


TORONTO COALITION FOR  
BETTER CHILD CARE (TCBCC)  
PARENT FEE AND PER DIEM  
SURVEY 2017

The background is a solid blue color. On the right side, there are several white lines of varying thicknesses that start from the bottom and extend towards the top right corner, creating a sense of movement and depth.

## ► SURVEY CONTENT

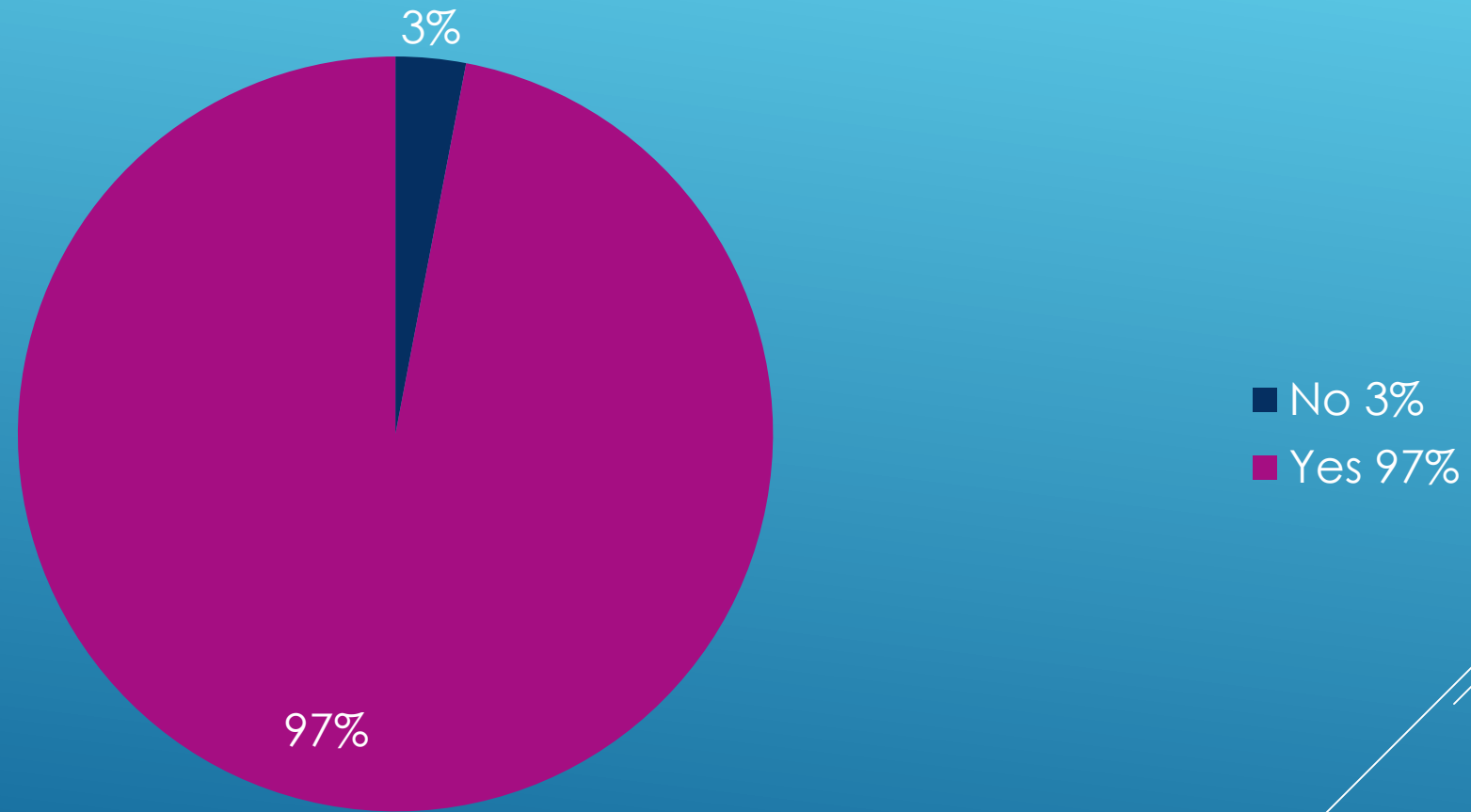
- ❖ To determine if the City of Toronto had paid the rates the day cares had budgeted for
- ❖ Conducted over a two month period (late October to mid December, 2017)
- ❖ 119 online surveys sent to TCBCCC day care membership only (non-profit). The responses would be anonymous.
- ❖ 49 returns
- ❖ 31 of 44 wards were represented in the data collected
- ❖ The responses included 5639 licensed spaces of which 1936 were subsidized and 2881 full fee (822 spaces were vacant)
- ❖ The % of programs affected and the total funding shortfall
- ❖ The average funding shortfall by age category
- ❖ The reasons given to Child Care Programs for the funding shortfall by the City of Toronto and the actions taken by those programs due to their funding shortfall

## ► FINDINGS

To determine if there is a difference between child care programs daily full fee cost and the City daily rate

❖ **97% reported yes** to a difference between their daily full fee cost and the City daily rate.

