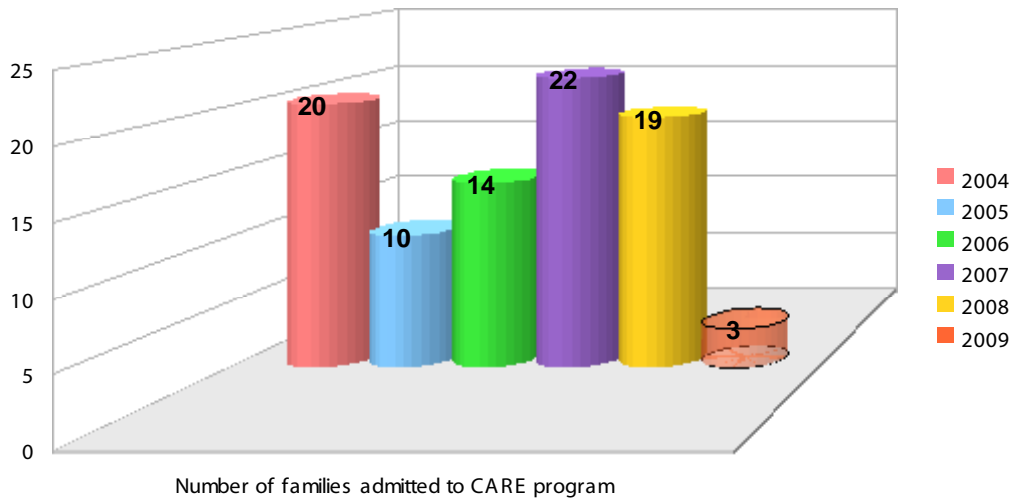


## “Keeping Kids Home” Program Statistics (2004-2009)

**Total number of families receiving help through the Program (February 2004 – March 2009): 126**

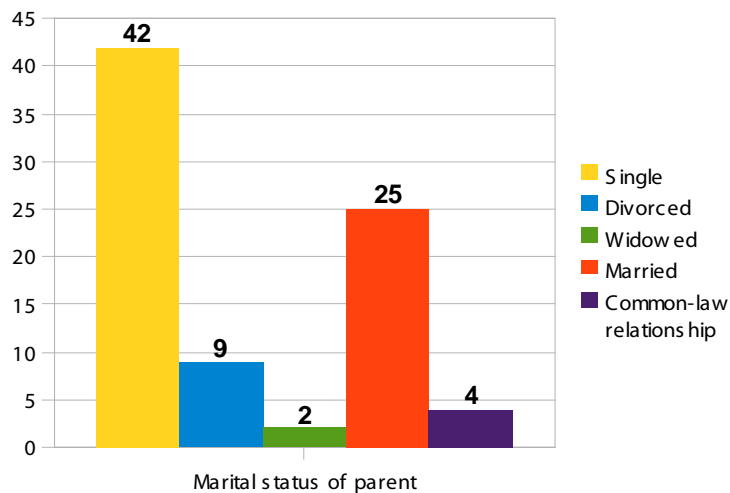
**Number of children under 6: 175      Number of children 6 and older: 87      Total number of children: 262**

The first stage of the Program was a one-time gift of groceries made to 44 needy families in the city of Vladimir. This took place in February of 2004. In July of 2004, six families entered a new stage of the Program: a one-year monthly sponsorship. The chart below shows how many families have been admitted to the sponsorship program in the years 2004-2009. (Statistics are only for the first quarter of 2009.)



Out of 82 families, six families were readmitted for a second year because of continuing need. They are counted twice in the above chart.

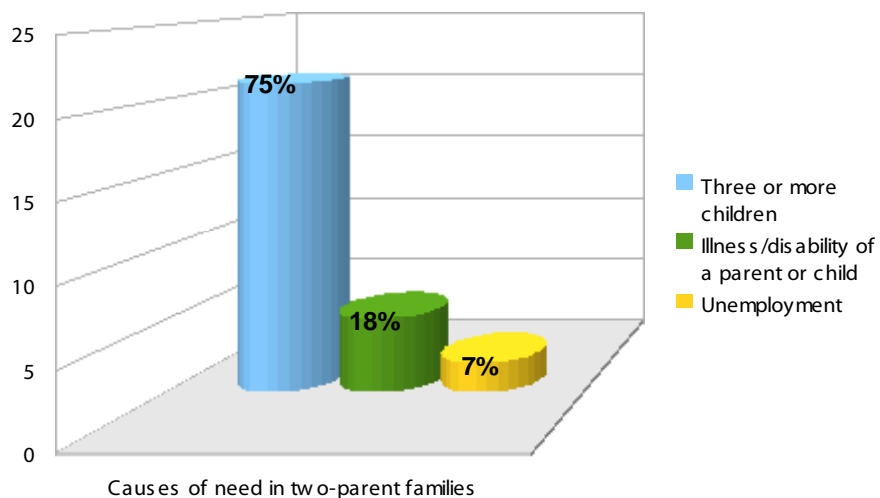
### Marital status:



