

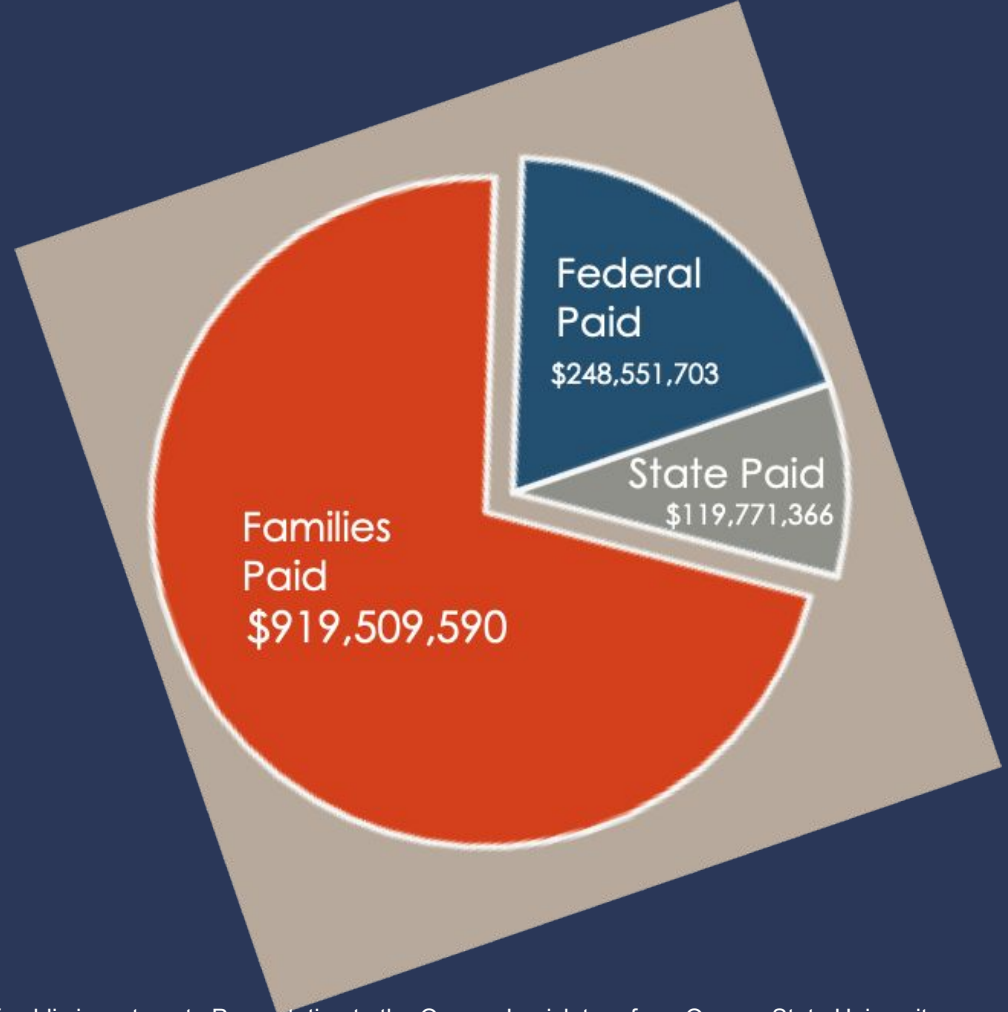
Early Learning & Child Care Funding

Courtney Helstein, Family Forward Oregon

House Committee on Early Childhood
Challenges in Early Learning, June 1, 2022



Oregon
families fund
72% of annual
child care
expenditures



Across Oregon, there is inadequate regulated child care supply - especially for infants & toddlers



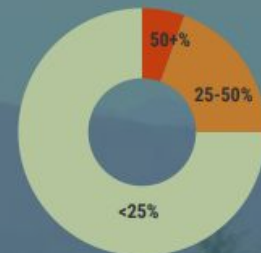
There are 8 infants & toddlers for a single child care slot in Oregon

A child care desert is a community with 3 or more children for a single child care slot



All 36 Oregon counties are child care deserts for infants & toddlers

Public funding plays a major role in creating Oregon's child care supply - especially for preschoolers



3/4 of Oregon counties have fewer than 25% publicly funded regulated infant/toddler slots

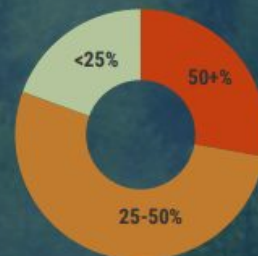


There are 3 preschool-age children for a single child care slot in Oregon



All but 9 Oregon counties are child care deserts for preschool-age children

Without publicly funded slots, 7 additional counties would be child care deserts.



All but 9 Oregon counties have at least 25% publicly funded regulated preschool-age slots

Definitions: **Infants & toddlers** are 0-2 year olds. **Preschool-age children** are 3-5 year olds. **Regulated child care** includes certified centers, and registered or certified family child care homes. **Publicly funded slots** include Oregon Head Start Prekindergarten, Early Head Start, Preschool Promise, Federal and Tribal Head Start, and Federal Migrant and Seasonal Head Start managed by OCDC.

Reference: Oregon's Child Care Deserts: Mapping Supply by Age Group, Metropolitan Status, and Percentage of Publicly Funded Slot, 2018 Oregon Child Care Research Partnership, Oregon State University. Full report can be found at <https://health.oregonstate.edu/early-learners/early-care-education>

For more information contact Megan Pratt at megan.pratt@oregonstate.edu

The bottom line? Child care workers & providers need significantly more support.

- 41% of providers report using personal savings to stay open, 36% say they've used credit cards
- 64% decrease in number of programs serving 100+ children
- 40% of programs still open are operating at 76% capacity to pre-COVID
- 1/3 have not been able to rehire staff that were laid off or furloughed

Providers identified financial support as their most urgent need, closely followed by *respect* and *appreciation*.

Supported Workforce

- Targeted universalism - funded well with public resources
- Affordable at every income level
- Covers children 0 to 13+ and serves children of all abilities affordability
- Mixed delivery, includes FFN

- Living wages and benefits
- Good working conditions
- Training and education supports
- Culturally responsive curriculum

Affordability

Access

- Meets the need in all 36 counties
- Available in diverse settings, in various languages
- Available during variety of hours
- True choice, center and in-home options

Questions?

Contact:

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