

Washington's Workforce Today and Tomorrow The State of Child Care in Thurston County Washington



Approximately 15% of children under age 18 are living in poverty ¹



Approximately 59% of children under age 6 live in homes where all adults work ¹



Are young children in Thurston County ready for kindergarten when they enter?



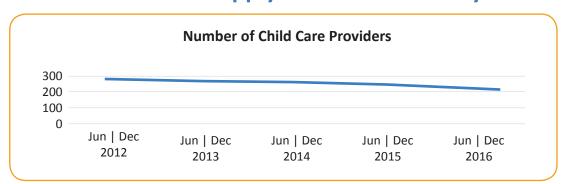
Only 52% of children in Thurston County demonstrate characteristics of entering kindergartners in 6 of 6 domains. ²



Only 37% of low-income children in Thurston County demonstrate characteristics of entering kindergartners in 6 of 6 domains. ²

Over 272,000 people call Thurston County home. More than 15,000 are children younger than 5 years old. ³

Child care supply in Thurston County



In Thurston County, the number of child care providers has dropped from 268 with capacity for 6,965 children in 2012, to 202 providers with capacity for 6,796 children in December 2016.*

Notes:

- * Licensed child care and exempt school-age programs only in Thurston County
- 1. U.S. Census Bureau, 2015

- Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, WA State Report Card, WaKIDS data, 2016-17 school year, North Thurston Public Schools, Olympia, Tumwater, Yelm Community Schools and Rochester school districts.
- 3. WA State Office of Financial Management, 2016