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

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Purpose

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- 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)

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- ❑ Sponsored by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- ❑ 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)

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

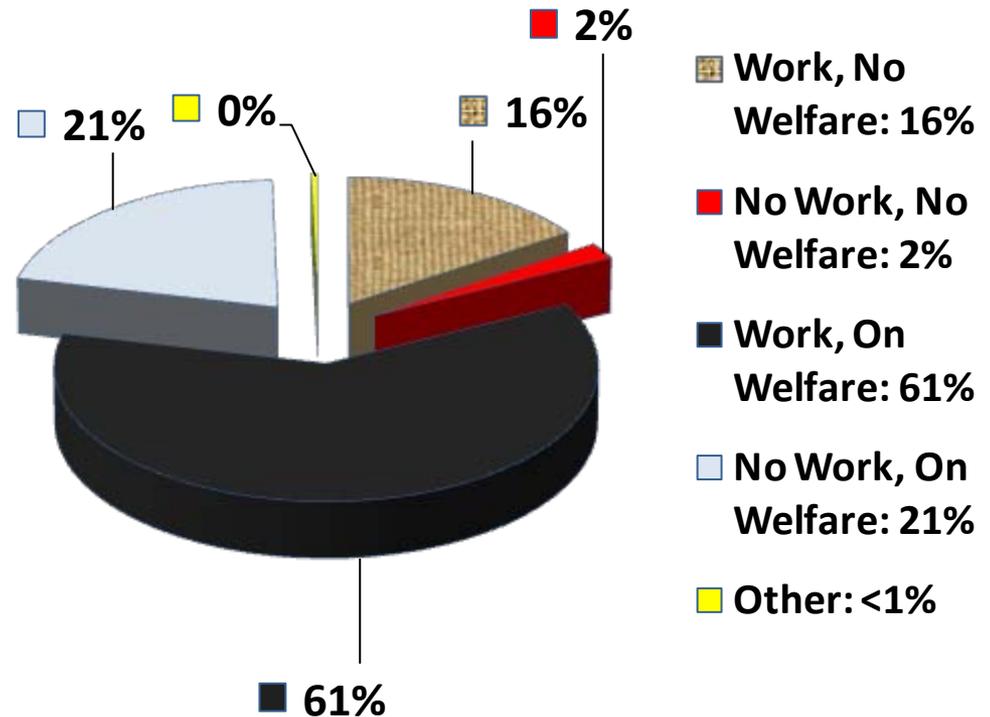
- ▣ Social development;
- ▣ Behavior;
- ▣ School outcomes;
- ▣ Families;
- ▣ Neighborhoods; and
- ▣ Economic well-being and receipt of program assistance.

Children in Families at 200% FPL on TANF or Other Public Assistance (“Welfare”)

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- TANF (11%)
- SNAP (33%)
- School Lunch (59%)
- SCHIP/Medicaid (57%)
- Worked 50 of 52 weeks (78%)

Work and Welfare for Families at or Below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level

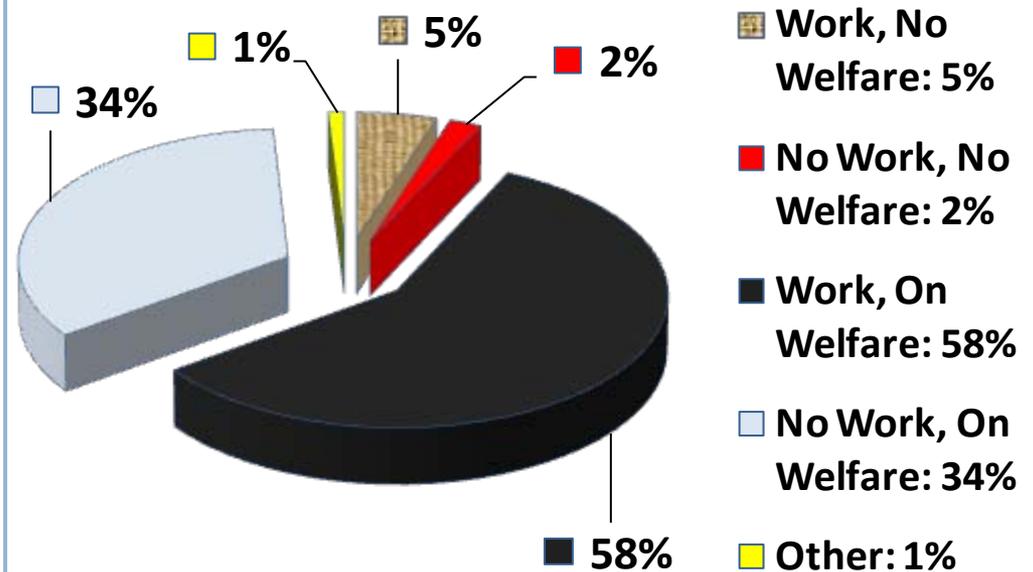


Children in Families at 100% FPL on TANF or Other Public Assistance (“Welfare”)

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- 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



Single-mother Families

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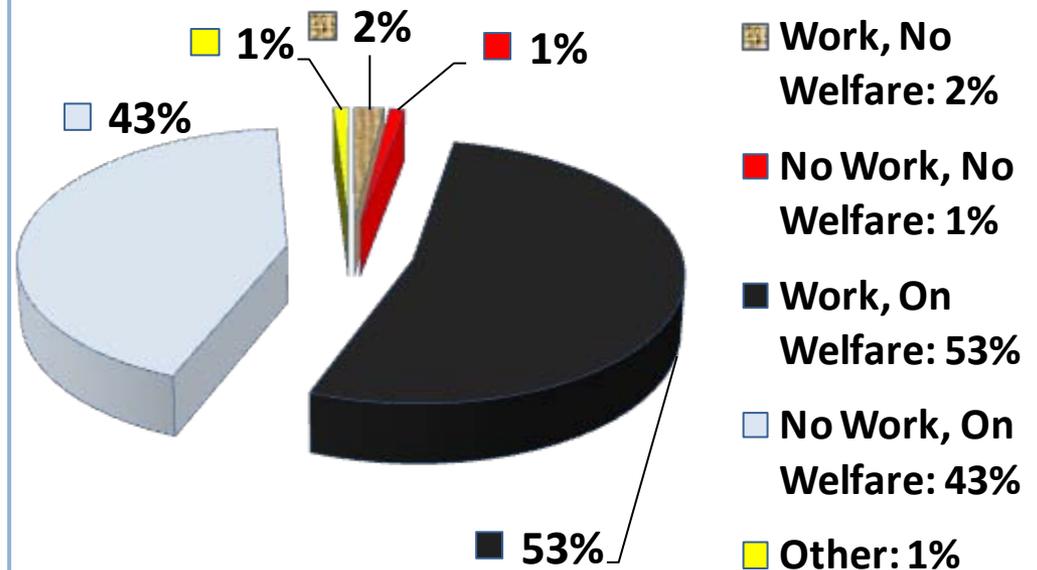
- Approximately 19% of children live in single-mother families.
- Approximately 19% of children live in families at or below 100% of the federal poverty level.
- Of children in poverty, 41% live in single-mother families; N=4,621

Children in Single-mother Families at 100% FPL on TANF or Other Public Assistance

