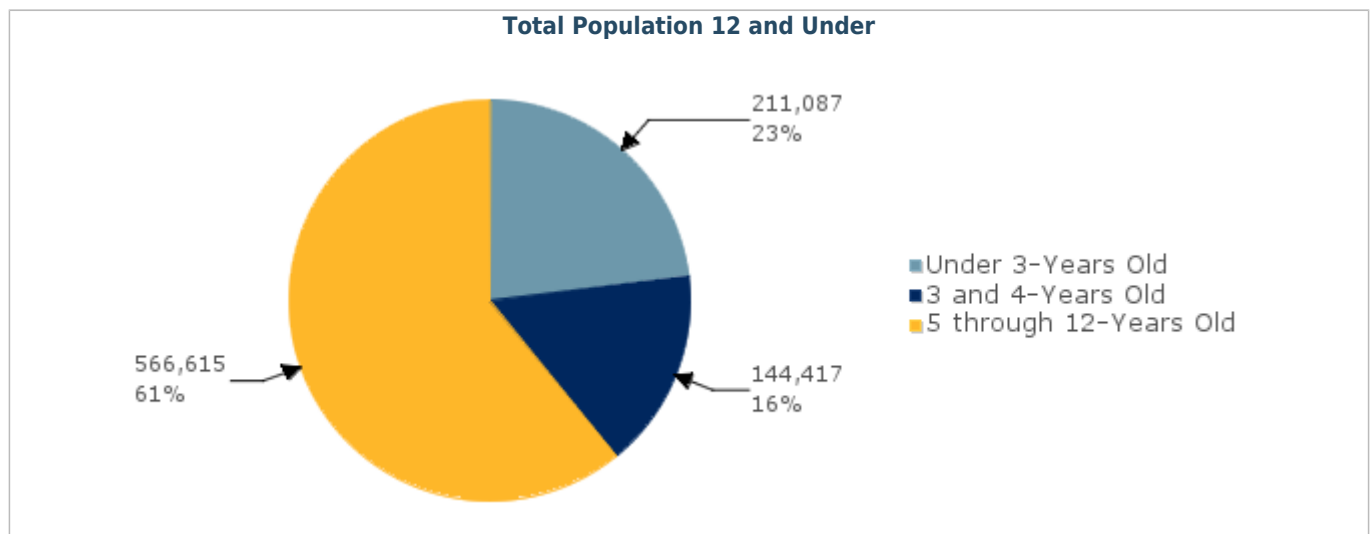




STATE/TERRITORY PROFILE - MINNESOTA

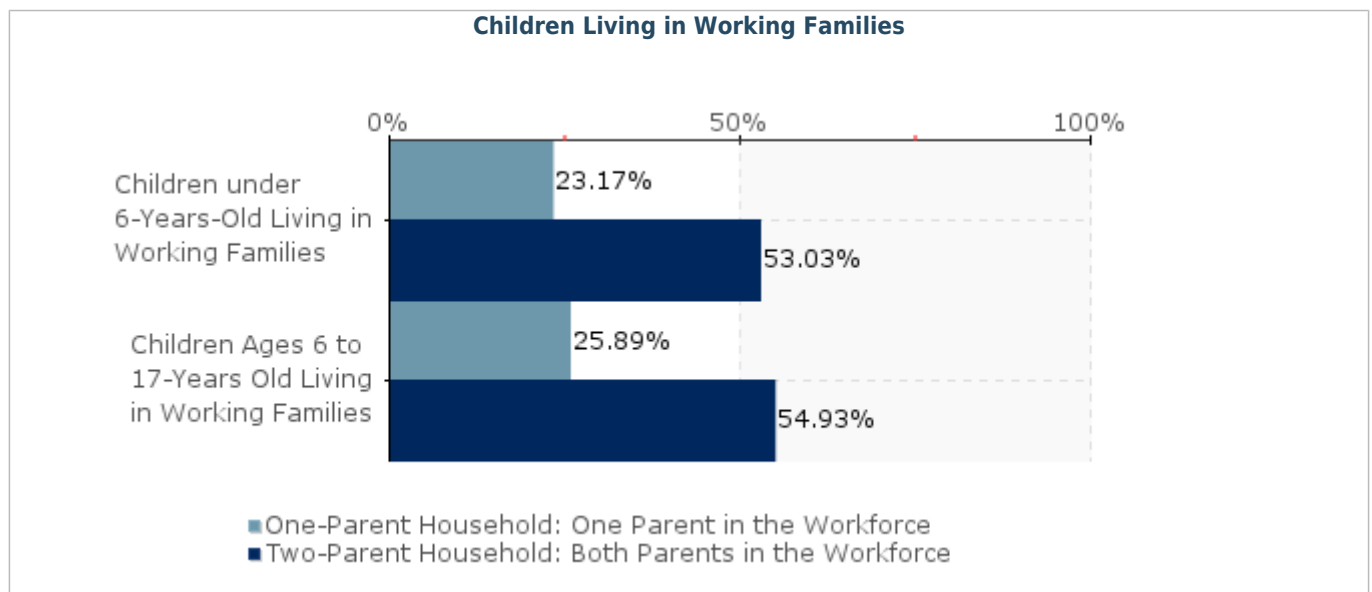
This profile highlights a current innovative effort to promote a subsidy system that is child-focused, family friendly, and fair to providers. It also provides demographic information, Early Care and Education (ECE) program participation and funding, subsidy innovation and program integrity information, program quality improvement activities, and professional development and workforce initiatives. Sources and links are provided at the end of the document

