

## Indicator 18. Parents' Employment

### Employment status of parents with own children under 18 years old, by type of family: 1975 to 1993

Type of family	1975	1980	1985	1991	1992	1993
<b>Numbers in thousands</b>						
Total families	55,698	59,910	63,232	66,959	67,842	68,838
Total families with own children under 18	30,060	31,325	31,496	32,981	33,358	33,916
Married-couple families						
(with own children under 18)	25,236	24,974	24,225	24,435	24,460	24,746
Both parents employed	9,358	11,925	12,844	14,342	14,426	14,606
Only father employed	13,441	10,975	9,227	7,857	7,561	7,717
Only mother employed	895	852	960	1,180	1,293	1,357
Neither parent employed	1,543	1,222	1,194	1,058	1,180	1,068
Female-headed families (single mothers with own children under 18) <sup>1</sup>	4,400	5,718	6,345	7,323	7,564	7,781
Mother in labor force	2,635	3,833	4,302	4,970	5,090	5,311
Mother employed	2,306	3,412	3,741	4,431	4,491	4,755
Mother not employed	329	421	561	539	599	556
Male-headed families (single fathers with own children under 18)	424	633	926	1,223	1,334	1,389
Father in labor force	369	561	834	1,113	—	—
Father employed	327	514	750	—	—	—
Father not employed	42	47	84	—	—	—
<b>Percentage distribution</b>						
Total families	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Total families with own children under 18	54.0	52.3	49.8	49.3	49.2	49.3
Married-couple families (with own children under 18)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Both parents employed	37.1	47.7	53.0	58.7	59.0	59.0
Only father employed	53.3	43.9	38.1	32.2	30.9	31.2
Only mother employed	3.5	3.4	4.0	4.8	5.3	5.5
Neither parent employed	6.1	4.9	4.9	4.3	4.8	4.3
Female-headed families (single mothers with own children under 18) <sup>1</sup>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mother in labor force	59.9	67.0	67.8	67.9	67.3	68.3
Mother employed	52.4	59.7	59.0	60.5	59.4	61.1
Mother not employed	7.5	7.4	8.8	7.4	7.9	7.1
Male-headed families (single fathers with own children under 18)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Father in labor force	87.0	88.6	90.1	91.0	—	—
Father employed	77.1	81.2	81.0	—	—	—
Father not employed	9.9	7.4	9.1	—	—	—

<sup>1</sup> Includes mother from unmarried couples.

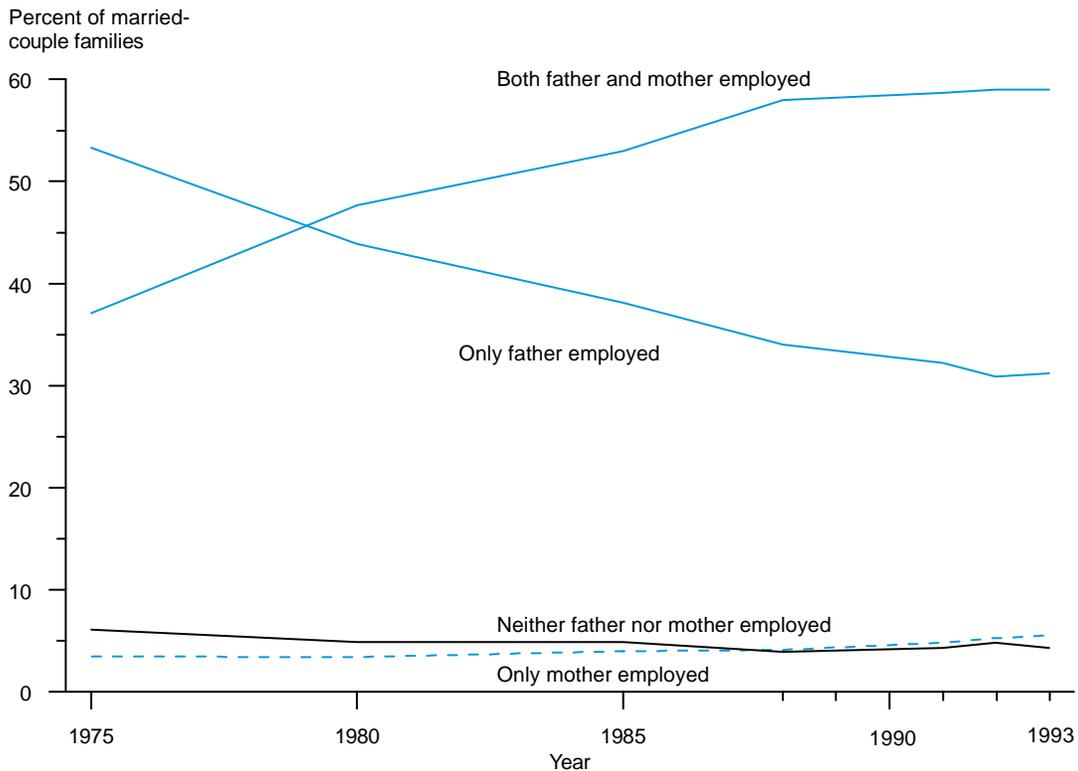
—Data not available.

**NOTE:** Includes parents working both full-time and part-time. "Own children" in a family are sons and daughters, including stepchildren and adopted children, of the householder.

**SOURCE:** U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, unpublished data.

## Indicator 18. Parents' Employment

### Employment status of married-couple families with own children under 18 years old: 1975 to 1993



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, unpublished data.

The number and percentage of married, working women with children under 18 rose significantly between 1975 and 1993. The proportion of married, working mothers in two-parent families with children rose from 41 percent in 1975 to 65 percent in 1993. This increase in women working outside the home caused a significant transformation of married-couple families with children. The predominant pattern in 1993 was for both parents to work outside the home, in contrast with 1975 when the most common pattern was for fathers only to be employed. Women in female-headed households were employed at about the same rate as women in married-couple families.