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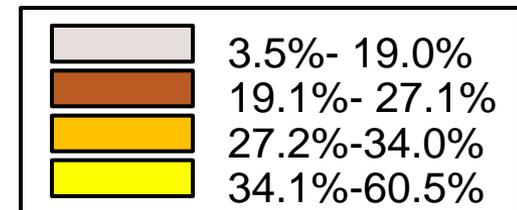
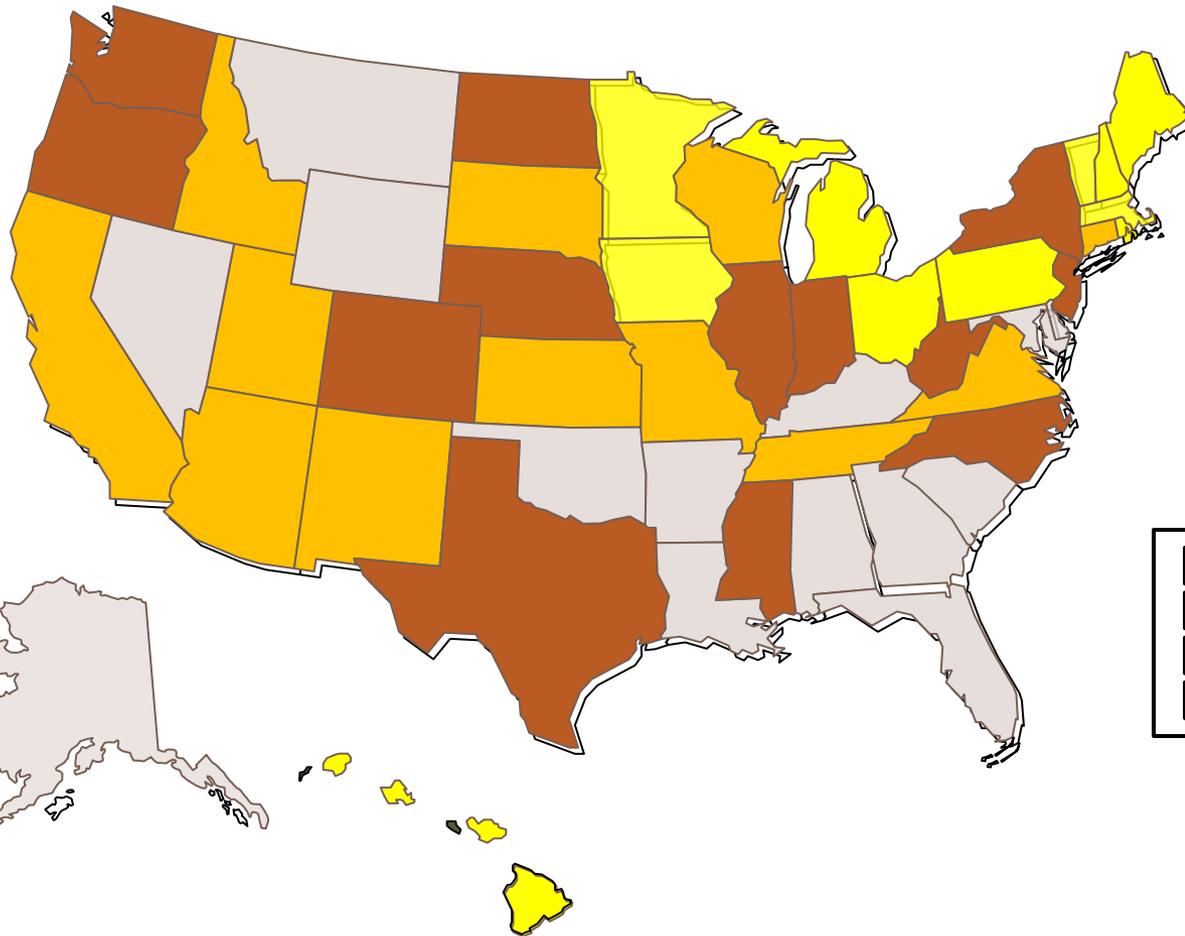
- TANF (25%)
- SNAP (70%)
- School Lunch (80%)
- SCHiP/Medicaid (77%)
- Worked 50 of 52 weeks (56%)

Work and Welfare for Single-mother Families $\leq 100\%$ of the Federal Poverty Level



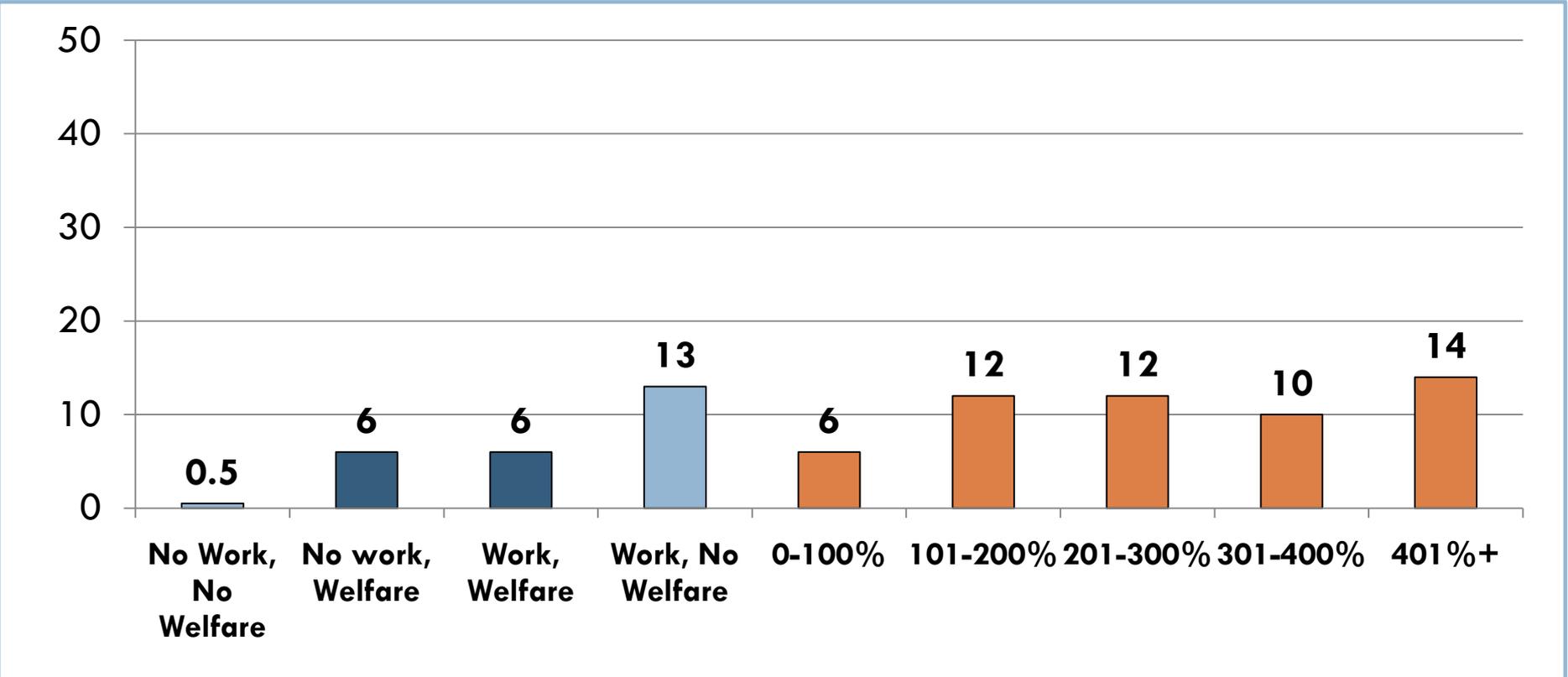
Children in Single-mother Families at or Below 100% of FPL and Receiving TANF

