Access to Child Care is Key to Economic Recovery
The Business Case for Increased Investments in Child Care

Pre-COVID, every week in Alabama, the parents of 213,695 children under age 6 were working.

Unemployment is lower now compared to the Spring of 2020, but is still far higher than 2.7% in January 2020.

- 102,496 parents are currently not working because they are caring for children not in school or child care \( \text{(U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey, September 1-13, 2021)} \).  

Alabama COVID Working Parent Impact:
The Census Bureau Household Pulse survey conducted between September 1-13, 2021 among parents with children under age 5:

- 95,173 Parents reduced their work hours in order to care for children not in child care
- 73,731 Parents left a job in order to care for children not in child care
- 61,926 Parents said they supervised 1 or more children under age 5 while working from home


Economic Impact:
For every $1 increase in federal child care funds, there’s a $3.80 return in state economic activity

Working families need an increase in federal child care funding. Let’s close the gap between those children eligible for help and those who receive it.

Alabama Children Receiving Child Care Assistance vs. Percentage of Eligible Children

- 38,722 with child care help
- 127,448 unserved eligible children


With an increase in federal funding, we can serve more children and pay child care staff higher wages.