

# Welcome

Tuesday, October 1, 2024



NEW MEXICO

**Early Childhood**

Education & Care Department

Investing for tomorrow, **delivering today**

# Thank you for your attention!

# Secretary Groginsky Updates



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The  
**EARLY SHOW**

With Alax

REGIONAL

**EMMYS**

NOMINATION



The Early Childhood Education and Care Department's informative YouTube show for families with young children, produced entirely in New Mexico, receives prestigious nod.

Over **11 million** views and **26,000+** subscribers on YouTube.



**EARLY CHILDHOOD DAY  
AT THE ROUNDHOUSE** **2025**

**SAVE  
THE DATE**



**Monday,  
March 17**



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# ATTEND A REGIONAL FAMILY LEADERSHIP SUMMIT



FOR NM FAMILIES,  
PLANNED BY NM FAMILIES!



**NM** FAMILY  
DEVELOPMENT  
PROGRAM



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# Regional Family Leadership Summits

Free event offering parenting insights, expert guidance, parent leadership and connection opportunities

- Friday, October 18 – Farmington
- Friday, November 1 – Roswell
- Friday, November 15 – Las Cruces
- Friday, December 6 – Albuquerque
- **Friday, March 7 –  
Española/Pojoaque/Santa Fe**



# Registration Links

Parent participants will receive a generous stipend for attending as well as overnight accommodations if traveling over 50 miles to nearest summit. Lunch and snacks will be provided.

*English*



[https://forms.unm.edu/forms/fdp\\_register\\_copy\\_118](https://forms.unm.edu/forms/fdp_register_copy_118)

*Spanish*



[https://forms.unm.edu/forms/fdp\\_register\\_copy\\_118\\_copy](https://forms.unm.edu/forms/fdp_register_copy_118_copy)

# Next *ECEC* Advisory Council Meeting

**Date:** November 13, 2024

**Time:** 1 – 4 p.m.

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## **In-Person Location:**

FirstLight Federal Credit Union  
Lohman Engagement Center  
3791 E Lohman Ave  
Las Cruces, NM 88011

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## **Zoom Details:**

- Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://nmececd.org.zoom.us/j/84151531617>

- Webinar ID: 841 5153 1617

## **2024 Meeting Dates *and* Locations**

- November 13, 2024 from 1-4 p.m. – Las Cruces
- December 11, 2024 from 1-4 p.m. - Albuquerque

**Meeting locations, Zoom links and materials can found at:**

**[nmececd.org/ecec-advisory-council](https://nmececd.org/ecec-advisory-council)**





# FY26 Agency Appropriation Request

# FY26 Budget Priorities

## Achieve universal access through greater capacity

- Attract and retain a well compensated and credentialed Early Childhood Workforce
- Grow the number of community based child care and NM PreK facilities.

## Improve child outcomes through higher quality services

- Enhance the quality of services for children with special education needs
- Allocate based on the true cost of care for child care, home visiting, NM PreK, and Family Infant Toddler (FIT)

## Use outcome-based measures to drive better decision-making and strategic investments

- Integrate the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) data in NM PreK

# FY26 Appropriation Request

## Direct Services: \$173.0 million

- Child Care Assistance Program – **\$96.5 million**
- New Mexico PreK – **\$46.2 million**
- Family Infant Toddler - **\$14.7 million**
- Home Visiting - **\$10.0 million**
- Tribal Investment Strategy - **\$3.0 million**
- Food and Nutrition- **\$2.6 million**

## Quality and Infrastructure: \$29.5 million

- Wage and Career Lattice Implementation – **\$10.0 million**
- PreK and Child Care Quality improvement – **\$7.5 million**
- Higher Education Completion – **\$2.5 million**
- Local Early Childhood System Building Coalitions – **\$2.0 million**
- Enhance ECECD Capacity – **\$7.5 million/+39 FTE**

# Early Care, Education, and Nutrition

## FY26 Appropriation Request

### Child Care Assistance Program (\$96,500.0)

- Impacts 5,100 additional NM children
- Support 55% of eligible families with children age 0-3

### Food and Nutrition (\$2,570.0)

- Increase providers using locally-grown, fresh, healthy foods as part of participation in the CACFP program
- Achieved by supplementing CACFP reimbursement rates for programs that opt to participate to buy fresh/local foods

