



**Carl Vinson  
Institute of Government  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**

# **Short Term Assistance Benefit for Licensed Entities (STABLE) Child Care Survey**

Survey Research and Evaluation Unit  
Carl Vinson Institute of Government

A Report Prepared for the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning

October 27, 2020

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## Executive Summary

In January of 2019, Georgia was awarded a Preschool Development Grant, Birth through Five (PDG B-5) from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Department of Education to conduct a needs assessment and develop a strategic plan to meet the needs of vulnerable and underserved children in Georgia's early childhood care and education system. As part of the PDG B-5's work during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) collaborated with the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government (Institute of Government) to gather input from licensed early care and learning providers in Georgia regarding their COVID-related needs and experiences applying for Short Term Assistance Benefit for Licensed Entities (STABLE) funds. Institute of Government staff conducted a web-based survey of licensed early care and learning providers from July 7 until July 29, 2020. Survey questions covered three general topics: 1) operational status, 2) provider needs, and 3) the STABLE Grant. This report serves to share findings from the 32-item survey of licensed early care and learning providers.

## Summary of Major Findings

### Operational Status

- Respondents were asked to report their program’s operational status retroactively for April 2020, as well as currently at the time of the survey in July. Just under half of sites represented by survey respondents indicated they were open on April 30, 2020 (48%), this increased to nearly three-quarters of sites open at the time of the survey in July (77%).
- Among sites open during April 2020, 72% reported less than 50% of their typical spring attendance at that time. Among sites open at the time of the survey (July 2020), 62% of sites reported less than 50% of their typical summer attendance.
- Respondents most frequently indicated parent(s) being out of work (74% in April; 70% in July), voluntary absence due to families not needing care (57% in April; 63% in July), and voluntary absence due to perceived health risk (51% in April; 56% in July) as reasons for decreased attendance.

### Provider Needs

- Respondents most frequently selected additional funds (32%) and increased enrollments (27%) as the most immediate need for their programs at the time of the survey in July 2020.
- Among respondents representing sites that were open in July, a majority selected additional funds (58%) and increased enrollments (54%), with over 30% of respondents selecting cleaning supplies (42%) and retain existing staff (35%) as additional needs for their program(s) to remain open. Among respondents representing sites that were temporarily closed in July, over one-third reported a need for cleaning supplies (46%), personal protective equipment (42%), additional funds (42%), and increased enrollments (35%) for their program(s) to reopen.

### STABLE

- Ninety-three percent of survey respondents applied for the STABLE Grant. Nearly half of respondents reported applying for additional funding, such as Paycheck Protection

Programs (43%), while 39% reported they did not apply for additional grants and/or loans.

- Respondents indicated the STABLE informational webinar (53%), the FAQ document (37%), and the pre-application worksheet (37%) provided helpful assistance with the STABLE Grant application.
- Over 90% of respondents stated it was easy or very easy (96%) to gather the information necessary to complete the STABLE funds application. A similar portion indicated it was easy or very easy to complete the application in one sitting (95%).
- Respondents strongly agreed or agreed that DECAL provided sufficient information to help them complete the STABLE funds application (94%). Respondents similarly agreed the STABLE funds application through KOALA was easy to navigate (96%).
- Respondents most frequently selected facility costs (72%), supplies needed to comply with executive orders and CDC guidelines (71%), and class materials/supplies (56%) when asked how they have used or plan to use STABLE funds.
- At least 90% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that DECAL provided sufficient flexibility in how they could use STABLE funds (94%), or that being approved for STABLE funds helped their program(s) reopen (90%) or remain open (92%).

## **Introduction and Methodology**

In January of 2019, Georgia was awarded a Preschool Development Grant, Birth through Five (PDG B-5) from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Department of Education to conduct a needs assessment and develop a strategic plan to meet the needs of vulnerable and underserved children in Georgia's early childhood care and education system. As part of the PDG B-5's work during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) collaborated with the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government (Institute of Government) to gather input from licensed early care and learning providers in Georgia regarding their COVID-related needs and experiences applying for Short Term Assistance Benefit for Licensed Entities (STABLE) funds. Institute of Government staff conducted a web-based survey of licensed early care and learning providers. Survey questions covered three general topics: 1) operational status, 2) provider needs, and 3) the STABLE Grant. The complete survey instrument is available in Appendix A.

From July 7 through July 29, 2020, the Institute of Government administered the survey of licensed early care and learning providers. Using the contact list DECAL supplied, the Institute of Government invited 4,082 providers to take the survey. Institute of Government staff electronically mailed each provider a survey invitation that contained a link to the online survey. The online survey allowed respondents to return and complete the survey if they were unable to complete it in one session. It also ensured individuals only completed the survey once. Institute of Government staff sent reminder emails on July 15 and July 21.

## Survey Response

A total of 4,082 providers were invited to participate in the survey via email. Considering undeliverable email addresses ( $N = 20$ ), the adjusted sample was 4,062 potential respondents. Overall, 1,988 respondents completed the survey; therefore, the adjusted response rate for the survey was 49%.

## Item Non-Response

The total sample for this survey is reported as  $N = 1,988$ . However, this total might not be represented in every question or variable displayed. The reason for a reported response total less than the sample is item non-response. Some respondents who took the survey may have chosen not to answer specific questions. In such cases, a total response less than the total sample is reported.

## Survey Findings

The following sections present the survey findings. For clarity, items are grouped thematically. Numerical values are rounded to one decimal point; due to this rounding, some percentages in this report may total slightly above or below 100%. The number of respondents accompanies each table and figure provided in this report. Data tables for each survey question are presented in Appendix B.

## Respondent Profile

Providers who responded to the survey were asked how many sites they represented (Figure 1). A majority of respondents ( $N=1844$ ) represented a single site. Of those representing multiple sites ( $N=141$ ), the average was 4.7 sites and the median was 2 sites. The total number of sites among all respondents was 2,504. Additional information can be found in Table 1 in Appendix B.

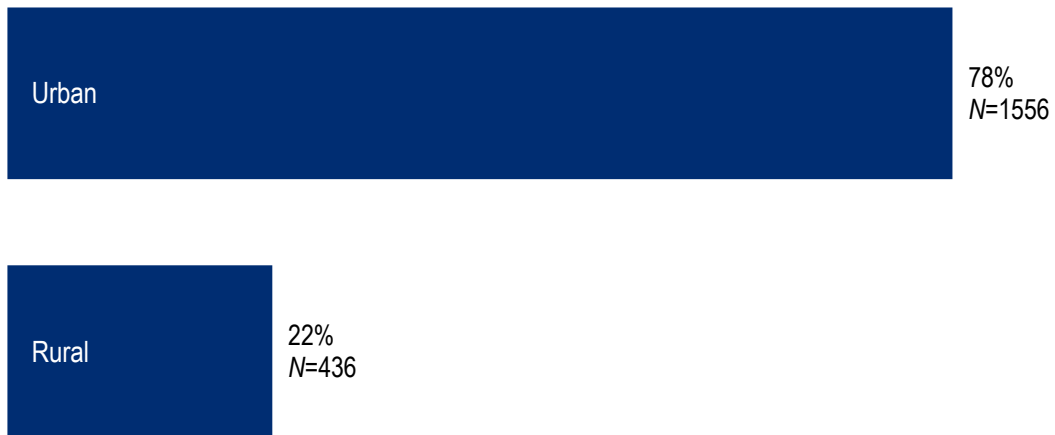
**Figure 1.** How many sites do you represent? ( $N=1985$ )



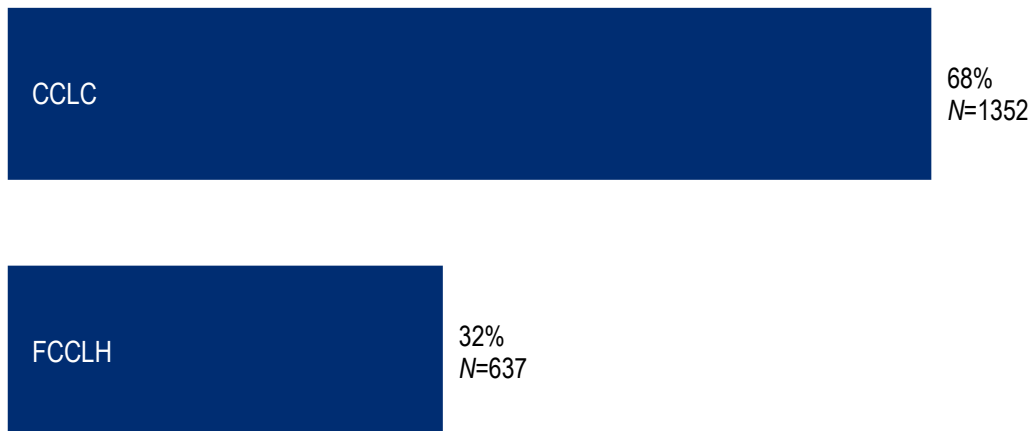
The sample of licensed early care and learning providers DECAL supplied also included additional demographic data about the providers, including whether their site is in a rural or urban area, and whether they are licensed as a Child Care Learning Center (CCLC) or a Family Child Care Learning Home (FCCLH). Because some respondents represented multiple sites ( $N=141$ ) and could therefore represent a combination of these demographic categories, the total number of respondents for questions analyzed by these demographics are greater than the total number of respondents. For example, a respondent could represent multiple sites, with one in a rural area and two in an urban area; in this case, the respondent would be included in the rural and urban counts.

Over three-fourths (78%) of respondents represented sites located in urban areas (Figure 2). “Urban” and “rural” were defined by the legislative definition and were assigned to respondents according to their designation in the sample provided to the Institute of Government by DECAL. As seen in Figure 3, 68% of respondents represented CCLCs with another 32% representing FCCLHs. Additional information can be found in Tables 2 and 3 in Appendix B.

**Figure 2.** Respondents’ location type (N=1987)



**Figure 3.** Respondents’ license type (N=1987)



# Operational Status

The survey included a series of questions regarding the operational status of respondents' site(s). Respondents were able to indicate their sites' statuses as of April 30, 2020, as well as at the time of the survey in July. Because operational statuses are associated with sites, rather than respondents who can represent more than one site, these questions are reported by site instead of by respondent. Therefore, because 141 respondents represented multiple sites, the total will sum to greater than the number of respondents.

When asked about operational status on April 30, 2020, a slight majority (51%) of sites were temporarily closed, while 48% of sites were open. The remaining 1% of sites were permanently closed (Figure 4). Additional information can be found in Table 4 of Appendix B.

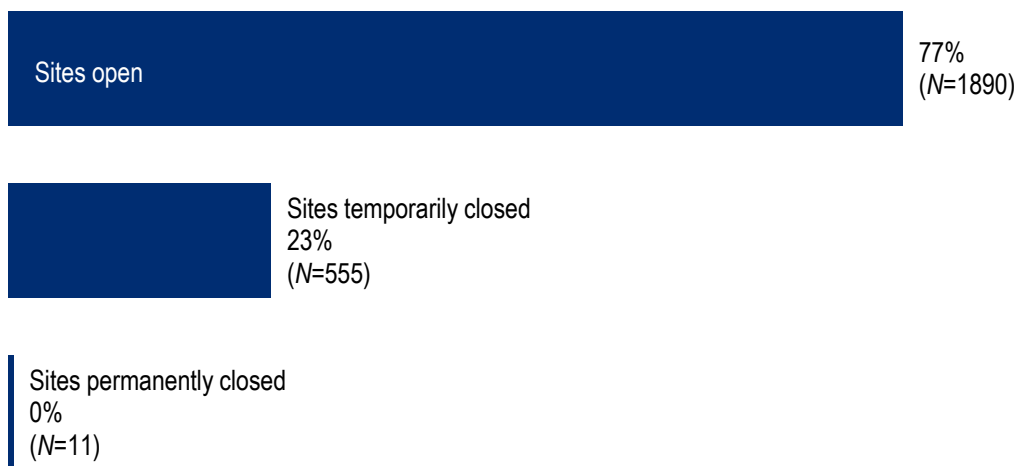
**Figure 4.** What were the operational statuses of your sites on April 30, 2020? (N=2482 sites)





As seen in Figure 5, when providers responded to the survey in July, they reported a higher percentage of sites as currently open (77%), with fewer sites reported as temporarily closed (23%). Respondents who indicated all sites they represented were permanently closed in April were not included in this survey item. Additional information can be found in Table 5 of Appendix B.

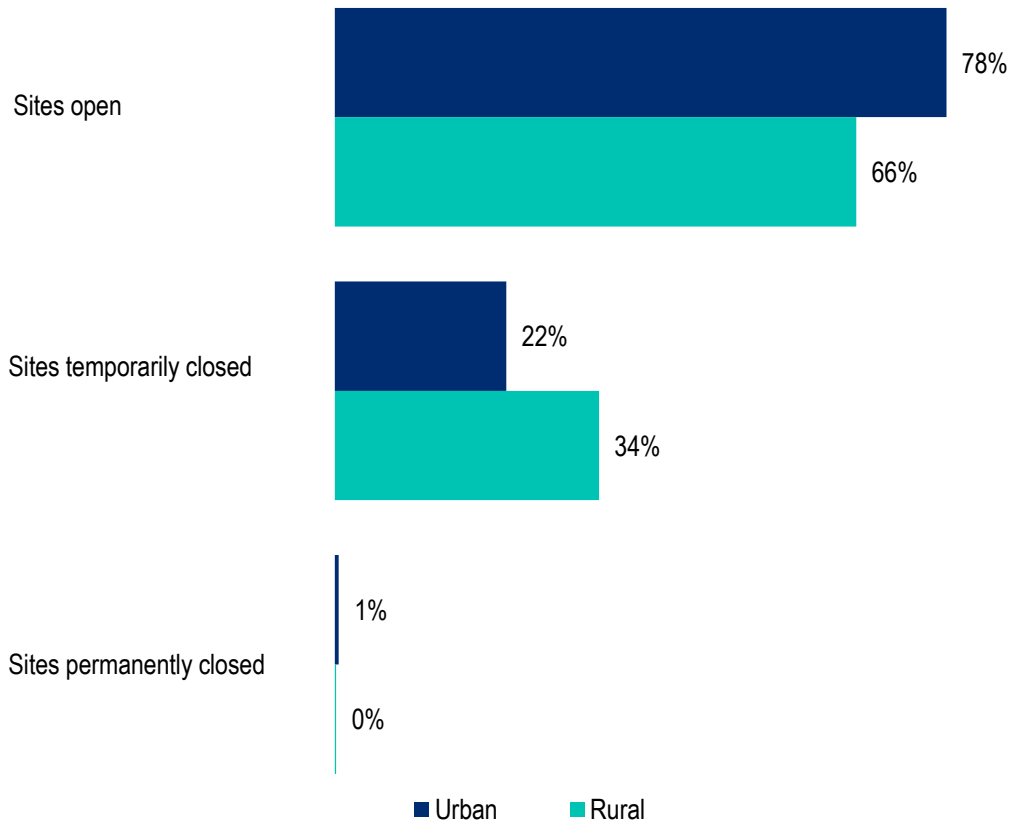
**Figure 5.** What are the current operational statuses of your sites? (N=2456 sites)



When comparing the operational status of urban sites in July to the operational status of rural sites in July, urban sites were more likely to be open, with 78% of urban sites reported as open compared to 66% of rural sites. Conversely, rural sites were more likely to be temporarily closed (34% of rural sites temporarily closed compared to 22% of urban sites).

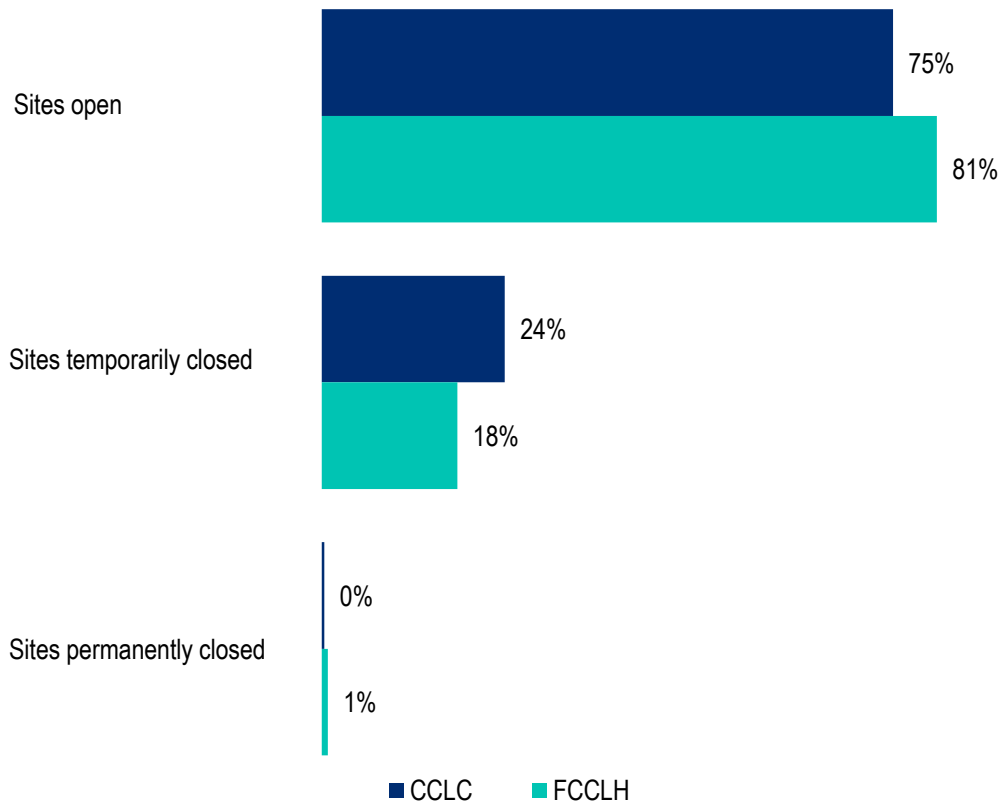
Additional information can be found in Table 6 of Appendix B.

**Figure 6.** What are the current operational statuses of your sites? **Urban** vs. **Rural** (N=2456 sites)



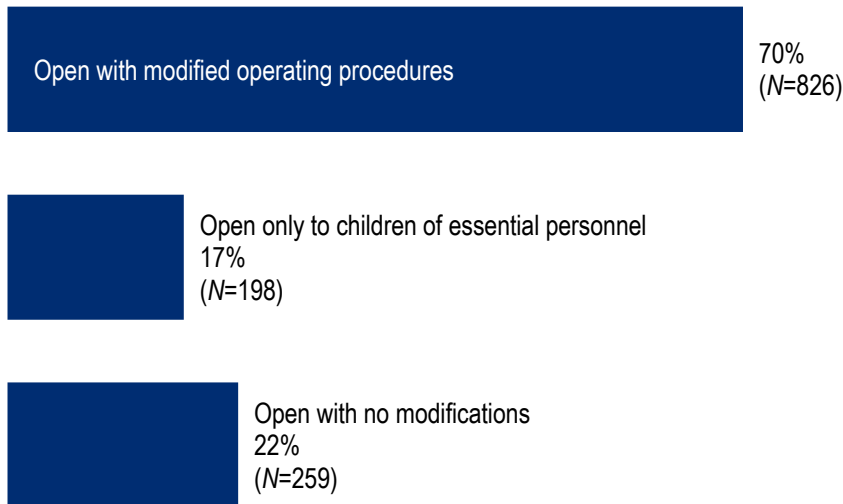
When looking at operational status by license type, the differences were more nuanced. FCCLH sites were slightly more likely to be open, with 81% reported as open in July compared to 75% of CCLC sites. Additional information can be found in Table 7 of Appendix B.

