



POLK COUNTY EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA

COMMUNITY PLAN

October 2022



Local Partner

Forward

The Polk County Early Childhood Iowa Community Plan is a tool utilized by the Board to inform its work to make decisions and investments which will improve the lives of children ages zero through five, and their families. The plan incorporates information from community assessments (see References) and feedback from current community partners:

Child Care Resource & Referral, Region 4
Dental Connections
Des Moines Public Library
Ethnic Minorities of Burma Advocacy and Resource Center (EMBARC)
Friends of Youth Justice Initiative
Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children
Knock and Drop Iowa
Lutheran Services in Iowa
Mary's Helping Hands
Polk County Health Department
EveryStep
Shalom Community Impact Center
Public School Districts: Ankeny, Bondurant-Farrar, Dallas Center-Grimes, Des Moines Public, Johnston, Saydel, Southeast Polk, Urbandale, West Des Moines
Non-profit child care centers: Bidwell Child Development Center, Capitol Park Early Learning Center, Children & Families of Iowa Child Development Center, Grandview Child Development Center, Conmigo Early Education Center, Oak Academy, Wonder Years Academy

Thank you to EveryStep Healthy Start & Empowerment and the Des Moines Public Library for sharing photos of families they serve.

The Polk County Early Childhood Iowa Community Plan is a document of the Polk County Early Childhood Iowa Board. This plan and updates can be found at www.pceci.org or by contacting:

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INTRODUCTION

EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA

Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) is Iowa's state initiative to empower local decision making and local solutions to support children and families.

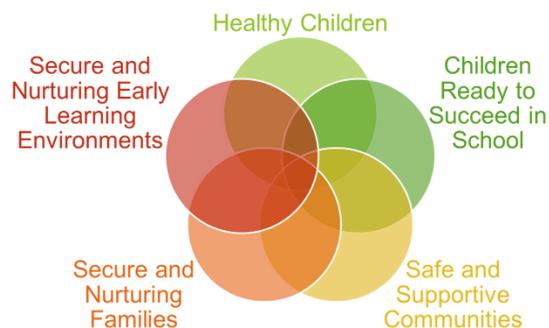
Early Childhood Iowa began as Community Empowerment which was established through bipartisan support during the 1998 legislative session to create a partnership between communities and state government committed to improving the well-being of young children and their families. The law established a state board to provide oversight to the state system through strategic planning, funding, guidance, and reporting on results. The Iowa Legislature passed legislation in 2010 which designated Early Childhood Iowa as the structure for local area ECI boards, the state board, and the ECI Stakeholders Alliance. The ECI Stakeholders Alliance is a public-private group focused on early childhood system development. Various component groups inform the work of the alliance.

The Early Childhood Iowa State Board, with implementation through the ECI State Office, leads the initiative to ensure fiscal and programmatic accountability with the statewide goal of creating positive outcomes for young children and their families. The state board vision: Every child, beginning at birth, will be healthy and successful.

As established within Iowa Code the statewide Early Childhood Iowa system is focused on the desired results areas of:

- Healthy Children
- Children Ready to Succeed in School
- Safe and Supportive Communities
- Secure and Nurturing Families
- Secure and Nurturing Early Learning Environments

ECI brings members of a community together as a local area board to identify strengths, needs, and gaps in services in the community. ECI works across the state through local ECI area boards to strengthen families, increase access to quality early learning environments, raise the quality of child care and preschools, and to improve child health and development. There are 38 local ECI area boards which serve Iowa's 99 counties.



POLK COUNTY EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA

The Polk County Early Childhood Iowa Board invests in programs within Polk County to serve families with children, prenatal through age five, to serve the board vision and mission:

VISION

Every child from zero through age five will be healthy and successful.

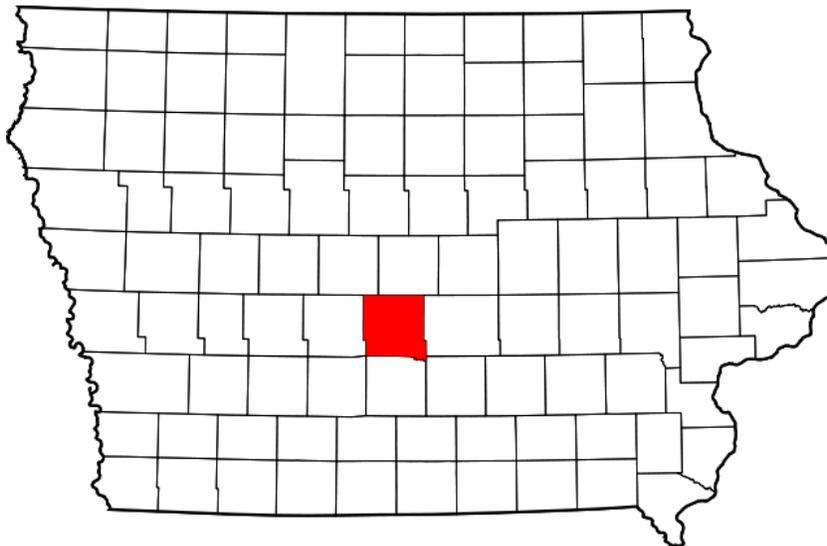
MISSION

The Polk County Early Childhood Iowa Board's mission is to work with community partners to make investments to achieve long-term positive results for expectant mothers, children zero through age five, and their families.

BOARD

The Polk County ECI Board maintains a membership of 15–20 individuals. The Board places a high priority on recruiting diverse membership. Recruitment focuses on maintaining diversity representative of families living in Polk County and includes diversity of ethnicity, race, home language, country of birth, location of residence in rural and urban areas, profession, and age. The Board meets monthly for 90-minutes to conduct board business and to hear from funded programs and stakeholders.

Polk County Early Childhood Iowa (Polk County ECI) is a single county area. The three Early Childhood Iowa areas bordering Polk County ECI are: 4 R Kids (Adair, Dallas, Madison, and Warren); BooST Together for Children (Boone and Story); and JMP (Jasper, Marion, and Poweshiek). Polk County ECI has a collaborative relationship with surrounding ECI areas and works with these areas to ensure all children and families have access to services. Supporting the vision of the Board, Polk County ECI places priority on providing services to all children and families in need of services.



OUR COMMUNITY: POLK COUNTY

GEOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Located in Central Iowa, Polk County is Iowa's most populous county. With a total population of 493,000, Polk County is home to over 15 percent of the state's residents. Polk County has 573 square miles of land and is the 43rd largest county in Iowa by area. In the county there are approximately 41,606 children ages 0 through 5, or approximately 8 percent of the total population.

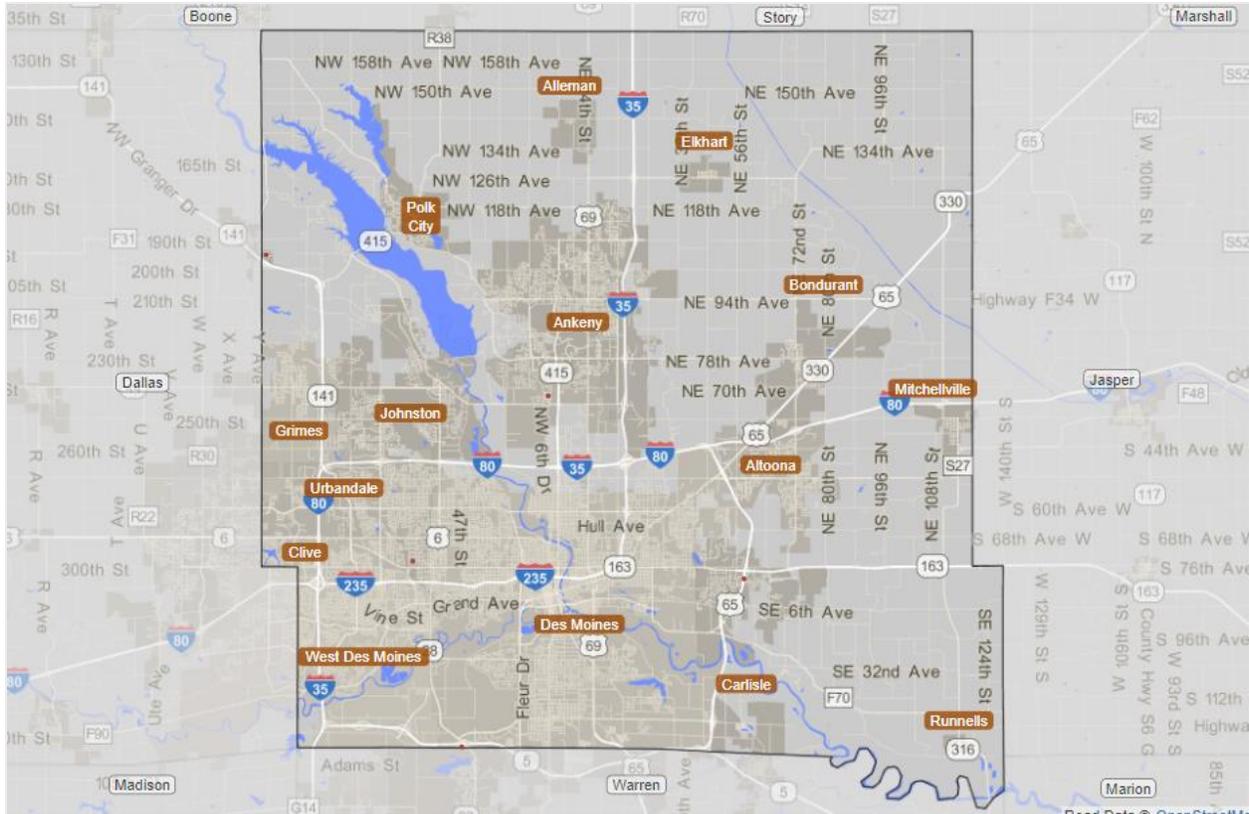
The county seat is Des Moines, which is also the capital city of Iowa. Des Moines is comprised of 80.87 square miles of land and has a population of approximately 212,215. As Iowa's capital city, Des Moines is a hub of government action, business activity, and cultural affairs. With an estimated metro population of 646,000, the greater Des Moines community is an urban area. Major industries in Des Moines include insurance, government, manufacturing, trade, and health care services. Des Moines businesses draw employees from a five-county area.

The population of the county has grown approximately 75,000 since 2010. It also represents approximately 52 percent of the state's growth during this time. Since the inception of the U.S. Decennial Census in 1850 the population of Polk County has continued to increase with each decade, and this trend is projected to continue.

There are 99 counties in Iowa. The table to the right compares Polk County to the 50 most populous counties in Iowa. The least populous of the compared counties, Page, has a population of 15,552.

