

# The Montana Child Care Profile



## State Fiscal Year 2008

A compilation of data about  
child care in Montana

Produced by the Montana Child Care  
Resource & Referral Network



Funded by a Best Beginnings Grant from  
the Department of Public Health and Human Services

# Montana

## Montana's Children

<b>Total number of residents in Montana</b> <sup>1</sup>	<b>945,730</b>
% growth in population 2005-2007 <sup>1</sup>	3.85%
Children under 5 as % of population <sup>1</sup>	6.2%
Children under 18 as % of population <sup>1</sup>	22.9%
% households with children <sup>1</sup>	29.2%
% children living in single-parent families <sup>1</sup>	7.8%
Total number of children under 18 <sup>1</sup>	220,051
Total number of children ages 5-14 <sup>1</sup>	119,913
Total number of children ages 0-4 <sup>1</sup>	59,247
<b>Estimated poverty rate</b> <sup>1</sup>	<b>14.1%</b>
% children ages 0-17 living in poverty <sup>1</sup>	16.9%
% children under 5 living in poverty <sup>1</sup>	21.1%

## Working Parents Need Child Care

<b>Where all available parents are working:</b>	
% children under 6 with working parents <sup>1</sup>	60.7%
% children ages 6-17 with working parents <sup>1</sup>	72.1%
% children under 18 in low-income working families <sup>1</sup>	26%

## Child Care is Expensive

<b>Market rate for one year of full-time, regulated care</b> <sup>3</sup>	
for an infant, up to 24 months - \$32.00/day	\$8,320
for a toddler, 2-3 years - \$27.00/day	\$7,020
for a preschool child, 3-4 years - \$27.00/day	\$7,020
for a school-age child <sup>4</sup> , 5+ years - \$5.00/hr X 4 hr/day = \$20	\$5,200

## Child Care Workers are Underpaid

Salary of child care worker <sup>5</sup>	\$16,390
Salary of preschool teacher <sup>5</sup>	\$20,566
Salary of public elementary school teacher <sup>5</sup>	\$36,540

1 U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 <http://www.factfinder.census.gov>

2 KIDS COUNT Census Data Online, The Annie E Casey Foundation 2006, 2007, [http://www.aecf.org/kidscount/sld/profile\\_results.jsp?r=28&d=1&c=3&p=5&x=0&y=0](http://www.aecf.org/kidscount/sld/profile_results.jsp?r=28&d=1&c=3&p=5&x=0&y=0)

3 At 75<sup>th</sup> Percentile of Center Rates, MT Department of Public Health and Human Services FY07

4 At 75<sup>th</sup> Percentile of Centers Rates, MT Department of Public Health and Human Services FY07 Four hours/day - before/after school

5 Statewide averages, U.S. Department of Labor, 2007

# Child Care Need and Capacity in Montana

## Parents Need Child Care<sup>1</sup>

### Type of care requested by parents<sup>2</sup>

Infant/toddler care (under 3 yrs)	55%
Preschool Care (3-4 yrs)	20%
School-age care (5+ yrs)	25%

### Scheduled requested by parents<sup>2</sup>

Full-time care	73%
Part-time care	15%
Both full-time and part-time care	12%

### Special schedules requested by parents<sup>2</sup>

Before/after school	15%/28%
Rotating/flexible hours	5%

### Requests for non-traditional hours<sup>2</sup>

Weekend Care	13%
Evening/overnight care	4%

## Child Care Is Hard to Find<sup>1</sup>

### Total Facilities<sup>5</sup>

Child care centers	269
Group child care homes	549
Family child care homes	664

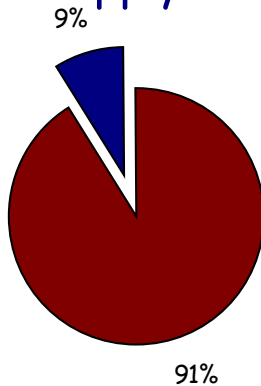
### Facilities offering care during non-traditional hours<sup>2</sup>

Evening care	4%
Overnight care	5%
Weekend care	9%

### Child Care Payment Assistance

Children served <sup>5</sup>	10,339
Families served <sup>5</sup>	6,382
Dollars spent <sup>5</sup>	20,394,724.84
Spending generate in local communities <sup>6</sup>	

## Child Care Supply and Demand



Family households with all parents in the labor force having children under 17 years old	-- 206,783 <sup>3</sup>
Number of Regulated Child Care Spots	-- 20,321 <sup>2</sup>
Families that cannot be served by regulated child care	-- 186,462

1 Percentage may total more than 100% because, in some categories, more than one type of care is requested.

2 NACCRRAware Supply & Demand Report FY08

3 U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 <http://www.factfinder.census.gov>

4 Within the childcare industry, capacity is described by the term *slots*, indicating the number of children who can be served full-time in a regulated care setting

5 MT Department of Public Health and Human Services FY08

6 Approx. number generated from multiplier determined by MT Dept. of Labor and Industry, 2003