Kentucky’s Child Care Crisis

A SURVEY OF 800 KENTUCKY VOTERS & PARENTS

Do you agree or disagree that access to high-quality child care is essential for parents to be able to work?

- Parents: 94% Agree, 91% Disagree

Voters and parents strongly agree access to high-quality child care is essential for parents to be able to work.

According to a survey of registered voters funded by the United Way of Greater Cincinnati and conducted by the Prichard Committee in June 2023, Kentuckians overwhelmingly agree that access to high-quality child care is essential for parents to be able to work.

There’s a strong sense Kentucky isn’t doing enough to ensure all parents have access to a high-quality child care program they can afford.

Child care can be an early learning opportunity for young children while their parents are at work.

- Kentucky isn’t doing enough to ensure all parents have access to high-quality child care.

72% of voters say they support investing more taxpayer money to increase access to high-quality child care.

1/3 More than one-third of parents say their job status has changed due to child care issues.

54% A majority of parents indicate they have struggled to find child care, especially parents of younger children.

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#StrongStartKY #Care4Success #NurtureNextGen
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Voters and parents believe it is important to increase access to high-quality pre-K programs and private child care.

**By an overwhelming margin, voters and parents support investing more taxpayer money to increase access to high-quality child care programs.**

Do you support or oppose Kentucky investing more taxpayer money to increase access to a high-quality child care program parents can afford?

**METHODOLOGY:** Funded by the United Way of Greater Cincinnati and on behalf of the Prichard Committee, Public Opinion Strategies completed a survey of 800 registered voters in Kentucky with an oversample of 400 parents. The survey was conducted June 22-29, 2023 and has a margin of error of +3.95% for the registered voters and a margin of error of +5.59% for the oversample.
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Most Kentuckians disagree there are a sufficient number of child care programs in Kentucky and that they are affordable.

There are a sufficient number of high-quality child care programs to serve the children of Kentucky.

Child care programs in Kentucky are affordable.

Parents report the following lifestyle changes in order to provide child care:

Have you ever had to make any of the following lifestyle changes in order to provide child care?

- Leaving work early to attend to child’s needs: 47%
- Limited working hours: 33%
- Worked alternating hours: 31%
- Quit work to stay home: 26%
- Changed job for flexibility: 25%
- Spouse quit work to stay home: 16%
- Declined promotion due to child care: 15%
- Had to find a new job related to child care challenges: 14%
- Delayed having children: 6%

#StrongStartKY #Care4Success #NurtureNextGen
Supporting increased access can be a vote winner in the upcoming race for Governor.

If you knew a candidate for Governor supported increasing access to an affordable, high-quality child care program, would you be more likely or less likely to vote for that candidate, or would it make no difference in your vote?

Parents report the following financial changes in order to provide child care:

- Delayed major purchases: 38%
- Reduced non-essential spending: 36%
- Reduced essential spending: 31%
- Asked family or friends for financial support: 29%
- Accrued credit card debt: 28%
- Used emergency savings: 27%
- Delayed parent health care needs: 22%
- Delay/ decrease retirement savings: 20%
- Use cheaper child care: 19%
- Delayed child health care needs: 5%

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