As the above chart demonstrates, one of the most common causes of need in families is the absence of one parent. Single-parent families make up 65% of the total number of families who have taken part in Program.

Of those families where both parents are present (35% of the total number of families), 75% have three or more children. The Russian government officially recognizes any family with three or more children as a “large family,” because of the difficulty of supporting more than two children.

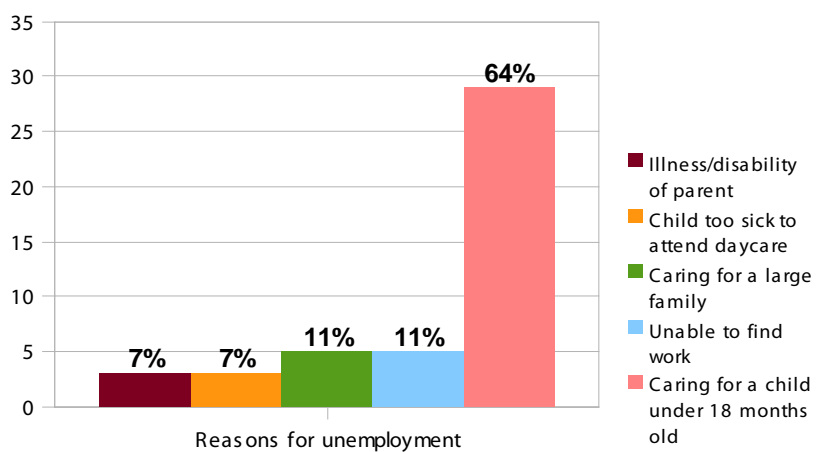
Other causes of need in complete families include illness or disability of a parent or child (18%) or

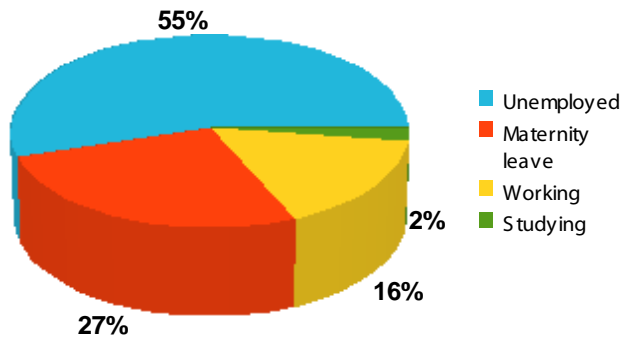


unemployment (7%):

In all cases where unemployment was a cause of need, at least one of the parents was employed by the time the family graduated from Program.

