

Summary of the Survey Results

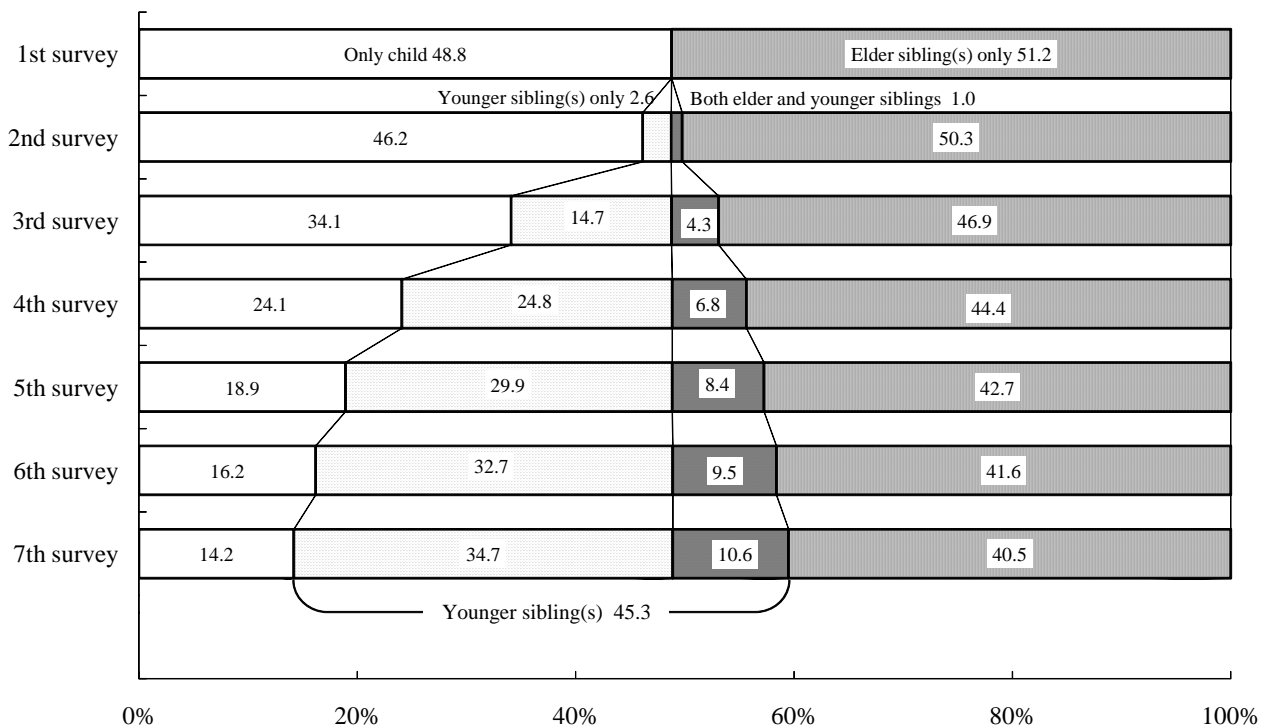
1 Family Status

(1) Sibling Composition

“With younger sibling(s)” made up 45.3%.

According to changes in the sibling composition, those who were the only child made up 48.8% and elder sibling(s) only 51.2% of all survey subjects in the 1st survey (aged 6 months). In the 7th survey (aged 84 months), those who were the only child made up 14.2% and elder sibling(s) only 40.5%. However, as they had new brother(s) or sister(s) over the years, 45.3% of all survey subjects had younger sibling(s) in the 7th survey (Figure 1).

Figure 1 Changes in the sibling composition



Note: The figures are based on the total number of responses in the 1st through 7th surveys, excluding the responses to “unknown” concerning sibling composition (total number of replies: 33,568).

