

THE RAPID SURVEY PROJECT

City of Austin Early Childhood Council Meeting
Wednesday, May 10, 2023

RAPID

Stanford | Center on
Early Childhood



OVERVIEW OF RAPID NATIONAL SURVEYS



Households with at least one child age 5 and under, began April 6, 2020

15-minute paid questionnaires completed via computer or smartphone in English or Spanish

Added parallel **national child care provider survey** in 2021

Surveyed more than **16,000 caregivers** and **3,200 providers** in all 50 states

National sample in terms of **geography, income, race and ethnicity**

Core content: Material hardship, child well-being, adult well-being, child care, health care, and provider working conditions

0-5 YO
focus

RAPID
collection



HOW IS RAPID DIFFERENT FROM OTHER SURVEYS?



RAPID exists to provide actionable, ongoing, timely data from parents of young children and child care providers, in order to promote data- and parent/provider-informed policies and programs.

- Quantitative + qualitative data
- Rapid-cycle methods allow us to gather, process, analyze and share data in near real-time
- Focus on factors influencing adult and child well-being and child development
- Partnerships are key to all we do!

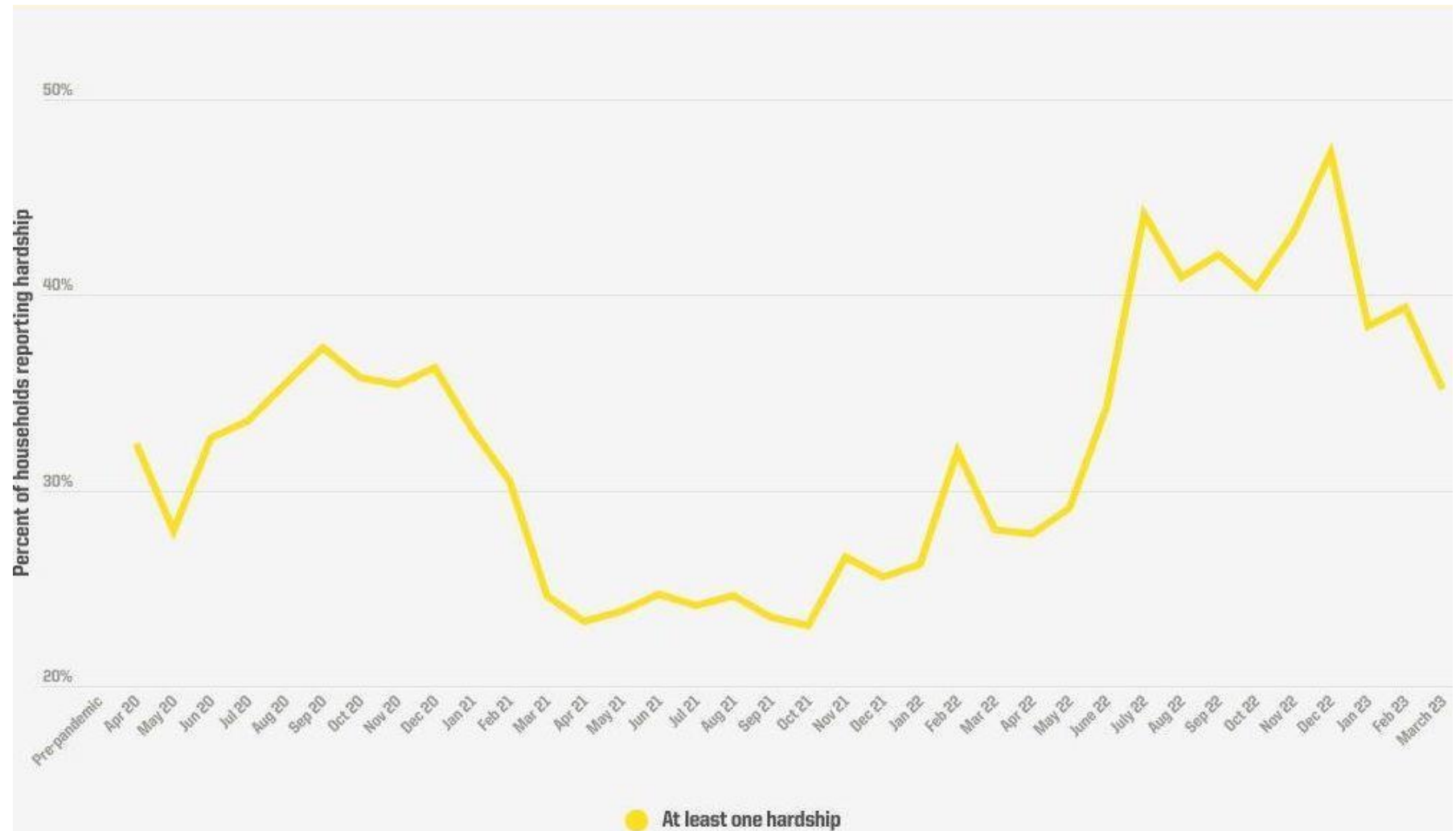


HOUSEHOLD MATERIAL HARDSHIP OVER TIME



Material hardship defined as difficulty paying for basic needs in one or more of the following categories:

- Food
- Housing (mortgage or rent)
- Utilities
- Child care
- Healthcare
- Other

