

Lowell Families Cost and Access to Preschool

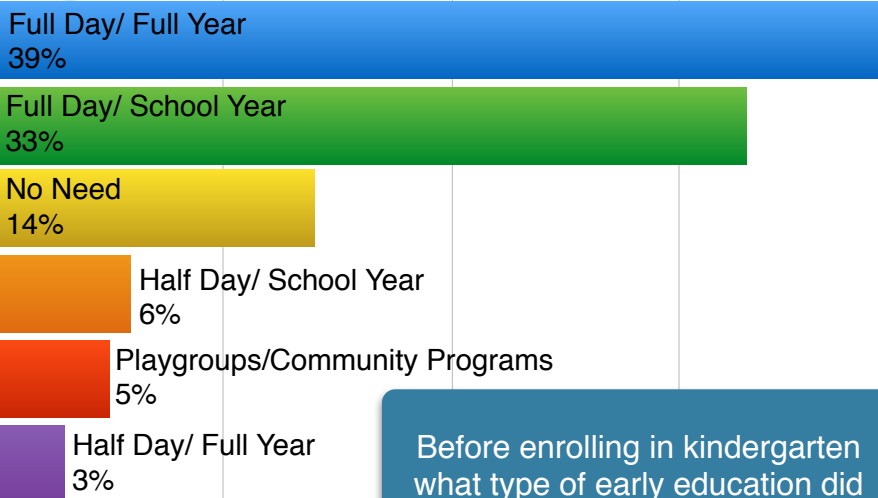
A REPORT FROM THE LOWELL EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL

**FACT SHEET
WINTER 2021**

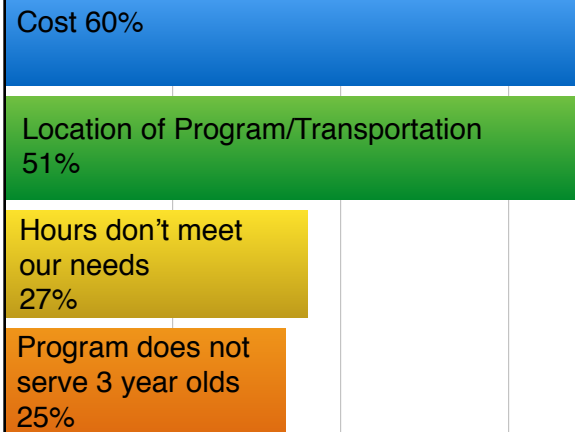
The cost of preschool is a major expense in family budgets; often exceeding the cost of housing, college tuition, transportation and food.

In a survey of 913 families conducted May-September 2020, Lowell families reported the following:

What type of early education and care does your family need?

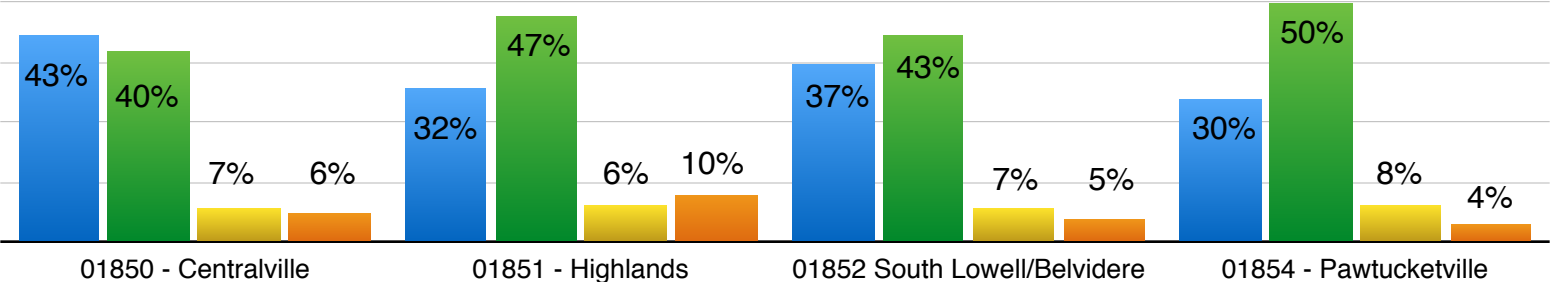


What are your barriers accessing preschool?



Before enrolling in kindergarten what type of early education did your child participate in?

■ No PreK
 ■ Attended PreK
 ■ Family Child Care
 ■ Participated in other Programming



OUTCOME: 36% of kindergarten students enrolled in the Lowell Public Schools did not attend preschool



\$15,095

Average cost of preschool in Massachusetts

\$15,648

Annual tuition at UMASS Lowell