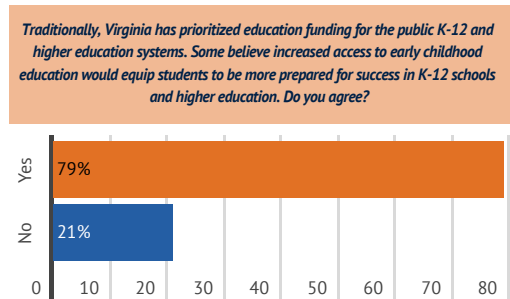
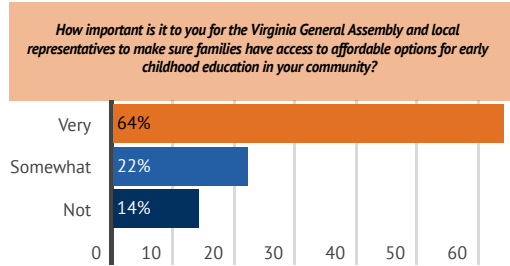


76% of Virginians support increased funding for early childhood education

The vast majority of Virginia parents state it is very important for early childhood education access to be expanded across the Commonwealth.

Early childhood education is a foundational component for child development, economic growth and prosperity, and a powerful force for societal well-being. **Significantly, 86% of Virginians believe it is important for the Virginia General Assembly to prioritize access to affordable early childhood education** - an issue that transcends income inequality, geographic location, and partisanship.

Virginians express strong support for additional funding and resources for early childhood education and understanding of its essential role in shaping the Commonwealth's trajectory by providing quality early education programs that offer an environment that encourages skill development and narrows socioeconomic disparities. Furthermore, preparing children for kindergarten is proving to be more important for individual success, with **a remarkable 79% of Virginians in agreement - expanding access to early childhood education will equip students for success in kindergarten and beyond.**



The Virginia General Assembly will consider an increase in funding to expand access to affordable child care for low-income and other eligible families. Do you support or oppose this proposal?



Looking ahead to the 2024 legislative session, the Virginia General Assembly may consider an increase in funding to expand access to affordable childcare for low-income and other eligible families. **This proposal garners two-thirds of support from Virginians, showing it is essential for a funding increase for early childhood education to emerge from the 2024 session.**

Investments in early childhood education yield a high return in economic growth and prosperity in our communities, carrying substantial societal benefits. Moreover, by providing increased opportunities and economic stability for working mothers, funding high quality affordable child care garners robust support.

While early childhood education holds immense promise, challenges persist. **Access to quality, affordable programs remains a concern for many families, particularly those in lower income groups**, which requires a collective effort from the General Assembly, educators, and communities alike to expand and improve access and affordability.

This survey was conducted from October 16 through October 23, 2023, and included input from 1,307 likely general election voters using mobile text responses. The survey is balanced by the age, gender, education level, race, and location of the true voting population and has a margin of error of +/- 3.03%.