



Parents of New Jersey’s Youngest Children: Earnings, Employment, and Household Structure

Understanding the demographic and economic realities of parents of young children in New Jersey is the first step toward designing policies that meet families’ needs and strengthen the state’s workforce. Previous research has long highlighted the pressures faced by parents of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers, from the high cost of child care to the difficulty of balancing employment and caregiving responsibilities.

Thus, using data from the 2019–2023 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates, this brief examines the demographic and economic conditions of families with young children in New Jersey.¹ For clarity, the analysis distinguishes between families with children under the age of 5 and those with children ages 5 to 13, recognizing that their child care needs and parental labor force participation patterns often differ. Families with children under age 5 face the most intensive caregiving demands, while those with school-aged children typically have greater access to public schooling as a form of care. For this reason, the primary analysis focuses on families with children under age 5, while results for families with children ages 5–13 are provided in Appendix B for reference.

Earnings are defined as the sum of respondents’ reported wage and salary income and business or professional practice income. Wage and salary income includes pre-tax wages, salaries, commissions, cash bonuses, tips, and other monetary income received from an employer. It excludes non-cash or in-kind payments, reimbursements for business expenses, and self-employment income.

¹ These data were pulled from the IPUMS site, maintained at the University of Minnesota. Steven Ruggles, Sarah Flood, Matthew Sobek, Daniel Backman, Grace Cooper, Julia A. Rivera Drew, Stephanie Richards, Renae Rodgers, Jonathan Schroeder, and Kari C.W. Williams. IPUMS USA: Version 16.0 [dataset]. Minneapolis, MN: IPUMS, 2025. <https://doi.org/10.18128/Do10.V16.0>

Professional practice income represents net pre-tax income from non-farm businesses or professional practices, calculated as gross receipts minus business expenses. Together, these variables capture the total pre-tax monetary income respondents earned from employment or self-operated businesses in the previous calendar year. Non-cash benefits, such as consuming one’s own product or service, are not included. Household income is defined as the sum of the respondent’s reported earnings and, if applicable, their spouse’s earnings.

Given variation in labor force attachment, workers are classified as full-time year-round, full-time part-year, part-time year-round, or part-time part-year, based on usual hours worked per week and weeks worked per year. Those reporting 35 or more hours per week and 50 to 52 weeks per year are full-time year-round. Those working 35 or more hours per week but fewer than 50 weeks are full-time part-year. Individuals working fewer than 35 hours per week but 50 to 52 weeks are part-time year-round, while those working fewer than 35 hours per week and fewer than 50 weeks are part-time part-year. To reflect shifts in work arrangements, we also identify whether respondents reported working primarily at home or commuting to a location outside the home.

Finally, household structure is categorized as two-parent households, single-mother households, or single-father households. Household structure is determined from the child’s perspective using IPUMS parent pointer variables, which link each child to their mother and/or father when present in the same household. Households are classified as two-parent when both linked parents are present, single-mother when only a linked mother is present, and single-father when only a linked father is present. Two-parent households include both different-sex and same-sex parents, though same-sex households are not reported separately. In cases where no linked parent is present, children are classified as living in no-parent households. Because this method relies on parent pointers, some caregivers such as cohabiting partners, grandparents, or foster parents may not be captured as parents. Children living with no parents—such as those in foster or kinship care arrangements—are excluded from the core analysis given the distinct caregiving and labor supply dynamics in these families.

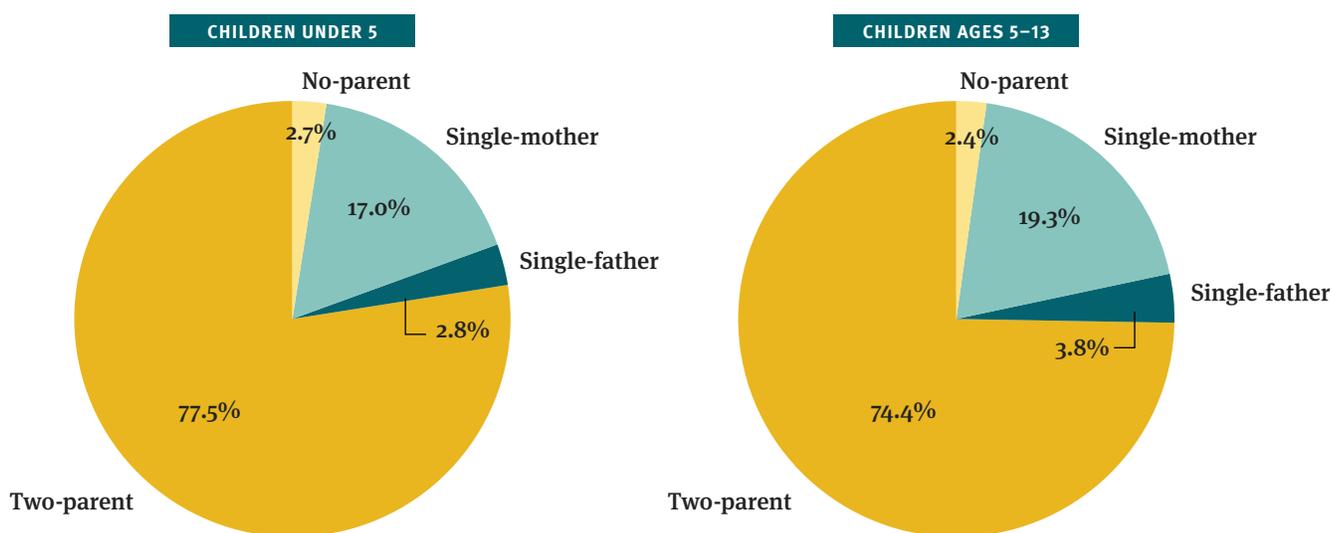
1. Characteristics of Parents with Young Children in New Jersey

In New Jersey, there are approximately 526,059 children under age 5. As shown in Table 1 and Figure 1, the majority—about 407,815 children (77.5 percent)—live in two-parent households. The remainder is split between 89,451 children (17.0 percent) living with a single mother, 14,623 (2.8 percent) living with a single father, and 14,170 children (2.7 percent) living in households without either parent present. By comparison, among the 1,018,012 children ages 5 to 13, the distribution is similar but shows slightly higher shares in single-parent households. About 74.4 percent live with two parents, 19.3 percent with a single mother, and 3.8 percent with a single father. Children in no-parent households account for 2.4 percent of this group.

TABLE 1. Household Structure of Children by Age Group in New Jersey

Household Structure	Children Under 5	Children Ages 5–13
Two-parent households	407,815	757,785
Single-father households	14,623	38,722
Single-mother households	89,451	196,762
No-parent households	14,170	24,743
Total	526,059	1,018,012

FIGURE 1. Household Structure of Children by Age Group in New Jersey



In terms of earnings for parents with children under age 5, median annual earnings for two-parent fathers reach about \$78,000, compared with \$34,300 for two-parent mothers. Single fathers earn a median of \$41,400, while single mothers earn just \$20,600—barely one-quarter of the median for two-parent fathers. For parents with children ages 5 to 13, two-parent fathers earn about \$82,259 overall, compared with \$32,600 for two-parent mothers. Single fathers earn a median of \$50,648, and single mothers \$29,497. In comparison, median annual earnings for all New Jersey adults in the labor force are about \$53,095, underscoring the wide gap between parents—especially single mothers—and the broader working population.

2. Disaggregated Analysis

Given the distinct caregiving and employment dynamics across household types, the remainder of the analysis focuses on families with children living with parents, as these households provide the clearest picture of parental labor force participation and earnings. Because children under age 5 face the most intensive child care needs and create the greatest constraints on parental employment, the primary analysis is restricted to this age group. Detailed breakdowns for families with children ages

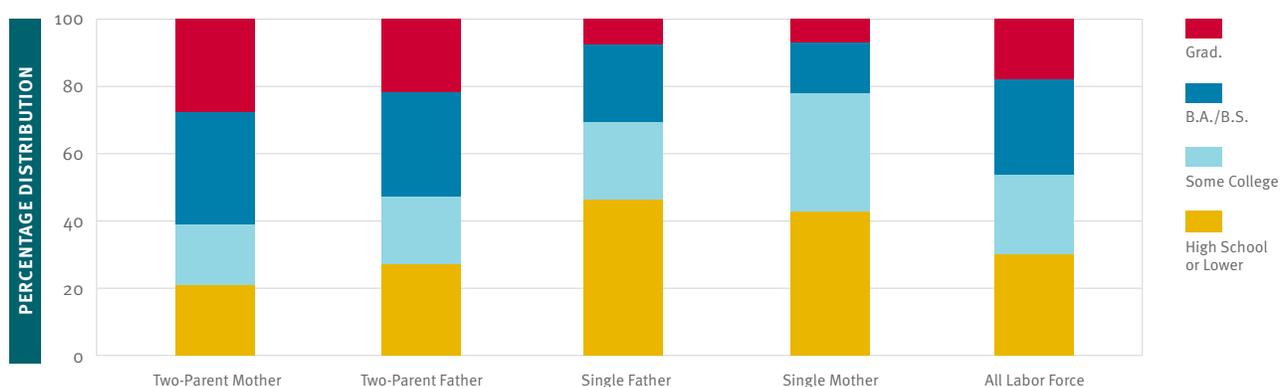
5–13 are provided in Appendix B for reference. To provide a benchmark, the report also compares key indicators for parents of young children with those of the broader New Jersey adult population. For a fair comparison, the reference group is limited to adults ages 18 to 64 who are in the labor force, which includes both employed and unemployed individuals.

