Child Care Affordability in IOWA

Child Care Aware of America’s recent report Demanding Change: Repairing our Child Care System found that in 2020 in Iowa:

- In Iowa, the median income for a single-parent family is $29,018, which means center-based child care for an infant would use 39% of family median income.
- In Iowa, the median income for a married couple is $97,364, which means center-based child care for an infant would use 12% of family median income.

**ANNUAL PRICE FULL-TIME CENTER BASED CHILD CARE**

- $9,322 for 4-year-olds
- $4,483 (lowest in nation)
- $11,356 for infants
- $24,378 (highest in nation)

**ANNUAL PRICE FULL-TIME FAMILY CHILD CARE**

- $7,091 for 4-year-olds
- $3,766 (lowest in nation)
- $7,452 for infants
- $18,425 (highest in nation)

When ranked among other states on the affordability of care:

- #43
- #29
- #21
- #32

Compared to tuition and housing...

- **21.20%**
  - In Iowa, the average price of infant care in a center-based program is **21.20% more** than the average tuition and fees at an in-state, four-year public university.

- **118.40%**
  - In Iowa, the average price for two children in center-based child care is **118.40% more** than the average annualized rent cost and **36.76% more** than the average annualized mortgage cost.

Source: Child Care Aware® of America’s Demanding Change: Repairing our Child Care System Report
#DemandingChildCareChange | childcareaware.org