



# Research Snapshots:

## How Have Delaware's Family Child Care Programs Fared During the COVID-19 Pandemic?

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the essential role of family child care for children and families. To better understand the impacts of COVID-19 as they relate to staffing, finances, and families, DIEEC gathered survey data from family and large family child care programs between June 15th and July 23rd of 2021. A total of 132 of Delaware's 549 programs completed surveys.

Large family (LFCC) and family child care (FCC) programs in the state of Delaware endured some major changes since the pandemic began. For many programs, average enrollments dropped, age groups of children shifted, hours changed, and over half of providers began offering school-age care. Providers took advantage of a number of financial supports, but rarely had substitute care when they needed it.



### Substitutes

34% of L/FCC providers reported a need for substitutes.

Only 22% of L/FCC programs were able to access substitutes when in need.

### Program Flexibility

54%

Began offering school age remote learning

7%

Lengthened program hours

22%

Changed age groups of children served

### Program Disruptions

% of L/FCC who:

18%

Closed for at least one week after reopening

11%

Reduced program hours

### Supports Received

Additional Purchase of Care

Enhanced Reimbursement

Paycheck Protection Program

Materials & Supplies

Unemployment Benefits

Grants

### Most Helpful Supports Reported:

4%

School Age Grant

5%

Materials & Supplies

13%

Paycheck Protection Program

31%

Additional Purchase of Care

56%

Enhanced Reimbursement

### Vaccination Status



Approximately 8 out of 10 L/FCC providers are already vaccinated or plan to take the vaccine.

0.62 = average number

of per-program COVID cases reported among children

\*calculated based on program report