In Missouri and Illinois respectively, 77% and 78%, of mothers with children between the ages of 6 and 17 are in the labor market. 65% of mothers in Missouri and 59% in Illinois with children under the age of 6 are in the labor market. In Missouri and Illinois, the average annual cost of child care for a 4-year-old was between $4000 - $5000. The average annual cost of tuition at a public college was less than $3600. Missouri and Illinois offer child care subsidies to families who meet certain income criteria however, in 1999 Missouri only served 19% of children eligible for subsidies and Illinois only served 14%.