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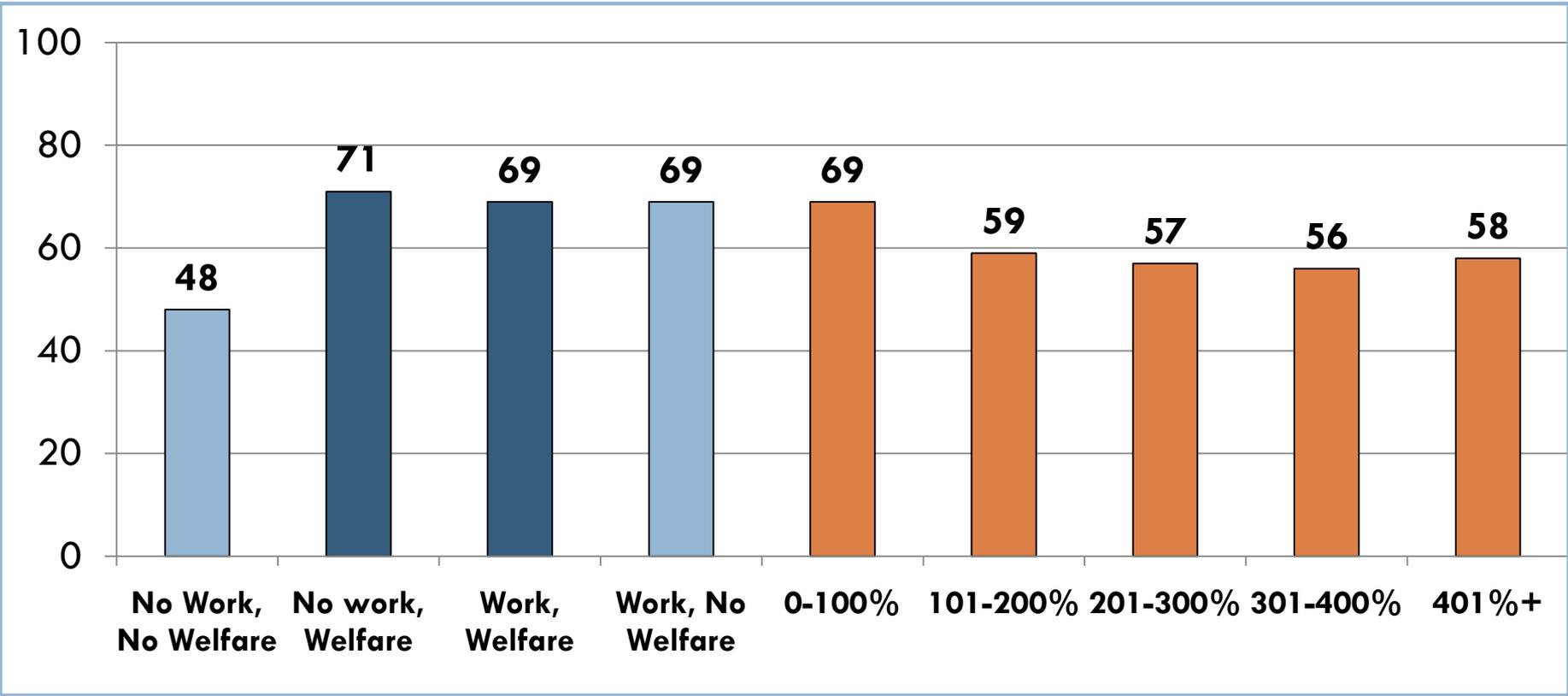
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare ($\leq 100\%$ FPL)

Child took care of self (6-11yrs)



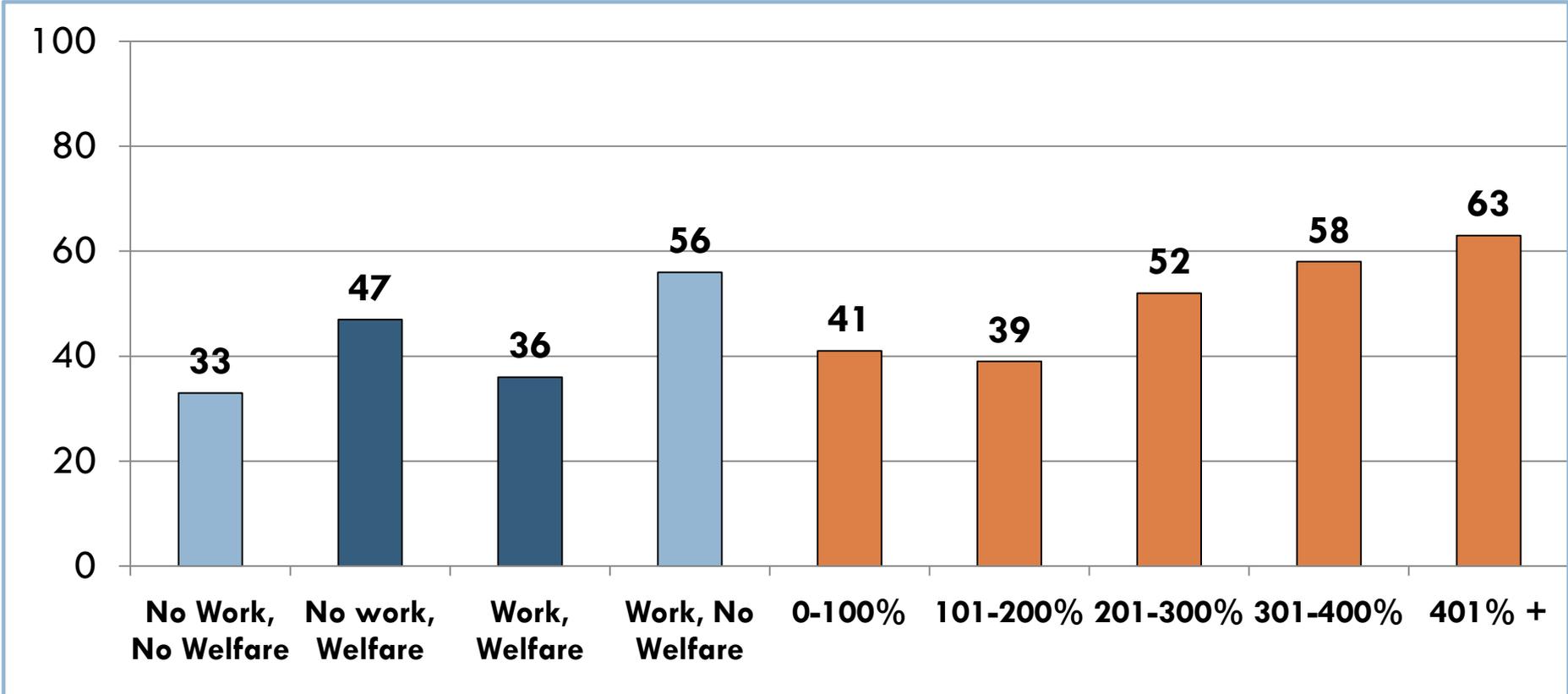
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare ($\leq 100\%$ FPL)

