

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Budget Estimates 30 May – 1 June 2006

**Question: bet 41 (ABS)**

**Topic: Child Care Data**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator SHERRY asked:**

**Aim –**

The find out if research has been done by the ABS into various aspects of childcare.

**Questions –**

- (1) Data from the *Australian Labour Market Statistics* (Cat. No. 6105.0) shows there were 10,017,000 employed persons in Australia in November 2005, of which 8,746,600 were employees. Is that the most up-to-date data you have and if so, can you provide this data to this Committee?
- (2) Does the ABS keep data on child care expenses of parents employed as an employee and if so can you provide that data to this Committee?
- (3) Do you have data specifically detailing the role of child care in the CPI and if so, can you provide it to this Committee?

**Answer:**

(1) The ABS advises that in May 2006, there were an estimated 10,142,200 employed persons in Australia, of which 8,894,900 were employees. Source: Labour Force, Australia, Detailed Electronic Delivery (ABS cat. no. 6291.0.055.001 - Table 8).

(2) The ABS advises that summary data on household expenditure on childcare are available from the ABS Household Expenditure Survey. In 2003-04, in households with children under 12 years of age and where at least one parent had employee income, the average weekly expenditure on all childcare by those households reporting childcare expenses was \$51.86.

The ABS also advises that its Child Care Survey (conducted every three years) provides a range of information on the child care expenses of families in Australia. Summary results are available free of charge on the ABS website (see *Child Care, Australia, June 2005*. ABS cat. no. 4402.0), which includes a glossary and explanatory notes for the survey.

Data on child care expenses of employees are provided below in 23 tables compiled from the child care surveys conducted in June 1993, March 1996, June 1999, June 2002 and June 2005.

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#### **Notes to the tables:**

For 1993, 1996 and 1999 the data have been compiled for children aged 11 years or younger where either parent was an employee. For 2002 and 2005, the data have been compiled for children aged 11 years or younger where either parent had employee income. For these children:

- Table 1 in each year presents counts of children receiving any care, classified by the type of care they received and the weekly cost of that care.
- Table 2 in each year presents counts of children receiving any care, classified by the reported cost of care and the hours of care received.
- Table 3 in each year (except 1993 for which this detail is not available) presents counts of families (where at least one parent is an employee as defined above), classified by the type of care that their children received and the weekly cost of that care.
- Table 4 in each year presents counts of children receiving formal care, classified by the reported cost of formal care and the hours of formal care received.

The tables are repeated for 2005, extending the scope of children in care up to 12 years of age.

In the tables for 2002 and 2005, the cost of child care is net of the Child Care Benefit. Prior to 2002, there is insufficient information to determine whether the cost of child care information reported was net of any child care benefit.

For 2005 the data in Tables 1, 2 and 4 exclude attendance at preschools (adopting a standard definition of formal care that excludes preschools), while the data on the total costs to families of care in Table 3 includes preschool costs.

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Australian Bureau of Statistics - Child Care Survey, June 1993

**Table 1. CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO WAS AN EMPLOYEE, WHO USED CHILD CARE, Type of care by weekly cost of care**

Type of care	Weekly cost of care								Total(a)
	No cost	\$1-\$9	\$10 - \$19	\$20-\$39	\$40-\$59	\$60-\$79	\$80-\$99	\$100 or more	
NUMBER OF CHILDREN ('000)									
<i>Formal care</i>									
Before and after school care program	3*	28	22	17	6	1**	0**	0**	77
Long day care centre	1**	12	22	32	20	7	6	16	116
Family day care	1**	13	13	15	10	7	3*	5	66
Occasional care	2*	25	6	3*	0*	0**	1**	—	38
Preschool	32	65	31	25	12	4*	1**	2*	172
Other formal care	7	10	1	2	1	—	—	—	21
<i>Total children who used formal care(b)</i>	40	139	87	93	48	21	10	24	462
Total children who used formal care only	22	70	48	50	31	13	8	16	258
<i>Informal care</i>									
Brother/sister/step care	123	2*	1*	0**	—	—	—	—	126
Other relative	501	5	6	9	6	2*	2*	2*	537
Other person	164	30	39	41	20	8	3*	9	317
<i>Total children who used informal care(c)</i>	714	36	46	50	26	10	5	12	905
Total children who used informal care only	554	28	35	37	20	8	4*	10	701
<b>Total (d)</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>1163</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use  
 — nil

(a) Includes 7000 children for whom the weekly cost of care was not stated.