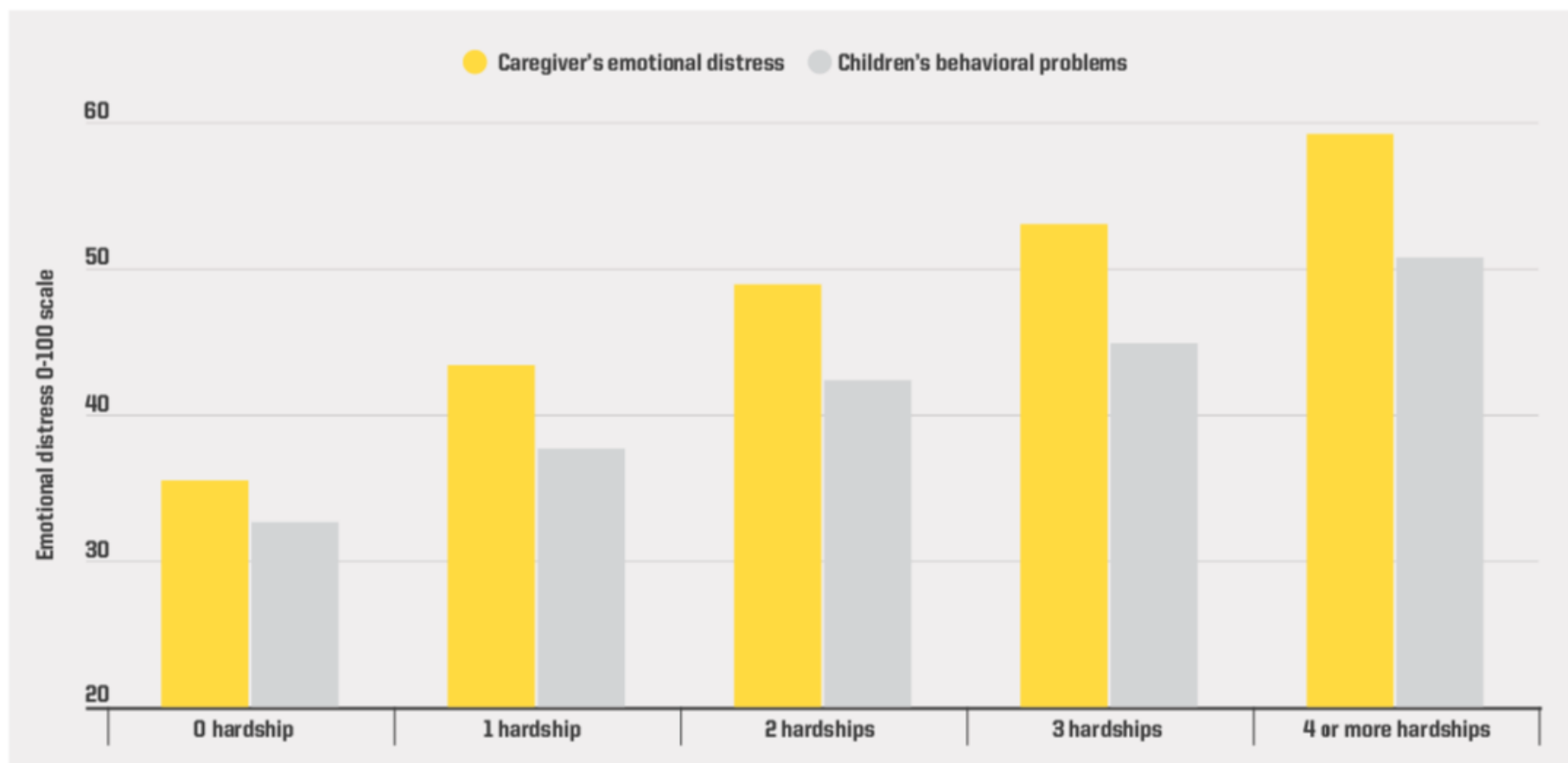




MORE HARDSHIP = MORE DISTRESS



Level of parent/child emotional distress by the number of material hardships

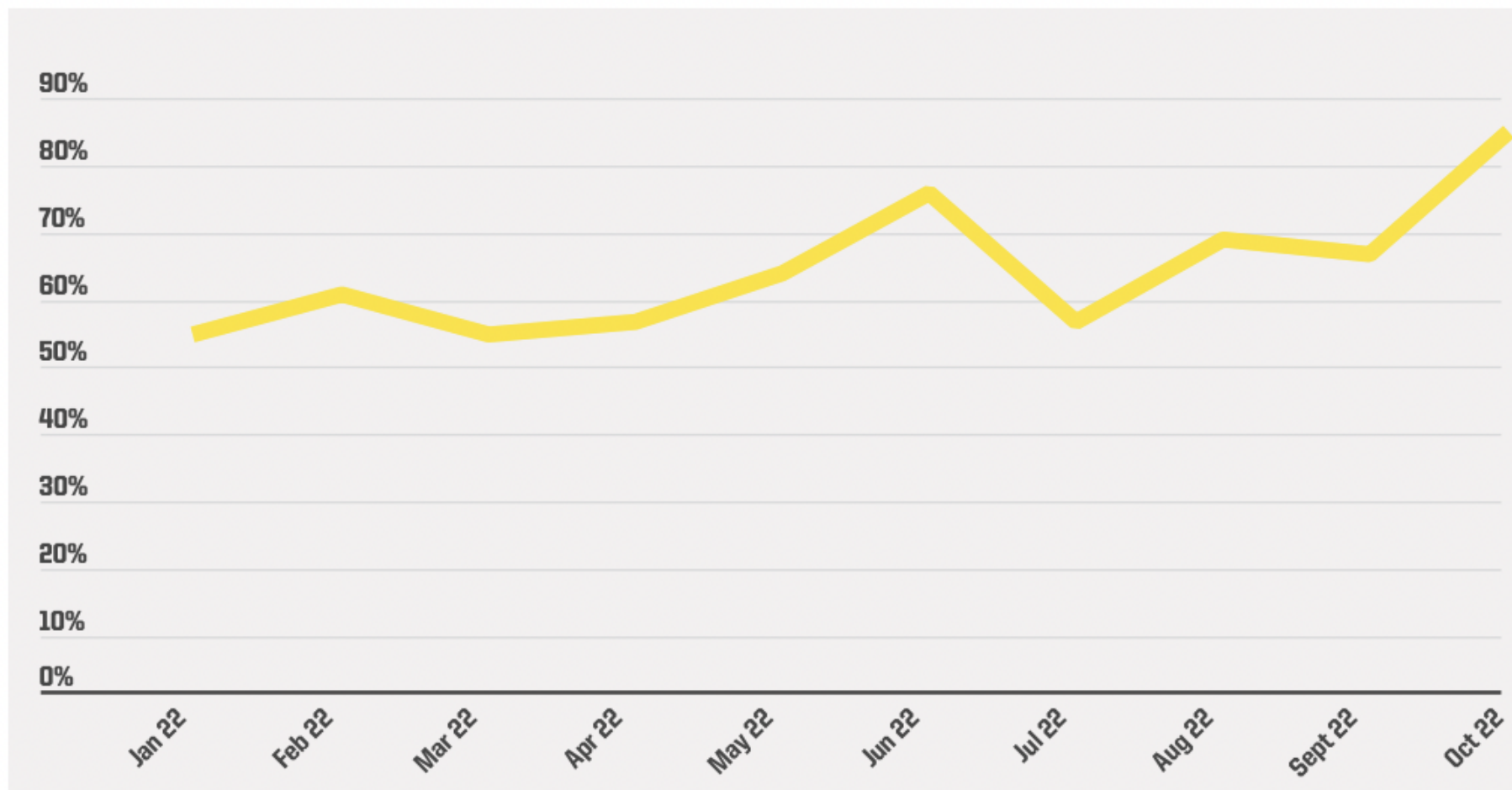




CHILD CARE DISRUPTIONS

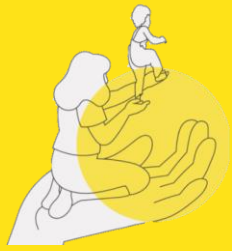


Percentage of parents who experienced child care disruptions that affected their work



“My biggest challenge is finding affordable housing and adequate child care to return to the workforce.”