DEMOGRAPHICS



Source(s): U.S. Census Bureau. (n.d.). In American Community Survey, 2010. QT-P2 Single Years of Age and Sex. Retrieved from American FactFinder:

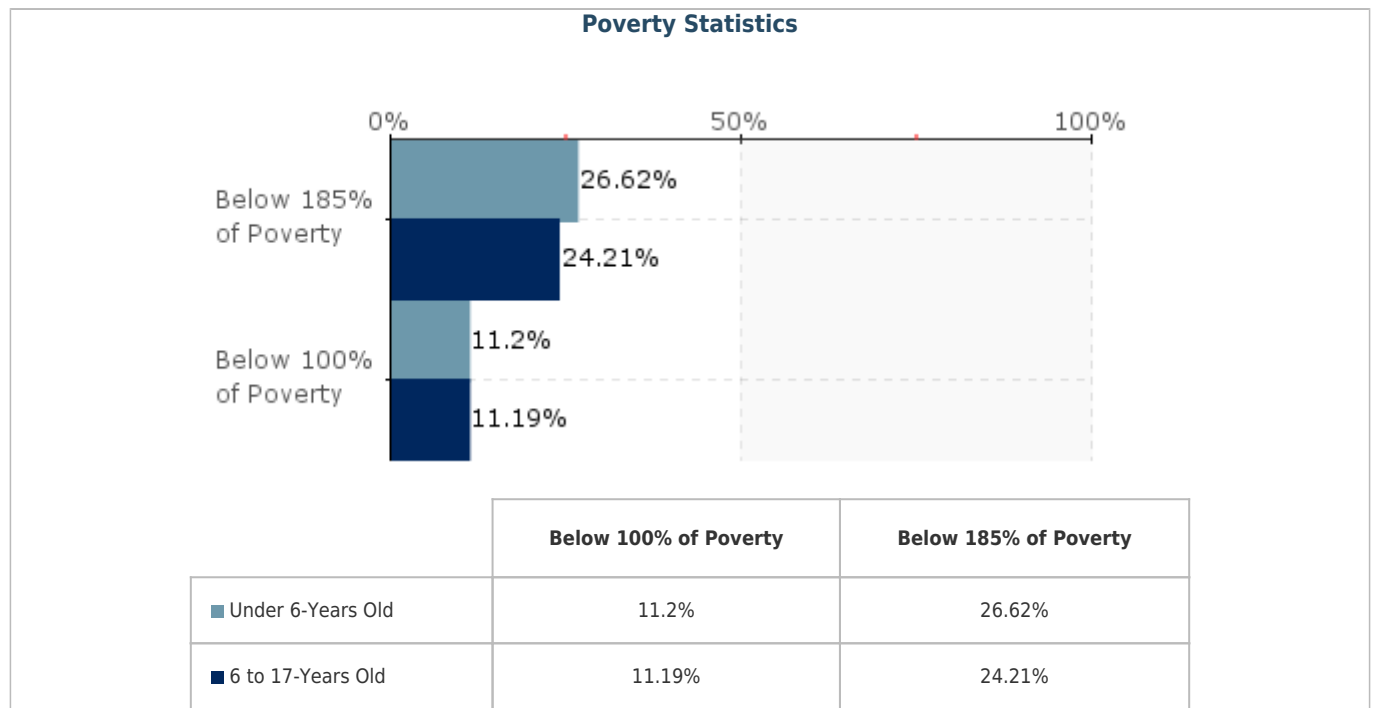
http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=DEC_10_SF1_QTP2&prodType=table



Source(s): U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). In American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, 2019. B17024: Age By Ratio Of Income To Poverty Level In The Past 12 Months - Universe: Population for whom poverty status is determined.

