



# COMMUNITY IMPACT OF CHILD CARE

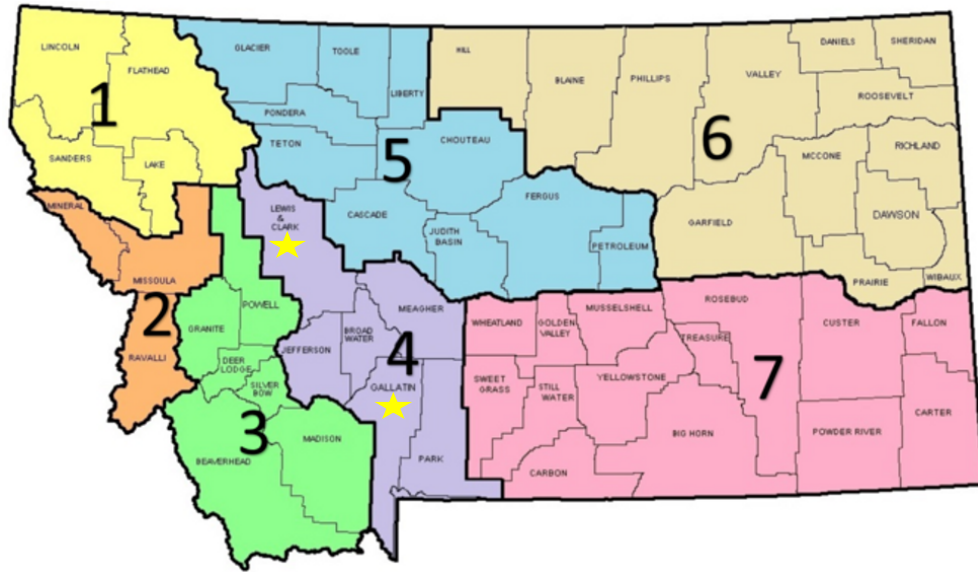
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Presented by:  
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# WHO ARE WE?

## ABOUT CHILD CARE CONNECTIONS



★ CCC Offices in Bozeman and Helena

Child Care Connections (CCC) advocates for the well-being and quality care of children by supporting early childhood professionals, families, and the communities we serve.

We are one of seven (7) Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies in MT and serve:

- Gallatin
- Park
- Meagher
- Lewis & Clark
- Jefferson
- Broadwater

# WHAT IS QUALITY CHILD CARE?

## Why quality care matters

Quality child care is safe, stimulating, and provides a loving environment in which children mentally and physically thrive.



Over 90% of brain growth occurs between ages 0-5.

