



2015 CHILD CARE FACT SHEET Steuben & Schuyler Counties

WORKFORCE READINESS

3 in 10

On average, share of Schuyler & Steuben third-grade students **WHO ARE PROFICIENT** on English Language Arts state exams



Local 3rd Grade ELA proficiency rates are, on average, 8 percentage points lower than the statewide rate

“Reading proficiency by third grade is the most important predictor of high school graduation and career success.”

The Campaign for Grade Level Reading

REQUIRED WORKFORCE SKILLS

Listen actively; Read with understanding; Use math to solve problems; Solve problems and make decisions; Cooperate with others; Resolve conflict and negotiate; Observe critically Take responsibility for learning

PLUS

STEM Healthcare
Advanced Manufacturing
Computer Skills Welding
Hydraulics, pneumatics and electrical for railcar industry

HIGH QUALITY EARLY CARE & LEARNING

THERE IS A SOLUTION: START EARLY

Our community has a common agenda focused on early childhood because:

- Children who experience high quality developmental play and learning during early childhood are more likely to start school ready to learn;
- Children who start school ready to learn are more likely to become proficient students by third grade; and
- Children who read proficiently by third grade are more likely to succeed in school and graduate high school ready for the military, workforce or college.

What’s more, high-quality early care and education, especially for disadvantaged children, has been shown to:

- Decrease special education placement by 49% and reduce grade retention by 50%;
- Decrease child abuse and neglect by 51% and juvenile arrests by 33%;
- Increase high school graduation by 31% and college attendance by more than 80%; and
- Increase employment by 23%.



We address the quality of care through community education and caregiver training, technical assistance and tangible supports.

LOCAL PROVIDER QUALITY FACTS



- 309** Received professional development or technical assistance last year
- 212** Trained & providing *Early Literacy Connections*[®] research-based curriculum
- 164** Made improvements after using quality improvement planning & support services
- 137** Trained & providing *DIAL* child development screenings
- 55** Hold a CDA or Bachelor’s Degree

ACCESS TO QUALITY

Even though “quality” was ranked by parents as the number one factor in choice of child care arrangements, 55% of families receiving subsidy fee assistance use non-regulated child care that is not subject to quality monitoring.

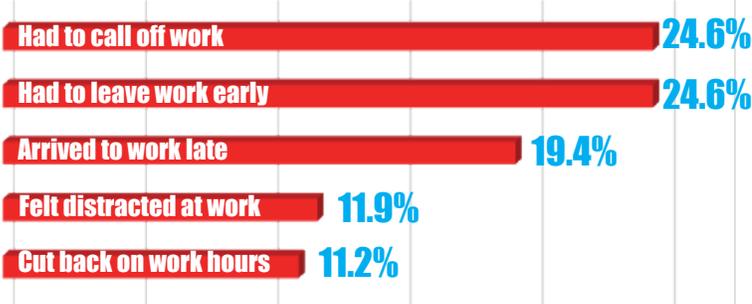
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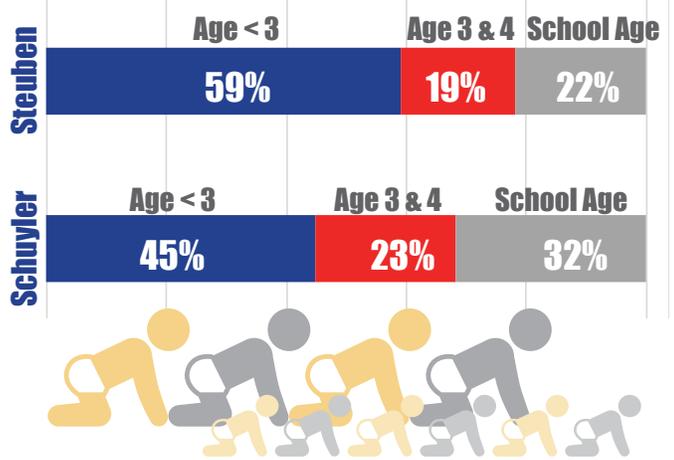
CHILD CARE AVAILABILITY & RELIABILITY

Impacts of Child Care Issues on Work

Parents surveyed were asked if child care issues had caused any of the following. The most frequently cited responses include:



Referral Requests by Age Group



While care for this age group is in high demand, **only 4 in 10** local infants and toddlers can be served by regulated child care programs.

AFFORDABILITY

COSTS to provide care are on the rise



Child care programs anticipate cost increases of 7 - 10% in 2017 & 2018. The strategies local providers most often plan to use to respond to rising costs include:

- Raise fees for private pay parents
- Conduct fundraising (including seeking grants, individual and corporate donations)
- Participate in public policy advocacy
- Modify sliding fee scales

Provider EARNING POTENTIAL is too low



- In every state, child care workers would need to spend almost half of their income on child care for their own children.
- New York is among ten states, plus Washington DC, where the median child care worker's income is not enough to put two children in center-based care.
- 38 local child care providers closed their doors in 2014 and 2015 because they can't make a living doing this work.

FEEs are burdensome for parents



In the last 6 months, more than 46% of Steuben parents had trouble paying for child care at least sometimes, including 23% who always or often had trouble paying. The strategies most often used by parents in order to pay for child care include:

- 57.4% cut back on household expenses to pay for child care
- 31.1% borrowed from family to pay for care
- 24.6% cut back on work hours to pay for care
- 16.4% cut back care hours

DID YOU KNOW?

- Annual fees for 4 year-old child care locally are just \$436 less than SUNY tuition and fees?
- A median-income household spends 17% of its income on child care for one infant?
- The same household doesn't qualify for fee assistance with fewer than four members?
- In 2015, \$2.3M in local child care subsidy funds helped pay for child care for an average of 520 children per month?
- The local early care & learning sector employs hundreds and generates nearly \$31M annually?