

**Characteristics of
Participants in the Child
Support Noncustodial
Parent Employment
Demonstration (CSPED)
Evaluation**



December 2018

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Submitted to:

Elaine Sorensen, Project Officer
Office of Child Support Enforcement
Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
330 C St. SW, 5th Floor
Washington, DC 20201

Submitted by:

Maria Cancian
Angela Guarin
Leslie Hodges
Daniel R. Meyer
Institute for Research on Poverty
University of Wisconsin–Madison
1180 Observatory Drive
Madison, WI 53706

Principal Investigators:

Maria Cancian
Daniel R. Meyer
Institute for Research on Poverty

Robert G. Wood
Mathematica Policy Research
P.O. Box 2393
Princeton, NJ 08543-2393

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Characteristics of Participants in the Child Support Noncustodial Parent Employment Demonstration (CSPED) Evaluation

Maria Cancian, Daniel R. Meyer, and Robert Wood, Principal Investigators

Co-Investigators

Lawrence M. Berger

Katherine Anne Magnuson

Quinn Moore

Jennifer L. Noyes

Research Staff and Analysts

Steven Cook

Angela Guarin

Leslie Hodges

Lanikue Howard

Danielle Lythjohan

Aaron Reilly

Theresa Schulte

Maggie Darby Townsend

Lisa Klein Vogel

Melody Waring

Emily Weaver

April Yanyuan Wu

Programmers

Mike Curtis

Dan Ross

Xiaofan Sun

Lynn Wimer

Communications and Administrative Staff

David Chancellor

Omar Dumdum

Dawn Duren

Deborah Johnson

Sylvia Swift Kmiec

Vee Yeo



**Institute for
Research on
Poverty**

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

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Executive Summary

Most children in the United States will spend at least some time living apart from one of their parents (Andersson, Thomson, and Duntava, 2017). The poverty gap between one- and two-parent families has contributed to calls to strengthen child support policy as a way to reduce poverty and increase the income of single-parent families. However, many noncustodial parents struggle to meet their child support obligations. Whether noncustodial parents are providing all that can be expected or could provide more is difficult to ascertain without knowing something about their life circumstances. Unfortunately, prior research on noncustodial parents who are behind in paying child support is quite limited, and we know relatively little about their earnings, barriers to employment, or the complexity of their relationships with their former partners or their children.

The purpose of this report is to begin to fill in the blanks by documenting the characteristics of more than 10,000 noncustodial parents who participated in the Child Support Noncustodial Parent Employment Demonstration program (CSPED). The federally funded intervention was operated by child support agency grantees within eight states, and served noncustodial parents who were behind on child support payments and experiencing employment difficulties.

The CSPED Model

In the summer of 2012, the Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) within the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), invited applicants to submit proposals for grant funding through the CSPED program. Through CSPED, as described in the program's Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA; DHHS, 2012), OCSE sought to examine the efficacy of child support-led employment programs for noncustodial parents, and to improve child support payment reliability in order to improve child well-being and avoid public costs. OCSE laid the groundwork for the CSPED design through the FOA, which specified that CSPED programs were to consist of the following core services: (1) case management; (2) enhanced child support services, including review and adjustment of child support orders; (3) employment-oriented services, including job placement and job retention services; and (4) parenting activities using peer support. These services were to be accompanied by a domestic violence plan. OCSE required applicants to develop child support-led program models, with parenting and employment services delivered through partners with expertise in those domains. OCSE described the target population for CSPED programs as noncustodial parents involved with the child support program who were not regularly paying child support, or who were expected to have difficulty paying, due to lack of regular employment.

As described in the FOA (DHHS, 2012), OCSE constructed these required program elements based on findings from previous demonstrations, including the *Parents' Fair Share* demonstration (Miller and Knox, 2001); the *Strengthening Families Through Stronger Fathers Initiative* in New York (Sorensen and Lippold, 2012); and the state of Texas's *Noncustodial Parent (NCP) Choices* program (Schroeder and Doughty, 2009).

CSPED and Its Evaluation

In fall of 2012, OCSE competitively awarded grants to child support agencies in eight states (California, Colorado, Iowa, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Wisconsin) to provide enhanced child support, employment, and parenting services to noncustodial parents who were having difficulty meeting their child support obligations. These state child support agencies served as the fiscal agents for the demonstration. They chose a total of 18 implementation sites, ranging from one county each in Ohio, Iowa, and California to five counties in Colorado. Each implementation site had a local child support agency that managed the daily operation of the demonstration.

Also in 2012, OCSE competitively awarded a cooperative agreement to the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families to procure and manage an evaluation of CSPED through an independent third-party evaluator. The Wisconsin Department of Children and Families chose the Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, along with its partner Mathematica Policy Research, to conduct the evaluation. The Institute for Research on Poverty also partnered with the University of Wisconsin Survey Center, which worked in conjunction with Mathematica Policy Research to collect data from study participants.

Research products from the evaluation to date include an interim implementation report (Paulsell et al., 2015) and a final implementation report (Noyes, Vogel, and Howard, 2018). Future reports will share findings from the demonstration’s impact evaluation on key outcomes of interest, and the results of a benefit-cost analysis.

Eligibility, Recruitment, and Enrollment

Prior to CSPED enrollment, OCSE provided direction to grantees about whom programs should serve. OCSE required that grantees enroll participants who had established paternity and were being served by their child support programs. OCSE also required grantees to enroll participants who were not regularly paying child support, or who expected to have difficulty making payments, due to a lack of regular employment. OCSE’s guidance provided a common framework from which grantees operationalized their own definitions of key terms provided in the OCSE guidance. Some grantees added to or modified OCSE’s criteria prior to enrollment; some grantees modified their eligibility criteria after enrollment began.

Using these eligibility criteria, grantees set out to find and recruit eligible noncustodial parents. All grantees except South Carolina began enrolling participants in the last quarter of 2013; South Carolina began in June 2014. Study enrollment ended for all grantees on September 30, 2016. Grantees reached potentially eligible participants through a variety of approaches, including direct recruitment as well as referrals from courts, child support staff, and CSPED participants themselves. Grantees refined their recruitment strategies over the first year to boost enrollment numbers. Ultimately, CSPED staff reported that the most effective recruitment strategy was child support staff referrals (Noyes et al., 2018).

These recruitment efforts culminated in CSPED grantees enrolling 10,173 participants, or 85 percent of OCSE’s target. Nine participants had been determined to be ineligible by spring 2018, leaving a sample for this report of 10,164. One-half of the noncustodial parents enrolled by

each grantee were randomly assigned to receive CSPED services (the treatment group); the other half were randomly assigned to a control group that received regular services.

Baseline Survey of CSPED Participants

As part of the rigorous evaluation of CSPED, the Evaluation Team collected information from study participants on their demographic and socioeconomic characteristics through a survey administered when they enrolled in the program. All study participants completed the baseline survey through a telephone call with the UW Survey Center call center.

The baseline survey included sections on informed consent; demographic and socioeconomic characteristics; children and relationships; child support orders and payments; economic stability; parent background and well-being; motivation to participate in the program; and a follow-up contact information section.

Characteristics of CSPED Participants at Enrollment

This report relies on the baseline survey to describe various aspects of the lives of CSPED participants, all of whom were noncustodial parents having difficulty meeting their child support obligations, a group about whom little is known.

Demographic profile. Nearly all participants were men, and participants were on average 35 years old. Participants generally had low levels of educational attainment—nearly 70 percent had at most a high school education. Only 14 percent were currently married and about half had never married. Most participants identified as non-Hispanic black or African American (40 percent), non-Hispanic white (33 percent), or Hispanic or Latino (22 percent).

Child support orders and formal and informal payments. Virtually all participants reported having a child support order for at least one of their nonresident children. Children are considered *nonresident* if the participant reported staying overnight with the child for 15 or fewer nights of the past 30. When a noncustodial parent owed support to the custodial parent(s) of their nonresident child(ren), the median amount they reported as owed was \$325 in the past 30 days.

Orders represented a high proportion of earnings for noncustodial parents who reported earnings. Among noncustodial parents with an order for any nonresident child, and earnings in the past 30 days, 58 percent owed more than half their earnings in support. Forty-four percent of noncustodial parents owed support even though they reported no earnings in the past 30 days.

At the time of enrollment, many participants reported that they had contributed to the financial support of their nonresident children in the past 30 days. Forty-three percent reported that they paid formal child support; 48 percent reported that they gave money for items such as food, diapers, clothing, or school supplies for children (informal cash support); and 60 percent reported that they directly purchased these types of items (informal noncash support). When payments were made in the past 30 days, the median amount paid was \$225 for formal child support, \$130 for informal cash support, and \$150 for informal noncash support.

For those with nonresident biological children in multiple families, there were differences in likelihood of providing informal cash and noncash support favoring the youngest child (from the most recent relationship); however, the likelihood of providing formal cash support favored the oldest child. Differences in the amounts provided to youngest and oldest children were not large.

Employment, other economic characteristics, and well-being. Participants faced substantial economic disadvantages. Only 56 percent had worked in the 30 days prior to enrollment. Among those who had worked in the past 30 days, their median monthly earnings were \$500, well below the poverty guideline for a single person, which averaged \$981 per month during CSPED's enrollment period. Less than half reported receiving public assistance (35 percent received SNAP) or having health insurance coverage (44 percent).

The most common barriers to employment reported by participants were problems getting to work, having a criminal record, and not having a steady place to live. About two-thirds reported having a criminal record. Nearly 30 percent reported not paying rent where they lived and 2 percent reported living in a shelter, on the streets, or in an abandoned car or building. Nearly one-third lived with their parents or grandparents and 30 percent did not expect to live in the same place the following year.

Finally, in terms of noncustodial parents' emotional well-being, using a standard eight-item depression scale (PHQ-8), more than one-fourth of participants would be categorized as depressed. As another indicator of emotional well-being, one-fourth reported that they never or rarely felt in control of things that were happening to them.

Parenting. Most CSPED participants had one (30 percent) or two (28 percent) biological children. Just over 20 percent had four or more biological children. Nearly all participants had at least one nonresident child, and about one-third had a resident child (with nonresident status defined by 15 or fewer overnights in the past 30 days).

Not surprisingly, participants reported having much better relationships and having much more contact with their resident children than their nonresident children. While 84 percent of participants who had resident children reported an excellent relationship with them, only 30 percent reported having an excellent relationship with their nonresident children. Twenty-seven percent of participants had no contact with their youngest and oldest nonresident children in the 30 days prior to enrollment and about 40 percent had no in-person contact with these children. Four in five noncustodial parents did not see their youngest and oldest nonresident children as much as they wanted. The most common reason noncustodial parents expressed for not spending as much time with their children as they wanted was that the custodial parent prevented it (reported by about a third of participants).

Relationships with the other parents and romantic partners. At enrollment, nearly 60 percent of CSPED participants were romantically involved with either a parent of one of their biological children (28 percent) or someone else (30 percent); 41 percent reported that they were not in a romantic relationship. Sixty-two percent of noncustodial parents had children with more than one partner.

At enrollment, participants tended to report that they had fair or poor relationships with the custodial parents of their nonresident children. For example, 62 percent of participants reported that they had a fair or poor relationship with the custodial parent of their youngest nonresident child. They were slightly more positive when it came to assessing whether they were a good parenting team. About half of participants (53 percent) agreed that they and the custodial parent were a good parenting team for their youngest nonresident child.

Summary

Noncustodial parents who participated in CSPED were selected because they were behind in their child support payments and likely to have employment difficulties. Indeed, we found that participants faced various challenges. What can we conclude from the portrait of CSPED participants that emerges from the baseline survey? First, median orders for formal child support (\$325 per month) would potentially be manageable if nonresident parents had steady employment at a moderate wage. However, actual reported earnings fall far short, and many of the barriers to employment are significant; evaluations of previous employment interventions suggest the difficulty of designing effective interventions to overcome mental health issues, housing instability, and a history of incarceration.

Second, the noncustodial parents participating in CSPED were typically at least somewhat engaged with at least some of their children—though they were infrequently contributing substantially to all of their children. It is important to recognize the diversity in engagement, not only across nonresident parents, but sometimes even across children for a given nonresident parent. Many nonresident parents in CSPED had some resident children—with whom they typically reported strong relationships. On the other hand, most had not made any formal child support contributions in the past month, and 42 percent had no in-person contact with their oldest nonresident child over that period.

This brings us to our third conclusion: noncustodial parents in CSPED were trying to manage complex situations—balancing responsibilities to both resident and nonresident children and navigating co-parenting relationships with multiple other partners, often without stable employment or housing. Developing programs and policies to appropriately respond to these complexities is clearly a challenge—and is one of the primary motivations for the CSPED intervention itself.

Chapter 1. Introduction

In the past several decades, changes in family structure have led to a substantial increase in single-parent households in the United States. Due to high divorce rates and an increasing proportion of births to unmarried parents (Cancian, Meyer, and Han, 2011), almost a third of children did not live with both parents in 2016 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2017). Children living with a single parent are particularly economically vulnerable; their poverty rates in 2015 were 37 percent, substantially higher than that of other children, whose rate was 14 percent (Grall, 2018).

The child support system tries to ensure that noncustodial parents provide an appropriate amount of financial support to custodial parents, and for poor families that receive it, child support is a key income source (Sorensen, 2010). However, many noncustodial parents struggle to meet their child support obligations. Whether they are providing all that can be expected, or could provide more, is difficult to ascertain without knowing something about their life circumstances. Unfortunately, prior research on noncustodial parents who are behind in paying child support is quite limited, and we know relatively little about their earnings, barriers to employment, or the complexity of their relationships with their current and former partners or their children.

I. Purpose

This report documents the characteristics of more than 10,000 noncustodial parents who participated in the Child Support Noncustodial Parent Employment Demonstration (CSPED), a federally funded intervention operated by child support agency grantees in eight states, for noncustodial parents behind on their child support payments and experiencing employment difficulties. All information about participants in this report comes from their own reports on a baseline survey administered at enrollment. These are baseline data and do not provide information about program effectiveness, but they do provide one of the most comprehensive pictures to date of the circumstances of noncustodial parents who struggle to pay child support.

CSPED Baseline Survey

As part of the rigorous evaluation of CSPED, the Evaluation Team collected information on the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of study participants. At the time of study enrollment, all study participants completed a baseline survey through a telephone call with the UW Survey Center call center.

The baseline survey was administered in both English and Spanish between October 2013 and September 2016. It included sections on consent; demographic and socioeconomic characteristics; children and relationships; economic stability; parent background and well-being; motivation to participate in the program; and a follow-up contact information section.

All grantees used the same instrument except Texas, where an abbreviated version of this instrument was used to accommodate the study enrollment process in Texas courthouses. The Texas instrument did not include questions about children beyond name and age, did not include any questions about custodial parents of children, and included very limited questions about economic stability and noncustodial parent well-being. Given the data limitations, Texas CSPED participants are excluded from much of the analysis that follows.

II. The CSPED Model

In summer of 2012, the Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) within the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), invited applicants to submit proposals for grant funding through CSPED. As described in the program's Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA; DHHS, 2012), OCSE sought to examine the efficacy of child support agency-led employment programs for noncustodial parents. The FOA described CSPED's goal as to improve the reliable payment of child support in order to improve child well-being and avoid public costs.

OCSE laid the groundwork for the CSPED design through the FOA (DHHS, 2012), which specified that programs were to consist of the following core services: (1) case management; (2) enhanced child support procedures, including review and adjustment of child support orders, as well as programs to reduce child support debt owed to the state; (3) employment-oriented services, including job placement and job retention services; and (4) parenting activities using peer support. These services were to be accompanied by a domestic violence plan. OCSE required applicants to develop child support-led program models, with parenting and employment services delivered through partners with expertise in those domains. OCSE described the target population as noncustodial parents involved with the child support program who were not regularly paying child support, or who were expected to have difficulty paying, due to a lack of regular employment.

OCSE constructed these required program elements based on findings from previous demonstrations. The FOA (DHHS, 2012) particularly emphasized three prior studies: (1) The *Parents' Fair Share* demonstration, implemented from 1994 through 1996; (2) the *Strengthening Families Through Stronger Fathers Initiative*, piloted from 2006 through 2009 in New York State; and (3) the state of Texas's *Noncustodial Parent (NCP) Choices* program, which began in 2005.

As described in the FOA (DHHS, 2012), each of these programs aimed to increase low-income fathers' earnings, involvement in their children's lives, and child support payments. *Parents Fair Share* provided employment and training services; parenting classes with peer support; mediation; and enhanced child support services to program participants. The random assignment evaluation showed that the program did not have an impact on employment or earnings for the entire sample. However, it did increase employment rates and average earnings among noncustodial fathers with low education levels and limited prior work experience. Through intensive case management, the program also identified previously unreported income, and adjusted orders to align with participants' employment circumstances. Noncustodial parents who received program services had a payment rate 20 percent higher than noncustodial parents in the control group (45 percent versus 40 percent), though child support payment amounts were not significantly different between the two groups (Miller and Knox, 2001).

The more recent *Strengthening Families Through Stronger Fathers Initiative* provided case management, employment-related services, child support-related services, and parenting and relationship classes to program participants. A nonexperimental evaluation contrasted outcomes of those in the program to a comparison group with similar characteristics. One year after enrollment, the wages of program participants were 22 percent higher than the wages of

nonparticipants, and participants paid 38 percent more in child support than nonparticipants (Sorensen and Lippold, 2012).

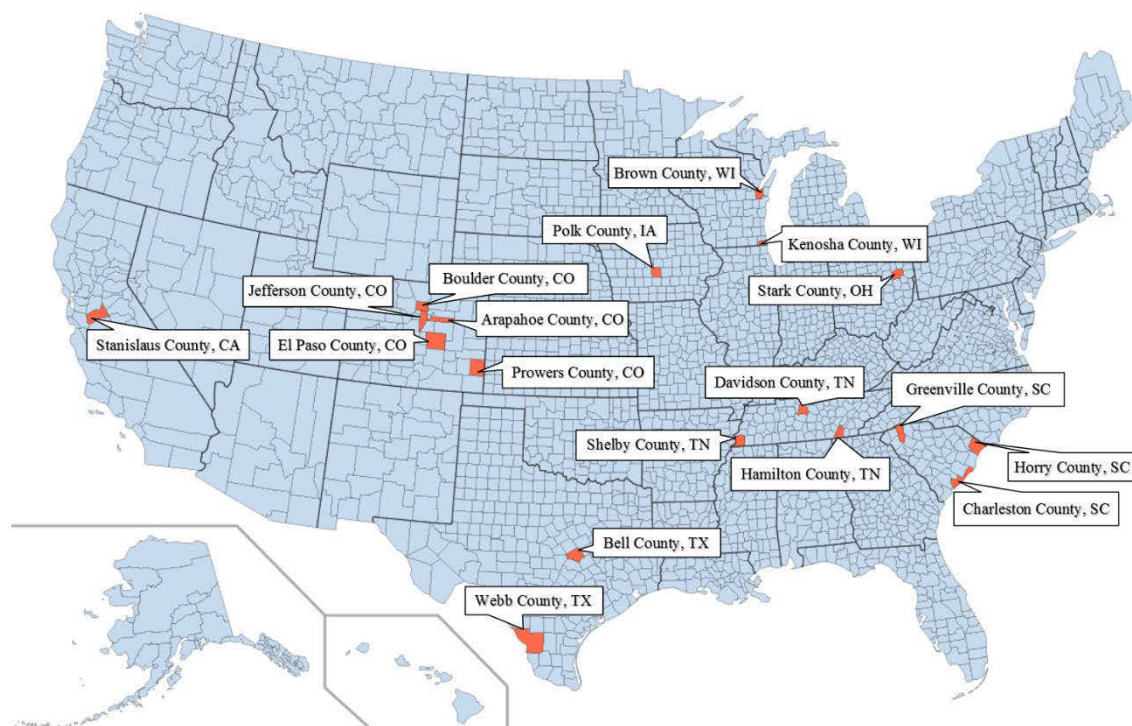
The *Noncustodial Parent (NCP) Choices* program in Texas also aimed to help noncustodial parents overcome barriers to employment and increase the consistency of child support payments by ordering noncustodial parents in contempt of court for nonpayment of child support to participate in employment services. The program's nonexperimental evaluation found that one year after entry into the program, monthly child support collection rates from the NCP Choices program group were 47 percent higher than a matched comparison group, and monthly payments among the program group were \$57 higher on average than the comparison group. NCP Choices participants also paid child support more regularly than the comparison group. Significant differences between the groups in these domains persisted two to four years after enrollment (Schroeder and Doughty, 2009).

To build on these prior demonstrations, OCSE launched CSPED in fall 2012 and competitively awarded grants to child support agencies in eight states (California, Colorado, Iowa, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Wisconsin; Figure 1.1). Grantees were to provide case management, enhanced child support, employment, and parenting services to noncustodial parents who were having difficulty meeting their child support obligations. The eight states operated CSPED programs in a total of 18 implementation sites, ranging from one county each in Ohio, Iowa, and California to five counties in Colorado (Figure 1.2). The locations were not selected to be nationally representative.

Also in 2012, OCSE competitively awarded a cooperative agreement to the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families to procure and manage an evaluation of CSPED through an independent third-party evaluator. The Wisconsin Department of Children and Families chose the Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, along with its partner Mathematica Policy Research, to conduct the evaluation. The Institute for Research on Poverty also partnered with the University of Wisconsin Survey Center, which worked in conjunction with Mathematica Policy Research to collect data from study participants.

Figure 1.1. CSPED grantees

California, Department of Child Support Services
Colorado, Department of Human Services
Iowa, Department of Human Services
Ohio, Department of Job and Family Services
South Carolina, Department of Social Services
Tennessee, Department of Human Services
Texas, Office of the Attorney General
Wisconsin, Department of Children and Families

Figure 1.2. CSPED implementation sites

III. CSPED Eligibility, Recruitment, and Enrollment

Prior to participant enrollment, OCSE guided grantees about whom CSPED programs should serve. OCSE required that grantees enroll participants who had established paternity and were being served by the child support program and were not regularly paying child support, or were expected to have difficulty making payments, due to lack of regular employment. OCSE's guidance provided a common framework from which grantees operationalized their own definitions of key terms provided in the OCSE guidance. Some grantees added to or modified OCSE's criteria prior to enrollment; some grantees modified their eligibility criteria after enrollment began.

Using these eligibility criteria, grantees set out to find and recruit eligible noncustodial parents. Most grantees began enrolling participants in the last quarter of 2013; South Carolina began in June 2014. Study enrollment ended for all grantees on September 30, 2016. Grantees reached potentially eligible participants through a variety of approaches, including direct recruitment as well as referrals from courts, child support staff, and CSPED participants themselves. Grantees refined their recruitment strategies over the first year to boost enrollment numbers. Ultimately, CSPED staff reported that the most effective recruitment strategy was child support staff referrals (Noyes et al., 2018).

These recruitment efforts culminated in CSPED grantees enrolling 10,173 participants, or 85 percent of OCSE's target. Nine of these had been determined to be ineligible by spring 2018, leaving a sample for this report of 10,164.¹ One-half of the noncustodial parents enrolled by each grantee were randomly assigned to receive CSPED services (the treatment group, also known as the extra services group); the other half were randomly assigned to a control group (the regular services group) that did not receive the extra services. Three grantees reached 95 percent or more of their enrollment target.

