

## CHAPTER VI: CHILD CARE, TRANSPORTATION, AND USE OF SERVICES BY RESPONDENTS STILL OFF WELFARE

This chapter presents findings on child care use, transportation, and the use of employment-related services by respondents who were still off Work First at the time of the surveys.

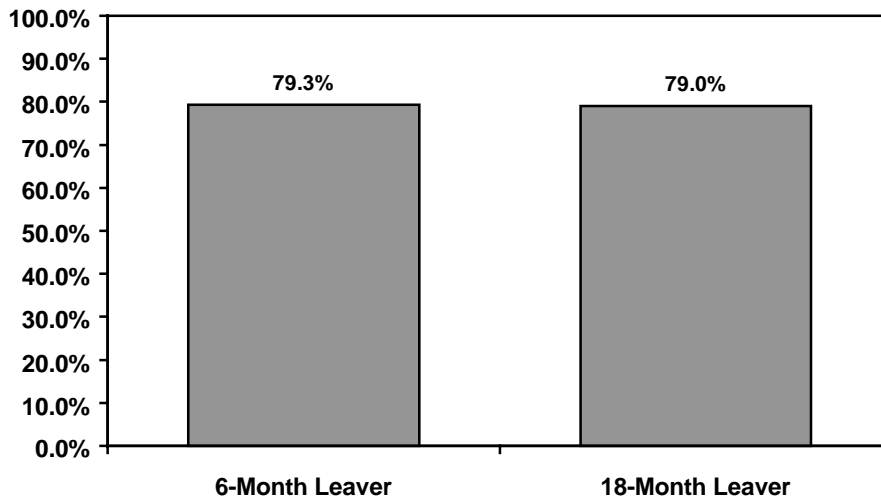
### A. USE OF CHILD CARE

Working respondents with children under 18 were asked whether they used child care, the type of child care used, whether they paid for the child care, and whether they received help in paying for the child care. Respondents who did not use child care were asked their reasons for not using child care. Respondents who used paid child care, but did not receive help in paying for it, were asked their reasons for not receiving help.

#### Percent Using Child Care

- As indicated in Exhibit VI-1, about 79 percent of working respondents in both samples reported that they used paid or unpaid child care.

**Exhibit VI-1 - Percent of Employed Respondents Still Off Welfare Using Child Care**



#### Percent Using Child Care, by Respondent Characteristics

- As indicated in Exhibit VI-2, the percentage of employed respondents who were using child care did not vary by education, ethnicity, or urban/rural location.
- Respondents with earnings below \$400 per month or above \$1,600 per month were less likely to be using child care than other respondents.
- Respondents not living with other adults were slightly more likely to be using child care than respondents living with other adults.

**Exhibit VI-2  
Employed Respondents Still Off Welfare -- Percent Using Child Care,  
by Selected Characteristics**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>6-Month Leaver</b>	<b>18-Month Leaver</b>
<i><b>Education</b></i>		
Did not complete high school or GED	86.7%	75.0%
Completed high school or GED only	72.2%	80.5%
Attended college	80.4%	79.7%
<i><b>Ethnicity</b></i>		
White	85.4%	78.8%
Black	78.5%	80.6%
<i><b>Monthly Earnings</b></i>		
\$1-\$400	3.7%	2.2%
\$401-\$800	17.3%	15.7%
\$801-\$1,200	26.3%	21.7%
\$1,201-\$1,600	20.7%	24.2%
\$1,601+	11.5%	17.0%
<i><b>Presence of Other Adults</b></i>		
No other adults	80.2%	82.7%
One or more other adults	77.9%	72.0%
<i><b>County Type</b></i>		
Urban	81.9%	76.3%
Rural	76.7%	81.2%

**Reasons for Not Using Child Care**

- As shown in Exhibit VI-3, the most common reasons given by employed respondents for not using child care were that their children were old enough to look after themselves or that their children were in school while the respondent worked.
- Relatively few respondents stated that they were not using child care because they could not afford it.