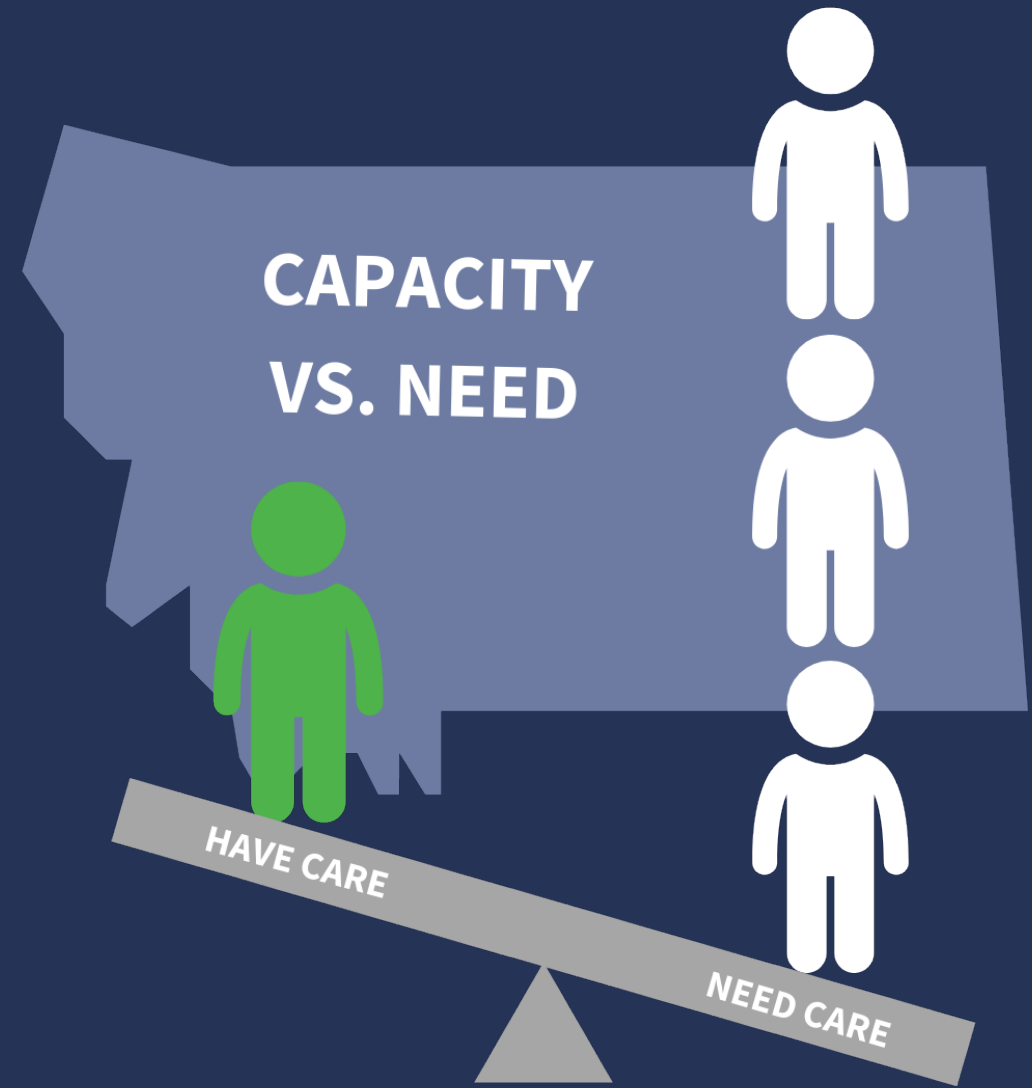
Key long-term benefits of quality early childhood care include:

- Increased school readiness
- Healthy nutrition habits
- Advanced verbal and intellectual skills
- Advanced social and emotional skills
- Strengthened future workforce for our community

# CHILD CARE CAPACITY

Montana is considered a child care desert. This means that most of our communities have 3X as many children ages 0-5 as licensed child care slots.

MT Ranks 42 in child care capacity in the U.S.



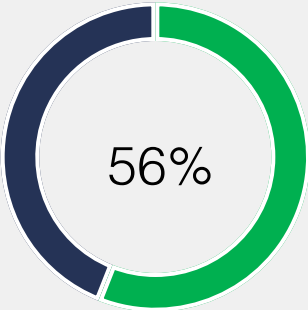
# FAMILY CHALLENGES

Families are impacted deeply by the lack of access to affordable and regulated child care.

They are often left with no choice but unsafe or illegal child care options.

Access to child care impacts how families can participate in the workforce and local economy.

### Children



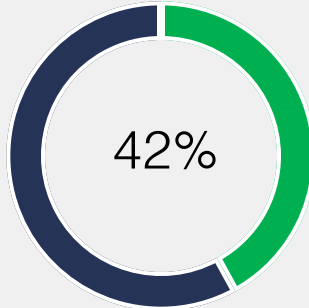
Over 25,000 children under the age of 6 are in unregulated child care. That's 56% of our children who need care.

### Minimum-Wage Workers



Minimum wage workers in MT would have to work approximately 28 weeks to pay for child care of one infant.

### Single Mothers



An estimated 42% of single mothers with children 0-5 are living in poverty. This means that their annual income is \$17,000 or less.

<http://lmi.mt.gov/Portals/193/Publications/LMI-Pubs/Articles/2018/0918-ChildcareInMontana.pdf>  
<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5c90fe4716b640613581ddff/t/5cef052b3b10330001757348/1559168304445/Childcare+as+a+Workforce+Issue.pdf>  
[https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5c90fe4716b640613581ddff/t/5cef05a72c94e10001176648/1559168427506/System+of+Early+Childhood+Workforce+Support\\_KS+version.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5c90fe4716b640613581ddff/t/5cef05a72c94e10001176648/1559168427506/System+of+Early+Childhood+Workforce+Support_KS+version.pdf)