IV. Roadmap to the Rest of the Report

For this report, we use data collected from the CSPED baseline survey to document the characteristics of noncustodial parents at the time of program enrollment in five key areas: demographics; formal and informal child support payments; employment, other economic characteristics, and well-being; parenting; and relationships with the other parents and romantic partners. We use information from all noncustodial parents who provided us with data (those in Texas responded to a shorter survey, so we do not have the information needed to include them in many of the analyses).²

¹After the data analysis for this report, the research team determined that three additional study participants did not meet study eligibility criteria and were enrolled in error. These study participants were excluded from the final analytic sample for the impact evaluation which is, therefore, 10,161 study participants.

²The abbreviated version of the survey instrument in Texas was used to accommodate the study enrollment process in courthouses.

Chapter 2. Profile of CSPED Participants

Key findings: Profile of CSPED participants

Demographic Characteristics:

- Nearly all CSPED participants were men (90 percent) and most were between the ages of 25 and 39 years old (64 percent).
- They generally had low levels of educational attainment (26 percent had not completed high school or a GED; 43 percent had a high school diploma or GED and no further education; only 32 percent reported having attended college).
- Only 14 percent were currently married; half had never been married (52 percent).
- Forty percent identified as non-Hispanic black or African American, 33 percent as non-Hispanic white, and 22 percent as Hispanic or Latino. Almost all participants were born in the United States (94 percent).
- Seven percent had served on active duty in the military.

Motivation for Participation:

- Over 80 percent of participants indicated that a very or extremely important reason for applying for CSPED was their relationship with their children, their current job situation, and their child support debt.

In this chapter, we profile the noncustodial parent participants in CSPED, describing their demographic characteristics and family experiences, including sex, age, education, marital status, nativity, and military service. We also present participants' reports regarding their motivation for participating in the program. We summarize differences across grantees, as the grantees implemented the program in counties with different demographic compositions and somewhat different eligibility criteria.³

³All items in this chapter include Texas participants except for items related to motivation to participate in the CSPED program, which were not included on the Texas survey instrument.

I. Demographic Characteristics of Participants

Generally, CSPED participants were men, mostly in their late twenties and thirties (mean age was 35), who had low levels of educational attainment and low marriage rates (Figure 2.1). Approximately 26 percent had not completed high school, 43 percent had earned a high school diploma or GED and no further education, and only 3 percent had earned a four-year college degree or more. Fifty-two percent of participants had never been married, and only 14 percent were currently married. Forty percent identified as non-Hispanic black or African American, 33 percent as non-Hispanic white, and 22 percent as Hispanic or Latino.

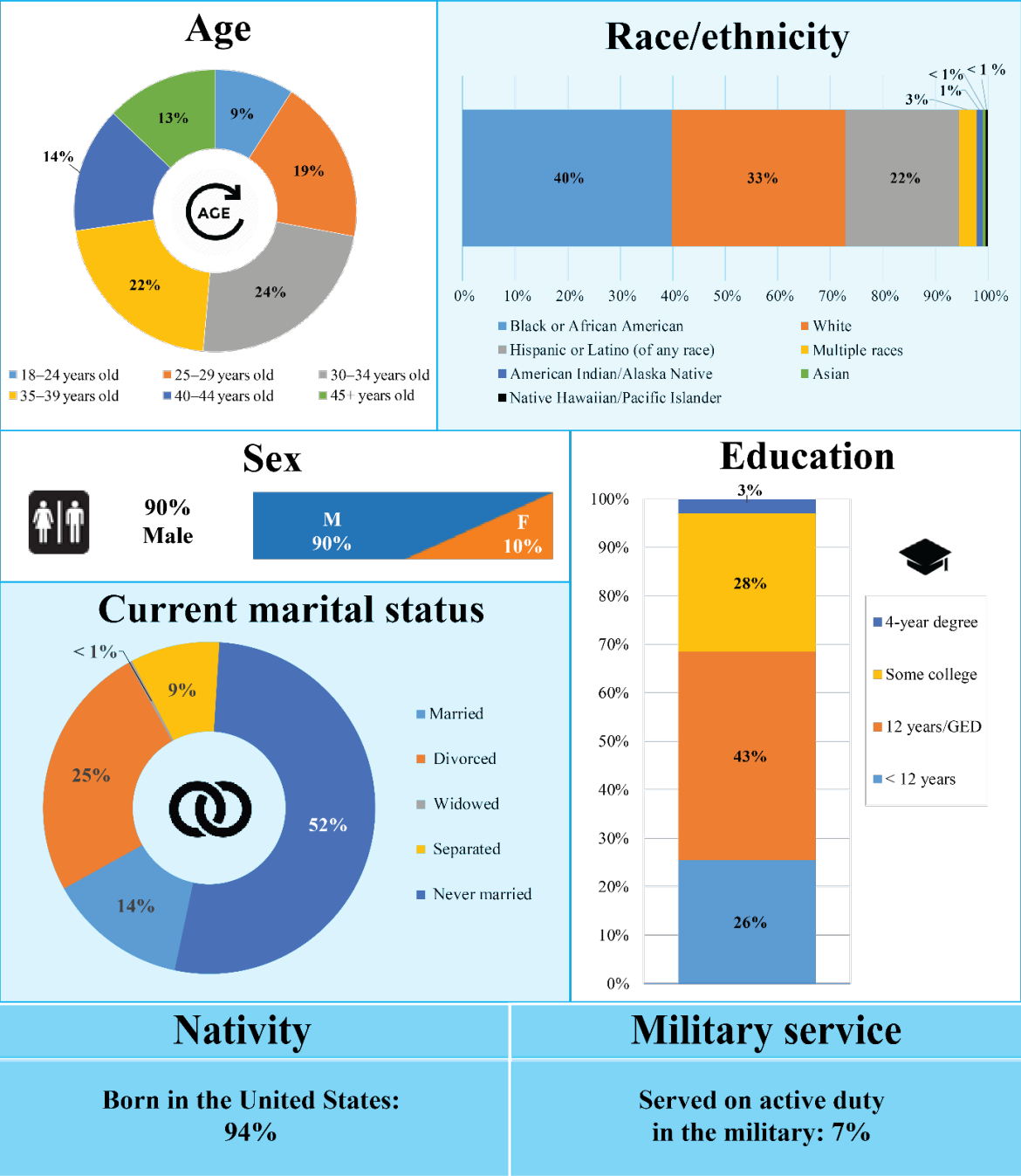
There was substantial variation across grantees on some demographic dimensions (Appendix Table A.1).

- **Ethnicity**—While 22 percent of CSPED participants identified as Hispanic across all eight grantees, in Texas and California, over half of participants identified as Hispanic or Latino. In contrast, less than 2 percent of participants identified as Hispanic or Latino in Ohio, South Carolina, and Tennessee.
- **Education**—In general, 26 percent of CSPED participants had not completed high school, but this varied among grantees. In Colorado and Iowa, 17 percent of participants had not completed high school, whereas 41 percent had not completed high school in South Carolina.
- **Marital Status**—Another contrast was with regard to marital status. Overall, about half of participants had never married (52 percent), but this varied from 65 percent in South Carolina to 40 percent in Colorado.
- **Age**—Texas had the largest percentage of participants under age 25 (17 percent), while Iowa had the lowest (5 percent). Texas also had the lowest percentage of participants over age 45 (9 percent), while Iowa had the largest (16 percent).
- **Nativity**—Overall, 94 percent of participants were born in the United States, but this percentage varied from 86 percent in California to 99 percent in Ohio, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

Appendix Table A.1 also shows areas of commonality across grantees. Almost all participants were men (with Wisconsin having the lowest percentage—86 percent), and few participants had ever served on active duty in the military (with Colorado having the highest percentage—11 percent).

Figure 2.1. Demographic profile of noncustodial parents at enrollment in CSPED

The Evaluation Team surveyed all Child Support Noncustodial Parent Employment Demonstration participants upon their enrollment in the program. We found that nearly all participants were men and the majority were between 25 and 39 years old with low levels of education. Just over half had never married.



Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

II. Motivation for Participation

In addition to information on participants' demographics and family experiences, the baseline survey asked why they were interested in the CSPED program. Participants rated the importance of four reasons for participation given in the baseline survey, including relationship with children, job situation, relationship with the custodial parent, and their child support debt (Table 2.1). Over 80 percent of participants indicated that three of these options were very or extremely important reasons for applying for CSPED. These included their relationship with their children (87 percent), their current job situation (84 percent), and their child support debt (85 percent). The fourth option, improving the relationship with the other parent, was not considered a very or extremely important reason for participation by over half of the participants.

Finally, the survey asked participants how important making time to participate in CSPED was to them. Over 90 percent of participants reported that making time to participate in CSPED was very or extremely important to them.

Table 2.1. Motivation of noncustodial parent to apply for program

	<i>n</i>	Percent				
		Not at all	A little	Somewhat	Very	Extremely
Reason(s) for applying to program	9,006					
Relationship with own children	8,997	4.6%	2.8%	5.3%	26.7%	60.6%
Job situation	9,001	4.0	3.8	7.8	29.1	55.3
Relationship with children's mother/father	8,990	23.5	12.2	23.5	21.3	19.5
Child support debt	9,001	3.0	4.0	7.7	26.9	58.4
Importance of making time to participate in program	8,998	0.3	1.0	7.7	37.1	54.0

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Chapter 3. Child Support

Key findings: Child support

- Virtually all the noncustodial parents in CSPED reported having a child support order for at least one of their children. For these parents, the median order was \$325 per month—about \$195 per child.
- Orders represent a high proportion of earnings for noncustodial parents who reported earnings. Fifty-eight percent of those with earnings owed at least half of their earnings in child support.
- Many participants reported that they had made financial contributions to their children in the 30 days before enrollment. Forty-three percent reported paying formal child support, 48 percent reported providing informal cash support, and 60 percent said they had provided informal noncash support.
- Among those who provided support in the past 30 days, median amounts varied from \$225 for formal child support, to \$130 for informal cash support, and \$150 for informal noncash child support by noncustodial parents of nonresident children.
- For those with nonresident biological children in multiple families, formal support was more likely to be provided for the oldest child, and informal support more likely for the youngest child, although the differences in the amounts provided to youngest and oldest children were not large.

In this chapter, we describe the formal obligations and the formal and informal contributions that noncustodial parents in CSPED reported making to their nonresident biological children prior to enrollment.⁴ Information is available for all grantees except Texas.⁵ We review information related to the distribution of formal child support order amounts, as well as child support orders as a percentage of participants' earnings. We also describe the contributions of participants with nonresident children in multiple families, comparing contributions made to the youngest and to the oldest nonresident child. We discuss nonresident parents' reports of formal child support payments, as well as money provided for items such as food, diapers, clothing, or school supplies for children (informal cash support), and direct purchases of these types of items (informal

⁴Of 2,743 participants who reported a resident child, 1,054 participants reported a child support order for children who they reported as resident (staying with them for more than 15 overnights of the past 30), and 470 reported paying some formal child support. Orders and payments for resident children are not included in the calculations of orders and payments for nonresident children.

⁵The Texas survey instrument did not include any questions regarding noncustodial parents' child support orders and payments.

noncash support). We define children as *nonresident* if the participant reported staying with the child overnight for 15 or fewer nights of the past 30, and *resident* if the participant reported staying with the child overnight at least 16 of the past 30 nights.

I. Formal Child Support Orders

Table 3.1. Formal child support orders of noncustodial parents with nonresident children

	<i>N</i>	Percent/mean/median
Sample size	8,303	
Any formal child support order	8,031	96.7%
Amount owed for all nonresident children		
Mean	8,002	\$401.57
Distribution	8,002	
10th percentile		\$90.00
25th percentile		200.00
Median		325.00
75th percentile		518.00
90th percentile		775.00
Amount owed per nonresident child		
Mean	8,002	\$226.30
Distribution	8,002	
10th percentile		\$50.00
25th percentile		100.00
Median		195.00
75th percentile		300.00
90th percentile		434.00

Note: This table excludes Texas participants.

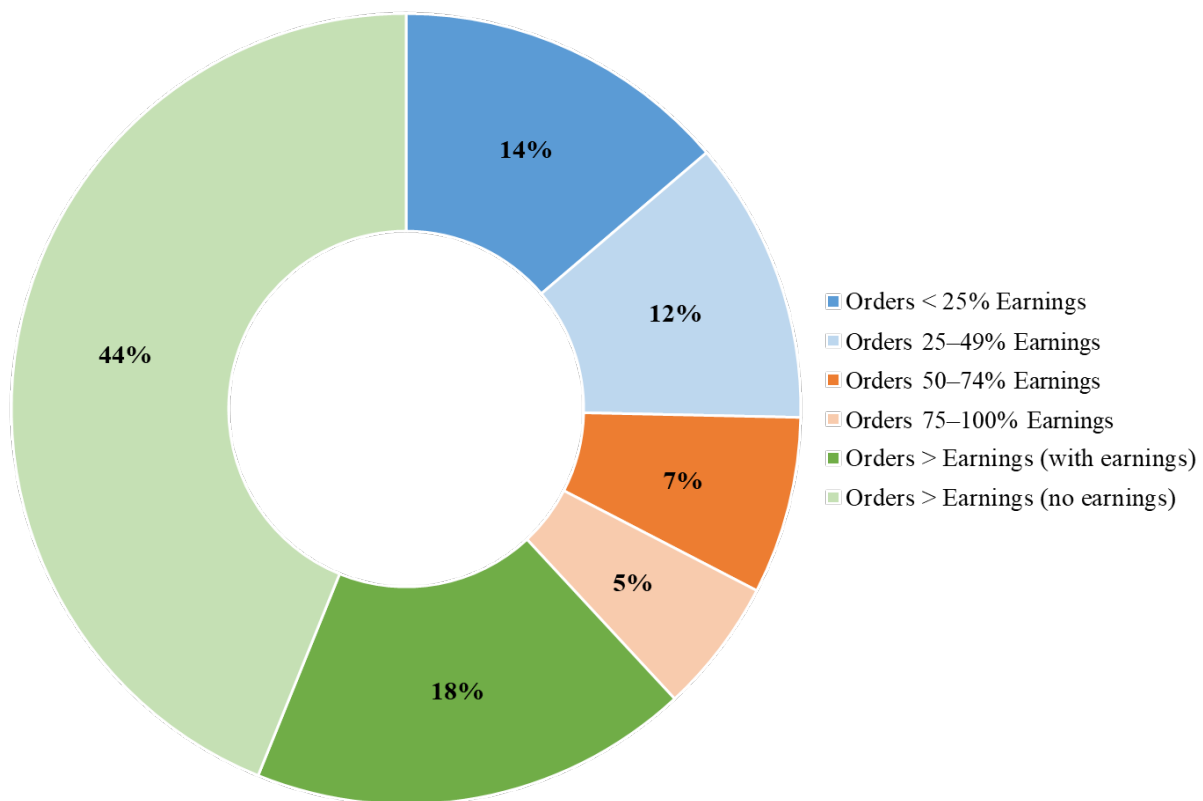
At enrollment, 97 percent of participants reported having a formal child support order for at least one nonresident child (Table 3.1 and Appendix Table B.1).⁶ Among those with an order, the mean amount owed was \$402 per month, and the median (50th percentile) was \$325 per month. Some participants reported very large orders, accounting for the higher mean than median order. Total child support orders for CSPED participants varied substantially, with the bottom 10 percent of the distribution reporting owing \$90 per month or less, and the top 10 percent reporting owing \$775 per month or more. Formal child support orders also varied among the grantees (see Appendix Table B.1), and by whether the order was for the sibling set that contained the youngest child or older children (see Appendix Table B.2). Ohio had the lowest median order (\$238), while Tennessee had the highest (\$400). In an effort to examine the extent to which order amounts were burdensome, we calculated child support orders as a percentage of reported earnings. We found that 44 percent of participants had an order but no earnings in the past 30 days (shown in Figure 3.1), and an additional 31 percent of all participants (and 58 percent of participants with earnings and orders) had orders that were greater than or equal to 50 percent of their earnings in the past 30 days (details in Appendix Table B.3). The remaining participants owed less than 50 percent of reported earnings, though only 14 percent of all CSPED

⁶South Carolina allowed noncustodial parents without a current order for support, but with a current order for past arrears, to enroll in CSPED. Ohio allowed noncustodial parents with \$0 support orders, or an order temporarily reduced to \$0 due to circumstances such as prior incarceration rendering a participant unable to pay their obligation, to enroll in CSPED. Finally, Colorado, Iowa, and Ohio allowed noncustodial parents with establishment cases to enroll in CSPED.

participants (20 percent of those reporting earnings and orders) owed less than 25 percent of their earnings. Appendix Table B.3 shows differences across grantees in the proportion with earnings, and the distribution of orders relative to earnings. In Iowa, less than 20 percent of those with earnings and orders had orders greater than earnings. In Tennessee, nearly half of those with earnings had orders greater than earnings.

Appendix Tables B.4 and B.5 show that burden increases as number of children and number of custodial parents increase. For example, median order burden for noncustodial parents with one child was 52 percent of their earnings; 65 percent for those with two nonresident children; 75 percent for those with three; 91 percent for those with four; and 97 percent for those with five or more children.

Figure 3.1. Burden: Orders compared to earnings



Note: This figure excludes Texas participants.

II. Financial Contributions to Nonresident Children

Participants provided information about three types of financial contributions to their nonresident children: formal child support payments, informal cash payments, and informal noncash contributions.

A. Formal child support payments

Less than half (43 percent) of CSPED participants reported paying any formal child support in the 30 days before enrollment (see Table 3.2 and Appendix Table B.6). Among those who paid, the median (50th percentile) amount paid for all nonresident children was \$225. The mean payment, \$355, was substantially higher due to a small percentage of participants who reported that they paid very large amounts of child support. The 10 percent of participants with the highest payment amounts reported that they paid at least \$700 per month, while the 10 percent reporting the lowest payments reported paying \$50 or less. The median amount paid per child was \$125 (see Table 3.2).

There was substantial variation by grantee, from a high of 54 percent of participating noncustodial parents who reported making formal child support payments in Iowa to a low of 20 percent in Ohio (see Appendix Table B.6). Moreover, total formal child support payments among those who made any payments varied from a median of \$100 in Ohio to \$300 in Colorado.

Table 3.2. Formal and informal child support contributions of noncustodial parents with nonresident children

	Formal		Informal		Informal noncash	
	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median
Sample size	8,220		8,304		8,308	
Any contributed	3,518	42.8%	4,013	48.3%	4,991	60.1%
Total amount contributed for all nonresident children						
Mean	3,518	\$354.72	3,949	\$202.40	4,876	\$199.17
Distribution	3,518		3,949		4,876	
10th percentile		\$50.00		\$40.00		\$40.00
25th percentile		100.00		70.00		75.00
Median		225.00		130.00		150.00
75th percentile		430.00		250.00		250.00
90th percentile		700.00		425.00		400.00
Amount contributed per nonresident child						
Mean	3,518	\$203.50	3,949	\$102.85	4,876	\$105.86
Distribution	3,518		3,949		4,876	
10th percentile		\$23.50		\$20.00		\$20.00
25th percentile		50.00		33.33		37.50
Median		125.00		66.67		75.00
75th percentile		250.00		125.00		133.33
90th percentile		430.00		200.00		205.00

Note: This table excludes Texas participants. Mean and median (50th percentile) amounts are for contributions above \$0.

B. Informal cash and noncash support

About half of participants (48 percent) reported providing informal cash support to their nonresident children in the 30 days before enrollment (see Table 3.2 and Appendix Table B.7). When informal cash contributions were made, the median payment was lower than the median formal payment, \$130 compared to \$225. Median (50th percentile) amounts per child were \$67. Sixty percent of participants reported directly purchasing items for their nonresident children, such as clothes or diapers, in the 30 days before enrollment (see Appendix Table B.8). The median reported value of informal noncash support provided was \$150 across all the noncustodial parents' children, or \$75 per child (see Table 3.2).

There was some variation by grantee, with a high of 60 percent of participants reporting providing informal cash support in Tennessee, and a low of 40 percent in Colorado. Moreover, median (50th percentile) informal cash support payments ranged from \$100 in California, Ohio, and Wisconsin to \$150 in Iowa, South Carolina, and Tennessee (see Appendix Table B.7). Across grantees, an average of 54 to 65 percent of noncustodial parents provided informal noncash support. In terms of amounts, median informal noncash support varied from a total of \$120 in Ohio and Wisconsin to \$150 in other states (see Appendix Table B.8).

C. Child support payments to nonresident children in multiple families

Differences and similarities in formal child support and informal cash and noncash payments to children in multiple families are highlighted in Table 3.3 and Appendix Tables B.9, B.10, and B.11. To sharpen the comparisons, Table 3.3 includes only noncustodial parents who had nonresident children in multiple families. Of the 8,875 participants with at least one child under age 18 who provided information on their children's other parent(s), 62 percent had children in multiple families, but many of these had one family with nonresident children and one with resident children. We excluded noncustodial parents who did not have two or more children/sibling sets of nonresident children, and those missing information on other key variables, to examine 3,096 noncustodial parents.⁷

Table 3.3 shows that, at the time of enrollment in CSPED, 69 percent of noncustodial parents with nonresident children in multiple families had formal child support orders for their youngest nonresident child and 79 percent had formal child support orders for their oldest nonresident child. Median formal child support ordered was similar—\$194 for their youngest nonresident child and \$200 for their oldest nonresident child. These noncustodial parents were modestly less likely to report paying formal support to the youngest (30 percent) compared to the oldest (33 percent) nonresident child. However, median payments were nearly identical (\$125 and \$126). In contrast, both cash and noncash informal support was more likely to be provided to the youngest child, although, conditional on providing support, the median amounts provided were generally similar.

⁷Of the 5,522 noncustodial parents with children with multiple partners, 3,361 had nonresident children with multiple partners. After excluding 53 noncustodial parents with missing information on the custodial parent or other key variables, we dropped an additional 212 for whom we do not have enough information to distinguish the youngest and oldest child, for a final sample of 3,096.

Table 3.3. Formal and informal child support payments among noncustodial parents with nonresident children in multiple families

	Youngest nonresident biological child sibling set		Oldest nonresident biological child sibling set	
	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median
Sample size	3,096		3,096	
Any formal child support order	2,138	69.1%	2,435	78.7%
Mean order amount per child	2,133	\$218.97	2,431	\$222.23
Median order amount per child		194.00		200.00
Any formal child support payments	919	29.7%	1,023	33.0%
Mean payment amount per child	919	\$204.47	1,023	\$212.40
Median payment amount per child		125.00		126.00
Any informal cash contributions	1,330	43.0%	1,065	34.4%
Mean amount given per child	1,323	\$134.33	1,056	\$127.62
Median amount given per child		100.00		100.00
Any informal noncash contributions	1,612	52.1%	1,279	41.3%
Mean amount given per child	1,587	\$121.67	1,265	\$127.71
Median amount given per child		90.00		100.00

Note: This table excludes Texas participants and participants who had all unknown or deceased CPs, all children 18 and older, all resident children, or one child with no siblings. Children are considered *nonresident* if the participant reported staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights. NCPs reported on formal child support orders and payments only if they were not currently married to the biological parent. Mean and median (50th percentile) amounts are for contributions above \$0.