## Difference between Programs daily full fee cost and the City daily rate



## ► FINDINGS

Approximate total shortfall in funding reported by Child Care Programs

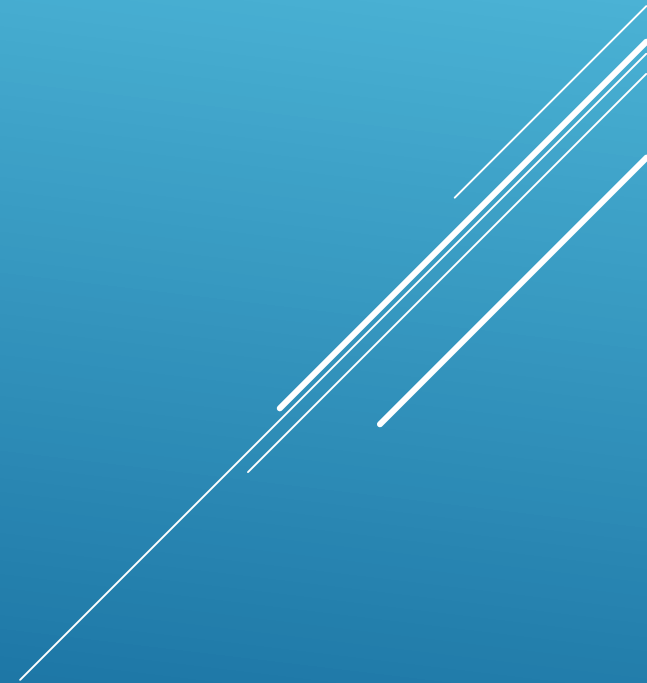
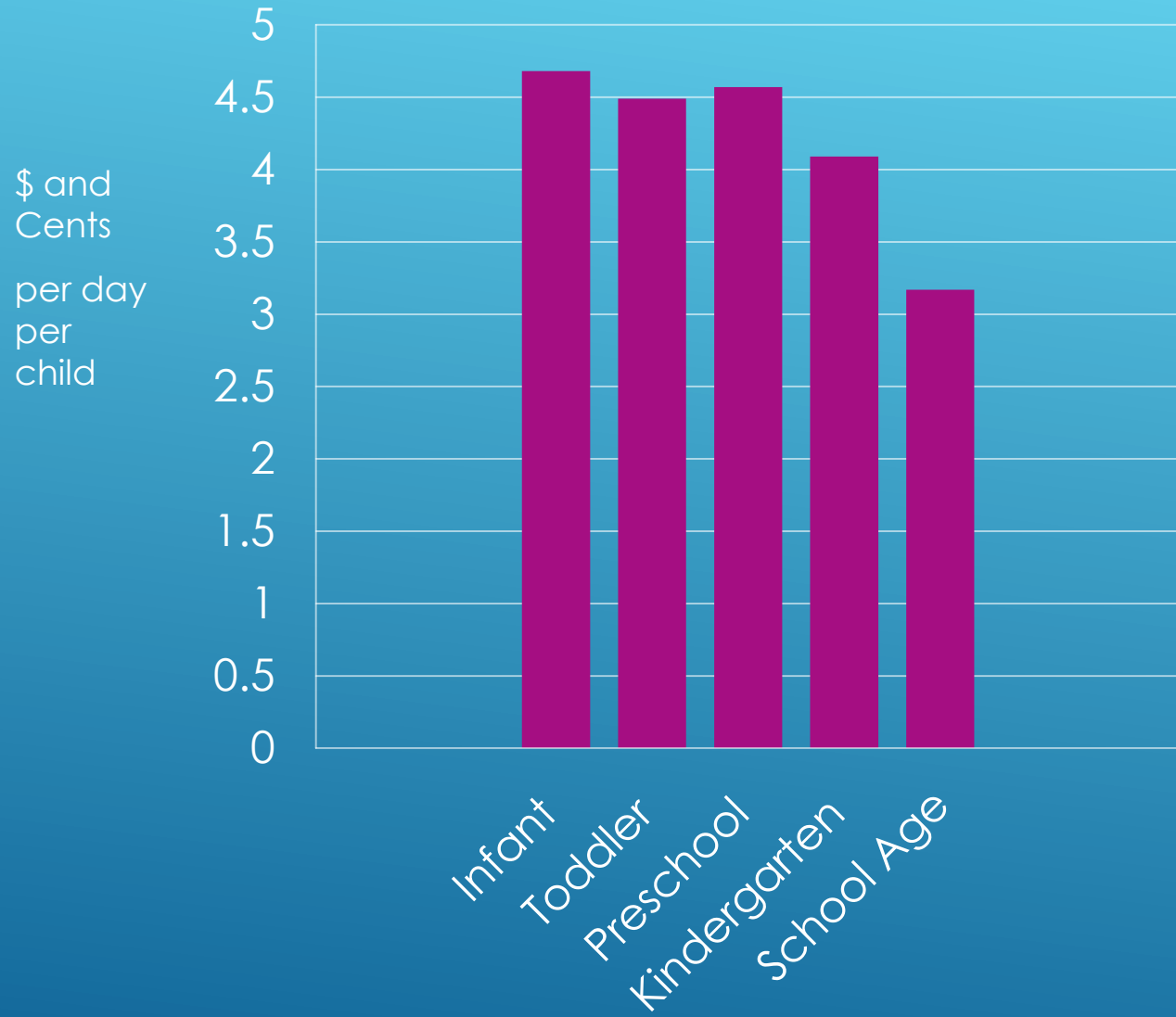
- ❖ Approximately **\$750,102.00** shortfall in funding was reported by those Child Care Programs who responded

