

The Impact of COVID-19 on Greater New Orleans Child Care Providers

SURVEY FINDINGS FROM THE GREATER NEW ORLEANS REGION FROM MARCH 16 - MARCH 23, 2020

OVERVIEW

As of March 27, Louisiana has 2,746 confirmed cases of COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) and 119 related deaths, and COVID-19 cases continue to increase daily.

To better understand how the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting child care providers specifically, the Louisiana Policy Institute for Children (LPIC), Agenda for Children, and the United Way of Southeast Louisiana conducted a survey of child care providers in southeast Louisiana from March 16-23, 2020. The survey asked child care providers what impact COVID-19 is having on their program or business, including financial losses and closure decisions, and what supports are needed to help providers respond to the public health crisis.

SURVEY FINDINGS

Results from the survey show the troubling impacts and difficult decisions facing child care providers in southeast Louisiana during the COVID-19 pandemic. **Most notably, due to COVID-19:**

TIMELINE

- 3/9/20:** The first confirmed case of COVID-19 is diagnosed in Louisiana in the New Orleans region.
- 3/11/20:** The World Health Organization designates COVID-19 as a pandemic and Gov. John Bel Edwards declares a public health emergency in Louisiana.
- 3/13/20:** Gov. Edwards closes all public schools in the state until April 13, 2020.
- 3/15/20:** Gov. Edwards further reduces maximum group sizes to 50 people, orders the closure of certain businesses, and limits restaurants to takeout and delivery orders.
- 3/22/20:** Gov. Edwards issues a Stay at Home Order to begin at 5pm on March 23, directing all Louisiana residents to shelter at home and limit movements outside of their home to essential needs, and ordering additional business closures.

Majority of Child Care Providers Report Losing Revenue

80% of child care providers in southeast Louisiana have experienced a loss in revenue, with collective losses totaling more than **\$800,000** as of March 23, 2020, due to COVID-19.

Almost One-Third of Child Care Providers Have Been Forced to Close as of the Close of the Survey

30% of responding child care providers have already closed their program or business, and another **18%** expect to close.

Closed Child Care Providers Experience Financial Losses From Multiple Directions

73% of closed child care providers are no longer collecting tuition from families; however, **48%** of these providers are continuing to pay their employees.

One-Third of Child Care Providers Report an Extended Closure Will Force Them to Permanently Close

Those centers serve over **3,400 children**, including **over 1,300 children** in need.

Majority of Providers Request Support to Pay Their Employees

Over 90% of child care providers indicated grants to pay employees during closures would support their response to COVID-19 both now and in the future if their program or business must close.

Note: The surveyed parishes include Assumption, Jefferson, Lafourche, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, Terrebonne, and Washington

2 For more information visit www.policyinstitutela.org.

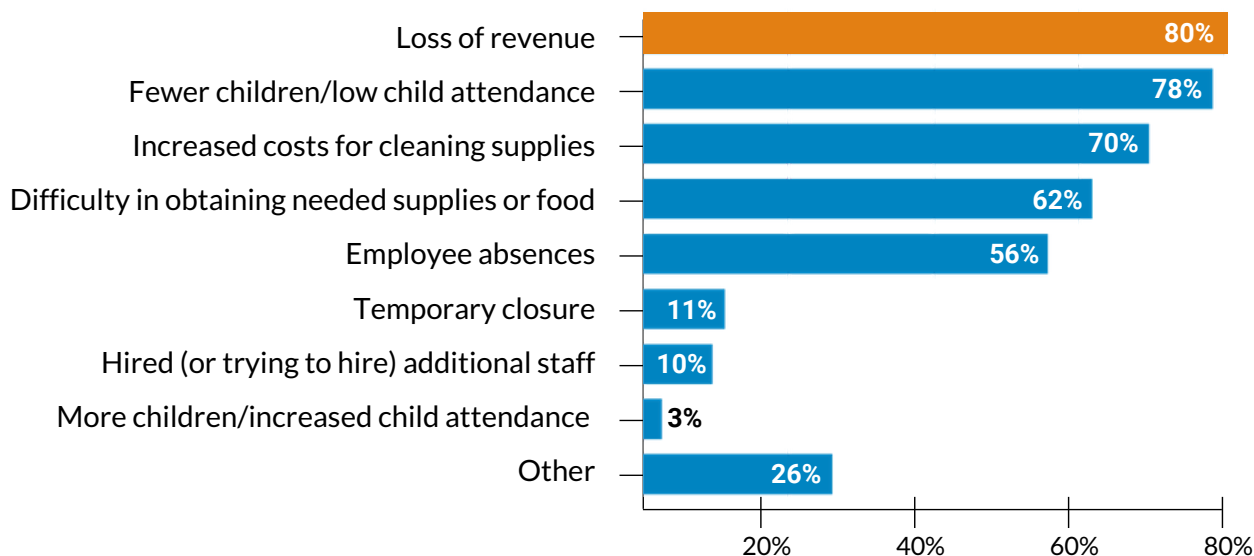


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Impacts of COVID-19 on Child Care Providers

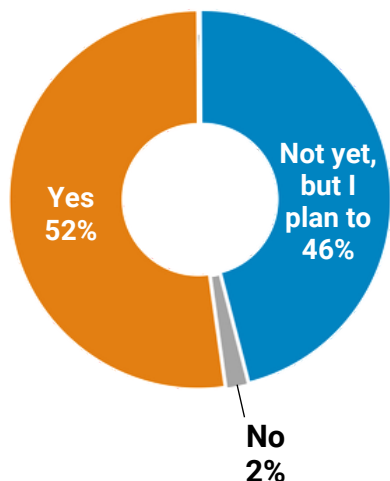


Question: How has your program been impacted by coronavirus?

Note: Respondents may have selected more than one response. Percentages may total to more than 100%.

Child Care Providers Anticipate Additional Financial Losses, Employee Layoffs

Most Providers Experiencing or Expecting Financial Losses Due to COVID-19



Question: Are you tracking any financial losses due to the COVID-19 outbreak?

Child Care Providers Expect Staff Layoffs, Permanent Business Closures from Long-Term Child Absences or Extended Closures

Response	Percent of Responding Participants
Layoff employees	71%
Reduce employees' hours	60%
Reduce business hours	46%
Close business permanently	34%
Other	22%

Question: What will happen to your child care business if families keep children home for extended periods or if your business is closed for an extended period of time?

Note: Respondents may have selected more than one response. Percentages may total to more than 100%.