Chapter 4. Noncustodial Parent Employment, Other Economic Characteristics, and Well-Being

Key findings: Noncustodial parent employment, other economic characteristics, and well-being

- Just over half (56 percent) of CSPED participants reported having worked for pay in the 30 days before enrollment. Median reported earnings for those who worked was \$500 per month, below the poverty threshold for a single person.
- Sixty-four percent reported that at least one employment barrier made it very or extremely hard to find or keep a job. Common barriers to employment included problems getting to work, having a criminal record, and not having a steady place to live.
- Less than half reported receiving public assistance (35 percent received SNAP) or having health insurance coverage (44 percent).
- History with the criminal justice system was common, with 68 percent of participants reporting prior conviction and, of those, nearly all reporting having spent time in jail or prison (96 percent).
- Housing was unstable for some. Nearly 30 percent reported not paying rent where they lived and 2 percent reported living in a shelter, on the streets, or in an abandoned car or building. Nearly one-third lived with their parents or grandparents and 30 percent did not expect to stay in the same place the following year.
- More than one-fourth of participants reported symptoms corresponding to major or severe major depression.

In this chapter we discuss noncustodial parents' employment and earnings, as well as barriers to employment. We describe participants' public assistance use and health insurance coverage and present information on their criminal justice involvement, current living situation, and emotional well-being.⁸ Overall, the picture of the participants was one of substantial disadvantage.

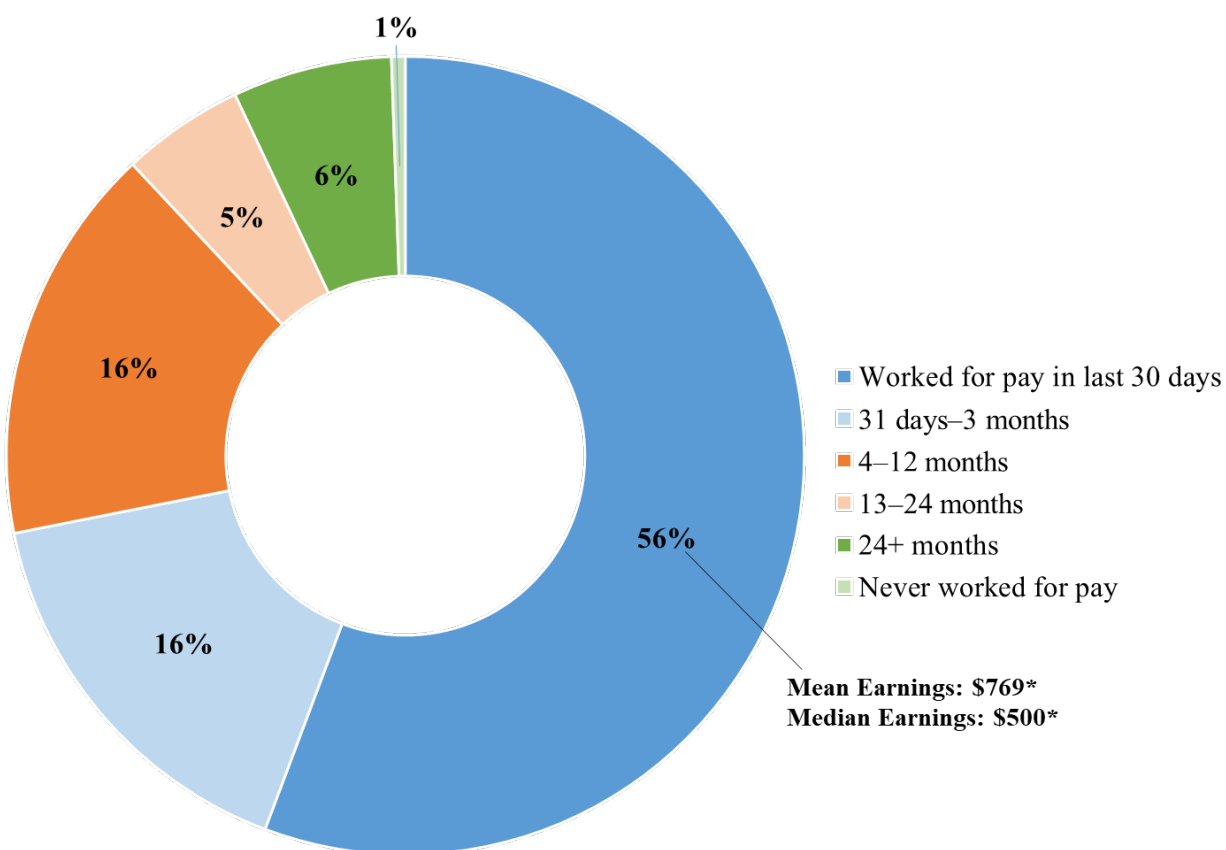
I. Employment

CSPED was designed to serve noncustodial parents who were behind in their child support as a result of being unemployed or underemployed. As shown in Figure 4.1, at enrollment, just over

⁸Amounts and percentages include Texas participants for: (1) worked for pay in past 30 days, (2) length of time at current main job, (3) SNAP participation in past 30 days, (4) currently live in same place as parents or grandparents, (5) ever convicted of a crime, and (6) longest time incarcerated. None of the other items in this chapter include Texas participants as the corresponding items were not included on the Texas survey instrument.

half of participants (56 percent) reported working in the past 30 days.⁹ Those who were working at enrollment had been employed on their current (main) job for an average of 20 months. Their median earnings were \$500, which was well below the poverty level for a single person during the demonstration (Appendix Table C.1).¹⁰ Even though almost half of noncustodial parents were not working, most had worked recently. As shown in Figure 4.1, 16 percent worked in the past 31 days to 3 months, and another 16 percent in the last 4 to 12 months. One percent had never worked for pay.

Figure 4.1. Participants' work status at enrollment



Note: $N = 8,805$; this figure excludes Texas participants and NCPs who reported that they did not work for pay in past 30 days, but did not provide additional information about when they last worked for pay.

*Among those who worked for pay in past 30 days.

⁹Texas participants are excluded from Figure 4.1. Texas participants were asked about work for pay in the last 30 days but were not asked any further questions regarding when they last worked (if not in past 30 days) nor regarding earnings in the last 30 days. Also excluded from Figure 4.1 are 199 participants who reported that they did not work for pay in past 30 days, but did not provide additional information about when last worked for pay.

¹⁰The poverty guideline for a single person was \$11,670 in 2014; \$11,770 in 2015; and \$11,880 in 2016.

Sixty-four percent of participants reported at least one barrier that they felt made it very or extremely hard to find or keep a job (Appendix Table C.2). Figure 4.2 shows that common barriers to employment included problems getting to work (30 percent), having a criminal record (28 percent), and not having a steady place to live (20 percent).

Employment and earnings in the past 30 days varied substantially across grantees, from a low of 39 percent of noncustodial parents who worked for pay in Ohio, to a high of 65 percent in South Carolina (Appendix Table C.1). Across grantees, median earnings of those who had worked for pay in the 30 days before enrollment ranged from \$300 in Ohio to \$700 in Iowa.

II. Public Assistance Use and Health Insurance Coverage

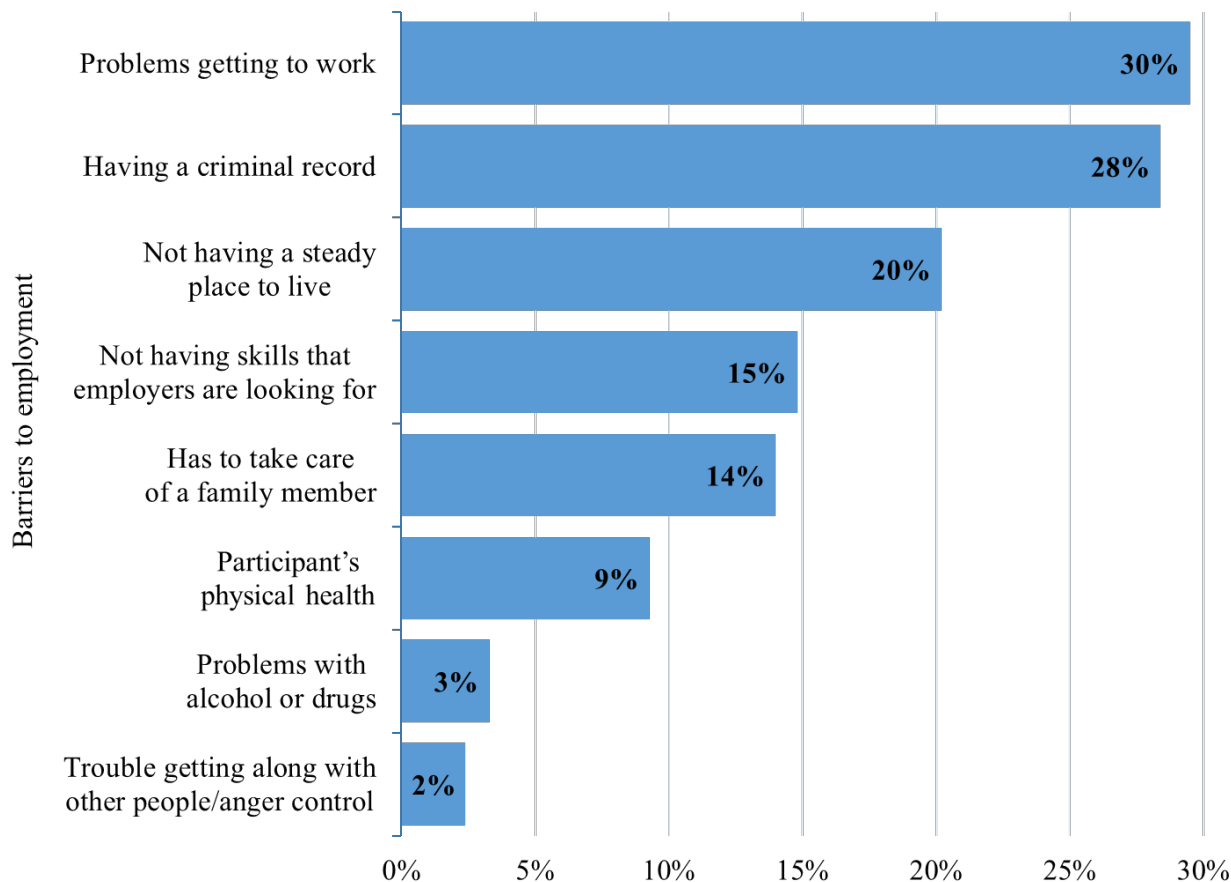
The first panel of Table 4.1 provides information on public program participation and health insurance coverage. At enrollment, 35 percent of participants reported receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in the past 30 days. Fewer than half (44 percent) had any current health insurance coverage, and of these only 8 percent (less than 4 percent overall) were covered by their current employer or union. Most of those with coverage had it through Medicaid or another public source. Rates of health care coverage differed substantially across grantees (see Appendix Table C.3). Less than one-fourth of those in South Carolina and Tennessee had health care coverage, compared to more than half in California, Colorado, and Iowa. Much of the difference in coverage may have been related to statewide Medicaid expansion that was a provision of the Affordable Care Act, as South Carolina, Tennessee, and Wisconsin did not expand Medicaid.

Table 4.1. Self-sufficiency and well-being of noncustodial parents

	<i>n</i>	Percent/mean
Benefit use and health insurance		
SNAP participation	10,158	
Used SNAP in the past 30 days before enrollment	3,561	35.1%
Health insurance coverage ^a	9,006	
Have any current health insurance coverage	3,931	43.7%
Of those with current health insurance coverage, source (multiple sources possible)		
Covered by current employer or union	319	8.1%
Covered by spouse's current employer or union	202	5.1
Purchased directly from an insurance company	673	17.1
Medicaid or other	3,095	78.8
Criminal justice involvement		
Conviction history	10,126	
Have ever been convicted of a crime	6,905	68.2%
Of those ever convicted		
Have ever been in jail or prison	6,572	95.2%
Of those ever been in jail or prison		
Mean months spent in longest spell of jail or prison	6,564	16.1
Median months spent in longest spell of jail or prison	6,564	6.0
Mean months since released ^a	5,622	115.0
Median months since released ^a	5,622	53.3
Currently on parole or probation ^a	1,763	19.9%
Current housing and living situation		
Current housing situation ^a	8,995	
Own/mortgage	378	4.2%
Rent	2,771	30.8
Pay some of the rent	1,897	21.1
Live rent free	2,636	29.3
Live in shelter	62	0.7
Live on streets	66	0.7
Live in abandoned building/car	43	0.5
Other	1,142	12.7
Next year housing situation ^a	8,771	
Expects to stay in current place for the next year	6,168	70.3%
Lives with (mutually exclusive) ^a	8,850	
Other parent or partner only	2,742	31.0%
NCP's mother, father, or grandparent only	2,410	27.2
Other parent or partner and NCP's parent or grandparent only	405	4.6
None of these	3,293	37.0
Emotional well-being		
Depression ^{a,b}	8,999	
Major depression	2,069	23.0%
Severe major depression	300	3.3
Feelings about current situation ^a		
In control over things that happen to self (reported <i>Never</i> or <i>Rarely</i>)	8,993	25.4%
Can change many of own important things (reported <i>Never</i> or <i>Rarely</i>)	8,991	14.4
Feel helpless in dealing with problems (reported <i>Very</i> or <i>Extremely</i>)	9,002	17.6
Feel pushed around (reported <i>Very</i> or <i>Extremely</i>)	9,001	13.1
Hard to make plans for the future (reported <i>Very</i> or <i>Extremely</i>)	9,003	28.9

^aSurvey item not asked in Texas.

^bPersonal Health Questionnaire Depression Scale (PHQ-8). If more than one item missing, the value of the scale is set to *Missing* ($n = 7$).

Figure 4.2. Employment barriers

Note: These percentages include NCPs who indicated that the barrier made it *Very* or *Extremely* hard to keep a job.

III. Criminal Justice Involvement, Current Living Situation, and Emotional Well-Being

A. Criminal justice involvement

Prior history with the criminal justice system was common among CSPED participants. At enrollment, 68 percent reported ever having been convicted of a crime, and of those, 96 percent had ever spent time in jail or prison. Twenty percent were currently on parole or probation (Appendix Table C.3). The median length of the longest spell of incarceration in jail or prison among those who had been incarcerated was six months.

History with the criminal justice system varied by grantee. The percentage of participants who had been convicted of a crime ranged from a low of 54 percent in California to a high of 81 percent in Ohio (Appendix Table C.3). The median longest spell of incarceration in jail or prison varied from a low of two months in California to a high of seven months in Wisconsin.

B. Current living situation

In terms of their current living situations, very few participants (4 percent) owned or had a mortgage on a home (Table 4.1, third panel). About half (52 percent) paid rent or some of the rent, while 29 percent did not pay any rent and 2 percent lived in a shelter, on the streets, or in an abandoned car or building. Nearly one-third lived with their parents or grandparents. Thirty percent of the participants did not expect to stay in the same place for the next year.

The current living situations of participants also varied among grantees. For example, in Colorado, 23 percent of participants did not pay rent, but, in Ohio, 36 percent of participants did not pay rent (Appendix Table C.3). The percentage of participants living with their parents also varied from a low of 26 percent in Iowa and Colorado to a high of 42 percent in South Carolina and Tennessee.

C. Emotional well-being

The final panel of Table 4.1 shows a measure of noncustodial parents' emotional well-being. Using a standard eight-item depression scale (PHQ-8), more than one-fourth of participants would be categorized as depressed, with 3 percent having severe major depression (Table 4.1).¹¹ As another indicator of emotional well-being, 25 percent reported that they never or rarely felt in control of things that were happening to them. Nearly 30 percent reported that it was hard to make plans for the future. Most of these measures of participant well-being did not vary much by grantee (Appendix Table C.3).

¹¹In 2016, 4.8 percent of all men age 18 or older in the United States were estimated to have experienced a major depressive episode in the previous year (National Institute of Mental Health, 2017). Twenty-six percent of fathers enrolled in the Parents and Children Together (PACT) responsible fatherhood programs, whose participants shared some similarities in characteristics with CSPED participants, reported experiencing moderate or severe depression at the time of study enrollment (Avellar, Covington, Moore, Patnaik and Wu, 2018). CSPED and PACT both measured depression using the Personal Health Questionnaire Depression Scale (PHQ-8).

Chapter 5. Parenting

Key findings: Parenting

- Only one in three CSPED participants lived with both biological parents when they were 15 years old and 37 percent stated their parent of the same sex (typically their father) was not at all involved when they were growing up.
- Nearly 60 percent of participants had one (30 percent) or two (28 percent) biological children. Just over 20 percent had four or more biological children. On average, their youngest child was 7 years old while their oldest was 11 years old.
- Nearly all participants had at least one nonresident child, and about one-third had a resident child.
- Participants reported having much better relationships with their resident children than their nonresident children. For example, 84 percent of participants reported an excellent relationship with their resident children, but only 30 percent reported an excellent relationship with their nonresident children.
- Four out of five participants reported that they did not see their youngest and oldest nonresident child as much as they wanted. Participants averaged 11 to 12 days of any contact with their nonresident children in the 30 days prior to enrollment, but close to 40 percent of participants had no in-person contact.
- For unmarried parents, paternity must be voluntarily acknowledged or legally established for a legal parenting relationship to exist. About 80 percent of participants were not married to the biological parent of their youngest or oldest nonresident child at the time of their birth. Most of these parents voluntarily acknowledged paternity.
- Noncustodial parents who have had nonresident children with more than one partner report more contact and better relationships with their youngest nonresident child.

In this chapter, we describe multiple dimensions of participants' family life focusing on parenting. We discuss participants' families of origin, and then describe participants' number and age of resident and nonresident children. We also report on their perceptions of their own relationship and contact with children. We pay special attention to differences in perception and contact of noncustodial parents with nonresident children in two or more families, comparing between the youngest and the oldest nonresident child.¹²

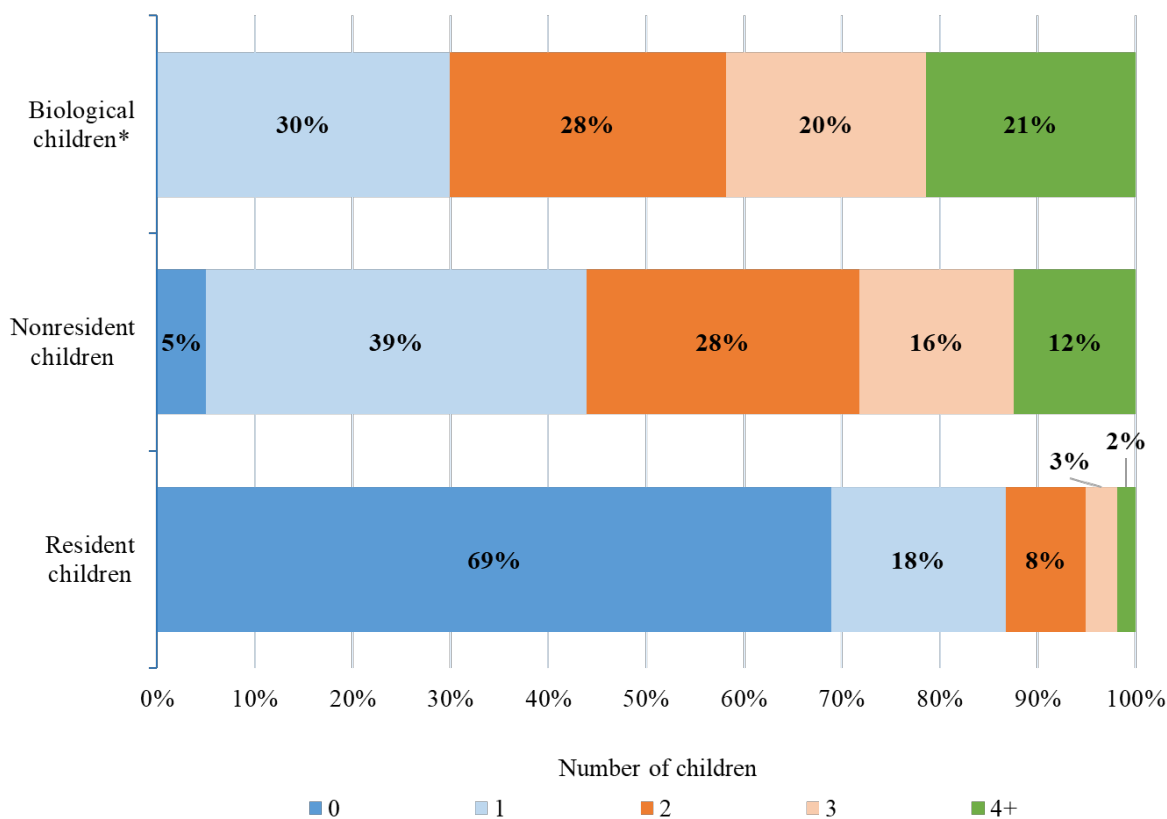
¹²Texas participants were asked only about the names and ages of their children.

I. Noncustodial Parents' Family of Origin

Only one in three CSPED participants reported that they were living with both biological parents when they were 15 years old (Appendix Table D.1). Less than one-third reported that their parent of the same sex (i.e., for CSPED noncustodial *fathers*, their father) was very involved when they were growing up and that they had an excellent, very good, or good relationship with them. More than one-third reported that their same-sex parent was not at all involved with them.

II. Number and Age of Resident and Nonresident Children

Most CSPED participants had one (30 percent) or two (28 percent) biological children; 21 percent had four or more biological children (Figure 5.1). Nearly all participants had nonresident children, but just over 30 percent had resident children. Twenty-six percent of participants had responsibility for both resident and nonresident children (not shown). The average age of a participant's youngest child was 7 years old; the average age of their oldest child was 11 years old. Resident children tended to be younger than nonresident children (see Appendix Table D.2 for details). Patterns were relatively similar across grantees, though, for example, participants in California had the fewest children (average of 2), while those in Ohio and South Carolina had the most (average of 3).

Figure 5.1. Number of biological children per noncustodial parent

Note: Numbers reported in Appendix Table D.2.

*Includes Texas participants.

Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

III. Noncustodial Parents' Perceptions of Their Relationships and Contact with Their Children

Participants reported on the quality of their relationships with their children and contact with their children—for both resident and nonresident children, as well as their feelings about parenting—across all their children.

A. Perceptions of their relationships with their children

Perceptions of relationships with their children varied between participants with resident and nonresident children. Eighty-four percent of participants with resident children felt they had excellent relationships with their resident children, and less than one percent reported that their relationships were fair or poor (Appendix Table D.3). In contrast, 30 percent of noncustodial parents felt their relationships with nonresident children were excellent, and 28 percent reported that they were fair or poor.

Noncustodial parents were also asked about their parenting abilities. Overall, 21 percent of CSPED participants reported being an excellent parent. But, again, self-perceptions varied substantially by whether the father was living with all or none of his children. Forty-four percent of participants with only nonresident children reported being an excellent (18 percent) or very good (26 percent) parent, and 11 percent reported being not a very good parent. In contrast, among the relatively few CSPED participants with only resident children, about 68 percent reported being an excellent (32 percent) or very good (36 percent) parent, and less than one percent reported being not a very good parent (Appendix Table D.3).