	0k	100k	200k	300k	400k	#
Polk					459.16k	1
Linn			218.08k			2
Scott		171.12k				3
Johnson		142.01k				4
Black Hawk		132.82k				5
Woodbury		102.43k				6
Dubuque		96.36k				7
Story		94.83k				8
Pottawattamie		93.20k				9
Dallas		78.07k				10
Warren		48.17k				11
Clinton		47.97k				12
Cerro Gordo		43.30k				13
Muscatine		42.95k				14
Marshall		40.74k				15
Des Moines		40.11k				16
Webster		37.05k				17
Jasper		36.72k				18
Wapello		35.24k				19
Lee		35.17k				20
Sioux		34.62k				21
Marion		33.20k				22
Boone		26.41k				23
Benton		25.72k				24
Plymouth		24.97k				25
Bremer		24.66k				26
Mahaska		22.32k				27
Washington		22.12k				28
Buchanan		21.03k				29
Winneshiek		20.79k				30
Carroll		20.56k				31
Jones		20.48k				32
Buena Vista		20.45k				33
Fayette		20.39k				34
Henry		19.94k				35
Jackson		19.53k				36
Poweshiek		18.62k				37
Cedar		18.39k				38
Clayton		17.74k				39
Jefferson		17.66k				40
Delaware		17.45k				41
Tama		17.42k				42
Hardin		17.32k				43
Crawford		17.15k				44
Dickinson		17.05k				45
Clay		16.48k				46
Iowa		16.33k				47
Floyd		16.00k				48
Madison		15.66k				49
Page		15.55k				50

Source: [Statistical Atlas](#)



Principal cities in Polk County are Des Moines and West Des Moines. Cities include Alleman, Altoona, Ankeny, Bondurant, Carlisle, Clive, Des Moines, Elkhart, Granger, Grimes, Johnston, Mitchellville, Norwalk, Pleasant Hill, Polk City, Runnells, Sheldahl, Urbandale, West Des Moines, Windsor Heights.

Rank	City/Town/etc.	Population (2020)
1	Des Moines	214,133
2	West Des Moines (<i>partially in Dallas County</i>) (<i>partially in Warren</i>)	68,723
3	Ankeny	67,887
4	Urbandale (<i>partially in Dallas County</i>)	45,580
5	Johnston	24,064
6	Altoona	19,565
7	Clive (<i>partially in Dallas County</i>)	18,601
8	Grimes (<i>partially in Dallas County</i>)	15,392
9	Norwalk (<i>mostly in Warren County</i>)	12,799
10	Pleasant Hill	10,147

Rank	City/Town/etc.	Population (2020)
11	Bondurant	7,365
12	Polk City	5,543
13	Windsor Heights	5,252
14	Carlisle (<i>partially in Warren County</i>)	4,160
15	Saylorville	3,584
16	Mitchellville (<i>partially in Jasper County</i>)	2,485
17	Granger (<i>partially in Dallas County</i>)	1,654
18	Elkhart	882
19	Runnells	457
20	Alleman	423
21	Sheldahl (<i>partially in Boone and Story Counties</i>)	297

Source: [Statistical Atlas](#)

Central Iowa is a hub for medical services and includes these hospitals in Polk County:

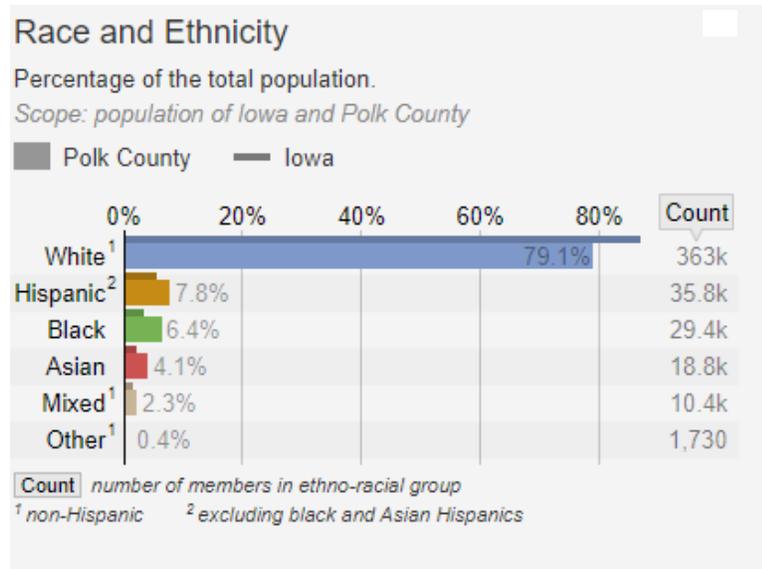
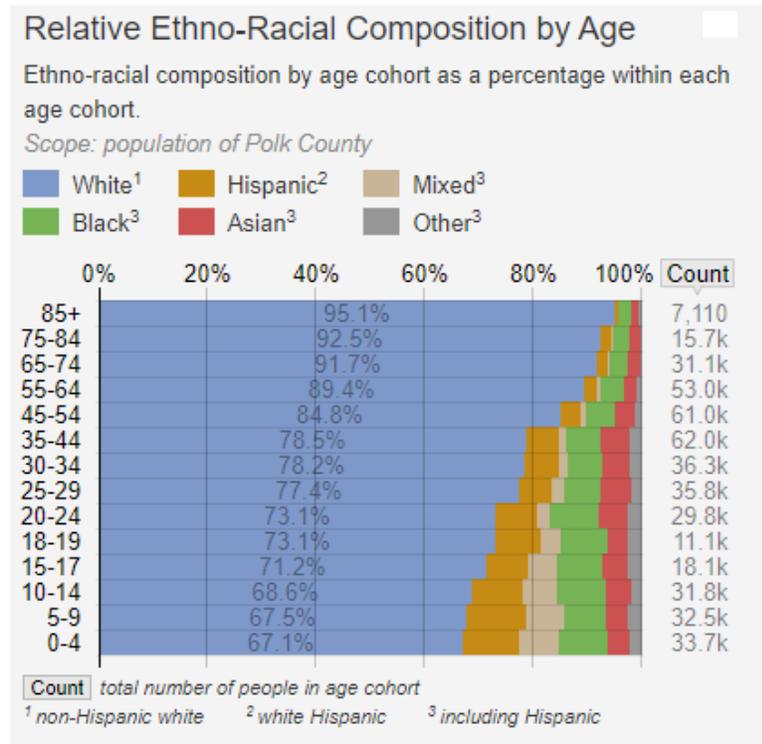
- Broadlawns, Des Moines
- Iowa Lutheran Hospital, Des Moines
- Iowa Methodist Medical Center, Des Moines
- Mercy One, Des Moines
- Mercy One West Des Moines Medical Center, West Des Moines
- Methodist West Hospital, West Des Moines
- VA Central Iowa Health Care System

Orchard Place provides mental health treatment for children. Services include residential, outpatient, in-home, community-based and care coordination.

Polk County includes a number of institutions of higher education including: Des Moines University, Drake University, Des Moines Area Community College, Grandview University.

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

The growth of the population of Polk County includes a corresponding increase in racial and ethnic diversity. The child population is more diverse than the adult, and this trend will continue. A language other than English is spoken in 14 percent of homes. Spanish is spoken in 6 percent of homes. The chart below shows Polk County's diversity by age cohort.

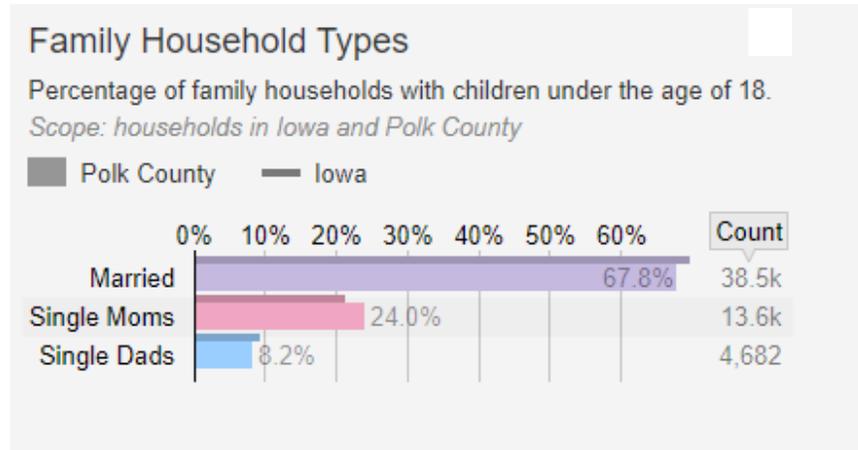


Source: [Statistical Atlas](#)

There are a total of 203,390 households in Polk County. The median household income is \$69,747. The median income by family type:

- Families \$86,525
- Married couple families \$102,184
- Non-family households \$45,673

Single moms make up nearly a quarter of the households with children under the age of eighteen.



Source: [Statistical Atlas](#)

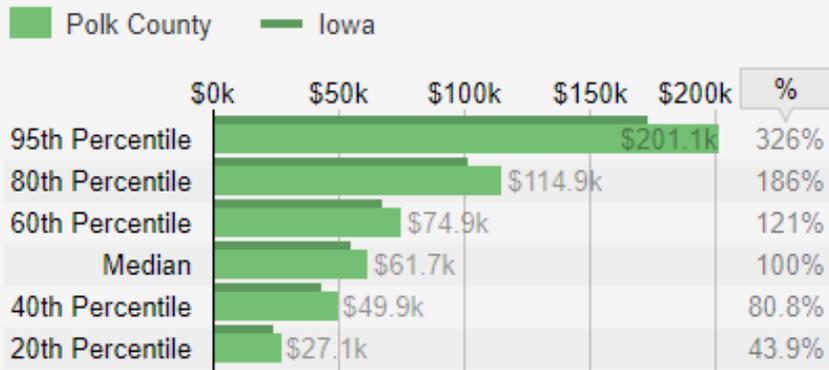


INCOME AND HOUSEHOLD BUDGETS

The median household income in Polk County in 2020 dollars is \$69,747 (2020 Census). The total population in poverty is 12 percent. Of the total population 7 percent are children under 5 years of age. Children under 18 years make up the largest percentage of the population in poverty at 14 percent.

