

## Q10 Provide information about access to, and affordability of, childcare for working families in Jefferson County.

Answered: 134    Skipped: 67

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	THERE ARE ALOT OF OPTIONS BUT FEW QUALITY AFFORDABLE OPTIONS	6/25/2025 11:31 AM
2	Childcare Resources offers financial aid and resource and referral services for parents seeking child care, Childcare Resources offers Head Start/Early Head Start in Jefferson County. Child Care Central offers subsidy support for qualified parents	6/24/2025 2:08 PM
3	There is a great need to adjust the income acceptance amount. Working class parents need support as well especially single parents	6/24/2025 12:02 PM
4	Children with Trauma require specialized teachers who understand the impact of trauma. services for these families after school with trauma trained leaders would make a big impact.	6/24/2025 10:49 AM
5	Quality child care is so expensive that most people can not afford it.	6/24/2025 10:19 AM
6	Availability of Providers, Waitlists or shortages, Location and hours, Average monthly costs, Financial burden	6/24/2025 10:10 AM
7	IDK	6/23/2025 8:12 PM
8	There is a wait list for child care.	6/23/2025 3:36 PM
9	Childcare is expensive. For those who have lower paying jobs, the cost of childcare is out of reach.	6/23/2025 2:31 PM
10	I feel there are many childcare centers.	6/23/2025 10:31 AM
11	Childcare central is available to many families but more access is needed	6/23/2025 10:25 AM
12	N/A	6/23/2025 9:33 AM
13	Early care in education is critical. Quality early care is lacking in most areas.	6/23/2025 9:29 AM
14	Shortage in quality affordable workers. Hard work for little pay.	6/23/2025 9:20 AM
15	Child care rates are still inaccessible especially for single parent household, or homes where there is Limited English.	6/23/2025 9:11 AM
16	n/a	6/18/2025 9:50 AM
17	ALL young children deserve the right to access a free & appropriate early childhood education programs. This is serious need & also impacts families as they attempt to seek employment, work to break cycles of poverty. Some states are doing much more to make universal preschool a reality, too. Greater investments in early childhood & early intervention are known to help increase later school success & surely families thrive more when supports are in place for all members.	6/17/2025 7:27 PM
18	N/A	6/16/2025 10:32 AM
19	I frequently encounter single mothers who have difficulty maintaining employment because of frequent minor infections in their young children, requiring them to miss work. I have also encountered several families using questionable or unsafe environments for childcare because good alternatives are unavailable to too expensive	6/10/2025 1:49 PM
20	limited access to high quality childcare; challenges in recruiting/retaining childcare workers	6/9/2025 2:18 PM
21	The previous thefts and mismanagement of funds, which led to decreased resources, and the denial of entry to kids who have "late birthdays" affect access to many kids who would likely benefit from early education opportunities.	6/8/2025 4:34 PM

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22	There are daycares in Jefferson County it's just difficult to find a safe and reputable one within a reasonable time frame.	6/7/2025 8:49 AM
23	Don't know	6/6/2025 2:58 PM
24	n/a	6/6/2025 12:20 PM
25	Daycare is expensive in Jefferson County.	6/6/2025 11:47 AM
26	N/a	6/6/2025 12:40 AM
27	Childcare is a crisis. The inability of affordable childcare and the need for competitive wages for high-quality caregivers does not match.	6/5/2025 5:41 PM
28	THE WORKING FAMILIES ARE IN A CATCH 22 THEY EITHER WORK TOO MANY HOURS TO GET FREE SERVICES BUT IF THEY ARE NOT WORKING ENOUGH HOURS SERVICES ARE DENIED	6/5/2025 5:06 PM
29	Lack of access to affordable childcare is a major problem in Jefferson County. For some families, it isn't even worth it for a parent to work because all of that income has to go towards childcare. Families with good community support are able to share childcare in many circumstances, but then there is a higher likelihood of abuse happening in these settings.	6/5/2025 2:50 PM
30	There is inadequate access to affordable childcare for anyone, especially working families in Jefferson County	6/5/2025 2:39 PM
31	the working poor still do not have proper access to quality childcare. they use low quality babysitting centers to care for their children.	6/5/2025 2:21 PM
32	The cost of childcare exceeds what parents can afford to pay based on their total income. The minimum wage is also too low for some families to pay all of their household bills, let alone, childcare.	6/5/2025 2:02 PM
33	Need for more services	6/5/2025 1:15 PM
34	Not enough affordable quality childcare.	6/5/2025 10:03 AM
35	the application process to receive services is often a barrier in addition to limited availability.	6/5/2025 9:52 AM
36	No opinion	6/5/2025 9:46 AM
37	covid caused a lot of childcare centers to close and they have not re-opened so most places keep waiting lists	6/5/2025 9:46 AM
38	Many don't qualify for subsidy, but they also can't afford to take on financial burden of daycare.	6/5/2025 8:42 AM
39	Provided at some elementary schools but not all in Jefferson County	6/5/2025 8:23 AM
40	Affordability is a continuous issue for working families, especially families who earn above the HUD income guidelines, which limits their access to "high quality" child care programs.	6/5/2025 8:14 AM
41	IDK	6/4/2025 8:47 PM
42	na	6/4/2025 1:45 PM
43	While there is access to and affordable options in Jefferson County, there is still a wait list due to teacher shortages because teacher's aren't wanting to work in such on-demand classrooms with behavior issues for limited pay. Employers can't improve pay because of lack of funding and support.	6/4/2025 12:32 PM
44	Federal funding should apply to women working parents, especially single parents homes.	6/4/2025 11:22 AM
45	provided to low-income families who are eligible for childcare assistance	6/4/2025 9:22 AM
46	Na	6/4/2025 8:40 AM
47	not enough availability	6/3/2025 11:34 AM
48	Insufficient	6/3/2025 9:42 AM
49	Lack of affordable childcare for families living at or below the poverty level. Lack of resources for single parents (regardless of income).	6/2/2025 4:07 PM