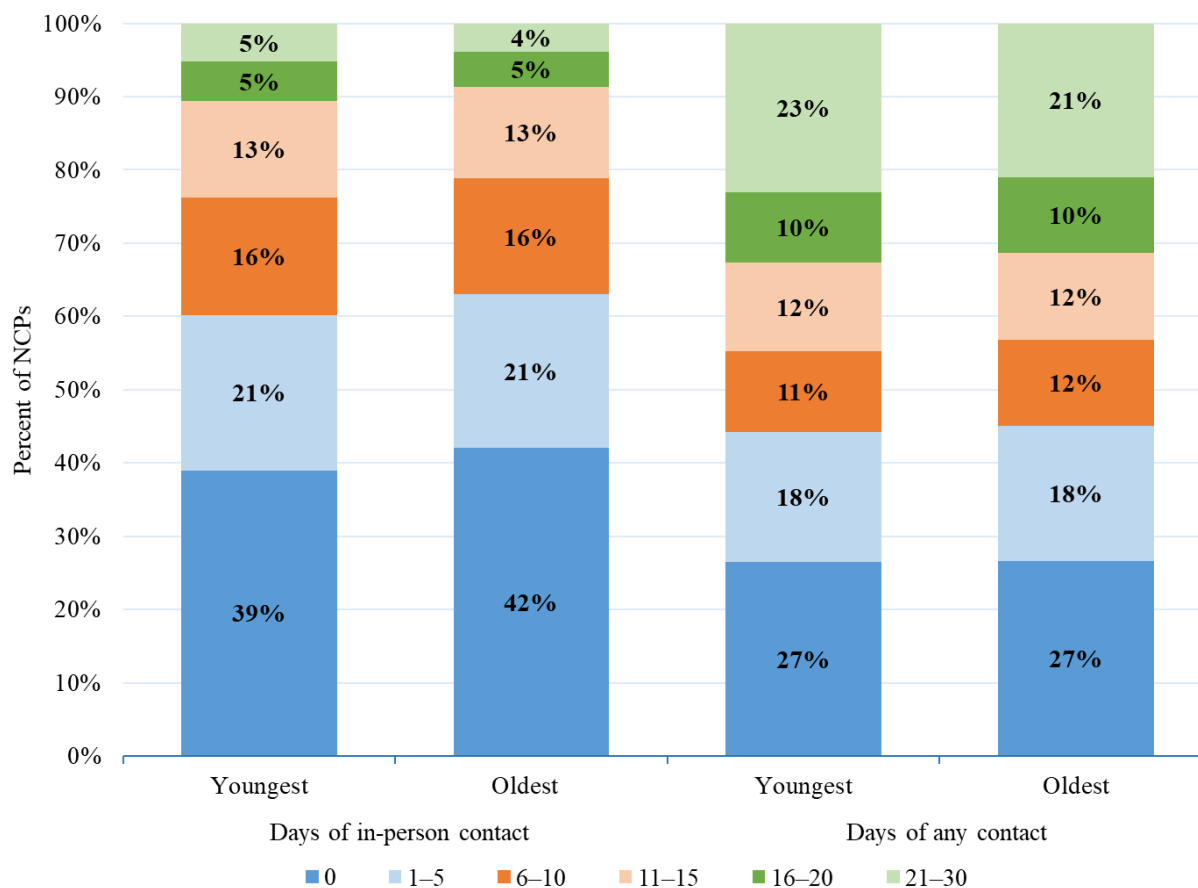
Participants were also asked whether parenting was harder than they thought it would be, whether they felt trapped by the responsibilities of parenting, and whether taking care of children was more work than pleasure. Most CSPED participants somewhat or strongly agreed that parenting was harder than they expected, both among those with only nonresident children (57 percent) and those with only resident children (54 percent), but only 12 percent of those with only nonresident children and 9 percent of those with only resident children reported feeling trapped by the responsibilities of parenting. Fewer than one in five (19 percent) somewhat or strongly agreed that taking care of children is more work than pleasure, both among participants with only nonresident children and those with only resident children (Appendix Table D.3).

B. Contact with their children

As expected, participants reported contact nearly every day with their resident children in the 30 days prior to enrollment (Appendix Table D.4). Contact with nonresident children was considerably lower: in the 30 days prior to enrollment, participants with nonresident children averaged 12 days of any contact with their youngest child and 11 days with their oldest nonresident child, and just 6 days of in-person contact for both their youngest and oldest nonresident children. In considering contact with nonresident children, we consider both the youngest and oldest nonresident child, given that the youngest child is more likely to be from a more recent relationship.

Participants reported similar patterns of contact with their youngest and oldest nonresident children (Figure 5.2). About one in five participants had 21–30 days of contact with their youngest (23 percent) and oldest (21 percent) nonresident children. However, in-person contact at this level was much less common. Around 5 percent of participants had 21–30 days of in-person contact with their youngest (5 percent) and oldest (4 percent) nonresident children, and roughly 40 percent had no in-person contact with their youngest (39 percent) and oldest (42 percent) nonresident children.

Spending the night was not frequent for nonresident children. In the past 30 days, noncustodial parents spent an average of three nights with their youngest and oldest nonresident children (Appendix Table D.4). As expected, both the youngest and the oldest nonresident children spent most of their nights in the past 30 days with the other biological parent (Appendix Table D.5).

Figure 5.2. Noncustodial parents' contact with their nonresident children

Note: For 3,452 NCPs, youngest nonresident child and oldest nonresident child were the same child. Texas participants were not asked about overnight stays with children, which was used to determine whether NCPs' children were resident or nonresident, therefore this figure excludes Texas participants. Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Finally, in terms of satisfaction with the time spent with children (Table Appendix D.5), only 18 percent of CSPED participants expressed that they spent as much time as they wanted with the children in the family of their youngest nonresident child, as well as the children in the family of their oldest nonresident child. The most common reason noncustodial parents expressed for not spending as much time with their children as they wanted was that the custodial parent prevented it (33 percent for the children in the family of the youngest nonresident child, and 31 percent for the children in the family of the oldest nonresident child). Participants also reported that living far away from their children made it difficult to spend as much time as they wanted with them (15 percent and 18 percent, respectively).

C. Perceptions of their relationships and contact with nonresident children in two or more families

Table 5.1 focuses on noncustodial parents who have nonresident children in two or more families and compares the amount of contact and the quality of their relationship with their oldest nonresident child and their youngest nonresident child. Generally, those with children in multiple families reported more contact and a better relationship with their youngest nonresident child compared to their oldest nonresident child. For example, in the 30 days before enrollment, 59 percent of noncustodial parents had in-person contact with their youngest nonresident child, and 51 percent had in-person contact with their oldest nonresident child. In terms of relationship quality, 37 percent reported an excellent relationship with their youngest nonresident child and 29 percent reported an excellent relationship with their oldest nonresident child. However, about one in five noncustodial parents reported that they spent as much time as they wanted with both their youngest (20 percent) and oldest (21 percent) nonresident child. Finally, the reasons why noncustodial parents with multiple families did not spend as much time as they wanted with their children were largely similar for their youngest and oldest children.

IV. Paternity Establishment

Finally, we examine whether CSPED participants established paternity for children if they were not married at the time of the child's birth. We find quite similar patterns for participants' youngest and oldest nonresident children. At the time of the youngest and oldest nonresident children's birth, about 20 percent of participants were married to the other biological parent, so paternity was presumed. Of those who were not married at the child's birth, just over half of them were living with the other parent when the youngest and oldest nonresident children were born. Among these, about 85 percent signed a document to be the legal father of the youngest and oldest children (Figure 5.3, first set of bars). Another 10 percent or so had a court ruling that they were the legal father of the youngest and oldest children. Voluntary paternity acknowledgements were less common and court rulings were more common among those not married and not living together at the time of a child's birth (Figure 5.3, second set of bars). Of participants in this situation, about half signed a document to be the legal father of the youngest and oldest children. Another 40 percent or so had a court ruling that they were the legal father of the youngest and oldest children. Appendix Table D.6 shows additional information on participants' marital status, cohabitation, and paternity at child's birth.

Table 5.1. Parenting among noncustodial parents with nonresident children in multiple families

	Youngest nonresident ^a biological child sibling set		Oldest nonresident biological child sibling set	
	<i>n</i>	Percent	<i>n</i>	Percent
Contact and relationship with child^b	3,096		3,096	
Number of days had any in-person contact with child in past 30 days				
None in past 30 days	1,283	41.4%	1,531	49.5%
1–15 of past 30 days	1,437	46.4	1,346	43.5
16–30 of past 30 days	376	12.1	219	7.1
Number of days had any contact with child in past 30 days				
None in past 30 days	861	27.8%	918	29.7%
1–15 of past 30 days	1,211	39.1	1,307	42.2
16–30 of past 30 days	1,024	33.1	871	28.1
Perception of relationship with child				
Excellent	1,139	36.8%	898	29.0%
Very Good	516	16.7	544	17.6
Good	422	13.6	494	16.0
Fair	280	9.0	382	12.3
Poor	739	23.9	778	25.1
Yes, spent as much time as wanted with children from father/mother in the past 30 days ^c	606	19.6%	636	20.5%
If did not spend as much time as wanted with children in past 30 days, reasons (multiple answers possible)				
Too busy with work/school/etc.	290	11.7%	186	7.6%
Children live too far away	424	17.0	589	23.9
No access to transportation	298	12.0	280	11.4
Mother/father prevents it	784	31.5	640	26.0
Mother's/father's friends or family prevent it	74	3.0	67	2.7
Children don't want to see participant	11	0.4	44	1.8
Problems with where participant lives	32	1.3	34	1.4
Embarrassed to see children because no job/money	26	1.0	21	0.9
Other	1,243	49.9	1,233	50.1

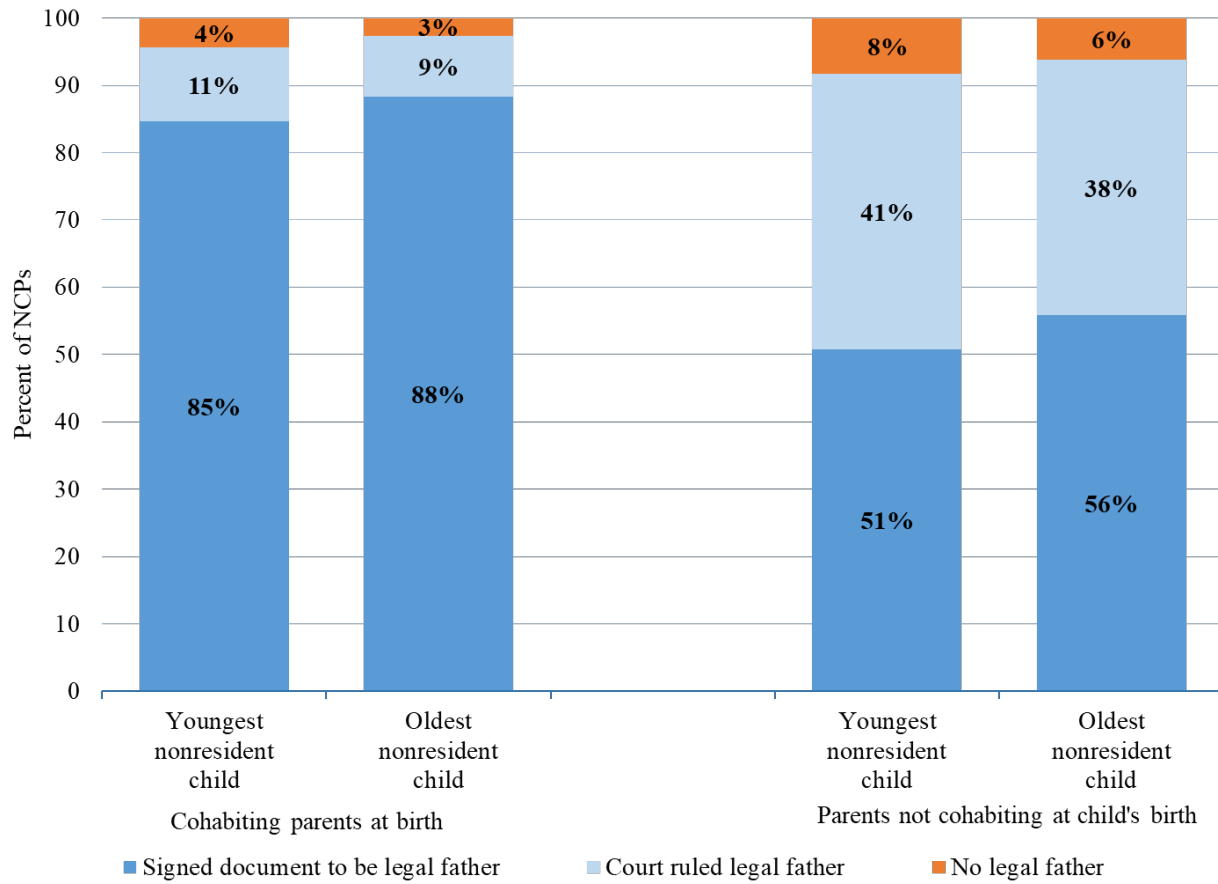
Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

^aChildren are considered *nonresident* if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights.

^bThis table includes only those who have nonresident biological children with more than one living and known CP and who had non-missing information on the variables. It excludes NCPs if all their CPs are unknown or deceased, if all their children are age 18 and older, if all their children are resident children, or if they have only one child with no siblings. This table excludes Texas participants.

^cOnly NCPs who were not currently married to the child's father/mother were asked this question.

Figure 5.3. Paternity establishment for youngest and oldest nonresident children, among unmarried fathers at child’s birth



Note: This figure excludes Texas participants. Sample of NCP fathers cohabiting with youngest nonresident child at birth = 2,992; cohabiting with oldest nonresident child at birth = 3,238; not cohabiting with youngest nonresident child at birth = 2,938; not cohabiting with oldest nonresident child at birth = 2,849.

Chapter 6. Noncustodial Parents' Relationships with Other Parents and Romantic Partners

Key findings: Noncustodial parents' relationships with other parents and romantic partners

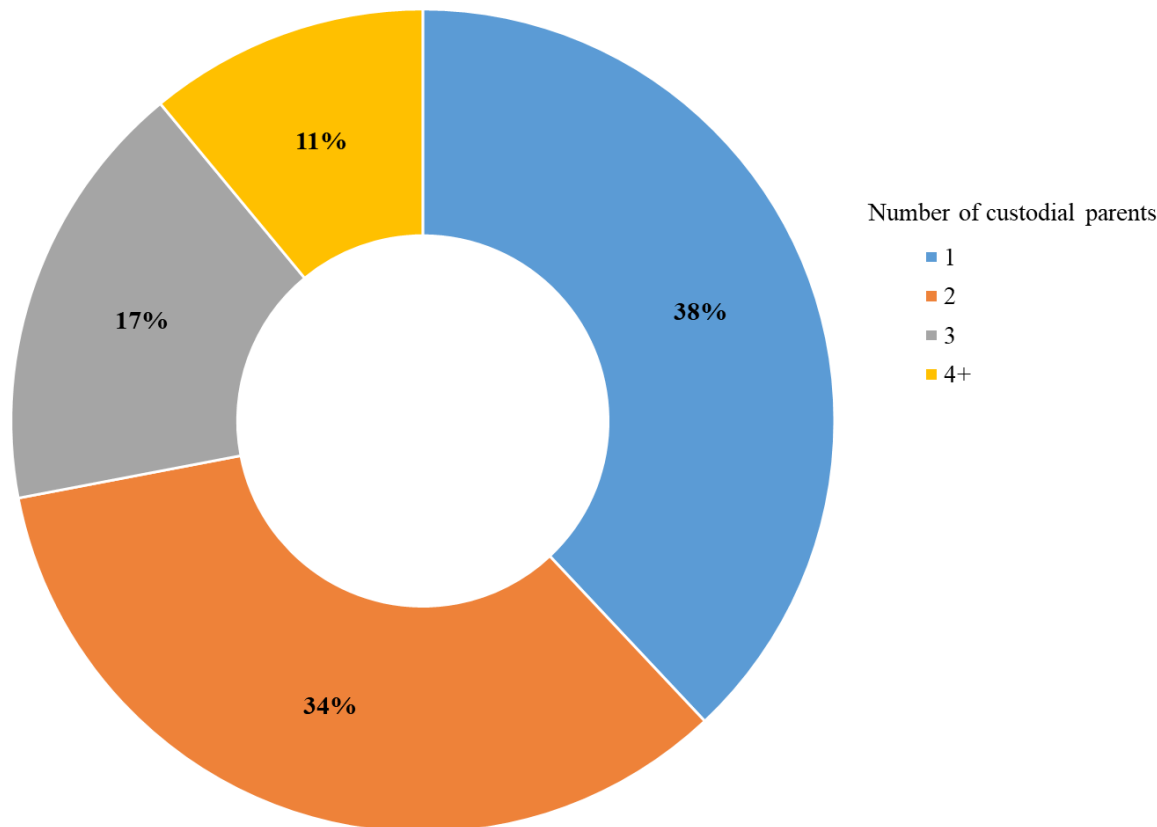
- Sixty-two percent of CSPED participants had children under age 18 with more than one partner.
- In general, participants reported strained relationships with custodial parents of their nonresident children. At baseline, 62 percent of participants reported having a fair or poor relationship with the custodial parent of their youngest nonresident child.
- Participants were somewhat more positive when it came to assessing whether they and the custodial parents of their children made a good parenting team, with more than half agreeing that they made a good parenting team.
- At CSPED enrollment, 27 percent of participants were married to or romantically involved with a parent of one of their biological children and 30 percent were married to or had a romantic relationship with someone other than a parent of one of their biological children. Forty-one percent reported having no romantic relationship.

In this chapter, we describe the number of custodial parents with whom CSPED participants had had children, and we describe their current relationship status with these other parents and other romantic partners.¹³ We discuss marital and romantic status, relationship quality, and assessment of the parents as a team.

I. Multiple-Partner Fertility

In terms of multiple-partner fertility (having biological children with more than one partner), at enrollment, 62 percent had children under age 18 with two or more partners (Figure 6.1). To analyze this further, in Appendix Table E.1, we divide participants into three groups: those who have both resident and nonresident children (26 percent), those with only nonresident children (69 percent), and those with only resident children (5 percent). As would be expected, those with both resident and nonresident children are particularly likely to have experienced multiple-partner fertility.

¹³The results presented in this chapter exclude Texas participants. Texas participants were not asked about relationships with parents of their children or other current relationships (except current marital status), nor were they asked whether their children had the same or different parents.

Figure 6.1. Number of custodial parents per noncustodial parent

Note: Numbers reported in Appendix Table E.1. $N = 8,875$ NCPs who provided information about the biological parent of at least one child under age 18.

II. Current Relationships with Custodial Parents

Most participants reported strained relationships with the parents of their nonresident children (see Appendix Table E.2). Because CSPED is primarily focused on the nonresident children, we focus first on the relationship with the other parent of the youngest nonresident child. As expected, most participants were not currently married to or living with the parent of the youngest nonresident child. Moreover, among those not married to this custodial parent, only 3 percent said they were romantically involved, and only 5 percent said they were in an on-again, off-again relationship with the parent of their youngest nonresident child.

Sixty-two percent of participants reported that the quality of their relationship with the custodial parent of their youngest nonresident child was fair or poor, but 7 percent reported that they had an excellent relationship. For some, the relationship with the other custodial parent may have been affected by the custodial parent having a new relationship. Among those not currently married to nor in a romantic or even on-again, off-again relationship with the custodial parent of the youngest nonresident child, 46 percent reported that the custodial parent was living with a new romantic partner (Appendix Table E.2).

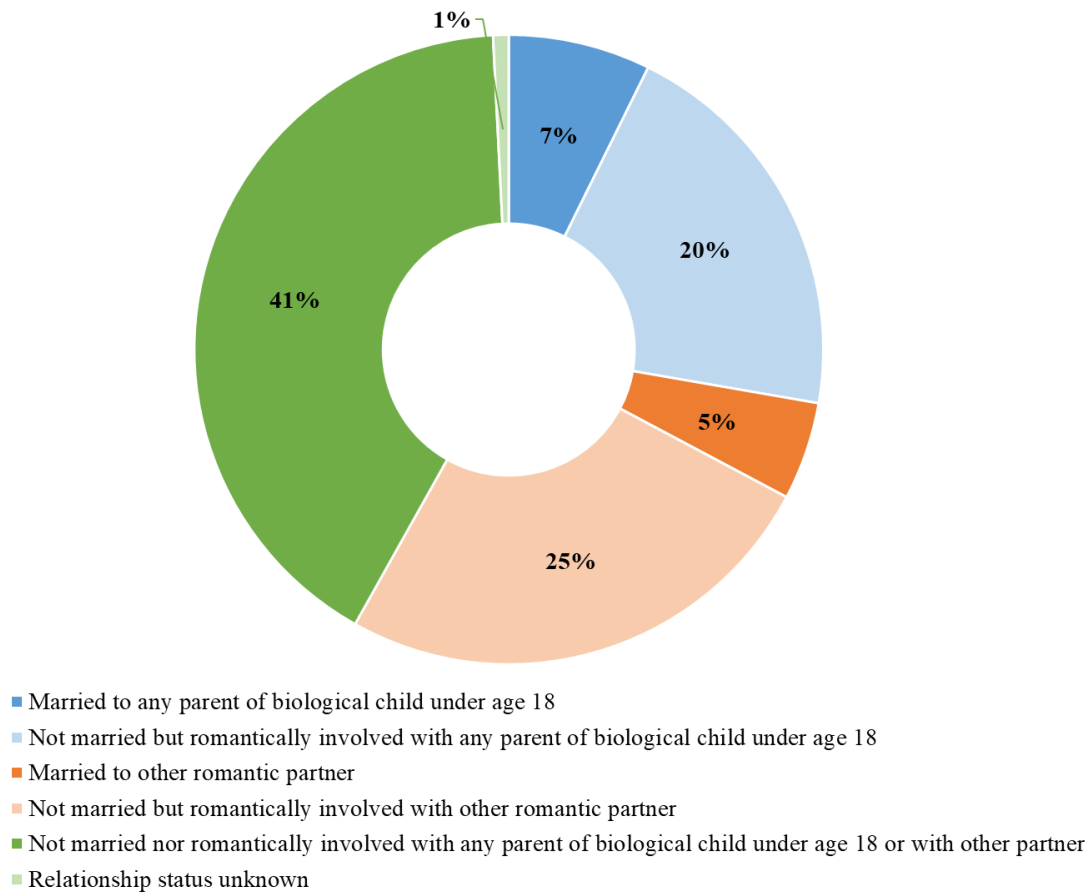
In addition to their perception about their relationship quality with custodial parents, noncustodial parents in CSPED reported their assessment of the quality as a parenting team they had with the custodial parent. These assessments were somewhat more positive than their perceptions of the quality of their relationships with the custodial parent. Half (53 percent) strongly agreed or agreed that they were a good parenting team, while 33 percent either disagreed or strongly disagreed that they were a good parenting team with the custodial parent of their youngest nonresident child.

