## GOAL: Access to High-Quality Early Learning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Data</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of children birth through 8</td>
<td>477,953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of children birth through 5 who live in families with incomes below the federal poverty line</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percentage of children with all available parents in the workforce</td>
<td>64%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of children receiving child care assistance per month, on average</td>
<td>$8,576</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of children in Head Start and Early Head Start programs</td>
<td>14,079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children in state funded PreK programs*</td>
<td>39,807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of NAEYC accredited early learning programs</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of children served in NAEYC accredited early learning programs</td>
<td>6,618</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*State data may vary.

**This number includes children under 13 and those with disabilities ages 13-18. Percentages may vary based on state data for children under five, and infants and toddlers.
What Supports Are Provided for the ECE Workforce?

- **34**
  Number of institutions of higher education with ECE programs [1]

- **21**
  Number of IHEs with NAEYC accredited and/or recognized programs [2]

- **2,442**
  Number of licensed child care centers and family child care homes [3]

- **Does the state provide scholarships to support early childhood educators in earning credentials and degrees? [4]**

How Much Are Early Childhood Educators Compensated?

- **$18,928**
  Est. Annual Salary [10]

- **$9.10**
  Child Care Workers Hourly Rate [6]

- **$7.25**
  State Minimum Hourly Rate [5]

- **53%**
  Percentage of the child care workforce receives public benefits [8]

- **$15,080**
  Federal Minimum Wage [7]

- **$15,080**
  Child Care Worker Salary [6]

- **$46,113**
  Elementary School Teacher Salary [7]

What Kind of Federal Investment Supports Access to Child Care and Early Learning?

- **Head Start [9]**
  $119M

- **CCDBG [10]**
  $120M

- **TANF for Child Care [11]**
  $15M

Programs including IDEA, CACFP, CHIP, SNAP, and Medicaid, as well as tax credits such as the Child Care and Dependent Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit, also provide critical investments to support the well–being of young children and their families.

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*2020 Federal Poverty Guideline for a family of four in the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia is $26,200 per year. The poverty guidelines are updated periodically in the Federal Register by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2).