<https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=B17024&g=0100000US.04000.001&hidePreview=true&table=B17024&tid>

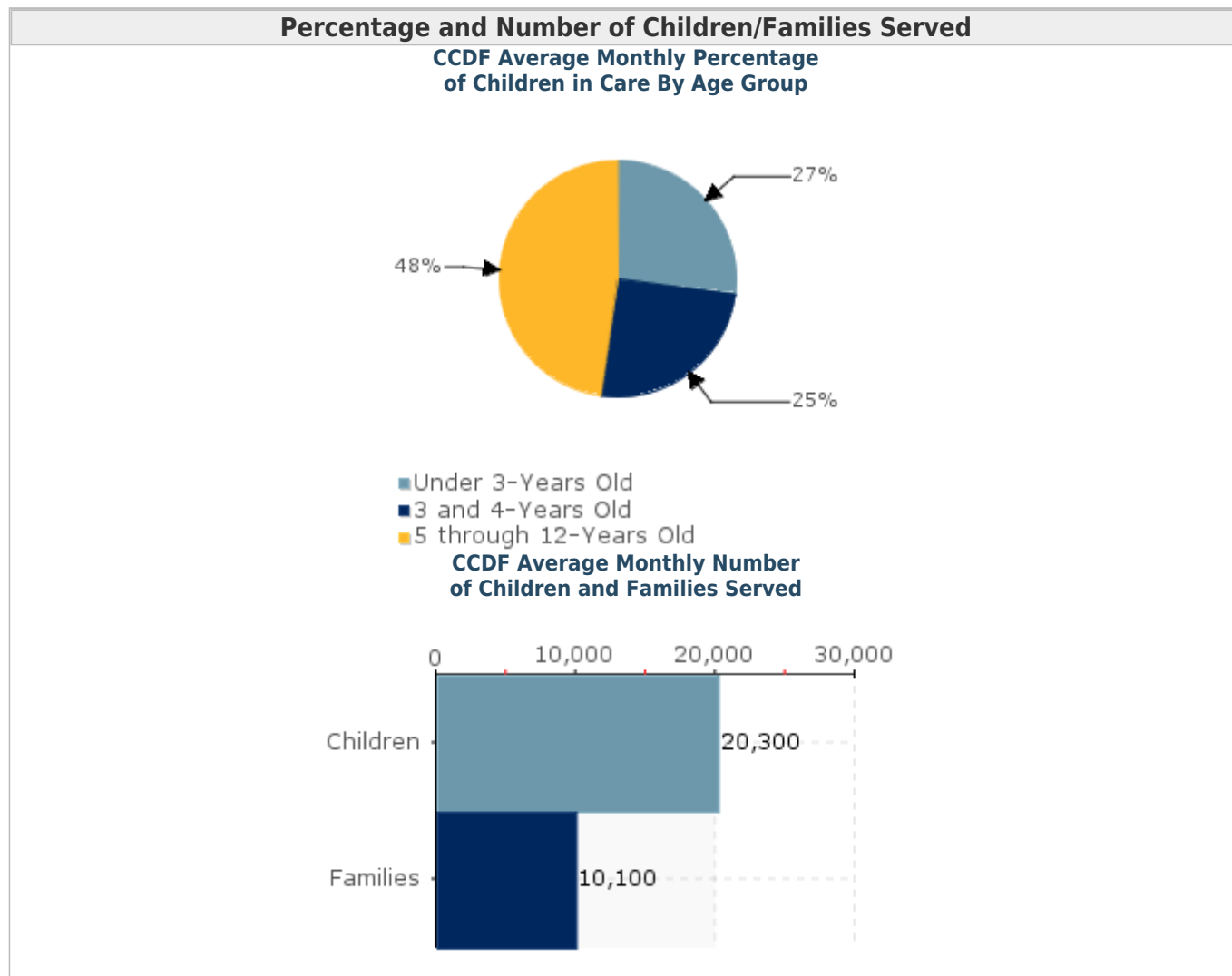
=ACSDT1Y2019.B17024&lastDisplayedRow=17&vintage=2019&mode=&y=2019



Source(s): U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). In American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, 2019. C23008 Age of own Children under 18 Years in Families and Subfamilies by Living Arrangements by Employment Status of Parents: Universe: Own children under 18 years in families and subfamilies.

