

# Listening to Stepmothers: Rethinking the Measurement of Stepfamily Households and the Residential Status of Children

Melissa D. Day, PhD  
University of New Hampshire

How many stepmothers are there in the U.S.?

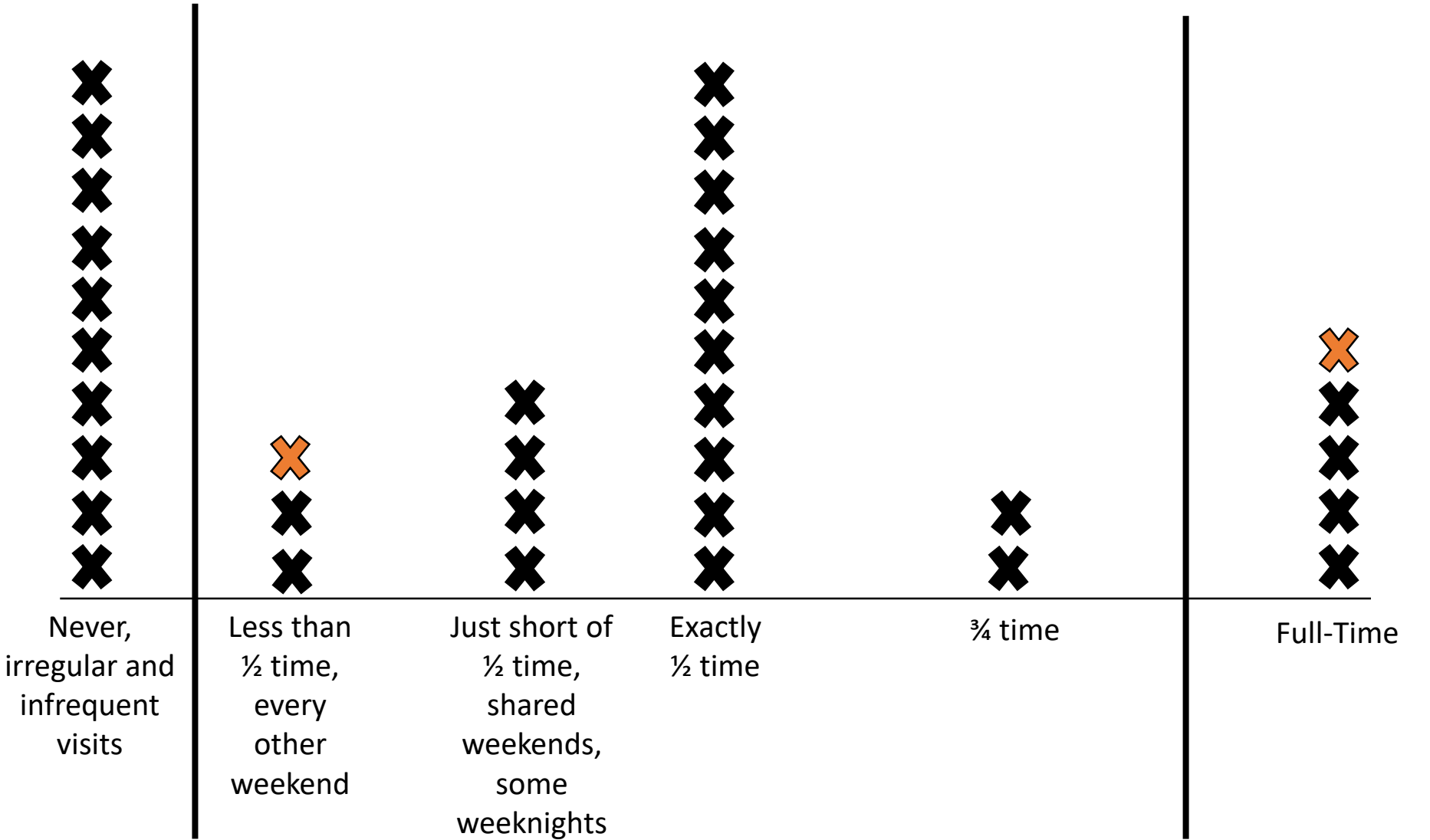



**STEPMOTHERS BY RESIDENTIAL STATUS (*n*=33)**

	<b>Stepmothers primarily live in households where stepchildren...</b>	<b>TOTAL (%)*</b>
<b>Non-Residential (NRSM)</b>	never reside	10 (29.4)
<b>Shared (SRSM)</b>	have dedicated spaces in the stepcouples' households, but spend varying amounts of time routinely using the space	19 (55.9)
<b>Full-Time (FTSM)</b>	live full-time in the stepmother's household	5 (14.7)
<b>TOTAL</b>		34 (100.0)

\*Total is more than the sample size of 33 because one stepmother occupies shared and full-time residential status simultaneously

# Stepchildren reside in stepmother's home...



 = stepmother occupies both categories simultaneously

**SELECTED FACETS OF MOTHERHOOD STEPMOTHERS ENACT BY RESIDENTIAL STATUS (n=33)**

	TOTAL (%)*	Provision of Care		Economic Support
		Physical	Emotional	
<b>Non-Residential (NRSM)</b>	10 (29.4)	-	-/+	-/+
<b>Shared (SRSM)</b>	19 (55.9)	-/+	-/+	+
<b>Full-Time (FTSM)</b>	5 (14.7)	+	+	+
<b>TOTAL</b>	34 (100.0)			

\*Total is more than the sample size of 33 because one stepmother occupies shared and full-time residential status simultaneously