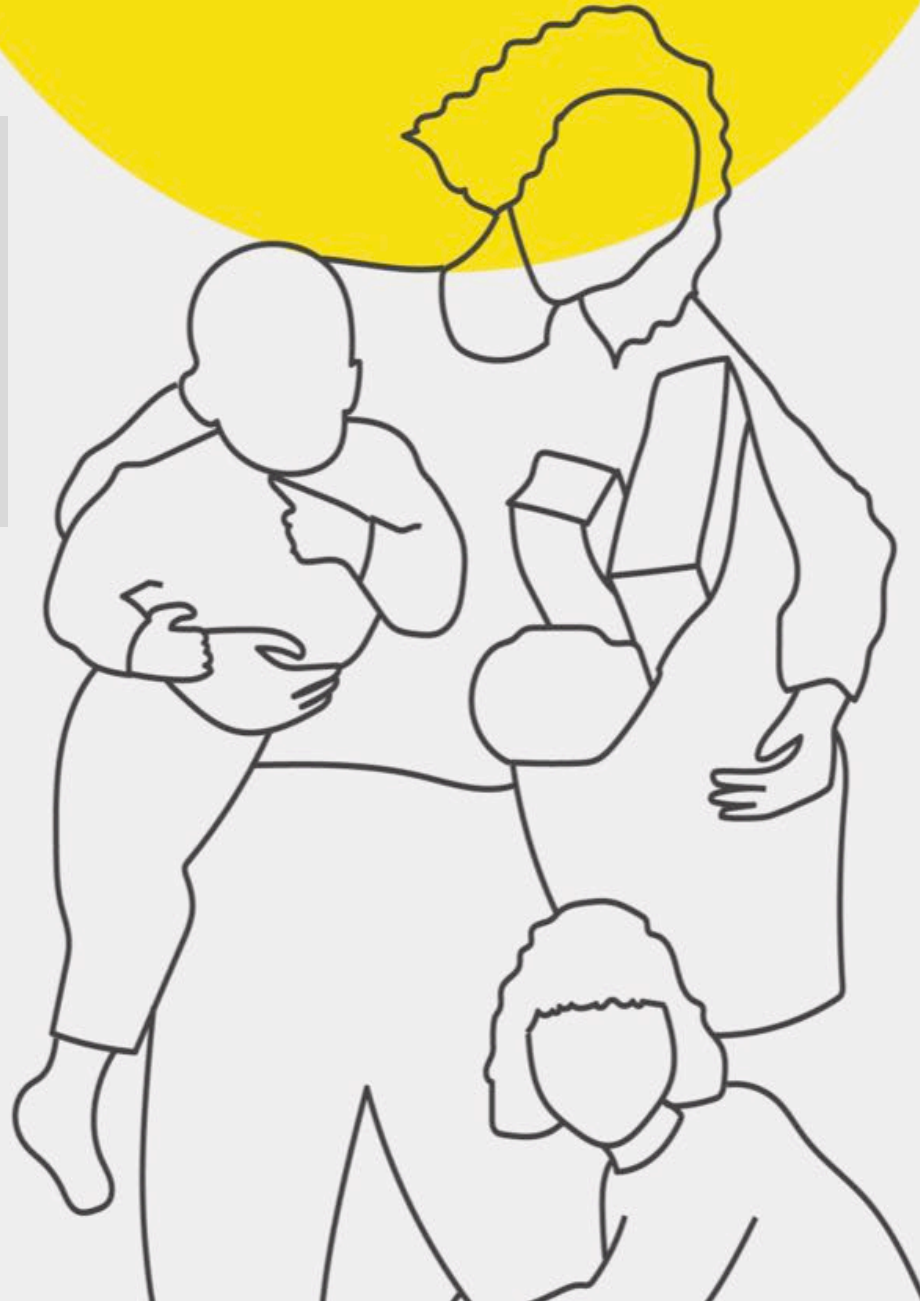


The RAPID-EC
National Survey of
Households with
Young Children and
ECCE Providers

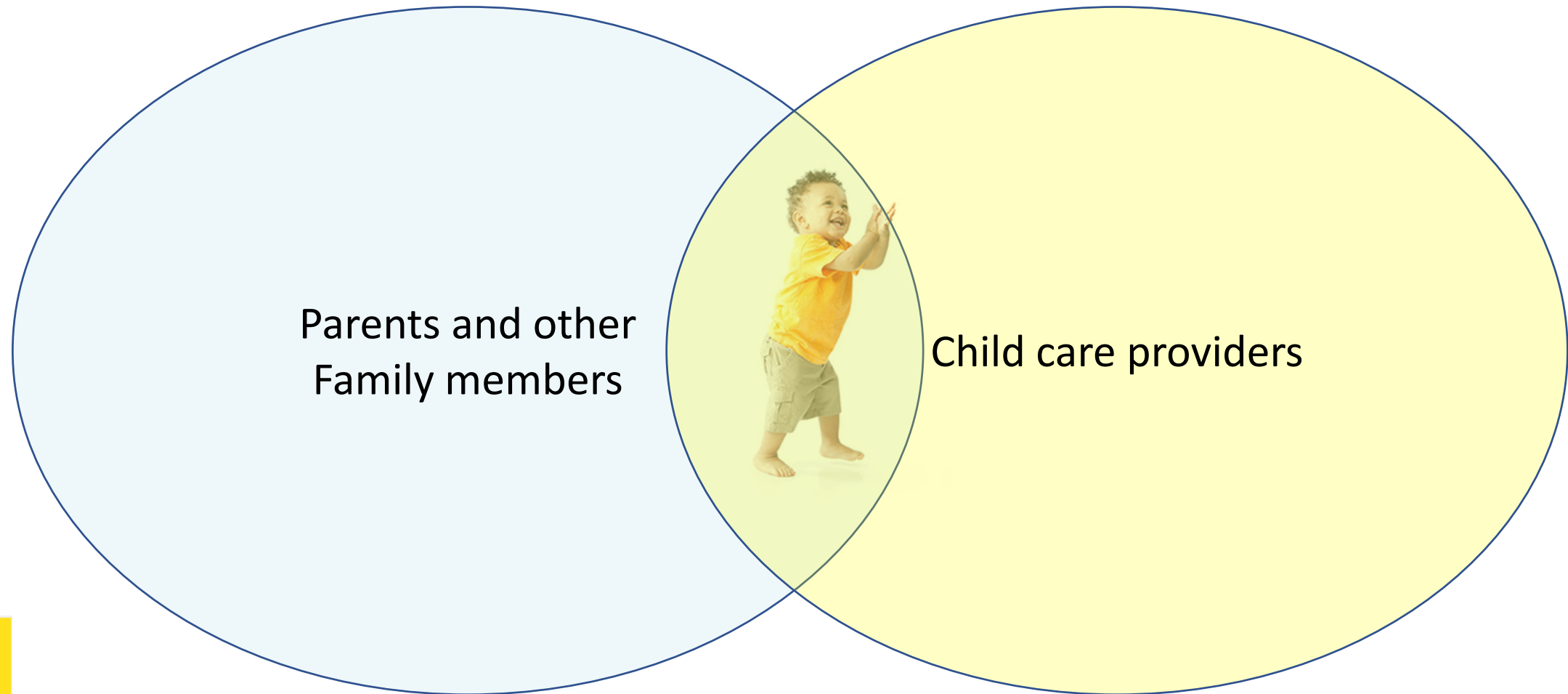


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RAPID-EC is a new way to listen to community voices. It provides a “surround-sound perspective” on the adults in children’s lives



**RAPID ASSESSMENT
OF PANDEMIC IMPACT
ON DEVELOPMENT
EARLY CHILDHOOD
HOUSEHOLD SURVEY**



RAPID-EC

- Ongoing survey of households with at least one child age 5 and under; national sample in terms of geography, income, race & ethnicity
- 15 minute paid questionnaire completed via computer or smartphone in English or Spanish
- Weekly surveys April-July, 2x monthly surveys August-present; over 1000 households per survey; total # of participating families to date = 10,000 caregivers in all 50 states
- Mixed methods via quantitative questions and open-ended questions (>160,000 responses so far)
- Results posted on Medium.com (<https://medium.com/rapid-ec-project>); also extensive media coverage (<https://www.uorapidresponse.com/coverage>)

