

Child Care & Early Education

RESEARCH CONNECTIONS

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Child Care Subsidy Use and Employment Outcomes of TANF and Other Low-income Families Key Topic Resource List

November 2006

Research Connections conducted a comprehensive search of its collection for resources focused on the relationship between receipt of child care subsidies and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and employment outcomes.

From the many results, *Research Connections* selected a limited number of resources of various types- including reports and papers, fact sheets and briefs, summaries, and reviews. Selection criteria included policy relevance and relatively recent publication. The full results came from an advanced search on the exact phrases: “child care subsidies” and “employment.” (Note: much of the literature on this topic focuses on families receiving welfare given that a key subsidy policy is to help families transition from welfare to work, however the resources below also include research on the subsidy receipt and employment outcomes of former welfare recipients and low-income families.)

Resources are organized according to publisher type and publication date. *Research Connection's* one-sentence description is included for each resource on the following list. For complete citations, which include abstracts and full text for some resources, click on the titles.

Government

- **Jefferys, Marcie, & Davis, Elizabeth E. (2004).** [Working in Minnesota: Parents' employment and earnings in the Child Care Assistance Program](#) St. Paul: Minnesota Department of Human Services
An analysis of data on industry employment patterns of parents receiving subsidized child care to increase understanding of the impact of child care subsidies on their labor force participation and on the local economies in which the parents are employed
- **United States. Administration for Children and Families. Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation. (1998).** [Sustaining employment among low income parents: Options for child care research: Final](#), Washington, DC: U.S. Administration for Children and Families, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation
A summary and critique of three research reviews examining the effects of child care cost, quality, and flexibility on labor force participation among low income families

Journals

- **Danzinger, Sandra K., Ananat, Elizabeth O., and Browning, Kimberly G. (2004).** [Childcare subsidies and the transition from welfare to work](#) Family Relations, **53(2)**, 219-228.
A study of the relationship between child care subsidy receipt and mothers' work experiences of welfare recipients in an urban Michigan county
- **Gennetian, Lisa A., Crosby, Danielle A., Huston, Aletha C., Lowe, Edward D. (2004).** [Can child care assistance in welfare and employment programs support the employment of low-income families?](#) Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, **23(4)**, 723-743.
An investigation of different welfare and employment programs with child care assistance policies and their effects on employment rates and child care decisions of low income families.
- **Teitler, Julien O., (2004).** [Sources of support, child care, and hardship among unwed mothers, 1999-2001](#). The Social Service Review, **78(1)**, 127-149
An analysis of the coping strategies, including sources of support and child care arrangements, of unwed mothers with young children five years after the passage of PRWORA
- **Bainbridge, Jay, Meyers, Marcia K., Waldfogel, Jane. (2003).** [Child care policy reform and the employment of single mothers](#) Social Science Quarterly, **84(4)**, 771-791.
An examination of the effect of growth in child care subsidies, from 1991 through 1996, on employment rates of single mothers, using data from the 1992 through 1997 March Current Population Surveys
- **Baum, Charles L., (2002)** [A dynamic analysis of the effect of child care costs on the work decisions of low-income mothers with infants](#) Demography, **39(1)**, 139-164
A study of the influence of child care costs on the work-related decisions of low-income mothers

- **Brooks, Fred, Risler, Ed, Hamilton, Claire, Nackerud, Larry. (2002).** [Impacts of child care subsidies on family and child well-being](#) *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, 17(4), 498-511
An examination of the effects of child care subsidy receipt on low income mothers, comparing families receiving subsidies with families on waiting lists; factors examined included employment, income, percent of income spent on child care, and satisfaction with child care arrangements
- **Han, Wen-Jui, & Waldfogel, Jane. (2001).** [Child care costs and women's employment: A comparison of single and married mothers with pre-school-aged children](#) *Social Science Quarterly*, 82(3), 552-568
An analysis of the effects of child care costs on the employment of single and married women with preschool-aged children, using data from the 1991 to 1994 March Current Population Surveys
- **Queralt, M., Witte, A.D., & Griesinger, H. (2000).** [Changing policies, changing impacts: Employment and earnings of child-care subsidy recipients in the era of welfare reform](#) *The Social Service Review*, 74(4), 588-619
A study that examines the employment and earnings of current and former recipients of welfare benefits and child care subsidies and assesses the impact of increased funding for child care and other policy changes.