### FTEs (\$985.4)

- Appropriate placement for current 164 FTEs
- Additional FTE +15



# NM PreK

## FY26 Appropriation Request

### NM PreK (\$46,242.0)

- Adds up to 2,700 new slots
- Increases reach to 70% of 3-year-olds and 84% of 4-year-olds

### FTEs (\$644.3)

- Appropriate placement for current 17 FTE
- Additional FTE +5



# Family, Support and Early Intervention

## FY26 Appropriation Request

### **FIT Program (\$14,687.7)**

- Increase FIT reimbursement rates to align with the cost model
- Increase revenue available for Medicaid match by \$4,687,700

### **Home Visiting Services (\$10,000.0)**

- This would allow expansion of 2,400 more children.
- Support programs to implement evidence-based, Medicaid-reimbursable home visiting models or promising practices (i.e., First Born and More)

### **FTEs (\$1,224.0)**

- Appropriate placement for current 57 FTEs
- Additional FTE +4



# Policy, Research, and Quality Initiatives

## FY26 Appropriation Request

### Wage Scale and Career Lattice (\$10,000.0)

- Supports implementation of statutorily-required wage and career lattice and complements increased rates to ensure all early childhood professionals are supported

### Quality Supports (\$7,500.0)

- Child Care Quality (\$3,500.0) to provide effective measurement tools and professional development
- PreK Quality (\$4,000.0) to provide CLASS and literacy supports

### Local Early Childhood Systems Building Coalitions (\$2,000.0)

- Increase number of coalitions in four counties targeted toward Lea, Eddy, Sandoval, and Luna counties

### FTE (\$886.4)

- Appropriate placement for current 36 FTE
- Additional FTE +7

# Program Support

## FY26 Appropriation Request

### Tribal Investment Strategy (\$3,000.0)

- Funding to continue to support consultation with and the early childhood agendas of all Pueblos, Tribes, and Nations in New Mexico

### IT request (\$1,500.0)

- Support ongoing operating costs associated with software licenses and cloud storage (Azure Credits)

### FTE (\$2,261.0)

- Appropriate placement for current 85 FTE
- Additional FTE +8





# FY26 Special Appropriation Requests

## - \$122.6M

- **\$104.6M** – Pilot to improve child care outcomes-raise the floor from **\$15 an hour to \$18 an hour** for entry level staff, lower group size and ratios, and provide a supplemental rate for children with special needs
- **\$10M** – Increase Child Care Revolving Loan Fund to grow child care supply
- **\$6M** – Improve access to child care assistance through no touch eligibility
- **\$2M** – Family Infant Toddler to upskill and enhance the competencies of the early intervention workforce



# Updating New Mexico's Early Learning Standards

Deputy Secretary Sara Mickelson



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School of Education  
& Human Development

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **DENVER**

# What: Our Charge

- Revise New Mexico's early learning standards (ELS) for children 0-5
  - English and Spanish
  - What children should know and be able to do
  - For use across multi-sector early childhood delivery system
- Engage with partners to identify needs and get feedback
- Ensure standards are contextually relevant and community owned





## Who: Partner Engagement

- Partner feedback is a major component of the revision process.
- Collected through a variety of engagement strategies, focus groups, key informant interviews, and surveys.
- Families, as critical partners in this work, are part of the engagement process along with all those who support young children through New Mexico's mixed delivery early childhood system.

# How: Timeline



## Background Research

- Review of Literature
- NM ECE Landscape
- State Exemplars

## Partner Engagement

- Focus Groups
- Interviews
- Surveys

## Drafting

- Writing
- Format
- Examples

## Revising

- Content Experts
- Partner Feedback

**Project End Date: Nov. 25, 2025**

# WE WANT YOUR

# INPUT

on New Mexico's Early Learning Guidelines!

Attend a focus group (In-Person and Online):

**In-person:** Week of October 15, 2024

**Online:** End of October and early November

Participants will receive a  
**\$75 stipend**

Registration closes  
Tuesday, October 1,  
2024, space is limited.