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



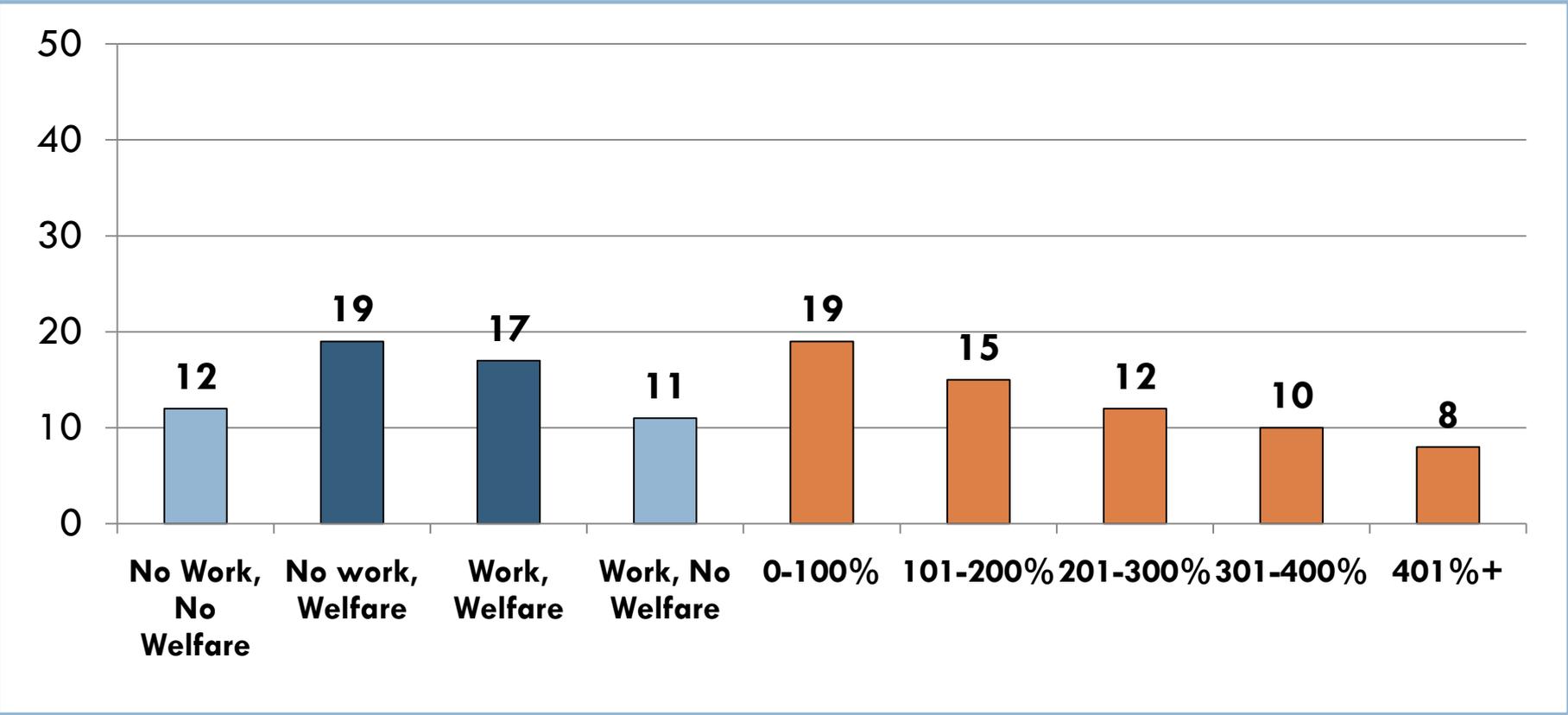
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare ($\leq 100\%$ FPL)

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



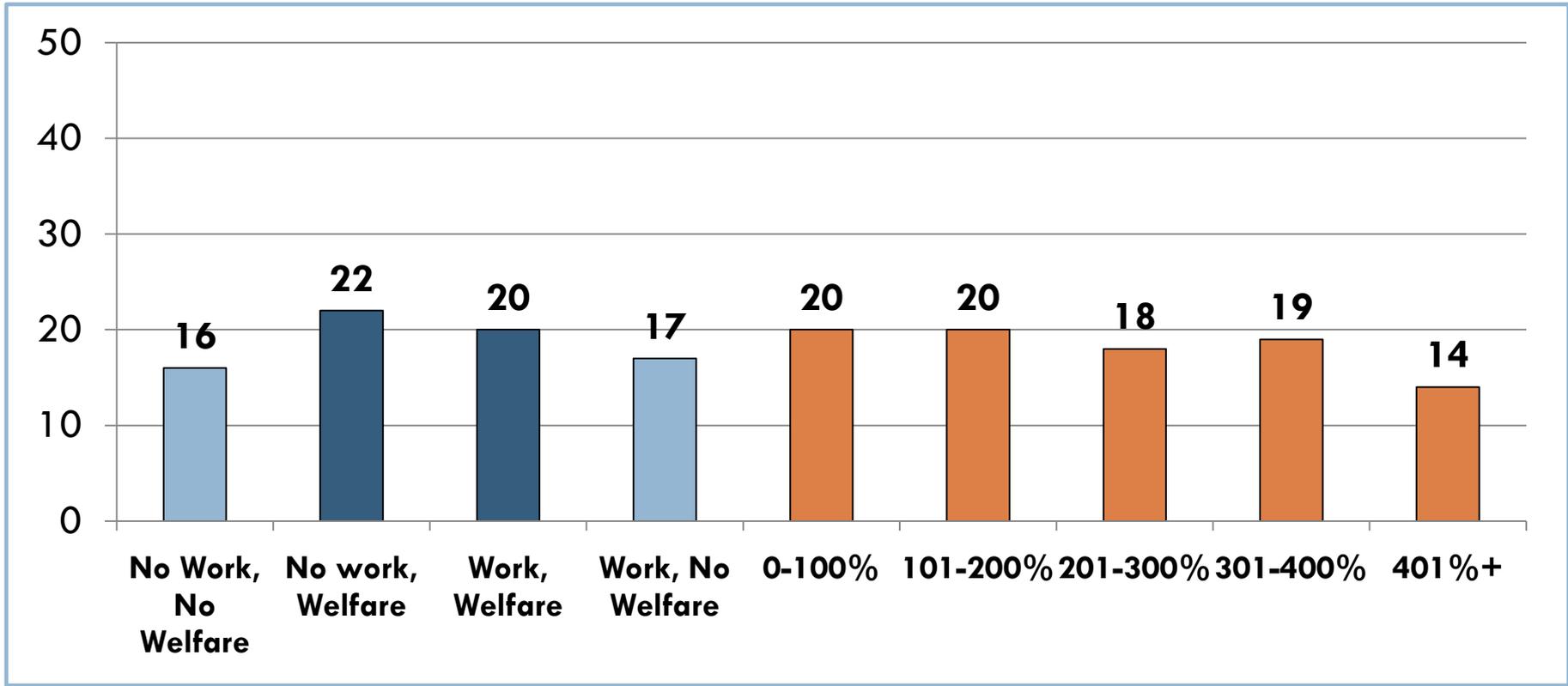
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare ($\leq 100\%$ FPL)

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



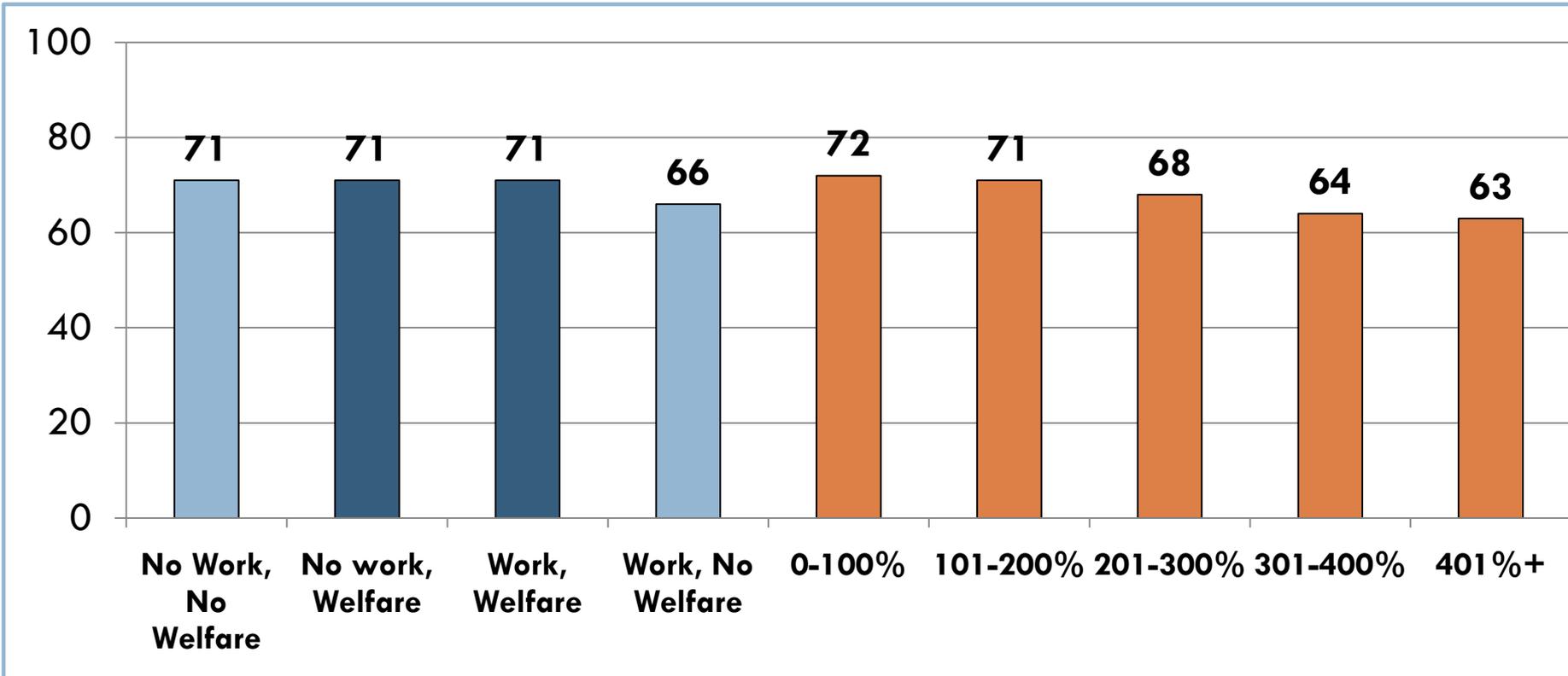
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare ($\leq 100\%$ FPL)

