

# Montana

## Early Childhood Development

**FEDERAL  
INVESTMENT  
ACROSS PROGRAMS:**  
**\$399,000,000**  
Since FY2009



### STATE HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2014, the Best Beginnings Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS), STARS to Quality, moved from a field test to a statewide program. As of September, 2014, 37 percent of licensed child care centers were participating in STARS to Quality.
- In 2014, the Montana Early Learning Standards were updated and integrated to represent a continuum of growth and development for children from birth to age 5.
- Montana recently implemented 12-month eligibility, extended the grace period for job loss from 30 to 90 days, and allowed full-time student parents to be eligible for Best Beginning scholarships without meeting a work requirement.
- The Montana Maternal and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program distributed funding to 23 local communities to support comprehensive early childhood systems.
- Montana introduced "slot care," a full-time space within a child care program that is reserved for a child receiving the Best Beginnings Child Care Scholarship.

### CUMULATIVE FEDERAL FUNDING PER PROGRAM

Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships (FY14)	<b>\$2,187,813</b>
Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (FY10-14) <sup>1</sup>	<b>\$22,145,616</b>
State Advisory Councils (FY10-13)	<b>\$664,277</b>
Preschool Development Grants (FY14-15) <sup>2,3</sup>	<b>\$20,000,000</b>
Child Care and Development Fund (FY09-13)	<b>\$117,878,041</b>
Head Start (FY09-14)	<b>\$236,000,000</b>

### DEMOGRAPHICS: CHILDREN UNDER 6 (2013)

**74,240**

Total number of children

**63.6%**

Live in households where the parents present are working

**24.3%**

Live below the Federal Poverty Level (poverty)

**50.2%**

Live below 200% of poverty

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### HEAD START/ EARLY HEAD START/ EARLY HEAD START CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIPS

**13**

Number of HS grantees, FY13

**6**

Number of EHS grantees, FY13

**10**

Number of AI/AN HS/EHS grantees, FY13



**8%**

Increase in the number of teachers with BA or higher in ECE or related field, FY09-14

**4,747**



Total enrollment, FY14

**25%**

Percent of HS-eligible children who were enrolled in EHS/HS, FY13

**\$2.2 M**



Funding awarded for 2 EHS-CC Partnership Grants

### CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND

**\$131 M**

Total State and Federal Investment, FY09-13

**3,900**



Number of children served, avg. monthly FY13

**\$118 M**

Federal Investment Only, FY09-13

**\$13 M**

Quality Investment, Federal and State, FY09-13

**11%**



Increase in children served in licensed/regulated center-based care from FY09-14

**10%**

Percent of federally eligible children who received subsidized care through CCDF, average month in FY11



### MATERNAL, INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD HOME VISITING (MIECHV)<sup>4</sup>

**2,447**



Home visits performed, FY14



**292**

Families served, FY14



**546**

Parents and children served, FY14

**32%**



Percent of counties in Montana where MIECHV is available

<sup>1</sup> Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting [Web page]. <http://mchb.hrsa.gov/programs/homevisiting/>.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Departments of Education and Health and Human Services award \$237M in early education grants to 18 States [Press release]. <http://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-departments-education-and-health-and-human-services-award-237m-early-education-grants-18-states>.

<sup>3</sup> What are preschool development grants? [Fact sheet]. <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/preschooldevelopmentgrants/pdgfactsheet81115.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> Home visiting helps at-risk families across the U.S. [Web page]. <http://mchb.hrsa.gov/programs/homevisiting/states/index.html>.