Washington’s Workforce Today and Tomorrow
The State of Child Care in the Greater Spokane Area

Approximately 19.6% of children under age 18 are living in poverty.\(^1\)

Approximately 60% of children under age 6 live in homes where all adults work.\(^1\)

Are young children in the greater Spokane area ready for kindergarten when they enter?

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Approximately 60% of children under age 6 live in homes where all adults work.\(^1\)

Only 37.8% of children in the greater Spokane area demonstrate characteristics of entering kindergartners in 6 of 6 domains.\(^2\)

Only 25.5% of low-income children in the greater Spokane area demonstrate characteristics of entering kindergartners in 6 of 6 domains.\(^2\)

More than 500,000 people call the greater Spokane area home. Over 30,000 are children younger than 5 years old.\(^3\)

Child care supply in the greater Spokane area

In Spokane County, the number of child care providers has dropped from 357 with capacity for 12,264 children in 2012, to 281 providers with capacity for 11,906 children in December 2016.\(^*\)

Notes:

\(^1\) U.S. Census Bureau, 2015
\(^2\) Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, WA State Report Card, WaKIDS data, 2016-17 school year, Spokane, Central Valley, East Valley, West Valley and Mead school districts
\(^3\) WA State Office of Financial Management, 2016
\(^*\) Licensed child care and exempt school-age programs only in Spokane County