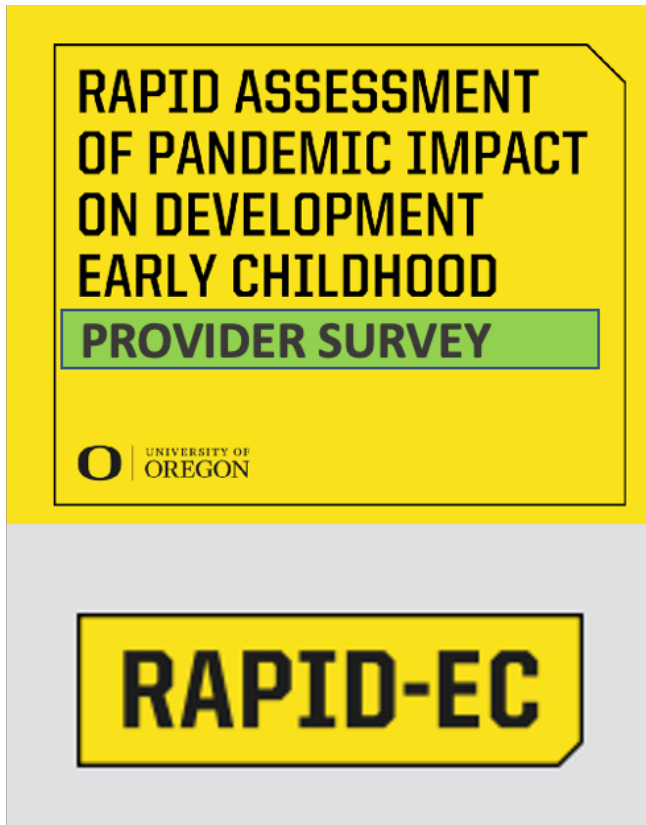
**RAPID ASSESSMENT
OF PANDEMIC IMPACT
ON DEVELOPMENT
EARLY CHILDHOOD
HOUSEHOLD SURVEY**



RAPID-EC

RAPID-EC Survey: Five Key Topics

1. Four areas of **adult emotional well-being** (stress, depression, anxiety, loneliness)
2. Two areas of **child emotional well-being** (fussy/upset; fearful/anxious)
3. Economic situation/ability to pay for basic needs, i.e. **material hardship**, in terms of food, housing, and utilities
4. Issues related to **childcare**: availability, perceptions of safety, barriers to access, preference for type of care, role of childcare provider
5. Issues related to **pediatric healthcare**: well-baby/well child visit adherence, routine vaccinations, barriers to access, plans for COVID vaccination

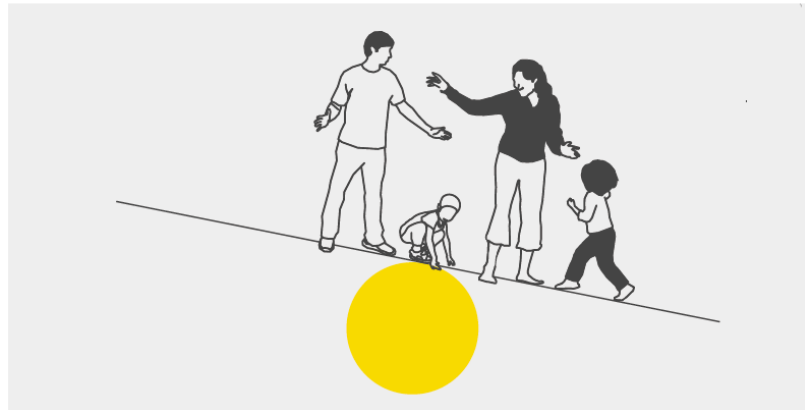


- Began in March 2021
- Runs parallel to RAPID-EC household survey (2x monthly)
- Partnering with Child Care Aware of America and Homegrown to recruit providers
- Focus includes well-being, economic hardship, healthcare, and workforce issues
- 1700 providers have participated to date
- 15 minute paid questionnaire completed via computer or smartphone in English or Spanish
- Mixed methods via quantitative questions and open-ended

ON SHAKY GROUND: UNPREDICTABILITY IN ABILITY TO PAY FOR BASIC NEEDS AFFECTS FAMILY WELL-BEING

Families with young children have been experiencing high levels of material hardship unpredictability, which is affecting parents' and children's socio-emotional experiences and well-being above and beyond the impact of material hardship levels and pre-pandemic household income.

Being able to provide basic needs for one's family consistently week to week is a protective factor for caregivers and their children. When families' financial circumstances are unpredictable, it leads to emotional distress for both parents and children.



designbyseapbox.com

RAPID-EC



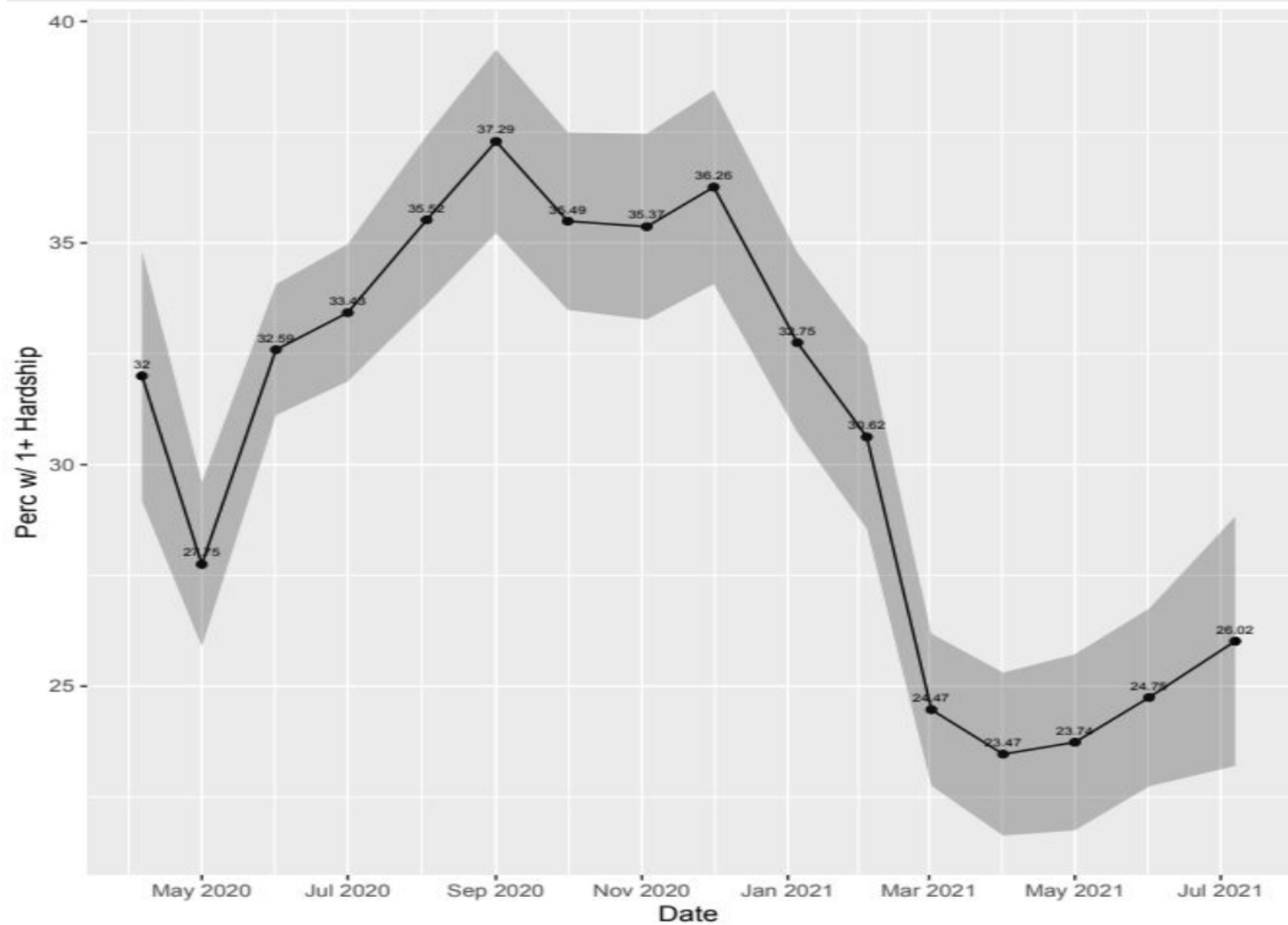
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Pandemic hardship and unpredictability are hurting families in part by **disrupting family routines**