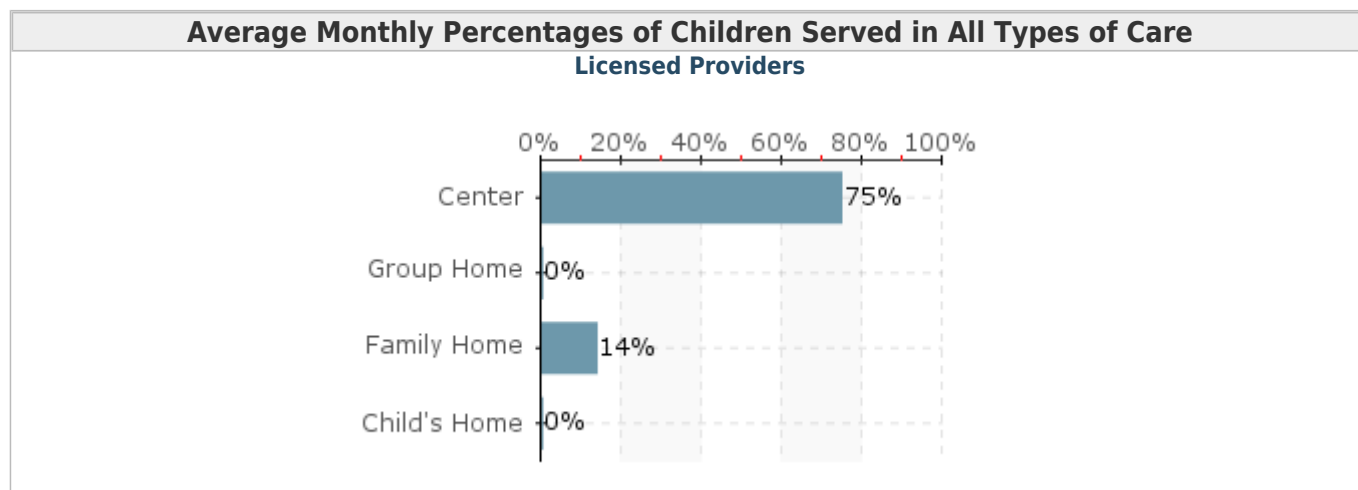
<https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=C23008&g=&hidePreview=false&table=C23008&tid=ACSDT1Y2019.C23008&lastDisplayedRow=17&vintage=2019>

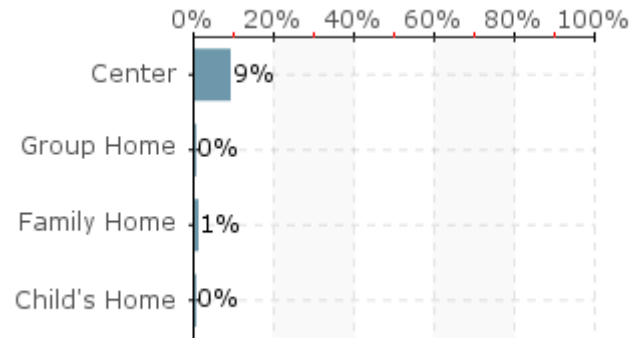
ECE PROGRAM PARTICIPATION AND FUNDING



Source(s): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child Care. (2020). FFY 2019 CCDF data tables [Preliminary estimates]. Table 9 Average Monthly Percentages of Children In Care By Age Group <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/data/fy-2019-preliminary-data-table-9>

1. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child Care. (2020). FFY 2019 CCDF data tables [Preliminary estimates]. Table 1 Average Monthly Adjusted Number of Families and Children Served. <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/data/fy-2019-preliminary-data-table-1>



Non-Licensed Providers

Note: Unregulated provider data includes relative and non-relative care.

Source(s): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child Care. (2020). FFY 2019 CCDF data tables [Preliminary estimates]. Table 6 Average Monthly
<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/data/fy-2019-preliminary-data-table-6>

Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)

◦ Total CCDF Expenditure (Including Quality):	\$198,584,794
◦ CCDF Federal Expenditure:	\$138,189,494
◦ CCDF State/Territory Expenditure:	\$60,395,300

Source(s): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2021). CCDF Expenditures for FY 2019 (all appropriation years). Table 4a: All expenditures by State-Categorical Summary. <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/resource/fy-2018-ccdf-table-4a>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2020). CCDF Expenditures for FY 2018 (all appropriation years). Table 3a - All Expenditures by State - Detailed Summary. <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/resource/fy-2018-ccdf-table-3a>

CCDF Quality Expenditures

◦ Total Quality Expenditure:	\$16,376,684
◦ Quality Activities (Set Aside Funds):	\$16,376,684
◦ Infant and Toddler (Targeted Funds):	Not available
◦ Quality Expansion Funds (Targeted Funds):	Not available
◦ School-Age/Resource and Referral (Targeted Funds):	Not available

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) for Child Care

◦ TANF - Total Child Care Expenditure:	\$49,658,000
◦ TANF - Direct Expenditure on Child Care:	Not available
◦ TANF - Transfer to CCDF:	\$49,658,000

Source(s): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of
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ChildCare Tax Credits

◦ Tax Credit Federal Total Amount Claimed:	\$1,701,379
◦ Tax Credit Federal Number of Claims:	689,100
◦ State/Territory Tax Credit Available - 2015:	Yes
◦ State/Territory Tax Credit Refundable:	Yes

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

◦ CACFP Funding:	\$66,277,168
◦ Number of Family Child Care Homes Participating:	5,458
◦ Number of Child Care Centers (includes Head Start Programs) Participating:	824

Source(s): Food Research and Action Center. (2020). State of the States: Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) in FY 2019. http://www.frac.org/maps/sos/tables/sos_tab_cacfp.html

