What is a ‘good business climate?’

- Education and training based on global standards
- Modern infrastructure - roads, rail, ports, airports, telecommunications, broadband access, sewer, reliable water and energy
- Stable, fair taxation
- Prepared development sites
- Expedited permitting
- Development and job creation incentives
- Capital availability - venture, equity and debt
- Tech. R&D commercialization
- Affordable, quality housing
- *Accessible and affordable, quality healthcare, childcare and elder care*
- Safe communities, schools, parks, streets
- Vibrant and diverse arts, cultural, sports and recreational activities
- High quality protected natural environment
- Embrace of diverse cultures, races and lifestyles
- Collaborative leaders committed to continuous improvement and highest quality of all community assets
- Leadership that constantly challenges the status-quo, searching for a "better way"

From Mike Fitzgerald, CEO, Denver South Economic Development Partnership
A look at demand for child care

These area charts use US Census data compiled by EMSI. The blue chart estimates the number of all children aged 9 and under. The orange estimates the number of pre-school age children.

In 2001, there were 467,269 children age 9 and under in the Colorado Central Planning Region. This year, there are 542,267. (blue chart).

This is a 16.1% growth in the number of children 9 and under since the beginning of the century.

In 2001, there were 94,128 pre-school age children in the Colorado Central Planning region. This year, there are 110,450.

This means that demand for pre-school has actually risen over one percentage point more (17.3%) than overall demand for child care services within the region.
A look at current demand for child care

In spite of Senate Bill 17-110, which expanded the number and type of unlicensed child care services acceptable under the law, the unmet need for child care services for children aged 9 and under in the Colorado Central Planning Region still sits at just over 40,000 (8%).
Child care is not pre-school.

This year, the unmet need for pre-school services for children aged 3 and 4 in the Colorado Central Planning Region is 86%.

There are simply no slots in pre-schools for just over 95,000 of our children.
Why is this important?

According to a study released by the U.S. Department of Education in April, 2015:

- A robust body of research shows that children who participate in high-quality preschool programs have better health, social-emotional, and cognitive outcomes than those who do not participate.

- Without pre-school, children from low-income families and those at risk for academic failure may start kindergarten 12 to 14 months behind their peers in pre-literacy and language skills.

- Participating in quality early learning can boost children’s educational attainment and earnings later in life.

Expanding early learning – including high-quality preschool – provides a return on investment of $8.60 for every $1 spent.
At the same time the demand for child care services for children aged 9 and under has risen 16.1%, and demand for pre-school services for children aged 3-4 has risen 17.3% in the region...

Employment in the industry, including self-employment, has declined 6.1% between 2008 and 2017.

And, while the average worker earnings (including supplements) has risen nearly 40% during the same timeframe, many workers in the field simply don’t earn enough to live.
Low wages are keeping employment numbers down

Even with the substantial growth in average worker earnings through 2018:

- 44.7% of the entire labor force in the child day care industry earn wages below self-sufficiency.
- 45.4% of workers in the Child Day Care industry are FIRST QUINTILE earners.
- 85.8% are at or below the median second quintile earnings.
- 92.9% are in the bottom two earnings quintiles.
Pre-school training pipeline outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOC</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Median Wage</th>
<th>2018 Jobs (All Industries)</th>
<th>Annual Openings</th>
<th>Regional Completions (2016)</th>
<th>Surplus/Shortfall</th>
<th>Typical Entry Level Education</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11-9031</td>
<td>Education Administrators, Preschool and Childcare Center/Program</td>
<td>$20.66</td>
<td>908</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>596</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>Bachelor's degree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-2011</td>
<td>Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education</td>
<td>$13.08</td>
<td>8,970</td>
<td>1,035</td>
<td>841</td>
<td>(194)</td>
<td>Associate's degree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-9041</td>
<td>Teacher Assistants</td>
<td>$13.19</td>
<td>17,021</td>
<td>2,178</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(2,176)</td>
<td>Some college, no degree</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: IPEDS Data Compiled by EMSI

- Why is the median wage for teacher assistants higher than for pre-school teachers?
Approximate Monthly Cost

- Preschool (full-time): $1,400
- Child Care Center - Infant: $1,246
- Child Care Center - 4 years: $924
- Home Care - Infant: $802
- Home Care - 4 years: $719
- Preschool (half-time): $650
- After School Care: $463