- Parent in Texas



RAPID PROVIDER SURVEY SAMPLE

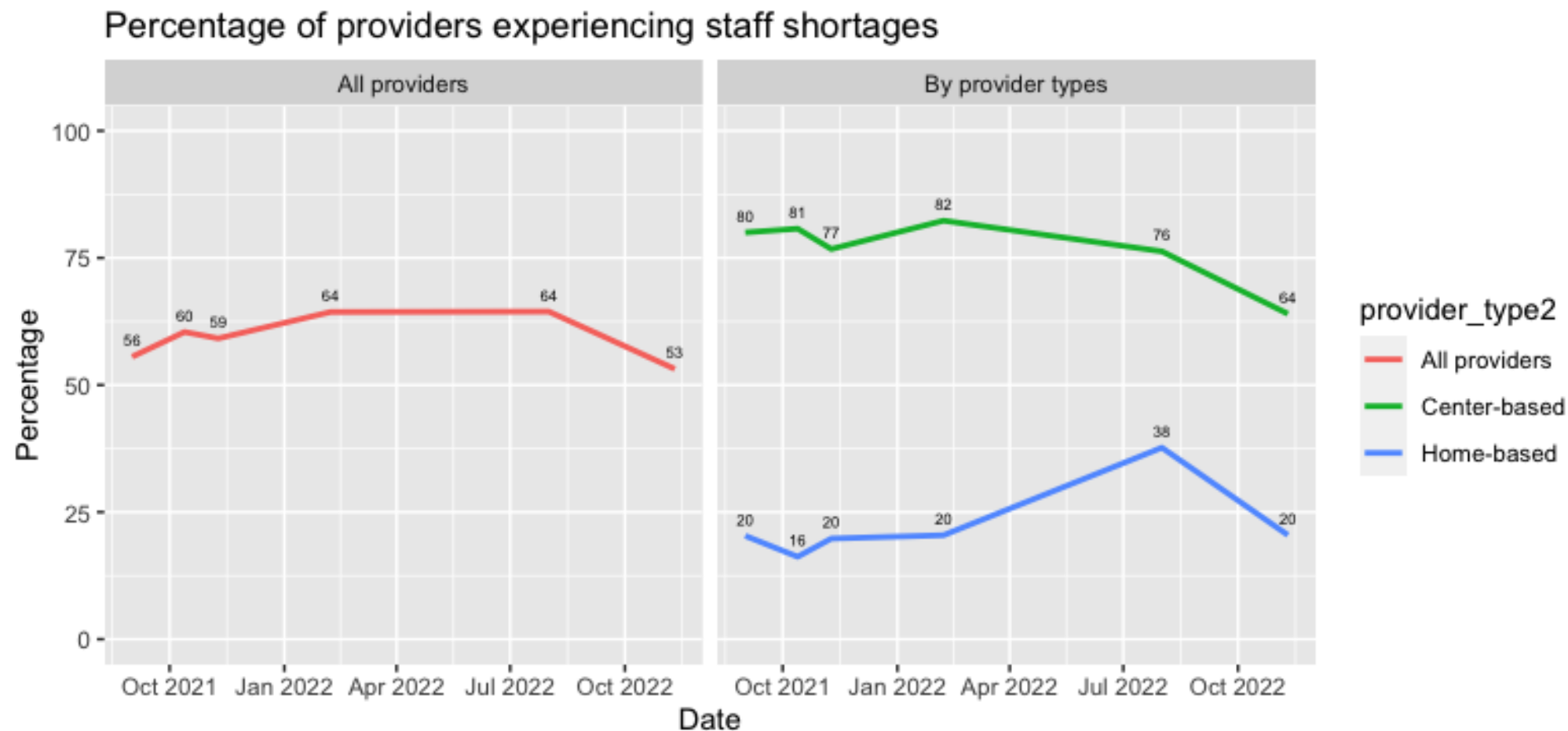


- Data collected between **March 2021 – December 2022**
- 12,060 responses (English & Spanish) from **2,957** child care providers
- From **all 50 US states**: 32% Midwest, 16% Northeast, 27% South, 24% West
- 12% Black, 13% Hispanic/Latino(a), 3% Asian, 0.7% Native American, 0.1% Pacific Islander, 1% Multi-Race, 69% White
- 29% below 200% FPL, 38% 200%-400% FPL, 33% above 400% FPL
- 33% center directors, 25% center teachers, 9% FFN, 30% home-based providers.

** **Note:** Some survey questions were in special add-on modules and assessed only in certain surveys. The sample size of these questions are specified in later slides.*



