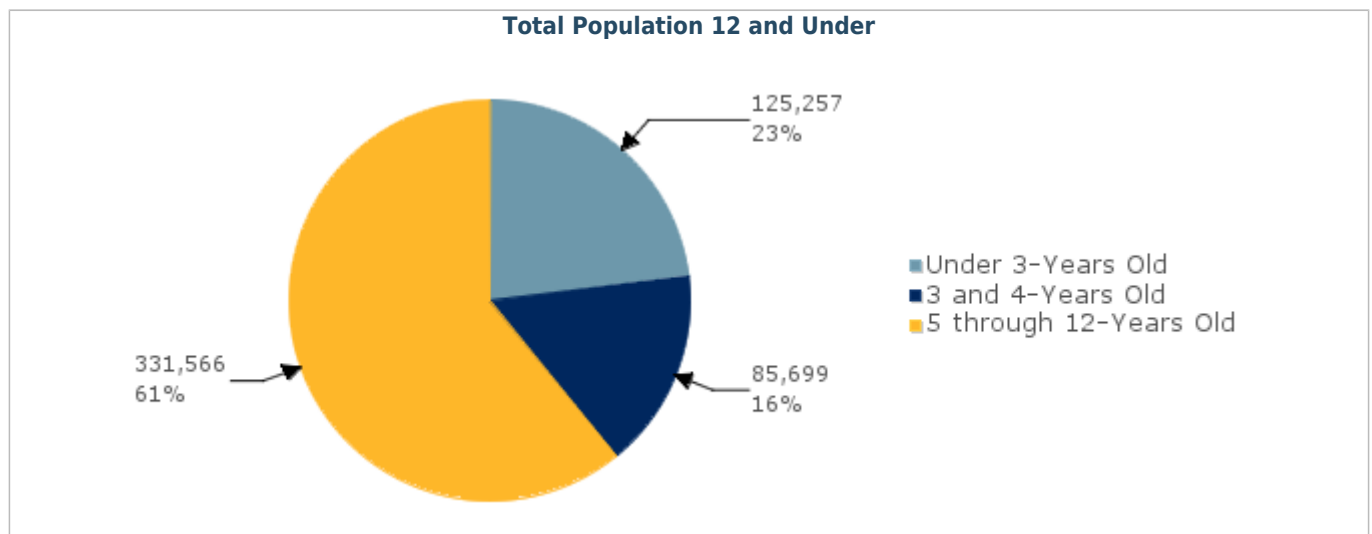




## STATE/TERRITORY PROFILE - MISSISSIPPI

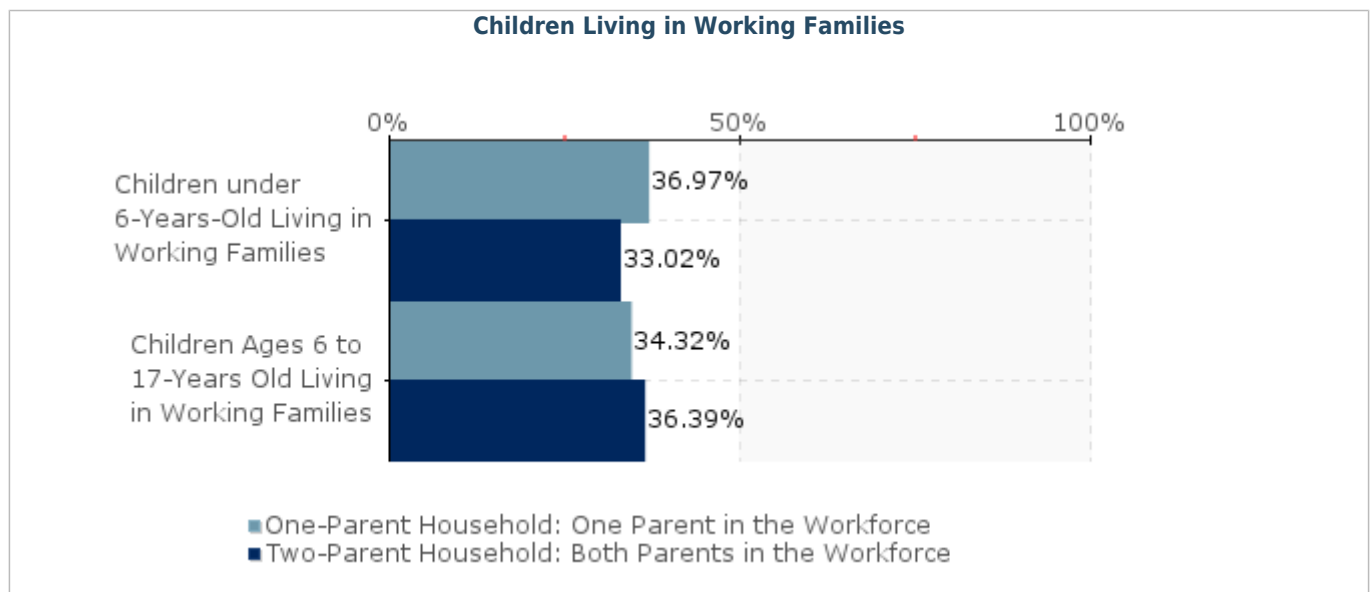
This profile highlights a current innovative effort to promote a subsidy system that is child-focused, family friendly, and fair to providers. It also provides demographic information, Early Care and Education (ECE) program participation and funding, subsidy innovation and program integrity information, 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:

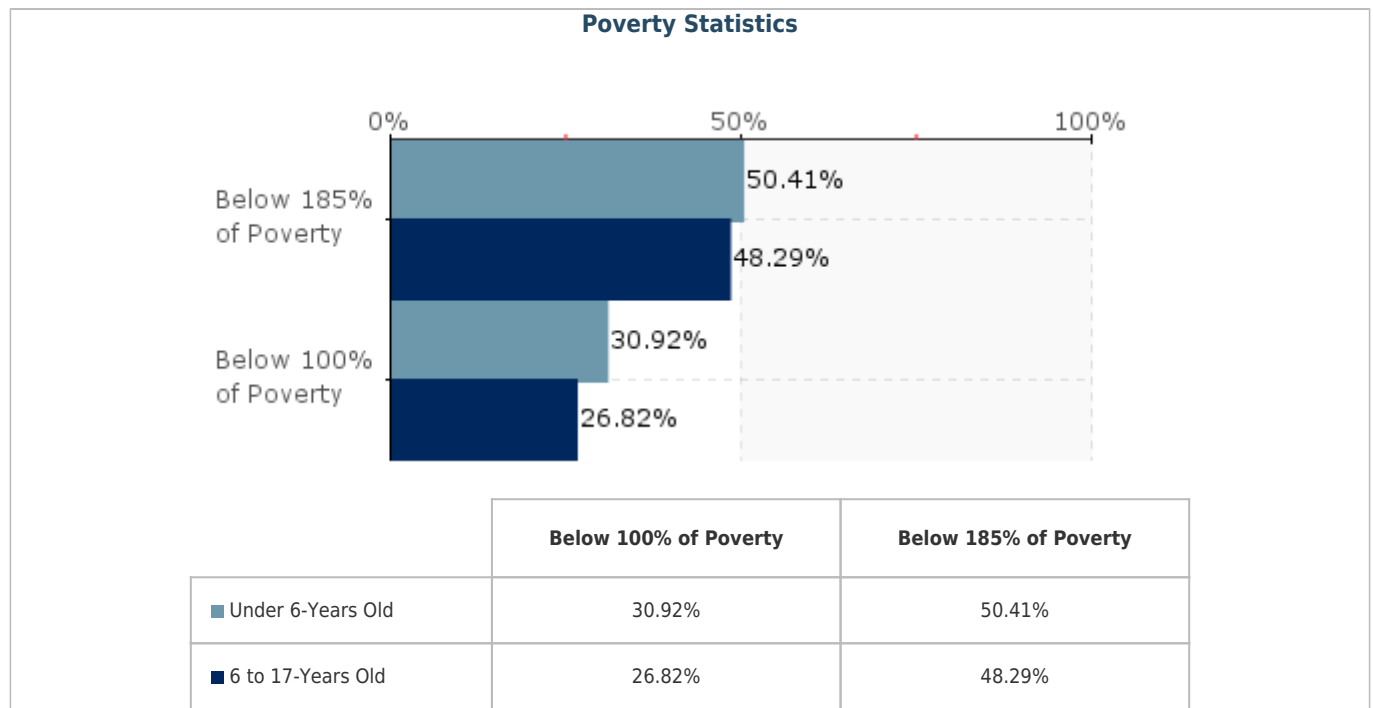
[http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=DEC\\_10\\_SF1\\_QTP2&prodType=table](http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=DEC_10_SF1_QTP2&prodType=table)