Household Income Percentiles

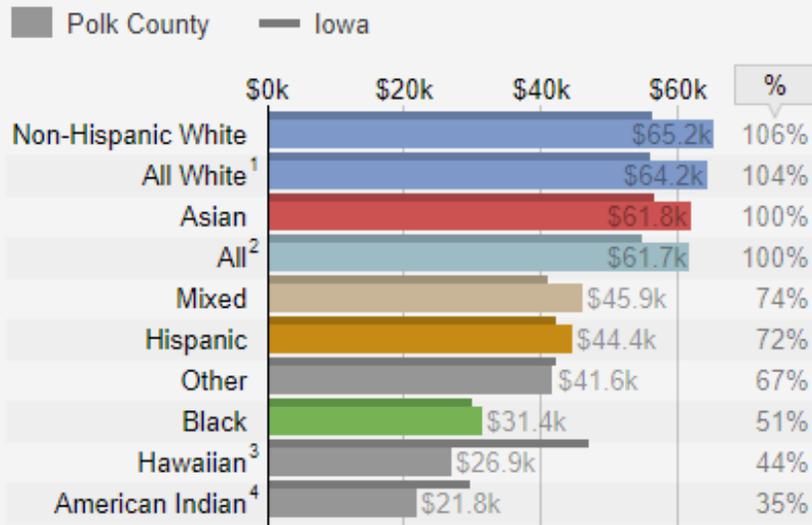
Scope: households in Iowa and Polk County



% as percentage of median household income

Median Household Income by Race

Scope: households in Iowa and Polk County



% as percentage of median household income of the entire population

¹ including Hispanic whites

² entire population

³ and other Pacific Islander

⁴ American Indian and Alaska Native

Source: [Statistical Atlas](#)

In Iowa 15 percent of all working households can't meet a basic needs budget, with this share higher among households led by singles; this includes 45 percent of single-parent working households. Single-parent head of households have the challenge of being the sole breadwinner while needing to pay for child care. The majority of single parents are women, meaning they receive lower wages on average. Families of color are less likely to earn enough to meet a basic-needs budget. Below is a frugal budget which does not include any savings for retirement or emergencies, no student loan payments and no services like extracurricular fees for children, no streaming services, no eating out after a busy day.

	Single Person	Single Parent, 1 Child*	Married couple, 2 children**	Married couple, no children***
Monthly Expenses				
Rent and utilities	\$599	\$850	\$850	\$674
Food	294	429	859	516
Health Care	187	359	611	616
Child care	-	859	1,236	-
Clothing & household expenses	326	407	568	405
Transportation	598	576	1,230	1,214
Monthly total	\$2,004	\$3,480	\$5,353	\$3,424
Annual total expenses	\$24,043	\$41,759	\$64,235	\$41,092
Annual before-tax earnings needed				
Annual before-tax earnings needed	\$28,782	\$44,019	\$67,009	\$47,806
Less: Income & payroll taxes	(4,739)	(7,460)	(11,599)	(6,714)
Plus: EITC & other credits	-	5,200	8,825	-
Net resources	\$24,043	\$41,759	\$64,235	\$41,092
Family supporting hourly wage	\$13.84	\$21.16	\$16.11	\$11.49
* One child age 2 or 3 requiring full-time year-round child care		** One child age 4, one child age 6-11; both parents work full-time		
*** Adults in their mid-50s, both working full time				

Source: [Common Good Iowa](#)

To sustain a basic needs budget:

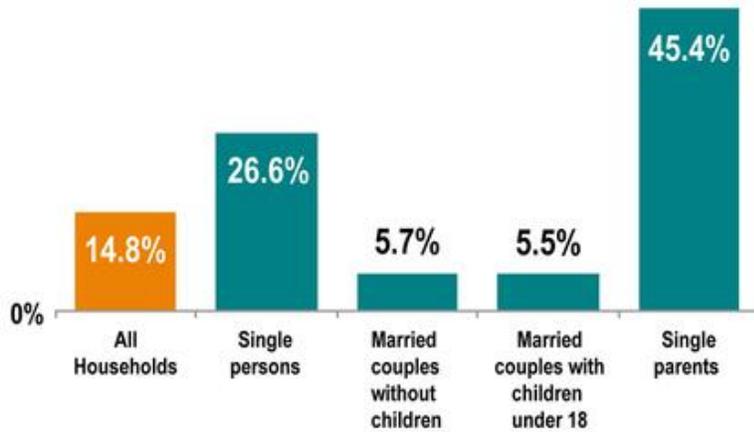
- A single parent with one child must earn an hourly wage of \$21.16.
- Two working parents with two children each need to earn \$16.11 or more.
- A working parent in a two-parent household with a stay-at-home parent and two children must earn \$21.59.

There are wide differences in wages and expenses across the state. Metro areas have the highest rents and the highest costs for child care. Polk, Johnson, and Story counties have the highest costs for families with children.

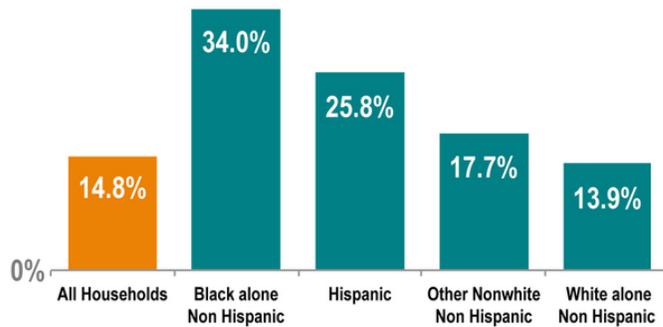
The city of Des Moines has the highest share of all families with incomes below self-sufficiency: 21.2 percent. The area with the lowest share, 10.1 percent, is the area composed of Des Moines suburbs and Ames (Polk County outside Des Moines plus the 7 counties surrounding Polk). In the rest of Iowa's urban and rural areas the proportion ranges from 15 to 18 percent. Source: [Common Good Iowa](#)

One out of seven working households in Iowa do not make enough to meet a basic needs budget. The majority of households not meeting this budget are led by single parents. Households of color are overrepresented among working households that can't meet basic needs. The graphs below come from *The Cost of Living in Iowa 2022* authored by Fisher and Veldhouse for Common Good Iowa.

Percentage of working households earning below what is needed to meet basic needs budget:



Percentage of working households that earn too little to meet a basic-needs budget, by race and ethnicity:



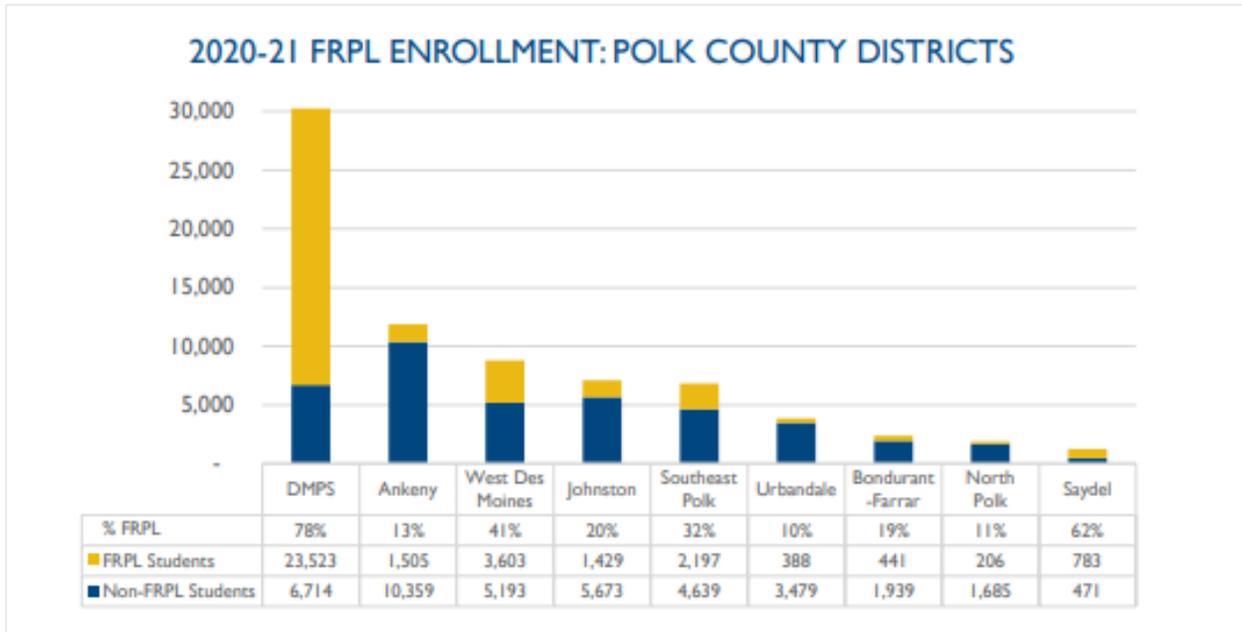
EDUCATION AND EARLY LEARNING

There are 10 public school districts within Polk County and several whose boundaries enter the county. The 10 districts are a mix of urban, suburban, and rural and serve a total of 82,202 students grades PK–12. In addition to public school districts, there are 32 private schools in Polk County, serving approximately 7,000 students. The majority of these schools are religiously affiliated. The Diocese of Des Moines operates 17 schools: 15 preschool through grade 8 and 2 high schools. The Iowa Department of Education does not track the number of home-educated students. Homeschooling parents are not required to report to any state entity that they are homeschooling their children. It is hard to estimate the number of homeschooled children in Polk County.

The 10 public school districts range in size from North Polk serving 2,084 students to the state’s largest district, Des Moines Public Schools, serving 31,323. There is great economic diversity from district to district. Five of the ten school districts have over one-third of all students eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch (FRPL). The rates of FRPL range from 7.3 percent eligible students in North Polk to 77.6 percent, or 24,307 students, in Des Moines Public Schools. Diversity of the population ethnically, racially, and linguistically varies greatly. Enrollment of students who are English Learners range from approximately 1 percent in districts Bondurant-Farrar and North Polk to 13 percent in West Des Moines and 24 percent in Des Moines. The following table provides a brief look at district populations.

School Year 2021-2022 Enrollment Overview for Polk County School Districts					
District	Preschool Enrollment SWVPP	Enrollment PK–12	FRPL (% eligible)	English Learner %	White %
Ankeny	358	12,263	17.07%	2.6%	83%
Bondurant-Farrar	130	2,627	18.22%	1.4%	86%
Dallas Center – Grimes	217	3,660	14.2%	0.9%	88%
Des Moines Public Schools	1,770	31,323	77.6%	24.1%	34%
Johnston	299	7,428	23.52%	7.7%	69%
North Polk	121	2,084	7.34%	0.3%	93%
Saydel	84	1,356	64.15%	8.0%	73%
Southeast Polk	390	7,350	32.86%	3.2%	76%
Urbandale	273	4,241	34.4%	11.3%	66%
West Des Moines	439	9,285	37.2%	13.1%	58%
Polk County Total	4,280	82,202			
State of IOWA Total	29,411	510,659	40.68%	6.6%	73%

Data compiled from [Iowa Department of Education, Education Statistics PK-12, 2021-2022](#)



Source: [DMPS FY2022 Preliminary Budget and Financial Statements](#)

The largest school district in Iowa, DMPS is an urban school district that serves an increasingly diverse student population. Seventy-eight percent of the students in the district are low-income, based on eligibility for the Free or Reduced-Price Lunch (FRPL) program. The percentage of DMPS students enrolled in the FRPL program is substantially higher than the state average, and Des Moines Public Schools has the highest poverty rate in Polk County (based on FRPL enrollment).

