

# Support Providers: 2002

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## Household Economic Studies

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### Current Population Reports

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For many, the financial support received from people outside their household can be an important source of income. In most cases, payments are made to help support children, but they can also support other nonhousehold members, such as an elderly parent. This report looks at monetary support provided for people living in other households, particularly children under 21. The data in this report are from the 2001 panel of the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), a national longitudinal survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. Interviews for the *Support for Nonhousehold Members Topical Module* were collected from June through September of 2002.<sup>1</sup> Questions about interhousehold financial support payments refer to those made in the

12 months prior to the interview. (See Text Box: Who is a support provider?)

#### ALL SUPPORT PROVIDERS<sup>2</sup>

**In 2002, 7.8 million people provided an aggregate \$40 billion in financial support to people living outside their household.**

About 60 percent of support paid (\$24 billion) was exclusively for children under 21 years old living outside the household, averaging \$4,200 for the prior 12 months. Although less (\$13 billion) was paid to other nonhousehold members who were at least age 21, the average annual amount paid was higher

<sup>1</sup> The data in this report were collected from June through September 2002 in the fifth wave (interview) of the 2001 SIPP. The population represented (the population universe) is the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States.

<sup>2</sup> The estimates in this report (which may be shown in text, figures, and tables) are based on responses from a sample of the population and may differ from the actual values because of sampling variability or other factors. As a result, apparent differences between the estimates for two or more groups may not be statistically significant. All comparative statements have undergone statistical testing and are significant at the 90-percent confidence level unless otherwise noted.

#### Who is a support provider?

- **Everyone who answered "Yes" to the following SIPP question is considered a child support provider:**

During the past 12 months, did you make payments for the support of your child or children under 21 years of age who live outside of this household?

- **Those answering "Yes" to the following SIPP question are also support providers, but to other related and unrelated adults living outside their household:**

During the past 12 months, did you make regular or lump-sum payments for the support of any other person not living in this household?

Table 1.  
**Selected Characteristics of All Financial Support Providers to Nonhousehold Members: 2002**

(Numbers in thousands, except dollar amounts)

