

## Child Care in the Time of Coronavirus

As a result of Coronavirus, child care is difficult to find and in many circumstances, closed indefinitely. This leaves parents who are working at home on their own to juggle their work and caregiving responsibilities. Only 14% of parents surveyed represented a household where nobody has yet experienced a change in their work situation.

Parents of young children need child care at this time, especially essential workers.



of essential workers need child care relief



of parents need child care relief

61%

of all child care providers are closed, but certain providers are more likely to remain open:

% with no changes in child care operations



28% of family chil



of individually owned child



of child care centers with multiple locations

Just 7% of parents say they are still using their previous child care arrangement

22%

of essential workers are able to use their previous child care arrangement

21%

of parents whose child care program has closed are required to continue paying to keep their child's spot

Parents have concerns about sending their children back to child care facilities in the future.



**75%** are concerned about their child's potential exposure to COVID-19.



**47%** are concerned they will not be able to afford child care.



**46%** are concerned their child care provider won't be open.

66 This survey helps us understand what is happening with child care amidst the coronavirus and will guide us as parents return to normal work schedules. It shows why child care is an essential service that needs our support now and in the future.



Methodology: The survey was conducted from March 31 – April 4, 2020, among a national sample of 800 parents of children under the age of 5 who were employed and paid for child care within the last three months, but whose situations may have changed recently as direct result of COVID-19. The interviews were conducted online. Results from the full survey have a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Parents are taking different actions to balance caregiving and work responsibilities in lieu of child care.

23%

Alternating work hours with someone in my household to provide child care

22%

Family member or friend is caring for my child(ren) at this time

18%

Working less hours to provide child care

15%

Continued to use previous care arrangement

11%

Taking unpaid leave to provide child care

10%

Working outside normal business hours to provide child care

8%

Taking paid leave to provide child care

7%

Hired informal care (such as nanny or babysitter)

**42%** 

of parents view **child care** as an essential service that should **remain open** in their state amidst COVID-19.



Two-thirds of parents (63%) agree with the plan their state has put forward for child care operations amidst COVID-19.

Parents are most likely to think all of the levels of government, **federal**, **state**, and **local** are responsible for providing financial aid to help keep the child care market stable amidst COVID-19.

**Federal** 

State

Local