# COST OF CHILD CARE IN MT



\$ 9,518

Per infant, ages 0-2, annually



\$ 8,365

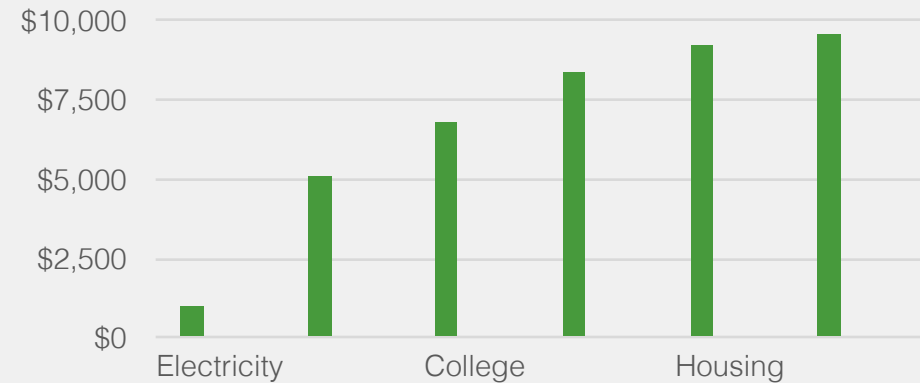
Per child, ages 3-5, annually

## AFFORDABILITY

Child care is considered affordable if it costs 7% or less of a family's annual income, according to U.S. DPHHS. Yet, in Montana an average family pays 16.5% for one child.

16.5%

## ANNUAL FAMILY EXPENSES



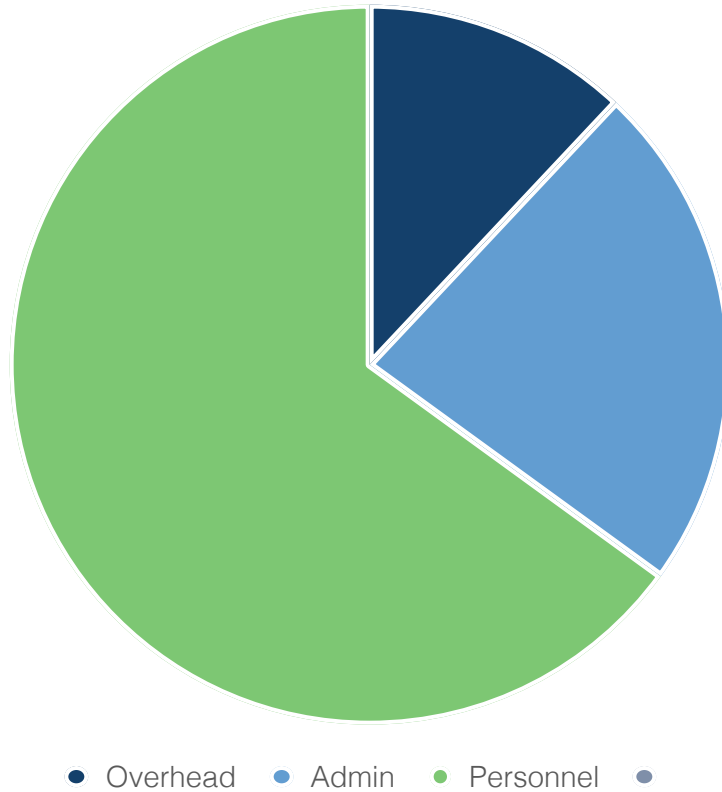
<https://www.epi.org/child-care-costs-in-the-united-states/#/MT>

<http://lmi.mt.gov/Portals/193/Publications/LMI-Pubs/Articles/2018/0918-ChildcareInMontana.pdf>

<https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#MT/5/0/char/0>

# WHY ARE EARLY CHILDHOOD WAGES SO LOW?

Cost of Child Care



Despite the high cost of licensed child care, early childhood professionals are making some of the lowest wages in our state.

Cost of care explained:

- Parent fees alone are not enough funding
- Labor intensive field
- Requires low adult to child ratios
- Cost breakdown:
  - 12% to overhead, utilities, maintenance
  - 23% classroom materials, food, and admin
  - 65% for personnel
  - Ex: A center with 40 full-time children needs a minimum of 10 teachers.

# CHILD CARE AND THE WORKFORCE

Unmet child care demand is both a **CAUSE** and an **EFFECT** of the state's workforce shortage.