Low School Engagement (6-17 yrs)



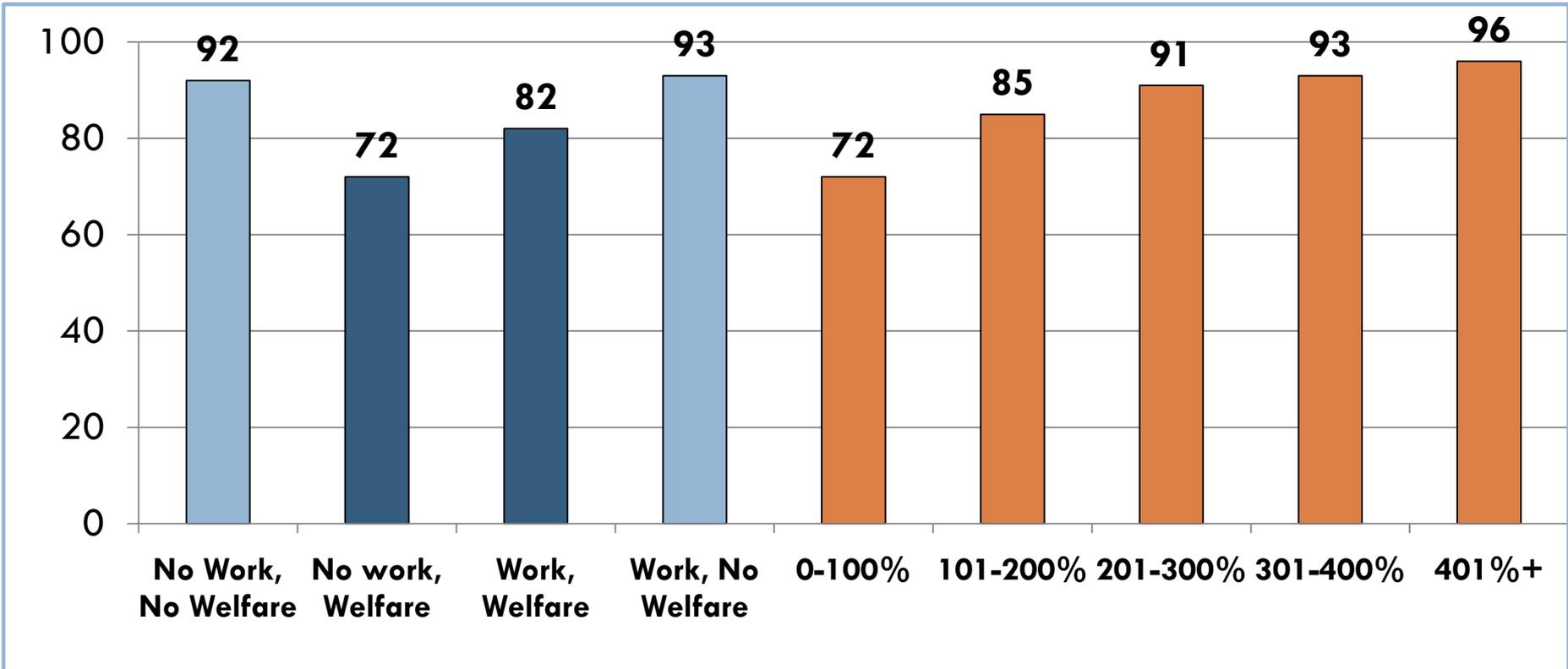
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare ($\leq 100\%$ FPL)

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



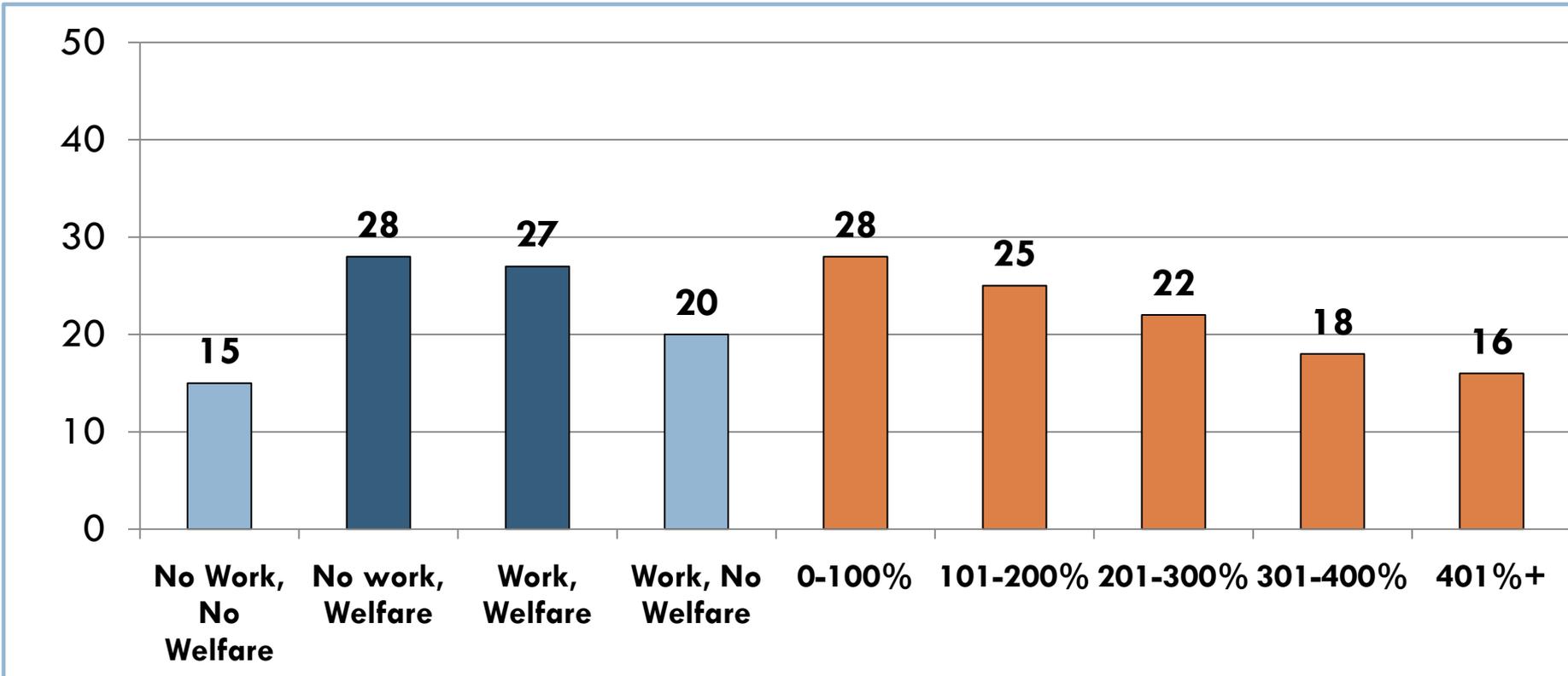
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare ($\leq 100\%$ FPL)

