

# CHILDCARE: WHAT UTAHNS NEED TO KNOW

2023 Update

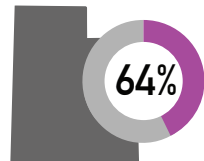
## CHILDCARE IN UTAH

The development of an infrastructure to support Utahns with caregiving responsibilities has been neglected.

Utah ranked **48th** on the Childcare Index and **50th** in the Work and Family category (per a recent "Status of Women in the States" report)

## HOW DOES UTAH STACK UP?

The cost of childcare is even more challenging for single mothers in Utah, many of whom live in poverty.



**64%** of Utah families have all available parents working.

**68%**

of Utah women—aged 20 to 64 with children under age 18—are participating in the labor force.

**49%**

of women said they or another parent or guardian would work more if they could find high-quality affordable childcare.

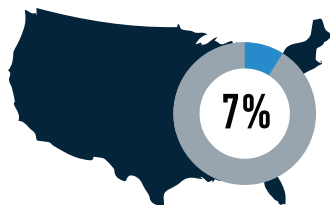
**11,540**

more Utah parents could choose to work if childcare were more accessible = the economy expanding by 0.8%, or over \$1 billion in new economic activity.

An estimated **\$1.4 billion** is lost annually from Utah's economy due to childcare inadequacies.

## COST OF CHILDCARE

Childcare is unaffordable for many Utah families.



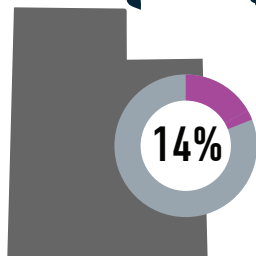
Childcare should account for 7% of a family's income, according to U.S Department of Health and Human Services.



**Only 12%**



of Utah families can afford infant care.



In Utah, 14% is the average percentage of a family's income needed to pay for infant care for one child.

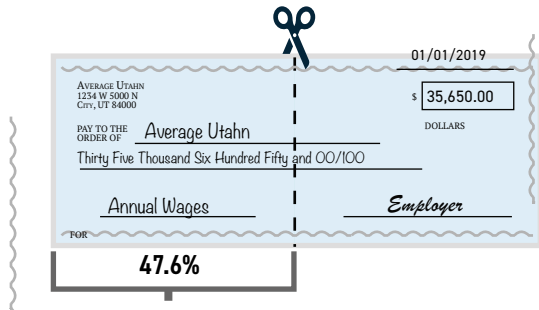
**\$17,591**

average annual cost of care for two children (an infant and a 4-year-old).

This means a Utah family would spend 24.7% of their income on childcare.

# CHILDCARE PROVIDERS

A childcare worker would need to spend 47.6% of their earnings to enroll their own child in infant care.



Childcare Worker's Salary

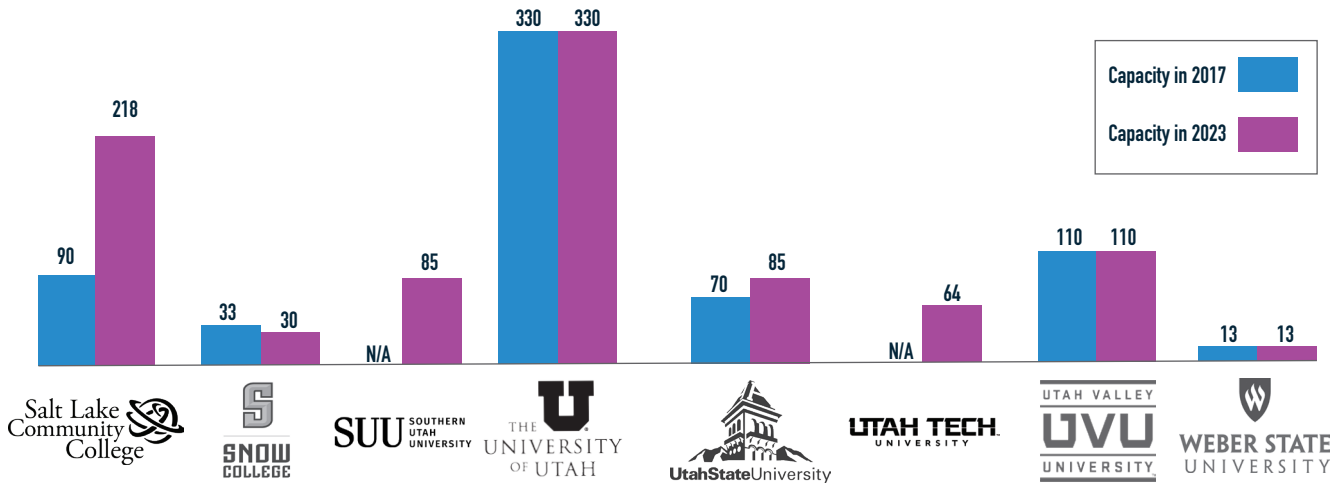
# 53%

of childcare workers use public benefits to make ends meet and are twice as likely to live in poverty than other workers' families.



# CHILDCARE AT HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Capacity of Childcare Facilities at Utah Public Institutions of Higher Education



# WHAT CAN WE DO?

## Legislators



Sponsor and vote for bills that support families and make high-quality, affordable childcare a priority in Utah.

## Counties



Must address childcare deserts, especially in rural areas.

## CEOs



Become attractive employers to families and Utah.

## Everyone



Recognize the essential work of all caregivers, both paid and unpaid, and their impact on Utah's economy.

**UTAH WOMEN & LEADERSHIP Project**

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