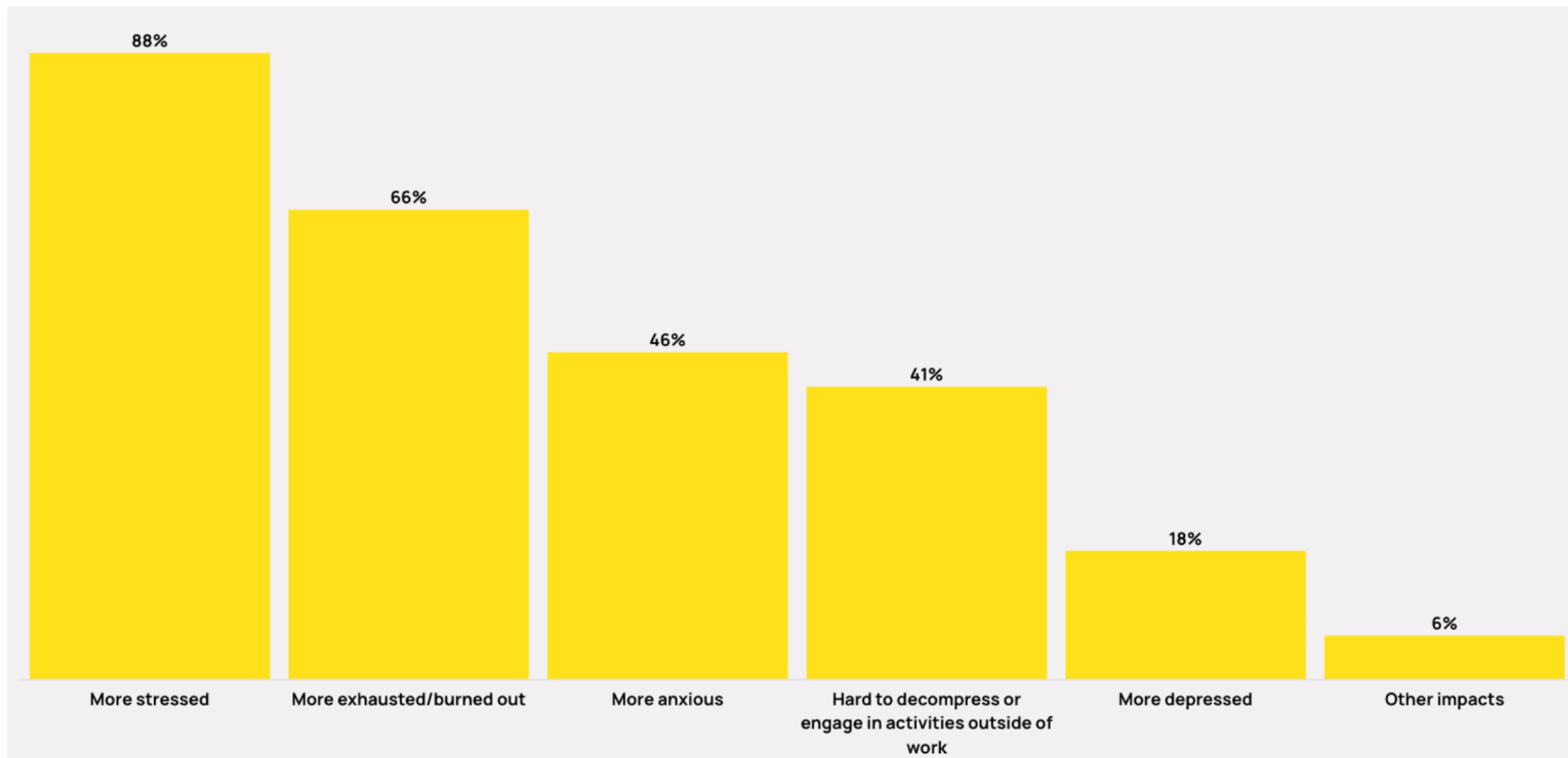
PROVIDER STAFFING SHORTAGES



**Assessment date: September 2021 - November 2022; n = 1,005*



IMPACTS OF STAFFING CHALLENGES ON PROVIDERS