(b) Where a child attends more than one type of formal care the hours are added together.

(c) Where a child attends more than one type of informal care the hours are added together.

(d) Where a child attends more than one type of care the costs are added together.

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**Australian Bureau of Statistics - Child Care Survey, June 1993**

**Table 2: CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO WAS AN EMPLOYEE, WHO USED CHILD CARE, Weekly cost of care by weekly hours of care**

	Weekly hours of care								Total
	Less than 5	5-9	10-19	20-29	30-34	35-39	40- 44	45 or more	
NUMBER OF CHILDREN ('000)									
Weekly cost of care									
No cost	258	132	110	37	9	10	9	25	590
\$1 to \$9	57	41	38	11	3*	1**	0**	3*	155
\$10 to \$19	19	42	32	13	5	2*	3*	3*	120
\$20 to \$39	7	27	57	22	6	5	4*	6	133
\$40 to \$59	0**	4*	25	23	3*	4*	4*	9	72
\$60 to \$79	—	1**	7	10	4*	4*	2*	4*	31
\$80 to \$99	—	—	1**	6	2*	1*	3*	4*	18
\$100 or more	—	—	1*	3*	6	4*	9	13	37
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>1163</b>

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(a) Includes 7000 children for whom the weekly cost of care was not stated.

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**Australian Bureau of Statistics - Child Care Survey, June 1993**

**Table 4: CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO WAS AN EMPLOYEE, WHO USED FORMAL CHILD CARE, Weekly cost of formal care by weekly hours of formal care**

	Weekly hours of formal care							45 or more	Total
	Less than 5	5-9	10-19	20-29	30-34	35-39	40-44		
NUMBER OF CHILDREN ('000)									
Weekly cost of formal care									
No cost	8	9	21	1**	1*	0**	—	—	40
\$1 to \$9	66	43	27	2*	1*	—	—	0**	139
\$10 to \$19	16	30	27	9	2*	1**	2*	1*	87
\$20 to \$39	4*	21	48	11	3*	2*	2*	2*	93
\$40 to \$59	—	2*	25	12	2*	2*	1*	4*	48
\$60 to \$79	—	1*	6	7	2*	2*	1*	2*	21
\$80 to \$99	—	—	1**	3*	1*	1**	3*	2*	10
\$100 or more	0**	—	1**	3*	4*	4*	8	6	24
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>462</b>

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\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil

(a) Includes 1000 children for whom the weekly cost of care was not stated.

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Australian Bureau of Statistics - Child Care Survey, March 1996

**Table 1. CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO IS AN EMPLOYEE, WHO USED CHILD CARE, Type of care by weekly cost of care**

Type of care	Weekly cost of care								Total(a)
	No cost	\$1-9	\$10-19	\$20-39	\$40-59	\$60-79	\$80-99	\$100 or more	
NUMBER OF CHILDREN ('000)									
<i>Formal Care</i>									
Before & after school care program	5*	35	24	32	6	1**	2*	—	105
Long day care centre	2*	9	19	38	23	16	11	27	146
Family day care	3*	18	17	16	9	9	5*	8	86
Occasional care	2*	18	8	12	2*	1**	1**	0**	43
Preschool	16	48	41	32	11	5*	3*	3*	158
Other formal care	5*	7	3*	2*	1**	—	—	—	17
<i>Total children who used formal care(b)</i>	29	120	103	123	53	31	21	41	523
<i>Informal Care</i>									
Brother/sister care	125	2*	1*	0**	—	—	—	—	128
Other relative	538	4*	8	8	6	2*	1*	3*	571
Non-relative	160	17	25	32	17	8	4*	9	272
<i>Total children who used informal care(c)</i>	760	22	32	41	22	10	5*	12	906
<b>Total (d)</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>1214</b>

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— nil

(a) Includes 3000 children for whom the weekly cost of care was not stated.