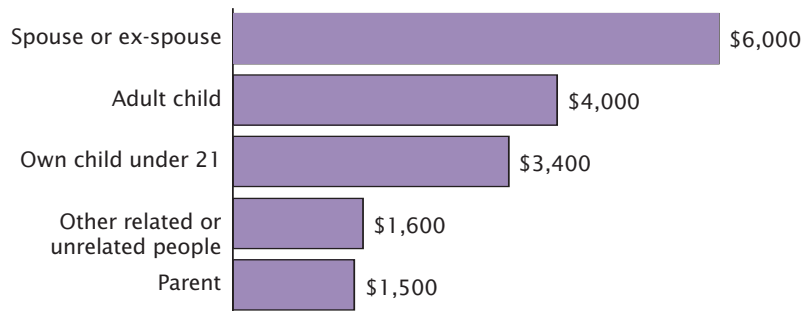
Characteristics	All providers			Providers on behalf of children under 21				Providers to other nonhousehold members				
	Total	90-	90-	Total	90-	90-	Total	90-	90-			
		per-	per-		per-	per-		per-	per-	per-		
	cent	cent		cent	cent		cent	cent				
	confidence	confidence		confidence	confidence		confidence	confidence				
	inter-	inter-		inter-	inter-		inter-	inter-				
	val (±)	val (±)		val (±)	val (±)		val (±)	val (±)				
	Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent		Percent	Percent				
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>7,816</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>5,729</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>2,087</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>
Average support amount paid during prior 12 months.....	\$5,166	\$321	(X)	(X)	\$4,243 <sup>1</sup>	\$189	(X)	(X)	\$6,059	\$975	(X)	(X)
Average annualized family income for prior 12 months.....	\$61,101	\$5,107	(X)	(X)	\$54,276	\$2,173	(X)	(X)	\$79,837	\$18,029	(X)	(X)
Median support amount paid during prior 12 months.....	\$3,300	\$243	(X)	(X)	\$3,380 <sup>1</sup>	\$263	(X)	(X)	\$2,200	\$378	(X)	(X)
Median annualized family income for prior 12 months.....	\$44,400	\$2,184	(X)	(X)	\$41,940	\$2,575	(X)	(X)	\$52,320	\$4,132	(X)	(X)
<b>Sex</b>												
Male.....	6,020	386	77.0	2.4	4,811	346	84.0	2.4	1,209	175	57.9	5.4
Female.....	1,796	213	23.0	2.4	918	152	16.0	2.4	878	149	42.1	5.4
<b>Age</b>												
Under 30 years.....	1,303	181	16.7	2.1	1,001	159	17.5	2.5	302	87	14.5	3.9
30-39.....	2,399	245	30.7	2.6	2,014	225	35.2	3.2	385	99	18.4	4.3
40-49.....	2,332	242	29.8	2.6	1,873	217	32.7	3.1	459	108	22.0	4.6
50-59.....	1,178	172	15.1	2.0	697	133	12.2	2.2	481	110	23.0	4.6
60 years and over.....	604	124	7.7	1.5	143	60	2.5	1.0	460	108	22.0	4.6
<b>Race and Hispanic Origin</b>												
White, not Hispanic.....	5,079	355	65.0	2.7	3,837	310	67.0	3.1	1,242	177	59.5	5.4
Black.....	1,113	146	14.2	1.8	940	135	16.4	2.2	173	59	8.3	2.7
Asian and Pacific Islander.....	308	88	3.9	1.1	122	56	2.1	1.0	186	69	8.9	3.1
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	138	59	1.8	0.7	110	53	1.9	0.9	28	27	1.3	1.3
Hispanic origin (of any race).....	1,330	191	17.0	2.3	826	152	14.4	2.5	504	119	24.1	5.0
<b>Household Type</b>												
Family households.....	5,185	359	66.3	2.7	3,632	301	63.4	3.2	1,553	198	74.4	4.8
Married couple.....	3,641	302	46.6	2.8	2,420	246	42.2	3.3	1,221	175	58.5	5.4
Male householder, no spouse present.....	741	137	9.5	1.7	528	116	9.2	1.9	214	74	10.3	3.3
Female householder, no spouse present.....	803	142	10.3	1.7	685	132	12.0	2.2	118	55	5.7	2.5
Nonfamily households.....	2,626	257	33.6	2.7	2,094	229	36.6	3.2	534	116	25.6	4.8
Male householder.....	2,040	226	26.1	2.5	1,732	209	30.2	3.1	308	88	14.8	3.9
Female householder.....	588	122	7.5	1.5	362	96	6.3	1.6	226	76	10.8	3.4
<b>Marital Status</b>												
Married, spouse present.....	3,284	287	42.0	2.8	2,106	230	36.8	3.2	1,178	172	56.4	5.5
Separated.....	840	146	10.7	1.8	691	132	12.1	2.2	149	61	7.1	2.8
Divorced.....	2,235	237	28.6	2.6	1,925	220	33.6	3.2	310	89	14.9	3.9
Widowed.....	138	59	1.8	0.7	53	37	0.9	0.6	85	46	4.1	2.2
Never married.....	1,319	182	16.9	2.1	954	155	16.7	2.5	365	96	17.5	4.2
<b>Poverty Status in Survey</b>												
<b>Month</b>												
Family income below poverty level.....	644	114	8.2	1.4	526	103	9.2	1.7	119	49	5.7	2.3
<b>Educational Attainment</b>												
Less than high school diploma.....	1,111	167	14.2	2.0	799	142	13.9	2.3	313	89	15.0	3.9
High school graduate.....	2,597	255	33.2	2.7	2,156	233	37.6	3.2	441	106	21.1	4.5
Less than 4 years of college.....	2,409	246	30.8	2.6	1,843	215	32.2	3.1	566	120	27.1	4.9
Bachelor's degree or more.....	1,699	207	21.7	2.3	931	153	16.3	2.5	768	139	36.8	5.3
<b>Employment Status</b>												
Worked full time at least 35 hours every week in past month.....	5,574	295	71.3	2.0	4,269	259	74.5	2.3	1,305	144	62.5	4.2
Worked at least some time in past month, not full time.....	865	117	11.1	1.4	569	95	9.9	1.6	296	69	14.2	3.1
Did not work in past month.....	1,377	148	17.6	1.7	892	119	15.6	1.9	485	88	23.2	3.7

X Represents not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Amount excludes support paid by providers who made payments both for their children and other nonhousehold members.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, June-September 2002.