DMPS is a “majority-minority” school district, and minority enrollment has steadily increased to 64 percent of all students. Latino families are the fastest growing demographic segment of both the city and the schools.

In the last decade, DMPS has experienced a 37 percent increase in the number of students enrolled in English Language Learner (ELL) classes. DMPS students speak more than 100 different native languages and dialects, and currently 22 percent of the entire student body is ELL.

PRESCHOOL

Determining children enrolled in preschool is challenging. The U.S. Census Bureau documents the number of 3- and 4-year-olds in preschool as reported by parents. Kids Count reports preschool enrollment at 46 percent in Iowa and 42 percent in Polk County.

Iowa’s Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Old Children (SWVPP) provides opportunities for young children to access quality preschool. The preschool programs are expected to serve four-year-old children with a range of abilities representing the social, linguistic, cultural, and economic diversity of families within the communities. The SWVPP was established May 2007, in House File 877.

In the Fall of 2019, approximately 27,121 Iowa preschoolers in 321 school districts enrolled in SWVPP receiving at least 10 hours per week of developmentally appropriate instruction. Approximately 4,280

preschoolers were enrolled in Polk County districts with 1,770 enrolled in the DMPS Early Childhood Program.

All districts in Polk County participate in SWVPP though instructional time and available hours vary from district-to-district. Districts offer a range of attendance options and range of tuition costs for hours of care and or instruction beyond the 10 hours a week funded by the state.

DMPS PRESCHOOL

DMPS Early Childhood Program offers free, quality preschool with several options, including a variety of locations, class times, and half- or full-day plans. All DMPS preschool programs adhere to state and national program standards to facilitate the district goal of improving Kindergarten readiness. DMPS offers 15 hours of instruction for all students enrolled in SWVPP and braids funding sources to increase instructional hours beyond 15 hours for children from low-income families. Funding sources include:

Universal Preschool — The state-funded program, SWVPP, designed to provide voluntary, universal access to high-quality preschool education programs for four-year-olds. This is the largest DMPS preschool program. Classrooms are located throughout Des Moines in neighborhood elementary schools, DMPS Education Centers, and partner locations.

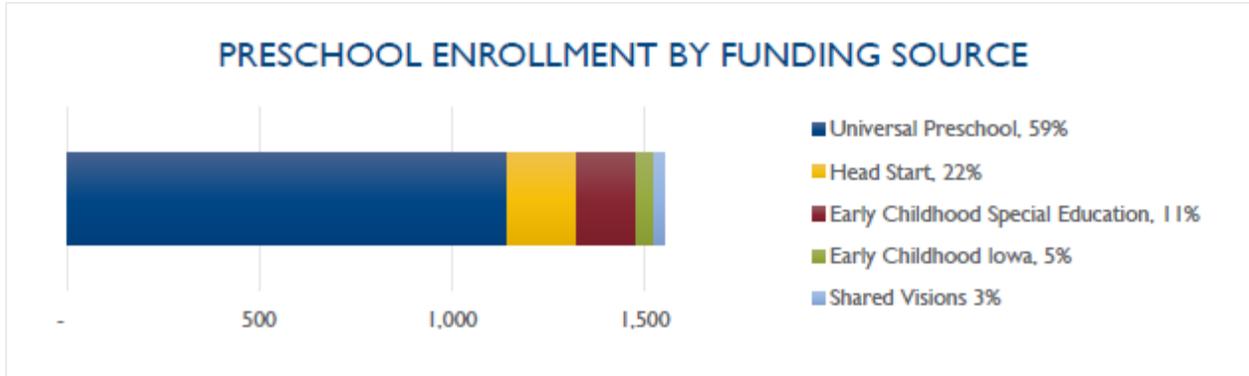
Head Start — The federally-funded comprehensive child development program that serves income-eligible children ages three to five and their families. The DMPS Head Start program is a delegate of the Drake University Head Start program.

Shared Visions — The district is the recipient of three grants from the Iowa Department of Education to implement the Shared Visions program at preschool programs located in three Des Moines elementary schools: McKinley, Capitol View, and Moulton. The Shared Visions preschool program provides comprehensive quality preschool program experiences for at-risk children who are ages three to five years.

Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) — Services are available for eligible children three to five years of age. ECSE staff assist in the identification, assessment, and development of an Individualized Educational Plan for eligible children. A continuum of services is available, tailored to meet the individual needs of each student, including integrated classroom settings with Head Start, Universal Preschool, and self-contained programming. ECSE classrooms are located throughout Des Moines in neighborhood elementary schools and in DMPS Education Centers.

Early Childhood Iowa — Funds provided by Polk County Early Childhood Iowa allow DMPS to extend instructional time for income eligible children.

More than 1,500 students were enrolled in DMPS preschool programs through a variety of funding sources in 2021-22. This was a decline compared to previous years, due to COVID-19. Students in Des Moines participate in early childhood education programs in district buildings or in partnering religious, childcare, and other organizations.



Source: [DMPS FY2022 Preliminary Budget and Financial Statements](#)

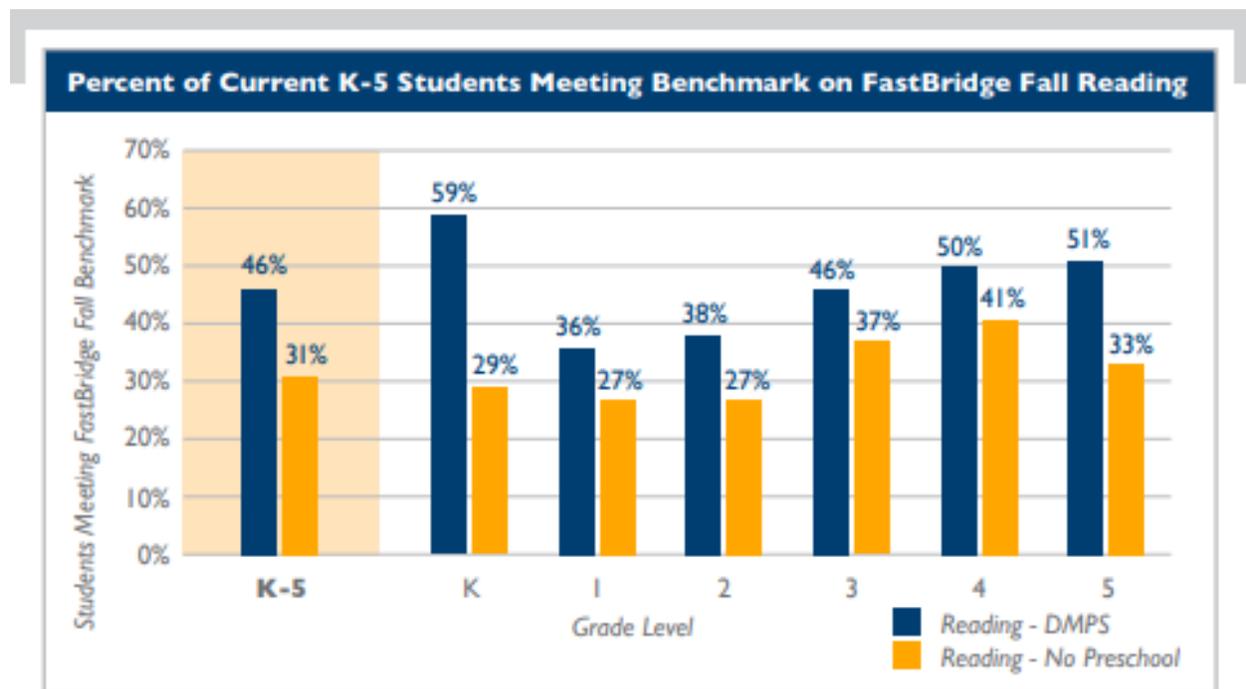
DMPS combines funding sources to expand instructional hours and best serves the needs of its diverse population. For school year 2021/22 that looked like this:

FUNDING	SLOTS	COMMENTS
SWVPP – DMPS	1021	10 hours/week
SWVPP – Community Partners	473	Parochial schools and child care centers with 28E agreement
Head Start 100% of Poverty	420	200 of the slots are braided with SWVPP to provide full day programming
Shared Visions 130% of Poverty	48	All slots are braiding with SWVPP to provide full day programming
Polk County Early Childhood Iowa 200% of Poverty	95	Scholarships provided for full school day programming

2022 FPL: 100% of poverty = \$27,750 for a family of 4; 130% of poverty = \$36,075 for a family of 4; 200% of poverty = \$55,500 for a family of 4

Des Moines Public Schools has documented the assessment results of students who attended a DMPS preschool classroom and those who did not. Longitudinal data for students shows the impact over years for students. This data demonstrates the importance of high-quality early education for the success of all four-year-olds. This is true especially for children from low-income families and in households which speak a language other than English at home.

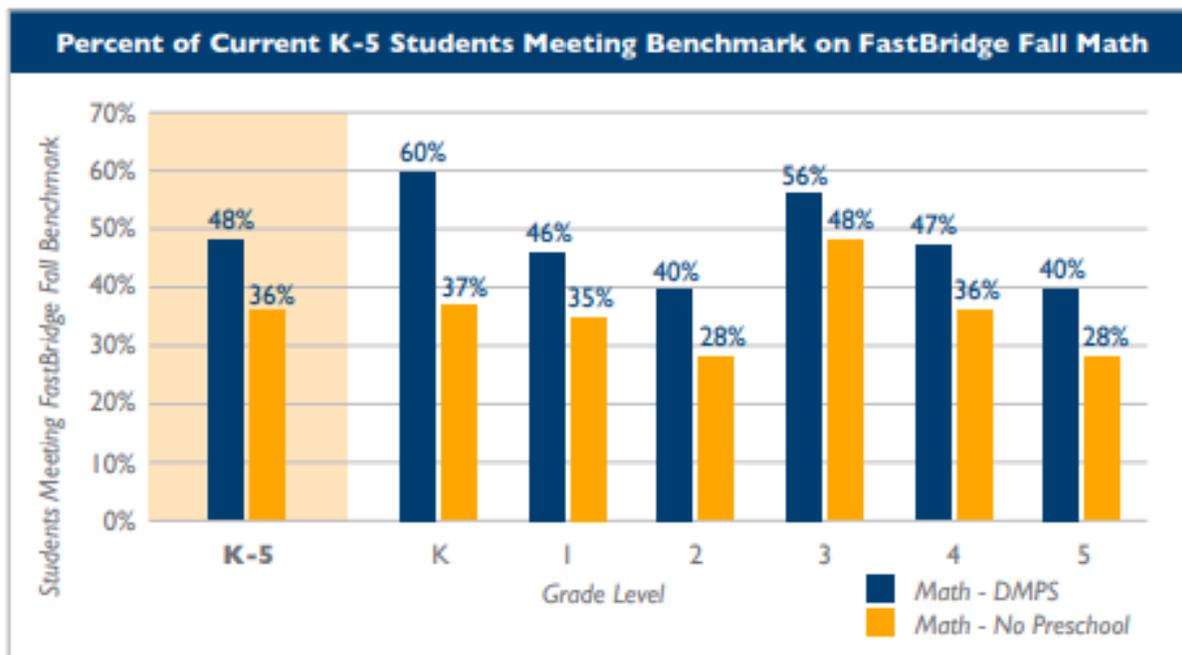
DMPS data shows that students who attend a district preschool classroom are more than twice as likely to meet their Kindergarten reading benchmark with the trend continuing through 5th grade reading.



