



# Child Care: Essential Workforce Support and Early Learning Setting

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# Who We Are



## Child Care Aware® of America

The nation's leading voice for child care whose mission is the development of an effective child care system to support the healthy development of all children.



# Landscape of Early Learning

Child Care

Home Visiting

Early Head Start

Head Start

State PreK



# Landscape of Child Care in the U.S.

- Nearly 15 million children of working parents are in some type of child care
- On average, they spend 36 hours a week in care
- At least 1 in 4 families “piece together” their children’s care as they are placed in multiple arrangements
- Almost 60 percent of the cost of care is assumed by parents; spending more than 30% of their monthly budget on child care – more than rent, utilities, transportation and food.

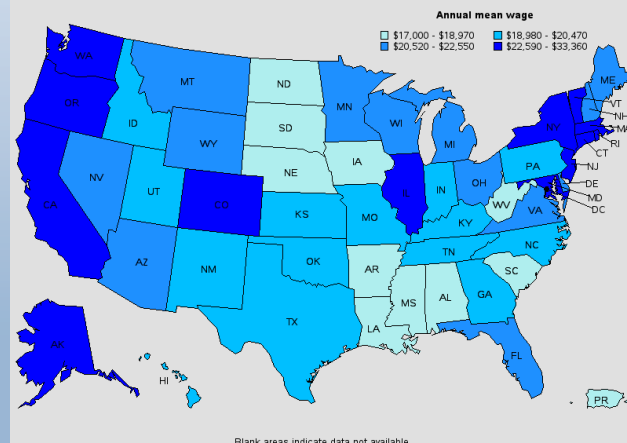


# Landscape of Child Care in the U.S.

- 2.2 million individuals earn a living caring for children under age 5
- They earn an average of \$21,310 - one of the lowest paying professional fields
- Across the states, about 78% of slots are family child care, 20% are centers

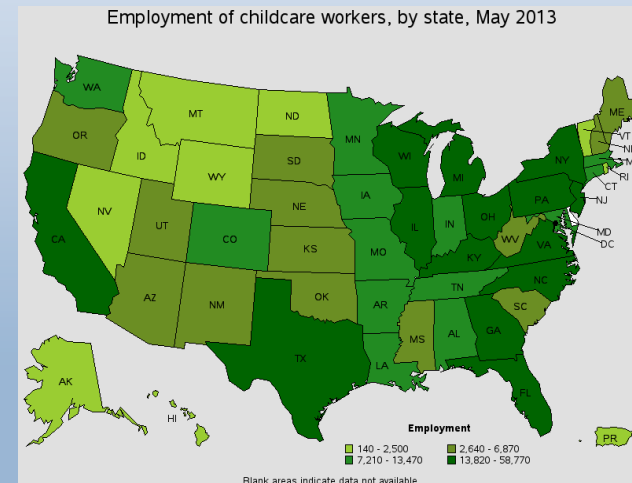
## Mean Wage

Annual mean wage of childcare workers, by state, May 2013



## Child Care Workers

Employment of childcare workers, by state, May 2013



# Why Quality Child Care Matters

**Quality child care influences success later in life-** a place for the four core areas of development related to readiness:

- Self-confidence
- Self-control
- Language and Literacy
- Thinking Skills



# Why Quality Child Care Matters

**Child Care is both a workforce support and early learning setting.**

**Heckman Equation: ROI**

**\$1 invested many more \$\$\$ later**

**At risk children are**

- **50% more likely to be placed in special education**
- **60% more likely to never attend college**
- **70% more likely to be arrested for a violent crime**

<http://www.heckmanequation.org/content/resource/invest-early-childhood-development-reduce-deficits-strengthen-economy>





# The Child Care System

## State-Level Child Care Systems:

- Each of 50 states, District of Columbia, and DOD has unique system for state
- States can use funding from a variety of sources to blend with CCDBG funds, including TANF, RTT and Head Start
- Some states have Offices of Early Learning, while others use existing agencies to administer funds to families and providers.

## The Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Program

### -Reauthorized in November, 2014

- Approximately **1.8 million** children receive CCDBG-funded child care in an average month
- Primary federal grant program that provides child care assistance for families and funds child care quality initiatives.
- Signed into law in 1990, t reauthorized in 1996 as part of welfare reform.
- Now have to meet basic health, safety and quality standards.

