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Your submission for this review:

Wages are one of the biggest, if not the biggest expense to an ECEC service. Educators are not being paid significantly more in metropolitan areas than in regional and remote areas, and yet a service's daily fee in metropolitan areas are generally far, far greater than those in regional/remote. How do fees in relation to the CCS hourly cap fit in here? Why are families in metropolitan areas generally paying significantly more in out of pocket fees compared to families in the regions/remote? We also need help to dispel this myth that a standalone preschool is somehow better or different to a long day care centre that provides a preschool program. Long day care hours are much, much longer than a standalone preschool so realistically a child is likely to be engaged in a preschool program for longer than they can be at a standalone preschool. A child aged 0-2 requires a higher staffing ratio than one 3-5 but childcare subsidy is paid the same regardless of the child's age. This leads to services needing to charge higher fees to offset the cost to the business of caring for younger children. It forces services to prioritise older aged enrolments over younger ones. So many Government initiatives aimed at increasing supply are for "preschool" aged children only, however the majority of demand for ECEC places is in that younger 0-2 age bracket.