



EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & CHILD CARE

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Affordable, accessible high quality child care supports economic growth, family stability and positive child outcomes within our communities.

- **85%** of a child's brain development, which includes the child's intellect and social skills, develops before the age of five.ⁱ
- **65%** of children under the age of 6 in the United States have all of their available parents in the workforce.ⁱⁱ
- As much as half of school failure may be attributable to gaps in early care and development that existed before school entry.ⁱⁱⁱ
- Short-term benefits of child care include higher IQ scores, improved achievement in school, and improved behavior among children.^{16iv}
- Long-term benefits of quality child care include increased likelihood of children to graduate high school, increased wages and employment, lowered adolescent pregnancy rates, and lowered likelihood of criminal activity.^v
- In Erie County, center-based child care for an infant costs **\$12,792 per year**, higher than SUNY tuition.^{vi}
- Funding available for Erie County is lower than other New York counties with comparable populations.^{vii}

Economic Benefits of Child care

- Universal early childhood education programs can reduce the cost of special education by 12%, and can reduce the costs of grade repetition by 21%.^{viii}
- For every \$1.00 spent on child care in New York State, an additional **\$2.06** of economic activity is generated in the local economy.^{ix}
- Quality early care and education for all New York children would cost \$3.6 billion, but generate \$6.7 billion of spending and 80,000 new jobs.^x
- The average American working parent misses 5-9 days each year related to child care; providing child care would reduce absenteeism and save **\$3 billion** annually in lost productivity.^{xi}
- 80% of NYS economic development professionals surveyed said that affordable, quality child care **improves worker productivity**.^{xii}
- Low-income mothers with access to child care subsidies work more hours, are more likely to be employed, and see increased earnings.^{xiii}



WNY WOMEN'S FOUNDATION FACT SHEET



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- ⁱ Assembly Child care Workgroup. "Child care in Crisis: A Report from the Assembly Child care Workgroup." (n.d.): n. pag. New York State Assembly. Assembly Child care Workgroup, 2013. Web. 17 Feb. 2015. <[http://assembly.state.ny.us/comm/Child care/20131220/index.pdf](http://assembly.state.ny.us/comm/Child%20care/20131220/index.pdf)>.
- ⁱⁱ Hamm, Katie, and Martin, Carmel. "A New Vision for Child Care in the United States." Center for American Progress. 2 Sept. 2015. Web. 10 Aug. 2016. <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/early-childhood/report/2015/09/02/119944/a-new-vision-for-child-care-in-the-united-states-3/>.
- ⁱⁱⁱ ²⁰Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy. "Quality: What It Is and Why It Matters in Early Childhood Education." (n.d.): n. pag. Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy (SCAA). Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy (SCAA), Sept. 2012. Web. 26 Feb. 2015. <http://www.scaany.org/documents/quality_earlyed_scaapolicybrief_sept2012.pdf>.
- ^{iv} ¹⁶Taryn W. Morrissey and Mildred E. Warner (2007). *Why Early Care and Education Deserves as Much Attention, or More, than Prekindergarten Alone*. <http://s3.amazonaws.com/mildredwarner.org/attachments/000/000/055/original/106-6ea94867.pdf>
- ^v Taryn W. Morrissey and Mildred E. Warner (2007). *Why Early Care and Education Deserves as Much Attention, or More, than Prekindergarten Alone*. <http://s3.amazonaws.com/mildredwarner.org/attachments/000/000/055/original/106-6ea94867.pdf>
- ^{vi} Drury, Tracey. "Child care costs in NY among nation's worst." Buffalo Business First, 25 Feb. 2016. Web. 25 Feb. 2016. <http://www.bizjournals.com/buffalo/blog/morning_roundup/2016/02/child-care-costs-in-ny-among-nations-worst.html?ana=e_buff_rdup&s=newsletter&ed=2016-02-25&u=%2Fjv4wZteDWg%2Fb6Fj%2Bqdrsw06183872&t=1456411446>.
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- ^{viii} Fleron, L.J., Breen, L., Grogan, R.L., & Dimitrov, D. (2006). *Buffalo Child Care Means Business: Full Study Report*. <http://wnychildren.org/Portals/0/Buffalo%20Child%20Care%20Means%20Business%20Report.pdf>
- ^{ix} Kennedy, Timothy M. "Erie County Families Not Getting Their Fair Share – Kennedy Calls for Same Child Care Accessibility Offered in Rochester and Albany." New York State Senator Timothy M. Kennedy. Timothy M. Kennedy, 19 Feb. 2015. Web. 24 Feb. 2015. <<http://www.nysenate.gov/press-release/erie-county-families-not-getting-their-fair-share-kennedy-calls-same-child-care-access>>.
- ^x America's Edge (2010). *Strengthening New York Businesses through Investments in Early Care and Education*. <http://cdn.americasedge.org/clips/NY-earlylearning-report.pdf>
- ^{xi} America's Edge (2010). *Strengthening New York Businesses through Investments in Early Care and Education*. <http://cdn.americasedge.org/clips/NY-earlylearning-report.pdf>
- ^{xii} Fleron, L.J., Breen, L., Grogan, R.L., & Dimitrov, D. (2006). *Buffalo Child Care Means Business: Full Study Report*. <http://wnychildren.org/Portals/0/Buffalo%20Child%20Care%20Means%20Business%20Report.pdf>
- ^{xiii} Betterley, C., Akhtar, S., Antos, S., & Grasso, G. (2014). *Still Mending the Patchwork*. <http://www.empirejustice.org/assets/pdf/publications/reports/still-mending-the-patchwork/still-mending-the-patchwork.pdf>