## ► FINDINGS

### ► **Average shortfall in funding by age group**

- ❖ Infant programs on average reported a funding shortfall of \$4.68 per day per child
- ❖ Toddler programs on average reported a funding shortfall of \$4.49 per day per child
- ❖ Preschool programs on average reported a funding shortfall of \$4.57 per day per child
- ❖ Kindergarten programs on average reported a funding shortfall of \$4.09 per day per child
- ❖ School Age programs on average reported a funding shortfall of \$3.17 per day per child

■ Average shortfall in funding by age group



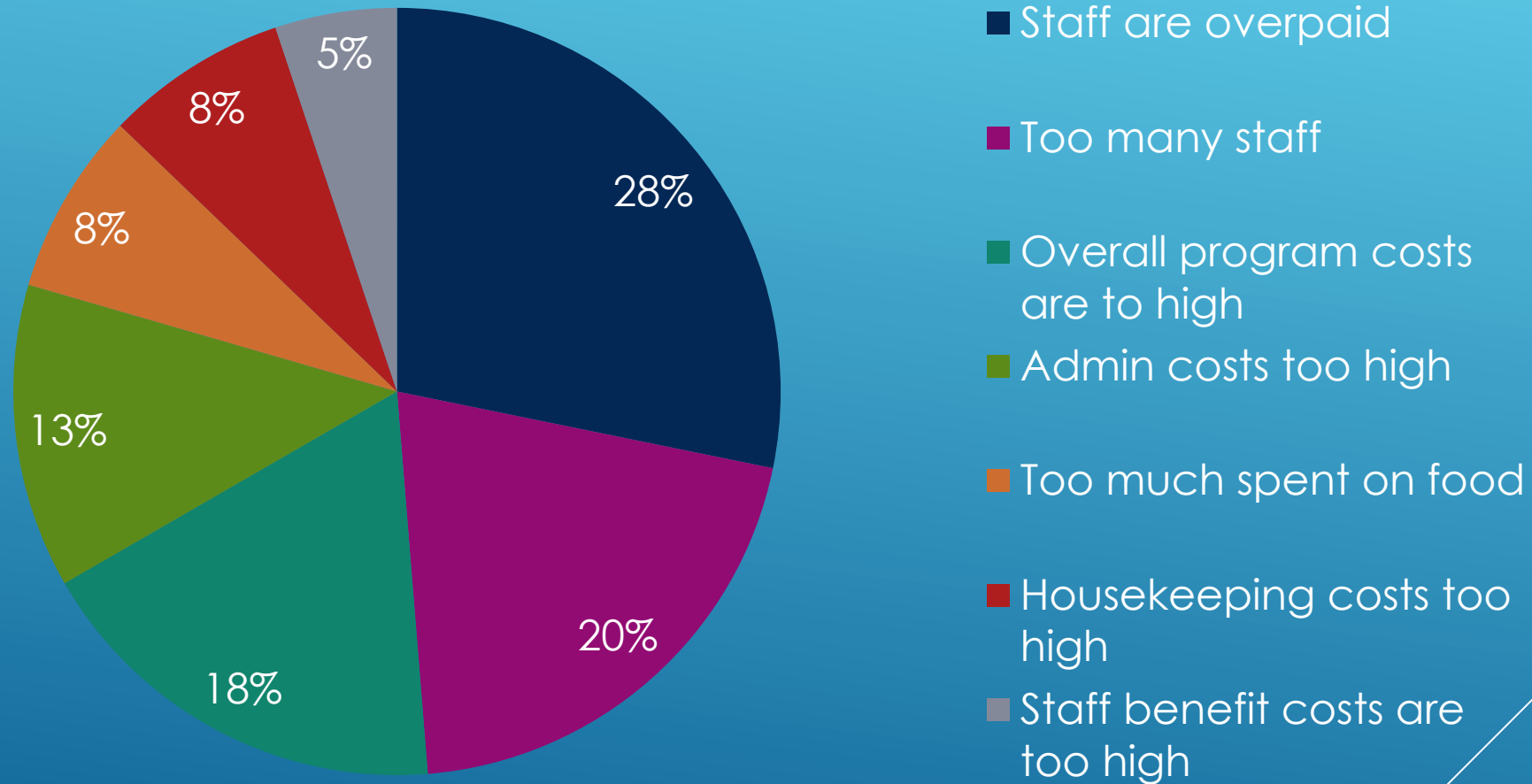
## ► FINDINGS

Most common reasons given by the City of Toronto for the funding cuts

- ❖ Staff are overpaid
- ❖ Programs had too many staff
- ❖ Overall program costs are too high
- ❖ Administration costs are too high
- ❖ They wanted Child Care Programs to pay less for food
- ❖ Too much spent on housekeeping supplies
- ❖ Staff Benefits are too expensive




## Most common reasons given by the City of Toronto for the funding cuts

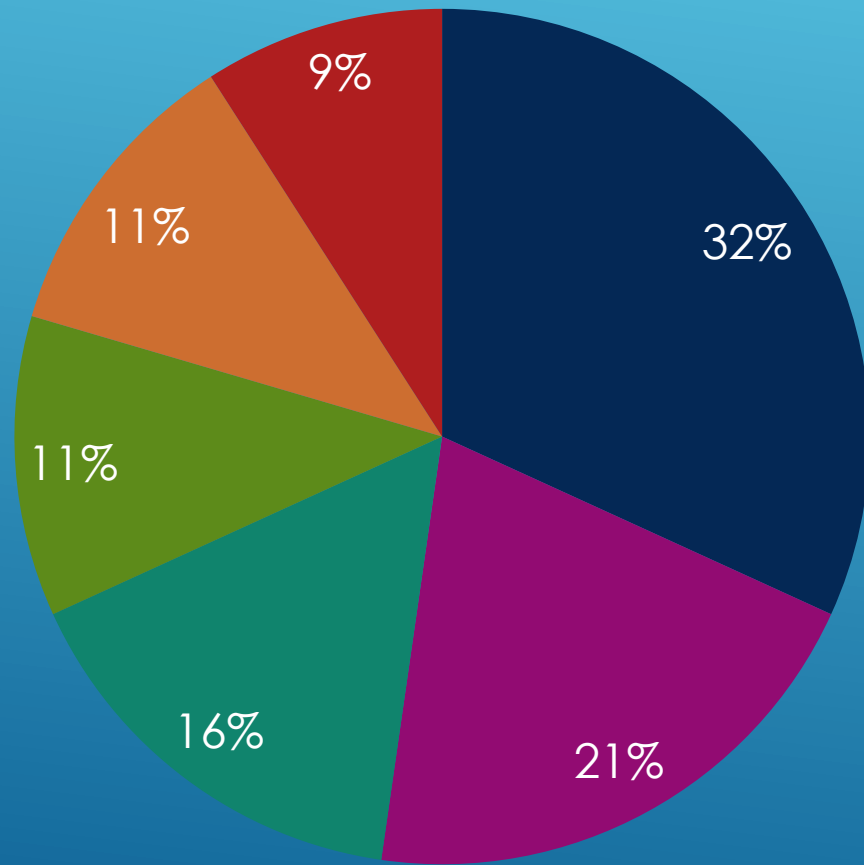


## ► FINDINGS

The top six budget cuts made by Child Care Programs due to the funding shortfall

- ❖ Cuts to program budgets overall
  - ❖ No salary increases for staff
  - ❖ Reduced benefit packages for staff
  - ❖ Raised parent fees
  - ❖ Reduced spending on food
  - ❖ Cut staff training and development
- 

## Actions to be taken by Child Care Programs due to funding cuts



- Cuts to program costs overall
- No salary increases for staff
- Cuts to staff benefits
- Raise parent fees
- Cuts to food costs
- Cuts to staff training and development

## ▶ CONCLUSIONS

- ❖ The greatest majority of respondents had a funding shortfall in their per diems by the City of Toronto
  - ❖ Respondents reported a significant shortfall in overall funding
  - ❖ The greatest majority of respondents received a shortfall across ALL age categories
  - ❖ The greatest majority of respondents received reasons for the shortage of funding
  - ❖ A majority of respondents reported cuts to their programs as a result of the funding shortfall
  - ❖ Respondents reported a rate increase to cover the funding shortfall by the City of Toronto
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