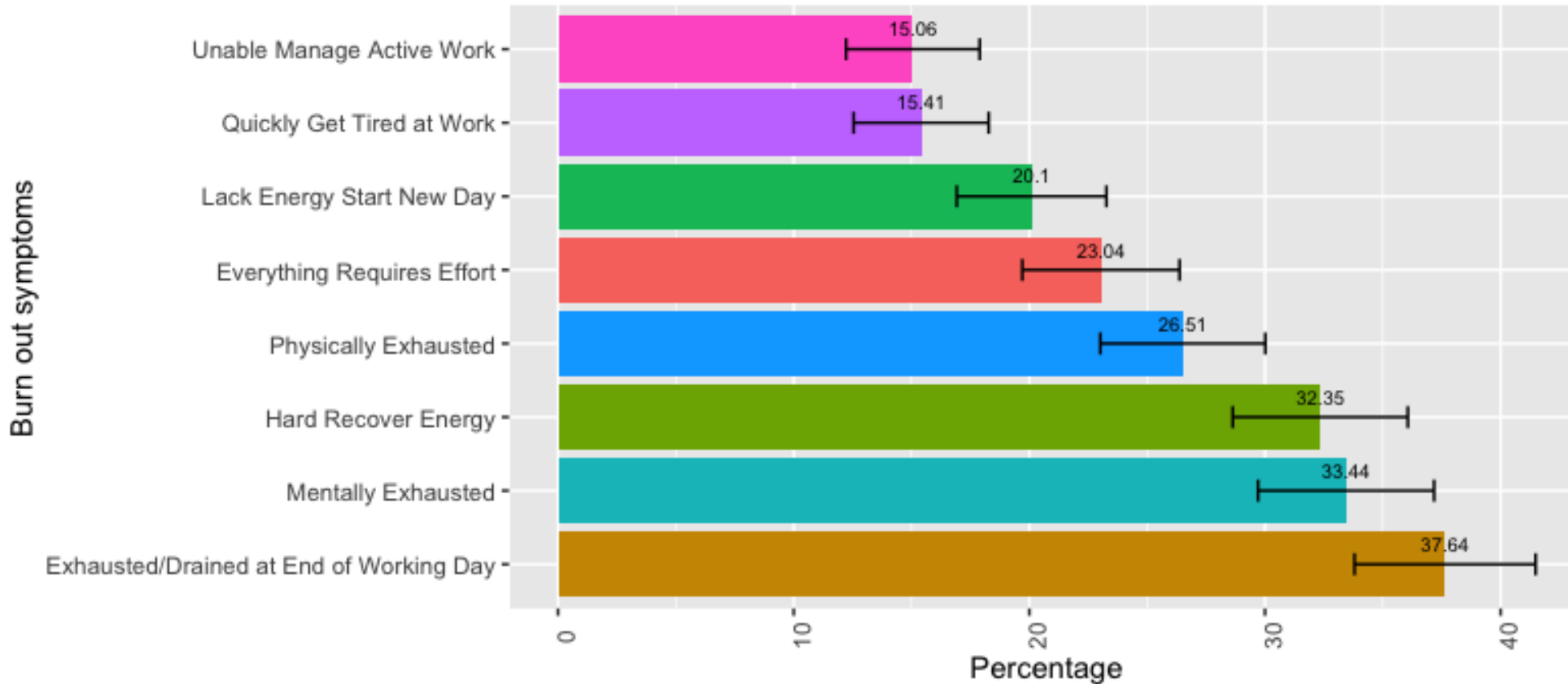




PROVIDER BURN OUT



Percentage of Providers Reporting Each Burn Out Symptoms



51%

report at least
one of these
symptoms

