

Tulare County - 2024

Early Care and Education (ECE) Economic Benefit Study

ECE benefits the entire Tulare County economy

- ECE economic benefits include 3,600 jobs and \$370 million per year
- ECE improves outcomes for children and reduces society costs later in life
- ECE ROI up to 425% for businesses with employee child care
- ECE spending reaps 13% annual Return on Investment (ROI)
- ECE supports all businesses by allowing parents to go to work
- ECE helps generate local economic stability and growth
- ECE generates \$48.3 million per year in local, state, and federal taxes

Families with children are struggling countywide

- High levels of poverty among families with children
- High unemployment countywide, especially among women with children under age 6
- Lack of ECE keeps women with children out of the labor force
- Increasing labor force participation rates by 10% would support another 13,000 parents in the workforce
- Low ECE wages are impacting workforce recruitment and retention

Lack of ECE costs Tulare County economic activity and jobs

- 35,000 ECE spaces needed for ages 0 to 12
- ECE industry loses \$474 million per year in economic activity due to the lack of spaces
- ECE shortfall equals a loss of \$4.5 billion in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) countywide
- Unmet Need: 87% of infants/toddlers do not have a licensed ECE space
- ECE workforce earn 50% of living wages or \$21 per hour on average
- Lack of subsidized ECE for migrant and seasonal workers

Current Conditions

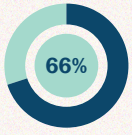
2023 Population



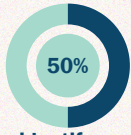
488,800

total population,
including 97,400 children
0 to 12 or 20%

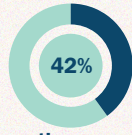
Ethnic Diversity



Hispanic



identify as
White



some other race/two
or more races

Tulare Gross Domestic Product (GDP)



\$23 billion

per year supporting 175,000 jobs

ECE Workforce

3,070 jobs

including teachers, assistants/aides, business
owners, directors, and other support staff

Subsidized ECE Spaces

87%

of all ECE spaces are subsidized in
full or part at \$156 million per year

Tulare County Unemployment

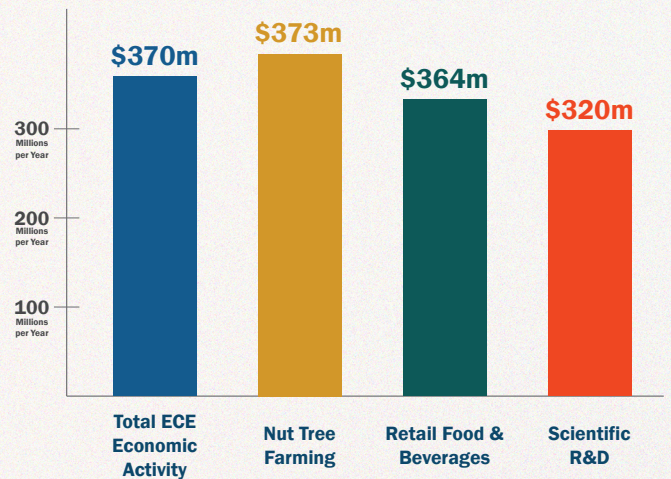
Unemployment Rates	% of Workforce
Overall	9%
Males	8%
All Females	10%
Females with Children under 6	14%

Economic Findings

ECE Economic Benefits

Type of Benefit	\$ Millions
ECE Economic Activity	\$282
ECE Spending in Local Economy	\$35
ECE Wages & Salaries	\$52
Total Benefits	\$370

ECE Compared to Other Industries



ECE Employment Benefits

Type of Jobs	No. of Jobs
Direct ECE Jobs	3,068
Jobs from ECE Spending	194
Jobs from ECE Workers	332
Total Job Benefits	3,594

ECE Economic Multipliers

5 : 1
jobs

For every 5 ECE
jobs, another 1 job is
supported locally.



\$1 **\$0.31**

For every \$1 spent on
ECE, another \$0.31
is generated in the
local economy.

The benefits of ECE for young children are multi-faceted
and ripple through a child's life, society, and the economy.