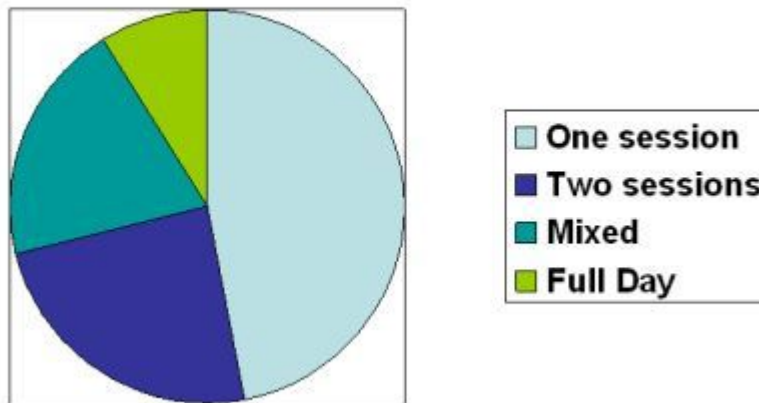


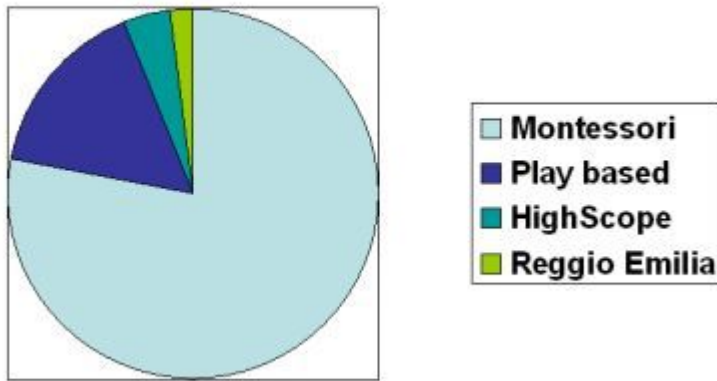
Rank	What type of service do you provide	%
1	One Session per day	47
2	Mixed Service	24
3	Two Sessions per day	20
4	Full Daycare	9

Type of Service



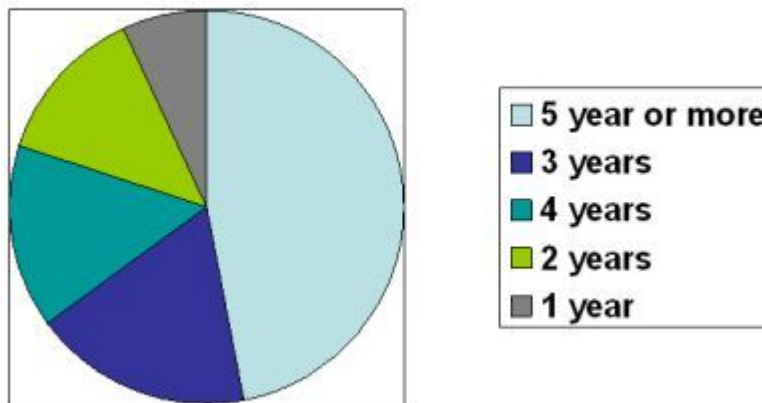
Rank	Which best describes your service	%
1	Montessori	78
2	Play based	16
3	Highscope	4
4	Reggio Emilia	2

Method Used



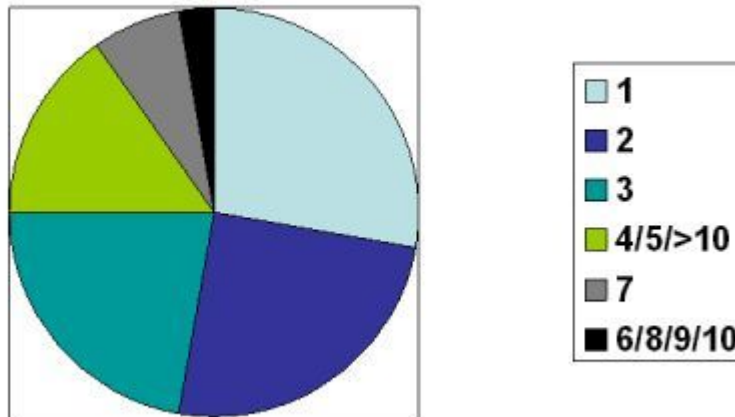
Rank	How long have you been operating your business	%
1	Five years or more	47
2	Three years	18
3	Four years	15
4	Two years	13
5	One year	7

