# Early Childhood Education in Maryland



14,645

## In Maryland, state and federally funded early childhood opportunities served more than 77,404 children and families.

High-quality early childhood education (ECE) is proven to dramatically improve a child's opportunities for a better future - particularly children from low-income families - while offering parents improved job stability and overall economic security. Research has shown an annual 13% return on investment per child through better education, economic, health, and social outcomes. To ensure all children can access high-quality early learning and care, the federal government partners with states to support local efforts and innovations.

Over time, ECE programs have been created to meet the diverse needs of children and families. A 2017 Government Accountability Office (GAO) report found that these programs work in conjunction to benefit those they serve.

Much of the progress at the state and local level has been made possible by strong partnerships with the federal government aimed at expanding access and increasing quality for more children. Many state and community programs are funded exclusively with federal dollars, while others leverage federal funding to create and expand high-quality early learning and care opportunities beyond what is possible with state funding alone. This resource provides a snapshot of what ECE looks like in Maryland. To learn more about the specific programs referenced, read FFYF's ABCs of Federal Early Learning and Care Funding Streams resource.

<sup>1</sup> This figure includes beneficiaries of Head Start, Early Head Start, CCDF, MIECH	٧,
state-funded Pre-K, and IDEA Parts B Sec. 619 and C. In some cases, children a	nd
families are served by more than one program.	

Note: The data and information in this resource relies on reporting from prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### MARYLAND QUICK FACTS 462,464 Population Under Six<sup>2</sup> 12.61% **Under Six Living in Poverty<sup>3</sup>** Children Enrolled in Head Start4 7,797 Eligible Children 15.70% Served by Head Start<sup>5</sup> **Children Enrolled in** 2,991 Early Head Start<sup>6</sup> **Eligible Children** 10.58% Served by Early Head Start<sup>7</sup> **Children Under Six Served by** 8,631 **CCDBG and Mandatory Funds<sup>8</sup> Eligible Children Under Six Served** 3.70% by CCDBG and Mandatory Funds9 Families Served by the Maternal, 1,371 **Infant, and Early Childhood Home** Visiting Program (MIECHV)10 **Children Enrolled in** 32,062 State Funded Pre-K<sup>11</sup> **Children Served by the** 9.907 **Individuals with Disabilities Education** Act (IDEA) Part C12 **Children Served by IDEA**

Part B, Sec. 619<sup>13</sup>

#### Federal and State Early Childhood Education Funding in Maryland



### **Early Childhood Education and the Maryland Economy**

In Maryland, there are 309,560 children under age six with all available parents in the workforce.<sup>24</sup> In addition to the significant impact of early childhood education on children and families in the short and long term, early learning and care can have an immediate impact on state economies. Access to affordable child care can increase labor force participation and support parents seeking additional education and training, which contributes to higher earnings over an individual's lifetime.

In Maryland, an estimated

41,142 JOBS

are sustained by the child care sector.

#### Lack of Supply and High Cost of Care Challenging for Working Families

The cost of care in Maryland remains a hurdle for many parents who wish to enter or remain in the workforce. Limited access to high-quality, affordable child care presents an additional challenge for working families. Simultaneously, the supply of home-based care, which is often the more affordable and flexible option, has decreased since 2010.

\$15,403
is the average annual cost of center-based infant care in Maryland.

12.6% of the state median income
26, 27

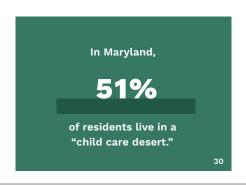
In Maryland, the child care industry has an estimated

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF

\$2.05 B

including revenue generated by child care providers and spillover or related productivity in other sectors.

31





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>U.S. Census Bureau (Census)</u> <sup>3</sup> Ibid. <sup>4</sup> Office of Head Start Performance Indicator Report (PIR) <sup>5</sup> PIR and <u>Census</u> <sup>6</sup> PIR <sup>7</sup> PIR and <u>Census</u> <sup>8</sup> Office of Child Care FY2018 CCDF Data Tables <sup>9</sup> Center for American Progress (CAP) Early Learning in the U.S. 2019 <sup>10</sup> Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) <sup>11</sup> The National Institute for Early Education (NIEER) - State of Preschool 2019 <sup>12</sup> <u>U.S. Department of Education</u> <sup>13</sup> Ibid. <sup>14</sup> Head Start Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center <sup>15</sup> Office of Child Care (OCC) FY2019 CCDF Allocations (Based on Appropriations) <sup>16</sup> Ibid. <sup>17</sup> NIEER - State of Preschool 2019

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) <sup>19</sup> Office of Family Assistance TANF FY2018 Financial Data <sup>20</sup> HRSA <sup>21</sup> 2020 PDG Grant Awards <sup>22</sup> ED <sup>23</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Census <sup>25</sup> Committee for Economic Development (CED) <sup>26</sup> Child Care Aware of America - The US and the High Price of Care 2019 <sup>27</sup> Ibid. <sup>28</sup> Ibid. <sup>28</sup> CED

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> CAP defines "child care desert" as any census tract with more than 50 children under age 5 that contains either no child care providers OR more than three times as many children as licensed child care slots. <sup>31</sup> CED