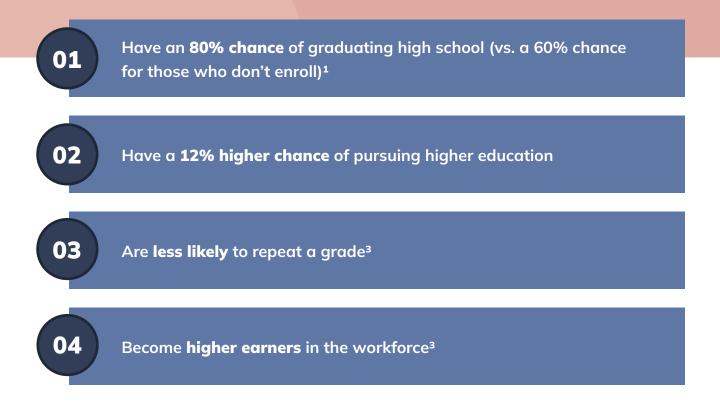
43%

Early Childhood Education

Early childhood education provides Ontario's children with safe environments to explore, learn, and play.

When children are nurtured in environments where their social, emotional, cognitive, and physical health is taken into consideration, they thrive in countless ways. They:



Although early childhood educators (ECEs) provide children with the foundation they need to grow into future leaders, they are often undervalued and unsupported with the resources and programming needed to ensure successful outcomes. Currently, Ontario's ECEs face many obstacles in achieving their goals for children within their programs.

> of ECEs reported that they have considered leaving the sector since the onset of the pandemic^{4,5}

20%	of ECEs have seen work hours increase, but of those only 9.3% reported an increase in wages⁵	
54%	of ECEs reported decreased job satisfaction ⁵	
13%	of ECEs are actively looking for opportunities outside the sector⁵	
36%	of ECEs reported a decrease in planning time⁵	
26%	average turnover rate for ECEs in licensed child care settings ⁶	

ECEs indicated that the **3 most challenging** aspects of their careers are:⁵



53%

Physical nature of work

40%

Job responsibilities not related to care for children

- 1. The Editorial Team, "Benefits of Early Childhood Education," *Resilient Educator*, April 2022, <u>https://resilienteducator.com/classroom-resources/</u> <u>can-early-childhood-education-impact-graduation-rates</u>
- 2. Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach and Lauren Bauer, "The long-term impact of the Head Start program," *Brookings*, August 19, 2016. <u>https://www.brookings.edu/research/the-long-term-impact-of-the-head-start-program/</u>
- 3. "Early Childhood Education," *National Education Association*, December 2, 2021. <u>https://www.nea.org/advocating-for-change/action-center/our-issues/early-childhood-education</u>
- 4. Alana Powell, Carolyn Ferns, Shevaun Burrell, "Forgotten On The Frontline," Association of Early Childhood Educators Ontario & the Ontario Coalition for Better Child Care. May 2011.
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- 6. Akbari, E., & McCuaig, K. (In press) *Early Childhood Education Report*, 2020. Toronto, ON: Atkinson Centre for Society and Child Development OISE/ University of Toronto.