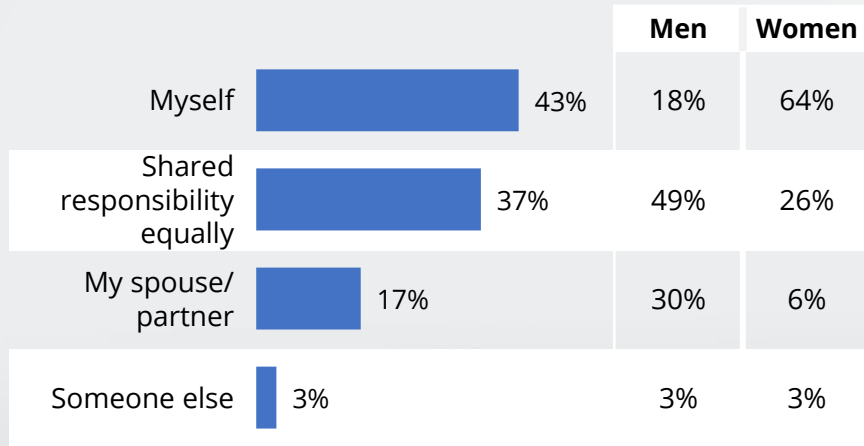

Childcare: Parents of Children under age 6

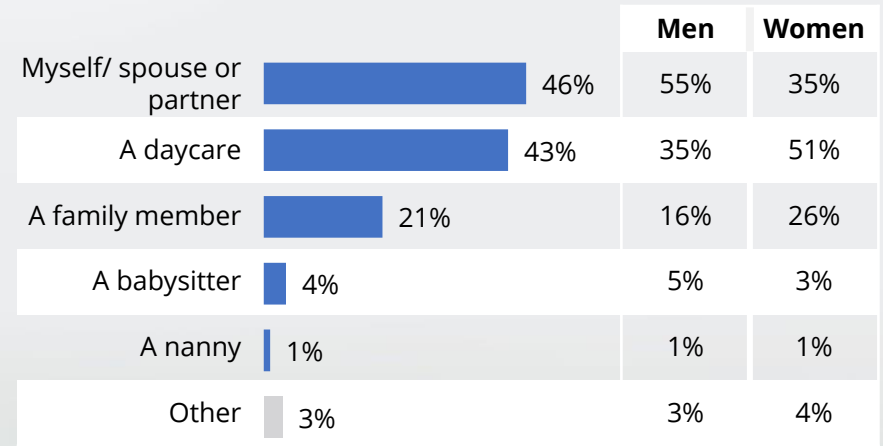
As expected, women (of children under 6 years of age) are much more likely to be solely responsible for day-to-day childcare

- Although half of the fathers report sharing this responsibility equally (49%), only a quarter (26%) of the mothers agree.
- There is a significant gap between reported shared responsibility among men and women across age groups. Such as, 32% of fathers aged 18-29 say they have shared responsibility compared to 22% of mothers who feel the same; and fathers aged 30-39 years are twice as likely than mothers to believe they share childcare responsibility (55% vs. 26%).
- Among working parents, fathers are more likely to say their spouse or partner provides childcare when they are at work (55%), whereas working women are more likely to have their child in a daycare (51%). Working mothers are also more likely to rely on other family members than the fathers (26% vs. 16%).

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY OF CHILDCARE



LOOKING AFTER CHILD WHEN AT WORK



E1. On a day-to-day basis, who is primarily responsible for childcare? Base: Parents of Children under 6 (N=652); Men (N=265); Women (N=387)
 E5. Who regularly looks after your child/children while you are at work? Please select all that apply. Base: Parents of Children under 6 and Working (N=540); Men (N=255); Women (N=285)

Those who are working and do not send their child to daycare mainly cannot afford it and face additional issues related to availability and flexibility of the daycare options