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>

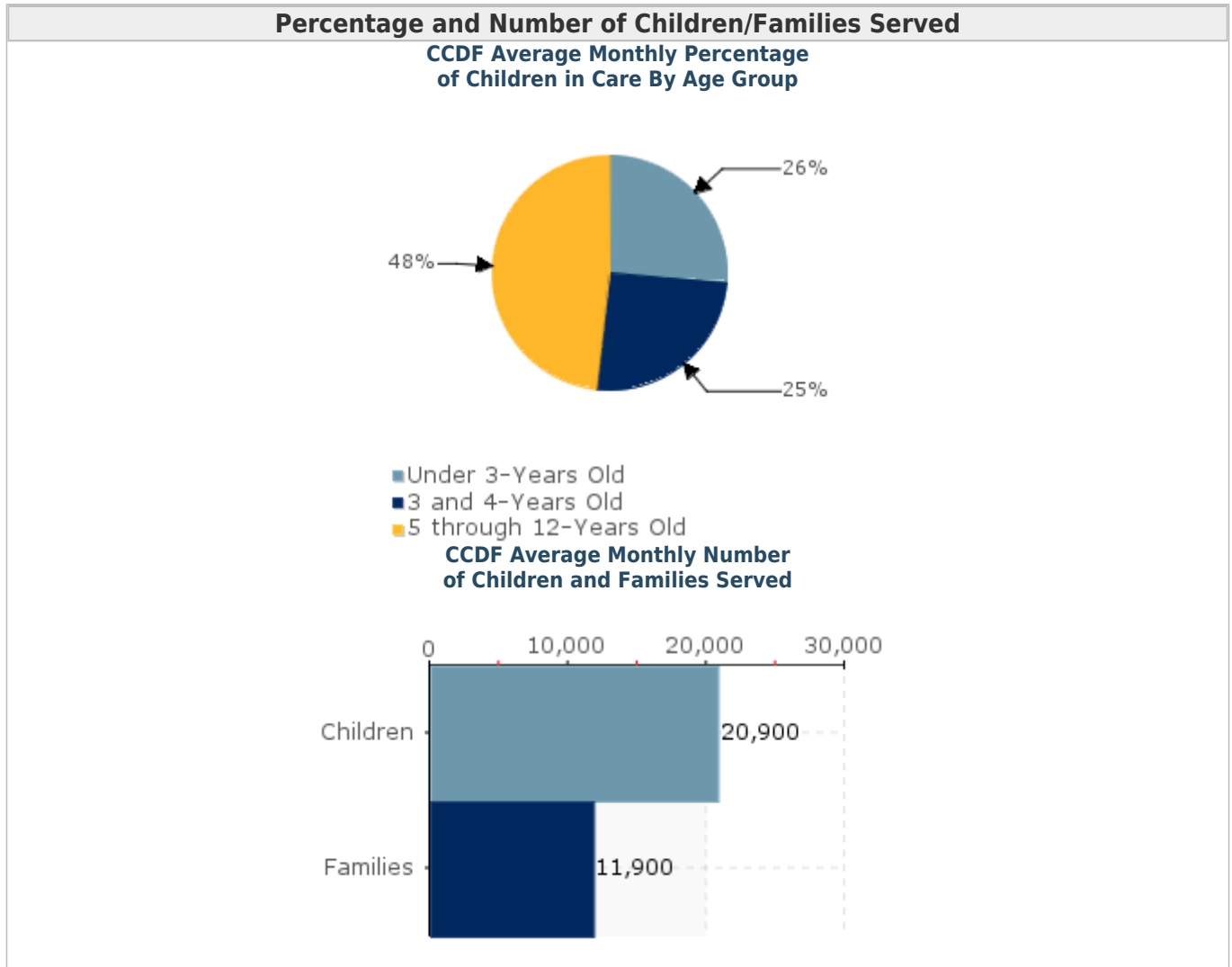
=ACSDT1Y2019.B17024&lastDisplayedRow=17&vintage=2019&mode=&y=2019



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.

