



# Juneau Child Care By The Numbers 2016

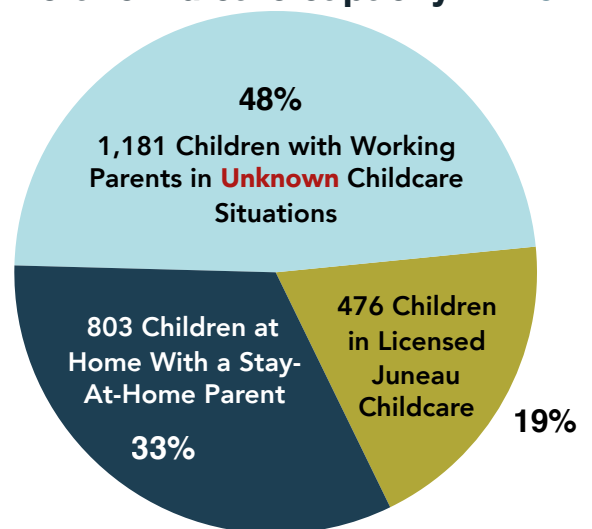
## There is not enough child care to meet the needs of the community

There are 2,460 kids in Juneau under kindergarten age, but only enough child care slots in licensed child care to take fewer than two in ten of these children. Since two-thirds of Juneau children under the age of six live in households with no stay at home parent, this means that nearly half (1,181) of our birth to 5 year olds are in **unknown child care situations**. Local surveys have confirmed the high usage of non-licensed child care in Juneau.

## There are less than 2 childcare slots for every 10 Juneau kids under kindergarten age



Total Juneau kids under six = 2,460  
Total child care capacity = 476



## Wages for child care workers are low

The average annual wage for a child care worker in Juneau was \$26,600 in 2015. That's about half the average Juneau wage, and half the wage needed to be able to afford a two bedroom apartment. Low wages make attracting and retaining qualified educational professionals for early childhood teacher positions difficult. In comparison, Juneau's kindergarten teachers were paid 2.6 times more than childcare workers last year. Unlike elementary school teachers, child care teachers have no summer or winter vacations, and few benefits, such as health insurance or retirement.

**\$26,600**



Average Juneau Child Care Wage

**\$50,730**



Average Juneau Wage

**\$69,730**

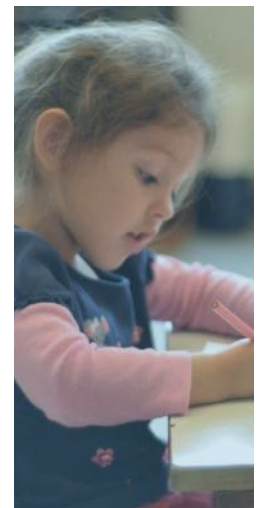


Average Juneau Kindergarten Teacher salary

## Juneau child care costs are high

In Juneau child care cost more than college tuition. Juneau parents pay an average of \$10,370 per child per year for child care, compared to \$7,500 for a year at the University of Alaska Southeast.

**\$10,370**



Average cost of one year of childcare in Juneau. Average of all ages and childcare types in 2015.

**\$7,500**



Average cost of attending UAS in Juneau for one year. Includes tuition, student fees, books, and supplies in 2016.

## The HEARTS initiative is working, but there is more to be done

Since the **HEARTS** initiative was established in 2012, the **average childcare wage has increased by 32%**, **turnover among childcare workers has declined by 52%**, and the ratio of childcare workers with minimum credentials has **increased from one of out six to one out of four** for a net gain in accredited teachers. There is other good news. Between July 2015 and July 2016, we have gone from 395 child care slots in Juneau to 476 - an **increase of 81 new slots**, or **21% more childcare capacity** in the last year.

However, despite great efforts from Juneau's childcare community, we still have a great deal of work to do. Since 2010, the number of children below kindergarten age grew by 4%. During this same period, the total number of licensed **childcare slots decreased by 17%** (from 575 slots to 476 slots), while the total number of **childcare workers decreased by 30%** (from 141 workers to 99). There is currently only **one childcare slot for every 5.2 kids** in Juneau's pre-kindergarten population - down from one for every 4 kids in 2010. Child care has become more scarce as well as less affordable - **increasing in price by 19% since 2010** to \$10,370 annually on average. While research supports the fact that investment in early childhood education pays high dividends, in Juneau the local public contribution per child to education increases 500 fold once a Juneau child enters kindergarten, rising from \$37 per child to \$18,357. The most concerning indicator is that the number of children with no stay at home parent and no child care slot has increased by 20% since 2010. This group in **unknown childcare situations now accounts for half of Juneau's kids** age birth to five.

JUNEAU CHILD CARE BY THE NUMBERS 2010-2016	2016 (OR MOST RECENT)	2010	CHANGE 2010-2016	
Juneau Population Under Age Six 2015 <sup>1</sup>	2,460	2,376	+4%	
Total Licensed Child Care Slots In Juneau 2016 <sup>3</sup>	476	575	-17%	👎
Juneau Children Under Age Six with a Stay-At-Home Parent 2014 <sup>2</sup>	803	802	0%	
Juneau Children Under Age Six in Unknown Child Care Situations 2016 <sup>2,3,4</sup>	1,181	1,000	+18%	👎
Juneau Children Under Six: Percent With no Stay-At-Home Parent <sup>2,3,4</sup>	67%	66%	+1%	
Ratio of Licensed Child Care Slots to Children Under Six <sup>2,3,4</sup>	1 TO 5.2	1 TO 4	+23%	👎
Average Annual Child Care Wages In Juneau 2015 <sup>9</sup>	\$26,600	\$20,158	+32%	👍
Average Annual Wage In Juneau 2015 <sup>1</sup>	\$50,730	\$44,074	+15%	
Average Annual Kindergarten School Teacher Wages In Juneau 2015 <sup>9</sup>	\$69,730	\$53,730	+30%	
Annual Turnover Rate For Juneau Child Care Workers 2015 <sup>3,4</sup>	45%	97%	-52%	👍
Total Child Care Workers In Juneau 2015 <sup>3</sup>	99	141	-30%	👎
Child Care Workers With Child Development Assoc. or 12+ Credits 2016 <sup>3</sup>	24	23	+4%	👍
Ratio of Qualified Staff to All Child Care Workers 2016 <sup>3,4</sup>	1 TO 4	1 TO 7	+75%	👍
Average Annual Child Care Cost Per Child 2015 <sup>8</sup>	\$10,370	\$8,750	+19%	👎
CBJ Contribution per Child Under Kindergarten (HEARTS initiative) <sup>7</sup>	\$37	\$0	+	
CBJ Contribution per Child in K-12 (Includes all sources) <sup>7</sup>	\$18,357	\$17,711	+4%	



Sources: 1 Alaska Department of Labor; 2 American Community Survey Table B23008; 3 AEYC; 4 Rain Coast Data analysis; 5 National Low Income Housing Coalition; 7 CBJ Budget; 8 Analysis using State of Alaska 2015 Alaska Child CareMarket Price Survey Report; 9 Alaska Department of Labor Wages in Alaska Southeast Region Document prepared by Rain Coast Data.