Source: DMPS Early Childhood Program, DMPS Reading Assessment Data

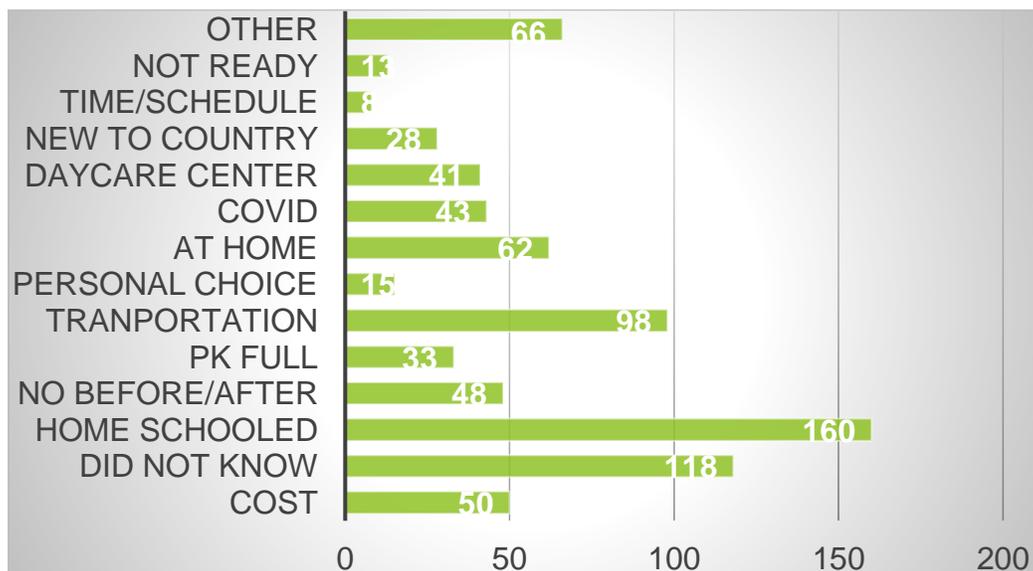


DMPS data shows that students who attend a district preschool classroom are more than twice as likely to meet their Kindergarten mathematics benchmark with the trend continuing through 5th grade.



Source: DMPS Early Childhood Program, DMPS Mathematics Assessment Data

This longitudinal data shows the importance of attending a quality early learning program for all four-year-old children. The Polk County Early Childhood Iowa Board provides funding to the 10 districts in Polk County to support increasing access and instructional hours for 4-year-olds from families at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. Only 38 percent of kindergarten students attended a DMPS or partner preschool program during the 2021/22 school year. Numbers were typically around 50 percent prior to COVID. DMPS polled parents of kindergarten students who did not attend a DMPS preschool program to determine the reasons; results provided below.



CHILD CARE AND EARLY LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

The need for high quality child care has been elevated as a statewide issue facing Iowa’s working families. In 2020 Governor Reynolds launched a Child Care Taskforce to develop comprehensive strategies to address child care shortages across the state. The Task Force Report was released in November 2021. Focused on employer needs, the state launched several initiatives. The Child Care Challenge Fund supports regional/community projects to establish local child care facilities. Future Ready Iowa administers Child Care Business Incentive Grant Programs targeted at employers with awards targeted a local infrastructure investments or support arrangements between employers and existing child care providers to expand or reserve slots. An Employment Engagement Director has been created to promote these solutions. There is also a multi-phased Shared Services project underway to increase financial knowledge and access to Child Care Management Systems for providers. The child care crisis is not isolated to Iowa. It a complex challenge that will take multifaceted strategies to improve.

Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) documents the availability of child care and provides annual data for each county and the state. The most recent 10-year trend data indicates the overall number of registered providers has decreased dramatically while slots have slightly increased. This indicates that center-based care has increased while smaller providers have left child care. There is also a disturbing increase in providers not willing to enroll children eligible for Child Care Assistance, available for working families at or below 145 percent of the federal poverty level.

Polk County Supply & Demand Comparisons	2011	2021	% Change
Total number of child care programs listed with CCR&R	1,827	872	-52%
Total number of child care spaces listed with CCR&R	34,947	36,220	4%
Total population children ages 0-5	41,337	41,606	0%
Families all parents working and children under age 6	71%	75%	4%
Total number of programs reporting they accept Child Care Assistance (Iowa’s subsidy for low-income working families)	1,231	643	-48%

Of the 872 programs currently listed with CCR&R there are 515 Registered Child Development Homes, 79 non-registered Child Care Homes, 37 Dept of Education operated preschool classrooms, 241 HHS Licensed Centers or preschools.

CCR&R has documented the costs of child care in Polk County.

Cost of Child Care in Polk County	2011	2021	% Change
Weekly cost for infant in a Child Development Home	\$135.94	\$147.06	8%
Weekly cost for an infant in a Licensed Center	\$199.67	\$256.11	28%

The cost of child care is higher in the metropolitan areas.

Cost of Child Care in Iowa	2011	2021	% Change
Weekly cost for infant in a Child Development Home	\$119.05	\$144.74	22%
Weekly cost for an infant in a Licensed Center	\$151.28	\$218.42	44%

Iowa consistently ranks at the top percentage of all available parents working, averaging 76 percent year-to-year. CCR&R Polk County Data Sheets list Polk County the median family income is \$83,465 with the average weekly income of \$1,605. For a family earning the median income with an infant in child care they would pay:

- 9 percent of their income before taxes if their infant was in a registered home
- 16 percent of their income before taxes, if their child was in a licensed center

Child Care Aware in US and the High Price of Child Care 2019 cites 7 percent of pre-tax income as affordable for working parents.

Polk County 2022 Child Care Rates Average/week	Infant (0-12 month)	Toddler (13-23 Month)	Two-Year-Old	Three-Year-Old	4/5-Year-Old	Before & After School
Registered Child Development Home	\$147.06	\$146.03	\$144.18	\$141.30	\$139.27	\$65.95
HHS Licensed Center/Preschool	\$256.11	\$255.54	\$232.50	\$216.53	\$207.31	\$94.72

During the 2022 legislative session a bill was passed to allow providers to charge the difference between the reimbursement rate and their enrollment fee. This ignores the fact that families receiving Child Care Assistance, parents who are working or in school and have an income at or below 145 percent of the federal poverty level, are likely not to have available funds to make this payment.

The high cost of child care with registered and licensed providers often results in working parents relying on family, friends, or neighbors to care for children. The number of children in unregulated care is hard to estimate. This unknown data point makes it a challenge to estimate the actual number of slots and providers needed in Polk County and the state.

DATA-DRIVEN DECISION MAKING

INDICATORS

The ECI state system uses statewide indicators to determine progress made toward achieving five identified results areas. ECI local area boards may use these indicators and may also use additional or other indicators to evaluate progress in the local ECI area.

Results Area	ECI State Board State-Wide Indicators	Polk County ECI Indicators
Healthy Children	Low birth weight	Low birth weight
	Immunized children	Child Immunization (2yo)
	Dental services	Prenatal care
		Infant Mortality
		Uninsured Children
Children Ready to Succeed in School	Early Literacy Skills	Early Literacy FAST data
	Educational attainment of women aged 15-50 with a birth in the last 12 months	Preschool participation
Safe and Supportive Communities	Crime Rate/Juvenile Crime	Children Receiving WIC
	Child Deaths due to Unintentional Injuries	
	Unemployment Rate	
	Percent of children under age 6 living in poverty	Children in Poverty
Secure and Nurturing Families	Incidence of child abuse	Child Abuse and Neglect
	Teen births	Teen Births
	Domestic violence rate	Single parent families
		% Households with children under age 6 all parents in workforce
Secure and Nurturing Early Learning Environments	Quality early learning environments	# of child care programs
	Availability of child care	# Total child care spaces
	Percent of households with children under age six with all parents in the workforce	# Programs accepting Child Care Assistance (CCA)
		# Programs in QRS/IQ4K

POPULATION AGE 0-5

	2000	2010	2015	2018	2019	2020	2021
Polk	33,334	39,122	39,779	42,156	42,063	41,606	41,886
State of Iowa	289,276	241,531	237,872	240,042	238,569	235,696	236,146

Data Source: Woods & Poole

HEALTHY CHILDREN

LOW BIRTH-WEIGHT (PERCENT)

	2000	2010	2015	2018	2019
Polk	6.2%	7.7%	7.5%	7.5%	7.6%
State of Iowa	6.1%	7.0%	6.8%	6.9%	6.9%

Low birthweight has increased 13 percent since 2000. While remaining relatively stagnant the past few years at around 6.7 percent, the rate jumped to 6.9 percent statewide in 2018.

Definitions: Percentage of live births weighing at less than 5.5 pounds at the time of birth

Data Source: Iowa Department of Public Health via [Kids Count Data Center](#)

CHILD IMMUNIZATION (PERCENT)

	2000	2010	2015	2018	2019	2020	2021
Polk	84%	73%	69%	81.1%	75.5%	79%	75.6%
State of Iowa	85.9%	69%	62.1%	72.9%	67%	75.9%	73.3%

Definitions: Percentage of assessments conducted at public sector clinics where the children were fully immunized at age 24 months

Data Source: Iowa Department of Public Health via [Iowa Public Health Tracking Portal](#)

PRENATAL CARE (PERCENT)

	2000	2010	2015	2018	2019
Polk	88.8%	77.8%	84.4%	83.2%	84.6%
State of Iowa	87.1%	75.5%	79.4%	79.0%	83.8%

Prenatal care has increased 11 percent since 2007 and has risen in over 80 percent of Iowa counties. Recently, however, the rate peaked in 2011 and has fallen seven percent since then.

Definitions: Percentage of live births where the mother began prenatal care during the first trimester of pregnancy

Data Source: Iowa Department of Public Health via [Kids Count Data Center](#)

INFANT MORTALITY (PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS) (RATE)

	2000	2010	2015	2018	2019
Polk	7.4	5.8	5.7	5.0	5.2
State of Iowa	6.3	4.9	3.7	5.1	5.0

Infant mortality has decreased 20 percent since 2000. While the rate did decrease 41 percent from 2000 to 2015, it has increased 38 percent the last three years.