**Figure 7.** What are the current operational statuses of your sites? **CCLC** vs. **FCCLH** (N=2456)



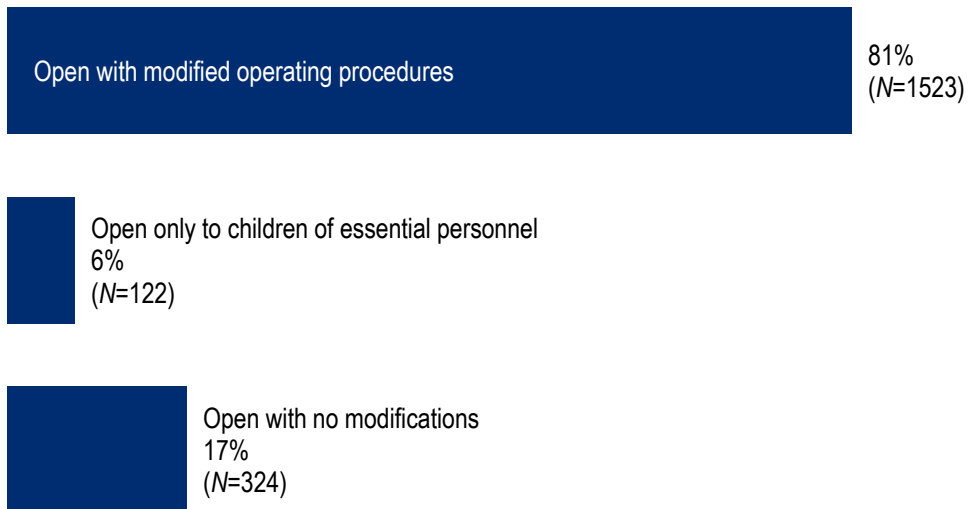
Respondents with sites open on April 30, 2020 were asked if their sites were operating with any modifications (Figure 8). A 70% majority indicated their sites were open with modified operating procedures, with 17% reporting their sites were open only to children of essential personnel. Less than one-fourth of respondents (22%) stated their sites were open with no modifications. Because respondents were able to select multiple response options, percentages sum to greater than 100%. Additional information can be found in Table 8 of Appendix B.

**Figure 8.** Were there any modifications to how your sites were operating on April 30, 2020? (N=1175 sites)



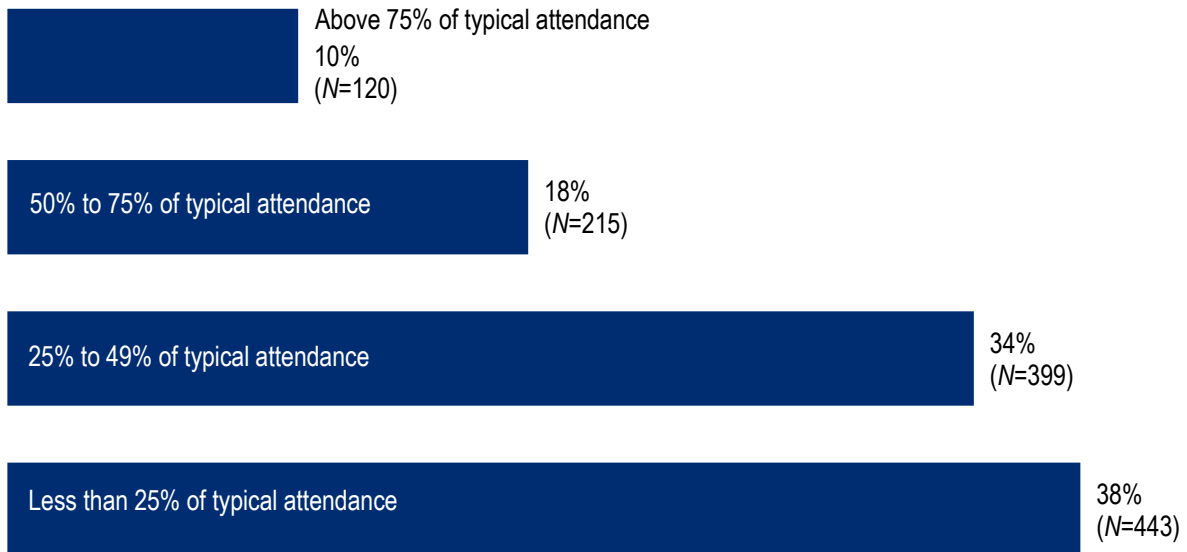
Similarly, respondents who indicated having sites open in July at the time of the survey were asked about modifications to their operations (Figure 9). The majority of respondents (81%) selected open with modified operating procedures. Compared to April, fewer sites were open only to children of essential personnel by July (6%) and fewer were open with no modifications (17%). As with the previous figure, because respondents were able to select multiple response options, percentages sum to greater than 100%. Additional information can be found in Table 9 of Appendix B.

**Figure 9.** Were there any modifications to how your sites are currently operating? (N=1886 sites)



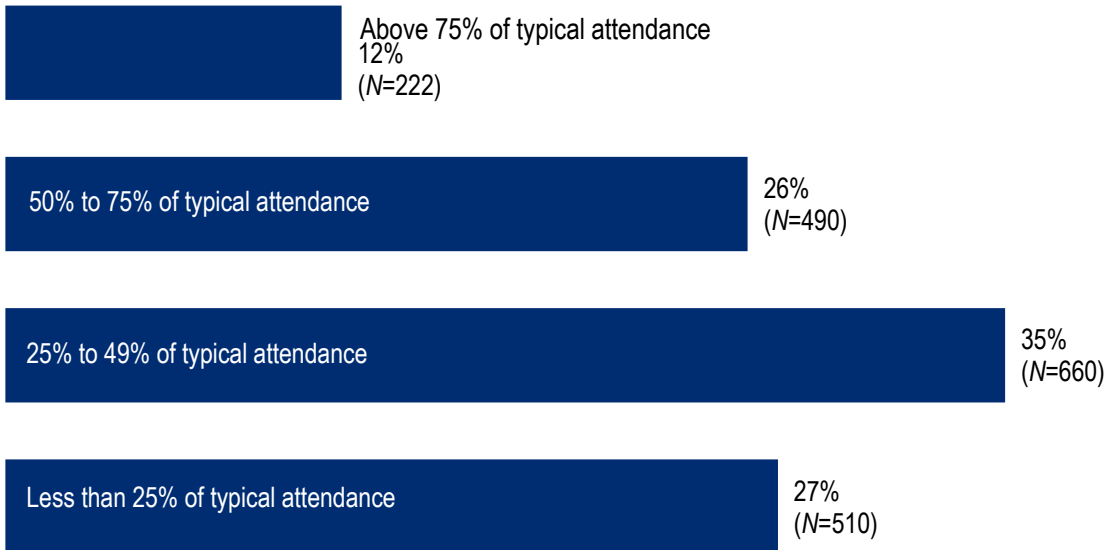
The survey also included questions regarding attendance. Providers with sites open on April 30, 2020 were asked to compare their April 2020 attendance to their typical spring attendance. Seventy-two percent of these respondents indicated their site having less than 50% of their typical spring attendance, as seen in Figure 10. Another 18% reported their site having 50% to 75% of typical attendance, with only 10% having above 75% of their typical attendance. Additional information can be found in Table 10 of Appendix B.

**Figure 10.** Compared to your typical spring attendance, what level of attendance did your sites have during the time they were open in April 2020? (N=1177 sites)



Respondents with sites open in July 2020 were asked to compare their current level of attendance to their typical summer attendance (Figure 11). Fewer respondents (27%) indicated having less than 25% of typical attendance in July 2020 compared to April 2020. In contrast to April 2020, 25% to 49% of typical attendance was the most often selected response option for July, with 35% of respondents. Similar to April 2020, 12% of respondents indicated attendance levels above 75% of typical attendance in July. Overall, at the time of the survey, sites tended to still operate at a reduced attendance level. Additional information can be found in Table 11 of Appendix B.

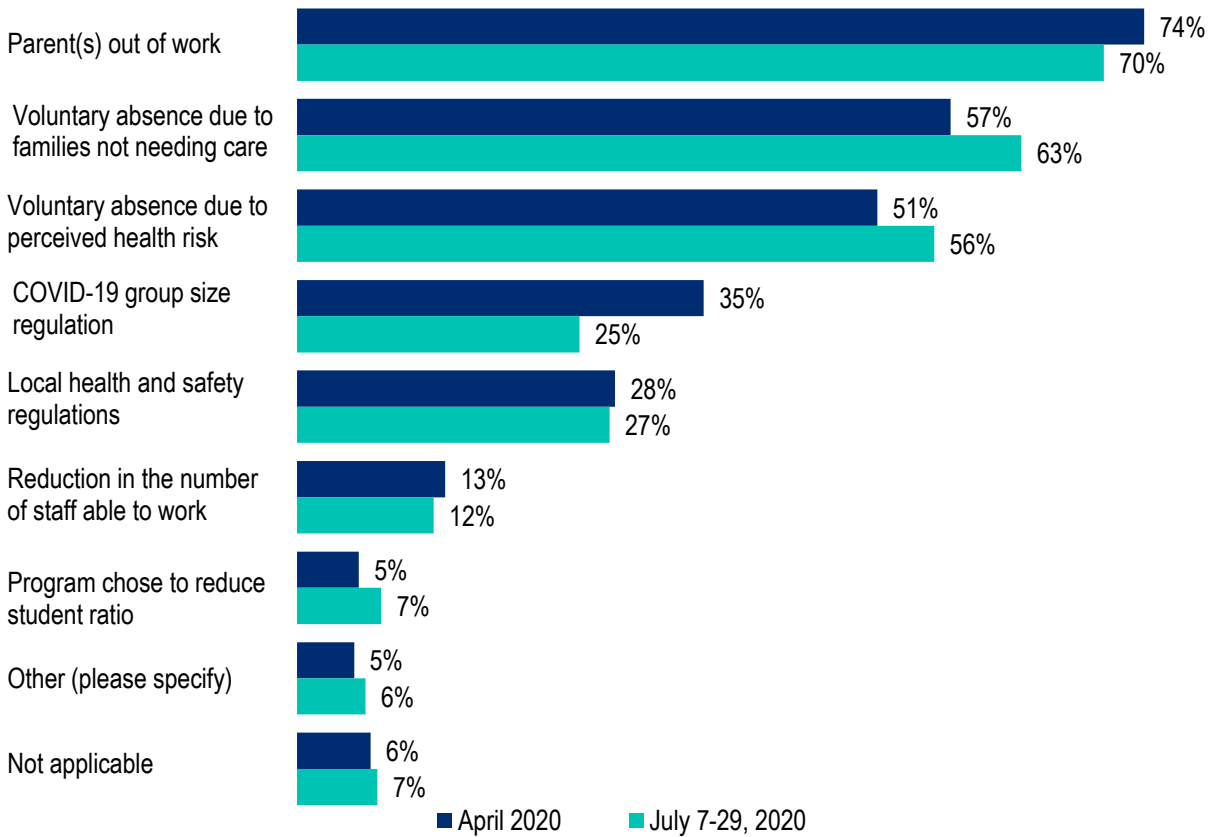
**Figure 11.** Compared to your typical summer attendance, what is your current level of attendance? (N=1882 sites)



The survey included items regarding reasons providers felt caused decreased attendance at their sites during April 2020 and July 2020 (Figure 12). Only respondents with at least one site open in April are included in the question regarding reasons for decreased attendance in April, and only respondents with at least one site open in July are included in the question regarding July. For both time periods, respondents most frequently indicated parent(s) being out of work (74% in April; 70% in July), voluntary absence due to families not needing care (57% in April; 63% in July), and voluntary absence due to perceived health risk (51% in April; 56% in July) as reasons for decreased attendance. A lower percentage of respondents indicated COVID-19 group size regulations as a reason for decreased attendance for July (25%) compared to April (35%). Respondents were also able to provide other reasons, with 5% choosing this response option for April and 6% for July. Other responses for both time periods included COVID-19 in general, parents not feeling comfortable sending their child, and parents not needing care because they are working from home. For these questions, respondents were able to select all response options that apply; therefore, the sum of percentages is greater than 100%. Verbatim responses can be found in Appendix C, and additional information can be found in Tables 12 and 13 of Appendix B.

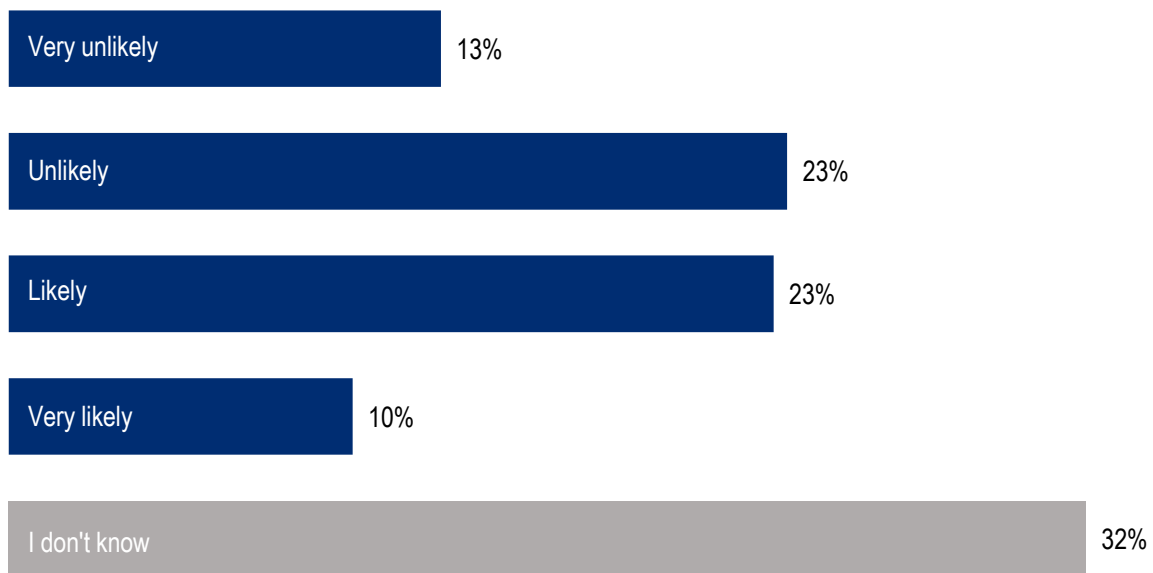


**Figure 12.** What reasons (if any) do you feel caused decreased attendance in your sites? **April 2020** vs. **July 2020** (N=985 sites for April; N=1612 sites for July)



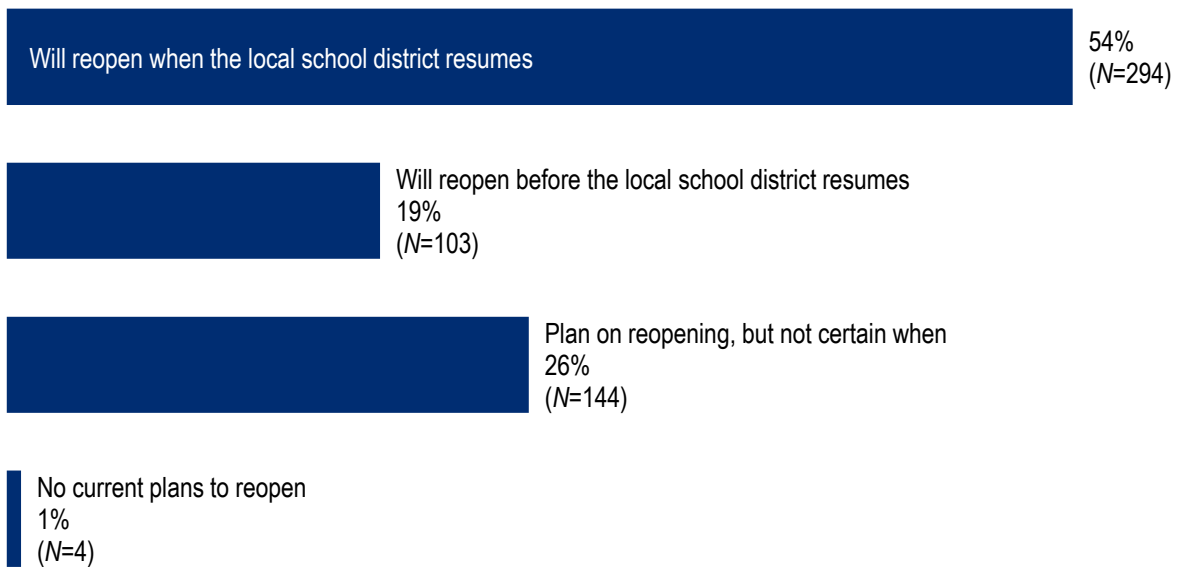
Respondents who represented sites that were open in July 2020 were asked about the likelihood that their sites' attendance would return to normal levels for Fall 2020 (Figure 13). Respondents were essentially divided into thirds for this survey item. Approximately one-third of respondents (32%) indicated they did not know, with another third reporting it was very likely or likely they would return to normal attendance levels (respectively 10% and 23%), and the final third stating it was unlikely or very unlikely (respectively 23% and 13%). Additional information can be found in Table 14 of Appendix B.

**Figure 13.** How likely is it that your sites' attendance will return to normal levels for Fall 2020? (N=1501)



The final survey question regarding operational status inquired if respondents' sites have plans to reopen (Figure 14). Only respondents with sites reported as currently closed as of July 2020 were included in this survey item. A 54% majority of respondents reported that their sites will reopen when the local school district opens, with 19% indicating their sites will reopen before the local school district resumes. The remaining 27% of respondents reported they plan on opening but are not certain when (26%) or that their sites had no current plans to reopen (1%). Additional information can be found in Table 15 of Appendix B.

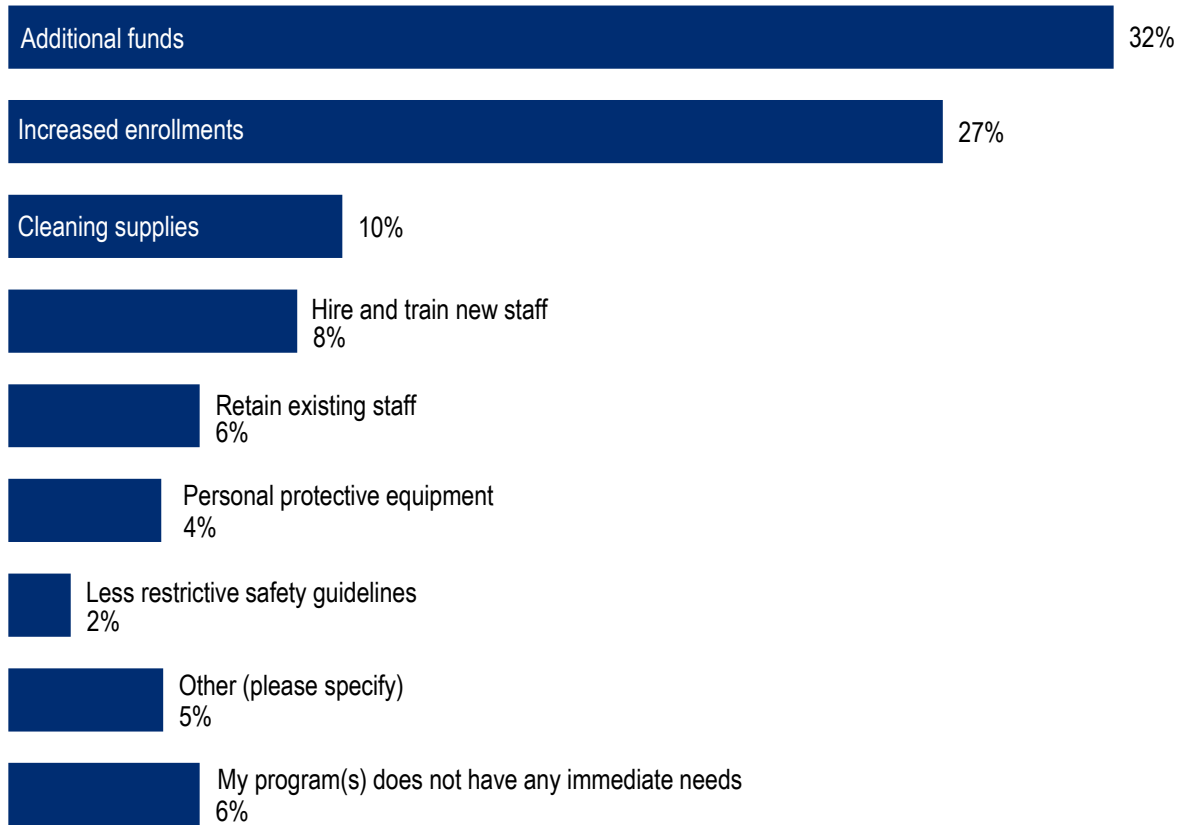
**Figure 14.** Do your sites have current plans to reopen? (N=545 sites)