(2) Employment Status of Mothers

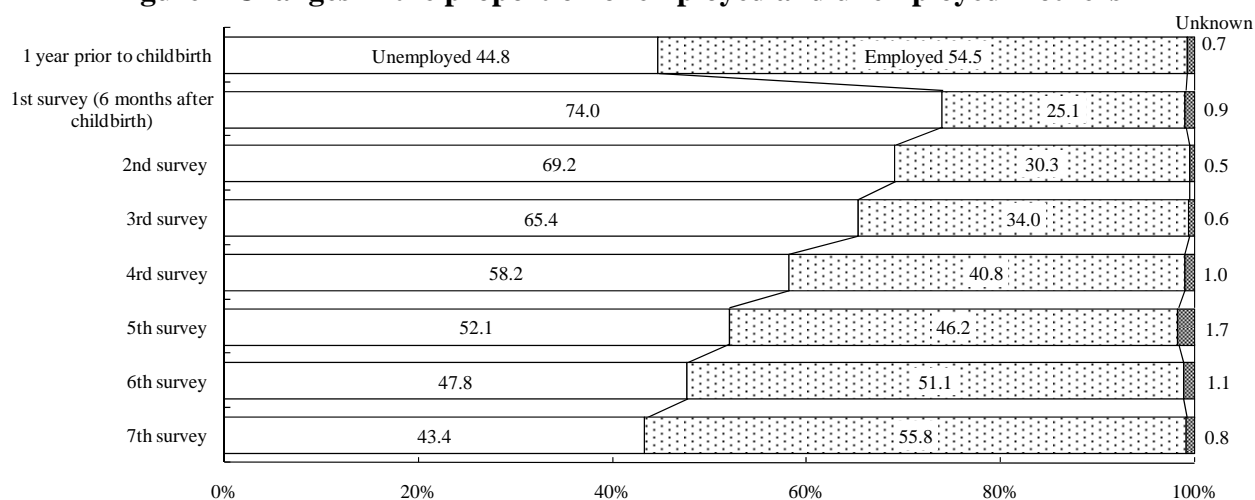
1) Employed or unemployed

The proportion of employed mothers exceeded that in one year prior to childbirth (54.5%) at 55.8%.

The proportion of “employed” mothers was 54.5% one year prior to childbirth, and decreased to 25.1% in the 1st survey (6 months after childbirth). It increased year by year and reached 55.8% in the 7th survey. This exceeded the rate of “employed” mothers in one year prior to childbirth (Figure 2).

In terms of existence of younger sibling(s), the rate of “employed” mothers stood at 63.6% “without younger sibling”. In the case with younger siblings, the older the youngest siblings are, the more mothers were employed, with a particular increase in “part-time” (Table 1).

Figure 2 Changes in the proportion of employed and unemployed mothers



Note: The figures are based on the total number of responses with children living with their mothers in the 1st through 7th surveys (total number of replies: 33,266).

Table 1 Employment status of mothers in relation to the existence of younger sibling(s) and sibling composition

(Unit: %)

		Total	Unemployed	Employed	Full-time worker	Part-time worker	Self-employed worker/family worker	Pieceworker at home	Others
Existence of younger sibling(s)	Total	(100.0) 100.0	42.8	56.3	17.3	30.2	6.0	1.9	0.9
	Without younger sibling	(54.5) 100.0	35.3	63.6	18.5	36.1	6.3	1.7	0.9
	With younger sibling(s)	(45.5) 100.0	51.8	47.5	15.8	23.2	5.5	2.3	0.8
	Age of the youngest sibling: 0 year old	(3.8) 100.0	66.6	32.8	16.4	8.8	5.4	0.6	1.6
	1 year old	(5.4) 100.0	60.9	38.3	15.7	15.0	5.1	1.5	1.1
	2 years old	(6.7) 100.0	57.6	41.8	15.2	18.2	5.6	2.0	0.7
	3 years old	(9.6) 100.0	53.8	45.3	16.2	21.0	5.1	2.4	0.7
	4 to 6 years old	(19.9) 100.0	43.4	55.9	15.6	30.8	5.7	2.9	0.8
Sibling composition	(Without younger sibling)								
	Only child	(14.1) 100.0	38.2	60.4	21.7	31.1	5.1	1.3	1.2
	Elder sibling(s) only	(40.4) 100.0	34.3	64.7	17.4	37.9	6.8	1.8	0.8
	(With younger sibling(s))								
	Younger sibling(s) only	(34.7) 100.0	53.1	46.2	16.1	22.6	4.6	2.1	0.8
Both elder and younger siblings	(10.8) 100.0	47.6	51.7	14.7	24.9	8.3	2.9	0.9	

Notes: 1) The figures are based on the total number of responses with children living with their mothers in the 7th survey (total number of replies: 36,529).

