In April 2020, OregonASK launched a brief survey to gauge the impact of COVID-19 within the afterschool, childcare, and expanded learning field, and to understand how the field is responding to the pandemic. A brief summary of results to-date follow.

As of May 1, Oregon had received **166 responses on the survey from afterschool programs, school districts, childcare providers, and youth-serving community organizations across the state**. The map to the right demonstrates survey responses by zip code (with larger circles representing more survey responses in that zip code).

59% of respondents reported serving youth ages 0-5, 82% reported serving youth ages 5-12, 28% reported serving youth ages 13-16, 20% reported serving youth 17 years or older, and 7% reported serving adults.

**Response to COVID-19**

In response to health concerns, school closures, and stay-at-home order related to COVID-19, **55% of respondents indicated that their afterschool program and/or childcare center had closed**. As a result, the median attendance reported by respondents has **dropped from 25 youth per day to 0 youth per day**.

Despite the closures, many afterschool and childcare programs are continuing to provide support to youth and families. **Half of programs are offering some kind of online programming** and almost a third are serving meals.

“**Our [afterschool educators] are reaching out to the children and families on a daily basis to see if they are safe, healthy, and if they have any needs. We are working towards putting packets together to send out to students.”**

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**Current Program Activities**

- Planning for the future and/or summer: 64%
- Online programming for youth and/or families: 50%
- Participating in or offering virtual professional development: 40%
- Surveying families for needs: 37%
- Serving meals to youth and/or families: 30%
- Collecting goods for families in need: 22%
- Emergency fundraising: 10%
- Other (please specify): 9%
- Providing Emergency Childcare: 7%

Percent check all that apply for each activity. N=166
“With the schools shut down, my workload has increased dramatically. I now teach 3 grade levels on top of our normal childcare day/preschool. Sanitation requirements now take up more hours of the day. My days have gone from 10 hour days to 12-13 hour days.”

**Looking Forward**

About a third of survey respondents reported staff layoffs, and a further 15% reported furloughs. Of responding programs that have implemented layoffs and furloughs, the average percentage of staff affected is over 65%.

As programs look to the future, their biggest needs are funding (69%) and guidance (34%), with most programs (57%) looking to the state to provide that guidance. Another often cited need was cleaning supplies and protective gear (such as masks and gloves).

Many programs report struggling to stay open, and worry for their future. In communities where childcare is already hard to find, programs are at risk of closing permanently.

“[We need] info on future changes for licensed child care (school-age). Are the current emergency child care guidelines going to stay as we re-enter in-person environments? Will there be any financial supports provided by state or federal agencies to child care programs?

“We need to be allowed to open. Until then, we need federal money to keep us in business. We have yet to receive any relief funds at all and are going into a second month with no tuition from families….We are at a total stand still. In addition, I have no money to pay myself and have not heard from unemployment after first applying almost a month ago. It’s time to reopen or I’ll be closed for good.”

“Everyone wants childcare to stay open and work with the high risk families but no one wants to support the childcare. All kinds of services for those staying home and getting paid.”