**Exhibit VI-3  
Employed Respondents Still Off Welfare and Using Child Care  
-- Reasons for Not Using Child Care**

<b>Reason for Not Using Child Care</b>	<b>6-Month Leaver</b>	<b>18-Month Leaver</b>
Children old enough to look after themselves	36.6%	50.7%
Children in school while I work	45.1%	35.2%
Can't afford to pay for child care	7.0%	2.8%
Spouse/relative/friend looks after child at home	11.2%	4.2%
Work at home	2.8%	9.9%
Can't find a provider that meets my needs/that I trust	1.4%	0.0%
Other	1.4%	4.2%

\* Percentages add to more than 100 percent because more than one answer was allowed.

**Type of Child Care Used**

- Exhibit VI-4 shows that 69 percent of the employed 6-month leavers who were using child care were paying for the care. The percentage was 74 percent for employed 18-month leavers who were using child care.
- About 39 percent of the employed 6-month leavers who were using child care were using unpaid care. The percentage for employed 18-month leavers who were using child care was almost 35 percent.
- Child care centers accounted for 35 percent of the child care being used by employed 6-month leavers who were using child care. The percentage was 36 percent for the 18-month leavers.
- After child care centers, the next most common type of child care provider in both samples was a paid relative or other person not in the respondent's home.

**Exhibit VI-4  
Employed Respondents Still Off Welfare and Using Child Care -  
Type of Child Care Used**

Type	6-Month Leaver	18-Month Leaver
<b><i>Paid Care</i></b>		
Child care center	34.9%	36.3%
Relative/other not in home	26.5%	27.0%
Before/after school	1.8%	4.1%
Family child care home	1.5%	4.1%
Relative/other living in home	3.3%	1.5%
Church, other organization	1.1%	1.4%
<b>TOTAL PAID</b>	<b>69.1%</b>	<b>74.5%</b>
<b><i>Unpaid Care</i></b>		
Relative/other not in home	25.7%	23.2%
Relative/other living in home	11.8%	9.4%
Head Start	1.5%	2.2%
<b>TOTAL UNPAID</b>	<b>39.0%</b>	<b>34.8%</b>

**Satisfaction with Child Care**

- Exhibit VI-5 shows that 65 percent of the employed 6-month leavers who were using child care were very satisfied with their child care arrangements. The percentage was 67 percent for the 18-month leavers.
- As indicated in Exhibit VI-6, satisfaction with child care arrangements did not vary greatly by education, ethnicity, or urban/rural county. Persons living with other adults were somewhat more likely to be satisfied with their child care arrangements than other respondents.

**Exhibit VI-5  
Employed Respondents Still Off Welfare and Using Child Care -  
Satisfaction with Child Care Arrangements**

Satisfaction	6-Month Leaver	18-Month Leaver
Very satisfied	64.7%	67.0%
Mostly satisfied	21.3%	22.1%
Not very satisfied	14.0%	10.9%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

**Exhibit VI-6  
Employed Respondents Still Off Welfare and Using Child Care -  
Percent Very Satisfied with Child Care Arrangements,  
by Selected Characteristics**

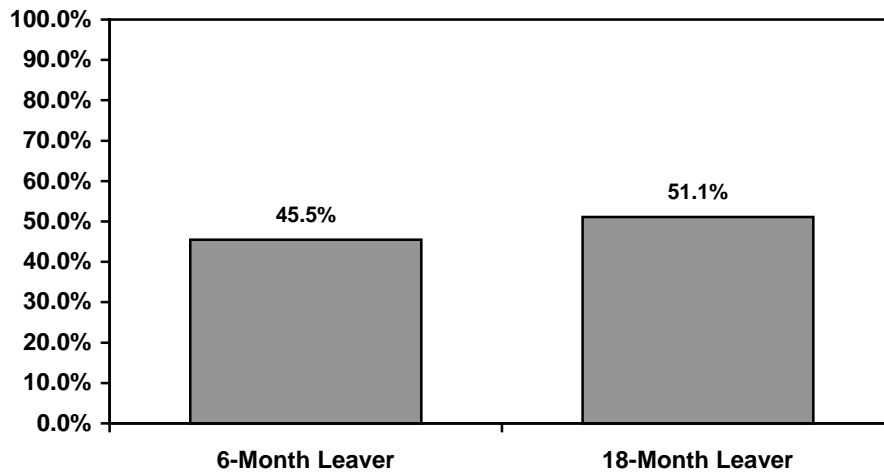
	6-Month	18-Month

Characteristics	Leaver	Leaver
<b>Education</b>		
Did not complete high school or GED	65.9%	64.8%
Completed high school or GED only	69.2%	71.0%
Attended college	58.9%	64.2%
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
White	65.7%	63.5%
Black	63.2%	67.5%
<b>Presence of Other Adults</b>		
No other adults	62.9%	64.8%
One or more other adults	67.6%	71.8%
<b>County Type</b>		
Urban	63.6%	66.4%
Rural	65.9%	67.5%

**Assistance in Paying for Child Care**

- Exhibit VI-7 shows that, of the employed 6-month leavers who used paid child care, 45 percent were receiving assistance from the county in paying for child care. This compares to 51 percent for the 18-month leavers.

