total	14	100.0%

Relationship Status

The majority of survey respondents reported having a spouse or partner (90.4%). Comparing this data to Census data shows an over-representation of partnered survey respondents compared to partnered parents in Cortland and Tompkins County (Table 13.) As noted in Table 14, mothers were the most likely to complete the survey.

Table 13. Respondent Partnership Status

	Survey Respondents		Total Population of Families with Children under 18	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Partnered	301	90.4%	9,102	65.6%
Single	32	9.6%	4,764	34.4%

Table 14. Respondent's Relationship to Child

	Frequency	Percent
Father	40	12.3%
Mother	280	86.4%
Foster parent	4	1.2%
Total	324	100.0%

Employment and School Status

Table 15 shows the breakdown of respondents and spouses work and school status. Table 16 examines the employment and school status by household and shows that nearly two-thirds of partnered respondents said that both they and their partner work full time, with another third saying one works full-time. Comparable percentages of single respondents reported working full-time, but a higher percentage were in school.

Table 15. Employment and School Status of Respondents and their Spouses

	Self		Spouse	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Working full time	236	61.9%	253	66.4%
Working part time	57	15.0%	21	5.5%
Going to school part time	12	3.1%	7	1.8%
Going to school full time	25	6.6%	13	3.4%
Neither working or going to school	22	5.8%	16	4.2%

Table 16. Employment and School Status by Household

Partnered	Frequency	Percent
Both working full-time	184	61.1%
One working full-time	101	33.5%
Both working part-time	3	1.0%
One working part-time	72	23.9%
Both school full-time	3	1.0%
One school full-time	32	10.6%
Both school part-time	1	0.5%
One school part-time	17	5.6%
Single		
Working full-time	20	62.50%
Working part-time	8	25.0%
School full-time	5	15.6%
School part-time	5	15.6%

As Table 17 below shows, the majority of respondents reported working a day shift for work individually. This is true on the household level as well with 70% of partnered households reporting both parents working day shifts.

Table 17. Employment Shifts

	Self		Spouse	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Day	281	73.8%	244	64.0%
Evening	25	6.6%	38	10.0%
Night	12	3.1%	14	3.7%
Rotating	8	2.1%	15	3.9%
Weekends	23	6.0%	35	9.2%

Income

High income respondents were over-represented in the parents' survey while low-income respondents were under-represented.

Table 18. Respondent Household Income and Census Data by Income Category

	Frequency	Percent	Census Data Cortland and Tompkins Combined Families with Children
\$0- 14,999	12	3.9%	11.3%
\$15-24,999	12	3.9%	7.7%
\$25-34,999	17	5.5%	8.9%
\$35-44,999	26	8.5%	8.0%
\$45-54,999	27	8.8%	23.2%
\$55-64,999	22	7.2%	
\$65-74,999	23	7.5%	
\$75-84,999	27	8.8%	13.9%*
\$85-94,999	30	9.8%	
\$95,000 plus	111	36.2%	27.0%**
Total	307	100.0%	

* Census data category=\$75,000-\$99,999 (American Community Survey, 2012 5-year estimates)

** Census data category = "\$100,000 + (American Community Survey, 2012 5-year estimates)

Race/Ethnicity

Overall, survey respondents' race and ethnicity was consistent with the race and ethnicity data reported in Census data for Cortland and Tompkins combined.

Table 19. Respondent and Partner Race/Ethnicity and Census Data

	Self		Spouse		All		Census Data All Individuals*
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Percent
African American	8	2.6%	11	4.1%	19	3.3%	3.2%
Asian	17	5.6%	18	6.7%	35	6.1%	6.8%
Caucasian	260	86.1%	228	85.1%	488	85.6%	87.8%
Hispanic, any race	10	3.3%	6	2.2%	16	2.9%	3.6%
Multiracial	7	2.3%	5	1.9%	12	2.1%	2.3%
Total		100.0	268		570		

*American Community Survey – 2012 5-year estimates. Note that total is greater than 100% due to inconsistent categorization between Census categories and the Parents' Survey categories.