



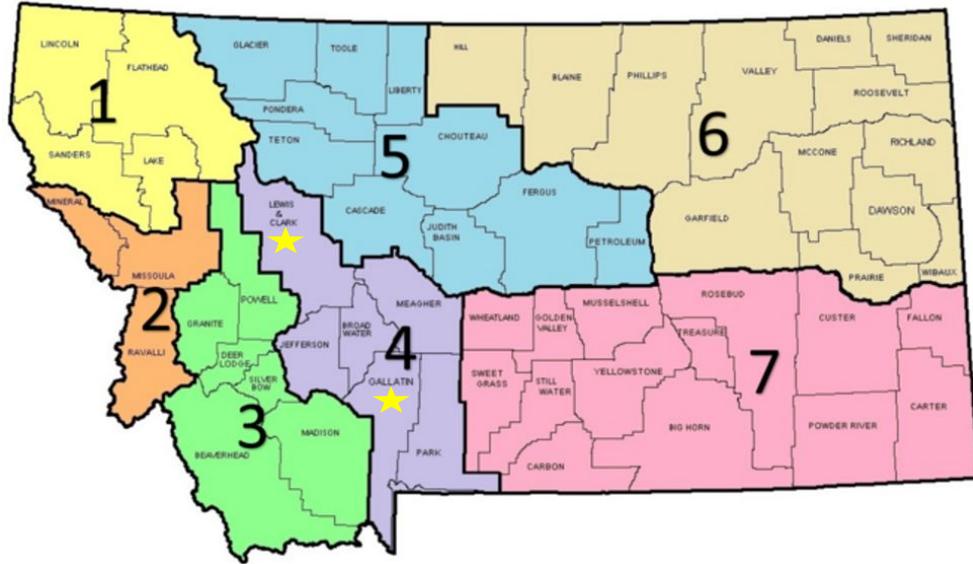
COMMUNITY IMPACT OF CHILD CARE

LEWIS & CLARK COUNTY



WHO ARE WE?

ABOUT CHILD CARE CONNECTIONS



★ CCC Offices in Helena and Bozeman

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 the sole Child Care Resource and Referral Agency for six counties, including:

- 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:

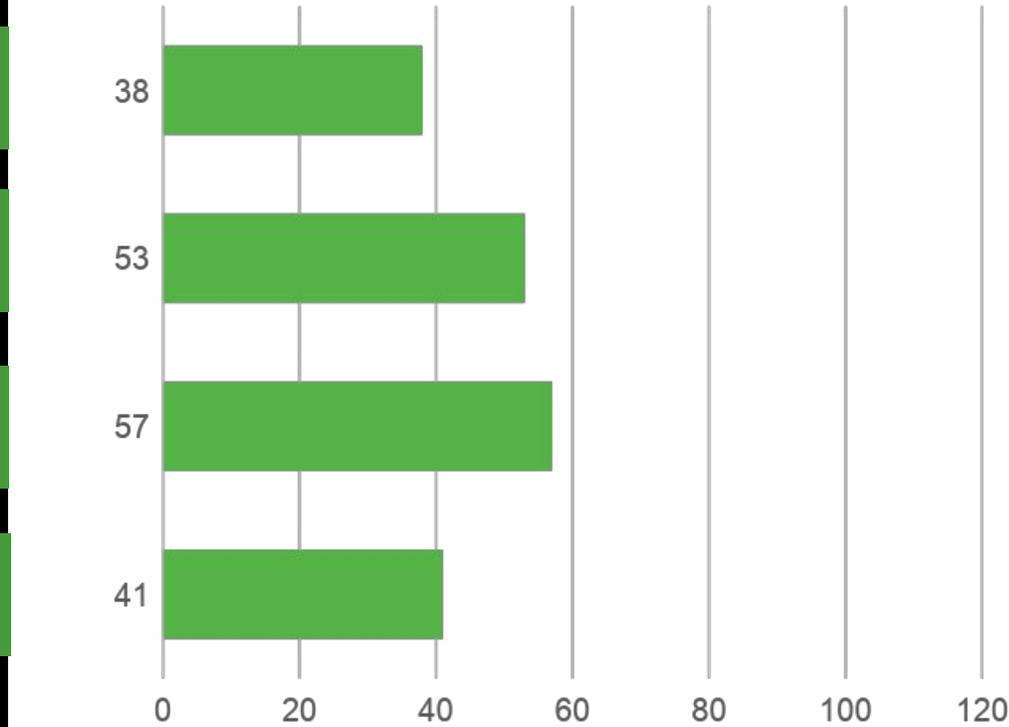
- Increased school readiness
- Healthy nutrition habits
- Advanced verbal and intellectual skills
- Advanced social and emotional skills
- Strengthened future workforce for our community

Lewis & Clark
County 38%

Jefferson
County 53%

Broadwater
County 38%

MT 41%



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.

