Child and Family Well-being: How is it Related to Work and Welfare Receipt?

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Purpose

- Who are the children on public assistance/welfare?
- Do patterns vary by state?
- What are the associations between welfare, work patterns, and children’s outcomes?
The National Survey of Children’s Health (NSCH)

- Representative at national and state levels; data collected in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.
- Telephone interviews, based on SLAITS, completed from 2007 to early 2008. Interviews conducted in English and Spanish.
- N= 91,642 children ages 0-17, with approximately 1,725-1,932 children per state (micro data)
- Has information on child well-being and children’s contexts.
- Available to the public at cahmi@ohsu.edu, www.nschdata.org/Content/RequestADataset.aspx, and www.cdc.gov/nchs
The National Survey of Children’s Health (NSCH)

The NSCH is a health-focused survey, but it also includes information on children’s:

- Social development;
- Behavior;
- School outcomes;
- Families;
- Neighborhoods; and
- Economic well-being and receipt of program assistance.
Children in Families at 200% FPL on TANF or Other Public Assistance (“Welfare”)

- TANF (11%)
- SNAP (33%)
- School Lunch (59%)
- SCHiP/Medicaid (57%)
- Worked 50 of 52 weeks (78%)
Children in Families at 100% FPL on TANF or Other Public Assistance ("Welfare")

- TANF (19%)
- SNAP (56%)
- School Lunch (72%)
- SCHiP/Medicaid (72%)
- Worked 50 of 52 weeks (64%)

Work and Welfare for Families at or Below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level

- Work, No Welfare: 5%
- No Work, No Welfare: 2%
- Work, On Welfare: 58%
- No Work, On Welfare: 34%
- Other: 1%
Single-mother Families

- Approximately 19% of children live in single-mother families.

- Approximately 19% of children live in families at or below 100% of the federal poverty level.

- Of children in poverty, 41% live in single-mother families; N=4,621
Children in Single-mother Families at 100% FPL on TANF or Other Public Assistance

- TANF (25%)
- SNAP (70%)
- School Lunch (80%)
- SCHiP/Medicaid (77%)
- Worked 50 of 52 weeks (56%)

Work and Welfare for Single-mother Families ≤100% of the Federal Poverty Level

- Work, No Welfare: 2%
- No Work, No Welfare: 1%
- Work, On Welfare: 53%
- No Work, On Welfare: 43%
- Other: 1%
Children in Single-mother Families at or Below 100% of FPL and Receiving TANF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Color</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.5% - 19.0%</td>
<td>Gray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.1% - 27.1%</td>
<td>Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27.2% - 34.0%</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34.1% - 60.5%</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Map showing the distribution of children in single-mother families at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) across the United States.
Children in Single-mother Families at or Below 100% of FPL Receive Some Form of Public Assistance

- 86%-90%
- 91%-95%
- 95%-97%
- 98%-99%
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare (≤ 100% FPL)

Child took care of self (6-11yrs)

- No Work, No Welfare: 0.5
- No work, Welfare: 6
- Work, Welfare: 6
- Work, No Welfare: 13
- 0-100%: 6
- 101-200%: 12
- 201-300%: 12
- 301-400%: 10
- 401%+: 14
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare (\(\leq 100\%\) FPL)

Eat Meals Together 5+ days (0-17 yrs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Work, No Welfare</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No work, Welfare</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work, Welfare</td>
<td>69</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work, No Welfare</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-100%</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101-200%</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201-300%</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301-400%</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>401%+</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare (≤ 100% FPL)

Reads to Child 6+ days (0-5 yrs)

- No Work, No Welfare: 33
- No work, Welfare: 47
- Work, Welfare: 36
- Work, No Welfare: 56
- 0-100%: 41
- 101-200%: 39
- 201-300%: 52
- 301-400%: 58
- 401%+: 63
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare (≤ 100% FPL)

Watches TV More than 3 Hours (6-17 yrs)

- No Work, No Welfare: 12
- No work, Welfare: 19
- Work, Welfare: 17
- Work, No Welfare: 11
- 0-100%: 19
- 101-200%: 15
- 201-300%: 12
- 301-400%: 10
- 401%+: 8
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare (≤ 100% FPL)

Low School Engagement (6-17 yrs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Work, No Welfare</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No work, Welfare</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work, Welfare</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work, No Welfare</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-100%</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101-200%</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201-300%</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301-400%</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>401%+</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare (≤ 100% FPL)

Adequate Sleep 6-7 nights (6-17 yrs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Work, No Welfare</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No work, Welfare</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work, Welfare</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work, No Welfare</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-100%</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101-200%</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201-300%</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301-400%</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>401%+</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The graph shows the percentage of children with adequate sleep 6-7 nights for different income levels and work/welfare statuses.
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare (≤ 100% FPL)

Child does at least one activity (6-17 yrs)
Low Social Competence (6-17 yrs)
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare (≤ 100% FPL)

High Externalizing Behavior (6-17 yrs)
High Internalizing Behavior (6-17 yrs)

- No Work, No Welfare: 19
- No work, Welfare: 30
- Work, Welfare: 27
- Work, No Welfare: 19
- 0-100%: 30
- 101-200%: 23
- 201-300%: 20
- 301-400%: 19
- 401%+: 16

Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare (≤ 100% FPL)
# Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare (≤ 100% FPL)

## Poor Parent-child Communication (6-17 yrs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Work, No Welfare</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No work, Welfare</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work, Welfare</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work, No Welfare</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-100%</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101-200%</td>
<td>36</td>
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<td>201-300%</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301-400%</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>401%+</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
High Parent Aggravation (0-17 yrs)

- No Work, No Welfare: 31
- No work, Welfare: 33
- Work, Welfare: 29
- Work, No Welfare: 25
- 0-100%: 30
- 101-200%: 30
- 201-300%: 23
- 301-400%: 21
- 401%+: 22
## Overall Findings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes by work and welfare status (for 100% FPL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work, No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>welfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reads to Child 6+ days (0-5yrs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tells Stories or Sings to Child 6+ days (0-5yrs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job affected by Child Care (0-5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child took care of self (6-11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watches TV more than 3 hours (6-17)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low school engagement (6-17)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child does at least one activity (6-17)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate sleep, 6-7 nights (6-17)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social competence (6-17)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eats meals together 5+ days (0-17yrs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Externalizing Behavior (6-17)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internalizing Behavior (6-17)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent attends activities (6-17)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor Parent-Child Communications (6-17)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent aggravation (0-17)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Findings

- Of the four work/welfare categories, those consistently among the low performers on children’s outcomes:
  - Did not work 50 out of 52 weeks; and
  - Were on welfare.

- Welfare is associated with poorer child outcomes.
- Poverty also seems associated with poorer child outcomes.
Research in the service of children

www.childtrends.org
www.childtrendsdb.org
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare (≤ 100% FPL)

Job Affected by Child Care (0-5 yrs)

- No Work, No Welfare: 16
- No work, Welfare: 18
- Work, Welfare: 20
- Work, No Welfare: 16
- 0-100%: 19
- 101-200%: 23
- 201-300%: 19
- 301-400%: 9
- 401%+: 8
Tell Stories or Sings 6+ days (0-5 yrs)
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare (≤ 100% FPL)

Parent Sometimes/Never Attends Activities (6-17 yrs)

- Work, No Welfare: 13
- No Work, No Welfare: 14
- Work, Welfare: 19
- No work, Welfare: 20
- 0-100%: 18
- 101-200%: 18
- 201-300%: 14
- 301-400%: 10
- 401%+: 10

(Chart showing the distribution of activities attendance across different income levels and employment statuses.)