(b) Where a child attends more than one type of formal care the hours are added together.

(c) Where a child attends more than one type of informal care the hours are added together.

(d) Where a child attends more than one type of care the costs are added together.

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**Australian Bureau of Statistics - Child Care Survey, March 1996**

**Table 2. CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO WAS AN EMPLOYEE, WHO USED CHILD CARE, Weekly cost of care by weekly hours of care**

Weekly cost of care	Weekly hours of care							45 or more	Total
	Less than 5	5-9	10-19	20-29	30-34	35-39	40-44		
	NUMBER OF CHILDREN ('000)								
No cost	266	132	114	47	8	9	8	26	610
\$1-9	52	38	29	7	3*	1**	1**	1*	132
\$10-19	29	39	35	8	5*	3*	2*	3*	122
\$20-39	9	37	62	18	7	7	4*	7	151
\$40-59	2*	7	31	16	6	4*	3*	3*	71
\$60-79	—	1*	15	13	4*	3*	2*	4*	42
\$80-99	—	1**	4*	9	4*	2*	3*	3*	26
\$100 or more	—	1**	3*	8	7	8	15	16	57
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>1214</b>

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**Australian Bureau of Statistics - Child Care Survey, June 1996**

**Table 3. FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO WAS AN EMPLOYEE, WHO USED CHILD CARE,  
Type of care by weekly cost of care**

Type of care	Weekly cost of care							Total(a)
	No cost	\$1-\$9	\$10-\$19	\$20-\$39	\$40-\$59	\$60-\$99	\$100 or more	
	NUMBER OF FAMILIES ('000)							
All formal care	21	70	71	90	45	54	60	413
All informal care	359	33	40	62	32	40	40	608
Formal care only	13	39	38	46	23	26	30	214
Informal care only	350	2*	7	18	10	12	10	409
Both formal and informal care	9	31	34	44	22	29	30	199
<b>Total</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>821</b>

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(a) Total includes 2000 families for whom the weekly cost of care was 'not determined.



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**Table 4. CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO WAS AN EMPLOYEE, WHO USED FORMAL CHILD CARE, Weekly cost of formal care by weekly hours of formal care**

Weekly cost of formal care	Weekly hours of formal care								Total
	Less than 5	5-9	10-19	20-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 or more	
	NUMBER OF CHILDREN ('000)								
No cost	10	3*	14	1**	—	—	1**	0**	29
\$1-9	61	38	18	1*	1**	—	1**	—	120
\$10-19	28	44	23	5*	1**	2*	1**	1**	103
\$20-39	8	40	53	10	6	3*	2*	1*	123
\$40-59	—	5*	31	9	3*	2*	2*	1*	53
\$60-79	—	2*	13	10	3*	2*	1*	1**	31
\$80-99	0**	1**	5*	8	4*	1*	1**	1**	21
\$100 or more	—	1**	2*	7	4*	7	9	11	41
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>523</b>

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— nil

(a) Includes 3000 children for whom the weekly cost of care was not stated.

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**Australian Bureau of Statistics - Child Care Survey, June 1999**

**Table 1. CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO WAS AN EMPLOYEE, WHO USED CHILD CARE, Type of care by weekly cost of care**

Type of care	Weekly cost of care								Total (a)
	No cost	\$1-\$9	\$10- \$19	\$20- \$39	\$40- \$59	\$60- \$79	\$80-\$99	\$100 or more	
NUMBER OF CHILDREN ('000)									
<i>Used care</i>									
Formal care only	19	41	73	87	44	26	11	44	345
Informal care only	615	9	20	22	14	7	6	8	700
Both formal and informal care	12	32	52	58	31	26	10	27	249
<i>Used formal care</i>									
Before and after school care	6	28	42	39	15	6	1*	2*	141
Long day care	2*	7	30	45	31	25	12	46	198
Family day care	1*	8	12	20	10	6	3*	10	70
Occasional care	2*	8	12	11	2*	—	0**	—	34
Preschool	28	40	47	32	13	12	2*	7	182
Other formal care	3*	6	1*	2*	—	—	0**	—	13
<i>Total children who used formal care (b)</i>	32	79	132	144	70	49	20	66	594
<i>Used informal care</i>									
Grandparent	547	2*	1**	4	2*	1**	—	1*	560
Sibling	56	1**	1*	0**	0**	—	—	—	59
Other relative	148	1**	4*	1**	3*	0**	0**	—	155
Other person	156	8	21	26	16	8	6	10	250
<i>Total children who used informal care (c)</i>	832	11	27	31	20	10	6	11	949
<b>Total (d)</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>1294</b>