Head Start

◦ Head Start Federal Allocation:	\$108,215,919
◦ Head Start State/Territory Allocation:	\$11,193,869
◦ Number of Children Participating:	10,550

Source(s): National Institute for Early Education Research. (2021). The 2020 state of preschool yearbook. <http://nieer.org/state-preschool-yearbooks/2020>

IDEA Part B, Section 619

◦ IDEA Part B Funding:	\$7,668,707
◦ Number of Children Served (Ages 3- through 5-Years-Old):	19,196

Source(s): U.S. Department of Education. (2021). Fiscal Years 2019-2021 State Tables for the U.S. Department of Education. <https://www2.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/statetables/index.html>

IDEA Part C

◦ IDEA Part C Funding:	\$8,066,348
◦ Number of Children Served (Ages Birth through 2-Years-Old):	6,128

Source(s): U.S. Department of Education. (2021). Fiscal Years 2019-2021 State Tables for the U.S. Department of Education. <https://www2.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/statetables/index.html>

Pre-kindergarten

◦ Pre-kindergarten Total Expenditure:	\$51,738,528
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◦ Enrollment (4-year-olds and under):	8,122
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Note: Total Expenditure includes all State/Territory, Local, and Federal dollars. In addition to 3 and 4-year-olds, some Pre-kindergarten programs enroll children of other ages.

Source(s): National Institute for Early Education Research. (2021). The 2020 state of preschool yearbook. <https://nieer.org/state-preschool-yearbooks/yearbook2020>

CCDF SUBSIDY PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Income Eligibility at Determination

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	
Family Size	100 % of SMI (\$/Month)	85% of SMI(\$/Month) [Multiply(a) by 0.85]	(IF APPLICABLE) (\$/Month) Maximum Initial or First Tier Income Limit (or Threshold) if Lower Than 85% of Current SMI	IF APPLICABLE) (% of SMI) [Divide(c) by (a), multiply by 100] Income Level if Lower Than 85% of Current SMI
3	\$6,996.00	\$5,946.00	\$3,288.00	47%

Source(s): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 3.1.3 Family Size of 3: Eligible Children and Families - Income Eligibility at Determination. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.

Approaches Used for Promoting Continuity of Care

◦ Coordinating with Head Start, prekindergarten, or other early learning programs to create a package of arrangements that accommodates parents’ work schedules	Yes
◦ Inquiring about whether the child has an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Individual Family Services Plan (IFSP)	Not available
◦ Establishing minimum eligibility periods greater than 12 months	Not available
◦ Using cross-enrollment or referrals to other public benefits	Not available
◦ Working with IDEA Part B, Section 619 and Part C staff to explore how services included in a child’s IEP or IFSP can be supported and/or provided onsite and in collaboration with child care services	Not available
◦ Providing more intensive case management for families with children with multiple risk factors;	Not available
◦ Implementing policies and procedures that promote universal design to ensure that activities and environments are accessible to all children, including children with sensory, physical, or other disabilities	Not available
◦ Other:	Described Below
High quality child care providers receive a weekly authorization for children ages zero to five (not yet in kindergarten), if their parents are eligible for at least 30 hours of care per week. This allows for more consistent child care schedules for young children and their families, and more stable funding for high quality child care providers.	

Source(s): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Reports 3.1.6 and 3.1.6-2: Eligible Children and Families - Approaches Used for Promoting Continuity of Care. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.

Increasing Access for Vulnerable Children and Families

Children with Special Needs	
◦ Prioritize for enrollment	Not available
◦ Serve without placing these populations on waiting lists	Not available
◦ Waive co-payments	Not available
◦ Pay higher rates for access to higher quality care	Yes
◦ Use grants or contracts to reserve slots for priority populations	Not available
◦ Other:	Not available
Not available	
Families with Very Low Incomes	
◦ Prioritize for enrollment	Not available
◦ Serve without placing these populations on waiting lists	Not available
◦ Waive co-payments	Yes
◦ Pay higher rates for access to higher quality care	Not available
◦ Use grants or contracts to reserve slots for priority populations	Not available
◦ Other:	Described Below
Child care subsidies are guaranteed to TANF families and families transitioning off TANF.	
Children Experiencing Homelessness	
◦ Prioritize for enrollment	Not available
◦ Serve without placing these populations on waiting lists	Not available
◦ Waive co-payments	Not available
◦ Pay higher rates for access to higher quality care	Not available
◦ Use grants or contracts to reserve slots for priority populations	Not available
◦ Other:	Described Below

Children experiencing homelessness may be considered a child with a special need based on environmental or familial factors that create barriers to the child's optimal development. Counties and tribes can prioritize these children by allowing higher reimbursement rates to be paid. The special needs rate must be identified in the county or tribe's biennial Child Care Fund Plan.

