



Cost of Child Care for Parents

Sources: ChildCareAware.org and the Treasure Valley United Way ALICE Report.

Child Care Aware

- National Advocacy/Public Policy group that serves families and professional child care workers by collecting data yearly for nationwide reports that aid in community leadership and policymaking.
- These references are from 2017 data. The report can be found here: http://usa.childcareaware.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/ID_Facts.pdf

Treasure Valley United Way ALICE Report

- ALICE is an acronym for 'Asset Limited, Income Constrained, and Employed.' While families in this category are working and above federal poverty level, they still struggle to make ends meet.
- Localized part of a nation-wide project, ALICE Pacific Northwest looks at Idaho, Washington, and Oregon, and breaks them down further by county. The specific Treasure Valley ALICE report looks just at Idaho, county by county.
- Idaho's ALICE population is 26% of families. Combined with those at or below federal poverty level (around 14%), this means that approximately 40% of Idaho families are struggling to make ends meet.
- These references are from the 2018 report; however, the report pulls from 2016 data. The reports can be found here: https://www.uwpnw.org/alice_in_pnw

Both Projects

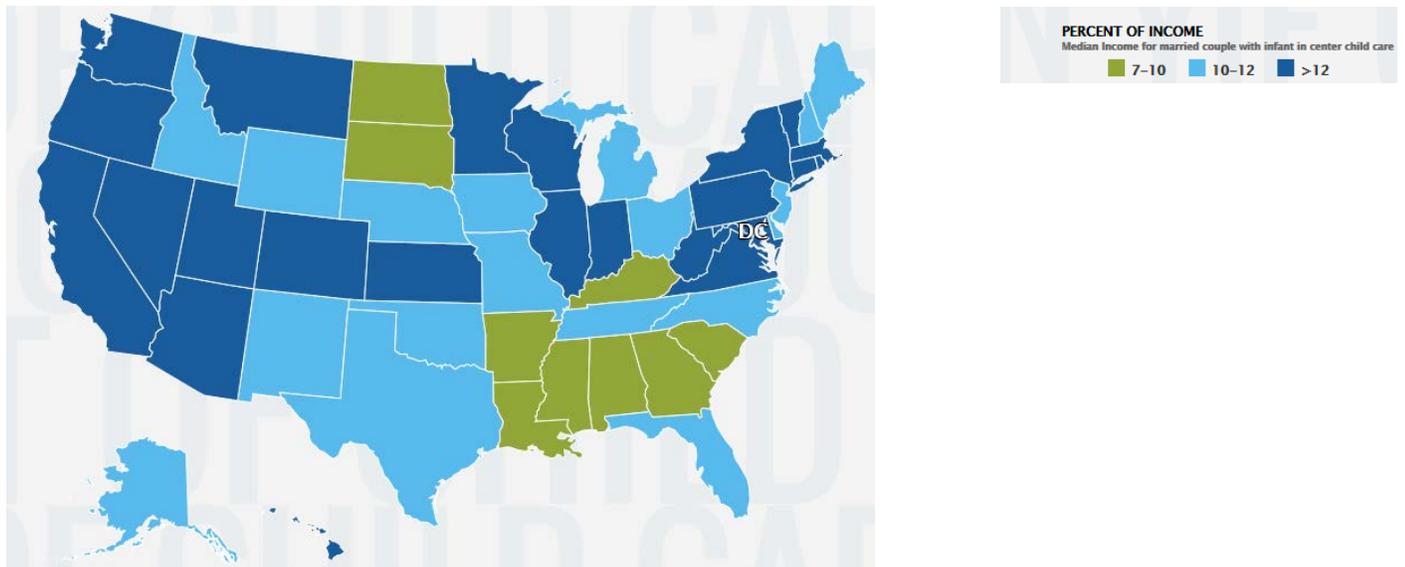
- Looking at both projects together gives a somewhat more rounded view of the situation of income and child care.
- While the Child Care Aware report focuses specifically on Child Care, the ALICE report gives a broader view of all the expenses that households of varying sizes and demographics reported. Alternately, the Child Care Aware report focuses nationally and at state level, but the ALICE report gives a more detailed approach by looking at each county.
- Especially important to note, Ada County is home to several major commercial and high tech employers. Both the cost of living and the median household income are higher in Ada County than generally in the rest of the State.

Idaho & Ada County Average Cost of Childcare

Age	Center	Family/In-Home	% of Income
Infant/Toddler	\$6,905/yr.	\$6,284/yr.	Center = 13.3% Family/In-Home = 12.1%
4 year old	\$6,429/yr.	\$5,834/yr.	Center = 12.4% Family/In-Home = 11.2%

The Child Care Aware report lists the 2017 average cost of childcare via several breakdowns.

- The numbers above are based on prices reported in the Child Care Aware report. The ALICE report lists the Idaho couple average income as \$51,807. The percentages shown in the chart are the percent of income—based on the \$51,807—used for childcare.



- Ada County median household income is \$61,301/yr., which is \$9,494 (18.3%) higher than State average.

Child Care Workers

- Many people who work at child care centers do so because they have children. The Child Care Aware report addresses costs to child care workers (2017 Idaho Child Care Fact Sheet)
- The State of Idaho percentage of the average child care worker income (\$19,480) required yearly to keep 2 children in child care is **68.9%**. While we were unable to find a statistic on average child care worker pay for Ada county, general observation from looking at starting pay in many job listings is that the starting pay for State, County, and Boise City child care workers is nearly the same. This means that in Ada County, the percentage of child care fees to pay is even greater.
- Most centers offer incentives such as reduced or free child care to workers. Without these incentives, child care for child-care workers (who would otherwise pay up to almost 69% of their income toward childcare cost) would be unaffordable.