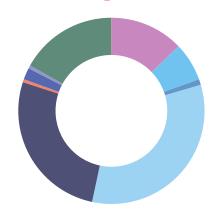


# **Early Childhood Education in Vermont**



State and federal funding enables more than 12,046 children and families in Vermont to access high-quality, public and private, early childhood programs.<sup>1</sup>

# Federal and State Early Childhood Education Funding in Vermont



\$25.0M • Head Start and Early Head Start<sup>2</sup>

\$13.3M • CCDBG and Mandatory Funds<sup>3</sup>

\$1.6M • CCDBG State Match<sup>4</sup>

\$64.3M • CCDBG COVID-Relief Allocations: CARES<sup>5</sup> | CRRSA<sup>6</sup> | ARPA (CCDF + Stabilization)<sup>7</sup>

\$52.3M • State-Funded Pre-K<sup>8</sup>

\$1.4M • MIECHV<sup>9</sup>

\$3.6M • IDEA Part C10

\$1.4M • IDEA Part B, Sec. 61911

\$33.4M • TANF<sup>12</sup> Early Learning and Care Expenditures<sup>13</sup>

### **Vermont Quick Facts**

#### 746

Children Enrolled in Head Start<sup>18</sup>

#### 25.36%

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

#### 513

Children Enrolled in Early Head Start<sup>20</sup>

#### 14.79%

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

#### 1,474

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

#### 14.0%

Eligible Children Under Six Served by CCDBG and Mandatory Funds<sup>23</sup>

#### 6,594

Children Enrolled in State Funded Pre-K<sup>24</sup>

#### 469

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

#### 889

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

#### 1,361

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

#### 54.99%

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

# 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.<sup>14</sup>

#### **In Vermont**

5.0% 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 70.6% in 2019 to 66.9% in 2021.<sup>16</sup>

### 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.

# Vermont Early Learning and Care Snapshot



- Population Under Six: 35.014<sup>29</sup>
- Under Six Living in Poverty: 13.32%30
- 71.79% of children under six have all available parents in the workforce<sup>31</sup>



- 35% of Vermont residents live in a "child care desert"<sup>32</sup>
- For rural families and families with low incomes, this percentage is even higher<sup>33</sup>



- The average price of child care is \$11,266 per year<sup>34</sup>
- The median household income is \$99,985<sup>35</sup>



 Met 7/10 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 Vermont**

Center-Based \$13,915 per year

Married Parents Single Parent

Percent of Median Income



Home-Based \_\_\_\_\_\_\$9,428 per year

Married Parents Single Parent

Percent of Median Income





## 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>

\$13.72 Child Care Workers Hourly Rate



# The Temporary Impact of ARPA Funding

In Vermont, 5,492 child care spots were saved by ARPA funds.<sup>39</sup>

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.

I This figure includes beneficiaries of Head Start, Early Head Start, the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), the Maternal, Infan, and Early Childhood, Home Wisting Program (MICEHY), state-funded PrevK, and the Individuals with Disabilities Bedication Act (IDEA) Parts B, Sec. 619 and C. In some cases, children and families are served by more than one program. | 2 Pead Start Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center | 3 Office of Child Care (OCC) GY2021 CCDF Allocations (Based on, Appropriations) | 4 Ibid | 5 OCC CARES Act CCDBG Supplemental Funding Allocations for States and Territories | 6 OCC Coronavirus. Responses and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (GRBSA) of 2021 Allocations for States and Territories | 7 OCC American. Rescue Plan Act (ABRA) Supplemental Stabilization and CCDF Discretionary Funding Allocation Tables for States and Territories | 8 Bational Institute for Early Education Research - State of Preschool 2021 (NIEER) | 9 Health Resources and Services | 8 Bational Institute for Early Education Research - State of Preschool 2021 (NIEER) | 9 Health Resources and Services | 13 Office of Family Assistance TANE FY2019 Financial Data | 14 Council for a Strong America | 15 Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health 2019 | 19 Committee for Economic Development (CED) | 17 Rapid-EC Survey. March 2022 | 18 Office of Head Start Performance Indicator Report (RR) | 19 PR and US. Census Bursau (Census) | 20 PR | 21 PR and Gensus | 20 Center for American Progress (CAP) - Early Learning in the US. 2021 | 24 NIEER | 25 HBSA | 26 ED | 27 ED | 28 NIEER | (Includes preschool, Head Start, and Special Education) | 29 Census | 30 RIEER | 37 CCAD | 48 Office of Center-base definition and 4-year-old care | 15 CADA | 50 married couple) | 30 NIEER | 28 HBSA | 26 ED | 27 ED | 28 CENTER | 37 CCAD | 38 OFFICE | 38 CCAD | 38 OFFICE | 37 CCAD