The Department of Human Services has proposed prioritizing children experiencing homelessness by waiving activity requirements for three months and processing applications within five days for homeless families. These proposals would prioritize services for homeless families receiving TANF and living in counties without waiting lists for Basic Sliding Fee child care. These proposals have not yet been enacted. Minnesota intends to reintroduce legislation in the 2019 legislative session.

Families Receiving TANF*	
◦ Prioritize for enrollment	Not available
◦ Serve without placing these populations on waiting lists	Yes
◦ Waive co-payments	Not available
◦ Pay higher rates for access to higher quality care	Not available
◦ Use grants or contracts to reserve slots for priority populations	Not available
◦ Other:	Not available
Not available	

* Includes families receiving TANF program funds, those transitioning off TANF through work activities, or those at risk of becoming dependent on TANF.

Source(s): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Reports 3.2.2a, 3.2.2b, 3.2.2c, 3.2.2d, 3.2.2a-2, 3.2.2b-2, 3.2.2c-2, and 3.2.2d-2: Increasing Access for Vulnerable Children and Families. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.

Use of Grants or Contracts to Increase the Supply of Specific Types of Child Care

◦ Programs to serve children with disabilities	Not available
◦ Programs to serve infants and toddlers	Not available
◦ Programs to serve school-age children	Not available
◦ Programs to serve children needing non-traditional hour care	Not available
◦ Programs to serve children experiencing homelessness	Not available
◦ Programs to serve children in underserved areas	Not available
◦ Programs that serve children with diverse linguistic or cultural backgrounds	Not available
◦ Programs that serve specific geographic areas (urban)	Not available
◦ Programs that serve specific geographic areas (rural)	Not available
◦ Other:	Described Below

N/A

Use of Grants or Contracts to Increase the Quality of Specific Types of Child Care

◦ Programs to serve children with disabilities	Not available
◦ Programs to serve infants and toddlers	Not available
◦ Programs to serve school-age children	Not available
◦ Programs to serve children needing non-traditional hour care	Not available
◦ Programs to serve children experiencing homelessness	Not available
◦ Programs to serve children in underserved areas	Not available
◦ Programs that serve children with diverse linguistic or cultural backgrounds	Not available
◦ Programs that serve specific geographic areas (urban)	Not available
◦ Programs that serve specific geographic areas (rural)	Not available
◦ Other:	Described Below
N/A	

Base payment rates and percentiles

Age	Center	Percentile of most recent MRS	Family Child Care	Percentile of most recent MRS
Infant	\$ 268.00/ week	22.7	\$ 162.99/ week	26.9
Toddler	\$ 225.00/ week	22.2	\$ 156.17/ week	30.6
Preschool	\$ 201.00/ week	20.7	\$ 141.96/ week	22.6
School Age	\$ 186.14/ week	45.5	\$ 131.45/ week	35.9
Effective date of payment rates: 2/3/2014				
Market rate survey (MRS) date: 8/3/2016				

Source(s): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 4.3.1: Setting Payment Rates. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 4.2.5a: Setting Payment Rates. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.

Tiered Reimbursement or Differential Rates

◦ Differential rate for non-traditional hours. Describe	Not available
◦ Differential rate for children with special needs, as defined by the state/territory.	Yes
◦ Differential rate for infants and toddlers. Note: Do not check if the Lead Agency has a different base rate for infants/toddlers with no separate bonus or add-on	Not available
◦ Differential rate for school-age programs. Note: Do not check if the Lead Agency has a different base rate for school-age children with no separate bonus or add-on.	Not available
◦ Differential rate for higher quality, as defined by the state/territory.	Yes
◦ Other differential rates or tiered rates.	Not available
◦ Tiered or differential rates are not implemented.	Not available

CCDF Co-Payments by Family Size

CCDF Co-Payments by Family Size

	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
Family Size	Lowest “Entry” Income Level Where Family Is First Charged Co-Pay (Greater Than \$0)	What Is the Monthly Co-Payment for a Family of This Size Based on the Income Level in (a)?	The Co-Payment in Column (b) is What Percentage of the Income in Column (a)?	Highest “Entry” Income Level Before a Family Is No Longer Eligible	What Is the Monthly Co-Payment for a Family of This Size Based on the Income Level in (d)?	The Co-Payment in Column (e) is What Percentage of the Income in Column (d)?
3	\$1,299.00	\$5.00	0.4	\$3,288.00	\$168.00	5.1

Source(s): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 3.4.1a Family Size of 3: Family Contribution to Payment - CCDF Co-Payments by Family Size. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.

