The impact of COVID-19 has forced child care programs to close. Open programs are serving a tiny fraction of the enrollment needed for economic viability. At the same time, the availability of child care is critical to support parents returning to work.

### Pre-COVID, SD Children in Working Families

**51,905** Children under age 6 with all available parents working  
**63,000** School-age children (6-12) with all available parents working  
**76%** Percentage of children under age 6 with all available parents working  
**74%** Percentage of school-age children (6-12) with all available parents working

### COVID Impact on Child Care Programs

- 1 out of every 4 SD providers closed or were only open for essential personnel  
- 1 out of every 3 providers served less than half of their total enrollment  
- Low child enrollment and increased costs for PPE, disinfectant, and sanitizer threaten the economic viability of child care as a business

### South Dakota Child Care Investments Needed:

- The CARES Act included $9 million for child care in South Dakota. It’s not enough.  
- Over the next 6 months, SD regulated child care programs need $18 million to stabilize the child care market (about $36 million over the next year).  
- In addition, for the SD 2,100 unregulated home-based providers caring for neighborhood children, at least $1 million is needed to help support the cost of PPE, disinfectant, and sanitizer.

It’s this simple: Without child care, there is no economic recovery.

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**Pre-COVID South Dakota Child Care Industry**  
(Center-based and Home-based Care)  
by Revenue Source

| Share of Child Care Revenue Paid by Public Funding | 16.4% |
| Share of Child Care Revenue Paid by Families | 83.6% |


Child Care is a business funded largely by parents.  
Temporary stabilization support is needed to ensure parents have access to child care.  
Parents need and want to go back to work. Economic recovery depends on working parents.

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**COVID 19: SD Economic Impact**  
Households Experiencing a Decline In Income Since March 13, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children in household</th>
<th>No children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>44.1%</td>
<td>37.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey, Week 12, July 16-21, 2020

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Sources: Committee for Economic Development (CED) of The Conference Board, Child Care in State Economies: 2019 Update (January 2019); U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 American Community Survey, 1 year estimates; U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey, Week 12, July 16-21, 2020; Stabilization costs based on child care program data from the SD Department of Human Services, the Census Bureau Economic Survey, and CED estimates based on anticipated open and closure status of programs in the next year.