...and also **quality time** may help

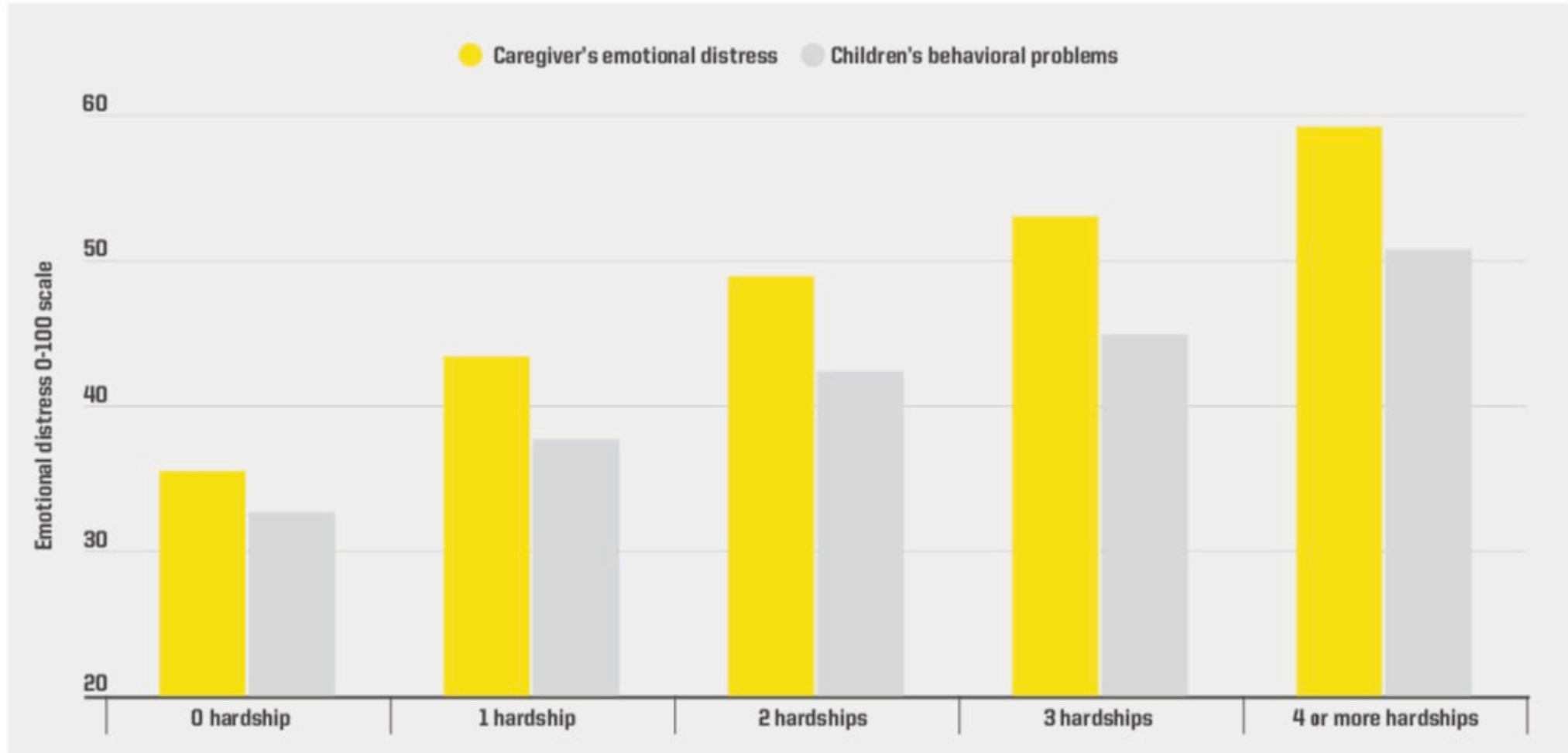


Percentage of households with young children experiencing material hardship



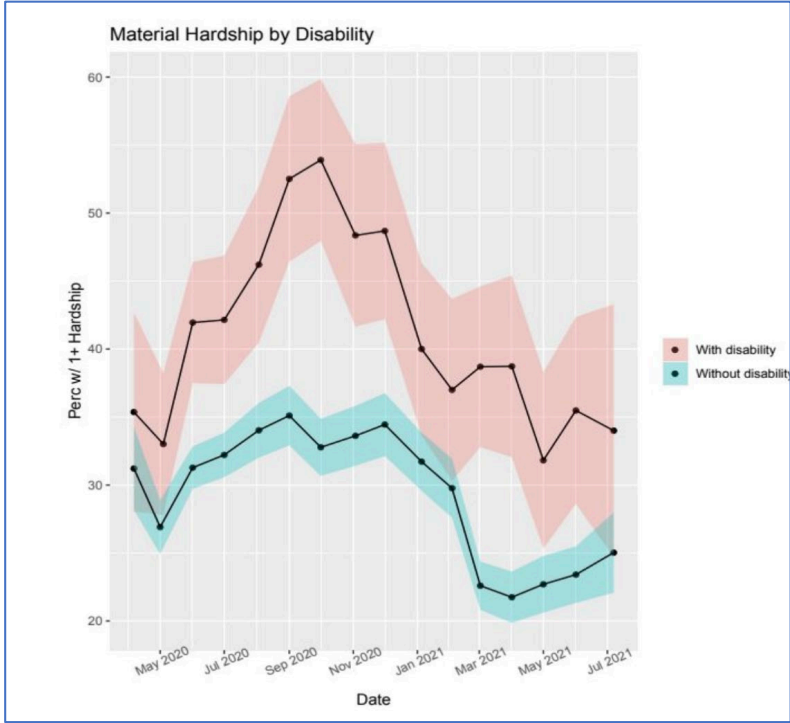
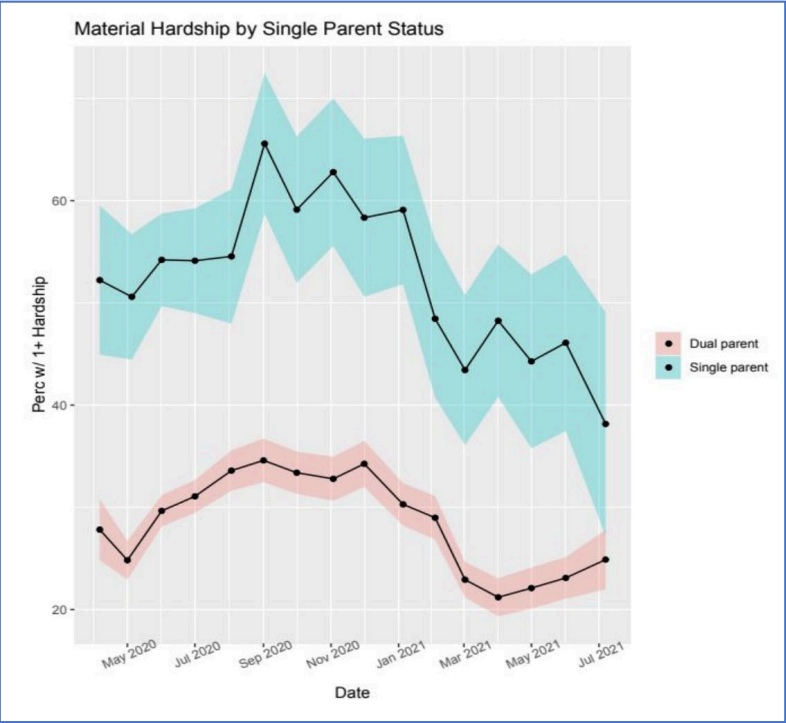
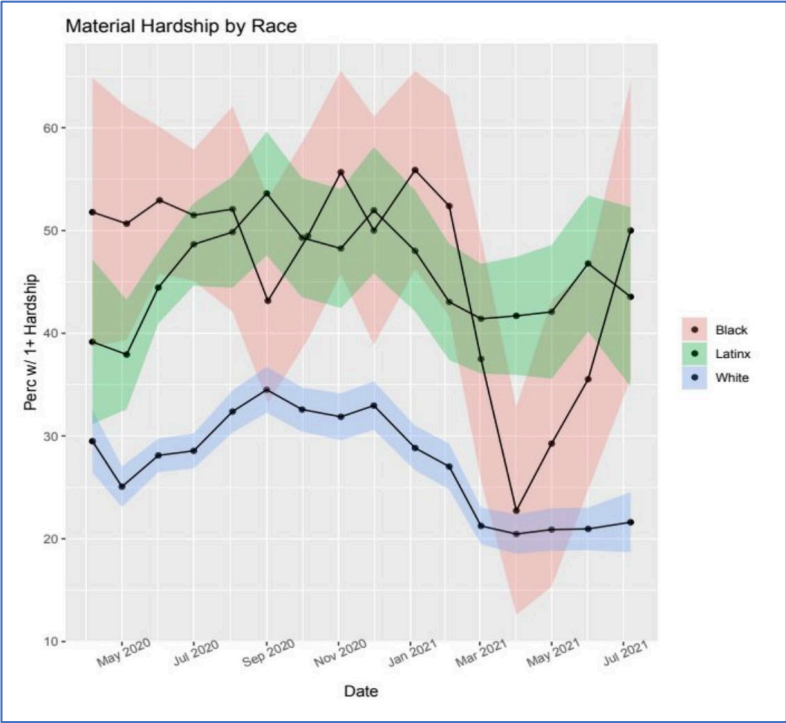
More hardship = more distress

Level of parent/child emotional distress by the number of material hardships



COVID-19 widened inequality gaps based on race/ethnicity and family structure:

Significantly more Black & Latinx households (*including many higher income pre-pandemic*), single parent households, & households with a special needs child report difficulty paying for rent, utilities, and/or food



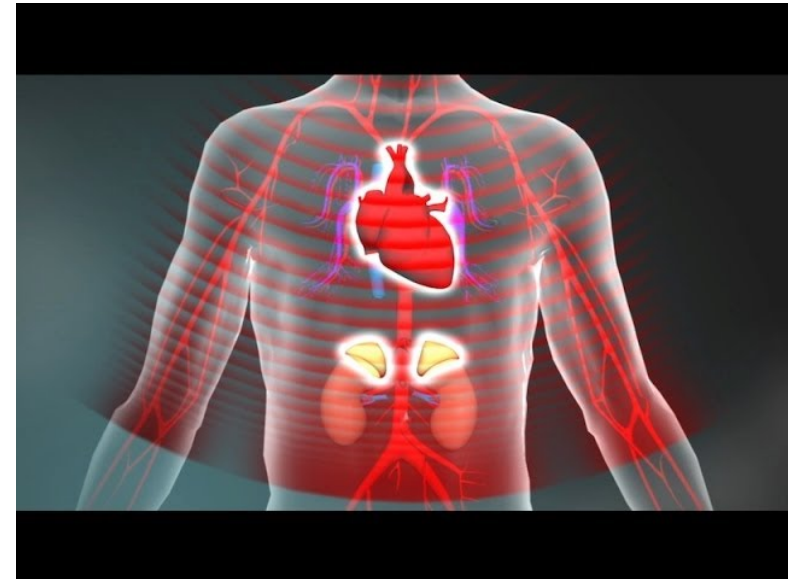
The science of early childhood brain development



Material hardship +financial instability = TOXIC STRESS

“The middle class is living with constant financial instability. My family is always living paycheck to paycheck and my husband getting furloughed was a big hit to our financial well-being. We NEED universal healthcare and child care. The expenses are out of control and I will probably need to quit my job instead of trying to pay for a full time babysitter or daycare.”