## WHY WORKERS LEAVE THE WORKFORCE

42%

of MT's unemployed cite family responsibilities as the reason they are not working.

64%

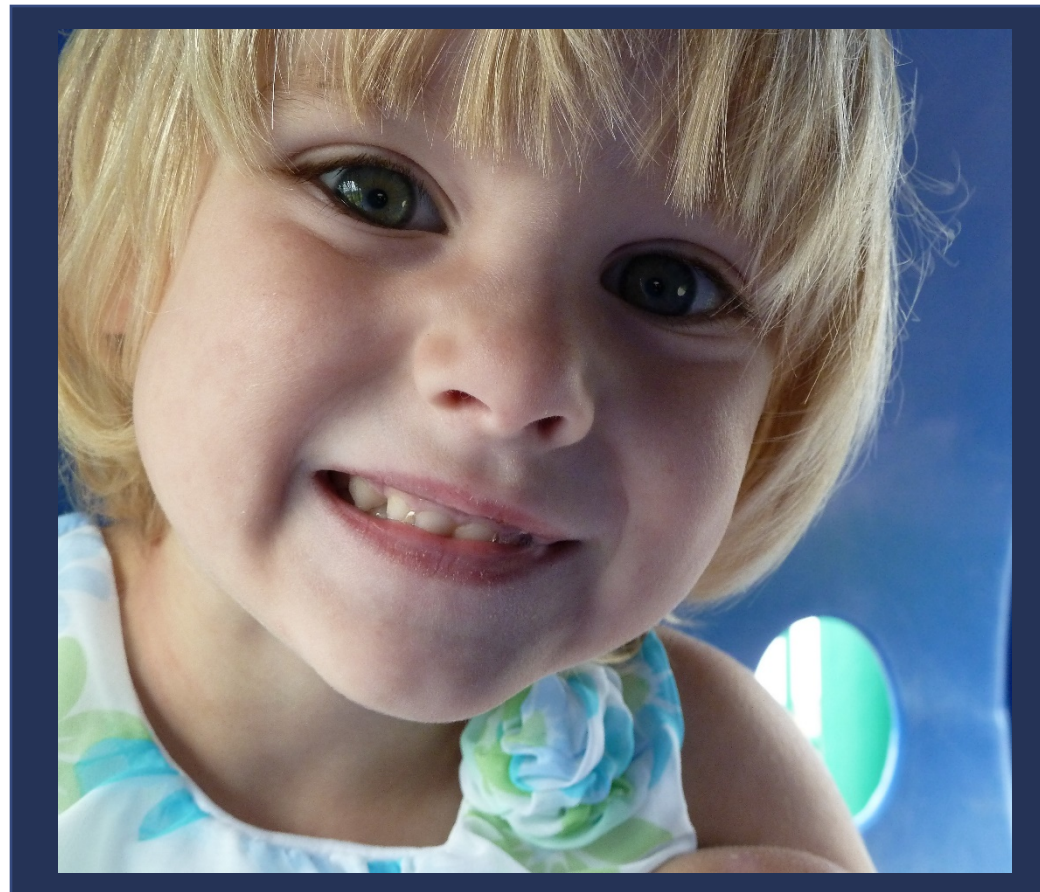
Of children under the age of 6 in MT have both parents or their only parent in the workforce.

23%

Of partially employed workers in Montana cannot work full-time due to lack of child care.

12%

Mothers are estimated to be out of the workforce in Gallatin County due to child care access issues.

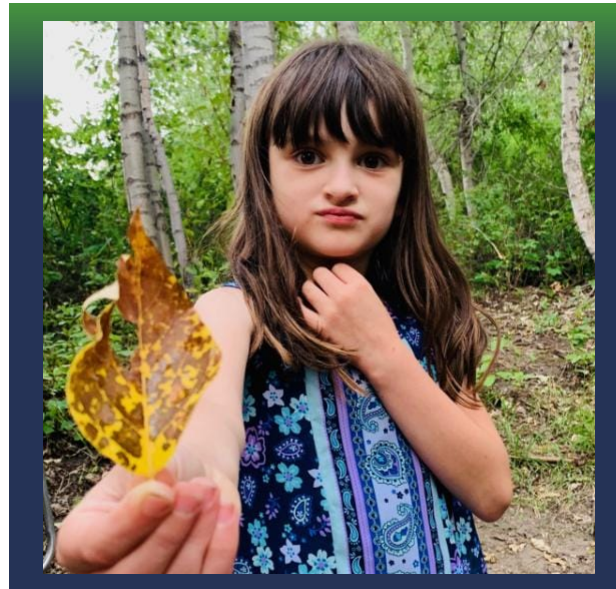




# CHILD CARE AND ROI MT BUSINESSES

**16 : 1**

High quality early care programs for at-risk children save the community \$16 for every \$1 invested.