2) The total includes the number of responses with “unknown” concerning the employment status of mothers.

3) “With younger sibling(s)” includes “Age of the youngest sibling: unknown”.

4) “Full-time worker” indicates “employee (full-time)” and “part-time worker” indicates “employee (part-time)”.

2) Changes in the employment status of mothers

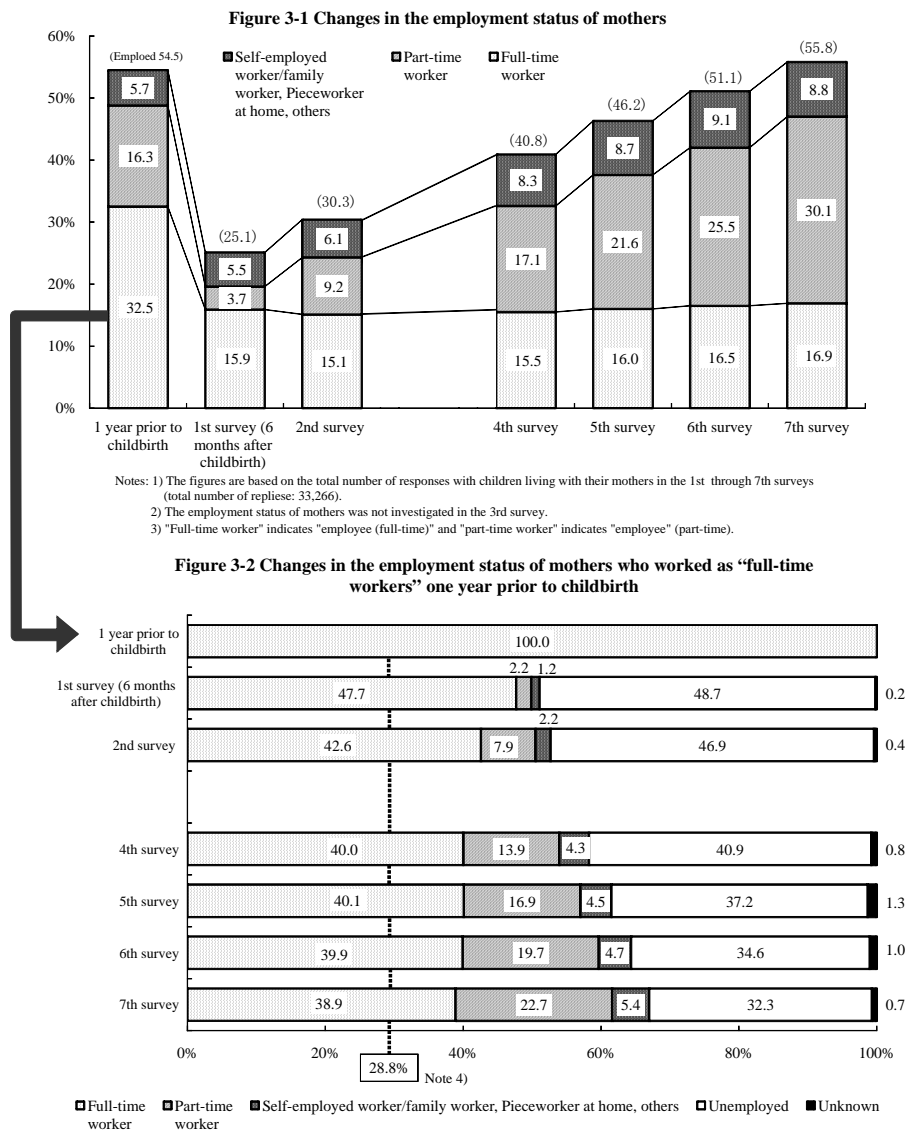
The number of mothers who work as “part-time workers” is on the increase year by year, while the proportion of “full-time workers” did not change significantly.

With regard to changes in the employment status of mothers, the proportion of “part-time workers” increased year by year from the 1st survey (6 months after childbirth) (3.7%) through the 7th survey (30.1%). Meanwhile, the proportion of “full-time workers” did not change significantly after the 1st survey (6 months after childbirth) and was 16.9% in the 7th survey (Figure 3-1).

