

Working Families

Early Childhood What Needs to Change?

2022 Working Families Index

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Working Families Index 2022

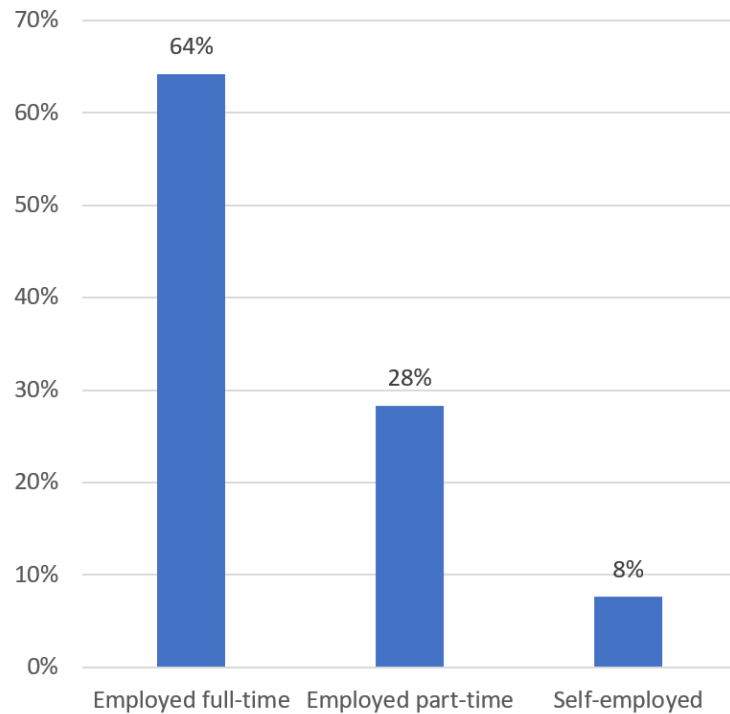
- Comprehensive survey of parents covering:
 - working arrangements/attitudes
 - family finances
 - childcare arrangements
- 2022 Index, surveyed 2,806 UK working parents between November 4-19th 2021