Figure 1.  
**Median Annual Amount of Support Provided  
 by the Relationship of the Recipient to  
 the Nonhousehold Provider: 2002**



Note: Relationship is of the youngest financial support recipient. Amounts rounded to nearest \$100.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, June-September, 2002.

(\$6,100) (Table 1). An additional \$3 billion of support was paid for both children and other nonhousehold members.

Most providers (73 percent) who supported people outside their households made payments for their children under 21 who lived in another household. The remaining 27 percent made payments to support other people, either related or unrelated, who lived in another household.

Five years earlier, in 1997, there were 8 percent fewer support providers (7.2 million). Total aggregate support paid in that year was about 15 percent less, or \$34 billion, when adjusted to 2002 dollars. The inflation-adjusted average annual support paid in 1997 by all providers was \$4,700, about 8 percent less than the average amount paid in 2002, \$5,200.

**The median annual amount of support varied according to the relationship of the recipient to the provider.**

Providers paid a median of \$3,400 ( $\pm$ \$300) a year on behalf of their children under 21. Parents of the provider (\$1,500  $\pm$ \$300) and other related or unrelated people (\$1,600  $\pm$ \$500), were given the lowest median amounts of support, as seen in Figure 1.<sup>3</sup>

Child support providers' median family incomes were considerably lower than those of providers supporting other people outside their household (\$42,000 versus \$52,000); yet both groups paid a similar proportion (8 percent) of their average family income for support. Child support providers

<sup>3</sup> The median support received by parents of the provider (\$1,500) was not significantly different from the amount received by other related or unrelated people (\$1,600).

were more likely to have family incomes below the poverty level in the survey month (9 percent) than providers to other nonhousehold members (6 percent) (Table 1).

**Men were more likely than women to provide support to nonhousehold members.**

Approximately three-quarters (77 percent) of all support providers were men.

About 82 percent of all providers had worked at least some time during each week in the month prior to the interview.<sup>4</sup> Providers to children were less likely (16 percent) than providers to other people (23 percent) not to have worked at all in the prior month.

Providers to other related and unrelated nonhousehold members tended to have higher educational attainment than providers to children. About two-thirds (64 percent) of adult support providers and one-half (48 percent) of child support providers had attended at least some college. Providers to people other than children were also more likely (74 percent) than child support providers (63 percent) to reside in family households. Over half of financial providers to adult nonhousehold members were married (56 percent), compared with only about one-third of child support providers (37 percent) (Table 1).

<sup>4</sup> The proportion of all support providers who were male (77 percent) was not statistically different from the proportion of all providers who worked at least some time during each week in the month prior to interview (82 percent).

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## CHILD SUPPORT PROVIDERS

**In 2002, 5.7 million people provided financial support for their minor children.<sup>5</sup>**

The large majority (84 percent) of child support providers were men, while 16 percent were women (Figure 2). Most child support payers supported one child (62 percent), while 28 percent made financial payments for two children, and 10 percent for three or more children (Table 2).

About three-quarters (76 percent) of child support providers made payments as a result of a child support agreement or court order. The bulk of these, 92 percent, were court-ordered or ratified by the court. Male providers were more likely to make payments under a child support agreement or court order (80 percent) than female providers (55 percent). The two most common methods of payment for those with an agreement or court order were wage withholding and direct payment to the other parent, each accounting for about one-third of the ways payments were made, as shown in Figure 3 and Table 2.

