

FOR LACK OF CARE

The Economic Impact of Child Care Challenges



A recent study of Georgia families with children ages birth through five reveals that child care challenges have a devastating impact on family finances, employers' balance sheets, and our state's economy. When GEEARS and the Metro Atlanta Chamber first conducted this groundbreaking analysis in 2018, the numbers were alarming. **In 2025, the economic impact is even more dire.**

**Child care challenges in Georgia lead to at least
\$2.52 BILLION IN LOSSES
in economic activity annually and
an additional \$131.7 MILLION
in lost tax revenue.**

Nearly
1 in 3


say they or a parent/caregiver in their home has had to leave, not take, or greatly change a job in the last 12 months because of child care challenges.

**Parents missed an average of
10.2 days
of work in the 6 months prior due to child care challenges.**

**Average amount parents spend monthly on child care increased by
77%
relative to 2018, representing a larger portion of parents' overall budget.**

Among parents with children ages birth-five:

	2024	2018
Quit (work, school, or work training)	31%	21%
Went from full-time to part time	34%	18%
Unable/unwilling to go from part-time to full-time	30%	21%
Fired from work	13%	5%
Turned down a promotion	26%	18%

...due to child care challenges

53%
of Georgians have delayed or decided not to have more children as a result of child care costs.