With regard to changes in the employment status of mothers who worked as “full-time workers” one year prior to childbirth, the proportion of “full-time workers” decreased to 47.7% in the 1st survey (6 months after childbirth) and was 38.9% in the 7th survey.

Among mothers who worked as “full-time workers” one year prior to childbirth, 28.8 % of mothers continue to work as “full-time workers” until the 7th survey.

The proportion of mothers who worked as “full-time workers” one year prior to childbirth became “unemployed” in the 1st survey (6 months after childbirth) was 48.7%. However, “unemployed” has been on the decrease year by year and was 32.3% in the 7th survey (Figure 3-2).

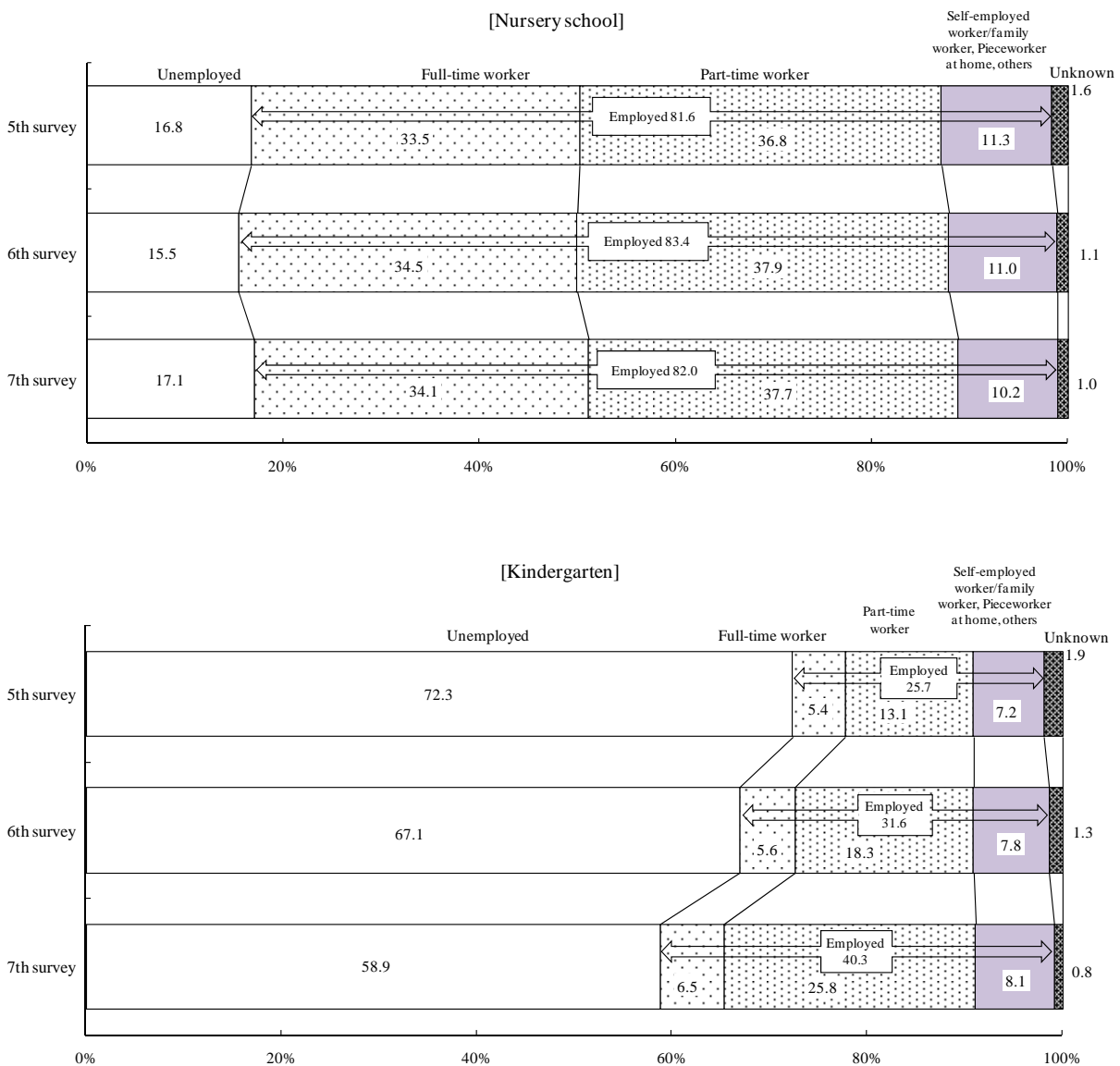


Of mothers whose children attended nursery schools in the 5th survey, 80% remained “employed”. Of those whose children attended kindergartens, the rate of “employed” mothers increased.