Parent in NY



Child care is essential for family stability and well-being, early learning, social development, and nutrition; but who is providing for the providers?

QUESTION: When thinking about the people/center that provides your childcare right now, what role, significant contribution do they serve for you and your family?
(Note: we have 6000 responses to this question)

“Child care is a place for my child to interact with other children and help with curriculum and play for child development”

“They are invaluable people that I wouldn't be able to work without. In addition, they are *close members of my family* and I not only trust them, but I know it is important for them to bond with my kids.”

“They play a huge part in socialization for my child. She has had a lot of difficult behaviors through this pandemic and is easily bored. She is challenged and engaged in a positive way there.”

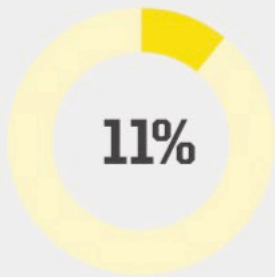
“My child care provider makes my son happy and makes it possible for my husband and I to work.”

“They provide care, education, healthy food to my child while we work”

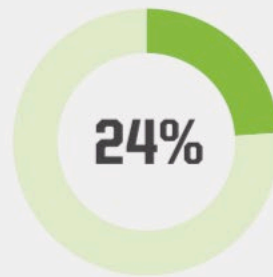
“My daughter gets the attention she needs.”

Importance of child care for the US workforce

33% of women in our survey had to stop or reduce work during the pandemic



of women
were forced
to stopped
working

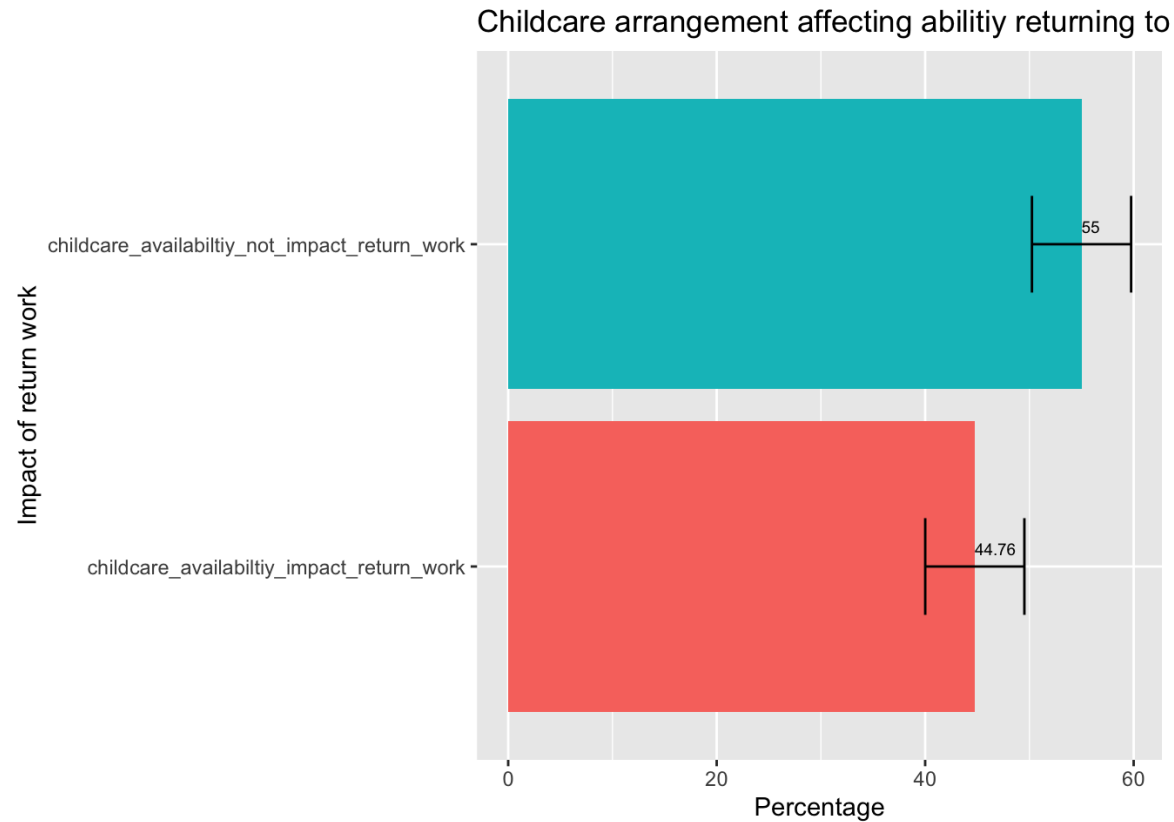


of women were
forced to reduce
work hours or
responsibilities

“It seems there’s very little understanding/compassion in the workforce for working moms, especially when you’re a single working mom.”

Mother in
New Hampshire

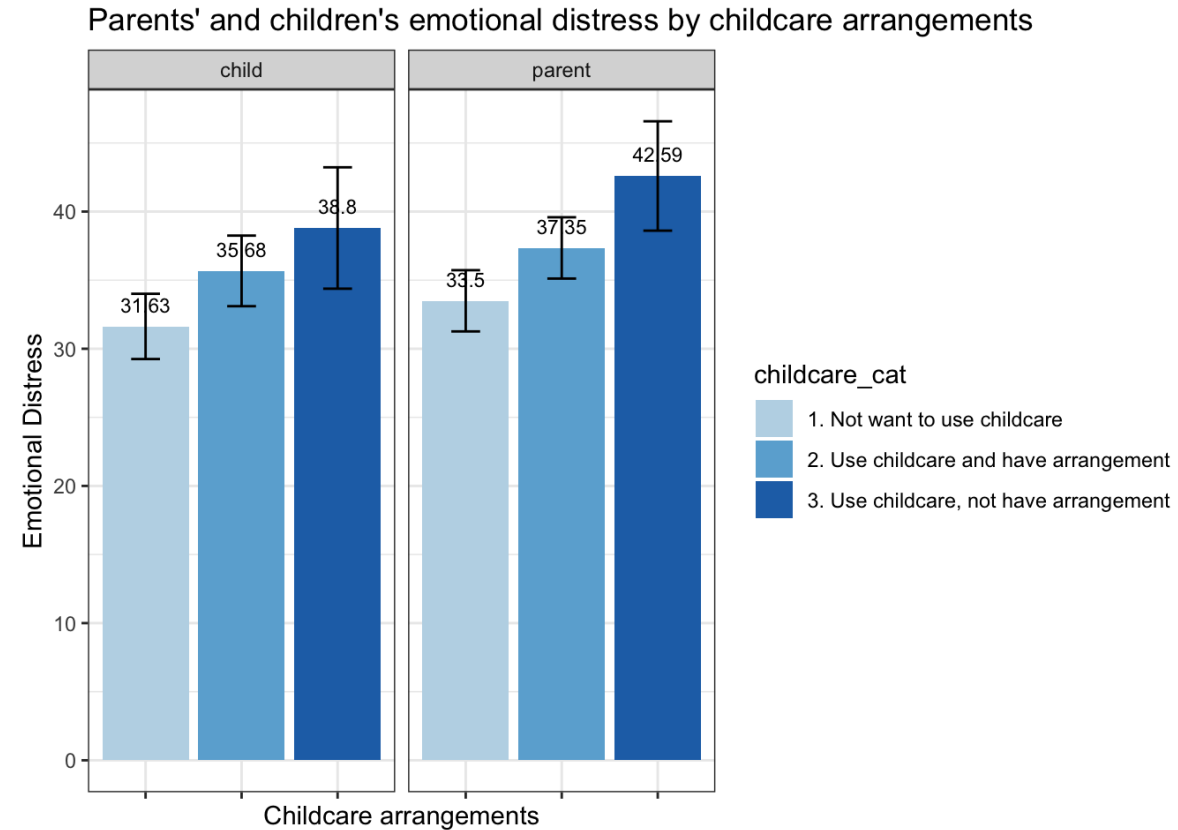
Childcare affecting parents' return to work



Group differences

- Childcare arrangements affect parents' ability to return to work more for lower-income and single-parent households