## Provider Needs

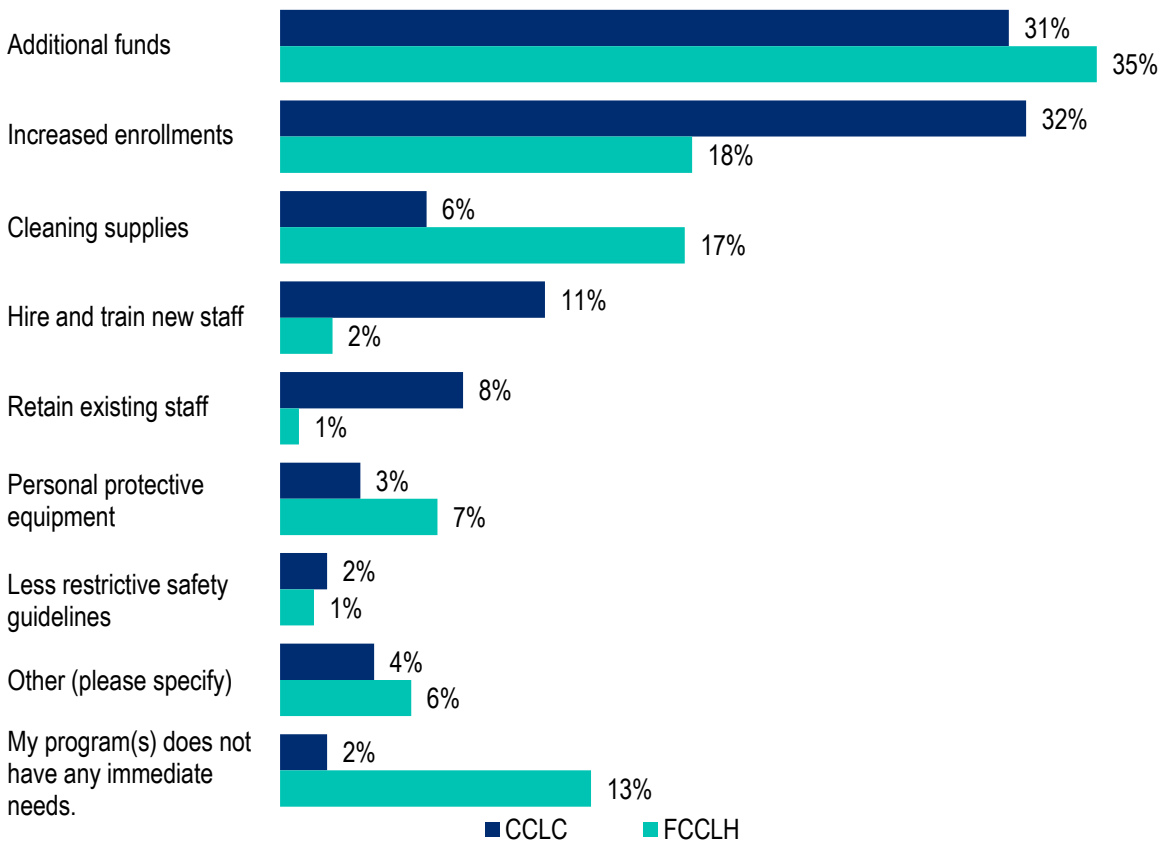
Next, the survey asked providers a series of questions regarding their needs. Unlike the questions about operational status, these survey items were only about current needs at the time of the survey in July 2020. When asked about the most immediate need for their programs (Figure 15), respondents most frequently selected additional funds (32%) and increased enrollments (27%). Ten percent or fewer of respondents selected cleaning supplies (10%), hire and train new staff (8%), retain existing staff (6%), personal protective equipment (4%) and less restrictive safety guidelines (2%). Respondents were also able to provide other reasons, with five percent choosing this response option. Other responses included additional funds, transportation for children, personal protective equipment, cleaning supplies, and increased enrollments. The remaining respondents (6%) indicated their programs do not have any additional needs. Verbatim responses can be found in Appendix C, and additional information can be found in Table 16 of Appendix B.

**Figure 15.** What is the most immediate need for your program(s)? (N=1963)



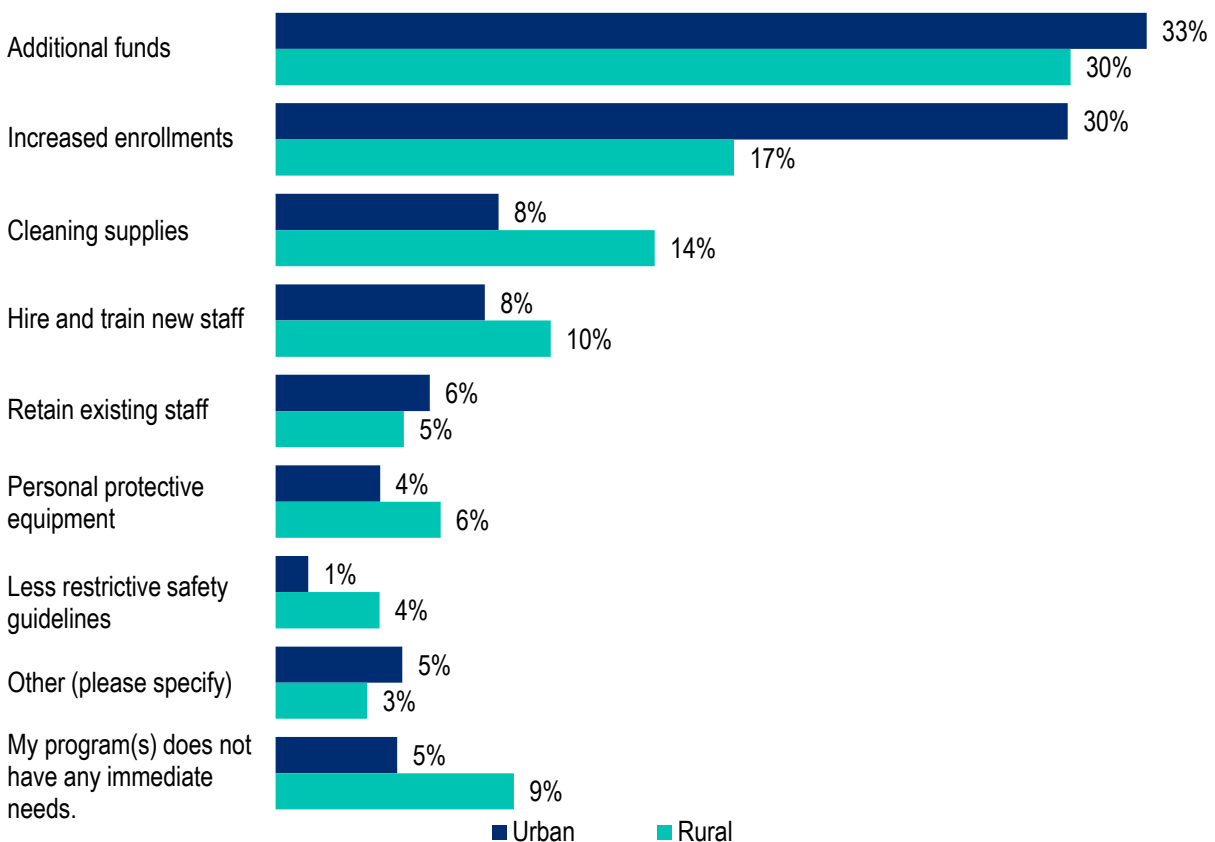
When broken down by license type, CCLC and FCCLH sites both most frequently indicated a need for additional funds (31% for CCLCs and 35% for FCCLHs), as seen in Figure 16. Respondents representing CCLCs tended to report a more immediate need for increased enrollments, hiring and training new staff, and retaining existing staff. Respondents representing an FCCLH site tended to report a more immediate need for cleaning supplies. FCCLH sites were also more likely to indicate their programs did not have any immediate needs. Additional information can be found in Table 17 of Appendix B.

**Figure 16.** What is the most immediate need for your program(s)? **CCLC** vs. **FCCLH** (N=1963)



When broken down by location type, differences in providers' most immediate needs were more subdued than when broken down by location type (Figure 17). Respondents representing urban sites and those representing rural sites were both most likely to report a need for additional funds (33% for urban and 30% for rural). Respondents representing urban sites tended to report a more immediate need for increased enrollments (30% compared to 17% of respondents representing rural sites). Respondents representing rural sites tended to report a more immediate need for cleaning supplies (14% compared to 8% of respondents representing urban sites). Rural sites were also more likely to indicate their programs do not have any immediate needs. Additional information can be found in Table 18 of Appendix B.

**Figure 17.** What is the most immediate need for your program(s)? **Urban vs. Rural** (N=1963)

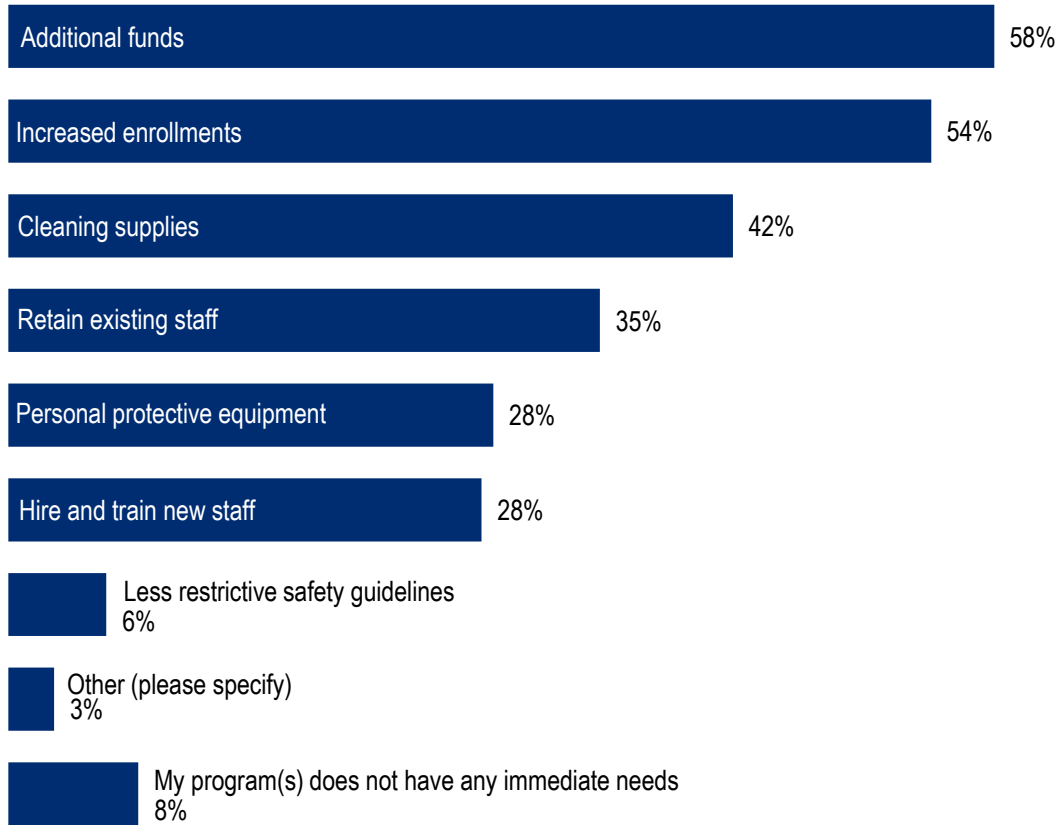


After selecting their most immediate need, respondents were able to select additional program needs. Respondents who represented programs that were open at the time of the survey in July were asked what else their programs needed to remain open, while respondents who represented programs that were temporarily closed in July were asked what else their programs needed to reopen. Respondents were able to select as many response options as they needed to for these questions; therefore, percentages total to greater than 100%.

When asked what their program(s) need to remain open, the majority of respondents with open sites selected additional funds (58%) or increased enrollments (54%), with over 30% of respondents selecting cleaning supplies (42%) or retain existing staff (35%), as seen in Figure 18. Respondents were also able to indicate other needs (3%). Other needs mentioned were additional funds, for parents to return to work, and cleaning supplies (verbatim responses can be found in Appendix C). Eight percent of respondents indicated their program does not have any immediate needs. Additional information can be found in Table 19 of Appendix B.

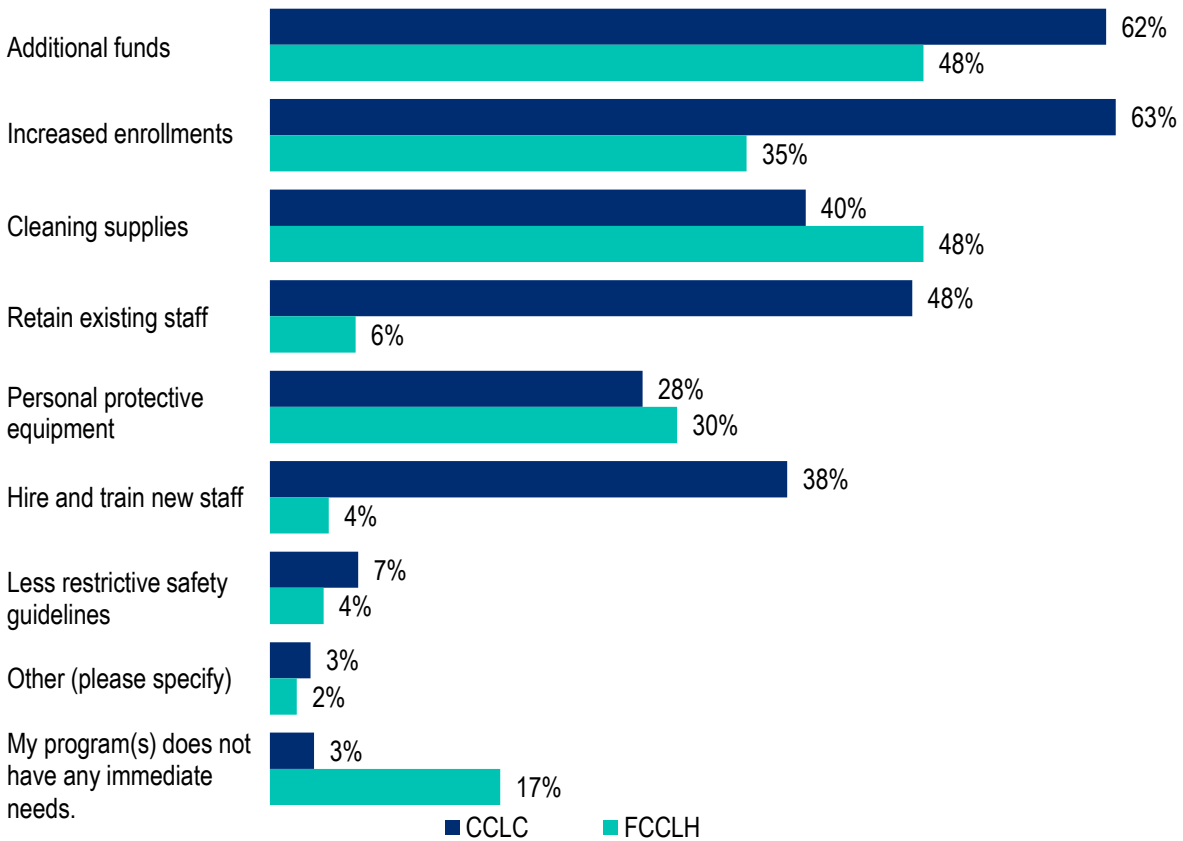


**Figure 18.** What else do your program(s) need to remain open? (N=1603)



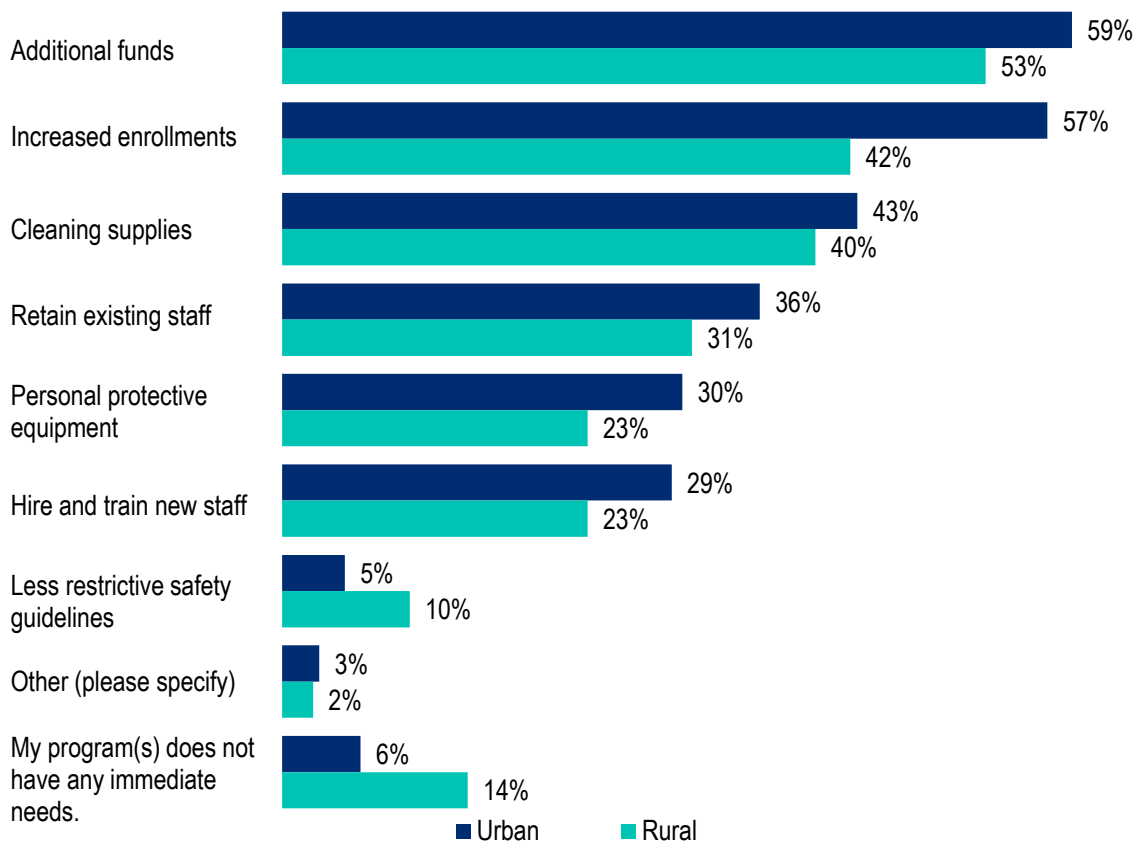
When broken down by license type, (Figure 19) over 30% of both respondents representing CCLCs and respondents representing FCCLHs reported a need for additional funds (62% among CCLCs; 48% among FCCLHs), increased enrollments (63% among CCLCs; 35% among FCCLHs), and cleaning supplies (40% among CCLCs; 48% among FCCLHs) for their site(s) to remain open. Respondents representing CCLCs tended to indicate a need for retaining existing staff and hiring and training staff more than FCCLH providers, while FCCLH sites were more likely to indicate their programs do not have any immediate needs. Additional information can be found in Table 20 of Appendix B.

**Figure 19.** What else do your program(s) need to remain open? **CCLC** vs. **FCCLH** (N=1603)



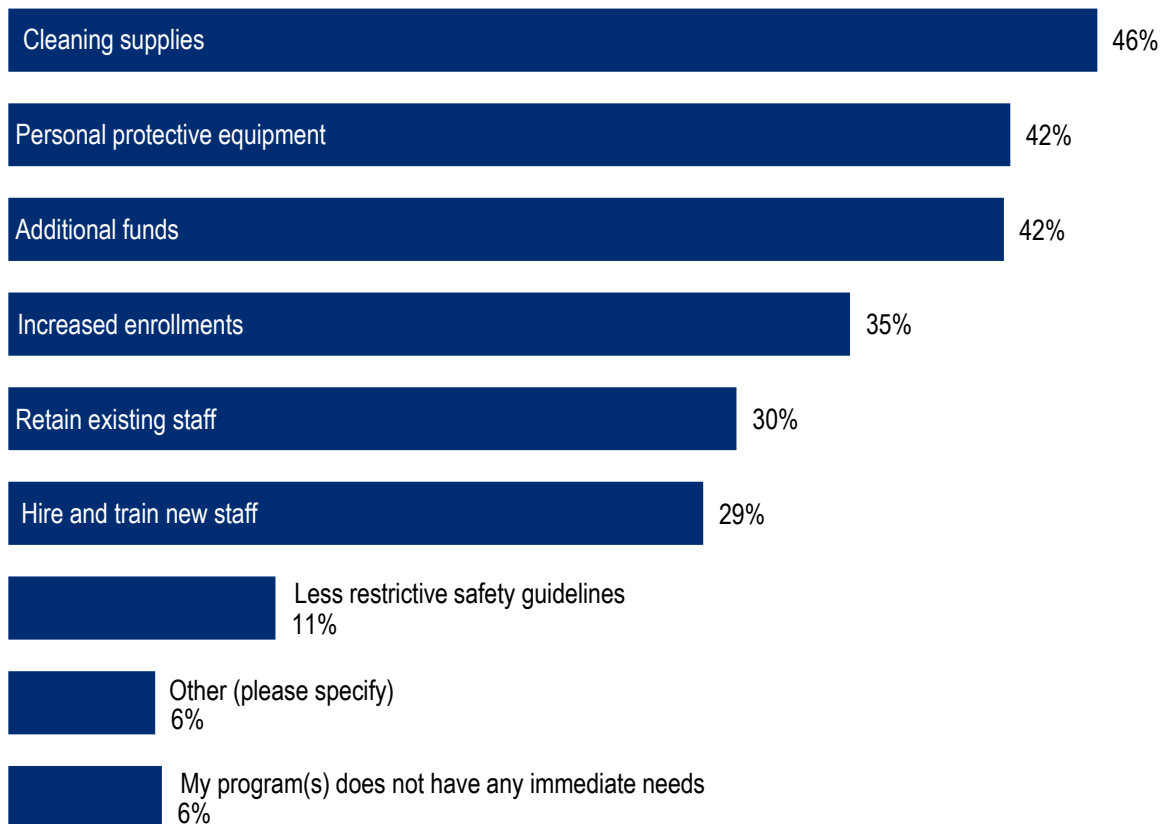
When broken down by location type (Figure 20), differences among needs were less apparent. Respondents in each category most frequently reported a need for additional funds (59% among urban sites; 53% among rural sites) to remain open. Providers representing urban sites tended to indicate needing increased enrollments (57% among urban sites; 42% among rural sites), personal protective equipment (30% among urban sites; 23% among rural sites), hiring and training new staff and cleaning supplies (29% among urban sites; 23% among rural sites) more frequently than providers representing rural sites. Rural sites tended to be more likely to indicate their programs do not have any immediate needs (14% among rural sites; 6% among urban sites). Additional information can be found in Table 21 of Appendix B.