**Exhibit VI-7 -Employed Respondents Still Off Welfare and Using Paid Child Care -- Percent Receiving Help from the County**



**Percent Receiving Help Paying for Care, by Respondent Characteristics**

- As shown in Exhibit VI-8, persons who were not living with another adult were less likely to be receiving help paying for child care than persons who were living with other adults.

**Exhibit VI-8  
Employed Respondents Still Off Welfare and Using Paid Child  
Care - Percent Receiving Help from the County,  
by Selected Characteristics**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>6-Month Leaver</b>	<b>18-Month Leaver</b>
<i><b>Education</b></i>		
Did not complete high school or GED	43.3%	58.1%
Completed high school or GED only	40.4%	55.7%
Attended college	52.5%	44.6%
<i><b>Ethnicity</b></i>		
White	38.9%	51.3%
Black	48.5%	48.9%
<i><b>Presence of Other Adults</b></i>		
No other adults	48.7%	54.0%
One or more other adults	38.6%	42.2%
<i><b>County Type</b></i>		
Urban	50.5%	46.6%
Rural	39.2%	55.2%

**Reasons for Not Getting Help With Child Care Payments**

- For working respondents who were using paid child care but were not getting help with the payments, Exhibit VI-9 show the reasons given for not getting help.
- In both samples, the most common reason cited by respondents was that they did not know they could get help.
- The next most common reason given by respondents was that they did not want to deal with the county's requirements.

**Exhibit VI-9  
Employed Respondents Still Off Welfare and Using Paid Child  
Care -- Reasons for Not Getting Help**

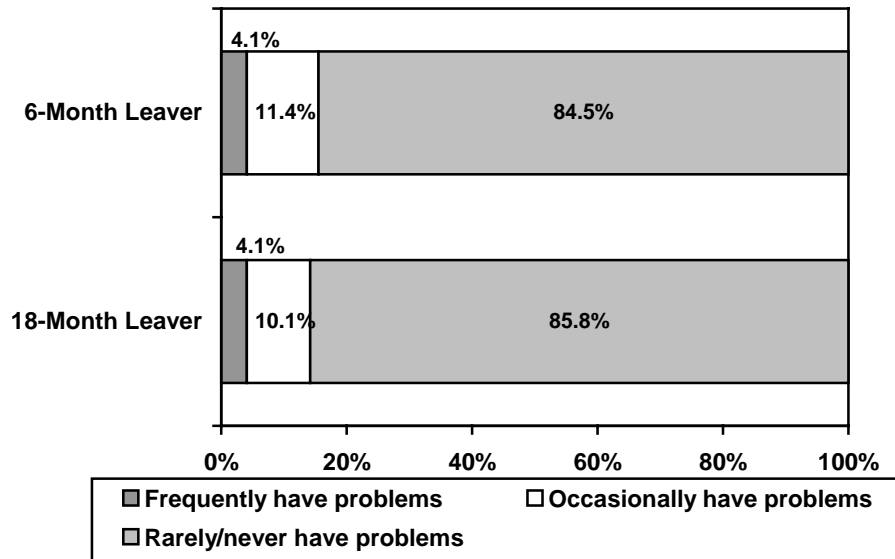
<b>Reason</b>	<b>6-Month Leaver</b>	<b>18-Month Leaver</b>
I didn't know that I could get help paying for child care	21.9%	24.4%
I didn't want to deal with the county's requirements	19.8%	21.1%

I applied but did not qualify	9.4%	15.6%
I'm on a waiting list	14.6%	8.9%
Provider doesn't want to deal with the county's requirements	11.5%	7.8%
Do not need help	7.3%	7.8%
Didn't apply	5.2%	4.4%
Told no funds available	5.2%	2.2%
Other	5.2%	7.8%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

