Lack of Access to Early Care and Education Hurts Working Parents & Employers

in Union Parish

In Louisiana:

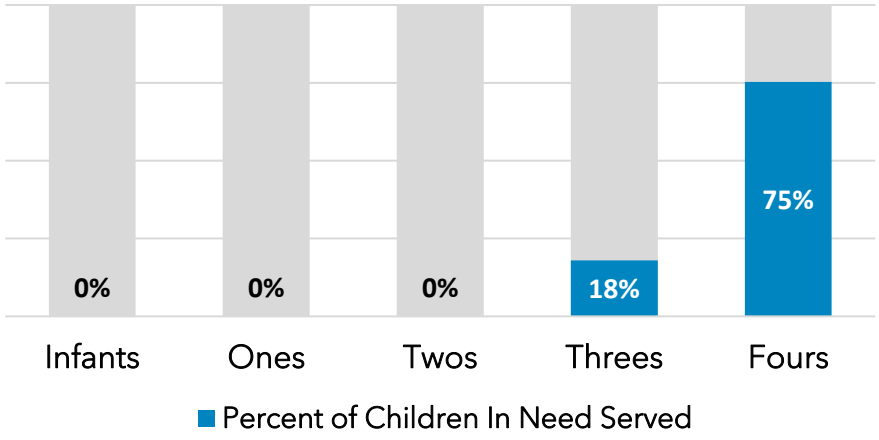
2 out of 3 young children have both parents, or their single parent, in the workforce.

Child care costs almost as much **public college tuition.**

In Union Parish:

There are **915 children in need birth through age four.**

Yet **only 19%** are able to access publicly funded seats, **leaving over 740 children unserved.**



The Impact:

Lack of access to quality, reliable child care for working parents:

Costs Louisiana employers **$816 million** a year.

Results in a **$1.1 billion** loss for Louisiana's economy.

Notes: Children served and unserved calculated from Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) October 2019 enrollment count and estimate of the at-risk child population based on the number of children in kindergarten. "Publicly funded seats" includes those funded through Early Head Start, Head Start, IDEA, LA4, NSECD, Pre-K Expansion Grant, and Child Care Assistance Program.

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