Cost and availability of child care squeezing Colorado parents.

At The Colorado Health Foundation, we believe in listening first, and that’s why we conduct an annual, state-wide poll. In 2021, Pulse: The Colorado Health Foundation Poll asked 2,493 Coloradans about their experiences, worries and priorities. Child care stood out as uniquely challenging.

A majority of parents consider the cost of child care to be a serious problem in the state.

- **56%** of all parents
- **62%** of parents of color
- **67%** of parents with kids under 5
- **54%** of parents with school-aged kids

All Coloradans overwhelmingly support increasing state government investment to help reduce the cost of child care for working parents.

- **71%** of all Coloradans

About one-third of parents of color have been unable to find affordable child care.

- **24%** of all parents
- **31%** of parents of color
- **44%** of parents with kids under 5
- **20%** of parents with school-aged kids

A majority of parents with younger children find it more difficult to balance child care and other responsibilities.

- **52%** of parents with kids under 5

For working parents, especially of young children, juggling child care comes at steep professional costs.

- **More than a quarter (27%)** of all parents are unable to find child care for all the hours they needed it.
- **37%** for parents with kids under 5.
- **One in four** of all parents have missed out on or declined professional opportunities because of a lack of child care.
- **36%** for parents with kids under 5.

Pulse: The Colorado Health Foundation Poll was conducted July 27 – Aug. 16, 2021, online and by phone in English and Spanish.

For complete results, including an interactive data dashboard, visit [COPulsePoll.org](http://COPulsePoll.org).