# Child Care Facilities/Homes survey

Lela Wendell

Director of Policy, Research, and Quality Initiatives



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# The New Mexico Child Care Homes and Facilities Needs Survey is now live!

*ECECD wants to know more about your child care facility/home and your interest in expanding your capacity to serve more children in the future!*

Start the survey by visiting the link below or scanning the QR code with your phone!



[surveymonkey.com/r/HXP8LR7](https://surveymonkey.com/r/HXP8LR7)





# FOCUS Redesign Update

**Casey Lafferty**

PRQI Deputy Division Director

Head Start Collaboration Office Director



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# FOCUS Redesign Framework

## Professional Qualifications and Compensation

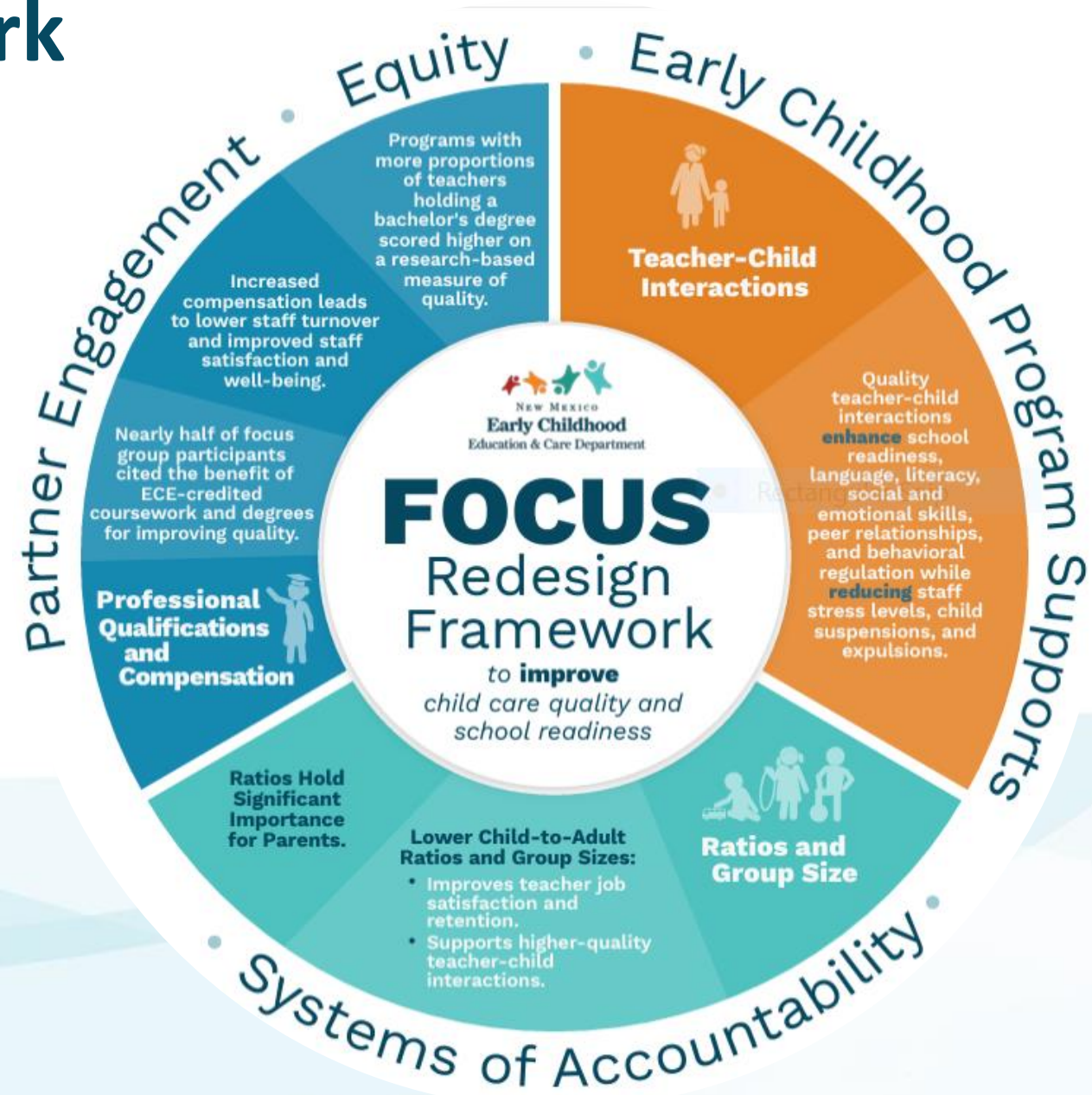
- Focus on increased compensation and benefits from ECE-credited coursework and degrees for quality improvement.

