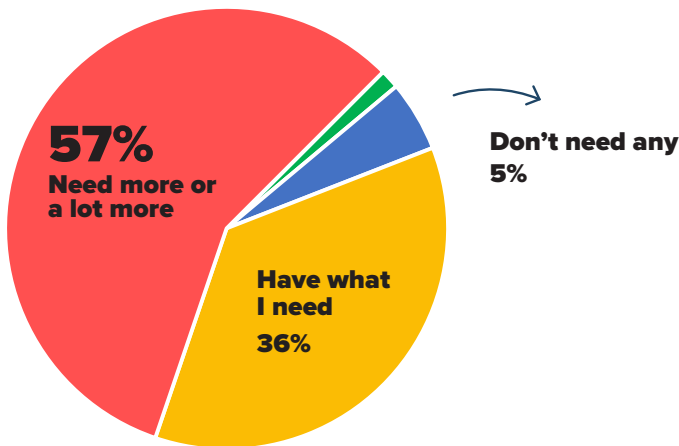


# CHILD CARE IN SANTA FE

FAMILY SURVEY RESULTS, JULY 2021



## Do Santa Fe families have enough child care?



### Santa Fe families need more child care.

- 57% need more or a lot more care.
- 34% currently have care in the home of a relative.
- 27% have children being cared for in a child care center.
- 52% need care five full days a week.

### Affordability is an issue.

- 37% of families said that they **can't afford, or are close to not being able to afford**, their current child care.

### Safety is a common priority.

- 50% of families said their number one priority in child care was safety.
- 23% said their second priority was the care environment (outside space, quiet nap space, books, etc).

### Stability of care is a common concern.

- 40% of families are concerned about the stability of their child care arrangements.

#### COMMENTS

"I can't seem to find any childcare so I can go back to work."

"My grandma is my child's babysitter and she is slowing down."

"Pricing is going up and it's like paying another mortgage. Definitely not something our family can afford."

"My older children watch my toddler. They have limited experience."



## What is important to Santa Fe families?

### Communication, outside time, and location are top priorities for families.

**98%** said communication with their child's caregiver is important.

**96%** said their children should go outside every day (weather permitting).

**84%** said they want care close to home or work (location).

### OTHER PRIORITIES

**70%** said additional services (such as speech or physical therapy) should be included during child care.

**69%** said the provider should have a certificate or degree in early childhood.

**61%** said the provider should speak the same language.

**61%** said the provider should have their same approach to discipline.

## What educational styles do families want?

### Families prefer play-based, nature-based, and bilingual curriculum.

- **78%** Play Based
- **65%** Nature Based
- **60%** Bilingual

### Families primarily want socialization, art, and literacy activities.

- **95%** Socializing & interacting with other children
- **94%** Books and learning to read
- **92%** Art



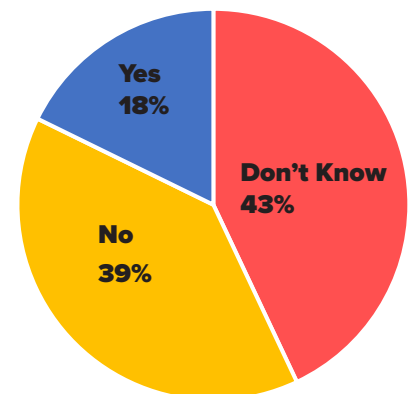
## Are families aware of Child Tax Credit and Child Care Assistance?

### Many families want more information about state and federal benefits.

**66%** of families want to know more about the Child Tax Credit available through the American Rescue Plan.

**43%** of families don't know if they are eligible for child care subsidies.

## Are you eligible for child care subsidies?



## Other Comments

“In Santa Fe there are **only a few high quality day care centers**, the wait list is very long!

“There are free early PreK and PreK programs **but not free for infants and toddlers.**”

“There **needs to be more childcare options for very young children** (under age 2) in Santa Fe.”

“**There are waitlists everywhere and even if there weren't, I'd be looking at over \$1000/month** for “full time” care that's only 9am-3pm.”

“**I can't afford childcare for 3 children.**”

## Who answered the survey?

- **52%** of families are from Santa Fe's 87507 zip code.
- **77%** of families have one or two children. **44%** have one child.
- **40%** have (at least) one infant (age 0-1) and **42%** have (at least) one toddler (age 1-3).
- **42%** are Spanish speakers or bilingual.
- **52%** are currently working full, or more than full time. **22%** are working part time. **13%** are currently looking for work.
- **10%** have at least one child with a disability.



## Methodology

From May through June of 2021, a survey was distributed to Santa Fe County families with very young children (aged 0-5). An online, phone and printed version were offered, and the survey was available in both English and Spanish. All respondents were automatically entered into a lottery to win one of six \$500 prizes.



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