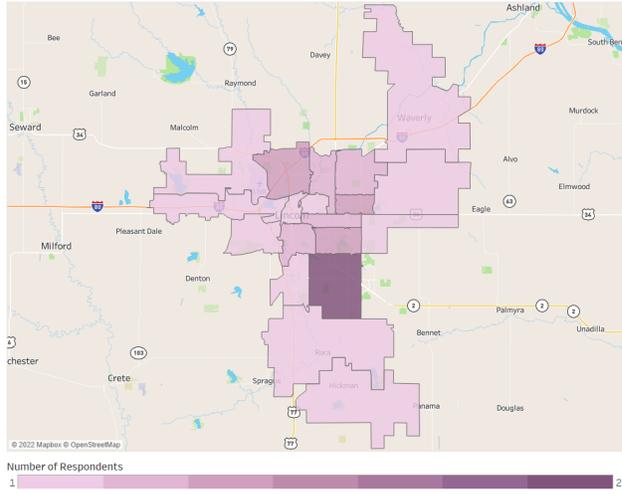
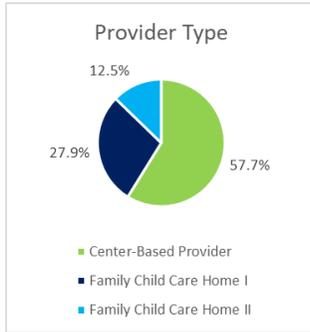


# Early Childhood Workforce Survey

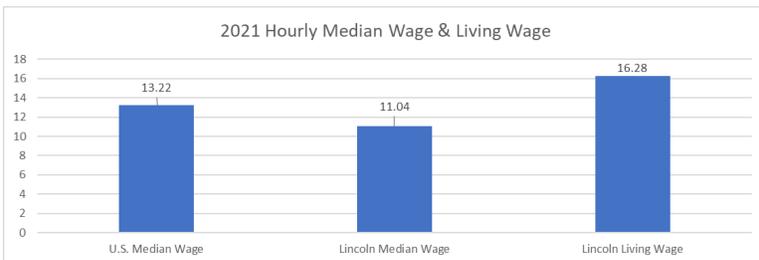
## PARTICIPANTS

Around 300 early childcare providers were invited to participate in the early childhood workforce survey. A total of 94 (about 31%) early childcare providers completed the survey.



## BACKGROUND DATA

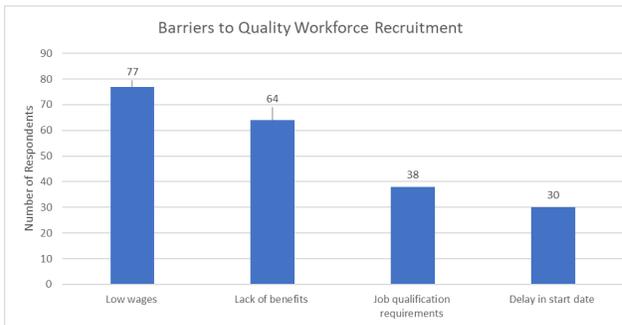
In 2021, the median wage for childcare workers in Lincoln was **\$11.04/hour** (annual median income of \$22,980/year). Nationally, the median wage for childcare workers is \$13.22/hour, or \$27,490/year.<sup>1</sup> The living wage in Lincoln is \$16.28/hour, or \$33,862/year.<sup>2</sup>



**10% of childcare workers in Lincoln earned between \$9.00 an hour and \$10.53 an hour. Most childcare workers (80%) earned between \$10.54 an hour and \$17.30 an hour.**

## KEY FINDINGS

- Most are interested in participating in a **substitute pool, hosting interns or apprentices, and receiving a variety of community-wide supports** to provide relief for childcare workers.
- Respondents reported that approximately **1,492 (not unduplicated) children are currently on their wait lists for childcare in Lincoln. Most respondents have 10 or more children on their wait list.**



**"Our ability to provide one-on-one care for a child needing support is much less. If we were able to provide one-on-one care for a short period of time we may be able to curb some of the negative behaviors we're seeing before they develop into habits."**

- Most indicated they are experiencing a **staffing shortage. Low wages and a lack of benefits make recruitment and retainment of staff difficult.**
- Staffing shortages have led to **increased exhaustion and burnout among staff, serving fewer children, and increased behavioral challenges in young children.**

1. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2022). Occupational and Wage Statistics [Data set]. U.S. Department of Labor.

2. Glasmeier, Amy K. Living Wage Calculator. (2020). Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Living wage for a single adult with no children residing in Lincoln, Nebraska. [livingwage.mit.edu](http://livingwage.mit.edu)