## Teacher-Child Interactions:

- Highlighting how quality interactions enhance various developmental and social-emotional skills while reducing stress for both staff and children.

## Ratios and Group Size:

- Emphasizing the importance of lower child-to-adult ratios for job satisfaction and better teacher-child interactions.



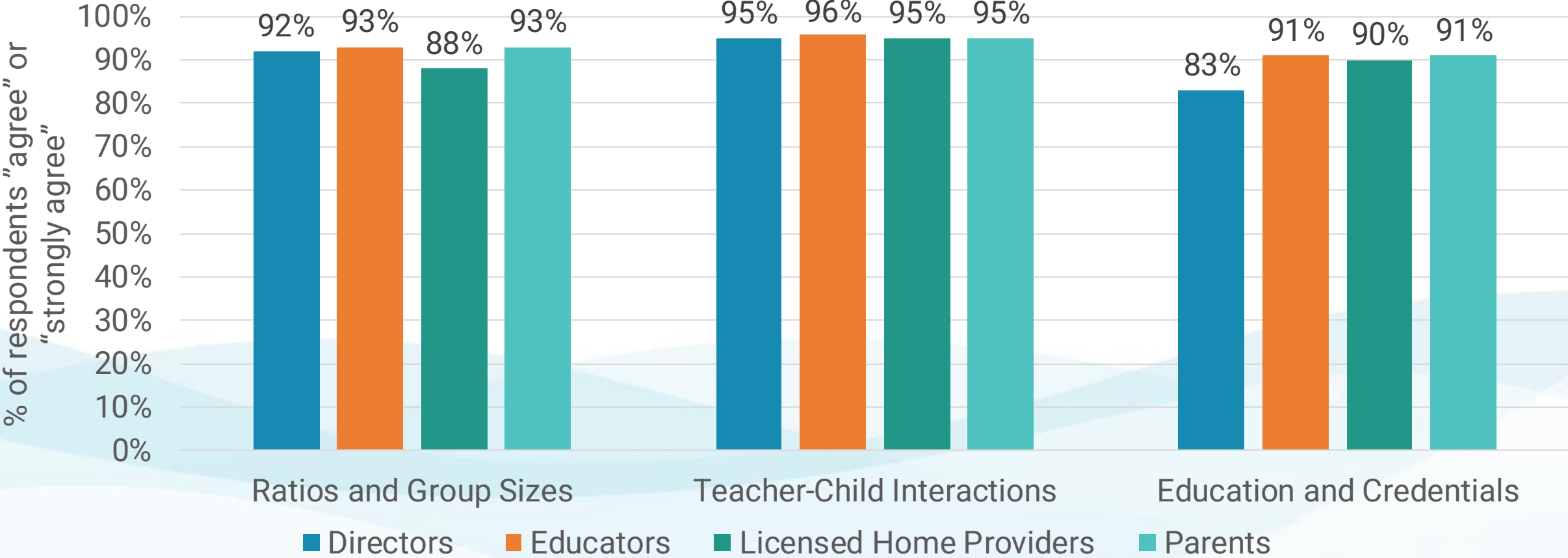
# Survey Analysis: Response Rate and Respondents

Respondent Type	Survey Responses
Licensed Home Provider (Family Homes & Group Homes)	70
Consultant, Coach, Trainer	46
Child Care Center Director (includes 12 OST Directors)	161
Registered Home Provider	32
Early Educators (includes 6 OST Teachers)	200
Parent/Caregiver	655
Higher Education Faculty	11
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,175</b>