**Problems Getting To Work Because Child Care Is Not Available/Reliable**

- Working respondents who were using child care were asked if they ever had problems getting to work or showing up late because their child care was not reliable or consistently available.
- As indicated in Exhibit VI-10, about 14 percent of the employed 6-month leavers and 15 percent of the employed 18-month leavers said that they often or occasionally had problems.
- As shown in Exhibit VI-11, high school drop-outs were somewhat more likely than other respondents to report that they had problems with the reliability of their child care.
- Respondents who were not living with other adults were about twice as likely as other respondents to report problems with the reliability of their child care.
- Respondents living in urban areas were much more likely than rural respondents to report problems with the reliability of their child care.

**Exhibit VI-10 - Employed Respondents Still Off Welfare and Using Child Care -- Do You Ever Have Problems Getting to Work Because Your Child Care Is Not Reliable?**



**Exhibit VI-11  
Employed Respondents Still Off Welfare and Using Child Care - Percent Who Frequently or Occasionally Had Problems Getting to Work Because Child Care Was Not Reliable, by Selected Characteristics**

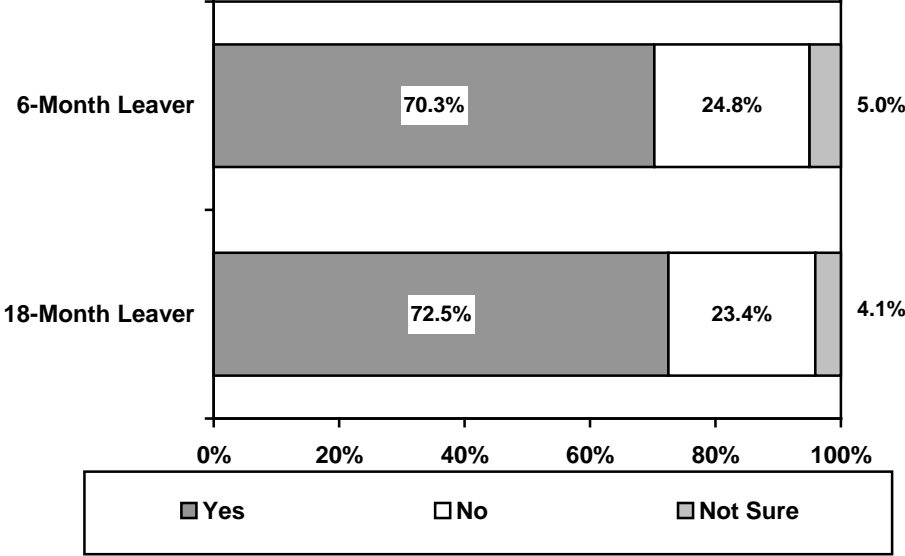
Characteristics	6-Month Leaver	18-Month Leaver
<i>Education</i>		
Did not complete high school or GED	21.0%	16.7%
Completed high school or GED only	12.7%	13.5%
Attended college	13.4%	13.5%
<i>Ethnicity</i>		
White	15.9%	13.8%
Black	15.7%	15.6%
<i>Presence of Other Adults</i>		
No other adults	18.9%	17.2%
One or more other adults	9.9%	8.5%
<i>County Type</i>		
Urban	19.3%	17.8%
Rural	11.7%	11.3%

**Knowledge of Continuing Child Care Assistance**



- Employed respondents who were using child care were asked if they knew that families could continue getting help with child care payments even after they leave welfare.
- As indicated in Exhibit VI-12, almost 25 percent of the 6-month leavers did not know they could get help, and another 5 percent were not sure. The figures for the 18-month leavers were 23 percent and 4 percent, respectively.
- As indicated in Exhibit VI-13, the percentage of employed leavers who knew about continuing child care assistance did not vary greatly by education, ethnicity, living arrangements, or urban/rural county.

