
Economic Security:

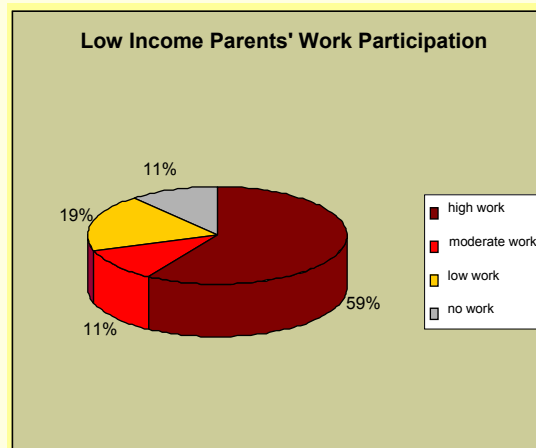
Investing in the Future of Families and Children

Center for American Women and Politics'
New England Forum for Women State Legislators
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The Annie E. Casey Foundation

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Since 1948, the Annie E. Casey Foundation has worked to build better futures for disadvantaged children and their families in the United States. The primary mission of the Foundation is to foster public policies, human service reforms, and community supports that more effectively meet the needs of today's vulnerable children and families.

Supporting Working Families



Why EITC, UI, Paid Leave?

These are policies that

- Mitigate risk;
- Support families' connection to the workforce;
- Promote continuous employment;
- Foster worker stability and family stability; and
- Ensure income security.

EITC—What difference does it make?

- What is the Earned Income Tax Credit?
- What it's worth (\$4,400 max for family with 2 kids)
- Its effectiveness as a work incentive and anti-poverty policy
- Its reach (22 million)



State	State EITC?
Maine	Nonrefundable 4.92% (back up to 5% in 2006)
New Hampshire	
Vermont	Refundable 32%
Massachusetts	Refundable 15%
Rhode Island	Nonrefundable (except small portion) 25%
Connecticut	

UI—What makes the difference?

Unemployment Insurance Policies that Make the Difference:

- Alternative Base Period;
- Survivors of Domestic Violence;
- Part-Time Parity;
- Family Hardship; and
- Temporary Disability Insurance.

	ABP	DV	Part Time	Family Hrdshp	TDI
CT	X	X			
RI	X	X	X	X unrestricted	X
MA	X	X excels		X	
VT	X		X excels		
NH	X	X			
ME	X	X	X		

Paid Leave Strategies

- Only 3 in 5 workers are protected by FMLA (unpaid) and a full 78% cannot take advantage of it because they cannot afford to give up a paycheck
- Half of private sector workers lack paid sick leave—59 million workers
- 24 million *low-wage* workers (3 out of 4) lack sick leave when they, themselves are sick.
- Only 1 in 10 low-wage workers is allowed to use their sick leave to care for their sick kids.
- The economic cost of family care giving is estimated at \$257B/yr. By 2008, it's expected that 2 out of 3 Americans will be the primary caregiver of an elderly relative.

Policy development underway in multiple states, notably ME and MA.

In summary...

Helping parents succeed as workers
and
Helping workers succeed as parents

- Bridge strategies instead of siloed work;
- Policies that mitigate risk;
- Connect to work force and *stay* connected;
- Policies that serve low-income workers *and* women workers.

Resources

- EITC
 - The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities www.cbpp.org
 - The state EITC site www.stateeitc.com

- UI
 - National Employment Law Center www.nelp.org

- Paid Leave
 - Institute for Women's Policy Research www.iwpr.org
 - National Partnership for Women and Families
www.nationalpartnership.org

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