Universities and Research Organizations

- **Reidy, Mairead, & George, Robert. (forthcoming).** [Employment and TANF Outcomes for Low-Income Families Receiving Child Care Subsidies in Illinois, Maryland, and Texas](#) *Child Care Policy Research Consortium*
Through a unique collaboration between the U.S. Census Bureau and three state teams, this project is using blended individual-level census and administrative data records in Illinois, Maryland, and Texas to examine who is eligible for the child care subsidy, who uses it, and how the subsidy aids different groups of low-income families in their quest for economic independence
- **Matthews, Hannah, (2006).** [Child care assistance helps families work: A review of the effects of subsidy receipt on employment](#) *Washington, DC: Center for Law and Social Policy*
A policy brief presenting research findings on the relationship between child care subsidy receipt and mothers' employment
- **Schaefer, Stephanie A., Kreader, J. Lee, Collins, Ann. (2006).** [Parent employment and the use of child care subsidies](#) *New York: Child Care & Early Education Research Connections*
A review of research studies examining parent employment outcomes associated with the use of child care subsidies
- **Davis, Elizabeth E., Jefferys, Marcie. (2005).** [Still working in Minnesota?: Follow-up study on parents' employment and earnings in the Child Care Assistance Program](#) *St. Paul: Minnesota: Child Care Policy Research Partnership*
A study of the employment patterns and wage growth, from 2001 through 2003, of families in four Minnesota counties who received child care assistance in the first quarter of 2001

- **Jordan, Lucy P., (2005). [Child care subsidies and entry to employment following child birth](#) Unpublished doctoral dissertation, University of Washington, Seattle**
An analysis of the effects of child care subsidies on the entry of new mothers into the labor force, using data from the Fragile Families and Well-Being Study
- **Miller, Cynthia, (2005). [Stability and change in child care and employment: Evidence from three states](#) (Next Generation Working Paper Series No. 20). New York: MDRC**
An examination of patterns of child care use and employment stability among welfare recipients in Connecticut, Florida, and Minnesota
- **Ananat, Elizabeth O., & Phinney, Robin. (2004). [Child care as a barrier to employment](#) Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Program on Poverty and Social Welfare Policy**
An analysis of the relationship between labor market, health, family, and child care problems and work outcomes for a random sample of mothers receiving cash assistance in an urban Michigan county in February 1997
- **Lee, B.J., George, R., Reidy, M., Kreader, J.L., Georges, A., Wagmiller, R.L., Jr., et al. (2004). [Child care subsidy use and employment outcomes of TANF mothers during the early years of welfare reform: A three-state study](#) Chicago, IL: University of Chicago, Chapin Hall Center for Children.**
An analysis of the child care subsidy take-up rate, type of child care chosen, and relation between child care subsidy use and employment outcomes for single working mothers receiving TANF in Illinois, Maryland and Massachusetts
- **Lewis, Dan A., Amsden, Laura, Shook, Kristen L., Lee, Bong Joo, Kleppner, Paul, Lewis, James, Riger, Stephanie, Goerge, Robert. (University Consortium on Welfare Reform.) (2004). [Two worlds of welfare reform in Illinois: Fourth annual report from the Illinois Families Study](#), Evanston, IL: Northwestern University, Institute for Policy Research**
A fourth year report of the Illinois Families Study examining the overall effectiveness of welfare reform in Illinois and attempting to determine which are the most effective supports and services.
- **Speiglmán, Richard, (2004). [Child care essential ingredient for sustained, full-time work for welfare recipients](#) Oakland, CA: Public Health Institute.**
A brief emphasizing the need for child care among low income families departing welfare-to-work programs, based upon findings from the Alameda County CalWORKS Needs Assessment and Outcomes Study.
- **Tekin, Erdal, (2004). [Single mothers working at night: Standard work, child care subsidies, and implications for welfare reform](#) (NBER Working Paper Series No. 10274). Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research.**
An analysis of the impact that child care subsidies have on helping single mothers find jobs with standard schedules, and how this influence differs between welfare recipients and non-recipients.

