

## Indicator 23. Child Support

### Women receiving court-ordered child support payments from absent fathers: 1978 to 1991

Award and reciprocity status of women	1978	1981	1983	1985	1987	1989	1991 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Number, in thousands</b>							
Total women with children from an absent father <sup>2</sup>	7,094	8,387	8,690	8,808	9,415	9,955	9,918
Payments not awarded	2,898	3,417	3,675	3,411	3,861	4,207	4,376
Payments awarded <sup>3</sup>	4,196	4,969	5,015	5,396	5,554	5,748	5,542
Supposed to receive payments	3,424	4,043	3,995	4,381	4,829	4,953	4,883
Actually received payments	2,455	2,902	3,037	3,243	3,676	3,725	3,728
Received full amount	1,675	1,888	2,018	2,112	2,475	2,546	2,552
Received partial amount	779	1,014	1,019	1,131	1,201	1,179	1,176
Did not receive payments	969	1,140	958	1,138	1,153	1,228	1,156
<b>Percentage distribution</b>							
Total women with children from an absent father <sup>2</sup>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Payments not awarded	40.9	40.7	42.3	38.7	41.0	42.3	44.1
Payments awarded <sup>3</sup>	59.1	59.2	57.7	61.3	59.0	57.7	55.9
Supposed to receive payments	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Actually received payments	71.7	71.8	76.0	74.0	76.1	75.2	76.3
Received full amount	48.9	46.7	50.5	48.2	51.3	51.4	52.3
Received partial amount	22.8	25.1	25.5	25.8	24.9	23.8	24.1
Did not receive payments	28.3	28.2	24.0	26.0	23.9	24.8	23.7

<sup>1</sup> Survey questions may not be comparable to previous years.

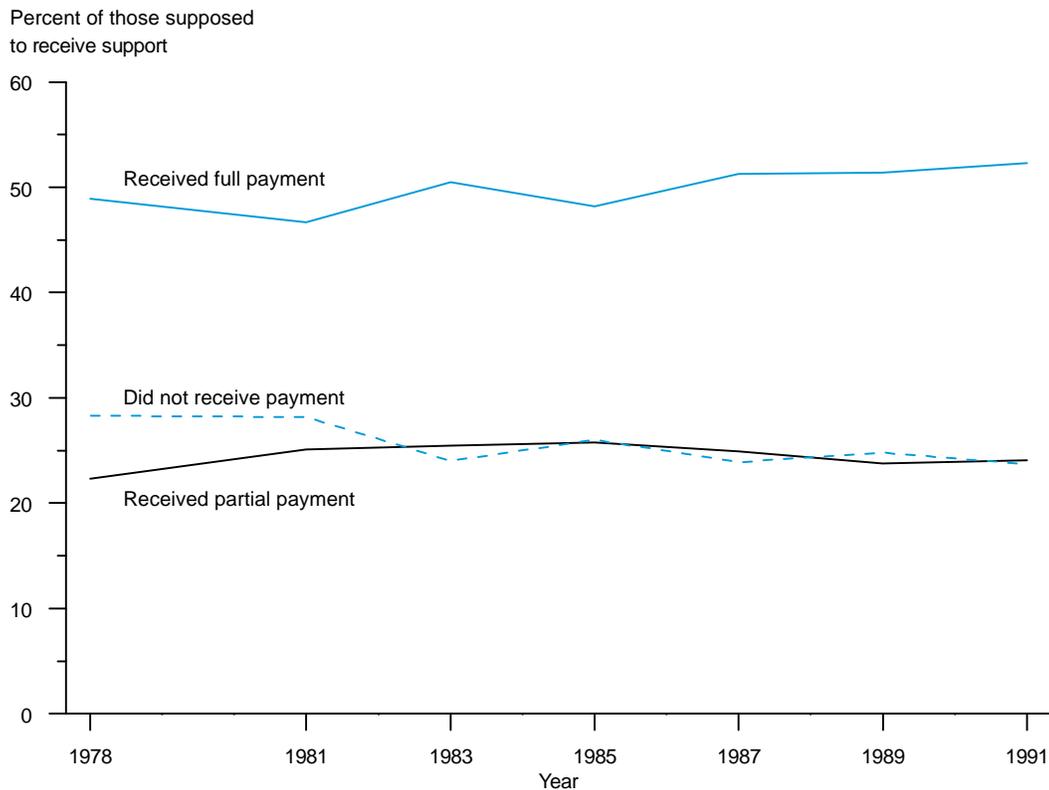
<sup>2</sup> Includes only women with own children under 21 years old.

<sup>3</sup> Includes those supposed to receive payments over time and those receiving lump sum awards.

**SOURCE:** U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-23, *Support and Alimony*, various years; Series P-60, *Child Support and Alimony: 1989*; and *Child Support for Custodial Fathers and Mothers: 1991*.

## Indicator 23. Child Support

### Women receiving court-ordered child support from absent fathers, by payment status: 1978 to 1991



**SOURCE:** U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-23, *Support and Alimony*, various years; Series P-60, *Child Support and Alimony: 1989*; and *Child Support for Custodial Fathers and Mothers: 1991*.

**The extent to which fathers were meeting their obligations to pay child support changed little between 1978 and 1991. In 1991, about half of those women who were awarded child support payments received their full entitlement that year. Less than one-fourth received partial payment, and about one-fourth received no payment.**