February, 2015- President Obama called for **\$82 billion** investment over the next 10 years for child care early learning in his budget





# Early Head Start-Child Care Partnerships

- \$500 million included as part of FY2014 and FY2015 Spending bill
- Funds are awarded competitively through the Early Head Start grant process.
- All agencies eligible to apply for Early Head Start funds could apply for Partnership competition grants, including tribes and territories, community organizations, non-profit or for profit organizations, and state and local governments.



# Child Care Cost Crisis

- **In every state**, child care fees for an infant and a 4-year-old in a center exceeded annual median **rent**.
- In **30 states and D.C.**, the cost for an infant in a center was higher than a year's tuition and fees at a **four-year public college**.
- In every region of the United States, the average family spends less on **food** than it does for care for an infant in a child care center.
- The **cost** for two children in a center is the **highest** single **household expense** in the Northeast, Midwest and South.



# 2014 CCAoA Report Findings:

## Child Care in America is Expensive

- Child care is **expensive**, regardless of geography or income. Nationwide, families experience child care costs exceeding even college tuition in some states.

## Paying for Child Care

- Unlike all other areas of education investment, including higher education, **families** bear the majority of the burden for child care costs.

## Expanding Access to Quality Affordable Child Care

- Finding solutions to expanding access to and funding high-quality child care services is a national concern for government, business leaders, and families alike.



# Child Care Costs More than ...

Child care is a major expense in family budgets, often **exceeding** the cost of:



**HOUSING**



**COLLEGE TUITION**



**FOOD**



**TRANSPORTATION**

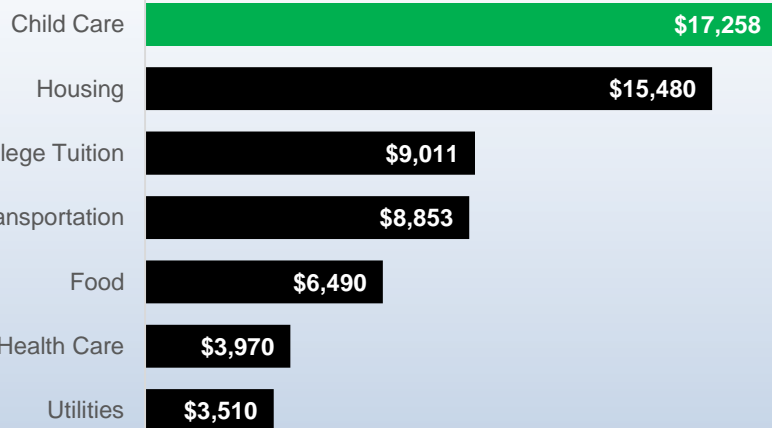
PARENTS AND THE  
**HIGH COST OF CHILD CARE**

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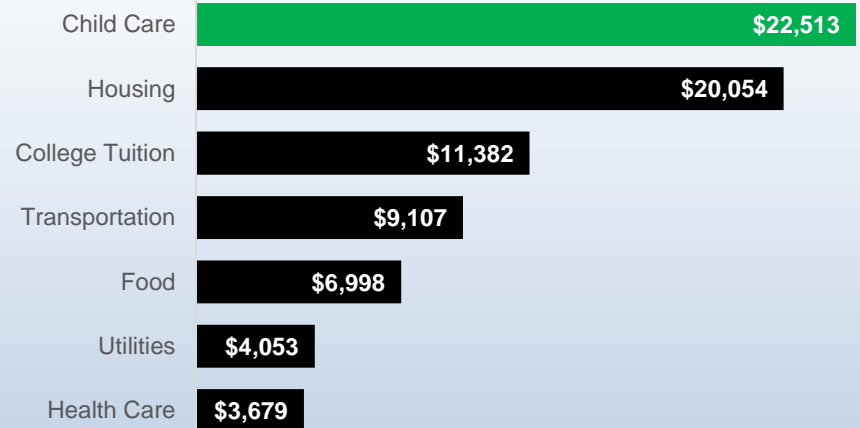