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50	Lack of access and way too expensive for child care in general	6/2/2025 1:23 PM
51	I am not sure of any	6/2/2025 1:07 PM
52	I've seen where some young people are raising themselves. A lack of supervision does not help and adolescent.	6/2/2025 1:07 PM
53	It is limited	6/2/2025 10:17 AM
54	Some parents report the difficulty of getting the child in childcare without a job	6/2/2025 10:15 AM
55	Limited	6/2/2025 9:30 AM
56	As a HV program, I am always making families are aware of the current services such as Pre-K, Head Start, etc.	6/2/2025 8:32 AM
57	Childcare is so expensive, there is no bother to work to pay for it. Even if so, how will the kids get to daycare?	6/1/2025 10:49 PM
58	IDK	5/30/2025 9:58 AM
59	DNK	5/30/2025 4:54 AM
60	There are not enough licensed quality programs that have available spots for new children.	5/29/2025 9:17 PM
61	Childcare is insanely expensive and hard to find quality providers	5/29/2025 12:26 PM
62	N/A	5/29/2025 12:03 PM
63	na	5/29/2025 11:51 AM
64	Lack of providers and expensive	5/28/2025 4:21 PM
65	Not aware	5/28/2025 3:57 PM
66	Unsure.	5/28/2025 3:52 PM
67	Public transportation hinders access to quality affordable childcare	5/28/2025 3:29 PM
68	There is a lack of childcare and a gap between subsidy payments and the cost of childcare	5/28/2025 2:53 PM
69	I think there are plenty of childcare options. The cost of childcare is what parents need most.	5/28/2025 2:45 PM
70	I mean, there is none.	5/28/2025 2:29 PM
71	Access to infant childcare is nearly impossible. My son was on a waiting list until he was 12mo, meaning we had to piecemeal care until he was accepted to a early childhood education center. We pay roughly \$1K a month in fees and tuition	5/28/2025 2:12 PM
72	NA	5/28/2025 1:37 PM
73	Limited transportation options	5/27/2025 8:30 PM
74	a lack of it. A large gap of qaulity care for those that make too much for subsidy but not enough to pay for expensive quality care.	5/27/2025 3:46 PM
75	I have two kids in daycare and pay way too much. I am a teacher, a public educator, and can barely afford for my kids to be cared for while I work .	5/27/2025 1:34 PM
76	Most working families I've interacted with are paying about \$1,000 a month in childcare, which is unaffordable for most of the families; however, their income is too high to qualify for childcare assistance.	5/27/2025 8:37 AM
77	Problematic	5/24/2025 1:14 PM
78	Working families in poverty areas are in what I call a catch 22...where if they work they can't pay daycare fees and if they don't work they cannot receive help to pay daycare	5/23/2025 6:10 PM
79	NA	5/23/2025 1:50 PM
80	Limited access Unsafe environments High turnover among staff Few supplemental programs	5/23/2025 12:32 PM
81	Childcare in Jefferson County isn't affordadable for families or providers. Providers know that increasing rates will push families out of care, but not increasing rates requires them to	5/23/2025 11:42 AM