**Figure 20.** What else do your program(s) need to remain open? **Urban vs. Rural** (N=1603)



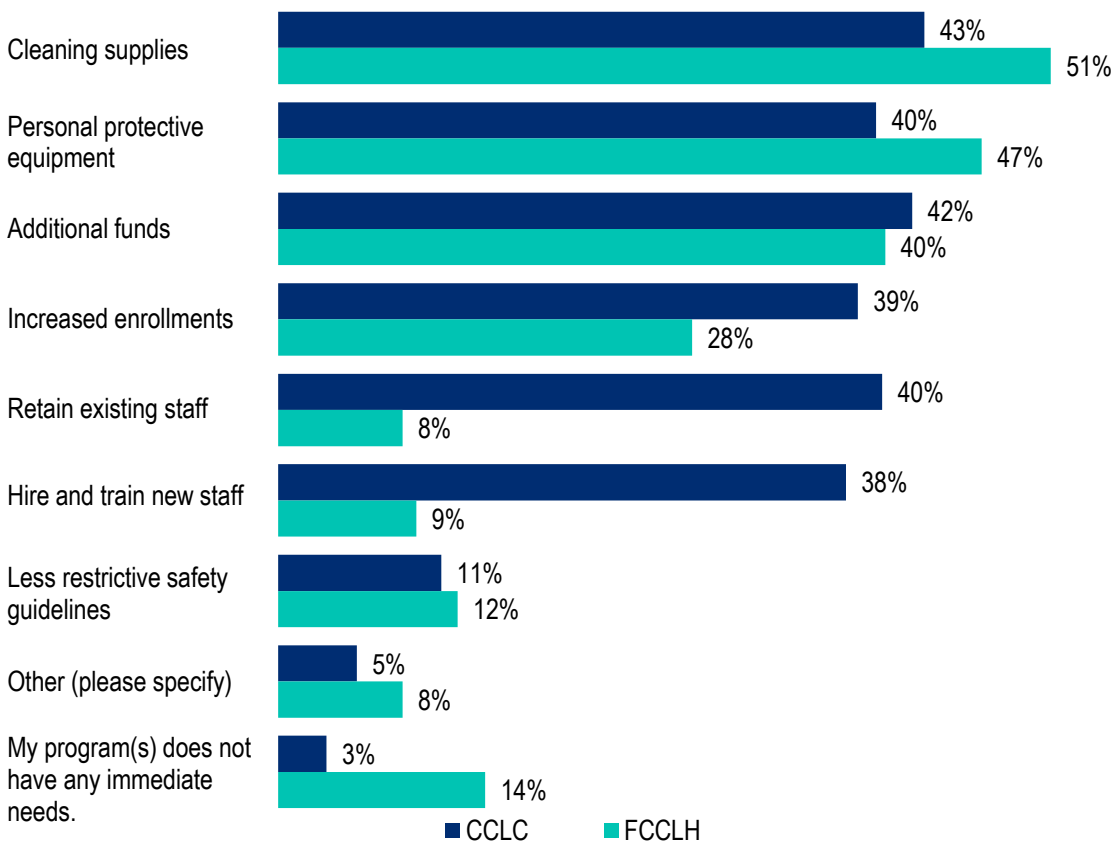
Respondents whose sites were closed in July were asked what else their sites needed to reopen (Figure 21). Among these sites, over one-third of respondents reported a need for cleaning supplies (46%), personal protective equipment (42%), additional funds (42%), and increased enrollments (35%). Respondents were also able to provide other reasons, with six percent choosing this response option. Other responses included safety from COVID-19, additional funds, and personal protective equipment (verbatim responses can be found in Appendix C). An additional six percent of respondents indicated their programs do not have any immediate needs. Additional information can be found in Table 22 of Appendix B.

**Figure 21.** What else do your program(s) need to reopen? (N=358)



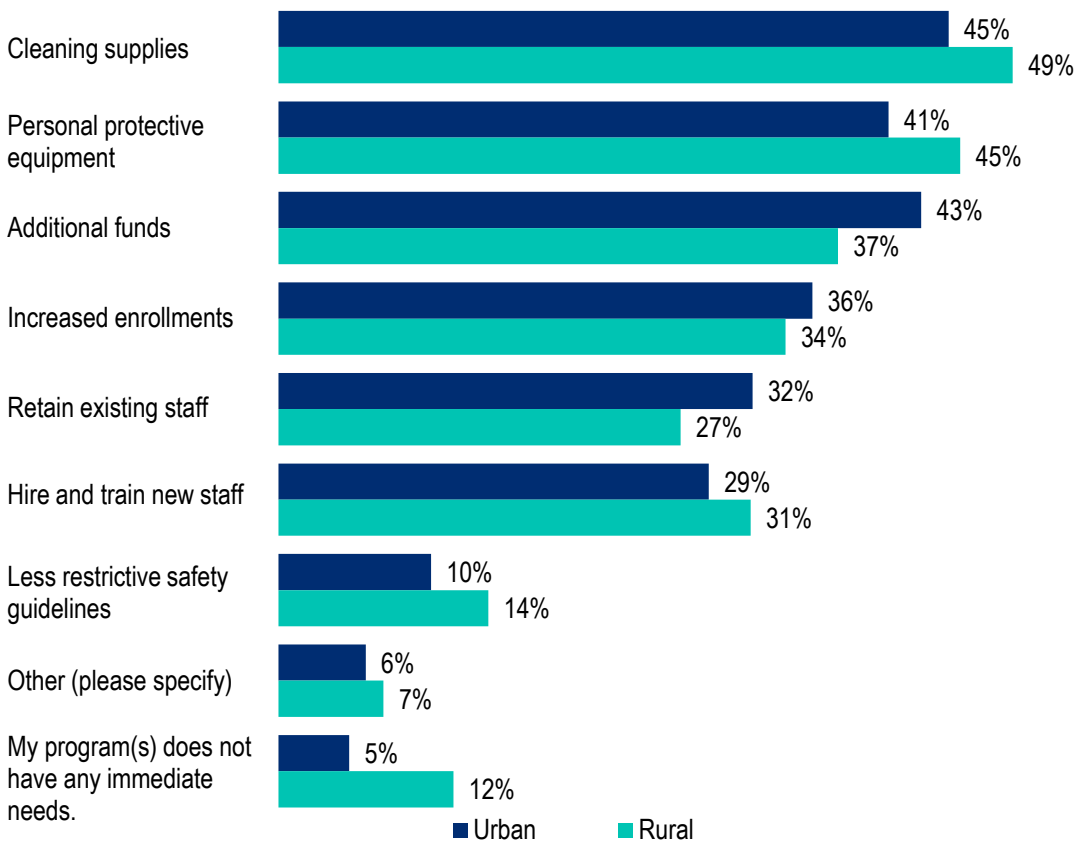
When broken down by license type (Figure 22), both CCLCs and FCCLHs frequently reported a need for cleaning supplies (43% among CCLCs; 51% among FCCLHs), personal protective equipment (40% among CCLCs; 47% among FCCLHs), and additional funds (42% among CCLCs; 40% among FCCLHs). Respondents representing CCLCs tended to more frequently indicate a need for increased enrollments, retaining existing staff, and hiring and training new staff than FCCLH providers. As with the other questions regarding providers' needs, FCCLH sites were more likely to indicate their programs do not have any immediate needs. Additional information can be found in Table 23 of Appendix B.

**Figure 22.** What else do your program(s) need to reopen? **CCLC** vs. **FCCLH** (N=358)



When broken down by location type (Figure 23), providers representing urban sites tended to report needing additional funds to reopen more frequently than providers representing rural sites (43% of urban sites; 37% of rural sites), while providers representing rural sites tended to indicate more frequently that their sites do not have immediate needs (12% of rural sites; 5% of urban sites). Differences among the other response options were smaller with urban and rural sites within five percentage points of each other. Additional information can be found in Table 24 of Appendix B.

**Figure 23.** What else do your program(s) need to reopen? **Urban** vs. **Rural** (N=358)



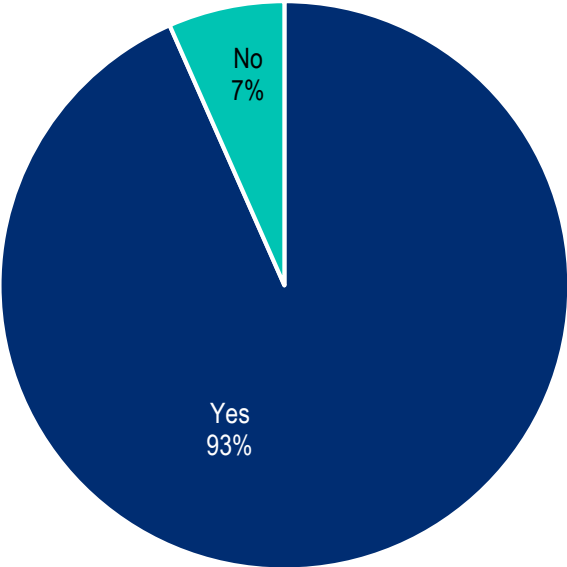
# STABLE Funds

Providers who responded to the survey were asked a series of questions regarding the STABLE funds. Items ranged from the STABLE application process through the receipt and use of STABLE funds.

## *STABLE Application*

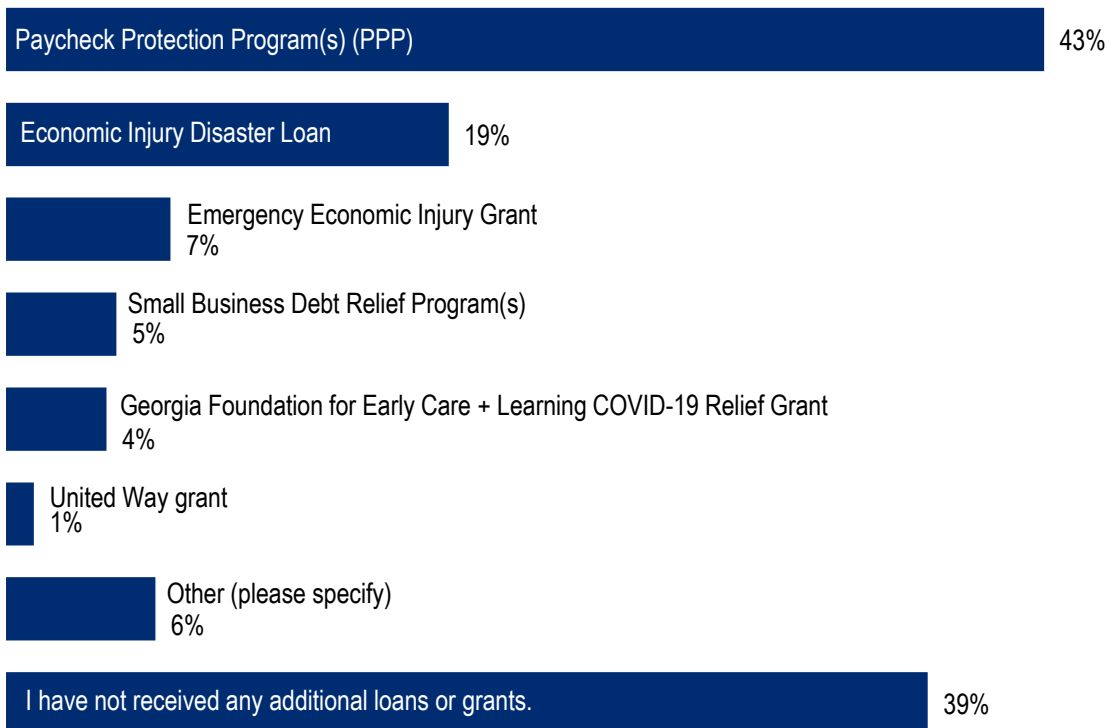
The survey included items to garner feedback on the STABLE application process. A large majority of respondents (93%) reported applying for STABLE funds (Figure 24). Those who indicated they did not apply for the STABLE funds (7%) were able to share why they did not apply. Responses included being unaware the funds were available, missing the deadline, concerns about using the funds as required, and a lack of need for the funds. Verbatim responses can be found in Appendix C, and additional information can be found in Table 25 of Appendix B.

**Figure 24.** Did you apply for STABLE funds? (N=1974)



The survey also asked respondents about other grants and/or loans their programs received (Figure 25). All respondents, regardless of whether they applied for STABLE are included in this survey item. Over 40% of respondents (43%) indicated receiving a Paycheck Protection Program(s) (PPP) loan and 19% reported receiving an Economic Injury Disaster Loan, while 39% indicated they have not received any additional loans or grants. Because respondents were able to select multiple response options, percentages sum to greater than 100%. Respondents were also able to provide other reasons, with six percent choosing this response option. Other responses included Small Business Administration loans and grants, private loans, Promise All Atlanta Children Thrive (PAACT) grants, and being unsure of other funds their sites received. Verbatim responses can be found in Appendix C, and additional information can be found in Table 26 of Appendix B.

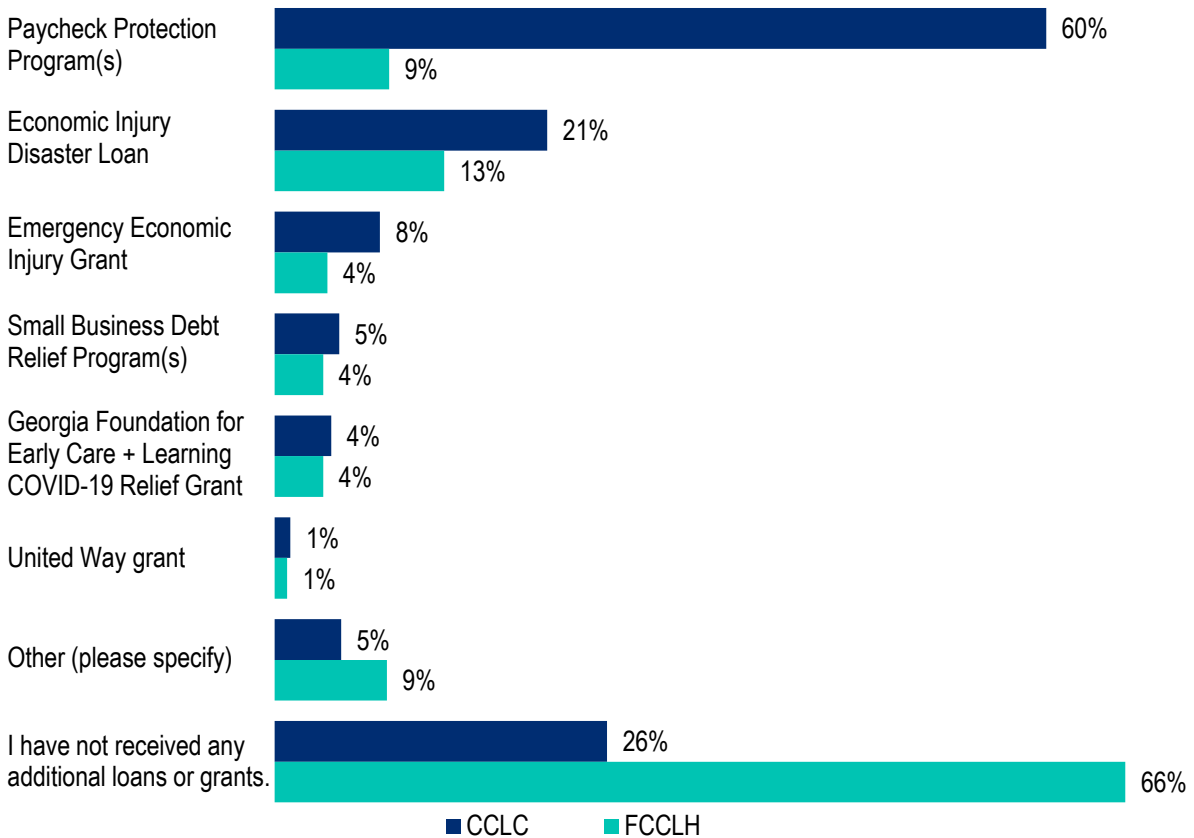
**Figure 25.** What other grants and/or loans has your program(s) received? (Select all that apply) (N=1908)





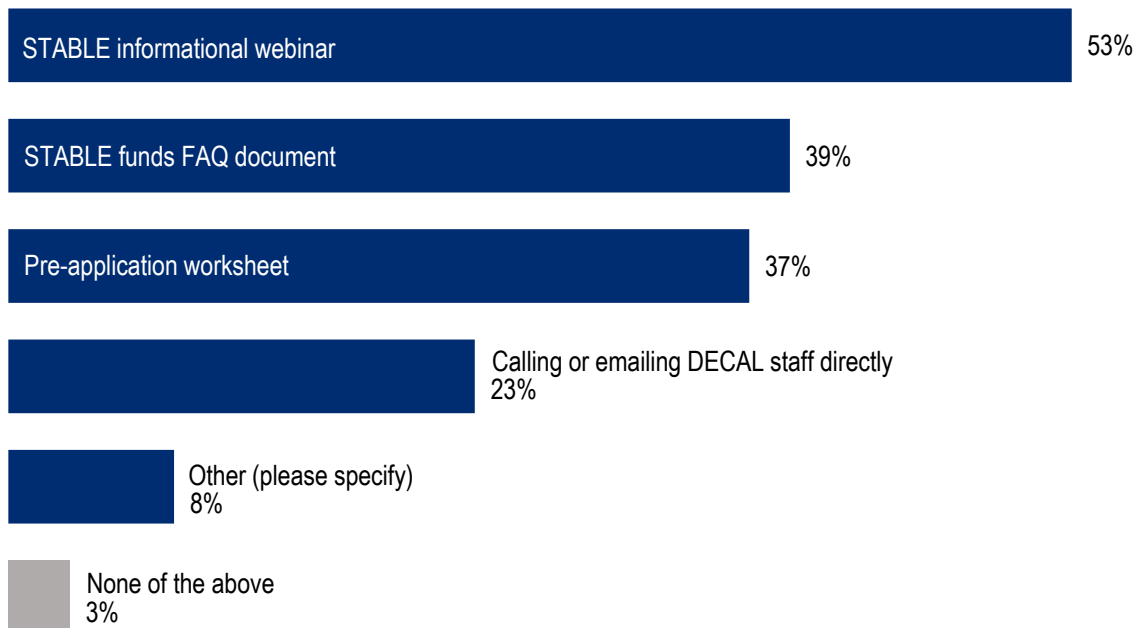
When broken down by license type (Figure 26), respondents representing CCLCs reported receiving Paycheck Protection Program(s) (PPP) loans (60% among CCLCs; 9% among FCCLHs) and Economic Injury Disaster Loans (21% among CCLCs and 13% among FCCLHs) more frequently than respondents representing FCCLHs. For other grants/loans, any differences between license types were minor. Additional information can be found in Table 27 of Appendix B.

