Child Care Affordability in Montana

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

- The median income for a single-parent family is $25,865, which means center-based child care for an infant would use 40% of family median income.
- The median income for a married couple is $89,296, which means center-based child care for an infant would use 12% of family median income.

When ranked among other states on the affordability of care:

- #14: LEAST AFFORDABLE
- #30
- #20
- #18: MOST AFFORDABLE

Compared to tuition and housing:

- In Montana, the average price of infant care in a center-based program is 40.54% more than the average tuition and fees at an in-state, four-year public university.
- In Montana, the average price for two children in center-based child care is 103.0% more than the average annualized rent cost and 15.10% more than the average annualized mortgage cost.

Source: Child Care Aware® of America’s Demanding Change: Repairing our Child Care System Report
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