2.1 Educational Attainment and Earnings of Parents

The educational attainment of New Jersey parents with children under age 5 varies sharply by household structure, shaping the economic security of these families. As shown in Figure 2, and compared with the statewide labor force benchmark of all adults ages 18–64, New Jersey parents of young children are slightly more educated. Among all workers, about 42 percent have no more than a high school diploma, compared with 21 percent of two-parent mothers and 27 percent of two-parent fathers. Even single mothers and single fathers—who have lower education levels than their two-parent counterparts—are only a few percentage points below the statewide share with a high school education or less. At the top of the education ladder, 18 percent of all workers hold a graduate or professional degree, versus 27 percent of two-parent mothers and 22 percent of two-parent fathers.

Among two-parent households, mothers and fathers are highly educated: about 34 percent of mothers and 31 percent of fathers hold a bachelor’s degree, and roughly 27 percent of mothers and 22 percent of fathers have a graduate or professional degree. Only one in five mothers (21 percent) and just over one-quarter of fathers (27 percent) have a high school diploma or less. By contrast, educational attainment is notably lower for single parents. Nearly 46 percent of single fathers and 42 percent of single mothers have no more than a high school education, and fewer than one in ten hold a graduate degree.

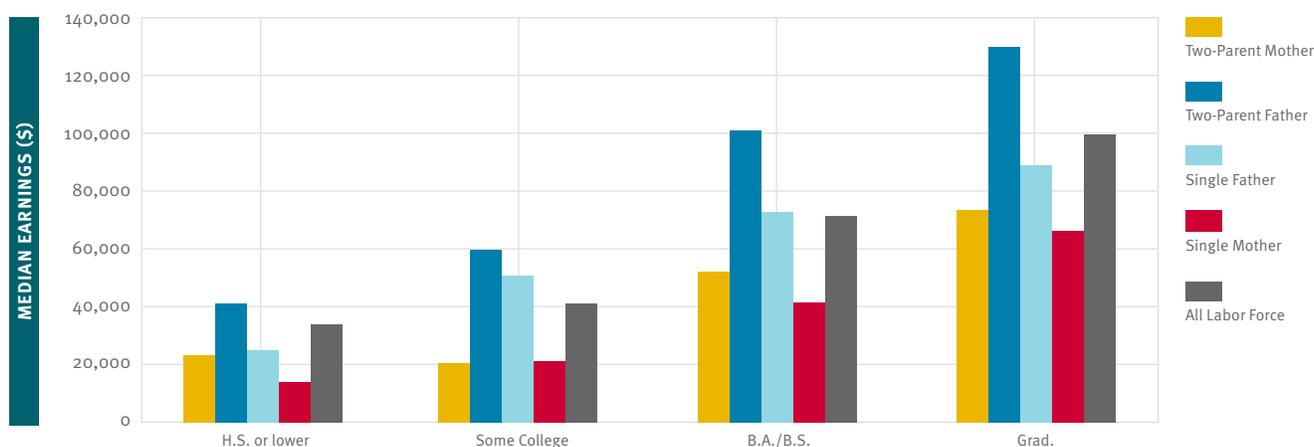
FIGURE 2. Educational Attainment Distribution by Parent Group (Children Under 5)



These gaps in education translate directly into differences in earnings. As shown in Figure 3, when examined by education level, earnings climb sharply with each additional credential, but disparities persist. Compared with the statewide labor force—whose median earnings are about \$53,100 overall

and roughly \$100,000 among graduate-degree holders—two-parent fathers consistently earn more at every education level, while single mothers earn less. Among parents with a graduate degree, two-parent fathers report median earnings of about \$130,000, compared with \$73,000 for two-parent mothers, \$88,000 for single fathers, and \$67,000 for single mothers. Even at the bachelor’s level, single mothers earn roughly 40 percent less than two-parent fathers: about \$41,650 compared with \$73,153 for single fathers and \$101,295 for two-parent fathers. The pattern holds across every level of schooling. Among parents with some college, two-parent fathers earn a median of \$60,000, nearly three times the \$21,238 earned by single mothers. At the high-school-or-less level, two-parent fathers still bring in \$41,296, while single mothers make just \$13,569—less than one-third as much.

FIGURE 3. Median Earnings by Education and Parent Group (Children Under 5)

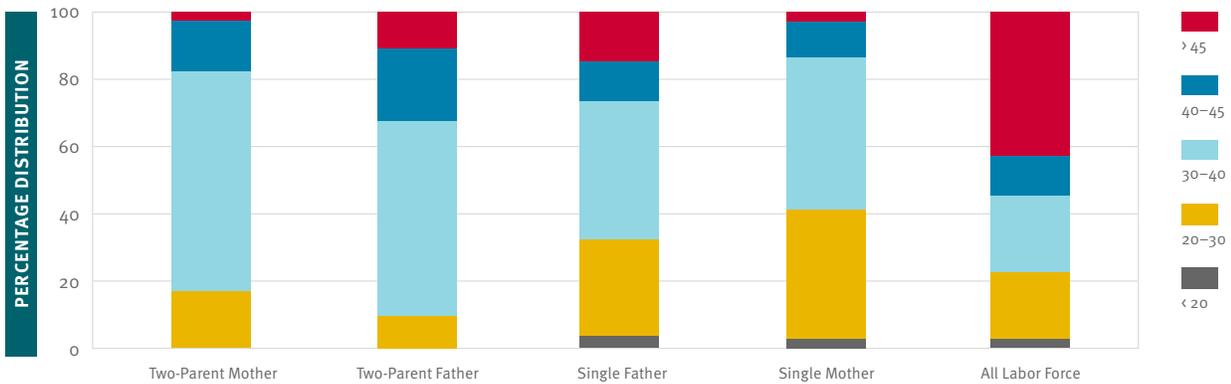


2.2 Age Distribution and Earnings of Parents

In terms of age distribution for parents with children under age 5, Figure 4 shows that two-parent mothers and fathers are concentrated in their thirties: about 66 percent of mothers and 58 percent of fathers are between 30 and 40. Another 15 percent of mothers and 21 percent of fathers are ages 40 to 45, while only a small share—less than 1 percent—are under 20. Fathers are more often over 45 than mothers, reflecting a broader age range among men in two-parent households.

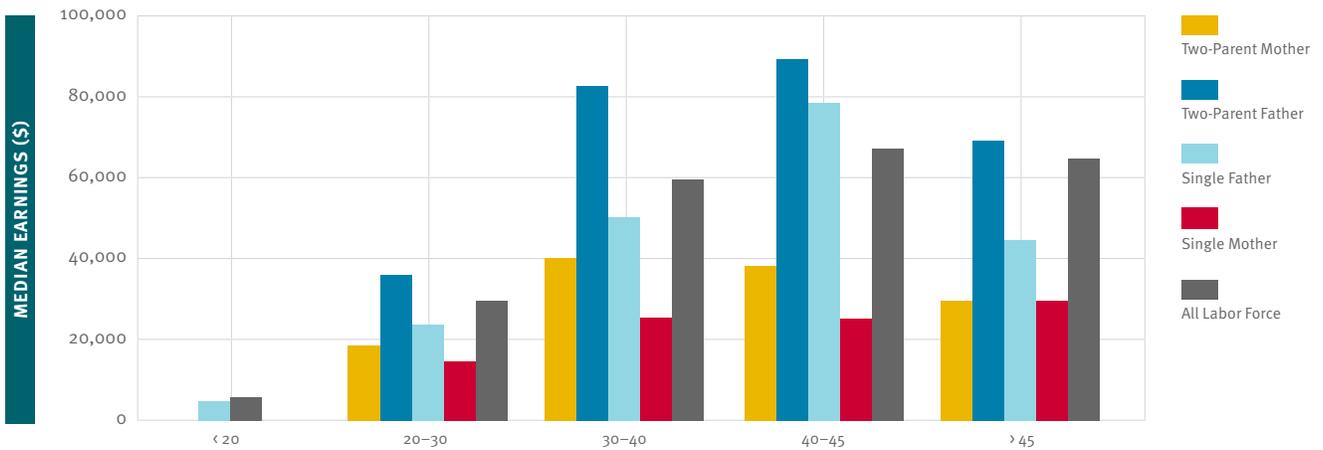
Single parents are younger on average. Nearly 29 percent of single fathers and 38 percent of single mothers are between 20 and 30, compared with 16 percent of two-parent mothers and 9 percent of two-parent fathers. Still, more than 40 percent of single fathers and 46 percent of single mothers are in their thirties, and a notable share of single fathers—15 percent—are over 45. Compared with the statewide labor force, which is far older on average—only about 2 percent are under 20, 20 percent are 20–30, and more than 43 percent are over 45—parents of young children are concentrated in their thirties.