Length of time in operation



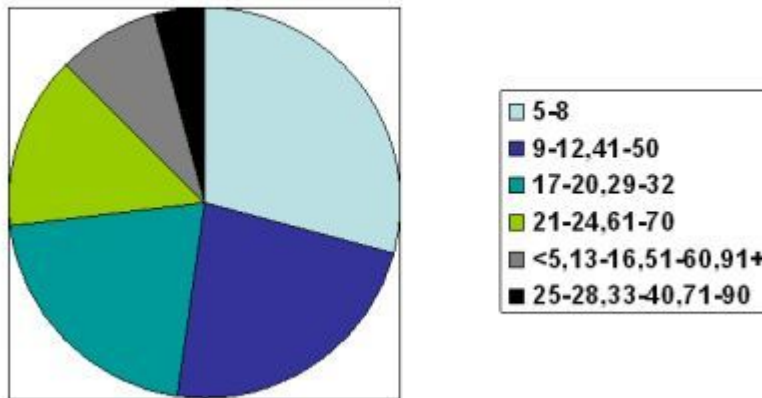
Rank	How many Practitioners in your Service	%
1	One	20
2	Two	18
3	Three	16
4	Four/ Five/ More than 10	11
5	Seven	5
6	Six/ Eight/ Nine/ Ten	2

Number of Practitioners in Service



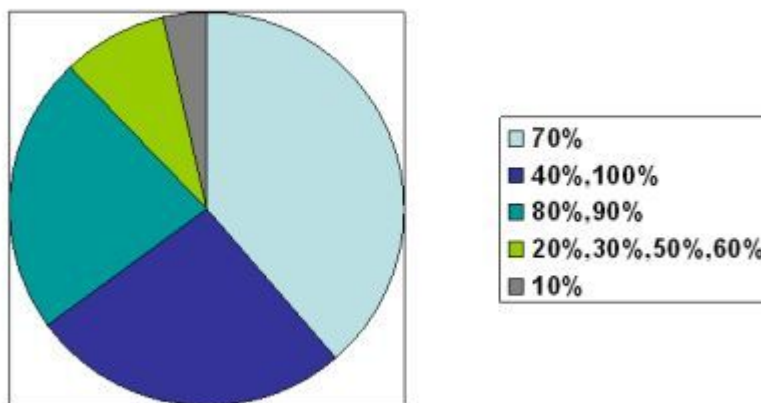
Rank	How many children does your service cater for	%
1	5 - 8	14
2	9 – 12; 41 - 50	11
3	17 – 20; 29 – 32	10
4	21 – 24; 61 - 70	7
5	Less than 5; 13 – 16; 51 – 60; 91 – 100; 100+	4
6	25 – 28; 33 – 36; 37 – 40; 71 – 80; 81 - 90	2

Amt of Children in Service



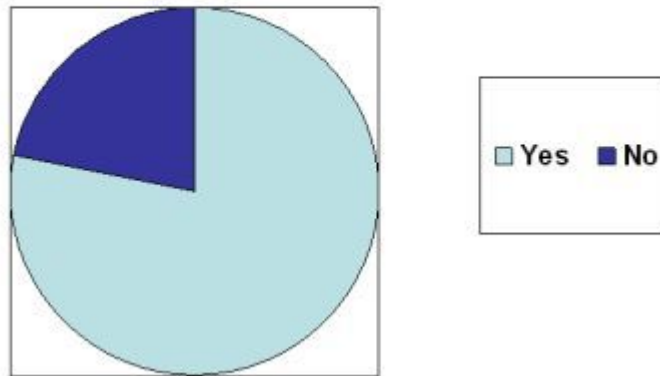
Rank	Does your service participate in the 'Free Preschool' Year? If 'yes' what % of your pupils avail of it?	%
1	70% of pupils avail of scheme	22
2	40%/100% of pupils avail of scheme	15
3	80%/90% of pupils avail of scheme	13
4	20%/30%/50%/60% of pupils	5
5	10% of pupils avail of scheme	2

% of children availing of ECCE



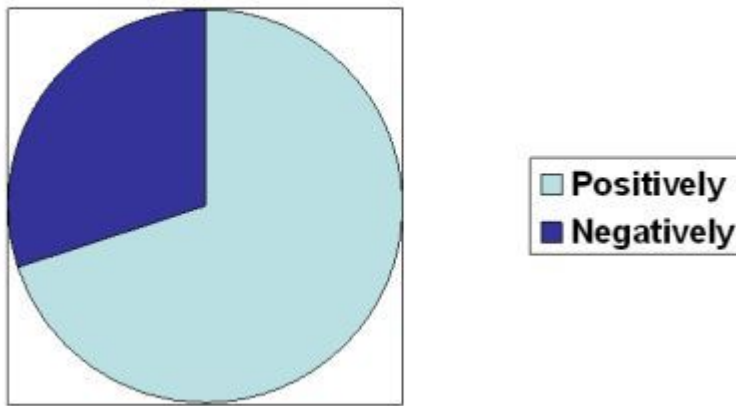
Rank	Has the Free Preschool Year impacted on you and the service you provide?	%
1	Yes	78
2	No	22