In terms of the employment status of mothers according to the attendance at nursery school/kindergarten, the rate of “employed” mothers of children attending nursery schools remained over 80% at 81.6% in the 5th, 83.4% in the 6th, and 82.0% in the 7th survey.

The rate of “employed” mothers of children attending kindergartens increased from 25.7% in the 5th to 40.3% in the 7th survey (Figure 4).

Figure 4 Changes in the employment status of mothers according to the attendance at nursery school/kindergarten in the 5th survey



- Notes: 1) The figures are based on the total number of responses with children living with their mothers in the 5th through 7th surveys (number of replies: 34,391, (Nursery school) 13,077, (Kindergarten) 17,667).
- 2) In “attendance at nursery school/kindergarten in the 5th survey”, “Nursery school” refers to children who only went to nursery schools, and “Kindergarten” refers to those who only went to kindergartens.
- 3) “Full-time worker” indicates “employee (full-time)” and “part-time worker” indicates “employee (part-time)”.

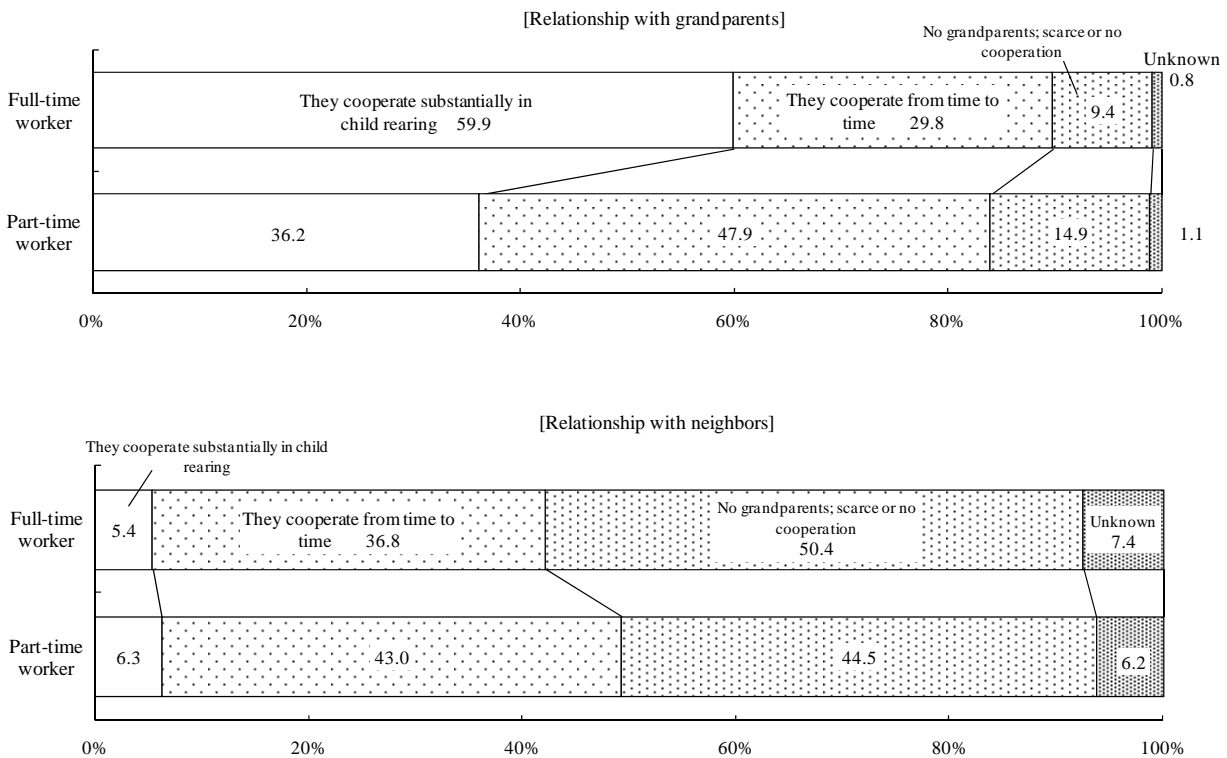
3) Relationship with grandparents etc.

