

## 2008 “Keeping Kids Home” statistics

Total number of families in Program: 39

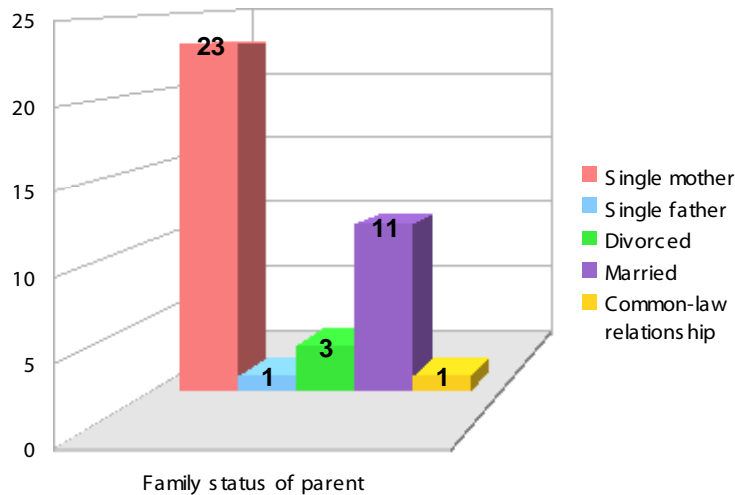
Number graduated in 2008: 21

Number of applicants in 2008: 22

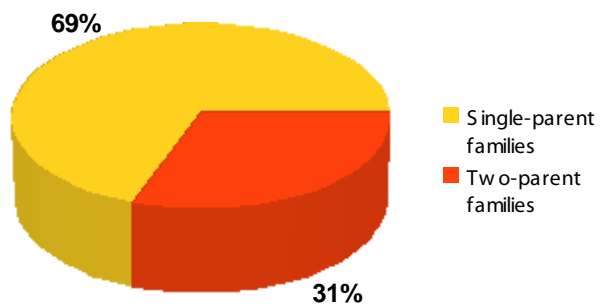
Number admitted in 2008: 17

*The four applicants not received into the program were refused after a survey of their circumstances and living situations showed that they had the means to improve their situations independently.*

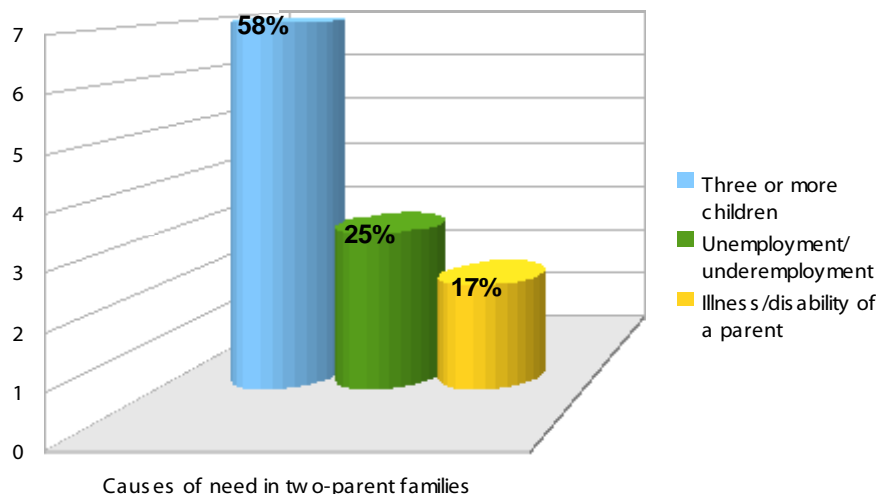
### Family status:



Conclusion: One of the most common causes of need in young families is the absence of one parent. Single-parent families make up 69% of the total number of families receiving help through Program in 2008:

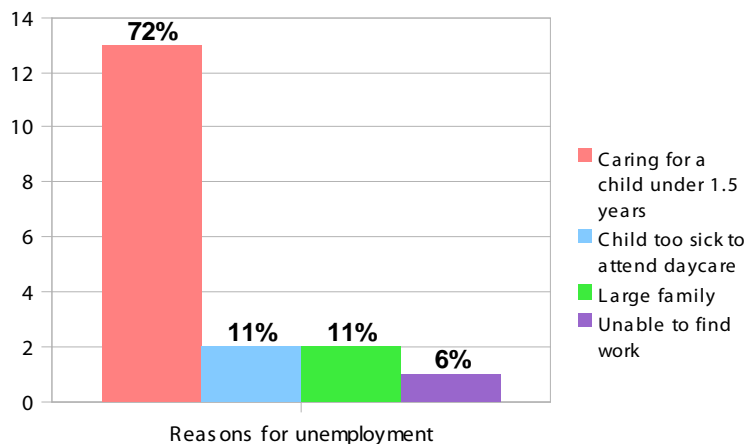
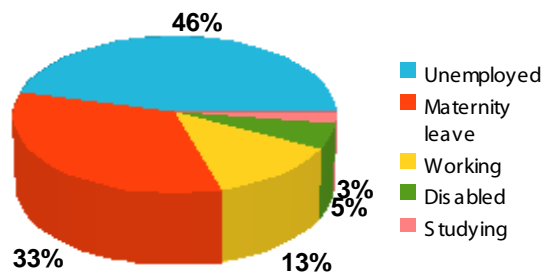


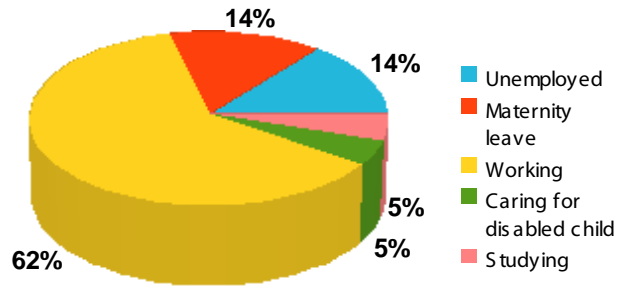
Of those families where both parents are present (31% of the total number of families), 58% have three or more children. Other causes of need in complete families include unemployment or underemployment (25%), and illness or disability of a parent (17%):



In all cases where unemployment was a cause of need, at least one of the parents was employed by the time the family graduated from Program.