**This chart presents the percentage of providers responding "often" or "always" for each symptom.*

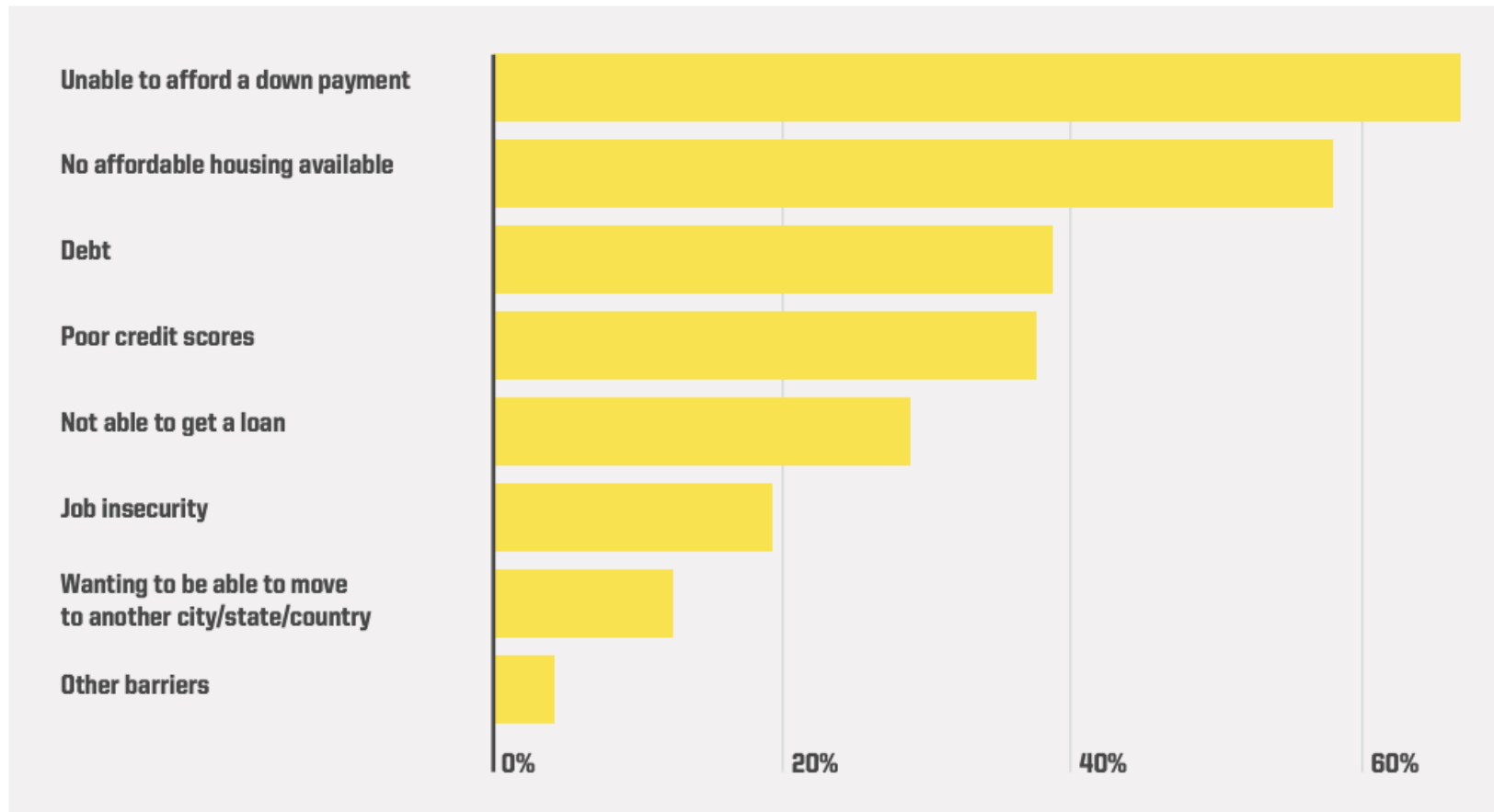
**Assessment date: November & December 2022; n = 526*



