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UNPAID ELDERCARE IN THE UNITED STATES — 2015-16 DATA FROM THE AMERICAN TIME USE SURVEY

Sixteen percent of the civilian noninstitutional population age 15 and over (41.3 million people) provide unpaid eldercare, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. About one-fourth (26 percent) of eldercare providers engage in unpaid eldercare on a given day, spending an average of 2.8 hours providing this care. These estimates are averages for the 2-year period of 2015-16.

Eldercare providers are defined as individuals who provide unpaid care to someone age 65 or older who needs help because of a condition related to aging. This care can be provided to household or nonhousehold members, as well as persons living in retirement homes or assisted care facilities. Eldercare can involve a range of care activities, such as assisting with grooming, preparing meals, and providing transportation. Eldercare also can involve providing companionship or being available to assist when help is needed, and thus it can be associated with nearly any activity.

Information about eldercare providers and the time they spend providing care are collected as part of the American Time Use Survey (ATUS). The ATUS is a continuous household survey that provides estimates on how people spend their time. For a description of ATUS data, concepts, and methodology, see the Technical Note.

Eldercare providers in 2015-16

- Of the 41.3 million eldercare providers in the civilian noninstitutional population age 15 and over, the majority (56 percent) were women. (See table 1.)
- Individuals ages 55 to 64 were the most likely to provide eldercare (24 percent), followed by those ages 45 to 54 (21 percent) and those ages 65 and over (19 percent). (See table 1.)
- Almost one-half (48 percent) of eldercare providers had provided this care for 2 years or less, while 14 percent had provided care for 10 years or more. Forty-five percent of caregivers provided care daily or several times a week. (See table 2.)
- Thirty-nine percent of eldercare providers cared for someone age 85 or older, while 14 percent provided care for someone age 65 to 69. (See table 2.)

- A majority of all eldercare providers ages 15 to 34 cared for a grandparent. Providers ages 35 to 64 were more likely to care for a parent than were caregivers who were younger and older, and those ages 65 and over were more likely to care for a spouse. (See table 3.)
- Sixteen percent of eldercare providers cared solely for someone with whom they lived, and 83 percent cared solely for someone with whom they did not live. Those who provided eldercare for someone in their household were more than three times as likely to provide eldercare on a given day than those who provided care for someone living in another household—64 percent compared with 18 percent. (See tables 2 and 4.)

Time spent providing eldercare in 2015-16

- On a given day, about one-fourth (26 percent) of eldercare providers engaged in eldercare. Compared with those in other age groups, eldercare providers who were ages 65 and older were the most likely to provide care on a given day (38 percent). (See table 4.)
- On average over all days—including days they did and did not provide care—providers who cared solely for someone with whom they lived (6.5 million providers) spent 2.2 hours per day providing care. (See table 4.)
- Eldercare providers who cared solely for a parent spent an average of 49 minutes per day providing eldercare (includes days they did and did not provide care). (See table 4.)
- On days they provided eldercare, persons spent an average of 2.8 hours in caregiving activities. Providers ages 65 and over spent the most time providing eldercare (3.6 hours). (See table 4.)
- On weekend days they provided care, employed eldercare providers spent an average of 2.4 hours doing so. This compares to an average of 1.8 hours for employed caregivers who provided care on weekdays. (See table 4.)
- Women were more likely than men to provide eldercare on a given day—28 percent of female eldercare providers engaged in eldercare activities on an average day, compared with 23 percent of male eldercare providers. On days they provided eldercare, men and women spent about the same amount of time providing this care (2.8 hours and 2.9 hours, respectively). (See table 4.)

Eldercare activities in 2015-16

- On days they provided care, 37 percent of eldercare providers engaged in caregiving associated with household activities, spending on average 32 minutes per day in these activities. This includes 27 percent of providers who engaged in eldercare associated with food preparation and cleanup and 13 percent who provided eldercare associated with housework. (See table 5.)
- Thirty-seven percent of eldercare providers engaged in caregiving associated with leisure and sports on days they provided care, spending 1.0 hour per day in these activities. This includes 24 percent of eldercare providers who engaged in eldercare associated with socializing and communicating, spending 25 minutes per day in these activities. (See table 5.)

Eldercare providers who were parents of household children under age 18 in 2015-16

- There were 8.7 million eldercare providers who were parents of children living at home. Of these parents, about one-third (33 percent) had a child under age 6, and the remainder (67 percent) were parents whose youngest child was between the ages of 6 and 17. (See table 9.)
- Almost one-half (47 percent) of eldercare providers who were parents of children under the age of 18 provided care for their own parent. These persons sometimes are described as members of the “sandwich generation,” because they are in between two generations that require care. (See table 9.)
- Most (81 percent) eldercare providers who were parents were employed, and 64 percent were employed full time. Eighty-six percent of fathers were employed full time, compared with 48 percent of mothers. (See table 9.)
- Seventeen percent of eldercare providers who were parents had no spouse or unmarried partner present in the household. (See table 9.)
- Eldercare providers who were parents were less likely to provide daily care than the overall population of eldercare providers (14 percent compared with 21 percent) but just as likely to provide care several times a week (about 25 percent). (See tables 2 and 9.)

Technical Note

The estimates in this release are from the American Time Use Survey (ATUS). The ATUS, which is conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), is a continuous survey about how individuals age 15 and over spend their time. In the 2-year period of 2015–16, approximately 21,000 individuals were interviewed for the ATUS; of these, approximately 3,400 individuals were identified as eldercare providers. Data for the combined years of 2015–16 were used to facilitate a more in-depth analysis of eldercare.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Survey methodology

ATUS sample households are chosen from the households that completed their eighth (final) interview for the Current Population Survey (CPS), the nation's monthly labor force survey. ATUS sample households are selected to ensure that estimates will be nationally representative of the civilian noninstitutional population. One individual age 15 or over—referred to as the designated person—is randomly chosen from each sampled household. This person is interviewed by telephone once about his or her activities on the day before the interview.

All ATUS interviews are conducted using Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing. Procedures are in place to collect information from the small number of households that did not provide a telephone number during the CPS interview.

ATUS designated persons are preassigned a day of the week about which to report. Preassignment is designed to reduce variability in response rates across the week and to allow oversampling of weekend days so that accurate weekend day measures can be developed. Interviews occur on the day following the assigned day. For example, a person assigned to report about a Monday would be contacted on the following Tuesday. Ten percent of designated persons are assigned to report about each of the five weekdays. Twenty-five percent are assigned to report about each weekend day. Households are called for up to 8 consecutive weeks (for example, 8 Tuesdays) in order to secure an interview.

About the questionnaire

In the time diary portion of the ATUS interview, survey respondents sequentially report activities they did between 4 a.m. on the day before the interview until 4 a.m. on the day of the interview. For each activity, respondents are asked how long the activity lasted. For activities other than personal care activities (such as sleeping and grooming), interviewers also ask respondents where they were and who was in the room with them (if at home) or who accompanied

them (if away from home). If respondents report doing more than one activity at a time, they are asked to identify which one was their main activity. If none can be identified, the interviewer records the first activity mentioned. After completing the time diary, interviewers ask additional questions, including questions to identify eldercare providers and activities done as eldercare. Questions on eldercare were added to the survey in 2011.

After completing the interview, activity descriptions are assigned a single 6-digit code using the ATUS Coding Lexicon. The 3-tier coding system consists of 17 major activity categories, each with multiple second- and third-tier subcategories. These coding lexicon categories are then combined into composite categories for publication. Descriptions of categories shown in this release can be found in the Activity definitions section of this Technical Note. The ATUS Coding Lexicons can be accessed at www.bls.gov/tus/lexicons.htm.