Definitions: Rate of death of infants before age one

Data Source: Iowa Department of Public Health via [Kids Count Data Center](#)

UNINSURED CHILDREN (PERCENT)

	2000	2008-2012	2011-2015	2012-2016	2013-2017	2014-2018	2015-2019
Polk		4.0%	3.1%	2.9%	2.8%	2.6%	2.4%
State of Iowa		4.4%	3.9%	3.4%	3.4%	3.1%	3.0%

Iowa has one of the lowest percentages of uninsured children in the country at just over three percent. At the county-level, only one-fifth of Iowa counties have uninsured rates of more than five percent.

Definitions: Percentage of children who are not covered by health insurance during the year

Data Source: United States Census Bureau via [Kids Count Data Center](#)

* Child population was age 0-17 through 2012-2016 and age 0-18 since 2013-2017

CHILDREN READY TO SUCCEED IN SCHOOL

EARLY LITERACY SKILLS

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Polk	64%	68%	67%	64%	70%	66%
State of Iowa	66%	70%	68%	62%	72%	67%

Definitions: Percentage of kindergartners meeting the fall benchmark for the early literacy universal screening measure requirements as measured by Formative Assessment System for Teachers (FAST)

Data Source: Department of Education as reported by ECI via [I2D2 Dashboard](#)

* Available beginning 2015

PRESCHOOL (PERCENT)

	2000	2006-2010	2010-2014	2011-2015	2012-2016	2013-2017	2014-2018	2015-2019
Polk	47.1%	48.1%	44.7%	42.3%	44.7%	44.2%	43.0%	43.1%
State of Iowa	44.5%	47.1%	48.2%	48.3%	48.1%	47.5%	46.9%	46.6%

Preschool for children aged three and four has remained relatively stagnant since 2009 at around 47 percent. At the county-level, there have been increases in slightly more than one-half of Iowa counties.

Definitions: Percentage of children age 3-4 enrolled in preschool

Data Source: United States Census Bureau via [Kids Count Data Center](#)

SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES

CHILDREN RECEIVING WIC (PERCENT)

	2003	2010	2015	2018	2019
Polk	22.1%	24.3%	21.2%	26.6%	21.6%
State of Iowa	28.2%	28.2%	24.3%	25.9%	23.9%

The percentage of children receiving services through WIC has decreased eight percent since 2003 and has dropped in over three-fourths of Iowa counties. However, the rate has leveled the past eight years at around 26 percent.

Definitions: Percentage of children age 0-4 who are receiving services through the Women, Infants and Children Program

Data Source: Iowa Department of Public Health via [Kids Count Data Center](#)

CHILD POVERTY (PERCENT)

	2000	2010	2015	2018	2019
Polk	9.4%	14.5%	14.7%	11.7%	11.9%
State of Iowa	10.8%	16.2%	14.9%	13.5%	12.8%

While child poverty has been rising steadily since 2000 and has increased 25 percent since that time, it has started to drop and has decreased statewide 21 percent since 2011.

Definitions: Percentage of children age 0-17 who live below the poverty level during the year

Data Source: United States Census Bureau via [Kids Count Data Center](#)

SECURE AND NURTURING FAMILIES

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (PER 1,000 CHILDREN, AGE 0-17) (RATE)

	2000	2010	2015	2018	2019
Polk	14.8	13.0	12.1	12.9	14.2
State of Iowa	12.9	27.3	11.4	15.8	15.7

New methodology for determining child abuse and neglect was introduced in 2014 and since that time the child abuse and neglect rate has increased 55 percent.

Definitions: Rate of children who are confirmed to have been abused or neglected during the year

Data Source: Iowa Department of Human Services via [Kids Count Data Center](#)

TEEN BIRTHS (PERCENT)

	2000	2010	2015	2018	2019
Polk	4.8%	3.4%	1.8%	1.9%	1.6%
State of Iowa	3.4%	2.9%	1.6%	1.5%	1.4%

The rate of teen births for females aged 15-19 has decreased more than half since 2000 to 1.5 percent, with a drop of over 38 percent in the last six years.

Definitions: Percentage of females age 15-19 giving birth

Data Source: Iowa Department of Public Health via [Kids Count Data Center](#)

SINGLE PARENT FAMILIES (PERCENT)

	2000	2010	2011-2015	2012-2016	2013-2017	2014-2018	2015-2019
Polk	27.6%	31.4%	32.7%	34.1%	33.6%	33.3%	34.2%
State of Iowa	24.9%	30.6%	31.2%	31.4%	31.0%	31.2%	31.7%

Single parent families have increased eight percent since 2009, to now almost one in three families. It also has risen in over two-thirds of Iowa counties.

Definitions: Percentage of families with children that are headed by a single parent

Data Source: United States Census Bureau via [Kids Count Data Center](#)

CHILDREN UNDER AGE 6 WITH ALL AVAILABLE PARENTS IN THE WORKFORCE

	2008	2010	2015	2018	2019
State of Iowa	74%	76%	75%	77%	76%
United States	64%	65%	65%	67%	68%

Definitions: The share of children under age 6 whose resident parents are in the civilian labor force.

Data Source: Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 – 2018 American Community Survey via [Kids Count Data Center](#)

SECURE AND NURTURING EARLY LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

CHILD CARE DATA

Polk County	2015	2020	% Change	2016	2021	% Change
# Child care programs	1,432	888	-38%	1,287	872	-32%
# of child care spaces	34,355	42,063	5%	35,141	36,220	3%
# Programs accept DHS Child Care Assistance	1,060	671	-37%	957	643	-33%

State of Iowa	2015	2020	% Change	2016	2021	% Change
# Child care programs	7,560	5,101	-33%	6,913	4,961	-28%
# Child care spaces	170,777	173,253	1%	166,232	173,481	4%
# Programs accept DHS Child Care Assistance	5,704	3,510	-38%	5,152	3,387	-34%

NUMBER OF CHILD CARE PROVIDERS WITH A QRS/IQ4K RATING

	2015	2020	2021
Polk	160	321	369
State of Iowa	1,205	1,436	1,576

NUMBER OF CHILD CARE PROVIDERS WITH A QRS RATING OF 3 OR HIGHER

	2015	2020	2021
Polk	93	127	140
State of Iowa	744	829	836

*2022 Start of IQ4K

Data Source: Child Care Resource & Referral, [Data Sheets](#)

PRIORITIES

The ECI State Board is in the process of revising the state strategic plan. The stakeholder groups involved in this revision have determined the goals from the previous strategic plan will be maintained.

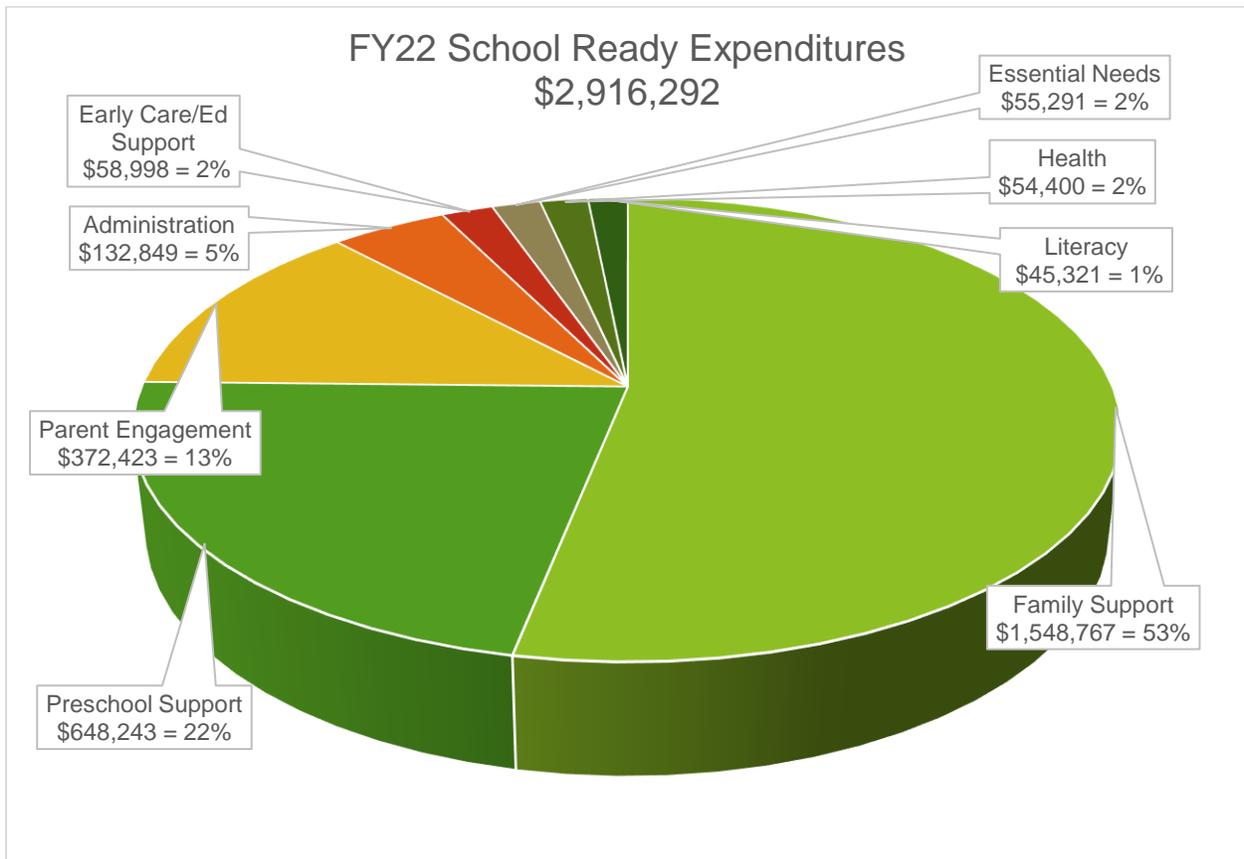
“We are ECI” 2019-2022 Strategic Plan Goals

1. Promote a coordinated infrastructure to advance the early childhood system.
2. Build public will for investing in young children and their families.
3. Transform the early childhood workforce through formal education, greater professionalism, increased skills and competence, and new approaches to implementing best practices.
4. Ensure that young children and families receive the services they need when they need them.
5. Improve the quality of early childhood services for young children and their families across early care and education; health, mental health, and nutrition; and family support services.

These state-level goals and the five results areas provide an overarching framework for the goals and priorities of the Polk County Early Childhood Iowa Board.