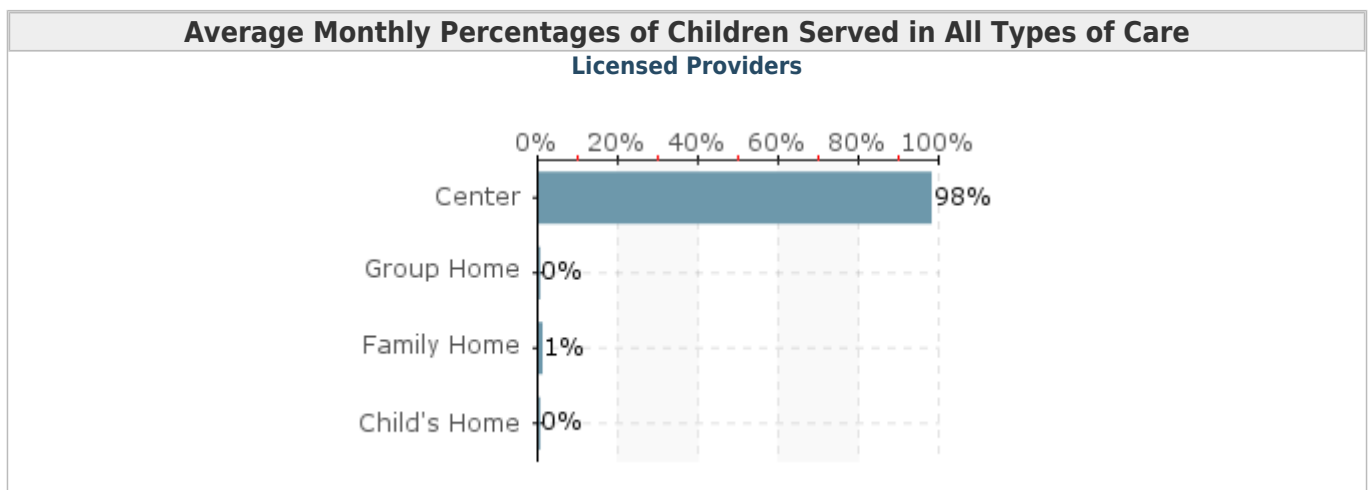
<https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=C23008&g=&hidePreview=false&table=C23008&tid=ACSDT1Y2019.C23008&lastDisplayedRow=17&vintage=2019>

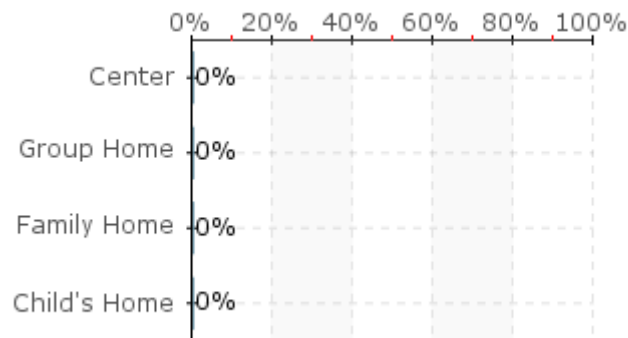
## ECE PROGRAM PARTICIPATION AND FUNDING



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):	\$113,195,471
◦ CCDF Federal Expenditure:	\$106,192,995
◦ CCDF State/Territory Expenditure:	\$7,002,476

*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:	\$9,914,834
◦ Quality Activities (Set Aside Funds):	\$18,001,787
◦ Infant and Toddler (Targeted Funds):	\$-230,653
◦ Quality Expansion Funds (Targeted Funds):	\$-691,735
◦ School-Age/Resource and Referral (Targeted Funds):	\$-7,164,565

**Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) for Child Care**

◦ TANF - Total Child Care Expenditure:	Not available
◦ TANF - Direct Expenditure on Child Care:	Not available
◦ TANF - Transfer to CCDF:	Not available

*Source(s):* U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of MISSISSIPPI | December 2021

#### ChildCare Tax Credits

◦ Tax Credit Federal Total Amount Claimed:	\$609,340
◦ Tax Credit Federal Number of Claims:	357,260
◦ State/Territory Tax Credit Available - 2015:	No
◦ State/Territory Tax Credit Refundable:	No

#### Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

◦ CACFP Funding:	\$48,577,980
◦ Number of Family Child Care Homes Participating:	837
◦ Number of Child Care Centers (includes Head Start Programs) Participating:	816

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](http://www.frac.org/maps/sos/tables/sos_tab_cacfp.html)

#### Head Start

◦ Head Start Federal Allocation:	\$166,838,601
◦ Head Start State/Territory Allocation:	Not available
◦ Number of Children Participating:	19,661

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:	\$4,359,299
◦ Number of Children Served (Ages 3- through 5-Years-Old):	8,391

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:	\$4,226,412
◦ Number of Children Served (Ages Birth through 2-Years-Old):	2,152

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:	\$6,699,517
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◦ Enrollment (4-year-olds and under):	3,064
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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)	
<b>Family Size</b>	<b>100 % of SMI (\$/Month)</b>	<b>85% of SMI(\$/Month) [Multiply(a) by 0.85]</b>	<b>(IF APPLICABLE) (\$/Month) Maximum Initial or First Tier Income Limit (or Threshold) if Lower Than 85% of Current SMI</b>	<b>IF APPLICABLE) (% of SMI) [Divide(c) by (a), multiply by 100] Income Level if Lower Than 85% of Current SMI</b>
3	\$4,283.00	\$3,640.00	N/a	N/A

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	Not available
◦ 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	Yes
◦ 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	Yes
◦ Providing more intensive case management for families with children with multiple risk factors;	Yes
◦ 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
The Lead Agency plans to evaluate the possibility of coordinating with Head Start, prekindergarten, and other early learning programs to create a package of arrangement that accommodates parents’ work schedules and inquiring about whether the child has an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Individual Family Services Plan (IFSP).	

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

<b>Children with Special Needs</b>	
◦ Prioritize for enrollment	Yes
◦ Serve without placing these populations on waiting lists	Yes
◦ 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:	Described Below
Co-payments are reduced to no more that \$10 per month.	
<b>Families with Very Low Incomes</b>	
◦ Prioritize for enrollment	Yes
◦ 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	
<b>Children Experiencing Homelessness</b>	
◦ Prioritize for enrollment	Yes
◦ Serve without placing these populations on waiting lists	Yes
◦ 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
Co-payments are reduced to no more than \$10 per month or waived if homeless family has no income.	
<b>Families Receiving TANF*</b>	



◦ Prioritize for enrollment	Yes
◦ Serve without placing these populations on waiting lists	Yes
◦ 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:	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	Yes
◦ Programs to serve infants and toddlers	Yes
◦ Programs to serve school-age children	Yes
◦ Programs to serve children needing non-traditional hour care	Yes
◦ Programs to serve children experiencing homelessness	Not available
◦ Programs to serve children in underserved areas	Yes
◦ Programs that serve children with diverse linguistic or cultural backgrounds	Not available
◦ Programs that serve specific geographic areas (urban)	Yes
◦ Programs that serve specific geographic areas (rural)	Yes
◦ Other:	Not available
Not available	

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

◦ Programs to serve children with disabilities	Yes
◦ Programs to serve infants and toddlers	Yes
◦ Programs to serve school-age children	Yes
◦ Programs to serve children needing non-traditional hour care	Yes

◦ Programs to serve children experiencing homelessness	Not available
◦ Programs to serve children in underserved areas	Yes
◦ Programs that serve children with diverse linguistic or cultural backgrounds	Not available
◦ Programs that serve specific geographic areas (urban)	Yes
◦ Programs that serve specific geographic areas (rural)	Yes
◦ Other:	Not available
Not available	

## Base payment rates and percentiles

Age	Center	Percentile of most recent MRS	Family Child Care	Percentile of most recent MRS
Infant	\$ 480.00/ month	75%	\$ 348.57/ month	75%
Toddler	\$ 480.00/ month	75%	\$ 348.00/ month	75%
Preschool	\$ 440.00/ month	75%	\$ 318.42/ month	75%
School Age	\$ 400.00/ month	75%	\$ 292.74/ month	75%
Effective date of payment rates: Updated payment rates were implemented 6/1/2018.				
Market rate survey (MRS) date: 10/30/2016				