Child does at least one activity (6-17 yrs)



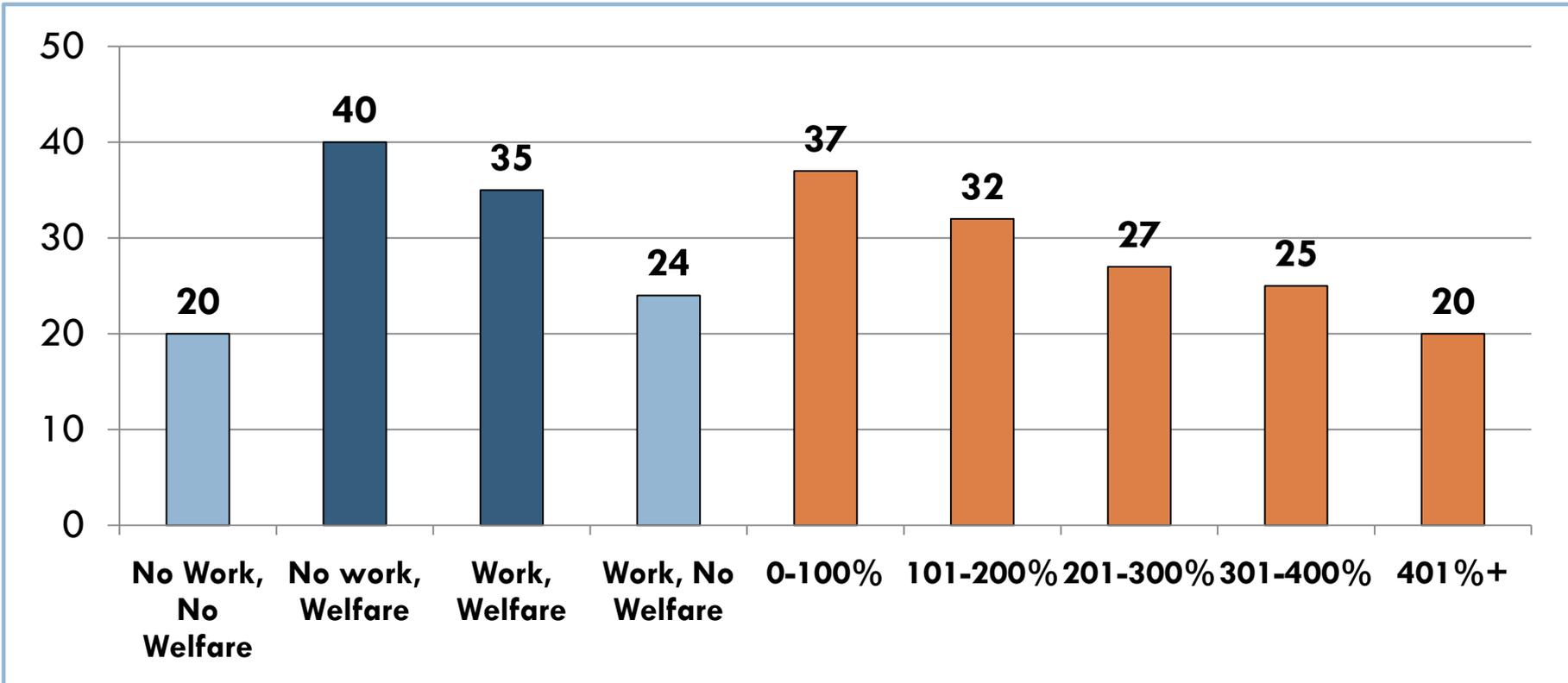
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare ($\leq 100\%$ FPL)

Low Social Competence (6-17 yrs)



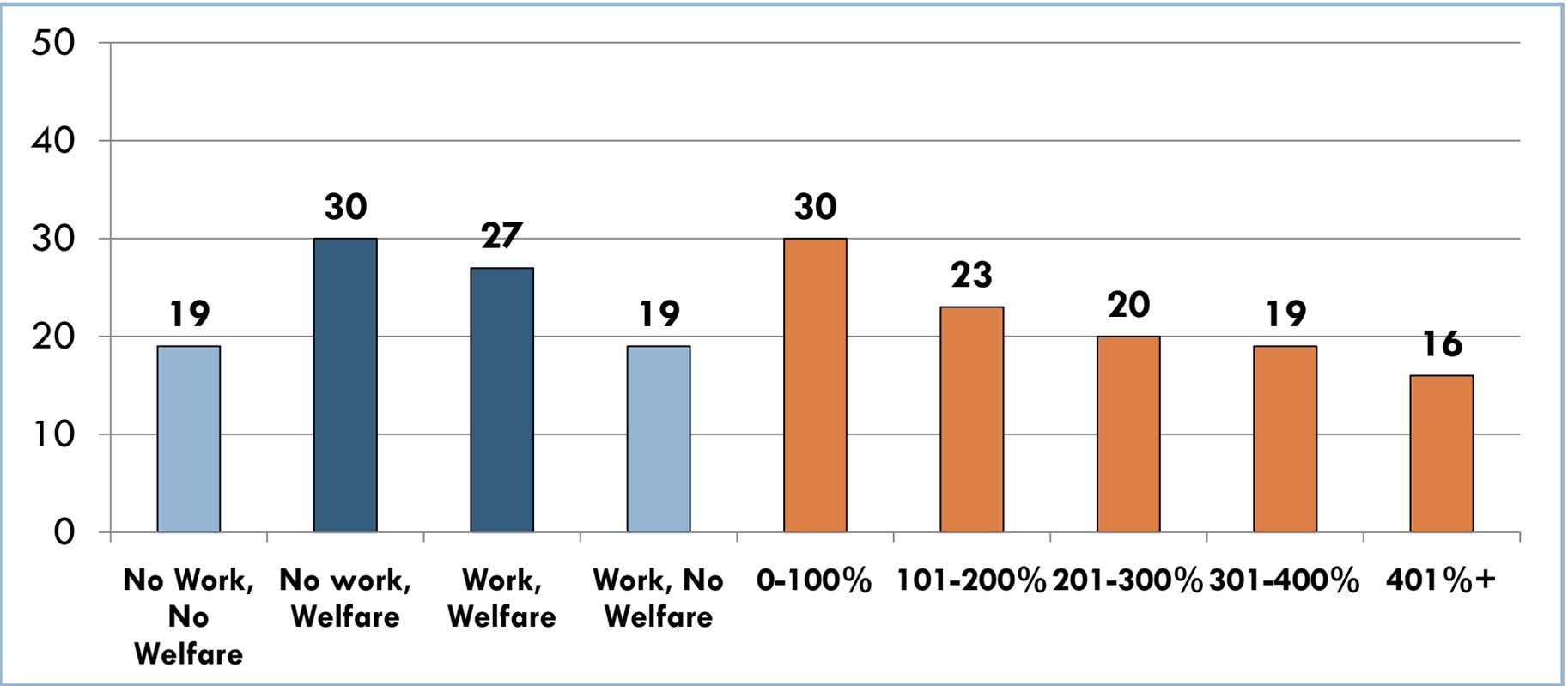
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare ($\leq 100\%$ FPL)

High Externalizing Behavior (6-17 yrs)