- Tekin, Erdal, (2004). [Child care subsidy receipt, employment, and child care choices of single mothers](#) (NBER Working Paper Series No. 10459). Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research
An analysis of how actual child care subsidy receipt influences the employment status and child care choices of single mothers
- Gennetian, Lisa A., Michalopoulos, Charles. (2003). [Child care and employment: Evidence from random assignment studies of welfare and work programs](#) (Next Generation Working Paper Series No. 17). New York: MDRC
An investigation into the effects of welfare reform policies and links between employment and child care choices, using data from random assignment pilot welfare programs begun between 1993 and 1996 in a variety of urban and rural areas in the United States
- Henry, Colleen, (2003). [Child care subsidies promote mothers' employment and children's development](#). (IWPR Publication No. G714). Washington, DC: Institute for Women's Policy Research
A summary of research on the relationship between high-quality child care, mothers' employment and child development
- Norris, Jean C., (2003). [Welfare and work status under TANF: Effects of barriers to employment and implications for program planning](#). Oakland, CA: Public Health Institute
A summary of the findings of a study which assessed the impact of employment barriers on families receiving temporary public assistance
- Press, Julie E., Farrie, Danielle, and Sisser, Sasha. (2003) [Child care problems and work outcomes for low-skilled mothers](#) Philadelphia: Temple University, Center for Public Policy.
A quantitative study conducted with mothers on the relationship between child care and their employment outcomes
- University Consortium on Welfare Reform, (2003). [Preserving the gains, rethinking the losses: Welfare in Illinois five years after reform: Third annual report from the Illinois Families Study](#) Evanston, IL: Northwestern University, Institute for Policy Research
Third in a series of reports using measures of the employment outcomes and family well-being of a sample of 1998 TANF grantees to assess the ongoing value of Illinois'1997 welfare reforms
- Witte, Ann D., Queralt, Magaly. (2003). [Impacts of eligibility expansions and provider reimbursement rate increases on child care subsidy take-up rates, welfare use and work](#) (NBER Working Paper Series No. 9693). Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research.
An assessment of the influence of expanded child care subsidy eligibility, and increased provider reimbursement rates, on demand for care, cash assistance receipt, and employment among current and former welfare recipients in Rhode Island

- **Boushey, Heather, (2002).** [Staying employed after welfare: Work supports and job quality vital to employment tenure and wage growth](#) (Briefing Paper No. 128). Washington, DC: Economic Policy Institute
A study using longitudinal data from the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) 1993 and 1996 Panels to examine the effects of child care access and job quality on the employment duration and wage growth of former welfare recipients and working women.
- **Fuller, Bruce, (2002).** [New lives for poor families: Mothers and young children move through welfare reform. The Growing Up in Poverty Project - Wave 2 Findings: California, Connecticut, and Florida: Technical report](#) Berkeley: Policy Analysis for California Education.
A study of the long-term effects of welfare reform on mothers' employment, children's development, and family well-being among a sample of mothers and preschool-age children who entered new welfare programs in California, Connecticut, and Florida
- **Gennetian, Lisa A., (2002)** [How child care assistance in welfare and employment programs can support the employment of low-income families](#) (Next Generation Working Paper Series No. 11). New York: MDRC
An analysis of the effects of changes in child care policies on the child care choices of families participating in pilot welfare and employment programs from the late 1980s to the early 1990s
- **Tekin, Erdal, (2002).** [Child care subsidies, wages, and employment of single mothers](#) Unpublished manuscript, Georgia State University, Atlanta.
An analysis of the effects of the price of child care and the wage rate on employment and child care decisions among single mothers in the early post-welfare reform period, using data from the National Survey of America's Families
- **Blau, D. & Tekin, E. (2001).** [The determinants and consequences of child care subsidy receipt by low-income families](#) (Discussion Paper No. 383). Bonn, Germany: Institute for the Study of Labor.
An analysis of the determinants of child care subsidy receipt and the effects of subsidy receipt on employment using the 1997 National Survey of America's Families
- **Crosby, Danielle A., Gennetian, Lisa A., Huston, Aletha C. (2001)** [Does child care assistance matter?: The effects of welfare and employment programs on child care for preschool- and young school-aged children](#) (The Next Generation Working Paper Series No. 3). New York: MDRC.
An examination of the effects of welfare and employment policies on child care outcomes for single parents, and their preschool- to young school- aged children, using data from experimental programs implemented between the late 1980s and the mid-1990s
- **Okuyama, Kumiko, & Weber, Roberta B. (Bobbie). (2001)** [A view from four states and the District of Columbia: Parents receiving child care subsidies: Where do they work?](#) Albany, OR: Linn-Benton Community College, Family Resources and Education Division
A summary of findings from seven studies of the employment patterns of low-income parents receiving child care subsidies.