Associations with Well-Being

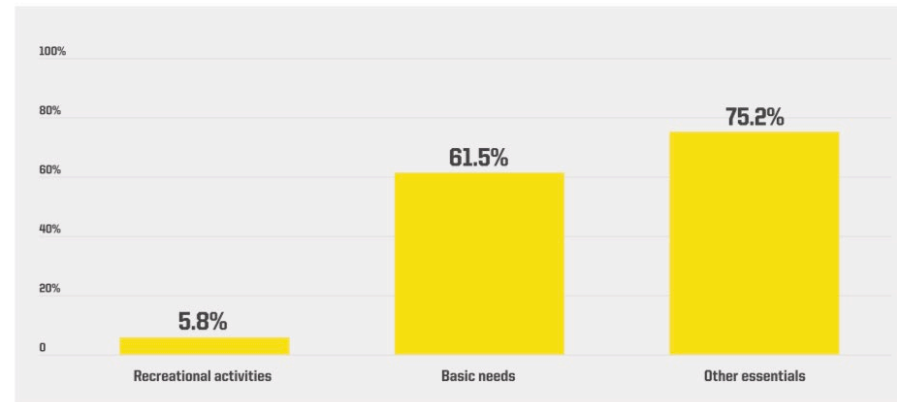


Lightening the load in material hardship: Pandemic stimulus and unemployment payments

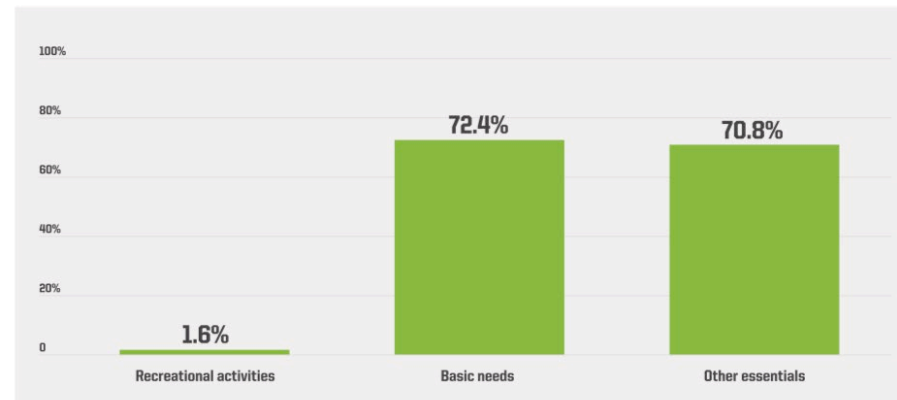
"I am working full time and we are trying. I have debts that cause me so much anxiety sometimes I just cry alone in the car or shower. I am getting by pay check to paycheck, but the stimulus has helped tremendously. I feel like I will never get out of debt."

Parent in New Jersey

Percent of households that used the 1st and 2nd stimulus payments for basic needs

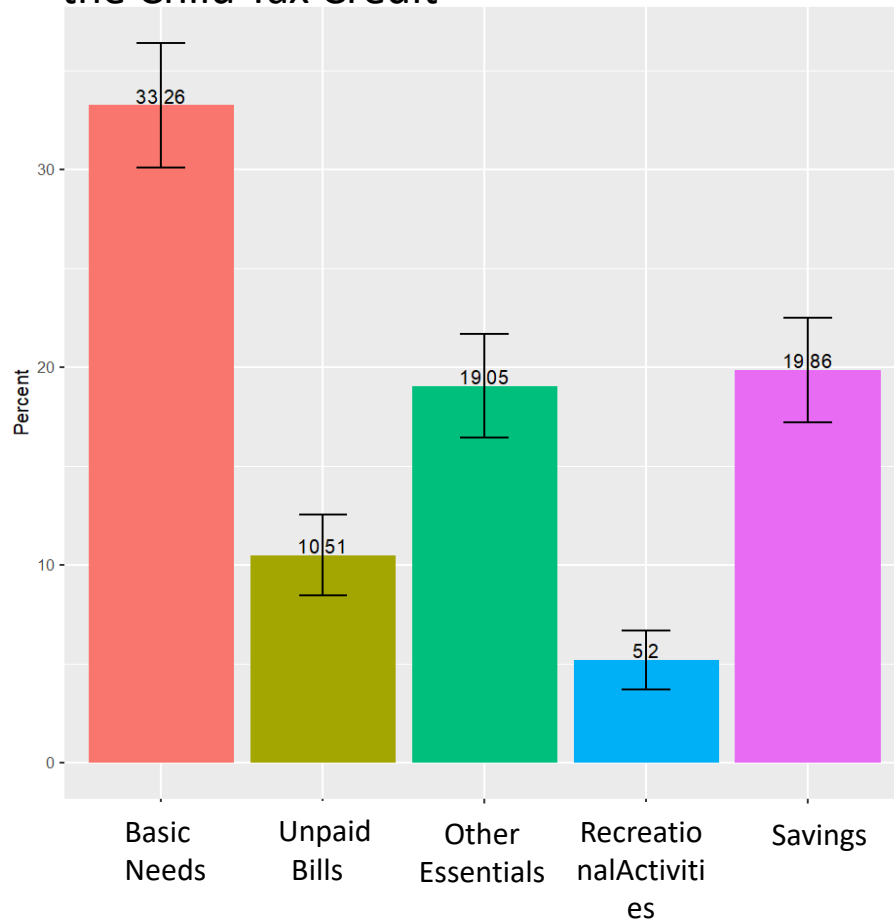


Percent of households that used pandemic unemployment for basic needs



And relief is still badly needed...

Question: How do you plan to use the income from the Child Tax Credit



AUGUST 2021

PARENTS' EXPECTATIONS ABOUT THE CHILD TAX CREDIT (CTC)

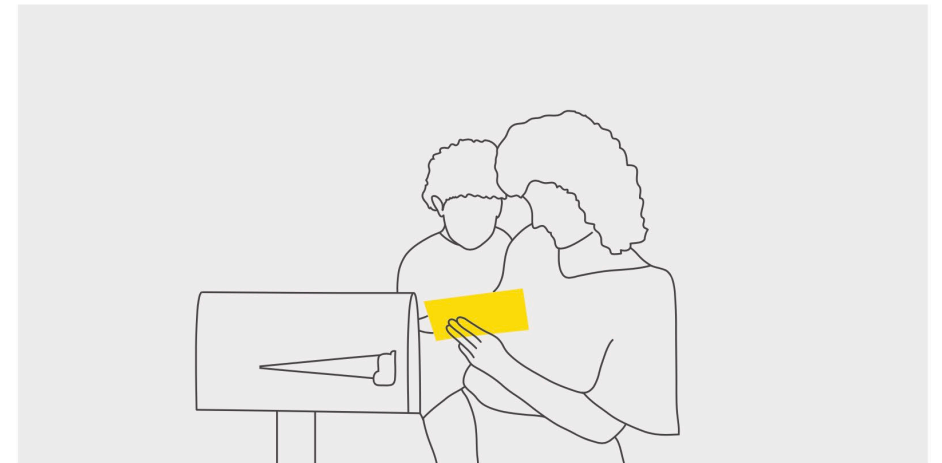
In previous fact sheets, we reported information about overdue debt and unpaid bills, as well as how families with young children spent pandemic financial relief in 2020.

Our data showed great increases in the amount of overdue debt and unpaid bills during the pandemic, and that stimulus payments were largely needed for families to pay for basic needs and other necessities.

As Child Tax Credit (CTC) payments begin to be distributed to American families, estimates are that it could reduce child poverty rates by 45%, with some of the biggest impacts on Black and Latinx households.

As Child Tax Credit (CTC) payments begin to be distributed to American families, we listened to their opinions about it.

"[The Child Tax Credit] will help with regular expenses as I will be on maternity leave and not paid for full 12 weeks."
Parent in Ohio

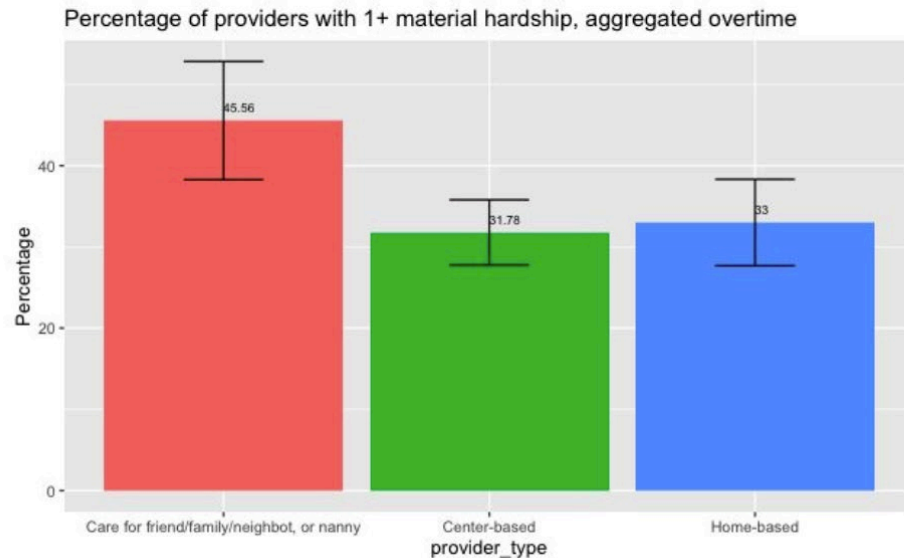


designbyscopbox.com

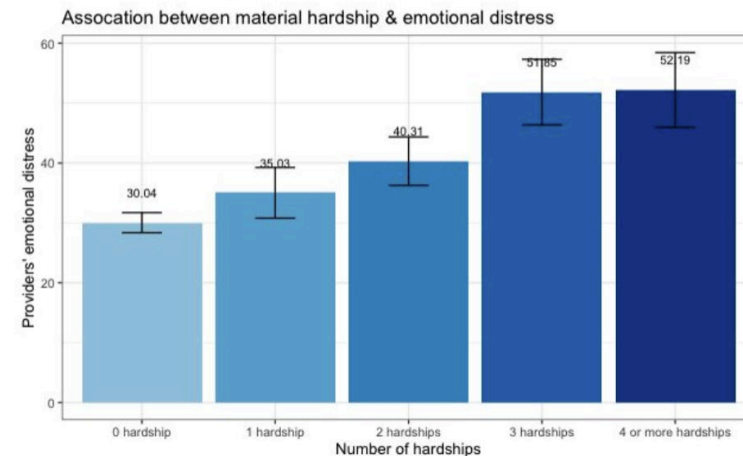
But who is providing for the providers?