Concepts and definitions

Average day. The average day measure reflects an average distribution across all persons in the reference population and all days of the week.

Average hours per day. The average number of hours spent in a 24-hour day (between 4 a.m. on the diary day and 4 a.m. on the interview day) doing a specified activity.

- *Average hours per day, population.* The average number of hours per day is computed using all responses from a given population, including those of respondents who did not do a particular activity on their diary day. These estimates reflect how many population members engaged in an activity and the amount of time they spent doing it.
- *Average hours per day, persons who did the activity.* The average number of hours per day is computed using only responses from those who engaged in a particular activity on their diary day.

Condition related to aging. An ongoing ailment or physical or emotional limitation that typically affects older people, such as becoming more frail; having difficulty seeing, hearing, or physically moving; becoming more forgetful; tiring more quickly; or having specific medical ailments that are more common among older adults. It also refers to existing conditions that become progressively worse as one ages.

Diary day. The diary day is the day about which the respondent reports. For example, the diary day of a respondent interviewed on Tuesday is Monday.

Eldercare. Eldercare is providing unpaid care or assistance to an individual who needed help because of a condition related to aging. This care can be provided by a family member or non-family member. Care can be provided in the recipient's home, the provider's home, or a care facility such as a nursing home.

Eldercare can involve a range of care activities, such as assisting with grooming and feeding, preparing meals, arranging medical care, and providing transportation. Eldercare also can involve providing companionship or being available to assist when help is needed, and thus it can be associated with nearly any activity.

Estimates of the time spent providing eldercare are derived by summing the durations of activities during which respondents provided care or assistance for an adult who needed help because of a condition related to aging. These estimates never include times the respondent reported sleeping, grooming, or engaging in personal care services.

Eldercare provider. An individual who provided eldercare more than one time in the 3 to 4 months prior to the interview day. The time frame varies slightly by respondent because the question asks about care provided between the first day of a given reference month and the interview day. Estimates are restricted to eldercare providers caring for at least one person age 65 or older.

Employment status

- *Employed.* All persons who:
 - 1) At any time during the 7 days prior to the interview did any work at all as paid employees, or worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm; or
 - 2) Were not working during the 7 days prior to the interview but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, bad weather, vacation, childcare problems, labor-management disputes, maternity or paternity leave, job training, or other family or personal reasons, whether or not they were paid for the time off or were seeking other jobs; or
 - 3) Usually worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family-operated enterprise.
- *Employed full time.* Full-time workers are those who usually worked 35 or more hours per week at all jobs combined.
- *Employed part time.* Part-time workers are those who usually worked fewer than 35 hours per week at all jobs combined.

- *Not employed.* Persons are not employed if they do not meet the conditions for employment. People who are not employed include those classified as unemployed as well as those classified as not in the labor force (using CPS definitions).

Household children. Household children are children under age 18 residing in the household of the ATUS respondent. The children may be related to the respondent (such as his or her own children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews, or brothers or sisters) or not related (such as foster children or children of roommates or boarders).

Primary activity. A primary activity is the main activity a respondent was doing at a specified time.

Weekday, weekend, and holiday estimates. Estimates for weekdays are an average of reports about Monday through Friday. Estimates for weekend days and holidays are an average of reports about Saturdays, Sundays, and the following holidays: New Year's Day, Easter, Memorial Day, the Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. In 2016, data were not collected about Christmas Day.

Activity definitions

The following definitions describe the activities associated with eldercare appearing in this release. These are diary activities that survey respondents identified as ones during which they had provided care or assistance for an adult who needed help because of a condition related to aging.

Eating and drinking. All time spent eating or drinking (except eating and drinking done as part of a work or volunteer activity) is classified here.

Household activities. Household activities are activities done by people to maintain their households. These include housework; cooking; lawn and garden care; pet care; vehicle maintenance and repair; home maintenance, repair, decoration, and renovation; and household management and organizational activities (such as filling out paperwork or planning a party). Food preparation, whether or not reported as done specifically for another household member, is always classified as a household activity unless it was done as a volunteer, work, or income-generating activity, or when done for a nonhousehold member.

Purchasing goods and services. This category includes time spent obtaining, receiving, and purchasing consumer goods, professional services, household services, and government services. Consumer purchases include most purchases and rentals of consumer goods. Professional services refer to financial services and banking, legal services, medical and adult care services, real estate services, and veterinary services. Household services include

housecleaning; cooking; lawn care and landscaping; pet care; tailoring, laundering, and dry cleaning; vehicle maintenance and repairs; and home repairs, maintenance, and construction. This category also captures the time spent obtaining government services—such as applying for food stamps—and purchasing government-required licenses or paying fines or fees.

Caring for and helping household members. Time spent doing activities to care for members of the household, regardless of relationship to the respondent or the physical or mental health status of the person being helped, is classified here. This category includes a range of activities done to benefit members of households, such as providing physical and medical care or obtaining medical services.

Caring for and helping nonhousehold members. This category includes time spent in activities done to care for or help individuals who do not live in the household. When done for or through an organization, time spent helping nonhousehold members is classified as volunteering, rather than as helping nonhousehold members.

Working and work-related activities. This category includes time spent working, doing activities as part of one's job, engaging in income-generating activities not as part of one's job, and job search activities. "Working" includes hours spent doing the specific tasks required of one's main or other job, regardless of location or time of day. "Work-related activities" include activities that are not obviously work but are done as part of one's job, such as having a business lunch and playing golf with clients. "Other income-generating activities" are those done "on the side" or under informal arrangement and are not part of a regular job. Such activities might include selling homemade crafts, maintaining a rental property, or having a yard sale. These activities are those for which people are paid or will be paid.

Organizational, civic, and religious activities. This category captures time spent volunteering for or through an organization, performing civic obligations, and participating in religious and spiritual activities.

Leisure and sports. The leisure and sports category includes time spent in sports, exercise, and recreation; socializing and communicating; and other leisure activities. Sports, exercise, and recreation activities include participating in—as well as attending or watching—sports, exercise, and recreational activities. Recreational activities include yard games like croquet or horseshoes, as well as activities like billiards and dancing. Socializing and communicating includes face-to-face social communication and hosting or attending social functions. Leisure activities include watching television; reading; relaxing or thinking; playing computer, board, or card games; using a computer or the Internet for personal interest; playing or listening to music; and other activities, such as attending arts, cultural, and entertainment events.

Telephone calls, mail, and e-mail. This category captures time spent in telephone communication and handling household or personal mail or e-mail. This category also includes texting and Internet voice and video calling.

Traveling. This category includes all travel, regardless of mode or purpose, as well as security procedures related to traveling.

Other activities, not elsewhere classified. This is a residual category intended to capture activities not elsewhere classified in each table. These might be ambiguous activities that could not be coded, missing activities, or activities that occurred very infrequently. Missing activities result when respondents do not remember what they did for a period of time, or when they consider an activity too private or personal to report. This category includes a small amount of time that was spent in educational activities, as no educational activities category appears in the tables.

Processing and estimation

After ATUS data are collected, they go through an editing and imputation procedure. Responses to CPS questions that are re-asked in the ATUS go through the regular CPS edit and imputation procedures. Some item nonresponses for questions unique to the ATUS also are imputed.

ATUS records are weighted quarterly to reduce bias in the estimates due to differences in sampling and response rates across subpopulations and days of the week. Specifically, the data are weighted to ensure the following:

- Weekdays represent about 5/7 of the weighted data, and weekend days represent about 2/7 of the weighted data for the population as a whole. The actual proportions depend on the number of weekdays and weekend days in a given quarter.
- The sum of the weights is equal to the number of person-days in the quarter for the population as a whole and for selected subpopulations (the population times the number of days in the quarter).