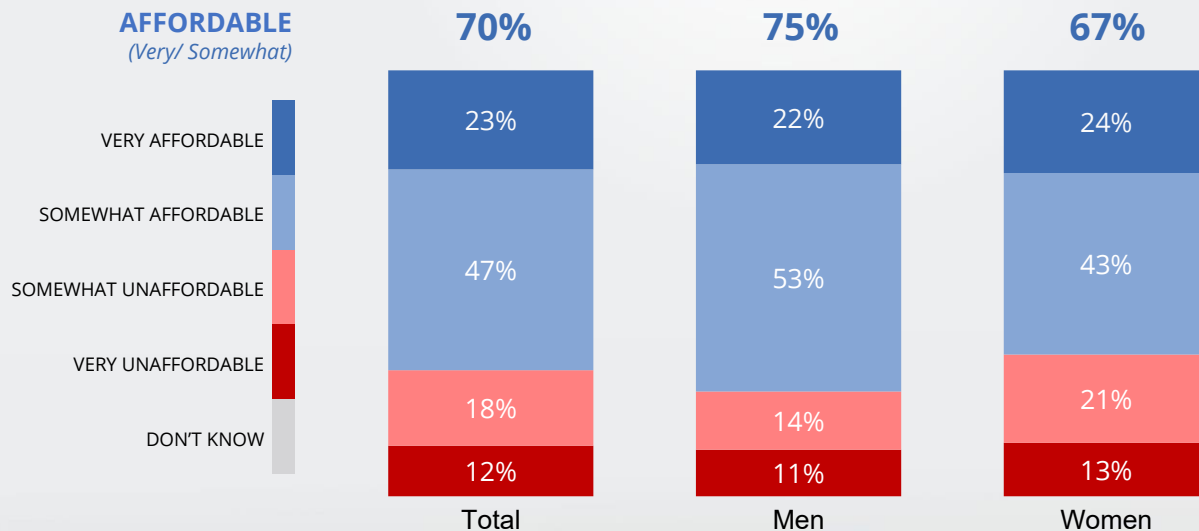
- Overall, two-thirds (net: 67%) experience daycare related issues, while about half (51%) either manage themselves, have help from family or look at other alternatives like nanny, babysitters, etc.
- Mothers are more likely to say the daycare in their area is full (33%) or there are no available daycares in their area (22%). Overall, 78% of mothers mention a daycare related issue compared to 61% of fathers.

		Men	Women
It is not affordable	34%	33%	36%
My or my spouse/partner's work hours are such that it allows us to handle childcare by ourselves	25%	23%	27%
Daycare in my area/work is already full & not accepting any more kids/kids on waitlist	23%	16%	33%
I have enough help from my family, so don't need daycare	18%	19%	18%
There are no daycares available in my area/work area	16%	12%	22%
I prefer the alternative options (like nanny, babysitter, etc.) than daycare	12%	14%	10%
Daycare hours are not flexible for me/Cannot make it at specific drop off/pick-up times	12%	12%	12%
Waiting for subsidized daycare options	8%	6%	12%
Caretakers are not good/I'm not comfortable with way daycare is managed in my area/work	8%	6%	10%
Don't have anyone who can drop and pick up my child from daycare	6%	5%	7%
Daycare in my area/work area is not hygienic or clean / not up to standard	6%	6%	6%
Some other reason	9%	11%	5%



E6. Why have you chosen not to send your child to a daycare option outside the home? Please select all that apply.
Base: Do not send child to Daycare (N=282); Men (N=144); Women (N=138)

Seven-in-ten parents who send their child to daycare say it is affordable: mothers are less likely to find daycare affordable than the fathers



Q E7. How would rate the affordability of the daycare your child/children go to?
Base: Child goes to Daycare (N=268); Men (N=112); Women (N=156)

