Child Care in
Benton County

Trends in Child Care
In most parts of Washington, the number of child care providers has dropped over the past few years while the total capacity for children has been relatively stable since June 2014.

In Benton County, the number of child care providers has dropped from 228 with capacity for 4008 children in 2008, to 156 providers with capacity for 3892 children in June of 2015.*

Early Achievers
Early Achievers is Washington's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS), which gives training, technical assistance, coaching, awards, scholarships, and other benefits to child care providers to improve the quality of their care.

Statewide, 2,758 child care providers have joined since July 2012.

Approximately 50% of licensed child care providers in Benton County are enrolled in Early Achievers. Early Achievers will provide families with valuable child care program quality information so they can make informed child care choices.

Child Care Provider Type
- 13% Centers
- 70% Family Child Care
- 17% School Age Only

Acceptance of State Subsidy
- 78% Accept
- 22% Do not accept

Child Care in Benton County
Trends in Child Care

Since 1989, our regional member programs and statewide Family Center have enhanced the quality of child care and helped families by:
- Delivering training, technical assistance, & consultation to child care providers
- Supplying families with consumer education & referrals for child care

Benton County is served locally by Child Care Aware of Eastern Washington
a program of Community-Minded Enterprises
25 W Main Ste 310
Spokane, WA 99201
http://community-minded.org/child-care
800.446.2229

Early Achievers (QRIS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Child Care Centers</th>
<th>Family Child Care</th>
<th>Head Start &amp; State Preschool Sites</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrollment as of</td>
<td>8/26/15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Demographics
Population
- Total Population in 2014: 186,500
- Change since 2010: 11,323
- Children under 5 yrs: 13,120
- Children under 15 yrs: 40,768
- K-12 Enrollment: 34,863

Economics
- % of children under 18 living in poverty: 18.2%
- % of children under 6 w/ all parents working: 57.5 to 64.5%
- Median Household Income: $63,386
- Unemployment Rate: 6.0%

Compensation in 2012
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Salary/Income</th>
<th>Median Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Center Teacher</td>
<td>$26,016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Center Director</td>
<td>$27,312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Child Care Provider (Gross Earnings)</td>
<td>$25,674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-12 Teacher</td>
<td>$52,580</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Helping Families Find Child Care in 2015
In FY2015, Child Care Aware of Washington programs helped 16,027 families find child care providers matching their unique needs.

In Benton County alone, we helped 547 families with 860 children in need of child care to search for matching providers 789 times.

Children Using Subsidies
- 68% of children using financial aid

Referral Demand by Child Age
- School-Age: 29%
- Toddlers: 19%
- Preschoolers: 30%
- Infants: 12%

Children Using Financial Aid
- Infants: 19%
- Toddlers: 22%
- Preschoolers: 30%
- School-Age: 29%

Monthly Cost of Child Care in 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Centers</th>
<th>Median Cost</th>
<th>75th Percentile Cost</th>
<th>State Subsidy Rate</th>
<th>Median Cost as a % of Median Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infant</td>
<td>$875</td>
<td>$940</td>
<td>$765</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toddler</td>
<td>$758</td>
<td>$800</td>
<td>$657</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool</td>
<td>$650</td>
<td>$701</td>
<td>$574</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Age</td>
<td>$410</td>
<td>$601</td>
<td>$561</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Child Care</th>
<th>Median Cost</th>
<th>75th Percentile Cost</th>
<th>State Subsidy Rate</th>
<th>Median Cost as a % of Median Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infant</td>
<td>$650</td>
<td>$758</td>
<td>$613</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toddler</td>
<td>$650</td>
<td>$677</td>
<td>$533</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool</td>
<td>$563</td>
<td>$628</td>
<td>$477</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Age</td>
<td>$433</td>
<td>$542</td>
<td>$477</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Sources:
Most data is from Child Care Aware of Washington. More data and full citations are available at [http://wa.childcareaware.org](http://wa.childcareaware.org).

*Includes licensed child care (centers and family child care) and exempt school-age programs only
2 Office of the Superintendent Public Instruction, October Enrollment Report, 2014-2015
3 U.S. Census Bureau Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2013
4 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 2013
6 Department of Early Learning & Washington State University, Washington State 2012 Child Care Survey
   Note: Child care provider income is regional data, not county-specific. Benton County is in DEL Region 2 which includes: Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Kittitas, Walla Walla, Yakima.
7 Office of the Superintendent Public Instruction, K-12 Data and Reports Builder, 2012-2013

For more information, go to [http://wa.childcareaware.org](http://wa.childcareaware.org)