### Social status at admission:

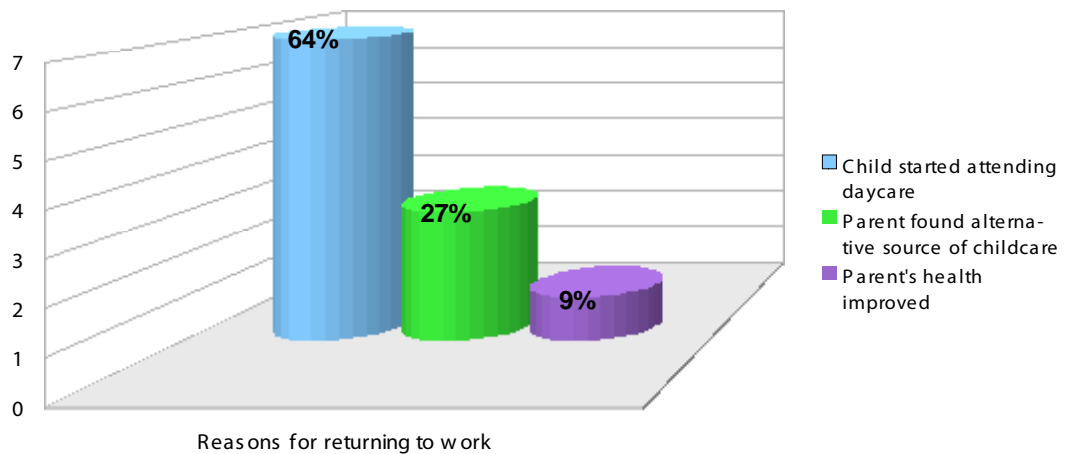




### Social status at graduation:

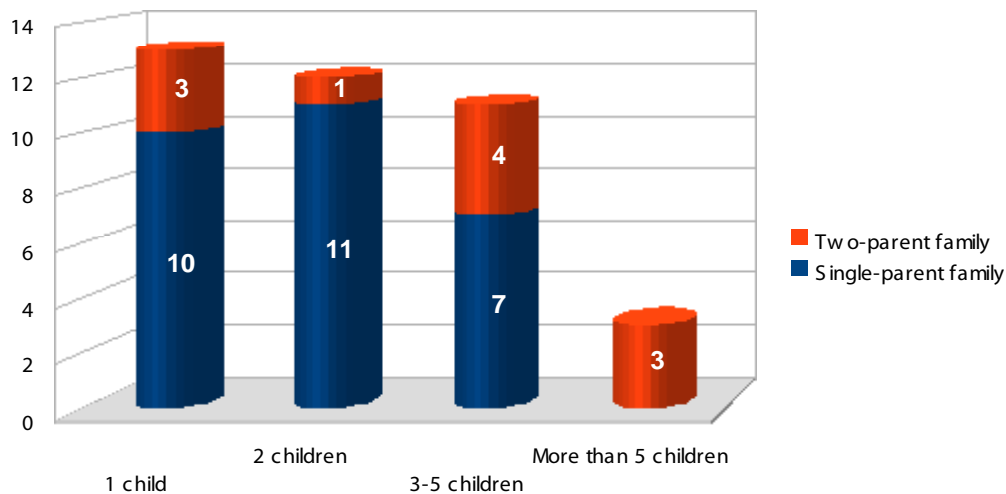
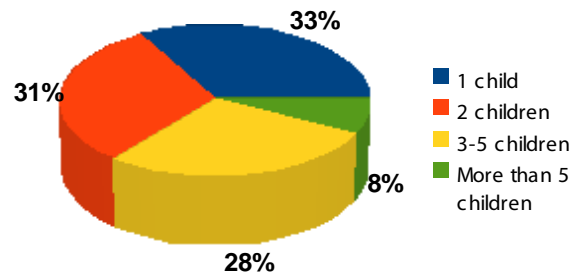
Three parents remained unemployed at graduation. All three were from two-parent families where the second parent was working.

Reasons for returning to work:



It can be concluded that the problem of child care is the single biggest issue keeping many parents from returning to work. As daycare get fuller, parents are kept out of the workforce longer, caring for children who in the past would have been able to attend daycare.

### Number of children in family:



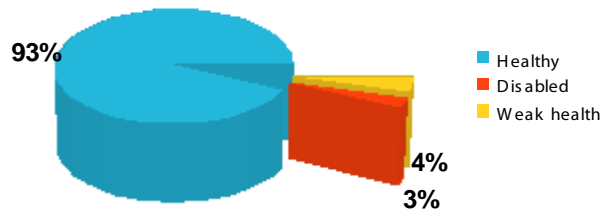
Almost all of the families with two children are single-parent families. Although these families are not eligible by law for special discounts and help from the government as “large families,” none the less, a second child is a significantly larger financial burden for a single parent.

Families with only one child make up 33% of the total number of families in this program. Of these families, 77% are single-parent families. In this category (families with one children), the fact that one parent is missing is the single greatest cause of poverty. In the remaining 23% (3 families), one parent is disabled, one is under 20 and completing her education, and one had lost his job (he and his family had to rent a place to live).