FIGURE 4. Age Distribution by Parent Group (Children Under 5)



In terms of earnings, Figure 5 shows that earnings rise with age but vary sharply by household type. Median annual earnings for two-parent fathers peak at about \$90,000 for those ages 40 to 45 and remain high—around \$70,000—for those over 45. Two-parent mothers earn far less, with a median of about \$40,200 in their thirties and slightly less (\$38,300) at ages 40 to 45. Single fathers earn a median of roughly \$51,000 in their thirties and close to \$79,000 in their early forties, while single mothers earn considerably less at every age, reaching only about \$26,000 in their thirties and about \$30,000 for those over 45. Compared with the statewide labor force—whose median earnings are roughly \$60,000 for workers in their thirties, \$67,530 for those 40–45, and \$65,000 for those over 45—two-parent fathers consistently out-earn the broader workforce, while single mothers fall well below it.

FIGURE 5. Median Earnings by Age Group and Parent Group (Children Under 5)



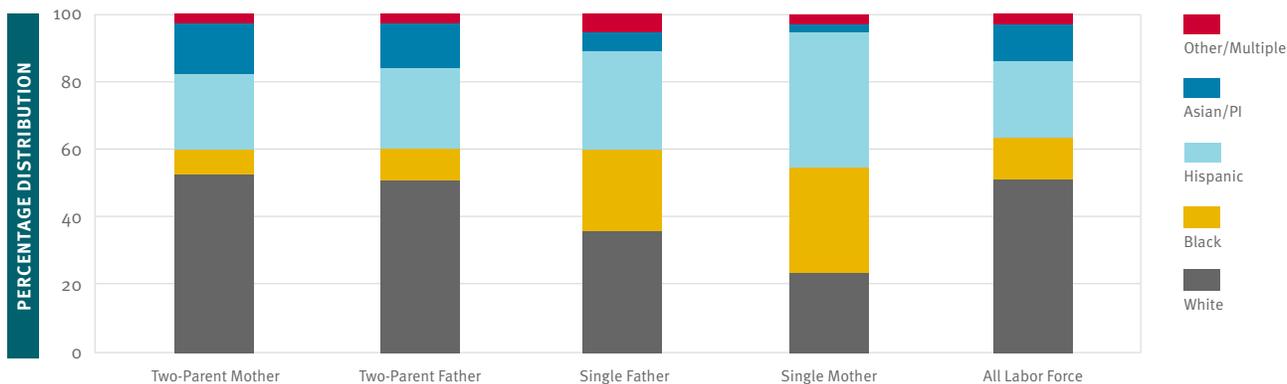
2.3 Racial/Ethnic Distribution and Earnings of Parents

Just as New Jersey is diverse in its overall racial and ethnic makeup, the parents of young children reflect that diversity as well. Figure 6 shows that more than half of two-parent mothers (52 percent) and fathers (51 percent) identify as White, non-Hispanic. Hispanic parents make up the next largest share—about 23 percent of two-parent mothers and 24 percent of fathers—followed by Asian or Pacific Islander parents (14 percent of mothers and 13 percent of fathers). Black parents represent a

smaller share of two-parent households, about 7 to 9 percent, while parents identifying as other or multiple races account for roughly 3 percent.

By contrast, the overall diversity of the state is even more pronounced among single-parent households, which have a distinctly different racial and ethnic profile. Only 36 percent of single fathers and 23 percent of single mothers are White, non-Hispanic. Hispanic parents comprise 28 percent of single fathers and nearly 40 percent of single mothers. Black parents are also more represented: 24 percent of single fathers and 31 percent of single mothers identify as Black. Asian or Pacific Islander parents make up a small fraction of single-parent households, just 6 percent of single fathers and 2 percent of single mothers. Compared with the statewide labor force—where about 51 percent are White, 22 percent Hispanic, 12 percent Black, and 11 percent Asian—single-parent households raising young children are markedly more Hispanic and Black and less White or Asian.

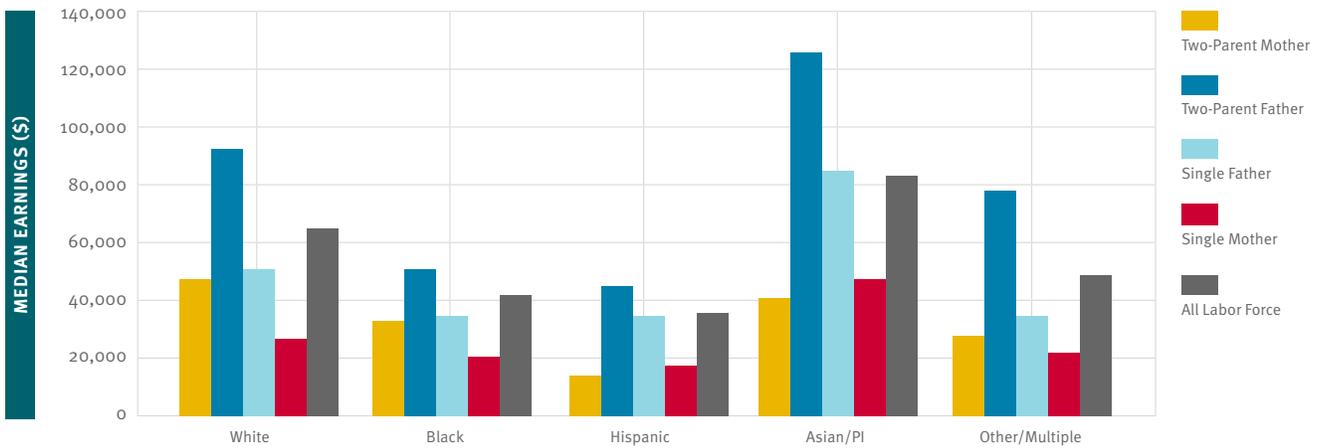
FIGURE 6. Racial/Ethnic Distribution by Parent Group (Children Under 5)



Earnings mirror these racial and ethnic differences. Figure 7 shows that two-parent fathers earn the highest median incomes across all racial and ethnic groups, but the size of the gap varies. Among Asian or Pacific Islander fathers, median annual earnings reach about \$124,000, compared with \$91,000 for White fathers, \$50,735 for Black fathers, and \$45,020 for Hispanic fathers. Two-parent mothers earn less across every group: about \$47,195 for White mothers, \$33,037 for Black mothers, \$14,159 for Hispanic mothers, and \$40,518 for Asian or Pacific Islander mothers.

Single parents experience even wider disparities. Single fathers earn a median of about \$84,000 if Asian or Pacific Islander, \$51,000 if White, \$35,000 if Hispanic, and \$34,000 if Black. Single mothers earn the least in every category, with medians ranging from about \$47,000 for Asian or Pacific Islander mothers to only \$18,000 for Hispanic mothers. Compared with the statewide labor force—whose overall median earnings are about \$64,600 for White workers, \$41,600 for Black workers, \$35,500 for Hispanic workers, and \$82,200 for Asian or Pacific Islander workers—parents of young children show similar racial gaps but lower earnings overall, especially among single mothers.

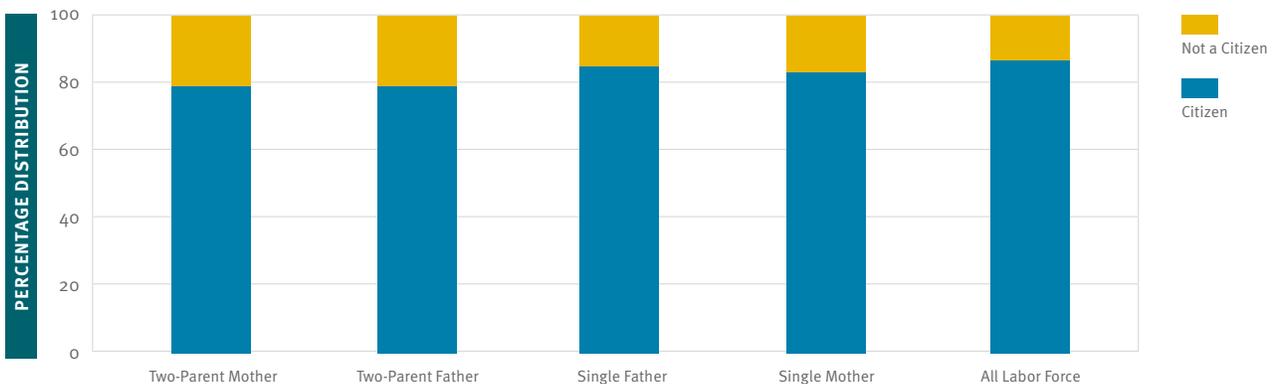
FIGURE 7. Median Earnings by Race/Ethnicity and Parent Group (Children Under 5)



2.4 Nativity Distribution and Earnings of Parents

While most New Jersey parents of young children are U.S. citizens, there are notable variations in citizenship status by household structure. As shown in Figure 8, about four in five two-parent mothers (79 percent) and fathers (79 percent) are citizens, with the remaining fifth foreign-born and not citizens. Among single-parent households, the citizen share is slightly higher: 85 percent of single fathers and 83 percent of single mothers are U.S. citizens. These nativity patterns closely match those of the statewide labor force, where about 87 percent of all workers are citizens and 13 percent are not, showing that parents of young children have a marginally lower share of citizens than New Jersey workers overall.

