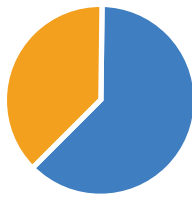


Approximately 14.5% of children under age 18 are living in poverty ¹

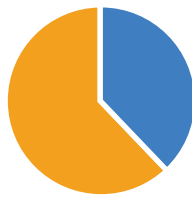


Approximately 60% of children under age 6 live in homes where all adults work ¹

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



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

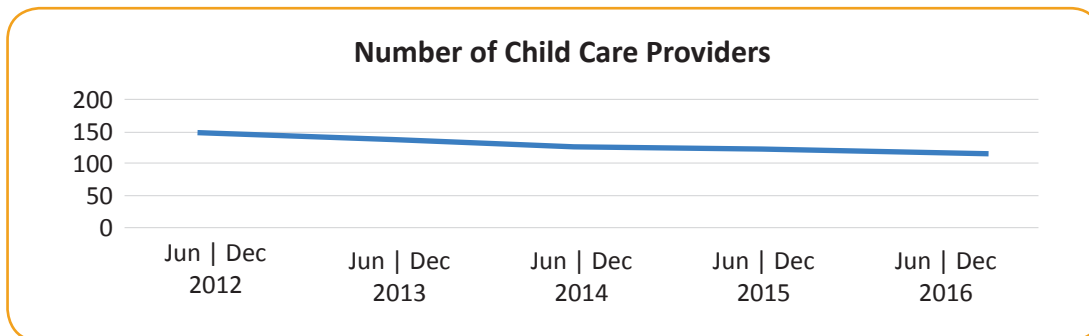


Only 38% of low-income children in Whatcom County demonstrate characteristics of entering kindergartners in 6 of 6 domains. ²



More than 212,000 people call Whatcom County home. Over 11,000 are children younger than 5 years old. ³

Child care supply in Whatcom County



In Whatcom County, the number of child care providers has dropped from 147 with capacity for 3,555 children in 2012, to 110 providers with capacity for 3,367 children in December 2016.*

Notes:

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

2. Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, WA State Report Card, WaKIDS data, 2016-17 school year, Bellingham, Ferndale, Lynden, Blaine and Mount Baker school districts.
3. WA State Office of Financial Management, 2016