Ages of children:

Under 6 years	6 and older
68 children	23 children

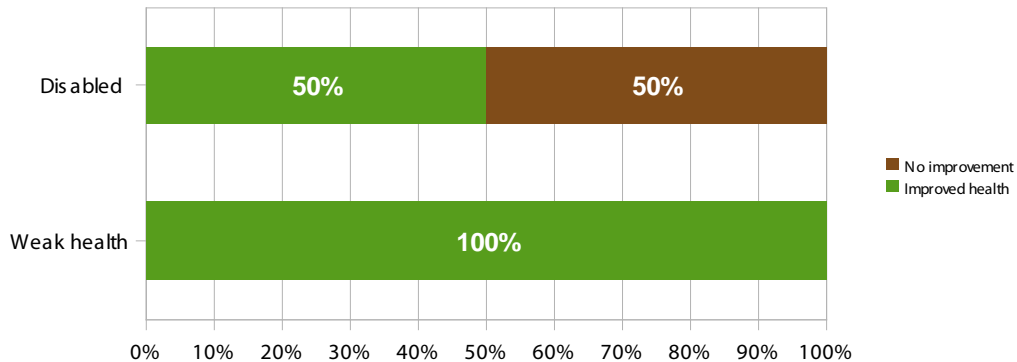
All of the families in Program have at least one child under 6 years of age. The program was created with the thought that the most difficult time for a parent financially is when a child is under 6 years of age. Also, this is the period when the parent is most likely to become desperate enough to abandon the child to an orphanage. This seems to be confirmed by previous statistics, which indicate that a major cause of poverty is lack of childcare for children under 1.5 years.



44% of the families in Program also have one or more children over 6 years of age.

**Health of children under 6 years old:**

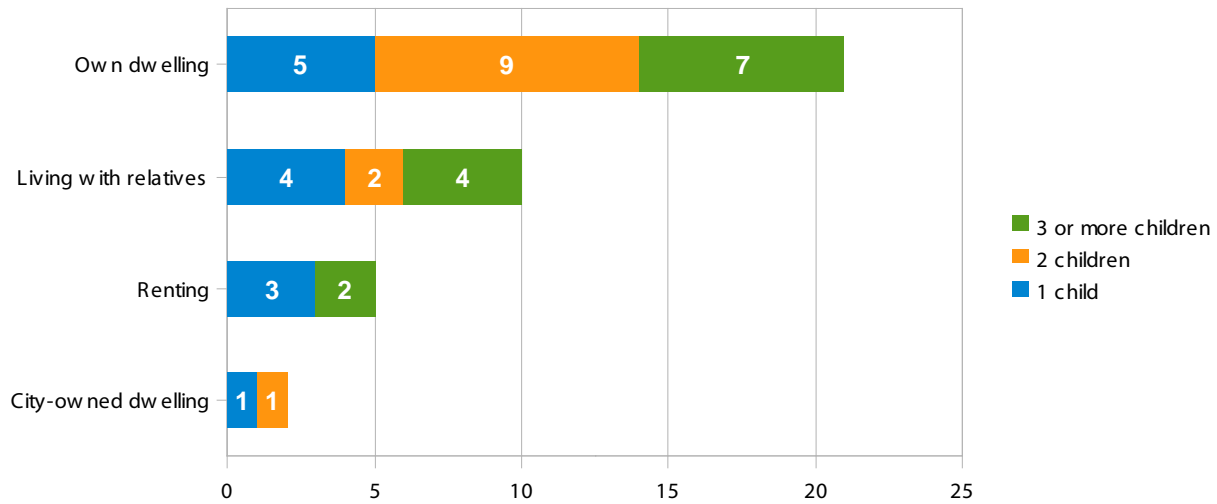
13% percent of the families in this program have a child with health problems. Only two these children has official disability status; however, all of the children without disability status have failed to pass their medical exams to enter daycare. This means that the parent's return to work is delayed for at least one more year, but



without any government compensation for disability.