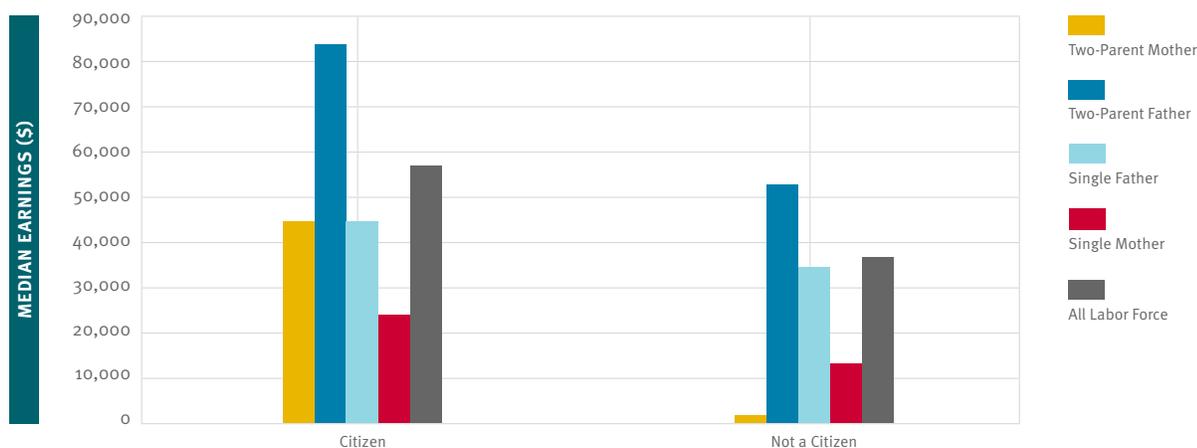
FIGURE 8. Nativity Distribution by Parent Group (Children Under 5)



These differences in immigration status are associated with notable economic disparities. As shown in Figure 9, citizen parents consistently earn more than their non-citizen counterparts, though the size of the gap varies by household type. Median annual earnings for citizen two-parent fathers reach about \$83,300, compared with roughly \$52,000 for those who are not citizens. Citizen two-

parent mothers earn about \$43,700, while non-citizen two-parent mothers report median earnings of just over \$1,180. This extremely low median likely reflects very limited labor force participation and intermittent or part-year work among non-citizen two-parent mothers of young children, rather than differences in hourly wages alone. Single fathers who are citizens earn a median of about \$44,200 compared with \$34,335 for non-citizens. Single mothers earn the least overall—about \$23,126 if citizens and \$14,000 if not citizens. Similar to the racial and ethnic patterns described earlier, the statewide benchmark shows a smaller but still clear citizenship premium: median earnings for citizen workers overall are about \$56,275, compared with \$36,000 for non-citizens.

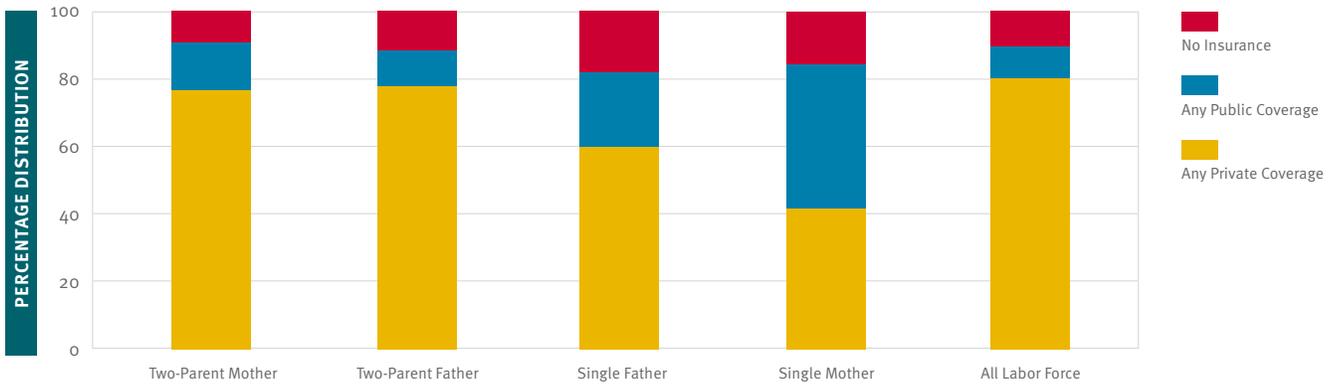
FIGURE 9. Median Earnings by Nativity and Parent Group (Children Under 5)



2.5 Health Insurance Coverage Distribution and Earnings of Parents

While most parents, regardless of household type, have some form of private health coverage, there are sizable differences in access and source of insurance. As shown in Figure 10, private coverage is most common in two-parent households: about 77 percent of two-parent mothers and 78 percent of two-parent fathers report having private coverage. Coverage is more fragile for single parents, with about 60 percent of single fathers and only 42 percent of single mothers carrying private insurance. Reliance on public coverage is much higher for single mothers at roughly 43 percent. Uninsured rates are lowest for two-parent mothers (about 9 percent) and highest for single fathers (about 18 percent), with two-parent fathers at about 12 percent and single mothers at about 15 percent. Compared with the statewide labor force—where about 81 percent have private coverage, 9 percent rely on public programs, and 10 percent are uninsured—parents of young children have a lower share with private insurance and a higher share using public coverage, especially single mothers.

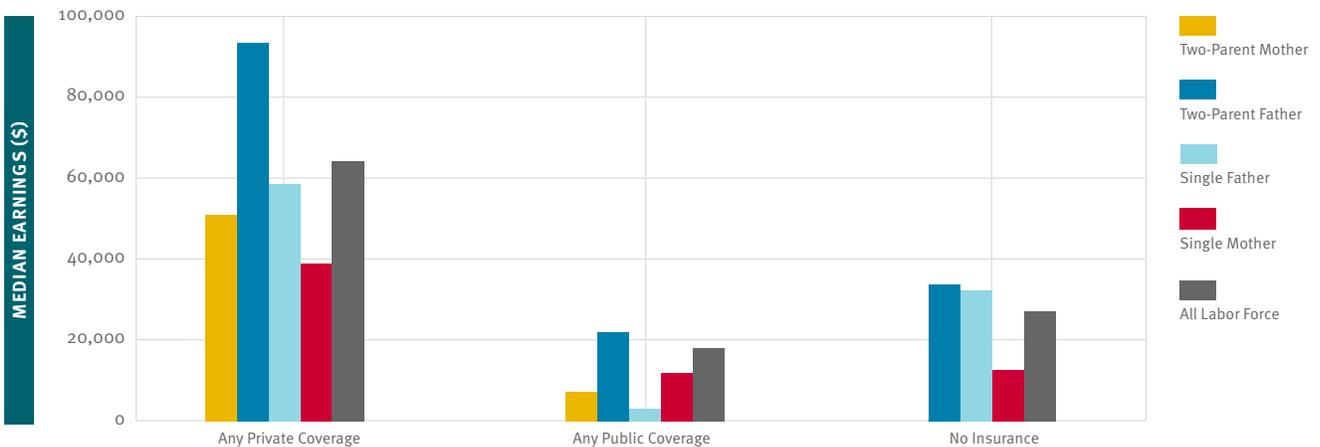
FIGURE 10. Health Insurance Coverage by Parent Group (Children Under 5)



Such differences in type of health insurance across households are also reflected in their earnings. As shown in Figure 11, parents with private coverage have the highest median earnings: about \$94,391 for two-parent fathers, \$58,994 for single fathers, \$50,648 for two-parent mothers, and \$39,000 for single mothers. Parents with public coverage have much lower medians—roughly \$22,510 for two-parent fathers, \$7,879 for two-parent mothers, \$3,540 for single fathers, and \$11,255 for single mothers—reflecting part-time work and lower earnings. Uninsured parents have the lowest and most volatile earnings, including a median of \$0 for two-parent mothers and only modest amounts for others: about \$34,000 for two-parent fathers, \$33,037 for single fathers, and \$13,506 for single mothers.

These results point to a clear gradient: stronger attachment to private insurance aligns with higher earnings, while single mothers and single fathers remain more reliant on public coverage or face periods without insurance, underscoring their greater economic vulnerability. A similar gradient appears in the statewide labor force, where workers with private coverage have a median income of about \$64,000, those with public coverage about \$18,200, and the uninsured about \$28,000.

