Washington’s Workforce Today and Tomorrow
The State of Child Care in Tri-Cities Washington

Are young children in Tri-Cities ready for kindergarten when they enter?

- Approximately 20% of children under age 18 are living in poverty.¹
- Approximately 62% of children under age 6 live in homes where all adults work.¹

Only 40% of children in Tri-Cities demonstrate characteristics of entering kindergartners in 6 of 6 domains.²

Only 28% of low-income children in Tri-Cities demonstrate characteristics of entering kindergartners in 6 of 6 domains.²

Nearly 284,000 people call Tri-Cities home. More than 16,000 are children younger than 5 years old.¹

Child care supply in Tri-Cities

In Tri-Cities, the number of child care providers has dropped from 402 with capacity for 7,181 children in 2012, to 283 providers with capacity for 6,538 children in December 2016.*

Notes:
* Licensed child care and exempt school-age programs only in Benton and Franklin counties
1. U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 and 2015
2. Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, WA State Report Card, WaKIDS data, 2016-17 school year, Kennewick, Pasco, Richland, Prosser, North Franklin school districts.