A closer look at policy-relevant information related to Oregon’s children, families, and the early care and education system.
Early Care & Education in Oregon

Growing awareness of the importance of the early years in a child’s life increases the need to know more about Oregon’s young children, their families, and the early care and education that exists to support them.

How Many Children Under 13 Live in Oregon

A Third of Young Oregon Children are Hispanic or Non-white

1. [Graph showing the distribution of children by age and ethnicity.]
2. [Graph showing the proportion of children by age and ethnicity.]
Early Care and Education Programs

How much child care and education do we need?

How much child care do we have right now?

655,634 children under age 13 living in Oregon

107,269 slots in centers and family child care homes for children currently under age 13 living in Oregon

- 79,502 slots in Child Care Centers
- 27,767 slots in Family Child Care Homes

16% of children under age 13 have access to visible child care in Oregon

Nearly \( \frac{2}{3} \) of children have both parents employed or a single parent employed.

Households with children < Age 6

- 2 Parents; Neither Employed
- Single Parent; Not Employed
- 2 Parents; 1 Employed
- Single Parent; Employed
- 2 Parents; Both Employed

Households with Children Ages 6-17
Preschoolers are the most likely to be in “Organized Care”, a term used to describe centers, family child care homes, and other organized activities. Families are more likely to use relatives and friends (“Informal Care”) for care of very young children and older children when not in school.

Use of early care and education depends on age of children, employment status of parents, household income, and access to free or subsidized care. Public and private leaders watch levels of participation in preschool by 3- and 4-year-old children because of its association with kindergarten readiness.

**46% of 3- and 4-year old children were enrolled in preschool in 2016.**
## Affordability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>$14,160</strong></td>
<td>Median annual price of toddler care in a child care center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>$7,680</strong></td>
<td>Median annual price of public university tuition in Oregon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The price of child care can exceed tuition at Oregon’s public universities

What percent of a minimum wage worker's annual income pays the price of center care for a toddler?

- Standard: 45%
- Portland Metro: 65%
- Nonurban Counties: 32%

https://www.oregon.gov/boli/WHD/OMW/Pages/Minimum-Wage-Rate-Summary.aspx

### Oregon Child Care Center Teacher Earnings

Annual median teacher wages range from a median low of $22,880 to a median high of $32,470. Thirty-six percent of center teachers and 49% of head teachers have a bachelor's degree or higher.
Between 2004 and 2018 child care prices have increased 22% more quickly than have the incomes of households with children under 18 years of age. Since 2004, child care prices have increased by 38% and household incomes have increased slightly. Child care prices continue to challenge households headed by female single parents who face the same prices but with median incomes that are only 39% of that of all households with children.
How Does Oregon Pay for Early Care and Education?

- Families paid $919,509,590
- State of Oregon paid $119,771,366
- Federal Government paid $248,551,703

**TOTAL**

$1,287,832,659

- 80% of combined state and federal expenditures were tax credits
- 20% of combined state and federal expenditures funded early care and education programs
How many Children are in Families Receiving Help Paying for Child Care?

Most help paying for early care and education comes through two state/federal partnerships:

### Oregon Early Head Start & Head Start Prekindergarten

A family is eligible for Oregon Early Head Start and Head Start Prekindergarten if their income is 100% or less of the 2018 Federal Poverty Level ($20,780 for a family of three). A family is eligible for Preschool Promise if their income is 200% or less of the 2018 Federal Poverty Level ($41,560 for a family of three).

Together these two programs serve:

- **9%** of under 3-year-olds up to 100% of Federal Poverty Level
- **63%** of 3- and 4-year-olds up to 100% of Federal Poverty Level
- **36%** of 3- and 4-year-olds up to 200% of Federal Poverty Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oregon Early Head Start &amp; Head Start Prekindergarten</th>
<th>Oregon Child Care Subsidy Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>136,729 children allowed to be served by the state of Oregon under rules established by the federal government</td>
<td>91,539 children eligible for a child care subsidy in 2015 under rules established by the state of Oregon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15,127 children actually served by the state of Oregon in 2015 (17% of state allowance, 11% of federal allowance)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
References

[12] Child Care Division, Oregon Employment Department, The Economic Impact of Oregon’s Child Care Industry: 2010.

To Cite
Early Care and Education Profiles: 2018 Oregon Child Care Research Partnership, Oregon State University.