Family Contribution to Payment

◦ No, the Lead Agency does not waive family contributions/co-payments.	Not available
◦ Yes, the Lead Agency waives family contributions/co-payments for families with an income at or below the Federal poverty level for families of the same size.	Not available
◦ Yes, the Lead Agency waives family contributions/co-payments for families who are receiving or needing to receive protective services, as determined by the Lead Agency for purposes of CCDF eligibility. Describe the policy and provide the policy citation..	Not available
◦ Describe contributions/co-payments for families who are receiving or needing to receive protective services	Not available

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Yes, the Lead Agency waives family contributions/co-payments for other criteria established by the Lead Agency. Describe the policy and provide the policy citation 	<p style="text-align: right;">Yes</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Describe contributions/co-payments for other criteria (See table below) 	<p style="text-align: right;">Described Below</p>
<p>Families with income less than 75 percent of federal poverty guidelines (FPG) are not assessed any copayment. Families with income of 75 percent FPG to less than 100 percent FPG pay a copayment of \$2.00 per biweekly period.</p>	

Source(s): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 3.4.4: Family Contribution to Payment - Family Contribution to Payment. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Child-Staff Ratios by Group Size by Age of Children for Licensed Child Care Centers

Age of Children	Child-Staff Ratio	Group Size
Infant (11 months)	4:1	8
Toddler (35 months)	7:1	14
Preschool (59months)	10:1	20
School-age (6 years)	15:1	30
School-age (10 years and older)	15:1	30
If any of the responses above are different for exempt child care centers, describe which requirements apply:	Described Below	
<p>For certified license-exempt centers, “school-age” is defined as “kindergarten through 13 years old.” The maximum group size for “school-age” is 30 children. For certified license-exempt centers, the following teacher/caregiver qualifications apply: A staff person must be 16 years of age or older before providing direct, unsupervised care to a child. A director must be 18 years of age or older and have completed at least 16 hours of training in any of the following topic areas: child development and learning; developmentally appropriate learning experiences; relationship with families; assessment, evaluation, and individualization; historical and contemporary development of early childhood education; professionalism; and health, safety, and nutrition.</p> <p>Please note, certified license-exempt centers that participate in other state or federal programs may be required to meet additional requirements and/or may choose to meet voluntary standards, such as “Minimum Standards for School-age Care Programs: A framework for school-age care programs operating in Minnesota schools.”</p>		

Source(s): National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance. (2021). 2020 Child Care Licensing Study: Analysis of child care licensing regulations. [Unpublished data].

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 5.2.1a-5_6_7: Standards on ratios, group sizes, and qualifications for CCDF providers.- exempt child care centers. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Use of Quality Funds

	Yes/No	CCDF Funds	Other Funds	Other (describe)
Supporting the training and professional development of the child care workforce	Yes	Yes	Yes	Described Below
Developing, maintaining, or implementing early learning and developmental guidelines	Yes	Yes	Yes	Described Below
Developing, implementing, or enhancing a tiered quality rating and improvement system	Yes	Yes	Yes	Described Below
Improving the supply and quality of child care services for infants and toddlers	Yes	Yes	Yes	Described Below
Establishing or expanding a statewide system of CCR&R services	Yes	Yes	Yes	State general funds.
Facilitating compliance with state/territory requirements for inspection, monitoring, training, and health and safety standards	Yes	Yes	Yes	Described Below
Evaluating and assessing the quality and effectiveness of child care services within the state/territorys	Yes	Yes	Yes	Described Below
Supporting accreditation	Yes	Yes	Not available	Not available

	Yes/No	CCDF Funds	Other Funds	Other (describe)
Supporting state/territory or local efforts to develop high-quality program standards relating to health, mental health, nutrition, physical activity, and physical development	Yes	Yes	Not available	Not available
Other activities determined by the state/territory to improve the quality of child care services and which measurement of outcomes related to improved provider preparedness, child safety, child well-being, or kindergarten entry is possible	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available

Use of Quality Funds - Continued

	Other (describe)
Supporting the training and professional development of the child care workforce	State general funds.
Developing, maintaining, or implementing early learning and developmental guidelines	State general funds.
Developing, implementing, or enhancing a tiered quality rating and improvement system	State general funds.
Improving the supply and quality of child care services for infants and toddlers	State general funds.
Facilitating compliance with state/territory requirements for inspection, monitoring, training, and health and safety standards	State general funds.
Evaluating and assessing the quality and effectiveness of child care services within the state/territorys	State general funds.
Supporting accreditation	Not available
Supporting state/territory or local efforts to develop high-quality program standards relating to health, mental health, nutrition, physical activity, and physical development	Not available
Other activities determined by the state/territory to improve the quality of child care services and which measurement of outcomes related to improved provider preparedness, child safety, child well-being, or kindergarten entry is possible	Not available

Source(s):