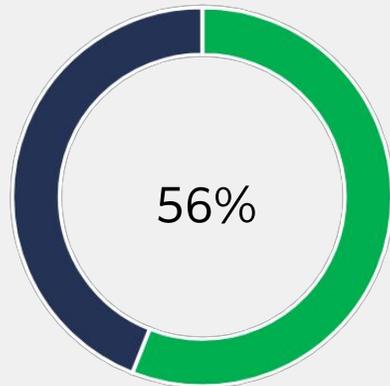


<http://lmi.mt.gov/Portals/193/Publications/LMI-Pubs/Articles/2018/0918-ChildcareInMontana.pdf/>
<https://childcaredeserts.org/index.html?state=MT>

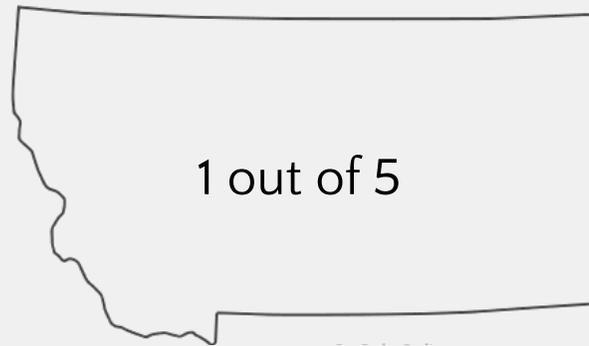
CHILD CARE CAPACITY AND FAMILIES

Families are impacted deeply by the lack of access to licensed child care, and are often left with no choice but unsafe or illegal child care options.

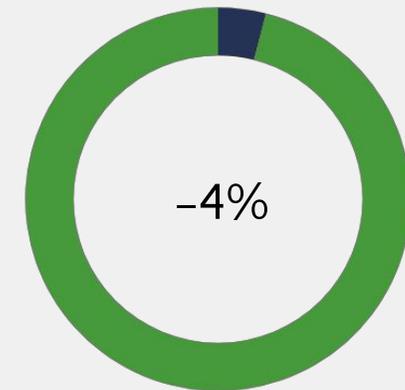
Access to child care impacts the ways that family's can participate in the workforce and contribute back to the community.



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



MT is 1 of only 5 states that fails to meet even ½ of the potential need for child care.



Despite being the 15th fastest growing state, in 2018 there were 500 less child care slots than in 2014 in MT.

COST OF CHILD CARE



\$ 9,518

Per infant, ages 0-2,
annually



\$ 8,365

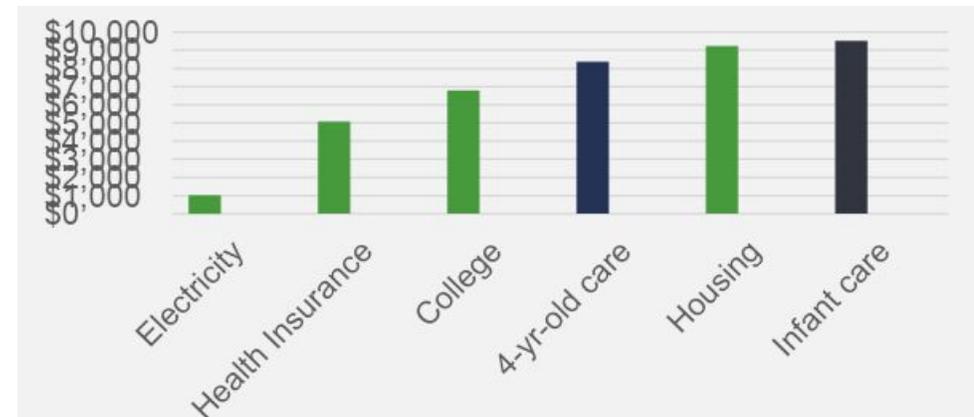
Per child, ages 3-5,
annually

INCOME PERCENTAGE

A family with one infant and one 4-year-old making the Lewis & Clark County median family income of \$60,789 spends 29% of their annual income on child care.