### Social status at admission:



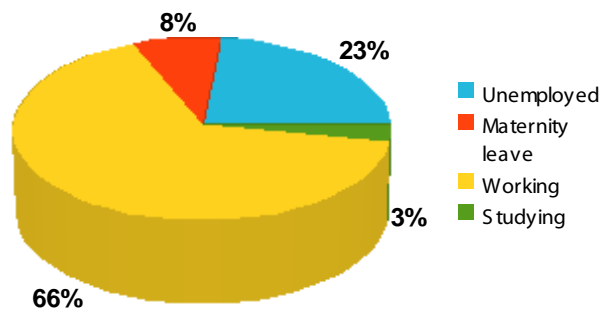


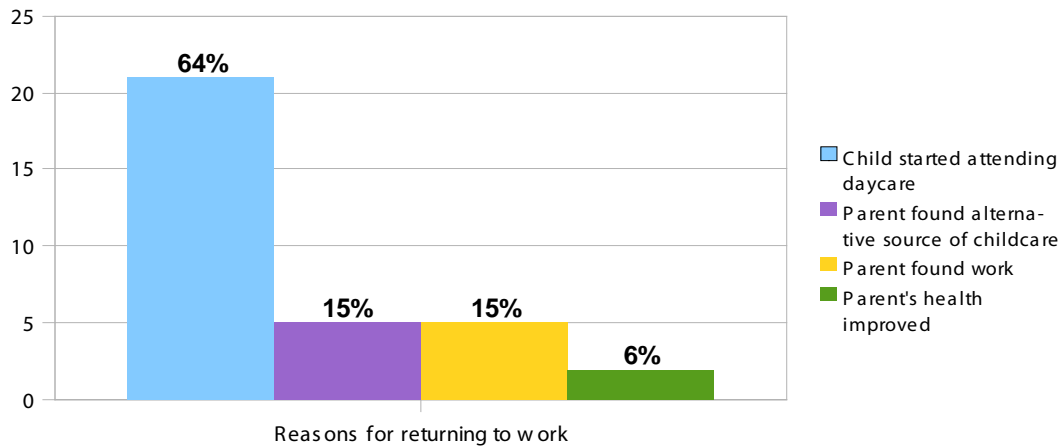
The single biggest reason for unemployment in families in Program is lack of childcare for children under 18 months of age. No daycare in Russia will take children under this age.

**Social status at graduation:**

14 parents remained unemployed at graduation. Reasons include caring for a large family, the birth of another child, or caring for a disabled child. In two cases, single mothers married, and then stayed home as the husband was supporting the family. In other cases, the parent was within two or three months of returning to work.

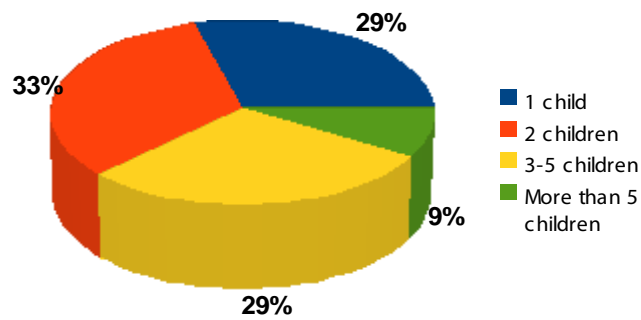
52% of parents returned to work by the end of the Program. The following chart highlights factors that made it possible for them to do so:

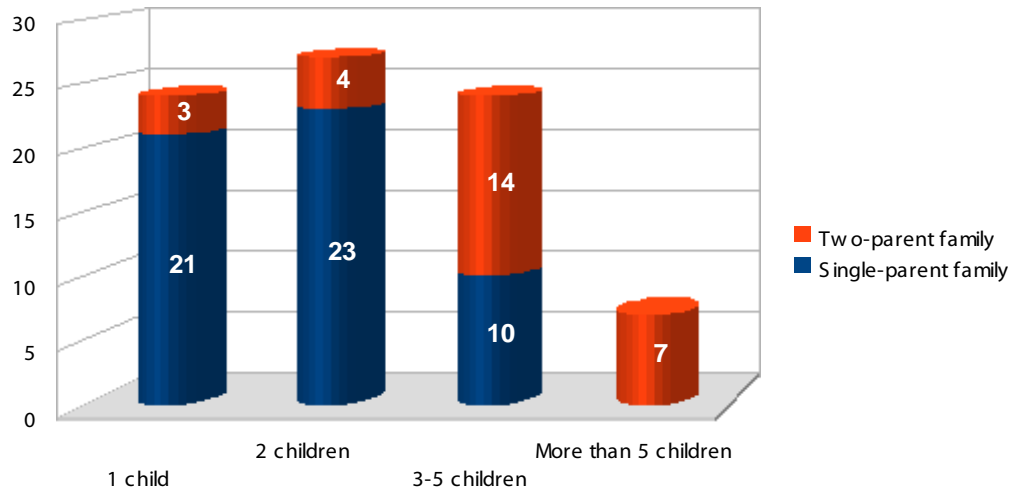




It can be concluded that the problem of child care is the single biggest issue keeping many parents from returning to work. As daycares get fuller, parents are kept out of the workforce longer, caring for children who in the past would have been able to attend daycare.