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 — nil

(a) Includes 3000 children for whom the weekly cost of care was not stated.

(b) Where a child attends more than one type of formal care the hours are added together.

(c) Where a child attends more than one type of informal care the hours are added together.

(d) Where a child attends more than one type of care the costs are added together.

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**Table 2. CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO WAS AN EMPLOYEE, WHO USED CHILD CARE, Weekly cost of care by weekly hours of care**

Weekly cost of care	Weekly hours of care								Total
	Less than 5	5-9	10-19	20-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 or more	
	NUMBER OF CHILDREN ('000)								
No cost	252	146	130	51	12	9	10	38	646
\$1-\$9	34	21	18	6	1*	np	np	1*	81
\$10-\$19	26	52	45	7	4	3*	2	5	144
\$20-\$39	14	58	57	17	5	4	3	9	166
\$40-\$59	3*	13	39	17	4	3*	3	7	88
\$60-\$79	np	3*	19	21	4	3*	4	5	59
\$80-\$99	np	1*	5	8	4	1*	1	5	27
\$100 or more	np	np	12	17	6	11	14	19	79
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>1294</b>

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np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable

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**Australian Bureau of Statistics - Child Care Survey, June 1999**

**Table 3. FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO WAS AN EMPLOYEE, WHO USED CHILD CARE, Type of care by weekly cost of care**

Type of care	Weekly cost of care							Total(a)
	No cost	\$1-\$9	\$10-\$19	\$20-\$39	\$40-\$59	\$60-\$99	\$100 or more	
NUMBER OF FAMILIES ('000)								
All formal care	20	44	77	96	59	62	75	435
All informal care	369	21	39	51	41	38	53	615
Formal care only	12	18	35	50	26	36	50	227
Informal care only	361	1*	8	12	8	9	8	407
Both formal and informal care	8	20	31	40	34	29	45	208
<b>Total</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>842</b>

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(a) Total includes 2000 families for whom the weekly cost of care was 'not determined'.

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Australian Bureau of Statistics - Child Care Survey, June 1999

**Table 4. CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO WAS AN EMPLOYEE, WHO USED FORMAL CHILD CARE, Weekly cost of formal care by weekly hours of formal care**

Weekly cost of formal care	Weekly hours of care								Total
	Less than 5	5-9	10-19	20-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 or more	
	NUMBER OF CHILDREN ('000)								
No cost	8	3*	20	np	—	—	np	—	32
\$1-\$9	49	15	13	np	np	—	—	—	79
\$10-\$19	38	58	32	4	np	np	—	np	132
\$20-\$39	14	68	48	9	1*	np	2*	2*	144
\$40-\$59	np	10	41	12	3*	2*	2*	1*	70
\$60-\$79	np	4*	26	12	3*	2*	2*	Np	49
\$80-\$99	np	np	6	6	3*	np	1*	2*	20
\$100 or more	np	np	9	17	9	10	9	13	66
<b>Total(a)</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>594</b>

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**Australian Bureau of Statistics - Child Care Survey, June 2002**

**Table 1. CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO RECEIVED EMPLOYEE CASH INCOME, WHO USED CHILD CARE, Type of care by weekly cost of care**