29%

ANNUAL FAMILY EXPENSES



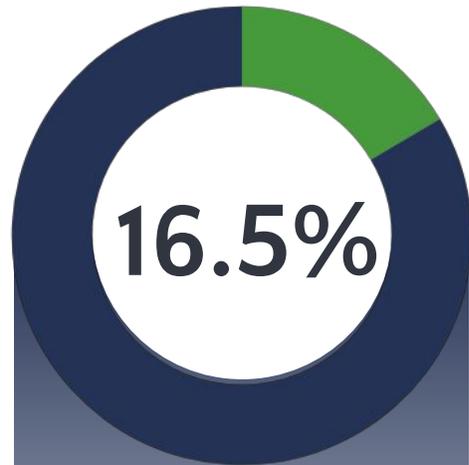
<https://www.epi.org/child-care-costs-in-the-united-states/#/MT>

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

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

IMPACT OF HIGH COSTS ON FAMILIES

AFFORDABILITY



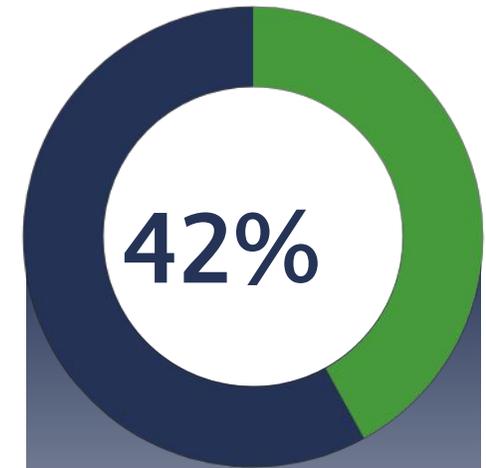
Child care is considered affordable if it costs 7% or less of a family's annual income, according to U.S. DPHHS. Yet, in Montana an average family pays 16.5% for one child.

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.

CHILD CARE COSTS EXPLAINED

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



\$10,643

Is the annual median salary of an early childhood educator in Lewis and Clark County.

Family's should pay no more that **7%** of their annual income on child care, for it to be affordable.

Why child care is so expensive and early care educators, with Bachelor Degrees, paid so little:

- 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.

WORKFORCE SHORTAGE

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



Child care providers face the same problems as other businesses looking to expand – a lack of available workers.

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5c90fe4716b640613581ddff/t/5cef052b3b10330001757348/1559168304445/Childcare+as+a+Workforce+Issue.pdf>
https://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/news/business/help-wanted-from-high-tech-to-fast-food-bozeman-wrestles/article_1089233d-d751-59f1-9af6-b538b52ab98a.html

CHILD CARE AND THE WORKFORCE

High cost, limited availability, and inconvenient program hours are all challenges that are driving parents out of the workforce.

WHY WORKERS LEAVE THE WORKFORCE

42%

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

64%

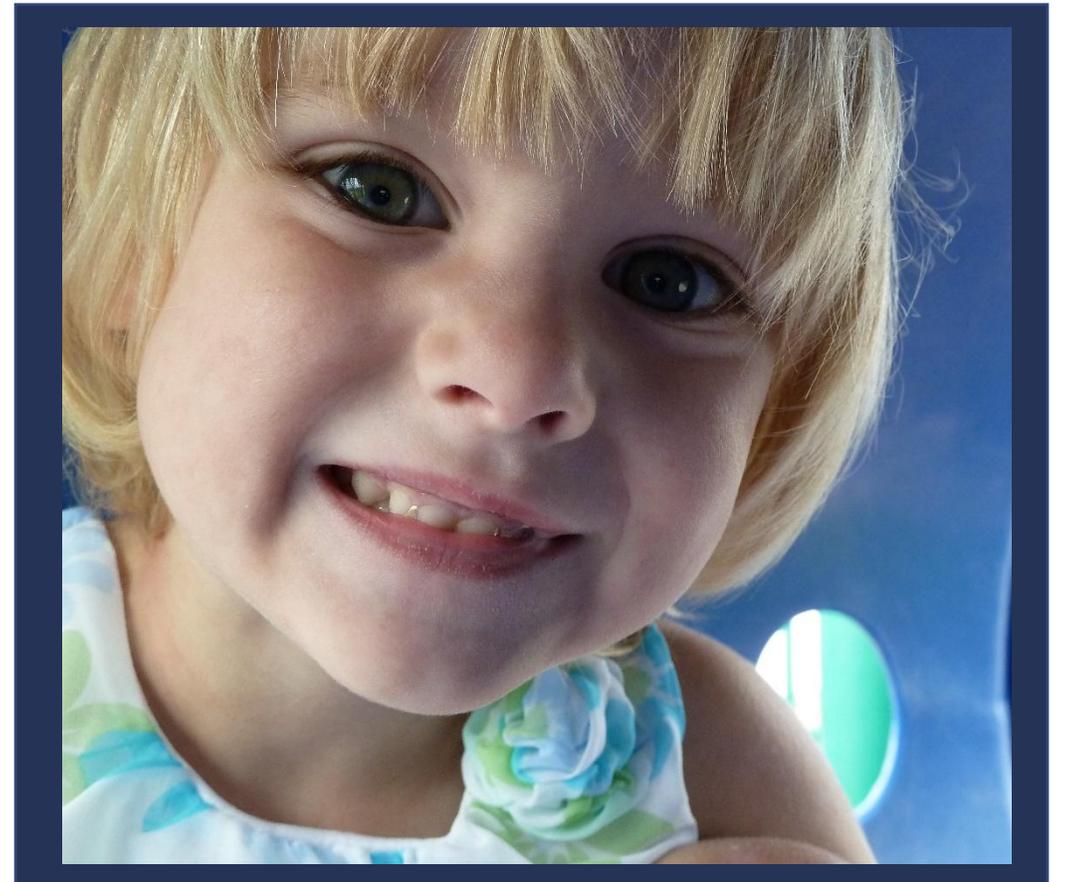
Of MT children under the age of 6 have both or their only parent in the workforce.