Reliability of the estimates

Statistics based on the ATUS are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. When a sample, rather than the entire population, is surveyed, estimates differ from the true population values they represent. The component of this difference that occurs because samples differ by chance is known as *sampling error*, and its variability is measured by the standard error of the estimate.

Sample estimates from a given survey design are unbiased when an average of the estimates from all possible samples would yield, hypothetically, the true population value. In this case, the sample estimate and its standard error can be used to construct approximate confidence intervals, or ranges of values that include the true population value with known probabilities. If the process of selecting a sample

from the population were repeated many times, an estimate made from each sample, and a suitable estimate of its standard error calculated for each sample, then approximately 90 percent of the intervals from 1.645 standard errors below the estimate to 1.645 standard errors above the estimate would include the true population value. BLS analyses are generally conducted at the 90-percent level of confidence.

The ATUS data also are affected by *nonsampling error*, which is the average difference between population and sample values for samples generated by a given process. Nonsampling error can occur for many reasons, including the failure to sample a segment of the population, inability to obtain information for all respondents in the sample, inability or unwillingness of respondents to provide correct information, and errors made in the collection or processing of the data. Errors also could occur if nonresponse is correlated with time use.

Nonsampling error and eldercare. Eldercare done for a spouse or partner may be underreported, especially when the care provided has only recently become necessary. For example, a survey respondent who has always prepared the family dinner may not view cooking as an eldercare activity; if her husband is no longer capable of preparing his own meals, though, he depends on this assistance and it meets the definition of eldercare.

Additionally, nonsampling error affects data on the frequency of care. Survey respondents were asked how often they provided eldercare in recent months and whether they provided eldercare on the diary day. Information about care provided on the diary day was used to calculate daily participation rates. There are some inconsistencies between the reported frequency of care and the actual provision of eldercare on an average day. For example, in 2015–16, only 64 percent of eldercare providers who self-reported providing care "daily" actually provided eldercare on an average day. This discrepancy reflects some respondents' choice of "daily" rather than "several times a week" or another option to best describe their eldercare frequency, even while acknowledging they had not provided care on the diary day.

ATUS publication standards

Estimates of average hours per day and participation rates are not published unless there are a minimum number of respondents representing the given population. Additional publication criteria are applied that include the number of respondents who reported doing a specified activity and the standard error or coefficient of variation for the estimate. Estimates that are considered "close to zero" or that round to 0.00, are published as approximately zero. For a detailed description of the statistical reliability criteria necessary for publication, please contact ATUS staff at ATUSinfo@bls.gov.

Table 1. Number and percent of the U.S. population who were eldercare providers by sex and selected characteristics, averages for the combined years 2015-16

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Total			Men			Women		
	Civilian noninstitutional population	Eldercare providers		Civilian noninstitutional population	Eldercare providers		Civilian noninstitutional population	Eldercare providers	
		Number	Percent of population		Number	Percent of population		Number	Percent of population
Age									
Total, 15 years and over.....	256,387	41,324	16.1	123,882	18,142	14.6	132,505	23,182	17.5
15 to 24 years.....	42,723	4,876	11.4	21,557	2,365	11.0	21,167	2,510	11.9
25 to 34 years.....	43,161	3,590	8.3	21,291	1,626	7.6	21,870	1,964	9.0
35 to 44 years.....	39,759	4,790	12.0	19,521	2,032	10.4	20,238	2,758	13.6
45 to 54 years.....	42,520	9,086	21.4	20,788	4,236	20.4	21,732	4,850	22.3
55 to 64 years.....	40,953	9,961	24.3	19,673	4,265	21.7	21,279	5,696	26.8
65 years and over.....	47,271	9,021	19.1	21,052	3,618	17.2	26,219	5,403	20.6
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity¹									
White.....	206,678	34,718	16.8	101,077	15,088	14.9	105,601	19,630	18.6
Black or African American.....	31,552	4,579	14.5	14,373	1,928	13.4	17,179	2,651	15.4
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	41,114	3,837	9.3	20,514	1,652	8.1	20,600	2,186	10.6
Employment status									
Employed.....	159,320	25,332	15.9	84,594	12,234	14.5	74,726	13,098	17.5
Full-time workers.....	123,608	18,488	15.0	71,574	9,851	13.8	52,034	8,637	16.6
Part-time workers.....	35,712	6,844	19.2	13,020	2,383	18.3	22,692	4,461	19.7
Not employed.....	97,066	15,992	16.5	39,287	5,908	15.0	57,779	10,084	17.5
Educational attainment, 25 years and over									
Less than a high school diploma.....	22,621	2,306	10.2	11,749	1,179	10.0	10,873	1,127	10.4
High school graduates, no college.....	62,197	10,261	16.5	30,244	4,811	15.9	31,953	5,450	17.1
Some college or associate degree.....	52,667	9,892	18.8	23,721	3,630	15.3	28,946	6,262	21.6
Bachelor's degree and higher.....	76,178	13,989	18.4	36,611	6,157	16.8	39,566	7,832	19.8
Parent of household children under 18 years									
Parent of one or more household children.....	69,109	8,655	12.5	30,697	3,605	11.7	38,412	5,050	13.1
Parent of household children age 6 to 17, none younger.....	37,429	5,827	15.6	16,718	2,443	14.6	20,711	3,384	16.3
Parent of a household child under age 6.....	31,680	2,828	8.9	13,978	1,162	8.3	17,701	1,666	9.4
Not a parent of a household child.....	187,278	32,669	17.4	93,185	14,537	15.6	94,093	18,132	19.3
Marital status									
No spouse or unmarried partner present in household.....	112,450	15,277	13.6	52,261	6,534	12.5	60,189	8,743	14.5
Spouse or unmarried partner present in household.....	143,936	26,047	18.1	71,621	11,608	16.2	72,315	14,439	20.0

¹ Not all race categories are shown. Persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity may be of any race.

NOTE: Eldercare providers are those who, in the previous 3 to 4 months, cared for someone with a condition related to aging. Estimates were calculated for persons who cared for at least one person age 65 or older. Unless otherwise specified, data refer to persons 15 years and over.

Table 2. Eldercare providers by sex and selected characteristics related to care provided, averages for the combined years 2015-16

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Eldercare providers					
	Total		Men		Women	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total, 15 years and over.....	41,324	100.0	18,142	100.0	23,182	100.0
Parent of household children under 18 years						
Parent of one or more household children.....	8,655	20.9	3,605	19.9	5,050	21.8
Parent of a household child age 6 to 17, none younger.....	5,827	14.1	2,443	13.5	3,384	14.6
Parent of a household child under age 6.....	2,828	6.8	1,162	6.4	1,666	7.2
Not a parent of a household child.....	32,669	79.1	14,537	80.1	18,132	78.2
Number of care recipients						
Caring for one person.....	29,376	71.1	12,722	70.1	16,655	71.8
Caring for two persons.....	8,833	21.4	3,862	21.3	4,971	21.4
Caring for three or more persons.....	3,114	7.5	1,558	8.6	1,556	6.7
Relationship to care recipient						
Total, all eldercare providers.....	41,324	- ¹	18,142	- ¹	23,182	- ¹
Caring for a spouse or unmarried partner ²	3,109	7.5	984	5.4	2,124	9.2
Caring for a parent.....	17,205	41.6	7,367	40.6	9,837	42.4
Caring for a grandparent ³	6,881	16.7	3,031	16.7	3,850	16.6
Caring for another related person.....	10,419	25.2	5,247	28.9	5,173	22.3
Caring for a friend or neighbor.....	6,665	16.1	2,910	16.0	3,755	16.2
Caring for someone else.....	2,143	5.2	861	4.7	1,282	5.5
Eldercare providers caring for one person only.....	29,376	100.0	12,722	100.0	16,655	100.0
Caring for a spouse or unmarried partner ²	2,809	9.6	952	7.5	1,857	11.1
Caring for a parent.....	11,494	39.1	4,771	37.5	6,723	40.4
Caring for a grandparent ³	4,507	15.3	1,807	14.2	2,700	16.2
Caring for another related person.....	5,966	20.3	3,169	24.9	2,797	16.8
Caring for a friend or neighbor.....	3,610	12.3	1,621	12.7	1,989	11.9
Caring for someone else.....	991	3.4	402	3.2	590	3.5
Age of care recipient						
Total, all eldercare providers.....	41,324	- ¹	18,142	- ¹	23,182	- ¹
Caring for someone age 65 to 69.....	5,767	14.0	2,859	15.8	2,909	12.5
Caring for someone age 70 to 74.....	7,499	18.1	3,123	17.2	4,376	18.9
Caring for someone age 75 to 79.....	8,496	20.6	4,179	23.0	4,316	18.6
Caring for someone age 80 to 84.....	10,526	25.5	4,964	27.4	5,562	24.0
Caring for someone age 85 or older.....	16,176	39.1	6,466	35.6	9,710	41.9
Eldercare providers caring for one person only.....	29,376	100.0	12,722	100.0	16,655	100.0
Caring for someone age 65 to 69.....	3,295	11.2	1,557	12.2	1,738	10.4
Caring for someone age 70 to 74.....	4,146	14.1	1,539	12.1	2,607	15.7

