



Department
for Work &
Pensions

Maternal and paternal employment rates by age of youngest dependent child in the family unit, April-June 2012

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Background

1. The figures outlined in this release give parental employment rates by the age of the youngest dependent child in the family unit in April-June (Quarter 2), 2012 of the household Labour Force Survey (LFS).
2. These figures have been produced as part of the wider evidence gathered during the Commission on Childcare consultation period. For more information on terms of reference of the Commission on Childcare, please see the following link: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/176950/childcare_commission_terms_of_reference_july_2012.pdf.pdf
3. The LFS is a survey of households living at private addresses in the United Kingdom (UK), conducted by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). The survey is used to provide information on the UK labour market which can then be used to develop, manage, evaluate and report on labour market policies. More information can be found at the following link: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/surveys/respondents/household/labour-force-survey/index.html>

Methodology

4. This analysis uses figures taken from the April-June (Quarter 2), 2012 release of the household LFS. The figures are non-seasonally adjusted.
5. The figures in Table 1 show the percentage of mothers and fathers, aged 16-64 in the UK who are classified as being in employment in April-June 2012 (Quarter 2 2012), split by the age of the youngest dependent child in the family unit.
6. A family unit with dependent children can comprise of any of the following types:
 - Male/female lone parent;
 - Cohabiting couple;
 - Same sex couple;
 - Married couple;
 - Same sex cohabiting couple, or;
 - Civil partnership.
7. Individuals are classified as being in employment if they fall into one of the following groups during the survey reference period:
 - were in paid work either as an employee or self-employed;
 - had a job that they were absent from on a temporary basis;
 - were a participant on a government training scheme or employment programme, or;
 - were doing unpaid family work.
8. Individuals are identified as parents if they are classified as being responsible for a dependent child in their family unit. Students are included in the parent population. The child is recorded in the LFS as being the child of the head of the

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household or another member of the family unit. Dependent children are defined as those aged 0-15 and those aged 16-18 in full-time education in the family unit

9. The employment rate for mothers and fathers by age of youngest dependent child in the family unit was calculated in the following way:

$$\text{Employment rate (\%)} = \frac{\text{Number in employment (aged 16 - 64)}}{\text{Total population (unemployed + inactive + employed, all aged 16 - 64)}} \times 100$$

Results

Table 1: Maternal and paternal employment rates by age of youngest child in the family unit, LFS April-June Q2, 2012

Age of youngest dependent child	Maternal employment rate	Paternal employment rate
0	59.0%	90.1%
1	56.3%	89.2%
2	57.1%	90.2%
3	59.6%	90.1%
4	62.6%	90.6%
5	67.1%	90.6%
6	66.8%	88.4%
7	70.6%	89.9%
8	75.5%	91.2%
9	76.2%	91.9%
10	76.3%	89.1%
11	76.6%	90.7%
12	76.2%	88.4%
13	78.1%	89.2%
14	79.0%	88.8%
15	76.5%	89.5%

Source: Labour Force Survey Q2, 2012

Notes:

1. Estimates are rounded to the nearest 0.1 percentage points.
2. Parents are identified as a mother or father in a household with resident children.
3. The figures are for the United Kingdom and cover individuals aged 16-64.

Contact details:

Richard Ward
Social Justice Directorate
Department for Work and Pensions
E-mail: richard.ward5@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Press enquiries should be directed to the Department for Work and Pensions press office:

Media enquiries: 0203 267 5129

Out of hours: 0203 267 5144

Website: www.gov.uk/dwp

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