Polk County Early Childhood Iowa Board Priorities	
Healthy Children	Child health is a state of physical, mental, intellectual, social, and emotional well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.
	Priority: The Board will support organizations that make efforts to increase access to health services for low-income children and children in underserved populations.
	Priority: The Board will work to increase supports for social, emotional, and mental health services for children and parents/guardians.
	Priority: The Board will encourage funded programs to connect families they work with to existing health resources.
Children Ready to Succeed in School	School readiness is children possessing the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for success in school. Physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development are all essential parts of school readiness.
	Priority: The Board will work to support enrollment for four-year-old children in a quality preschool program.
	Priority: The Board will work with programs to educate parents on the importance of quality preschool.
Safe and Supportive Communities	Families facing challenges can be supported by being connected to community services for essential needs and services and acknowledging the importance of family-identified supports such as church, neighbors, and extended family.
	Priority: The Board will support organizations providing material supports (essential needs) to parents in need.
	Priority: The Board will support programs focused on developing parent paths out of poverty.
	Priority: The Board will support programs working with multi-generational families.
Secure and Nurturing Families	Loving and strong connections between parent and child are critical to healthy development and critical for the optimal early development, learning, and health of young children.
	Priority: The Board will support evidence-based programs focused on developing parenting skills and parent understanding of child development.
	Priority: The Board will support opportunities for families to learn about the importance of the parent-child connection and ways to strengthen this connection.
Secure and Nurturing Early Learning Environments	With 76% of available parents in Iowa’s workforce, high quality child care and early learning environments are vitally important for child learning and wellbeing. Consistent staffing is a critical element of high-quality child care.
	Priority: The Board will support investments for center providers and in-home providers in learning and play materials, safety equipment, building needs, and playground needs.
	Priority: The Board will support wage supports and educational attainment for individuals working in child care.
	Priority: The Board will advocate for the child care workforce and the need for wages which are above poverty level for all child care workers.

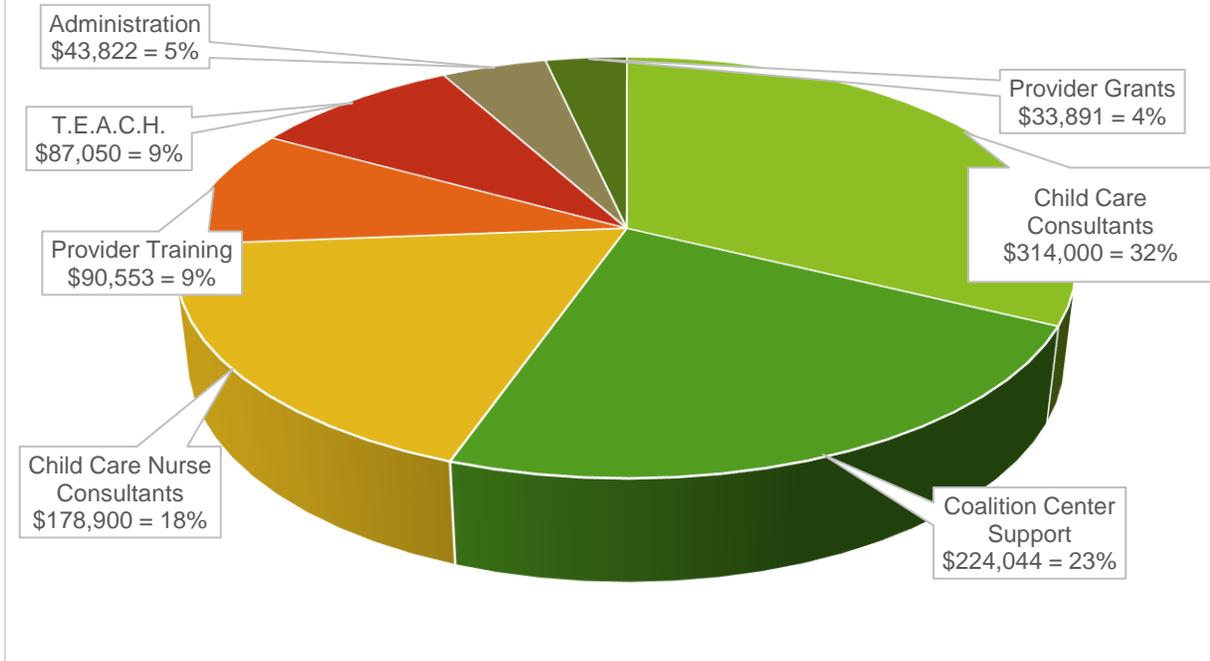
FUNDED PROGRAMS AND PARTNERS



Family Support		
EveryStep	Healthy Start & Empowerment	765 families/1,063 children served 63% caregivers enrolled prenatally
Preschool Support		
School Districts: Ankeny, Bondurant-Farrar, Dallas Center Grimes, Des Moines, Johnston, Saydel, Southeast Polk, Urbandale, West Des Moines		9 public districts enrolling 3,457 pre-K children
Parent Engagement & Education		
Des Moines Public Schools	Family Support Services Team	1,300 children supported 146 children referred for services 301 student intervention plans implemented
EMBARC	Parent Navigator	13 parents led 36 Learning Circles 308 Learning Circle participants
Early Care & Educational Supports – 6-month contracts		
Shalom Comm. Impact Center	Before and After School Program for Preschoolers	56 children/40 families served 30 of 40 families refugee

Can Play	Adaptive Play for Preschoolers	130 children/75 families served
Christ the King Child Care	STEM materials	54 enrolled children birth-5
Essential Needs – 6-month contracts		
Knock & Drop	Walk in Pantry serving Latinx community	216 children/225 families served
Mary’s Helping Hands	Infant supplies for parents	500 children/500 families served
CATCOS	Diaper Bank	1,042 children/1,135 families served
Foster Squad	Backpack essentials	42 children served
United Upper Nile South Sudanese Community Association in Iowa	Food Pantry	300 families served
Health		
Dental Connections	Little Healthy Smiles	555 children screened 526 cavity-free 29 referred for dental treatment
Polk County	Lead Poisoning Prevention	77 children with elevated lead levels served
Healthy Birth Day – 6-month contract	Count the Kicks	3,500 families accessed information
Literacy		
Des Moines Public Library	Simple Steps to Success	551 activities provided 13,875 families participated in activities
ISU Extension – 6-month contract	Small Talk & Our Bookshelf	71 children/71 families served
Friends of Youth Justice Initiative -6-month contract	Power of Play	11 children/7 families served

FY22 Early Childhood Expenditures \$972,259

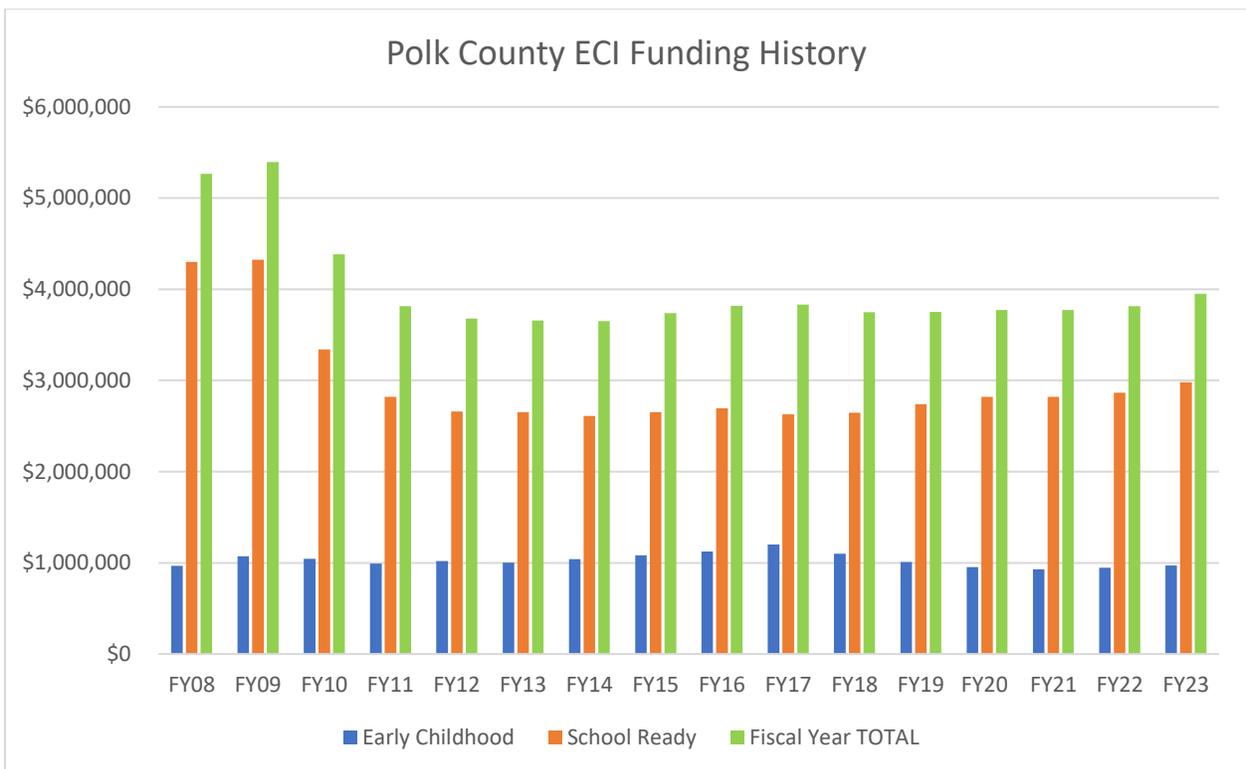


Child Care Consultants		
Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R)	Consultants for child care centers and home providers	1,250 child care programs served 296 site visits to providers
Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children (IAEYC)	ECQuIP Team of Consultants	12 centers serving 797 children 1,290 site visits to centers 11 of 12 centers with QRS rating
Coalition Center Support		
Quarterly Bonus	6 Child Care Centers in Coalition	73 of 107 staff at center full year 68% of total staff employed full year
Quality Improvement	12 Child Care Centers in Coalition	12 centers supported to improve quality 9 centers attained QRS 3-5
Child Care Nurse Consultants		
EveryStep	Child Care Nurse Consultants	326 child care providers served 294 site visits to providers
Child Care Provider Trainings		
CCR&R	Training for Providers	370 providers participated 99 hours of training offered
Lutheran Services in Iowa	Child Care Business Development	78 participants in training 29 new registered providers
T.E.A.C.H.		

IAEYC	T.E.A.C.H.	24 child care teachers in credit-bearing classes 7 employed by coalition centers
Child Care Provider Grants		
CCR&R	Reach For the Stars grants	75 providers received grants to improve quality and/or health/safety

FUNDING HISTORY

Early Childhood Iowa is funded annually through the Iowa legislature. Funds are allocated through Health and Human Services (formerly DHS) and Department of Education. Funding has been relatively flat since state fiscal year 2011. Flat funding makes it difficult to increase the impact of programs given the increased costs of providing services from year to year. Flat funding makes it difficult to fund new programs without defunding existing programs.



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Polk County Early Childhood Iowa maintains working relationships with organizations serving children and families across the community. Funded programs are encouraged to attend board meetings and every month staff from programs are in attendance and able to provide program updates or provide information on policy changes impacting programs. Programs include long established service providers like EveryStep (formerly Visiting Nurse Services) and Child Care Resource & Referral. There are also new non-profits organized by a few committed citizens who saw a need in the community and organized to meet these needs. This includes new funded partners Knock and Drop Iowa, Mary's Helping Hands, and Shalom Community Impact Center.

