

# The Childcare Landscape

Caitlin Codella Low, Vice President, Policy and Programs U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation



# The Childcare Landscape: Challenges

#### Access:

More than half of people in the U.S. live in a childcare desert.

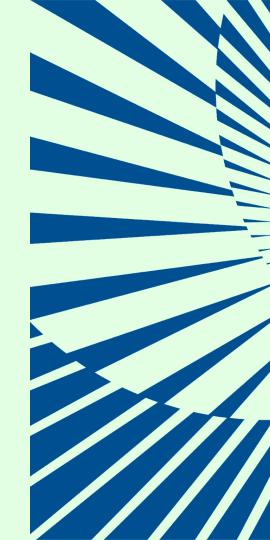
#### Affordability:

Childcare costs between \$5,357 - \$17,171annually.

### Quality:

When access and affordability make childcare out of reach, quality is sacrificed.





## **Childcare Market Failures**

Why not increase supply?

Staffing makes up 65-80% of budgets for providers.

Tuition is often the only source of revenue.

Staff are paid low salaries, but raising tuition will price-out families.





# Result of Childcare Crisis: Untapped Potential

First round of reports: \$479 million to \$3.4 billion in lost economic potential due to childcare -related issues.

Second round showed the pandemic amplified losses. TX: \$9.4 billion.

Data shows: nation's childcare crisis has worsened, options are more limited, impacts

workforce (especially women).



# Impact for Businesses

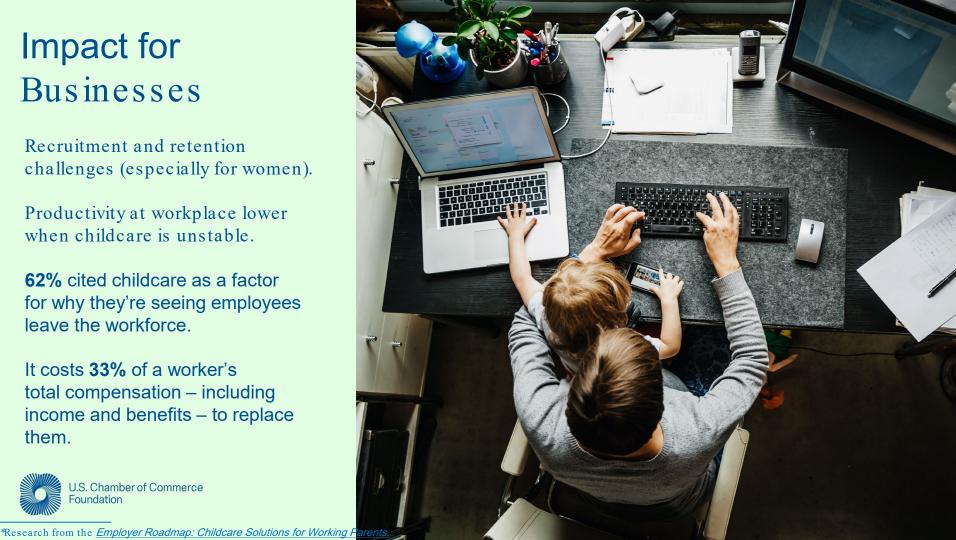
Recruitment and retention challenges (especially for women).

Productivity at workplace lower when childcare is unstable.

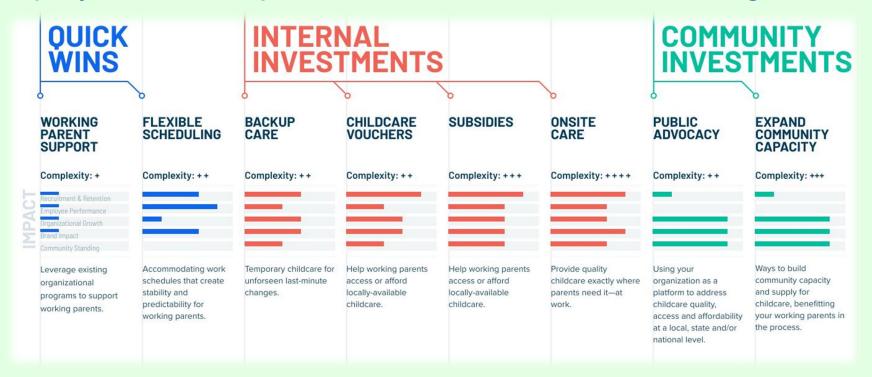
**62%** cited childcare as a factor for why they're seeing employees leave the workforce.

It costs 33% of a worker's total compensation - including income and benefits - to replace them.





## Employer Roadmap: Childcare Solutions for Working Parents





# **Key Takeaways**

Employers have a role to play in addressing childcare challenges.

The most effective childcare system will not be found in one-size-fits-all solution.

Hundreds of state and local Chambers have reached out and stepped up to find **flexible** and creative solutions that impact access, affordability, quality.