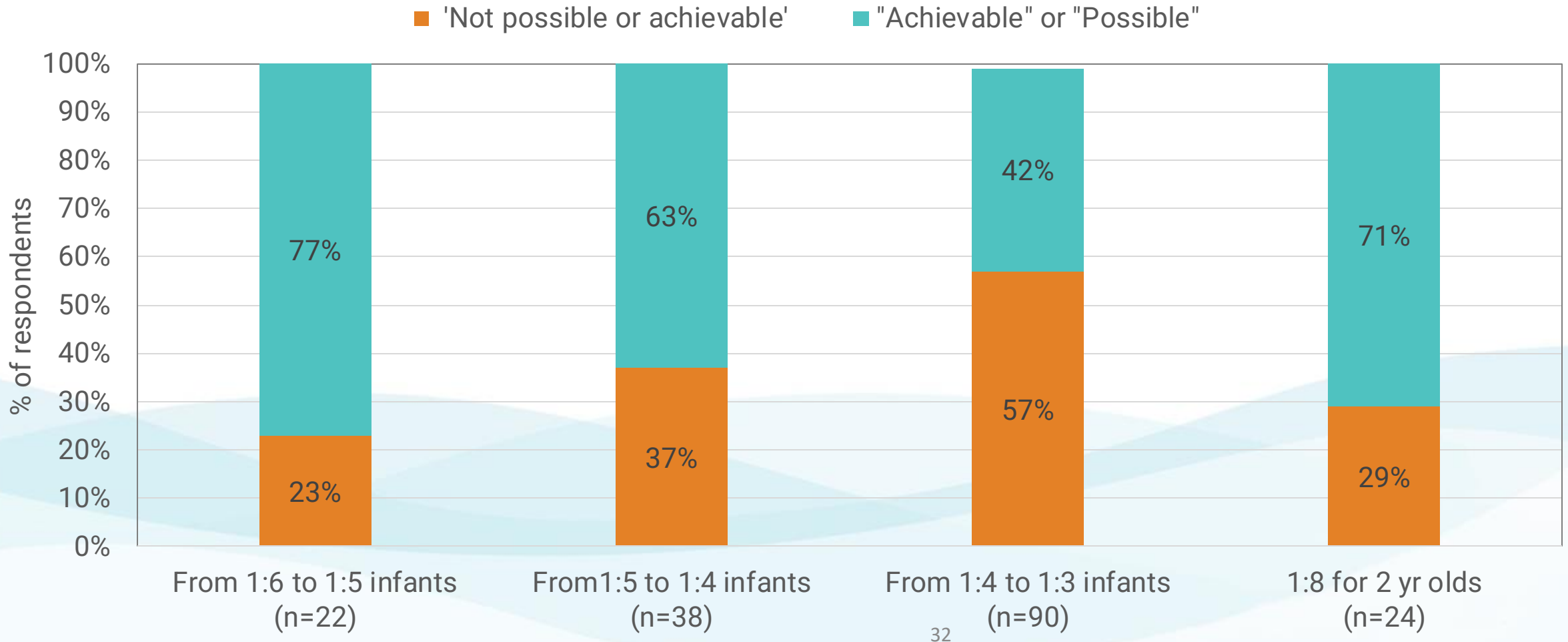
# Proposed Areas of Redesign

There was widespread support for ECEC Best Practices. Directors, Educators, Home Providers and Parents/Families report that they agree or strongly agree that lower ratios, smaller group size and positive teacher/child interactions improve quality.



