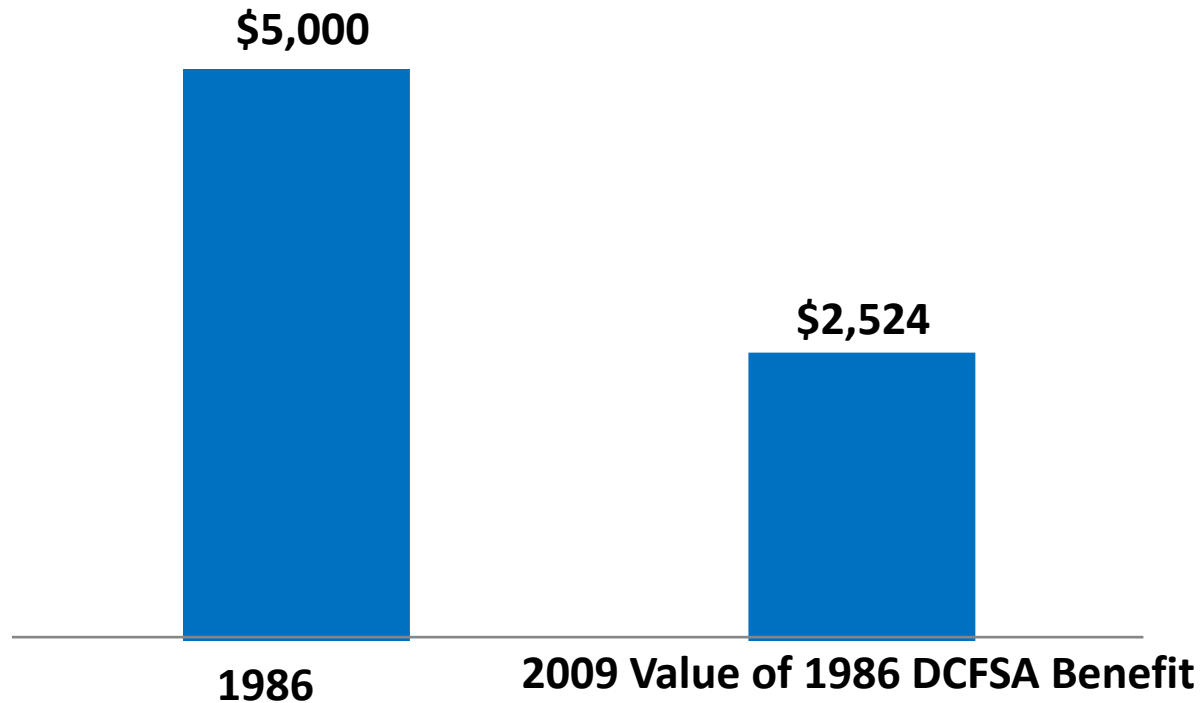


Value of Dependent and Child Care Flexible Spending Accounts Has Fallen By Nearly Half *Unlike Other Benefits, It Is Not Updated for Inflation*



Child care prices are higher than other household expenses. In every region of the United States, average child care fees for an infant were higher than the average amount that families spent on food. In every state, monthly child care fees for two children at any age exceeded the median rent cost, and were nearly as high as, or even higher than, the average monthly mortgage payment. In 39 states and the District of Columbia, the average annual price for child care for an infant in a child care center was higher than a year's tuition at a four-year public college.

From the National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Centers, Parents and the High Price of Child Care, 2009 Update