Of mothers who worked as “full-time workers”, about 60% have grandparents of the children “cooperate substantially in child rearing”.

In terms of relationship with grandparents according to the employment status of mothers, grandparents of the children “cooperate substantially in child rearing” with 59.9% of mothers who worked as “full-time workers”, and “cooperate from time to time” with 29.8% of them. Grandparents “cooperate substantially in child rearing” with 36.2% of mothers who worked as “part-time workers”, and “cooperate from time to time” with 47.9% of them. In comparison, the rate of grandparents who “cooperate substantially in child rearing” is higher with mothers who worked as “full-time workers” than “part-time workers” (Figure 5).

Of grandparents who cooperate substantially in child rearing, with mothers who worked as “full-time workers”, 86.9% “take care of children (e.g. feeding, bathing, playing together etc.)”, 77.2% “take care of children when they are sick”, and 74.1% “take care of children when a parent is temporarily preoccupied”, which made up a large part of specific cooperation. With mothers who worked as “part-time workers”, 83.5% of grandparents “take care of children when a parent is temporarily preoccupied”, and 77.5% “take care of children (e.g. feeding, bathing, playing together etc.)” (Table 2).

Figure 5 Relationship with grandparents and neighbors according to the employment status of mothers



- Notes: 1) The figures are based on the total number of responses with children living with their mothers in the 7th surveys (number of replies: 36,529).
 2) Responses to “Relationship with grandparents” include both grandparents who live together and who live separately.
 3) “Full-time worker” indicates “employee (full-time)” and “part-time worker” indicates “employee (part-time)”.

Table 2 Specific cooperation from grandparents according to the employment status of mothers (multiple answers)

(Unit: %)

		Total	Areas of cooperation from grandparents (multiple answers)							
			Take care of children (e.g. feeding, bathing, playing together etc.)	Take care of children when they are sick	Take care of children when a parent is ill etc.	Take care of children when a parent is temporarily preoccupied	Provide financial support	Others	Unknown	
Employment status of mothers			[They cooperate substantially in child rearing]							
	Total	100.0	79.6	54.5	57.7	82.5	29.1	7.6	0.1	
	Unemployed	100.0	74.5	35.3	64.4	88.9	35.7	5.2	0.1	
	Employed	100.0	81.9	63.0	54.7	79.7	26.2	8.7	0.1	
	Full-time worker	100.0	86.9	77.2	52.4	74.1	18.6	10.4	0.2	
	Part-time worker	100.0	77.5	55.8	55.5	83.5	32.0	7.7	0.1	
	Self-employed worker/family worker	100.0	81.9	40.4	59.0	84.1	30.3	7.3	—	
	Pieceworker at home	100.0	76.2	38.7	65.2	90.6	35.9	1.7	—	
	Others	100.0	82.3	53.2	55.6	84.7	30.6	9.7	0.8	
				[They cooperate from time to time]						
	Total	100.0	37.5	17.4	28.0	76.1	20.8	6.6	0.4	
	Unemployed	100.0	38.4	8.3	31.6	74.3	22.7	6.7	0.6	
	Employed	100.0	36.6	26.1	24.7	77.9	18.9	6.5	0.3	
	Full-time worker	100.0	37.7	45.2	20.0	73.0	10.9	8.6	0.4	
	Part-time worker	100.0	36.1	24.2	25.3	79.0	21.4	5.9	0.2	
	Self-employed worker/family worker	100.0	38.3	9.3	25.2	80.8	19.0	6.1	0.4	
Pieceworker at home	100.0	33.6	7.0	35.2	79.2	23.4	5.7	0.8		
Others	100.0	35.4	12.9	29.9	78.9	19.0	9.5	—		

Notes: 1) The figures are based on the total number of responses to “They cooperate substantially in child rearing” (total number of replies: 13,037), and “They cooperate from time to time” (total number of replies: 17,113) respectively, with regards to children living with their mothers in the 7th survey.

