PUBLIC OPINION ON OREGON'S CHILD CARE CRISIS

In October 2022, the Sarah Cohen-Doherty Center for Children at the Oregon Values and Beliefs Center, in partnership with Children's Institute, conducted a statewide survey of Oregonians' values about child care in Oregon.

The online survey consisted of 1,926 Oregon residents ages 18 and older and the sample is representative of the population, including racially and geographically diverse residents across Oregon.

KEY FINDINGS

- Across the state, Oregonians (80 percent) support increases in state funding to support child care needs, regardless of whether they have children.

- A majority (54 percent) of Oregon employers say that access to child care impacts their ability to hire and/or retain employees.

- Six in ten respondents (59 percent) with children under 6 years of age spend money on providing child care for their children, with those who do pay for child care spending an average of 20 percent of their monthly income.

- The majority of Oregonians (60 percent) say state and federal government should step up to address the child care crisis.

Diversity and sustainability of infrastructure seems most important, including subsidies for child care costs and workforce rather than one-size fits-all child care centers that only serve certain neighborhoods or rigid schedules, because it may not allow the flexibility for the kinds of supports needed to address equity.

- Woman, age 45–54, Multnomah County, Hispanic/Latino/a/x