Appendix Table E.2 provides more detail about the relationship between the noncustodial parent and the custodial parent of nonresident children from other sibling sets. Similar to the report of the relationship with the custodial parent of the youngest nonresident child, few are in a romantic relationship or even an on-again, off-again relationship with the custodial parents of older nonresident children. About 60 percent of the noncustodial parents reported the relationship quality with these custodial parents was likely to be fair or poor, and about half said they agreed or strongly agreed that they were a good parenting team.

III. Current Relationship Status

Finally, Figure 6.2 shows the relationship status of CSPED participants, as reported during the baseline survey. Only 7 percent were currently married to the parent of one of their biological children. Twenty percent were either romantically involved or involved on-again, off-again with such a parent. Other participants were in relationships with romantic partners who were not parents of their children. Five percent were married to a romantic partner and 25 percent were romantically involved but not married. Among participants who were either married to or romantically involved with someone other than a parent of a biological child, about one-third of their partners had children. Finally, 41 percent of the participants said that they were not romantically involved with anyone. Appendix Table E.3 provides additional detail.¹⁴

¹⁴Figure 6.1 uses a classification hierarchy in the order shown above (married to any parent of a biological child, romantically involved with any parent of a biological child, married to other romantic partner, etc.) to construct mutually exclusive categories for current relationship status for $N=8,875$ NCPs. However, a noncustodial parent could have reported romantic involvement with a parent of a biological child and with a partner who is not the parent of a biological child. The figures reported in Table E.3 are not mutually exclusive, resulting in slight differences between Figure 6.1 and Appendix Table E.3.

Figure 6.2. Current relationship status of noncustodial parents

Note: $N = 8,875$ NCPs who provided information about the biological parent of at least one child under age 18. Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Chapter 7. Conclusions

This report aims to leverage information collected from more than 10,000 noncustodial parents who participated in CSPED to better understand the situations of noncustodial parents who are behind on child support payments and experiencing employment difficulties. While CSPED participants are not representative of the population of all nonresident parents struggling with child support obligations, the findings add to the relatively scarce information available regarding an important, policy-relevant group.

Most CSPED participants were noncustodial fathers who faced significant challenges in meeting their child support obligations. These challenges related to their limited employment and earnings potential (e.g., 26 percent had less than a high school education; about two-thirds had a history of incarceration) and to the complex set of family obligations they often faced (62 percent had children with more than one partner). Most of these noncustodial parents reported strained relationships with their children's other parent(s), limited relationships with their own birth fathers, and a substantial minority (26 percent) reported symptoms of major depression. All of these factors potentially create challenges to engaging with their children.

Notwithstanding these barriers, noncustodial parents reported substantial contributions to their children—though these were often outside of the formal system. With regard to formal child support, consistent with the program design, virtually all CSPED participants owed support, with median orders of \$325 a month. Most noncustodial parents had orders that totaled more than half their reported earnings. However, only 43 percent of noncustodial parents reported making any formal payments in the past 30 days, though 48 percent reported providing informal cash support, and 60 percent reported providing informal noncash support.

What can we conclude from the portrait of CSPED participants that emerges from the baseline survey? First, median orders for formal child support (\$325 per month) would potentially be manageable if nonresident parents had steady employment at a moderate wage. However, reported earnings fall far short, and many of the barriers to employment are significant. Evaluations of previous employment interventions suggest the difficulty of designing effective interventions to overcome mental health issues, housing instability, and a history of incarceration.

Second, the noncustodial parents participating in CSPED were typically somewhat engaged with some of their children, although they were infrequently contributing substantially to all of their children. It is important to recognize the diversity in engagement, not only across nonresident parents, but sometimes even across children for a given nonresident parent. Many nonresident parents in CSPED had some resident children, with whom they typically reported strong relationships. On the other hand, most had not made any formal child support contributions to nonresident children in the past month, and 42 percent had no in-person contact with their oldest nonresident child over that period.

This brings us to our third conclusion: noncustodial parents in CSPED were trying to manage complex situations—by balancing responsibilities to both resident and nonresident children and navigating co-parenting relationships with multiple partners, often without stable employment or

housing. Developing programs and policies to respond appropriately to these complexities is clearly a challenge and is one of the primary motivations for the CSPED intervention itself.

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Appendix A: Additional Tables on Demographic Characteristics and Motivation to Participate

Appendix Table A.1. Demographic characteristics of noncustodial parents

	Overall including Texas		Overall excluding Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Texas		Wisconsin	
	N/n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean
Sex^a	10,164		9,006		1,330		1,500		1,273		1,019		950		1,506		1,158		1,428	
Male	9,137	89.9%	8,047	89.4%	1,247	93.8%	1,303	86.9%	1,135	89.2%	884	86.8%	836	88.0%	1,408	93.5%	1,090	94.1%	1,234	86.4%
Age (mean)	10,164	34.9	9,006	35.2	1,330	35.6	1,500	35.4	1,273	36.2	1,019	34.8	950	34.3	1,506	35.9	1,158	32.8	1,428	33.9
18–24 years old	921	9.1%	728	8.1%	89	6.7%	105	7.0%	67	5.3%	96	9.4%	96	10.1%	92	6.1%	193	16.7%	183	12.8%
25–29 years old	1,916	18.9	1,670	18.5	233	17.5	263	17.5	195	15.3	187	18.4	209	22.0	279	18.5	246	21.2	304	21.3
30–34 years old	2,385	23.5	2,120	23.5	326	24.5	373	24.9	305	24.0	258	25.3	222	23.4	311	20.7	265	22.9	325	22.8
35–39 years old	2,169	21.3	1,951	21.7	298	22.4	341	22.7	282	22.2	221	21.7	188	19.8	351	23.3	218	18.8	270	18.9
40–44 years old	1,465	14.4	1,332	14.8	178	13.4	230	15.3	224	17.6	127	12.5	124	13.1	258	17.1	133	11.5	191	13.4
45+ years old	1,308	12.9	1,205	13.4	206	15.5	188	12.5	200	15.7	130	12.8	111	11.7	215	14.3	103	8.9	155	10.9
Race/ethnicity^b	10,100		8,948		1,317		1,487		1,268		1,011		947		1,497		1,152		1,421	
Hispanic/Latino (any race)	2,196	21.7%	1,486	16.6%	733	55.7%	404	27.2%	98	7.7%	18	1.8%	13	1.4%	12	0.8%	710	61.6%	208	14.6%
White	3,328	33.0	3,202	35.8	404	30.7	607	40.8	720	56.8	459	45.4	205	21.7	136	9.1	126	10.9	671	47.2
Black or African American	4,025	39.9	3,737	41.8	77	5.9	366	24.6	360	28.4	472	46.7	701	74.0	1,316	87.9	288	25	445	31.3
American Indian/Alaska Native	117	1.2	112	1.3	18	1.4	11	0.7	16	1.3	12	1.2	9	1.0	8	0.5	5	0.4	38	2.7
Asian	61	0.6	59	0.7	17	1.3	13	0.9	15	1.2	1	0.1	0	0.0	10	0.7	2	0.2	12	0.8
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	39	0.4	36	0.4	14	1.1	9	0.6	4	0.3	2	0.2	1	0.1	10	0.7	3	0.3	5	0.4
Multiple races	334	3.3	316	3.5	54	4.1	77	5.2	55	4.3	47	4.7	18	1.1	23	1.5	18	1.6	42	3.0
Education	10,144		8,988		1,325		1,499		1,270		1,019		950		1,505		1,156		1,420	
< 12 years	2,595	25.6%	2,242	24.9%	345	26.0%	251	16.7%	221	17.4%	294	28.9%	392	41.3%	346	23.0%	353	30.5%	393	27.7%
12 years/GED	4,354	42.9	3,846	42.8	567	42.8	585	39.0	595	46.9	450	44.2	383	40.3	659	43.8	508	43.9	607	42.8
Some college/associate degree/vocational diploma	2,893	28.5	2,617	29.1	385	29.1	574	38.3	396	31.2	261	25.6	166	17.5	446	29.6	276	23.9	389	27.4
Four-year degree or more	302	3.0	283	3.2	28	2.1	89	5.9	58	4.6	14	1.4	9	1.0	54	3.6	19	1.6	31	2.2
Current marital status	10,150		8,997		1,327		1,499		1,272		1,019		949		1,504		1,153		1,427	
Married	1,379	13.6%	1,147	12.8%	153	11.5%	252	16.8%	183	14.4%	103	10.1%	107	11.3%	218	14.5%	232	20.1%	131	9.2%
Divorced	2,537	25.0	2,272	25.3	423	31.9	511	34.1	418	32.9	223	21.9	130	13.7	259	17.2	265	23.0	308	21.6
Widowed	39	0.4	35	0.4	4	0.3	6	0.4	5	0.4	6	0.6	6	0.6	4	0.3	4	0.4	4	0.3
Separated	881	8.7	749	8.3	112	8.4	132	8.8	104	8.2	61	6.0	93	9.8	170	11.3	132	11.5	77	5.4
Never married	5,314	52.4	4,794	53.3	635	47.9	598	39.9	562	44.2	626	61.4	613	64.6	853	56.7	520	45.1	907	63.6
Nativity	10,164		9,006		1,330		1,500		1,273		1,019		950		1,506		1,158		1,428	
Born in the United States	9,551	94.0%	8,509	94.5%	1,148	86.3%	1,365	91.0%	1,186	93.2%	1,013	99.4%	939	98.8%	1,491	99.0%	1,042	90.0%	1,367	95.7%
Military service	10,158		9,000		1,328		1,500		1,272		1,018		950		1,506		1,158		1,426	
Served on active duty	689	6.8%	597	6.6%	72	5.4%	157	10.5%	92	7.2%	63	6.2%	59	6.2%	86	5.7%	92	7.9%	68	4.8%

^aThis table reports the overall figures with and without Texas participants as well as by grantee. Many of the tables that follow exclude Texas participants, as the relevant information was not included in the shorter baseline survey administered in Texas.

^bRace categories and Hispanic ethnicity are mutually exclusive.

Appendix Table A.2. Motivation of noncustodial parent to apply for program

	<i>n</i>	Percent				
		Not at all	A little	Somewhat	Very	Extremely
California^a						
Reason(s) for applying to program	1,330					
Relationship with own children	1,330	6.1%	3.3%	5.2%	27.9%	57.5%
Job situation	1,329	3.4	3.9	6.6	33.0	53.1
Relationship with children's mother/father	1,328	27.0	12.6	21.0	20.7	18.8
Child support debt	1,329	3.4	4.1	9.0	28.4	55.2
Importance of making time to participate in program	1,329	0.1	1.4	8.7	40.6	49.3
Colorado						
Reason(s) for applying to program	1,500					
Relationship with own children	1,499	3.1%	2.5%	4.1%	28.1%	62.2%
Job situation	1,500	2.9	3.2	7.1	29.1	57.7
Relationship with children's mother/father	1,498	23.8	11.8	24.6	22.0	17.8
Child support debt	1,499	3.3	3.4	6.7	28.6	57.9
Importance of making time to participate in program	1,500	0.1	0.7	7.1	38.1	53.9
Iowa						
Reason(s) for applying to program	1,273					
Relationship with own children	1,271	6.6%	3.1%	6.5%	27.5%	56.4%
Job situation	1,273	6.5	6.1	10.8	30.8	45.9
Relationship with children's mother/father	1,271	26.5	14.3	24.3	19.0	15.8
Child support debt	1,272	3.9	5.8	9.3	29.5	51.5
Importance of making time to participate in program	1,270	0.0	1.7	11.9	44.7	41.8
Ohio						
Reason(s) for applying to program	1,019					
Relationship with own children	1,019	4.5%	2.5%	5.7%	25.6%	61.7%
Job situation	1,018	4.3	2.8	6.5	28.5	58.0
Relationship with children's mother/father	1,019	27.9	11.7	25.6	18.5	16.4
Child support debt	1,018	2.5	3.6	8.4	25.9	59.6
Importance of making time to participate in program	1,019	0.0	0.4	4.2	32.2	63.2
South Carolina						
Reason(s) for applying to program	950					
Relationship with own children	947	2.9%	3.2%	5.1%	23.4%	65.5%
Job situation	949	4.2	4.1	9.7	27.2	54.8
Relationship with children's mother/father	945	19.2	11.8	22.7	23.1	23.4
Child support debt	949	2.1	4.5	7.0	24.8	61.6
Importance of making time to participate in program	949	0.3	0.6	4.4	33.8	60.8
Tennessee						
Reason(s) for applying to program	1,506					
Relationship with own children	1,505	4.3%	2.1%	3.9%	22.9%	66.8%
Job situation	1,506	3.9	3.1	5.1	22.8	65.1
Relationship with children's mother/father	1,504	16.6	9.2	22.9	23.8	27.5
Child support debt	1,506	1.9	2.4	5.4	21.6	68.7
Importance of making time to participate in program	1,505	0.5	0.9	3.7	27.8	67.2

(table continues)

Table A.2., continued. Motivation of noncustodial parent to apply for program by grantee

	<i>n</i>	Percent				
		Not at all	A little	Somewhat	Very	Extremely
Wisconsin						
Reason(s) for applying to program	1,428					
Relationship with own children	1,426	4.6%	3.0%	7.2%	30.2%	55.1%
Job situation	1,426	3.4	3.7	9.5	32.1	51.3
Relationship with children's mother/father	1,425	24.6	14.0	23.7	21.5	16.3
Child support debt	1,428	3.6	4.3	8.8	29.1	54.1
Importance of making time to participate in program	1,426	0.7	1.2	12.6	41.5	44.0

^aThis table excludes Texas participants.

Appendix B: Additional Tables on Formal and Informal Child Support Orders and Payments

Appendix Table B.1. Formal child support orders of noncustodial parents with nonresident children

	Overall excluding Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Wisconsin	
	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>N</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount
Formal child support orders of NCPs with nonresident children^a	8,303		1,216		1,394		1,195		954		877		1,348		1,319	
Any formal child support order	8,031	96.7%	1,170	96.2%	1,348	96.7%	1,172	98.1%	929	97.4%	830	94.6%	1,300	96.4%	1,282	97.2%
Mean order amount for all children	8,002	\$401.57	1,164	\$432.04	1,343	\$462.89	1,171	\$366.65	923	\$283.93	827	\$376.10	1,294	\$501.84	1,280	\$341.38
Distribution of order amounts for all children	8,002		1,164		1,343		1,171		923		827		1,294		1,280	
10 th percentile		\$90.00		\$115.00		\$156.00		\$45.00		\$50.00		\$140.00		\$209.00		\$100.00
25 th percentile		200.00		216.00		260.00		100.00		100.00		240.00		275.00		180.00
Median		325.00		339.00		390.00		283.00		238.00		321.00		400.00		260.00
75 th percentile		518.00		534.50		590.00		548.00		398.00		457.00		645.00		420.50
90 th percentile		775.00		819.00		840.00		798.00		600.00		657.00		899.00		644.50
Mean order amount per child ^b	8,002	\$226.30	1,164	\$266.58	1,343	\$275.81	1,171	\$205.15	923	\$149.23	827	\$199.45	1,294	\$267.67	1,280	\$188.19
Distribution of order amount per child ^b	8,002		1,164		1,343		1,171		923		827		1,294		1,280	
10 th percentile		\$50.00		\$69.66		\$75.00		\$21.50		\$30.00		\$60.00		\$100.00		\$52.83
25 th percentile		100.00		135.58		146.00		50.00		55.00		100.00		153.80		97.00
Median		195.00		231.75		243.00		145.50		113.33		179.67		246.50		160.00
75 th percentile		300.00		340.00		350.00		305.00		203.00		261.50		340.67		240.00
90 th percentile		434.00		498.00		500.00		480.00		306.00		380.00		467.50		350.00

^aThis table excludes Texas participants. Sample includes NCPs with nonresident children under age 18. Children are considered nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights. 447 NCPs reported that all of their children under age 18 spent 16 or more of the past 30 overnights with them (resident children). Of these, 86% reported that they had a child support order for at least one of their resident children. NCPs who reported that they were currently married to the other parent of a biological child were not asked about formal child support orders and payments to that parent.

^bAny amount owed for a nonresident child included in numerator. All nonresident children included in the denominator.

Appendix Table B.2. Formal child support orders for nonresident children by sibling set

	Overall excluding Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Wisconsin	
	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median
Formal child support orders for sibling set that includes youngest nonresident child^a	8,194		1,202		1,372		1,185		933		870		1,326		1,306	
Any formal child support order	7,014	85.6%	1,074	89.4%	1,198	87.3%	1,037	87.5%	801	85.9%	647	74.4%	1,112	83.9%	1,145	87.7%
Mean amount per child	6,968	\$251.29	1,066	\$282.75	1,191	\$306.60	1,033	\$226.39	794	\$164.51	644	\$241.52	1,102	\$300.61	1,138	\$204.82
Median amount per child	6,968	221.00	1,066	250.00	1,191	266.00	1,033	170.00	794	125.00	644	240.00	1,102	265.00	1,138	180.00
Formal child support orders for sibling set that includes second youngest nonresident child	3,293		331		474		462		451		431		620		524	
Any formal child support order	2,570	78.0%	251	75.8%	353	74.5%	386	83.6%	373	82.7%	290	67.3%	495	79.8%	422	80.5%
Mean amount per child	2,552	\$226.38	249	\$274.10	350	\$264.25	383	\$177.16	370	\$148.60	288	\$243.12	491	\$289.44	421	\$194.79
Median amount per child	2,552	200.00	249	250.00		252.00	383	120.00	370	120.00	288	210.00	491	258.00	421	170.00
Formal child support orders for sibling set that includes third youngest nonresident child	1,103		62		131		167		188		163		218		174	
Any formal child support order	835	75.7%	47	75.8%	83	63.4%	141	84.4%	150	79.8%	101	62.0%	178	81.7%	135	77.6%
Mean amount per child	832	\$194.40	46	\$239.32	83	\$241.83	141	\$138.03	150	\$128.94	101	\$211.89	176	\$262.06	135	\$180.24
Median amount per child	832	180.00	46	248.50	83	240.00	141	76.00	150	80.00	101	200.00	176	241.00	135	150.00
Formal child support orders for sibling set that includes fourth youngest nonresident child	341		13		24		52		57		51		76		68	
Any formal child support	247	72.4%	NA	NA	NA	NA	37	71.2%	43	75.4%	31	60.8%	60	79.0%	48	70.6%
Mean amount per child	246	\$193.91	NA	NA	NA	NA	37	\$137.49	43	\$116.02	31	\$224.22	60	\$275.77	48	\$176.89
Median amount per child	246	166.75	NA	NA	NA	NA	37	100.00	43	71.00	31	150.00	60	247.50	48	150.00

^aThis table excludes Texas participants. Sample includes NCPs with nonresident children under age 18. Children are considered nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights. NCPs who reported that they were currently married to the other parent of a biological child were not asked about formal child support orders and payments to that parent.

Appendix Table B.3. Formal child support orders as a percentage of earnings of noncustodial parents with nonresident children

	Overall excluding Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Wisconsin	
	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median
Orders as a percentage of earnings^a	8,204		1,202		1,377		1,181		945		868		1,331		1,300	
Any formal child support order and any earnings	4,333	52.8%	539	44.8%	769	55.8%	729	61.7%	356	37.7%	536	61.8%	746	56.0%	658	50.6%
Any formal child support order and no earnings	3,600	43.9	618	51.4	562	40.8	429	36.3	564	59.7	285	32.8	537	40.4	605	46.5
No formal child support order and no earnings	141	1.7	31	2.6	15	1.1	10	0.9	16	1.7	20	2.3	32	2.4	17	1.3
No formal child support order and any earnings	130	1.6	14	1.2	31	2.3	13	1.1	9	1.0	27	3.1	16	1.2	20	1.5
Mean amount of order as a percentage of earnings	4,333	136.7	539	124.9	769	138.8	729	95.0	356	148.6	536	145.6	746	182.7	658	124.1
Median amount of order as a percentage of earnings	4,333	64.5	539	61.1	769	71.6	729	38.0	356	73.7	536	75.0	746	92.5	658	59.8
Of those with any order and any earnings	4,333		539		769		729		356		536		746		658	
Orders < 25% of earnings	859	19.8%	113	21.0%	121	15.7%	254	34.8%	61	17.1%	71	13.2%	80	10.7%	159	24.2%
Orders 25 – 49% of earnings	949	21.9	121	22.4	169	22.0	186	25.5	76	21.3	126	23.5	131	17.6	140	21.3
Orders 50 – 74% of earnings	595	13.7	80	14.8	112	14.6	96	13.2	44	12.4	74	13.8	106	14.2	83	12.6
Orders 75 – 100% of earnings	451	10.4	50	9.3	79	10.3	53	7.3	45	12.6	76	14.2	83	11.1	65	9.9
Orders > 100% of earnings	1,479	34.1	175	32.5	288	37.5	140	19.2	130	36.5	189	35.3	346	46.4	211	32.1

^aSample excludes Texas participants. Sample includes NCPs with nonresident children under age 18. Children are considered nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights. NCPs who reported that they were currently married to the other parent of a biological child were not asked about formal child support orders and payments to that parent. Some NCPs reported very small amounts of earnings in the past 30 days that result in a very skewed distribution of orders as a percentage of earnings. For 99% of NCPs orders as a percentage of earnings were less than 1500%. The top 1% of amounts were top coded at 1500%. Means and medians are for this with orders and earnings.

Appendix Table B.4 Formal child support orders as a percentage of earnings by number of children

	Overall excluding Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Wisconsin	
	<i>n</i>	Median	<i>n</i>	Median	<i>n</i>	Median	<i>n</i>	Median	<i>n</i>	Median	<i>n</i>	Median	<i>n</i>	Median	<i>n</i>	Median
Orders as a percentage of earnings by number of nonresident children^a	4,333		539		769		729		356		536		746		658	
One child	1,690	52.0%	245	46.7%	327	58.6%	274	33.1%	113	54.3%	188	60.6%	272	77.8%	271	44.0%
Two children	1,327	65.0	184	69.0	215	78.8	224	37.3	114	83.9	164	66.7	219	85.8	207	61.1
Three children	734	75.0	72	74.6	138	79.9	130	41.3	69	85.5	92	89.5	138	102.4	95	69.1
Four children	324	90.8	23	79.6	60	100.6	52	46.9	34	80.1	51	112.0	58	127.5	46	124.5
Five or more children	258	96.8	15	62.6	29	104.3	49	66.3	26	93.8	41	100.0	59	150.0	39	106.2

^aThis table excludes Texas participants. Sample includes NCPs with nonresident children under age 18. Children are considered nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights. NCPs who reported that they were currently married to the other parent of a biological child were not asked about formal child support orders and payments to that parent. Some NCPs reported very small amounts of earnings in the past 30 days that result in a very skewed distribution of orders as a percentage of earnings. For 99% of NCPs orders as a percentage of earnings were less than 1500%. The top 1% of amounts were top coded at 1500%. Medians are reported in place of means. Medians are for those with orders and earnings.

