Early Childhood Education in North Dakota

State and federal funding enables more than 9,145 children and families in North Dakota to access high-quality, public and private, early childhood programs.¹

Federal and State Early Childhood Education Funding in North Dakota

- $36.4M: Head Start and Early Head Start²
- $17.7M: CCDBG and Mandatory Funds³
- $3.0M: CCDBG State Match⁴
- $101.2M: CCDBG COVID-Relief Allocations: CARES⁵ | CRRSA⁶ | ARPA (CCDF + Stabilization)⁷
- $0.6M: State-Funded Pre-K⁸
- $1.0M: MIECHV⁹
- $3.6M: IDEA Part C¹⁰
- $1.3M: IDEA Part B, Sec. 619¹¹
- $1.2M: TANF¹² Early Learning and Care Expenditures¹³

North Dakota Quick Facts

- 1,949: Children Enrolled in Head Start²⁴
- 35.49%: Eligible Children Served by Head Start²⁵
- 736: Children Enrolled in Early Head Start²⁶
- 8.82%: Eligible Children Served by Early Head Start²⁷
- 1,776: Children Under Six Served by CCDBG and Mandatory Funds²²
- 9.5%: Eligible Children Under Six Served by CCDBG and Mandatory Funds²³
- 1,354: Children Enrolled in State Funded Pre-K²⁴
- 128: Families Served by MIECHV²⁵
- 1,487: Children Served by IDEA Part C²⁶
- 1,715: Children Served by IDEA Part B, Sec. 619²⁷
- 17.94%: Three- and Four-year old Children who Attend Public ECE²⁸

Early Childhood Education Economic Impact

In addition to the benefits to young children, access to affordable, high-quality child care can increase parental labor force participation and family economic stability. Child care problems, however, adversely affect both state and national economies. 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.¹⁴

In North Dakota

- 6.5% of parents make career sacrifices due to child care issues.¹⁵
- Labor force participation of mothers with children under the age of 5 increased from 72.6% in 2019 to 75.4% in 2021.¹⁶

Nationwide¹⁷

- 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.
North Dakota Early Learning and Care Snapshot

- Population Under Six: 63,605
- Under Six Living in Poverty: 11.92%
- 71.61% of children under six have all available parents in the workforce

Access

- 24% of North Dakota residents live in a "child care desert"
- For Hispanics/Latinos and rural families, this percentage is even higher

Affordability

- The average price of child care is $8,480 per year
- The median household income is $106,020

Quality

- Met 2/10 of NIEER’s State Preschool Quality Standards

High Price of Care

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

Annual Price of Infant Care in North Dakota

Center-Based ____________ $9,669 per year

Married Parents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent of Median Income</th>
<th>Single Parent</th>
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<tr>
<td>9.1%</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
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Home-Based ____________ $7,991 per year

Married Parents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent of Median Income</th>
<th>Single Parent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
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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.

$11.44 Child Care Workers Hourly Rate

$23,800 Child Care Worker Est. Annual Salary

92% said funding helped them stay open.

75% used funds for compensation but still struggle to provide competitive wages and benefits.

63% of those in family child care homes.

The Temporary Impact of ARPA Funding

In North Dakota, 14,937 child care spots were saved by ARPA funds.

Of providers who received stabilization grants:

- 92% used funds to pay debts taken on in the course of the pandemic, including
- 46% used funds to pay debts taken on in the course of the pandemic, including
- 63% of those in family child care homes.

1. This figure includes beneficiaries of Head Start, Early Head Start, the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV), state-funded Pre-K, and the individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Parts B, I, C, and F (in some cases, children and families are served by more than one program)
2. NIEER
3. Office of Child Care (OCC) CARES Act CCDBG Supplemental Stabilization and CCDF Discretionary Funding Allocation Tables for States and Territories
4. Ibid
5. Ibid
6. Ibid
7. Ibid
8. Ibid
9. National Center for Education Statistics
10. National Center for Education Statistics
11. Ibid
12. Ibid
13. Ibid
15. Ibid
17. Ibid
18. Ibid
20. Ibid
22. Ibid
23. Ibid
24. Ibid
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36. Ibid
37. Ibid
38. Ibid
39. Ibid
40. Ibid

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