

Smart Beginnings Employee Perspectives: Child Care and Workforce Impact Survey Responses

The employee survey *Employee Perspectives on Child Care and Work Force Impact* was sent to 4,400 employees at 13 businesses. Over 700 responses were received. The response rate was 71% for small businesses, 27% for mid-size businesses and 14% for large employers. Participating employers included: CB Richard Ellis, Charlottesville Regional Chamber of Commerce, City of Charlottesville, County of Albemarle, LexisNexis, Piedmont Virginia Community College, Region Ten CSB, SNL Financial, State Farm Insurance. *The Daily Progress*, Williams Mullen, United Way-Thomas Jefferson Area and Virginia National Bank.

Response percentages for each question are based on the total number of responses received for the survey.

1. If you have children 0-2 years, what type/s of child care do you use during work?

Family member	12%
Public preschool	1%
Child Care center or preschool	15%
Family day care/babysitter	9%
Babysitter in my home	1%
Answered question	37%

2. If you have children 3-5 years, what type/s of child care do you use during work?

Family member	3%
Public preschool	0%
Child Care center or preschool	9%
Family day care/babysitter	2%
Babysitter in my home	0%
Answered question	15%

3. How satisfied are you with the child care option(s) available?

Very Satisfied	17%
Somewhat Satisfied	57%
Very Dissatisfied	15%
Don't know	5%
Answered question	78%

4. How would you rate the ease or difficulty you had in finding child care?

Very easy	7%
Easy	16%
Somewhat difficult	36%
Very difficult	14%
Don't Know	4%
Answered question	65%

5. If you had problems finding child care, what are the most significant problems you encountered?

Cost	34%
No openings	18%
Limited hours	13%
Low quality of care	13%
Location	9%
Transportation	2%
Other	5%
No problem	14%

Respondents chose multiple answers.
772 responses received.

6. To what degree do child care-related issues affect your work?

No impact	15%
Small impact	32%
Significant impact	30%
Don't know	2%
Answered question	78%

7. Do child care-related issues affect your absenteeism at work?

Yes	41%
No	35%
Don't know	2%
Answered question	77%

8. How many days do you think you miss per year as a result of child care issues?

0	10%
1-5	52%
6-10	12%
11+	1%
Answered question	76%

51 additional comments addressed topic areas:

- Difficulty with openings 3
- Affordability/cost 6
- Quality importance 6
- Lack of quality combined with affordable care 9
- Early years critical for future 3
- Need for nontraditional hours 5
- Healthy foods at child care 2
- Satisfied with care 2
- Impact on workforce issue 4
- Misc- other topics
- (Sick care needs, religious-based care needs, special needs care, on-site child care need parent responsibility, public education, other issues)