**Figure 26.** What other grants and/or loans has your program(s) received? (Select all that apply) **CCLC** vs. **FCCLH** (N=1908)



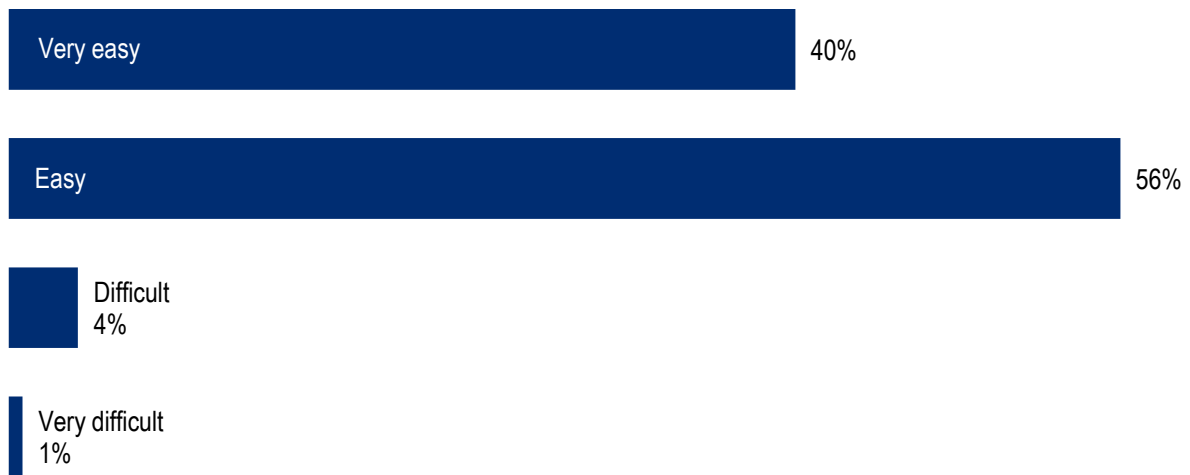
Respondents who indicated they applied for STABLE funds were asked about the application process. When asked which resources provided assistance with the STABLE funds application (Figure 27), the STABLE informational webinar was the most common response (53%). The STABLE funds FAQ document (39%) and the pre-application worksheet (37%) were also selected by over one-third of respondents each, with 23% of respondents indicating that they found it helpful to call or email DECAL staff directly. Respondents were also able to provide other reasons, with eight percent choosing this response option. Other responses included receiving help from other providers, assistance from Quality Rated consultants, and informational emails from DECAL and consultants. Verbatim responses can be found in Appendix C, and additional information can be found in Table 28 of Appendix B.

**Figure 27.** Which of the following provided helpful assistance with the STABLE funds application? (Select all that apply) (N=1816)



Next, the survey asked providers who applied for STABLE funds to reflect on the ease or difficulty of gathering the necessary information to complete the STABLE application (Figure 28). Ninety-six percent of respondents reported that it was very easy or easy, while the remaining four percent of respondents indicated it was difficult or very difficult. Additional information can be found in Table 29 of Appendix B.

**Figure 28.** Reflecting on the application process for STABLE funds, how easy or difficult was it to gather the information necessary to complete the application? (N=1813)



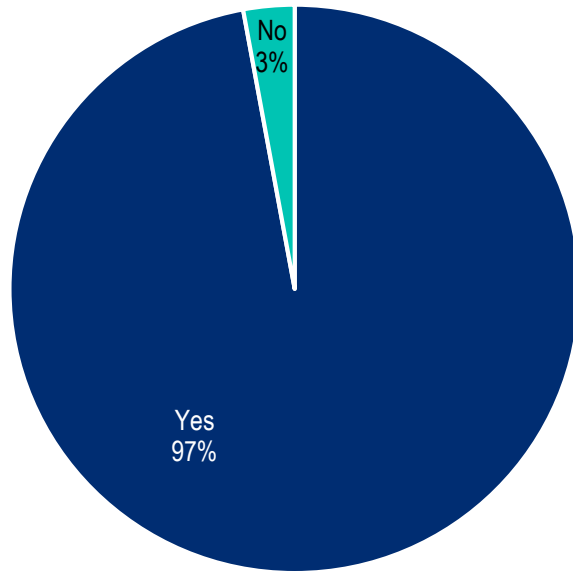
The STABLE application required applicants to complete and submit the entire application in one sitting (Figure 29). The survey included an item to gauge the ease or difficulty of this feat. Nearly all respondents (95%) indicated it was very easy or easy to complete the application in one sitting. Additional information can be found in Table 30 of Appendix B.

**Figure 29.** How easy or difficult was it to complete the application in one sitting? (N=1811)



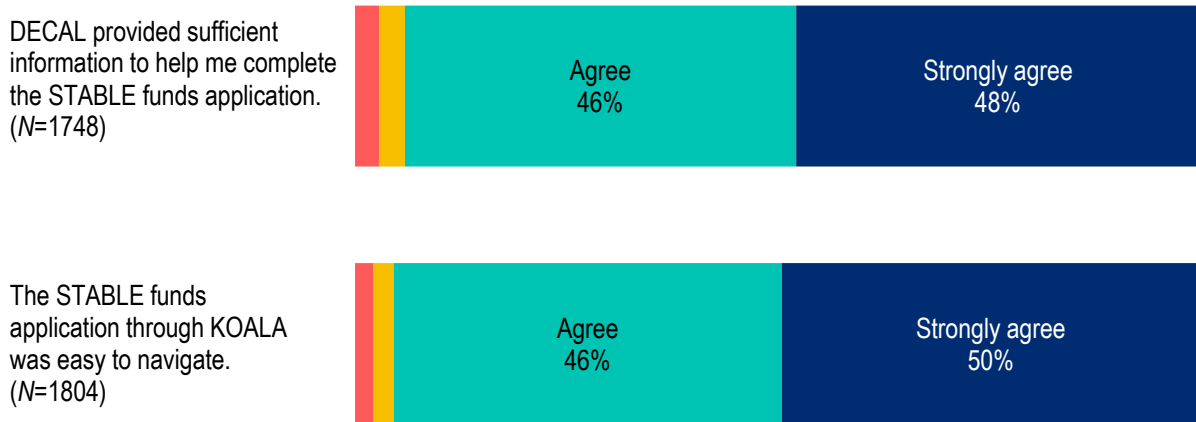
The STABLE application was open for two weeks. A vast majority (97%) of respondents indicated this application period was reasonable (Figure 30). Additional information can be found in Table 31 of Appendix B.

**Figure 30.** Was the two-week application period reasonable for you to apply for STABLE funds? (N=1812)



The survey also included items regarding respondents' perceptions of whether DECAL provided sufficient information to assist with completing the STABLE funds application, as well as the ease of navigating Kids Online Administrative Licensing Application (KOALA), the system applicants used to submit their STABLE funds applications (Figure 31). Over 90% of providers who responded to the survey agreed or strongly agreed that DECAL provided sufficient information to help them complete the STABLE funds application. A large majority (96%) of respondents also reported strongly agreeing or agreeing that the STABLE funds application through KOALA was easy to navigate. Additional details can be found in Table 32 of Appendix B.

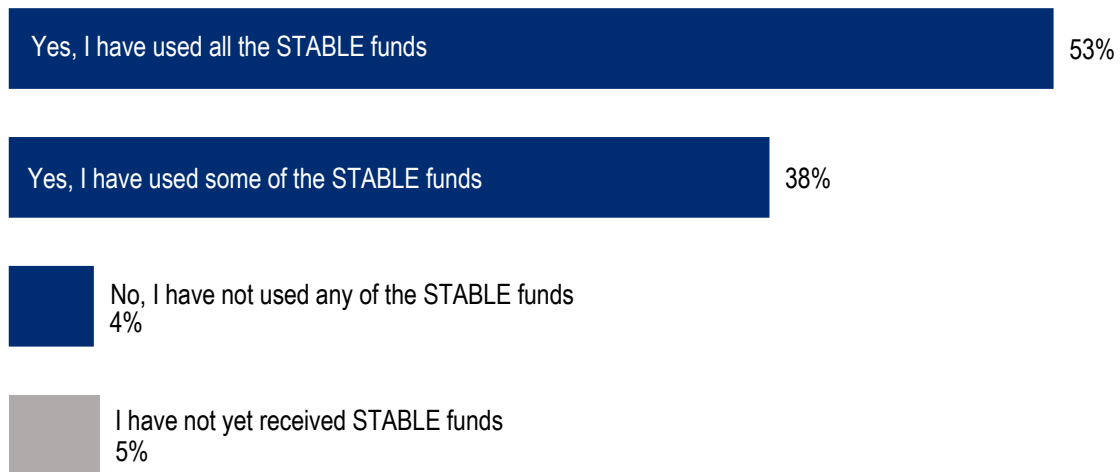
**Figure 31.** Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following statements:



### *Receipt and Use of STABLE Funds*

The last section of the survey focused on the respondents’ receipt and use of STABLE funds. When asked if they had used the STABLE funds (Figure 32), 53% of respondents indicated they had used all the STABLE funds, 38% indicated they had used some of the STABLE funds, and 4% indicated they had not used any of the STABLE funds at the time of the survey in July. The remaining 5% of respondents reported that they had not received the STABLE funds yet. Additional information can be found in Table 33 of Appendix B.

**Figure 32.** Have you used the STABLE funds yet? (N=1792)



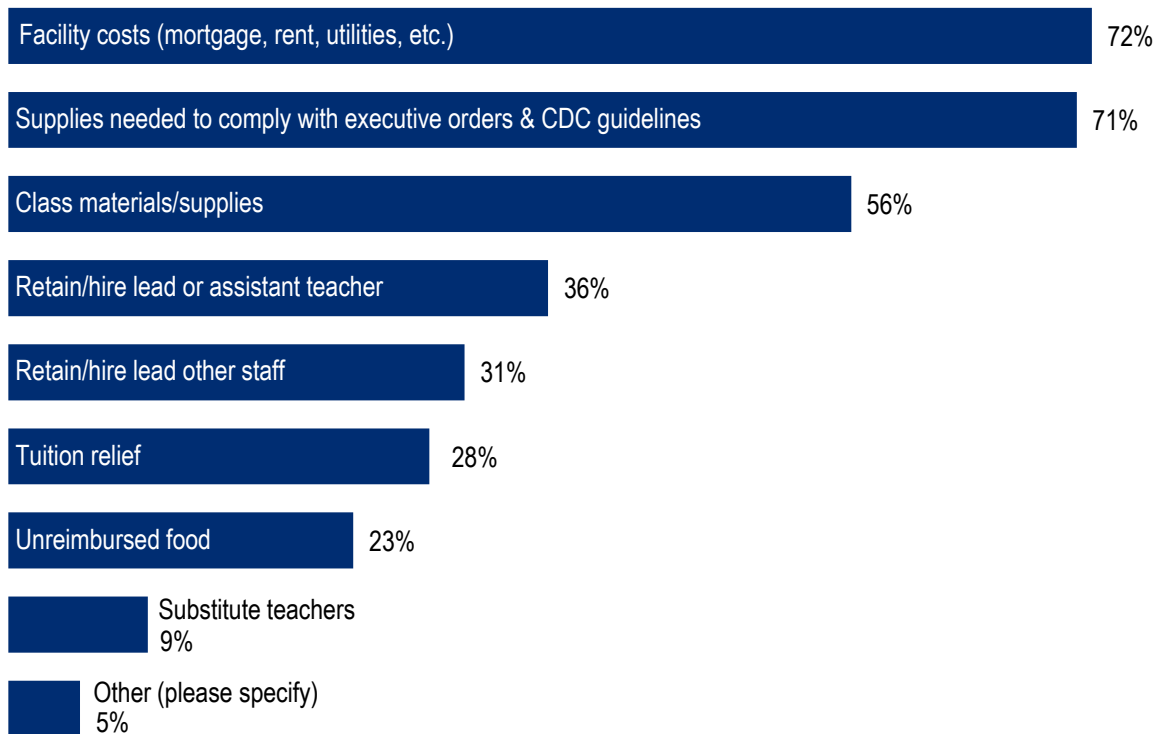
Respondents were asked a follow-up question to determine how they used or plan to use the STABLE funds (Figure 33). Seventy percent of respondents indicated they used or plan to use the funds to catch up on past expenses, and two-thirds of respondents indicated they used or plan to use the funds on new expenses. Because the categories were not mutually exclusive, respondents were able to select both response options if they needed to; therefore, the percentages total to greater than 100%. Additional information can be found in Table 34 of Appendix B.

**Figure 33.** How did you use or plan to use the STABLE funds? (Select all that apply) (N=1780)



When asked more specifically how they used or planned to use STABLE funds (Figure 34), providers most frequently selected facility costs (72%), supplies needed to comply with executive orders and CDC guidelines (71%), and class materials/supplies (56%). Respondents were also able to provide other reasons, with 5% choosing this response option. Other responses included facility repairs, payroll, personal protective equipment, and cleaning supplies. Respondents were able to select all response options that apply; therefore, the sum of percentages is greater than 100%. Verbatim responses can be found in Appendix C, and additional information can be found in Table 35 of Appendix B.

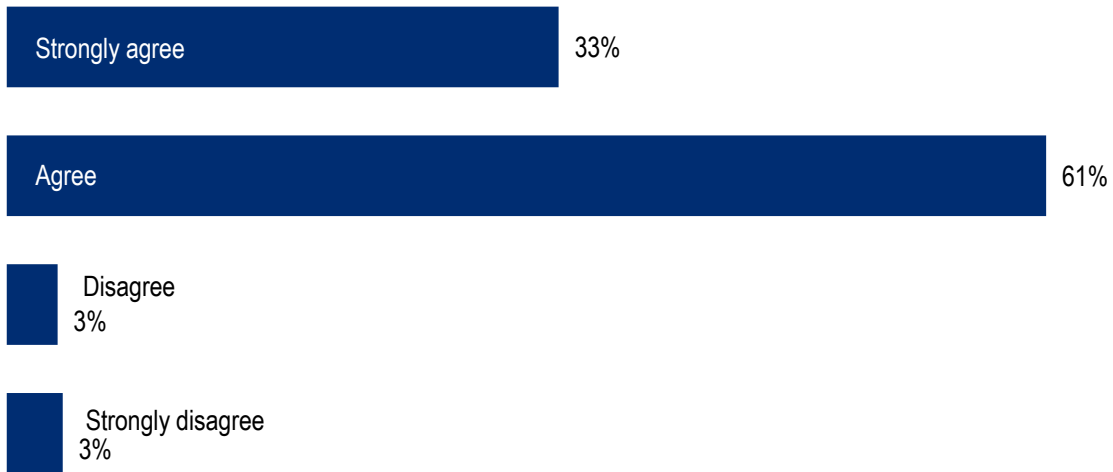
**Figure 34.** Which of the following best describes how you have used or plan to use STABLE funds? (Select all that apply) (N=1789)





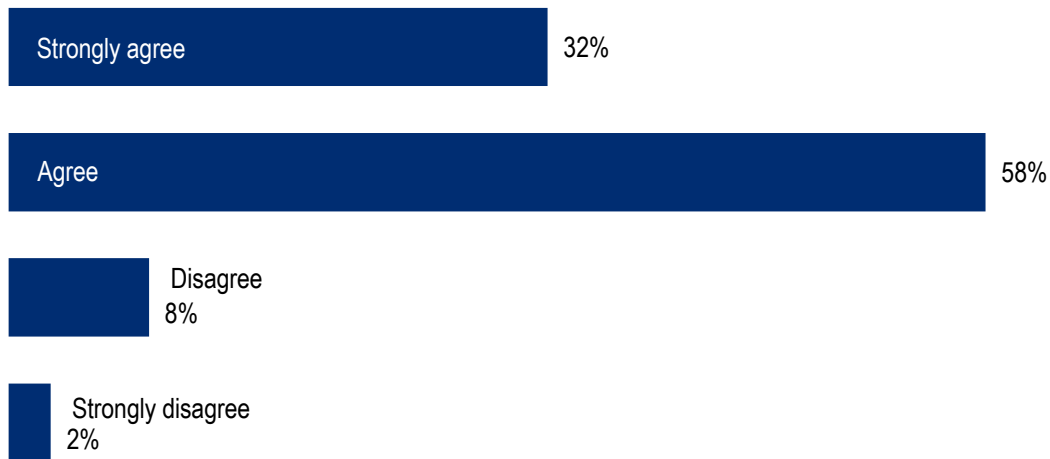
A large majority of respondents (94%) felt that DECAL provided sufficient flexibility in how they were able to use the STABLE funds their sites receive (Figure 35), while six percent of respondents indicated they strongly disagree (3%) or disagree (3%) that there was sufficient flexibility. Additional information can be found in Table 36 of Appendix B.

**Figure 35.** DECAL provided sufficient flexibility in how my program can use STABLE funds. (N=1777)



The survey included an item to determine the effectiveness of STABLE funds in helping providers stabilize their sites to remain open or to reopen, depending on their responses to the operational status questions. Respondents who applied for STABLE funds and indicated having at least one temporarily closed site on April 30, 2020 and at least one open site at the time of the survey in July were asked if the STABLE funds helped their site(s) reopen (Figure 36). Ninety percent of respondents strongly agreed (32%) or agreed (58%) that STABLE funds helped their site(s) reopen. Additional information can be found in Table 37 of Appendix B.

**Figure 36.** Being approved for STABLE funds helped my child care program(s) to reopen. (N=605)



Respondents who applied for STABLE funds and indicated having at least one open site on April 30, 2020 and at least one open site at the time of the survey in July were asked if the STABLE funds helped their site(s) remain open (Figure 37). Ninety-one percent of respondents strongly agreed (45%) or agreed (46%) that STABLE funds helped their site(s) remain open.

Additional information can be found in Table 38 of Appendix B.

**Figure 37.** Being approved for STABLE funds helped my child care program(s) to remain open. (N=872)



All survey respondents, regardless of whether they applied for or received STABLE funds, were asked how they think the state should allocate additional funds if they were available in the future. The majority of respondents wanted to keep the system for allocation the same. Other respondents mentioned that sites that stayed open or have plans to re-open should be afforded more funds, while some felt closed centers needed the funds more; that FCCLH sites need funds more than CCLC sites; that rates should be based on a certain lump sum per facility rather than per child, CAPS, or Pre-K; and that tuition assistance is needed, especially for non-CAPS parents. Verbatim responses can be found in Appendix C.

The final survey item asked respondents to provide additional comments about the STABLE funds. A majority of respondents used the comment box as an opportunity to praise DECAL for its open communication, timeliness, and responsiveness during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as to request more funding. Others requested additional guidance from DECAL/DPH on how to manage positive COVID-19 cases in CCLC and FCCLH sites. Verbatim responses can be found in Appendix C.

## **Conclusion**

A majority of providers who responded to the survey (93%) represented one site. Of those who represented multiple sites, the average was 4.7 sites and the median was 2 sites. In April 2020, a slight majority of sites were temporarily closed (51%), while a majority of sites were open (77%) by the time of the survey in July. Most providers whose sites were temporarily closed in July were planning to reopen their sites when the local school district resumes (54%). For both time periods, April and July of 2020, respondents commonly indicated their sites had decreased attendance and indicated parent(s) being out of work, voluntary absence due to families not needing care, and voluntary absence due to perceived health risk as reasons for the decreased attendance.

When asked about the most immediate need for their programs at the time of the survey in July 2020, respondents most frequently selected additional funds (32%) and increased enrollments (27%). While the most immediate need varied among CCLC and FCCLH sites, both most frequently indicated a need for additional funds (31% for CCLCs and 35% for FCCLHs). The trend was similar when comparing urban and rural sites with both location types most likely to

report a need for additional funds (33% for urban and 30% for rural). Regarding additional needs, respondents who represented sites that were open in July most frequently indicated they need additional funds (58%) and increased enrollments (54%), with over 30% of respondents selecting cleaning supplies (42%) and retain existing staff (35%) for their program(s) to remain open. Among respondents representing sites that were temporarily closed in July, over one-third reported a need for cleaning supplies (46%), personal protective equipment (42%), additional funds (42%), and increased enrollments (35%) for their program(s) to reopen.

Ninety-three percent of survey respondents applied for STABLE funds, with 43% of respondents applying for Paycheck Protection Programs and 39% not applying for any additional grants and/or loans. Respondents indicated the resources to aid with the STABLE funds application provided helpful assistance: STABLE informational webinar (53%), the FAQ document (39%), and the pre-application worksheet (37%). Overall, respondents indicated that it was easy or very easy to gather the information necessary to complete the STABLE funds application (96%) and to complete the application in one sitting (95%) and that the two-week application period was reasonable (97%). Over 90% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that DECAL provided sufficient information to help them complete the STABLE funds application (94%) and that the STABLE funds application through KOALA was easy to navigate (96%).