Appendix Table B.5. Formal child support orders as a percentage of earnings by number of custodial parents

	Overall excluding Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Wisconsin	
	<i>n</i>	Median	<i>n</i>	Median	<i>n</i>	Median	<i>n</i>	Median	<i>n</i>	Median	<i>n</i>	Median	<i>n</i>	Median	<i>n</i>	Median
Orders as a percentage of earnings by number of custodial parents^a	4,333		539		769		729		356		536		746		658	
One CP	2,551	56.1%	380	55.9%	500	62.4%	441	35.0%	181	61.0%	270	65.1%	385	76.5%	394	50.0%
Two CPs	1,163	75.0	125	75.0	186	82.1	184	38.8	107	74.0	159	79.3	225	113.3	177	68.4
Three CPs	433	75.0	27	74.1	70	79.6	69	44.0	50	88.9	69	88.7	95	100.0	53	82.7
Four CPs	115	115.3	6	69.2	8	132.2	19	51.1	11	200.0	27	116.4	21	216.2	23	160.0
Five CPs	71	106.2	1	82.9	5	113.0	16	96.1	7	94.3	11	117.8	20	157.5	11	118.3

^aSample excludes Texas participants. Sample includes NCPs with nonresident children under age 18. Children are considered nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights. NCPs who reported that they were currently married to the other parent of a biological child were not asked about formal child support orders and payments to that parent. Some NCPs reported very small amounts of earnings in the past 30 days that result in a very skewed distribution of orders as a percentage of earnings. For 99% of NCPs orders as a percentage of earnings were less than 1500%. The top 1% of amounts were top coded at 1500%. Medians are reported in place of means. Medians are for those with orders and earnings.

Appendix Table B.6. Formal child support contributions of noncustodial parents with nonresident children

	Overall excluding Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Wisconsin	
	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount
Formal child support payments of NCPs with nonresident children^a	8,220		1,199		1,386		1,180		947		872		1,332		1,304	
Any formal child support payment	3,518	42.8%	450	37.5%	627	45.2%	633	53.6%	193	20.4%	428	49.1%	674	50.6%	513	39.3%
Mean payment amount for all children	3,518	\$354.72	450	\$338.17	627	\$407.80	633	\$311.00	193	\$230.05	428	\$358.37	674	\$403.68	513	\$337.82
Distribution of payment amount for all children	3,518		450		627		633		193		428		674		513	
10 th percentile		\$50.00		\$45.50		\$60.00		\$30.00		\$25.00		\$60.00		\$66.00		\$50.00
25 th percentile		100.00		100.00		150.00		60.00		50.00		100.00		125.00		100.00
Median		225.00		220.00		300.00		175.00		100.00		220.00		251.50		209.00
75 th percentile		430.00		400.00		500.00		403.00		250.00		414.50		500.00		400.00
90 th percentile		700.00		670.50		782.00		750.00		500.00		700.00		775.00		600.00
Mean payment amount per child ^b	3,518	\$203.50	450	\$220.18	627	\$243.11	633	\$176.63	193	\$118.53	428	\$189.11	674	\$224.45	513	\$190.06
Distribution of payment amount per child ^b	3,518		450		627		633		193		428		674		513	
10 th percentile		\$23.50		\$25.00		\$33.33		\$15.00		\$10.00		\$25.00		\$30.00		\$25.00
25 th percentile		50.00		58.00		83.33		30.00		25.00		50.17		66.67		50.00
Median		125.00		149.00		175.00		95.00		60.00		107.92		134.75		120.00
75 th percentile		250.00		274.50		305.00		241.67		120.00		231.67		280.00		226.00
90 th percentile		430.00		442.50		480.00		400.00		282.00		403.00		450.00		392.00

^aSample excludes Texas participants. Sample includes NCPs with nonresident children under age 18. Children are considered nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights. NCPs who reported that they were currently married to the other parent of a biological child were not asked about formal child support orders and payments to that parent. Means and distributions are for payments above \$0.

^bAny positive amount paid for a nonresident biological child included in numerator. All nonresident children included in the denominator.

Appendix Table B.7. Informal cash support contributions of noncustodial parents with nonresident children

	Overall excluding Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Wisconsin	
	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount	<i>n</i>	Percent/ amount
Informal cash support given by NCPs with nonresident children^a	8,304		1,221		1,393		1,194		953		877		1,347		1,319	
Gave any informal cash support	4,013	48.3%	530	43.4%	550	39.5%	570	47.7%	471	49.4%	483	55.1%	806	59.8%	603	45.7%
Mean amount given for all children	3,949	\$202.40	519	\$179.63	547	\$209.19	561	\$221.33	462	\$189.80	477	\$218.85	791	\$207.70	592	\$187.66
Distribution of amount given for all children	3,949		519		547		561		462		477		791		592	
10 th percentile		\$40.00		\$40.00		\$40.00		\$50.00		\$40.00		\$50.00		\$40.00		\$40.00
25 th percentile		70.00		70.00		70.00		80.00		55.00		80.00		75.00		59.00
Median		130.00		100.00		140.00		150.00		100.00		150.00		150.00		100.00
75 th percentile		250.00		200.00		275.00		250.00		225.00		280.00		278.00		200.00
90 th percentile		425.00		400.00		420.00		430.00		400.00		500.00		450.00		400.00
Mean amount given per child for all children ^b	3,949	\$102.85	519	\$106.77	547	\$106.68	561	\$116.28	462	\$83.42	477	\$101.61	791	\$103.08	592	\$99.02
Distribution of amount given per child ^b	3,949		519		547		561		462		477		791		592	
10 th percentile		\$20.00		\$20.00		\$20.00		\$20.00		\$15.00		\$18.00		\$18.00		\$19.00
25 th percentile		33.33		40.00		33.33		35.00		25.00		40.00		37.50		33.33
Median		66.67		80.00		66.67		75.00		50.00		75.00		75.00		60.00
75 th percentile		125.00		125.00		133.33		133.33		100.00		125.00		150.00		100.00
90 th percentile		200.00		210.00		212.50		200.00		200.00		200.00		200.00		200.00

^aSample excludes Texas participants. Sample includes NCPs with nonresident children under age 18. Children are considered nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights. Means and distributions are for contributions above \$0.

^bAny positive amount contributed to a nonresident biological child included in numerator. All nonresident children included in the denominator.

Appendix Table B.8. Informal noncash support contributions of noncustodial parents with nonresident children

	Overall excluding Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Wisconsin	
	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ /median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median
Informal noncash support given by NCPs with nonresident children^a	8,308		1,223		1,394		1,194		954		877		1347		1319	
Gave any informal noncash support	4,991	60.1%	736	60.2%	752	54.0%	749	62.7%	565	59.2%	524	59.8%	873	64.8%	792	60.1%
Mean amount given for all children	4,876	\$199.17	723	\$194.65	732	\$193.17	738	\$216.45	547	\$194.70	513	\$211.78	850	\$205.44	773	\$180.47
Distribution of amount given for all children	4,876		723		732		738		547		513		850		773	
10 th percentile		\$40.00		\$40.00		\$50.00		\$40.00		\$30.00		\$40.00		\$50.00		\$40.00
25 th percentile		75.00		80.00		80.00		75.00		50.00		80.00		80.00		60.00
Median		150.00		150.00		150.00		150.00		120.00		150.00		150.00		120.00
75 th percentile		250.00		250.00		227.50		250.00		240.00		270.00		250.00		200.00
90 th percentile		400.00		400.00		400.00		500.00		400.00		450.00		450.00		380.00
Mean amount given per child for all children ^b	4,876	\$105.86	723	\$120.03	732	\$104.23	738	\$116.39	547	\$90.73	513	\$100.42	850	\$106.75	773	\$97.42
Distribution of amount given per child ^b	4,876		723		732		738		547		513		850		773	
10 th percentile		\$20.00		\$25.00		\$22.50		\$20.00		\$15.00		\$20.00		\$20.00		\$20.00
25 th percentile		37.50		42.50		40.00		37.50		28.75		37.50		40.00		33.33
Median		75.00		90.00		75.00		75.00		53.33		75.00		78.94		66.67
75 th percentile		133.33		150.00		131.67		150.00		112.50		133.33		150.00		112.50
90 th percentile		205.00		260.00		200.00		250.00		200.00		200.00		225.00		200.00

^aThis table excludes Texas participants. Sample includes NCPs with nonresident children under age 18. Children are considered nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights. Means and distributions are for contributions above \$0.

^bAny positive amount contributed to a nonresident biological child included in numerator. All nonresident children included in the denominator.

Appendix Table B.9. Formal child support payments by sibling set of noncustodial parents with nonresident children

	Overall excluding		Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Wisconsin	
	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ Mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median		
Formal child support payments for sibling set that includes youngest nonresident child^a	6,927		1,057		1,188		1,021		793		645		1,097		1,126			
Any formal child support payment	2,974	42.9%	407	38.5%	544	45.8%	527	51.6%	164	20.7%	327	50.7%	566	51.6%	439	39.0%		
Mean amount per child	2,974	\$232.78	407	\$238.78	544	\$269.24	527	\$203.19	164	\$136.30	327	\$229.74	566	\$270.58	439	\$207.15		
Median amount per child	2,974	150.00	407	152.00	544	200.00	527	113.00	164	60.00	327	150.00	566	200.00	439	131.00		
Formal child support payments for sibling set that includes second youngest nonresident child	2,522		243		352		378		369		287		486		407			
Any formal child support payment	1,071	42.5%	85	35.0%	159	45.2%	222	58.7%	66	17.9%	141	49.1%	233	47.9%	165	40.5%		
Mean amount per child	1,071	\$213.66	85	\$220.49	159	\$284.15	222	\$167.80	66	\$133.79	141	\$243.85	233	\$232.27	165	\$183.75		
Median amount per child	1,071	125.00	85	186.00	159	200.00	222	68.33	66	61.50	141	150.00	233	150.00	165	112.50		
Formal child support payments for sibling set that includes third youngest nonresident child	818		46		82		138		150		101		175		126			
Any formal child support payment	330	40.3%	15	32.6%	35	42.7%	83	60.1%	23	15.3%	52	51.5%	80	45.7%	42	33.3%		
Mean amount per child	330	\$169.55	15	\$144.73	35	\$185.23	83	\$112.04	23	\$78.24	52	\$263.84	80	\$170.06	42	\$211.30		
Median amount per child	330	100.00	15	139.00	35	178.00	83	50.00	23	50.00	52	150.50	80	125.50	42	135.00		
Formal child support payments for sibling set that includes fourth youngest nonresident child	235		10		17		34		43		30		58		43			
Any formal child support payment	96	40.9%	NA	NA	NA	NA	22	64.7%	7	16.3%	16	53.3%	23	39.7%	14	32.6%		
Mean amount per child	96	\$166.62	NA	NA	NA	NA	22	\$111.00	7	\$44.45	16	\$260.00	23	\$151.11	14	\$241.01		
Median amount per child	96	100.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	22	55.00	7	20.00	16	90.00	23	100.00	14	100.00		

^aThis table excludes Texas participants. Sample includes NCPs with nonresident children under age 18. Children are considered nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights. Means and medians are for contributions above \$0.

Appendix Table B.10. Informal cash support contributions by sibling set of noncustodial parents with nonresident children

	Overall excluding Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Wisconsin	
	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median
Informal cash support given for sibling set that includes youngest nonresident child^a	8,203		1,209		1,372		1,186		933		870		1,325		1,308	
Any informal cash support	3,435	41.9%	469	38.8%	464	33.8%	495	41.7%	406	43.5%	416	47.8%	687	51.9%	498	38.1%
Mean amount per child	3,377	\$125.46	459	\$118.24	463	\$138.78	486	\$145.90	398	\$104.63	411	\$125.15	672	\$122.70	488	\$120.34
Median amount per child	3,377	100.00	459	100.00	463	100.00	486	100.00	398	75.00	411	100.00	672	100.00	488	80.00
Sibling set that includes second youngest nonresident child	3,303		333		477		462		453		431		621		526	
Any informal cash support	1,123	34.0%	83	24.9%	129	27.0%	137	29.7%	147	32.5%	163	37.8%	291	46.9%	173	32.9%
Mean amount per child	1,110	\$124.38	82	\$123.56	128	\$119.96	136	\$137.08	144	\$113.76	161	\$134.52	287	\$126.15	172	\$114.44
Median amount per child	1,110	100.00	82	100.00	128	100.00	136	100.00	144	75.00	161	100.00	287	100.00	172	85.05
Sibling set that includes third youngest nonresident child	1,105		62		132		167		188		163		218		175	
Any informal cash support	375	33.9%	14	22.6%	48	36.4%	56	33.5%	60	31.9%	66	40.5%	89	40.8%	42	24.0%
Mean amount per child	370	\$121.36	14	\$117.32	47	\$127.38	55	\$98.91	59	\$132.30	66	\$138.80	89	\$111.97	40	\$122.52
Median amount per child	370	100.00	14	100.00	47	100.00	55	80.00	59	80.00	66	100.00	89	75.00	40	80.00
Sibling set that includes fourth youngest nonresident child	341		13		24		52		57		51		76		68	
Any informal cash support	103	30.2%	NA	NA	NA	25.0%	8	15.4%	14	24.6%	21	41.2%	29	38.2%	22	32.4%
Mean amount per child	100	\$123.91	NA	NA	NA	\$215.67	6	\$70.83	14	\$137.14	21	\$118.81	29	\$98.28	21	\$146.67
Median amount per child	100	80.00	NA	NA	NA	200.00	6	55.00	14	67.50	21	100.00	29	60.00	21	100.00

^aThis table excludes Texas participants. Sample includes NCPs with nonresident children under age 18. Children are considered nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights. Means and medians are for contributions above \$0.

Appendix Table B.11. Informal noncash support contributions by sibling set of noncustodial parents with nonresident children

	Overall excluding Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Wisconsin	
	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median
Informal noncash support given for sibling set that includes youngest nonresident child^a	8,207		1,211		1,373		1,186		934		870		1,325		1,308	
Any informal noncash support	4,420	53.9%	674	55.7%	656	47.8%	663	55.9%	492	52.7%	458	52.6%	776	58.6%	701	53.6%
Mean amount per child	4,302	\$121.36	663	\$127.98	635	\$125.74	650	\$132.69	473	\$106.86	445	\$119.78	753	\$120.62	683	\$111.94
Median amount per child	4,302	100.00	663	100.00	635	100.00	650	100.00	473	75.00	445	100.00	753	100.00	683	75.00
Sibling set that includes second youngest nonresident child	3,304		333		477		462		453		431		622		526	
Any informal noncash support	1,368	41.4%	123	36.9%	171	35.9%	203	43.9%	190	41.9%	167	38.8%	303	48.7%	211	40.1%
Mean amount per child	1,341	\$122.72	121	\$135.67	166	\$119.15	199	\$125.23	185	\$108.69	165	\$140.46	297	\$122.54	208	\$114.31
Median amount per child	1,341	100.00	121	100.00	166	81.67	199	100.00	185	75.00	165	100.00	297	100.00	208	100.00
Sibling set that includes third youngest nonresident child	1,105		62		132		167		188		163		218		175	
Any informal noncash support	425	38.5%	19	30.7%	59	44.7%	65	38.9%	68	36.2%	70	42.9%	89	40.8%	55	31.4%
Mean amount per child	415	\$119.77	19	\$129.34	57	\$103.52	64	\$111.53	64	\$125.19	69	\$119.58	88	\$127.37	54	\$124.73
Median amount per child	415	80.00	19	80.00	57	75.00	64	100.00	64	80.00	69	80.00	88	79.00	54	77.50
Sibling set that includes fourth youngest nonresident child	341		13		24		52		57		51		76		68	
Any informal noncash support	109	32.0%	NA	NA	NA	NA	8	15.4%	16	28.1%	19	37.3%	35	46.1%	20	29.4%
Mean amount per child	107	\$114.34	NA	NA	NA	NA	7	\$79.64	15	\$148.93	19	\$104.47	35	\$82.57	20	\$152.13
Median amount per child	107	75.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	7	100.00	15	100.00	19	80.00	35	50.00	20	90.00

^aThis table excludes Texas participants. Sample includes NCPs with nonresident children under age 18. Children are considered nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights. Means and medians are for contributions above \$0.

Appendix C: Additional Tables on Employment Barriers, Self-Sufficiency, and Well-Being

Appendix Table C.1. Current employment and earnings of noncustodial parents

	Overall including Texas		Overall excluding Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Texas		Wisconsin	
	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean
Employment status	10,162		9,004		1,330		1,500		1,272		1,019		950		1,505		1,158		1,428	
Worked for pay	5,611	55.2%	4,906	54.5%	626	47.1%	863	57.5%	793	62.3%	396	38.9%	620	65.3%	859	57.1%	705	60.9%	749	52.5%
Of those who worked for pay			4,906		626		863		793		396		620		859				749	
Mean earnings	N/A	N/A	4,897	\$768.74	625	\$841.02	862	\$894.13	792	\$973.54	396	\$498.36	618	\$577.94	858	\$717.02	N/A	N/A	746	\$706.94
Median earnings	N/A	N/A	4,897	500.00	625	600.00	862	600.00	792	700.00	396	300.00	618	400.00	858	500.00	N/A	N/A	746	500.00
Mean months in current main job	5,267	19.6	4,580	19.8	580	26.4	804	20.6	750	22.5	351	24.4	586	13.1	805	16.7	687	18.5	704	17.3
Median months in current main job	5,267	3.0	4,580	3.0	580	4.0	804	4.0	750	3.5	351	2.1	586	2.0	805	4.0	687	4.0	704	3.0
Of those who did not work for pay, last worked ^a			3,899		658		611		459		584		310		619				658	
31 days–3 months	N/A	N/A	1,423	36.5%	222	33.7%	293	48.0%	152	33.1%	147	25.2%	109	35.2%	233	37.6%	N/A	N/A	267	40.6%
4–6 months	N/A	N/A	779	20.0	126	19.2	97	15.9	121	26.4	124	21.2	78	25.2	120	19.4	N/A	N/A	113	17.2
7–12 months	N/A	N/A	642	16.5	116	17.6	85	13.9	83	18.1	112	19.2	45	14.5	91	14.7	N/A	N/A	110	16.7
13–18 months	N/A	N/A	277	7.1	50	7.6	42	6.9	30	6.5	52	8.9	20	6.5	33	5.3	N/A	N/A	50	7.6
19–24 months	N/A	N/A	160	4.1	27	4.1	17	2.8	17	3.7	31	5.3	16	5.2	25	4.0	N/A	N/A	27	4.1
More than 24 months	N/A	N/A	569	14.6	108	16.4	73	12.0	53	11.6	107	18.3	38	12.3	107	17.3	N/A	N/A	83	12.6
Never worked for pay	N/A	N/A	49	1.3	9	1.4	4	0.7	3	0.7	11	1.9	4	1.3	10	1.6	N/A	N/A	8	1.2

^aOverall, 87 NCPs provided conflicting information on this variable; therefore, they are coded as missing. They either reported that the last time they worked for pay was after the completion date of the survey ($n = 44$) or that they did not work for pay in the past 30 days, but that the last time they worked for pay was in the same month the survey was completed ($n = 43$). In addition, 112 NCPs responded *Don't know* or *Refused* for the last time they worked for pay.

Appendix Table C.2. Employment barriers of noncustodial parents, overall and by grantee

	Overall excluding		Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Wisconsin	
	<i>n</i>	Percent	<i>n</i>	Percent	<i>n</i>	Percent	<i>n</i>	Percent	<i>n</i>	Percent	<i>n</i>	Percent	<i>n</i>	Percent	<i>n</i>	Percent	<i>n</i>	Percent
Number of employment barriers that make it very or extremely hard to find or keep a job^a																		
None	3,165	35.5%	566	43.0%	559	37.6%	477	37.8%	282	28.2%	307	32.6%	501	33.7%	473	33.4%		
One	2,811	31.5	393	29.8	472	31.7	376	29.8	334	33.4	323	34.3	461	31.0	452	31.9		
Two	1,616	18.1	191	14.5	256	17.2	233	18.5	218	21.8	171	18.2	280	18.9	267	18.8		
Three	777	8.7	91	6.9	130	8.7	108	8.6	101	10.1	82	8.7	128	8.6	137	9.7		
Four	342	3.8	54	4.1	47	3.2	41	3.3	47	4.7	33	3.5	73	4.9	47	3.3		
Five	140	1.6	17	1.3	15	1.0	22	1.7	11	1.1	18	1.9	26	1.8	31	2.2		
Six	45	0.5	4	0.3	6	0.4	4	0.3	6	0.6	6	0.6	10	0.7	9	0.6		
Seven	11	0.1	0	0.0	2	0.1	2	0.2	2	0.2	1	0.1	2	0.1	2	0.1		
Eight	6	0.1	1	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1	4	0.3	0	0.0		
Situations that make it hard to find or keep a job																		
Problems getting to work	8,952		1,325		1,492		1,268		1,005		947		1,494		1,421			
Not at all		43.0%		43.7%		47.2%		48.3%		32.8%		36.5%		46.4%		40.9%		
A little		12.3		12.7		11.6		12.2		11.6		13.4		11.8		13.5		
Somewhat		15.2		14.3		14.4		14.2		16.7		17.1		14.9		16.0		
Very		12.3		12.7		11.5		10.7		16.3		13.5		10.0		13.2		
Extremely		17.2		16.7		15.7		14.7		22.5		19.4		16.9		16.4		
Not having skills that employers are looking for	8,942		1,321		1,492		1,265		1,005		947		1,491		1,421			
Not at all		43.1%		44.9%		46.4%		43.3%		39.5%		43.5%		43.0%		40.0%		
A little		19.9		20.6		19.9		20.6		20.8		18.9		19.3		19.4		
Somewhat		22.3		19.0		22.7		20.9		24.7		23.4		22.3		23.9		
Very		8.4		8.3		5.7		8.7		9.0		8.1		8.4		10.6		
Extremely		6.4		7.2		5.3		6.6		6.1		6.0		7.1		6.2		
Has to take care of a family member	8,954		1,325		1,491		1,266		1,005		949		1,496		1,422			
Not at all		58.5%		60.8%		62.4%		61.6%		61.0%		51.8%		55.0%		55.8%		
A little		13.4		14.4		12.1		13.6		11.5		14.8		12.8		14.6		
Somewhat		14.2		13.1		12.3		12.2		14.7		16.7		16.2		15.2		
Very		7.6		6.7		6.5		7.2		7.8		8.5		8.2		8.2		
Extremely		6.4		5.1		6.8		5.5		5.0		8.2		7.8		6.2		
Not having a steady place to live	8,954		1,322		1,493		1,268		1,005		948		1,496		1,422			
Not at all		57.3%		56.0%		55.9%		60.4%		62.3%		57.2%		52.5%		59.1%		
A little		10.1		10.6		9.4		9.6		9.0		11.0		11.3		9.7		
Somewhat		12.4		12.3		12.5		12.9		12.0		12.0		12.7		12.0		
Very		8.4		8.3		8.2		7.5		7.2		8.4		9.8		8.9		
Extremely		11.8		12.9		14.0		9.5		9.6		11.4		13.7		10.3		
Problems with alcohol or drugs	8,956		1,325		1,492		1,267		1,006		949		1,495		1,422			
Not at all		86.4%		85.7%		86.9%		83.4%		84.4%		86.4%		91.0%		86.0%		
A little		6.7		7.9		5.6		6.9		8.1		8.1		4.8		6.5		
Somewhat		3.6		3.3		3.4		4.9		4.6		2.7		2.3		4.0		
Very		1.7		1.3		2.4		2.5		1.6		1.3		1.0		1.9		
Extremely		1.6		1.7		1.7		2.4		1.4		1.5		0.9		1.6		

(table continues)

Appendix Table C.2, continued. Employment barriers of noncustodial parents, overall and by grantee

	Overall excluding Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Wisconsin	
	<i>n</i>	Percent	<i>n</i>	Percent	<i>n</i>	Percent	<i>n</i>	Percent	<i>n</i>	Percent	<i>n</i>	Percent	<i>n</i>	Percent	<i>n</i>	Percent
Trouble getting along with others or controlling anger	8,956		1,325		1,492		1,268		1,006		949		1,495		1,421	
Not at all		84.4%		87.6%		86.1%		81.6%		79.9%		85.7%		88.9%		79.5%
A little		8.4		6.9		8.5		9.2		9.8		8.0		6.1		10.6
Somewhat		4.8		3.7		3.6		6.3		6.4		4.3		2.9		7.0
Very		1.4		1.1		1.2		1.8		2.0		1.4		1.0		1.7
Extremely		1.0		0.8		0.6		1.0		1.9		0.6		1.1		1.2
Participant's physical health	8,952		1,324		1,493		1,267		1,005		946		1,495		1,422	
Not at all		69.4%		72.8%		69.7%		65.0%		70.2%		70.1%		72.2%		66.1%
A little		11.0		12.2		11.6		12.3		9.0		10.6		9.2		11.7
Somewhat		10.3		7.8		11.0		11.3		11.3		9.6		9.7		11.5
Very		5.0		4.0		4.2		5.6		5.6		5.2		4.6		5.8
Extremely		4.3		3.3		3.5		5.8		4.0		4.6		4.3		4.8
Having a criminal record	8,958		1,325		1,493		1,268		1,006		950		1,495		1,421	
Not at all		48.7%		66.9%		50.7%		47.0%		38.0%		44.0%		45.6%		45.4%
A little		10.3		8.3		9.6		11.3		10.0		14.7		8.2		11.2
Somewhat		12.6		9.9		13.7		13.7		14.4		13.8		10.6		13.0
Very		9.7		6.3		9.4		11.2		12.9		8.5		9.7		10.5
Extremely		18.7		8.6		16.6		16.8		24.7		19.0		25.9		20.0

*This table excludes Texas participants.