### Number of children in family:

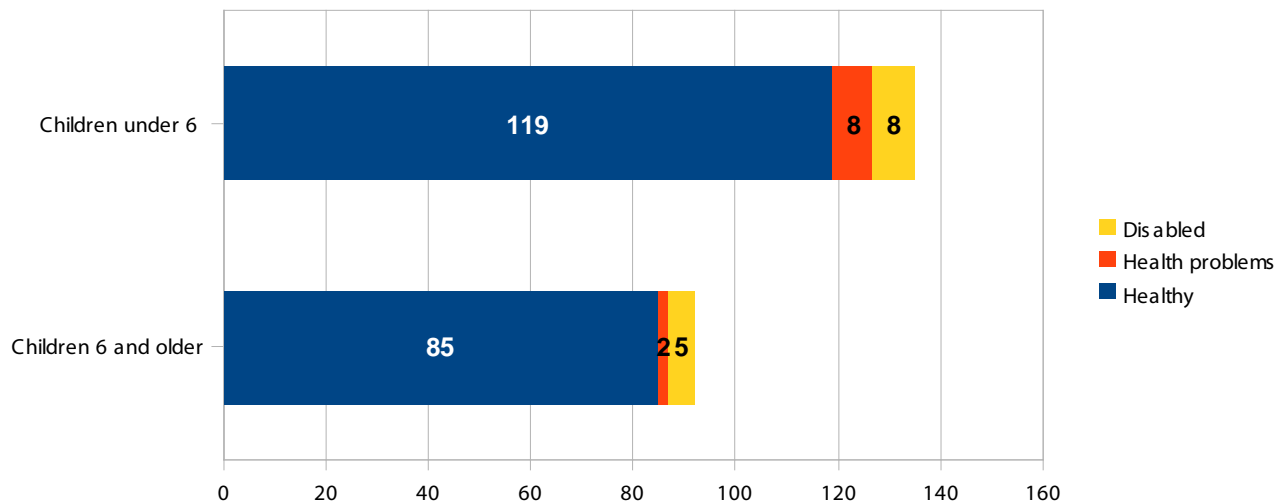




85% of families with two children are single-parent families. Although these families are not eligible by law for special discounts and help from the government as “large families,” none the less, a second child is a significantly larger financial burden for a single parent.

Of families with only one child, 88% are single-parent families. In this category, the fact that one parent is missing is the single greatest cause of poverty. In the remaining 12% (3 families), one parent is disabled, one is under 20 and completing her education, and one had lost his job (he and his family had to rent a place to live).

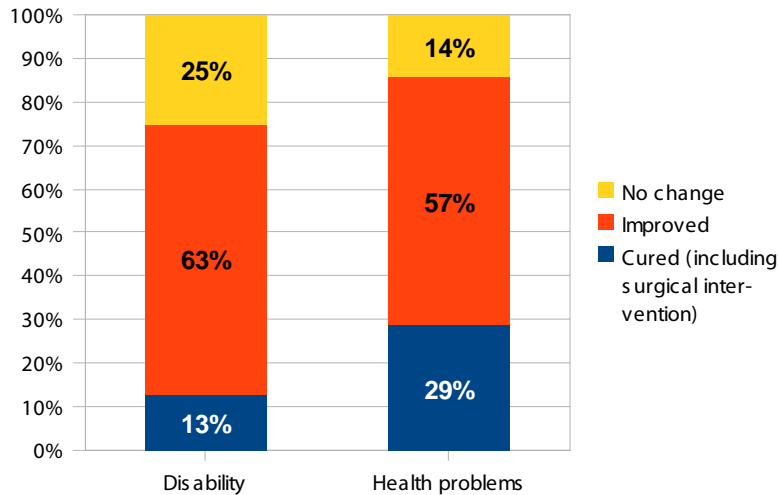
### Health of Children in the Program



26% percent of the families in this program have a child with some sort of health issues. 43% of these children have official disability status, which qualifies their families for extra welfare. **However, 75% of children under**

