Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research - Childcare Survey 2007

During the Fall of 2007, the Postdoctoral Association at Whitehead Institute conducted an anonymous survey to examine the impact of child care on post docs. One-hundred thirty scientists were eligible to participate in the survey. The response rate was 67%.
Who responded to the survey

87 people (67% of 130 in total population)

- Male: 54, 62%
- Female: 33, 38%
- Married: 58, 67%
- Single: 39, 33%

Years of Post Doctoral Training

- 0 to 1: 25
- 1 to 2: 15
- 2 to 3: 10
- 3 to 4: 5
- 4 to 5: 5
- 5 to 6: 5
- 6+: 5

Number of Respondents
Of the survey takers
- 38% currently have children
- 32% plan to have children while a post doc
- 30% do not plan to have children while a post doc

Data: from all respondents
A higher percentage of females are married and have or expect to have children while a post doc

64% of all males have
Or expect to have children

79% of all females have
Or expect to have children

~95% of married people have or expect to have children

Data: from all respondents
Most post doc families have one or two children

33 post docs have 47 children

Data: from respondents with children
A diversity of child care solutions

Data: from respondents with children (N=33; 50 answers; 1 missing value)
Finances affect several aspects of family planning

Data: from all respondents
60% of families make less than 75K

Combined Family Income of Married Postdocs with Children

Data: from respondents with children
Employment of Spouses
(In families with children)

Does your spouse work?

Data: from respondents with children
Cost of Child Care
(for families with children)

Data: from respondents with children

Weighted avg. 23%
Median 25%
Mode 25%
Families spend an additional 40% of income on housing

Data: from respondents with children

Weighted avg. 37%
("more than 50%" conservatively estim. as 55%)

Median 35%
Mode 25%
If these options were available, would you use them?

- Definitely
- Most_Likely
- Maybe
- Not_Likely
- No

Data: from all respondents