

EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION: ECONOMIC IMPACTS IN DANE COUNTY

ECE in Dane County is similar in scale to the dairy industry, computer software publishing industry, as well as the hotel and motel industry.

A report authored by Gail Kiles Krumenauer, La Follette School of Public Affairs and Professor Steven Deller, UW-Madison Department of Agriculture and Applied Economics will be released later this month.

The authors of the report will present their findings to the Early Childhood Care and Education Board on March 25th at 8:00 a.m. CSC members are encouraged to attend this meeting to learn more about the economic impact of early childhood care and education.

Dane County's ECE services industry provides three vital functions to the local economy.

- First, access to quality child care can more readily allow parents to enter the labor force and be more productive.
- Second, quality early child care services can improve the educational outcomes of children.
- Third, and the focus of the study, the child care services industry is a viable industry in and of itself by employing people, paying wages and generating subsequent economic activity through the multiplier effect.

In Dane County ECE generates:

- \$246.6 million in industrial sales
- 4,244 jobs
- \$91 million in labor income
- \$154 million in total income
- Over \$22 million in federal government revenue and \$12.6 million in state and local government.

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Dane County has relatively high demand for ECE services.

- 70.5% of children under age six in Dane County require some form of child care, compared to 56.3% in Milwaukee County, 68.4% of children under six statewide and 58.6% nationally.
- This relatively high level of ECE demand is projected to rise in the Dane County region, due to greater in-commuting for employment purposes and general population growth.

The project was completed through six months of collaboration and peer-evaluated input from several stakeholder organizations including:

Joan Laurion Family Living Educator, Dane County UW-Extension.

Bill Rizzo Community Economic Development Educator at Dane County UW-Extension

Daithi Wolfe Coordinator of the Bright & Early public education campaign

George Hagenauer Associate Director at Community Coordinated Child Care (4-C)

Jolene Ibeling City of Madison - Child Care Coordinator

Enis Ragland City of Madison