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Reports 7.2.1 and 7.2.1-1: Use of Quality Funds – Supporting the training and professional development of

the child care workforce. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 7.2.1 and 7.2.1-2: Use of Quality Funds - Developing, maintaining, or implementing early learning and developmental guidelines. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 7.2.1 and 7.2.1-3: Use of Quality Funds - Developing, implementing, or enhancing a tiered quality rating and improvement system. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 7.2.1 and 7.2.1-4: Use of Quality Funds - Improving the supply and quality of child care services for infants and toddlers. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 7.2.1 and 7.2.1-5: Use of Quality Funds - Establishing or expanding a statewide system of CCR&R services. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 7.2.1 and 7.2.1-6: Use of Quality Funds - Facilitating compliance with state/territory requirements for inspection, monitoring, training, and health and safety standards. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 7.2.1 and 7.2.1-7: Use of Quality Funds - Evaluating and assessing the quality and effectiveness of child care services within the state/territory. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 7.2.1 and 7.2.1-8: Use of Quality Funds - Supporting accreditation. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 7.2.1 and 7.2.1-9: Use of Quality Funds - Supporting state/territory or local efforts to develop high-quality program standards relating to health, mental health, nutrition, physical activity, and physical development. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 7.2.1 and 7.2.1-10: Use of Quality Funds - Other activities determined by the state/territory to improve the quality of child care services and which measurement of outcomes related to improved provider preparedness, child safety, child well-being, or kindergarten entry is possible. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.

Outreach to Families with Limited English Proficiency

Application in other languages (application document, brochures, provider notices)	Yes
Informational materials in non-English languages	Yes
Website in non-English languages	Yes
Lead Agency accepts applications at local community-based locations	Yes
Bilingual caseworkers or translators available	Yes
Bilingual outreach workers	Yes
Partnerships with community-based organizations	Yes
Other	Not available
Describe Other	Not available

Not available

Source(s): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 2.1.1-1 and 2.1.1-2: Outreach to Families with Limited English Proficiency - Strategies the Lead Agency or partners utilize to provide outreach and services to eligible families for whom English is not their first language. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.

Outreach to Families with a Person(s) with Disabilities

Applications and public informational materials available in Braille and other communication formats for access by individuals with disabilities	Not available
Websites that are accessible (e.g., Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act)	Yes
Caseworkers with specialized training/experience in working with individuals with disabilities	Not available
Ensuring accessibility of environments and activities for all children	Not available
Partnerships with state and local programs and associations focused on disability-related topics and issues	Yes
Partnerships with parent associations, support groups, and parent-to-parent support groups, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) federally funded Parent Training and Information Centers	Not available
Partnerships with state and local IDEA Part B, Section 619 and Part C providers and agencies	Yes
Availability and/or access to specialized services (e.g., mental health, behavioral specialists, therapists) to address the needs of all children	Yes
Other	Not available
Describe Other	Not available
Not available	

Source(s): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 2.1.2-1 and 2.1.2-2: Outreach to Families with Limited English Proficiency - Strategies the Lead Agency or partners utilize to provide outreach and services to eligible families with a person(s) with a disability. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.

Consumer Education Website

How the Lead Agency ensures that its website is consumer-friendly and easily accessible	<p>ParentAware.org, Minnesota's consumer-friendly website, allows multiple ways to search for providers, defines complex terms in plain language, and provides responses to frequently asked questions. Feedback gathered during a period of user testing by the web designer has been incorporated into the website.</p> <p>Additionally, ParentAware.org has undergone a full accessibility review, following Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 AA Level of Conformance and is in compliance with Section 508 of the US Rehabilitation Act of 1973.</p>
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<p>How the website ensures the widest possible access to services for families that speak languages other than English</p>	<p>ParentAware.org provides a web translation in Spanish, Somali and Hmong languages for parents and providers seeking information on the availability of child care and early childhood services.</p> <p>As described in 2.1.1, Think Small, a Child Care Aware agency, provides live phone interpretive services to providers and parents who speak Hmong, Spanish, and Somali through its grant contract with DHS. Families who speak languages other than English can access these services through the toll-free telephone number on the website. Child Care Language Line staff conduct outreach activities in communities in order to enhance awareness of the availability of language line services. In addition, DHS itself provides language line services in more than one hundred forty languages.</p> <p>Informational flyers and other marketing materials with the website and toll-free phone number, including videos have been translated into Hmong, Spanish and Somali languages and distributed to parents and community members so that they can make informed decisions in selecting quality child care programs for their children.</p>
<p>How the website ensures the widest possible access to services for persons with disabilities</p>	<p>ParentAware.org has undergone a full accessibility review, following Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 AA Level of Conformance and is in compliance with Section 508 of the US Rehabilitation Act of 1973.</p>

Source(s): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Care. (2019). Report 2.3.1, 2.3.1, and 2.3.3: Consumer Education Website. ACF-118 Data Submission Center.

FOOTNOTES

Source Footnotes:

- Demographics - Total Population 12 and Under
 - U.S. Census Bureau. (n.d.). In American Community Survey, 2010. QT-P2 Single Years of Age and Sex. Retrieved from American FactFinder:
http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=DEC_10_SF1_QTP2&prodType=table
- Demographics - Poverty Statistics
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