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)
<b>Family Size</b>	<b>Lowest “Entry” Income Level Where Family Is First Charged Co-Pay (Greater Than \$0)</b>	<b>What Is the Monthly Co-Payment for a Family of This Size Based on the Income Level in (a)?</b>	<b>The Co-Payment in Column (b) is What Percentage of the Income in Column (a)?</b>	<b>Highest “Entry” Income Level Before a Family Is No Longer Eligible</b>	<b>What Is the Monthly Co-Payment for a Family of This Size Based on the Income Level in (d)?</b>	<b>The Co-Payment in Column (e) is What Percentage of the Income in Column (d)?</b>
3	\$0 - \$999	\$10.00	1-10%	\$43,999.00	\$220.00	6

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"> <li>◦ 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</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: right;">Yes</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Describe contributions/co-payments for other criteria (See table below)</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: right;">Described Below</p>
<p>Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipients and homeless families with no income.</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)	5:1	10
Toddler (35 months)	12:1	14
Preschool (59months)	14:1	14
School-age (6 years)	20:1	20
School-age (10 years and older)	25:1	25
If any of the responses above are different for exempt child care centers, describe which requirements apply:	Described Below	
Not applicable		

*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	Not available	Not available
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	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
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	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
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	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
Supporting accreditation	Not available	Not available	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	Not available
Developing, maintaining, or implementing early learning and developmental guidelines	Mississippi Department of Education funding
Developing, implementing, or enhancing a tiered quality rating and improvement system	Not available
Improving the supply and quality of child care services for infants and toddlers	Mississippi Department of Health funding is used to provide Professional Development classes.
Facilitating compliance with state/territory requirements for inspection, monitoring, training, and health and safety standards	Mississippi Department of Health funding
Evaluating and assessing the quality and effectiveness of child care services within the state/territory	Not available
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	Not available
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	Yes
Ensuring accessibility of environments and activities for all children	Yes
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

<p>How the Lead Agency ensures that its website is consumer-friendly and easily accessible</p>	<p>The Lead Agency ensures its consumer education website is consumer-friendly and easily accessible through collaboration with a university research center engaged to design and maintain the site. The consumer education website is reviewed regularly by the Lead Agency to ensure it maintains appropriate levels of consumer-friendliness and accessibility. Wireframing and prototyping are integral parts of the design, planning, and testing phases of development to identify and minimize potential usability issues and to help ensure a high quality user experience. The Lead Agency helps ensure accessibility by making proper use of taglines, ensuring the site is intuitive to navigate, content is presented concisely and strategic use of visuals are made. The site is mobile compatible, loads quickly, and displays appropriately on multiple browsers. The site uses plain language (at a 6th grade reading level) and makes use of short, familiar words while limiting paragraphs to one idea/topic. Consumer education materials are divided into family-specific, provider-specific, and community-specific information, to make it easier for readers to navigate the site and find what they need. The consumer education website also includes alternate text for images, contrasting color schemes and other means to help ensure as wide an audience as possible can easily access information. Text is used for links rather than images, and black text is used against a white background with colorful “Parent”, “Provider”, and “Community” links to offer a contrasting color scheme on the website.</p>
<p>How the website ensures the widest possible access to services for families that speak languages other than English</p>	<p>The Lead Agency is exploring the option of offering a feature on the consumer education website to non-English speaking families to translate all information available into Spanish and/or Vietnamese, the two most common languages in the state after English. The Lead Agency is in the process of implementing user-friendly features on the consumer education website. These features will optimize the navigation experience of all site visitors (parents, providers, community), will increase the accessibility of English and non-English speakers, and will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. a Google plug-in translator for converting website information from English language into Spanish and/or Vietnamese, the two most common languages in the state after English;</li> <li>2. dubbing the informational video about the state strategic plan into Spanish and, also, offering the video with subtitles in Vietnamese;</li> <li>3. removal or repair of any broken links that may currently malfunction on the consumer education website;</li> <li>4. ADA compliant features, such as tagging images and videos.</li> </ol> <p>The planned release date for the new features is November 1, 2018.</p>
<p>How the website ensures the widest possible access to services for persons with disabilities</p>	<p>The website allows consumers to utilize browser-enabled assistive technology (e.g., zooming, adjusting color schemes, adjusting contrast settings, and changing font sizes). The informational video that describes the “Family-Based and Unified Integrated Early Childhood System” is closed captioned.</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
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