Type of care	Weekly cost of care								Total (a)
	No cost	\$1-\$9	\$10-\$19	\$20-\$39	\$40-\$59	\$60-\$79	\$80-\$99	\$100 or more	
NUMBER OF CHILDREN ('000)									
<i>Used care</i>									
Formal care only	27	64	73	87	49	27	19	35	383
Informal care only	498	6*	13	17	11	2*	2*	8	558
Both formal and informal care	12	36	44	56	34	22	12	33	249
<i>Used formal care</i>									
Before and after school care	9	39	44	40	12	6*	1**	1**	154
Long day care	4*	12	27	56	39	29	20	46	234
Family day care	5*	15	12	19	12	5*	2*	6*	76
Occasional care	1**	9	7	4*	2*	1**	1**	0**	24
Preschool	24	46	43	36	17	7	6*	5*	186
Other formal care	3*	4*	1**	1**	1**	—	0**	—	10
<i>Total children who used formal care (b)</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>104</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>632</i>
<i>Used informal care</i>									
Grandparent	463	0**	2*	2*	4*	0**	0**	1**	473
Sibling	54	1**	2*	1**	0**	—	—	—	58
Other relative	139	—	2*	2*	1**	1**	1**	3*	147
Other person	119	7	16	21	11	3*	3*	9	191
<i>Total children who used informal care (c)</i>	<i>714</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>4*</i>	<i>4*</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>807</i>
<b>Total (d)</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>1190</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use  
 — nil

(a) Includes 3000 children for whom weekly cost of care was not stated.

(b) Where a child attends more than one type of formal care the hours are added together.

(c) Where a child attends more than one type of informal care the hours are added together.

(d) Where a child attends more than one type of care the costs are added together.

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**Table 2. CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO RECEIVED EMPLOYEE CASH INCOME, WHO USED CHILD CARE, Weekly cost of care by weekly hours of care**

	Weekly hours of care								Total
	Less than 5	5-9	10-19	20-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 or more	
NUMBER OF CHILDREN ('000)									
Weekly cost of care									
No cost	197	124	114	42	15	7	8	31	537
\$1-9	44	23	24	8	1**	1**	—	5*	106
\$10-19	35	43	36	10	2*	2*	1**	2*	130
\$20-39	11	49	60	22	8	3*	4*	4*	160
\$40-59	2*	15	40	20	7	2*	3*	5*	94
\$60-79	0**	2*	19	16	3*	3*	4*	4*	51
\$80-99	—	1**	12	9	4*	2*	4*	2*	34
\$100 or more	1**	1**	12	16	10	13	10	14	76
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>1190</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil

(a) Includes 3000 children for whom weekly cost of care was not stated.

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**Table 3. FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO RECEIVED EMPLOYEE CASH INCOME, WHO USED CHILD CARE, Type of care by weekly cost of care**

Type of care	Weekly cost of care								Total
	No cost	\$1-9	\$10-19	\$20-39	\$40-59	\$60-79	\$80-99	\$100 or more	
	NUMBER OF FAMILIES ('000)								
Formal care	25	58	69	97	65	40	29	77	461
Informal care	300	26	32	51	39	21	14	45	528
Formal care only	16	33	41	55	34	22	17	39	258
Informal care only	291	1**	4*	9	8	3*	2*	7	324
Both formal and informal care	9	25	28	42	31	18	12	38	203
<b>Total (a)</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>786</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) Total includes 1000 families for whom weekly cost of care was 'not determined'.



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**Table 4. CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO RECEIVED EMPLOYEE CASH INCOME, WHO USED FORMAL CHILD CARE, Weekly cost of formal care by weekly hours of formal care**

	Weekly hours of care								Total
	Less than 5	5-9	10-19	20-29	30-34	35- 39	40-44	45 or more	
NUMBER OF CHILDREN ('000)									
Weekly cost of formal care									
No cost	7	6*	19	4*	2*	1**	—	0**	40
\$1-9	54	27	19	3*	0**	—	1**	—	104
\$10-19	45	43	27	4*	0**	1**	—	—	120
\$20-39	13	55	53	16	3*	1**	1**	1**	143
\$40-59	3*	17	43	12	3*	1**	2*	1**	82
\$60-79	1**	5*	24	12	3*	0**	2*	2*	49
\$80-99	0**	1**	16	7	3*	1**	2*	2*	31
\$100 or more	1**	2*	11	19	7	7	7	7	60
<b>Total (a)</b>	125	155	212	77	22	13	16	13	632

\* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil

(a) Includes 4000 children for whom weekly cost of care was not stated.