- One in four providers report having at least one other job (higher for Black and Latinx)
- More than 40% report that providing care accounts for half or less of their income

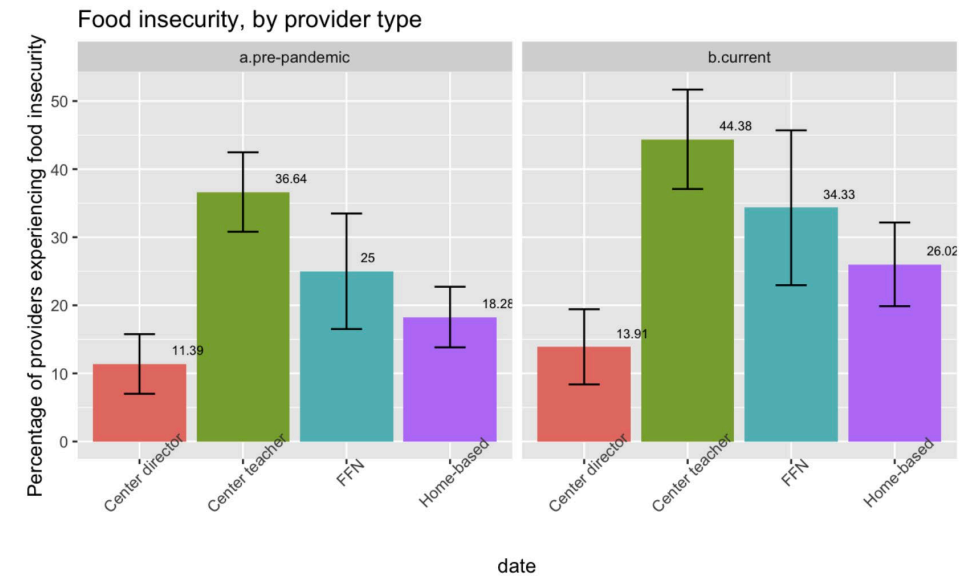
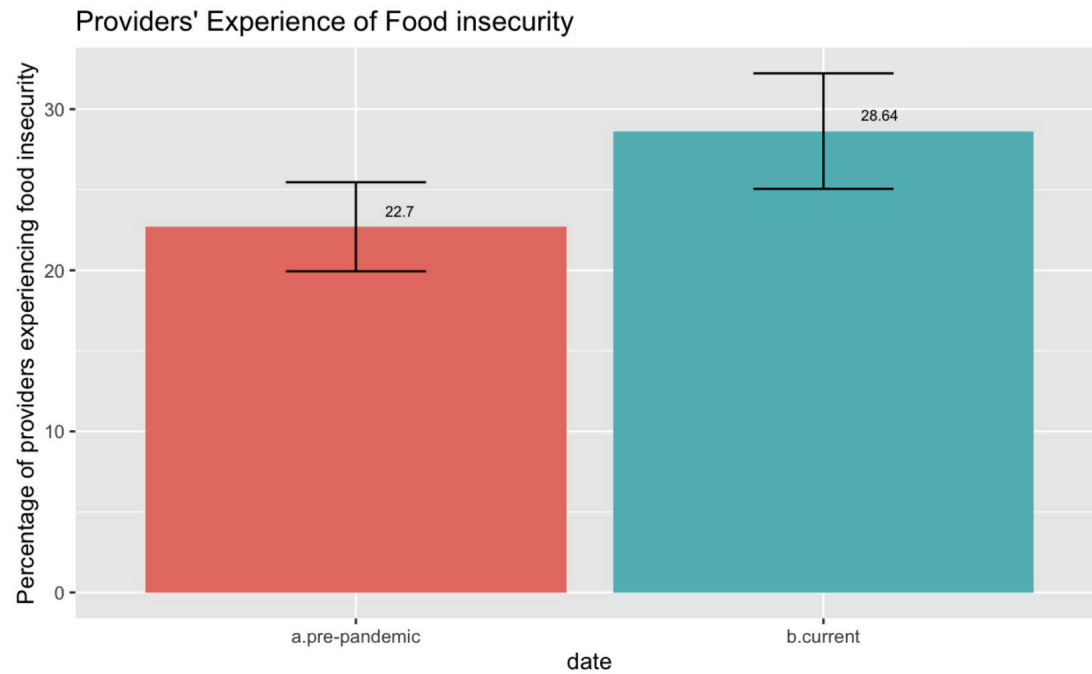
Providers have more difficulty paying for basic needs than the families whose children they care for



Associations Between Material Hardship & Emotional Well-Being



Food insecurity among providers



How long in advance do you know your work schedule

- 1 in 4 know their work schedule 2-3 days in advance or less
- Only 1 in 5 know their work schedule more than 2 weeks in advance



Parent Voices from Oregon


“[What is helping us most right now is] having child care – my child gets social interactions and educational activities and it allows my husband and I the ability to work.”

“My [child care] allows me and my husband to continue working at our jobs and therefore able to afford our rent and basic needs. It also gives my son socialization with friends.”

JULY 2021

FAMILIES SPEAK VOICES ON CHILD CARE DURING COVID-19

OREGON



Many families see child care as absolutely necessary for their ability to work and earn income:

“Child care allows us to remain employed.” Parent in South Portland

“[My child care] allows me and my husband to continue working at our jobs, and therefore able to afford our rent and basic needs. It also gives my son socialization with friends.” Parent in Beaverton

“They allow me to work and serve my community (I’m an essential worker in child welfare).” Parent in Salem

“They are the only way I am able to keep working. But I cannot afford my current child care without family help.” Parent in North Portland

Not having child care has been a source of ongoing stress for many families:

“[Our biggest concerns are] finding child care, paying as needed, just having child care so both my husband and I can go to work.” Parent in Sheridan

“[Our biggest concerns are] paying rent and getting child care for while we are working.” Parent in Eugene

Many parents feel their child care providers play an essential role in their children’s lives:

“They play a huge part in socialization for my child. She has had a lot of difficult behaviors through this pandemic and is easily bored. She is challenged and engaged in a positive way there.” Parent in Veneta