**About one-third (38 percent) of parents paying child support provided health insurance for their children, paid their medical bills, or included health care costs in their child support payments.**

Approximately 18 percent of custodial parents were responsible for their children's health care costs. About 17 percent of custodial parents had no provisions for health



Table 2.  
**Selected Characteristics of Support Received on Behalf of Children Under 21 Years Old Living in Another Household by Sex of Provider: 2002**

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristics	Providers on behalf of children under 21				Male providers				Female providers			
	Total	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Per-cent	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Total	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Per-cent	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Total	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Per-cent	90-percent confidence interval (±)
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b> .....	<b>5,464</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>4,617</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>
<b>Number of Children Supported</b>												
1 child .....	3,379	291	61.8	3.3	2,793	265	60.5	3.6	585	122	69.1	8.0
2 children .....	1,518	196	27.8	3.0	1,332	183	28.8	3.4	187	69	22.1	7.2
3 or more children .....	567	120	10.4	2.1	492	112	10.7	2.3	75	44	8.9	4.9
<b>Payments as a result of child support agreement or court order</b> .....												
	<b>4,163</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>76.2</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3,698</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>80.1</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>54.9</b>	<b>8.6</b>
Percent .....	76.2	4.4	(X)	(X)	80.1	4.5	(X)	(X)	54.9	3.7	(X)	(X)
Voluntary and ratified by the court .....												
	1,143	170	20.9	2.8	1,021	161	22.1	3.1	122	56	14.4	6.1
Court-ordered agreement .....	2,688	260	49.2	3.4	2,418	246	52.4	3.7	271	83	32.0	8.1
Other written agreement .....	173	66	3.2	1.2	119	55	2.6	1.2	54	37	6.4	4.2
Nonwritten agreement .....	159	63	2.9	1.1	140	60	3.0	1.3	19	22	2.2	2.6
<b>How Payments Are Made</b>												
Wage withholding .....	1,388	187	25.4	3.0	1,249	177	27.1	3.3	139	59	16.4	6.4
Directly to other parent .....	1,300	181	23.8	2.9	1,142	170	24.7	3.2	158	63	18.7	6.7
Directly to court .....	728	136	13.3	2.3	663	129	14.4	2.6	65	41	7.7	4.6
Directly to child support agency ..	588	122	10.8	2.1	508	113	11.0	2.3	80	45	9.4	5.1
Other method .....	100	50	1.8	0.9	93	49	2.0	1.0	7	13	0.8	1.6
<b>Health Insurance Provisions</b>												
Noncustodial parent provides ....	1,785	212	32.7	3.2	1,644	203	35.6	3.5	141	60	16.6	6.4
Custodial parent provides .....	1,002	159	18.3	2.6	864	148	18.7	2.9	138	59	16.3	6.4
Noncustodial parent pays bills. ....	159	63	2.9	1.1	154	62	3.3	1.3	4	10	0.5	1.2
Included in child support pay-ments .....	152	62	2.8	1.1	131	58	2.8	1.2	20	23	2.4	2.6
Other provision .....	338	92	6.2	1.6	295	86	6.4	1.8	43	33	5.1	3.8
No provision .....	947	155	17.3	2.6	818	144	17.7	2.8	129	57	15.2	6.2
<b>Custody Arrangements</b>												
Joint legal and physical custody ..	698	133	12.8	2.3	660	129	14.3	2.6	37	31	4.4	3.5
Joint legal with mother physical custody .....	1,098	166	20.1	2.7	1,039	162	22.5	3.1	59	39	7.0	4.4
Joint legal with father physical custody .....	150	62	2.7	1.1	26	26	0.6	0.6	124	56	14.6	6.1
Mother legal and physical cus-tody .....	1,534	197	28.1	3.1	1,474	193	31.9	3.5	60	39	7.1	4.4
Father legal and physical cus-tody .....	131	58	2.4	1.0	22	24	0.5	0.5	109	53	12.9	5.8
Split custody .....	239	78	4.4	1.4	221	75	4.8	1.6	18	21	2.1	2.5
Other custody arrangements .....	313	89	5.7	1.6	255	80	5.5	1.7	59	39	7.0	4.4

X Represents not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Excludes 267,000 providers who also provided support for other adult nonhousehold members.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, June-September 2002.

