

Although particulars on child-care arrangements were collected in a Bermuda census for the first time in 2000, this information was first gathered in Bermuda in the General Household Survey in 1988. Child-care arrangements for Bermuda’s children have not changed significantly over the last decade, although there has been a minor shift away from the use of daycare centres, nurseries or preschools to smaller, more personal arrangements.



In 2000, fifty-four percent of children aged 0 to 5 years who were not attending primary school were cared for during working hours at nurseries, daycare centres or preschools. (See Table 1.) Of these children, more than a quarter were in Government facilities. Comparisons with the 1988 General Household Survey reveal that the proportion of children enrolled in these types of facilities had decreased by 7 percentage points from 61% in 1988. The proportion of children who were cared for in their own homes had risen from 23% to 26% by 2000. This was attributable to an increase in the incidence of parents themselves tending to their children. The option of having one’s child cared for in another private home was being selected 20% of the time, as compared to 16% in 1988.

TABLE 1
MAIN CHILD-CARE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHILDREN AGED 0-5 YEARS
NOT ATTENDING PRIMARY SCHOOL, 2000 AND 1988¹

Type of Child-care Arrangement	Number 2000	Percentage Distribution		Percentage-Point Difference 1988-2000
		2000	1988 ¹	
All Children	4,265	100	100	
Enrolled in Nursery, Daycare Center or Preschool	2,292	54	61	-7%
Cared for in own home	1,109	26	23	+3%
- by parent	878	21	17	+4%
- by other person	231	5	6	-1%
Cared for in another private home	864 ²	20	16	+4%

¹General Household Survey, 1988.

²Includes 30 persons for whom child-care arrangements were not stated.

Table 2 displays types of child-care arrangements by Bermudian status of the child. The most popular choice for care arrangements for young Bermudian children not in primary school was the private daycare centre or preschool. Parents of 41% of the children took advantage of that option. Another third of children were equally as likely to be cared for either in a home with fewer than five children or to be enrolled in a public daycare centre or preschool. Undoubtedly linked to the high labour force participation rates of Bermudian men and women alike, only 14% of small children not attending primary school were cared for at home by a parent.

In contrast, non-Bermudian children were three times more likely than Bermudian children to be cared for at home by a parent. This was at least partly attributable to the restrictions on working that apply to the foreign spouses of non-Bermudian contract workers. The other major form of arrangement was private day-care centres or preschools, which tended to 30% of this group of children.

TABLE 2
CHILD-CARE ARRANGEMENTS BY BERMUDIAN STATUS, 2000

Type of Child-care Arrangement	Bermudian Status			
	Total	Bermudian	Non-Bermudian	Not Stated
All Children	4,265	3,346	913	6
Enrolled in Nursery, Daycare Centre or Preschool	2,292	1,942	349	1
- public	653	581	72	0
- private	1,639	1,361	277	1
Cared for in own home	1,109	632	475	2
- by parent	878	459	417	2
- by child-care provider	231	173	58	0
Cared for in another home	834	748	86	0
- with no more than 4 children	636	570	66	0
- with 5 or more children	198	178	20	0
Not Stated	30	24	3	3
Percentage Distribution				
All Children	100	100	100	100
Enrolled in Nursery, Daycare Centre or Preschool	54	58	38	17
- public	15	17	8	0
- private	38	41	30	17
Cared for in own home	26	19	52	33
- by parent	21	14	46	33
- by child-care provider	5	5	6	0
Cared for in another home	20	22	9	0
- with no more than 4 children	15	17	7	0
- with 5 or more children	5	5	2	0
Not Stated	1	1	**	50

**Less than 1%

Dis-aggregating the results by race shows that 62% of black children aged 0 to 5 years who were not attending primary school were cared for during working hours at nurseries, daycare centres or preschools. This compared with 42% of their white counterparts. Twenty-two percent of black children were in Government facilities, while this was true for 6% of white children in this group. Only one in ten black children was looked after by a parent or guardian in the child's own home, as opposed to three in ten white children. The child-care arrangements for children of mixed racial groups and other races were similar to those of the white population.

TABLE 3
CHILD-CARE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHILDREN AGED 0-5 YEARS NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL BY RACE, 2000

Type of Child-care Arrangement	Race			
	Total	Black	White	Mixed and Other Races ¹
All Children	4,265	2,269	1,333	663
Enrolled in Nursery, Daycare Centre or Preschool	2,292	1,416	561	315
- public	653	495	77	81
- private	1,639	921	484	234
Cared for in own home	1,109	310	576	223
- by parent	878	224	470	184
- by child-care provider	231	86	106	39
Cared for in another home	834	525	190	119
- with no more than 4 children	636	376	160	100
- with 5 or more children	198	149	30	19
Not Stated	30	18	6	6
Percentage Distribution				
All Children	100	100	100	100
Enrolled in Nursery, Daycare Centre or Preschool	54	62	42	48
- public	15	22	6	12
- private	38	41	36	35
Cared for in own home	26	14	43	34
- by parent	21	10	35	28
- by child-care provider	5	4	8	6
Cared for in another home	20	23	14	18
- with no more than 4 children	15	17	12	15
- with 5 or more children	5	7	2	3
Not Stated	1	1	**	1

¹Includes 15 persons for whom race was not stated.

**Less than 1%



CHILDCARE

BERMUDA CENSUS 2000