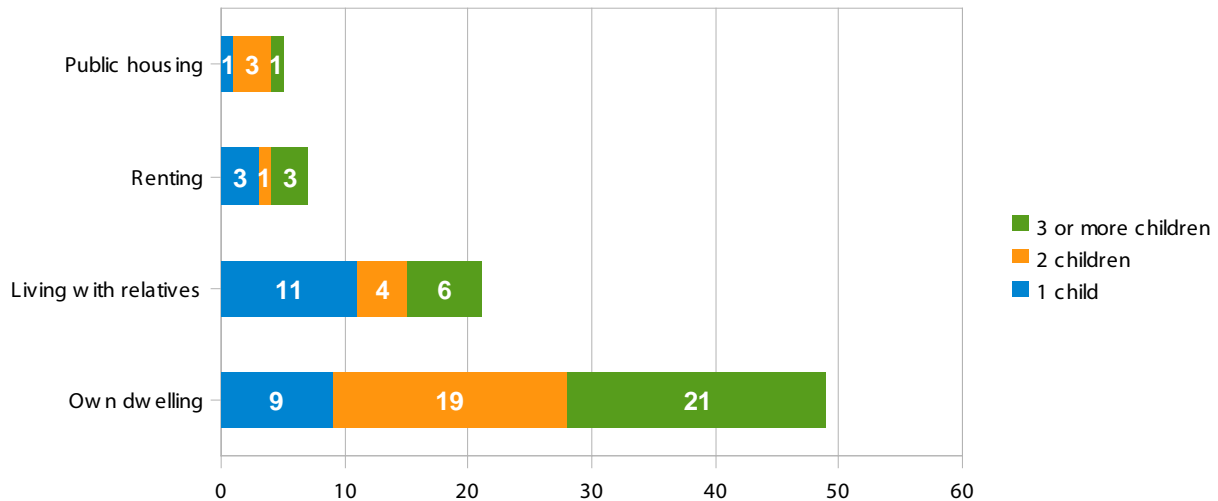
six with health problems failed to pass their medical exam to enter daycare, although none of them qualified for disability status. This means that, for six families, the parent's return to work was delayed for at least one more year, but without any government compensation for disability.

### Improvements in children's health during the Program



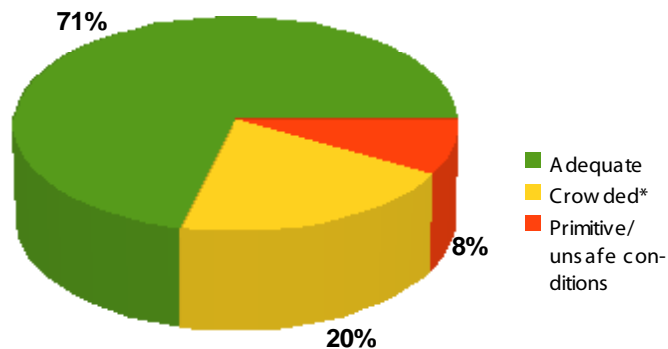
The most common health issue is heart defects, followed by chronic respiratory problems.

### Living situation of family:



40% of the families in the Program do not own a place to live. For over a third of those without their own home, this means having to rent a place to live. This extra expense is a significant factor in the need of these families.

## Living conditions:



\*Crowded is defined, in accordance with Russian law, as less than 10 square feet of living space per person. Although this technically qualifies families to receive a housing upgrade from the government, people have been told that there is a 15-20 year wait to receive an upgrade.

## Summary

Two main causes of poverty may be observed in the families in this program:

### 1) Single-parent family

The lack of one parent leaves the remaining parent struggling to meet the needs of his or her family, and unable to work at all if there are small children in the home.

### 2) Lack of available childcare for children under 2 years

Most of the families in this program are single parents who cannot work because they are caring for small children. Daycares are full and cannot take children under 1.5 years of age. Some children do not receive a place in daycare until 2 or 3 years of age. This keeps the parent out of the workforce longer and dependent on government and charitable help.

The Program is designed to provide support to families during times of crisis. This help is not financial, but takes the form of practical help to meet basic needs. The family is accepted into the program for a year. During this year, the family receives the following forms of help:

- groceries (monthly)
- hygiene supplies (twice yearly)
- clothing for children (once yearly)
- medicines (once yearly)

For most families, a year is long enough to allow them to improve their situation. The support they receive through Program is sufficient to carry them through a difficult time, until the children can attend daycare and the parents return to work. In situations of special need (illness of the parent or child, or other circumstances that prevent the parent from returning to work), the family may be readmitted to the program for a second year.

In three years of working with needy families, no family in the Program has ever abandoned their child to an orphanage. In addition, six mothers have made decisions not to abort their babies.