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insurance for their children in their child support agreement or court order (Table 2).<sup>6</sup>

Approximately half (53 percent) of people who provided financial support for their children were under 40 years of age. Two-thirds (67 percent) of child support providers were White, not Hispanic; 16 percent were Black; 2 percent were Asian and Pacific Islander; and a similar proportion were American Indian and Alaska Native. About 14 percent were of Hispanic origin (Table 3).<sup>7</sup>

**The median annual amount of support provided for children under 21 varied by the characteristics of the provider.**

For example, child support providers with a college degree

paid a higher amount (\$4,500) than those with less than a high school diploma (\$2,400).

Providers who worked full-time every week in the past month or had family incomes above the poverty level provided an annual median of approximately \$3,600 in support for their children. This was about twice as high as their nonworking and below-poverty counterparts who provided an annual median of \$1,500 in support (Table 3).

Male child support providers paid an annual median of \$3,600 for support of their children, 50 percent more than was paid by female child support providers (\$2,400). The most prevalent type of custody arrangement was the mother having both legal and physical custody (28 percent). The median amount of support paid in this type of situation was \$3,600 per year. The second most common custody arrangement was joint legal custody between both parents with the mother having sole physical custody (20 percent). The median amount of child support paid in these arrangements was higher, \$4,800 (Table 4).

**OTHER SUPPORT PROVIDERS**

**In 2002, 2.1 million people provided support to people other than their minor children living outside their household.**

A larger proportion of other non-household support providers was men (58 percent) than women (42 percent) (Table 5).

Support for one person was most common (70 percent), while 21 percent made payments for two people, and 9 percent for three or more people. The relationship of the support recipient to the support payer was likely to be a parent (36 percent), a child over 21 years of age (27 percent), or another relative (23 percent).<sup>8</sup> Spouses or ex-spouses accounted for 11 percent of people receiving nonhousehold support payments (Table 5).

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<sup>8</sup> The proportion of support recipients who were children over 21 years old (27 percent) was not statistically different from the proportion of recipients who were another type of relative (23 percent), or from the proportion of providers supporting two people (21 percent). The proportion of support receivers who were spouses or ex-spouses (11 percent) was not statistically different from the proportion of providers to three or more people (9 percent).

Table 3.  
**Amounts Received on Behalf of Children Under 21 Years Old Living in Another Household by Selected Characteristics of Providers: 2002**

(Numbers in thousands, except dollar amounts)