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**Table 1a. CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO RECEIVED EMPLOYEE CASH INCOME, WHO USED CHILD CARE, Type of care by weekly cost of care (a)**  
 Weekly cost of care

Type of care	Weekly cost of care							\$100 or more	Total
	No cost	\$1-\$9	\$10-\$19	\$20-\$39	\$40-\$59	\$60-\$79	\$80-\$99		
<b>CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS ('000)</b>									
<i>Used formal care</i>									
Before and/or after school care	12	41	44	57	29	11	5*	6*	205
Long day care centre	4*	11	20	59	48	28	25	78	273
Family day care	5*	11	14	25	9	8*	6*	11	88
Occasional care centre	4*	11	10	7*	5*	1**	—	1**	40
Other formal care	3*	2*	2*	2*	2*	0**	1**	2*	14
<i>Children who used formal care(b)(c)(d)</i>	25	70	84	142	94	51	35	100	601
<i>Used informal care</i>									
Grandparent	535	1**	4*	7*	3*	3*	0**	1**	554
Other relative(e)	182	1**	1**	4*	3*	1**	0**	2*	194
Other person	121	4*	6*	16	9	8	1**	13	177
<i>Children who used informal care(d)(f)</i>	783	5*	11	27	16	12	1**	16	871
Children who used formal care(b) only	17	41	53	94	58	30	19	64	376
Children who used informal care only	579	4*	9	17	12	10	1**	13	645
Children who used formal(b) and informal care	7*	28	28	48	35	22	19	39	226
<b>Children aged 0–11 years</b>	603	73	90	158	105	63	39	116	1246

\* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil

(a) Net cost to parent(s) after the Child Care Benefit has been paid but does not include adjustment for the new Child Care Tax Rebate.

(b) In surveys prior to 2005, the definition of 'formal care' included preschool.

(c) All children who used formal care, including those who used both formal and informal care.

(d) Components do not add to total as children could use more than one type of care.

(e) Other relative includes non-resident parent, brother/sister and other relative.

(f) All children who used informal care, including those who used both informal and formal care.

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**Table 1b. CHILDREN AGED 0-12 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO RECEIVED EMPLOYEE CASH INCOME, WHO USED CHILD CARE, Type of care by weekly cost of care (a)**

Type of care	Weekly cost of care								Total
	No cost	\$1-\$9	\$10-\$19	\$20-\$39	\$40-\$59	\$60-\$79	\$80-\$99	\$100 or more	
CHILDREN AGED 0-12 YEARS ('000)									
<i>Used formal care</i>									
Before and/or after school care	13	41	45	57	29	11	5*	6*	208
Long day care centre	4*	11	20	60	48	28	25	78	274
Family day care	5*	11	14	25	9	8*	7*	11	89
Occasional care centre	4*	12	11	7*	5*	1**	—	1**	42
Other formal care	3*	3*	2*	2*	2*	0**	1**	2*	15
<i>Children who used formal care(b)(c)(d)</i>	26	72	86	143	95	51	36	100	608
<i>Used informal care</i>									
Grandparent	561	1**	4*	7*	3*	4*	0**	1**	581
Other relative(e)	205	1**	1**	5*	3*	1**	0**	2*	218
Other person	127	4*	7*	16	9	8	1**	13	184
<i>Children who used informal care(d)(f)</i>	835	5*	12	28	16	14	1**	16	926
Children who used formal care(b) only	17	42	55	94	58	30	19	64	380
Children who used informal care only	629	4*	9	18	12	11	1**	13	698
Children who used formal(b) and informal care	7*	28	29	48	35	22	19	39	228
<b>Total</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>1306</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil

(a) Net cost to parent(s) after the Child Care Benefit has been paid but does not include adjustment for the new Child Care Tax Rebate.

(b) In surveys prior to 2005, the definition of 'formal care' included preschool.

