

Child Care Arrangements and Reasons for Choosing Provider

Results from the 2005 *Child Well Being Survey (CWB)*

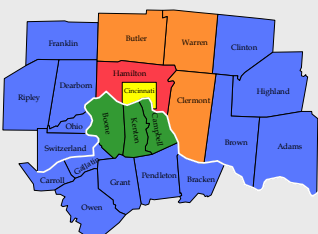
Child Policy Research Center, The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati, and United Way of Greater Cincinnati

The **Child Well Being Survey (CWB)** is a project of the Child Policy Research Center, The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati and United Way of Greater Cincinnati. The University of Cincinnati's Institute for Policy Research administered the random telephone survey of caregivers of children in a 22-county area in Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana from October through December 2005. The survey provides policy-makers, decision-makers, public agencies, and academicians with population-based information to describe and monitor the well being of children in the tri-state area.

Topics include: child health status, selected chronic conditions, medical home, injury requiring medical attention, health insurance, middle childhood activity, food security, child care arrangements, child's behavioral and emotional health, parent perception of substance use, caregiver's health status and selected adult health measures. Many questions were taken from the National Survey of American Families, the National Children's Health Survey, and the National Health Interview Survey. These questions provide national estimates to compare to CWB estimates.

The sample includes 1,559 completed interviews. The sampling area was grouped into five geographic regions: city of Cincinnati; Hamilton County outside the city, Ohio suburban counties (Butler/Clermont/Warren); Northern Kentucky suburban counties (Boone/Campbell/Kenton); and 15 rural counties in Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana. The 2005 sample data is weighted to provide accurate population estimates.

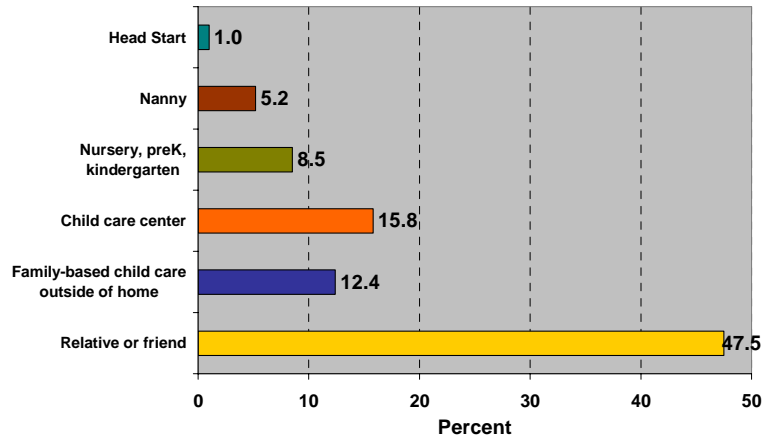
Five Geographic Regions



Selected Findings

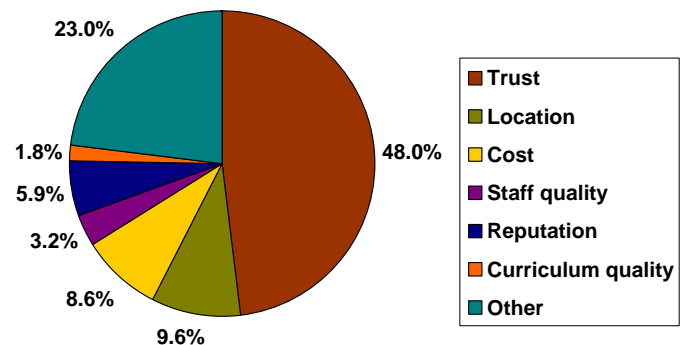
As in 2000, the current survey reveals that more than half of greater Cincinnati children less than 6 years old have some sort of child care arrangement. Of these, almost 47.5% are cared for by a relative or friend. Future improvements in the quality and affordability of child care should consider that number of children in less formal care.

Primary Child Care Arrangements



Although providers are especially concerned with the quality and affordability of care, from the parent perspective trust in the care provider is by far the most important factor in choosing a child care arrangement.

Main Reason for Choosing Child Care Provider



The day to day availability of child care may be problematic. More than 25% of greater Cincinnati families who use child care report that they have to make last minute arrangements 2 or 3 times per month. Perhaps related to this, 12% of greater Cincinnati parents have had to quit a job, not take a job, or greatly change their job in the last year because of problems with child care.

For more information about this health topic and other child health issues or for a custom analysis of the data, please contact the Child Policy Research Center at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Phone (513) 636-0180; fax (513) 636-0171; or Email at www.cincinnatichildrens.org/cprc.