In May 2022 Polk County Early Childhood Iowa convened all 32 funded programs. Staff of the programs attended this in-person meeting to share their programs with all other community partners. Attendees were provided with background on Early Childhood Iowa and information on the Polk County ECI Board. The first such meeting since COVID-19, this meeting introduced programs and staff across funded programs. Many programs had experienced staffing turnover and a few of the programs were new, having arisen out of the needs of families during COVID. This was an opportunity for programs to network and develop connections to better serve families across the county. Attended by Polk County ECI board members, this convening of programs is an example of the importance of a local ECI area in connecting programs for collaboration and sharing of information and resources.

Polk County ECI staff also convene a bi-monthly meeting of program leaders involved in health and safety in child care and early learning environments. This includes programs not funded by Polk County ECI. Polk County ECI initiated these meetings in the first month of COVID-19 when everyone working in child care was in crisis mode. Sharing information was critical, as was sharing supplies related to health and safety since supplies were hard to locate. Since April 2020, this group of leaders within child care have continued to meet to share resources and information resulting in stronger services across these organizations.

The 32 programs funded by Polk County ECI serve diverse populations. These programs are the experts in the children and families they serve. Polk County ECI relies on program managers and staff to share information regarding the needs they see as they work with families. Local civic and health organizations complete assessments of the needs of children and families. Polk County ECI consults existing community assessments and meets with program staff to maintain an understanding of the broad needs of the children, families, and those working with them in Polk County. A trusted community partner, Drake University Head Start conducts an annual family strengths survey with enrolled families. The Head Start recent survey identified areas where families were vulnerable or needed assistance: Safety, Substance Use/Abuse, Mental Health, Positive Parent Child Relationships, Bullying, Mentoring. Des Moines Public Schools Early Childhood Program also is a valued partner and source of information from data collected and family surveys utilized by the Family Services Support Team.

A statewide family survey was circulated by Early Childhood Iowa between November 2021 and March 2022. There were 99 respondents from Polk County. Of these respondents, 52 percent had used home visiting. Polk County ECI staff requested that EveryStep Healthy Start & Empowerment case managers help circulate this survey, and it is likely the respondents indicating they had used home visiting were Healthy Start & Empowerment clients. When asked, "When your family experiences a crisis where do you turn for help?" 90 percent of the respondents answered, "Family and Friends." Among respondents

39 percent had utilized emergency food assistance. When asked about the most important factor for considering child care “a convenient location” was the highest priority selected by 72 percent of respondents. This ranked higher than cost, learning, and cleanliness. Of interest was the identification of the greatest obstacle to accessing services as wait lists which 53 percent selected; this was nearly twice the number of respondents listing transportation (26 percent). When asked how adequate various services are, the lowest rating was for substance abuse treatment and the highest was given for emergency assistance. When asked what the most important areas of support needed for their family’s well-being and success by far the highest answer was “jobs that cover my expenses” at 61 percent. The second most important, at 50 percent, was support for the non-English proficient. Within the 2021 Community Health Needs Assessment (Polk, Warren, and Dallas Counties) the prioritization of health needs ranked mental health as the number one need.

Polk County population continues to grow and to experience growth in diversity, particularly among young children. The growth of our child population includes a growth of children living in poverty. Within Polk County are neighborhoods of concentrated poverty which are also the neighborhoods of the most at-risk children and families. The extreme range of students eligible free and reduced lunch by districts is evidence of the concentrations of poverty across the county.

There are disparities by race and ethnicity across virtually every measure of child well-being. These include health outcomes, educational attainment, and family income—all areas where children of color, in particular Black and Latinx, are faring much more poorly than their non-Hispanic White peers. These trends hold across Iowa and the United States.

The linguistic diversity of Polk County residents poses challenges for providers, requiring the skills of translators of many different languages and dialects. The ethnic and cultural diversity within our population requires providers to develop practices to ensure services are culturally and linguistically competent and equally accessible to all children and families. Additionally, cultural differences regarding the roles of parents, families, and early education must inform outreach efforts and communication with families.

Polk County’s large refugee population is extremely under-supported, arriving in our community with high needs. Federal resettlement supports end after ninety days. Recent refugee and immigrant families often live in underserved neighborhoods creating additional barriers to accessing needed services.

Polk County is fortunate to be the location of a variety of human and health services. However, there are waiting lists for children seeking the care of health specialists. Of families responding to the ECI Family Survey the greatest obstacle to accessing services identified was wait lists. Need exceeds the supply of health professionals working in child care and early learning environments in early childhood mental health. There are far too few pediatric dentists who will serve children with Medicaid coverage.

Polk County’s role as the economic hub of Central Iowa provides a variety of employment opportunities. However, as documented by *The Cost of Living in Iowa 2022* Common Good Iowa, a high percentage of parents and single parents are working but struggling to maintain an income to meet a basic household budget. Parents want to provide for their families and are seeking, but frequently not finding, jobs that cover their expenses, as documented in the ECI Family Survey. The child care crisis has been elevated to a statewide search for solutions. Polk County is fortunate to have a large employer base and large employers interested in identifying solutions. Communication and sharing of information are a critical element to efficiently meet the needs of children and families in Polk County. It is in this role that Polk County Early Childhood Iowa serves as a convener and collaborator.

FISCAL ASSESSMENT

This broad assessment provides fiscal information for programs supporting young children in Polk County. Many of the programs serve children and families in residing in counties surrounding Polk County in Central Iowa. Many programs serve children beyond age five. The recent merger of Collaborative Services Areas (CSA) with newly formed CSA 8 (Polk, Dallas, Madison, Warren) affects the distribution of funds and the ability to determine resources by county. These CSAs include programs WIC, MCAH, I-Smile, Family Planning, 1st Five, all Child Health Services. Given the scale of services and size of the county population, it is not possible for Polk County ECI staff to report 100 percent of funding dollars going to support of children and families in Polk County. The provided fiscal assessment is an estimated outline.

Agency / Program	Type of Service	ages children served	# of children served 0-5	Estimated Annual Total	Source of funding
Blank Children's Hospital	Health care needs of children	0-17	5,353 births 2,604 patients	\$6,967,831 in private donations	P, F, S, L
Child Care Coalition Centers	Child Care Quality Improvement	0-5	728	\$638,000	PCECI, S, P
Children & Families of Iowa	Comprehensive services	0-17	23,000	\$16,514,094	F, S, L, P
CCRR Training	Child Care Professional Development	Trainings for providers		\$52,500	PCECI, S, P
CCRR Consultants	Child Care Consultation	Consultation for providers		\$540,000	PCECI, F
CCRR Reach for the Stars	Child Care Quality Improvement	Grants to providers		\$123,000	PCECI, P
Count the Kicks	Stillborn prevention	0-1		\$821,597	P
Dental Connections Smile Squad – Little Healthy Smiles	Preventative Dental Health	0-5	555	\$86,000	PCECI, F, S, P
DMPL Simple Steps	Public Awareness Literacy	0-5	4,284	\$40,000	PCECI, L, P
DMPS Early Childhood Family Support Services	Social Workers and Nurses for preschool program	3-5	1,286	\$431,333	PCECI, S, P
EMBARC Parent Navigator	Public Awareness Parent Development	0-5	323	\$322,205	PCECI, F, S, L, P

EveryStep Healthy Start & Empowerment	Family Support	0-5	1,047	\$2,680,909	PCECI, F
EveryStep Child Care Nurse Consultants	Health Consultation for child care providers			\$298,075	PCECI, S, L, P
Iowa ACEs 360	Public Awareness regarding impacts of trauma			\$180,888	P
LSI Child Care Business Development	Child Care Provider Training and Bus. Development	0-10	65	\$134,000	PCECI, P
LSI Healthy Families America – HOPES	Family Support	0-5	68	\$202,671	L, P
IAEYC ECQuIP	Child Care Quality Improvement; Consultation	0-5	728	\$533,489	PCECI, P
IAEYC Social Emotional Consultant	Child Mental Health Consultant		728	\$71,000	P
IAEYC TEACH	Child Care Quality Improvement; Credentialing			\$1,520,000	PCECI, S, P
IAEYC WAGE\$	Child Care Quality Improvement; Wage Supplement			\$225,000	S
Mary's Helping Hands	Essential needs			\$85,500	PCECI, P
Orchard Place	Mental & Behavioral Health	0-21	7,500	\$22,703,038	P, L, S, F
SWVPP-10 public districts	Preschool	3-5	4,297	\$16,243,261	PCECI, F, S
Polk County Lead and Healthy Homes	Preventative Health	0-5	11,000	\$1,026,000	PCECI, F, S, L
UWCI WLC Book Buddy	Volunteer Literacy in Child Care Centers	4-5	160	\$48,500	P
Young Women's Resource Center	Prenatal, Birth and Parenting Support for Young Moms	0-25	563	\$1,531,553	L, P
Polk County Decat	0-17			\$3,675,066	S, F

Prevent Child Abuse Iowa (CBCAP/ICAPP)	Abuse Prevention/Parent Development	0-17	200	\$90,712	S, P
Youth Emergency Services & Shelter	24- hour Crisis Care Nursery	0-5	110	\$6,779,884	S, L, P
Drake University Head Start and Early Head Start	Early Education, Family Development	0-5	900	\$9,401,157	F
Courage League Sports	Adaptive sports facility	0-17		\$560,583	L, P
Easter Seals Iowa	Child Care, Respite, Family Development	0-17	500	458,104	S, P
St. Joseph Emergency Family Shelter (Catholic Charities)	Emergency Shelter for Families	all ages	130	\$300,000	F, S, L, P
WIC	Supplemental Nutritional Assistance (women, infants, children)	0-4	10,441		F
SNAP	Food Assistance – 59,161 total individuals	all ages			F
Variety-the Children's Charity	Grants program	0-17		\$4,200,000	P

REFERENCES

The following community assessments, surveys and data were reviewed in the process of creating the Community Plan:

[Annual Report Condition of Education 2021, Iowa Department of Education](#)

[Community Health Needs Assessment Polk, Warren & Dallas Counties, Iowa](#)

[Community Report 2022 United Way of Central Iowa](#)

[Cost of Living in Iowa 2022, Common Good Iowa](#)

[DMPS Preliminary Budget and Financial Statements FY 2021-2022](#)

[Early Childhood Iowa Statewide Needs Assessment 2019](#)

ECI Family Survey 2022: Data Dive May 2022

ECI Family Survey 2022: Local Area Report

[Governor's Child Care Task Force Report November 2021](#)

Healthy Child Care Iowa October 2021

[Iowa ACEs Report 2020](#)

[Iowa Families with Young Children: 2022 Statewide Family Survey Report](#)

[Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program Fact Sheet 2020 Iowa Department of Education](#)

[We Are ECI: Strategic Plan 2019-2022](#)



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