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Eldercare providers by sex and selected characteristics related to care provided, averages for the combined years 2015-16 — Continued
 [Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Eldercare providers					
	Total		Men		Women	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Caring for someone age 75 to 79.....	4,912	16.7	2,459	19.3	2,453	14.7
Caring for someone age 80 to 84.....	6,408	21.8	3,013	23.7	3,396	20.4
Caring for someone age 85 or older.....	10,616	36.1	4,154	32.7	6,462	38.8
Care of household or nonhousehold members						
Provided eldercare to household member(s) only.....	6,544	15.8	2,838	15.6	3,706	16.0
Provided eldercare to nonhousehold member(s) only.....	34,243	82.9	15,166	83.6	19,078	82.3
Provided eldercare to both household and nonhousehold person(s).....	536	1.3	138	0.8	398	1.7
Frequency of care⁴						
Provided care daily.....	8,538	20.7	3,287	18.1	5,251	22.6
Provided care several times a week.....	10,264	24.8	4,564	25.2	5,700	24.6
Provided care once a week.....	6,777	16.4	3,010	16.6	3,766	16.2
Provided care several times a month.....	8,574	20.7	4,178	23.0	4,396	19.0
Provided care once a month.....	5,267	12.7	2,392	13.2	2,875	12.4
Other.....	1,904	4.6	710	3.9	1,194	5.1
Duration of care⁵						
Provided care for less than 1 year.....	9,607	23.2	3,680	20.3	5,927	25.6
Provided care for 1 to 2 years.....	10,267	24.8	4,482	24.7	5,785	25.0
Provided care for 3 to 4 years.....	7,595	18.4	3,125	17.2	4,470	19.3
Provided care for 5 to 9 years.....	8,122	19.7	3,937	21.7	4,185	18.1
Provided care for 10 years or more.....	5,734	13.9	2,919	16.1	2,815	12.1

¹ Categories sum to more than 100 percent because some eldercare providers cared for more than one person.

² Care for a spouse or unmarried partner may be underreported. See the Technical Note for more information.

³ Refers only to persons caring for a grandparent who did not live with them. Persons caring for a grandparent with whom they lived are included in the category "Caring for another related person."

⁴ Survey participants were asked how often they provided care in the past 3 to 4 months; this information was used to categorize them by frequency of care.

⁵ For persons who provided eldercare to more than 1 person, the duration of care is calculated based on the person for whom they had cared the longest.

NOTE: Eldercare providers are those who, in the previous 3 to 4 months, cared for someone with a condition related to aging. Estimates were calculated for persons who cared for at least one person age 65 or older. Data refer to persons 15 years and over.

Table 3. Eldercare providers by relationship to care recipient and selected characteristics of eldercare providers, averages for the combined years 2015-16

Characteristic	Number of eldercare providers (in thousands)	Percent of eldercare providers caring for ¹					
		A spouse or unmarried partner ²	A parent	A grandparent ³	Another related person	A friend or neighbor	Someone else
Age							
Total, 15 years and over.....	41,324	7.5	41.6	16.7	25.2	16.1	5.2
15 to 24 years.....	4,876	— ⁴	2.0	74.9	16.9	8.8	5.0
25 to 34 years.....	3,590	— ⁴	26.1	50.1	21.8	9.3	6.3
35 to 44 years.....	4,790	0.3	48.7	23.1	24.0	15.7	5.0
45 to 54 years.....	9,086	0.9	67.4	3.3	25.2	13.5	3.7
55 to 64 years.....	9,961	4.2	60.2	0.2	29.0	14.8	5.3
65 years and over.....	9,021	28.8	18.9	— ⁴	27.6	27.1	6.3
Sex							
Men.....	18,142	5.4	40.6	16.7	28.9	16.0	4.7
Women.....	23,182	9.2	42.4	16.6	22.3	16.2	5.5
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity⁵							
White.....	34,718	8.2	41.9	16.4	25.2	15.8	4.7
Black or African American.....	4,579	3.9	40.6	17.6	26.5	17.6	7.7
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	3,837	7.0	40.1	21.6	24.7	12.9	3.4
Employment status							
Employed.....	25,332	2.6	48.8	17.5	26.7	14.0	5.0
Full-time workers.....	18,488	1.6	53.4	14.3	28.0	12.2	4.8
Part-time workers.....	6,844	5.1	36.4	26.1	23.3	18.8	5.4
Not employed.....	15,992	15.4	30.3	15.4	22.8	19.5	5.5
Educational attainment, 25 years and over							
Less than a high school diploma.....	2,306	13.2	35.8	6.1	26.1	18.2	7.8
High school graduates, no college.....	10,261	11.0	44.6	9.1	28.4	15.5	4.7
Some college or associate degree.....	9,892	8.7	46.5	10.1	25.0	19.0	5.3
Bachelor's degree and higher.....	13,989	5.8	50.8	8.3	25.8	16.8	5.1
Parent of household children under 18 years							
Parent of one or more household children.....	8,655	0.4	46.6	22.7	27.1	12.2	4.8
Parent of a household child age 6 to 17, none younger.....	5,827	0.5	55.6	13.1	27.2	12.6	4.7
Parent of a household child under age 6.....	2,828	0.4	28.2	42.5	27.0	11.3	5.0
Not a parent of a household child.....	32,669	9.4	40.3	15.0	24.7	17.2	5.3
Marital status							
No spouse or unmarried partner present in household.....	15,277	1.5	37.3	30.5	16.6	19.4	5.8
Spouse or unmarried partner present in household.....	26,047	11.1	44.2	8.5	30.3	14.2	4.8

¹ Categories sum to more than 100 percent because some eldercare providers cared for multiple persons with whom they had different relationships.

² Care for a spouse or unmarried partner may be underreported. See the Technical Note for more information.

³ Refers only to persons caring for a grandparent who did not live with them. Persons caring for a grandparent with whom they lived are included in the category "Another related person."

⁴ Estimate is approximately zero.

⁵ Not all race categories are shown. Persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity may be of any race.

NOTE: Eldercare providers are those who, in the previous 3 to 4 months, cared for someone with a condition related to aging. Estimates were calculated for persons who cared for at least one person age 65 or older. Unless otherwise specified, data refer to persons 15 years and over.

