



Nebraskans Speak About Early Care and Education

Buffett Early Childhood Institute/Gallup Survey on
Early Childhood Care and Education in Nebraska

KEY FINDINGS



Buffett
Early Childhood
Institute
at the University of Nebraska

GALLUP®



NEBRASKANS VOICE SUPPORT FOR EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION

More than 7,100 Nebraskans responded to the Buffett Early Childhood Institute/Gallup Survey on Early Childhood Care and Education in Nebraska. The largest public opinion poll ever conducted about early childhood in Nebraska, the survey provides a barometer of residents' attitudes, beliefs, and knowledge concerning early care and education. Outlined below are early findings from the report.

KEY FINDINGS

- 1 Nebraskans recognize the importance of early care and education.**
 - The vast majority (68%) of Nebraska residents say early care and education has a lot of impact on the long-term success of students in school and in life.
 - Only 10% of Nebraska residents strongly feel that most young children in Nebraska are prepared to be successful in school when they start Kindergarten.

- 2 Nebraskans do not believe high-quality early care and education is available or affordable for all families in the state.**
 - Just 11% of Nebraska residents strongly agree that high-quality early care and education is available to every family in the state.
 - Only 6% of Nebraskans strongly agree that high-quality early care and education is affordable for every family in Nebraska.
 - Among several possible obstacles, more than a third (35%) of Nebraska residents say cost is the biggest challenge families face in obtaining high-quality care and education for their young children.

- 3 Nebraskans report deficiencies in early care and education in their area and in the state.**
 - Only 15% of Nebraskans are very satisfied with the quality of early care and education programs in the city or area where they live.
 - Just 1% of Nebraska residents say that all children from birth to age 5 in Nebraska receive high-quality early care and education.

- 4 Nebraskans want a greater investment in quality early care and education.**
 - Two-thirds (67%) of Nebraskans strongly agree or agree that the state should make early care and education a higher priority than it is today.
 - The majority of Nebraska residents (58%) believe the state is investing too little in early care and education, while only 6% think the state is investing too much.

- 5 Nebraskans support early care and education for children most in need.**
 - Only two in 10 residents (19%) strongly agree or agree that Nebraska is doing enough to help children from low-income families be ready for success in life.
 - Half of Nebraskans strongly agree or agree that the state should provide early care and education for all children from low-income families who choose to use it.

For more information visit buffettinstitute.nebraska.edu/gallup-survey.