Child Care Affordability in North Carolina

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

- In North Carolina, the median income for a single-parent family is $26,407, which means center-based child care for an infant would use 42% of family median income.
- In North Carolina, the median income for a married couple is $91,329, 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:

- #5 Least Affordable
- #14 Least Affordable
- #25 Least Affordable
- #22 Most Affordable

Compared to tuition and housing...

- In North Carolina, the average price of infant care in a center-based program is 52.15% more than the average tuition and fees at an in-state, four-year public university.
- In North Carolina, the average price for two children in center-based child care is 87.39% more than the average annualized rent cost and 29.35% 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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