# Comparison of Household Expenditures

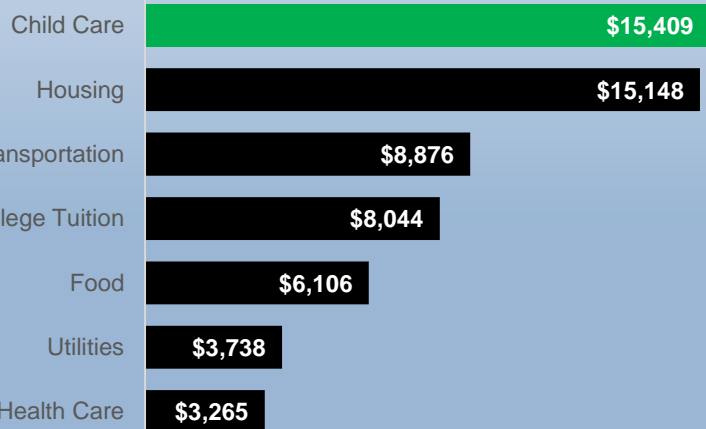
## Midwest



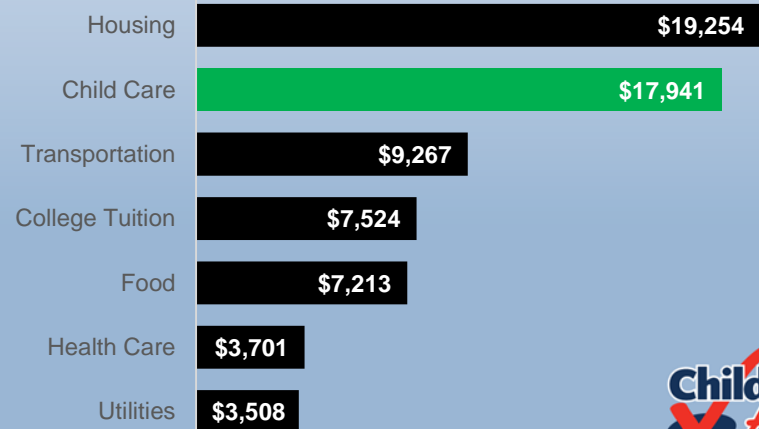
## Northeast

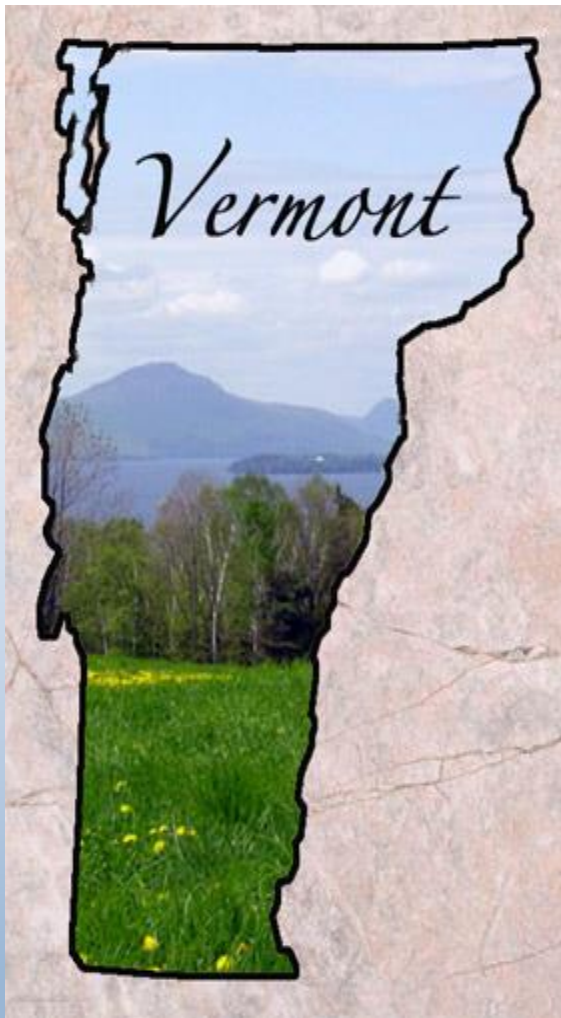


## South



## West





- **16<sup>th</sup> highest** for **infant center based** care with costs running **12.5%** of the state median income for a two parent family.
- For **four year old center care** it's **2nd least affordable**, with **12.5%** percentage of family income.

<http://usa.childcareaware.org/costofcare>



# Solutions: Working Together

- 1) Whole community solutions to support **our families**
- 2) Creating Strategies to help families **find** and **afford** Child Care
- 3) Expanding the supply of sustainable, **Quality** Child Care options for families

**Child care is both a workforce support AND  
an early learning setting**