2) Responses to “Relationship with grandparents” include both grandparents who live together and who live separately.

3) The total includes responses with “unknown” concerning the employment status of mothers.

4) “Full-time worker” indicates “employee (full-time)” and “part-time worker” indicates “employee (part-time)”.

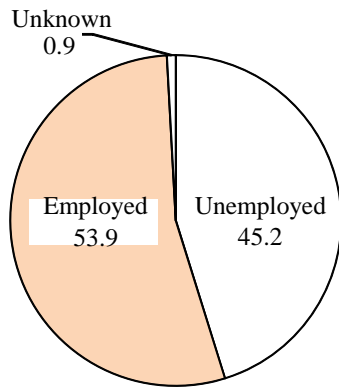
In the 7th survey, the proportion of “employed” mothers who “lived together” with grandparents was about 50%. Both in the 2nd and 7th surveys, the rates of “employed” mothers who “lived separately” from grandparents were both about 40%.

Of mothers who were “unemployed” in the 2nd survey (aged 18 months) 53.9% of those who lived together with grandparents (hereafter called “lived together”) in the 2nd survey became “employed”, if they still “lived together” in the 7th survey, compared to 52.9%, a rate in the case where they lived separately from grandparents (hereafter called “lived separately” in the 7th survey).

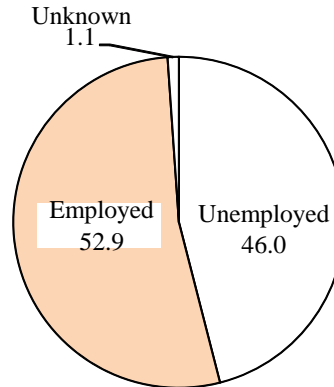
Of mothers who “lived separately” from grandparents in the 2nd survey, 52.8% became “employed” if they “lived together” in the 7th survey, compared to 38.8%, a rate of those who “lived separately” in the 7th survey (Figure 6).

Figure 6 The employment status of mothers who were “unemployed” in the 2nd survey, and who “lived together” with or “lived separately” from grandparents in the 7th survey

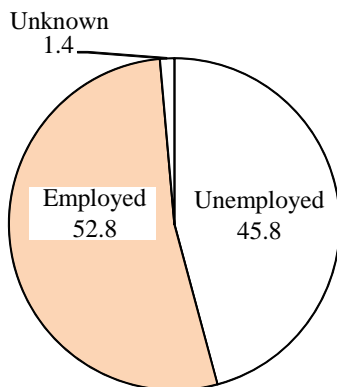
“Lived together” (2nd) → “lived together” (7th)



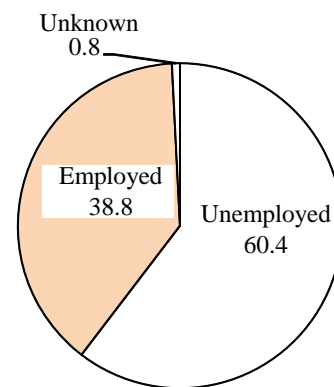
“Lived together” (2nd) → “lived separately” (7th)



“Lived separately” (2nd) → “lived together” (7th)



“Lived separately” (2nd) → “lived separately” (7th)



- Notes:
- 1) The figures are based on the total number of responses in the 2nd and 7th surveys with children living with their mothers whose employment status were “unemployed” in the 2nd survey. The subjects of tabulation are as follows:
 The figures are based on the total number of responses in the 2nd and the 7th surveys “lived together with grandparents” (total number of replies: 3,494).
 The figures are based on the total number of responses in the 2nd survey “lived together with grandparents” and the 7th survey “lived separately” (total number of replies: 1,121).
 The figures are based on the total number of responses in the 2nd survey “lived separately” and the 7th survey “lived together with grandparents” (total number of replies: 1,552).
 The figures are based on the total number of responses in the 2nd and the 7th surveys “lived separately” (total number of replies: 18,628).
 - 2) Mothers “lived separately” from grandparents in the 7th survey include respondents with whom it was unknown whether they live together with or separately from grandparents.