FIGURE 11. Median Earnings by Health Insurance Coverage and Parent Group (Children Under 5)



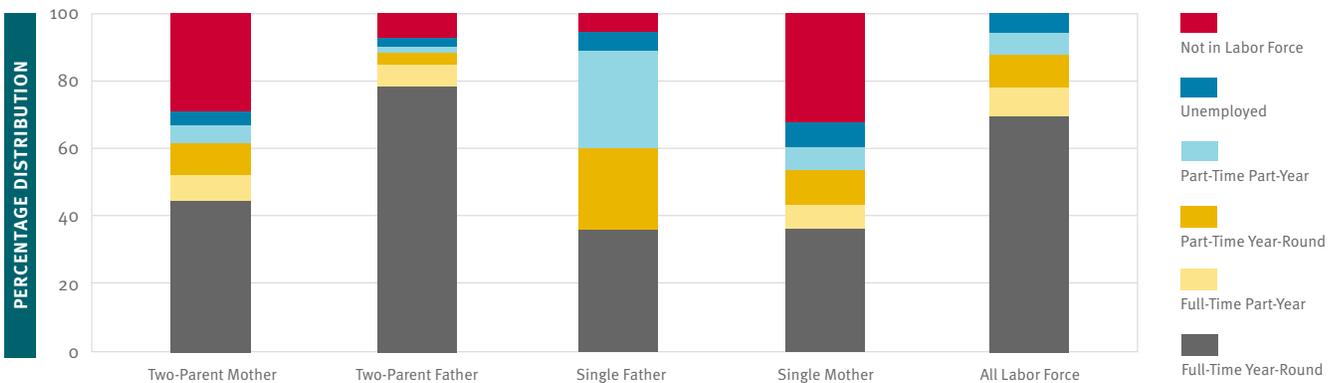
2.6 Employment Patterns and Median Earnings of Parents

Looking directly at employment patterns by household structure shows clear differences in labor-force attachment. As Figure 12 illustrates, two-parent mothers most often work part-time or remain out of the labor force. About 6 percent work full-time part-year, 11 percent part-time year-round, 6 percent part-time part-year, and 28 percent are not in the labor force. Only 45 percent hold full-time year-round jobs.

Two-parent fathers cluster in full-time employment: nearly 78 percent work full-time year-round and another 7 percent full-time part-year, with only 8 percent out of the labor force. Single fathers have the highest share in full-time year-round jobs—about 63 percent—plus 16 percent full-time part-year. Single mothers split between part-time work and nonparticipation: about 39 percent work full-time year-round, 5 percent full-time part-year, 11 percent part-time year-round, 8 percent part-time part-year, 7 percent are unemployed, and 35 percent are not in the labor force.

Compared with the statewide labor-force benchmark—where roughly 69 percent of all workers are full-time year-round, 8 percent full-time part-year, 10 percent part-time year-round, and only 6 percent unemployed—parents of young children, especially two-parent mothers and single mothers, have a smaller share in steady full-time jobs and a larger share completely outside the labor force.

FIGURE 12. Employment Patterns by Parent Group (Children Under 5)

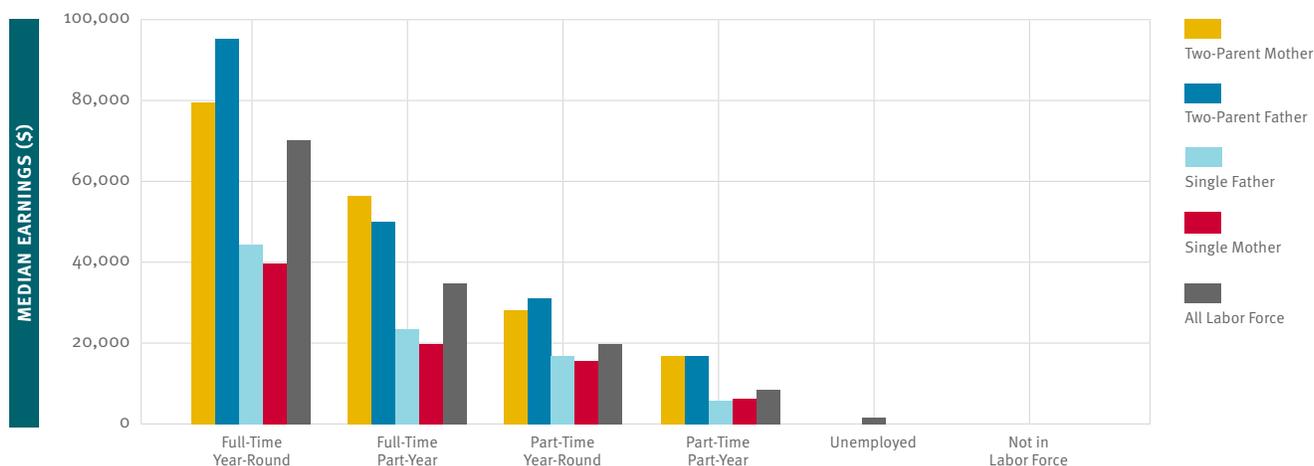


Note: Percentages for “Full-Time Year-Round” employment may be understated. The category is defined as working at least 35 hours per week for 50–52 weeks in the year, which excludes parents who work full-time hours but take seasonal breaks, unpaid leave, or have gaps in employment.

As expected, earnings reflect these employment patterns. Figure 13 shows that median earnings for fathers substantially exceed those for mothers in every work category. Full-time year-round workers include two-parent fathers earning about \$100,290 and single fathers about \$45,020, compared with two-parent mothers at about \$80,000 and single mothers at about \$43,733. For full-time part-year work, medians are \$52,000 for two-parent mothers, \$50,000 for two-parent fathers, \$21,282 for single fathers, and \$20,127 for single mothers. Among part-time year-round workers, two-parent mothers earn \$25,000, two-parent fathers \$35,000, single fathers \$14,159, and single mothers \$16,000. Part-time part-year employment yields still lower earnings—\$13,000 for two-parent mothers, \$14,912 for two-parent fathers,

\$4,165 for single fathers, and \$5,620 for single mothers. Unemployed parents or those not in the labor force report essentially \$0 by definition. Compared with the statewide benchmark—where full-time year-round workers have a median of about \$70,000, full-time part-year workers \$35,300, and part-time year-round workers \$20,000—two-parent fathers surpass the statewide median at every level, while single mothers consistently fall below it. Across all categories, unemployment corresponds to negligible earnings, and parents who are not in the labor force report zero annual earnings by definition.

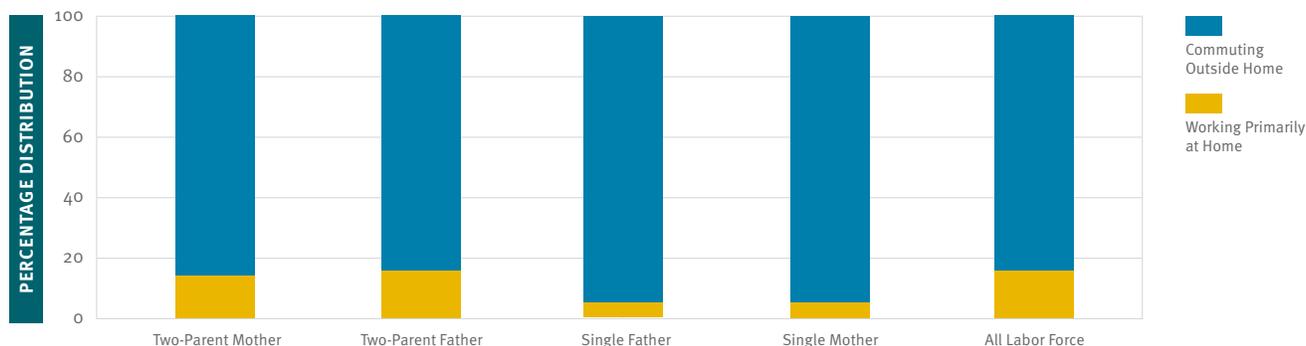
FIGURE 13. Median Earnings by Employment Type and Parent Group (Children Under 5)



2.7 Work Location Distribution and Earnings of Parents

Where parents of young children work also varies by household structure and relates closely to earnings. As shown in Figure 14, only a small share of parents with children under 5 report working primarily from home. About 14 percent of two-parent mothers and 15 percent of two-parent fathers work mainly at home. The share drops to roughly 5 percent for both single fathers and single mothers, highlighting that flexible or remote work is far less common among single parents. The vast majority commute to a location outside the home—around 86 percent of two-parent mothers and fathers and more than 94 percent of single parents—a pattern that closely mirrors the statewide labor force, where about 14 percent of all workers work primarily from home and 86 percent commute.

