

Birth to Five Parent Poll

Over 600 California parents were polled* to determine the impact of COVID-19 on their families. We share these findings to help inform California policymakers, advocates, and other leaders on some of the most pressing issues faced by families during the pandemic.

Prominent Concerns About Health

- 73% worry about their child's ability to socialize with other children.
- 32% have missed well-child health appointments for their child.
- 26% have not been able to access medical care using telehealth.
- 94% of parents agree that accessing their child's doctor via telehealth could help them, but only 48% are currently able to.
- 74% worry their child's education and development are suffering because of the pandemic.
- 70% worry about their own and their family's mental health.
- 87% agree that receiving referrals to mental health clinics and providers could help them, but only 13% currently have received or have access to referrals.

Significant Financial Hardship

- 34% (and 59% of low-income parents) are concerned about affording expenses that support basic human needs like food and housing.
- 36% (and 45% of low-income parents) say they have skipped or reduced the size of their own or their child's meals as a result of the pandemic.
- 59% of low-income parents and 41% of parents of color, including 43% of Latinx parents, say they feel uneasy about their personal finances over the next several months.

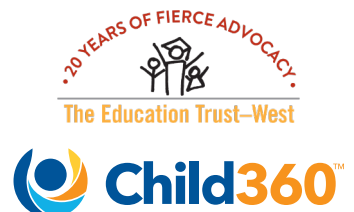


Widespread Support for Investing in Early Care and Education

- 95% say prioritizing free high-quality preschool is important.
- 95% say increased wages and professional development support for educators are important.
- 97% would prioritize professional development for early educators in the state budget.
- 94% think it's important to collect data to improve quality of care and better support children, families and educators.

[Click here to learn more](#)

As state and local leaders take action on the state budget and Master Plan for Early Learning and Care, we urge them to center on the whole child, family wellness, and parents' priorities to offer solutions that increase equity and eradicate systemic barriers through the pandemic and beyond.



*Global Strategy Group partnered with the collaborating organizations on this poll, which had a confidence interval of +/-4.0%. All interviews were conducted via a web-based panel, including 62% of interviews conducted via mobile device. Care has been taken to ensure the geographic and demographic divisions of parents of young children in California are properly represented.