## SNAPSHOT

### CHILD CARE IN UTAH

**Child Care is Critical for Utah’s Workforce**

- **54%** of children under 6 have all available parents in the labor force, up from 50% ten years ago.¹

**Child Care is Critical for Reducing Gender and Racial Disparities in Economic Participation**

- **55%** of mothers with children under 6 participate in the labor force in UT.²
- **64%** of Black mothers with children under 6 participate in the labor force in UT.³

### COVID-19 Poses a New Threat to the Child Care Sector

- **73%** of child care slots could be lost. Pre-pandemic in UT there were 5.7 children for every available slot. With COVID closures that number could go as high as 21:1.

- **Provider costs are increasing in UT**⁵
  - Center-based providers’ costs are estimated to increase by **27%**.
  - Family-based providers’ costs are estimated to increase by **69%**.

### The Child Care Sector Was Struggling Prior to COVID-19

- **9%** of child care workers in UT lived in poverty.⁶

- **7%** of White workers
- **15%** of Hispanic workers

- **77%** of people in UT were living in a child care desert.¹⁰

### Costs of providing care were high in UT

- $1,180/month for center-based infant care
- $840/month for center-based toddler care
- $540/month for family-based care

### Subsidies were insufficient

- Monthly gap between subsidy and cost to provider, per child **$422**

### Child care is hard to afford

- A minimum wage worker in UT spends **66%** of their earnings on child care, on average.¹¹

### Child Care Is Important to the Economy

- Yet only **13%** of low-income eligible families in UT receive federal subsidies.¹²

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For additional state profiles and more on this topic, visit Investing in the Future of Child Care: [sffed.us/childcare](sffed.us/childcare)
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Endnotes


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