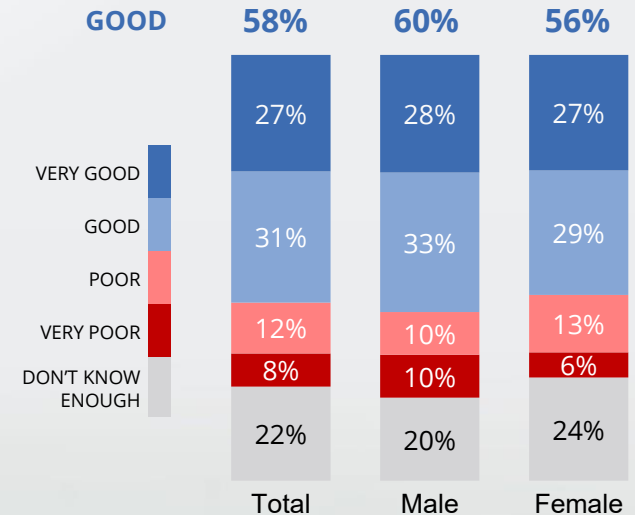
Almost six-in-ten parents whose children go to daycare say they are part of the CWELCC program

- Overall, parents of children under 6, feel positively about the Canada-wide early learning and childcare program (CWELCC) program, with 58% rating the program as good. One-fifth (20%) rate it as poor, and another one-fifth (22%) don't know enough to provide a rating.
- Among those who have opted for the program, a large majority (86%) rate it as good, while those who were unable to access the program, provide lower ratings (49%).

OPTED FOR THE CWELCC PROGRAM

		Men	Women
Yes – my child goes to a daycare that is part of the CWELCC program	58%	59%	57%
NET No	35%	35%	35%
No – haven't been able to find a spot in a daycare that offers this	18%	18%	18%
No – haven't been able to find a daycare that offers this	10%	9%	11%
No – have never tried	7%	8%	6%
Unaware of such a program	7%	7%	7%

RATING FOR THE CWELCC PROGRAM



E8. Have you opted for or ever used the Canada-wide early learning and childcare program (CWELCC), sometimes referred to as the \$10 per day daycare program? Base: Child goes to Daycare (N=268); Men (N=112); Women (N=156)

E9. Based on your experience or what you may have seen, read or heard, how would you rate the Canada-wide early learning and childcare program (CWELCC), or the \$10 per day daycare program introduced by the federal government? Base: Parents of children under 6 (N=652); Men (N=265); Women (N=387)

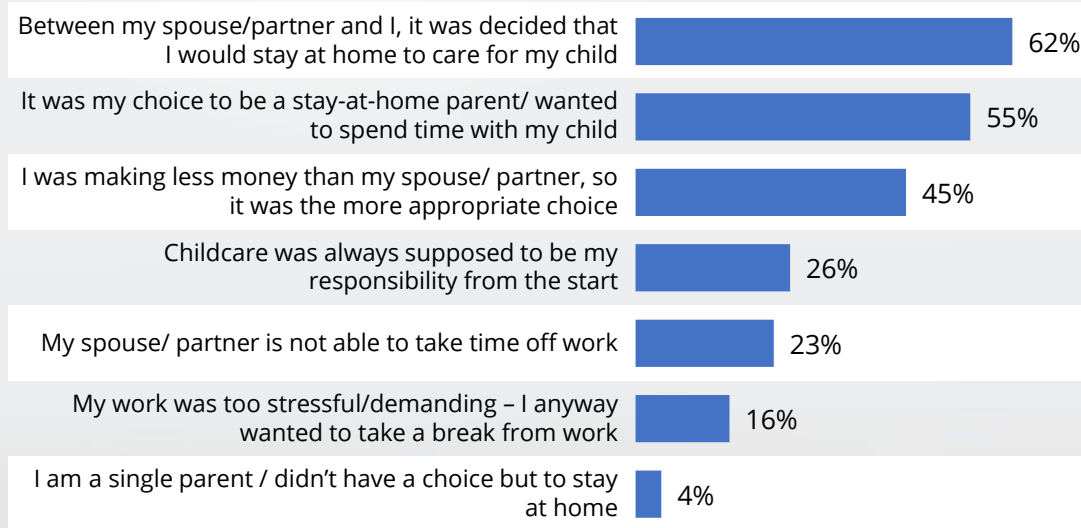
Those who stay at home parents to children under age 6, are almost women. Nine-in-ten among them were previously working, and have primarily quit their jobs due to childbirth or childcare reasons