Regarding how they used or planned to use the STABLE funds, respondents most frequently selected facility costs (72%), supplies needed to comply with executive orders and CDC guidelines (71%), and class materials/supplies (56%). Respondents commonly indicated that DECAL provided sufficient flexibility in how they could use STABLE funds, and that being

approved for STABLE funds helped their program(s) reopen or remain open. Respondents who provided comments praised DECAL for its open communication, timeliness, and responsiveness during the COVID-19 pandemic, and requested additional funding and guidance for operating safely.

## Appendix A: Survey Instrument

1. Do you represent...
  - a. A single site
  - b. Multiple sites
  
2. [If Q1=Multiple sites] How many sites do you represent?

Single-site respondents:	Multi-site respondents:										
3. What was the operational status of your program <b>on April 30, 2020</b> ? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Open</li> <li>b. Temporarily closed [if selected, SKIP to Q7]</li> <li>c. Permanently closed [if selected, SKIP to Q16]</li> </ol>	3b. What were the operational statuses of your sites <b>on April 30, 2020</b> ? <i>(Please provide the number of sites within each category.)</i> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">a. Sites open</td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>b. Sites temporarily closed</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>c. Sites permanently closed [If 100%, SKIP to Q16]</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	a. Sites open		b. Sites temporarily closed		c. Sites permanently closed [If 100%, SKIP to Q16]					
a. Sites open											
b. Sites temporarily closed											
c. Sites permanently closed [If 100%, SKIP to Q16]											
4. [If Q3=open] Were there any modifications to how your program was operating on <b>April 30, 2020</b> ? (Select <u>all</u> that apply) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Open with modified operating procedures</li> <li>b. Open only to children of essential personnel</li> <li>c. Open with no modifications (operating as usual on April 30)</li> </ol>	4b. [If Q3b Open>0] Were there any modifications to how your sites were operating on <b>April 30, 2020</b> ? <i>(Please provide the number of sites within each category.)</i> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">a. Sites open with modified operating procedures</td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>b. Sites open only to children of essential personnel</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>c. Sites open with no modifications (operating as usual on April 30)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>d. Not applicable (site was not open on April 30)</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	a. Sites open with modified operating procedures		b. Sites open only to children of essential personnel		c. Sites open with no modifications (operating as usual on April 30)		d. Not applicable (site was not open on April 30)			
a. Sites open with modified operating procedures											
b. Sites open only to children of essential personnel											
c. Sites open with no modifications (operating as usual on April 30)											
d. Not applicable (site was not open on April 30)											
5. [if Q3=open] <u>Compared to your typical spring attendance</u> , what level of attendance did your program have <b>during the time it was open in April 2020</b> ? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Above 75% of typical attendance</li> <li>b. 50% to 75% of typical attendance</li> <li>c. 25% to 49% of typical attendance</li> <li>d. Less than 25% of typical attendance</li> </ol>	5b. [If Q3b Open>0] <u>Compared to your typical spring attendance</u> , what level of attendance did your sites have <b>during the time they were open in April 2020</b> ? <i>(Please provide the number of sites within each category.)</i> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">a. Sites above 75% of typical attendance</td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>b. Sites with 50% to 75% of typical attendance</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>c. Sites with 25% to 49% of typical attendance</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>d. Sites with less than 25% of typical attendance</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>e. Not applicable (site was not open during April 2020)</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	a. Sites above 75% of typical attendance		b. Sites with 50% to 75% of typical attendance		c. Sites with 25% to 49% of typical attendance		d. Sites with less than 25% of typical attendance		e. Not applicable (site was not open during April 2020)	
a. Sites above 75% of typical attendance											
b. Sites with 50% to 75% of typical attendance											
c. Sites with 25% to 49% of typical attendance											
d. Sites with less than 25% of typical attendance											
e. Not applicable (site was not open during April 2020)											

Single-site respondents:	Multi-site respondents:								
<p>6. [if Q3=open] What reasons (if any) do you feel caused decreased attendance at your program during <b>April 2020</b>? (Select <u>all</u> that apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. COVID-19 group size regulation</li> <li>b. Local health and safety regulations</li> <li>c. Parent(s) out of work</li> <li>d. Program chose to reduce student ratio</li> <li>e. Reduction in the number of staff able to work</li> <li>f. Voluntary absence due to families not needing care (staying at home, family members caring for children, etc.)</li> <li>g. Voluntary absence due to perceived health risks</li> <li>h. Other (please specify):</li> <li>i. Not applicable (my program did not have decreased attendance during April)</li> </ul>	<p>6b. [If Q3b Open&gt;0] What reasons (if any) do you feel caused decreased attendance at your sites during <b>April 2020</b>? (Select <u>all</u> that apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. COVID-19 group size regulation</li> <li>b. Local health and safety regulations</li> <li>c. Parent(s) out of work</li> <li>d. Program chose to reduce student ratio</li> <li>e. Reduction in the number of staff able to work</li> <li>f. Voluntary absence due to families not needing care (staying at home, family members caring for children, etc.)</li> <li>g. Voluntary absence due to perceived health risks</li> <li>h. Other (please specify):</li> <li>i. Not applicable (none of my sites had decreased attendance in April 2020)</li> </ul>								
<p>7. What is the <b>current</b> operational status of your program?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Open</li> <li>b. Temporarily closed [if selected, SKIP to Q12]</li> <li>c. Permanently closed [if selected, SKIP to Q16]</li> </ul>	<p>7b. What are the <b>current</b> operational statuses of your sites? (Please provide the number of sites within each category.)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">a. Sites open</td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>b. Sites temporarily closed</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>c. Sites permanently closed [If 100%, SKIP to Q16]</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	a. Sites open		b. Sites temporarily closed		c. Sites permanently closed [If 100%, SKIP to Q16]			
a. Sites open									
b. Sites temporarily closed									
c. Sites permanently closed [If 100%, SKIP to Q16]									
<p>8. [If Q7=open] Are there any modifications to how your program is <b>currently</b> operating? (Select <u>all</u> that apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Open with modified operating procedures</li> <li>b. Open only to children of essential personnel</li> <li>c. Open with no modifications (currently operating as usual)</li> </ul>	<p>8b. [If Q7b Open&gt;0] Are there any modifications to how your sites are <b>currently</b> operating? (Please provide the number of sites within each category.)</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">a. Sites open with modified operating procedures</td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>b. Sites open only to children of essential personnel</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>c. Sites open with no modifications (currently operating as usual)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>d. Not applicable (site is not currently open)</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	a. Sites open with modified operating procedures		b. Sites open only to children of essential personnel		c. Sites open with no modifications (currently operating as usual)		d. Not applicable (site is not currently open)	
a. Sites open with modified operating procedures									
b. Sites open only to children of essential personnel									
c. Sites open with no modifications (currently operating as usual)									
d. Not applicable (site is not currently open)									



Single-site respondents:	Multi-site respondents:										
<p>9. [if Q7=open] Compared to your typical summer attendance, what is your program's <b>current</b> level of attendance?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Above 75% of typical attendance</li> <li>b. 50% to 75% of typical attendance</li> <li>c. 25% to 49% of typical attendance</li> <li>d. Less than 25% of typical attendance</li> </ul>	<p>9b. [If Q7b Open&gt;0] Compared to your typical summer attendance, what are your sites' <b>current</b> levels of attendance? <i>(Please provide the number of sites within each category.)</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">a. Sites with above 75% of typical attendance</td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>b. Sites with 50% to 75% of typical attendance</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>c. Sites with 25% to 49% of typical attendance</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>d. Sites with less than 25% of typical attendance</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>e. Not applicable (site is not currently open)</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	a. Sites with above 75% of typical attendance		b. Sites with 50% to 75% of typical attendance		c. Sites with 25% to 49% of typical attendance		d. Sites with less than 25% of typical attendance		e. Not applicable (site is not currently open)	
a. Sites with above 75% of typical attendance											
b. Sites with 50% to 75% of typical attendance											
c. Sites with 25% to 49% of typical attendance											
d. Sites with less than 25% of typical attendance											
e. Not applicable (site is not currently open)											
<p>10. [if Q7=open] What reasons (if any) do you feel caused decreased attendance at your program <b>currently</b>? (Select <u>all</u> that apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. COVID-19 group size regulation</li> <li>b. Local health and safety regulations</li> <li>c. Parent(s) out of work</li> <li>d. Program chose to reduce student ratio</li> <li>e. Reduction in the number of staff able to work</li> <li>f. Voluntary absence due to families not needing care (staying at home, family members caring for children, etc.)</li> <li>g. Voluntary absence due to perceived health risks</li> <li>h. Other (please specify):</li> <li>i. Not applicable (my program does not have decreased attendance currently) [If selected, SKIP Q11]</li> </ul>	<p>10b. [If Q7b Open&gt;0] What reasons (if any) do you feel caused decreased attendance at your sites <b>currently</b>? (Select <u>all</u> that apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. COVID-19 group size regulation</li> <li>b. Local health and safety regulations</li> <li>c. Parent(s) out of work</li> <li>d. Program chose to reduce student ratio</li> <li>e. Reduction in the number of staff able to work</li> <li>f. Voluntary absence due to families not needing care (staying at home, family members caring for children, etc.)</li> <li>g. Voluntary absence due to perceived health risks</li> <li>h. Other (please specify):</li> <li>i. Not applicable (none of my sites currently have decreased attendance) [If selected, SKIP Q11b]</li> </ul>										
<p>11. How likely is it that your program attendance will return to normal levels for Fall 2020?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Very unlikely</li> <li>b. Unlikely</li> <li>c. Likely</li> <li>d. Very likely</li> <li>e. I don't know</li> </ul>	<p>11b. How likely is it that your sites' attendance will return to normal levels for Fall 2020?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Very unlikely</li> <li>b. Unlikely</li> <li>c. Likely</li> <li>d. Very likely</li> <li>e. I don't know</li> </ul>										

Single-site respondents:	Multi-site respondents:										
<p>12. [If Q7=Temporarily Closed] Does your program have a current plan to reopen?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Will reopen when the local school district resumes</li> <li>b. Will reopen before the local school district resumes</li> <li>c. Plan on reopening, but not certain when</li> <li>d. No current plans to reopen</li> </ul>	<p>12b. [If Q7b Temporarily Closed&gt;0] Do your sites have current plans to reopen? <i>(Please provide the number of sites within each category.)</i></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="818 338 1284 411">a. Sites will reopen when the local school district resumes</td> <td data-bbox="1287 338 1427 411"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="818 415 1284 489">b. Sites will reopen before the local school district resumes</td> <td data-bbox="1287 415 1427 489"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="818 493 1284 567">c. Sites plan on reopening, but not certain when</td> <td data-bbox="1287 493 1427 567"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="818 571 1284 644">d. Sites with no current plans to reopen</td> <td data-bbox="1287 571 1427 644"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="818 648 1284 697">e. Not applicable (site is currently open)</td> <td data-bbox="1287 648 1427 697"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	a. Sites will reopen when the local school district resumes		b. Sites will reopen before the local school district resumes		c. Sites plan on reopening, but not certain when		d. Sites with no current plans to reopen		e. Not applicable (site is currently open)	
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d. Sites with no current plans to reopen											
e. Not applicable (site is currently open)											

<p>[If Q3=Permanently Closed SKIP to Q16] OR [If Q7=Permanently Closed SKIP to Q16]</p>	<p>[If Q3b Permanently Closed&gt;0 AND Q3b Open=0 AND Q3b Temporarily Closed=0 SKIP to Q16] OR [If Q7b Permanently Closed&gt;0 AND Q7b Open=0 AND Q7b Temporarily Closed=0 SKIP to Q16]</p>
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13. What is the most immediate need for your program(s)?

- a. Additional funds
- b. Cleaning supplies
- c. Hire and train new staff
- d. Increased enrollments
- e. Less restrictive safety guidelines
- f. Personal protective equipment
- g. Retain existing staff
- h. Other (please specify):
- i. My program(s) does not have any immediate needs.

14. [If Q7=Open or Q7b Open>0] What else do your program(s) need to remain open? (Select all that apply)

- a. Additional funds
- b. Cleaning supplies
- c. Hire and train new staff
- d. Increased enrollments
- e. Less restrictive safety guidelines
- f. Personal protective equipment
- g. Retain existing staff
- h. Other (please specify):
- i. My program(s) does not have any needs to remain open.

15. [If Q7=Temporarily Closed or Q7b Temporarily Closed>0] What else do your program(s) need to reopen? (Select all that apply)
- a. Additional funds
  - b. Cleaning supplies
  - c. Hire and train new staff
  - d. Increased enrollments
  - e. Less restrictive safety guidelines
  - f. Personal protective equipment
  - g. Retain existing staff
  - h. Other (please specify):
  - i. My program(s) does not have any needs to reopen.

**Application**

16. Did you apply for STABLE funds?

- a. Yes
- b. No

17. [If Q16=No] Why did you not apply for STABLE funds?

18. What other grants or loans has your program(s) received? (Select all that apply)

- a. Economic Injury Disaster Loan
- b. Emergency Economic Injury Grant
- c. Georgia Foundation for Early Care + Learning COVID-19 Relief Grant
- d. Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)
- e. Small Business Debt Relief Program(s) (e.g., 7(a) Loans, 504 Loan, Microloan Program(s))
- f. United Way grant (e.g., Greater Atlanta COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund, COVID-19 Relief Fund, or COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund)
- g. Other (please specify):
- h. I have not received any additional loans or grants.

**[IF Q16=No, SKIP TO Q31.]**

19. Which of the following provided helpful assistance with the STABLE funds application? (Select all that apply)

- a. Calling or emailing DECAL staff directly
- b. Pre-application worksheet
- c. STABLE informational webinar (offered April 29)
- d. STABLE funds FAQ document
- e. Other (please specify)
- f. None of the above

20. Reflecting on the application process for STABLE funds, how easy or difficult was it to gather the information necessary to complete the application?

- a. Very difficult
- b. Difficult
- c. Easy
- d. Very easy

21. How easy or difficult was it to complete the application in one sitting?

- a. Very difficult
- b. Difficult
- c. Easy
- d. Very easy

22. Was the two-week application period reasonable for you to apply for STABLE funds?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following sentences:				
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
23. The STABLE funds application through KOALA was easy to navigate.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
24. DECAL provided sufficient information to help me complete the STABLE funds application.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Receipt and Use of STABLE Funds**

25. Have you used the STABLE funds yet?

- a. Yes, I have used all the STABLE funds
- b. Yes, I have used some of the STABLE funds
- c. No, I have not used any of the STABLE funds
- d. I have not yet received the STABLE funds
- e. Not applicable (I was not approved for STABLE funds) [SKIP to Q31]

26. How did you use or plan to use the STABLE funds? (Select all that apply)

- a. To catch up on past expenses
- b. For new expenses

27. Which of the following best describes how you have used or plan to use STABLE funds? (Select all that apply)
- a. Class materials/supplies
  - b. Facility costs (mortgage, rent, utilities, etc.)
  - c. Retain/hire lead or assistant teachers
  - d. Retain/hire other staff
  - e. Substitute teachers
  - f. Supplies needed to comply with executive orders and CDC guidelines
  - g. Tuition relief
  - h. Unreimbursed food
  - i. Other (please specify):

**Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with the following:**

28. DECAL provided sufficient flexibility in how my program can use STABLE funds.
- a. Strongly disagree
  - b. Disagree
  - c. Agree
  - d. Strongly agree

Single-site respondents:	Multi-site respondents:
<p>29. [If Q3=Temporarily Closed AND Q7=Open] Being approved for STABLE funds helped my child care program <u>to reopen</u>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Strongly disagree</li> <li>b. Disagree</li> <li>c. Agree</li> <li>d. Strongly agree</li> </ul>	<p>29b. [If Q3b Temporarily Closed&gt;0 AND Q7b Open&gt;0] Being approved for STABLE funds helped my child care program(s) <u>to reopen</u>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Strongly disagree</li> <li>b. Disagree</li> <li>c. Agree</li> <li>d. Strongly agree</li> <li>e. Not applicable (none of my sites reopened after a temporary closure)</li> </ul>
<p>30. [Q3=Open AND Q7=Open] Being approved for STABLE funds helped my child care program <u>to remain open</u>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Strongly disagree</li> <li>b. Disagree</li> <li>c. Agree</li> <li>d. Strongly agree</li> </ul>	<p>30b. [Q3b Open&gt;0 AND Q7b Open&gt;0] Being approved for STABLE funds helped my child care program(s) <u>to remain open</u>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Strongly disagree</li> <li>b. Disagree</li> <li>c. Agree</li> <li>d. Strongly agree</li> <li>e. Not applicable (none of my sites remained open without a temporary closure)</li> </ul>

31. In your opinion, how should the state allocate additional funds, such as the STABLE funds, if they were available in the future?

32. Please use the space below to provide additional feedback or comments about DECAL's response to the COVID-19 pandemic with licensed child care providers in Georgia.

## Appendix B: Data Tables

*Table 1. How many sites do you represent?*

	<i>N</i>	%
1 site	1844	93%
2-5 sites	121	6%
6-10 sites	5	0%
11-15 sites	3	0%
16+ sites	12	1%
Total	1985	100%

*Table 2. Respondents' Location Type*

	<i>N</i>	%
Urban	1556	78%
Rural	436	22%
Total	1987	100%

*Table 3. Respondents' License Type*

	<i>N</i>	%
CCLC	1352	68%
FCCLH	637	32%
Total	1987	100%

*Table 4. What was the operational status of your sites on **April 30, 2020**?*

	<i>N</i>	%
Sites open	1199	48%
Sites temporarily closed	1260	51%
Sites permanently closed	23	1%
Total sites	2482	100%

*Table 5. What is the **current** operational status of your sites?*

	<i>N</i>	%
Sites open	1890	77%
Sites temporarily closed	555	23%
Sites permanently closed	11	0%
Total sites	2456	100%

Table 6: What is the **current** operational status of your program? (by Location Type)

	Rural		Urban	
	N	%	N	%
Sites open	371	66%	1533	78%
Sites temporarily closed	188	34%	430	22%
Sites permanently closed	1	0%	10	1%
Total	560	100%	1973	100%

Table 7. What is the **current** operational status of your program? (by License Type)

	FCCLH		CCLC	
	N	%	N	%
Sites open	513	81%	1380	75%
Sites temporarily closed	113	18%	442	24%
Sites permanently closed	5	1%	6	0%
Total sites	631	100%	1828	100%

Table 8. Were there any modifications to how your program was operating on **April 30, 2020**? (Select all that apply)

	N	%
Open with modified operating procedures	826	70%
Open only to children of essential personnel	198	17%
Open with no modifications	259	22%
Total sites	1175	100%

Table 9. Are there any modifications to how your program is **currently** operating? (Select all that apply)

	N	%
Open with modified operating procedures	1523	81%
Open only to children of essential personnel	122	6%
Open with no modifications	324	17%
Total sites	1886	100%

Table 10. Compared to your typical spring attendance, what level of attendance did your program have **during the time it was open in April 2020**?