Appendix Table C.3. Self-sufficiency and well-being of noncustodial parent

	Overall including Texas		Overall excluding Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Texas		Wisconsin	
	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median
Benefit use and health insurance																				
SNAP participation	10,158		9,002		1,330		1,500		1,271		1,019		949		1,505		1,156		1,428	
Used SNAP	3,561	35.1%	3,411	37.9%	506	38.1%	436	29.1%	616	48.5%	426	41.8%	204	21.5%	609	40.5%	150	13.0%	614	43.0%
Health insurance coverage	N/A		9,006		1,330		1,500		1,273		1,019		950		1,506		N/A		1,428	
Have current health insurance coverage	N/A	N/A	3,931	43.7%	690	51.9%	832	55.5%	751	59.0%	456	44.8%	206	21.7%	340	22.6%	N/A	N/A	656	45.9%
Of those with current health insurance coverage, source (multiple sources possible)																				
Covered by current employer or union	N/A	N/A	319	8.1%	50	7.2%	60	7.2%	52	6.9%	12	2.6%	35	17.0%	71	20.9%	N/A	N/A	39	5.9%
Covered by spouse's current employer or union	N/A	N/A	202	5.1	22	3.2	39	4.7	39	5.2	17	3.7	18	8.7	43	12.6	N/A	N/A	24	3.7
Purchased directly from an insurance company	N/A	N/A	673	17.1	98	14.2	96	11.5	102	13.6	70	15.4	69	33.5	145	42.6	N/A	N/A	93	14.2
Medicaid or other	N/A	N/A	3,095	78.8	566	82.2	693	83.5	618	82.3	379	83.3	126	61.17	174	51.18	N/A	N/A	539	82.16
Criminal justice involvement																				
Conviction history	10,126		8,975		1,328		1,491		1,271		1,014		950		1,498		1,151		1,423	
Have ever been convicted of a crime	6,905	68.2%	6,265	69.8%	718	54.1%	1,048	70.3%	963	75.8%	816	80.5%	658	69.3%	987	65.9%	640	55.6%	1,075	75.5%
Of those ever convicted																				
Have ever been in jail or prison	6,572	95.2%	5,956	95.7%	669	94.0%	984	94.5%	925	96.8%	768	95.1%	646	98.3%	946	96.3%	616	96.9%	1,018	95.1%
Of those ever been in jail or prison																				
Mean months spent in longest spell of jail or prison	6,564	16.1	5,948	15.9	669	7.9	983	14.3	924	15.6	766	15.7	645	17.8	946	21.1	616	18.7	1,015	16.9
Median months spent in longest spell of jail or prison	6,564	6.0	5,948	6.0	669	2.0	983	3.0	924	4.0	766	6.0	645	6.0	946	6.0	616	6.0	1,015	7.0
Mean months since released	N/A	N/A	5,622	115.0	613	160.0	933	105.9	865	104.6	724	112.6	614	103.7	893	137.5	N/A	N/A	980	92.9
Median months since released	N/A	N/A	5,622	53.3	613	106.5	933	48.3	865	48.1	724	55.7	614	6.0	893	63.3	N/A	N/A	980	35.6
Currently on parole or probation	N/A	N/A	1,763	19.9%	222	17.0%	353	23.9%	255	20.3%	152	15.2%	134	14.1%	289	19.5%	N/A	N/A	358	25.4%

(table continues)

Appendix Table C.3, continued. Self-sufficiency and well-being of noncustodial parent

	Overall including Texas		Overall excluding Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Texas		Wisconsin	
	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median	<i>n</i>	Percent/ mean/ median
Current housing and living situation																				
Current housing situation	N/A		8,995		1,330		1,498		1,273		1,017		948		1,501		N/A		1,428	
Own/mortgage	N/A	N/A	378	4.2%	46	3.5%	67	4.5%	103	8.1%	33	3.2%	34	3.6%	54	3.6%	N/A	N/A	41	2.9%
Rent	N/A	N/A	2,771	30.8	448	33.7	556	37.1	435	34.2	284	27.9	247	26.1	350	23.3	N/A	N/A	451	31.6
Pay some of the rent	N/A	N/A	1,897	21.1	276	20.8	328	21.9	248	19.5	179	17.6	242	25.5	351	23.4	N/A	N/A	273	19.1
Live rent free	N/A	N/A	2,636	29.3	351	26.4	340	22.7	299	23.5	367	36.1	308	32.5	521	34.7	N/A	N/A	450	31.5
Live in shelter	N/A	N/A	62	0.7	5	0.4	12	0.8	15	1.2	6	0.6	6	0.6	5	0.3	N/A	N/A	13	0.9
Live on streets	N/A	N/A	66	0.7	16	1.2	11	0.7	6	0.5	8	0.8	6	0.6	9	0.6	N/A	N/A	10	0.7
Live in abandoned building/car	N/A	N/A	43	0.5	9	0.7	15	1.0	3	0.2	2	0.2	3	0.3	3	0.2	N/A	N/A	8	0.6
Other	N/A	N/A	1,142	12.7	179	13.5	169	11.3	164	12.9	138	13.6	102	10.8	208	13.9	N/A	N/A	182	12.8
Next year housing situation	N/A		8,771		1,301		1,467		1,235		987		927		1,455		N/A		1,399	
Expects to stay in current place for the next year	N/A	N/A	6,168	70.3%	942	72.4%	914	62.3%	856	69.3%	743	75.3%	713	76.9%	1,049	72.1%	N/A	N/A	951	68.0%
Lives with (mutually exclusive)	N/A		8,850		1,311		1,469		1,258		994		941		1,466		N/A		1,411	
Other parent or partner only	N/A	N/A	2,742	31.0%	403	30.7%	492	33.5%	431	34.3%	322	32.4%	275	29.2%	384	26.2%	N/A	N/A	435	30.8%
NCP's mother, father, or grandparent only	N/A	N/A	2,410	27.2	354	27.0	335	22.8	276	21.9	274	27.6	326	34.6	517	35.3	N/A	N/A	328	23.3
Other parent or partner and NCP's parent or grandparent only	N/A	N/A	405	4.6	61	4.7	51	3.5	46	3.7	38	3.8	68	7.2	96	6.6	N/A	N/A	45	3.2
None of these	N/A	N/A	3,293	37.0	493	37.6	591	40.2	505	40.1	360	36.2	272	28.9	469	32.0	N/A	N/A	603	42.7
Emotional well-being																				
Depression ^a	N/A		8,999		1,329		1,500		1,272		1,017		949		1,505		N/A		1,427	
Major depression	N/A	N/A	2,069	23.0%	257	19.3%	363	24.2%	315	24.7%	242	23.8%	192	20.2%	305	20.3%	N/A	N/A	395	27.7%
Severe major depression	N/A	N/A	300	3.3	34	2.6	52	3.5	48	3.8	31	3.0	22	2.3	43	2.9	N/A	N/A	70	4.9
Feelings about current situation																				
In control over things that happen to self (reported <i>Never</i> or <i>Rarely</i>)	N/A	N/A	8,993	25.4%	1,328	26.5%	1,497	19.4%	1,271	23.7%	1,018	25.7%	949	29.3%	1,503	29.5%	N/A	N/A	1,427	24.9%
Can change many of own important things (reported <i>Never</i> or <i>Rarely</i>)	N/A	N/A	8,991	14.4	1,323	16.0	1,499	12.4	1,271	15.2	1,017	13.6	949	14.8	1,504	13.8	N/A	N/A	1,428	15.1
Feel helpless in dealing with problems (reported <i>Very</i> or <i>Extremely</i>)	N/A	N/A	9,002	17.6	1,330	16.4	1,498	15.2	1,273	18.1	1,018	17.9	950	17.7	1,506	18.9	N/A	N/A	1,427	19.0
Feel pushed around (reported <i>Very</i> or <i>Extremely</i>)	N/A	N/A	9,001	13.1	1,330	11.9	1,498	13.7	1,273	13.4	1,019	12.6	949	13.2	1,506	13.7	N/A	N/A	1,426	12.9
Hard to make plans for the future (reported <i>Very</i> or <i>Extremely</i>)	N/A	N/A	9,003	28.9	1,329	28.5	1,500	26.7	1,272	32.3	1,019	28.5	950	26.6	1,505	28.3	N/A	N/A	1,428	30.6

^aPersonal Health Questionnaire Depression Scale (PHQ-8). If more than one item missing, the value of the scale is set to missing (*n* = 7).

Appendix D: Additional Tables on Family Background, Biological Children, Relationships, and Parenting

Appendix Table D.1. Family background of noncustodial parent

	<i>n</i>	Percent
Family history^a	8,993	
Living with both biological parents when 15 years old	2,920	32.5%
Parental involvement with NCP's biological parents^b	8,944	
Very involved	2,845	31.8%
Somewhat involved	2,833	31.7
Not at all involved	3,266	36.5
Quality of relationship with NCP's biological parents^c	5,676	
Excellent	1,741	30.7%
Very good	1,166	20.5
Good	1,244	21.9
Fair	1,101	19.4
Poor	421	7.4
Did not have a relationship	3	0.1
Parental involvement and quality of relationship	8,942	
When growing up, how involved was biological father/mother; for those very or somewhat involved, general quality of relationship with biological father/mother		
Very involved with excellent/very good/good relationship	2,671	29.9%
Very involved with fair/poor relationship	174	2.0
Somewhat involved with excellent/very good/good relationship	1,480	16.6
Somewhat involved with fair/poor relationship	1,348	15.1
Not at all involved/did not have a relationship	3,269	36.6

^aThis table excludes Texas participants.

^bParental involvement asked about father if NCP is male, and about mother if NCP is female.

^cExcluding NCPs who were *Not at all involved* with their biological parent when growing up.

Appendix Table D.2. Information on biological children of noncustodial parents, overall and by grantee

	Overall, including Texas		Overall, excluding Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Texas		Wisconsin	
	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean
Number of biological children^a																				
Mean number of biological children	9,965	2.5	8,883	2.5	1,317	2.2	1,475	2.4	1,258	2.6	1,009	2.8	935	2.8	1,469	2.7	1,082	2.4	1,420	2.5
Distribution of number of biological children	9,965		8,883		1,317		1,475		1,258		1,009		935		1,469		1,082		1,420	
1	2,979	29.9%	2,627	29.6%	487	37.0%	469	31.8%	343	27.3%	258	25.6%	230	24.6%	400	27.2%	352	32.5%	440	31.0%
2	2,821	28.3	2,517	28.3	399	30.3	434	29.4	372	29.6	249	24.7	242	25.9	409	27.8	304	28.1	412	29.0
3	2,031	20.4	1,818	20.5	251	19.1	309	21.0	256	20.4	213	21.1	206	22.0	301	20.5	213	19.7	282	19.9
4 or more	2,134	21.4	1,921	21.6	180	13.7	263	17.8	287	22.8	289	28.6	257	27.5	359	24.4	213	19.7	286	20.1
Mean number of resident biological children ^b	N/A	N/A	8,883	0.5	1,317	0.4	1,475	0.4	1,258	0.5	1,009	0.6	935	0.6	1,469	0.6	N/A	N/A	1,420	0.5
Distribution of number of resident biological children ^b	N/A		8,883		1,317		1,475		1,258		1,009		935		1,469		N/A		1,420	
0	N/A	N/A	6,132	69.0%	937	71.2%	1,076	73.0%	890	70.8%	677	67.1%	621	66.4%	963	65.6%	N/A	N/A	968	68.2%
1	N/A	N/A	1,578	17.8	242	18.4	237	16.1	198	15.7	175	17.3	178	19.0	275	18.7	N/A	N/A	273	19.2
2	N/A	N/A	729	8.2	89	6.8	114	7.7	104	8.3	83	8.2	84	9.0	143	9.7	N/A	N/A	112	7.9
3	N/A	N/A	280	3.2	31	2.4	32	2.2	44	3.5	45	4.5	33	3.5	54	3.7	N/A	N/A	41	2.9
4 or more	N/A	N/A	164	1.9	18	1.4	16	1.1	22	1.8	29	2.9	19	2.0	34	2.3	N/A	N/A	26	1.8
Mean number of nonresident biological children ^b	N/A	N/A	8,883	2.0	1,317	1.7	1,475	1.9	1,258	2.1	1,009	2.2	935	2.2	1,469	2.1	N/A	N/A	1,420	2.0
Distribution of number of nonresident biological children ^b	N/A		8,883		1,317		1,475		1,258		1,009		935		1,469		N/A		1,420	
0	N/A	N/A	447	5.0%	78	5.9%	53	3.6%	49	3.9%	40	4.0%	43	4.6%	105	7.2%	N/A	N/A	79	5.6%
1	N/A	N/A	3,452	38.9	595	45.2	612	41.5	466	37.0	359	35.6	311	33.3	528	35.9	N/A	N/A	581	40.9
2	N/A	N/A	2,476	27.9	393	29.8	411	27.9	362	28.8	270	26.8	264	28.2	398	27.1	N/A	N/A	378	26.6
3	N/A	N/A	1,403	15.8	168	12.8	250	17.0	211	16.8	169	16.8	165	17.7	227	15.5	N/A	N/A	213	15.0
4 or more	N/A	N/A	1,105	12.4	83	6.3	149	10.1	170	13.5	171	17.0	152	16.3	211	14.4	N/A	N/A	169	11.9
Age of youngest biological children^{a,c}																				
Mean age of youngest biological child	9,965	6.5	8,883	6.6	1,317	7.2	1,475	6.5	1,258	7.1	1,009	6.3	935	5.8	1,469	6.9	1,082	5.5	1,420	6.0
Distribution of age of youngest biological child	9,965		8,883		1,317		1,475		1,258		1,009		935		1,469		1,082		1,420	
0–4	4,509	45.3%	3,918	44.1%	500	38.0%	638	43.3%	480	38.2%	480	47.6%	476	50.9%	606	41.3%	591	54.6%	738	52.0%
5–9	3,089	31.0	2,790	31.4	433	32.9	496	33.6	428	34.0	303	30.0	279	29.8	477	32.5	299	27.6	374	26.3
10–14	1,738	17.4	1,594	17.9	273	20.7	267	18.1	252	20.0	168	16.7	139	14.9	280	19.1	144	13.3	215	15.1
15–18	629	6.3	581	6.5	111	8.4	74	5.0	98	7.8	58	5.8	41	4.4	106	7.2	48	4.4	93	6.6
Mean age of youngest resident biological child ^b	N/A	N/A	2,751	5.5	380	5.5	399	5.5	368	5.6	332	5.6	314	5.0	506	6.1	N/A	N/A	452	5.1
Distribution of age of youngest resident biological child ^b	N/A		2,751		380		399		368		332		314		506		N/A		452	
0–4	N/A	N/A	1,534	55.8%	206	54.2%	223	55.9%	202	54.9%	183	55.1%	183	58.3%	260	51.4%	N/A	N/A	277	61.3%
5–9	N/A	N/A	703	25.6	105	27.6	105	26.3	98	26.6	79	23.8	84	26.8	137	27.1	N/A	N/A	95	21.0
10–14	N/A	N/A	369	13.4	51	13.4	49	12.3	46	12.5	50	15.1	40	12.7	70	13.8	N/A	N/A	63	13.9
15–18	N/A	N/A	145	5.3	18	4.7	22	5.5	22	6.0	20	6.0	7	2.2	39	7.7	N/A	N/A	17	3.8

(table continues)

Appendix Table D.2, continued. Information on biological children of noncustodial parents, overall and by grantee

	Overall, including Texas		Overall, excluding Texas		California		Colorado		Iowa		Ohio		South Carolina		Tennessee		Texas		Wisconsin	
	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean	n	Percent/ mean
Mean age of youngest nonresident biological child ^b	N/A	N/A	8,436	7.7	1,239	8.5	1,422	7.5	1,209	8.1	969	7.5	892	6.9	1,364	8.0	N/A	N/A	1,341	7.2
Distribution of age of youngest nonresident biological child ^b	N/A		8,436		1,239		1,422		1,209		969		892		1,364		N/A		1,341	
0–4	N/A	N/A	2,792	33.1%	324	26.2%	466	32.8%	338	28.0%	345	35.6%	363	40.7%	418	30.7%	N/A	N/A	538	40.1%
5–9	N/A	N/A	2,948	35.0	442	35.7	540	38.0	452	37.4	335	34.6	293	32.9	487	35.7	N/A	N/A	399	29.8
10–14	N/A	N/A	1,931	22.9	325	26.2	320	22.5	299	24.7	207	21.4	171	19.2	325	23.8	N/A	N/A	284	21.2
15–18	N/A	N/A	765	9.1	148	12.0	96	6.8	120	9.9	82	8.5	65	7.3	134	9.8	N/A	N/A	120	9.0
Age of oldest biological children^{a,c}																				
Mean age of oldest biological child	9,965	11	8,883	11.2	1,317	11.2	1,475	10.9	1,258	11.8	1,009	11.3	935	10.7	1,469	11.5	1,082	9.9	1,420	10.5
Distribution of age of oldest biological child	9,965		8,883		1,317		1,475		1,258		1,009		935		1,469		1,082		1,420	
0–4	1,389	13.9%	1,156	13.0%	170	12.9%	202	13.7%	109	8.7%	113	11.2%	134	14.3%	161	11.0%	233	21.5%	267	18.8%
5–9	2,624	26.3	2,303	25.9	333	25.3	403	27.3	309	24.6	267	26.5	251	26.8	379	25.8	321	29.7	361	25.4
10–14	3,217	32.3	2,912	32.8	434	33.0	468	31.7	442	35.1	349	34.6	308	32.9	478	32.5	305	28.2	433	30.5
15–18	2,735	27.5	2,512	28.3	380	28.9	402	27.3	398	31.6	280	27.8	242	25.9	451	30.7	223	20.6	359	25.3
Mean age of oldest resident biological child ^b	N/A	N/A	2,751	7.6	380	7.5	399	7.4	368	8.0	332	8.2	314	6.8	506	8.3	N/A	N/A	452	7.0
Distribution of age of oldest resident biological child ^b	N/A		2,751		380		399		368		332		314		506		N/A		452	
0–4	N/A	N/A	1,054	38.3%	143	37.6%	162	40.6%	129	35.1%	123	37.1%	134	42.7%	160	31.6%	N/A	N/A	203	44.9%
5–9	N/A	N/A	776	28.2	112	29.5	113	28.3	105	28.5	78	23.5	89	28.3	160	31.6	N/A	N/A	119	26.3
10–14	N/A	N/A	579	21.1	78	20.5	71	17.8	82	22.3	81	24.4	69	22.0	114	22.5	N/A	N/A	84	18.6
15–18	N/A	N/A	342	12.4	47	12.4	53	13.3	52	14.1	50	15.1	22	7.0	72	14.2	N/A	N/A	46	10.2
Mean age of oldest nonresident biological child ^b	N/A	N/A	8,436	11.0	1,239	11.2	1,422	10.7	1,209	11.6	969	11.0	892	10.6	1,364	11.3	N/A	N/A	1,341	10.4
Distribution of age of oldest nonresident biological child ^b	N/A		8,436		1,239		1,422		1,209		969		892		1,364		N/A		1,341	
0–4	N/A	N/A	1,156	13.7%	163	13.2%	204	14.4%	123	10.2%	118	12.2%	131	14.7%	165	12.1%	N/A	N/A	252	18.8%
5–9	N/A	N/A	2,241	26.6	311	25.1	402	28.3	305	25.2	271	28.0	248	27.8	354	26.0	N/A	N/A	350	26.1
10–14	N/A	N/A	2,770	32.8	414	33.4	460	32.4	420	34.7	334	34.5	287	32.2	443	32.5	N/A	N/A	412	30.7
15–18	N/A	N/A	2,269	26.9	351	28.3	356	25.0	361	29.9	246	25.4	226	25.3	402	29.5	N/A	N/A	327	24.4
Sex of biological children^a																				
All girls	N/A	N/A	2,321	26.1%	390	29.6%	405	27.5%	311	24.7%	224	22.2%	226	24.2%	364	24.8%	N/A	N/A	401	28.2%
All boys	N/A	N/A	2,146	24.2	386	29.3	354	24.0	302	24.0	224	22.2	212	22.7	320	21.8	N/A	N/A	348	24.5
Both girls and boys	N/A	N/A	4,414	49.7	541	41.1	715	48.5	645	51.3	560	55.6	497	53.2	785	53.4	N/A	N/A	671	47.3

^aSample includes NCPs with children under age 18. Of the 10,164 NCPs, 2,367 (23.3%) had any children age 18 or older, 143 (1.4%) only provided child's age for a child age 18 or older, 56 (0.1%) did not provide an age for any child. The baseline survey asks for detailed information, such as residence, only on the NCPs' 10 youngest biological children. These ranges and means are therefore capped at 10 for any NCP. The share of NCPs in the sample with more than 10 children is < 1%.

^bSample sizes will differ for resident and nonresident biological children. Children are considered resident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 16–30 nights out of the past 30 nights, and nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights.

