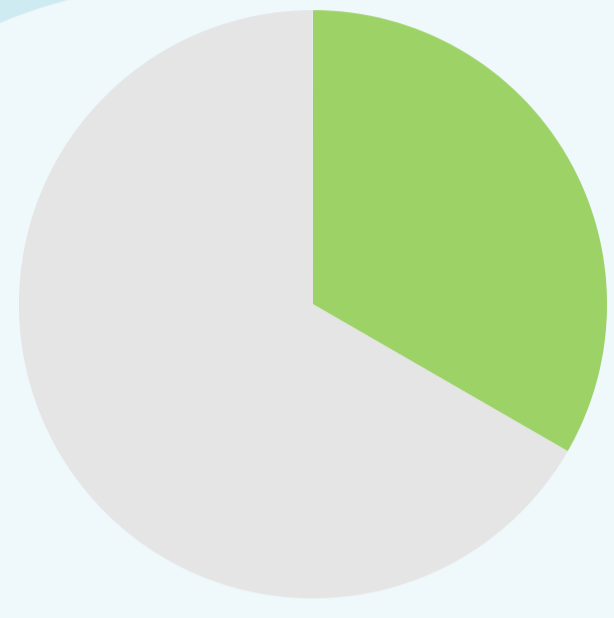


Child Care Access Challenges in King County

King County's child care sector was stretched thin before COVID-19. The impacts of the pandemic have increased challenges and disparities in access to care.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic started in 2020...



The average Washington family spent about **1/3 of its income** on child care.¹

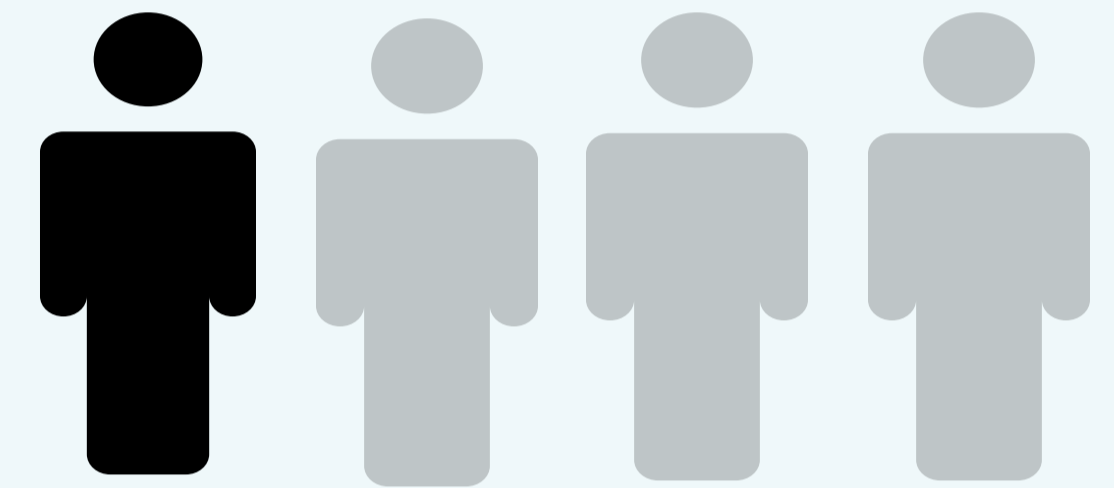
1 in 4

Washington state parents quit their jobs or left school due to child care issues.²



1 in 4

King County children who were eligible for subsidized early learning did not have access to it. **This disproportionately affected children of color.**³



The pandemic has made it harder for families to find child care...

Less than 1 in 5

parents who usually had child care at a school or community program said that their regular child care was available during the pandemic.⁴

27%

of parents living in the Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue metropolitan area had to take unpaid leave to care for their children. **Of parents who made less than \$25,000 per year, 51% took unpaid leave.**⁵

To learn more about child care in King County, read the Children and Families Strategy Task Force report: [Equitable and Accessible Child Care in King County](#)

To get help finding child care, contact: [Child Care Resources](#)



Sources:

1. *The Care Report*. (n.d.). New America. <https://www.newamerica.org/in-depth/care-report/explore-care-index/>

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4. *Washington state 2020 CORONA survey: King County results - King County*. (2020). August 4- October 6, 2020. Kingcounty.gov. <https://kingcounty.gov/depts/health/covid-19/data/impacts/corona.aspx>

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