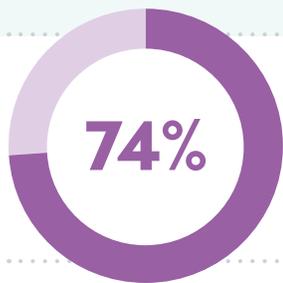


# Nebraskans see a child care crisis—and they want it fixed.



A recent statewide public opinion survey of registered voters in Nebraska commissioned by **Nebraska Extension** and **We Care for Kids** reveals a child care and education crisis that is hurting families, employers, and Nebraska's reputation as a great place to live, work, and raise a family. Majorities of those surveyed have either experienced or know someone who has experienced this crisis. **Over 80% say the lack of child care in Nebraska is a problem that will not solve itself, want Nebraskans to come together to solve the problem, and believe Nebraska should support child care and early learning like it does K-12 schools and higher education.**



**74%** of Nebraska voters believe that the lack of quality, affordable child care and early learning is a serious problem in Nebraska. The child care crisis is seen as on par with the cost of housing and crime.

## Nebraskans are experiencing a child care crisis that also affects employers and the state's economy:

**49%** say the availability of quality and affordable child care has gotten worse since the start of the pandemic.

**49%**

**58%** have either experienced or know someone who has had to miss work because of the problem.

**58%**

**49%** have either experienced or know someone who has had to cut back on other household essentials to pay for child care.

**49%**

**32%** have either experienced or know someone who has refused a job opportunity because it would increase child care expenses.

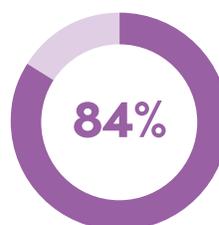
**32%**

**31%** of parents of children five and under said that they left the workforce because they couldn't find affordable child care, as did **23%** of all parents.

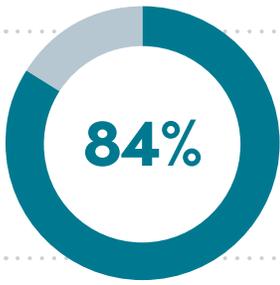
**31%**



**84%** say that low wages for child care workers, early childhood teachers, and preschool teachers is a serious problem. Of that number, nearly **50%** believe it is extremely or very serious.



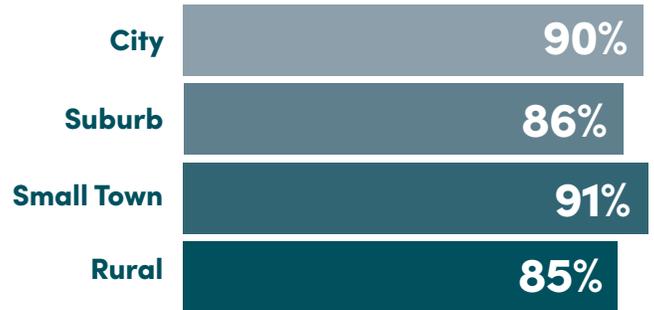
**84%** say the lack of child care in Nebraska is a problem that will not solve itself, and want Nebraskans to come together to solve the problem and invest in solutions.



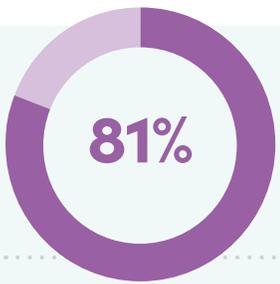
say that Nebraska should support child care and early learning like it does K-12 schools and higher education.

Fixing this crisis has the support of Nebraskans across geography and political party.

**88%** support the state investing in ensuring more working families have access to affordable, quality child care and early learning.



PERCENT SUPPORT



say access to quality, affordable child care is essential or very important to strengthening Nebraska's economy—nearly half say it is essential. They see a link between access to child care, helping workers provide for their families, and keeping businesses strong:

**78%** say it will be hard for Nebraska to attract new business to communities that don't have access to quality, affordable child care and early learning.

**74%** say the lack of child care and early learning options is making it hard for Nebraska businesses to hire new employees and grow.

**92%** believe affordable, quality child care and early learning is an important part of keeping Nebraska a great place to live and raise a family.

**It's time to solve the child care crisis in Nebraska.  
Join We Care for Kids to learn more.**

Visit [NebraskaCaresForKids.org](https://NebraskaCaresForKids.org) and sign up today.