- The mothers that quit working due to childcare, say that between themselves and their partner, it was decided that they would stay at home or that it was their choice to take this step. A few made this choice on the basis of their partner earning more than them.
- **Note: as the base of men staying at home is extremely small (n=5), the results below are only shown for women.*

PREVIOUSLY EMPLOYED

	NET Yes	89%
Yes – and I quit my job due to childbirth/ childcare reasons	77%	
Yes – and I quit my job due to some other reason	12%	
No – was never employed	7%	

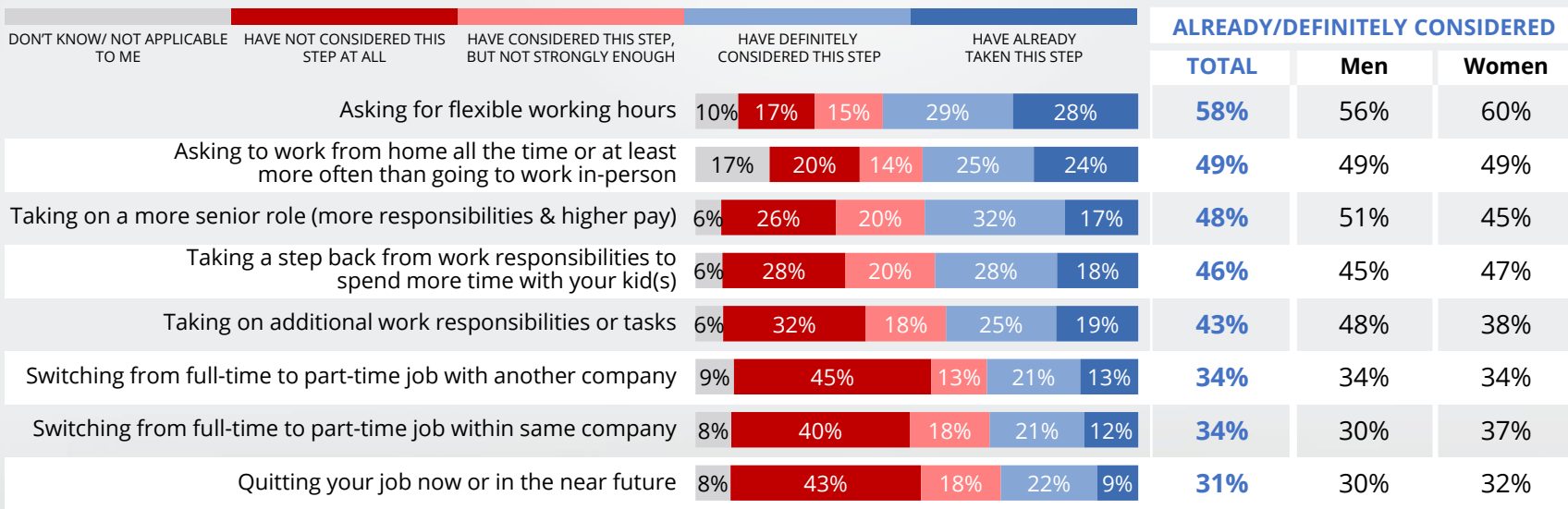
REASON FOR NOT WORKING TO STAY HOME FOR CHILDCARE



E2. Were you previously employed? Please select the option that best fits. Base: If "stay-at-home" and are responsible for childcare or share responsibility Women (N=84); Men (N=5)
 E3. Why did you decide to not continue working and stay at home to provide childcare? Please select all that apply. Base: If yes – due to childcare Women (N=64); Men (N=3)

As parents of kids under 6 years and working, most have asked for flexible hours and the option to work from home than coming into the office

- While close to half say have opted or are considering taking on a more senior role (48%) or additional responsibilities (43%), likely with the aim to earn more due to childcare expenses, an almost equal proportion say they are taking a step back from work (46%). The fathers are more inclined to consider a senior role (51% vs. 45%) or extra tasks (48% vs. 38%) than the mothers.
- Notably, a third among both moms (32%) and dads (30%) have already or are considering quitting their jobs entirely.