- **Collins, Ann, Layzer, Jean, Kreader, J. Lee, Werner, Alan, Glantz, Frederic B., Page, Steven, Creps, Cindy L., Brown-Lyons, Melanie, Douglas-Hall, Ayana, Griffin, Nike. (United States. Administration for Children and Families) (2000) [National Study of Child Care for Low-Income Families: State and Community Substudy: Interim report](#), Cambridge, MA: Abt Associates.**
A study of the responses of 17 states and 25 communities to the child care needs of low-income families.
- **Lemke, Robert. (2000) [Child care and the welfare to work transition](#) (NBER Working Paper Series No. 7583). Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research**
A report on child care-related factors affecting welfare recipients' decisions to work or participate in training under Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) regulations
- **Anderson, Patricia M., & Levine, Phillip B. (1999) [Child care and mothers' employment decisions](#) (NBER Working Paper Series No. 7058). Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research**
A paper on the effects of child care costs on the employment decisions of mothers of varying skill level.
- **Loprest, Pamela, Schmidt, Stefanie, Witte, Ann D. (1999) [Welfare reform under PRWORA: Aid to children with working families](#) (Wellesley College Working Paper 99-12). Wellesley, MA: Wellesley College, Department of Economics.**
An assessment of themes and impacts of welfare reform for states and families, including examinations of the "work-first" approach, child care funding and subsidies, and employment incentives
- **Meyers, Marcia K. , Heintze, Theresa, Wolf, Douglas A. (1999) [Child care subsidies and the employment of welfare recipients](#) (Working Paper No. 15) Berkeley: University of California, Berkeley, UC.**
A study examining the probability that low-income single mothers in California will receive child care subsidies and the effect this has on their employment.
- **Piecyk, Jessica, Collins, Ann, and Kreader, J. Lee. (1999) [Patterns and growth of child care voucher use by families connected to cash assistance in Illinois and Maryland](#) (Child Care Research Partnership Report No. 2). New York: Columbia University, National Center for Children in Poverty**
A study on the dynamics of child care voucher use by current and former cash assistance recipients between January 1997 and January 1998 in Illinois and Maryland
- **Pearlmutter, Sue, Katona, Michelle, Wang, Edward, Su, Marilyn, Gallagher, Peg. (1998) [Child care subsidies for low-income and TANF families: Availability, access, and relationship to work force participation](#) Cleveland, OH: Case Western Reserve University, Center on Urban Poverty and Social Change**
A paper on the projected supply of and demand for subsidized child care after welfare reform in Cuyahoga County, Ohio

To view and sort the full search results from which these resources were selected, you may use the [Recreate Complete Search](#) function.

This selected Resource List was developed by staff of Child Care & Early Education *Research Connections*. Special thanks to Patti Banghart.