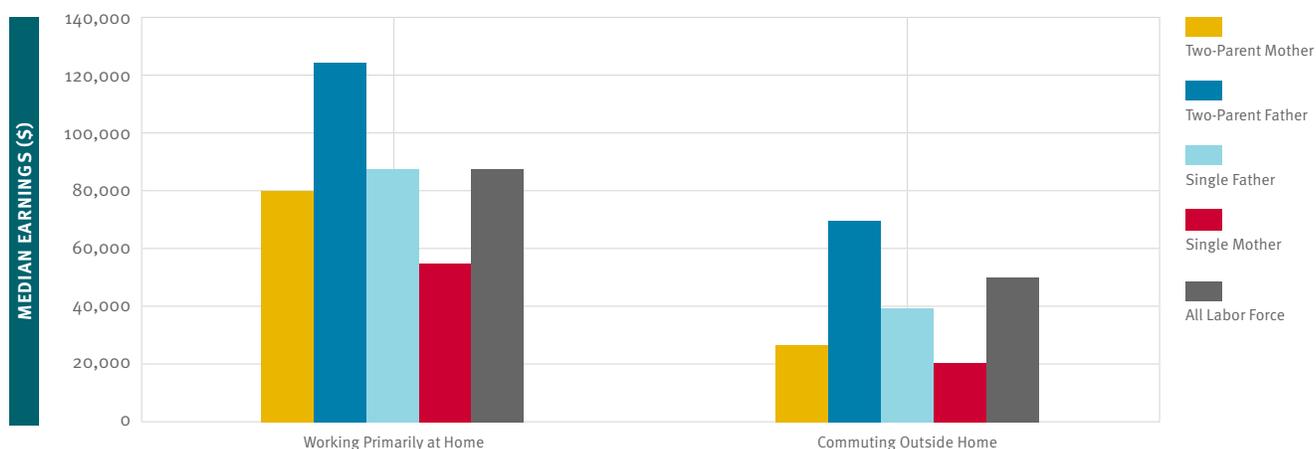
FIGURE 14. Work Location by Parent Group (Children Under 5)



Earnings reflect these work patterns (Figure 15). Parents who work primarily at home report substantially higher median incomes across all household types. Two-parent fathers who work from home earn a median of about \$125,000, compared with \$70,000 for those who commute. Two-parent mothers working from home earn around \$81,036, well above the \$27,072 median for those commuting. Single fathers working from home have a median of \$89,000, compared with \$39,393 for commuters. Single mothers working primarily at home earn a median of \$55,000, more than double the \$20,000 reported by those commuting.

Taken together, these findings indicate that working primarily at home is associated with markedly higher earnings. At the same time, the prevalence of home-based work varies across household types, with single parents less likely to report working primarily from home. Compared with the statewide benchmark—where median earnings are about \$88,000 for workers based at home and \$49,555 for those who commute—two-parent mothers and fathers who work from home meet or exceed statewide levels, while commuting single mothers and fathers lag behind.

FIGURE 15. Median Earnings by Work Location and Parent Group (Children Under 5)



2.8 Location and Earnings of Parents

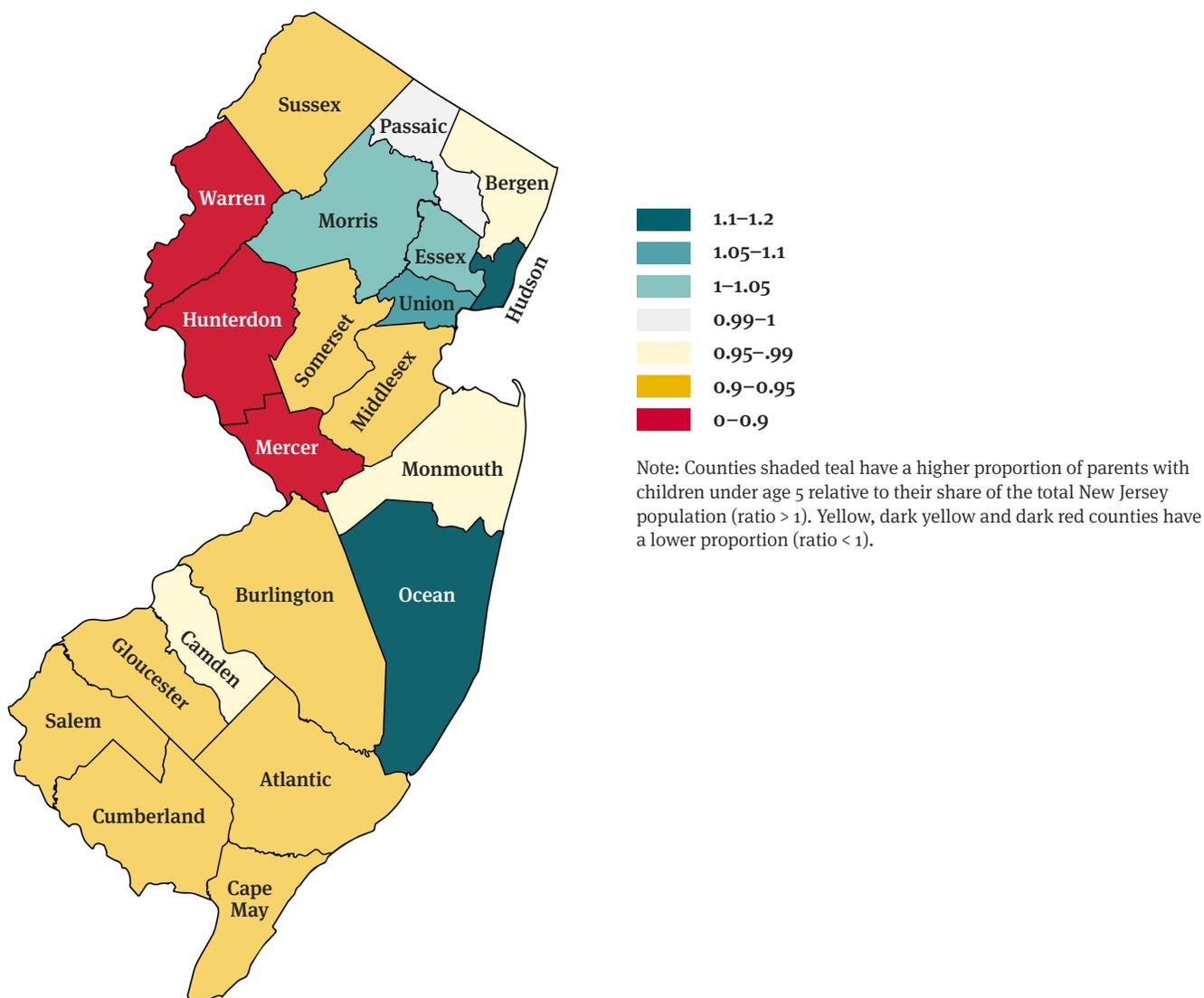
Lastly, the economic profile of parents with young children varies widely across New Jersey’s counties, reflecting both the concentration of parents and local labor-market conditions. Figure 16 shows the ratio of each county’s share of all parents with children under age 5 to that county’s share of the total state population. Values above 1 indicate a higher concentration of parents with young children relative to the state as a whole, while values below 1 indicate a lower concentration.

Counties such as Bergen, Middlesex, Essex, and Hudson account for a large share of all parents with children under 5, reflecting their overall population size and urban density. Bergen alone is home to more than 68,000 parents of young children—just over 10 percent of the statewide total. Middlesex, Essex, and Hudson each account for roughly 9 percent. By contrast, rural counties such as Sussex, Warren, and Hunterdon represent a far smaller share of the state’s young-child parent population—

each well under 2 percent—despite slightly higher-than-average concentrations of parents relative to their overall populations. Ocean County stands out with a higher share of parents with young children (8.2 percent of the statewide total) than its share of the state population (7.1 percent), indicating a relatively high concentration of families with young children.

Earnings also differ sharply across counties. Median annual earnings for parents of children under 5 range from about \$78,800 in Somerset and \$78,100 in Hunterdon to roughly \$35,400 in Ocean and \$36,400 in Passaic. Affluent suburban counties such as Morris, Bergen, and Monmouth report median earnings of \$70,000 or more, while many southern counties—including Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, and Salem—fall below \$40,000.

FIGURE 16. Young Child Parent Concentration by County



Conclusion

Parents of young children in New Jersey experience markedly different economic conditions shaped by household structure, education, race and ethnicity, immigration status, and access to stable work and health coverage. Across nearly every category, two-parent fathers earn the highest earnings, while single mothers face the lowest earnings and rely most heavily on public insurance. Higher education and age increase earnings, yet gender and household gaps persist even at the top of the educational scale. Immigration status deepens these divides, with non-citizen mothers showing the lowest labor force participation and earnings. Employment patterns add another layer of inequality: single fathers are the most likely to work full-time year-round, whereas many two-parent mothers work part-time or step out of the labor force altogether. Access to private health insurance and the ability to work from home are also closely tied to higher incomes, but single parents—especially single mothers—are least likely to benefit from these opportunities. Based on these realities, New Jersey needs policies that give parents of young children stronger and more equitable support. Priorities include expanding affordable, reliable child care; promoting workplace flexibility and access to remote work; creating clear pathways to stable full-time employment with family-sustaining wages; and ensuring comprehensive health coverage for all families.

SUGGESTED CITATION

Beltran Figueroa, L. & Logue-Conroy, R. Parents of New Jersey’s Youngest Children: Earnings, Employment, and Household Structure. 2025. Center for Women and Work. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University.