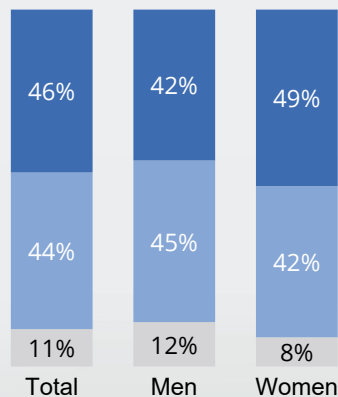


E10. Considering your work situation and being a parent to a young child, which of the following have you considered and/or have already done recently?
 Base: Base: Parents of Children under 6 and Working (N=540); Men (N=255); Women (N=285)

Under current circumstances, parents of children under 6 are almost equally split between preferring to stay home to provide childcare or working

- However, under a scenario where the government were to provide a fixed childcare benefit to parents depending on their household income, the proportion who would prefer to stay at home and provide care increases by 6 points to 52%.
- The likelihood to stay home increases notably among men (+10%) than women (+2%). As women were already more inclined to stay at home initially (49%) than work 42%, it is likely their intent does not change significantly.
- On average, to be able to stay at home and not work, parents say they would need approximately \$3,100 a month. Men estimate needing a higher amount per month (\$3,280) compared to women (\$2,960) per month. Those with income under \$100K, estimate at least \$2,400-\$2,500 (rounded off) per month and those with income of \$100k or more need \$3,400 on average. The amount required also increases with age, starting from \$2,600 among 18-29 year olds to \$3,660 among 40-49 year olds.

CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES

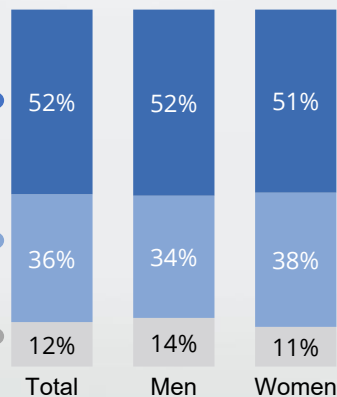


UNDER GOV. FIXED BENEFITS

Would prefer to **stay at home** and provide care to my child full-time rather than work

Would **prefer working** rather than staying at home and providing care to my child full-time

Don't know



AVERAGE AMOUNT PER MONTH

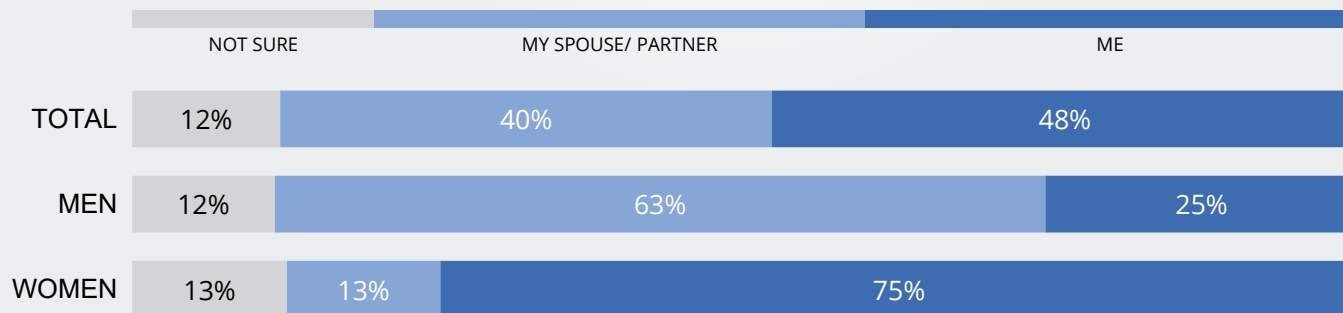
	Per month	Can't estimate	Would not choose
TOTAL	\$3,108	26%	8%
MEN	\$3,279	30%	10%
WOMEN	\$2,958	21%	6%

E11. As a working parent, if given a choice, which of the following would you prefer? | E12. Now, consider the following hypothetical scenario: if the federal government were to pay you or provide child benefits such that you could stay at home to provide childcare, and choose not to go to work - how much money would you need per month in order to do so? Please enter an amount that you feel would be enough of a compensation. | E13. And now considering the hypothetical scenario in which the government decided to provide a fixed childcare benefit amount (i.e. stipend) to families depending on their annual household income... as a working parent and if given a choice, which of the following options would you choose?

