FLORIDA

Child Care Usage in Florida:

- There are 3,324,369 children under age 15 (1,078,313 under age 5 and 2,246,056 between the ages of 5 and 14) in Florida who may require paid child care services.

- About 721,768 children under age 15 are in paid care—304,708 (28.3%) under age 5 and 428,820 (19.1%) between the ages of 5 and 14.

- The average annual cost of care for an infant is $8,376 in a child care center and $7,449 in a family child care home.

- The average annual cost of care for a 4 year old is $6,647 in a child care center and $6,325 in a family child care home.

- The average annual cost of infant center-based care is 132.2% of the cost of tuition and fees at a 4-year college.

Child Care Industry Impact in Florida:

- There are 34,128 child care establishments with revenue of $2.5 billion. This includes 29,938 sole proprietors (family child care home operators) and 4,190 child care centers employing 51,093 individuals.

- $2.5 billion in direct output generated within the organized child care industry is estimated to support about $2.5 billion in additional indirect and induced output in other industry sectors, for an estimated combined total of approximately $5 billion in output in Florida’s economy.

- In terms of employment, 81,031 proprietors and wage and salary employees working in the child care sector are estimated to support about 38,700 jobs in other industry sectors through indirect and induced effects.

- The $1.1 billion in employee compensation and proprietors’ earnings generated directly within the child care industry is estimated to support approximately $940 million in additional indirect and induced earnings across the state.

- Total federal and state child care assistance (both direct subsidies and tax credits) represents 35.2% of child care industry revenue.

The Link Between the Paid Child Care Sector and the State Economy

- The cost of organized care is a significant challenge for many parents with children.

- Access to the organized child care market can increase labor force participation and support state and regional economic growth.

- Increased subsidy payments trigger state level responses in wage rates, the mix of low- and high-skilled labor used in the state, prices of goods and services, and trade flows.