(c) All children who used formal care, including those who used both formal and informal care.

(d) Components do not add to total as children could use more than one type of care.

(e) Other relative includes non-resident parent, brother/sister and other relative.

(f) All children who used informal care, including those who used both informal and formal care.

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**Table 2a. CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO RECEIVED EMPLOYEE CASH INCOME, WHO USED CHILD CARE, Weekly cost of care by weekly hours of care (a)**

	Weekly hours of care								Total
	Less than 5	5-9	10-19	20- 29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 or more	
<b>CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS ('000)</b>									
Weekly cost of care									
No cost	230	137	115	51	14	7*	13	35	603
\$1-\$9	31	16	13	7*	1**	1**	2*	3*	73
\$10-\$19	32	28	18	7*	2*	1**	1**	3*	90
\$20-\$39	16	61	44	21	7*	3*	1**	5*	158
\$40-\$59	8*	23	43	15	6*	3*	2*	5*	105
\$60-\$79	2*	9	29	12	4*	2*	4*	2*	63
\$80-\$99	—	3*	13	13	3*	1**	3*	4*	39
\$100 or more	0**	2*	21	30	16	10	16	20	116
<b>Total</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>1246</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil

(a) Net cost to parent(s) after the Child Care Benefit has been paid but does not include adjustment for the new Child Care Tax Rebate.

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**Table 2b. CHILDREN AGED 0-12 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO RECEIVED EMPLOYEE CASH INCOME, WHO USED CHILD CARE, Weekly cost of care by weekly hours of care (a)**

Weekly cost of care	Weekly hours of care							45 or more	Total
	Less than 5	5-9	10-19	20-29	30-34	35-39	40-44		
CHILDREN AGED 0-12 YEARS ('000)									
No cost	248	147	124	55	16	8*	13	43	654
\$1-\$9	32	16	13	7*	1**	1**	2*	3*	74
\$10-\$19	33	28	18	7*	2*	1**	1**	3*	93
\$20-\$39	17	61	44	22	7*	3*	1**	5*	160
\$40-\$59	8*	23	43	15	6*	3*	2*	5*	105
\$60-\$79	2*	9	29	12	4*	2*	4*	4*	64
\$80-\$99	—	3*	14	13	3*	1**	3*	4*	39
\$100 or more	0**	2*	21	30	16	10	16	20	116
<b>Total</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>1306</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil

(a) Net cost to parent(s) after the Child Care Benefit has been paid but does not include adjustment for the new Child Care Tax Rebate.

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**Table 3a. FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO RECEIVED EMPLOYEE CASH INCOME, WHO USED CHILD CARE AND/OR PRESCHOOL (a), Type of care by weekly cost of care (b)**

Type of care	Weekly cost of care							Total (e)	
	No cost	\$1-\$9	\$10-\$19	\$20-\$39	\$40-\$59	\$60-\$79	\$80-\$99		\$100 or more
NUMBER OF FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS ('000)									
Families who used formal care and/or preschool (c)	33	54	77	129	103	61	41	135	634
Families who used informal care (d)	590	2*	5*	15	14	9	2*	19	657
Families who used formal care only	19	26	37	72	58	35	21	73	341
Families who used informal care only	330	1*	3*	8	7	3*	1*	11	364
Families who used both formal care and/or preschool and informal care	13	25	36	50	43	28	24	72	293
<b>Total</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>997</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) For families it was not possible to separate the cost of preschool from the cost of formal care. Information about the cost of care and preschool for families was obtained in relation to all children in the family attending child care.

(b) Net cost to parent(s) after the Child Care Benefit has been paid but does not include adjustment for the new Child Care Tax Rebate.

(c) All families who used formal care, including those who used both formal and informal care.

(d) All families who used informal care, including those who used both informal and formal care.

(e) Total includes 2000 families for whom the weekly cost of care was 'not determined'.