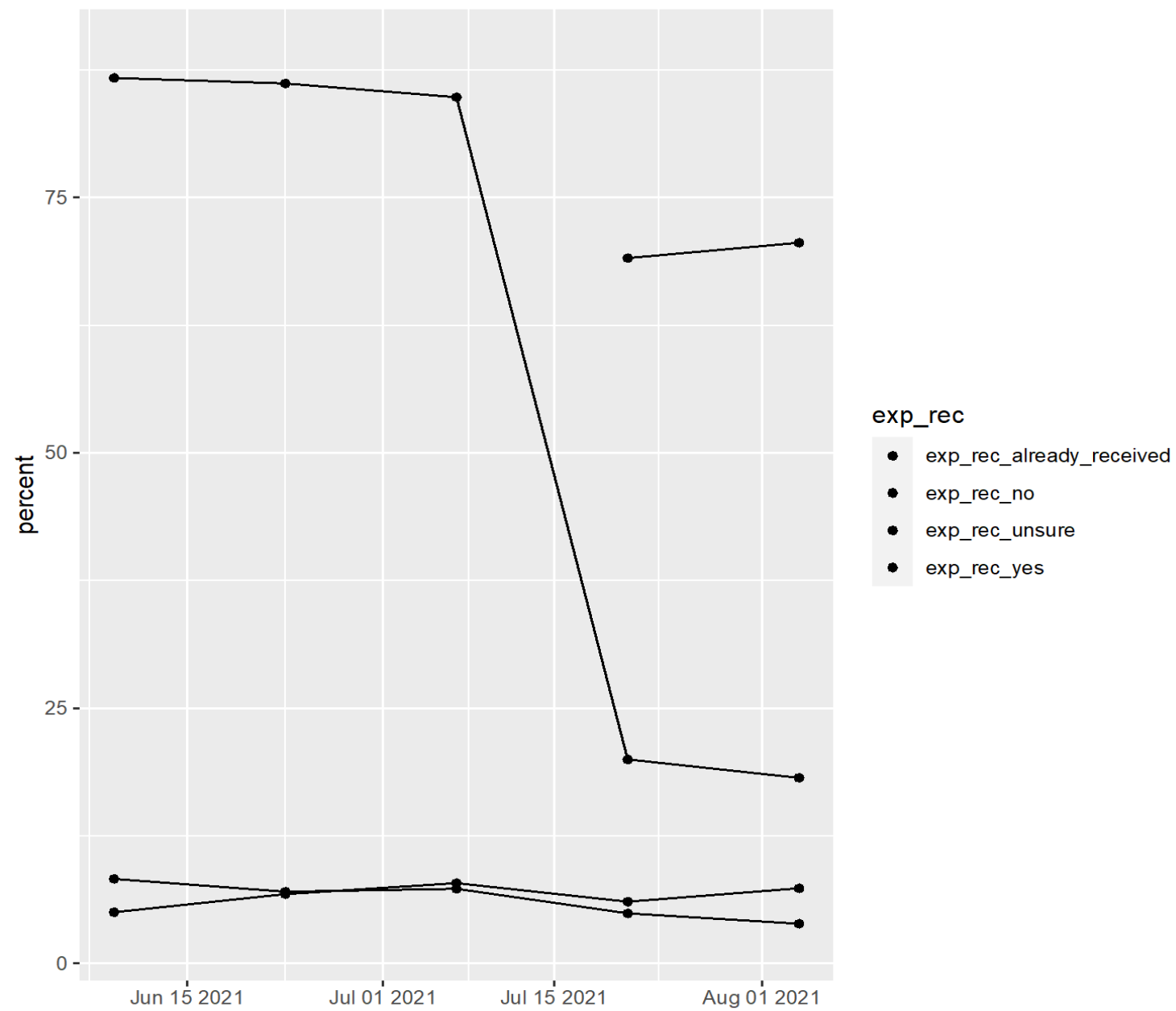
“They play a huge role as caregivers, comforters, and educators in my children’s lives.” Parent in Coquille

“Getting back into [child care] means that my husband and I can focus on work instead on balancing work and child care. It also limits my child’s screen time, as that was a big way that we kept him busy while we worked remotely.” Parent in Southeast Portland

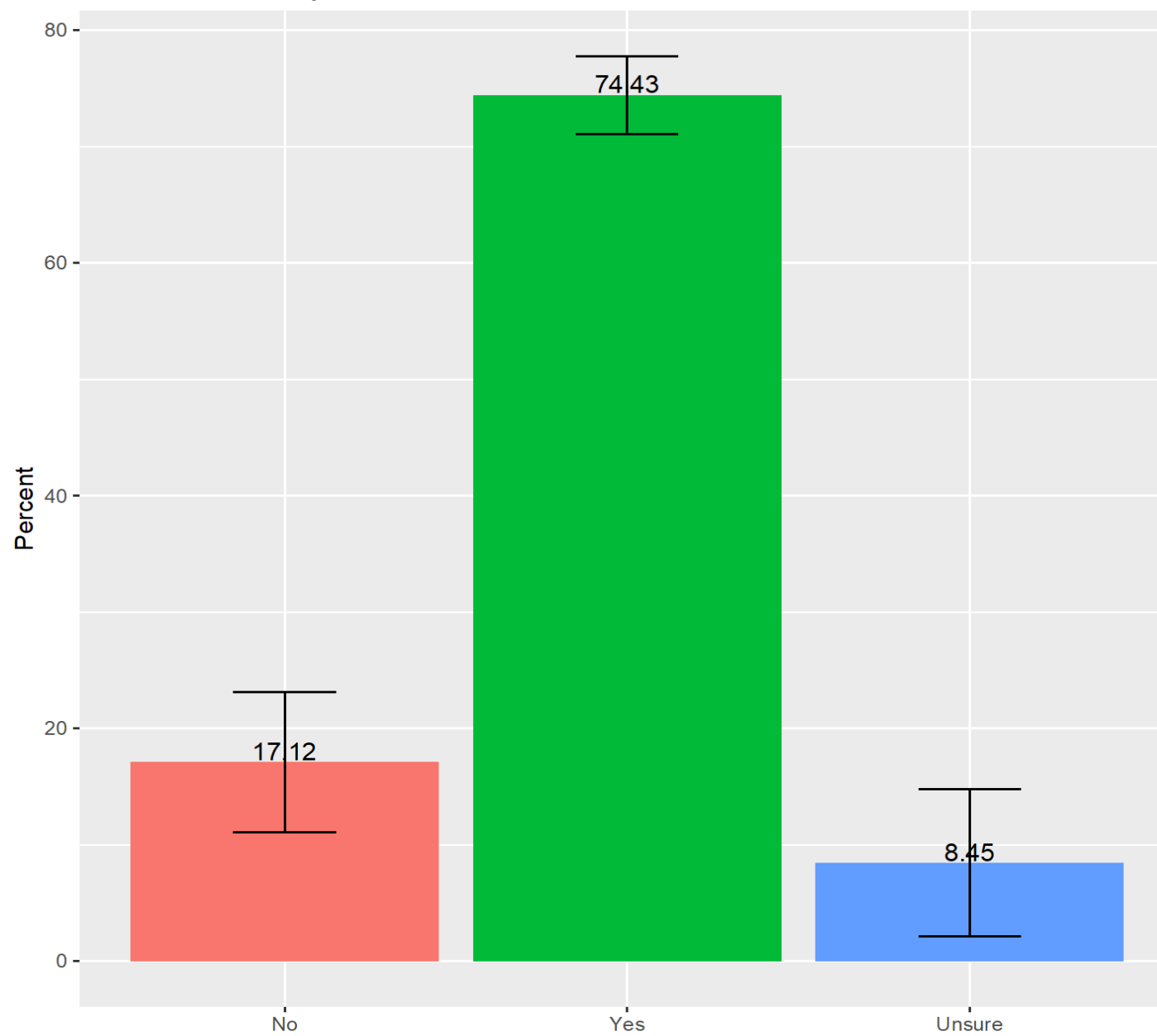
Oregon factsheet prepared by Rose Jeffries