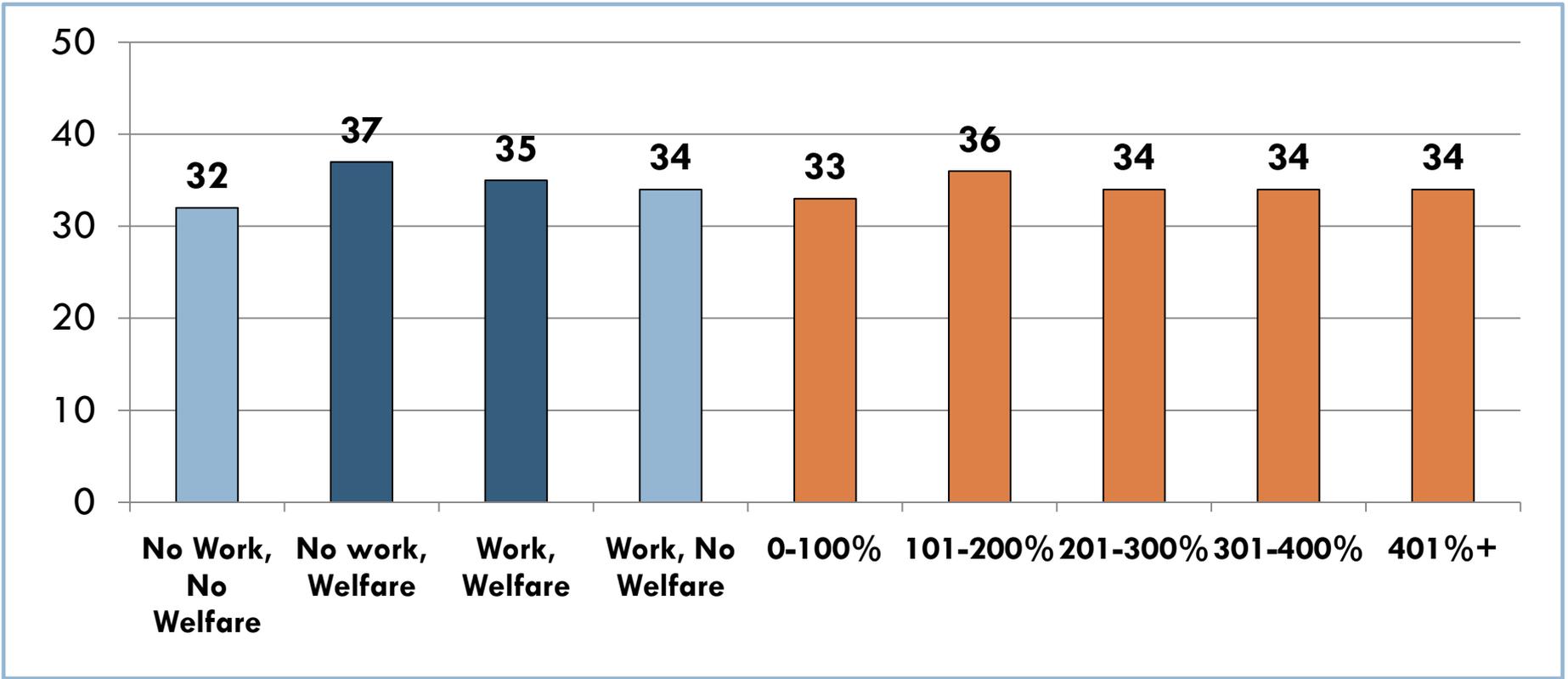
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare ($\leq 100\%$ FPL)

High Internalizing Behavior (6-17 yrs)



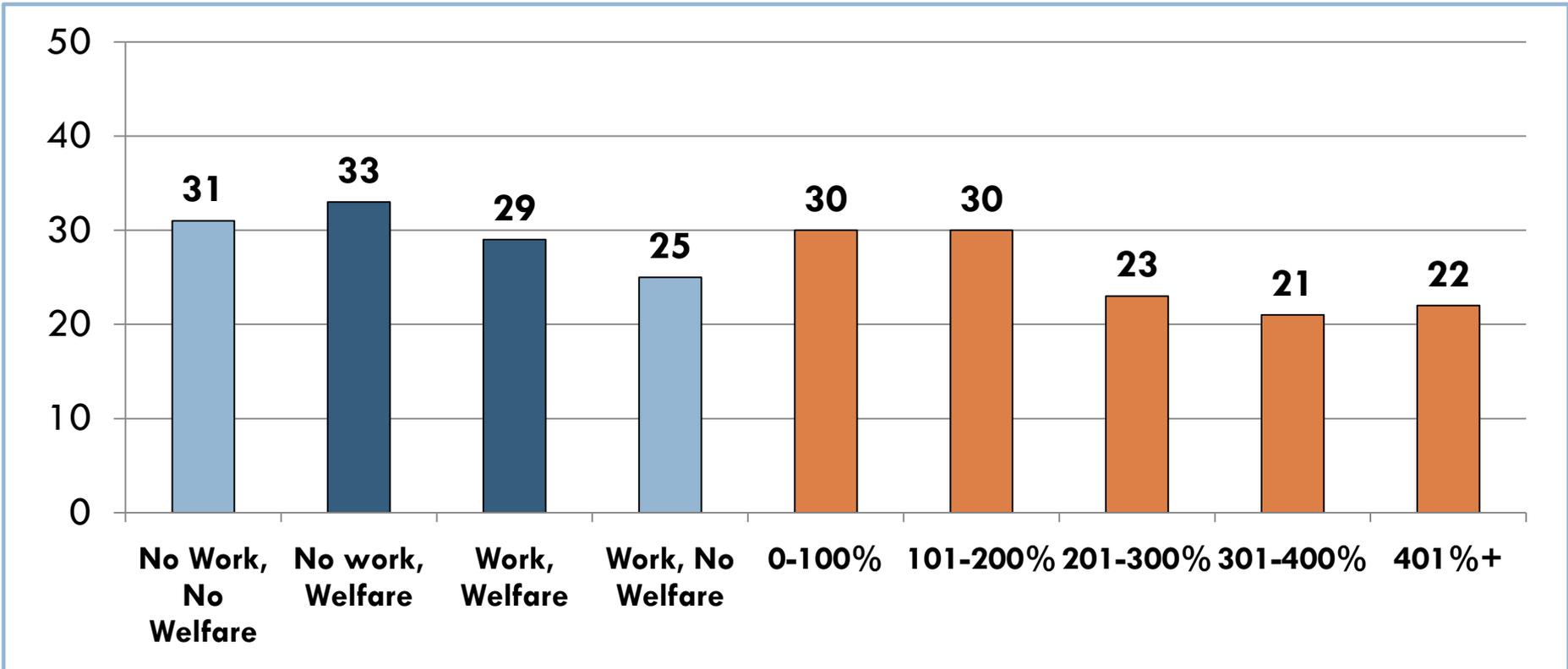
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare ($\leq 100\%$ FPL)

Poor Parent-child Communication(6-17 yrs)



Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare ($\leq 100\%$ FPL)

High Parent Aggravation (0-17 yrs)



Overall Findings

Outcomes by work and welfare status (for 100% FPL)				
	Work, No welfare	No Work, No Welfare	Work, Welfare	No Work, Welfare
Reads to Child 6+ days (0-5yrs)	Best	Worst	3rd Best	2nd Best
Tells Stories or Sings to Child 6+ days (0-5yrs)	Best	Worst	2nd Best	3rd Best
Job affected by Child Care (0-5)	*	*	Worst	3rd Best
Child took care of self (6-11)	Worst	3rd Best	*	*
Watches TV more than 3 hours (6-17)	Best	2nd Best	3rd Best	Worst
Low school engagement (6-17)	2nd Best	Best	3rd Best	Worst
Child does at least one activity (6-17)	Best	2nd Best	3rd Best	Worst
Adequate sleep, 6-7 nights (6-17)	Worst	*	*	*
Social competence (6-17)	2nd Best	Best	3rd Best	Worst
Eats meals together 5+ days (0-17yrs)	*	Worst	*	Best
Externalizing Behavior (6-17)	2nd Best	Best	3rd Best	Worst
Internalizing Behavior (6-17)	*	*	3rd Best	Worst
Parent attends activities (6-17)	Best	2nd Best	3rd Best	Worst
Poor Parent-Child Communications (6-17)	2nd Best	Best	3rd Best	Worst
Parent aggravation (0-17)	Best	3rd Best	2nd Best	Worst

Findings

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- 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.