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**Table 3b. FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED 0-12 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO RECEIVED EMPLOYEE CASH INCOME, WHO USED CHILD CARE AND/OR PRESCHOOL (a), Type of care by weekly cost of care (b)**

	Weekly cost of care							Total (e)	
	No cost	\$1-\$9	\$10-\$19	\$20-\$39	\$40-\$59	\$60-\$79	\$80-\$99		\$100 or more
NUMBER OF FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED 0-12 YEARS ('000)									
Families who used formal care and/or preschool (c)	33	55	78	129	103	61	41	135	637
Families who used informal care (d)	613	2*	5*	15	14	9	2*	19	680
Families who used formal care only	19	27	38	72	58	35	21	73	342
Families who used informal care only	351	1*	3*	8	7	3*	1*	11	386
Families who used both formal care and/or preschool and informal care	13	26	36	50	43	28	24	72	294
<b>Total</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>1022</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

(a) For families it was not possible to separate the cost of preschool from the cost of formal care. Information about the cost of care and preschool for families was obtained in relation to all children in the family attending child care.

(b) Net cost to parent(s) after the Child Care Benefit has been paid but does not include adjustment for the new Child Care Tax Rebate.

(c) All families who used formal care, including those who used both formal and informal care.

(d) All families who used informal care, including those who used both informal and formal care.

(e) Total includes 2000 families for whom the weekly cost of care was 'not determined'.

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**Table 4a. CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO RECEIVED EMPLOYEE CASH INCOME, WHO USED FORMAL CHILD CARE, Weekly cost of formal care by weekly hours of formal care (a)**

Weekly cost of formal care	Weekly hours of formal care								Total
	Less than 5	5-9	10-19	20-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 or more	
CHILDREN AGED 0-11 YEARS ('000)									
No cost	12	5*	5*	0**	0**	1**	0**	1**	25
\$1-\$9	44	16	8	2*	—	0**	—	—	70
\$10-\$19	43	21	15	4*	1**	—	—	—	84
\$20-\$39	21	73	31	11	3*	1**	1**	1**	142
\$40-\$59	9	32	40	8*	3*	1**	1**	1**	94
\$60-\$79	1**	7*	31	7*	1**	1**	2*	1**	51
\$80-\$99	—	4*	14	12	3*	1**	1**	1**	35
\$100 or more	0**	4*	18	34	11	7*	13	14	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>601</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil

(a) Net cost to parent(s) after the Child Care Benefit has been paid but does not include adjustment for the new Child Care Tax Rebate.



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**Table 4b. CHILDREN AGED 0-12 YEARS WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT WHO RECEIVED EMPLOYEE CASH INCOME, WHO USED FORMAL CHILD CARE, Weekly cost of formal care by weekly hours of formal care (a)**

	Weekly hours of formal care								Total
	Less than 5	5-9	10-19	20-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 or more	
CHILDREN AGED 0-12 YEARS ('000)									
Weekly cost of formal care									
No cost	13	6*	5*	0**	0**	1**	0**	1**	26
\$1-\$9	45	16	8	2*	—	0**	—	—	72
\$10-\$19	44	21	16	4*	1**	—	—	—	86
\$20-\$39	21	73	32	11	3*	1**	1**	1**	143
\$40-\$59	9	32	41	8*	3*	1**	1**	1**	95
\$60-\$79	1**	7*	31	7*	1**	1**	2*	1**	51
\$80-\$99	—	4*	14	12	3*	1**	1**	1**	36
\$100 or more	0**	4*	18	34	11	7*	13	14	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>608</b>

\* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

\* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

— nil

(a) Net cost to parent(s) after the Child Care Benefit has been paid but does not include adjustment for the new Child Care Tax Rebate.

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(3) The ABS advises that indexes of childcare prices are published for each of the 8 capital cities each quarter as part of the Consumer Price Index (CPI). These prices reflect the changes in "out-of-pocket" prices for childcare (i.e. the net prices after taking account of subsidies that are applicable for families using child care). Childcare is a very small component of the CPI, with its weight accounting for only 0.45% of the "All Groups" CPI (15th Series CPI). Price indexes from March quarter 1982 to March quarter 2006 for childcare are shown in *Consumer Price Index, Australia, March 2006* (ABS cat. no. 6401.0) available from the ABS web site at [www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au).