Child Tax Credit

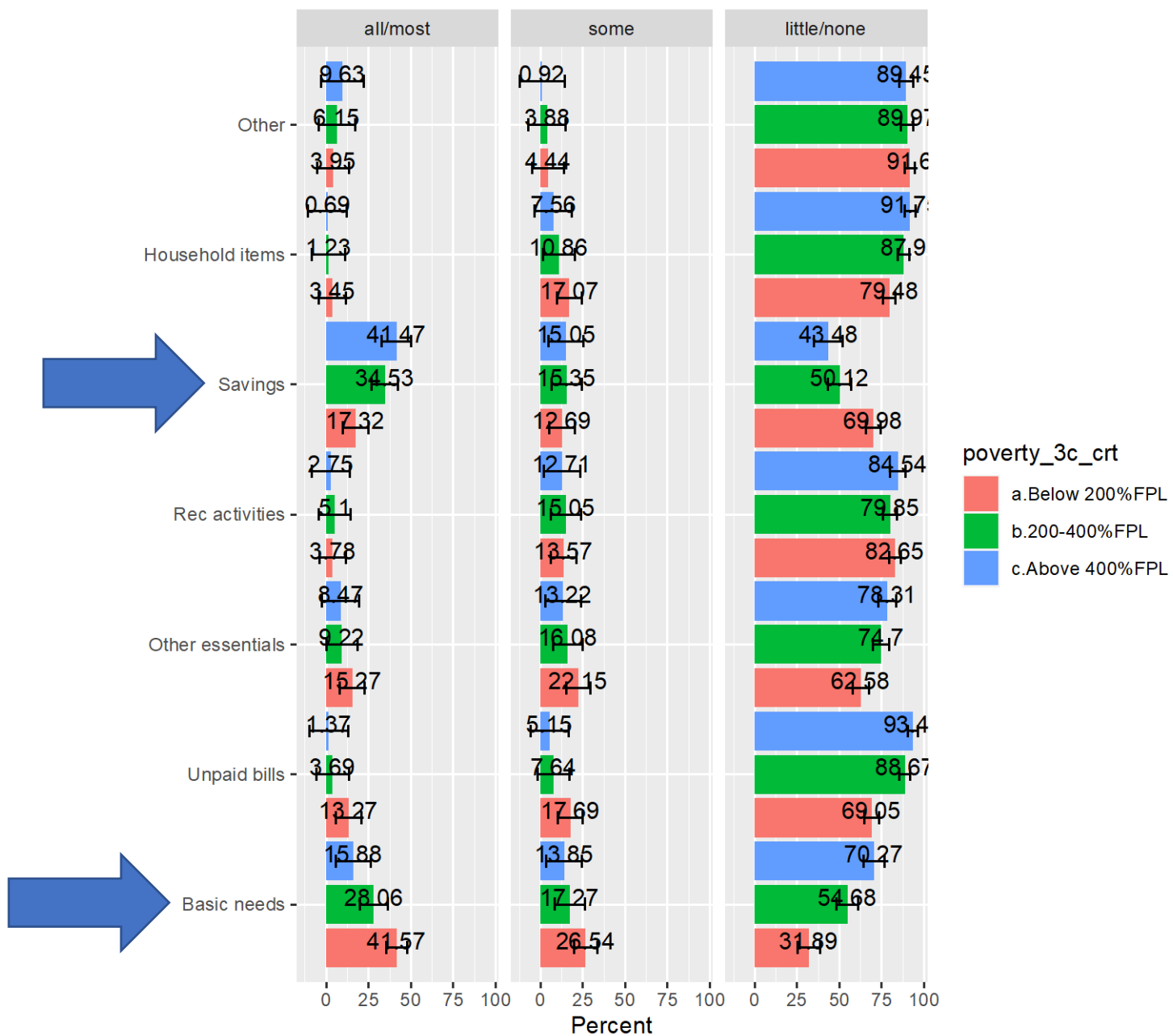
Expect to receive CTC trend



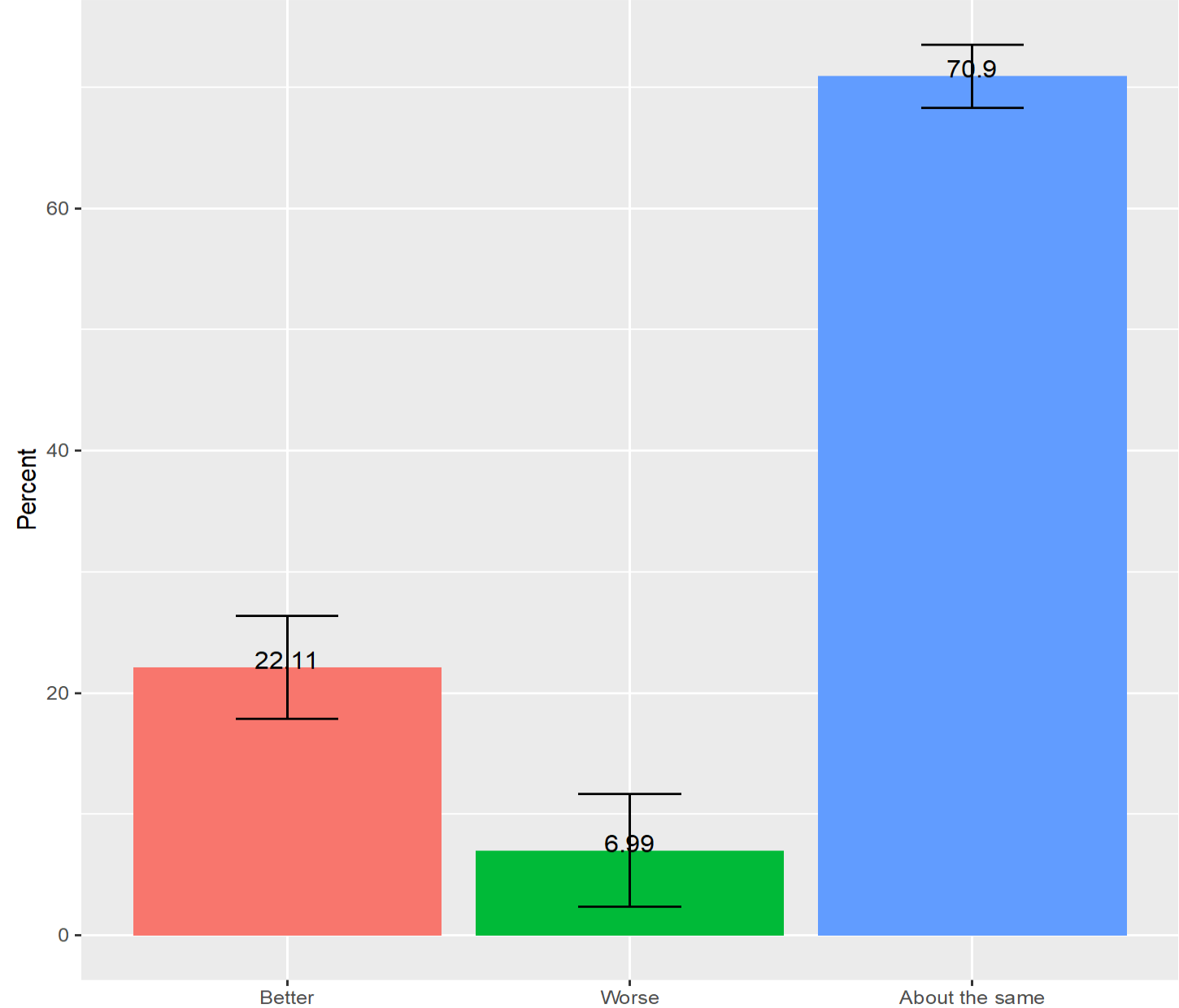
Receive CTC Payment in Last 4 Weeks



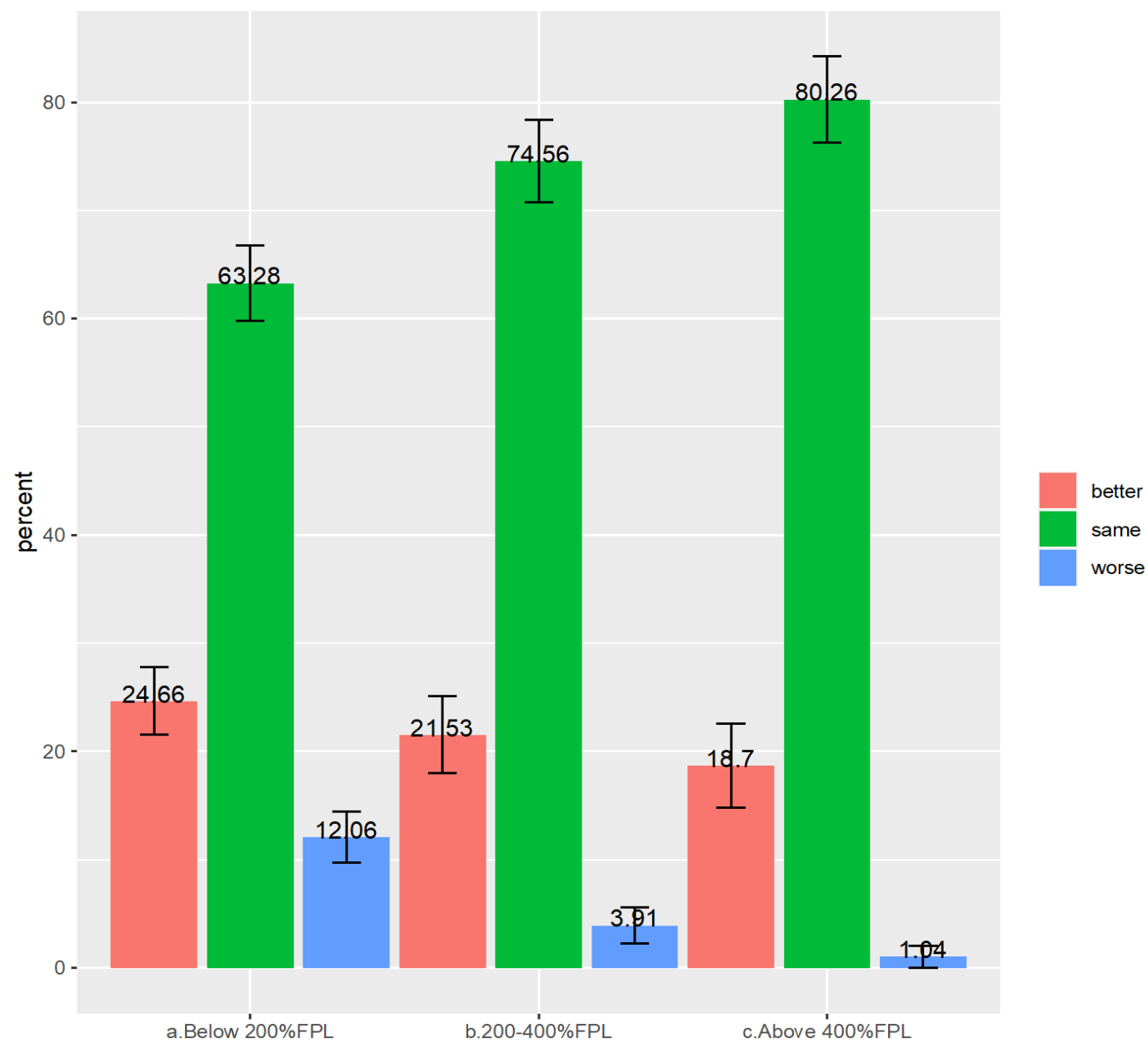
Use of CTC by income



Financial situation compared to one month ago



Financial situation compared to one month ago by income



Oregon Parent Voices on the Child Tax Credit

“It would be a huge benefit! It would help us pay bills and save. I worry so much. This would really change our financial situation and make things much less scary while my daughter is young.”

“It ensures my kids have enough food and we still have money to pay bills. We are living check by check.”

“[The CTC] is going to help so much. We'll finally be able to breathe.”