	N	%
Above 75% of typical attendance	120	10%
50% to 75% of typical attendance	215	18%
25% to 49% of typical attendance	399	34%
Less than 25% of typical attendance	443	38%
Total sites	1177	100%

Table 11. *Compared to your typical summer attendance, what is your program’s current level of attendance?*

	N	%
Above 75% of typical attendance	222	12%
50% to 75% of typical attendance	490	26%
25% to 49% of typical attendance	660	35%
Less than 25% of typical attendance	510	27%
Total sites	1882	100%

Table 12. *What reasons (if any) do you feel caused decreased attendance at your program during April 2020? (Select all that apply)*

	N	%
Parent(s) out of work	727	74%
Voluntary absence due to families not needing care	561	57%
Voluntary absence due to perceived health risks	498	51%
COVID-19 group size regulation	349	35%
Local health and safety regulations	273	28%
Reduction in the number of staff able to work	127	13%
Program chose to reduce student ratio	53	5%
Other (please specify)	49	5%
Not applicable (none of my sites had decreased attendance in April 2020)	63	6%
Total	985	100%

Table 13. *What reasons (if any) do you feel caused decreased attendance at your program currently? (Select all that apply)*

	N	%
Parent(s) out of work	1135	70%
Voluntary absence due to families not needing care	1018	63%
Voluntary absence due to perceived health risks	895	56%
Local health and safety regulations	439	27%
COVID-19 group size regulation	397	25%
Reduction in the number of staff able to work	192	12%
Program chose to reduce student ratio	118	7%
Other (please specify)	97	6%
Not applicable (none of my sites currently have decreased attendance)	113	7%
Total	1612	100%



*Table 14. How likely is it that your program attendance will return to normal levels for Fall 2020?*

	<i>N</i>	%
Very unlikely	191	13%
Unlikely	344	23%
Likely	338	23%
Very likely	152	10%
I don't know	476	32%
Total	1501	100%

*Table 15. Does your program have a current plan to reopen?*

	<i>N</i>	%
Will reopen when the local school district resumes	294	54%
Will reopen before the local school district resumes	103	19%
Plan on reopening, but not certain when	144	26%
No current plans to reopen	4	1%
Total sites	545	100%

*Table 16. What is the most immediate need for your program(s)?*

	<i>N</i>	%
Additional funds	635	32%
Increased enrollments	537	27%
Cleaning supplies	192	10%
Hire and train new staff	166	8%
Retain existing staff	110	6%
Personal protective equipment	88	4%
Less restrictive safety guidelines	36	4%
Other (please specify):	89	5%
My program(s) does not have any immediate needs.	110	6%
Total	1963	100%

Table 17. What is the most immediate need for your program(s)? (by License type)

	FCCLH		CCLC	
	N	%	N	%
Additional funds	218	35%	418	31%
Increased enrollments	110	18%	428	32%
Cleaning supplies	108	17%	84	6%
Hire and train new staff	14	2%	152	11%
Retain existing staff	5	1%	105	8%
Personal protective equipment	42	7%	46	3%
Less restrictive safety guidelines	9	1%	27	2%
Other (please specify):	35	6%	54	4%
My program(s) does not have any immediate needs.	83	13%	27	2%
Total	624	100%	1341	100%

Table 18. What is the most immediate need for your program(s)? (by Location type)

	Rural		Urban	
	N	%	N	%
Additional funds	130	30%	508	33%
Increased enrollments	75	17%	462	30%
Cleaning supplies	62	14%	130	8%
Hire and train new staff	45	10%	122	8%
Retain existing staff	21	5%	90	6%
Personal protective equipment	27	6%	61	4%
Less restrictive safety guidelines	17	4%	19	1%
Other (please specify):	15	4%	74	5%
My program(s) does not have any immediate needs.	39	9%	71	5%
Total	431	100%	1537	100%

Table 19. What else do your program(s) need to remain open? (Select all that apply)

	N	%
Additional funds	925	58%
Increased enrollments	866	54%
Cleaning supplies	680	42%
Retain existing staff	555	35%
Personal protective equipment	455	28%
Hire and train new staff	444	28%
Less restrictive safety guidelines	92	6%
Other (please specify):	43	3%
My program(s) does not have any needs to remain open.	122	8%
Total	1603	100%

Table 20. What else do your program(s) need to remain open? (Select all that apply) (by License type)

	FCCLH		CCLC	
	N	%	N	%
Additional funds	244	48%	682	62%
Increased enrollments	178	35%	690	63%
Cleaning supplies	244	48%	437	40%
Retain existing staff	32	6%	524	48%
Personal protective equipment	152	30%	304	28%
Hire and train new staff	22	4%	422	38%
Less restrictive safety guidelines	20	4%	72	7%
Other (please specify):	10	2%	33	3%
My program(s) does not have any needs to remain open.	86	17%	36	3%
Total	504	100%	1101	100%

Table 21. What else do your program(s) need to remain open? (Select all that apply) (by Location type)

	Rural		Urban	
	N	%	N	%
Additional funds	182	53%	744	59%
Increased enrollments	147	42%	721	57%
Cleaning supplies	138	40%	542	43%
Retain existing staff	106	31%	450	36%
Personal protective equipment	79	23%	377	30%
Hire and train new staff	79	23%	367	29%
Less restrictive safety guidelines	33	10%	59	5%
Other (please specify):	8	2%	35	3%
My program(s) does not have any needs to remain open.	48	14%	74	6%
Total	346	100%	1260	100%

Table 22. What else do your program(s) need to reopen? (Select all that apply)

	N	%
Cleaning supplies	163	46%
Personal protective equipment	150	42%
Additional funds	149	42%
Increased enrollments	126	35%
Retain existing staff	109	30%
Hire and train new staff	104	29%
Less restrictive safety guidelines	40	11%
Other (please specify):	22	6%
My program(s) does not have any needs to reopen.	23	6%
Total	358	100%

Table 23. What else do your program(s) need to reopen? (Select all that apply) (by License Type)

	FCCLH		CCLC	
	N	%	N	%
Cleaning supplies	56	51%	107	43%
Personal protective equipment	51	47%	99	40%
Additional funds	44	40%	105	42%
Increased enrollments	30	28%	96	39%
Retain existing staff	9	8%	100	40%
Hire and train new staff	10	9%	94	38%
Less restrictive safety guidelines	13	12%	27	11%
Other (please specify):	9	8%	13	5%
My program(s) does not have any needs to reopen.	15	14%	8	3%
Total	109	100%	249	100%

*Table 24. What else do your program(s) need to reopen? (Select all that apply) (by Location Type)*

	Rural		Urban	
	N	%	N	%
Cleaning supplies	42	49%	123	45%
Personal protective equipment	39	45%	112	41%
Additional funds	32	37%	118	43%
Increased enrollments	29	34%	98	36%
Retain existing staff	23	27%	87	32%
Hire and train new staff	27	31%	79	29%
Less restrictive safety guidelines	12	14%	28	10%
Other (please specify):	6	7%	16	6%
My program(s) does not have any needs to reopen.	10	12%	13	5%
Total	84	100%	276	100%

*Table 25. Did you apply for STABLE funds?*

	N	%
Yes	1843	93%
No	131	7%
Total	1974	100%

*Table 26. What other grants or loans has your program(s) received? (Select all that apply)*

	N	%
Paycheck Protection Program(s) (PPP)	828	43%
Economic Injury Disaster Loan	353	19%
Emergency Economic Injury Grant	131	7%
Small Business Debt Relief Program(s) (e.g., 7(a) Loans, 504 Loan, Microloan Program(s))	88	5%
Georgia Foundation for Early Care + Learning COVID-19 Relief Grant	80	4%
United Way grant (e.g., Greater Atlanta COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund, COVID-19 Relief Fund, or COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund)	22	1%
Other (please specify)	119	6%
I have not received any additional loans or grants.	735	39%
Total	1908	100%

*Table 27. What other grants or loans has your program(s) received? (Select all that apply) (by License Type)*

	FCCLH		CCLC	
	N	%	N	%
Paycheck Protection Program(s) (PPP)	54	9%	775	60%
Economic Injury Disaster Loan	80	13%	274	21%
Emergency Economic Injury Grant	25	4%	106	8%
Small Business Debt Relief Program(s) (e.g., 7(a) Loans, 504 Loan, Microloan Program(s))	23	4%	65	5%
Georgia Foundation for Early Care + Learning COVID-19 Relief Grant	23	4%	57	4%
United Way grant (e.g., Greater Atlanta COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund, COVID-19 Relief Fund, or COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund)	6	1%	16	1%
Other (please specify)	53	9%	67	5%
I have not received any additional loans or grants.	401	66%	334	26%
Total	610	100%	1300	100%

*Table 28. Which of the following provided helpful assistance with the STABLE funds application? (Select all that apply)*

	N	%
STABLE informational webinar	969	53%
STABLE funds FAQ document	712	39%
Pre-application worksheet	675	37%
Calling or emailing DECAL staff directly	425	23%
Other (please specify)	151	8%
None of the above	56	3%
Total	1816	100%

*Table 29. Reflecting on the application process for STABLE funds, how easy or difficult was it to gather the information necessary to complete the application?*

	N	%
Very difficult	13	1%
Difficult	63	4%
Easy	1017	56%
Very easy	720	40%
Total	1813	100%

*Table 30. How easy or difficult was it to complete the application in one sitting?*

	N	%
Very difficult	11	1%
Difficult	86	5%
Easy	974	54%
Very easy	740	41%
Total	1811	100%

*Table 31. Was the two-week application period reasonable for you to apply for STABLE funds?*

	N	%
Yes	1760	97%
No	52	3%
Total	1812	100%

*Table 32. Koala Navigation and Information Provided by DECAL*

	Strongly disagree		Disagree		Agree		Strongly agree		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
The STABLE funds application through KOALA was easy to navigate.	39	2%	44	2%	828	46%	893	50%	1804	100%
DECAL provided sufficient information to help me complete the STABLE funds application.	50	3%	52	3%	810	46%	836	48%	1748	100%

*Table 33. Have you used the STABLE funds yet?*

	N	%
Yes, I have used all the STABLE funds	945	53%
Yes, I have used some of the STABLE funds	688	38%
No, I have not used any of the STABLE funds	77	4%
I have not yet received the STABLE funds	82	5%
Total	1792	100%

*Table 34. How did you use or plan to use the STABLE funds? (Select all that apply)*

	N	%
To catch up on past expenses	1250	70%
For new expenses	1167	66%
Total	1780	100%

*Table 35. Which of the following best describes how you have used or plan to use STABLE funds? (Select all that apply)*

	N	%
Facility costs (mortgage, rent, utilities, etc.)	1297	72%
Supplies needed to comply with executive orders and CDC guidelines	1279	71%
Class materials/supplies	1009	56%
Retain/hire lead or assistant teachers	646	36%
Retain/hire other staff	546	31%
Tuition relief	504	28%
Unreimbursed food	413	23%
Substitute teachers	167	9%
Other (please specify)	86	5%
Total	1789	100%

*Table 36. DECAL provided sufficient flexibility in how my program can use STABLE funds.*

	N	%
Strongly disagree	59	3%
Disagree	53	3%
Agree	1088	61%
Strongly agree	577	33%
Total	1777	100%

*Table 37. Being approved for STABLE funds helped my child care program(s) to reopen.*

	N	%
Strongly disagree	15	2%
Disagree	50	8%
Agree	348	58%
Strongly agree	192	32%
Total	605	100%

*Table 38. Being approved for STABLE funds helped my child care program(s) to remain open.*

	N	%
Strongly disagree	45	5%
Disagree	30	3%
Agree	405	46%
Strongly agree	392	45%
Total	872	100%



## Appendix C: Verbatim Responses

*Comments are presented verbatim. Each bullet designates the comments of separate survey participants.*

**What reasons (if any) do you feel caused decreased attendance at your program currently?  
(Other, please specify)**

- A lot of parents are afraid to bring children to school because of COVID-19
- At risk elders at home
- Cases of COVID-19 raising
- Child move to a different state
- Closed
- Closed Mondays COVID-19
- Closure of Gwinnett County School System led to dramatic decline initially
- COVID
- COVID 19 enrolled 80, March 24 15
- COVID 19 parents out of job
- COVID is unpredictable.
- COVID-19
- COVID-19
- COVID-19
- COVID-19
- COVID-19
- COVID-19 Concerns
- COVID-19 fear
- COVID-19 parents are scared to bring their children to school.
- Families decided not to bring their children.
- Families providing care for immuno-compromised family members.
- Fear from the parent
- GADOL payout is making employees to stay off work
- I assume parents still in fear of COVID-19
- I have 6 enrolled but only let 3 come at time so they can still social distance. I just have a family home daycare.
- I have two openings and having a hard time filling I feel from COVID-19
- Increase in cases
- Increase in COVID cases parents and staff fear of getting sick or taking virus home to love ones.

- Literal fear of parents
- Majority of parents are not comfortable sending their child back to daycare due to the continue increase in COVID cases
- Many parents pulled their children out of day care during the time we had to close.
- Most of my families are working from home to COVID-19
- New students aren't starting until late July / early August
- No enrolled children
- Not being able to transport
- Only 2nd summer so....
- Only licensed to keep 6 children. I could not keep my grandson my daughter quit her job.
- Parent getting used to summer hours
- Parent have been called several times as a follow up call. Parents state they are scared for their kids safety
- Parents and workers are afraid to bring children to childcare
- PARENTS ARE AFRAID THEIR CHILDREN MAY GET COVID19
- Parents are afraid to bring their children to daycares, child care and academies my parents are afraid that the other children would be contagious and send their children to covid-19 virus. That's still the problem I'm having today and going forward so far
- Parents are afraid to bring their kids due to risk of child getting the coronavirus
- Parents are scared to bring their children to daycare because of COVID
- Parents are still afraid to bring children back.
- Parents are still working from home
- Parents choosing to keep kids out due to COVID
- Parents concern about covid-19 risks
- Parents concerned about children getting COVID.
- Parents do not feel comfortable with children at camp no matter how safe I stress measures taken with no issues as of today.
- Parents don't know how to find us we've been told repeatedly
- Parents drawing unemployment
- Parents fear exposure for their children and are choosing in home care, with more say and control over what children can or will be potentially exposed to.
- Parents fearful of bringing children to childcare setting
- Parents financial issues
- Parents not comfortable with children returning at this time
- parents not sure of COVID
- Parents still don't have the amount if employment due to covid-19

- Parents still working
- Parents taking advantage of the Unemployment and worrying about exposures to others since everyone isn't following the guidelines.
- Parents were not confident that the environment was not safe for their child to return
- Parents withdrew children from care
- Parents working from home
- Parents working from home
- Parents working from home
- Parents working from home.
- Parents working remotely, Educators children enrolled but doesn't need care, families in fear of COVID-19
- People are afraid of the virus that is why they're not attending in-home daycares that are license
- Program was closed in April and May
- Quarantined parents work from home
- Reduced hours of operation and implementation of sibling group models to reduce risks of exposure, also we are not bringing in new families at this time
- Risk of COVID-19 exposure
- School closure
- Some of our parents can no longer afford to pay for childcare.
- Some parents are afraid to bring their children because of Covid-19.
- The biggest is, parents are afraid to send the child
- Transportation
- Uncertainty and fear
- We are running a 4 week Summer Care Program
- We typically are not open in summer and are only offering a summer class with limited enrollment. June and July are usually no school months for us.
- While 60% of our parents have returned their children to childcare, 40% of my parents aren't comfortable returning their children to group care

**What reasons (if any) do you feel caused decreased attendance at your sites during April 2020? (Other, please specify)**

- And COVID 19
- Availability of PPE supplies
- Closed on Monday due to covid19
- Concerns for health risk and most parents' jobs started working from home and lost their job
- COVID-19
- COVID 19
- COVID parents are afraid
- COVID-19
- COVID-19 PARENTS DID NOT BRING CHILDREN
- Due to this pandemic
- Families were scare to bring children back.
- Federal regulation requested everyone to stay home as a state of emergency our center closed for a short time and reopened to Essential Working Parents after 4 Wks being closed
- GADOL payout is more than what employee makes.
- I had some leave immediately. I had to terminate one family w/2 kids because of not following any guidelines. I would have been down to 2 kids if a colleague hadn't had medical issues. I took 2 of hers temporarily for her essential parents.
- I was close every Friday for cleaning.
- I was exposed to COVID-19 and had to close my daycare to make sure that I was okay and to make sure the daycare of clean to later open again.
- My mother is immunocompromised.
- No one enrolled.
- Only licensed to keep 6 children. I could not keep my grandchildren so my daughter had to quit her job.
- Parent is a teacher who worked from home
- Parent(s) scared their child will be expose to COVID-19
- Parents and staff worried to come back to the day care for the COVID-19
- Parents are scared of children returning due to COVID.
- Parents kept their children home due to COVID 19
- Parents not needing care due to the virus or parents are scared to send their children in
- Parents out of work due to COVID 19
- Parents unsure of COVID
- Parents wanted to keep children home

- Parents was afraid to take the risk of their children getting sick and catching Corona Virus.
- Parents were laid off because of COVID-19
- Parents were scared to bring their children to childcare due to public schools closing
- Parents work from home, had relatives that were working from home. Parents hours were cut in half. So, I lost a lot of income.
- Parents working from home
- People are afraid of the virus and was not putting their children in daycare
- Program was closed during April and May
- Quarantined parents working from home kept children home
- Sites were closed due to COVID
- State Mandated Quarantine
- The Governor's Shelter in Place mandate
- The unknown and the unpredictable outcomes of this disease.
- There was parents that taken their child out due to COVID 19
- Unemployment claims stay home and draw 600.00 federal and 300.00 state MORE than parents are used to making so—they stayed at home
- Was not able to pay my staff.
- We had only been open 4 months when the pandemic began
- We were closed
- We were open only to hospital employees

**What is the most immediate need for your program(s)? (Other, please specify)**

- Additional funding and increased enrollment
- Additional funds due to pandemic restrictions to operate safely
- Additional funds to have the home professionally cleaned on a weekly basis.
- Additional funds to hire and train new staff in order to increase enrollment
- Additional funds, cleaning supplies, hire and train new staff
- All of the above stated are needed
- All of the above!
- All the above
- both additional funds and increased enrollment
- Building repairs, tree fell on building
- Cannot find hands on CPR training
- CHILDREN TO COME BACK, I HAVE LOST MY STAFF, I NEED A TOP ON MY BUILDING, KITCHEN CABINETS
- Children's
- Cleaning supplies and additional funds will be needed
- Cleaning supplies and PPE
- Cleaning supplies, personal protection equipment and thermometer, additional funds
- committed honest parents.
- Due to low enrollment we are not meeting the needs of monthly financial obligations.
- Due to the time needed to screen and temp children and the limited parking we have, I am thinking the number of staff needed to safely manage this routine and assist children will be a stretch for us.
- Due to the uncertainty of Covid-19.
- For the COVID-19 cases to drop
- Full time enrollment instead of part time children
- Funds for cleaning, staff, and overhead
- Funds to stay open for the 2 kids currently enrolled
- Get facility ready for fall
- Guidance about school age transportation
- Hire and train new staff
- Hire new staff
- I am a center manager only. The Agency knows more about it.
- I did survey with parents, but most of them were not ready to send the children
- I have been without income since March 13
- I have COVID-19

- I need additional funds to retain existing staff, buy more personal protective equipment, and buy Lysol & cleaning supplies.
- If public school doesn't go back coming up with a plan
- I'm forced to down size in August back to a Family Home. I've lost so much
- In addition to new enrollments, past students returning is important as well.
- Increased enrollment and consistent messages from CDC, federal and state officials to parents that child care centers are safe.
- Increased enrollments and additional funding through GRANTS
- It will be great if we can get additional fund
- It's impossible social distance from young children
- Lack of money due to: BILLS, Mortgage, Utilities
- Less Covid-19 risk
- Lysol
- Lysol spray and wipes
- may need additional funding
- More funds to survive while keeping low risk by keeping numbers low.
- My family and me need to be safe, due to underlining conditions.
- Need addition. funding trying to hold on to my employees one already left
- New location
- No more COVID-19
- Non-chlorine disinfectants & sanitizers
- Once parents return to work, I think my program will pick up.
- Our teachers are anxious about reopening in the midst of a pandemic with more cases in Ga that before March 13. Teachers are also concerned about the air filtration in our building.
- Outdoor classroom materials, sun shade, water proof storage etc.
- outdoor shade to offer more outside class time.
- Peace of mind, clarity on what the plan is for the Fall
- Personal protective equipment and funds to purchase equipment and future supplies for the increase that will take place in the fall and current explosion of the virus. way too many changes every other day in procedures or lack thereof.
- Playground Equipment
- Possible Closure due to cut in Parent Salaries
- Purchasing disinfectant spray
- RECURITING
- Rent
- Rent / insurance, GA power; utilities; school debts

- Retain staff, increase PPE and cleaning supplies, additional funds, increase enrollment, need guidelines to increase enrollment while ensuring safety of children and staff. Need to have information on how to keep business operational without fear of closing.
- Safety - current staff are high risk.
- safety from COVID
- Safety of children teachers and families
- Safety of everyone
- Securing and temporarily licensing an alternate space outside of the school building. Since the schools are closed, our programs cannot open. Our families are in need of our support and we cannot provide that to them unless we have an alternate temporary location.
- Some supplies are hard to find
- Space for required social distancing
- Staff have young children enrolled in APS and Dekalb County Schools...staffing will be problematic
- Technology to implement virtual instruction.
- To allow us to pick children up for our Afterschool program.
- To keep up with all supplies needed to stay in compliance and at less risk.
- To pay for essential supplies mask cleaning supplies also staff
- Transportation for kids
- Unlikely for enrollment, but likely should have been for the one before this question
- We are 24 hr. Some parents don't make enough to pay It puts a strain on us to support.
- We are desperately in need of CONCRETE guidelines. Our local health department is not giving guidance.
- We haven't been able to secure disinfect supplies and we are searching before reopening when school returns
- We need the Governor to allow short transport and outdoor fieldtrips or our program is cut in half as we are a Nature Preschool and this Governor's over site is hurting our abilities to provide what we always have in the past to our families who depend on us to give the best high-quality experiences to their children
- When the children were not there lost of some of my income
- With social distancing and all, I do not have a lot of spacing for 6 feet apart, and two of my live in children have asthma, so I must stay careful of their conditions!
- Write, adopt, and educate parents on new procedures regarding safety procedures at the school, and closing procedures in the event of a positive COVID test for any student or teacher attending the school.