Table 4. Percent of eldercare providers who provided care on an average day and time spent providing this care by day of week and selected characteristics, averages for the combined years 2015-16

Characteristic	Number of eldercare providers (in thousands)	Percent of eldercare providers who provided care on an average day			Average hours per day eldercare providers spent providing care			Average hours per day eldercare providers spent providing care on days they engaged in eldercare		
		Total, all days	Weekdays	Weekends and holidays	Total, all days	Weekdays	Weekends and holidays	Total, all days	Weekdays	Weekends and holidays
Age										
Total, 15 years and over.....	41,324	25.7	25.6	25.9	0.73	0.71	0.78	2.84	2.76	3.03
15 to 24 years.....	4,876	13.1	14.5	9.0	0.19	0.19	0.19	1.48	1.34	2.16
25 to 34 years.....	3,590	18.5	17.2	21.5	0.37	- ¹	0.58	2.00	1.62	2.69
35 to 44 years.....	4,790	22.5	22.3	23.0	0.54	0.51	0.61	2.41	2.28	2.68
45 to 54 years.....	9,086	22.2	22.0	22.5	0.54	0.50	0.64	2.44	2.25	2.87
55 to 64 years.....	9,961	28.3	26.6	32.2	0.82	0.80	0.85	2.89	3.02	2.63
65 years and over.....	9,021	37.9	39.5	33.9	1.36	1.37	1.31	3.58	3.47	3.88
Sex										
Men.....	18,142	23.0	22.7	23.9	0.64	0.63	0.67	2.77	2.76	2.79
Women.....	23,182	27.8	28.0	27.5	0.80	0.77	0.87	2.88	2.76	3.18
Race and Hispanic or Latino ethnicity²										
White.....	34,718	25.9	25.5	26.9	0.72	0.69	0.79	2.78	2.71	2.95
Black or African American.....	4,579	23.7	24.5	21.9	0.80	0.79	0.81	3.36	3.21	3.72
Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.....	3,837	37.4	37.4	37.3	1.16	1.07	1.39	3.11	2.86	3.72
Employment status										
Employed.....	25,332	20.1	18.9	22.9	0.40	0.34	0.55	1.99	1.78	2.40
Full-time workers.....	18,488	19.2	17.8	22.4	0.39	0.32	0.54	2.01	1.79	2.41
Part-time workers.....	6,844	22.5	21.8	24.4	0.44	0.38	0.58	1.95	1.76	2.39
Not employed.....	15,992	34.7	36.3	30.7	1.25	1.29	1.16	3.61	3.56	3.77
Educational attainment, 25 years and over										
Less than a high school diploma.....	2,306	35.1	- ¹	- ¹	1.24	1.05	1.63	3.52	3.22	4.03
High school graduates, no college.....	10,261	32.1	31.6	33.4	0.96	0.95	0.99	3.00	3.01	2.97
Some college or associate degree.....	9,892	28.6	30.0	25.4	0.76	0.77	0.75	2.67	2.57	2.94
Bachelor's degree and higher.....	13,989	21.8	21.2	23.3	0.64	0.62	0.69	2.92	2.91	2.95
Parent of household children under 18 years										
Parent of one or more household children.....	8,655	18.4	18.0	19.0	0.41	0.37	0.49	2.23	2.08	2.55
Parent of a household child age 6 to 17, none younger.....	5,827	20.0	21.2	17.2	0.45	0.50	0.36	2.27	2.34	2.08
Parent of a household child under age 6.....	2,828	15.0	11.3	22.6	0.32	0.12	0.73	2.13	- ¹	3.24
Not a parent of a household child.....	32,669	27.7	27.5	27.9	0.81	0.79	0.87	2.94	2.87	3.12

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Percent of eldercare providers who provided care on an average day and time spent providing this care by day of week and selected characteristics, averages for the combined years 2015-16
— Continued

Characteristic	Number of eldercare providers (in thousands)	Percent of eldercare providers who provided care on an average day			Average hours per day eldercare providers spent providing care			Average hours per day eldercare providers spent providing care on days they engaged in eldercare		
		Total, all days	Weekdays	Weekends and holidays	Total, all days	Weekdays	Weekends and holidays	Total, all days	Weekdays	Weekends and holidays
Marital status										
No spouse or unmarried partner present in household.....	15,277	27.1	27.2	26.9	0.67	0.64	0.75	2.47	2.34	2.77
Spouse or unmarried partner present in household.....	26,047	24.9	24.7	25.4	0.77	0.75	0.81	3.07	3.03	3.18
Number of care recipients										
Caring for one person.....	29,376	27.1	26.6	28.3	0.83	0.80	0.90	3.05	3.00	3.17
Caring for two persons.....	8,833	23.5	24.6	21.0	0.54	0.53	0.54	2.27	2.17	2.57
Caring for three or more persons.....	3,114	18.8	19.5	17.2	0.37	0.36	- ¹	1.95	1.83	2.31
Relationship to care recipient³										
Eldercare providers caring for one person only.....	29,376	27.1	26.6	28.3	0.83	0.80	0.90	3.05	3.00	3.17
Caring for a spouse or unmarried partner ⁴	2,809	65.6	- ¹	- ¹	2.78	2.72	2.91	4.24	4.13	4.49
Caring for a parent.....	11,494	29.3	28.7	30.6	0.82	0.79	0.89	2.80	2.74	2.92
Caring for a grandparent ⁵	4,507	12.6	12.9	12.1	0.28	0.23	- ¹	2.24	1.78	3.39
Caring for another related person.....	5,966	23.9	22.1	29.2	0.76	0.76	0.74	3.16	3.44	2.55
Caring for a friend or neighbor.....	3,610	14.4	14.5	14.2	0.26	0.20	- ¹	1.82	1.40	2.81
Age of care recipient										
Eldercare providers caring for one person only.....	29,376	27.1	26.6	28.3	0.83	0.80	0.90	3.05	3.00	3.17
Caring for someone age 65 to 69.....	3,295	25.6	25.9	24.9	0.59	0.59	- ¹	2.30	2.27	2.41
Caring for someone age 70 to 74.....	4,146	22.2	23.1	20.0	0.68	0.72	0.57	3.04	3.11	2.85
Caring for someone age 75 to 79.....	4,912	23.8	21.4	29.6	0.72	0.61	0.96	3.00	2.86	3.24
Caring for someone age 80 to 84.....	6,408	32.8	31.0	37.3	0.98	0.80	1.42	2.99	2.58	3.82
Caring for someone age 85 or older.....	10,616	27.5	28.0	26.5	0.92	0.99	0.76	3.33	3.53	2.88
Care of household or nonhousehold members³										
Provided eldercare to household member(s) only...	6,544	64.1	61.3	71.7	2.15	2.01	2.54	3.35	3.28	3.54
Provided eldercare to nonhousehold member(s) only.....	34,243	17.8	17.8	17.6	0.44	0.44	0.46	2.50	2.45	2.63
Frequency of care⁶										
Provided care daily.....	8,538	64.2	64.8	62.7	2.25	2.24	2.27	3.51	3.46	3.62
Provided care several times a week.....	10,264	26.8	27.0	26.2	0.61	0.59	0.65	2.27	2.19	2.50
Provided care once a week.....	6,777	11.8	11.0	13.5	0.17	0.12	0.27	1.44	1.06	2.02
Provided care several times a month.....	8,574	12.8	12.4	13.9	0.23	0.18	0.37	1.82	1.46	2.66
Provided care once a month.....	5,267	6.4	6.0	7.6	0.15	0.14	0.20	2.41	- ¹	2.68

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Percent of eldercare providers who provided care on an average day and time spent providing this care by day of week and selected characteristics, averages for the combined years 2015-16
— Continued

