



IOWA WOMEN'S
FOUNDATION

Improving the lives of Iowa's women & girls

Child Care Crisis in Iowa

Families

- Almost 18,000 parents are quitting a job, did not take a job or greatly changed jobs because of child care problems
- Over 12,750 women reported they are not working full-time due to child care problems
- Lost wages and retirement savings

Businesses

- Iowa businesses are losing \$675 million in unrealized annual GDP
- Over a 6-month period, almost half of parents are absent from work at least one day due to child care issues, missing an average of 4.3 days and are late to work/leave early on average 7.5 times
- Businesses lose on average \$1,150 per working parent with a child under age 3 in reduced revenue and costs to rehire quits and cover absenteeism. In aggregate, the burden on business is \$13 billion annually.
- 63% of parents say that child care costs influence their careers, with a majority of working parents (85%) say they wish their employer offered child care benefits, such as discounted child care or access to back up care.
- When companies provide child care, employee absences decrease by up to 30% and job turnover declines by as much as 60%

Communities

- Decreased population
- Less self-sufficient families
- Higher crime and incarceration rates
- Lost economic activity and tax revenues