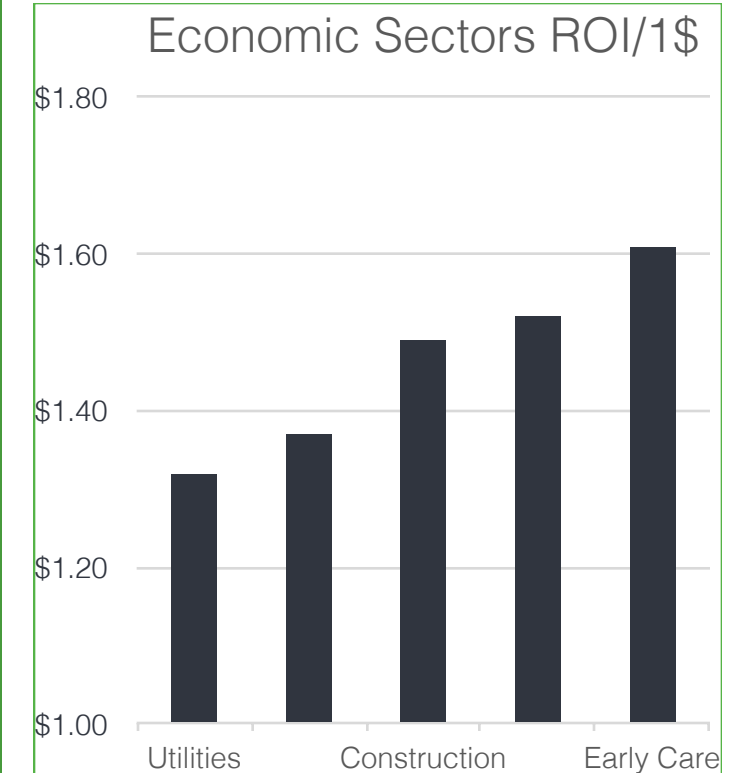


## INVESTING IN MT JOBS

Fully investing in early care and education would generate millions of sales for MT businesses, and create thousands of jobs.

**7,900**  
NEW JOBS

**1,300**  
NEW JOBS OUTSIDE  
OF EARLY CARE  
SECTOR



Every \$1 invested in quality early child care results in a higher economic impact than any other industry in Montana.



# Funding for MT Child Care

**\$50 Million & what that means...**

## COVID RELIEF

On August 19<sup>th</sup>, \$50 million in funding was released by the Early Childhood Services Bureau (ECSB) in four buckets:

- **\$30 million** in grants to maintain and expand child care for school-age children during out of school time
  - Apply at [covidrelief.mt.gov](https://covidrelief.mt.gov)
- **\$10 million** in scholarships for families with special circumstances
  - Available August 19th through your local Child Care Resource & Referral Agency (CCR&R)
- **\$8 million** in direct support of licensed child care providers
  - Processing will begin on September 1st, 2020, by ECSB. Contact your local [CCR&R agency](#), with questions.
- **\$2 million** for [CCR&R agencies](#) for administration and outreach

# MIXED DELIVERY PRE-K

## What is it?

Mixed delivery systems offer child care and early education to 4 year-old + children in a variety of settings and programs including:

- Public School-Based Programs
- Head Start
- Center-Based Child Care
- Family and Group-Based Child Care

## Why support it?

Mixed delivery systems:

- Increase child care capacity
- Offer flexible and affordable quality care that meets the needs of working families
- Support better transitions to school
- Strengthen existing programs



<https://cccmontana.org>

# THANK YOU!

Download this presentation and access important data and resources on child care at:  
[cccmontana.org/WhatsNew/Post/Child-Care-Matters](http://cccmontana.org/WhatsNew/Post/Child-Care-Matters)  
or call (406) 587-7786



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