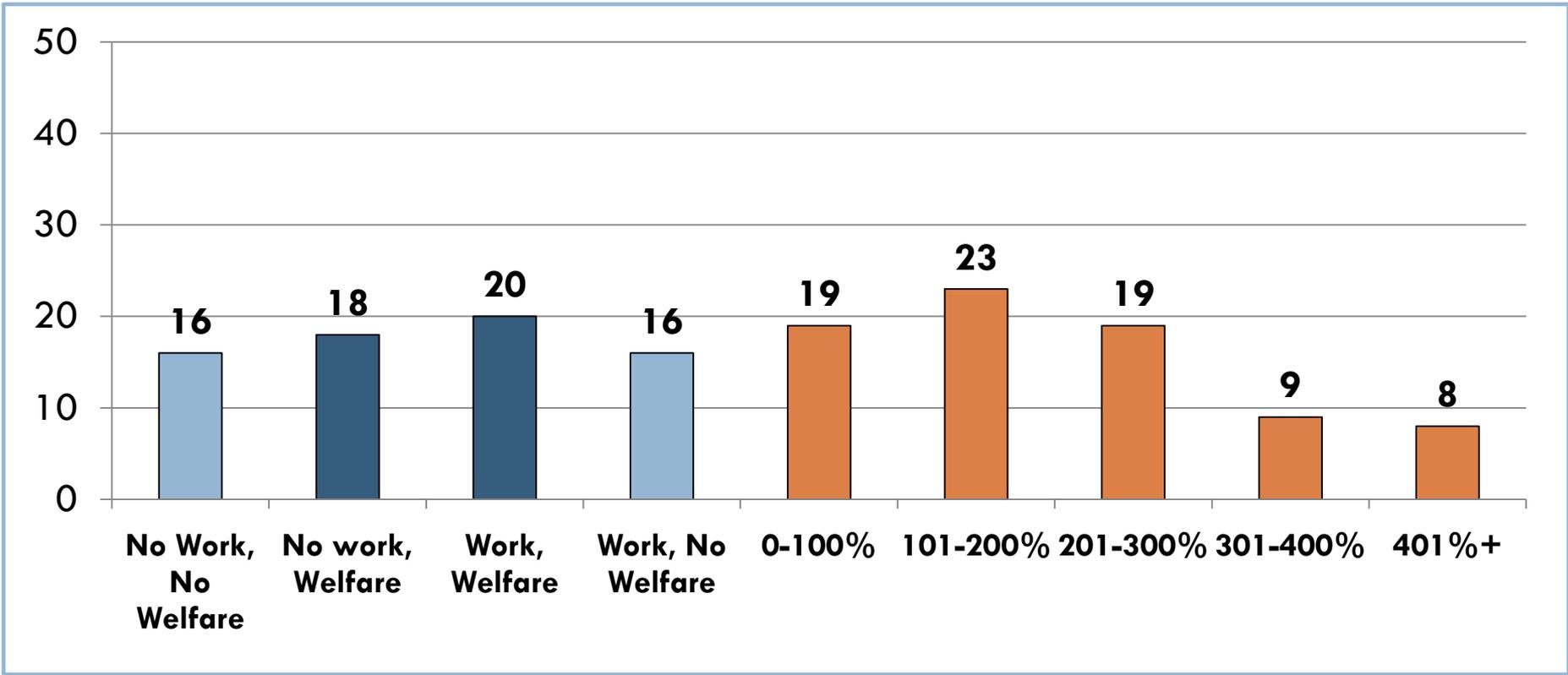
Research in the service of children

www.childtrends.org

www.childtrendsatabank.org

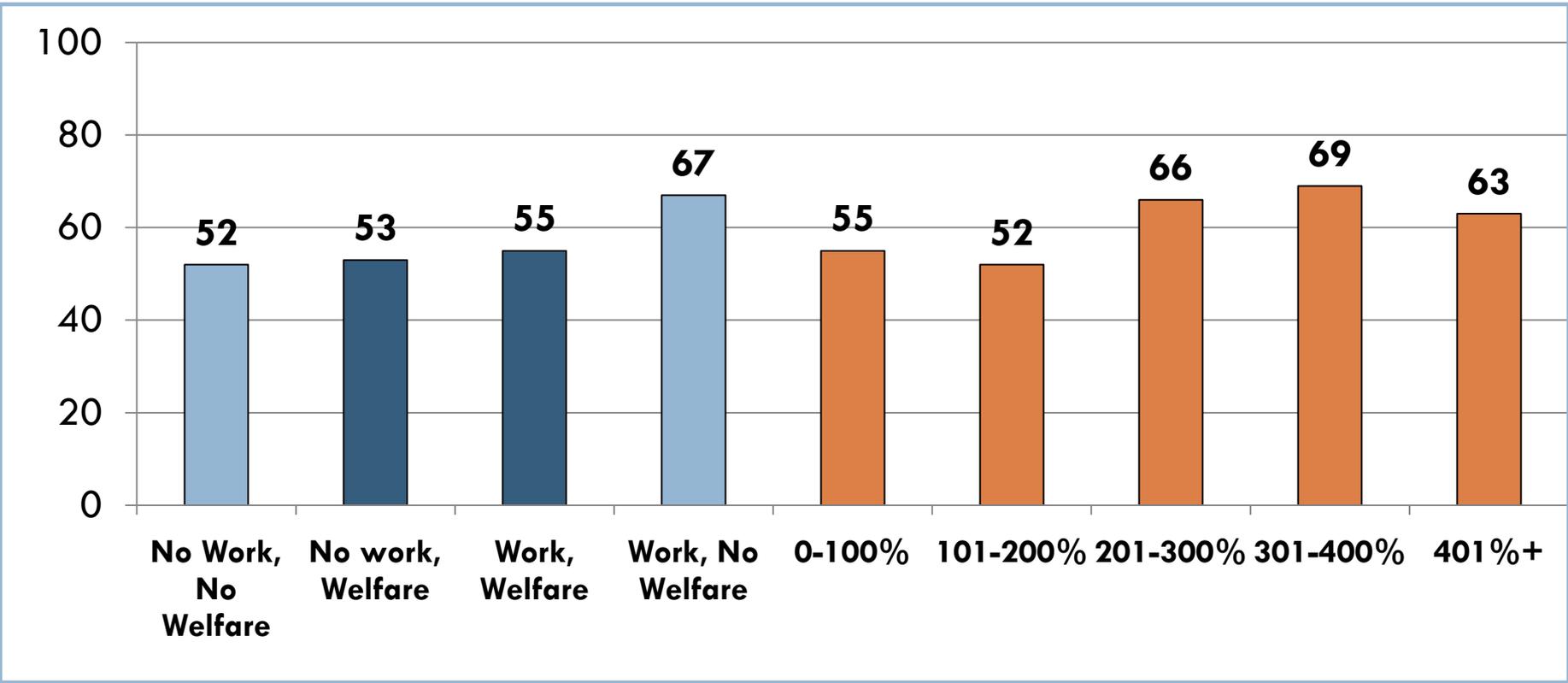
Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare ($\leq 100\%$ FPL)

Job Affected by Child Care (0-5 yrs)



Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare ($\leq 100\%$ FPL)

Tells Stories or Sings 6+ days (0-5 yrs)



Child Outcomes, Work & Welfare ($\leq 100\%$ FPL)

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