**Exhibit VI-12 - Employed Respondents Still Off Welfare and Using Child Care -- Do You Think Families Can Get Help Paying for Child Care Even After They Leave Welfare?**



**Exhibit VI-13**

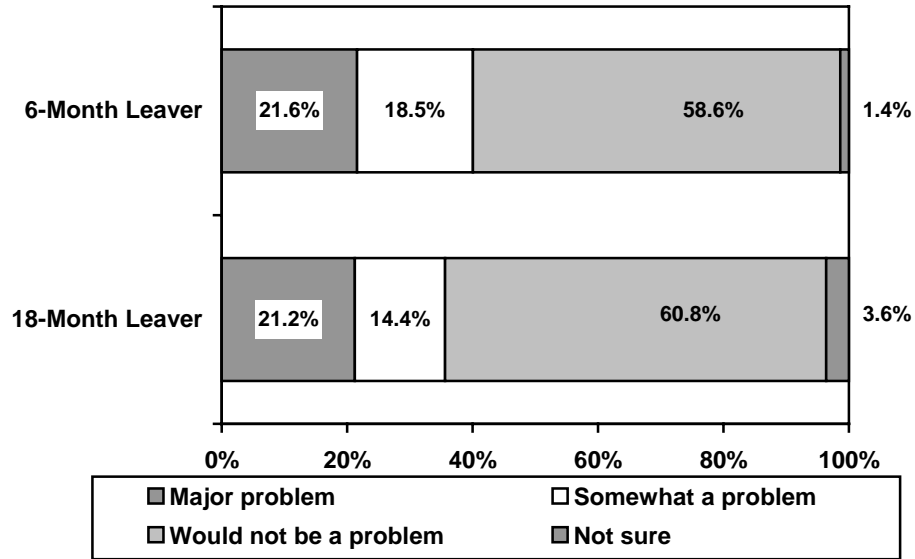
**Employed Respondents Still Off Welfare and Using Child Care - Percent Who Know That Families Can Get Help Paying for Child Care Even After They Leave Welfare, by Selected Characteristics**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>6-Month Leaver</b>	<b>18-Month Leaver</b>
<i><b>Education</b></i>		
Did not complete high school or GED	75.2%	76.4%
Completed high school or GED only	64.3%	70.7%
Attended college	72.3%	72.2%
<i><b>Ethnicity</b></i>		
White	72.0%	71.3%
Black	69.4%	74.3%
<i><b>Presence of Other Adults</b></i>		
No other adults	72.6%	72.3%
One or more other adults	66.4%	72.9%
<i><b>County Type</b></i>		
Urban	72.5%	74.3%
Rural	68.0%	71.0%

**Child Care Barriers to Employment**

- Unemployed respondents were asked whether child care would be a problem if they wanted to start a job in the next month.
- As shown in Exhibit VI-14, almost 22 percent of the 6-month leavers and 21 percent of the 18-month leavers said that child care would be a major problem.
- Exhibit VI-15 shows that there were no consistent differences among demographic sub-groups in the percentage of unemployed respondents who saw a child care barrier to employment.

**Exhibit VI-14 - Unemployed Respondents Still Off Welfare-  
Would Child Care be a Problem If You Wanted to Start a  
Job in the Next Month?**



**Exhibit VI-15  
Unemployed Respondents Still Off Welfare --  
Percent for Whom Child Care Would Be a Major Problem or  
Somewhat of a Problem if They Wanted To Start a Job in the Next  
Month, by Selected Characteristics**

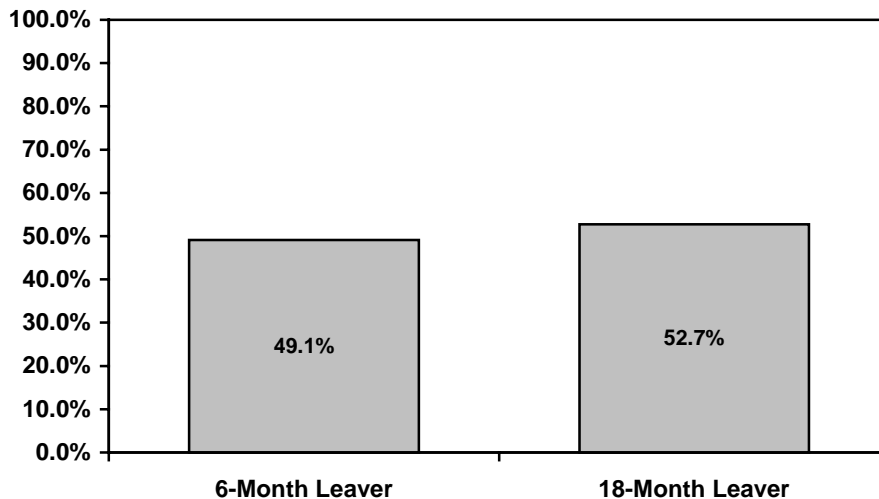
Characteristics	6-Month Leaver	18-Month Leaver
<i>Education</i>		
Did not complete high school or GED	43.0%	32.7%
Completed high school or GED only	37.7%	34.4%
Attended college	39.3%	42.9%
<i>Ethnicity</i>		
White	40.5%	46.5%
Black	40.8%	27.5%
<i>Presence of Other Adults</i>		
No other adults	38.5%	40.8%
One or more other adults	41.7%	30.0%
<i>County Type</i>		
Urban	39.8%	33.6%
Rural	40.2%	37.1%