How parents are working

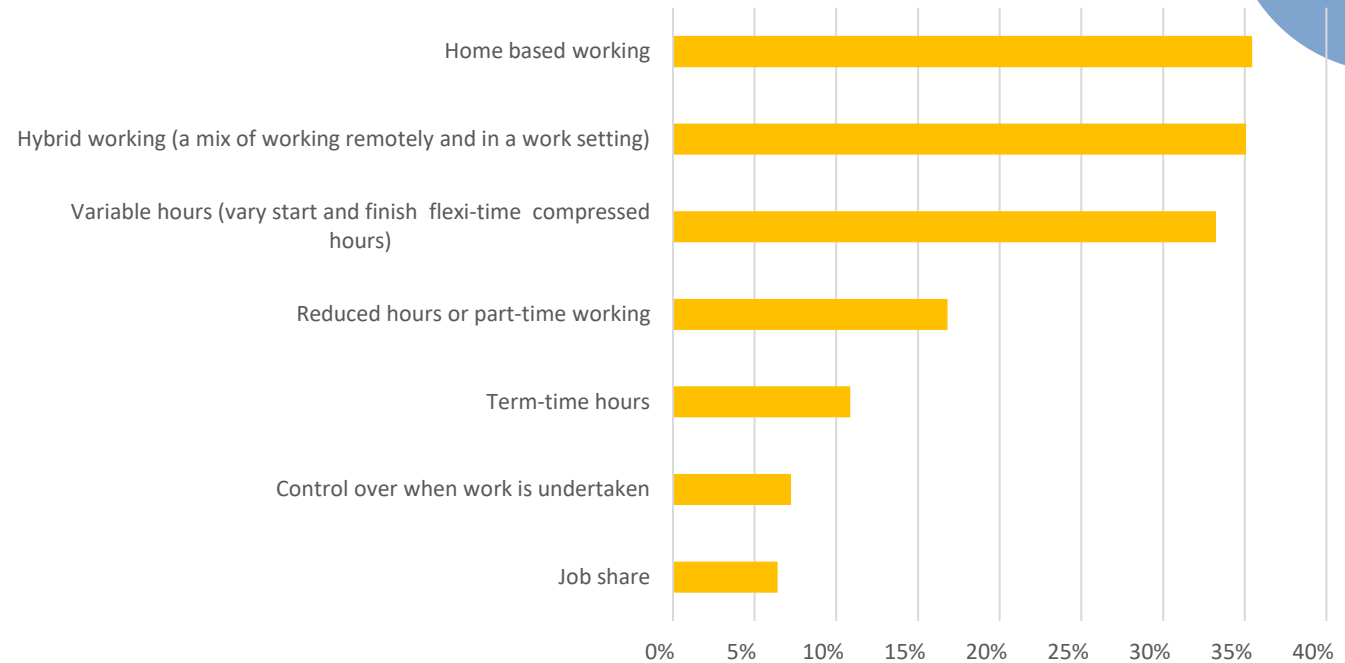


Employment status



N=2806

Types of flexible working reported by parents with flexible working arrangements

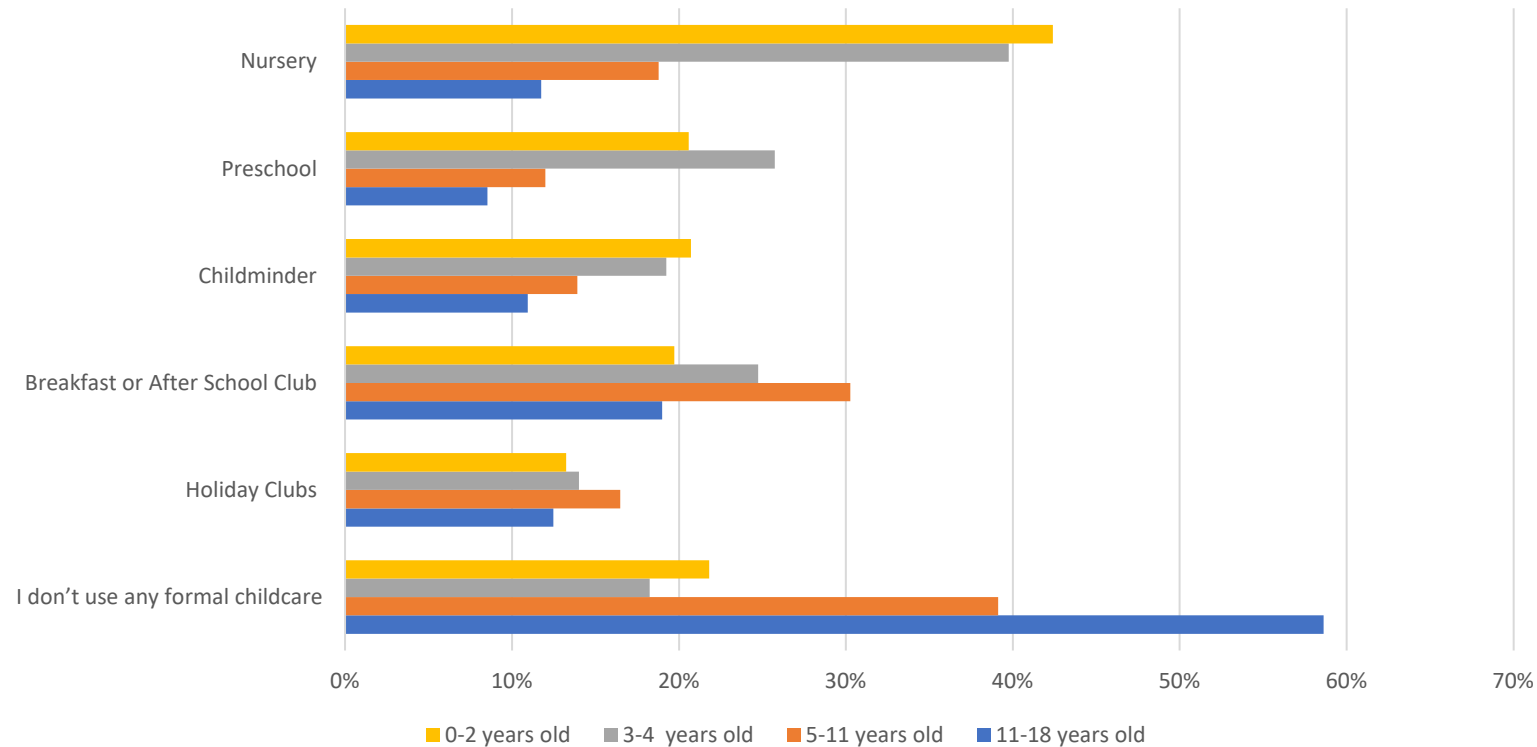


(n=1952)

How parents are balancing childcare and work



Formal childcare use and age of children



N=2806. 0- 2 = 816. 3-4 = 707. 5-11 = 1401. 11-18= 1242.

Gaps in support

- Absence of support between paid maternity period and 15/30 hours entitlement at 3 years of age
- Limited coverage:
 - 30 hours across 38 weeks
 - Accessible the term after the child's third birthday
- Additional costs



Solutions

- *Current government proposal on ratio change?*
- **Greater funding for childcare and early years education.** Reframe the discussion around childcare as an investment
- **Policy reform on flexible working and culture change** so that flex is easier for people to access

Working parents: how confident would you feel about sending your child to a nursery with reduced staff ratios as the government is proposing?