Characteristics	All providers to children under 21				Male providers				Female providers			
	Total	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Median support provided	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Total	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Median support provided	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Total	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Median support provided	90-percent confidence interval (±)
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>5,729</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>\$3,400</b>	<b>\$263</b>	<b>4,811</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>\$3,600</b>	<b>\$280</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>\$2,400</b>	<b>\$474</b>
<b>Age</b>												
Under 30 years .....	1,001	159	\$2,400	\$590	865	148	\$2,400	\$665	136	59	\$2,400	\$1,347
30-39 .....	2,014	225	\$3,600	\$404	1,753	210	\$3,700	\$433	261	81	\$1,920	\$897
40-49 .....	1,873	217	\$3,600	\$491	1,566	199	\$4,160	\$587	307	88	\$2,400	\$674
50-59 .....	697	133	\$3,600	\$878	528	116	\$4,000	\$1,087	169	65	\$2,400	\$1,787
60 years and over .....	143	60	\$2,400	\$1,574	99	50	\$2,400	\$2,289	44	33	(B)	(X)
<b>Race and Hispanic Origin</b>												
White, not Hispanic .....	3,837	310	\$3,600	\$335	3,157	281	\$3,744	\$364	680	131	\$2,400	\$513
Black .....	940	135	\$3,000	\$551	834	127	\$3,156	\$559	106	46	\$2,400	\$1,561
Asian and Pacific Islander .....	122	56	\$3,600	\$2,314	98	50	\$4,000	\$2,316	24	25	(B)	(X)
American Indian and Alaska Native .....	110	53	\$2,400	\$2,773	97	50	\$2,000	\$2,054	13	18	(B)	(X)
Hispanic origin (of any race) .....	826	152	\$2,808	\$671	727	143	\$3,000	\$672	100	53	\$1,500	\$1,253
<b>Household Type</b>												
Family households .....	3,632	301	\$3,120	\$352	2,974	273	\$3,444	\$371	658	129	\$2,400	\$682
Married couple .....	2,420	246	\$3,600	\$414	2,007	225	\$3,700	\$423	413	102	\$2,400	\$901
Male householder, no spouse present .....	528	116	\$2,400	\$804	486	111	\$2,400	\$895	41	32	(B)	(X)
Female householder, no spouse present .....	685	132	\$2,400	\$716	481	110	\$2,400	\$963	204	72	\$1,920	\$1,169
Nonfamily households .....	2,094	229	\$3,600	\$394	1,834	215	\$3,700	\$426	260	81	\$2,400	\$600
Male householder .....	1,732	209	\$3,660	\$448	1,637	203	\$3,792	\$514	95	49	\$2,600	\$1,730
Female householder .....	362	96	\$2,600	\$786	197	71	\$3,600	\$913	165	65	\$2,400	\$739
<b>Marital Status</b>												
Married, spouse present .....	2,106	230	\$3,600	\$442	1,749	210	\$3,744	\$447	357	95	\$2,400	\$1,002
Separated .....	691	132	\$3,360	\$612	620	125	\$3,400	\$639	70	42	(B)	(X)
Divorced .....	1,925	220	\$3,696	\$504	1,645	204	\$4,243	\$625	280	84	\$2,400	\$724
Widowed .....	53	37	(B)	(X)	10	16	(B)	(X)	43	33	(B)	(X)
Never married .....	954	155	\$2,100	\$523	786	141	\$2,300	\$611	167	65	\$1,920	\$1,291
<b>Poverty Status in Survey Month</b>												
Family income below poverty level .....	526	103	\$1,500	\$486	419	92	\$1,500	\$544	107	47	\$1,000	\$1,002
Family income above poverty level .....	5,203	321	\$3,600	\$242	4,392	296	\$3,600	\$256	811	128	\$2,400	\$422
<b>Educational Attainment</b>												
Less than high school diploma .....	799	142	\$2,400	\$718	689	132	\$2,482	\$735	110	53	\$600	\$1,341
High school graduate .....	2,156	233	\$3,210	\$372	1,892	218	\$3,400	\$394	264	82	\$2,400	\$764
Less than 4 years of college .....	1,843	215	\$3,600	\$463	1,465	192	\$4,000	\$509	378	98	\$2,400	\$813
Bachelor's degree or more .....	931	153	\$4,500	\$1,005	765	139	\$5,000	\$1,190	166	65	\$3,000	\$1,638
<b>Employment Status</b>												
Worked full time at least 35 hours every week in past month .....	4,269	259	\$3,640	\$225	3,717	242	\$3,800	\$236	552	94	\$2,400	\$423
Worked at least some time in past month, not full time .....	569	95	\$3,000	\$684	441	84	\$3,420	\$787	128	45	\$2,400	\$1,330
Did not work in past month .....	892	119	\$1,500	\$311	653	102	\$1,500	\$349	238	62	\$1,600	\$642

X Represents not applicable. B Represents base too small to show derived measure.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, June-September 2002.

Table 4.

### Amounts Received on Behalf of Children Under 21 Years Old Living in Another Household by Selected Characteristics of Support: 2002

(Numbers in thousands, except dollar amounts)