**B. TRANSPORTATION AMONG RESPONDENTS STILL OFF WELFARE**

**Types of Transportation Used by Respondents Still off Welfare**

- Exhibit VI-16 shows that 49 percent of the 6-month leavers and 53 percent of the 18-month leavers owned a vehicle.
- As shown in Exhibit VI-17, vehicle ownership was much higher among more educated respondents and among white respondents.
- Among employed respondents, vehicle ownership was somewhat higher among respondents with higher earnings.
- Vehicle ownership was much higher among persons who had left welfare due to employment, compared to persons who had left due to time limits or other reasons.
- Vehicle ownership was somewhat higher rural respondents than among urban respondents.
- Exhibit VI-18 shows that, among the 6-month leavers who owned a vehicle, 41 percent of the vehicles were more than 10 years old. The percentage for the 18-month leavers was 35 percent.

**Exhibit VI-16 - Respondents Still Off Welfare --Percent Who Owned a Vehicle**



**Exhibit VI-17**

**Percent of Respondents Who Owned a Vehicle,  
by Selected Characteristics**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>6-Month Leaver</b>	<b>18-Month Leaver</b>
<b><i>Education</i></b>		
Did not complete high school or GED	32.8%	38.9%
Completed high school or GED only	53.6%	54.1%
Attended college	65.3%	63.8%
<b><i>Ethnicity</i></b>		
White	63.0%	70.3%
Black	41.6%	45.1%
<b><i>Monthly Earnings (employed persons)</i></b>		
\$1-\$400	50.0%	45.5%
\$401-\$800	43.5%	44.3%
\$801-\$1,200	57.5%	58.3%
\$1,201-\$1,600	64.0%	66.0%
\$1,601+	77.8%	78.5%
<b><i>Presence of Other Adults</i></b>		
No other adults	51.4%	54.6%
One or more other adults	46.3%	50.0%
<b><i>Reason Left Welfare</i></b>		
Found a job/returned to a job/got a higher paying job or more hours	54.9%	57.8%
Time limits	38.5%	43.4%
Other	44.4%	45.8%
<b><i>County Type</i></b>		
Urban	43.4%	49.6%
Rural	54.4%	55.1%

**Exhibit VI-18  
Age of Vehicles Owned**

<b>Age of Vehicle</b>	<b>6-Month Leaver</b>	<b>18-Month Leaver</b>
Less than 5 years	12.3%	17.2%
5 to 10 years	46.5%	48.0%
More than 10 years	41.2%	34.8%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

**Transportation to Work**

- Employed respondents were asked how they got to work. As shown in Exhibit VI-19, about 56 percent of the employed 6-month leavers and 58 percent of the employed 18-month leavers drove their own vehicle to work.
- About 24 percent of the 6-month leavers and 22 percent of the 18-month leavers got a ride from family or friends.
- Almost 10 percent of the 6-month leavers and 8 percent of the 18-month leavers used public transportation.

