

PRESS RELEASE 3

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“WORK-LIFE BALANCE IN THE CONTEXT OF CHANGES IN FAMILY AND IN LABOR MARKET IN GREECE”

EEA PROJECT GR07/3939

QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH RESULTS: FAMILY AND CHILDCARE CENTER

The quantitative research is a detailed record of the critical issue of reconciliation between work and family life) of working women, while evaluating their needs and the implemented welfare policies in crisis-struck Greece.

Through thorough investigation of the attitudes and opinions of 1.000+ working women aged 25-55 years with a minor child, the survey reports on whether work-life balance is affected from variables, such as, income, educational level, professional status, urbanism etc. The survey was conducted in two metropolitan areas, two urban centers and in two rural areas of Greece, in order to express representatively the whole population.

The research tool examines among others:

- DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS,
- TIME SPEND ON FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES,
- SUPPORT PROVIDED FROM OTHER PEOPLE AND BODIES / INSTITUTES,
- USE OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SERVICES,
- GENERAL PERCEPTIONS TOWARDS RECONCILIATION.

The main characteristics of the research sample, randomly selected, are the following:

66% of women are full-time employees and only **19%** are self-employed,

80% of women do not have any other dependent persons except their children,

46% of women have undertaken tertiary education, while only **5%** have completed compulsory education,

25% of women work in the public sector,

Almost **50%** of women have an income between 450€ - 900€,

52% of women work under uncertainty, considering likely to lose their main job in the next 6 months.

Key findings from the research:

Women work an average of **7.8** hours daily, whereas their husbands / partners work an average of **8.5** hours on a daily basis.

Women perform unpaid labor (housework and childcare) **6** hours per day on average, whereas their husbands / partners **2.9** hours per day on average.

Grandmothers are involved in minor grandchildren raising an average of **2.7** hours per day and spend an average of 1 hour daily on housework.

Only **8%** of women's husbands / partners spend more time on child

upbringing and housework.

The age of the youngest child is positively correlated with the time spend on family responsibilities of both parents. In particular, the average daily time that parents spend with children who are younger than **6** years old, is **6.26** hours, while the average daily time that parents spend with children aged **6-11** is **4.58** hours.

Men's / Husbands' participation in housework and parenting is positively correlated with their wife's educational level, their own educational level and the youngest child's age.

Women of higher educational level tend to be more engaged with their profession and less with housework and parenting, compared to women of lower and intermediate educational level.

52% of women make use of maternity leave and only **28%** make use of flexitime.

Wider/Extended family members' involvement in family responsibilities is higher in families living in urban areas than those living in suburban and rural areas.

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Conclusions concerning views on reconciliation:

90% of women believe that both parents should be equally involved in parenting.

70% of women consider that their husbands / partners should spend more time on family responsibilities.

50% of women think that their husbands / partners have more free time,

while only **35%** of women believe that they both have the same free time.

55% of women reconcile fairly well or very well their professional occupation with their family responsibilities.

Income level does not affect women's perceptions of reconciliation.

Women working in the private sector have better understanding of reconciliation and tend to better reconcile their responsibilities, compared to women working in the public sector.

Women working in the public sector are more aware of their personal free time.

PARTNERS



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