Characteristics	Providers on behalf of children under 21				Male providers				Female providers			
	Total	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Median support provided	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Total	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Median support provided	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Total	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Median support provided	90-percent confidence interval (±)
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b> .....	<b>5,464</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>\$3,600</b>	<b>\$308</b>	<b>4,617</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>\$3,600</b>	<b>\$321</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>\$2,400</b>	<b>\$476</b>
<b>Number of Children Supported</b>												
1 child .....	3,379	291	\$3,000	\$285	2,793	265	\$3,000	\$332	585	122	\$2,400	\$547
2 children .....	1,518	196	\$5,000	\$545	1,330	183	\$5,232	\$560	187	69	\$3,000	\$1,800
3 or more children .....	567	120	\$5,040	\$1,377	492	112	\$6,000	\$1,659	75	44	\$2,976	\$2,638
<b>Payments as a result of child support agreement or court order</b> .....												
	<b>4,163</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>\$3,600</b>	<b>\$354</b>	<b>3,698</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>\$3,840</b>	<b>\$365</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>\$2,400</b>	<b>\$651</b>
Voluntary and ratified by the court .....	1,143	170	\$3,960	\$738	1,021	161	\$4,200	\$764	122	56	\$3,000	\$1,513
Court-ordered agreement .....	2,688	260	\$3,640	\$432	2,418	246	\$3,840	\$438	271	83	\$1,900	\$916
Other written agreement .....	173	66	\$4,000	\$2,035	119	55	\$4,512	\$2,782	54	37	(B)	(X)
Nonwritten agreement .....	159	63	\$2,640	\$1,071	140	60	\$2,600	\$1,217	19	22	(B)	(X)
<b>Payments not as a result of child support agreement or court order</b> .....												
	<b>1,301</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>	<b>\$432</b>	<b>919</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>\$2,600</b>	<b>\$552</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>\$2,400</b>	<b>\$696</b>
<b>How Payments Are Made</b>												
Wage withholding .....	1,388	187	\$3,800	\$517	1,249	177	\$4,200	\$534	139	59	\$2,000	\$1,402
Directly to other parent .....	1,300	181	\$3,600	\$835	1,142	170	\$3,800	\$883	158	63	\$2,700	\$1,321
Directly to court .....	728	136	\$3,700	\$688	663	129	\$3,860	\$684	65	41	(B)	(X)
Directly to child support agency ..	588	122	\$3,300	\$942	508	113	\$3,600	\$1,037	80	45	\$1,729	\$1,773
Other method .....	100	50	\$3,600	\$2,848	93	49	\$3,600	\$2,584	7	13	(B)	(X)
<b>Health Insurance Provisions</b>												
Noncustodial parent provides .....	1,785	212	\$4,464	\$516	1,644	203	\$4,560	\$519	141	60	\$3,484	\$1,856
Custodial parent provides .....	1,002	159	\$3,744	\$905	864	148	\$4,380	\$860	138	59	\$1,600	\$1,177
Noncustodial parent pays bills .....	159	63	\$4,800	\$1,786	154	62	\$5,200	\$1,746	4	10	(B)	(X)
Included in child support payments .....	152	62	\$3,600	\$751	131	58	\$3,924	\$831	20	23	(B)	(X)
Other provision .....	338	92	\$3,600	\$1,378	295	86	\$3,600	\$1,382	43	33	(B)	(X)
No provision .....	947	155	\$2,964	\$524	818	144	\$3,000	\$678	129	57	\$1,920	\$1,176
<b>Custody Arrangements</b>												
Joint legal and physical custody ..	698	133	\$4,427	\$815	660	129	\$4,464	\$834	37	31	(B)	(X)
Joint legal with mother physical custody .....	1,098	166	\$4,800	\$658	1,039	162	\$4,940	\$665	59	39	(B)	(X)
Joint legal with father physical custody .....	150	62	\$2,400	\$1,126	26	26	(B)	(X)	124	56	\$2,400	\$934
Mother legal and physical custody .....	1,534	197	\$3,600	\$545	1,474	193	\$3,600	\$557	60	39	(B)	(X)
Father legal and physical custody .....	131	58	\$1,820	\$1,264	22	24	(B)	(X)	109	53	\$2,000	\$1,422
Split custody .....	239	78	\$3,600	\$1,804	221	75	\$3,100	\$1,820	18	21	(B)	(X)
Other custody arrangements .....	313	89	\$2,600	\$1,067	255	80	\$3,000	\$1,210	59	39	(B)	(X)

X Represents not applicable. B Represents base too small to show derived measure.

<sup>1</sup> Excludes 267,000 providers who also provided support for other adult nonhousehold members.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, June-September 2002.