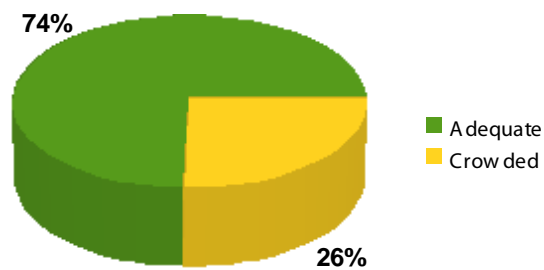
## Improvements in children's health during the Program:

### Living situation of family:



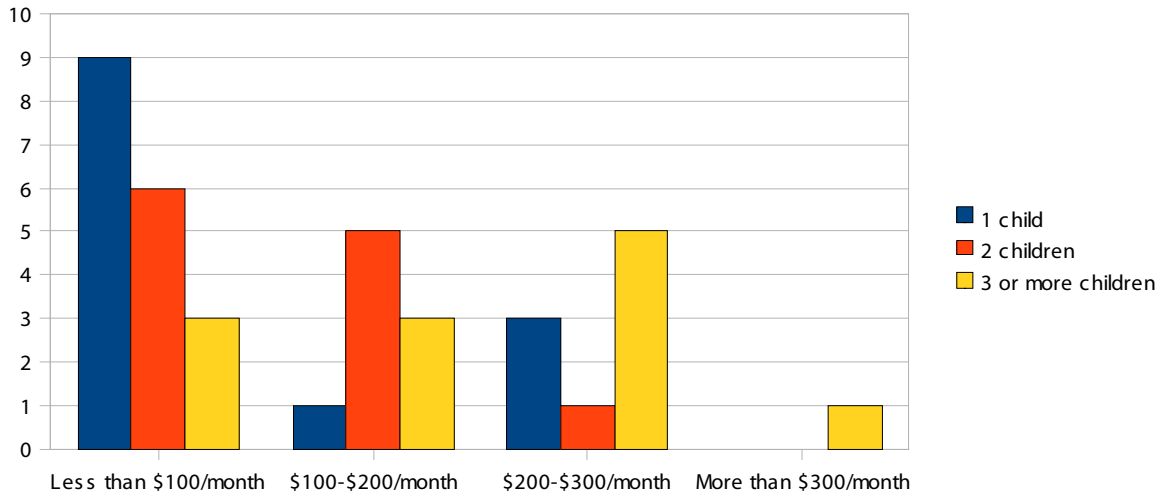
46% of the families in the Program do not own a place to live. For 13% of families, these means having to rent a place to live. This extra expense is a significant factor in the need of these families.

### Living conditions:



"Crowded" is defined, in accordance with Russian law, as less than 6 square meters of living space per person.

Income:



## Summary

Two main causes of poverty may be observed in the families in this study:

1) Single-parent family

The lack of one parent leaves the remaining parent struggling to meet the needs of his or her family, and unable to work at all if there are small children in the home.

2) Lack of available childcare for children under 2 years

Most of the families in this program are single parents who cannot work because they are caring for small children. Daycares are full and cannot take children under 1.5 years of age. Some children do not receive a place in daycare until 2 years of age. This keeps the parent out of the workforce longer and dependent on government and charitable help.

The Program is designed to provide support to families during times of crisis. This help is not financial, but takes the form of practical help to meet basic needs. The family is accepted into the program for a year. During this year, the family receives the following forms of help:

- groceries (monthly)
- hygiene supplies (twice yearly)
- clothing for children (once yearly)
- medicines (once yearly)

For most families, a year is long enough to allow them to improve their situation. The support they receive through CARE is sufficient to carry them through a difficult time, until the children can attend daycare and the parents return to work. In situations of special need (illness of the parent or child, or other circumstances that

prevent the parent from returning to work), the family may be readmitted to the program for a second year. In three years of working with needy families, no family in the Program has ever abandoned their child to an orphanage. In addition, six mothers have made decisions not to abort their babies.