

Increase Funding for Child Care Assistance for Working Families

Think Babies™ NC Leadership Team



Increasing funding for child care assistance for working families with infants and toddlers would help prepare children to grow, learn, and succeed, support families, and strengthen the state's workforce and economy.

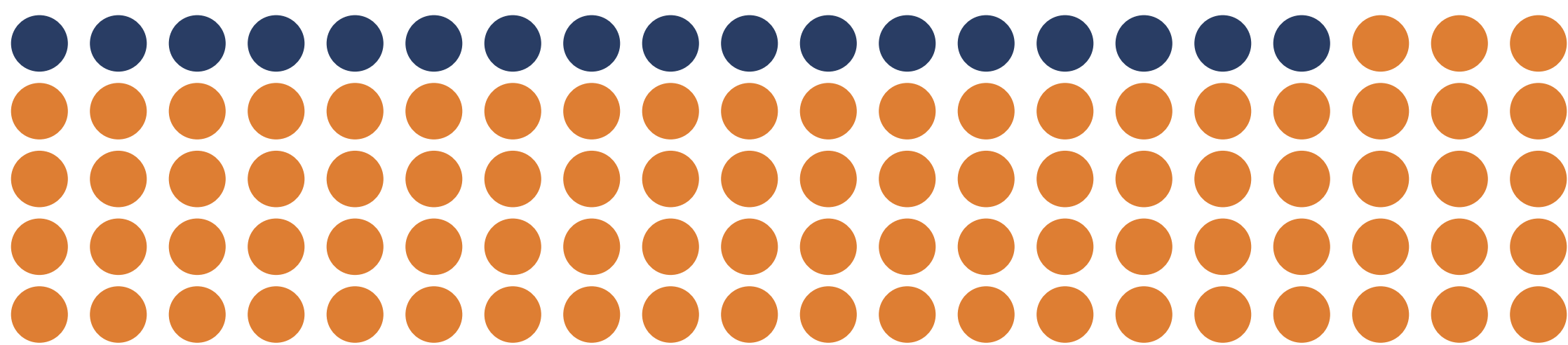
INFANTS AND TODDLERS ARE MISSING OUT ON OPPORTUNITIES FOR HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY LEARNING

102,971

infants and toddlers are eligible for subsidy

17%

of eligible infants and toddlers received subsidies in 2018



CHILD CARE IS OUT OF REACH FOR LOW-INCOME WORKING FAMILIES

Without subsidy, a low income family spends about **1/3** of their annual income on child care for one infant.

In North Carolina, the annual average cost of infant care is \$9,255. A year of child care is more expensive than the annual cost of:



Public college tuition



Rent



Food and transportation

CHILD CARE SUBSIDY SHORTAGES EXIST IN EVERY COUNTY IN NORTH CAROLINA

All 100 counties serve **less than one third** of eligible infants and toddlers. Half of all counties have at least 50 infants and toddlers on the waiting list.

There is **extensive unmet need** throughout the state.



- 25 counties serve less than 33%
- 64 counties serve less than 20%
- 11 counties serve less than 10%