



Knox County Childcare Needs

Assessment 2022

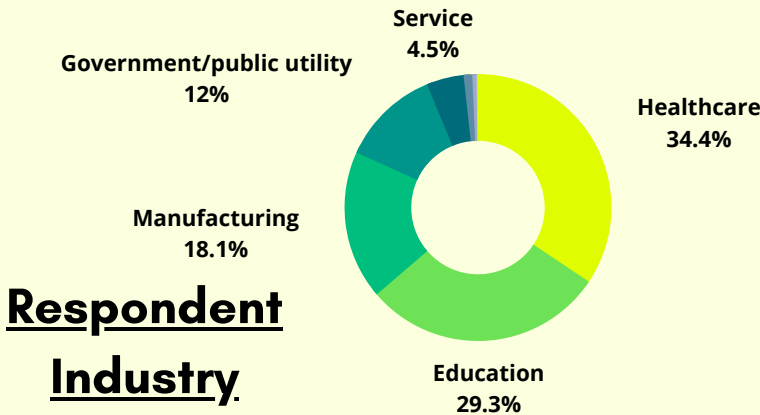
Safe, accessible, and affordable childcare is a necessity for any vibrant community and lack of childcare is impacting the workforce participation

Survey Distribution Method

- Directly distributed to top 25 employers
- Issued to the public through social media and partner organizations
- Anyone who lived or worked in Knox County was able to participate

Sample Composition

- **589** total responses
- **322** have children
- **216** have no children
- **41** plan to have children in the next five years.

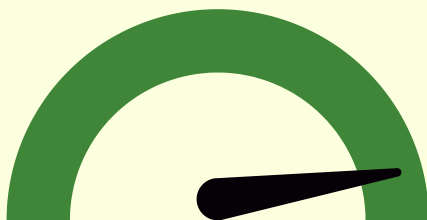
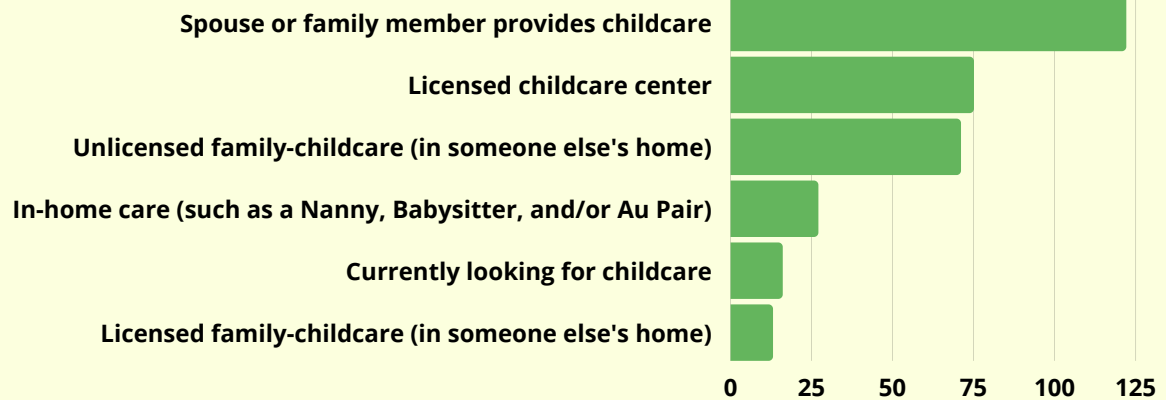


Age of Respondents Children

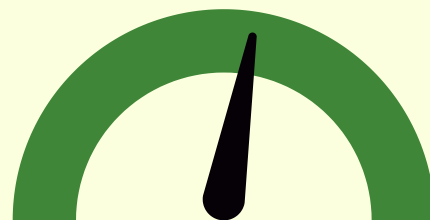
1 month - 3 years old	156
3-5 years old	163
6-10 years old	187
11-14 years old	50

559 Children represented

Current Childcare Arrangement



92.3% of respondents have found it difficult to find childcare



55% of respondents have considered leaving their current job due to childcare needs



58% of respondents have someone in their family who is unable to work full-time due to childcare demands

Affordability: Balancing the affordability of childcare with providing a living wage for caregivers is almost impossible without a subsidy



The median current weekly cost per child of respondents is **\$150**



The median desired weekly cost per child of respondents is **\$125**



Based on the median income of Knox County and recommended "affordability" by Health and Human Services* the total weekly cost should be **\$115**

*According to the Department of Health and Human services, childcare should cost no more than 10% of a household budget

Availability: No matter what the cost there are not enough available spaces

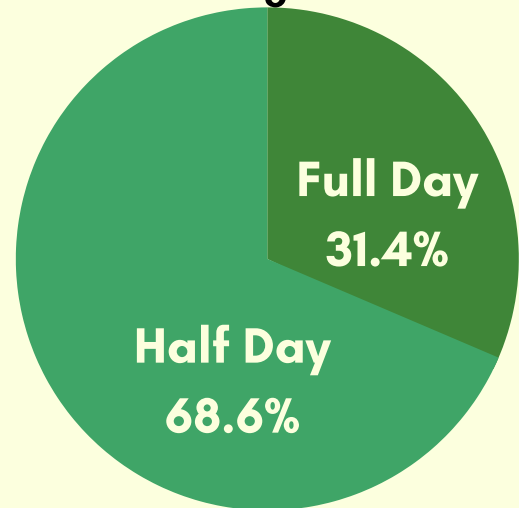
Licensed Childcare Enrollment in Knox County

There are very few, if any, openings in full-time licensed childcare

	Total
Infant Toddler	73
Preschool	837
School Aged	76
Total Overall	986

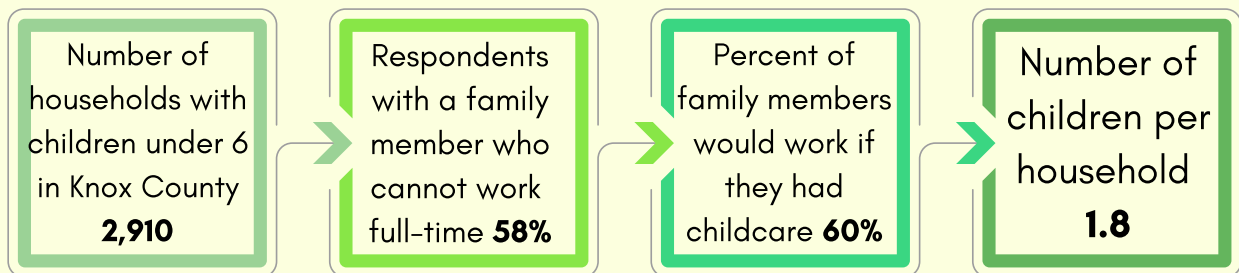
The greatest need is for full-time infant toddler care

Preschool Offerings in Knox County



There are openings in half day preschools but not in full day preschools

Demand: Estimated demand for additional childcare in Knox County



Approximately **1,822** new childcare spots needed