Characteristic	Number of eldercare providers (in thousands)	Percent of eldercare providers who provided care on an average day			Average hours per day eldercare providers spent providing care			Average hours per day eldercare providers spent providing care on days they engaged in eldercare		
		Total, all days	Weekdays	Weekends and holidays	Total, all days	Weekdays	Weekends and holidays	Total, all days	Weekdays	Weekends and holidays
Duration of care⁷										
Provided care for less than 1 year.....	9,607	18.1	18.8	16.4	0.45	0.43	0.50	2.51	2.30	3.06
Provided care for 1 to 2 years.....	10,267	24.6	23.5	27.3	0.75	0.69	0.90	3.03	2.91	3.29
Provided care for 3 to 4 years.....	7,595	30.1	29.9	30.7	0.78	0.67	1.05	2.59	2.26	3.41
Provided care for 5 to 9 years.....	8,122	31.3	32.7	28.2	1.05	1.19	0.73	3.34	3.65	2.59
Provided care for 10 years or more.....	5,734	26.8	25.2	31.0	0.65	0.58	0.84	2.42	2.29	2.70

¹ Estimate is suppressed because it does not meet the American Time Use Survey publication standards.

² Not all race categories are shown. Persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity may be of any race.

³ Not all categories are shown.

⁴ Care for a spouse or unmarried partner may be underreported. See the Technical Note for more information.

⁵ Refers only to persons caring for a grandparent who did not live with them. Persons caring for a grandparent with whom they lived are included in the category "Caring for another related person."

⁶ Survey participants were asked how often they provided care in the past 3 to 4 months; this information was used to categorize them by frequency of care. Corresponding time and percent estimates were measured using information about care provided on the diary day. Not all categories are shown.

⁷ For persons who provided eldercare to more than one person, the duration of care is calculated based on the person for whom they had cared the longest.

NOTE: Eldercare providers are those who, in the previous 3 to 4 months, cared for someone with a condition related to aging. Estimates were calculated for persons who cared for at least one person age 65 or older. Unless otherwise specified, data refer to persons 15 years and over.

Table 5. Time spent providing eldercare and percent of eldercare providers engaging in caregiving by sex and caregiving activity, averages for the combined years 2015-16

Caregiving activity	Eldercare providers								
	Percent distribution of time spent in selected eldercare activities			On days they provided care					
	Total	Men	Women	Percent who engaged in caregiving activity ¹			Average hours spent providing care		
				Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total, activities reported as care done for those age 65 and over.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	— ¹	— ¹	— ¹	2.84	2.77	2.88
Eating and drinking.....	6.8	8.3	5.8	22.5	25.5	20.6	0.19	0.23	0.17
Household activities.....	19.2	18.9	19.4	37.2	34.2	39.1	0.54	0.52	0.56
Housework.....	5.5	4.0	6.4	13.2	9.5	15.6	0.16	0.11	0.19
Food preparation and cleanup.....	8.6	7.0	9.6	27.4	23.7	29.7	0.24	0.19	0.28
Lawn and garden care.....	1.7	3.4	0.6	2.8	5.2	1.3	0.05	0.09	— ²
Household management.....	1.6	0.8	2.0	4.9	4.0	5.4	0.04	0.02	0.06
Purchasing goods and services.....	2.9	2.4	3.2	11.2	10.0	12.0	0.08	0.07	0.09
Caring for and helping household members.....	10.0	8.6	10.8	19.9	14.5	23.4	0.28	0.24	0.31
Caring for household adults.....	9.1	7.4	10.1	17.5	11.7	21.2	0.26	0.21	0.29
Physical care for household adults.....	6.3	5.9	6.6	12.7	9.4	14.9	0.18	0.16	0.19
Providing medical care to household adults.....	1.2	0.3	1.7	7.2	2.4	10.2	0.03	— ²	0.05
Helping household adults.....	0.3	— ³	0.4	1.9	1.6	2.1	0.01	— ²	0.01
Caring for and helping nonhousehold members.....	12.6	10.4	13.9	25.0	22.0	26.9	0.36	0.29	0.40
Caring for nonhousehold adults.....	5.5	3.4	6.9	10.7	9.4	11.6	0.16	0.09	0.20
Physical care for nonhousehold adults.....	1.4	1.8	1.2	5.4	5.6	5.3	0.04	0.05	0.03
Providing medical care to nonhousehold adults.....	0.5	0.5	0.4	3.1	2.8	3.2	0.01	0.01	0.01
Helping nonhousehold adults.....	6.7	6.8	6.6	18.2	16.0	19.6	0.19	0.19	0.19
Housework, cooking, and shopping assistance for nonhousehold adults.....	2.3	1.2	3.0	6.5	4.0	8.0	0.07	0.03	0.09
House and lawn maintenance and repair assistance for nonhousehold adults.....	1.1	2.2	0.5	2.0	3.0	1.4	0.03	0.06	0.01
Picking up and dropping off nonhousehold adults.....	0.3	0.2	0.4	5.5	3.9	6.6	0.01	0.01	0.01
Working and work-related activities.....	1.8	0.8	2.5	1.9	1.1	2.4	0.05	— ²	0.07
Organizational, civic, and religious activities.....	2.0	1.8	2.1	3.2	3.2	3.2	0.06	0.05	0.06
Leisure and sports.....	36.5	39.6	34.5	37.0	39.0	35.7	1.03	1.10	0.99
Socializing and communicating.....	14.4	13.7	14.9	23.6	23.6	23.7	0.41	0.38	0.43
Watching TV.....	15.9	18.8	14.1	12.5	13.5	11.8	0.45	— ²	0.41
Participating in sports, exercise, and recreation.....	0.4	0.6	0.3	1.7	1.2	2.1	0.01	— ²	— ²
Telephone calls, mail, and e-mail.....	0.9	1.0	0.8	5.3	5.9	5.0	0.03	0.03	0.02
Traveling.....	5.9	6.1	5.8	21.6	20.0	22.5	0.17	0.17	0.17
Other activities, not elsewhere classified.....	1.6	2.0	1.3	3.1	2.0	3.8	0.05	— ²	0.04

¹ Percents sum to more than 100 percent because some eldercare providers did more than one care activity on days they provided care.

² Estimate is suppressed because it does not meet the American Time Use Survey publication standards.

³ Estimate is approximately zero.

NOTE: Eldercare providers are those who, in the previous 3 to 4 months, cared for someone with a condition related to aging. Estimates were calculated for persons who cared for at least one person age 65 or older. Data refer to persons 15 years and over.

Table 6. Time spent providing eldercare and percent of eldercare providers engaging in caregiving by day of week and caregiving activity, averages for the combined years 2015-16