23%

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

17%

If child care capacity was met it is estimated that 17% more Mothers would be in the L&C workforce



CHILD CARE AND ROI MT BUSINESSES

\$1.61

For every \$1 spent on early care in MT an additional \$0.61 is generated in new spending.

With a \$197 million investment in MT's early care, \$317 million in new spending would be generated throughout the state, and stay in MT.

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

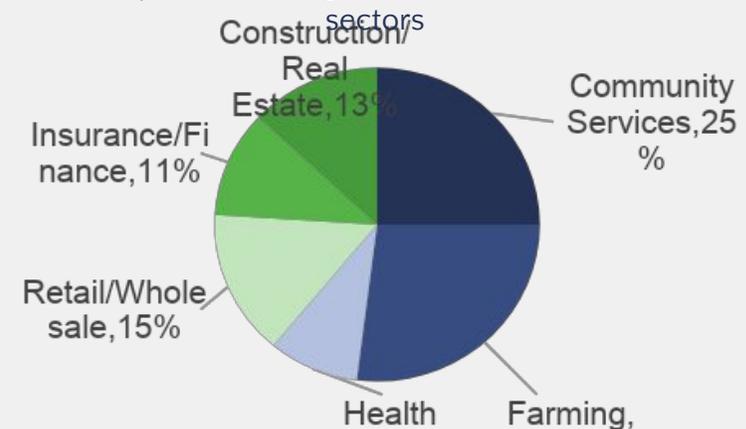
NEW JOBS

1,300

NEW JOBS OUTSIDE
OF EARLY CARE
SECTOR

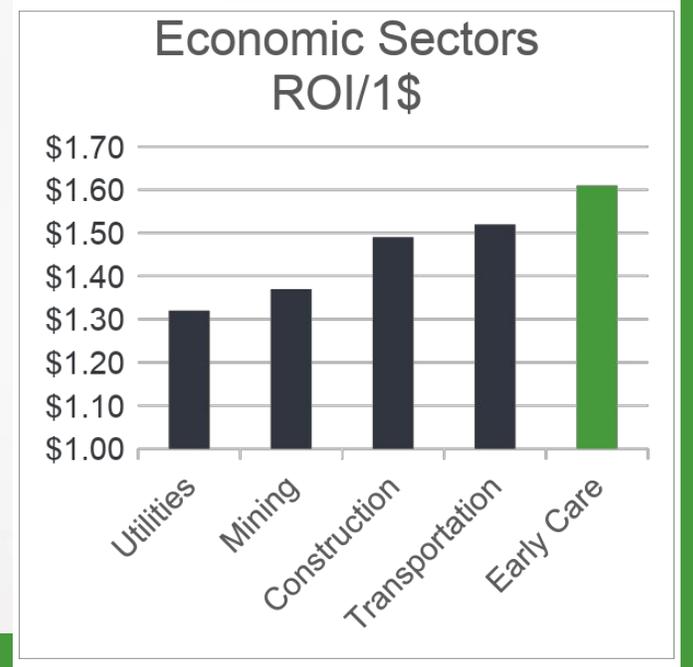
SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC GAINS

61 cents of every \$1 invested generates income in other economic sectors



THE BOTTOM LINE

Funds to assist MT businesses are limited. No other investment makes as much sense for MT business as investing in high-quality early care and education.



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

BECOME A CHAMPION OF CHILD CARE

Supporting child care is strengthening your workforce today, and in the future.

IN YOUR
AGENCY

SURVEY

The child care needs of your employees, and develop flexible and supportive policies.

INDIRECT/DIRECT ASSISTANCE

Including:

- Pre-tax flex accounts
- Reserving slots for staff
- On-site child care

SHARE INFO

With your employees on CCC's child care scholarship program and referral services.

IN YOUR
COMMUNITY

DONATE

Used equipment, extra supplies, services to local child care programs to improve the quality of their care and save them money.

GET INVOLVED

In community forums and issues. There's always something new to learn and share about child care.

INSPIRE OTHER BUSINESSES

By showing them the great things that you're doing to help your employees and community through your outreach networks.



QUESTIONS, COMMENTS?

THANK YOU!



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