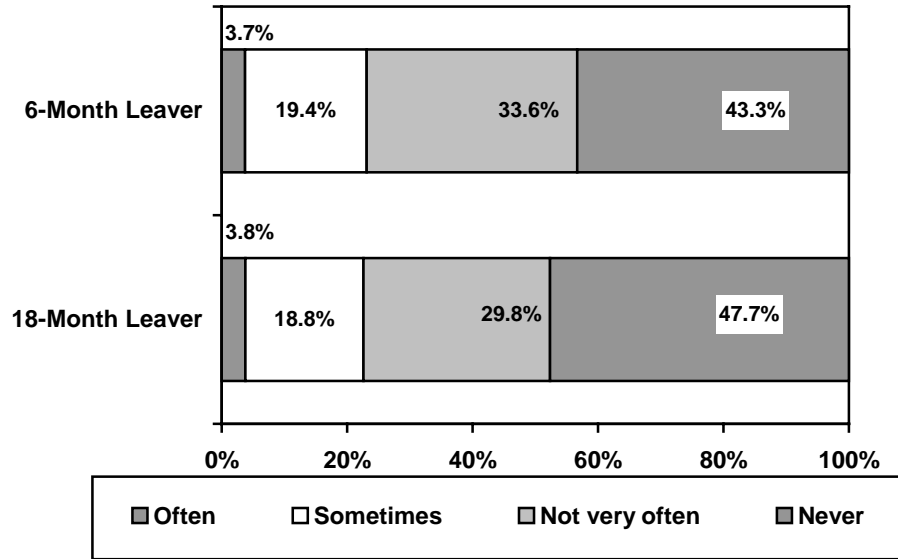
**Exhibit VI-19  
How Employed Respondents Got To Work**

<b>Response</b>	<b>6-Month Leaver</b>	<b>18-Month Leaver</b>
Drive own vehicle	56.1%	58.1%
Get a ride from family member or friend	24.2%	22.0%
Use bus or other public transportation	9.7%	7.8%
Borrow vehicle from family member or friend	7.4%	7.5%
Walk	5.1%	4.9%
Taxi	2.3%	1.4%
Ride bicycle	0.0%	0.6%
Other	2.0%	3.5%

**Transportation Barriers Among Employed Respondents**

- Employed respondents were asked if they ever had problems getting to work because of transportation.
- As shown in Exhibit VI-20, slightly more than 20 percent of employed respondents in both samples reported that they often or sometimes had a problem being late for work or missing work because of transportation.
- Exhibit VI-21 shows that blacks were much more likely than whites to have problems getting to work because of transportation problems.
- Persons with low earnings had more problems than persons with higher earnings.

**Exhibit VI-20 - Employed Respondents Still Off Welfare --  
Do You Have Problems Getting To Work Due To  
Transportation?**



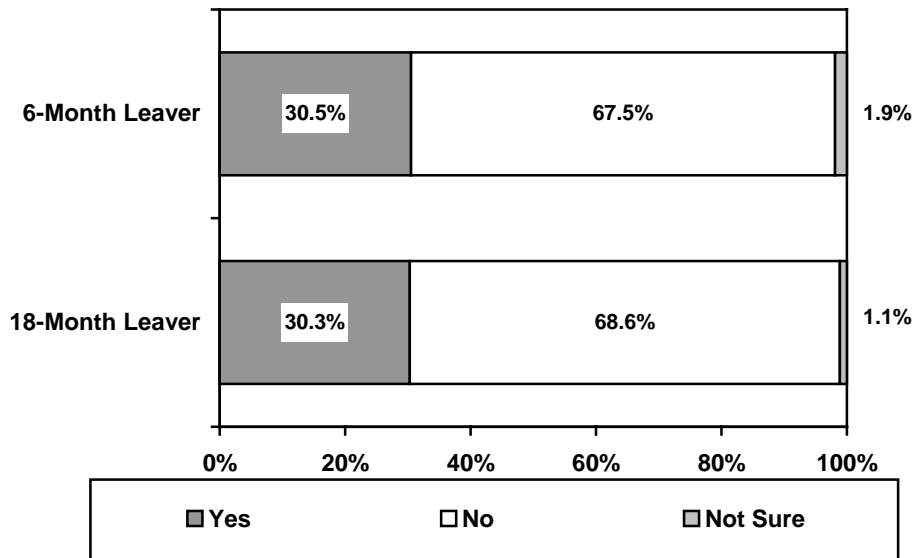
**Exhibit VI-21  
Percent of Employed Respondents Who Reported That They Often or  
Sometimes Had Problems Getting to Work Due to Transportation,  
by Selected Characteristics**