Has Free Preschool Year impacted on your service



Rank	In what way has the Free Preschool Year impacted	%
1	Positively	70
2	Negatively	30

Impact of ECCE on Service



Rank	Options
1	Clear information from Government
2	Bank of practitioners to call on for emergency cover
3	Networking with practitioners
4	Support Group with regular meet ups
5	In-services Training
6	Practitioners forum via internet
7	Outside Training & Help with ECCE compliance
8	Local Conference
9	National Conference

'Describe how the Free Preschool Year has impacted on you & your service' - Qualitative Answers

positive	negative	mixed	neutral
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Guaranteed income for year
Autism preschool so free anyway
Positive as the parents don't have to pay fees for a year and negative as the children would normally attend for 2 years and now only attend for one.
It is positive as the parents get a free year of education. The downside being that children who did attend for 2 years are now only attending for one year
Children who would normally leave and to attend an 'early start' program are staying in our service
Additional classroom added to cater for an extra 10 children per session bringing our total catered for at one time to 30. Additional Staff member employed
We are now generally very quiet for the summer period
As I have just moved to a new premises in which I can cater for 20 children, having had my school in the house with 6 children previously, I can only presume that it is the introduction of the free preschool year which has enabled me to have a full enrolment for 2011-2012
Less coming for two years. I feel I am an administrator now, as my spare time is taken up trying to keep on top of everything, it's ridiculous to have to do so much when we are generally small businesses. I am being victimised by neighbours who never wanted me to open and since the scheme was introduced they have turned very nasty. They opposed a planning application I submitted to formalize an increase in numbers which the HSE had passed me for. I was turned down and my second teacher lost her job and 9 children lost their Free Places. I am still being harassed, e.g. My post was interfered with and I've got nails in my tyres. The list goes on.....it's too long to mail you all of the details.
Allowed my services to grow from 7 to 29 by moving into new premises.
We have 75 free preschool children starting September 2011. Very few parents wish to apply for this in our location.
More parents are availing of the free year

Opened service up to more individuals who previously would not have been able to afford preschool, or who didn't think it was critical.
It doesn't.
Has slightly reduced income
Hasn't really
Positively full all the time but parents don't want to pay for a second year and they want part time.
Not filling up like it would have when I first started, parents are waiting on the free year,
Not at all
It hasn't
Not in a good way because of being down so much money. I used to charge fees for Easter hols, summer hols and xmas hols. At the end of the year I don't make any profit and find it hard to manage on what money does come in!!
Reduced revenue, no appreciation or recognition of Montessori method & its importance or expensive materials. Children going to school too young. Increased number of children attending service therefore increased staff costs. There is no allowance for increased staffing levels, staff holiday pay & no allowance for any extra curricular activities. All children have access to preschool.
I still have been running my pre school as if I have been getting 100 euro per week per child!! Hence losing money. I used to run full Montessori each morning for 3 children under childminding scheme and avail of the earning under €15000 tax exemption. Now have full brunt of tax, accountant fees more fees, fees and fees!!!! The expenses are horrendous!! I'm still trying to get my head around the fact I'm no longer able to make any money. Not that I ever thought I'd make much but I used to contribute to the household income but not any longer. My little preschool has turned into a very expensive indulgent "hobby". I only have 5 children @approx 12.60 per day giving 11565 euro for the year!! and pay expenses, fees taxes, food, materials, rentokill, further study etc.....the list is getting endless. I used to open 36 weeks a year and get approx 9720 tax and complications free!!!!
As I can only take 5 children per session they all have to be on the scheme which impact on the Montessori ethos and also I only have 7 children registered for this coming September so I could have 1 session with only 2 children
I think more parents are looking for Montessori as we have a high uptake for a two year programme.
It's been positive. More children coming to us that may not have been sent otherwise due to costs.
Most parents will just do the free year as opposed to two years - recession or direct result of free year?
We needed 12 children at least to avail of it so we could keep one of our staff
More children in our service for Montessori. It frees up money for parent to send in younger siblings to toddler, pre-Montessori etc.

More staff employed as a result.
More secure not having to chase parents for money. Have more on the waiting list.
The free pre school place has meant a reduction in turnover for our crèche
Too many rules to abide by and they should cover every week of the year we are open not what they decide on
Most children only attend 1 year
Increased numbers among children of this age, but has led to reduced fees for this age group.
My school is full
Losing money per child per month by participating but it evens out with extra children
It's good in one way because all children can avail of it but we are getting less money.
Less money
More children attending Montessori than before! It's great to see all children getting equal opportunities
It provide free preschool to all families regardless of who you are or where you're from. Takes a lot of the burden off parents.
Only participating in Sept 2011 for the first time
Most children now come 5 mornings instead of 3 which would have been the norm before. This is better for both the children and us as a service.
More children signing up than previously