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**Press release**

**Summer camps are a great assistance for parents**

*24 May 2020*

In the summer, it is a difficult issue for many families how to take care of their children during the holidays. Due to the epidemic, many parents have already used their leave days to take care of their children at home, making it harder for them to provide for childcare during the summer break. A representative survey of 1,000 people conducted by the Mária Kopp Institute for Demography and Families (KINCS) between May 18 and 20 reveals that 40 percent of those raising children under the age of 14 plan to enrol their children to a camp during the summer break. The good news for them is that, according to the government's decision, day camps and summer camps can be organized from June 16 on, in compliance with the applicable epidemiological regulations.



The epidemic posed a number of challenges for Hungarian families, so we were curious about what challenge it imposes to parents to take care of their children under 14 during the summer break. Although 48 per cent of respondents do not have any problem concerning this issue, 25 per cent said they face serious problems providing summer care for their child.

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In the summer months, in addition to home, family-based solutions, most would use day camps, with 29 percent of respondents clearly anticipating this option, and a further 11 percent still thinking about it. 16 percent of those surveyed would like to send their children to summer camps, and 8 percent have not yet decided on the issue.

More than a third of those raising children under the age of 14 expect grandparental assistance during the holidays. One-fifth of parents would involve friends or relatives, and only six percent would also receive paid outside help. Two-thirds of parents of children under the age of 6 plan to take their child to kindergarten and nursery during the summer.

The majority set the date for school completion as the usual June 15, while a third of parents of primary school children and a quarter of parents of high school students would agree to have school sessions until the end of June.

Methodology: The KINCS telephone questionnaire survey was conducted between 18 and 20 May on a sample of 1,000 people.

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