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	sometimes cut corners on care quality.	
82	adequate access to childcare but not affordable and possible transportation issues getting children to and from childcare	5/23/2025 11:41 AM
83	There are several Head Start grants and childcare centers that offer subsidies in Jefferson County.	5/23/2025 10:43 AM
84	It is limited, there often is a wait list. Many families cannot afford the fees.	5/23/2025 10:05 AM
85	It's accessible, though may not be affordable to some.	5/22/2025 6:46 PM
86	Childcare is out of reach for many families based on location, cost, and operational hours.	5/22/2025 4:38 PM
87	Quality care is too expensive for average families	5/22/2025 3:44 PM
88	Childcare central options are limited, other options are not affordable. Access to transportation is a barrier.	5/22/2025 3:39 PM
89	The need or childcare for working families is very important and needed especially when it comes to the affordability piece.	5/22/2025 1:35 PM
90	Many families whose children are autistic fail to locate childcare with providers who have the skillset to work with their children.	5/22/2025 1:07 PM
91	Childcare is outrageously expensive.	5/22/2025 11:51 AM
92	Idk	5/22/2025 11:24 AM
93	While affordable childcare is a challenge in Jefferson County, there are some resources to help families. The issue is the need is greater than the resources.	5/22/2025 11:08 AM
94	Alabama Department of Human Resources (DHR) offers subsidized childcare assistance to low income families engaged in work, education or training activities. Childcare Resources assist families to help find quality child care options. Family Guidance Center of Alabama, assist with a portion of childcare costs for eligible working parents and students. TCR Child Care Corporation (CCC) Provides subsidized childcare assistance to low income families throughout Central West and South Alabama including Jefferson County.	5/22/2025 11:04 AM
95	Extensive waiting lists prohibits families from having access to programs	5/22/2025 11:03 AM
96	Not enough access	5/22/2025 10:20 AM
97	There's not a lot of support for parents that can't afford to send their kids to daycare and allow them to work so often sometimes parents are left with staying at home with the child and taking on a job that does not pay or take care of their household bills	5/22/2025 10:19 AM
98	Childcare resources, Childrens Aid Society, YMCA/ YWCA ,Scholarships that facilities offer.	5/22/2025 10:01 AM
99	Idk	5/22/2025 9:51 AM
100	Continues to be one of the biggest barriers to families in our community. Prevents children from having a solid educational foundation, while also limiting families workforce options.	5/22/2025 9:38 AM
101	I realize that childcare prices have increased therefore families will leave children at home by themselves more often.	5/22/2025 9:33 AM
102	There are not enough safe and affordable options for families living in a low income community	5/22/2025 9:27 AM
103	Not many places are affordabke	5/22/2025 9:23 AM
104	If affordable , not quality	5/22/2025 9:16 AM
105	There is a need for quality, affordable, around-the-clock child care to serve families that work in a variety of industries.	5/22/2025 8:53 AM
106	Expensive.	5/22/2025 8:30 AM
107	I do not know	5/22/2025 8:19 AM
108	Parent can't afford it or transportation lacks	5/22/2025 8:18 AM
109	Childcare has become unaffordable.	5/22/2025 8:16 AM

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110	Childcare rates have continued to drastically increase every year, staff turnover is frequent, and quality childcare is declining.	5/21/2025 10:35 AM
111	Financially challenged parents often cannot afford childcare.	5/20/2025 1:41 PM
112	Childcare is a MAJOR cost for families. Quality childcare options are cost-prohibitive for middle to low-income families, yet what a child experiences in the first 5 years of life is foundational for life success.	5/20/2025 10:01 AM
113	I don't know	5/20/2025 10:00 AM
114	Across all of Alabama, there is great need for affordable quality childcare. licensed childcare is not accessible to many working parents and even in those settings, the providers are underpaid, and turnover is great.	5/20/2025 8:51 AM
115	N/A	5/20/2025 4:13 AM
116	Very limited access	5/19/2025 4:48 PM
117	There is a lack of access for children 0-3 in quality childcare programs. There are lots of access for four year olds.	5/19/2025 3:54 PM
118	I don't know	5/19/2025 1:27 PM
119	Need better access to quality affordable care. Needs to be seen as critical infrastructure to our society--as a public health issue--advocacy and policy needed.	5/19/2025 12:49 PM
120	There is poor access to childcare	5/19/2025 11:49 AM
121	There is not enough - we need more early head start programs and the childcare is fragmented - there are multiple agencies providing services; no one answers phones at these agencies. No one give updated website info re: deadlines; dates of enrollment; wait lists.	5/19/2025 10:43 AM
122	Programs like UAB Early Head Start provide accessible childcare and early education to low resource families, but only have the capacity to serve around 80 children a year. More options are needed	5/19/2025 10:32 AM
123	There is a lack of it. Lack of facilities and lack of funding	5/19/2025 10:31 AM
124	childcare is not sufficient to meet the need and not affordable for young or low income families Child Care Central services have become more difficult to access.	5/19/2025 10:07 AM
125	There is a need for quality affordable childcare. This need is recognized and here is support from the state level to address this need.	5/19/2025 9:57 AM
126	There needs to be more affordable and subsidized childcare that is accessible to all families.	5/19/2025 9:53 AM
127	Child Care is expensive - too few slots. Not nearby	5/19/2025 9:17 AM
128	Childcare rates are exorbitant. Single parents are profoundly affected by this and must make a choice between healthy childcare options and employment that is sustainable.	5/19/2025 9:11 AM
129	Childcare Resources	5/19/2025 9:04 AM
130	childcare is expensive, and there are options for Head Starts but not all families qualify.	5/19/2025 8:57 AM
131	Access is steadily improving thanks to investments from many sources, but there is still much work to be done. Continued subsidies to families are a must to enable affordability.	5/19/2025 8:45 AM
132	There are not enough high quality, affordable childcare options available within reach for people with transportation issues.	5/19/2025 8:44 AM
133	Waitlists are long and childcare is expensive - especially for single parents making minimum wage and working multiple jobs.	5/19/2025 8:37 AM
134	huge problem	5/19/2025 8:35 AM