^cOnly-children are included as youngest and oldest.

Appendix Table D.3. Perceptions of relationship with children and perceptions and feelings about parenting of noncustodial parents with any biological children under age 18

	<i>n</i>	Percent
Perceptions of relationship with children^a		
Perception of relationship with nonresident biological children ^{b,c,d}	8,423	
Excellent	2,557	30.4%
Very good	1,850	22.0
Good	1,641	19.5
Fair	1,088	12.9
Poor	1,287	15.3
Perception of relationship with resident biological children ^{b,c,e}	2,751	
Excellent	2,323	84.4%
Very good	339	12.3
Good	64	2.3
Fair	23	0.8
Poor	2	0.1
Perceptions and feelings about parenting		
Self-perception as a parent	8,805	
Excellent parent	1,867	21.2
Very good parent	2,497	28.4
Good parent	3,724	42.3
Not a very good parent	717	8.1
Feelings about parenting		
Harder than participant thought it would be	8,877	
Strongly agree	1,711	19.3
Somewhat agree	3,329	37.5
Not sure	526	5.9
Somewhat disagree	2,373	26.7
Strongly disagree	938	10.5
Trapped by responsibilities	8,878	
Strongly agree	322	3.7
Somewhat agree	680	7.7
Not sure	670	7.6
Somewhat disagree	4,034	45.4
Strongly disagree	3,172	35.7
Taking care of children is more work than pleasure	8,871	
Strongly agree	595	6.7
Somewhat agree	1,030	11.6
Not sure	551	6.2
Somewhat disagree	3,836	43.2
Strongly disagree	2,859	32.2
Perceptions and feelings about parenting of NCPs with only nonresident children^{b,c}		
Self-perception as a parent	6,066	
Excellent parent	1,097	18.1%
Very good parent	1,559	25.7
Good parent	2,735	45.1
Not a very good parent	675	11.1
Feelings about parenting		
Harder than participant thought it would be	6,126	
Strongly agree	1,175	19.2%
Somewhat agree	2,300	37.5
Not sure	400	6.5
Somewhat disagree	1,620	26.4
Strongly disagree	631	10.3

(table continues)

Appendix Table D.3., continued. Perceptions of relationship with children and perceptions and feelings about parenting of noncustodial parents with any biological children under age 18

	<i>n</i>	Percent
Trapped by responsibilities	6,126	
Strongly agree	223	3.6%
Somewhat agree	488	8.0
Not sure	504	8.2
Somewhat disagree	2,868	46.8
Strongly disagree	2,043	33.4
Taking care of children is more work than pleasure	6,118	
Strongly agree	384	6.3%
Somewhat agree	707	11.6
Not sure	399	6.5
Somewhat disagree	2,680	43.8
Strongly disagree	1,948	31.8
Perceptions and feelings of parenting of NCPs with only resident children^{b,c}		
Self-perception as a parent	444	
Excellent parent	140	31.5%
Very good parent	160	36.0
Good parent	143	32.3
Not a very good parent	1	0.2
Feelings about parenting		
Harder than participant thought it would be	444	
Strongly agree	80	18.0%
Somewhat agree	159	35.8
Not sure	26	5.9
Somewhat disagree	120	27.0
Strongly disagree	59	13.3
Trapped by responsibilities	445	
Strongly agree	15	3.4%
Somewhat agree	25	5.6
Not sure	23	5.2
Somewhat disagree	188	42.3
Strongly disagree	194	43.6
Taking care of children is more work than pleasure	445	
Strongly agree	39	8.8%
Somewhat agree	47	10.6
Not sure	21	4.7
Somewhat disagree	177	39.8
Strongly disagree	161	36.2

^aThis table excludes Texas participants.

^bChildren (under age 18) are considered resident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 16–30 nights out of the past 30 nights, and nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights.

^cSample sizes will differ for resident and nonresident biological children.

^dCalculated from mean of NCPs responses across all nonresident children.

^eCalculated from mean of NCPs responses across all resident children.

Appendix Table D.4. Contact with children of noncustodial parents with any nonresident biological children

	<i>n</i>	Percent/mean
Contact with youngest nonresident child^{a,b,c}		
Mean number of nights stayed with child ^d	8,435	3.4
Distribution of nights		
0	4,662	55.3%
1–5	1,531	18.2
6–10	1,245	14.8
11–15	997	11.8
16–20	N/A	N/A
21–30	N/A	N/A
Mean number of days had any in-person contact with child	8,419	6.3
Distribution of days		
0	3,286	39.0%
1–5	1,785	21.2
6–10	1,348	16.0
11–15	1,115	13.2
16–20	451	5.4
21–30	434	5.2
Mean number of days had any contact with child	8,428	11.6
Distribution of days		
0	2,231	26.5%
1–5	1,488	17.7
6–10	937	11.1
11–15	1,016	12.1
16–20	809	9.6
21–30	1,947	23.1
Contact with oldest nonresident child^{b,c}		
Mean number of nights stayed with child ^d	8,436	3.2
Distribution of nights		
0	4,959	58.8%
1–5	1,387	16.4
6–10	1,174	13.9
11–15	916	10.9
16–20	N/A	N/A
21–30	N/A	N/A
Mean number of days had any in-person contact with child	8,425	5.7
Distribution of days		
0	3,544	42.1%
1–5	1,762	20.9
6–10	1,334	15.8
11–15	1,058	12.6
16–20	401	4.8
21–30	326	3.9
Mean number of days had any contact with child	8,430	11.2
Distribution of days		
0	2,247	26.7%
1–5	1,550	18.4
6–10	989	11.7
11–15	1,002	11.9
16–20	873	10.4
21–30	1,769	21.0

(table continues)

Appendix Table D.4., continued. Contact with children of noncustodial parents with any nonresident biological children

	<i>n</i>	Percent/mean
Contact with youngest resident child^{b,c}		
Mean number of nights stayed with child ^d	2,751	27.8
Distribution of nights		
0	N/A	N/A
1–5	N/A	N/A
6–10	N/A	N/A
11–15	N/A	N/A
16–20	434	15.8%
21–30	2,317	84.2
Mean number of days had any in-person contact with child ^e	2,750	28.1
Distribution of days		
0	4	0.2%
1–5	7	0.3
6–10	12	0.4
11–15	30	1.1
16–20	254	9.2
21–30	2,443	88.8
Mean number of days had any contact with child ^f	2,751	29.0
Distribution of days		
0	1	0
1–5	3	0.1%
6–10	7	0.3
11–15	13	0.5
16–20	118	4.3
21–30	2,609	94.8
Contact with oldest resident child^{b,c}		
Mean number of nights stayed with child ^d	2,751	27.7
Distribution of nights		
0	N/A	N/A
1–5	N/A	N/A
6–10	N/A	N/A
11–15	N/A	N/A
16–20	456	16.6%
21–30	2,295	83.4
Mean number of days had any in-person contact with child ^e	2,751	28.0
Distribution of days		
0	4	0.2%
1–5	10	0.4
6–10	19	0.7
11–15	35	1.3
16–20	263	9.6
21–30	2,420	88.0

(table continues)

Appendix Table D.4., continued. Contact with children of noncustodial parents with any nonresident biological children

	<i>n</i>	Percent/mean
Mean number of days had any contact with child in past 30 days ^b	2,751	29.0
Distribution of days		
0	1	0
1–5	3	0.1%
6–10	11	0.4
11–15	15	0.6
16–20	125	4.5
21–30	2,596	94.4

^aThis table excludes Texas participants.

^bChildren (under age 18) are considered resident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 16–30 nights out of the past 30 nights, and nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights.

^cOnly-children are included as youngest and oldest.

^dBecause the terms *resident* and *nonresident* are defined by using ranges of nights spent with the child as described above, the mean for resident children will always be a number between 16 and 30; the mean for nonresident children will always be a number between 0 and 15.

^e53 (2.0%) of NCPs reported staying overnight more than 16 nights with their youngest resident child, but reported less than 16 days of in person contact with their youngest resident child.

^f24 (0.9%) of NCPs reported staying overnight more than 16 nights with their youngest resident child, but reported less than 16 days of any contact with their youngest resident child.

^g68 (2.6%) of NCPs reported staying overnight more than 16 nights with their oldest resident child, but reported less than 16 days of in person contact with their oldest resident child.

^h30 (1.1%) of NCPs reported staying overnight more than 16 nights with their oldest resident child, but reported less than 16 days of any contact with their oldest resident child.

Appendix Table D.5. Time spent with children of noncustodial parents with any nonresident biological children

	<i>n</i>	Percent/mean
Youngest nonresident biological child spent the most nights with in the past 30 days^{a,b}	8,084	
NCP	160	2.0%
Other biological parent	7,093	87.7
Paternal grandparents	177	2.2
Maternal grandparents	308	3.8
Aunt, uncle, great aunt, great uncle	132	1.6
Other adult relative	37	0.5
Some other adult	22	0.3
Adoptive parent	56	0.7
Foster parent	99	1.2
Time spent with youngest nonresident biological child^{c,d}	8,193	
Yes, spent as much time as wanted with youngest nonresident biological child (mean)	1,471	18.0%
If did not spend as much time as wanted with youngest nonresident biological child, reasons (multiple answers possible)	6,722	
Too busy with work/school/etc.	675	10.0%
Children live too far away	1,010	15.0
No access to transportation	743	11.1
Custodial parent prevents it	2,222	33.1
Custodial parent's friends or family prevent it	173	2.6
Custodial parent's friends or family prevent it	72	1.1
Problems with where participant lives	103	1.5
Embarrassed to see children because no job/money	99	1.5
Other	3,561	53.1
Oldest nonresident biological child spent the most nights with	8,018	
NCP	143	1.8%
Other biological parent	7,004	87.4
Paternal grandparents	196	2.4
Maternal grandparents	369	4.6
Aunt, uncle, great aunt, great uncle	132	1.6
Other adult relative	39	0.5
Some other adult	31	0.4
Adoptive parent	38	0.5
Foster parent	66	0.8
Time spent with oldest nonresident biological child^{c,d}	8,240	
Yes spent as much time as wanted with youngest nonresident biological child (mean)	1,494	18.1%

(table continues)

Appendix Table D.5., continued. Time spent with children of noncustodial parents with any nonresident biological children

	<i>n</i>	Percent/mean
If did not spend as much time as wanted with youngest nonresident biological child in past 30 days, reasons (multiple answers possible)	6,746	
Too busy with work/school/etc.	580	8.6%
Children live too far away	1,209	18.0
No access to transportation	731	11.0
Custodial parent prevents it	2,083	31.0
Custodial parent's friends or family prevent it	163	2.4
Custodial parent's friends or family prevent it	109	1.6
Problems with where participant lives	104	1.5
Embarrassed to see children because no job/money	95	1.4
Other	3,562	52.9

^aThis table excludes Texas participants.

^bChildren are considered resident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 16-30 nights out of the past 30 nights, and nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0-15 nights of the past 30 nights.

^cOnly NCPs who were not currently married to the child's father/mother were asked this question.

^dThe question about satisfaction with time spent with children was asked at the CP level. Therefore, in 62% of the cases, the youngest and the oldest nonresident child have the same custodial parent.

Appendix Table D.6. Marital status, cohabitation, and paternity at child(ren)'s birth

	<i>n</i>	Percent
Marital/cohabitation status with biological parent at birth of youngest/only nonresident child^{a,b}		
Of NCPs with any nonresident biological children^c	8,407	
Married to biological parent of youngest nonresident child at time of birth	1,819	21.6%
Of those not married when youngest nonresident biological child was born	6,588	
Living with CP when youngest nonresident child was born ^d	3,369	51.2%
Currently married to CP of youngest nonresident child	46	0.7
Of male NCPs not married but living with CP when youngest nonresident biological child was born	2,992	
Signed document to be legal father	2,531	84.6%
Court rule legal father ^e	330	11.0
Not living with CP when youngest nonresident biological child was born	3,216	48.8
Of male NCPs not married and not living with CP when youngest nonresident biological child was born	2,938	
Signed document to be legal father	1,493	50.8%
Court rule legal father ^f	1,201	40.9
Ever lived with youngest nonresident biological child	756	25.7
Marital/cohabitation status with biological parent at birth of oldest/only nonresident child^b		
Of NCPs with any nonresident biological children^g	8,413	
Married to biological parent of oldest nonresident child at time of birth	1,630	19.4%
Of those not married when oldest nonresident biological child was born	6,783	
Living with CP when oldest nonresident child was born ^h	3,612	53.3%
Currently married to CP of oldest nonresident child	37	0.6
Of male NCPs not married but living with CP when oldest nonresident biological child was born	3,238	
Signed document to be legal father	2,859	88.3%
Court rule legal father ⁱ	296	9.1
Not living with CP when oldest nonresident biological child was born	3,169	46.7
Of male NCPs not married and not living with CP when oldest nonresident biological child was born	2,849	
Signed document to be legal father	1,589	55.8%
Court rule legal father ^j	1,083	38.0
Ever lived with oldest nonresident biological child	910	31.9

^aThis table excludes Texas participants.

^bChildren are considered resident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 16–30 nights out of the past 30 nights, and nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights.

^c*N* = 8,436 NCPs with nonresident biological children under age 18, an additional 29 missing observations where other biological parent of nonresident child was unknown or deceased. *N*s will differ for resident and nonresident biological children, and for variables with missing values or those not mutually exclusive.

^dThree missing observations.

^e*Neither* = 123, *Don't know* = 8

^f*Neither* = 235, *Don't know* = 9

^g*N* = 8,436 NCPs with nonresident biological children under age 18, an additional 23 missing observations where other biological parent of nonresident child was unknown or deceased.

^hTwo missing observations.

ⁱ*Neither* = 77, *Don't know* = 6

^j*Neither* = 170, *Don't know* = 7

Appendix E: Additional Tables on Biological Parents of Biological Children Under Age 18; Relationships with Custodial Parents and Other Partners

Appendix Table E.1. Information on other biological parents of noncustodial parents' children

	<i>n</i>	Percent/mean
Number of other biological parents per NCP^{a,b,c}		
Mean number of biological parents	8,875	2.1
Distribution of number of biological parents	8,875	
1	3,353	37.8%
2	3,008	33.9
3	1,513	17.0
4 or more	1,001	11.3
Mean number of biological parents for NCPs who have both resident and nonresident children ^d	2,305	2.8
Distribution of biological parents for NCPs who have both resident and nonresident children ^d	2,305	
1	81	3.5%
2	1,051	45.6
3	677	29.4
4 or more	496	21.5
Mean number of biological parents for NCPs who have only nonresident children ^d	6,124	1.8
Distribution of biological parents for NCPs who have only nonresident children ^d	6,124	
1	2,998	48.9%
2	1,842	30.1
3	801	13.1
4 or more	483	7.9
Mean number of biological parents for NCPs who have only resident children ^d	444	1.6
Distribution of biological parents for NCPs who have only resident children ^d	444	
1	273	61.5%
2	114	25.7
3	35	7.9
4 or more	22	4.9

^aThis table excludes Texas participants.

^bSample includes all NCPs who provided information about the biological parent of at least one child under age 18. It excludes the 1,158 Texas participants not asked about the other parent(s) of their child(ren), the 110 NCPs who only had children ages 18 and older, the 13 NCPs who did not provide ages for any of their children, and the 8 NCPs who had children under age 18 but did not identify a parent for any of their children under age 18.

^cTwo additional NCPs did not provide information about staying overnight with any of their children in the past 30 days and so resident status of children could not be determined.

^dChildren are considered resident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 16–30 nights out of the past 30 nights, and nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights.

Appendix Table E.2. Information on relationships with custodial parents of noncustodial parents' nonresident biological children

	<i>n</i>	Percent/mean
Relationship with CP of youngest/only nonresident children^{a,b}		
Of NCPs with youngest/only nonresident children	8,384	
Currently married to this CP ^c	159	1.9%
Of those not currently married to this CP ^d	8,185	
Romantically involved/steady with this CP	255	3.1%
Involved on-again, off-again with this CP	412	5.0
Not in a romantic relationship with this CP	7,518	91.9
Of those not currently married but in a romantic relationship or involved on-again, off-again, living with this CP ^e	108	16.2%
Of those not currently married to, in a romantic relationship with, or involved on-again, off-again with this CP, CP lives with a new romantic partner	3,423	45.5%
Perception about relationship quality with this CP	8,354	
Excellent	590	7.1%
Very good	907	10.9
Good	1,672	20.0
Fair	1,926	23.1
Poor	3,259	39.0
“Custodial parent and I are a good parenting team”	8,356	
Strongly agree	1,633	19.5%
Agree	2,758	33.0
Not Sure	1,244	14.9
Disagree	1,508	18.1
Strongly disagree	1,213	14.5
Relationship with CP of nonresident children in second youngest sibling set		
Of NCPs with nonresident children in second sibling set	3,342	
Currently married to this CP	22	0.7%
Of those not currently married to this CP ^d	3,298	
Romantically involved/steady with this CP	21	0.6%
Involved on-again, off-again with this CP	67	2.0
Not in a romantic relationship with this CP	3,210	97.3
Of those not currently married but in a romantic relationship or involved on-again, off-again, living with this CP ^e	6	6.8%
Of those not currently married to, in a romantic relationship with, or involved on-again, off-again with this CP, CP lives with a new romantic partner	1,628	50.7%
Perception about relationship quality with this CP	3,322	
Excellent	295	8.9%
Very good	401	12.1
Good	610	18.4
Fair	692	20.8
Poor	1,324	39.9
“Custodial parent and I are a good parenting team”	3,320	
Strongly agree	632	19.0%
Agree	978	29.5
Not Sure	487	14.7
Disagree	570	17.2
Strongly disagree	653	19.7

(table continues)

Appendix Table E.2., continued. Information on relationships with custodial parents of noncustodial parents' nonresident biological children

	<i>n</i>	Percent/mean
Relationship with CP of nonresident children in third youngest sibling set		
Of NCPs with nonresident children in third sibling set	1,115	
Currently married to this CP	5	0.5%
Of those not currently married to this CP ^d	1,104	
Romantically involved/steady with this CP	6	0.5%
Involved on-again, off-again with this CP	15	1.4
Not in a romantic relationship with this CP	1,083	98.1
Of those not currently married but in a romantic relationship or involved on-again, off-again, living with this CP ^e	NA	4NA
Of those not currently married to, in a romantic relationship with, or involved on-again, off-again with this CP, CP lives with a new romantic partner	550	50.8%
Perception about relationship quality with this CP	1,109	
Excellent	139	12.5%
Very good	148	13.4
Good	210	18.9
Fair	221	19.9
Poor	391	35.3
“Custodial parent and I are a good parenting team”	1,107	
Strongly agree	230	20.8%
Agree	366	33.1
Not Sure	147	13.3
Disagree	164	14.8
Strongly disagree	200	18.1
Relationship with CP of nonresident children in fourth youngest sibling set		
Of NCPs with nonresident children in fourth sibling set	341	
Currently married to this CP ^f	0	0.0
Of those not currently married to this CP ^d	338	
Romantically involved/steady with this CP	0	0.0
Involved on-again, off-again with this CP	6	1.8%
Not in a romantic relationship with this CP	332	98.2
Of those not currently married but in a romantic relationship or involved on-again, off-again, living with this CP ^e	0	0.0
Of those not currently married to, in a romantic relationship with, or involved on-again, off-again with this CP, CP lives with a new romantic partner	188	56.6%
Perception about relationship quality with this CP	341	
Excellent	46	13.5%
Very good	34	10.0
Good	60	17.6
Fair	68	19.9
Poor	133	39.0

(table continues)

Appendix Table E.2., continued. Information on relationships with custodial parents of noncustodial parents' nonresident biological children

	<i>n</i>	Percent/mean
“Custodial parent and I are a good parenting team”	341	
Strongly agree	76	22.3%
Agree	100	29.3
Not Sure	50	14.7
Disagree	59	17.3
Strongly disagree	56	16.4

^aThis table excludes Texas participants.

^bChildren (under age 18) are considered nonresident if the participant reports staying overnight with the child 0–15 nights of the past 30 nights before enrollment.

^cForty missing observations.

^dThis panel includes those whose marital status is *Separated*.

^eA child of a noncustodial parent could be nonresident even if the NCP reports living with the custodial parent of the child, since, as noted in footnote *b*, residence status at the child level is defined by the number of nights the child and the noncustodial parent spent together in the past 30 days (resident vs. nonresident). In contrast, we use a different question where we asked if the noncustodial parent is living with the custodial parent in this particular section, regardless if the child is resident or nonresident.

^fThree missing observations.

Appendix Table E.3. Information on current relationships with other parents and romantic partners of noncustodial parents

	<i>n</i>	Percent/mean
Current relationship status with biological parents of biological children^{a,b}		
Current relationship status	8,859	
Ever married to all biological parents	1,768	20.0%
Ever married to any biological parent	3,394	38.3
Currently married to any biological parent	649	7.3
Of those not currently married to any biological parent ^c	8,190	
Currently romantically involved steady with any biological parent	1,184	14.5%
Currently involved on-again, off-again with any biological parent	628	7.7
Not romantically involved or involved on-again, off-again with any biological parent	6,378	77.9
Of those not currently married but currently romantically involved or involved on-again, off-again with any biological parent	1,812	
Live with any partner all of the time	928	51.2%
Mean nights that NCP stayed at the same place as any partner ^d	1,811	21.8
Current relationship status with partner who is not biological parent of NCP's children		
Of those in a romantic relationship with partner who is not biological parent of NCP's children ^e	2,856	
Married to this partner	462	16.2%
Of those not married to this partner	2,394	
Live with this partner all of the time	1,232	51.5%
Spent 0–15 nights in the same place as partner	950	39.7
Spent 16–30 nights in the same place as partner	209	8.7
Of those in a romantic relationship with partner who has other children and who is not biological parent of NCP's children	1,023	
Married to this partner	236	23.1%
Of those not married to romantic partner who has children	787	
Live with this partner all of the time	601	76.4%
Spent 0–15 nights in the same place as this partner	64	8.1
Spent 16–30 nights in the same place as this partner	122	15.5
Partner's children stayed in the same place as partner and NCP	653	83.7%
Mean number of partner's children that stayed in the same place as partner and NCP	780	1.7

^aThis table excludes Texas participants.

^bExcludes NCPs with unknown CPs. A CP is unknown if the NCP answered *Don't know* or *Refused* when asked about the name of their child's (under age 18) other parent and/or if the other parent is deceased.

^cThis panel includes those whose marital status is *Separated*. Twenty NCPs who were not currently married to any biological parent did not provide information about romantic involvement with any biological parent.

^dOne NCP who was not currently married but currently romantically involved or involved on-again, off-again did not provide information about the number of nights that they stayed with the partner.

^eOf the 9,006 NCPs participants, 553 were not asked if in a romantic relationship with a partner who is not a biological parent of their children. Twenty-five who were asked responded *Don't know/Refused*. NCPs who reported a romantic relationship with a biological parent of their children could also report a romantic relationship with a partner who is not a biological parent of their children. A total of 2,876 of 8,428 NCPs (34.1%) responded that they were in a romantic relationship with a partner who is not the biological parent of their children; however, 20 did not respond to any further questions about this relationship.