The Rutgers’ Center for Women and Work (CWW) engages in research, education and programming that promotes economic and social equity for women workers, their families, and communities. CWW’s work focuses on addressing women’s advancement in the workplace; providing technical assistance and designing programming for educators, industry, and government; and engaging in issues that directly affect the living standards of working families in New Jersey and around the world. This fact sheet was made possible through the generous support of the Burke Foundation.

Appendix A.

TABLE 1A. Household Structure of Children by Age Group in New Jersey

Household Structure	Children Under 5	Percent Under 5	Children Ages 5–13	Percent Ages 5–13
Two-parent households	40,7815	77.52	75,7785	74.44
Single-father households	14,623	2.78	38,722	3.80
Single-mother households	89,451	17.00	19,6762	19.33
No-parent households	14,170	2.69	24,743	2.43
Total	526,059	100.00	1,018,012	100.00

TABLE 2A. Educational Attainment Distribution and Earnings by Household Structure, Parents of Children Under 5 in New Jersey

	Estimated Percentage Distribution					Median Earnings				
	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force
	Mother	Father				Mother	Father			
H.S. or lower	20.96	27.05	45.98	42.43	29.48	4,840	41,296	24,900	13,569	33,765
Some College	17.92	20.36	23.92	35.12	24.06	20,825	60,000	50,648	21,238	41,296
B.A./B.S	33.90	30.81	22.37	15.28	28.84	52,063	101,295	73,153	41,650	72,000
Grad.	27.23	21.77	7.73	7.18	17.62	73,158	130,156	88,491	67,000	100,000
Total	284,883	304,025	10,932	64,496	4,537,063	34,300	78,094	41,400	20,617	53,095

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding, nonresponse, and the presence of a small number of same-sex two-parent households in the ACS sample. These households are included in overall two-parent totals but are not reported separately, so their labor supply characteristics are not reflected in the mother/father breakdowns.

TABLE 3A. Age Distribution and Median Earnings by Household Structure, Parents of Children Under 5 in New Jersey

	Estimated Percentage Distribution					Median Earnings				
	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force
	Mother	Father				Mother	Father			
Under 20	0.09	0.03	2.77	2.57	2.25	NA	NA	4,500	NA	5,500
20–30	16.44	9.39	29.31	37.90	19.95	18,743	36,400	23,598	15,000	30,100
30–40	65.99	58.20	41.48	45.92	23.18	40,200	83,300	50,648	25,900	60,000
40–45	14.74	21.28	11.49	10.44	11.41	38,300	90,000	78,785	25,100	67,530
Over 45	2.74	11.10	14.95	3.17	43.21	30,000	69,613	45,020	30,000	65,000
Total	284,883	304,025	10,932	64,496	4,537,063	34,300	78,094	41,400	20,617	53,095

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding, nonresponse, and the presence of a small number of same-sex two-parent households in the ACS sample. These households are included in overall two-parent totals but are not reported separately, so their labor supply characteristics are not reflected in the mother/father breakdowns.

TABLE 4A. Racial/Ethnic Distribution and Median Earnings by Household Structure, Parents of Children Under 5 in New Jersey

	Estimated Percentage Distribution					Median Earnings				
	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force
	Mother	Father				Mother	Father			
White, non-Hispanic	52.42	50.96	35.97	23.41	51.08	47,195	91,000	50,648	27,000	64,558
Black, non-Hispanic	7.47	9.08	24.14	31.17	12.44	33,037	50,735	34,335	20,000	41,644
Hispanic	22.60	23.98	28.46	39.87	22.43	14,159	45,020	35,000	18,000	35,500
Asian or Pacific Islander	14.22	12.96	5.84	2.21	10.60	40,518	123,888	84,413	47,195	82,218
Other/Multiple Races	3.30	3.02	5.60	3.35	3.46	28,300	78,000	35,000	22,000	48,300
Total	284,883	304,025	10,932	64,496	4,537,063	34,300	78,094	41,400	20,617	53,095

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding, nonresponse, and the presence of a small number of same-sex two-parent households in the ACS sample. These households are included in overall two-parent totals but are not reported separately, so their labor supply characteristics are not reflected in the mother/father breakdowns.

TABLE 5A. Nativity Distribution and Median Earnings by Household Structure, Parents of Children Under 5 in New Jersey

	Estimated Percentage Distribution					Median Earnings				
	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force
	Mother	Father				Mother	Father			
Citizen	79.01	78.58	84.64	82.88	86.73	43,733	83,300	44,200	23,126	56,275
Not a Citizen	20.99	21.42	15.36	17.12	13.27	1,180	52,000	34,335	14,000	36,000
Total	284,883	304,025	10,932	64,496	4,537,063	34,300	78,094	41,400	20,617	53,095

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding, nonresponse, and the presence of a small number of same-sex two-parent households in the ACS sample. These households are included in overall two-parent totals but are not reported separately, so their labor supply characteristics are not reflected in the mother/father breakdowns.

TABLE 6A. Health Insurance Coverage Patterns and Median Earnings by Household Structure, Parents of Children Under 5 in New Jersey

	Estimated Percentage Distribution					Median Earnings				
	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force
	Mother	Father				Mother	Father			
Any private coverage	76.77	78.23	59.82	41.87	80.88	50,648	94,391	58,994	39,000	64,000
Any Public Coverage	13.82	9.98	22.43	42.70	9.05	7,879	22,510	3,540	11,255	18,200
No insurance	9.41	11.79	17.76	15.43	10.06	0	34,000	33,037	13,506	28,000
Total	284,883	304,025	10,932	64,496	4,537,063	34,300	78,094	41,400	20,617	53,095

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding, nonresponse, and the presence of a small number of same-sex two-parent households in the ACS sample. These households are included in overall two-parent totals but are not reported separately, so their labor supply characteristics are not reflected in the mother/father breakdowns.

TABLE 7A. Employment Patterns and Median Earnings by Household Structure, Parents of Children Under 5 in New Jersey

	Estimated Percentage Distribution					Median Earnings				
	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force
	Mother	Father				Mother	Father			
Full-Time Year-Round	44.18	77.96	50.96	35.76	69.39	80,000	95,668	45,000	40,482	70,000
Full-Time Part-Year	7.48	6.78	7.94	7.12	8.40	56,275	50,000	22,811	19,769	35,300
Part-Time Year-Round	9.54	3.57	6.31	10.51	9.90	28,317	31,048	16,944	16,000	20,000
Part-Time Part-Year	5.75	1.70	3.88	6.05	6.32	17,000	16,711	5,899	6,220	8,400
Unemployed	3.33	2.38	7.67	8.04	6.02	0	0	0	0	1,770
Not in the Labor Force	29.70	7.61	22.23	32.51	N.A.	0	0	0	0	N.A.
Total	284,883	304,025	10,932	64,496	4,537,063	34,300	78,094	41,400	20,617	53,095

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding, nonresponse, and the presence of a small number of same-sex two-parent households in the ACS sample. These households are included in overall two-parent totals but are not reported separately, so their labor supply characteristics are not reflected in the mother/father breakdowns.

TABLE 8A. Work Location Distribution and Earnings by Household Structure, Parents of Children Under 5 in New Jersey

	Estimated Percentage Distribution					Median Earnings				
	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force
	Mother	Father				Mother	Father			
Working primarily at home	14.48	15.02	5.46	5.35	13.97	81,036	125,000	89,000	55,000	88,000
Commuting to a location outside the home	85.52	84.98	94.54	94.65	86.03	27,072	70,000	39,393	20,000	49,555
Total	284,883	304,025	10,932	64,496	4,537,063	34,300	78,094	41,400	20,617	53,095

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding, nonresponse, and the presence of a small number of same-sex two-parent households in the ACS sample. These households are included in overall two-parent totals but are not reported separately, so their labor supply characteristics are not reflected in the mother/father breakdowns.

TABLE 9A. Location and Earnings of Parents with Children Under Age 5 in New Jersey

County	Estimated Number of Parents	County Share of Parents with Children Under 5 (%)	County Share of NJ Population (%)	Median Earnings of All Available Parents (\$)	Median Earnings of All Available Adults in LF (\$)
Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, Salem	37,846	5.70	6.29	37,485	40,000
Bergen	68,048	10.24	10.33	71,973	62,000
Burlington	32,111	4.83	5.08	57,000	56,275
Camden	36,970	5.56	5.69	45,583	46,856
Essex	61,089	9.20	9.13	41,650	41,650
Gloucester	20,828	3.14	3.33	57,000	54,812
Hudson	58,674	8.83	7.61	48,000	55,000
Hunterdon	7,912	1.19	1.40	78,094	70,000
Mercer	24,136	3.63	4.10	50,000	50,000
Middlesex	58,717	8.84	9.29	51,797	54,275
Monmouth	43,747	6.59	6.84	70,805	62,000
Morris	38,937	5.86	5.57	76,692	68,000
Ocean	54,413	8.19	7.13	35,397	49,400
Passaic	36,510	5.50	5.49	36,444	41,296
Somerset	23,603	3.55	3.77	78,785	67,530
Sussex	9,821	1.48	1.57	62,475	60,000
Union	43,830	6.60	6.17	47,271	48,939
Warren	7,144	1.08	1.20	56,275	51,000
Total	664,336	100	100	52,000	52,063

Note: Percentage earnings difference is calculated as ((County Median Earnings – Statewide Median Earnings) ÷ Statewide Median Earnings) × 100. The statewide median used here is \$31,038, based on full-time, year-round workers in the full workforce.