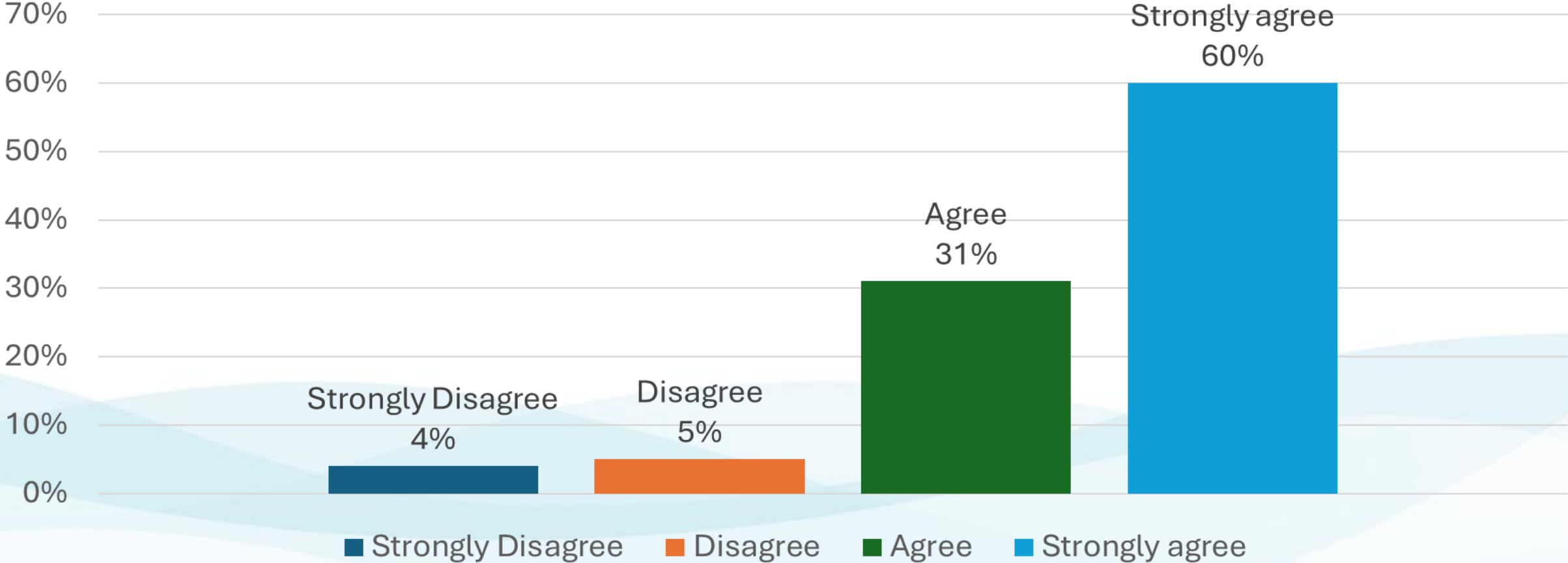
# Ratios

The majority of directors feel that a ratio change for infants from the current 1:6 to 1:5 and for two year olds from the current 1:10 to 1:8 is achievable or possible.



# Quality Interactions

Low child to adult ratios allow for more teacher/child interaction and individual attention.



# Professional Qualifications

**79%** of Director respondents report that they could facilitate enrollment in coursework and that they, and their staff, likely would enroll **IF it was required and supports were provided.**

**Report that they agree or strongly agree that increasing teacher and administrator credentialing will improve quality:**

- **88%** of Licensed Home Providers
- **84%** of Early Educators
- **84%** of Directors

# Supports for Staff Qualifications

Survey respondents report that they agree or strongly agree that the following supports would be helpful in improving quality:

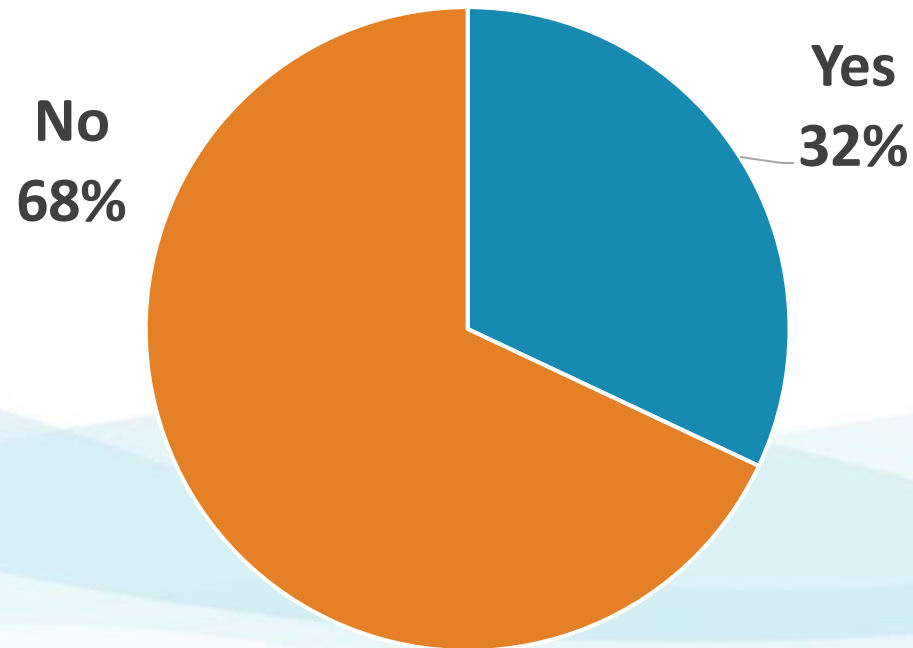
Educator	Licensed Home Provider	Director	Incentives & Supports
89%	70%	83%	Provide more learning materials for classrooms
86%	73%	70%	Required specified rates of compensation for increased educational requirements
84%	72%	89%	Planning time grants
83%	68%	88%	Cover tuition and associated costs of higher education
82%	70%	86%	Substitute pool or 'floater' staff grants.
86%	65%	85%	Support high school pathway for preparation of entry level early childhood education staff
70%	57%	82%	Frequent, on-site, consultation and coaching to teachers
69%	57%	76%	Frequent, on-site, consultation and coaching to directors
71%	57%	57%	Require teachers to have formal education and training.