Table 5.  
**Selected Characteristics Related to Support for Nonhousehold Members 21 Years and Older: 2002**

(Numbers in thousands)

Characteristics	Providers to other nonhousehold members				Male providers				Female providers			
	Total	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Per-cent	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Total	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Per-cent	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Total	90-percent confidence interval (±)	Per-cent	90-percent confidence interval (±)
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>2,087</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>1,209</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>878</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>
<b>Number of People Supported</b>												
1 person .....	1,465	192	70.2	5.0	824	144	68.2	6.7	641	127	73.0	7.5
2 people .....	438	105	21.0	4.5	266	82	22.0	6.0	172	66	19.6	6.7
3 or more people .....	184	68	8.8	3.1	119	55	9.8	4.3	65	41	7.4	4.4
<b>Youngest Adult Recipient Is</b>												
Parent .....	748	137	35.8	5.3	454	107	37.6	7.0	294	86	33.5	8.0
Spouse .....	88	47	4.2	2.2	75	44	6.2	3.5	12	17	1.4	2.0
Ex-spouse .....	142	60	6.8	2.8	142	60	11.7	4.7	0	0	0.0	0.0
Child over 21 .....	557	119	26.7	4.9	253	80	20.9	5.9	305	88	34.7	8.1
Other relative .....	485	111	23.2	4.7	252	80	20.8	5.9	234	77	26.7	7.5
Not related .....	67	41	3.2	1.9	33	29	2.7	2.4	33	29	3.8	3.2
<b>Location of Youngest Adult Support Recipient</b>												
Private home or apartment .....	1,578	199	75.6	4.7	903	151	74.7	6.3	674	130	76.8	7.2
Someplace else .....	509	113	24.4	4.7	306	88	25.3	6.3	204	72	23.2	7.2

X Represents not applicable.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, June-September 2002.

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## SOURCE OF THE DATA

The population represented in the 2001 SIPP is the civilian noninstitutionalized population living in the United States. The SIPP is a longitudinal survey conducted at 4-month intervals. The data for this report were collected from June through September 2002 in the fifth wave (interview) of the 2001 SIPP. The institutionalized population, which is excluded from the population universe, is composed primarily of the population in correctional institutions and nursing homes (91 percent of the 4.1 million institutionalized people in Census 2000).

## ACCURACY OF THE DATA

The estimates in this report (which may be shown in text, figures, and tables) are based on responses from a sample of the population and may differ from the actual values because of sampling variability or other factors. As a result, apparent differences between the estimates for two or more groups may not be statistically significant. All comparative statements have undergone statistical testing and are significant at the 90-percent

confidence level unless otherwise noted. This means the 90-percent confidence interval for the difference between the estimates being compared does not include zero. Nonsampling errors in surveys may be attributed to a variety of sources, such as how the survey is designed, how respondents interpret questions, how able and willing respondents are to provide correct answers, and how accurately the answers are coded and classified. The Census Bureau employs quality control procedures throughout the production process including the overall design of surveys, the wording of questions, review of the work of interviewers and coders, and statistical review of reports to minimize these errors. The Survey of Income and Program Participation weighting procedure uses ratio estimation, whereby sample estimates are adjusted to independent estimates of the national population by age, race, sex, and Hispanic origin. This weighting partially corrects for bias due to undercoverage, but biases may still be present when people who are missed by the survey differ from those interviewed

in ways other than the age, race, sex, and Hispanic origin. How this weighting procedure affects other variables in the survey is not precisely known. All of these considerations affect comparisons across different surveys or data sources.

For further information on the source of the data and accuracy of the estimates, including standard errors and confidence intervals, go to <[www.sipp.census.gov/sipp/sourceac/S&A01\\_w1tow6\\_cross\\_puf.pdf](http://www.sipp.census.gov/sipp/sourceac/S&A01_w1tow6_cross_puf.pdf)> or contact Reid Rottach of the Census Bureau's Demographic Statistical Methods Division at <[Reid.A.Rottach@census.gov](mailto:Reid.A.Rottach@census.gov)>. Further information on the SIPP may be found in the *SIPP Users' Guide* at <[www.sipp.census.gov/sipp/usrguide/sipp2001.pdf](http://www.sipp.census.gov/sipp/usrguide/sipp2001.pdf)> or the SIPP Quality Profile at <[www.sipp.census.gov/sipp/workpapr/wp230.pdf](http://www.sipp.census.gov/sipp/workpapr/wp230.pdf)>.

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