FP-18-11 Job Satisfaction and Interference with Family Life Among Mothers and Fathers

Colette A. Allred

Bowling Green State University, callred@bgsu.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/ncfmr_family_profiles

Part of the Family, Life Course, and Society Commons

Repository Citation

This Report is brought to you for free and open access by the Sociology at ScholarWorks@BGSU. It has been accepted for inclusion in National Center for Family and Marriage Research Family Profiles by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@BGSU.
Today, most parents work—from the nation’s 34.2 million families that include children under the age of 18, nine out of ten have at least one parent employed. In three out of five married-couple families with children under 18, both parents are employed, and seven out of ten unmarried parents with children under 18 are employed (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2017). The challenges associated with combining work and family are well-known (Bianchi and Milkie, 2010). This profile uses data from the 2014 General Social Survey to examine job satisfaction and conflicts between work and family life among working parents with at least one child under 18 living at home.

### Degrees of Job Satisfaction Among Working Parents

Overall, the majority of working parents are satisfied with their jobs.

- Nearly half of working American parents with at least one minor child at home reported being “very satisfied” with their jobs.
- Only 10% of working parents reported being not satisfied with their jobs.

A larger share of married parents reported being “very satisfied” with their job compared to single parents.

- Married mothers were more satisfied than single mothers, and married fathers were more satisfied than single fathers.

- Married mothers stand out, with 60% reporting being “very satisfied” with their jobs. In comparison, less than half of all other parents reported such high levels of job satisfaction.

### Working Parents Who Were “Very Satisfied” with Their Jobs, by Gender and Marital Status

Figure 2. Percentage of Working Parents with at Least One Child Under 18 in the Household Who Were “Very Satisfied” with Their Job

- Married mothers were more satisfied than single mothers, and married fathers were more satisfied than single fathers.

### Conflicting Work and Family Lives, by Gender and Marital Status

How often do the demands of your job interfere with your family life?

- Married mothers were more satisfied than single mothers, and married fathers were more satisfied than single fathers.

- Married mothers stand out, with 60% reporting being “very satisfied” with their jobs. In comparison, less than half of all other parents reported such high levels of job satisfaction.

### Suggested Citations


Family Profiles: Original reports summarizing and analyzing nationally representative data with the goal to provide the latest analysis of U.S. families. These profiles examine topics related to the NCFMR’s core research themes.