**What else do your program(s) need to remain open? (Other, please specify)**

- Additional funds are not an immediate need, but is always helpful.
- Additional funds to retain staff. We go through so many cleaning supplies daily wiping down areas, soap for frequent washing of hands.
- Be able to transport
- Clear guidance at the state and national level.
- Concern that transportation restrictions will be detrimental to our after-school program
- Coordination with K-12
- COVID 19 issue to be solved. Numbers to get better in Gwinnett county
- CPR training
- Disinfection Sprays
- Equipment such as gloves thermometer, mask
- For our locations, increased enrollments would equate to additional funds. We have continued to employ all staff without a reduction in hours for the past four months. However, this has depleted our reserve account. The burden being carried at this point is emotional draining.
- Funds for equipment for school age children such as. Age appropriate materials
- Gloves
- Help for parents with childcare payments
- Help the community with school age kids that needs help with digital learning...
- Income
- It's been a little more challenging to purchase our food from just one place.
- Little ones won't wear the masks in a safe way. The mask may cause more health issues than they do to protect. At least with the little ones.
- LYSOL!!!! Where is it?????
- May have to change hours to get cleaning done
- Modifications to spaces
- Mortgage and utilities paid
- Mortgage payments/rent payments, utilities, cleaning supplies, salaries, and food!
- N/A
- Need more clients
- Need more money, revenue not covering cost of additional staff dedicated to COVID related operating procedures
- new teachers
- Parental decision to return and remain.
- Parents return to work

- Parents to go back to work/we are dealing with all the new guidelines but I need children in my program to survive.
- Retaining staff, increase enrollment and cleaning supplies
- Tech. Equipment
- The additional funding would cover payroll costs for increased staffing due to safety protocols that have been implemented.
- Training for staff
- Transportation reopened for field trips
- We are maintaining.
- We are open
- We don't want the health and safety guidelines to be modified but we are REALLY struggling with how to staff our program without combining classrooms and without floating staff members while operating the most hours we can daily. It's expensive and quite a challenge!
- We have provided cloth masks for each child, but have to make repairs or change them out monthly.
- We need a plan or guidelines for transportation.
- We want to remove all carpet from the classrooms. Carpet hold germs and that's a health and safety issue to me. We can't afford to do so at this time.
- With the low numbers but mixed ages it is hard to maintain the staff needed for the different age groups without being able to mix ages even if in ratio with lower. So we have to not turn away kids because we can't afford to run a separate class for just a couple of Children. We need 5 children just to cover payroll for 1 teacher. So if you have a few school age Children or only a few 4 year olds you can't combine those with 2 year olds even when you have a 2 year old ratio. At one point we only had 8 kids and had to run 2 classes when the youngest was 1 year. That is not financial feasible. It doesn't even cover payroll

**What else do your program(s) need to reopen? (Other, please specify)**

- Additional funding for updated technology for recording health information suggested by DPH.
- all the above.
- Downward trend of cases, Testing and contact tracing
- Enrollment of children
- Funding to offset the cost of adding a temporary alternate space.
- Had to hire some new staff that needs safe CPR and fire safety refresher/training classes to maintain the 50% trained staff requirement.
- I need reassurance to feel good about reopening. I'm hearing the COVID-19 is far from over. My self and parents are not feeling 100% safe right now.
- I WANT A MACHINE THAT BLOWS OR SOMETHING TO KEEP THE VIRUS FROM SPREADING MORE TOYS
- If the schools will reopen in August, I will take the chance!
- modifications that don't involve access to my actual home.
- Money for a larger backyard Fenced area if COVID-19 is going to be still here
- My mothers health is compromised, must wait till heavy threat is over
- My thermometers are on back order and I need stream sanitizer.
- New facilities for our school-based sites if schools do not allow us to operate afterschool programs due to COVID
- Parents to fully understand the seriousness of Covid-19 and to understand they can't just give the child medicine to hide the fever and think it's okay to send them.
- People feeling safe
- Personal protective equipment
- safety from COVID
- Safety from COVID. Numbers too high
- Support from school administration- ie space availability
- The Agency knows better than I
- The seven sites still closed operate inside public elementary schools. Closure of schools is the only thing preventing us from reopening.

### Why did you not apply for STABLE funds?

- The funds had some stipulations that were difficult for a church preschool to conform to.
- All of my parents continued to pay full daycare rates even though their children did not attend...it was their decision. I'm very blessed.... They know I will continue keeping their children and give them the best care possible whenever they are ready to bring their children back.
- Already unable to meet financials due to low attendance mortgage insurance food cost
- Appeared to not meet the requirements
- Applied for PPP and received. Did not want to accept any other aid because didn't think I could with PPP guidelines. Also governor ordered CAPS payments remain even if child not attending. Also partial unemployment helped in the beginning
- As an individual site we didn't, but our corporate level may have.
- At this moment I don't have any kids and don't know when I will be expecting any kids. So I don't want to take from anyone who may reopen before me. I just hope when I do open the Stable funds will be available.
- Because I did not think I qualified for the Grant. And don't know if I would be able to repay the monies.
- Because, I'm a private home daycare. I supply all of my needs, my toddlers are starting school in August. just need a word of mouth, to tell that I have opening ages 2 month to 4 yrs. old, time is 7 am til 5 pm, Monday - Friday, number is [redacted] Thank you for your cooperation, have a bless day, stay safe".
- Because I knew I was going to close
- Because I not make those decisions. The Agency will make it. I am not the owner of the child care provider
- Because of no enrolled children.
- because our church/daycare got a small loan from bank, it only covered us through May.
- because we might have to pay it back
- Did not need the funds
- Did not know about it in time
- Did not know how or where. The sites listed were not found.
- Did not know!
- Did not meet timeframe
- Did not understand process not that we had funds.
- Did not want to be obligated to pay anything back!
- Didn't know about it
- Do not know how

- Do not know what STABLE is and I do not own this facility not sure if our corporate office applied for STABLE
- Don't have any children
- Don't qualify
- For fear that my daycare cannot be recovered
- Had a hard time filling out and also understanding the form.
- Head Start centers are not eligible...even the 3 sites with blended pre-k classrooms.
- Head Start is not eligible.
- Head Start Program
- I am a in-home childcare provider one child left and a lot of the parents would bring the kids and pick them up early I was still able to get the children breakfast Ams: Lunch pms so I still got paid from that so I didn't feel that I was qualified for anything since I had five kids instead of six because that one child left for good I still have some kids dead leave for a week come back and they do not have money to hold a spot if they come back so sometime you just don't know if they're going to come back or should you take another kid it's like a roller coaster
- I am currently retired. I am not a healthy like a young people.
- I am just the center director I do not have the authority to do that, that comes from the corporate office
- I am not sure how it works and if we will have to pay it back.
- I am not the person who would do that in our agency. I manage one site in the agency.
- I am still open, and I don't have any employees it's just me in my home daycare!
- I am the center director and I am not involved in applying for funding. My CEO and vice president handle funding.
- I did not think that I could
- I didn't know about it
- I didn't know about it
- I didn't understand what I was doing, and heard a lot of people complaining about it
- I didn't know I would like to apply send me the information
- I dint need it because I was open and had 6 children. And I was ok with what I was making for my pay.
- I don't know what this is
- I don't know if I qualify for that
- I don't have any employees
- I had mainly a full house so I didn't feel I should apply
- I have a Home Child Care and do not want a loan.

- I have been through a lot of programs including the QR lately....I am tired of the big brother routine.....I got PUA so no need for more money
- I just opened this year and didn't think I was eligible
- I missed the deadline to apply.
- I missed the deadline/needed approval from the church board as we run out of their building. Wasn't sure we were going to open and if we would use the funds.
- I must have not seen the email on it
- I read the fine print, before signing. When asked by GADECAL personnel why I did not apply and I told them that I did NOT agree to the verbiage in the fine print, they explained "that is not what it means", and I explained, the wording is exactly what I would be agreeing to be bound by and they said, "oh no, that is not what it means". I told them to change the wording, and they did not.
- I really didn't know they would help went online to different organization but nothing
- I really don't ask for, thanks Lord we are fine with the 5 kids, and also my husband received the labor stimulus. I think I am blessed. Thank you.
- I was concerned at having to pay them back. I did not want to take on debt.
- I was concerned that in the current situation, not knowing how many children would return, and with no staff to currently pay, how I could use the funds in the required way without having an issue with the government in the future. I needed the funds to pay for the facility, and to keep the business running until I knew when we would reopen and how many children (income) would return, but these needs were not clearly specified in the reasons for use. I was concerned that I would not be able to pay the loan back because again, I did not know how many children would return. I did go through the process of filling out the application, but at the end of the application, the wording made me uncomfortable since it was not clear if the financial needs I had to keep the facility ready for reopening was a valid use of funds, I decided at the end not to apply.
- I was not aware of the available funds
- I was not aware of what they were.
- I was told that it did not apply to our center.
- I was unaware of the STABLE funds
- I wasn't aware of the funds plus with lack of money can't afford to get into more debts
- I'm not sure
- It was in my Junk mail and I just found it. Is it too late? I sure could use it. Thanks so much, [redacted]
- Missed deadline during our closure. Too late to apply?
- Mix up between office administrators and myself

- My center is operated by a Community Action Agency and I am not sure if they applied for the STABLE funds or not.
- My mother's health
- My program is not in need of stable at this time.
- Needed to know the direction of the schools and federal guidelines.
- Never received information on Stable Funds
- No
- No children
- Not aware of it
- OUR AGENCY IS FUNDED BY THE GOVERNMENT.
- Our center is part of a church. The church applied for a PPP loan. The loan covers our needs as far as paying teachers while we were closed. We just reopened on June 22nd. We used our reserves and the PPP loan will pay them back.
- Our program currently receives federal funds through the Head Start/Early Head Start Program through the Regional Office
- Our program is part of a private school. We do not accept government funding. Parents whose children are attending pay tuition.
- Our program's funder wished to ensure funds were readily available for programs in greater need.
- Our school has an endowment fund and we did not want to take funds away from schools with financial needs.
- Owners decision not to at this time.
- Parents who's children don't come because their jobs are not essential voluntarily still paid weekly fee. My expenses have increased because of cleaning supplies but I have not lost income. I have been blessed with parents who have brought some cleaning supplies the problem has been they are increasingly difficult to find
- Part of headstart program.
- The reason we did not apply for additional funds. Is because the administrative staff took themselves off payroll, so we can use those funds to operate the school.
- The site works under Southwest Georgia Community Action Council, Inc
- There was not a need
- Unfamiliar with STABLE funds
- Unsure of how this is done, not sure if my Central office in Gainesville will apply for these funds.
- Was not aware it was available
- Was not aware of it!
- Was not aware of the STABLE funds until after the deadline.

- Was not aware of the STABLE funds.
- Was Not sure how to apply
- We are a church program and they did not want to apply
- We are a head start program.
- We are a part of a private school and we received funds through the care act. We did not want to double dip and take money away from others that also needed it.
- We are a small center and we were able to make do with the funds we have
- We are not quality rated
- We are only running AFTERSCHOOL programs, there are no children in the site.
- We are part of Ninth District Opportunity, Inc., which makes decisions such as applying for funds.
- We closed our school.
- We have what we need
- We lucky to have enough resources
- We were closed when the center was notified of the available funds.
- We were informed that Head Start did not qualify.
- We were unsure of the long term ramifications in applying for these funds.
- Weren't informed.
- Will apply



**What other grants and/or loans has your program(s) received? (Other, please specify)**

- A grant that Bright From The Start sent an email on
- Another donor
- Business grant
- CAPS MAXIMUS
- CARES Act grant
- CARES Act: ESSER
- CARES Funds for Head Start
- CARES--Forsyth County
- Clayton County Development Grant Quality Carr Nutrition Grant
- Clayton County Stabilization grant
- Clayton strong small business relief grant and Clayton County Fund for Quality Stabilization Grant
- Community Foundation and other grants
- Community Foundation COVID Relief Fund
- County grant
- COVID 19 federal funds
- Crime Prevention grant
- Decal Stable Grant
- Disaster Injury Grant
- Do not know...am not in charge of Grants. Head Start Director is responsible for Grants and Loans.
- Eastminster Presbyterian Church received the PPP
- Edil grant
- EIDL \$10,000 grant
- ESNG has received additional funds, but I don't know exactly which one.
- From my food program
- From the govt. not sure which part
- GA foundation grant was a fraud: who received it?
- Gwinnett county Grant
- Gwinnett County SBA Grant
- Head Start and Early Head Start
- Head Start CARES grant
- Head Start COVID-19 Grant
- Home grow and invest Clayton

- I am not privy to all the funds we may or may not have received. This is handled on an agency level for our programs and we may have received funds that I am unaware of.
- I am not sure due to me not being the one to apply for those funds
- I am not sure, that is done at our central office level
- i am unsure
- I applied for the economic grant but received and offer for the loan only. But I didn't except.
- I applied, but did not receive?
- I did not know these other loans/grants existed
- I didn't get a stimulus nothing
- I didn't get a loan but SBA gave me 2,000 dollars
- I don't know. Manager only follow chain of command
- I don't know what grants the programs have received.
- I got a loan at 3.75% interest I have to pay back.
- I have apply but not received any other
- I have not received anything other than Stable because I was not ELIGIBLE for the aide
- I have not received STABLE Loan nor any other loans
- I plan on completing request for EIDL
- I received \$1000 for each employee that was on payroll when we closed
- I received the Stable grant
- I, apply for a PPP Loan, it was only a small amount. they didn't give much of nothing.
- I'm not sure
- It was something forgot the name but only got 1000\$ that caught up some bills
- Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta
- LCS
- Maximus
- Money that Bright From The Start sent
- Mortgage relief until November
- None. Using our savings
- Not certain the owners have taken care of that.
- Not sure
- Not sure
- Not sure
- Not sure
- Not sure
- Not sure
- Nothing yet
- Only got the stable grant

- PAACT
- PAACT
- PAACT Grant
- PAACT grant from quality care for children
- Pandemic UI
- PPP ended at the end of June.
- PPPL
- PUA
- PUA
- PUA
- QCC & Clayton County Business
- Quality Care For Children
- Quality Care for Children, PAACT fund
- SBA
- SBA
- SBA
- SBA AND STABLE
- SBA covid19
- SBA Grant
- SBA loan
- SBA loan
- SBA small loan
- Self employment unemployment
- Small Business Disaster assistance loan
- STABLE
- STABLE
- STABLE Grant
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- STABLE Grant- Georgia Dept of Early Care and Learning
- STABLE payment
- Stimulus

- Stimulus check
- The PPP loan was the only one I was approved for they would not approve me for the small Business loan. ne they said I qualified for, I was turned down for the small Business loan
- The STABLE grant of course
- Unknown
- Unknown
- Unknown of other grants/loans Corporate applied for
- Unsure
- Unsure as all this is done by our Central office
- Unsure- the owner would have that information
- Unsure we don't apply at this level
- We are still waiting on the \$3,000 from the COVID-19 Relief Grant.
- We got the EIDL advance for \$3000 but not the loan
- Will receive a one-time grant of 5000.00 from the Jewish Federation of Atlanta

**Which of the following provided helpful assistance with the STABLE funds application?  
(Other, please specify)**

- Another daycare provider helped me
- BFTS
- Bright from the Start
- Call my TA for quality rated
- Cobb select was very helpful.
- Communication with other operators
- DECAL email announcing this
- DECAL Facebook Page
- DECAL STABLE
- Emailing stable staff
- Emails from regional consultant
- Emails to inform about it. Application was easy.
- Equipment
- For W9 assistance help needed from co the appl was easy
- GCCA (Georgia Child Care Association)
- Great Help!
- Handled on agency level and not applicable for me.
- Help from another provider
- Helpful information through email
- I did not apply personally
- I DIDN'T RECEIVE ANY STABLE GRANT
- I didn't receive stable funds I received the childcare grant
- I don't think I got enough
- I ended up having to fill out the application by computer because no one ever called me to assist me with the application Grant
- I just read it myself
- I RECEIVED A CHECK FROM STABLE
- Information email sent out to tell us about the grant
- Information was not very clear about the qualifying criteria.
- It should be more clear on dates opened and if proof from attendance and CACFP and KOALA should be used and helpful.
- Let's contacted me
- Maximus
- Maximus

- Money was used to pay for daily operation use. I did not know that we were required to report as income on our yearly income taxes.
- Ms Lajuana Willams was very helpful
- My consultant
- My consultant provide me the information for the Stable grant.
- My Surveyor
- Not sure completed at central office
- Other provider
- Podcast
- Provider Resource Hub on Facebook (Monique Reynolds)
- Quality Care Consultant Email
- Quality Rated consultant
- Quality Rated TA (Monica)
- Simplicity of application
- Still need information on exactly what I can use on.
- Support from DECAL consultant
- Tax preparer
- The owner would have that information
- The process was clear and easy to follow.
- The support was awesome for this!
- There was no problem with the application. There was a problem with receiving the funds!
- Tom Copeland webinars
- Was done by our Corporate

**Which of the following best describes how you have used or plan to use STABLE funds?  
(Other, please specify)**

- Added new touch less sinks, remove carpets in rooms
- Additional cleaning supplies, hands free thermometers, face masks and other essential supplies
- All things to help maintain and go beyond to sanitizes my daycare over and beyond
- Anything pertaining to the children's care and safety.
- Bills due while we were closed for 3 months
- Car note insurance
- Carpet cleaning
- Classroom modifications
- Cleaning services added
- Cleaning supplies
- Cleaning supplies
- Cleaning supplies, purchased thermometer, sanitizers extra food
- Cleaning Supplies to keep our environment safe for the children and staff
- Cleaning supplies, food for kids, daycare household expense.
- Cleaning supplies, masks and gloves.
- Cleaning, disinfection fee
- Consultant /bookkeeping
- Continue hazard pay program for staff
- Continue to pay hazard pay to staff
- Daycare equipment
- Disinfection equipment
- Do redo floor and clean carpets
- Employee Salaries
- Enough only for rent
- Extra cleaning supplies
- Facilities
- Had to replace air conditioning unit
- had to replace heat and air unit and had to replace the roof o
- Hazard Pay
- Help to add to the walls, windows and doors.
- Hire someone to sanitize and disinfect deeply inside and playground on a regular basis
- I am not sure

- I don't think I applied for this. I only got one Grant it was for \$1,200 through Maximus. That is all I got. My husband died and I was dealing with funeral and everything else and didn't have time to do any type of Grants.
- I had to build walls and add windows to have closed off classrooms.
- I had to let teachers go due to lack of funds.
- I haven't received any funds to answer this question.
- I received \$184.00 paid one utilities
- Income
- Insurance
- Maintenance and repair
- Maintenance and upgrade my play area/toys etc.
- MAINTENANCE ON THE BUILDING
- Mortgage for home where my center is located
- Needed more things for the playground area which needed to up keeping of the children
- New flooring, painting
- Outdoor Equipment
- Paid staff a COVID 19 check
- Paid Tuition Debt of My Students Families Delinquencies
- Paycheck funds to help retain slots for those who want to stay with the program but temp out of work-still out
- payroll
- PAYROLL
- Payroll
- Payroll
- Payroll
- Payroll
- Payroll
- Payroll
- Payroll Expenses
- Payroll for myself
- Payroll taxes
- Playground Equipment Sanitation
- PPE
- Purchased outdoor sink, Porch roof for more outdoor play
- Purchases of mask, hat shields, soap, hand sanitizer, podium for outside, thermometers, etc.
- Refrigerator went out soon as I received the funds.



- Repairing the roof from leaking
- Repairs due to storm damage
- Replace much needed flooring.
- Retraining staff
- Salaries
- Salary for teacher/assistants
- Sanitize the building
- Since I am owner/director of an in-home family childcare, the STABLE funds paid my salary for a month..
- STABLE payment provided help for one payroll run for our company
- Staff payroll
- Teacher salaries while closed
- Tile instead of carpet
- Training
- Unsure
- Utilities payment
- Well-deserved hazard pay as we have been open since COVID began
- Well, not sure, I have not yet received the funding and it is only \$180.