Caregiving activity	Eldercare providers								
	Percent distribution of time spent in selected eldercare activities			On days they provided care					
	Total	Weekdays	Weekends and holidays	Percent who engaged in caregiving activity ¹			Average hours spent providing care		
				Total	Weekdays	Weekends and holidays	Total	Weekdays	Weekends and holidays
Total, activities reported as care done for those age 65 and over.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	— ¹	— ¹	— ¹	2.84	2.76	3.03
Eating and drinking.....	6.8	6.7	6.9	22.5	23.2	20.9	0.19	0.19	0.21
Household activities.....	19.2	18.8	19.9	37.2	36.8	38.2	0.54	0.52	0.60
Housework.....	5.5	5.3	5.9	13.2	14.5	10.2	0.16	0.15	0.18
Food preparation and cleanup.....	8.6	8.3	9.4	27.4	27.4	27.2	0.24	0.23	0.28
Lawn and garden care.....	1.7	1.9	1.2	2.8	3.1	2.1	0.05	— ²	— ²
Household management.....	1.6	1.9	1.0	4.9	5.0	4.4	0.04	0.05	0.03
Purchasing goods and services.....	2.9	3.1	2.4	11.2	11.9	9.6	0.08	0.09	0.07
Caring for and helping household members.....	10.0	10.7	8.4	19.9	19.8	20.2	0.28	0.30	0.25
Caring for household adults.....	9.1	9.8	7.4	17.5	17.8	16.8	0.26	0.27	0.22
Physical care for household adults.....	6.3	6.5	6.0	12.7	12.6	13.0	0.18	0.18	0.18
Providing medical care to household adults.....	1.2	1.2	1.0	7.2	6.1	9.7	0.03	0.03	0.03
Helping household adults.....	0.3	0.3	0.2	1.9	1.6	2.5	0.01	— ²	0.01
Caring for and helping nonhousehold members.....	12.6	12.5	12.7	25.0	23.7	27.9	0.36	0.34	0.39
Caring for nonhousehold adults.....	5.5	6.9	2.7	10.7	11.3	9.4	0.16	0.19	0.08
Physical care for nonhousehold adults.....	1.4	1.3	1.7	5.4	5.1	6.2	0.04	0.04	0.05
Providing medical care to nonhousehold adults.....	0.5	0.4	0.6	3.1	2.9	3.3	0.01	0.01	0.02
Helping nonhousehold adults.....	6.7	5.5	9.2	18.2	17.0	21.0	0.19	0.15	0.28
Housework, cooking, and shopping assistance for nonhousehold adults.....	2.3	1.8	3.3	6.5	6.0	7.6	0.07	0.05	0.10
House and lawn maintenance and repair assistance for nonhousehold adults.....	1.1	1.1	1.3	2.0	1.7	2.6	0.03	0.03	0.04
Picking up and dropping off nonhousehold adults.....	0.3	0.3	0.4	5.5	5.1	6.4	0.01	0.01	0.01
Working and work-related activities.....	1.8	2.2	0.9	1.9	2.2	1.1	0.05	0.06	— ²
Organizational, civic, and religious activities.....	2.0	1.2	3.6	3.2	2.6	4.6	0.06	0.03	0.11
Leisure and sports.....	36.5	36.0	37.5	37.0	36.3	38.7	1.03	0.99	1.13
Socializing and communicating.....	14.4	13.1	17.3	23.6	22.1	27.2	0.41	0.36	0.52
Watching TV.....	15.9	16.5	14.7	12.5	12.8	11.7	0.45	0.45	0.44
Participating in sports, exercise, and recreation.....	0.4	0.5	0.3	1.7	2.0	1.0	0.01	— ²	— ²
Telephone calls, mail, and e-mail.....	0.9	1.1	0.4	5.3	6.5	2.6	0.03	0.03	0.01
Traveling.....	5.9	6.4	4.9	21.6	21.7	21.2	0.17	0.18	0.15
Other activities, not elsewhere classified.....	1.6	1.2	2.4	3.1	2.4	4.8	0.05	0.03	0.07

¹ Percents sum to more than 100 percent because some eldercare providers did more than one care activity on days they provided care.

² Estimate is suppressed because it does not meet the American Time Use Survey publication standards.

NOTE: Eldercare providers are those who, in the previous 3 to 4 months, cared for someone with a condition related to aging. Estimates were calculated for persons who cared for at least one person age 65 or older. Data refer to persons 15 years and over.

Table 7. Percent of eldercare providers and time spent in caregiving on days they provided care by frequency of care and caregiving activity, averages for the combined years 2015-16

Caregiving activity	Percent of eldercare providers who engaged in caregiving activities, on days they provided care ¹				Average hours per day eldercare providers spent providing care on days they engaged in eldercare			
	Total	Frequency of care ²			Total	Frequency of care ²		
		Daily	Several times per week	Once a week or less		Daily	Several times per week	Once a week or less
Total, activities reported as care done for those age 65 and over.....	— ¹	— ¹	— ¹	— ¹	2.84	3.51	2.27	1.77
Eating and drinking.....	22.5	30.1	12.7	15.0	0.19	0.25	0.09	0.13
Household activities.....	37.2	55.4	18.0	16.3	0.54	0.83	0.16	0.25
Housework.....	13.2	21.4	6.5	1.7	0.16	0.28	0.02	— ³
Food preparation and cleanup.....	27.4	44.9	9.6	6.6	0.24	0.41	0.08	0.05
Lawn and garden care.....	2.8	3.9	0.9	1.9	0.05	— ³	— ³	— ³
Household management.....	4.9	5.2	4.9	3.3	0.04	0.06	0.02	0.03
Purchasing goods and services.....	11.2	10.6	14.3	8.6	0.08	0.07	0.12	0.07
Caring for and helping household members.....	19.9	35.1	1.6	6.1	0.28	0.53	— ³	— ³
Caring for household adults.....	17.5	32.1	0.7	3.5	0.26	0.49	— ³	— ³
Physical care for household adults.....	12.7	23.2	— ⁴	3.5	0.18	0.35	— ³	— ³
Providing medical care to household adults.....	7.2	13.9	— ⁴	— ⁴	0.03	0.06	— ³	— ³
Helping household adults.....	1.9	3.0	0.3	0.4	0.01	0.01	— ³	— ³
Caring for and helping nonhousehold members.....	25.0	15.9	34.9	31.9	0.36	0.22	— ³	0.39
Caring for nonhousehold adults.....	10.7	9.2	14.0	9.2	0.16	0.09	— ³	0.11
Physical care for nonhousehold adults.....	5.4	4.4	7.7	4.6	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.03
Providing medical care to nonhousehold adults.....	3.1	4.0	1.4	1.7	0.01	0.02	— ³	— ³
Helping nonhousehold adults.....	18.2	10.9	26.2	24.5	0.19	0.12	0.27	0.26
Housework, cooking, and shopping assistance for nonhousehold adults.....	6.5	4.1	13.0	4.2	0.07	0.05	0.09	0.08
House and lawn maintenance and repair assistance for nonhousehold adults.....	2.0	1.3	1.7	3.0	0.03	— ³	— ³	— ³
Picking up and dropping off nonhousehold adults.....	5.5	3.8	7.2	7.8	0.01	— ⁴	0.02	0.01
Working and work-related activities.....	1.9	1.3	4.2	0.3	0.05	— ³	0.12	— ³
Organizational, civic, and religious activities.....	3.2	3.0	1.5	5.2	0.06	0.06	— ³	0.07
Leisure and sports.....	37.0	37.6	37.5	34.5	1.03	1.28	0.84	0.63
Socializing and communicating.....	23.6	18.0	32.8	25.0	0.41	0.27	0.67	0.39
Watching TV.....	12.5	20.3	3.3	4.6	0.45	0.78	0.10	— ³
Participating in sports, exercise, and recreation.....	1.7	2.4	0.4	1.2	0.01	— ³	— ³	— ³
Telephone calls, mail, and e-mail.....	5.3	6.9	3.6	3.3	0.03	0.03	— ³	— ³
Traveling.....	21.6	19.3	27.7	18.8	0.17	0.14	0.23	0.15
Other activities, not elsewhere classified.....	3.1	5.0	0.5	1.8	0.05	0.07	— ³	— ³

¹ Percents sum to more than 100 percent because some eldercare providers did more than one care activity on days they provided care.

² Survey participants were asked how often they provided care in the past 3 to 4 months; this information was used to categorize them by frequency of care.

³ Estimate is suppressed because it does not meet the American Time Use Survey publication standards.

⁴ Estimate is approximately zero.

NOTE: Eldercare providers are those who, in the previous 3 to 4 months, cared for someone with a condition related to aging. Estimates were calculated for persons who cared for at least one person age 65 or older. Data refer to persons 15 years and over.

