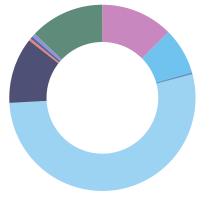
# Early Childhood Education in New Mexico



State and federal funding enables more than 32,947 children and families in New Mexico to access high-quality, public and private, early childhood programs.<sup>1</sup>

### Federal and State Early Childhood Education Funding in New Mexico



\$102.0M	•	Head Start and Early Head Start <sup>2</sup>
\$65.2M		CCDBG and Mandatory Funds <sup>3</sup>
\$2.7M		CCDBG State Match⁴
\$431.6M		CCDBG COVID-Relief Allocations: CARES <sup>5</sup>
		CRRSA <sup>6</sup>   ARPA (CCDF + Stabilization) <sup>7</sup>
\$92.7M		State-Funded Pre-K <sup>8</sup>
\$3.5M	•	MIECHV <sup>9</sup>
\$4.0M		IDEA Part C <sup>10</sup>
\$4.9M		IDEA Part B, Sec. 619 <sup>11</sup>

\$104.6M • TANF<sup>12</sup> Early Learning and Care Expenditures<sup>13</sup>

**Early Childhood Education** 

In addition to the benefits to young

children, access to affordable, high-

parental labor force participation and family economic stability. Child care

problems, however, adversely affect

As a direct result of child care issues,

the national economy loses upward of \$57 billion annually in the form of lost

earnings, productivity, and revenue.<sup>14</sup>

both state and national economies.

quality child care can increase

**Economic Impact** 

### **New Mexico Quick Facts**

**4,525** Children Enrolled in Head Start<sup>18</sup>

#### 13.12%

Eligible Children Served by Head Start<sup>19</sup>

**2,223** Children Enrolled in Early Head Start<sup>20</sup>

**6.30%** Eligible Children Served by Early Head Start<sup>21</sup>

### 7,194

Children Under Six Served by CCDBG and Mandatory Funds<sup>22</sup>

### 27.3%

Eligible Children Under Six Served by CCDBG and Mandatory Funds<sup>23</sup> **10,388** Children Enrolled in State Funded Pre-K<sup>24</sup>

#### 510

Families Served by MIECHV<sup>25</sup>

#### 4,632

Children Served by IDEA Part C<sup>26</sup>

#### 3,475

Children Served by IDEA Part B, Sec. 619<sup>27</sup>

#### 36.55%

Three- and Four-year old Children who Attend Public ECE<sup>28</sup>

### In New Mexico

8.1%

of parents make career sacrifices due to child care issues.<sup>15</sup>

Labor force participation of mothers with children under the age of 5 decreased from 65.6% in 2019 to 61.0% in  $2021.^{16}$ 

### Nationwide<sup>17</sup>

The percent of families that reported difficulty finding space in a home- or center-based program increased dramatically from 22% in December 2021 to 58% in January 2022.

71% of parents report that difficulty finding child care has impacted their ability to work.

### New Mexico Early Learning and Care Snapshot



- Population Under Six: 147,168<sup>29</sup>
- Under Six Living in Poverty: 29.11%<sup>30</sup>
  59.34% of children under six have all
- available parents in the workforce<sup>31</sup>



- 53% of New Mexico residents live in a "child care desert"<sup>32</sup>
  For rural families and families with
- For rural families and families with low incomes, this percentage is even higher<sup>33</sup>



- The average price of child care is \$8,637 per year<sup>34</sup>
  The median household
- income is \$78,803<sup>35</sup>



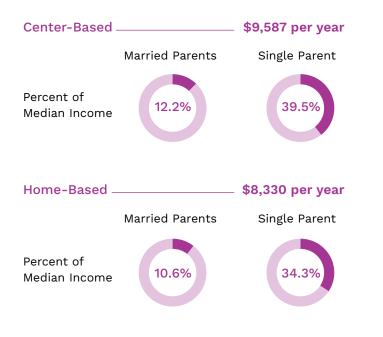
 Met 9/10 of NIEER's State Preschool Quality Standards<sup>36</sup>

## High Price of Care<sup>37</sup>

Too often, the care that is available costs more than families can afford.

### Annual Price of Infant Care in New Mexico

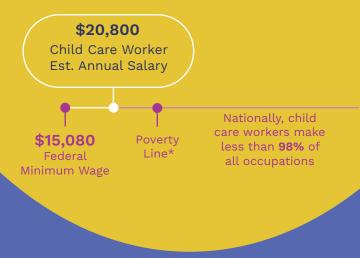
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### Low Compensation for Early Educators

Despite the critical nature of their work, early educators are among the most underpaid workers in the nation.<sup>38</sup>

# \$10.00 Child Care Workers Hourly Rate



### The Temporary Impact of ARPA Funding

In New Mexico, 10,307 child care spots were saved by ARPA funds.  $^{\mbox{\tiny 39}}$ 

### Of providers who received stabilization grants:40

92%

said funding helped them stay open.

75%

used funds for compensation but still struggle to provide competitive wages and benefits. 46%

used funds to pay debts taken on in the course of the pandemic, including

↓ 63% of those in family

child care homes.

1010 Vermont Avenue, NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005 🔵 ffyf.org