

# Why Quality Matters!

## Quality Child Care

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## Productive Employees

When working parents have access to affordable, safe, reliable child care, their ***ability to be productive employees*** is greatly enhanced!

A sampling of data collected from a **2016 Pilot Survey of Upstate New York Parents** across eight economic regions, conducted by the Early Care & Learning Council's (ECLC) network of Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) agencies, showed that the annual cost of child care places a significant strain on family budgets and **impacts their employment readiness**.

93%

of families earning less than 50k and receiving subsidy, encounter difficulty paying for child care

80%

of families earning less than 50k and NOT receiving subsidy, encounter difficulty paying for child care

67%

of families struggling to pay for child care borrow money from friends/family/creditor

56%

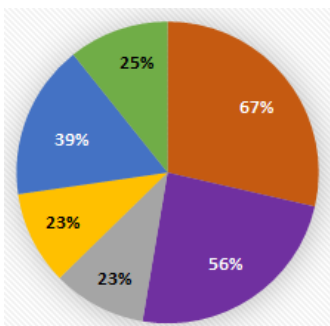
of families struggling to pay for child care compromise basic needs

\$9,100

average annual cost of care per infant

### How Families are PAYING for Child Care

Parents who struggle to pay for child care are forced to make hard financial decisions, which may include:



- Borrow from friend/family/creditor 67%
- Compromise basic needs 56%
- Cut back work hours 23%
- Cut back care hours 23%
- Switch providers/modality 39%
- Use patchwork care 25%

### Average Annual Cost of Care Per Child

\*According to the demographics below

Infant	\$9,100
Toddler	\$8,341
Preschool	\$7,629
School Age	\$4,413

In 2014, the state of **NEW YORK** had the least affordable infant care and the second least affordable child care in the nation.

### \*DEMOGRAPHICS FOR THIS REPORT

This survey report reflects data collected from over 3,300 families across upstate New York and does not include data from New York City or Long Island.

**Western New York** (Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Niagara)

**Finger Lakes Region** (Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming, Yates)

**Southern Tier** (Broome, Chemung, Chenango, Delaware, Schuyler, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins)

**Central New York** (Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, Oswego)

**Mohawk Valley** (Fulton, Herkimer, Montgomery, Oneida, Otsego, Schoharie)

**North Country** (Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lewis, St. Lawrence)

**Capital District** (Albany, Columbia, Greene, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren, Washington)

**Mid-Hudson** (Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, Westchester)

### % Respondents by Income Level

<32k	22%
32k - 50k	19%
50k - 100k	23%
100k+	19%

This chart does not include respondents with no income (2%) or no answer (15%).



# 2016 Upstate New York\* Parent Child Care Survey Results



Early Care & Learning Council  
United to Promote Quality

The high cost of child care across upstate  
New York *has repercussions* across our entire economy.

## When Faced with a Child Care Crisis

40%	Call out of work
38%	Leave Work Early
32%	Arrive Late
26%	Feel Distracted
19%	Cut Back Work Hours
14%	Feel Unproductive

## Top Six Factors that Impact Parent's Child Care Selections

72%	Location
62%	Quality
50%	Cost
50%	Hours
46%	Children Happy
31%	Strong Learning Environment

## New York State Parents Speak Out...

"When school is closed, my job isn't and I can't find child care."

"I had to change jobs to find child care during available hours."

"I didn't pay other bills in full, so I could cover child care."

"My husband and I have had to work rotating schedules."

"We had to refinance our house last year to pay for child care."

"I had to turn down a job offer due to lack of available and affordable child care."