PROVIDER HOUSING HARDSHIP & BARRIERS TO HOME OWNERSHIP



Providers' barriers for home ownership, amongst all participants



"I've basically given up on buying a house and doubt I'll be able to start a family."
Provider in Texas



**Data from July 2022 - December 2022, with responses from 227 child care providers who currently do not own their home*



PROVIDER INTENTION TO LEAVE WORKFORCE



**Assessment date: September 2021 - November 2022; n = 1,005*



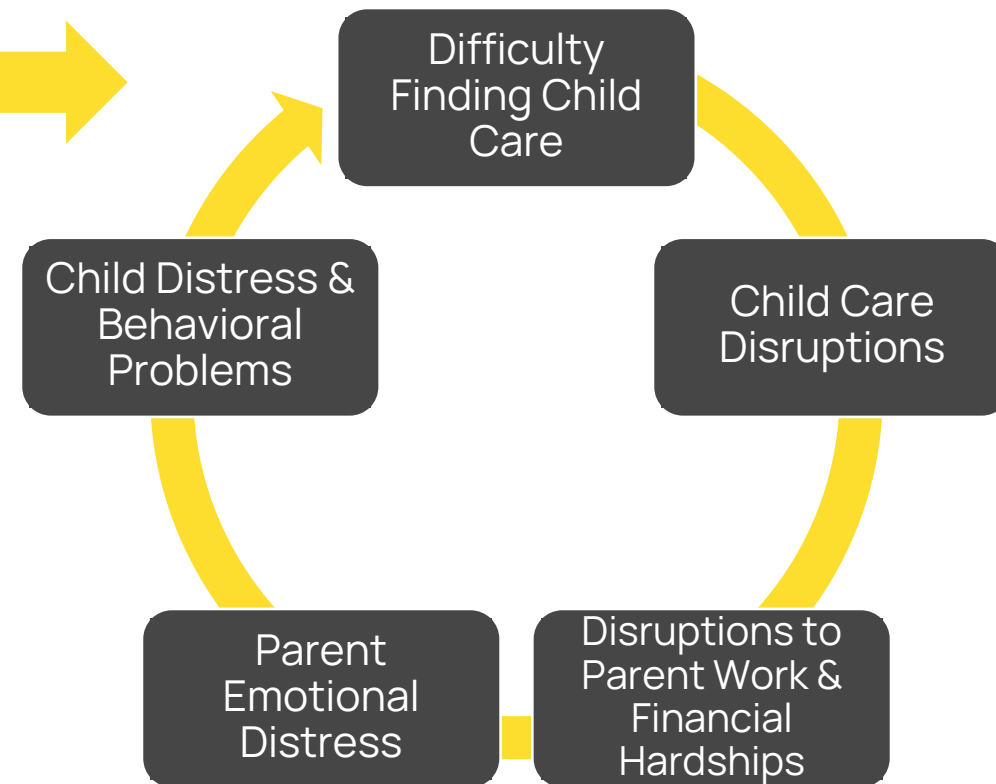
CONCLUSIONS: THE NEGATIVE FEEDBACK LOOP



Crumbling Child Care System



Direct Impact on Households of Young Children





WHAT TEXAS PROVIDERS ARE SAYING



Texas Providers on their Biggest Challenges & Concerns :

“Everything is going up cost of food and utilities, the need to increase tuition rates , so busy trying to keep thing progressing.” - *Home-based provider*

“The rising costs are difficult to keep up with. I recently raised my rates and am still unable to stay in budget.” - *Home-based provider*

“We don't have enough money to pay the rent.” - *Center teacher*

“My husband is working very little. My concern is not being able to pay for the basic things to live, such as food, soap, necessary things such as electricity, gas.” - *FFN provider*

“Not having enough income, not being able to attend medical appointments for myself and the children, not being able to stock up on enough food in case we have to stay at home when facing another pandemic.” - *FFN provider*