Table 8. Percent of eldercare providers who cared for one person only by age of eldercare recipient and caregiving activity, averages for the combined years 2015-16

Caregiving activity	Percent of eldercare providers who cared for one person only, on days they provided care ¹			
	Total	Age of care recipient		
		65 to 74	75 to 84	85 or older
Total, activities reported as care done for those age 65 and over.....	— ¹	— ¹	— ¹	— ¹
Eating and drinking.....	23.9	21.0	24.7	24.8
Household activities.....	39.5	— ²	37.3	37.9
Housework.....	14.7	— ²	12.5	14.9
Food preparation and cleanup.....	29.8	— ²	27.8	30.4
Lawn and garden care.....	3.0	3.1	2.5	3.6
Household management.....	4.8	3.2	5.5	5.1
Purchasing goods and services.....	9.7	11.4	8.1	10.5
Caring for and helping household members.....	23.5	21.6	28.9	18.7
Caring for household adults.....	20.7	19.8	25.1	16.3
Physical care for household adults.....	15.4	14.8	19.4	11.3
Providing medical care to household adults.....	8.6	9.9	10.7	5.6
Helping household adults.....	2.2	2.4	3.1	1.1
Caring for and helping nonhousehold members.....	22.0	14.6	20.7	27.8
Caring for nonhousehold adults.....	10.1	8.0	8.9	12.7
Physical care for nonhousehold adults.....	5.5	3.0	5.6	7.0
Providing medical care to nonhousehold adults.....	2.2	1.2	2.9	2.1
Helping nonhousehold adults.....	14.2	9.2	13.9	17.6
Housework, cooking, and shopping assistance for nonhousehold adults.....	5.0	3.2	5.0	6.1
House and lawn maintenance and repair assistance for nonhousehold adults.....	1.7	0.4	1.9	2.2
Picking up and dropping off nonhousehold adults.....	4.4	4.7	2.8	6.0
Working and work-related activities.....	1.5	1.3	2.2	0.8
Organizational, civic, and religious activities.....	2.7	3.0	2.6	2.6
Leisure and sports.....	38.7	— ²	36.5	43.5
Socializing and communicating.....	23.1	20.5	21.2	26.8
Watching TV.....	15.7	14.6	12.4	20.1
Participating in sports, exercise, and recreation.....	2.1	2.6	2.8	1.0
Telephone calls, mail, and e-mail.....	6.0	4.7	4.1	9.0
Traveling.....	19.5	23.5	20.6	15.8
Other activities, not elsewhere classified.....	3.5	1.3	5.6	2.5

¹ Percents sum to more than 100 percent because some eldercare providers did more than one care activity on days they provided care.

² Estimate is suppressed because it does not meet the American Time Use Survey publication standards.

NOTE: Eldercare providers are those who, in the previous 3 to 4 months, cared for someone with a condition related to aging. Estimates were calculated for persons who cared for at least one person age 65 or older. Data refer to persons 15 years and over.

Table 9. Number and percent of eldercare providers who were parents of household children under age 18 by sex and selected characteristics, averages for the combined years 2015-16

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Eldercare providers with children under age 18 living at home					
	Total		Men		Women	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Parent of household children under 18 years						
Total, parent of one or more household children.....	8,655	100.0	3,605	100.0	5,050	100.0
Parent of a household child age 6 to 17, none younger.....	5,827	67.3	2,443	67.8	3,384	67.0
Parent of a household child under age 6.....	2,828	32.7	1,162	32.2	1,666	33.0
Employment status						
Employed.....	7,022	81.1	3,302	91.6	3,719	73.6
Full-time workers.....	5,522	63.8	3,115	86.4	2,406	47.7
Part-time workers.....	1,500	17.3	187	5.2	1,313	26.0
Not employed.....	1,633	18.9	303	8.4	1,331	26.4
Marital status						
No spouse or unmarried partner present in household.....	1,471	17.0	318	8.8	1,153	22.8
Spouse or unmarried partner present in household.....	7,184	83.0	3,287	91.2	3,897	77.2
Number of care recipients						
Caring for one person.....	5,703	65.9	2,172	60.3	3,531	69.9
Caring for two persons.....	2,257	26.1	1,068	29.6	1,189	23.6
Caring for three or more persons.....	694	8.0	365	10.1	329	6.5
Relationship to care recipient						
Total, all eldercare providers.....	8,655	- ¹	3,605	- ¹	5,050	- ¹
Caring for a spouse or unmarried partner ²	39	0.4	6	0.2	33	0.6
Caring for a parent.....	4,035	46.6	1,674	46.4	2,362	46.8
Caring for a grandparent ³	1,967	22.7	723	20.1	1,244	24.6
Caring for another related person.....	2,346	27.1	1,279	35.5	1,067	21.1
Caring for a friend or neighbor.....	1,056	12.2	395	11.0	661	13.1
Caring for someone else.....	416	4.8	104	2.9	312	6.2
Age of care recipient						
Total, all eldercare providers.....	8,655	- ¹	3,605	- ¹	5,050	- ¹
Caring for someone age 65 to 69.....	1,766	20.4	905	25.1	861	17.1
Caring for someone age 70 to 74.....	2,030	23.5	778	21.6	1,252	24.8
Caring for someone age 75 to 79.....	2,243	25.9	1,038	28.8	1,205	23.9
Caring for someone age 80 to 84.....	1,905	22.0	846	23.5	1,059	21.0
Caring for someone age 85 or older.....	2,446	28.3	896	24.8	1,550	30.7
Care of household or nonhousehold members⁴						
Provided eldercare to household member(s) only.....	684	7.9	200	5.6	484	9.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 9. Number and percent of eldercare providers who were parents of household children under age 18 by sex and selected characteristics, averages for the combined years 2015-16 — Continued

[Numbers in thousands]

Characteristic	Eldercare providers with children under age 18 living at home					
	Total		Men		Women	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Provided eldercare to nonhousehold member(s) only.....	7,936	91.7	3,383	93.9	4,553	90.2
Frequency of care⁵						
Provided care daily.....	1,169	13.5	358	9.9	811	16.1
Provided care several times a week.....	2,224	25.7	882	24.5	1,342	26.6
Provided care once a week.....	1,712	19.8	761	21.1	951	18.8
Provided care several times a month.....	1,719	19.9	838	23.3	880	17.4
Provided care once a month.....	1,430	16.5	603	16.7	827	16.4
Other.....	401	4.6	162	4.5	239	4.7
Duration of care⁶						
Provided care for less than 1 year.....	2,172	25.1	772	21.4	1,401	27.7
Provided care for 1 to 2 years.....	2,020	23.3	731	20.3	1,289	25.5
Provided care for 3 to 4 years.....	1,662	19.2	713	19.8	949	18.8
Provided care for 5 to 9 years.....	1,650	19.1	855	23.7	795	15.7
Provided care for 10 years or more.....	1,150	13.3	534	14.8	616	12.2

¹ Categories sum to more than 100 percent because some eldercare providers cared for more than one person.

² Care for a spouse or unmarried partner may be underreported. See the Technical Note for more information.

³ Refers only to persons caring for a grandparent who did not live with them. Persons caring for a grandparent with whom they lived are included in the category "Caring for another related person."

⁴ Not all categories are shown.

⁵ Survey participants were asked how often they provided care in the past 3 to 4 months; this information was used to categorize them by frequency of care.

⁶ For persons who provided eldercare to more than 1 person, the duration of care is calculated based on the person for whom they had cared the longest.

NOTE: Eldercare providers are those who, in the previous 3 to 4 months, cared for someone with a condition related to aging. Estimates were calculated for persons who cared for at least one person age 65 or older. Data refer to persons 15 years and over.