Characteristics	6-Month Leaver	18-Month Leaver
<b>Education</b>		
Did not complete high school or GED	29.9%	20.5%
Completed high school or GED only	21.7%	19.3%
Attended college	18.3%	26.8%
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
White	15.5%	9.6%
Black	26.3%	26.1%
<b>Monthly Earnings</b>		
\$1-\$400	37.6%	36.4%
\$401-\$800	17.3%	34.3%
\$801-\$1,200	32.1%	14.3%
\$1,201-\$1,600	21.0%	23.4%
\$1,601+	13.0%	13.8%
<b>Presence of Other Adults</b>		
No other adults	12.4%	25.7%
One or more other adults	24.1%	22.6%
Urban	22.9%	22.0%
Rural	23.3%	23.0%

**Transportation Barriers Among Unemployed Respondents**

- Unemployed respondents were asked if they would have problems starting a new job due to transportation problems.
- As shown in Exhibit VI-22, about 30 percent of the unemployed respondents in both samples reported that they would have a problem starting a new job because of transportation.
- As shown in Exhibit VI-23, unemployed high school drop-outs were much more likely than unemployed persons who had attended college to say that transportation would be a barrier to starting a new job.
- Urban/rural location did not have a great impact upon the percentage of unemployed respondents who thought they would have transportation barriers to employment.

**Exhibit VI-22 - Unemployed Respondents Still Off Welfare -  
Percent Who Would Have Problem Starting a Job  
Because of Transportation**



**Exhibit VI-23**



**Unemployed Respondents Still Off Welfare – Percentage Who Would Have a Problem Starting a Job Because of Transportation, by Selected Characteristics**

<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>6-Month Leaver</b>	<b>18-Month Leaver</b>
<i>Education</i>		
Did not complete high school or GED	32.8%	41.1%
Completed high school or GED only	29.8%	28.6%
Attended college	25.9%	13.1%
<i>Ethnicity</i>		
White	28.4%	22.2%
Black	33.0%	34.5%
<i>Presence of Other Adults</i>		
No other adults	29.3%	32.1%
One or more other adults	31.7%	28.4%
<i>County Type</i>		
Urban	32.9%	32.2%
Rural	28.6%	28.7%

**C. RECEIPT OF JOB TRAINING, EDUCATION, PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE, AND OTHER SERVICES WHILE RECEIVING WORK FIRST**

This section presents survey findings on the respondents’ use of employment services, job training, education, and other “self-sufficiency” services while they were on Work First.

**Services Received**

- As shown in Exhibit VI-24, the most common services received while on Work First were help finding or paying for child care, and help with job openings or being referred to jobs.
- However, slightly more than half of the respondents reported that they did not receive any help with job openings or being referred to jobs.
- About 25 percent of the 6-month leavers and 20 percent of the 18-month leavers reported that they did not receive any of the specified services.

**Exhibit VI-24  
Percent of Respondents Who Had Received Different Services**

**While Still on Work First**

<b>Service</b>	<b>6-Month Leaver</b>	<b>18-Month Leaver</b>
Help in finding or paying for child care	44.7%	51.7%
Help finding job openings/ being referred to jobs	48.0%	45.2%
Advice on how to fill out job applications/prepare resumes	31.3%	34.2%
Help with transportation problems	36.7%	35.2%
Help with basic education/getting GED	19.2%	18.3%
Help getting work experience through an unpaid job	13.9%	14.7%
None	25.5%	19.8%

**Employment Rates Among Persons Who Had Received Different Services**

- Exhibit VI-25 shows the percent of respondents who were employed, by services they had received while on Work First.
- About 50 percent of the 6-month leavers who had received help with job openings or job referrals were currently employed. The same was true for 56 percent of the 18-month leavers.
- About half of the respondents who had received none of the specified services were currently employed.

**Exhibit VI-25**

**Employment Rates Among Respondents, by Services Received While on Work First**

<b>Service Received While on Work First</b>	<b>Percent Working</b>	
	<b>6-Month Leaver</b>	<b>18-Month Leaver</b>
Help in finding or paying for child care	56.4%	60.2%
Help finding job openings/being referred to jobs	50.3%	56.3%
Advice on how to fill out job applications/prepare resumes	52.2%	58.8%
Help with transportation problems	49.8%	53.9%
Help with basic education/getting GED	55.1%	52.2%
Help getting work experience through an unpaid job	55.4%	47.3%
None	49.7%	50.8%