Appendix B

TABLE 1B. Educational Attainment Distribution and Earnings by Household Structure, Parents of Children Age 5–13 in New Jersey

	Estimated Percentage Distribution					Median Earnings				
	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force
	Mother	Father				Mother	Father			
H.S. or lower	24.13	30.74	37.70	39.28	29.48	10,933	43,200	32,000	18,743	33,765
Some College	19.67	20.09	27.84	31.95	24.06	27,019	65,000	50,648	29,497	41,296
B.A./B.S	31.42	27.65	23.11	18.23	28.84	50,000	112,550	90,040	56,000	72,000
Grad.	24.78	21.52	11.36	10.55	17.62	79,000	150,000	115,629	76,692	100,000
Total	497,707	511,575	29,887	138,333	4,537,063	32,600	82,259	50,648	29,497	53,095

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding, nonresponse, and the presence of a small number of same-sex two-parent households in the ACS sample. These households are included in overall two-parent totals but are not reported separately, so their labor supply characteristics are not reflected in the mother/father breakdowns.

TABLE 2B. Age Distribution and Median Earnings by Household Structure, Parents of Children Age 5–13 in New Jersey

	Estimated Percentage Distribution					Median Earnings				
	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force
	Mother	Father				Mother	Father			
Under 20	0.01	0.02	NA	0.02	2.25	NA	10,000	NA	NA	5,500
20–30	4.06	2.05	7.35	12.97	19.95	15,338	33,000	25,000	21,600	30,100
30–40	38.69	28.60	33.87	44.97	23.18	28,317	67,681	47,195	26,300	60,000
40–45	30.17	28.17	24.77	21.28	11.41	40,000	95,000	59,351	35,000	67,530
Over 45	27.06	41.16	34.01	20.75	43.21	40,000	90,000	55,186	40,000	65,000
Total	497,707	511,575	29,887	138,333	4,537,063	32,600	82,259	50,648	29,497	53,095

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding, nonresponse, and the presence of a small number of same-sex two-parent households in the ACS sample. These households are included in overall two-parent totals but are not reported separately, so their labor supply characteristics are not reflected in the mother/father breakdowns.

TABLE 3B. Racial/Ethnic Distribution and Median Earnings by Household Structure, Parents of Children Age 5–13 in New Jersey

	Estimated Percentage Distribution					Median Earnings				
	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force
	Mother	Father				Mother	Father			
White, non-Hispanic	49.11	47.64	41.71	27.36	51.08	43,656	101,295	75,000	39,568	64,558
Black, non-Hispanic	7.98	9.20	19.71	29.97	12.44	41,296	53,000	38,000	30,000	41,644
Hispanic	24.16	25.86	28.75	35.11	22.43	18,571	45,583	36,860	23,598	35,500
Asian or Pacific Islander	15.48	14.28	5.24	3.47	10.60	39,393	130,967	93,713	70,000	81,218
Other/Multiple Races	3.28	3.02	4.59	4.09	3.46	31,238	72,000	40,000	27,300	48,300
Total	497,707	511,575	29,887	138,333	4,537,063	32,600	82,259	50,648	29,497	53,095

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding, nonresponse, and the presence of a small number of same-sex two-parent households in the ACS sample. These households are included in overall two-parent totals but are not reported separately, so their labor supply characteristics are not reflected in the mother/father breakdowns.

TABLE 4B. Nativity Distribution and Median Earnings by Household Structure, Parents of Children Age 5–13 in New Jersey

	Estimated Percentage Distribution					Median Earnings				
	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force
	Mother	Father				Mother	Father			
Citizen	79.61	79.47	82.71	83.87	86.73	42,000	90,000	56,000	32,000	56,275
Not a Citizen	20.39	20.53	17.29	16.13	13.27	8,642	50,000	35,397	20,000	36,000
Total	497,707	511,575	29,887	138,333	4,537,063	32,600	82,259	50,648	29,497	53,095

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding, nonresponse, and the presence of a small number of same-sex two-parent households in the ACS sample. These households are included in overall two-parent totals but are not reported separately, so their labor supply characteristics are not reflected in the mother/father breakdowns.

TABLE 5B. Health Insurance Coverage Patterns and Median Earnings by Household Structure, Parents of Children Age 5–13 in New Jersey

	Estimated Percentage Distribution					Median Earnings				
	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force
	Mother	Father				Mother	Father			
Any private coverage	78.45	79.43	66.86	48.65	80.88	47,898	100,000	70,793	50,648	64,000
Any Public Coverage	11.41	9.15	17.47	37.93	9.05	7,289	24,990	1,463	14,057	18,200
No insurance	10.14	11.42	15.67	13.43	10.06	6,000	33,765	34,335	18,000	28,000
Total	497,707	511,575	29,887	138,333	4,537,063	32,600	82,259	50,648	29,497	53,095

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding, nonresponse, and the presence of a small number of same-sex two-parent households in the ACS sample. These households are included in overall two-parent totals but are not reported separately, so their labor supply characteristics are not reflected in the mother/father breakdowns.

TABLE 6B. Employment Patterns and Median Earnings by Household Structure, Parents of Children Age 5–13 in New Jersey

	Estimated Percentage Distribution					Median Earnings				
	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force
	Mother	Father				Mother	Father			
Full-Time Year-Round	45.49	77.91	39.47	39.57	69.36	80,000	100,290	45,020	43,733	70,000
Full-Time Part-Year	6.22	6.77	14179	5.29	8.40	52,000	50,000	21,282	20,127	35,300
Part-Time Year-Round	10.88	3.59	15681	10.72	9.90	25,000	35,000	14,159	16,000	20,000
Part-Time Part-Year	6.12	1.61	6.50	7.86	6.32	13,000	14,912	4,165	5,620	8,400
Unemployed	3.58	3.03	6.64	6.57	6.02	0	0	0	0	1,770
Not in the Labor Force	27.72	7.90	34.44	35.00	N.A.	0	0	0	0	N.A.
Total	465,515	511,575	29,887	138,333	4,537,063	32,600	82,259	50,648	29,497	53,095

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding, nonresponse, and the presence of a small number of same-sex two-parent households in the ACS sample. These households are included in overall two-parent totals but are not reported separately, so their labor supply characteristics are not reflected in the mother/father breakdowns.

TABLE 7B. Work Location Distribution and Earnings by Household Structure, Parents of Children Age 5–13 in New Jersey

	Estimated Percentage Distribution					Median Earnings				
	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force	Two-Parent		Single Father	Single Mother	All in the Labor Force
	Mother	Father				Mother	Father			
Working primarily at home	13.89	15.07	8.08	9.07	13.97	80,000	140,000	106,000	58,526	88,000
Commuting to a location outside the home	86.11	84.93	91.92	90.93	86.03	26,031	72,888	48,000	27,281	49,555
Total	497,707	511,575	29,887	138,333	4,537,063	32,600	82,259	50,648	29,497	53,095

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding, nonresponse, and the presence of a small number of same-sex two-parent households in the ACS sample. These households are included in overall two-parent totals but are not reported separately, so their labor supply characteristics are not reflected in the mother/father breakdowns.

TABLE 8B. Location and Earnings of Parents with Children Age 5–13 in New Jersey

County	Estimated Number of Parents	County Share of Parents with Children Age 5–13 (%)	County Share of NJ Population (%)	Median Earnings of All Available Parents (\$)	Median Earnings of All Available Adults in LF (\$)
Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, Salem	62,873	5.42	6.29	37,929	40,000
Bergen	127,830	11.02	10.42	68,656	62,000
Burlington	53,491	4.61	5.13	60,777	56,275
Camden	65,825	5.68	5.74	45,020	46,856
Essex	112,108	9.67	9.21	40,518	41,650
Gloucester	39,428	3.40	3.36	60,000	54,812
Hudson	77,610	6.69	7.68	35,397	55,000
Hunterdon	14,502	1.25	1.41	78,785	70,000
Mercer	43,753	3.77	4.14	50,000	50,000
Middlesex	118,137	10.19	9.37	58,526	54,275
Monmouth	76,932	6.63	6.90	70,000	62,000
Morris	67,347	5.81	5.62	80,000	68,000
Ocean	74,976	6.47	7.19	45,020	49,400
Passaic	66,637	5.75	5.53	38,942	41,296
Somerset	46,109	3.98	3.80	75,000	67,530
Sussex	17,415	1.50	1.59	67,530	60,000
Union	80,817	6.97	6.23	48,000	48,939
Warren	13,709	1.18	1.21	52,063	51,000
Total	1,159,499	100.00	100.00	52,063	52,063

Note: Percentage earnings difference is calculated as ((County Median Earnings – Statewide Median Earnings) ÷ Statewide Median Earnings) × 100. The statewide median used here is \$31,038, based on full-time, year-round workers in the full workforce.