Base: Parents of Children under 6 and Working (N=540); Men (N=255); Women (N=285)

Even under a scenario where the government would provide fixed childcare benefits, among those who are working and married, it is the women who are three times more likely than men to say that they would stay at home to provide care (75% vs. 25%)

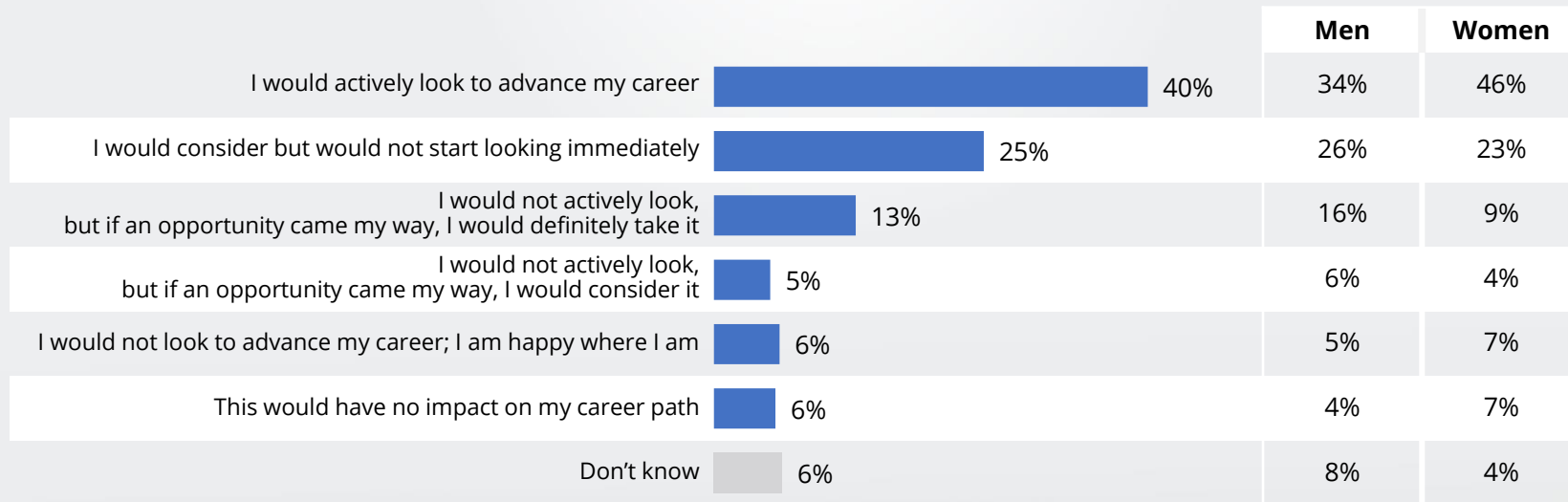
- Men also share the same opinion, saying that their spouse (63%) would be more likely to stay at home to provide childcare than they themselves (25%).
- These opinions are expressed across all ages.



E14. Under these circumstances, wherein the government was providing a fixed childcare benefit amount (i.e. stipend), who do you think would be more likely to stay at home to provide childcare between you and your spouse/partner?
 Base: Parents of Children under 6, Working and Married (N=500); Men (N=242); Women (N=258)

However, in this scenario, if their spouses decided to stay at home, almost half of the mothers with children under 6 would actively look into advancing their career prospects

- And a quarter (23%) would at least consider looking to advance their careers.



E15. And, assuming your spouse/partner decides to stay at home to care for your child, how likely are you to consider advancing your career or moving on to a more senior role?
Base: Parents of Children under 6, Working and Married (N=500); Men (N=242); Women (N=258)