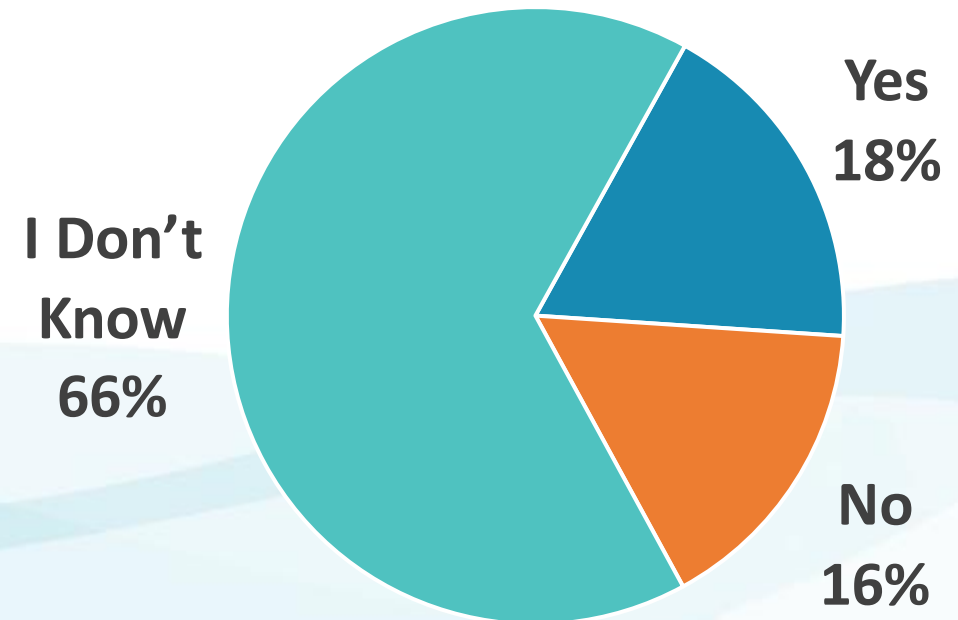
# Family Awareness

Fewer than **1/3 of parents** responded that they were familiar with FOCUS and when asked if their child care provider participates in FOCUS, 66% of parents said they did not know.

## Familiar with FOCUS



## Is your child care provider participating in FOCUS?



# Program Quality *and* Accountability Subcommittee

## Next Meeting

*October 24, 2024, 3–4:30 p.m.*

For more information on the Early Childhood Education and Care Advisory Council and subcommittees, visit:



**NMECECD.org**

## ECECD Focus Areas:

- FOCUS Redesign
- Home Visiting Enrollment
- Updated Early Learning Standards (ELS)
- *Complete* - Section 7 of the CCDF State Plan *Quality Improvement Activities*

# Next Community Call

Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024

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## Questions?

*Email:* [ececd.communications@state.nm.us](mailto:ececd.communications@state.nm.us)

*Website:* [nmececd.org](http://nmececd.org)

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